

# Ab Initio Nuclear Structure from Chiral NN+3N Hamiltonians

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# From QCD to Nuclear Structure

**Nuclear Structure**

**Low-Energy QCD**

# From QCD to Nuclear Structure

## Nuclear Structure

**NN+3N Interaction  
from Chiral EFT**

**Low-Energy QCD**

- chiral EFT based on the relevant degrees of freedom & symmetries of QCD
- provides consistent NN, 3N,... interaction plus currents

# From QCD to Nuclear Structure

## Nuclear Structure

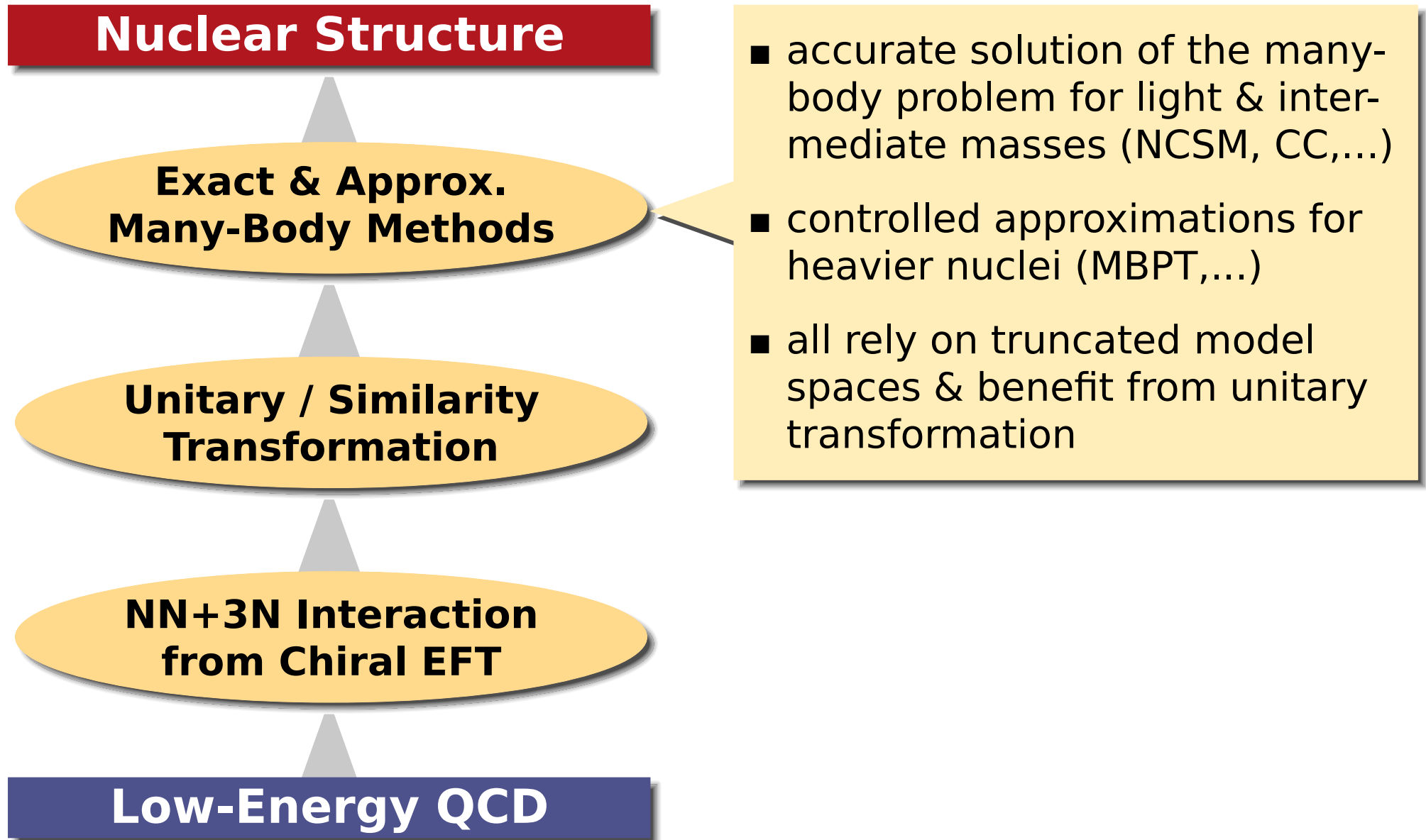
**Unitary / Similarity Transformation**

**NN+3N Interaction  
from Chiral EFT**

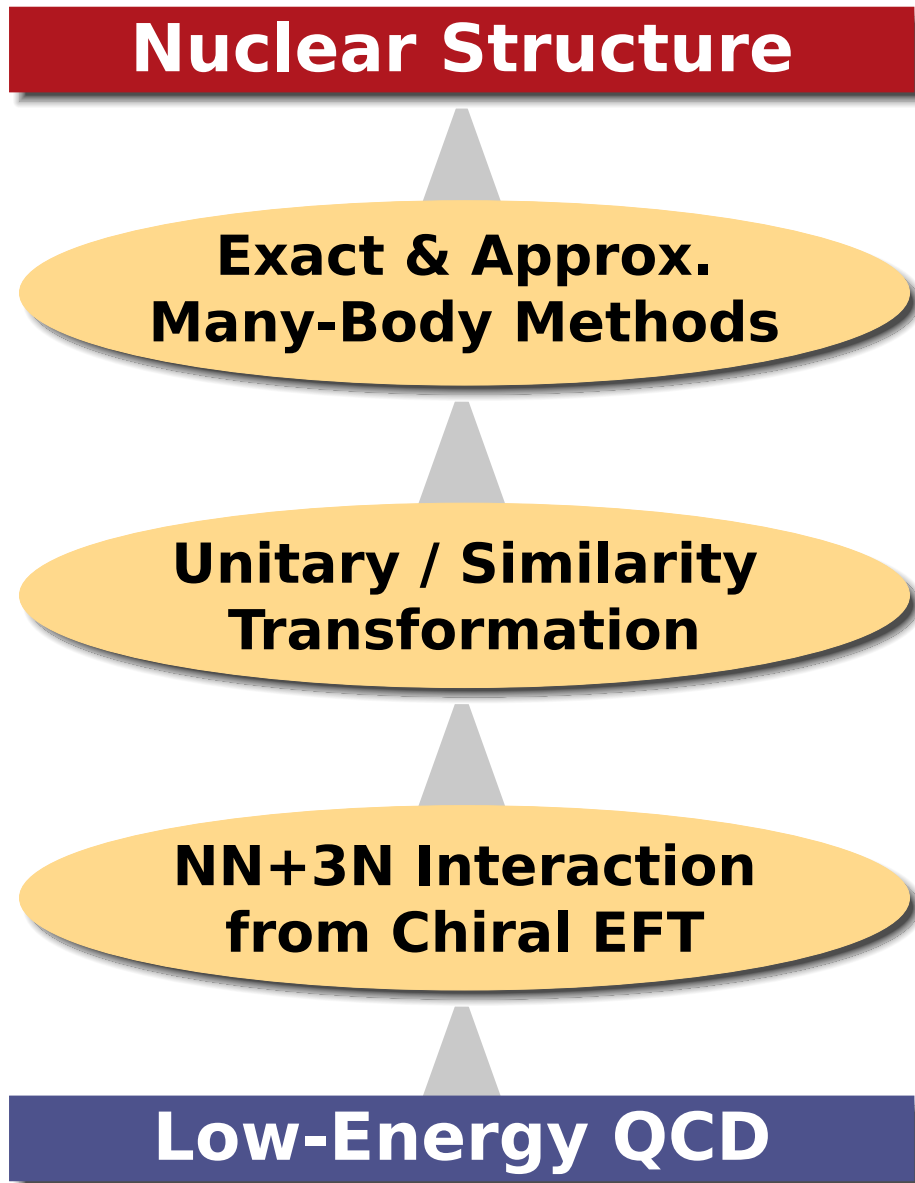
**Low-Energy QCD**

- adapt Hamiltonian to truncated low-energy model space
  - tame short-range correlations
  - improve convergence behavior
- transform Hamiltonian & observables consistently

# From QCD to Nuclear Structure



# From QCD to Nuclear Structure



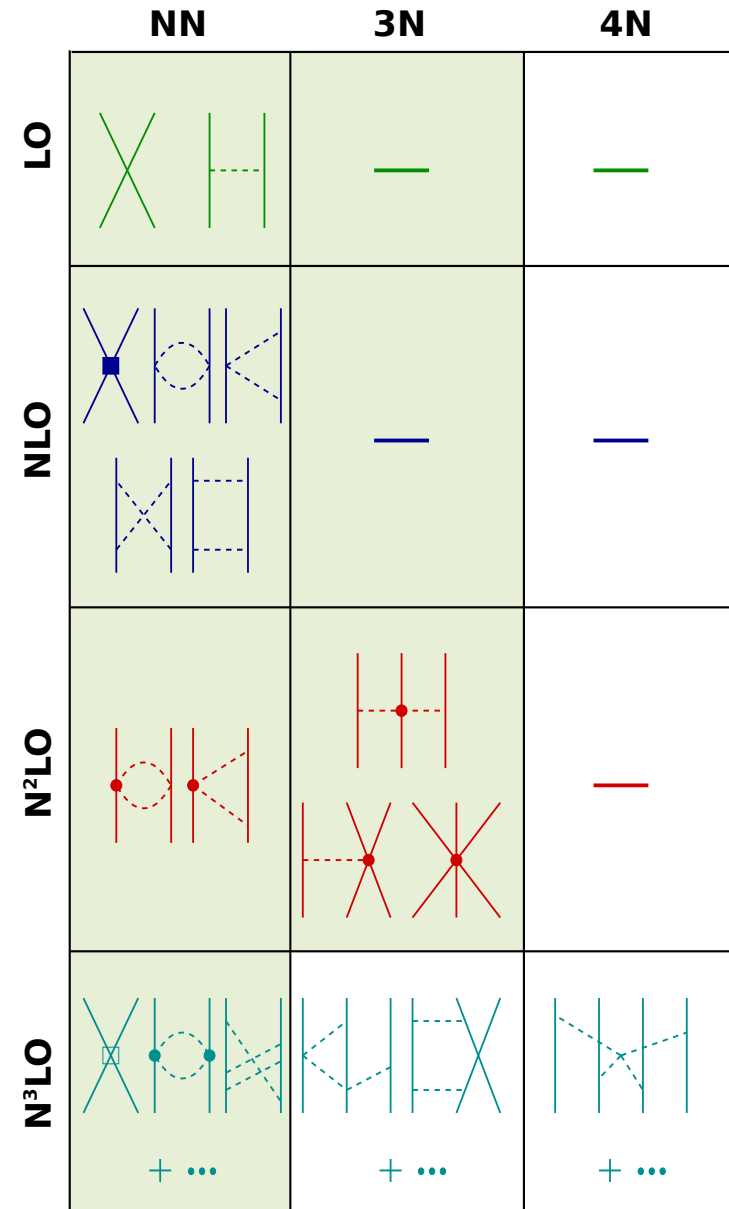
- How can we extend current ab-initio methods to describe open-shell and deformed nuclei?
- How can we include the effects of three-nucleon forces in a computationally efficient manner?
- How can we describe the onset of pairing in nuclei within various ab-initio frameworks?
- Benchmarking and accuracy: can we develop reliable theoretical error estimates?
- How can we bridge structure and reactions in a consistent fashion?
- How can we generate reliable predictions for the drip-lines?

# Nuclear Interactions from Chiral EFT

# Nuclear Interactions from Chiral EFT

Weinberg, van Kolck, Machleidt, Entem, Meissner, Epelbaum, Krebs, Bernard,...

- low-energy **effective field theory** for relevant degrees of freedom ( $\pi, N$ ) based on symmetries of QCD
- long-range **pion dynamics** explicitly
- short-range physics absorbed in **contact terms**, low-energy constants fitted to experiment ( $NN, \pi N, \dots$ )
- hierarchy of **consistent NN, 3N, ... interactions** (plus currents)
- many **ongoing developments**
  - 3N interaction at N3LO, N4LO, ...
  - explicit inclusion of  $\Delta$ -resonance
  - $YN$ - &  $YY$ -interactions
  - formal issues: power counting, renormalization, cutoff choice, ...





# Chiral NN+3N Hamiltonians

## ■ **standard Hamiltonian:**

- NN at N3LO: Entem / Machleidt, 500 MeV cutoff
- 3N at N2LO: Navrátil, local, 500 MeV cutoff, fit to  $T_{1/2}(^3\text{H})$  and  $E(^3\text{H}, ^3\text{He})$

## ■ **standard Hamiltonian with modified 3N:**

- NN at N3LO: Entem / Machleidt, 500 MeV cutoff
- 3N at N2LO: Navrátil, local, with modified LECs and cutoffs, refit to  $E(^4\text{He})$

## ■ **consistent N2LO Hamiltonian:**

- NN at N2LO: Epelbaum et al., 450,...,600 MeV cutoff
- 3N at N2LO: Epelbaum et al., nonlocal, 450,...,600 MeV cutoff

## ■ **consistent N3LO Hamiltonian:**

- coming soon...

# Similarity Renormalization Group

Roth, Calci, Langhammer, Binder — in preparation (2013)

Roth, Langhammer, Calci et al. — Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 072501 (2011)

Roth, Neff, Feldmeier — Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 65, 50 (2010)

Roth, Reinhardt, Hergert — Phys. Rev. C 77, 064033 (2008)

Hergert, Roth — Phys. Rev. C 75, 051001(R) (2007)

# Similarity Renormalization Group

Wegner, Glazek, Wilson, Perry, Bogner, Furnstahl, Hergert, Roth, Jurgenson, Navratil,...

continuous transformation driving  
**Hamiltonian to band-diagonal form**  
with respect to a chosen basis

- **unitary transformation** of Hamiltonian  
 $\tilde{H}_\alpha = U_\alpha^\dagger H U_\alpha$

simplicity and flexibility  
are great advantages of  
the SRG approach

- **evolution equations** for  $\tilde{H}_\alpha$  and  $U_\alpha$

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} \tilde{H}_\alpha = [\eta_\alpha, \tilde{H}_\alpha]$$

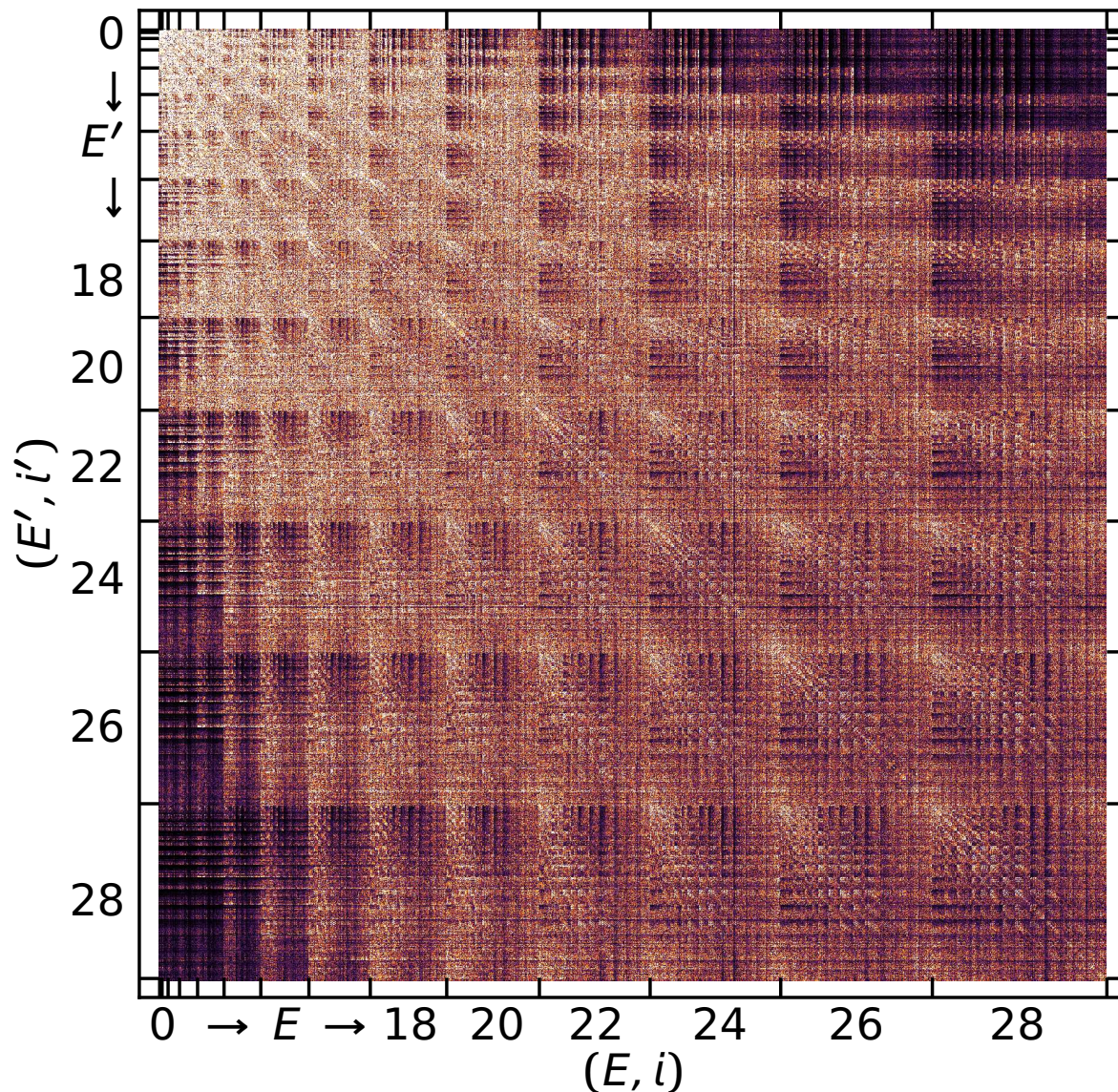
solve SRG evolution  
equations using two-,  
three- & four-body matrix  
representation

