

# Neutron matter equation of state from Chiral Effective Field Theory



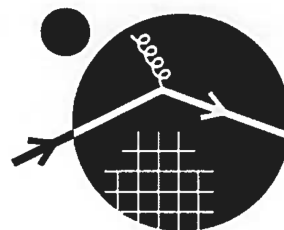
Ingo Tews,

In collaboration with S. Gandolfi, A. Gezerlis, K. Hebeler, T. Krüger, J. Lynn, A. Schwenk, ...

Talk, INT program: "*Phases of dense matter*", July 19, 2016, Seattle



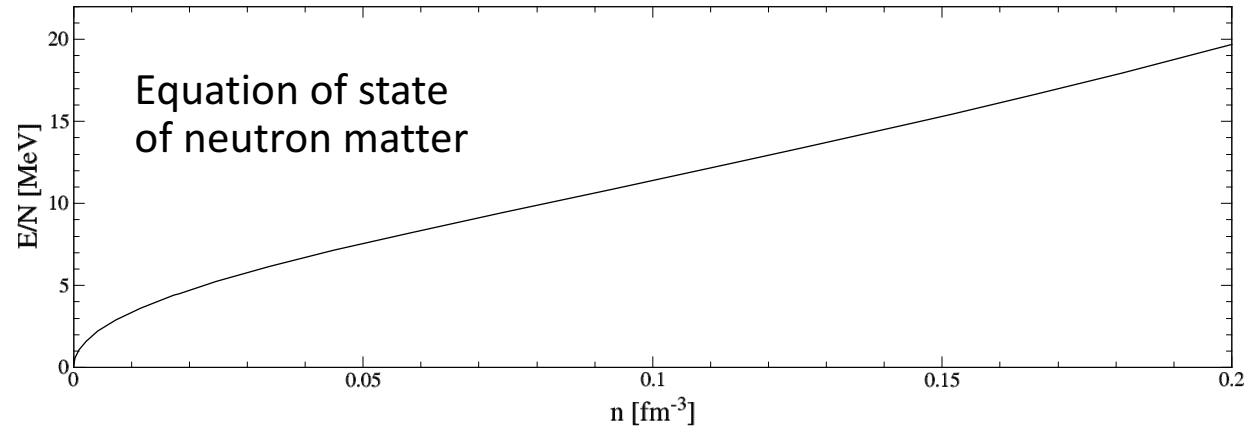
JINA-CEE



INSTITUTE for  
NUCLEAR THEORY

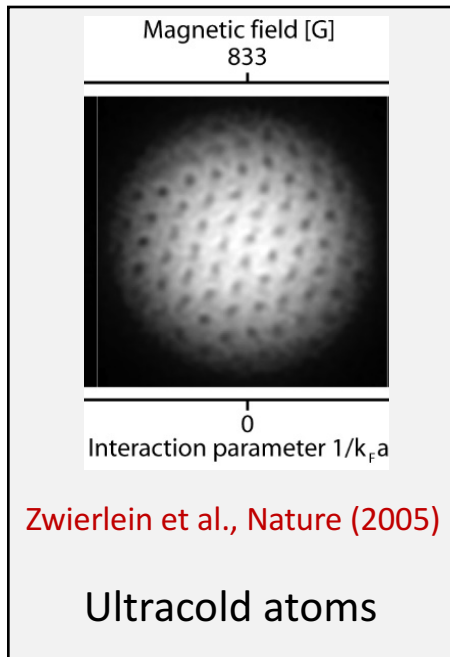
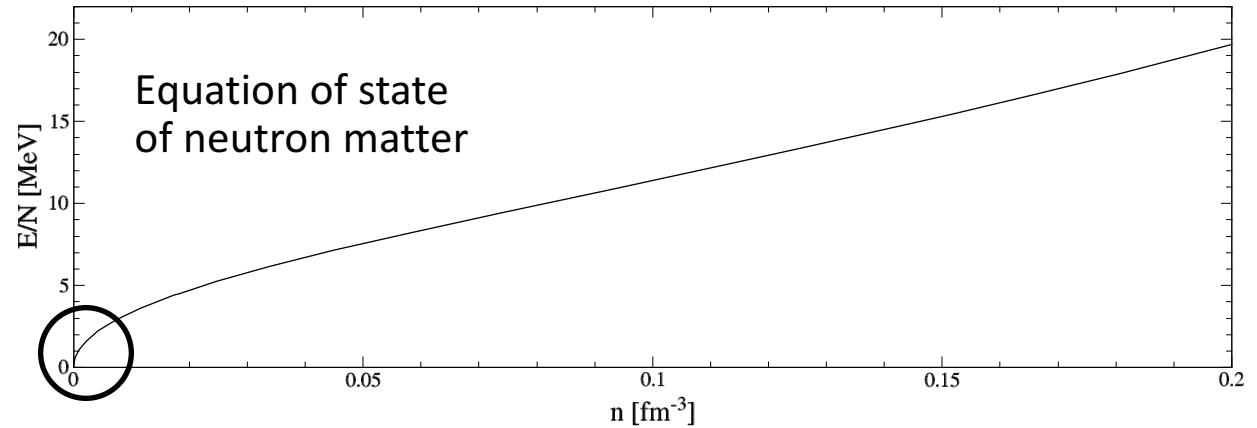
# Motivation

- The neutron-matter equation of state connects several physical systems over a wide density range.
- An accurate description of the neutron-matter equation of state is therefore crucial.



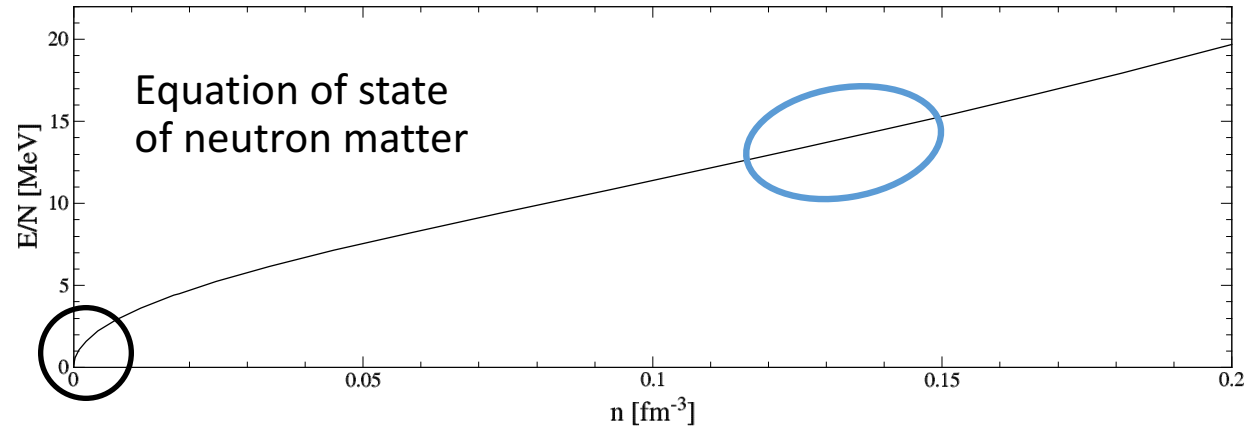
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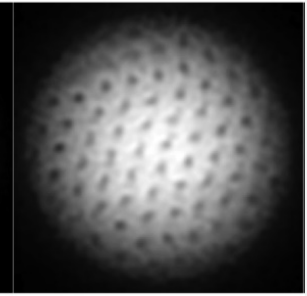


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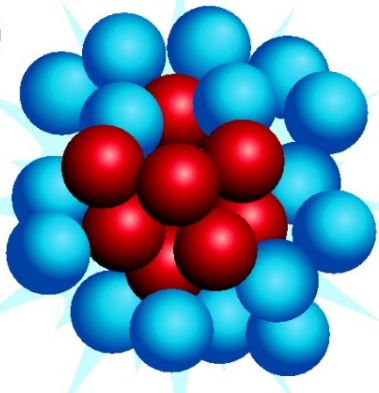
Magnetic field [G]  
833



0  
Interaction parameter  $1/k_f a$

Zwierlein et al., Nature (2005)

Ultracold atoms

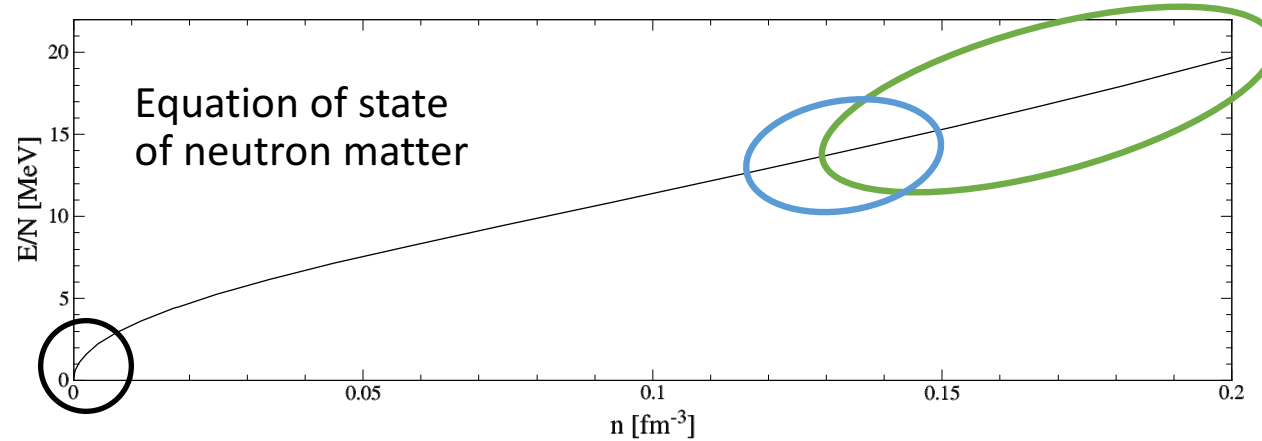


Credit: B.A. Brown

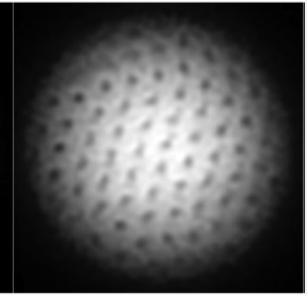
Neutron-rich nuclei

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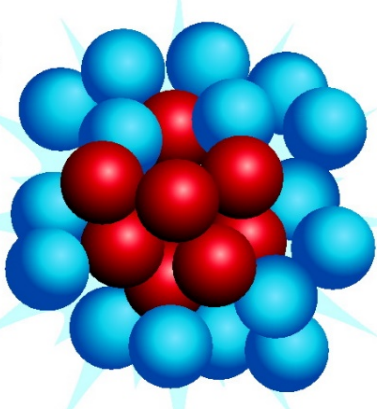
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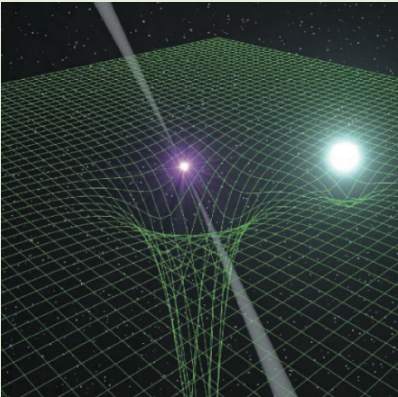
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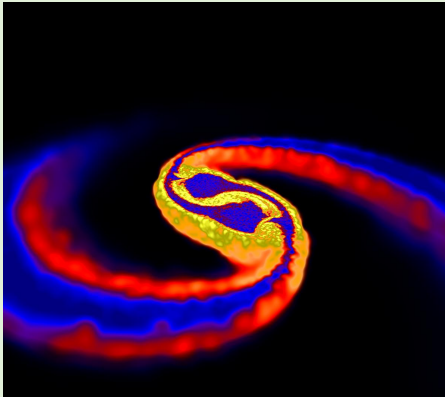
Credit: B.A. Brown

