

# Quest for the chiral symmetry breaking in atomic nuclei

Ernest Grodner  
XXX Mazurian Lakes Conference on Physics  
08.09.2007

# Main subjects



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## Introduction

Examples of  
symmetry  
breaking

Chiral  
symmetry  
breaking

## Search for nuclear chirality

Level scheme

Brief  
theoretical  
description

Transition  
probabilities

## Results and discussion

Level scheme  
interpretation

Transition  
probabilities  
interpretation

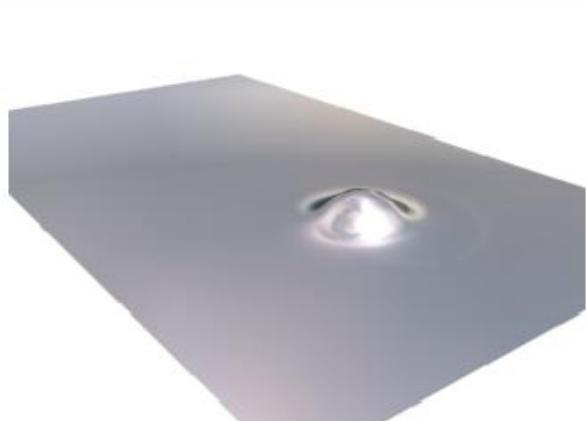
# Breaking of the symmetry

BROKEN SYMMETRY

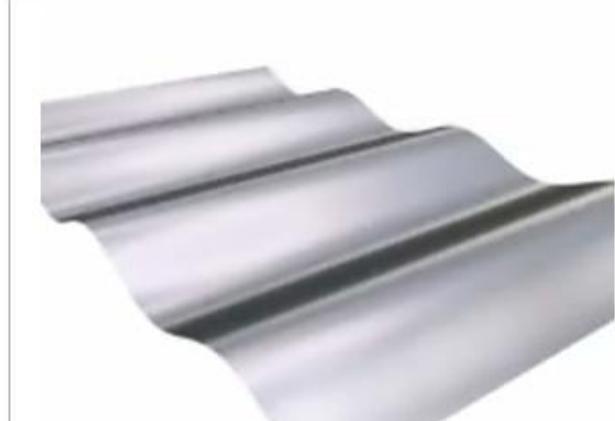
SYMMETRY CONSERVED



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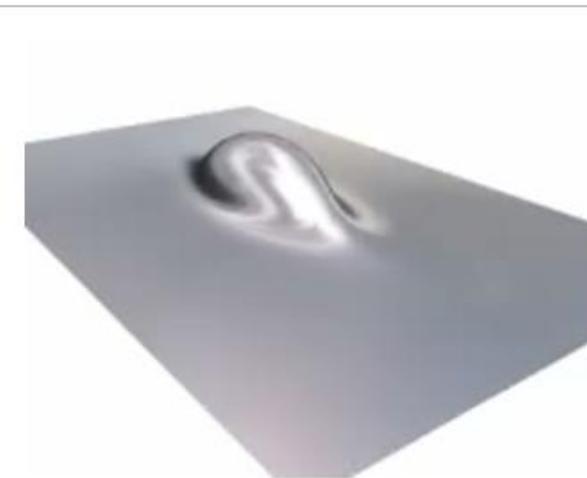


Defined position (localized)

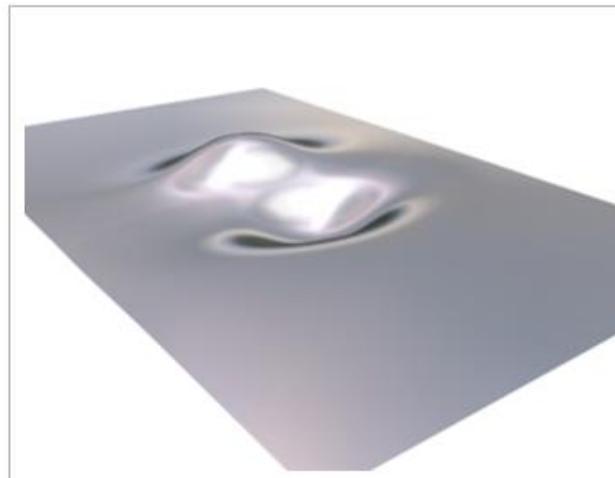


Defined momentum

Translational symmetry



Defined orientation (localized)



Defined angular momentum

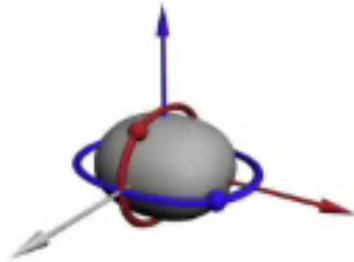
Rotational symmetry

# Breaking of the chiral symmetry

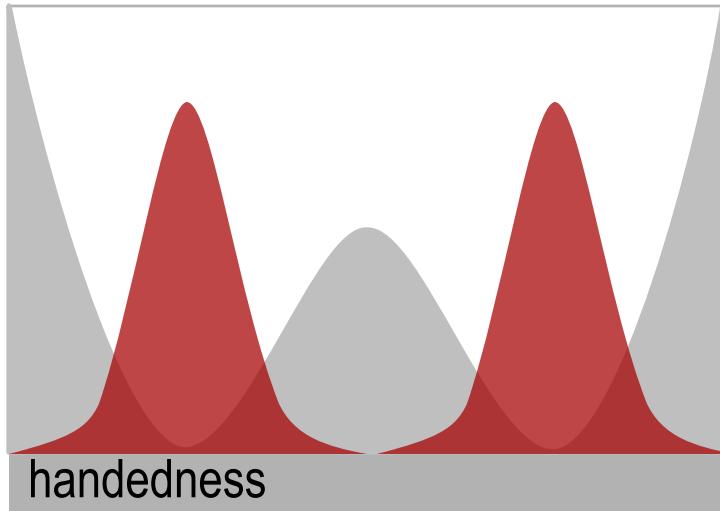
## LOCALIZATION IN THE HANDEDNESS PARAMETER



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Defined handedness



### Chiral symmetry

Three mutually perpendicular angular momenta vectors forming the reference frame with defined handedness

### Chiral symmetry operator $R_Y T$

Changes left-handed state to right-handed one and vice versa

$$R_Y T |L\rangle = |R\rangle$$

$$R_Y T |R\rangle = |L\rangle$$

### Localized states

are not observed in the laboratory reference frame

### Experimental observation of handedness

is impossible in laboratory reference frame.

# Breaking of the chiral symmetry



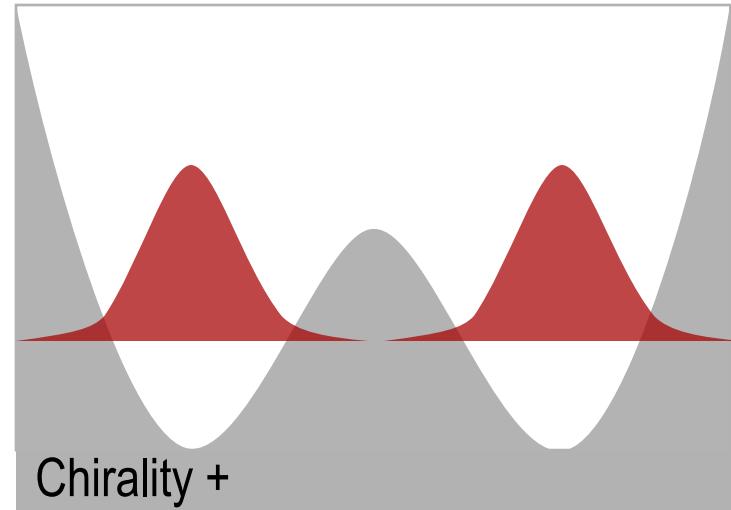
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## EXPECTED PROPERTIES IN LAB FRAME

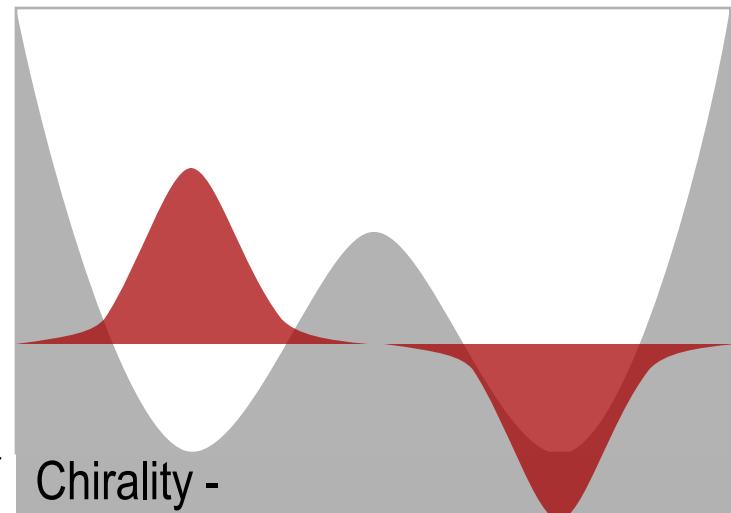
### Two close lying $|+\rangle$ and $|-\rangle$ states

with restored symmetry (defined chirality) and undefined handedness are expected to be observed

$$|+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{|L\rangle + |R\rangle}{\sqrt{1+\varepsilon}}$$



$$|-\rangle = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{|L\rangle - |R\rangle}{\sqrt{1-\varepsilon}}$$



# Breaking of the chiral symmetry

## EXPECTED PROPERTIES IN LAB FRAME



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### Chiral partner bands

Two rotational bands with similar energy levels,  
same spins and parity.

### Similar electromagnetic properties

The same transition probabilities between  
corresponding levels

$$\begin{aligned} A &= B \\ C &= D \end{aligned}$$

...

