

# Neutrinoless $\beta\beta$ decay and direct dark matter detection

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INT workshop “From nucleons to nuclei: enabling discovery  
for neutrinos, dark matter and more”

Institute for Nuclear Theory, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018



Graduate School of Science  
University of Tokyo

Center for Nuclear Study (CNS)



東京大学  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO



# Nuclear physics, $\beta\beta$ decay, dark matter detection

## Nuclear structure crucial for design and interpretation of experiments

Neutrinos, dark matter studied in low-energy experiments using nuclei

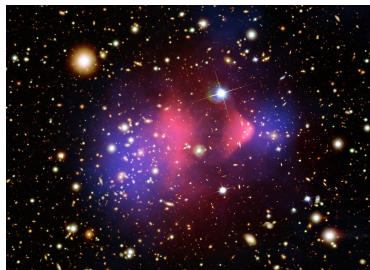
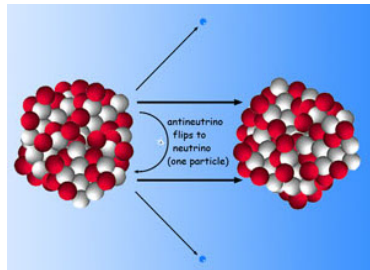
Abundant material, long observation time with very low background sensitive to rarest decays and tiny cross-sections!

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

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

$M^{0\nu\beta\beta}$ : Nuclear matrix element

$\mathcal{F}_i$ : Nuclear structure factor

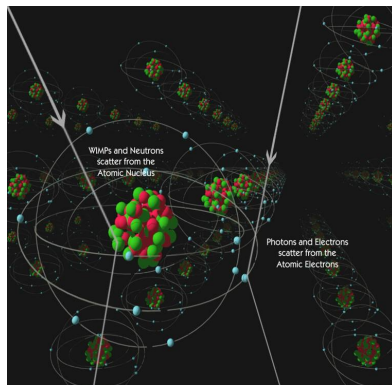


# Nuclear matrix elements and structure factors

## Nuclear matrix elements needed to study fundamental symmetries

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

- **Nuclear structure calculation of the initial and final states:**  
Quantum Monte Carlo, no-core shell model, coupled cluster shell model, energy density functional
- **Lepton-nucleus interaction:**  
Evaluate (non-perturbative) hadronic currents inside nucleus: phenomenology, effective theory



CDMS Collaboration

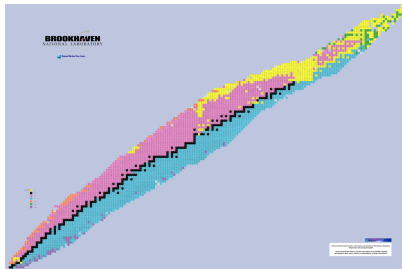
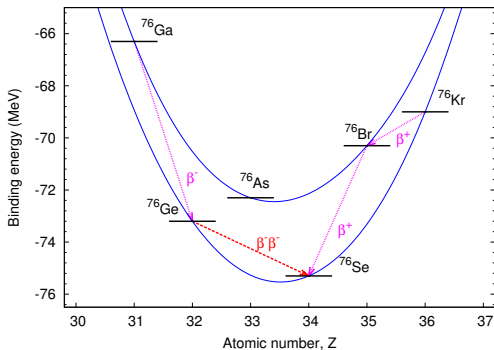
- 1 Lepton number violation, neutrino nature: neutrinoless  $\beta\beta$  decay
- 2 Direct detection of dark matter: dark matter scattering off nuclei
- 3 Summary

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# Neutrinoless $\beta\beta$ decay

Lepton-number violation, Majorana nature of neutrinos

Second order process only observable in rare cases with  $\beta$ -decay energetically forbidden or hindered by  $\Delta J$



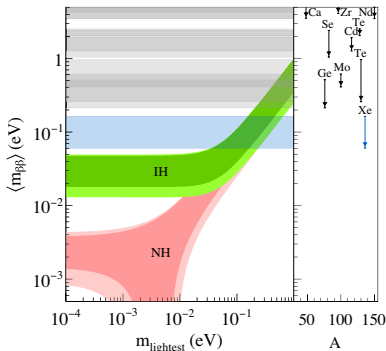
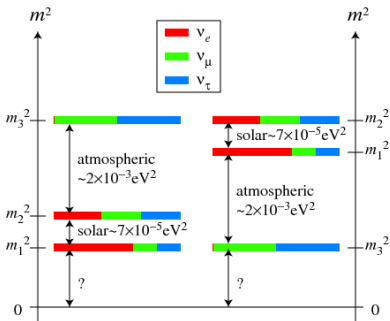
Best limits:  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  (GERDA),  $^{130}\text{Te}$  (CUORE),  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  (EXO, KamLAND-Zen)

# Next generation experiments: inverted hierarchy

The decay lifetime is

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta} (0^+ \rightarrow 0^+)^{-1} = G_{01} |M^{0\nu\beta\beta}|^2 m_{\beta\beta}^2$$

sensitive to absolute neutrino masses,  $m_{\beta\beta} = |\sum U_{ek}^2 m_k|$ , and hierarchy



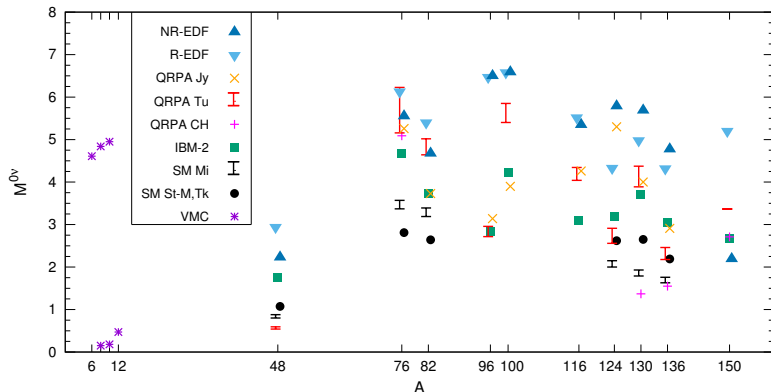
Matrix elements needed to make sure KamLAND-Zen, PRL117 082503(2016)  
 next generation ton-scale experiments fully explore "inverted hierarchy"

# $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay nuclear matrix elements

Large difference in nuclear matrix element calculations: factor  $\sim 2 - 3$

$$\langle 0_f^+ | \sum_{n,m} \tau_n^- \tau_m^- \sum_X H^X(r) \Omega^X | 0_i^+ \rangle$$

$\Omega^X = \text{Fermi (1), GT } (\sigma_n \sigma_m), \text{ Tensor}$   
 $H(r) = \text{neutrino potential}$

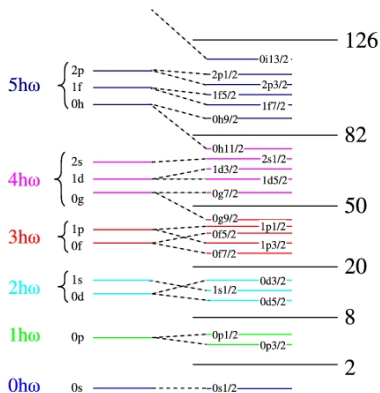


Ab initio quantum Monte Carlo  $0\nu\beta\beta$ : Pastore et al. PRC97 014606(2018)

Phenomenological many-body: shell model, energy-density functional theory, QRPA...



