Recent Developments in Ab Initio Nuclear Many-Body Theory

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Where Do We Want to Go (Today)?

How Does Nuclear Structure Evolve?





- Evolution of (intrinsic) shapes along isotopic chains
- New phenomena: **neutron skins, halos**, ...
- Emergence of **new magic numbers** (and absence of old ones)

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What Are the Limits of Nuclear Existence?

week ending 18 APRIL 2008 PRL 108, 142503 (2012)



PRL 100, 152502 (2008)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 88 034313 (2013) Beyond the neutron drip line: The unbound oxygen isotopes ²⁵O and ²⁶O

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Determination of the N = 16 Shell Closure at the Oxygen Drip Line

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The neutron unbound ground state of 25 O (Z = 8, N = 17) was observed for the first time in a proton knockout reaction from a 26F beam. A single resonance was found in the invariant mass spectrum corresponding to a neutron decay energy of 770^{+20}_{-10} keV with a total width of 172(30) keV. The N = 16shell gap was established to be 4.86(13) MeV by the energy difference between the $\nu 1s_{1/2}$ and $\nu 0d_{3/2}$ orbitals. The neutron separation energies for 25 O agree with the calculations of the universal sd shell model interaction. This interaction incorrectly predicts an ²⁶O ground state that is bound to two-neutron decay by 1 MeV, leading to a discrepancy between the theoretical calculations and experiment as to the particle stability of 26O. The observed decay width was found to be on the order of a factor of 2 larger than the calculated single-particle width using a Woods-Saxon potential.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.100.152502

PACS numbers: 21.10.Pc, 25.60.-t, 27.30.+t, 29.30.Hs

PRL 105, 032501 (2010)	PHYSICAL	REVIEW	LETTERS	week ending 16 JULY 2010

Three-Body Forces and the Limit of Oxygen Isotopes

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The limit of neutron-rich nuclei, the neutron drip line, evolves regularly from light to medium-mass nuclei except for a striking anomaly in the oxygen isotopes. This anomaly is not reproduced in shellmodel calculations derived from microscopic two-nucleon forces. Here, we present the first microscopic explanation of the oxygen anomaly based on three-nucleon forces that have been established in few-body systems. This leads to repulsive contributions to the interactions among excess neutrons that change the location of the neutron drip line from ²⁸O to the experimentally observed ²⁴O. Since the mechanism is robust and general, our findings impact the prediction of the most neutron-rich nuclei and the synthesis of heavy elements in neutron-rich environments

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PACS numbers: 21.10.-k, 21.30.-x, 21.60.Cs, 27.30.+t

Evidence for the Ground-State Resonance of ²⁶O

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Evidence for the ground state of the neutron-unbound nucleus ²⁶O was observed for the first time in the single proton-knockout reaction from a 82 MeV/u 27F beam. Neutrons were measured in coincidence with ²⁴O fragments. ²⁶O was determined to be unbound by 150^{+50}_{-150} keV from the observation of lowenergy neutrons. This result agrees with recent shell-model calculations based on microscopic two- and three-nucleon forces

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.108.142503

PACS numbers: 21.10.Dr. 25.60.-t. 27.30.+t. 29.30.Hs

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 96, 024308 (2017)

Continuum effects in neutron-drip-line oxygen isotopes

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The binding-energy pattern along the neutron-rich oxygen chain, governed by an interplay between shell effects and many-body correlations impacted by strong couplings to one- and two-neutron continua, make these isotopes a unique testing ground for nuclear models. In this work, we investigate ground states and low-lying excited states of 23-28O using the complex-energy Gamow shell model and density matrix renormalization group method with a finite-range two-body interaction optimized to the bound states and resonances of 23-26O, assuming a core of 22O. Our results suggest that the ground state of ²⁸O has a threshold character, i.e., is very weakly bound or slightly unbound. We also predict narrow excited resonances in 25O and 27O. The inclusion of the large continuum space significantly impacts predicted binding energies of 26-28O. This implies that the careful treatment of a neutron continuum is necessary prior to assessing the spectroscopic quality of effective interactions in this region.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevC.96.024308

