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Exotic shapes and collective phenomena in excited atomic nuclei

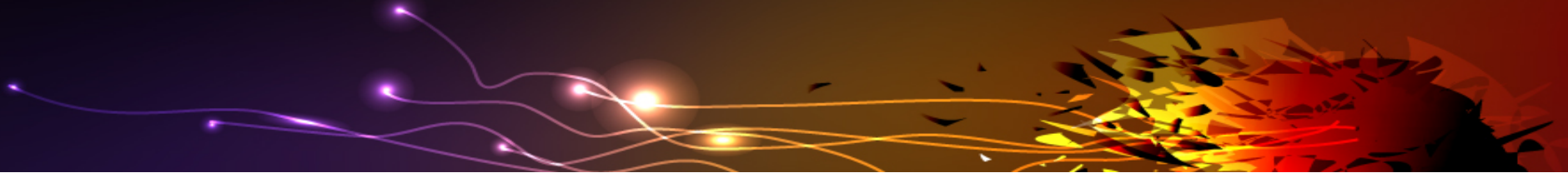
ADAM MAJ

IFJ PAN Krakow

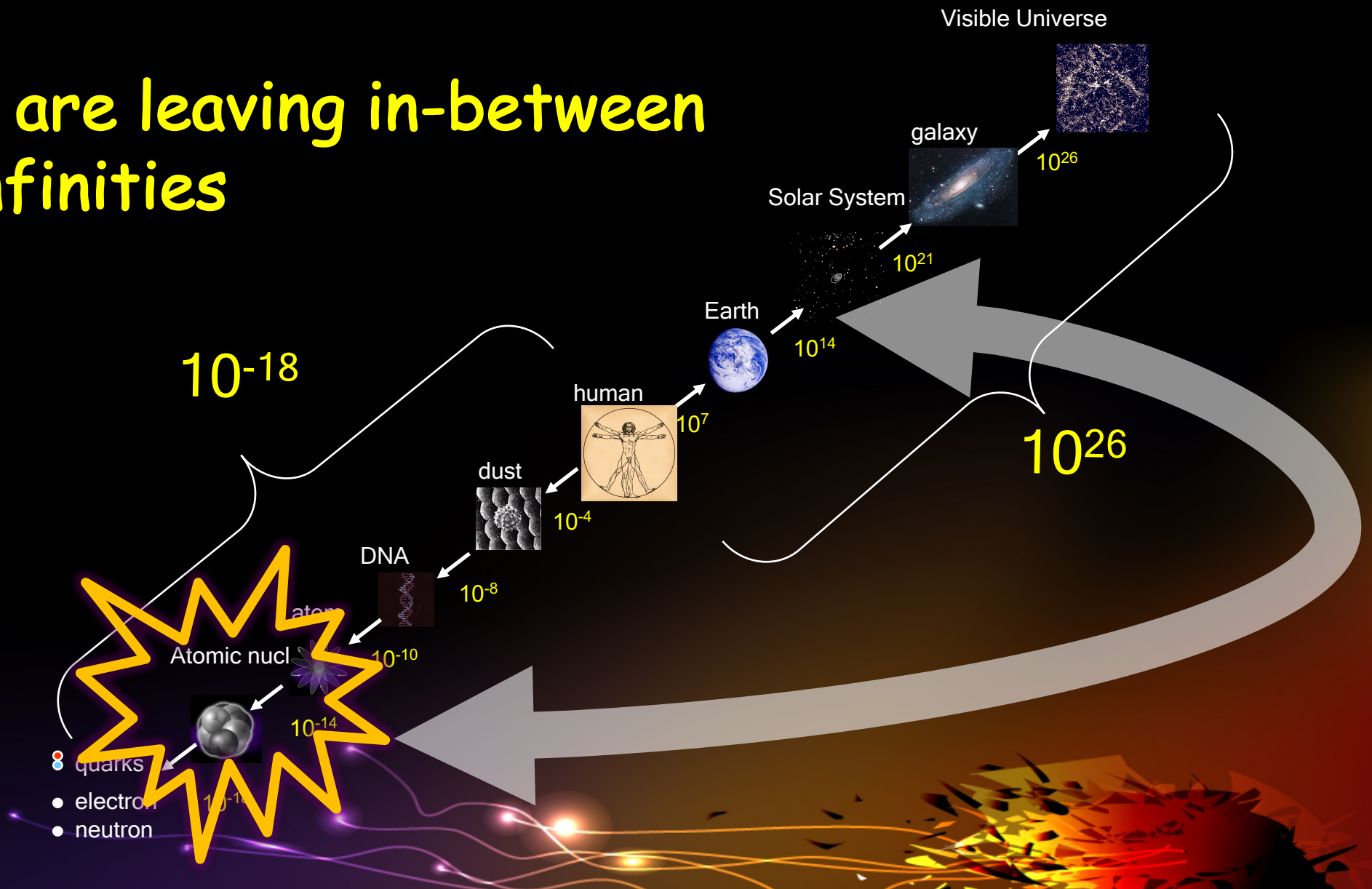
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Plan

1. Short introduction: 2 infinities
2. Shape evolution of the rotating celestial bodies
3. Nuclear Jacobi shape transition and Giant Dipole Resonance
4. First results from the CCB facility in Krakow
5. Summary



We are leaving in-between 2 infinities

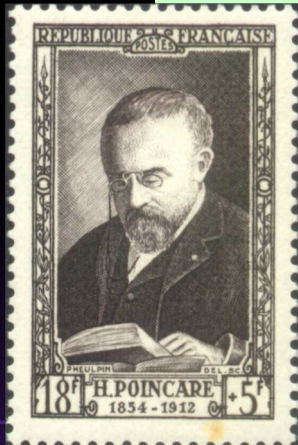
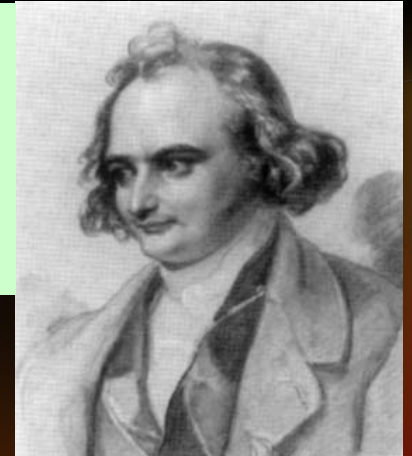


Rotating Earth with increasing speed: MacLaurin, Jacobi and Poincare shapes



Colin MacLaurin (1742, Scotland): With increasing rotational speed, gravitational bodies begin to flatten and take on the shape of the „disc” shapes (*oblate*).

Carl Gustav Jacob Jacobi (1834, Prussia): At a certain rotational speed, the rotating bodies can rapidly change their shape from a flattened to a very elongated "cigar" (*prolate*) or elongated 3-axis ellipsoid. This is called Jacobi's bifurcation.



Henri Poincaré (1885, France): Predicted that the path of elongated Jacobi's ellipsoid at very high rotational velocities encounters further bifurcation points, where elongated shapes can change into **pear-shaped (octupole) shapes**.

