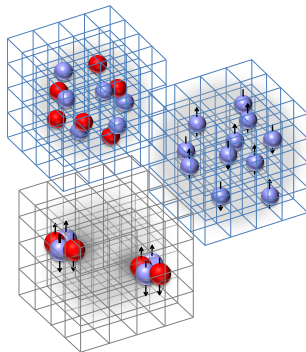


Lattice simulations for nuclear structure and reactions

Serdar Elhatisari

Karamanoğlu Mehmetbey University
Nuclear Lattice EFT Collaboration

School and Workshop:
"Frontiers of QCD"
Tbilisi, Georgia
September 23-28, 2019



Nuclear Lattice Effective Field Theory collaboration



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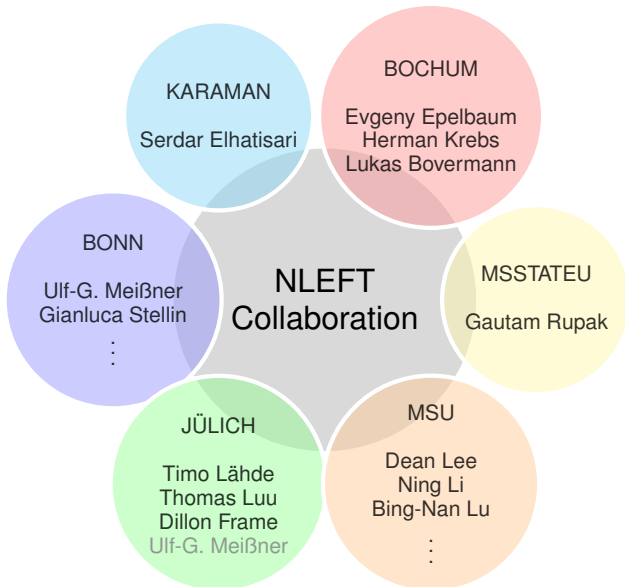


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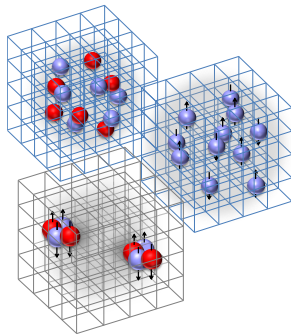


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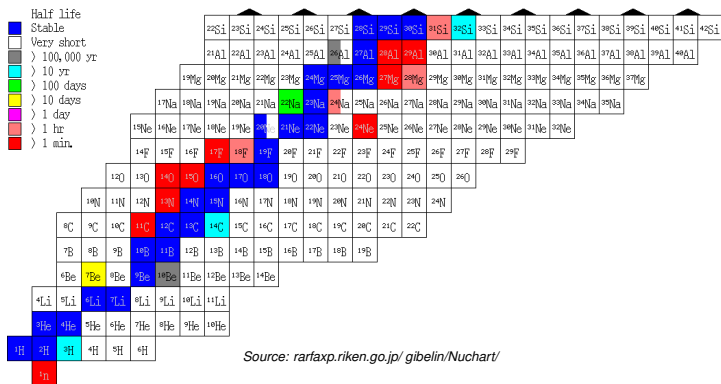
Outline

- Introduction
- Chiral effective field theory (χ EFT)
- Lattice effective field theory
- Nuclear structure and reactions
- Degree of locality of nuclear forces
- Recent results
- Summary



Ab initio nuclear theory

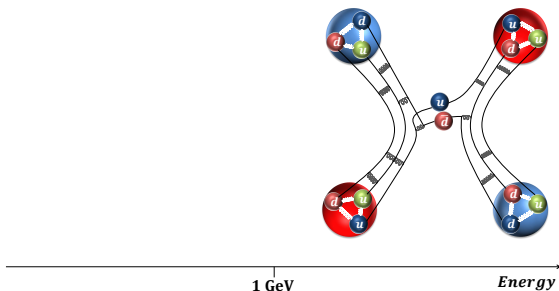
The aim is to predict the properties of atomic nuclei from microscopic nuclear forces



- synthesis of the elements in the Universe (nucleosynthesis)
- mechanisms in stars and stellar explosions (nuclear processes)

Nuclear forces from QCD

Quantum chromodynamics (QCD) describes the strong forces by confining quarks (and gluons) into baryons and mesons.

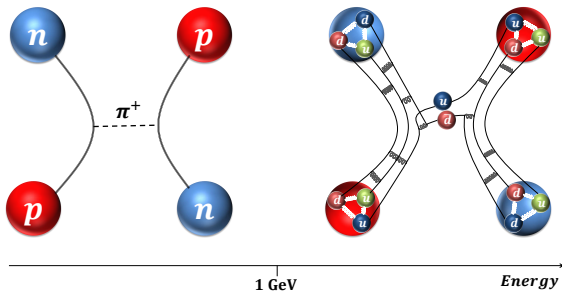


$$(\Lambda_{\chi} \sim \text{chiral limit})$$
$$m_u, m_d, m_s \rightarrow 0$$

S. Weinberg, Phys. Lett. B 251 (1990) 288, Nucl. Phys. B363 (1991) 3, Phys. Lett. B 295 (1992) 114.

Nuclear forces from QCD

Quantum chromodynamics (QCD) describes the strong forces by confining quarks (and gluons) into baryons and mesons.



$$(\Lambda_{\chi} \sim \text{chiral limit})$$
$$m_u, m_d, m_s \rightarrow 0$$

"separation of scales"

S. Weinberg, Phys. Lett. B 251 (1990) 288, Nucl. Phys. B363 (1991) 3, Phys. Lett. B 295 (1992) 114.

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/Λ_χ)