### side band

$I+4$

### yrast band

$I+4$

$I+3$

$I+3$

$I+2$

$I+2$

$I+1$

$I+1$

$I$

$I$

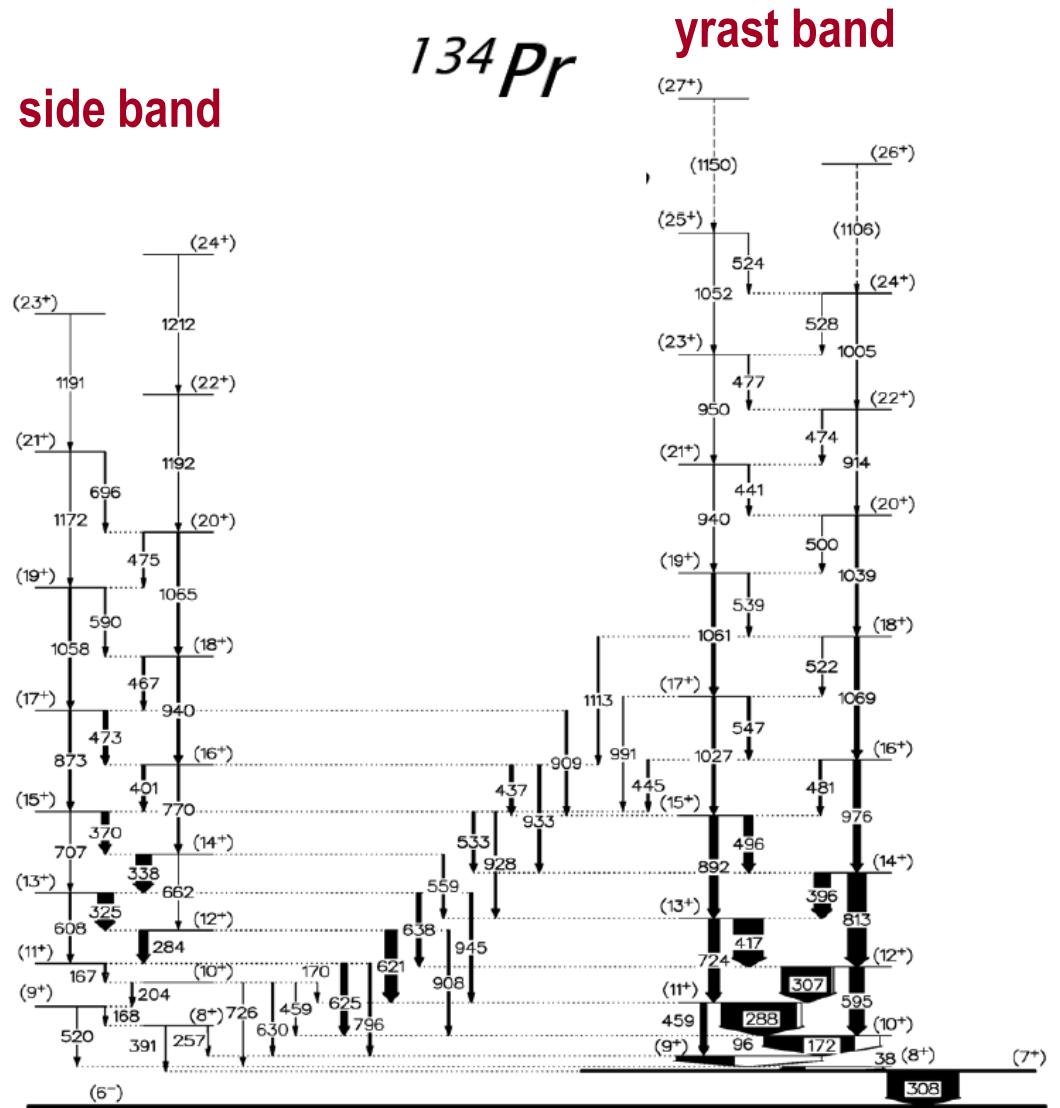
Chiral partner bands

# Breaking of the chiral symmetry



# FIRST OBSERVATION OF THE CHIRAL PARTNER BANDS

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C.M. Petrache et al.  
**Nucl. Phys. A597, 106, (1996)**

# Main subjects



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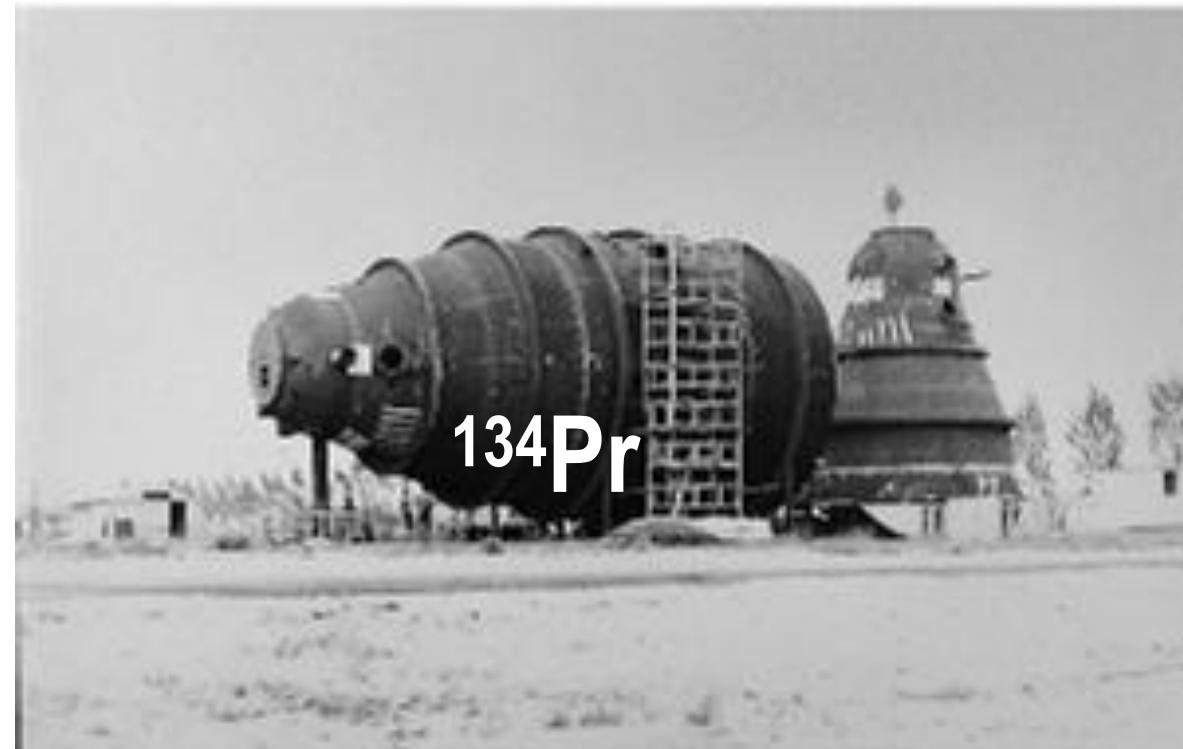
Transition  
probabilities  
interpretation

# Breaking of the chiral symmetry

## EXPERIMENTAL PREMISES



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Legnaro

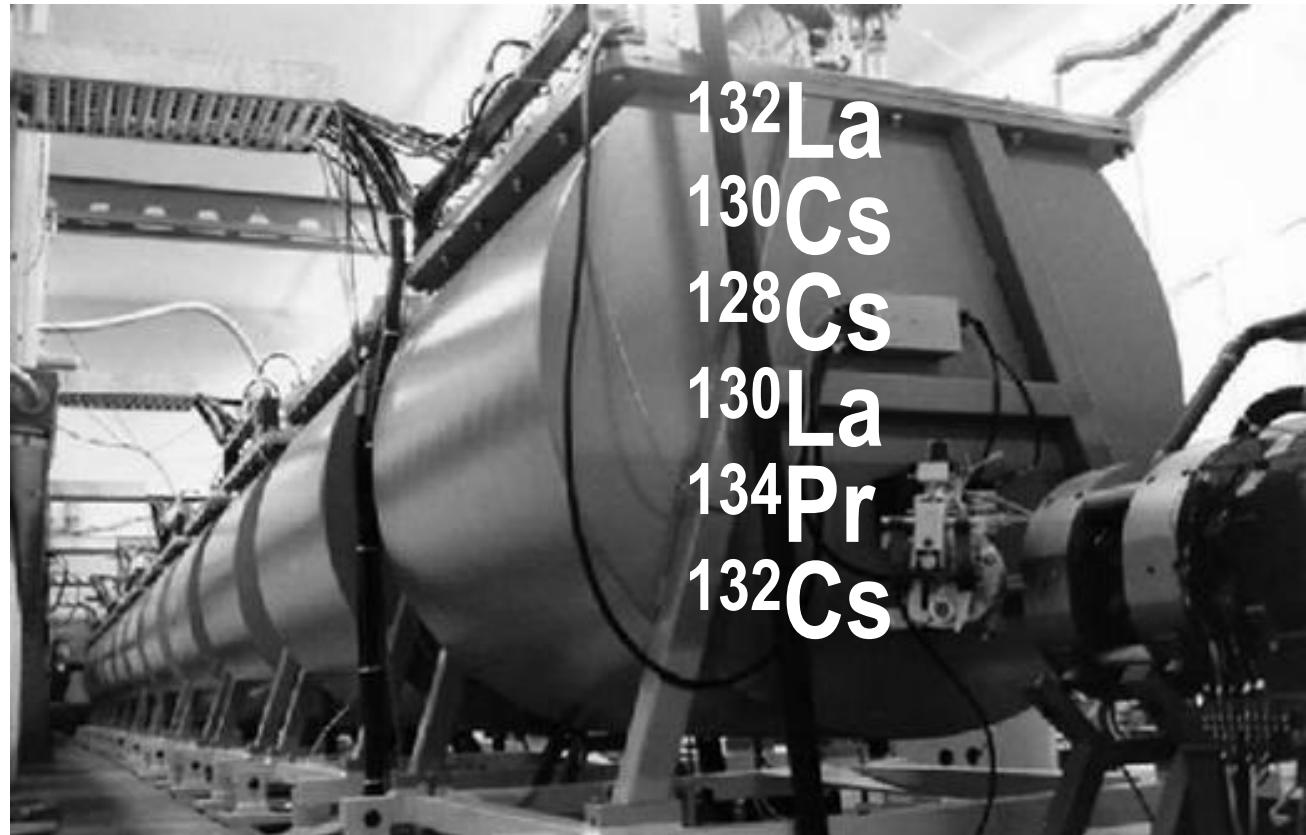
# Breaking of the chiral symmetry

## EXPERIMENTAL PREMISES



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**Structure  
of the level scheme**  
two similar rotational bands