- **dynamic generator**: commutator with the operator in whose  
eigenbasis  $H$  shall be diagonalized

$$\eta_\alpha = (2\mu)^2 [T_{\text{int}}, \tilde{H}_\alpha]$$

# SRG Evolution in Three-Body Space

## 3B-Jacobi HO matrix elements

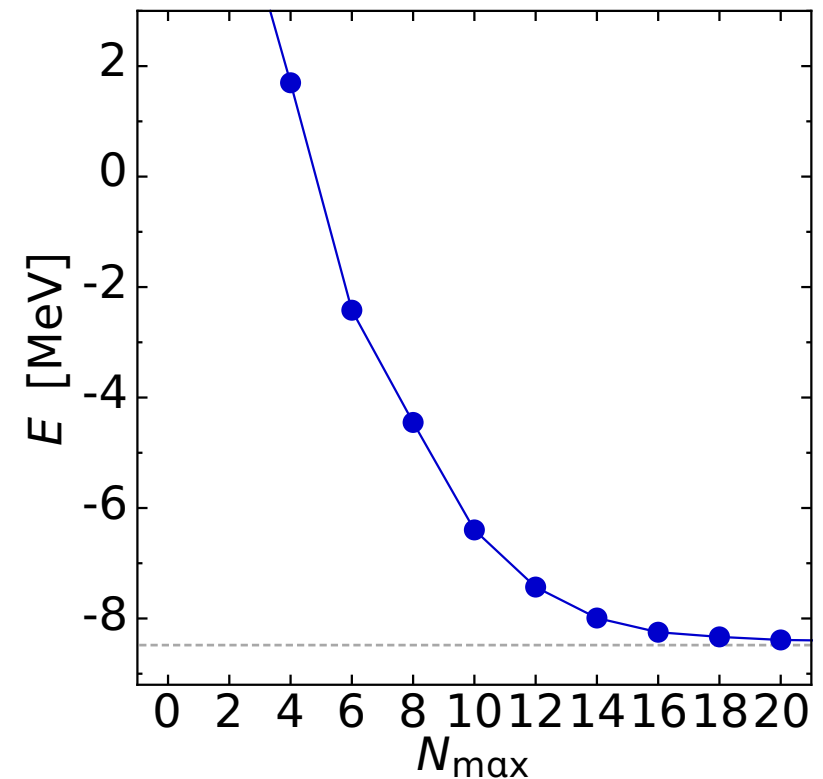


$$\alpha = 0.000 \text{ fm}^4$$

$$\Lambda = \infty \text{ fm}^{-1}$$

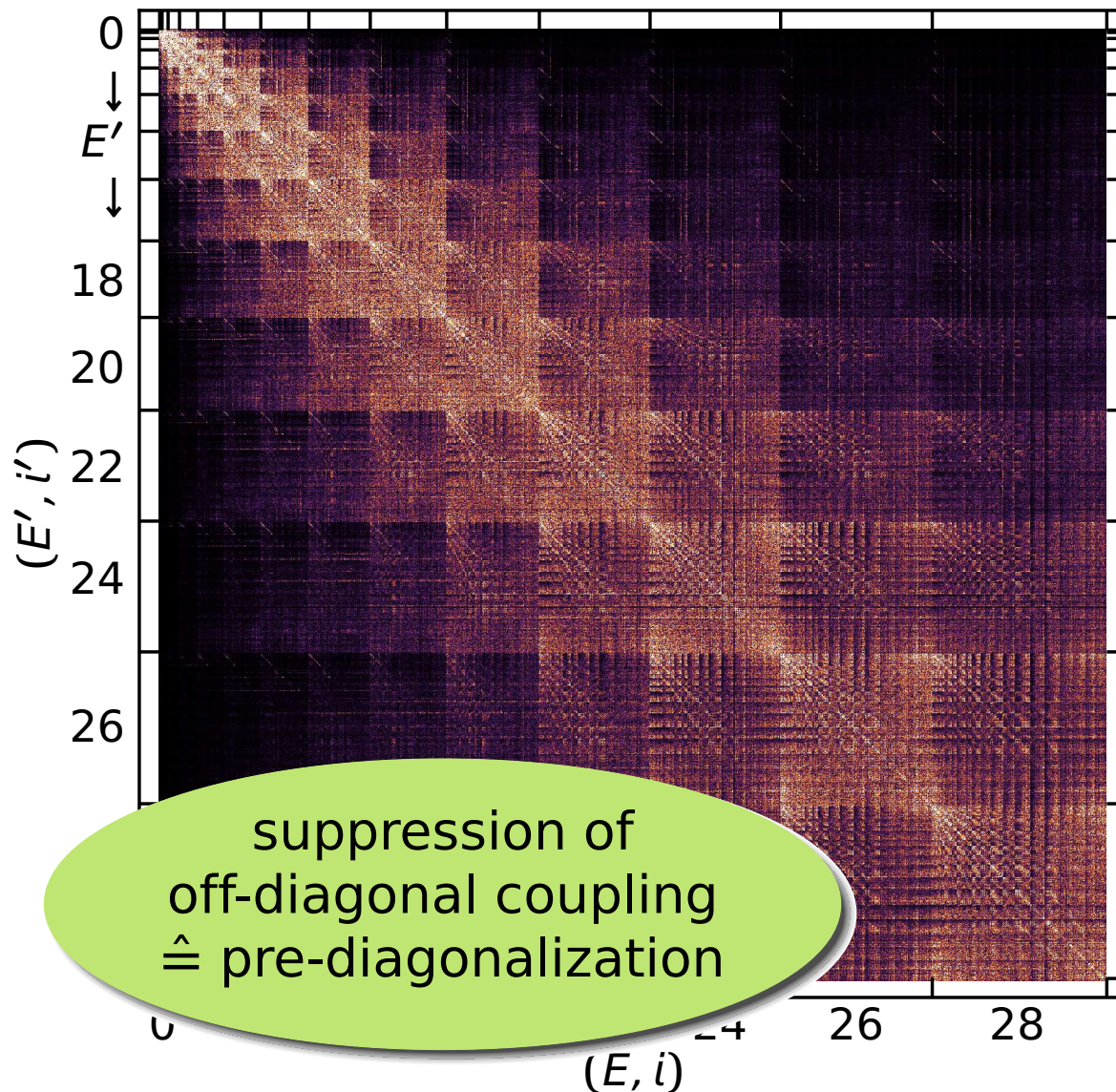
$$J^\pi = \frac{1}{2}^+, T = \frac{1}{2}, \hbar\Omega = 28 \text{ MeV}$$

## NCSM ground state ${}^3\text{H}$



# SRG Evolution in Three-Body Space

## 3B-Jacobi HO matrix elements

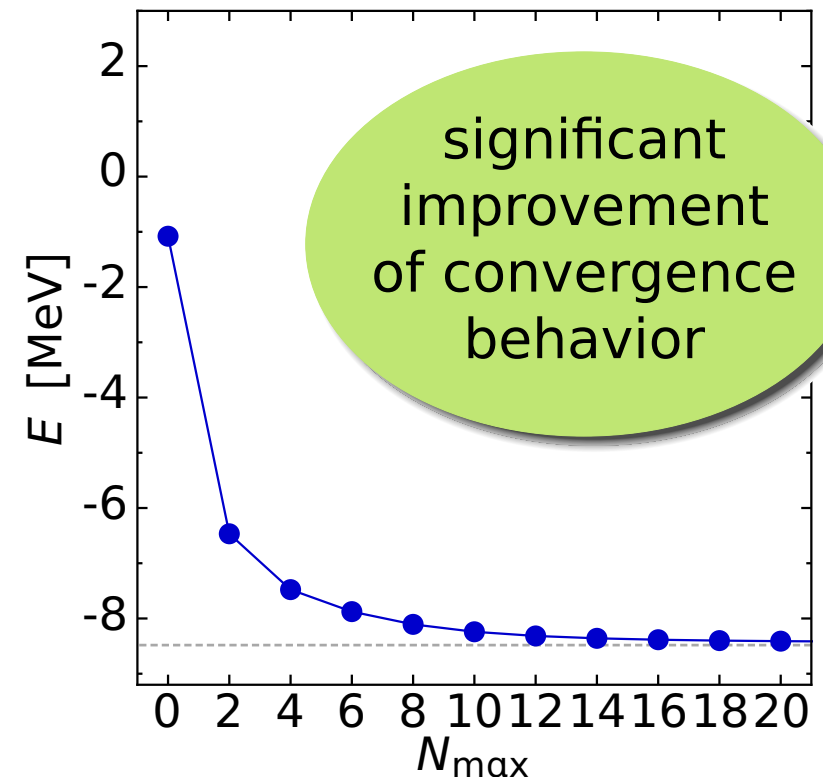


$$\alpha = 0.320 \text{ fm}^4$$

$$\Lambda = 1.33 \text{ fm}^{-1}$$

$$J^\pi = \frac{1}{2}^+, T = \frac{1}{2}, \hbar\Omega = 28 \text{ MeV}$$

## NCSM ground state ${}^3\text{H}$



# Hamiltonian in A-Body Space

- evolution **induces  $n$ -body contributions**  $\tilde{H}_\alpha^{[n]}$  to Hamiltonian

$$\tilde{H}_\alpha = \tilde{H}_\alpha^{[1]} + \tilde{H}_\alpha^{[2]} + \tilde{H}_\alpha^{[3]} + \tilde{H}_\alpha^{[4]} + \dots$$

- truncation of cluster series inevitable — formally destroys unitarity and invariance of energy eigenvalues (independence of  $\alpha$ )

## SRG-Evolved Hamiltonians

- **NN only**: start with NN initial Hamiltonian and keep two-body terms only
- **NN+3N-induced**: start with NN initial Hamiltonian and keep two- and induced three-body terms
- **NN+3N-full**: start with NN+3N initial Hamiltonian and all three-body terms

$\alpha$ -variation provides a **diagnostic tool** to assess the contributions of omitted many-body interactions

# Sounds easy, but...

- ❶ initial 3B-Jacobi HO matrix elements of chiral 3N interactions
  - direct computation using Petr Navratil's ManyEff code (N2LO)
  - conversion of partial-wave decomposed moment-space matrix elements of Epelbaum et al. (N2LO, N3LO,...)
- ❷ SRG evolution in 2B/3B space and cluster decomposition
  - efficient implementation using adaptive ODE solver & BLAS; largest JT-block takes a few hours on single node
- ❸ transformation of 2B/3B Jacobi HO matrix elements into JT-coupled representation
  - transform directly into JT-coupled scheme; highly efficient implementation; can handle  $E_{3\max} = 16$  in JT-coupled scheme
- ❹ data management and on-the-fly decoupling in many-body codes
  - optimized storage scheme for fast on-the-fly decoupling; can keep all matrix elements up to  $E_{3\max} = 16$  in memory; suitable for GPUs

# Importance Truncated No-Core Shell Model

Roth, Calci, Langhammer, Binder — in preparation (2013)

Roth, Langhammer, Calci et al. — Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 072501 (2011)

Navrátil, Roth, Quaglioni — Phys. Rev. C 82, 034609 (2010)

Roth — Phys. Rev. C 79, 064324 (2009)

Roth, Gour & Piecuch — Phys. Lett. B 679, 334 (2009)

Roth, Gour & Piecuch — Phys. Rev. C 79, 054325 (2009)

Roth, Navrátil — Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 092501 (2007)



# No-Core Shell Model

Barrett, Vary, Navratil, Maris, Nogga, Roth,...

NCSM is one of the most powerful and universal exact ab-initio methods

- construct matrix representation of Hamiltonian using a **basis of HO Slater determinants** truncated w.r.t. HO excitation energy  $N_{\max}\hbar\Omega$
- solve **large-scale eigenvalue problem** for a few extremal eigenvalues
- **all relevant observables** can be computed from the eigenstates
- range of applicability limited by **factorial growth** of basis with  $N_{\max}$  &  $A$
- adaptive **importance truncation** extends the range of NCSM by reducing the model space to physically relevant states

# Importance Truncated NCSM

Roth, PRC 79, 064324 (2009); PRL 99, 092501 (2007)

- converged NCSM calculations essentially restricted to lower/mid  $N_{\max}$
- full  $N_{\max}$  for  $^{16}\text{O}$  (basis dim)

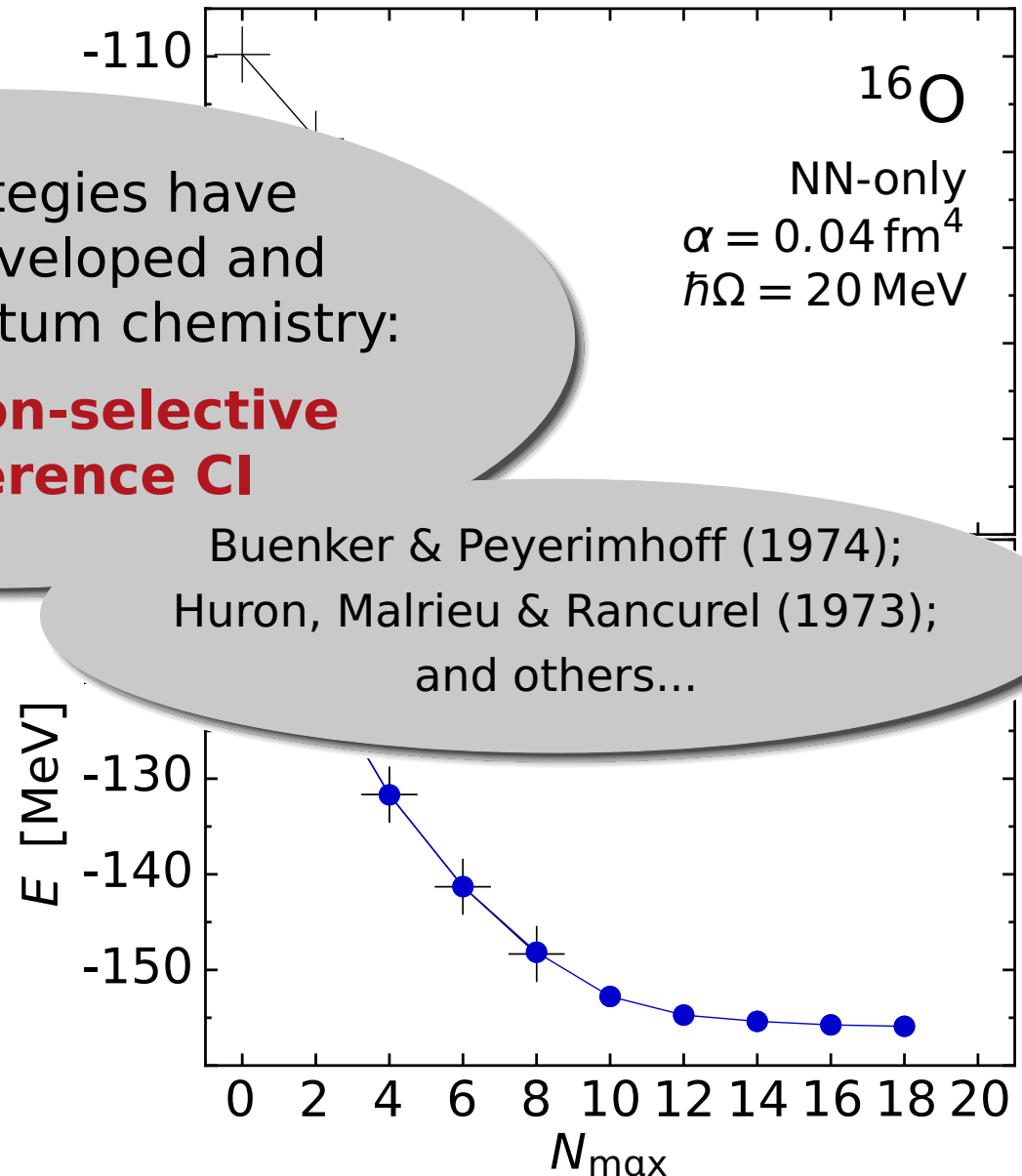
similar strategies have first been developed and applied in quantum chemistry:

**configuration-selective multireference CI**

Buenker & Peyerimhoff (1974);  
Huron, Malrieu & Rancurel (1973);  
and others...

