Many-Body Theory and Electromagnetic Transitions

Robert Roth



Outline

Q: Which nuclei?

light nuclei (A \leq 25) or medium-mass (A \leq 50), depending on method

Q: Which observables?

ground-state observables, low-lying excitations, collective excitations, electromagnetic moments & transitions

Q: Which framework?

NN, 3N, 4N interactions from chiral EFT, ready to include two-body MEC contributions

Q: Which many-body method?

No-Core Shell Model with various add-ons

No-Core Shell Model

Barrett, Vary, Navrátil, Maris, Roth,...

no-core shell model is the most universal and powerful ab initio approach for light nuclei (up to A≈25)

• idea: solve eigenvalue problem of Hamiltonian represented in model space of HO Slater determinants truncated w.r.t. HO excitation energy $N_{max}\hbar\Omega$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vdots \\ C_{i'}^{(n)} \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} = E_n \begin{pmatrix} \vdots \\ C_{i}^{(n)} \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

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advantages: simplicity makes it powerful

- ground and excited states obtained on the same footing
- all observables obtained directly from the eigenvectors
- inclusion of continuum degrees-of-freedom possible
- Imitations: convergence of observables w.r.t. N_{max} is the only limitation and source of uncertainty
 - easy to control and quantify many-body uncertainties rigorously
 - different observables will have very different convergence rate and uncertainties

Low-Lying Excitations

Classical NCSM

p-Shell Spectroscopy: Sensitivity

Calci, Roth; PRC 94, 014322 (2016)



- of course, spectra depend on choice of initial chiral NN+3N interaction, but the dependence is not dramatic
- important contribution to the total theory uncertainty

p-Shell Spectroscopy: Sensitivity

Calci, Roth; PRC 94, 014322 (2016)



- individual states show systematic disagreement with experiment:
 - second 0⁺: Hoyle state, cluster structure not captured in HO basis
 - first 1⁺: systematic problem with N2LO-3N interaction ?

Calci, Roth; PRC 94, 014322 (2016)



- electric quadrupole (E2) observables involving 0⁺ ground state & first excited 2⁺
- model-space convergence is terrible, E2 operator sensitive to long-range wave functions

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Collective Excitations

Strength-Function NCSM

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Stumpf, Wolfgruber, Roth; arXiv:1709.06840



- regular NCSM calculation for ground state for a range of N_{max} truncations
- access to all open-shell nuclei
- prepare pivot vector by applying transition operator to ground-state vector
- use simplistic Lanczos iterations to generate strength distribution

Strength-Function NCSM

- perform NCSM calculation for ground state |E₀>
- prepare pivot vector with transition operator

$$|v_1\rangle = \mathcal{N} O_{\lambda} |E_0\rangle$$
 ; $\mathcal{N} = \langle E_0 | O_{\lambda}^{\dagger} O_{\lambda} |E_0\rangle^{-1/2}$

• perform Lanczos algorithm with Hamiltonian: obtain eigenvectors $|E_n\rangle$ as superposition of Lanczos vectors

$$|E_n\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{I} C_i^{(n)} |v_i\rangle$$

first coefficient provides transition matrix element

$$C_1^{(n)} = \langle v_1 | E_n \rangle = \mathcal{N} \langle E_0 | O_\lambda | E_n \rangle$$

construct discrete strength distribution

$$R(E\lambda, E^*) = \sum_n |\langle E_0 || O_\lambda || E_n \rangle|^2 \, \delta(E^* - (E_n - E_0))$$





Strength-Function NCSM

Stumpf, Wolfgruber, Roth; arXiv:1709.06840

ab initio approach to strength distributions with many advantages

- works with simplest Lanczos algorithm (no reorthogonalization, Lanczos vectors discarded)
- same computational reach as regular NCSM
- no ad-hoc truncations, convergence in N_{max} and Lanczos iterations can be demonstrated explicitly
- full convergence of individual transitions in the relevant energy regime after ~800 iterations
- full access to fine structure of giant resonances
- full access to below-threshold features



Discrete Strength Distribution

Stumpf, Wolfgruber, Roth; arXiv:1709.06840

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Strength Distribution

Stumpf, Wolfgruber, Roth; arXiv:1709.06840



Model-Space Convergence



- *N*_{max} is the only relevant active truncation parameter
- very stable N_{max} convergence and independence of frequency of underlying HO basis

Comparison with RPA and SRPA

Stumpf, Wolfgruber, Roth; arXiv:1709.06840



- collective excitations traditionally described in RPA or SRPA
- RPA (1p1h) cannot describe fragmentation, therefore, go to SRPA (2p2h)
- NCSM shows much more fine structure than SRPA and resolves notorious problem with pathological SRPA energy-shifts

Improving Convergence I

Natural-Orbital NCSM

Natural-Orbital NCSM

Tichai, Müller, Vobig, Roth; arXiv:1809.07571



- construct HF basis in large single-particle space
- compute perturbative corrections to one-body density matrix up to second order
- determine natural orbitals from one-body density matrix and transform matrix elements
- NCSM calculation with natural-orbital basis
- use importance truncation for large spaces and heavier nuclei (optional)
- use normal-order two-body approximation to include 3N interactions (optional)

NCSM Convergence: Energies



 MBPT natural-orbital basis eliminates frequency dependence and accelerates convergence of NCSM

NCSM Convergence: Energies



MBPT natural-orbital basis eliminates frequency dependence and accelerates convergence of NCSM

NCSM Convergence: Radii



MBPT natural-orbital basis eliminates frequency dependence and accelerates convergence of NCSM

NCSM Convergence: Spectroscopy

Tichai, Müller, Vobig, Roth; arXiv:1809.07571



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Oxygen Isotopes

Tichai, Müller, Vobig, Roth; arXiv:1809.07571



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Epilogue

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