

Workshop on New Approaches in  
Nuclear Many-Body Theory

**EFT inspired approaches to solving  
few- and many-body systems**

**Ionel Stetcu**

**Theoretical Division**

**Los Alamos National Laboratory**

Collaborators: U. van Kolck, B. R. Barrett, J. P. Vary

# outline

- motivation
- NCSM and EFT: separately and together
- first applications: few-body systems
- the nuclear many-body problem and trapped fermion systems
- renormalization of the interaction (LS, new approaches)
- results: nuclear few bodies & cold atoms
- three cold atoms: untrapped case as a limit of trapped systems
- conclusions and outlook

# Motivation

- connection to QCD
- all the current *ab initio* few- and many-body methods have limitations
- need for reliable methods to extrapolate outside the valley of stability

For the NCSM:

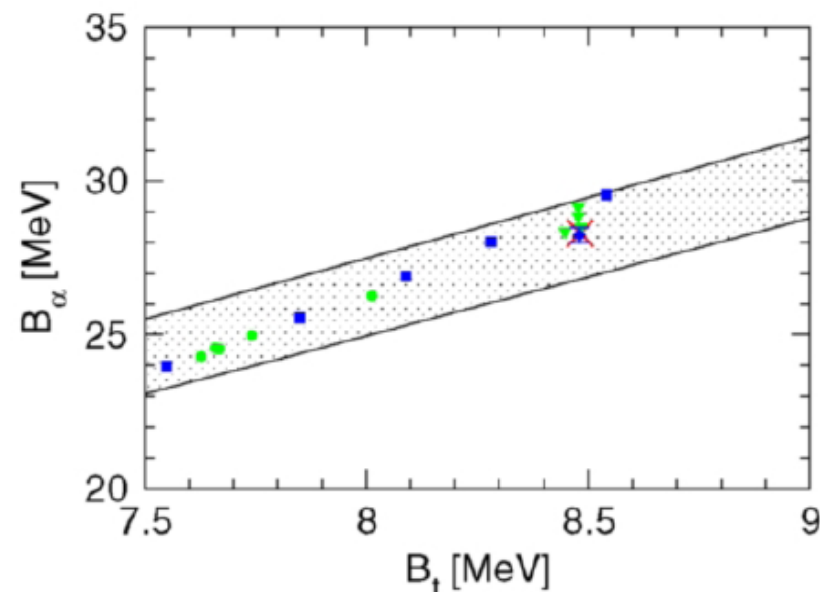
- different types of interaction (motivates the cluster approximation)
- mitigate long- and short-range degrees of freedom (better description of low-momentum observables)

*Original motivation: to understand the gross features of nuclear systems from a QCD perspective.*

- separation of scales (integrates out high momenta)
- long-distance physics included explicitly
- short-distance physics added as corrections in powers of relevant scales present in the problem (e.g., for NN interaction at low mom)
- general application to other systems (nucleon-cor)
- results are *improvable* order by order and *model*

EFT approach:

- ★ identify relevant degrees of freedom
- ★ identify symmetries
- ★ write the most general Lagrangian (infinite number of)
- ★ organize the interaction (power counting)
- ★ adjust parameters to observables



L. Platter et. al., PLB **607**, 254 (2005)

- all particles are allowed to interact
- truncation in energy in a HO basis
- usual separation P & Q spaces
- effective interaction constructed via a unitary transformation
- "cluster approximation"
- short-range effects accounted by the effective interaction
- long-range and many-body effects accounted by increasing the model space

# NCSM and (pionless) EFT

Shell model: truncation using a finite number of HO states:

$$P = \sum_{\substack{n,l \\ 2n+l \leq N_{max}}} |nl\rangle \langle nl| \quad (\text{projector into the model space})$$

EFT without explicit pions:

$$\langle m, l=0 | \delta | n, l=0 \rangle \sim \left( \frac{n!m!}{\Gamma(n+3/2)\Gamma(m+3/2)} \right)^{1/2} L_n^{1/2}(0) L_m^{1/2}(0)$$