## Importance Truncation

reduce model space to the relevant basis states using an **a priori importance measure** derived from MBPT



# Importance Truncation: Basic Idea

- **starting point**: approximation  $|\Psi_{\text{ref},m}\rangle$  for the **target states** within a limited reference space  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{ref}}$

$$|\Psi_{\text{ref},m}\rangle = \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{ref}}} C_{\nu}^{(\text{ref},m)} |\Phi_{\nu}\rangle$$

- **measure the importance** of individual basis state  $|\Phi_{\nu}\rangle \notin \mathcal{M}_{\text{ref}}$  via first-order multiconfigurational perturbation theory

$$\frac{\langle \Phi_{\nu} | H | \Psi_{\text{ref},m} \rangle}{\epsilon_{\nu}}$$

importance measure only probes 2p2h excitations on top of  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{ref}}$  for a two-body Hamiltonian

- collect  $C_{\nu}^{(\text{ref},m)}$  from all basis states

embed into iterative scheme to access full model space

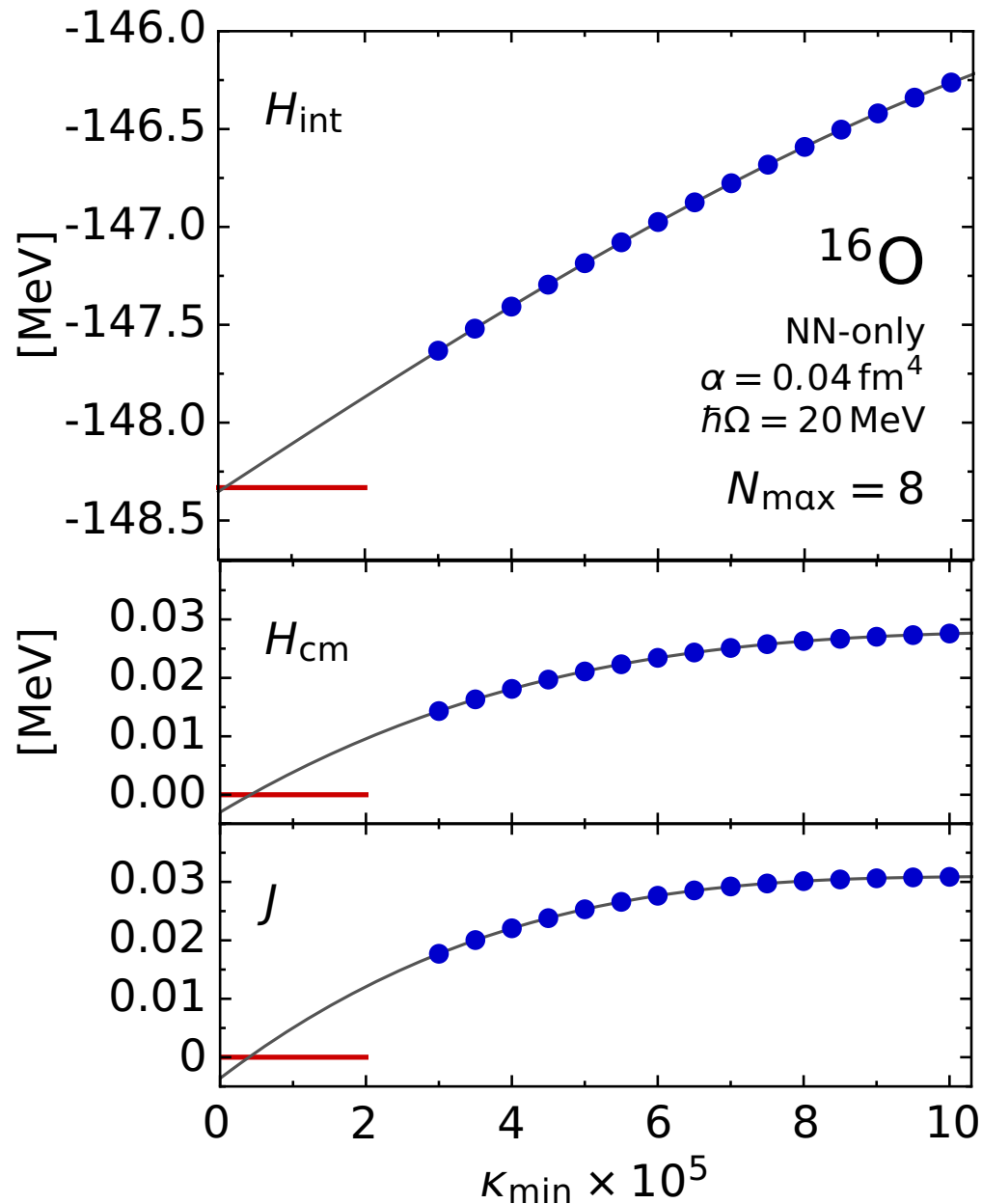
- **solve eigenvalue problem** in  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{IT}}(K_{\text{min}})$  and obtain improved approximation of target state

# Importance Truncation: Iterative Scheme

- **property of  $N_{\max}$ -truncated space**: step from  $N_{\max}$  to  $N_{\max} + 2$  requires 2p2h excitations at most
- **sequential calculation** for a range of  $N_{\max} \hbar \Omega$  spaces:
  - do full NCSM calculations up to a convenient  $N_{\max}$
  - ★ use components of eigenstates with  $|C_{\nu}^{(m)}| \geq C_{\min}$  as initial  $|\Psi_{\text{ref},m}\rangle$
  - ① consider all states  $|\Phi_{\nu}\rangle \notin \mathcal{M}_{\text{ref}}$  from an  $N_{\max} + 2$  space and add those with  $|K_{\nu}^{(m)}| \geq K_{\min}$  to importance-truncated space  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{IT}}$
  - ② solve eigenvalue problem in  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{IT}}$
  - ③ use components of eigenstates as initial  $|\Psi_{\text{ref},m}\rangle$
  - ④ goto ①

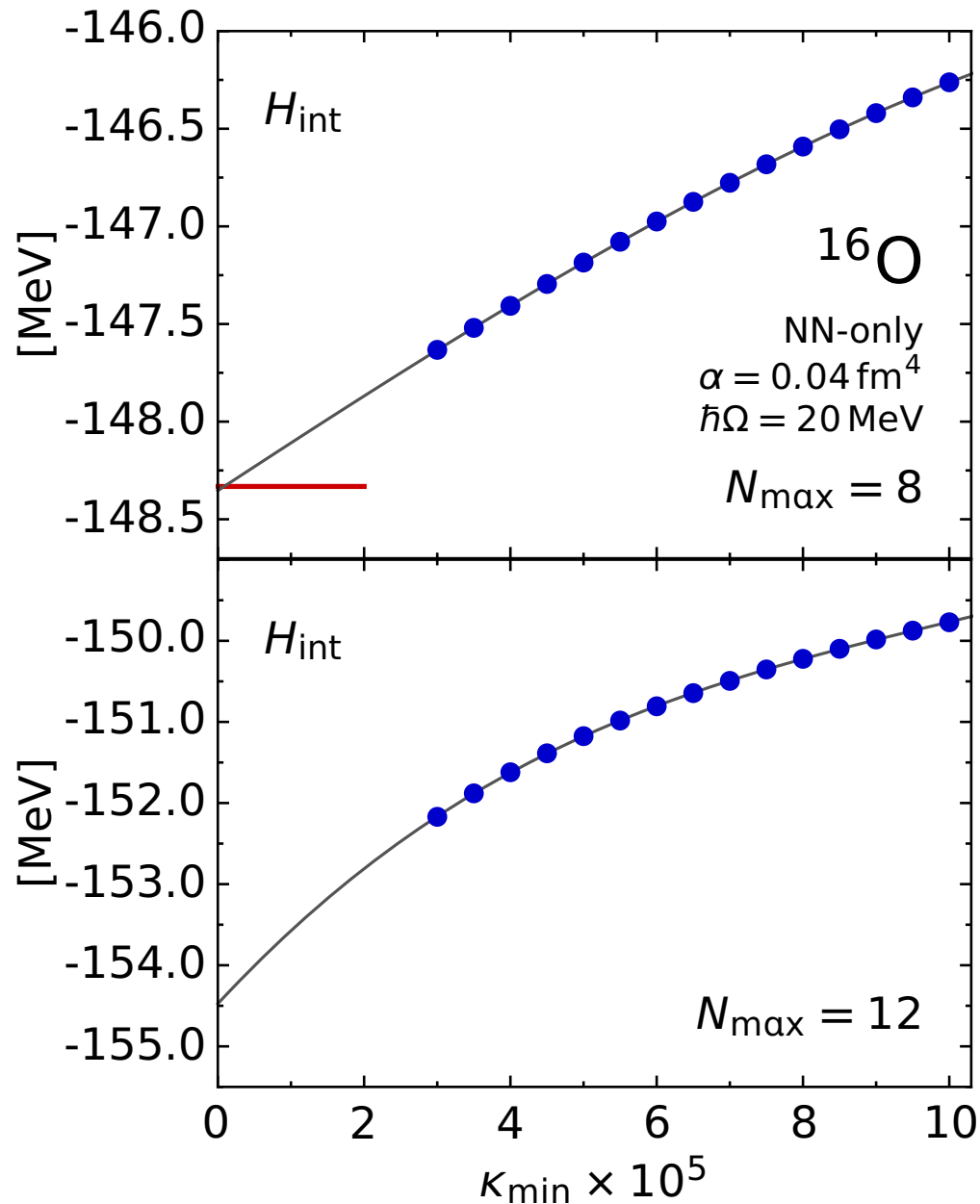
**full NCSM space is recovered** in the limit  
 $(K_{\min}, C_{\min}) \rightarrow 0$

# Threshold Extrapolation



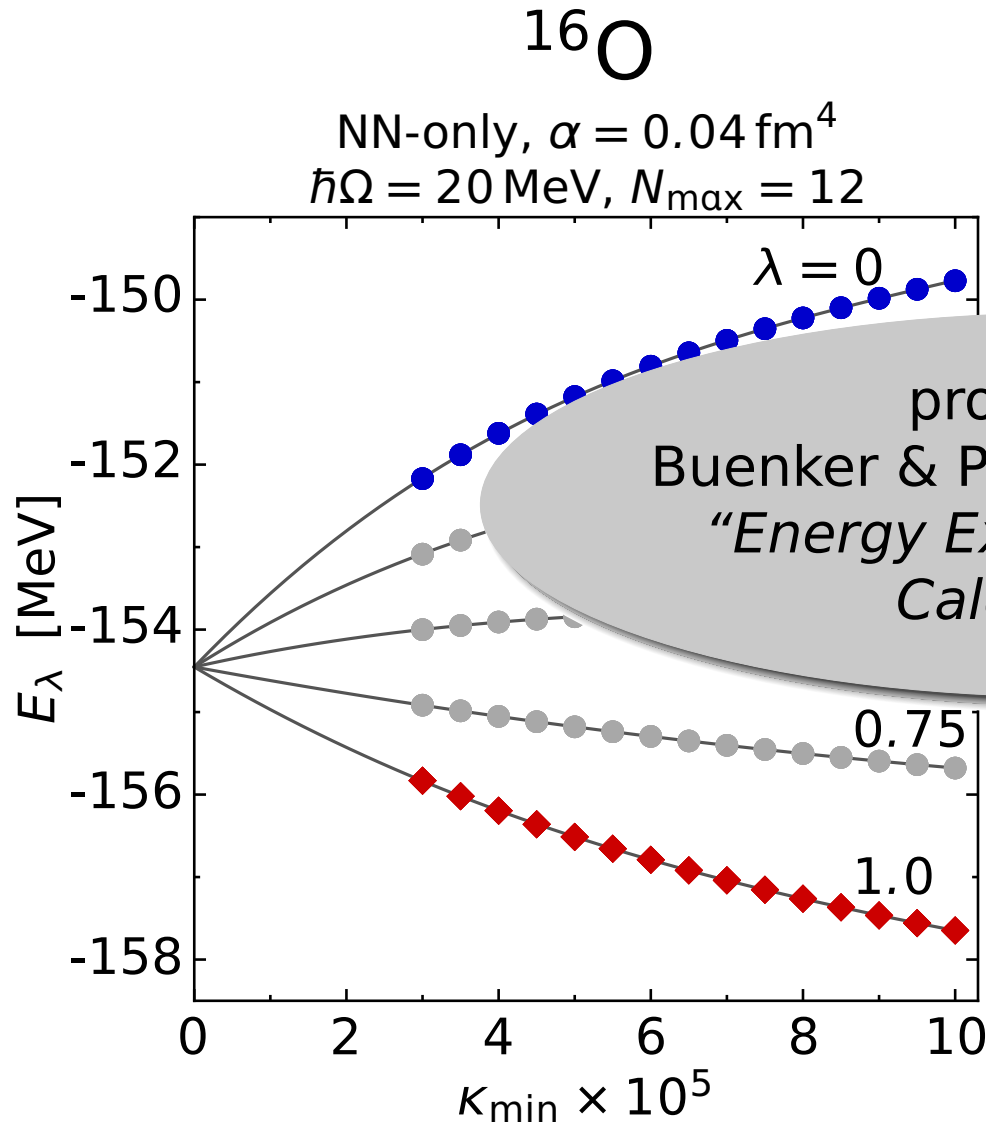
- repeat calculations for a **sequence of importance thresholds**  $K_{\text{min}}$
- observables show **smooth threshold dependence** and systematically approach the full NCSM limit
- use **a posteriori extrapolation**  $K_{\text{min}} \rightarrow 0$  of observables to account for effect of excluded configurations

# Threshold Extrapolation



- repeat calculations for a **sequence of importance thresholds**  $K_{\text{min}}$
- observables show **smooth threshold dependence** and systematically approach the full NCSM limit
- use **a posteriori extrapolation**  $K_{\text{min}} \rightarrow 0$  of observables to account for effect of excluded configurations

# Constrained Threshold Extrapolation



- for free: importance selection gives perturbative energy correction  $\Delta_{\text{excl}}(K_{\text{min}})$  accounting for **excluded states**

proposed by  
 Buenker & Peyerimhoff (1975):  
 "Energy Extrapolation in CI  
 Calculations"

$K_{\text{min}} \rightarrow 0$

parameter  $\lambda$  defining  
 a family of energy sequences

$$E_\lambda(K_{\text{min}}) = E(K_{\text{min}}) + \lambda \Delta_{\text{excl}}(K_{\text{min}})$$

- **simultaneous extrapolation** for family of  $\lambda$ -values with constraint  $E_\lambda(0) = E_{\text{extrap}}$

# Uncertainty Quantification in the IT-NCSM



# Uncertainty Quantification

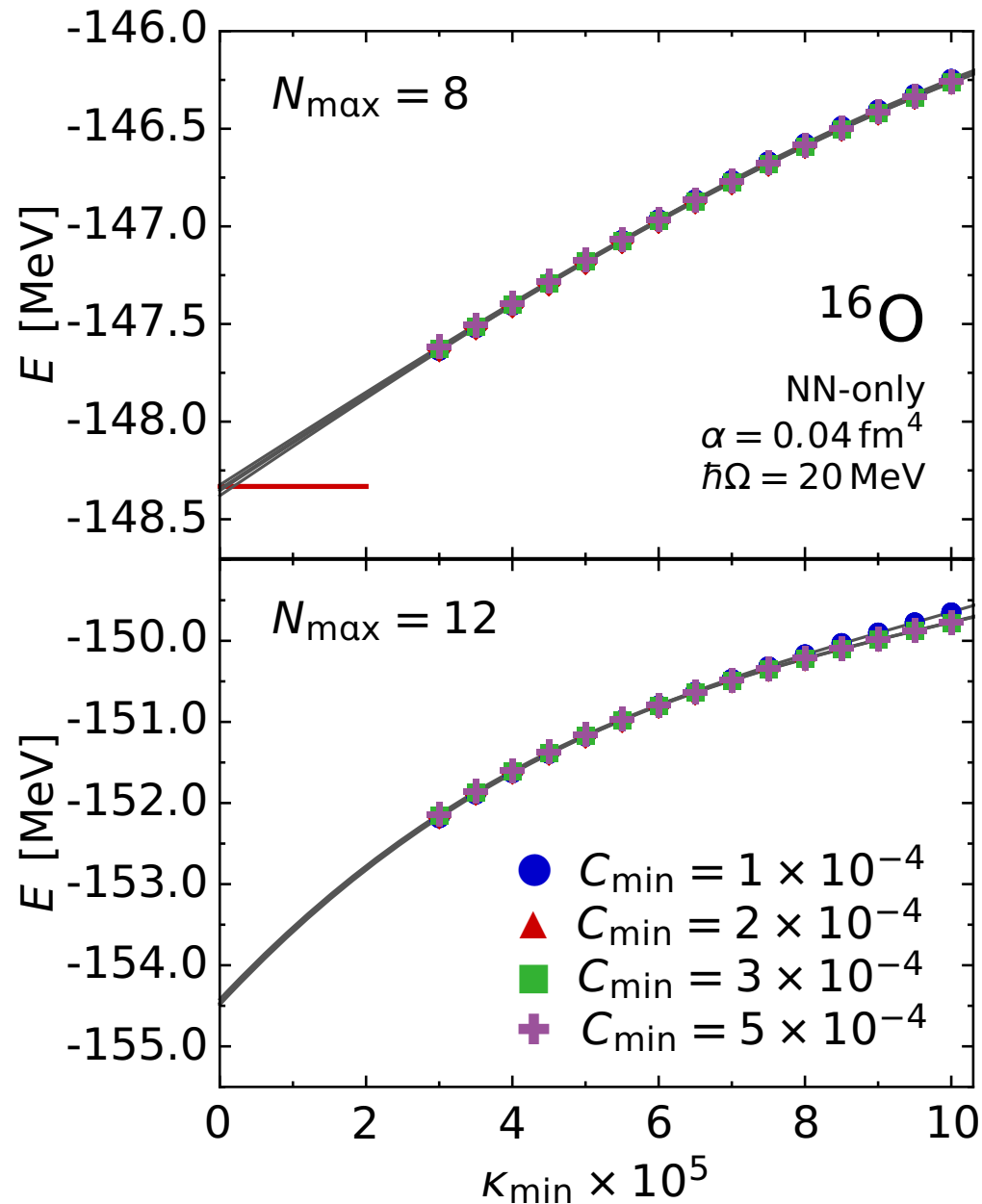
## Importance Truncation

- use sequence of  $(C_{\min}, K_{\min})$ -truncated model spaces
- extrapolate to  $K_{\min} \rightarrow 0$  using polynomial ansatz or more refined constrained extrapolation scheme
- uncertainty estimate derived from extrapolation protocol
- **systematic uncertainty** absent in full NCSM

