

# Lattice effective field theory for few- and many-body nuclear physics

*Effective Field Theories and the Many-Body Problem*  
*Institute for Nuclear Theory*  
*May 7, 2009*

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# Outline

What is lattice effective field theory?

Chiral effective field theory for nucleons

Computational strategies on the lattice

Auxiliary fields, signs, and complex actions

Phase shifts and unknown operator coefficients

Dilute neutron matter at NLO

Studies of light nuclei at NNLO

New connections, summary, and FAQ's

## Early lattice EFT work

First lattice study of nuclear matter (using momentum lattice):

*Brockman, Frank, PRL 68 (1992) 1830*

First lattice EFT simulation of nuclear and neutron matter:

*Müller, Koonin, Seki, van Kolck, PRC 61 (2000) 044320*

Chiral perturbation theory using lattice regularization:

*Shushpanov, Smilga, Phys. Rev. D59: 054013 (1999);*

*Lewis, Ouimet, PRD 64 (2001) 034005;*

*Borasoy, Lewis, Ouimet, hep-lat/0310054*

Non-linear realization of chiral symmetry with static nucleons:

*Chandrasekharan, Pepe, Steffen, Wiese, JHEP 12 (2003) 35*

# Pionless EFT for neutrons / Unitarity limit

*Abe, Seki, 0708.2523; 0708.2524*

*Bulgac, Drut, Magierski, PRL 96 (2006) 090404;  
PRA 78 (2008) 023625; ...*

*Burovski, Prokofev, Svistunov, PRL 96 (2006) 160402;  
New J. Phys. 8 (2006) 153; ...*

*Chen, Kaplan, PRL 92 (2004) 257002*

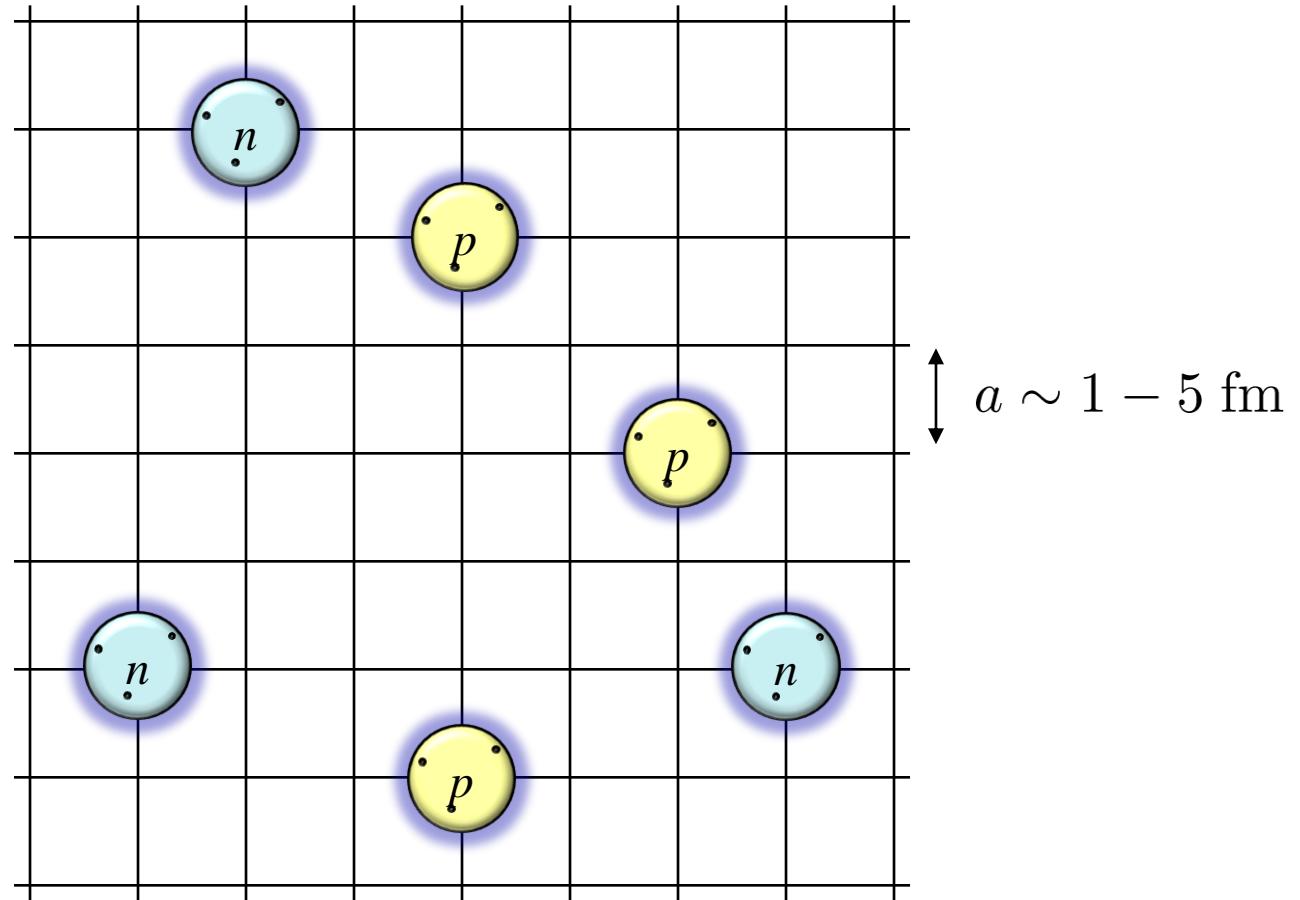
*Juillet, New J. Phys. 9 (2007) 163*

*Wingate, cond-mat/0502372*

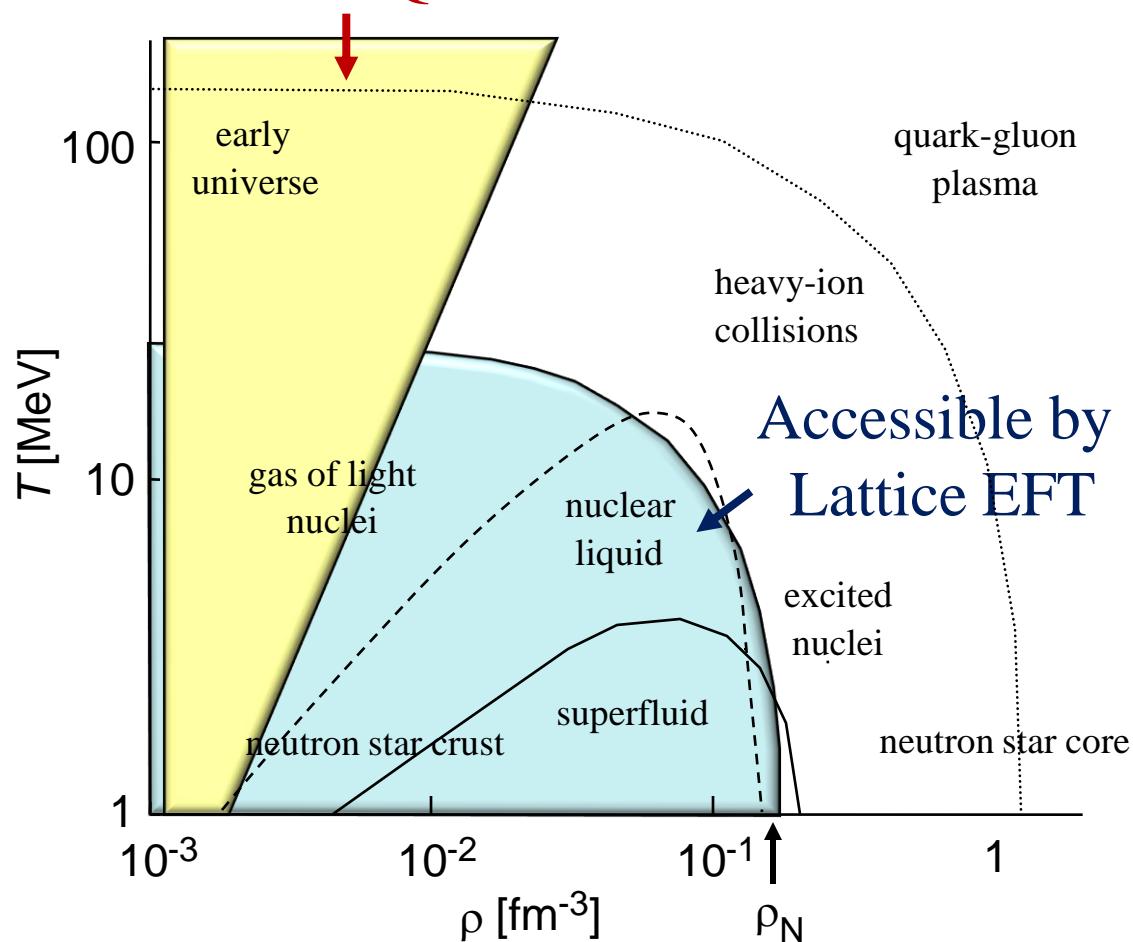
*D.L., Schaefer, PRC 73 (2006) 015202; ...*

Review: *D.L., 0804.3501, PPNP in press*

# Lattice EFT for nucleons



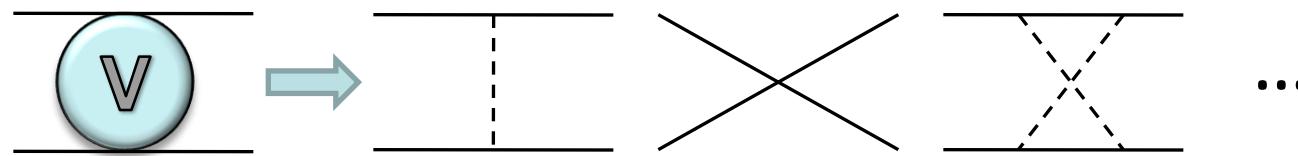
Accessible by  
Lattice QCD



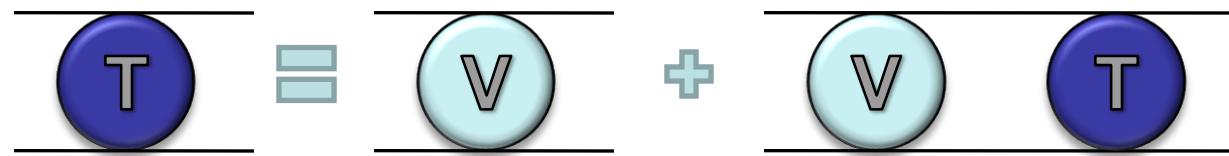
# Chiral EFT for low-energy nucleons

Weinberg, PLB 251 (1990) 288; NPB 363 (1991) 3

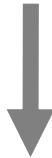
Construct the effective potential order by order



