

# RG for nuclear forces and nuclear structure

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CANADA'S NATIONAL LABORATORY FOR PARTICLE AND NUCLEAR PHYSICS

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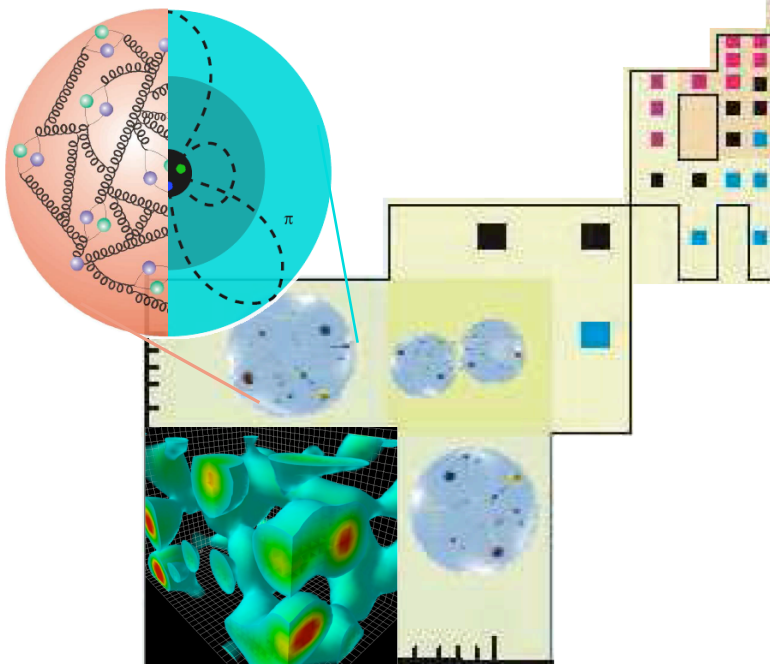
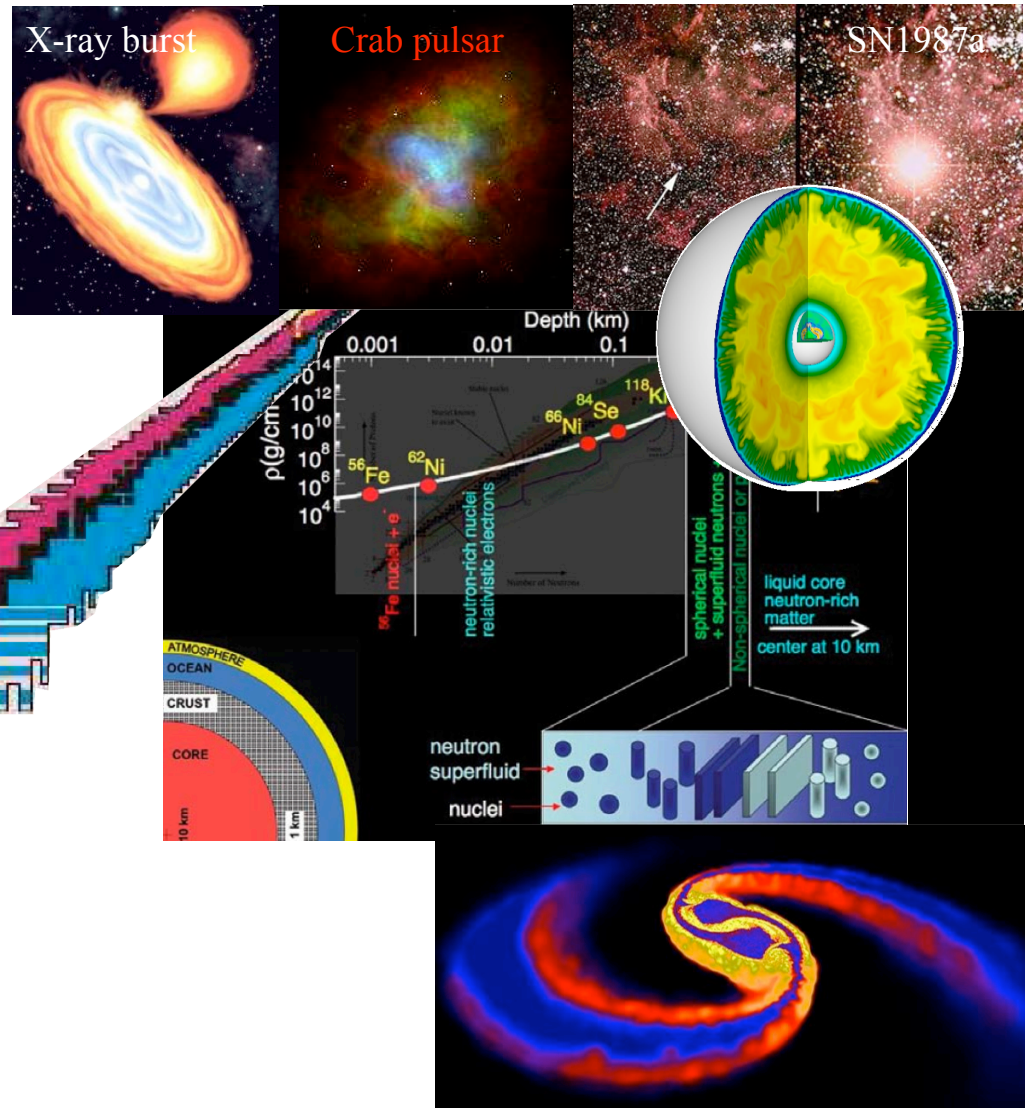
# Strong interaction physics in the lab and cosmos

Matter at the extremes:

density  $\rho \sim \dots 10^{15} \text{ g/cm}^3$

proton-rich, neutron-rich,  
 ${}^8\text{He}$  to  $Z/N \sim 0.05$

temperatures  $T \sim \dots 100 \text{ MeV}$



# Outline

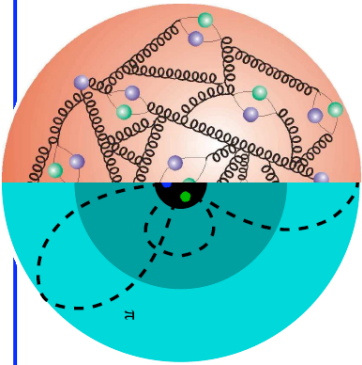
RG evolution for nuclear forces

Applications to neutron-rich nuclei and neutron stars

RG for many-body problems

# $\Lambda$ / Resolution dependence of nuclear forces

with high-energy probes:  
quarks+gluons



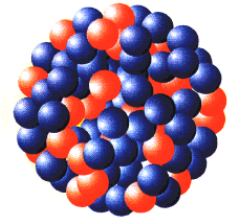
Effective theory for NN, 3N, many-N interactions and electroweak operators: resolution scale/ $\Lambda$ -dependent

$$H(\Lambda) = T + V_{\text{NN}}(\Lambda) + V_{\text{3N}}(\Lambda) + V_{\text{4N}}(\Lambda) + \dots$$

$\Lambda_{\text{chiral}}$

momenta  $Q \sim \lambda^{-1} \sim m_{\pi}$ : chiral effective field theory (EFT)

neutrons and protons interacting via pion exchanges  
and shorter-range contact interactions



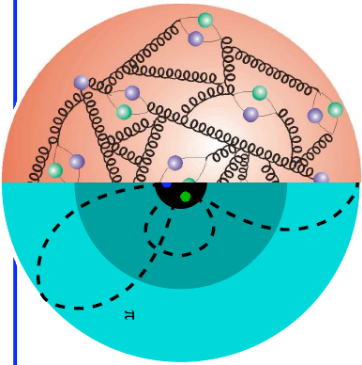
typical momenta in nuclei  $\sim m_{\pi}$

$\Lambda_{\text{pionless}}$

$Q \ll m_{\pi}$

# $\Lambda$ / Resolution dependence of nuclear forces

with high-energy probes:  
quarks+gluons



Effective theory for NN, 3N, many-N interactions and electroweak operators: resolution scale/ $\Lambda$ -dependent

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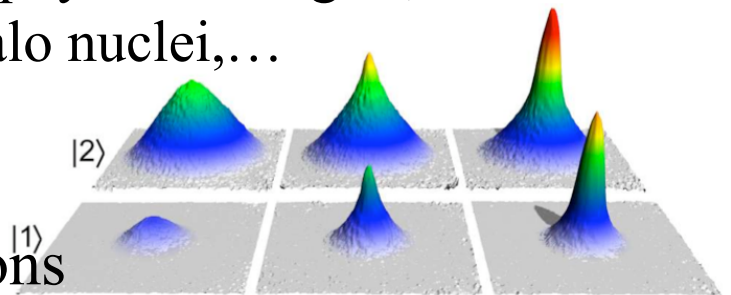
momenta  $Q \sim \lambda^{-1} \sim m_{\pi}$

universal properties of neutrons and cold atoms,  
reactions at astrophysical energies,  
loosely-bound halo nuclei,...

$\Lambda_{\text{pionless}}$

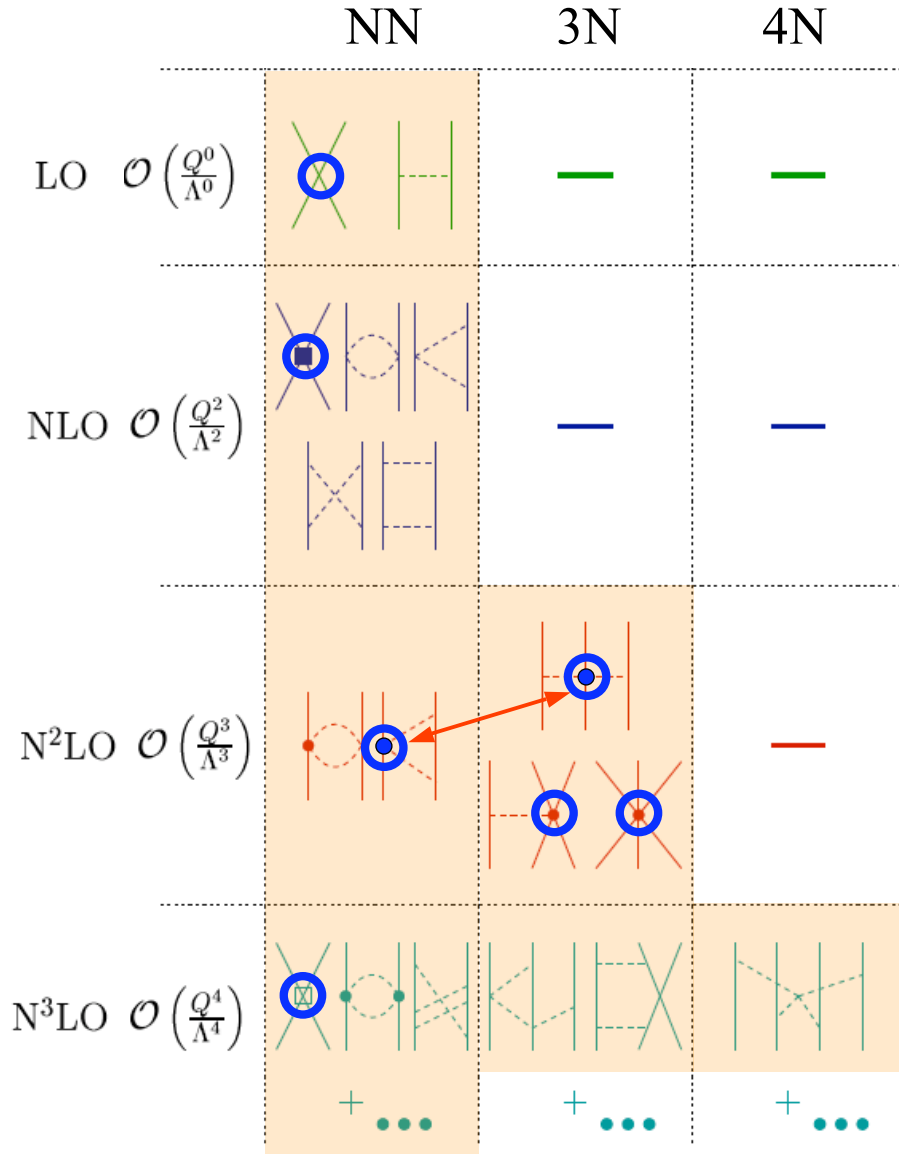
$Q \ll m_{\pi}$ : pionless effective field theory

large scattering length physics and corrections



# Chiral EFT for nuclear forces

Separation of scales: low momenta  $\frac{1}{\lambda} = Q \ll \Lambda_b$  breakdown scale  $\sim 500$  MeV



limited resolution at low energies,  
can expand in powers  $Q/\Lambda_b$

include long-range pion physics

details at short-distance not resolved

capture in few **short-range couplings**,  
fit to experiment once,  $\Lambda$ -dependent

systematic: can work to desired  
accuracy and obtain error estimates  
from truncation order and  $\Lambda$  variation

