Recent progress and new challenges in *ab initio* nuclear structure and nuclear reactions

> James P. Vary Iowa State University

Extreme Computing and its Applications Institute of Nuclear Theory June 6, 2011

Ab initio nuclear physics - fundamental questions

- > What controls nuclear saturation?
- > How the nuclear shell model emerges from the underlying theory?
- > What are the properties of nuclei with extreme neutron/proton ratios?
- > Can we predict useful cross sections that cannot be measured?
- > Can nuclei provide precision tests of the fundamental laws of nature?
- Under what conditions do we need QCD to describe nuclear structure?













UNEDF SciDAC Collaboration Universal Nuclear Energy Density Functional

Inter-Nucleon NN. NNN Interactions QCD AV18, EFT, Vlow-k Theory of strong interaction Theory of Light Nuclei **Big Bang** Spectroscopy and selected reactions **Nucleosynthesis** Verification: NCSM=GFMC=CC & Stellar Reactions XEFT Validation: nuclei with A<16 Chiral Effective Field Theor **Density Functional Theory** improved functionals remove computationally-imposed constraints such as the pion-to descri properties for all nuclei with A>16 interactions among the nucleons. strong neutron field 10^{-15} m 0 4 proton quark <10⁻¹⁹m **Dynamic Extensions of DFT** LACM by GCM, TDDFT, QRPA Level densites electromagnetic field r,s processes & Supernovae Low-energy Reactions lauser-Feshbach Feshbach-Kerman-Koonin www.unedf.org

Fission mass and energy distributions DOE Workshop on Forefront Questions in Nuclear Science and the Role of High Performance Computing, Gaithersburg, MD, January 26-28, 2009 Nuclear Structure and Nuclear Reactions

List of Priority Research Directions

- Physics of extreme neutron-rich nuclei and matter
- Microscopic description of nuclear fission
- Nuclei as neutrino physics laboratories
- Reactions that made us triple α process and $^{12}C(\alpha,\gamma)^{16}O$





Testing the doubly magic character of tin-132

Adding an extra neutron to a nucleus with magic numbers of both neutrons and protons, and watching how it settles in, tests the shell model and can help elucidate the creation of heavy elements in supernovae.



Doubly magic shell game

Based on: K.L. Jones, et al., *Nature* **465**, 454 (2010) P. Cottle, *Nature* **465**, 430 (2010)



Figure 2. Doubly magic nuclides tin-132 and lead-208 clearly manifest special properties when compared, from archival data, with lighter isotopes that also have even neutron numbers *N*. (a) The energy of the first electricquadrupole excitation peaks dramatically at N_{magic} (82 for Sn, 126 for Pb). (b) The energy cost of removing a neutron pair falls abruptly after N_{magic} . (Adapted from ref. 1.)



Figure 4. Valence states of the extra tin-133 neutron. For each of the valence levels observed in the Oak Ridge experiment, schematically shown above the doubly magic ¹³²Sn core, the best-fit quantum state is given (left) together with its spectroscopic factor *S* (right), a measure of spectral purity. In the spectroscopic notation, *p* and *f* denote, respectively, orbital angular momenta 1 and 3. If the best-fit state is pure, with no admixture of other quantum states due to core excitations, *S* = 1. (Adapted from ref. 1.)



All interactions are "effective" until the ultimate theory unifying all forces in nature is attained.

Thus, even the Standard Model, incorporating QCD, is an effective theory valid below the Planck scale $\lambda < 10^{19} \text{ GeV/c}$

The "bare" NN interaction, usually with derived quantities, is thus an effective interaction valid up to some scale, typically the scale of the known NN phase shifts and Deuteron gs properties $\lambda \sim 600 \text{ MeV/c} (3.0 \text{ fm}^{-1})$

Effective NN interactions can be further renormalized to lower scales and this can enhance convergence of the many-body applications $\lambda \sim 300 \text{ MeV/c} (1.5 \text{ fm}^{-1})$

"Consistent" NNN and higher-body forces are those valid to the same scale as their corresponding NN partner, and obtained in the same renormalization scheme.

ab initio renormalization schemes				
SRG:	Similarity Renormalization Group			
LSO:	Lee- <mark>S</mark> uzuki-Okamoto			
Vlowk:	V with low k scale limit			
UCOM:	Unitary Correlation Operator Method			
	and there are more!			

