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In-source laser spectroscopy of short-lived isotopes in the lead region

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Windmill-ISOLTRAP-RILIS collaboration at ISOLDE (CERN)



IRIS facility at PNPI

IRIS facility (since 1975)

IRIS is ISOL installation working on-line with 1 GeV proton beam of PNPI synchrocyclotron



Shape evolution and shape coexistence for 81Tl u 83Bi isotopes studied by resonance laser ionization spectroscopy

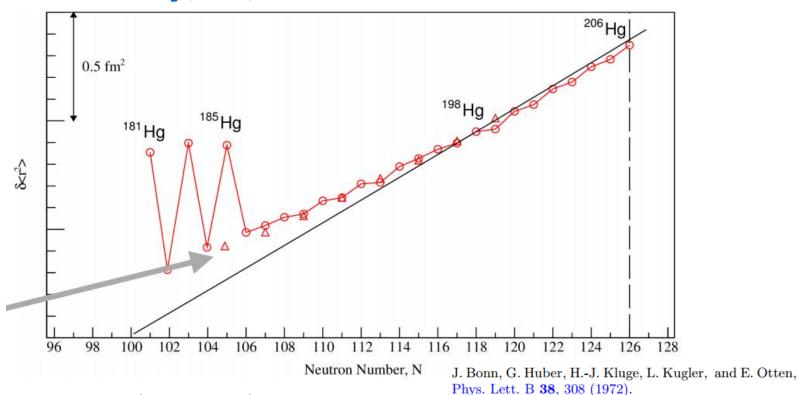




Introduction

The shape and the size of a nucleus are among its most fundamental properties. Usually, isotopic dependence of nuclear radii is smooth, however, at the certain neutron numbers there are marked irregularities.

Isotope shift (IS) measurements in the lead region of $^{177-186}$ Hg (Z = 80) near the neutron mid-shell at N = 104



This phenomenon was characterized as

"one of the most remarkable discoveries in nuclear structure physics in the last 50 years".

K. Heyde and J. L. Wood, Phys. Scripta 91, 083008 (2016)

Motivation for the optical spectroscopy

Interpretation:

Sharp changes between nearly spherical shapes in the even-A cases and strongly-prolate deformed configurations in the odd-A isotopes

Assumption:

The neutron-deficient isotopes near Z = 82 (Pb-region) exhibit the richest manifestation of shape evolution and shape coexistence phenomena

Experimental tasks:

- √ to extend of mercury measurements down to ¹⁸⁰Hg and beyond
- to investigate the ground and isomeric states shapes for different Z's in Pb-region

Experimental challenge

The center of Pb-region lies far from stability:

- √ low production cross sections
- ✓ overwhelming production of isobaric contaminants
- √ very short half lives of most nuclei of interest

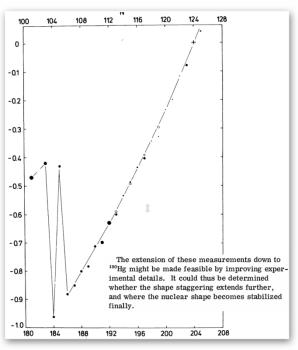
Conclusion

For experimental investigations in Pb-region should be used the most extreme methods ever developed for far-from-stability nuclear structure study

Solution

- ✓ Measurements at ISOL facilities
 - large production yield rates from the thick targets
 - ionization enhancement in laser ion source
- ✓ Using of the optical spectroscopy technique as very sensitive tool

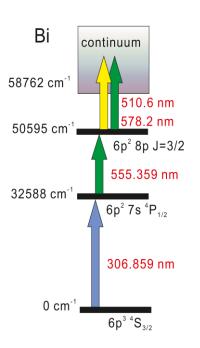
Nuclear shape staggering

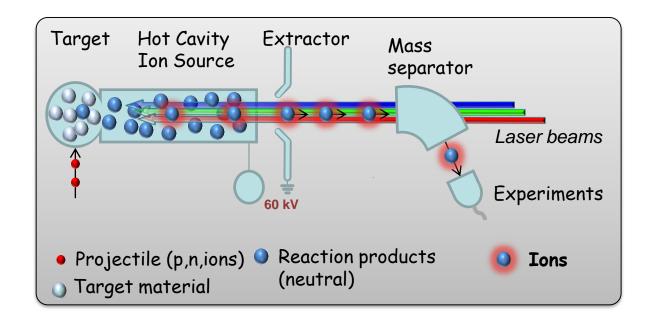


RIB Production at ISOL facilities

ISOL technique step-by-step:

- Production of the radioactive isotopes in target
- ✓ Ionization in hot cavity
- Extraction from the target - ion source system
- ✓ Mass separation
- √ Transport to experimental setups