Neutron-rich nuclei



Antoniadis et al., Science (2013)

Neutron stars

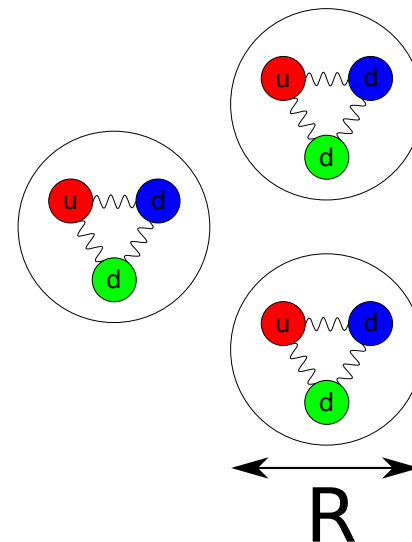


Credit: S. Rosswog

Gravitational waves from neutron star mergers

- Chiral effective field theory: *Epelbaum et al.*, PPNP (2006) and RMP (2009)
  - **Systematic basis** for low-energy nuclear forces, connected to QCD
  - naturally includes **many-body forces**
  - **Very successful** in calculations of nuclei and nuclear matter
  
- **Ab-initio calculations using chiral EFT** can be used to constrain equation of state of neutron matter
  
- Neutron-matter applications: *IT, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk*, PRL & PRC & PLB (2013)
  - Symmetry energy
  - Chiral condensate
  - Neutron-star mass-radius relation
  
- Improving neutron-matter results using **Quantum Monte Carlo methods**  
*Gezerlis, IT, et al.*, PRL & PRC (2013, 2014, 2016)
  
- Summary

Basic principle of **effective field theory**:



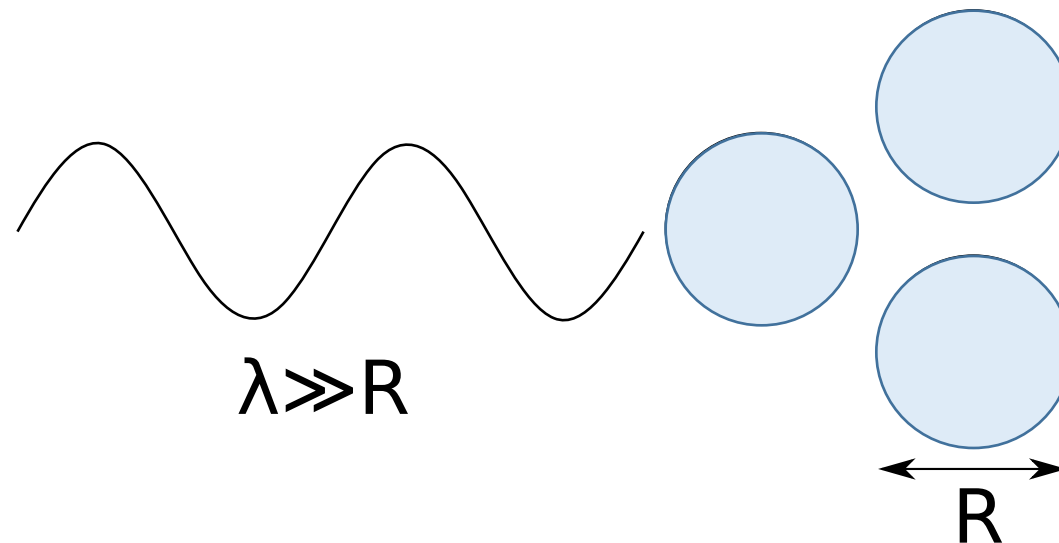
Quantum  
Chromodynamics

At low energies (long wavelength) details not resolved!

- Choose **relevant degrees of freedom** for low-energy processes
- Systematic expansion of interactions constrained by symmetries



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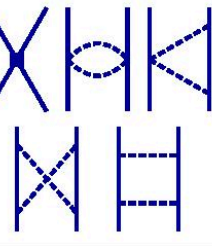
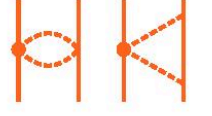
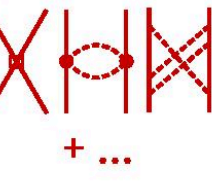
Effective field theory  
for nuclear forces

At low energies (long wavelength) details not resolved!

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# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces

		NN
LO	$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^0}{\Lambda^0}\right)$	
NLO	$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^2}{\Lambda^2}\right)$	
N <sup>2</sup> LO	$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^3}{\Lambda^3}\right)$	
N <sup>3</sup> LO	$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^4}{\Lambda^4}\right)$	

Explicit degrees of freedom:

- Pions and nucleons

Write **most general Lagrangian** consistent with the symmetries of QCD

**Separation of scales:**

- Low momenta  $Q \ll$  breakdown scale  $\Lambda_b$

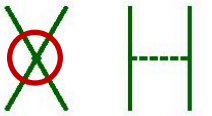
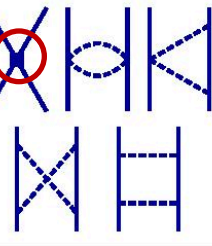

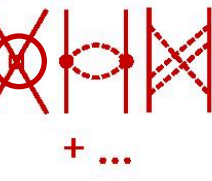
- Expand in powers of  $\left(\frac{Q}{\Lambda_b}\right)^\nu \sim \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^\nu$

**Power counting:**

- $\nu = 0$ : leading order (LO),
- $\nu = 2$ : next-to-leading order (NLO), ...

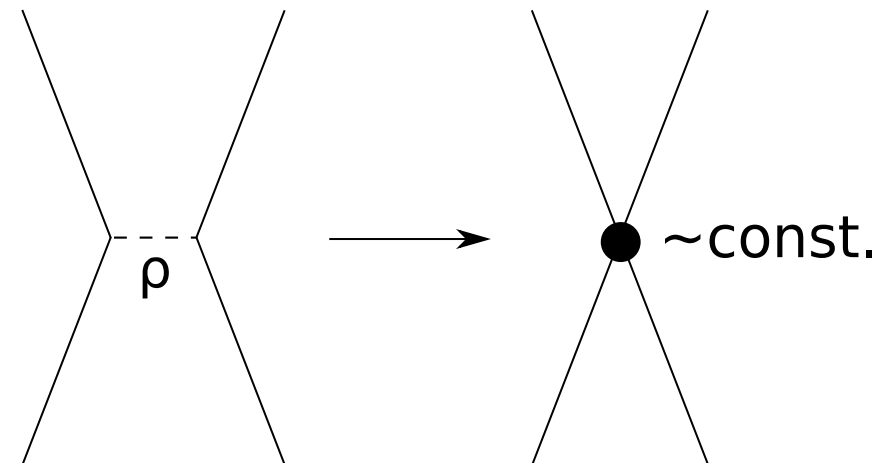
Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise, Epelbaum, Kaiser, Machleidt, Meißner, Hammer ...

# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces

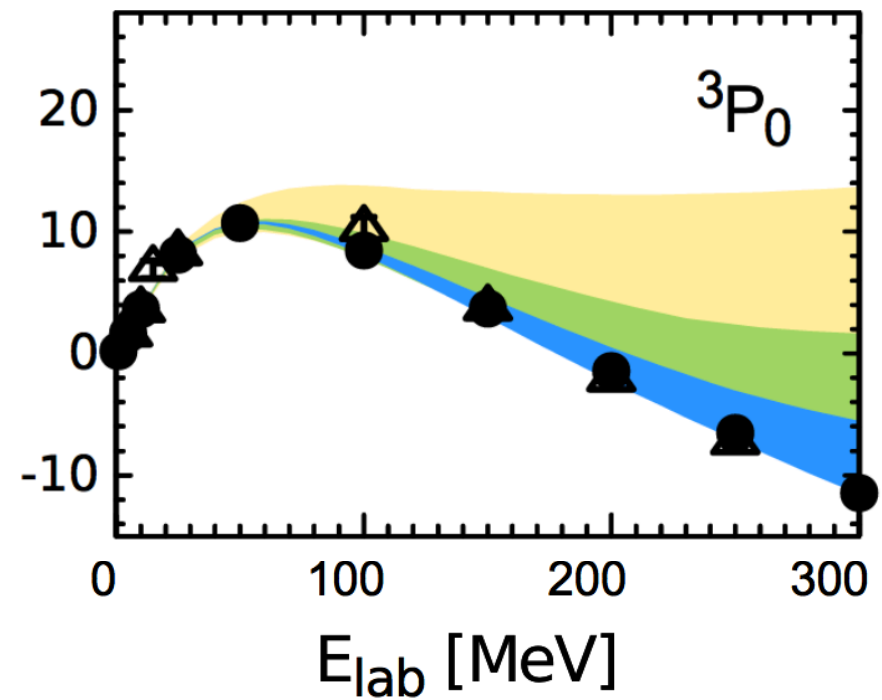
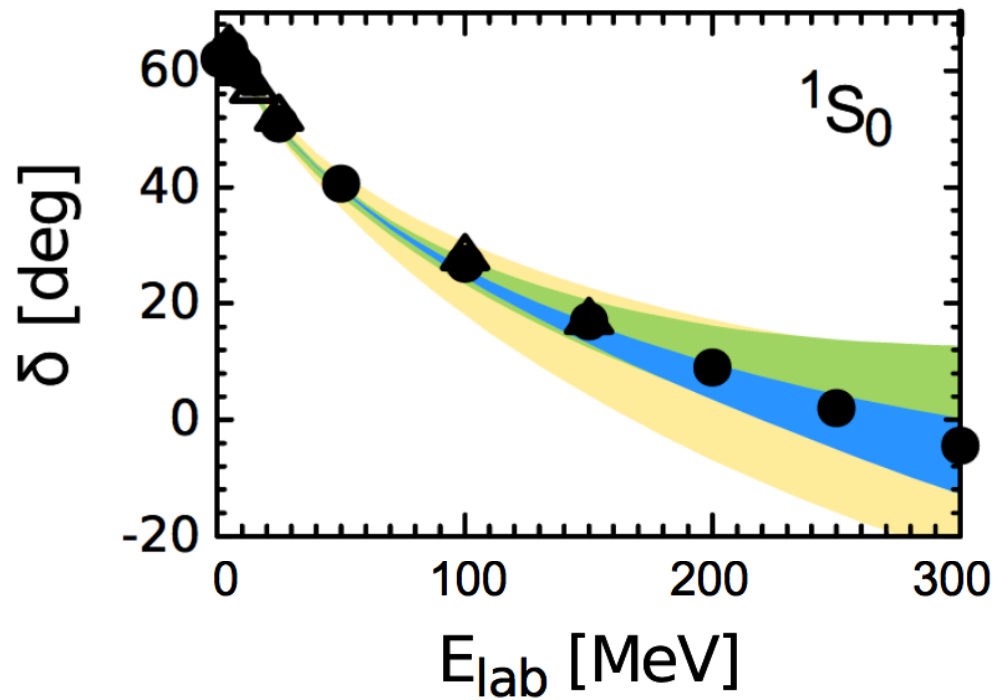
		NN		
LO	$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^0}{\Lambda^0}\right)$		2 LECs	
NLO	$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^2}{\Lambda^2}\right)$		7 LECs	
N <sup>2</sup> LO	$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^3}{\Lambda^3}\right)$			
N <sup>3</sup> LO	$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^4}{\Lambda^4}\right)$	 + ...	15 LECs	

Explicit degrees of freedom:

- Pions and nucleons
- Long-range physics **explicit**
- Short-range physics expanded in **general operator basis**
- High-momentum physics absorbed into short-range couplings, fit to experiment (phase shifts)



# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces

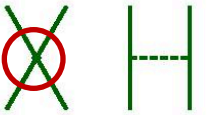


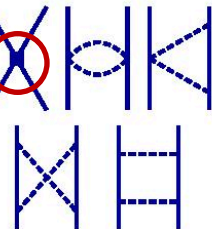


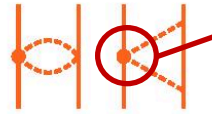
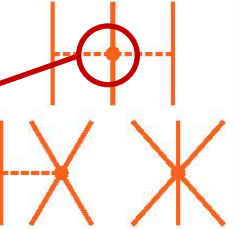

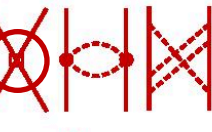
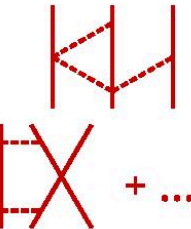
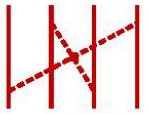


Epelbaum *et al.*, Eur. Phys. J (2015)

**Systematic expansion** of the nuclear forces:

- Can work to desired accuracy
- Can obtain **systematic error estimates**

# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces

	NN	3N	4N
LO $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^0}{\Lambda^0}\right)$			
NLO $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^2}{\Lambda^2}\right)$			
N <sup>2</sup> LO $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^3}{\Lambda^3}\right)$			
N <sup>3</sup> LO $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^4}{\Lambda^4}\right)$			

## Many-body forces:

- Have been found to be **crucial ingredient** to describe nuclear physics

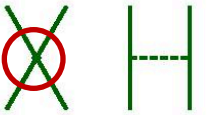


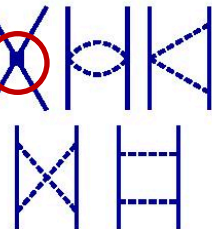



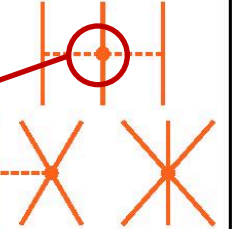

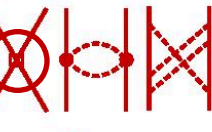
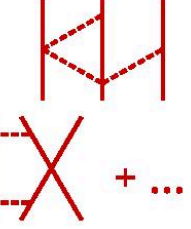

## Natural hierarchy of nuclear forces:

- Two-body (NN) forces start at first order
- Three-body (3N) forces start at third order (2 LECs)

## Fitting:

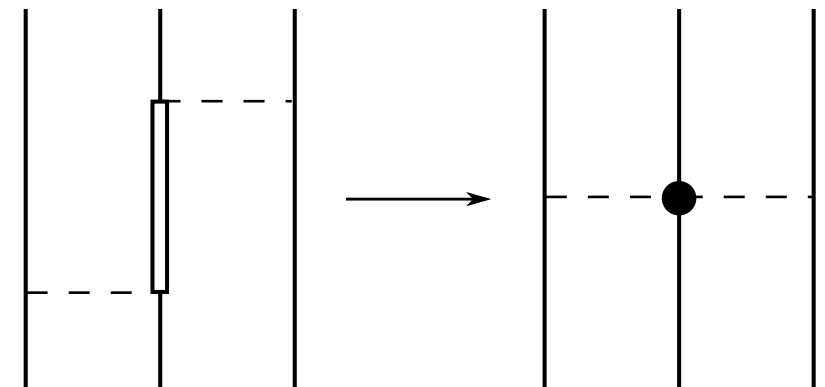
- NN forces in NN system (NN phase shifts, ...)
- 3N forces in 3N/4N system (Binding energies, radii, ...)

# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces

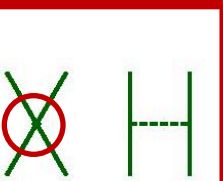


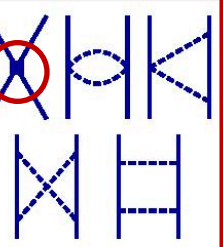
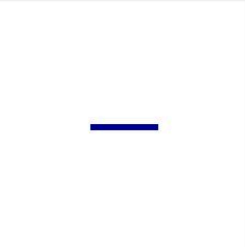
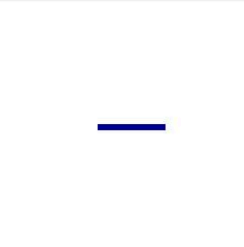
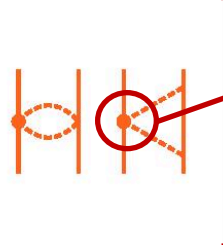
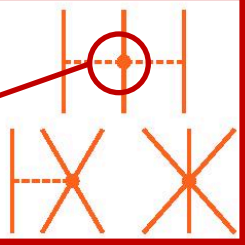

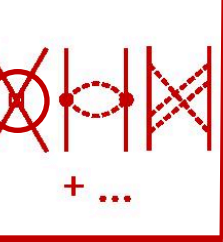
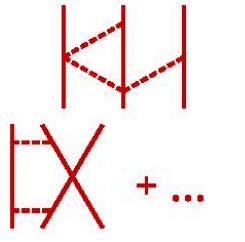
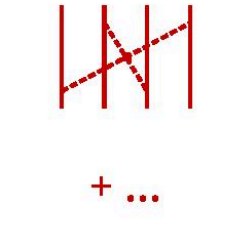
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## Consistent interactions:

- Same couplings for two-nucleon and many-body sector
- In contrast to phenomenological interactions

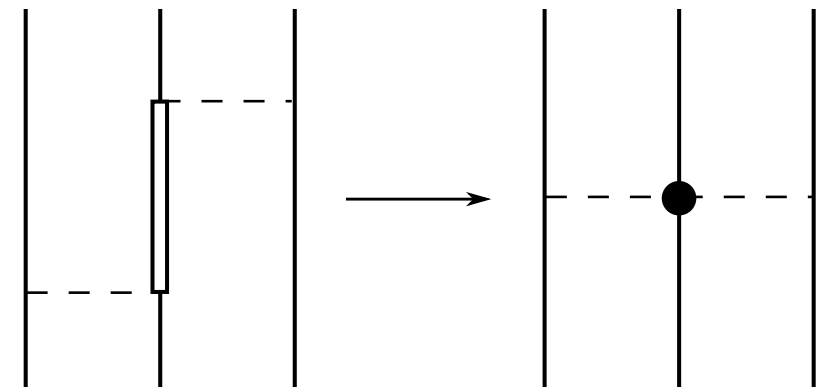


# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces

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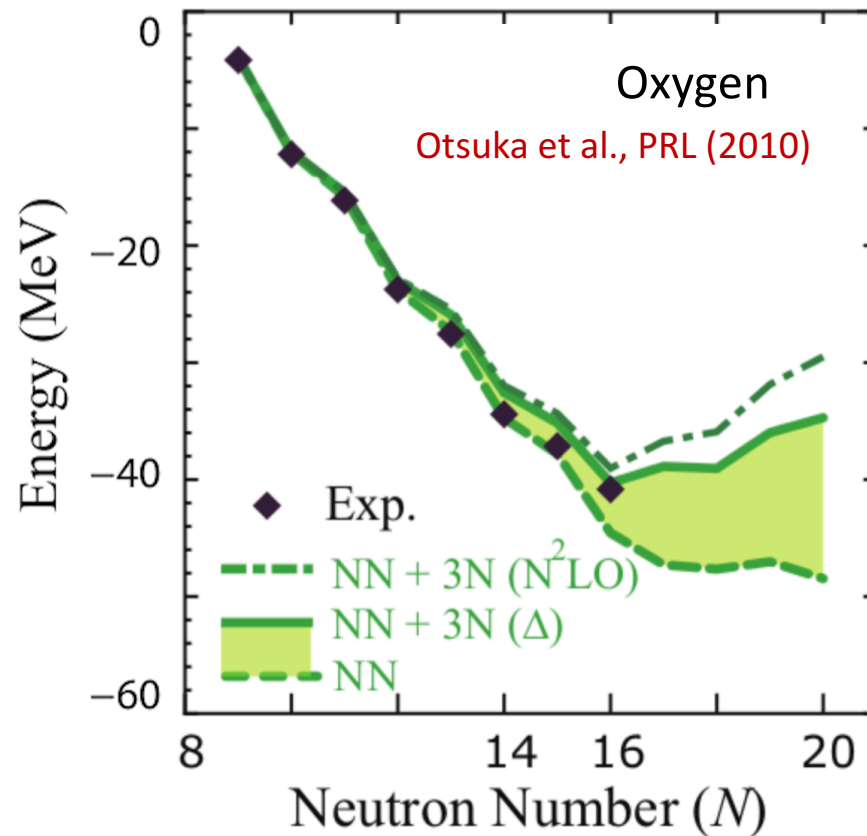
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# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces

Many-body forces are crucial:



NN + 3N forces:

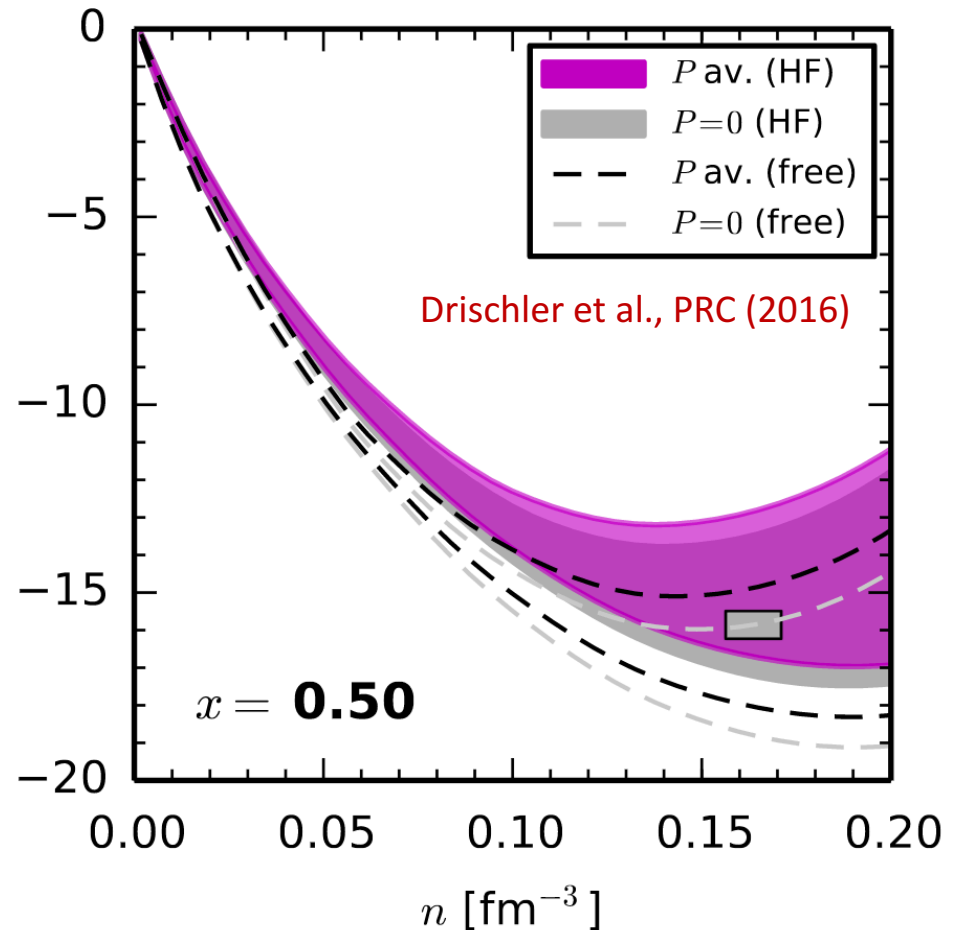
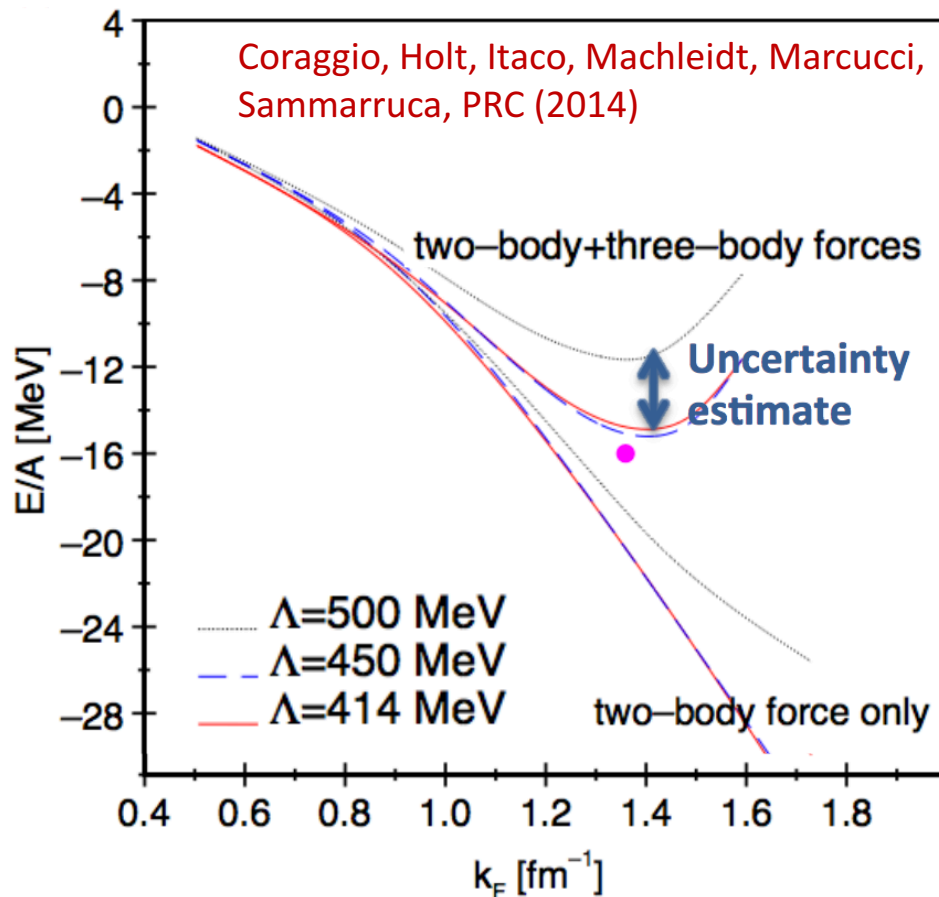
➤ Give correct physics of neutron-rich nuclei

