

Three-nucleon forces and neutron-rich nuclei

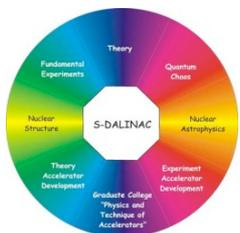
Achim Schwenk



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Facets of Strong Interaction Physics
Hirschegg 40 + Bengt 60, Jan. 18, 2012



DFG



Minerva
Stiftung



Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung

Happy Birthday Bengt!



Outline

Understanding three-nucleon forces

Three-body interactions and normal Fermi systems
with B. Friman



3N forces and neutron-rich nuclei

with J.D. Holt, J. Menendez, T. Otsuka, T. Suzuki



Electroweak interactions and 3N forces
with J. Menendez, D. Gazit



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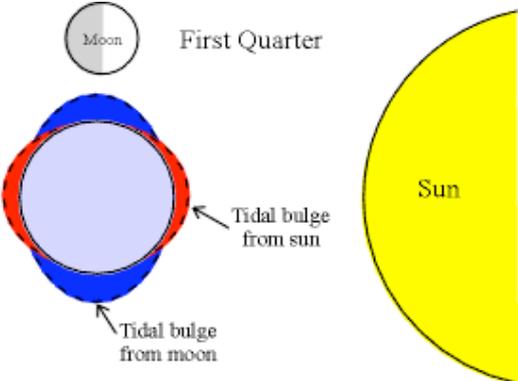
Three-nucleon forces and neutron matter
with K. Hebeler, J.M. Lattimer, C.J. Pethick



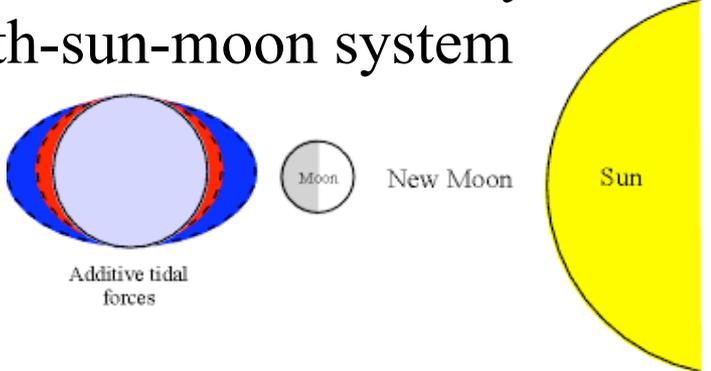
Niels Bohr Institutet



Why are there three-body forces?



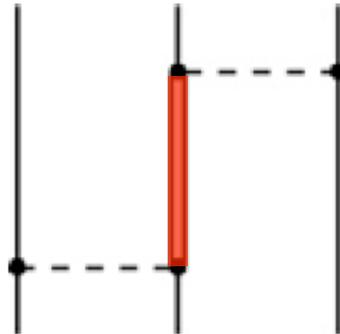
tidal effects lead to 3-body forces in earth-sun-moon system



Why are there three-nucleon (3N) forces?

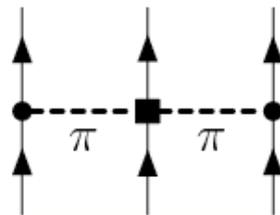
Nucleons are finite-mass composite particles,
can be excited to resonances

dominant contribution from $\Delta(1232 \text{ MeV})$

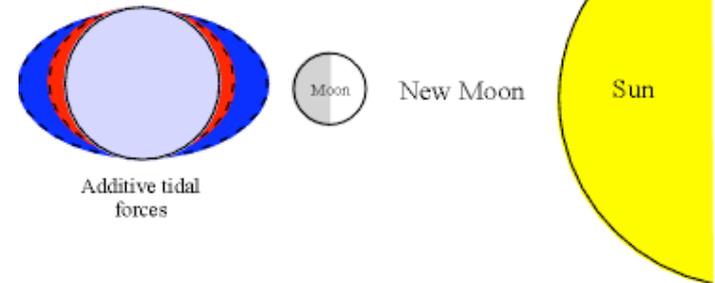


+ many shorter-range parts

in chiral EFT (Delta-less):



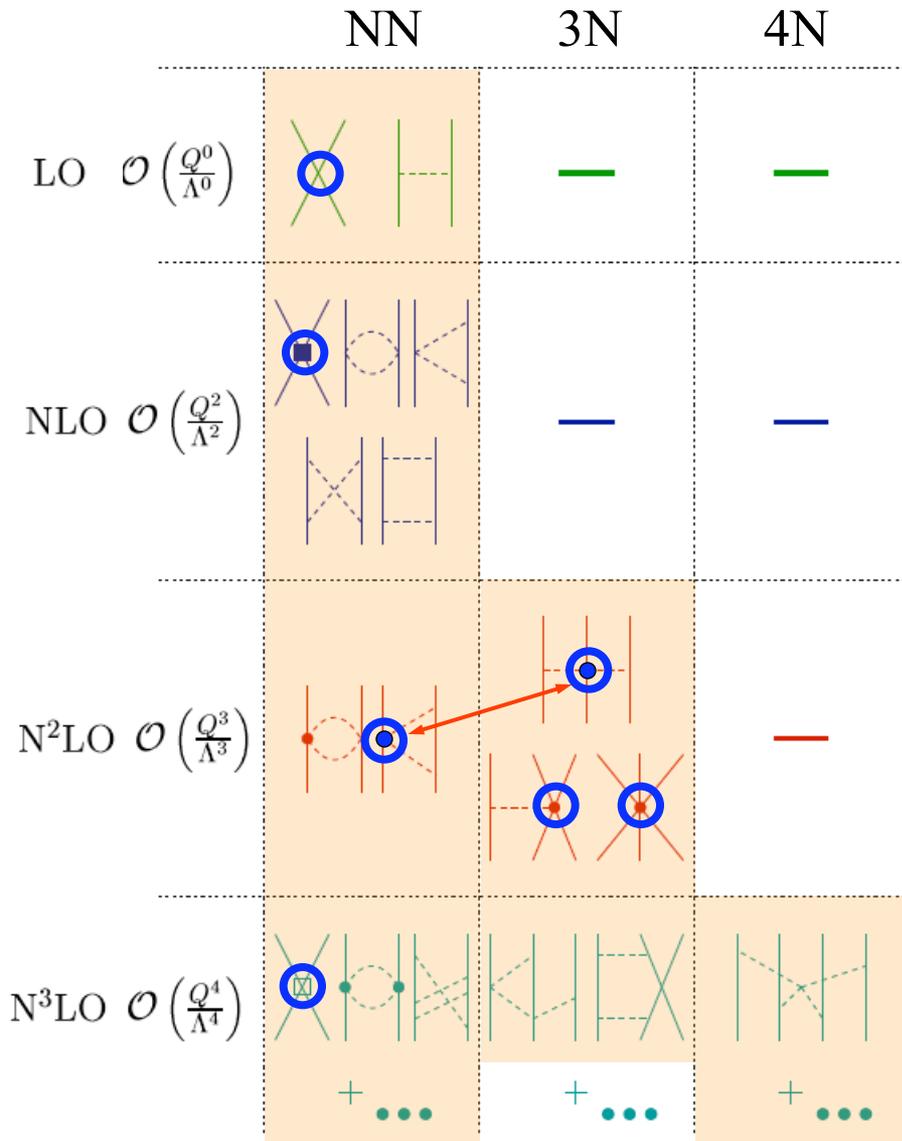
tidal effects lead to 3-body forces
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EFT provides a systematic and powerful approach to organize 3N forces

Chiral EFT for nuclear forces

Separation of scales: low momenta $\frac{1}{\lambda} = Q \ll \Lambda_b$ breakdown scale ~ 500 MeV



limited resolution at low energies,
can expand in powers $(Q/\Lambda_b)^n$

expansion parameter $\sim 1/3$

include long-range pion physics

details at short distance not resolved,
capture in few **short-range couplings**,
fit to experiment once, Λ -dependent

systematic: can work to desired
accuracy and obtain error estimates
from truncation order and Λ variation

Chiral EFT for nuclear forces

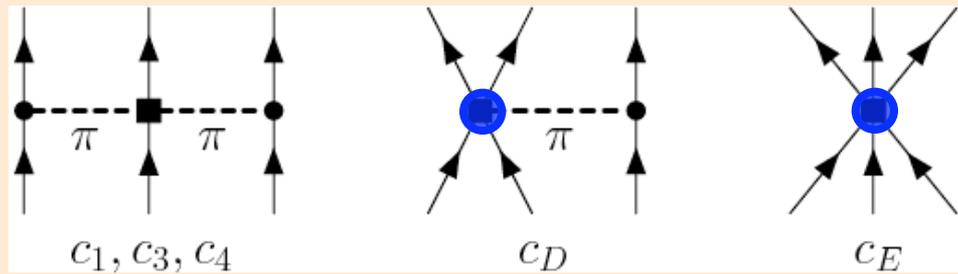
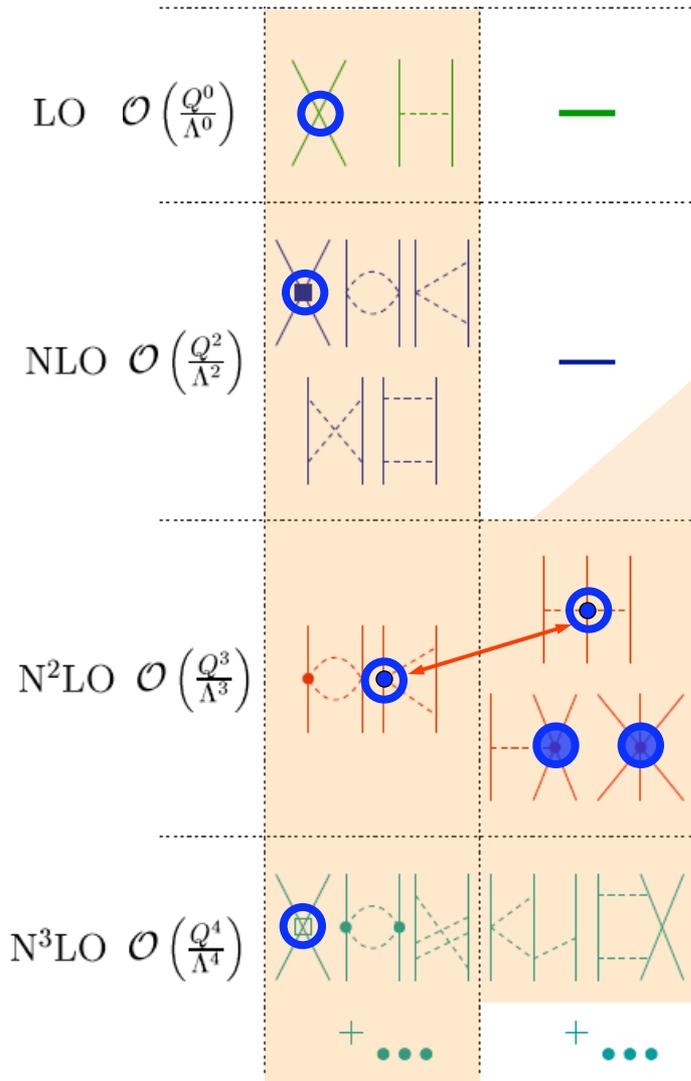
Separation of scales: low momenta $\frac{1}{\lambda} = Q \ll \Lambda_b$ breakdown scale ~ 500 MeV