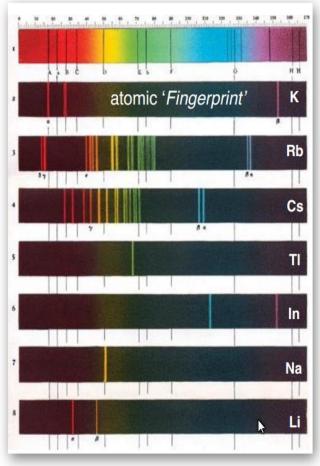


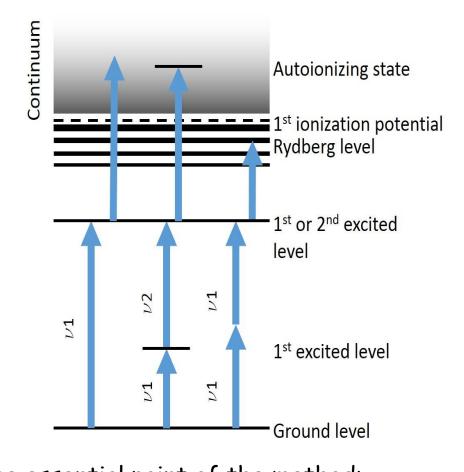


Due to its high efficiency (from 1 to 30%) Laser Ion Source is very appropriate at ISOL facilities for:

- ✓ RIB production
- ✓ atomic spectroscopy of rare isotopes, produced in very small quantities

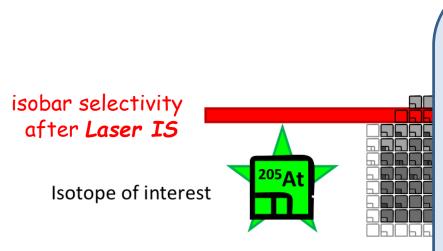
Method of resonance laser ionization





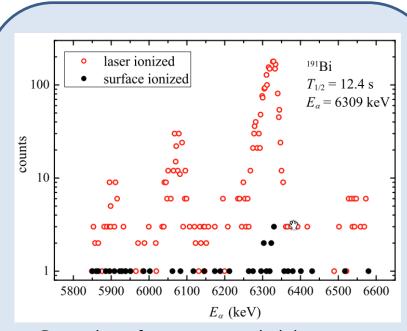
The position of the step-by-step resonant, laser excitation funing the laser wavelengths to this fingerprint provides excited levels is specific from the ground state an ionization method with high elemental selectivity for each element

Resonance Laser Ionization at ISOL facilities



By enhancing only one element of interest over a broad range of contaminants,

- ✓ cleaner conditions are reached
- ✓ more accurate studies can be performed



Examples of experimental alpha-spectra collected in "laser-on" and "laser-off" regimes

The method of resonance laser photoionization in LIS - efficient tool for production of clean RIB at ISOL facilities

Laser Spectroscopy Observables for Nuclear Physics

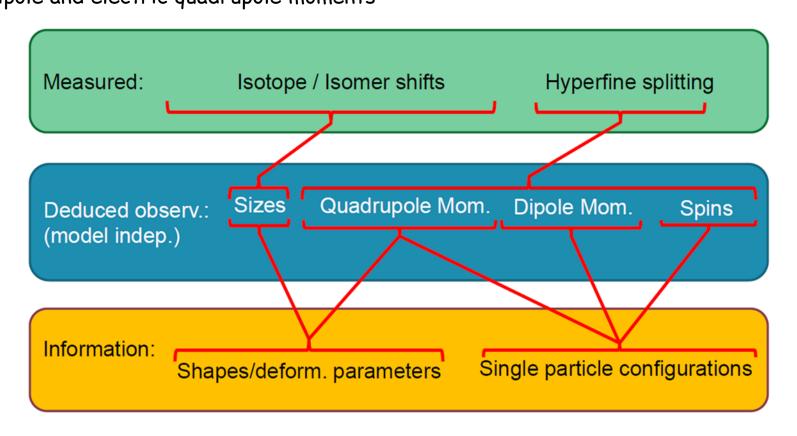
Isotope shift (IS) measurements

give the variation of the mean square charge radii $\delta < r^2 >$ along an isotopic chain

Shape and size of nuclei, nuclear shape deformation

Measurements of hyperfine splitting (HFS) of atomic lines give the nuclear magnetic dipole and electric quadrupole moments

Nuclear structure, nuclear shape deformation



Nuclear Charge Radius and Nuclear Deformation

$$\langle r^2 \rangle = \frac{\int_0^\infty \rho \left(\vec{r} \right) r^2 d^3 r}{\int_0^\infty \rho \left(\vec{r} \right) d^3 r} \quad \text{mean-square nuclear charge radius (mscr)}$$

in terms of the spherical harmonics:

$$\langle r^2 \rangle = \langle r^2 \rangle_0 \left(1 + \frac{5}{4\pi} \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \langle \beta_i^2 \rangle \right) \qquad \langle r^2 \rangle \approx \langle r^2 \rangle_0 \left(1 + \frac{5}{4\pi} \langle \beta_2^2 \rangle \right)$$

 $<\!\!r^2\!\!>_0$ - mean-square charge radius of a spherical nucleus of identical volume (Usually for the evaluation the droplet model is used) $<\!\!\beta_i\!\!>$ - deformation parameters of order i

Main isotopic trend of *mscr* is described by the Droplet Model.