The Nuclear Many-Body Problem

The many-body Schroedinger equation for bound states consists of $2^{A} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$ coupled second-order differential equations in 3A coordinates using strong (NN & NNN) and electromagnetic interactions.

Successful ab initio quantum many-body approaches (A > 6)

Stochastic approach in coordinate space Greens Function Monte Carlo (**GFMC**)

Hamiltonian matrix in basis function space No Core Shell Model (**NCSM**) No Core Full Configuration (**NCFC**)

Cluster hierarchy in basis function space Coupled Cluster (**CC**)

Lattice + EFT approach (New)

Comments All work to preserve and exploit symmetries Extensions of each to scattering/reactions are well-underway They have different advantages and limitations



AV18+IL7 reproduces \sim 50 levels (+ \sim 60 isobaric analogs) up to ¹²C with rms error \sim 0.6 MeV We have motivated or supported experimental work in almost all these nuclei

VMC FOR ASYMPTOTIC NORMALIZATION COEFFICIENTS (ANC)

 $\Phi(r \to \infty) = \langle \Psi_{A-1} | a_{\ell j}(r \to \infty) | \Psi_A \rangle = C_{\ell j} W_{-\eta, \ell+\frac{1}{2}}(2kr)/r$

- Best laboratory handle on many astrophysical reactions
- Much recent expt. interest
- Normalization to overlap tails is difficult
- The ANC can be recast into a short-ranged integral
 - $C_{\ell j} \sim \mathcal{A} \int M_{-\eta \,\ell + \frac{1}{2}}(2kr)/r$ $\times \Psi_{A-1}^{\dagger} \chi^{\dagger} Y_{lm}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{\hat{r}}) \left(U_{\rm rel} V_C\right) \Psi_A d\mathbf{R}$
- This integral is ideal for QMC evaluation



K.M. Nollett and R. B. Wiringa, Phys. Rev. C 83, 041001(R) (2011).

UNEDF AND INCITE COMPUTATIONS OF ¹²C ON ARGONNE'S IBM BLUE GENE/P

- Under the UNEDF SciDAC, Rusty Lusk (Math. & Comp. Sci.), Ralph Butler (MSTU) have developed ADLB to enable parallelization of GFMC to >100,000 cores
- Very successful calculation of ${}^{12}C(gs) E(GFMC) = -93.2(6)$ vs expt = 92.16 MeV
 - Done with Argonne v18 NN & Illinois-7 NNN potentials
 - RMS radius also very good 2.35 fm vs experiment of 2.33 fm





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Phys. Rev. Lett. 104, 182501 (2010) [4 pages]

Ab Initio Computation of the ¹⁷F Proton Halo State and Resonances in A=17 Nuclei

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	¹⁷ O			¹⁷ F		
	$1/2^{+}$	$5/2^{+}$	E_{so}	$1/2^{+}$	$5/2^{+}$	E_{so}
GHF	-2.8	-3.2	4.3	-0.082	0.11	3.7
Exp.	-3.272	-4.143	5.084	-0.105	-0.600	5.000

TABLE I: Single-particle energies of the $1/2^+$ and $5/2^+$ states, and the spin-orbit splitting $E_{so}(d_{3/2}-d_{5/2})$ (in units of MeV) in ¹⁷O and ¹⁷F calculated in a Berggren (Gamow) basis (GHF), and the comparison to experiment [31].

	$^{17}O 3/2^+$		$^{17}F 3/2^+$	
	$E_{\rm sp}$	Г	$E_{\rm sp}$	Г
This work	1.1	0.014	3.9	1.0
Experiment	0.942	0.096	4.399	1.530

TABLE II: Computed $3/2^+$ single-particle resonance energies in ¹⁷O and ¹⁷F compared to data [31]. The real part $E_{\rm sp} =$ Re[E], and the width $\Gamma = 2 \text{Im}[E]$ are given in units of MeV.