NN

3N

consistent NN-3N interactions

3N,4N: only 2 new couplings to N³LO



c_i from π N and NN [Meissner et al. \(2007\)](#)

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

single- Δ : $c_1=0, c_3=-c_4/2=-3 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$

c_D, c_E fit to few-body data:

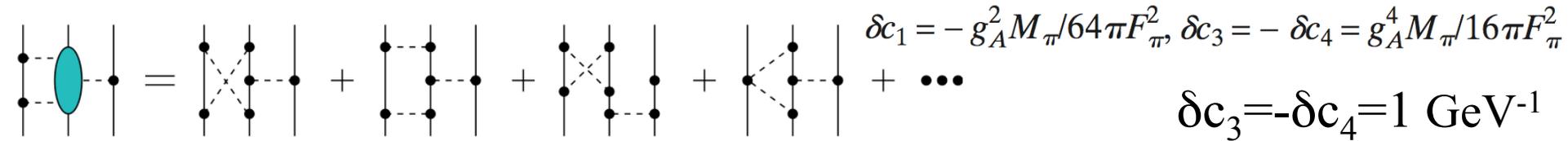
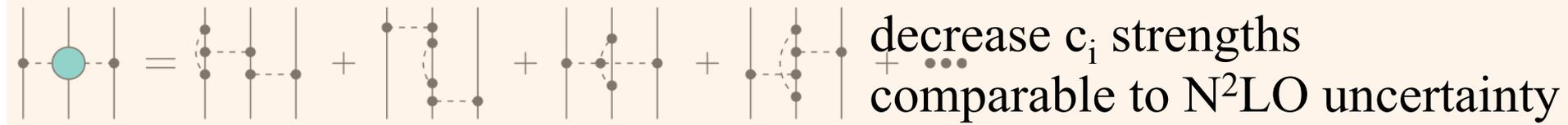
^3H energy, half-life, ^4He radius,...

Subleading chiral 3N forces

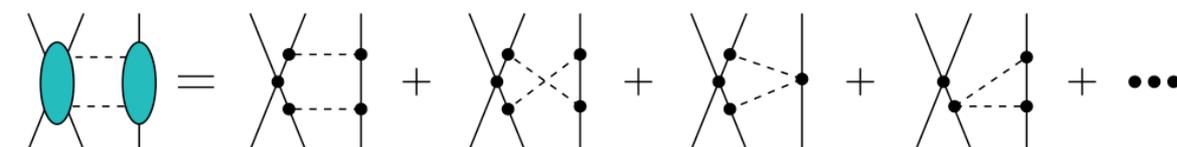
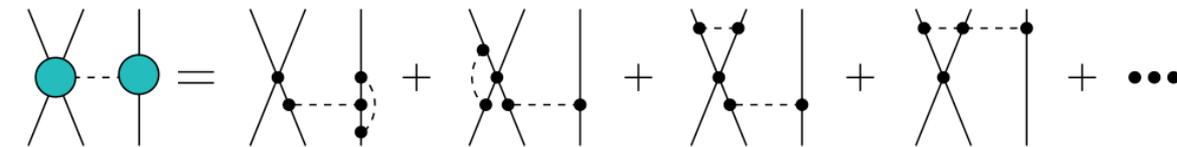
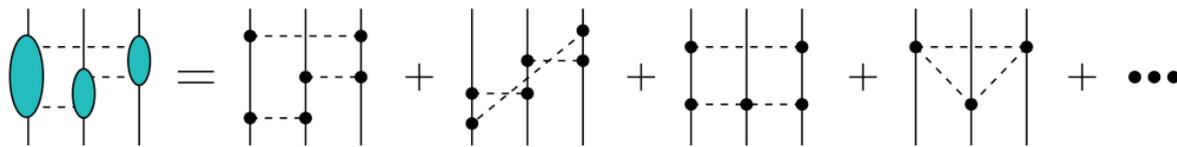
parameter-free N³LO Bernard et al. (2007, 2011), Ishikawa, Robilotta (2007)

one-loop contributions:

2π-exchange, 2π-1π-exchange, rings, contact-1π-, contact-2π-exchange



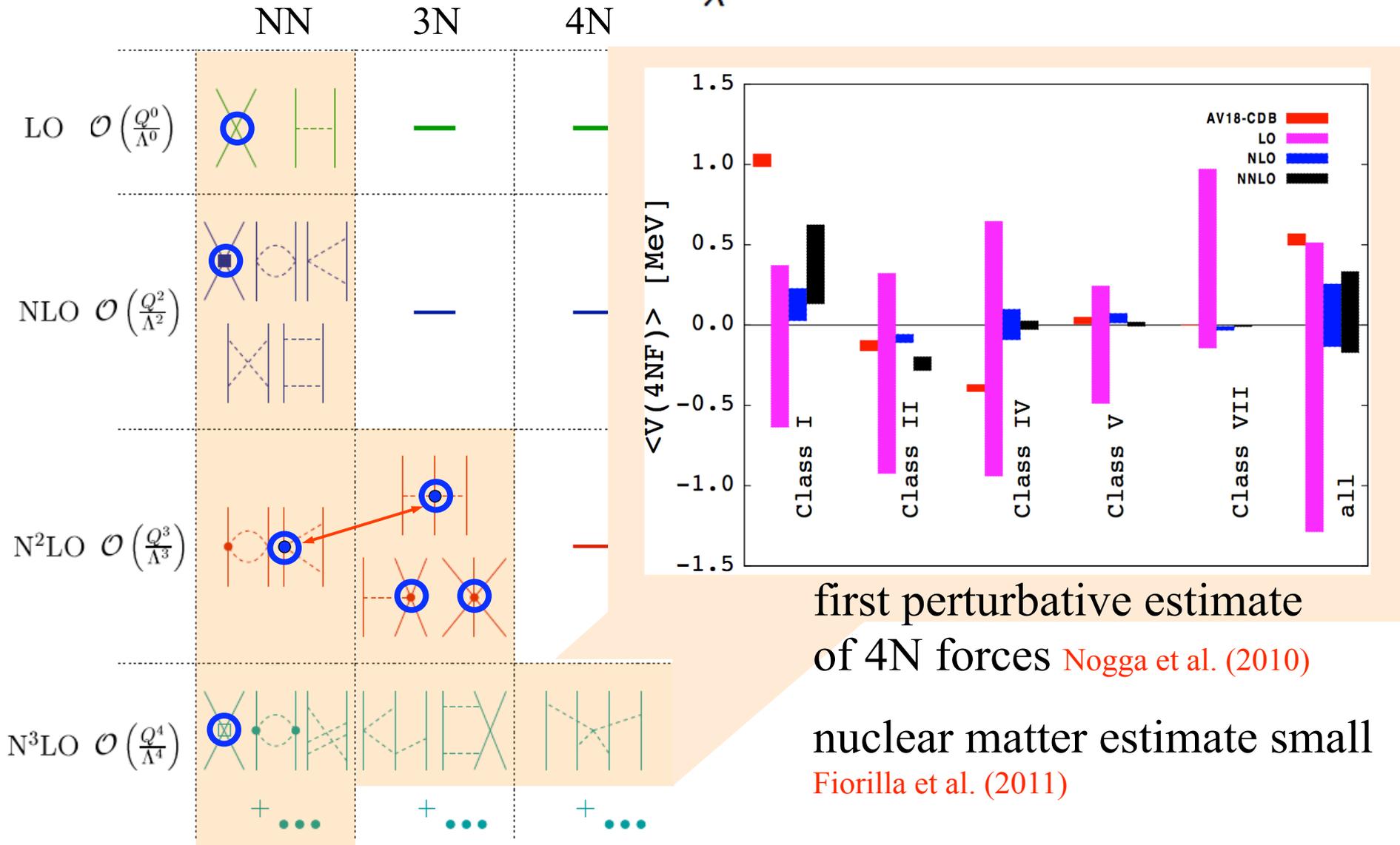
$$\delta c_3 = -\delta c_4 = 1 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$



1/m corrections: spin-orbit parts, interesting for A_y puzzle

Chiral EFT for nuclear forces

Separation of scales: low momenta $\frac{1}{\lambda} = Q \ll \Lambda_b$ breakdown scale ~ 500 MeV



Three-body interactions and normal Fermi systems

3N forces important, but why residual 3-body contributions small?

no 3-body Fermi liquid parameters needed in liquid ^3He

no evidence of residual 3-body forces in the shell model (I. Talmi)

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no evidence of residual 3-body forces in the shell model (I. Talmi)

can be understood in Fermi liquid theory [Friman, AS, arXiv:1101.4858](#).