Stony Brook

# Breaking of the chiral symmetry

## EXPERIMENTAL PREMISES



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### Structure of the level scheme

two similar rotational bands



# Breaking of the chiral symmetry



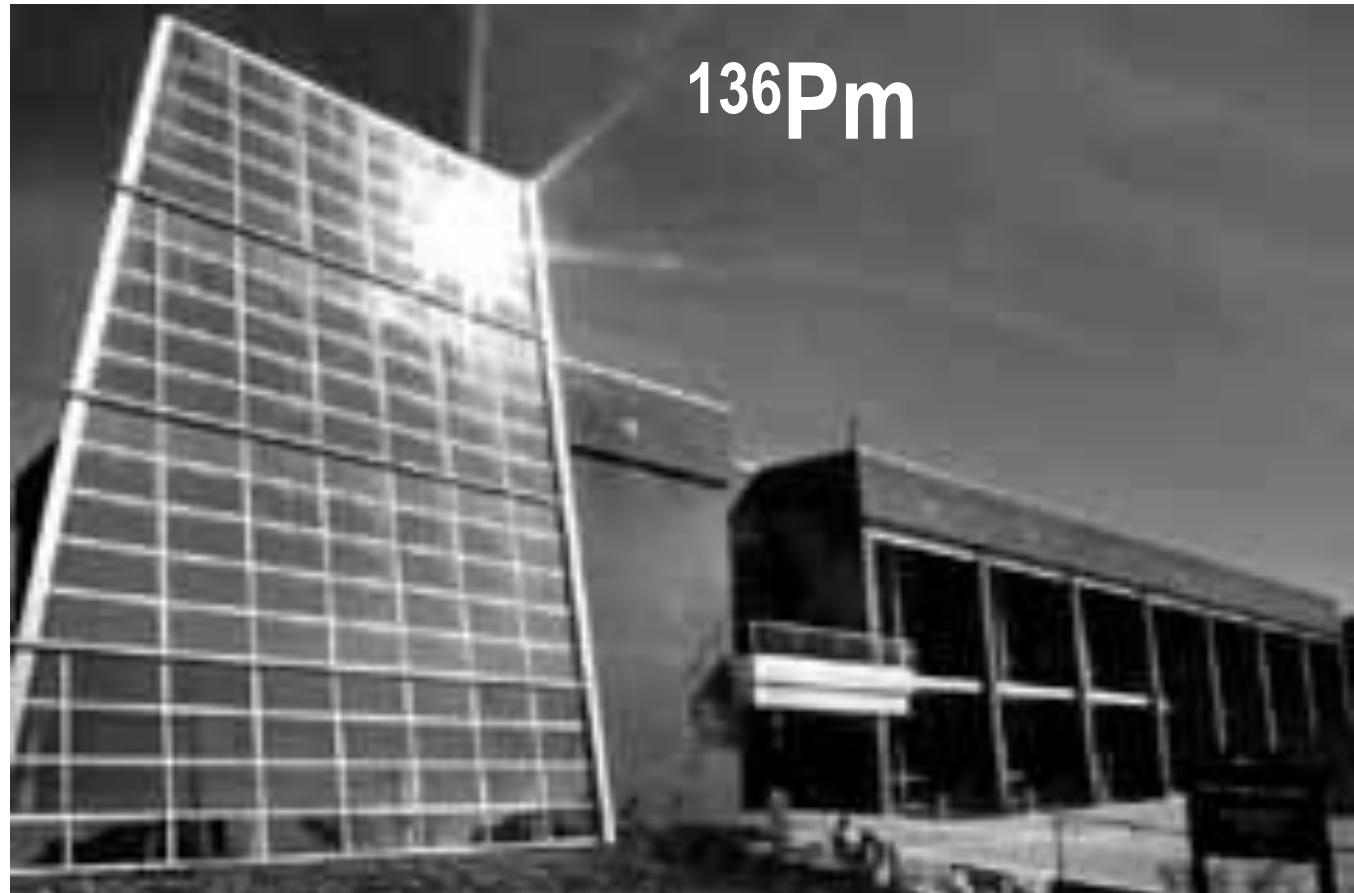
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## EXPERIMENTAL PREMISES

### Structure of the level scheme

two similar rotational bands

$^{136}\text{Pm}$



Tennessee

# Breaking of the chiral symmetry



## EXPERIMENTAL PREMISES

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### Structure

### of the level scheme

two similar rotational bands



Berkeley

# Breaking of the chiral symmetry

## EXPERIMENTAL PREMISES



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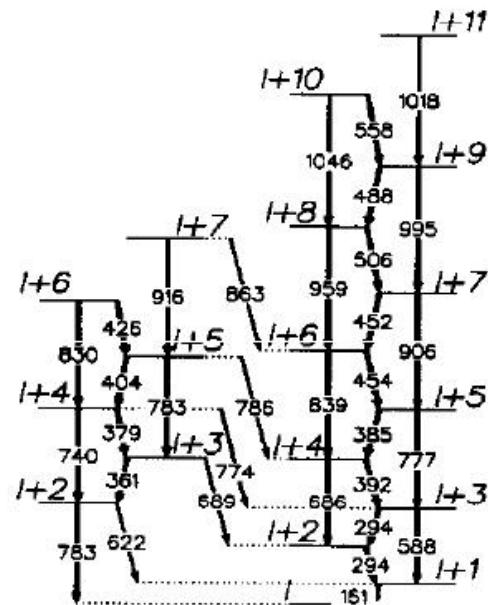
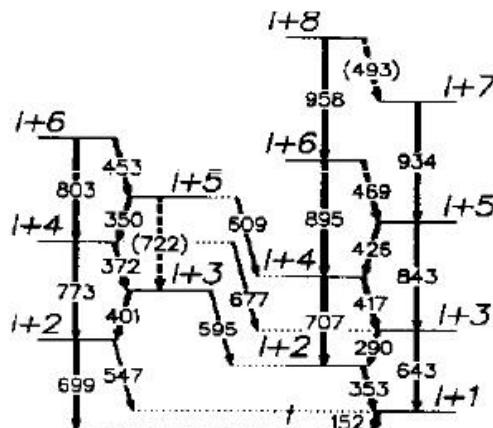
**Structure  
of the level scheme**  
two similar rotational bands

# Breaking of the chiral symmetry

## EXAMPLES OF THE PARTNER BANDS



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$^{130}\text{Cs}$

$^{132}\text{La}$

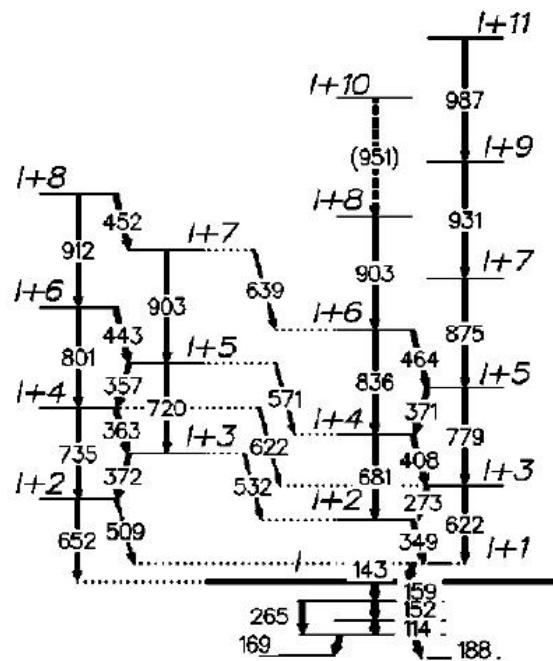
$^{134}\text{Pr}$

# Breaking of the chiral symmetry

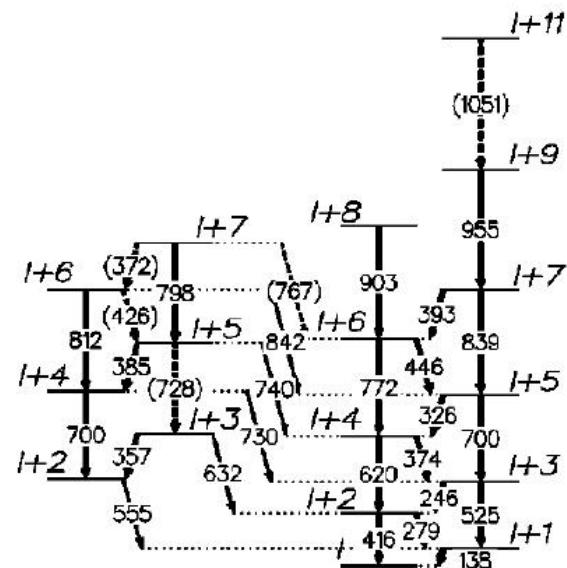
## EXAMPLES OF THE PARTNER BANDS



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$^{128}\text{Cs}_{55\ 73}$



$^{130}\text{La}_{57\ 73}$

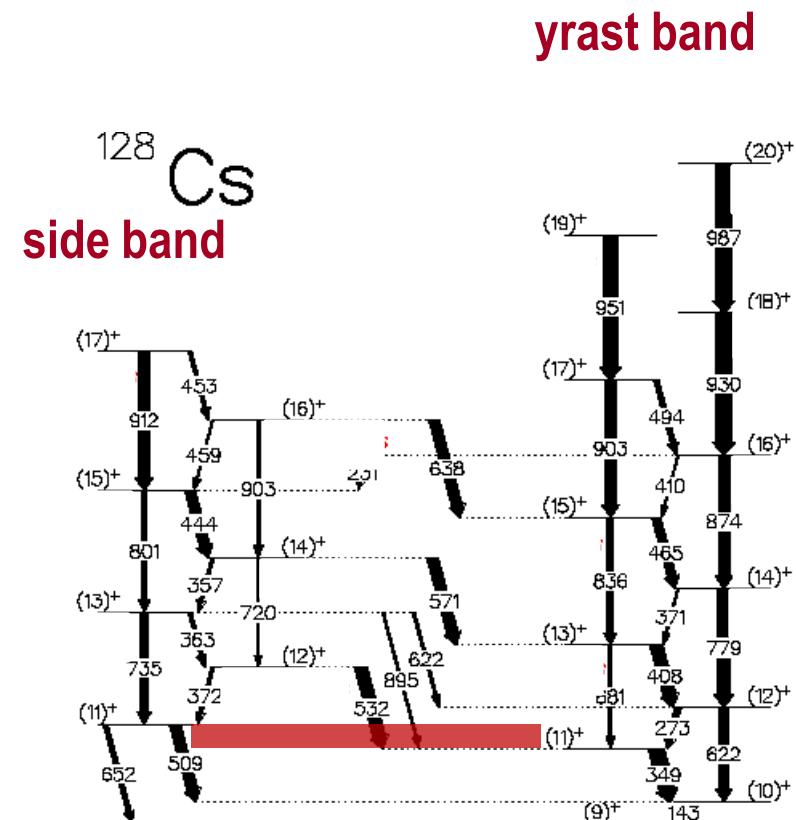
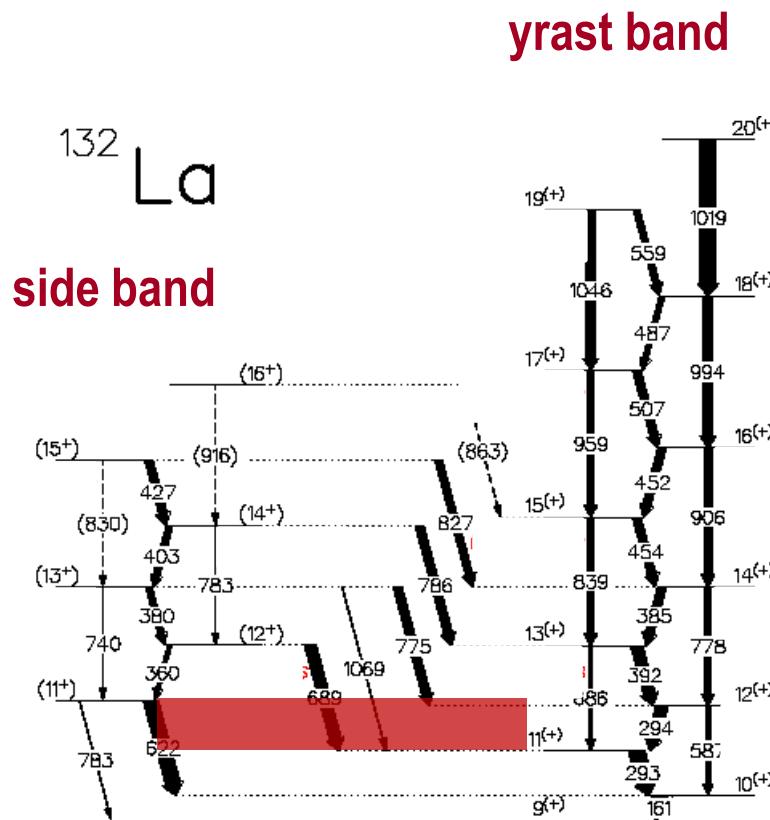
$^{132}\text{Pr}_{59\ 73}$