week ending 6 APRIL 2012

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The very neutron-rich oxygen isotopes ²⁵O and ²⁶O are investigated experimentally and theoretically. The unbound states are populated in an experiment performed at the R3B-LAND setup at GSI via proton-knockout reactions from 26F and 27F at relativistic energies around 442 and 414 MeV/nucleon, respectively. From the kinematically complete measurement of the decay into ²⁴O plus one or two neutrons, the ²⁵O ground-state energy and width are determined, and upper limits for the 26O ground-state energy and lifetime are extracted. In addition the results provide indications for an excited state in ${}^{26}O$ at around 4 MeV. The experimental findings are compared to theoretical shell-model calculations based on chiral two- and three-nucleon (3N) forces, including for the first time residual 3N forces, which are shown to be amplified as valence neutrons are added

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PACS number(s): 21.10.-k, 25.60.-t, 27.30.+t, 29.30.Hs

e.g., emergence of new N=16 magic number and location of the neutron drip line in oxygen isotopes

What Are the Limits of Nuclear Existence?



- ²⁸O found to be a **resonance**
- spread of theory predictions: phenomenology, ab initio with different interactions, methods with and without continuum, potential deformation effects, ...

How Were the Elements Made?

Core-Collapse Supernovae

Neutron-Star Mergers

Multi-physics problem that requires microscopic inputs

- Equation of state (EOS) of strongly interacting matter
 - including supra-nuclear densities (exotic matter)
- Neutrino interactions

Physics Beyond the Standard Model

image credit: ESA <u>https://sci.esa.int/web/euclid/-/42267-science</u> [EUCLID expected to launch on July 1, 2023]

- Standard Model does not contain dark matter or dark energy
- SM neutrinos are massless, but neutrino flavor oscillations that require mass have been confirmed experimentally
- SM does not explain observed matterantimatter asymmetry (insufficient CP symmetry violation)

Physics Beyond the Standard Model

"Standard" Double Beta Decay

- neutrinos are **Dirac** particles
- Standard Model valid

Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay

- neutrinos are Majorana particles
- beyond Standard Model:
 new physics

Physics Beyond the Standard Model

"Standard" Double Beta Decay

- neutrinos are **Dirac** particles
- Standard Model valid

Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay

 neutrinos are Majorana particles

yields absolute neutrino mass scale if we can compute nuclear matrix elements accurately

Nuclear Matrix Elements

- inputs tailored to specific methods: phenomenological EDFs, Shell Model interactions, ...
- quenched g_A , "renormalization" of operators, etc.

CP Violation and EDMs

FRIB

- need BSM CP violation to explain matter-antimatter asymmetry - e.g.,
 CP-violating πNN vertex in (chiral) EFT
- induces neutron EDM and nuclear EDMs via a (P)T-violating interaction $V_{\rm PT}$
- Probed by screened dipole (=Schiff) moment

$$\langle S_z \rangle = \sum_k \frac{\langle 0 | S_z | k \rangle \langle k | V_{PT} | 0 \rangle}{E_0 - E_k} + c.c.$$

• enhanced by large deformation and small energy denominator - e.g., parity doublet of $\frac{1}{2}^+$ ground state and $\frac{1}{2}^-$ excited state in ²²⁵Ra

image credit: J. Engel

CKM Unitarity and Beta Decays

- new insights from *ab initio* analysis of radiative corrections to (super allowed) beta decays
- e.g., No-Core Shell Model with Continuum calculations of δ_{NS} , δ_C in ${}^{10}C$
- Towner & Hardy used $\delta_{NS} = -0.40 \%$

Gennari, Navratil, in progress

cf. talk by

P. Plattner

NTNP Topical Collaboration

Where Do We Start?

Chiral Effective Field Theory

- organization in powers $(Q/\Lambda_{\chi})^{\nu}$ allows systematic improvement
- low-energy constants fit to NN, 3N data (future: from Lattice QCD (?))
- consistent NN, 3N, ... interactions & transition operators

Renormaliz

- conserve referred
 low-resolute
- renormalization
 orders of notes to
 - example from exact
- must be ap all observables

