

A Systematic Description of the Wobbling Motion in Odd-Mass Nuclei Within a Semi-Classical Formalism

PhD Candidate

Robert Poenaru^{1,2}

Scientific Supervisor

Prof. Dr. Em. A. A. Raduta²

¹Doctoral School of Physics, UB

²Department of Theoretical Physics, IFIN-HH

A presentation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

May 13, 2023

TOC

1 Aim and Motivation

2 Nuclear Shapes

3 Triaxiality and Wobbling Motion

- Even-A case study

Aim



Research Objectives

- Extend the current interpretation of the **nuclear triaxiality** in the context of its unique fingerprint: **Wobbling Motion**
- Adopt a framework that is as close as possible to **classical physics**.
- Provide new formalisms for the phenomena related to **nuclear deformation**.

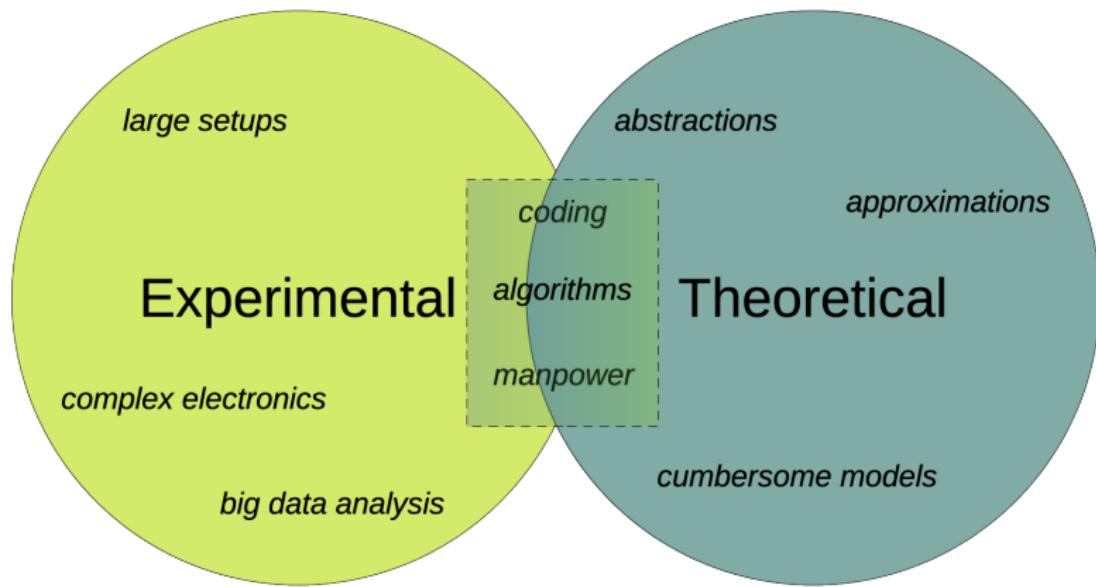


Objectives exclusive to the thesis

- Give the reader enough context towards a better understanding of the underlying concepts, methods, and results.
- Create a completely *open-source* project.

Motivation

- **Nuclear Triaxiality** has become a *hot topic* within the scientific community.
- Identifying nuclei with triaxial deformations represents a real **experimental** and **theoretical** challenge.



Nuclear Deformation

Nuclear Radius

The **shape** of the nucleus is most generally described in terms of the *nuclear radius*:

$$R(\theta, \varphi) = R_0 \left(1 + \sum_{\lambda=0}^{\infty} \sum_{\mu=-\lambda}^{\lambda} \alpha_{\lambda\mu} Y_{\lambda}^{\mu}(\theta, \varphi) \right) \quad (1)$$

Quadrupole deformations $\lambda = 2$

- **For us:** Most relevant modes are the **quadrupole vibrations** $\lambda = 2$
 \implies Play a crucial role in the rotational spectra of nuclei;
- *Bohr, 1969:* Coordinates $\alpha_{2\mu}$ can be reduced to only two *deformation parameters*: β_2 (**eccentricity**) and γ (**triaxiality**).