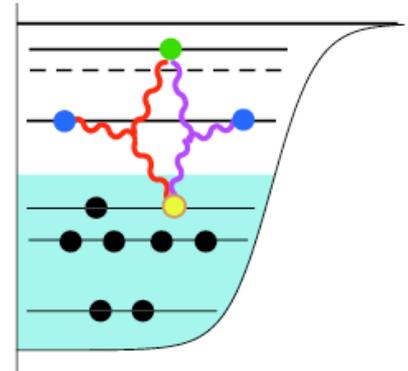
$$\delta E = \sum_1 \varepsilon_1^0 \delta n_1 + \frac{1}{2V} \sum_{1,2} f_{1,2}^{(2)} \delta n_1 \delta n_2 + \frac{1}{6V^2} \sum_{1,2,3} f_{1,2,3}^{(3)} \delta n_1 \delta n_2 \delta n_3$$

contributions from residual 3-body interactions suppressed by $E_{\text{ex}}/E_{\text{F}}$

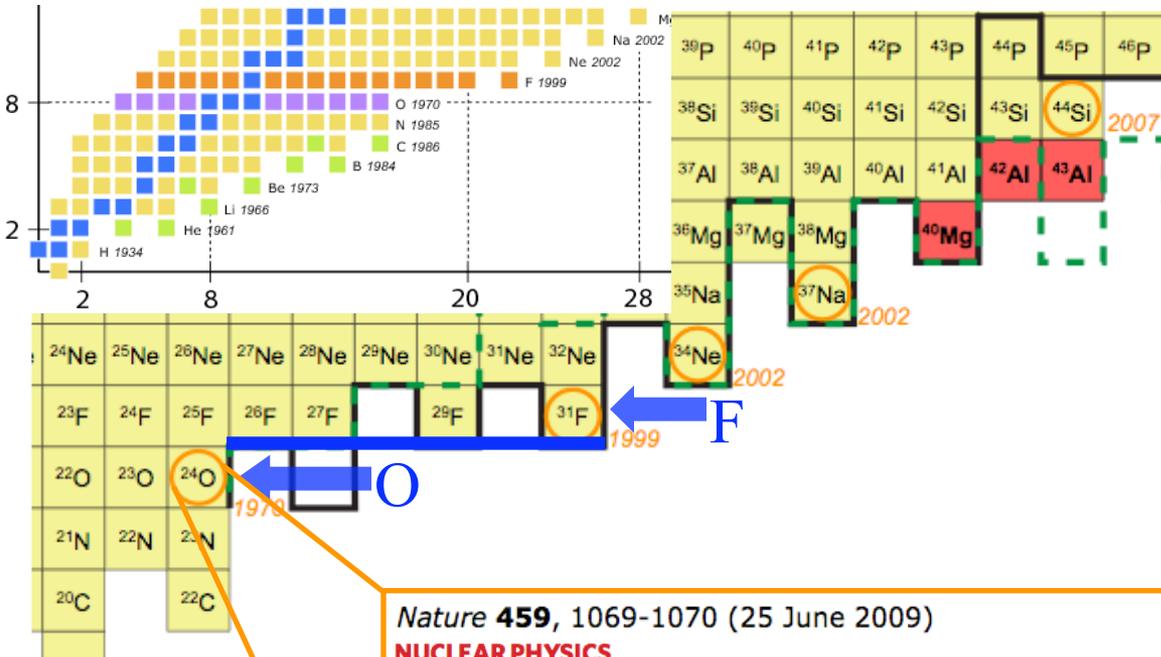
$$\frac{1}{2V} \sum_{1,2} f_{1,2}^{(2)} \delta n_1 \delta n_2 \sim \frac{1}{V} \langle f^{(2)} \rangle \left(\frac{N\Delta}{\mu} \right)^2 \sim \langle F^{(2)} \rangle \frac{N\Delta^2}{\mu}$$

$$\frac{1}{6V^2} \sum_{1,2,3} f_{1,2,3}^{(3)} \delta n_1 \delta n_2 \delta n_3 \sim \frac{n^2}{\mu} \langle f^{(3)} \rangle \frac{N\Delta^3}{\mu^2} \sim \langle F^{(3)} \rangle \frac{N\Delta^3}{\mu^2}$$

very helpful guiding principle for nuclei



The oxygen anomaly



Nature **459**, 1069-1070 (25 June 2009)

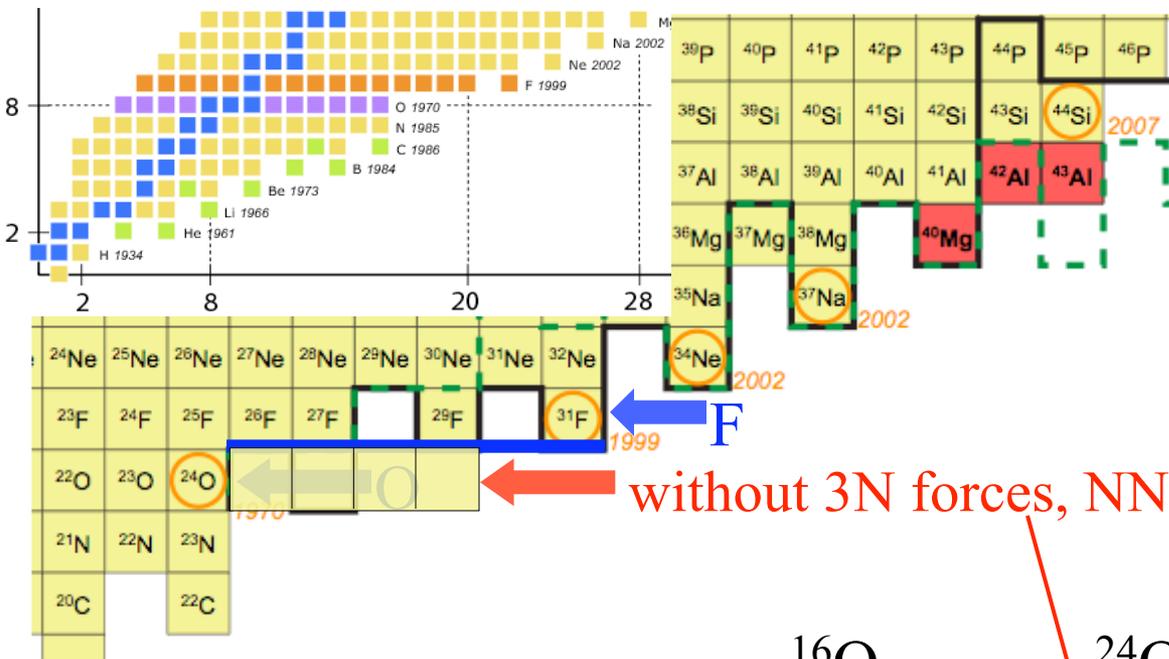
NUCLEAR PHYSICS

Unexpected doubly magic nucleus

Robert V. F. Janssens

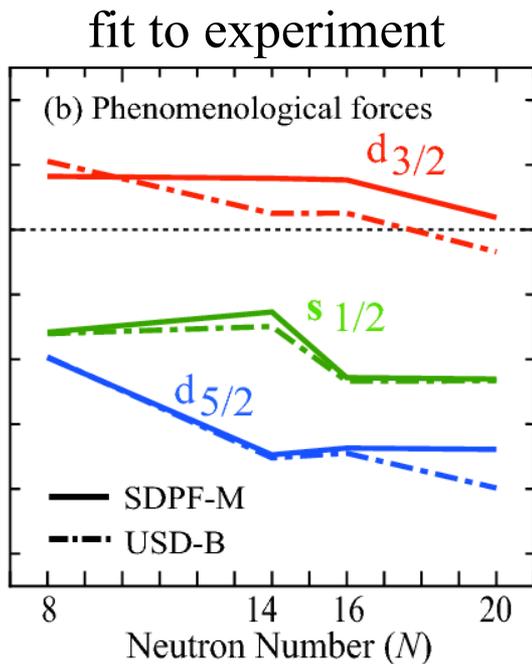
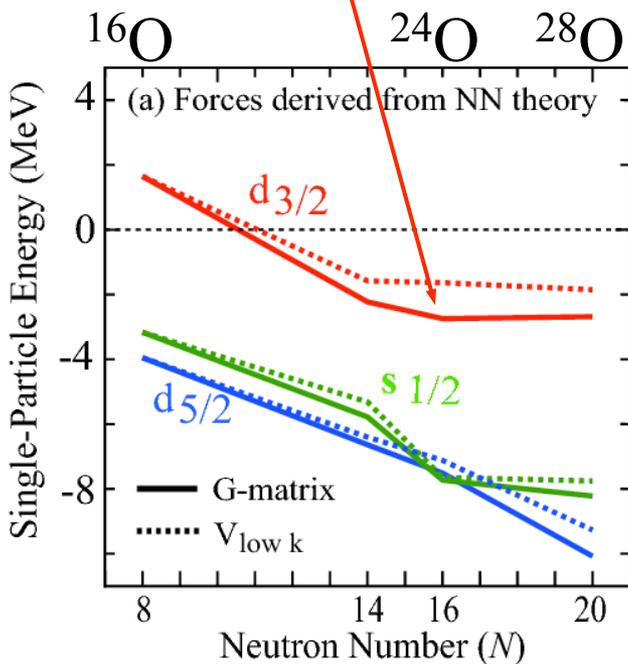
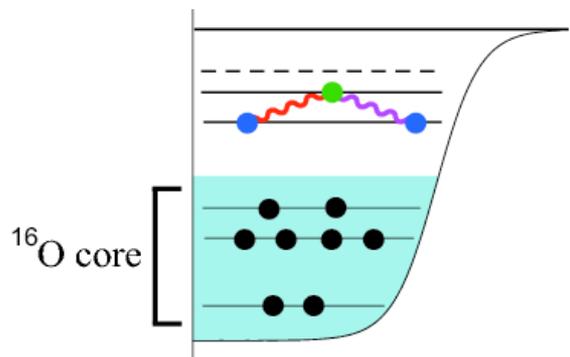
Nuclei with a 'magic' number of both protons and neutrons, dubbed doubly magic, are particularly stable. The oxygen isotope ^{24}O has been found to be one such nucleus — yet it lies just at the limit of stability.

The oxygen anomaly - not reproduced without 3N forces



without 3N forces, NN interactions too attractive

many-body theory based on two-nucleon forces:
drip-line incorrect at ^{28}O



The oxygen anomaly - impact of 3N forces

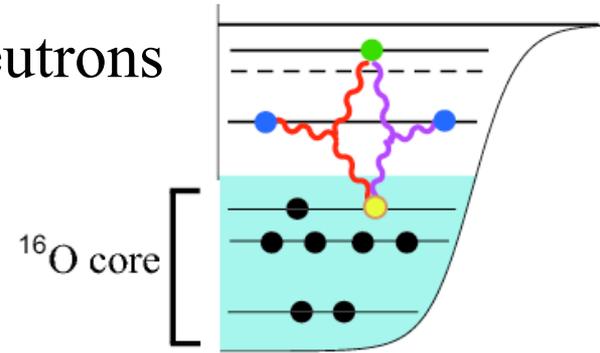
include 'normal-ordered' 2-body part of 3N forces (enhanced by core A)

leads to repulsive interactions between valence neutrons

contributions from residual three valence-nucleon

interactions suppressed by $E_{\text{ex}}/E_{\text{F}} \sim N_{\text{valence}}/N_{\text{core}}$

Friman, AS, arXiv:1101.4858.



