

# Nuclear Forces and the Renormalization Group

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**TRIUMF**

CANADA'S NATIONAL LABORATORY FOR PARTICLE AND NUCLEAR PHYSICS

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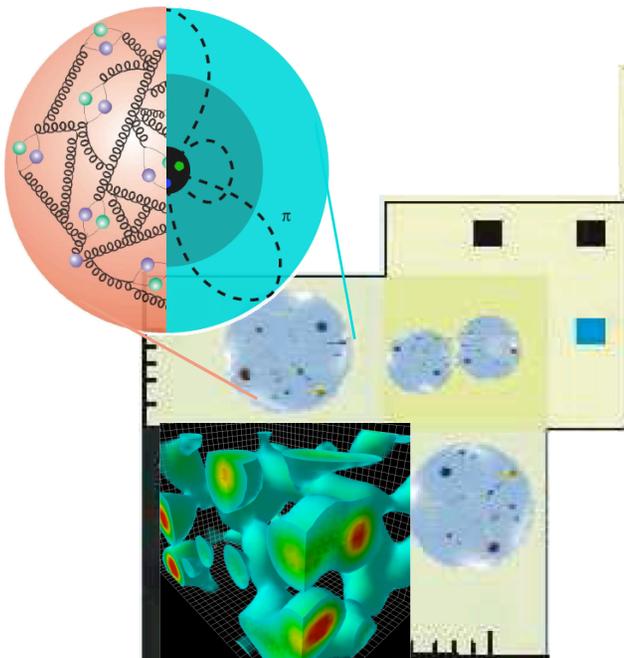
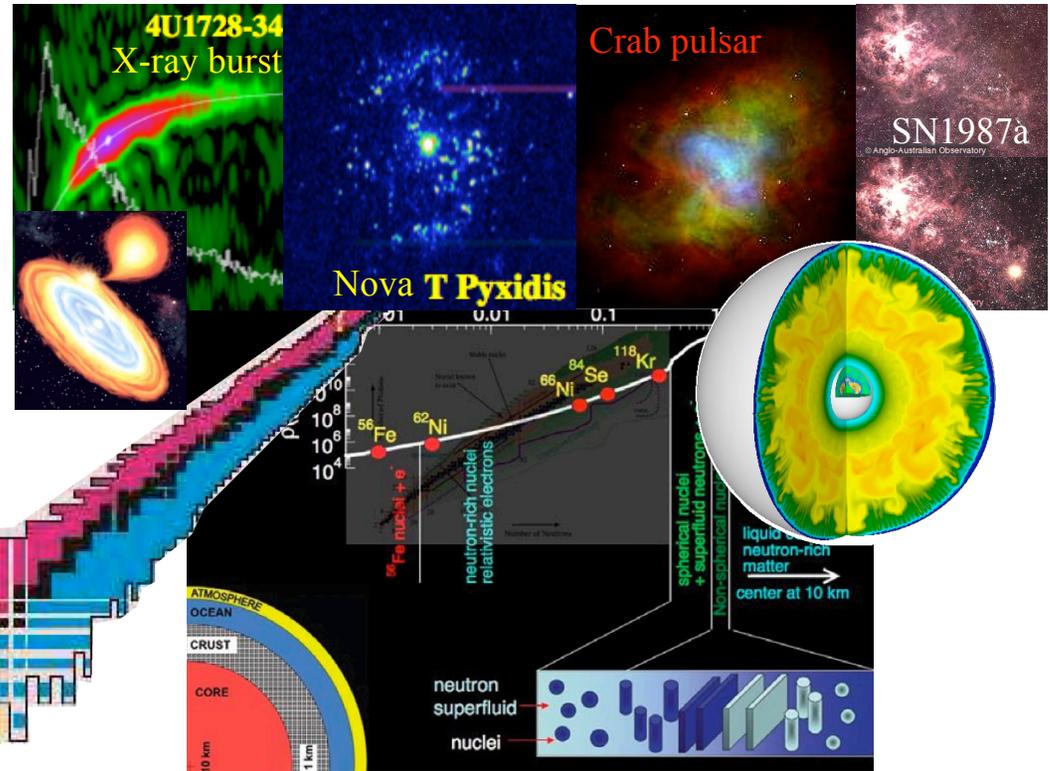
# Strong interaction physics in the lab and cosmos

Matter at the extremes:

density  $\rho \sim 10^{11} \dots 10^{15} \text{ g/cm}^3$

neutron-rich to proton-rich  
 $Z/N \sim 0.05 \dots 0.6$

temperatures  $T \sim \dots 30 \text{ MeV}$

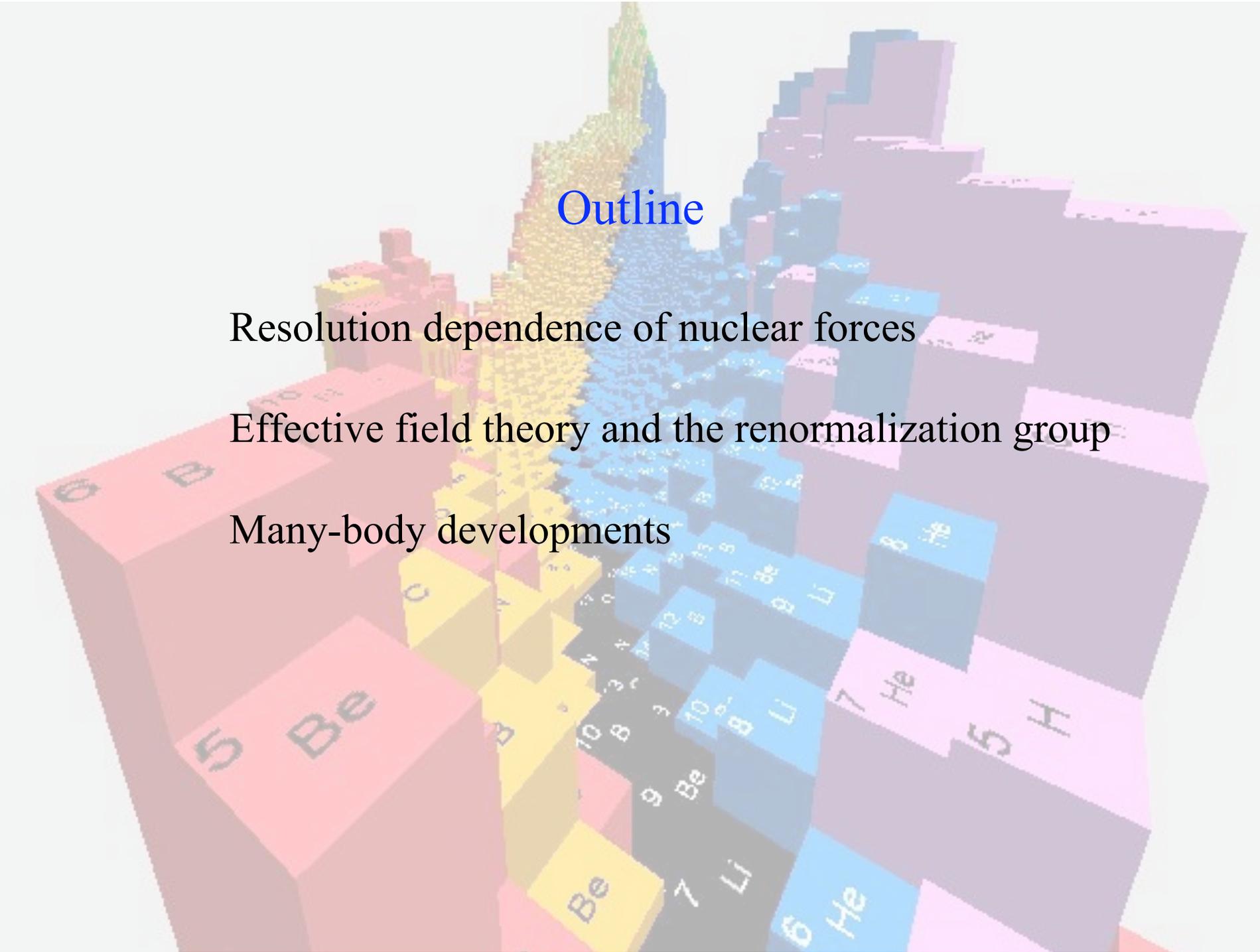


Interaction challenges:

**QCD**  $\Rightarrow$  **chiral EFT**  $\Rightarrow$  RG evolved  
 low-momentum interactions **for all nuclei**

Many-body challenges

Astrophysics challenges



## Outline

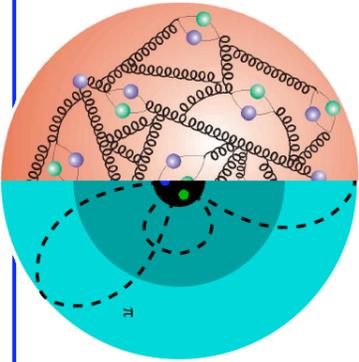
Resolution dependence of nuclear forces

Effective field theory and the renormalization group

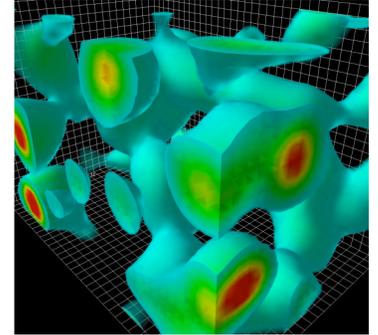
Many-body developments

# $\Lambda$ / Resolution dependence of nuclear interactions

with high-energy probes:  
quarks+gluons



at low energies:  
complex QCD vacuum



lowest energy excitations:  
pions, nearly massless,  $m_\pi=140$  MeV

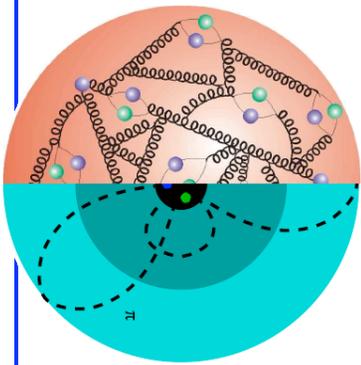
$\Lambda_{\text{chiral}}$   
momenta  $Q \sim \lambda^{-1} \sim m_\pi$

$\Lambda_{\text{pionless}}$   
 $Q \ll m_\pi=140$  MeV

# $\Lambda$ / Resolution dependence of nuclear interactions

with high-energy probes:  
quarks+gluons

cf. scale/scheme dependence  
of parton distribution functions



Lattice QCD

Effective theory for NN, many-N interactions,  
operators depend on resolution scale  $\Lambda$

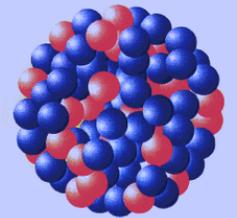
$$H(\Lambda) = T + V_{NN}(\Lambda) + V_{3N}(\Lambda) + V_{4N}(\Lambda) + \dots$$

$\Lambda_{\text{chiral}}$

momenta  $Q \sim \lambda^{-1} \sim m_{\pi}$ : chiral effective field theory

nucleons interacting via pion exchanges + contact interactions

typical Fermi momenta in nuclei  $\sim m_{\pi}$



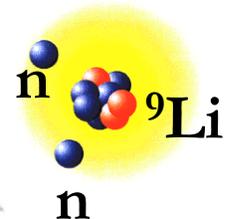
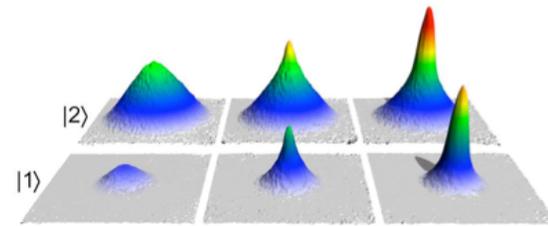
$\Lambda_{\text{pionless}}$

$Q \ll m_{\pi} = 140 \text{ MeV}$ : pion not resolved

pionless effective field theory

large scattering lengths + corrections

applicable to loosely-bound, dilute systems, reactions at astro energies



# Lattice QCD and nuclear forces

pion-NN coupling  $g_a$  from full QCD

Edwards et al. (2006)

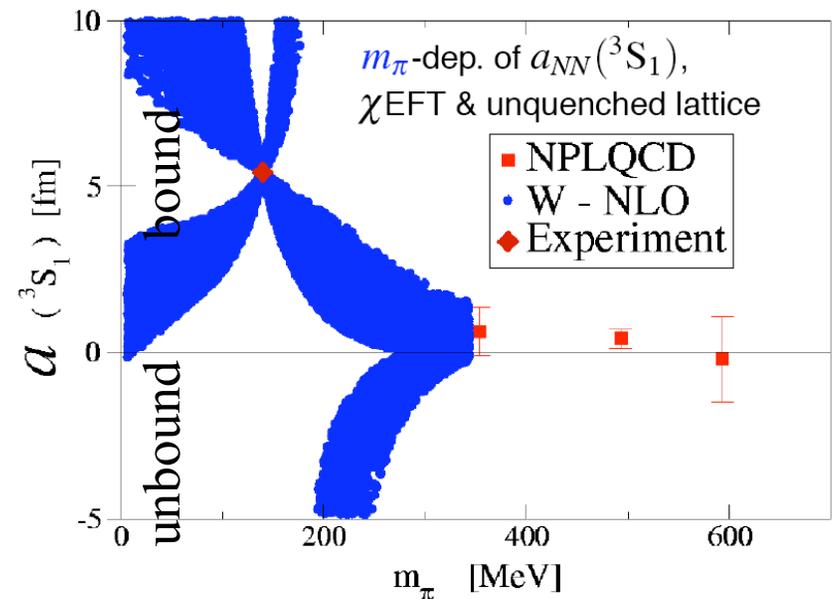
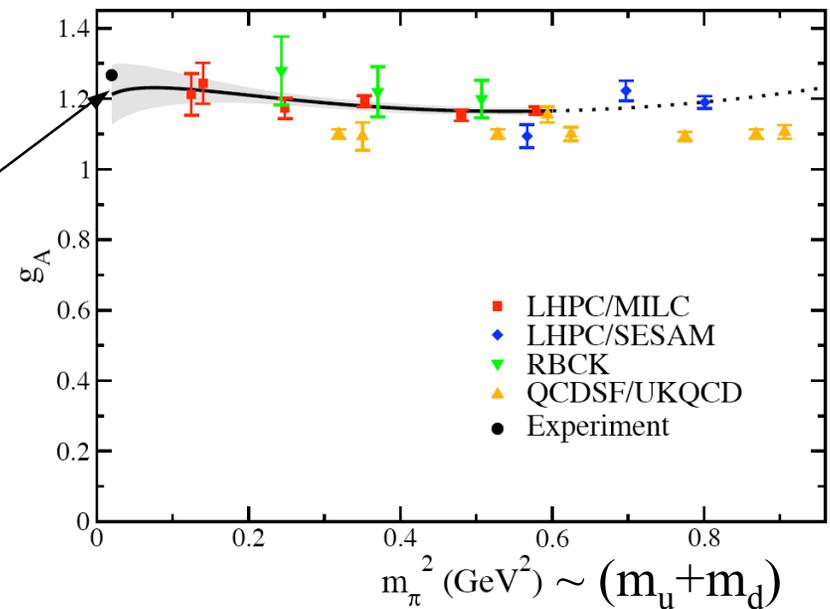
chiral EFT extrapolation to physical pion mass agrees with experiment

NN scattering lengths from full QCD, dependence on quark masses Beane et al. (2006)

