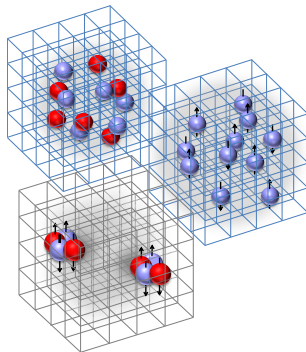


# Advancing nuclear structure and scattering calculations using NLEFT

Serdar Elhatisari

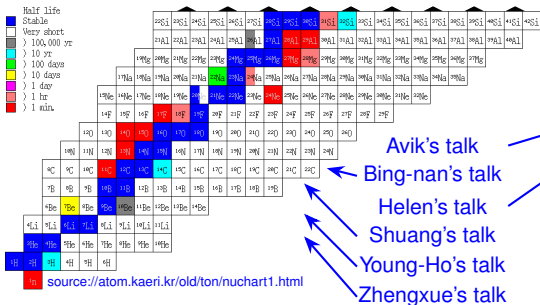
(GIBTU & KFUPM)

Frontiers in Nuclear Lattice EFT:  
From Ab Initio Nuclear Structure to Reactions  
Beihang University, Beijing  
Mar 1-3, 2025



# Ab initio nuclear theory

□ Nuclear structure and nuclear reactions from the first principles, without relying on any adjustable parameters.

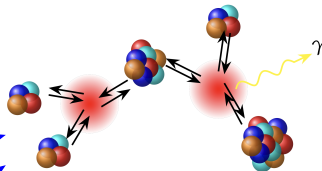


□ Ab-initio theory: describing nuclear systems directly from fundamental interactions.

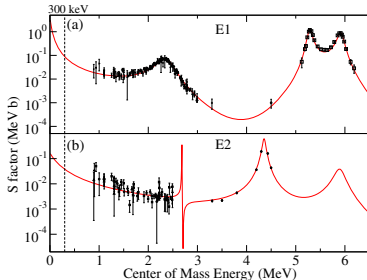
## ■ Challenges:

- Complex nature of nuclear forces.
- Scaling effectively to handle systems across the entire nuclear chart

## Stellar nucleosynthesis (Formation of heavier elements in stars)

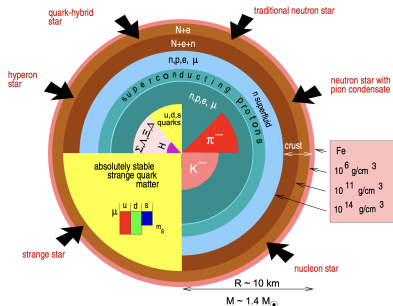


$^{12}\text{C}(\alpha, \gamma)^{16}\text{O}$  astrophysical S factor

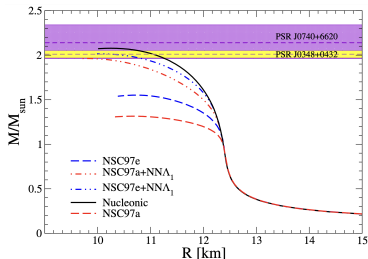


deBoer *et al.*, *Rev. Mod. Phys.* 89, 035007

# Ab initio nuclear theory: Towards neutron stars and hypernuclei



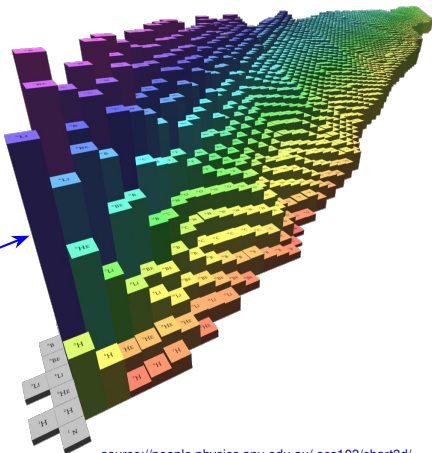
J. Weber (arXiv:astro-ph/0008376)



Logoteta, Vidana, Bombaci (Eur. Phys. J. A (2019) 55: 207)

□ Neutron systems involving quarks beyond up and down quarks.

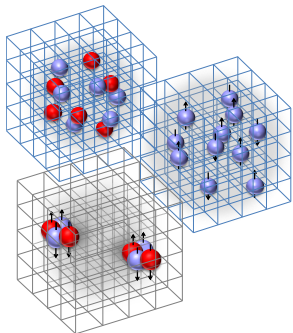
■ Challenges: “Hyperon puzzle”.



Fabian's talk →  
← Hui's talk

source://people.physics.anu.edu.au/~ecs103/chart3d/

- Introduction
- Nuclear forces from QCD
- Lattice effective field theory
- Wavefunction matching method
- Alpha-carbon scattering
- Neutron-alpha scattering
- Three-nucleon forces
- Nuclear thermodynamics
- Summary





# Chiral EFT for nucleons: nuclear forces

Chiral effective field theory organizes the nuclear interactions as an expansion in powers of momenta and other low energy scales such as the pion mass ( $Q/\Lambda_\chi$ ).

The nuclear interactions as a series of increasing complexity:

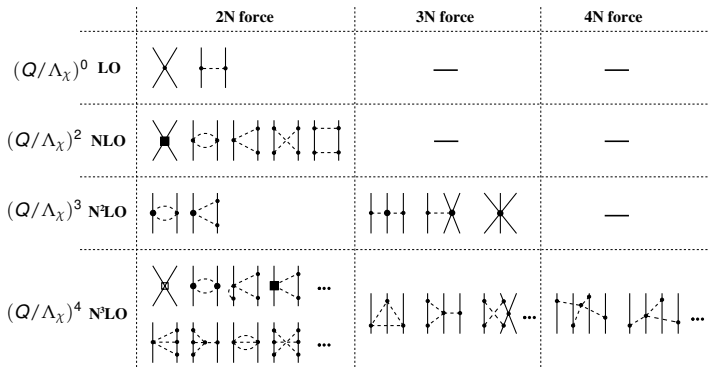


Fig. courtesy of E.Epelbaum

Ordenez et al. '94; Friar & Coon '94; Kaiser et al. '97; Epelbaum et al. '98,'03,'05,'15; Kaiser '99-'01; Higa et al. '03; ...

# Lattice formulation of chiral EFT

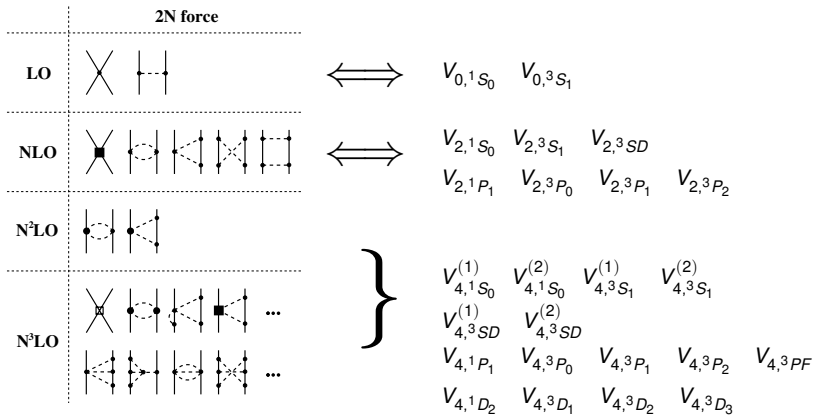
## ■ Lattice formulation of nuclear forces in the framework of chiral EFT:

- a simpler decomposition into spin channels
- accurate phase shifts and binding energies.