Deviations from the DM trend are attributed to the advance of the mean-square quadrupole deformation

on changing of charge radii:

Influence of the nuclear deformation

$$\delta \left\langle r^{2}\right\rangle ^{\!\!A,A'} = \delta \left\langle r^{2}\right\rangle _{\!0}^{\!\!A,A'} + \left\langle r^{2}\right\rangle _{\!0} \cdot \frac{5}{4\pi} \delta \left\langle \beta_{2}^{2}\right\rangle ^{\!\!A,A'}$$

Motivations for the optical nuclear spectroscopy

- extreme sensitivity of $\delta < r^2 > to$ changes in the nuclear shape
- model-independence of $\delta < r^2 > extraction$
- isotopes in which it can be measured

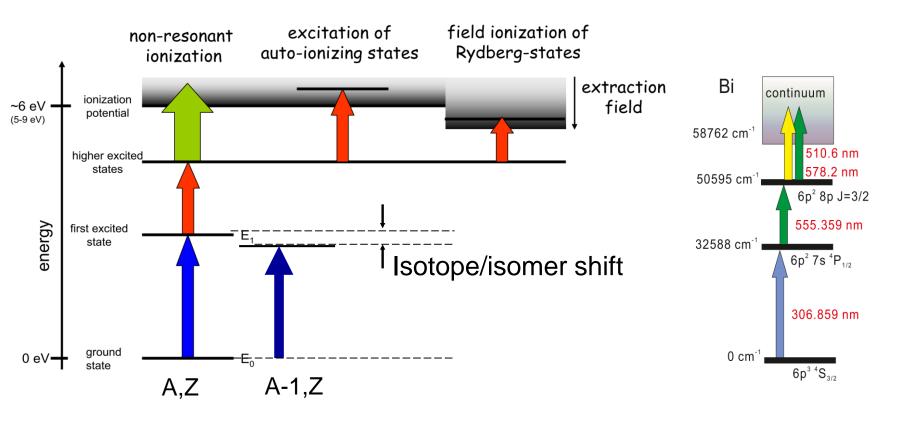
Nuclear Charge Radius and Isotope Shift (IS)

$$\delta v_F^{A,A'} = \delta v_F^{A,A'} + \delta v_M^{A,A'} \quad \text{- isotope shift of optical line} \\ \delta v_F^{A,A'} = \overline{F} \delta \langle r^2 \rangle_{A,A'} \quad \text{- mean-square charge radius} \quad \text{- experiment} \\ \delta v_M^{A,A'} = \frac{M(A-A')}{AA'} \quad \text{- calculations} \\ M = M^{\text{NMS}} + M^{\text{SMS}}$$

The isotope shift contains a contribution from the difference in the mean square charge radius between the two isotopes but it is not always an easy task to extract this information.

For bismuth isotopic chain advanced atomic and molecular calculations should be used for determination of electronic factor F and for evolution of specific mass shift constant M^{SMS}