# Shell model



Diagonalize valence space,  
other effects in  $H_{eff}$ :

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

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

Exact diagonalization:  $10^{11}$  dimension [Caurier et al. RMP77 427 \(2005\)](#)

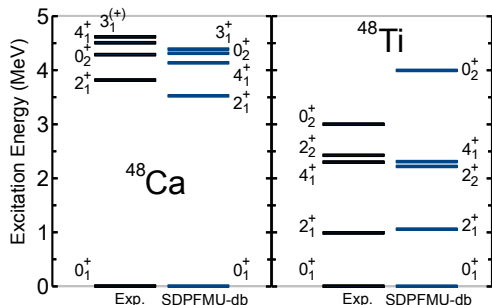
Monte Carlo shell model:  $10^{23}$  dimension [Togashi et al. PRL117 172502 \(2016\)](#)

Solve many-body problem  
by direct diagonalization  
in limited configuration space

- Excluded orbitals: always empty
- Valence space:  
configuration space where to  
solve the many-body problem
- Inner core: always filled

# Shell model configuration space: spectra

For  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  enlarge shell model configuration space from  $pf$  to  $sdpf$  (4 to 7 orbitals) restricted to  $2\hbar\omega$  excitations  
dimension of  $^{48}\text{Ti}$  calculation increases from less than  $10^6$  to over  $10^9$



Iwata et al. PRL116 112502 (2016)

The  $0_2^+$  state in  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  is brought down by 1.3 MeV in the  $sdpf$  calculation

Good agreement to experiment and with the associated two-proton transfer cross section ( $2\hbar\omega$  states dominant in  $^{48}\text{Ca } 0_2^+$ )

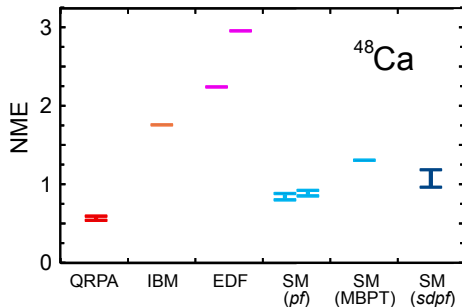
The difference in the  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  two-neutrino  $\beta\beta$  decay matrix element is about 5% between  $pf$  and  $sdpf$  calculations

# Shell model matrix elements in two shells

$^{48}\text{Ca} \rightarrow ^{48}\text{Ti}$   $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay

Enlarge configuration space  
from  $pf$  to  $sdpf$ , 4 to 7 orbitals

Test excitation energy of  $0_2^+$  in  
 $^{48}\text{Ca}$  off by 1.3MeV in  $pf$  shell

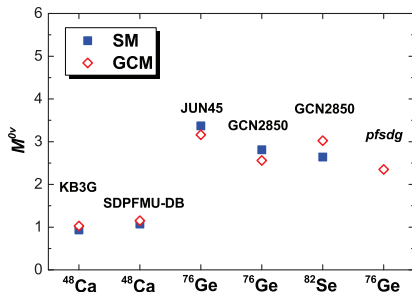


Nuclear matrix element  
increases moderately 30%

Iwata et al. PRL116 112502 (2016)

Likewise, very mild effect  
found in GCM calculations of  $^{76}\text{Ge}$

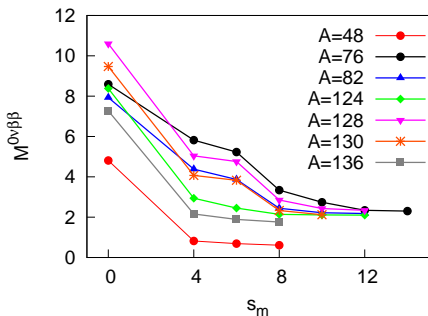
Jiao et al. PRC96 054310 (2017)



# Pairing correlations and $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

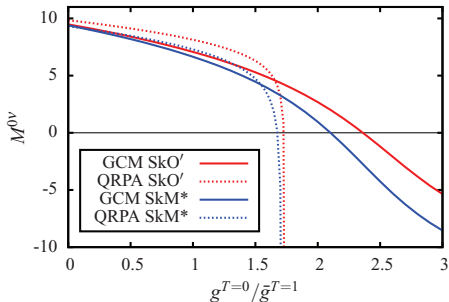
$0\nu\beta\beta$  decay favoured by proton-proton, neutron-neutron pairing, but it is disfavored by proton-neutron pairing

Ideal case: superfluid nuclei reduced with high-seniorities



Caurier et al. PRL100 052503 (2008)

Addition of isoscalar pairing reduces matrix element value

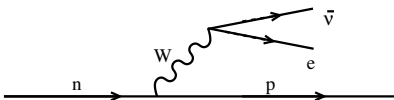


Hinohara, Engel PRC90 031301 (2014)

Related to approximate  $SU(4)$  symmetry of the  $\sum H(r)\sigma_i\sigma_j\tau_i\tau_j$  operator

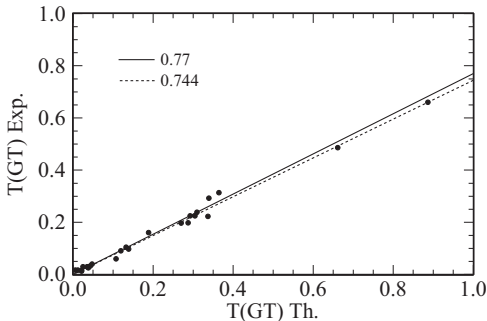
# Gamow-Teller $\beta$ decay: “quenching”

Gamow-Teller  $\beta$  decays described well by nuclear structure (shell model) but...



$$\langle F | \sum_i g_A^{\text{eff}} \sigma_i \tau_i^- | I \rangle$$

$$g_A^{\text{eff}} = q g_A, \quad q \sim 0.7 - 0.8.$$



Martínez-Pinedo et al. PRC53 2602 (1996)

Theory needs to “quench”  $\sigma\tau$  operator to reproduce experimental lifetimes: problem in nuclear many-body wf or operator?

This puzzle has been the target of many theoretical efforts:

Arima, Rho, Towner, Bertsch and Hamamoto, Wildenthal and Brown...

# 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

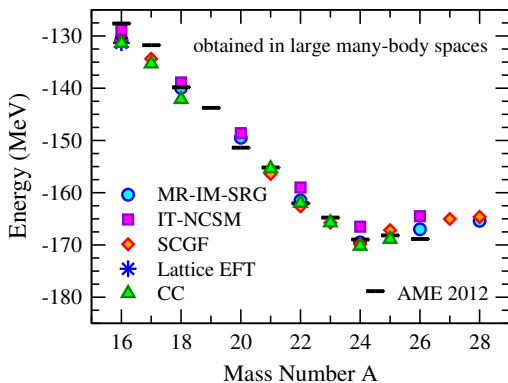
Hergert et al. PRL110 242501(2013)

Self-consistent Green's function

Cipollone et al. PRL111 062501(2013)

Coupled-clusters

Jansen et al. PRL113 142502(2014)

