

Nuclear structure calculations for ν -nucleus scattering

Javier Menéndez

University of Barcelona
Institute of Cosmos Sciences

Mainz Institute for Theoretical Physics workshop
“Neutrino Scattering at Low and Intermediate Energies”

Mainz, 26th June 2023



UNIVERSITAT DE
BARCELONA



Collaborators



TECHNISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
DARMSTADT

A. Schwenk, P. Klos

u^b

^b
**UNIVERSITÄT
BERN**

M. Hoferichter, F. Noel

Nuclear matrix elements for new-physics searches

Neutrinos, dark matter studied in experiments using nuclei

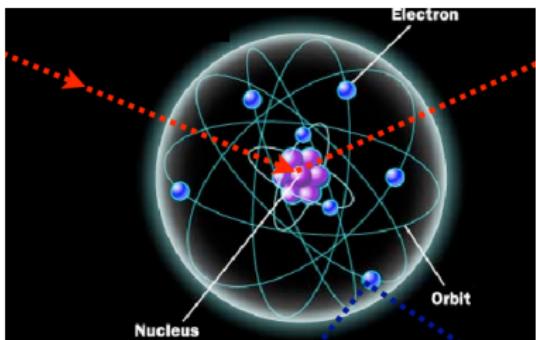
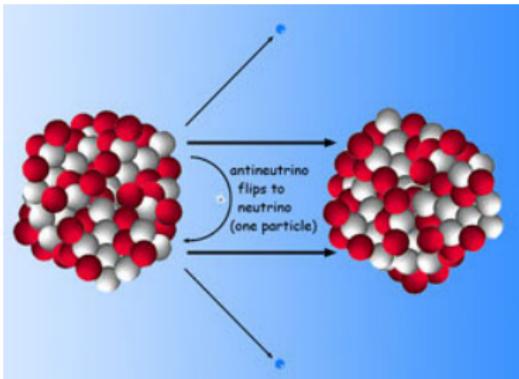
Nuclear structure physics encoded in nuclear matrix elements key to plan, fully exploit experiments

$$0\nu\beta\beta: \left(T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta}\right)^{-1} \propto g_A^4 |M^{0\nu\beta\beta}|^2 m_{\beta\beta}^2$$

$$\text{Dark matter: } \frac{d\sigma_{\chi N}}{dq^2} \propto \left| \sum_i c_i \zeta_i \mathcal{F}_i \right|^2$$

$$\text{CE}\nu\text{NS: } \frac{d\sigma_{\nu N}}{dq^2} \propto \left| \sum_i c_i \zeta_i \mathcal{F}_i \right|^2$$

$M^{0\nu\beta\beta}$: Nuclear matrix element
 \mathcal{F}_i : Nuclear structure factor



Particle, hadronic and nuclear physics

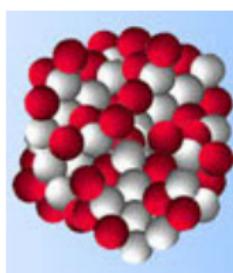
ν scattering off nuclei

interplay of particle, hadronic and nuclear physics:

ν 's: interaction with quarks and gluons

Quarks and gluons: embedded in the nucleon

Nucleons: form complex, many-nucleon nuclei



General ν -nucleus scattering cross-section:

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\nu N}}{dq^2} \propto \left| \sum_i c_i \zeta_i \mathcal{F}_i \right|^2$$

ζ : kinematics (q^2, \dots)

c coefficients:

ν couplings to quark, gluons (Wilson coefficients), particle physics convoluted with hadronic matrix elements, hadronic physics

\mathcal{F} functions: $\mathcal{F}^2 \sim$ structure factor, nuclear structure physics

Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering

Standard Model contribution: neutral weak current, $V - A$

Coupling mostly to neutrons: $g_n = 1$, $g_p \approx (1 - 4 \sin \theta_w) \Rightarrow \sigma \propto N^2$

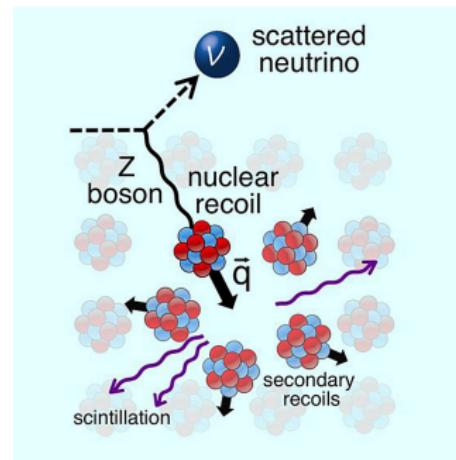
$$Q_w = ZQ_w^p + NQ_w^n,$$

$$Q_w^p = 1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W, \quad Q_w^n = -1,$$

Challenge for nuclear theory:

proton distribution known from e-scattering experiments

neutron distribution difficult to probe, not well known



Similar to WIMP-nucleus scattering
 ν relativistic, much lighter
⇒ smaller momentum transfer

First measured in CsI
by COHERENT collaboration
Science 357, 1123 (2017)

Neutral current ν scattering off nuclei: simple form

Standard direct detection analyses consider two very different cases

Vector-Vector interaction:

ν 's couple to the nuclear density ($\mathbb{1}_\nu \mathbb{1}_N$)

For elastic scattering, coherent sum over (mostly) nucleons in the nucleus

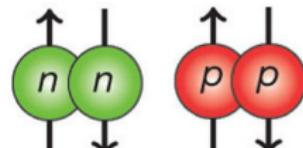
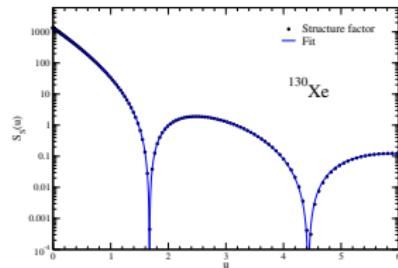
Cross section enhancement by factor
 $|\sum_N \langle \mathcal{N} | \mathbb{1}_N | \mathcal{N} \rangle|^2 = N^2$

Axial-Axial interaction:

ν spins couple to the nuclear spin ($\mathbf{S}_\nu \cdot \mathbf{S}_N$)

Pairing interaction: Two spins couple to $S = 0$
Only relevant in stable odd-mass nuclei

Scale set by single-proton/neutron spin
 $|\sum_A \langle \mathcal{N} | \mathbf{S}_N | \mathcal{N} \rangle|^2 = \langle \mathbf{S}_n \rangle^2, \langle \mathbf{S}_p \rangle^2 \sim 0.1$



Neutral current ν scattering off nuclei

ν -nucleus scattering detailed cross-section:

$$\frac{d\sigma_A}{dT} = \frac{G_F^2 m_A}{4\pi} \left(1 - \frac{m_A T}{2E_\nu^2} - \frac{T}{E_\nu} \right) Q_w^2 |F_w(\mathbf{q}^2)|^2 + \frac{G_F^2 m_A}{4\pi} \left(1 + \frac{m_A T}{2E_\nu^2} - \frac{T}{E_\nu} \right) F_A(\mathbf{q}^2)$$

Dominated by the first term, proportional to the weak form factor:

$$F_w(\mathbf{q}^2) = \frac{1}{Q_w} \left[\left(Q_w^p \left(1 + \frac{\langle r_E^2 \rangle^p}{6} t + \frac{1}{8m_N^2} t \right) + Q_w^n \frac{\langle r_E^2 \rangle^n + \langle r_{E,s}^2 \rangle^N}{6} t \right) \mathcal{F}_p^M(\mathbf{q}^2) \right. \\ + \left(Q_w^n \left(1 + \frac{\langle r_E^2 \rangle^p + \langle r_{E,s}^2 \rangle^N}{6} t + \frac{1}{8m_N^2} t \right) + Q_w^p \frac{\langle r_E^2 \rangle^n}{6} t \right) \mathcal{F}_n^M(\mathbf{q}^2) \\ - \frac{Q_w^p (1 + 2\kappa^p) + 2Q_w^n (\kappa^n + \kappa_s^N)}{4m_N^2} t \mathcal{F}_p^{\Phi''}(\mathbf{q}^2) \\ \left. - \frac{Q_w^n (1 + 2\kappa^p + 2\kappa_s^N) + 2Q_w^p \kappa^n}{4m_N^2} t \mathcal{F}_n^{\Phi''}(\mathbf{q}^2) \right], \quad t = q^2$$