The oxygen anomaly - impact of 3N forces

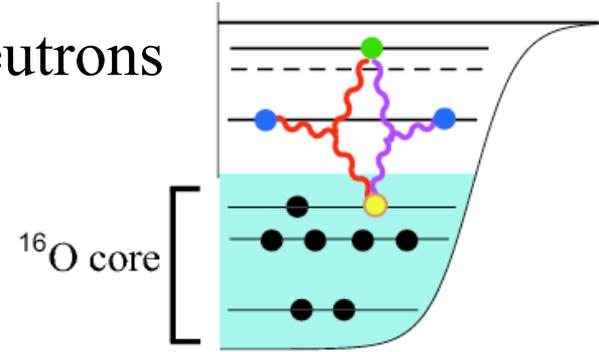
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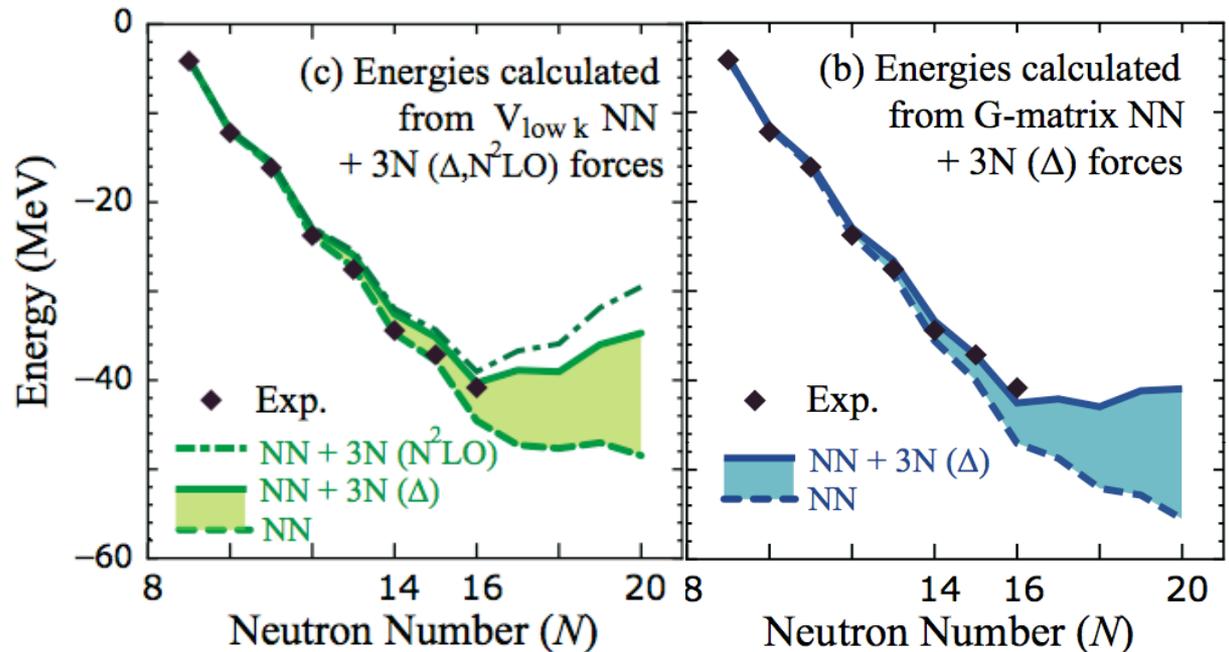
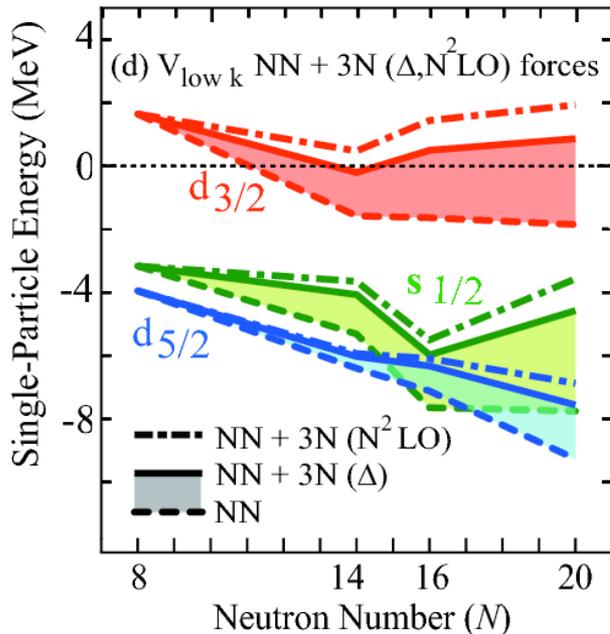
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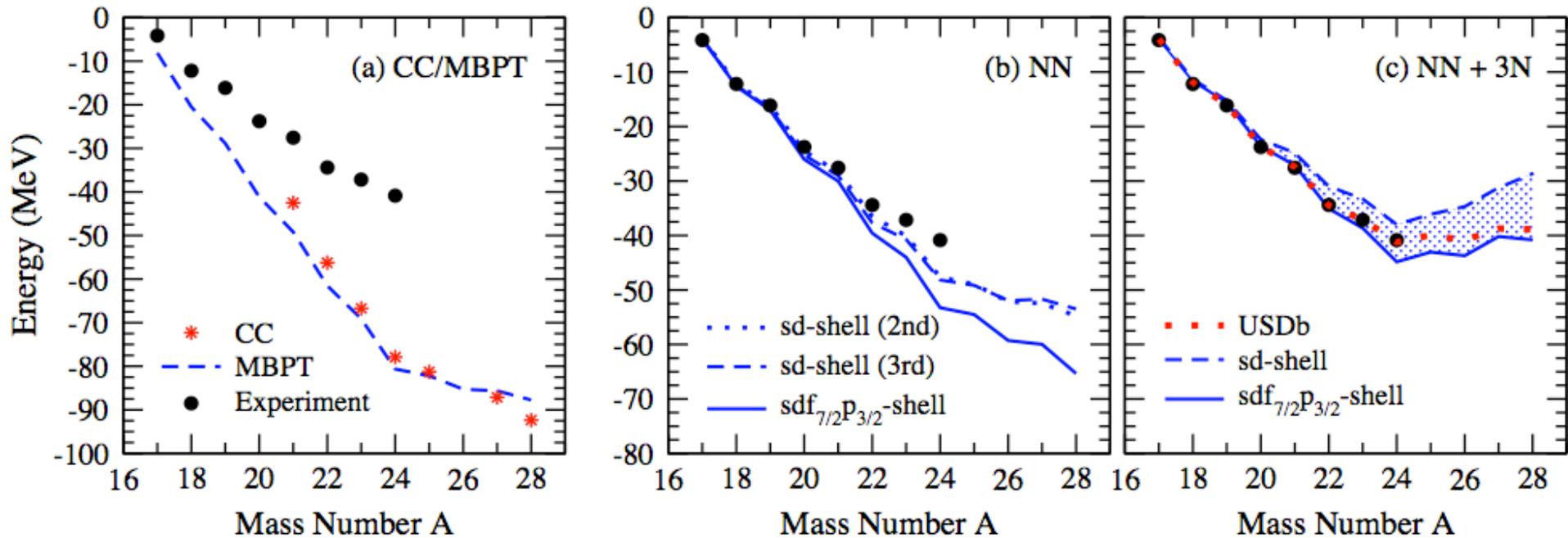


$d_{3/2}$ orbital remains unbound from ^{16}O to ^{28}O



microscopic explanation of the oxygen anomaly Otsuka et al., PRL (2010)

Computational improvements and benchmark Holt, AS, arXiv:1108.2680.



good agreement with CC calculations (based on same NN interaction and CC single-particle energies)