Axial shapes

Collective coordinates

- Most of the nuclei are either **spherical** or **axially symmetric** in their ground-state (*Budaca, 2018*).
- Moments of inertia: $\mathcal{I}_{1,2,3}$: two are equal, one is different.

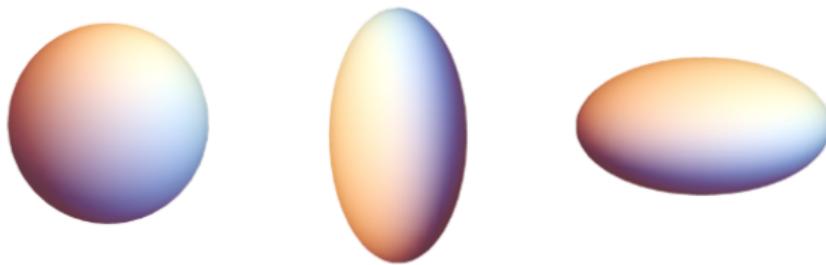
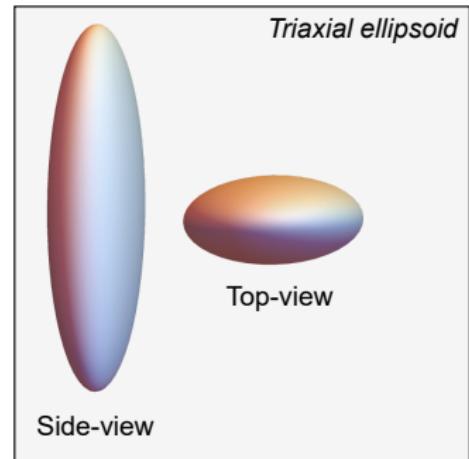
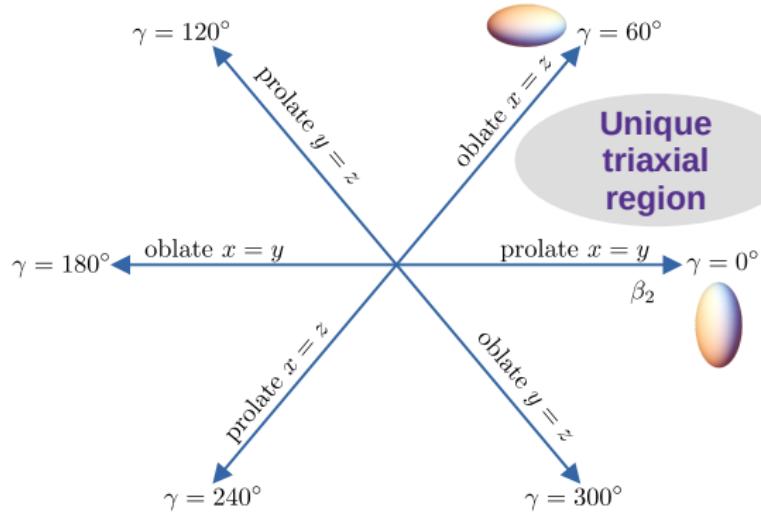


Figure: **spherical**: $\beta_2 = 0$ **prolate**: $\beta_2 > 0$ **oblate**: $\beta_2 < 0$. ($\gamma = 0^\circ$).

Non-axial shapes

- The triaxiality parameter $\gamma \neq 0^\circ$: departure from axial symmetry.
- Moments of inertia: $I_1 \neq I_2 \neq I_3$.



Fingerprints of Triaxiality

Evidence

- Currently, there are **only two** well-established phenomena uniquely attributed to triaxial deformation.
 - ① **Wobbling Motion** - WM (*Bohr and Mottelson, 1970s*)
 - ② Chiral Motion - χ M (*Frauendorf, 1997*)
- These two can be measured/detected experimentally.