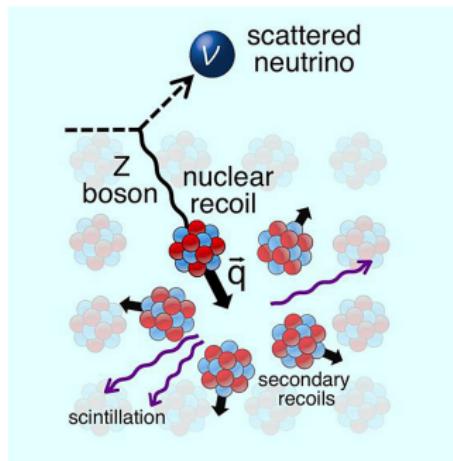
which depends on the nuclear responses \mathcal{F}_p^M , \mathcal{F}_n^M , $\mathcal{F}_n^{\Phi''}$, $\mathcal{F}_p^{\Phi''}$

Nuclear structure factors

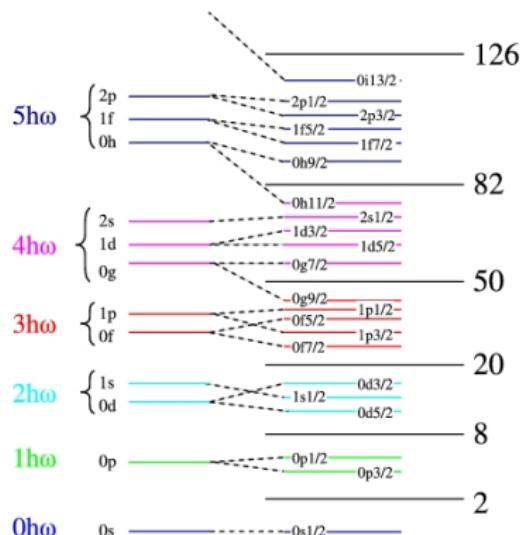
Nuclear matrix elements and nuclear structure factors
needed in low-energy new-physics searches

$$\langle \text{Final} | \mathcal{L}_{\text{leptons-nucleons}} | \text{Initial} \rangle = \langle \text{Final} | \int dx j^\mu(x) J_\mu(x) | \text{Initial} \rangle$$

- Nuclear structure calculation of the initial and final states:
Shell model, QRPA, IBM,
Energy-density functional
Ab initio many-body theory
QMC, Coupled-cluster, IMSRG...
- Lepton-nucleus interaction:
Hadronic current in nucleus:
phenomenological,
effective theory of QCD



Nuclear shell model



Nuclear shell model configuration space
only keep essential degrees of freedom

- High-energy orbitals: always empty
- Valence space:
where many-body problem is solved
- Inert core: always filled

$$H|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle \rightarrow H_{\text{eff}}|\Psi\rangle_{\text{eff}} = E|\Psi\rangle_{\text{eff}}$$

$$|\Psi\rangle_{\text{eff}} = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha} |\phi_{\alpha}\rangle, \quad |\phi_{\alpha}\rangle = a_{i1}^+ a_{i2}^+ \dots a_{iA}^+ |0\rangle$$

Shell model diagonalization:

$\sim 10^{10}$ Slater dets. Caurier et al. RMP77 (2005)

$\gtrsim 10^{24}$ Slater dets. with Monte Carlo SM

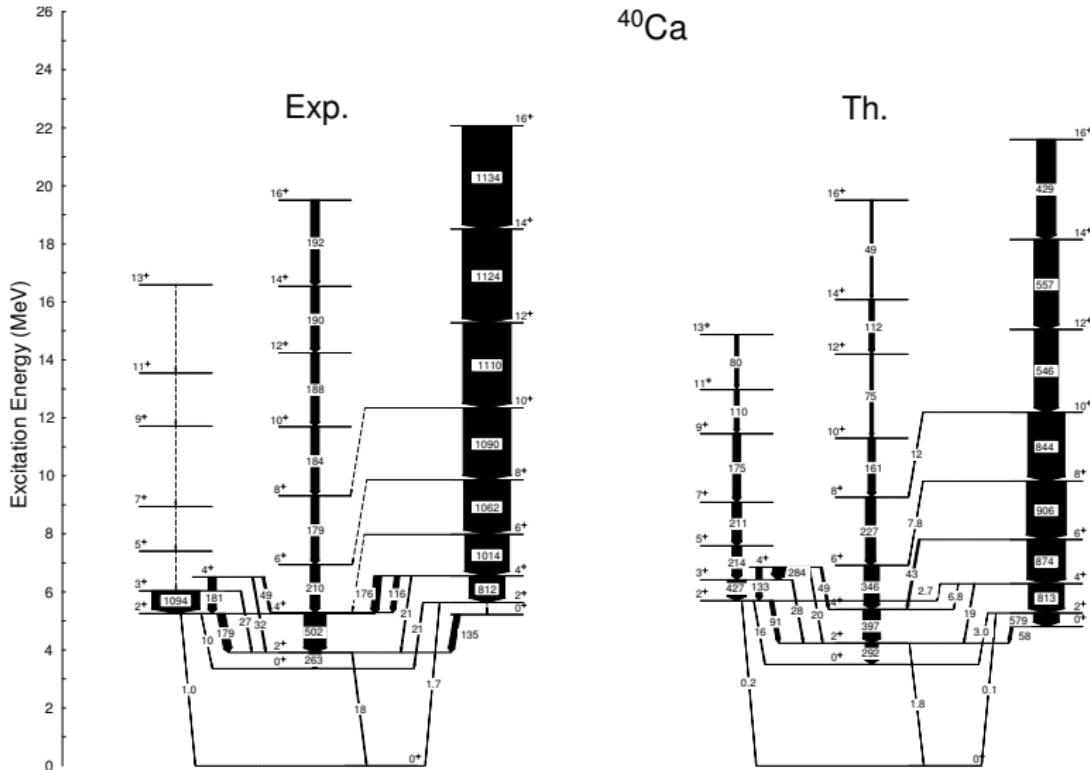
Otsuka, Shimizu, Y.Tsunoda

Phys. Scr. 92 063001 (2017)

H_{eff} includes effects of

- inert core
- high-energy orbitals

Test of shell-model calculations, ^{40}Ca



Caurier, JM, Nowacki, Poves, PRC 75, 054317 (2007)

Coupled Cluster, In-Medium SRG

Coupled Cluster method

Hagen, Papenbrock, Hjorth-Jensen, Dean, Rep. Prog. Phys. 77, 096302 (2014)

based on a reference state

and acting particle-hole excitation operators (not in the reference state)

$$|\Psi\rangle = e^{-(T_1 + T_2 + T_3 \dots)} |\Phi\rangle$$

$$\text{with } T_1 = \sum_{\alpha, \bar{\alpha}} t_{\alpha}^{\bar{\alpha}} \left\{ a_{\bar{\alpha}}^\dagger, a_{\alpha} \right\}, T_2 = \sum_{\alpha \beta, \bar{\alpha} \bar{\beta}} t_{\alpha \beta}^{\bar{\alpha} \bar{\beta}} \left\{ a_{\bar{\alpha}}^\dagger a_{\bar{\beta}}^\dagger, a_{\alpha} a_{\beta} \right\}, \dots$$

$$\text{solve } \langle \Phi_{\alpha}^{\bar{\alpha}} | e^{\sum T_i} H e^{-\sum T_i} | \Phi \rangle = 0, \langle \Phi_{\alpha \beta}^{\bar{\alpha} \bar{\beta}} | e^{\sum T_i} H e^{-\sum T_i} | \Phi \rangle = 0$$