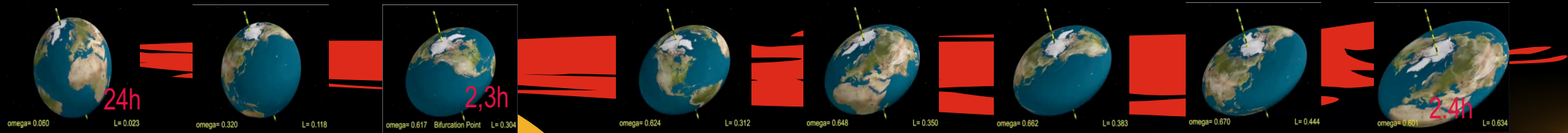
Rotating Earth with increasing speed: MacLaurin, Jacobi and Poincare shapes



Based on talk by Prof. Etienne Ghys of the
Unité de Mathématiques Pures et Appliquées
de l'E.N.S. de Lyon
www.josleys.com/show_gallery.php?qalid=313
Copyright: Jos Leys/Etienne Ghys.

Paths of rotating gravitating bodies

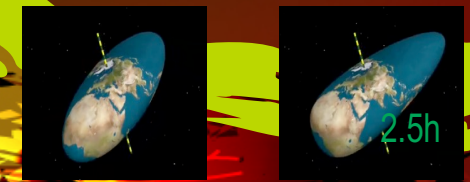
McLaurin shapes



Jacobi shapes



Poincare shapes



Earth

Rotation period= 24h

Equator velocity= 0.5 km/s

Flatness $\approx 0.3\%$



Jupiter

Rotation period = 9h 50m

Equator velocity = 12.6 km/s

Flatness $\approx 6.5\%$

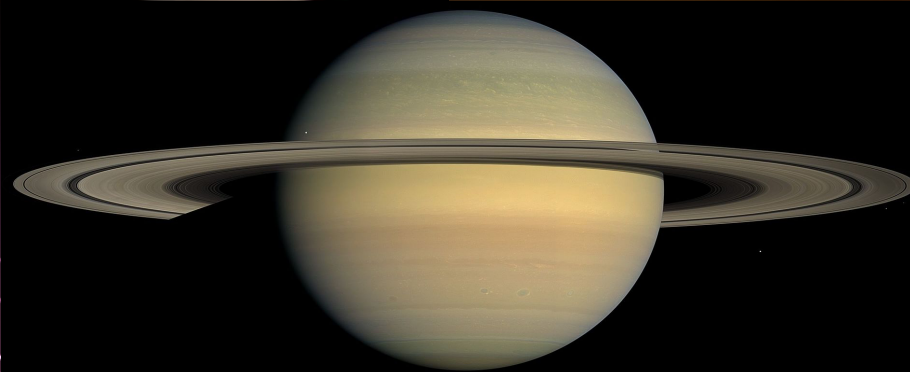


Saturn

Rotation period= 10h 39m

Equator velocity = 9.9 km/s

Flatness $\approx 10\%$



MacLaurin shapes

Haumea: A dwarf planet that resides in the Kuiper belt and is one of the fastest rotating large objects in our solar system.

Rotation period = 3h 54m

Equator velocity= 0.5 km/s

Dimensions: 1960 x 1518 x 996 (km)

Triaxial shape, with axis ratio 2: 1.5: 1



Extremely elongated asteroid 1I/2017 U1

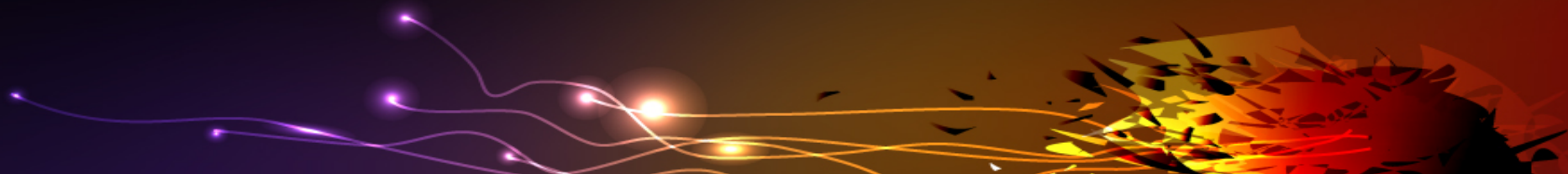


Jacobi shapes?

Nuclear Jacobi shape transitions

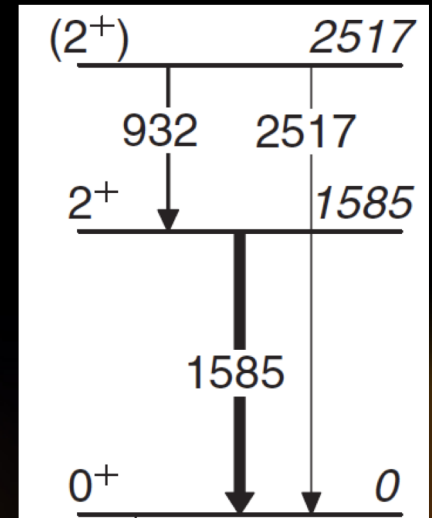
■ R. Beringer, W.K. Knox, *Phys. Rev.* 121 (1961) 1195:

Hypothesis: in hot rotating atomic nuclei Jacobi shapes might emerge

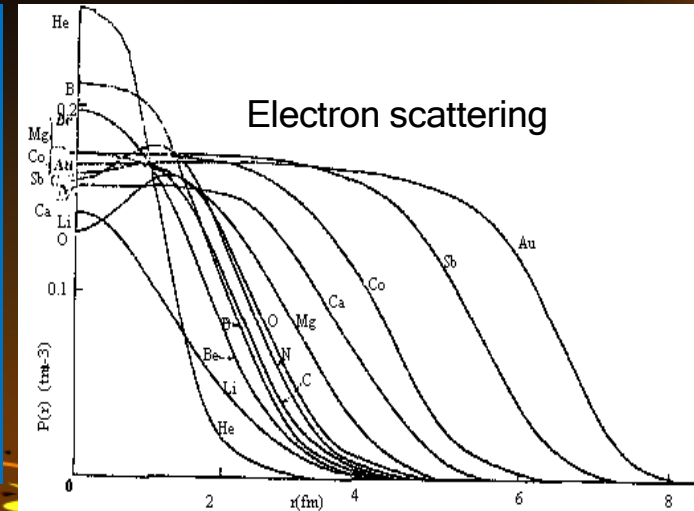


The **atomic nucleus** is the central part of the atom with the size of $10^{-14} \div 10^{-15} \text{ m}$ (or several femtometers), built of Z protons and N neutrons (ie with A nucleons).

All physical systems we know, if they are $\langle d \rangle \leq 10^{-10} \text{ m}$, are **quantal**. This means that the energies of such systems (and therefore the nuclei) are quantized - discrete instead of continuous.



