

# Resolving the PREX-CREX puzzle in nuclear density functional theory

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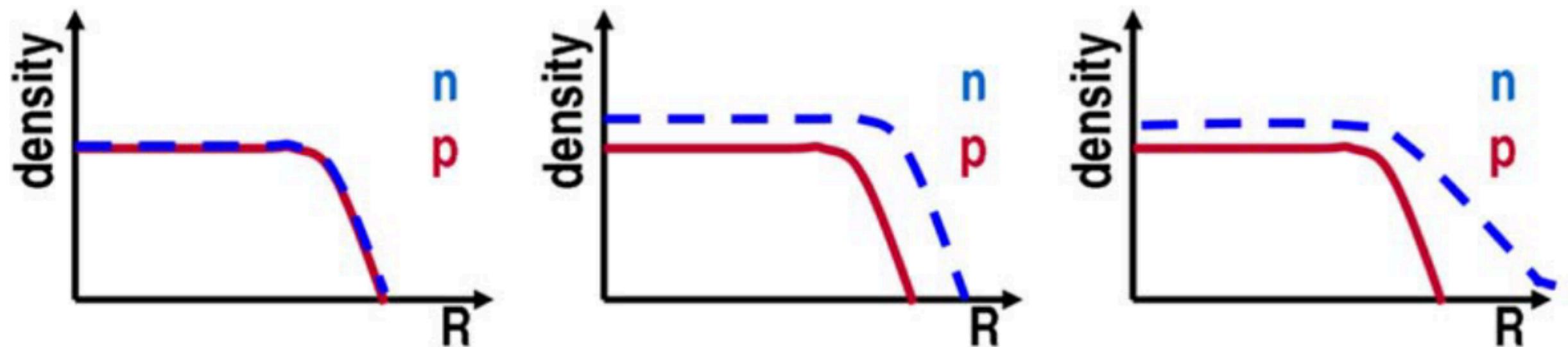
Collaborators: Lie-Wen Chen (SJTU), Tong-Gang Yue (SJTU)  
Mengying Qiu (SYSU)

“Nuclear physics across energy scales”, C3NT, Wuhan,  
9.19-21, 2025

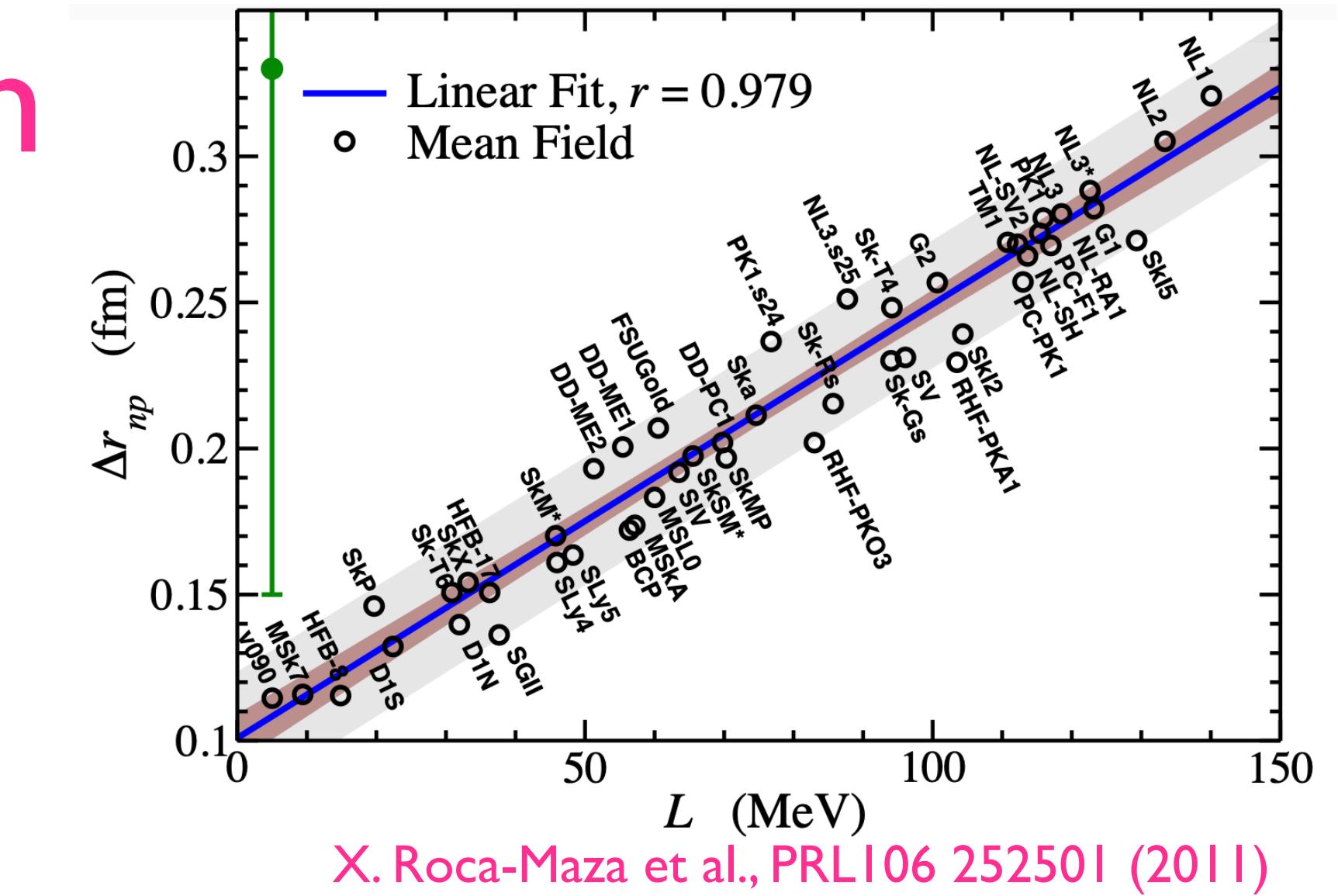
# Outline

- ◆ Introduction: PREX-CREX puzzle
- ◆ Resolving the PREX-CREX puzzle via a strong isovector spin-orbit interaction
  - ✓ Nonrelativistic extended Skyrme energy density functional (EDF)  
T.G.Yue, ZZ, L.W.Chen, arXiv: 2406.03844
  - ✓ Relativistic density-dependent point-coupling EDF  
M. Qiu, ZZ, T.G.Yue, L.W.Chen, in preparation
- ◆ Summary

# Neutron rms radius and neutron skin

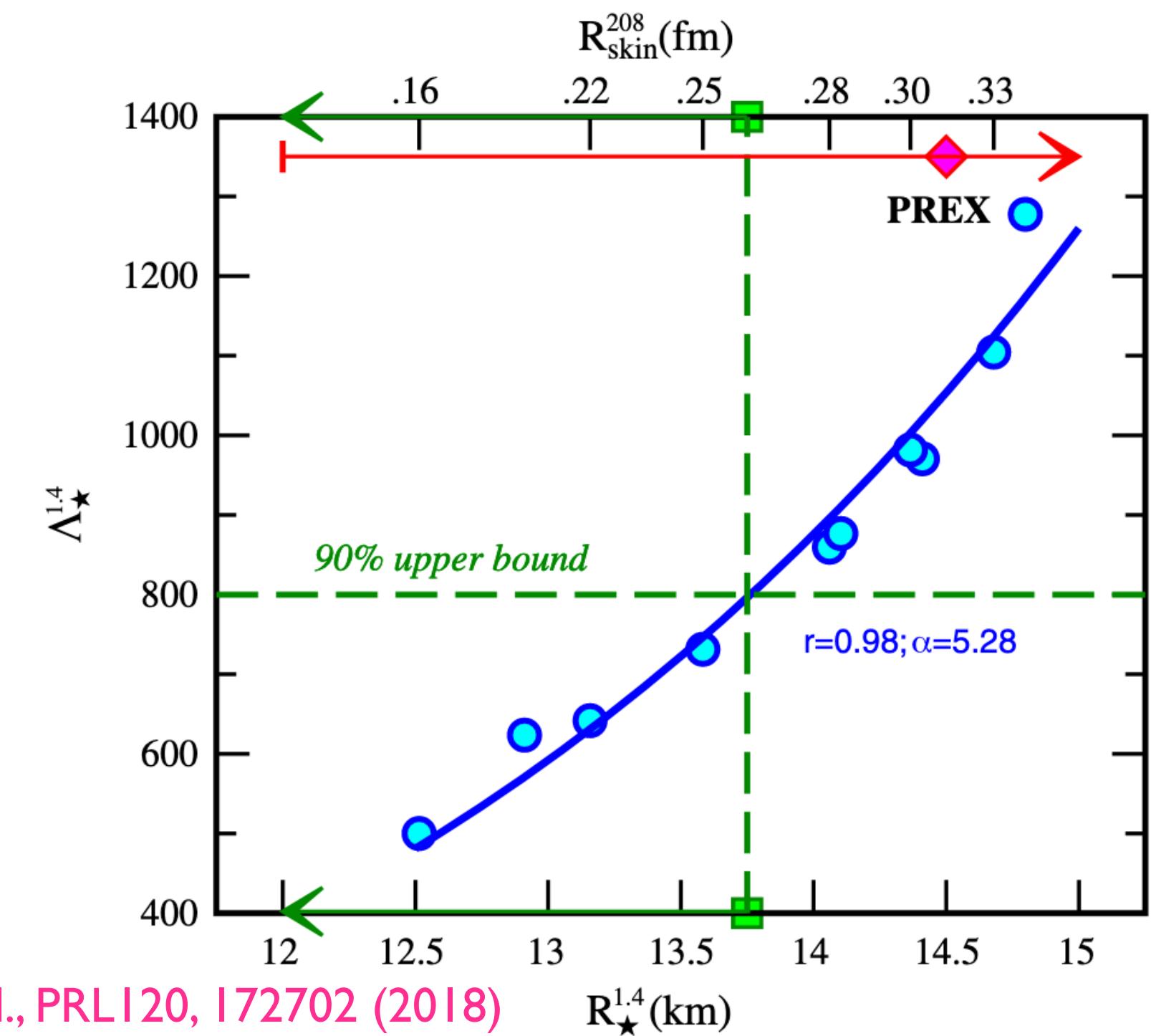


M.Thiel et al. JPG 46 (2019) 093003

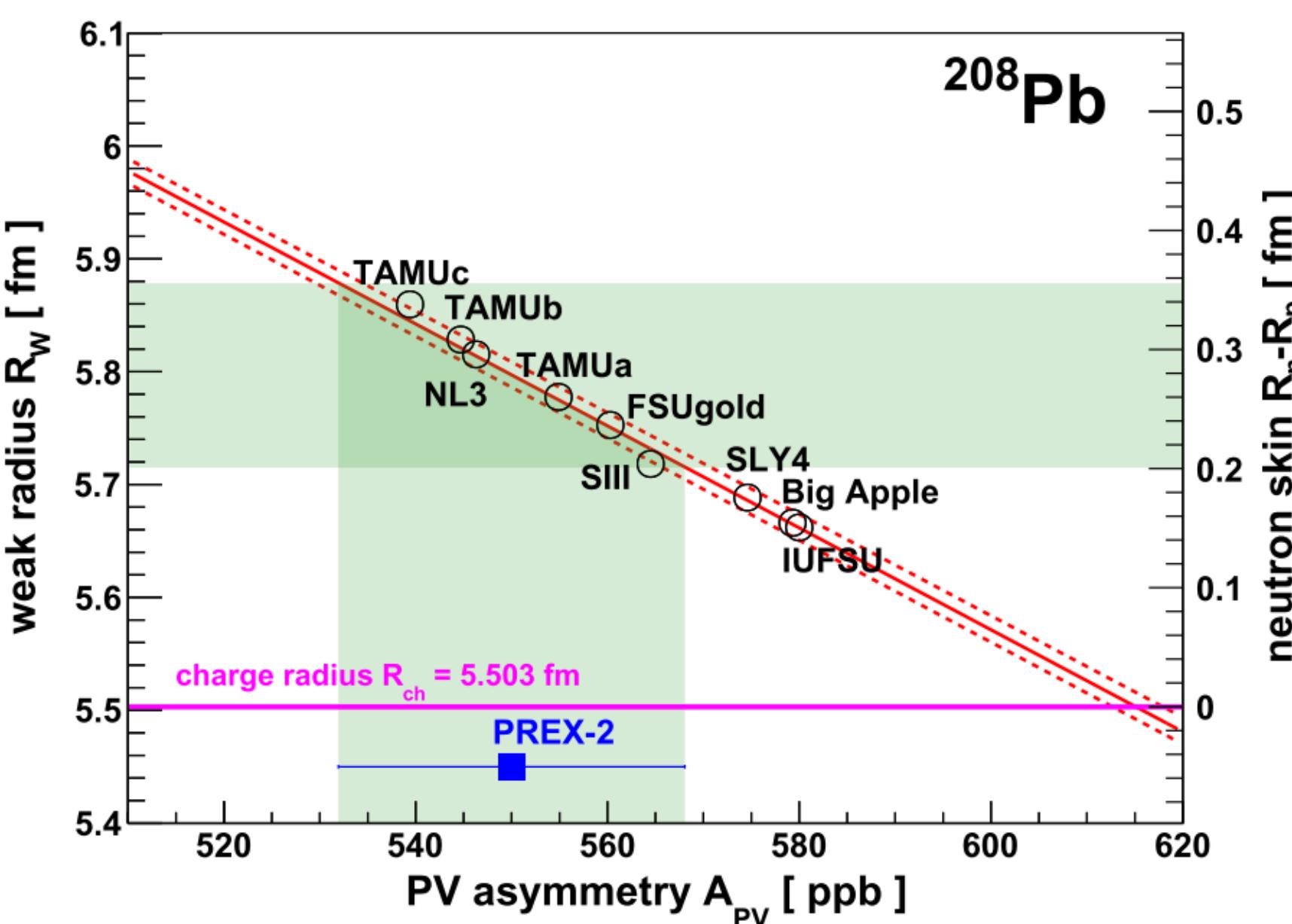
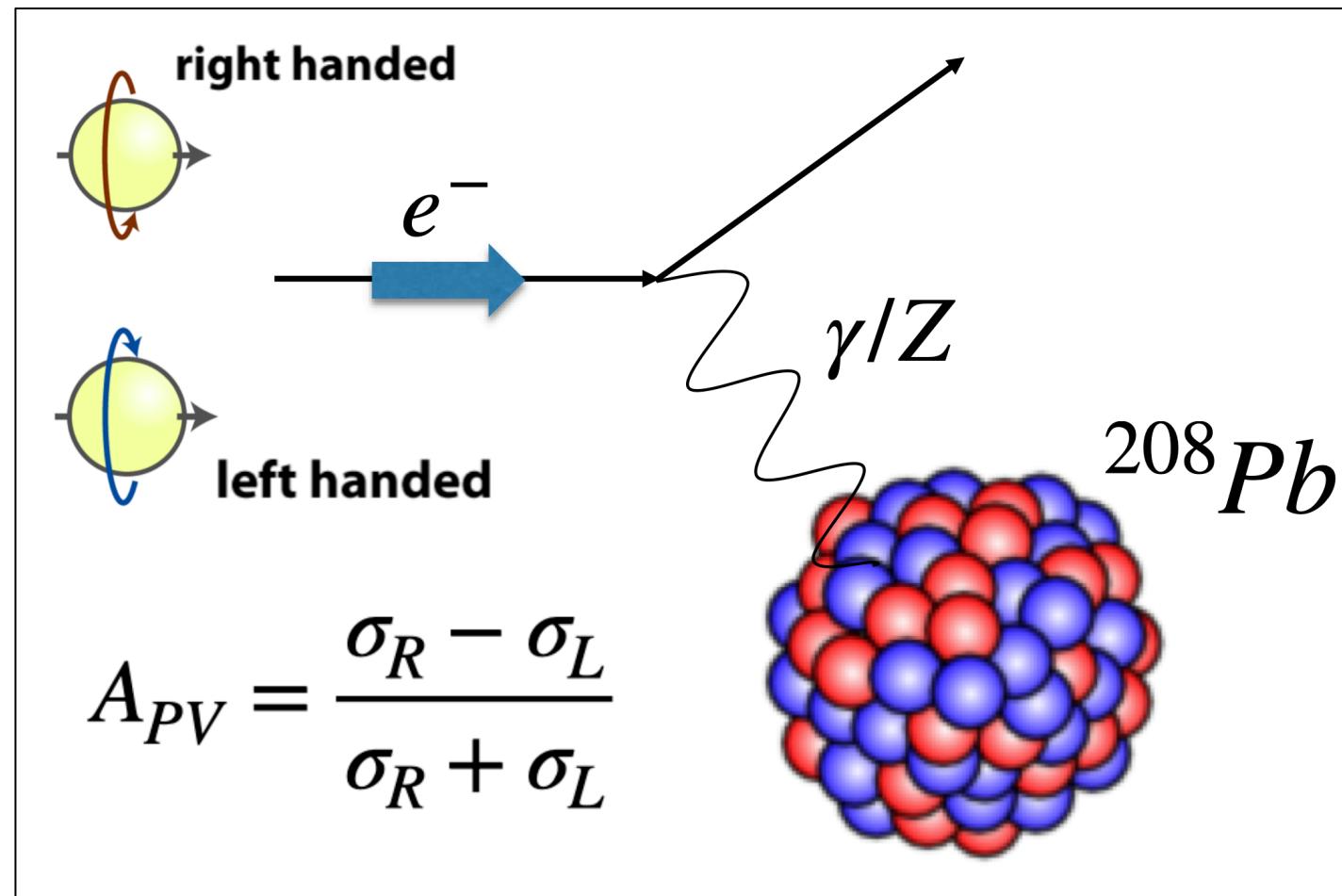


## Neutron skin thickness

- ◆  $\Delta r_{np} = R_n - R_p$ 
    - $R_n$ : neutron rms radius
    - $R_p$ : proton rms radius
  - ◆ an ideal probe of nuclear symmetry energy
  - ◆ important for both nuclear physics and astrophysics.
- B.A. Brown, PRL (2000)  
 R.J. Furnstahl, NPA (2002)  
 L.-W. Chen, C. M. Ko & B.A. Li, PRC (2005)  
 M. Centelles et al., PRL102, 122502 (2009)  
 L.-W. Chen et al., PRC82, 024321 (2010)  
 ZZ & L.-W. Chen, PLB 726, 234 (2013)



# PREX: Lead ( $^{208}\text{Pb}$ ) Radius Experiment



- Parity-violating asymmetry in longitudinally polarized elastic electron scattering :

$$A_{PV} = \frac{\sigma_R - \sigma_L}{\sigma_R + \sigma_L} \approx \frac{G_F Q^2 |Q_W|}{4\sqrt{2}\pi\alpha Z} \frac{F_W(Q^2)}{F_{ch}(Q^2)}$$

Donnelly et al., NPA503, 589 (1989);  
Horowitz et al., PRC63, 025501 (2001).

- Free from most strong interaction uncertainties.

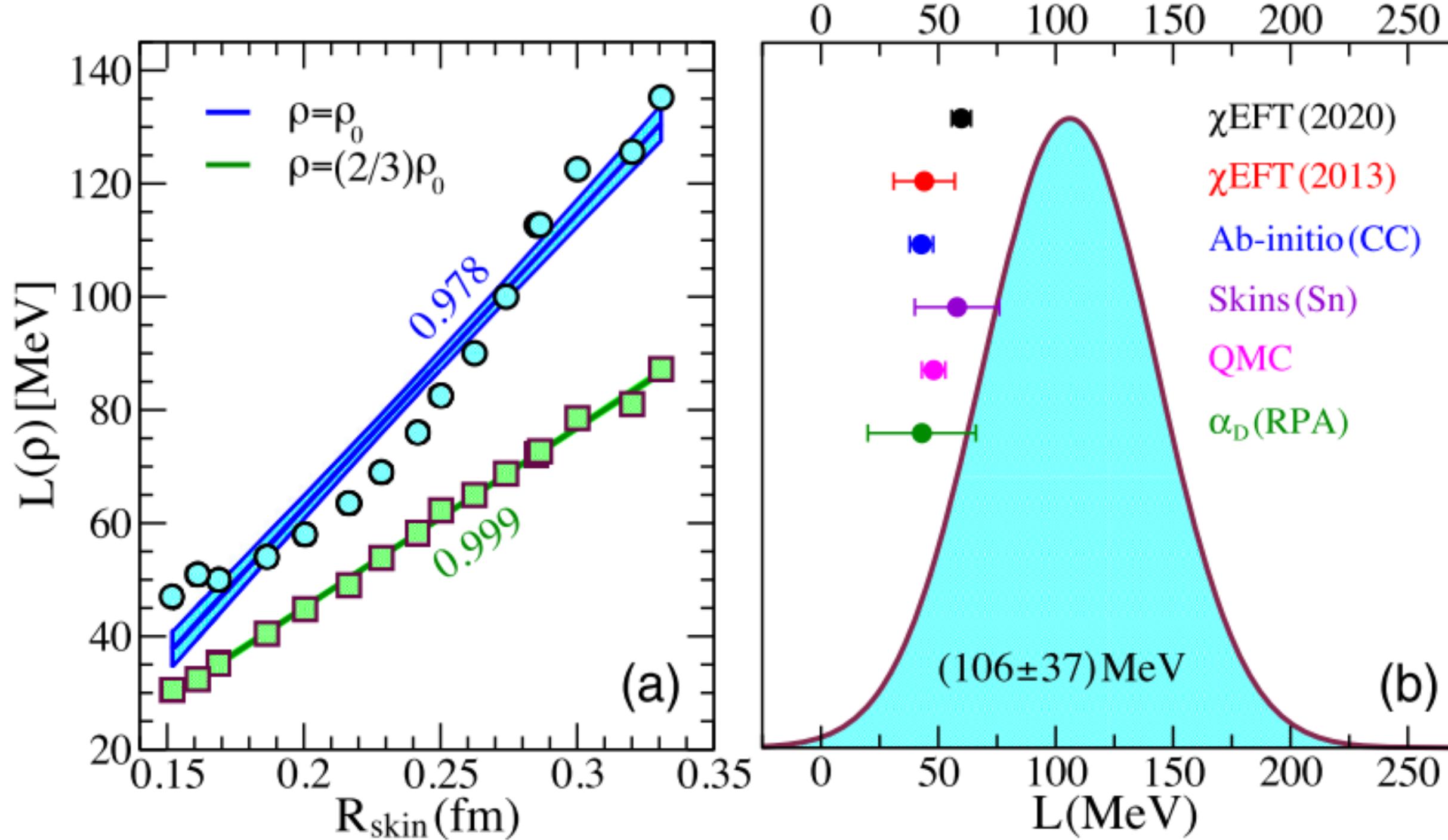
- PREX-2 results ( $\langle Q^2 \rangle = 0.00616 \text{ GeV}^2$ ) :

$$A_{PV}^{\text{meas}} = 550 \pm 16 \text{ (stat)} \pm 8 \text{ (syst) ppb}$$

$$F_W(\langle Q^2 \rangle) = 0.368 \pm 0.013 \text{ (exp)} \pm 0.001 \text{ (theo)}$$

$^{208}\text{Pb}$ Parameter	Value
Weak radius ( $R_w$ )	$5.800 \pm 0.075 \text{ fm}$
Interior weak density ( $\rho_w^0$ )	$-0.0796 \pm 0.0038 \text{ fm}^{-3}$
Interior baryon density ( $\rho_b^0$ )	$0.1480 \pm 0.0038 \text{ fm}^{-3}$
Neutron skin ( $R_n - R_p$ )	$0.283 \pm 0.071 \text{ fm}$

