

Cluster formation and emission in ^{294}Og

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"Nuclear Fission and Structure of Exotic Nuclei"

26 March 2019



Overarching questions

- How can we model fission yields?
- What is the mechanism responsible for the formation of fission fragments?
- Can we exploit our knowledge of the mechanism of fragment formation to compute fission yields in a fast, efficient way?

²⁹⁴Og

Produced at the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR) in Dubna, Russia by a collaboration of scientists from Dubna and LLNL using the reaction:



Its discovery was officially recognized in 2015.

With Z=118, it is currently the heaviest element to have been produced in a laboratory setting.

It decays primarily via alpha decay with a half-life around a millisecond. However...

Cluster emission in ^{294}Og ?

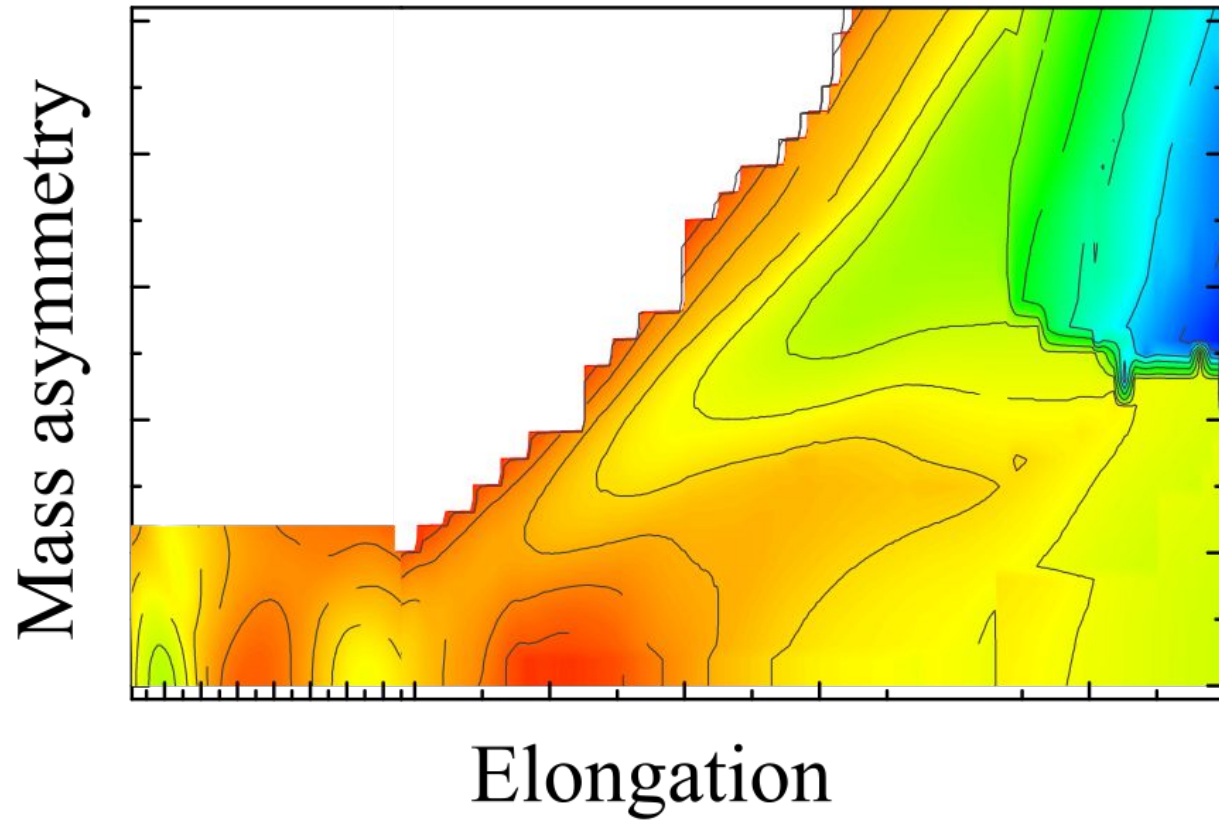
- Cluster emission is a decay channel in which a heavy actinide nucleus decays to ^{208}Pb (or something nearby) and a small nuclear cluster.
- Poenaru et al [PRC 85, 034615 (2012)] predicted using a phenomenological model that cluster emission may be the dominant fission channel in superheavy nuclei.
- Around the same time, Warda et al [PRC 84, 044608 (2011)] showed using a microscopic model that cluster emission can be thought of as highly-asymmetric fission.
- Using our microscopic fission model, we investigate the possibility of cluster emission in ^{294}Og .

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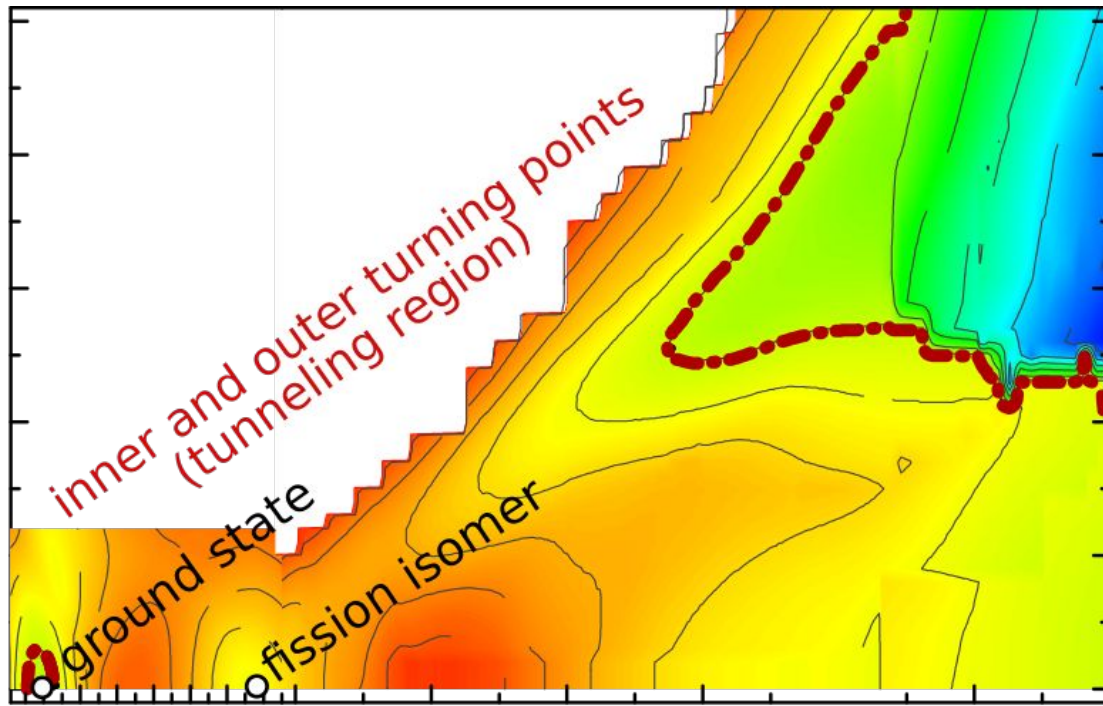
The model

- PES constructed using nuclear DFT
- Tunneling via WKB approximation
- Langevin dynamics between saddle and scission
- See J. Sadhukhan et al, Phys. Rev. C 93, 011304(R) (2016)