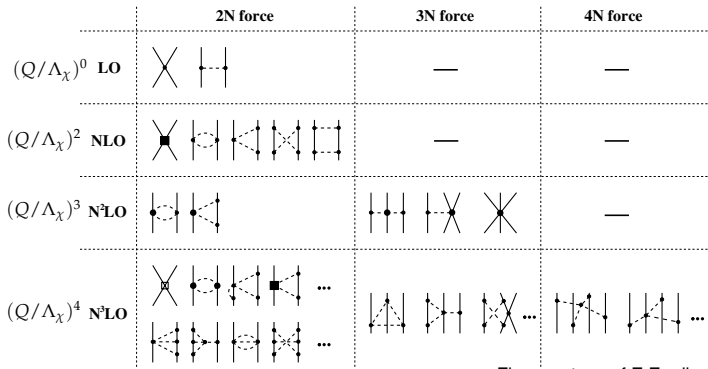


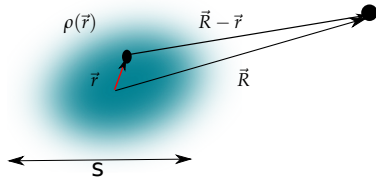
Fig. courtesy of E. Epelbaum

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

Effective field theory

A classical example: Multipole expansion

$$\Phi(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_V \frac{\rho(\vec{r}) dV}{|\vec{R} - \vec{r}|}$$



$$\frac{1}{|\vec{R} - \vec{r}|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{R^2 + r^2 - 2Rr \cos \theta}} = \frac{1}{R} + \frac{r}{R^2} \cos \theta + \frac{r^2}{R^3} \frac{3 \cos^2 \theta - 1}{2} + \dots$$

$$\Phi(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left\{ \frac{1}{R} \int_V \rho(\vec{r}) dV + \frac{1}{R^2} \int_V \vec{r} \rho(\vec{r}) dV + \frac{1}{R^3} \int_V (3r_i r_j - r^2 \delta_{ij}) \rho(\vec{r}) dV \right\} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{R^4}\right)$$

- We do not need to know the dynamics at the short distance to understand the dynamics at the long distance
- the sum converges for $S \ll R$
- long distances probes are determined by the bulk properties

Lattice effective field theory

Lattice effective field theory is a powerful numerical method formulated in the framework of chiral effective field theory

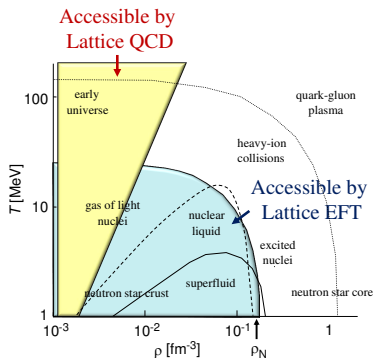
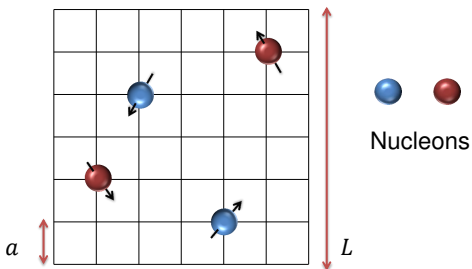


Fig. courtesy of D. Lee

Lattice formulation of χ EFT

■ a new lattice formulation of χ EFT interactions:

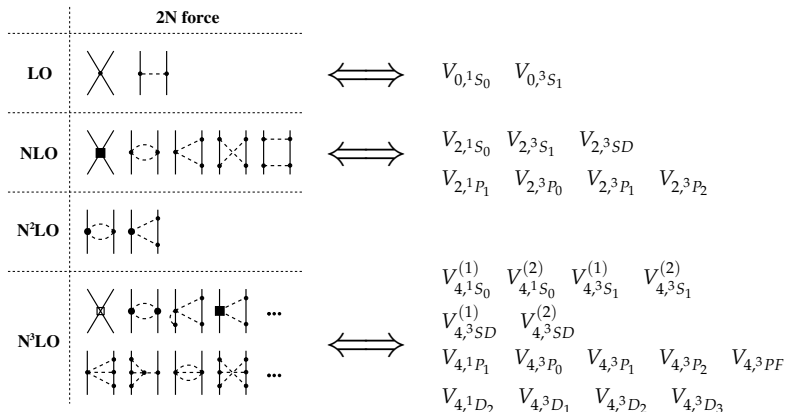
- a simpler decomposition into spin channels
- the process of fitting to the empirical scattering phase shifts is simplified, and the resulting lattice phase shifts are more accurate.

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

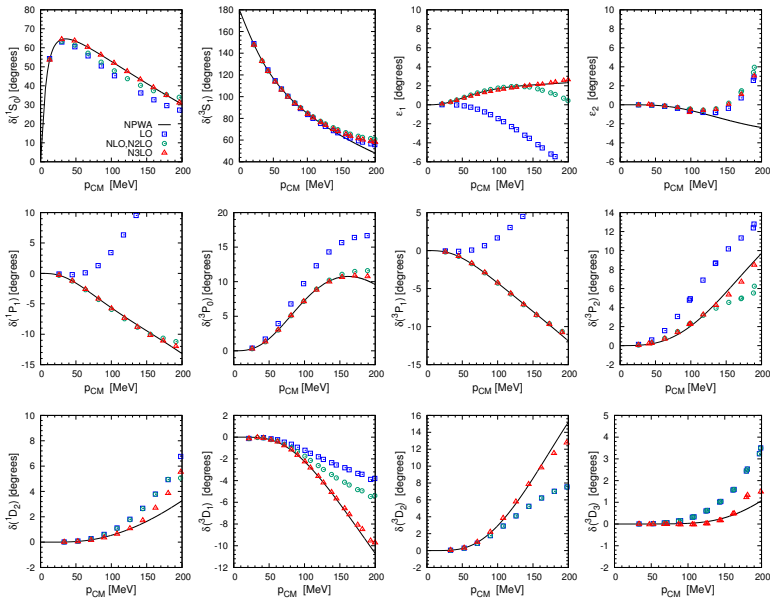
$$[a(\mathbf{n}) a(\mathbf{n}')]_{S,S_z,I,I_z}^{S_{NL}} = \sum_{i,j,i',j'} a_{i,j}^{S_{NL}}(\mathbf{n}) M_{ii'}(S, S_z) M_{jj'}(I, I_z) a_{i',j'}^{S_{NL}}(\mathbf{n}')$$

