The oxygen anomaly



The oxygen anomaly - not reproduced without 3N forces



The shell model - impact of 3N forces

- include 'normal-ordered' 2-body part of 3N forces (enhanced by core A)
- leads to repulsive interactions between valence neutrons
- contributions from residual three valence-nucleon interactions suppressed by $E_{ex}/E_F \sim N_{valence}/N_{core}$ ¹⁶O core Friman, AS (2011)





Oxygen isotopes - impact of 3N forces

- include 'normal-ordered' 2-body part of 3N forces (enhanced by core A)
- leads to repulsive interactions between valence neutrons
- contributions from residual three valence-nucleon interactions suppressed by $E_{ex}/E_F \sim N_{valence}/N_{core}$ ¹⁶O core Friman, AS (2011)



 $d_{3/2}$ orbital remains unbound from ¹⁶O to ²⁸O



microscopic explanation of the oxygen anomaly Otsuka et al. (2010)

New ab-initio methods extend reach

impact of 3N forces confirmed in large-space calculations:
Coupled Cluster theory with phenomenological 3N forces Hagen et al. (2012)
In-Medium Similarity RG based on chiral NN+3N Hergert et al. (2013)
Green's function methods based on chiral NN+3N Cipollone et al. (2013)



Neutron matter and neutron stars



Impact of 3N forces on nuclear matter

chiral 3N forces fit to light nuclei predict nuclear matter saturation with theoretical uncertainties

Bogner et al. (2005), Hebeler et al. (2011)



Impact of 3N forces on neutron matter



AFDMC results for neutron matter

Gezerlis et al., arXiv:1303.6243, PRL in press.

order-by-order convergence up to saturation density (NN only)



phase shift bands $NLO \sim N^2LO$ due to missing higher-order contacts

Comparison to perturbative calculations at N²LO

Hartree-Fock +2nd order +3rd order (pp+hh), same as for N³LO calcs.



band at each order from free to HF spectrum

low cutoffs (400 MeV) 3rd order corr. small, excellent agreement with AFDMC

Impact of 3N forces on neutron matter





Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise, Epelbaum, Kaiser, Machleidt, Meissner,...

Impact of 3N forces on neutron matter

neutron matter uncertainties dominated by 3N forces (c₃ coupling) Hebeler, AS (2010)



Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces



Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise, Bernard, Epelbaum, Kaiser, Machleidt, Meissner,...

Neutron matter from chiral EFT interactions

direct calculations without RG/SRG evolution, 3N to N²LO only



N³LO 3N and 4N interactions in neutron matter

evaluated at Hartree-Fock level



Complete N³LO calculation of neutron matter

first complete N³LO result, Hartree-Fock +2nd order +3rd order (pp+hh) includes uncertainties from NN, 3N (dominates), 4N



Comparisons to equations of state in astrophysics

many equations of state used in supernova simulations not consistent with neutron matter results



Neutron skin of ²⁰⁸Pb

probes neutron matter energy/pressure, neutron matter band predicts neutron skin of ²⁰⁸Pb: 0.17±0.03 fm (±18% !) Hebeler et al. (2010)



Neutron skin of ²⁰⁸Pb

probes neutron matter energy/pressure, neutron matter band predicts neutron skin of ²⁰⁸Pb: 0.17±0.03 fm (±18% !) Hebeler et al. (2010)



week ending 5 AUGUST 2011

16 MARCH 2013

in excellent agreement with extraction from complete E1 response 0.156+0.025-0.021 fm PRL 107, 062502 (2011) PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

Complete Electric Dipole Response and the Neutron Skin in ²⁰⁸Pb

A benchmark experiment on ²⁰⁸Pb shows that polarized proton inelastic scattering at very forward angles including 0° is a powerful tool for high-resolution studies of electric dipole (*E*1) and spin magnetic dipole (*M*1) modes in nuclei over a broad excitation energy range to test up-to-date nuclear models. The extracted *E*1 polarizability leads to a neutron skin thickness $r_{skin} = 0.156^{+0.025}_{-0.021}$ fm in ²⁰⁸Pb derived within

PREX: neutron skin from parity-violating electron-scattering at JLAB electron exchanges Z-boson, couples preferentially to neutrons