1. Use DFT to generate a potential energy surface and calculate the collective inertia.

Mass asymmetry



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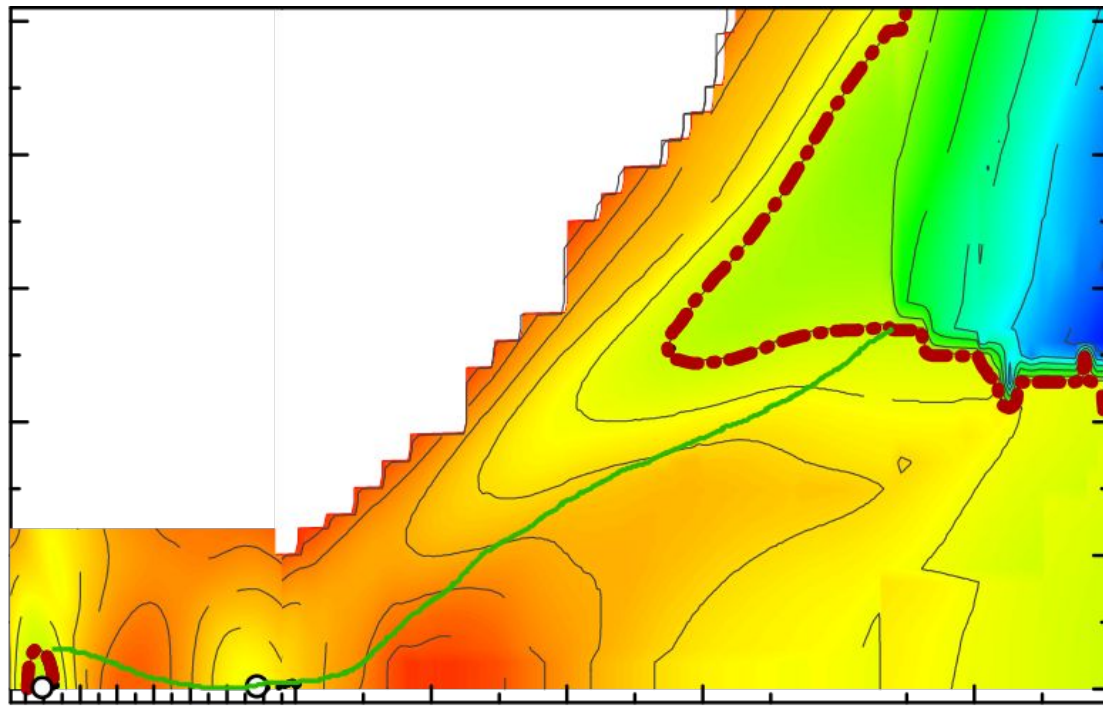
PES and Inertia

Tunneling

Dissipation

Fragments!

Mass asymmetry



Elongation

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2. Use WKB to compute tunneling probability by minimizing collective action.

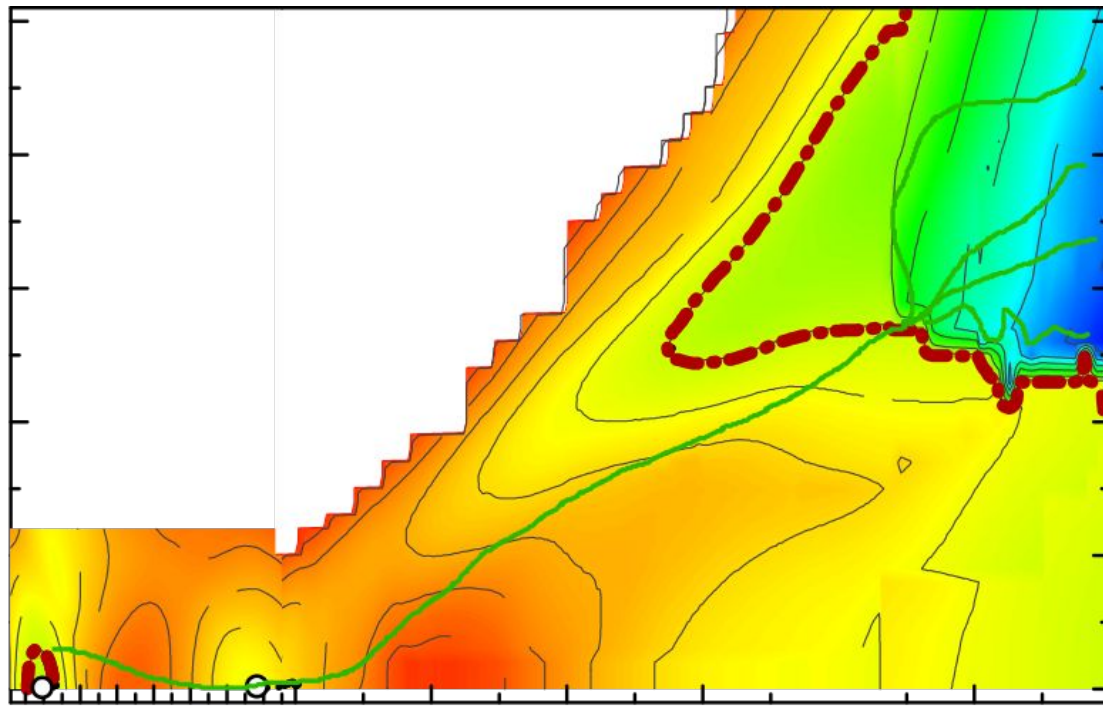
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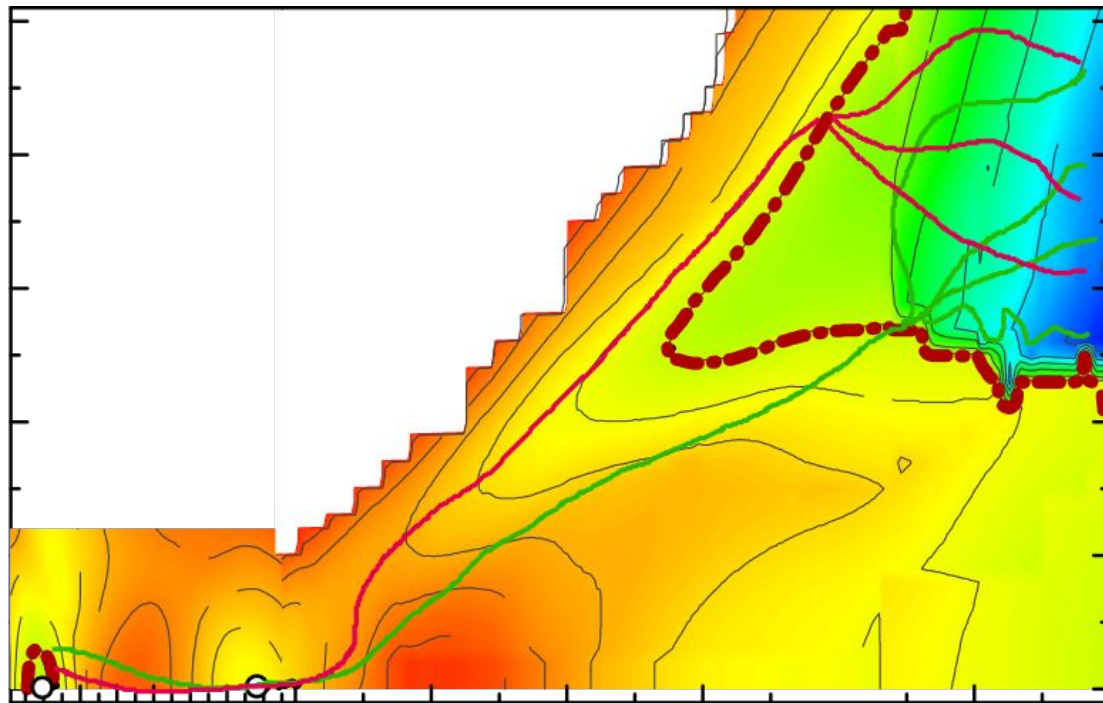
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3. Use Langevin dynamics to predict semiclassical motion outside of tunneling region.
4. Repeat over many trajectories to compute yields.