χ EFT for nucleons: NN scattering phase shifts

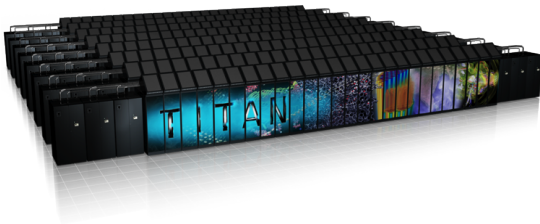
- formulate the lattice action in the framework of chiral effective field theory
- fit the unknown coefficients of the short-range lattice interactions to empirical phase shifts



χ EFT for nucleons: NN scattering phase shifts

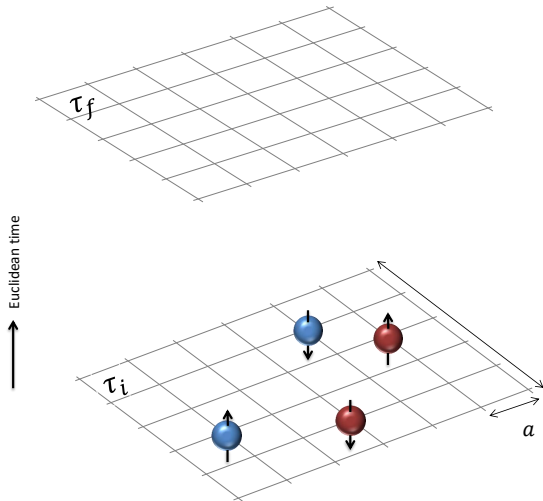


Many body quantum systems - *ab initio* nuclear theory



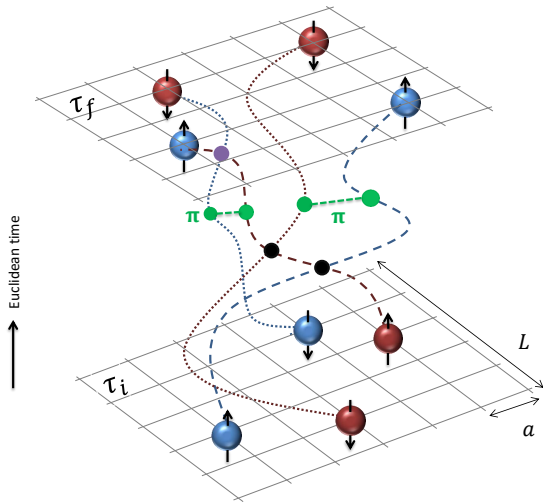
Lattice Monte Carlo calculations: Euclidean time projection

- construct a trial state of nucleons, $|\psi_I\rangle$, as a Slater determinant of free-particle standing waves on the lattice.



Lattice Monte Carlo calculations: Euclidean time projection

- construct a trial state of nucleons, $|\psi_I\rangle$, as a Slater determinant of free-particle standing waves on the lattice.
- evolve nucleons forward in Euclidean time, $e^{-H_{LO}\tau} |\psi_I\rangle$, where $\tau = L_t a_t$.
- The evolution in Euclidean time automatically incorporates the induced deformation, polarization and clustering.



Lattice EFT: (Euclidean time) projection Monte Carlo

Transfer matrix operator formalism $\mathbf{M} = : \exp(-H_{\text{LO}} a_t) :$

Microscopic Hamiltonian $H_{\text{LO}} = H_{\text{free}} + V_{\text{LO}}$

$$Z(L_t) = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}^{L_t}) = \int Dc Dc^* \exp[-S(c, c^*)]$$

[Creutz, Found. Phys. 30 \(2000\) 487.](#)

The exact equivalence of several different lattice formulations.

[Lee, PRC 78:024001, \(2008\); Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys., 63:117-154 \(2009\)](#)

Lattice Monte Carlo calculations

Projection Monte Carlo uses a given initial state, $|\psi_I\rangle$, to evaluate a product of a string of transfer matrices \mathbf{M} .

$$Z(L_t) = \langle \psi_I | \mathbf{M}(L_t - 1) \mathbf{M}(L_t - 2) \dots \mathbf{M}(1) \mathbf{M}(0) | \psi_I \rangle$$

In the limit of large Euclidean time the evolution operator $e^{-H_{\text{LO}} \tau}$ suppress the signal beyond the low-lying states, and the ground state energy of our quantum system can be extracted by

$$\lim_{L_t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{Z(L_t + 1)}{Z(L_t)} = e^{-E_0 a_t}$$

These amplitudes are computed with the Hybrid Monte Carlo methods.

Phys. Lett. B195, 216-222 (1987), Phys. Rev. D35, 2531-2542 (1987).

Lattice Monte Carlo calculations

perturbative higher order calculations

ho = NLO, NNLO, ...

$$\mathbf{M}_{\text{ho}} = : e^{-a_t(H_{\text{LO}} + V_{\text{ho}})} :$$

where the potential V_{ho} is treated perturbatively. Therefore, the higher order corrections to the ground state energy can be computed as,