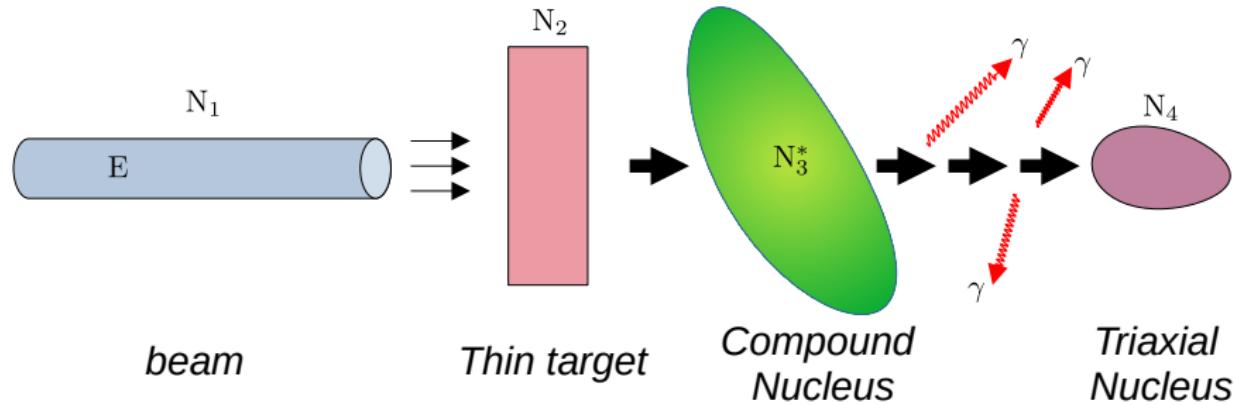
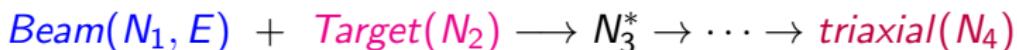
Goal

Describe the elusive character of Wobbling Motion in the context of nuclear triaxiality.

Q Probing triaxiality in nuclei

Triaxial nuclei can be observed/obtained in several experiments:

- Nuclear fission: $A \rightarrow B + C$
- Nuclear fusion: $X + Y \rightarrow Z$
- **Fusion-evaporation reactions:** Long-lived + enhanced deformation



Q Nuclear facilities



Figure: Gammasphere detector,
ANL-ATLAS USA. *Source:*
aps.org

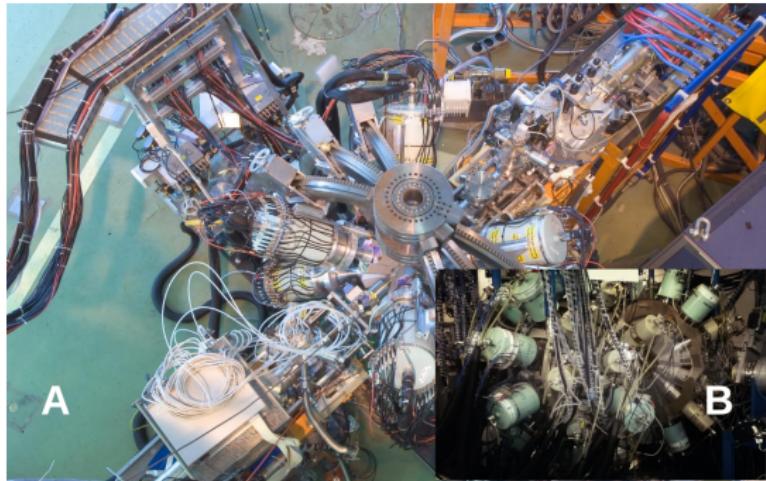
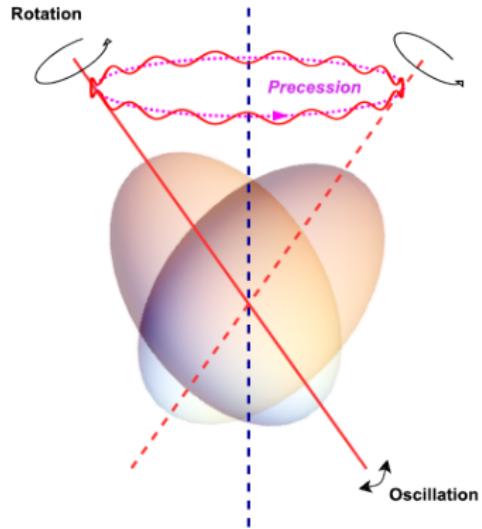
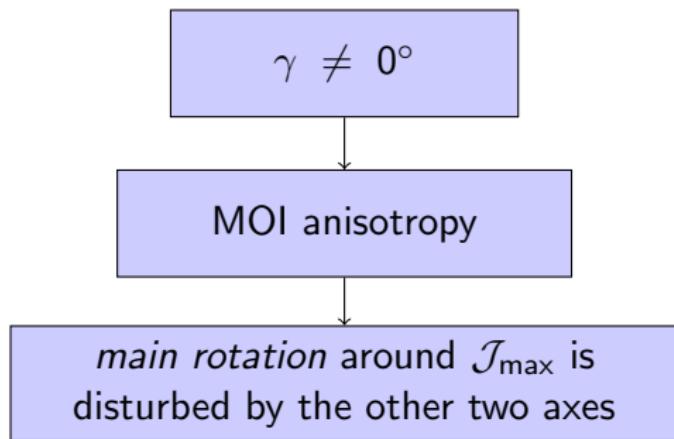