PES and Inertia

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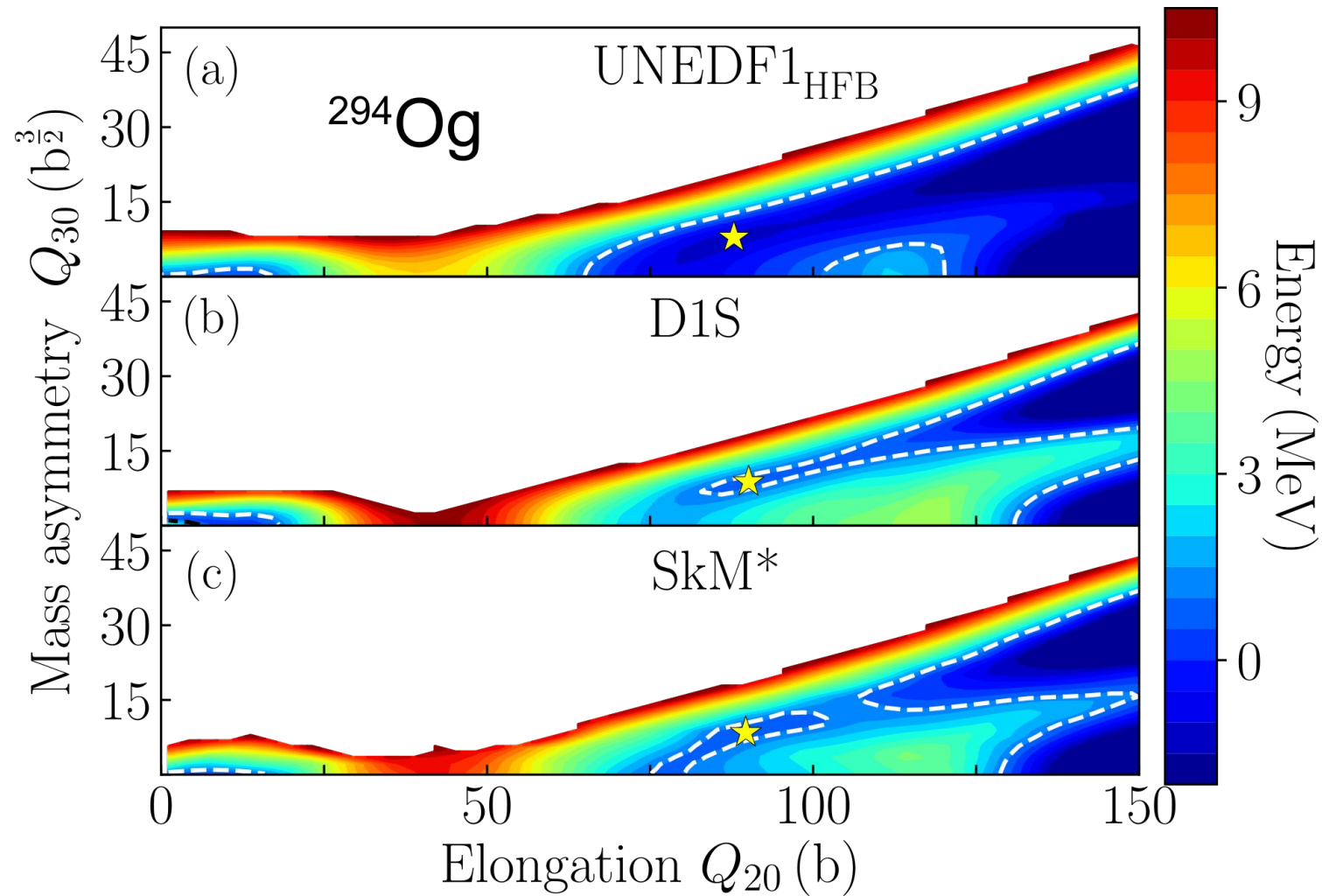
Fragments!

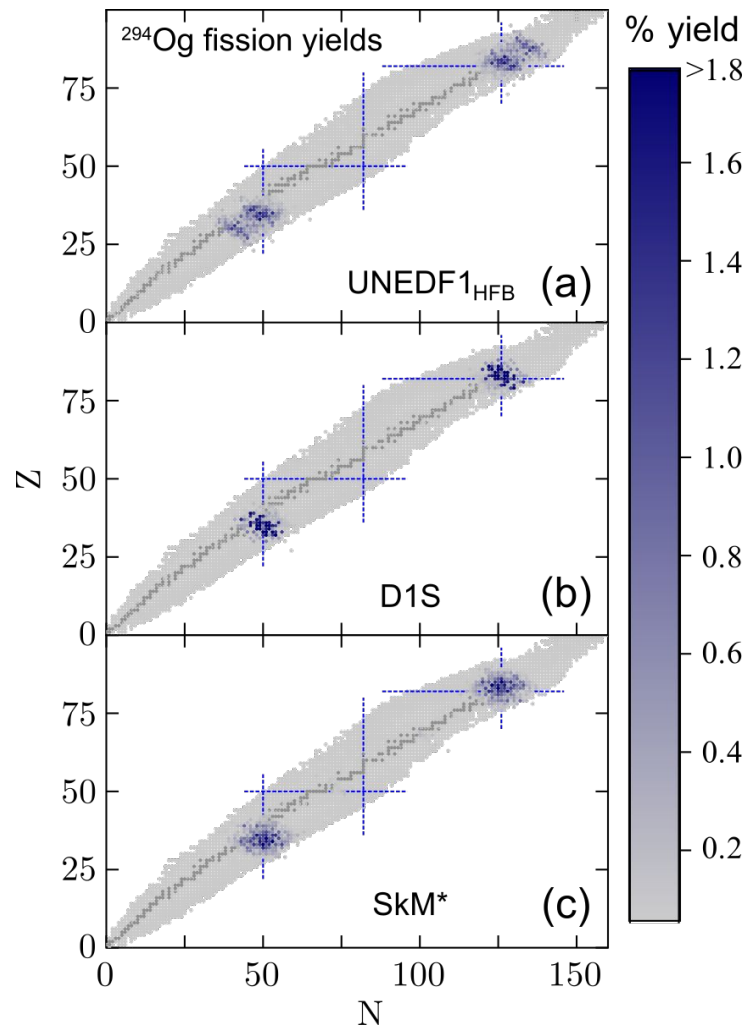
Using ^{294}Og to assess model errors

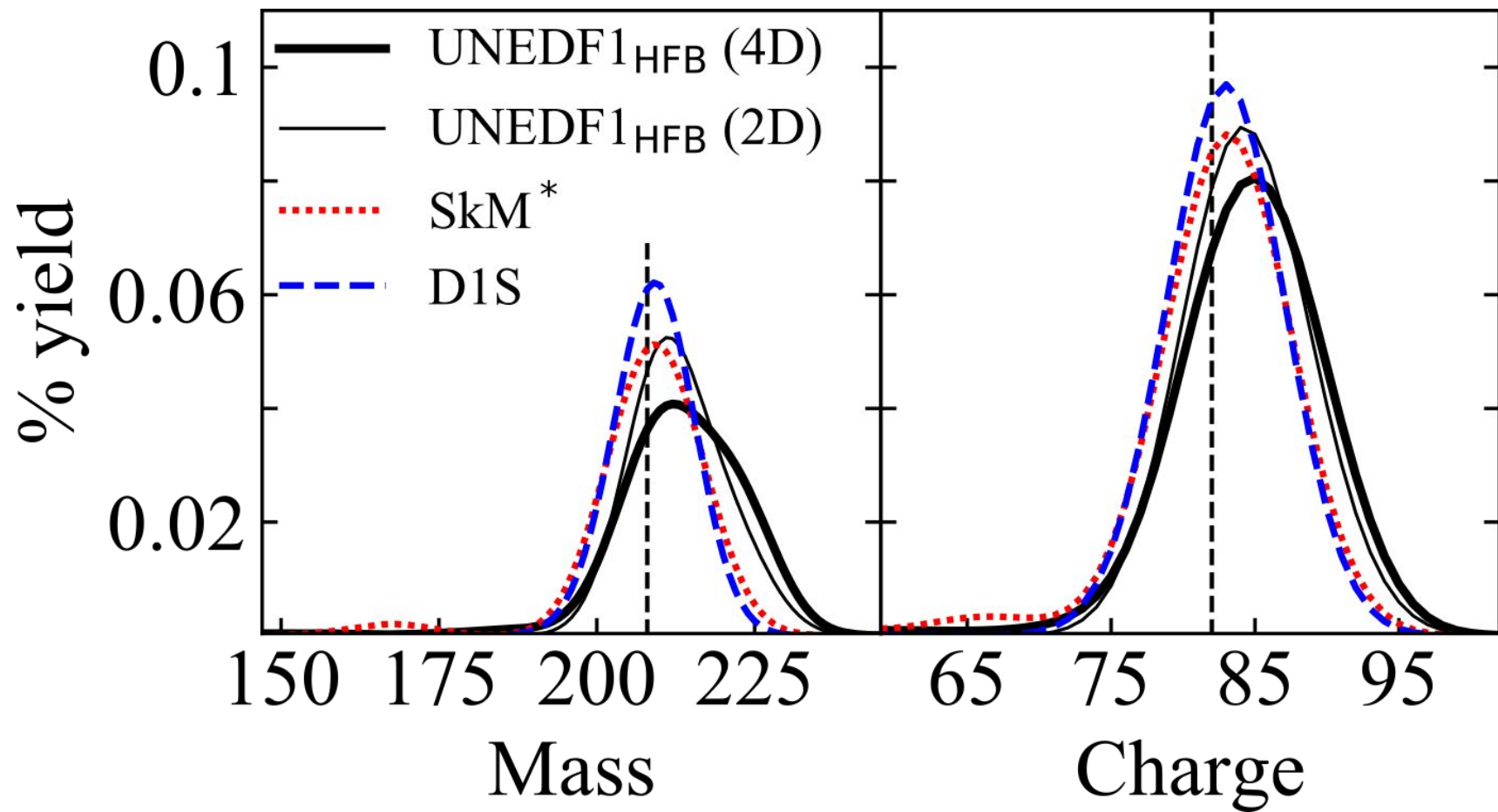
- Energy density functional
 - UNEDF1_{HFB} vs SkM* vs Gogny D1S
- Size of collective space
 - 2D (Q_{20}, Q_{30}) vs 3D ($Q_{20}, Q_{22}, \lambda_2$) + ($Q_{20}, Q_{30}, \lambda_2$) vs 4D ($Q_{20}, Q_{30}, Q_{22}, \lambda_2$)
- Collective inertia
 - Perturbative vs non-perturbative
 - GCM vs ATDHFB
- Langevin dissipation tensor strength