First coherent effort to connect nuclear forces to underlying QCD

Constrain some low-energy couplings

Constrain experimentally difficult observables: 3-neutron properties



# Chiral Effective Field Theory for nuclear forces

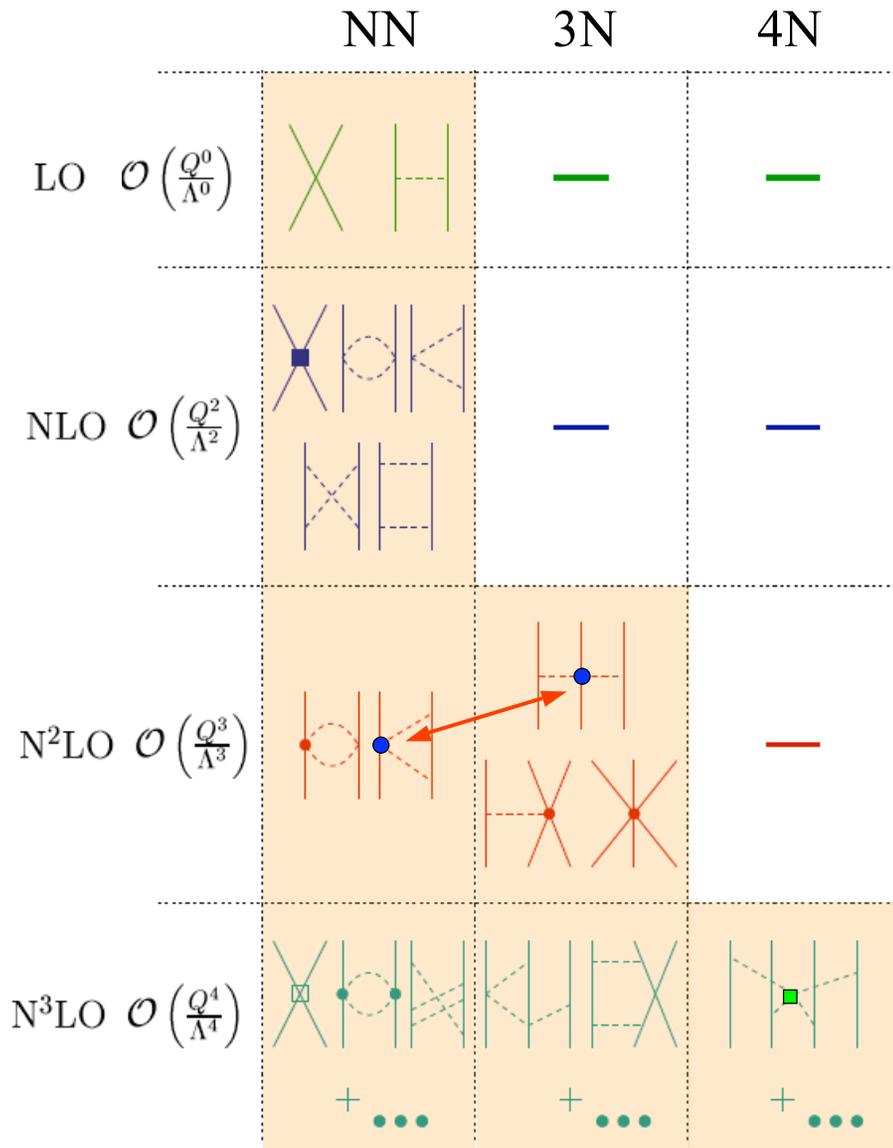
Separation of scales: low momenta  $\frac{1}{\lambda} = Q \ll \Lambda_b$  breakdown scale  $\Lambda_b$

	NN	3N	4N	
LO $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^0}{\Lambda^0}\right)$				limited resolution at low energies, can expand in powers $Q/\Lambda_b$
NLO $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^2}{\Lambda^2}\right)$				details of short-distance physics not resolved  capture in few short-range couplings, fit to experiment once
N <sup>2</sup> LO $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^3}{\Lambda^3}\right)$				include long-range physics explicitly, pions for chiral EFT  systematic: can work to desired accuracy and obtain error estimates
N <sup>3</sup> LO $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^4}{\Lambda^4}\right)$				can connect to lattice QCD

Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise, Epelbaum, Meissner, Nogga, Machleidt, ...

# Chiral Effective Field Theory for nuclear forces

Separation of scales: low momenta  $\frac{1}{\lambda} = Q \ll \Lambda_b$  breakdown scale  $\Lambda_b$



explains pheno hierarchy:

NN > 3N > 4N > ...

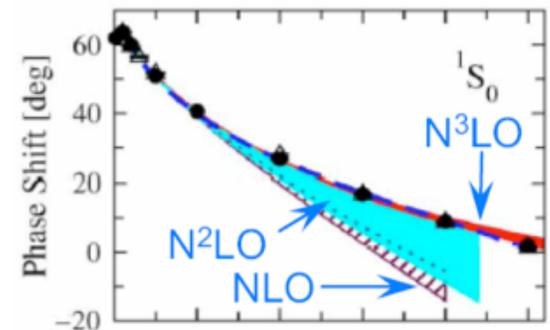
NN-3N,  $\pi$ N,  $\pi\pi$ , electro-weak, ...

consistency

3N,4N: 2 new couplings to N<sup>3</sup>LO

resolution/ $\Lambda$ -dependent couplings

error estimates from truncation order,  
lower bound from  $\Lambda$  variation

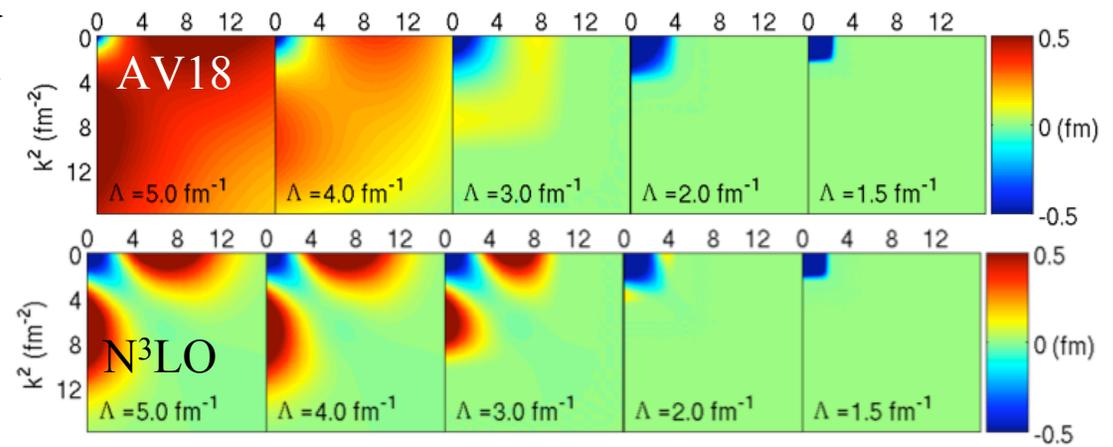
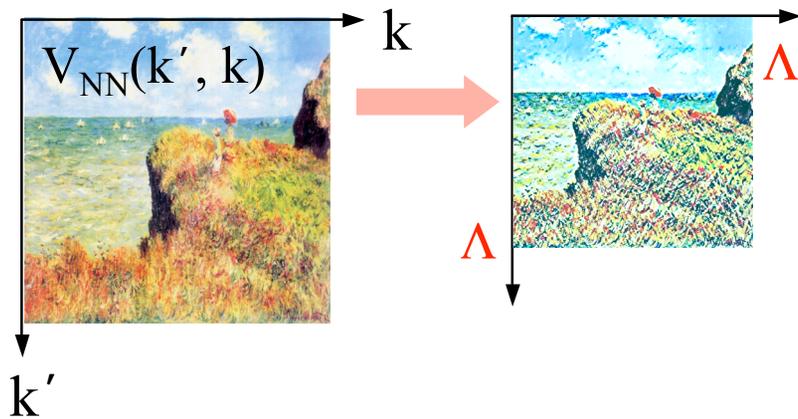


Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise, Epelbaum, Meissner, Nogga, Machleidt, ...



# Low-momentum interactions from the Renormalization Group

evolve to lower resolution/cutoffs by integrating out high-momenta, can be carried out exactly for NN interactions [Bogner, Kuo, AS \(2003\)](#)

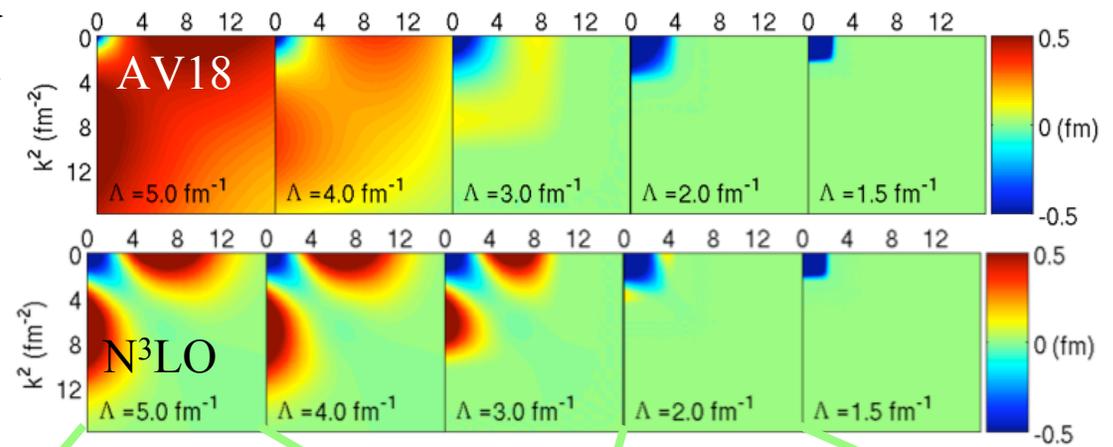
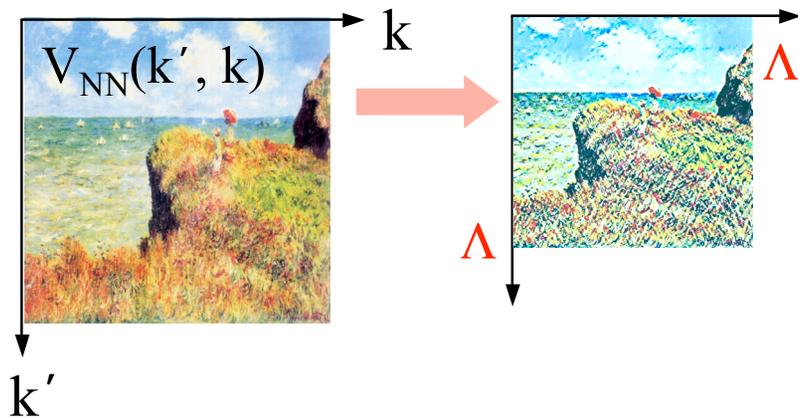


implemented by RG equations or unitary transformation

$$\frac{d}{d\Lambda} V_{\text{low } k}^{\Lambda}(k', k) = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{V_{\text{low } k}^{\Lambda}(k', \Lambda) T^{\Lambda}(\Lambda, k; \Lambda^2)}{1 - (k/\Lambda)^2}$$

# Low-momentum interactions from the Renormalization Group

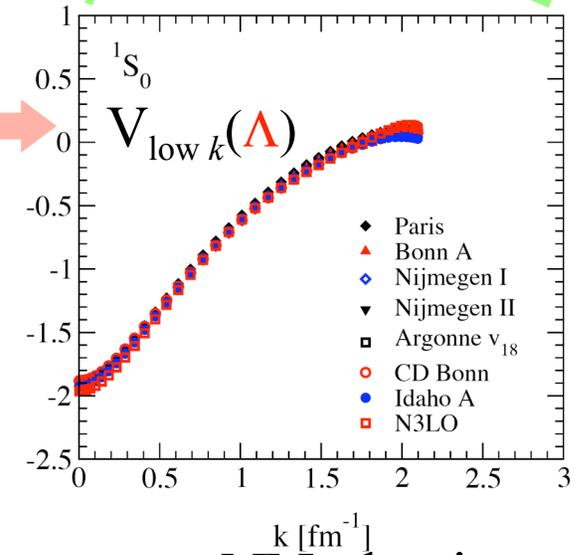
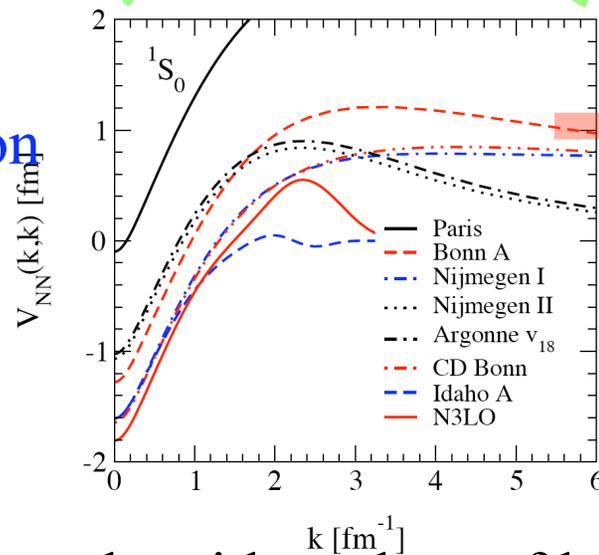
evolve to lower resolution/cutoffs by integrating out high-momenta, can be carried out exactly for NN interactions Bogner, Kuo, AS (2003)



implemented by RG equations or unitary transformation

find  $\approx$  universal interaction for low momenta

evolution to  $V_{\text{low } k}(\Lambda)$  decouples high momenta

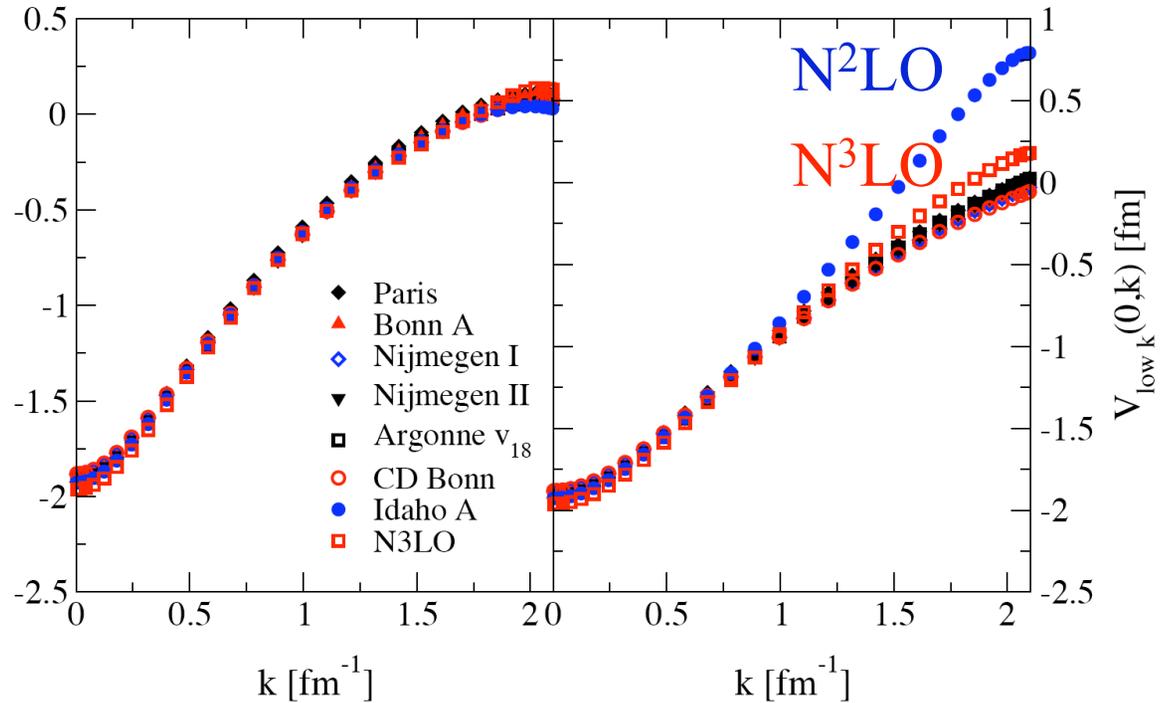


method to vary resolution scale without loss of low-energy NN physics

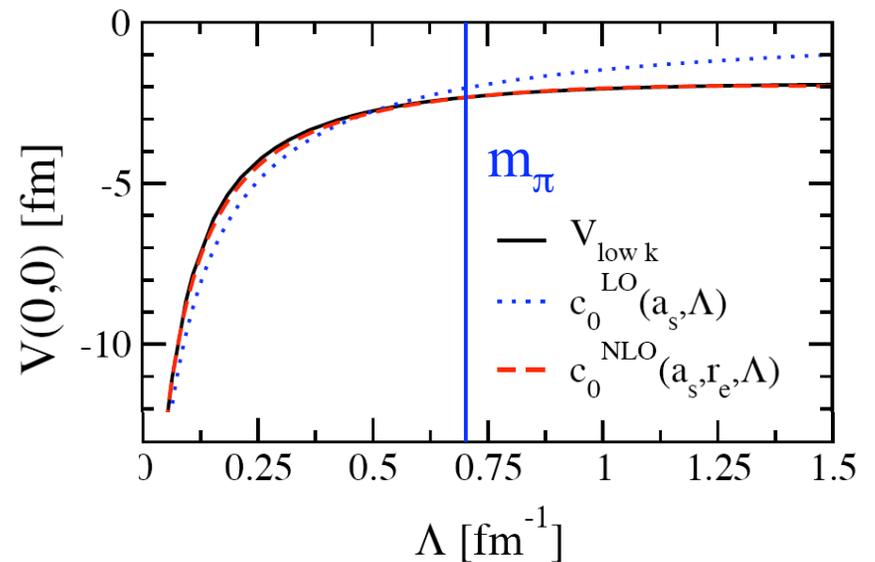
# Chiral EFT and RG

Collapse to  $V_{\text{low } k}$  band for higher orders in chiral EFT

Renormalization generates higher-order contacts



Evolution of  $V_{\text{low } k}(0,0;\Lambda)$  follows contact interaction  $c_0(\Lambda)$  at NLO