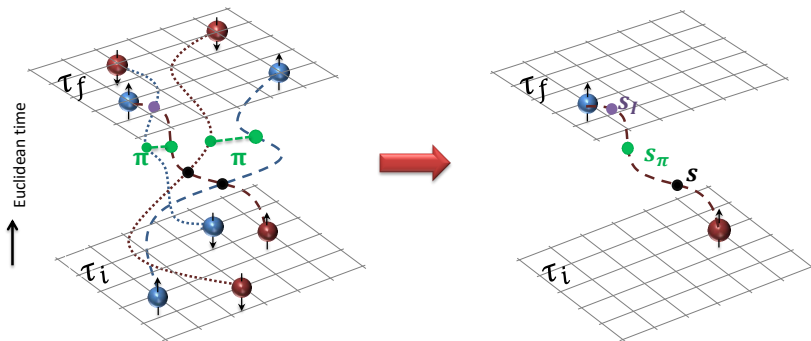
$$e^{-\Delta E_{\text{ho}} a_t} = \lim_{L_t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle \psi_I | \mathbf{M}^{L_t/2} \mathbf{M}_{\text{ho}} \mathbf{M}^{L_t/2} | \psi_I \rangle}{\langle \psi_I | \mathbf{M}^{L_t} | \psi_I \rangle}$$

Auxiliary field Monte Carlo

Use a Gaussian integral identity

$$\exp \left[-\frac{C}{2} \left(N^\dagger N \right)^2 \right] = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} \int ds \exp \left[-\frac{s^2}{2} + \sqrt{-C} s \left(N^\dagger N \right) \right]$$

s is an auxiliary field coupled to particle density. Each nucleon evolves as if a single particle in a fluctuating background of pion fields and auxiliary fields.

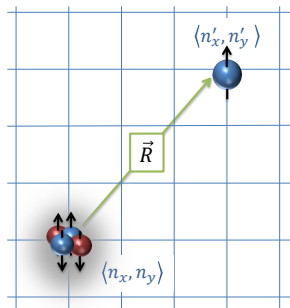


Scattering and reactions: Adiabatic projection method

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.

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



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

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.

PRL 111 (2013) 032502; EPJA 49 (2013) 151; PRC 90, 064001 (2014); PRC 92,054612 (2015); EPJA 52: 174 (2016)

Scattering and reactions: Adiabatic projection method

$$|\vec{R}\rangle_\tau = e^{-H\tau} |\vec{R}\rangle \quad \text{dressed cluster state (not orthogonal)}$$

Hamiltonian matrix

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

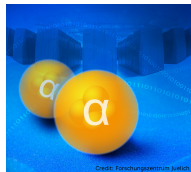
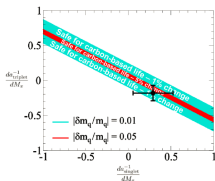
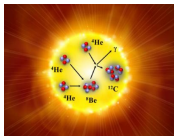
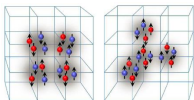
Norm matrix

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

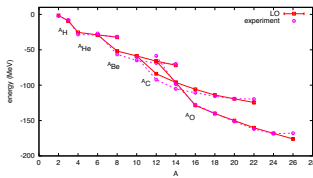
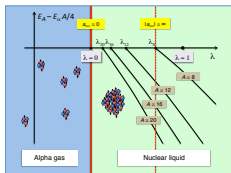
$$[H_\tau^a]_{\vec{R},\vec{R}'} = \sum_{\vec{R}'',\vec{R}'''} [N_\tau^{-1/2}]_{\vec{R},\vec{R}''} [H_\tau]_{\vec{R}'',\vec{R}'''} [N_\tau^{-1/2}]_{\vec{R}''',\vec{R}'}$$

The structure of the adiabatic Hamiltonian, $[H_\tau^a]_{\vec{R},\vec{R}'}$, is similar to the Hamiltonian matrix used in calculations of ab initio no-core shell model/resonating group method (NCSM/RGM) for nuclear scattering and reactions.

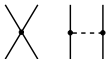
Nuclear LEFT: *ab initio* nuclear structure and scattering theory



- ☐ Lattice EFT calculations for $A = 3, 4, 6, 12$ nuclei, [PRL 104 \(2010\) 142501](#)
- ☐ *Ab initio* calculation of the Hoyle state, [PRL 106 \(2011\) 192501](#)
- ☐ Structure and rotations of the Hoyle state, [PRL 109 \(2012\) 252501](#)
- ☐ Viability of Carbon-Based Life as a Function of the Light Quark Mass, [PRL 110 \(2013\) 112502](#)
- ☐ Radiative capture reactions in lattice effective field theory, [PRL 111 \(2013\) 032502](#)
- ☐ *Ab initio* calculation of the Spectrum and Structure of ^{16}O , [PRL 112 \(2014\) 102501](#)
- ☐ *Ab initio* alpha-alpha scattering, [Nature 528, 111-114 \(2015\)](#).
- ☐ Nuclear Binding Near a Quantum Phase Transition, [PRL 117, 132501 \(2016\)](#).
- ☐ *Ab initio* calculations of the isotopic dependence of nuclear clustering, [PRL 119, 222505 \(2017\)](#).
- ☐ Essential elements for nuclear binding, [PLB 797 \(2019\) 134863](#).

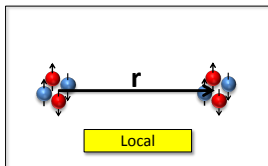


Degree of locality of nuclear forces

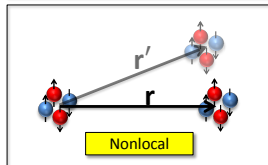
| | |
|-----------|---|
| | 2N force |
| LO |  |

$$V_{\text{LO}} = V_{1S_0, Q^0}^{S_{NL}, S_L} + V_{3S_1, Q^0}^{S_{NL}, S_L} + V_{\text{OPE}}$$

$$U(r) = V(r, r') \delta(r - r')$$



$$U(r, r') = V(r, r')$$

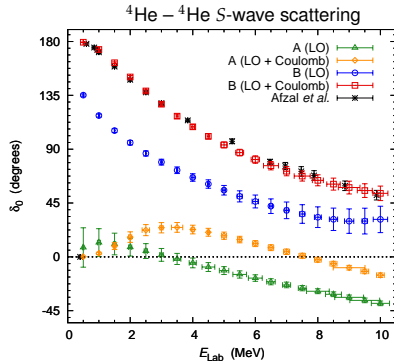
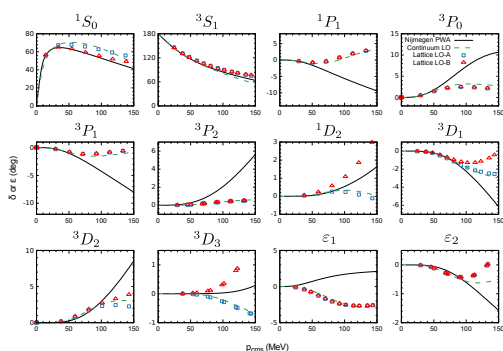


- ☐ Does every χ EFT interaction give well controlled and reliable results for heavier systems?
- ☐ Is the convergence of higher-order terms under control?