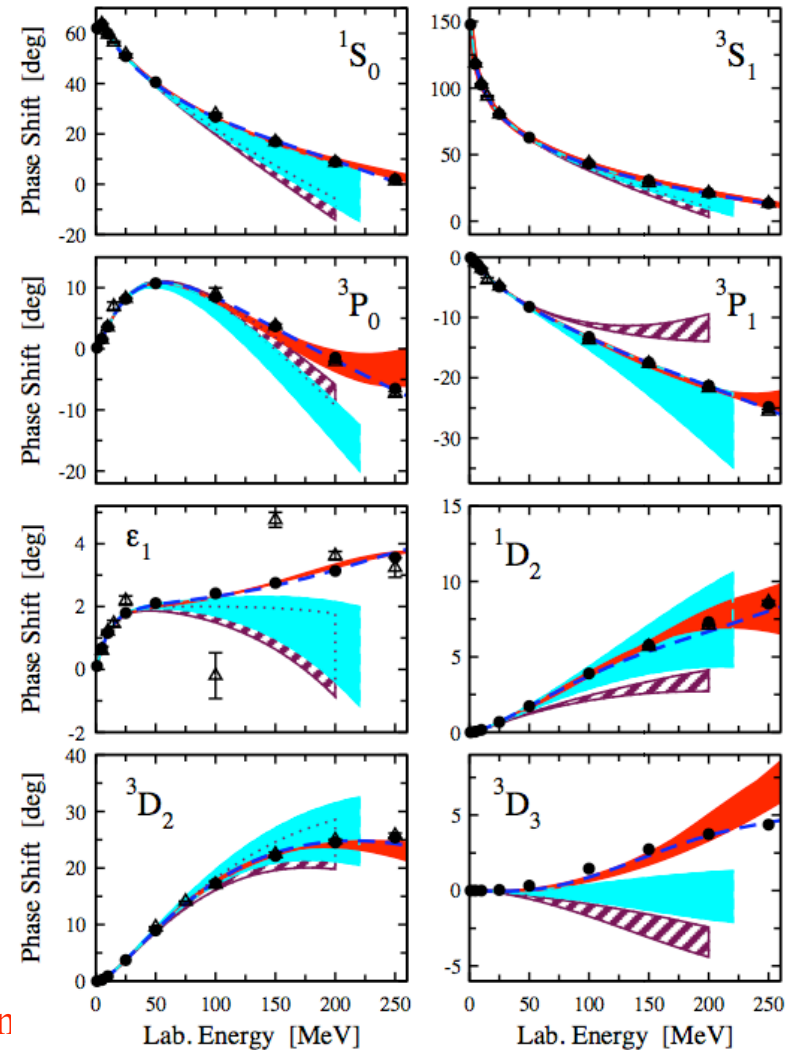
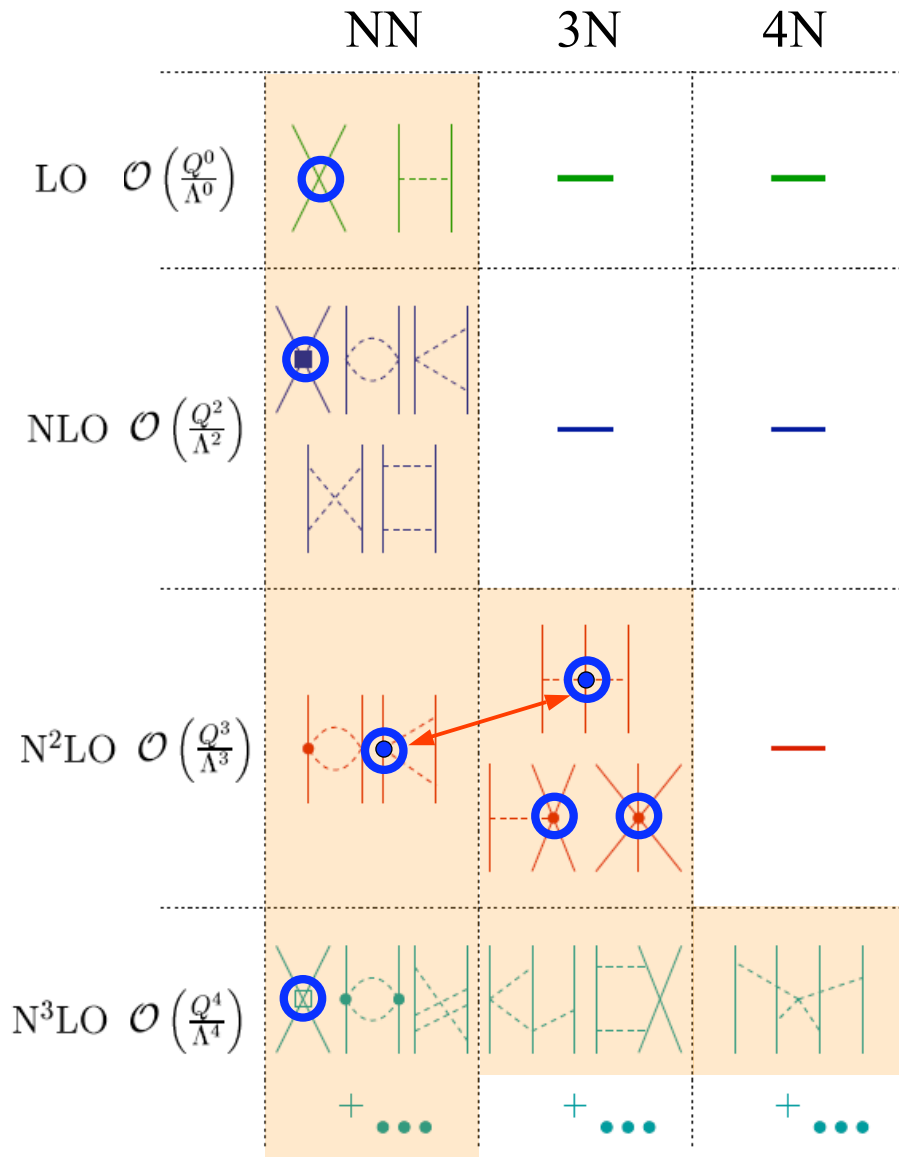
can connect to lattice QCD

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

# Chiral EFT for nuclear forces

Separation of scales: low momenta  $\frac{1}{\lambda} = Q \ll \Lambda_b$  breakdown scale  $\sim 500$  MeV

accurate reproduction of  
low-energy NN scattering at N<sup>3</sup>LO



Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise, Epelbaum, Meissner

# Nuclear forces and the Renormalization Group

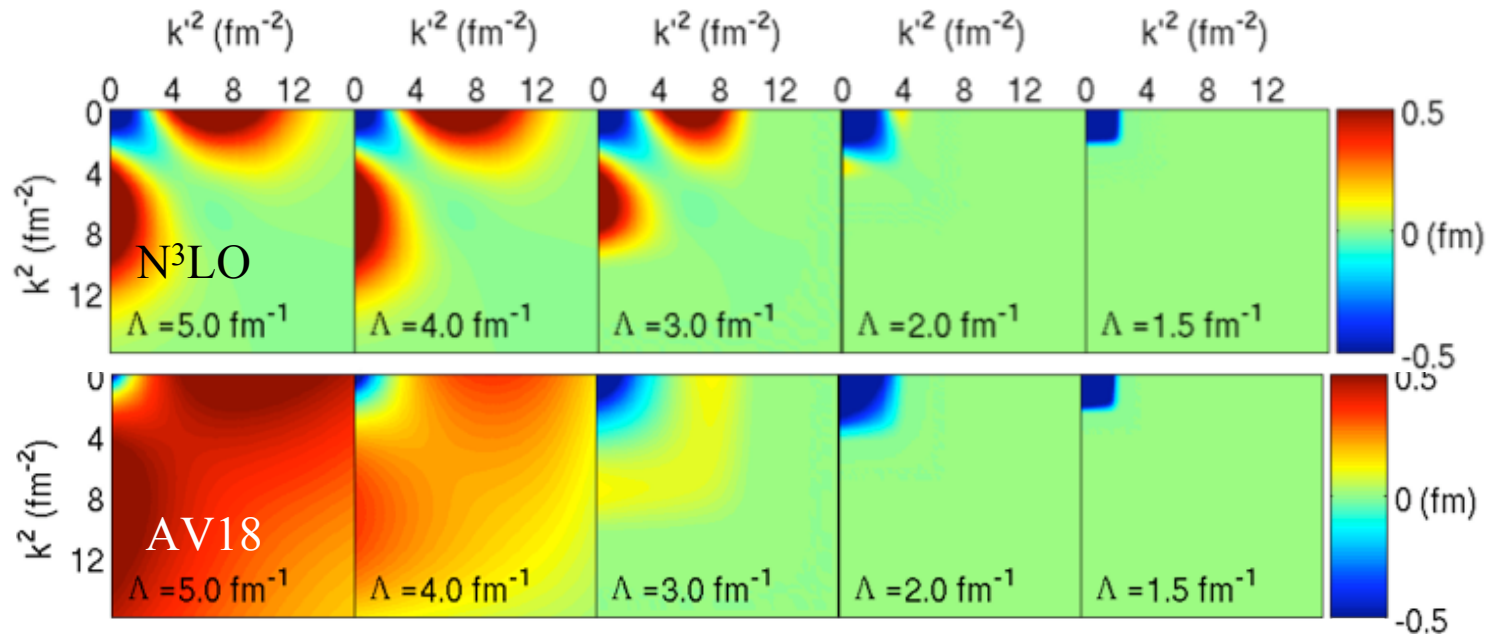
RG evolution to lower resolution/cutoffs

$$H(\Lambda) = T + V_{\text{NN}}(\Lambda) + V_{\text{3N}}(\Lambda) + V_{\text{4N}}(\Lambda) + \dots$$

exact RG for NN interactions

Bogner, Kuo, AS, Furnstahl, ...

$$\frac{d}{d\Lambda} V_{\text{low } k}^{\Lambda}(k', k) = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{V_{\text{low } k}^{\Lambda}(k', \Lambda) T^{\Lambda}(\Lambda, k; \Lambda^2)}{1 - (k/\Lambda)^2}$$

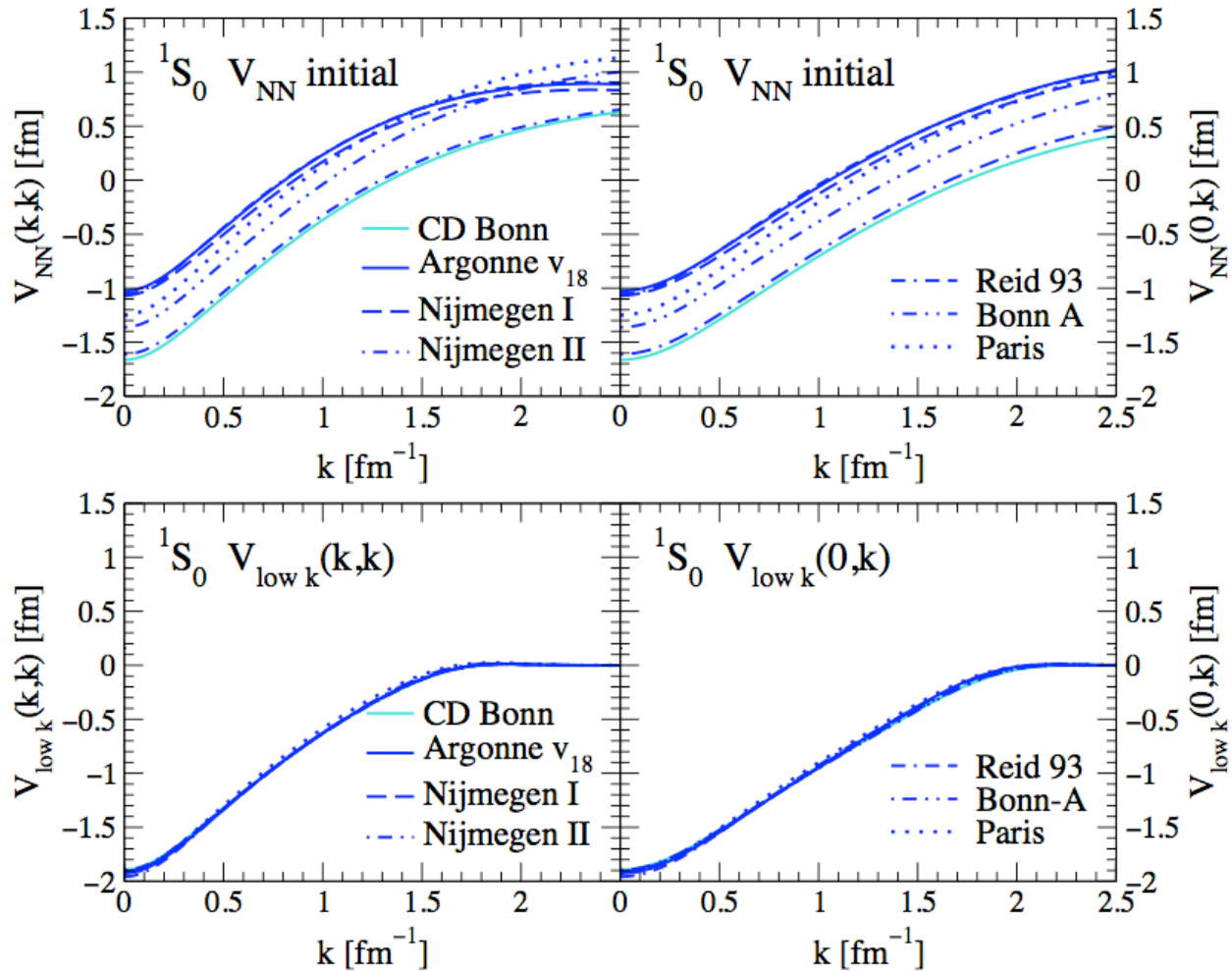


low-momentum interactions  $V_{\text{low } k}(\Lambda)$  with sharp or smooth regulators

decouples low-momentum physics from high momenta  
(red=short-range repulsion and short-range tensor parts)



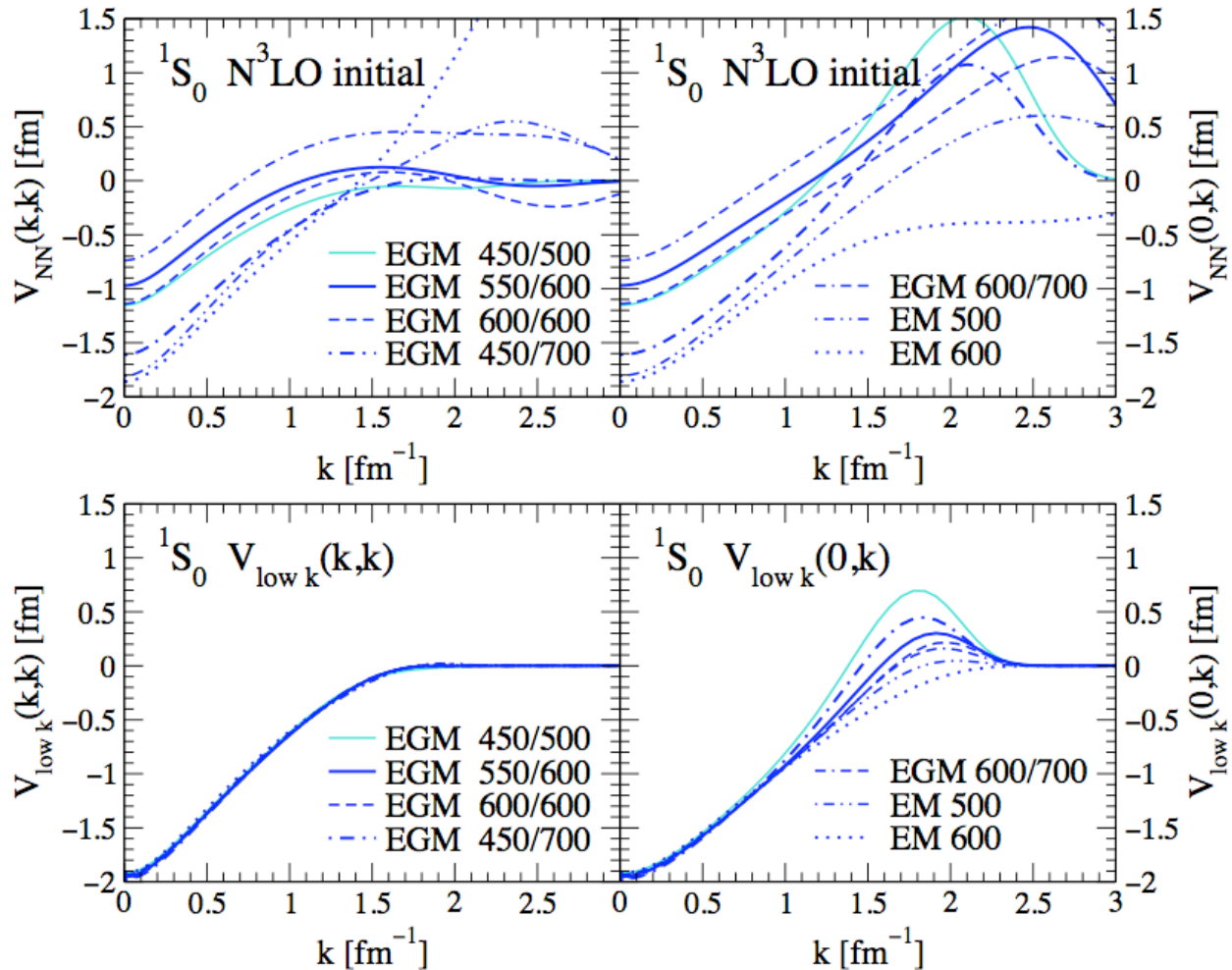
# Low-momentum universality



$\approx$  universality from different phenomenological potentials

RG preserves NN observables and long-range parts

# Low-momentum universality



$\approx$  **universality** from different chiral  $N^3\text{LO}$  potentials

RG preserves NN observables and long-range parts

What drives this universality? RG basis?