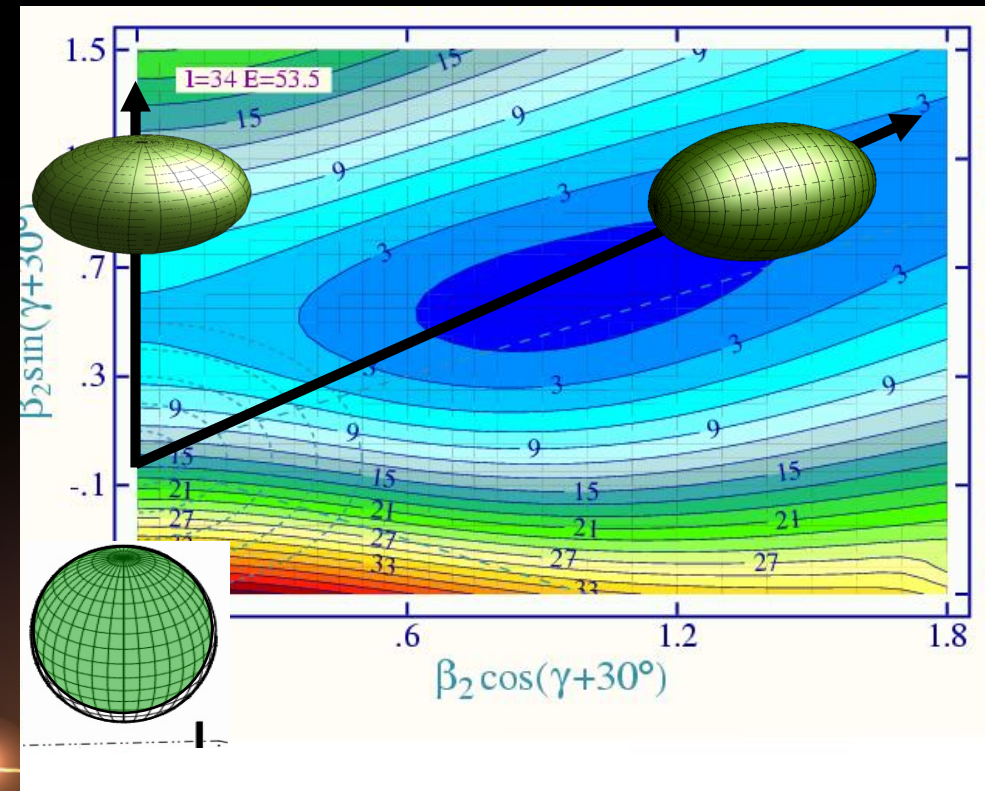
It turns out, however, that **many nuclear properties** are successfully described by classical models that use such concepts from the macroworld as **shape, deformation, rotation, vibration**, etc. This is the consequence of short range of nuclear interactions, which in turn produces rather well defined surface of atomic nucleus - thus the **concept of a shape** can be used.



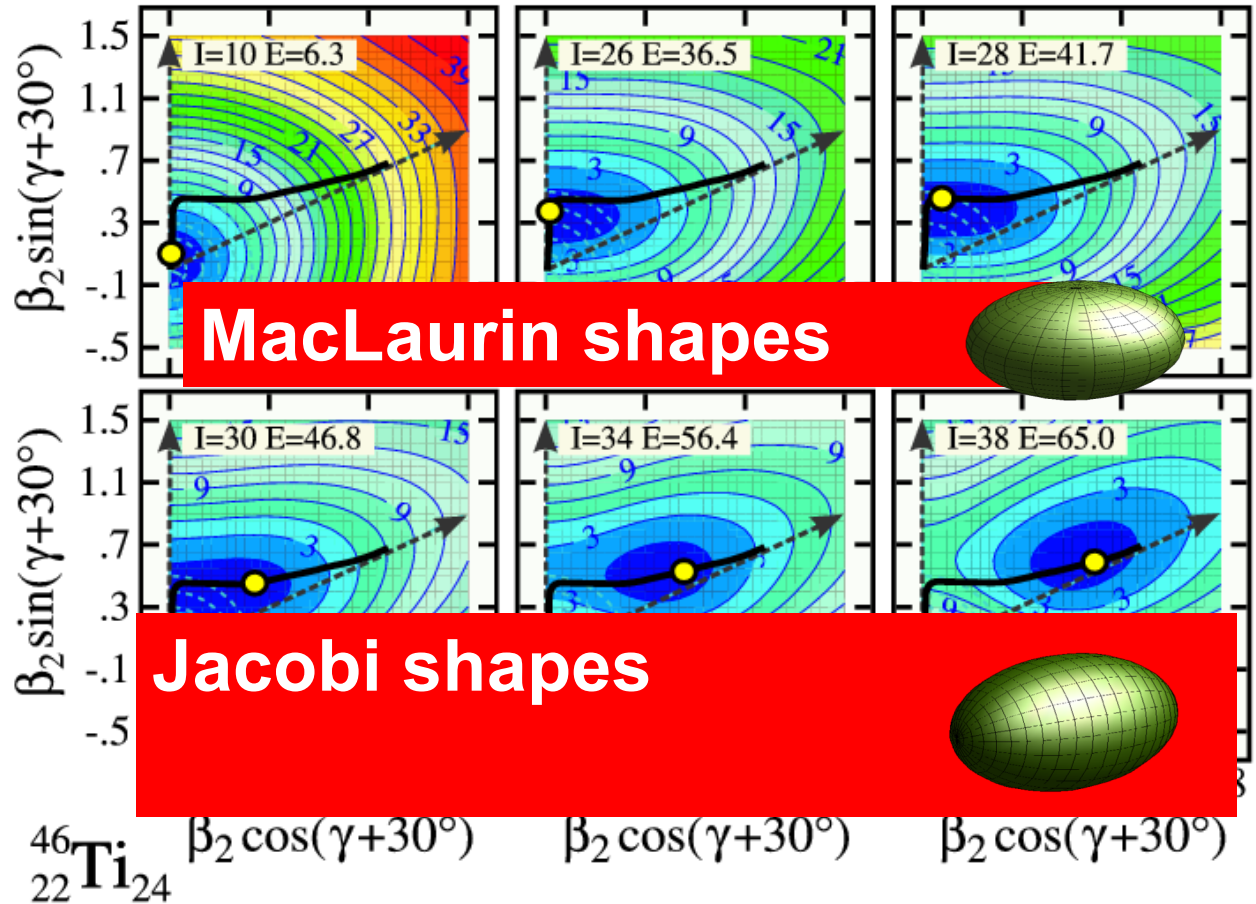
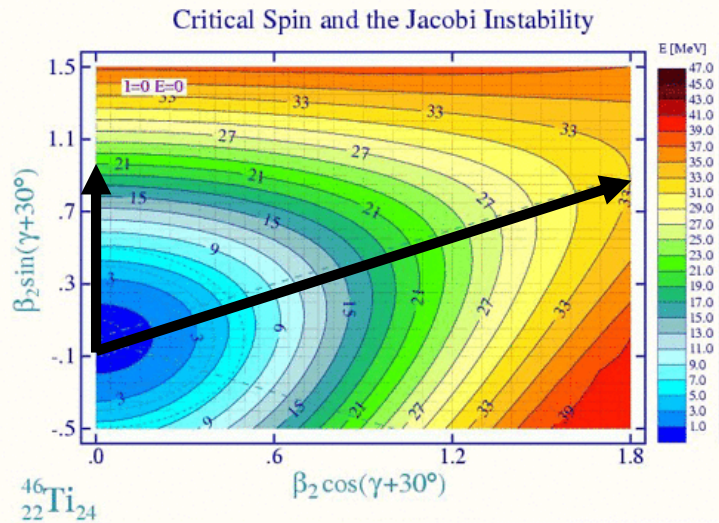
- S. Cohen, F. Plasil, W.J. Swiatecki, *Ann. Phys. (N.Y.)* 82 (1974) 557: Rotating liquid drop model

- K. Pomorski, J. Dudek, *Phys. Rev. C* 67 (2003) 044316: **LSD** (Lublin-Strasbourg Drop) Model

Model of a rotating drop with an added surface curvature term and new parameters from the available experimental data. The model calculates potential energy maps for given value of angular momentum



Predicted evolution of the shape of the ^{46}Ti nuclei in calculations with the LSD model