In-medium similarity

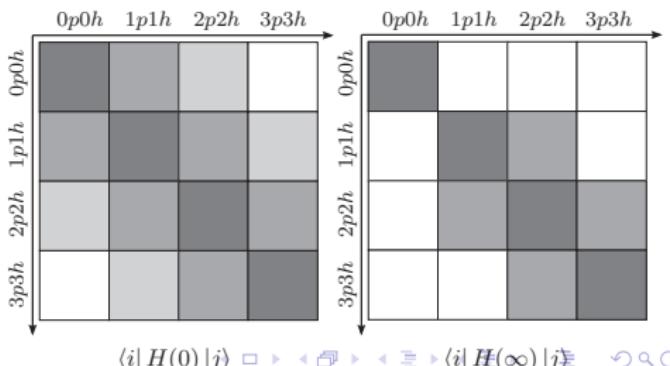
renormalization group method

Hergert et al. Phys. Rep. 621, 165 (2016)

use similarity (unitary) transform
to decouple reference state
from particle-hole excitations

$$H = T + V \rightarrow H(s) = U(s) H U^\dagger(s)$$

$$\frac{dH}{ds} = [\eta(s), H(s)] \text{ with } \eta(s) = [G(s), H(s)]$$



Ab initio many-body methods

Oxygen dripline using chiral NN+3N forces correctly reproduced
ab-initio calculations treating explicitly all nucleons
excellent agreement between different approaches

No-core shell model
(Importance-truncated)

In-medium SRG

Hergert et al. PRL110 242501(2013)

Self-consistent Green's function

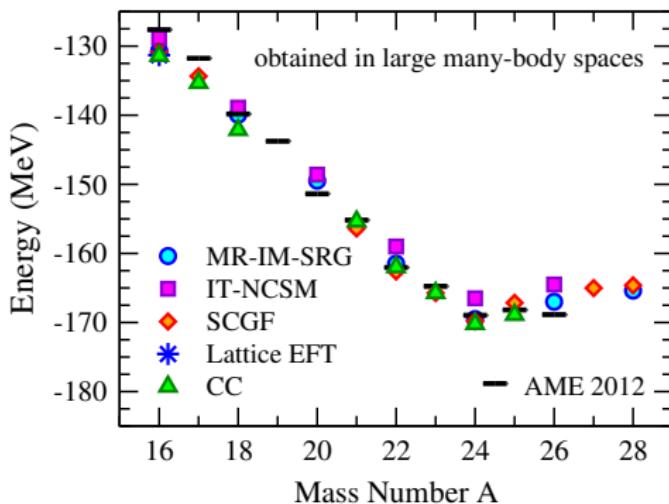
Cipollone et al. PRL111 062501(2013)

Coupled-clusters

Jansen et al. PRL113 142502(2014)

Recent application to ^{208}Pb

Hu, Jiang, Miyagi et al. Nature Phys. 18, 1196 (2022)

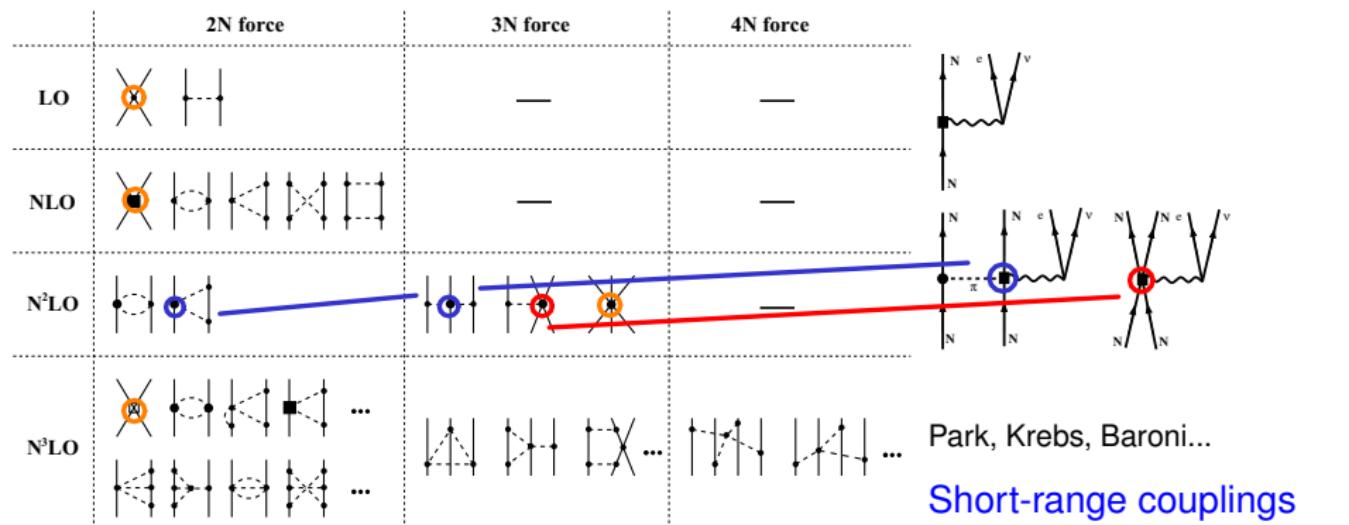


Chiral effective field theory

Chiral EFT: low energy approach to QCD, nuclear structure energies

Approximate chiral symmetry: pion exchanges, contact interactions

Systematic expansion: nuclear forces and electroweak currents



Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise, Meißner, Epelbaum...

Effective shell-model interactions

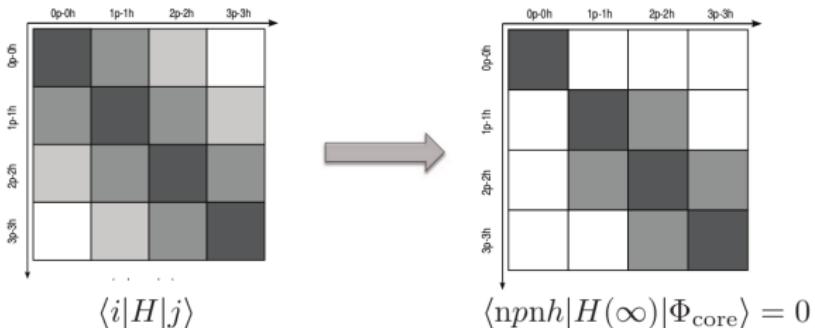
Coupled Cluster:

Solve coupled-cluster equations for core (reference state $|\Phi\rangle$), $A+1$ and $A+2$ systems

Project the coupled-cluster solution into valence space
(Okubo-Lee-Suzuki transformation)

Jansen et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 142502 (2014)

In-medium similarity renormalization group decouple core from excitations decouple A particles in valence space from rest

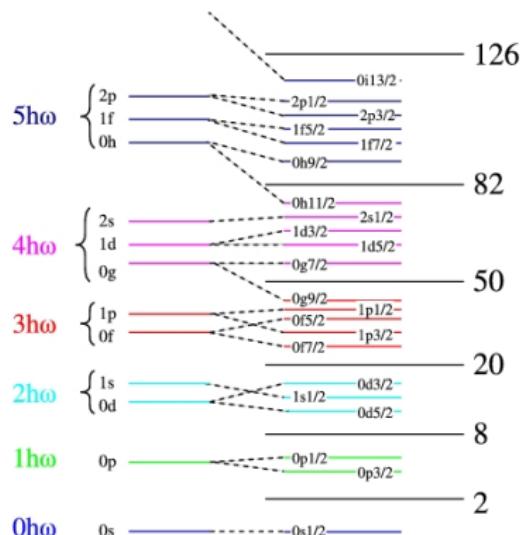


Stroberg et al.

Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 69, 307 (2019)

In addition to H_{eff} , these non-perturbative methods provide the core energy

Nuclear shell model



Nuclear shell model configuration space
only keep essential degrees of freedom

- High-energy orbitals: always empty
- Valence space:
where many-body problem is solved
- Inert core: always filled

$$H|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle \rightarrow H_{\text{eff}}|\Psi\rangle_{\text{eff}} = E|\Psi\rangle_{\text{eff}}$$

$$|\Psi\rangle_{\text{eff}} = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha} |\phi_{\alpha}\rangle, \quad |\phi_{\alpha}\rangle = a_{i1}^+ a_{i2}^+ \dots a_{iA}^+ |0\rangle$$

Shell model diagonalization:

$\sim 10^{10}$ Slater dets. Caurier et al. RMP77 (2005)

$\gtrsim 10^{24}$ Slater dets. with Monte Carlo SM

Otsuka, Shimizu, Y.Tsunoda

Phys. Scr. 92 063001 (2017)

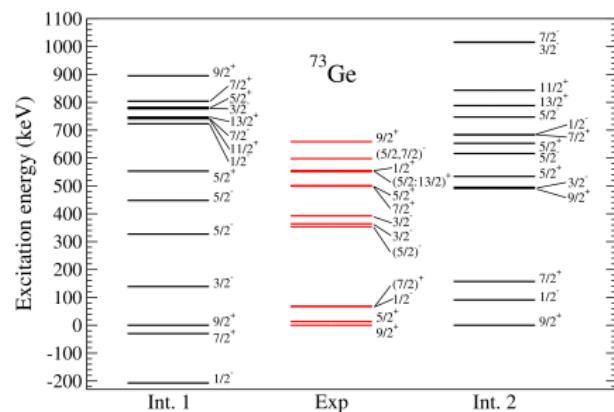
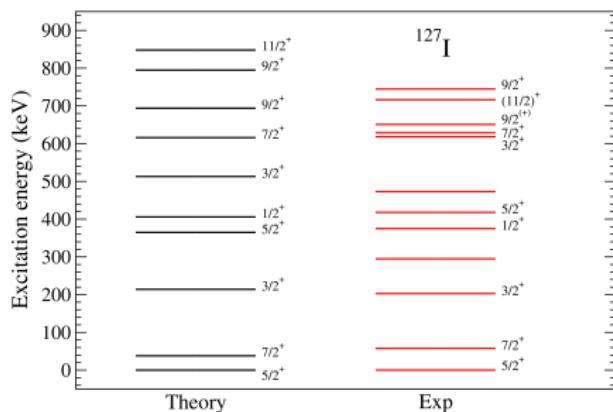
H_{eff} includes effects of

- inert core
- high-energy orbitals

Shell-model spectra for heavy nuclei

Very good general agreement
between the properties of low-energy nuclear states
and nuclear shell-model calculations

However, some nuclei present challenging features
such as ^{73}Ge ground and first-excited state, likely related to deformation

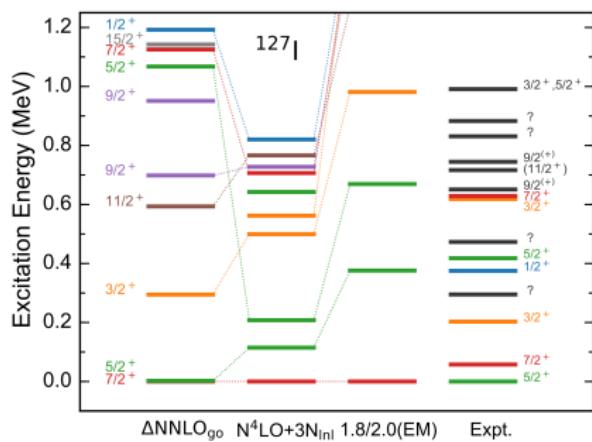
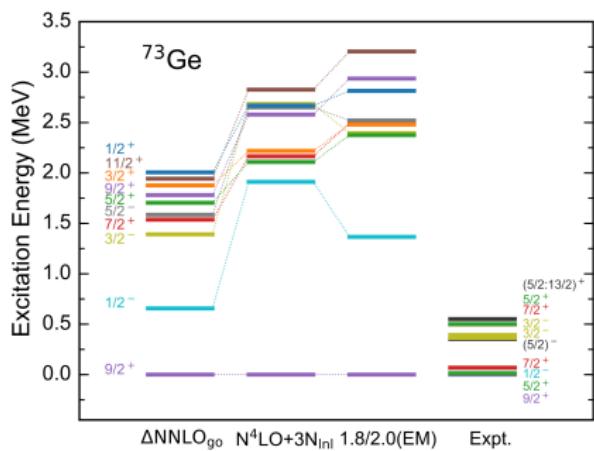


Klos, JM, Gazit, Schwenk, PRD 88, 083516 (2013)

Ab initio spectra for heavy nuclei

While VS-IMSRG calculations high quality in light nuclei (eg Na)
challenges remain in heavier systems, such as ^{73}Ge

Interesting sensitivity to the chiral nuclear Hamiltonian used for ^{127}I



Hu et al. PRL 128, 072502 (2022)

Low-energy states nuclear properties

Very good general agreement
 between the properties of low-energy nuclear states
 Charge radii, quadrupole and magnetic moments
 electric quadrupole and magnetic dipole transitions

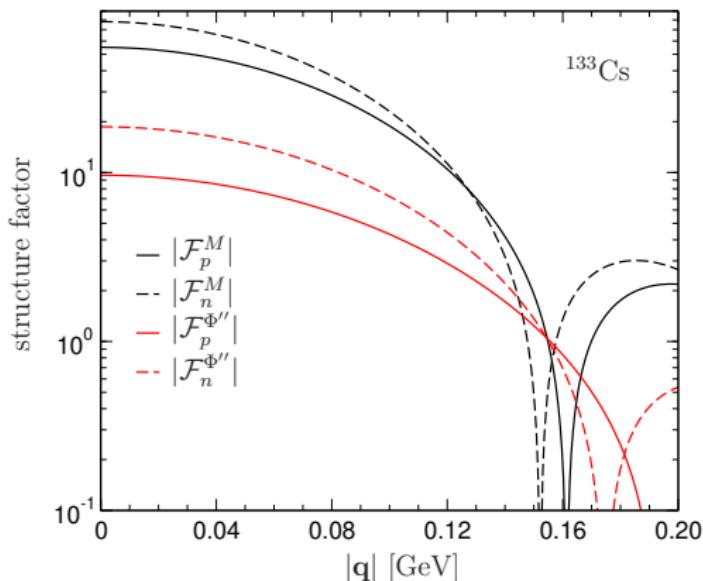
Nucleus	State /Transition	$\langle r^2 \rangle_{\text{ch}}^{1/2}$ [fm]		Q [efm 2]		μ [n.m.]		B(E2) [e 2 fm 4]		B(M1) [n.m. 2]	
		Th	Exp	Th	Exp	Th	Exp	Th	Exp	Th	Exp
^{40}Ar	0_{gs}^+	3.43	3.427(3)	...	...	...	...	50	73(3)	...	...
	2_1^+			+2.6	+1(4)	-0.54	-0.04(6)			29	43(7)
	$2_1^+ \rightarrow 0_{\text{gs}}^+$							0.7	10(2)	...	...
	$0_1^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$							55	150(50)	0.016	0.07(1)
	$2_2^+ \rightarrow 0_{\text{gs}}^+$							36	43(8)	...	...
	$2_2^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$							16	13.6(5)	...	...
	$4_1^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$										
	$6_1^+ \rightarrow 4_1^+$										
^{70}Ge	0_{gs}^+	4.05	4.0414(12)	...	...	...	...	240	360(7)	...	...
	2_1^+			+23	+4(3)	0.96	0.91(5)			36	820(120)
	$2_1^+ \rightarrow 0_{\text{gs}}^+$							8.0	9(1)	...	...
	$0_1^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$							16	1100(190)	0.022	0.003(2)
	$2_2^+ \rightarrow 0_{\text{gs}}^+$							270	270(50)	...	...
	$2_2^+ \rightarrow 0_2^+$							370	430(90)	...	...
	$4_1^+ \rightarrow 2_1^+$										
	72Ge	4.07	4.0576(12)	...	...	...	...	260	418(7)	...	...
	2_1^+			+16	-13(6)	0.55	0.77(5)			60	317(5)
	$2_1^+ \rightarrow 0_{\text{gs}}^+$							29	2.3(4)	...	...
	$2_1^+ \rightarrow 0_2^+$							15	0.5(1)	...	...
	$2_2^+ \rightarrow 0_2^+$							360	1100(180)	0.023	$29(9) \times 10^{-5}$



