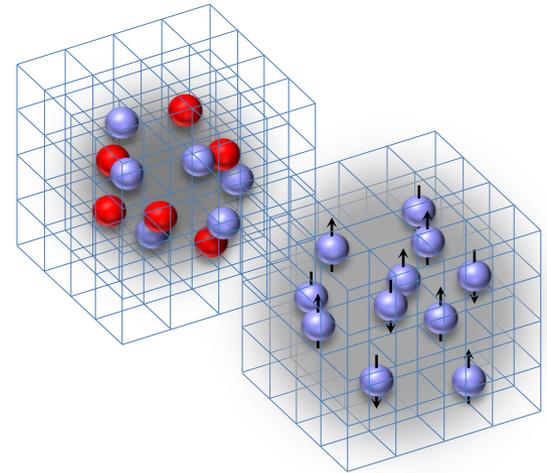


# Emergence of nuclear clustering in *ab initio* nuclear theory

Dean Lee  
Facility for Rare Isotope Beams  
Michigan State University  
Nuclear Lattice EFT Collaboration

Exploring nuclear physics across energy scales 2024:  
Interaction between nuclear structure and high energy  
nuclear collisions  
Beijing - April 21, 2024



## Outline

Lattice effective field theory

Emergent geometry and duality of  $^{12}\text{C}$

Adiabatic projection and  $^4\text{He}^4\text{He}$  scattering

A tale of two interactions

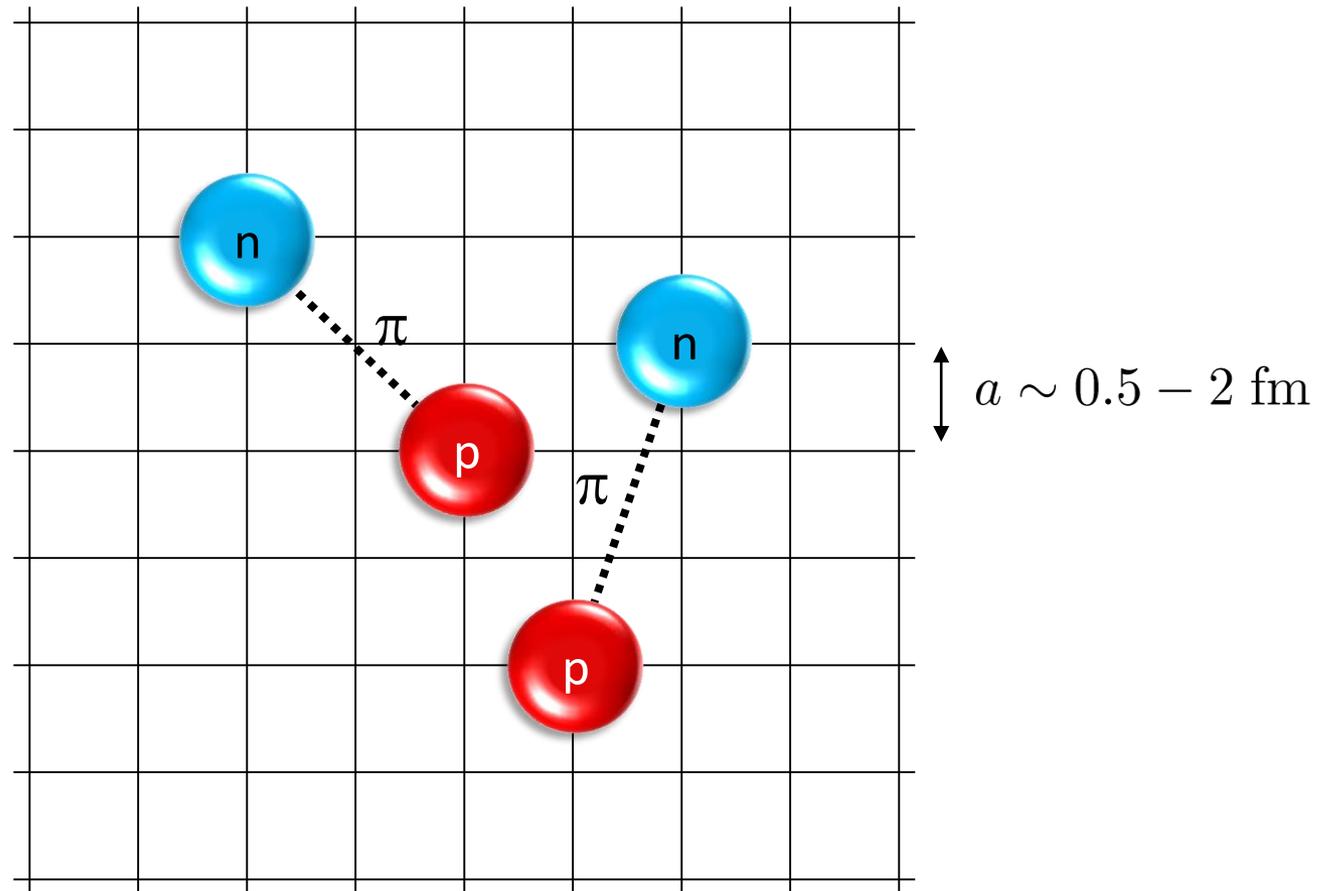
Wave function matching

$^{16}\text{O}^{16}\text{O}$  collisions at RHIC and LHC energies

$^{16}\text{O}^{16}\text{O}$  versus  $^{20}\text{Ne}^{20}\text{Ne}$  collisions

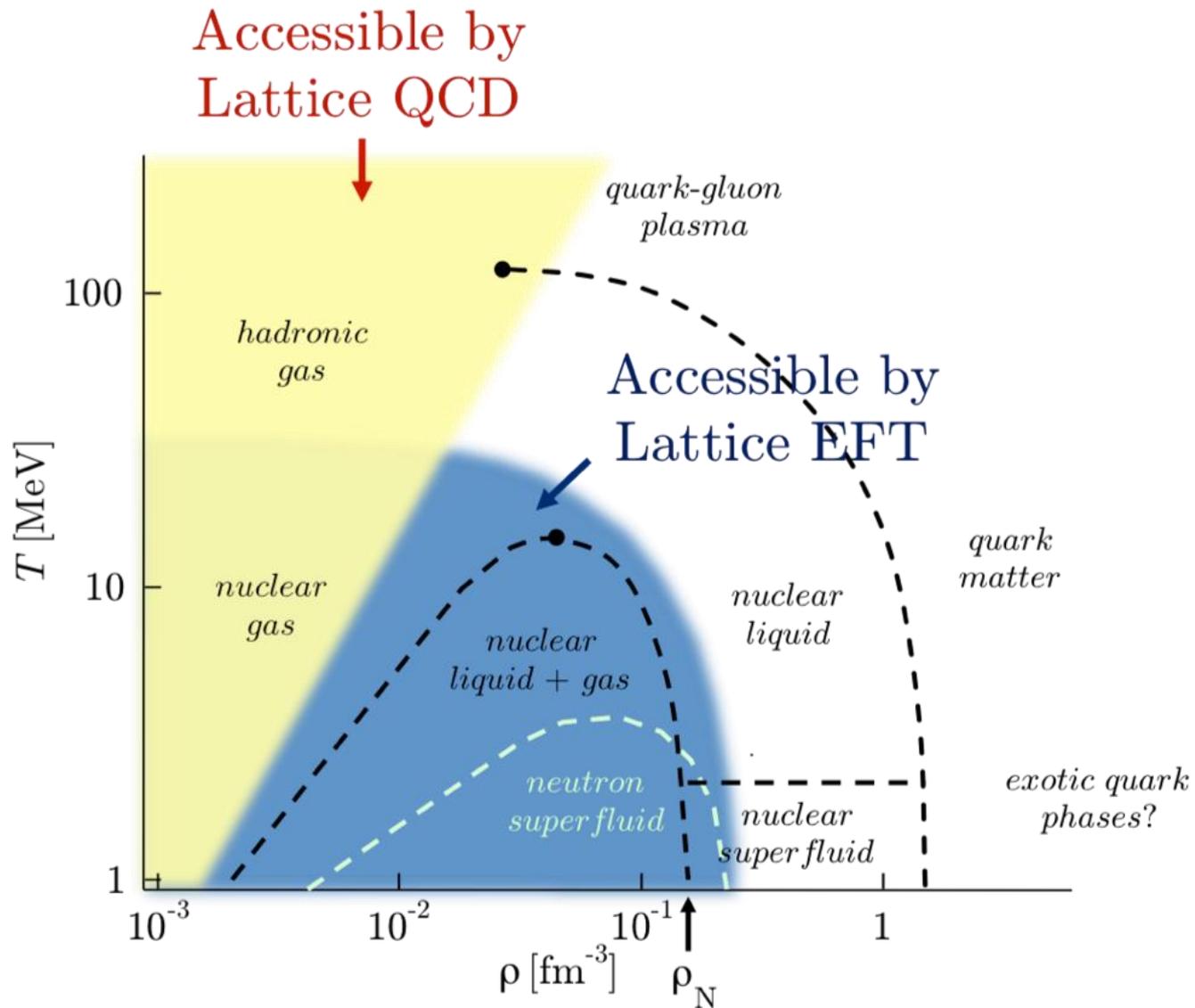
Superfluidity

Outlook

Lattice effective field theory

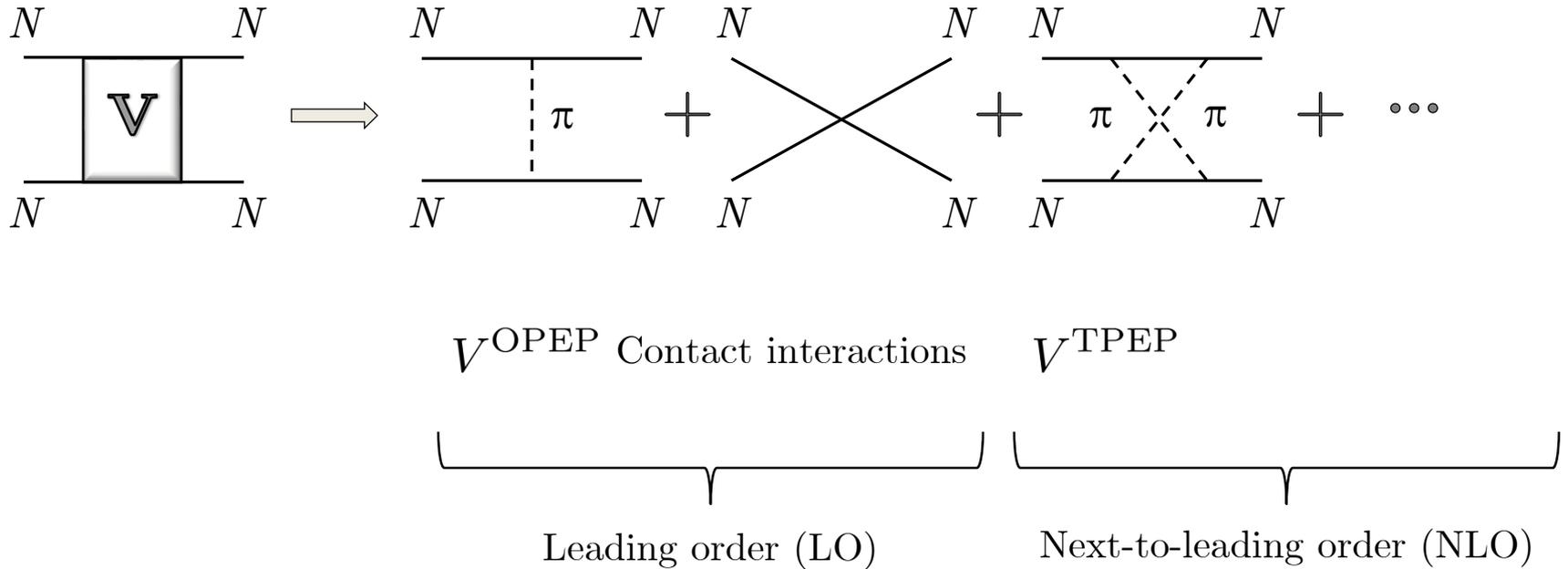
D.L, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 63 117-154 (2009)

