

# New Algorithms in Lattice Effective Field Theory

Bing-Nan Lü  
Nuclear Lattice EFT Collaboration



中国工程物理研究院研究生院  
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF CHINA ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING PHYSICS



FRIB



MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY



中山大學  
SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY



JÜLICH  
FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM



OAK RIDGE  
National Laboratory

LEADERSHIP  
COMPUTING  
FACILITY



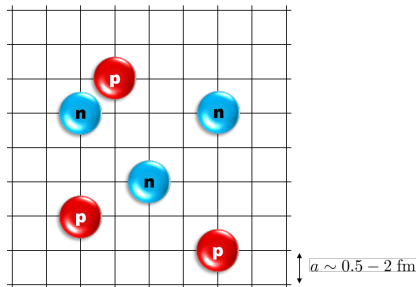
UNIVERSITÄT BONN

The 7th Symposium on “Symmetries and the emergence of Structure in QCD”,  
RiZhao, July-20-2023

**Lattice EFT = Chiral EFT + Lattice + Monte Carlo**

Review: Dean Lee, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 63, 117 (2009),  
Lähde, Meißner, "Nuclear Lattice Effective Field Theory", Springer (2019)

- Discretized **chiral nuclear force**
- Lattice spacing  $a \approx 1 \text{ fm} = 620 \text{ MeV}$   
( $\sim$ chiral symmetry breaking scale)
- Protons & neutrons interacting via **short-range,  $\delta$ -like** and **long-range, pion-exchange** interactions
- Exact method, **polynomial scaling** ( $\sim A^2$ )



Lattice adapted for nucleus

# Euclidean time projection

- Get *interacting g. s.* from imaginary time projection:

$$|\Psi_{g.s.}\rangle \propto \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \exp(-\tau H) |\Psi_A\rangle$$

with  $|\Psi_A\rangle$  representing  $A$  free nucleons.

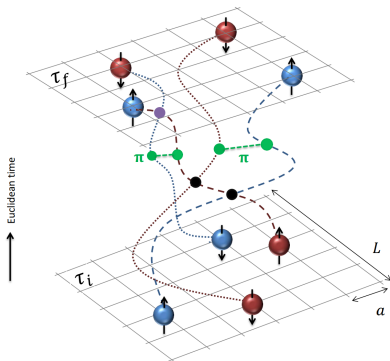
- Expectation value of any operator  $\mathcal{O}$ :

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle \Psi_A | \exp(-\tau H/2) \mathcal{O} \exp(-\tau H/2) | \Psi_A \rangle}{\langle \Psi_A | \exp(-\tau H) | \Psi_A \rangle}$$

- $\tau$  is discretized into time slices:

$$\exp(-\tau H) \simeq \left[ \exp\left(-\frac{\tau}{L_t} H\right) \right]^{L_t}$$

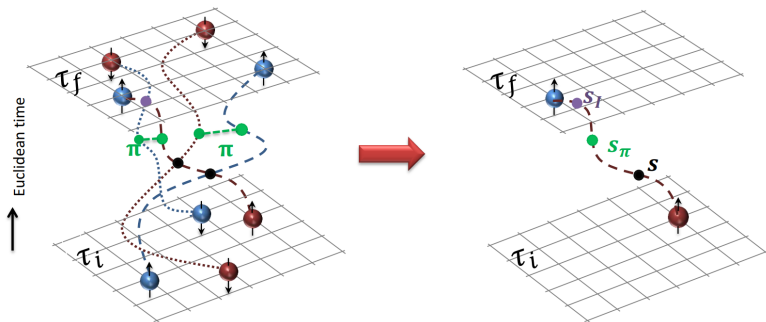
All possible configurations in  $\tau \in [\tau_i, \tau_f]$  are sampled.  
Complex structures like nucleon clustering emerges naturally.



