



山东大学  
SHANDONG UNIVERSITY

空间科学与物理学院  
SCHOOL OF SPACE SCIENCE AND PHYSICS



# Coexistence and Interplay between nuclear chirality and octupole correlations

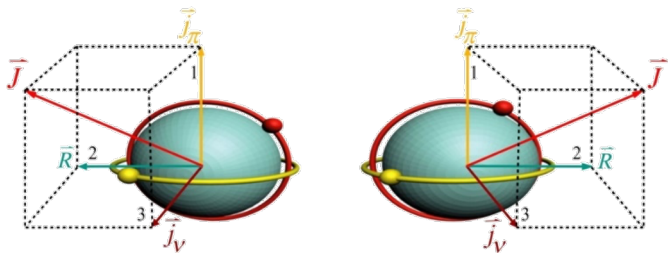
**Speaker: Liu Chen**  
**Shandong University**

闻天逐日 探物究理

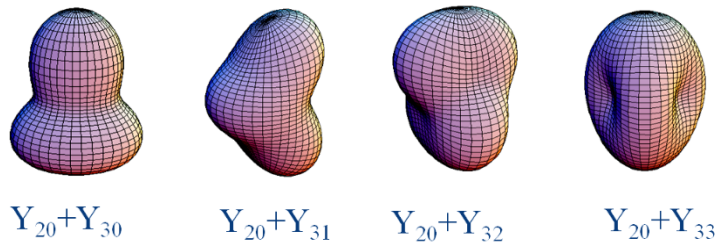
- Introduction
- Experimental studies in the  $A \sim 80$  mass region
  1. Coexistence of the nuclear chirality and octupole correlations
  2. Interplay between nuclear chirality and octupole correlations
- Conclusion

- Introduction
- Experimental studies in the  $A \sim 80$  mass region
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- Spontaneous symmetry breaking is a fundamental concept in nature.
- The shape of a nucleus can exhibit triaxial or octupole deformation, corresponding to the chiral or reflection symmetry breaking in the intrinsic frame.



**chiral symmetry breaking**

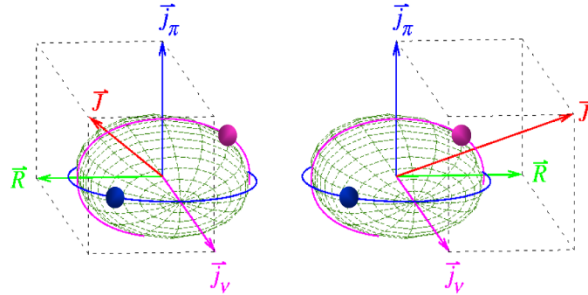


**reflection symmetry breaking**

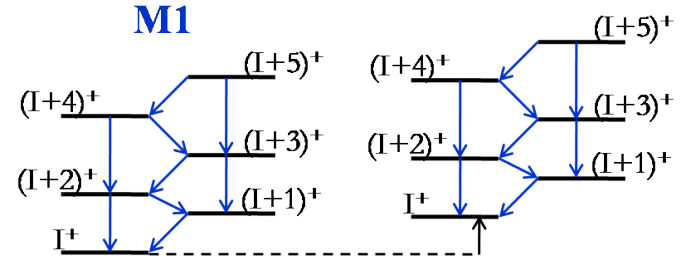
# Chiral symmetry breaking in nuclei

- In 1997, Frauendorf and Meng pointed out that the rotation of triaxial nuclei may attain a chiral character -- chiral doublet bands.

Intrinsic frame



Frauendorf & Meng, Nucl. Phys. A617, 131 (1997)



- Chiral nuclei was firstly reported in 2001.

Expected exp. signal : Two near degenerate  $\Delta I = 1$  bands

VOLUME 86, NUMBER 6

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

5 FEBRUARY 2001

## Chiral Doublet Structures in Odd-Odd $N = 75$ Isotones: Chiral Vibrations

K. Starosta,<sup>1,\*</sup> T. Koike,<sup>1</sup> C. J. Chiara,<sup>1</sup> D. B. Fossan,<sup>1</sup> D. R. LaFosse,<sup>1</sup> A. A. Hecht,<sup>2</sup> C. W. Beausang,<sup>2</sup> M. A. Caprio,<sup>2</sup> J. R. Cooper,<sup>2</sup> R. Krücken,<sup>2</sup> J. R. Novak,<sup>2</sup> N. V. Zamfir,<sup>2,†</sup> K. E. Zyranski,<sup>2</sup> D. J. Hartley,<sup>3</sup> D. L. Balabanski,<sup>3,‡</sup> Jing-ye Zhang,<sup>3</sup> S. Frauendorf,<sup>4</sup> and V. I. Dimitrov<sup>4,‡</sup>

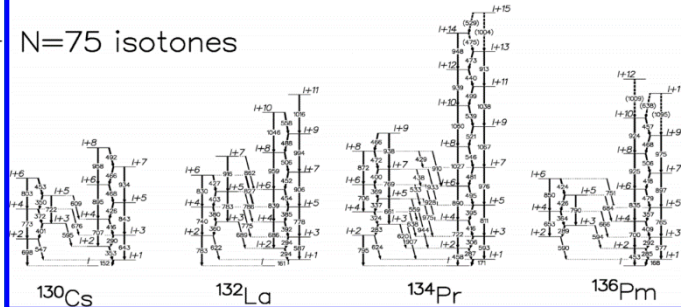
<sup>1</sup>Department of Physics and Astronomy, SUNY at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, New York 11794

<sup>2</sup>Wright Nuclear Structure Laboratory, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06520

<sup>3</sup>Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996

<sup>4</sup>Department of Physics, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556  
and Institute for Nuclear and Hadronic Physics, Research Center Rossendorf, 01314 Dresden, Germany

$N=75$  isotones

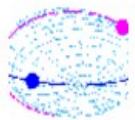


Starosta *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 86, 971 (2001)

- ❑ The study of nuclear chiral symmetry has become one of the most important frontiers in nuclear physics.

## Focus

### Left-Handed Nuclei



*Phys. Rev. Focus* 7, 4 (2001) – Published January 30, 2001  
Certain asymmetrically shaped nuclei can be left-handed or right handed.

<http://physics.aps.org/story/v7/st4>

“The question of whether stable triaxial nuclear shapes exist has been debated for decades,” says Mark Riley of Florida State University in Tallahassee. Starosta and his colleagues have “hit upon the first direct evidence,” which Riley says is causing quite a stir in the nuclear physics world.

**Understanding how these complex nuclear structures behave may spill over to other fields as well.**

**The question of whether stable triaxial nuclear shapes exist has been debated for decades.  
Hit upon the first direct evidence**

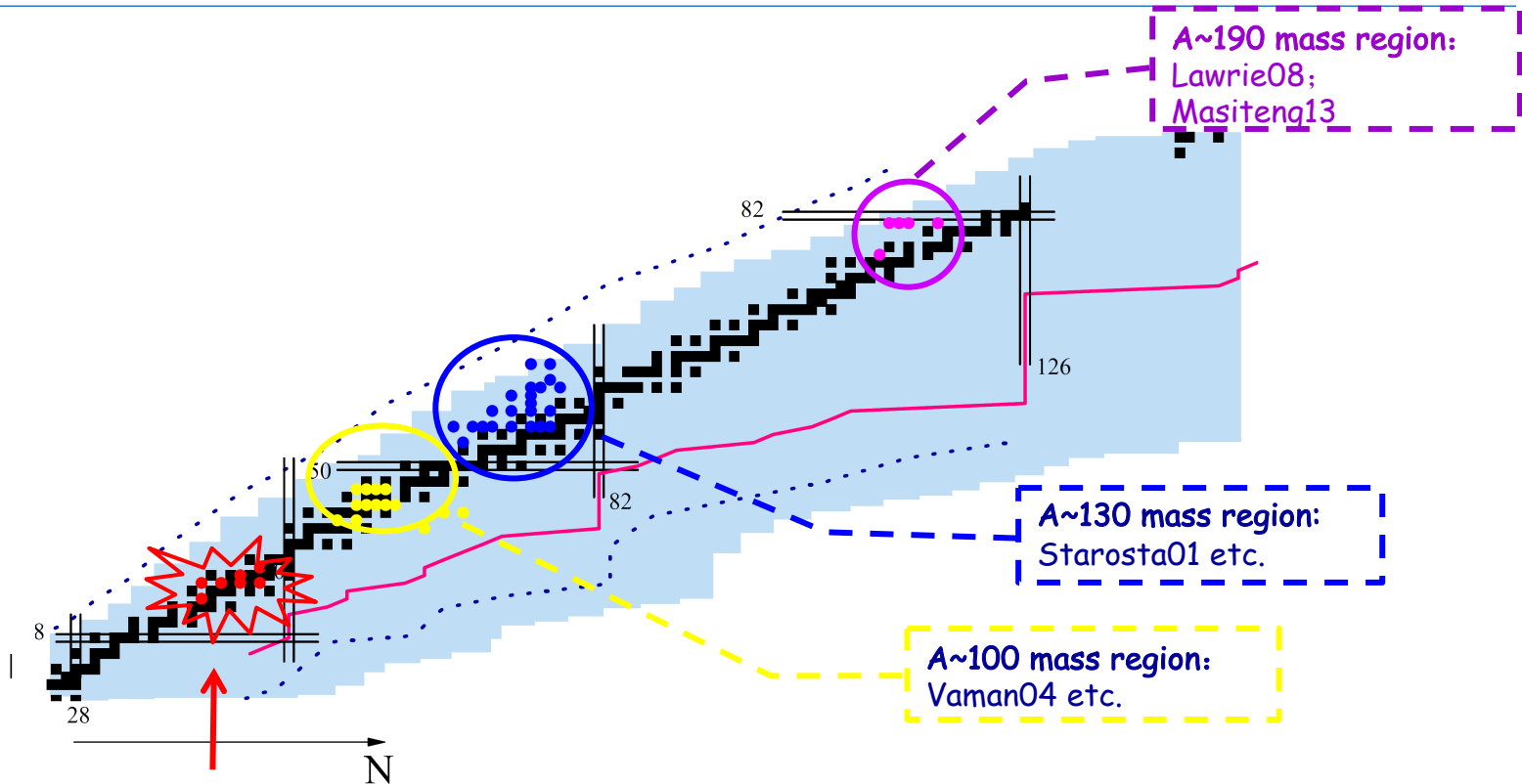
## Science

### Nuclei Crash Through The Looking-Glass

but we will be searching in other mass regions now.” Clark says understanding how these complex nuclear structures behave may spill over to other fields as well. “The ideas and methods for understanding nuclei, molecules, metallic clusters, and atomic condensates all feed off of each other,” he notes.