# Weinberg eigenvalue diagnostic

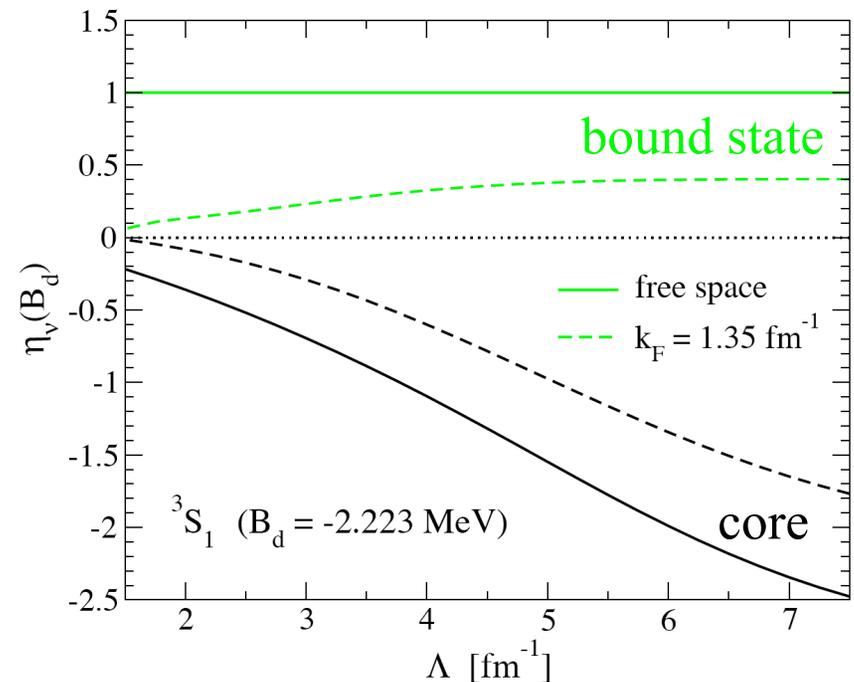
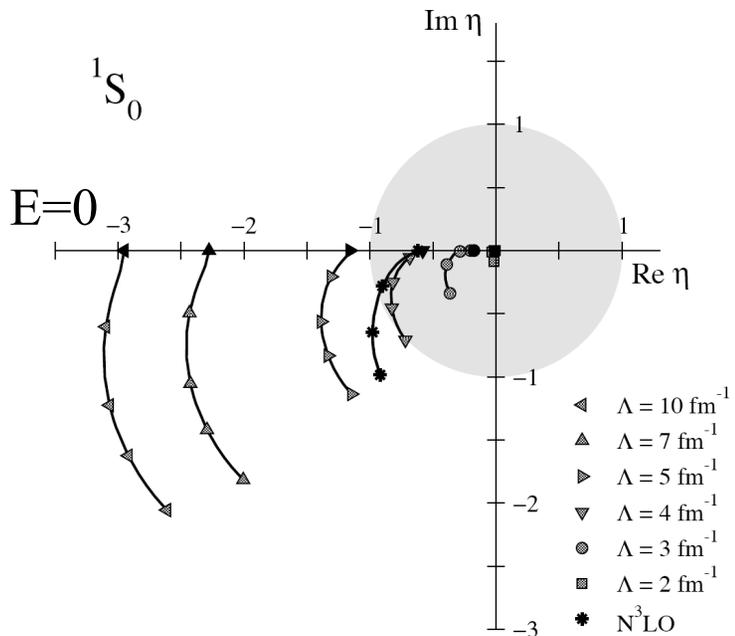
study spectrum of  $G_0(z)V |\Psi_\nu(z)\rangle = \eta_\nu(z) |\Psi_\nu(z)\rangle$  at fixed energy  $z$

governs convergence  $T(z) |\Psi_\nu(z)\rangle = (1 + \eta_\nu(z) + \eta_\nu(z)^2 + \dots) V |\Psi_\nu(z)\rangle$

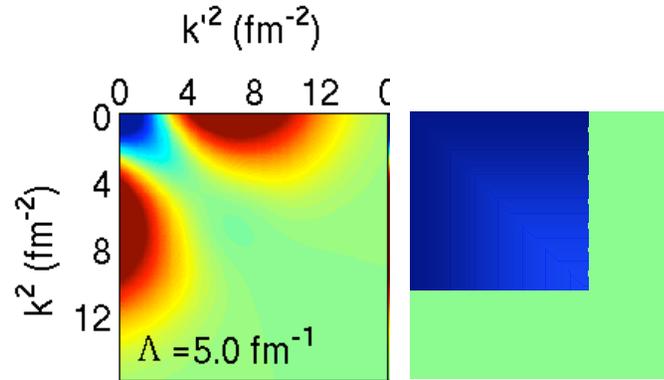
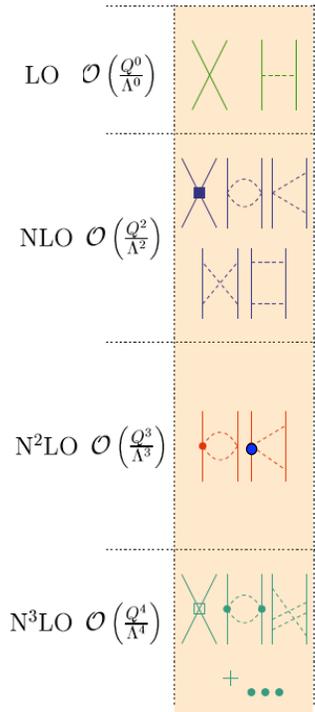
can write as Schrödinger eqn  $(H_0 + \frac{1}{\eta_\nu(z)} V) |\Psi_\nu(z)\rangle = z |\Psi_\nu(z)\rangle$

high momenta/large cutoffs lead to flipped-potential bound states of  $-\lambda V$   
for small  $\lambda$ /large  $\eta \Rightarrow$  Born series always nonperturbative with cores

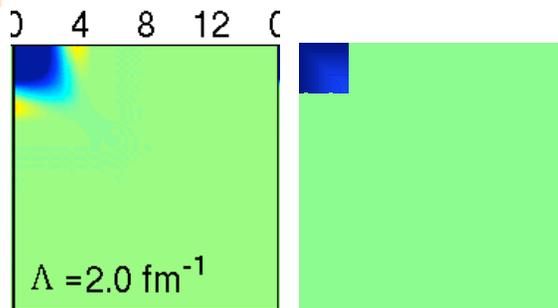
Repulsive core eigenvalues small for lower cutoffs



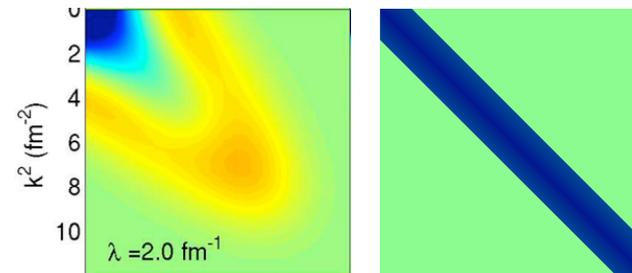
# Different schemes: RG and Similarity RG (SRG)



all interactions are low-energy NN equivalent, up to truncation errors



sharp or smooth cutoff  $V_{\text{low } k}(\Lambda)$  from RG equations or unitary transformations



smooth cutoff  $V_{\text{SRG}}(\lambda)$  evolves towards band diagonal

Bogner et al. (2007)

high momenta decouple

# Similarity RG interactions

Unitary transformations to band-diagonal  $V_{\text{SRG}}(\lambda)$  from flow equations

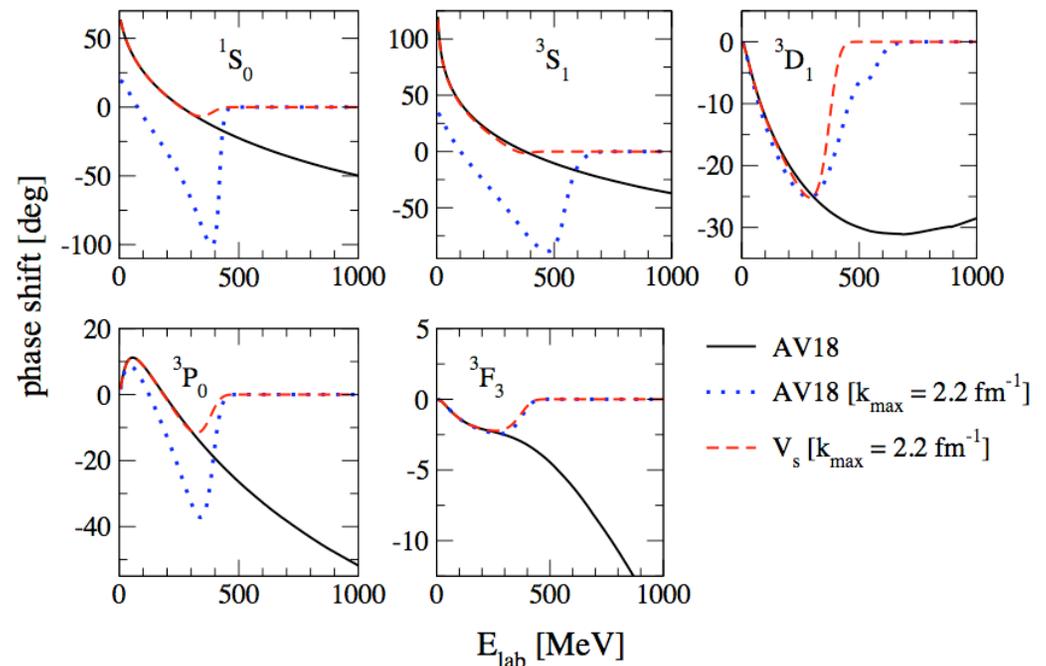
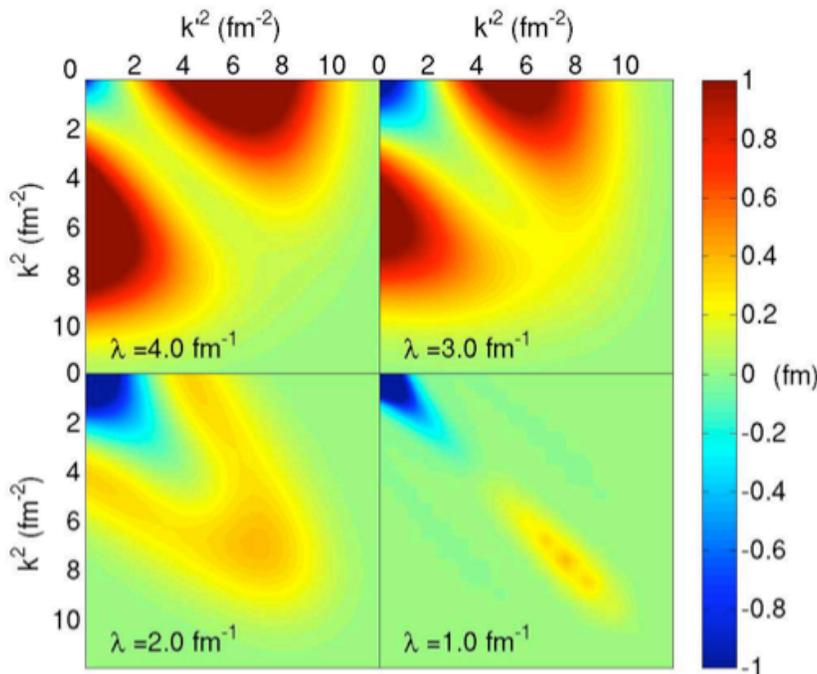
Glazek, Wilson (1993), Wegner (1994)

$$\frac{dH_s}{ds} = [\eta_s, H_s] = [[G_s, H_s], H_s]$$

with flow operator  $G_s = T_{\text{rel}}$  and resolution  $\lambda = s^{-1/4}$  Bogner et al. (2007)

$$\frac{dV_s(k, k')}{ds} = -(k^2 - k'^2)^2 V_s(k, k') + \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty q^2 dq (k^2 + k'^2 - 2q^2) V_s(k, q) V_s(q, k')$$

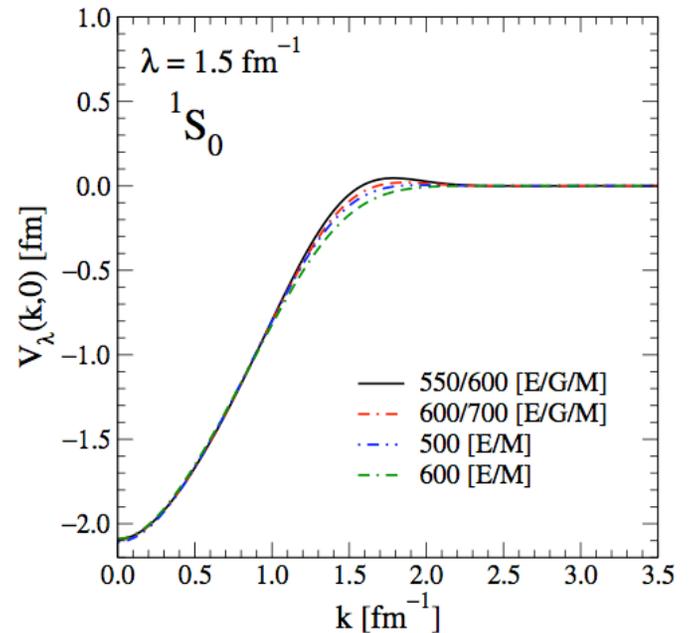
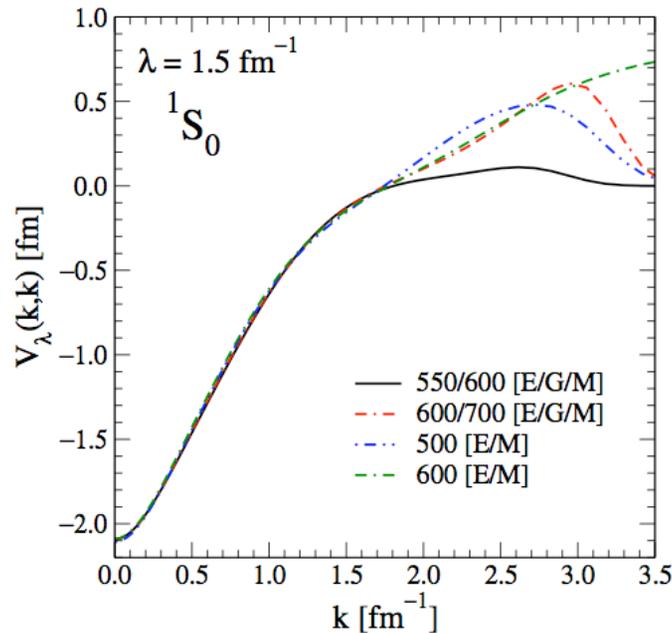
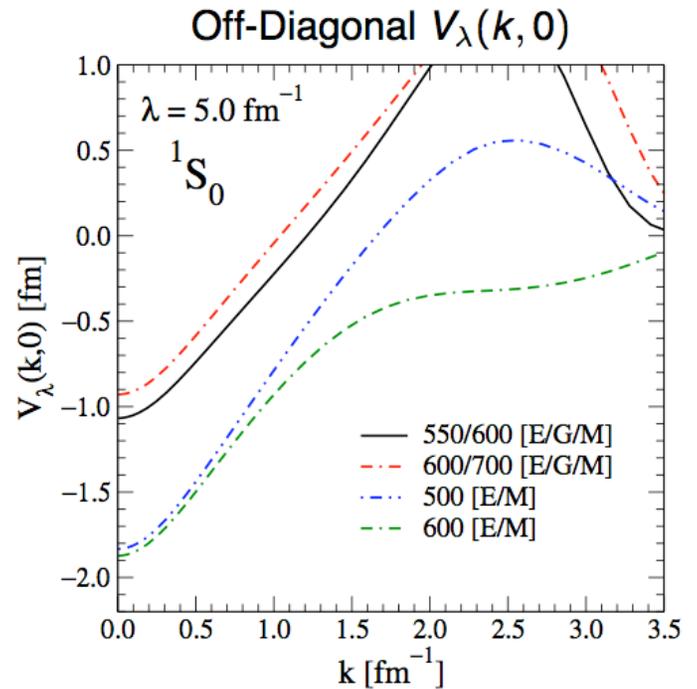
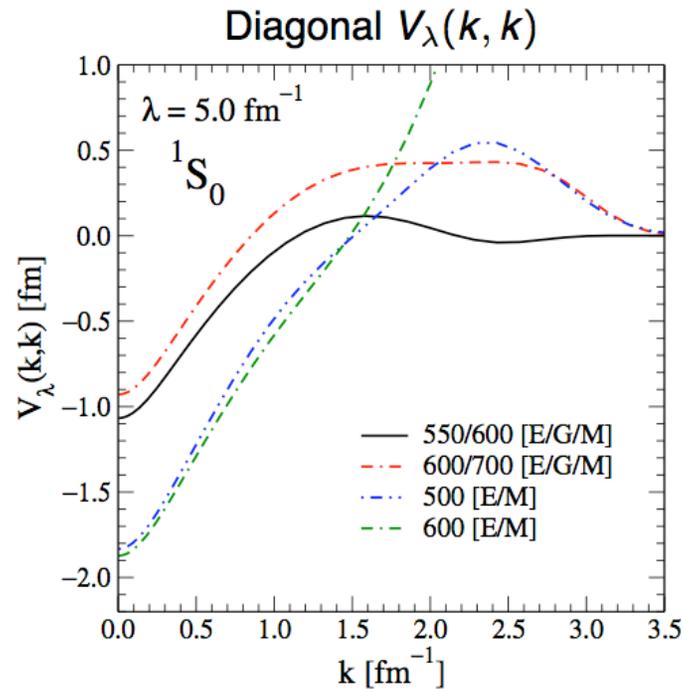
intermediate momenta  $k > k_{\text{max}} \sim \lambda$  decouple for low energies



