EFT Approaches to  $\alpha\alpha$  and  $N\alpha$  Systems

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## EFT Approaches to $\alpha\alpha$ and $N\alpha$ Systems

# Outline

- Motivation
- EFT approach and universality
- halo/cluster EFT
  - ★ EM interactions
  - $\star~\alpha\alpha$  scattering
  - $\star~N\alpha$  scattering
- Summary and outlook





http://fy.chalmers.se/subatom/halo/halo.html





http://www.ornl.gov/info/ornlreview/v34\_2\_01/search.htm

- few nucleon systems: formation of halo systems
- $\star$   $^{11}\text{Be}$  ,  $^{19}\text{C}$  ,  $^{11}\text{Li}$  ,  $^{6}\text{He}$  ,  $^{14}\text{Be}$  ,  $^{8}\text{He}$  ,  $^{8}\text{B}$  ,  $^{17}\text{Ne}$  , ...



#### $http://www.int.washington.edu/PROGRAMS/weakly\_bound\_wkshp/$



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 $p + {}^7Be \rightarrow {}^8B + \gamma$ solar neutrinos



 ${}^{9}\text{Be}(\frac{1}{2_{+}}) + \alpha \rightarrow {}^{12}\text{C} + n$  core-colapse supernovae



$$\label{eq:Be} \begin{array}{l} {}^8\mathrm{Be} + \alpha \to {}^{12}\mathrm{C} + \gamma \\ \mathrm{red \ giants} \end{array}$$



naturalness: where NDA works





# strongly interacting systems: fine-tuning





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at least one speaker knows nothing about the details and differences of the atom-atom / internuclear / intermolecular forces.



#### **Effective Field Theory**







"We would be also happy if you could address the advantages / limitations of the few-body method of your choice"

- symmetries
- simplicity
- able to handle non-local interactions
- W/EM interactions
- 3-4B extensions
- controlled and systematic low-energy expansion



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- complexity for >4B (Kirscher *et al.*)

• ...



## Universality in two-body systems

a is the only relevant scale at LO

$$f(\theta) = \frac{1}{-1/a - ik}, \quad E_{B,V} = \frac{1}{ma^2}, \quad \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{4a^2}{1 + a^2k^2}$$
(1)

• 
$$a \rightarrow \infty$$
: scale-invariant system  
 $\Rightarrow$  BS at threshold,  $d\sigma/d\Omega$  saturates the UB

• RG analysis: non-trivial IR fixed point (Birse *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 464, 169)

• close analogy to critical phenomena

(liquid-gas phase transition, ferromagnets)



Universality in three-body systems (Braaten and Hammer, Phys. Rept. 428, 259)





(Hammer and RH, Eur. J. Phys. A 37, 193)

- renormalization requires c₀ at LO ⇒ limit cycle
- $E^{(n)}/E^{(n+1)} \rightarrow \text{const.}$ (~ 515 for bosons)





## halo/cluster EFT: separation of scales

- excitation of each cluster  $\sqrt{m_c E_c^*} \sim M_{hi} ~(\gtrsim m_{\pi})$
- binding of the valence nucleons (clusters)  $\sim M_{lo} \ll M_{hi}$
- extension of the core—treated in *perturbation theory*
- power-counting: modified to account for other effects (resonance/Coulomb)
- expansion around the resonance: rearrangement of the perturbative series, improved convergence
- Coulomb interactions



halo/cluster EFT:  $k \ll m_{\pi}, \sqrt{m_c E_c^*} \sim M_{hi}$ 

Physical quantities:  $k, 1/a_0 \sim M_{lo}, \qquad r_0 \sim M_{hi}^{-1}, \mathcal{P} \sim M_{hi}^{-3}, \dots$ 

$$T_{l} = -\frac{2\pi}{\mu} \frac{k^{2l}(2l+1)}{k^{2l+1}(\cot \delta_{l} - i)} P_{l}(\cos \theta)$$
$$k^{2l+1} \cot \delta_{l} \approx -\frac{1}{a_{l}} + \frac{r_{l}}{2} k^{2} + \frac{\mathcal{P}_{l}}{4} k^{4} + \cdots$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \phi^{\dagger} \left[ i\partial_{0} + \frac{\vec{\nabla}^{2}}{4\mu} \right] \phi + \sigma d^{\dagger} \left[ i\partial_{0} + \frac{\vec{\nabla}^{2}}{8\mu} - \Delta \right] d + g \left[ d^{\dagger} \phi \phi + (\phi \phi)^{\dagger} d \right] + \cdots,$$

$$\Delta \sim M_{lo} \rightarrow i D_d^{(0)} = \frac{i\sigma}{-\Delta + i\epsilon} \sim \frac{1}{M_{lo}}$$
 (NN)

$$\Delta \sim M_{lo}^2/\mu \quad \to \quad iD_d^{(0)} = \frac{i\sigma}{q_0 - q^2/8\mu - \Delta + i\epsilon} \sim \frac{\mu}{M_{lo}^2} \tag{(\alpha\alpha)}$$



