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# nature

THE INTERNATIONAL WEEKLY JOURNAL OF SCIENCE

# GOING PEAR-SHAPED

Exotic  
radium-224  
atomic nuclei  
seen at CERN

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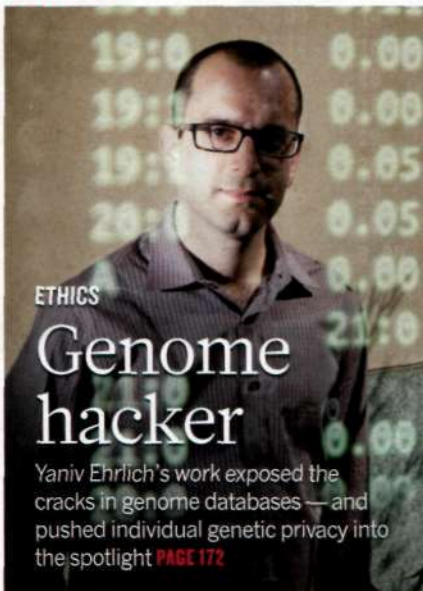
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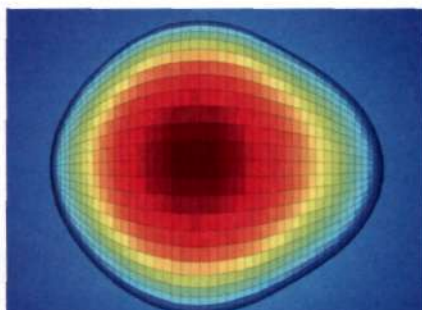
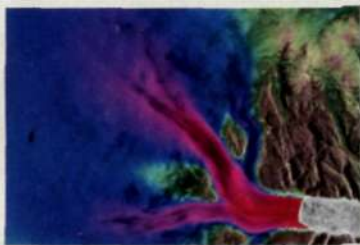
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A new model of Greenland ice loss lessens the sea level rise. **PAGE 235**



### ON THE COVER

## Shape shift

A representation of the radium-224 atomic nucleus. Accelerated to 8% of the speed of light in the REX-ISOLDE facility at CERN, this nucleus undergoes octupole deformation and distorts into a pear shape — a phenomenon predicted in theory and now confirmed. **PAGES 190 & 199**

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