# Super stiff symmetry energy from PREX-2

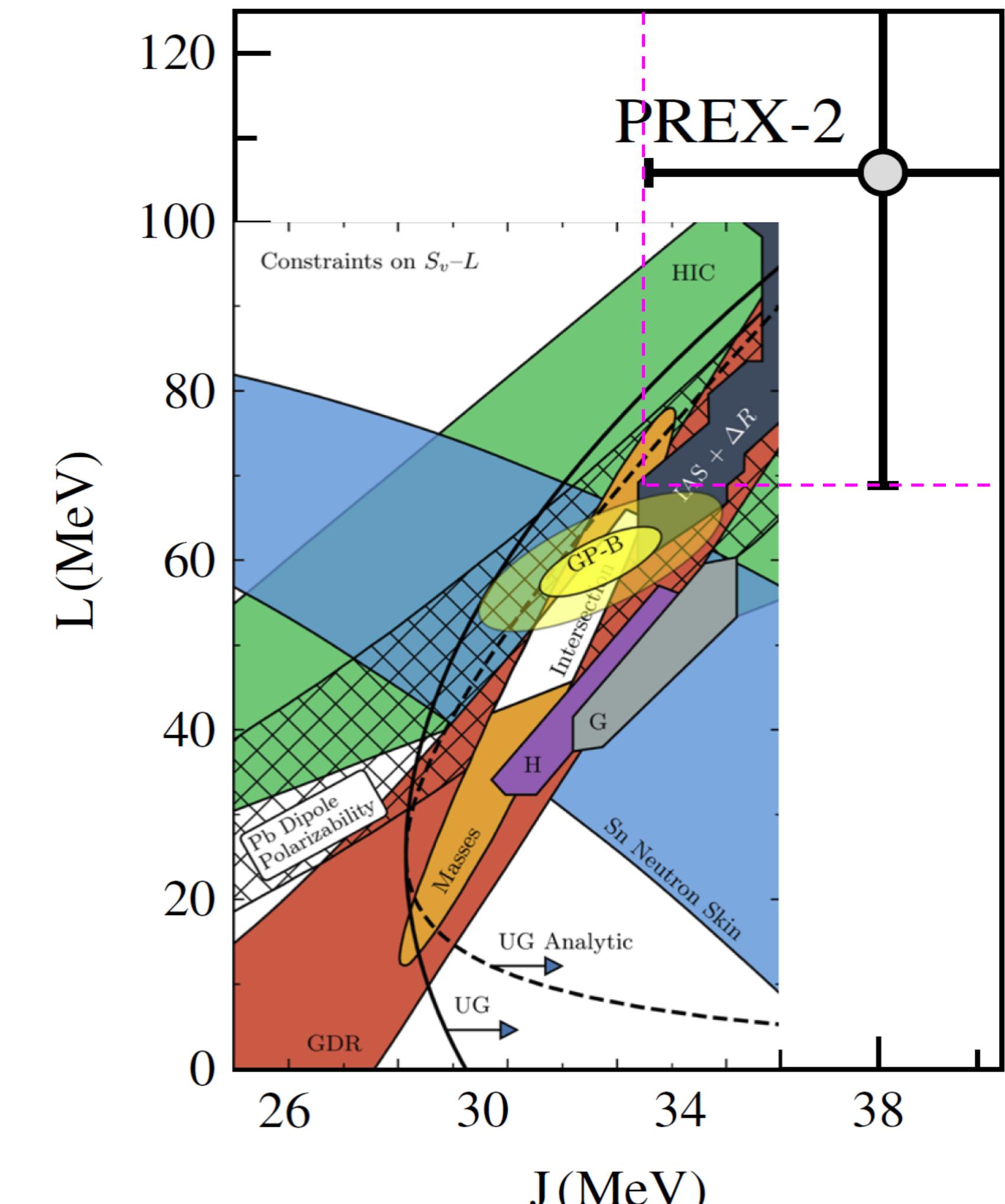


◆ Super stiff symmetry energy from relativistic EDF analysis:

$$J = (38.1 \pm 4.7) \text{ MeV},$$

$$L = (106 \pm 37) \text{ MeV},$$

◆ Challenge our understanding of the symmetry energy.



Reed et al., PRL126, 172503 (2021)

# CREX: Calcium ( $^{48}\text{Ca}$ ) Radius Experiment

- Model-independent determination of **charge-weak form factor difference**:

$$\Delta F_{\text{CW}}^{48}(q) = 0.0277 \pm 0.0055, \quad q = 0.8733 \text{ fm}^{-1}, \text{ CREX}$$

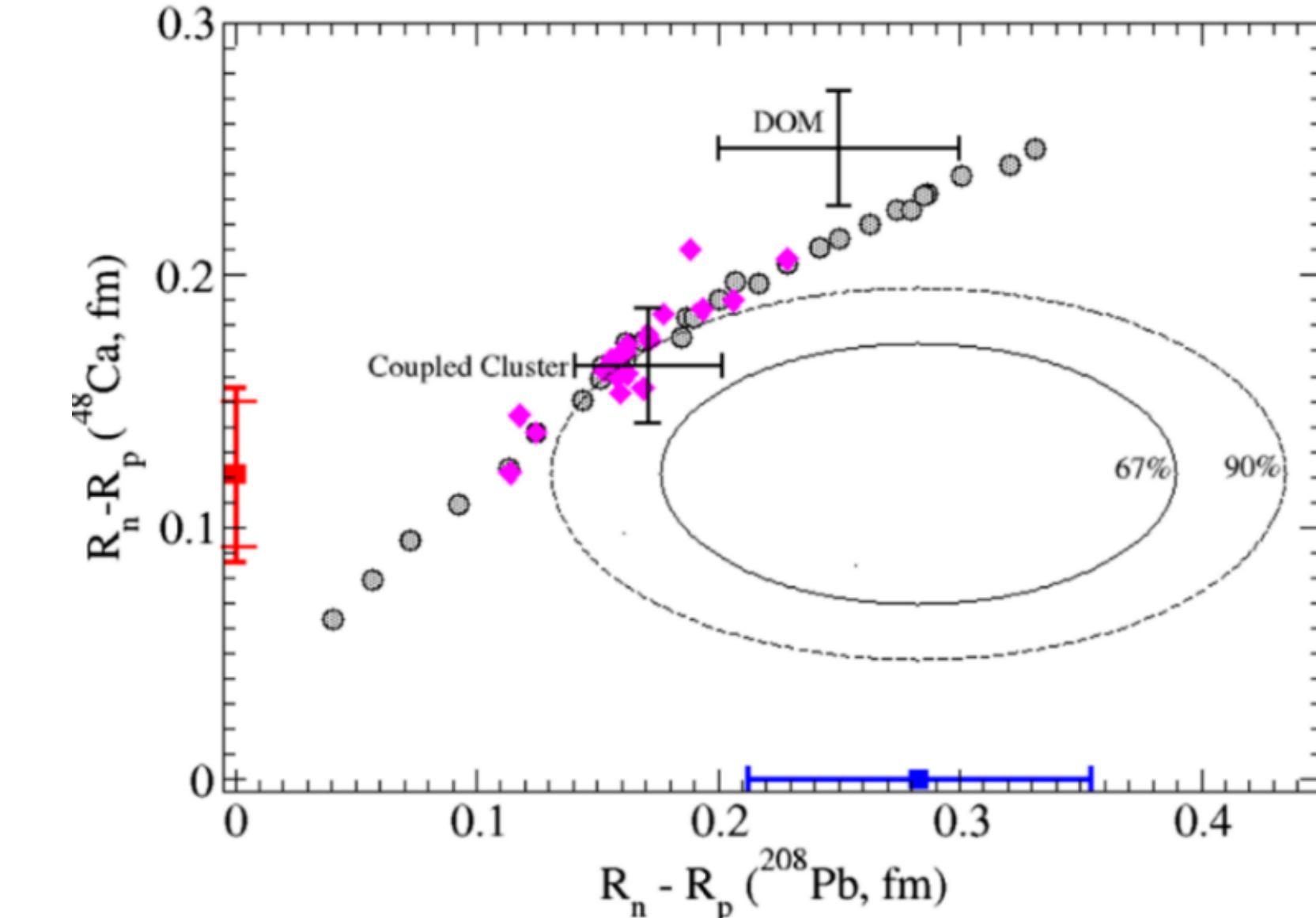
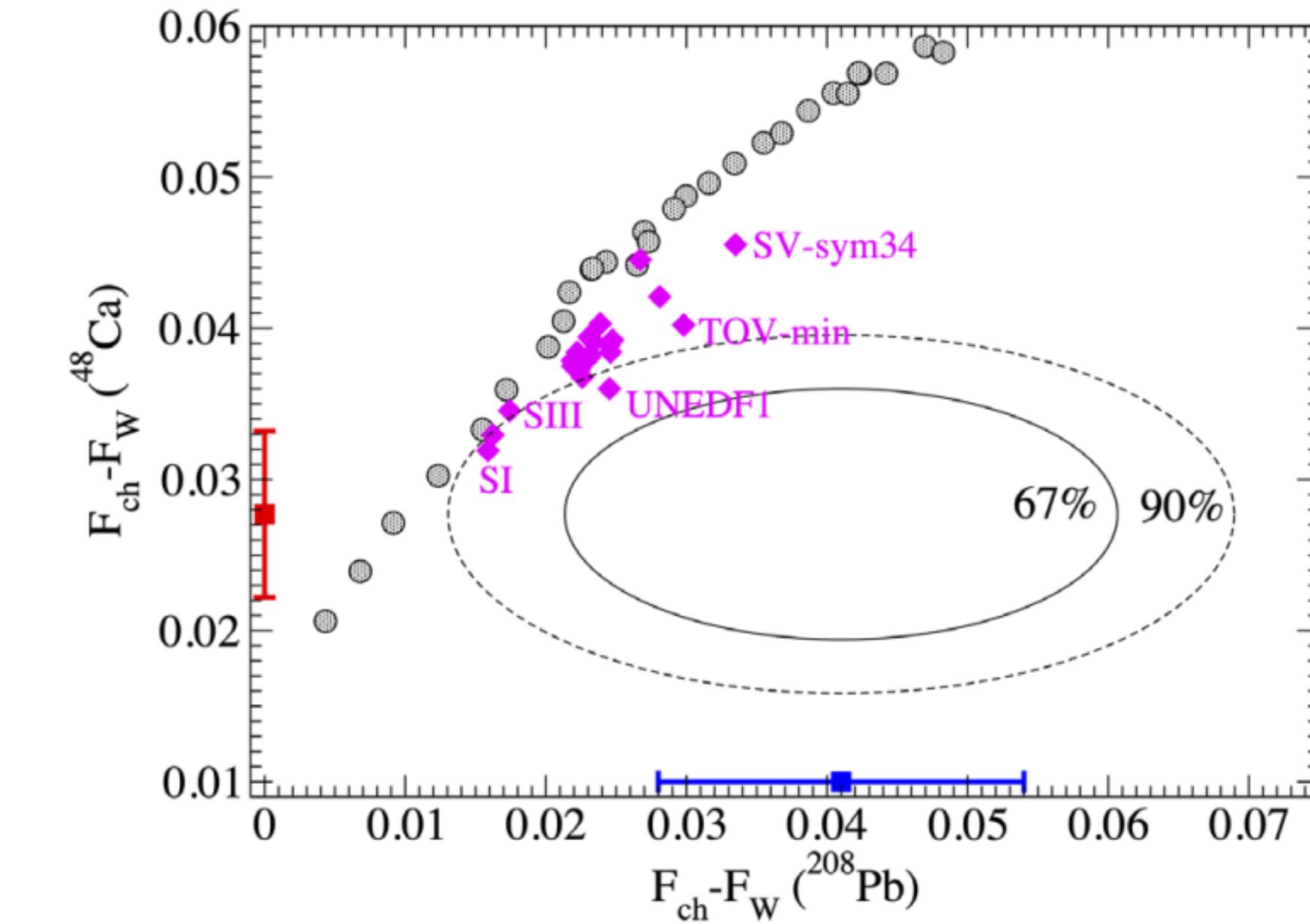
$$\Delta F_{\text{CW}}^{208}(q) = 0.041 \pm 0.013, \quad q = 0.3977 \text{ fm}^{-1}, \text{ PREX}$$

Adhikari et al. (CREX), PRL 129, 042501 (2022)

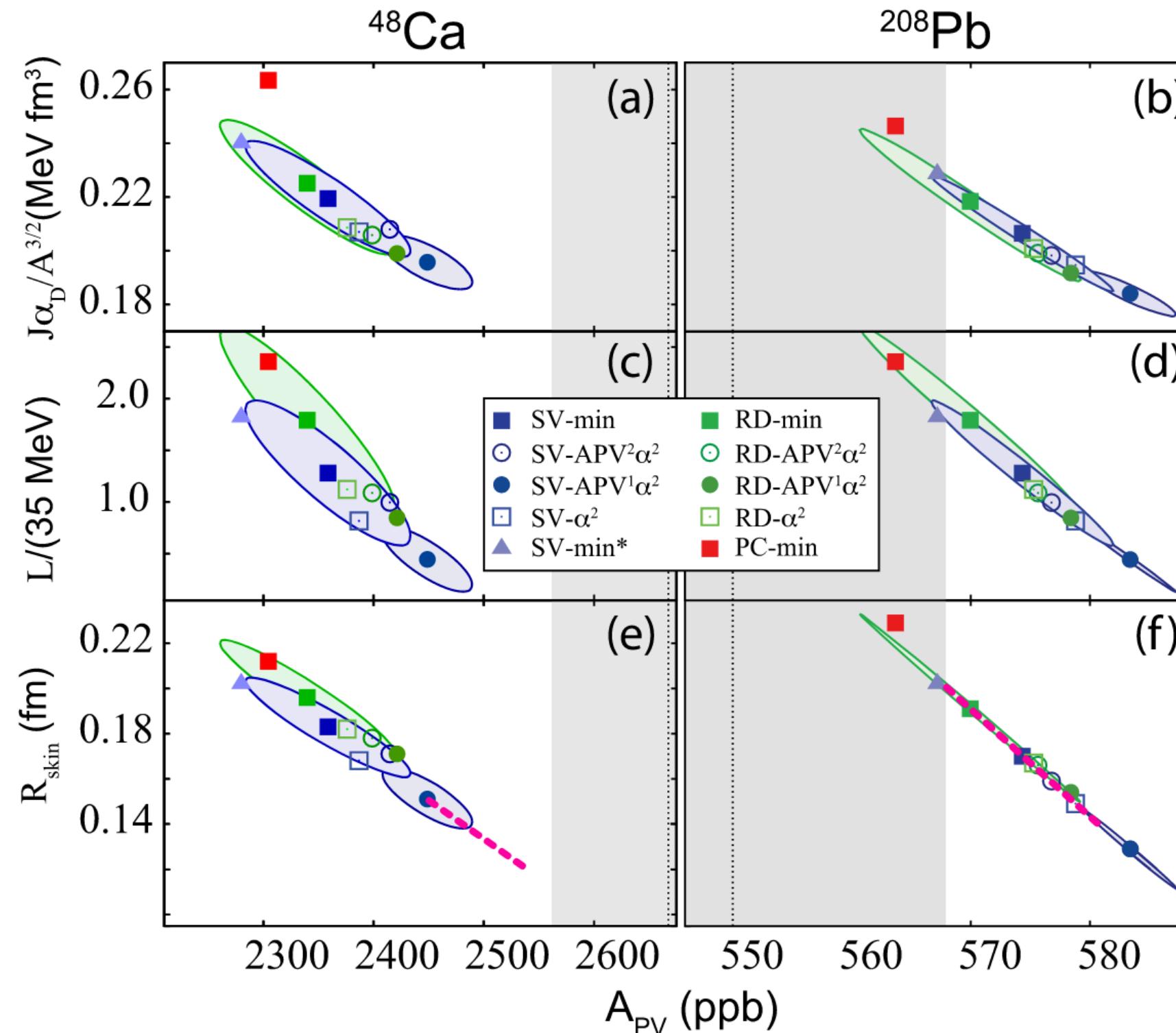
- Extracted neutron skin of Ca48

Quantity	Value $\pm$ (exp) $\pm$ (model) (fm)
$R_W - R_{\text{ch}}$	$0.159 \pm 0.026 \pm 0.023$
$R_n - R_p$	$0.121 \pm 0.026 \pm 0.024$

- Too thin neutron skin of  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  or too thick neutron skin of  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ ?

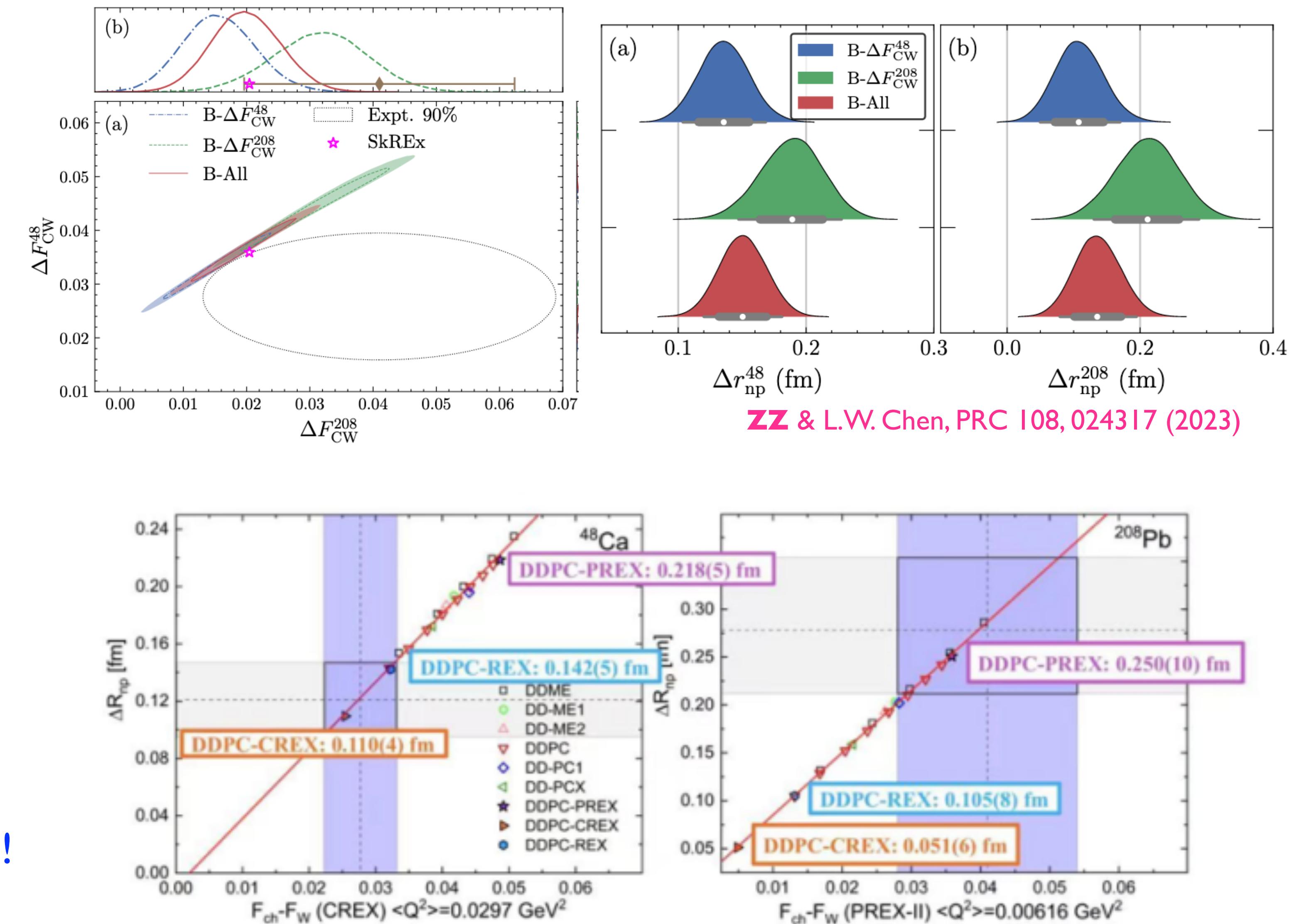


# PREX-CREX puzzle



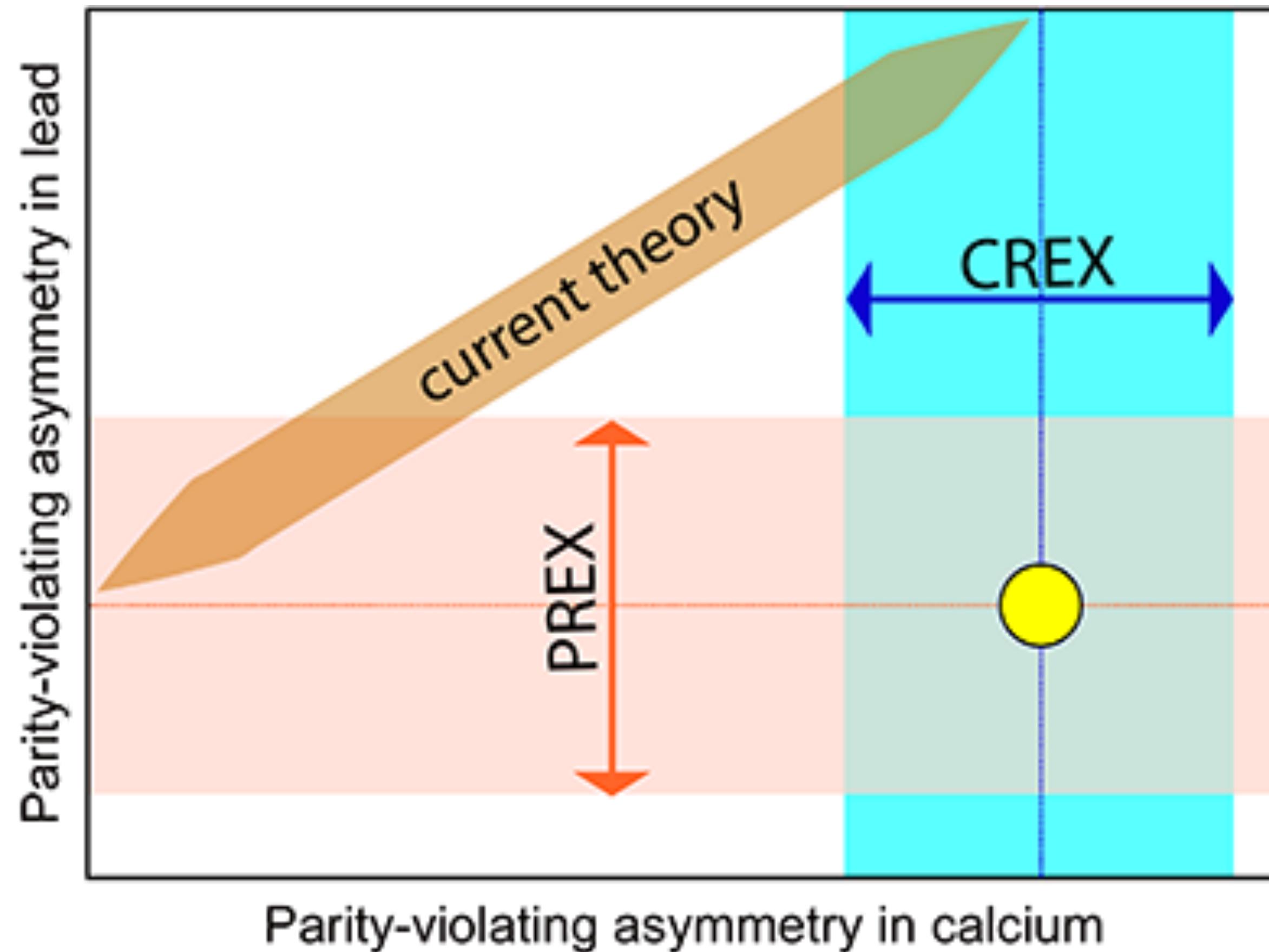
Reinhard, Roca-Maza & Nazarewicz PRL 129, 232501 (2022)

◆ Tension between CREX and PREX-2 results!



Yüksel & Paar, PLB 836, 137622 (2023)

# PREX-CREX puzzle



<https://frib.msu.edu/news/2022/prl-paper.html>

What is missing in the theory?