## Model-Space Truncation

- use sequence of  $N_{\max}$ -truncated model spaces
- extrapolate to  $N_{\max} \rightarrow \infty$  using exponential ansatz or more elaborate extrapolation schemes
- uncertainty estimate derived from extrapolation protocol
- same **extrapolation uncertainties** as in full NCSM

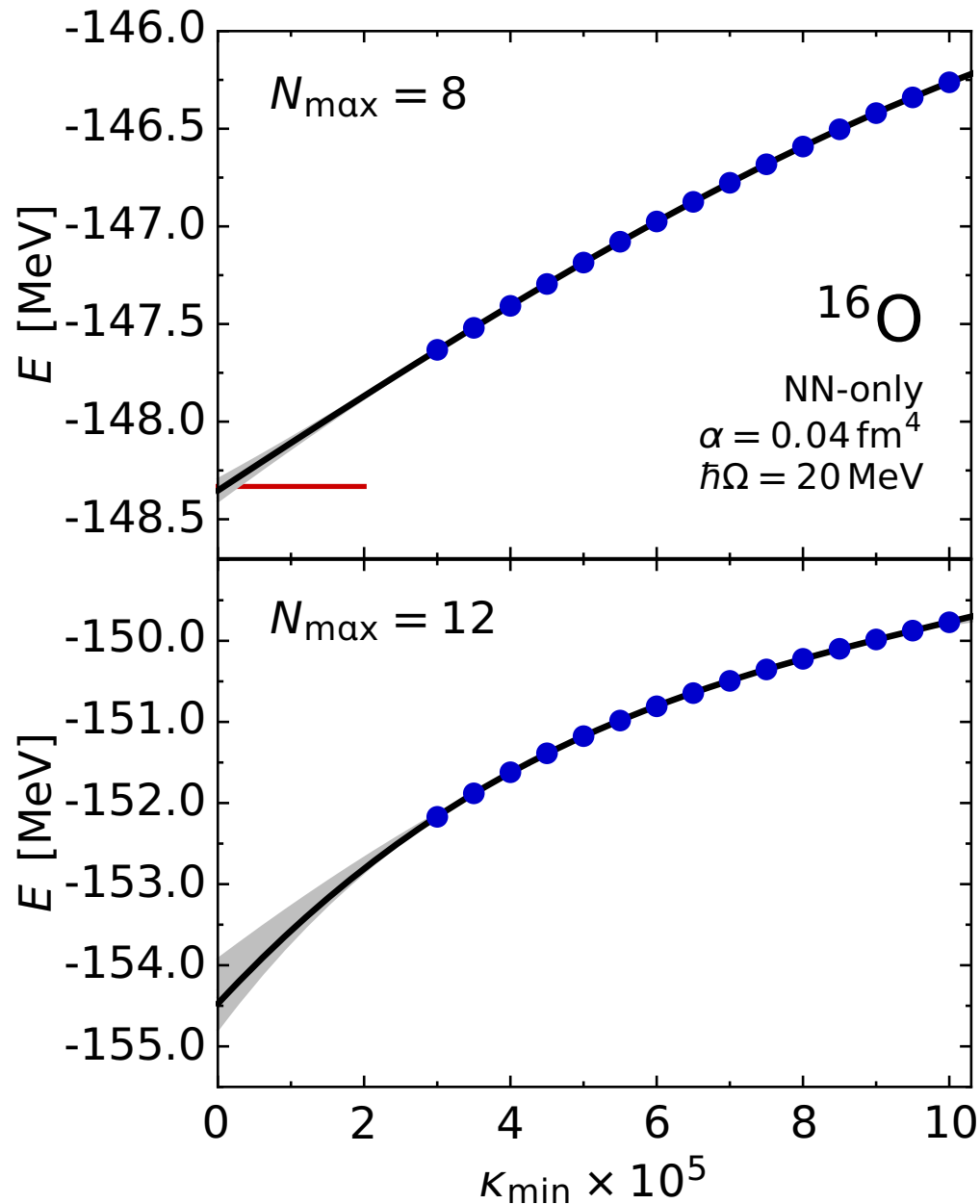
# Comment on $C_{\min}$ Truncation



- truncation of reference state to components with  $|C_{\nu}| \geq C_{\min}$
- technical reason: importance selection phase scales with  $(\dim \mathcal{M}_{\text{ref}})^2$
- typically  $C_{\min} = 2 \times 10^{-4}$

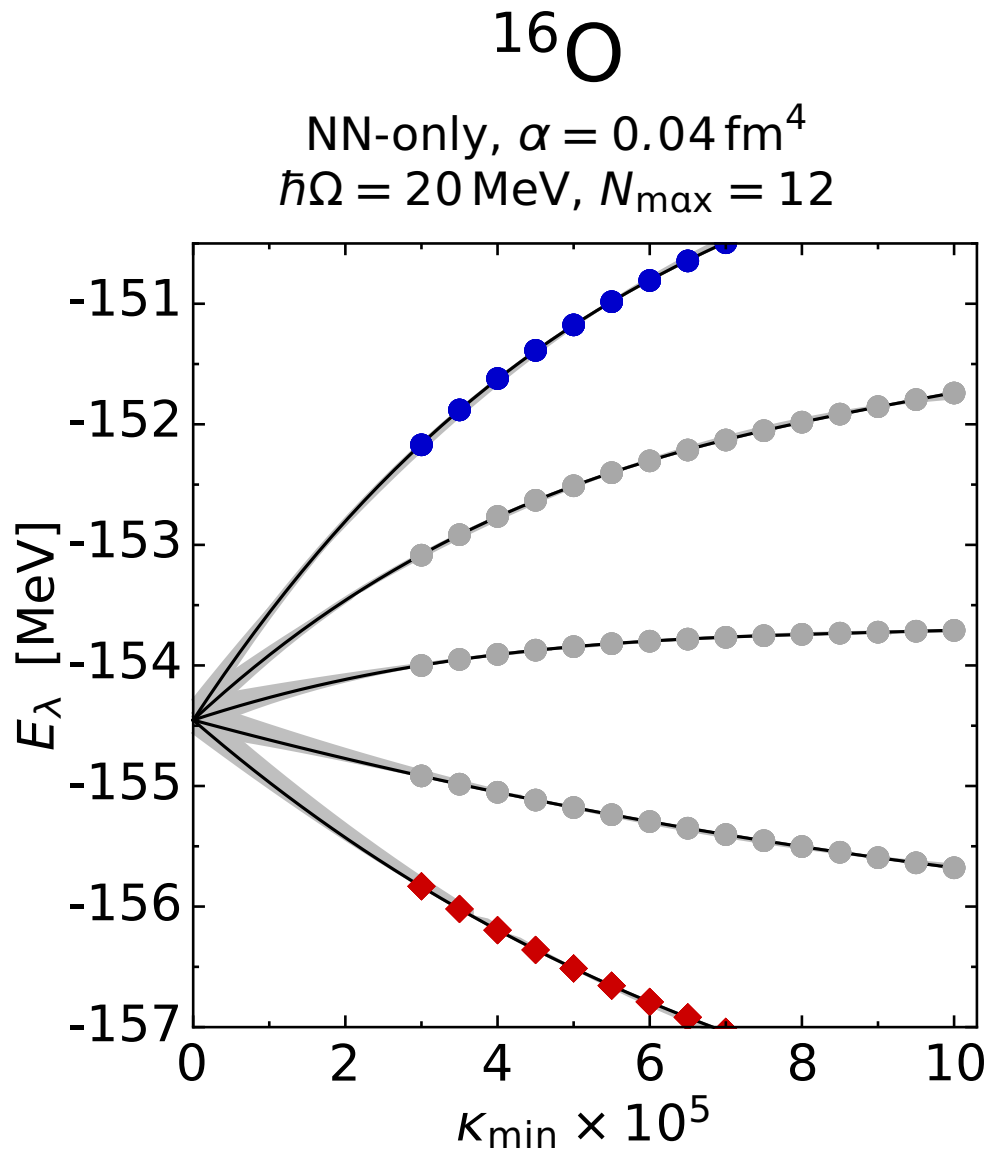
practically no influence on threshold extrapolated energies

# Protocol: Simple $\kappa_{\min}$ Extrapolation



- perform IT-NCSM calculations for range of  $\kappa_{\min}$ -values, typically  $\kappa_{\min} = 3, 3.5, \dots, 10 \times 10^{-5}$
- extrapolation  $\kappa_{\min} \rightarrow 0$  using polynomial  $P_p(\kappa_{\min})$  fit to full  $\kappa_{\min}$ -set, typically of order  $p = 3$
- generate uncertainty band from set of alternative extrapolations
  - $P_{p-1}$  and  $P_{p+1}$  extrapolations using full  $\kappa_{\min}$ -range
  - $P_p$  extrapolations with lowest and lowest two  $\kappa_{\min}$ -points dropped
- quote standard deviation as nominal uncertainty

# Protocol: Constrained $\kappa_{\min}$ Extrapolation



- select a few  $\lambda$ -values to get symmetrical approach towards common  $E_{\text{extrap}} = E_\lambda(\kappa_{\min} = 0)$
- constrained simultaneous extrapolation  $\kappa_{\min} \rightarrow 0$  using polynomial  $P_p(\kappa_{\min})$ , typically of order  $p = 3$
- generate uncertainty band from set of constrained extrapolations
  - $P_{p-1}$  and  $P_{p+1}$  extrapolations using full  $\kappa_{\min}$ -range
  - $P_p$  extrapolations with lowest and lowest two  $\kappa_{\min}$ -points dropped
  - $P_p$  extrapolations with smallest and largest  $\lambda$ -set dropped
- std. deviation gives uncertainty

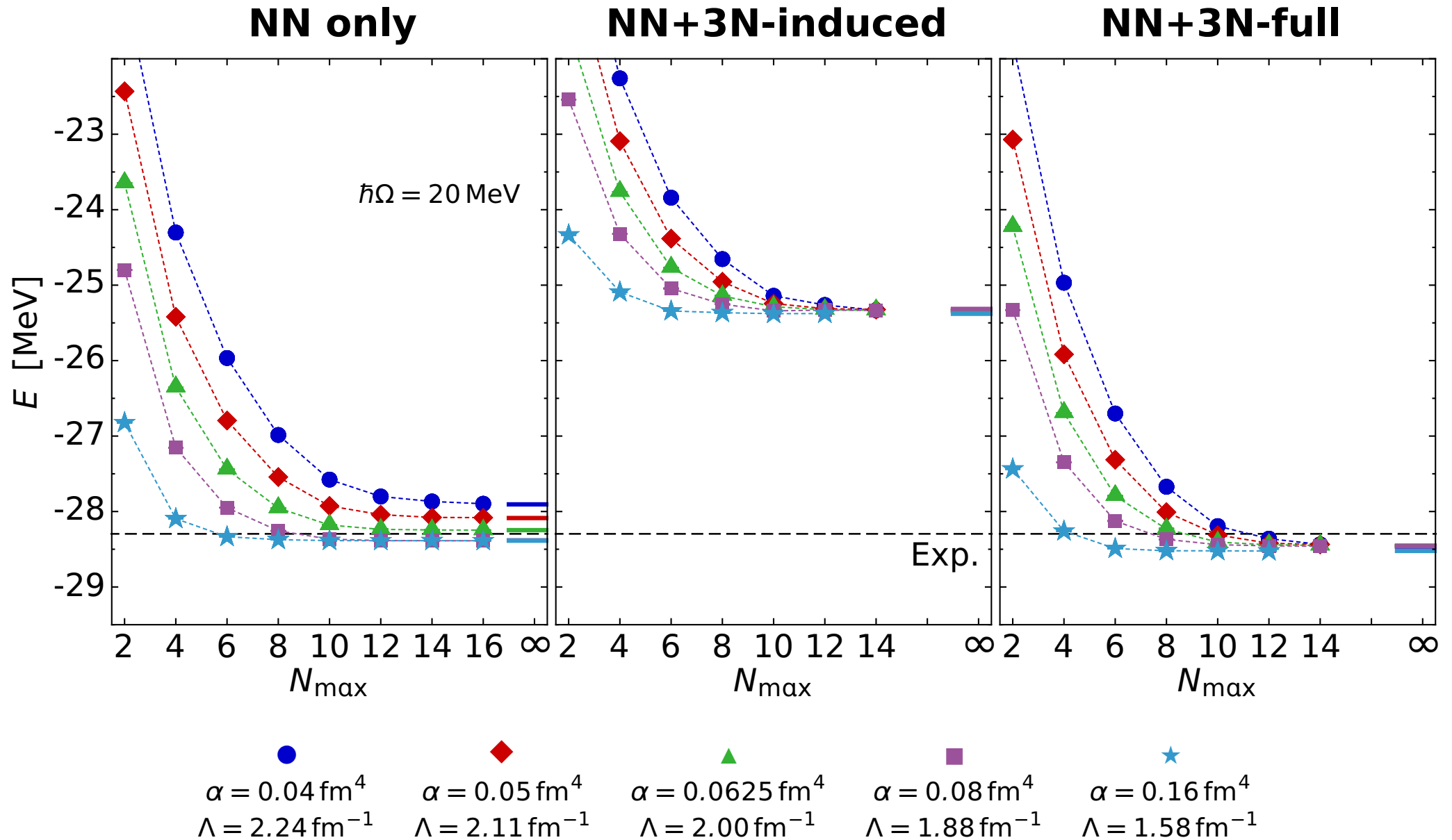
# Characterization of SRG-Evolved NN+3N Hamiltonians

Roth, Calci, Langhammer, Binder — in preparation (2013)

Roth, Langhammer, Calci et al. — Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 072501 (2011)

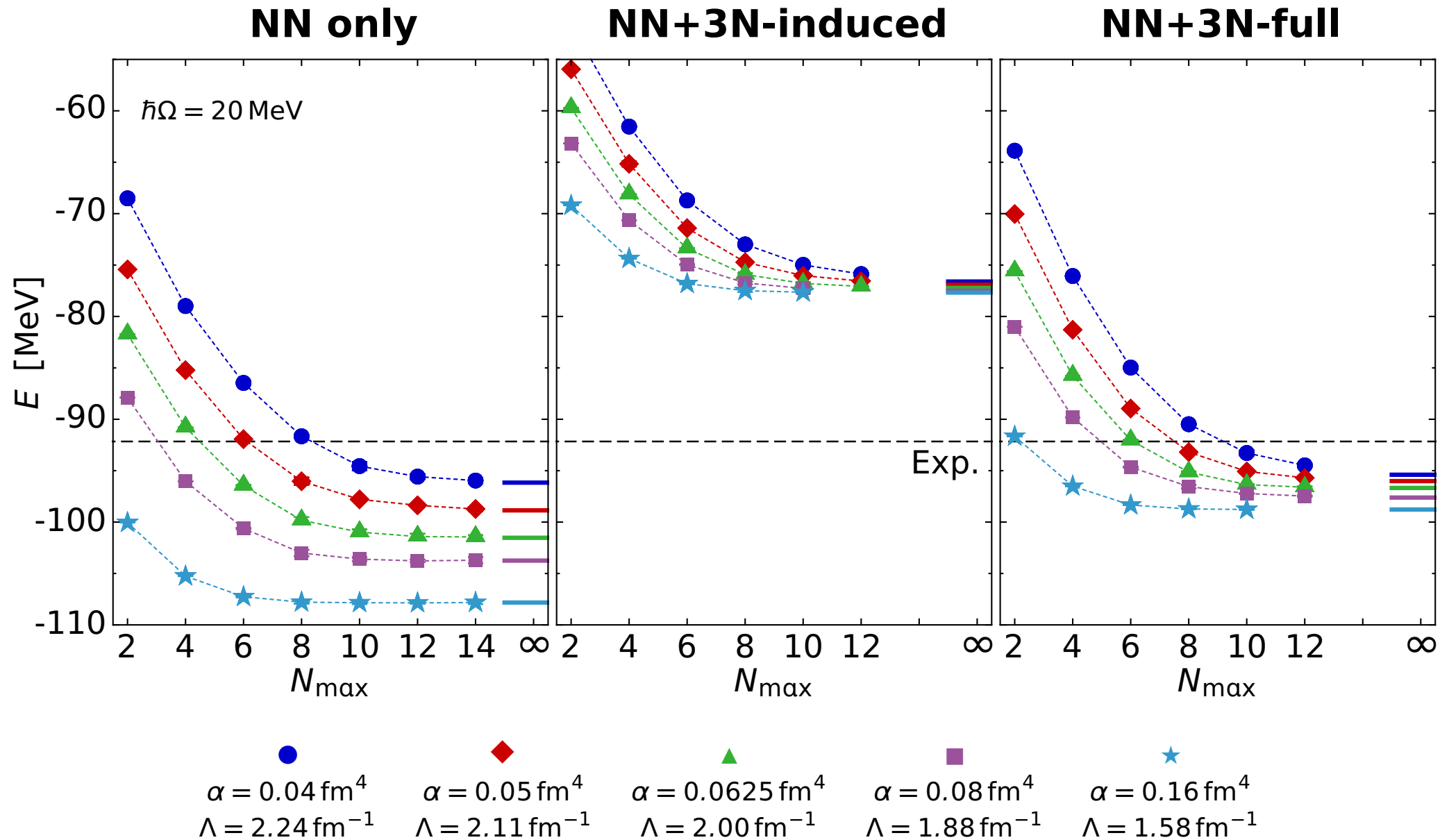
# $^4\text{He}$ : Ground-State Energies

Roth, et al; PRL 107, 072501 (2011)