# Breaking of the chiral symmetry

## EXAMPLES OF THE PARTNER BANDS



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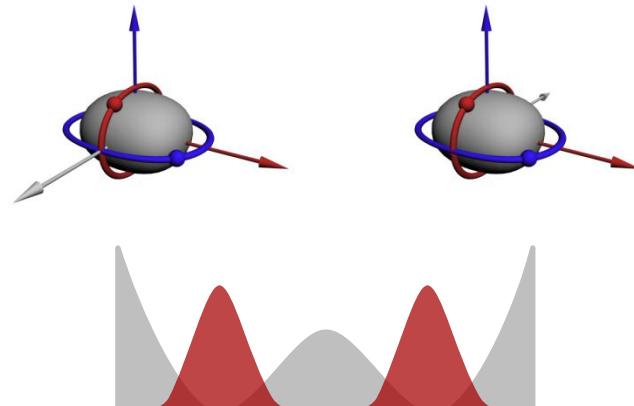


# Chiral symmetry breaking limits

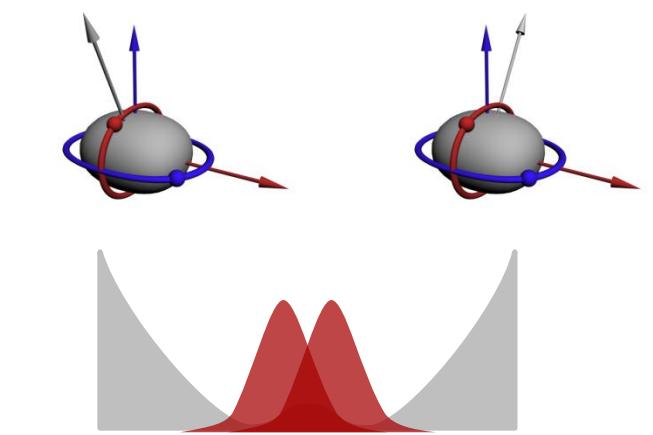
## DIFFERENCES OBSERVED IN LAB SYSTEM



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Strong limit of chiral sym. breaking



Weak chiral symmetry breaking

**Chiral partner bands can differ in each element**  
depending on the limit of the symmetry breaking

Strong symmetry  
breaking limit

$$|+4^\pi \quad |+4^\pi$$

$$|+3^\pi \quad |+3^\pi$$

$$|+2^\pi \quad |+2^\pi$$

$$|+1^\pi \quad |+1^\pi$$

$$|\pi \quad |\pi$$

Weak symmetry  
breaking

$$|+4^\pi \quad |+4^\pi$$

$$|+3^\pi \quad |+3^\pi$$

$$|+2^\pi \quad |+2^\pi$$

$$|+1^\pi \quad |+1^\pi$$

$$|\pi \quad |\pi$$

# Brief theoretical description

## ENERGIES AND TRANSITION PROBABILITIES



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$$[R_Y T, H] = 0$$

$$|+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{|L\rangle + |R\rangle}{\sqrt{1+\varepsilon}}$$

$$\langle + | H | + \rangle = \frac{E_0 + \Delta E}{1 + \varepsilon}$$

$$|-\rangle = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{|L\rangle - |R\rangle}{\sqrt{1-\varepsilon}}$$

$$\langle - | H | - \rangle = \frac{E_0 - \Delta E}{1 - \varepsilon}$$

Doubling of the energy for LAB states

$$[R_Y T, B(\sigma\lambda)] = 0 \quad \sigma\lambda = M1, E2, M3, E4, \dots$$

$$\langle + | B(\sigma\lambda) | + \rangle = \frac{B_0 + \Delta B}{1 + \varepsilon}$$

$$\langle - | B(\sigma\lambda) | - \rangle = \frac{B_0 - \Delta B}{1 - \varepsilon}$$

Doubling of the transition probabilities

### Parameters

Overlap

$$\varepsilon = \text{Re} \langle L | R \rangle$$

Tunneling effect

$$\Delta E = \text{Re} \langle L | H | R \rangle$$

Diagonal mat. element

$$E_0 = \text{Re} \langle L | H | L \rangle$$

### Parameters

Overlap

$$\varepsilon = \text{Re} \langle L | R \rangle$$

non-diagonal element

$$\Delta B = \text{Re} \langle L | B | R \rangle$$

diagonal mat. element

$$B_0 = \text{Re} \langle L | B | L \rangle$$

# Lifetime measurements



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## EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

### Multidetector array OSIRIS II

12 HPGe detectors (currently)  
BGO anticompton shields

### Beam

U200P cyclotron

### Nuclear reactions

$^{122}\text{Sn}(^{14}\text{N},4\text{n})^{132}\text{La}$       E=70 MeV

$^{122}\text{Sn}(^{10}\text{B},4\text{n})^{128}\text{Cs}$       E=55 MeV

### Heavy Ion Laboratory

University of Warsaw



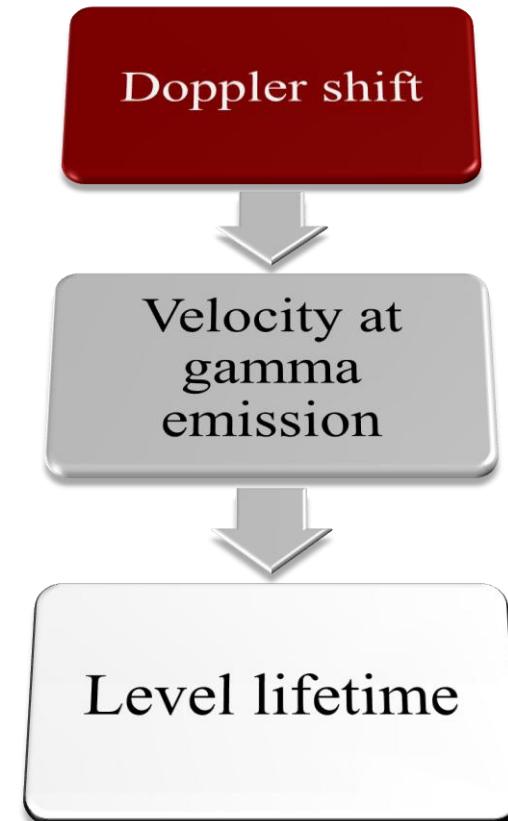
# Principles of the lifetime measurement