Lähde, Meißner, Nuclear Lattice Effective Field Theory (2019), Springer

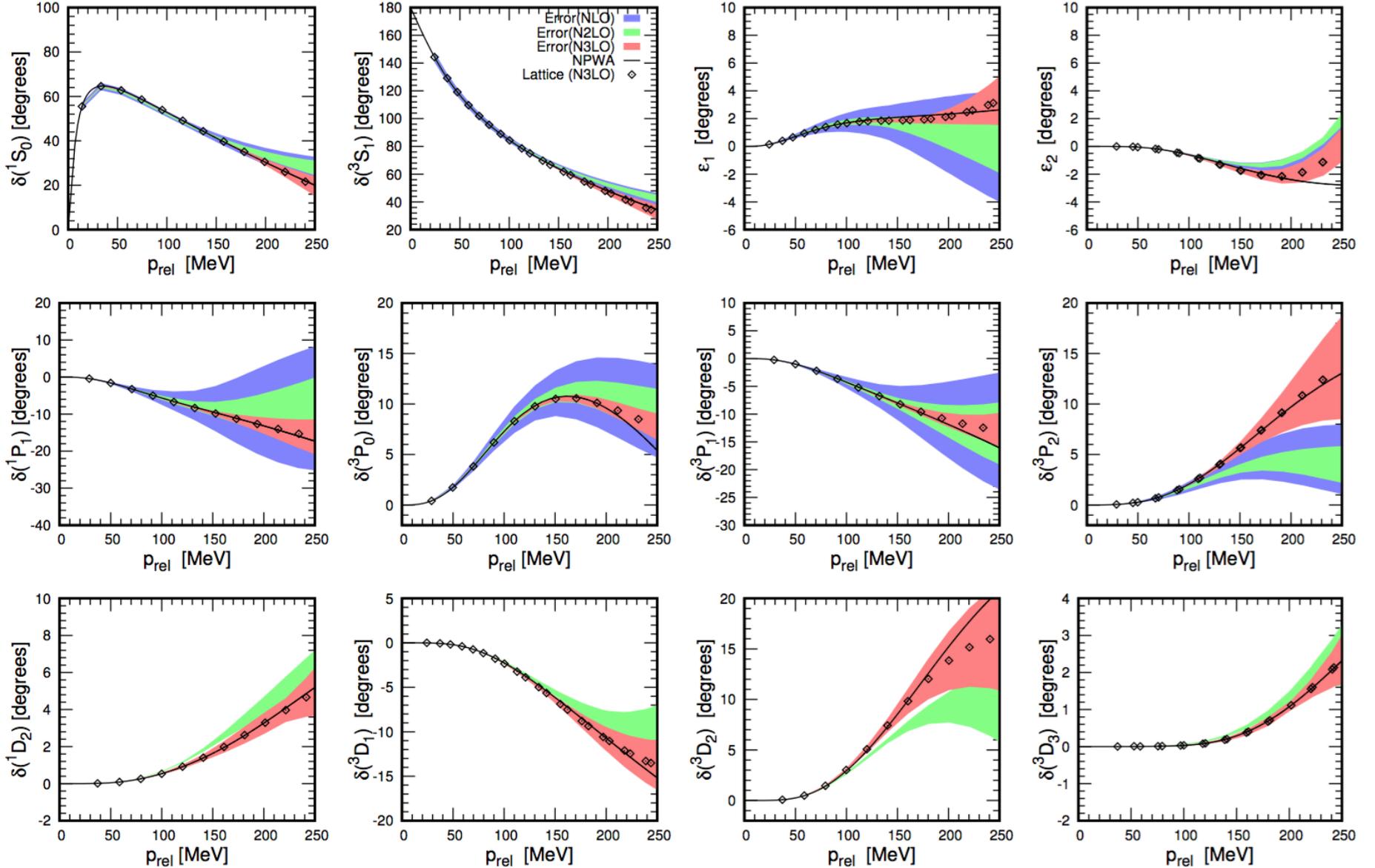


# Chiral effective field theory

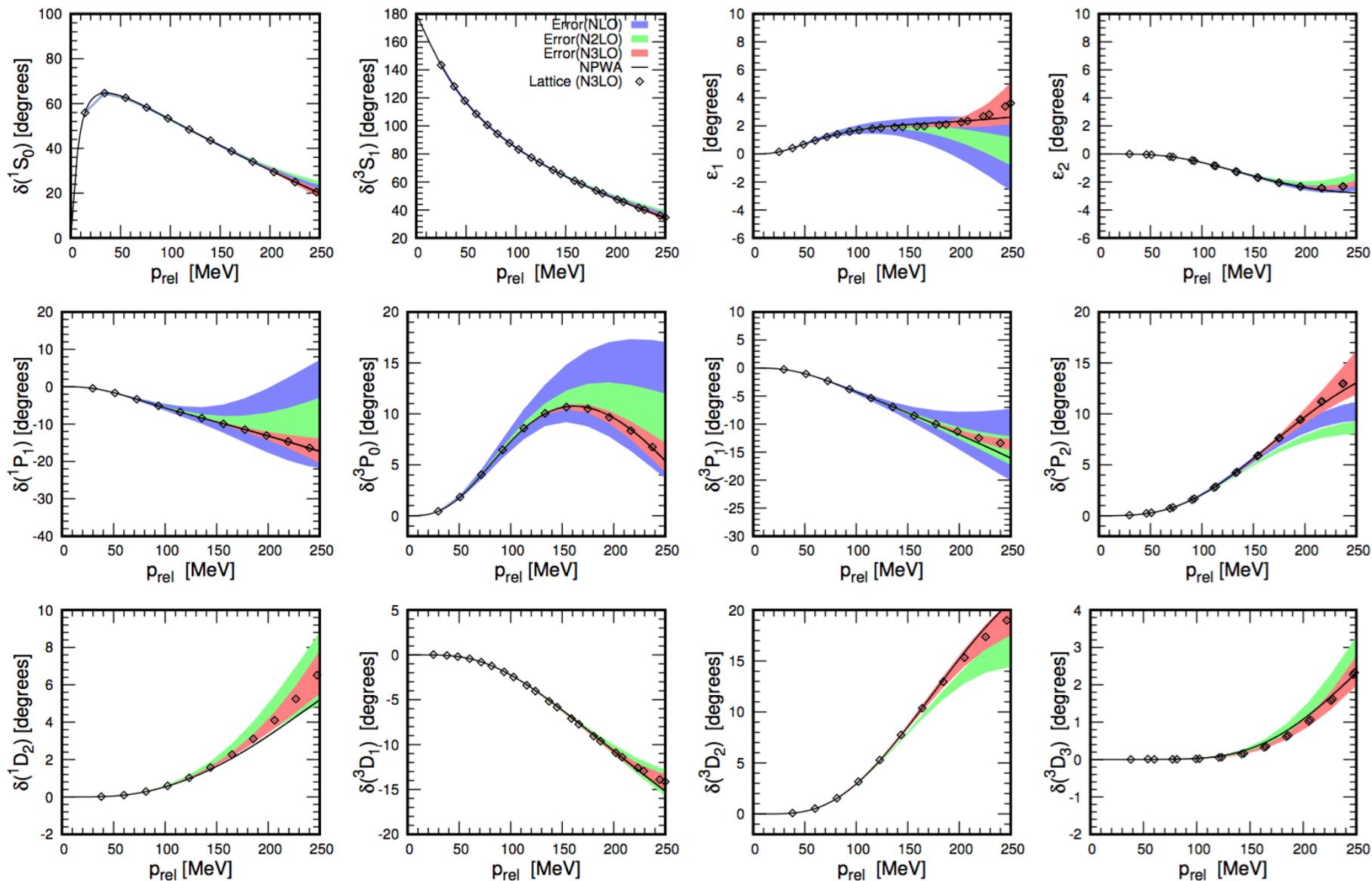
Construct the effective potential order by order



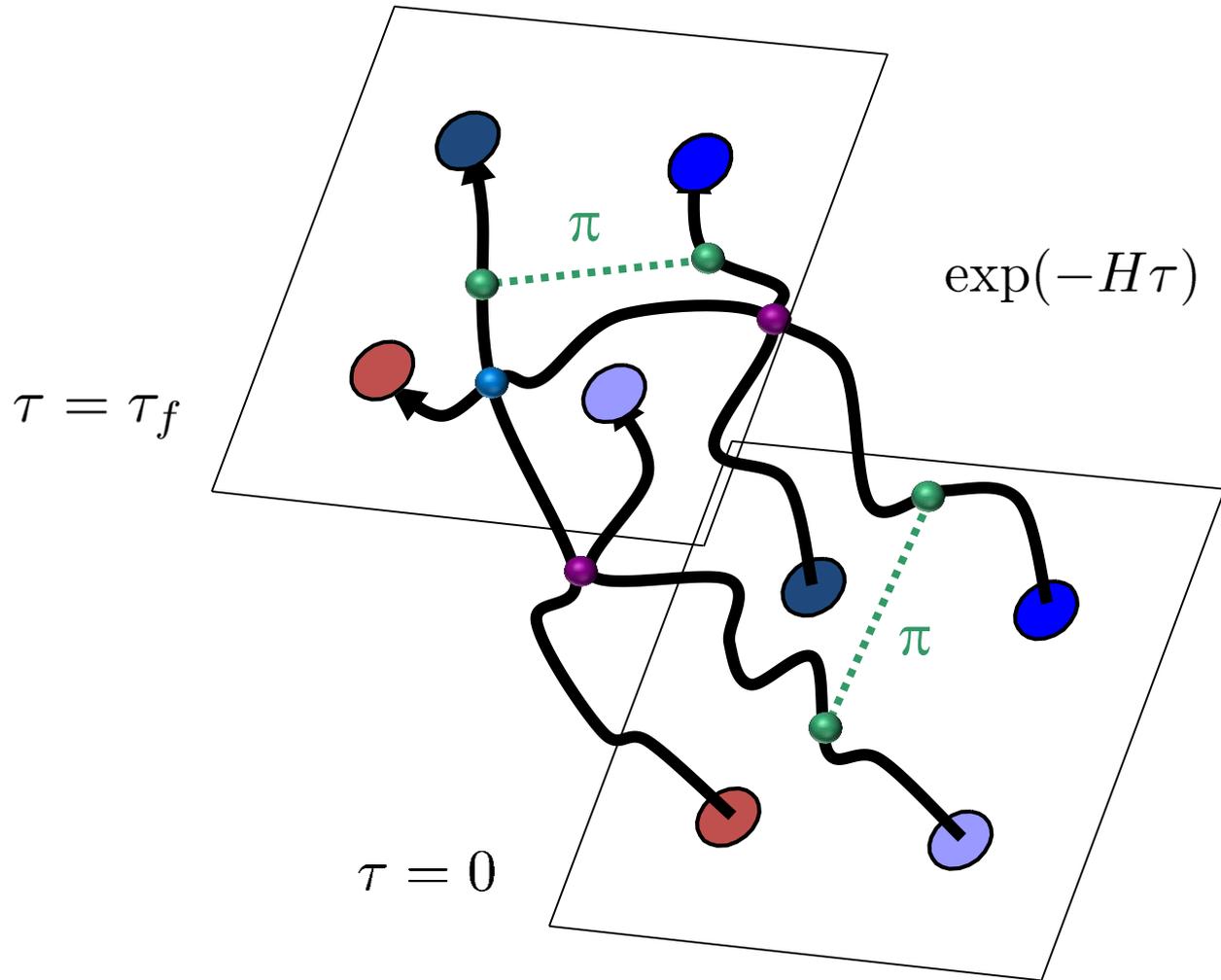
$a = 1.315$  fm



$a = 0.987 \text{ fm}$



# Euclidean time projection

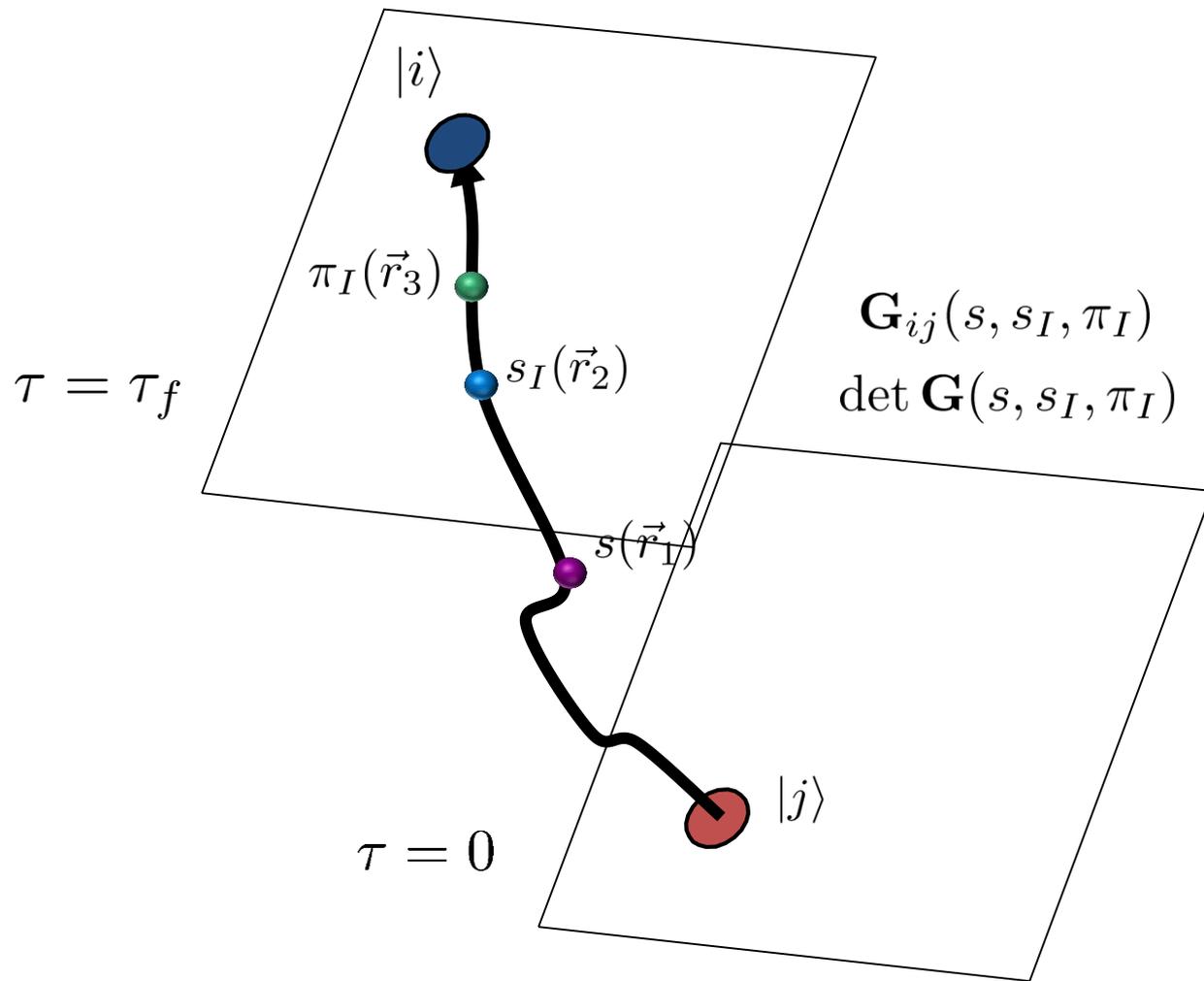


## Auxiliary field method

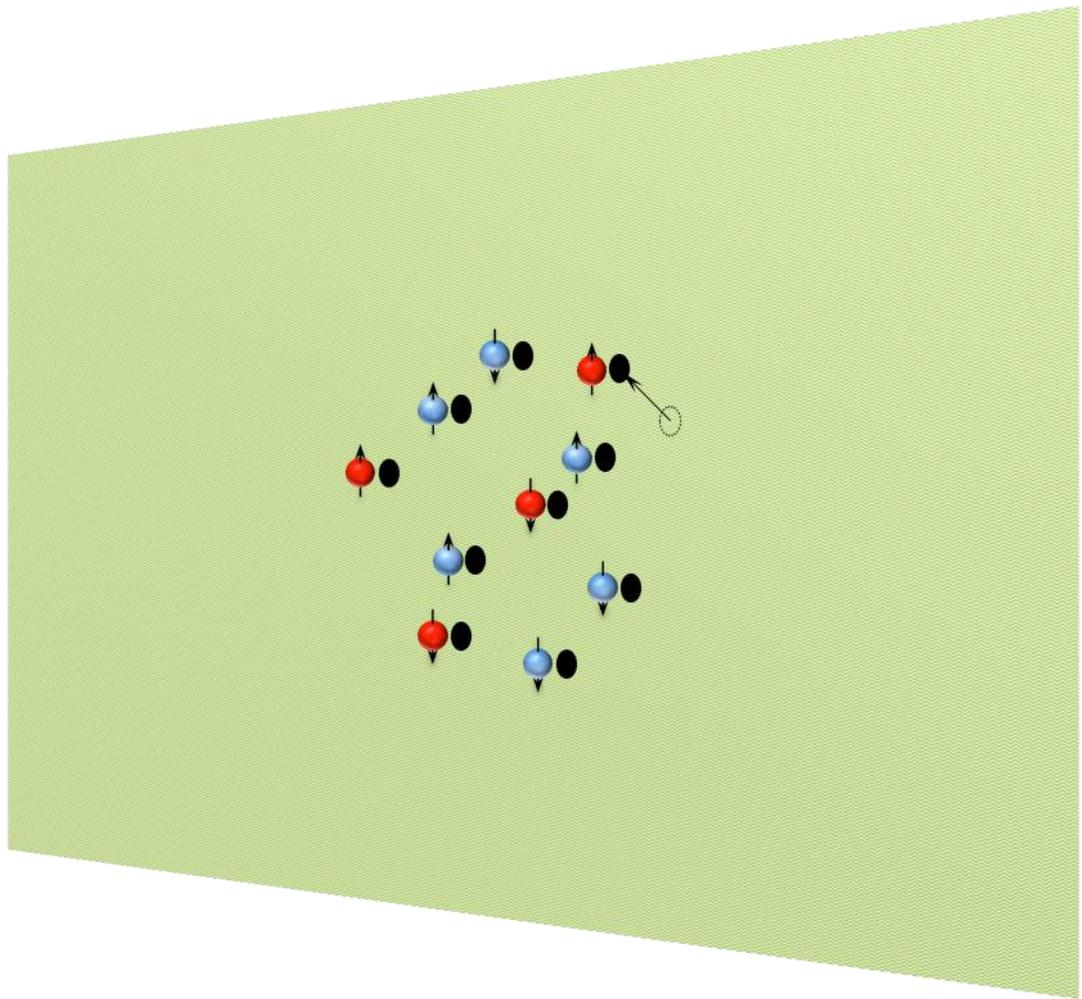
We can write exponentials of the interaction using a Gaussian integral identity