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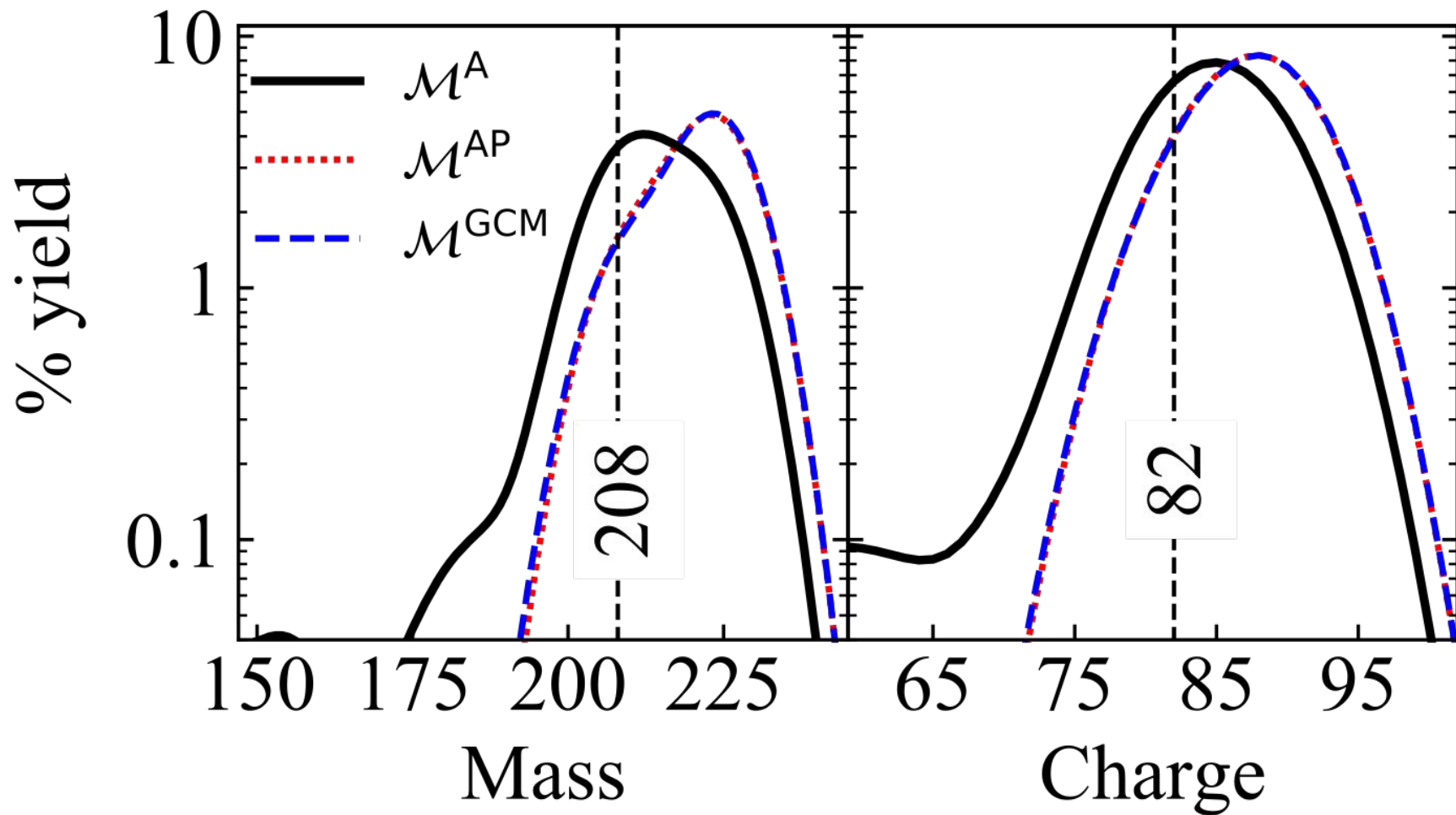






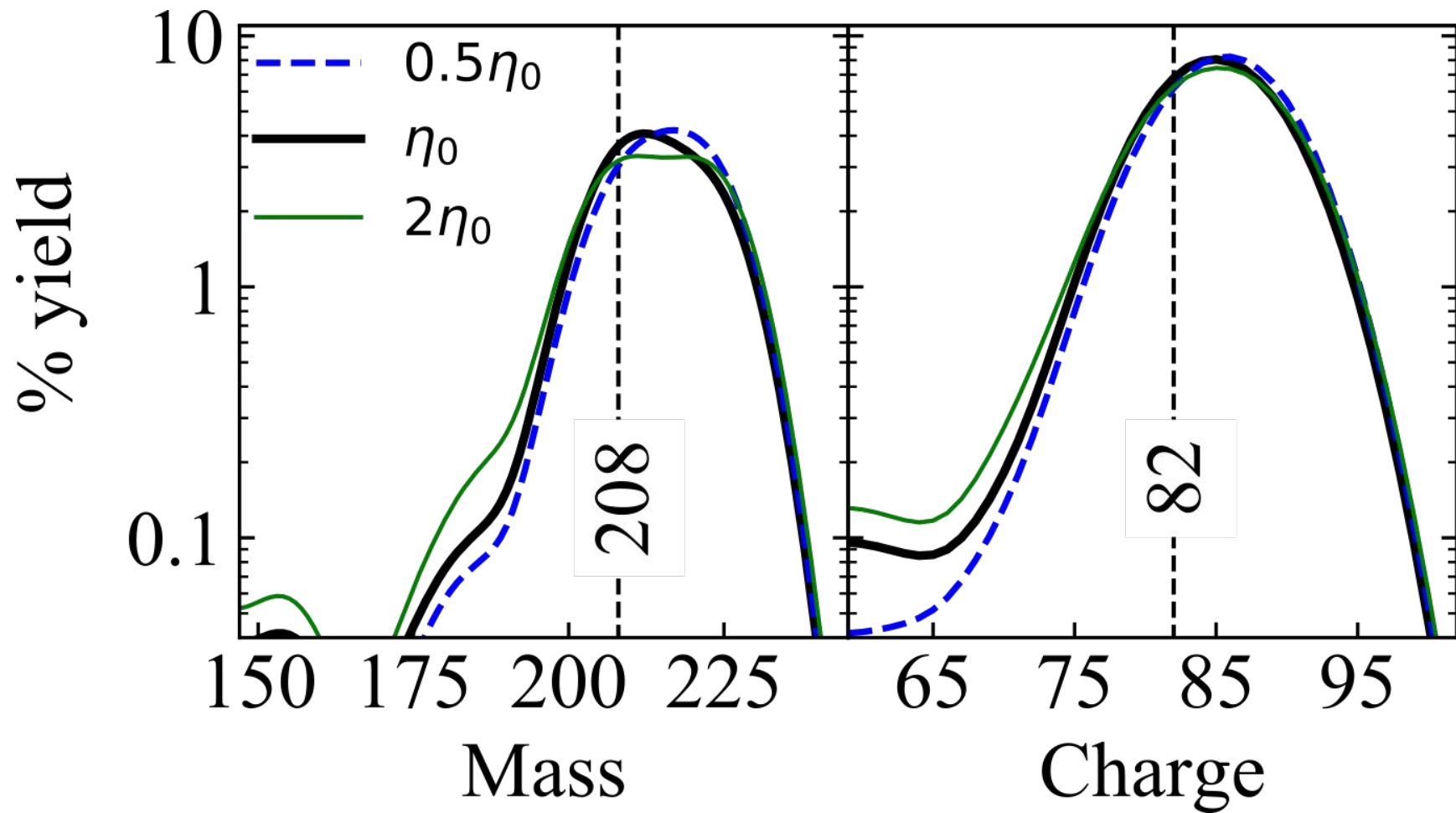
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Overarching questions