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## DOPPLER EFFECT

**Required**  
good energy resolution  
excellent apparatus lineshape (gaussian and symmetric)



**Required**  
time-velocity correlation for the recoils  
feeding time distribution

# Method of the lifetime measurement



DOPPLER SHIFT ATTENUATION 0.2 – 1.5 ps

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## Doppler effect

$$E = E_0(1 + \beta \cos \theta)$$

## Initial velocity

0.01c

## Gamma emission

w during the slowing down process  
in the target

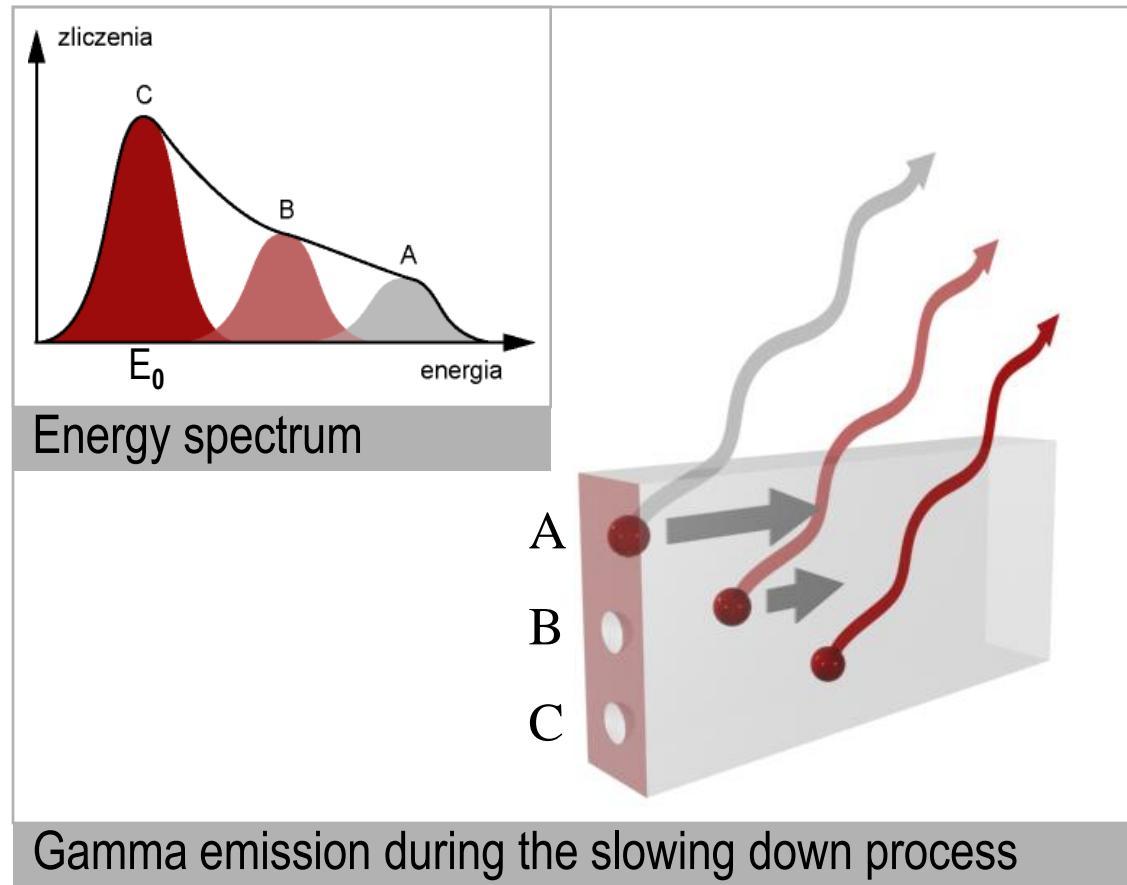
## lifetime

Determined from the  
Doppler disturbed  
gamma lineshape

## Doppler disturbed gamma lineshape

Gamma emission at different velocities of the recoils

Velocity distribution – lineshape – depends on the lifetime



E. G. et al..

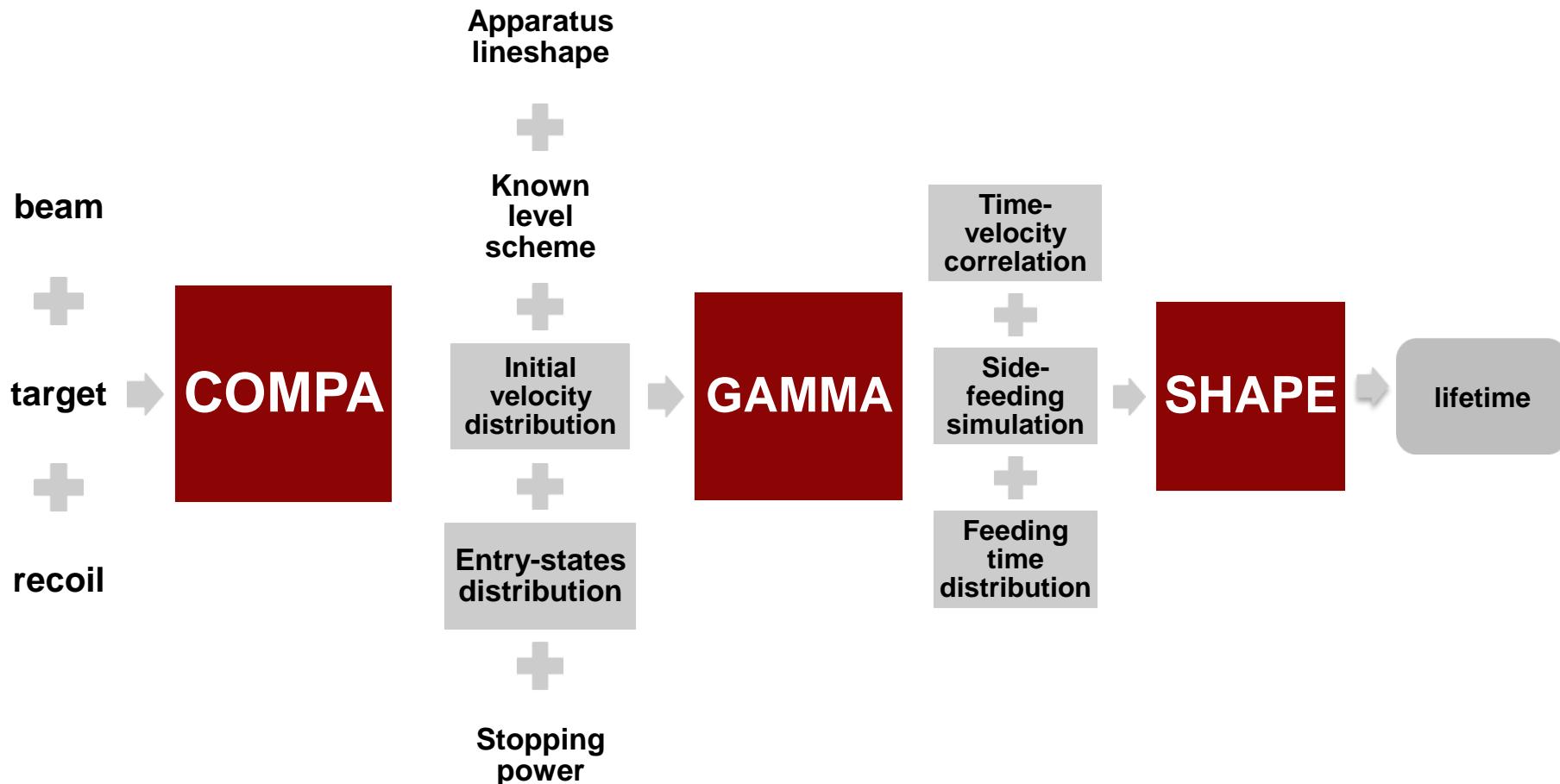
Eur. Phys. Jour. A27, 325-340 (2006)

# Data analysis process

A.A. PASTERNAK - MONTECARLO SIMULATIONS



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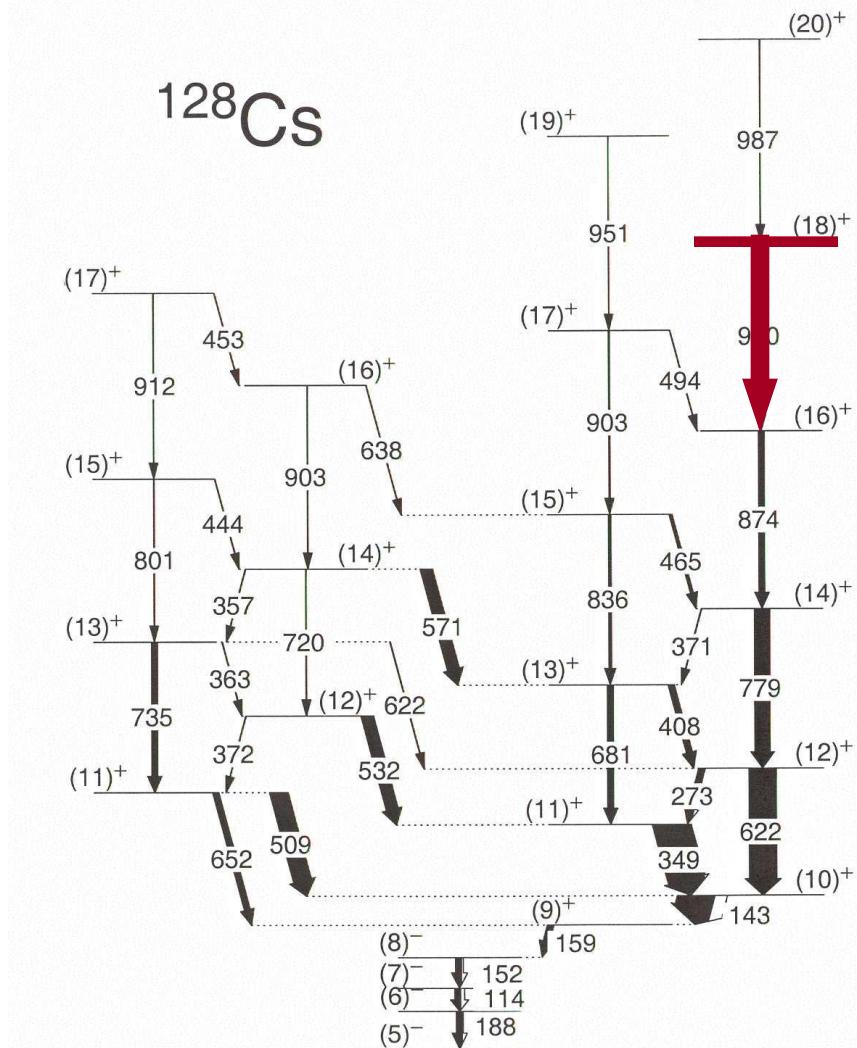
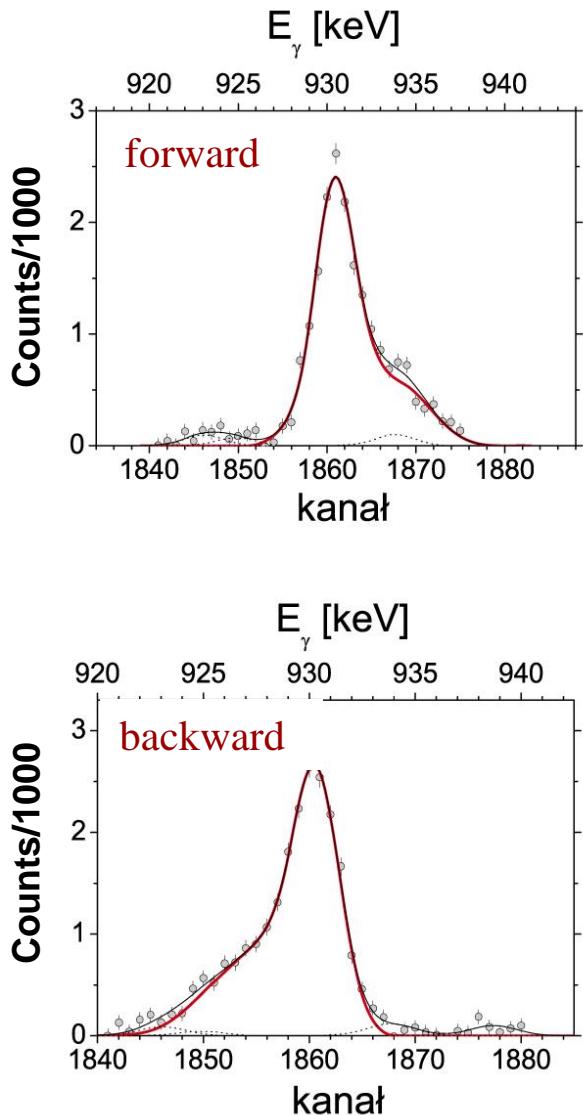