$$\begin{aligned} & \exp \left[ -\frac{C}{2} (N^\dagger N)^2 \right] \quad \diagdown \quad (N^\dagger N)^2 \\ & = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} ds \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} s^2 + \sqrt{-C} s (N^\dagger N) \right] \quad \diagup \quad s N^\dagger N \end{aligned}$$

We remove the interaction between nucleons and replace it with the interactions of each nucleon with a background field.



# Pinhole algorithm



## Seeing Structure with Pinholes

Consider the density operator for nucleon with spin  $i$  and isospin  $j$

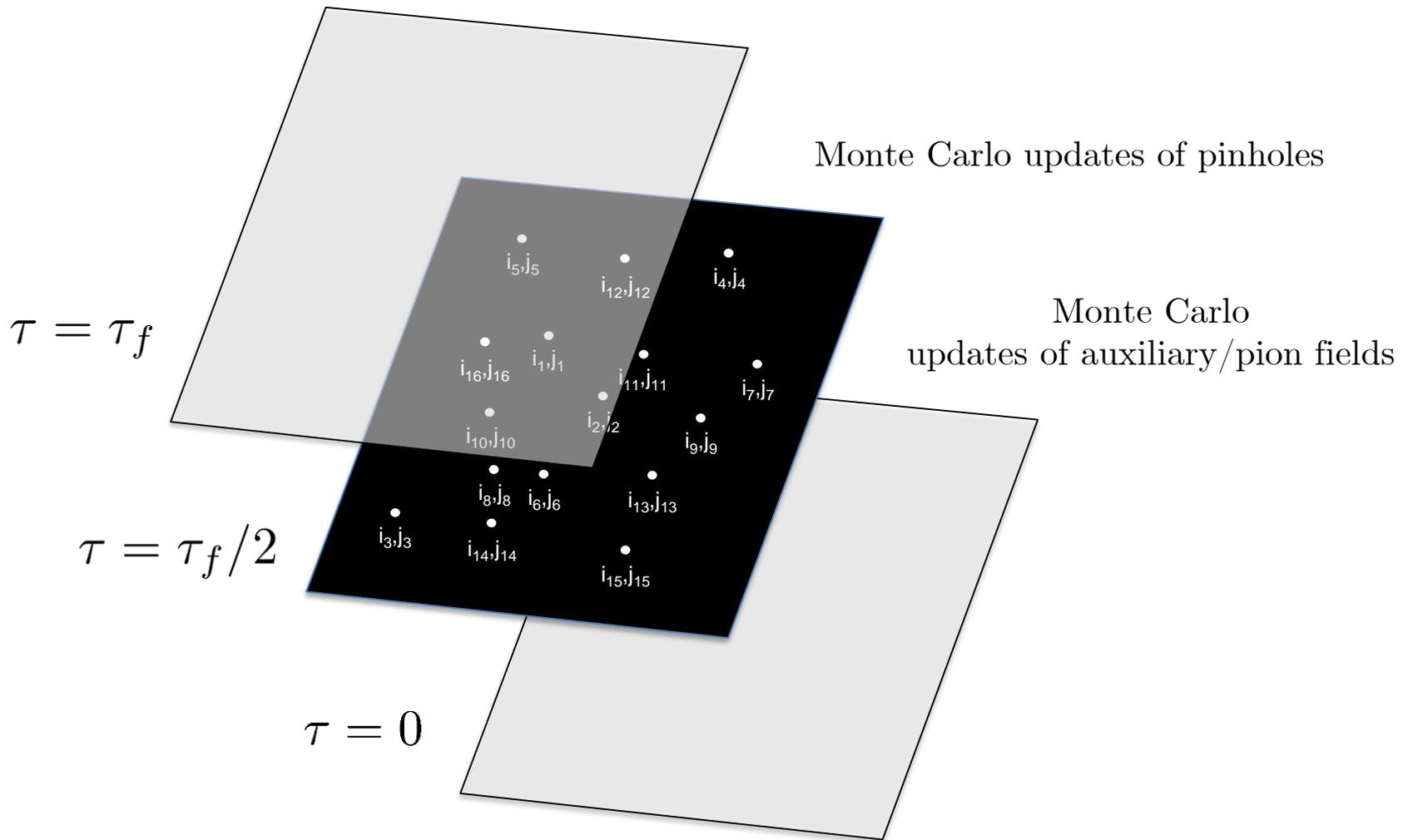
$$\rho_{i,j}(\mathbf{n}) = a_{i,j}^\dagger(\mathbf{n})a_{i,j}(\mathbf{n})$$

We construct the normal-ordered  $A$ -body density operator

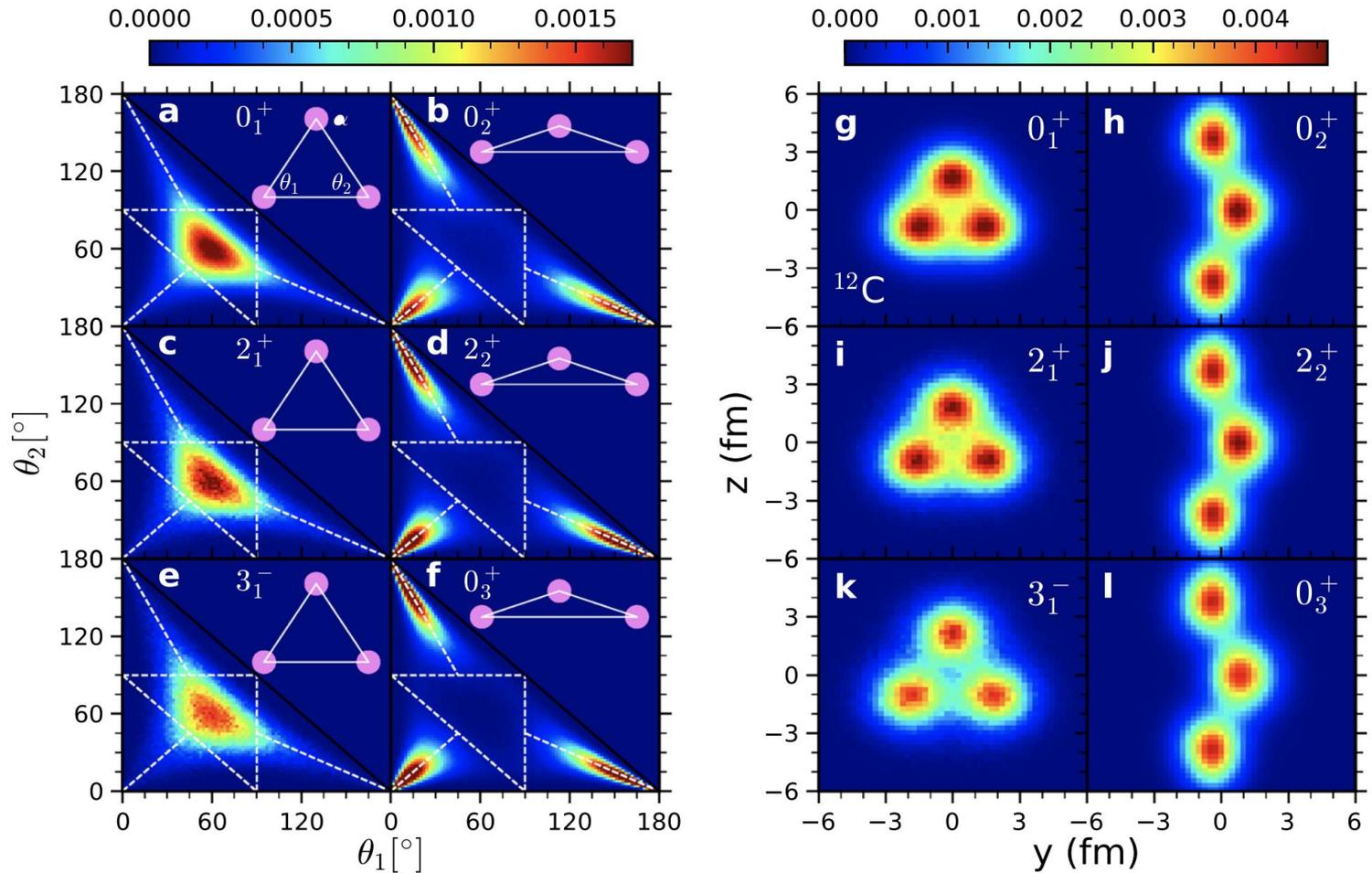
$$\rho_{i_1,j_1,\dots,i_A,j_A}(\mathbf{n}_1,\dots,\mathbf{n}_A) = : \rho_{i_1,j_1}(\mathbf{n}_1) \cdots \rho_{i_A,j_A}(\mathbf{n}_A) :$$

In the simulations we do Monte Carlo sampling of the amplitude

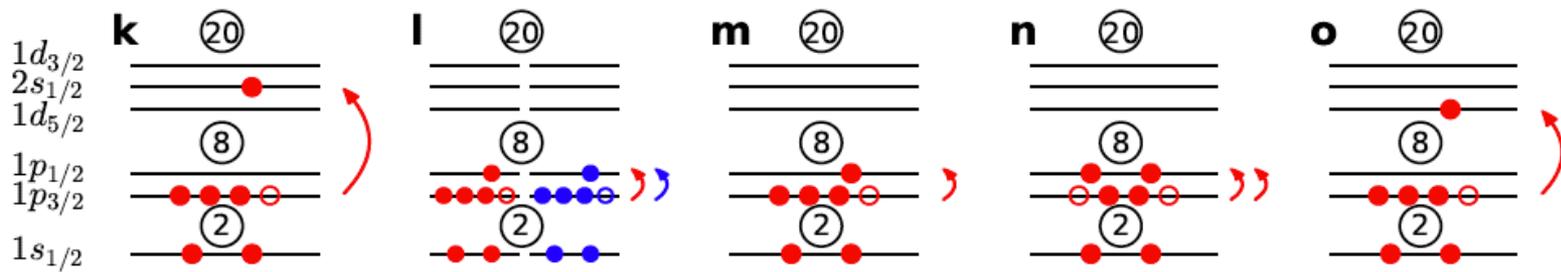
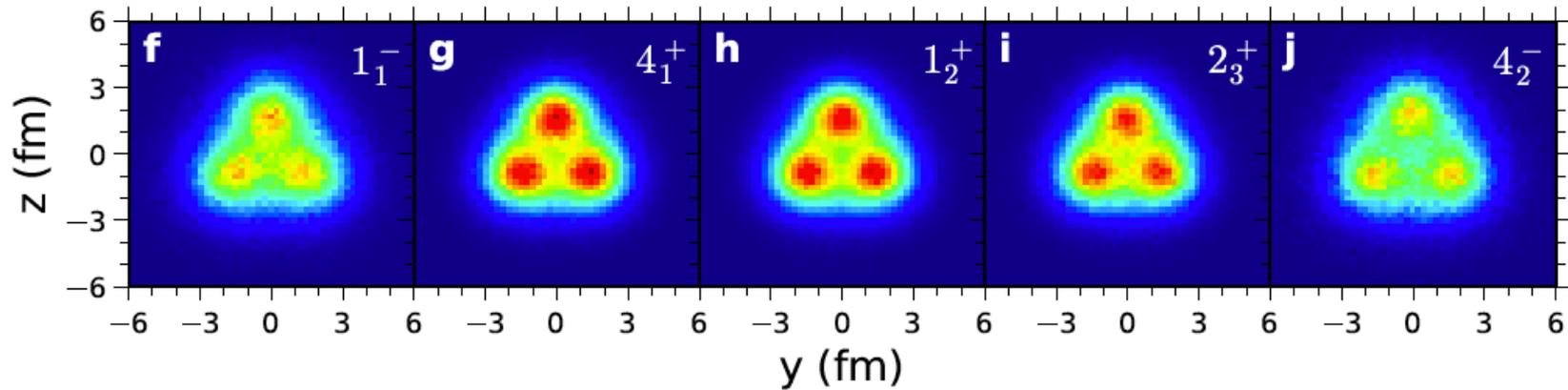
$$A_{i_1,j_1,\dots,i_A,j_A}(\mathbf{n}_1,\dots,\mathbf{n}_A,t) = \langle \Psi_I | e^{-Ht/2} \rho_{i_1,j_1,\dots,i_A,j_A}(\mathbf{n}_1,\dots,\mathbf{n}_A) e^{-Ht/2} | \Psi_I \rangle$$

