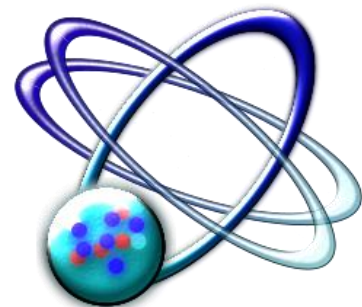


# New alpha particle radioactivity



PhyNet

Florian MERCIER  
IJCLab, PhyNet

Collaborators :

**Jie Zhao**, CCS, Shenzhen University

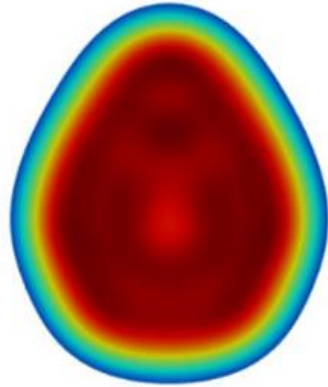
**Jean-Paul Ebran**, CEA DAM, Paris Saclay University

**Elias Khan**, IJCLab, Paris Saclay University

**Dario Vretenar**, Physics Department, Zagreb University

**Tamara Niksic**, Physics Department, Zagreb University

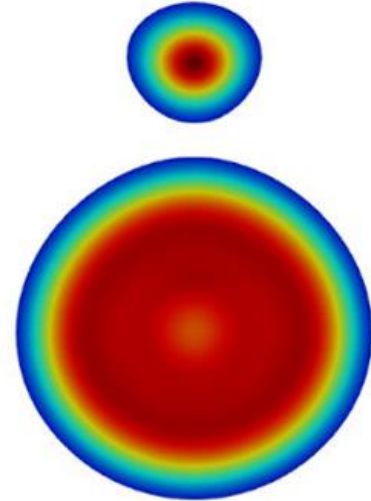
# Microscopic description of radioactivity



Initial state

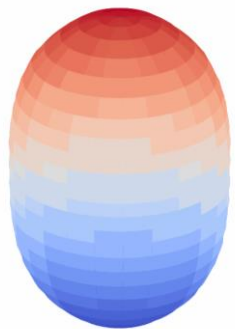


Is it possible to find a continuous transformation between initial and final state ?

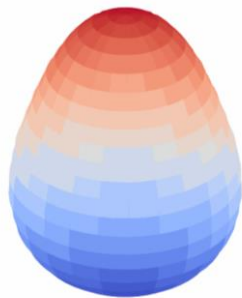


Final state

# Microscopic description of radioactivity



Quadrupole  $\beta_2$

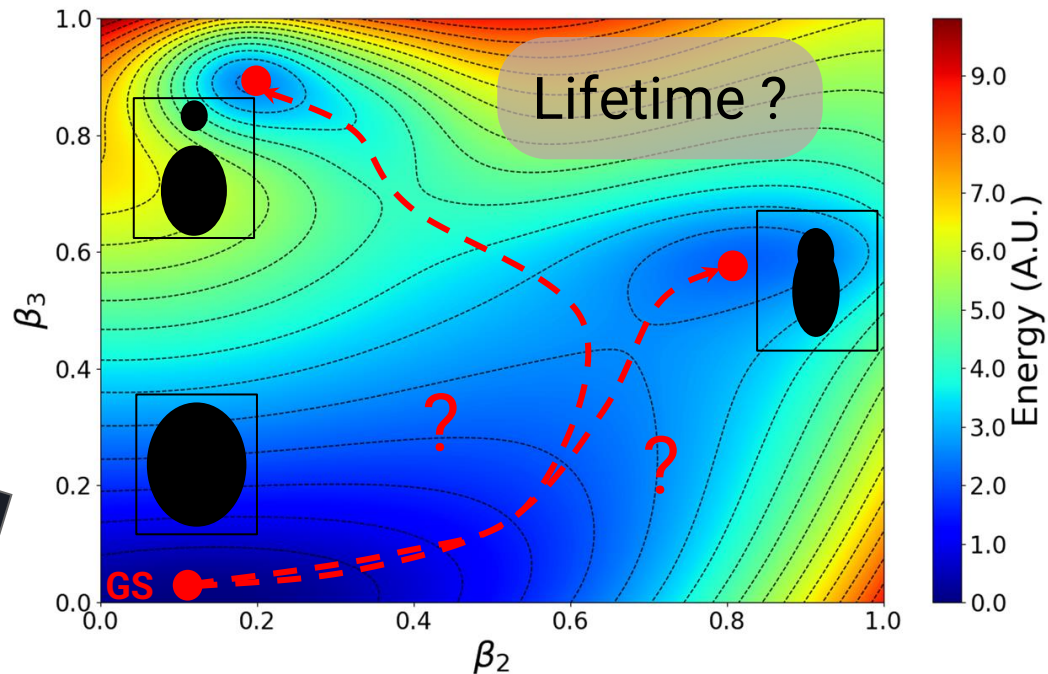


Octupole  $\beta_3$

Constrain these parameters and  
compute the associated energy  
for each of these states

$$E(\beta_2, \beta_3)$$

Example of a Potential Energy Surface (PES)



# Lifetime computation

What quantity do we need to minimize to find the “good” path ?

$$S(L) = \int_{s_{\text{in}}}^{s_{\text{out}}} \frac{1}{\hbar} \sqrt{2\mathcal{M}_{\text{eff}}(s) [V_{\text{eff}}(s) - E_0]} ds$$

Inertial (effective) mass : information about the dynamic.  
Computed using Adiabatic Time Dependent Hartree Fock Bogoluibov method (ATDHFB) and perturbative cranking approximation

PES : information about the energy cost of a certain path. Computed at RHB level with covariant EDF (DD-PC1, DD-ME2 and PC-PK1)

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{eff}} = \hbar^2 M_{(1)}^{-1} M_{(3)} M_{(1)}^{-1}$$

$$[M_{(k)}]_{ij} = \sum_{\mu\nu} \frac{\langle 0 | \hat{Q}_i | \mu\nu \rangle \langle \mu\nu | \hat{Q}_j | 0 \rangle}{(E_\mu + E_\nu)^k}$$

$$\delta S = 0 \longrightarrow \tau \approx A \exp[2S(L)]$$

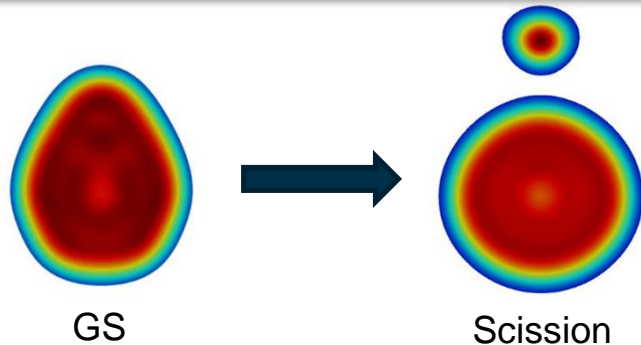
WKB

# Lifetime computation

Minimizing the action in two steps :

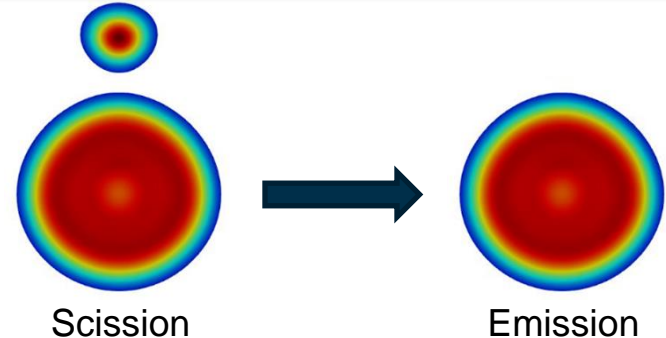
## I – From ground state to scission

- Computation of the PES with fully self-consistent calculations
- Stop the calculations when the good number of nucleons is reached in the clusters
- Minimize the action w.r.t.  $\beta_2$  and  $\beta_3$

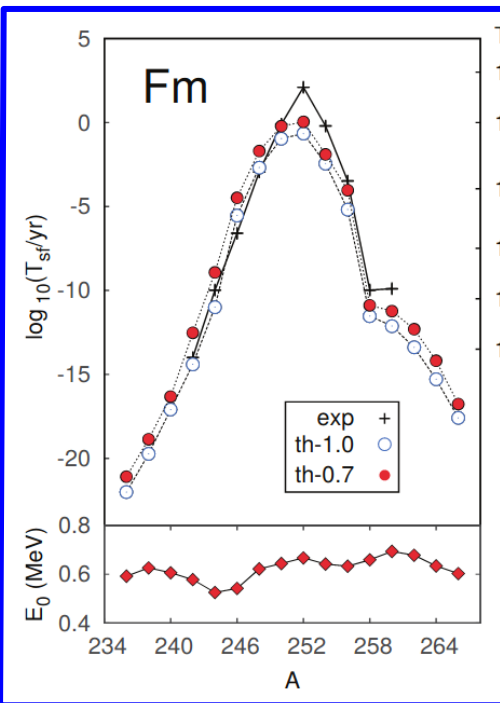


## II – From scission to emission

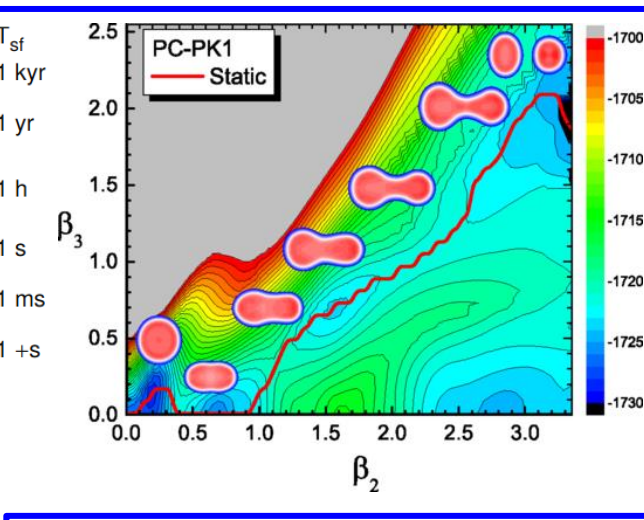
- Only Coulomb  $V_{eff} = V_C = e^2 \frac{Z_1 Z_2}{R} - Q$
- Classical approximation for inertial mass in terms of  $R$ .
- Minimize the action w.r.t.  $R$ .