$\alpha$ -clustering effects?

S.Yang, R.J. Li, and C. Xu, PRC108, L021303 (2023)

Symmetry energy?

Reed et al., PRC109, 035804 (2024)

Salinas & Piekarewicz PRC109, 045807 (2024)

# Resolving the PREX-CREX puzzle via a strong isovector spin-orbit interaction — extended Skyrme energy density functional

T.G.Yue, ZZ, L.W.Chen, arXiv: 2406.03844

# Spin-orbit interaction and neutron/electroweak skin

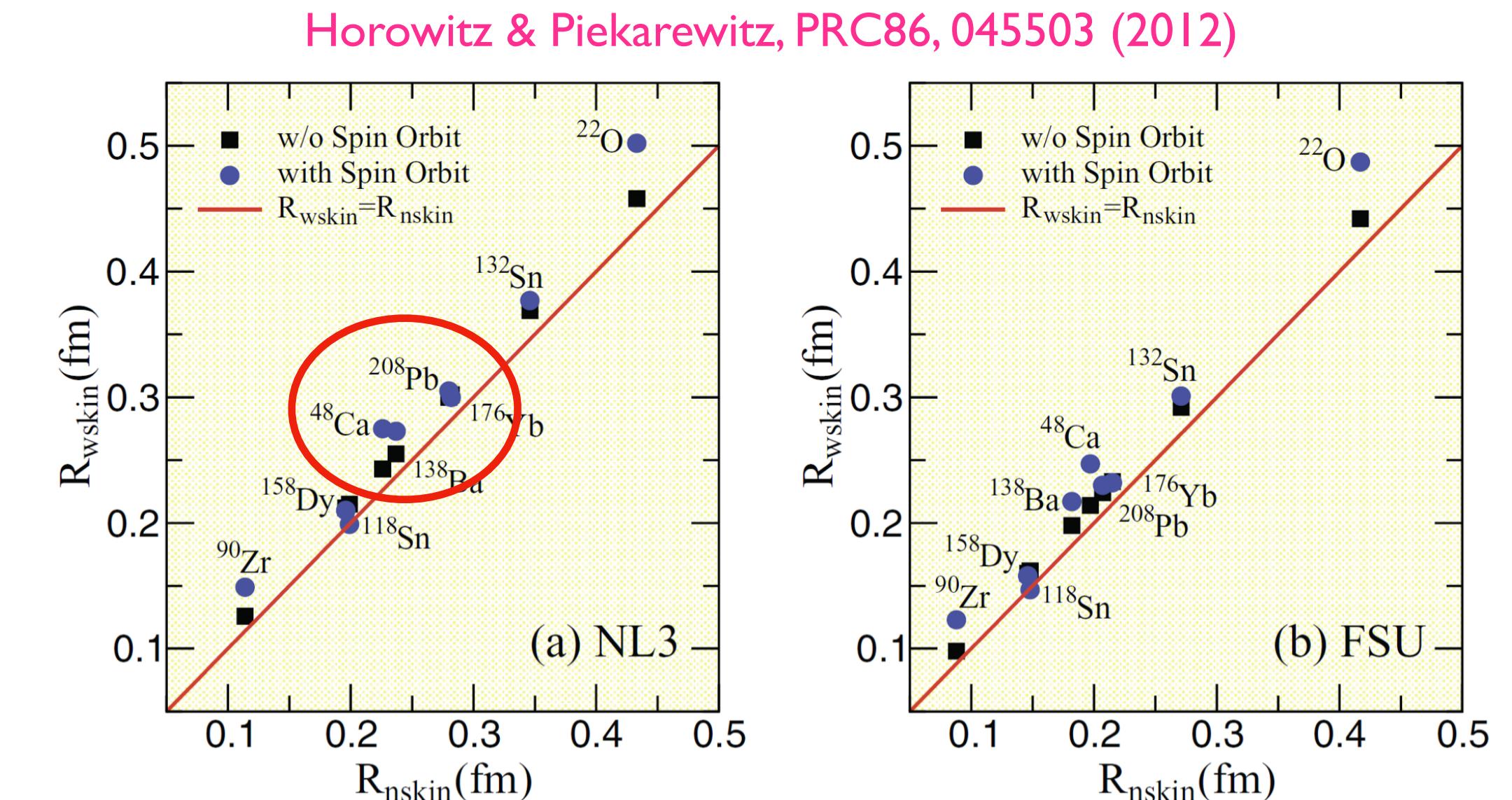
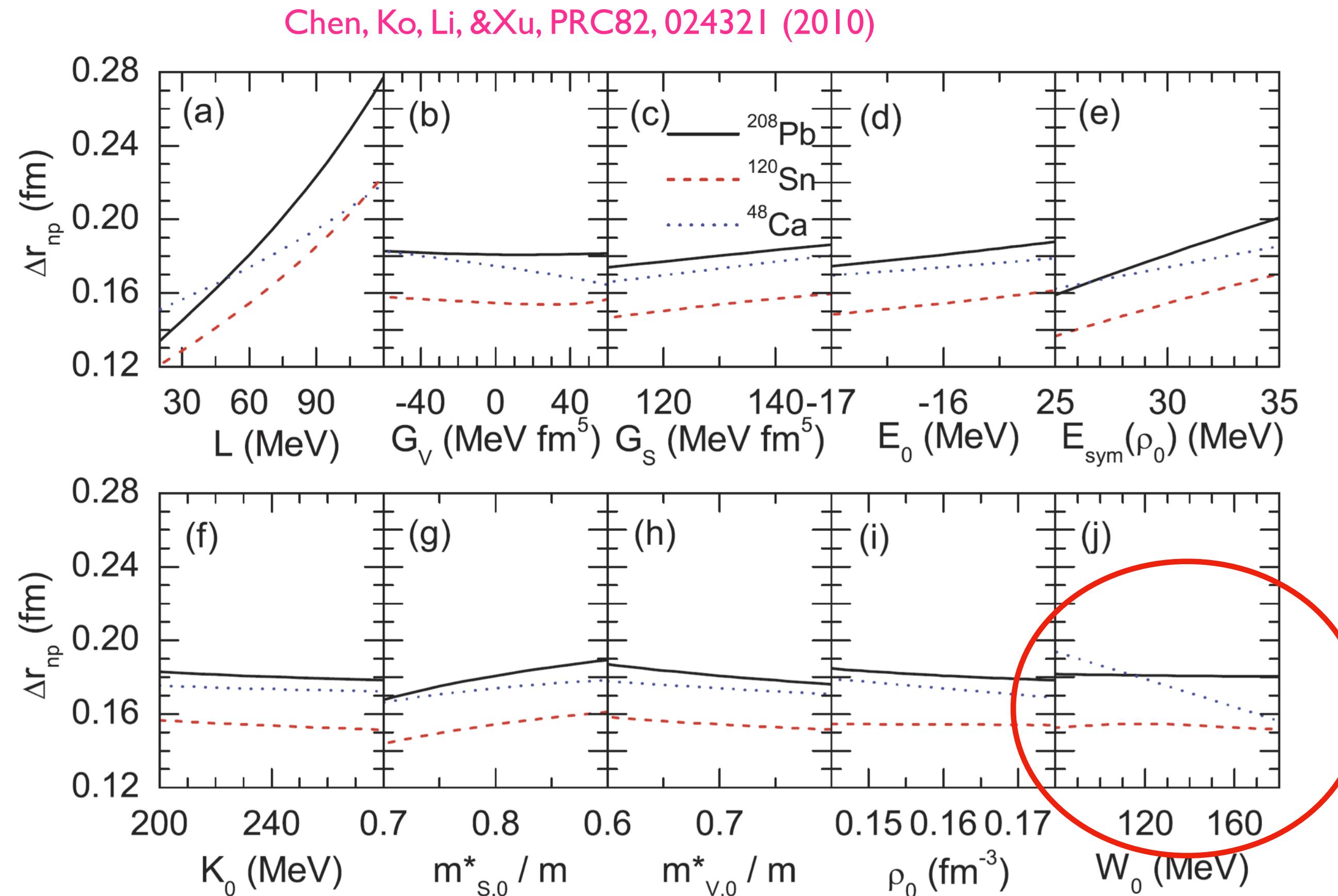
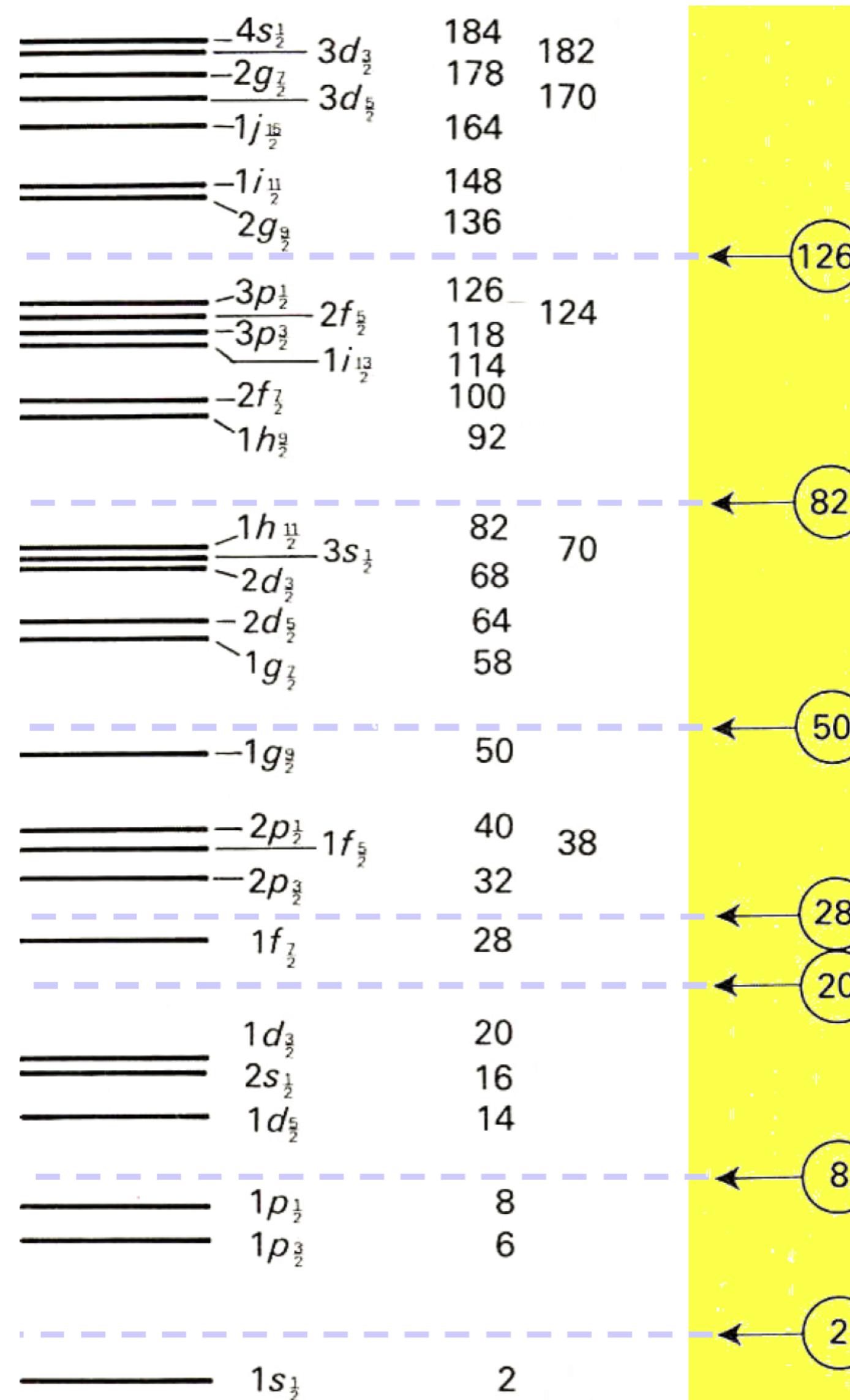


FIG. 2. (Color online) Electroweak skin ( $R_{\text{wk}} - R_{\text{ch}}$ ) with and without spin-orbit corrections as a function of neutron skin ( $R_n - R_p$ ) for the various neutron-rich nuclei considered in this work. Predictions are made using both the (a) NL3 and (b) FSU interactions.

- ◆ The Nskin of Ca48 is sensitive to spin-orbit coupling W0 in the standard SHF!
- ◆ Spin-orbit coupling makes significant contribution to the electroweak skin of Ca48.
- ◆ Ca48 and Pb208 have different shell and surface structures – Both are related to Spin-Orbit interaction.

# Nuclear spin-orbit interaction



◆ Strong spin-orbit interaction → **magic numbers**

$$V(r) \rightarrow V(r) + W(r)L \cdot S$$

$$W(r) = -|V_{LS}| \left( \frac{\hbar}{m_\pi c} \right)^2 \frac{1}{r} \frac{dV(r)}{dr}$$

**Relativistic effects**  
(Duerr, PR103), 469(1956)



Mayer and Jensen (1949)  
Nobel Prize, 1963 (Also Wigner)

◆ Nonrelativistic energy density functionals (Skyrme):

- Spin-orbit interaction:  $iW_0(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2) \cdot [\mathbf{P}' \times \delta(\mathbf{r})\mathbf{P}]$
- Spin-orbit energy:

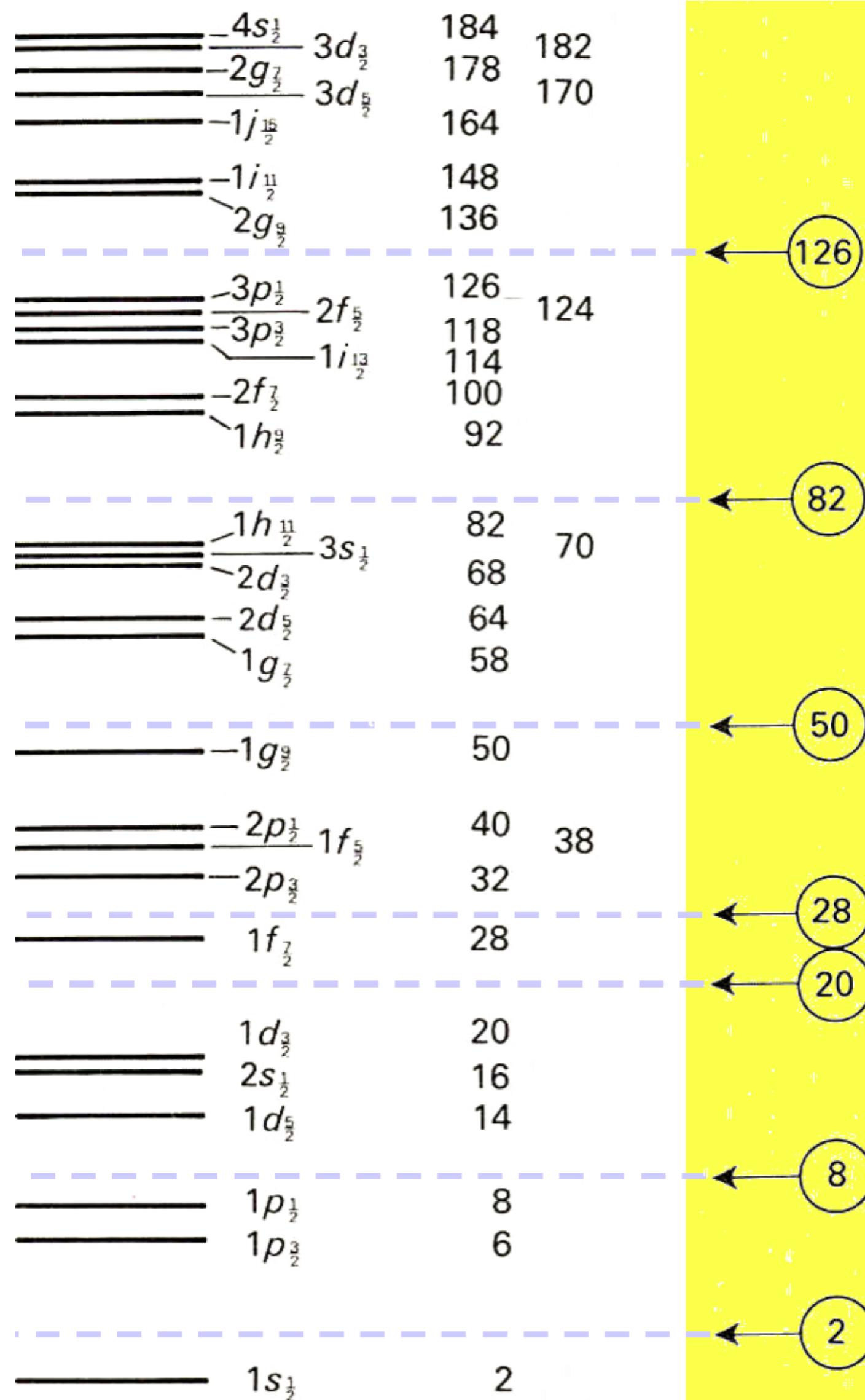
$$E_{SO} = \int d\mathbf{r}^3 \frac{1}{2} W_0 \left[ \mathbf{J} \cdot \nabla \rho + J_p \nabla \rho_p + J_n \nabla \rho_n \right]$$

$$= \int d\mathbf{r}^3 \left[ \frac{b_{IS}}{2} \mathbf{J} \cdot \nabla \rho + \frac{b_{IV}}{2} (J_n - J_p) \nabla (\rho_n - \rho_p) \right]$$

$$\mathbf{J}_q(\mathbf{r}) = -i \sum v_i^2 \varphi_i^+(\mathbf{r}) \nabla \times \hat{\sigma} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}).$$

Reinhard and Flocard, NPA 584, 467488 (1995)  
Bender, Heenen, and Reinhard, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 121 (2003).  
Ebran, Mutschler, Khan, and Vretenar, PRC 94, 024304 (2016).

# Spin-orbit density in $^{48}\text{Ca}$ and $^{208}\text{Pb}$



◆ Spin-Orbit density (spherical nuclei):

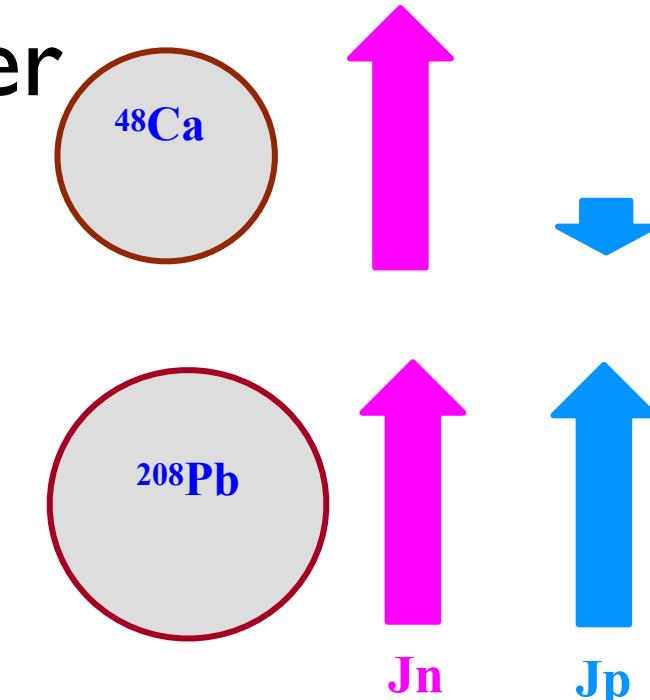
$$J_q(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi r^3} \sum_i v_i^2 (2j_i + 1) \times \left[ j_i(j_i + 1) - l_i(l_i + 1) - \frac{3}{4} \right] R_i^2(r)$$

$R_i$ : radial wave function;  $j$  &  $l$ : total & orbital angular momentum

Sagawa & Colo, PPNP 76 (2014) 76

◆ Contributions from  $j_>$  and  $j_<$  largely cancel with each other

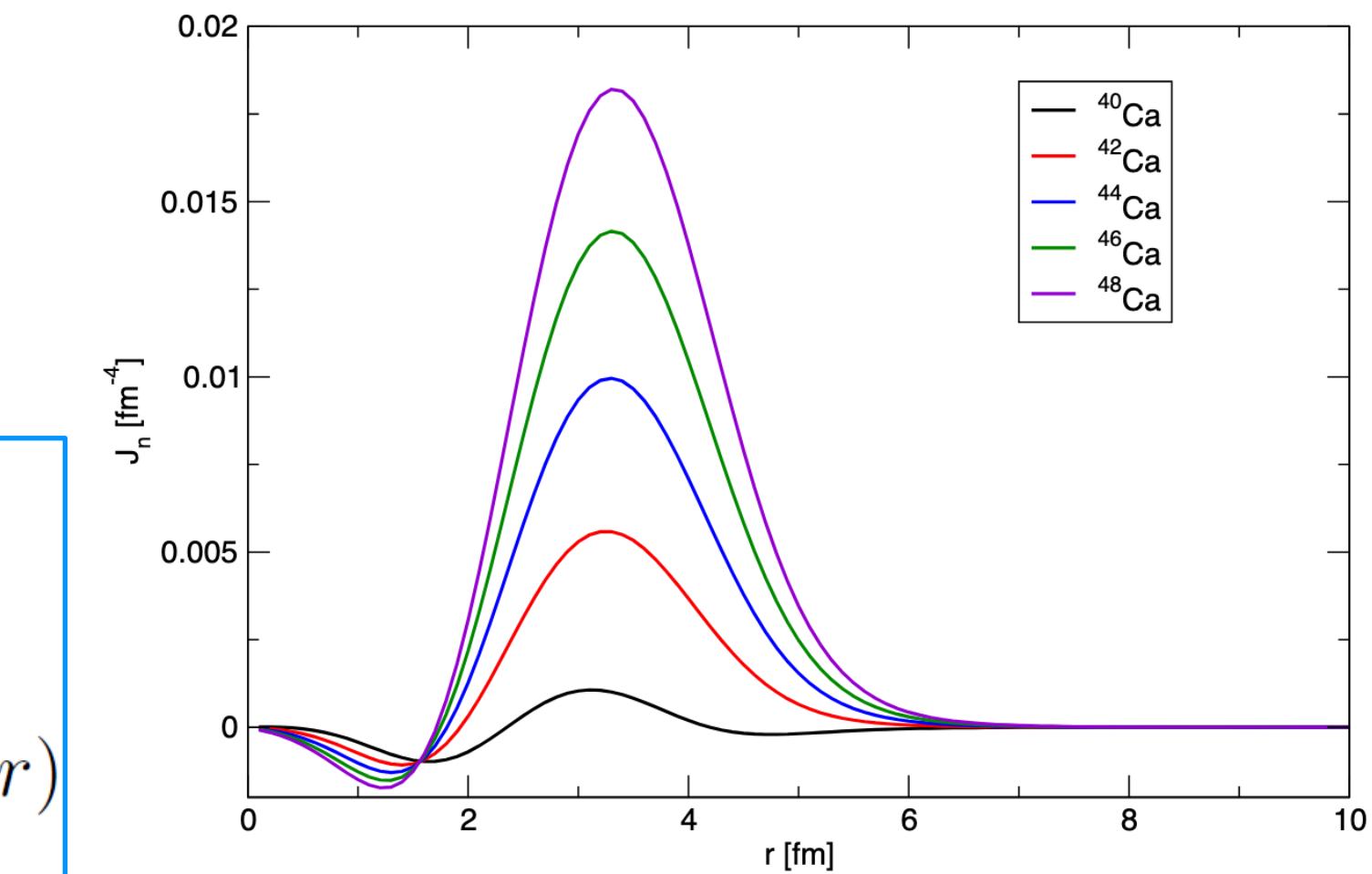
- $j_> = l + 1/2$ : positive contribution
- $j_< = l - 1/2$ : negative contribution



◆  $|J_n - J_p|$  is large in  $^{48}\text{Ca}$ , but relatively small in  $^{208}\text{Pb}$

- Ca40:  $J_p \approx 0, J_n \approx 0$
- Ca48:  $J_p \approx 0, J_n >> 0$  due to the 8  $1f_{\frac{7}{2}}$  neutrons of unpaired I-s partner
- Pb208:  $J_p \approx J_n >> 0$  due to 14  $1i_{\frac{13}{2}}$  neutrons and 12  $1h_{\frac{11}{2}}$  protons

◆ The isovector spin-orbit coupling  $b_{IV}$  is expected to have significant effect on Ca48 while essentially no influence on Pb208!