<https://www.sciencemag.org/content/291/5506/962.1.full>

# Chiral "islands"



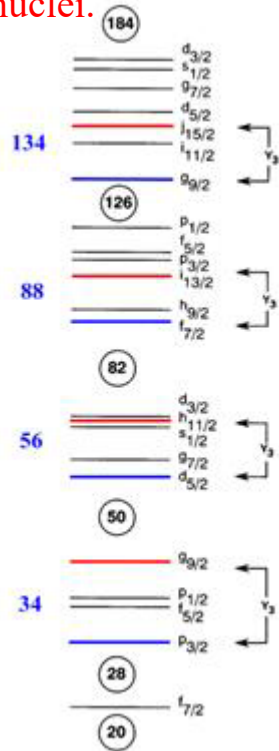
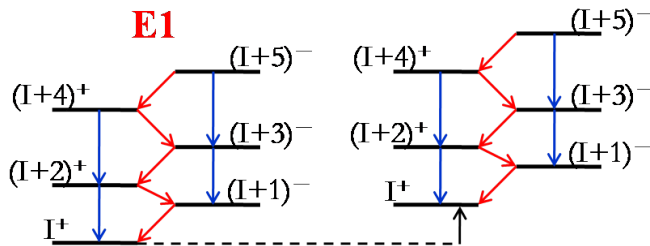
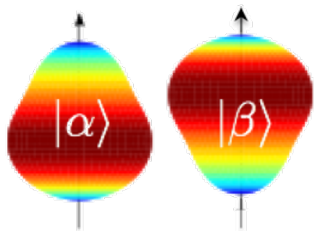
A~190 mass region:  
Lawrie08;  
Masiteng13

A~130 mass region:  
Starosta01 etc.

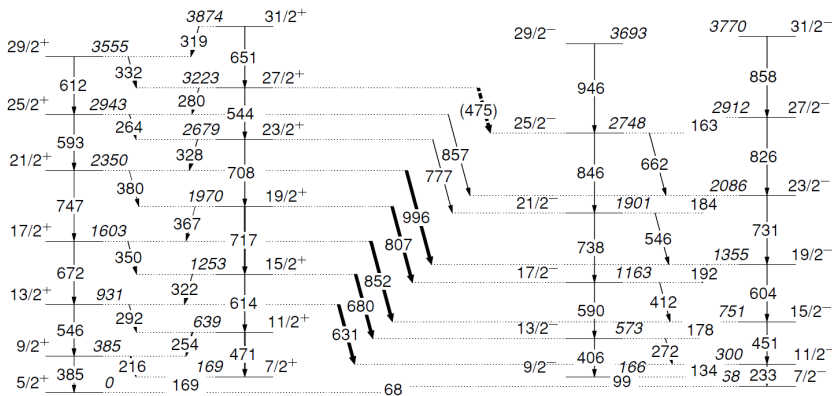
A~100 mass region:  
Vaman04 etc.

A~80 mass region:  $^{80}\text{Br}$ , Wang11 etc.

Reflection-asymmetric shapes can play a role in the band structure of octupole deformed nuclei.



Expected exp. signal : parity doublet bands/ Octupole correlations



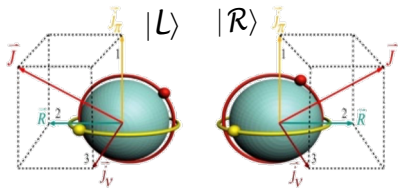
Octupole correlations in  $^{125}\text{Ba}$

P. A. Butler, Rev. Mod. Phys. 1996  
P. Mason et al., PRC 2005



# Coexistence and interplay?

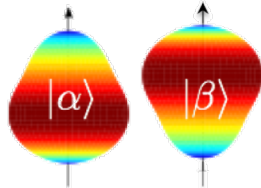
## Triaxial deformation



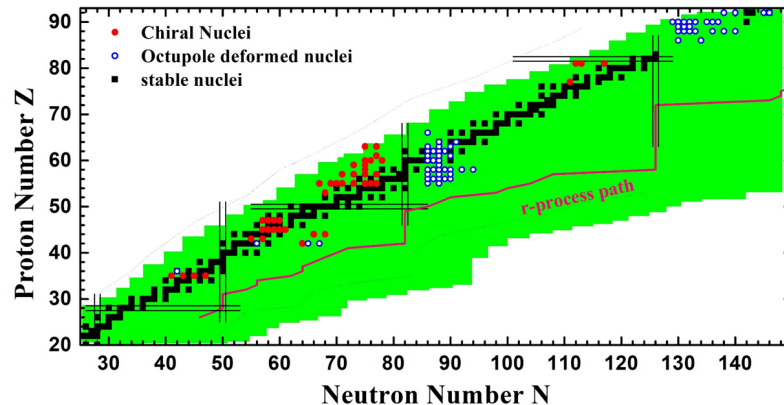
Chiral symmetry



## Octupole deformation

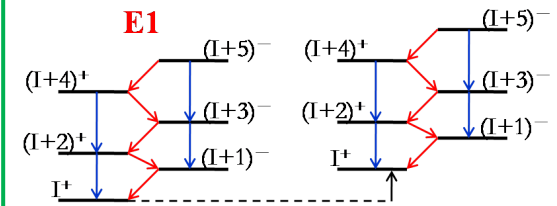
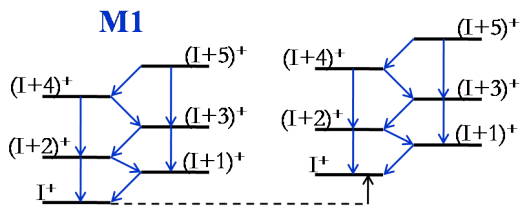


Reflection symmetry



## Experimental research on chiral and reflection symmetry breaking

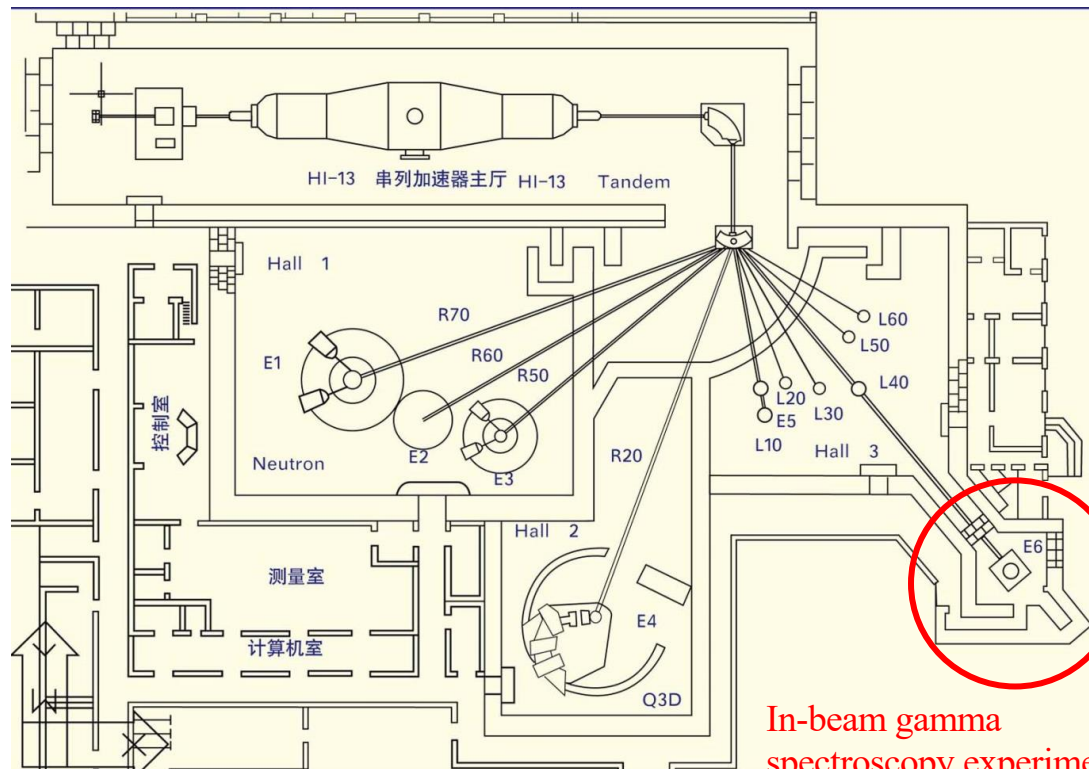
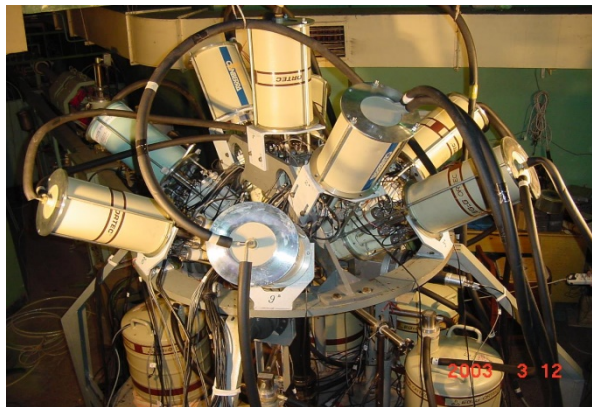
Starosta *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 86, 971 (2001)  
Dahlinger *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. A484, 337 (1988)



- The simultaneous breaking of chiral and reflection symmetry is interesting.
- Nuclei in the 80 mass region are good candidates to study the coexistence and interplay between nuclear chirality and octupole correlations.