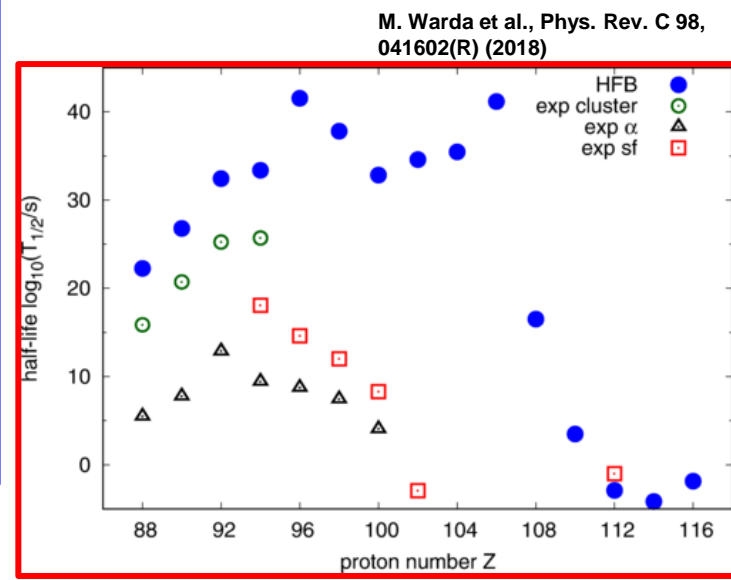
# Previous results for cluster emission and fission



N. Schunck and L M Robledo,  
Reports on Progress in Physics,  
Volume 79, Number 11 (2016)



H. Tao, J. Zhao, Z. P. Li, T. Nikšić, and D. Vretnar, Phys. Rev. C 96, 024319 (2017)



M. Warda et al., Phys. Rev. C 98, 041602(R) (2018)



Successful application to **fission** and **cluster radioactivity**

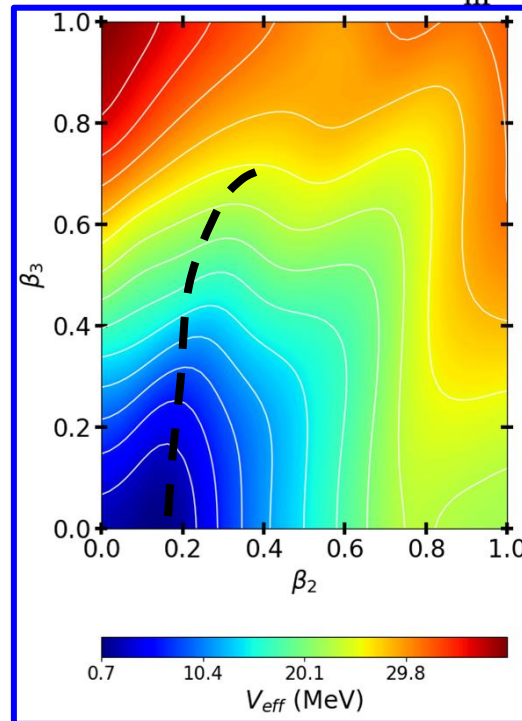
What about  $\alpha$  decay ?

# Results for $\alpha$ decay of $^{108}\text{Xe}$ and $^{104}\text{Te}$

F. Mercier et al., Phys. Rev. C 102, 011301(R) (2020)

$^{104}\text{Te}$

$$S(L) = \int_{s_{\text{in}}}^{s_{\text{out}}} \frac{1}{\hbar} \sqrt{2\mathcal{M}_{\text{eff}}(s) [V_{\text{eff}}(s) - E_0]} ds$$



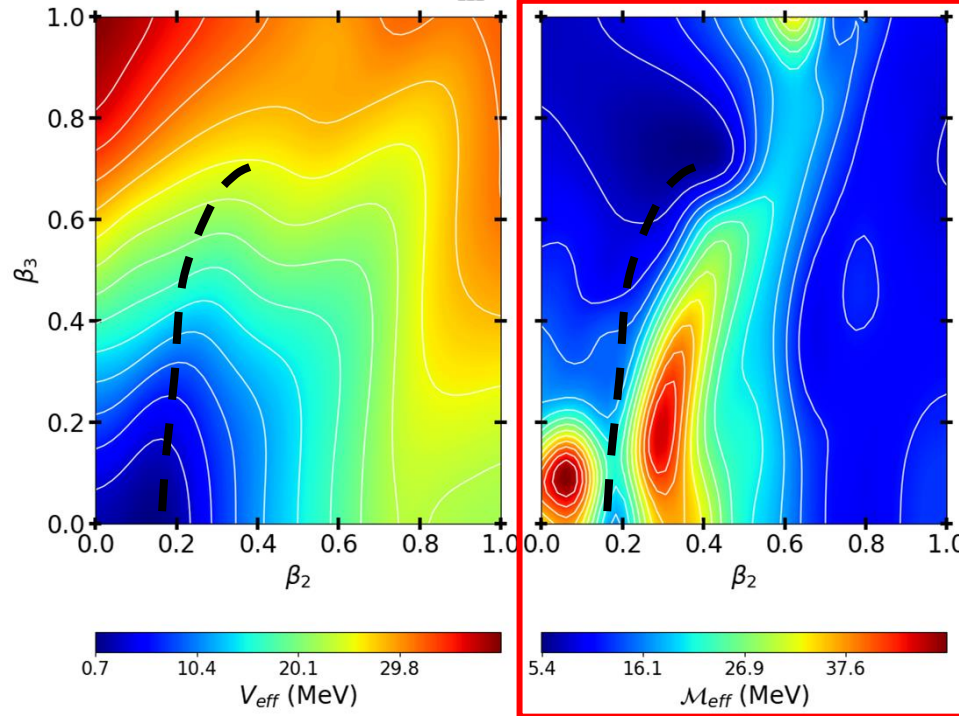


# Results for $\alpha$ decay of $^{108}\text{Xe}$ and $^{104}\text{Te}$

F. Mercier et al., Phys. Rev. C 102, 011301(R) (2020)

$^{104}\text{Te}$

$$S(L) = \int_{s_{\text{in}}}^{s_{\text{out}}} \frac{1}{\hbar} \sqrt{2\mathcal{M}_{\text{eff}}(s) [V_{\text{eff}}(s) - E_0]} ds$$



# Results for $\alpha$ decay of $^{108}\text{Xe}$ and $^{104}\text{Te}$

F. Mercier et al., Phys. Rev. C 102, 011301(R) (2020)

$^{104}\text{Te}$

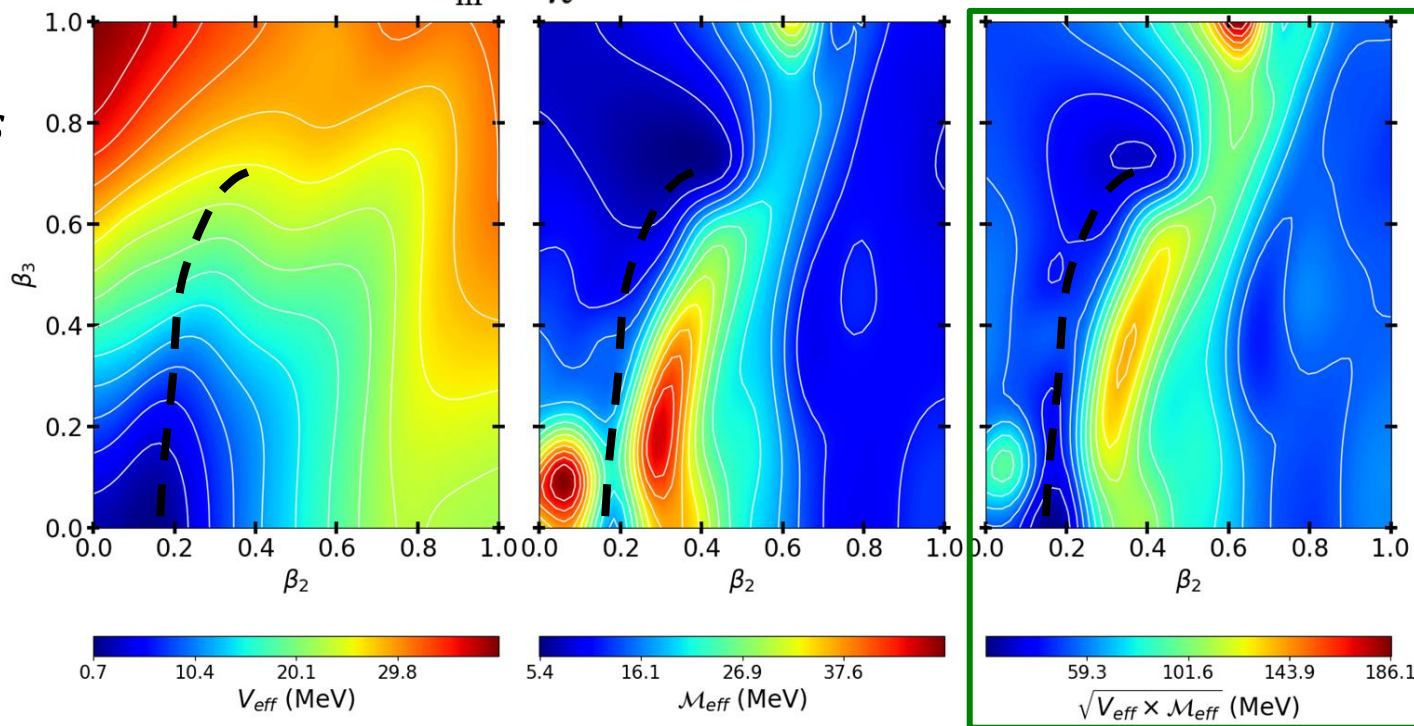
$$S(L) = \int_{s_{\text{in}}}^{s_{\text{out}}} \frac{1}{\hbar} \sqrt{2\mathcal{M}_{\text{eff}}(s) [V_{\text{eff}}(s) - E_0]} ds$$

$$\tau_{th}^{^{104}\text{Te}} = 192 \mu\text{s}$$

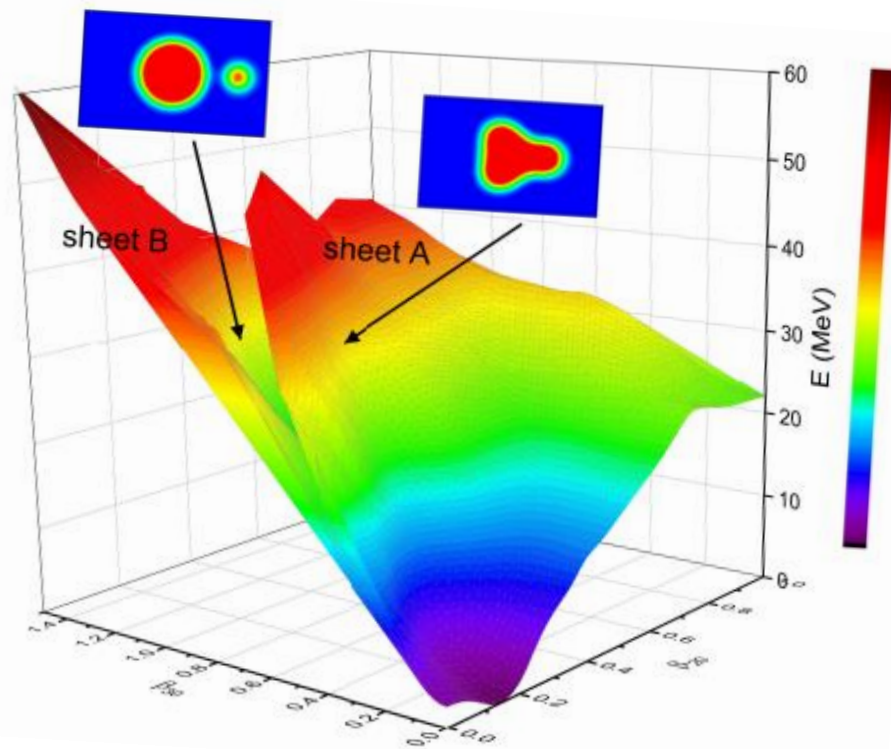
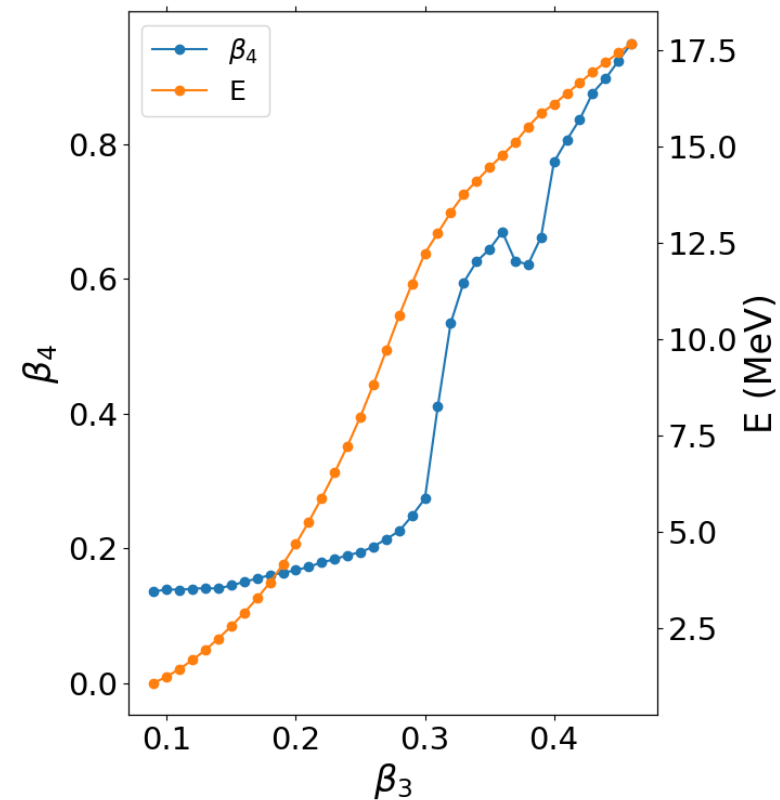
$$\tau_{exp}^{^{104}\text{Te}} < 18 \mu\text{s}$$