Many Roads Lead to Rome

Paradigms

- Coordinate Space
 - Quantum Monte Carlo
 - Lattice EFT
- Configuration Space: Particle-Hole Expansions
 - Many-Body Perturbation Theory (MBPT)
 - (No-Core) Configuration Interaction (aka Shell Model, (NC)SM), From Quarks and Gluons to Nuclear Forces and Structure
 - Coupled Cluster (CC)
 - In-Medium Similarity Renormalization Group (IMSRG)
- Configuration Space / Coordinate Space: Geometric Expansions
 - deformed HF(B) + projection
 - projected Generator Coordinate Method (PGCM)
 - symmetry-adapted NCSM

Paradigms

- Coordinate Space
 - Quantum Monte Carlo
 - Lattice EFT
- Configuration Space: Particle-Hole Expansions

Recent(-ish) Reviews:

HH, Front. Phys. 8, 379 (2020)
S. Gandolfi, D. Lonardoni, A. Lovato and M. Piarulli, Front. Phys. 8, 117 (2020)
D. Lee, Front. Phys. 8, 174 (2020)
V. Somà, Front. Phys. 8, 340 (2020)

also see

"What is *ab initio* in nuclear theory?", A. Ekström, C. Forssén, G. Hagen, G. R. Jansen, W. Jiang, T. Papenbrock, arXiv:2212.11064

deformed HF(B) + projection

- projected Generator Coordinate Method (PGCM)
- symmetry-adapted NCSM

Basis Size "Explosion"

from: C. Yang, H. M. Aktulga, P. Maris, E. Ng, J. Vary, Proceedings of NTSE-2013

- constructing and storing full *H* matrix is impossible
- exploit matrix sparseness, but problem is still hard

Decoupling in A-Body Space

- identify the parts of the operator H which couple reference state to excitations
- **eliminate** them with SRG (or other similarity transformations)
- efficient: polynomial scaling, no need to construct matrix ! H. Hergert - 60th International Winter Meeting on Nuclear Physics, Bormio, Italy, Jan 24, 2024

Decoupling

Decoupling

Decoupling

absorb correlations into RG-improved Hamiltonian

$$U(s)HU^{\dagger}(s)U(s)|\Psi_{n}\rangle = E_{n}U(s)|\Psi_{n}\rangle$$

 reference state is ansatz for transformed, less correlated eigenstate:

$$U(\mathbf{s}) \left| \Psi_n \right\rangle \stackrel{!}{=} \left| \Phi \right\rangle$$

Correlated Reference States

"standard" IMSRG: build correlations on top of Slater determinant (=independent-particle state)

Correlated Reference States

Correlated Reference States

MR-IMSRG: build correlations on top of already correlated state (e.g., from a method that describes static correlation well)

IMSRG-Improved Methods

H. Hergert - 60th International Winter Meeting on Nuclear Physics, Bormio, Italy, Jan 24, 2024

- IMSRG-Improved Methods
 - IMSRG for closed and open-shell nuclei: IM-HF and IM-PHFB
 - HH, Phys. Scripta, Phys. Scripta 92, 023002 (2017)
 - HH, S. K. Bogner, T. D. Morris, A. Schwenk, and K. Tuskiyama, Phys. Rept. 621, 165 (2016)
 - Valence-Space IMSRG (VS-IMSRG)
 - S. R. Stroberg, HH, S. K. Bogner, J. D. Holt, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 69, 165
 - In-Medium No Core Shell Model (IM-NCSM)
 - E. Gebrerufael, K. Vobig, HH, R. Roth, PRL 118, 152503
 - In-Medium Generator Coordinate Method (IM-GCM)
 - J. M. Yao, J. Engel, L. J. Wang, C. F. Jiao, HH PRC 98, 054311 (2018)
 - J. M. Yao et al., PRL 124, 232501 (2020)

FRIB

XYZ define reference

IMSRG evolve operators

extract

observables

Are We There Yet?