# Extended Skyrme EDF

## ♦ Energy density functional:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}_{\text{Skyrme}} = & \frac{B_0 + B_3\rho^\alpha}{2}\rho^2 - \frac{B'_0 + B'_3\rho^\alpha}{2}\tilde{\rho}^2 + (B_1 + B_4\rho^\beta + B_5\rho^\gamma)\rho\tau - (B'_1 + B'_4\rho^\beta + B'_5\rho^\gamma)\tilde{\rho}\tilde{\tau} \\ & + \frac{2B_2 + (2\beta + 3)B_4\rho^\beta - B_5\rho^\gamma}{4}(\nabla\rho)^2 - \frac{2B'_2 + 3B'_4\rho^\beta - B'_5\rho^\gamma}{4}(\nabla\tilde{\rho})^2 - \frac{\beta B'_4}{2}\rho^{\beta-1}\tilde{\rho}\nabla\rho \cdot \nabla\tilde{\rho} \\ & + \frac{C_1 + C_2\rho^\beta + C_3\rho^\gamma}{2}J^2 + \frac{C'_1 + C'_2\rho^\beta + C'_3\rho^\gamma}{2}\tilde{J}^2 \\ & + \frac{b_{\text{IS}}}{2}\nabla\rho \cdot \mathbf{J} + \frac{b_{\text{IV}}}{2}\nabla\tilde{\rho} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{J}} + \frac{\alpha_T + \beta_T}{4}J^2 + \frac{\alpha_T - \beta_T}{4}\tilde{J}^2.\end{aligned}$$

$$\rho_q(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i v_i^2 |\varphi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2,$$

$$\tau_q(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i v_i^2 |\nabla\varphi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2,$$

$$\mathbf{J}_q(\mathbf{r}) = -i \sum_i v_i^2 \varphi_i^+(\mathbf{r}) \nabla \times \hat{\sigma} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}).$$

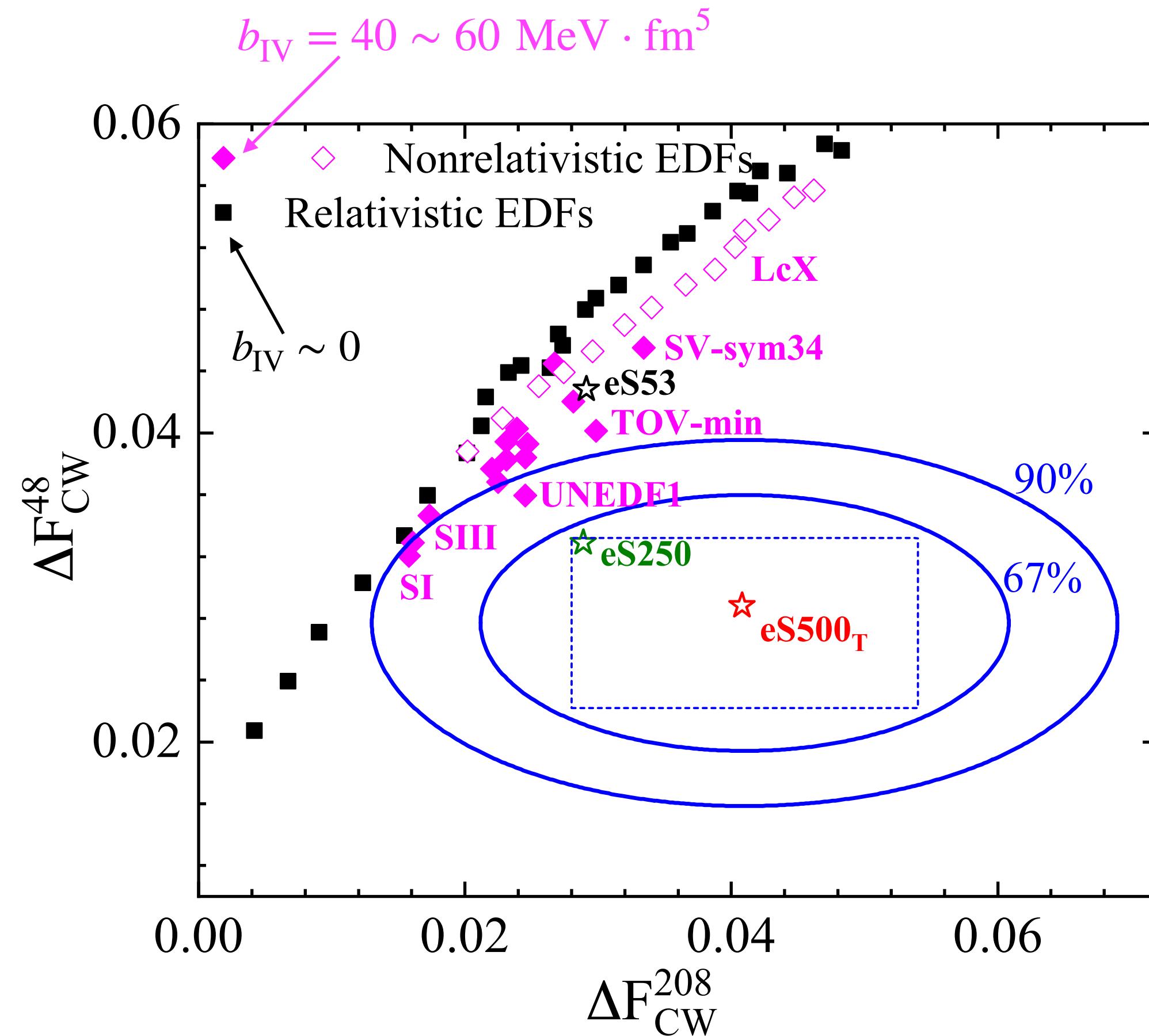
Tong-Gang Yue, ZZ, Lie-Wen Chen, arXiv:2406.03844

$$\rho = \rho_n + \rho_p, \quad \tau = \tau_n + \tau_p, \quad J = J_n + J_p,$$

$$\tilde{\rho} = \rho_n - \rho_p, \quad \tilde{\tau} = \tau_n - \tau_p, \quad \tilde{J} = J_n - J_p,$$

- ♦ Construct 3 new EDFs to simultaneously fit CREX and PREX results, ground- and excited-state of a number of typical (semi-)closed-shell nuclei, and constraints on EOS of nuclear matter.
- eS250, eS500T, and eS53.** [ e: extended, T: tensor force, number: the value of  $b_{\text{IV}}$ ]

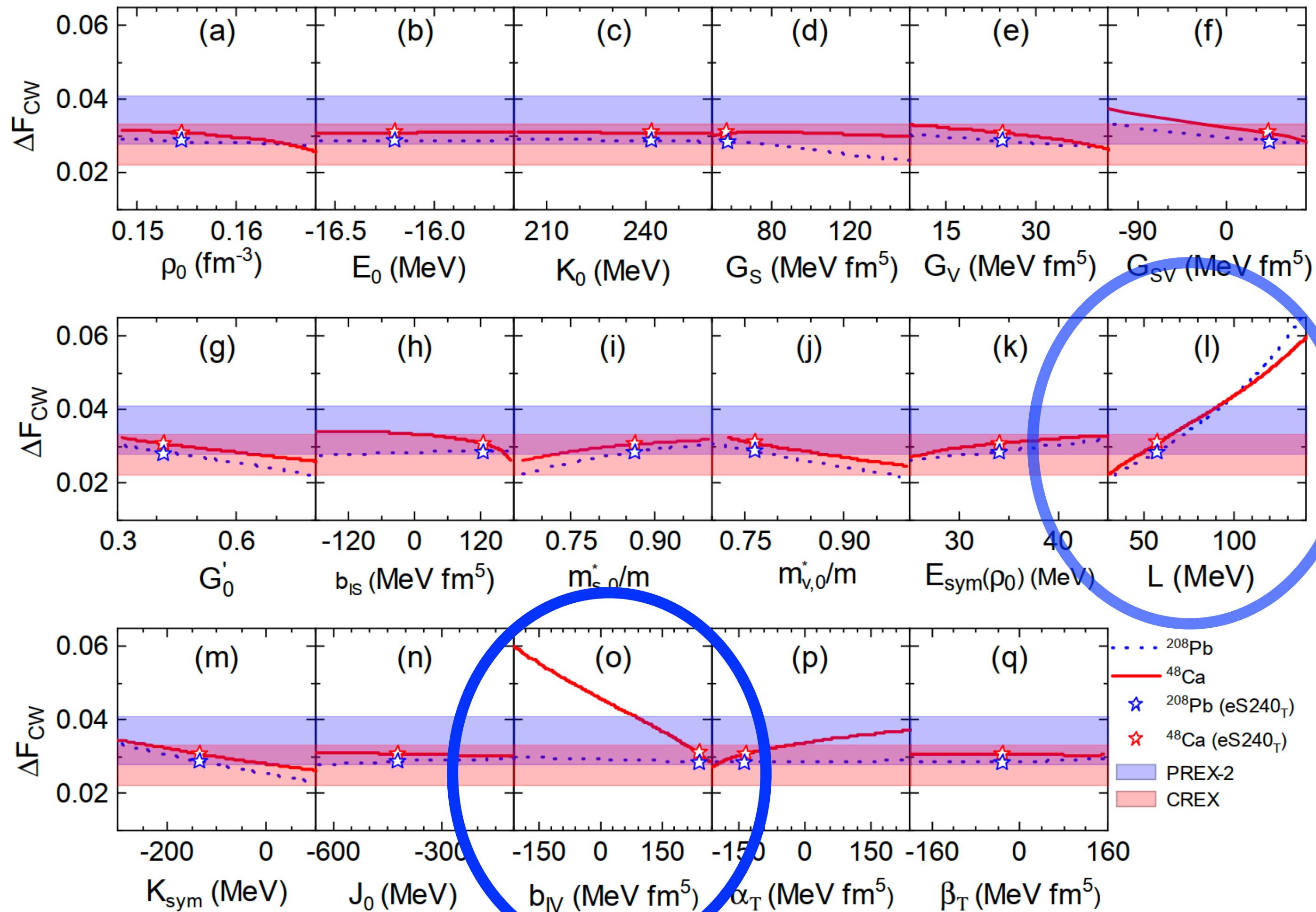
# New EDFs with strong IVSO interaction



quantity	eS250	eS53	eS500 <sub>T</sub>	quantity	eS250	eS53	eS500 <sub>T</sub>
$t_0$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	-1803.9	-1803.9	-1632.7	$b_{IS}$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	160.461	160.461	118.87
$t_1$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	450.79	450.79	545.566	$b_{IV}$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	250	53.4870	500
$t_2$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	287.09	287.09	-946.38	$\rho_0$ (fm <sup>-3</sup> )	0.15881	0.15881	0.15089
$t_3$ (MeV · fm <sup>3+3\alpha</sup> )	12514.	12514.	12807.8	$E_0$ (MeV)	-16.1209	-16.1209	-15.957
$t_4$ (MeV · fm <sup>3+3\beta</sup> )	-922.51	-922.51	-1815.3	$K_0$ (MeV)	238.125	238.125	236.22
$t_5$ (MeV · fm <sup>3+3\gamma</sup> )	-1064.2	-1064.2	7734.2	$J_0$ (MeV)	-393.323	-393.323	-463.64
$x_0$	0.25037	0.25037	-0.1312	$E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_0)$ (MeV)	33.9279	33.9279	36.96
$x_1$	-0.95171	-0.95171	0.8692	$L$ (MeV)	58.9409	58.9409	80.6
$x_2$	-2.2637	-2.2637	-0.9003	$K_{\text{sym}}$ (MeV)	-111.833	-111.833	-189.5
$x_3$	0.06042	0.06042	-0.9644	$m_{s,0}/m$	0.92297	0.92297	0.921
$x_4$	-1.5503	-1.5503	1.6947	$m_{v,0}/m$	0.77078	0.77078	0.662
$x_5$	-1.8795	-1.8795	-1.1009	$G'_0$	0.75906	0.75906	0.951
$\alpha$	0.33162	0.33162	0.43201	$G_S$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	81.1891	81.1891	44.66
$\beta$	1	1	1	$G_V$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	-26.4039	-26.4039	7.19
$\gamma$	1	1	1	$G_{SV}$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	19.2338	19.2338	-75.15
$B_0$ (MeV · fm <sup>3</sup> )	-1352.90	-1352.90	-1224.51	$B'_0$ (MeV · fm <sup>3</sup> )	-676.78	-676.78	-301.036
$B_1$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	-30.4933	-30.4933	19.5659	$B'_1$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	37.8390	37.8390	40.1165
$B_2$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	163.162	163.162	194.804	$B'_2$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	-69.8261	-69.8261	166.682
$B_3$ (MeV · fm <sup>3+3\alpha</sup> )	1564.21	1564.21	1600.97	$B'_3$ (MeV · fm <sup>3+3\alpha</sup> )	584.414	584.414	-495.702
$B_4$ (MeV · fm <sup>5+3\beta</sup> )	-172.971	-172.971	-340.371	$B'_4$ (MeV · fm <sup>5+3\beta</sup> )	121.112	121.112	-498.017
$B_5$ (MeV · fm <sup>5+3\beta</sup> )	167.480	167.480	288.309	$B'_5$ (MeV · fm <sup>5+3\beta</sup> )	-183.508	-183.508	580.922
$C_1$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	0	0	-78.4280	$C'_1$ (MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> )	0	0	93.2463
$C_2$ (MeV · fm <sup>5+3\beta</sup> )	0	0	271.103	$C'_2$ (MeV · fm <sup>5+3\beta</sup> )	0	0	-113.457
$C_3$ (MeV · fm <sup>5+3\beta</sup> )	0	0	580.922	$C'_3$ (MeV · fm <sup>5+3\beta</sup> )	0	0	483.384

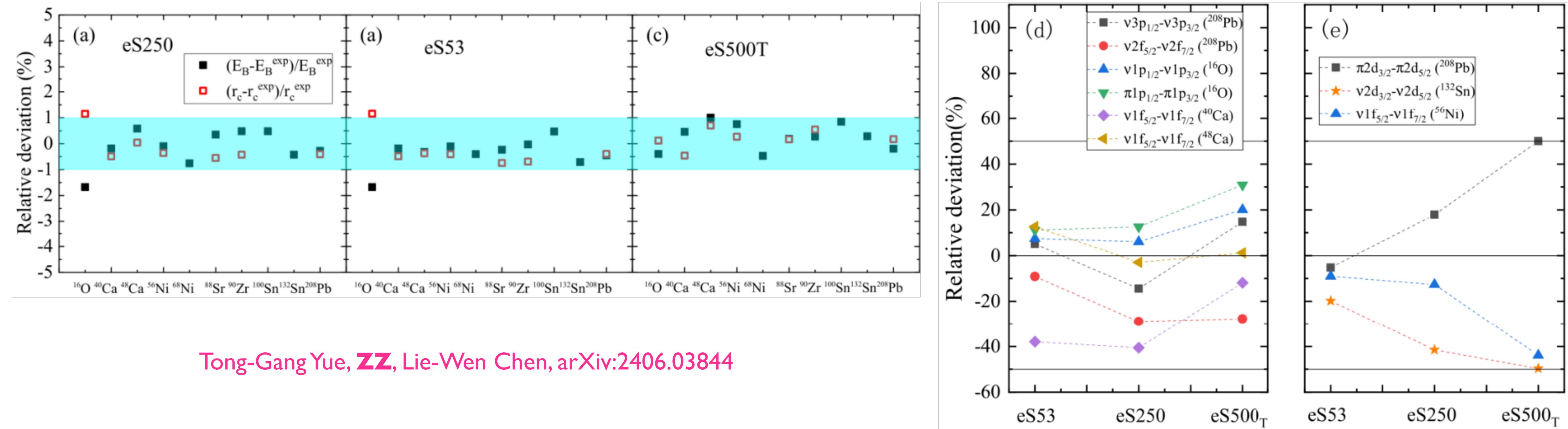
The isovector spin-orbit coupling  $b_{IV}$  should be larger than  $\sim 250$  MeV fm<sup>5</sup> to fit CREX/PREX data

# Correlation analysis for $\Delta F_{\text{CW}}$ in $^{48}\text{Ca}$ and $^{208}\text{Pb}$



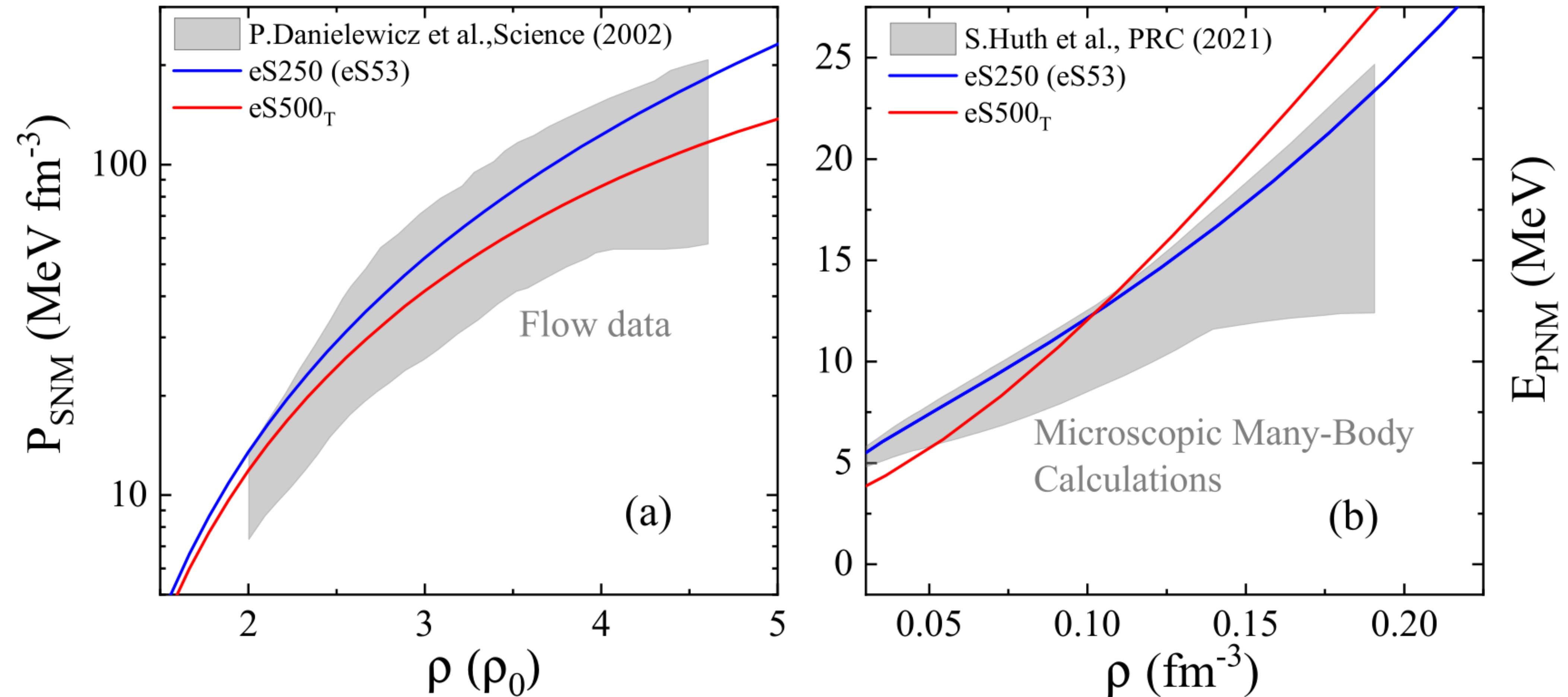
- ◆ Based on eS250 EDF
- ◆  $\Delta F_{\text{CW}}$  of  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  is only sensitive to  $L$ .
- ◆  $\Delta F_{\text{CW}}$  of  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  is positively(negatively) correlated to  $L(b_{IV})$
- ◆ A large  $L$  can still reproduce the CREX result with a large  $b_{IV}$

# Ground-state properties: mass, radius, spin-orbit splitting



- ◆ The new EDFs with **strong isovector spin-orbit interaction** can well describe the nuclear ground-state properties!