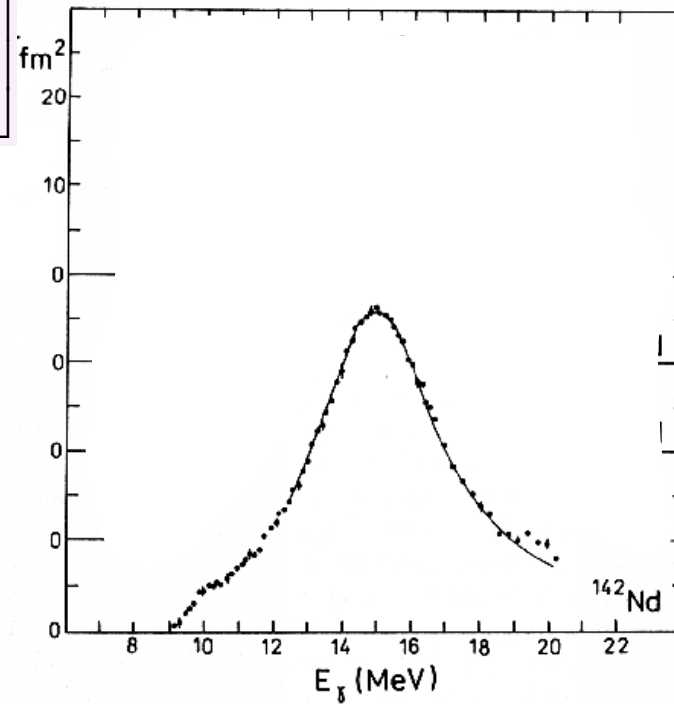
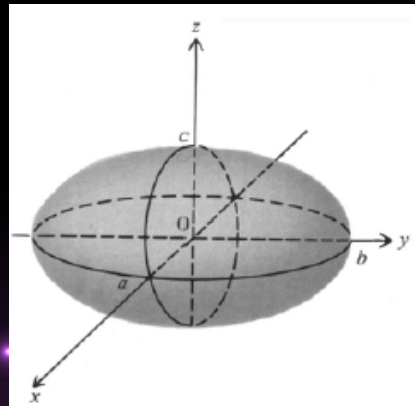
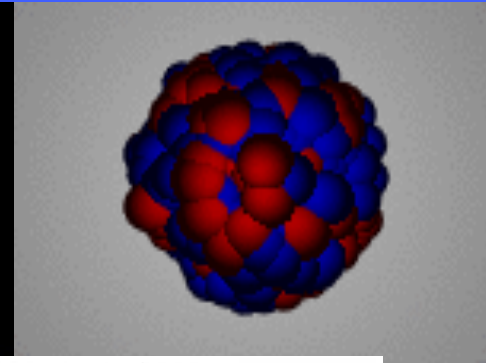
Shape evolution: Sphere \rightarrow "Disc" \rightarrow Triaxiality \rightarrow "Cigar" (\rightarrow fission)

Giant Dipole Resonance (GDR) – a tool to study shapes of hot nuclei

GDR - Collective oscillation of all neutrons against all protons

$$E_{GDR} = \hbar\omega \approx \frac{79}{A^{1/3}} \text{ MeV} \propto \frac{1}{R}$$

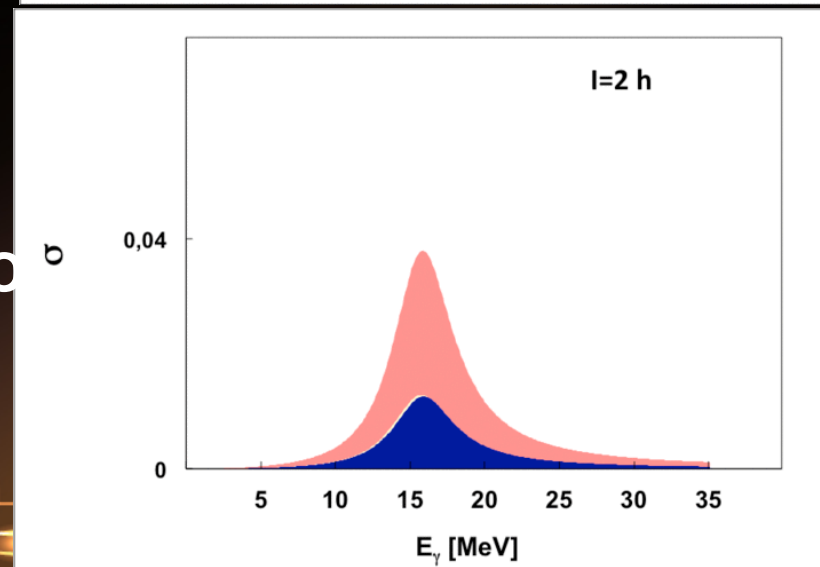
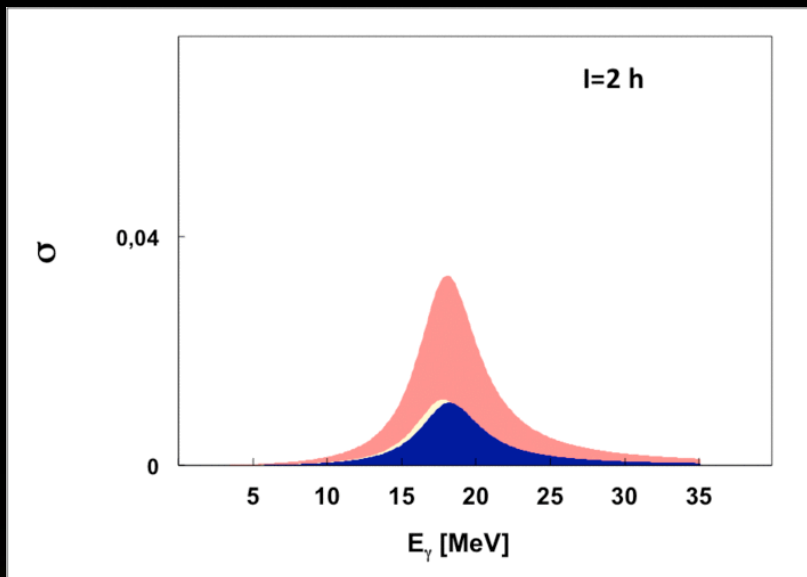
$$E_k = \hbar\omega_k = \hbar\omega_{GDR} \exp\left[-\sqrt{\frac{5}{4\pi}}\beta \cos\left(\gamma - \frac{2\pi}{3}k\right)\right]$$