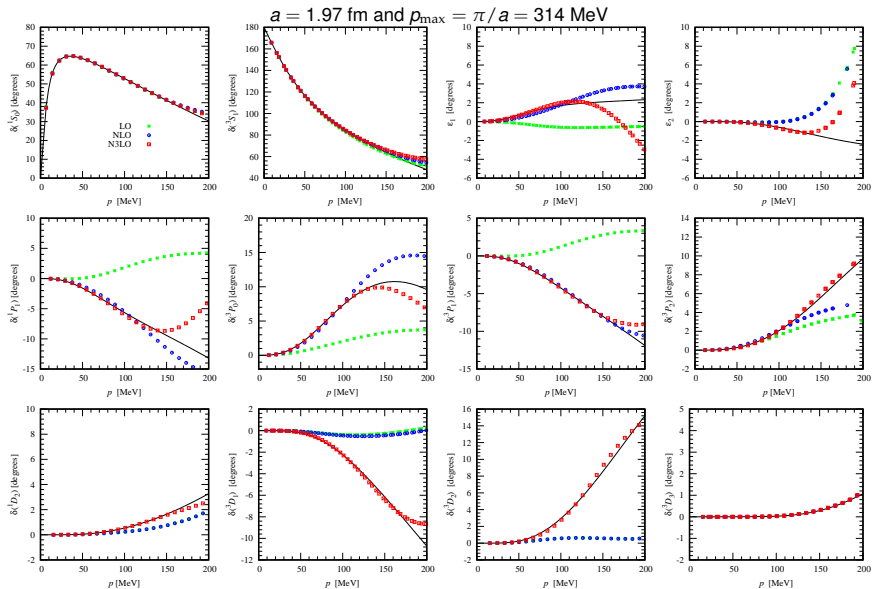
$$V_{L,L'}^{S,I,J}(\mathbf{n}) = \sum_{I_z, J_z} \sum_{S_z, L_z} \sum_{S'_z, L'_z} \left( \langle SS_z, LL_z | JJ_z \rangle \left[ a(\mathbf{n}) \nabla^{2M} R_{L,L'}^*(\nabla) a(\mathbf{n}) \right]_{S, S_z, I, I_z}^{SNL} \right)^\dagger \\ \times \langle SS'_z, L'L'_z | JJ_z \rangle \left[ a(\mathbf{n}) \nabla^{2M} R_{L',L'}^*(\nabla) a(\mathbf{n}) \right]_{S, S'_z, I, I_z}^{SNL}$$

$$[a(\mathbf{n}) a(\mathbf{n}')]_{S, S_z, I, I_z}^{SNL} = \sum_{i,j,i',j'} a_{i,j}^{SNL}(\mathbf{n}) M_{ij'}(S, S_z) M_{jj'}(I, I_z) a_{i',j'}^{SNL}(\mathbf{n}')$$

# Chiral EFT for nucleons: $NN$ scattering phase shifts



# Chiral EFT for nucleons: $NN$ scattering phase shifts



# Lattice Monte Carlo calculations: Euclidean time projection

## Non-perturbative leading order calculations

A given initial state,  $|\psi_I\rangle$ , as a Slater determinant of free-particle standing waves on the lattice, is projected to evaluate a product of a string of transfer matrices  $\hat{M}$ .

$$\lim_{L_t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle \psi_I | \hat{M} \hat{M} \dots H_{\text{LO}} \dots \hat{M} \hat{M} | \psi_I \rangle}{\langle \psi_I | \hat{M} \hat{M} \dots \hat{M} \hat{M} | \psi_I \rangle} = E_{\text{LO}}$$

In the limit of large Euclidean time the evolution operator the signal beyond the low-lying states is suppressed, and the ground state energy can be extracted.

## Perturbative higher order calculations

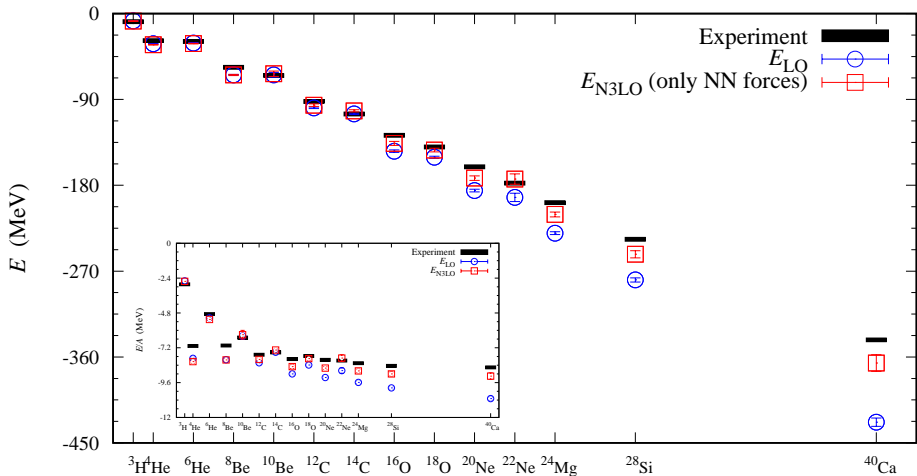
ho = NLO, NNLO, ...

The higher order corrections to the ground state energy can be computed as,

$$\lim_{L_t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle \psi_I | \hat{M} \hat{M} \dots H_{\text{ho}} \dots \hat{M} \hat{M} | \psi_I \rangle}{\langle \psi_I | \hat{M} \hat{M} \dots \hat{M} \hat{M} | \psi_I \rangle} = \Delta E_{\text{ho}}$$

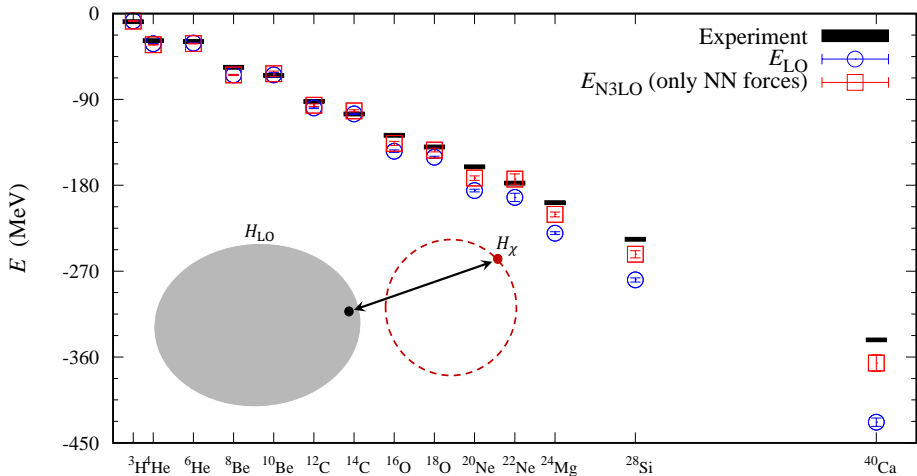
# Chiral EFT for nucleons: $NN$ scattering phase shifts

$$a = 1.97 \text{ fm and } p_{\text{max}} = \pi/a = 314 \text{ MeV}$$



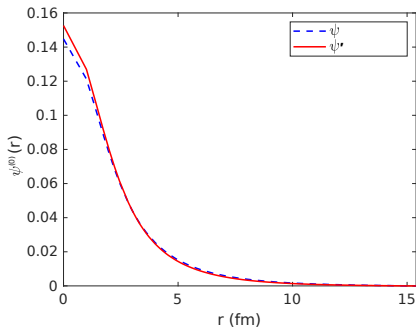
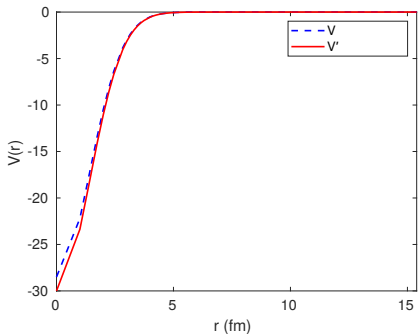
# Chiral EFT for nucleons: $NN$ scattering phase shifts

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# Perturbative calculations

Toy model:



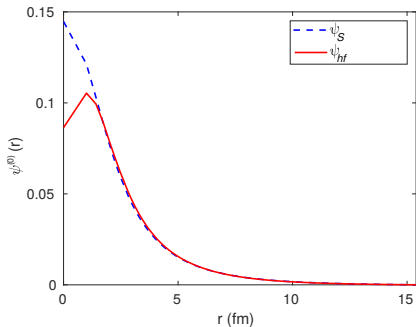
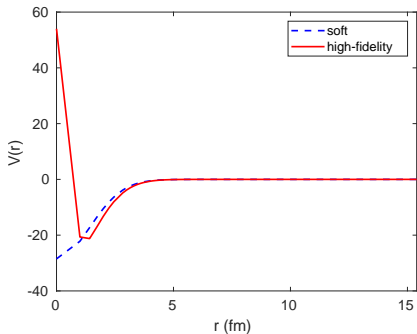
$E$	$E'$
-2.010472457971	-2.445743725635
1.775231321023	1.721517536958
6.206769197086	6.118307106128
12.776191791947	12.667625238436
21.337188185570	21.213065578266

Perturbative energies	
$q$	$\langle \psi^{(0)}   H'   \psi^{(q)} \rangle$
0	-2.43080610
1	-2.44610114
2	-2.44574140
3	-2.44575370



# Perturbative calculations

Toy model:



$E_{\text{soft}}$	$E_{\text{hf}}$
-2.010472457971	-2.444693272597
1.775231321024	1.769682285996
6.206769197085	6.282284485051
12.776191791946	13.008087181009
21.337188185570	21.786534445492

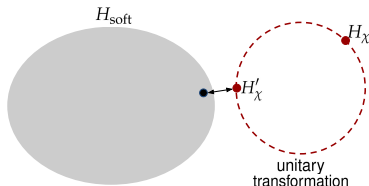
Perturbative energies	
$q$	$\langle \psi_S^{(0)}   H   \psi_S^{(q)} \rangle$
0	-1.74722993
1	-2.89957307
2	-2.10036797
3	-2.26376481

# Wavefunction Matching

- $H_\chi$  : –severe sign oscillation, –derived from the underlying theory.
- $H_{\text{soft}}$  : –tolerable sign oscillation, –many-body observables with a fair agreement.

Can unitary transformation create a new chiral Hamiltonian which is (first order) perturbation theory friendly?

$$H'_\chi = U^\dagger H_\chi U$$



- Let  $|\psi_\chi^0\rangle$  be the normalized lowest eigenstate of  $H_\chi$ .
- Let  $|\psi_{\text{soft}}^0\rangle$  be the normalized lowest eigenstate of  $H_{\text{soft}}$ .

$$U_{R',R} = \theta(r - R) \delta_{R',R} + \theta(R' - r) \theta(R - r) |\psi_\chi^\perp\rangle \langle \psi_{\text{soft}}^\perp|$$

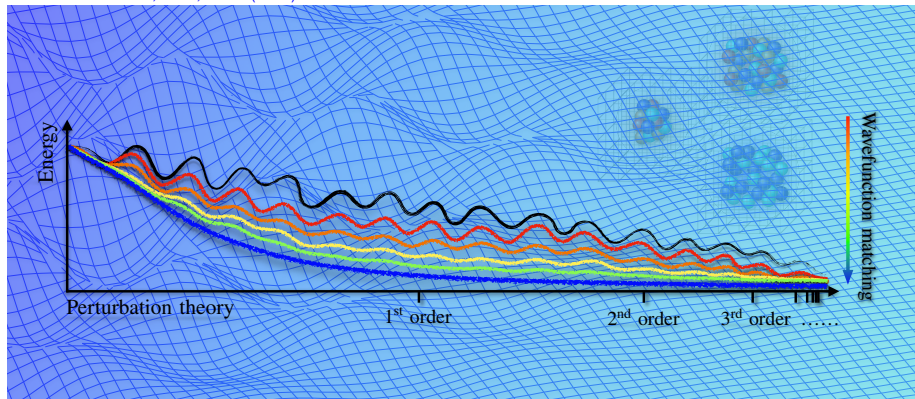
# Wavefunction Matching

- $H_{\text{soft}}$  : –tolerable sign oscillation, –many-body observables with a fair agreement.
- $H_{\chi}$  : –severe sign oscillation, –derived from the underlying theory.

Unitary transformation can create a new chiral Hamiltonian which is (first order) perturbative friendly

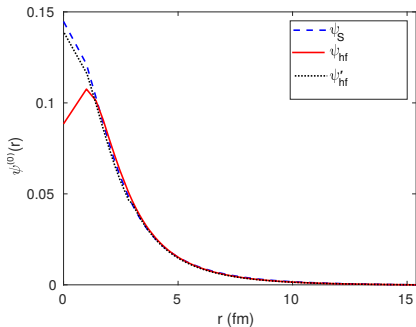
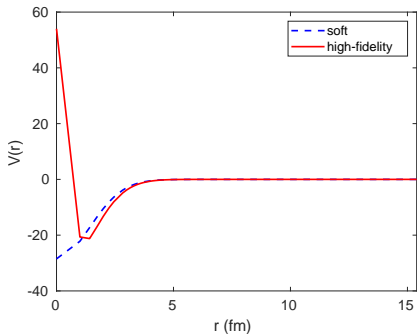
$$H'_{\chi} = U^{\dagger} H_{\chi} U \quad \rightarrow \quad H'_{\chi} = H_{\text{soft}} + \boxed{(H'_{\chi} - H_{\text{soft}})}$$

SE et al. *Nature* 630, 8015, 59-63 (2024)



# Wavefunction Matching: Perturbative calculations

Toy model:

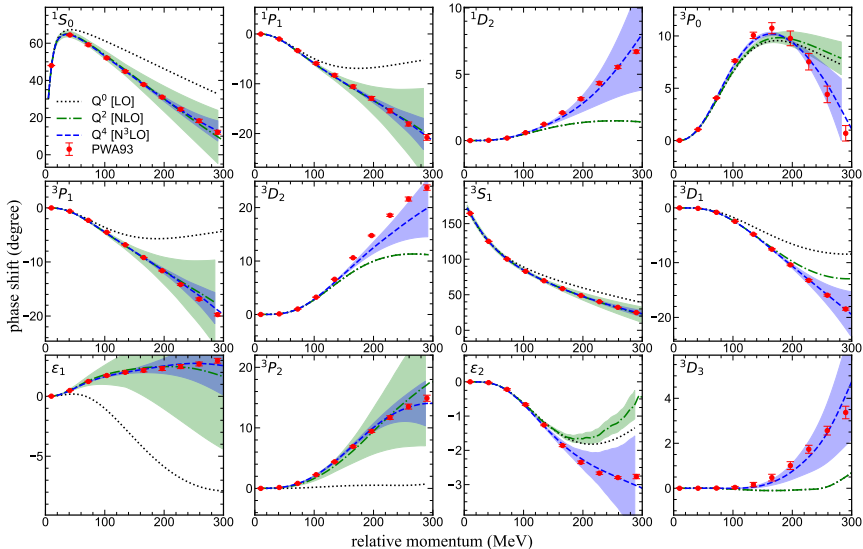


$E_{\text{hf}}$	$E'_{\text{hf}}$
-2.444693273	-2.444693273
1.769682286	1.769682286
6.282284485	6.282284485
13.008087181	13.008087181
21.786534446	21.786534446

$q$	$\langle \psi_S^{(0)}   H'   \psi_S^{(q)} \rangle$				
	$R = 0.00$	$R = 1.32$	$R = 1.86$	$R = 2.28$	$R = 3.22 \text{ fm}$
0	-1.747230	-2.055674	-2.226685	-2.312220	-2.402507
1	-2.899573	-2.558509	-2.477194	-2.457550	-2.446214
2	-2.100368	-2.389579	-2.430212	-2.439585	-2.443339
3	-2.263765	-2.414809	-2.437676	-2.441072	-2.443233