Degree of locality of nuclear forces – I

$$V_{\text{LO}}^{\text{A}} = V_{1S_0, Q^0}^{\text{SNL}} + V_{3S_1, Q^0}^{\text{SNL}} + V_{\text{OPE}}$$

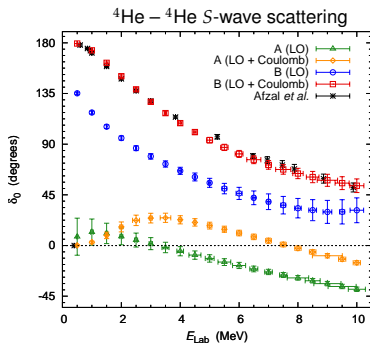
$$V_{\text{LO}}^{\text{B}} = V_{1S_0, Q^0}^{\text{SNL}, S_L} + V_{3S_1, Q^0}^{\text{SNL}, S_L} + V_{\text{OPE}}$$



| Nucleus | A (LO) | B (LO) | A (LO + Coulomb) | B (LO + Coulomb) | Experiment |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------------|------------|
| ^3H | -7.82(5) | -7.78(12) | -7.82(5) | -7.78(12) | -8.482 |
| ^3He | -7.82(5) | -7.78(12) | -7.08(5) | -7.09(12) | -7.718 |
| ^4He | -29.36(4) | -29.19(6) | -28.62(4) | -28.45(6) | -28.296 |

Degree of locality of nuclear forces – I

| Nucleus | A (LO) | B (LO) | A (LO + Coulomb) | B (LO + Coulomb) | Experiment |
|------------------|------------|-----------|------------------|------------------|------------|
| ^4He | -29.36(4) | -29.19(6) | -28.62(4) | -28.45(6) | -28.296 |
| ^8Be | -58.61(14) | -59.73(6) | -56.51(14) | -57.29(7) | -56.591 |
| ^{12}C | -88.2(3) | -95.0(5) | -84.0(3) | -89.9(5) | -92.162 |
| ^{16}O | -117.5(6) | -135.4(7) | -110.5(6) | -126.0(7) | -127.619 |
| ^{20}Ne | -148(1) | -178(1) | -137(1) | -164(1) | -160.645 |



Degree of locality of nuclear forces – I

| Nucleus | A (LO) | B (LO) | A (LO + Coulomb) | B (LO + Coulomb) | Experiment |
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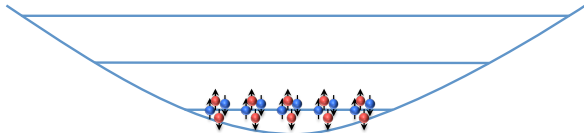
$$\frac{E_{^8\text{Be}}}{E_{^4\text{He}}} = 1.997(6)$$

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

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

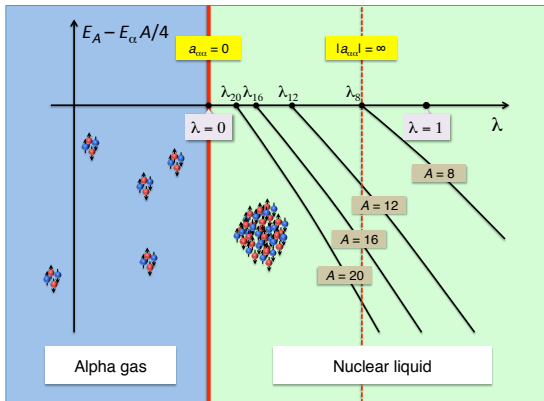
$$\frac{E_{^{20}\text{Ne}}}{E_{^4\text{He}}} = 5.03(3)$$

Bose condensate of alpha particles!



Nuclear binding near a quantum phase transition

Consider a one-parameter family of interactions: $V = (1 - \lambda) V_{\text{LO}}^A + \lambda V_{\text{LO}}^B$

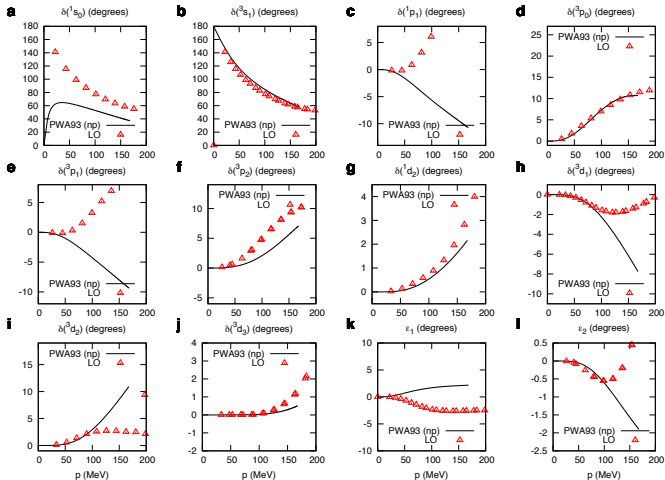


There is a quantum phase transition at the point where the α - α scattering length $a_{\alpha\alpha}$ vanishes, and it is a first-order transition from a Bose-condensed α -particle gas to a nuclear liquid.