# Auxiliary field transformation

Quantum correlations between nucleons are represented by fluctuations of the auxiliary fields.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & : \exp \left[ -\frac{C}{2} (N^\dagger N)^2 \right] := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int ds : \exp \left[ -\frac{s^2}{2} + \sqrt{C} s (N^\dagger N) \right] : \implies \\
 Z &= \int \mathcal{D}s \exp \left( -\sum \frac{s^2}{2} \right) \begin{vmatrix} \langle \psi_1 | \phi_1 \rangle & \langle \psi_1 | \phi_2 \rangle & \cdots & \langle \psi_1 | \phi_A \rangle \\ \langle \psi_2 | \phi_1 \rangle & \langle \psi_2 | \phi_2 \rangle & \cdots & \langle \psi_2 | \phi_A \rangle \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \langle \psi_A | \phi_1 \rangle & \langle \psi_A | \phi_2 \rangle & \cdots & \langle \psi_A | \phi_A \rangle \end{vmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$



# Imaginary time extrapolation to find ground state

Samples are generated by  
**Markov Chain Monte Carlo**

Observables calculated as  $\langle O \rangle = (1/N) \sum_{i=1}^N O_i$

Error scales as  $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{O}(1/\sqrt{N})$

Number of samples  $N \sim 10^3 \sim 10^6$

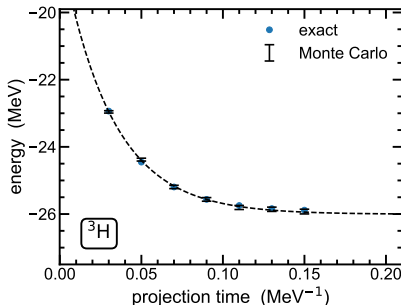
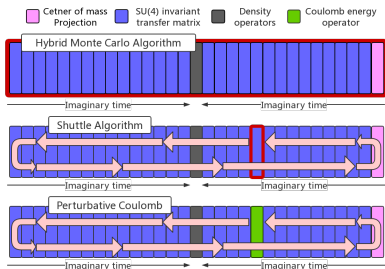
Total energies at large  $t$  follow

$$E_A(t) = E_A(\infty) + c \exp[-\Delta E \tau].$$

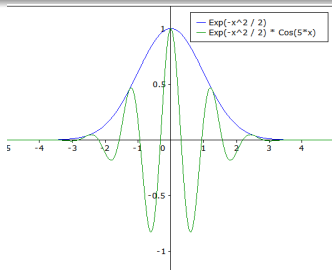
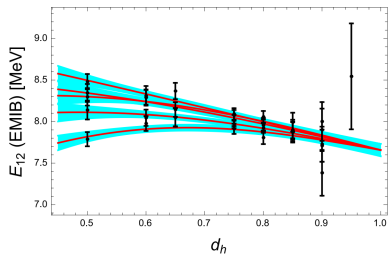
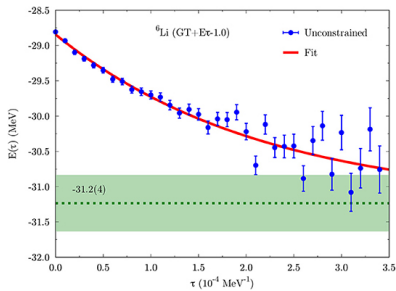
For any inserted operator  $\mathcal{O}$ ,

$$\mathcal{O}_A(\tau) = \mathcal{O}_A(\infty) + c' \exp[-\Delta E \tau/2],$$

$c, c', \Delta E$  are **fitting parameters**.



# Monte Carlo sign problem



- Sign problem: Monte Carlo works well for **well-behaved** functions, however, sometimes the integral becomes **highly oscillating**.
- QMC sign problem comes from the **fermion anti-symmetrization**.
- Sign problem as difficult as P=NP.
- Split  $H = H_0 + \lambda V_C$ .  $H_0$ : w/o sign problem;  $V_C$ : w/ sign problem.
- **Solution 1**: numerical extrapolation from  $\lambda = 0$  to  $\lambda = 1$ .
- **Solution 2**: perturbative calculation near  $\lambda = 0$ .

# Approximate symmetry of the nuclear force

- Construct a N<sup>2</sup>LO chiral force on the  $a = 1.32$  fm ( $\Lambda \approx 471$  MeV) lattice.
- $H_{N^2LO}$  gives good description of symmetric nuclear matter and finite nuclei:

	$\rho_{\text{sat}} (\text{fm}^{-3})$	$E_{\text{sat}}/A$ (MeV)	$K$ (MeV)	$E(^{16}\text{O})$ (MeV)
LEFT	0.165(1)	-15.9(0)	263(8)	-117.1(1)
exp.	0.16(1)	-16(1)	240(20)	-127.6(0)