Uncertainty

Are these results good, bad, \hat{or} just \hat{ok} ? Is there genuine tension between theory and experiment? **How can we know?**

Modern Uncertainty Quantification

- treat model parameters as probability distributions rather than just numbers
 - condition, calibrate, and validate with data
- predictions for observables become probability distributions as well
 - allows characterization of likelihood, standard deviations (=error bars), correlations, parameter sensitivity, ...
- challenge: need lots of expensive many-body calculations
- solution: construct emulators for costly simulations can reduce computational effort by many orders of magnitude (but still need training data)

Emulators

J. Melendez et al., JPG 49, 102001 (2022), C. Drischler et al., Front. Phys. 10, 1092931 (2023) E. Bonilla et al., PRC 106, 054322 (2022), P. Giuliani et al., Front. Phys. 10, 1054524 (2023) J. Pitcher, A. Belley et al., in preparation, A. Belley et al., arXiv:2308.15643 (v2)

high-fidelity space reduced space $|\psi_1\rangle$ $|\psi_1\rangle$ Parametric eigenvalue problem $H(\theta_i) |\psi_i\rangle = E(\theta_i) |\psi_i\rangle$

- Data driven (only expectation values)
- E.g. Multi-output, Multifidelity Deep Gaussian Processes (MM-DGP)

- Physics driven reducedorder models (ROMs)
- E.g., Galerkin projection for bound-state or scattering wave functions

Emulation for Operators (IMSRG)

J. Davison, J. Crawford, S. Bogner, HH, in preparation

No Matter Where You Go... There You Are

Towards Ab Initio Mass Tables

S. R. Stroberg et al., PRL 126, 022501 (2021)

Valence-Space IMSRG "mass table" based on a chiral NN+3N interaction (EM1.8/2.0)

⁴He (d, γ) ⁶Li Big Bang Radiative Capture

C. Hebborn et al., PRL 129, 042503 (2021)

- BB nucleosynthesis models under-predict ⁶Li abundance one cause could be inaccurate reaction rates
- NCSMC computation based on chiral EFT interactions

Differential Radii and Trends

differential observables like the staggering of energies ($\Delta_E^{(3)}$) and radii ($\Delta_r^{(3)}$) or the charge radius difference of mirror nuclei, ΔR_{ch} , are **insensitive** to variations of interaction cutoffs / resolution scale

Neutron Skin in ²⁰⁸Pb

- ²⁰⁸Pb is heaviest nucleus for which converged *ab initio* calculations have been achieved (VS-IMSRG, CC)
- chiral forces favor thin neutron skin, in mild tension with recent experimental result from PREX

Quenching of Gamow-Teller Decays

P. Gysbers et al., Nature Physics 15, 428 (2019)

- empirical Shell model calculations require quenching factors of the weak axial-vector couling g_A
- VS-IMSRG explains this through consistent renormalization of transition operator, incl. two-body currents

⁷⁶Ge

A. Belley et al., arXiv:2308.15643 (v2)

H. Hergert - 60th International Winter Meeting on Nuclear Physics, Bormio, Italy, Jan 24, 2024

A. Belley et al., arXiv:2308.15643 (v2)

EM1.8/2.0 NN+3N interaction, $\hbar \omega = 12 \text{ MeV}, e_{max} = 10$

⁷⁶Ge / ⁷⁶Se Structure

A. Belley et al., arXiv:2308.15643 (v2)

EM1.8/2.0 NN+3N interaction, $\hbar \omega = 12 \text{ MeV}, e_{max} = 10$

Where Do We Go From Here?

Conclusions & Outlook

- ab initio approach is key for a predictive theory of nuclear structure and reactions
 - rooted in QCD (proper symmetries)
 - systematically improvable interactions and operators (through Chiral EFT)
 - systematically improvable many-body methods
 - **quantified uncertainties** (theoretical error bars)
- renormalization group methods are a powerful tool for nuclear theory
- always growing capabilities, many exiting applications ahead

Progress in Ab Initio Calculations

[cf. HH, Front. Phys. 8, 379 (2020)]

Progress in Ab Initio Calculations

[cf. HH, Front. Phys. 8, 379 (2020)]

