

# New Horizons in Ab Initio Nuclear Structure Theory

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# Ab Initio Nuclear Structure

## Nuclear Structure Observables

**Lattice QCD**  
quarks & gluon on a lattice

**Lattice EFT**  
nucleons & pions on a lattice

**Exact Solutions**  
solve nuclear many-body problem with converged truncations

**Controlled Approx.**  
treat many-body problem with controlled & improvable approximations

### Similarity Transformations

physics-conserving unitary transformation to adapt Hamiltonian to limited model space

### Chiral EFT Hamiltonians

consistent NN, 3N, ... interactions & current operators

### Chiral Effective Field Theory

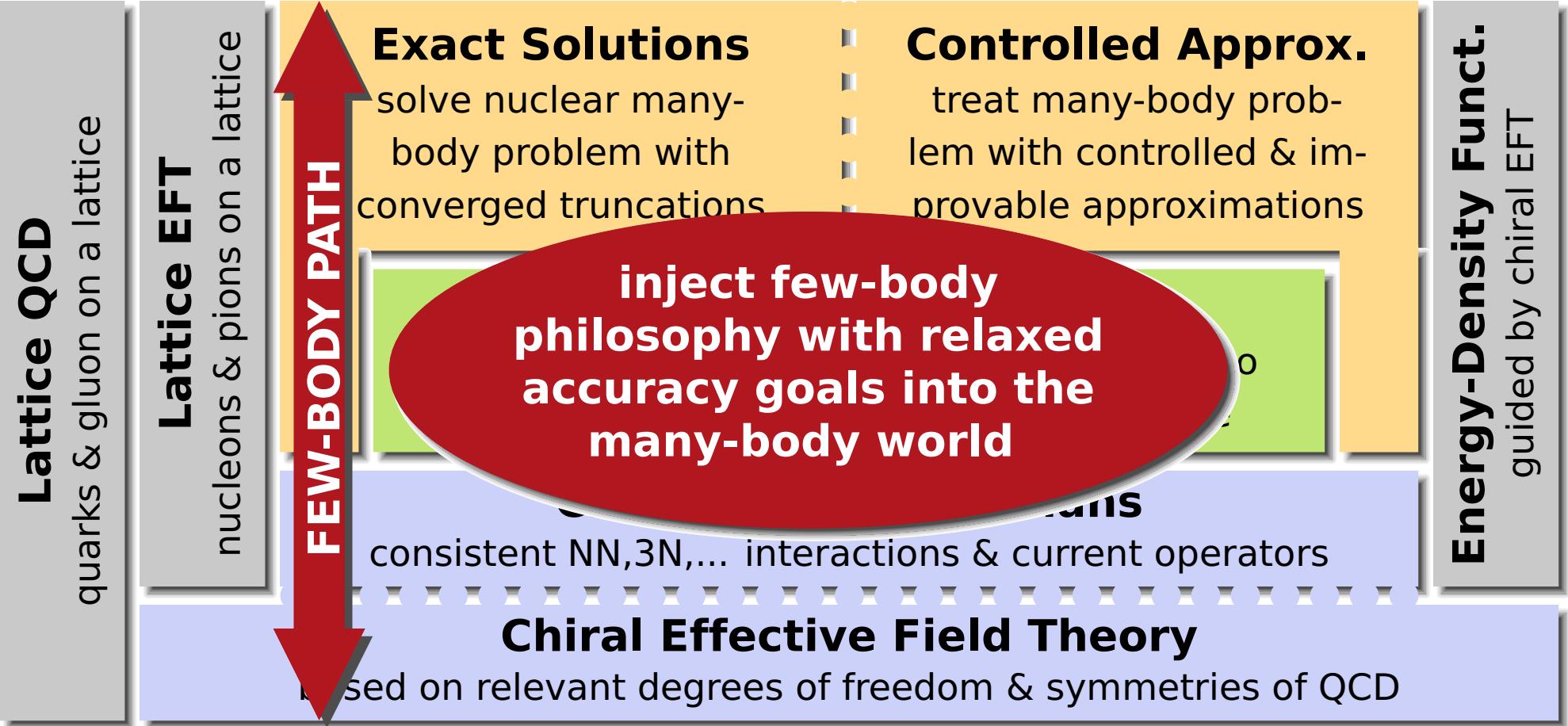
based on relevant degrees of freedom & symmetries of QCD

**Energy-Density Funct.**  
guided by chiral EFT

**Low-Energy Quantum Chromodynamics**

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# Nuclear Interactions from Chiral EFT

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

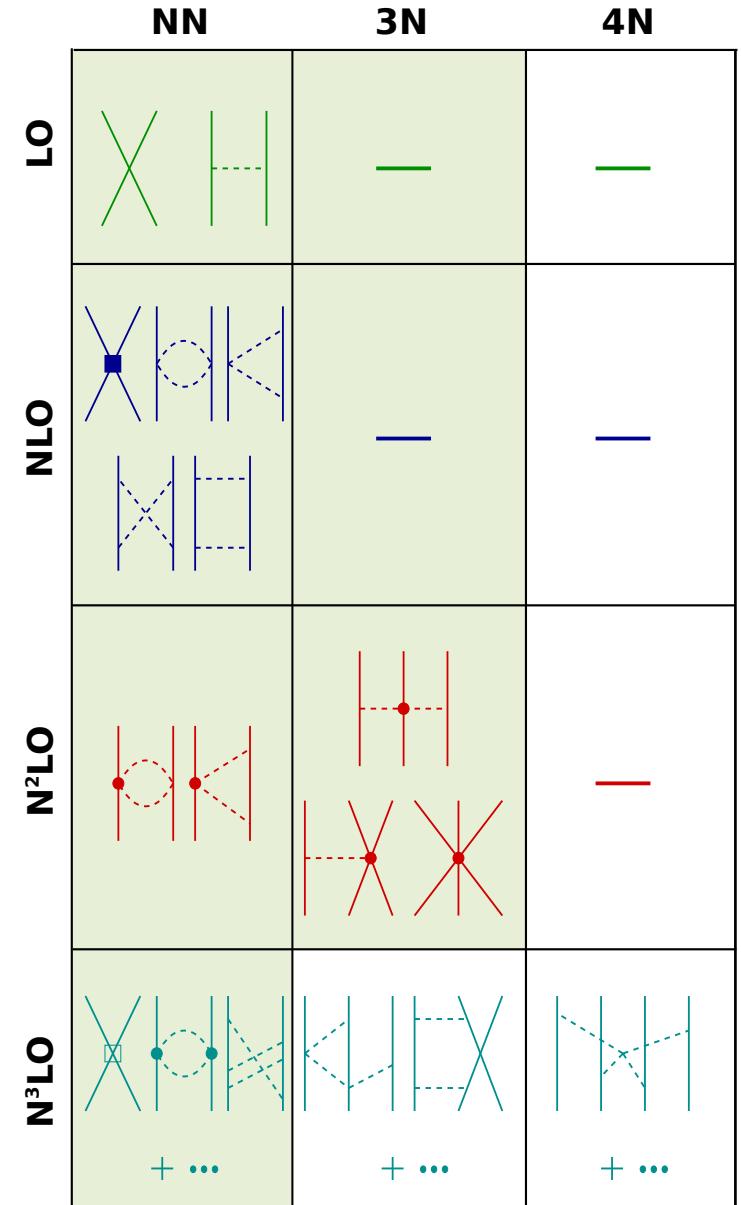
- **chiral EFT background:** talks by Epelbaum, Krebs, Gegelia,...

- **standard Hamiltonian:**

- NN at N3LO:  
Entem & Machleidt, 500 MeV cutoff
- 3N at N2LO:  
Navrátil, A=3 fit, 500 MeV cutoff

- **alternatives:**

- modified 3N interaction at N2LO (cutoff & LECs variations)
- consistent Hamiltonians at N2LO (NN: Epelbaum, POUNDERs-opt.)
- consistent Hamiltonians at N3LO (LENPIC Collaboration)
- $\Delta$ -full chiral EFT,...



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# Similarity Renormalization Group

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

continuous transformation driving  
**Hamiltonian to band-diagonal form**  
with respect to an uncorrelated basis

- **unitary transformation** of Hamiltonian

$$H_\alpha = U_\alpha^\dagger H U_\alpha$$

simplicity and flexibility  
are great advantages of  
the SRG approach

- **evolution equations** for  $H_\alpha$  and  $U_\alpha$

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} H_\alpha = [\eta_\alpha, H_\alpha]$$

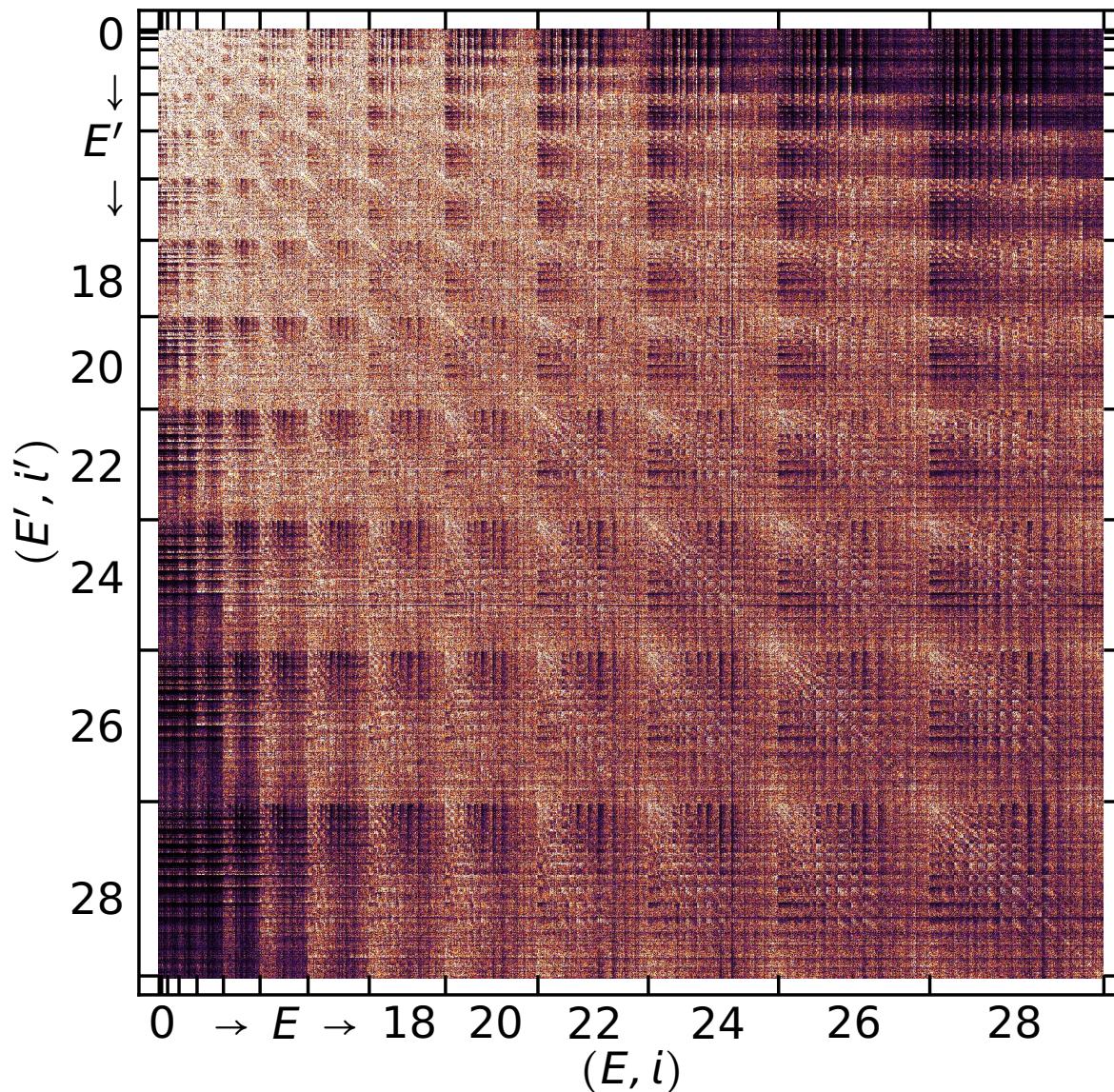
solve SRG evolution  
equations using two-,  
three- & four-body matrix  
representation