- Contribution of various contact terms in  $V_{2N}$  to  $E(^{16}\text{O})$  (perturbatively):

operator	$N_C$ pow.	$Q$ pow.	$E$ (MeV)	operator	$N_C$ pow.	$Q$ pow.	$E$ (MeV)
1	$N_C$	1	-430.4	$q^2 \vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2 \vec{\tau}_1 \cdot \vec{\tau}_2$	$N_C$	$(Q/\Lambda)^2$	24.2
$\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2$	$1/N_C$	1	33.0	$\frac{i}{2} (q \times k) \cdot (\vec{\sigma}_1 + \vec{\sigma}_2)$	$1/N_C$	$(Q/\Lambda)^2$	0.0
$q^2$	$N_C$	$(Q/\Lambda)^2$	22.8	$(\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot q)(\vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot q)$	$1/N_C$	$(Q/\Lambda)^2$	0.4
$q^2 \vec{\tau}_1 \cdot \vec{\tau}_2$	$1/N_C$	$(Q/\Lambda)^2$	6.0	$(\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot q)(\vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot q) \vec{\tau}_1 \cdot \vec{\tau}_2$	$N_C$	$(Q/\Lambda)^2$	30.5
$q^2 \vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2$	$1/N_C$	$(Q/\Lambda)^2$	0.6				

- Note that  $1/N_C^2 \approx 0.1$ ,  $(Q/\Lambda)^2 \approx 0.2$  in  $^{16}\text{O}$ . **Red:** suppressed by  $1/N_C^2$  or  $(Q/\Lambda)^2$ . **Blue:** suppressed by both factors.  $\leftarrow$  **very clear hierachy**

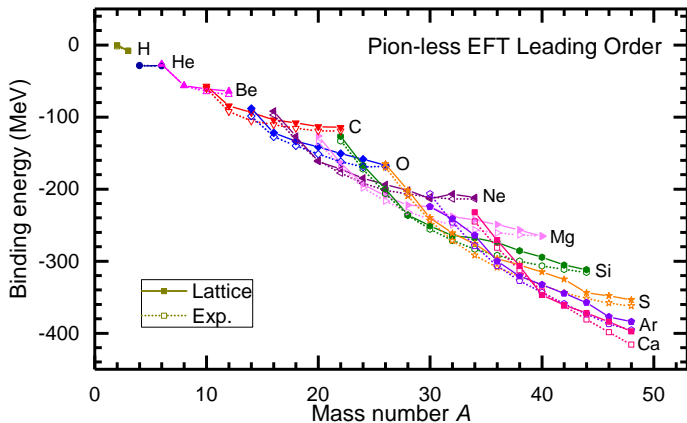
- SU(4) symmetric term dominate  $\leftarrow$  **No sign problem, good for MC**

Dean Lee, Scott Bogner, B. Alex Brown, Serdar Elhatisari, Evgeny Epelbaum, Heiko Hergert, Morten Hjorth-Jensen, Hermann Krebs, Ning Li, Bing-Nan Lu, Ulf-G. Meißner, Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 062501 (2021)

# Nuclear binding from a SU(4) nuclear force

In full quantum Monte Carlo simulations, **equations are solved exactly**

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}s \exp\left(-\sum \frac{s^2}{2}\right) \left| \begin{array}{cc} \langle \psi_1 | \phi_1 \rangle & \langle \psi_1 | \phi_2 \rangle \\ \langle \psi_2 | \phi_1 \rangle & \langle \psi_2 | \phi_2 \rangle \\ \langle \psi_1 | \phi_1 \rangle & \langle \psi_1 | \phi_2 \rangle \\ \langle \psi_2 | \phi_1 \rangle & \langle \psi_2 | \phi_2 \rangle \end{array} \right|$$





# Reyleigh-Schrödinger perturbation theory

For a Hamiltonian  $H = H^{(0)} + \lambda V_C$ ,

- In **conventional stationary perturbation theory**:

$$E_i = E_i^{(0)} + \lambda \langle \Psi_i^{(0)} | V_C | \Psi_i^{(0)} \rangle + \lambda^2 \sum_{k \neq 0} \frac{\langle \Psi_k^{(0)} | V_C | \Psi_i^{(0)} \rangle}{E_k^{(0)} - E_i^{(0)}} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^3)$$
$$|\Psi_i\rangle = |\Psi_i^{(0)}\rangle + \lambda \sum_{k \neq 0} \frac{\langle \Psi_k^{(0)} | V_C | \Psi_i^{(0)} \rangle}{E_k^{(0)} - E_i^{(0)}} |\Psi_k^{(0)}\rangle + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

- However, in **projection Monte Carlo algorithms**,

$$E_{\text{g.s.}} = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \exp(-\tau H) |\Psi_T\rangle$$

targets the ground states (or low-lying states) directly.