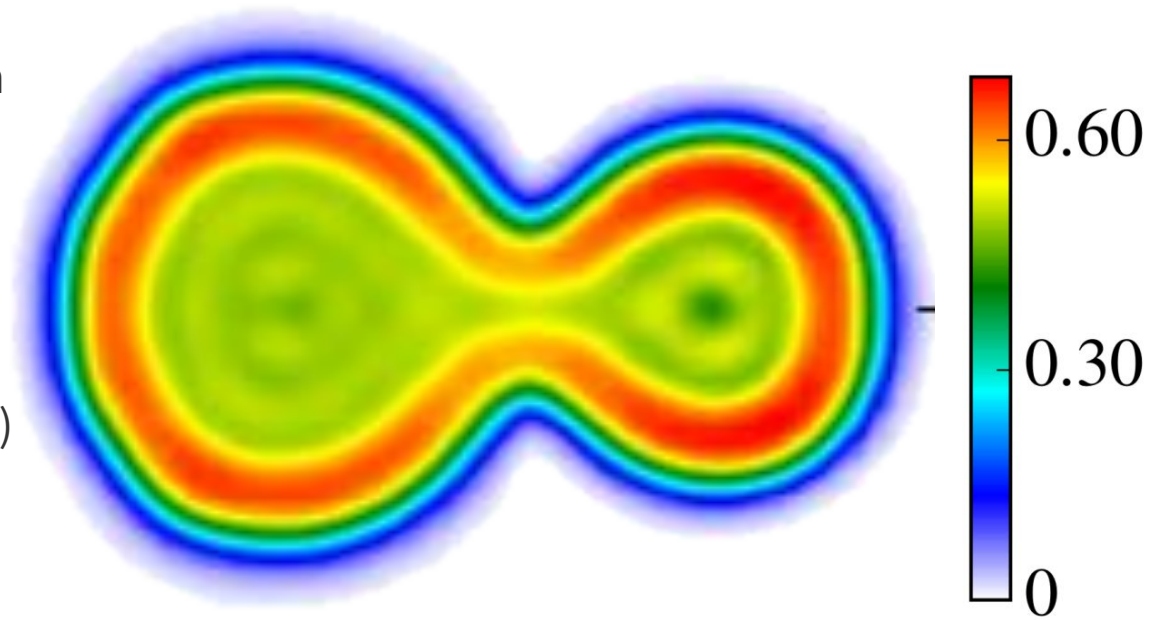
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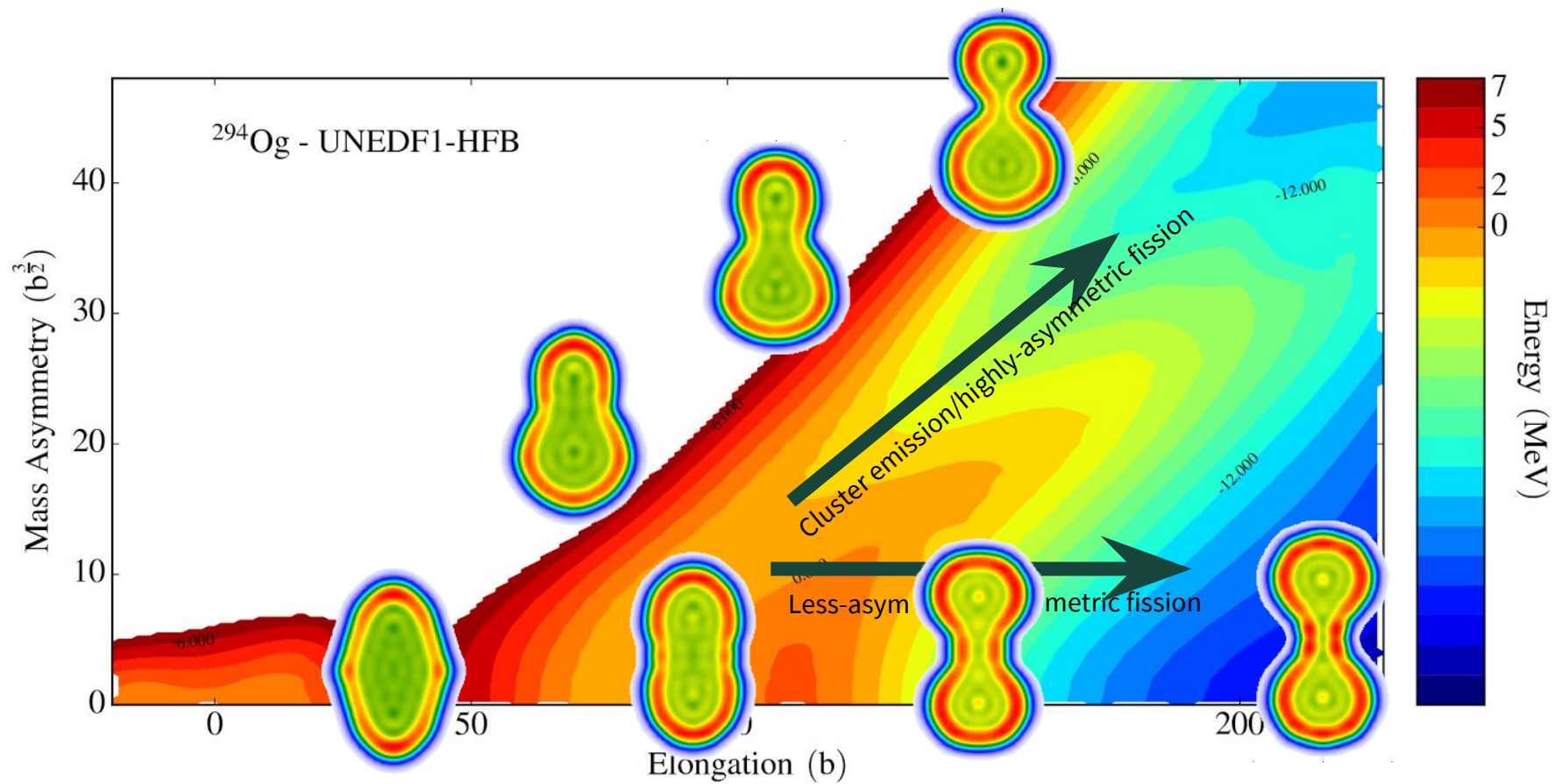
Nucleon localization function

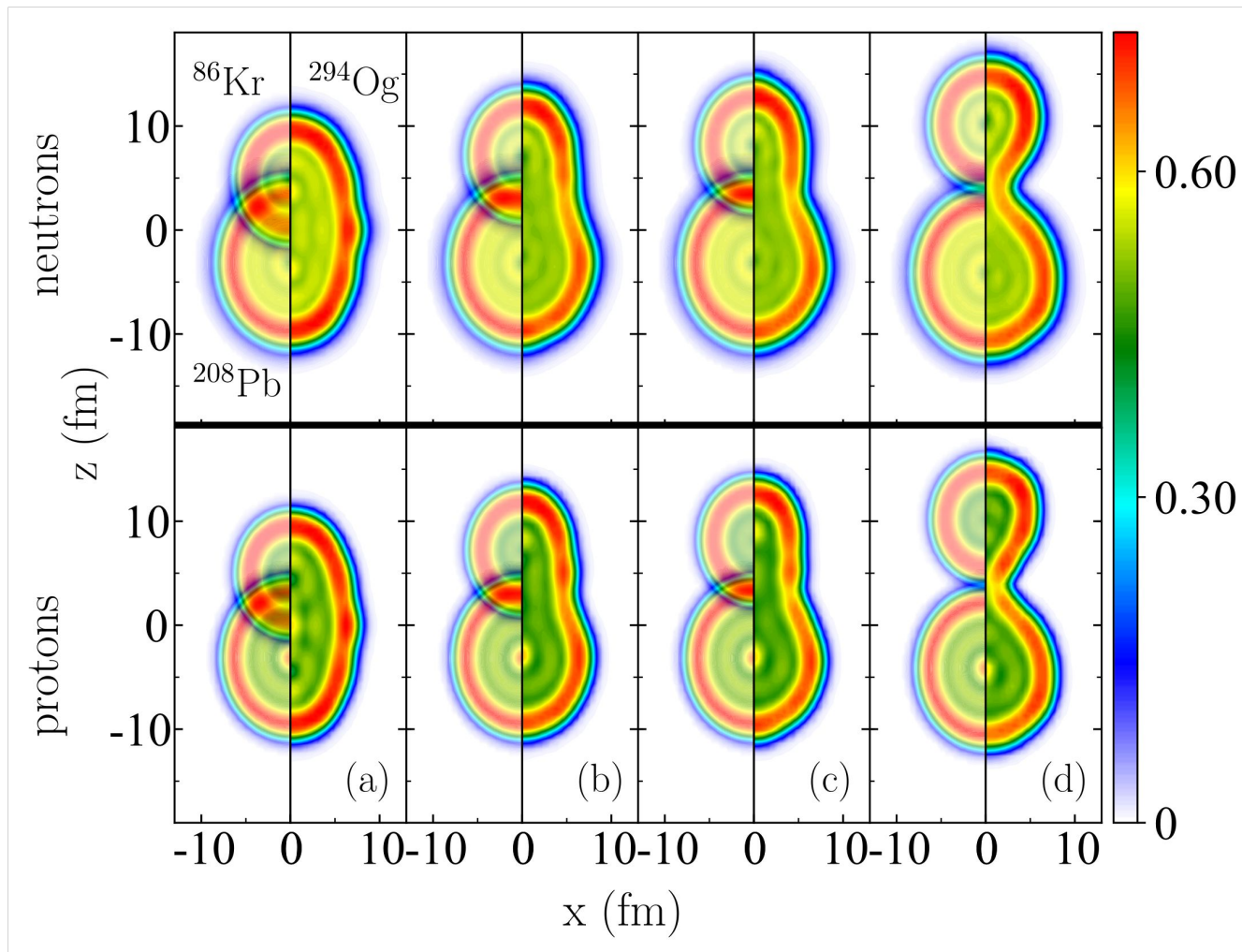
Comes from the probability of finding a well-localized nucleon (distinct spin, isospin, and spatial region)

