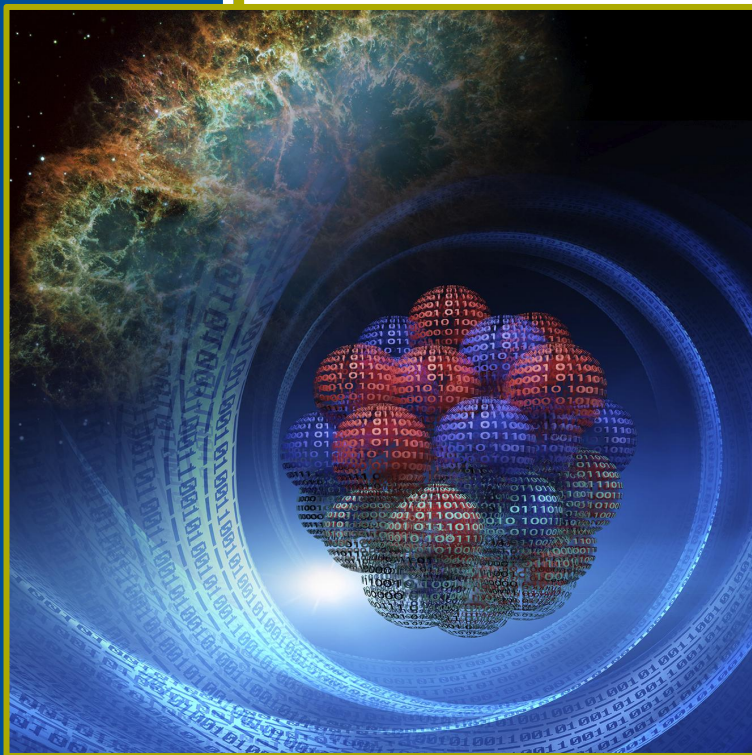




Andy Sproles, ORNL

Nuclear structure at scale

from ground states to fission

ULB-Kansai University Workshop

February 28th 2025



wryssens.com

wryssens@ulb.be



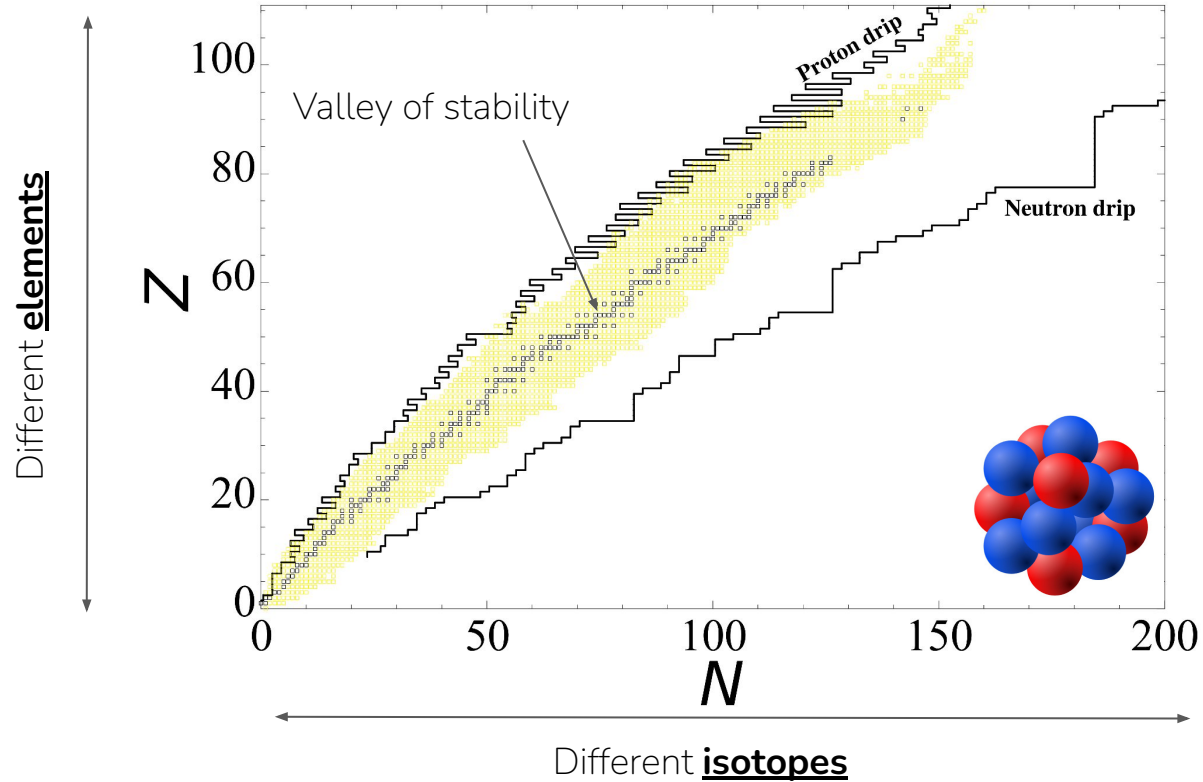
57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu
89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	Very radioactive isotopes; nothing left from stars								

Astronomical Image Credits:
ESA/NASA/AASNova

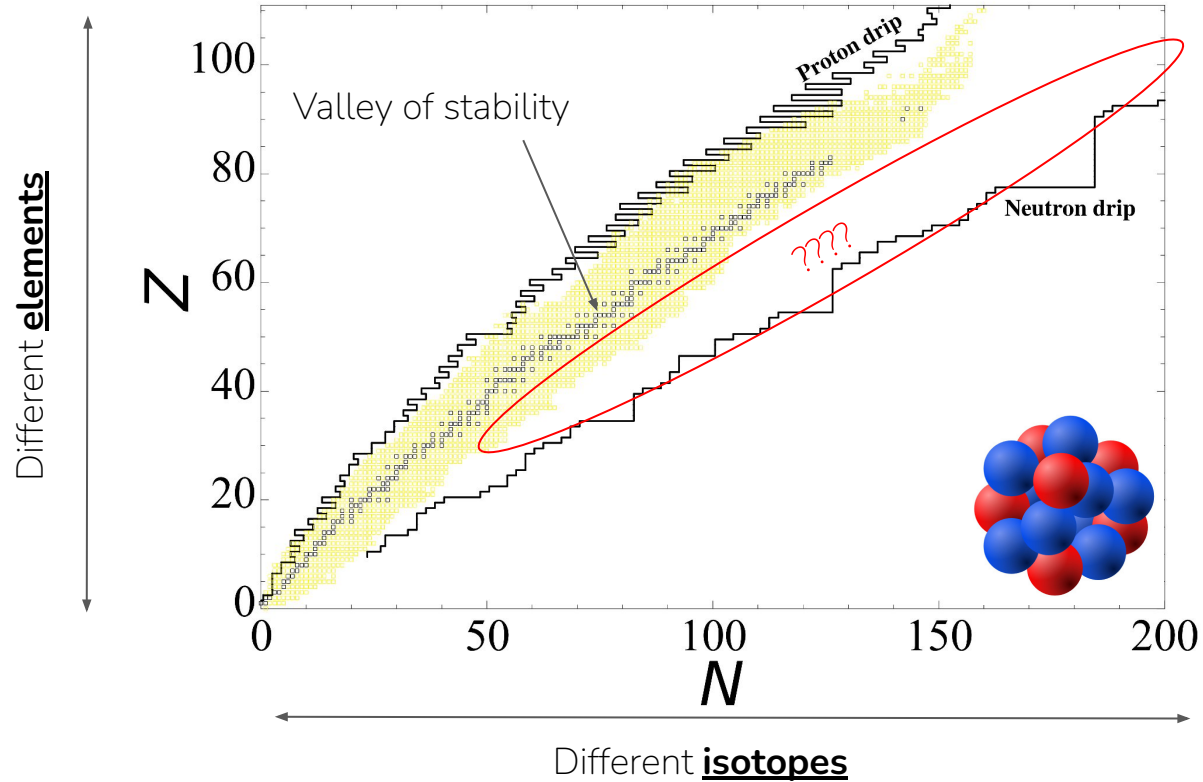
Tentative assignments!