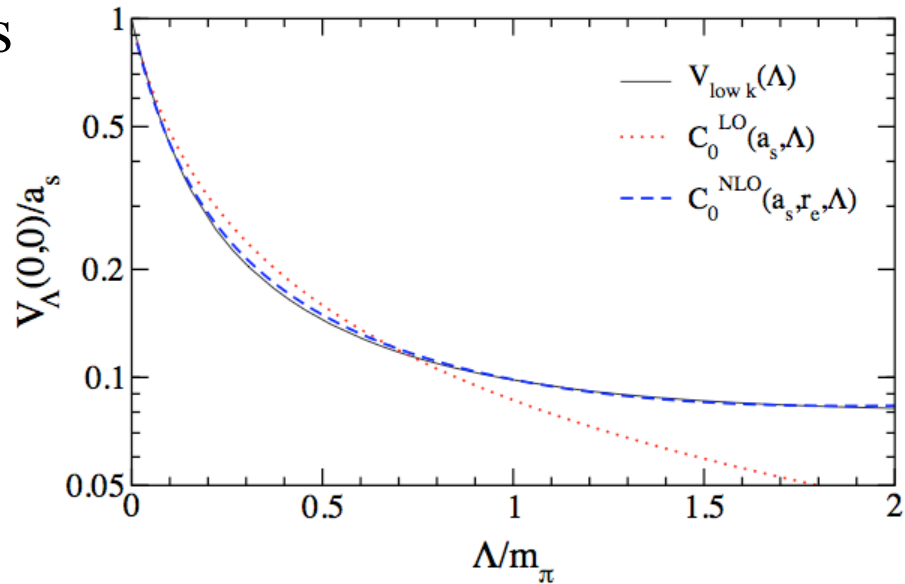
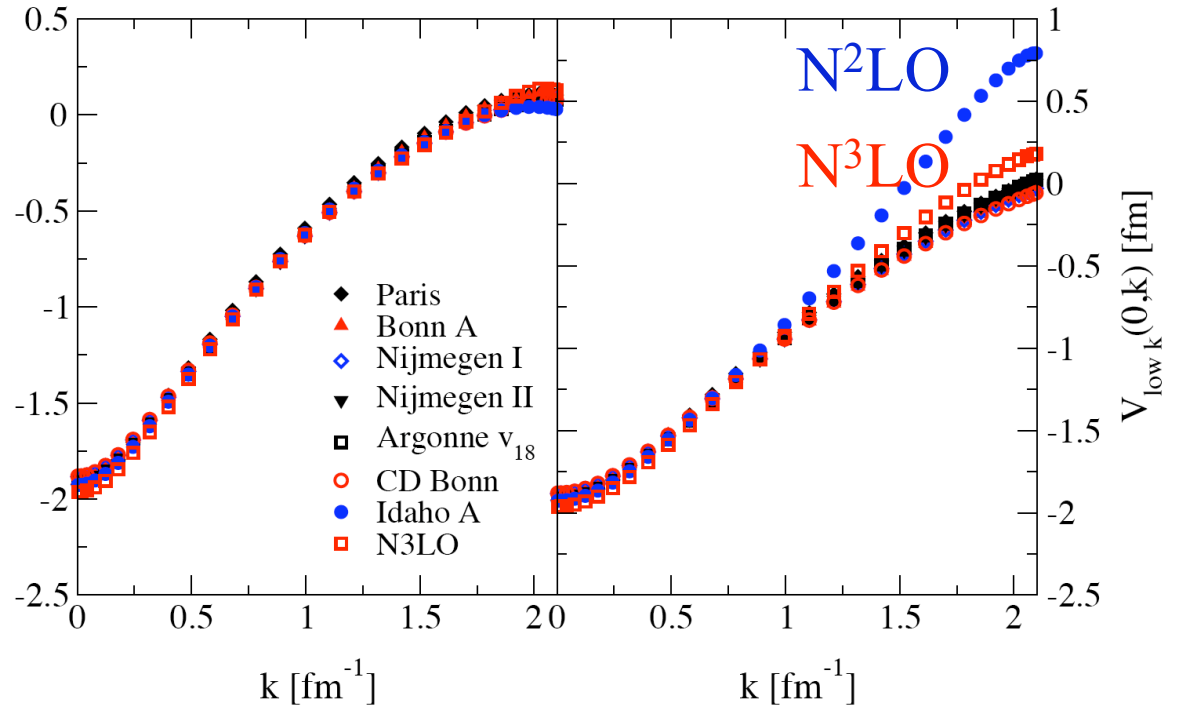
# Chiral EFT and RG

Collapse to  $V_{\text{low } k}$  band for higher orders in chiral EFT (should revisit this)

RG generates higher-order contact interactions

Evolution of  $V_{\text{low } k}(0,0;\Lambda)$  follows contact interaction  $c_0(\Lambda)$  at NLO

EFT connections?



## Similarity RG

unitary transformations to band-diagonal  $V_{\text{srg}}(\lambda)$  from flow equations

Glazek, Wilson (1993), Wegner (1994)

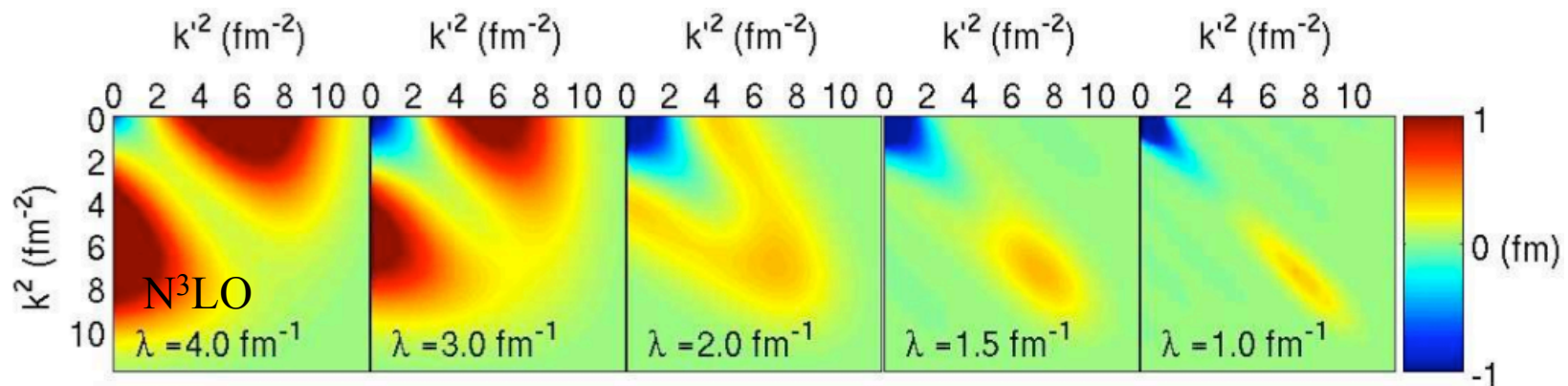
$$\frac{dH_s}{ds} = [\eta_s, H_s] = [[G_s, H_s], H_s]$$

evolution driven towards nonzero part of generator  $G_s$

with flow operator  $G_s = T_{\text{rel}}$  and resolution  $\lambda = s^{-1/4}$

Bogner, Furnstahl, Perry, ...

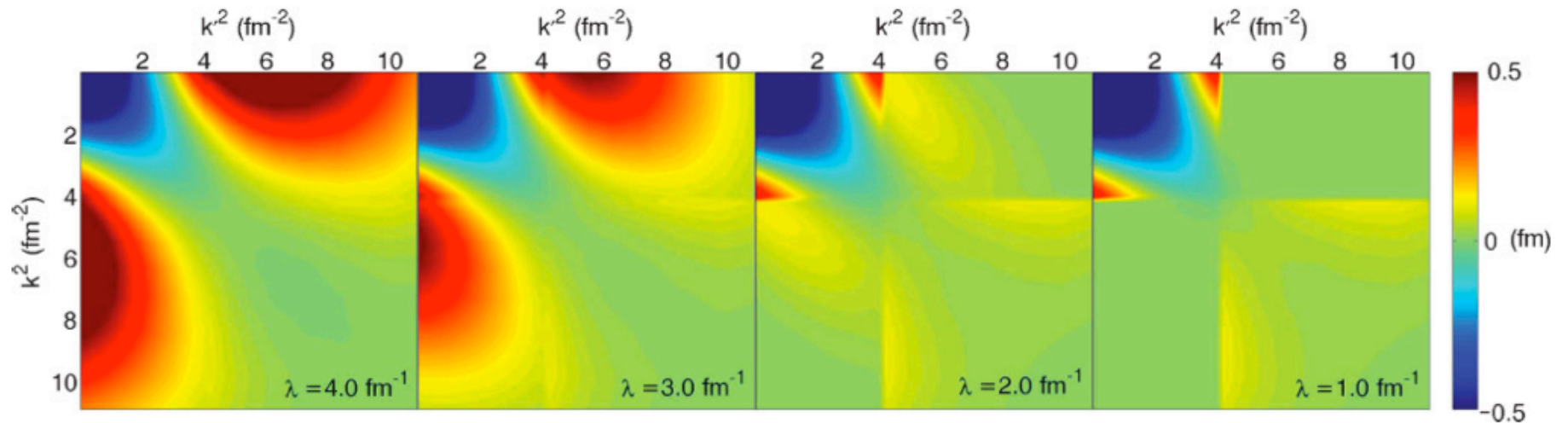
$$\frac{dV_s(k, k')}{ds} = -(k^2 - k'^2)^2 V_s(k, k') + \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty q^2 dq (k^2 + k'^2 - 2q^2) V_s(k, q) V_s(q, k')$$



SRG decouples high momenta with similar low-momentum universality

# Block diagonalization using SRG

with block-diagonal flow operator Bogner et al. (2008)  $G_s = \begin{pmatrix} P H_s P & 0 \\ 0 & Q H_s Q \end{pmatrix}$

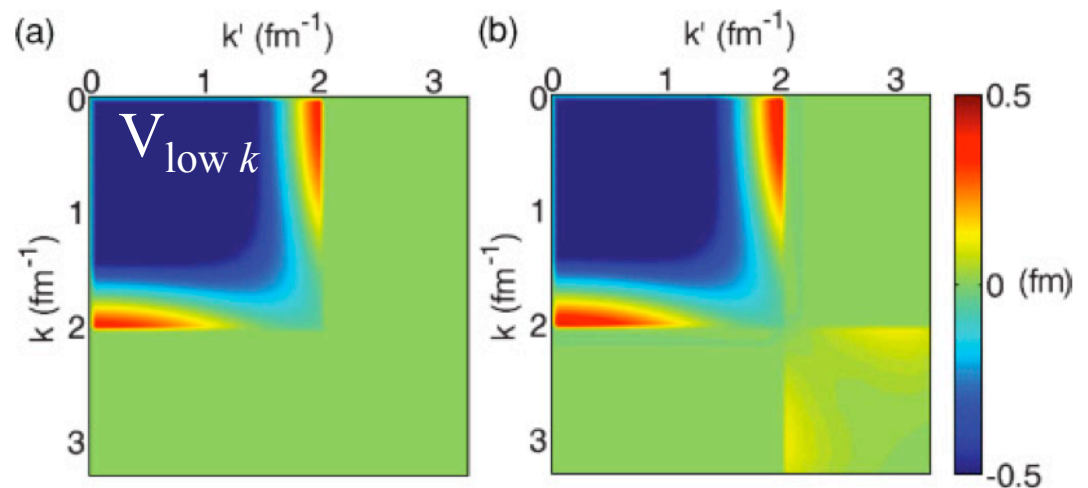


low-momentum blocks very similar to  $V_{\text{low } k}$

formal equivalence?

SRG is exact at second-order  
in the (tree-level) potential

SRG connections to EFT?