PRL 108, 112502 (2012)

goal II: ±0.06 fm



Measurement of the Neutron Radius of ²⁰⁸Pb through Parity Violation in Electron Scattering

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

We report the first measurement of the parity-violating asymmetry $A_{\rm PV}$ in the elastic scattering of polarized electrons from ²⁰⁸Pb. $A_{\rm PV}$ is sensitive to the radius of the neutron distribution (R_n). The result $A_{\rm PV} = 0.656 \pm 0.060(\text{stat}) \pm 0.014(\text{syst})$ ppm corresponds to a difference between the radii of the neutron and proton distributions $R_n - R_p = 0.33^{+0.16}_{-0.18}$ fm and provides the first electroweak observation of the neutron skin which is expected in a heavy, neutron-rich nucleus.

Symmetry energy and pressure of neutron matter

neutron matter band predicts symmetry energy $S_{\rm v}$ and its density derivative L

comparison to experimental and observational constraints Lattimer, Lim (2012)

neutron matter constraints H: Hebeler et al. (2010, 2013)

G: Gandolfi et al. (2011)

microscopic calculations provide tight constraints!



Discovery of the heaviest neutron star

A two-solar-mass neutron star measured using Shapiro delay

P. B. Demorest¹, T. Pennucci², S. M. Ransom¹, M. S. E. Roberts³ & J. W. T. Hessels^{4,5}

direct measurement of neutron star mass from increase in signal travel time near companion

J1614-2230 most edge-on binary pulsar known (89.17°) + massive white dwarf companion (0.5 M_{sun})

heaviest neutron star with 1.97 \pm 0.04 M_{sun}



Neutron matter and neutron stars



Impact on neutron stars Hebeler et al. (2010, 2013)

Equation of state/pressure for neutron-star matter (includes small Y_{e.p})



pressure below nuclear densities agrees with standard crust equation of state only after 3N forces are included

Impact on neutron stars Hebeler et al. (2010, 2013)

Equation of state/pressure for neutron-star matter (includes small Y_{e.p})



pressure below nuclear densities agrees with standard crust equation of state only after 3N forces are included

extend uncertainty band to higher densities using piecewise polytropes allow for soft regions

Why are (neutron) stars stable?

equilibrium between pressure of matter and gravity

leads to Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkov equations for neutron stars: solve for enclosed M(r), total M and R, only input: equation of state



pressure for neutrons: Fermi pressure plus NN, 3N,... interactions



Impact on neutron stars Hebeler et al. (2010, 2013)

Equation of state/pressure for neutron-star matter (includes small Y_{e.p})



pressure below nuclear densities agrees with standard crust equation of state only after 3N forces are included

extend uncertainty band to higher densities using piecewise polytropes allow for soft regions

Pressure of neutron star matter

constrain polytropes by causality and require to support $1.97 M_{sun}$ star



low-density pressure sets scale, chiral EFT interactions provide strong constraints, ruling out many model equations of state

Pressure of neutron star matter

constrain polytropes by causality and require to support $1.97 M_{sun}$ star



low-density pressure sets scale, chiral EFT interactions provide strong constraints, ruling out many model equations of state

central densities for 1.4 M_{sun} star: 1.8-4.4 ρ_0

Neutron star radius constraints

uncertainty from many-body forces and general extrapolation



constrains neutron star radius: 9.7-13.9 km for M=1.4 M_{sun} (±18% !) consistent with extraction from X-ray burst sources Steiner et al. (2010)

Neutron-star mergers and gravitational waves

explore sensitivity to neutron-rich matter in neutron-star merger and gw signal Bauswein, Janka (2012), Bauswein, Janka, Hebeler, AS (2012).







Fig. 1: Various snapshots of the collision of two neutron stars initially revolving around each other. The sequence simulated by the computer covers only 0.03 seconds. The two stars orbit each other counterclockwise (top left) and quickly come closer (top right). Finally they collide (centre left), merge (centre right), and form a dense, superheavy neutron star (bottom). Strong vibrations of the collision remnant are noticeable as deformations in east-west direction and in north-south direction (bottom panels). (Simulation: Andreas Bauswein and H.-Thomas Janka/MPA)