1 H	big bang fusion 												cosmic ray fission 						2 He
3 Li	4 Be	merging neutron stars? 						exploding massive stars 						5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne
11 Na	12 Mg	dying low mass stars 						exploding white dwarfs 						13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr		
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe		
55 Cs	56 Ba		72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn		
87 Fr	88 Ra																		

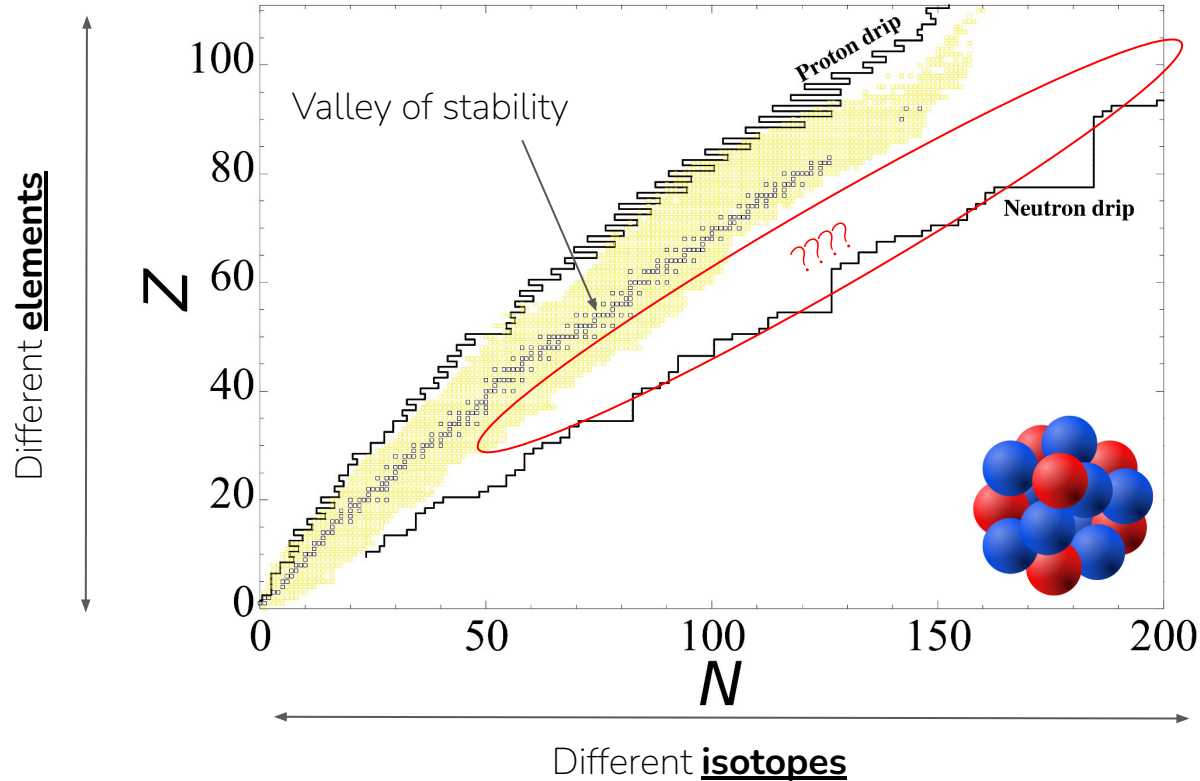
The nuclear chart...



The nuclear chart...



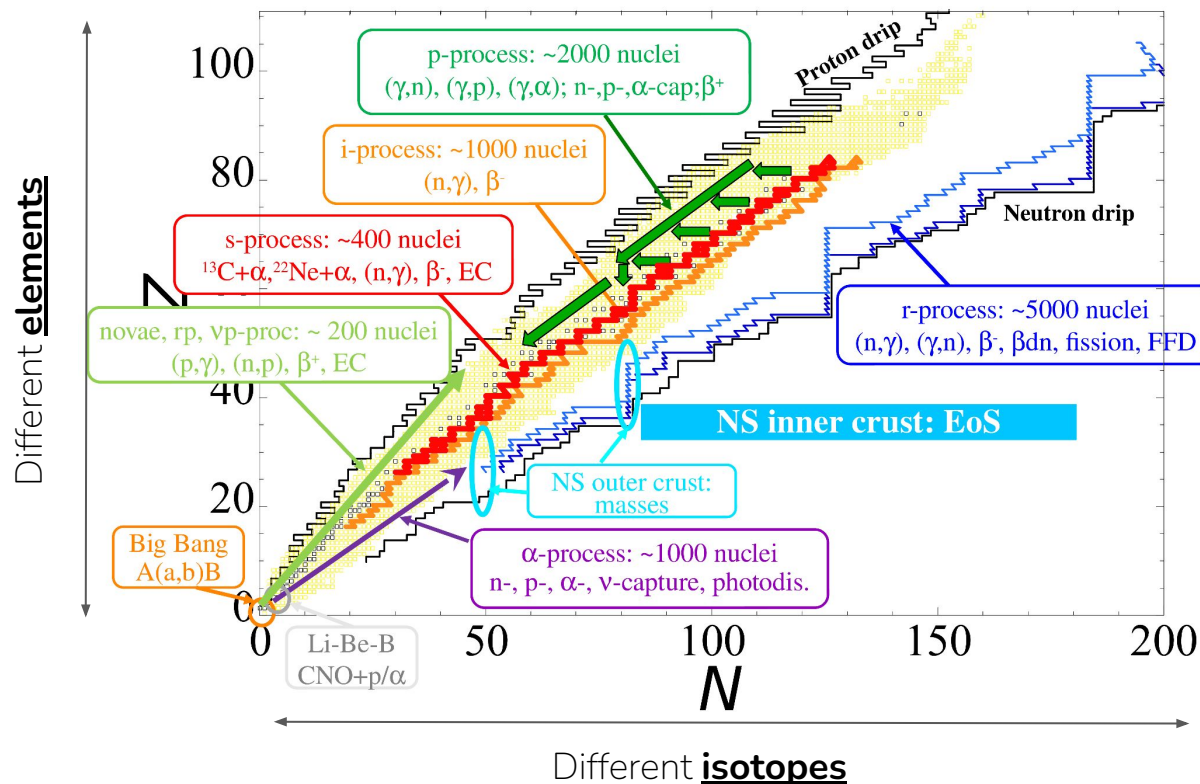
The nuclear chart...



Transmutation

1. neutron capture
 2. β^+ and β^- decay
 3. different types of fission
- and many others...