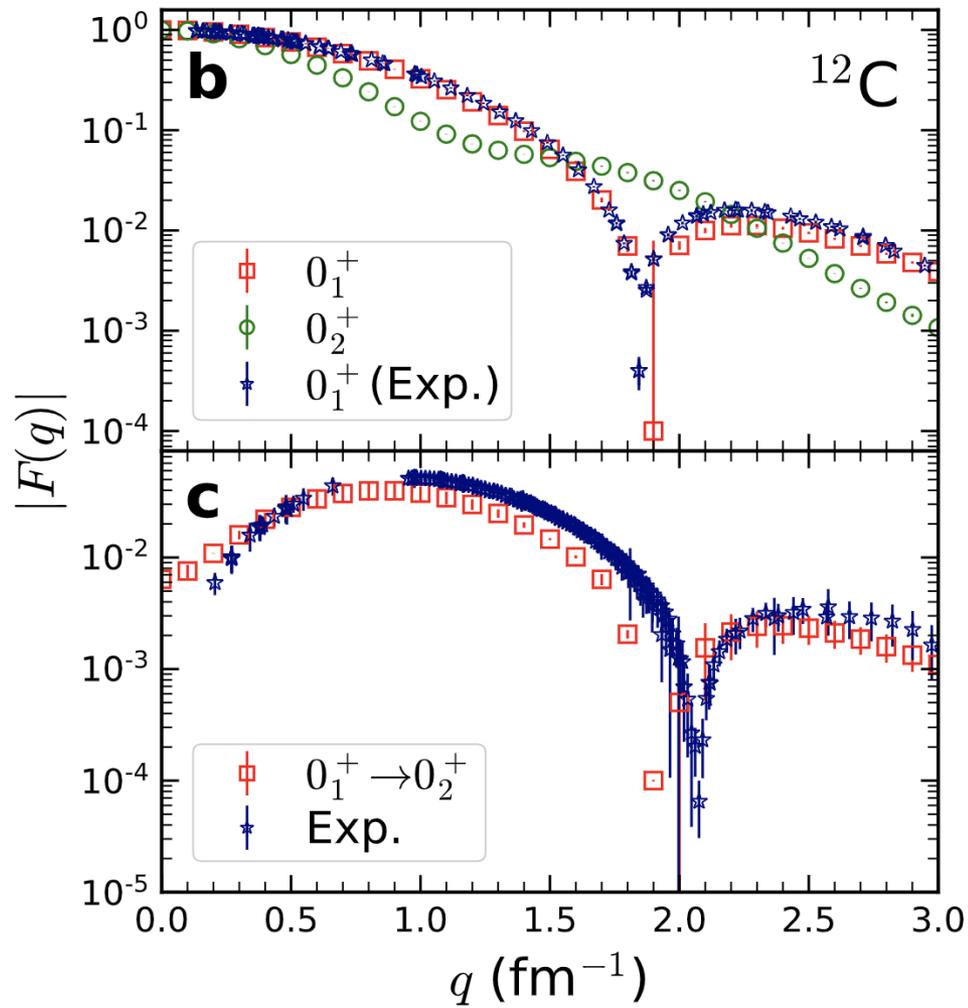


# Emergent geometry and duality of $^{12}\text{C}$

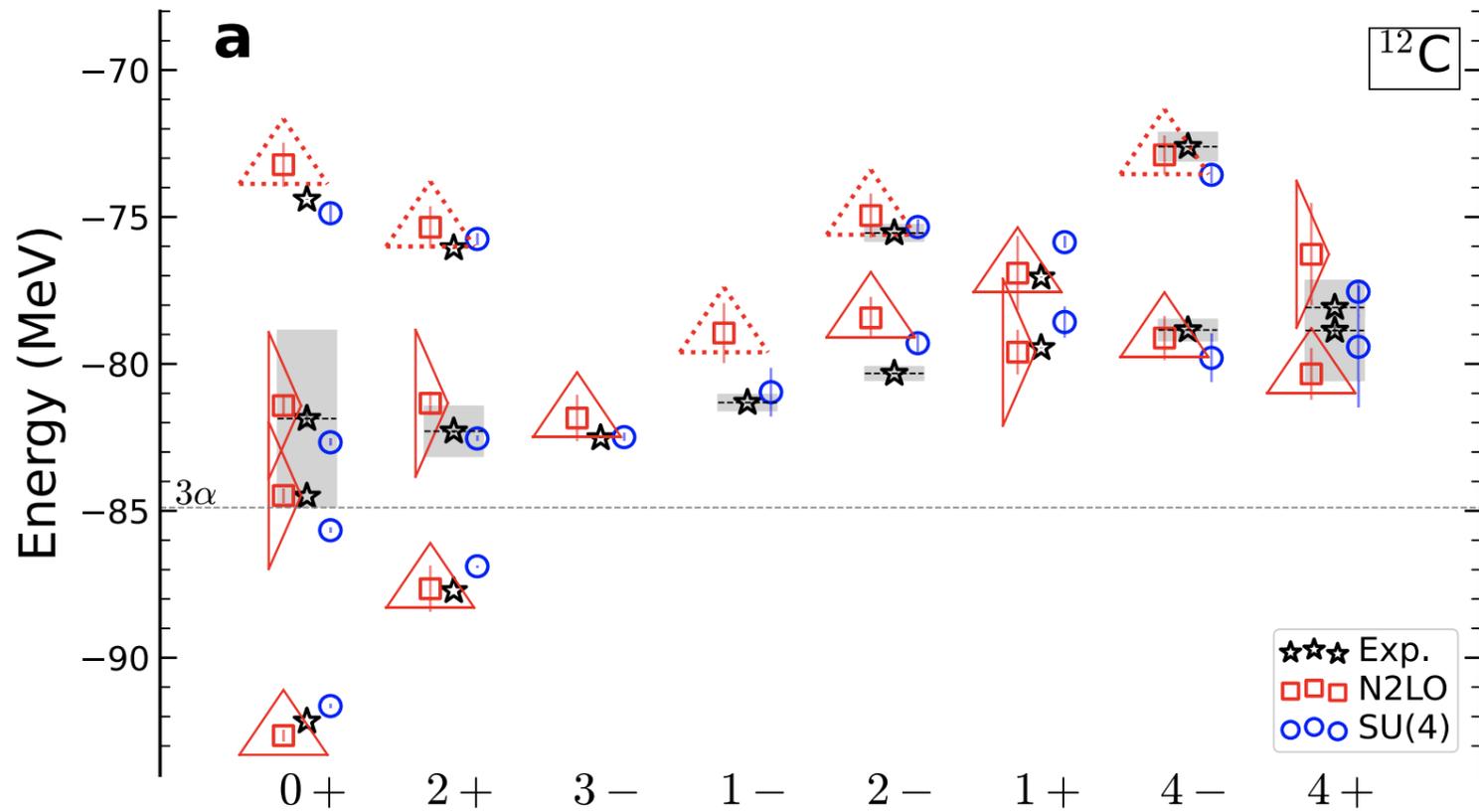


Shen, Elhatisari, Lähde, D.L., Lu, Meißner, Nature Commun. 14, 2777 (2023)



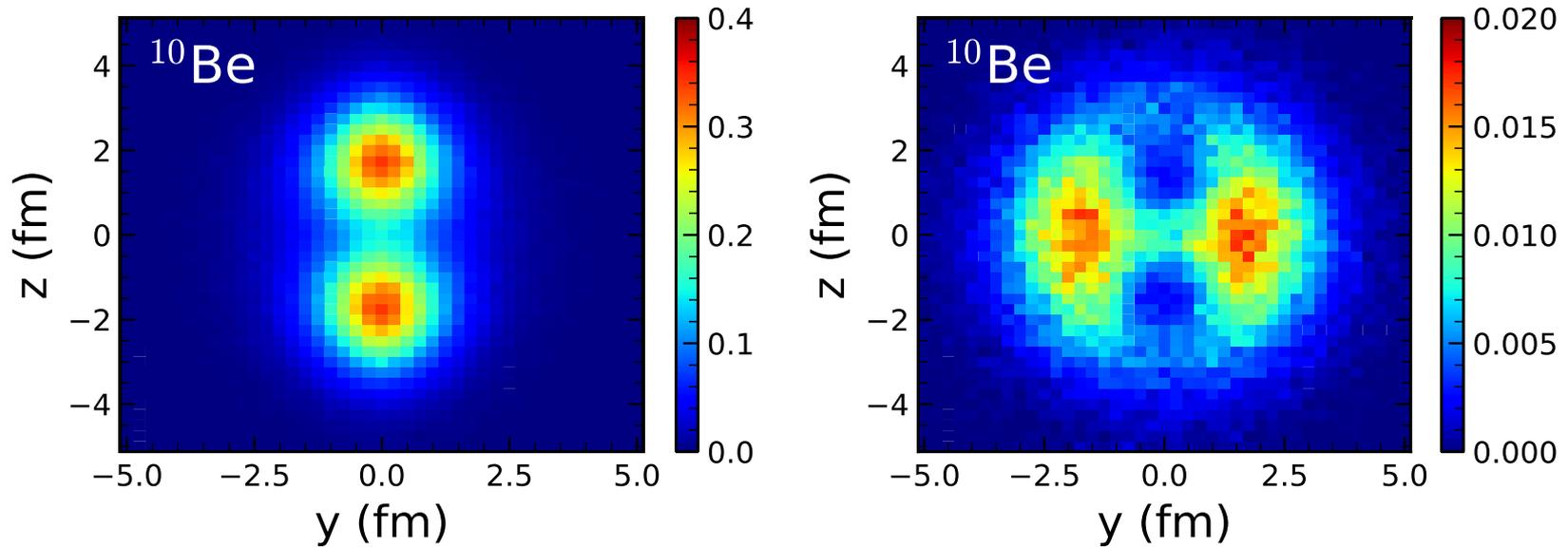


Shen, Elhatisari, Lähde, D.L., Lu, Meißner, Nature Commun. 14, 2777 (2023)



Shen, Elhatisari, Lähde, D.L., Lu, Meißner, Nature Commun. 14, 2777 (2023)

## Seeing the structure of $^{10}\text{Be}$



The left panel shows the intrinsic shape of the total nucleon density for  $^{10}\text{Be}$ . The right panel shows the density distribution of the two neutrons furthest away from the protons in  $^{10}\text{Be}$

## Adiabatic projection method

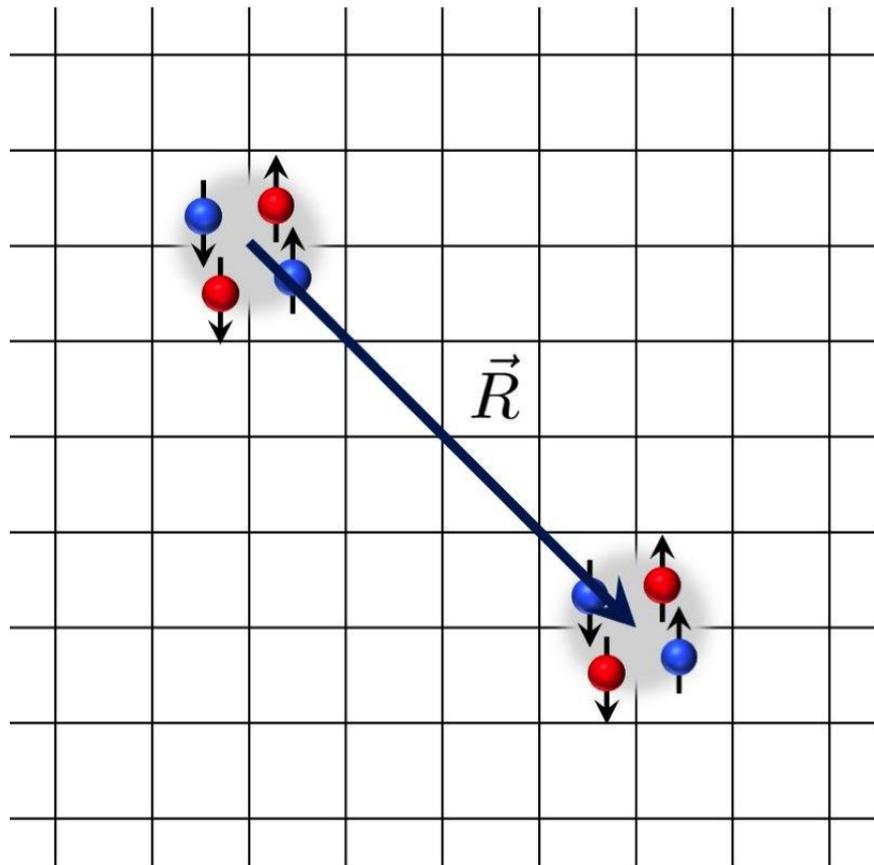
The adiabatic projection method is a first principles method for scattering and reactions. Strategy is to divide the problem into two parts.

In the first part, use Euclidean time projection and lattice Monte Carlo to derive an ab initio low-energy cluster Hamiltonian, called the adiabatic Hamiltonian.

In the second part, we use the adiabatic Hamiltonian to compute scattering phase shifts or reaction amplitudes.