Coupled-cluster theory for open-shell nuclei

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We develop a new method to describe properties of truly open-shell nuclei. This method is based on single-reference coupled-cluster theory and the equation-of-motion method with extensions to nuclei with $A \pm 2$ nucleons outside a closed shell. We perform proof-of-principle calculations for the ground states of the helium isotopes ³⁻⁶He and the first excited 2⁺ state in ⁶He. The comparison with exact results from matrix diagonalization in small model spaces demonstrates the accuracy of the coupled-cluster methods. Three-particle-one-hole excitations of ⁴He play an important role for the accurate description of ⁶He. For the open-shell nucleus ⁶He, the computational cost of the method is comparable with the coupled-cluster singles-and-doubles approximation while its accuracy is similar to coupled-cluster with singles, doubles and triples excitations.

		³ He	⁴ He	ъНе
(CCSD	-6.624	-27.468	-22.997
CO	CSDT-1	-6.829	-27.600	-23.381
C	CSDT	-6.911	-27.619	-23.474
EOI	M-CCSD	-6.357	-27.468	-23.382
	FCI	-6.911	-27.640	-23.640

Chiral NN (SRG,1.9 fm⁻¹), hw = 24 MeV, N_{shell} =5, I_{max} =2

Table VII: Ground-state energies (in MeV) for ³He, ⁴He and ⁵He, calculated with coupled-cluster methods truncated at the 2-particle-2-hole (CCSD) level, 3-particle-3-hole (CCSDT) and a hybrid (CCSDT-1) where a small subset of the leading diagrams in CCSDT are included. For the EOM-CCSD approach, truncations has been made at the 1-particle-2-hole level, the 2-particle-2-hole level, and the 2-particle-1hole level for ³He, ⁴He and ⁵He respectively. The energies are

⁶ He	0+	2_{1}^{+}	$0^+ \langle J \rangle$	$2^+_1 \langle J \rangle$
CCSD	-22.732	-20.905	0.78	2
CCSDT-1	-24.617	-21.586	0.25	2
CCSDT	-24.530	-21.786	0.01	2
2PA-EOM-CCSD(2p-0h)	-21.185	-18.996	0	2
2PA-EOM-CCSD(3p-1h)	-24.543	-21.634	0	2
FCI	-24.853	-21.994	0	2

Table VIII: Energies (in MeV) for the ground state and first excited state of ⁶He and the expectation value of the total angular momentum, calculated with coupled-cluster methods truncated at the 2-particle-2-hole (CCSD) level, 3-particle-3hole (CCSDT) and a hybrid (CCSDT-1) where the 3-particle-3-hole amplitudes are treated perturbatively. The 2PA-EOM-CCSD results are calculated with a truncation at the 2-

No Core Shell Model

A large sparse matrix eigenvalue problem

$$H = T_{rel} + V_{NN} + V_{3N} + \bullet \bullet$$
$$H |\Psi_i\rangle = E_i |\Psi_i\rangle$$
$$|\Psi_i\rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n^i |\Phi_n\rangle$$
Diagonalize {\lap\leftarrow \Phi_m |H|\Phi_n\rangle}

- Adopt realistic NN (and NNN) interaction(s) & renormalize as needed retain induced many-body interactions: Chiral EFT interactions and JISP16
- Adopt the 3-D Harmonic Oscillator (HO) for the single-nucleon basis states, α , β ,...
- Evaluate the nuclear Hamiltonian, H, in basis space of HO (Slater) determinants (manages the bookkeepping of anti-symmetrization)
- Diagonalize this sparse many-body H in its "m-scheme" basis where $[\alpha = (n,l,j,m_i,\tau_z)]$

$$|\Phi_n\rangle = [a_{\alpha}^+ \bullet \bullet \bullet a_{\zeta}^+]_n |0\rangle$$

n = 1,2,...,10¹⁰ or more!

• Evaluate observables and compare with experiment

Comments

- Straightforward but computationally demanding => new algorithms/computers
- Requires convergence assessments and extrapolation tools
- Achievable for nuclei up to A=16 (40) today with largest computers available





P. Maris, P. Navratil, J. P. Vary, to be published

Beryllium isotopes



updated from Vary, Maris, Ng, Yang, Sosonkina, arXiv:0907.0209 [nucl-th],

J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 180, 012083 (2009)

- Exploring physics near the neutron drip line in progress
- Un-natural parity states systematically underbound with JISP16
- Similar results for He- and Li-isotopes



¹²C - At the heart of matter

The first excited 0+ state of ¹²C, the "Hoyle state", is the key state of ¹²C formation in the triple-alpha fusion process that occurs in stars.