# Ab initio nuclear theory: recent progress in NLEFT

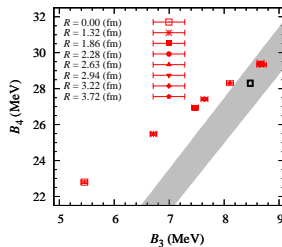
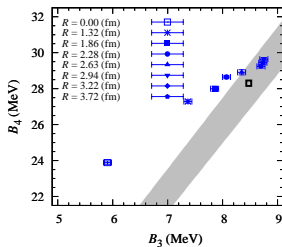
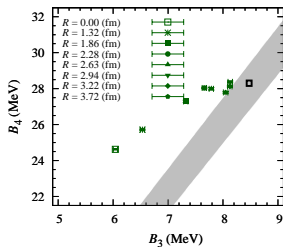
$a = 1.32$  fm and  $p_{\max} = \pi/a = 471$  MeV



# Ab initio nuclear theory: recent progress in NLEFT

$$a = 1.32 \text{ fm and } p_{\text{max}} = \pi/a = 471 \text{ MeV}$$

Nuclei	$B_{Q0}$ MeV	$B_{Q2}$ MeV	$B_{Q4}$ MeV	Experiment
$E_{\chi,d}$	1.7928	2.1969	2.2102	2.2246
$\langle \psi_{\text{soft}}^0   H_{\chi,d}   \psi_{\text{soft}}^0 \rangle$	0.4494	0.3445	0.6208	
$\langle \psi_{\text{soft}}^0   H'_{\chi,d}   \psi_{\text{soft}}^0 \rangle$	1.6496	1.9772	2.0075	



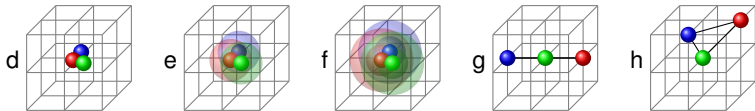
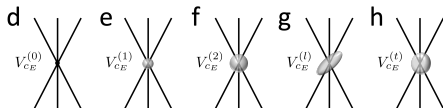
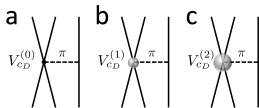
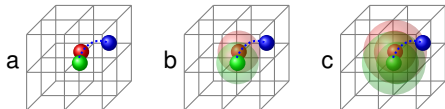
SE et al. *Nature* 630, 8015, 59-63 (2024)

# Chiral interactions at N3LO – 2NFs + 3NFs

Work	Constraints	Predictions
NCSM, Barrett <i>et al.</i> , Nogga <i>et al.</i>	BE of ${}^3\text{H}$ and ${}^4\text{He}$	Spectrum of ${}^6\text{Li}$ and ${}^7\text{Li}$
NCSM, Navratil <i>et al.</i>	${}^3\text{H}$ , ${}^6\text{Li}$ , ${}^{10}\text{B}$ , ${}^{12}\text{C}$	${}^4\text{He}$ , ${}^6\text{Li}$ , ${}^{10,11}\text{B}$ , ${}^{12,13}\text{C}$
NCSM, Maris <i>et al.</i> , Roth <i>et al.</i>	BE of ${}^3\text{H}$ and ${}^3\text{H}$ $\beta$ decay	Structures of $A = 7, 8$ , ${}^4\text{He}$ , ${}^6\text{Li}$ , ${}^{12}\text{C}$ and ${}^{16}\text{O}$
CC, Hagen <i>et al.</i>	BE of ${}^3\text{H}$ and ${}^3\text{H}$ $\beta$ decay	EoS of nucleonic matter
BMBPT, Tichai <i>et al.</i>	BE of ${}^3\text{H}$ and ${}^3\text{H}$ $\beta$ decay	BE of ${}^{16-26}\text{O}$ , ${}^{36-60}\text{Ca}$ and ${}^{50-78}\text{Ni}$
IT-NCSM, Roth <i>et al.</i>	BE of ${}^3\text{H}$ and ${}^4\text{He}$ , and ${}^3\text{H}$ $\beta$ decay	BE of ${}^4\text{He}$ , ${}^{16}\text{O}$ , ${}^{40}\text{Ca}$
CC, Roth <i>et al.</i>	BE of ${}^3\text{H}$ and ${}^4\text{He}$ , and ${}^3\text{H}$ $\beta$ decay	BE of ${}^{16,24}\text{O}$ , ${}^{40,48}\text{Ca}$
SCGF, Cipollone <i>et al.</i>	BE of ${}^3\text{H}$ and ${}^4\text{He}$ , and ${}^3\text{H}$ $\beta$ decay	BE of ${}^{13,27}\text{N}$ , ${}^{14,28}\text{O}$ and ${}^{15,29}\text{F}$
AFDMC, Lynn <i>et al.</i>	BE of ${}^3\text{H}$ and $n$ - ${}^4\text{He}$ P-wave phase shifts	EoS of nucleonic matter
MBPT, Bogner <i>et al.</i> , Hebeler <i>et al.</i> , Drischler <i>et al.</i> , Wienholtz <i>et al.</i> , Simonis <i>et al.</i>	BE ${}^3\text{H}$ and $R_C$ of ${}^4\text{He}$	symmetric and asymmetric NM, BE of ${}^{48-58}\text{Ca}$ , spectrum of $sd$ -shell nuclei with $8 \leq Z, N \leq 20$ , BE and $R_C$ of open- and closed-shell nuclei up to $A = 78$
NCCI, Epelbaum <i>et al.</i> , Maris <i>et al.</i>	BE of ${}^3\text{H}$ , $nd$ spin-doublet scattering length and the $pd$ differential cross section	the spectrum of light nuclei with $A = 3-16$ , elastic $nd$ scattering and in the deuteron breakup reactions, properties of the $A = 3, 4$ nuclei, and for spectra of $p$ -shell nuclei up to $A = 16$ , BE and $R_C$ of the oxygen and calcium isotope chains
CC, Carlsson <i>et al.</i> , Ekström <i>et al.</i> , Hagen <i>et al.</i>	BE of ${}^3\text{H}$ , ${}^{3,4}\text{He}$ , ${}^{14}\text{Li}$ and ${}^{16,22,24,25}\text{O}$	$R_C$ and BE of nuclei up to ${}^{40}\text{Ca}$ , symmetric nuclear matter, neutron skin of ${}^{48}\text{Ca}$ , structure of ${}^{78}\text{Ni}$
NCSM, IM-SRC, IM-NCSM, Hüther <i>et al.</i>	BE of ${}^3\text{H}$ and ${}^{16}\text{O}$	$R_C$ and BE of ${}^4\text{He}$ , ${}^{14-26}\text{O}$ , ${}^{36-52}\text{Ca}$ and ${}^{48-78}\text{Ni}$ , the spectrum of ${}^7\text{Li}$ , ${}^8\text{Be}$ , ${}^9\text{Be}$ and ${}^{10}\text{B}$
CC, Jiang <i>et al.</i>	properties of $A \leq 4$	properties of nuclei from $A = 16 - 132$

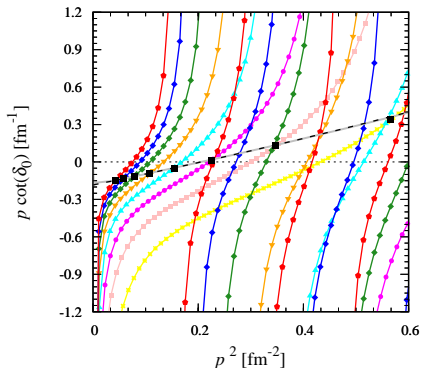
# Ab initio nuclear theory: recent progress in NLEFT

$$a = 1.32 \text{ fm and } p_{\text{max}} = \pi/a = 471 \text{ MeV}$$





# Scattering on the lattice



$L = 7.92$  fm  
 $L = 9.24$  fm  
 $L = 10.6$  fm  
 $L = 11.9$  fm  
 $L = 13.2$  fm  
 $L = 14.5$  fm  
 $L = 14.5$  fm  
 $L = 15.8$  fm  
 PWA  
 N3LO (Luescher)  
 N3LO (Spherical wall)



$$p \cot \delta_0(p) = \frac{1}{\pi L} \left[ \sum_{\vec{n}} \Lambda \frac{\theta(\Lambda^2 - \vec{n}^2)}{\vec{n}^2 - (Lp/2\pi)^2} - 4\pi \Lambda \right]$$

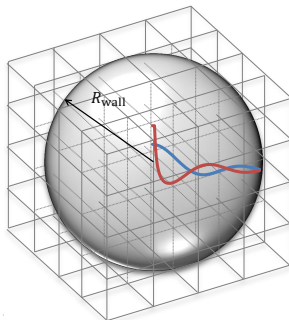
Lüscher's finite volume method:

Lüscher, Comm. Math. Phys. 105 (1986) 153; NPB 354 (1991) 531

Spherical wall method:

$$R_\ell^{(p)}(r) = N_\ell(p) \times \begin{cases} \cot \delta_\ell(p) j_\ell(pr) - n_\ell(pr) \\ \cot \delta_\ell(p) F_\ell(pr) + G_\ell(pr) \end{cases}$$

Nucl. Phys. A 424, 47-59 (1984), Eur. Phys. J. A 34, 185-196 (2007).