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

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

# SRG Evolution in Three-Body Space

**3B-Jacobi HO matrix elements**

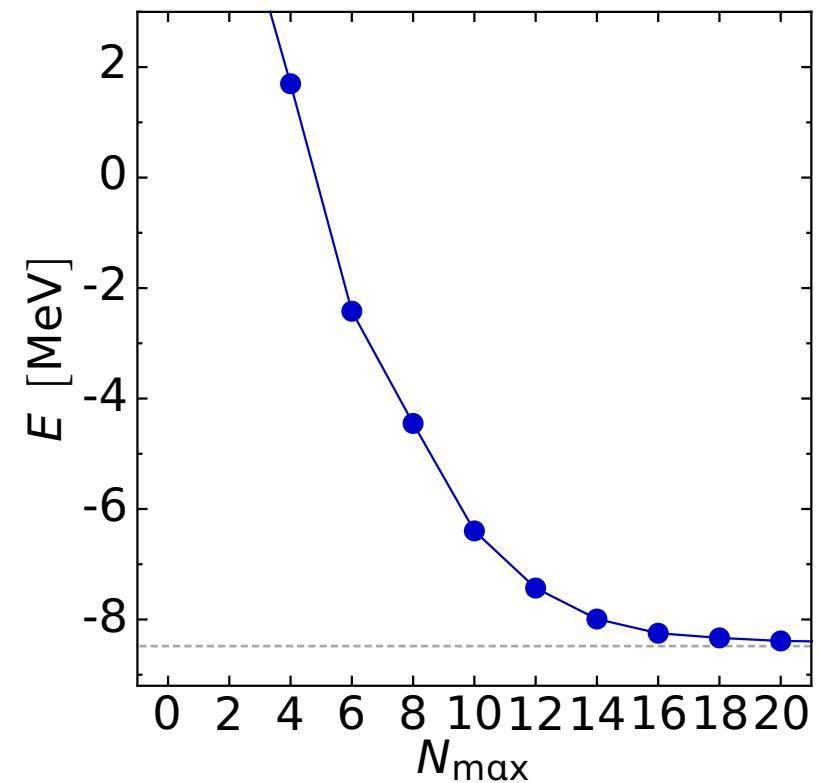


$$\alpha = 0.000 \text{ fm}^4$$

$$\Lambda = \infty \text{ fm}^{-1}$$

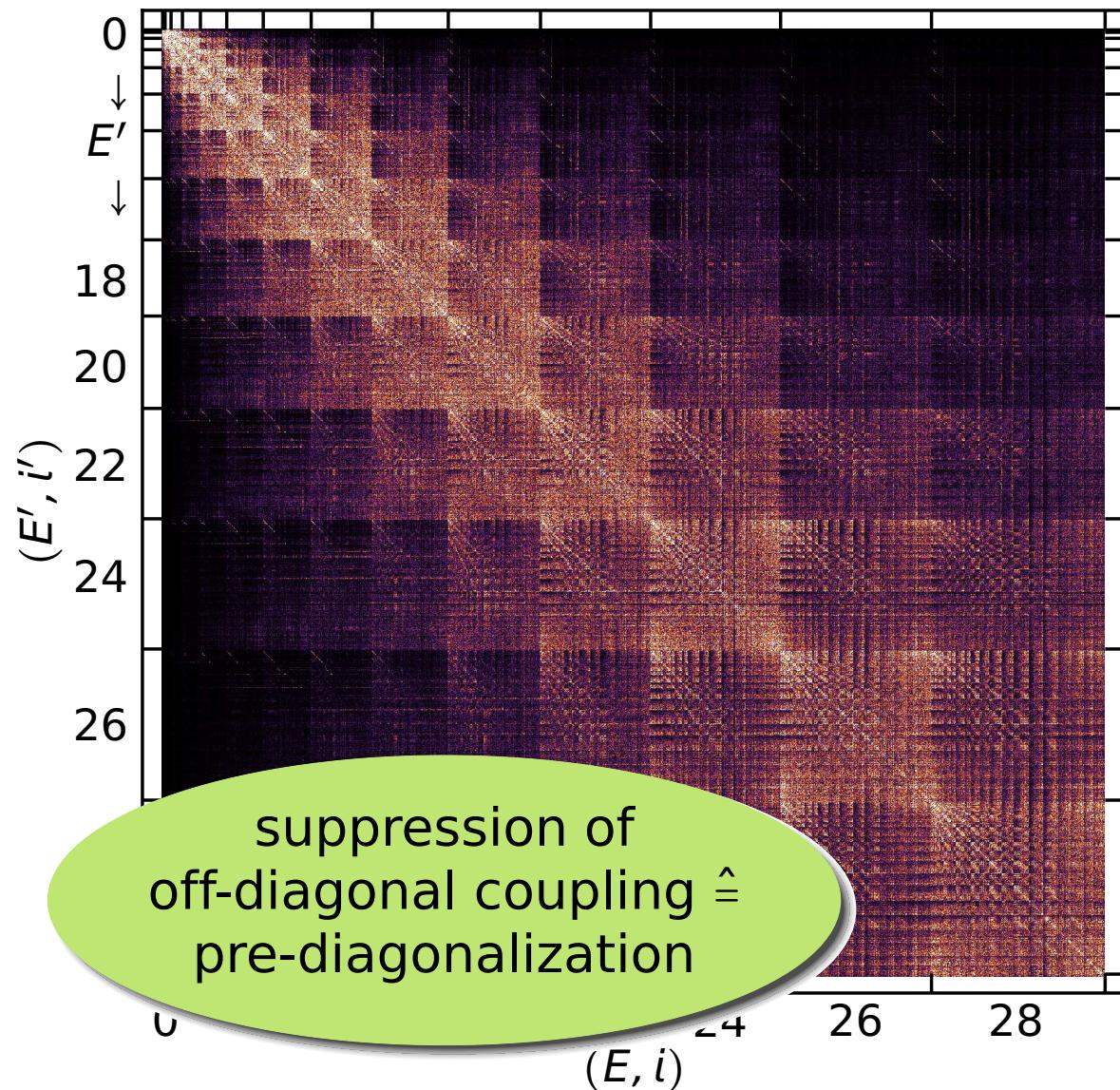
$$J^\pi = \frac{1}{2}^+, T = \frac{1}{2}, \hbar\Omega = 28 \text{ MeV}$$

**NCSM ground state  ${}^3\text{H}$**



# SRG Evolution in Three-Body Space

**3B-Jacobi HO matrix elements**

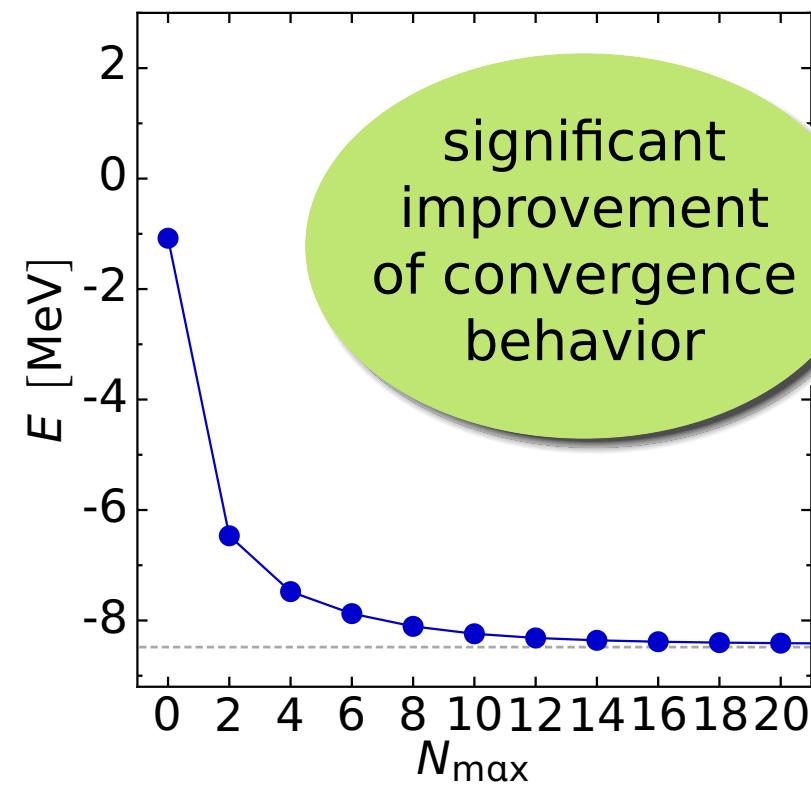


$$\alpha = 0.320 \text{ fm}^4$$

$$\Lambda = 1.33 \text{ fm}^{-1}$$

$$J^\pi = \frac{1}{2}^+, T = \frac{1}{2}, \hbar\Omega = 28 \text{ MeV}$$

**NCSM ground state  ${}^3\text{H}$**



# Hamiltonian in $A$ -Body Space

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

$$H_\alpha = H_\alpha^{[1]} + H_\alpha^{[2]} + H_\alpha^{[3]} + H_\alpha^{[4]} + H_\alpha^{[5]} + \dots$$

- **truncation of cluster series** formally destroys unitarity and invariance of energy eigenvalues (independence of  $\alpha$ )
- flow-parameter  $\alpha$  provides **diagnostic tool** to assess neglected higher-order contributions

## SRG-Evolved Hamiltonians

<b>NN<sub>only</sub></b>	use initial NN, keep evolved NN
<b>NN + 3N<sub>ind</sub></b>	use initial NN, keep evolved NN+3N
<b>NN + 3N<sub>full</sub></b>	use initial NN+3N, keep evolved NN+3N
<b>NN + 3N<sub>full</sub> + 4N<sub>ind</sub></b>	use initial NN+3N, keep evolved NN+3N+4N

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# 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