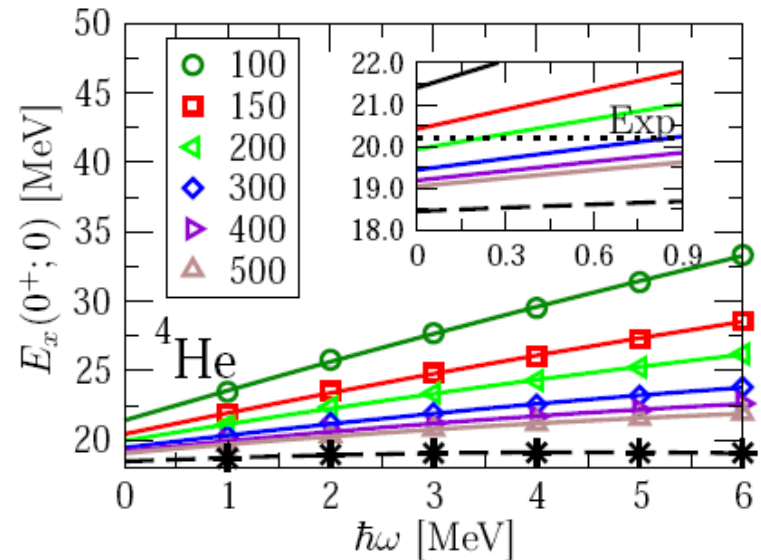
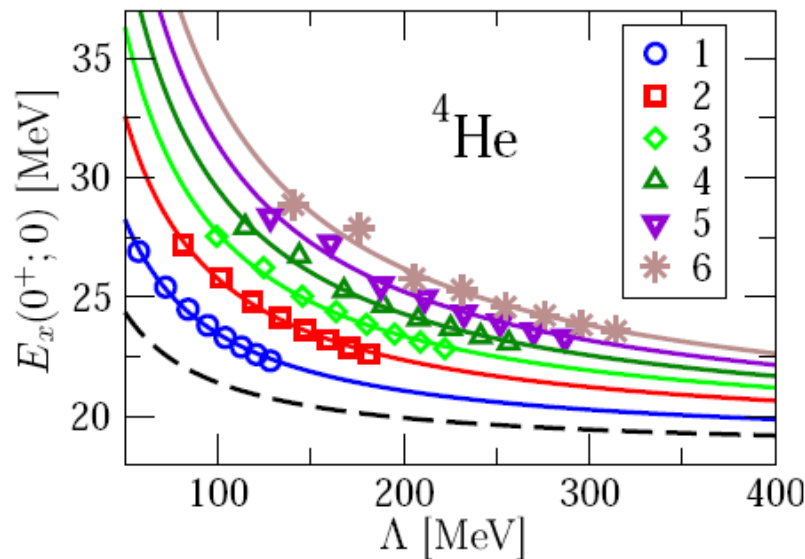
$$V_{NN}(\vec{p}, \vec{p}') = C_0^{(S)} + C_0^{(T)} \vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2 + C_2^{(1)} q^2 + C_2^{(2)} k^2 + \left( C_2^{(3)} q^2 + C_2^{(4)} k^2 \right) \vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2 + iC_2^{(5)} \frac{\vec{\sigma}_1 + \vec{\sigma}_2}{2} (\vec{q} \times \vec{k}) + C_2^{(6)} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{\sigma}_1 \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2 + \dots$$

# Direct application of EFT to NCSM

fix the deuteron BE

fix  ${}^3\text{H}$  and  ${}^4\text{He}$  BE

$$H = \frac{1}{2m_N A} \sum_{[i<j]} (\vec{p}_i - \vec{p}_j)^2 + C_0^1 \sum_{[i<j]^1} \delta(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j) + C_0^0 \sum_{[i<j]^0} \delta(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j) + D_0 \sum_{[i<j<k]} \delta(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j) \delta(\vec{r}_j - \vec{r}_k)$$



$$\Lambda = \sqrt{2\mu(N_{max} + 3/2)\omega}$$

# About the new method

- ★ The good:
  - underlying QCD
  - the approximations motivated by general principles
- The bad:
  - LO requires large model spaces
- ◆ The ugly:
  - using few-body observables to fix the two-body force quickly becomes cumbersome

*Motivation for searching alternatives to fix the two-body interaction*



# The nuclear many-body problem and trapped atoms

$$H_{int} = \frac{1}{A} \sum_{i>j=1}^A \frac{(\vec{p}_i - \vec{p}_j)^2}{2m} + \sum_{i>j=1}^A V_{ij} + \sum_{i>j>k=1}^A V_{ijk} + \dots$$

$$H = H_{int} + \frac{\vec{P}_{CM}^2}{2mA} + \frac{1}{2}mA\omega^2\vec{R}_{CM}^2 \quad \text{Lipkin 1958}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^A \left( \frac{\vec{p}_i^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 r_i^2 \right) + \sum_{i<j=1}^A \left( V_{ij} - \frac{m\omega^2}{2A}(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)^2 \right) + \sum_{i>j>k=1}^A V_{ijk} + \dots$$

$$H_A = \sum_{i=1}^A \left( \frac{p_i^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega^2 r_i^2 \right) + C_0 \sum_{i<j} \delta^{(3)}(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)$$

trapped fermions

# Interaction renormalization

from addition of the CM term

Unitary transformation (Lee-Suzuki)  
[Navratil et. al.]