# Chiral EFT and RG

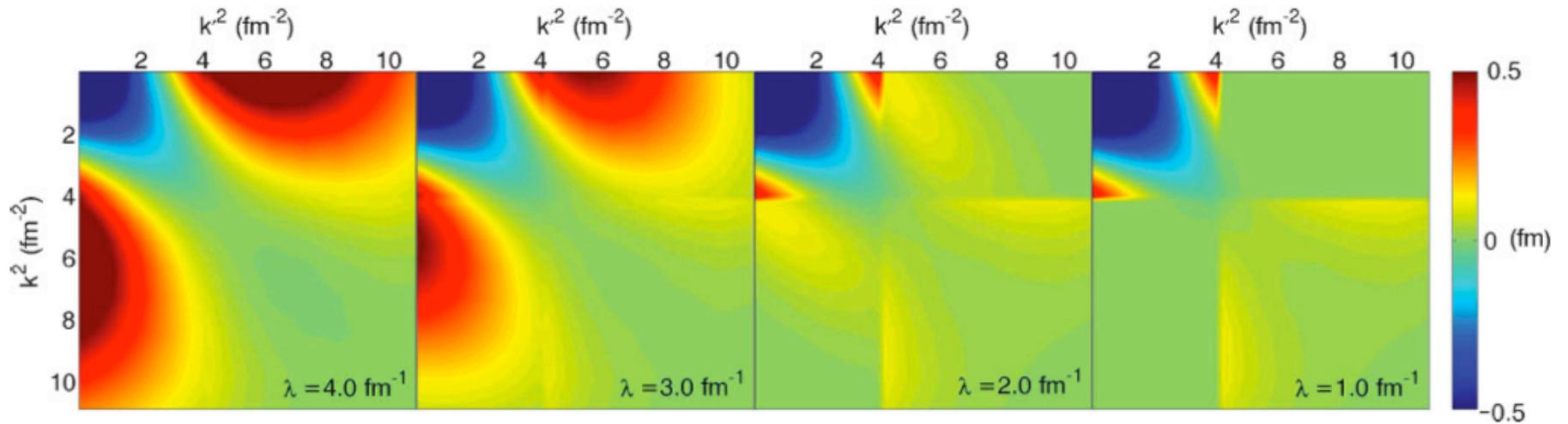
find  $\approx$  universality  
from different  
 $N^3$ LO potentials

weakens off-diag  
coupling



# Block diagonalization using SRG

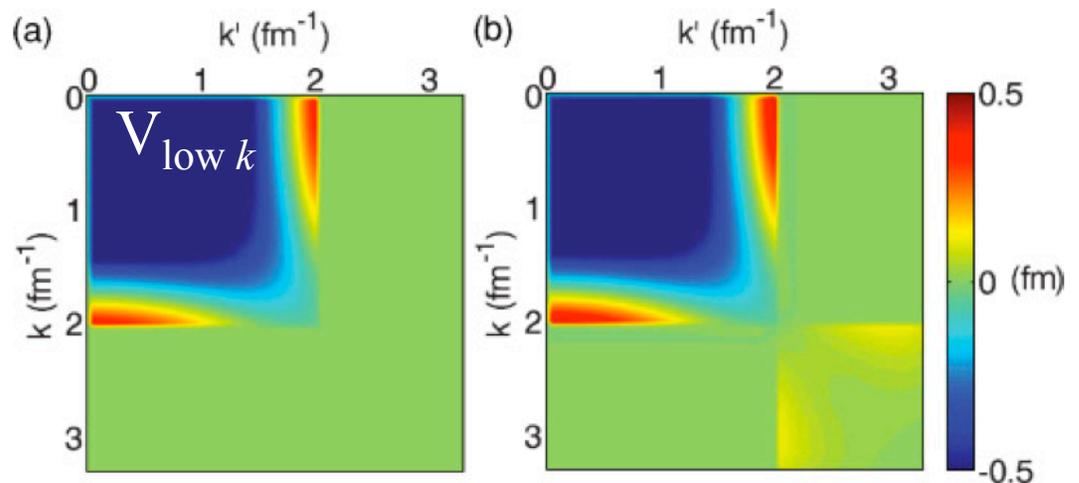
with block-diagonal flow operator Bogner et al. (2008)  $G_s = \begin{pmatrix} P H_s P & 0 \\ 0 & Q H_s Q \end{pmatrix}$



low-momentum blocks very similar to  $V_{\text{low } k}$

formal equivalence?

connections to EFT?



# Advantages of low-momentum interactions for nuclei

high momenta/large cutoffs lead to slow convergence for nuclei

evolution of chiral EFT interactions to low-momentum beneficial

weakens off-diagonal coupling in HO states

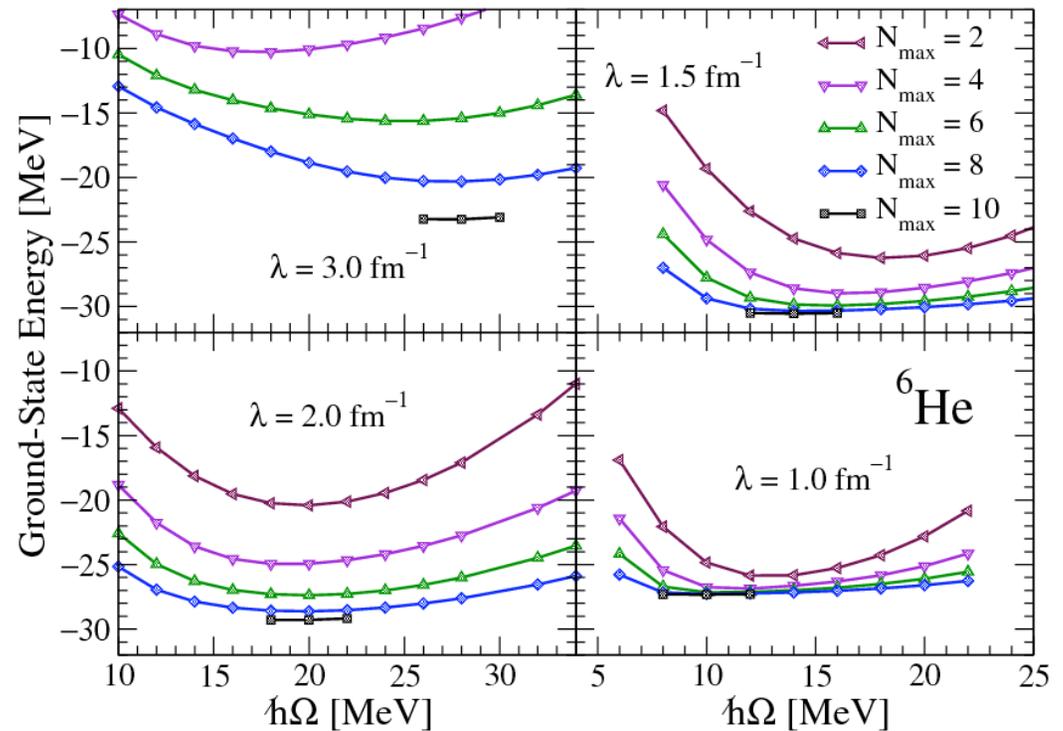
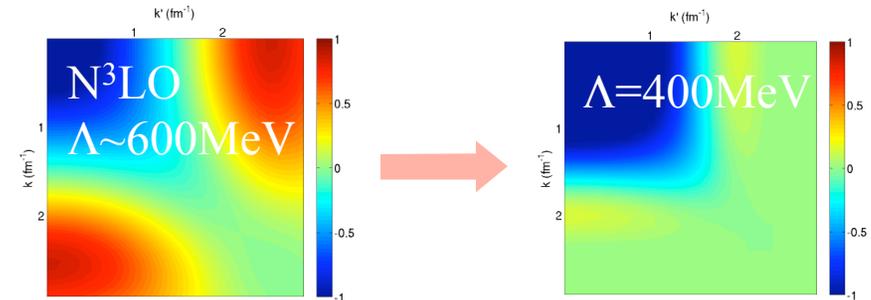
lower cutoffs need smaller basis

Bogner et al. (2007)

$10^3$  states for  $N_{\max}=2$  vs.

$10^7$  states for  $N_{\max}=10$

direct convergence in structure calcs



# Pushing the limits

First ab-initio calculations for heavier systems:

Coupled-cluster theory based on  $V_{\text{low } k}(\Lambda)$

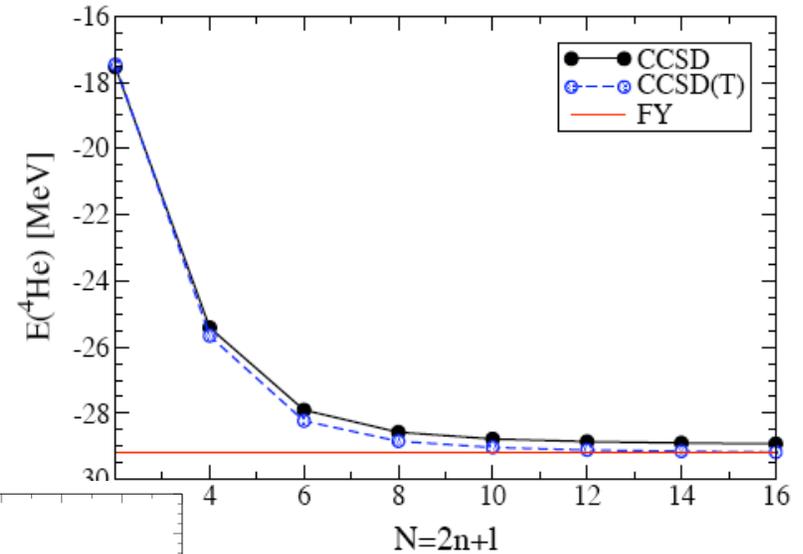
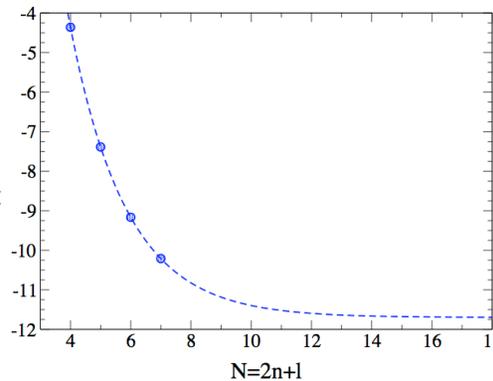
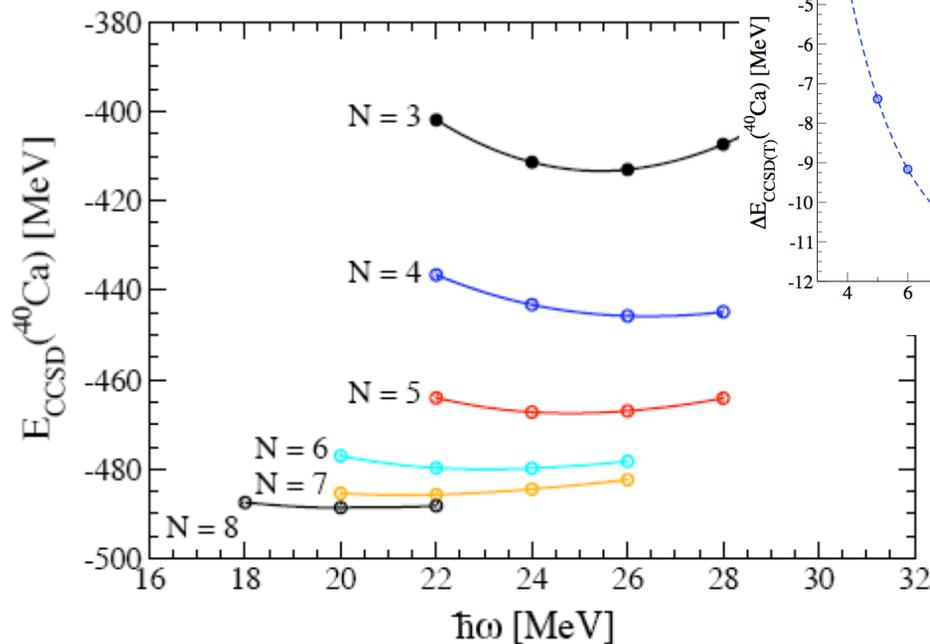
Hagen, Dean, Hjorth-Jensen, Papenbrock, AS (2007)

meets and sets benchmarks:

within 10 keV of exact FY for  ${}^4\text{He}$

accurate for  ${}^{16}\text{O}$  and  ${}^{40}\text{Ca}$

$N=8$ : basis dimension  $\sim 10^{63}$



	${}^4\text{He}$	${}^{16}\text{O}$	${}^{40}\text{Ca}$
$E_0$	-11.8	-60.2	-347.5
$\Delta E_{\text{CCSD}}$	-17.1	-82.6	-143.7
$\Delta E_{\text{CCSD(T)}}$	-0.3	-5.4	-11.7
$E_{\text{CCSD(T)}}$	-29.2	-148.2	-502.9
exact (FY)	-29.19(5)		