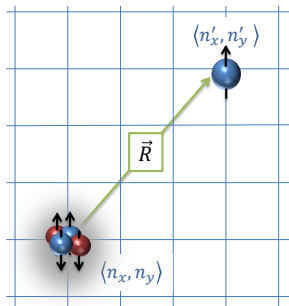


# Scattering and reactions: Adiabatic projection method

The method constructs a low energy effective theory for the clusters

Use initial states parameterized by the relative spatial separation between clusters, and project them in Euclidean time.

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



$$|\psi_I^R\rangle_\tau = e^{-H\tau} |\psi_I^R\rangle \quad \text{dressed cluster state}$$

The adiabatic projection in Euclidean time gives a systematically improvable description of the low-lying scattering cluster states.

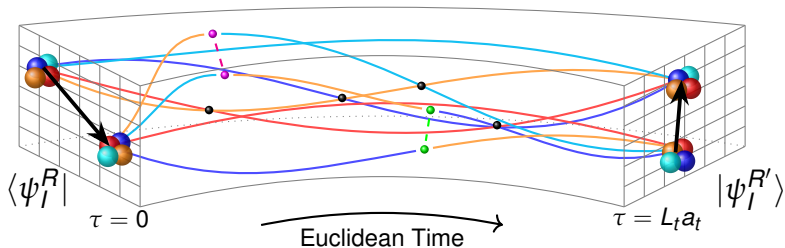
In the limit of large Euclidean projection time the description becomes exact.

SE & Lee. *PRC* 90 064001 (2014).

SE, Lee, Rupak, Epelbaum, Krebs, Lähde, Luu, & Meißner. *Nature* 528, 111-114 (2015).

SE, Lee, Meißner & Rupak *EPJA* 52, 6, 174 (2016).

# Adiabatic projection method



Hamiltonian matrix

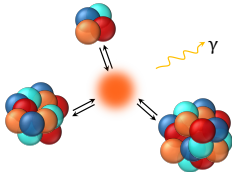
$$[H_\tau]_{\vec{R}, \vec{R}'}^{J, J_z} = \langle \psi_I^R | H | \psi_I^{R'} \rangle_\tau^{J, J_z}$$

Norm matrix

$$[N_\tau]_{\vec{R}, \vec{R}'}^{J, J_z} = \langle \psi_I^R | \psi_I^{R'} \rangle_\tau^{J, J_z}$$

$$[H_\tau^a]_{\vec{R}, \vec{R}'}^{J, J_z} = \left[ N_\tau^{-1/2} H_\tau N_\tau^{-1/2} \right]_{\vec{R}, \vec{R}'}^{J, J_z}$$

# Ab initio nuclear theory: alpha-Carbon scattering

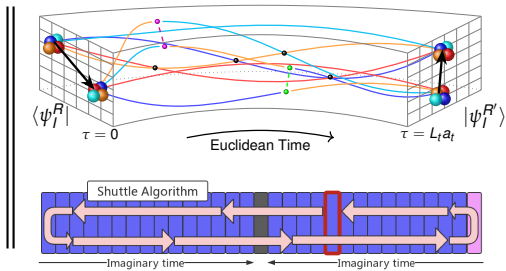


$$|\Psi_i^{16O}\rangle = \sum_{\vec{R}} \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{Carbon nucleus} \\ \text{Alpha particle} \\ \text{Carbon nucleus} \end{array} \right\rangle_{\vec{R}}$$

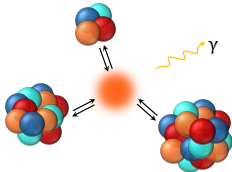
$$|\Psi_i^{16A}\rangle = \sum_{\vec{R}} \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{Carbon nucleus} \\ \text{Alpha particle} \\ \text{Carbon nucleus} \end{array} \right\rangle_{\vec{R}}$$

$$|\Psi_i\rangle \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} |\Psi_i^{16O}\rangle \\ |\Psi_i^{16A}\rangle \end{array}$$

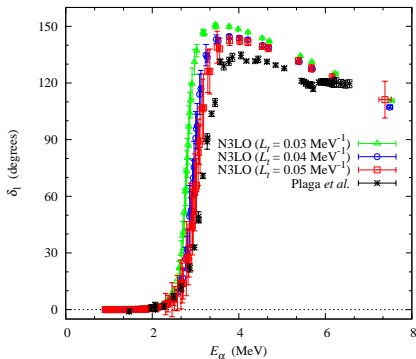
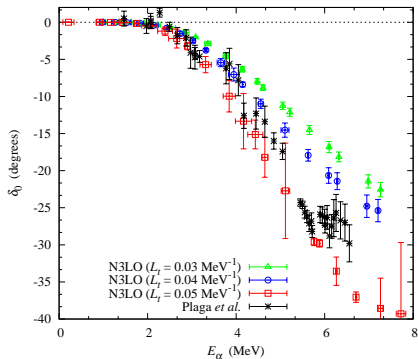
$$|\Psi_i\rangle = \theta(R - r) |\Psi_i^{16O}\rangle + \theta(r - R) |\Psi_i^{16A}\rangle$$



# Ab initio nuclear theory: alpha-Carbon scattering

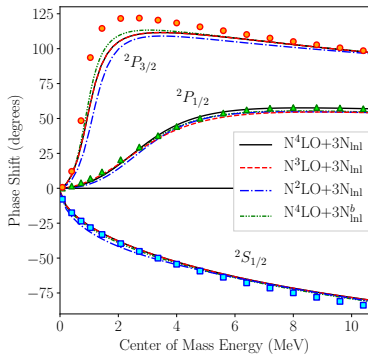
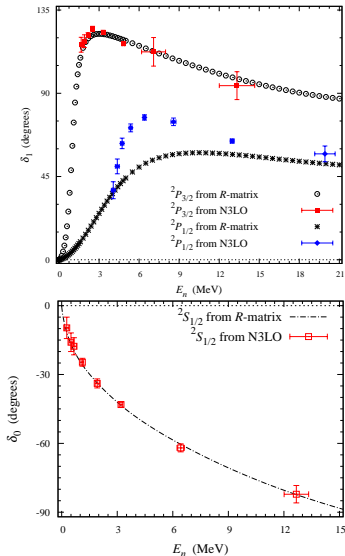


$$a = 1.32 \text{ fm and } \rho_{\text{max}} = \pi/a = 471 \text{ MeV}$$



# Ab initio nuclear theory: neutron-alpha scattering

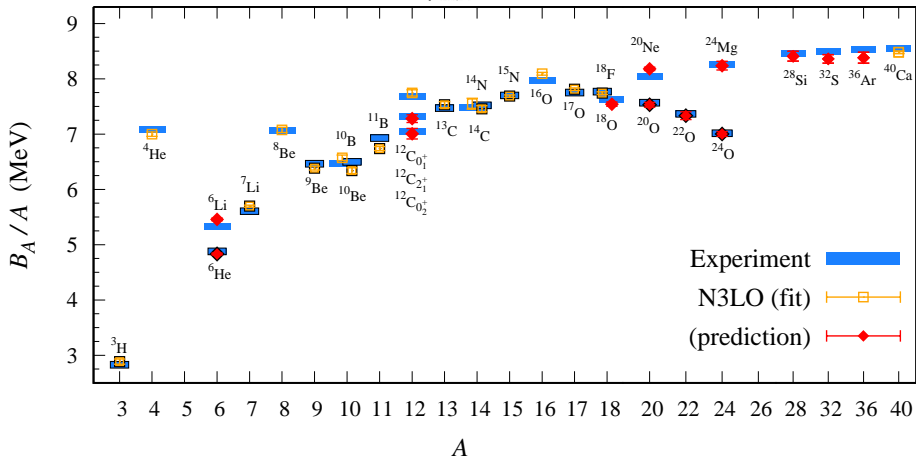
$$a = 1.32 \text{ fm and } \rho_{\text{max}} = \pi/a = 471 \text{ MeV}$$