Figure: a) IDS detector, CERN. *Source:*
isodel.web.cern.ch b) JUROGAM II, Finland.
Source: twitter.com

Wobbling Motion



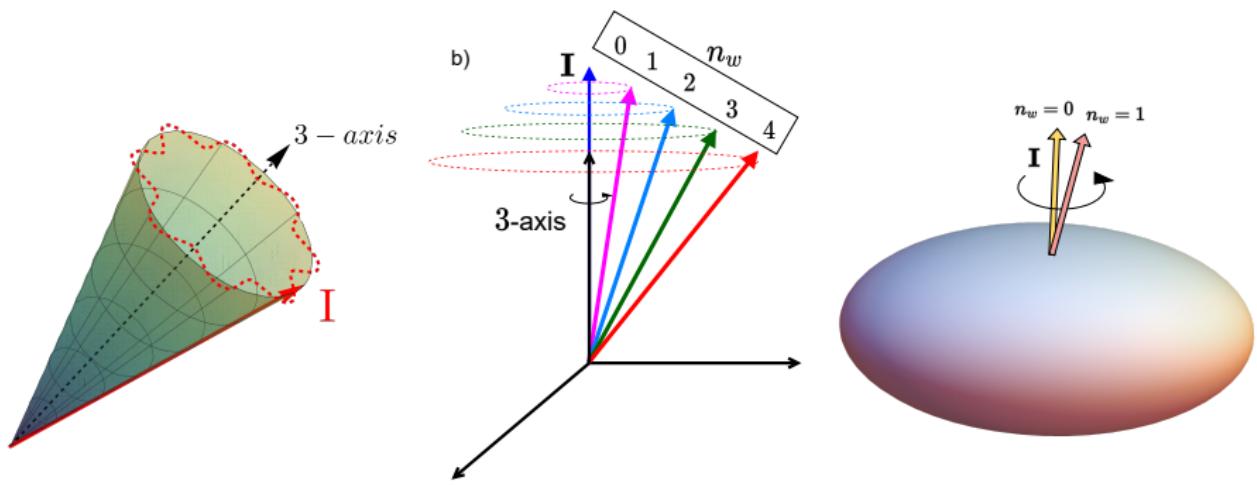
Wobbling Effect

- The **total angular momentum** of the nucleus **precesses** and **oscillates** around \mathcal{J}_{\max} .