$$\tau_{th}^{^{108}\text{Xe}} = 50 \mu\text{s}$$

$$\tau_{exp}^{^{108}\text{Xe}} = 58 \mu\text{s}$$



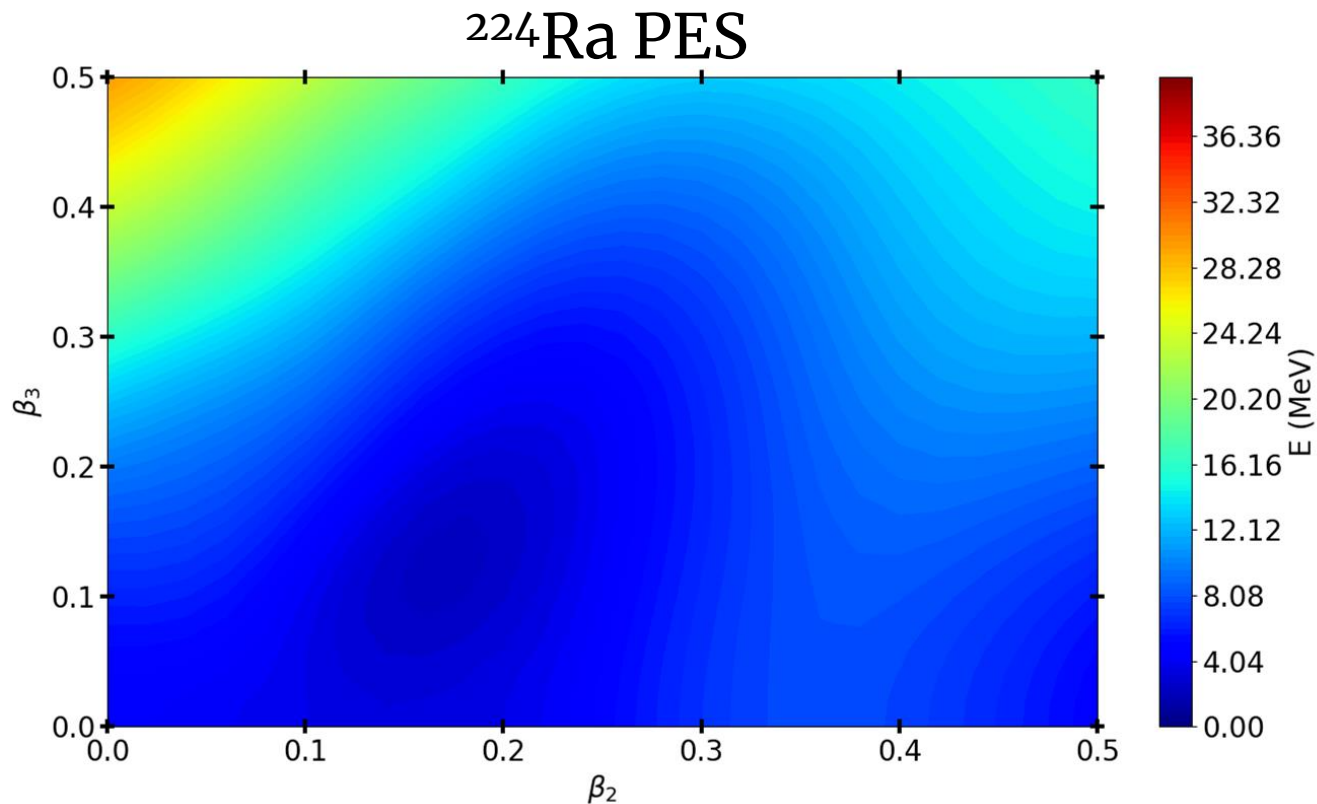
# Discontinuity in $\beta_4$ for $^{104}\text{Te}$



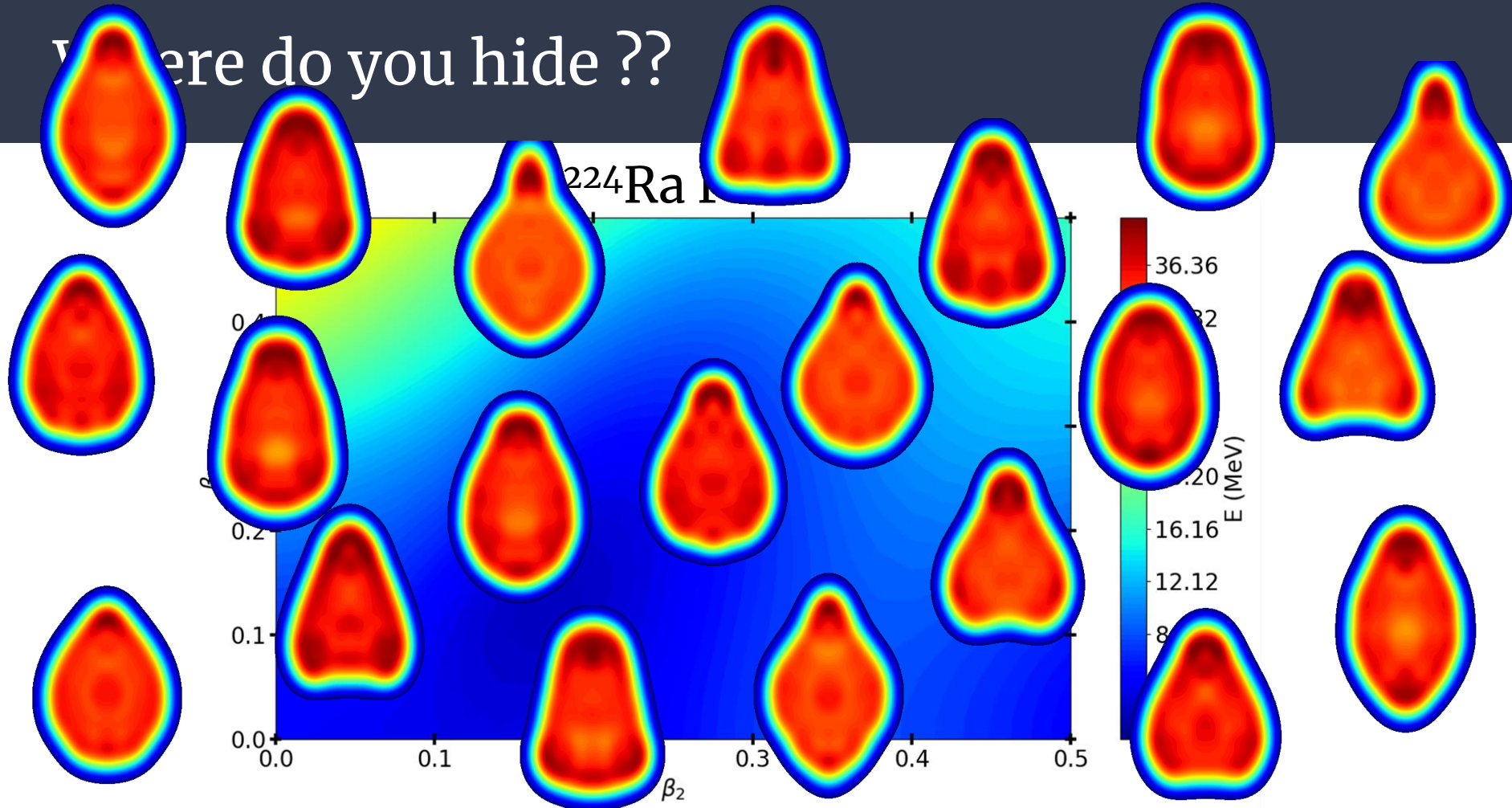
Application to heavier nuclei ...

... or the problem of finding an  $\alpha$  !

# Where do you hide ??

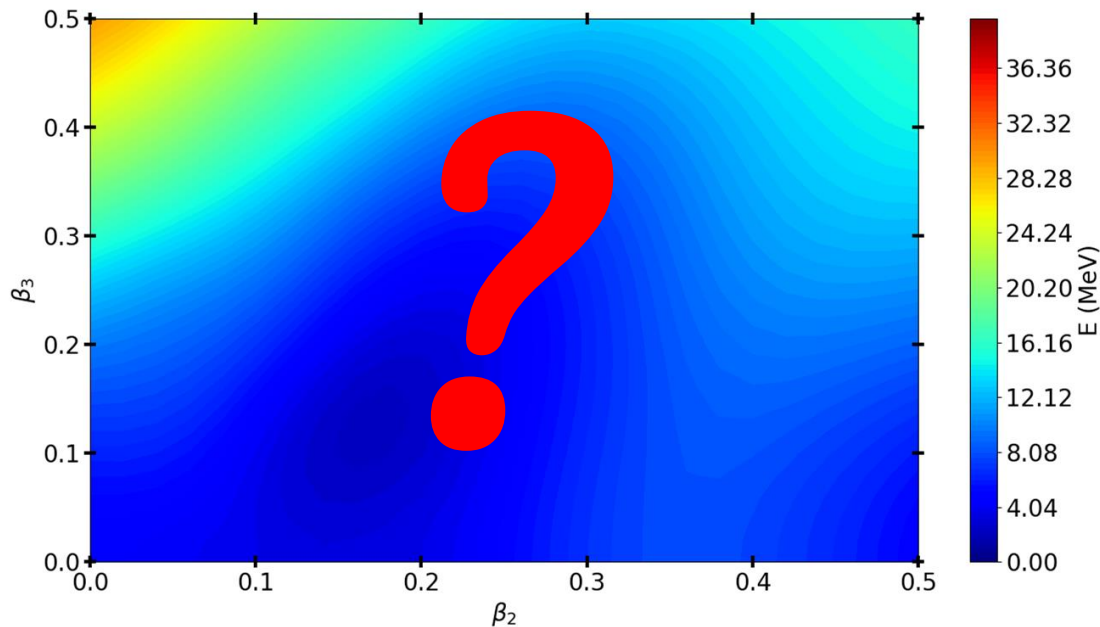


Where do you hide ??