$C=1$: Well-localized nucleons

$C=1/2$: Fermi gas (nuclear matter)

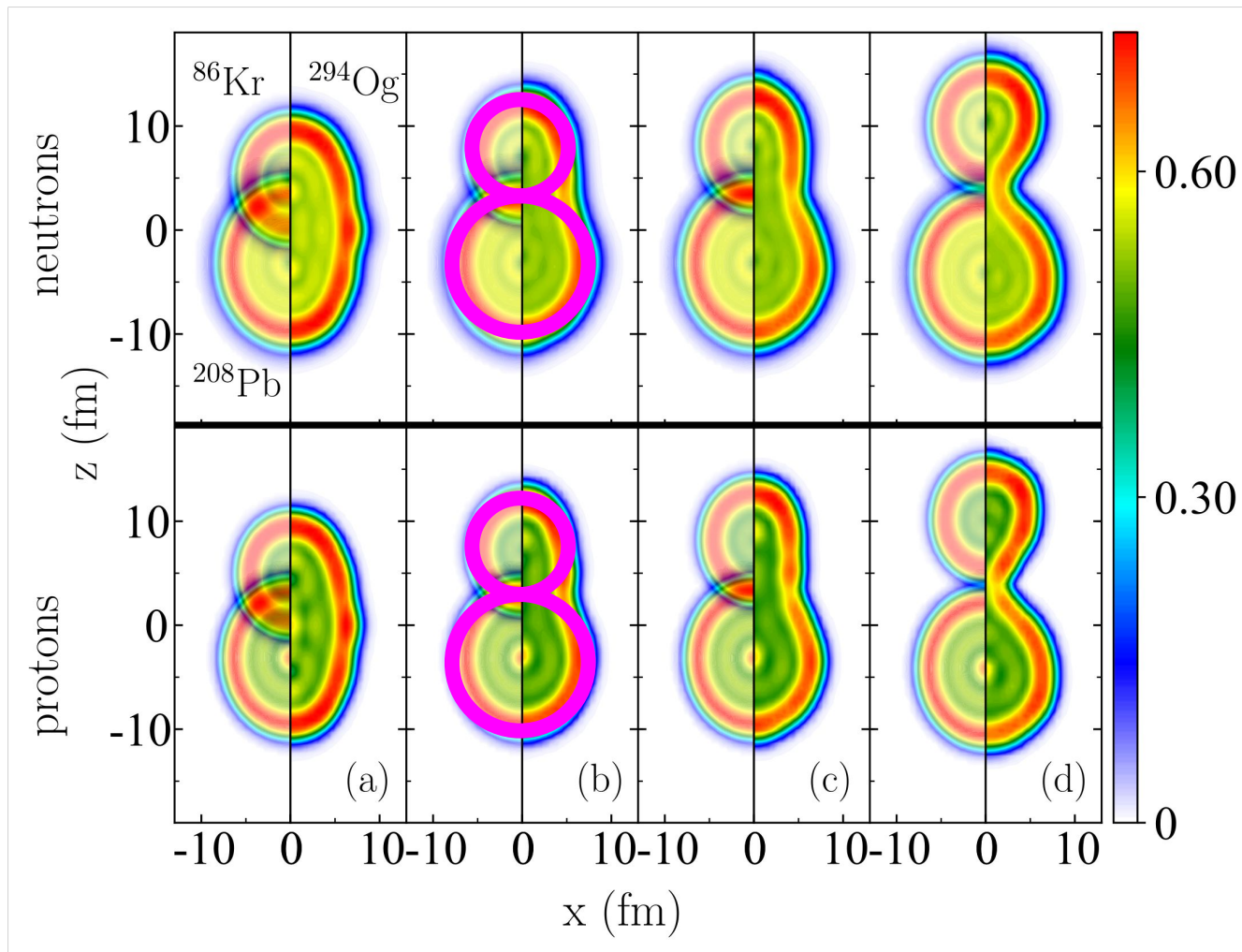




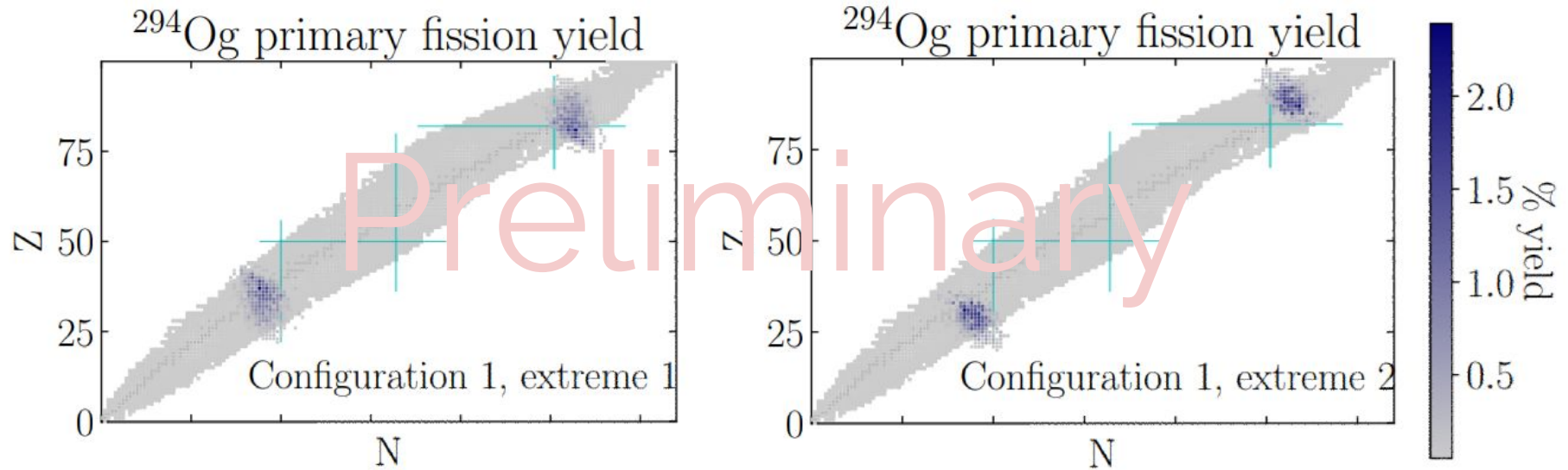


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Identify “pre-fragments” + statistical redistribution of neck particles =



Conclusions

1. Cluster emission in ^{294}Og
 - a. Very asymmetric channel appears to be highly-favored
 - b. Despite differences in PES, the prediction is quite robust
 - c. Lead prefragment seems to be driving the process
 - d. arXiv: 1812.06490
2. Using Nucleon Localization Function to ID fission fragments

Thank you!