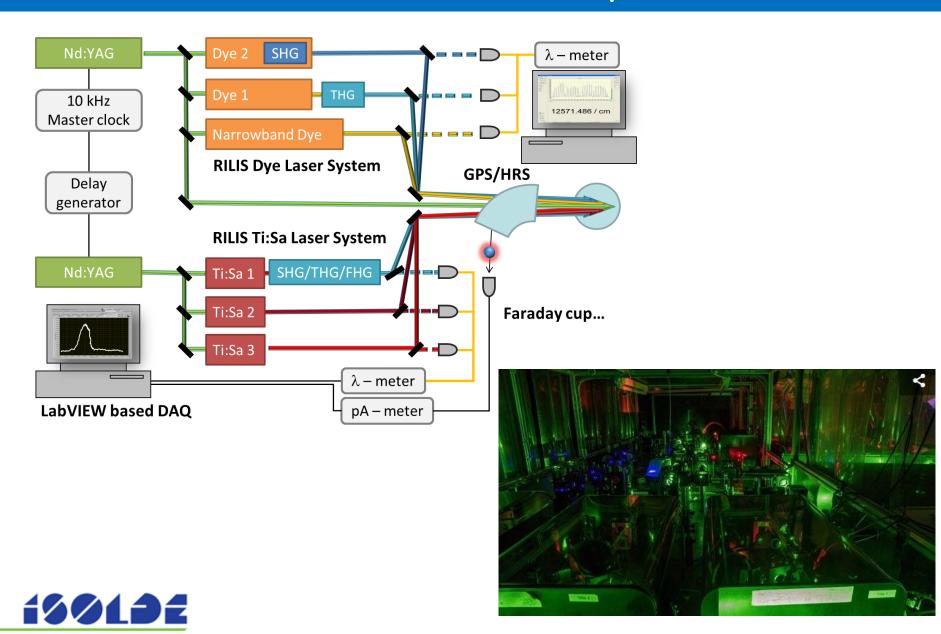
Method of resonance laser ionization



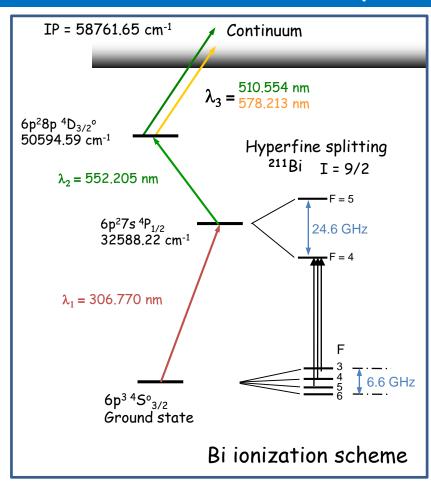
Isotope shift (IS), hyperfine structure (HFS) measurements:

By scanning the narrow-band laser frequency over the resonance, together with simultaneous counting of the mass-separated photo-ions, the **isotope shifts** and **hyperfine structure** of the atomic spectral lines can be measured

ISOLDE RILIS laser system

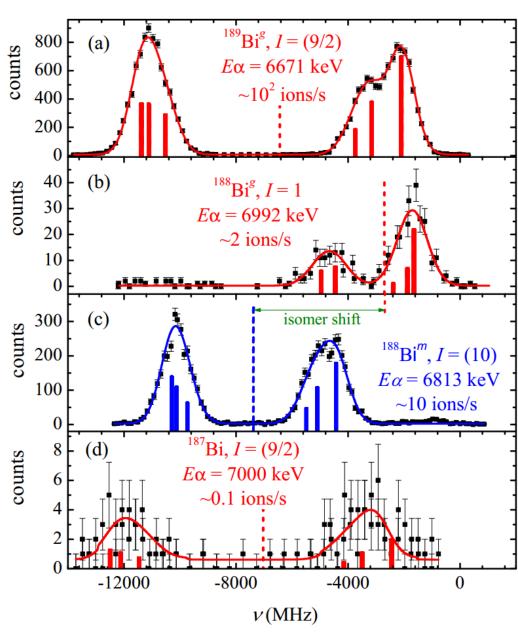


Bi experimental spectra

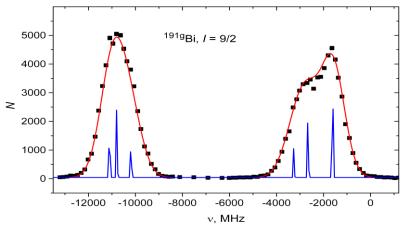


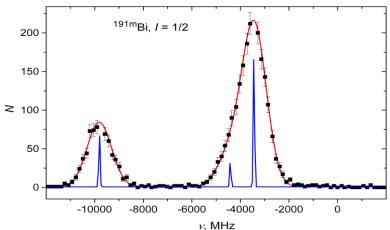
Shift of the centre of hfs gives isotope shift

Distance between peaks gives hfs splitting



Positions of the hfs components on the spectrum

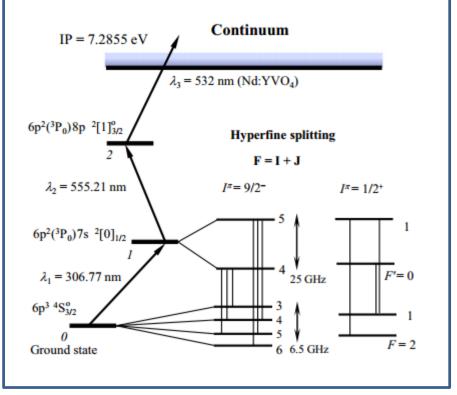




$$v_{F,F'} = v_0 + \Delta v_{F'} - \Delta v_F$$

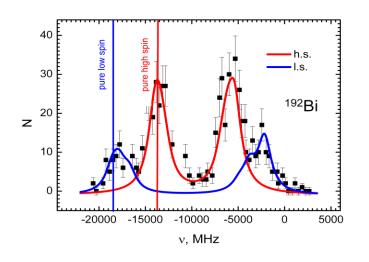
 v_o - the position of the center of gravity of the hfs, the prime symbol denotes the upper level of the transition