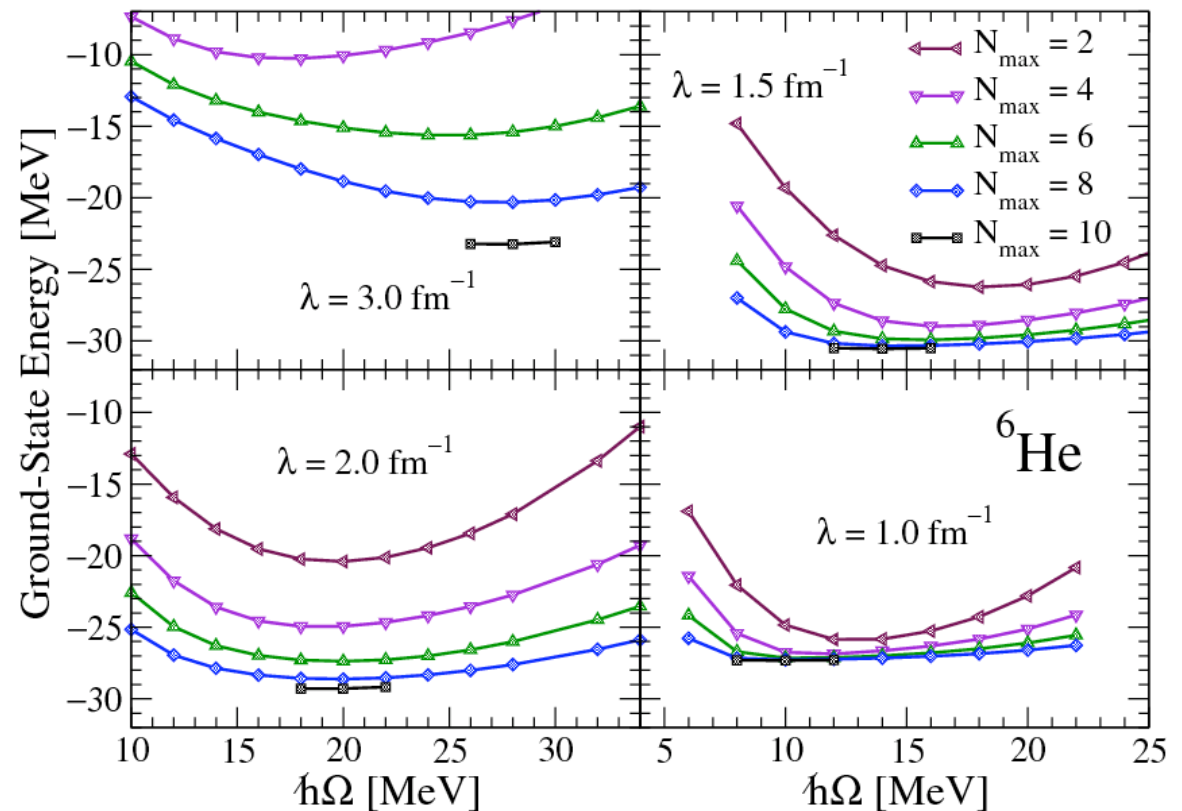
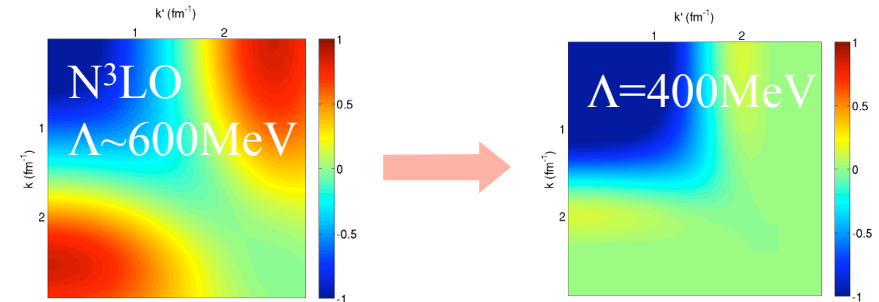
# Advantages of low-momentum interactions for nuclei

high momenta/large cutoffs lead to slow convergence for nuclei

lower cutoffs need smaller basis

improved convergence for nuclei [Bogner et al. \(2008\)](#)

$10^3$  states for  $N_{\max}=2$  vs.  
 $10^7$  states for  $N_{\max}=10$

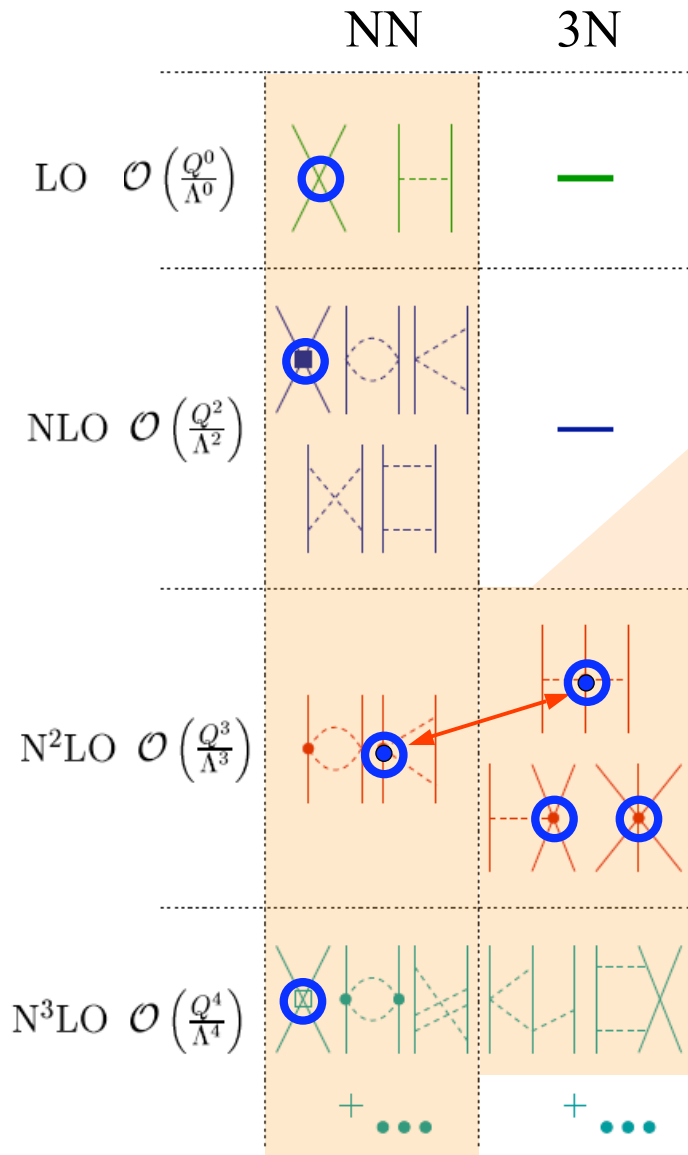


# Chiral EFT for 3N forces

Separation of scales: low momenta  $\frac{1}{\lambda} = Q \ll \Lambda_b$  breakdown scale  $\sim 500$  MeV

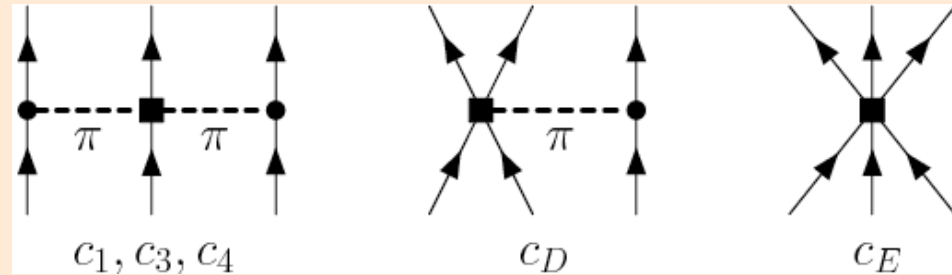
consistent NN-3N interactions

3N,4N: only 2 new couplings to  $N^3$ LO



leading 3N: N<sup>2</sup>LO

van Kolck (1994), Epelbaum et al. (2002)



$c_i$  from  $\pi$ N and NN from Meissner (2007)

$$c_1 = -0.9_{-0.5}^{+0.2}, \quad c_3 = -4.7_{-1.0}^{+1.2}, \quad c_4 = 3.5_{-0.2}^{+0.5}$$

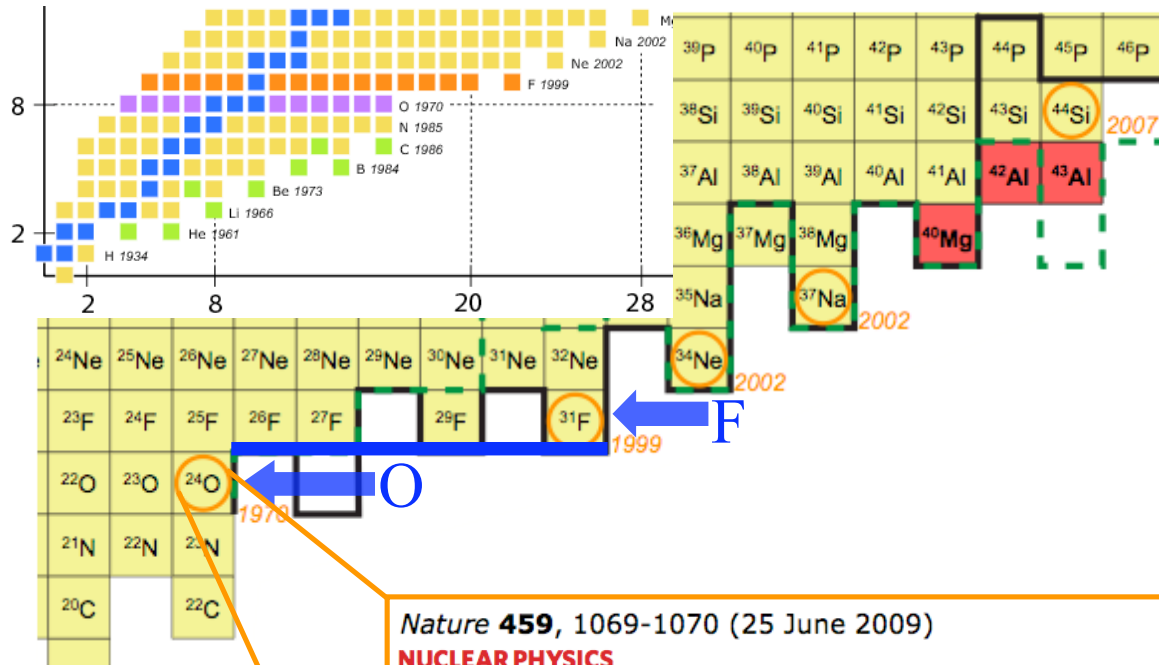
single- $\Delta$  excitation = particular  $c_i$

$c_D, c_E$  fit to  ${}^3\text{H}$  binding energy and  ${}^4\text{He}$  radius (or  ${}^3\text{H}$  beta decay half-life)





# The oxygen anomaly



*Nature* **459**, 1069-1070 (25 June 2009)

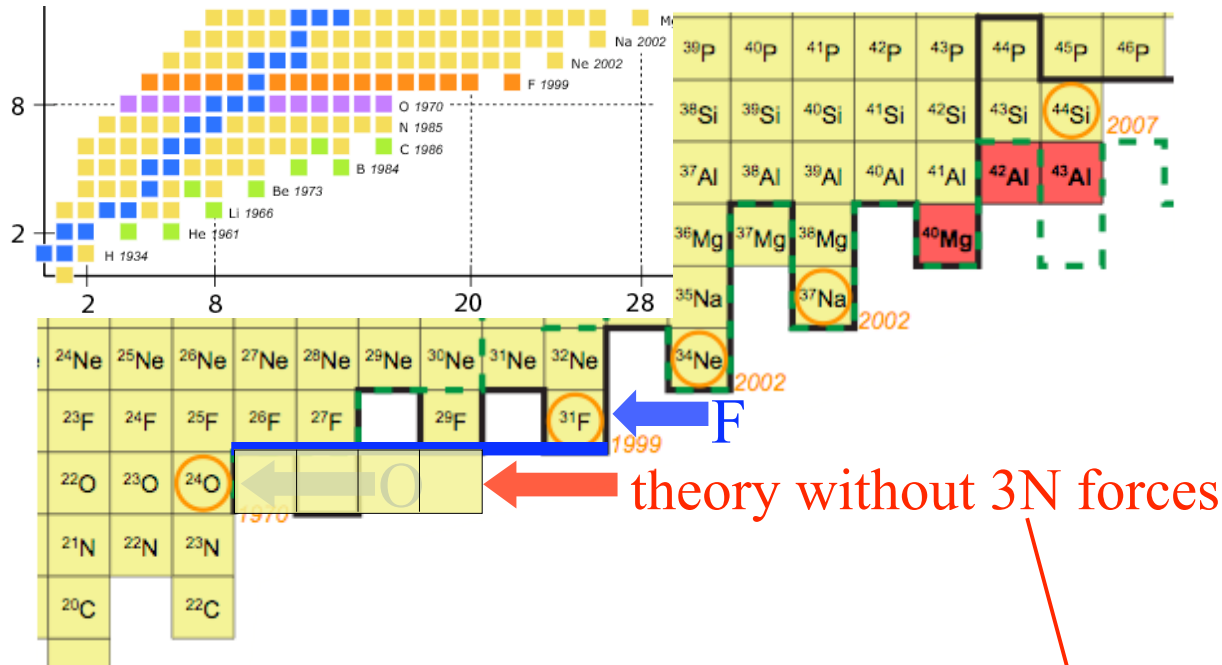
**NUCLEAR PHYSICS**

## Unexpected doubly magic nucleus

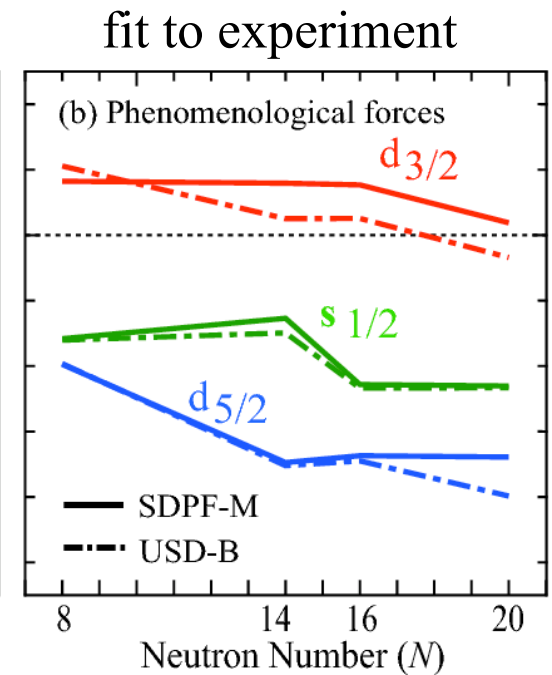
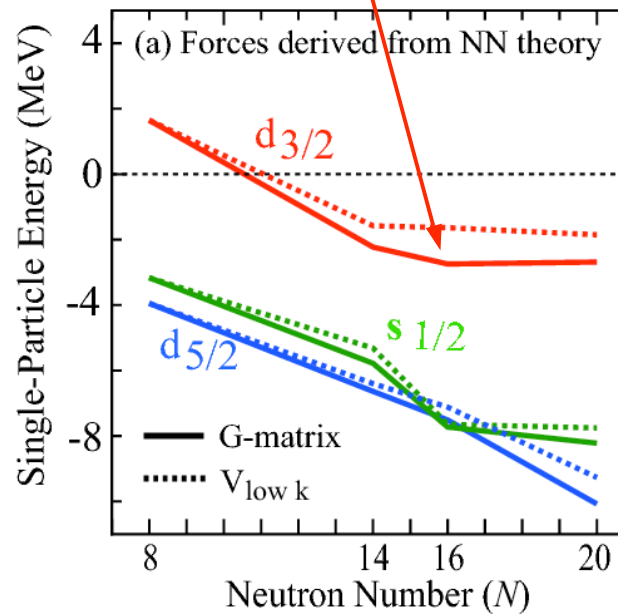
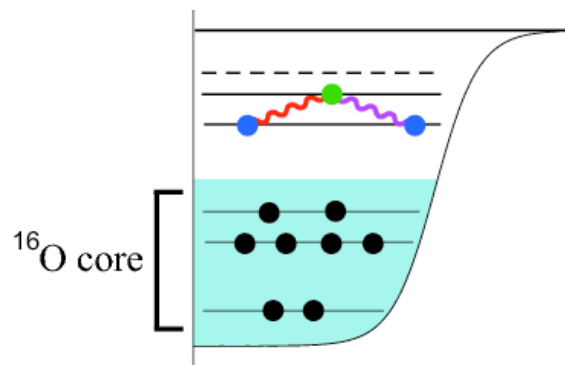
Robert V. F. Janssens

Nuclei with a 'magic' number of both protons and neutrons, dubbed doubly magic, are particularly stable. The oxygen isotope  $^{24}\text{O}$  has been found to be one such nucleus — yet it lies just at the limit of stability.