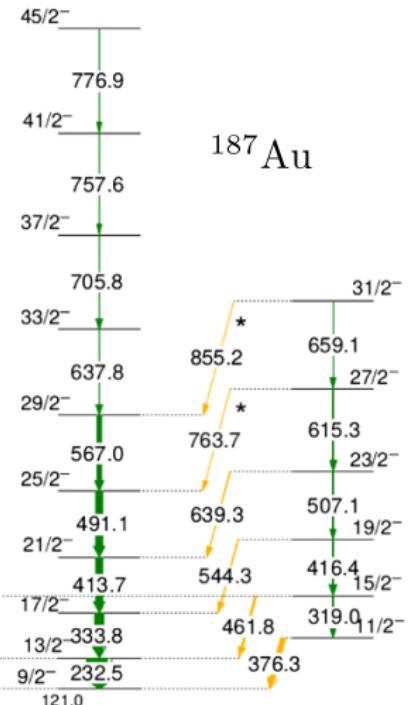
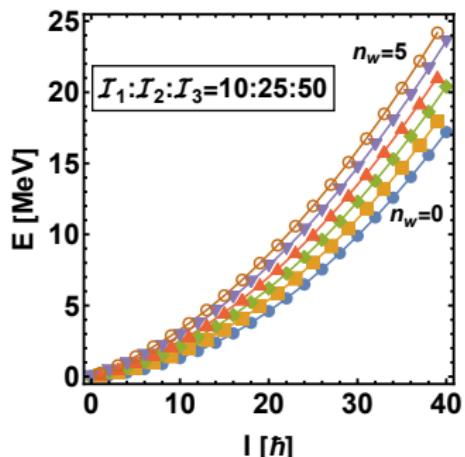
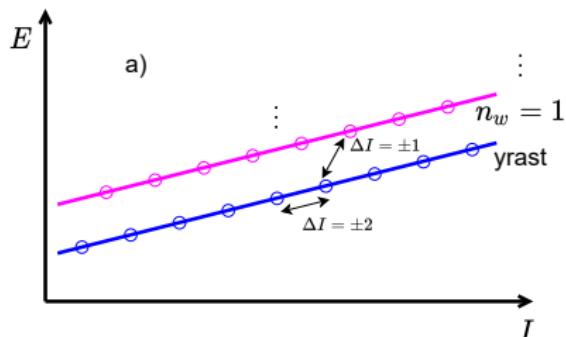
Wobbling Motion

Harmonic oscillation

- Precession of \mathbf{I} is affected by **rotational frequency** and/or **tilting**
 - Tilting only by "specific" amount \rightarrow **harmonic character** \rightarrow **wobbling phonon**: $n_w = 0, 1, 2, \dots$