Kravvaris et al. PRC 102, 024616 (2020)

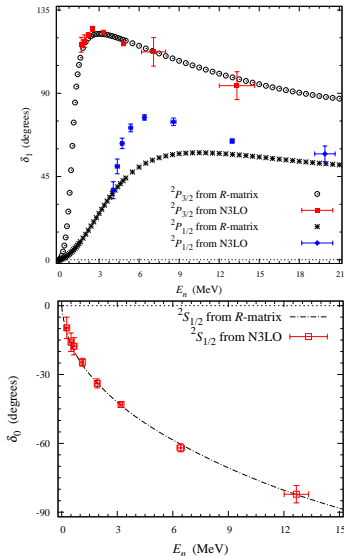
# Ab initio nuclear theory: neutron-alpha scattering

$a = 1.32$  fm and  $p_{\max} = \pi/a = 471$  MeV



# Ab initio nuclear theory: neutron-alpha scattering

$$a = 1.32 \text{ fm and } \rho_{\text{max}} = \pi/a = 471 \text{ MeV}$$

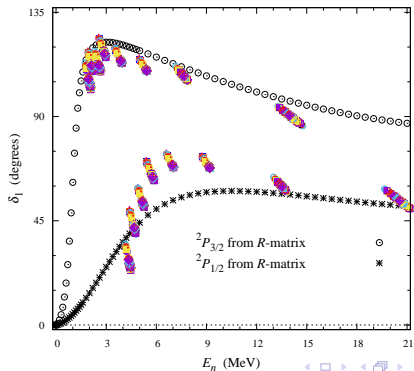
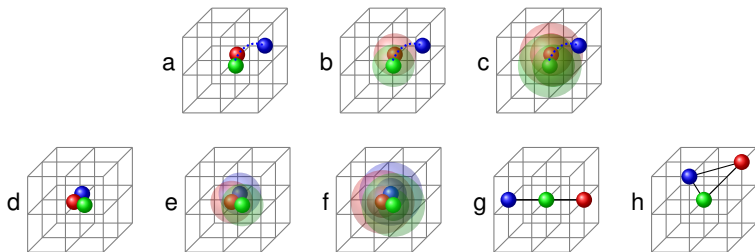


	N3LO	Experiment
${}^9\text{Be}, \frac{3}{2}^-$	-57.6(3)	58.2
${}^9\text{Be}, \frac{1}{2}^+$	-58.2(1)	56.5
${}^9\text{Be}, \frac{1}{2}^-$	-56.4(1)	55.4

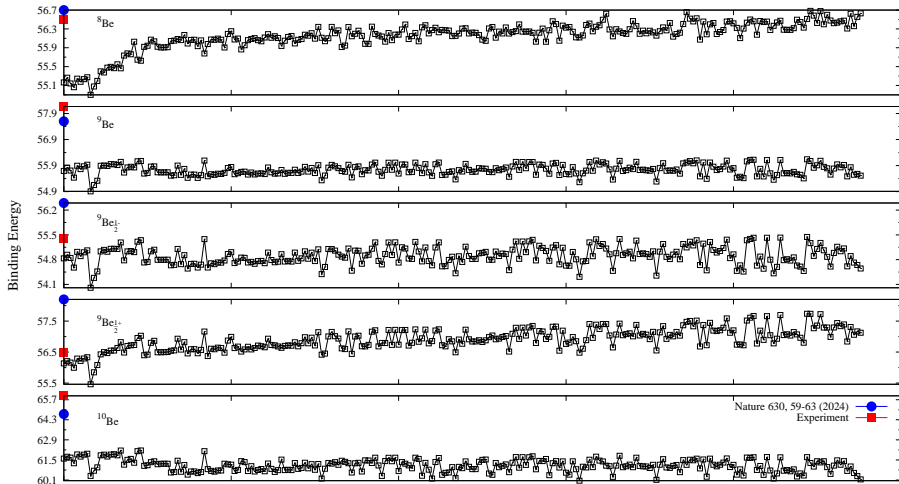
Shen et al. arXiv:2411.14935 (2024)



# Ab initio nuclear theory: neutron-alpha scattering

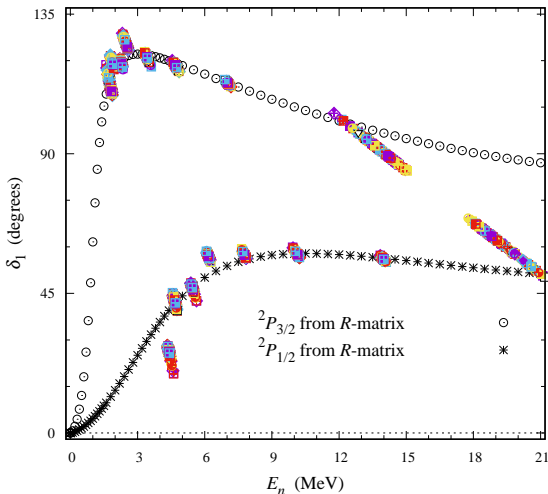


# Ab initio nuclear theory: neutron-alpha scattering

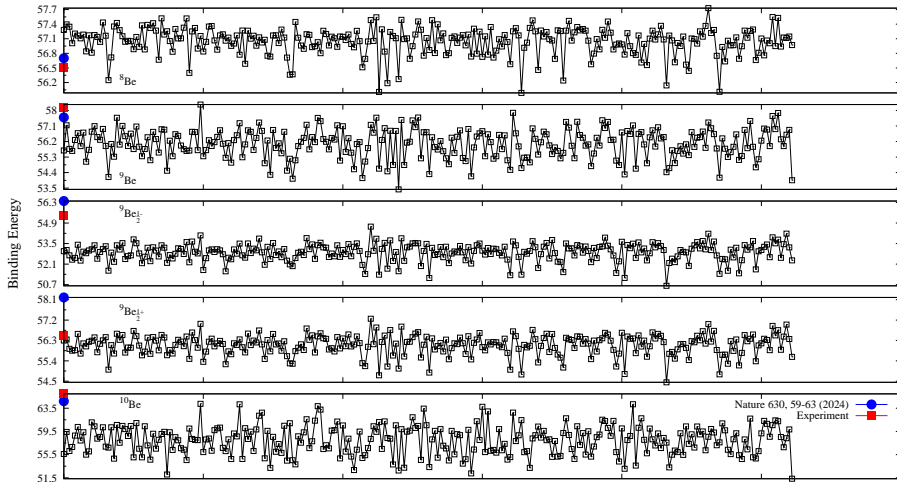


# Ab initio nuclear theory: neutron-alpha scattering

$V_{2,1P_1}$ ,  $V_{2,3P_0}$ ,  $V_{2,3P_1}$ ,  $V_{2,3P_2}$ ,  $V_{4,1P_1}$ ,  $V_{4,3P_0}$ ,  $V_{4,3P_1}$ ,  $V_{4,3P_2}$ ,  $V_{4,3PF}$



# Ab initio nuclear theory: neutron-alpha scattering



# Ab initio nuclear theory: three-nucleon forces

$s_L$	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	$s_{NL}$	0.1	0.2	0.3
$R_{s_L}$ (fm)	0.00	1.32	1.86	2.28	$R_{s_{NL}}$ (fm)	1.32	1.32	1.32
Shape								