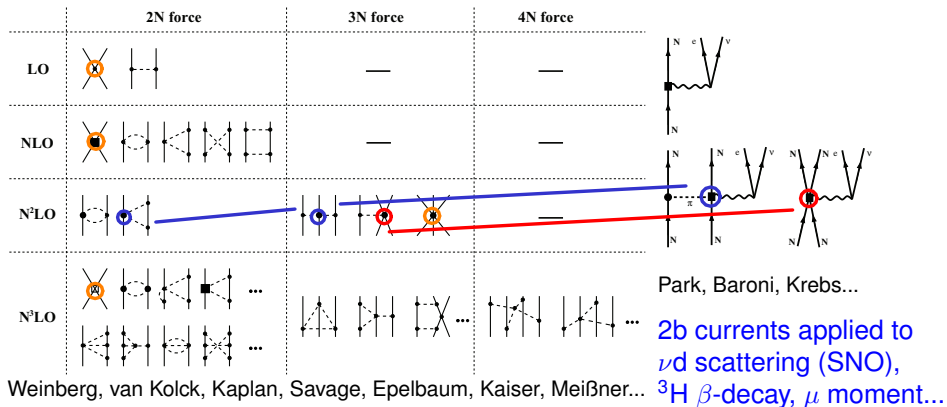


# Chiral effective field theory

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

Approximate chiral symmetry: pion exchanges, contact interactions

Systematic expansion: nuclear forces and electroweak currents

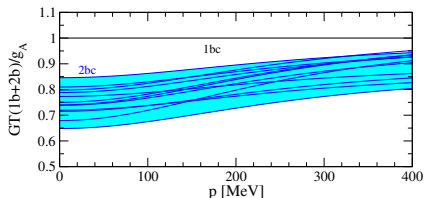
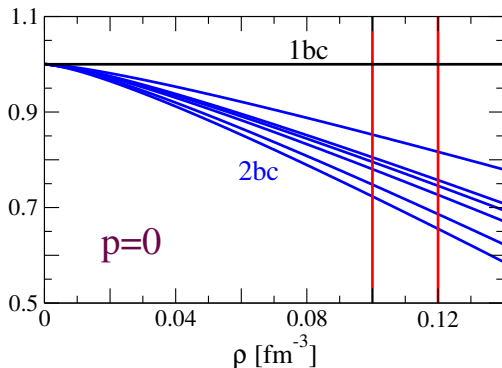
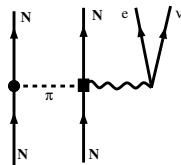


# 2b currents in medium-mass nuclei

## Normal-ordered 2b currents modify GT operator

JM, Gazit, Schwenk PRL107 062501 (2011)

$$\mathbf{J}_{n,2b}^{\text{eff}} \simeq -\frac{g_{A\rho}}{f_\pi^2} \tau_n^- \sigma_n \left[ I(\rho, P) \frac{(2c_4 - c_3)}{3} \right] - \frac{g_{A\rho}}{f_\pi^2} \tau_n^- \sigma_n \frac{2}{3} c_3 \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{m_\pi^2 + \mathbf{p}^2},$$



2b currents predict  $g_A$  quenching  $q = 0.85 \dots 0.66$

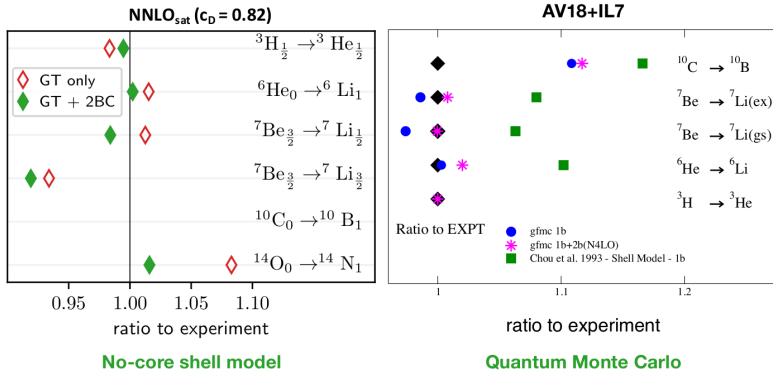
Quenching reduced at  $p > 0$ , relevant for  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay where  $p \sim m_\pi$



# $\beta$ decay in very light nuclei: GFMC vs NCSM

## Quantum Monte Carlo, No Core Shell Model $\beta$ decays in $A \leq 10$

G. Hagen, J. Holt, P. Navrátil et al. INT-18-1a program, Pastore et al. PRC97 022501 (2018)



Very good agreement to experiment, except  ${}^{10}\text{C}$  (structure)

Impact of 2b currents small (few %), disagreement on sign

# $\beta$ decay in medium-mass nuclei: IMSRG

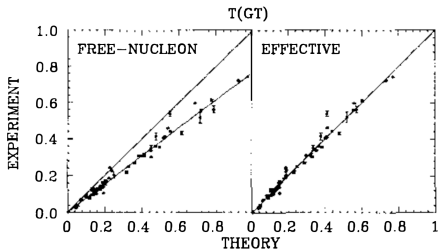


## “Quenching” of $g_A$ in Gamow-Teller Decays

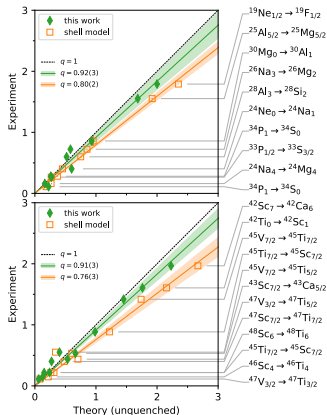
VS-IMSRG calculations of GT transitions in sd, pf shells

**Minor effect from consistent effective operator**

**Significant effect from neglected 2-body currents**



Ab initio calculations explain data with unquenched  $g_A$

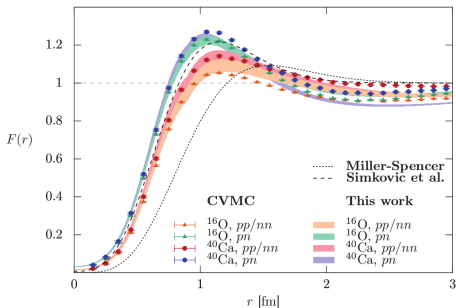


From J. Holt, INT-18-1a program

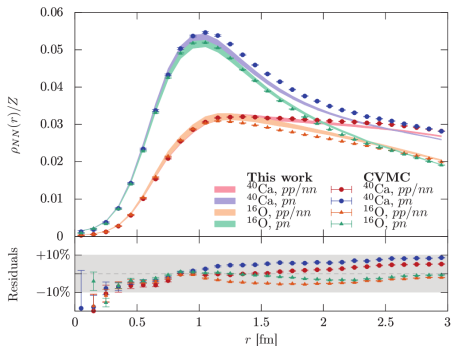
# Short-range correlations

Pair correlations of quantum Monte Carlo calculations approximated by combination of short- and long-range parts

$$\rho_{NN}(r) = a\rho_{NN}^{\text{contact}}(r) + b\rho_{NN}^{(0)}(r)$$



Cruz-Torres et al. arXiv:1710.07966



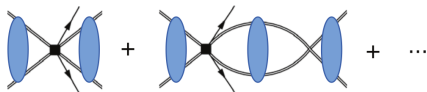
Correlation function defined by

$$F(r) = \frac{\rho_{NN}(r)}{\rho_{NN}^{\text{uncorrelated}}(r)}$$

Impact on  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay nuclear matrix elements small  $\sim 10\%$

# Open questions: transition operator

## Contact light-neutrino operator

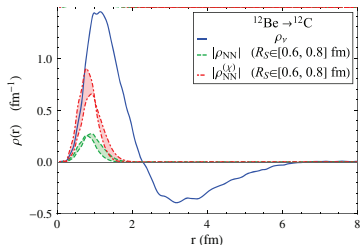


Cirigliano et al. PRL120 202001(2018)