Shell-model response functions for heavy nuclei

Coherent response functions correspond to M, Φ'' operators

Shell-model calculation as function of momentum transfer \mathbf{q}



$$\mathcal{F}_{\pm}^M \longrightarrow 1$$

coherent (charge)

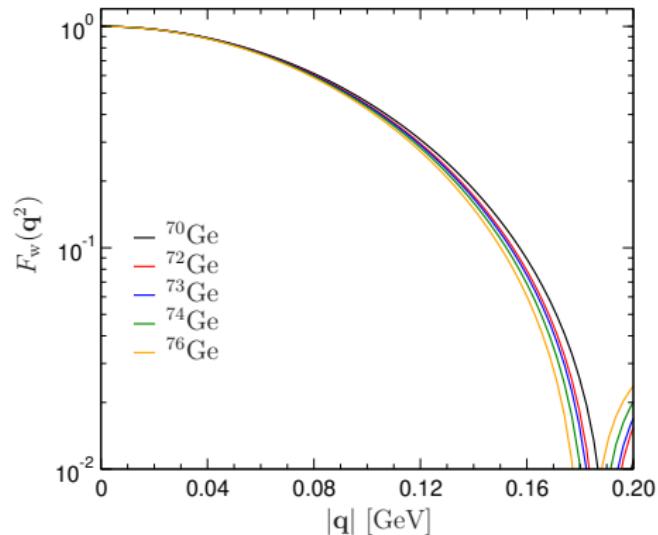
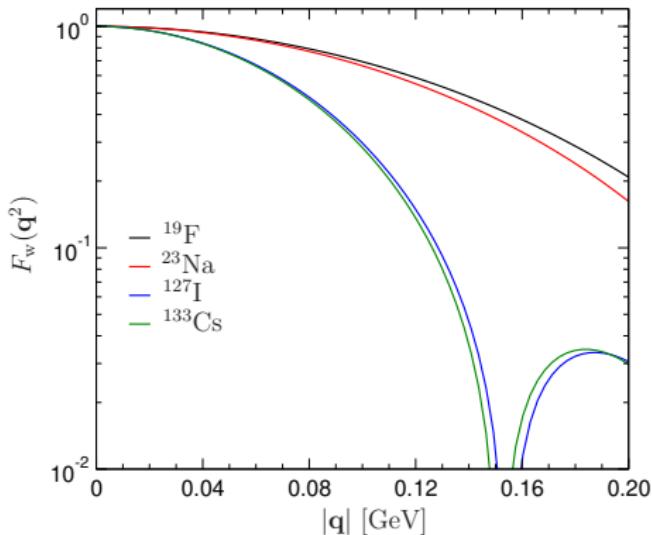
$$\mathcal{F}_{\pm}^{\Phi''} \longrightarrow \mathbf{S}_N \cdot (\mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{P}) \sim \mathbf{S}_N \cdot \mathbf{I}_N$$

semi-coherent
(spin-orbit,
attractive *mean field*
in nuclear potential)

Hoferichter, JM, Schwenk, PRD102 074018 (2020)

Elastic neutrino scattering off nuclei

Calculation of nuclear structure factors
for coherent elastic ν scattering off CsI, Ar, F, Na, Ge, Xe

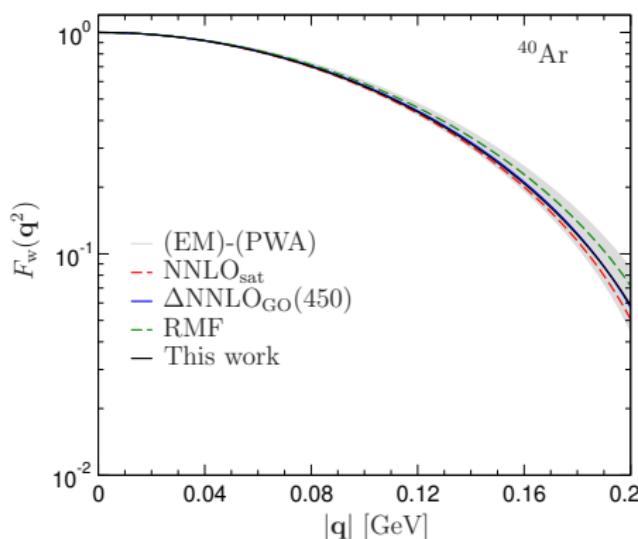


Hoferichter, JM, Schwenk, PRD102 074018(2020)

These are similar to structure factors for beyond Standard Model interactions
Also similar to dark matter-nucleus (WIMP-nucleus) structure factors
relativistic ν 's instead of nonrelativistic WIMPs

Elastic neutrino scattering off argon

Nuclear structure factors for coherent elastic ν scattering off ^{40}Ar



Ab initio band
from nuclear Hamiltonians
built with no information about
charge radii of nuclei

Other calculations include somehow
this information in their
Hamiltonian/parameters

Hoferichter, JM, Schwenk
PRD102 074018(2020)

Payne et al. PRC100 061304 (2019)

Yang et al. PRC100 054301 (2019)

Good agreement within uncertainties between calculations
nuclear shell model, ab initio coupled cluster and relativistic mean field

Nuclear weak radius

ν -nucleus scattering thus sensitive to weak radii of nuclei
similar to e -nucleus scattering sensitive to charge radii:

$$R_w^2 = \frac{ZQ_w^p}{Q_w} \left(R_p^2 + \langle r_E^2 \rangle^p + \frac{Q_w^n}{Q_w^p} (\langle r_E^2 \rangle^n + \langle r_{E,s}^2 \rangle^N) \right) \\ + \frac{NQ_w^n}{Q_w} \left(R_n^2 + \langle r_E^2 \rangle^p + \langle r_{E,s}^2 \rangle^N + \frac{Q_w^p}{Q_w^n} \langle r_E^2 \rangle^n \right) + \frac{3}{4m_N^2} + \langle \tilde{r}^2 \rangle_{\text{so}},$$

$$\langle \tilde{r}^2 \rangle_{\text{so}} = -\frac{3Q_w^p}{2m_N^2 Q_w} \left(1 + 2\kappa^p + 2\frac{Q_w^n}{Q_w^p} (\kappa^n + \kappa_s^N) \right) \mathcal{F}_p^{\Phi''}(0) \\ - \frac{3Q_w^n}{2m_N^2 Q_w} \left(1 + 2\kappa^p + 2\kappa_s^N + 2\frac{Q_w^p}{Q_w^n} \kappa^n \right) \mathcal{F}_n^{\Phi''}(0).$$

To a first approximation

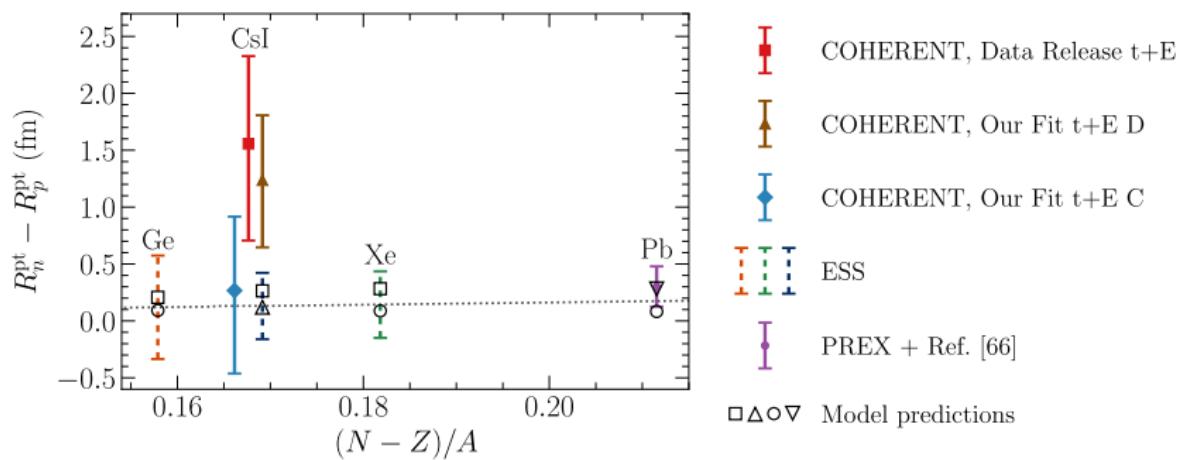
$$R_w \approx R_n,$$

Nuclear weak radius also probed in parity-violating electron scattering
usually measured at a single kinematical point (q^2 value)