See also Hebeler et al., ARNPS (2015)



# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces

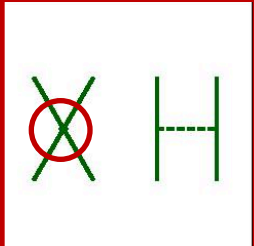
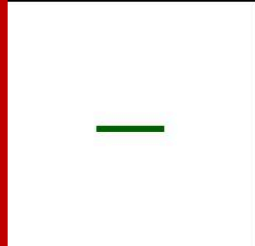
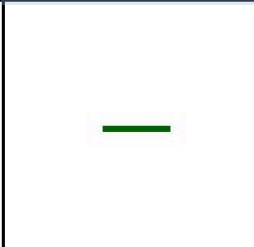
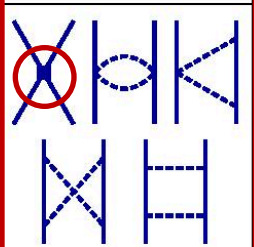
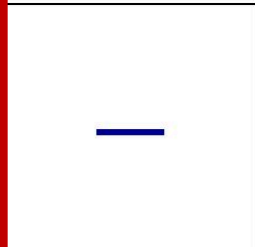
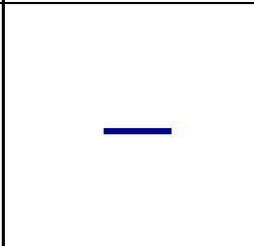
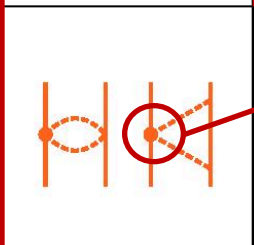
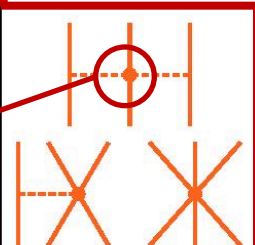
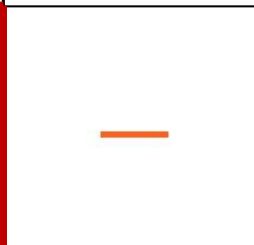
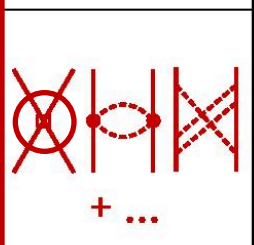
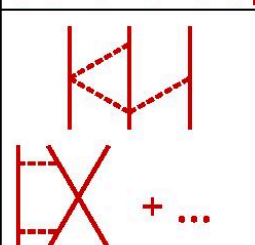
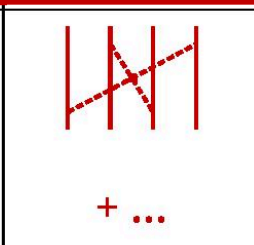
Many-body forces are crucial:



NN + 3N forces:

- Give correct saturation with theoretical uncertainties in nuclear matter  
Drischler et al., PRC (2016)

# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces

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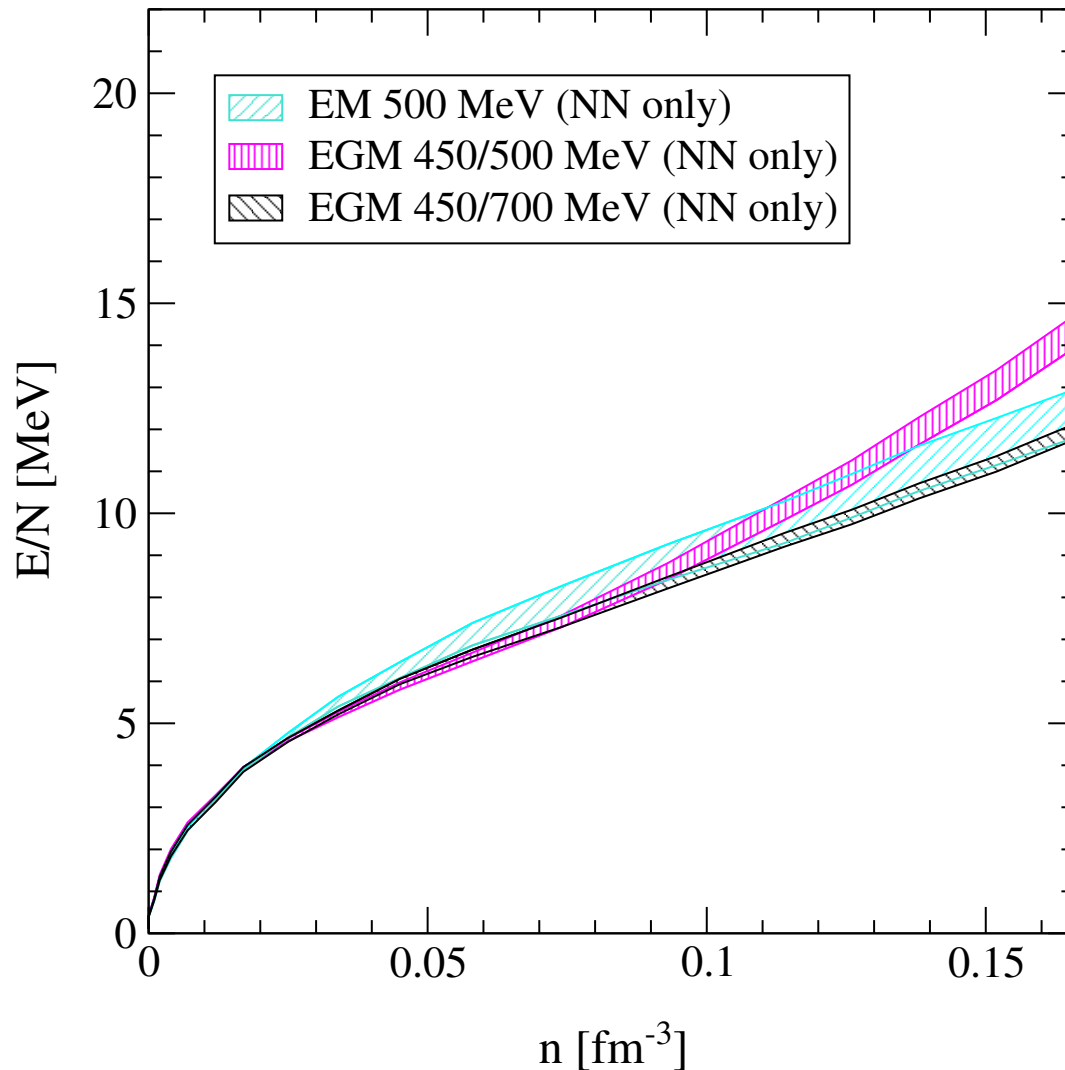
## Neutron matter:

- Complete calculation at N<sup>3</sup>LO using many-body perturbation theory (MBPT)

IT, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk, PRL (2013)

## Calculation is simpler in neutron matter:

- Only certain parts of the many-body forces contribute
- Chiral many-body forces **completely predicted** from NN sector



IT, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk, PRL (2013)

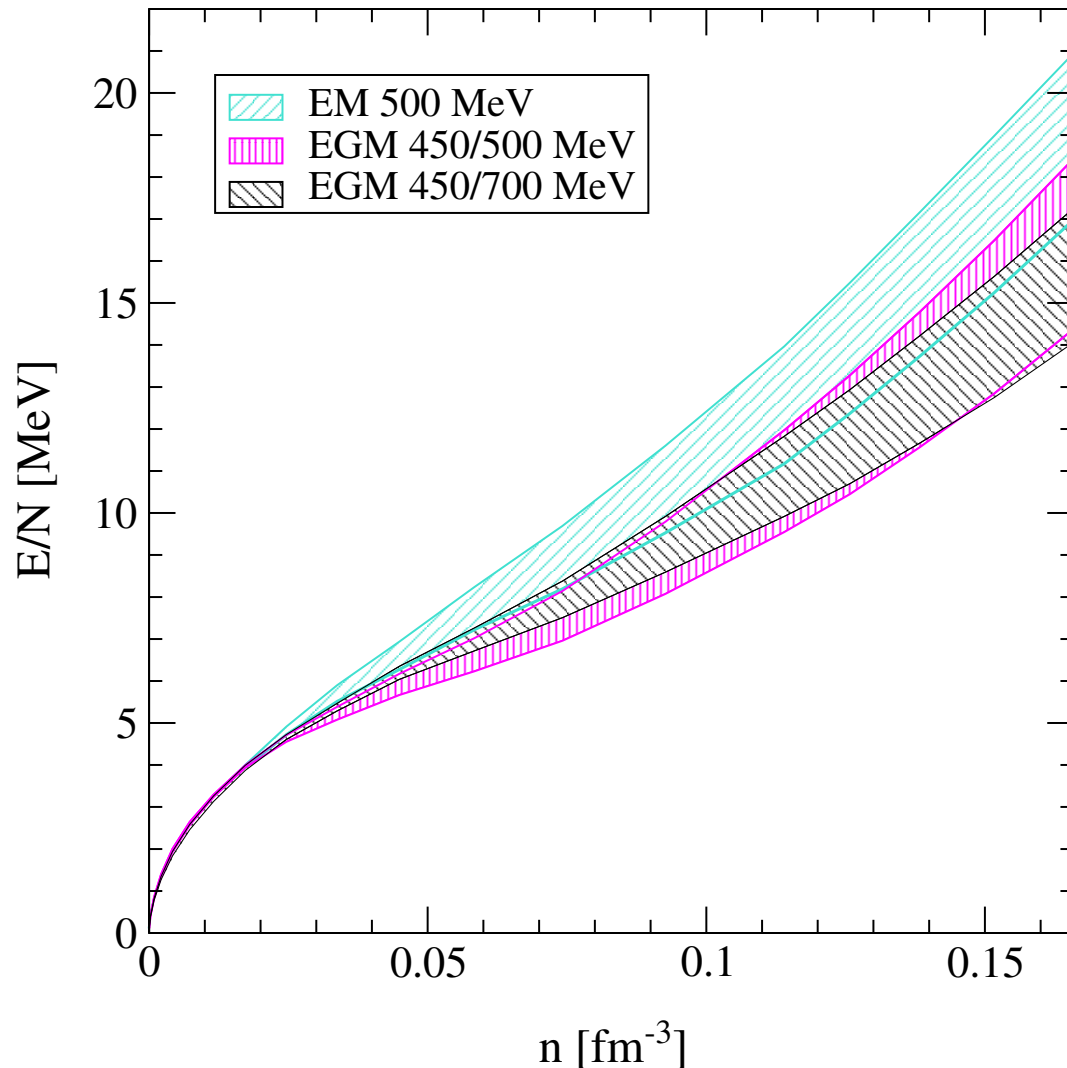
## Bands:

- Include several sources of uncertainty:
  - Chiral Hamiltonians (cutoff)
  - Many-body method
- Uncertainties due to many-body calculation small

## NN interactions:

- E/N at saturation density:

12-15 MeV



IT, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk, PRL (2013)

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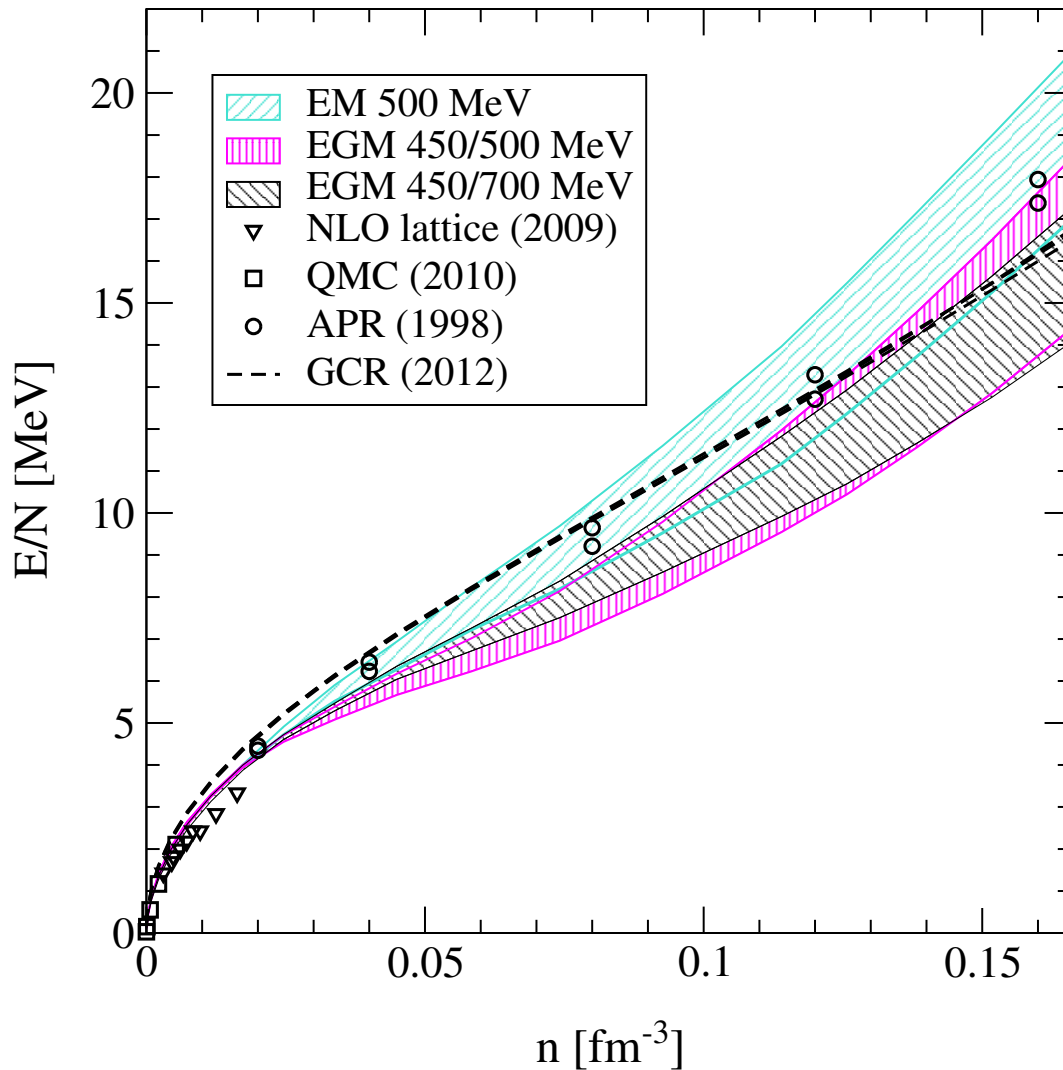
- E/N at saturation density:

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## 3N interactions:

- Have large impact on energy and uncertainty:

14-21 MeV

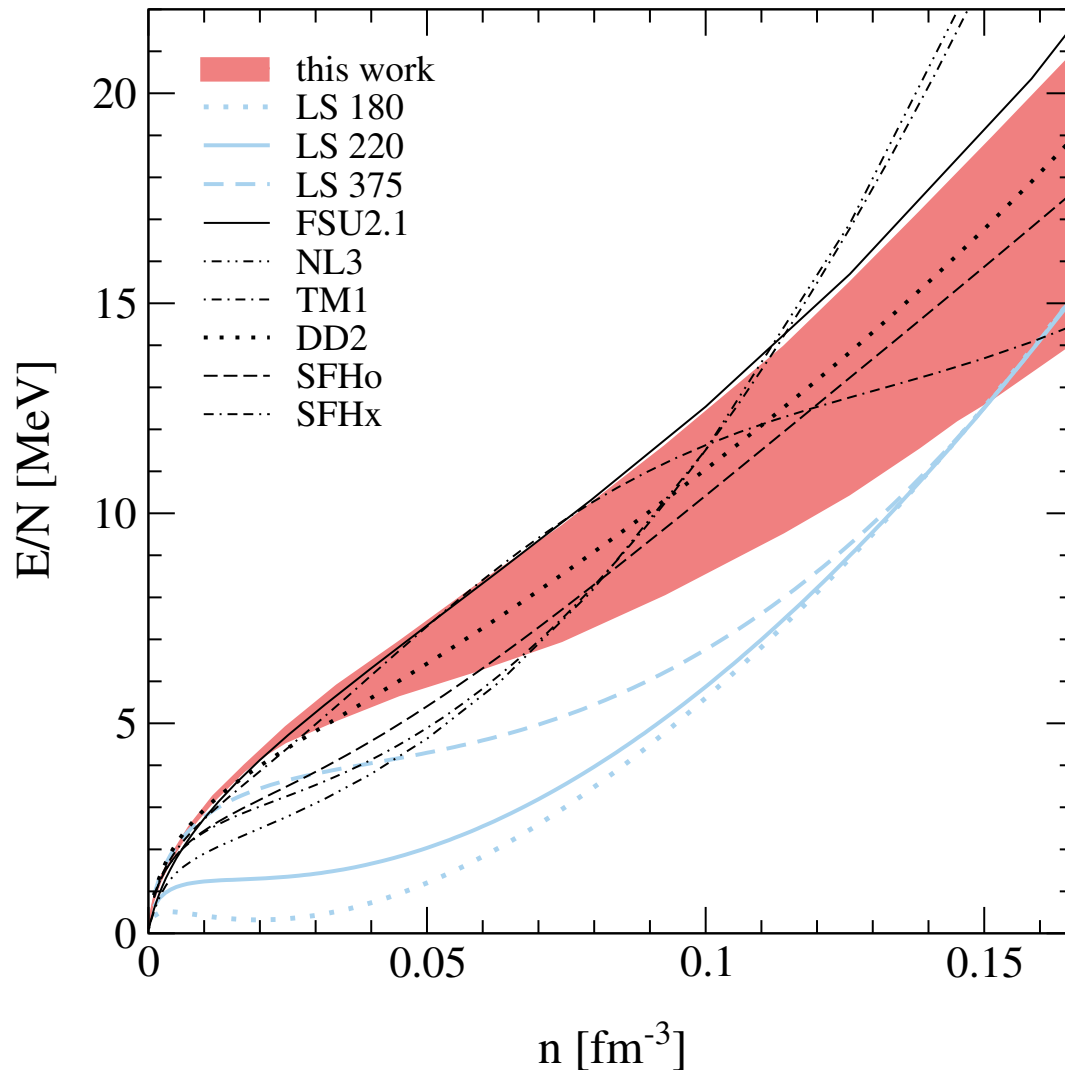


IT, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk, PRL (2013)

Good agreement with other calculations  
➤ but in those no theoretical uncertainties

*Akmal et al., PRC (1998)*  
*Gandolfi et al., PRC (2012)*

Chiral EFT puts constraints on neutron matter EOS



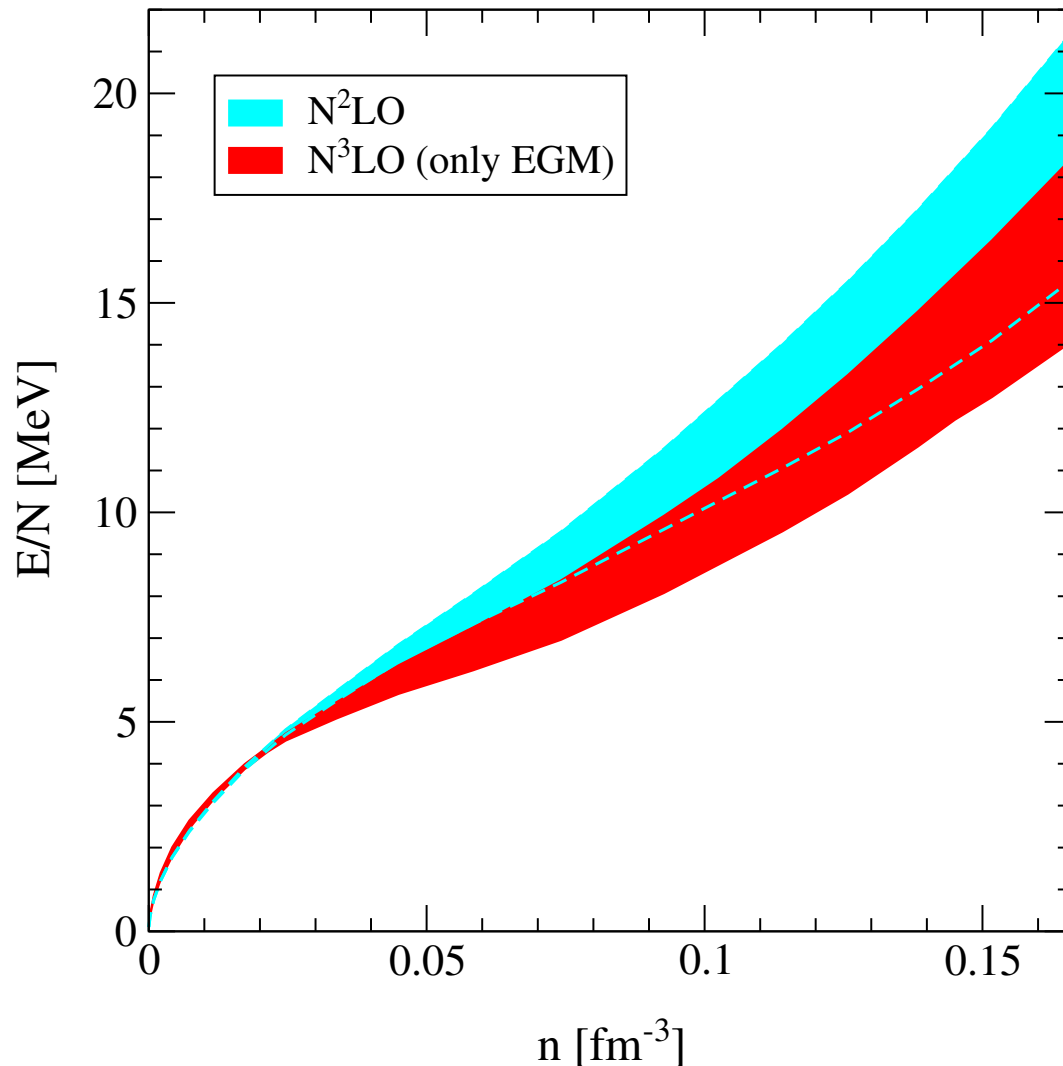
Lines from Hempel, Lattimer, G. Shen

Good agreement with other calculations  
➤ but in those no theoretical uncertainties