# Where do you hide ??

$^{224}\text{Ra}$  PES



Does not mean it does not exist !

We need to understand what it means to preform and emit an  $\alpha$  from the deformation point of view !

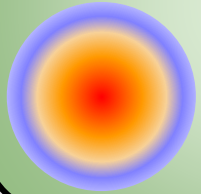


Simply put two spheres on top of each others and compute the deformation parameters

# Where do you hide ??

Geometrical model

$A = 220$

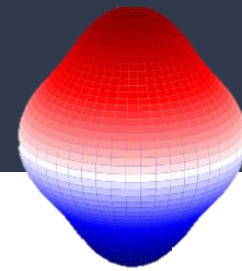


$A = 4$

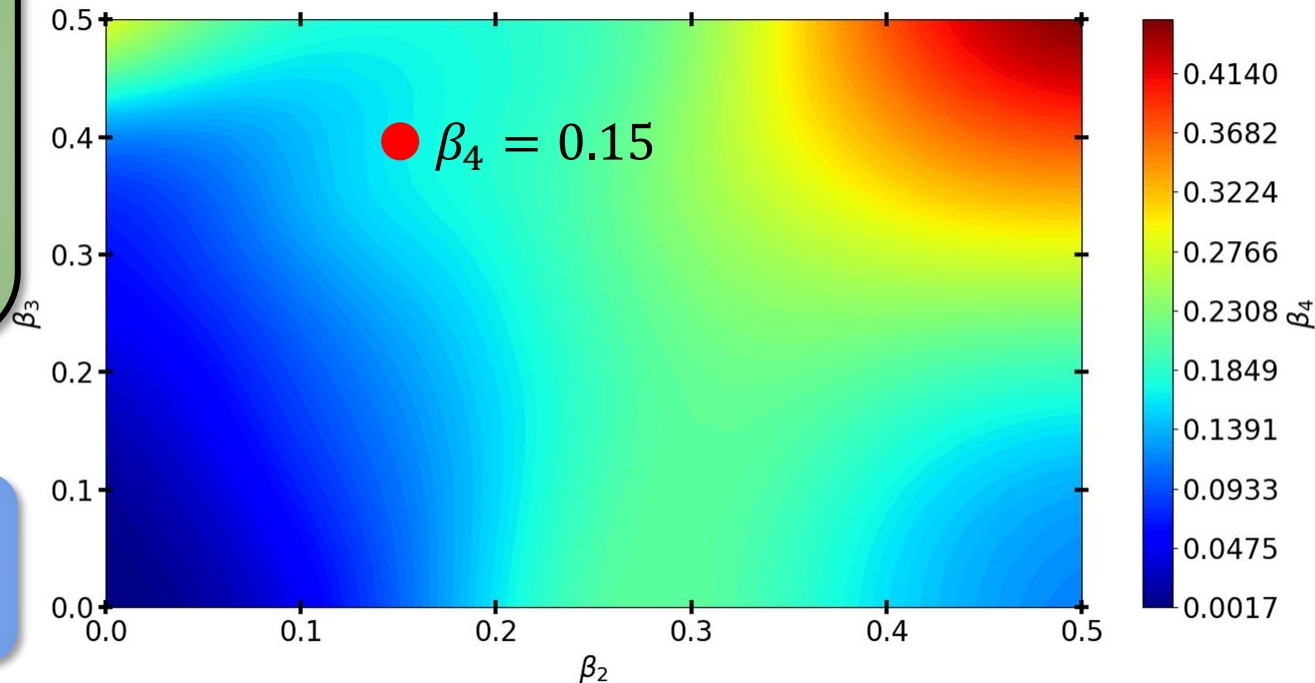




# Where do you hide ??



$^{224}\text{Ra}$   $\beta_4$  values

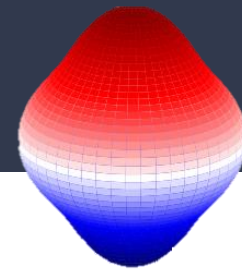


Geometrical model

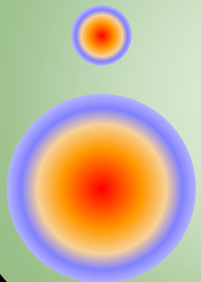


We need to constrain the hexadecapole moment to see an  $\alpha$  cluster !

# Where do you hide ??



Geometrical model



$$\beta_2 = 0.15$$

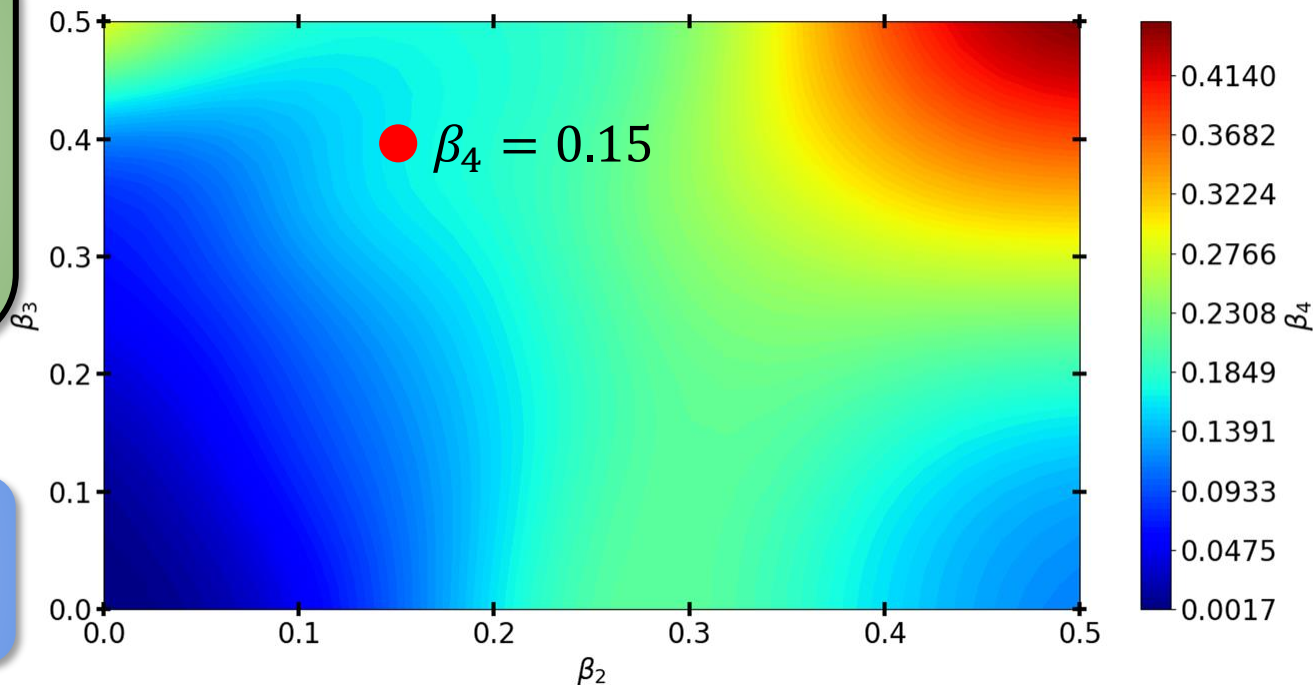
$$\beta_3 = 0.4$$

$$\beta_4 = 0.7$$



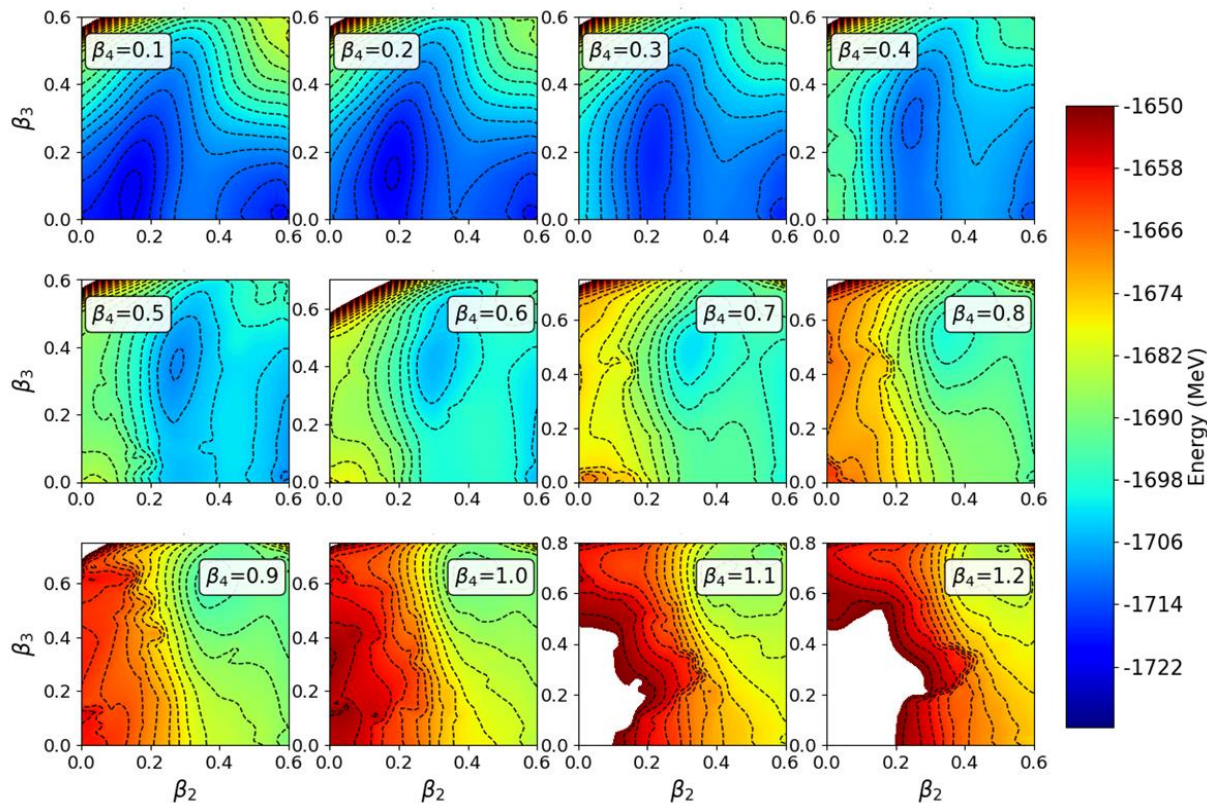
We need to constrain the hexadecapole moment to see an  $\alpha$  cluster !