Degree of locality of nuclear forces – II

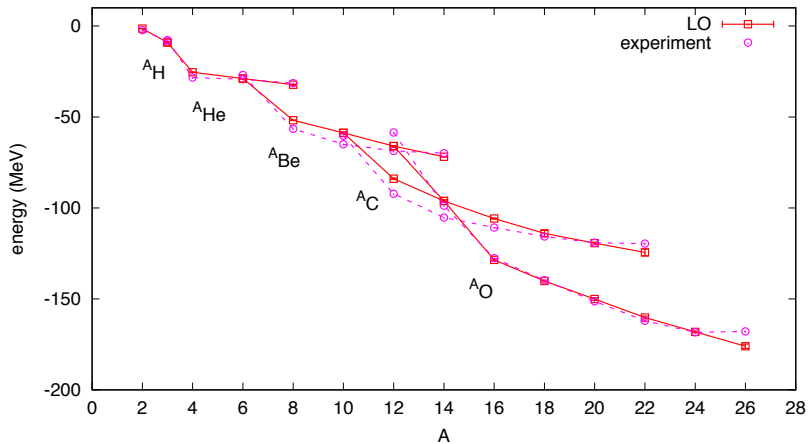
We can probe the degree of locality only by many-body calculations, and we consider an $SU(4)$ -symmetric potential,

$$V_{\text{LO}} = V_{\text{SU4}}^{s_{\text{NL}}, s_{\text{L}}} + V_{\text{OPE}}$$



Ground state energies at LO

$$V_{\text{LO}} = V_{\text{SU4}}^{s_{\text{NL}}, s_{\text{L}}} + V_{\text{OPE}} + V_{\text{Coulomb}}$$



Degree of locality of nuclear forces – III

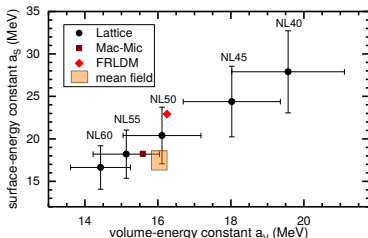
Consider the following potential in the framework of pionless effective field theory to probe the degree of locality from many-body calculations,

$$V_{\pi}^{\text{start}} = V_{\text{SU4}}^{C_2, s_{\text{NL}}, s_{\text{L}}} + V_{\text{SU4}}^{C_3} + V_{\text{Coulomb}}$$

- C_2 , s_{L} , and C_3 are tuned to get the few-body physics correct
- For $A \geq 16$, the binding energies are well-parameterized with the Bethe-Weizsäcker mass formula;

$$B(A) = a_{\text{V}} A - a_{\text{S}} A^{2/3} + E_{\text{Coulomb}} + (\text{symmetry} + \text{pairing} + \text{shellcorrection} + \dots)$$

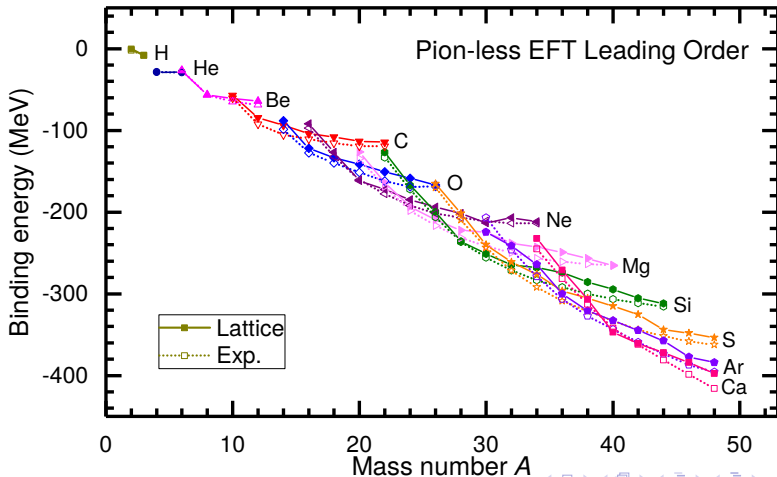
- Consider only $N = Z$ even-even nuclei, and obtain C_2 , s_{L} , C_3 for various values of s_{NL}



Essential elements for nuclear binding

- a lattice action with minimum number of parameters (four) which describes neutron matter up to saturation density and the ground state properties of nuclei up to calcium. $a = 1.32$ fm, $s_L = 0.0609$ (l.u.), and $s_{NL} = 0.5$ (l.u.)

Lu, Li, SE, Lee, Epelbaum, Meißner, Phys. Lett. B, 797, 134863 (2019)



Essential elements for nuclear binding

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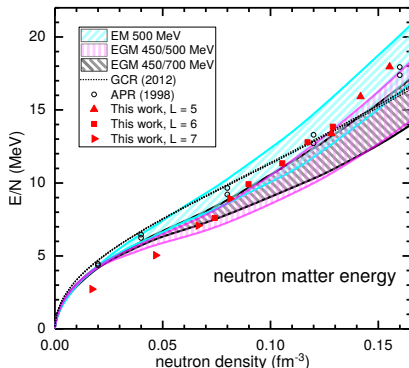
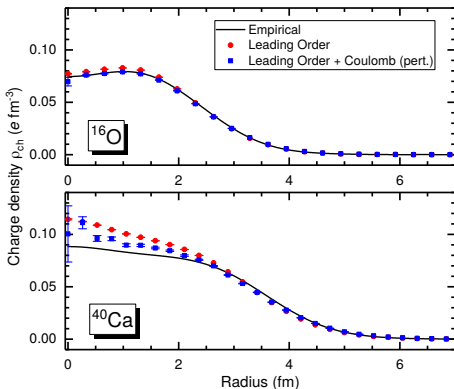
Lu, Li, SE, Lee, Epelbaum, Meißner, Phys. Lett. B, 797, 134863 (2019)

| | B | Experiment | R_{ch} | Experiment |
|------------------|----------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| ^3H | 8.48(2) | 8.48 | 1.90(1) | 1.76 |
| ^3He | 7.75(2) | 7.72 | 1.99(1) | 1.97 |
| ^4He | 28.89(1) | 28.3 | 1.72(1) | 1.68 |
| ^{16}O | 121.9(1) | 127.6 | 2.74(1) | 2.70 |
| ^{20}Ne | 161.6(1) | 160.6 | 2.95(1) | 3.01 |
| ^{24}Mg | 193.5(2) | 198.3 | 3.13(1) | 3.06 |
| ^{28}Si | 235.8(4) | 236.5 | 3.26(1) | 3.12 |
| ^{40}Ca | 346.8(6) | 342.1 | 3.42(1) | 3.48 |