Coulomb photons dominant at very low energies

 $k_C = Z_1 Z_2 \alpha_{em} \mu$ 



For 
$$\alpha \alpha$$
:  $k_C = Z_{\alpha}^2 \alpha_{em} m_{\alpha}/2 \sim M_{hi}$ 



• non-perturbative Coulomb (Kong and Ravndal, NPA 665, 137)

Coulomb wave functions:  $| {m k} 
angle 
ightarrow | \chi^{(\pm)}_k 
angle$ 

$$T \to T_C + T_{CS}$$
  

$$\eta = Z^2 \alpha_{em} \mu / k = k_C / k$$
  

$$\sigma_l = \arg \Gamma(1 + l + i\eta), \qquad C_{\eta}^{(0) 2} = e^{-\pi \eta} \Gamma(1 + i\eta) \Gamma(1 - i\eta)$$

$$G_C^{(\pm)}(E) = \frac{1}{E - \hat{H}_0 - \hat{V}_C \pm i\epsilon} = 2\mu \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{|\chi_q^{(\pm)}\rangle \langle \chi_q^{(\pm)}|}{2\mu E - q^2 \pm i\epsilon}$$





$$\begin{split} T_{CS} &= \langle \chi_{k'}^{-} | \hat{V}_{S} | \chi_{k}^{+} \rangle + \langle \chi_{k'}^{-} | \hat{V}_{S} \, \boldsymbol{G}_{C}^{+} \hat{V}_{S} | \chi_{k}^{+} \rangle + \cdots \\ T_{CS}^{(0)} &= \mathbf{O} = C(E) \, \chi_{k'}^{(-) *}(0) \, \chi_{k}^{(+)}(0) = C(E) \, \boldsymbol{C}_{\eta}^{(0) \, 2} \, e^{2i\sigma_{0}} \, , \\ T_{CS}^{(1)} &= \mathbf{O} = \mathbf{O} = \mathbf{O} = \mathbf{O} = \mathbf{O} = C(E) \, \boldsymbol{C}_{\eta}^{(0) \, 2} \, e^{2i\sigma_{0}} \, \boldsymbol{C}(E) \, \boldsymbol{J}_{0}(E) \, , \\ T_{CS} &= \mathbf{O} = \mathbf{O} =$$



#### $\alpha \alpha$ scattering

• 0+ resonance (<sup>8</sup>Be g.s.):

 $E_R^{
m LAB} = 184.15 \pm 0.07 \; {
m keV}$ ,  $\Gamma_R^{
m LAB} = 11.14 \pm 0.50 \; {
m eV}$  $M_{lo} \approx \sqrt{\mu E_R^{
m LAB}} \sim 20 \; {
m MeV}$ ,  $M_{hi} \sim m_\pi \sim 140 \; {
m MeV}$ 

- power-counting:  $E_{LAB} \leq 3.0 \text{ MeV}$
- scattering: Afzal *et.al.* (1969)
  - \*  $E_{LAB} \leq 3.0 \text{ MeV}$ : data from Heydenburg and Temmer (1956)
  - $\star$  ERE parameters from Russell *et.al.* (1956), Rasche (1967):

 $a_0 = (-1.65 \pm 0.17) \times 10^3$  fm,

 $r_0 = 1.084 \pm 0.011 \text{ fm} \sim 1/M_{hi}, \quad \mathcal{P}_0 = -1.76 \pm 0.22 \text{ fm}^3 \sim 1/M_{hi}^3$ 



$$\begin{split} T_{CS} &= C_{\eta}^{(0)\,2} \, \frac{C(E) \, e^{2i\sigma_0}}{1 - C(E) \, J_0(E)} = -\frac{2\pi}{\mu} \, \frac{C_{\eta}^{(0)\,2} \, e^{2i\sigma_0}}{-\frac{1}{a_0} + \frac{r_0}{2} \, k^2 - i\epsilon + \frac{2\pi}{\mu} \, J_0(E)} \\ &= -\frac{2\pi}{\mu} \, \frac{C_{\eta}^{(0)\,2} \, e^{2i\sigma_0}}{-\frac{1}{a_0^c} + \frac{r_0}{2} \, k^2 - \frac{2}{a_B} \, H(\eta)} \,, \\ a_B &= \frac{1}{Z^2 \alpha_{em} \mu} \sim \frac{1}{M_{hi}} \\ H(\eta) &= \psi(i\eta) + \frac{1}{2i\eta} - \ln(i\eta) \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \eta \leqslant 1 \, \frac{a_B}{2} \, ik \\ \eta \gg 1 \, \frac{1}{12} \, (a_B \, k)^2 + \frac{1}{120} \, (a_B \, k)^4 \end{cases}$$