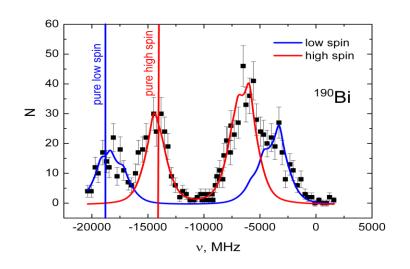
hyperfine structures for the states with nuclear spins I = 1/2 and I = 9/2typical for neutron deficient Bi isotopes



$$\begin{split} \Delta v_F &= A \cdot \frac{K}{2} + B \cdot \frac{0.75 \cdot K \cdot (K+1) - I \cdot (I+1) \cdot J \cdot (J+1)}{2 \cdot (2I-1) \cdot (2J-1) \cdot I \cdot J} \\ K &= F \cdot (F+1) - I \cdot (I+1) - J \cdot (J+1) \\ \vec{F} &= \vec{I} + \vec{J}, \quad F = |I-J|, |I-J| + 1, \dots, I+J \\ A &\propto \mu, \quad B \propto Q \end{split}$$

Bi: possibility of isomer selectivity





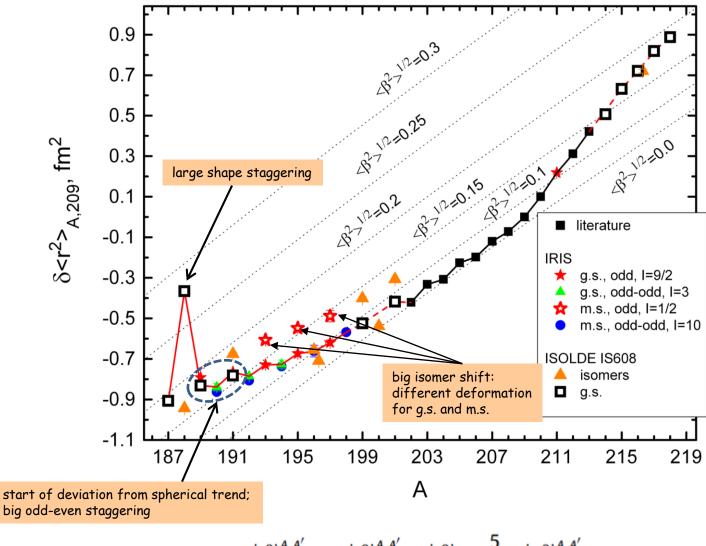
Hfs spectra for two isomers in 190, 192 Bi.

Vertical lines mark the frequency positions for the narrow-band 1st step laser with the pure low-spin (blue) or high-spin (red) isomer production.



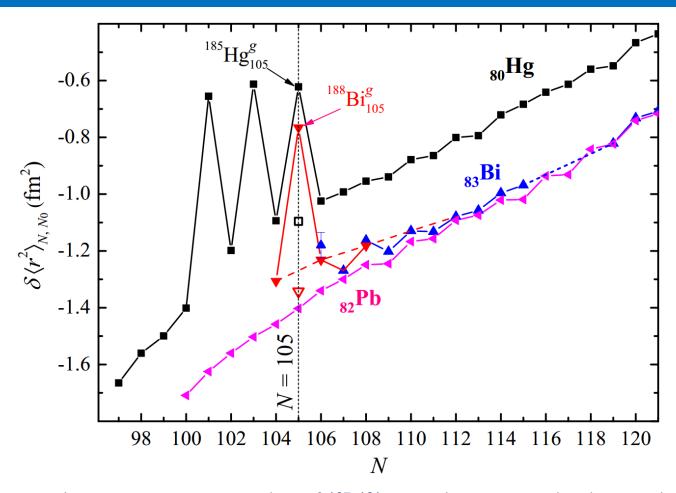
possibility of the first isomer selective BDf studies

Bi: radii (3 effects)



$$\delta \langle r^2 \rangle^{A,A'} = \delta \langle r^2 \rangle_0^{A,A'} + \langle r^2 \rangle_0 \cdot \frac{5}{4\pi} \delta \langle \beta_2^2 \rangle^{A,A'}$$