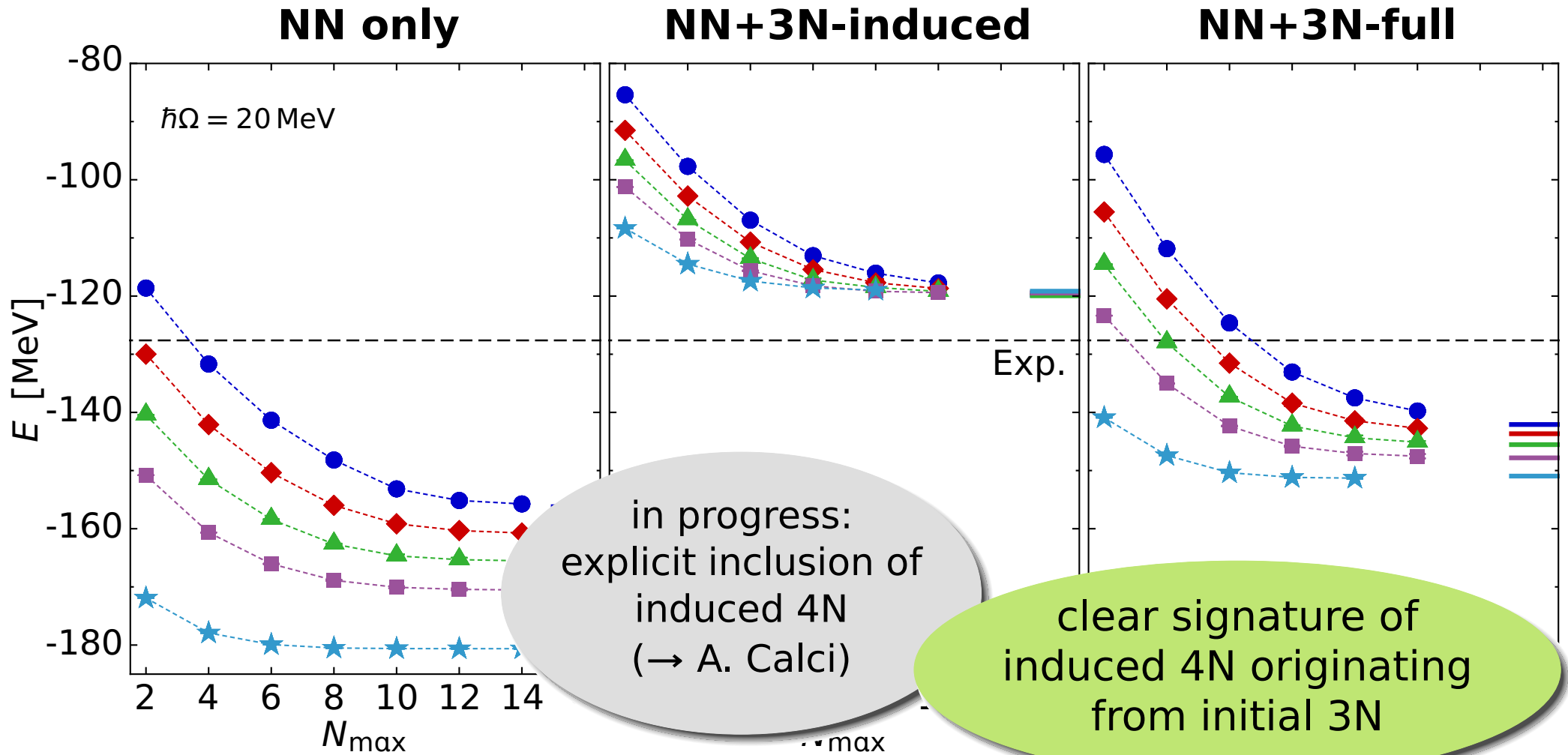
# $^{12}\text{C}$ : Ground-State Energies

Roth, et al; PRL 107, 072501 (2011)



# $^{16}\text{O}$ : Ground-State Energies

Roth, et al; PRL 107, 072501 (2011)



- $\alpha = 0.04 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\Lambda = 2.24 \text{ fm}^{-1}$
- ◆  
 $\alpha = 0.05 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\Lambda = 2.11 \text{ fm}^{-1}$
- ▲  
 $\alpha = 0.0625 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\Lambda = 2.00 \text{ fm}^{-1}$
- $\alpha = 0.08 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\Lambda = 1.88 \text{ fm}^{-1}$
- ★  
 $\alpha = 0.16 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\Lambda = 1.58 \text{ fm}^{-1}$



# $^{16}\text{O}$ : Lowering the Initial 3N Cutoff

standard

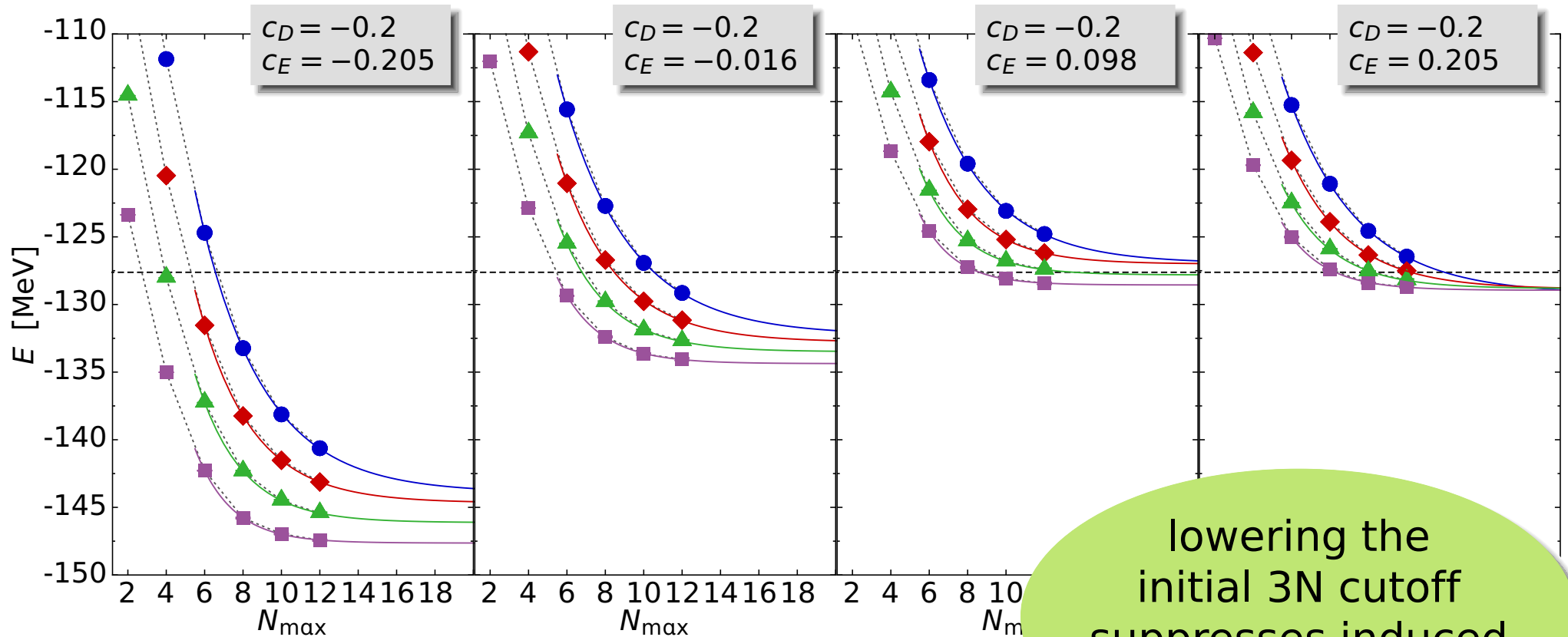
reduced 3N cutoff  
( $c_E$  refit to  $^4\text{He}$  binding energy)

500 MeV

450 MeV

400 MeV

350 MeV

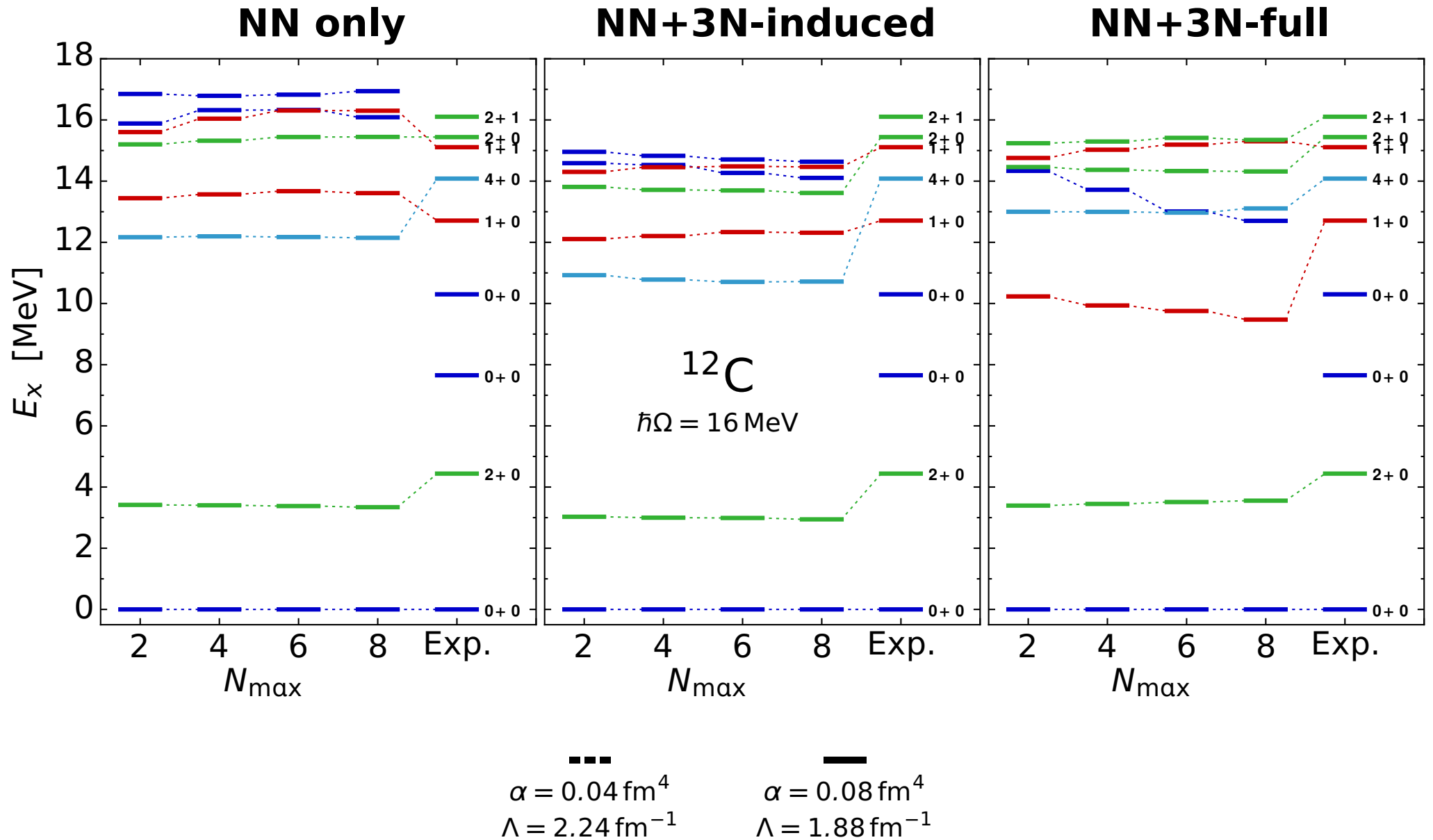


lowering the initial 3N cutoff suppresses induced 4N terms

$\alpha = 0.04 \text{ fm}^4$      $\alpha = 0.05 \text{ fm}^4$      $\alpha = 0.0625 \text{ fm}^4$      $\alpha = 0.08 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\Lambda = 2.24 \text{ fm}^{-1}$      $\Lambda = 2.11 \text{ fm}^{-1}$      $\Lambda = 2.00 \text{ fm}^{-1}$      $\Lambda = 1.88 \text{ fm}^{-1}$      $\hbar\Omega = 20 \text{ MeV}$

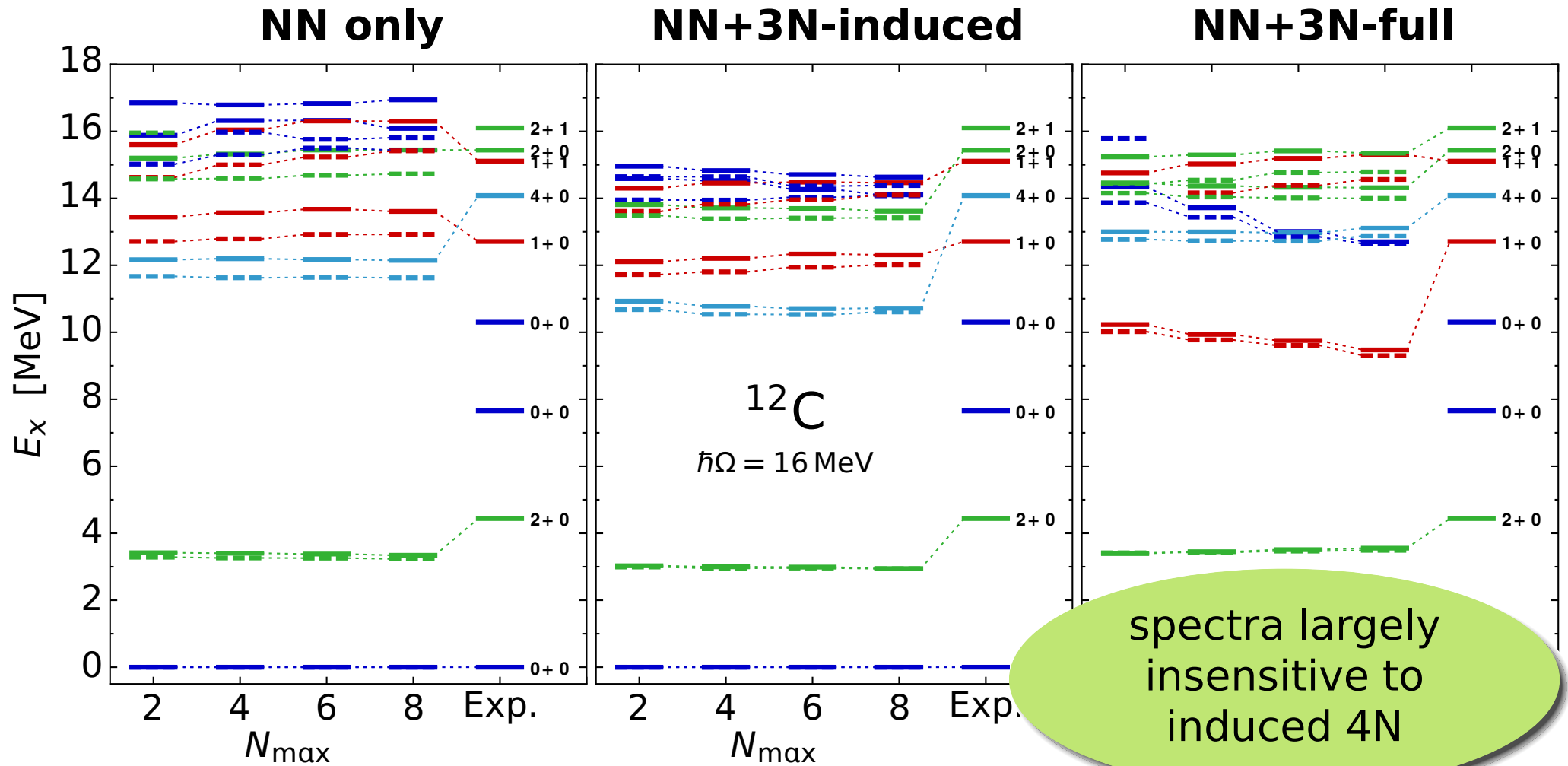
# Spectroscopy of $^{12}\text{C}$

Roth, et al; PRL 107, 072501 (2011)



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Roth, et al; PRL 107, 072501 (2011)