Essential elements for nuclear binding

- a lattice action with minimum number of parameters (four) which describes neutron matter up to saturation density and the ground state properties of nuclei up to calcium. $a = 1.32$ fm, $s_L = 0.0609$ (l.u.), and $s_{NL} = 0.5$ (l.u.)

Lu, Li, SE, Lee, Epelbaum, Meißner, Phys. Lett. B, 797, 134863 (2019)

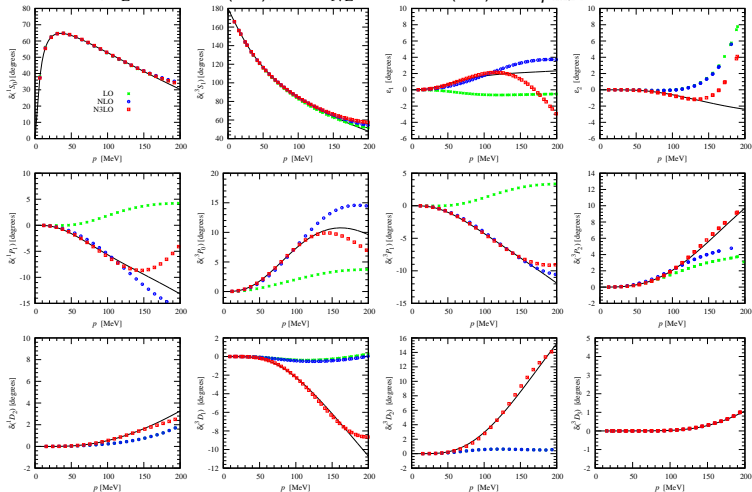


Ab initio nuclear structure: recent progress

We have constructed a new lattice formulation of chiral effective field theory interactions with a simpler decomposition into spin channels.

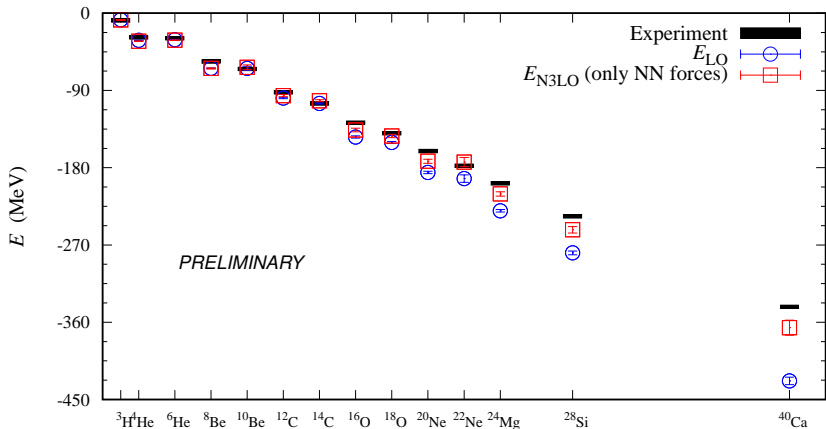
Li, SE, Epelbaum, Lee, Lu, Meißner, Phys. Rev. C 98, 044002 (2018)

$a = 1.97$ fm, $s_L = 0.0336$ (l.u.), and $s_{NL} = 0.0839$ (l.u.) and $p_{\max} = \pi/a = 314$ MeV



Ab initio nuclear structure: recent progress

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Preliminary results for the ground state energies of light and medium-mass nuclei:



- To determine the 3N forces, we consider several nuclear processes, such as triton beta-decay, neutron-alpha and alpha-alpha scattering, properties of ${}^3\text{He}$ and ${}^4\text{He}$ etc.

Triton beta-decay

$$a = 1.97 \text{ fm}$$

Preliminary results for the 3-nucleon systems:

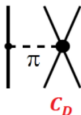
Bovermann, SE, Epelbaum, Krebs, Lee, Meißner [work in progress]

| L (fm) | E_{LO} (MeV) | E_{NLO} (MeV) | E_{N3LO} (MeV) |
|----------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 11.84 | -10.03 | -9.07 | -9.10 |
| 15.78 | -9.55 | -8.43 | -8.47 |
| 19.73 | -9.51 | -8.36 | -8.39 |

| L (fm) | $\langle \mathbf{F} \rangle_{\text{LO}}$ | $\langle \mathbf{F} \rangle_{\text{NLO}}$ | $\langle \mathbf{F} \rangle_{\text{N3LO}}$ | $\langle \mathbf{GT} \rangle_{\text{LO}}$ | $\langle \mathbf{GT} \rangle_{\text{NLO}}$ | $\langle \mathbf{GT} \rangle_{\text{N3LO}}$ |
|----------|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| 11.84 | 1.0000 | 0.9995 | 0.9995 | 1.7045 | 1.6714 | 1.6725 |
| 15.78 | 1.0000 | 0.9996 | 0.9996 | 1.7111 | 1.6789 | 1.6796 |
| 19.73 | 1.0000 | 0.9997 | 0.9997 | 1.7134 | 1.6839 | 1.6845 |