# The oxygen anomaly - not reproduced without 3N forces



many-body theory based on two-nucleon forces:  
 drip-line incorrect at  $^{28}\text{O}$



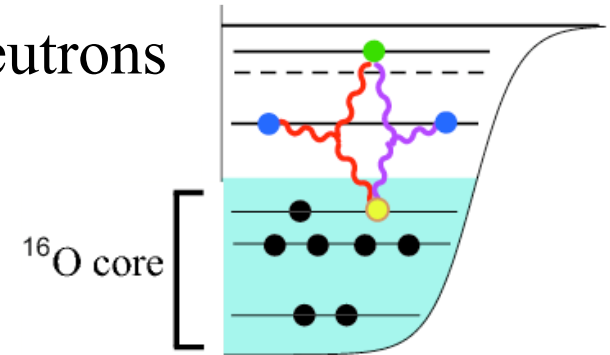
fit to experiment

# The oxygen anomaly - impact of 3N forces

include normal-ordered 2-body part of 3N forces (enhanced by core A)

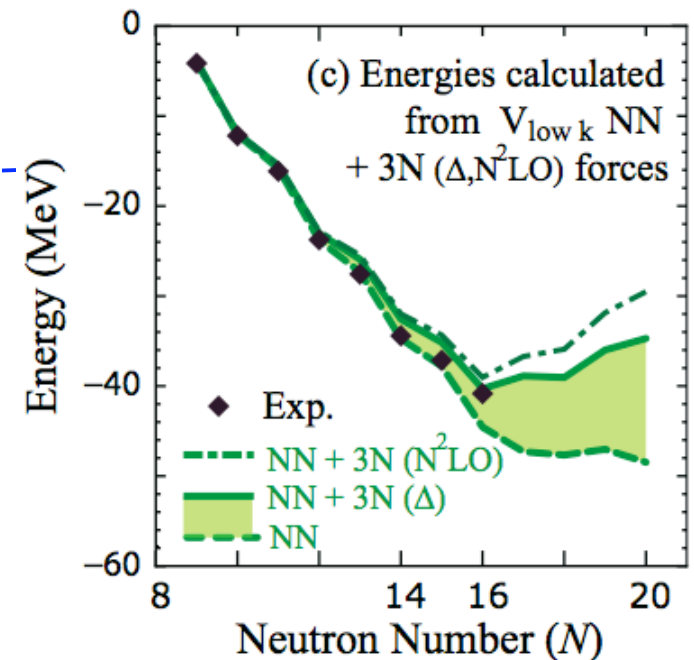
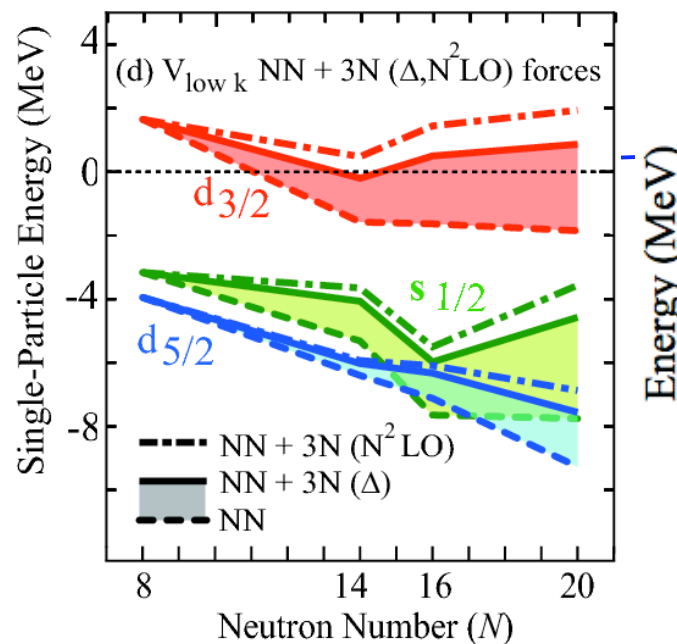
leads to repulsive interactions between valence neutrons (repulsive based on the Pauli principle)

$d_{3/2}$  orbital remains unbound



first microscopic explanation of the oxygen anomaly

Otsuka, Suzuki, Holt, AS, Akaishi (2009)



# Weinberg eigenvalue diagnostic

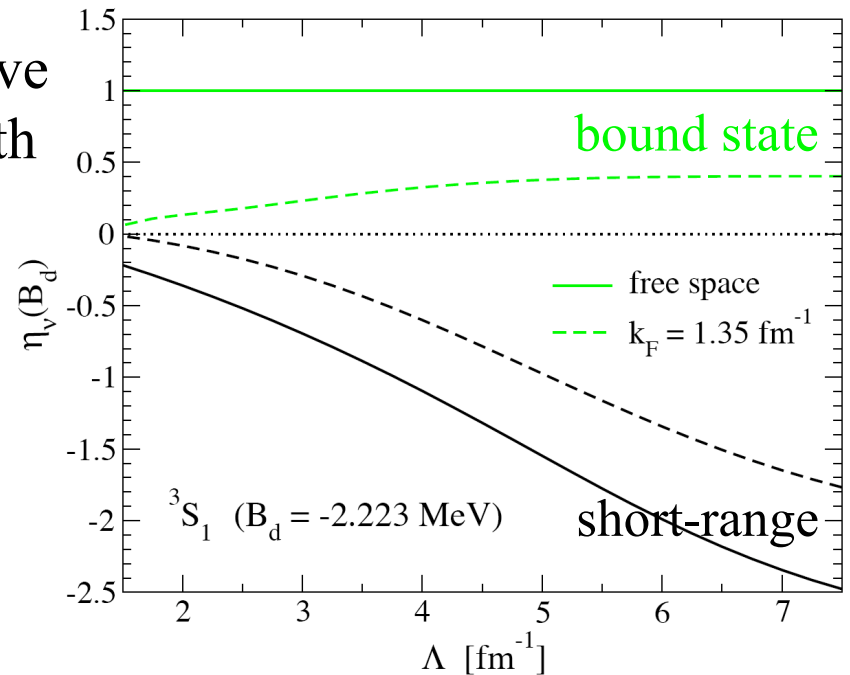
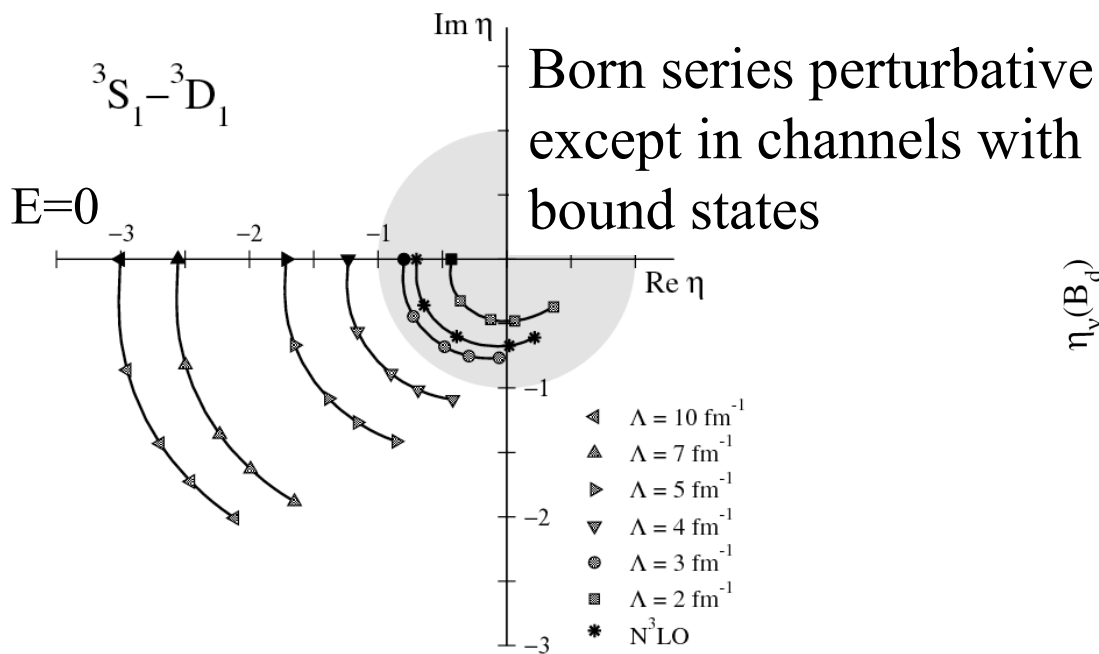
study spectrum of  $G_0(z)V |\Psi_\nu(z)\rangle = \eta_\nu(z) |\Psi_\nu(z)\rangle$  at fixed energy  $z$

governs convergence  $T(z) |\Psi_\nu(z)\rangle = (1 + \eta_\nu(z) + \eta_\nu(z)^2 + \dots) V |\Psi_\nu(z)\rangle$

can write as Schrödinger equation  $(H_0 + \frac{1}{\eta_\nu(z)} V) |\Psi_\nu(z)\rangle = z |\Psi_\nu(z)\rangle$

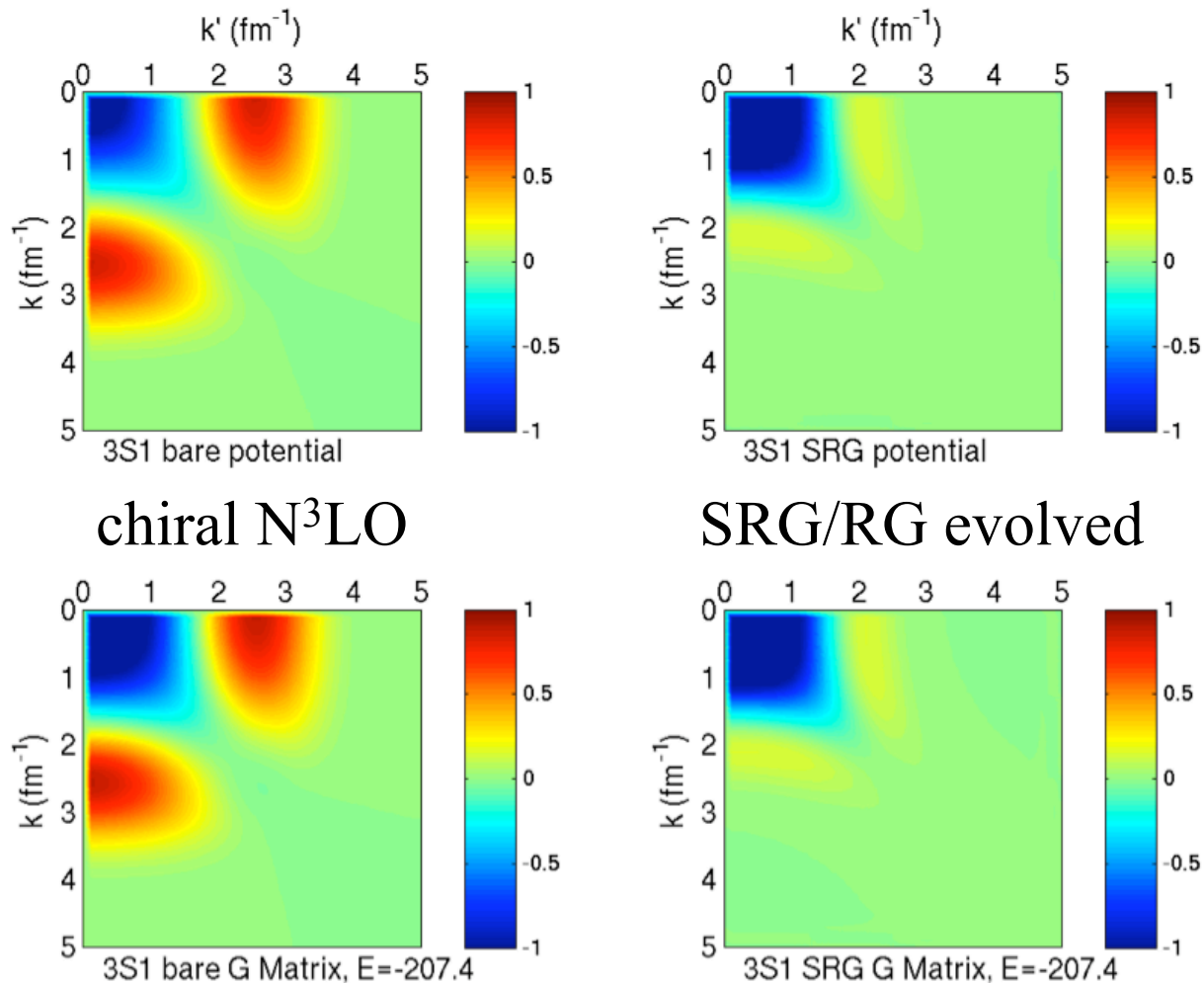
high momenta/large cutoffs lead to flipped-potential bound states of  $-\lambda V$   
 for small  $\lambda$ /large  $\eta \rightarrow$  strong coupling to high momenta/short range and  
 Born series always nonperturbative