*Akmal et al., PRC (1998)*

*Gandolfi et al., PRC (2012)*

Chiral EFT puts constraints on neutron matter EOS



IT, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk, PRL (2013)

Good agreement with other calculations  
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*Akmal et al., PRC (1998)*  
*Gandolfi et al., PRC (2012)*

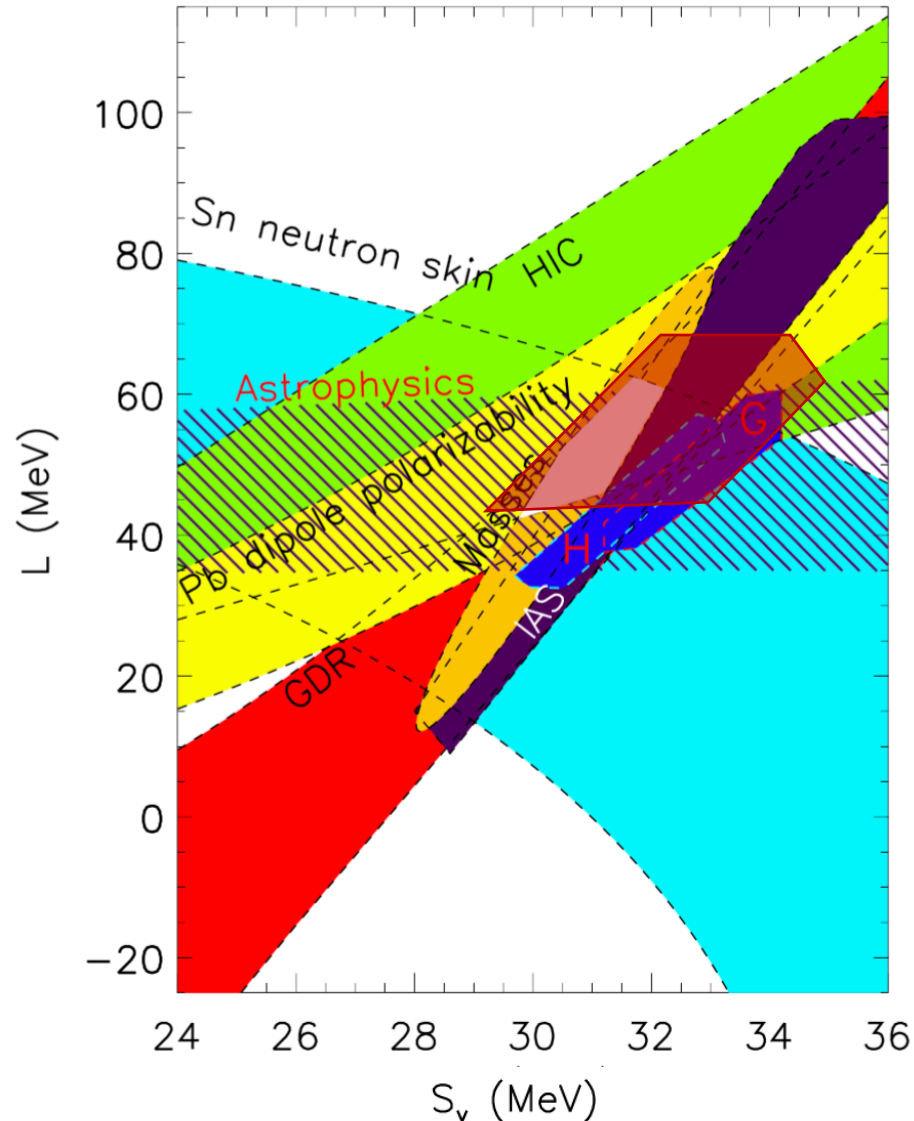
Chiral EFT puts constraints on neutron matter EOS

$N^2\text{LO}$  to  $N^3\text{LO}$ :

- Theoretical uncertainty reduced
- $E/N$  reduced



# Symmetry energy and L parameter



Lattimer, Lim, ApJ (2013)

Put constraints on **symmetry energy** and its density dependence **L**:

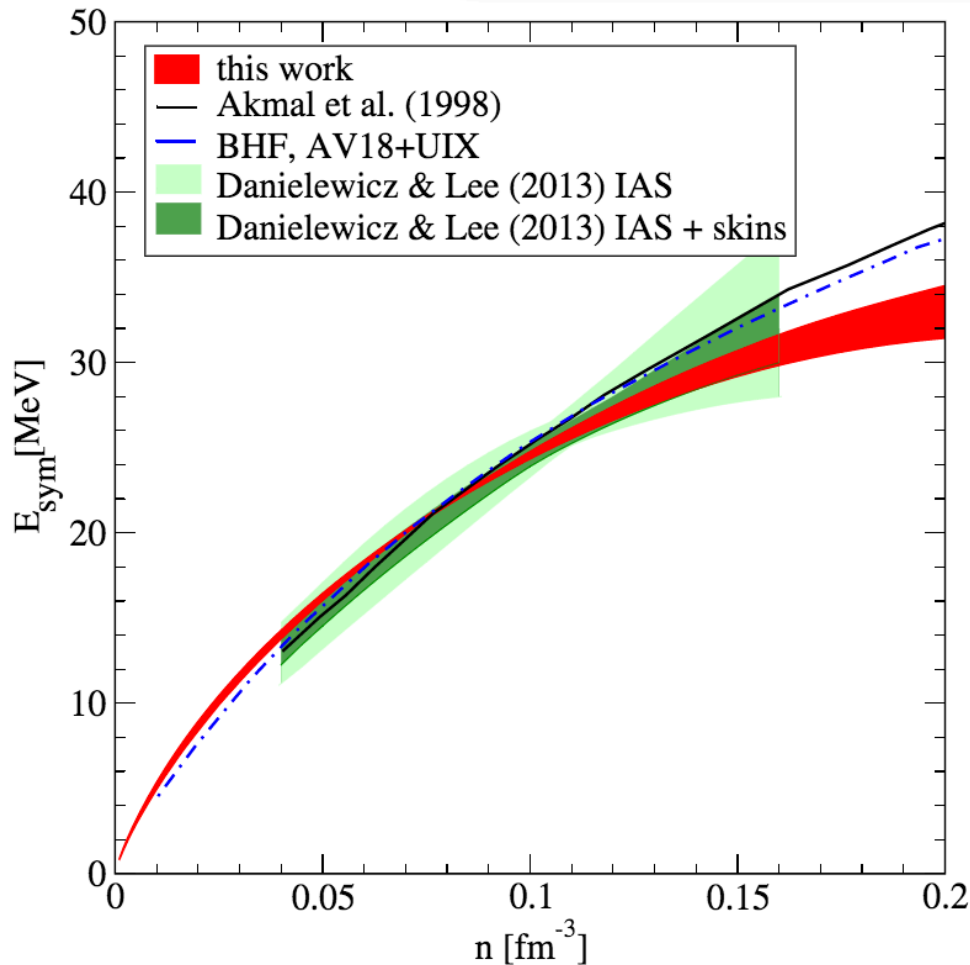
$$S_v(n) = \frac{1}{8} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial x^2} \frac{E}{A} (n, x) \Big|_{x=1/2},$$

$$L(n_0) = 3n_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial n} S_V(n) \Big|_{n_0},$$

- $S_V = 28.9 - 34.9$  MeV
- $L = 43.0 - 66.6$  MeV

Good agreement with experimental constraints

# Symmetry energy and L parameter



Drischler, Soma, Schwenk, PRC (2014)

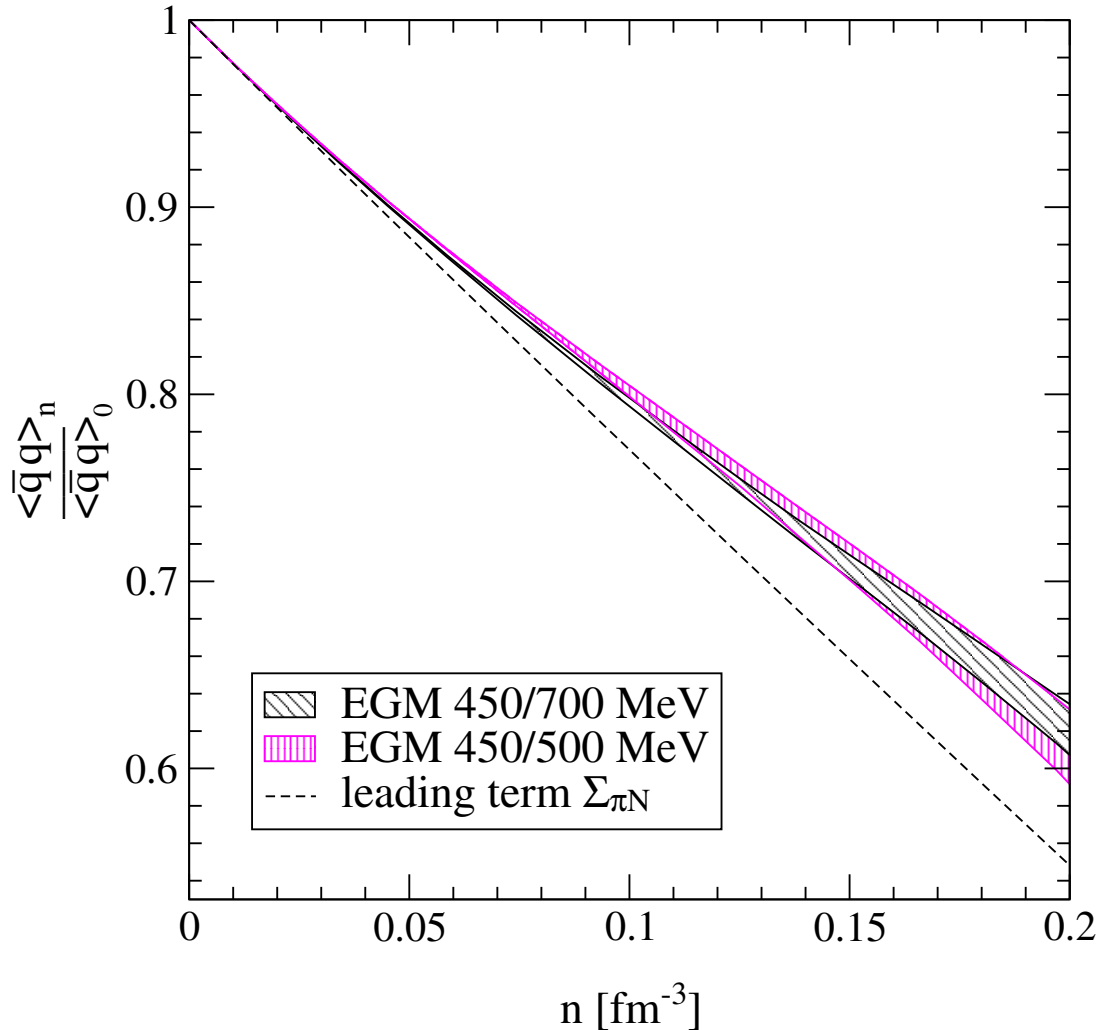
Put constraints on **symmetry energy** and its density dependence **L**:

$$S_v(n) = \frac{1}{8} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial x^2} \frac{E}{A}(n, x) \Big|_{x=1/2},$$

$$L(n_0) = 3n_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial n} S_V(n) \Big|_{n_0},$$