## Impact on binding energies

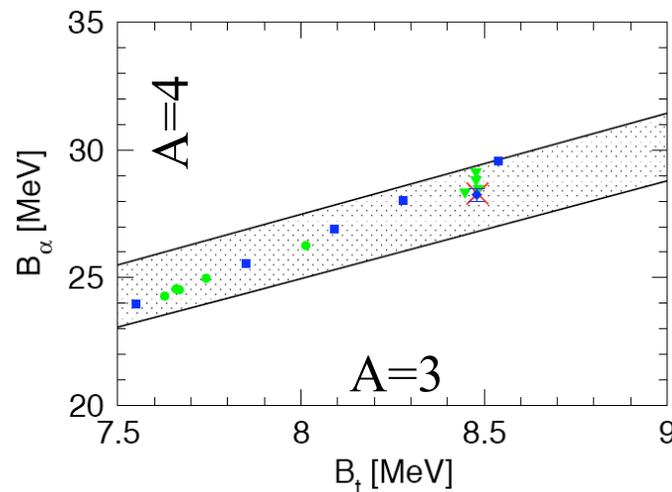
$V_{\text{low } k}(\Lambda)$  defines class of NN interactions with cutoff-independent low-energy NN observables

cutoff variation estimates errors due to neglected parts in  $H(\Lambda)$

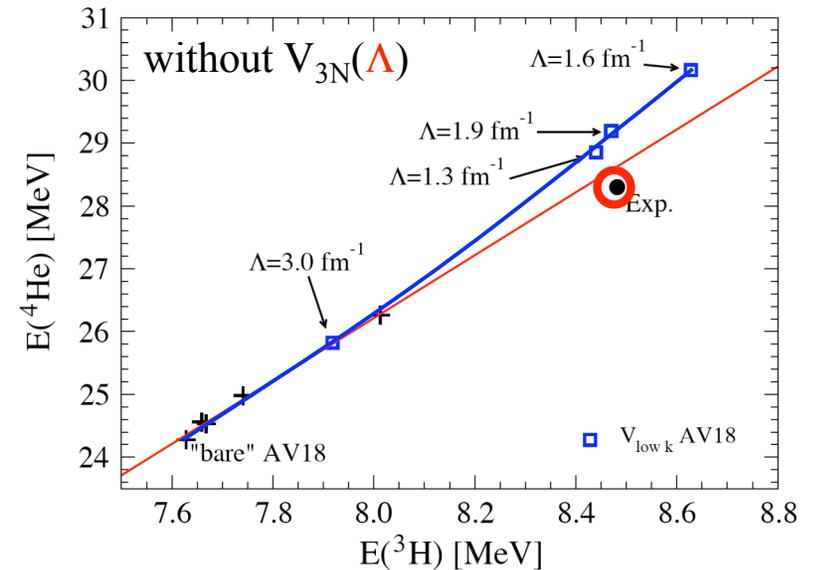
cutoff dependence explains “Tjon line”, 3N required by renormalization

large scattering lengths drive correlation

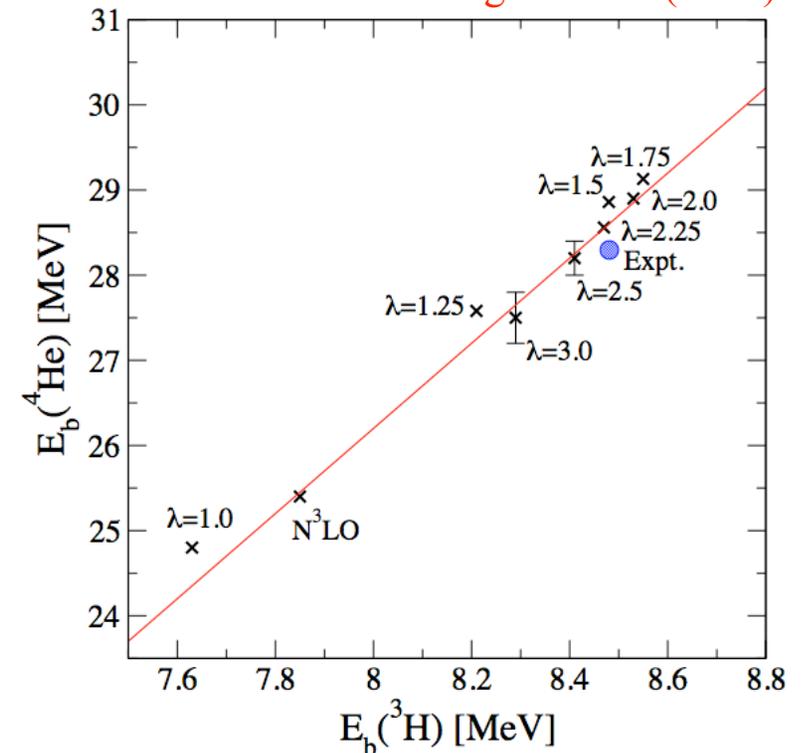
Platter et al. (2005)



Nogga, Bogner, AS (2004)



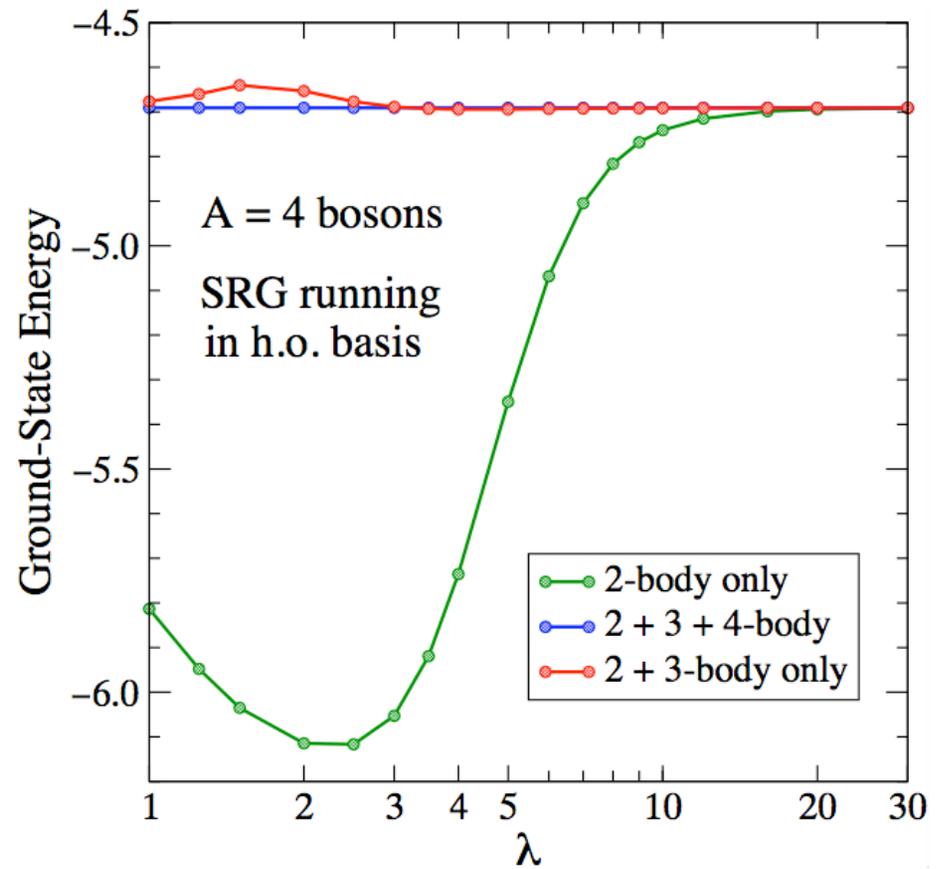
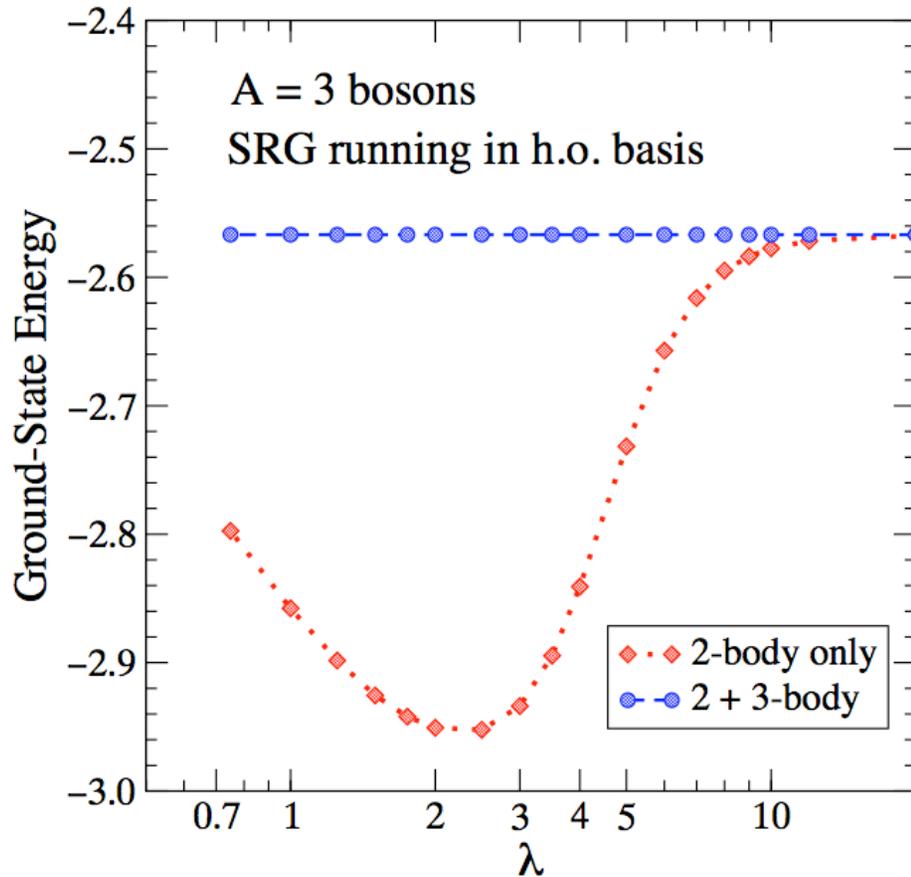
SRG interactions: Bogner et al. (2007)



# Towards evolving 3N interactions

SRG evolution for 1d systems with  $T_{\text{rel}}$  in Jacobi HO basis

Jurgenson et al., in prep.



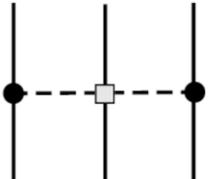
gearing up to evolve chiral 3N interactions

for now: use chiral EFT is complete basis

# Low-momentum 3N interactions

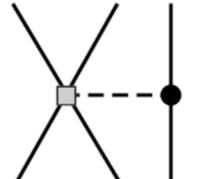
from leading N<sup>2</sup>LO chiral EFT  $\sim (Q/\Lambda)^3$  van Kolck (1994), Epelbaum et al. (2002)

long ( $2\pi$ )



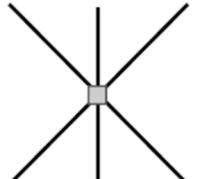
$c_1, c_3, c_4$  terms

intermed. ( $\pi$ )



$D(\Lambda)$  term

short-range



$E(\Lambda)$  term

$$= \frac{g_A^2}{8F_\pi^4} \frac{(\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{q}_1)(\vec{\sigma}_3 \cdot \vec{q}_3)}{[\vec{q}_1^2 + M_\pi^2][\vec{q}_3^2 + M_\pi^2]} \left\{ \tau_1 \cdot \tau_3 (-4c_1 M_\pi^2 + 2c_3 \vec{q}_1 \cdot \vec{q}_3) + c_4 [\tau_1 \times \tau_3] \cdot \tau_2 [\vec{q}_1 \times \vec{q}_3] \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2 \right\} + \text{perm.}$$

$$= -\frac{g_A D}{8F_\pi} \frac{(\vec{\sigma}_3 \cdot \vec{q}_3)}{\vec{q}_3^2 + M_\pi^2} (\tau_2 \cdot \tau_3) (\vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot \vec{q}_3) + \text{perm.}$$

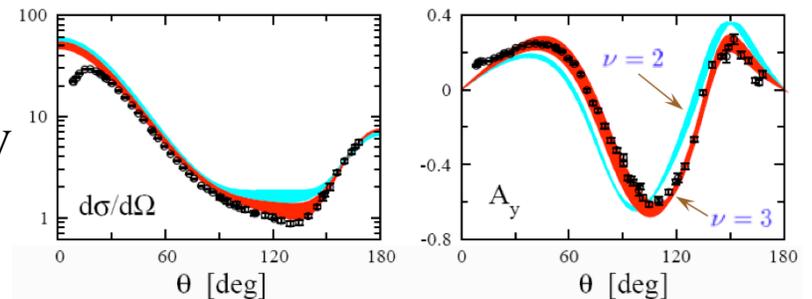
$$= \frac{1}{2} E (\tau_1 \cdot \tau_3) + \text{perm.}$$

$c_i$  from  $\pi N$ , consistent with NN

Meissner (2007)

$$c_1 = -0.9_{-0.5}^{+0.2}, \quad c_3 = -4.7_{-1.0}^{+1.2}, \quad c_4 = 3.5_{-0.2}^{+0.5}$$

generally improves 3N scattering pd @ 65MeV



$c_3, c_4$  important for structure, large uncertainties at present

chiral EFT is complete basis  $\rightarrow$  3N up to truncation errors

D term could be fixed by tritium beta decay

## Low-momentum 3N fits

fit D,E couplings to  $A=3,4$  binding energies  
for range of cutoffs

linear dependences in fits to triton binding

3N interactions perturbative for  $\Lambda \lesssim 2 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

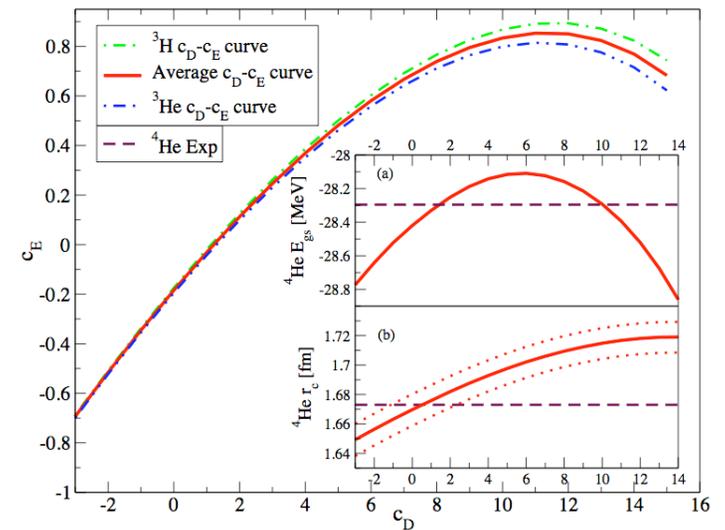
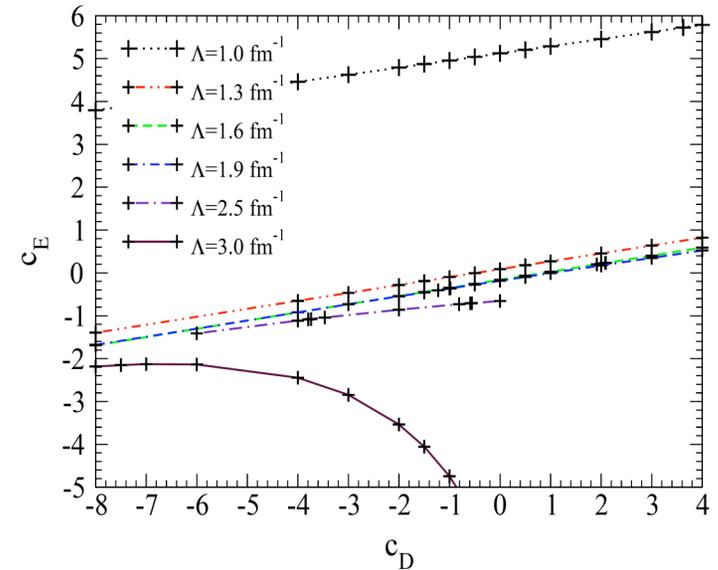
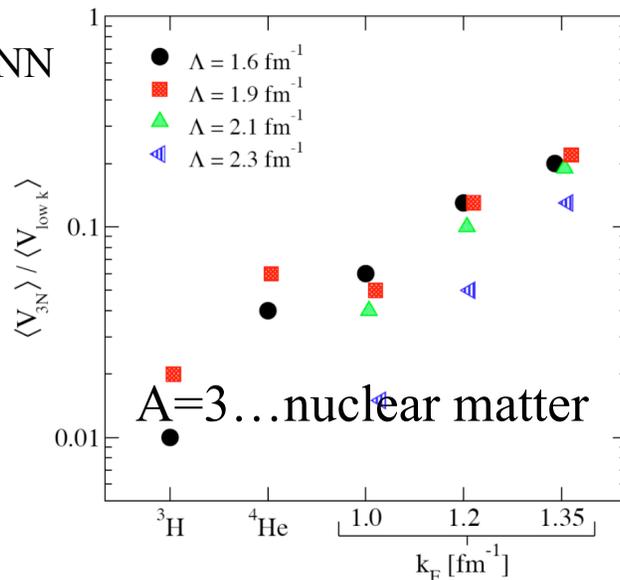
Nogga, Bogner, AS (2004)

nonperturbative at larger cutoffs

cf. chiral EFT  $\Lambda \approx 3 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

3N exp. values natural

$\sim (Q/\Lambda)^3 V_{\text{NN}} \sim 0.1 V_{\text{NN}}$



Navratil et al. (2007)

# Subleading chiral EFT 3N interactions

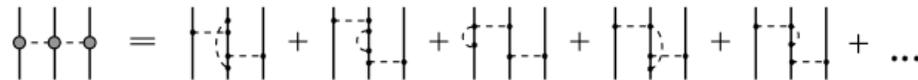
parameter-free N<sup>3</sup>LO  $\sim (Q/\Lambda)^4$  Status from Epelbaum @ TRIUMF 3N workshop (2007)

- 1/m-corrections to 1 insertion from  $\mathcal{L}_{1/m}^{(2)} = \text{---} \blacksquare \text{---} + \text{---} \blacksquare \text{---} + \text{---} \blacksquare \text{---} + \mathcal{O}(\pi^3)$

— rich operator structure (includes spin-orbit interactions)

- 1-loop diagrams with all vertices from  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{(0)}$