Nuclear neutron radius from $\nu - N$ scattering

Use sensitivity to nuclear weak (nucleon) radius
to determine the distribution of neutrons in nuclei

Difficult to obtain from nuclear reactions because of model dependence
(reaction theory) in extracting results from experimental data

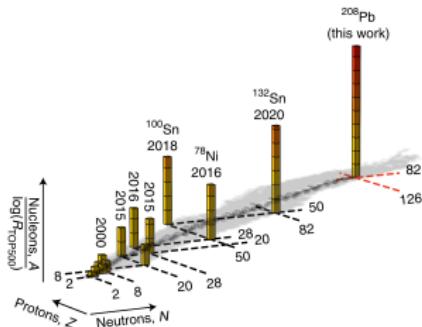


Coloma, Esteban, JM, Gonzalez-Garcia, JHEP 08, 030 (2020)

It may be difficult to tell apart neutron radii from different nuclear structure
calculations with expected sensitivity of ESS measurements

Ab initio predictions for nuclear neutron radius

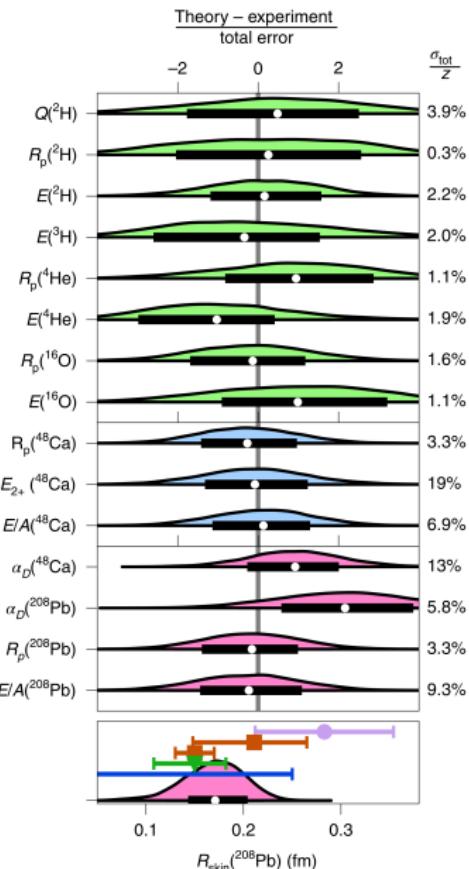
Very notable progress
ab initio calculations of
(relatively uncorrelated) heavy nuclei
reaching ^{208}Pb



Determine ^{208}Pb neutron skin
using Bayesian approach
based on sampling of 10^9
(parameters of) nuclear Hamiltonians

Hu, Jiang, Miyagi et al.

Nature Phys. 18, 1196 (2022)



Modified “weak” structure factor with new physics

ν -nucleus scattering can probe new physics as well

With vector and axial currents

different Wilson coefficients than Standard Model ones

lead to a modified “weak” structure factor

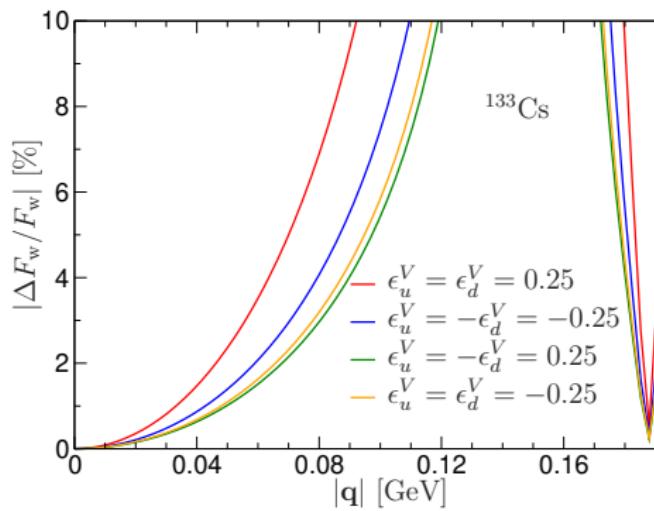
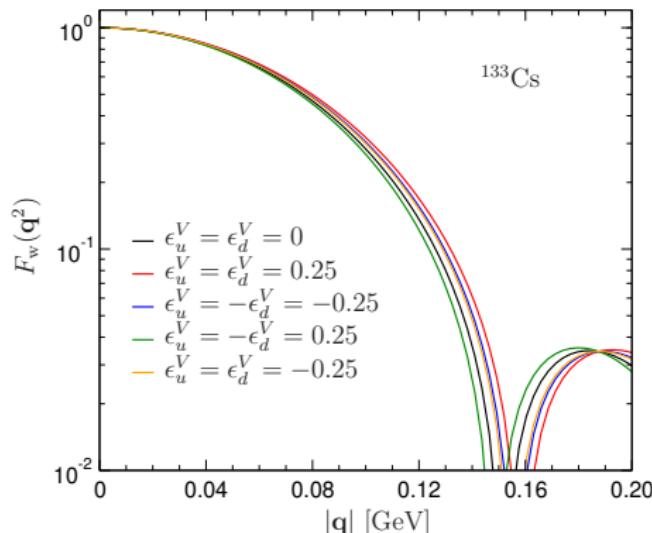
$$\frac{d\sigma_A}{dT} = \frac{m_A}{2\pi} \left(1 - \frac{m_A T}{2E_\nu^2} - \frac{T}{E_\nu} \right) \tilde{Q}_w^2 |\tilde{F}_w(\mathbf{q}^2)|^2 + \frac{m_A}{2\pi} \left(1 + \frac{m_A T}{2E_\nu^2} - \frac{T}{E_\nu} \right) \tilde{F}_A(\mathbf{q}^2),$$

which depends on the same nuclear responses $\mathcal{F}_p^M, \mathcal{F}_n^M, \mathcal{F}_n^{\Phi''}, \mathcal{F}_p^{\Phi''}$
but that is distinguishable from the Standard Model one
because of the different couplings

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{F}_w(\mathbf{q}^2) = & \frac{1}{\tilde{Q}_w} \left[\left(g_V^p + \dot{g}_V^p t + \frac{g_V^p + 2g_{V,2}^p}{8m_N^2} t \right) \mathcal{F}_p^M(\mathbf{q}^2) + \left(g_V^n + \dot{g}_V^n t + \frac{g_V^n + 2g_{V,2}^n}{8m_N^2} t \right) \mathcal{F}_n^M(\mathbf{q}^2) \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{g_V^p + 2g_{V,2}^p}{4m_N^2} t \mathcal{F}_p^{\Phi''}(\mathbf{q}^2) - \frac{g_V^n + 2g_{V,2}^n}{4m_N^2} t \mathcal{F}_n^{\Phi''}(\mathbf{q}^2) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Modified “weak” structure factors

Different Standard Model and Beyond Standard Model structure factors



Relatively small difference for possibly large BSM parameters
comparable to nuclear structure uncertainties between calculations
unless close to the diffraction minimum

Other BSM couplings (eg tensor) lead to different responses
similar to axial-axial SM ones