Bi & Hg: large shape staggering

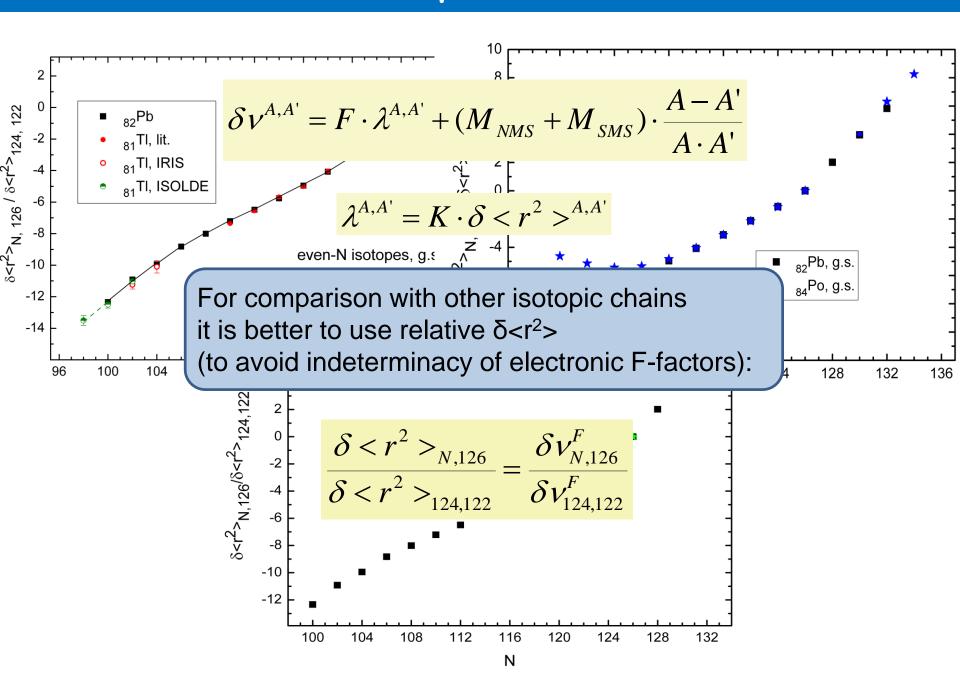


By performing laser-spectroscopy studies of $^{187-191}$ Bi, we demonstrated a sharp radius increase for 188 Big, relative to the neighboring 187,189 Big.

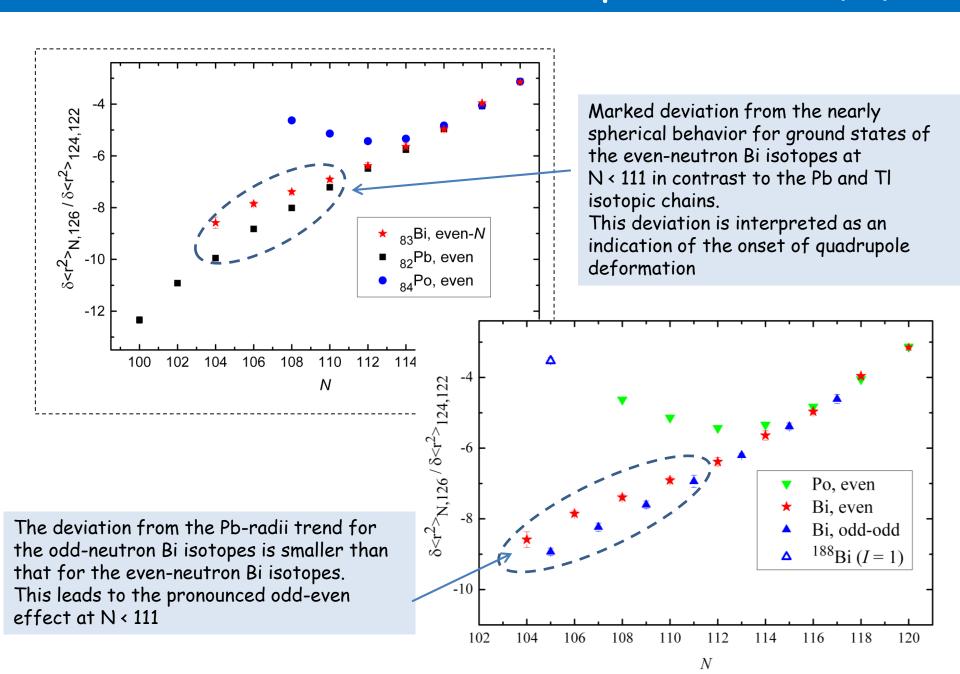
Fifty years after discovery of shape-staggering in Hg, we have found only the second example of such an unusual behavior, now in the lightest Bi (Z = 83) isotopes with odd number of protons.

This dramatic change happens at the same neutron number (N = 105), where the huge shape staggering started in the isotonic 185 Hg, and it has the same magnitude.