Start with localized cluster states for all possible separation vectors  $\vec{R}$

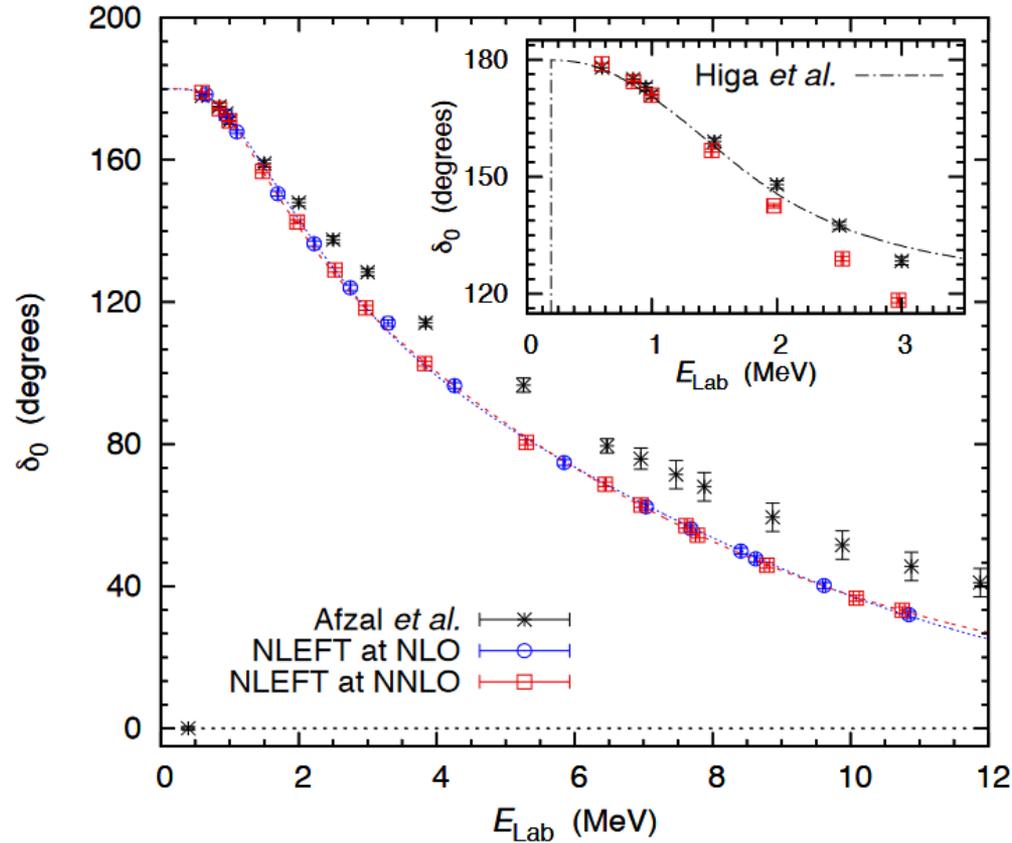
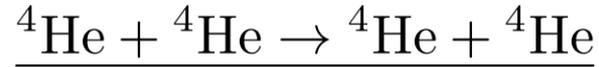
$$|\vec{R}\rangle = \sum_{\vec{r}} |\vec{r} + \vec{R}\rangle_1 \otimes |\vec{r}\rangle_2$$



Evolve clusters with Euclidean time

$$|\vec{R}\rangle_\tau = \exp(-H\tau)|\vec{R}\rangle$$

Effective cluster-cluster Hamiltonian  
constructed from these states



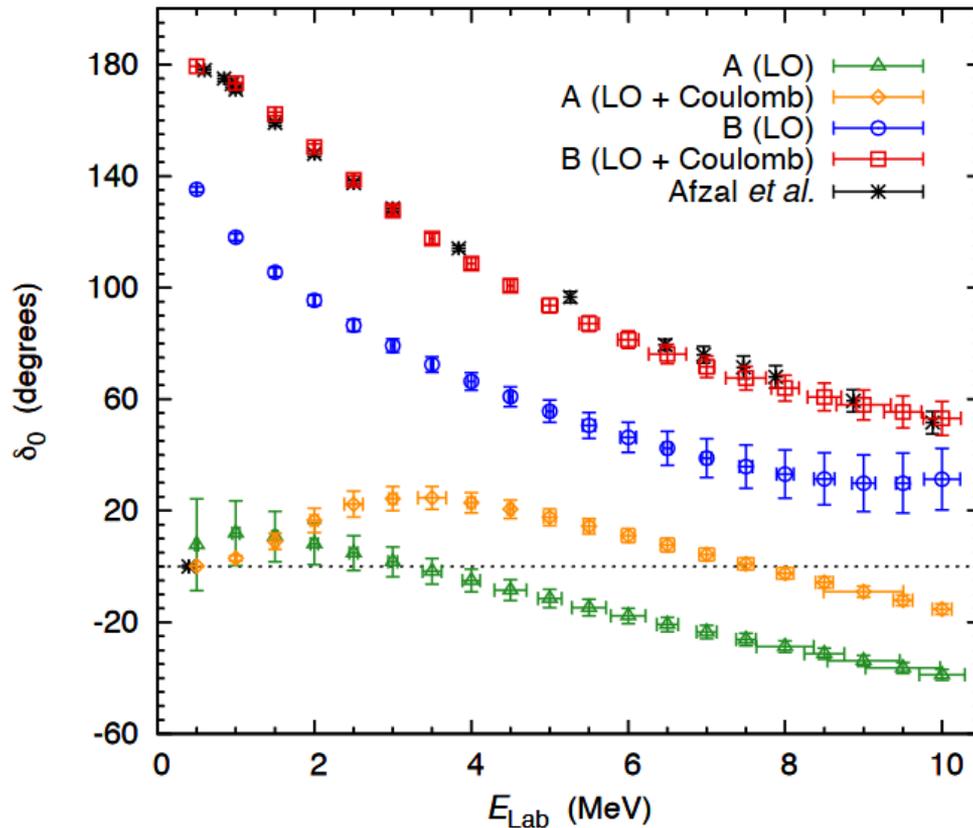
Afzal, Ahmad, Ali, RMP 41 247 (1969)

Higa, Hammer, van Kolck, NPA 809 171(2008)

Elhatisari, D.L., Rupak, Epelbaum, Krebs, Lähde, Luu, Meißner, Nature 528, 111 (2015)

## A tale of two interactions

Two different LO interactions, A and B, that are nearly the same for up to four nucleon systems



Nucleus	A (LO)	B (LO)	A (LO + Coulomb)	B (LO + Coulomb)	Experiment
$^8\text{Be}$	-58.61(14)	-59.73(6)	-56.51(14)	-57.29(7)	-56.591
$^{12}\text{C}$	-88.2(3)	-95.0(5)	-84.0(3)	-89.9(5)	-92.162
$^{16}\text{O}$	-117.5(6)	-135.4(7)	-110.5(6)	-126.0(7)	-127.619
$^{20}\text{Ne}$	-148(1)	-178(1)	-137(1)	-164(1)	-160.645

Nucleus	A (LO)	B (LO)	A (LO + Coulomb)	B (LO + Coulomb)	Experiment
${}^8\text{Be}$	-58.61(14)	-59.73(6)	-56.51(14)	-57.29(7)	-56.591
${}^{12}\text{C}$	-88.2(3)	-95.0(5)	-84.0(3)	-89.9(5)	-92.162
${}^{16}\text{O}$	-117.5(6)	-135.4(7)	-110.5(6)	-126.0(7)	-127.619
${}^{20}\text{Ne}$	-148(1)	-178(1)	-137(1)	-164(1)	-160.645

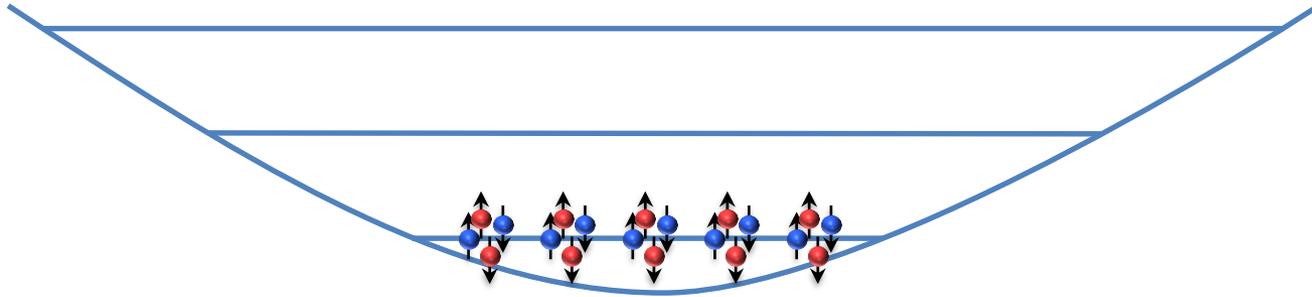
$$\frac{E_{8\text{Be}}}{E_{4\text{He}}} = 1.997(6)$$

$$\frac{E_{12\text{C}}}{E_{4\text{He}}} = 3.00(1)$$

$$\frac{E_{16\text{O}}}{E_{4\text{He}}} = 4.00(2)$$

$$\frac{E_{20\text{Ne}}}{E_{4\text{He}}} = 5.03(3)$$

# Bose condensate of alpha particles!



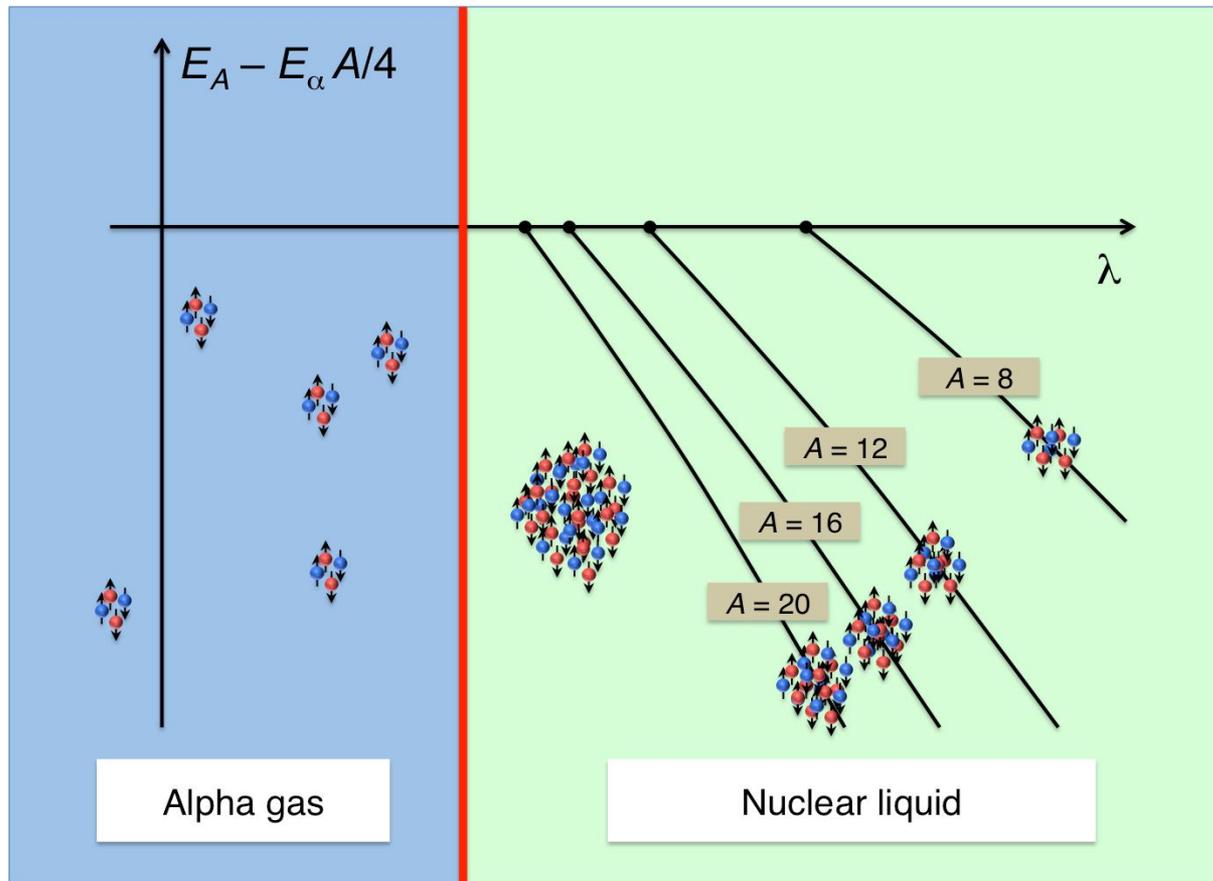
Nucleus	A (LO)	B (LO)	A (LO + Coulomb)	B (LO + Coulomb)	Experiment
$^8\text{Be}$	-58.61(14)	-59.73(6)	-56.51(14)	-57.29(7)	-56.591
$^{12}\text{C}$	-88.2(3)	-95.0(5)	-84.0(3)	-89.9(5)	-92.162
$^{16}\text{O}$	-117.5(6)	-135.4(7)	-110.5(6)	-126.0(7)	-127.619
$^{20}\text{Ne}$	-148(1)	-178(1)	-137(1)	-164(1)	-160.645

$$\frac{E_{8\text{Be}}}{E_{4\text{He}}} = 1.997(6)$$

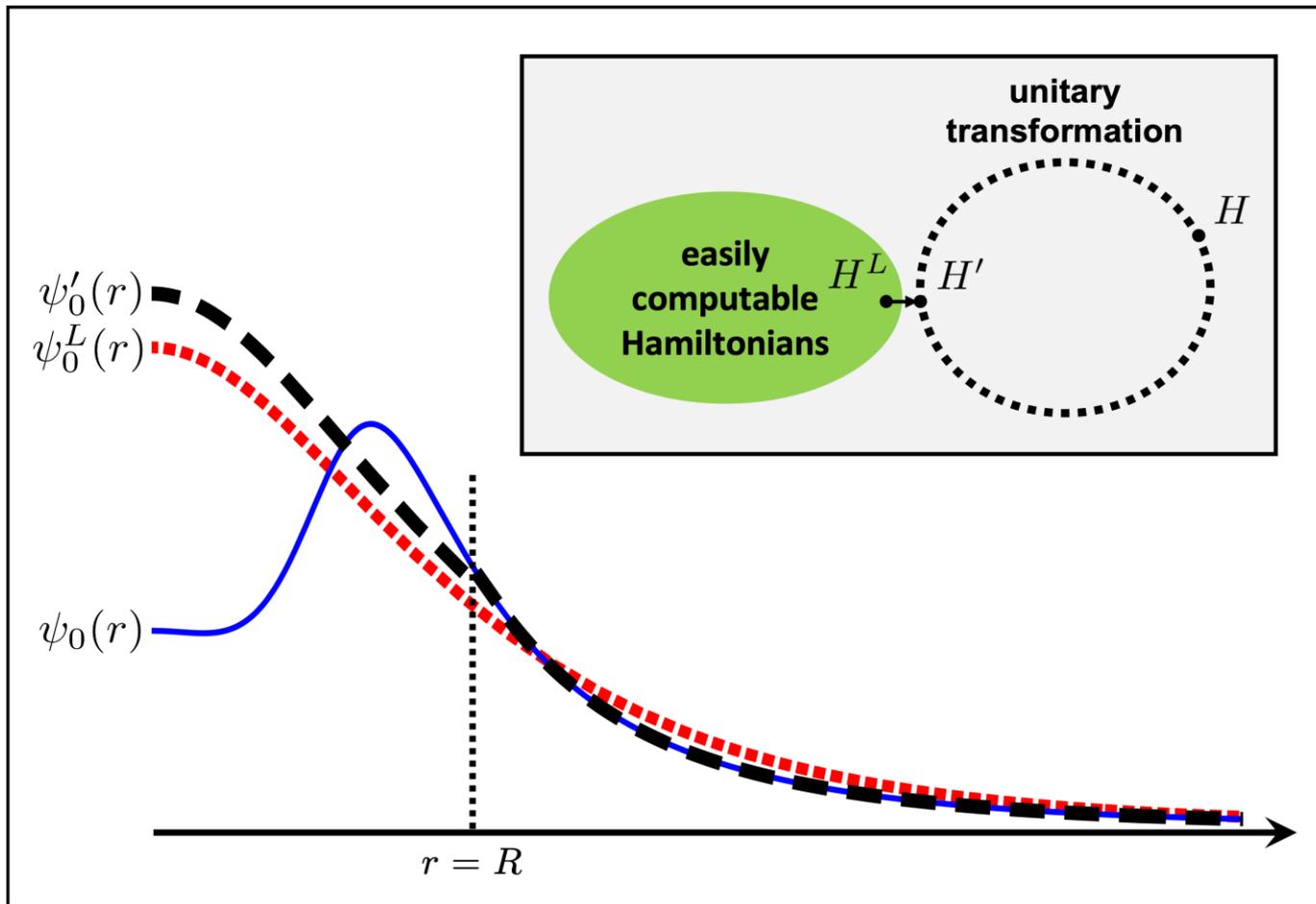
$$\frac{E_{12\text{C}}}{E_{4\text{He}}} = 3.00(1)$$