- In projection methods, **excited states are very expensive**. ← required for 2nd order energy or 1st order wave function!
- All projection QMC calculations use at most **first order** perturbation theory.

# Perturbative Monte Carlo (ptQMC) algorithm

We can expand  $|\Psi\rangle$  against  $V_C$ ,

$$|\Psi\rangle = \lim_{L_t \rightarrow \infty} M^{L_t/2} |\Psi_T\rangle = |\Psi_0\rangle + |\delta\Psi_1\rangle + \mathcal{O}(V_C^2), \quad (1)$$

with the wave functions defined as

$$|\Psi_0\rangle = \lim_{L_t \rightarrow \infty} M_0^{L_t/2} |\Psi_T\rangle, \quad |\delta\Psi_1\rangle = \lim_{L_t \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{L_t/2} M_0^{L_t/2-k} (M - M_0) M_0^{k-1} |\Psi_T\rangle,$$

$$E = E_0 + \delta E_1 + \delta E_2 + \mathcal{O}(V_C^3),$$

where the partial energy contributions at each orders are

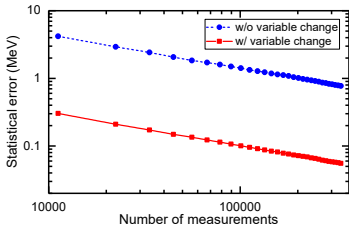
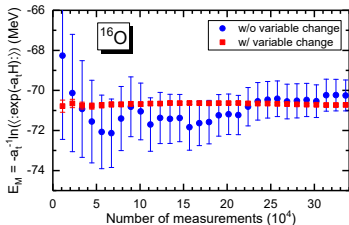
$$\begin{aligned} E_0 &= \langle \Psi_0 | (K + V) | \Psi_0 \rangle / \langle \Psi_0 | \Psi_0 \rangle, \\ \delta E_1 &= \langle \Psi_0 | V_C | \Psi_0 \rangle / \langle \Psi_0 | \Psi_0 \rangle, \\ \delta E_2 &= (\langle \Psi_0 | V_C | \delta\Psi_1 \rangle - \delta E_1 \text{Re}(\langle \delta\Psi_1 | \Psi_0 \rangle)) / \langle \Psi_0 | \Psi_0 \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

in which all matrix elements and overlaps can be expressed with,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}(O) &= \langle \Psi_T | M_0^{L_t/2} O M_0^{L_t/2} | \Psi_T \rangle, \\ \mathcal{M}_k(O) &= \langle \Psi_T | M_0^{L_t/2} O M_0^{L_t/2-k} M M_0^{k-1} | \Psi_T \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Bing-Nan Lu, Ning Li, Serdar Elhatisari, Yuan-Zhuo Ma, Dean Lee, Ulf-G. Meißner,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 242501 (2022)

# ptQMC with realistic chiral interaction



Perturbed amplitude can be transformed into an approximate Gaussian integral with a variable change. Note that

$$\langle \exp(\sqrt{-a_t} \bar{C} s \rho) \rangle_T \approx \exp(\sqrt{-a_t} \bar{C} s \langle \rho \rangle_T)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_k(O) &= \langle \Psi_T | M_0^{L_t/2} O M_0^{L_t/2-k} M M_0^{k-1} | \Psi_T \rangle \\ &= \int \mathcal{D}c P(c + \bar{c}) \langle \cdots O \cdots M(s_k, c + \bar{c}) \cdots \rangle_T \\ &= \mathcal{M}(s) \exp\left(\frac{\bar{c}^2}{2}\right) \int \mathcal{D}c \exp\left(-\frac{c^2}{2} + \varepsilon\right) \end{aligned}$$

$\bar{c}(n) = \frac{\partial}{\partial c(n)} \ln \langle \cdots M(s_k, c) \cdots \rangle_T \Big|_{c=0}$  is a constant field easy to calculate