- $S_V = 28.9 - 34.9$  MeV
- $L = 43.0 - 66.6$  MeV

Good agreement with experimental constraints



Krüger, IT, Hebeler, Friman, Schwenk, PLB (2013)

$$\langle \bar{q}q \rangle_n - \langle \bar{q}q \rangle_0 =$$

$$n \frac{\partial}{\partial m_q} \left[ \frac{E_{\text{free}}(m_q, k_F)}{N} + \frac{E_{\text{int}}(m_q, k_F)}{N} \right]$$

Includes:

- Explicit  $m_\pi$  dependence
- No  $m_\pi$  dependence of couplings

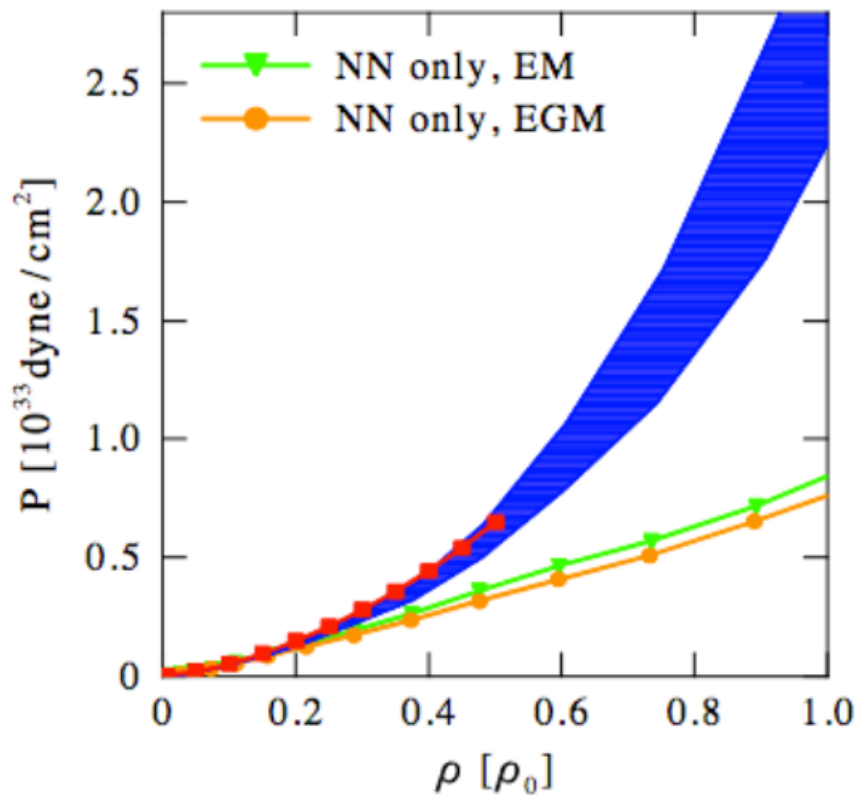
Constraints on chiral condensate:

- Interactions increase the chiral condensate
- Leading  $\sigma$  term: 0.62 at  $n_0$
- Chiral band: 0.67-0.69 at  $n_0$
- Good agreement with calculation in symmetric matter

Weise, PPNP (2012)

Equation of state for neutron star matter: extend results to small  $Y_{e,p}$

Hebeler, Lattimer, Pethick, Schwenk, PRL (2010) and APJ (2013)

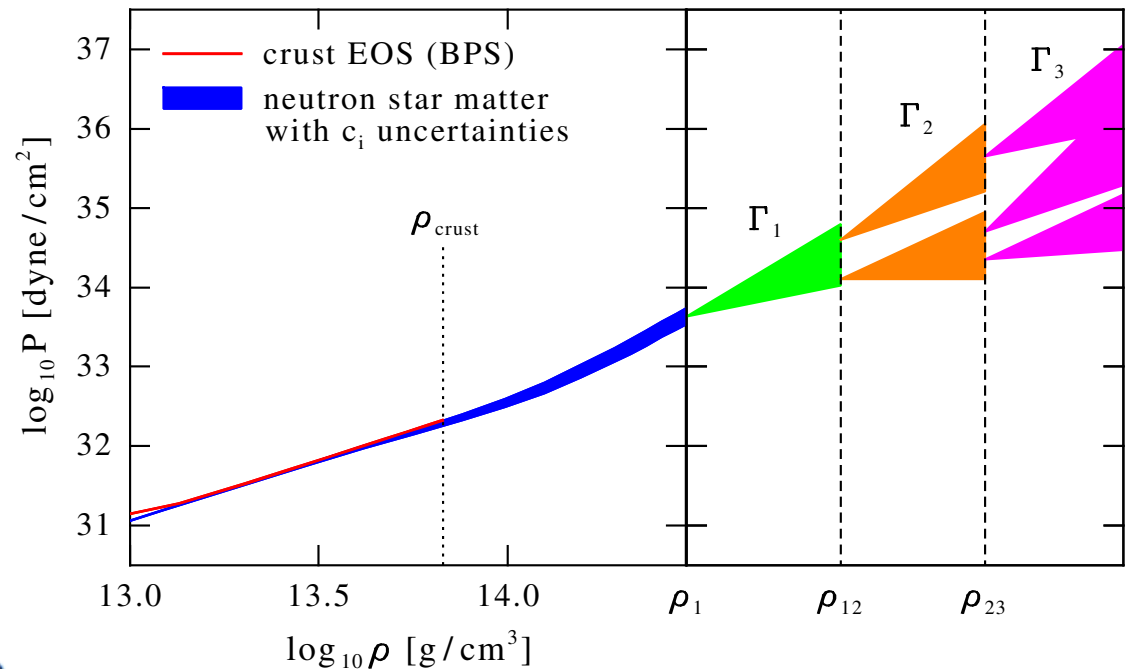
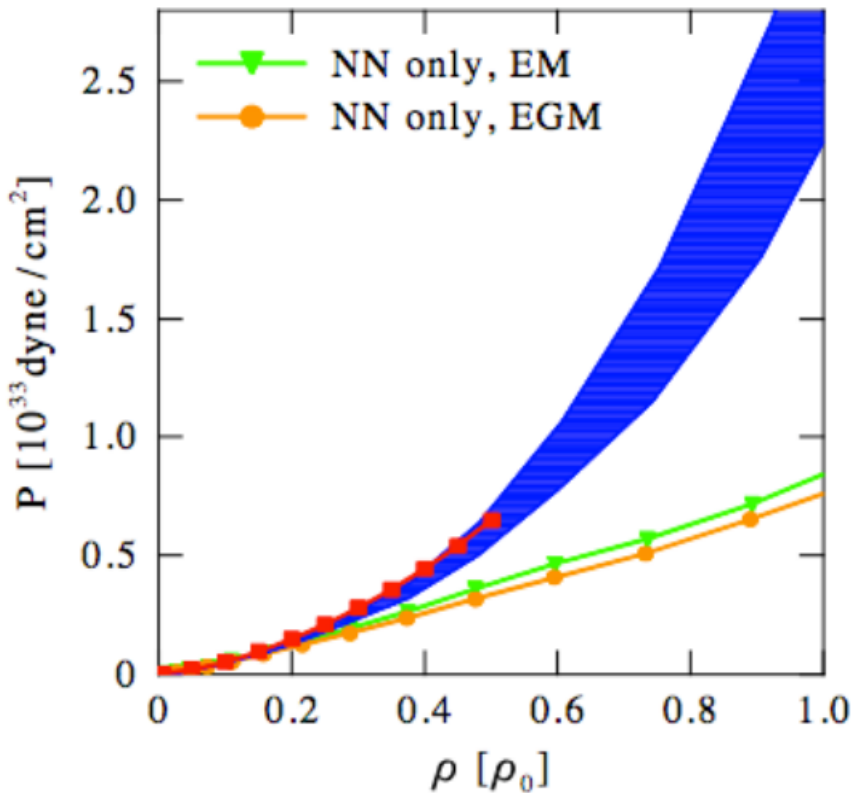


Agrees with standard crust EOS  
after inclusion of many-body forces

# Neutron Stars

Equation of state for neutron star matter: extend results to small  $Y_{e,p}$

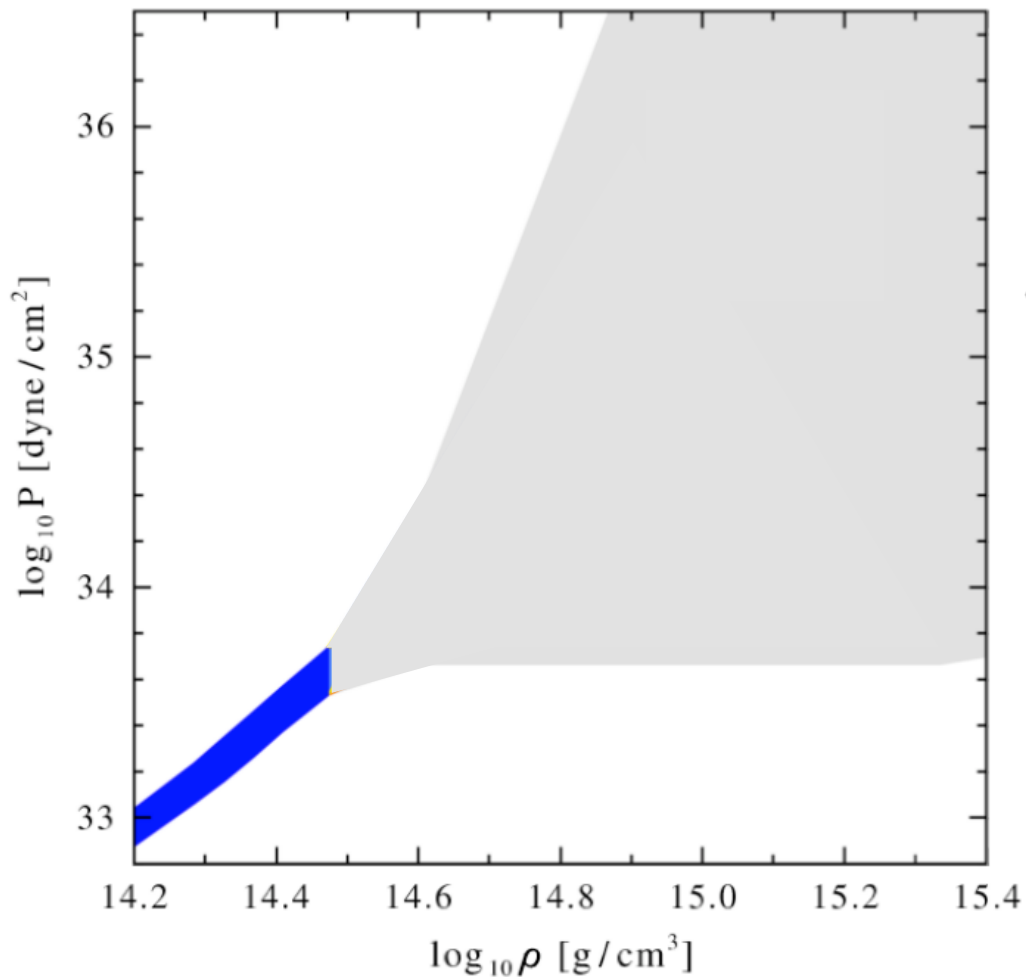
Hebeler, Lattimer, Pethick, Schwenk, PRL (2010) and APJ (2013)