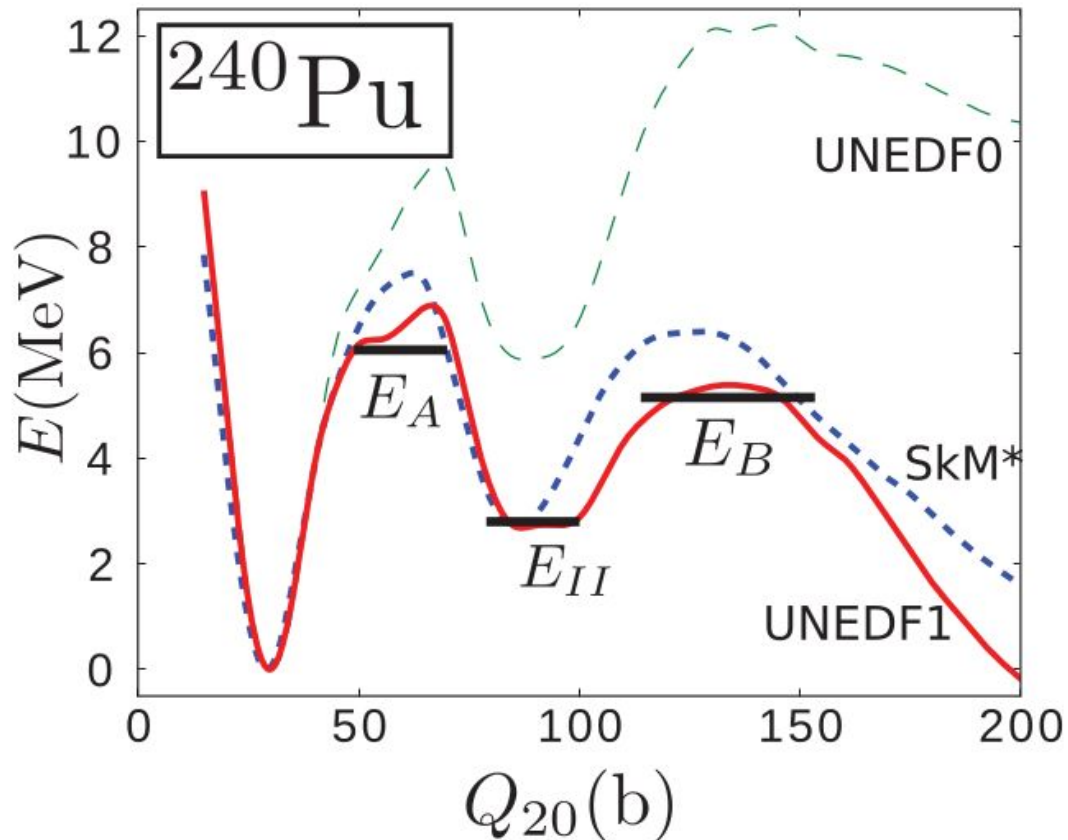
This work was supported by the U.S. Department of Energy under Award Number DOE--DE--NA0002847 (NNSA, the Stewardship Science Academic Alliances program), as well as by the Office of Science, Office of Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists, Office of Science Graduate Student Research (SCGSR) program. The SCGSR program is administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) for the DOE. ORISE is managed by ORAU under contract number DE-SC0014664. Computing support for this work came from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) Institutional Computing Grand Challenge program.

The parameter set UNEDF1-HFB

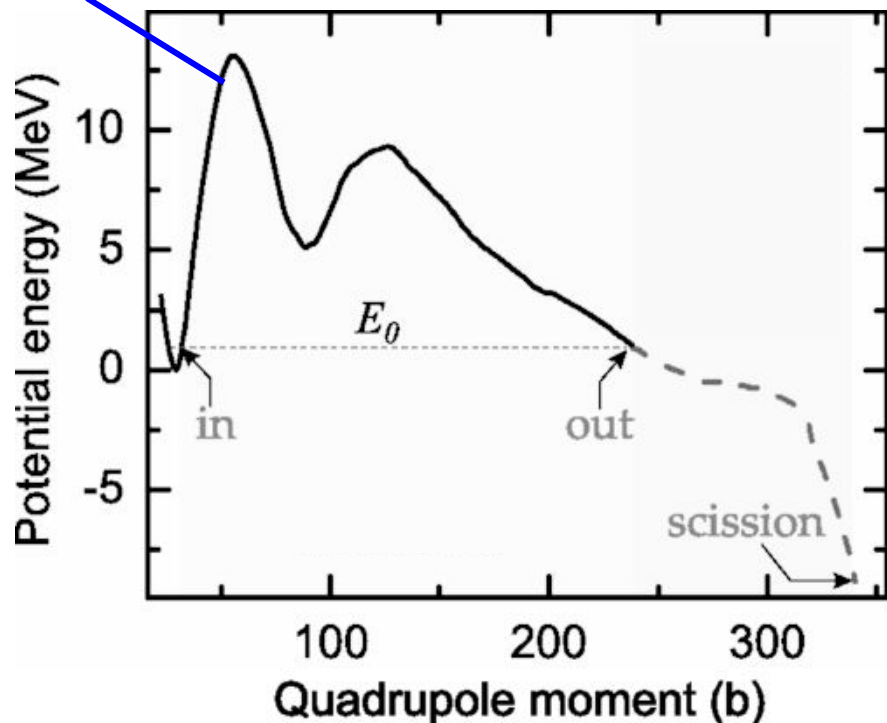
DFT as a many-body method is an exact formulation of quantum mechanics, but in reality it is only as good as the energy density functional (EDF) you use.

The goal of the UNEDF1 parameterization was to create a functional that worked well for highly-deformed nuclei, such as those which occur during fission.

UNEDF1-HFB is a functional based on the UNEDF1 functional, except without the Lipkin-Nogami procedure for particle number restoration [N. Schunck, et al, J. Phys. G 42, 034024 (2015)].



DFT



- DFT formalism, based on HFB variational principle
 - DFT Solver: HFODD, which breaks all symmetries
 - UNEDF1-HFB energy density functional
- Collective Inertia
 - Non-perturbative cranked ATDHFB, calculated via finite differences

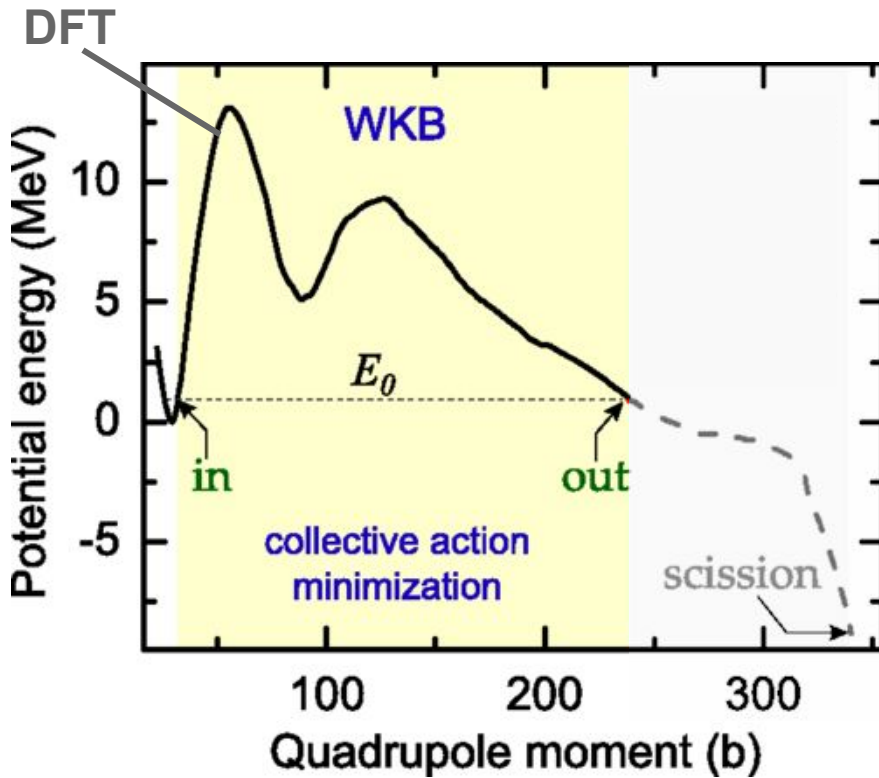
J. Sadhukhan et al, Phys. Rev. C 93, 011304(R) (Jan 2016)