Effective Field Theory in HO basis  
[Stetcu et. al.]

$$h = \frac{p^2}{2\mu} + \frac{1}{2}\mu\omega^2 r^2 + C_0 V_{12}$$

$$h^{eff} = U h U^\dagger$$

(preserves lowest  $D$  eigenvalues of  $h$ )

- form of interaction preserved
- the coupling constants adjusted in each model space to reproduce some observables

*truncation introduces many-body forces*

*truncation introduces higher-order terms*

**PRESENT METHOD COMBINES BOTH APPROACHES**

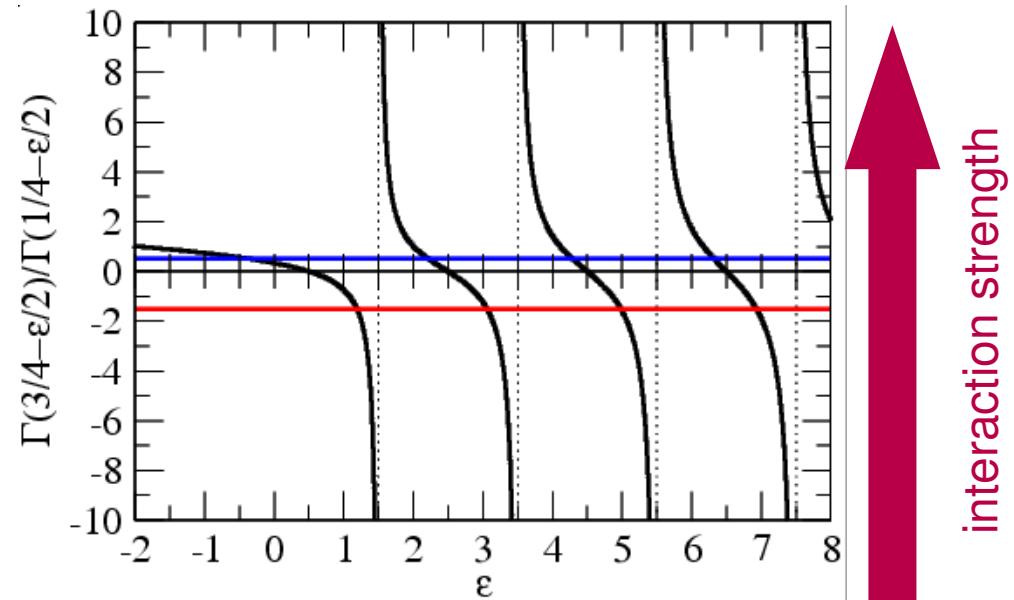
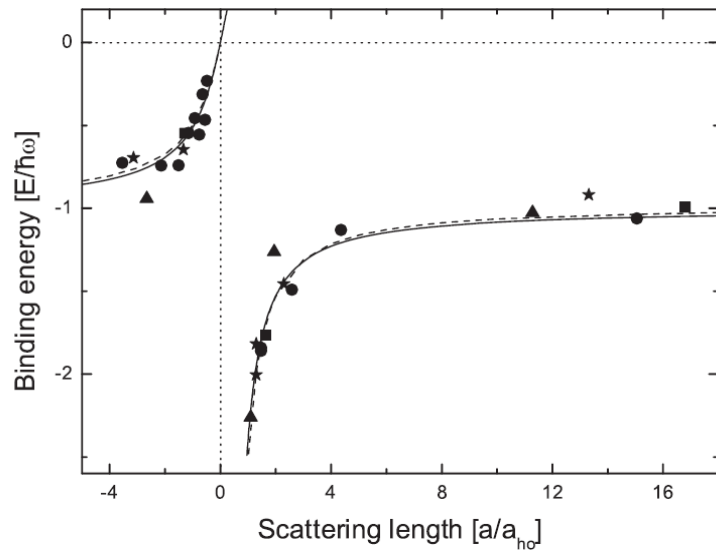
adjust  $C_0$  's to reproduce as many eigenvalues (but *no* unitary transformation)

preserve the form of the interaction (power counting)

# Trapped molecules: experiment and theory

Eigenvalues: 
$$\frac{\Gamma(3/4 - E/2\omega)}{\Gamma(1/4 - E/2\omega)} = \frac{b}{2a_2}$$

scattering observable



T. Busch et. al., Found. Phys. **28** (1998) 549

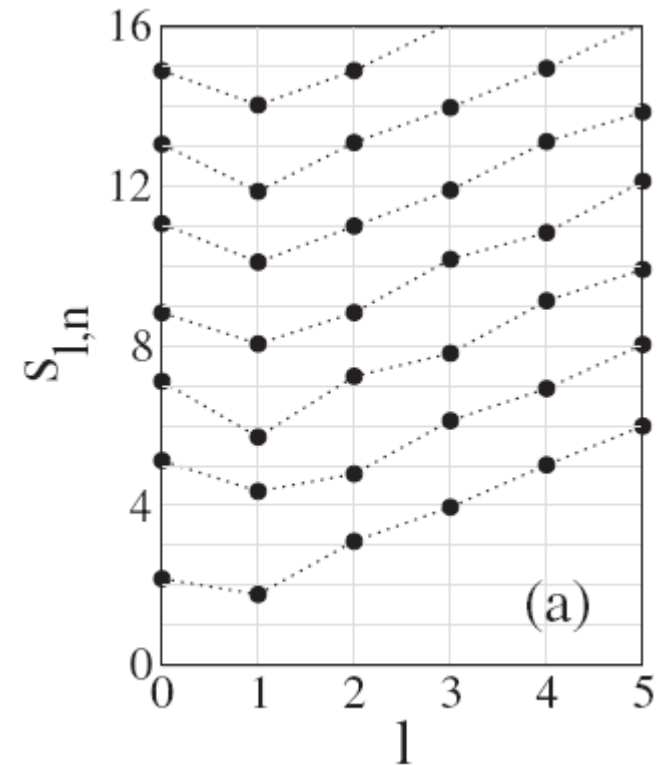
T. Stöferle et. al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **96** (2006) 030401

# Three-body solution in unitary limit (analytical results)

Solve the free Schrodinger Eq. w/ boundary condition:

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3) = \left( \frac{1}{r_{ij}} - \frac{1}{a} \right) A(\mathbf{R}_{ij}, \mathbf{r}_k) + O(r_{ij})$$

$$E = E_{\text{c.m.}} + (s_{l,n} + 1 + 2q)\hbar\omega.$$



# Scales involved

- trapping potential of frequency  $\omega$ :  $b=1/(\mu\omega)^{1/2}$
- free-space two-body scattering length:  $a_2$
- range of the interaction:  $r_0$

## Assumptions:

- ◆  $b \gg r_0$
- ◆  $a_2 \gg r_0$
- ◆ arbitrary  $b/a_2$

- ★ short-range physics: approximated as a series of contact interactions + derivatives
- ★ observables: expressed as expansions in powers of  $Qr_0$
- ★ three-body and many-body forces

# Two-body renormalization

Start with the two-body Schrodinger Equation:

$$\left[ b^2 p^2 + \frac{r^2}{b^2} + 2\mu C_0 b^2 \delta^{(3)}(\vec{r}) \right] \psi(\vec{r}) = 2\frac{E}{\omega} \psi(\vec{r})$$

Finite-space eigenvalues:

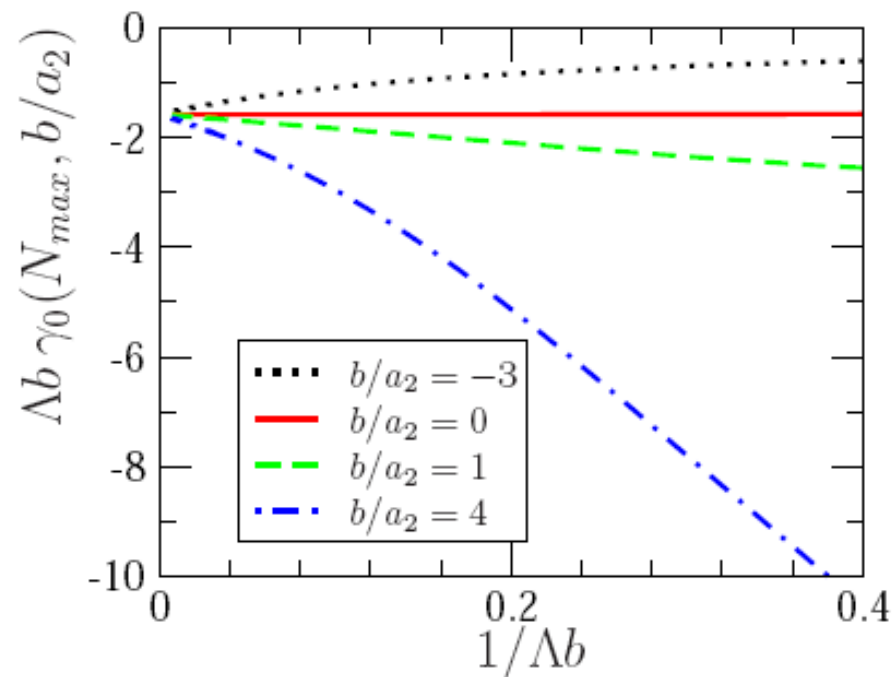
$$\frac{1}{C_0(N_{max}, \omega)} = - \sum_{n=0}^{N_{max}/2} \frac{|\phi_n(0)|^2}{(2n + 3/2)\omega - E}$$

Pseudo-potential eigenvalues:

$$\frac{\Gamma(3/4 - E/2\omega)}{\Gamma(1/4 - E/2\omega)} = \frac{b}{2a_2}$$

$$N_{max} \rightarrow \infty$$

# Running of the coupling constant

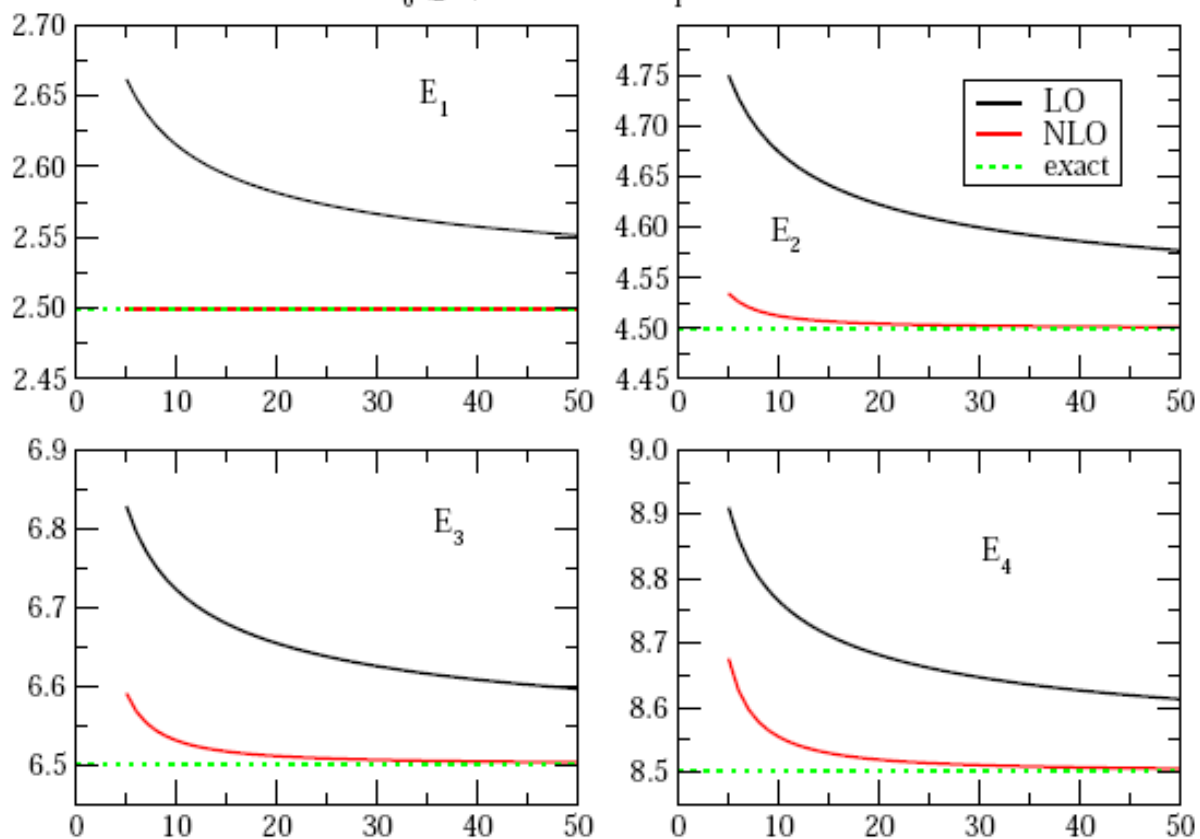


$$\gamma_0(N_{max}, b/a_2) = \frac{\mu}{2\pi b} C_0(N_{max}, \omega)$$

$$\Lambda = \sqrt{2\mu(N_{max} + 3/2)\omega}$$

## Running of two-body energies of trapped two particles in unitary limit

$E_0$  (g.s.) fixed in LO,  $E_1$  fixed in NLO





# Three-body system in unitary limit (benchmark against analytical results)

$$E = E_{\text{c.m.}} + (s_{l,n} + 1 + 2q)\hbar\omega.$$

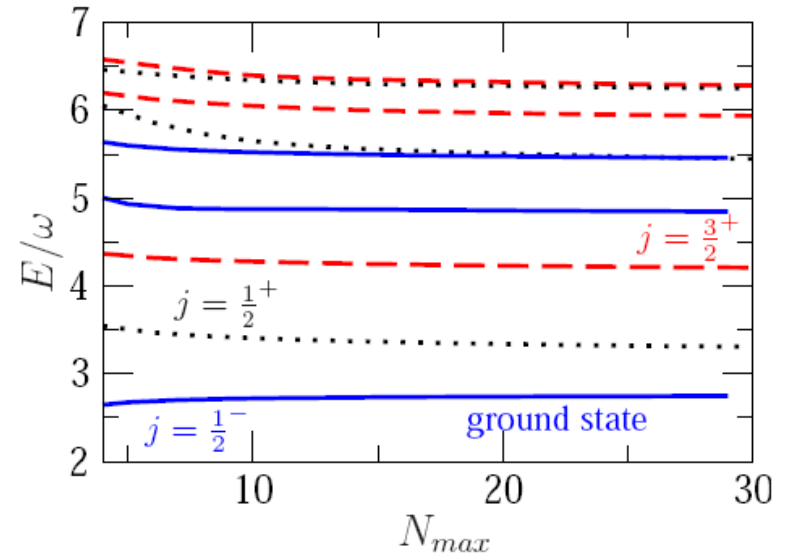


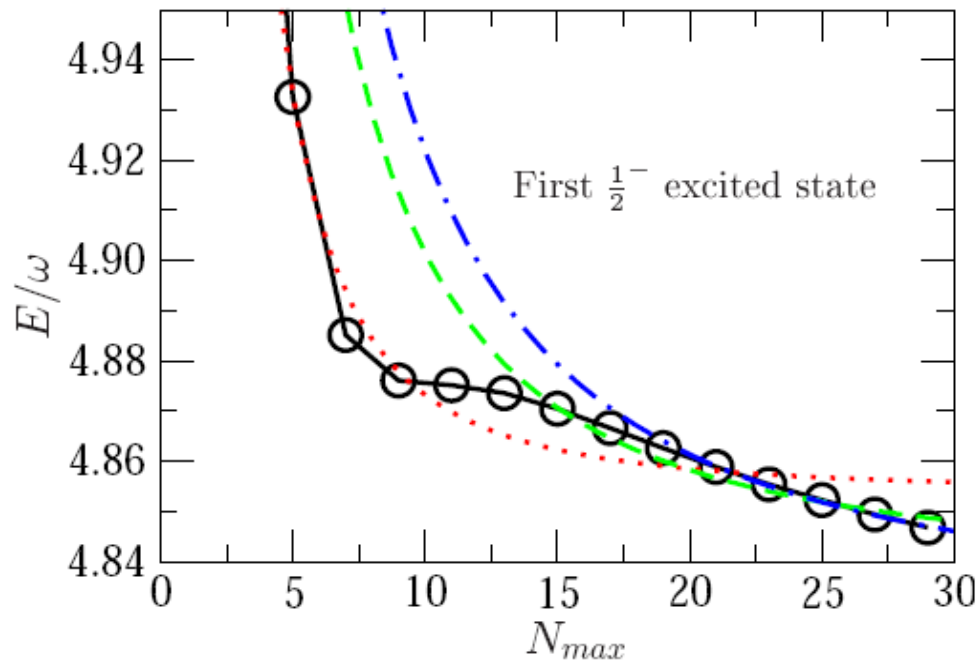
TABLE I: Comparison between the results of the present approach ( $E_\infty/\omega$ ) and of the semi-analytical formula from Ref. [13] (Eq. (10)), for  $j^\pi = \frac{1}{2}^-$ . Extrapolation errors on the last figure are shown in parantheses; where absent, the errors are too small.

$n$	$l$	$q$	$s$	Eq. (10)	$E_\infty/\omega$
0	1	0	1.77	2.77	2.76
0	1	1	1.77	4.77	4.71(2)
1	1	0	4.36	5.36	5.39

Variation with  $N_{max}$ : about 10%  
(error because of missing higher order terms in the expansion)

# Ultraviolet behavior

Missing higher order terms in the truncated space: ultraviolet dependence of observables which are not fixed.

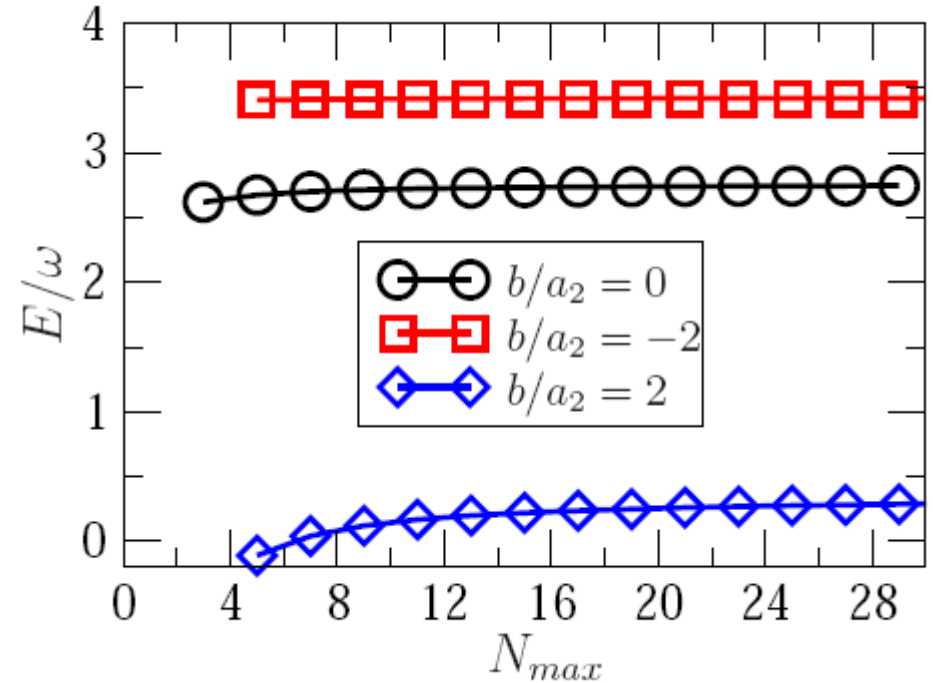
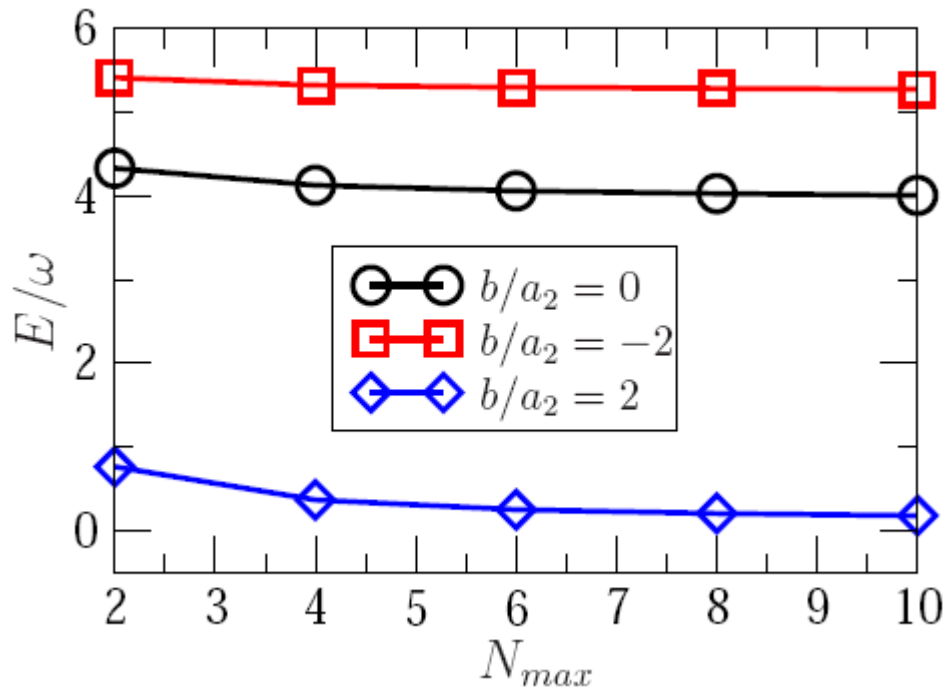


$$E = E_{\infty} + \frac{E_c}{(N_{max} + 3/2)^{\alpha}}$$

$$\Lambda = \sqrt{2\mu(N_{max} + 3/2)\omega}$$

# Away from unitarity

Running of the lowest positive-parity state for the four-body system.

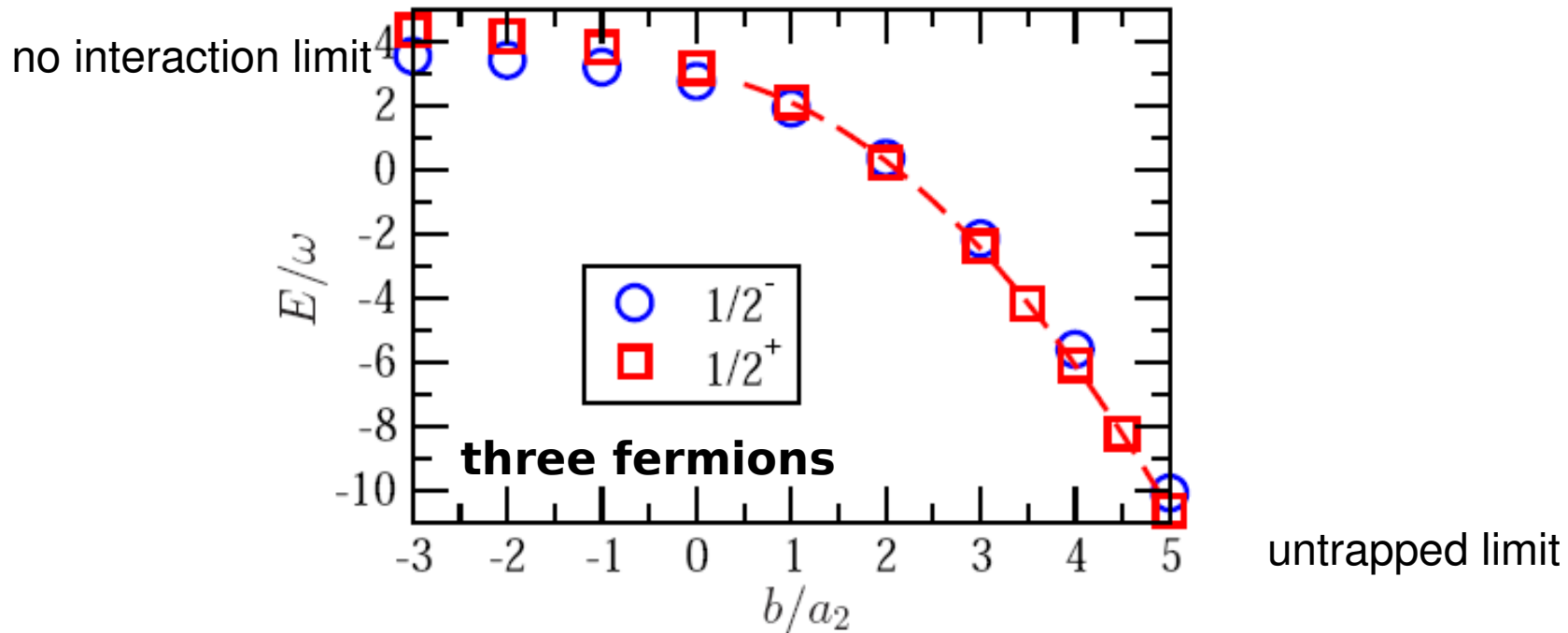


Running of the lowest negative-parity state for the three-body system.

Stetcu et. al., arXiv:0705.4335

# Large $b/a_2$ range

Stetcu et. al., arXiv:0705.4335

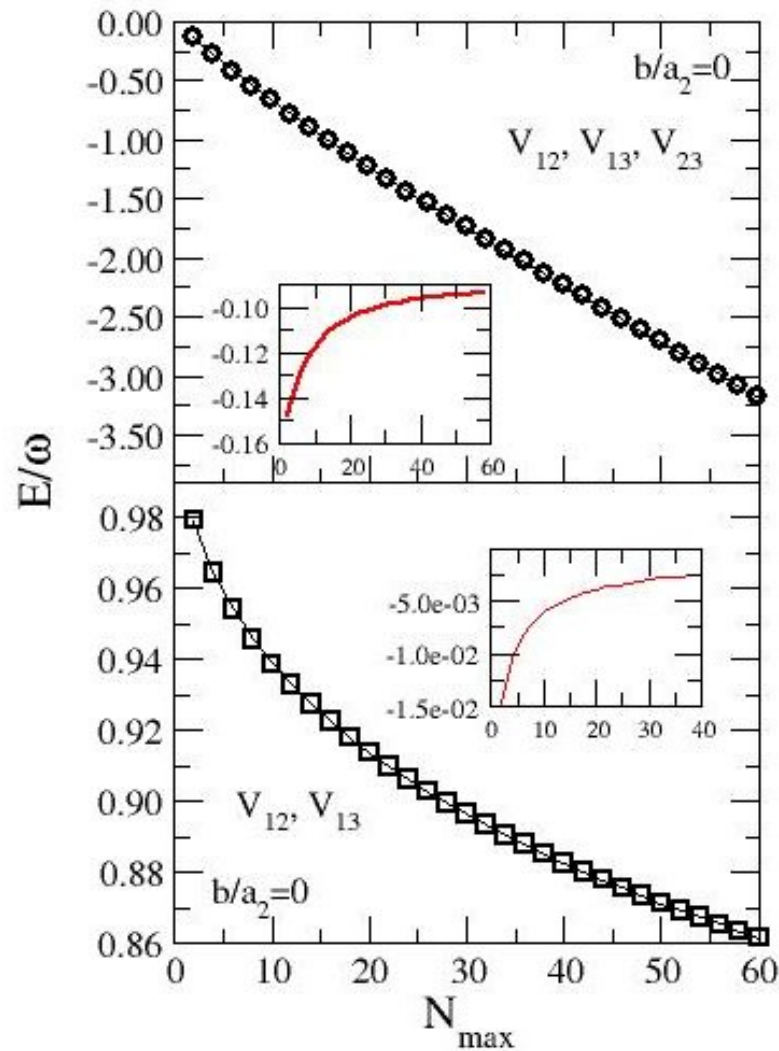


Untrapped particle limit:  $b/a_2 \rightarrow \infty$

three-particle energy: 
$$E \simeq -\frac{1}{2\mu a_2^2}$$

four-particle energy: 
$$E \sim 0.6 \left( -\frac{2}{2\mu a_2^2} \right)$$
 (large errors)

# Three distinguishable particles



# Summary and outlook

## *First application of the NCSM and EFT to few particles:*

- ✓ formulation of NCSM truncation as a EFT
- ✓ renormalization of the two-body interaction (based on power counting)
- ✓ results at the unitary limit and away from it
- ✓ continuum limit (from trapped systems)

## *To do:*

- obtain more precise solutions for four particles
- include next-to-leading corrections
- extend to bosons and arbitrary spin fermions (power counting modifies)
- **further application to few-body problems in nuclear physics**