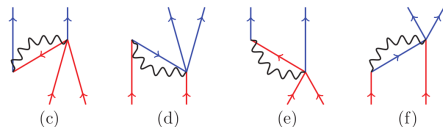
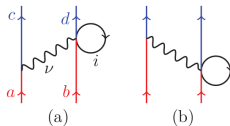
Unknown coupling value

E. Mereghetti's talk

Short-range character



## Two-body currents in $\beta\beta$ decay



Estimated effect  $\sim 10\%$

Wang et al. arXiv:1805:10276

compared to  $\sim 20\%$   
in GT  $\beta$  decay (“quenching”)

JM et al. PRL107 062501(2011)

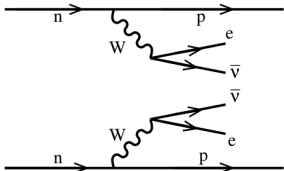
# Tests of nuclear structure

Test of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay: comparison of predicted  $2\nu\beta\beta$  decay vs data, momentum transfers  $q \sim 100$  MeV:  $\mu$ -capture, inelastic  $\nu$  scattering

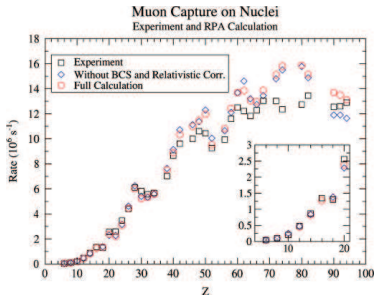
Shell model

reproduce  $2\nu\beta\beta$  data including “quenching” common to  $\beta$  decays in same mass region

Shell model prediction previous to  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  measurement!



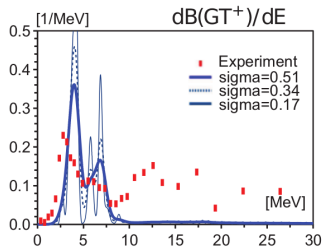
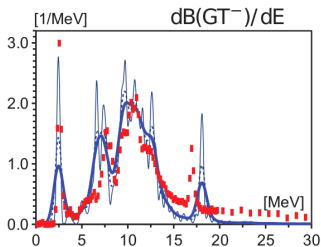
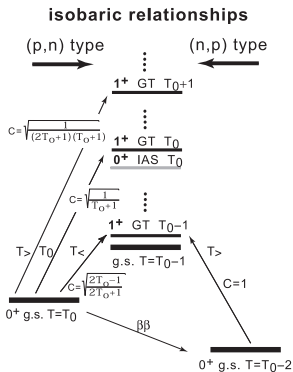
$$M^{2\nu\beta\beta} = \sum_k \frac{\langle 0_f^+ | \sum_n \sigma_n \tau_n^- | 1_k^+ \rangle \langle 1_k^+ | \sum_m \sigma_m \tau_m^- | 0_i^+ \rangle}{E_k - (M_i + M_f)/2}$$



$\mu$ -capture,  $\nu$ -nucleus scattering  
many multipoles ( $J$  values), like  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay

# Gamow-Teller strength distributions

Gamow-Teller (GT) strength distributions well described by theory (quenched)



Iwata et al. JPSCP 6 03057 (2015)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}(\theta = 0) \propto \sum_i \sigma_i \tau_i^\pm$$

$$\langle 1_f^+ | \sum_i g_A^{\text{eff}} \sigma_i \tau_i^\pm | 0_{\text{gs}}^+ \rangle, \quad g_A^{\text{eff}} \approx 0.7 g_A$$

Freckers et al.  
NPA916 219 (2013)

GT strengths combined related to  $2\nu\beta\beta$  decay, but relative phase unknown

# Double Gamow-Teller strength distribution

Measurement of Double Gamow-Teller (DGT) resonance  
in double charge-exchange reactions  $^{48}\text{Ca}(pp,nn)^{48}\text{Ti}$  proposed in 80's

Auerbach, Muto, Vogel... 1980's, 90's

Recent experimental plans in RCNP, RIKEN ( $^{48}\text{Ca}$ ), INFN Catania

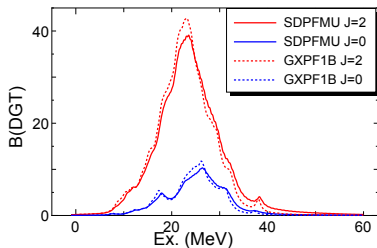
Takaki et al. JPS Conf. Proc. 6 020038 (2015)

Capuzzello et al. EPJA 51 145 (2015), Takahisa, Ejiri et al. arXiv:1703.08264

Promising connection to  $\beta\beta$  decay,  
two-particle-exchange process,  
especially the (tiny) transition  
to ground state of final state

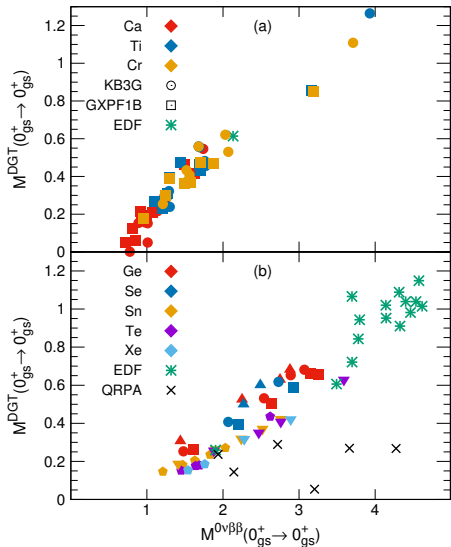
Shell model calculation

Shimizu, JM, Yako, PRL120 142502 (2018)



$$B(DGT^-; \lambda; i \rightarrow f) = \frac{1}{2J_i + 1} \left| \left\langle ^{48}\text{Ti} \left| \left[ \sum_i \sigma_i \tau_i^- \times \sum_j \sigma_j \tau_j^- \right]^{(\lambda)} \right| \left| ^{48}\text{Ca}_{\text{gs}} \right\rangle \right|^2$$

# DGT and $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay: heavy nuclei



DGT transition to ground state

$$M^{\text{DGT}} = \sqrt{B(\text{DGT}_{-}; 0; 0_{\text{gs}}^{+} \rightarrow 0_{\text{gs}}^{+})}$$

very good linear correlation  
with  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay  
nuclear matrix elements

Correlation holds  
across wide range of nuclei, from  
Ca to Ge and Xe

Common to shell model and  
energy-density functional theory  
 $0 \lesssim M^{0\nu\beta\beta} \lesssim 5$   
disagreement to QRPA

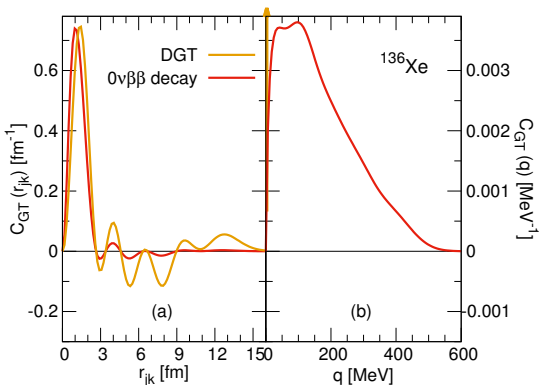
Shimizu, JM, Yako,  
PRL120 142502 (2018)



# Short-range character of DGT, $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

Correlation between DGT and  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay matrix elements explained by transition involving low-energy states combined with dominance of short distances between exchanged/decaying neutrons

Bogner et al. PRC86 064304 (2012)