# Data analysis process

## FIT TO EXPERIMENTAL DATA



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# Results



## LIFETIMES OF THE EXCITED STATES OF $^{132}\text{La}$ i $^{128}\text{Cs}$

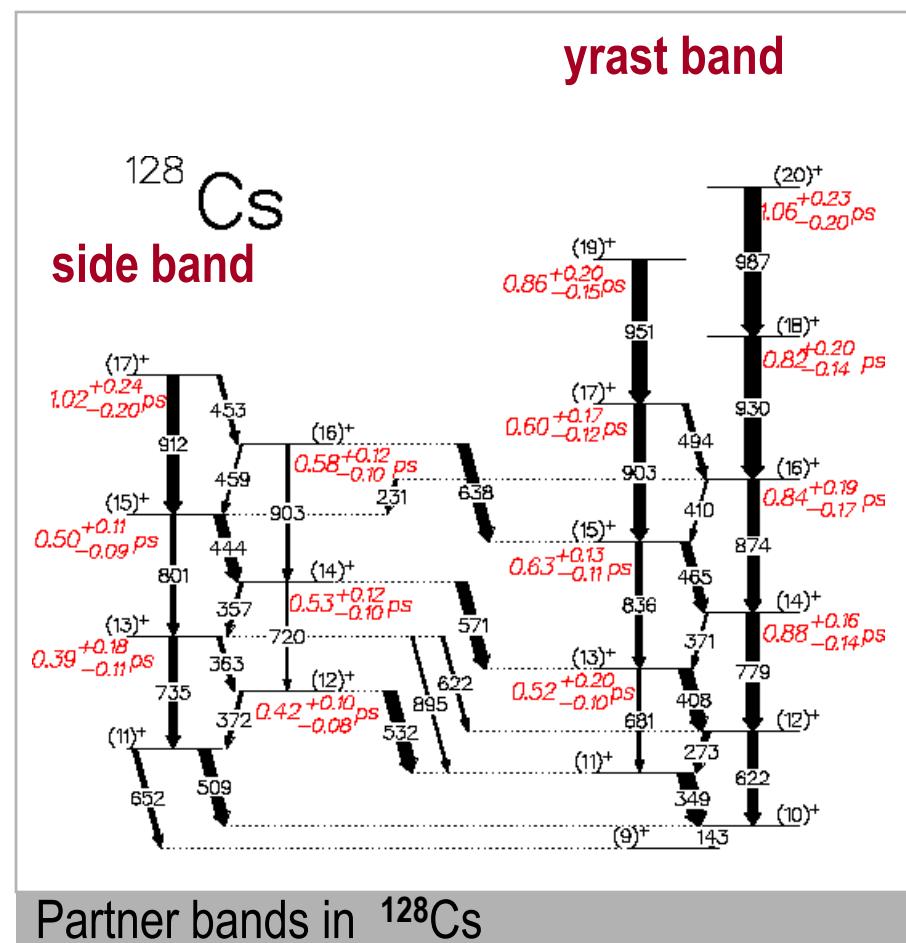
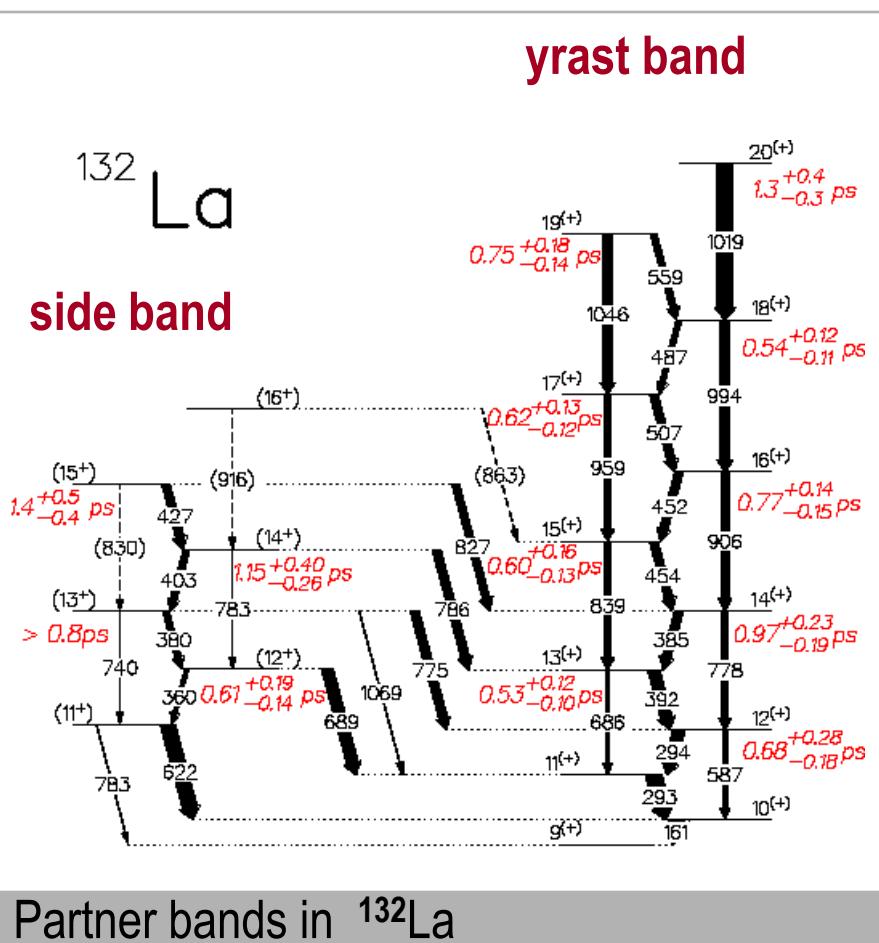
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E. G. et al..

Int. Jour. Of Mod. Phys. E13, 243, (2004)

E. G. et al..

Int. Jour. Of Mod. Phys. E14, 347, (2005)



# Lifetime results

CALCULATED IN TO THE GAMMA PROBABILITIES



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$$B(E2) = \frac{1}{\tau} \cdot \frac{4\pi}{1.2^4} \left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^2 A^{-4/3} \frac{1}{1.22 \cdot 10^{-3}} E^{-5}$$

$$B(M1) = \frac{1}{\tau} \cdot \frac{\pi}{10} \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^2 \frac{1}{17.6} E^{-3}$$

A. Bohr, B. Mottelson

Nuclear Structure, Benjamin, New York (1969)

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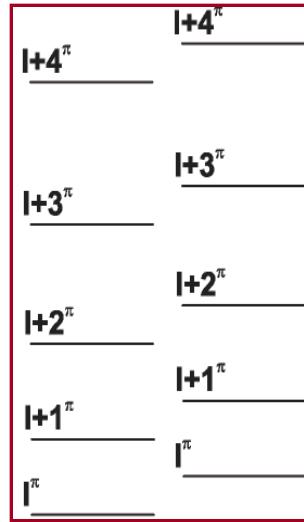
Transition  
probabilities  
interpretation

# Pseudo-spin concept

## LEVEL ENERGIES

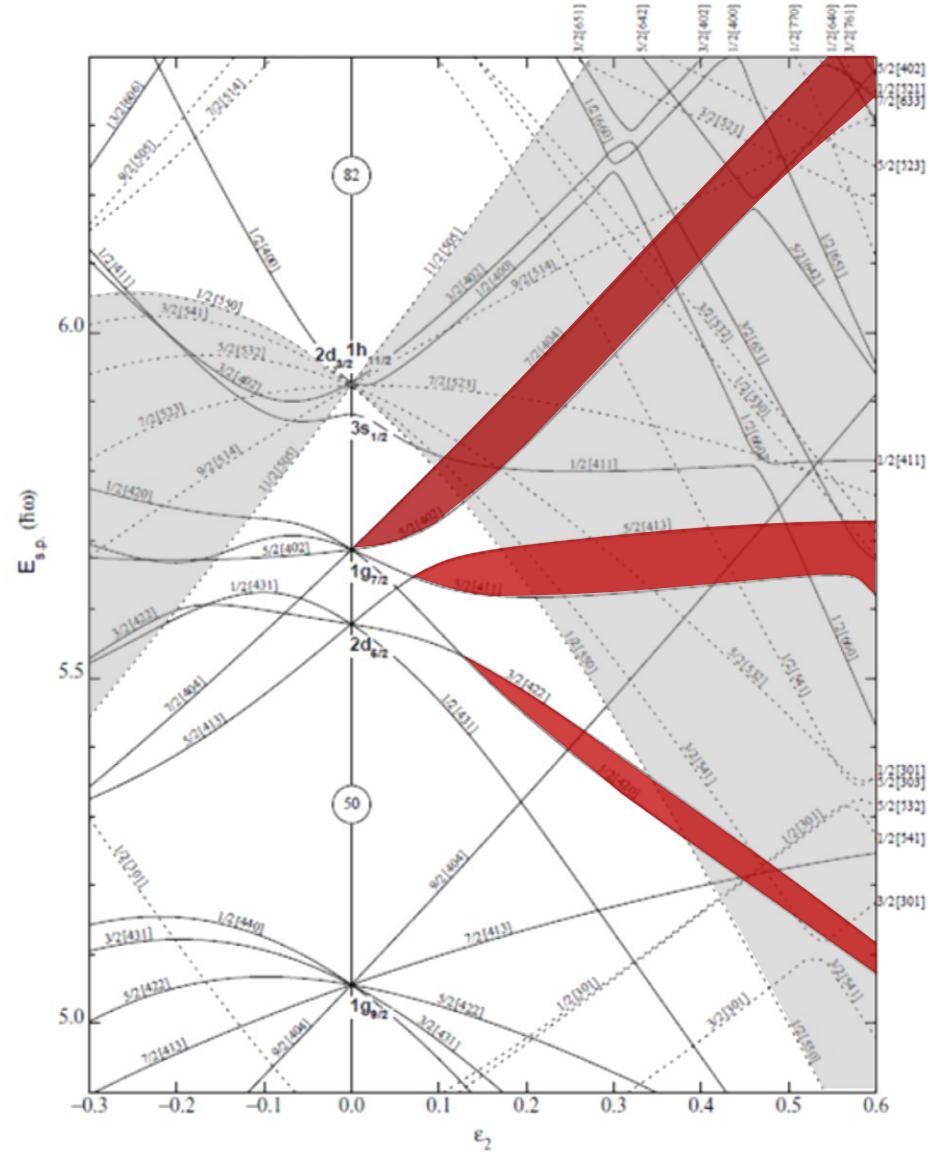


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### pseudo-spin transformation

Unitary transformation  $U$  relabeling physical states into their pseudo counterparts.  
The transformed hamiltonian  $UHU^+$  has reduced spin-orbit term.