The nuclear chart and the processes traversing it



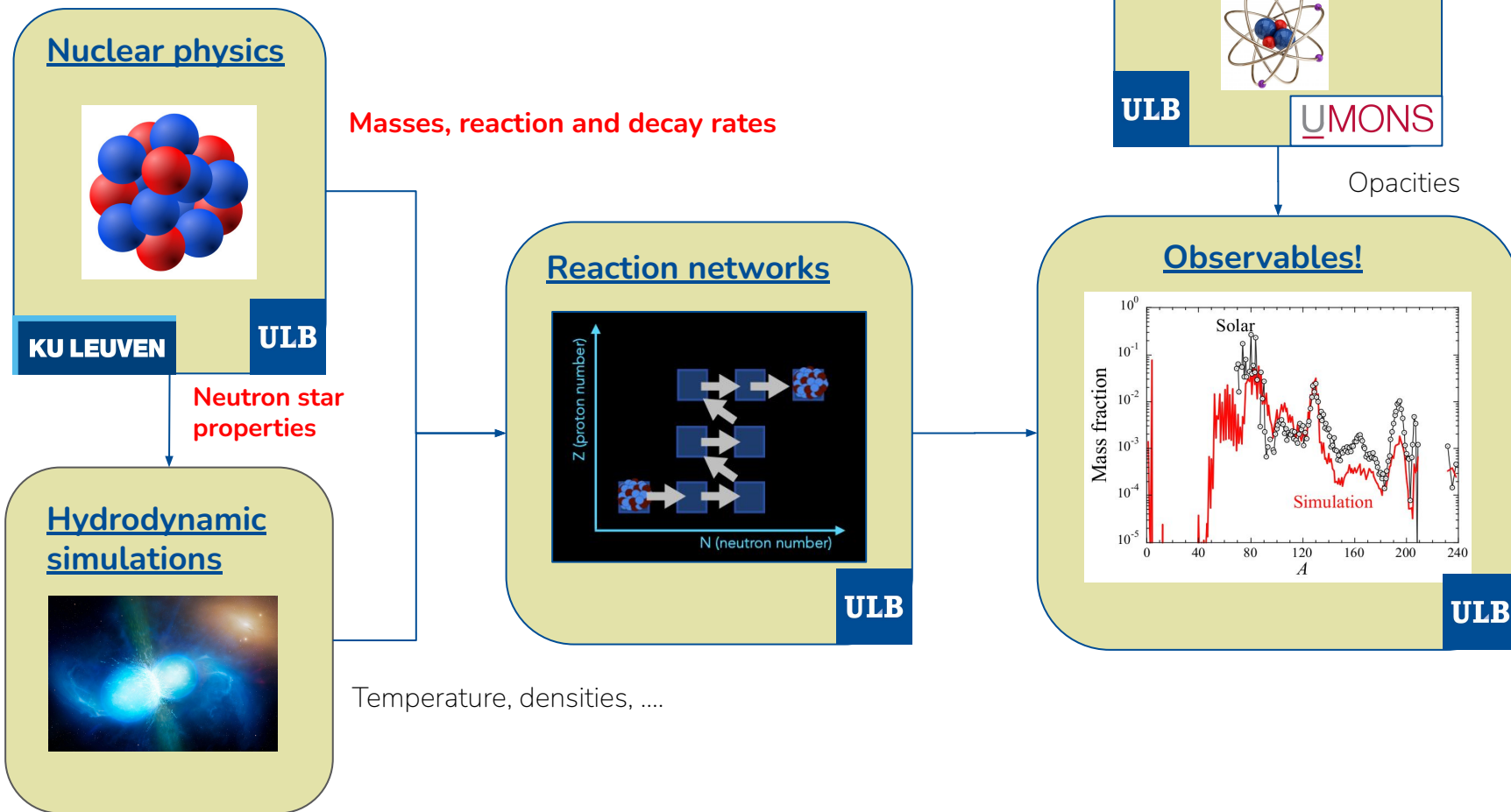
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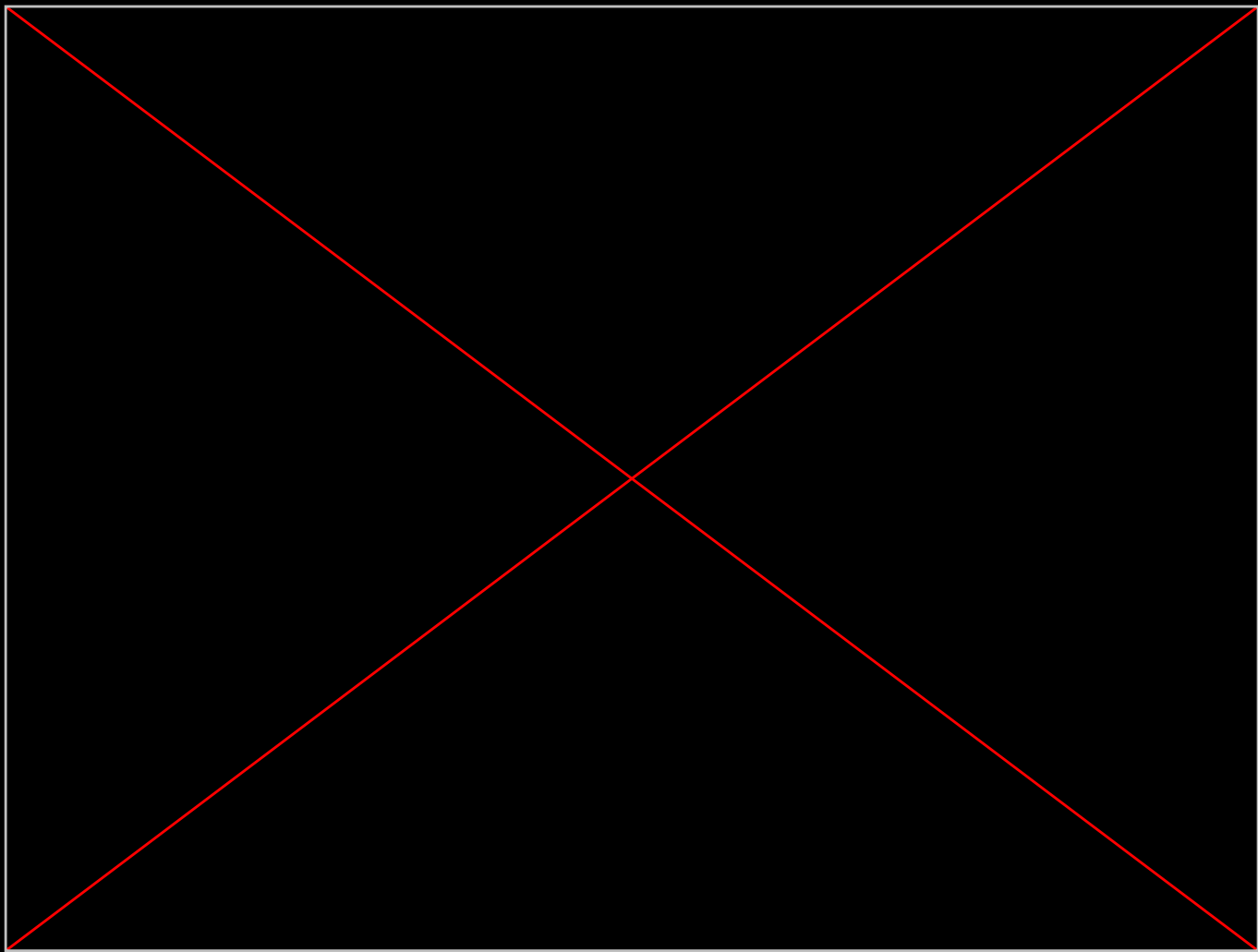
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Need for theory!

1. many astrophysical processes
 - r-process, s-process, ...
 - neutron star structure
2. operating in different conditions
 - temperature, density, ...
3. properties of 1000s of nuclei
 - masses, sizes, ...
 - reaction rates

The Belgian landscape





Skyrme **E**nergy **D**ensity **F**unctionals (**EDFs**)

$$E \sim \int d^3r \left[C^\rho \rho(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r}) + C^\tau \tau(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r}) + \dots \right]$$



Skyrme **E**nergy **D**ensity **F**unctionals (**EDFs**)

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Local densities and currents of a wavefunction



Skyrme **E**nergy **D**ensity **F**unctionals (**EDFs**)

Coupling constants (~ **25** parameters) fitted to data

The diagram illustrates the relationship between coupling constants and the terms in the Skyrme Energy Density Functional (EDF) equation. A blue line originates from the text 'Coupling constants (~ 25 parameters) fitted to data' and branches into two horizontal segments. The left segment connects to a blue box containing the coupling constant C^ρ , and the right segment connects to a blue box containing C^τ . These blue boxes are part of the integrand of the equation $E \sim \int d^3r [C^\rho \rho(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r}) + C^\tau \tau(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r}) + \dots]$. Additionally, a red line originates from the text 'Local densities and currents of a wavefunction' and branches into two horizontal segments. The left segment connects to a red box containing the density $\rho(\mathbf{r})$, and the right segment connects to a red box containing the product $\tau(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r})$. These red boxes are also part of the integrand of the equation.

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Local densities and currents of a wavefunction

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Local densities and currents of a wavefunction

The diagram shows the Skyrme Energy Density Functional equation. The energy E is enclosed in a pink box and labeled 'Energy' with a pink line. The integrand consists of two terms: $C^\rho \rho(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r})$ and $C^\tau \tau(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r})$. The coupling constants C^ρ and C^τ are enclosed in blue boxes, and the local densities $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ and $\tau(\mathbf{r})$ are enclosed in red boxes. A blue line connects the blue boxes to the text 'Coupling constants (~ 25 parameters) fitted to data'. A red line connects the red boxes to the text 'Local densities and currents of a wavefunction'.

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This is an attractive strategy...

- **simple** wavefunctions but **individual** nucleons
- rooted in many-body theory
- many observables accessible
- Feasible for **~ 7000** nuclei

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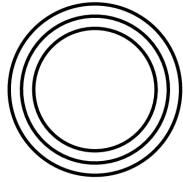
... but how to make it predictive?

We attempt to maximise

- the physics included in the model
- the experimental data in the fit
- ! the observables described **at the same time**

Large-scale models in 1 dimensions

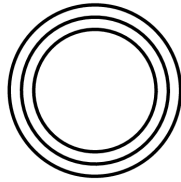
Spherical



$$\beta_{20} = 0$$

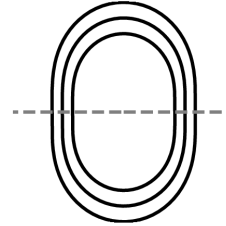
Large-scale models in 1-2 dimensions

Spherical



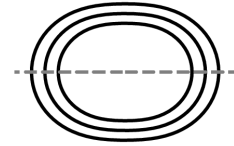
$$\beta_{20} = 0$$

Oblate



$$\beta_{20} < 0$$

Prolate



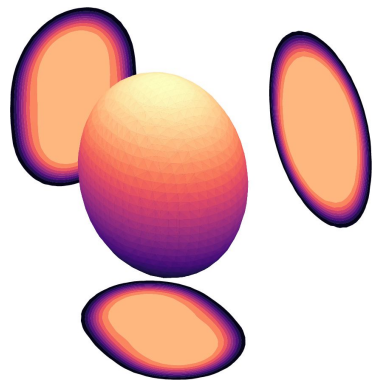
$$\beta_{20} > 0$$

Nuclear deformation

- larger variational space
- shape DOF characterized by multipole moments
- capture correlations at modest CPU cost
- intuitive interpretation

Large-scale models in 1-2-**3** dimensions

β_{20}, β_{22} or β_2, γ



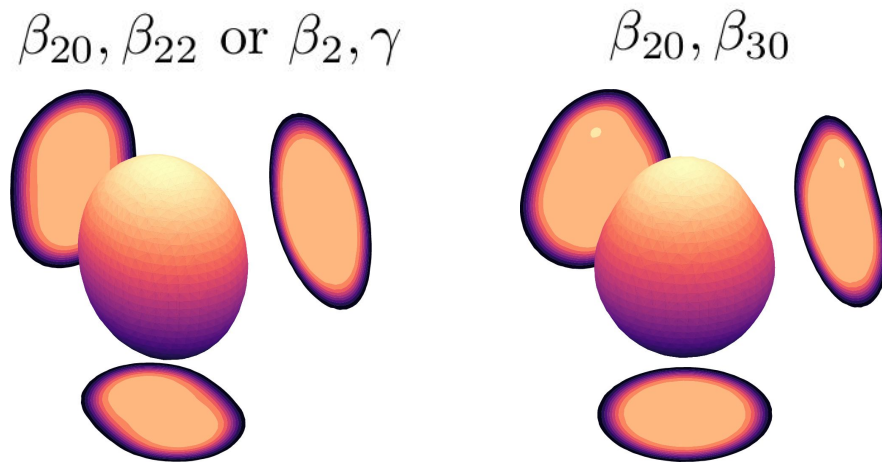
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More general configurations