$0\nu\beta\beta$  decay matrix element limited to shorter range

Short-range part dominant in double GT matrix element due to partial cancellation of mid- and long-range parts

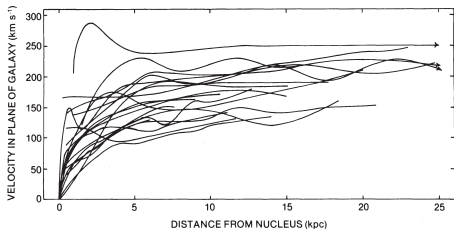
Long-range part dominant in QRPA DGT matrix elements

Shimizu, JM, Yako,  
PRL120 142502 (2018)

# Outline

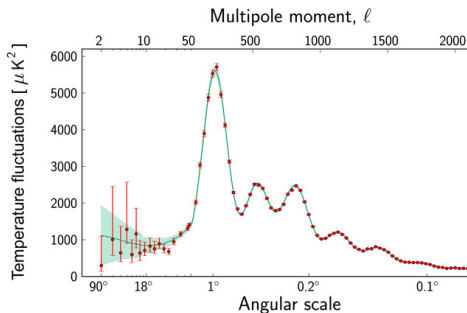
- 1 Lepton number violation, neutrino nature: neutrinoless  $\beta\beta$  decay
- 2 Direct detection of dark matter: dark matter scattering off nuclei
- 3 Summary

# Dark matter: evidence



Solid cosmological evidence  
for existence of dark matter  
in very different observations:

Rotation curves, Lensing, CMB...  
Zwicky 1930's, Rubin 1970's..., Planck 2010's



# Direct detection of dark matter

Challenge: direct detection of dark matter in the laboratory  
to understand its nature / composition

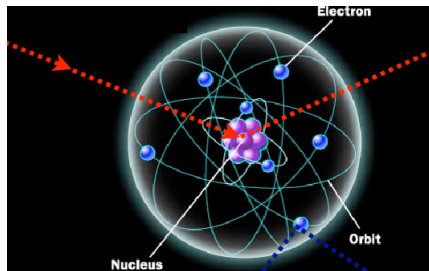
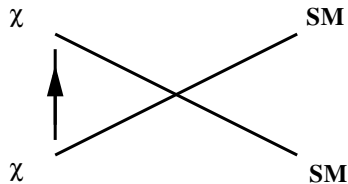
Assume dark matter (WIMPs)  
interact with quarks, gluons

⇒

direct detection possible  
via scattering off nuclear targets

International collaborations:  
XENON, LUX, PANDA-X, CDMS...  
measure nuclear recoils  
from WIMP-nucleus scattering  
sensitive to  $m_\chi \gtrsim 1$  GeV

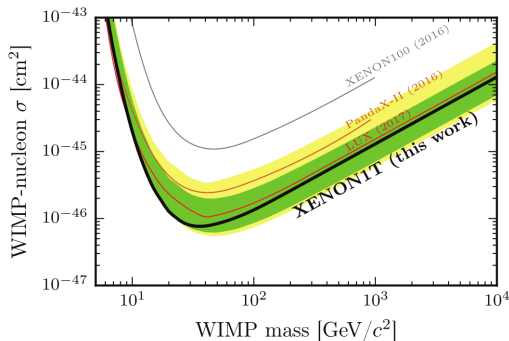
Theory: most efficient analysis of  
experiments covering widest range of  
WIMP-nucleus interactions



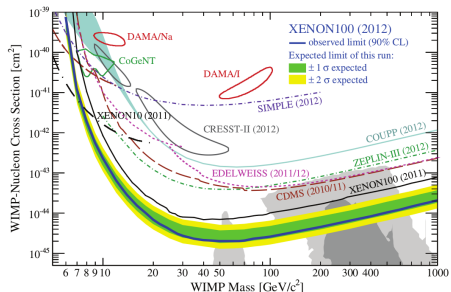
# Direct dark matter detection exclusion plots

Present experiments show no evidence for dark matter, in spite of some unconfirmed claims

Exclusion plots restrict dark matter coupling to Standard Model fields



XENON Coll. PRL119 181301 (2017)



XENON Coll. PRL109 181301 (2012)

Standard analyses consider simplest “spin-independent” (scalar-scalar) and sometimes “spin-dependent” (axial-axial) isovector couplings

# Particle, hadronic and nuclear physics

WIMP scattering off nuclei

interplay of particle, hadronic and nuclear physics:

WIMPs: interaction with quarks and gluons

Quarks and gluons: embedded in the nucleon

Nucleons: form complex, many-nucleon nuclei

General WIMP-nucleus scattering cross-section:

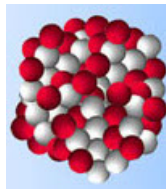
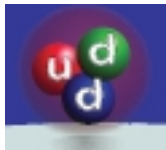
$$\frac{d\sigma_{\chi\mathcal{N}}}{d\mathbf{q}^2} \propto \left| \sum_i c_i \zeta_i \mathcal{F}_i \right|^2$$

$\zeta$ : kinematics ( $q^2, \dots$ )

$c$  coefficients:

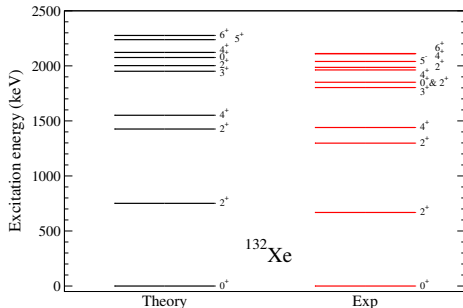
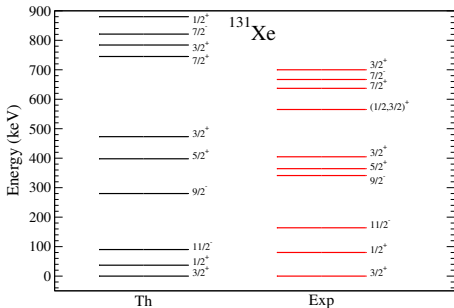
WIMP couplings to quark, gluons (Wilson coefficients), particle physics convoluted with hadronic matrix elements, hadronic physics

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



# Nuclear structure for xenon

For xenon, phenomenological shell model  
(part of the) nuclear interaction adjusted to nuclei in same mass region



JM, Gazit, Schwenk PRD86 103511(2012)

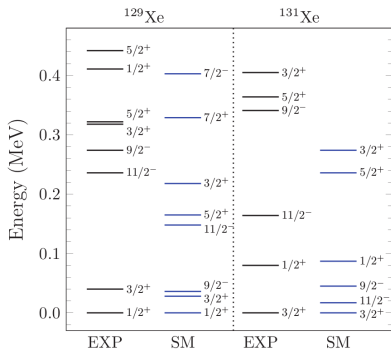
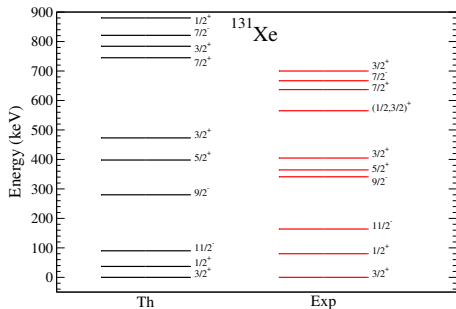
Vietze, Klos, JM, Haxton, Schwenk PRD91 043520 (2015)

Agreement to experimental excitation spectra very good

Calculations with 5 orbitals for protons, neutrons: max dimension  $4 \times 10^8$

# Nuclear structure for xenon

For xenon, phenomenological shell model  
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arXiv:1804.08995

JM, Gazit, Schwenk PRD86 103511(2012)

Vietze, Klos, JM, Haxton, Schwenk PRD91 043520 (2015)

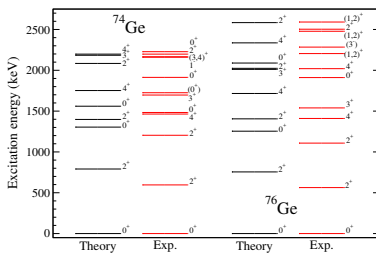
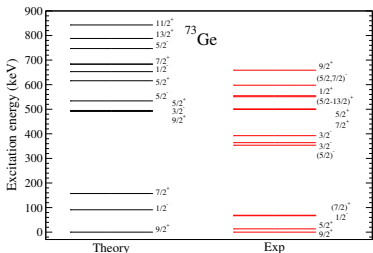
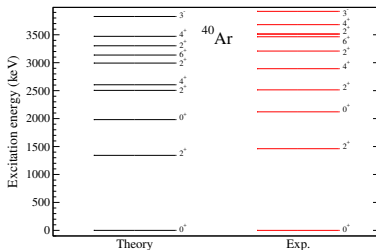
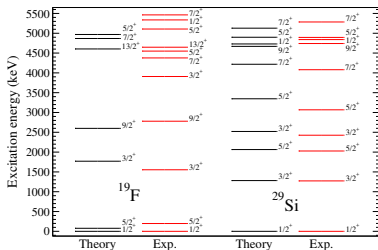
Agreement to experimental excitation spectra very good

Calculations with 5 orbitals for protons, neutrons: max dimension  $4 \cdot 10^8$



# Nuclear structure for dark matter scattering targets

Similar level of agreement in other light / medium-mass nuclei studied



# WIMP scattering off nuclei: standard analysis

Standard direct detection analyses consider two very different cases

Spin-Independent (SI) interaction:  
WIMPs couple to the nuclear density ( $\mathbb{1}_X \mathbb{1}_N$ )

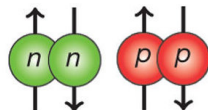
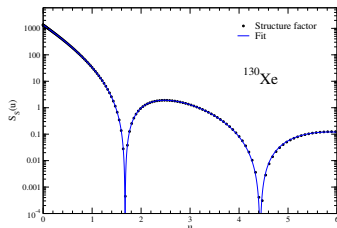
For elastic scattering, coherent sum over nucleons and protons in the nucleus

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

Spin-Dependent (SD) interaction:  
WIMP spins couple to the nuclear spin ( $\mathbf{S}_X \cdot \mathbf{S}_N$ )

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

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



# Non-relativistic effective field theory

SI and SD interactions only consider the leading-order operators ( $\mathcal{O}_1, \mathcal{O}_4$ ) in the non-relativistic basis spanned by  $\mathbb{1}_\chi, \mathbb{1}_N, \mathbf{S}_N, \mathbf{S}_\chi, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{v}^\perp$

$$\mathcal{O}_1 = \mathbb{1}_\chi \mathbb{1}_N,$$

$$\mathcal{O}_2 = (v^\perp)^2,$$

$$\mathcal{O}_3 = i \vec{S}_N \cdot \left( \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \times \vec{v}^\perp \right),$$

$$\mathcal{O}_4 = \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{S}_N,$$

$$\mathcal{O}_5 = i \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \left( \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \times \vec{v}^\perp \right),$$

$$\mathcal{O}_6 = \left( \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \right) \left( \vec{S}_N \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \right),$$

$$\mathcal{O}_7 = \vec{S}_N \cdot \vec{v}^\perp,$$

$$\mathcal{O}_8 = \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \vec{v}^\perp,$$

$$\mathcal{O}_9 = i \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \left( \vec{S}_N \times \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N} \right),$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{10} = i \vec{S}_N \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N},$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{11} = i \vec{S}_\chi \cdot \frac{\vec{q}}{m_N}.$$

...

Fitzpatrick et al. JCAP02 004(2013), Anand et al. PRC89 065501 (2014)

Interferences occur between some of the terms, which map into 6 different nuclear responses

$M$  (SI scattering),  $\Sigma, \Sigma'$  (SD scattering),  $\Delta, \Phi'', \tilde{\Phi}'$  (new responses)

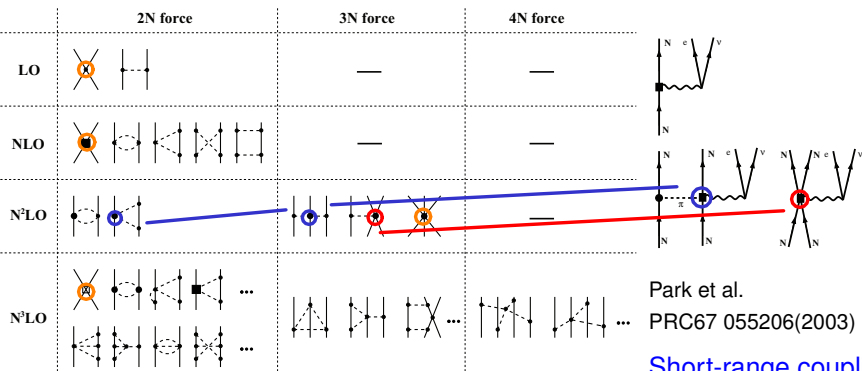
⇒ nuclear structure calculations to interpret dark matter detection data

# 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 currents



Short-range couplings  
fitted to experiment once

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

# Chiral EFT WIMP-nucleus interactions

WIMP-quark/gluon 1b+2b interactions at hadronic scale, map into NREFT

Nucleon		V		A		Nucleon		S	P
WIMP		t	x	t	x	WIMP			
V	1b	0	1 + 2	2	0 + 2	S	1b	2	1
	2b	4	2 + 2	2	4 + 2		2b	3	5
	2b NLO	—	—	5	3 + 2		2b NLO	—	4
A	1b	0 + 2	1	2 + 2	0	P	1b	2 + 2	1 + 2
	2b	4 + 2	2	2 + 2	4		2b	3 + 2	5 + 2
	2b NLO	—	—	5 + 2	3		2b NLO	—	4 + 2

$$\mathcal{M}_{1,\text{NR}}^{\text{SS}} = \mathcal{O}_1 f_N(t) \quad \mathcal{M}_{1,\text{NR}}^{\text{SP}} = \mathcal{O}_{10} g_5^N(t) \quad \mathcal{M}_{1,\text{NR}}^{\text{PP}} = \frac{1}{m_\chi} \mathcal{O}_6 h_5^N(t)$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{1,\text{NR}}^{\text{VV}} = \mathcal{O}_1 \left( f_1^{V,N}(t) + \frac{t}{4m_N^2} f_2^{V,N}(t) \right) + \frac{1}{m_N} \mathcal{O}_3 f_2^{V,N}(t) + \frac{1}{m_N m_\chi} \left( t \mathcal{O}_4 + \mathcal{O}_6 \right) f_2^{V,N}(t)$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{1,\text{NR}}^{\text{AV}} = 2 \mathcal{O}_8 f_1^{V,N}(t) + \frac{2}{m_N} \mathcal{O}_9 \left( f_1^{V,N}(t) + f_2^{V,N}(t) \right)$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{1,\text{NR}}^{\text{AA}} = -4 \mathcal{O}_4 g_A^N(t) + \frac{1}{m_N^2} \mathcal{O}_6 g_P^N(t) \quad \mathcal{M}_{1,\text{NR}}^{\text{VA}} = \left\{ -2 \mathcal{O}_7 + \frac{2}{m_\chi} \mathcal{O}_9 \right\} h_A^N(t)$$

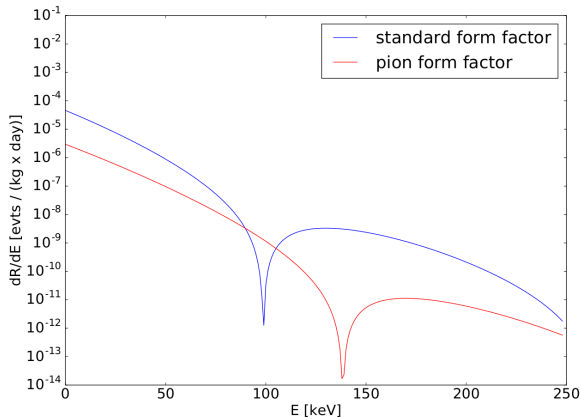
Hoferichter, Klos, Schwenk PLB 746 410 (2015)

Chiral EFT hierarchy to be complemented with nuclear effects (coherence)

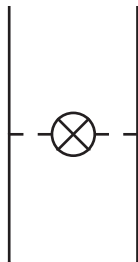
# Dark matter coupling to two nucleons

Coherent contributions from 2b currents:

$\pi$  coupling, via scalar current and energy-momentum tensor  $\theta_{\mu}^{\mu}$



Hoferichter et al. PRD94 063505 (2016)



2b scalar currents  
also explored by

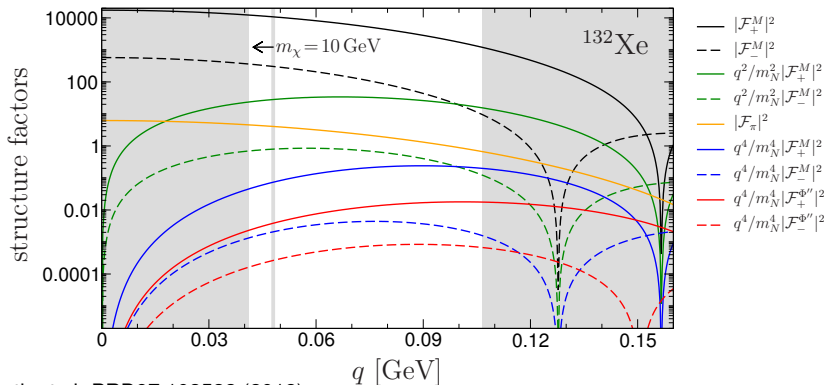
Cirigliano et al.  
JHEP10 25(2012)

PLB739 293(2014)

# Generalized coherent scattering

## Generalized spin-independent scattering cross section:

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\chi\mathcal{N}}^{\text{SI}}}{dq^2} = \frac{1}{4\pi v^2} \left| c_+^M \mathcal{F}_+^M(q^2) + c_-^M \mathcal{F}_-^M(q^2) + c_\pi \mathcal{F}_\pi(q^2) + \dots \right|^2$$

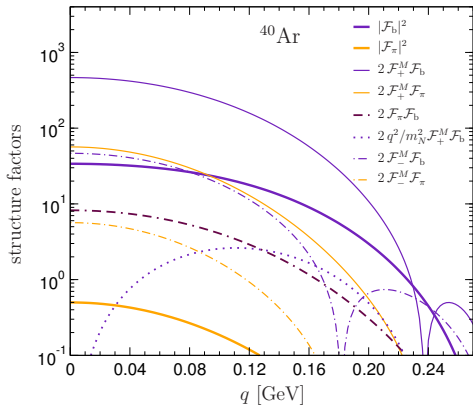
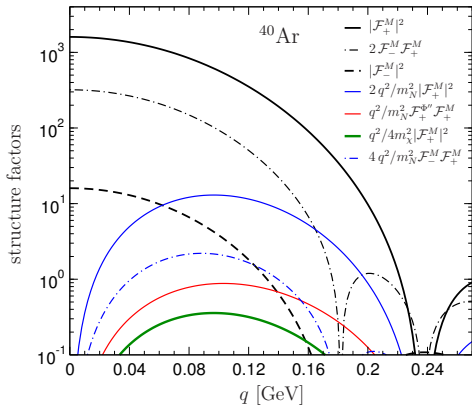


Fieguth et al. PRD97 103532 (2018)

In addition, interference terms between different contributions

# Generalized coherent scattering with interferences

Many different coherent contributions when including interferences

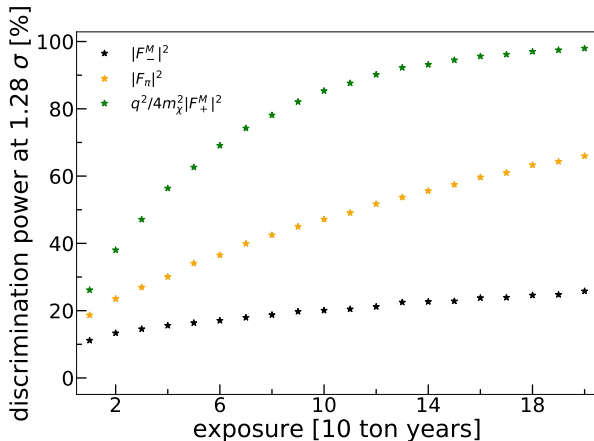


Hoferichter, Klos, JM, Schwenk, in preparation



# Discriminate dark matter-nucleus interactions

Once dark matter scattering off nuclei is observed,  
key to unveil nature of dark matter-nucleus interaction

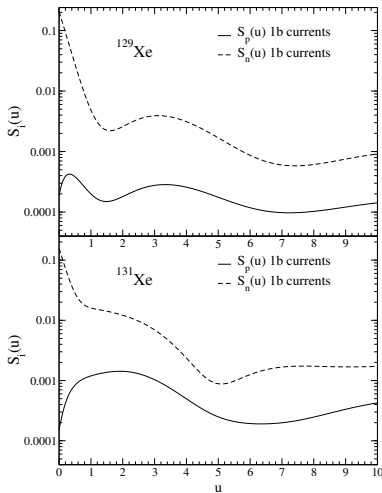



Future experiments  
can discriminate  
different interactions  
if markedly different  
 $q$ -dependence

Isoscalar / isovector  
character can be  
discriminated  
in nuclei with  
 $N = Z$  vs  $N \neq Z$

Fieguth et al.  
PRD97 103532 (2018)

# Spin-dependent scattering: coupling to one nucleon



In  $^{129,131}_{54}\text{Xe}$   $\langle \mathbf{S}_n \rangle \gg \langle \mathbf{S}_p \rangle$ ,   
 Neutrons carry most nuclear spin

$$\mathbf{S}_n = \sum_{i=1}^N \sigma_i/2, \quad \mathbf{S}_p = \sum_{i=1}^Z \sigma_i/2$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_A(0)^2}{2J+1} = \frac{(J+1)}{\pi J} |a_p \langle \mathbf{S}_p \rangle + a_n \langle \mathbf{S}_n \rangle|^2$$

$$a_{n/p} = (a_0 \mp a_1)/2,$$

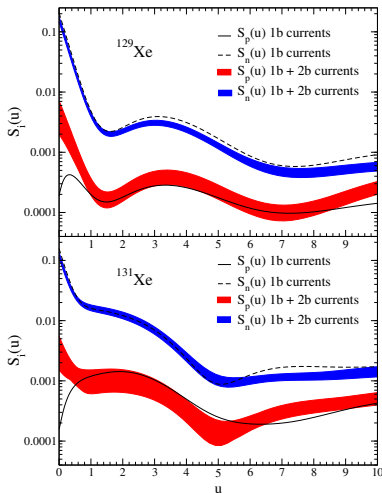
$$\mathcal{F}_n(0)^2 \propto |\langle \mathbf{S}_n \rangle|^2, \quad \mathcal{F}_p(0)^2 \propto |\langle \mathbf{S}_p \rangle|^2$$