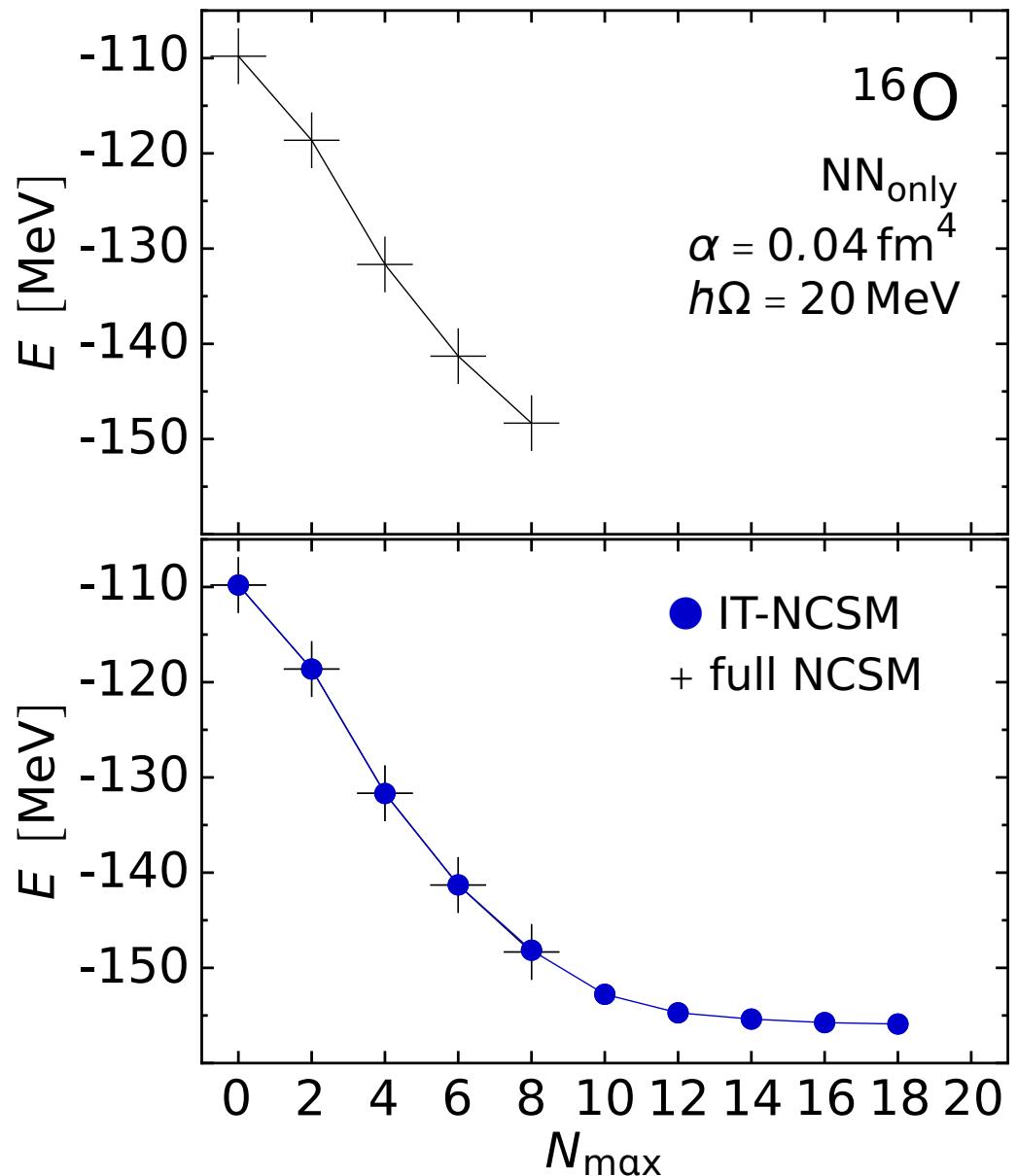
# Importance Truncated NCSM

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

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

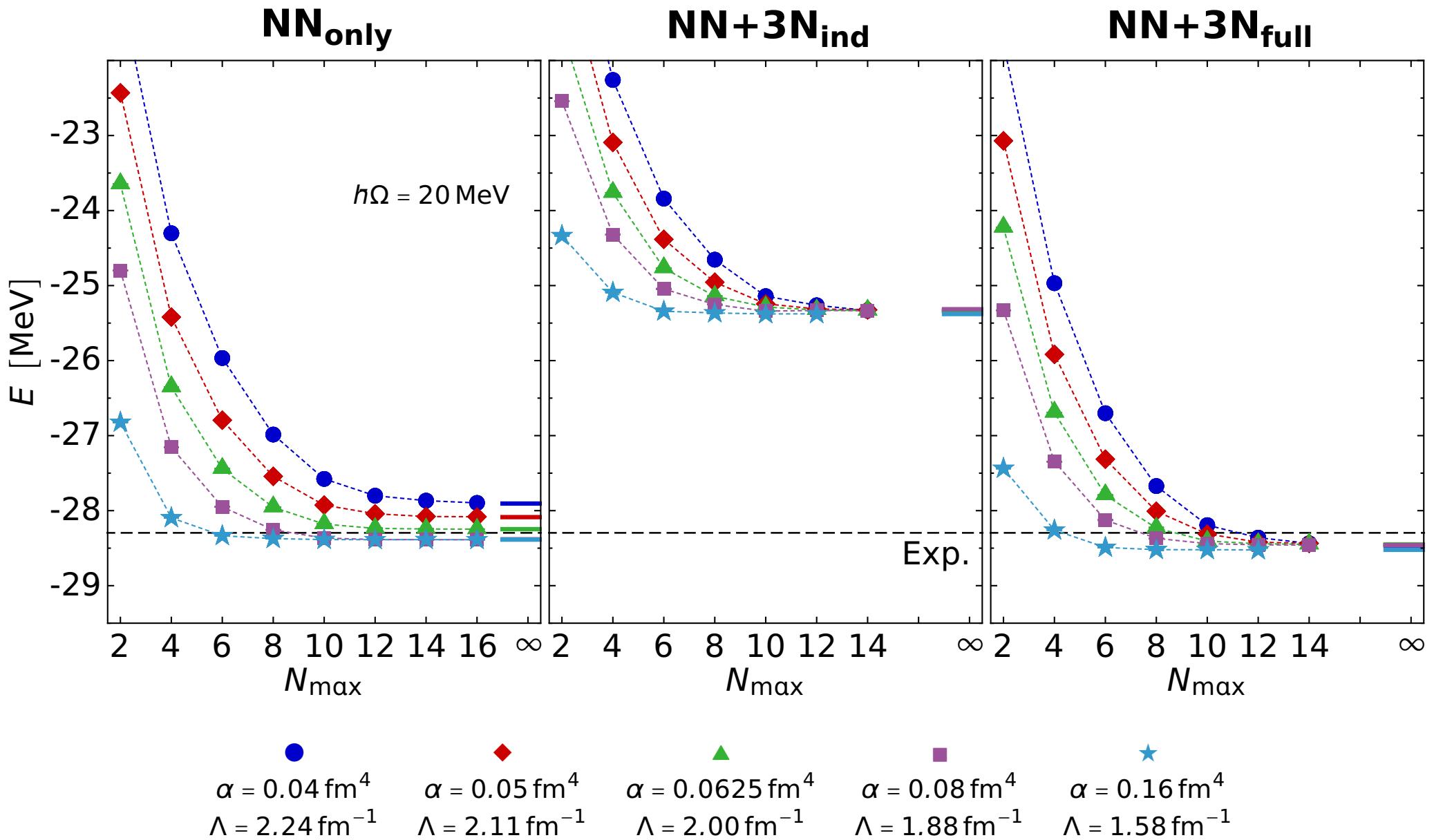
## Importance Truncation

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



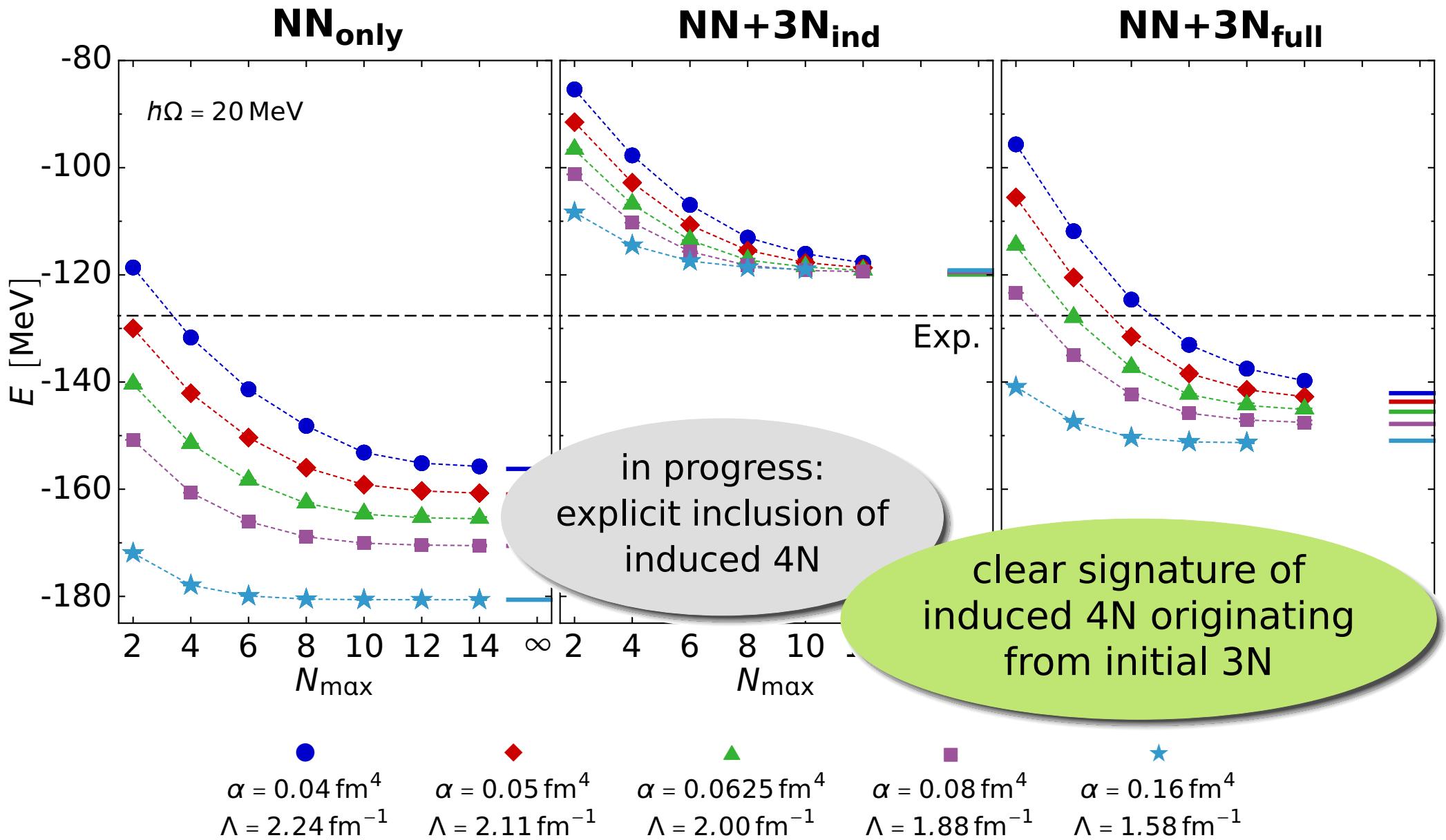
# $^4\text{He}$ : Ground-State Energies

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



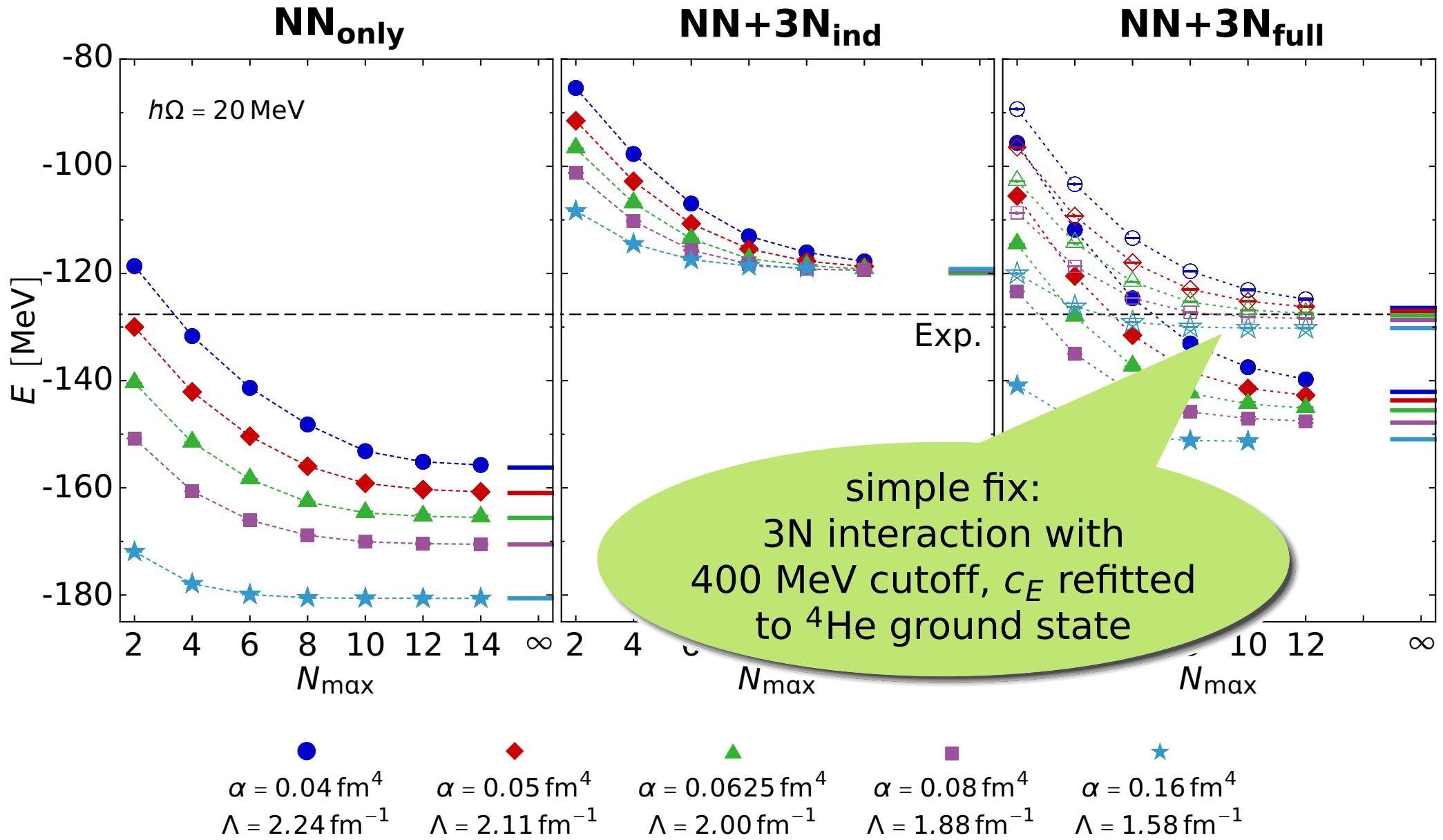
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Roth, et al; PRL 107, 072501 (2011); PRL 109, 052501 (2012)



# Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

- **oxygen isotopic chain** has received significant attention and documents the **rapid progress** over the past years

*Otsuka, Suzuki, Holt, Schwenk, Akaishi, PRL 105, 032501 (2010)*

- 2010: **shell-model calculations** with 3N effects highlighting the role of 3N interaction for drip line physics

*Hagen, Hjorth-Jensen, Jansen, Machleidt, Papenbrock, PRL 108, 242501 (2012)*

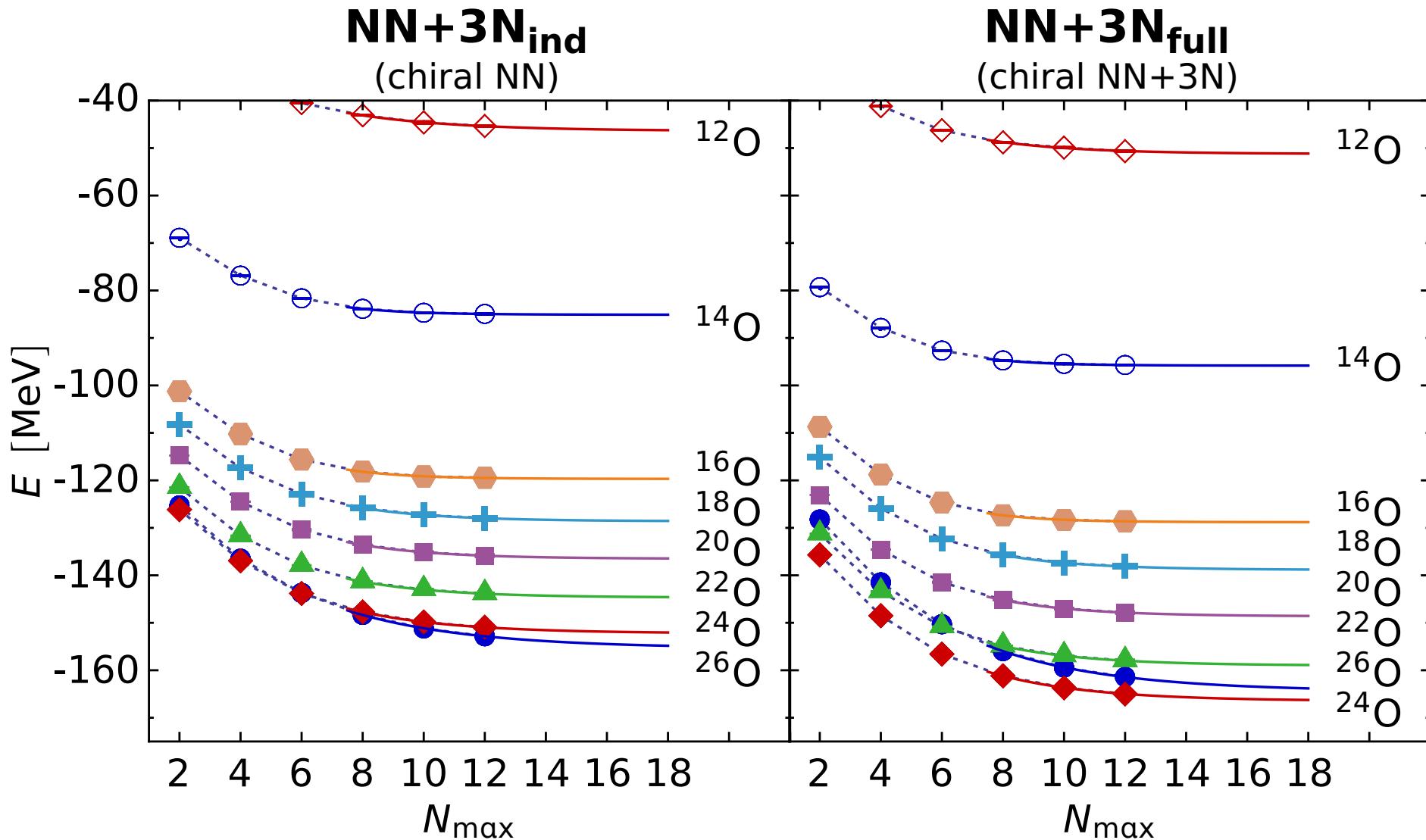
- 2012: **coupled-cluster calculations** with phenomenological two-body correction simulating chiral 3N forces

*Hergert, Binder, Calci, Langhammer, Roth, PRL 110, 242501 (2013)*

- 2013: **ab initio IT-NCSM** with explicit chiral 3N interactions...

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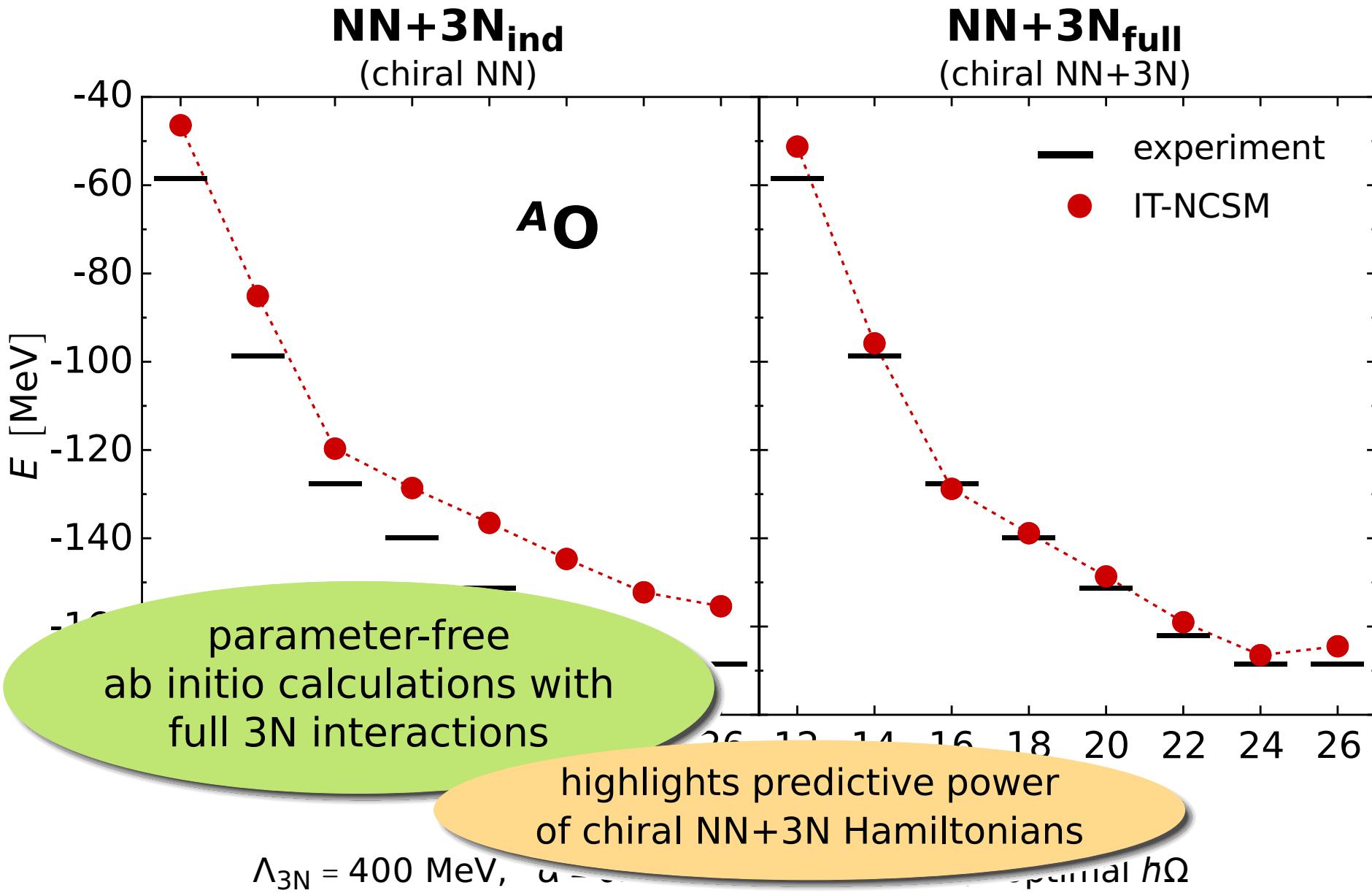
Hergert et al., PRL 110, 242501 (2013)



$$\Lambda_{3N} = 400 \text{ MeV}, \quad \alpha = 0.08 \text{ fm}^4, \quad E_{3\max} = 14, \quad \text{optimal } \hbar\Omega$$