$s_L$	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	$s_{NL}$	0.1	0.2	0.3
$R_{s_L}$ (fm)	0.00	1.32	1.86	2.28	$R_{s_{NL}}$ (fm)	1.32	1.32	1.32
Shape								

$r_{RMS}$ (fm)	0.62	0.88	1.07	1.24	1.07	0.88	1.07
Shape							

$r_{RMS}$ (fm)	1.39	1.07	1.24	1.39	1.24	1.39
Shape						

## Ab initio nuclear theory: three-nucleon forces

The likelihood for the our model to be maximized is

$$\mathcal{L}(\vec{\beta}, \sigma^2) = \prod_{n \in \mathcal{S}_{\text{trn}}} \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma_n^2)^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} \left[ z_n - z_{n,\text{NP}}^{\text{theory}} - \sum_{k \in \mathcal{F}_p} \beta_k \frac{\partial z_n^{\text{theory}}}{\partial \beta_k} \right]^2 \right\},$$

Objective is to determine the optimal subsets  $\mathcal{S}_{\text{trn}}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_p$ , as well as regression coefficients  $\vec{\beta}$ .

The acceptance probabilities for the new configurations  $\mathcal{S}_{\text{trn}}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_p$ ,

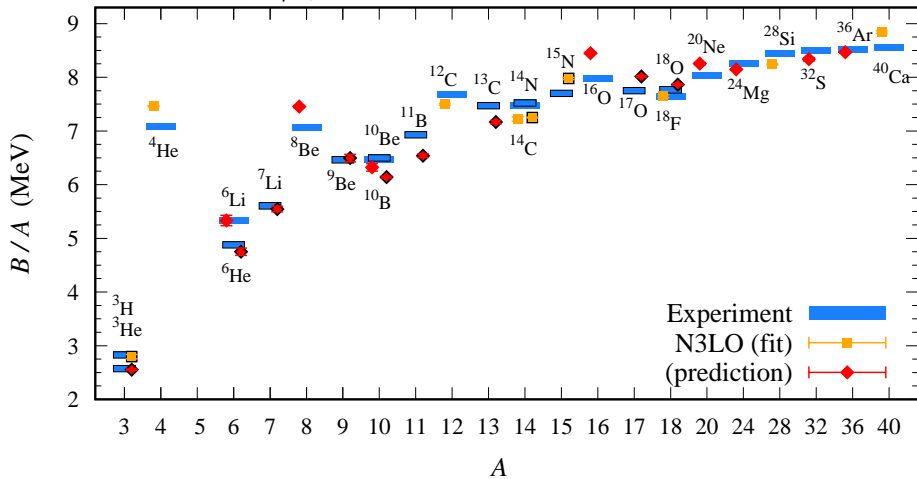
$$\alpha_{\mathcal{S}} = \min \left( 1, \frac{\mathcal{L}(\vec{\beta}', \sigma^2) q(\mathcal{S}'_{\text{trn}}, \mathcal{F}_p | \mathcal{S}_{\text{trn}}, \mathcal{F}_p)}{\mathcal{L}(\vec{\beta}, \sigma^2) q(\mathcal{S}_{\text{trn}}, \mathcal{F}_p | \mathcal{S}'_{\text{trn}}, \mathcal{F}_p)} \right), \quad \alpha_{\mathcal{F}_p} = \min \left( 1, \frac{\mathcal{L}(\vec{\beta}', \sigma^2) q(\mathcal{S}_{\text{trn}}, \mathcal{F}'_p | \mathcal{S}_{\text{trn}}, \mathcal{F}_p)}{\mathcal{L}(\vec{\beta}, \sigma^2) q(\mathcal{S}_{\text{trn}}, \mathcal{F}_p | \mathcal{S}_{\text{trn}}, \mathcal{F}'_p)} \right).$$

Then, evaluate the Root Mean Square Deviation (RMSD) as follows,

$$\text{RMSD}(\mathcal{S}) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{M_S} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} \left( \frac{z_i^{\text{theory}} - z_i^{\text{exp}}}{A_i} \right)^2}.$$

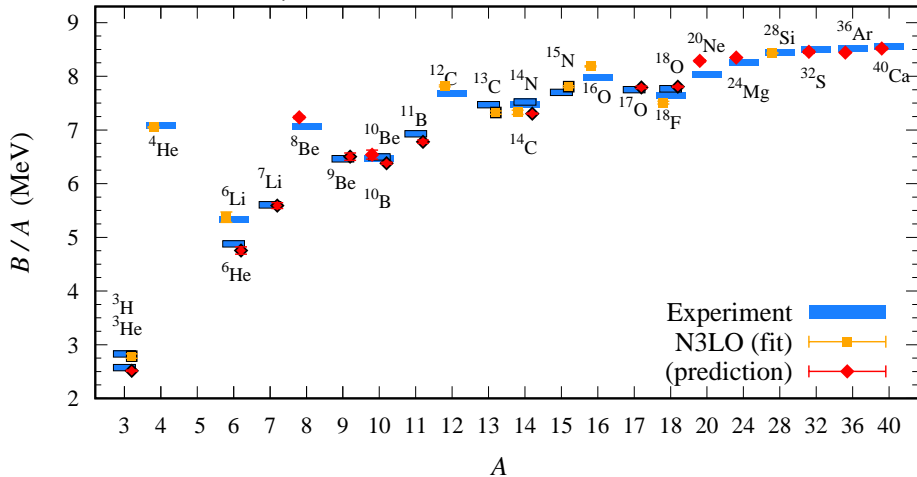
# Ab initio nuclear theory: three-nucleon forces

$a = 1.32$  fm,  $\rho_{\max} = \pi/a = 471$  MeV, and 2 three-nucleon forces



# Ab initio nuclear theory: three-nucleon forces

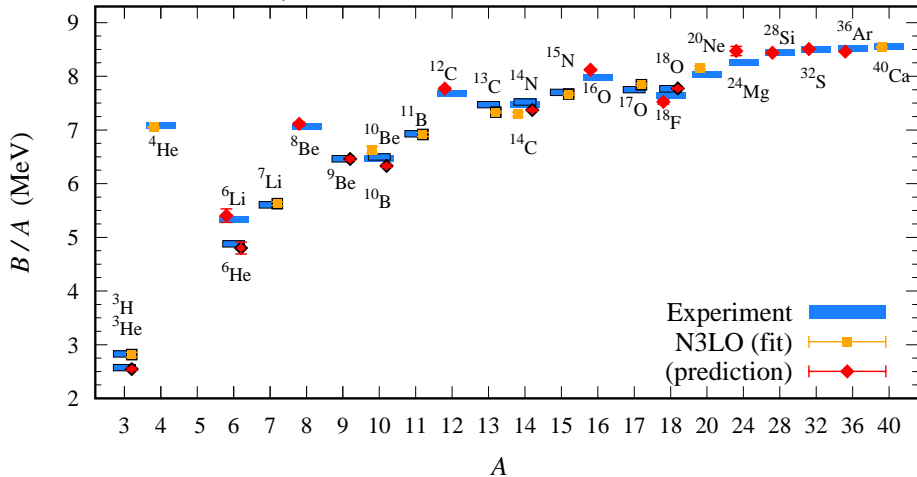
$a = 1.32$  fm,  $\rho_{\max} = \pi/a = 471$  MeV, and 3 three-nucleon forces





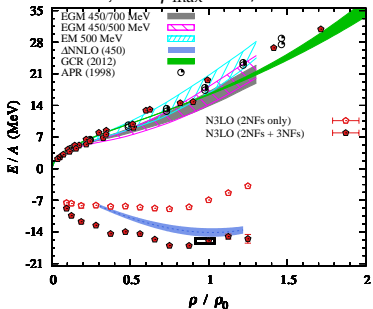
# Ab initio nuclear theory: three-nucleon forces

