

# New Horizons in Ab Initio Nuclear Structure Theory

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# Ab Initio Nuclear Structure

## Nuclear Structure Observables

**Nuclear Lattice Sim.**

chiral EFT on lattice

**Exact Ab-Initio Solutions**

few-body et al.

**Exact Ab-Initio Solutions**

few-body, no-core shell model, etc.

**Approx. Many-Body Methods**

controlled & improvable schemes

**Energy-Density-Functional Theory**

guided by chiral EFT

**Similarity Transformations**

physics-conserving transform. of observables

**Chiral Interactions**

consistent & improvable NN, 3N,... interactions

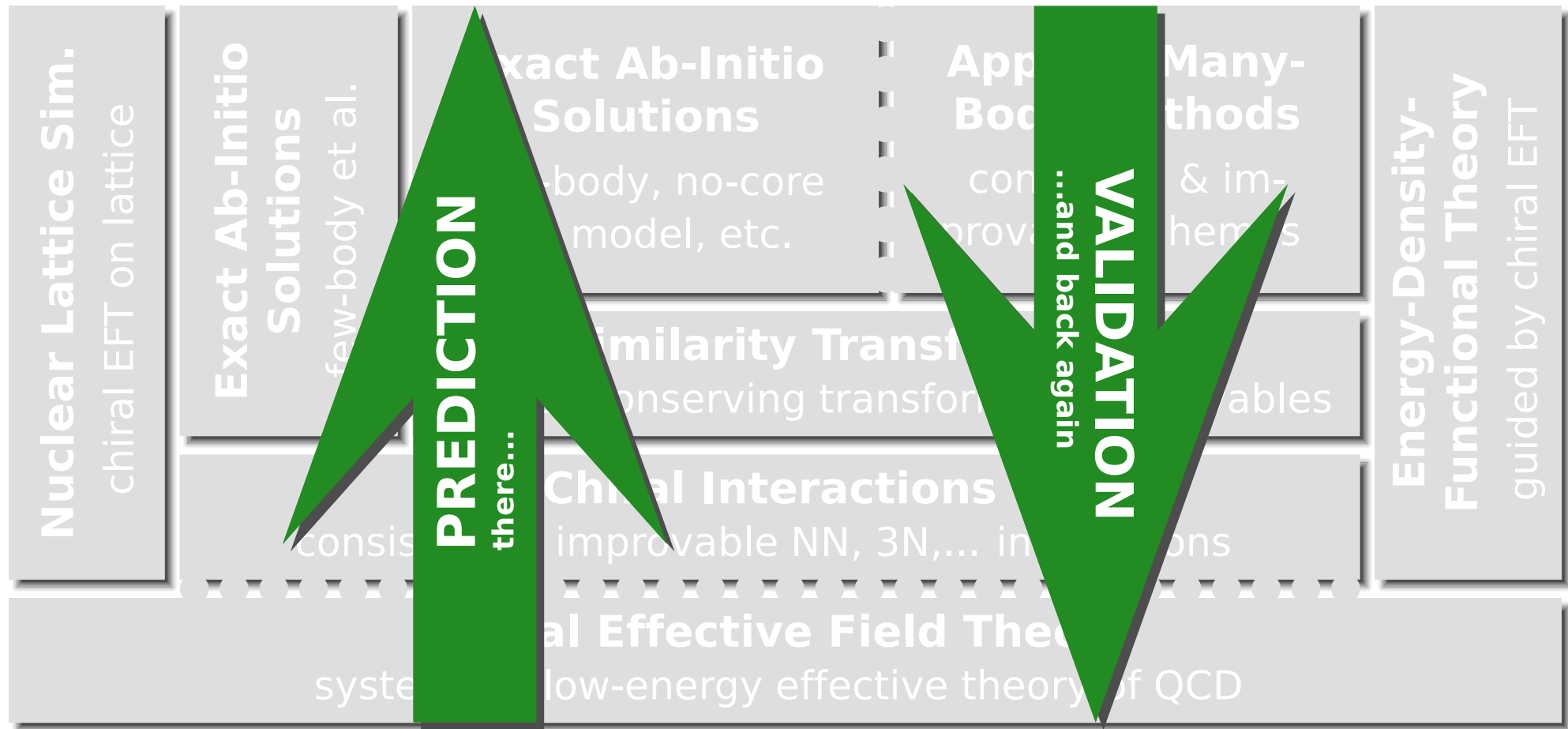
**Chiral Effective Field Theory**

systematic low-energy effective theory of QCD

**Low-Energy Quantum Chromodynamics**

# Ab Initio Nuclear Structure

## Nuclear Structure Observables



## Low-Energy Quantum Chromodynamics

# Nuclear Interactions from Chiral EFT

# Nuclear Interactions from Chiral EFT

Weinberg, van Kolck, Machleidt, Entem, Meissner, Epelbaum, Krebs, Bernard,...

- low-energy **effective field theory** for relevant degrees of freedom ( $\pi, N$ ) based on symmetries of QCD
- long-range **pion dynamics** explicitly
- short-range physics absorbed in **contact terms**, low-energy constants fitted to experiment ( $NN, \pi N, \dots$ )
- hierarchy of **consistent NN, 3N, ... interactions** (plus currents)
- many **ongoing developments**
  - 3N interaction at N3LO, N4LO, ...
  - explicit inclusion of  $\Delta$ -resonance
  - $YN$ - &  $YY$ -interactions
  - formal issues: power counting, renormalization, cutoff choice, ...

	NN	3N	4N
LO			
NLO			
N <sup>2</sup> LO			
N <sup>3</sup> LO			
	+ ...	+ ...	+ ...

# Chiral NN+3N Hamiltonians

## ■ **standard Hamiltonian:**

- NN at N3LO: Entem / Machleidt, 500 MeV cutoff
- 3N at N2LO: Navrátil, local, 500 MeV cutoff, fit to  $T_{1/2}(^3\text{H})$  and  $E(^3\text{H}, ^3\text{He})$

## ■ **standard Hamiltonian with modified 3N:**

- NN at N3LO: Entem / Machleidt, 500 MeV cutoff
- 3N at N2LO: Navrátil, local, with modified LECs and cutoffs, refit to  $E(^4\text{He})$

## ■ **consistent N2LO Hamiltonian:**

- NN at N2LO: Epelbaum et al., 450,...,600 MeV cutoff
- 3N at N2LO: Epelbaum et al., nonlocal, 450,...,600 MeV cutoff

## ■ **consistent N3LO Hamiltonian:**

- coming soon...

# Similarity Renormalization Group

Roth, Langhammer, Calci et al. — Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 072501 (2011)

Roth, Neff, Feldmeier — Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 65, 50 (2010)

Roth, Reinhardt, Hergert — Phys. Rev. C 77, 064033 (2008)

Hergert, Roth — Phys. Rev. C 75, 051001(R) (2007)

# Similarity Renormalization Group

Wegner, Glazek, Wilson, Perry, Bogner, Furnstahl, Hergert, Roth, Jurgenson, Navratil,...

continuous transformation driving  
**Hamiltonian to band-diagonal form**  
with respect to a chosen basis

- **unitary transformation** of Hamiltonian  
 $\tilde{H}_\alpha = U_\alpha^\dagger H U_\alpha$

simplicity and flexibility  
are great advantages of  
the SRG approach

- **evolution equations** for  $\tilde{H}_\alpha$  and  $U_\alpha$

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} \tilde{H}_\alpha = [\eta_\alpha, \tilde{H}_\alpha]$$

solve SRG evolution  
equations using two- &  
three-body matrix  
representation

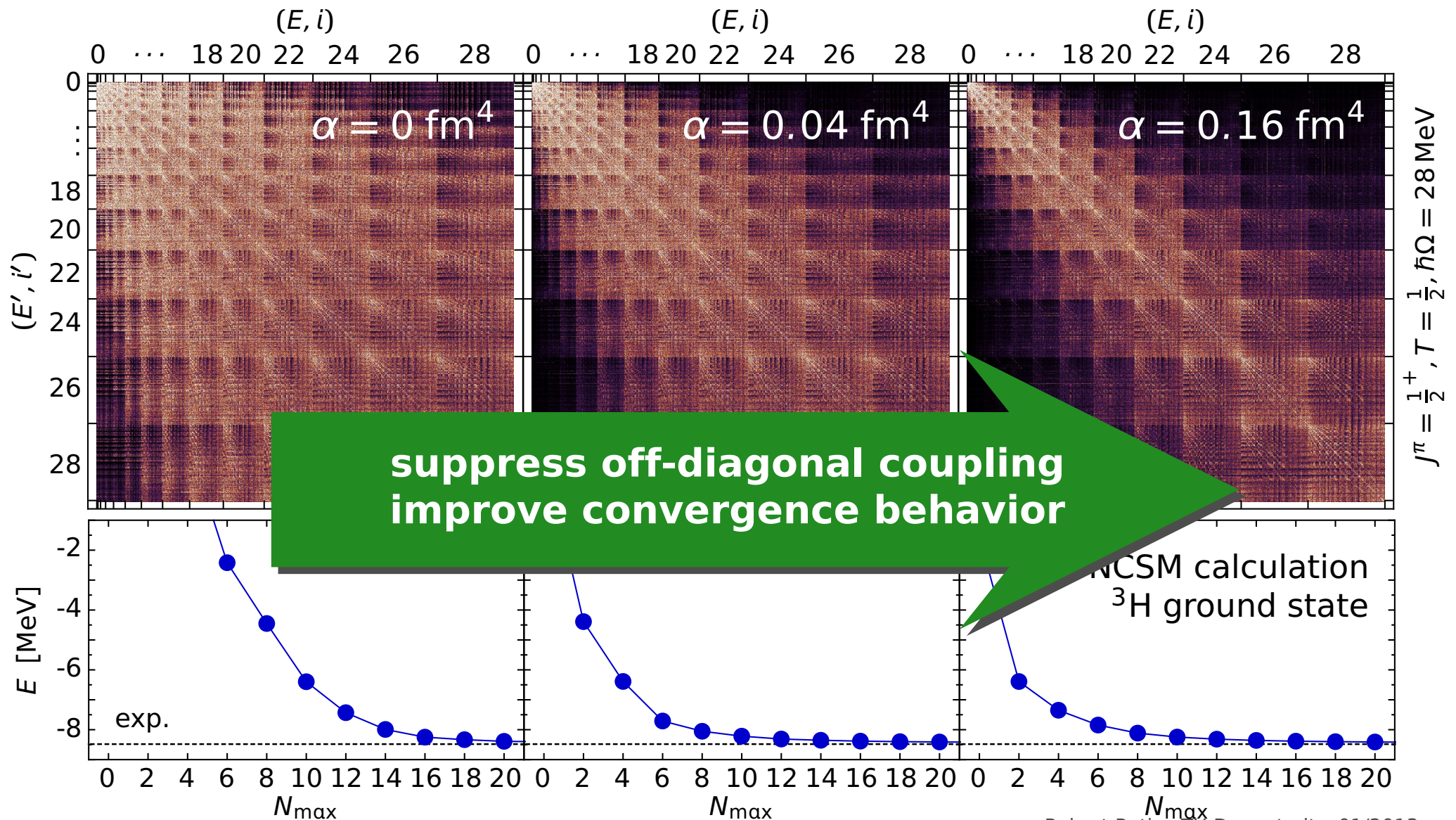
- **dynamic generator**: commutator with the operator in whose  
eigenbasis  $H$  shall be diagonalized

$$\eta_\alpha = (2\mu)^2 [T_{\text{int}}, \tilde{H}_\alpha]$$



# SRG Evolution in Three-Body Space

- perform SRG evolution for **three-body Jacobi-HO** matrix elements



# Hamiltonian in A-Body Space

- evolution **induces  $n$ -body contributions**  $\tilde{H}_\alpha^{[n]}$  to Hamiltonian

$$\tilde{H}_\alpha = \tilde{H}_\alpha^{[1]} + \tilde{H}_\alpha^{[2]} + \tilde{H}_\alpha^{[3]} + \tilde{H}_\alpha^{[4]} + \dots$$

- truncation of cluster series inevitable — formally destroys unitarity and invariance of energy eigenvalues (independence of  $\alpha$ )

## SRG-Evolved Hamiltonians

- **NN only**: start with NN initial Hamiltonian and keep two-body terms only
- **NN+3N-induced**: start with NN initial Hamiltonian and keep two- and induced three-body terms
- **NN+3N-full**: start with NN+3N initial Hamiltonian and all three-body terms

$\alpha$ -variation provides a **diagnostic tool** to assess the contributions of omitted many-body interactions

# Importance Truncated No-Core Shell Model

- Roth, Langhammer, Calci et al. — Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 072501 (2011)  
Navrátil, Roth, Quaglioni — Phys. Rev. C 82, 034609 (2010)  
Roth — Phys. Rev. C 79, 064324 (2009)  
Roth, Gour & Piecuch — Phys. Lett. B 679, 334 (2009)  
Roth, Gour & Piecuch — Phys. Rev. C 79, 054325 (2009)  
Roth, Navrátil — Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 092501 (2007)

# No-Core Shell Model

Barrett, Vary, Navratil, Maris, Nogga, Roth,...

NCSM is one of the most powerful and universal exact ab-initio methods

- construct matrix representation of Hamiltonian using a **basis of HO Slater determinants** truncated w.r.t. HO excitation energy  $N_{\max}\hbar\Omega$
- solve **large-scale eigenvalue problem** for a few extremal eigenvalues
- **all relevant observables** can be computed from the eigenstates
- range of applicability limited by **factorial growth** of basis with  $N_{\max}$  &  $A$
- adaptive **importance truncation** extends the range of NCSM by reducing the model space to physically relevant states
- we have developed a **parallelized IT-NCSM/NCSM code** capable of handling  $3N$  matrix elements up to  $E_{3\max} = 16$

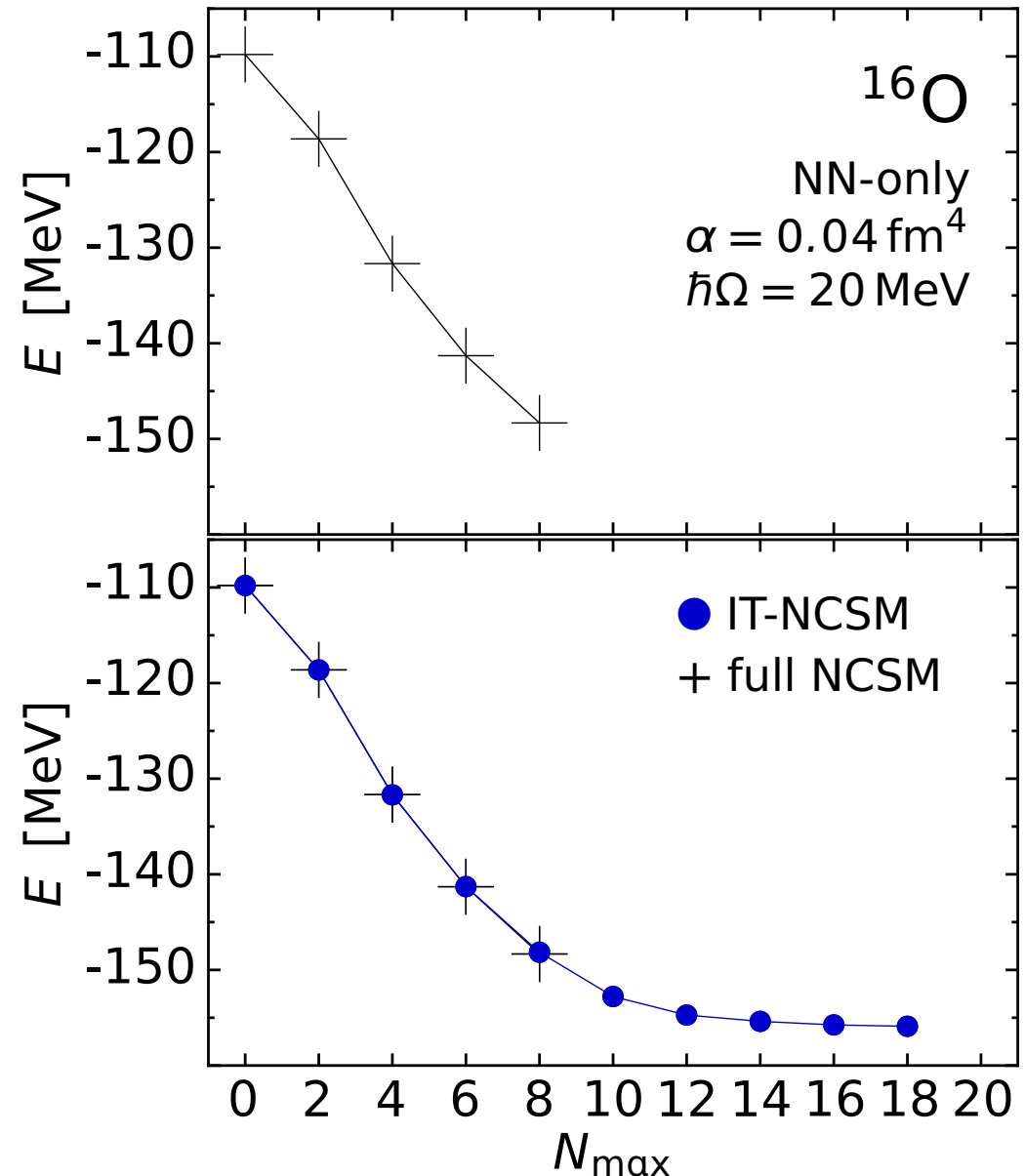
# Importance Truncated NCSM

Roth, PRC 79, 064324 (2009); PRL 99, 092501 (2007)

- converged NCSM calculations essentially restricted to lower/mid p-shell
- full  $10\hbar\Omega$  calculation for  $^{16}\text{O}$  getting very difficult (basis dimension  $> 10^{10}$ )

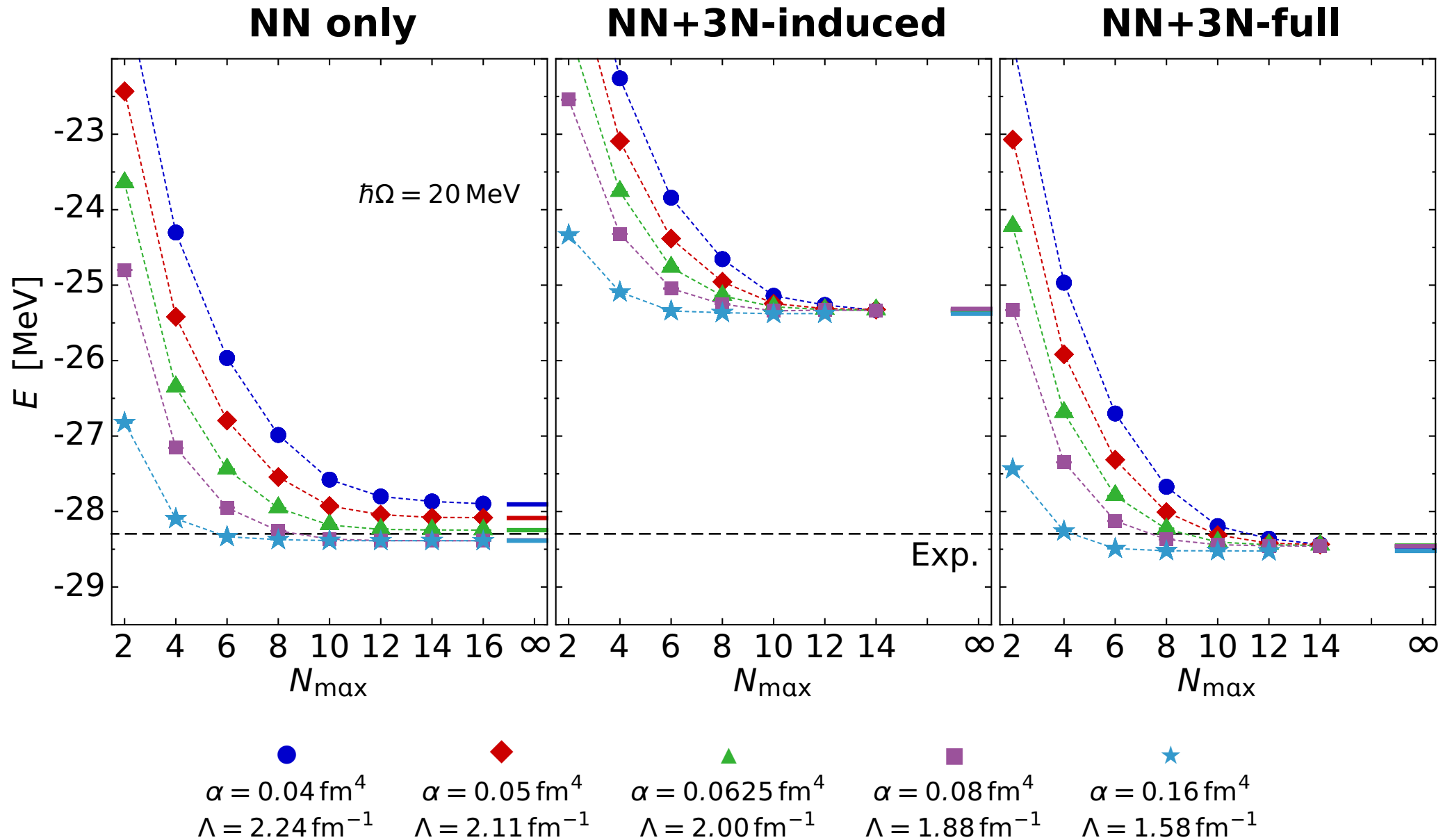
## Importance Truncation

reduce model space to the relevant basis states using an **a priori importance measure** derived from MBPT



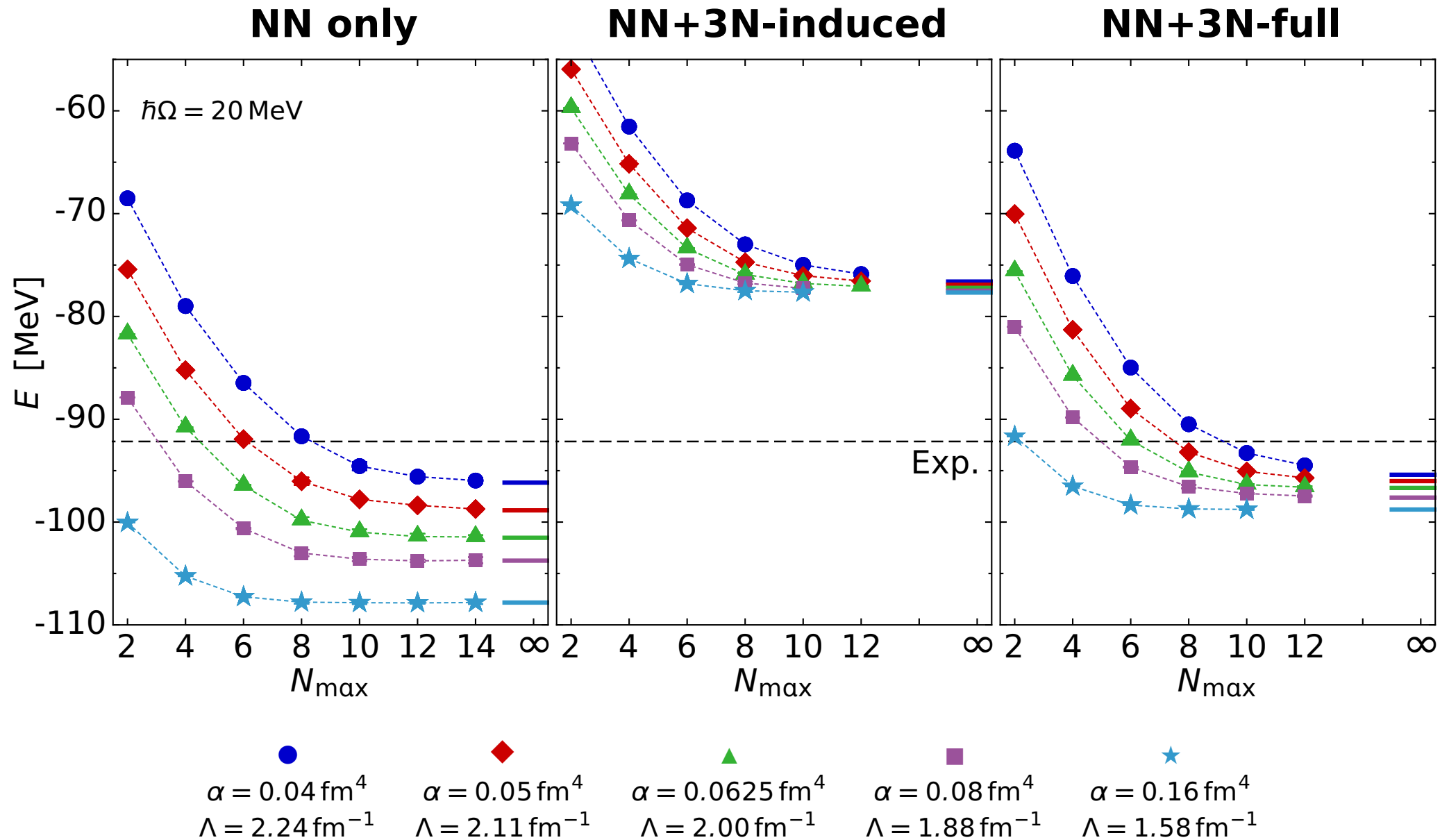
# $^4\text{He}$ : Ground-State Energies

Roth, et al; PRL 107, 072501 (2011)



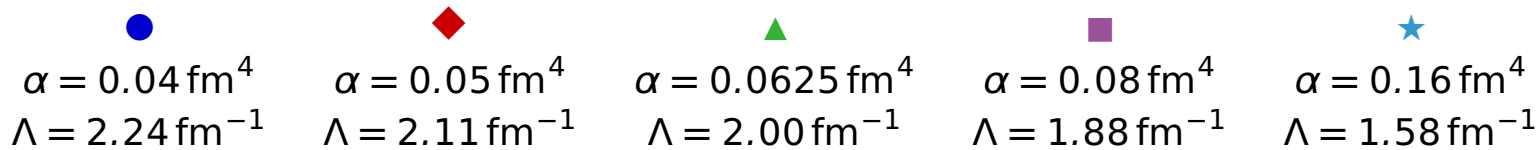
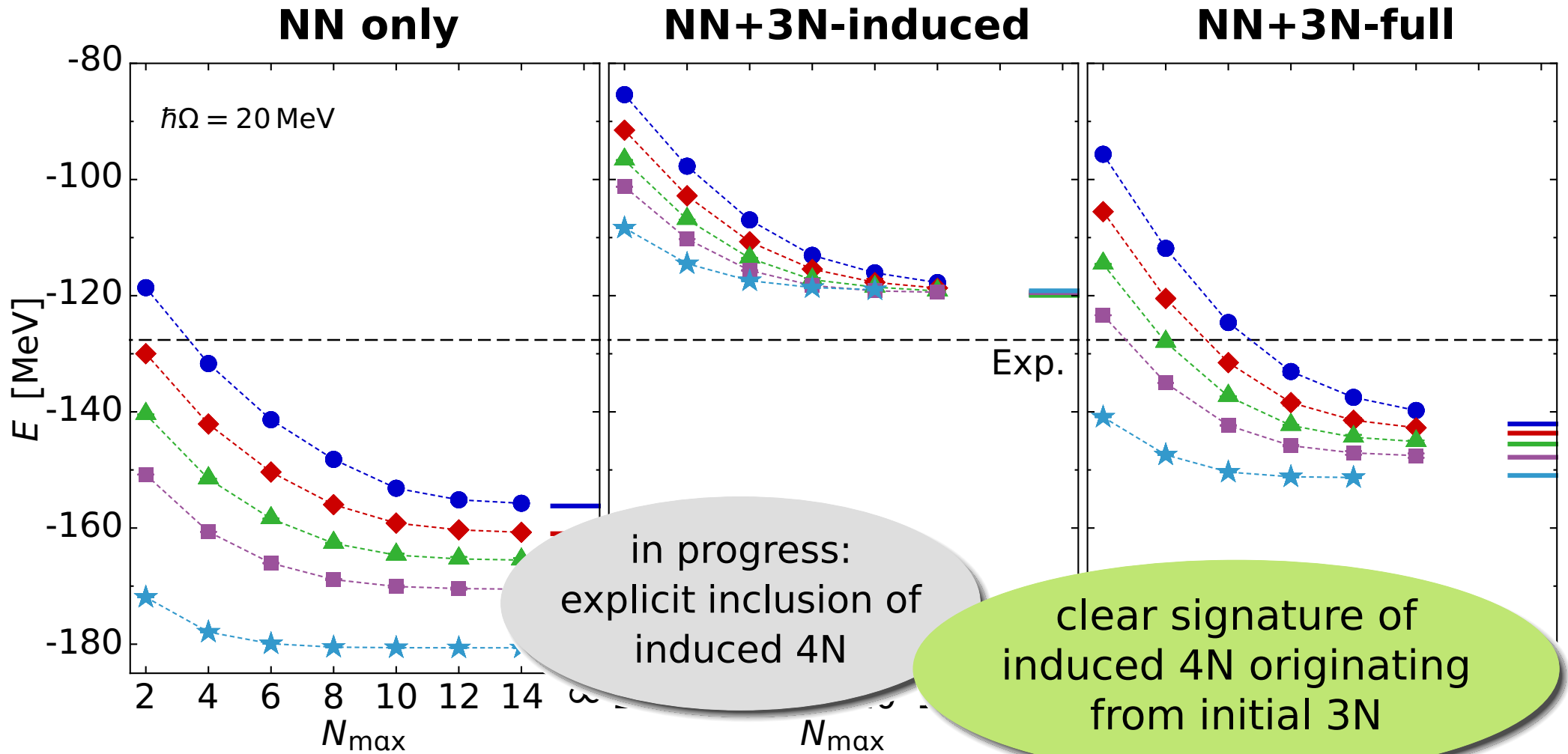
# $^{12}\text{C}$ : Ground-State Energies

Roth, et al; PRL 107, 072501 (2011)



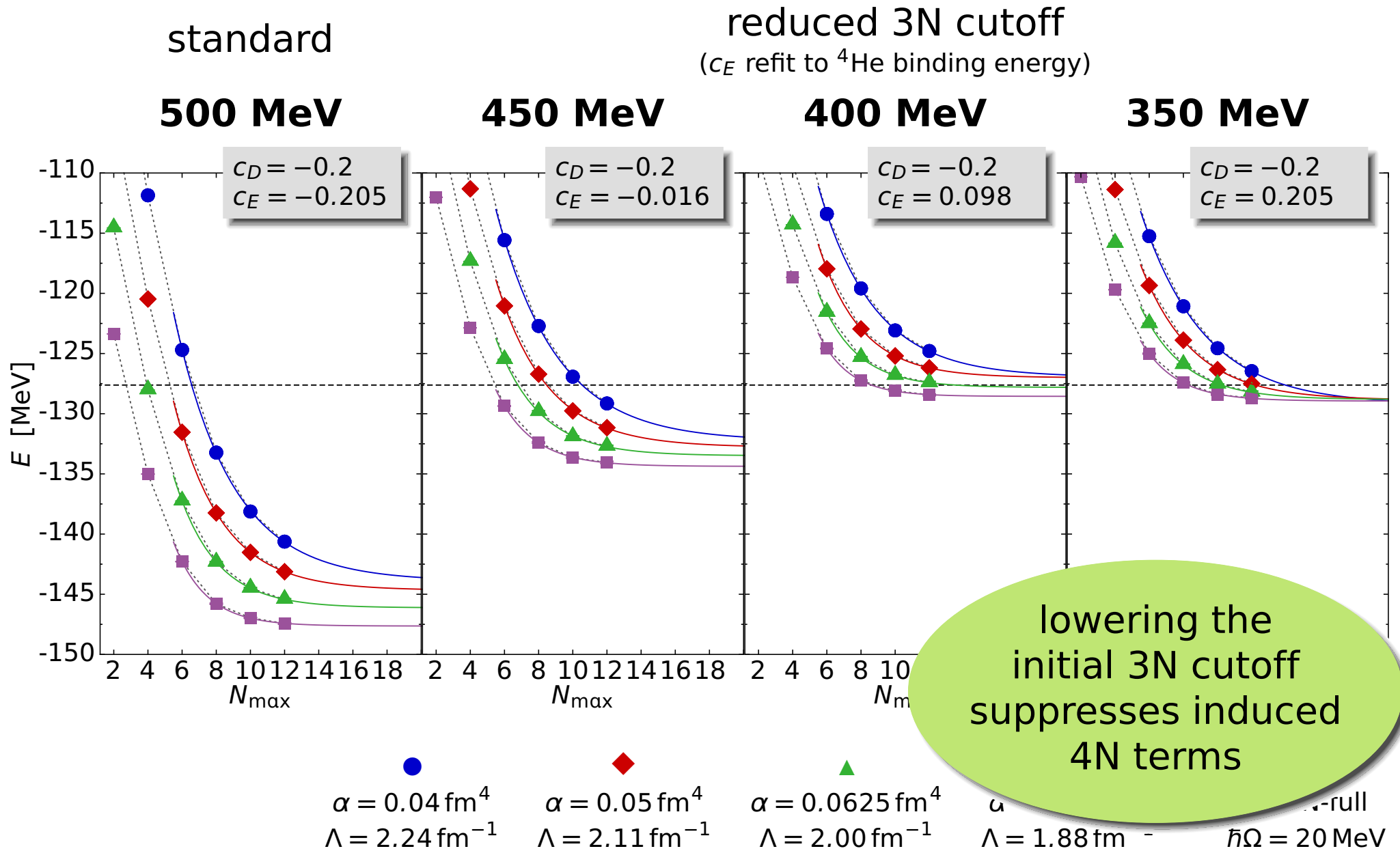
# $^{16}\text{O}$ : Ground-State Energies

Roth, et al; PRL 107, 072501 (2011)



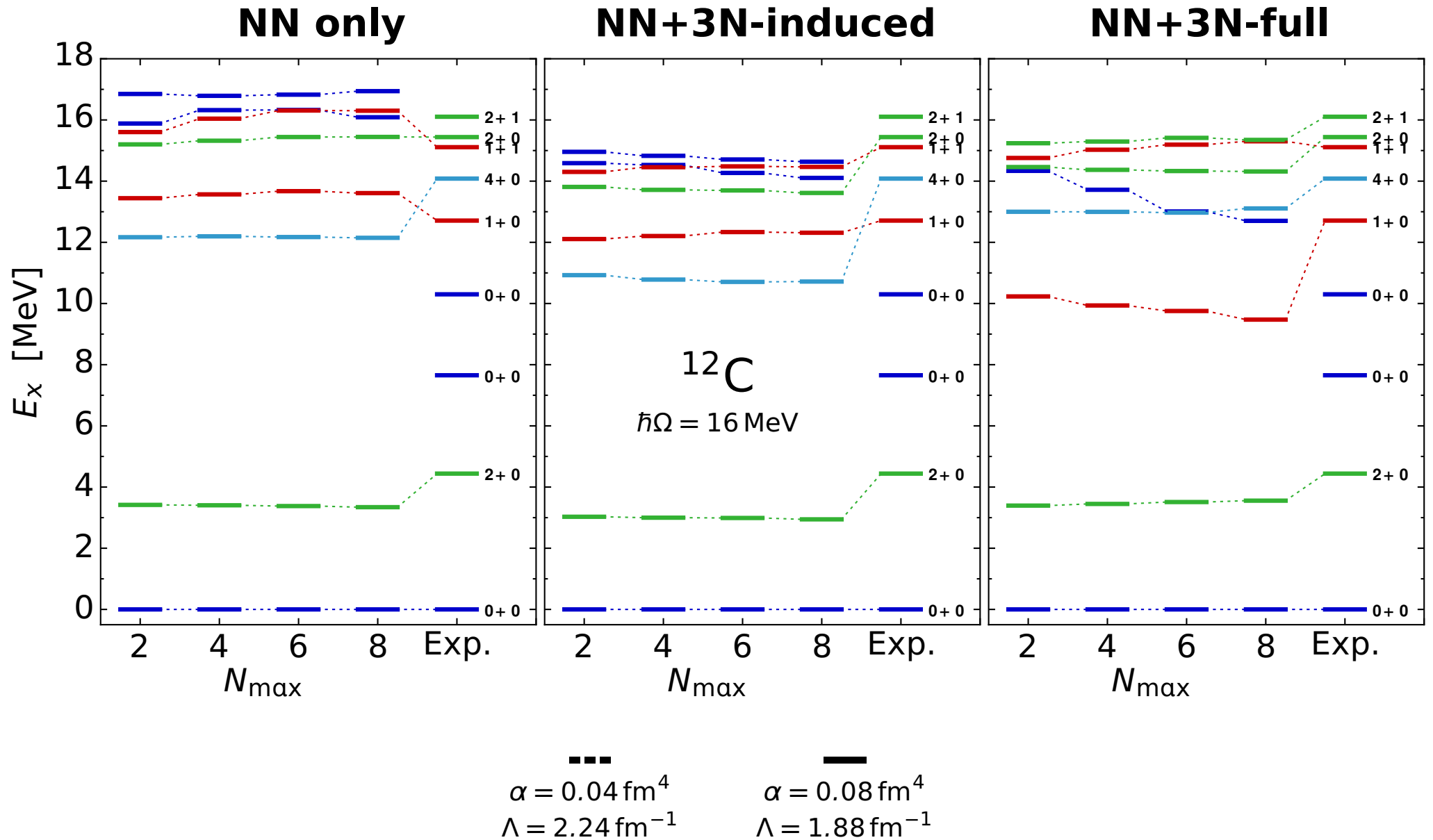


# $^{16}\text{O}$ : Lowering the Initial 3N Cutoff



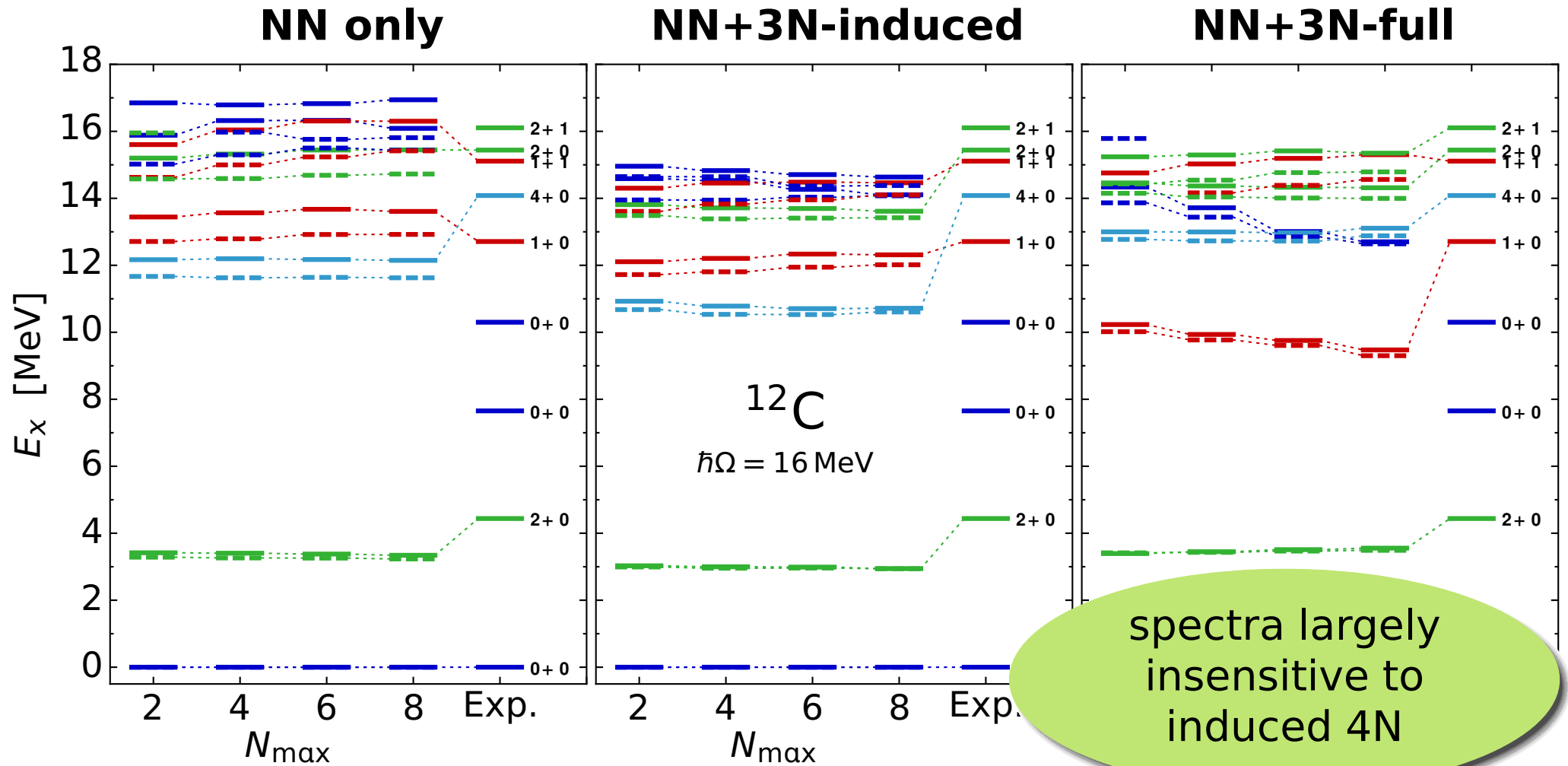
# Spectroscopy of $^{12}\text{C}$

Roth, et al; PRL 107, 072501 (2011)



# Spectroscopy of $^{12}\text{C}$

Roth, et al; PRL 107, 072501 (2011)



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 $\alpha = 0.04 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\Lambda = 2.24 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

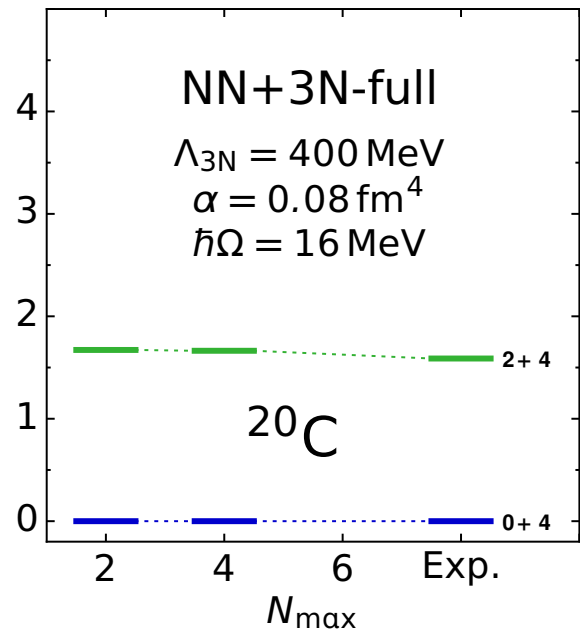
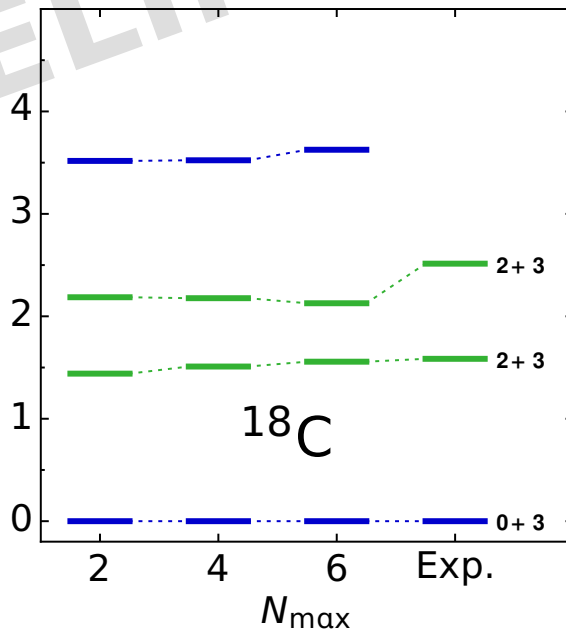
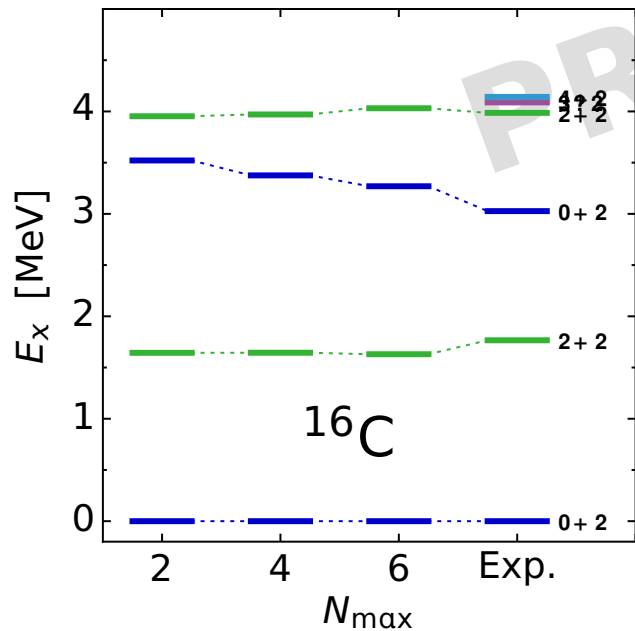
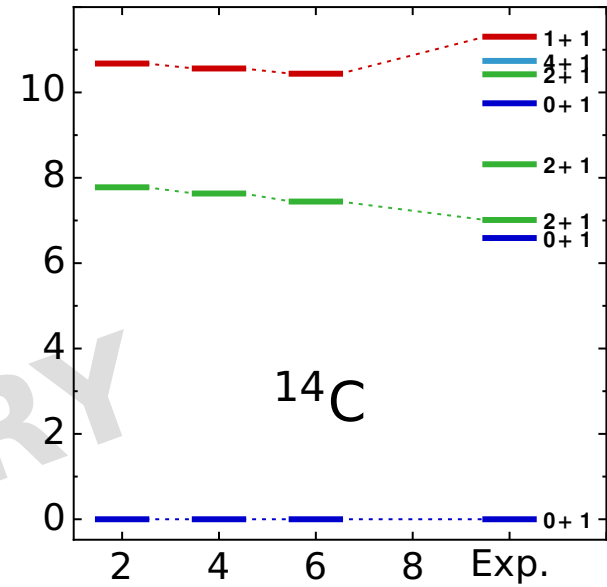
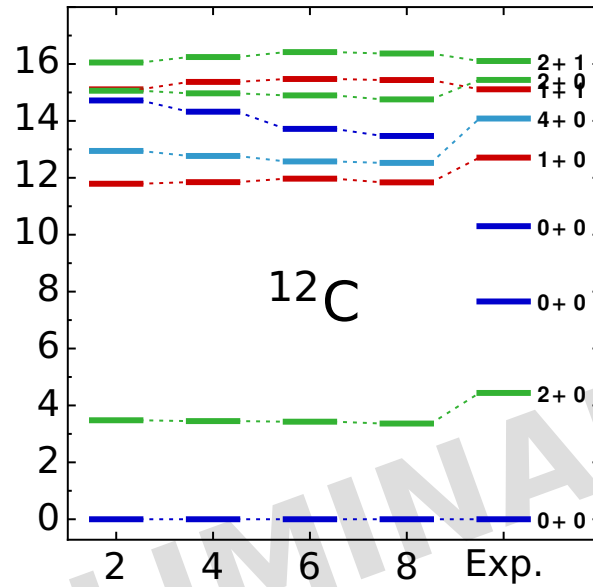
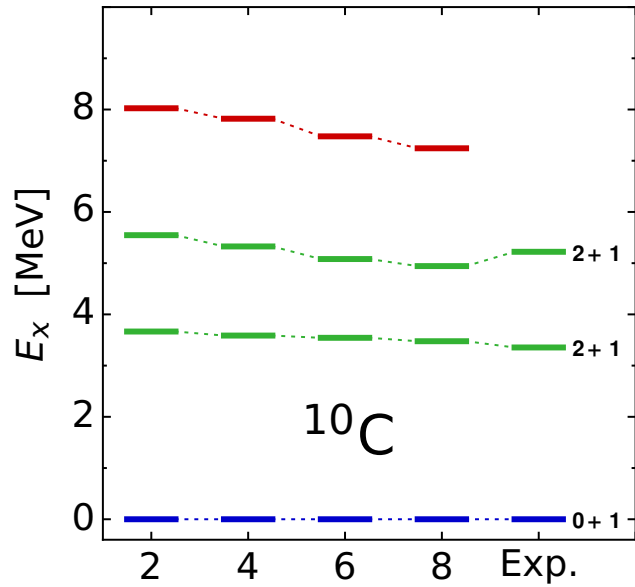
—  
 $\alpha = 0.08 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\Lambda = 1.88 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

# The Bottom Line...

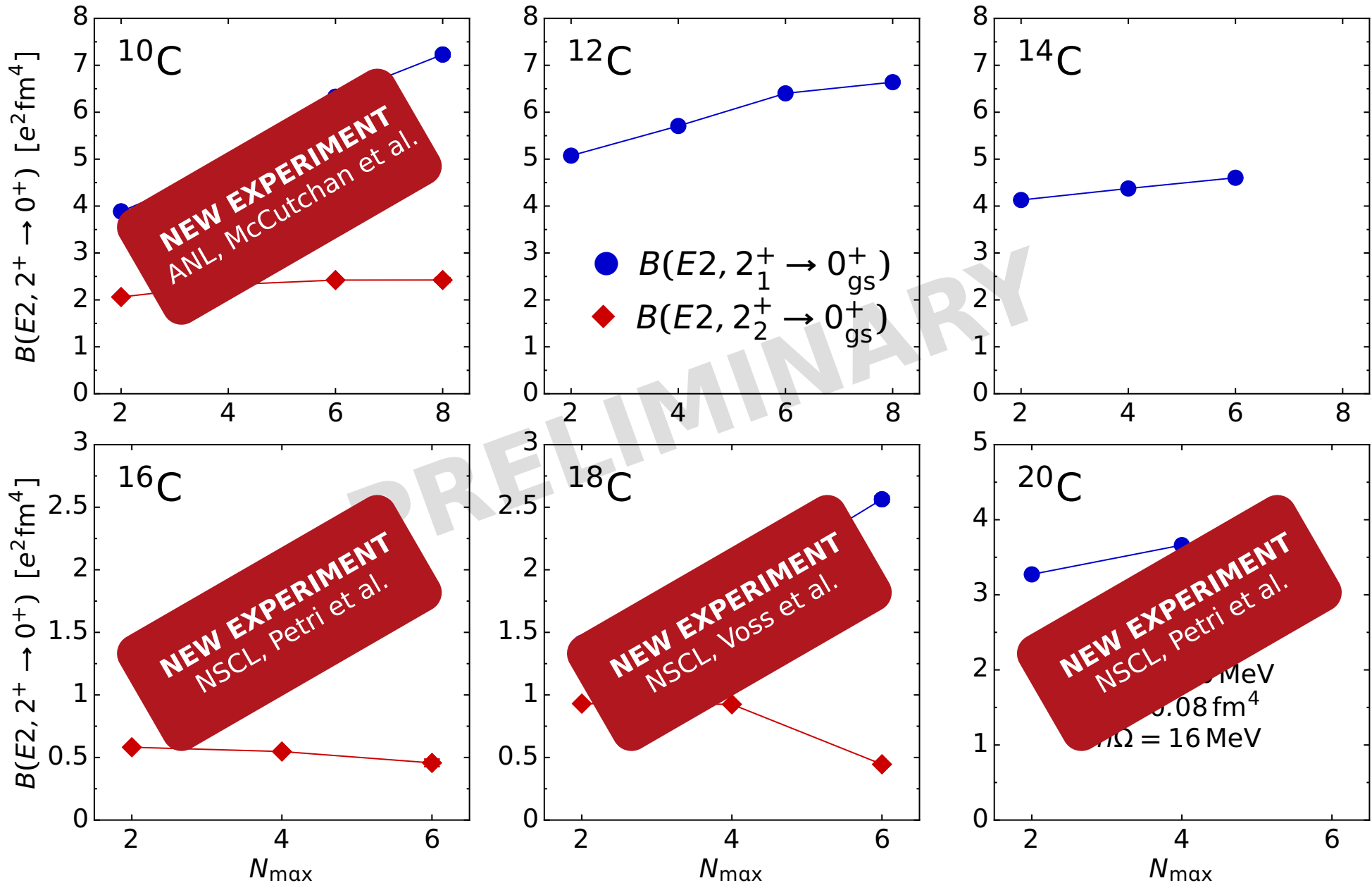
- beyond the lightest nuclei, **SRG-induced 4N contributions** affect the absolute energies (but not the excitation energies)
  - with the inclusion of the leading 3N interaction we already obtain a **good description** of spectra (and ground states)
  - **breakthrough** in computation, transformation and management of 3N matrix-elements
- **applications**: spectroscopy of p- and sd-shell nuclei and ground states with reduced initial 3N cutoff
  - **next-generation SRG**: include induced 4N contributions or suppress many-body terms with modified SRG-generators
  - **next-generation chiral 3N**: use consistent chiral Hamiltonians and propagate uncertainties to many-body observables

Ab Initio Calculations  
for p- and sd-Shell Nuclei

# Spectroscopy of Carbon Isotopes

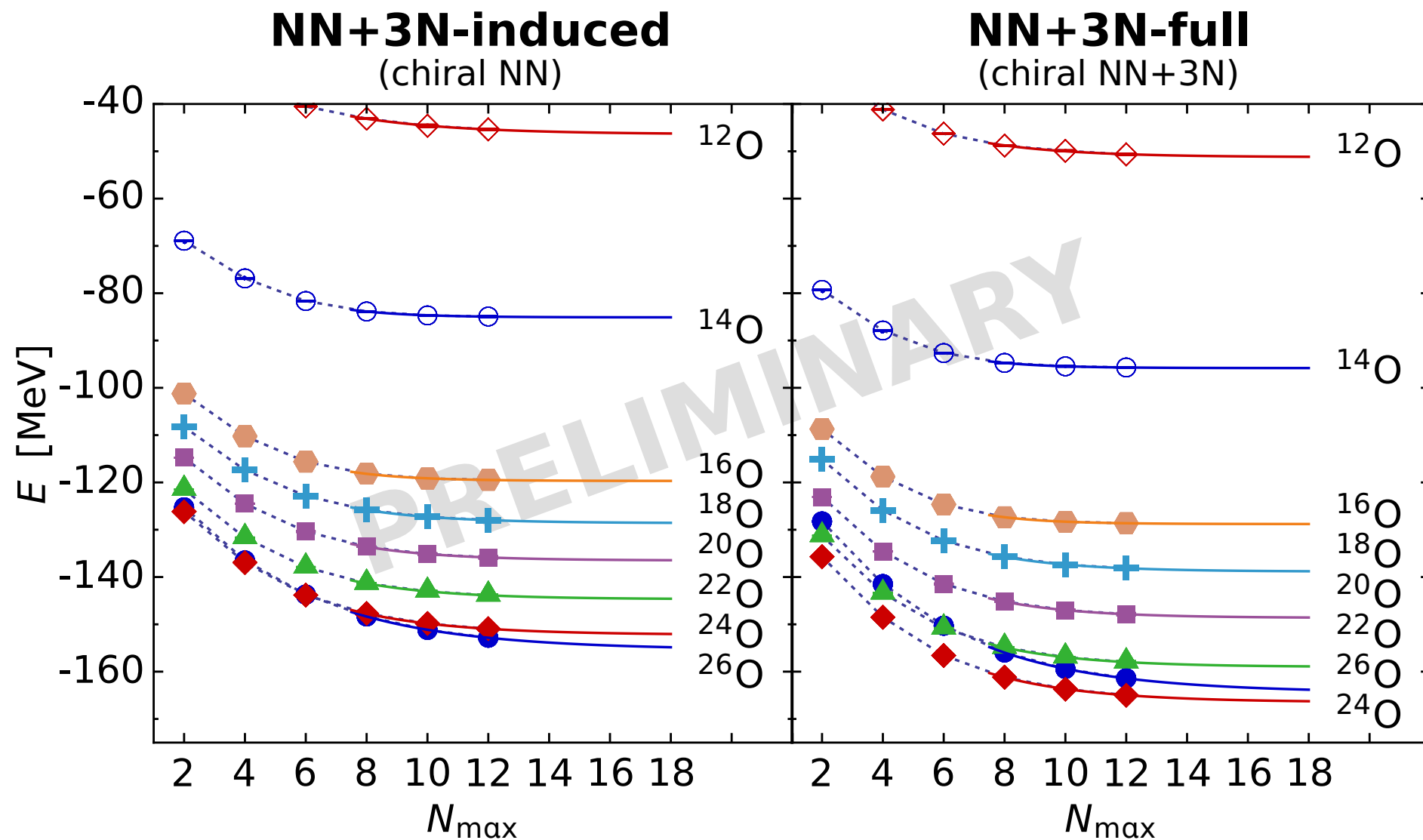


# Spectroscopy of Carbon Isotopes



# Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

Hergert, Binder, Calci, Langhammer, Roth; in prep.

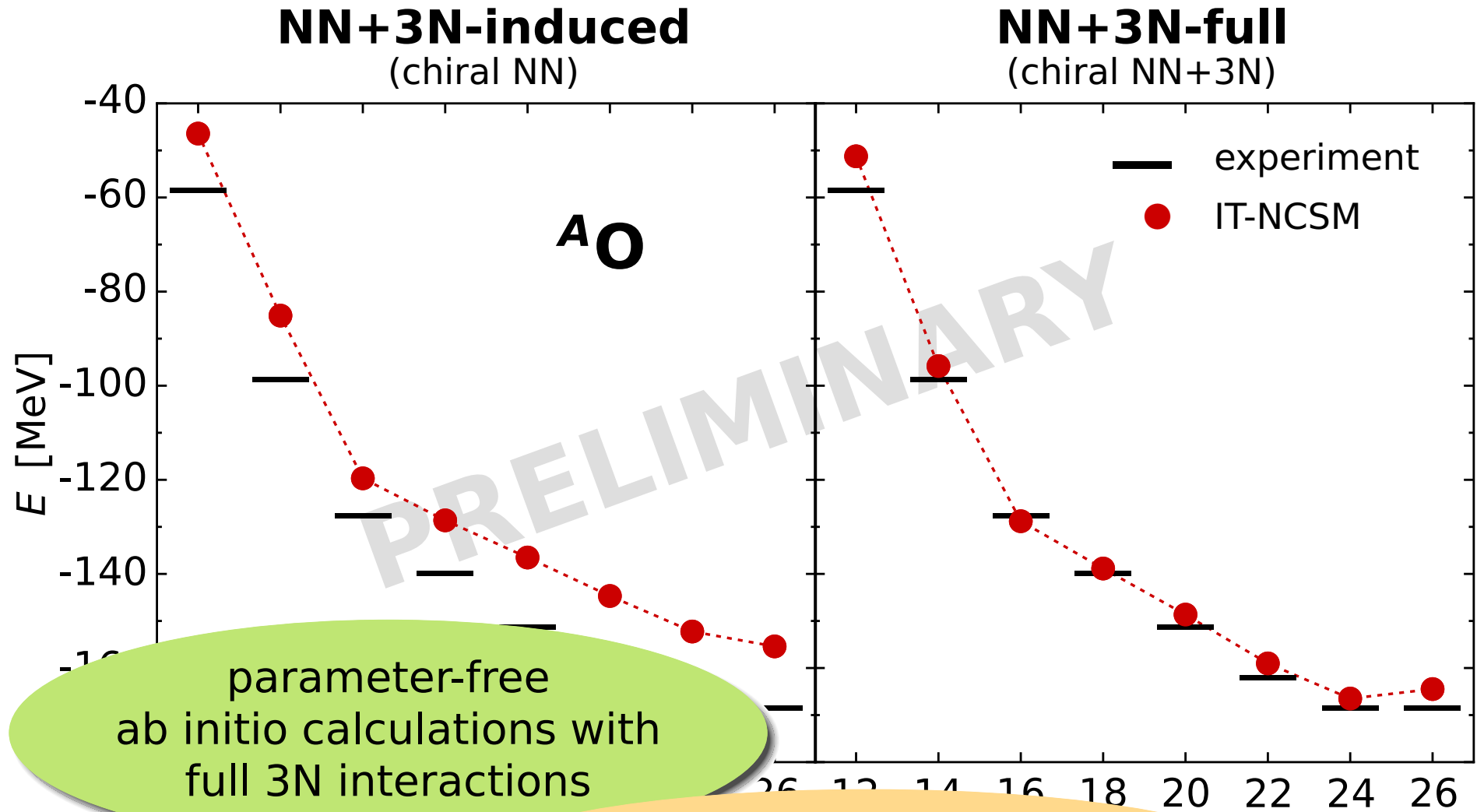


$\Lambda_{3N} = 400$  MeV,  $\alpha = 0.08$  fm<sup>4</sup>,  $E_{3\max} = 14$ , optimal  $\hbar\Omega$



# Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

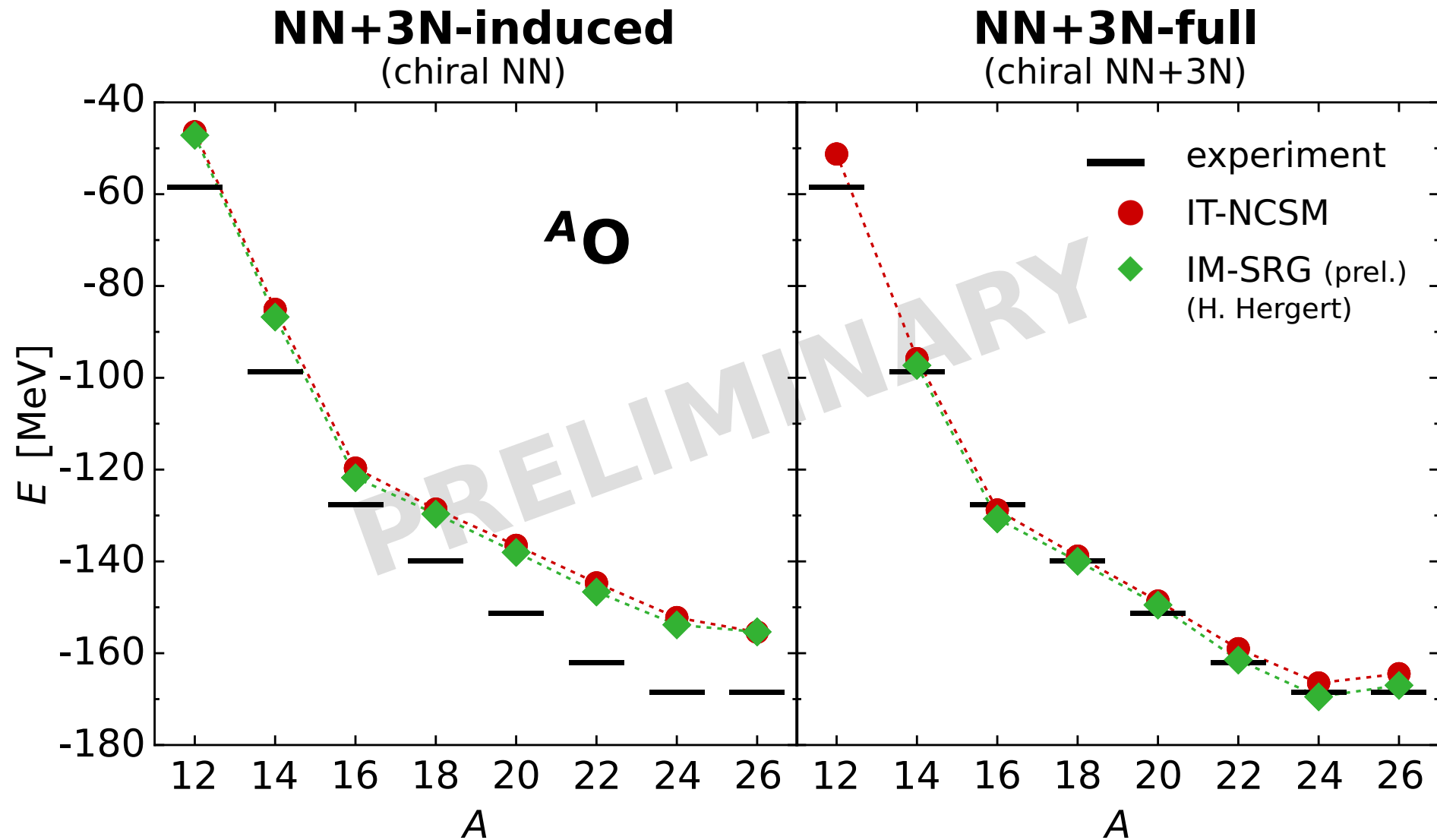
Hergert, Binder, Calci, Langhammer, Roth; in prep.



$\Lambda_{3N} = 400$  MeV,  $\mu = 0.045$  fm<sup>-1</sup>,  $\hbar\Omega = 10$  MeV

# Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

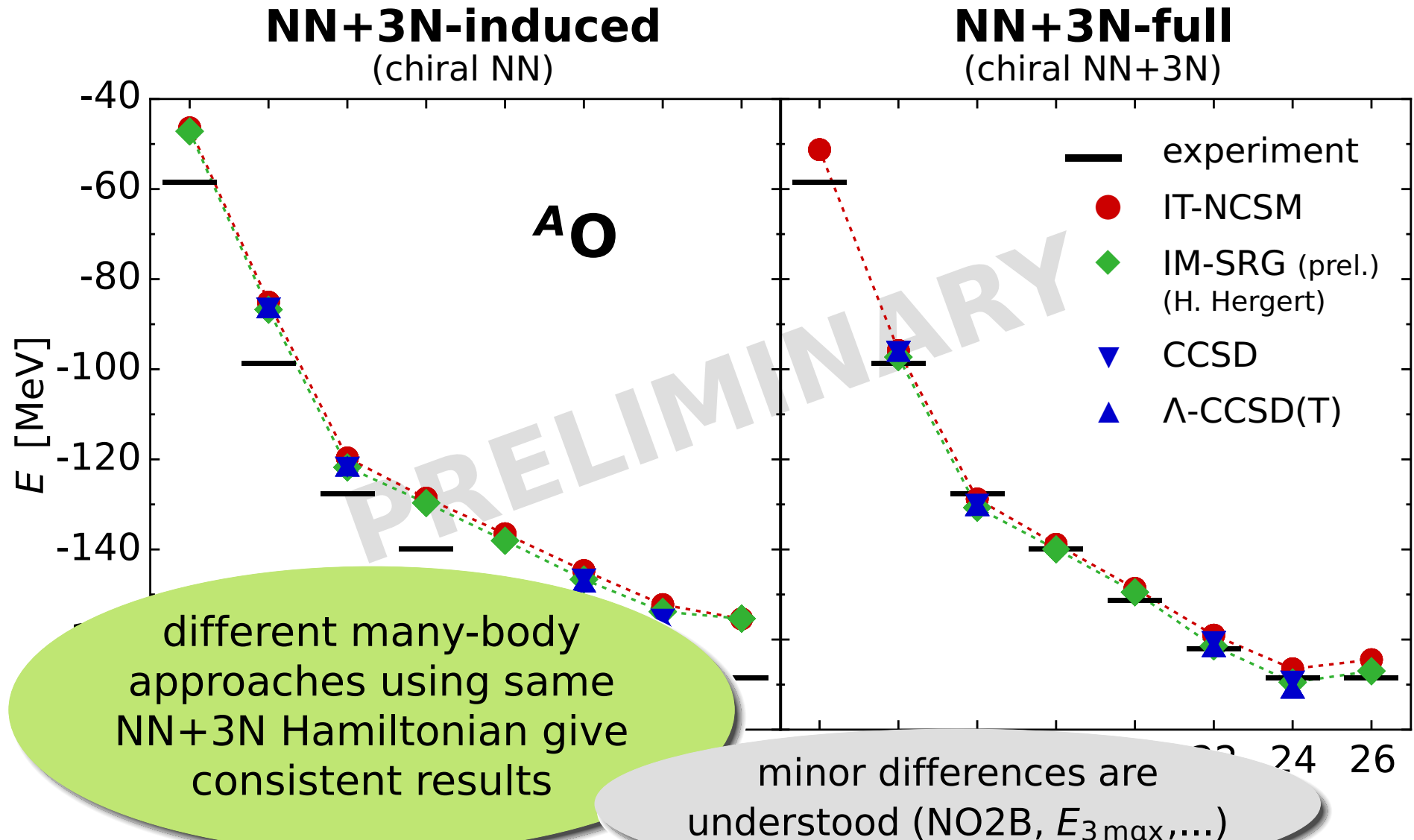
Hergert, Binder, Calci, Langhammer, Roth; in prep.



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# Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

Hergert, Binder, Calci, Langhammer, Roth; in prep.



$\Lambda_{3N} = 400$  MeV,  $\alpha = 0.08$  fm $^{-1}$ ,  $E_{3\max} = 1\tau$ ,  $\Omega = 0.1$  fm $^{-1}$ ,  $\hbar\Omega$

# Ab Initio Calculations for Heavy Nuclei

Roth, Binder, Vobig et al. — Phys. Rev. Lett. 109, 052501 (2012)

Binder, Langhammer, Calci et al. — arXiv:1211.4748

Hergert, Bogner, Binder et al. — arXiv:1212.1190

# Coupled-Cluster Method

Coester, Kuemmel, Bishop, Dean, Piecuch, Walet, Papenbrock, Hagen, Binder,...

CC is one of the most efficient methods for the description of ground states of medium-mass or heavy closed-shell nuclei

- many-body state parametrized as **exponential wave operator** applied to single-determinant **reference state**  $|\Phi_{\text{ref}}\rangle$

$$|\Psi_{\text{CC}}\rangle = \Omega |\Phi_{\text{ref}}\rangle = \exp(T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + \dots + T_A) |\Phi_{\text{ref}}\rangle$$

- truncation with respect to  $n$ -particle- $n$ -hole **excitation operators**  $T_n$
- solve **non-linear system** of equations for the amplitudes in  $T_1, T_2, T_3, \dots$
- extensions to near-closed-shell nuclei and excited states through **equations-of-motion methods**
- we have developed a **parallelized CC code** for CCSD and  $\Lambda$ -CCSD(T)

# Inclusion of 3N Interactions

## ■ **premium option: explicit 3N**

- extend coupled-cluster equations for explicit 3N interactions
- CCSD-3B,  $\Lambda$ -CCSD(T)-3B are feasible, but much more expensive

## ■ **low-cost option: normal-ordered two-body approximation**

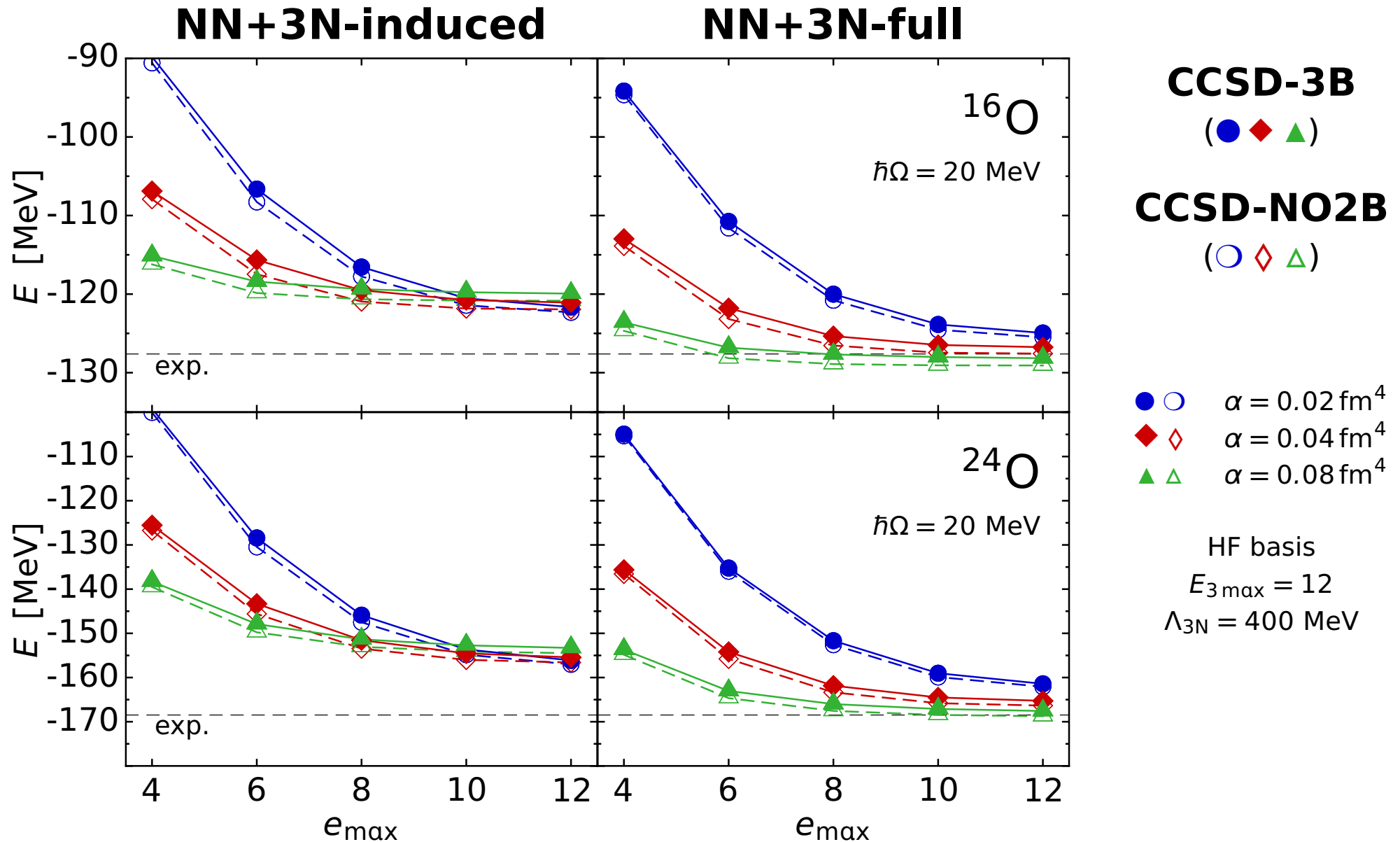
- write 3N interaction in normal-ordered form with respect to the actual A-body reference determinant (HF state)

$$\begin{aligned} V_{3N} &= \sum_{\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ} V_{\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ}^{3N} a_{\circ}^{\dagger} a_{\circ}^{\dagger} a_{\circ}^{\dagger} a_{\circ} a_{\circ} a_{\circ} \\ &= W^{0B} + \sum_{\circ\circ} W_{\circ\circ}^{1B} \{a_{\circ}^{\dagger} a_{\circ}\} + \sum_{\circ\circ\circ} W_{\circ\circ\circ}^{2B} \{a_{\circ}^{\dagger} a_{\circ}^{\dagger} a_{\circ} a_{\circ}\} \\ &\quad + \sum_{\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ} W_{\circ\circ\circ\circ\circ}^{3B} \{a_{\circ}^{\dagger} a_{\circ}^{\dagger} a_{\circ}^{\dagger} a_{\circ} a_{\circ} a_{\circ}\} \end{aligned}$$

- discard normal-ordered three-body term and use two-body coupled-cluster formalism

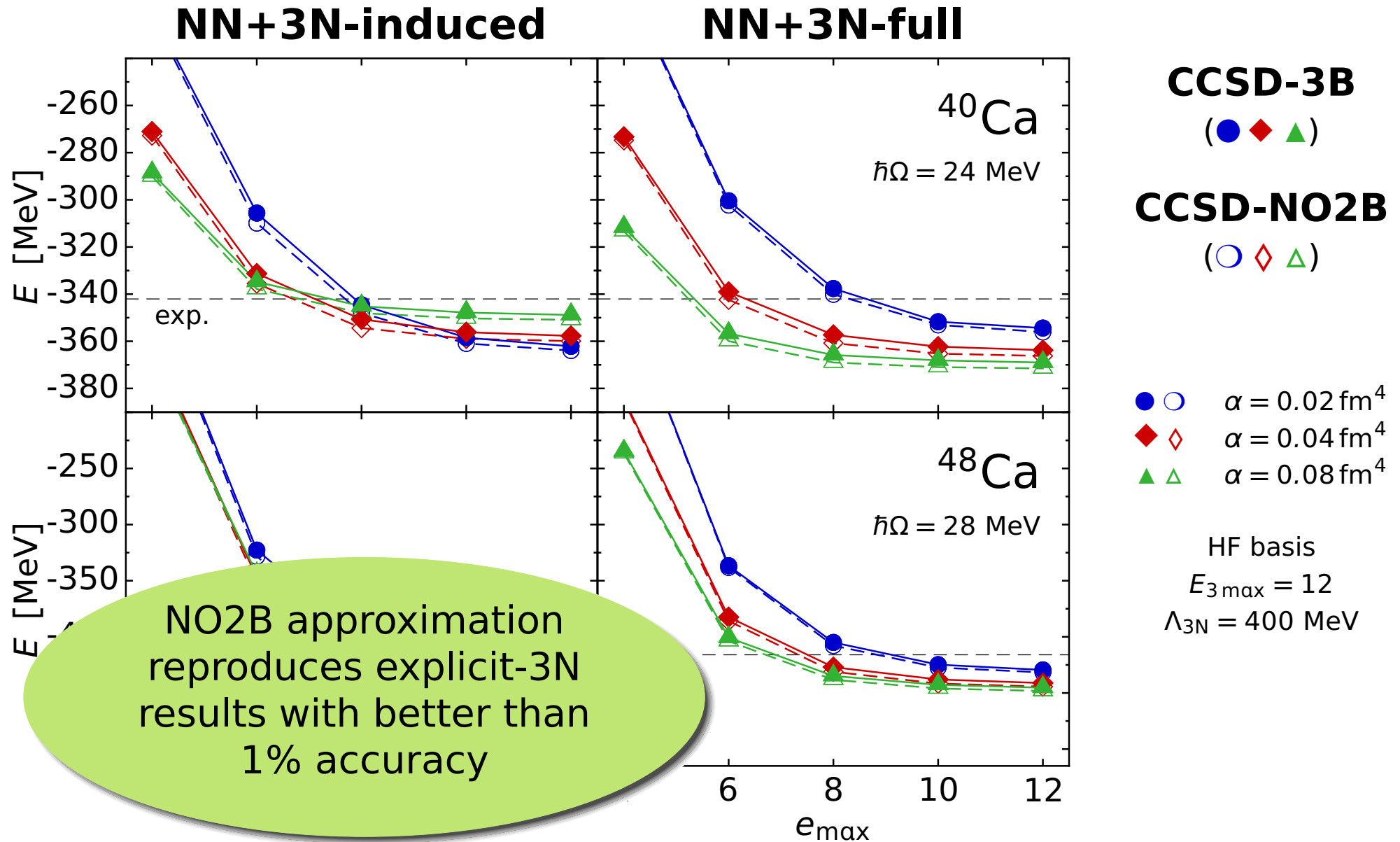
# CCSD with Explicit 3N Interactions

Binder et al.; arXiv:1211.4748



# CCSD with Explicit 3N Interactions

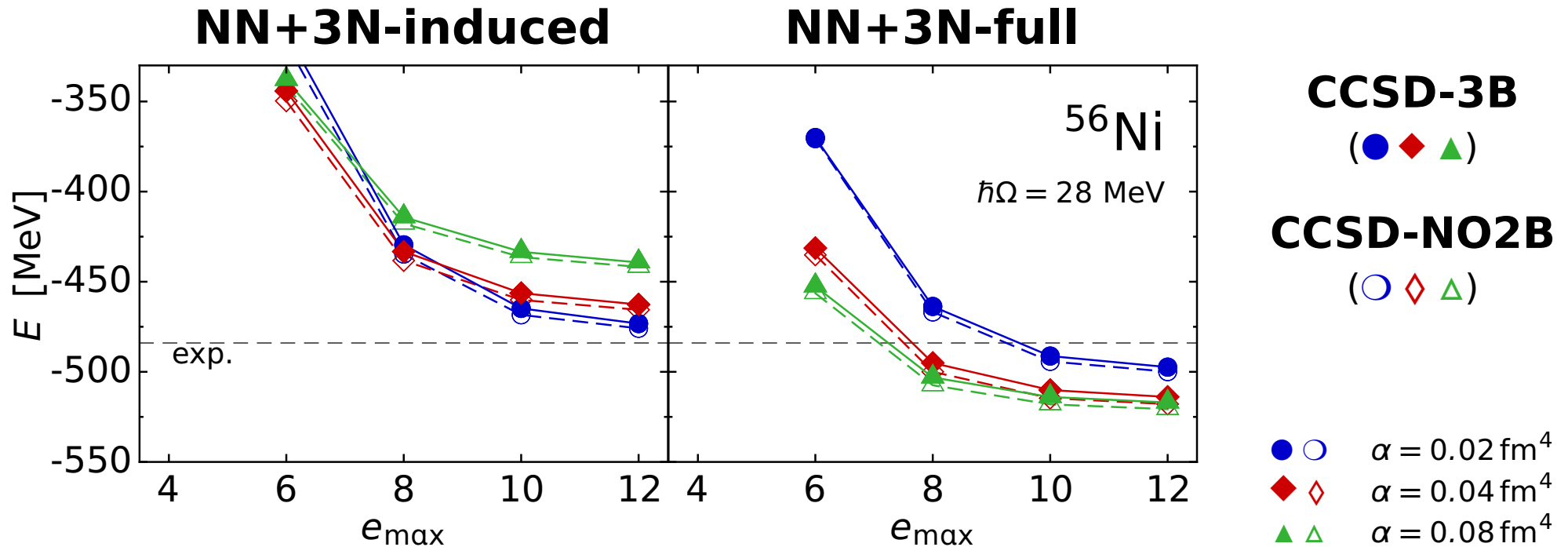
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# CCSD with Explicit 3N Interactions

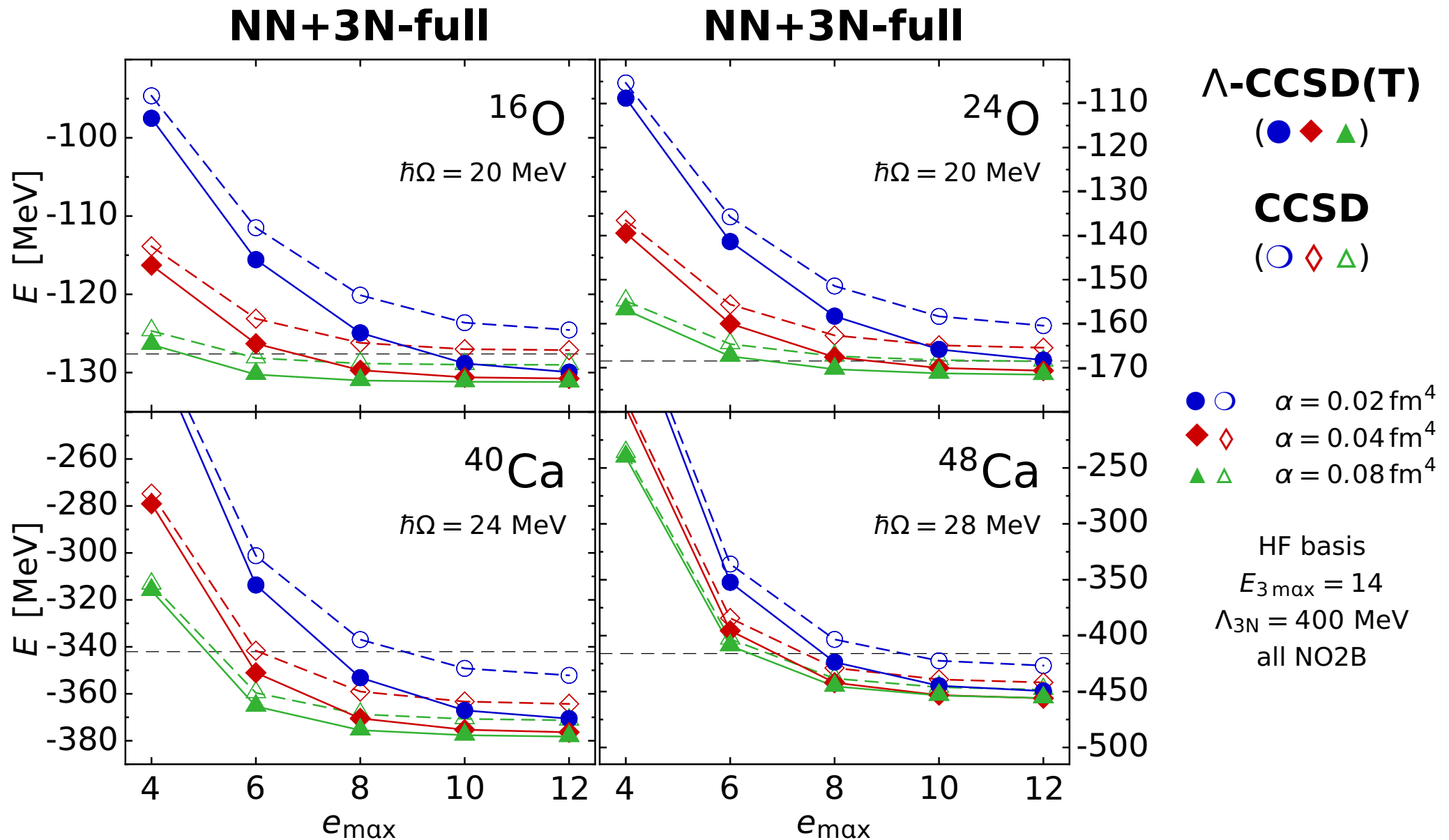
Binder et al.; arXiv:1211.4748



- $E_{3\max}$  truncation of 3N matrix elements has significant effects for  $A \gtrsim 60$
- many-body framework is ready to go to heavier nuclei... still cheap with NO2B approximation

# $\Lambda$ -CCSD(T) with NO2B Approximation

Binder et al.; arXiv:1211.4748



# Conclusions

# Conclusions

- new era of **ab-initio nuclear structure and reaction theory** connected to QCD via chiral EFT
  - chiral EFT as universal starting point... propagate uncertainties & provide feedback
- consistent **inclusion of 3N interactions** in similarity transformations & many-body calculations
  - breakthrough in computation & handling of 3N matrix elements
- **innovations in many-body theory**: extended reach of exact methods & improved control over approximations
  - versatile toolbox for different observables & mass ranges
- many **exciting applications** ahead...

# Epilogue

## ■ thanks to my group & my collaborators

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COMPUTING TIME