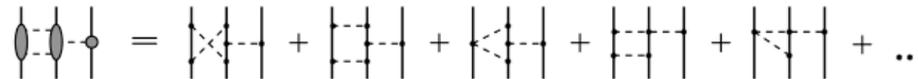
## 2 $\pi$ - exchange



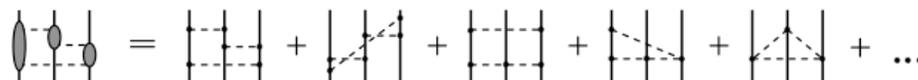
The calculated corrections simply shift the LECs  $c_i$  as follows:

$$\delta c_1 = \frac{g_A^2 M_\pi}{64\pi F_\pi^2} \sim 0.13 \text{ GeV}^{-1} \quad \delta c_3 = \frac{3g_A^4 M_\pi}{16\pi F_\pi^2} \sim 2.5 \text{ GeV}^{-1} \quad \delta c_4 = -\frac{g_A^4 M_\pi}{16\pi F_\pi^2} \sim -0.85 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$

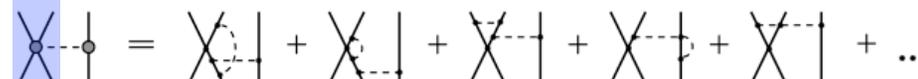
## 2 $\pi$ -1 $\pi$ - exchange



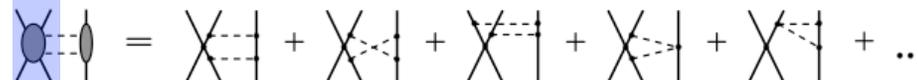
## ring diagrams



## contact-1 $\pi$ - exchange



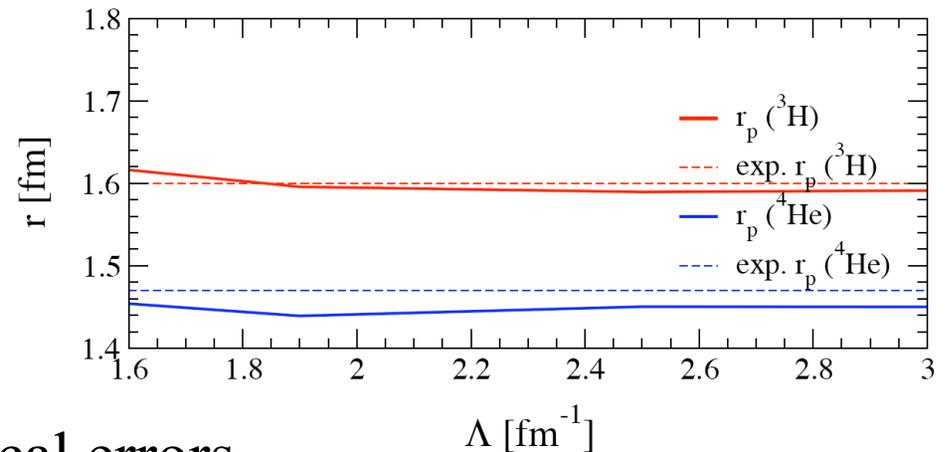
## contact-2 $\pi$ - exchange



# Theoretical uncertainties

Cutoff variation estimates errors due to neglected parts in  $H(\Lambda)$

Radii of light nuclei approximately cutoff-independent, agree with exp.



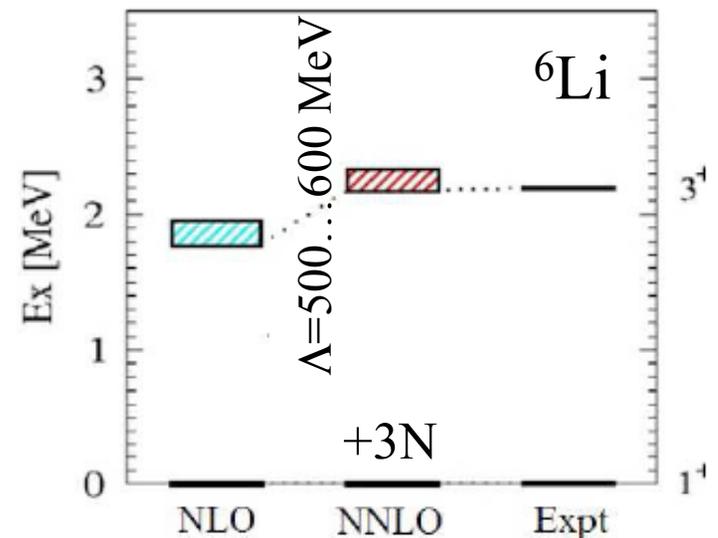
Can provide lower limits on theoretical errors

goal: uncertainties of matrix elements needed in fundamental symmetry tests

isospin-symmetry breaking corrections  
 $V_{ud}=0.97416(13)$  (14/18)theo.

neutrinoless double-beta decay

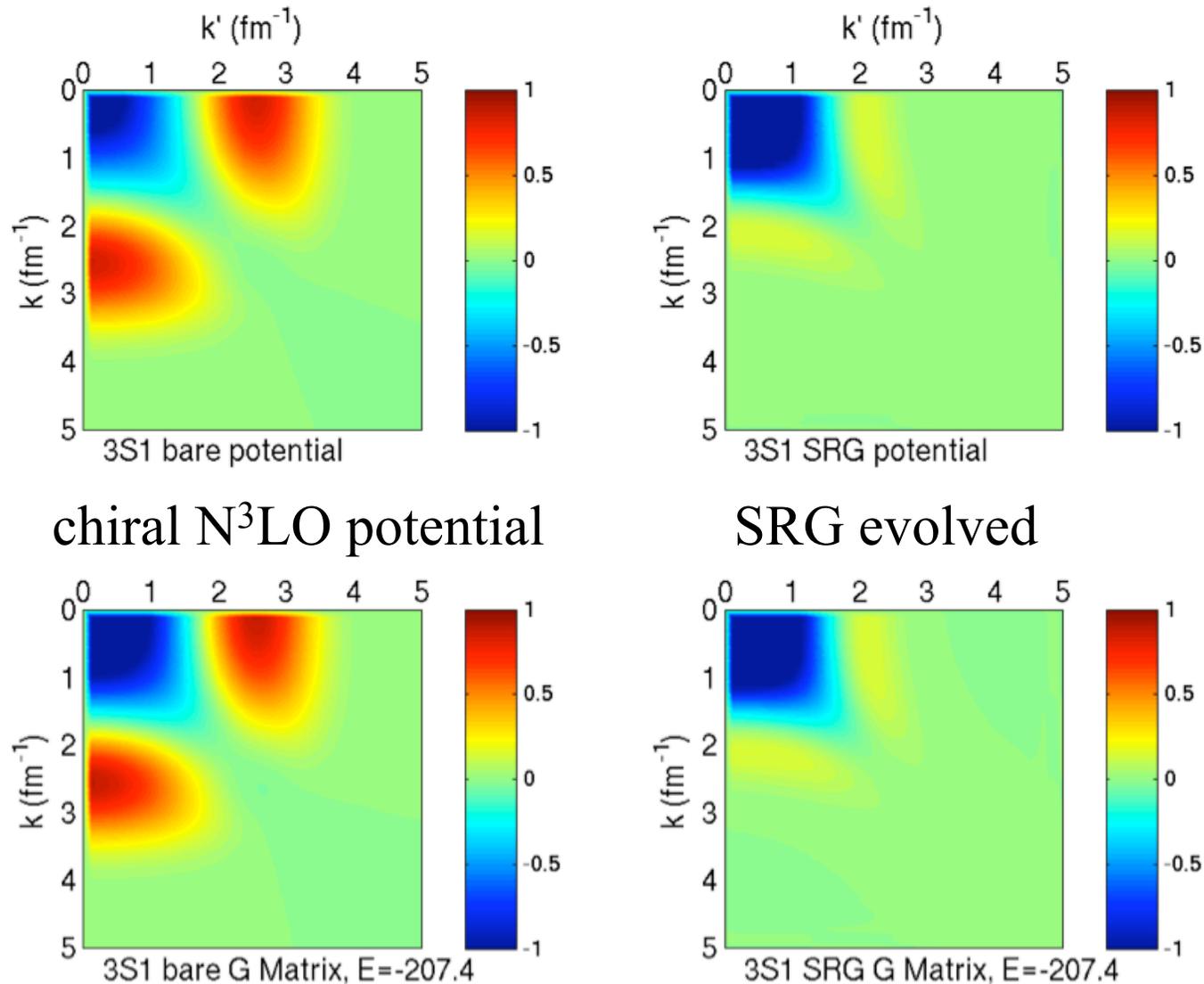
atomic EDMs .....



from A. Nogga

# Advantages of low-momentum interactions for nuclei

conventional G matrix approach does not solve off-diagonal coupling, renders Bethe-Brueckner-Goldstone expansion necessarily nonperturb.

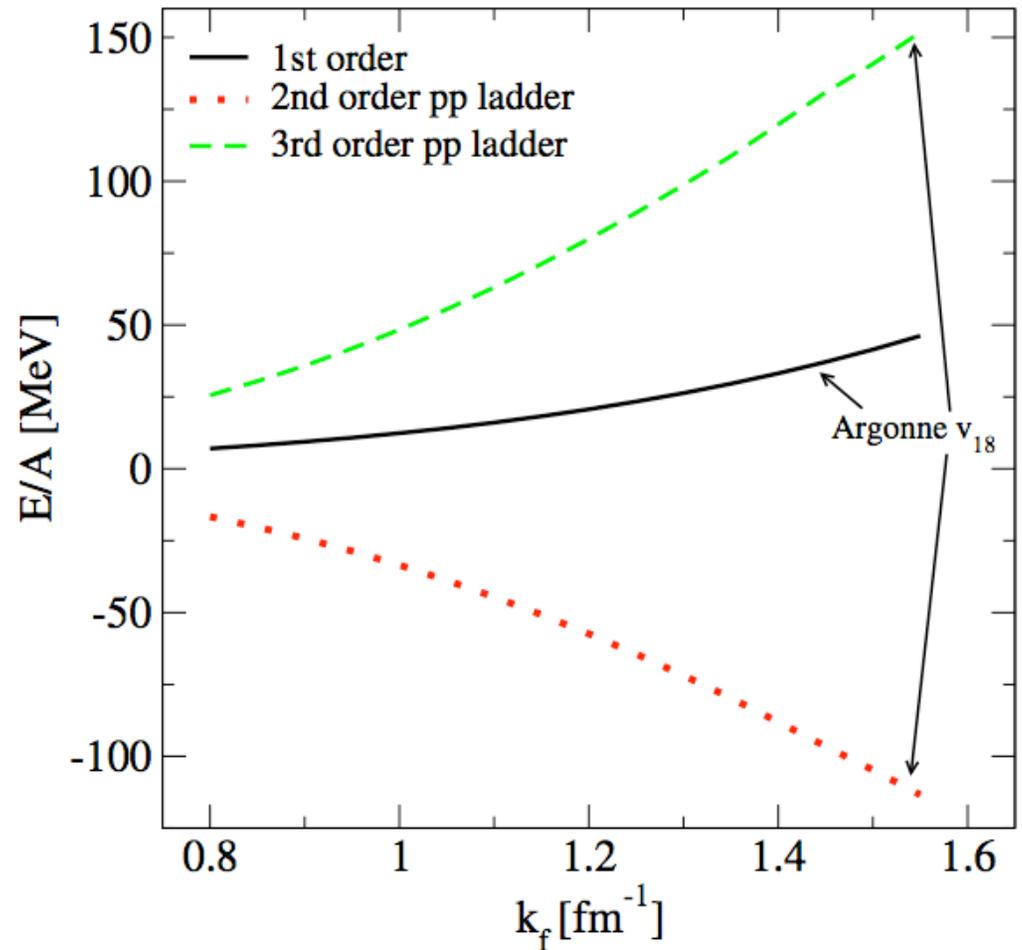


G matrix

# Possibility of perturbative nuclear matter with NN and 3N

start from chiral EFT to given order, soften with RG

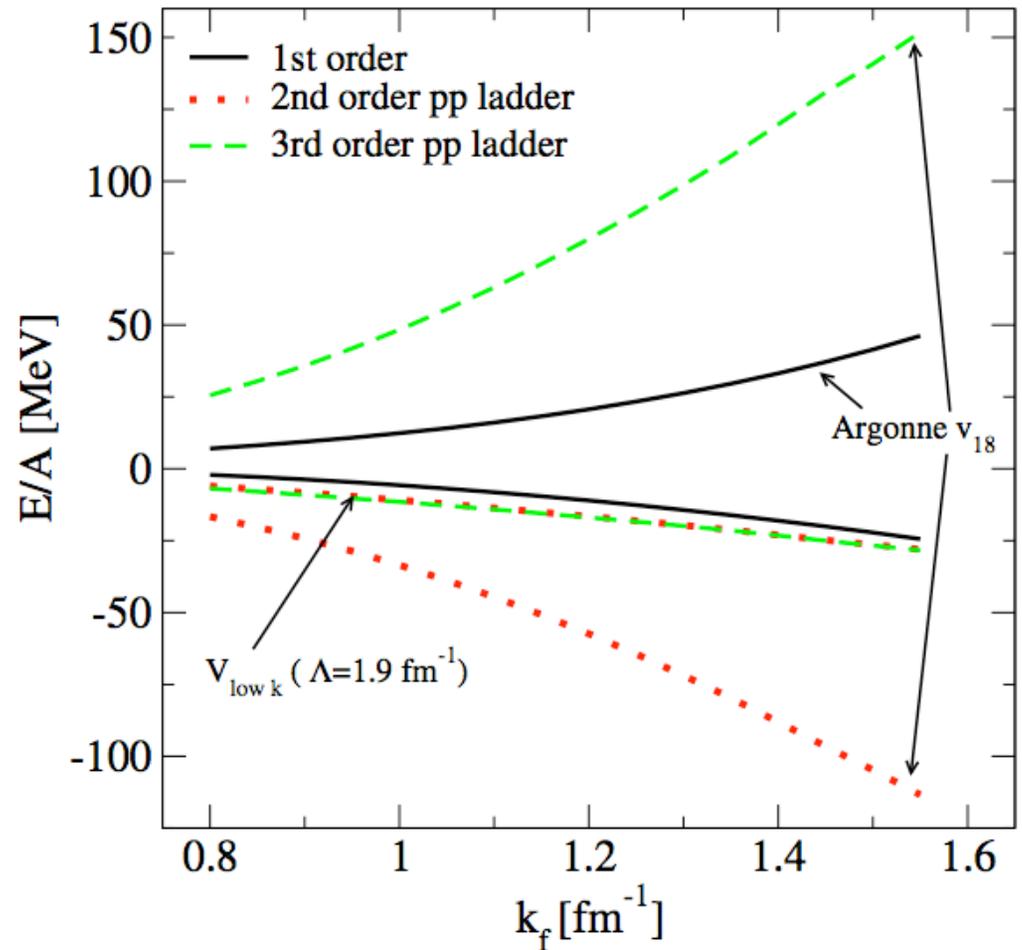
nuclear matter converged at  $\approx$  2nd order,  
motivated by Weinberg eigenvalue analysis