$^{224}\text{Ra}$   $\beta_4$  values



# 3D PES for $^{224}\text{Ra}$

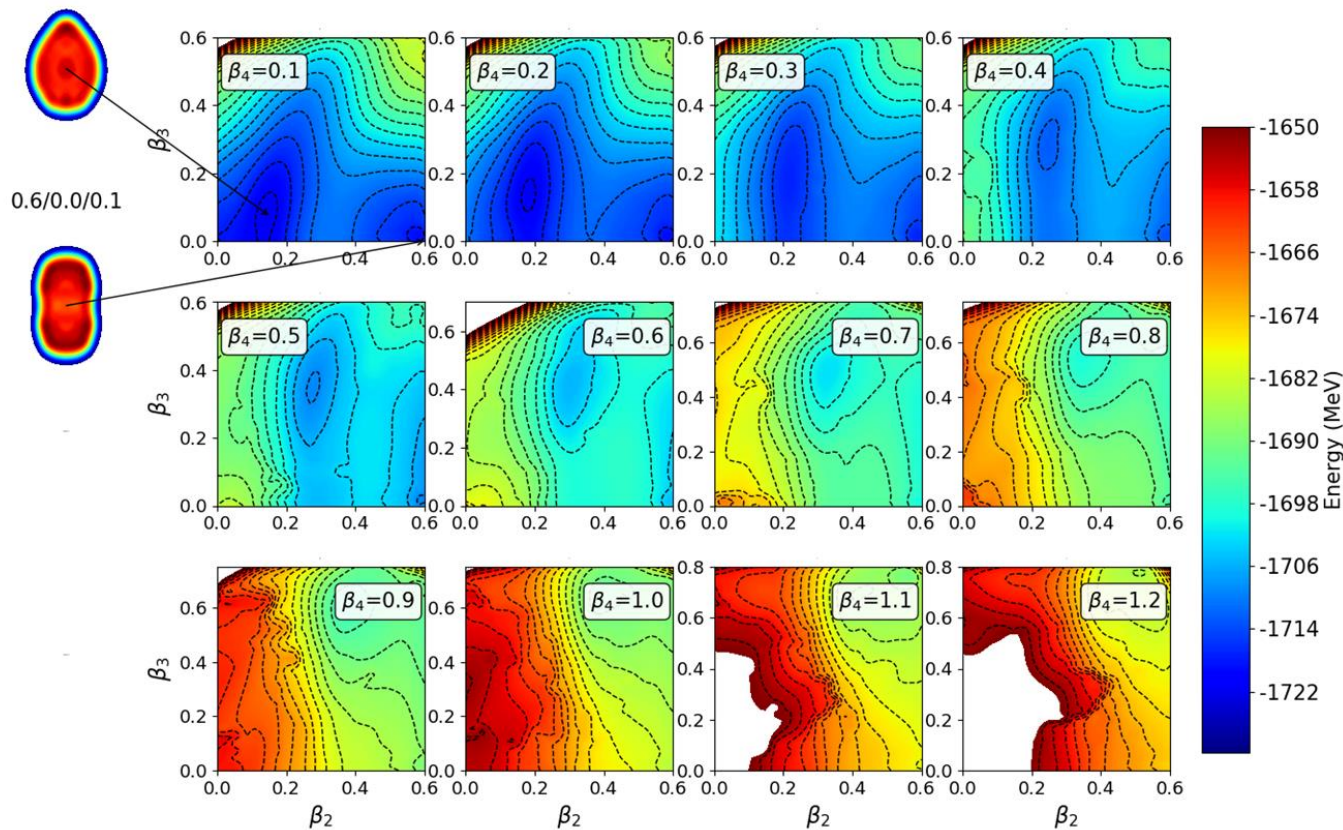
F. Mercier et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 012501 (2021)