$$\langle \mathbf{F} \rangle_{\text{emp}} = 0.9998$$

$$\langle \mathbf{GT} \rangle_{\text{emp}} = 1.6474(23)$$



OPE

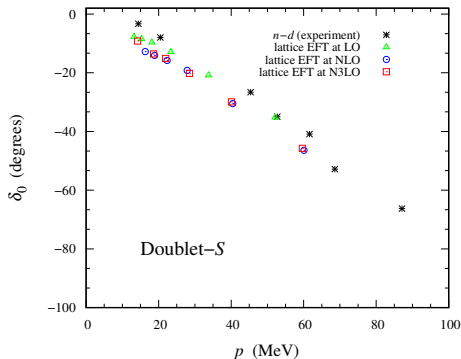
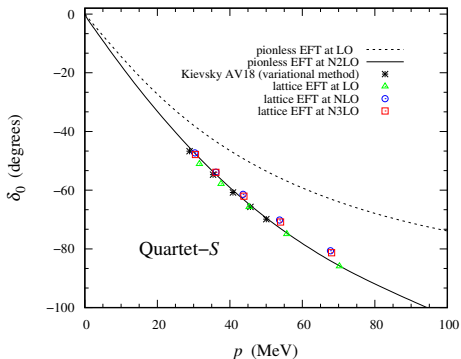


MEC

$n-d$ scattering

$a = 1.97$ fm

Preliminary results for the 3-nucleon systems:



Bovermann, SE, Epelbaum, Krebs, Lee, Meißner [work in progress]

variational method: Nucl. Phys. A 607, 402 (1996)

$n-d$ (experiment): Phys. Lett. 24B, 562 (1967)

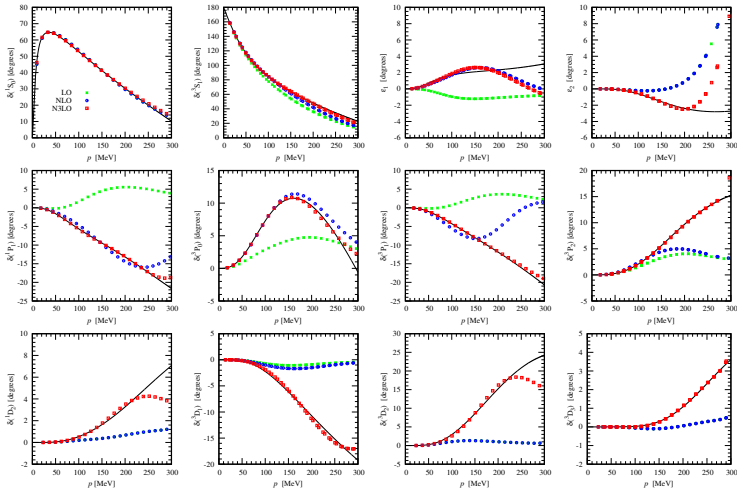
pionless EFT: Nucl. Phys. A 675, 601 (2000)

Ab initio nuclear structure: recent progress

We have constructed a new lattice formulation of chiral effective field theory interactions with a simpler decomposition into spin channels.

Li, SE, Epelbaum, Lee, Lu, Meißner, Phys. Rev. C 98, 044002 (2018)

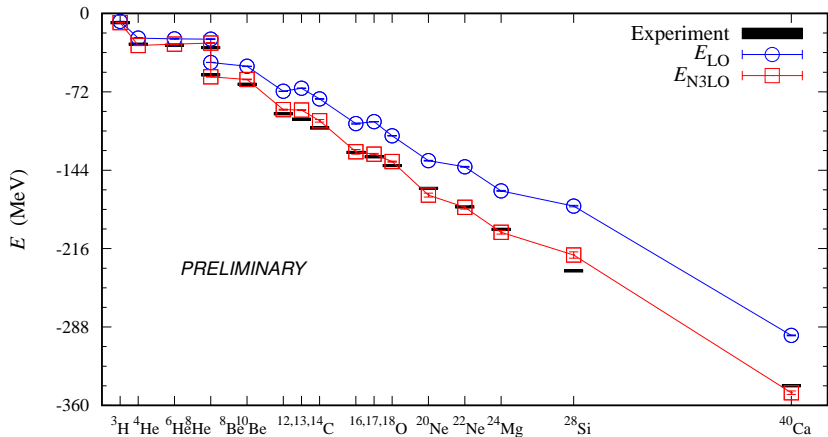
$a = 1.32$ fm, $s_L = 0.0609$ (l.u.), and $s_{NL} = 0.5$ (l.u.) and $p_{\max} = \pi/a = 470$ MeV



Ab initio nuclear structure: recent progress

$a = 1.32$ fm, $s_L = 0.0609$ (l.u.), and $s_{NL} = 0.5$ (l.u.) and $p_{\max} = \pi/a = 470$ MeV

Preliminary results for the ground state energies of light and medium-mass nuclei:



- To determine the 3N forces, we consider several nuclear processes, such as triton beta-decay, neutron-alpha and alpha-alpha scattering, properties of ^3He and ^4He etc.

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.
- A new lattice formulation of chiral effective field theory interactions has improved our *ab initio* nuclear theory which describes the nuclear structure successfully as well as nuclear scattering and reaction processes.
- Understanding of the connection between the degree of locality of nuclear forces and nuclear structure has led to a more efficient set of lattice chiral EFT interactions.
- Scattering and reaction processes involving alpha particle are in reach of *ab initio* methods and this has opened the door towards using experimental data from collisions of heavier nuclei as input to improve *ab initio* nuclear structure theory.

Thanks!

Extras

Quantum Phase Transition

In physics, a quantum phase transition (QPT) is a phase transition between different quantum phases (phases of matter at zero temperature). Contrary to classical phase transitions, quantum phase transitions can only be accessed by varying a physical parameter-such as magnetic field or pressure-at absolute zero temperature. The transition describes an abrupt change in the ground state of a many-body system due to its quantum fluctuations.