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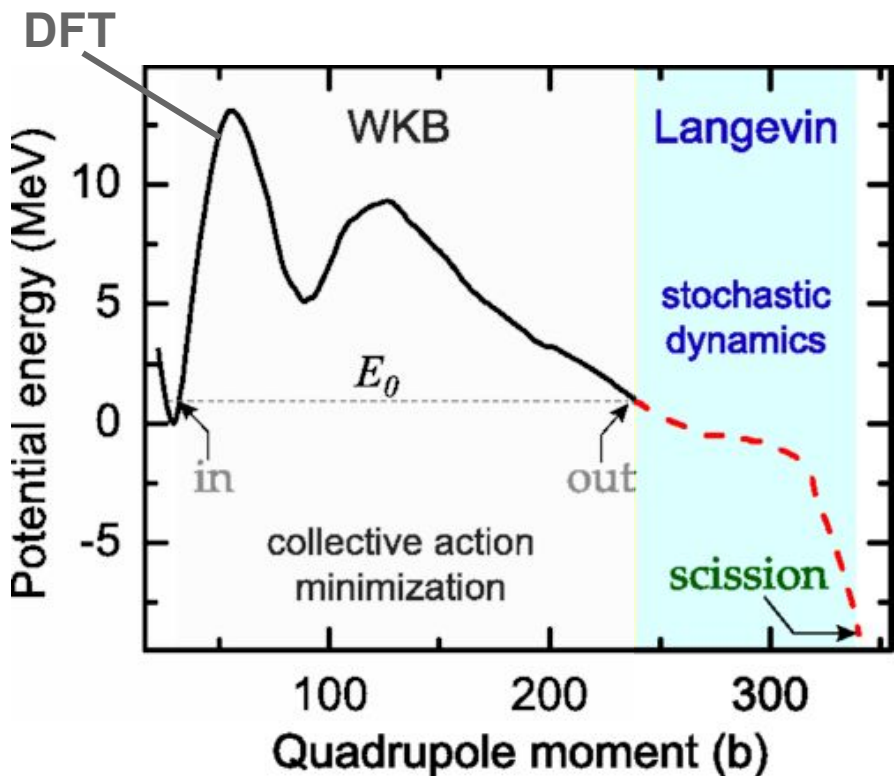
Observables!



Find the trajectory $L(s)$ which minimizes the collective action in the space defined by collective variables $q_i(s)$:

$$S(L) = \int_{s_{in}}^{s_{out}} \frac{2\pi}{h} \sqrt{2M_{eff}(s)(V_{eff}(s) - E_0)} ds$$

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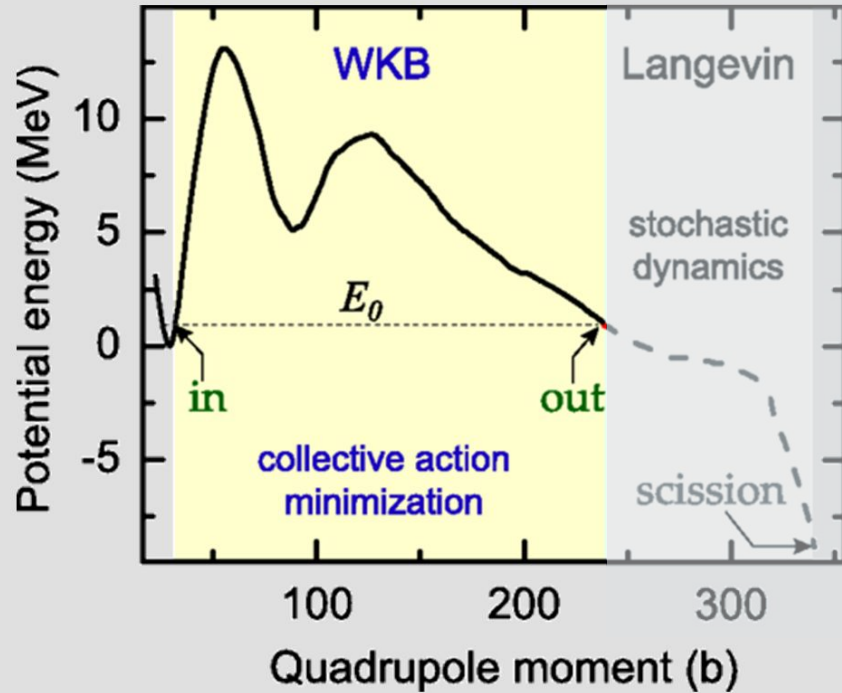


Past the outer turning point, the dynamics is essentially classical random walk:

$$\frac{dp_i}{dt} = - \underbrace{\frac{p_j p_k}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_i} (M^{-1})_{jk}}_{\text{kinetic term}} - \underbrace{\frac{\partial V}{\partial q_i}}_{\text{driving force}} - \underbrace{\eta_{ij} (M^{-1})_{jk} p_k}_{\text{dissipation}} + \underbrace{g_{ij} \Gamma_j(t)}_{\text{random force}}$$

$$\frac{dq_i}{dt} = (M^{-1})_{ij} p_j$$

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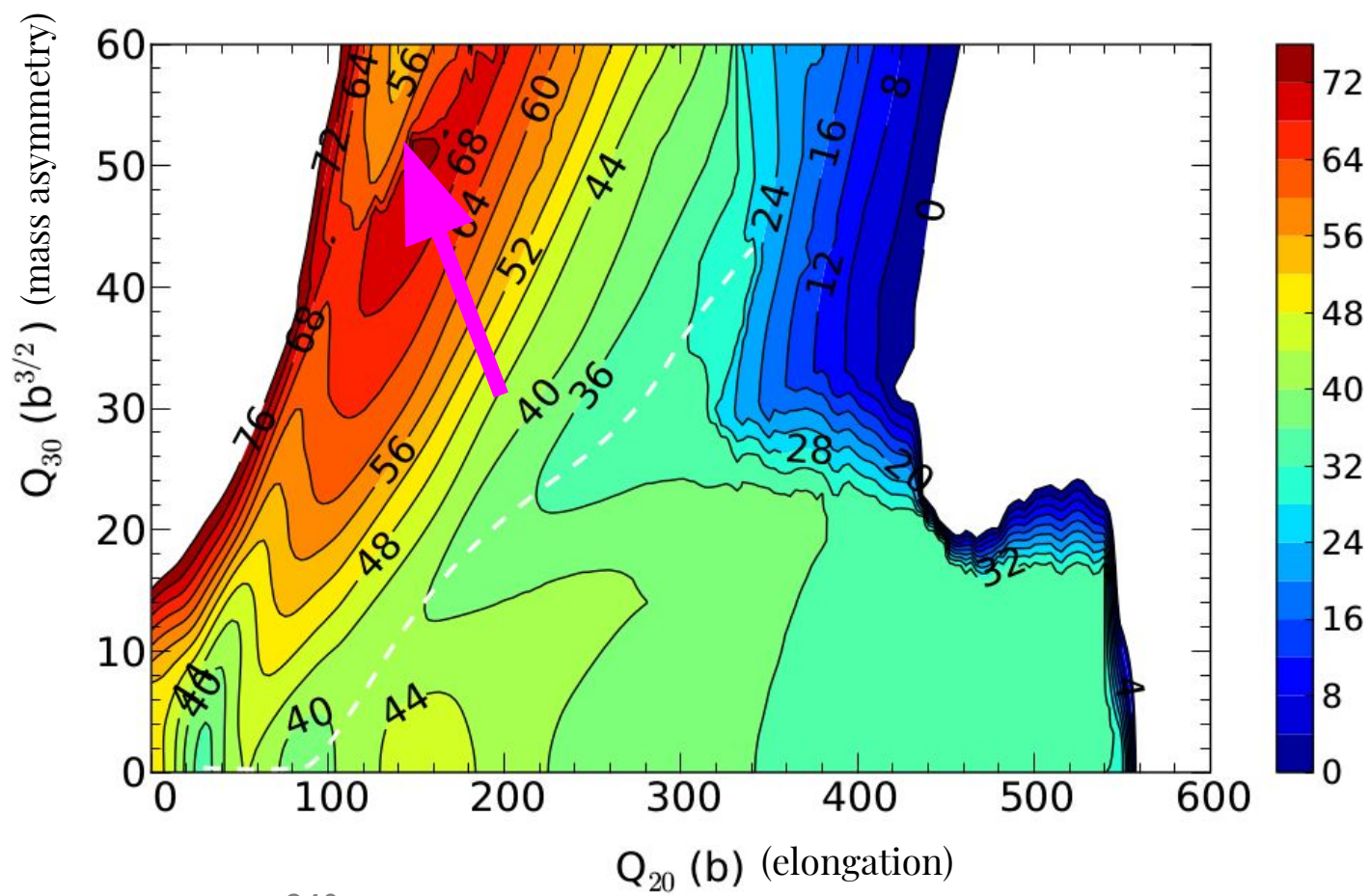
Compute the barrier penetration probability:

$$P = \left(1 + e^{2S(L)}\right)^{-1}$$

Estimate the fission half-life:

$$T_{1/2} = \frac{\ln 2}{nP}$$

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Cluster formation in ^{240}Pu