Solve Lippmann-Schwinger equation non-perturbatively

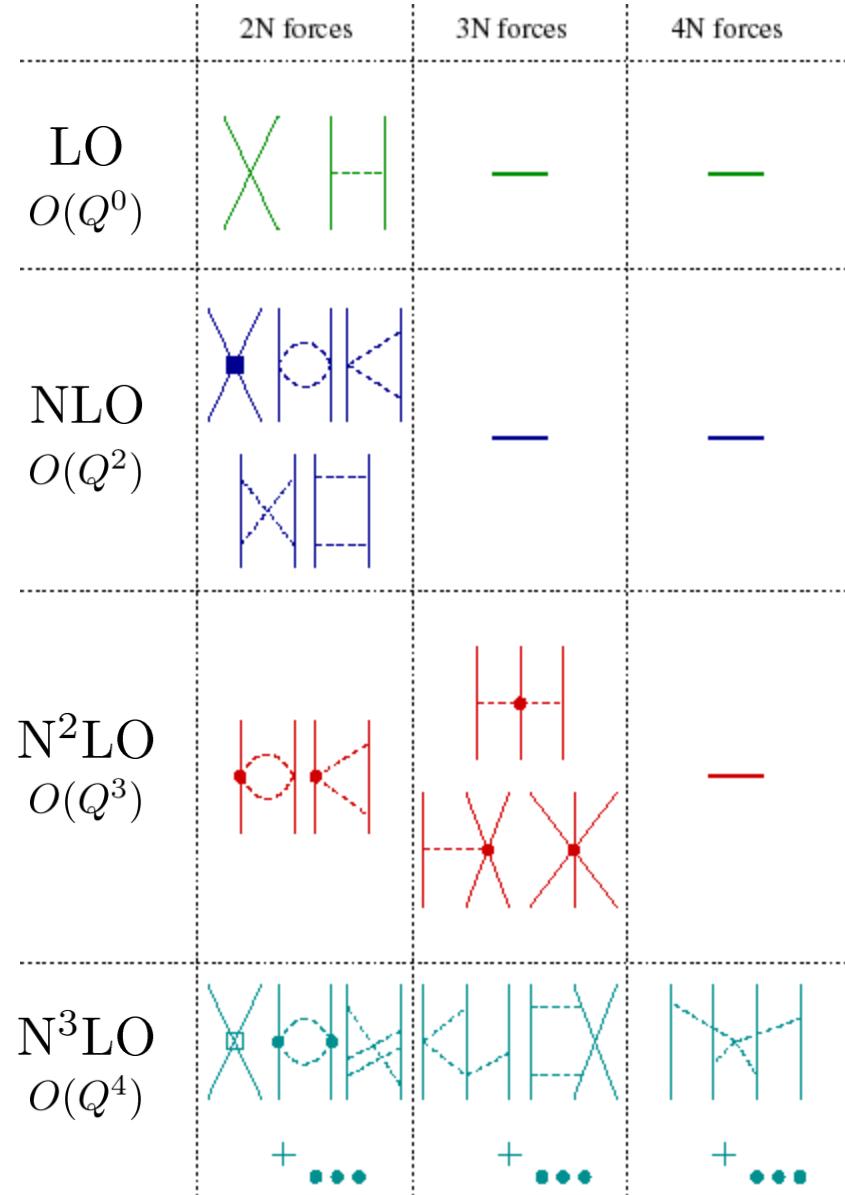


## Nuclear Scattering Data

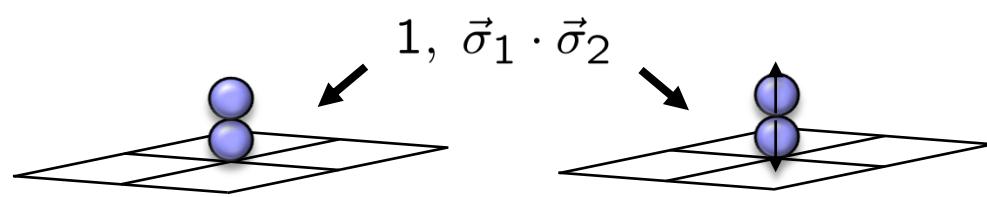
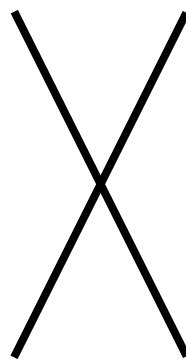
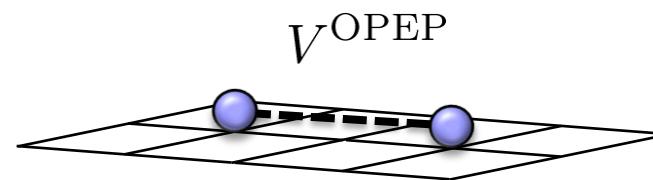
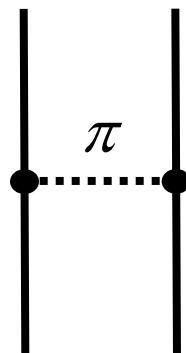


## Effective Field Theory

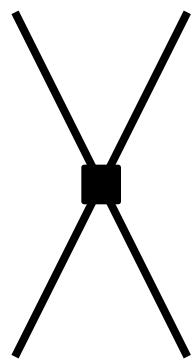
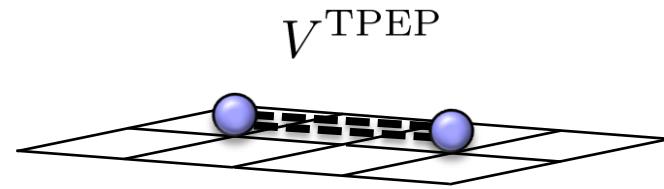
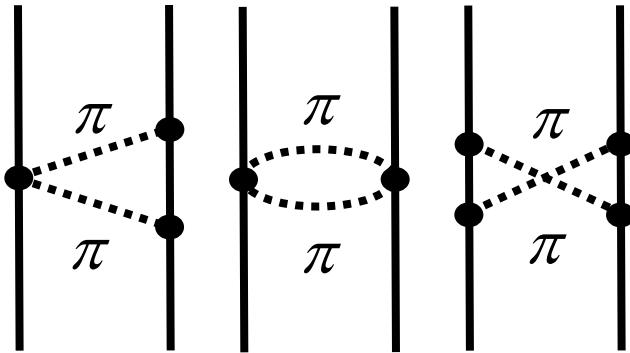
*Ordonez et al. '94; Friar & Coon '94;  
Kaiser et al. '97; Epelbaum et al. '98, '03;  
Kaiser '99-'01; Higa et al. '03; ...*



# Leading order on lattice



## Next-to-leading order on lattice

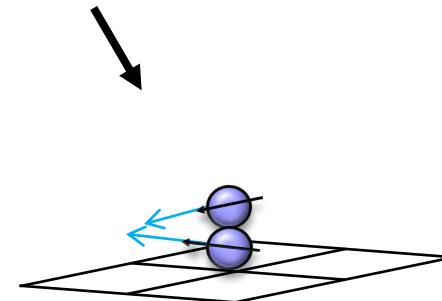
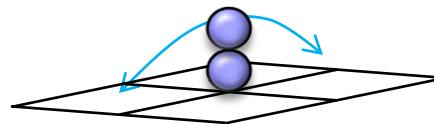


$$\vec{\nabla}_1 \cdot \vec{\nabla}_2$$

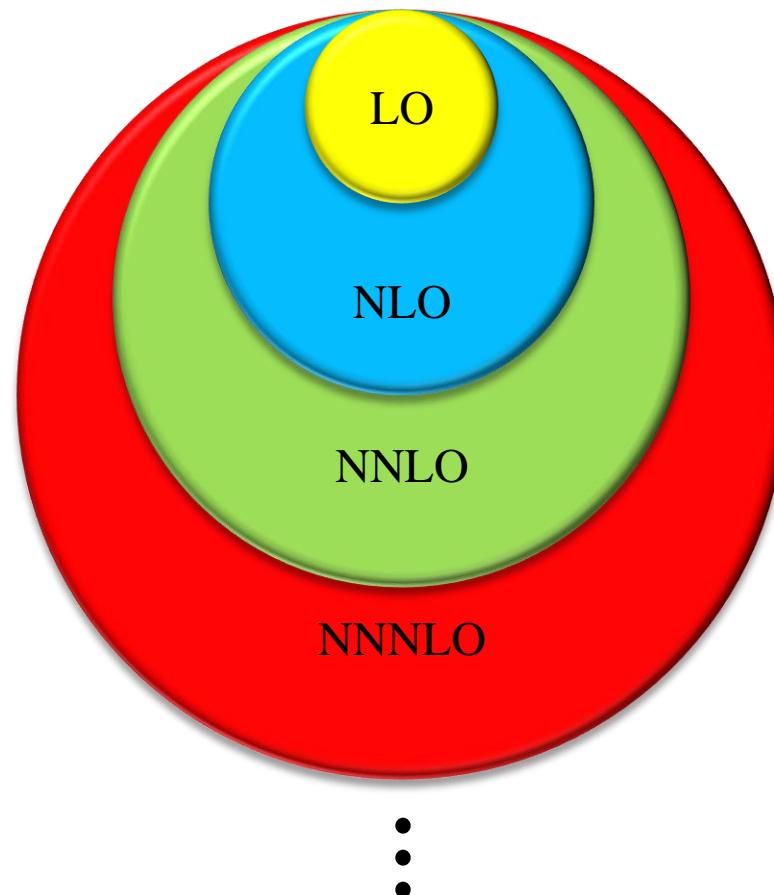


$$(\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\nabla}_1) (\vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot \vec{\nabla}_2)$$

$\cdots$



# Computational strategy

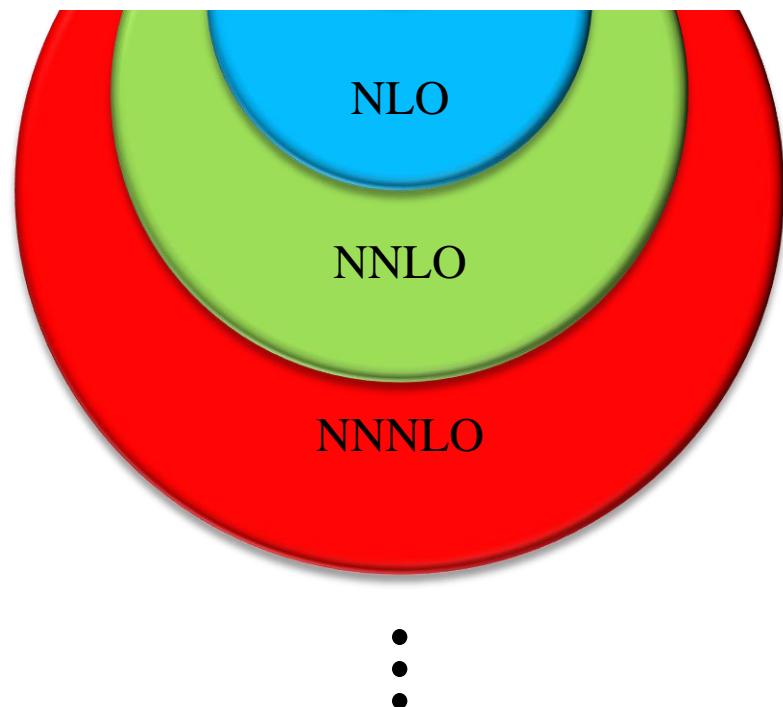


## **Non-perturbative – Monte Carlo**

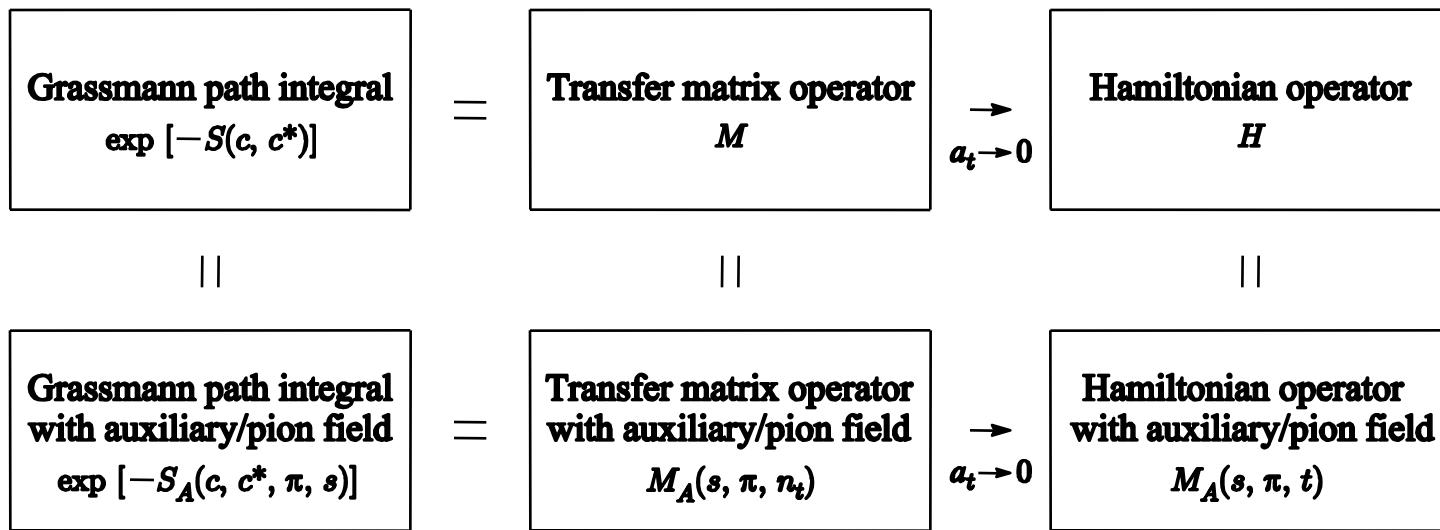


“Improved LO”