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## @ China Institute of Atomic Energy

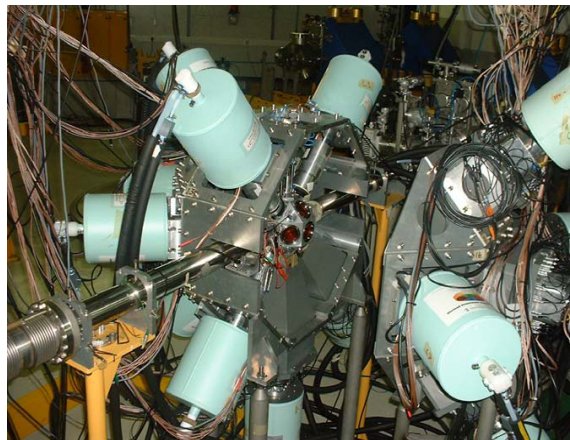


In-beam gamma spectroscopy experiment

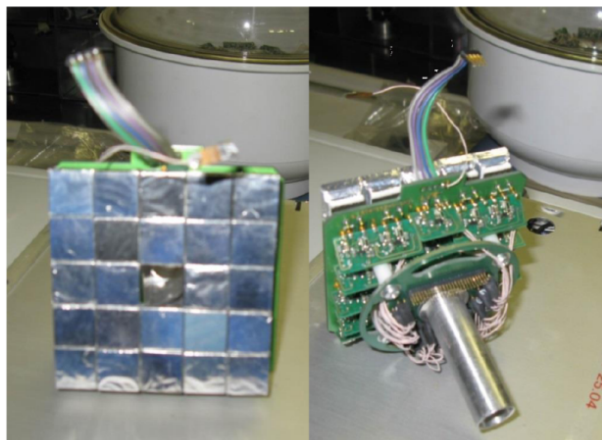
## □ @ iThemba LABS



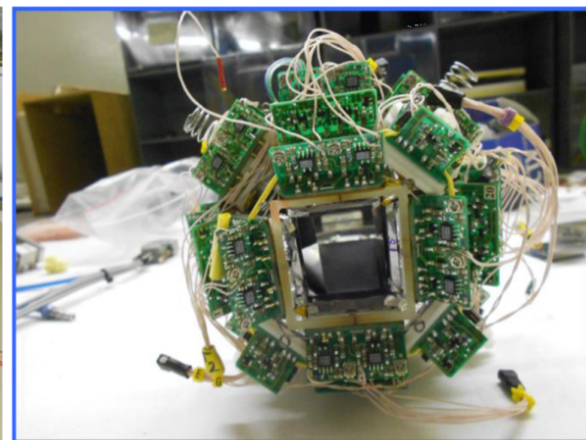
AFRODITE

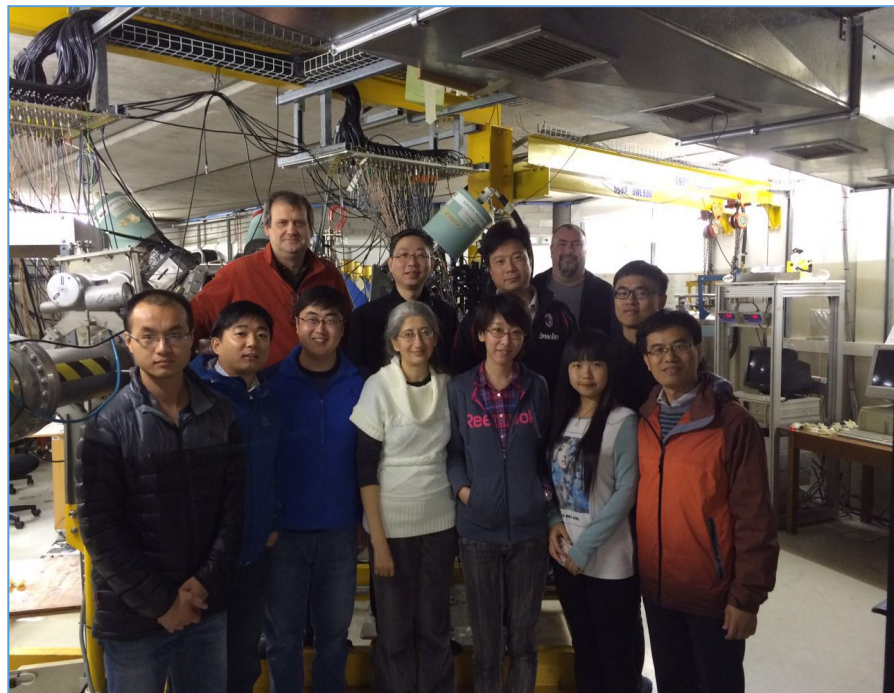


Chessboard

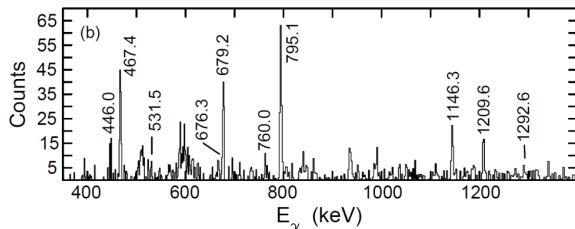
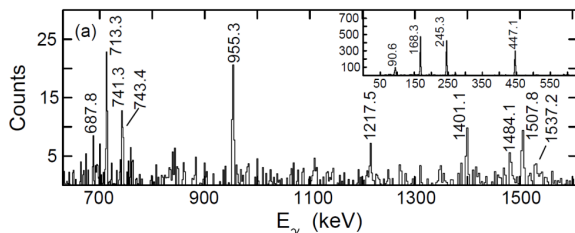
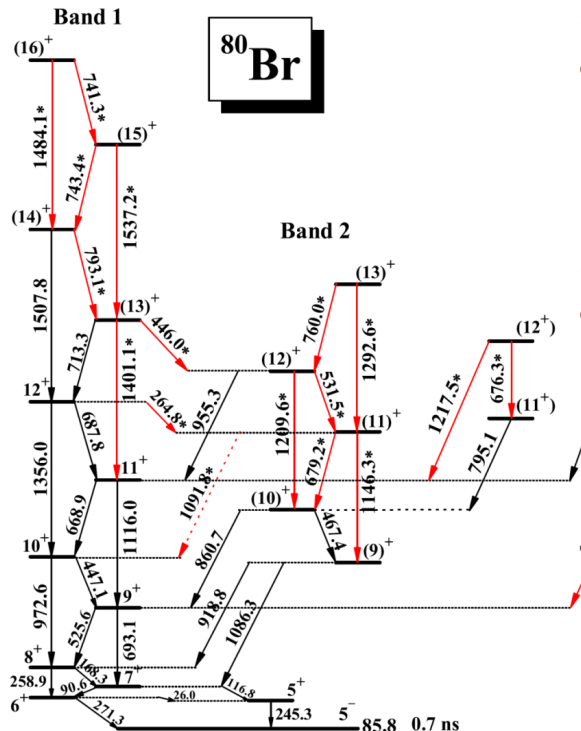