Axial contribution to $\nu - \mathcal{N}$ scattering

Precision studies such as BSM searches require correction to Standard-Model cross-section from non coherent axial-axial interaction

$$\frac{d\sigma_A}{dT} = \frac{G_F^2 m_A}{4\pi} \left(1 - \frac{m_A T}{2E_\nu^2} - \frac{T}{E_\nu} \right) Q_w^2 |F_w(\mathbf{q}^2)|^2 + \frac{G_F^2 m_A}{4\pi} \left(1 + \frac{m_A T}{2E_\nu^2} - \frac{T}{E_\nu} \right) F_A(\mathbf{q}^2)$$

$$F_A(\mathbf{q}^2) = \frac{8\pi}{2J+1} \times \left((g_A^{s,N})^2 S_{00}^T(\mathbf{q}^2) - g_A g_A^{s,N} S_{01}^T(\mathbf{q}^2) + (g_A)^2 S_{11}^T(\mathbf{q}^2) \right)$$

$$F_A(0) = \frac{4}{3} g_A^2 \frac{J+1}{J} (\langle \mathbf{S}_p \rangle - \langle \mathbf{S}_n \rangle)^2,$$

which is transverse and (dominated by) isovector response proportional to expectation value of spin of protons/neutrons in the nucleus

No direct probe of spin distribution of nucleons in nuclei

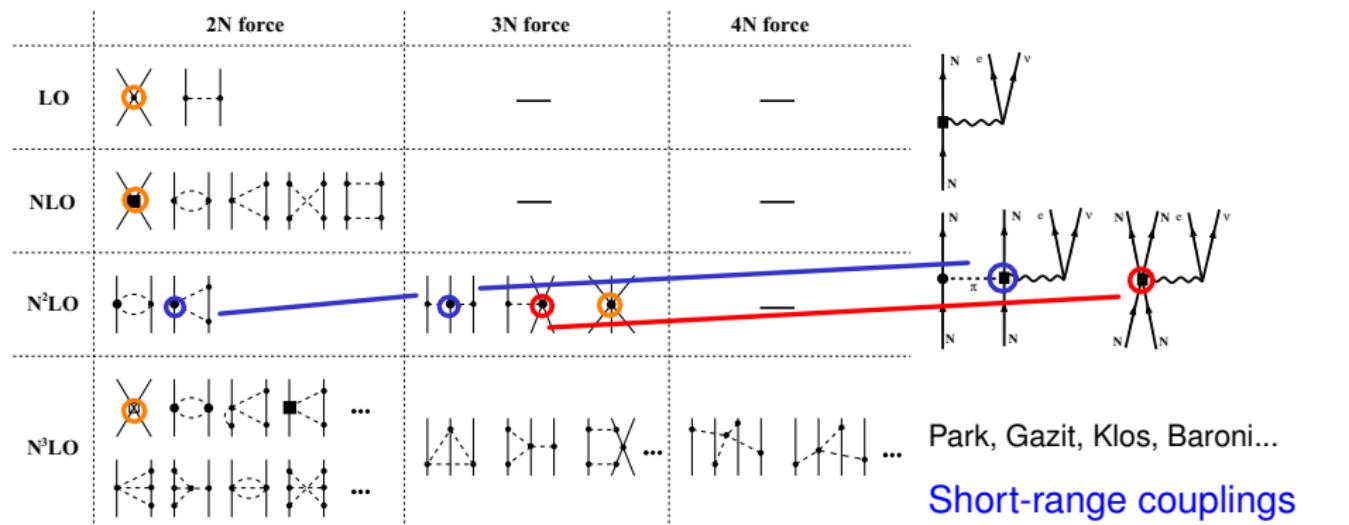
Vanishes for even-even systems

Chiral effective field theory

Chiral EFT: low energy approach to QCD, nuclear structure energies

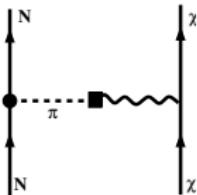
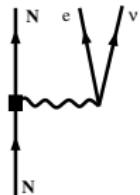
Approximate chiral symmetry: pion exchanges, contact interactions

Systematic expansion: nuclear forces and electroweak currents



Axial 1b and 2b currents

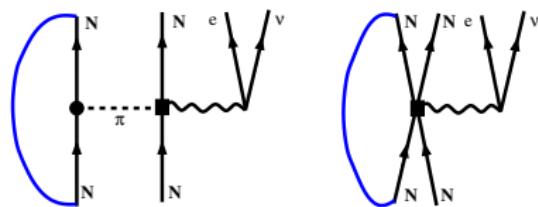
One-body currents receive contribution from two-body currents



$$\mathbf{J}_{i,1b}^3 = \frac{1}{2} \tau_i^3 \left(G_A^3(\mathbf{q}^2) \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i - \frac{G_P^3(\mathbf{q}^2)}{4m_N^2} (\mathbf{q} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i) \mathbf{q} \right)$$

Approximate in medium-mass nuclei:

normal-ordered 1b part with respect to spin/isospin symmetric Fermi gas



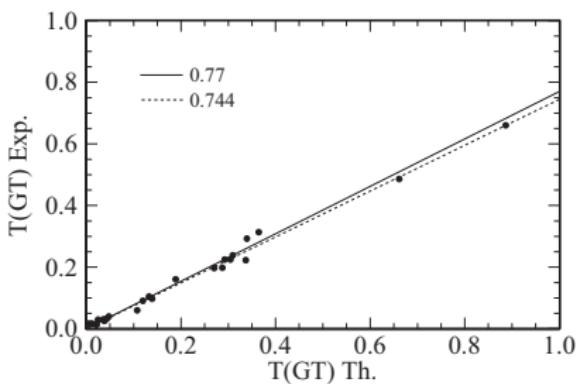
$$\mathbf{J}_{i,2b}^{\text{eff}}(\rho, \mathbf{q}) = g_A \frac{\tau_i^3}{2} \left[\delta a(\mathbf{q}^2) \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i + \frac{\delta a^P(\mathbf{q}^2)}{\mathbf{q}^2} (\mathbf{q} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i) \mathbf{q} \right]$$

Normal-ordered two-body currents modify structure factor

$$S_{11} = S_{11}^T + S_{11}^L = \sum_L \left[[1 + \delta'(\mathbf{q}^2)] \mathcal{F}_-^{\Sigma'_L}(\mathbf{q}^2) \right]^2 + \sum_L \left[[1 + \delta''(\mathbf{q}^2)] \mathcal{F}_-^{\Sigma''_L}(\mathbf{q}^2) \right]^2$$
$$\delta'(\delta a), \quad \delta''(\delta a, \delta a^P)$$

β -decay Gamow-Teller transitions: “quenching”

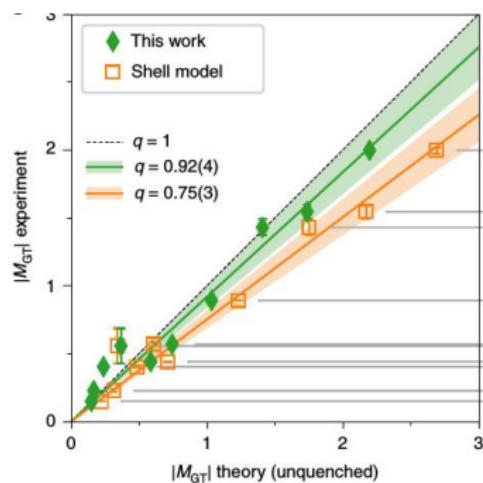
β decays (e^- capture): phenomenology vs ab initio



Martinez-Pinedo et al. PRC53 2602(1996)

$$\langle F | \sum_i [g_A \sigma_i \tau_i^{-}]^{\text{eff}} | I \rangle, \quad [\sigma_i \tau]^{\text{eff}} \approx 0.7 \sigma_i \tau$$

Standard shell model
needs $\sigma_i \tau$ “quenching”