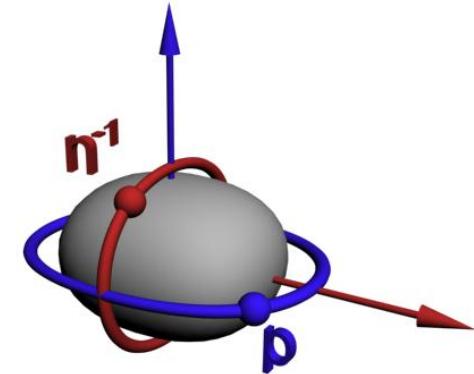


# Signature splitting

## LEVEL ENERGIES



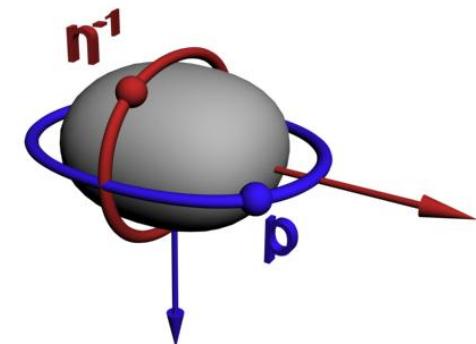
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### (non-rotating) Nilsson potential

Single particle basis  $|k, \Omega_k\rangle$  doubly degenerated.

The  $|k, \Omega_k\rangle$  state and time reversed one  $|k, \bar{\Omega}_k\rangle$   
have the same energy

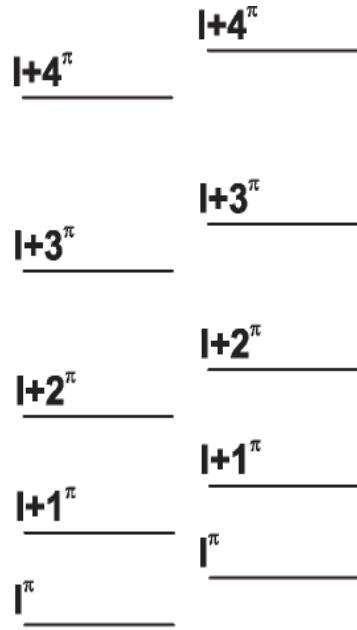


# Signature splitting

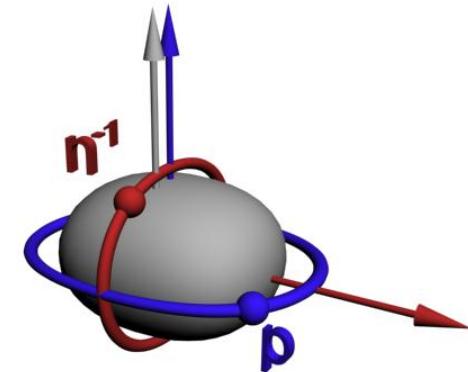
## LEVEL ENERGIES



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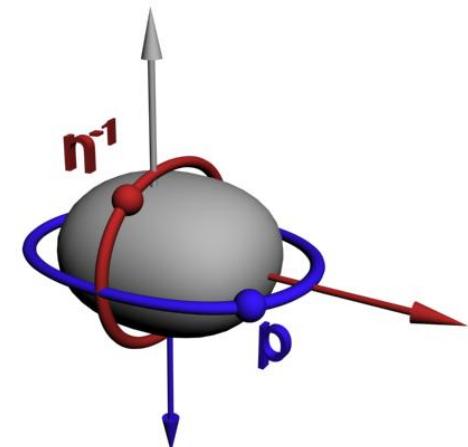


Signature splitting caused  
} by the odd proton



rotating potential

Coriolis interaction  $\omega l_x$  split the time reversed states.  
The  $|k, \Omega_k\rangle$  state and time reversed one  $|k, \bar{\Omega}_k\rangle$  have  
different energies



# Results and discussion

## ELECTROMAGNETOC PROPERTIES OF $^{132}\text{La}$



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### Transition probabilities

$$\frac{B(E2)_{\text{side}}}{B(E2)_{\text{yrast}}} \sim \frac{1}{20}$$

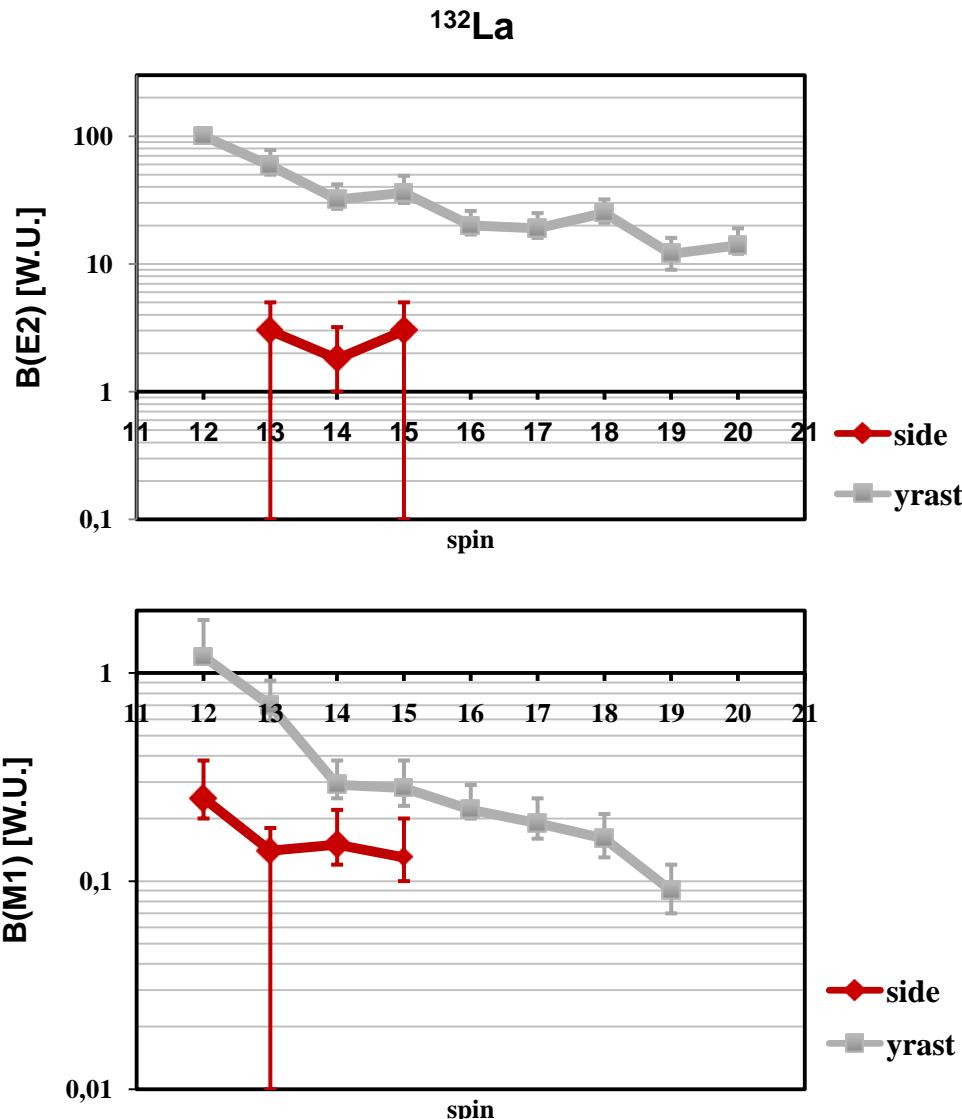
$$\frac{B(M1)_{\text{side}}}{B(M1)_{\text{yrast}}} < \frac{1}{3}$$

### conclusion

The electromagnetic properties of  $^{132}\text{La}$  do not support the chiral symmetry breaking

E. G. et al..

Phys. Rev. Lett. 97, 172501, (2006)



# Results and discussion

## ELECTROMAGNETIC PROPERTIES OF $^{128}\text{Cs}$



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### Transition probabilities

$$\frac{B(E2)_{\text{side}}}{B(E2)_{\text{yrast}}} \sim 1$$

$$\frac{B(M1)_{\text{side}}}{B(M1)_{\text{yrast}}} \sim 1$$

### B(M1) staggering

Predicted for strong limit  
of the chiral symmetry breaking

T. Koike et al..

*Phys. Rev. Lett.* 93, 172502, (2004)

### conclusion

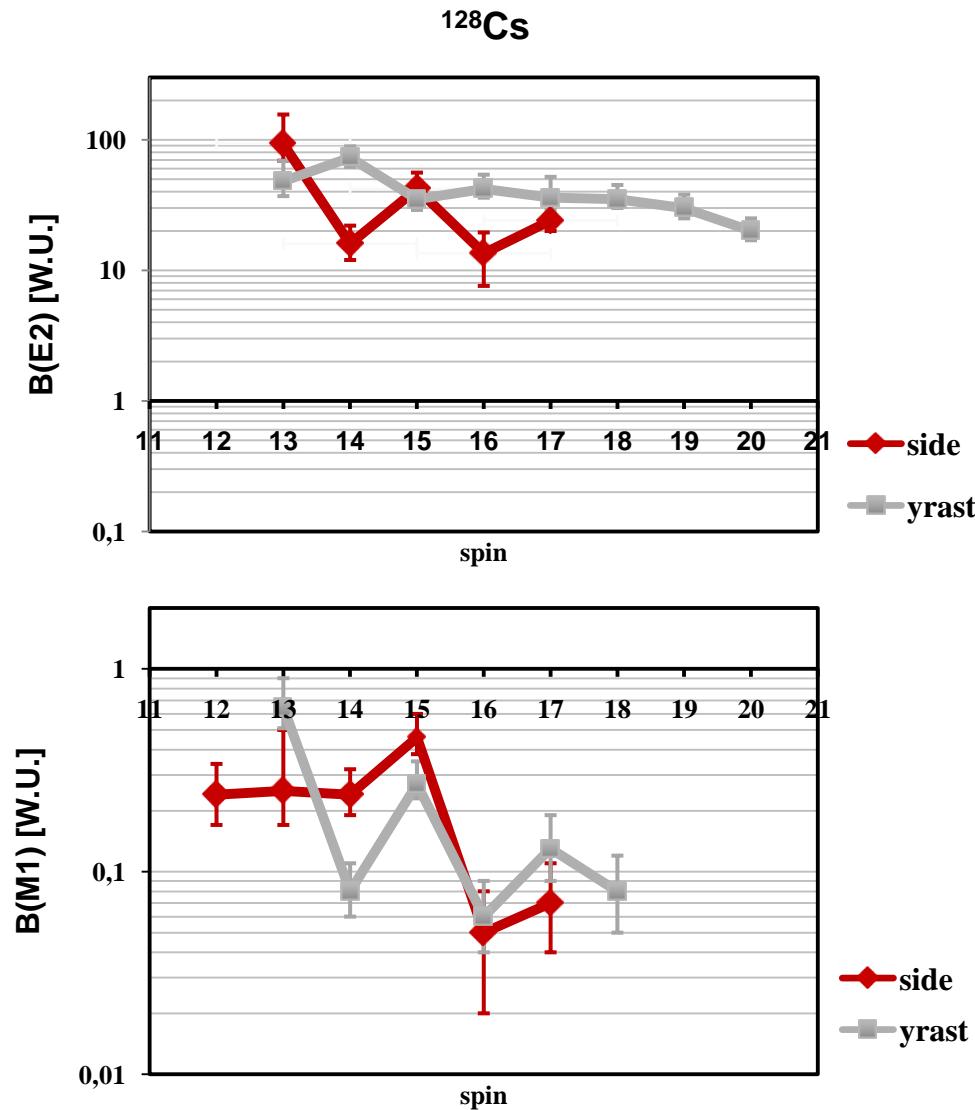
Electromagnetic properties of  $^{128}\text{Cs}$   
confirm the chiral symmetry breaking  
phenomenon