$$\frac{E_{16\text{O}}}{E_{4\text{He}}} = 4.00(2)$$

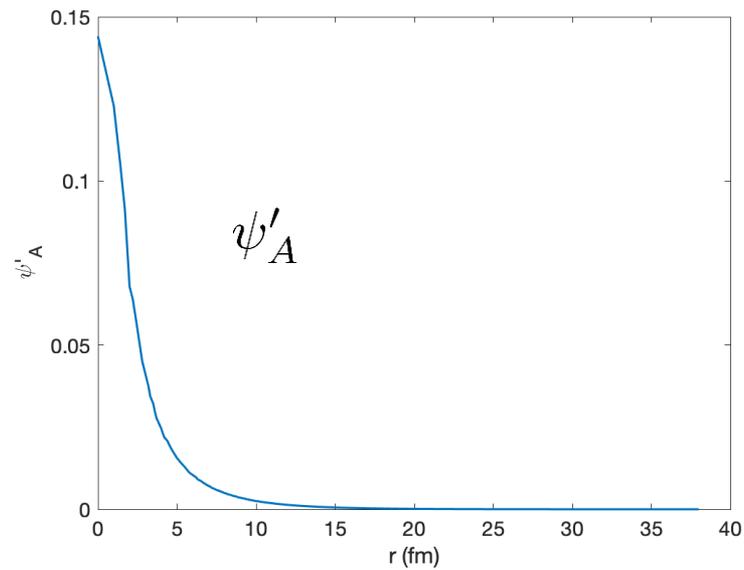
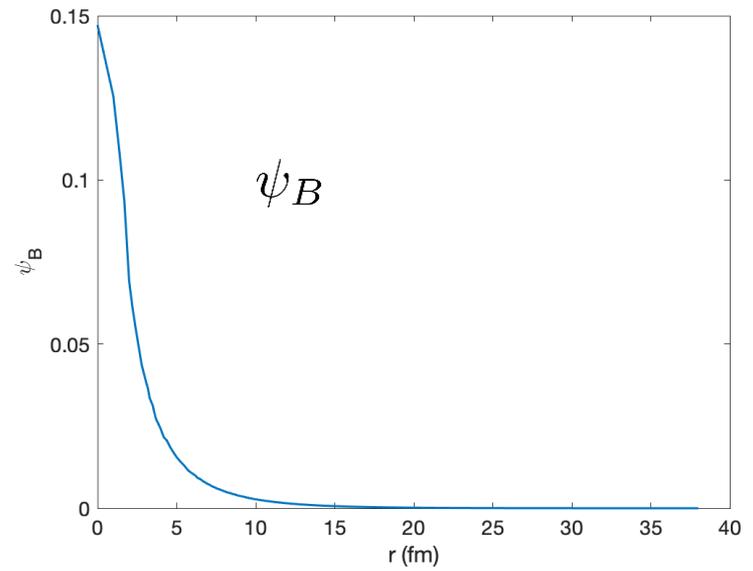
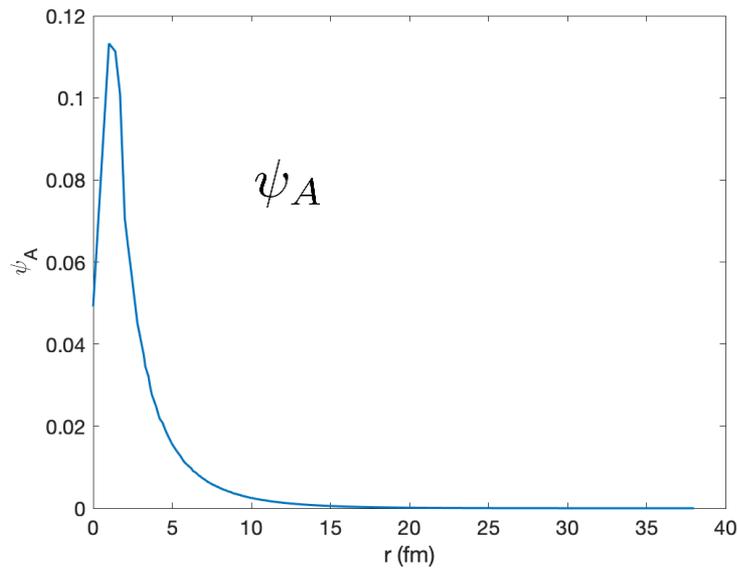
$$\frac{E_{20\text{Ne}}}{E_{4\text{He}}} = 5.03(3)$$



Elhatisari, Li, Rokash, Alarcon, Du, Klein, Lu, Meißner, Epelbaum, Krebs, Lähde, D.L., Rupak, PRL 117, 132501 (2016)

Wave function matching

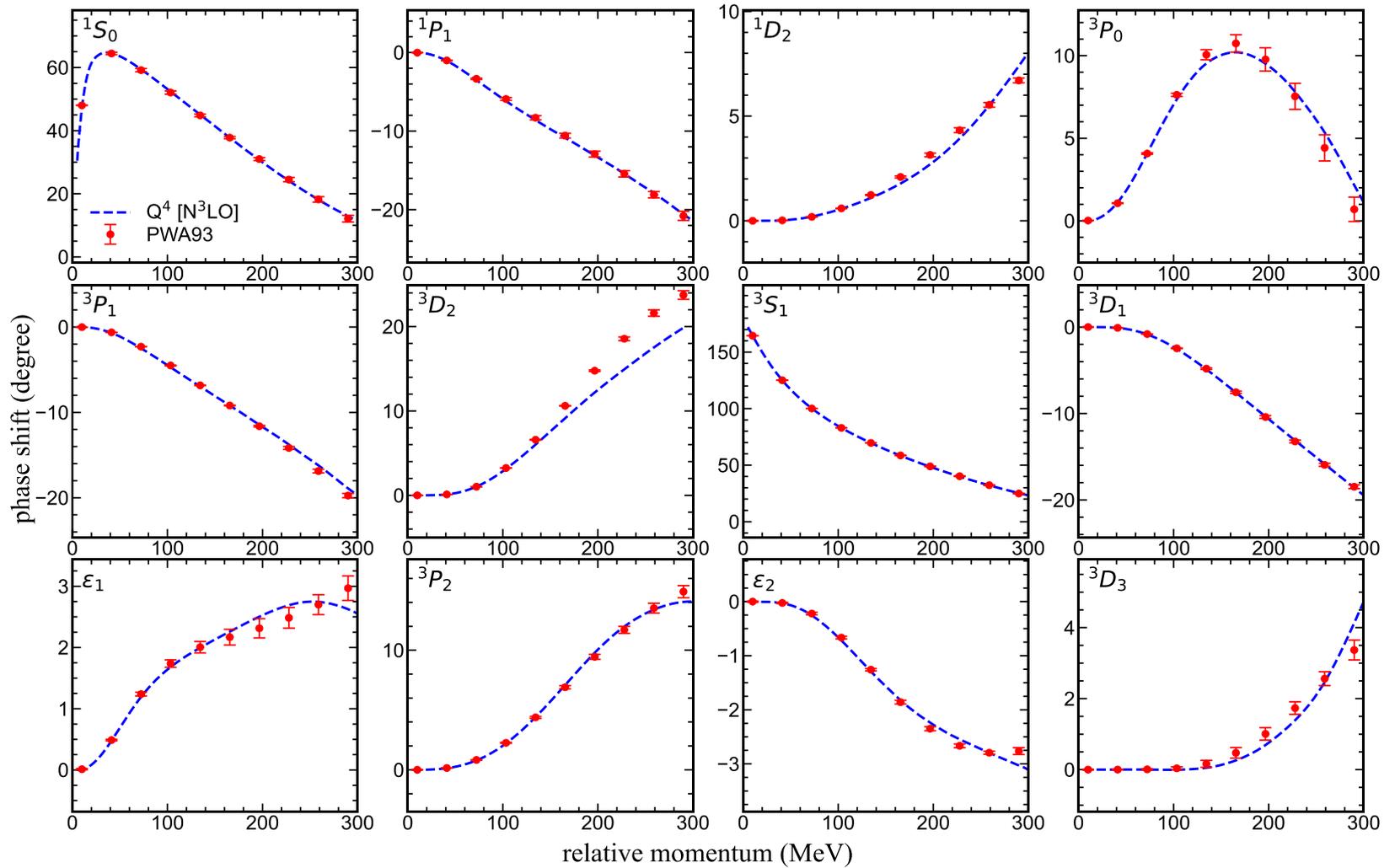
# Ground state wave functions



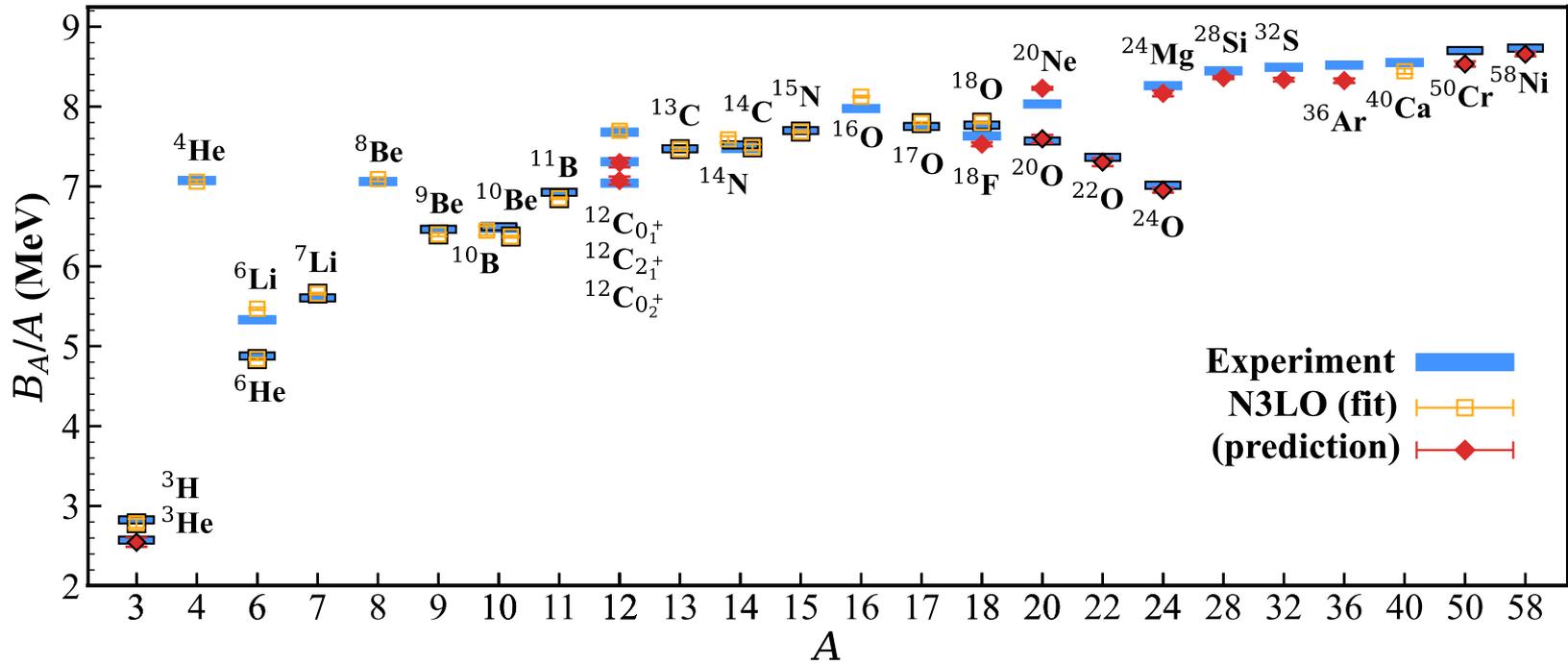
With wave function matching, we can now compute the eigenenergies starting from the eigenfunctions of  $H_B$  and using first-order perturbation theory.