- triaxial shapes
- reflection asymmetry
- elongated shapes

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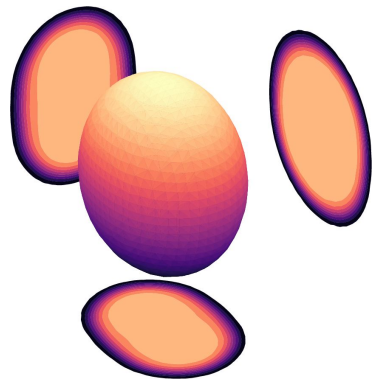
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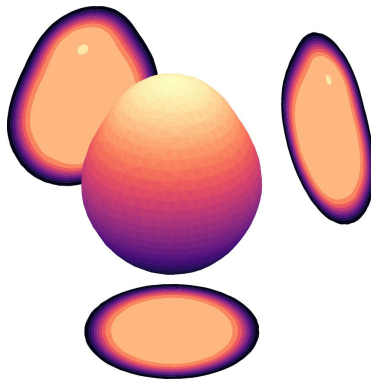
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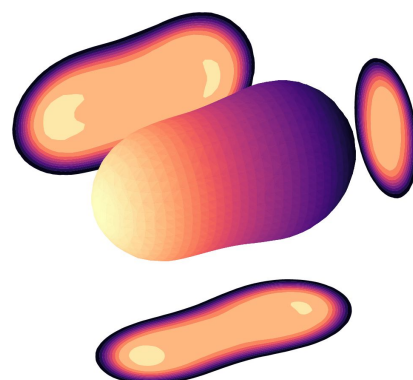
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β_{20}, β_{30}



β_{20}, β_{22} **and** β_{30}



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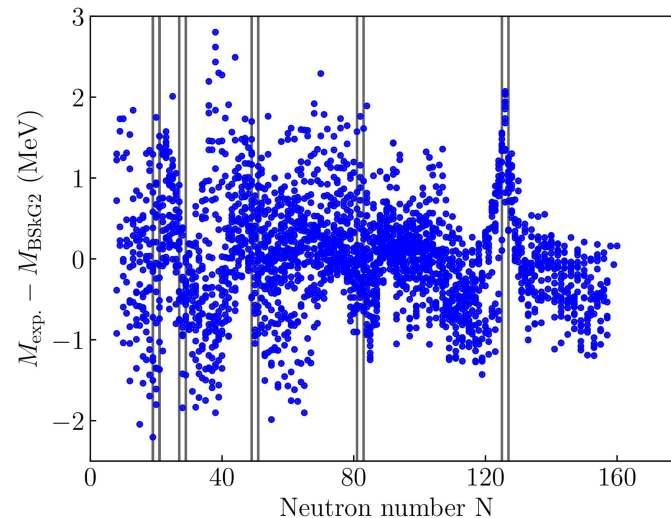
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The **B**russels **S**kyrme on a **G**rid models

BSkG1: G. Scamps et al., EPJA **57**, 333 (2021).
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BSkG3: G. Grams et al., EPJA **59**, 270 (2023).
BSkG4: G. Grams et al., arXiv:2411.08007 (2024).

Rms σ	BSkG1	BSkG2	BSkG3	BSkG4
Masses [MeV]	0.741	0.678	0.631	0.633
S_n [MeV]	0.466	0.500	0.442	0.402
Radii [fm]	0.024	0.027	0.024	0.025



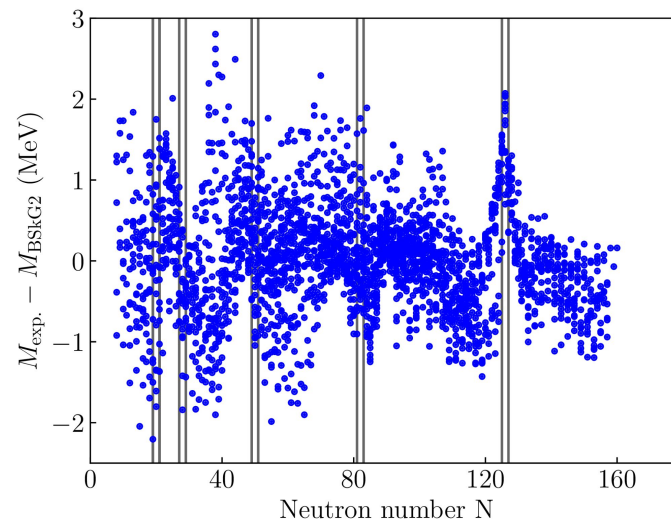
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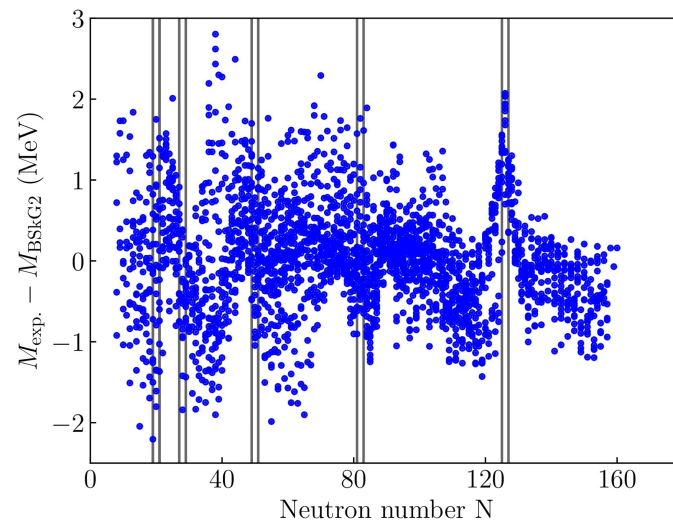
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Max. NS mass [$M_\odot$]	1.8	1.8	2.3	2.3



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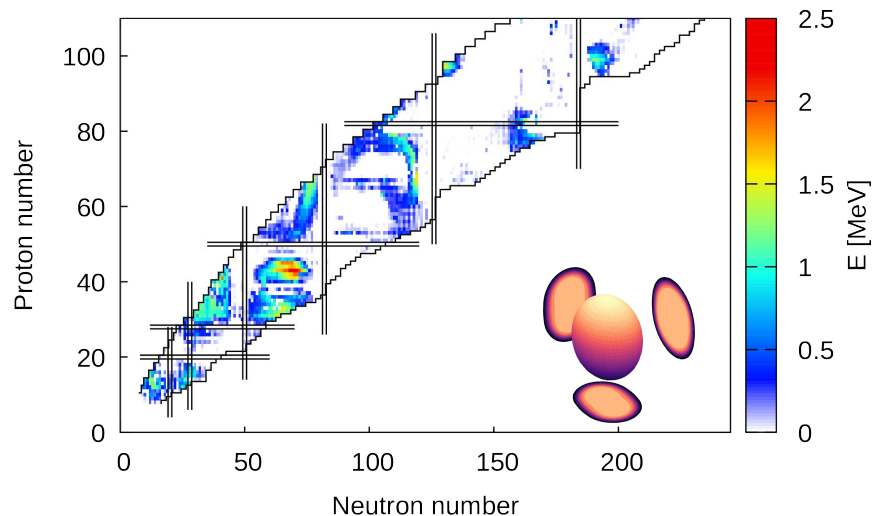
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Ground state properties: masses