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S. K. Bogner, B. A. Brown, J. Davison, P. P. Arthuis, K. Hebeler, M. Heinz, R. Roth, T. Gysbers, M. Hjorth-Jensen, D. Lee, R. Wirth, Mongelli, T. Miyagi, A. Schwenk, A. Tichai TU Darmstadt B. Zhu anks to my collaborators: A. M. Romero Universitat de Barcelona, Spain M. Yao Sun Yat-sen University Roth, B. Rapakonstantinou, A. Günthen, Ssicher in handte Madrid, Spain Binder, A. Calci, J. Langhammer K. Fossez Florida State University itut für Kernphysik, Tubt Darnistadthapel Hill G. Hagen, G. Jansen, J. G. Lietz, T. D. Morris, T. A. Belley, J. D. Holt, P. Navrátil Papenbrock Bogner^{FRIUMF, Canada} UT Knoxville & Oak Ridge National Laboratory CL, Michigan State University CMSE, Michigan State University R. J. Furnstahl The Ohio State University B. Bally, T. Duguet, M. Frosini, V. Somà and everyone I forgot to list... **CEA Saclay**, France Grants: US DOE-SC, Office of Nuclear Physics DE-SC0023516, DE-SC0023175 (SciDAC NUCLEI Collaboration), **DE-SC0023663** (NTNP Topical Collaboration) Deutsche

Supplements

Similarity Renormalization Group

Basic Idea

continuous unitary transformation of the Hamiltonian to banddiagonal form w.r.t. a given "uncorrelated" many-body basis

• flow equation for Hamiltonian $H(s) = U(s)HU^{\dagger}(s)$:

$$\frac{d}{ds}H(s) = \left[\eta(s), H(s)\right], \quad \eta(s) = \frac{dU(s)}{ds}U^{\dagger}(s) = -\eta^{\dagger}(s)$$

• choose $\eta(s)$ to achieve desired behavior, e.g.,

$$\eta(\mathbf{s}) = \left[\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{d}}(\mathbf{s}), \mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{od}}(\mathbf{s}) \right]$$

to suppress (suitably defined) off-diagonal Hamiltonian

• consistent evolution for all observables of interest

SRG in Two-Body Space

L=0

L=2

10

8

SRG in Two-Body Space

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6

8

10

U Upraart 60th International Winter Meeting on Nuclear Dhysics, Rermin, Italy, Jan 24, 2024

Operator Bases for the IMSRG

 choose a basis of operators to represent the flow (make an educated guess about physics):

$$H(\mathbf{s}) = \sum_{i} c_i(\mathbf{s}) O_i, \quad \eta(\mathbf{s}) = \sum_{i} f_i(\{c(\mathbf{s})\}) O_i$$

• close algebra by truncation, if necessary:

$$\left[O_i,O_j\right]=\sum_k g_{ijk}O_k$$

• flow equations for the coefficient (coupling constants):

$$\frac{d}{ds}c_k = \sum_{ij} g_{ijk} f_i(\{c\}) c_j$$

• "obvious" choice for many-body problems:

$$\{O_{pq}, O_{pqrs}, \ldots\} = \{a_p^{\dagger}a_q, a_p^{\dagger}a_q^{\dagger}a_sa_r, \ldots\}$$

Transforming the Hamiltonian

Decoupling in A-Body Space

goal: decouple reference state | Φ > from excitations

Flow Equation

 $\frac{d}{ds}H(s) = [\eta(s), H(s)], \quad \text{e.g.,} \quad \eta(s) \equiv [H_d(s), H_{od}(s)]$

Flow Equation

$$\frac{d}{ds}H(s) = [\eta(s), H(s)],$$

Operators truncated at two-body level matrix is never constructed explicitly!

Standard IMSRG(2) Flow Equations

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• explicit ansatz for **similarity transformation**:

$$\bar{H} = e^T H e^{-T}, \qquad T = T^{[1]} + T^{[2]} + ..$$

• **project** on 1p1h, 2p2h, ... spaces and demand that coupling terms vanish: $|\Phi\rangle = |\Phi_i^a\rangle = |\Phi_i^a\rangle$

$$\langle \Phi_i^a | \bar{H} | \Phi \rangle = 0$$
$$\langle \Phi_{ij}^{ab} | \bar{H} | \Phi \rangle = 0$$

 Note: effective Hamiltonian is not Hermitian (symmetric)!

solve non-linear algebraic equations (e.g., conjugate gradient, quasi-Newton, ...)

Symmetry-Adapted NCSM

- Demonstration of emergent symplectic
 Sp(3, R) symmetry in nuclei
- Collective states in nuclei dominated by few specific irreps
- irreps allow much smaller model spaces than"brute force" particle-hole expansion

A. E. McCoy et al., PRL 125, 102505 (2021)