DIAMANT

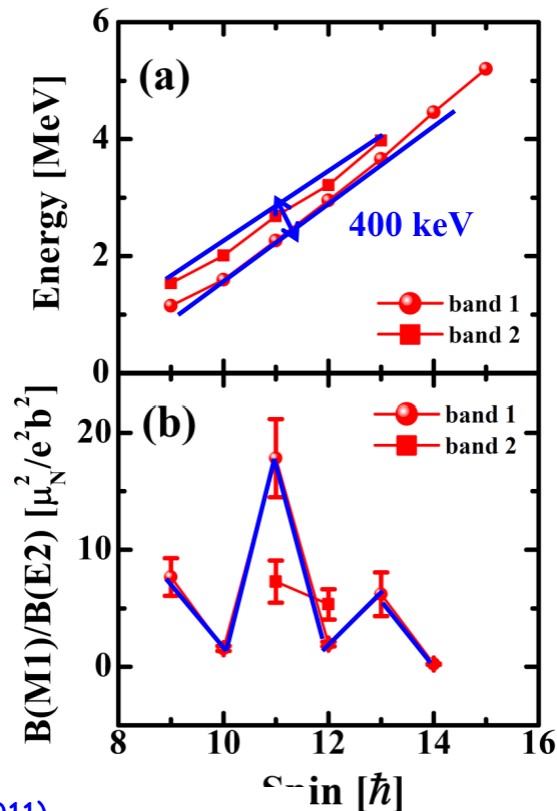


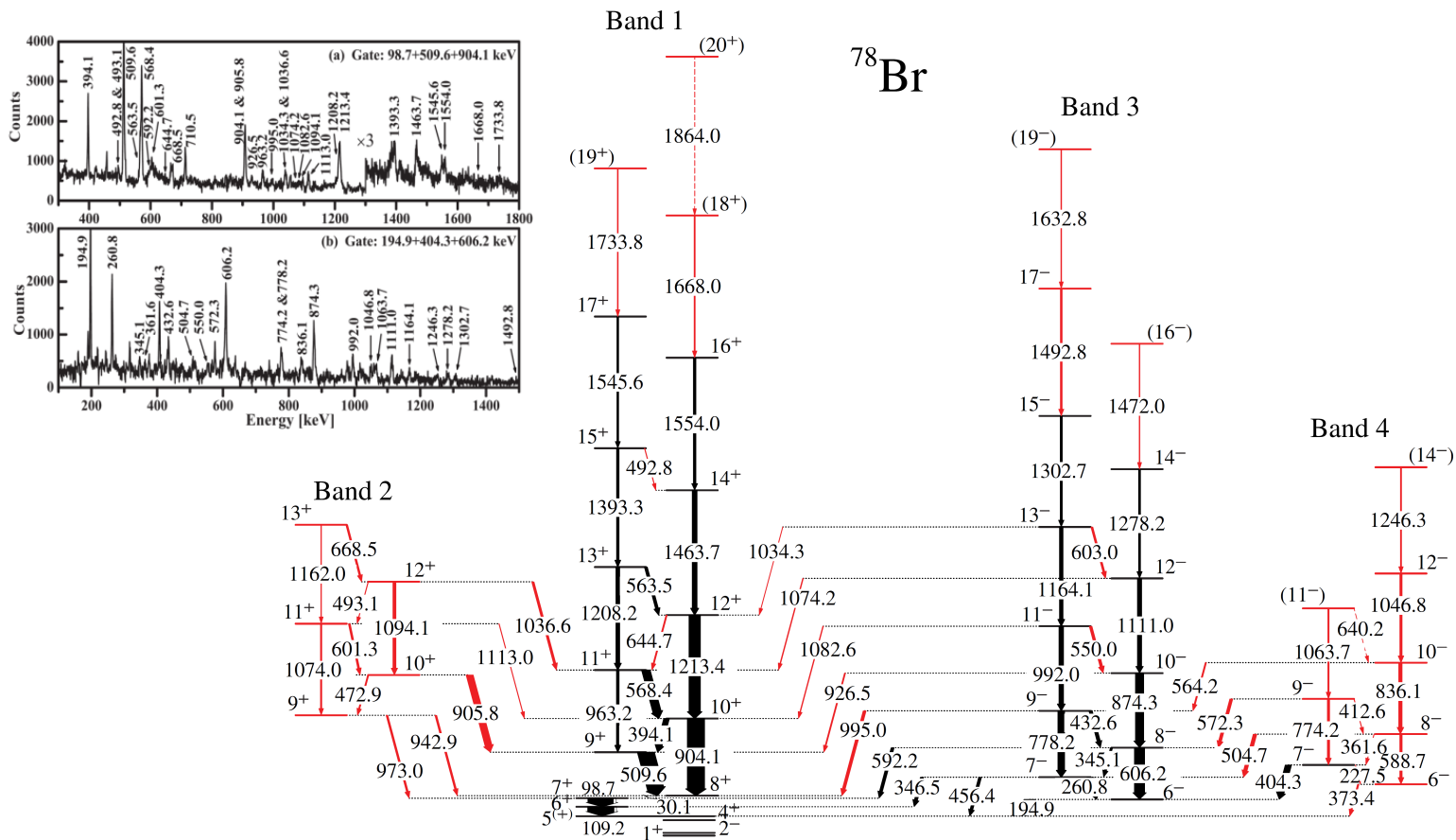


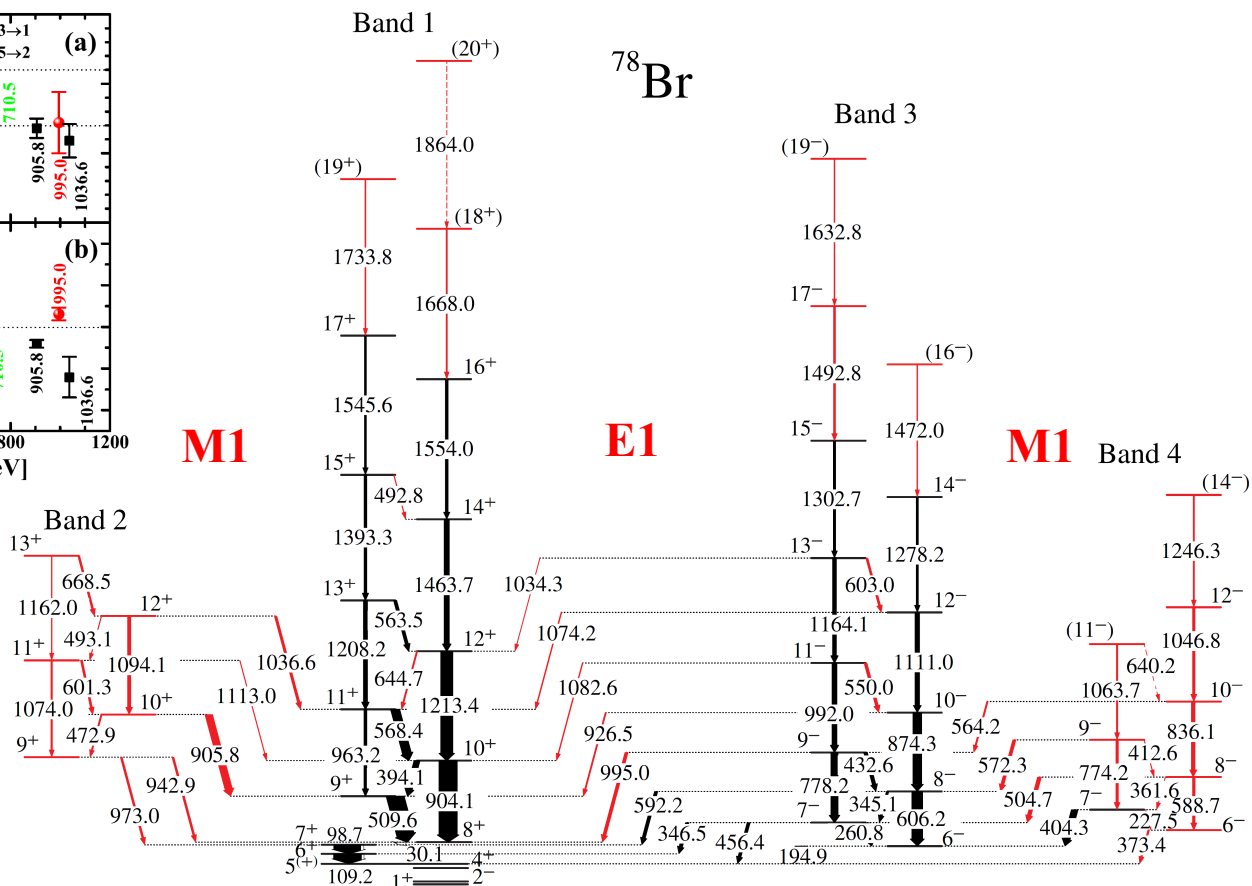
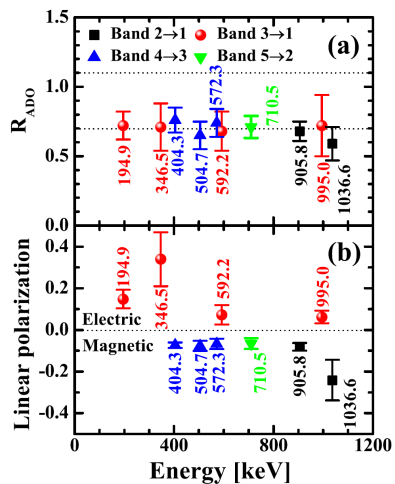
➤ A~80 mass region: a newly observed “chiral island”



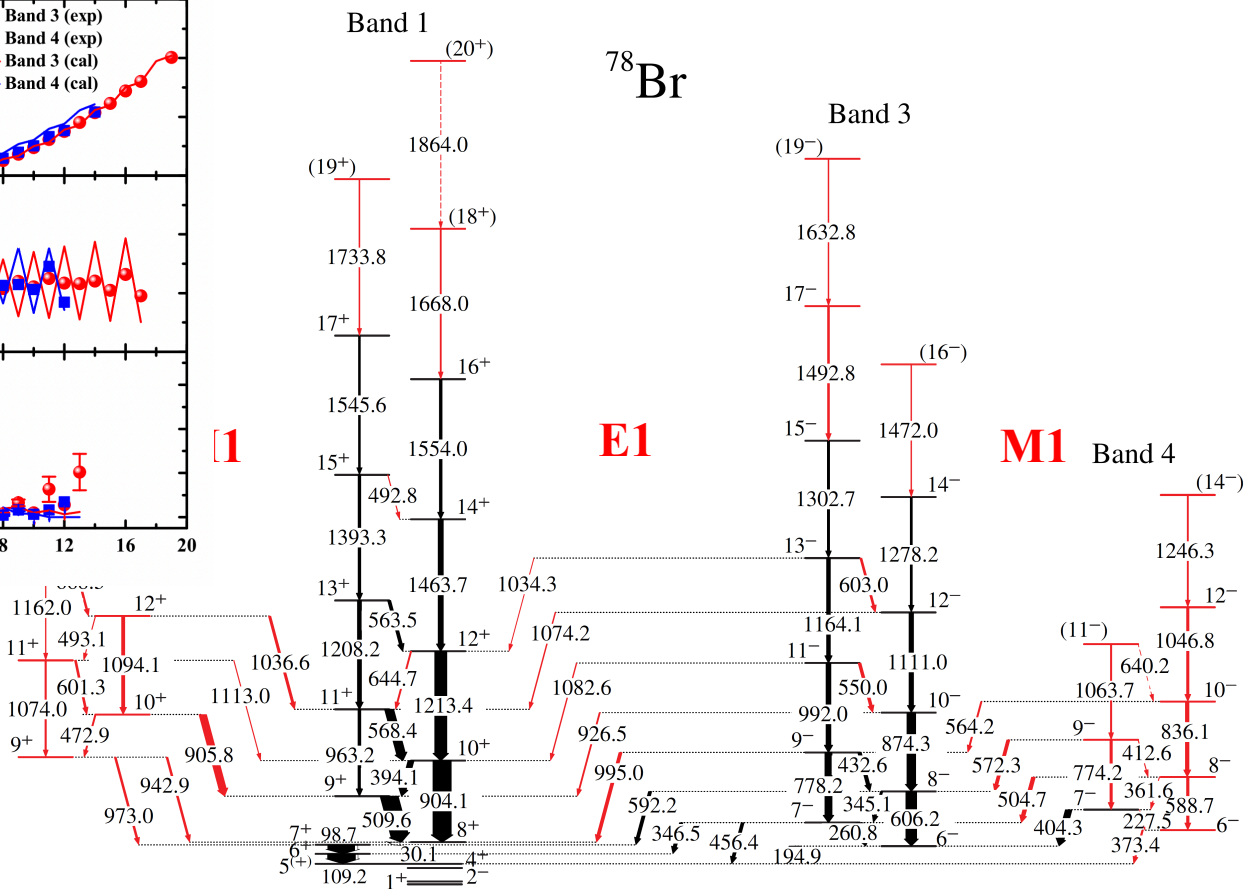
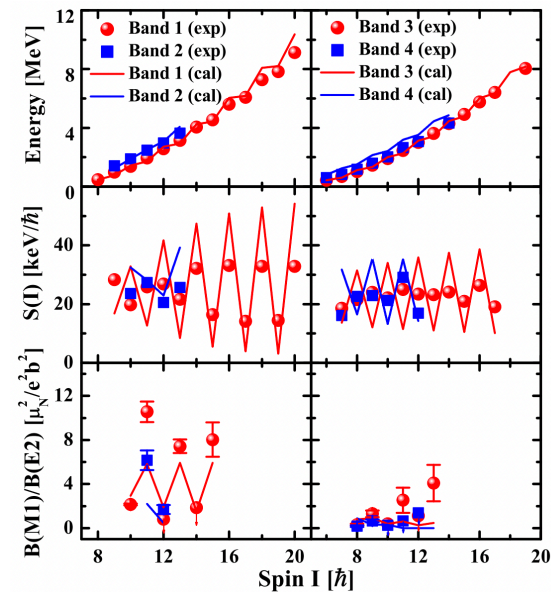
S. Y. Wang et al., Phys. Lett. B703, 40(2011)