$R = 2.6 \text{ fm}$		
$E_{A,n} = E'_{A,n} \text{ (MeV)}$	$\langle \psi_{B,n}   H_A   \psi_{B,n} \rangle \text{ (MeV)}$	$\langle \psi_{B,n}   H'_A   \psi_{B,n} \rangle \text{ (MeV)}$
-1.2186	3.0088	-1.1597
0.2196	0.3289	0.2212
0.8523	1.1275	0.8577
1.8610	2.2528	1.8719
3.2279	3.6991	3.2477
4.9454	5.4786	4.9798
7.0104	7.5996	7.0680
9.4208	10.0674	9.5137
12.1721	12.8799	12.3163
15.2669	16.0458	15.4840

# N3LO chiral effective field theory interaction

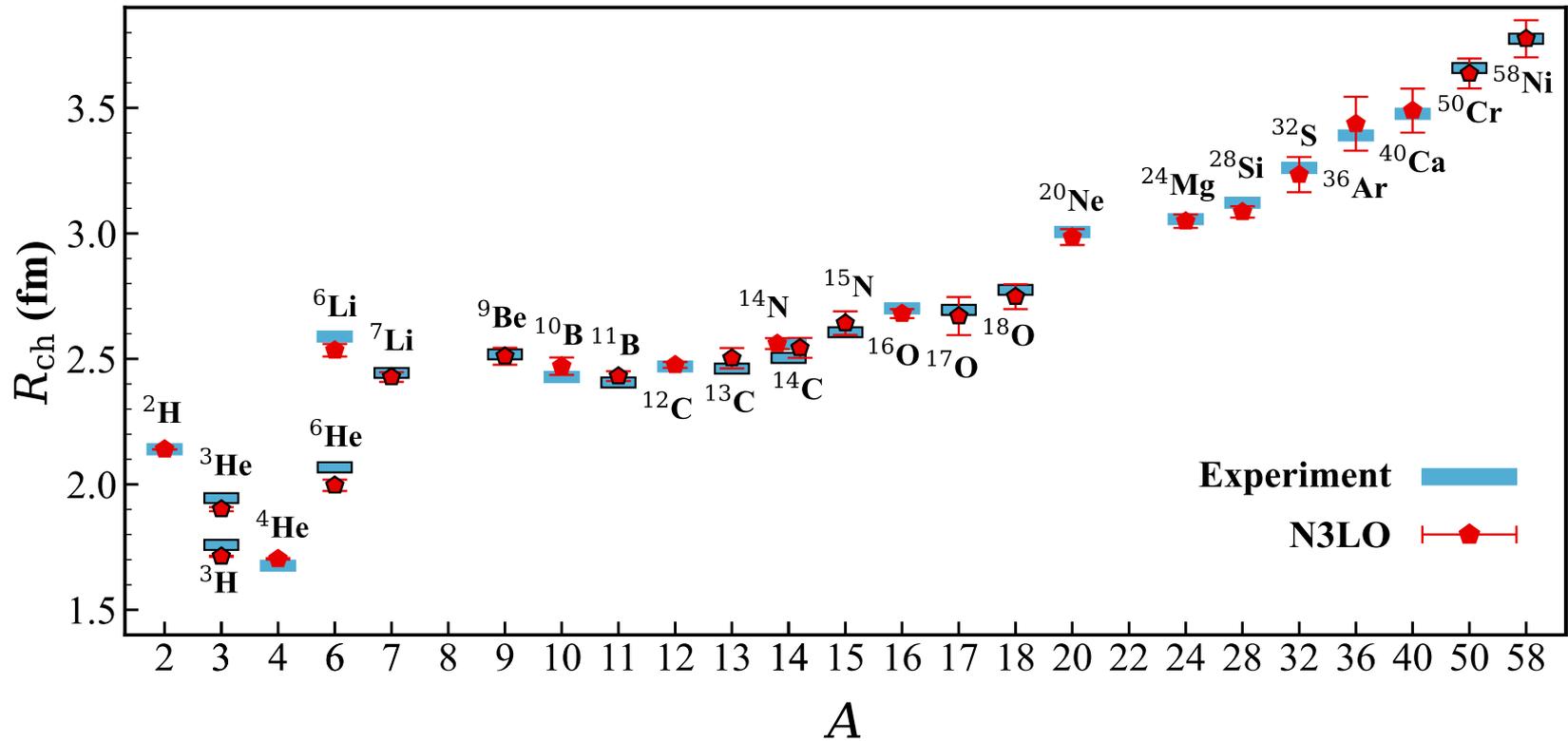


# Binding energy per nucleon

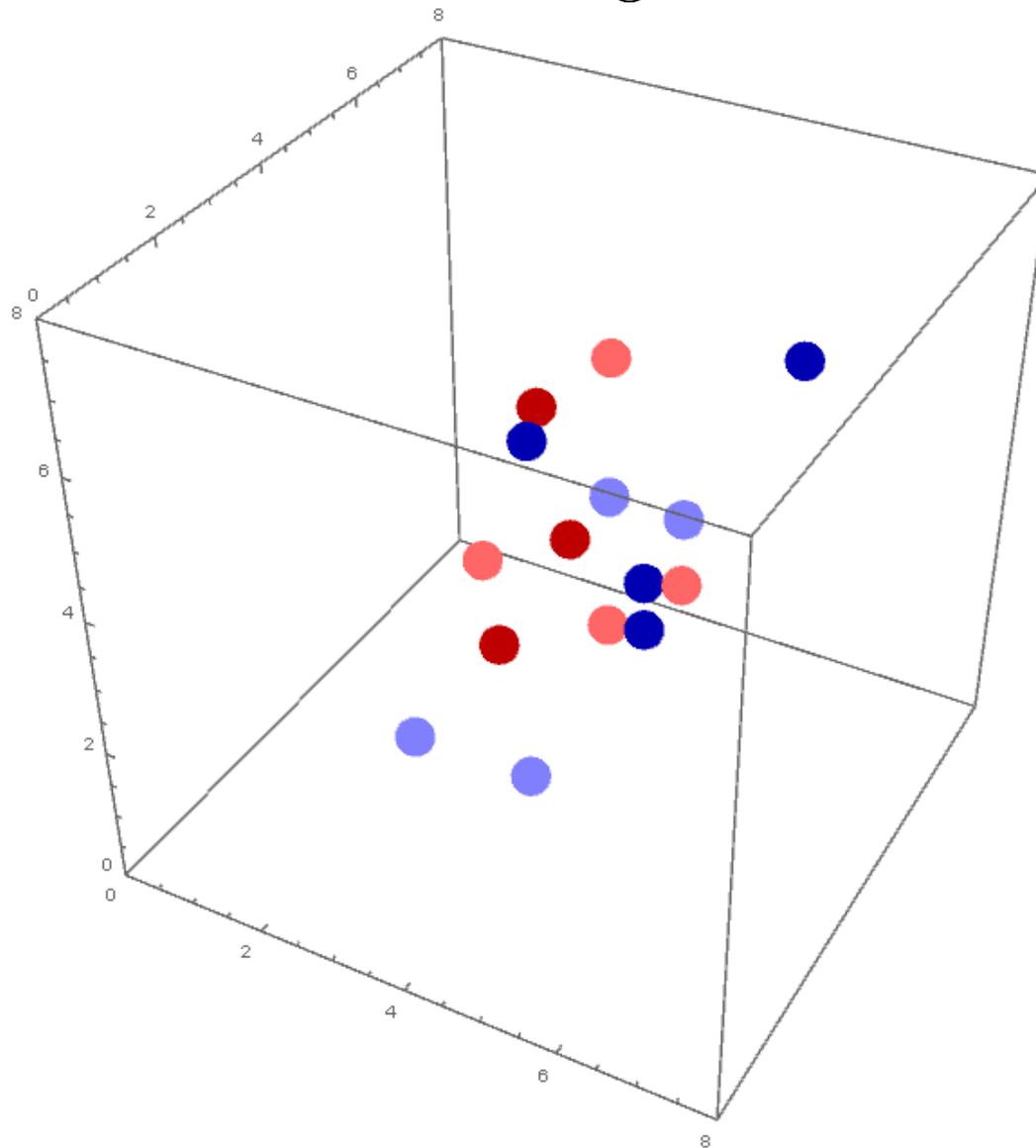


Elhatisari et al., Nature, in press

## Charge radius



$^{16}\text{O}$



- proton up
- proton down
- neutron up
- neutron down

## $^{16}\text{O}^{16}\text{O}$ collisions at RHIC and LHC energies

Summerfield, Lu, Plumberg, D.L., Noronha-Hostler, Timmins PRC 104, L041901 (2021)

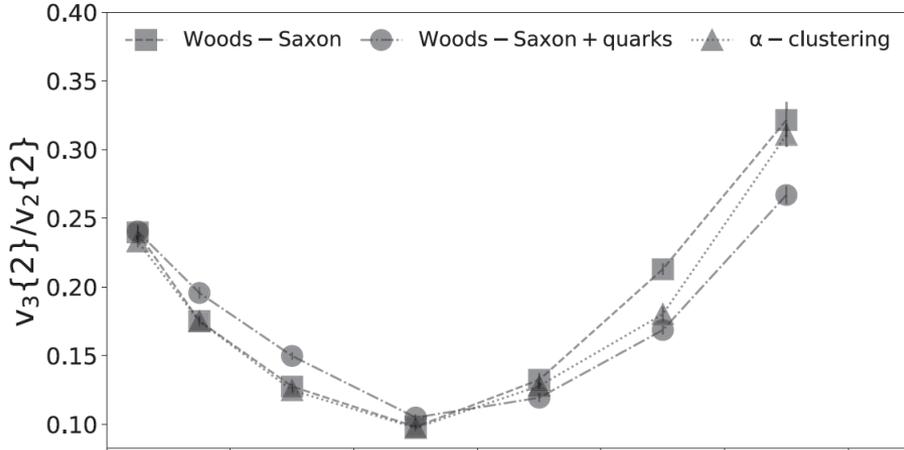
We use T<sub>R</sub>ENTo to generate the initial entropy distribution and compute the following cumulants of the flow harmonics  $v_n$ :

$$v_n\{2\} = [\langle v_n^2 \rangle]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
$$v_n\{4\} = \left[ 2 \langle v_n^2 \rangle^2 - \langle v_n^4 \rangle \right]^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

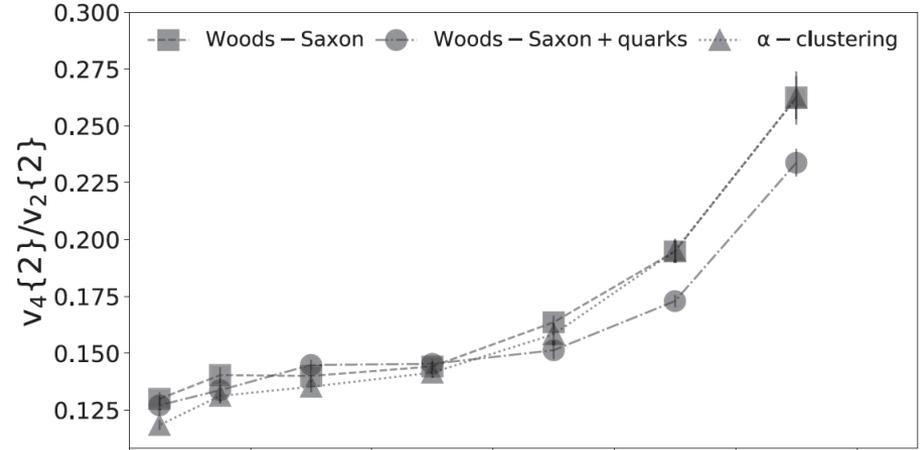
We first compute results taking the initial density as a Woods-Saxon potential with density, radius, and diffusivity fitted to empirical values. We then consider the same Woods-Saxon potential, taking into account the quark substructure of the nucleons. Lastly, we consider using the nucleon distribution from the lattice effective field theory calculations. This will incorporate correlations such as alpha clustering.

Summerfield, Lu, Plumberg, D.L., Noronha-Hostler, Timmins PRC 104, L041901 (2021)

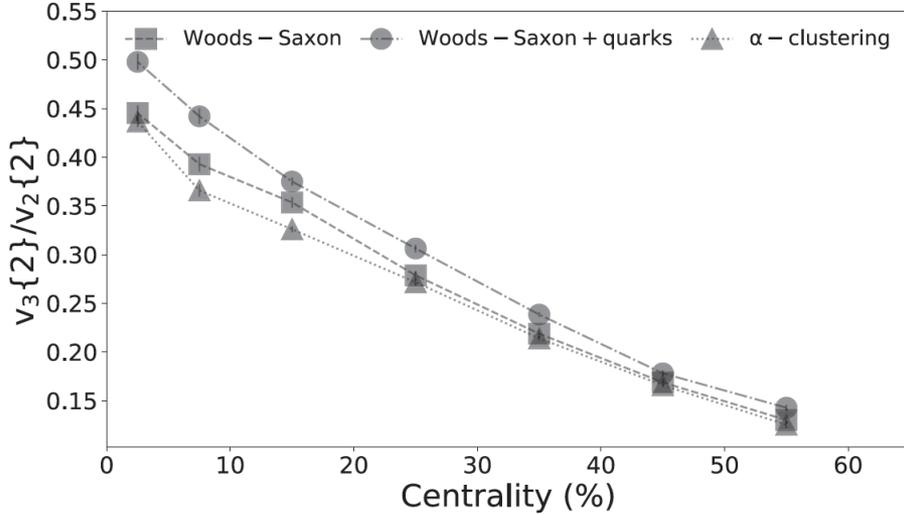
O - O  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV



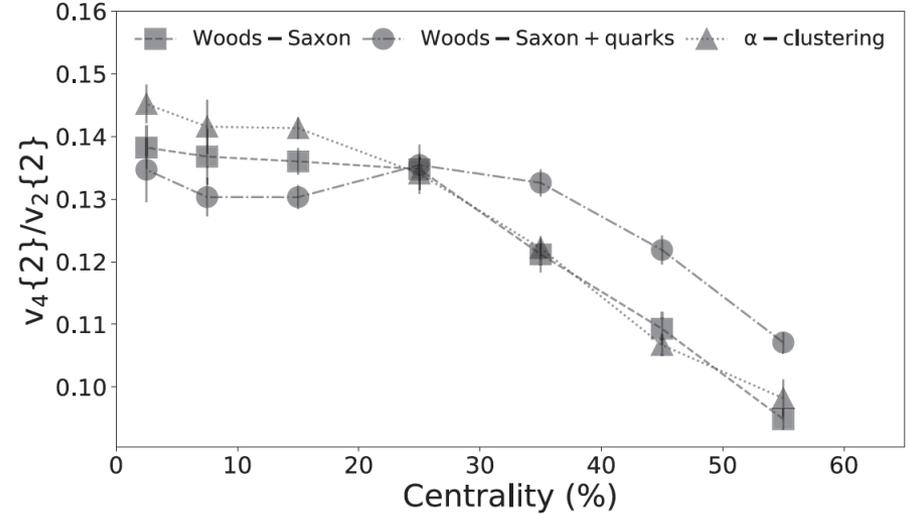
O - O  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$  GeV