- without Coulomb: conformal invariance in <sup>8</sup>Be , Efimov state in <sup>12</sup>C at LO (RH, Hammer, van Kolck, Nucl. Phys. A 809, 171)
- with Coulomb: <sup>8</sup>Be and  ${}^{12}C$  0+ states remain close to threshold





	$a_0~(10^3~{ m fm})$	$r_0~({ m fm})$	$\mathcal{P}_0~(fm^3)$
LO	-1.80	1.083	—
NLO	$-1.92 \pm 0.09$	$1.098\pm0.005$	$-1.46 \pm 0.08$
Rasche	$-1.65 \pm 0.17$	$1.084\pm0.011$	$-1.76 \pm 0.22$



## fine-tuning puzzle



(natural)

(fine-tuned like NN)

(fine-tuned to get  $E_R$ )

(fine-tuned to get  $\Gamma_R$ )

 $\sim$  factor of 1000!!!

(Oberhummer et al., Science 289, 88; RH, Hammer, van Kolck, 2008)



plpha scattering:  $S_{1/2}$ ,  $P_{3/2}$ ,  $P_{1/2}$ 

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{LO}} &= \phi^{\dagger} \left[ i \partial_{0} + \frac{\vec{\nabla}^{2}}{2m_{\alpha}} \right] \phi + N^{\dagger} \left[ i \partial_{0} + \frac{\vec{\nabla}^{2}}{2m_{N}} \right] N \\ &+ \eta_{1+} t^{\dagger} \left[ i \partial_{0} + \frac{\vec{\nabla}^{2}}{2(m_{\alpha} + m_{N})} - \Delta_{1+} \right] t \\ &+ \frac{g_{1+}}{2} \left\{ t^{\dagger} \vec{S}^{\dagger} \cdot \left[ N \vec{\nabla} \phi - (\vec{\nabla} N) \phi \right] + \mathrm{H.c.} - r \left[ t^{\dagger} \vec{S}^{\dagger} \cdot \vec{\nabla} (N \phi) + \mathrm{H.c.} \right] \right\} \\ \mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{NLO}} &= \eta_{0+} s^{\dagger} \left[ -\Delta_{0+} \right] s + g_{0+} \left[ s^{\dagger} N \phi + \phi^{\dagger} N^{\dagger} s \right] + g'_{1+} t^{\dagger} \left[ i \partial_{0} + \frac{\vec{\nabla}^{2}}{2(m_{\alpha} + m_{N})} \right]^{2} t \end{split}$$

(Bertulani, Hammer, van Kolck, NPA 712, 37; Bedaque, Hammer, van Kolck, PLB 569, 159)





*ab-initio*: Nollett em et al., PRL 99, 022502 (2007), Quaglioni & Navrátil, PRL 101, 092501 (2008)

(RH, Bertulani, van Kolck, in preparation)



# $c/r^2$ +Coulomb: warm-up for $3\alpha$

- 3-body problem with large  $a \sim 1D$  Schrödinger Eq. with  $V(r) = 1/r^2$
- limit cycle for  $c < -1/4 \Leftrightarrow$  Efimov spectrum (Beane *et al.*, Bawin and Coon, Braaten and Phillips, Long and van Kolck...)
- counterterm: log-periodic function of the cutoff
- Counterterm parameter  $\Lambda_*$ : iteration of quantum corrections (dimensional transmutation)
- model to study loss of conformal invariance (Kaplan *et al.*)



# $1/r^2$ +Coulomb: warm-up for $3\alpha$

(Hammer, RH, Eur. J. Phys. A 37, 193)





S<sub>KVI</sub>

# **Summary**

- Halo nuclei, cluster systems: opportunities for EFT approach
- universality ⇔ limit cycles
- $\alpha \alpha$  scattering
  - $\star$  Coulomb turned off  $\Rightarrow$  conformal invariance @LO, Efimov spectrum in  $^{12}$ C
  - ★ incredible amount of fine-tuning
  - ★ LO (parameter-free) works well at very low energies, NLO improves description up to  $E_{LAB} \approx 3$  MeV
  - \* extraction of the ERE parameters with improved errorbars
- p- $\alpha$  scattering: good description of the  $P_{3/2}$  resonance
- future:  $3\alpha$ , p-<sup>7</sup>Be, nradcap (Rupak & RH), Borromean halos, heavier nuclei, ...



# selected questions

- What are the unsolved problems in the theory of scattering both in the nuclear and AMO sector?
- Does P-Wave universality exist?
- How can we decide if a nuclear halo is an Efimov state?
- How can the halo EFT approach be useful to ab-initio calcuations?
- When can we do scattering with halo EFT?