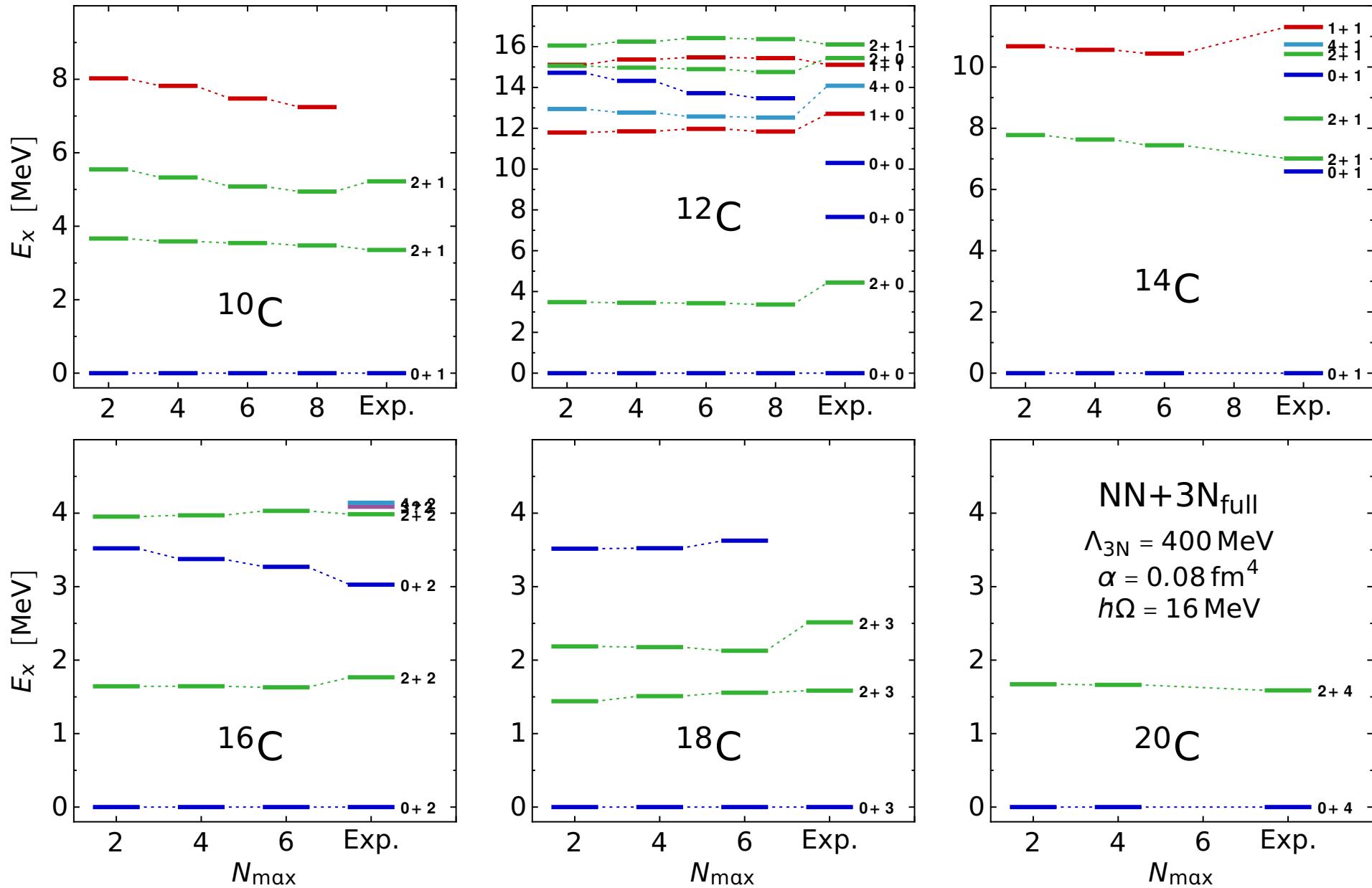
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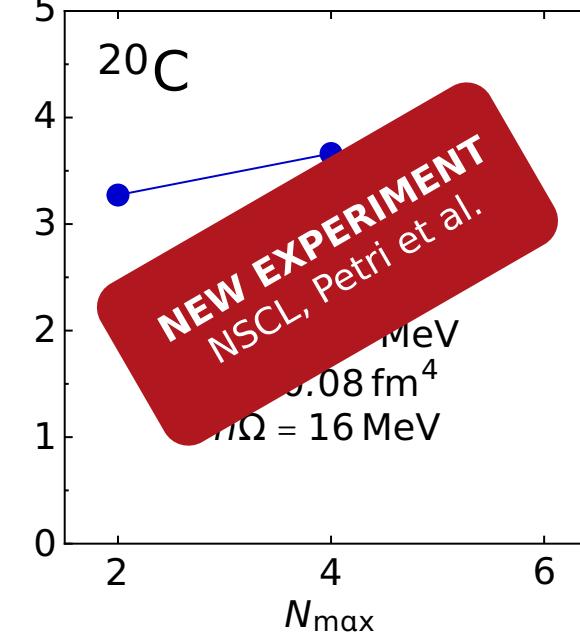
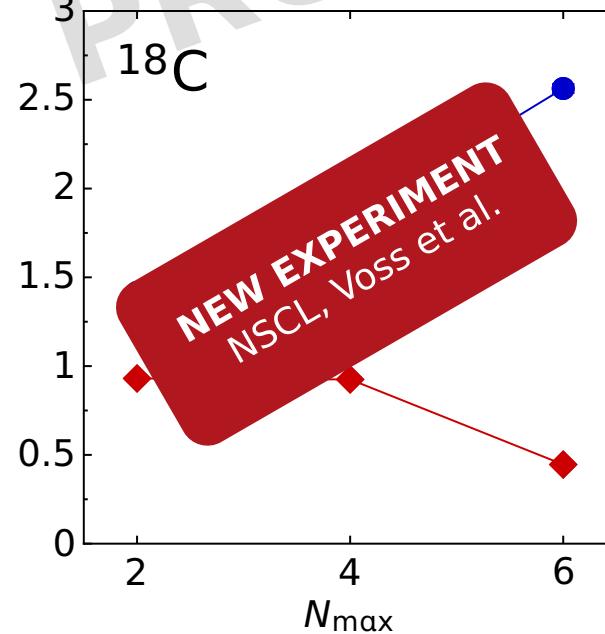
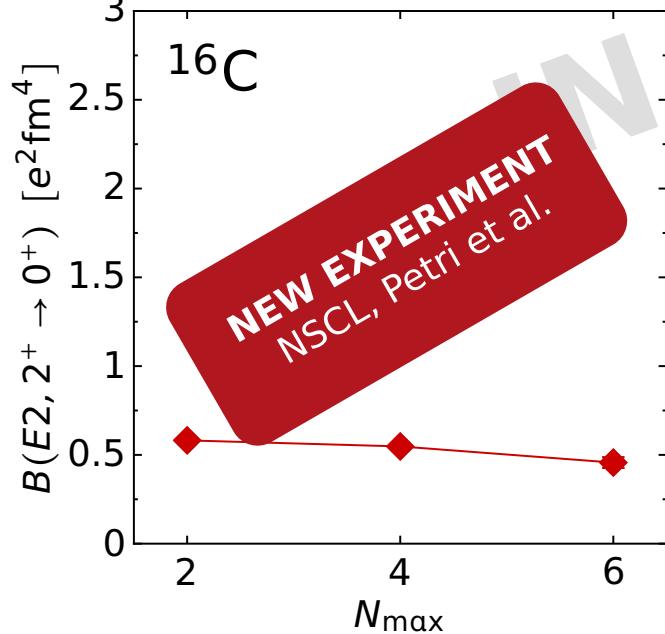
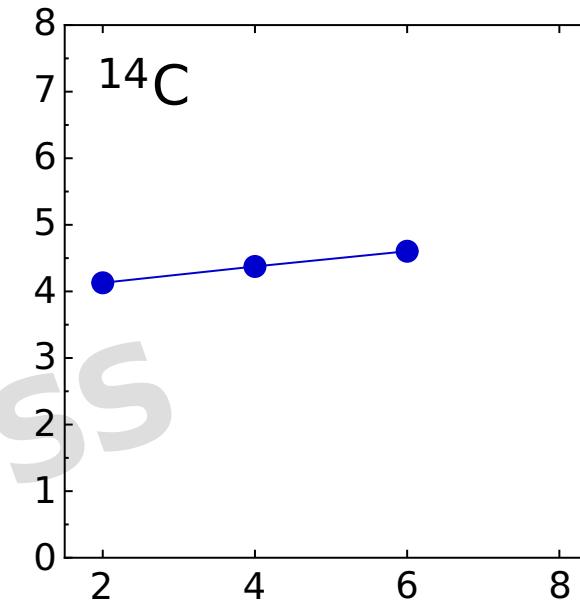
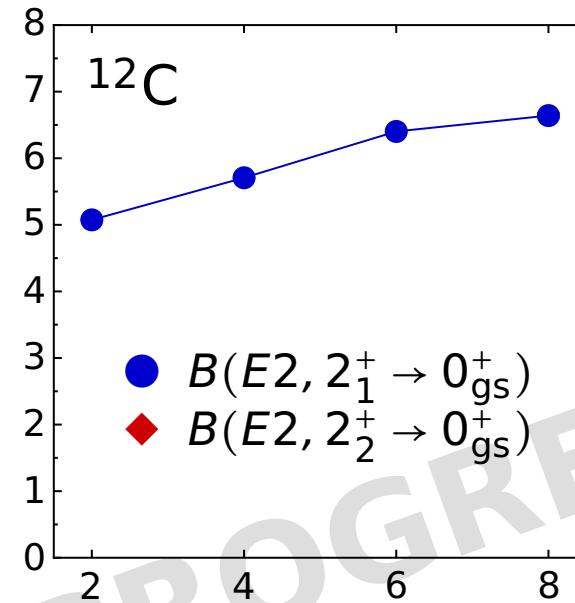
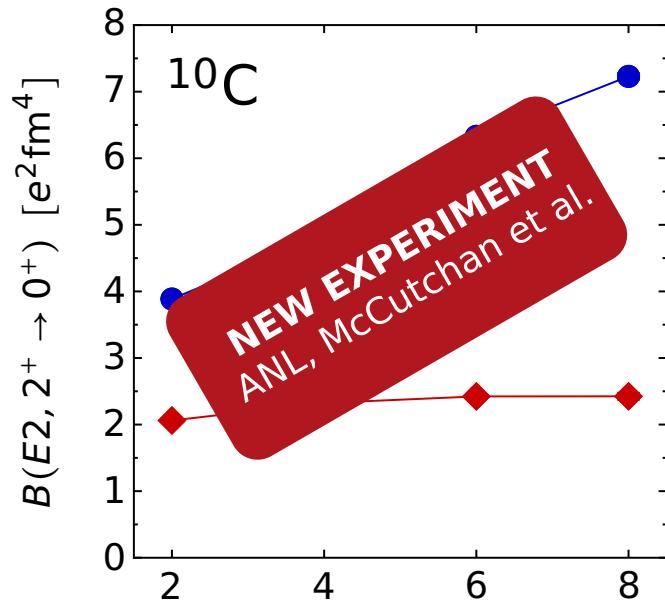


# Spectroscopy of Carbon Isotopes

Forssen et al., JPG 40, 055105 (2013); Roth et al., in prep.



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# Frontier: Medium-Mass Nuclei

advent of novel ab initio many-body approaches  
applicable in the medium-mass regime

Hagen, Papenbrock, Dean, Piecuch, Binder,...

- **coupled-cluster theory:** ground-state parametrized by exponential wave operator applied to single-determinant reference state

- truncation at doubles level (CCSD) plus triples
- equations of motion for excited states

- **in-medium SRG**: controlling and quantifying the uncertainties due to various truncations is major challenge

Kiyama, Schwenk, Hergert,...