Couplings more sensitive to  
 protons ( $a_0 = a_1$ )  
 neutrons ( $a_0 = -a_1$ )

JM, Gazit, Schwenk, PRD86 103511(2012)

Klos, JM, Gazit, Schwenk, PRD88 083516(2013)

# Spin-dependent scattering: coupling to two nucleons

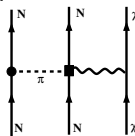


In  $^{129,131}_{54}\text{Xe}$   $\langle S_n \rangle \gg \langle S_p \rangle$ ,  
 Neutrons carry most nuclear spin



Couplings more sensitive to protons ( $a_0 = a_1$ ) or neutrons ( $a_0 = -a_1$ )

2b currents naturally involve both neutrons and protons:



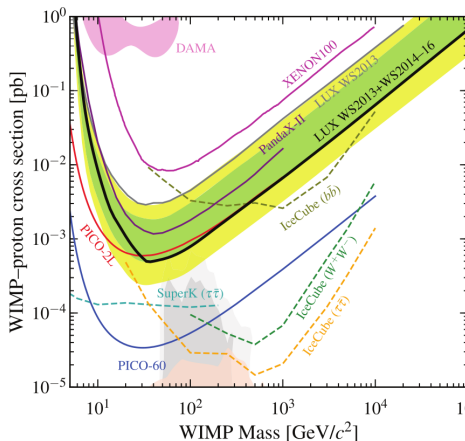
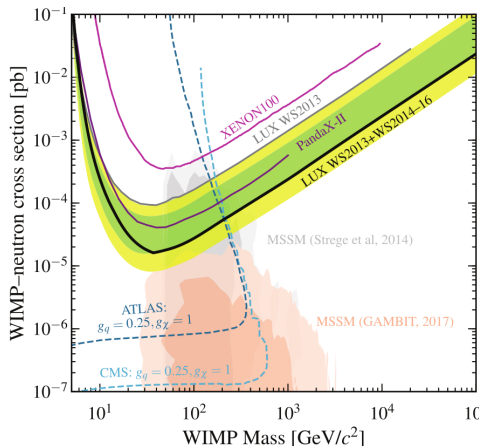
Neutrons always contribute with 2b currents, dramatic increase in  $S_p(u)$

Impact on dominant species  $\sim 20\%$

JM, Gazit, Schwenk, PRD86 103511(2012)  
 Klos, JM, Gazit, Schwenk, PRD88 083516(2013)

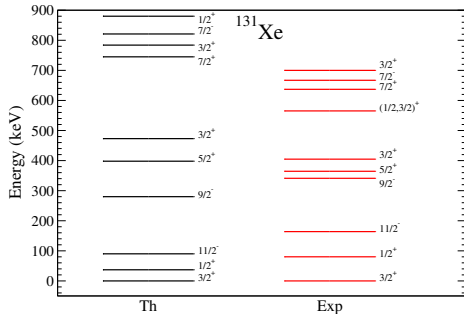
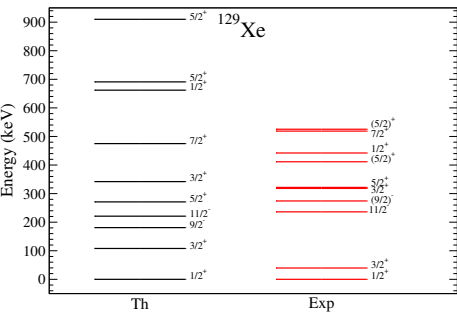
# Application to experiment

2b contributions make xenon SD results (more sensitive to neutrons)  
competitive for WIMP-proton cross-section LUX Coll. PRL118 251302 (2017)



# Inelastic WIMP scattering off a nucleus?

Very low-lying first-excited states  $\sim 40, 80$  keV in odd-mass xenon



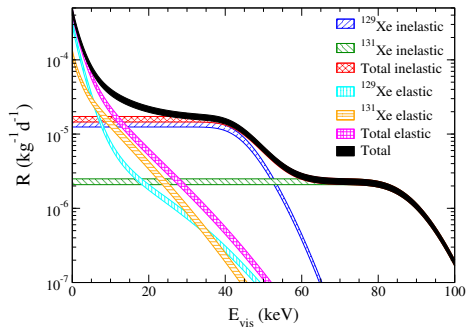
JM, Gazit, Schwenk PRD86 103511(2012)

If WIMPs have enough kinetic energy,  
inelastic scattering may be possible

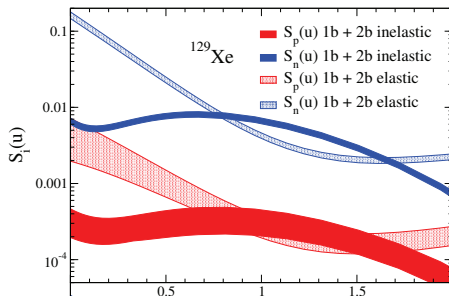
$$p_{\pm} = \mu v_i \left( 1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{2E^*}{\mu v_i^2}} \right)$$

# Inelastic WIMP scattering off xenon

Inelastic structure factors compete with elastic ones around  $q \sim 100$  MeV in the kinematically allowed region



Baudis et al. PRD88 115014 (2013)



Integrated spectrum for xenon:  
inelastic scattering signal  
including  $\gamma$ -ray  
from decay of excited state

One “plateau” to be detected  
for each nuclear excitation

Signal of spin-dependent scattering

# Outline

- 1 Lepton number violation, neutrino nature: neutrinoless  $\beta\beta$  decay
- 2 Direct detection of dark matter: dark matter scattering off nuclei
- 3 Summary

# Summary

Nuclear matrix elements and structure factors key for fully exploiting  $\beta\beta$  decay and direct dark matter detection experiments

Neutrinoless  $\beta\beta$  decay:

Improve matrix elements in larger configuration spaces with all relevant correlations

Ab initio with 2b currents free from  $\beta$  decay “quenching”

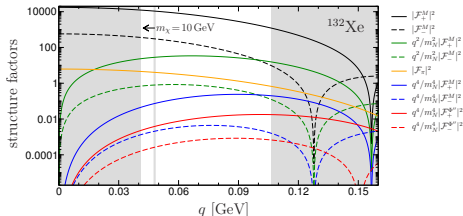
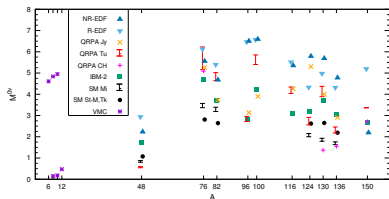
Double Gamow-Teller transitions correlated to  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay

Direct dark matter detection:

Need to consider generalized WIMP-nucleon couplings discriminated by  $q$ -dependence

2b currents WIMP coupling to pion (scalar,  $\theta$  coupling)

2b currents key in SD scattering

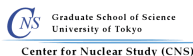




# Collaborators



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