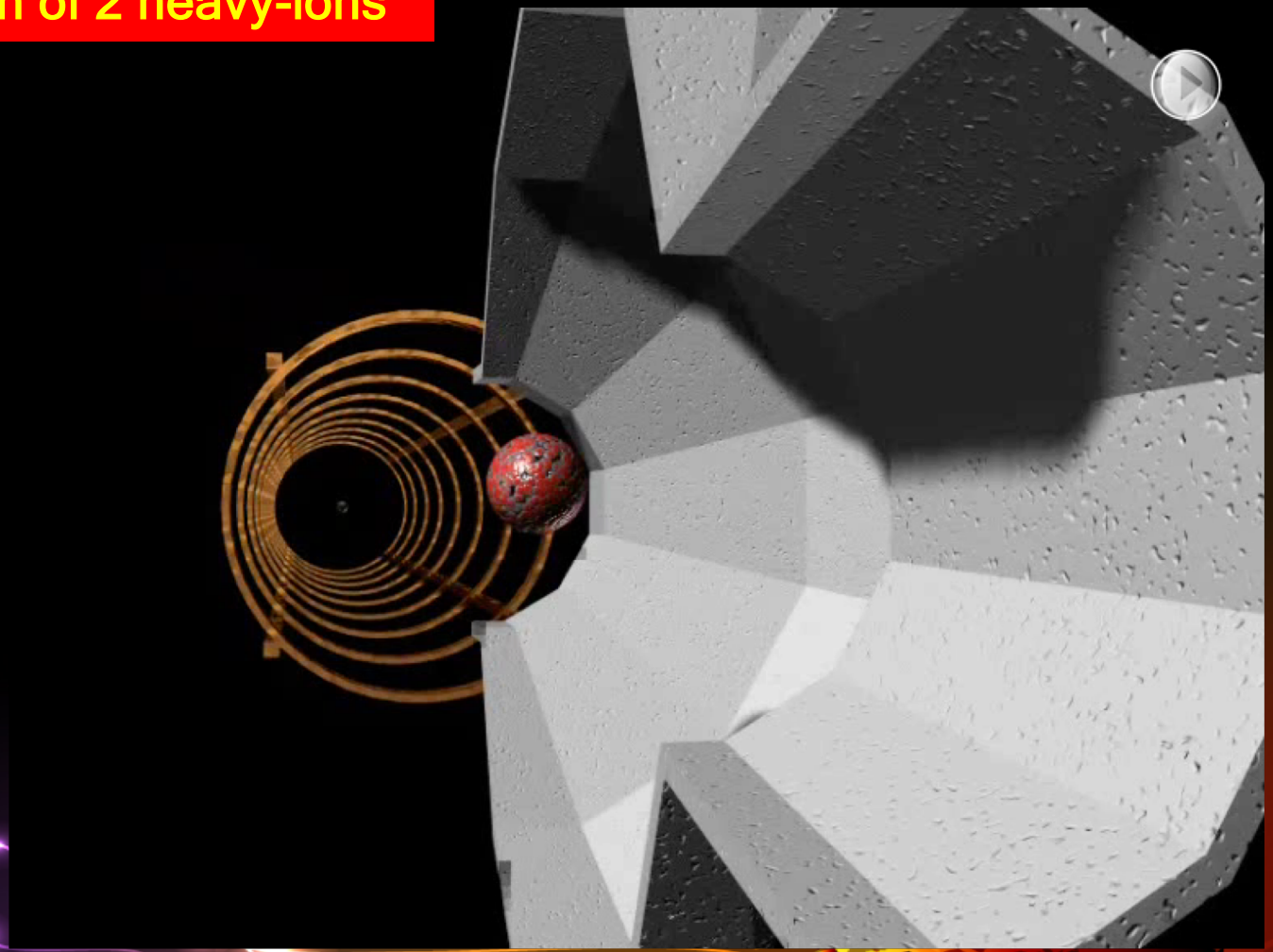
^{46}Ti

The appearance of a low energy component in the GDR strength - a signal of existence of the Jacobi shape

^{88}Mo

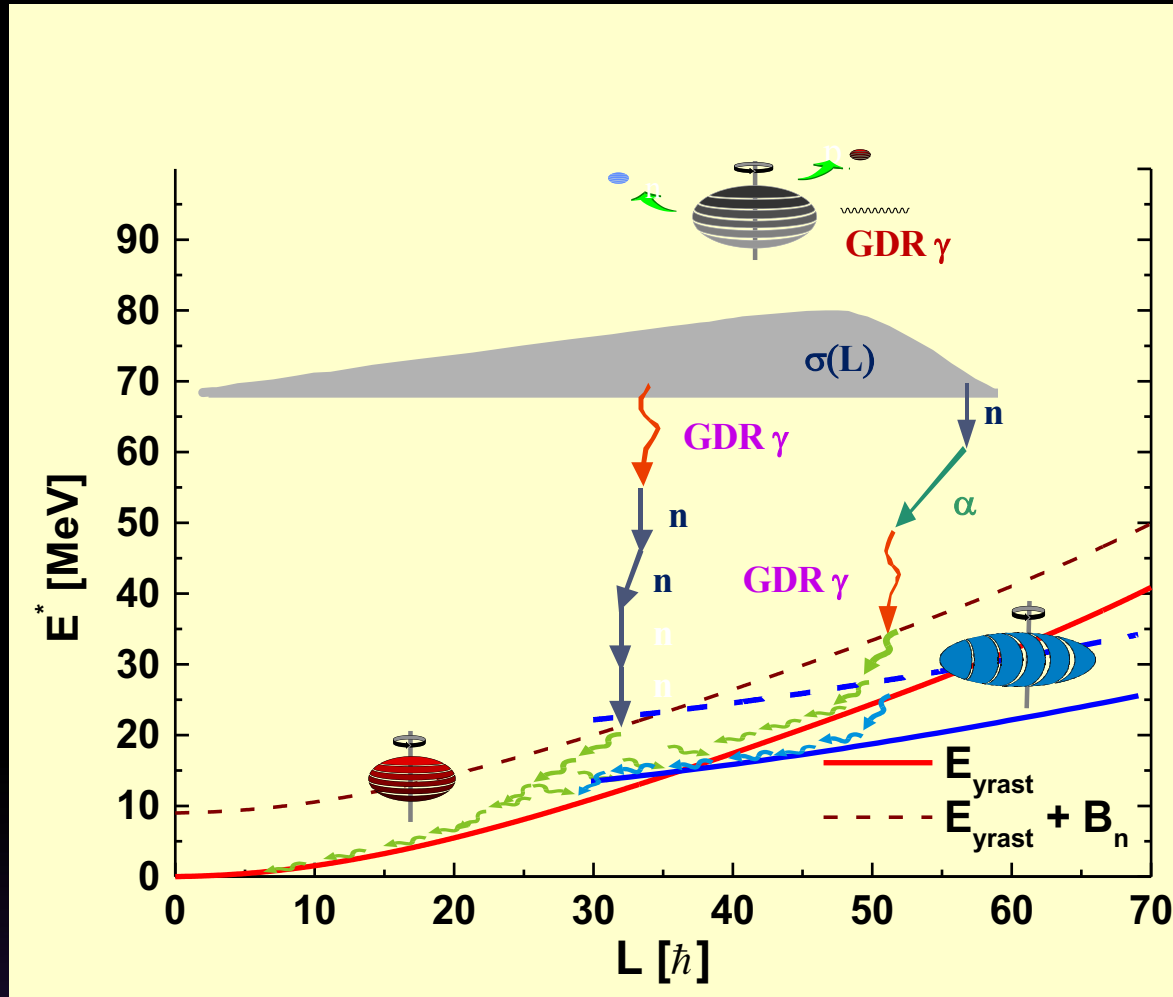


How to heat a nucleus and force it to rotate?
Fusion-evaporation reaction of 2 heavy-ions