RG evolution decouples high momenta (short-range repulsion and tensor parts)



# Is nuclear matter perturbative with chiral EFT and RG?

conventional Bethe-Brueckner-Goldstone expansion (sums ladders):  
no, due to nonpert. cores (flipped-V bound states) and off-diag coupling



G matrix

conventional G-matrix approach does not solve off-diagonal coupling

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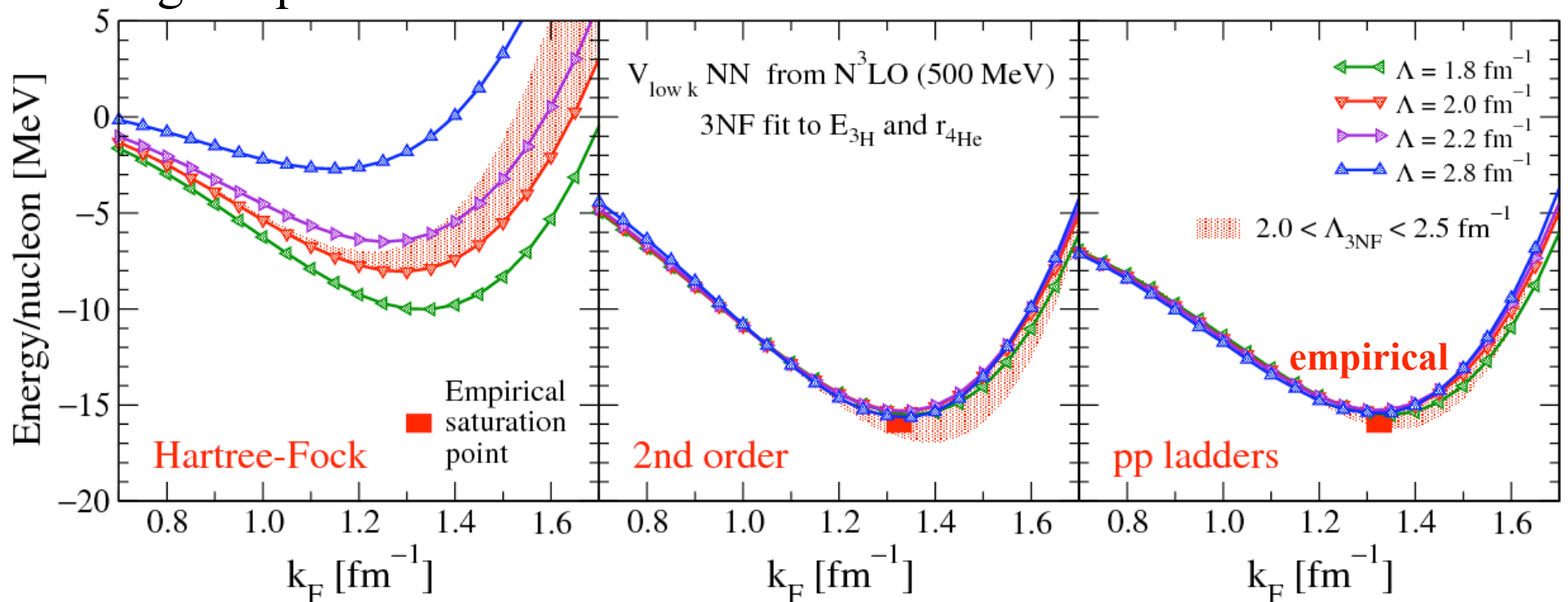
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start from chiral EFT and RG evolution:

nuclear matter converged at  $\approx$  2nd order, 3N drives saturation

weak cutoff dependence, **but need to improve 3N treatment**

exciting: empirical saturation within theoretical uncertainties

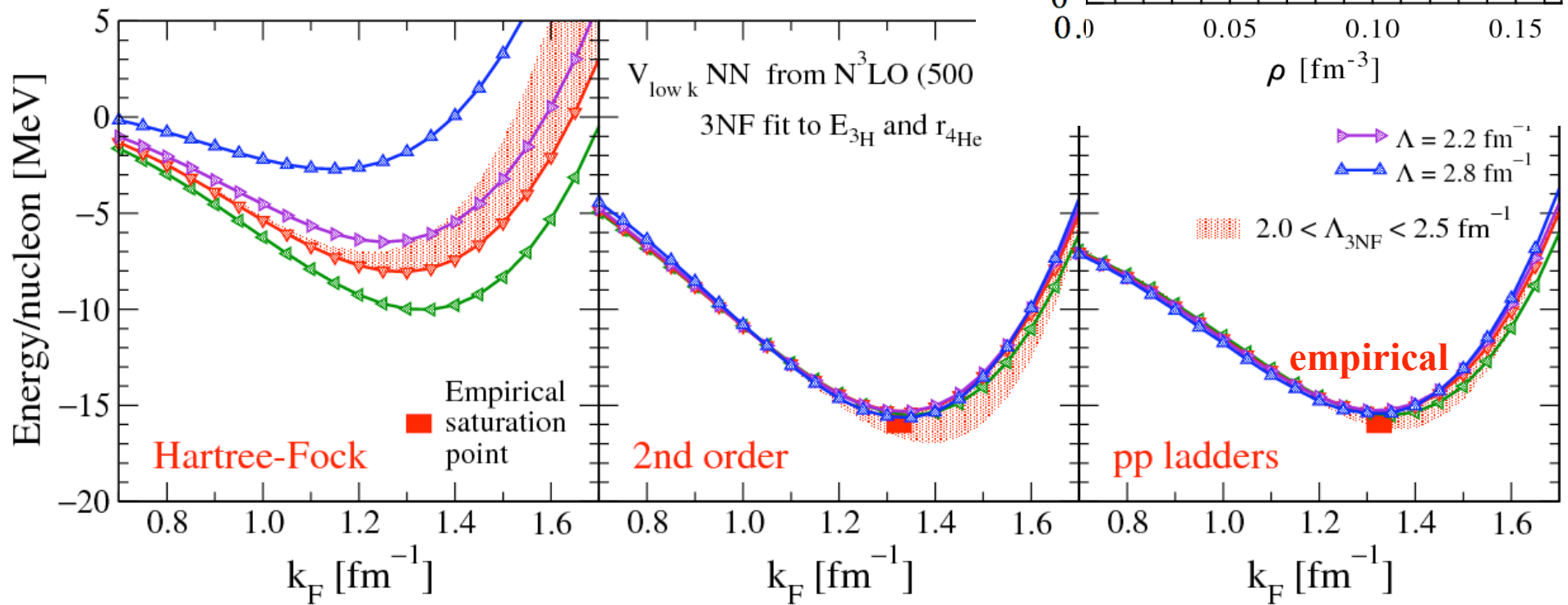


# Impact of 3N interactions on neutron matter

Hebeler, AS (2009); Tolos, Friman, AS (2007)

only  $c_1$  and  $c_3$  terms contribute,  
 $c_4$ , D, E terms vanish in neutron matter

very weak cutoff dependence

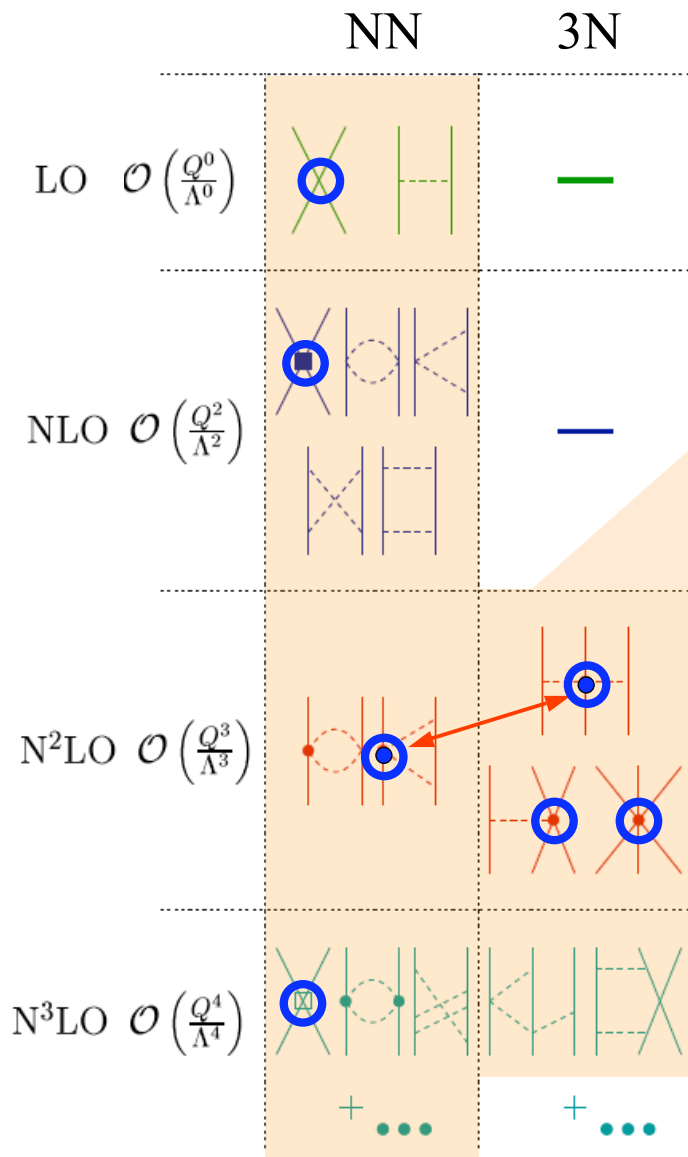


# Chiral Effective Field Theory for 3N forces

Separation of scales: low momenta  $\frac{1}{\lambda} = Q \ll \Lambda_b$  breakdown scale  $\sim 500$  MeV

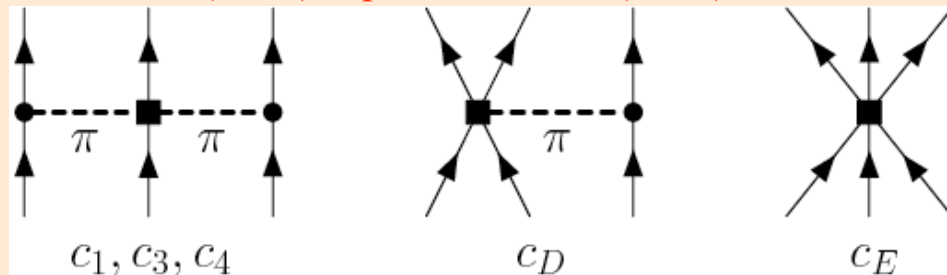
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3N,4N: only 2 new couplings to N<sup>3</sup>LO