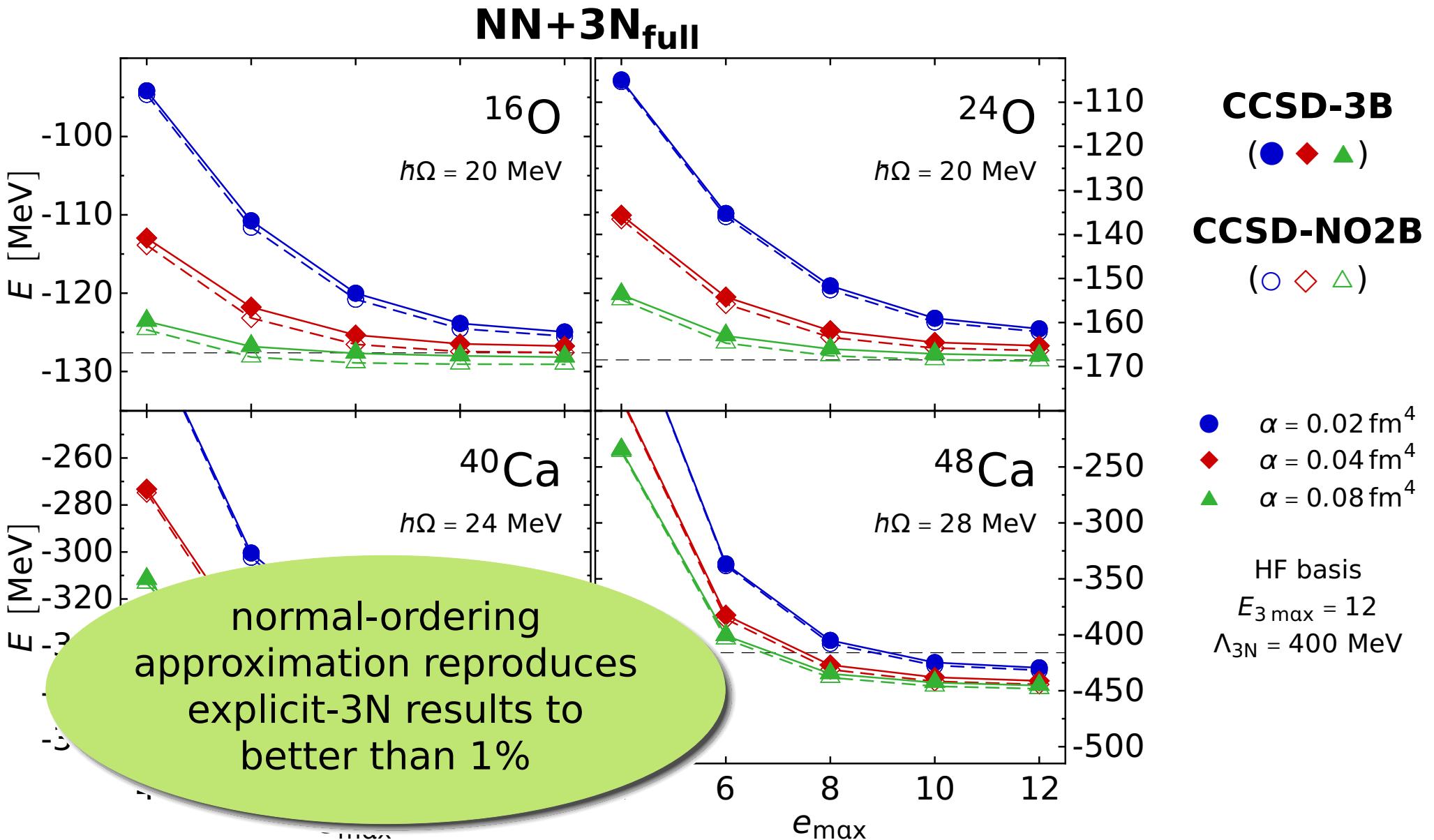
- normal-ordering of Hamiltonian truncated at two-body level
- both closed shell ground states; excitations via EOM or SM

Barbieri, Soma, Duguet,...

- self-consistent Green's function approaches and others...

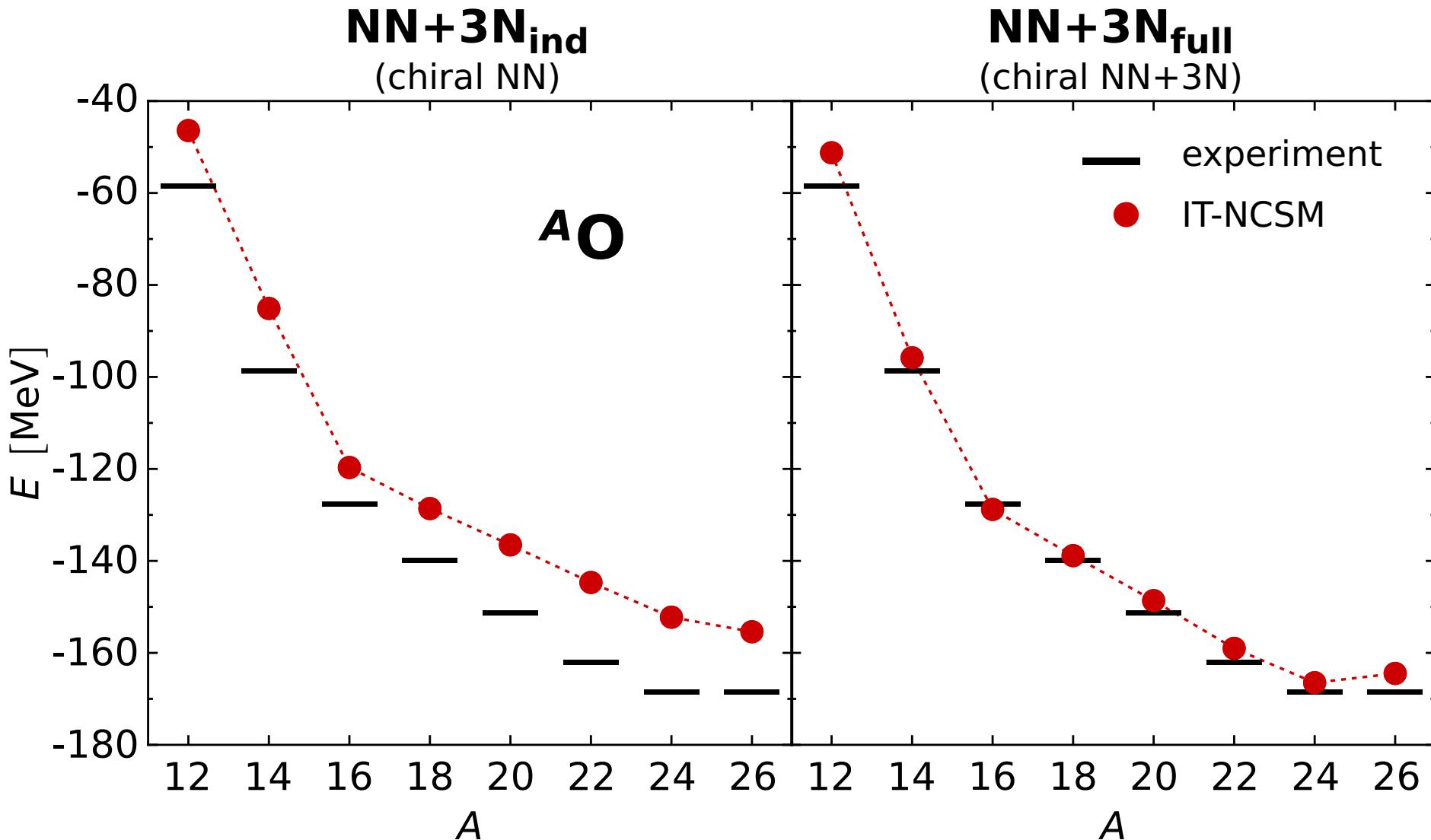
# CCSD with Explicit 3N Interactions

Roth, et al., PRL 109, 052501 (2012); Binder et al., PRC 87, 021303(R) (2013)



# Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

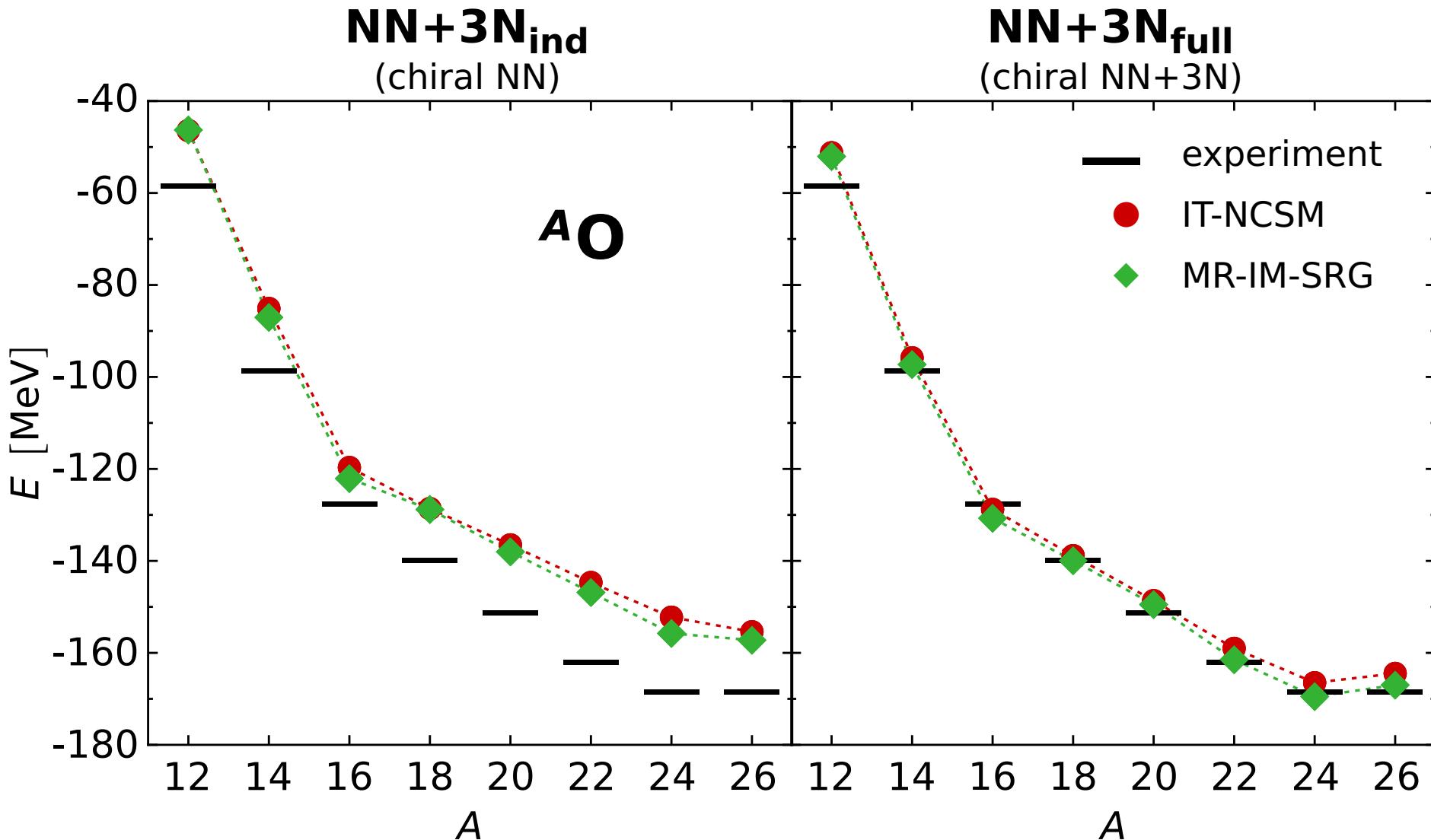
Hergert et al., PRL 110, 242501 (2013)