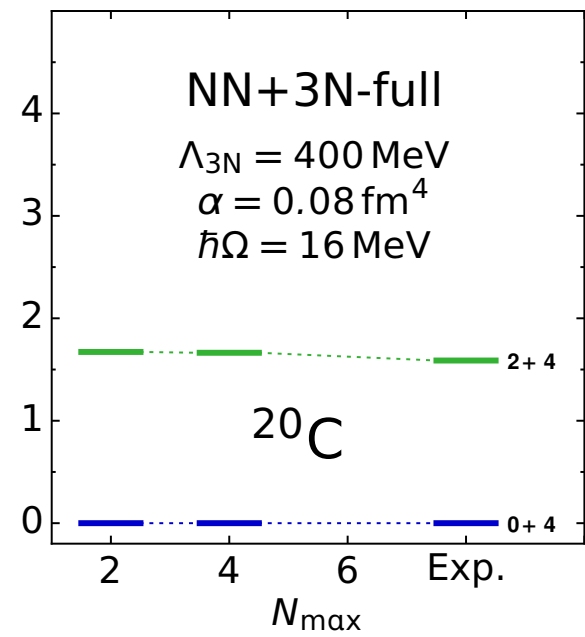
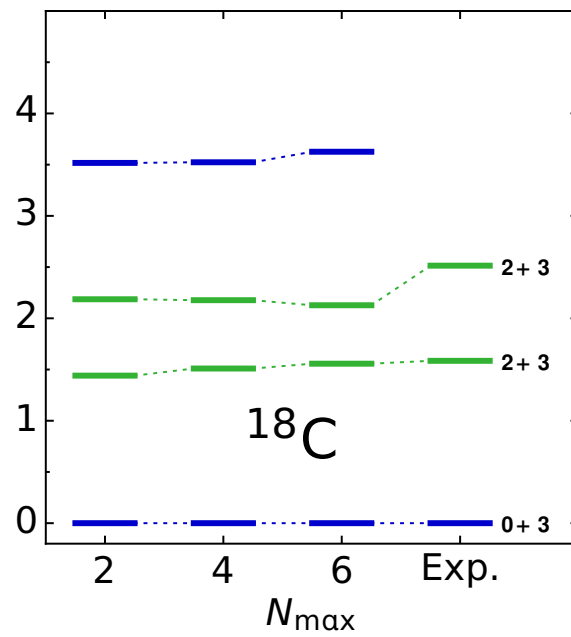
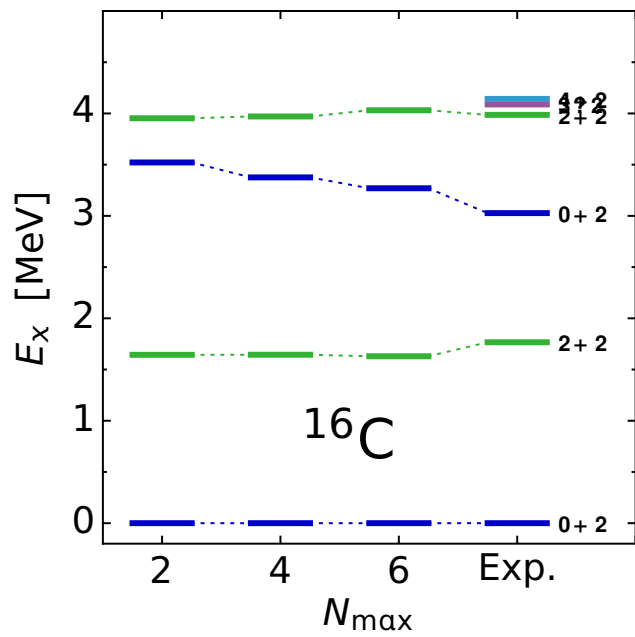
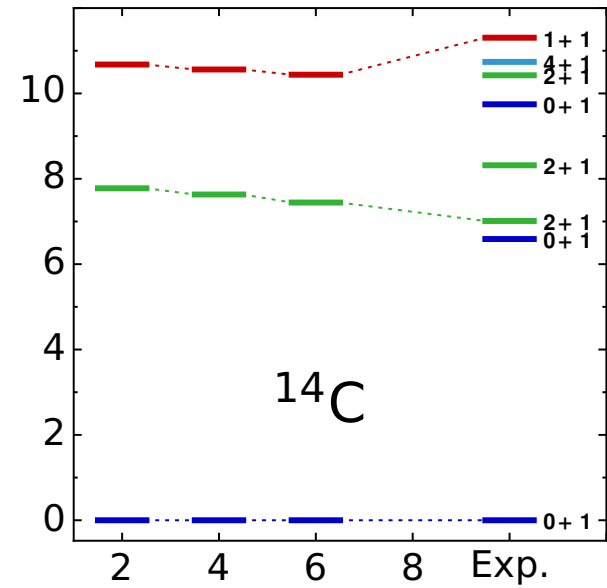
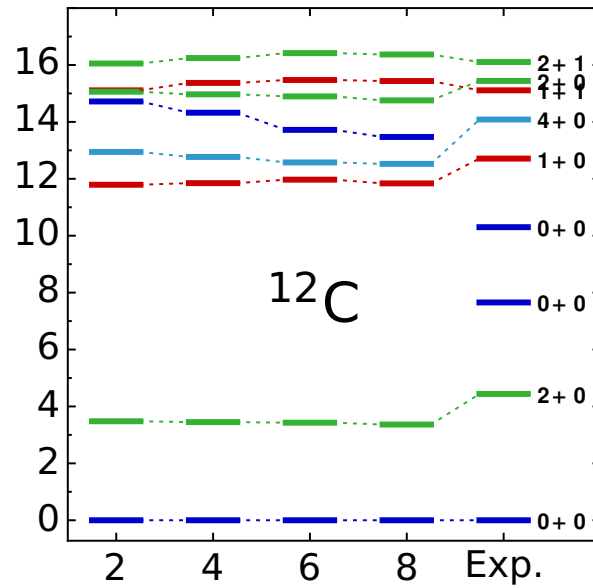
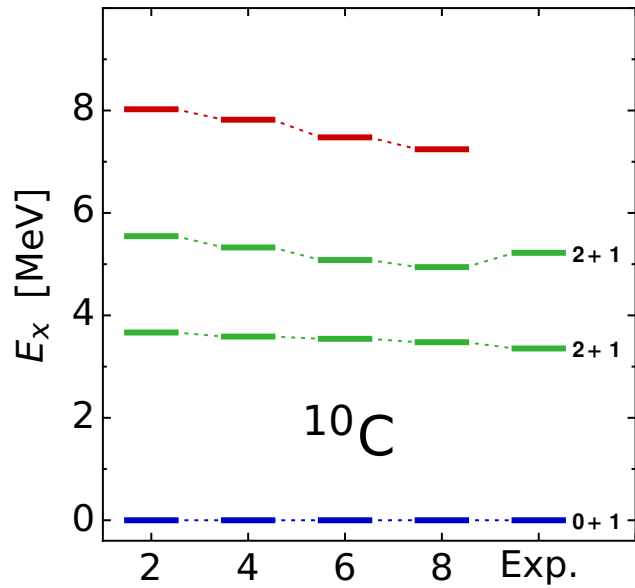


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 $\alpha = 0.04 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\Lambda = 2.24 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

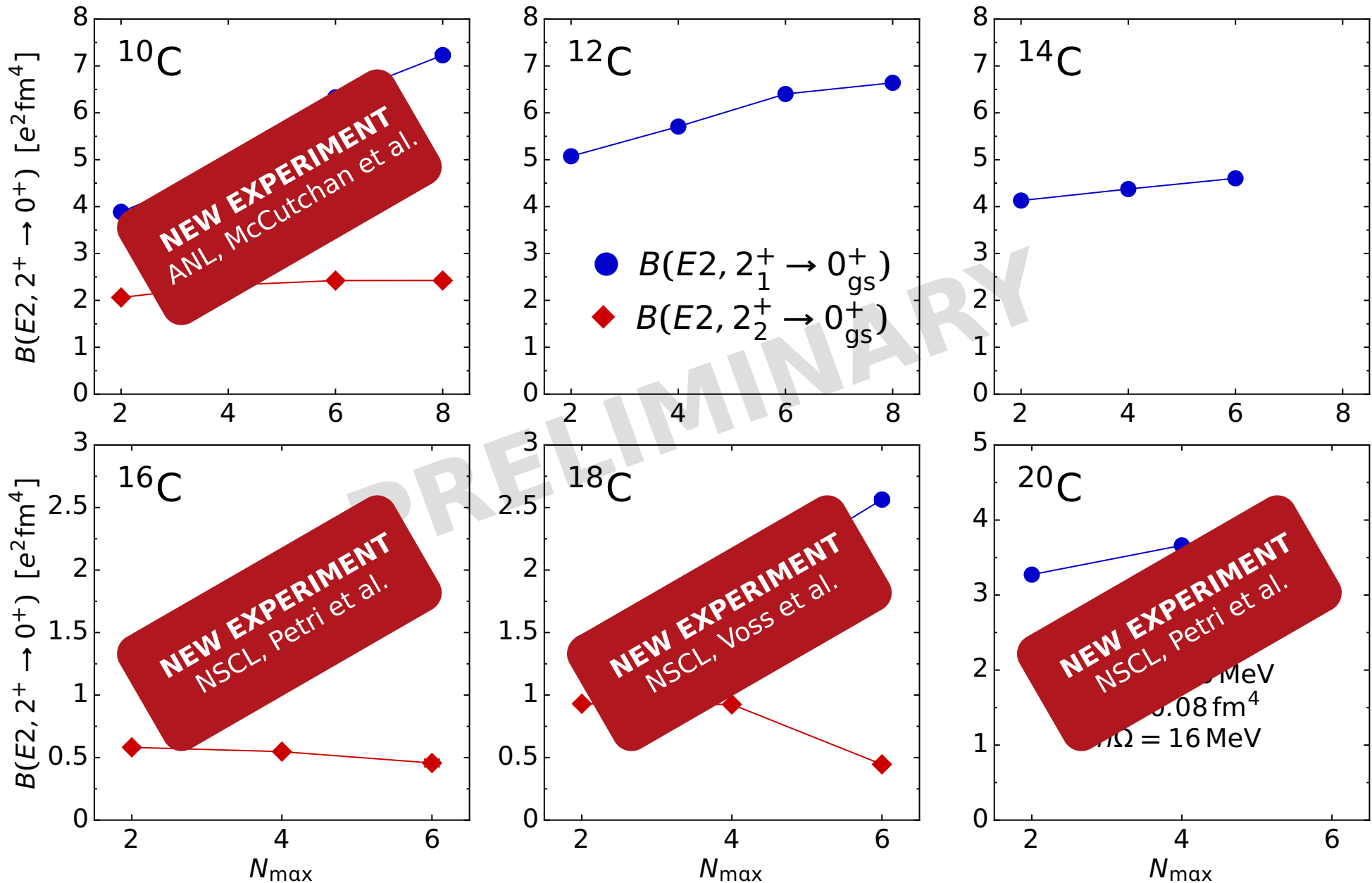
—  
 $\alpha = 0.08 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\Lambda = 1.88 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

# Ab Initio IT-NCSM Calculations for p- and sd-Shell Nuclei

# Spectroscopy of Carbon Isotopes

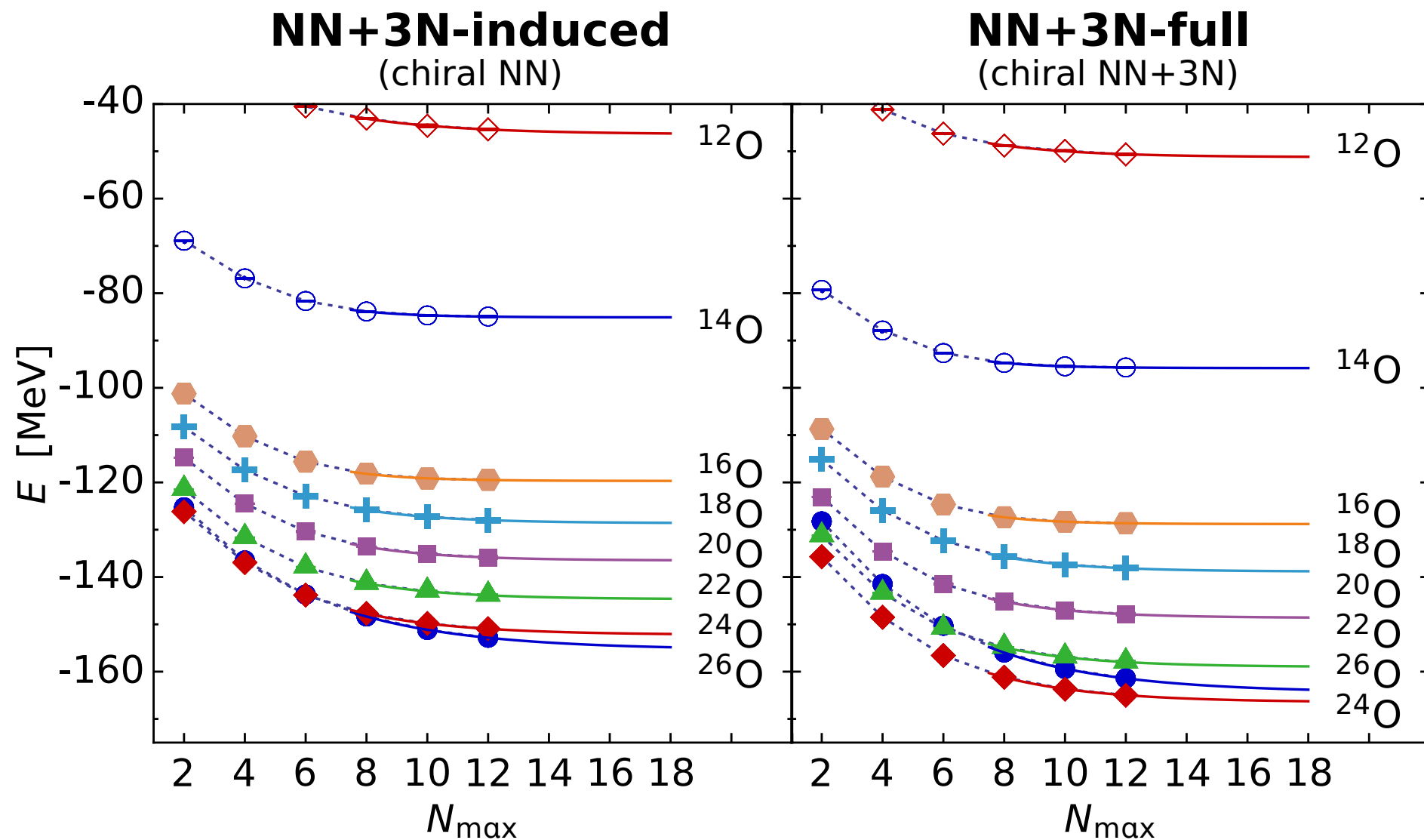


# Spectroscopy of Carbon Isotopes



# Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

Hergert, Binder, Calci, Langhammer, Roth; arXiv:1302.7294



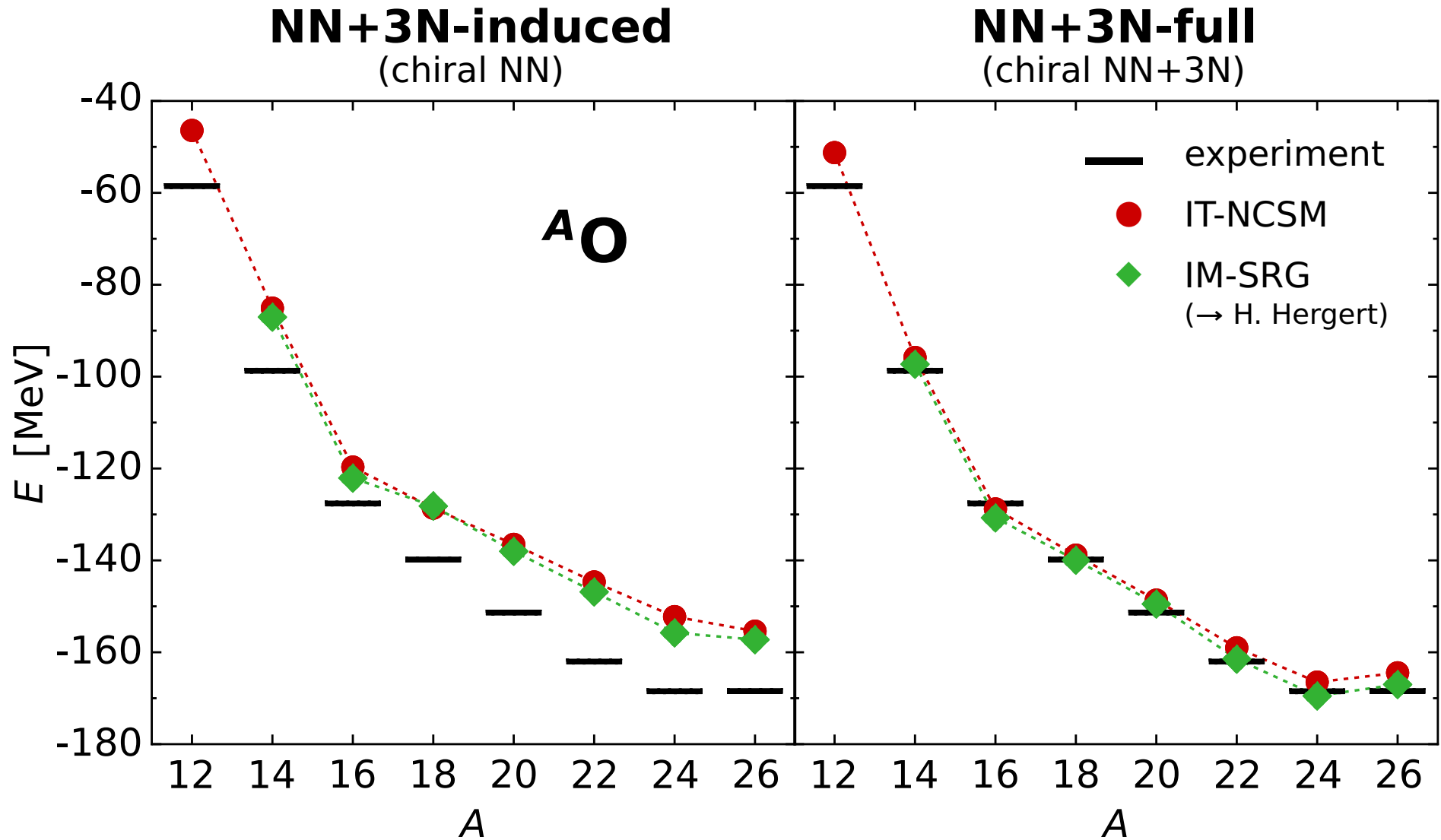
$\Lambda_{3N} = 400$  MeV,  $\alpha = 0.08$  fm<sup>4</sup>,  $E_{3\max} = 14$ , optimal  $\hbar\Omega$





# Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

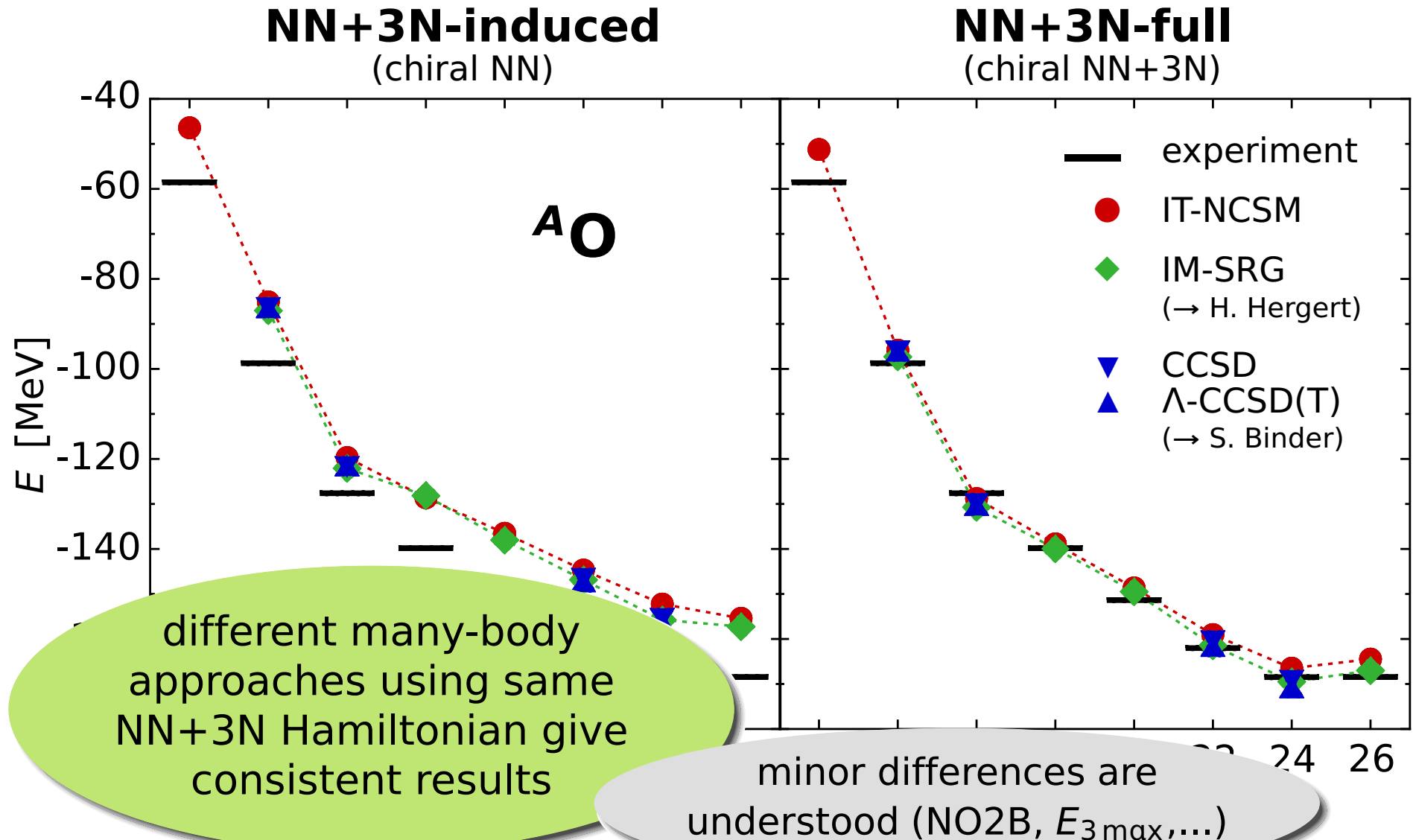
Hergert, Binder, Calci, Langhammer, Roth; arXiv:1302.7294



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Hergert, Binder, Calci, Langhammer, Roth; arXiv:1302.7294



$\Lambda_{3N} = 400$  MeV,  $\alpha = 0.08$  fm $^{-1}$ ,  $E_{3\max} = 14$  MeV,  $\Omega = 100$  MeV

# Multi-Reference Normal-Ordering Approximation

# Motivation: Normal Ordering

avoid formal and computational challenges of including explicit 3N terms in many-body calculations

- circumvent **formal extension of many-body method** to include explicit 3N interactions
- avoid the **increase of computational cost** caused by inclusion of explicit 3N interactions
- **normal-ordered two-body approximation** works very well for closed-shell systems (→ S. Binder)
- can we do the same for **open-shell nuclei**?

# Normal Ordering of 3N Interaction

- **starting point**: three-body operator in second-quantized form with respect to the zero-body vacuum  $|0\rangle$

$$V_{3N} = \frac{1}{36} \sum_{abc, \bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}} V_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} A_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc}$$

$$V_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} = \langle abc | V_{3N} | \bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c} \rangle$$

$$A_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} = a_a^\dagger a_b^\dagger a_c^\dagger a_{\bar{c}} a_{\bar{b}} a_{\bar{a}}$$

- **single-reference normal ordering**: assume reference state  $|\Phi_{SR}\rangle$  given by a single Slater determinant
  - standard toolbox: Wick theorem, contractions, etc.
- **multi-reference normal ordering**: assume reference state  $|\Phi_{MR}\rangle$  given by a superposition of Slater determinants
  - generalized Wick theorem and n-tupel contractions proposed by Mukherjee & Kutzelnigg (1997)

# Multi-Reference Normal Ordering

- **three-body operator in normal-ordered form** with respect to multi-reference state  $|\Phi_{\text{MR}}\rangle$

$$V_{3\text{N}} = W + \sum_{c, \bar{c}} W_{\bar{c}}^c \tilde{A}_{\bar{c}}^c + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{bc, \bar{b}\bar{c}} W_{\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{bc} \tilde{A}_{\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{bc} + \frac{1}{36} \sum_{abc, \bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}} W_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} \tilde{A}_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc}$$

where  $\tilde{A}_{\circ\circ\circ}^{\circ\circ\circ}$  indicates multi-reference normal ordered string of creation and annihilation operators (abstract concept)

- matrix elements of **normal-ordered  $n$ -body contributions** involve one-, two- and three-body density matrices for  $|\Phi_{\text{MR}}\rangle$

$$W = \frac{1}{36} \sum_{abc, \bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}} V_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} \rho_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc}$$

$$W_{\bar{c}}^c = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{ab, \bar{a}\bar{b}} V_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} \rho_{\bar{a}\bar{b}}^{ab}$$

$$W_{\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{bc} = \sum_{a, \bar{a}} V_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} \rho_{\bar{a}}^a$$

$$W_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} = V_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc}$$

# Multi-Reference Normal Ordering

- discard normal-ordered three-body contribution to define the **normal-ordered two-body (NO2B) approximation**

$$V_{\text{NO2B}} = W + \sum_{c, \bar{c}} W_{\bar{c}}^c \tilde{A}_{\bar{c}}^c + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{bc, \bar{b}\bar{c}} W_{\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{bc} \tilde{A}_{\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{bc}$$

- converted back into **vacuum normal order** with respect to  $|0\rangle$

$$V_{\text{NO2B}} = \bar{V} + \sum_{c, \bar{c}} \bar{V}_{\bar{c}}^c A_{\bar{c}}^c + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{bc, \bar{b}\bar{c}} \bar{V}_{\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{bc} A_{\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{bc}$$

with new matrix elements

$$\bar{V} = \frac{1}{36} \sum_{abc, \bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}} V_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} \left( \rho_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} - 18 \rho_{\bar{a}}^a \rho_{\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{bc} + 36 \rho_{\bar{a}}^a \rho_{\bar{b}}^b \rho_{\bar{c}}^c \right)$$

$$\bar{V}_{\bar{c}}^c = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{ab, \bar{a}\bar{b}} V_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} \left( \rho_{\bar{a}\bar{b}}^{ab} - 4 \rho_{\bar{a}}^a \rho_{\bar{b}}^b \right)$$

$$\bar{V}_{\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{bc} = \sum_{a, \bar{a}} V_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} \rho_{\bar{a}}^a$$

# Single-Reference Normal Ordering

- **single-reference normal ordering** is recovered by pugging in density matrices for a single Slater-determinant

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_{\bar{a}}^a &= n_a \delta_{\bar{a}}^a \\ \rho_{\bar{a}\bar{b}}^{ab} &= \rho_{\bar{a}}^a \rho_{\bar{b}}^b - \rho_{\bar{a}}^b \rho_{\bar{b}}^a \\ \rho_{\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} &= \dots\end{aligned}$$

- three-body operator in **single-reference NO2B approximation** converted back into vacuum representation

$$V_{\text{NO2B}} = \bar{V} + \sum_{c, \bar{c}} \bar{V}_{\bar{c}}^c A_{\bar{c}}^c + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{bc, \bar{b}\bar{c}} \bar{V}_{\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{bc} A_{\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{bc}$$

with simplified matrix elements

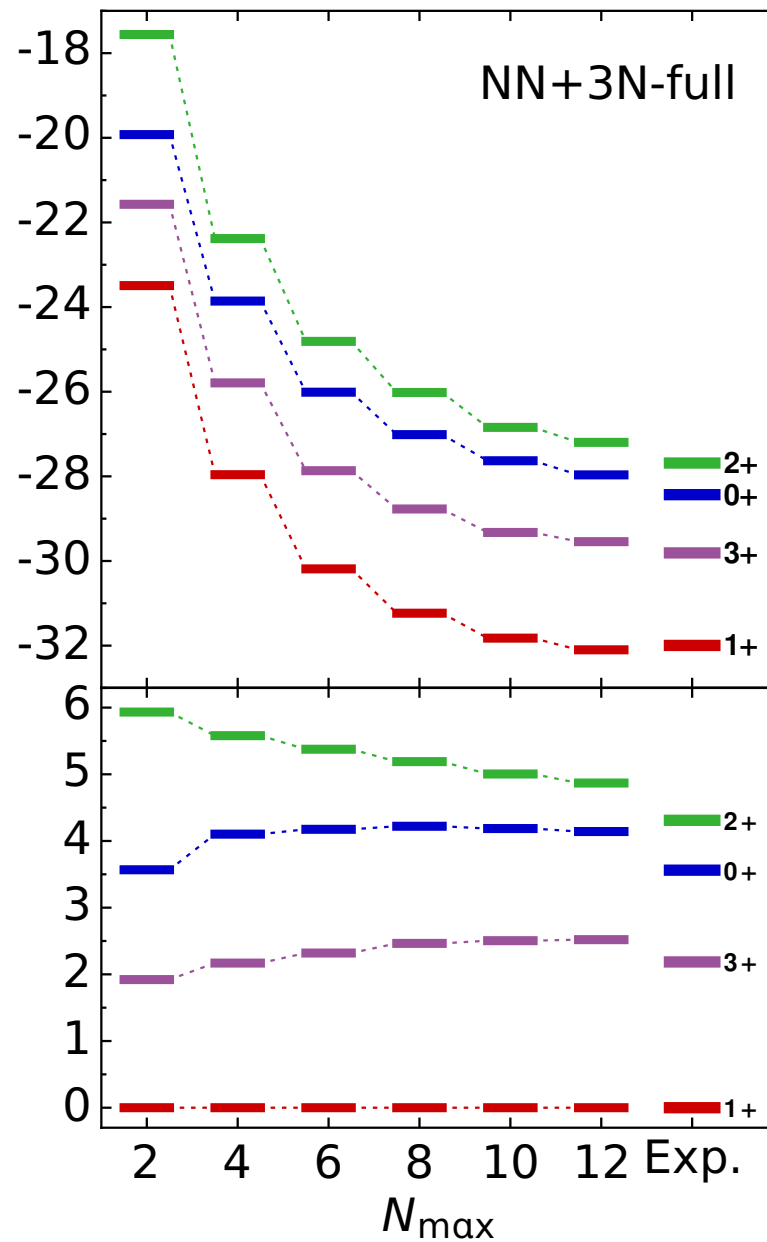
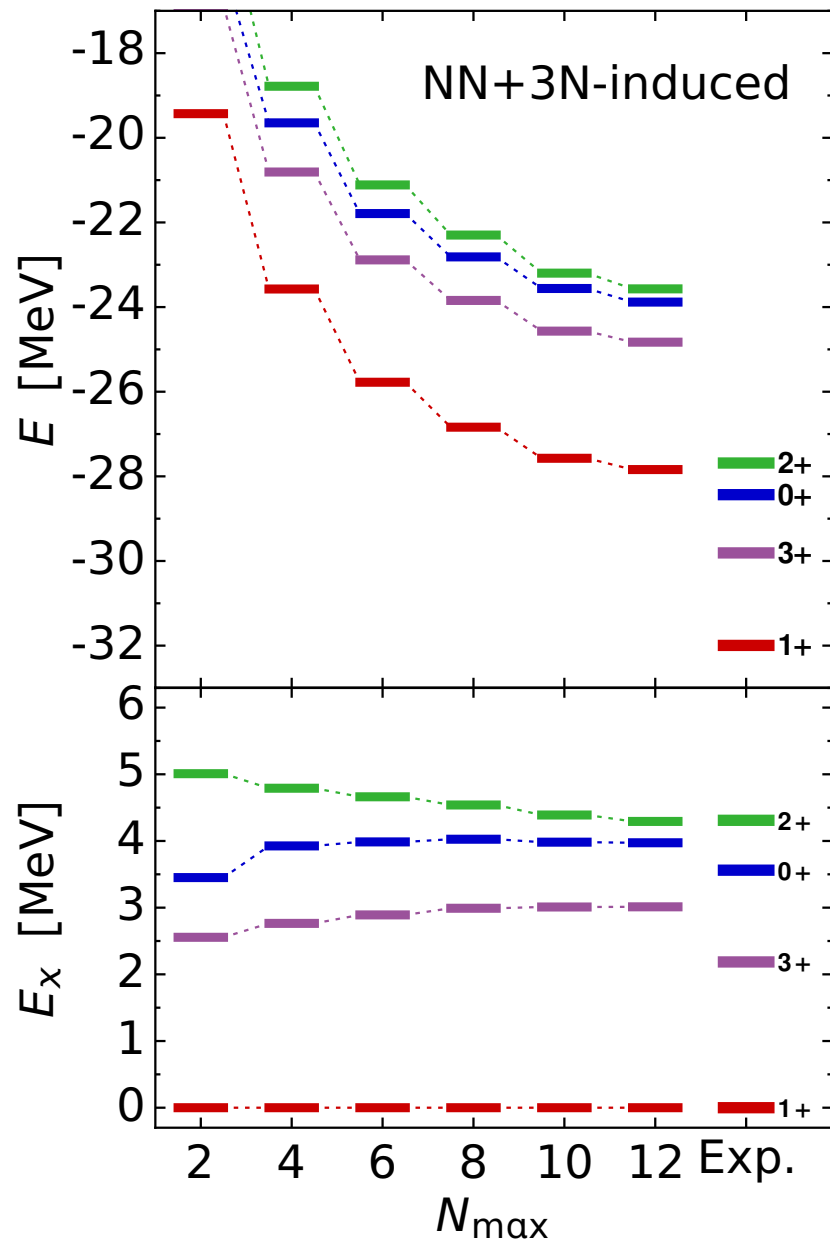
$$\bar{V} = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{abc} V_{abc}^{abc} n_a n_b n_c \quad \bar{V}_{\bar{c}}^c = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{ab} V_{ab\bar{c}}^{abc} n_a n_b \quad \bar{V}_{\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{bc} = \sum_a V_{a\bar{b}\bar{c}}^{abc} n_a$$



# IT-NCSM with MR-NO2B Approximation

- ① perform NCSM with explicit  $3N$  interaction for small  $N_{\max}$ 
  - ground state defines the reference state  $|\Phi_{\text{MR}}\rangle$
  - no explicit information on excited states enters
- ② compute zero-, one- and two-body matrix elements of MR-NO2B approximation
  - density matrices for  $|\Phi_{\text{MR}}\rangle$  can be precomputed and stored
  - three-body density matrix is not need explicitly
- ③ perform NCSM or IT-NCSM calculation up to large  $N_{\max}$  using MR-NO2B approximation
  - same computational cost as a simple NN-only calculation
  - larger model spaces become accessible