Courtesy of Jerzy Grębosz

Formation and decay of compound nuclei



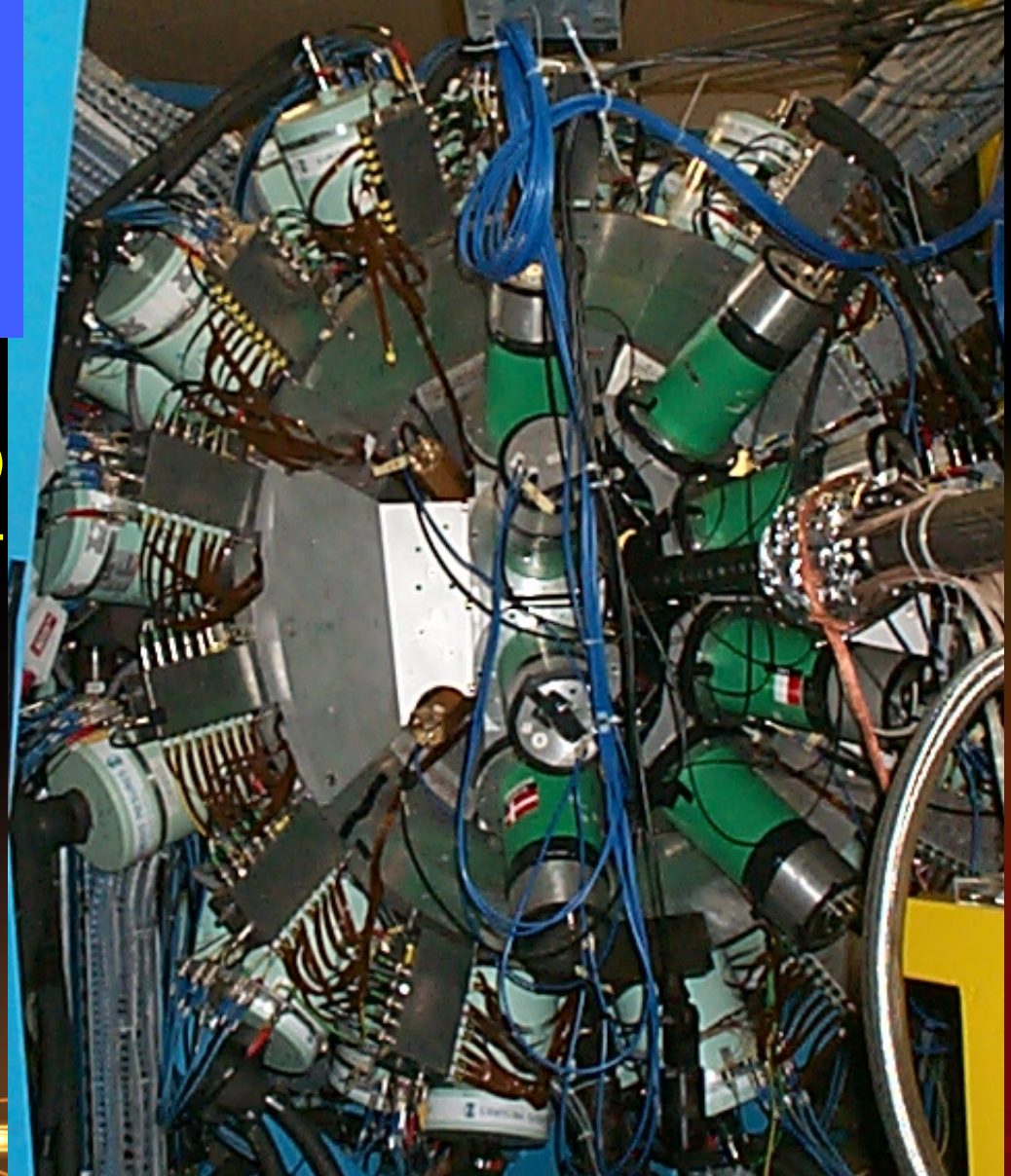
$$P_\gamma / P_n \approx 10^{-3}$$

A.Maj, M. Kmiecik, M. Ciemala, K. Mazurek,
B. Wasilewska et al. (IFJ PAN Kraków)
M. Kicińska-Habior i innie (ŚLCJ UW)
J. Dudek (Uni Strasbourg)
K. Pomorski (UMCS Lublin)

Experiments in Strasbourg (France)
HECTOR + EUROBALL

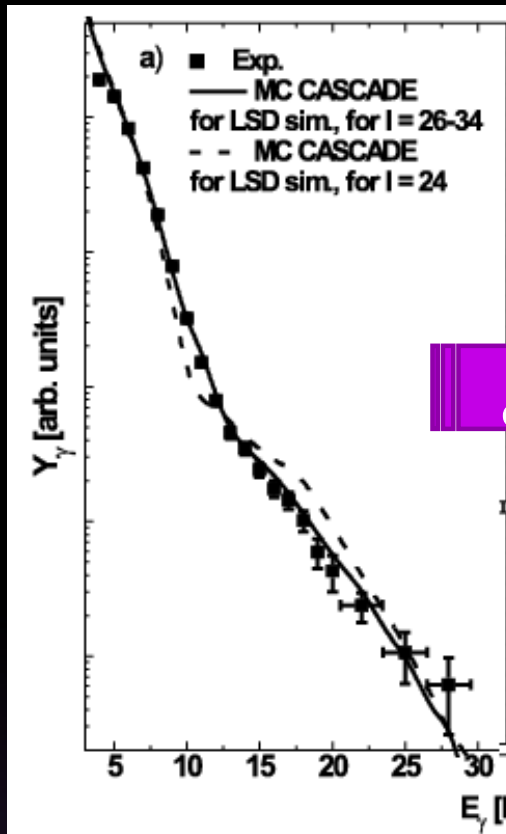
$105 \text{ MeV } ^{18}\text{O} + ^{28}\text{Si} \Rightarrow ^{46}\text{Ti}^*$
 $I_{\text{max}} \approx 35 \hbar, E^* = 88 \text{ MeV}$

A.Maj et al., Nucl. Phys. A731, 319 (2004)
A.Maj et al., Eur. Phys. J. A20, 165 (2004)
M. Kmiecik et al., Acta Phys. Pol. B36, 1169 (2005)
M. Ciemala et al., Phys.Rev. C 91, 054313 (2015)

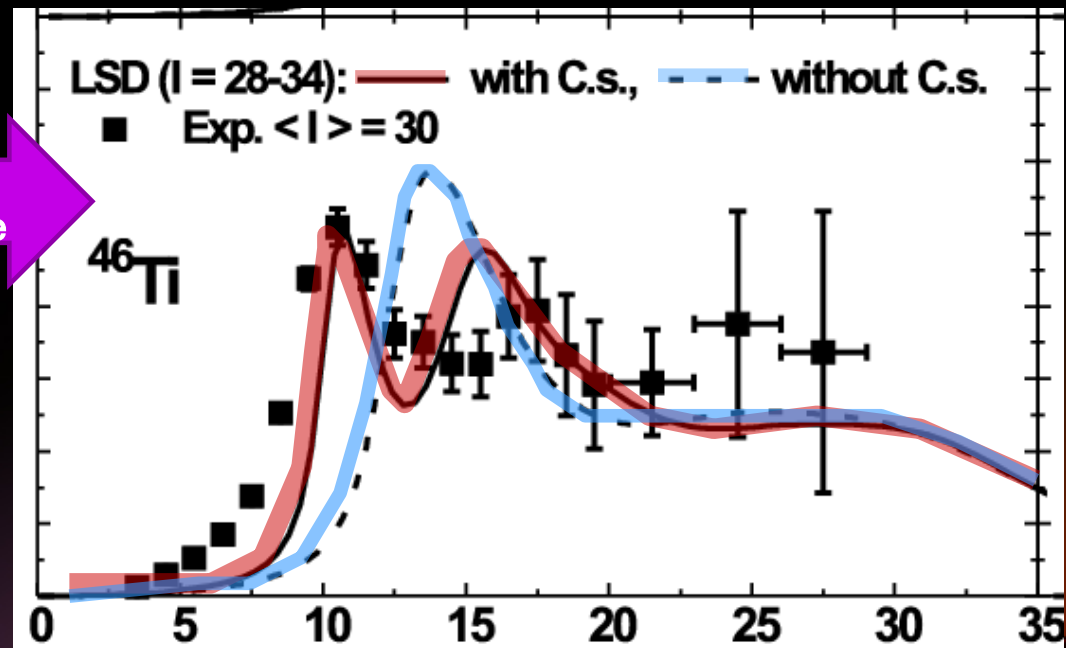


Experiment versus theory

The existence of **Jacobi nuclear shapes** at ^{46}Ti at high spins was confirmed for the **first time**