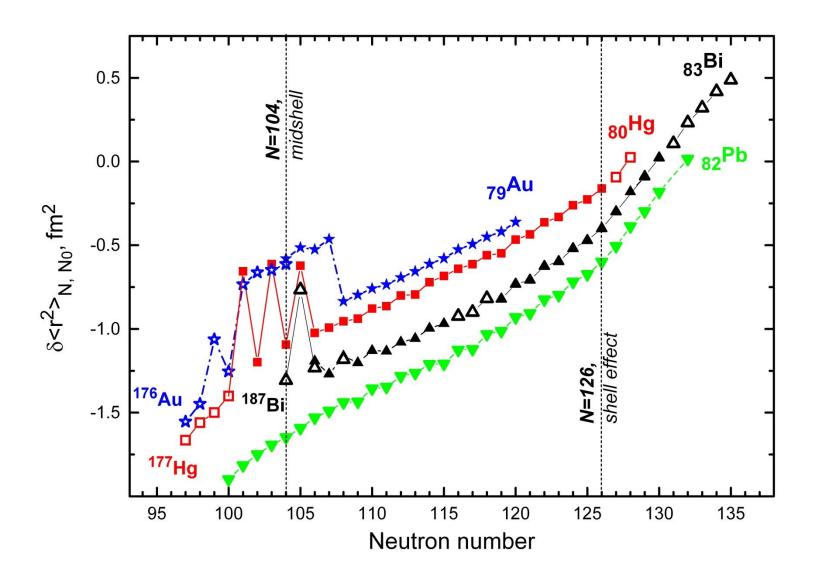
Relative radii: Comparison of TI, Pb and Po



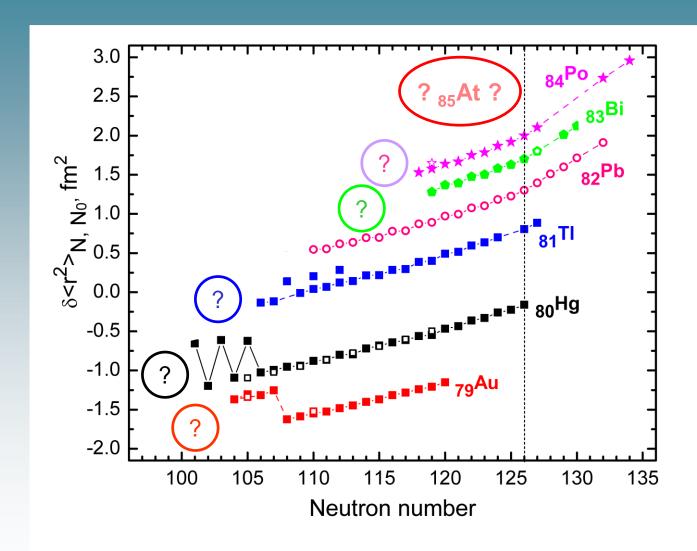
Relative Bi radii: Deviation from spherical trend (Pb)



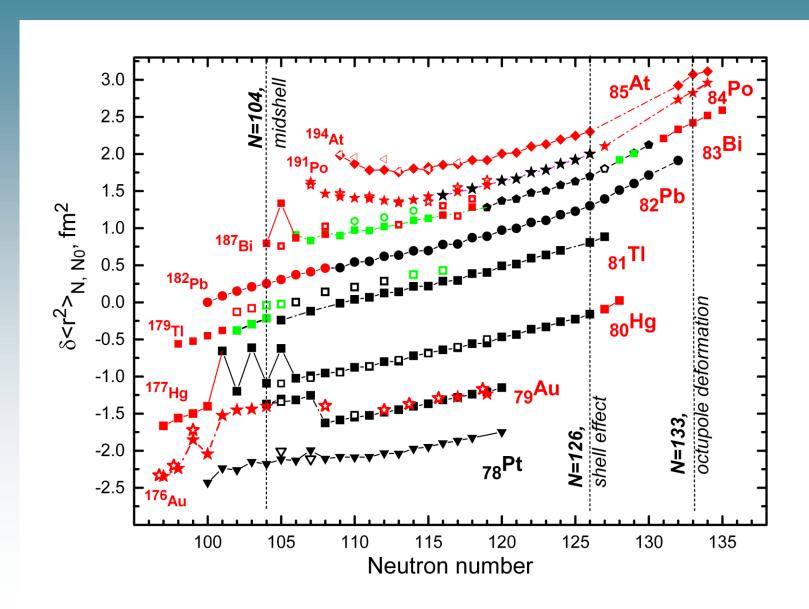
Radii in Pb-region: different shape evolution patterns



Charge radii in the lead region (2003)