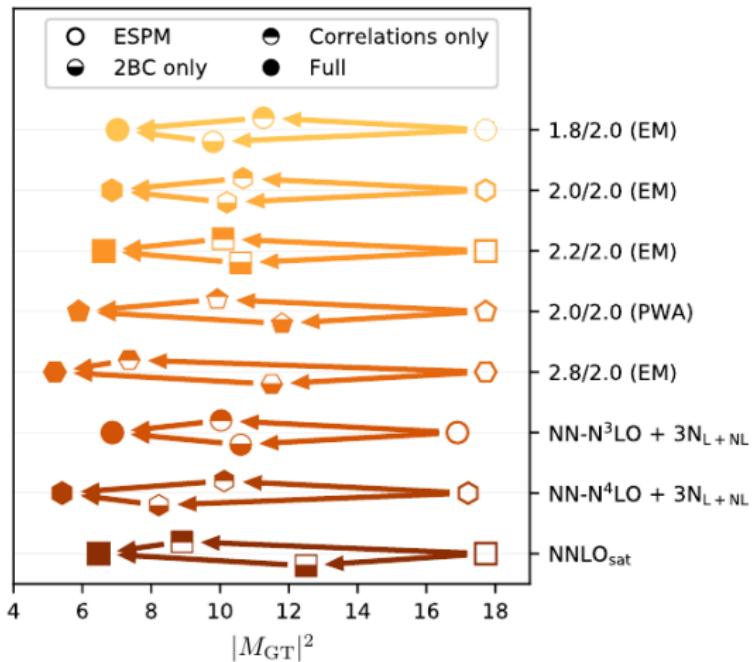


Gysbers et al. Nature Phys. 15 428 (2019)

Ab initio calculations including
meson-exchange currents
and additional nuclear correlations
do not need any “quenching”

Origin of β decay “quenching”

Which are main effects missing in conventional β -decay calculations?
Test case: GT decay of ^{100}Sn

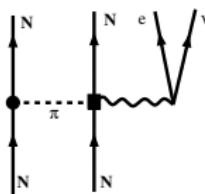


Relatively similar
and complementary
impact of

- nuclear correlations
- meson-exchange currents

Gysbers et al.

Nature Phys. 15 428 (2019)



2b currents in $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

In $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay, two weak currents lead to four-body operator
when including the product of two 2b currents: computational challenge

Approximate 2b current as
effective 1b current normal ordering
with respect to a Fermi gas

JM, Gazit, Schwenk, PRL107 062501(2011)

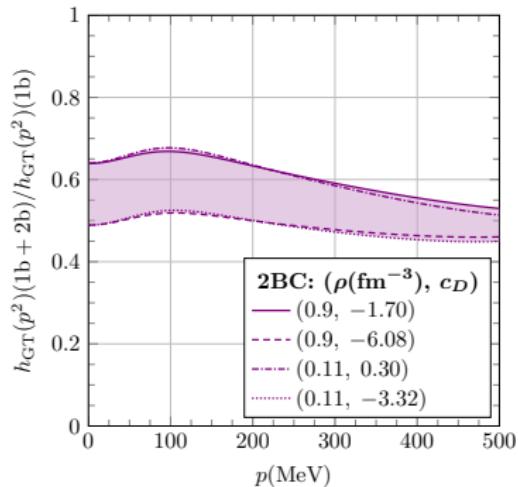
Normal-ordering approximation works
remarkably well for β decay ($q = 0$)

Gysbers et al. Nature Phys. 15 428 (2019)

Some reduction of quenching
due to 2b currents at $p \sim m_\pi$
relevant for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

Hoferichter, JM, Schwenk

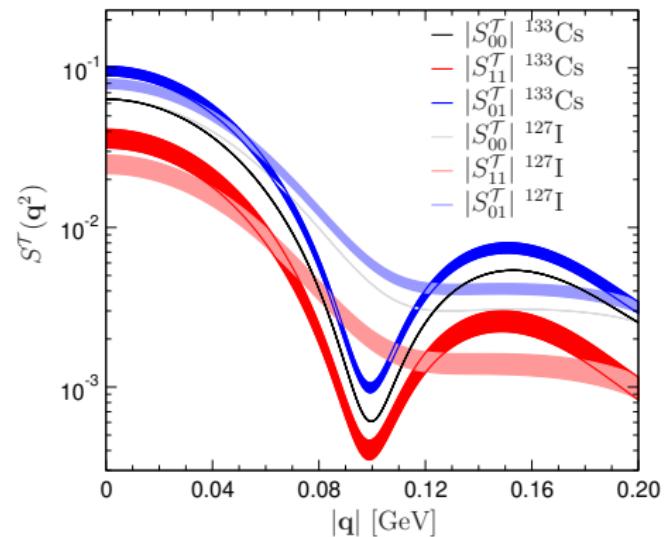
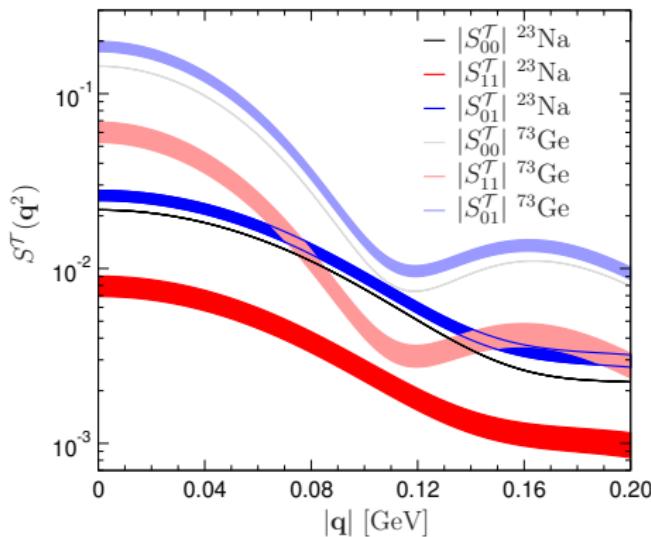
PRD102 074018 (2020)



Jokiniemi, Romeo, Soriano, JM, PRC 107
044305 (2023)

Axial-axial neutrino scattering off nuclei

Calculation of nuclear structure factors
for axial-axial elastic ν scattering off CsI, Ar, F, Na, Ge, Xe:



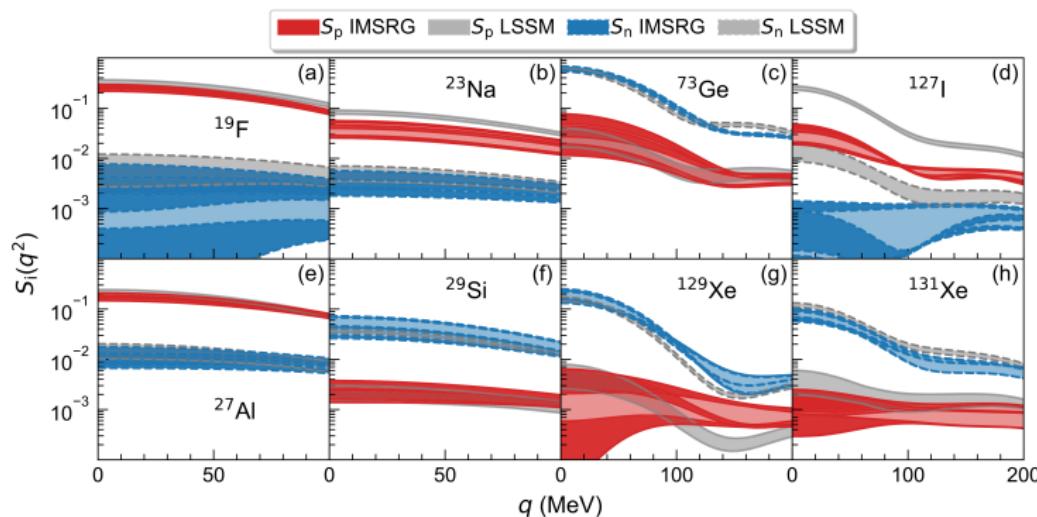
Hoferichter, JM, Schwenk, PRD102 074018(2020)

Uncertainty bands from uncertainty in chiral EFT couplings
needed to describe shell-model quenching

Ab initio calculation of structure factors

Recent ab initio calculation using VS-IMSRG
(valence-space in-medium similarity renormalization group method)

Consistent with nuclear shell model results
still show larger uncertainties, interesting discrepancy in ^{127}I



Hu et al. PRL 128, 072502 (2022)

Summary

$\nu - N$ cross-section depends on nuclear structure factors than need to be calculated with nuclear structure methods

Ab initio and more phenomenological approaches good agreement for dominant coherent structure factor: sensitivity to radius of neutrons in nuclei

BSM searches in general sensitive to different structure factors due to different Wilson coefficients

Precision studies need to take into account axial-axial cross-section as well:
1b+2b currents