# Equation of state



❖ The eS250 with strong isovector spin-orbit interaction can well describe the empirical EOSs of SNM and PNM! (but eS500T predict too stiff PNM EOS)

Tong-Gang Yue, ZZ, Lie-Wen Chen, arXiv:2406.03844

# Resolving the PREX-CREX puzzle via a strong isovector spin-orbit interaction

## —Density-dependent point-coupling RMF

M. Qiu, ZZ, T.G. Yue, L.W. Chen, in preparation

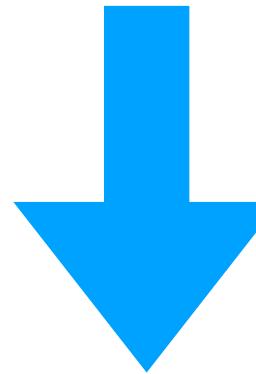
# Strong IVSO potential in RMF model

## Dirac equation

$$\hat{H} = \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \boldsymbol{p} + \beta(M - S(r)) + V(r) + i\boldsymbol{\gamma} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{r}} T(r),$$

$$\left( \frac{d}{dr} + \frac{\kappa^*(r)}{r} \right) g_{n\kappa}(r) - (E^*(r) + M^*(r)) f_{n\kappa}(r) = 0,$$

$$\left( \frac{d}{dr} - \frac{\kappa^*(r)}{r} \right) f_{n\kappa}(r) + (E^*(r) - M^*(r)) g_{n\kappa}(r) = 0.$$



## Equivalent Schrödinger-like equation

$$\left[ \frac{d^2}{dr^2} - p^2 - \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} - U_{\text{eff}}(r; \kappa, E) \right] u_{n\kappa}(r) = 0,$$

$$U_{\text{eff}}(r; \kappa, E) = U_c(r) - (1 + \kappa) U_{\text{so}}(r) + U_D(r) + U_t(r),$$

$$U_{\text{so}}(r) \equiv U_{\text{so}}^{(0)}(r) \pm U_{\text{so}}^{(1)}(r) \rightarrow U_{\text{so}}^{(0)}(r) \pm \beta U_{\text{so}}^{(1)}(r)$$

EDITORS' SUGGESTION

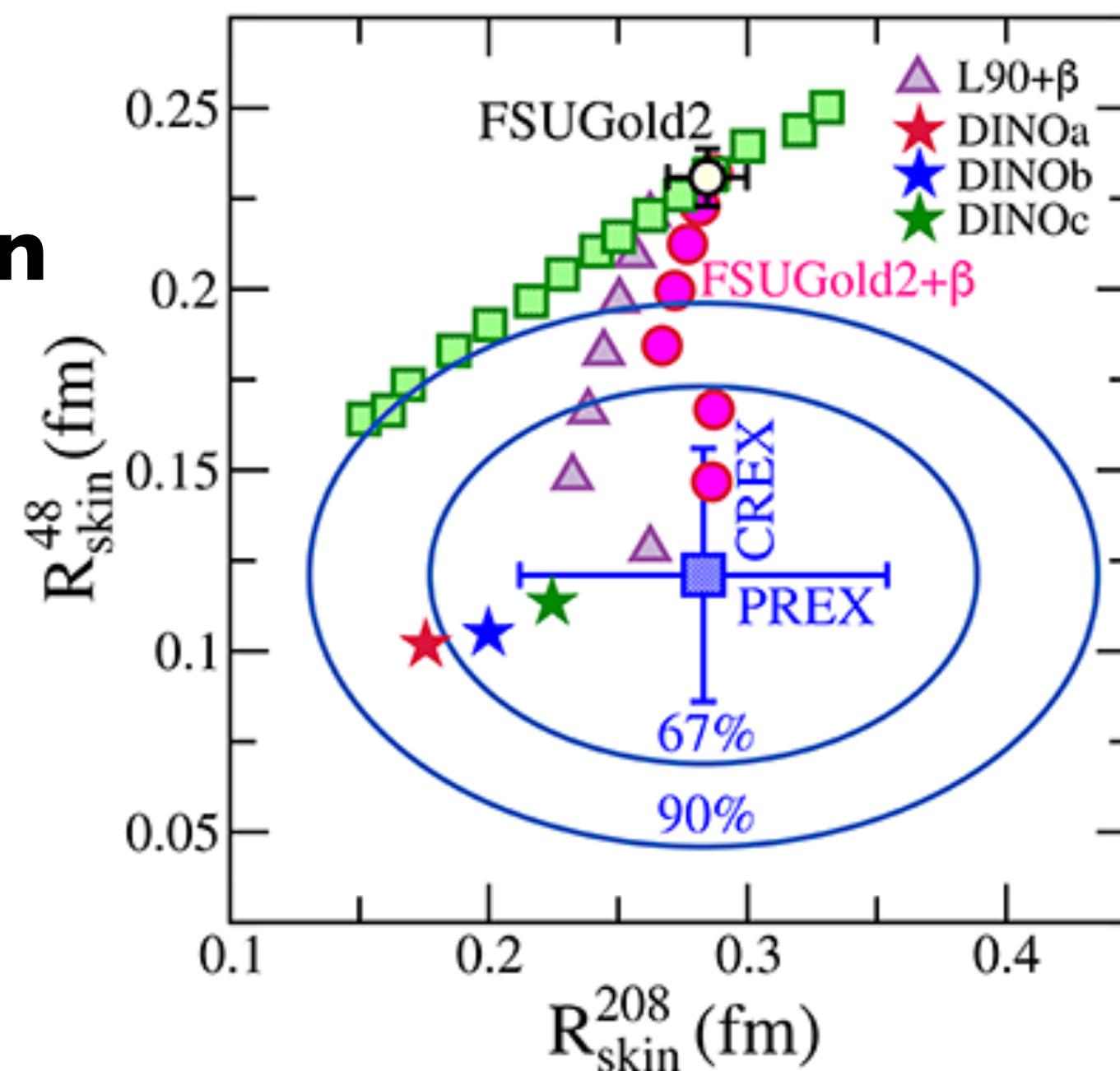
### Role of the isovector spin-orbit potential in mitigating the CREX-PREX dilemma

Athul Kunjipurayil and J. Piekarewicz

Marc Salinas

Show more ▶ ▾

Phys. Rev. C 112, 014310 – Published 8 July, 2025



- ◆ Enhanced isovector potential by an enhancement factor  $\beta$ .
- ◆  $\beta \approx 300$  leads to perfect agreement with CREX and PREX
- ◆ Confirm the effects of IVSO interaction

# IVSO coupling in RMF model

- ◆ Isovector-scalar  $\delta$  meson exchange

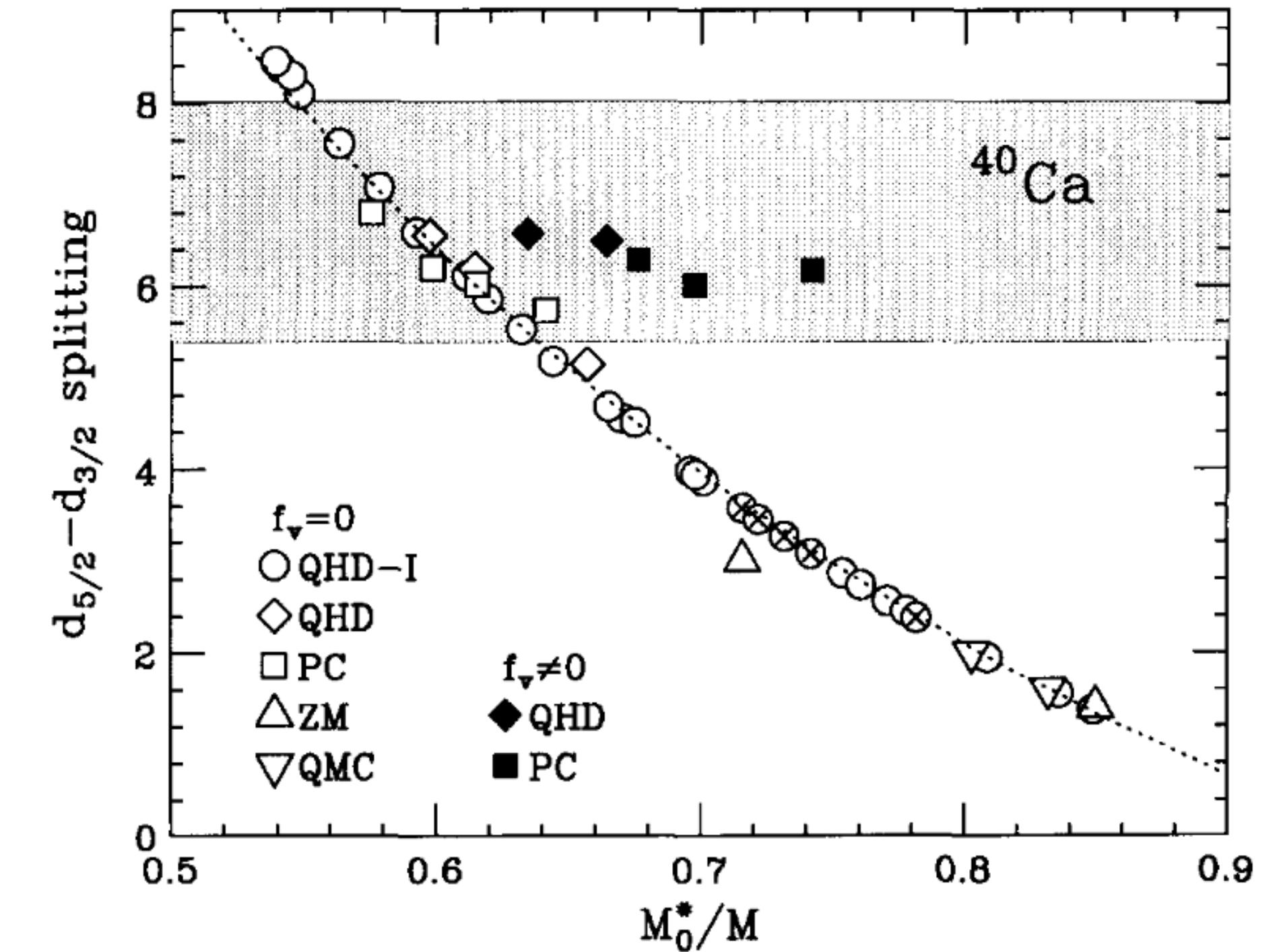
- ◆ Exchange (Fork) term

J.-P. Ebran, Mutschler, E. Khan, and D.Vretena, PRC 94, 024304 (2016)

- ◆ Tensor coupling

R.J. Furnstahl et al./Nuclear Physics A 632 (1998) 607-623

$$h_{LS,T} = \left[ \frac{1}{4\bar{M}^2} \frac{1}{r} \left( \frac{d\Phi}{dr} + \frac{dW}{dr} \right) + \frac{f_v}{2\bar{M}\bar{M}} \frac{1}{r} \frac{dW}{dr} + O(v^4) \right] \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \boldsymbol{L},$$



Possible key for PREX-CREX puzzle in covariant DFT:

✓ Isovector tensor coupling

# Density-dependent point-coupling RMF model

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^{\text{free}} + \mathcal{L}^{4f} + \mathcal{L}^{\text{der}} + \mathcal{L}^{\text{em}}$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{4f} = -\frac{1}{2}\alpha_S(\bar{\psi}\psi)(\bar{\psi}\psi) - \frac{1}{2}\alpha_{tS}(\bar{\psi}\vec{\tau}\psi)(\bar{\psi}\vec{\tau}\psi)$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}\alpha_V(\bar{\psi}\gamma_\mu\psi)(\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\psi) - \frac{1}{2}\alpha_{tV}(\bar{\psi}\gamma_\mu\vec{\tau}\psi)(\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\vec{\tau}\psi)$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}\alpha_T(\bar{\psi}\sigma_{\mu\nu}\psi)(\bar{\psi}\sigma^{\mu\nu}\psi)$$

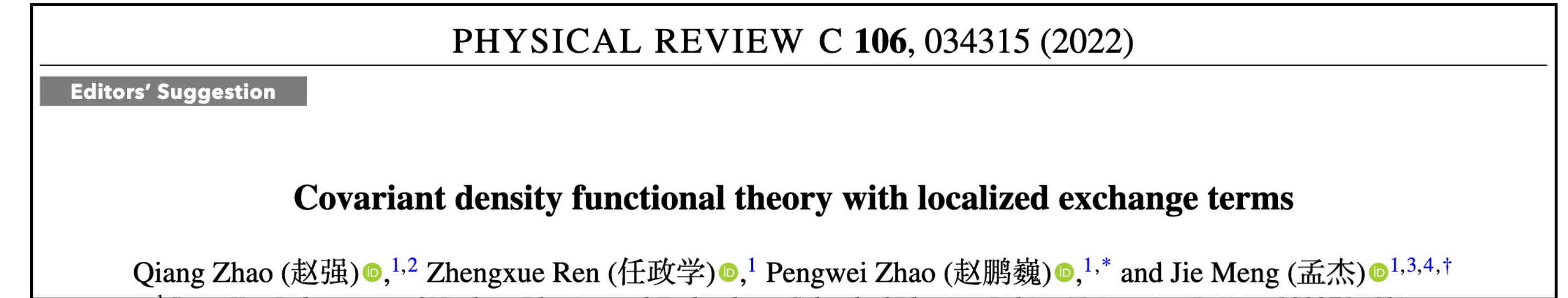
$$-\frac{1}{2}\alpha_{tT}(\bar{\psi}\sigma_{\mu\nu}\vec{\tau}\psi)(\bar{\psi}\sigma^{\mu\nu}\vec{\tau}\psi)$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}\alpha_{PS}(\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\psi)(\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\psi) - \frac{1}{2}\alpha_{tPS}(\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\vec{\tau}\psi)(\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\vec{\tau}\psi)$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}\alpha_{PV}(\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\gamma_\mu\psi)(\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\gamma^\mu\psi)$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}\alpha_{tPV}(\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\gamma_\mu\vec{\tau}\psi)(\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\gamma^\mu\vec{\tau}\psi)$$

Q. Zhou, et al. PRC 106, 034315 (2022)



$$\alpha_i(\rho) = \alpha_i(\rho_{\text{sat}}) f_i(x) \quad \text{for } i = S, V, tS, \text{ and } tV,$$

$$f_i(x) = a_i \frac{1 + b_i (x + d_i)^2}{1 + c_i (x + d_i)^2}, \quad x = \rho/\rho_{\text{sat}}, \quad f_i(1) = 1, \quad f_i''(0) = 0$$

PCF-PK1:

$$\alpha_{tT} = \frac{1}{18} (-\alpha_S + 3\alpha_{tS} + 2\alpha_V - 6\alpha_{tV} + 6\alpha_T)$$

determined from Fierz transformation

◆ We treat  $\alpha_{tT}$  as a free parameter

# Non-relativistic reduction

**Nuclear energy density** (ground-state even-even nuclei):

$$\epsilon = \sum_{\alpha} \bar{\varphi}_{\alpha} (-i\gamma \cdot \nabla + M) \varphi_{\alpha} + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_S \rho_S^2 + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_V \rho_V^2 + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{\tau S} \rho_{\tau S}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{\tau V} \rho_{\tau V}^2 - \alpha_{\tau T} \mathbf{j}_{\tau T}^{0^2} - \alpha_T \mathbf{j}_T^{0^2} - \frac{1}{2} \delta_S |\nabla \rho_S|^2$$

Expansion up to  $\mathcal{B}_0^2$  ( $\mathcal{B}_0 = \frac{1}{2M^*}$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_V &= \rho, \\ \rho_S &= \sum \phi^{cl\dagger} \hat{I}^{-1/2} \left( 1 - \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overleftarrow{\Pi} \mathcal{B}_0^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Pi} \right) \hat{I}^{-1/2} \phi^{cl} \\ &= \rho - 2\mathcal{B}_0^2 \left[ \tau - \nabla \mathbf{J} - \nabla \rho \cdot \mathbf{T}^0 + 2\mathbf{T}^0 \cdot \mathbf{J} + \rho \mathbf{T}^0{}^2 \right], \\ \mathbf{j}_T^0 &= \sum \left[ \phi^{cl\dagger} \hat{I}^{-1/2} \left( i\boldsymbol{\sigma} \mathcal{B}_0 \boldsymbol{\sigma} \overrightarrow{\Pi} \right) \hat{I}^{-1/2} \phi^{cl} - c.c \right] \\ &= \mathcal{B}_0 \nabla \rho - 2\mathcal{B}_0 \mathbf{T}^0 \rho - 2\mathcal{B}_0 \mathbf{J}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}^{NR} &= \left( \frac{1}{2} \alpha_S + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_V \right) \rho^2 + \left( \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{\tau S} + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{\tau V} \right) \tilde{\rho}^2 - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \rho)^2 \\ &\quad - 2\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha_S \rho \tau - 2\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha_{\tau S} \tilde{\rho} \tilde{\tau} - \alpha_T \mathcal{B}_0^2 (\nabla \rho)^2 - \alpha_{\tau T} \mathcal{B}_0^2 (\nabla \tilde{\rho})^2 \\ &\quad - 2\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha'_S \rho \nabla \rho \cdot \mathbf{J} - 2\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha_S \nabla \rho \cdot \mathbf{J} + 4\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha_T \nabla \rho \cdot \mathbf{J} \\ &\quad - 2\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha'_{\tau S} \tilde{\rho} \nabla \rho \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{J}} - 2\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha_{\tau S} \nabla \tilde{\rho} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{J}} + 4\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha_{\tau T} \nabla \tilde{\rho} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{J}} \\ &\quad - 4\alpha_T \mathcal{B}_0^2 \mathbf{J}^2 - 4\alpha_{\tau T} \mathcal{B}_0^2 \tilde{\mathbf{J}}^2. \end{aligned}$$

$b_{IS}^{NR} = 8\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha_T - 4\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha_S - 4\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha'_S \rho,$ 
 $b_{IV}^{NR} = 8\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha_{\tau T} - 4\mathcal{B}_0^2 \alpha_{\tau S}.$

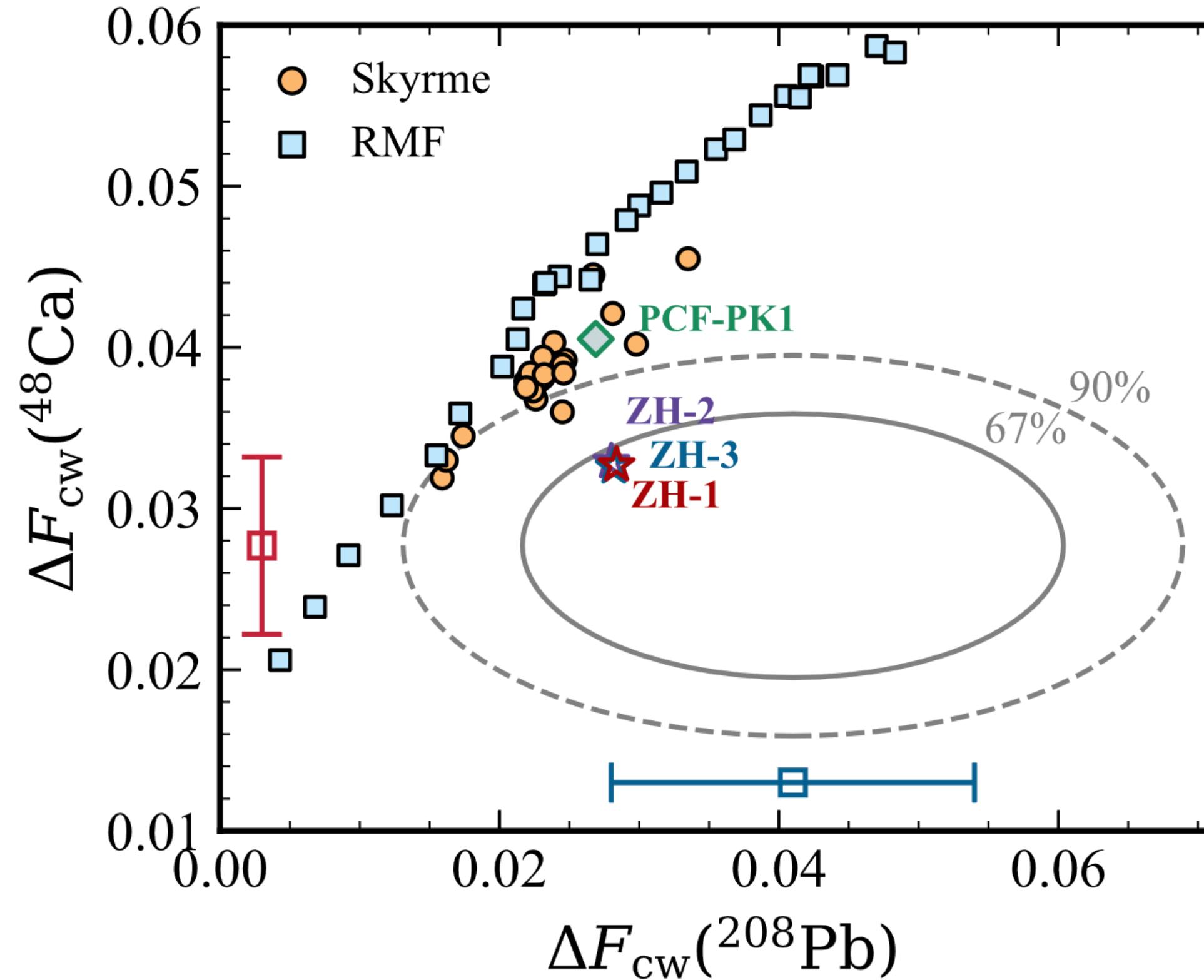
# Fitting strategy

- ◆ Isoscalar sector  $\alpha_S(\rho)$  and  $\alpha_V(\rho)$  are taken from the PCF-PKI.
- ◆ 9 adjustable parameters:  
 $tS(3), tV(3), \alpha_T, \alpha_{tT}, \delta$
- ◆ 12 Data:
  - Binding energies and charge radii of  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$
  - Spin-orbit splitting in  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  (1) and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  (3)
  - The symmetry energy at  $2\rho_0/3$ :  $25.6 \pm 1.35$  MeV
  - Neutron matter EOS at  $\rho = 0.04805 \text{ fm}^{-3}$ :  $6.72 \pm 0.05$  MeV
  - Form factor difference in  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$

Qiu et al. PLB 849, 138435 (2024)

Machleidt & Sammarruca PPNP 137, 104117 (2024)

# Three new relativistic EDFs : ZH-1,2,3

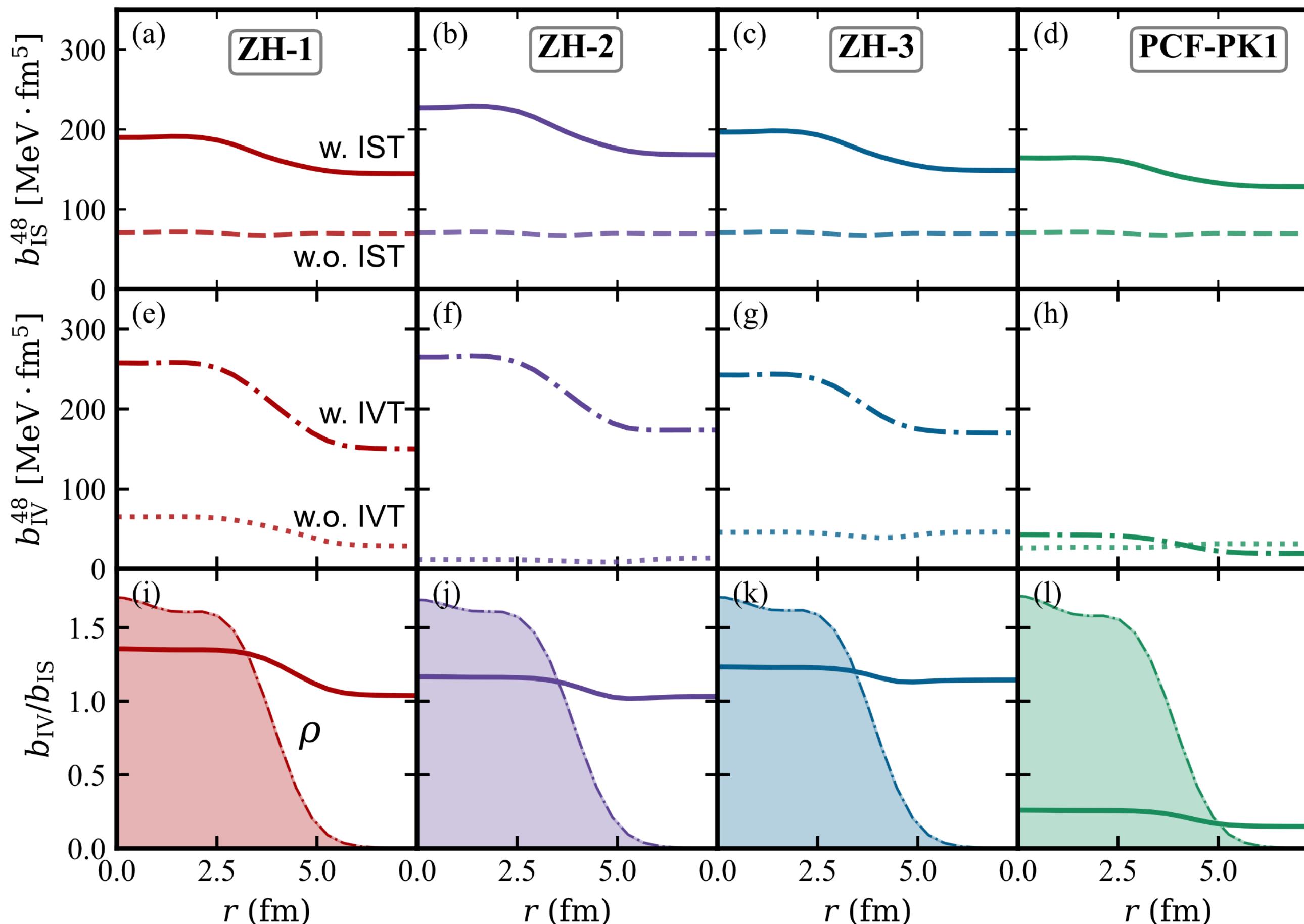


◆ Consistent with both PREX-II and CREX results at 68.3% confidence level.