Due to its role in astrophysics and the fact that carbon is central to life, some refer to this as one of the "holy grails" of nuclear theory.

Many important unsolved problems of the Hoyle state:

Microscopic origins of the triple-alpha structure are unsolved Breathing mode puzzle - experiments disagree on sum rule fraction Laboratory experiments to measure the formation rate are very difficult - resulting uncertainties are too large for predicting the ¹²C formation rate through this state that dictates the size of the iron core in pre-supernova stars

Conclusion: Need ab initio solutions of the Hoyle state with no-core method that accurately predicts the ground state binding energy ==> parameter free predictions for the Hoyle state achievable with petascale within 1-2 years

Lattice + EFT results [Adjusted to 4He, predict rest]

PRL 106, 192501 (2011)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

13 MAY 2011

Ab Initio Calculation of the Hoyle State

Evgeny Epelbaum,¹ Hermann Krebs,¹ Dean Lee,² and Ulf-G. Meißner^{3,4}

TABLE I. Lattice results for the ground state energies for ⁴He, ⁸Be, and ¹²C. For comparison we also exhibit the experimentally observed energies. All energies are in units of MeV.

	⁴ He	⁸ Be	¹² C
LO $[O(Q^0)]$	-24.8(2)	-60.9(7)	-110(2)
NLO $[O(Q^2)]$	-24.7(2)	-60(2)	-93(3)
$IB + EM [O(Q^2)]$	-23.8(2)	-55(2)	-85(3)
NNLO $[O(Q^3)]$	-28.4(3)	-58(2)	-91(3)
Experiment	-28.30	-56.50	-92.16

TABLE II. Lattice results for the low-lying excited states of ¹²C. For comparison the experimentally observed energies are shown. All energies are in units of MeV.

	02 ⁺ Ee	$ex 2_1^+, J_z = 0$	$2_1^+, J_z = 2$
LO $[O(Q^0)]$	-94(2) 16	6 -92(2)	-89(2)
NLO $[O(Q^2)]$	-82(3) 11	-87(3)	-85(3)
$IB + EM [O(Q^2)]$	-74(3) 11	-80(3)	-78(3)
NNLO $[O(Q^3)]$	-85(3) 6	-88(3)	-90(4)
Experiment	-84.51	<u> </u>	87.72



FIG. 3 (color online). The radial distribution function $f_{pp}(r)$ for the ground state (A), Hoyle state (B), and in the $J_z = 0$ (C) and $J_z = 2$ (D) projections of the spin-2 state. The yellow bands denote error bars.

NB: Lattice spacing ~ 2 fm, ~ 3MeV uncertainty in energies



week ending 20 MAY 2011

Origin of the Anomalous Long Lifetime of ¹⁴C

P. Maris,¹ J. P. Vary,¹ P. Navrátil,^{2,3} W. E. Ormand,^{3,4} H. Nam,⁵ and D. J. Dean⁵



- Solves the puzzle of the long but useful lifetime of ¹⁴C
- Establishes a major role for strong 3-nucleon forces in nuclei
- Strengthens foundation for guiding DOE-supported experiments



But how to progress to heavier nuclei – structure & reactions?

IT-NCSM (Roth, Navratil, . . .) SU3-NCSM (LSU-ISU-OSU-Ames Lab NSF PetaApps collab) MCNCSM (Japan-US collaboration)

NCSM with a core (Barrett)

Energy-Density Functional theory (SciDAC/UNEDF collab) EFT with achievable basis spaces (van Kolck) TDSLDA (Bulgac) Innovations underway to improve the NCSM with aims:
(1) improve treatment of clusters and intruders
(2) enable *ab initio* solutions of heavier nuclei
Initially, all follow the NCFC approach = extrapolations

Importance Truncated – NCSM

Separate spurious CM motion in same way as CC approach Robert Roth and collaborators

<u>"Realistic" single-particle basis - Woods-Saxon example</u> Control the spurious CM motion with Lagrange multiplier term A. Negoita, ISU PhD thesis project Alternative sp basis spaces – Mark Caprio collaboration

> SU(3) No Core Shell Model Add symmetry-adapted many-body basis states Preserve exactly the CM factorization LSU - ISU – OSU collaboration