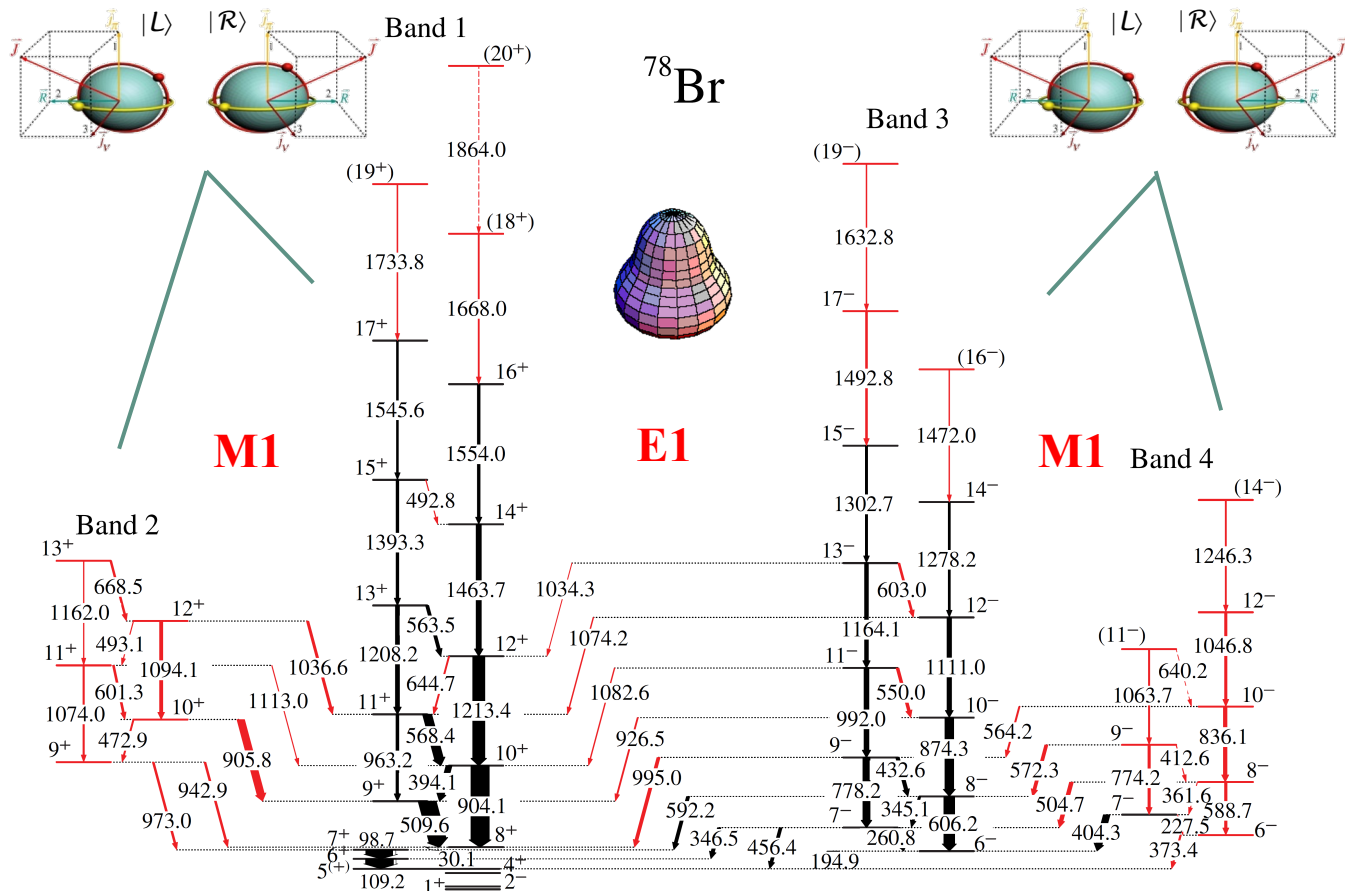








# Coexistence of nuclear chirality and octupole correlations



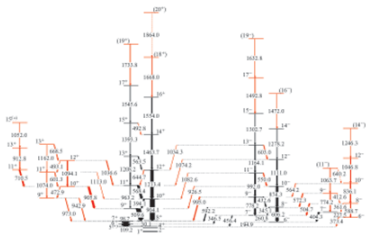
## Evidence for Octupole Correlations in Multiple Chiral Doublet Bands

C. Liu (刘晨),<sup>1</sup> S. Y. Wang (王守宇),<sup>1,†</sup> R. A. Bark,<sup>2</sup> S. Q. Zhang (张双全),<sup>3,‡</sup> J. Meng (孟杰),<sup>3,4,5,§</sup> B. Qi (齐斌),<sup>1</sup> P. Jones,<sup>2</sup> S. M. Wyngaardt,<sup>5</sup> J. Zhao (赵杰),<sup>6,7</sup> C. Xu (徐川),<sup>3</sup> S.-G. Zhou (周善贵),<sup>6</sup> S. Wang (王硕),<sup>1</sup> D. P. Sun (孙大鹏),<sup>1</sup> L. Liu (刘雷),<sup>1</sup> Z. Q. Li (李志泉),<sup>1</sup> N. B. Zhang (张乃波),<sup>1</sup> H. Jia (贾慧),<sup>1</sup> X. Q. Li (李湘庆),<sup>3</sup> H. Hua (华辉),<sup>3</sup> Q. B. Chen (陈启博),<sup>3</sup> Z. G. Xiao (肖志刚),<sup>8,9</sup> H. J. Li (李红洁),<sup>8</sup> L. H. Zhu (竺礼华),<sup>4</sup> T. D. Bucher,<sup>2,5</sup> T. Dinoko,<sup>2,10</sup> J. Easton,<sup>2,10</sup> K. Juhász,<sup>11,\*</sup> A. Kamblawe,<sup>2,5</sup> E. Khaleel,<sup>2,5</sup> N. Khumalo,<sup>2,10,12</sup> E. A. Lawrie,<sup>2</sup> J. J. Lawrie,<sup>2</sup> S. N. T. Majola,<sup>2,13</sup> S. M. Mullins,<sup>2</sup> S. Murray,<sup>2</sup> J. Ndayishimye,<sup>2,5</sup> D. Negi,<sup>2</sup> S. P. Noncolela,<sup>2,10</sup> S. S. Ntshangase,<sup>12</sup> B. M. Nyakó,<sup>14</sup> J. N. Orce,<sup>10</sup> P. Papka,<sup>2,5</sup> J. F. Sharpey-Schafer,<sup>2,10</sup> O. Shirinda,<sup>2</sup> P. Sithole,<sup>2,10</sup> M. A. Stankiewicz,<sup>2,13</sup> and M. Wiedeking<sup>2</sup>

PHYSICAL  
REVIEW LETTERS

Volume 116, Issue 11

18 March 2016



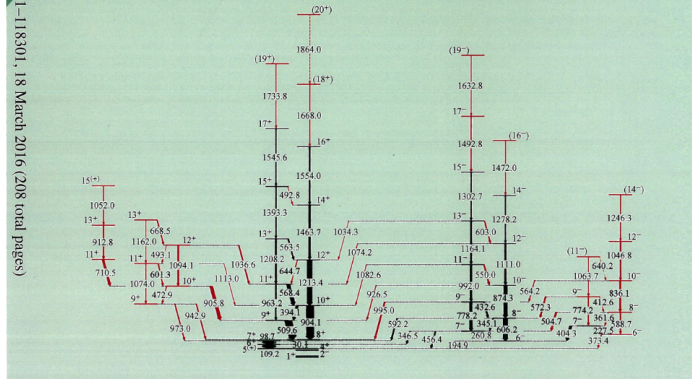
On the Cover  
Nuclear levels of  $^{78}\text{Br}$  measured at Themba LABS, South Africa. New levels and transition energies (in keV) are marked in red.