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nuclear matter converged at  $\approx$  2nd order,  
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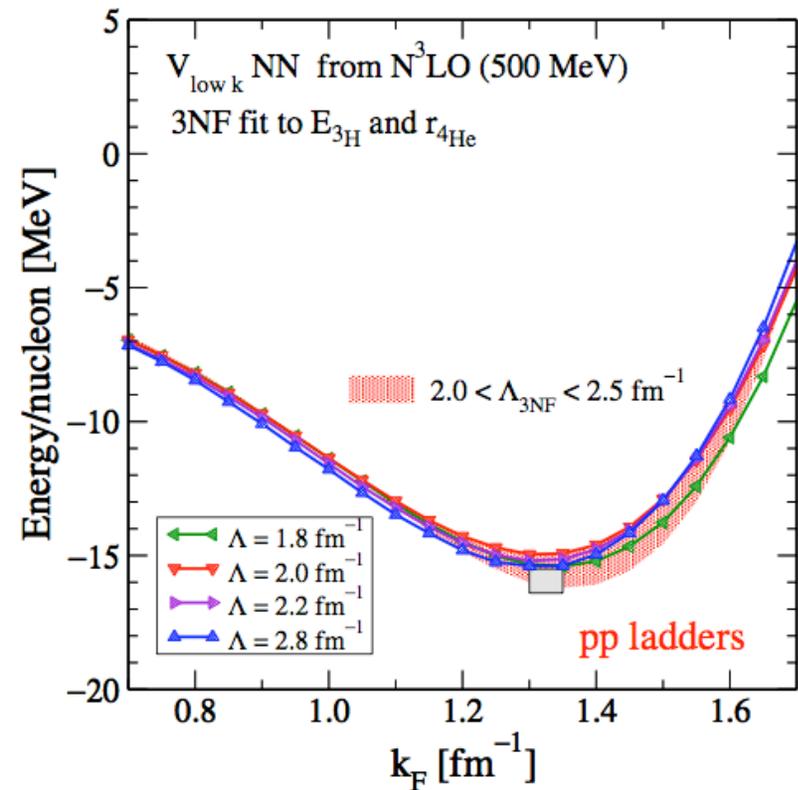
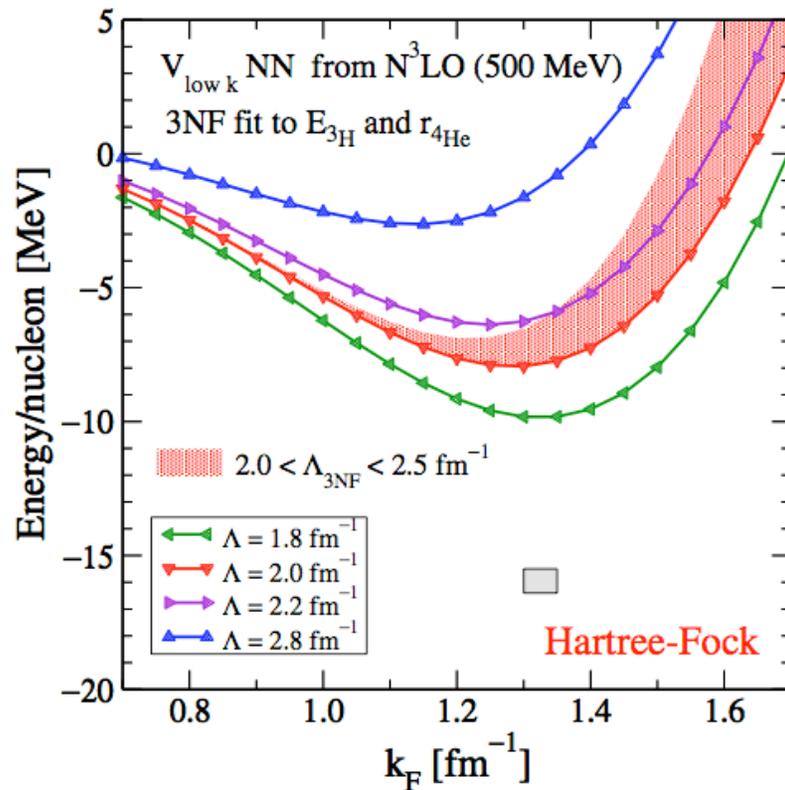
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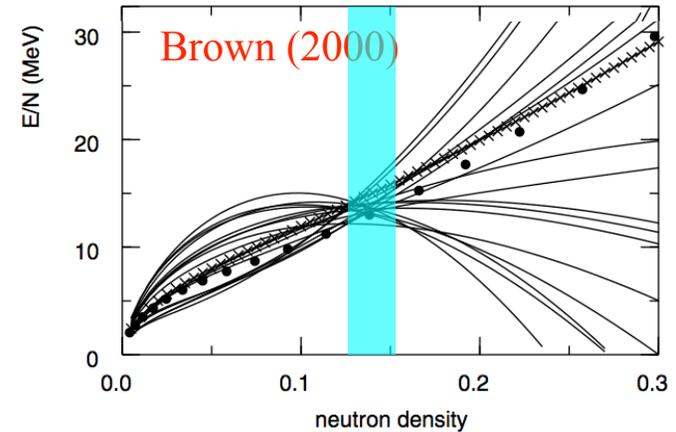
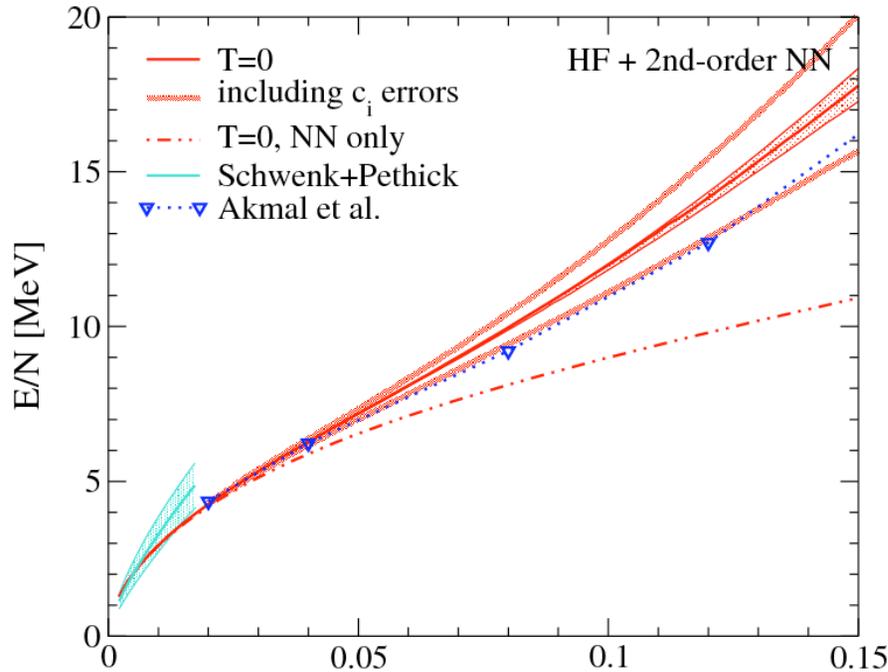
reduced cutoff dependence at low densities, 3N drives saturation

Bogner, AS, Furnstahl, Nogga (2005) + improvements, in prep.



provides guidance to UNEDF <http://unedf.org>

# Neutron matter from NN and 3N



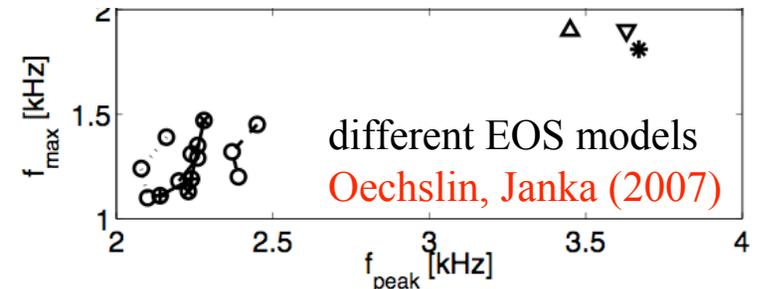
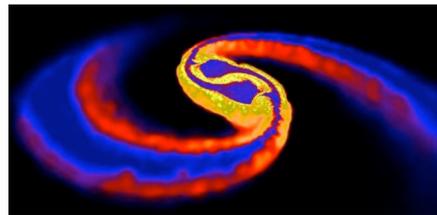
Tolos, Friman, AS (2007)  $\rho$  [ $\text{fm}^{-3}$ ]

uncertainties from  $c_i$  overwhelm errors due to cutoff variation,  
mainly  $c_3$  for neutron matter

combine with knowledge of basic nuclear properties

important for dense matter in astrophysics

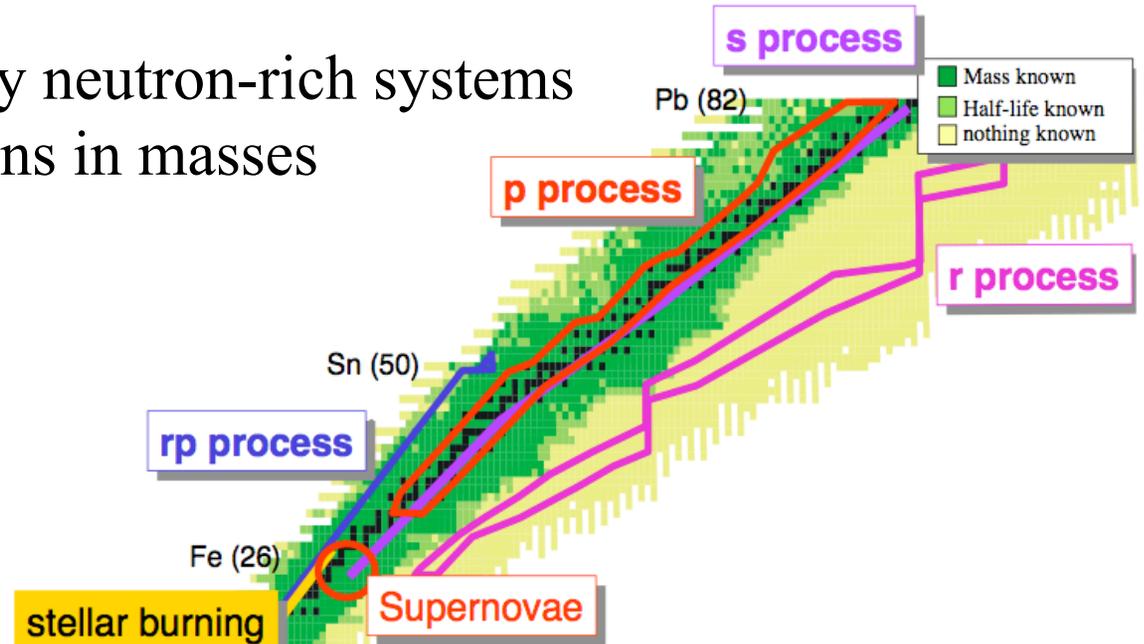
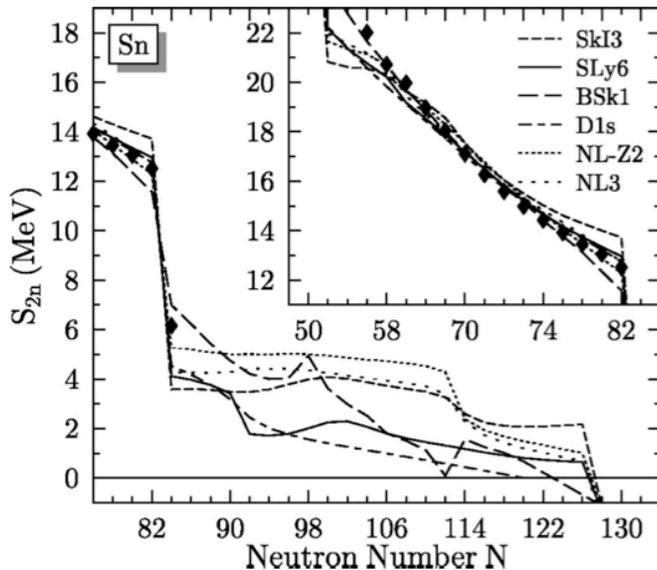
neutron star mergers  
→ gravitational waves



# Towards a universal nuclear energy density functional

creation of heavy elements in r(-apid neutron capture) process

requires understanding highly neutron-rich systems  
need to improve extrapolations in masses



Bender et al. (2003)

masses and ground state properties from density functional theory

based on densities  
not wave functions

from Kohn's 1998 Nobel Prize lecture

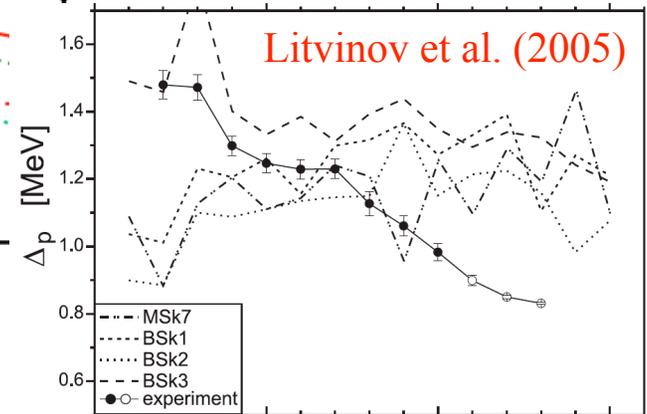
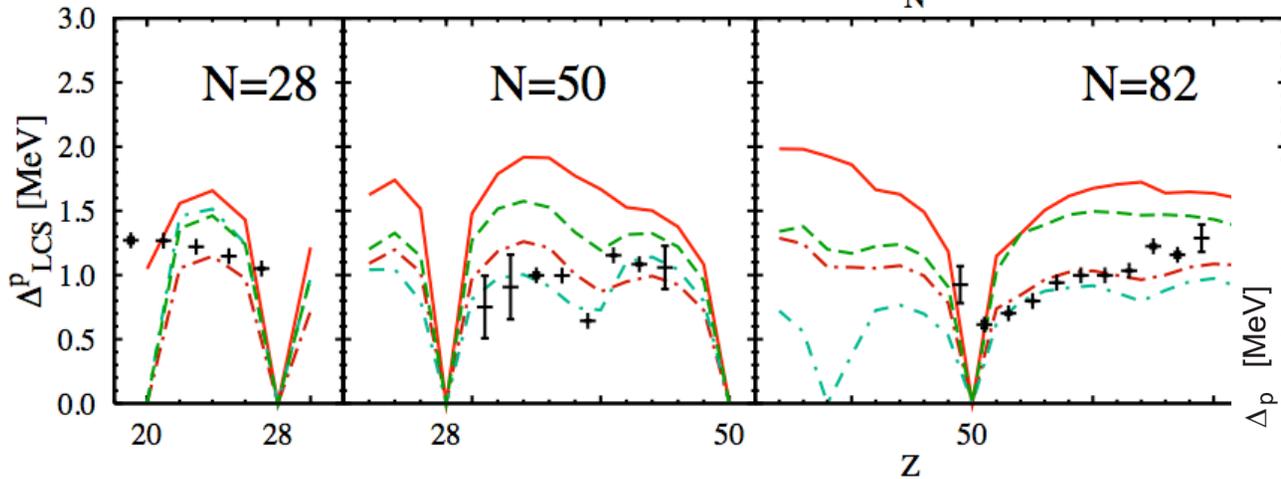
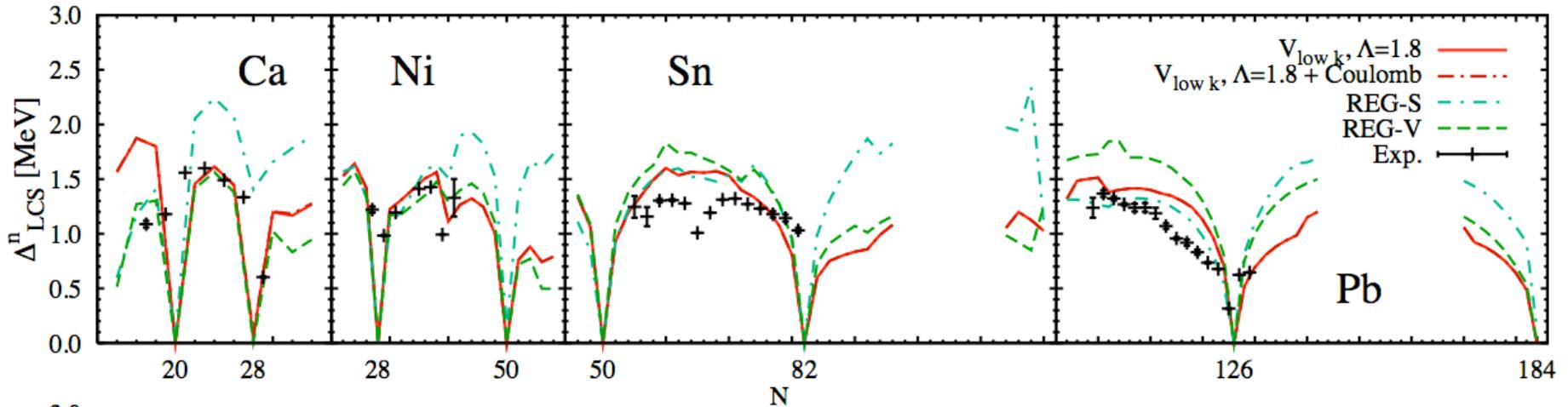
I begin with a provocative statement. *In general the many-electron wavefunction  $\Psi(r_1, \dots, r_N)$  for a system of  $N$  electrons is not a legitimate scientific concept, when  $N \geq N_0$ , where  $N_0 \approx 10^3$ .*

I will use two criteria for defining "legitimacy": a) That  $\Psi$  can be calculated with sufficient accuracy and b) can be recorded with sufficient accuracy.

# Nuclear masses and pairing

first microscopic pairing functional from low-momentum interactions

Lesinski, Duguet, arXiv:0711.4386 and in prep.