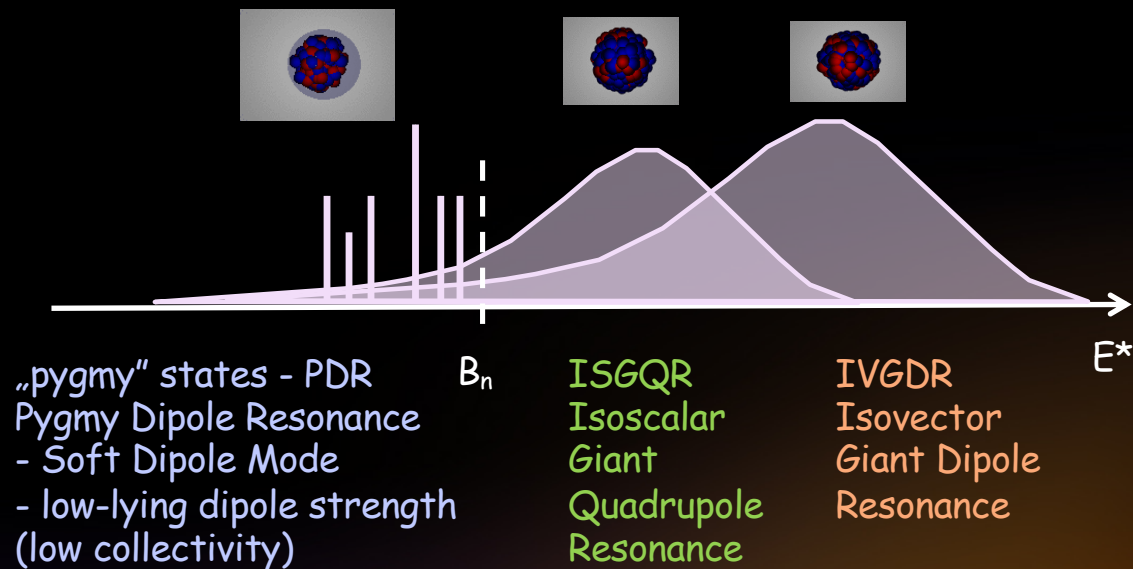
Statistical evaporation code



Other collective excitations

large fraction of nucleons in nucleus take part in excitation

excited in fusion - evaporation or inelastic scattering reactions
(γ, γ'), (p,p'), (α, α'), heavy ions



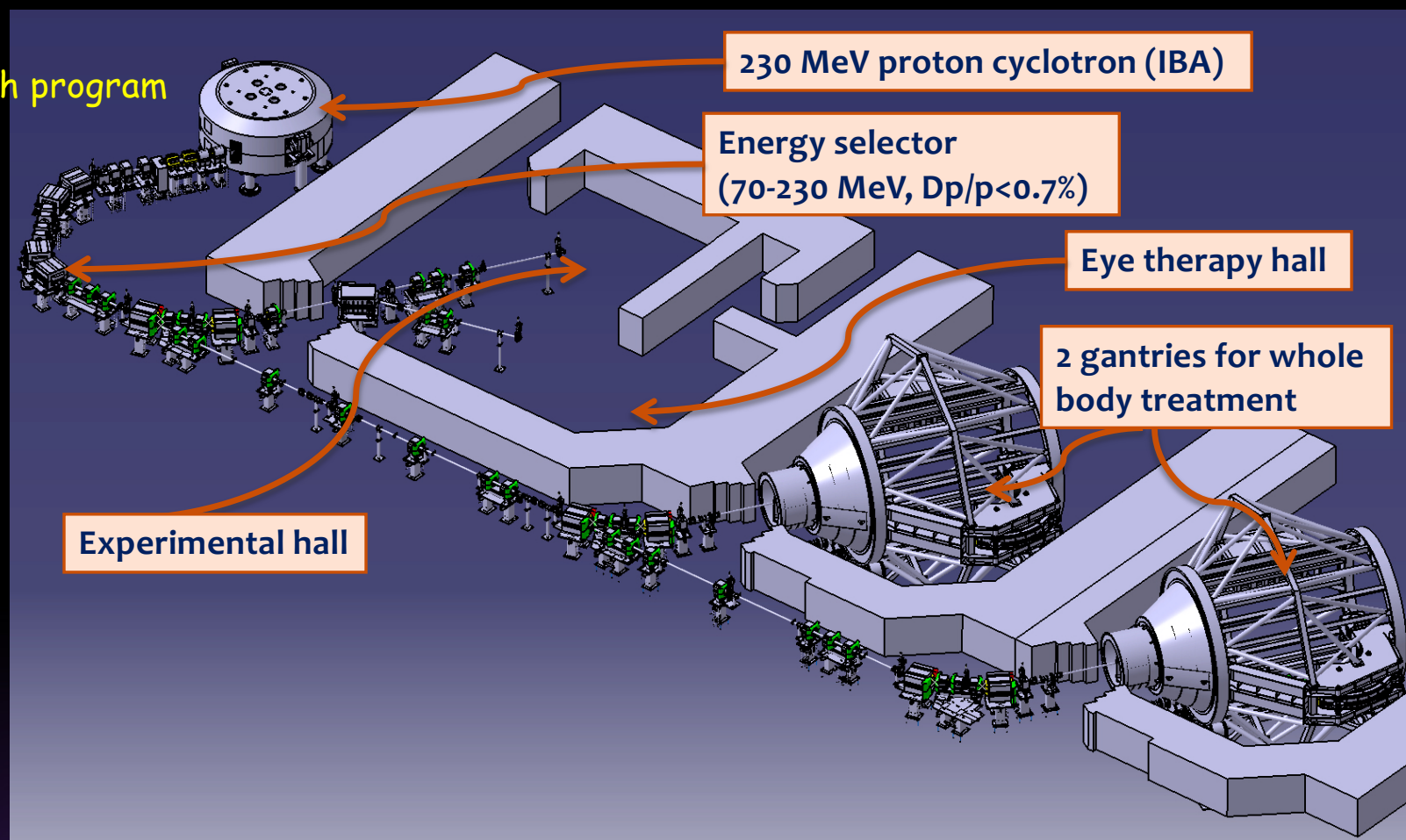
GDR γ decay: $\sim 10^{-3} - 10^{-4}$

GQR γ decay: $\sim 10^{-5} - 10^{-6}$

Cyclotron Center Bronowice (CCB) at IFJ PAN Krakow

proton cancer therapy,
and additionally research program
concerning:

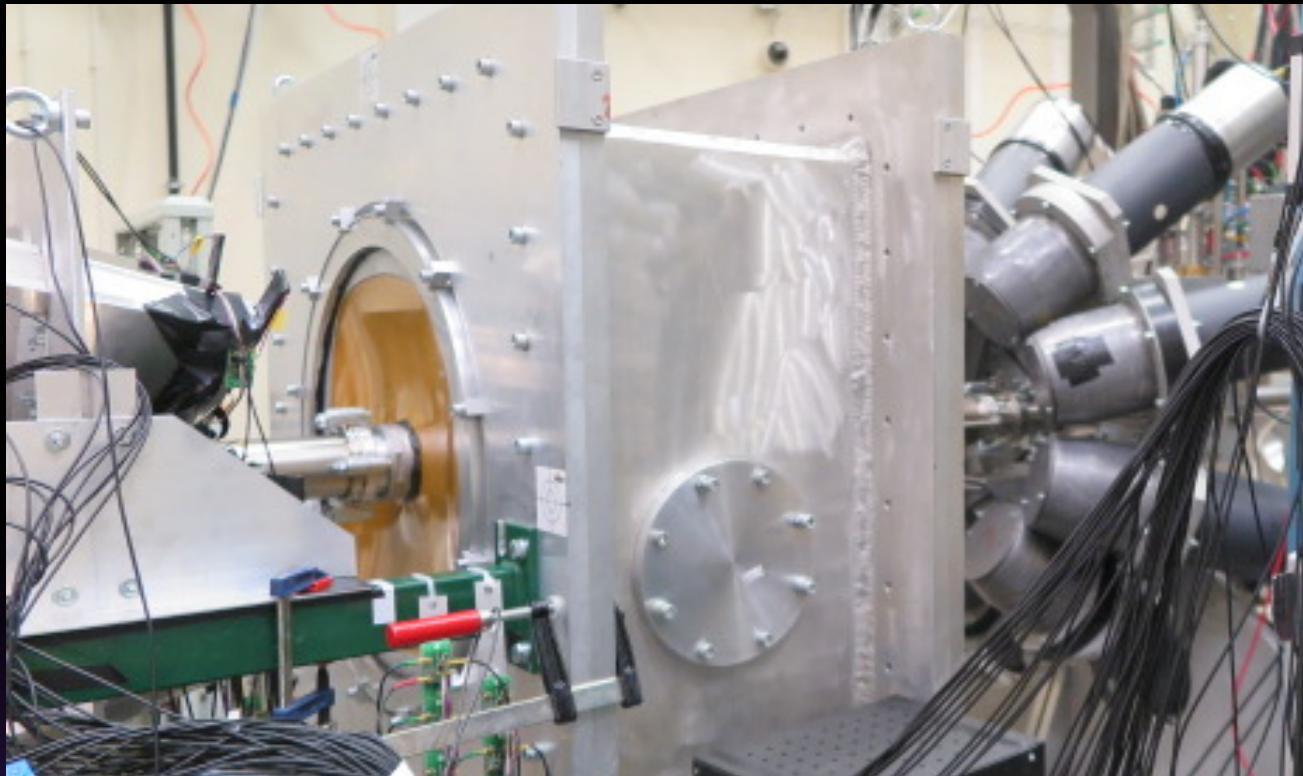
- nuclear physics,
- radiobiology
- dosimetry
- and medical physics



Experimental setup

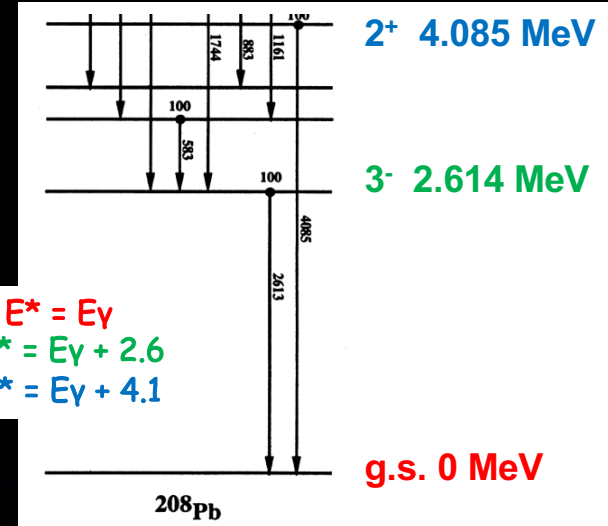
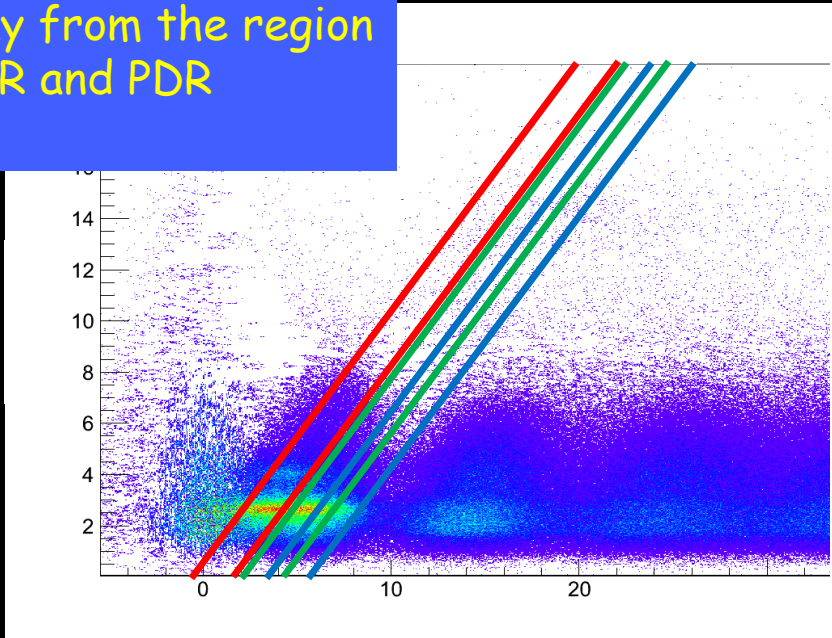
KRATTA (16 CsI telescopes)

HECTOR (8 BaF₂)
LaBr₃ (large volume 8"x3.5")
PARIS (cluster of 9 „phoswiches”
LaBr₃/CeBr₃ + NaI)



First results from the CCB facility

gamma decay from the region of GDR, GQR and PDR observed

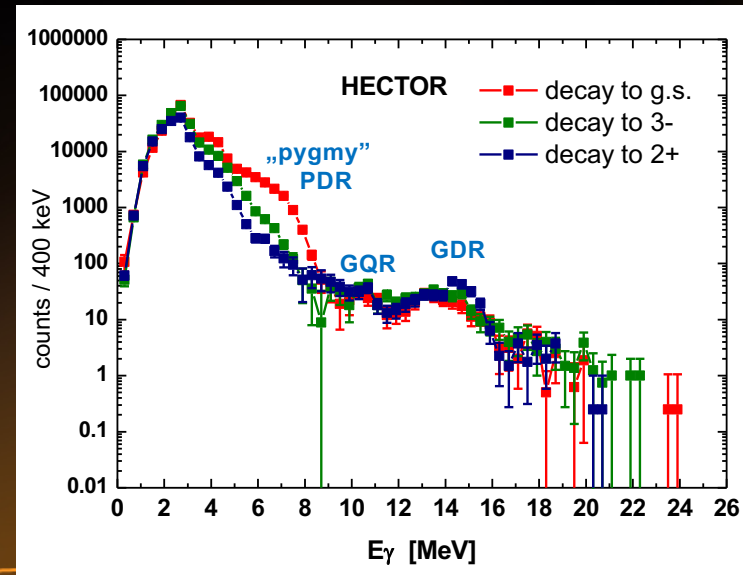


Observation 1:

Axel-Brink hypothesis holds for GDR, but not for PDR

Observation 2:

Strong enhancement of gamma strength below neutron binding energy (PDR) - possible importance for understanding the *r*-process in creation of heavy elements during supernova explosions or neutron star mergers



B. Wasilewska, M. Kmiecik, A. Maj et al. to be published

Summary

- The evolution of the **shape of rotating atomic nuclei** is quite **similar to** the evolution of the **shape of rotating celestial bodies** and can be well described by classic models
- Experimental evidence for the existence of **Jacobi nuclear shapes** have been found
- New **medical proton facility in Krakow (CCB)** starts producing interesting results in basic science: on collective modes in stable nuclei