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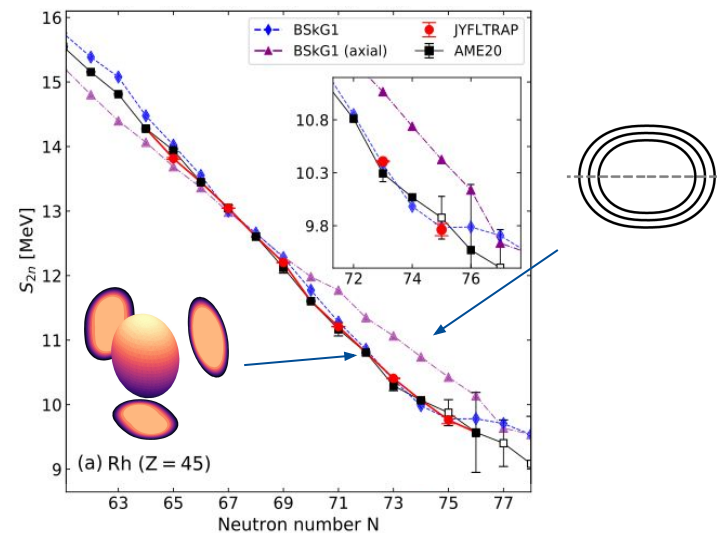
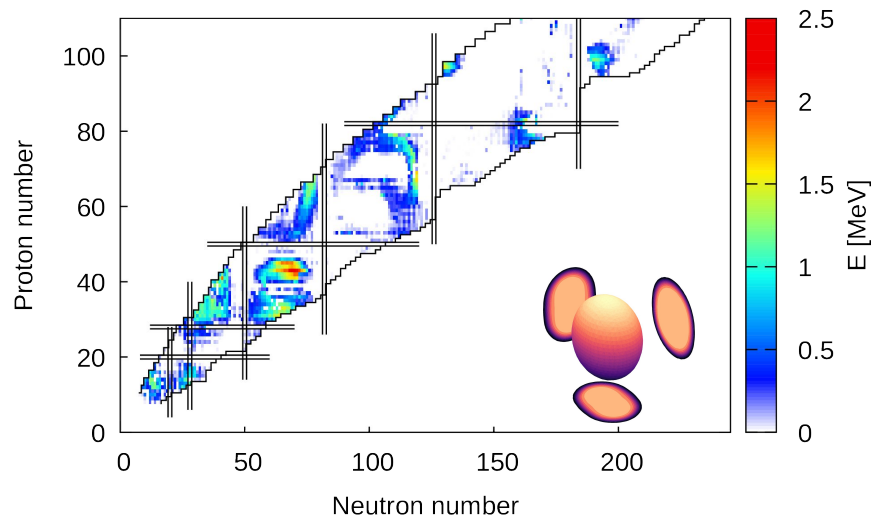


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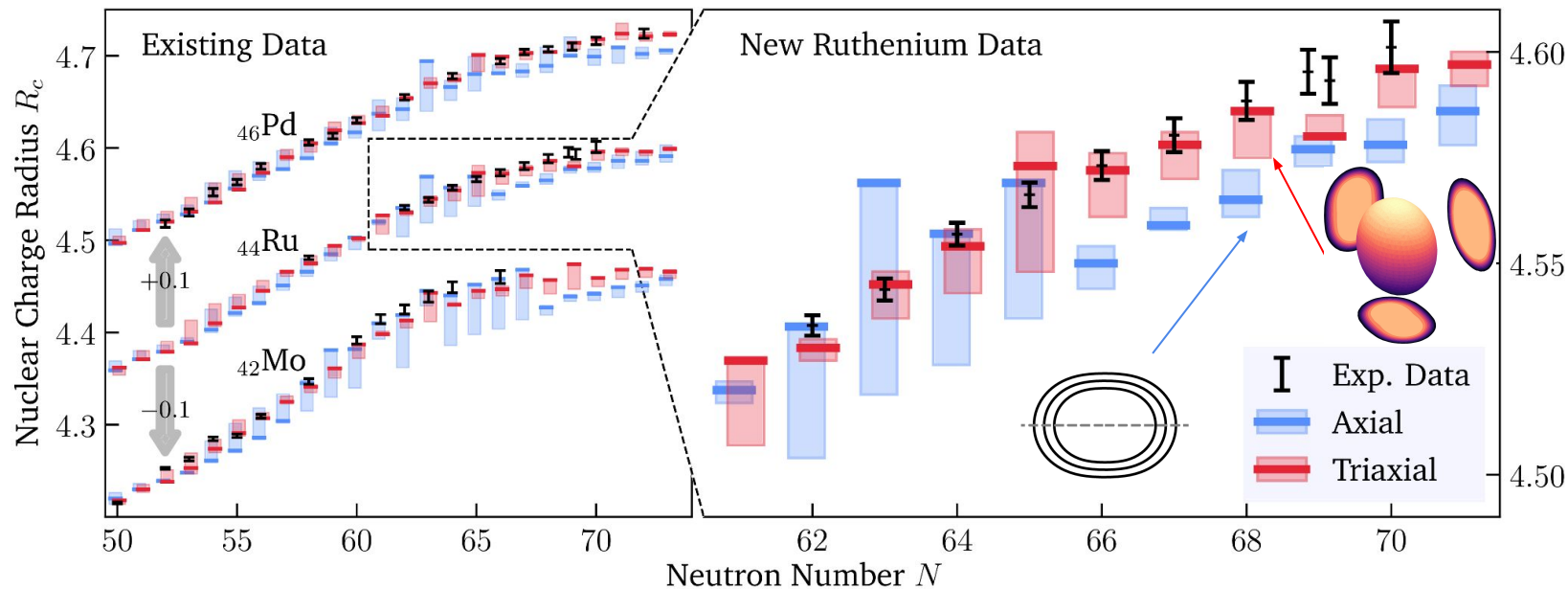
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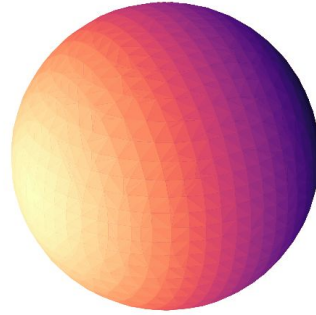
... and imprints on observables!

- spectroscopy
 - binding energies
 - existence and structure of isomers
 - nuclear radii
- and many more!