No Core Monte Carlo Shell Model Invokes single particle basis (FCI) truncation Separate spurious CM motion in same way as CC approach Scales well to larger nuclei U. Tokyo - ISU collaboration

Taming the scale explosion in nuclear calculations NSF PetaApps - Louisiana State, Iowa State, Ohio State collaboration

 ◆ Goals > Ab initio calculations of nuclei with unprecedented accuracy using basis-space expansions > Current calculations limited to nuclei with A ≤ 16 (up to 20 billion basis states with 2-body forces) 	 Progress Scalable CI code for nuclei Sp(3,R)/SU(3)-symmetry vital Challenges/Promises Constructing hybrid Sp-CI code Publicly available peta-scale software for nuclear science
 Novel approach Sp-CI: exploiting symmetries of nuclear dynamics Innovative workload balancing techniques & representations of multiple levels of parallelism for ultra-large realistic problems Impact Applications for nuclear science and astrophysics 	Change to physically relevant basis H.O. basis

Ab initio NCSM reinstating the core! Name: "Ab Initio Shell Model"?



Figure 6. The quadrupole moment (Q) of the g.s. for ⁶Li $[I^+(T=0)]$ is shown in terms of one and two-body contributions, as a function of increasing model-space size. The one- and two-body contributions and total Q are depicted as white, gray and black histograms, respectively [18].

A. F. Lisetskiy, M. K. G. Kruse, B. R. Barrett, P. Navrátil, I.Stetcu, and J. P. Vary, *Phys. Rev. C* 80 (2009) 024315.



FIG. 9. Comparison of spectra for ⁸He, ⁹He, and ¹⁰He from SSM calculations using the effective 2BVC and 3BVC Hamiltonians and from exact NCSM calculation for $N_{\text{max}} = 6$ and $\hbar\Omega = 20$ MeV using the CD-Bonn interaction.



Isovector dipole strength computed in TDSLDA I. Stetcu *et al.*







Several consecutive frames of real-time induced fission of ²⁸⁰Cf computed in TDSLDA I. Stetcu *et al.*

Harmonic EFT U. van Kolck



Descriptive Science

Predictive Science

"Proton-Dripping Fluorine-14"

Objectives

 Apply *ab initio* microscopic nuclear theory's predictive power to major test case

Impact

- Deliver robust predictions important for improved energy sources
- Provide important guidance for DOE-supported experiments
- Compare with new experiment to improve theory of strong interactions



Ab Initio Neutron drops in traps



Cold Neutrons Trapped in External Fields

S. Gandolfi,¹ J. Carlson,¹ and Steven C. Pieper²



Testing the density matrix expansion against ab initio calculations of trapped neutron drops

S. Bogner,¹ R.J. Furnstahl,² M. Kortelainen,³ P. Maris,⁴ M. Stoitsov,³ and J.P. Vary⁴

Preliminary Results



HO Traps with strengths of 10, 15 and 20 MeV

Testing the density matrix expansion against ab initio calculations of trapped neutron drops

S. Bogner,¹ R.J. Furnstahl,² M. Kortelainen,³ P. Maris,⁴ M. Stoitsov,³ and J.P. Vary⁴



Preliminary Results

Properties of trapped neutrons interacting with realistic nuclear Hamiltonians

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Ab initio Nuclear Structure Ab initio Nuclear Reactions

Ab initio NCSM/RGM: nucleon-⁴He scattering

 The N-⁴He potential is calculated microscopically from the manybody realistic Hamiltonian and the NCSM eigenstates of the ⁴He

$$4He \int \hat{\mathcal{A}}(H-E)\hat{\mathcal{A}} = W_{VV'}(r,r')$$

 Solving the non-local integro-differential coupled-channel equations for the N-⁴He relative motion: phase shifts, cross sections, polarization observables

calculated microscopically from the many-



Navratil



NCSM/RGM



Figure 7. Calculated p-⁴He differential cross section (bottom panels) and analyzing power (top panels) for proton laboratory energies Ep = 12, 14.32 and 17 MeV compared to experimental data from Refs. [29, 30, 31, 32]. The SRG-N³LO NN potential with $\lambda = 2.02$ fm⁻¹ was used.