# 3D PES for $^{224}\text{Ra}$

F. Mercier et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 012501 (2021)

0.15/0.075/0.1

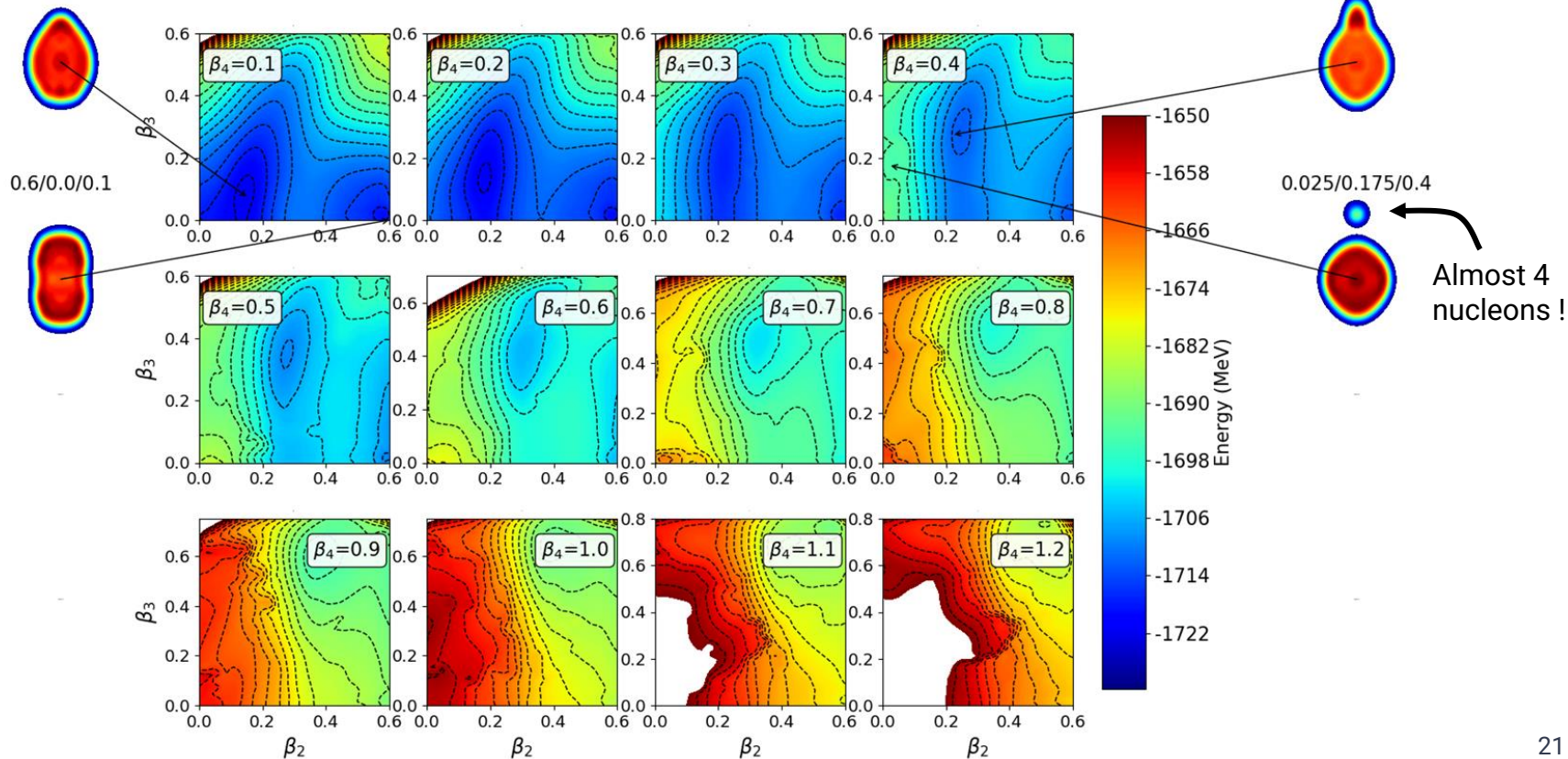


# 3D PES for $^{224}\text{Ra}$

F. Mercier et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 012501 (2021)

0.15/0.075/0.1

0.225/0.275/0.4

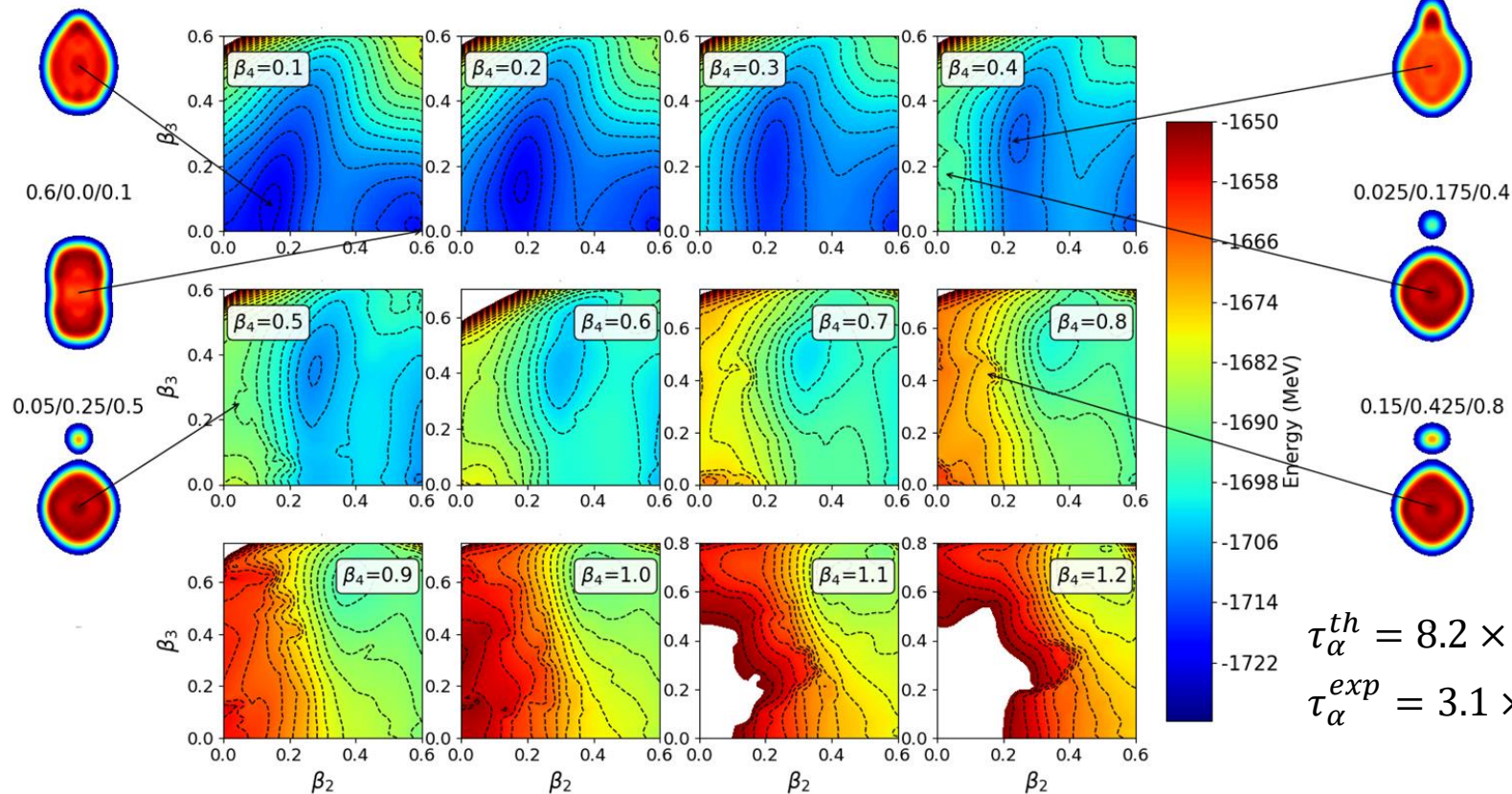


# 3D PES for $^{224}\text{Ra}$

F. Mercier et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 012501 (2021)

0.15/0.075/0.1

0.225/0.275/0.4

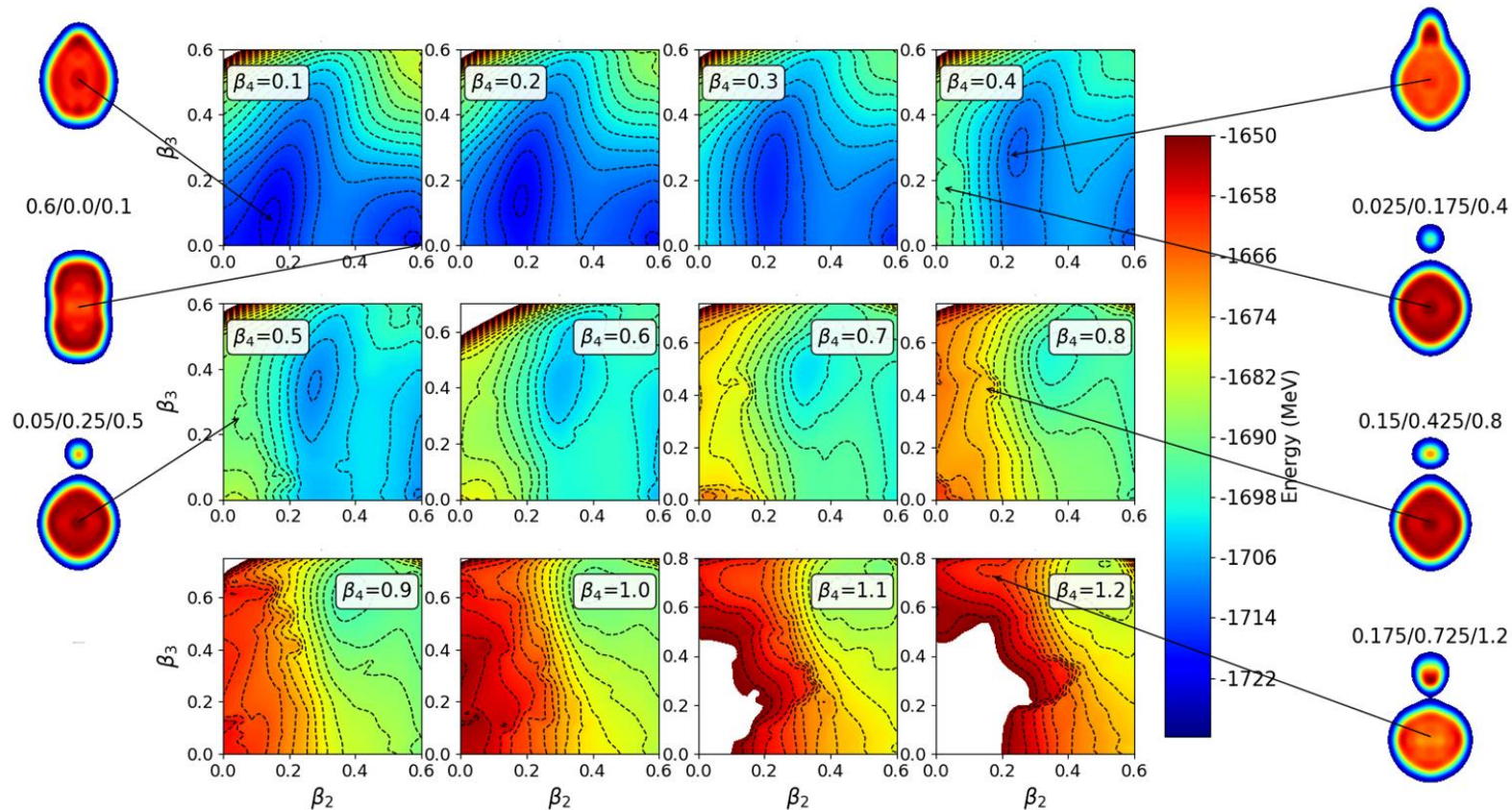


# 3D PES for $^{224}\text{Ra}$

F. Mercier et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 012501 (2021)

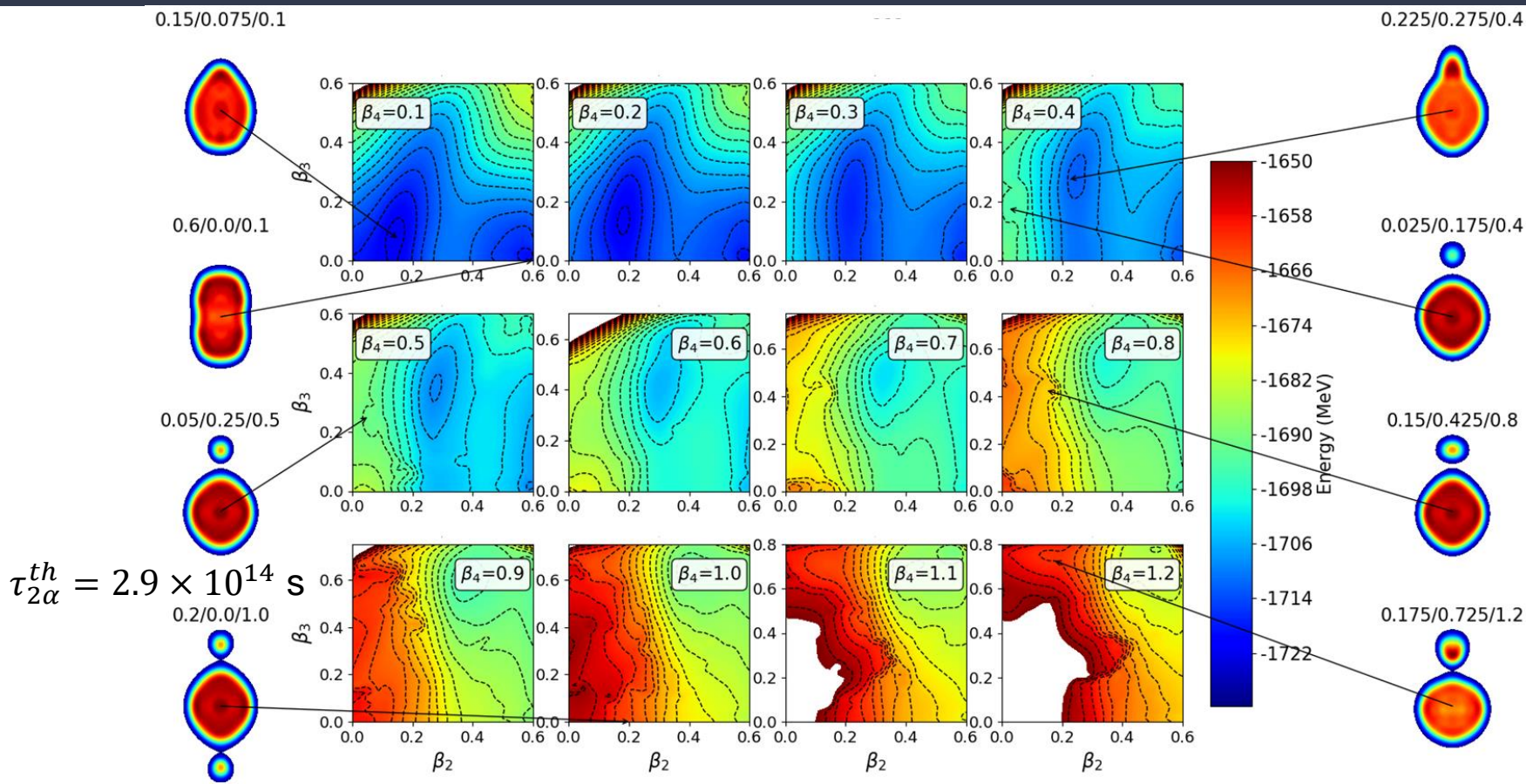
0.15/0.075/0.1

0.225/0.275/0.4



# 3D PES for $^{224}\text{Ra}$

F. Mercier et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 012501 (2021)





# Details on $2\alpha$ decay of $^{224}\text{Ra}$ : pairing et parametrization

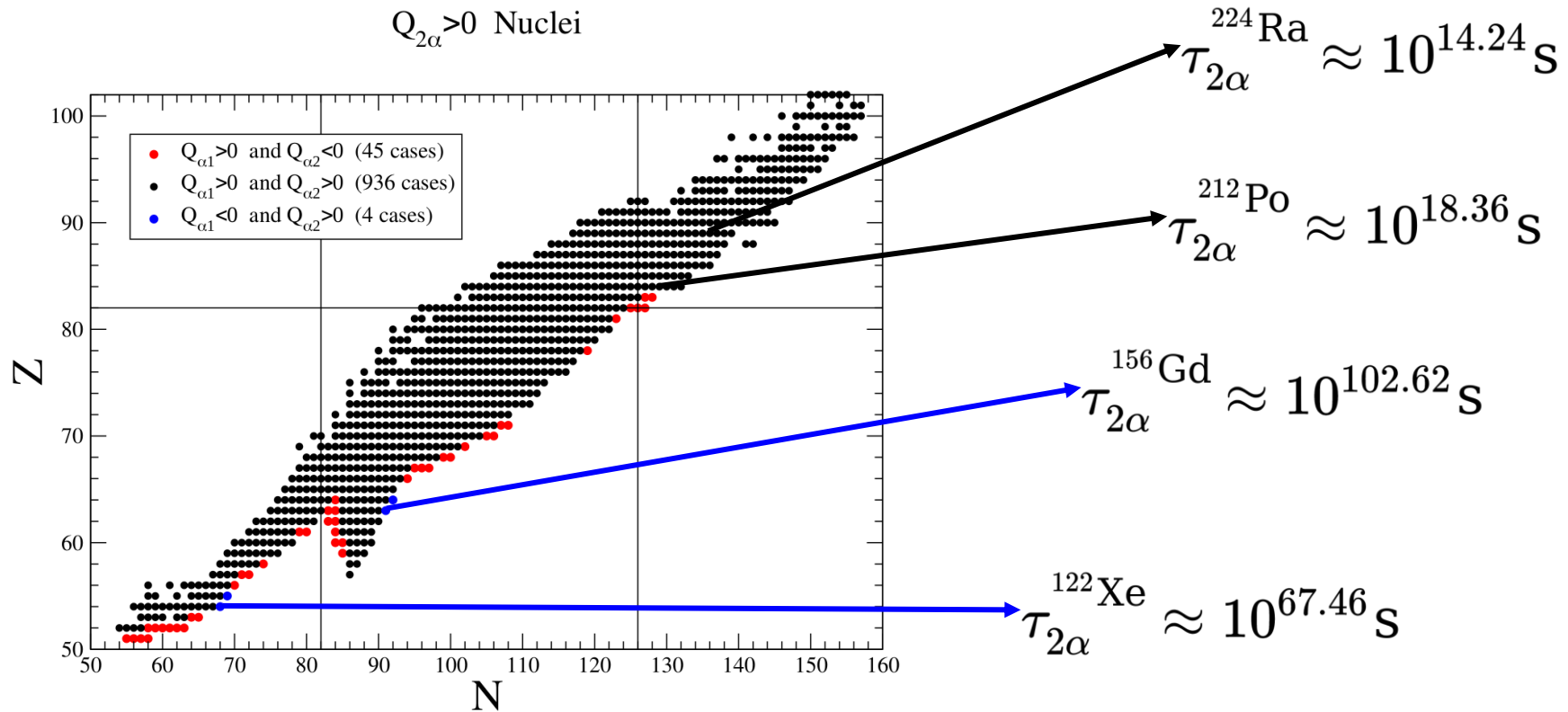
Interaction	Pairing parameters	Action from GS to scission	Coulomb action	Lifetime (s)
DD-PC1	(1.0,1.0)	18.5	23.9	$\sim 10^{16.27}$
DD-PC1	(1.09,1.12)	16.2	23.9	$\sim 10^{14.24}$
DD-ME2	(1.09,1.12)	15.3	23.9	$\sim 10^{13.47}$
PC-PK1	(1.09,1.12)	15.0	23.9	$\sim 10^{13.25}$