	PCF-PK1	ZH-1	ZH-2	ZH-3
$\Delta F_{\text{CW}}^{48}$	0.0405	0.0327	0.0329	0.0326
$\Delta F_{\text{CW}}^{208}$	0.0269	0.0284	0.0280	0.0282
$\Delta r_{\text{np}}^{48}$ [fm]	0.172	0.116	0.128	0.127
$\Delta r_{\text{np}}^{208}$ [fm]	0.183	0.188	0.190	0.191
$E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_{\text{sat}})$ [MeV]	33.0	33.6	32.4	32.1
$E_{\text{sym}}(2\rho_{\text{sat}}/3)$ [MeV]	24.5	25.4	25.8	26.9
$L$ [MeV]	78.4	66.7	43.8	19.4
$L(2\rho_{\text{sat}}/3)$ [MeV]	50.4	54.2	50.2	49.0
$K_{\text{sym}}$ [MeV]	61.4	-114	-276	-469
$\alpha_T$ [fm <sup>2</sup> ]	3.374	4.312	5.673	4.546
$\alpha_{\tau T}$ [fm <sup>2</sup> ]	≈2	6.967	9.195	7.114
$\langle b_{\text{IS}}^{(48)} \rangle$ [MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> ]	150	172	205	178
$\langle b_{\text{IS}}^{(208)} \rangle$ [MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> ]	153	176	210	182
$\langle b_{\text{IV}}^{(48)} \rangle$ [MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> ]	35.0	222	230	213
$\langle b_{\text{IV}}^{(208)} \rangle$ [MeV · fm <sup>5</sup> ]	36.7	229	238	219

M. Qiu, ZZ, T.G. Yue, L.W. Chen, in preparation

# ZH series: ISSO & IVSO



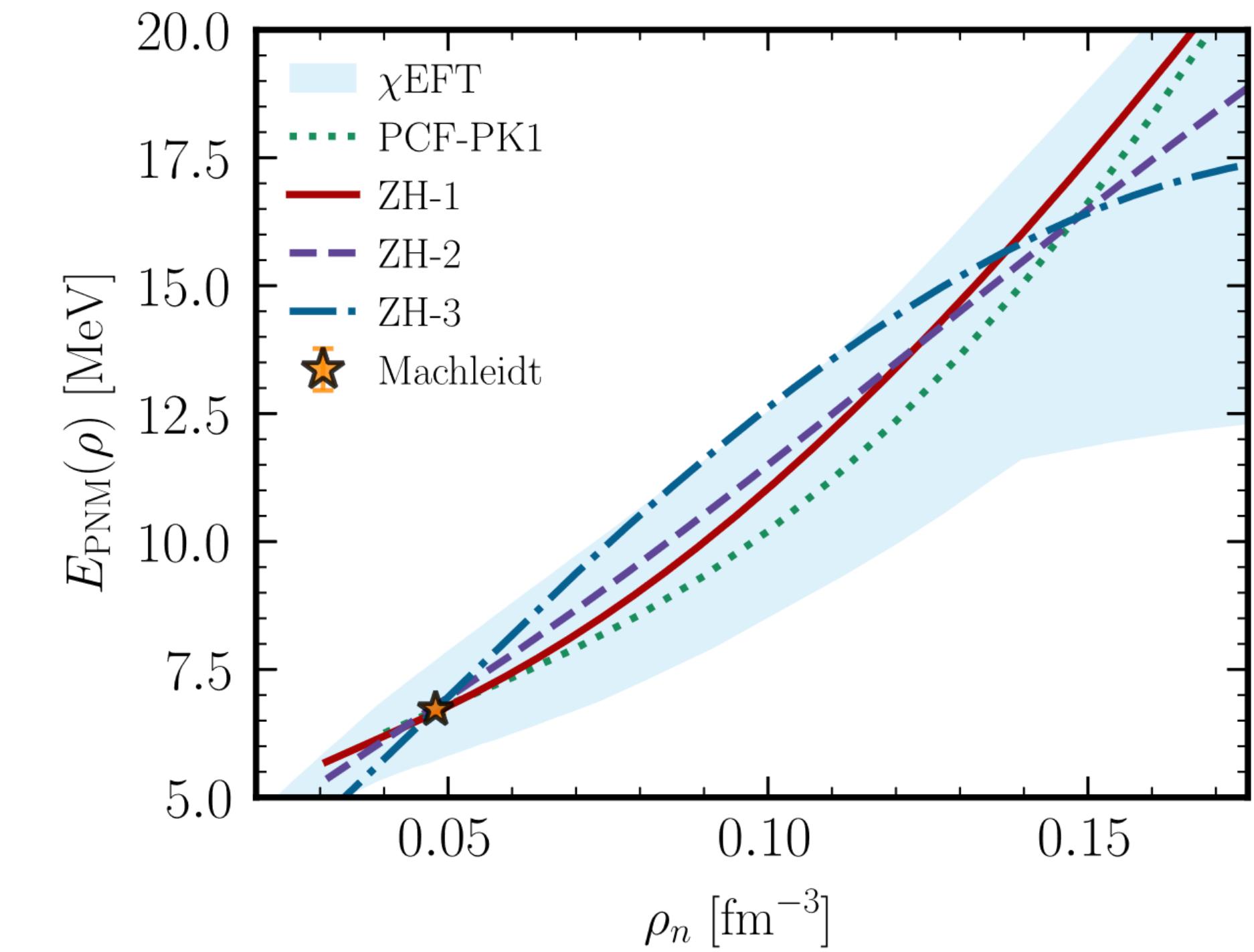
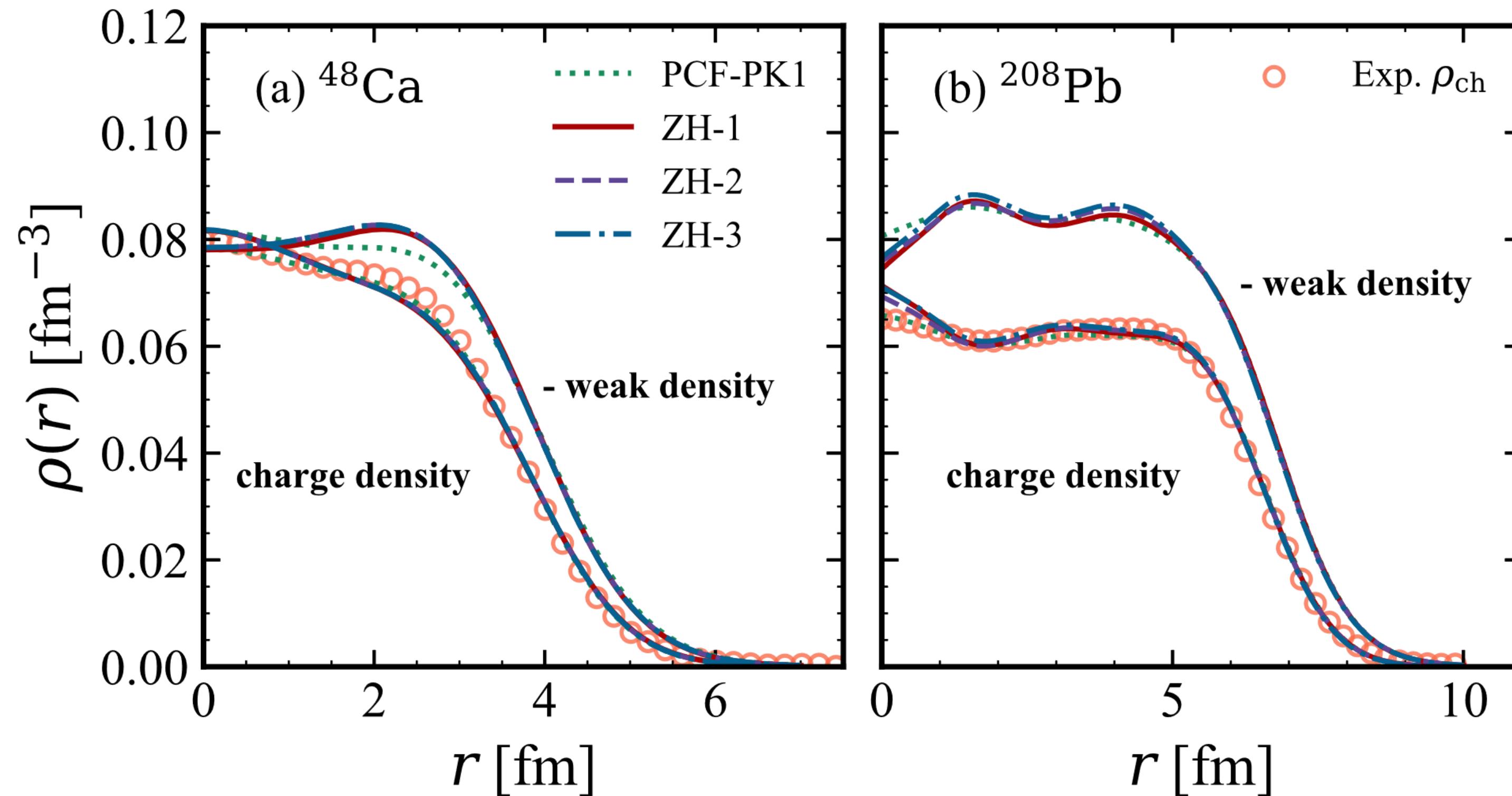
$$b_{IS}^{NR} = 8\mathcal{B}_0^2\alpha_T - 4\mathcal{B}_0^2\alpha_S - 4\mathcal{B}_0^2\alpha'_S\rho,$$

$$b_{IV}^{NR} = 8\mathcal{B}_0^2\alpha_{\tau T} - 4\mathcal{B}_0^2\alpha_{\tau S}.$$

- ◆ Similar isoscalar SO coupling strength.
- ◆ Significantly larger isovector SO coupling strength in ZH family compared with the PCF-PK1.
- ◆ Central values  $\approx 250$  MeV · fm<sup>5</sup>, consistent with the finding in nonrelativistic nuclear EDF.

M. Qiu, ZZ, T.G. Yue, L.W. Chen, in preparation

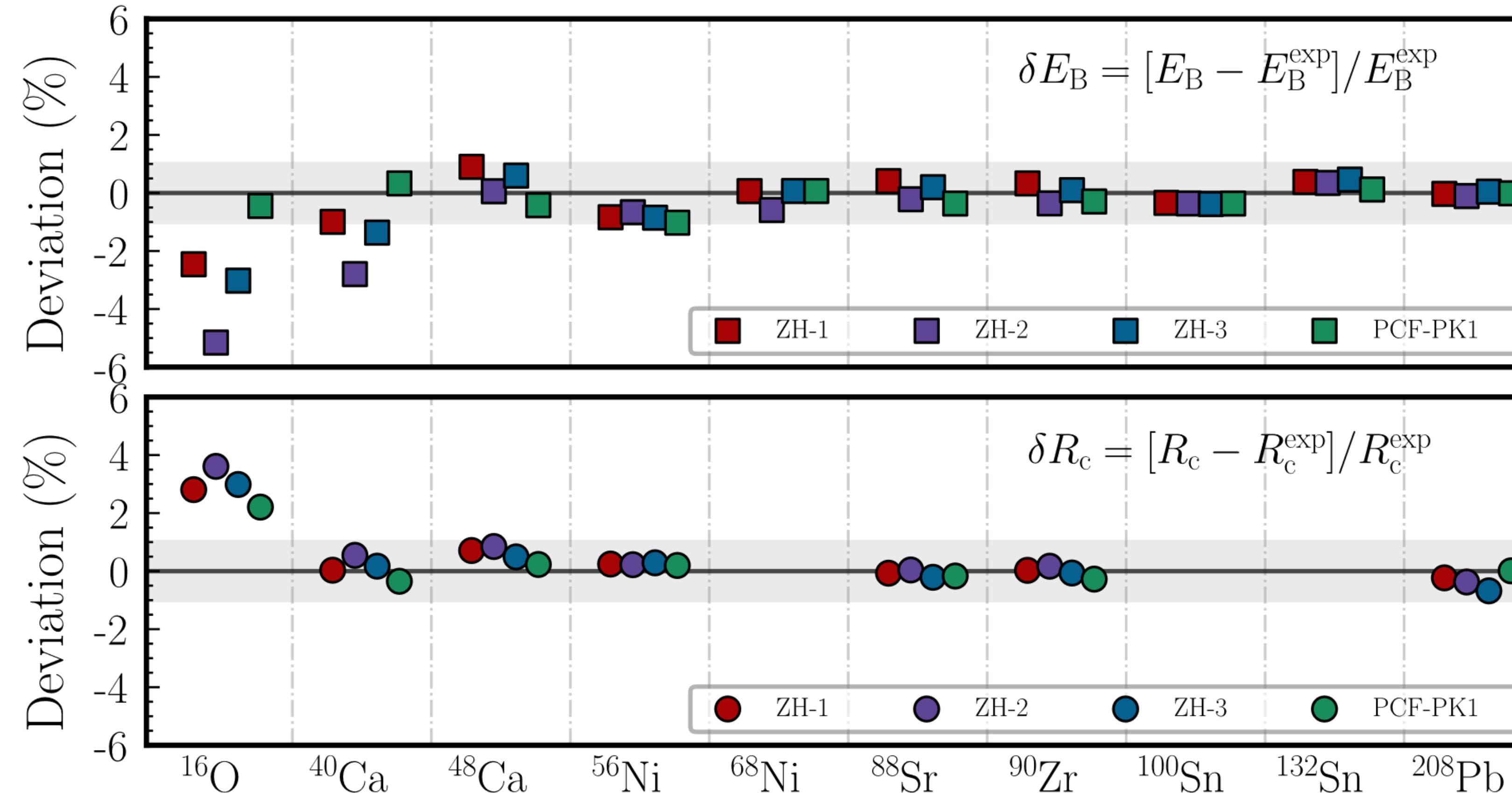
# ZH series:density distribution and neutron matter EOS



◆ No unphysical density fluctuations in the nuclear interior.

◆ Neutron matter EOSs are consistent with predictions of chiral EFT.

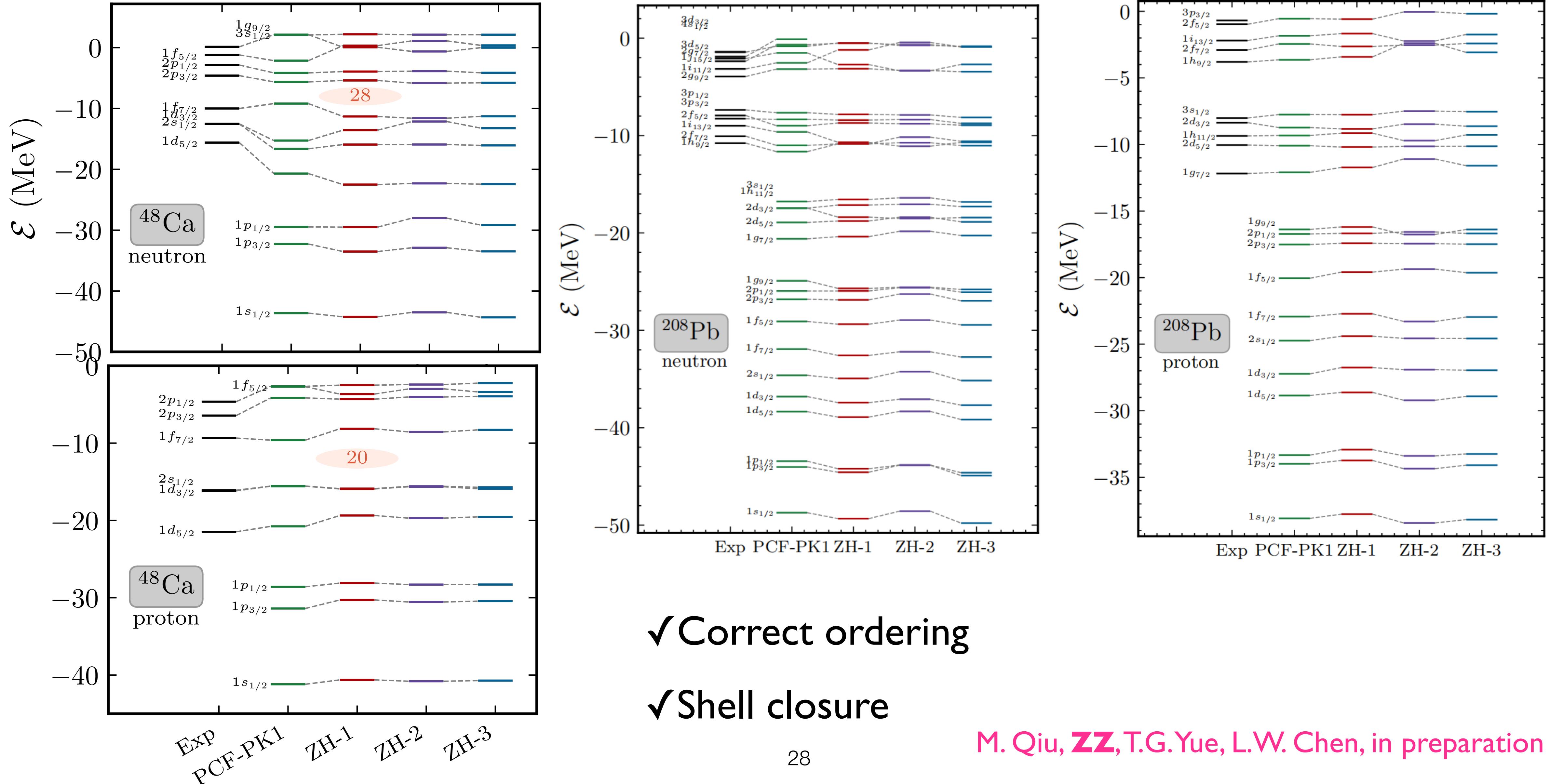
# ZH series: binding energies and charge radii



- ◆ Reasonable description for ground state properties of (semi-) doubly magic nuclei

M. Qiu, ZZ, T.G. Yue, L.W. Chen, in preparation

# Spin-orbit partner ordering in Ca48 and Pb208



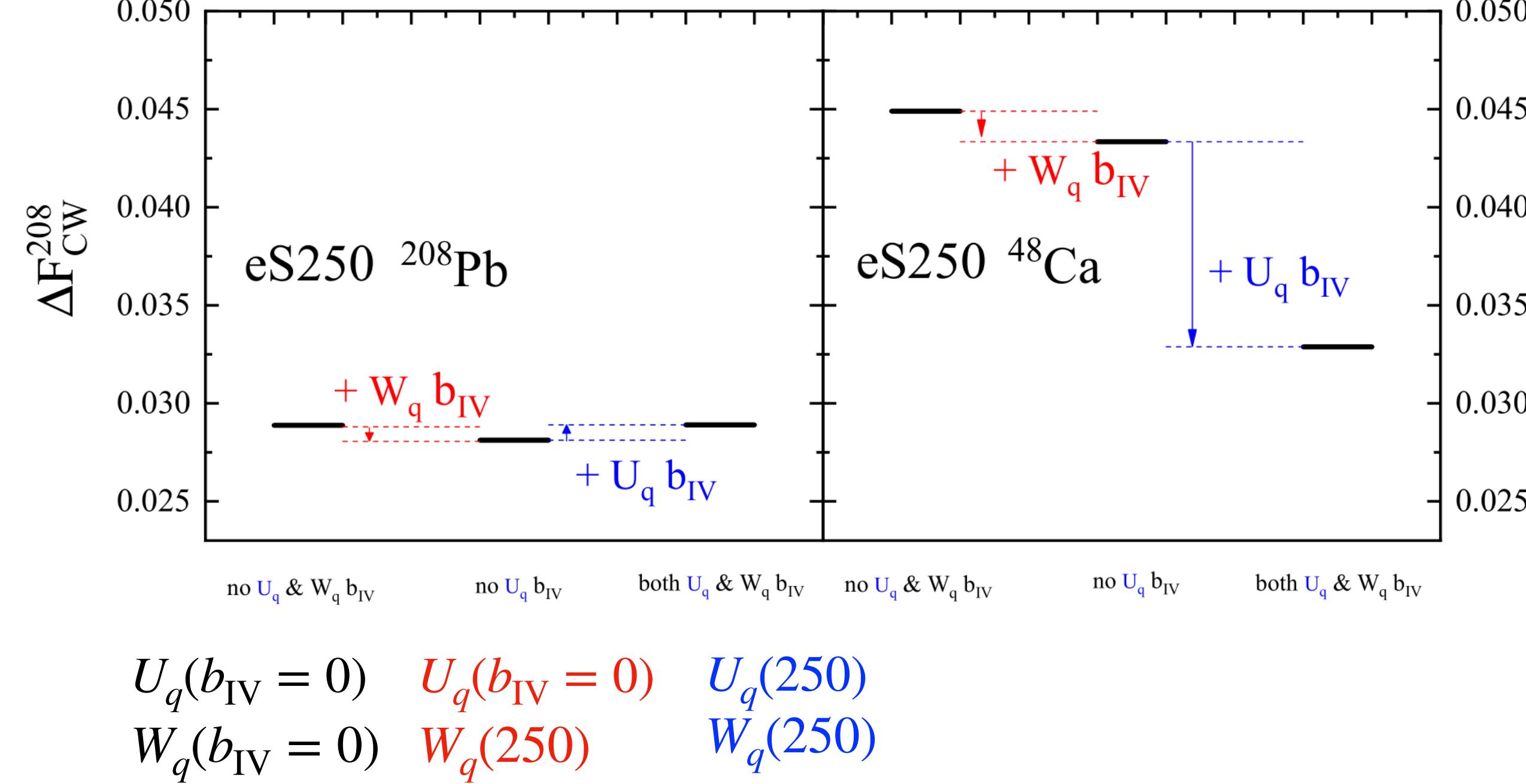
✓ Correct ordering  
✓ Shell closure

# Summary

- ◆ The PREX-CREX puzzle can be resolved through a **strong isovector spin-orbit interaction** within both relativistic and nonrelativistic nuclear density functional theory.
- ◆ Such a strong isovector spin-orbit interaction is expected to have significant impacts on essentially all properties of neutron-rich nuclei: The location of neutron-drip line, shell evolution in exotic nuclei, the new magic number, the properties of superheavy nuclei, ...
- ◆ Future PVEs for some stable nuclei (**MREX/MESA**):  
Pb208, Ni60,...: Not sensitive to the isovector Spin-Orbit interactions (probe  $E_{\text{sym}}$ );  
Ca48, Zr90,...: Sensitive to the isovector Spin-Orbit interactions (probe  $b_{IV}$ )

Thanks for your attention

# Central average mean field v.s. SO potential

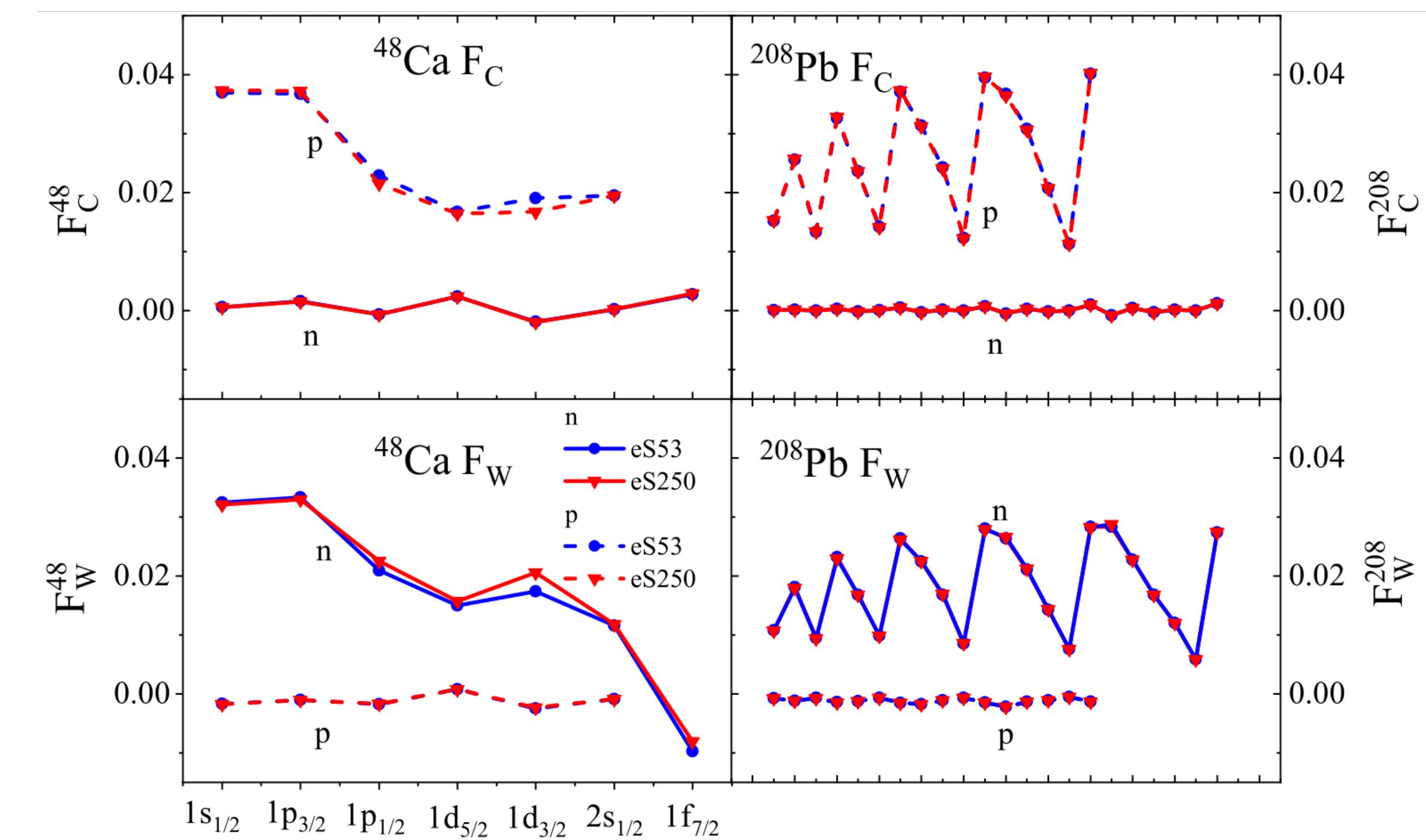


IVSO interaction affects

- Not only the 8 unpaired  $1f_{7/2}$  neutrons in Ca48
- But all orbitals via the  $U_q$

$$\hat{h}_q = -\nabla \cdot \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_q^*} \nabla + U_q + i\mathbf{W}_q \cdot (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \times \nabla),$$

IVSO effects in  $U_q$  dominate.