## **Perturbative corrections**



# Lattice formulations



## Euclidean-time transfer matrix

Free nucleons:

$$\exp \left[ \frac{1}{2m} N^\dagger \vec{\nabla}^2 N \Delta t \right]$$

Free pions:

$$\exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\vec{\nabla} \pi)^2 \Delta t - \frac{m_\pi^2}{2} \pi^2 \Delta t \right]$$

Pion-nucleon coupling:

$$\exp \left[ -\frac{g_A}{2f_\pi} N^\dagger \boldsymbol{\tau} \vec{\sigma} N \cdot \vec{\nabla} \pi \Delta t \right]$$

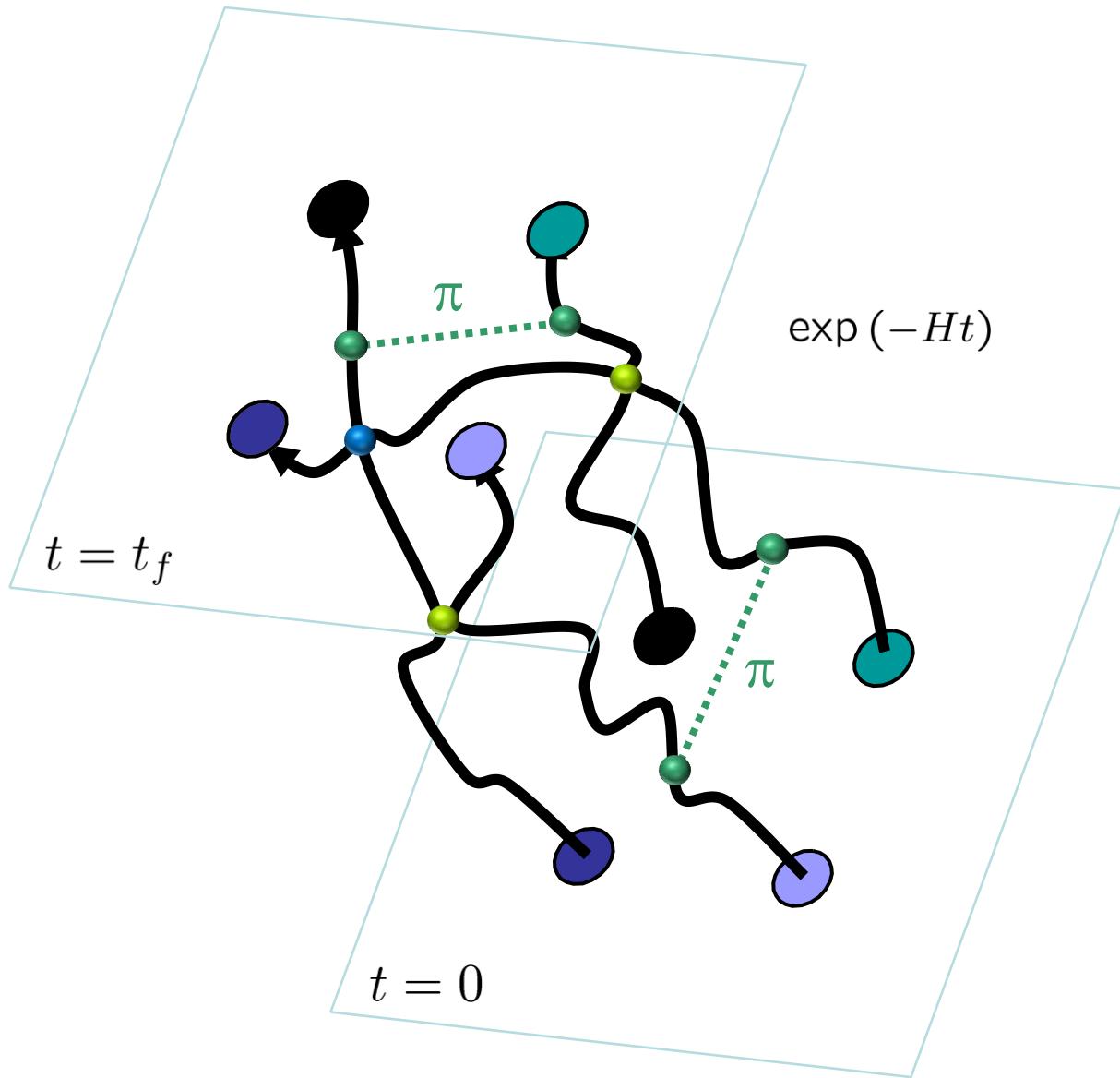
## ... with auxiliary fields

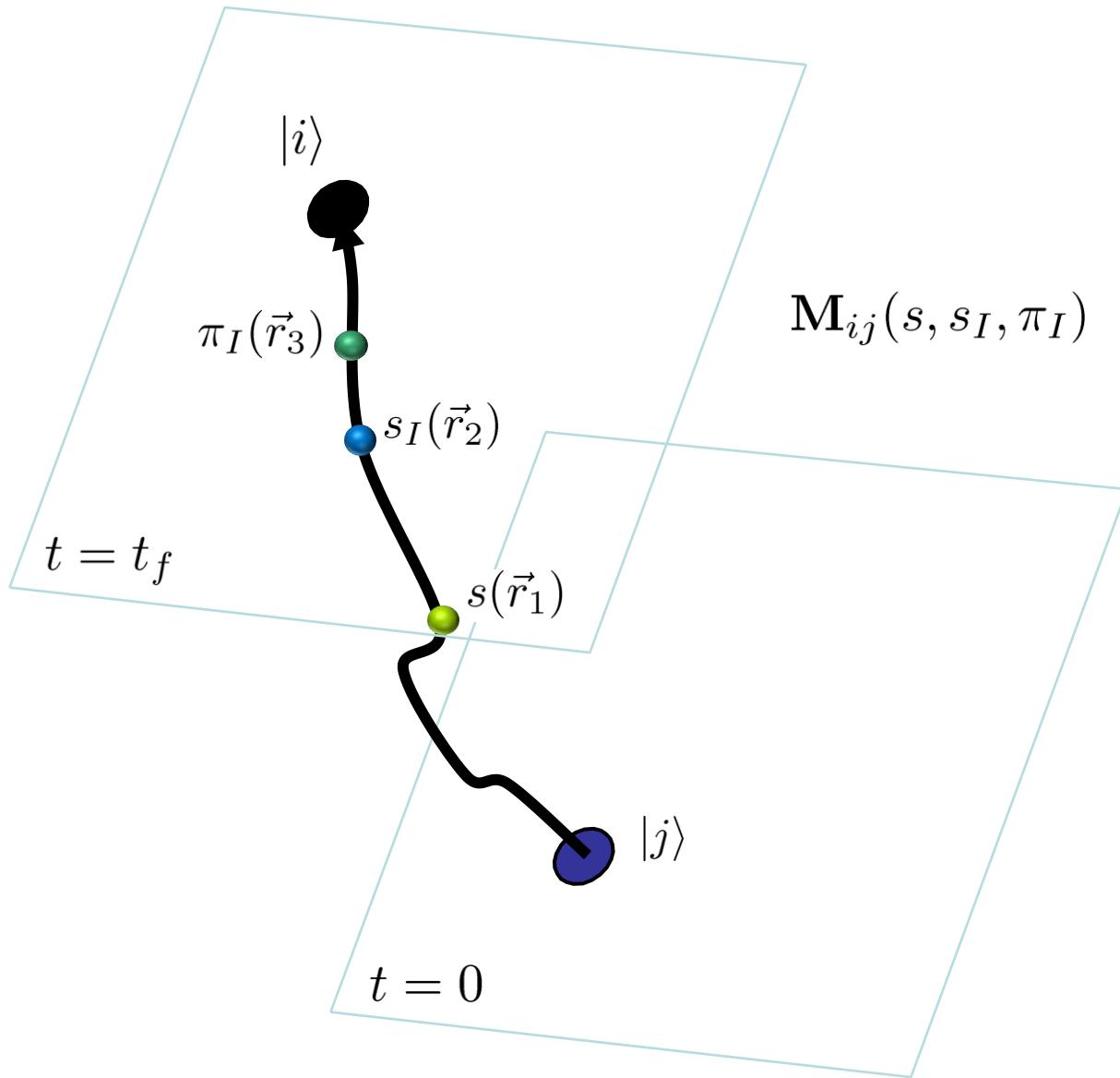
$C$  contact interaction:

$$\begin{aligned} & \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} C N^\dagger N N^\dagger N \Delta t \right] \quad (C < 0) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int ds \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} s^2 + s N^\dagger N \sqrt{-C \Delta t} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$C_I$  contact interaction:

$$\begin{aligned} & \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} C_I N^\dagger \boldsymbol{\tau} N \cdot N^\dagger \boldsymbol{\tau} N \Delta t \right] \quad (C_I > 0) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int d\mathbf{s}_I \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{s}_I \cdot \mathbf{s}_I + i \mathbf{s}_I \cdot N^\dagger \boldsymbol{\tau} N \sqrt{C_I \Delta t} \right] \end{aligned}$$





## Auxiliary-field determinantal Monte Carlo

$$\langle \psi_{\text{init}} | M^{(L_t-1)}(s, s_I, \pi_I) \cdots \cdots M^{(0)}(s, s_I, \pi_I) | \psi_{\text{init}} \rangle = \det \mathbf{M}(s, s_I, \pi_I)$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{ij}(s, s_I, \pi_I) = \langle \vec{p}_i | M^{(L_t-1)}(s, s_I, \pi_I) \cdots M^{(0)}(s, s_I, \pi_I) | \vec{p}_j \rangle$$

For  $A$  nucleons, the matrix is  $A$  by  $A$ .

For the leading-order calculation, if there is no pion coupling and the quantum state is an isospin singlet then

$$\tau_2 \mathbf{M} \tau_2 = \mathbf{M}^*$$

This shows the determinant is real. Actually can show the determinant is positive semi-definite.

With nonzero pion coupling the determinant is real for a spin-singlet isospin-singlet quantum state

$$\sigma_2 \tau_2 \mathbf{M} \sigma_2 \tau_2 = \mathbf{M}^*$$

but the determinant can be both positive and negative

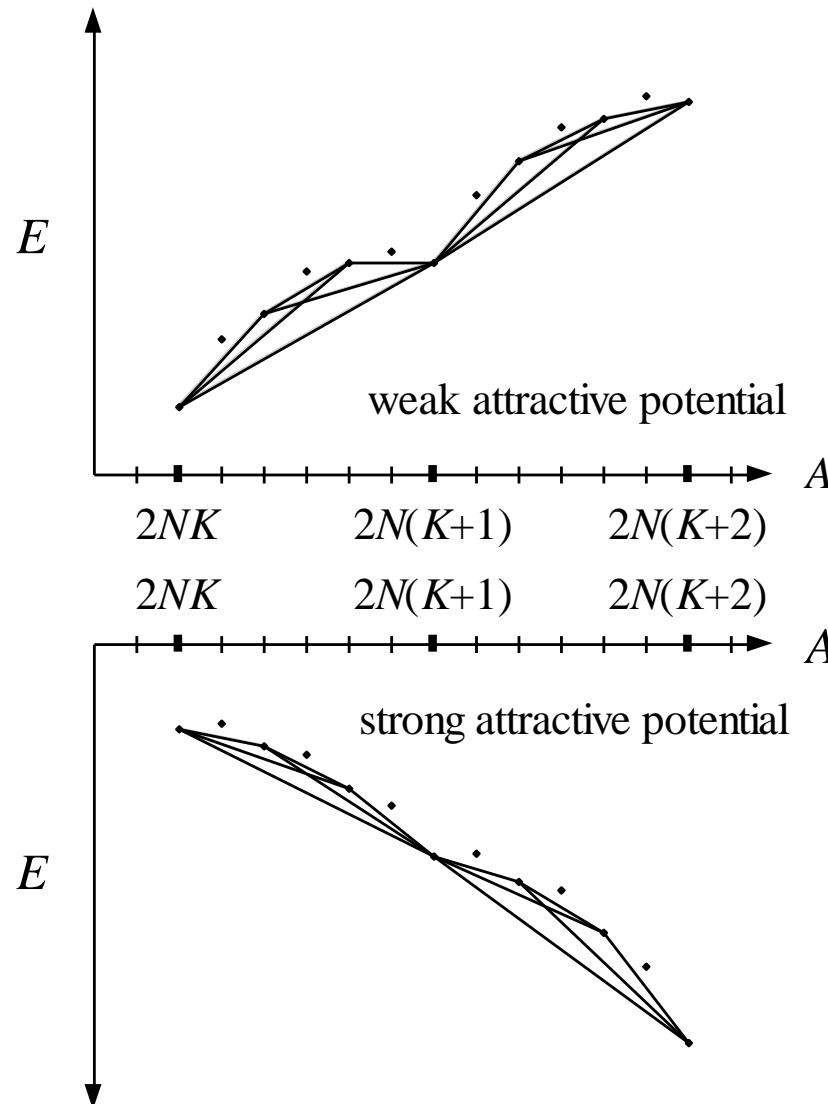
Some comments about Wigner's approximate SU(4) symmetry...

*Theorem:* Any fermionic theory with  $SU(2N)$  symmetry and two-body potential with negative semi-definite Fourier transform  $\tilde{V}(\vec{p}) \leq 0$  obeys  $SU(2N)$  convexity bounds (see next slide)

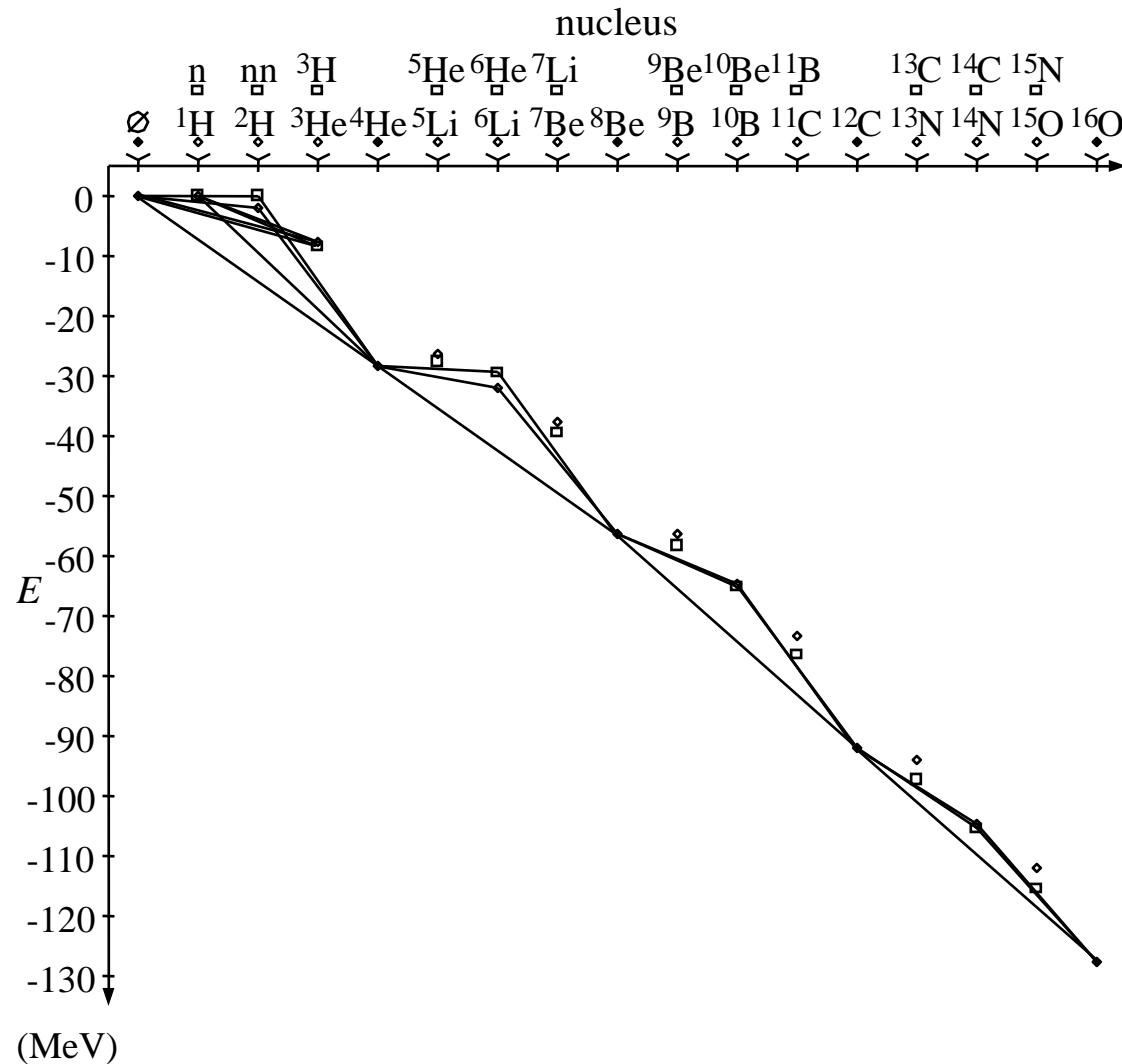
*Corollary:* It can be simulated without sign oscillations

*Chen, D.L. Schäfer, PRL 93 (2004) 242302;  
D.L., PRL 98 (2007) 182501*

## **SU(2N) convexity bounds**



## SU(4) convexity bounds



## Schematic of projection calculations

$$\boxed{\phantom{M}} = M_{\text{LO}} \quad \boxed{\phantom{M}} = M_{SU(4)} \quad \boxed{\phantom{M}} = O_{\text{observable}}$$

$$\boxed{\phantom{M}} = M_{\text{NLO}} \quad \boxed{\phantom{M}} = M_{\text{NNLO}}$$

Hybrid Monte Carlo sampling

$$\rightarrow Z_{n_t, \text{LO}} = \langle \psi_{\text{init}} | \boxed{\phantom{M}} \boxed{\phantom{M}} \boxed{\phantom{M}} | \psi_{\text{init}} \rangle$$

$$Z_{n_t, \text{LO}}^{\langle O \rangle} = \langle \psi_{\text{init}} | \boxed{\phantom{M}} \boxed{\phantom{M}} \boxed{\phantom{M}} \boxed{\phantom{M}} | \psi_{\text{init}} \rangle$$

$$e^{-E_{0, \text{LO}} a_t} = \lim_{n_t \rightarrow \infty} Z_{n_t+1, \text{LO}} / Z_{n_t, \text{LO}}$$

$$\langle O \rangle_{0, \text{LO}} = \lim_{n_t \rightarrow \infty} Z_{n_t, \text{LO}}^{\langle O \rangle} / Z_{n_t, \text{LO}}$$

$$Z_{n_t, \text{NLO}} = \langle \psi_{\text{init}} | \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & \boxed{\phantom{0}} \\ \hline \end{array} | \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & \boxed{\phantom{0}} \\ \hline \end{array} | \psi_{\text{init}} \rangle$$

$$Z_{n_t, \text{NLO}}^{\langle O \rangle} = \langle \psi_{\text{init}} | \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & \boxed{\phantom{0}} \\ \hline \end{array} | \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & \boxed{\phantom{0}} \\ \hline \end{array} | \psi_{\text{init}} \rangle$$

$$\langle O \rangle_{0, \text{NLO}} = \lim_{n_t \rightarrow \infty} Z_{n_t, \text{NLO}}^{\langle O \rangle} / Z_{n_t, \text{NLO}}$$

LO<sub>1</sub>: Pure contact interactions

$$\mathcal{A}(V_{\text{LO}_1}) = C + C_I \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 + \mathcal{A}(V^{\text{OPEP}})$$

LO<sub>2</sub>: Gaussian smearing

$$\mathcal{A}(V_{\text{LO}_2}) = C f(\vec{q}^2) + C_I f(\vec{q}^2) \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 + \mathcal{A}(V^{\text{OPEP}})$$

LO<sub>3</sub>: Gaussian smearing only in even partial waves

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}(V_{\text{LO}_3}) &= C_{1S0} f(\vec{q}^2) \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} \vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2 \right) \left( \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \right) \\ &\quad + C_{3S1} f(\vec{q}^2) \left( \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2 \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \right) \\ &\quad + \mathcal{A}(V^{\text{OPEP}}) \end{aligned}$$

Physical  
scattering data

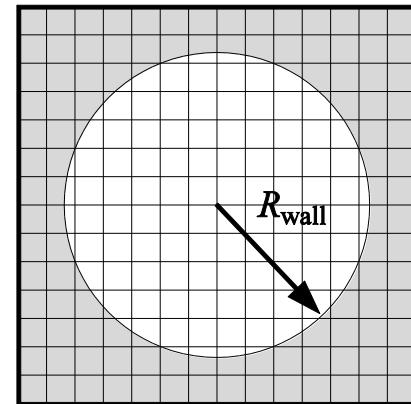


Unknown operator  
coefficients

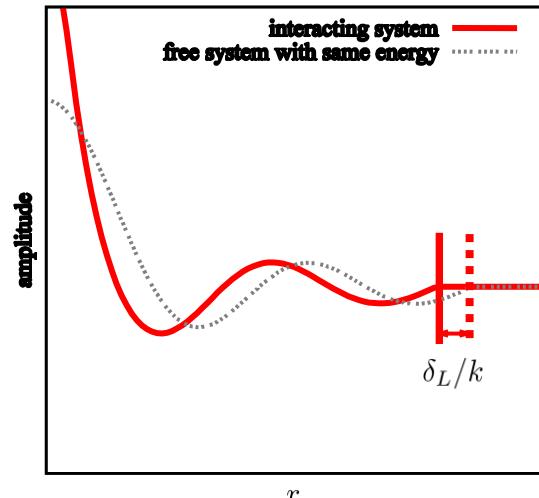
## Spherical wall method

*Borasoy, Epelbaum, Krebs, D.L., Meißner,  
EPJA 34 (2007) 185*

Spherical wall imposed in the center of mass frame



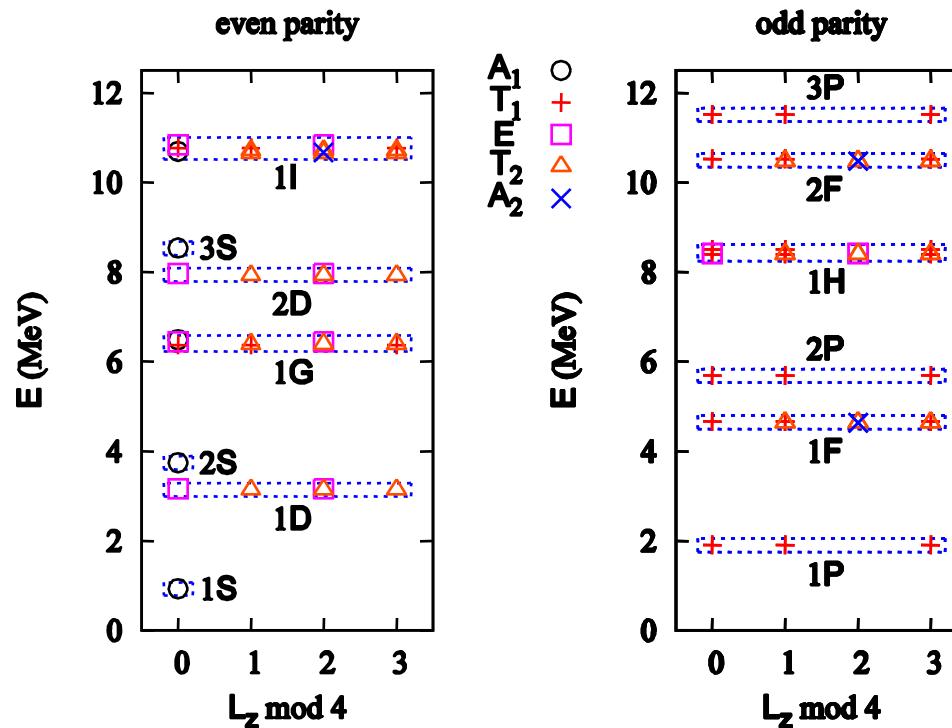
Representation	$J_z$	Example
$A_1$	$0 \bmod 4$	$Y_{0,0}$
$T_1$	$0, 1, 3 \bmod 4$	$\{Y_{1,0}, Y_{1,1}, Y_{1,-1}\}$
$E$	$0, 2 \bmod 4$	$\left\{Y_{2,0}, \frac{Y_{2,-2}+Y_{2,2}}{\sqrt{2}}\right\}$
$T_2$	$1, 2, 3 \bmod 4$	$\left\{Y_{2,1}, \frac{Y_{2,-2}-Y_{2,2}}{\sqrt{2}}, Y_{2,-1}\right\}$
$A_2$	$2 \bmod 4$	$\frac{Y_{3,2}-Y_{3,-2}}{\sqrt{2}}$



# Energy levels with hard spherical wall

$$R_{\text{wall}} = 10a$$

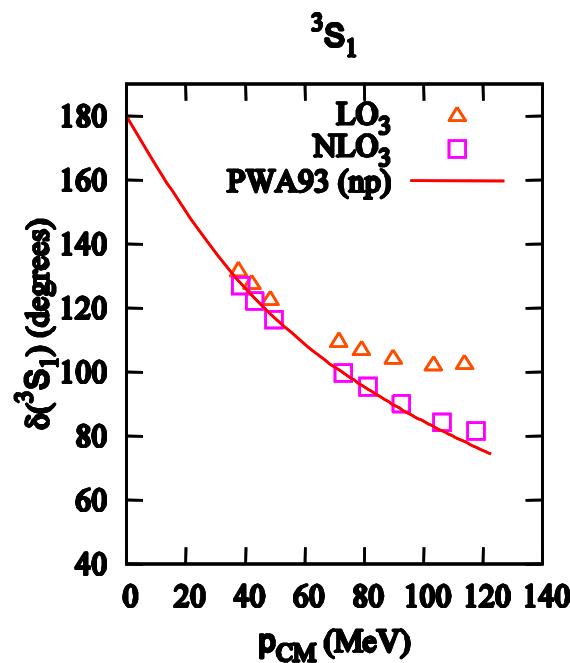
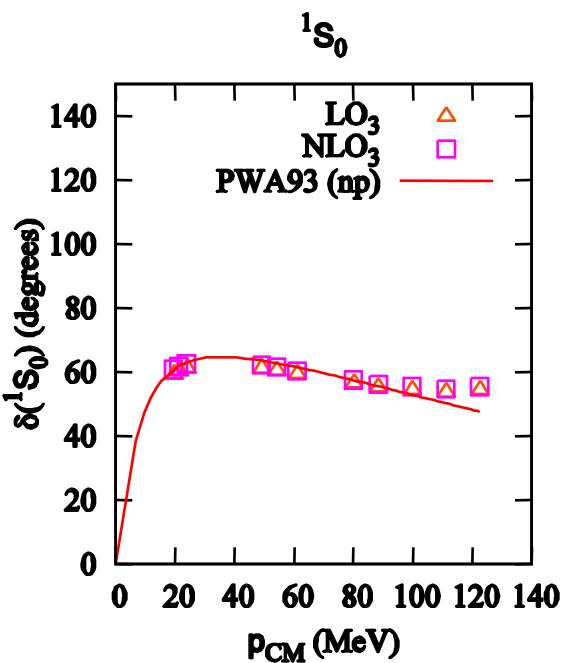
$$a = 1.97 \text{ fm}$$



Energy shift from free-particle values gives the phase shift

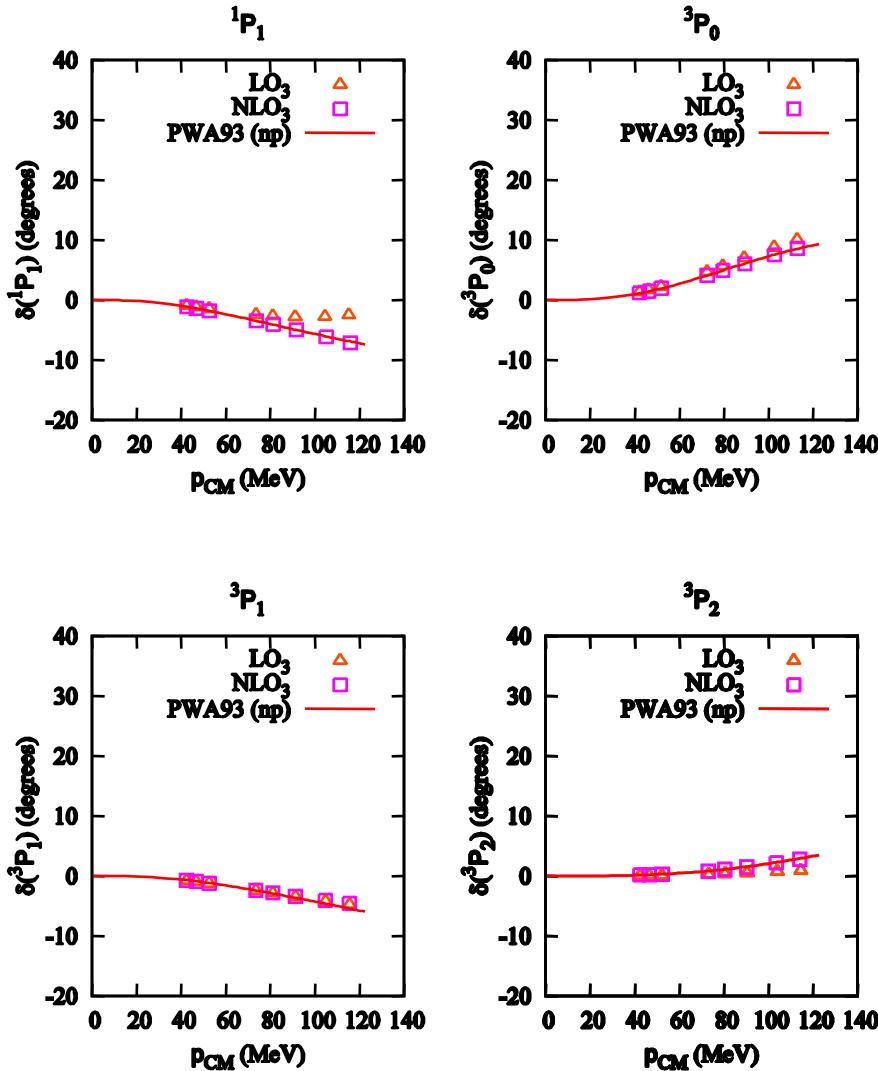
$\text{LO}_3$ : S waves

$a = 1.97 \text{ fm}$



$\text{LO}_3$ : P waves

$a = 1.97 \text{ fm}$



# Dilute neutrons and the unitarity limit

Neutron-neutron scattering amplitude:  $f_0(k) = \frac{1}{k \cot \delta_0(k) - ik}$

$$k \cot \delta_0(k) \approx -a_0^{-1} + \frac{1}{2}r_0 k^2$$

Unitarity limit:  $r_0 \rightarrow 0, a_0 \rightarrow \infty$   $f_0(k) \rightarrow \frac{i}{k}$

Free Fermi gas ground state

$$\frac{E_0^{\text{free}}}{A} = \frac{3}{5} E_F$$

$$E_F = \frac{k_F^2}{2m}$$

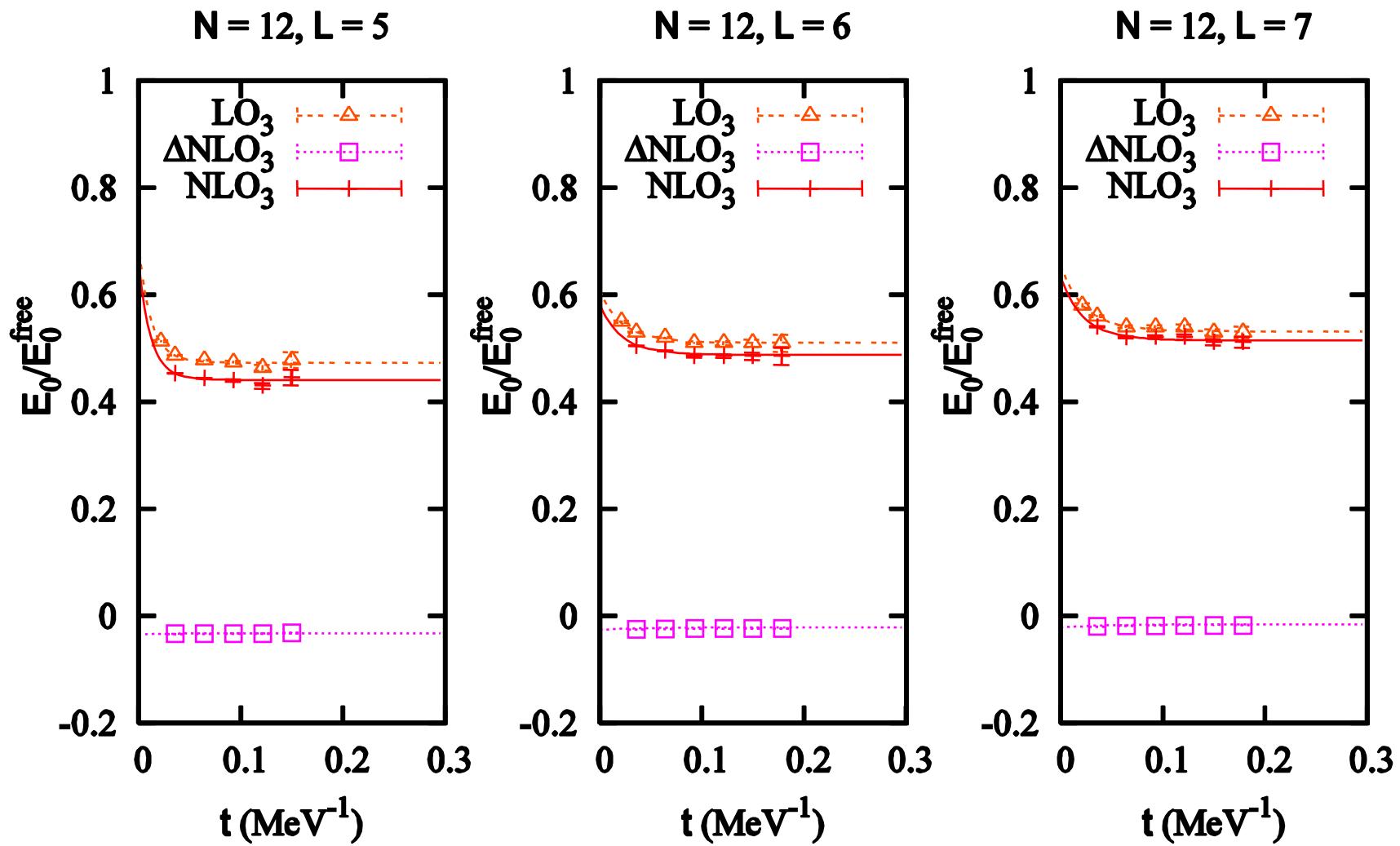
Unitarity limit ground state

$$\frac{E_0}{A} = \xi \cdot \frac{E_0^{\text{free}}}{A} = \xi \cdot \frac{3}{5} E_F$$

$\xi$  is a dimensionless number

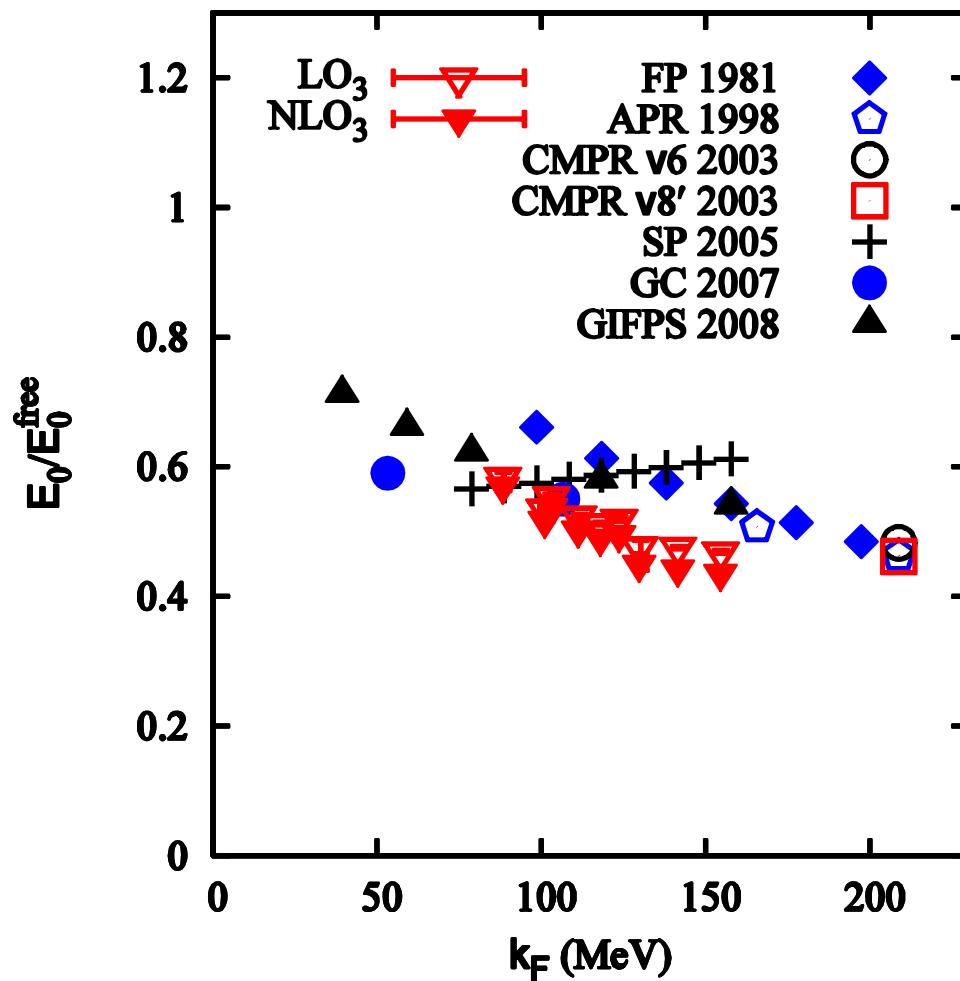
Neutron matter close to unitarity limit for  $k_F \sim 80$  MeV

# Dilute neutron matter at NLO



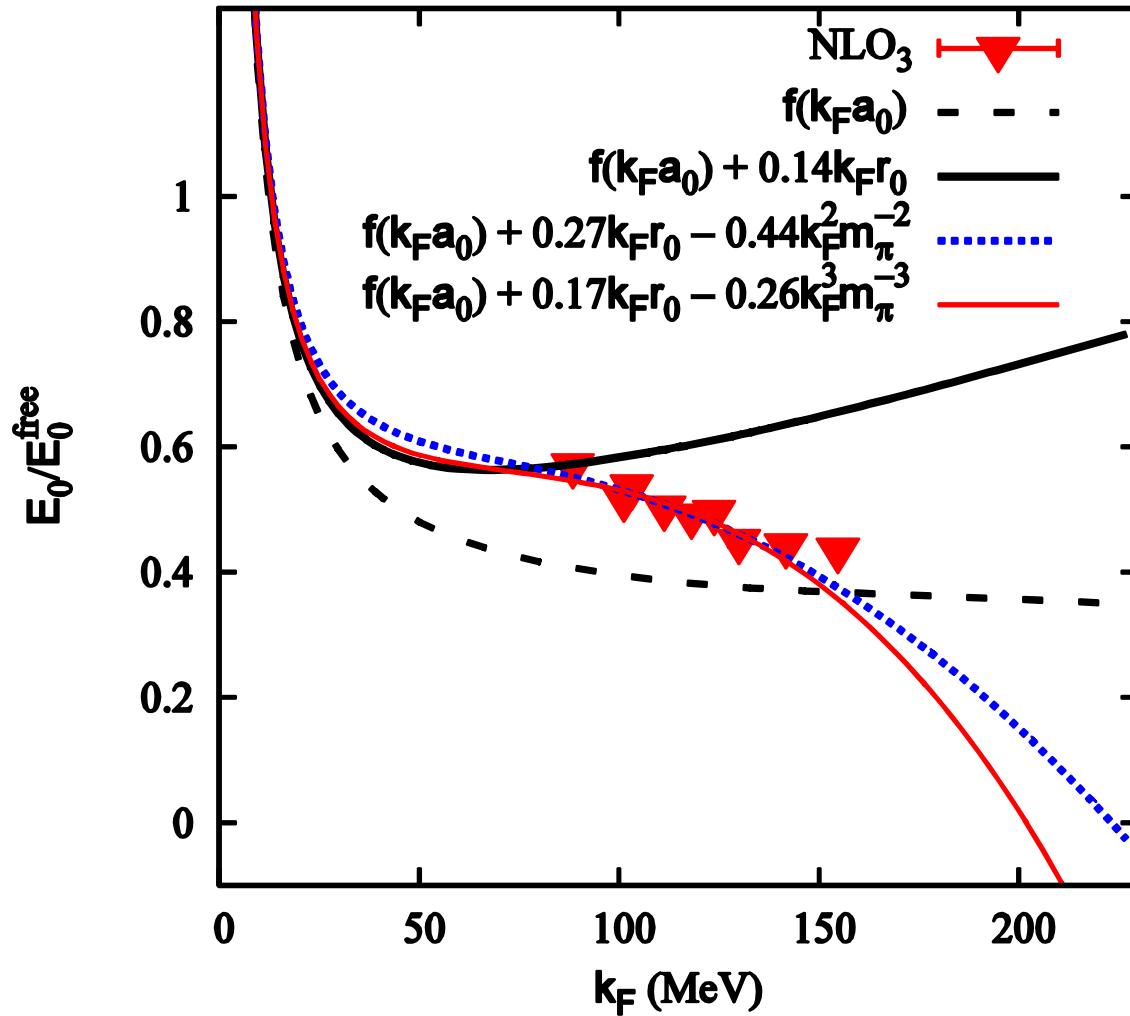
$N = 8, 12, 16$  neutrons at  $L^3 = 4^3, 5^3, 6^3, 7^3$

$a = 1.97$  fm

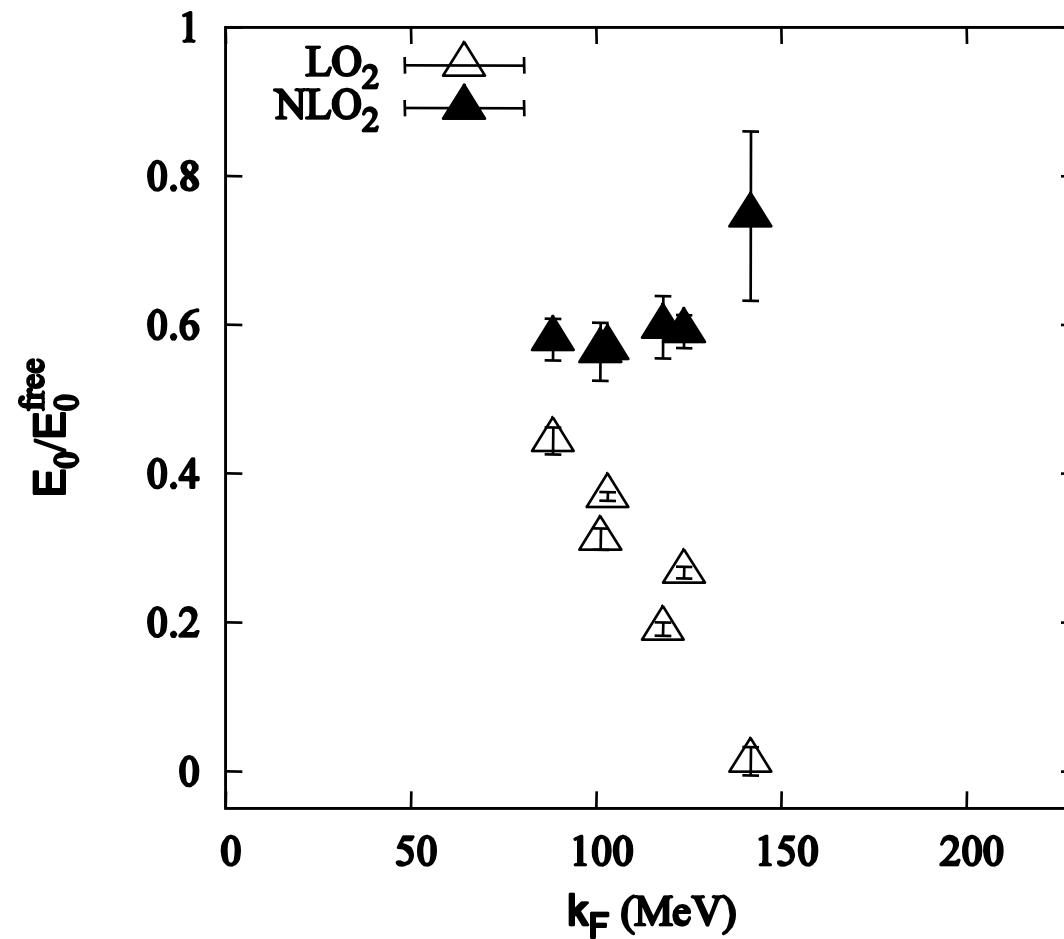


$$\frac{E_0}{E_0^{\text{free}}} = \xi - \frac{\xi_1}{k_F a} + c k_F r_0 + \dots$$

$\xi = 0.31(1)$   
 $\xi_1 \approx 0.8$

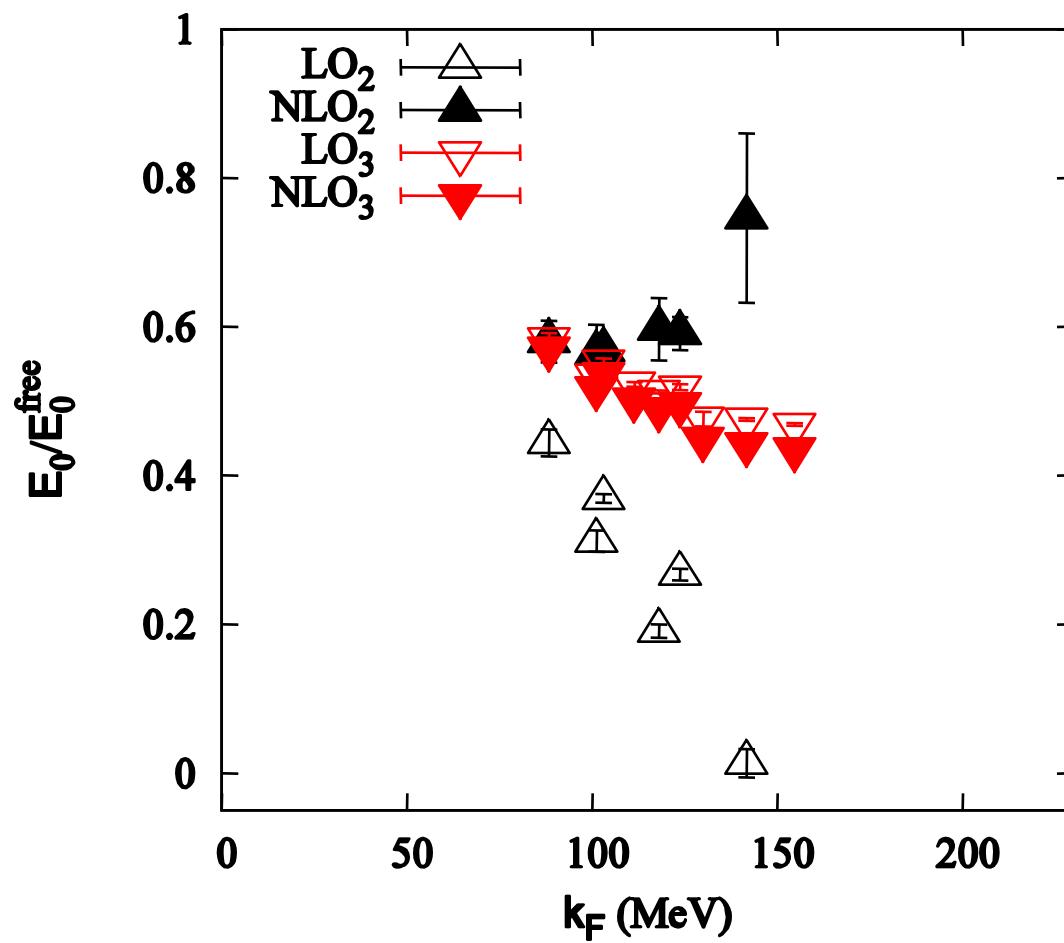


## Earlier lattice results



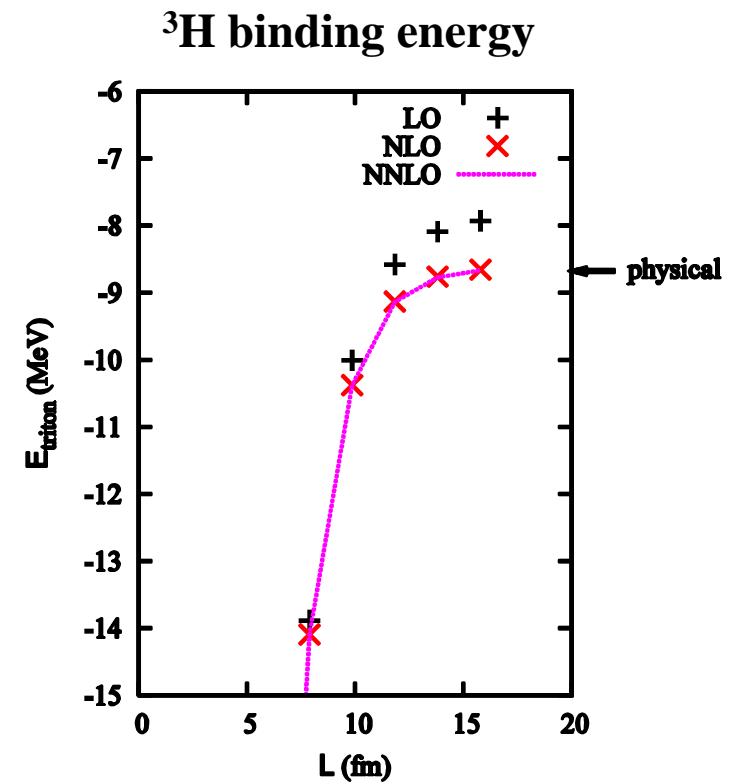
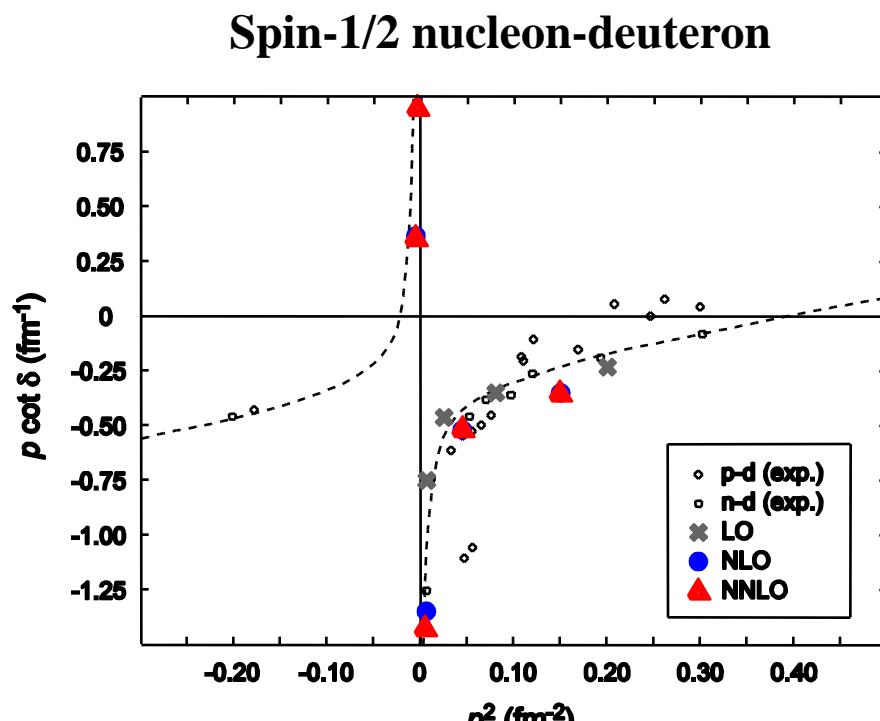
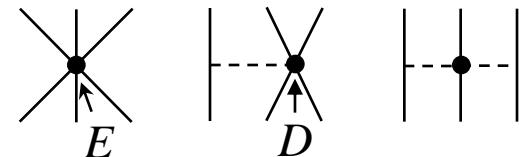
Borasoy, Epelbaum, Krebs, D.L, Meißner, 0712.2993, EPJA35 (2008) 357

Agreement when perturbatively calculated  
NLO corrections for each are small

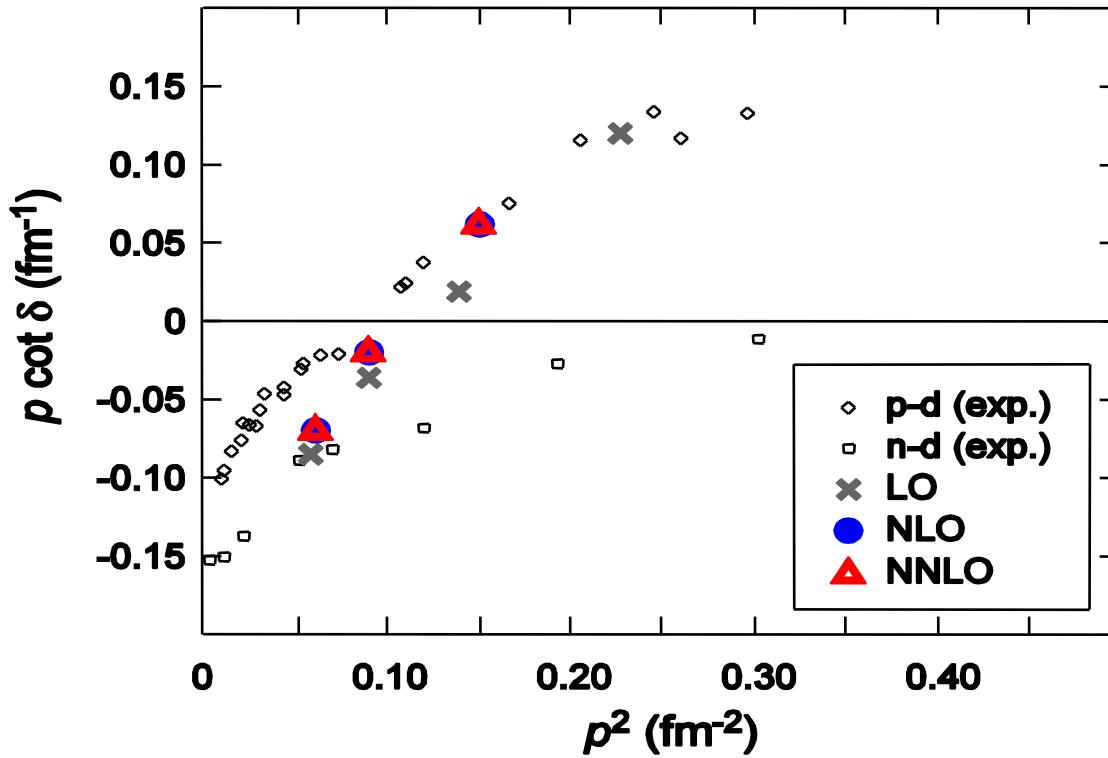


# Three-body forces at NNLO

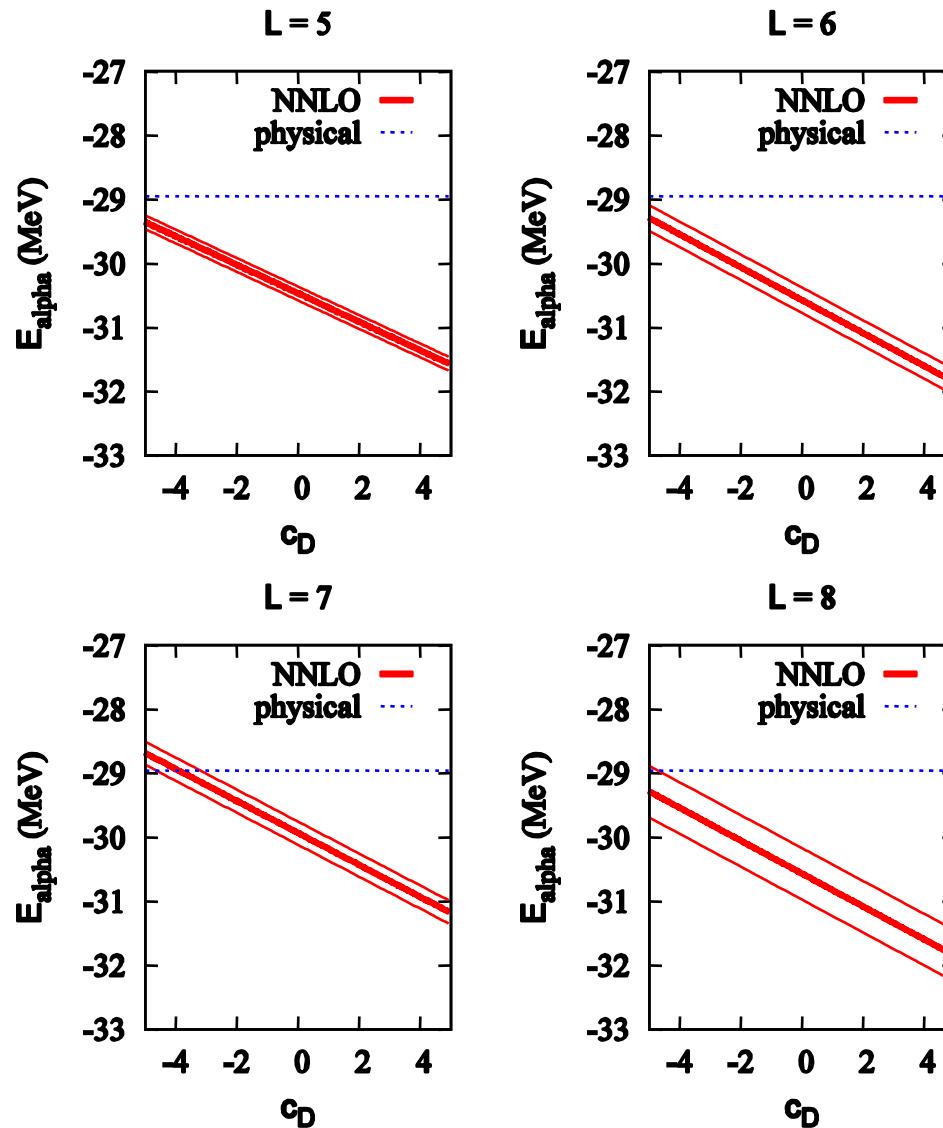
Fit  $c_D$  and  $c_E$  to spin-1/2 nucleon-deuteron scattering and  $^3\text{H}$  binding energy



## Spin-3/2 nucleon-deuteron scattering



# Alpha-particle energy (no Coulomb, isospin symmetric)



# New connections: lattice EFT $\leftrightarrow$ analytic EFT

*Storing lattice EFT configurations for further EFT calculations*

$$Z_{n_t, \text{LO}} = \langle \psi_{\text{init}} | \begin{array}{c|cc|c} & \text{Config. #XXXXXX} \\ \hline \text{white} & \text{white} & \text{blue} & \text{white} \\ \text{white} & \text{white} & \text{blue} & \text{white} \end{array} | \psi_{\text{init}} \rangle$$

Correlation functions, soft pion scattering, neutrino scattering, etc.

$$\langle \psi_{\text{init}} | \begin{array}{c|cc|c} & & & \\ \hline \text{white} & \text{white} & \text{blue} & \text{white} \\ \text{white} & \text{white} & \text{blue} & \text{white} \end{array} | \psi_{\text{init}} \rangle$$

Transition matrix elements of light nuclei

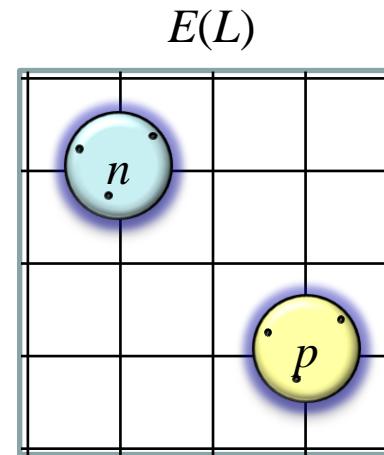
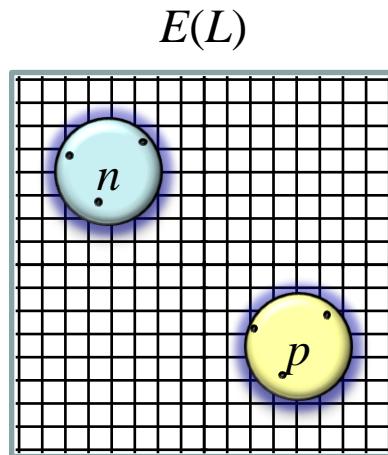
$$\langle \psi'_{\text{init}} | \begin{array}{c|cc|c} & & & \\ \hline \text{white} & \text{white} & \text{blue} & \text{white} \\ \text{white} & \text{white} & \text{blue} & \text{white} \end{array} | \psi_{\text{init}} \rangle$$

# New connections: lattice EFT $\leftrightarrow$ lattice QCD

## Finite volume matching for two-nucleon states

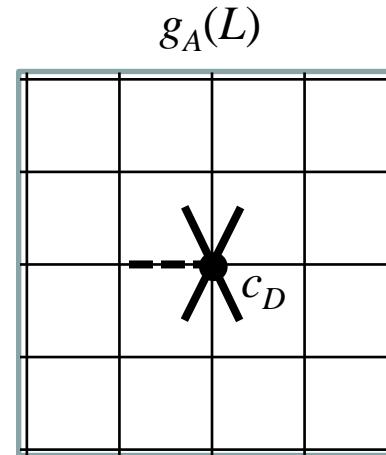
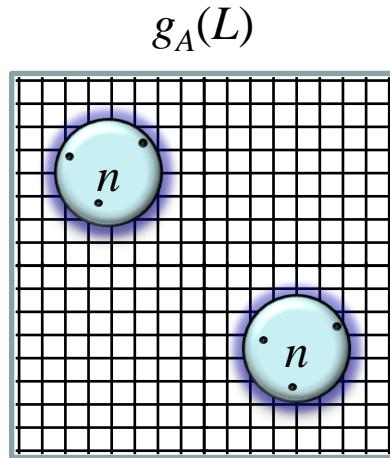
For the same periodic volume, compute two-nucleon energies in Lattice QCD and match to two-nucleon energies Lattice EFT

Pion mass dependence?

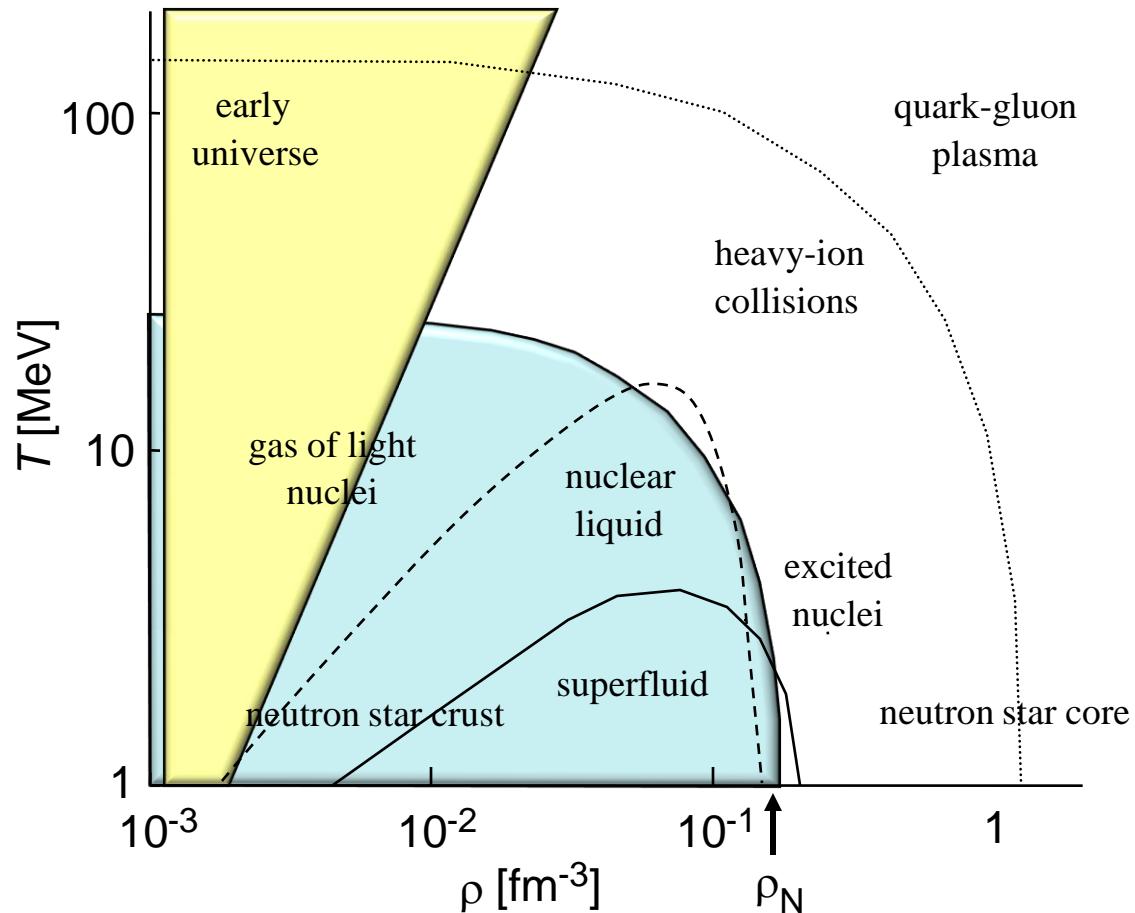


## Calculate $g_A$ for the two-neutron state at finite volume

For given lattice spacing in lattice EFT, use the value of  $g_A$  obtained via Lattice QCD at the same volume to fix  $c_D$



## Testing quark-hadron duality in region of overlap



## Summary

Promising but relatively new tool that combines the framework of effective field theory and computational lattice methods

Applications to zero and nonzero temperature simulations of cold atoms, light nuclei, neutron matter

## Future directions

Storing lattice EFT configurations for general use

Keep going – higher orders, smaller lattice spacing, larger volume, more nucleons

Include Coulomb effects and isospin breaking effects

SU(4) models of asymmetric nuclear matter (no sign oscillations)

Soft pion, neutrino, and neutron scattering on light nuclei

## Frequently Asked Questions on EFT and Many-Body Physics

<http://www.physics.ohio-state.edu/~ntg/eftfaq/>

*For what nuclear systems can lattice approaches be used to implement EFT?*

*How can we improve the many-body methods using EFT idea/methods?*

*How do the low-energy theories of many interacting atoms and  
of many interacting nucleons compare?*