## Integral over $c$ calculated with MC

Left panel: Test calculation of the transfer matrix energy  $E = -\ln \langle : \exp(-a_t H) : \rangle / a_t$

Bing-Nan Lu, Ning Li, Serdar Elhatisari, Yuan-Zhuo Ma, Dean Lee, Ulf-G. Meißner, Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 242501 (2022)

# Benchmark Hamiltonian: N<sup>2</sup>LO chiral Hamiltonian

We benchmark the ptQMC algorithm with a N<sup>2</sup>LO chiral Hamiltonian

$$H = K + V_{2N} + V_{3N} + V_{\text{cou}}$$

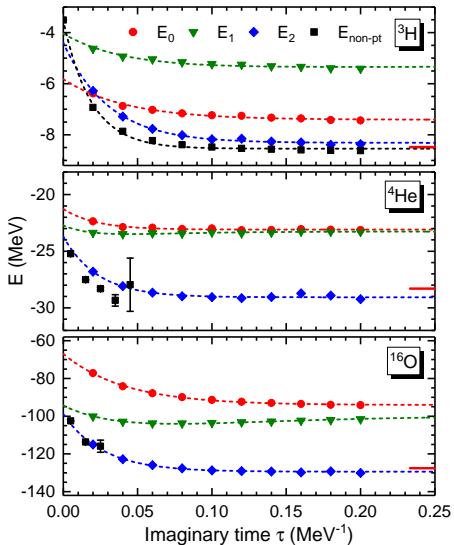
$$\begin{aligned} V_{2N} = & \left[ B_1 + B_2(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2) + C_1 q^2 + C_2 q^2 (\boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2) + C_3 q^2 (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2) + C_4 q^2 (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2) (\boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2) \right. \\ & \left. + C_5 \frac{i}{2} (\mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{k}) \cdot (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2) + C_6 (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q}) (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{q}) + C_7 (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q}) (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{q}) (\boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2) \right] e^{-\sum_{i=1}^2 (\rho_i^6 + \rho_i'^6) / \Lambda^6} \\ & - \frac{g_A^2 f_\pi(q^2)}{4F_\pi^2} \left[ \frac{(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q}) (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{q})}{q^2 + M_\pi^2} + C_\pi' \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \right] (\boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2) \\ V_{3N} = & \frac{c_E}{2F_\pi^4 \Lambda_\chi} e^{-\sum_{i=1}^3 (\rho_i^6 + \rho_i'^6) / \Lambda^6} \end{aligned}$$

with  $C_{1-7}$ ,  $g_A$ ,  $c_E$  etc. **low energy constants** fitted to N-N scattering or  $\pi$ -N scattering data,  $\Lambda = 340$  MeV is the **momentum cutoff**

LEC	$B_1$	$B_2$	$C_1$	$C_2$	$C_3$
	-2.443	-0.125	0.143	-0.012	-0.013
LEC	$C_4$	$C_5$	$C_6$	$C_7$	$c_E$
	-0.020	0.273	0.0	-0.078	0.712

Table: Fitted LECs' in lattice unit

# Perturbative Monte Carlo with realistic chiral interaction

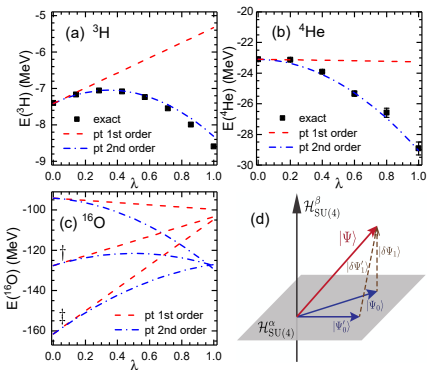


- We split  $H = H_0 + (H - H_0)$  and perform perturbative calculations
- $E_0$  is the ground state of  $H_0$
- $E_1 = E_0 + \delta E_1$  is the first order corrected energy
- $E_2 = E_1 + \delta E_2$  is the second order corrected energy
- $E_{\text{non-pt}}$  is the exact solution ( $\sim$ infinite order)
- Red bars on the right: Experiments

For  ${}^4\text{He}$  and  ${}^{16}\text{O}$ , sign problem prevent us from going to large  $\tau$ , resulting in large statistical errors. But no need to worry,

Perturbation theory can save us!