# Isovector spin-orbit interaction

★ Spin-orbit (SO) energy:

$$E_{\text{SO}} = \int d^3r \left[ \frac{b_{\text{IS}}}{2} \mathbf{J} \cdot \nabla \rho + \frac{b_{\text{IV}}}{2} (\mathbf{J}_n - \mathbf{J}_p) \cdot \nabla (\rho_n - \rho_p) \right]$$

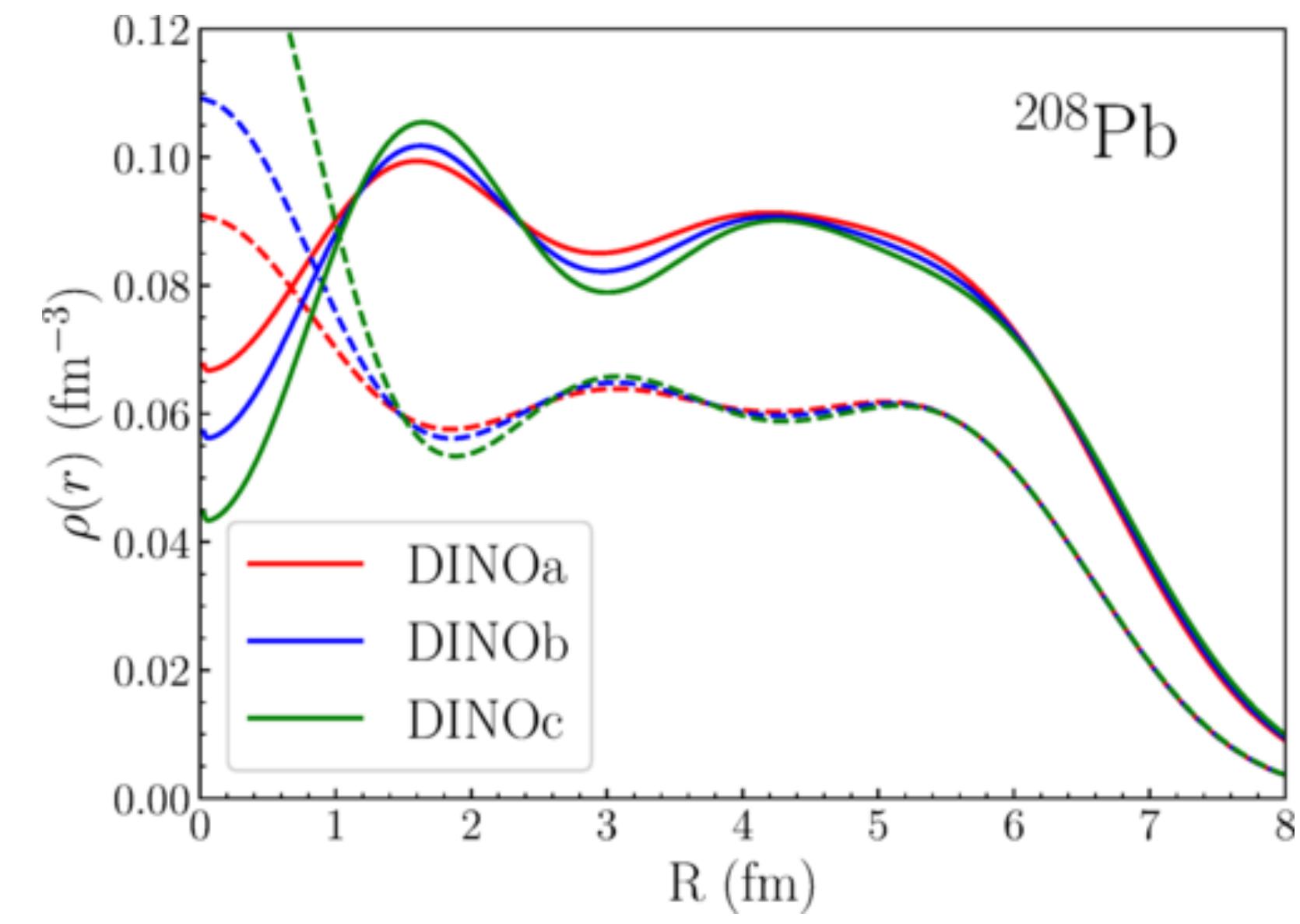
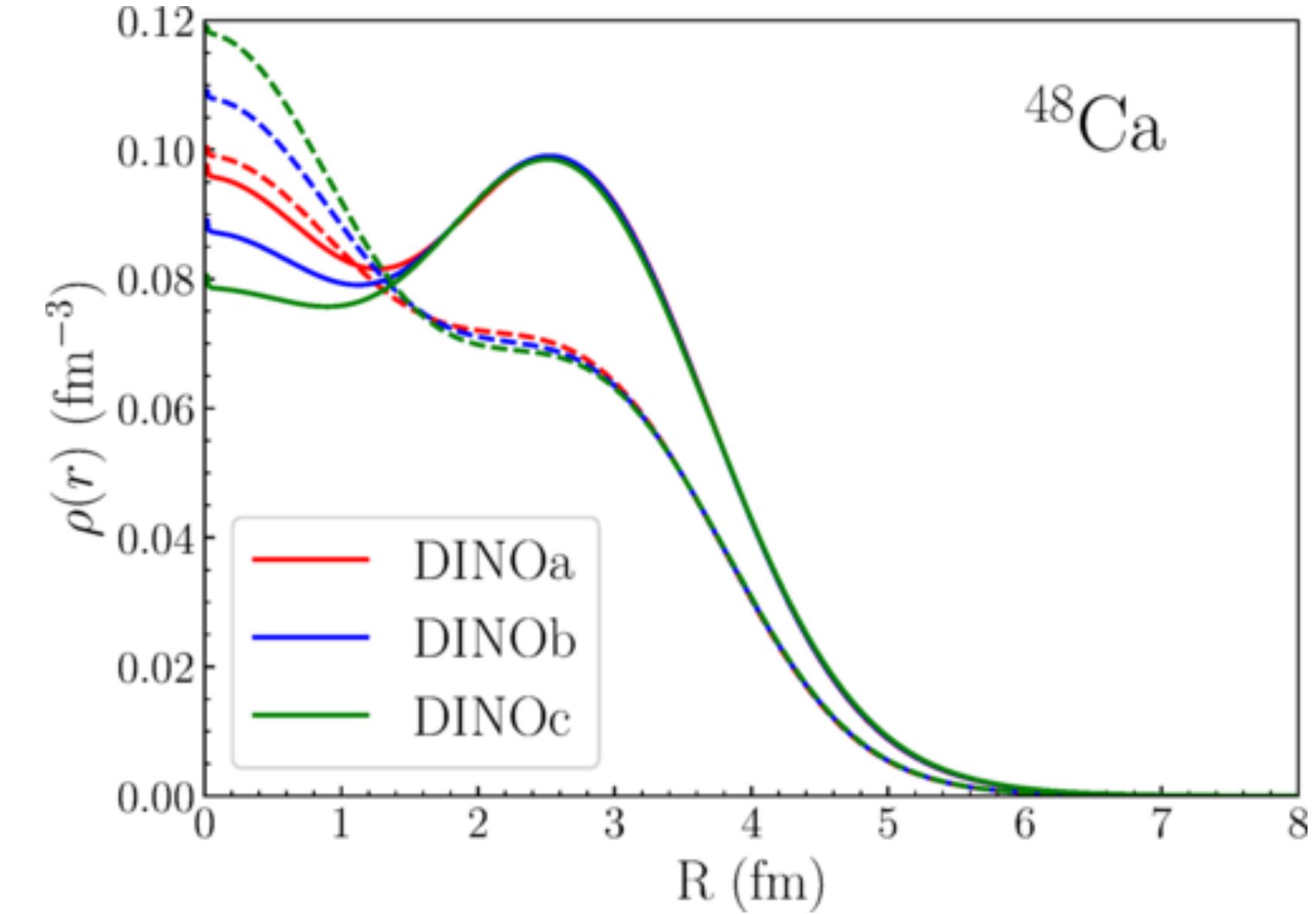
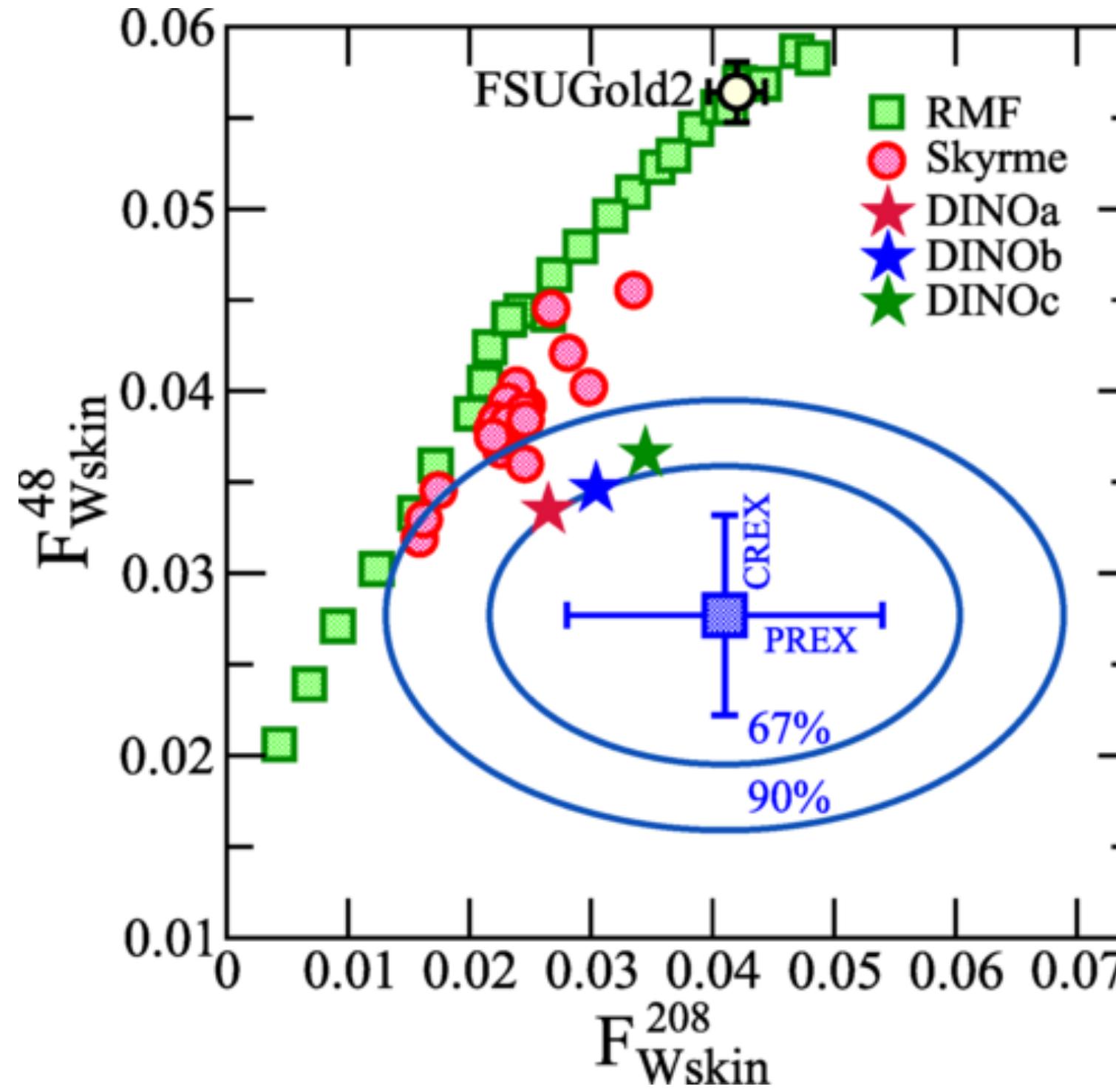
Reinhard and Flocard, NPA 584, 467488 (1995)  
Bender, Heenen, and Reinhard, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 121 (2003).  
Ebran, Mutschler, Khan, and Vretenar, PRC 94, 024304 (2016).

- Standard Skyrme energy density functional (EDF):  
 $b_{\text{IV}} = b_{\text{IS}}/3 = W_0/2 \approx 60 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm}^5$
- Relativistic EDF based on meson-exchange Lagrangian (nonrelativistic reduction):  
 $b_{\text{IV}} \approx 0$  (Hartree approximation, W/O. Isovector-scalar meson)

★ Lack experimental probes to constraint  $b_{\text{IV}}$

★ The isovector spin-orbit coupling  $b_{\text{IV}}$  is expected to have significant effects on light nuclei with larger  $\mathbf{J}_n - \mathbf{J}_p$ .

# Efforts to reconcile CREX and PREX results



Reed, Fattoyev, Horowitz & Piekarewicz, PRC109, 035804 (2024)

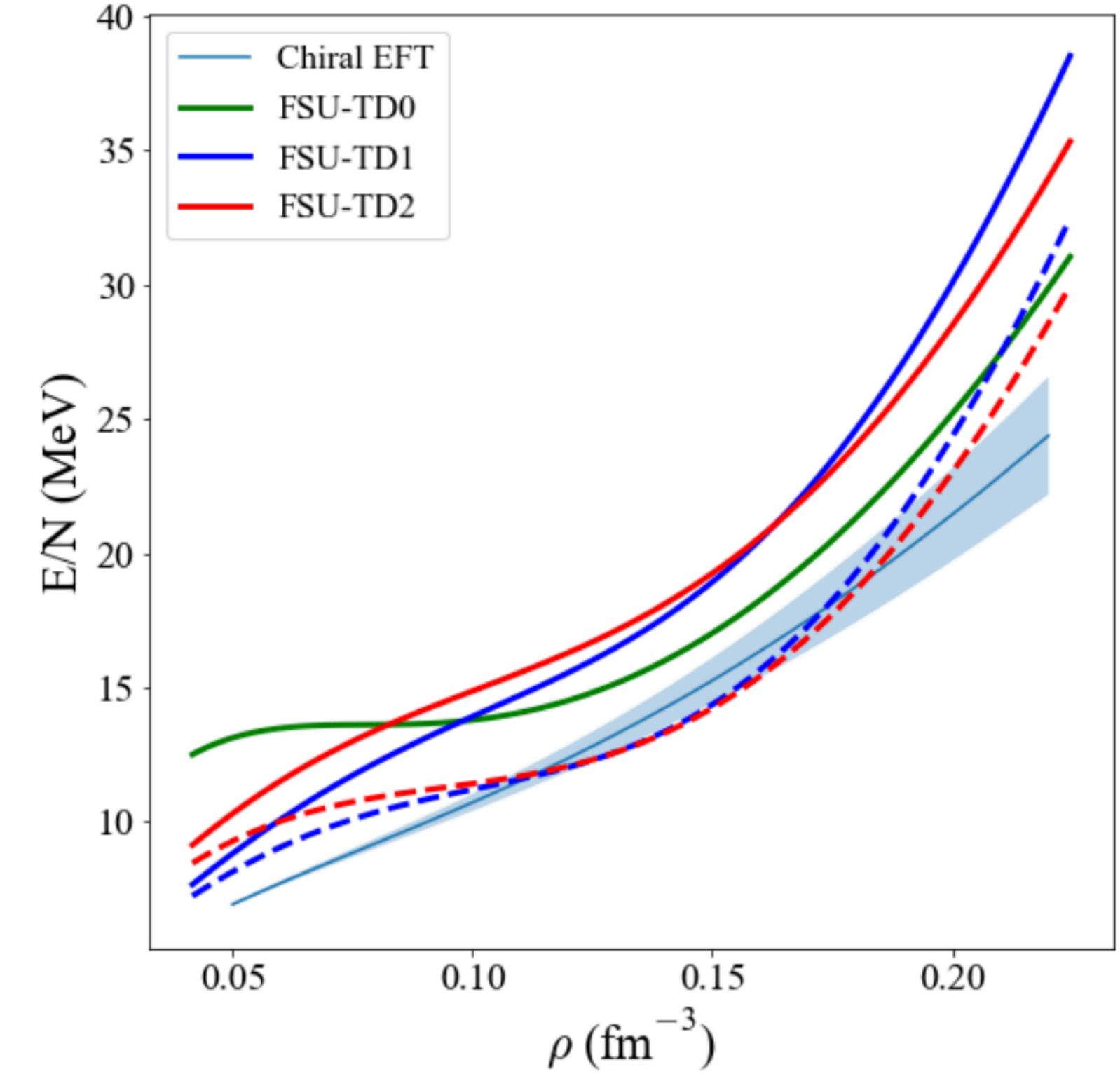
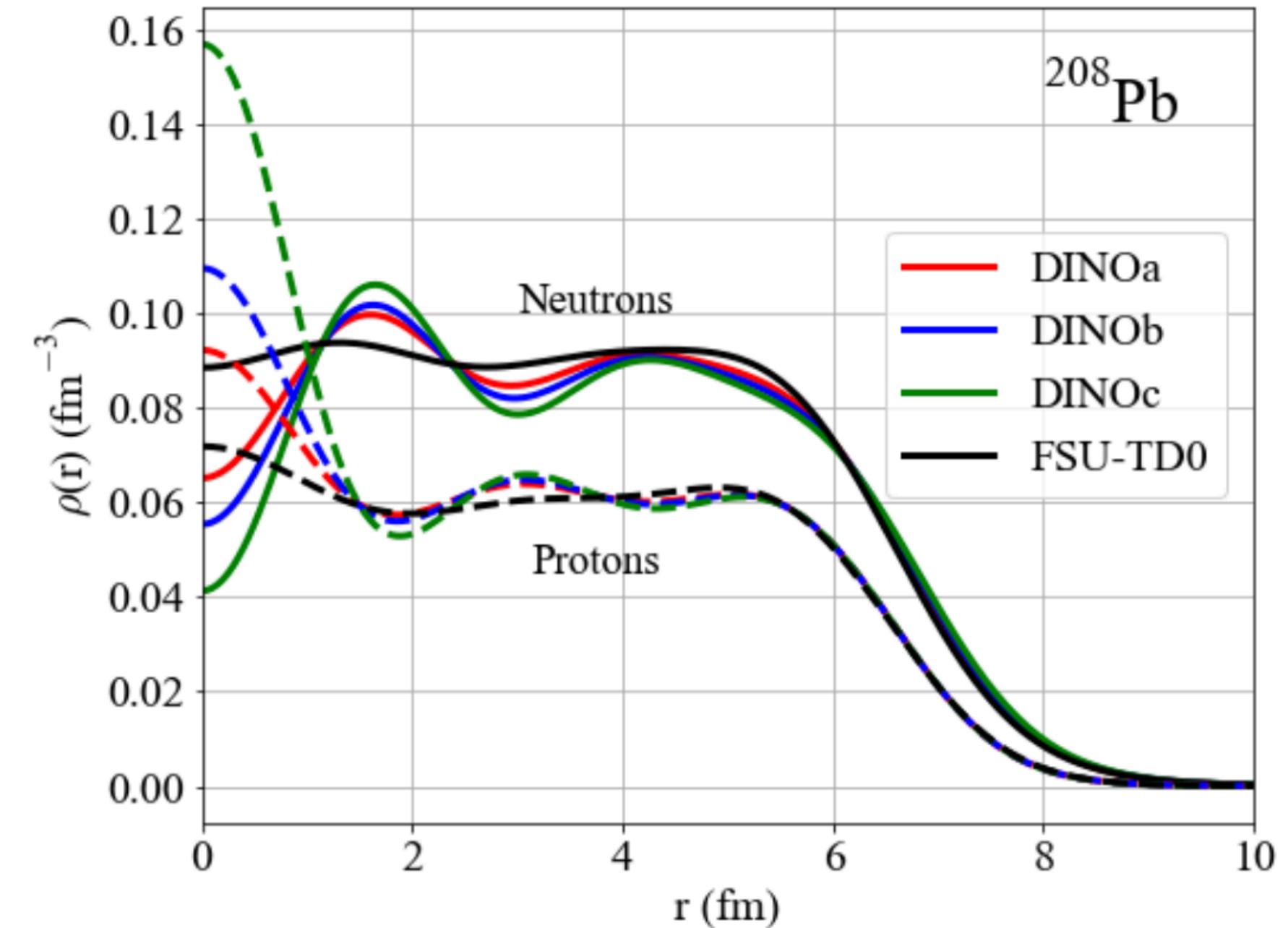
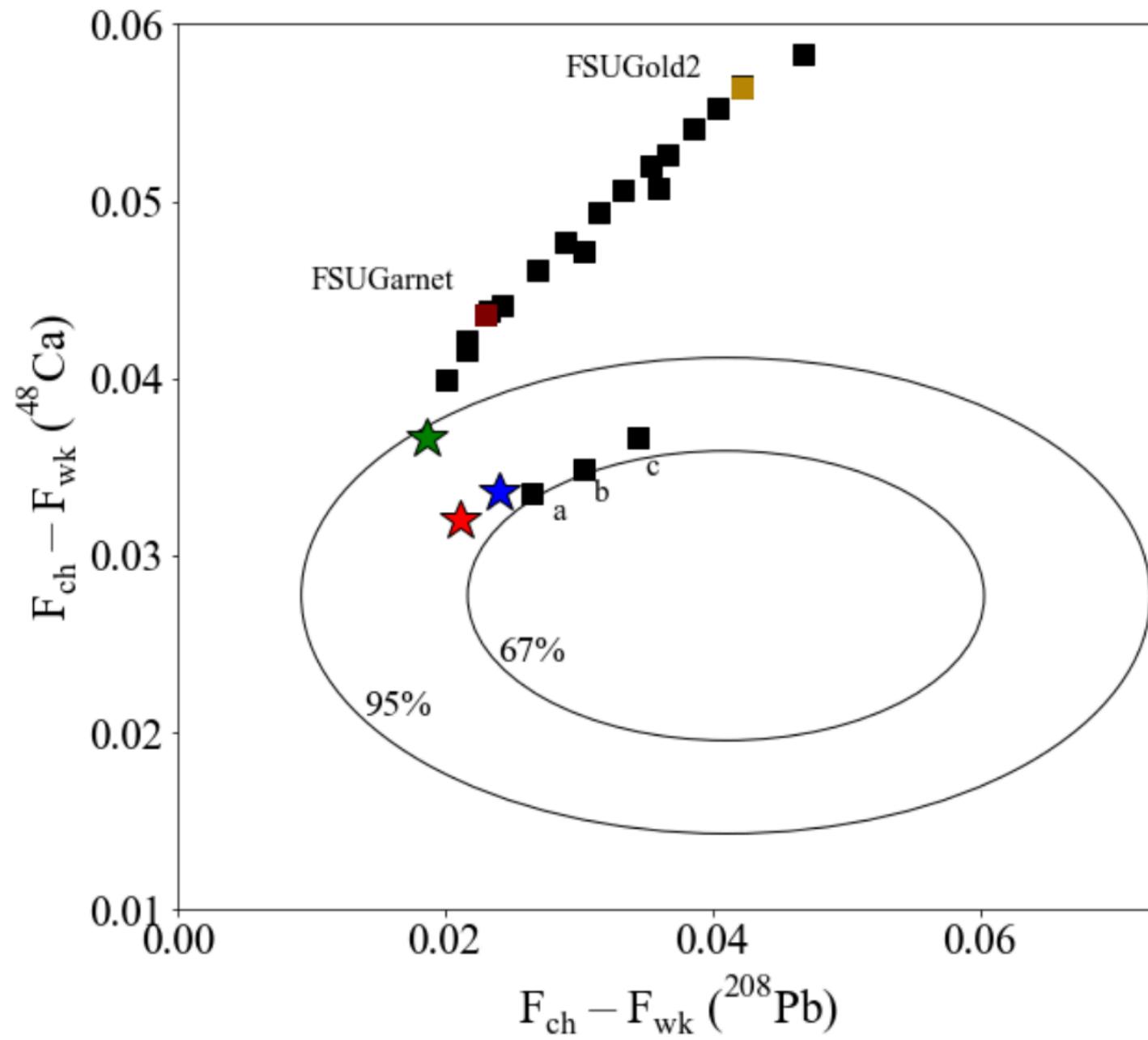
Meson-exchange relativistic mean field model:

- ◆ Isovector-scalar  $\delta$  meson
- ◆ Self-coupling of isovector-vector  $\rho$  meson
- ✓ Agree better with CREX&PREX

**Price:**

- ◆ large unphysical oscillations in the nuclear interior
- ◆ Too stiff symmetry energy with unconventional large positive  $K_{\text{sym}}$

# Efforts to reconcile CREX and PREX results



Salinas & Piekarewicz PRC109, 045807 (2024)

Three new RMF models including:

- ◆ Tensor coupling.
- ◆ isoscalar-isovector mixing term in the scalar sector.