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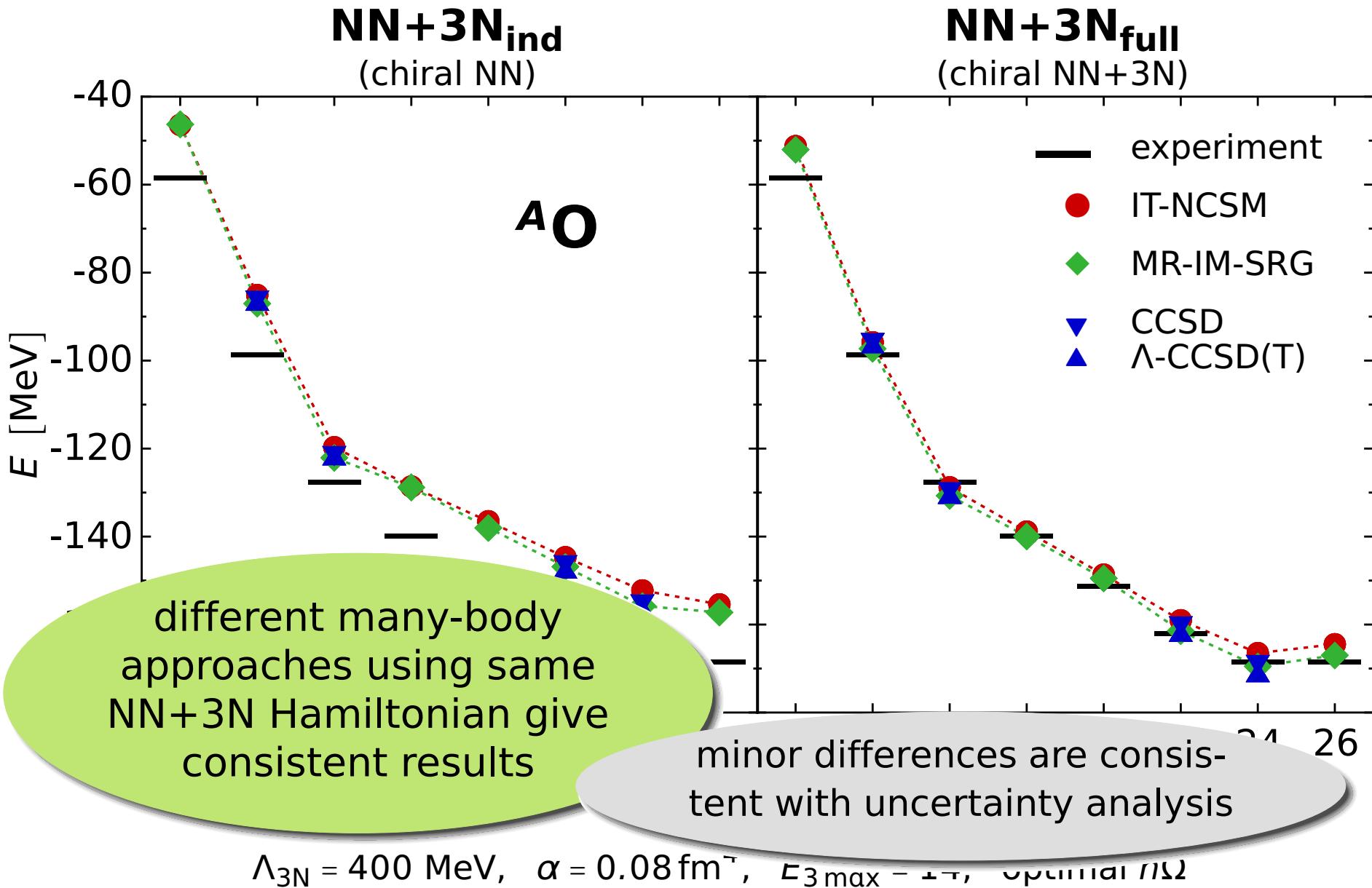
Hergert et al., PRL 110, 242501 (2013)



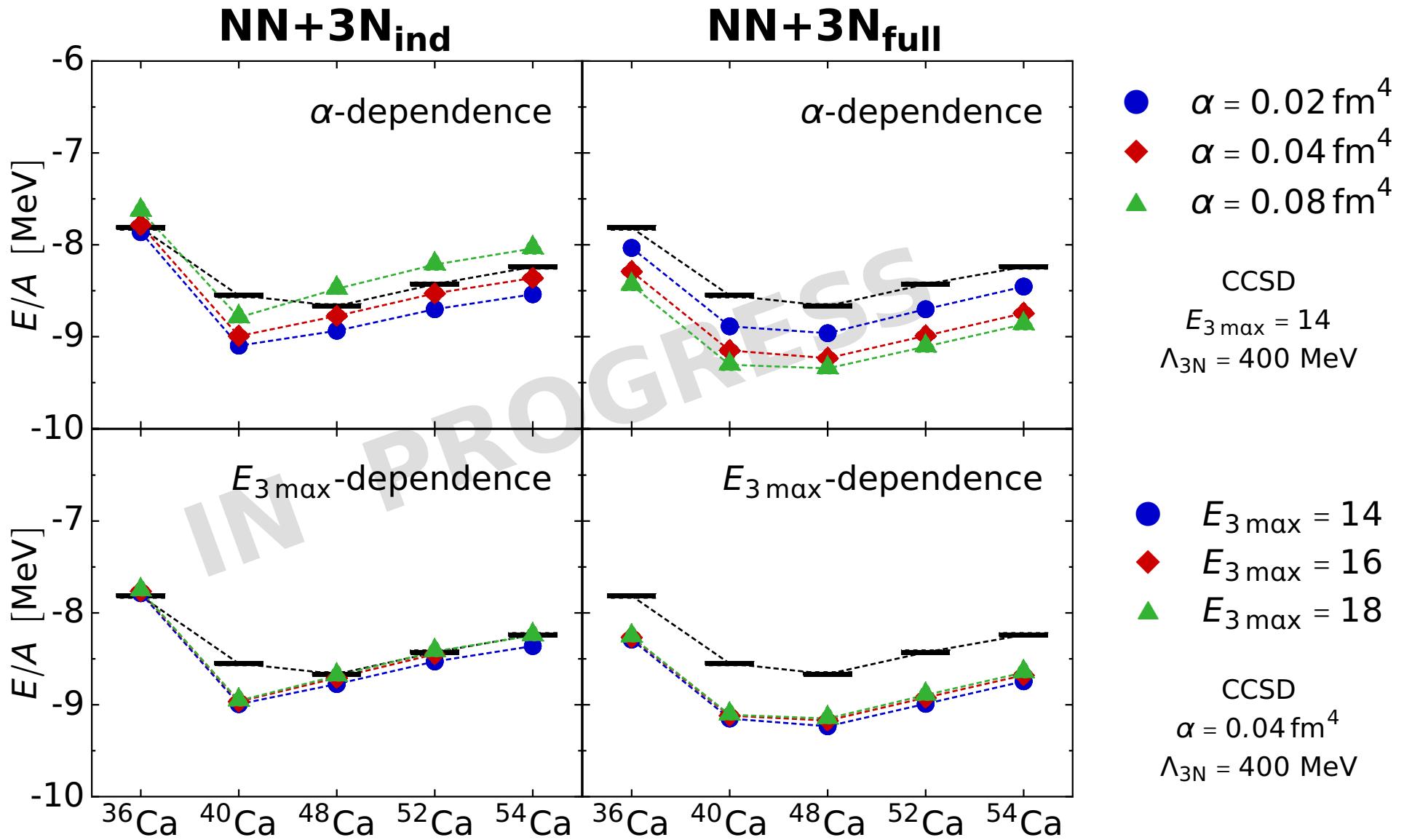
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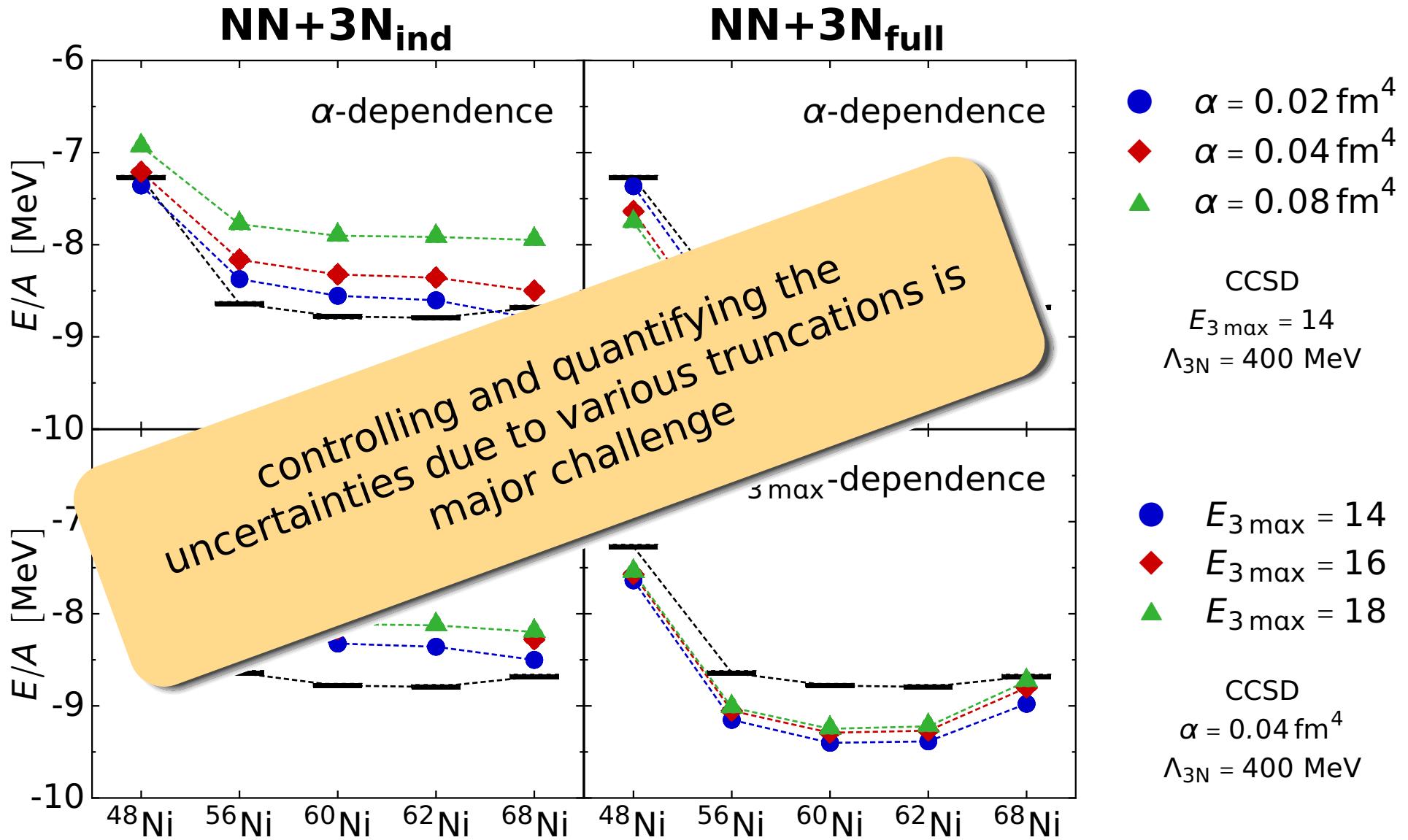
Hergert et al., PRL 110, 242501 (2013)



# Next Step: Calcium Isotopes



# Next Step: Nickel Isotopes



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### Chiral EFT Hamiltonians

consistent NN, 3N, YN, YY, ... interactions & current operators

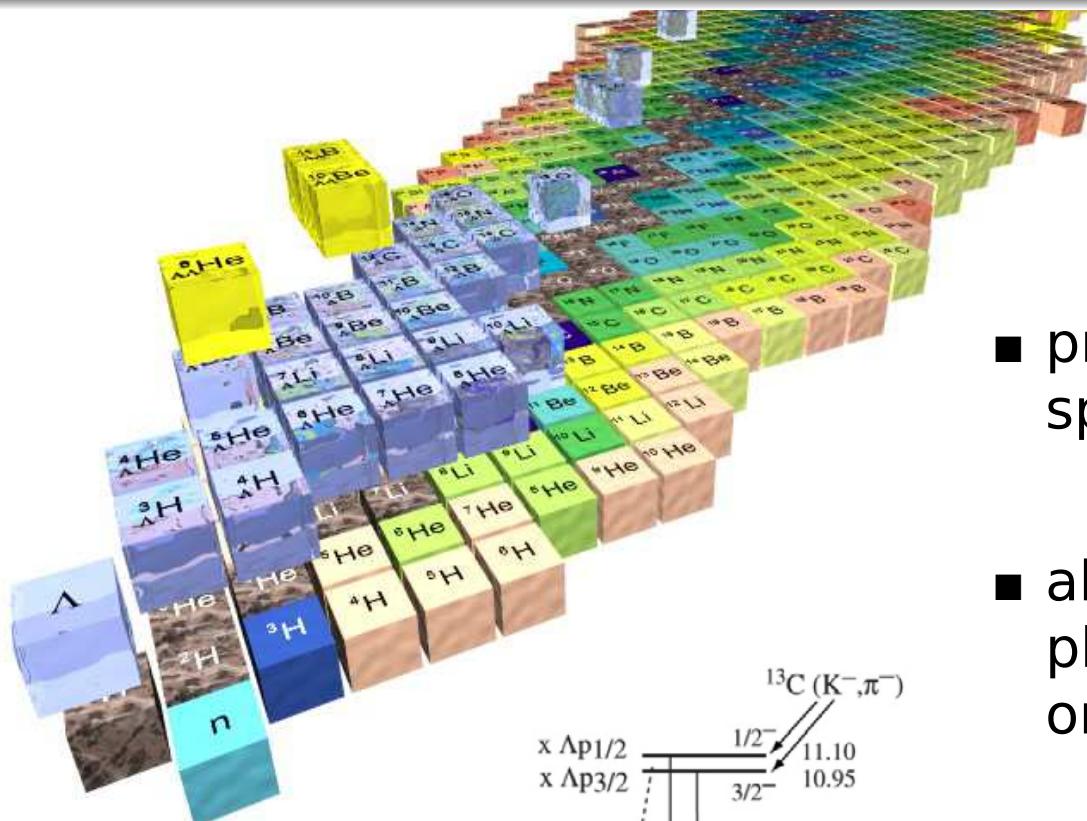
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# Motivation: Hyper-Nuclear Structure



talks by Feliciello,...