3rd order MBPT well converged compared to other uncertainties

extended valence space (sdf_{7/2}p_{3/2}) is important for neutron-rich extremes

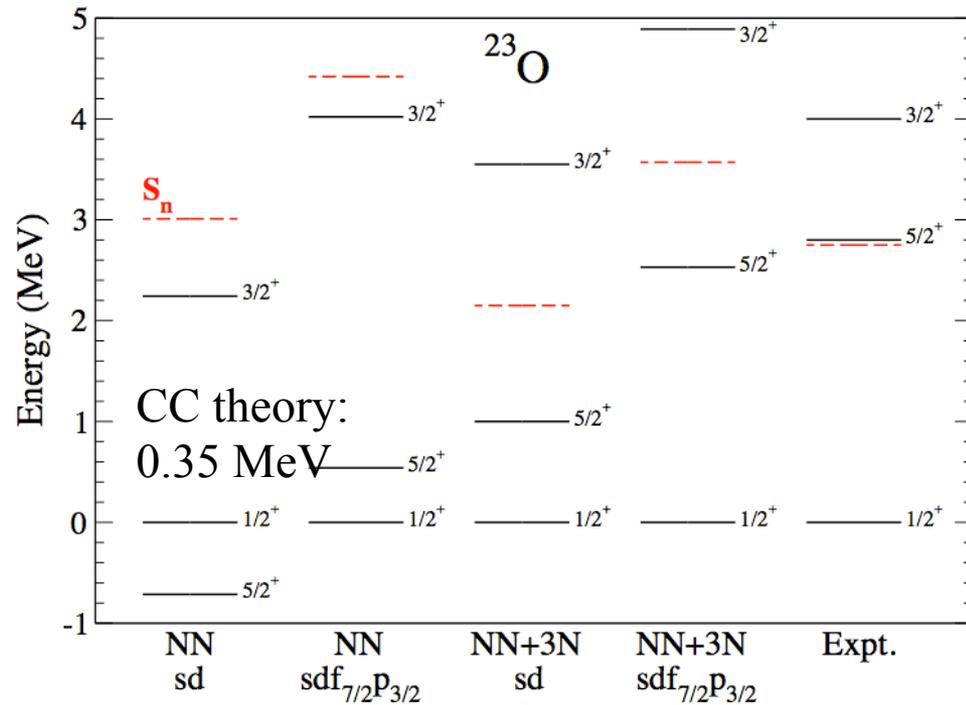
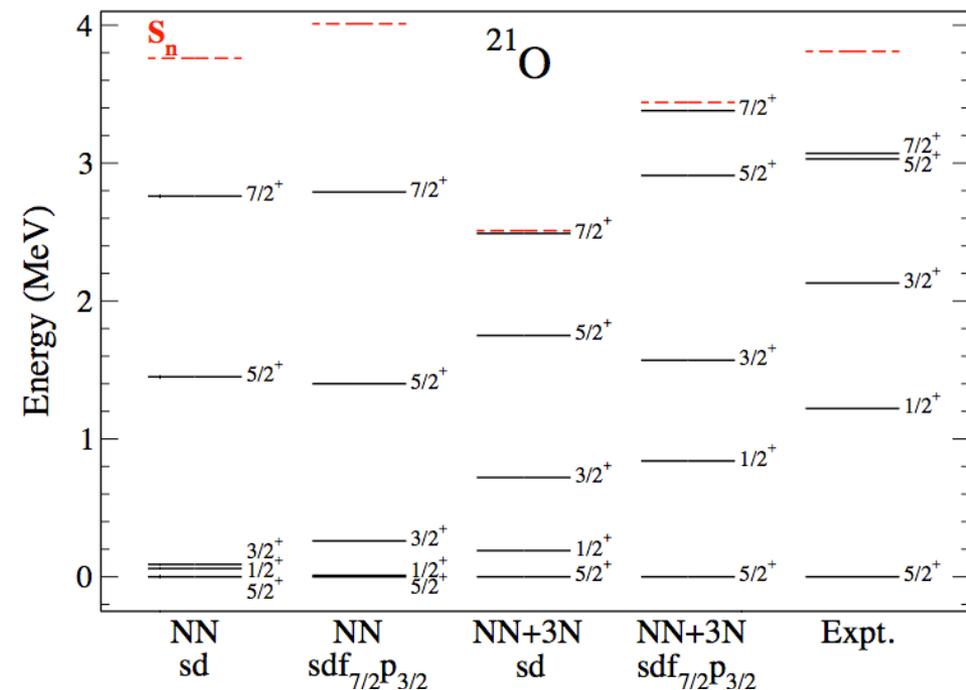
Oxygen spectra

focused on bound excited states

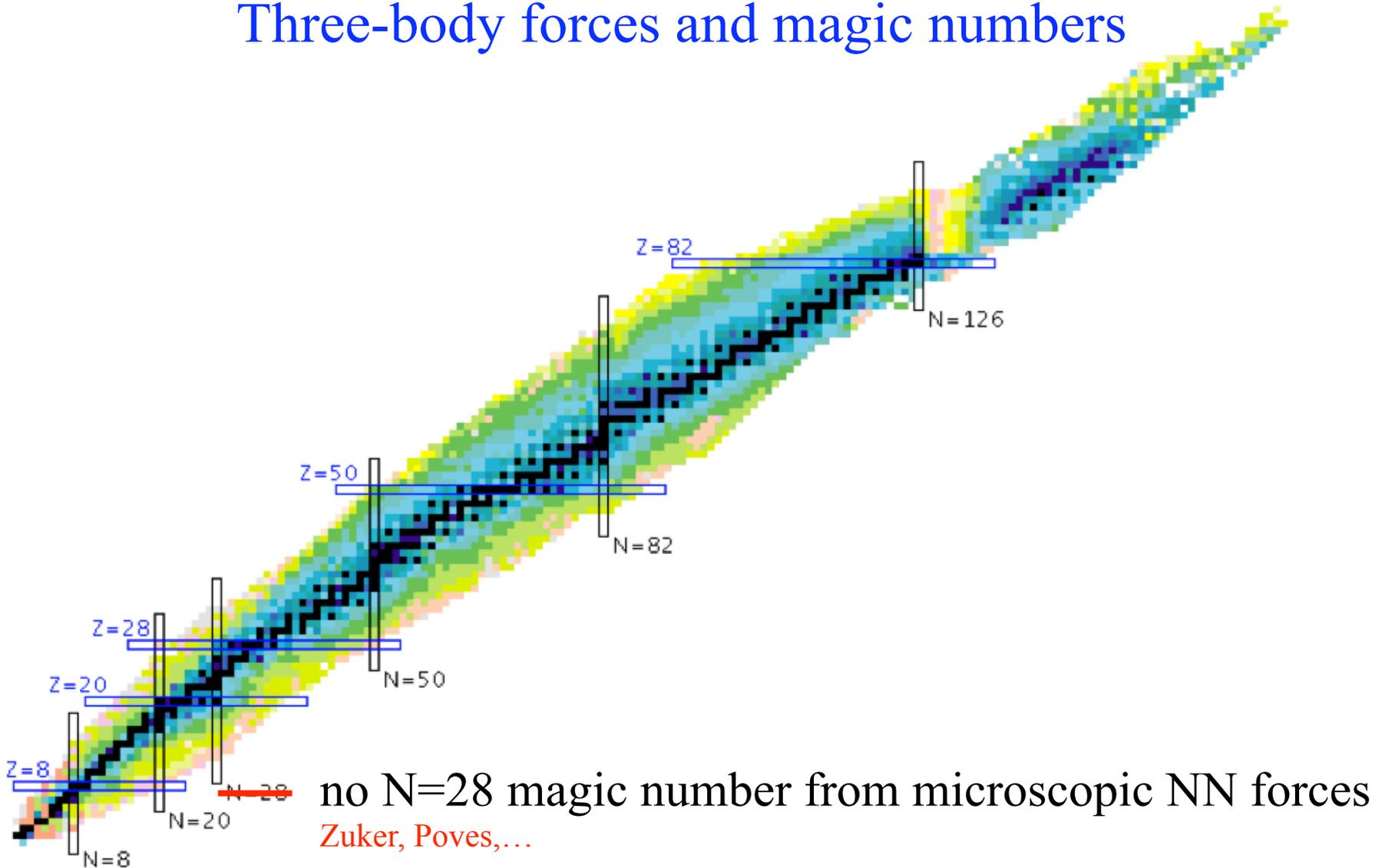
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NN only too compressed

3N contributions and extended valence space are key to reproduce excited states



Three-body forces and magic numbers



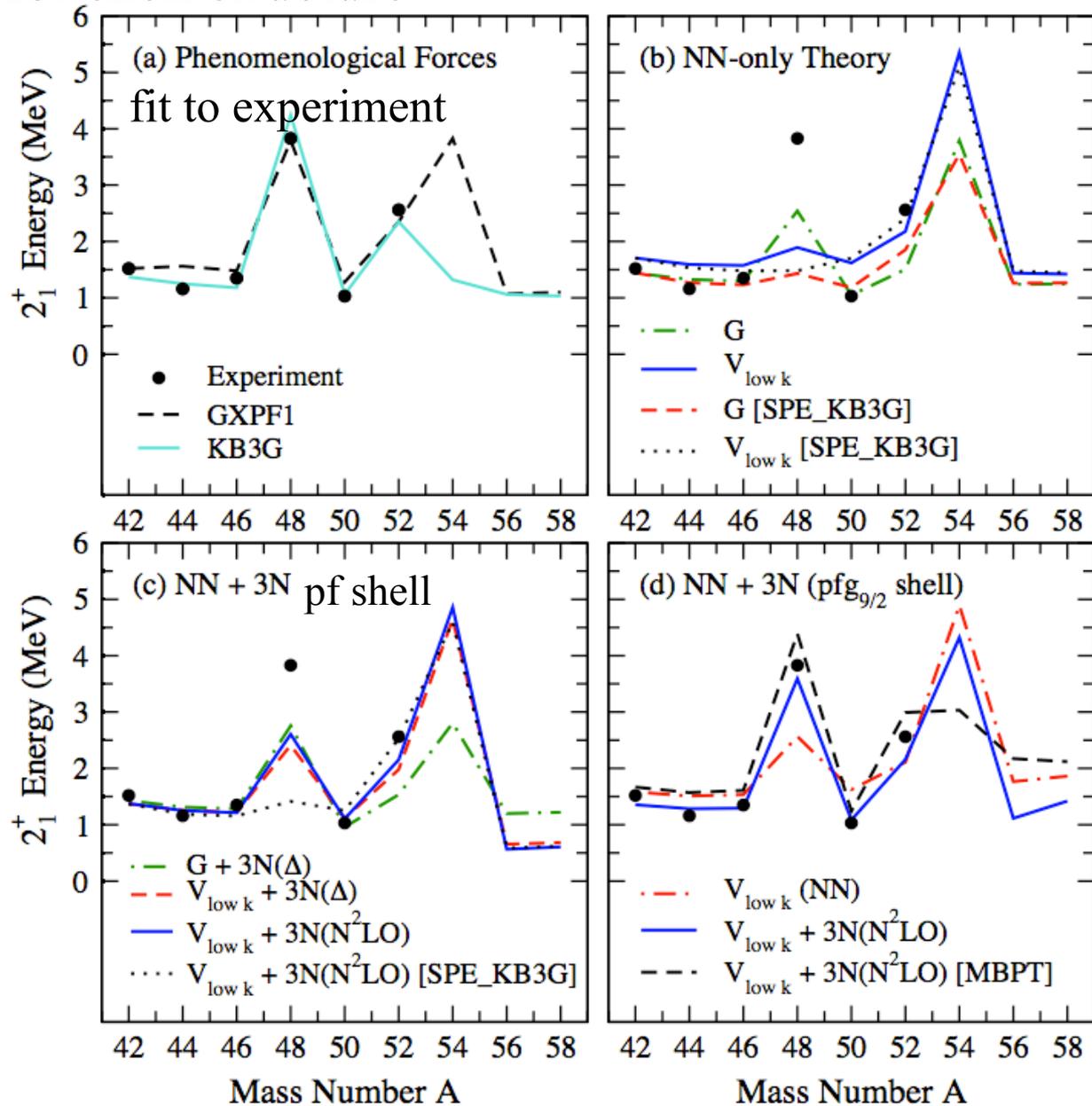
Three-body forces and magic numbers

3N mechanism important for shell structure

Holt et al., arXiv:1009:5984

N=28 shell closure due to 3N forces and single-particle effects (^{41}Ca)

N=34: predict high 2^+ excitation energy in ^{54}Ca at 3-5 MeV



Evolution to neutron-rich calcium isotopes

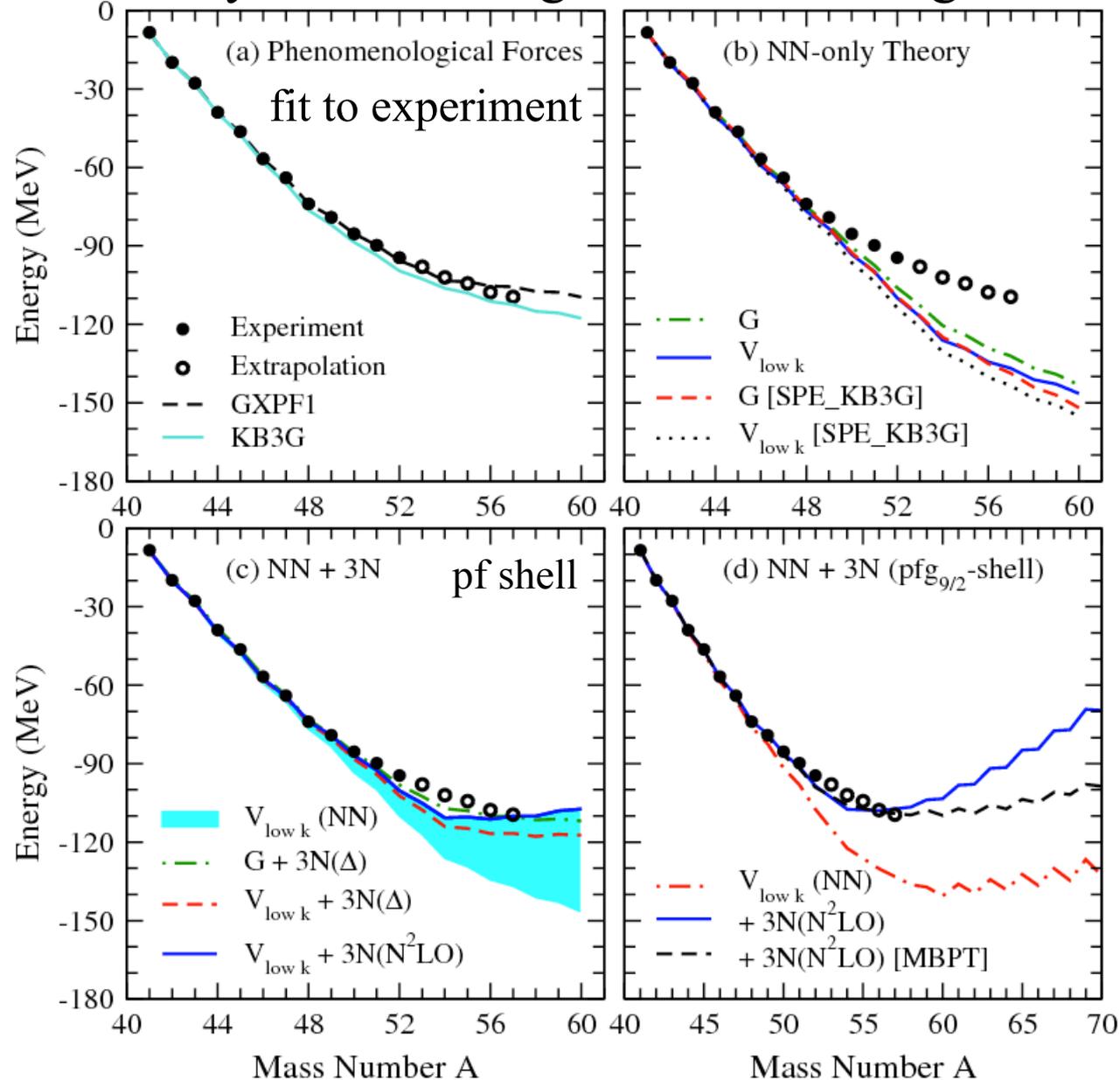
repulsive 3N contributions also key for calcium ground-state energies

Holt et al., arXiv:1009:5984

mass measured to ^{52}Ca
shown to exist to ^{58}Ca

predict drip-line
around ^{60}Ca

estimate of residual
3-body forces
 ~ 5 MeV in ^{60}Ca



Evolution to neutron-rich calcium isotopes

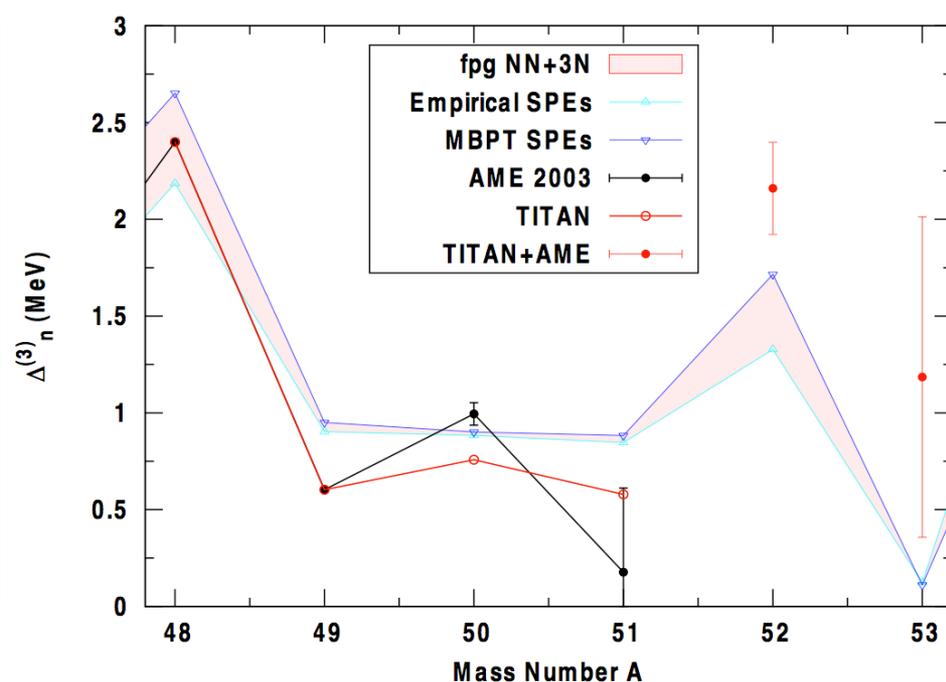
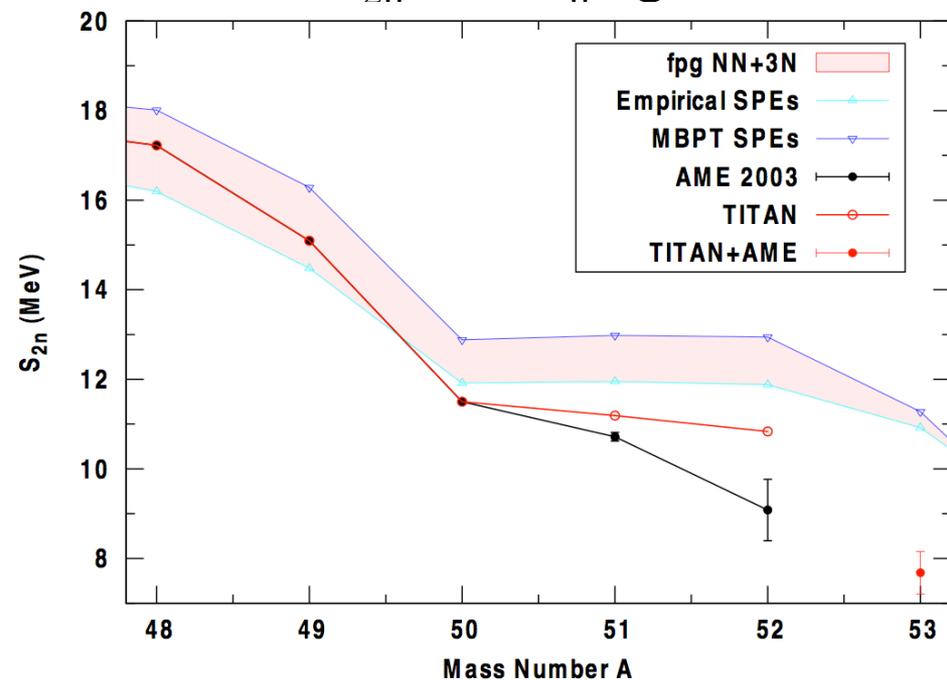
new $^{51,52}\text{Ca}$ TITAN measurements:

J. Dilling et al. preliminary

^{52}Ca is 1.75 MeV more bound compared to atomic mass evaluation (AME)!



behavior of S_{2n} and $\Delta_n^{(3)}$ agrees with NN+3N calculations



Chiral EFT for electroweak transitions Menendez, Gazit, AS (2011).

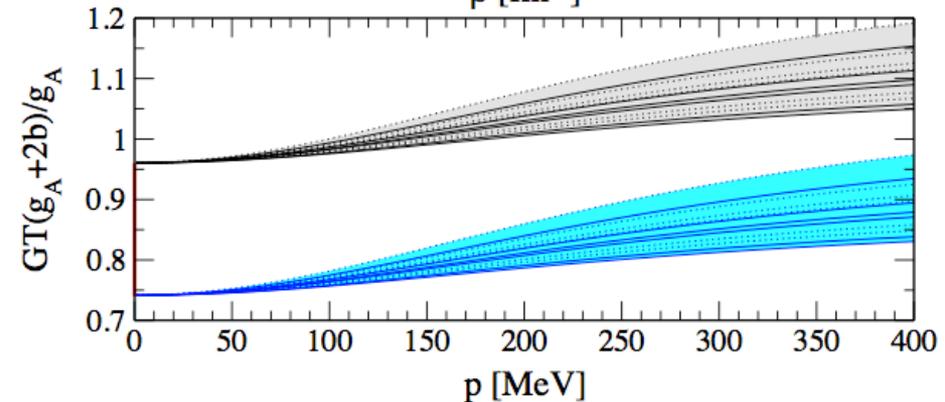
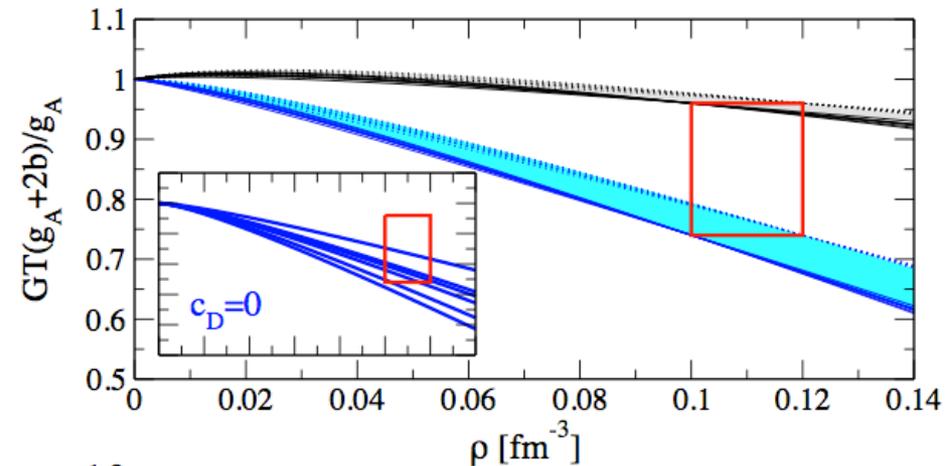
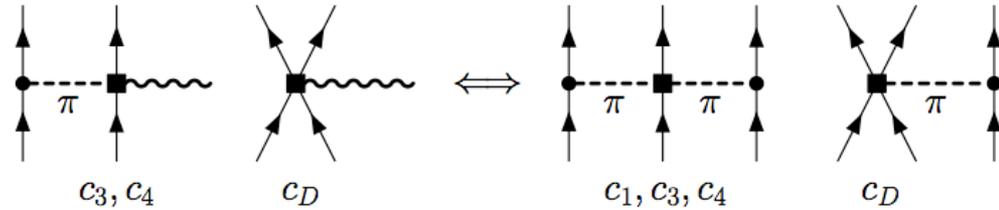
two-body currents lead to important contributions in nuclei ($Q \sim 100$ MeV)
especially for Gamow-Teller transitions

two-body currents determined
by NN, 3N couplings to N^3 LO

Park et al., Phillips,...

explains part of quenching of g_A
(dominated by long-range part)

+ predict momentum dependence
(weaker quenching for larger p)



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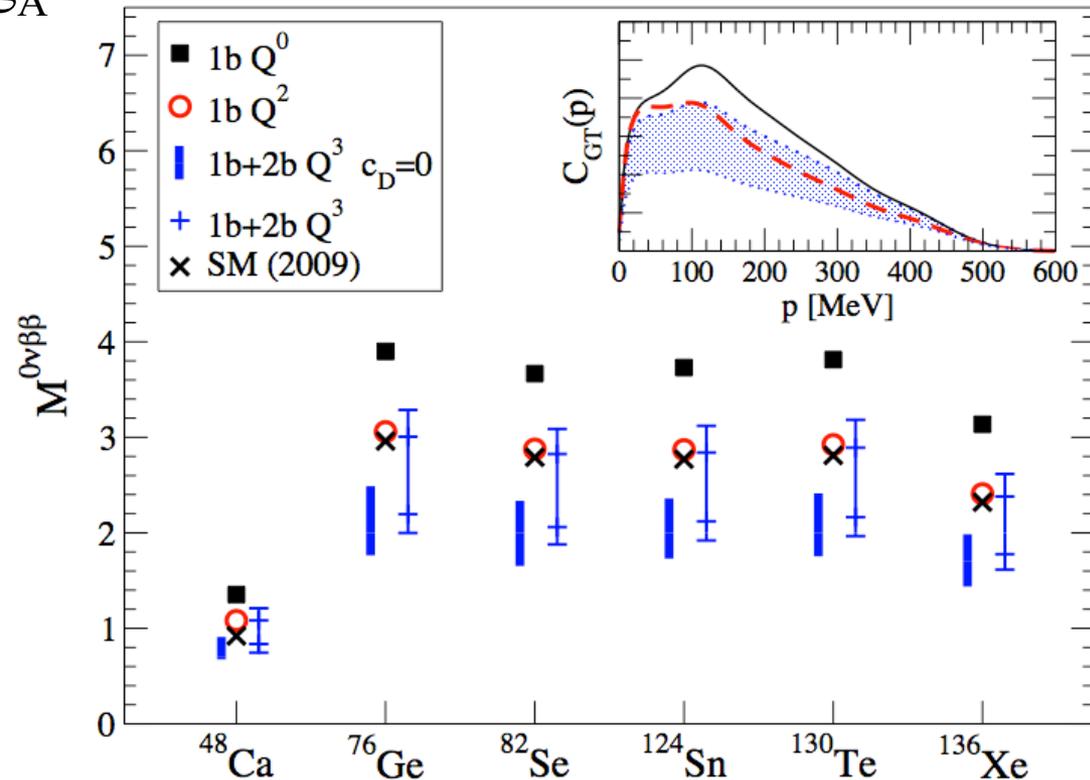
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Park et al., Phillips,...

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+ predict mom. dependence

+ nuclear matrix elements
for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay based on
chiral EFT operator



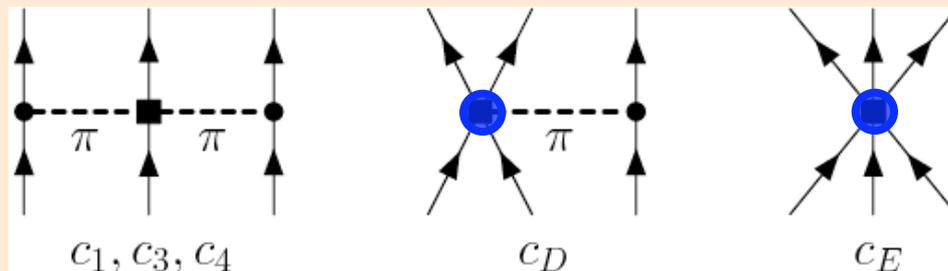
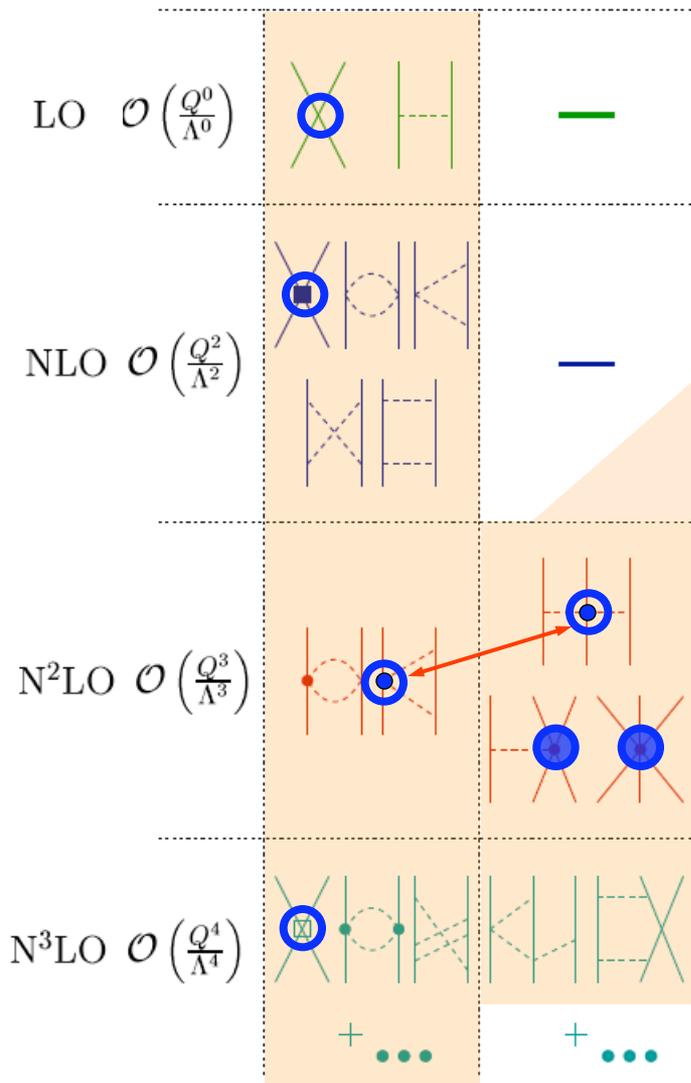
Chiral Effective Field Theory for nuclear forces

Separation of scales: low momenta $\frac{1}{\lambda} = Q \ll \Lambda_b$ breakdown scale ~ 500 MeV

NN 3N

consistent NN-3N interactions

3N,4N: only 2 new couplings to N³LO



c_i from π N and NN [Meissner et al. \(2007\)](#)

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

single- Δ : $c_1=0, c_3=-c_4/2=-3 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$

Impact of 3N forces on neutron matter

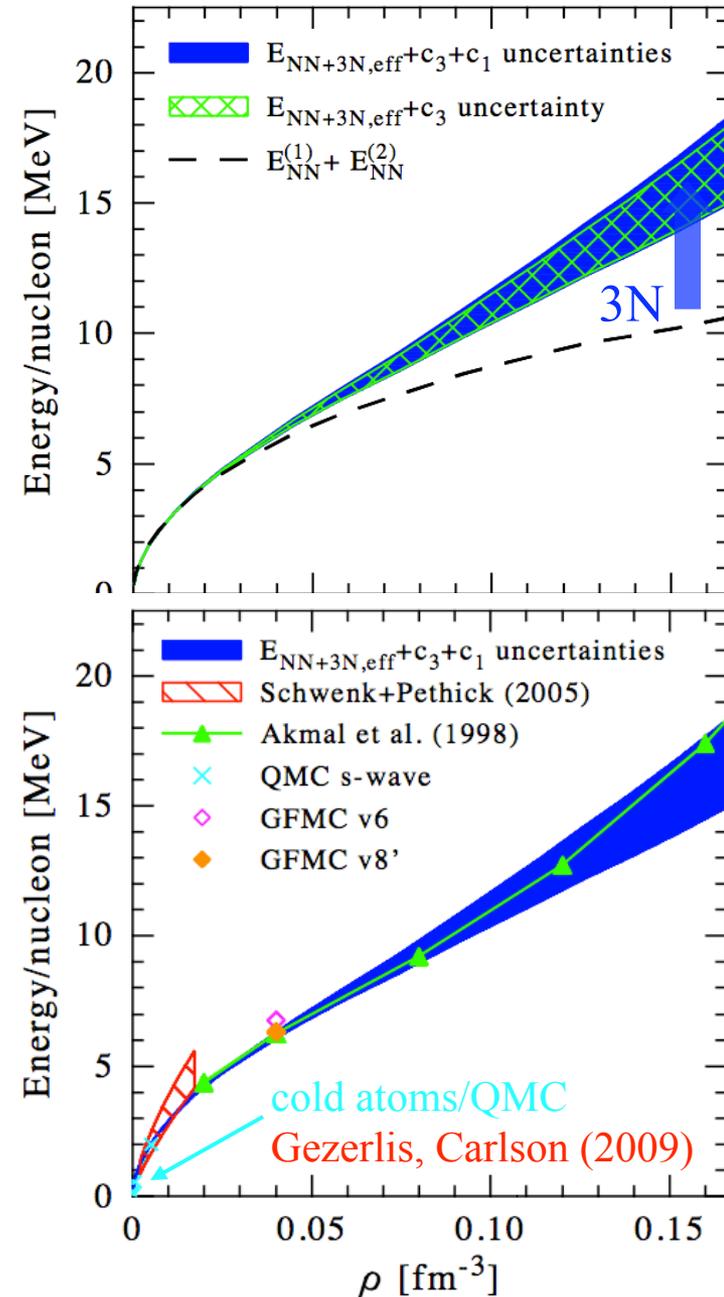
Hebeler, AS (2010); Tolos, Friman, AS (2007)

only long-range parts of 3N forces
contribute to neutron matter (c_1 and c_3)

uncertainties dominated by c_3 coupling

repulsive contribution as for
heavier neutron-rich nuclei

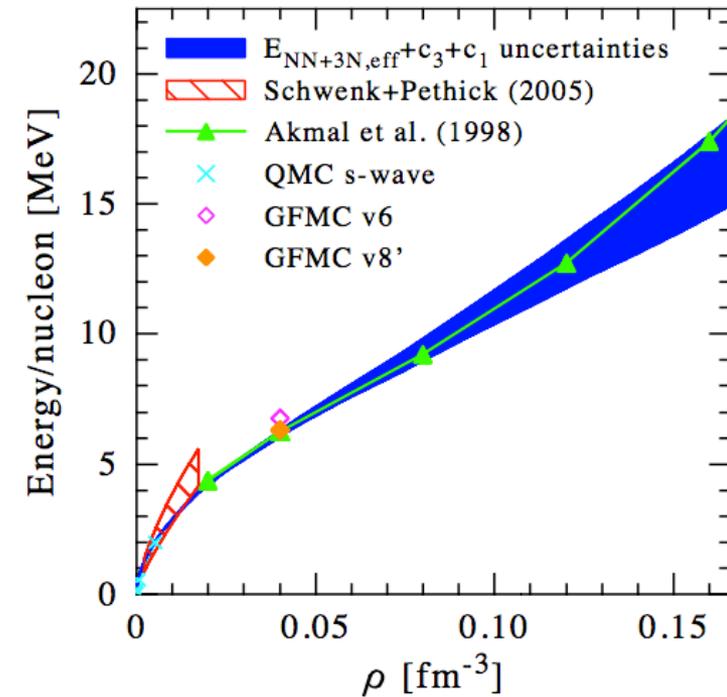
microscopic calculations within band



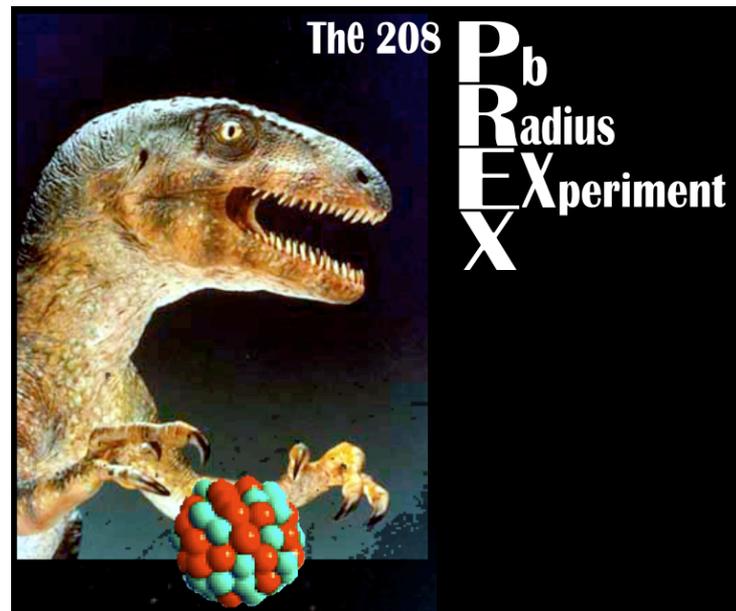
Symmetry energy and neutron skin Hebeler et al. (2010)

neutron matter band predicts range for symmetry energy 30.1-34.4 MeV

c_1 [GeV ⁻¹]	c_3 [GeV ⁻¹]	\bar{S}_2 [MeV]
-0.7	-2.2	30.1
-1.4	-4.8	34.4
NN-only EM		26.5
NN-only EGM		25.6



and neutron skin of ²⁰⁸Pb to 0.17 ± 0.03 fm



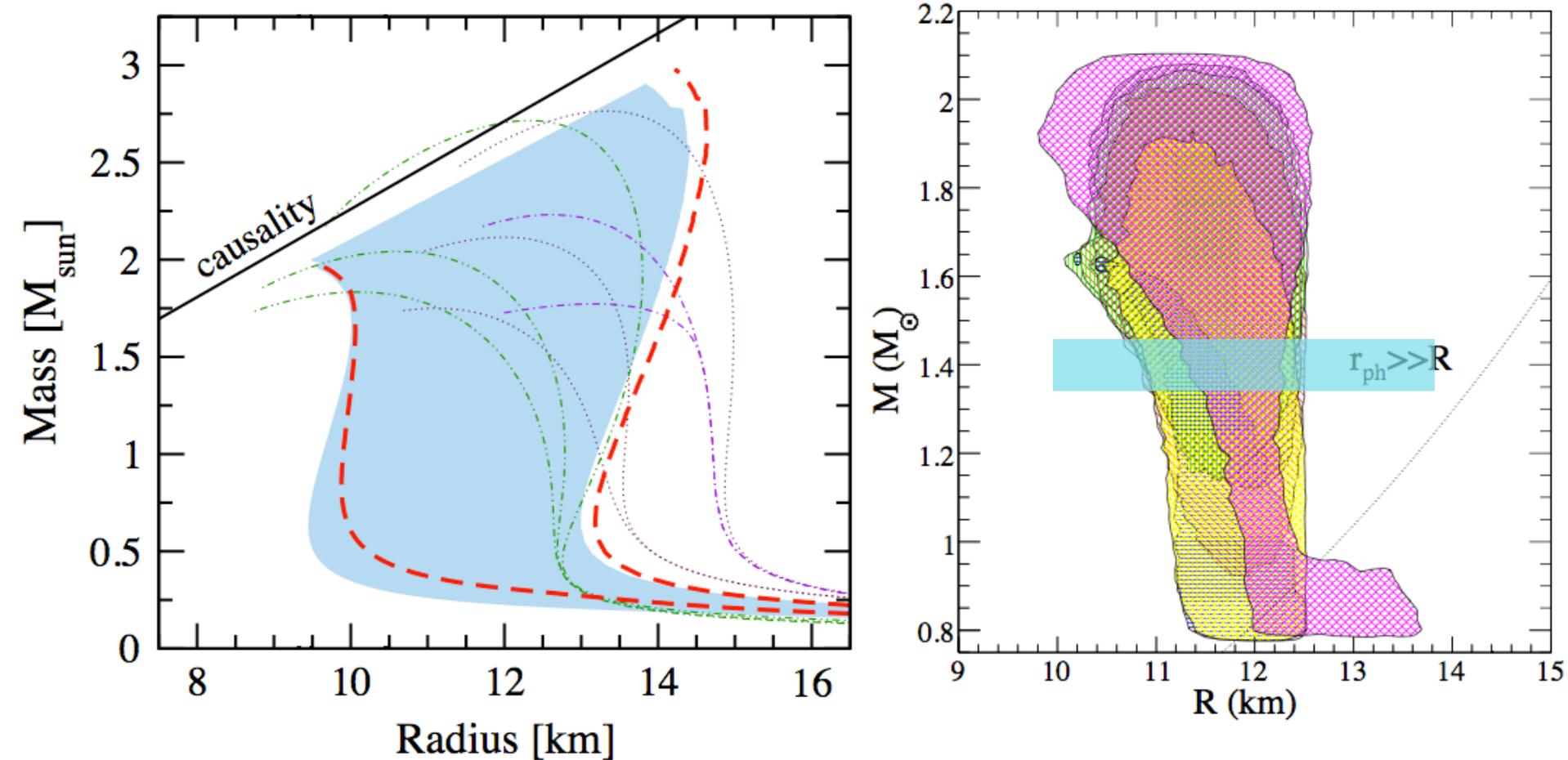
compare to ± 0.05 fm future PREX goal
 first result: $0.34+0.15-0.17$ fm

from complete E1 response

$0.156+0.025-0.021$ fm Tamii et al., PRL (2011).

3N forces and neutron stars

uncertainty from many-body forces and general extrapolation



constrains neutron star radius: 9.9-13.8 km for $M=1.4 M_{\text{sun}}$ ($\pm 15\%$!)

consistent with extraction from X-ray burst sources [Steiner et al., ApJ \(2010\)](#)
provides important constraints for EOS for core-collapse supernovae

Summary

Exciting era with advances on many fronts:
development of effective field theory and the renormalization group

enables a unified description from nuclei to matter in astrophysics

$3N$ forces are a frontier for neutron-rich nuclei/matter:

key to explain why ^{24}O is the heaviest oxygen isotope

Ca isotopes (and $N=28$ magic number), key for neutron-rich nuclei

dominant uncertainty of neutron (star) matter below nuclear densities,
constraints on neutron star radii

exciting interactions with experiments and observations