From the article  
Evidence for Octupole Correlations in Multiple Chiral Doublet Bands  
C. Liu (刘晨) et al.  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **116**, 112501 (2016)

- This observation reports the first example of chiral geometry in octupole soft nuclei.
- It is proved that the simultaneous breaking of chiral and reflection symmetry can occur in atomic nuclei.

PHYSICAL  
REVIEW  
LETTERS


Articles published week ending 18 MARCH 2016



PRL **116**(11), 112501–118301, 18 March 2016 (208 total pages)

11

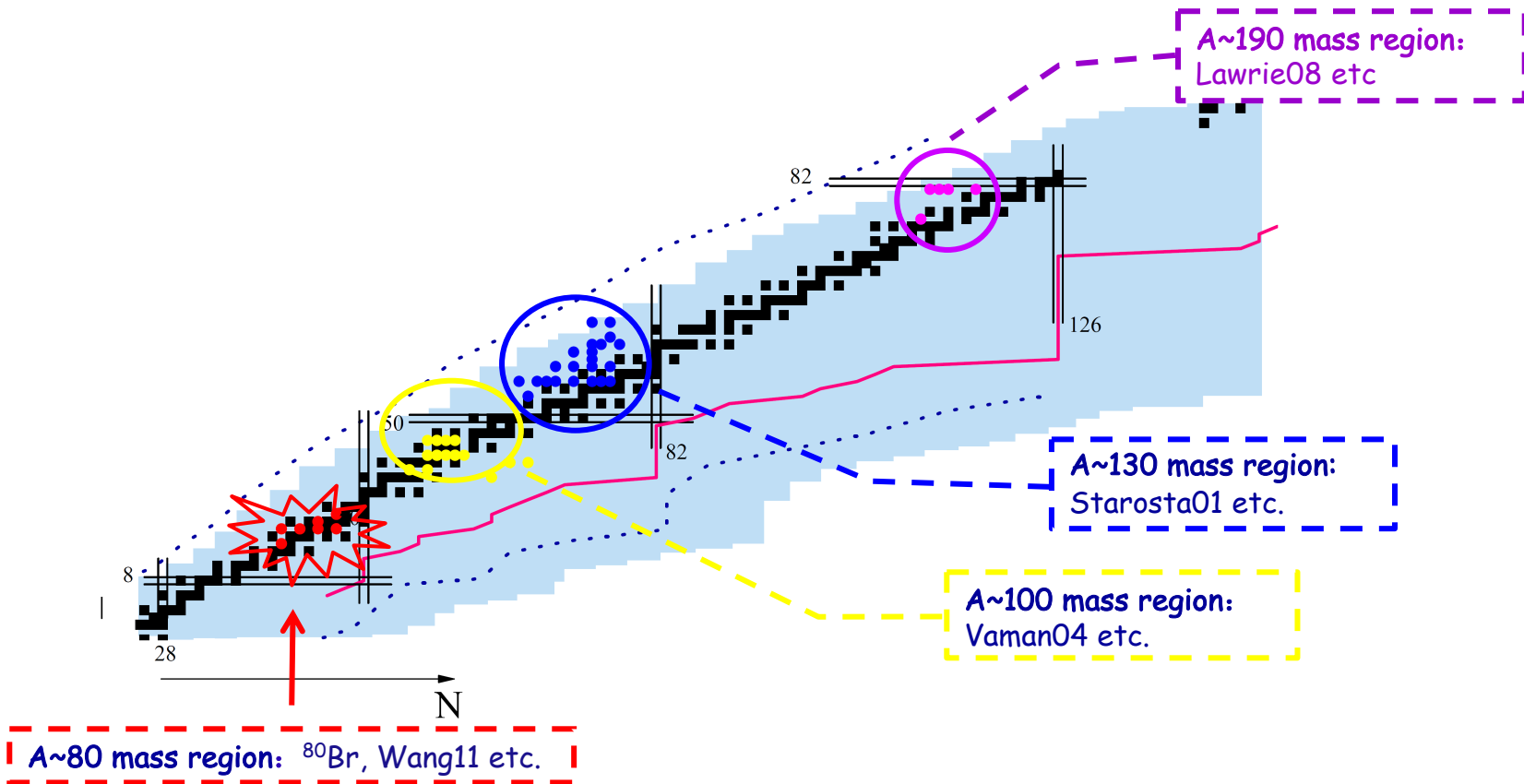
Published by  
**American Physical Society**



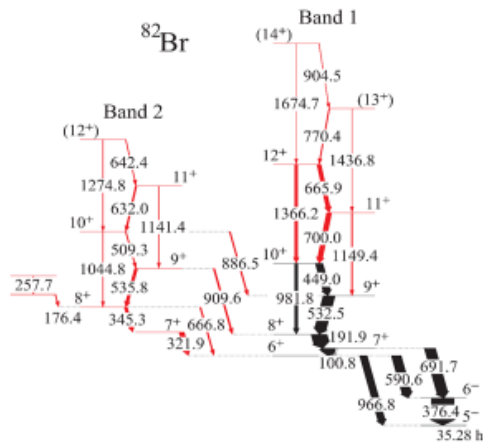
Volume 116, Number 11



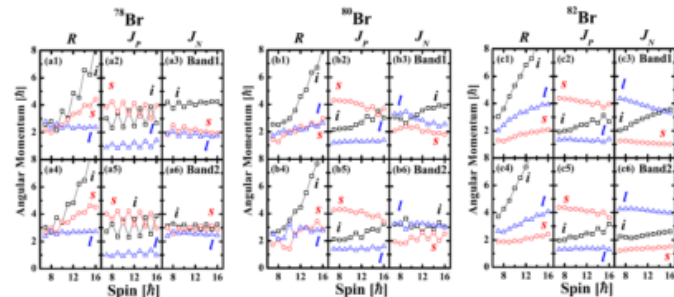
# Coexistence of nuclear chirality and octupole correlations in nuclei



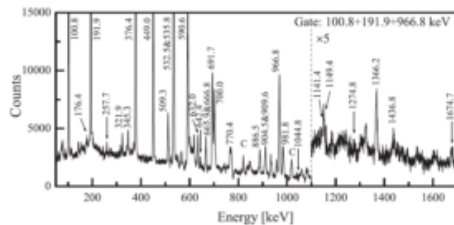
## New candidate chiral nucleus in the $A \approx 80$ mass region: $^{82}\text{Br}$



$^{82}\text{Br}$ 中的手征双重带结构



The angular momenta for the chiral doublet bands in  $^{78,80,82}\text{Br}$



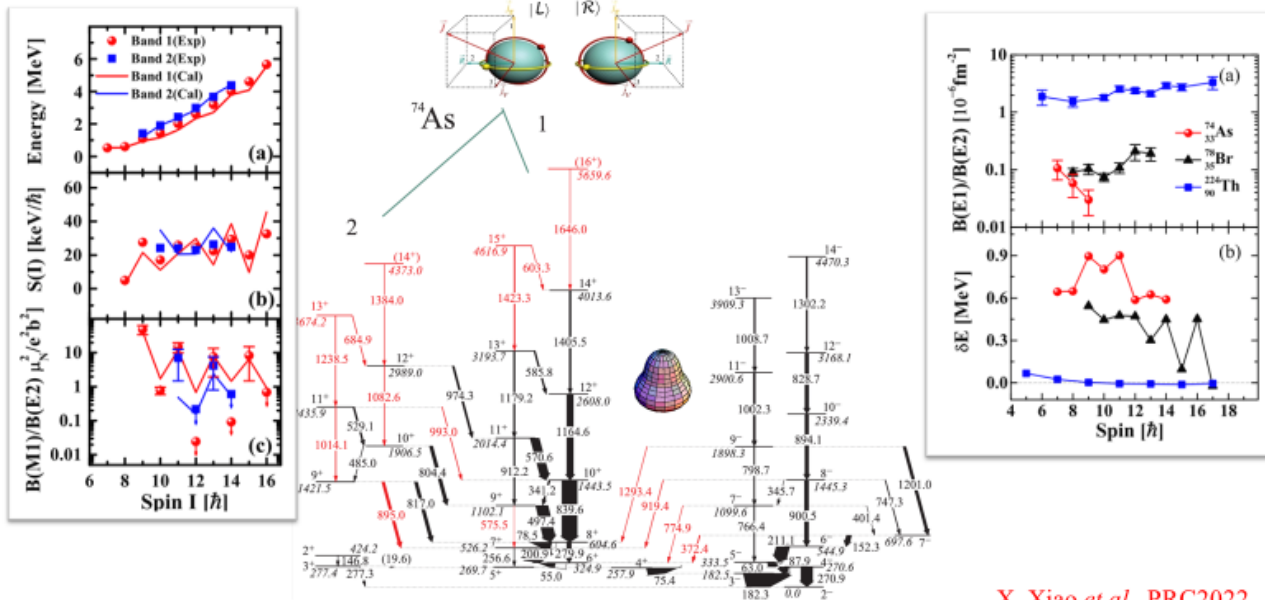
Sample coincidence spectrum

- ▶ The present work indicates that the border of the chiral nuclei in the  $A \approx 80$  mass region can reach  $N = 47$  when the neutron number approaches  $N = 50$ .

C. Liu *et al.* PRC2019

$A \sim 80$  mass region:  $^{80}\text{Br}$ , Wang11 etc.