Figure 8. Calculated inelastic ${}^{7}Be(p,p'){}^{7}Be(1/2^{-})$ cross section with indicated positions of the P-wave resonances (left figure). Calculated S-factor of the ${}^{3}He(d,p){}^{4}He$ fusion reaction compared to experimental data (right figure). Energies are in the center of mass. The SRG-N ${}^{3}LO$ NN potential with $\lambda = 1.85 \text{ fm}{}^{-1}$ ($\lambda = 1.5 \text{ fm}{}^{-1}$) was used, respectively.

P. Navrátil, R. Roth, and S. Quaglioni, Phys. Rev. C 82 (2010) 034609

Ab initio scattering via trapping the system then analytically removing effects of the trap



continuum as illustrated for the 1S0 partial wave with the JISP16 NN interaction.

Analogous to Luescher's method for extracting phase shifts from lattice-gauge results

T. Luu, M. Savage, A. Schwenk and J.P. Vary, Phys. Rev. C 82, 034003 (2010); arXiv:1006.0427

Resonances in NCSM A. Shirokov

n-A scattering phase shift at NCSM eigenergy E_{λ} is expressed through known function $f_N(E)$:

$$\delta = f_{N_{\max}}(E_{\lambda})$$

Varying $\hbar\Omega$ and hence E_{λ} , one can get resonance energy E_{res} and width Γ .

$$E_{res} = E_{\lambda} + \Delta$$

360 $\tan f_{N_{\max}}(E_{\lambda}) = \frac{\Gamma/2}{\Lambda}$ 180 0 10 15 5 0 E_{cm} (h Ω)

Good description of E_{res} and Γ if $f_{N_{max}}(E_{\lambda})$ is around $\pi/2$, $3\pi/2$, etc.; if $f_{N_{max}}(E_{\lambda})$ is around 0, π , 2π , etc., there is no hope to get resonance parameters with this approach.



Applications to Relativistic Quantum Field Theory QED (new) and QCD (under development)

J. P. Vary, H. Honkanen, Jun Li, P. Maris, S. J. Brodsky, A. Harindranath, G. F. de Teramond, P. Sternberg, E. G. Ng and C. Yang, "Hamiltonian light-front field theory in a basis function approach", Phys. Rev. C 81, 035205 (2010); arXiv nucl-th 0905.1411

H. Honkanen, P. Maris, J. P. Vary and S. J. Brodsky, "Electron in a transverse harmonic cavity", Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, 061603 (2011); arXiv: 1008.0068

Light cone coordinates and generators







Millions of CPU hours - Nuclear ab initio + EDF(fits only)

	YEAR	INCITE	OTHER	TOTAL	
	2008	37	3	40	
	2009	30	34 ¹	64	
	2010	40	4	44	
<	2011	43	15	58	>
	2012	67 ²	8 ³	75	
	2013	109 ²	10 ³	119	

¹Includes 30 from Jaguar "Early Science" Award ²Proposed based on current facilities ³Projected based on trends and current facilities

Additional notes:

TDSLDA used 70 million in 2010 not included above NSF PRAC pending and NSF Blue Waters potential data storage needs to reach 200TB by 2013

Data Base Management System - Prototype First step for Provenance

nuclear.physics.iastate.edu/info/



Observation

Ab initio nuclear physics maximizes predictive power & represents a theoretical and computational physics challenge

Key issues

How to achieve the full physics potential of *ab initio* theory? Can theory and experiment work more closely to define/solve fundamental physics problems?

Conclusions

We have entered an era of first principles, high precision, nuclear structure and nuclear reaction theory

Linking nuclear physics and the cosmos through the Standard Model is well underway

Pioneering collaborations between Physicists, Computer Scientists and Applied Mathematicians have become essential to progress

Challenges

- improve NN + NNN + NNNN interactions/renormalization develop effective operators beyond the Hamiltonian tests of fundamental symmetries
- achieve higher precision quantify the uncertainties - justified through simulations global dependencies mapped out
- proceed to heavier systems breaking out of the p-shell extend quantum many-body methods
- evaluate more complex projectile-target reactions
- Achieve efficient use of computational resources improve scalability, load-balance, I/O, inter-process communications
- build a community aiming for investment preservation support/sustain open libraries of codes/data develop/implement provenance framework/practices