Pairing adjusted to reproduce pairing gap of Gogny D1S interaction

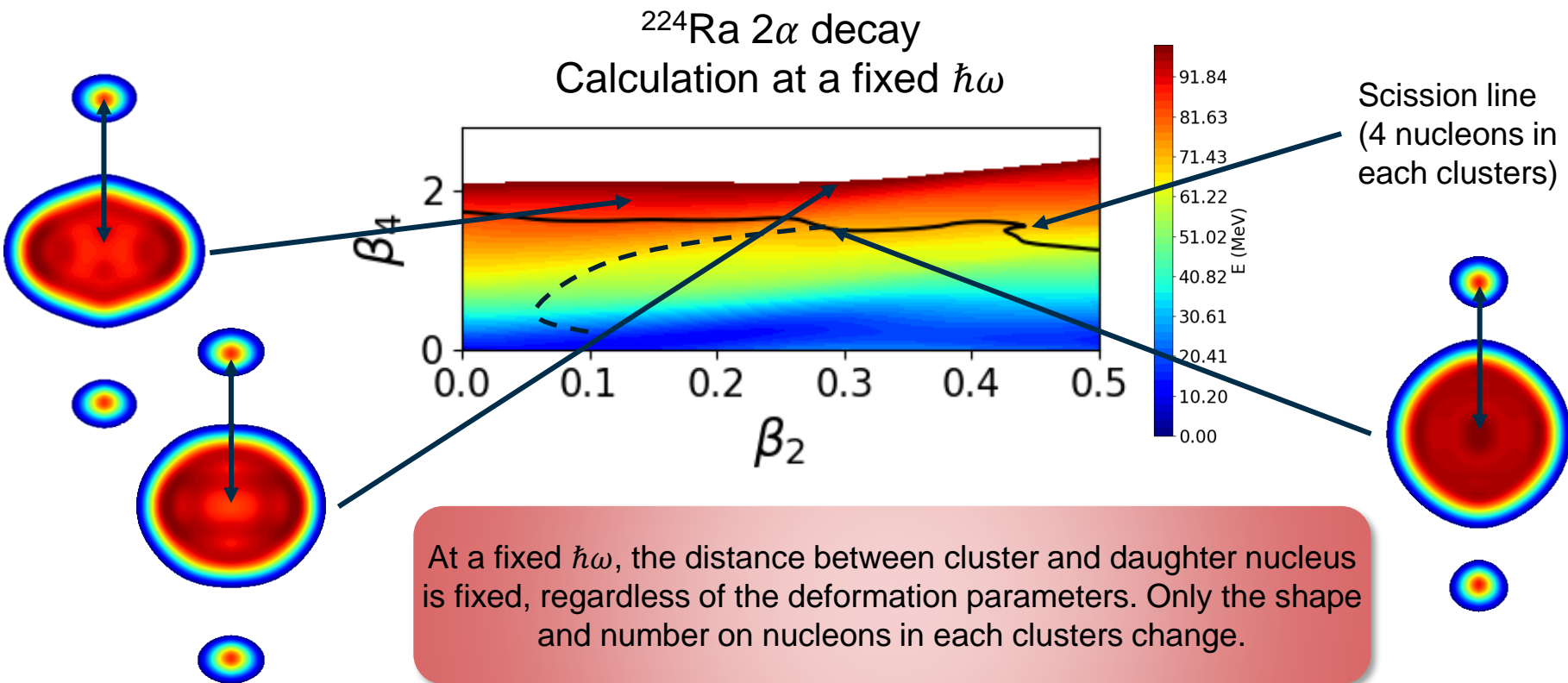
Pairing adjusted on pairing gap of  $^{224}\text{Ra}$

# What about $2\alpha$ emission in other nuclei?

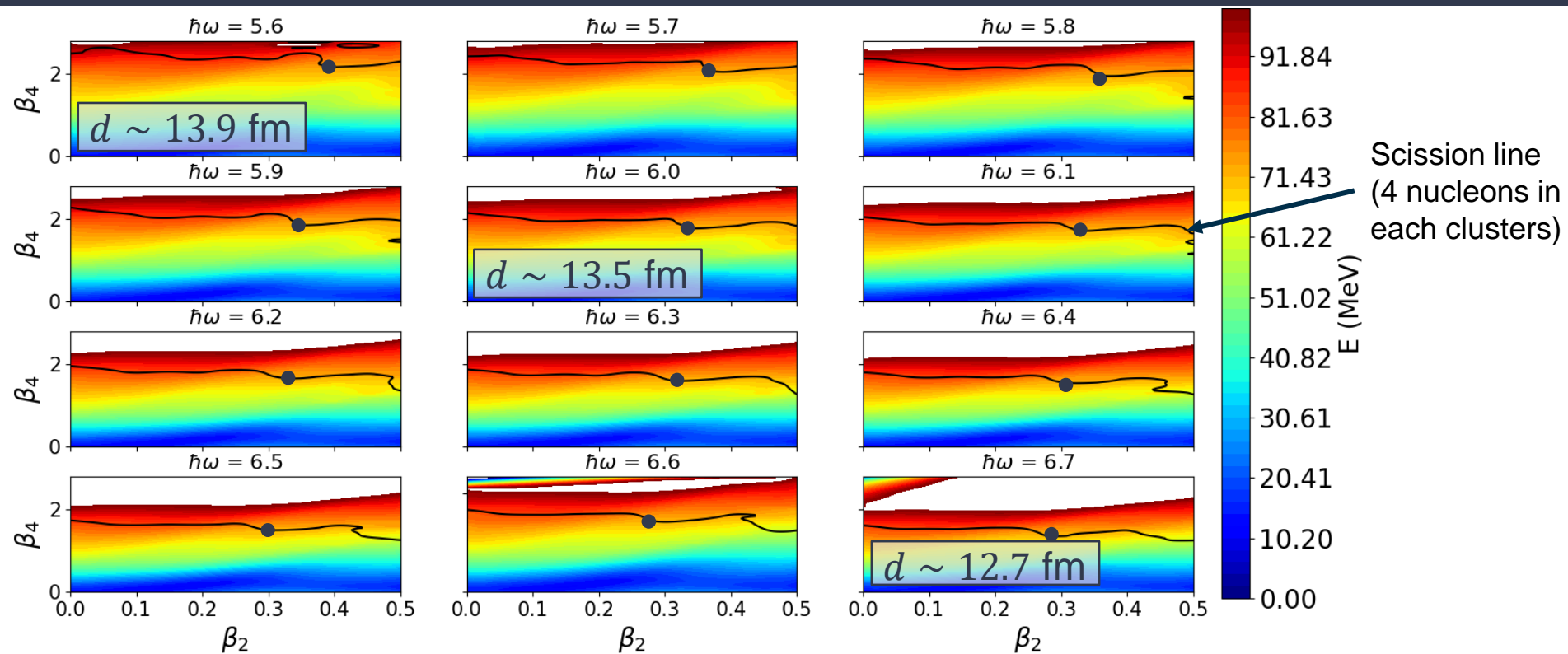
F. Mercier et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 012501 (2021)



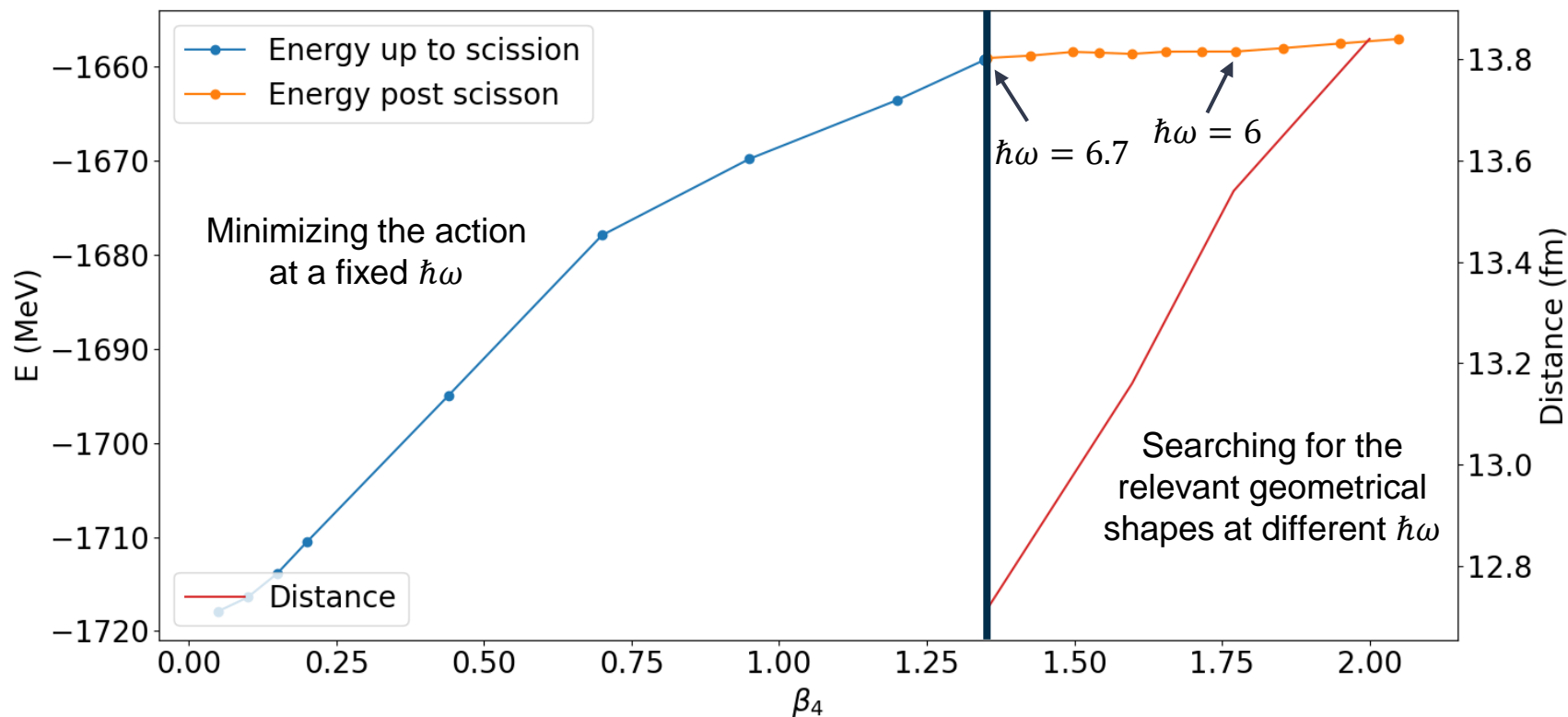
# « Nuclear many body dynamics through **barrier** »