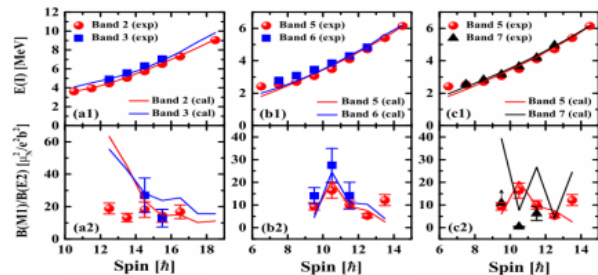
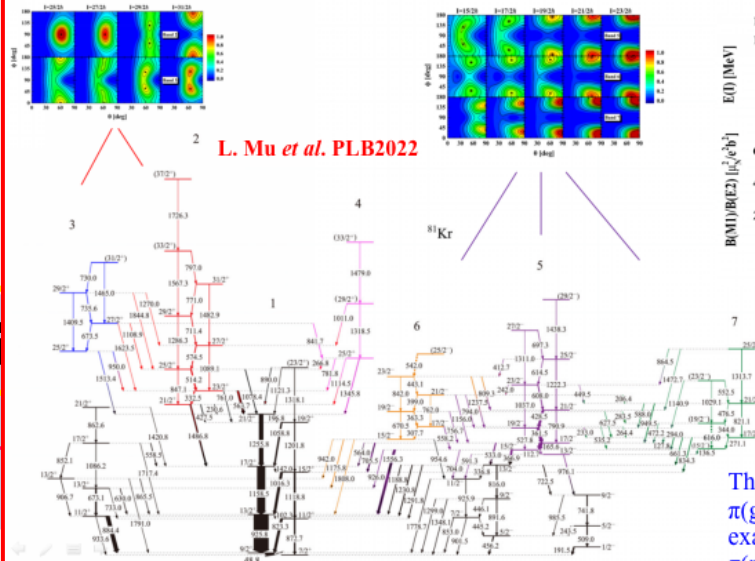
## Coexistence of nuclear chirality and octupole correlations in $^{74}\text{As}$



X. Xiao *et al.*, PRC2022

A~80 mass region:  $^{80}\text{Br}$ , Wang11 etc.

## First observation of the coexistence of multiple chiral doublet bands and pseudospin doublet bands in the $A \approx 80$ mass region: $^{81}\text{Kr}$



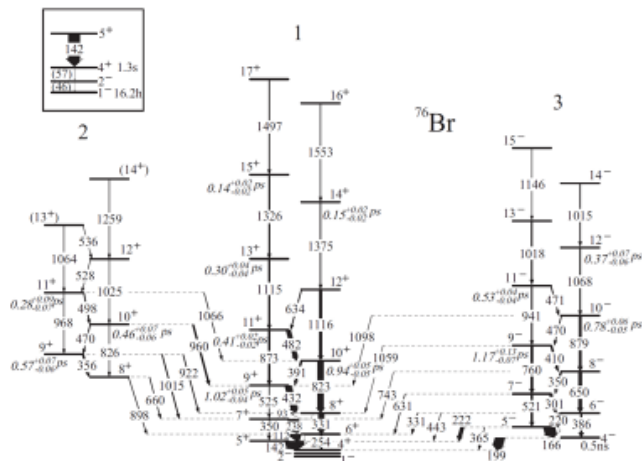
The evidence of chiral doublet bands and pseudospin-chiral triplet bands in  $^{81}\text{Kr}$

The present work reports two new chiral configurations  $\pi(g_{9/2})^2 \otimes \nu(g_{9/2})^{-1}$  and  $\pi g_{9/2}(p_{3/2}, f_{5/2}) \otimes \nu(g_{9/2})^{-1}$ , and the first example of pseudospin-chiral triplet bands involving the  $\pi(p_{3/2}, f_{5/2})$  pseudospin doublet.

$A \approx 80$  mass region:  $^{80}\text{Br}$ , Wang11 etc.

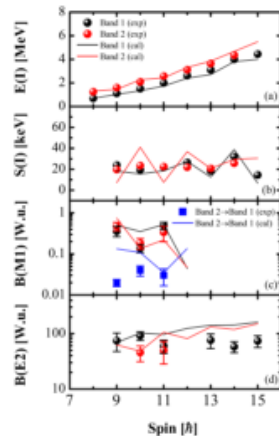


## Coexistence of nuclear chirality and octupole correlations in $^{76}\text{Br}$

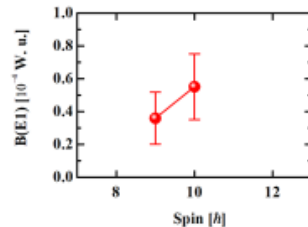


Partial level schemes of  $^{76}\text{Br}$

W. Z. Xu *et al.* PLB2022



The  $E(J)$ ,  $S(J)$  and reduced transition probabilities  $B(M1)$  and  $B(E2)$  for bands 1 and 2 in  $^{76}\text{Br}$ .

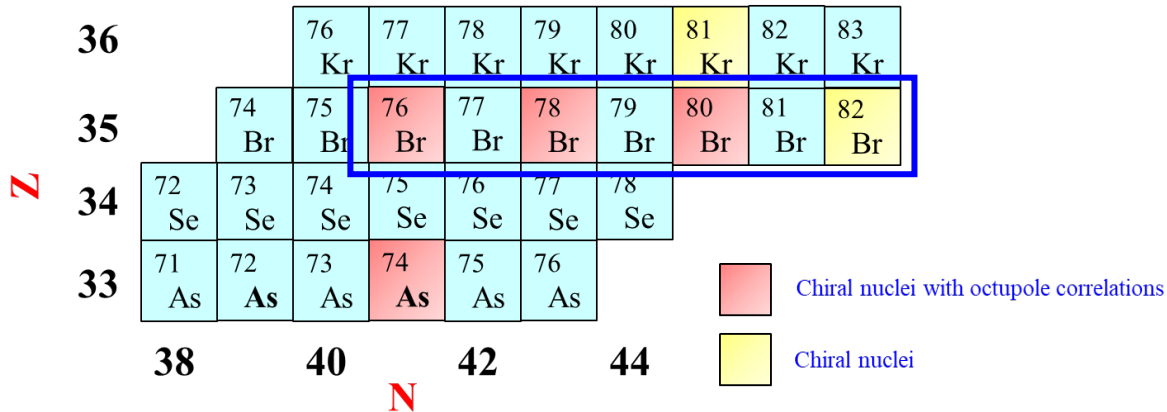
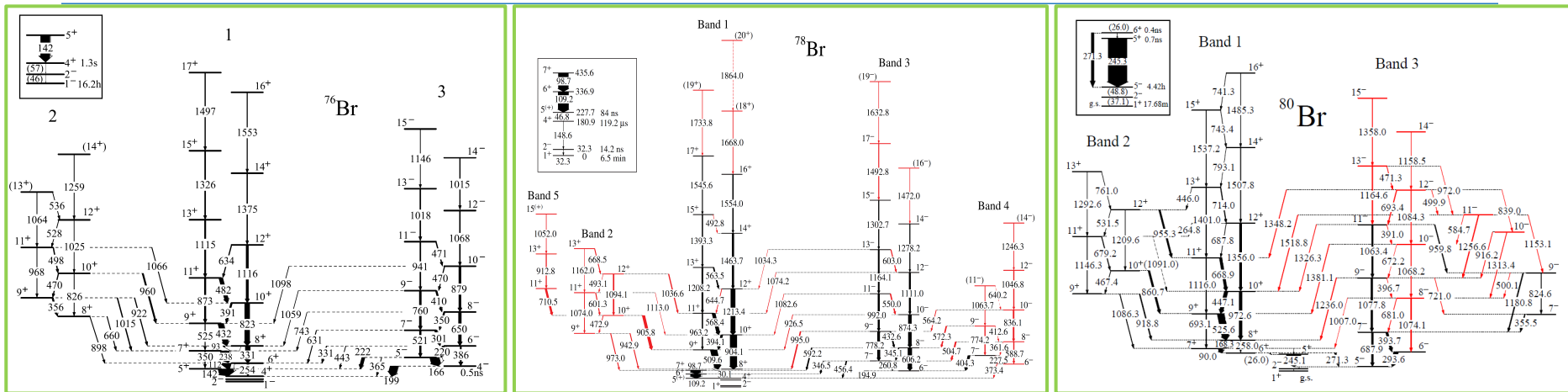