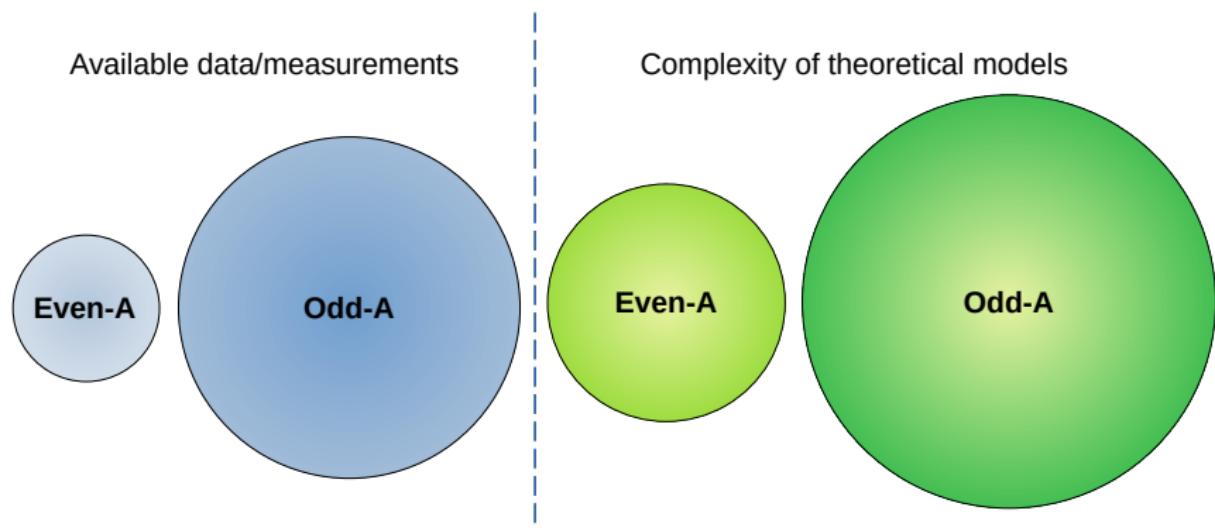
Wobbling Motion II

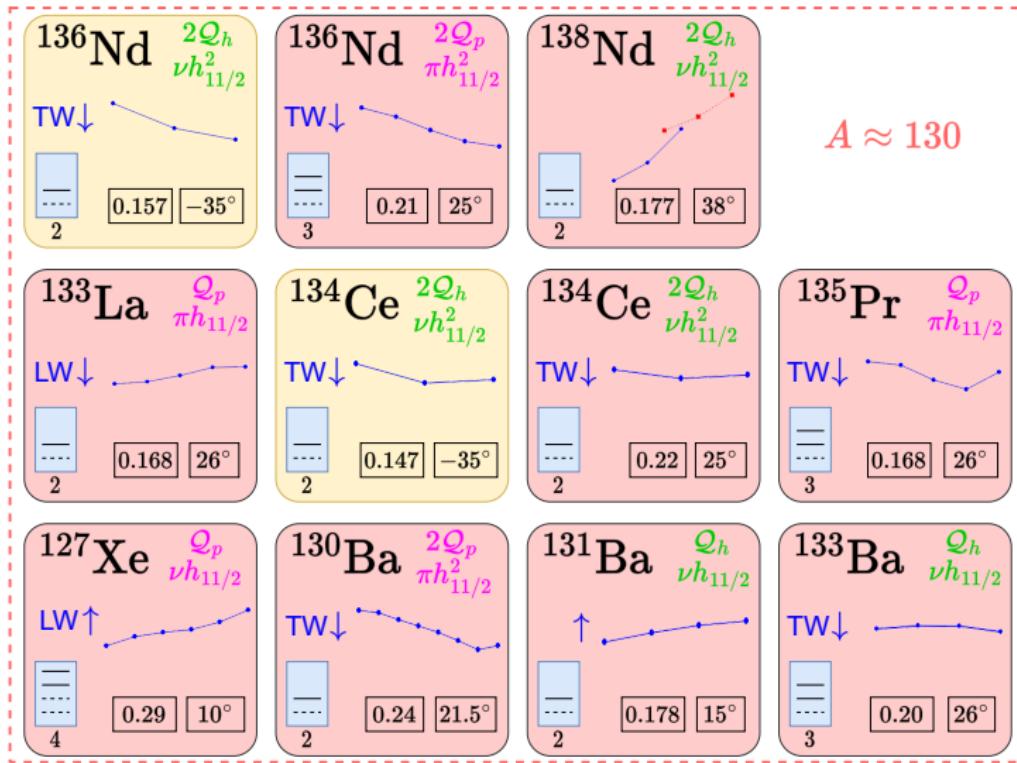


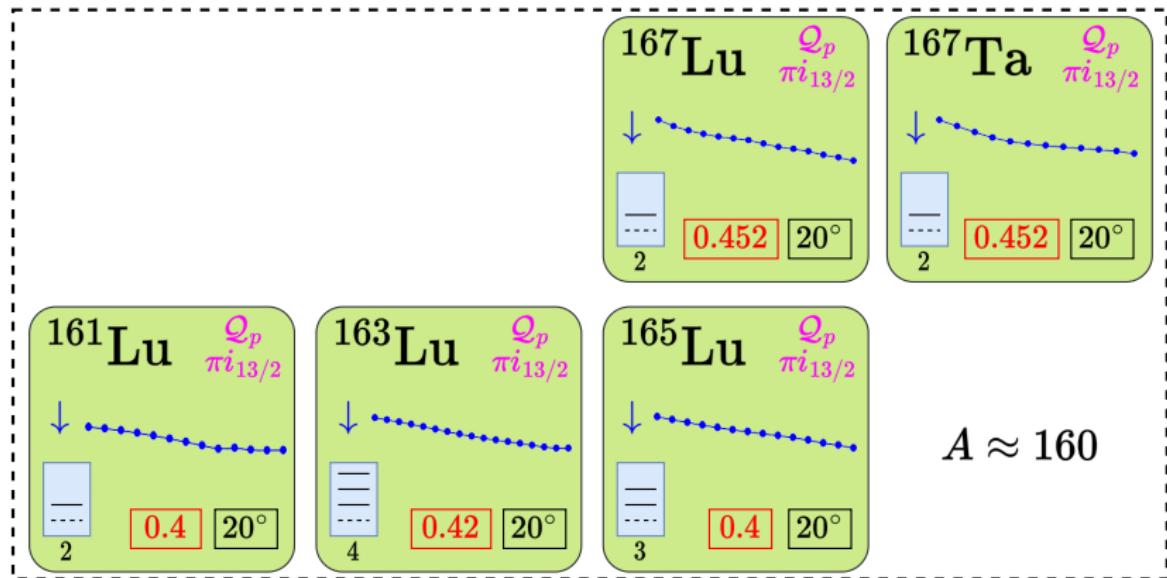
Sensharma, 2020.