E. G. et al..

*Int. Jour. Of Mod. Phys. E* 15, 548, (2006)

E. G. et al..

*Phys. Rev. Lett.* 97, 172501, (2006)



# Results and discussion

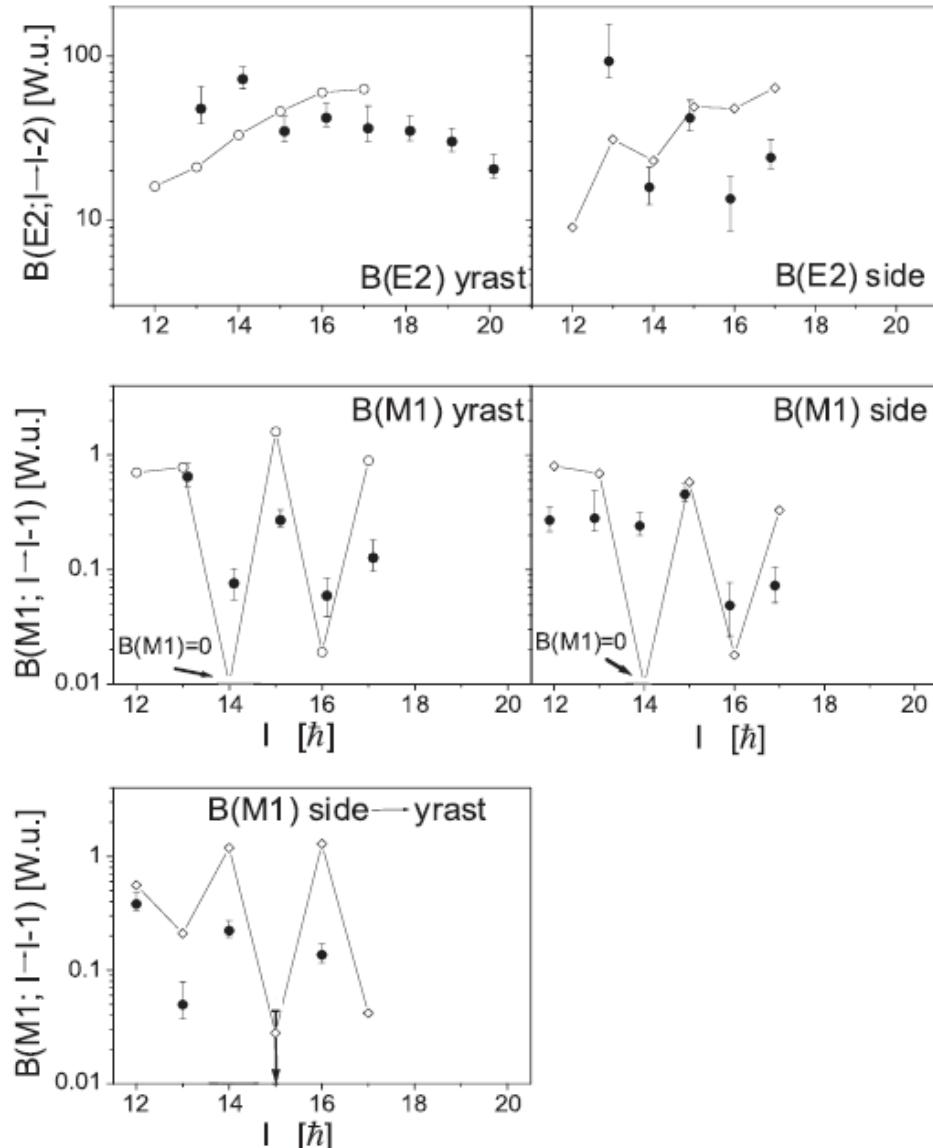


## $^{128}\text{Cs}$ COMPARISON WITH THEORETICAL CALCULATIONS

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Calculations done in frame  
of CQPC model

Chiral symmetry breaking in  $^{128}\text{Cs}$   
predicted



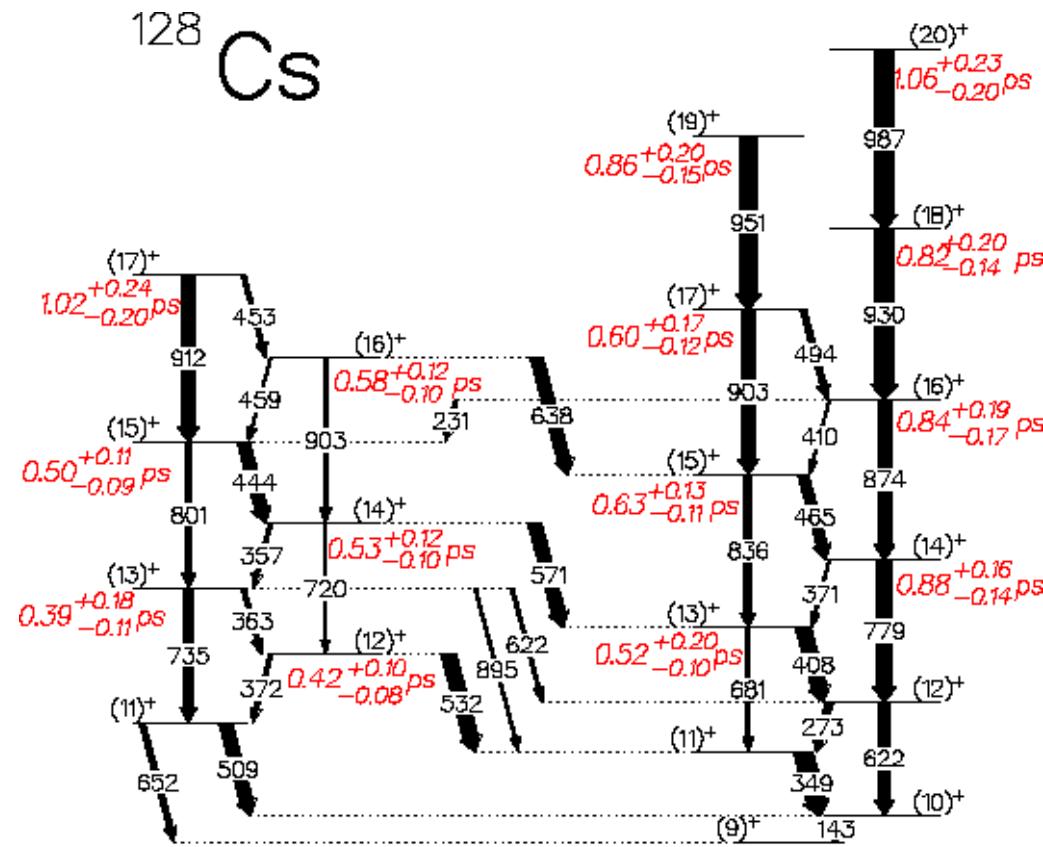
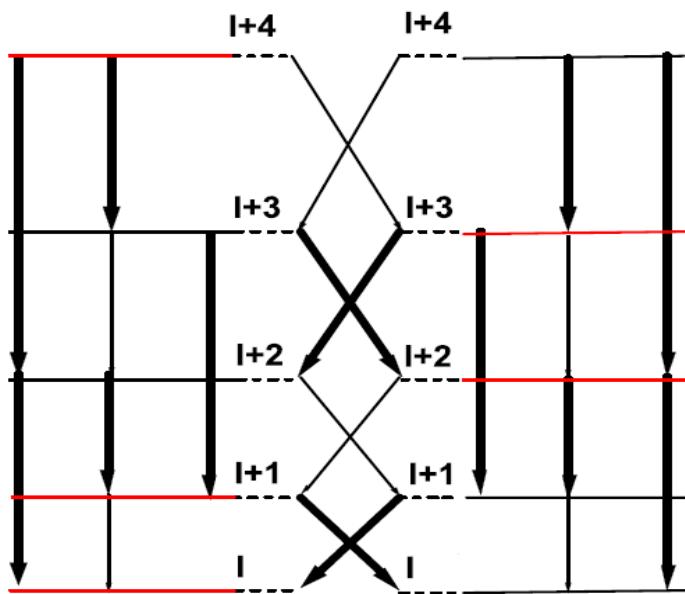
T. Koike et al..

Phys. Rev. C67, 044319, (2003)

# Gamma Selection rules



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# cooperation



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# summary



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## research subject

Experimental search for chiral symmetry breaking in atomic nuclei

## method

DSA lifetime measurements

## experiment

Cyclotron U200P , OSIRIS II multidetector array

## results

First lifetime measurements in nuclei supposed of the chirality phenomenon

$^{132}\text{La}$  – chiral symmetry breaking not confirmed

$^{128}\text{Cs}$  – all observables agree with chiral interpretation – first chiral nucleus

$^{126}\text{Cs}$  – probably the second chiral nucleus

## conclusion

Lifetime measurements are necessary for study of the chirality

New dynamic variable (handedness) needed to be introduced for proper quantum mechanical description

# Future – new facility at HIL Wrasaw

## WARS – NEW MULTIDETECTOR ARRAY



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Study Center of Electromagnetic Transition Probabilities  
based on Warsaw Array for  $\gamma$ -Ray Spectrometry (WARS)