$B(E1)$  values in  $^{76}\text{Br}$

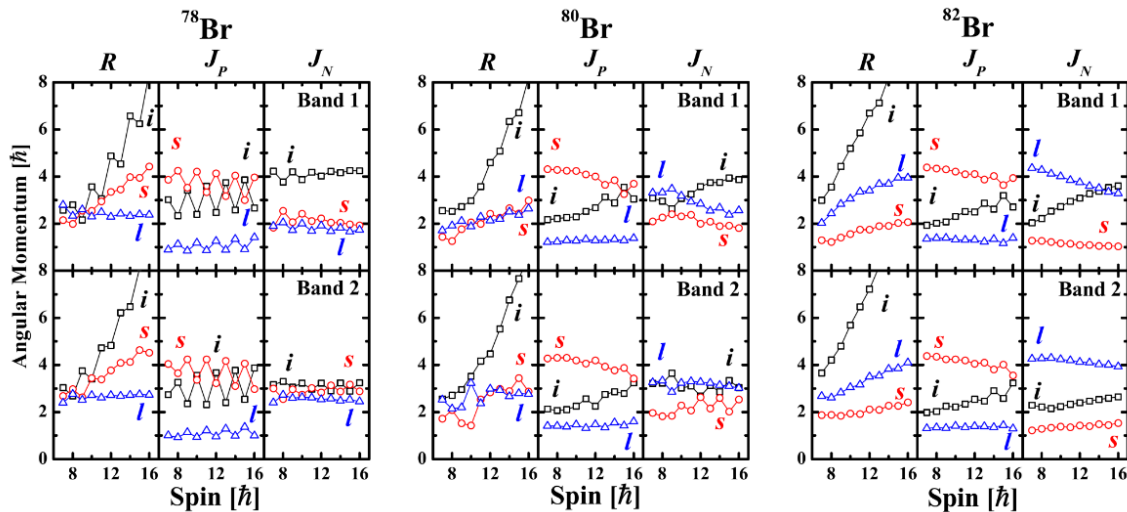
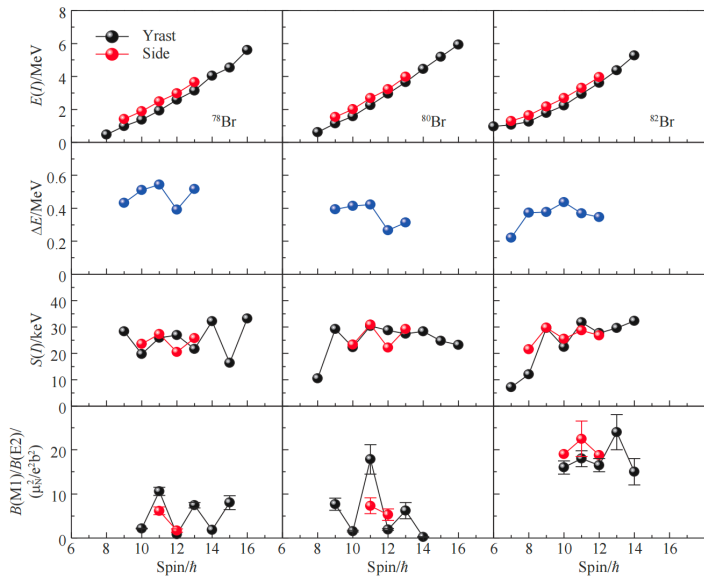
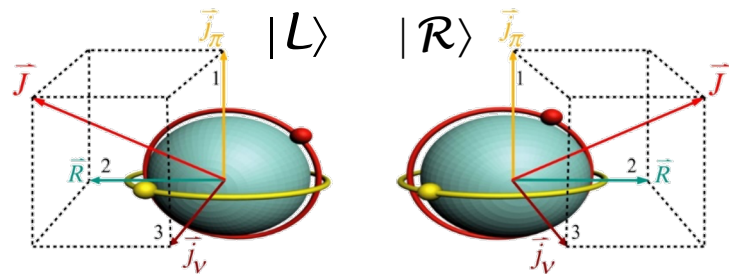
A~80 mass region:  $^{80}\text{Br}$ , Wang11 etc.



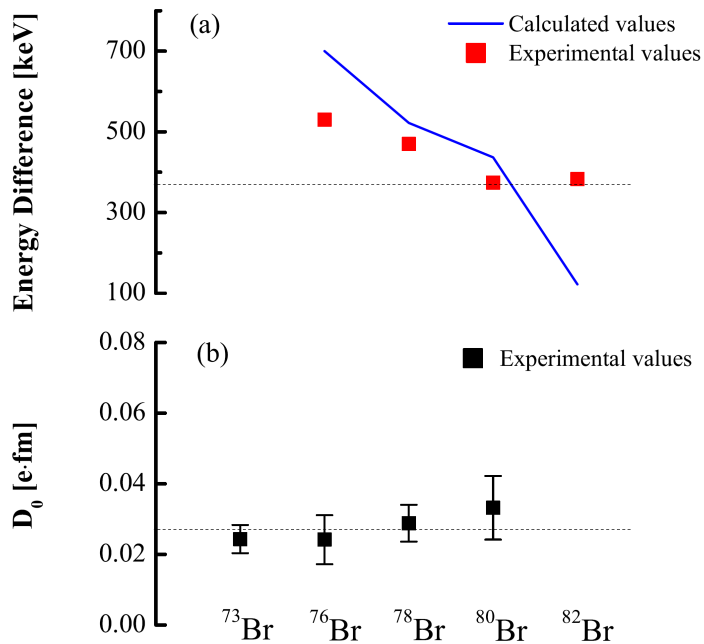
# Interplay between nuclear chirality and octupole correlations



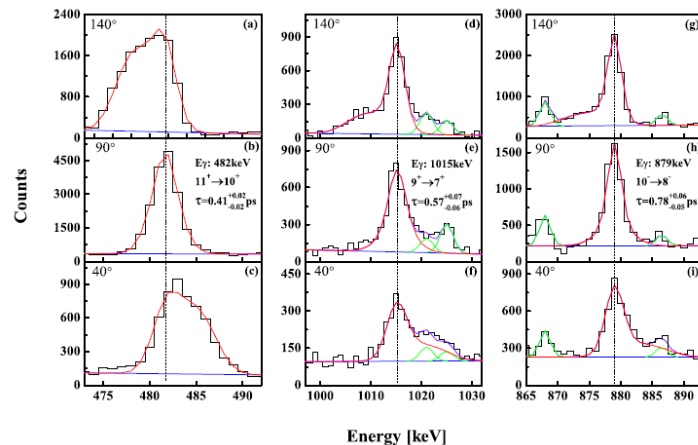
- Chiral geometry in  $^{82}\text{Br}$  is more stable than those in  $^{78}\text{Br}$  and  $^{80}\text{Br}$ .



C. Liu *et al.*, Physical Review C 100, 054309 (2019)



The measured and calculated energy difference in  $^{76,78,80,82}\text{Br}$  and average  $D_0$  values in  $^{73,76,78,80}\text{Br}$

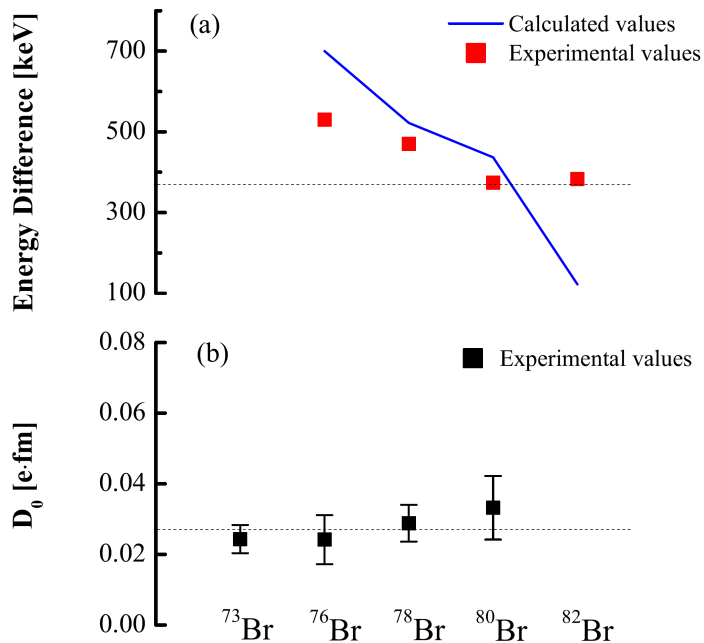


**Table 1**  
The present lifetimes results and comparison with the known data. Uncertainties in the lifetimes were determined from the behavior of  $\chi^2$  in the vicinity of the best-fit parameter values. These uncertainties do not include the systematic errors that are associated with the stopping powers, which may be as large as  $\pm 15\%$ .

Band	$I^\pi(I)$	$\tau$ (ps)	$\tau$ (ps) [42]
Band 1	$9^+$	$1.02^{+0.05}_{-0.04}$	$0.85(0.09)$
	$10^+$	$0.94^{+0.05}_{-0.05}$	$0.70(0.08)$
	$11^+$	$0.41^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$	$0.30(0.05)$
	$13^+$	$0.30^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	$0.29(0.03)$
	$14^+$	$0.15^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$	
Band 2	$15^+$	$0.14^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$	$0.16(0.04)$
	$9^+$	$0.57^{+0.07}_{-0.06}$	
	$10^+$	$0.46^{+0.07}_{-0.06}$	
Band 3	$11^+$	$0.28^{+0.09}_{-0.07}$	
	$9^-$	$1.17^{+0.13}_{-0.07}$	
	$10^-$	$0.78^{+0.05}_{-0.05}$	$1.00(0.30)$
	$11^-$	$0.53^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	
	$12^-$	$0.37^{+0.07}_{-0.06}$	

➤ The present work provides the first test for chirality in the  $A \approx 80$  mass region by lifetime measurements, and firstly elucidates the formation of chiral geometry in the presence of the octupole correlations in Br isotopes, leading to the conclusion that the reflection symmetry breaking catalyzes rather than destroys chiral symmetry breaking in nuclear systems.

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Br同位素手征双带能级差和电偶极矩 $D_0$

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## Interplay between nuclear chiral and reflection symmetry breakings revealed by the lifetime measurements in $^{76}\text{Br}$

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ABSTRACT

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Nearly degenerate positive-parity doublet bands and several  $E1$  transitions between positive- and negative-parity bands have been identified in  $^{76}\text{Br}$ . These experimental observations are interpreted as the coexistence of chirality and octupole correlations, based on the analysis of detailed  $\gamma$ -ray spectroscopy with the precise lifetime measurements and theoretical calculations, and play a key role to explore the simultaneous breaking of chiral and reflection symmetry and their interplay. The present work provides the first test for chirality in the  $A \approx 80$  mass region by lifetime measurements, and firstly elucidates the formation of chiral geometry in the presence of the octupole correlations in Br isotopes, leading to the conclusion that the reflection symmetry breaking catalyzes rather than destroys chiral symmetry breaking in nuclear systems.

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- A series of experimental studies on the spontaneous symmetry breaking in the A~80 mass region were performed:
1. Coexistence of nuclear chirality and octupole correlations in  $^{74}\text{As}$ ,  $^{76,78,80}\text{Br}$ .
  2. Chiral geometry in  $^{82}\text{Br}$  is more stable than those in  $^{78}\text{Br}$  and  $^{80}\text{Br}$ .
  3. Reflection symmetry breaking catalyzes rather than destroys chiral symmetry breaking in nuclear systems

**Thank you for your attention !**

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