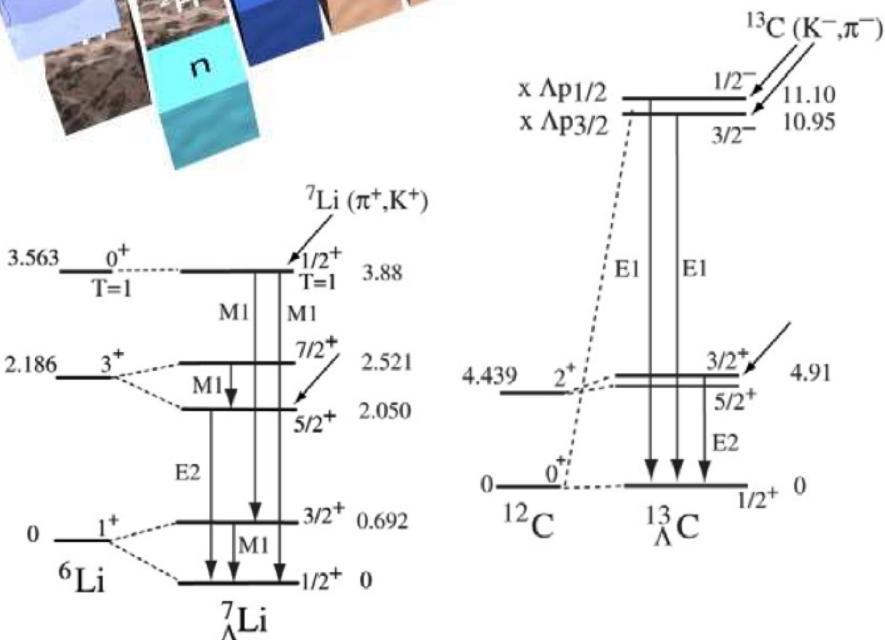
- precise data on ground states & spectroscopy of hyper-nuclei

talks by Hiyama, Nogga,...

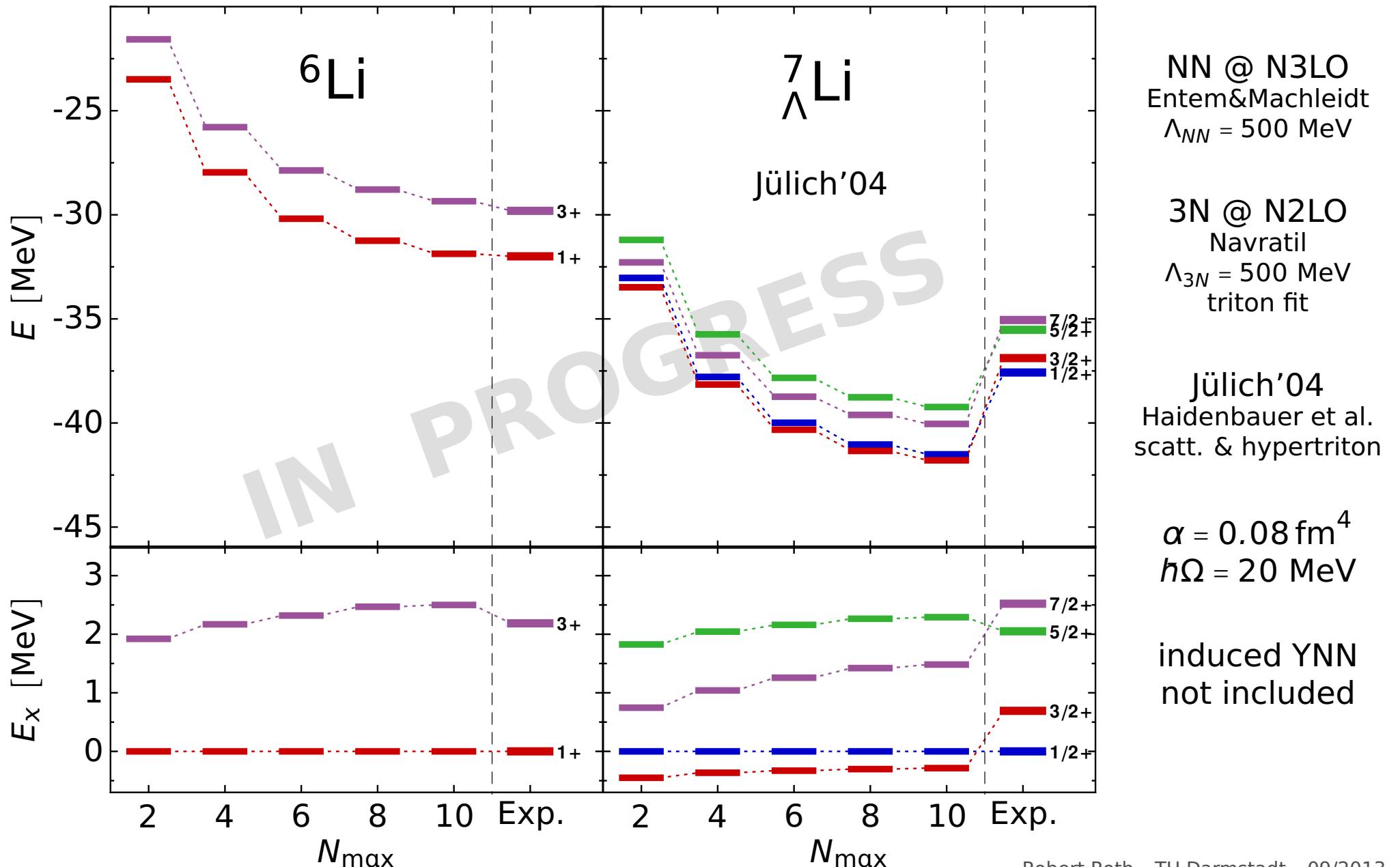
- ab initio few-body ( $A \lesssim 4$ ) and phenomenological shell model or cluster calculations

talks by Haidenbauer,...

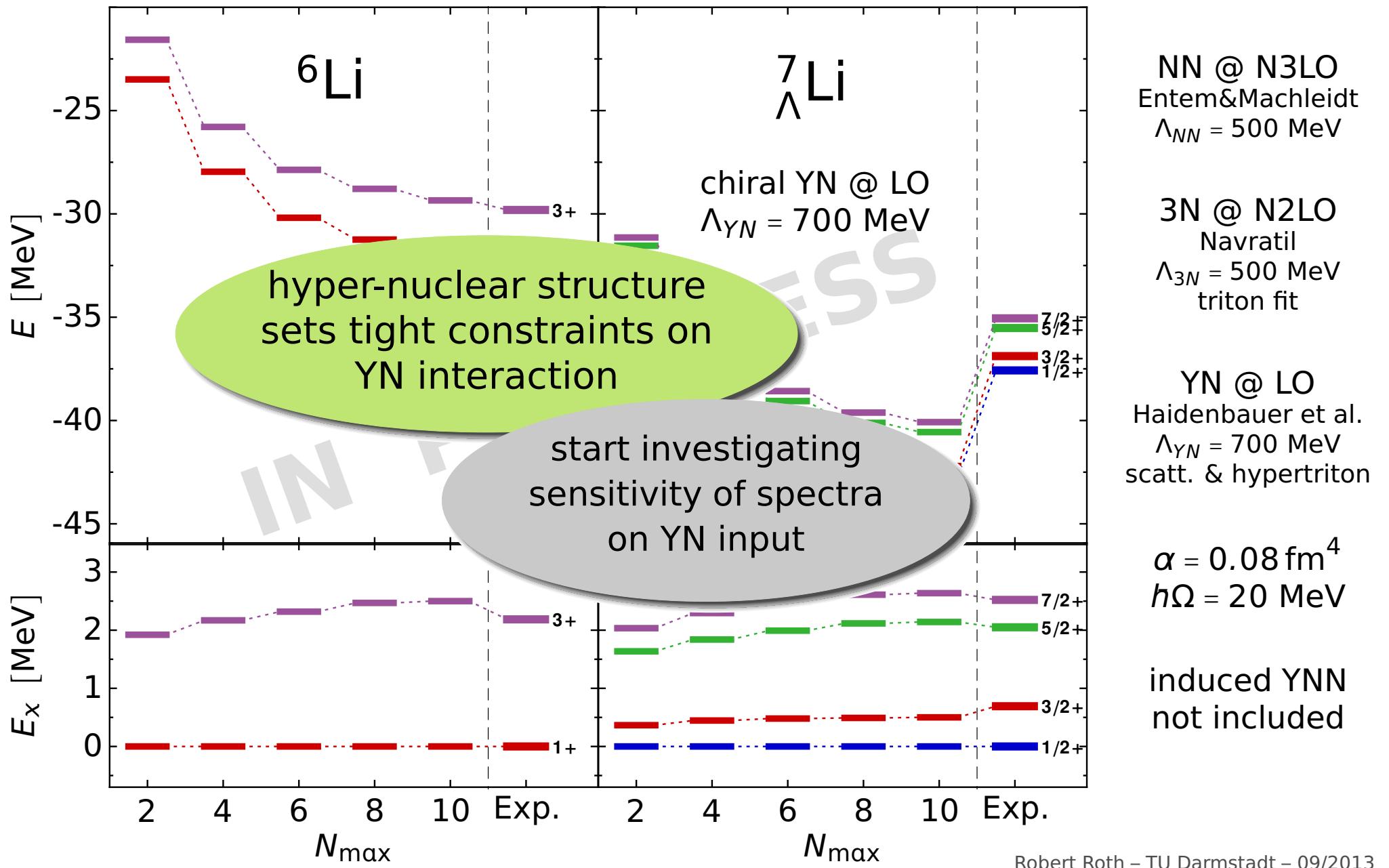
- chiral YN & YY interactions at (N)LO are available
- constrain YN & YY interaction by ab initio hyper-nuclear structure calculations



# Application: $^7\Lambda$ Li



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# New Horizons...

## ■ **nuclear structure theory connected to QCD via chiral EFT**

- chiral EFT as universal, controlled and improvable starting point
- consistent and optimized interactions at N2LO, N3LO,...
- consistent similarity transformation of Hamiltonian and observables

## ■ **innovations in ab initio many-body theory**

- consistent inclusion of 3N (and 4N) interactions
- precision structure and spectroscopy in p- and sd-shell (IT-NCSM,...)
- access to the medium-mass regime (CC, IM-SRG,...)
- extension to ab initio hyper-nuclear structure
- bridge to reaction theory (NCSM/RGM, NCSMC)
- uncertainty quantification, error propagation, feedback cycle

## ■ **many exciting applications ahead...**

# Epilogue

## ■ thanks to my group & my collaborators

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- P. Piecuch  
Michigan State University, USA

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Ohio State University, USA
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GSI Helmholtzzentrum



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Hessens Zukunft