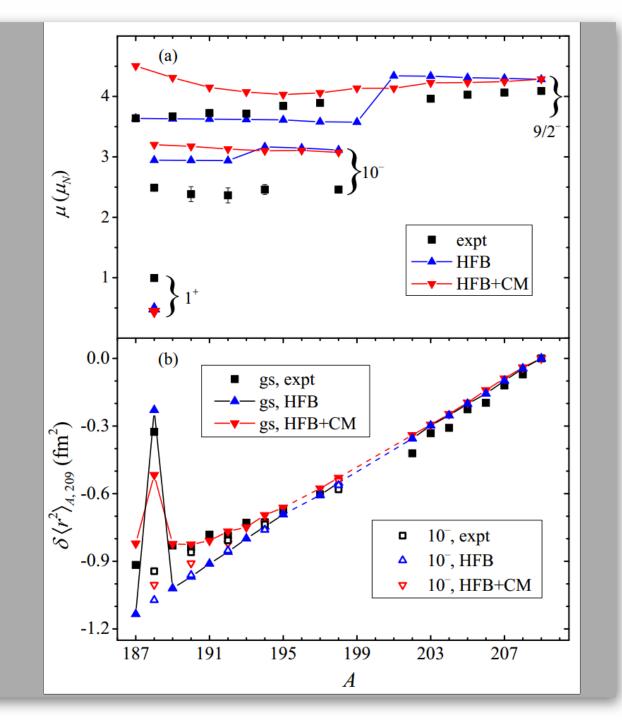
Charge radii in the lead region (2021)



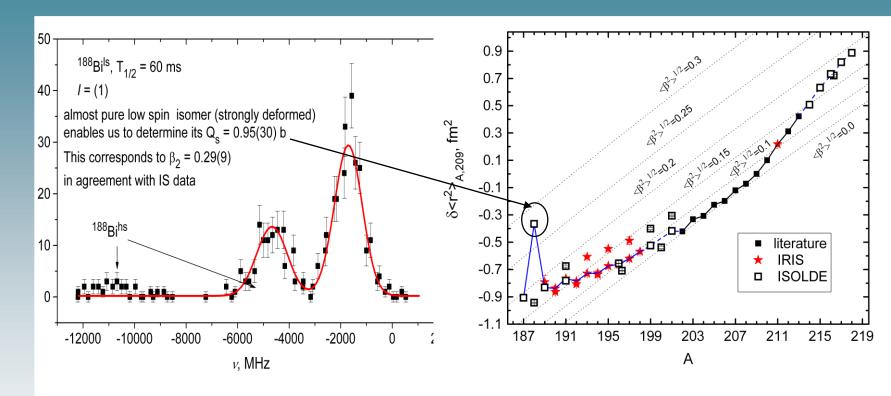
Conclusions

- 1. Laser ion source is very efficient tool for nuclear investigations due to its possibility to get the isobarically clean radioactive isotope beams of a great number of chemical elements.
- 2. Hyperfine structure parameters and isotope shifts of Bi isotopes relative to ²⁰⁹Bi for the 306.9-nm atomic transition were measured using the in-source resonance-ionization spectroscopy technique at IRIS (PNPI) and ISOLDE (CERN). The changes in the mean-square charge radius, magnetic dipole and electric quadrupole moments were deduced using advanced atomic and molecular calculations.
- 3. A large staggering in radii was found near 188 Big, along with the large isomer shift, at the same neutron number (N = 105), where the shape staggering starts and the similar isomer shift was observed in the mercury isotopes .
- 4. For the Bi nuclei the marked deviation from the isotopic trend of $\delta < r^2 >$ in the lead isotopic chains has been demonstrated at N < 111. This deviation has been interpreted as an indication of the onset of quadrupole deformation.

Backup



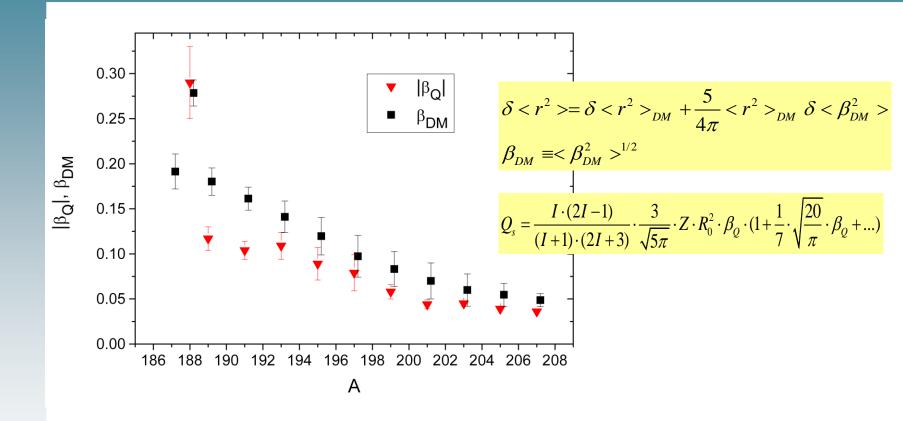
¹⁸⁸Bi: 2017 run



pure low spin isomer hfs due to better α -resolution

Thus, shape coexistence / shape staggering interpretation of the unusual and unexpected $\delta < r^2 >$ behavior is confirmed

Bi: deformation



Deformation parameter β_Q extracted from Q_s coincides with β from $\delta < r^2 >$ and unambiguously testifies to the strong prolate deformation of ¹⁸⁸Bils