Ground state properties: radii



Modelling fission microscopically

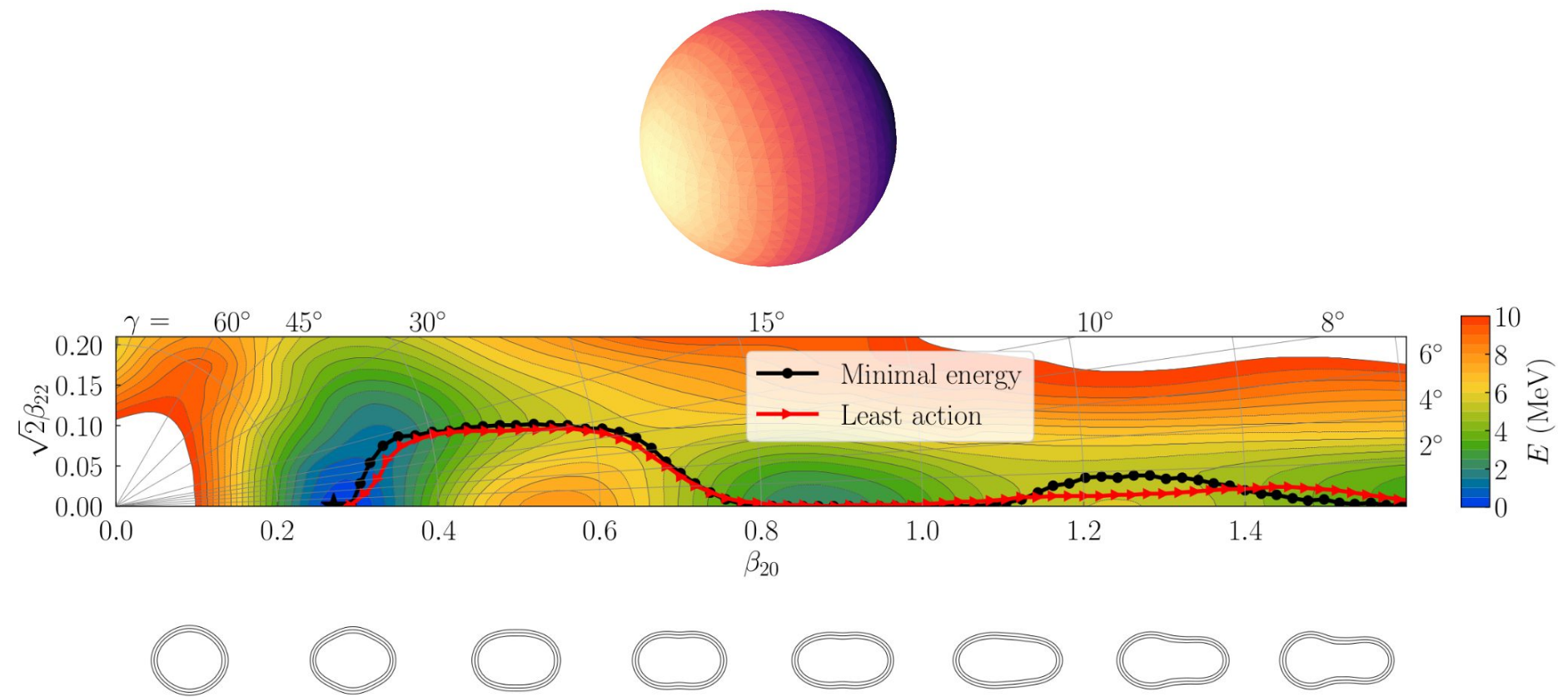


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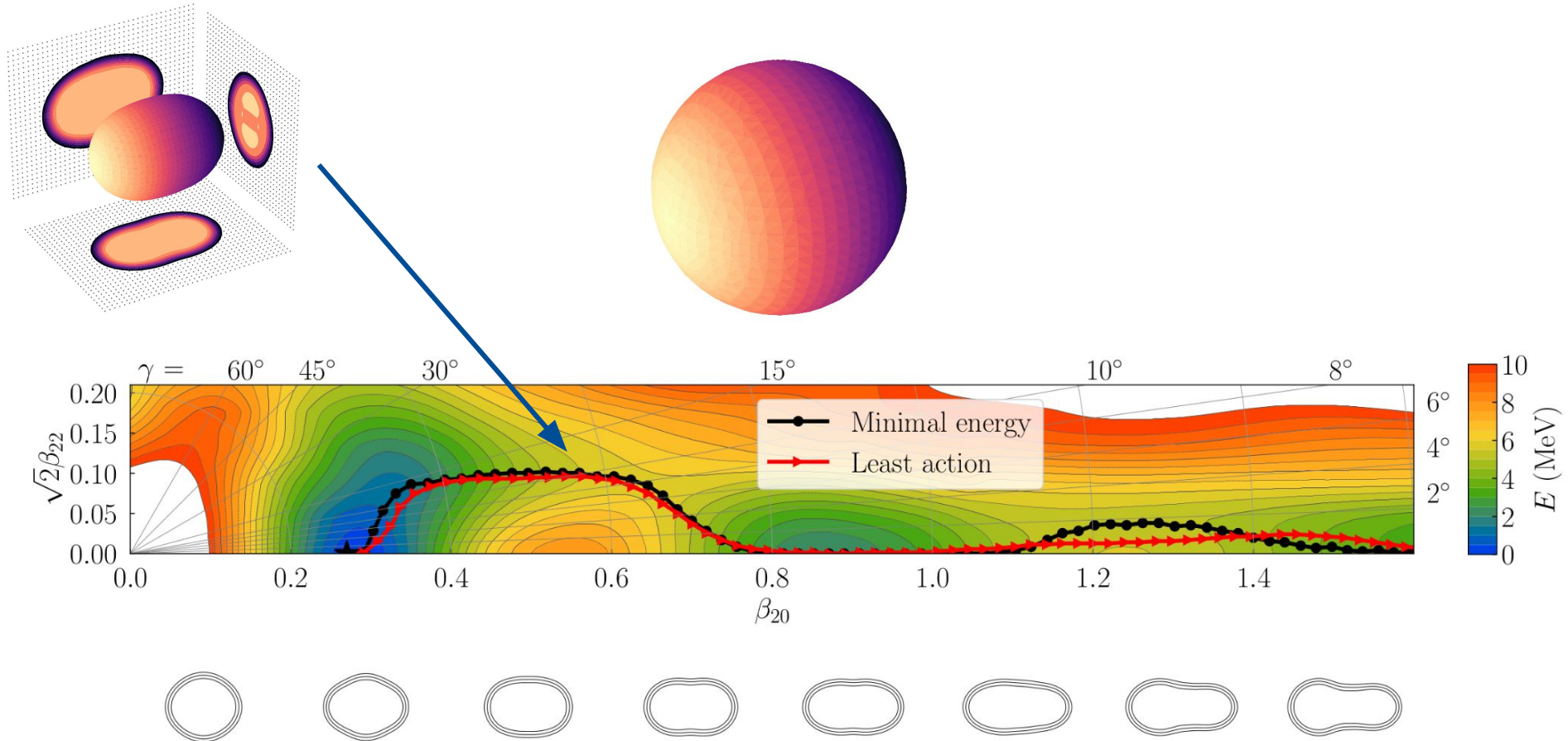
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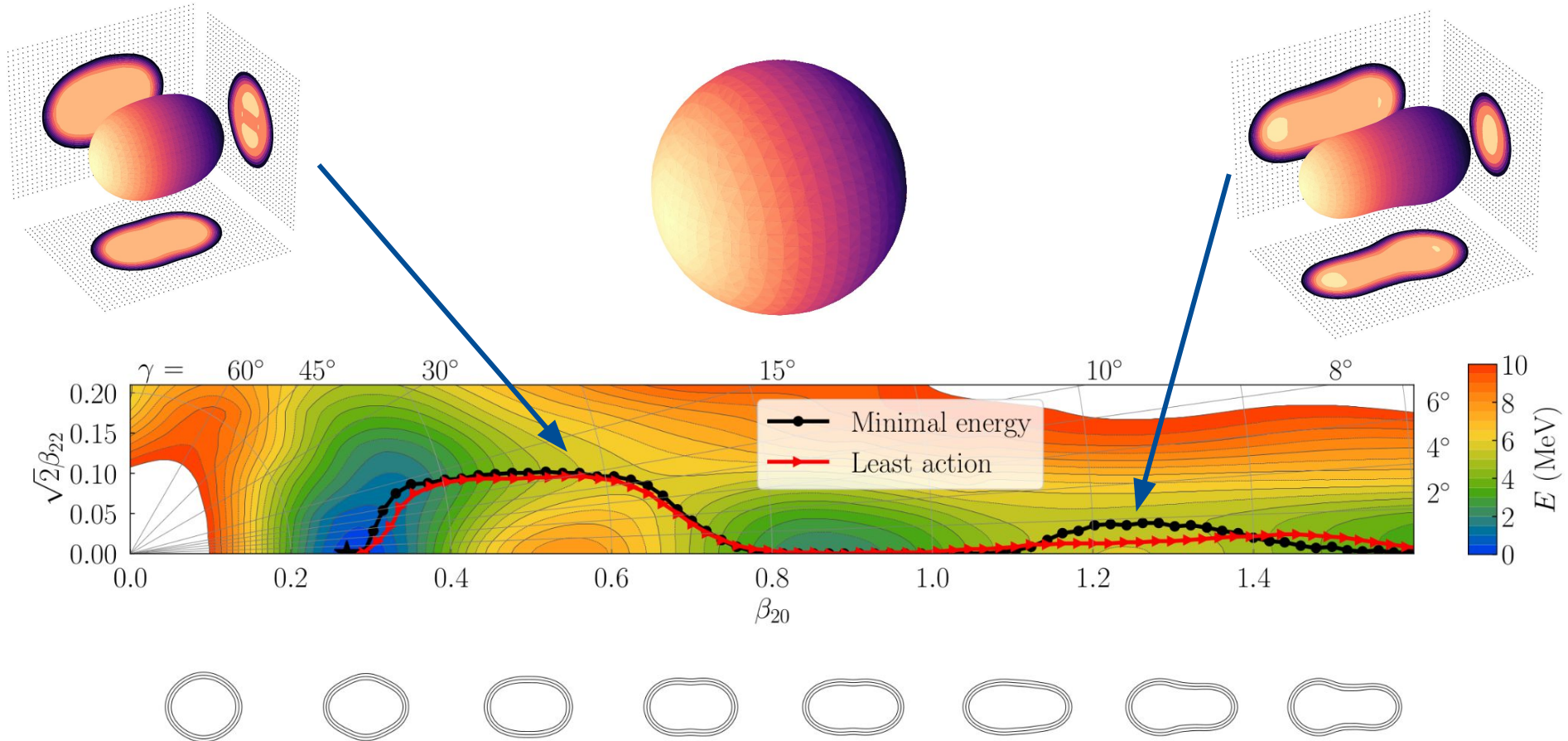
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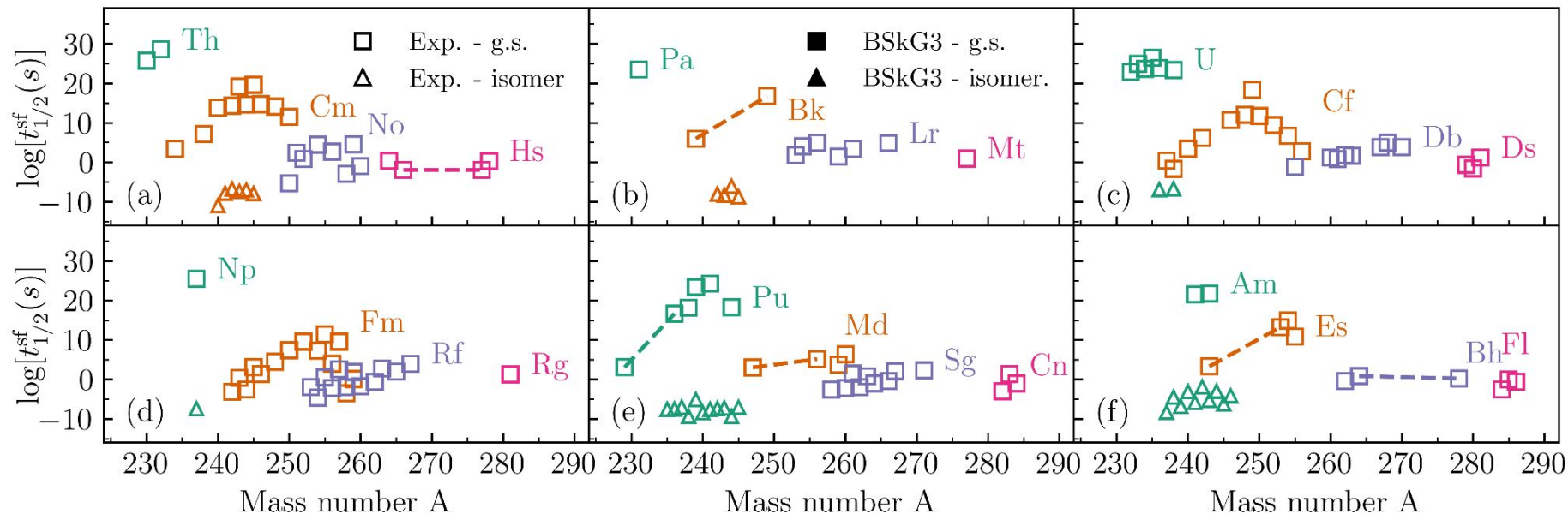