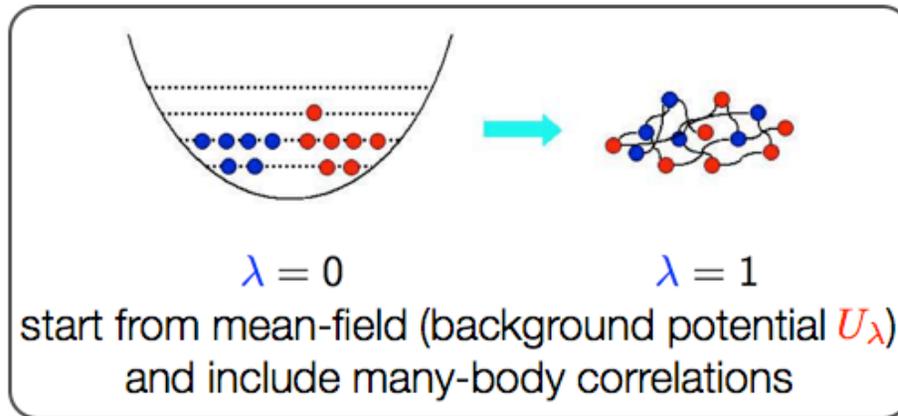
contributions from higher pw's and 3N?

can study beyond BCS contributions to pairings gaps

# Density functional RG for nuclei

Braun, Polonyi, AS, in prep.

Density Functional:  $\Gamma_\lambda[\rho] = \ln \int \mathcal{D}\psi^\dagger \mathcal{D}\psi e^{-S_\lambda[\psi^\dagger, \psi] + \int \frac{\delta\Gamma_\lambda}{\delta\rho} \cdot (\psi^\dagger \psi)}$

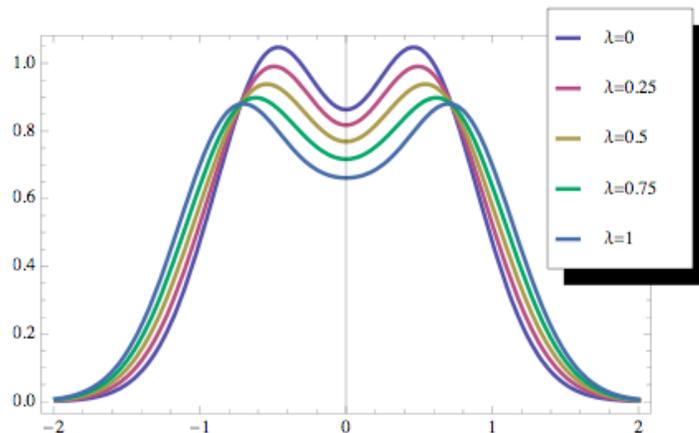


$$\partial_\lambda \Gamma_\lambda[\rho] = \frac{1}{2} V_{\text{low } k}$$

$\Gamma_\lambda[\rho]$  is the density functional

$$S_\lambda[\psi^\dagger, \psi] = \int \psi^\dagger \left[ \partial_t - \frac{1}{2m} \Delta + (1 - \lambda)U_\lambda \right] \psi + \frac{1}{2} \int \psi^\dagger \psi \lambda V_{\text{low } k} \psi^\dagger \psi$$

+ ( $\lambda V_{3N}$  will be included later)



density basis expansion scales favorably to large systems

gs energy and density from microscopic nuclear interactions

results for  $^{16}\text{O}$  in prep.

Example: RG flow of the ground-state density for 1d model (“smeared-out”  $\delta$ -function interaction)

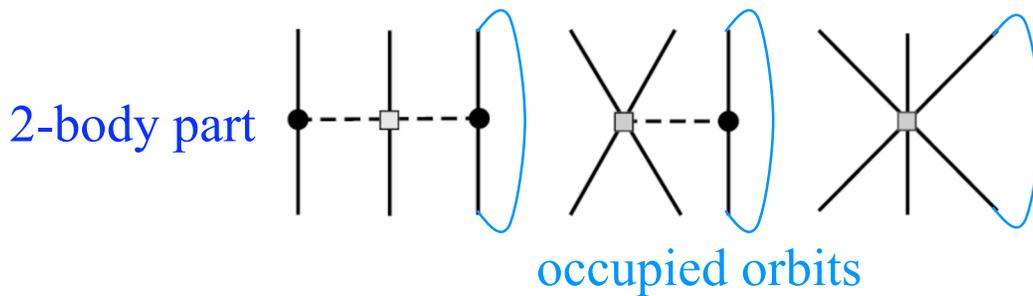
# Towards 3N interactions in medium-mass nuclei

based on low-momentum  $V_{\text{low } k}(\Lambda) + V_{3N}(\Lambda)$

Hagen et al. (2007)

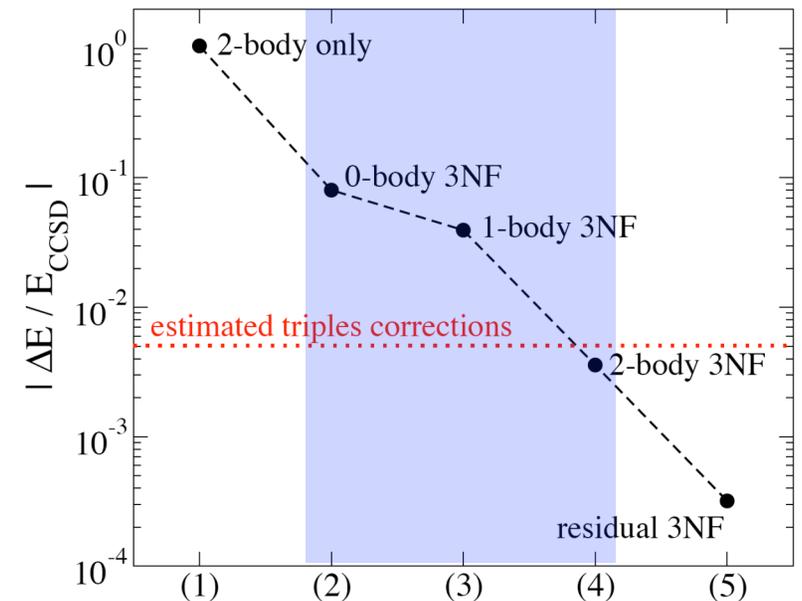
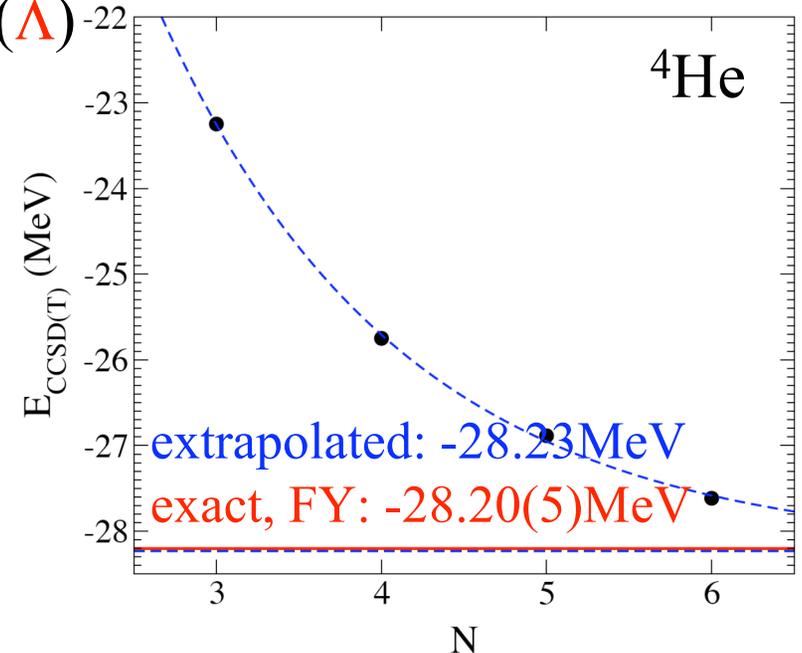
developed coupled-cluster theory with 3N interactions, first benchmark for  ${}^4\text{He}$

Results show that 0-, 1- and 2-body parts of 3N interaction dominate



residual 3N interaction can be neglected  
**very promising**

can include via normal-ordered RG

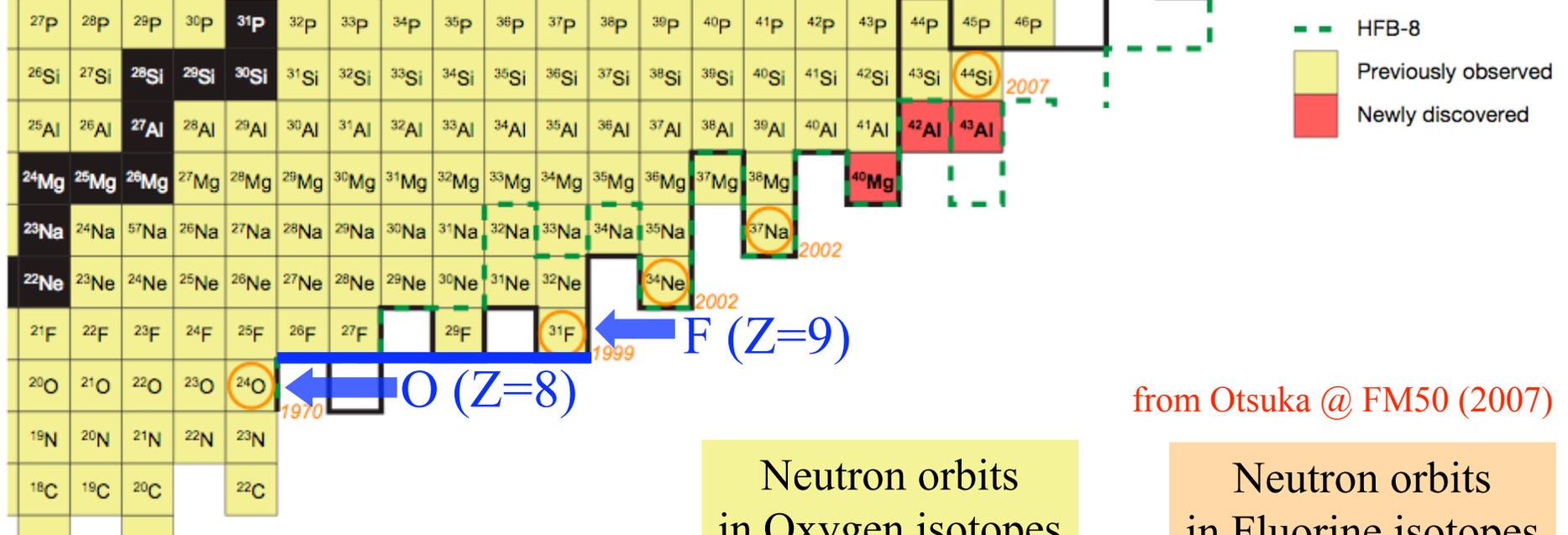


# Location of the neutron drip line: Why so near in Oxygen?...

Discovery of  $^{40}\text{Mg}$  and  $^{42}\text{Al}$  suggests neutron drip-line slant towards heavier isotopes

Nature, Oct. 25, 2007

T. Baumann<sup>1</sup>, A. M. Amthor<sup>1,2</sup>, D. Bazin<sup>1</sup>, B. A. Brown<sup>1,2</sup>, C. M. Folden III<sup>1</sup>, A. Gade<sup>1,2</sup>, T. N. Ginter<sup>1</sup>, M. Hausmann<sup>1</sup>, M. Matoš<sup>1</sup>, D. J. Morrissey<sup>1,3</sup>, M. Portillo<sup>1</sup>, A. Schiller<sup>1</sup>, B. M. Sherrill<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Stolz<sup>1</sup>, O. B. Tarasov<sup>1,4</sup> & M. Thoennessen<sup>1,2</sup>



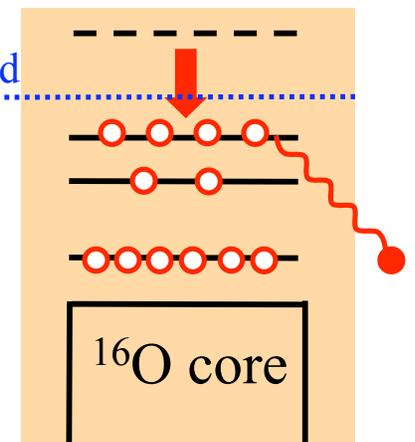
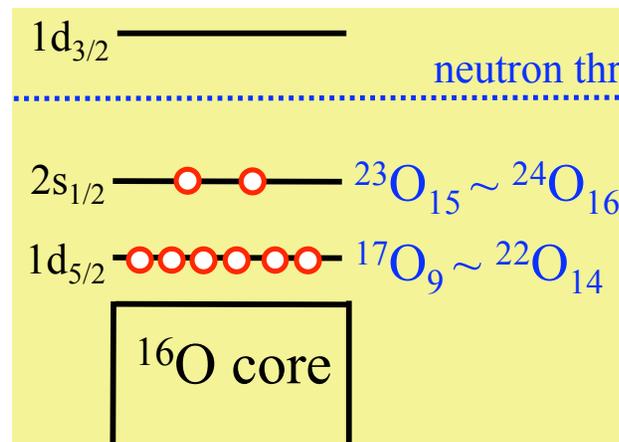
from Otsuka @ FM50 (2007)

Neutron orbits  
in Oxygen isotopes

Neutron orbits  
in Fluorine isotopes

neutron  $d_{3/2}$  - proton  $d_{5/2}$   
interaction pulls down  
 $d_{3/2}$  neutrons in Fluorine

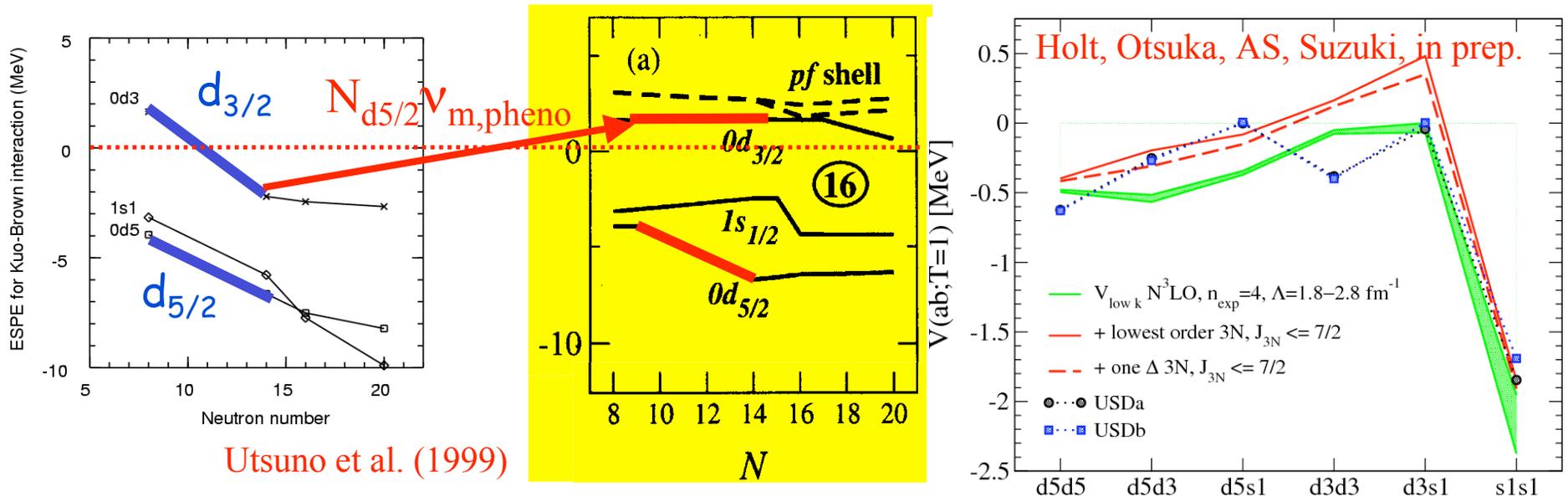
Why do  $d_{5/2}$  neutrons not  
pull down  $d_{3/2}$  in oxygen?



# Monopole interaction and drip lines

Monopole part of nuclear forces  $\mathcal{V}_{st}^T = \frac{\sum_J \mathcal{V}_{stst}^{JT} (2J+1) [1 - (-)^{J+T} \delta_{st}]}{\sum_J (2J+1) [1 - (-)^{J+T} \delta_{st}]}$

determines interaction of s with t orbit  $\rightarrow$  change in  $d_{3/2}$  by  $N_{d5/2} \mathcal{V}_m$   
 $\Rightarrow$  small changes in monopoles enhanced by number of neutrons



microscopic results based only on NN interactions require phenomenological repulsive contribution to T=1 monopoles

$\rightarrow$  neutron  $d_{3/2}$  remains high, dripline at N=16 for Oxygen

first results indicate that  $\mathcal{V}_{m,pheno}$  due to 3N interactions



## Thanks to collaborators

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P. Maris, J.P. Vary



UNIVERSITY OF OSLO

M. Hjorth-Jensen



東京大学  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO

T. Otsuka



T. Suzuki

## Summary

Exciting era with advances on many fronts

For the first time, approaches from light to heavy nuclei  
and for astrophysics based on the same interactions

Three-nucleon interactions are a frontier

Major investments in new facilities worldwide

Exciting intersections with problems in many related areas