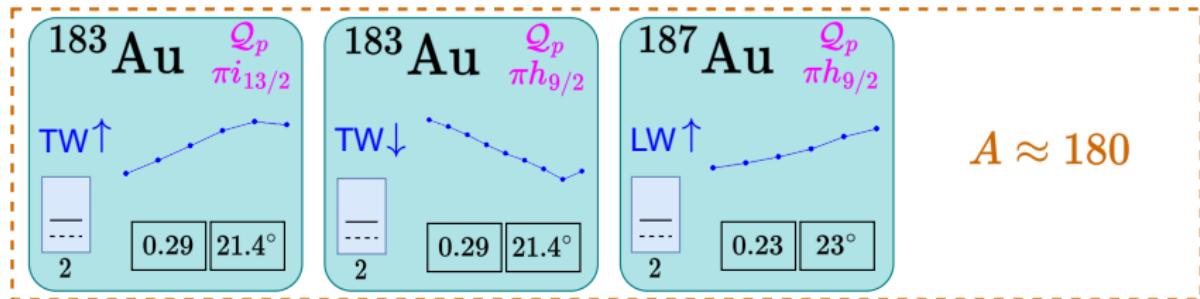
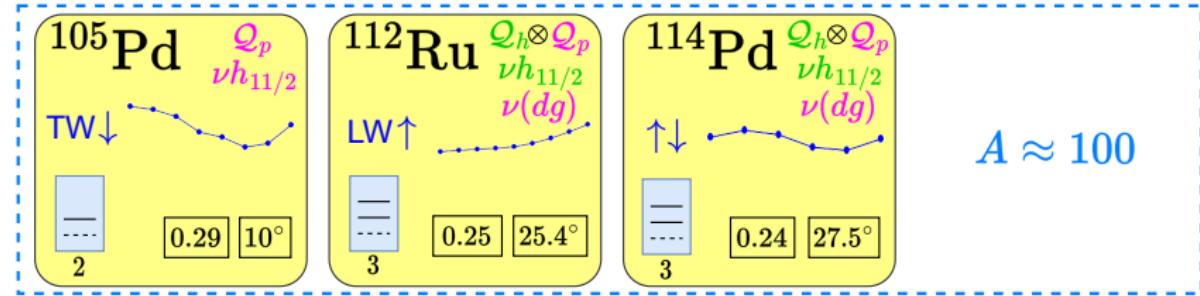
Even- A vs. Odd- A Picture

- Predicted for even- A nuclei.
- First experimental evidence for **nuclear wobbling motion** in 2001: ^{163}Lu (*Ødegård, 2001*).
- Current mass-regions for wobblers: $A = 130, 160, 180$.



Latest wobblers $A=130$ 

Latest wobblers $A=160$ 

Latest wobblers $A=180$ Recent progress around $A \approx 100$ (?)

Wobbling Motion in ^{130}Ba

- Measurements (^{13}C beam of $E = 65$ MeV and ^{122}Sn target)
- Source Inl.infn.it



Thank you for your attention ❤