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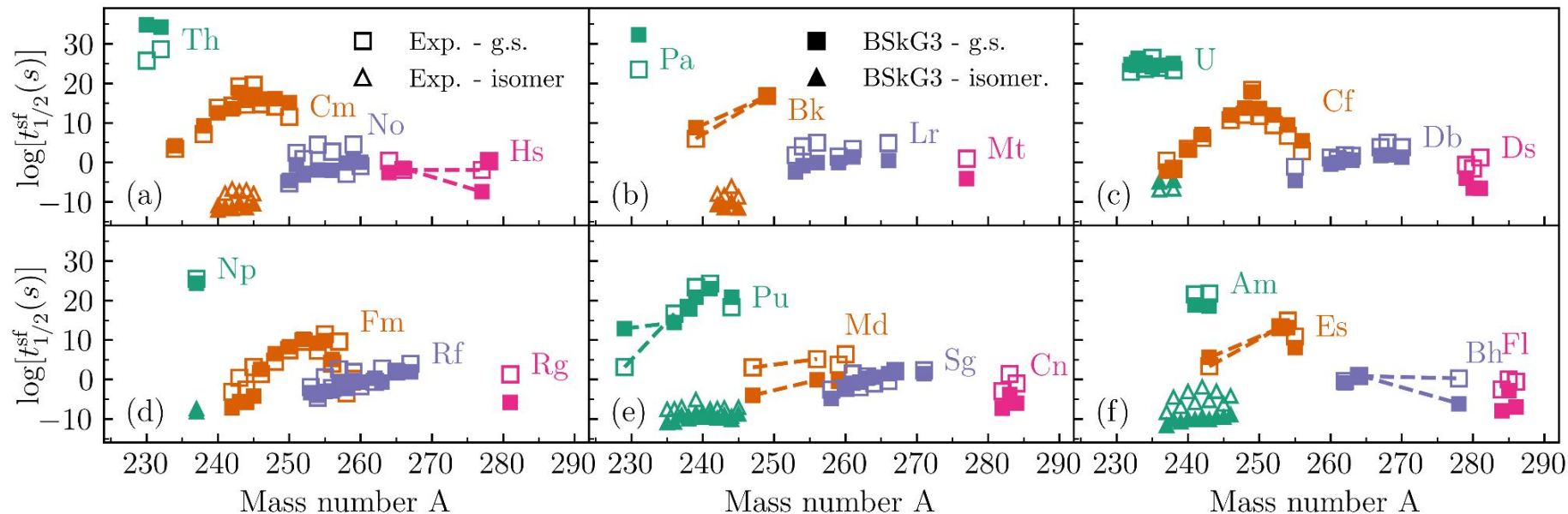


Spontaneous fission half-lives

Experimental data:

- 124 ground state half-lives
- 34 half-lives of isomeric states

... that span **> 40** orders of magnitude!



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... that span **> 40** orders of magnitude!

... at scale from microscopic models!

- unprecedented scale and accuracy
~ 4 orders of magnitude
- ... without adjustable parameters!

Computing brought us this far ...

MOCCa

```
      ; ,  
    ) ; ( (  
  ( ( ) ) ;  
    , - " " " - .  
  , - | ' - . . . - ' |  
(( _ |           |  
  ' - \           /  
    ' . _ _ _ . '
```

Density functional theory with MOCCa

- nonlinear optimisation problem
- algorithms for speed and robustness
- open-source later this year

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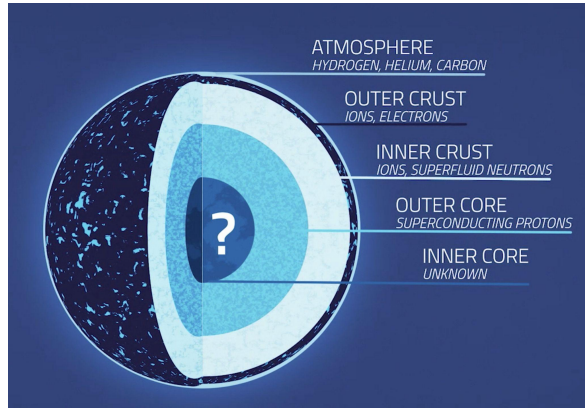
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Raw computing power

- CÉCI & VSC: academic support in Belgium
- TIER-1 resources by Cenaero
 - Lucia - ranked 388th - our development workhorse
- TIER-0 resources by EuroHPC
 - MN 5 - ranked 11th - large scale fission
 - LUMI - ranked 8th - ???

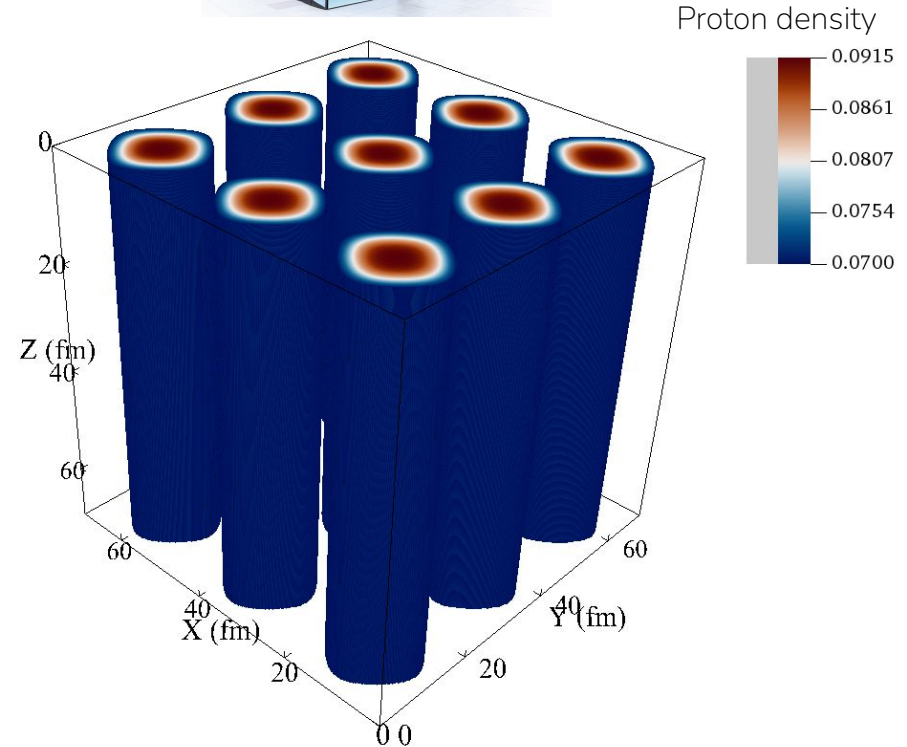
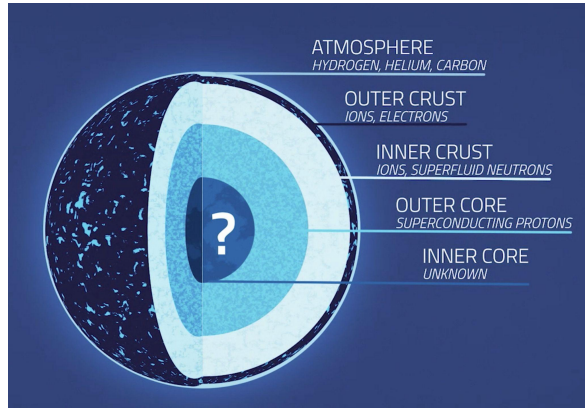
... and it is just the beginning!