# Abnormally large second order corrections



As  $H_0$  respects the  $SU(4)$  symmetry, the wave function  $|\Psi_0\rangle$  must belong to one of its irreducible representations (irreps). The full Hamiltonian  $H$  breaks the  $SU(4)$  symmetry, thus its ground state  $|\Psi\rangle$  is a mixture of different  $SU(4)$  irreps. The components of  $|\Psi\rangle$  that mixes the  $SU(4)$  irreps can only be seen in  $|\delta\Psi_1\rangle$  or  $\delta E_2$

**Reminder:** A **symmetry breaking** perturbative Hamiltonian usually implies a large 2nd order energy correction!

- Though consistent with the exact solutions, we found abnormally large second order energy corrections
- We write  $H = H_0 + \lambda(H - H_0)$  and study the  $\lambda$ -dependence of energies ( $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ )
- $E_1 = E_0 + \lambda \delta E_1$  is a straight line
- $E_2 = E_1 + \lambda^2 \delta E_2$  is a parabola
- $E_{\text{non-pt}}$  is the exact solution
- For  $^{16}\text{O}$  we use three different  $H_0$   
[Bing-Nan Lu, Ning Li, Serdar Elhatisari, Yuan-Zhuo Ma, Dean Lee, Ulf-G. Meißner, Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 242501 \(2022\)](#)

# Numerical results for several light nuclei

**Table:** The nuclear binding energies at different orders calculated with the ptQMC.  $E_{\text{exp}}$  is the experimental value. All energies are in MeV. We only show statistical errors from the MC simulations.

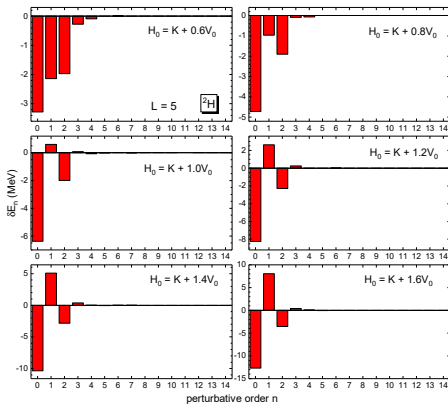
	$E_0$	$\delta E_1$	$E_1$	$\delta E_2$	$E_2$	$E_{\text{exp}}$
${}^3\text{H}$	-7.41(3)	+2.08	-5.33(3)	-2.99	-8.32(3)	-8.48
${}^4\text{He}$	-23.1(0)	-0.2	-23.3(0)	-5.8	-29.1(1)	-28.3
${}^8\text{Be}$	-44.9(4)	-1.7	-46.6(4)	-11.1	-57.7(4)	-56.5
${}^{12}\text{C}$	-68.3(4)	-1.8	-70.1(4)	-18.8	-88.9(3)	-92.2
${}^{16}\text{O}$	-94.1(2)	-5.6	-99.7(2)	-29.7	-129.4(2)	-127.6
${}^{16}\text{O}^\dagger$	-127.6(4)	+24.2	-103.4(4)	-24.3	-127.7(2)	-127.6
${}^{16}\text{O}^\ddagger$	-161.5(1)	+56.8	-104.7(2)	-22.3	-127.0(2)	-127.6

Realistic  $\text{N}^2\text{LO}$  chiral Hamiltonian fixed by few-body data + perturbative quantum MC simulation = nice agreement with the experiments

Excellent predictive power  $\implies$  Demonstration of both **nuclear force model** and **many-body algorithm**

# Perturbative calculations beyond the second order

- We calculated deuteron energy  $E(^2\text{H})$  in a small box  $L = 6.6$  fm with a chiral Hamiltonian
- $H$  is split as  $H = (K + \mu V_0) + (V - \mu V_0)$ ,  $V_0$  is the SU(4) interaction and  $V$  is the full chiral interaction
- $\mu = 0.6, \dots, 1.6$  is a constant



Perturbative energy correction  $\delta E_n$  of the deuteron at each order. For the zeroth order we show  $E_0$ .

$E_0$ ,  $\delta E_1$  and  $\delta E_2$  are always significant.  $\delta E_3$  and higher order contributions are negligible, regardless of what  $H_0$  we choose as the unperturbed Hamiltonian

The second order correction is large due to the symmetry breaking effect. There is no such mechanism for higher-order corrections, thus the higher-order corrections follow the usual power-counting hierarchy.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION