# Gamma-ray cascades probing the structure of warm rotating nuclei

#### The beginning of the quest for rotating nuclei

- overall stability shape changes
- rare earth nuclei: long cascades of rotational E2 transitions.

Energy-energy correlations, damping of rotational motion

#### Silvias PhD work

– quantitative study of energy-energy correlations, ridges, valleys and fluctuations

#### Current understanding:

- ordered and/or chaotic intrinsic and rotational motion
- realistic calculations of mixed bands
- characteristic energy and angular momentum scales

Milano-Kyoto-Copenhagen A. Bracco R. A. Broglia T. Døssing **B. Herskind S. Leoni** M. Matsuo E. Vigezzi

## Overall stability – rotating liquid drop



## Rotating liquid drop – stretching of shapes

Mass number around A = 170



## Influence of shell structure

#### Cranked mean field – development of shapes

- extensive computer program development
- K. Neergaard et.al., Nuclear Physics A262(1976)61 (Dubna group)
- G. Andersson et.al., Nuclear Physics A268(1976)205 (Lund group)

#### results in the present connection:

mid-rare-earth nuclei around A ~164 to 178:
 shell energy rather unaffected by rotation – stays at same well deformed shape up to highest angular momenta

light rare-earth nuclei – mass around A  $\sim$  152: transition to oblate, then collective superdeformed (prediction 10 years ahead of discovery of superdeformed bands)

## Looking for rotational gamma-rays

#### GAMMA DECAY AFTER HEAVY ION REACTIONS STUDIED BY FIRST AND HIGHER ORDER MULTIPLICITY MEASUREMENTS

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and

H. RYDE Roskilde University Center, Roskilde, Denmark

> Received 23 December 1974 (Revised 7 March 1975)

#### quote:

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. . . . . .

input which can be reached in a specific experiment. Although angular momentum input as high as 40  $\hbar$  can be obtained in many laboratories, only very few states with spin higher than 18-20 have been established, and I = 22 is so far the maximum value.

This apparent gap between the established spin values and the expected angular momentum input is not fully understood at present. The subject is discussed by

### Clever setup to investigate gamma-rays

#### Multipolarity of Continuum $\gamma$ Rays from Enhanced Angular Correlation Measurements

M. A. Deleplanque,<sup>(a)</sup> Th. Byrski,<sup>(b)</sup> R. M. Diamond, H. Hübel,<sup>(c)</sup> and F. S. Stephens Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720

and

B. Herskind and R. Bauer

The Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark, and Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720 (Received 19 May 1978)



## Beautiful result from clever setup



Fusion reactions with <sup>48</sup>Ca and <sup>40</sup>Ar -> very high angular momentum

For rare earth nuclei:

Long cascades of collective transitions all the way up

Rigid body moment of inertia

"bump spectroscopy" – pioneered by F. Stephens and R. M Diamond

## Innovation and imagination

• Bent Herskind 1931-2021



## Gamma-ray energy-energy correlations



positive

negative

COR  $E_{\gamma}$  -  $E_{\gamma}$  spectrum:

<sup>72</sup>Se

nucleus:

$$N_{2,cor}(E_1, E_2) = N_2(E_1, E_2) - \frac{N_1(E_1)N_1(E_2)}{NORM}$$

At talk by Bent Herskind:

Amand Fässler comment: "I appreciate these foils as a piece of art, but what does it tell about the physics?"

O. Andersen et. al, Phys. Rev. Lett 43 (1979) 687

## Gamma energy-energy correlations – perpendicular cuts



FIG. 3. Projections along the 45° diagonal of rectangular regions in the spectrum of Fig. 2 chosen such that the longest side in the rectangle is perpendicular to the 45° line. The spectra thereby show average values over intervals of 100 keV from  $E_1 = E_2 = 650$  keV to  $E_1 = E_2 = 1850$  keV.

## Expected energy-energy correlations for decay along rotational bands



$$E_{\gamma}$$
 -  $E_{\gamma}$  correlations

#### perpendicular cut



Why are energy correlations weak? Mixing of rotational bands – damping of rotational motion



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### Damping of rotational motion – analytic expressions

Intervals for characteristic behavior of $\Gamma_{\rm rot}^{\downarrow}$		
Lower limit to interval	Upper limit to interval	$\Gamma_{\rm rot}^{\downarrow}$ within interval
0	$0.7 \left(\frac{A}{160}\right)^{-2/3}$	0
$0.7 \left(\frac{A}{160}\right)^{-2/3}$	$1.5 \frac{I}{40} \left(\frac{A}{160}\right)^{-3/2} \left(\frac{\delta}{0.3}\right)^{-2/3}$	$0.13 \frac{I}{40} \left(\frac{A}{160}\right)^{-5/2} \left(\frac{\delta}{0.3}\right)^{-1} U^{1/4}$
$1.5 \frac{I}{40} \left(\frac{A}{160}\right)^{-3/2} \left(\frac{\delta}{0.3}\right)^{-2/3}$	-	$0.22 \left(\frac{I}{40}\right)^2 \left(\frac{A}{160}\right)^{-13/3} \left(\frac{\delta}{0.3}\right)^{-2} U^{-1}$
		$+4.4\times10^{-4}\left(\frac{A}{160}\right)^{-5/2}\left(\frac{\delta}{0.3}\right)^{-2}U^{3/2}$

TABLE 1

## Turning point in understanding

Silvias Thesis - december 1992 – 225 pages

- Landscapes of  $E_{\gamma}$   $E_{\gamma}$  correlation spectra
- Fluctuations of  $E_{\gamma} E_{\gamma}$  correlation spectra

## Silvias thesis: NORDBALL detector frame



# Silvias thesis: crystals mounted in NORDBALL

#### • 30 days heroic experiment at the NORDBALL



Figure 4.3: Cross section of NORDBALL.

### Fluctuation analysis – main idea

#### pioneered by F. Stephens – developed by S. Leoni et al



events -> channels randomly:

$$\mu_1 = \frac{N_{eve}}{N_{ch}} \qquad \qquad \mu_2 = \frac{N_{eve}}{N_{ch}} = \mu_1$$

paths -> channels randomly
events -> paths randomly:

$$\mu_1 = \frac{N_{eve}}{N_{ch}} \qquad \qquad \mu_2 = \mu_1 \left( \frac{N_{eve}}{N_{path}} + 1 \right)$$

number of paths in actual cascades:

$$N_{path} = \frac{1}{\sum_i w_i^2}$$

 $w_i = \text{path probability}$ 

# Assumption of random transition energy within basic interval - illustration

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

Known bands In Yb ísotopes at that time

### Fluctuations of spectra - illustration

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### **Correlation spectrum**

(diiscrete transitions subtracted on right hand side)

#### Smooth spectum

Local second moment – that is local variance

## Number of paths - ridge

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

assume random energies along ridge

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## Number of paths - valley

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

Assume local Porter-Thomas fluctiations

## Main results:

- develop the fluctuation analysis into a well documented and reliable technique
- confirm picture of band mixing and damping of rotational motion: discrete bands up to about 700 keV above yrast, mixing above
- first values for the rotational damping width

 $\Gamma_{\rm rot}~pprox$  100 keV

## Forward to current understanding

- Results on damping since Silvias thesis: Calculations with mixed bands
- General perspective: temperature goes together with considerations of order and chaos
- (- fruitful covariance studies)
- (- extension to SD bands)
- Unsuccessfull search for HD bands

## Rotational and intrinsic motion

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Onset of mixing: <sup>163</sup> Er – interacting bands

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_2.jpeg)

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Hagemann et al., Nucl.Phys. A618 (1997) 199

## Infer: mixed bands higher up in energy

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

 $E-E_{yrast} = 400 \text{ keV}$ d<sub>2</sub> ~ 50 keV

### Magnitude of interactions

M. Matsuo et al. / Nuclear Physics A 736 (2004) 223-240

![](_page_26_Figure_2.jpeg)

## Calculations of interacting bands

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

Cranked Nilsson potentialSurface delta interaction

M. Matsuo et al. Nucl. Phys. A617(1997)1

## Configuration mixing with residual interaction

![](_page_27_Figure_5.jpeg)

### Level spacings

![](_page_28_Figure_1.jpeg)

Fig. 2. The NND for energy bins containing the first to 5th, 41st to 50th, and 291st to 300 th levels of each spectrum within spin interval  $I_0 = 32-50$ . The solid, dotted, and dashed curves represent the Wigner, the Poisson and the fitted Brody distributions, respectively. The extracted Brody parameter w and the average intrinsic excitation energy U measured from the yrast line are indicated in the figure for each bin.

### Experimental level spacings

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

J.D Garrett et.al. Phys. Lett. B392 (1997) 24

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## Mixing and Damping

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

Angular momentum

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![](_page_33_Figure_0.jpeg)

## Compare data to cascade calculation with mixed bands: Perpendicular cuts => $\Gamma_{comp}$ and $\Gamma_{rot}$

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

S. Leoni et al., PRL93(2004)022501-1

P<sub>narr</sub> ~ 10 %

### Fluctuations on ridge and in valley: number of paths

![](_page_35_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Compilation of $\Gamma_{\text{rot}}~\text{results}$

![](_page_36_Figure_1.jpeg)

F.S. Stephens et.al. Phys. Rev. C78(2008) 034303

## probed regions in angular momentum and excitation energy

![](_page_37_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Conclusions

At a certain point in development of detector arrays, the notion of "complete spectroscopy" was introduced.

Comment at that time by Ben Mottelson: "I do not like this idea, it is like pinning down the nucleus, leaving no room for future surprises".

The fluctuation analysis provides insight into the coupling between thermal motion and rotation in rare-earth nuclei. This is in a way is as complete as we can get, recognizing the basic statistical nature of thermal motion.

The fluctuation and covariance analysis can be used and should be used for many applications: fission fragments, transfer reactions, octupole soft nuclei, gamma-soft nuclei, nuclei with coexistence of competing shapes ...

## Occurence of hyperdeformed shapes - axis ratio about 3:1

![](_page_39_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_39_Figure_2.jpeg)

Hyperdeformed shape (axis ration about 3:1 favored by both LDM and shell structure

Decay by neutrons or alpha particles – HD shell structure may appear

N. Schunck and J. Dudek, 2006 Milano-24-TD

# Mass around A=130 favored by rotating liquid drop model

![](_page_40_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Search for hyperdeformation: intense normally deformed ridges

![](_page_41_Figure_1.jpeg)

Many regular rotational bands resolved, with transítion energy up to about 2400 keV

Ridge intensity about 4 times stronger than intensity in resolved bands

Analysing data from B. Herskind et.al. , Physica Scripta T125 (2006) 108

# Search for hyperdeformed ridge – best moment of inertia

![](_page_42_Figure_1.jpeg)

About same result is found searching for ridges in simulated completely random spectra

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## Schematic strength functions with ergodic bands

discrete bands > rotational damping

![](_page_44_Figure_2.jpeg)

discrete bands > ergodic bands > rotational damping

![](_page_44_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Figure_5.jpeg)

### Tilted planes in $\gamma - \gamma - \gamma$ spectra

(α,2n) => <sup>122</sup>Xe

![](_page_45_Figure_2.jpeg)