Nuclear pasta

- crystalline structures in NS crusts spaghetti, lasagna, bucatini, swiss cheese, ...
- QM treatment with NS-appropriate EDFs
- simulating $\sim 10^6$ particles in large volumes

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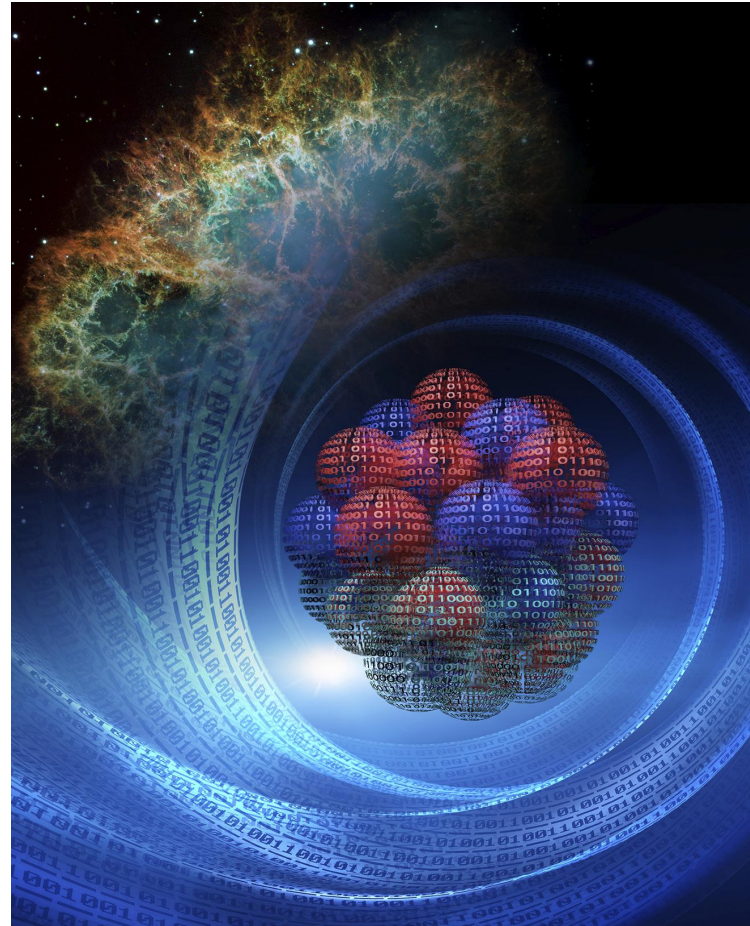
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Conclusion

We build large-scale, microscopic models for (astro) applications.

Large-scale = thousands of nuclei and many observables.

Microscopic = rooted in many-body theory



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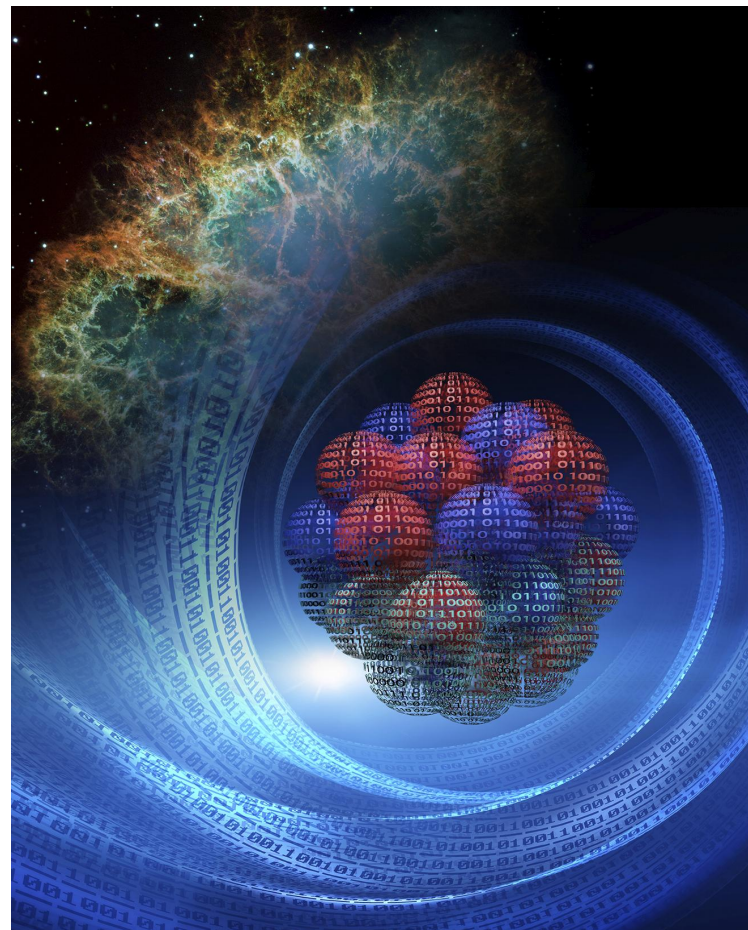
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The BSkG models

- excellent description of masses and charge radii
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- constant exchange with experiment



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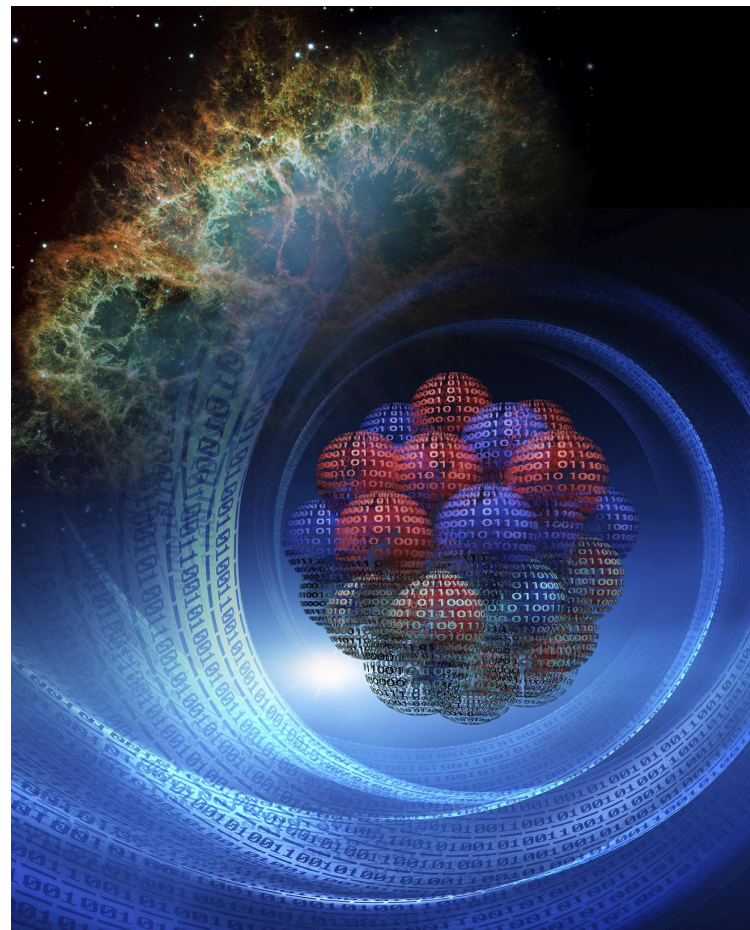
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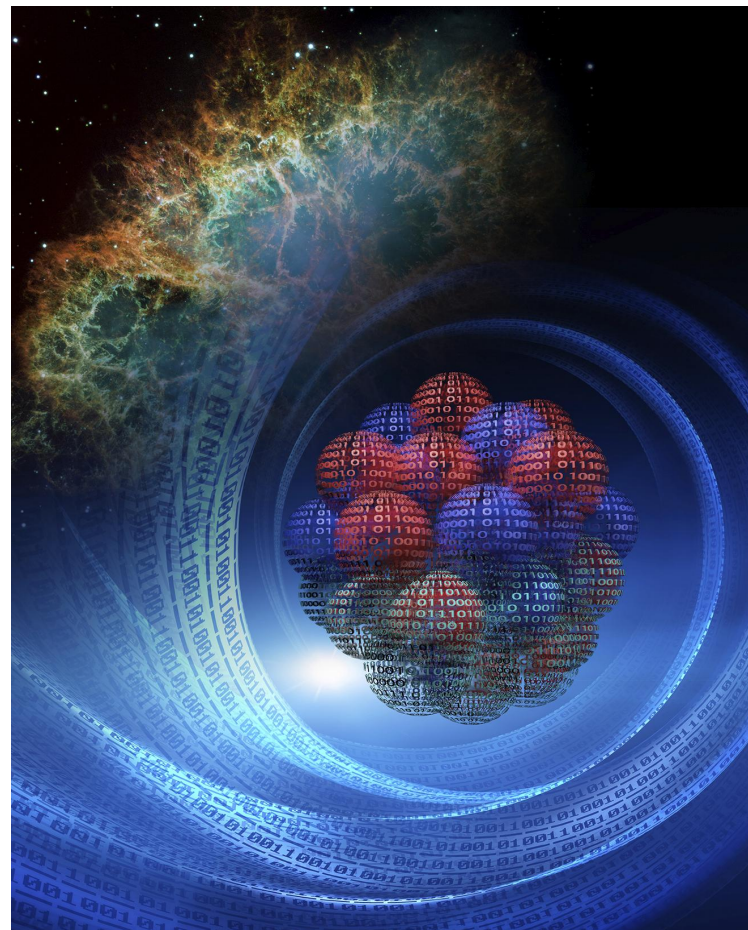
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Towards a consistent set of microscopic nuclear data!



Thank you for...

..... all the wonderful work!



N. Chamel
S. Goriely
G. Grams
P. Demol
A. Sanchez-Fernandez
N. Shchepochin



S. Hilaire



M. Bender

S. Bara



G. Scamps

+ several experimental teams

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..... the computing time!



EuroHPC
Joint Undertaking

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..... all the wonderful work!



N. Chamel
S. Goriely
G. Grams
P. Demol
A. Sanchez-Fernandez
N. Shchepochin



S. Hilaire



M. Bender



G. Scamps



S. Bara

+ several experimental teams

..... the computing time!



EuroHPC
Joint Undertaking

..... the funding!



.... your attention!