- ◆ Remove unphysical density oscillations.
- ◆ In tension with Chiral EFT predictions for the neutron matter EOS.
- ◆ In slightly worse agreement with CREX and PREX

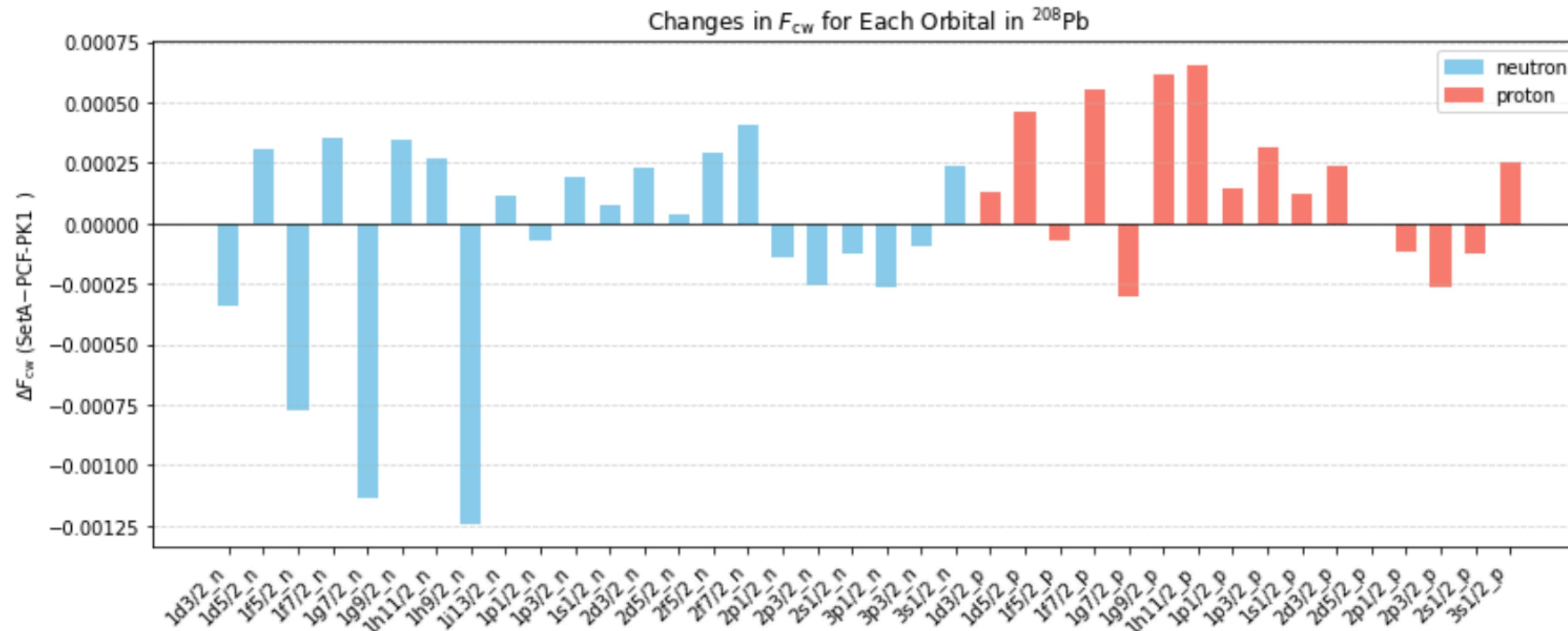
# $\Delta F_{\text{CW}}^{208}$

Central potential

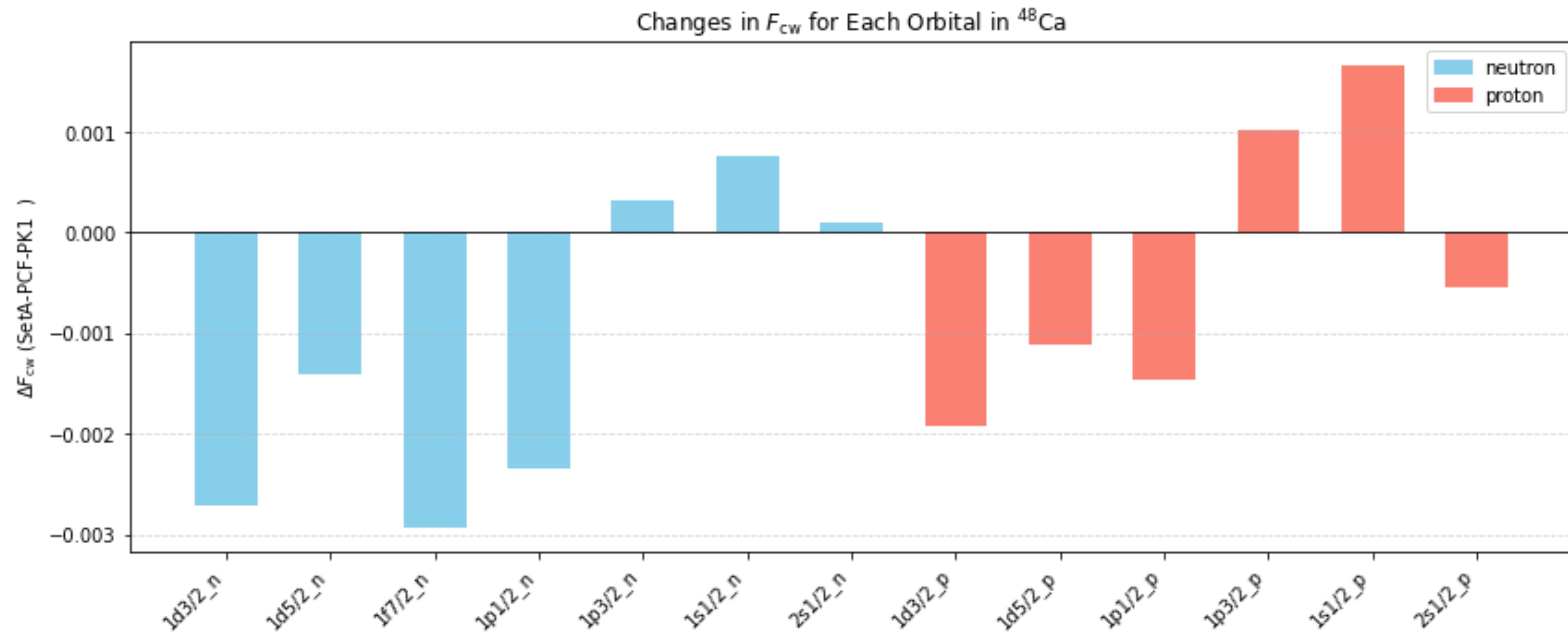
$$U_q = \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial \rho_q} - \nabla \cdot \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial [\nabla \rho_q]} \approx -\frac{b_{\text{IS}}}{2} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} - \tau_3 \left( \frac{b_{\text{IV}}}{2} + \frac{b_{\text{SV}}}{2} \right) \nabla \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{J}},$$

SO potential

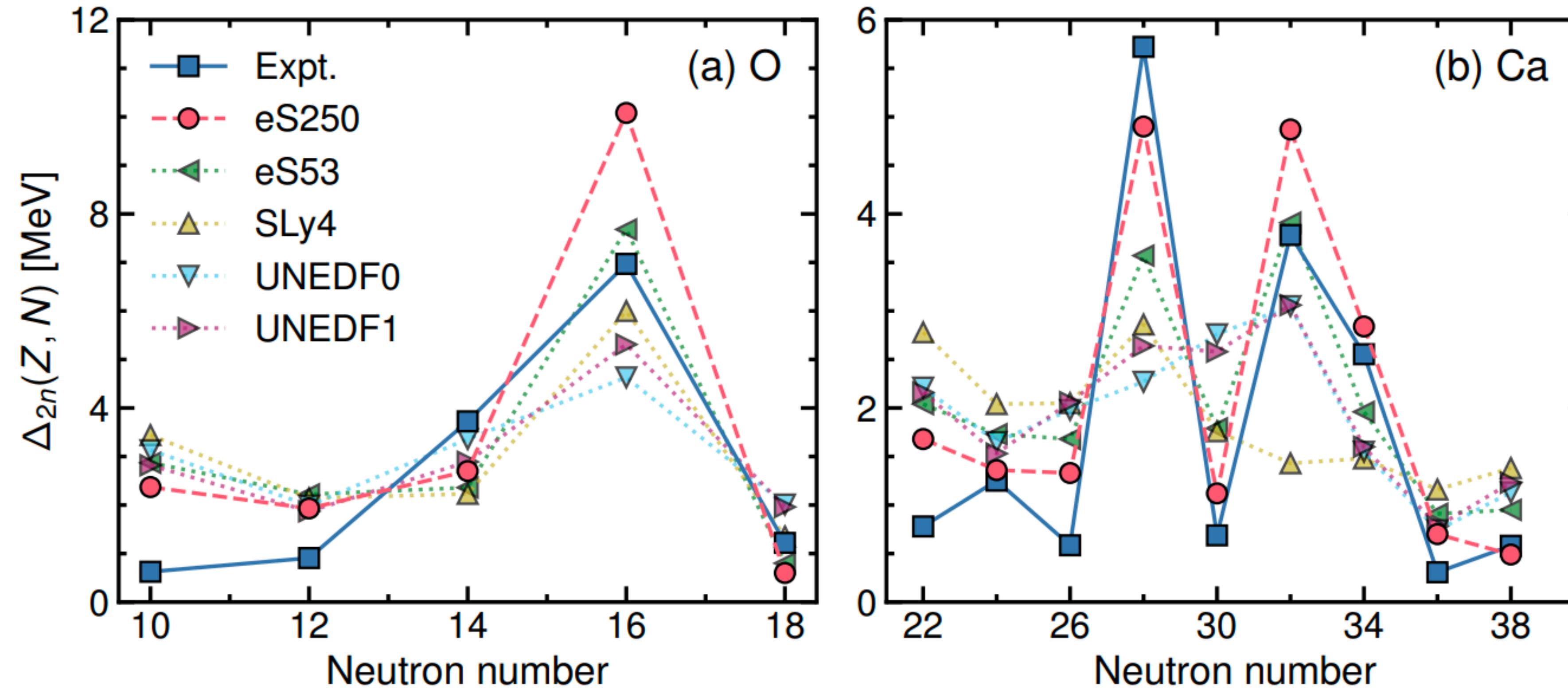
$$\mathbf{W}_q = \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial \mathbf{J}_q} - \nabla \cdot \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial [\nabla \mathbf{J}_q]} \approx \left( \frac{b_{\text{IS}}}{2} + \tau_3 \frac{b_{\text{SV}}}{2} \right) \nabla \rho + \tau_3 \frac{b_{\text{IV}}}{2} \nabla \tilde{\rho}. \quad (4)$$



# $\Delta F_{\text{CW}}^{48}$



# New magic number



# 1. 消去Dirac Spinor下分量

---

For a system with time-reversal invariance, the spatial components of the currents  $\mathbf{j}_V$  and  $\mathbf{j}_{\tau V}$  vanish, and  $\mathbf{V}$  thus vanish. Rewriting Dirac equation in matrix form, we obtain

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_B + S + V^0 & \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p} - i\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{T}^0 \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p} + i\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{T}^0 & -m_B - S + V^0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi \\ \chi \end{pmatrix} = \epsilon \begin{pmatrix} \varphi \\ \chi \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

Therefore component equation gives

$$\begin{cases} (m_B + S + V^0)\varphi + (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p} - i\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{T}^0)\chi = \epsilon\varphi \\ (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p} + i\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{T}^0)\varphi + (-m_B - S + V^0)\chi = \epsilon\chi \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Using the second equation, we obtain

$$\chi = \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p} + i\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{T}^0}{\epsilon + m_B + S - V^0} \varphi = \mathcal{B} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{p} + i\mathbf{T}^0) \varphi \quad (5)$$

where the inverse effective mass is definded as

$$\mathcal{B} = \frac{1}{\epsilon + m_B + S} \quad (6)$$

$$S + V^0 \sim v^2, \quad \epsilon - m \sim v^2, \quad \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{p} - i\mathbf{T}^0) \mathcal{B} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \vec{\Pi} \sim v^2. \quad S_0 = \alpha_S \rho_S \text{ and } S_3 = \tau_3 \dot{\alpha}_{\tau S} \rho_S.$$

$$\mathcal{B} = \frac{1}{2(m + S) + (\epsilon - m) - (S + V^0)} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}^* = [2m + 2S]^{-1}. \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_0 = [2m + 2S_0]^{-1}.$$

## 2. Spinor上分量和归一化条件

### 2.2 上分量和经典波函数的变换关系

The isoscalar vector density is not normalized and the norm is expressed as

$$\int d^3r \bar{\psi} \gamma_0 \psi = 1 \rightarrow \text{Norm} = \int d^3r \varphi^\dagger \left( 1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overleftarrow{\Pi} \mathcal{B}_0^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Pi} \right) \varphi = \int d^3r \varphi^\dagger \hat{I} \varphi \quad (10)$$

where the norm kernel is

$$\hat{I} = 1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overleftarrow{\Pi} \mathcal{B}_0^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Pi} \quad (11)$$

The normalized *classical* wave function is expressed as

$$\phi^{\text{cl}} = \hat{I}^{1/2} \varphi \quad (12)$$

and therefore

$$\varphi = \hat{I}^{-1/2} \phi^{\text{cl}} \quad (13)$$

using Taylor expansion

$$\hat{I}^{-1} = \frac{1}{1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overleftarrow{\Pi} \mathcal{B}_0^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Pi}} = 1 - \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overleftarrow{\Pi} \mathcal{B}_0^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Pi} + \mathcal{O} \left[ (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Pi} \mathcal{B}_0^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Pi})^2 \right] \quad (14)$$

and

$$\hat{I}^{-1/2} = \frac{1}{\left( 1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overleftarrow{\Pi} \mathcal{B}_0^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Pi} \right)^{1/2}} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overleftarrow{\Pi} \mathcal{B}_0^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Pi} \right) + \mathcal{O} \left[ \left( \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overleftarrow{\Pi} \mathcal{B}_0^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Pi} \right)^2 \right] \quad (15)$$

# 3. 流和密度的非相对论极限

---

## 2.1 非相对论的流和密度

Non-relativistic density and current are

$$\text{density} \quad \rho = \sum_{\alpha} |\varphi_{\alpha}^{\text{cl}}|^2,$$

$$\text{kinetic energy density} \quad \tau = \sum_{\alpha} |\nabla \varphi_{\alpha}^{\text{cl}}|^2,$$

$$\text{S.O. current} \quad \mathbf{J} = -\frac{i}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \left[ \varphi_{\alpha}^{\text{cl}\dagger} (\nabla \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}) \varphi_{\alpha}^{\text{cl}} - (\nabla \times \boldsymbol{\sigma} \varphi_{\alpha}^{\text{cl}})^{\dagger} \varphi_{\alpha}^{\text{cl}} \right],$$

$$\mathbf{j} = -\frac{i}{2} \sum_{\alpha} \left[ \varphi_{\alpha}^{\text{cl}\dagger} \nabla \varphi_{\alpha}^{\text{cl}} - (\nabla \varphi_{\alpha}^{\text{cl}})^{\dagger} \varphi_{\alpha}^{\text{cl}} \right],$$

$$\text{spin density} \quad \rho_{\sigma} = \sum_{\alpha} \varphi_{\alpha}^{\text{cl}\dagger} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \varphi_{\alpha}^{\text{cl}},$$

$$\rho_S = \sum_{\alpha>0} V_{\alpha} V_{\alpha}, \quad \rho_{tS} = \sum_{\alpha>0} V_{\alpha} \tau_3 V_{\alpha},$$

$$\rho_V = \sum_{\alpha>0} V_{\alpha} \gamma^0 V_{\alpha}, \quad \rho_{tV} = \sum_{\alpha>0} V_{\alpha} \gamma^0 \tau_3 V_{\alpha},$$

$$j_V = \sum_{\alpha>0} V_{\alpha} \gamma V_{\alpha}, \quad j_{tV} = \sum_{\alpha>0} V_{\alpha} \gamma \tau_3 V_{\alpha},$$

$$j_T^0 = \sum_{\alpha>0} \bar{V}_{\alpha} i \gamma^0 \gamma V_{\alpha}, \quad j_{tT}^0 = \sum_{\alpha>0} \bar{V}_{\alpha} i \gamma^0 \gamma \tau_3 V_{\alpha}.$$

$$\text{Scalar density} \quad \rho_S = \rho_0 - 2\mathcal{B}_0^2 [\tau - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} - \mathbf{T}^0 \nabla \rho + 2\mathbf{T}^0 \cdot \mathbf{J} + \rho_0 \mathbf{T}^2]$$

$$\text{Tensor current} \quad j_T^0 = i\mathcal{B}_0 \sum_{\alpha} [-i\varphi^{\dagger} \nabla \varphi - i(\nabla \varphi^{\dagger}) \varphi]$$

$$+ i\mathcal{B}_0 \sum_{\alpha} [i\mathbf{T}^0 \varphi^{\dagger} \varphi + i\mathbf{T}^0 \varphi^{\dagger} \varphi]$$

$$+ i\mathcal{B}_0 \sum_{\alpha} [\varphi^{\dagger} (\nabla \times \boldsymbol{\sigma} \varphi) - (\nabla \times \boldsymbol{\sigma} \varphi^{\dagger}) \varphi]$$

$$= \mathcal{B}_0 \nabla \rho_0 - 2\mathcal{B}_0 \mathbf{T}^0 \rho_0 - 2\mathcal{B}_0 \mathbf{J}$$

## 4. 能量密度的非相对论极限

首先，从拉式量出发，推导能量密度

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \psi)} \partial^\nu \psi + \partial^\nu \bar{\psi} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_\mu \bar{\psi})} - g^{\mu\nu} \mathcal{L} \quad (72)$$

又

$$\epsilon = T^{00} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_0 \psi)} \partial^0 \psi + \partial^0 \bar{\psi} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial (\partial_0 \bar{\psi})} - g^{00} \mathcal{L} \quad (73)$$

在静态原子核中，可写作

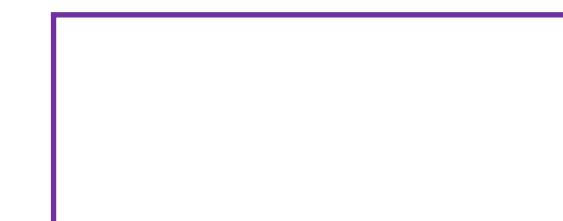
$$\epsilon = \psi^\dagger (-i\boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot \nabla + \beta M) \psi + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_S \rho_S^2 + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_V \rho_V^2 + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{\tau S} \rho_{\tau S}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{\tau V} \rho_{\tau V}^2 - \alpha_{\tau T} \mathbf{j}_{\tau T}^0 \cdot \mathbf{j}_{\tau T}^0 - \alpha_T \mathbf{j}_T^0 \cdot \mathbf{j}_T^0 - \frac{1}{2} \delta_S |\nabla \rho_S|^2 \quad (74)$$

重新定义能量密度有

$$\epsilon = \epsilon^{\text{kin}} + \epsilon^{\text{4f}} + \epsilon^{\text{em}} + \epsilon^{\text{der}} \quad (75)$$

$\epsilon^{\text{4f}}$ 保留到 $\mathcal{B}_0^2$ 阶贡献为

$$\mathcal{E}^{\text{NR}} = \left( \frac{1}{2} \alpha_S + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_V \right) \rho^2 + \left( \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{\tau S} + \frac{1}{2}$$



# (Extended) Skyrme EDF with tensor force

## Standard Skyrme interaction:

$$v(r_1, r_2) = t_0 (1 + x_0 P_\sigma) \delta(\mathbf{r}) + \frac{1}{2} t_1 (1 + x_1 P_\sigma) [\mathbf{k}'^2 \delta(\mathbf{r}) + \delta(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{k}^2] + t_2 (1 + x_2 P_\sigma) \mathbf{k}' \cdot \delta(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{k}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{6} t_3 (1 + x_3 P_\sigma) [\rho(\mathbf{R})]^\alpha \delta(\mathbf{r}) + i W_0 (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2) \cdot [\mathbf{k}' \times \delta(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{k}],$$

*Chabanat, et al., NPA 627, 710 (1997)*

## Momentum-dependent three-body interaction:

$$v' = v + \frac{1}{2} t_4 (1 + x_4 P_\sigma) [\mathbf{k}'^2 \rho(\mathbf{R})^\beta \delta(\mathbf{r}) + \delta(\mathbf{r}) \rho(\mathbf{R})^\beta \mathbf{k}^2] + t_5 (1 + x_5 P_\sigma) \mathbf{k}' \cdot \rho(\mathbf{R})^\gamma \delta(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{k}.$$

*Zhang & Chen, PRC 94, 064326 (2016)*

## Zero-range tensor force:

$$V_T = \frac{1}{2} T \left\{ \left[ (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}') (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{k}') - \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{k}'^2 (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2) \right] \delta(\mathbf{r}) + \delta(\mathbf{r}) \left[ (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}) (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{k}) - \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{k}^2 (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2) \right] \right\}$$

$$+ U \left\{ (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}') \delta(\mathbf{r}) (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{k}) - \frac{1}{3} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2) [\mathbf{k}' \cdot \delta(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{k}] \right\},$$

*Stancu, Brink, and Flocard, PLB 68, 108 (1977)*