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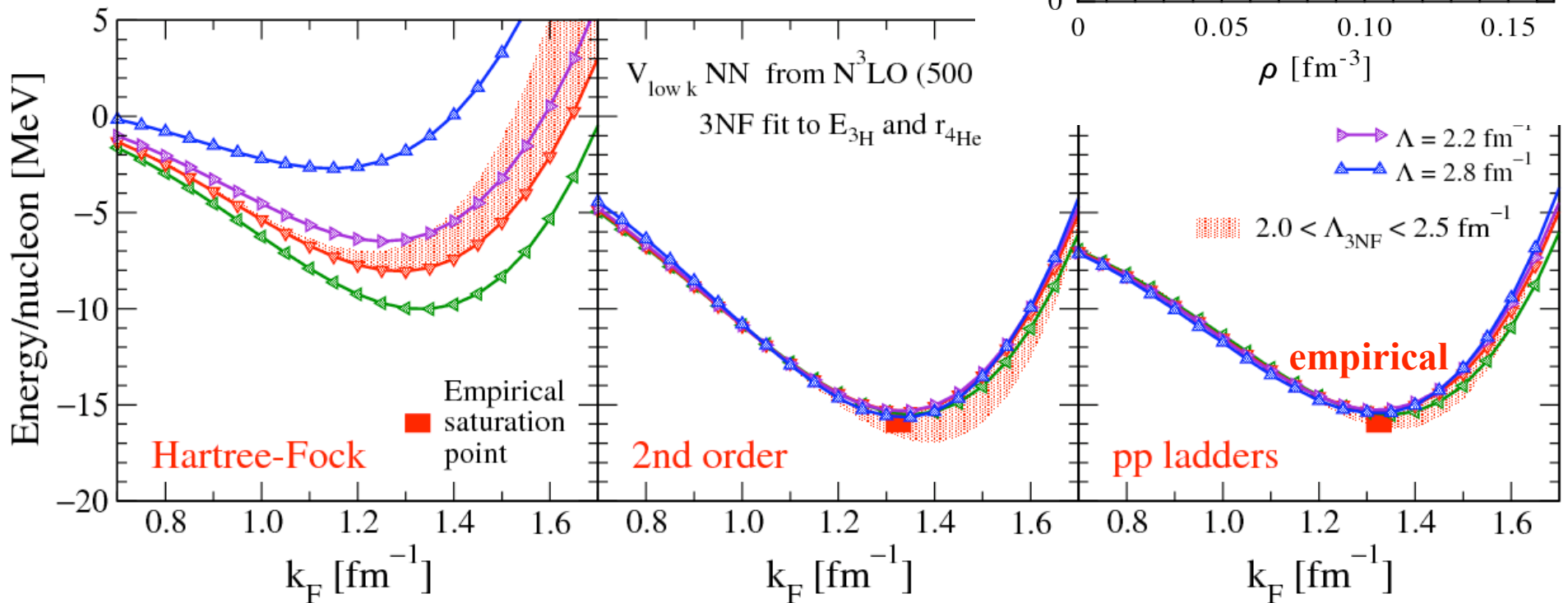
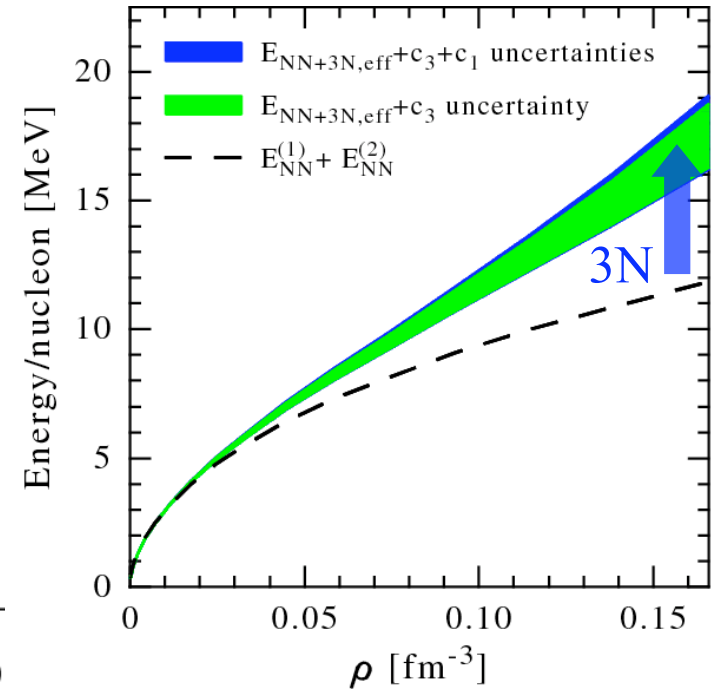
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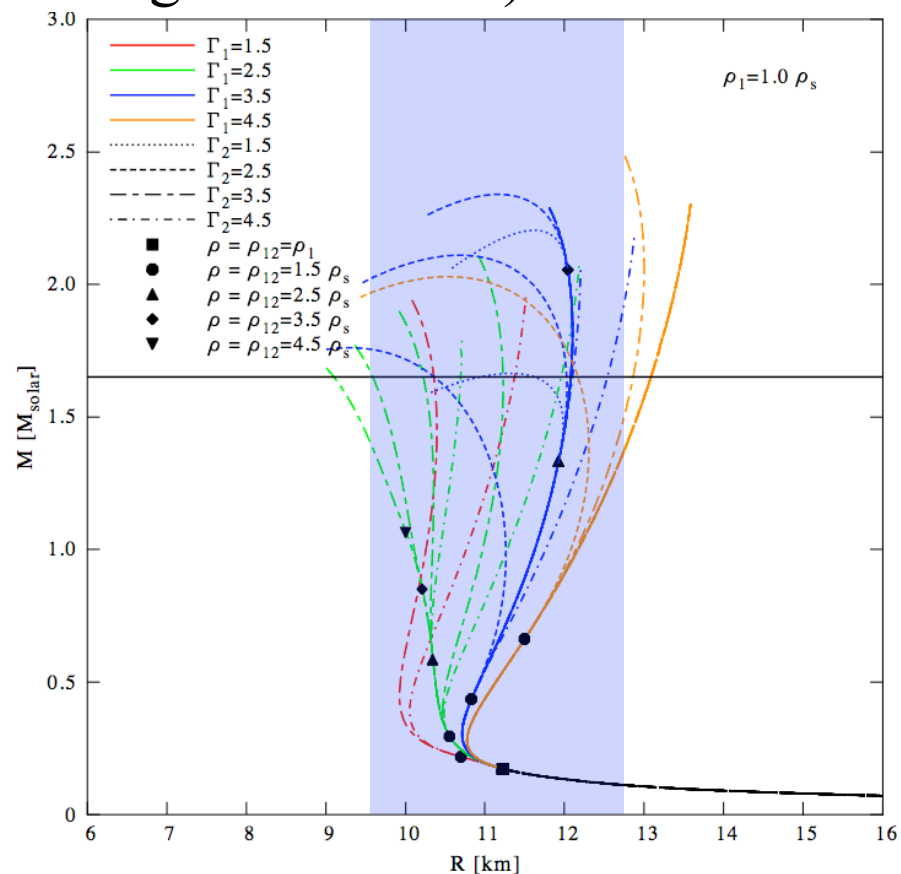
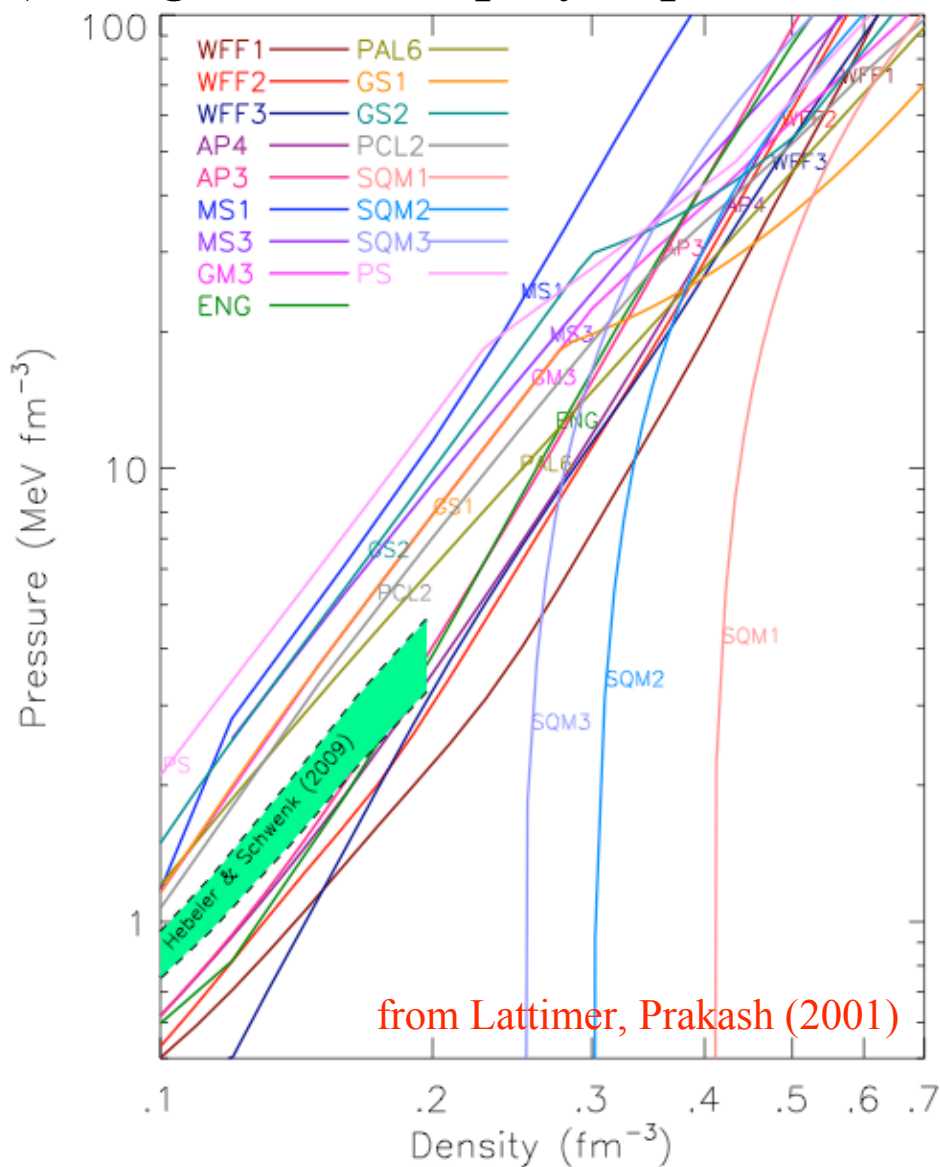
very weak cutoff dependence

band dominated by  $c_3$  uncertainty



## Impact on neutron stars

uncertainty band for pressure, leads to neutron star masses and radii  
(with general two polytrope extension to higher densities)



low-density pressure sets scale  
determines ns radius to  $\sim 15\%$   
for typical  $M=1.4 M_{\text{sun}}$   
Hebeler, Lattimer, Pethick, AS, in prep.

## In-medium SRG for nuclei

$$H = \sum_{12} T_{12} a_1^\dagger a_2 + \frac{1}{(2!)^2} \sum_{1234} \langle 12|V|34 \rangle a_1^\dagger a_2^\dagger a_4 a_3 + \frac{1}{(3!)^2} \sum_{123456} \langle 123|V^{(3)}|456 \rangle a_1^\dagger a_2^\dagger a_3^\dagger a_6 a_5 a_4$$

normal-order Hamiltonian with respect to reference state  
(e.g., Hartree-Fock ground state)

$$H = E_0 + \sum_{12} f_{12} \{a_1^\dagger a_2\} + \frac{1}{(2!)^2} \sum_{1234} \langle 12|\Gamma|34 \rangle \{a_1^\dagger a_2^\dagger a_4 a_3\} + \frac{1}{(3!)^2} \sum_{123456} \langle 123|\Gamma^{(3)}|456 \rangle \{a_1^\dagger a_2^\dagger a_3^\dagger a_6 a_5 a_4\}$$

with 0-, 1- and 2-body normal-ordered parts

$$E_0 = \langle \Phi|H|\Phi \rangle = \sum_1 T_{11} n_1 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{12} \langle 12|V|12 \rangle n_1 n_2 + \frac{1}{3!} \sum_{123} \langle 123|V^{(3)}|123 \rangle n_1 n_2 n_3$$

$$f_{12} = T_{12} + \sum_i \langle 1i|V|2i \rangle n_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} \langle 1ij|W|2ij \rangle n_i n_j ,$$

$$\langle 12|\Gamma|34 \rangle = \langle 12|V|34 \rangle + \sum_i \langle 12i|V^{(3)}|34i \rangle n_i ,$$

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with 0-, 1- and 2-body normal-ordered parts and **in-medium SRG eqns**  
e.g., for nuclear matter with  $\eta=[f,\Gamma]$  [see Bogner et al., Kehrein \(2006\)](#)

$$\frac{dE_0}{ds} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{1234} (f_{12} - f_{34}) |\Gamma_{1234}|^2 n_1 n_2 \bar{n}_3 \bar{n}_4,$$

$$\frac{df_1}{ds} = \sum_{234} (f_{41} - f_{23}) |\Gamma_{4123}|^2 (\bar{n}_2 \bar{n}_3 n_4 + n_2 n_3 \bar{n}_4),$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\Gamma_{1234}}{ds} = & -(f_{12} - f_{34})^2 \Gamma_{1234} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ab} (f_{12} + f_{34} - 2f_{ab}) \Gamma_{12ab} \Gamma_{ab34} (1 - n_a - n_b) + \sum_{ab} (n_a - n_b) \\ & \times \left\{ \Gamma_{a1b3} \Gamma_{b2a4} [(f_{a1} - f_{b3}) - (f_{b2} - f_{a4})] - \Gamma_{a2b3} \Gamma_{b1a4} [(f_{a2} - f_{b3}) - (f_{b1} - f_{a4})] \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

approx. includes many-body forces and sums pp, hh, ph diagrams

## In-medium SRG for nuclei Tsukiyama, Bogner, AS, in prep.

decouple 1p1h, 2p2h,... ApAh sectors from reference state

want to suppress pph and ph couplings,

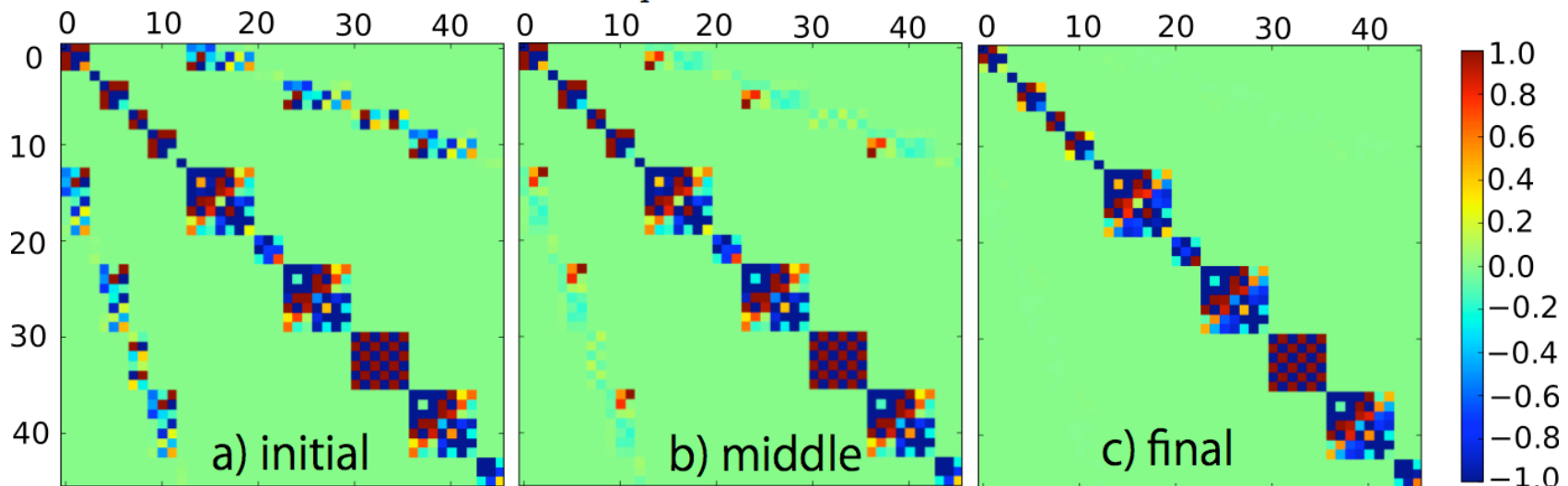
all other (normal-ordered) couplings annihilate reference state

minimal choice:  $\eta(s) = [H^d(s), H(s)] = [H^d(s), H^{od}(s)]$

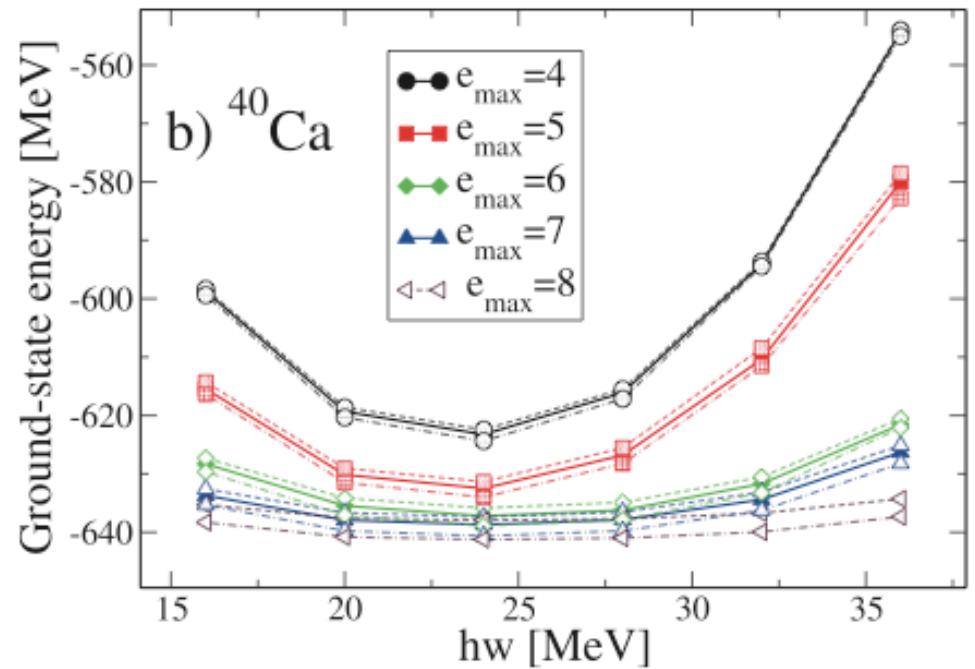
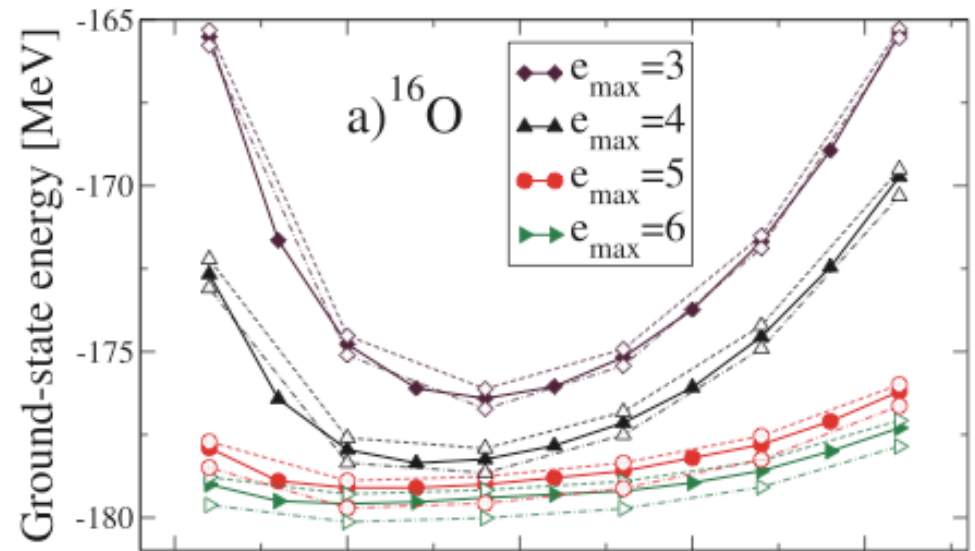
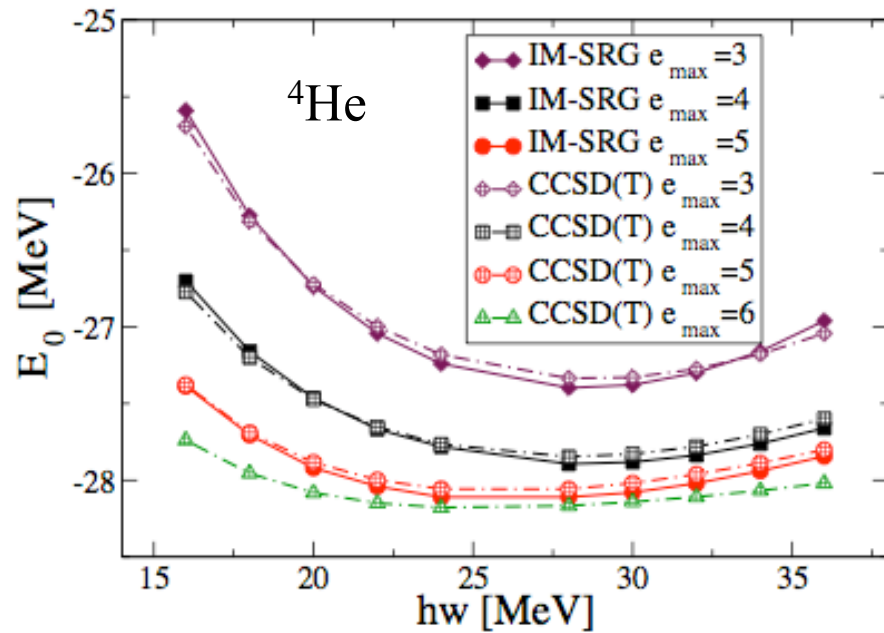
$$H^{od}(s) = g^{od}(s) + \Gamma^{od}(s)$$

$$\Gamma^{od}(s) = \sum_{pp'hh'} \Gamma_{pp'hh'}(s) a_p^\dagger a_{p'}^\dagger a_h a_{h'} + h.c.$$

$$g^{od}(s) \sum_{ph} g_{ph}(s) a_p^\dagger a_h + h.c.$$



# In-medium SRG for nuclei Tsukiya, Bogner, AS, in prep.



first results for closed-shell nuclei  
very promising convergence,  
results comparable to CCSD(T)

can be used to derive nonperturbative valence-shell effective interactions

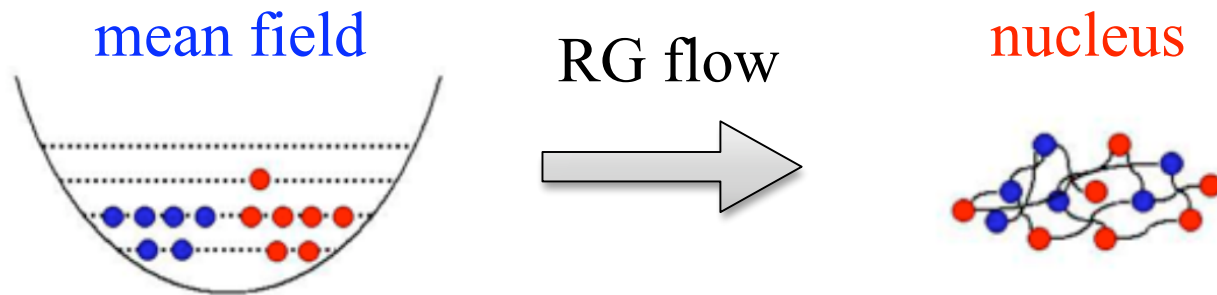
# Density Functional RG for Nuclei

Braun, Polonyi, AS, in prep.

density functional:  $\Gamma[\rho] = \ln \int \mathcal{D}\psi^\dagger \mathcal{D}\psi e^{-S[\psi^\dagger, \psi] + \int J \cdot (\psi^\dagger \psi)}$

with  $S[\psi^\dagger, \psi] = \int \psi^\dagger \left[ \partial_t - \frac{1}{2m} \Delta \right] \psi + \frac{1}{2} \int \psi^\dagger \psi V_{2b} \psi^\dagger \psi + V_{3b}$

main idea:



start from mean-field (background potential) and include interactions

## Density Functional RG for Nuclei

introduce background potential  $U$  into the path integral

density functional: 
$$\Gamma_\lambda[\rho] = \ln \int \mathcal{D}\psi^\dagger \mathcal{D}\psi e^{-S_\lambda[\psi^\dagger, \psi] + \int J \cdot (\psi^\dagger \psi)}$$

with 
$$S_\lambda[\psi^\dagger, \psi] = \int \psi^\dagger \left[ \partial_t - \frac{1}{2m} \Delta + (1-\lambda)U_\lambda \right] \psi + \frac{1}{2} \int \psi^\dagger \psi \lambda V_{2b} \psi^\dagger \psi + \lambda V_{3b}$$

(auxiliary) background potential or (physical) trap potential

leads to flow equation

$$\partial_\lambda \Gamma_\lambda[\rho] = [-U_\lambda + (1-\lambda) \partial_\lambda U_\lambda] \cdot \rho + \frac{1}{2} \rho \cdot V_{2b} \cdot \rho + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left[ V_{2b} \cdot \left( \frac{\delta^2 \Gamma_\lambda[\rho]}{\delta \rho \delta \rho} \right)^{-1} \right]$$

introduce kinetic and exchange-correlation part  $\tilde{\Gamma}_\lambda$  :

$$\Gamma_\lambda[\rho] = (1-\lambda)U_\lambda \cdot \rho + \frac{\lambda}{2} \rho \cdot V_{2b} \cdot \rho + \tilde{\Gamma}_\lambda[\rho]$$

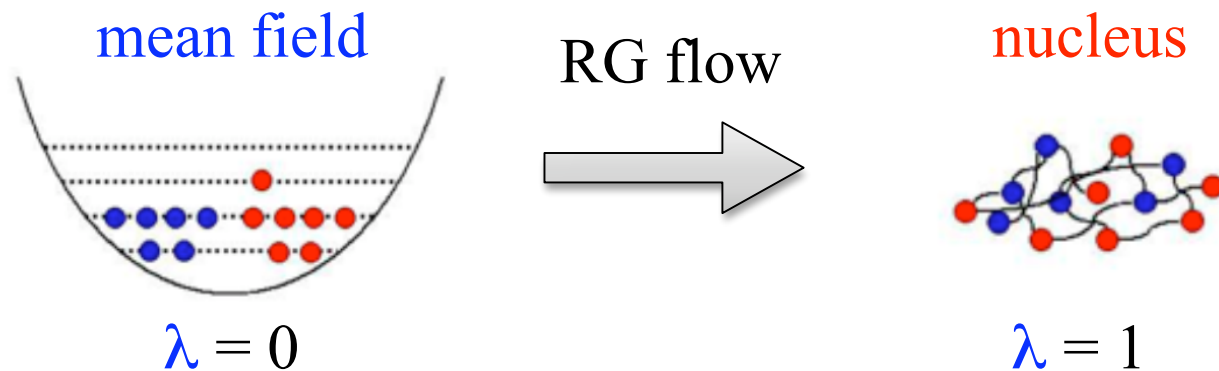


## Density Functional RG for Nuclei

density functional:  $\Gamma_\lambda[\rho] = \ln \int \mathcal{D}\psi^\dagger \mathcal{D}\psi e^{-S_\lambda[\psi^\dagger, \psi] + \int J \cdot (\psi^\dagger \psi)}$

with  $S_\lambda[\psi^\dagger, \psi] = \int \psi^\dagger \left[ \partial_t - \frac{1}{2m} \Delta + (1-\lambda)U_\lambda \right] \psi + \frac{1}{2} \int \psi^\dagger \psi \lambda V_{2b} \psi^\dagger \psi + \lambda V_{3b}$

main idea:

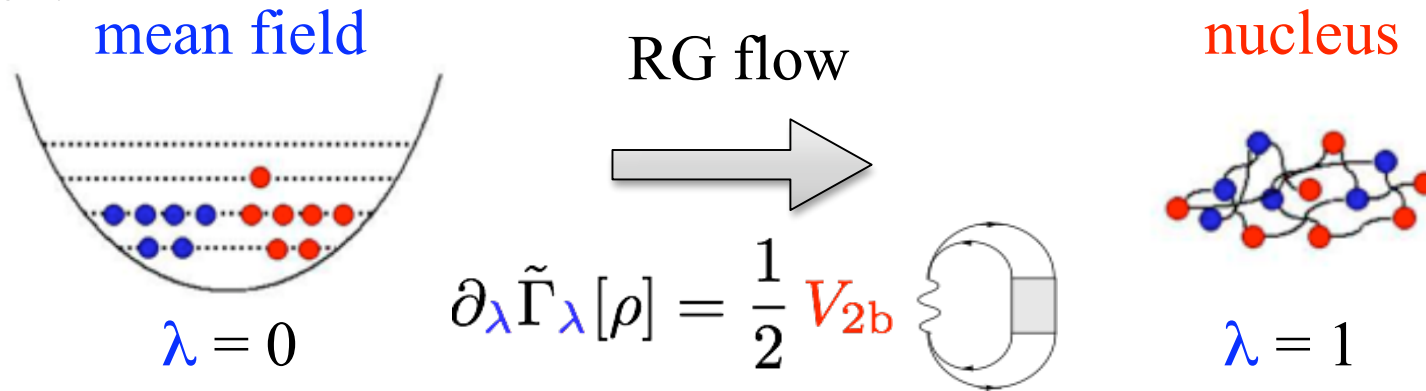


start from mean-field (background potential) and include interactions

$$\partial_\lambda \tilde{\Gamma}_\lambda[\rho] = \frac{1}{2} V_{2b} \text{ (diagram of a loop with a shaded segment) }$$

# Density Functional RG for Nuclei

main idea:



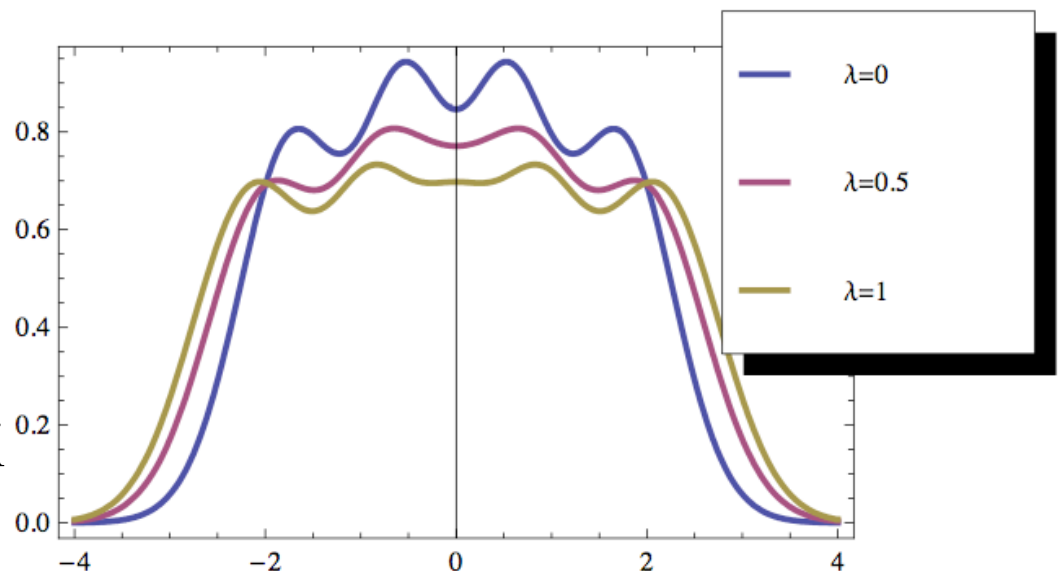
start from mean-field (background potential) and include interactions

currently: comparison to MC results for 1d model [Alexandrou et al. \(1989\)](#)

$$V_{2b}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^2 \frac{V_i}{\sigma_i \sqrt{\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{\sigma_i^2}}$$

density basis expansion scales favorably to heavy nuclei

benchmark results for real nuclei with coupled-cluster theory



# Thanks to collaborators



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B. Friman



J. Polonyi

## Summary

Exciting era with advances on many fronts: EFT and RG

For the first time, approaches from light to heavy nuclei and for astrophysics based on the same interactions

Three-nucleon interactions are a frontier:  
they impact the structure and existence of neutron-rich nuclei and neutron-rich matter in astrophysics

Exciting intersections with problems in many related areas