# Benchmark: ${}^6\text{Li}$

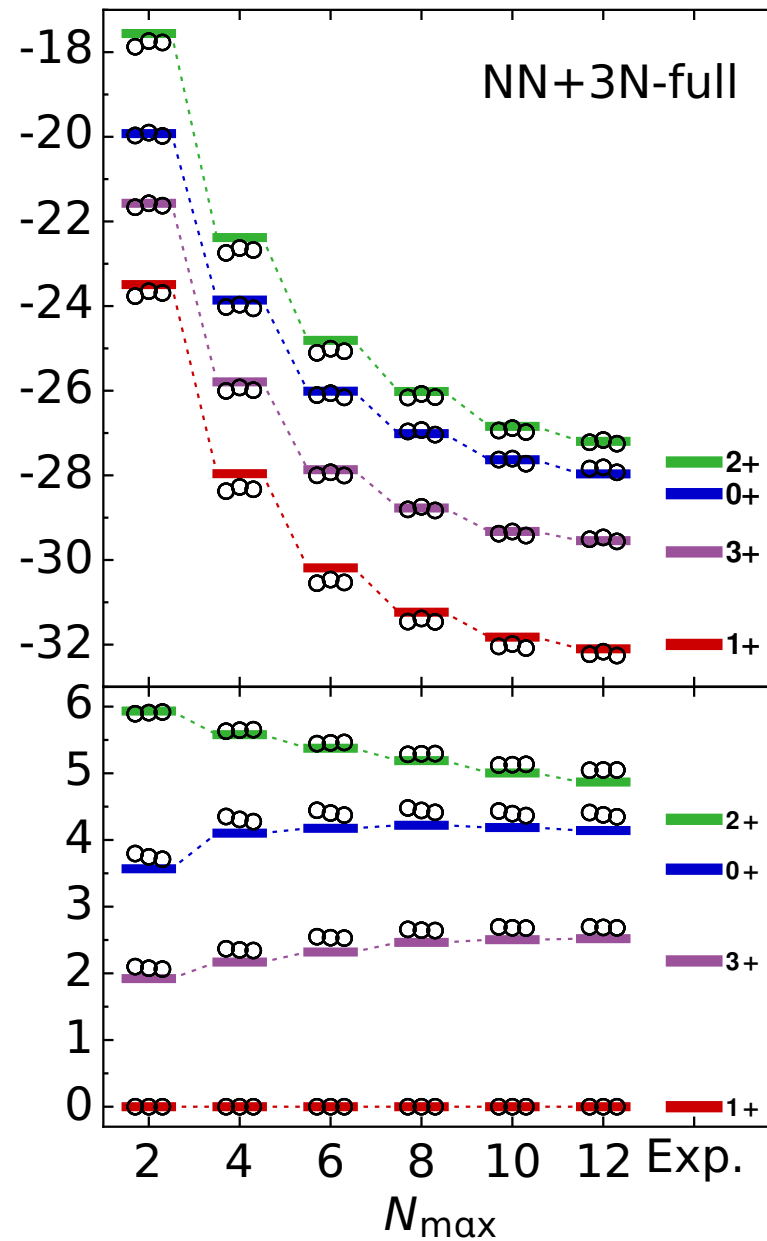
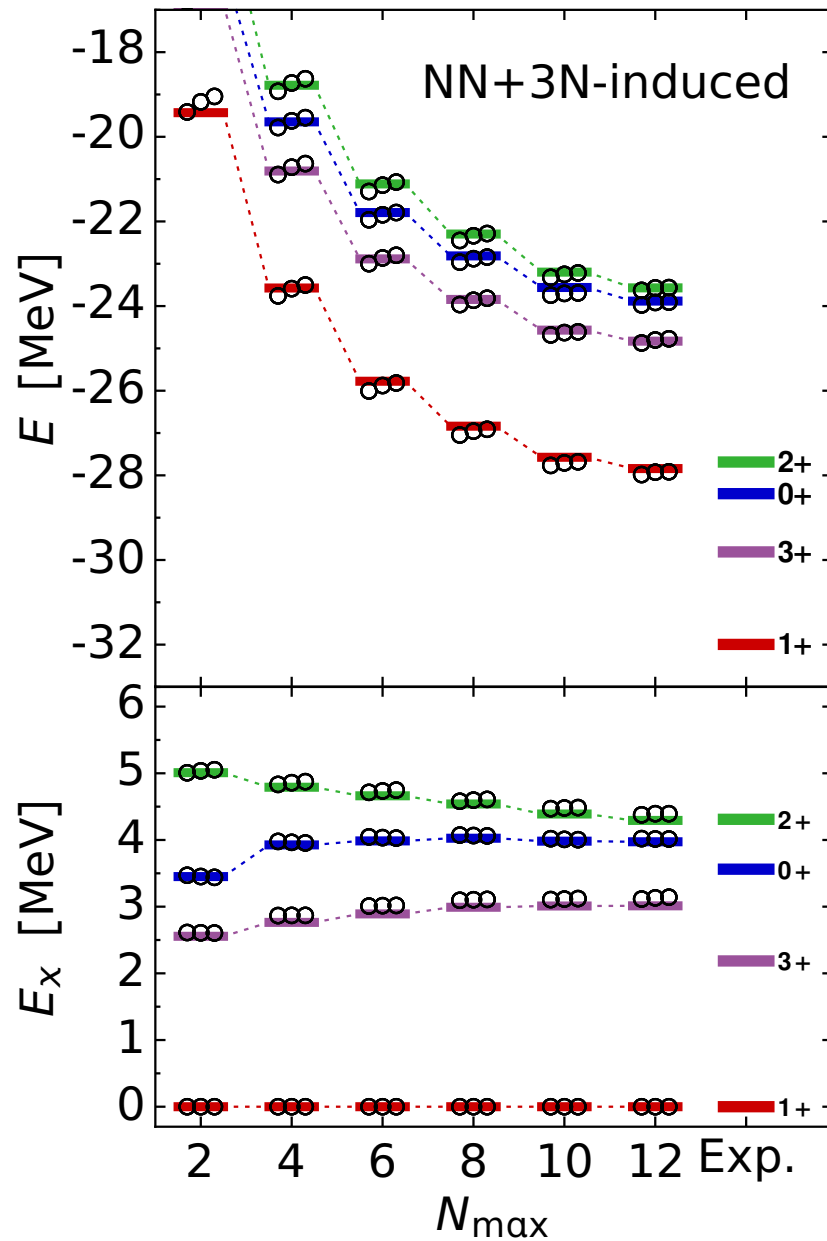


${}^6\text{Li}$

$\Lambda_{3N} = 500 \text{ MeV}$   
 $\alpha = 0.08 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\hbar\Omega = 20 \text{ MeV}$


  
 explicit 3N


# Benchmark: ${}^6\text{Li}$



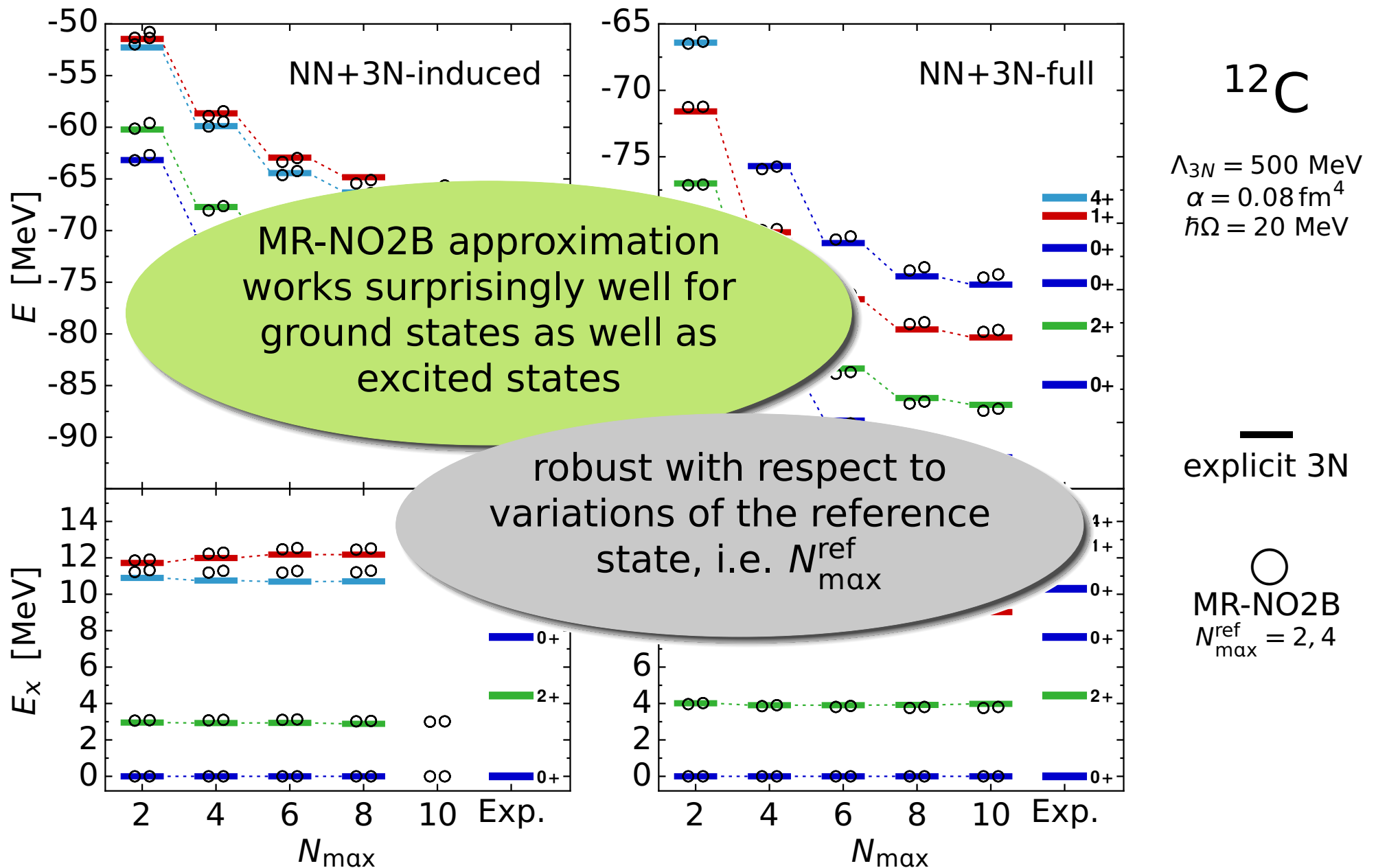
${}^6\text{Li}$

$\Lambda_{3N} = 500 \text{ MeV}$   
 $\alpha = 0.08 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\hbar\Omega = 20 \text{ MeV}$

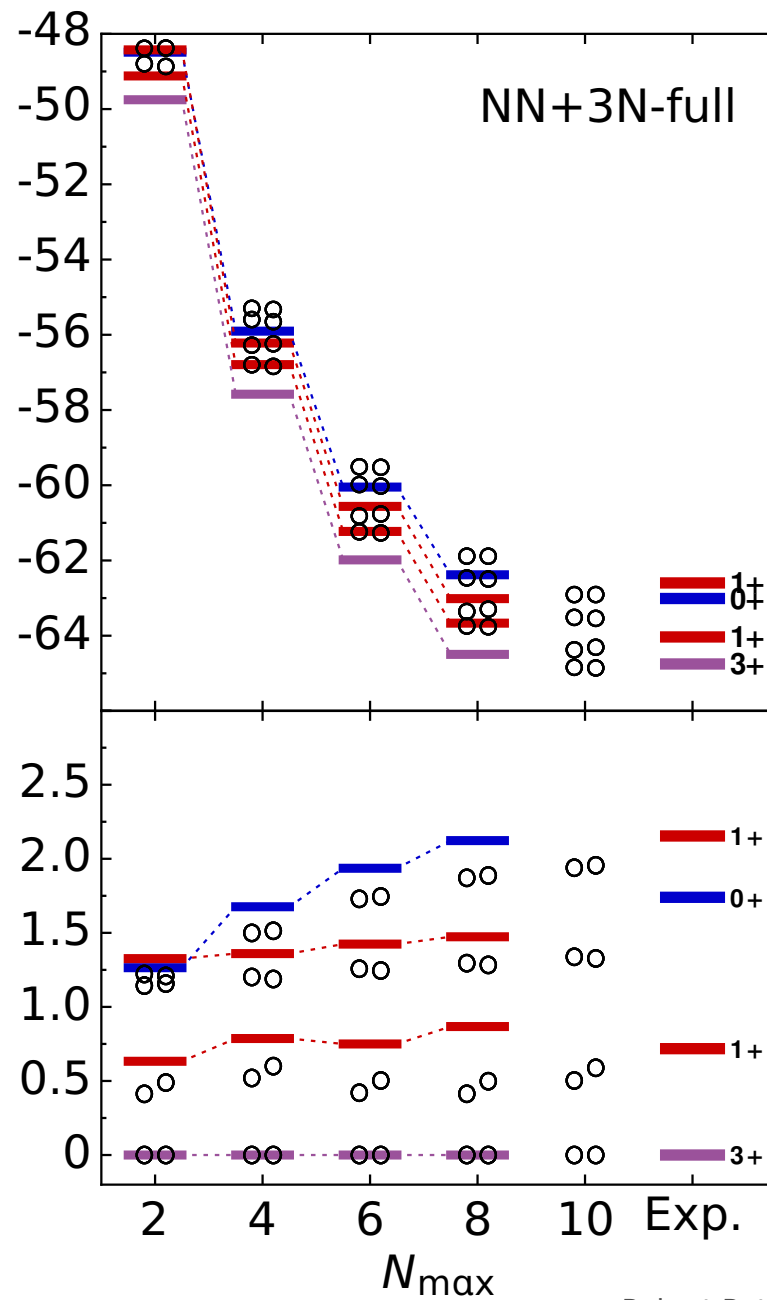
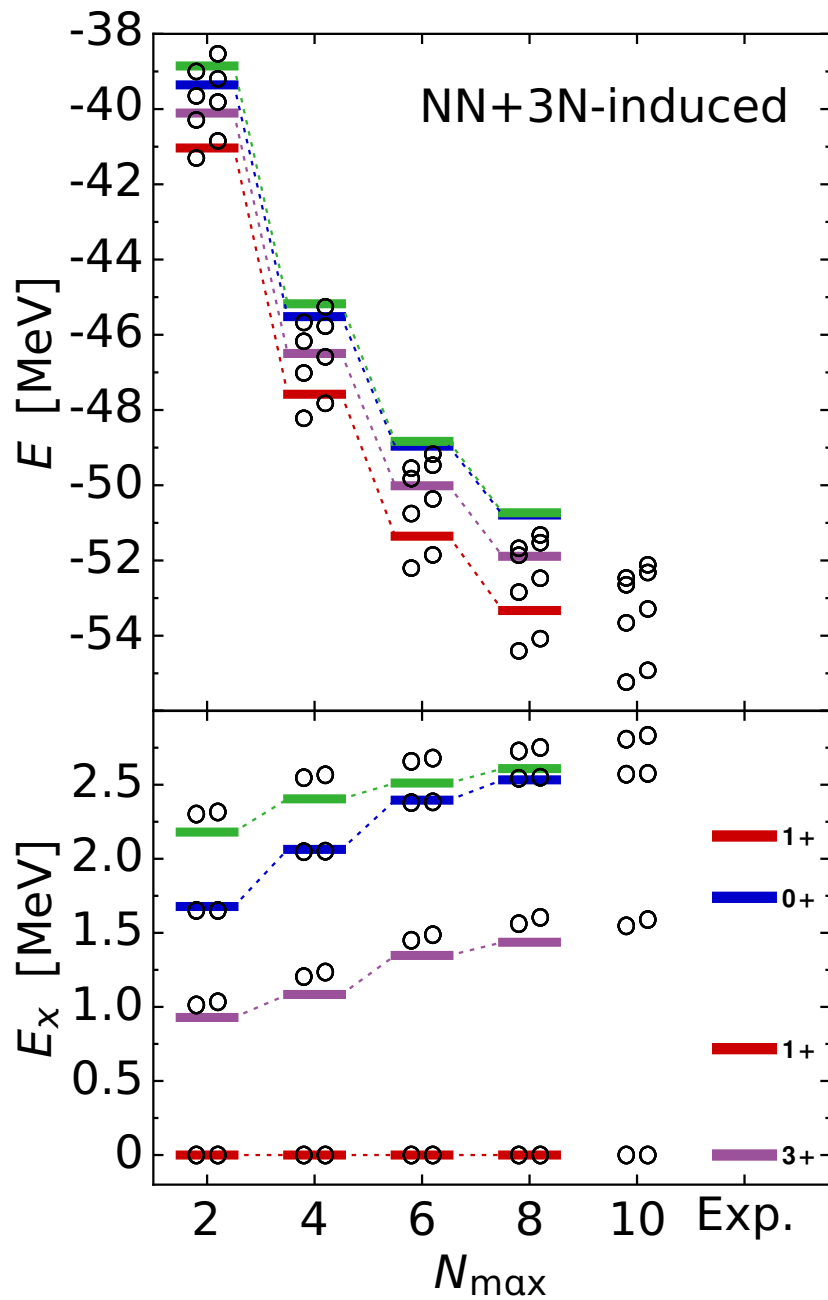
  
 explicit 3N

  
 MR-NO2B  
 $N_{\text{max}}^{\text{ref}} = 2, 4, 6$

# Benchmark: $^{12}\text{C}$



# Challenge: $^{10}\text{B}$



$^{10}\text{B}$

$\Lambda_{3N} = 500 \text{ MeV}$   
 $\alpha = 0.08 \text{ fm}^4$   
 $\hbar\Omega = 16 \text{ MeV}$

— explicit 3N

○ MR-NO2B  
 $N_{\text{max}}^{\text{ref}} = 2, 4$

# Reflections

# Questions I

- How can we extend current ab-initio methods to describe open-shell and deformed nuclei?
  - IT-NCSM describes open and closed-shell nuclei on the same footing
  - MR-IM-SRG is a true open-shell approach for medium/heavy masses (→ H. Hergert), others are following
- How can we include the effects of three-nucleon forces in a computationally efficient manner?
  - explicit 3N interactions are used in IT-NCSM very efficiently
  - CCSD and ACCSD(T) is available with explicit 3N (→ S. Binder)
  - single- and multi-reference normal ordering provide robust approximations at reduced cost
  - this does not imply that any kind of 'summation over the third particle' is accurate

# Questions II

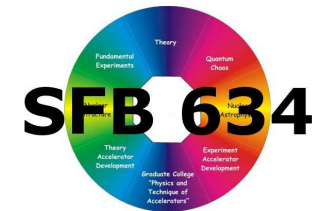
- How can we describe the onset of pairing in nuclei within various ab-initio frameworks?
  - any ab initio approach for open shells has to describe pairing
- Can we develop reliable theoretical error estimates?
  - defining element of any ab initio approach
  - uncertainty quantification case by case within the many-body approach, not just guessing
  - uncertainty quantification also necessary for the chiral EFT inputs
- How can we bridge structure and reactions in a consistent fashion?
  - NCSM/RGM and NCSMC with 3N are on their way (→ P. Navratil)
- How can we generate reliable predictions for the drip-lines?
  - simply do all of the above...



# Epilogue

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