$a = 1.32$  fm,  $\rho_{\max} = \pi/a = 471$  MeV, and 4 three-nucleon forces



# Ab initio nuclear theory: recent progress in NLEFT

$a = 1.32$  fm, and  $\rho_{\max} = \pi/a = 471$  MeV



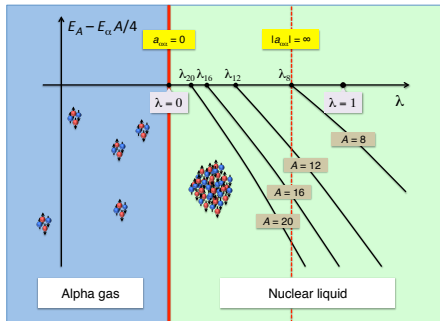
SE et al. *Nature* 630, 8015, 59-63 (2024)

The Equation of State (EoS) of nuclear matter:

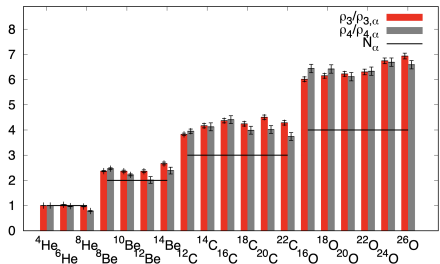
- Plays a fundamental role in understanding the structure and dynamics of neutron stars, the early universe, and heavy-ion collisions.
- Governs the behavior of nuclear matter under extreme conditions of density and temperature.

The challenge is to accurately capture **strong correlations** and **nuclear clustering** while overcoming sign problems and computational limitations, particularly at **finite temperature**.

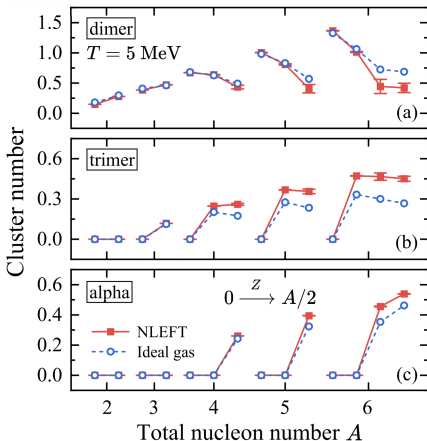
# Ab initio nuclear theory: nuclear clustering



SE et al. *PRL* 117, 132501 (2016)



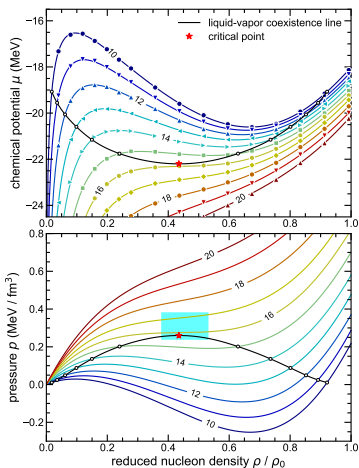
SE et al. *PRL* 119, 222505 (2017)



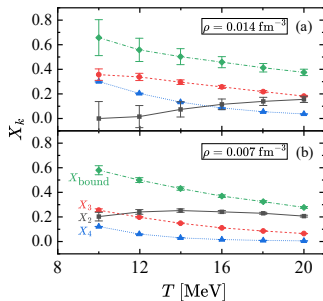
Ren et al. *PLB* 850 (2024) 138463

# Ab-initio nuclear thermodynamics using NLEFT

- Pinhole Trace Algorithm (PTA): A novel approach enabling simulations of nuclear matter at nonzero temperature with a computational speed-up by orders of magnitude over grand canonical methods.

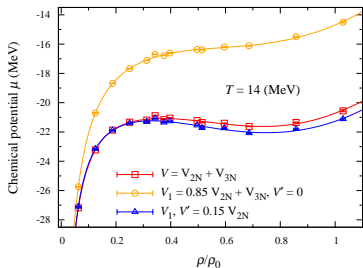
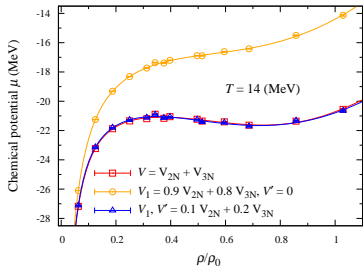


- First-principles calculations of nuclear thermodynamics using NLEFT.
- First-principles study of nuclear clustering in hot dilute nuclear matter.



# Ab initio nuclear theory: recent progress in NLEFT

Work in progress.

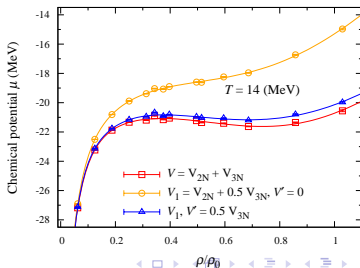


$$\mu = \frac{T}{2} \ln \left[ A(A+1) \frac{\langle \mathcal{B}_{-1} \rangle_{\Omega}}{\langle \mathcal{B}_1 \rangle_{\Omega}} \right]$$

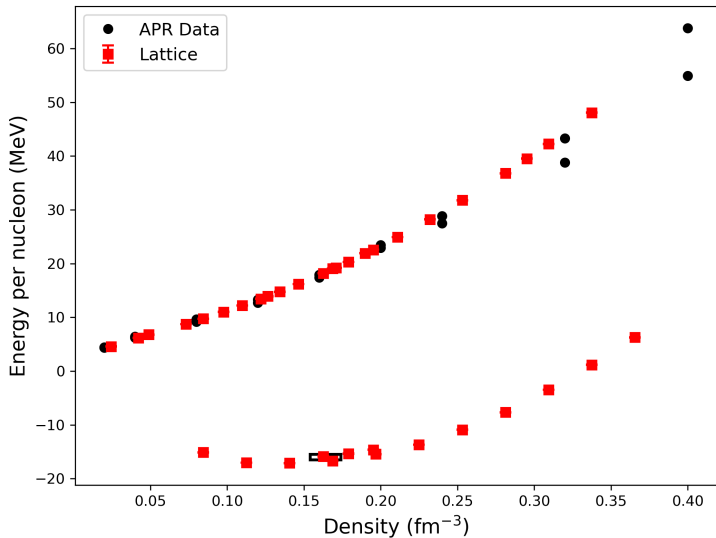
$$\mathcal{B}_1 = \sum_{c'} \langle \vec{c} \cup c' | M(s_{L_t}) \dots M(s_1) | \vec{c} \cup c' \rangle / P(\vec{s}, \vec{c})$$

$$\mathcal{B}_{-1} = \sum_{c_i} \langle \vec{c} \setminus c_i | M(s_{L_t}) \dots M(s_1) | \vec{c} \setminus c_i \rangle / P(\vec{s}, \vec{c})$$

$$\mathcal{B}_{\pm 1} = \frac{\mathcal{B}_{\pm 1}^{(0)}}{\mathcal{M}^{(0)}} + \frac{\mathcal{B}_{\pm 1}^{(1)}}{\mathcal{M}^{(0)}} - \frac{\mathcal{B}_{\pm 1}^{(0)} \mathcal{M}^{(1)}}{\mathcal{M}^{(0)} \mathcal{M}^{(0)}} + \mathcal{O} \left[ (\mathcal{M}^{(1)})^2 \right]$$



# Ab initio nuclear theory: recent progress in NLEFT



Work in progress.

## Summary

- Nuclear forces in the framework of chiral effective field theory are well-established, and it is very important time for *ab initio* methods to make predictions in many-nucleon system using these forces.
- The wave function matching method offers rapid convergence in perturbation theory for many-body nuclear systems. It enables accurate calculations of nuclear binding energies, neutron matter, symmetric nuclear matter, and charge radii, all in excellent agreement with experimental data.
- The collaboration is advancing nuclear theory by performing calculations for nuclear structure, scattering and reactions.
- Our recent calculations will be complemented by improvements to nuclear forces on the lattice, such as including the explicit incorporation of the two-pion exchange potentials and more.

Thanks!