O - O  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 6.5$  TeV

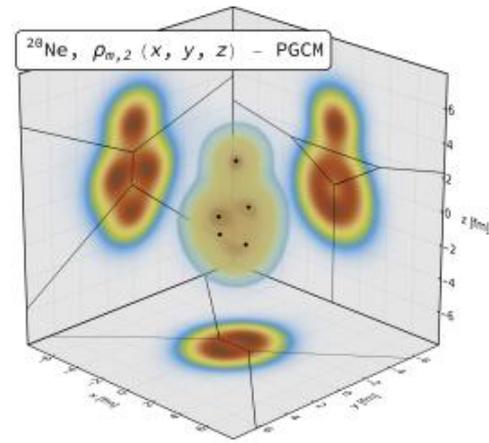
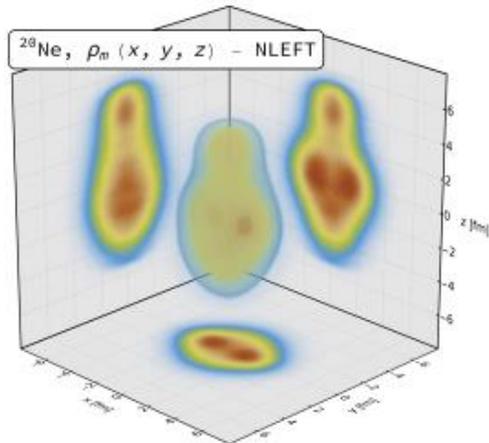
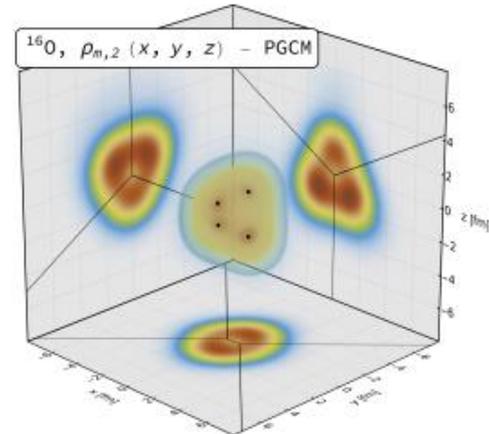
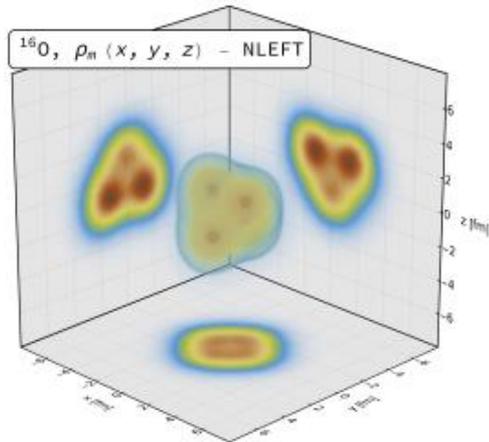


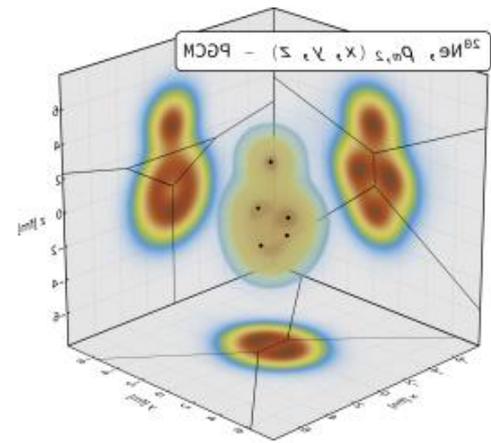
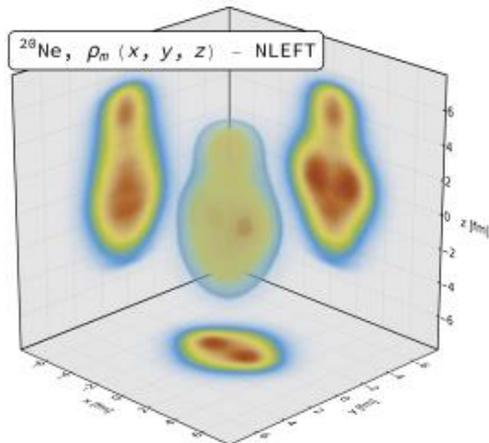
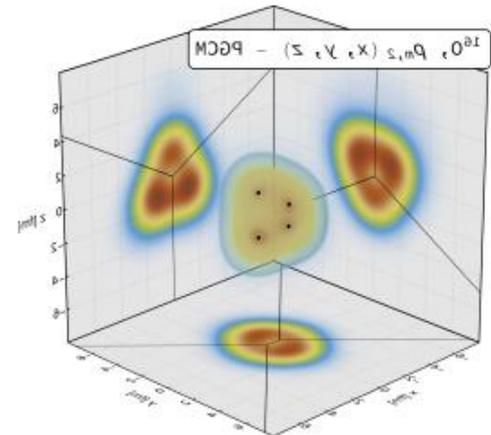
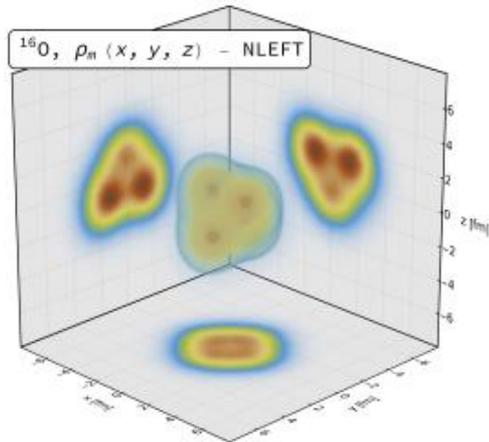
O - O  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 6.5$  TeV



Summerfield, Lu, Plumberg, D.L., Noronha-Hostler, Timmins PRC 104, L041901 (2021)

$^{16}\text{O}^{16}\text{O}$  versus  $^{20}\text{Ne}^{20}\text{Ne}$  collisions

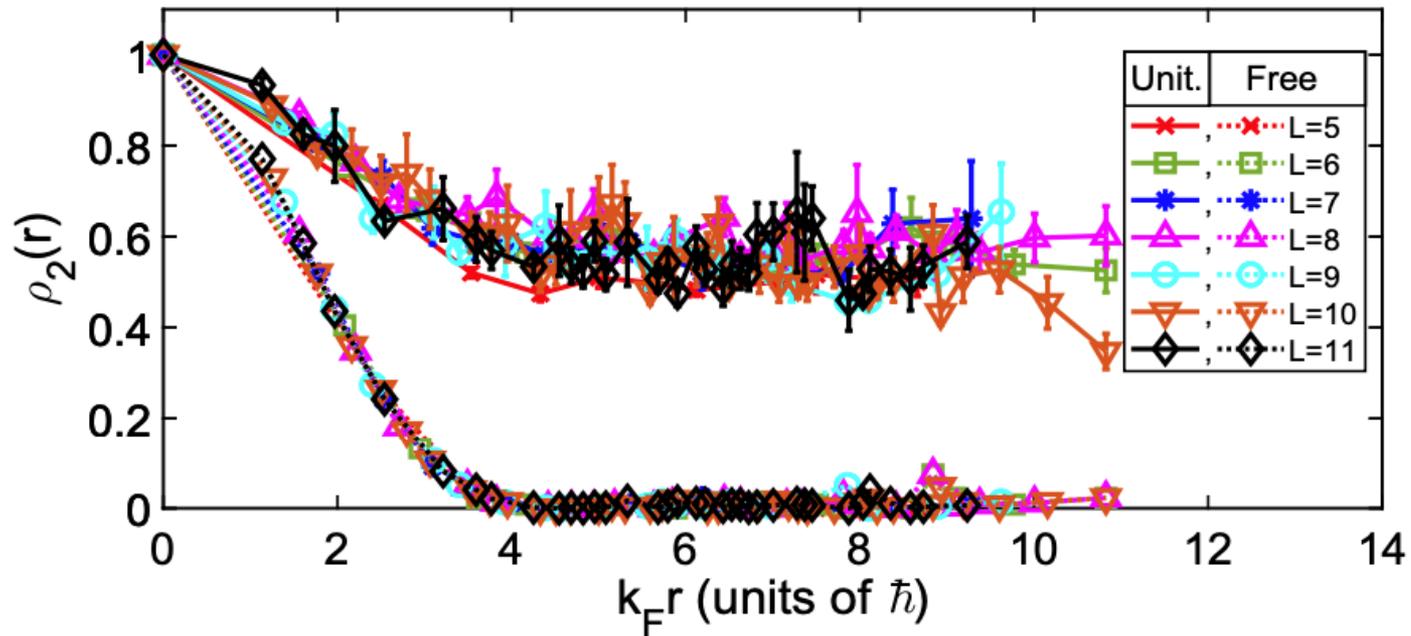




For the 1% most central events, the elliptic flow of  $^{20}\text{Ne}^{20}\text{Ne}$  collisions is enhanced by as much as  $1.170(8)\text{stat.}(30)\text{syst.}$  for NLEFT and  $1.139(6)\text{stat.}(39)\text{syst.}$  for PGCM relative to  $^{16}\text{O}^{16}\text{O}$  collisions.

# Superfluidity

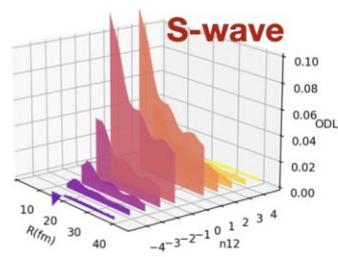
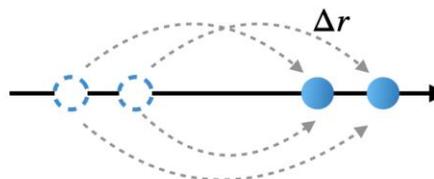
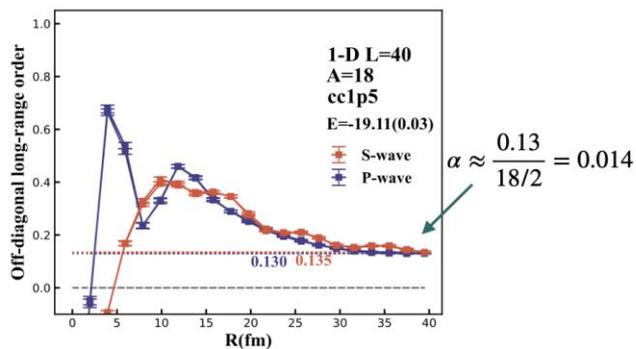
Ground state S-wave superfluid long-range order in the unitary limit



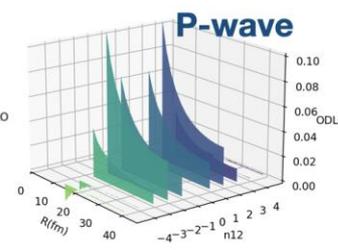
He, Li, Lu, D.L., Phys. Rev. A 101, 063615 (2020)

# Multi-modal superfluidity; S-wave pairs and P-wave pairs

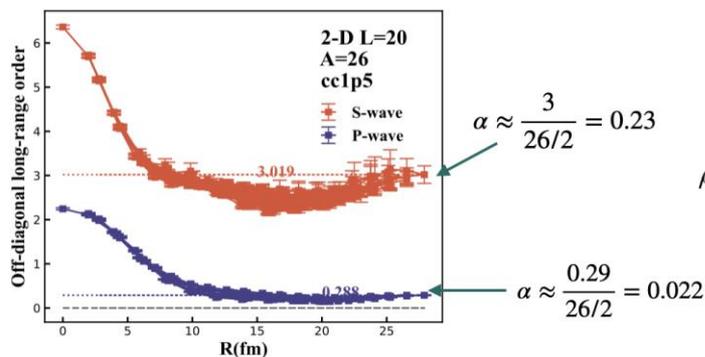
## Off-diagonal long-range order



max @  $|r_{12}|=1$



max @  $|r_{12}|=2$

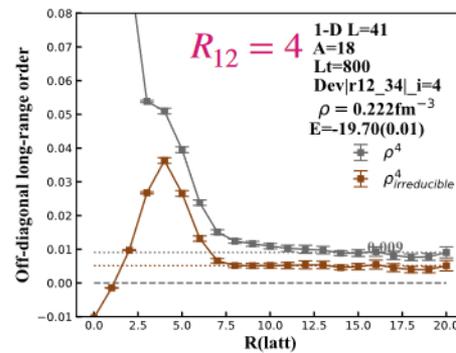
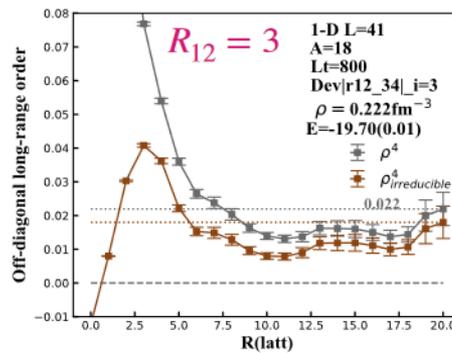
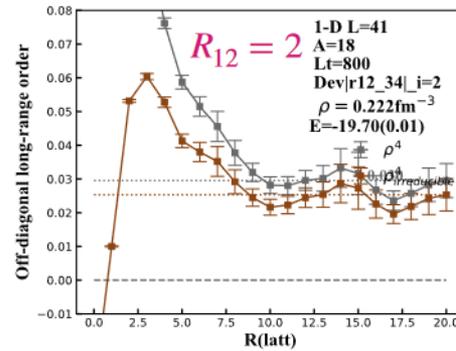
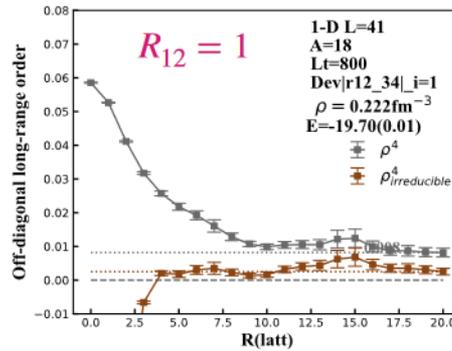
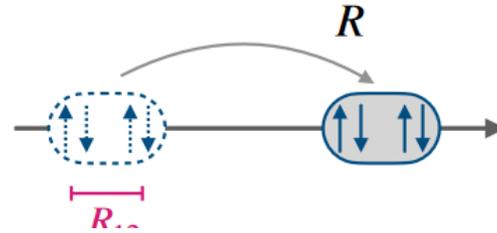


## condensate fraction

$$\rho_2(\mathbf{r}'_1, \mathbf{r}'_2, \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = \alpha N/2 \cdot \phi^*(|\mathbf{r}'_1 - \mathbf{r}'_2|) \phi(|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|)$$

Ma et al., work in progress

# Multi-modal superfluidity; S-wave pairs, P-wave pairs, and quartets



Ma et al., work in progress

## Outlook

This talk started with an overview of lattice EFT and calculations of nuclear structure and scattering and emergent phenomena such as clustering and superfluidity. We then focused on how pinhole configurations provide *ab initio* data for initial states in relativistic heavy-ion collisions.

In a few years, it will be possible to do *ab initio* calculations of nuclear states across the nuclear chart using lattice EFT. We look forward to collaborating with our relativistic heavy-ion colleagues to explore this new field bringing together two different nuclear science communities.