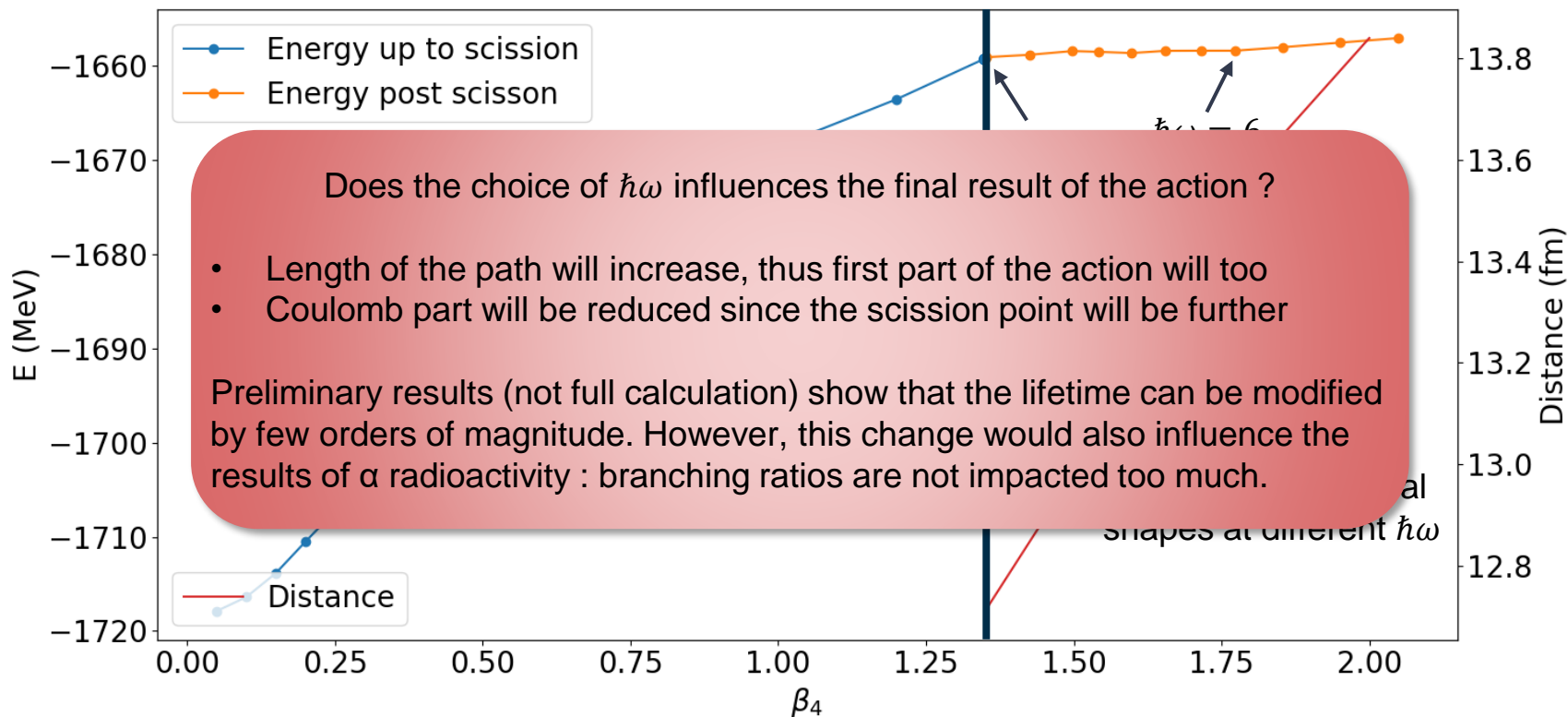
# « Nuclear many body dynamics through **barrier** »



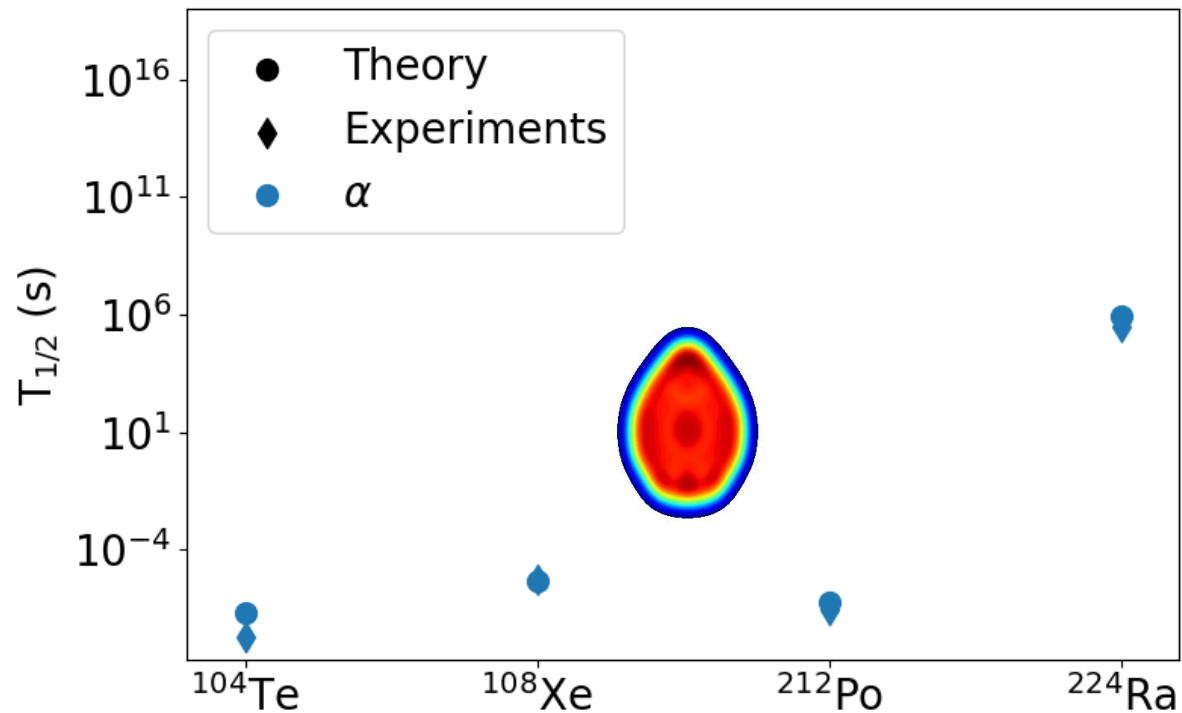
# « Nuclear many body dynamics through **barrier** »



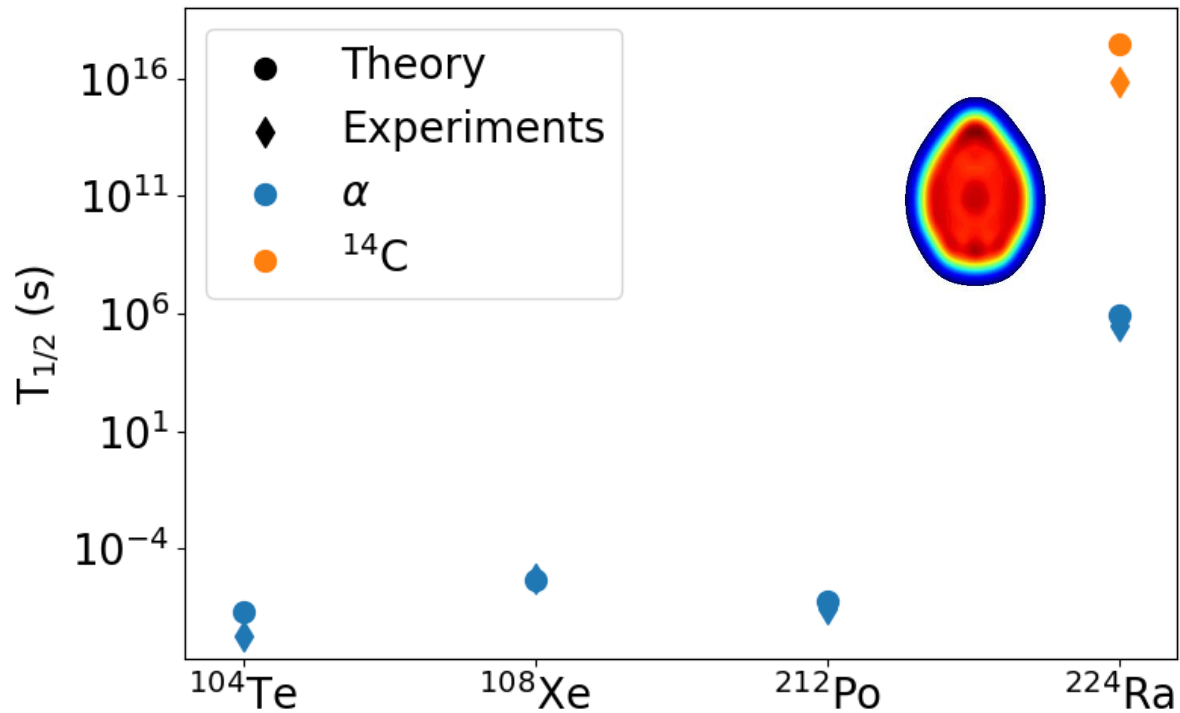
# « Nuclear many body dynamics through barrier »



# A single framework to describe ...

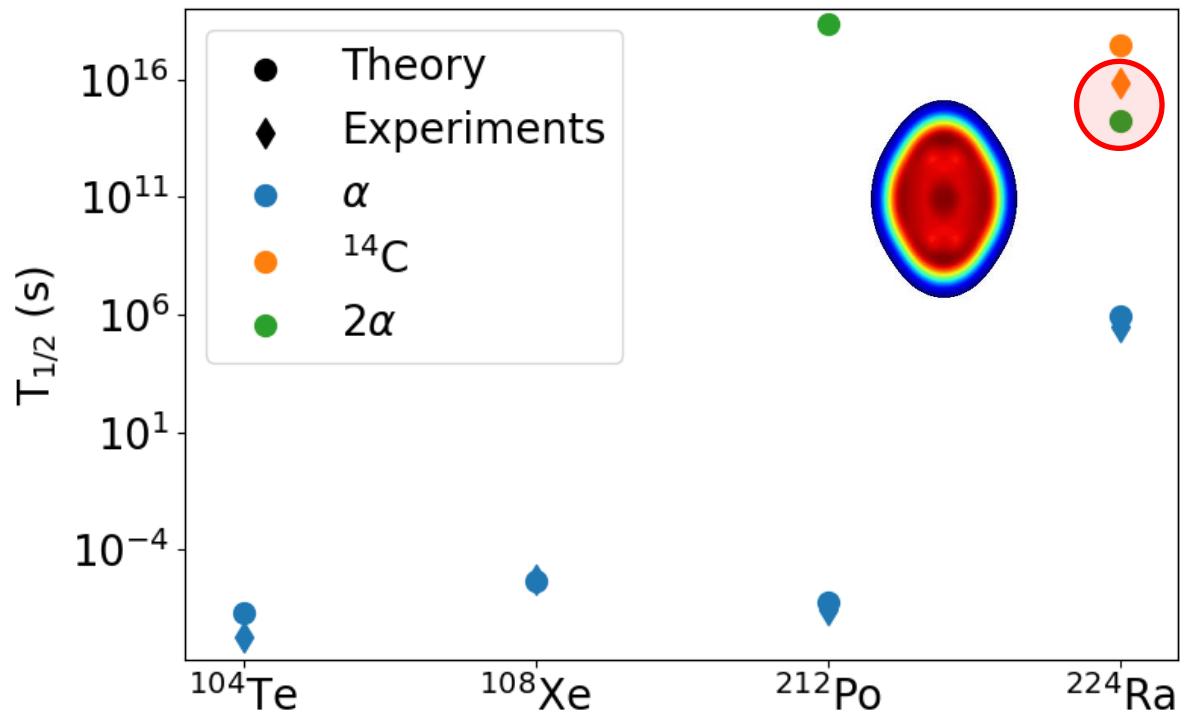


# A single framework to describe ...





# A single framework to describe ...



Experimental cluster decay lifetime and theoretical  $2\alpha$  decay lifetime are quite close !



Ongoing experiment at GSI  
*Hopefully upcoming* experiment at ISOLDE