Agrees with standard crust EOS  
after inclusion of many-body forces

Extend to higher densities  
using polytropic expansion

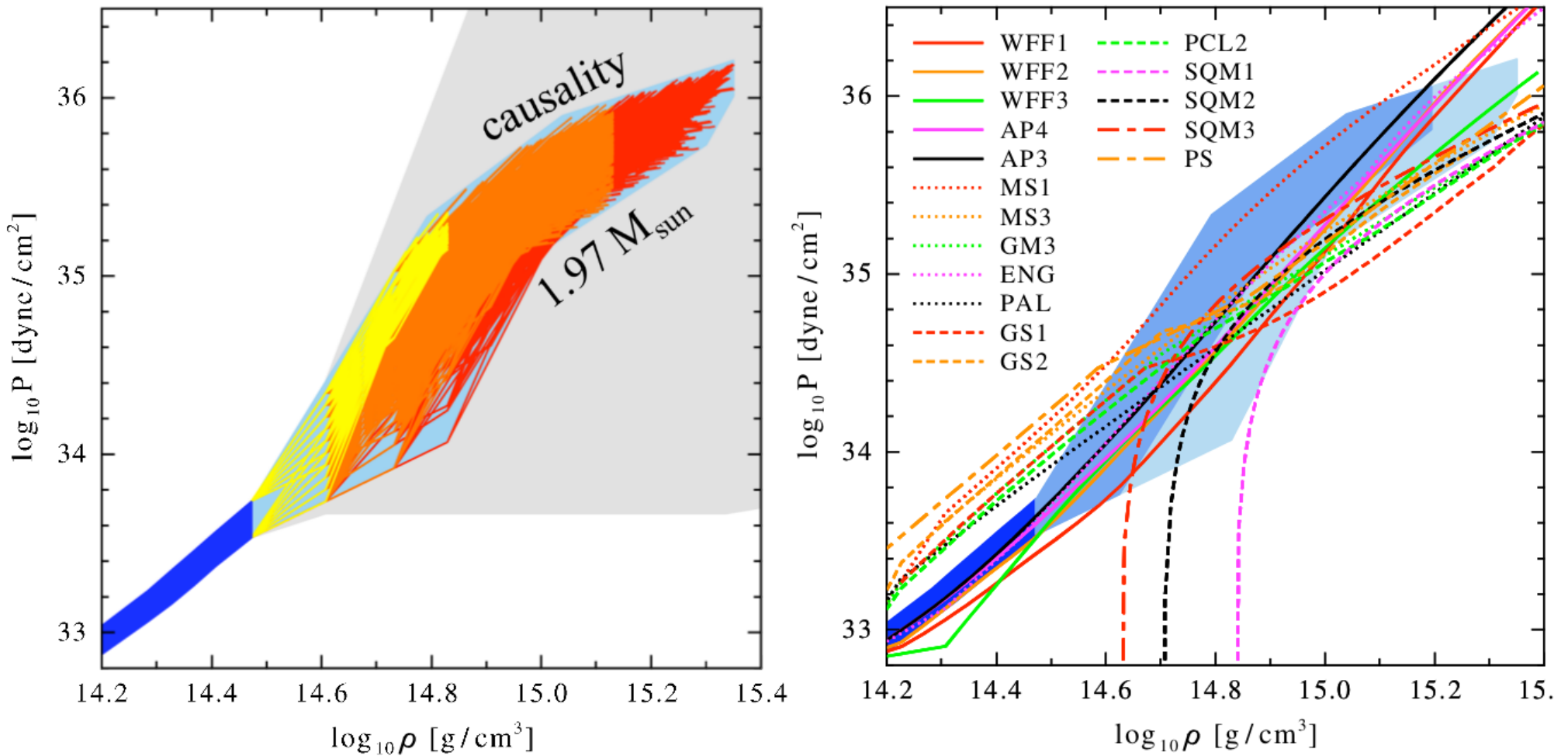
# Neutron Stars



Hebeler, Lattimer, Pethick, Schwenk, PRL (2010) and APJ (2013)

# Neutron Stars

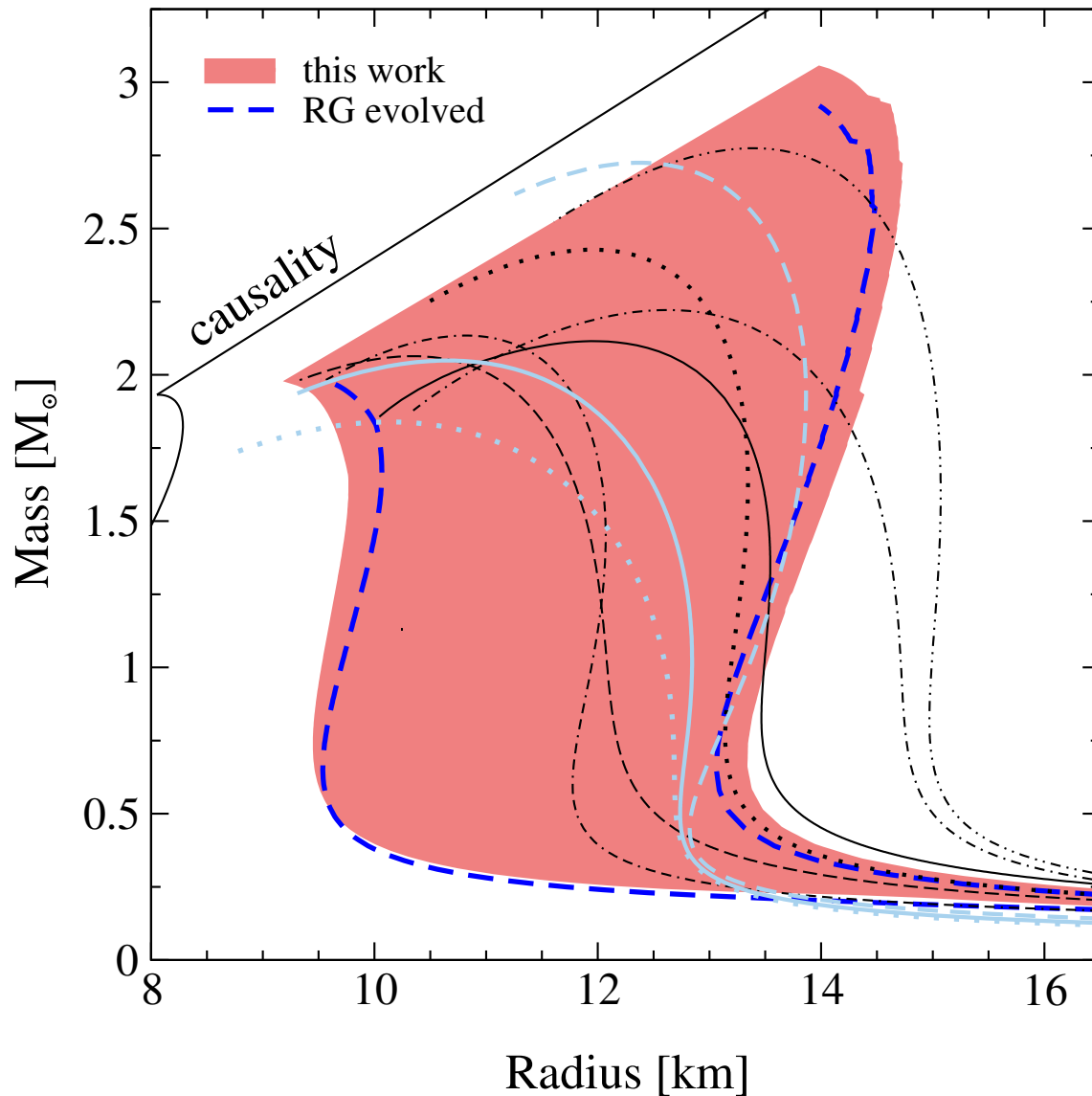
Constrain resulting EOS: **causality** and observed **1.97 M<sub>⊙</sub> neutron star**



Hebeler, Lattimer, Pethick, Schwenk, PRL (2010) and APJ (2013)



# Neutron Stars



Radius for  $1.4 M_{\odot}$  neutron star:

➤  $R = 9.7 - 13.9$  km

Maximum mass neutron star:

➤  $M_{max} \leq 3.05 M_{\odot}$  (14 km)

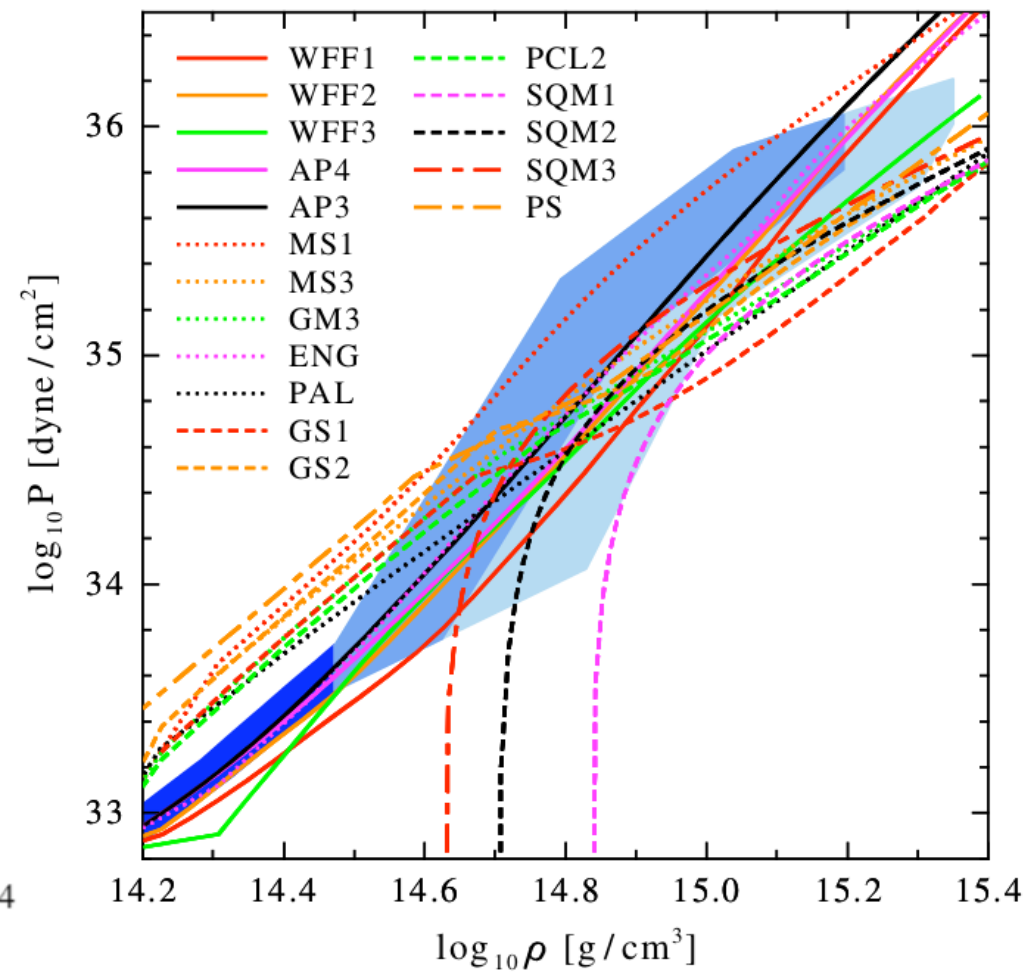
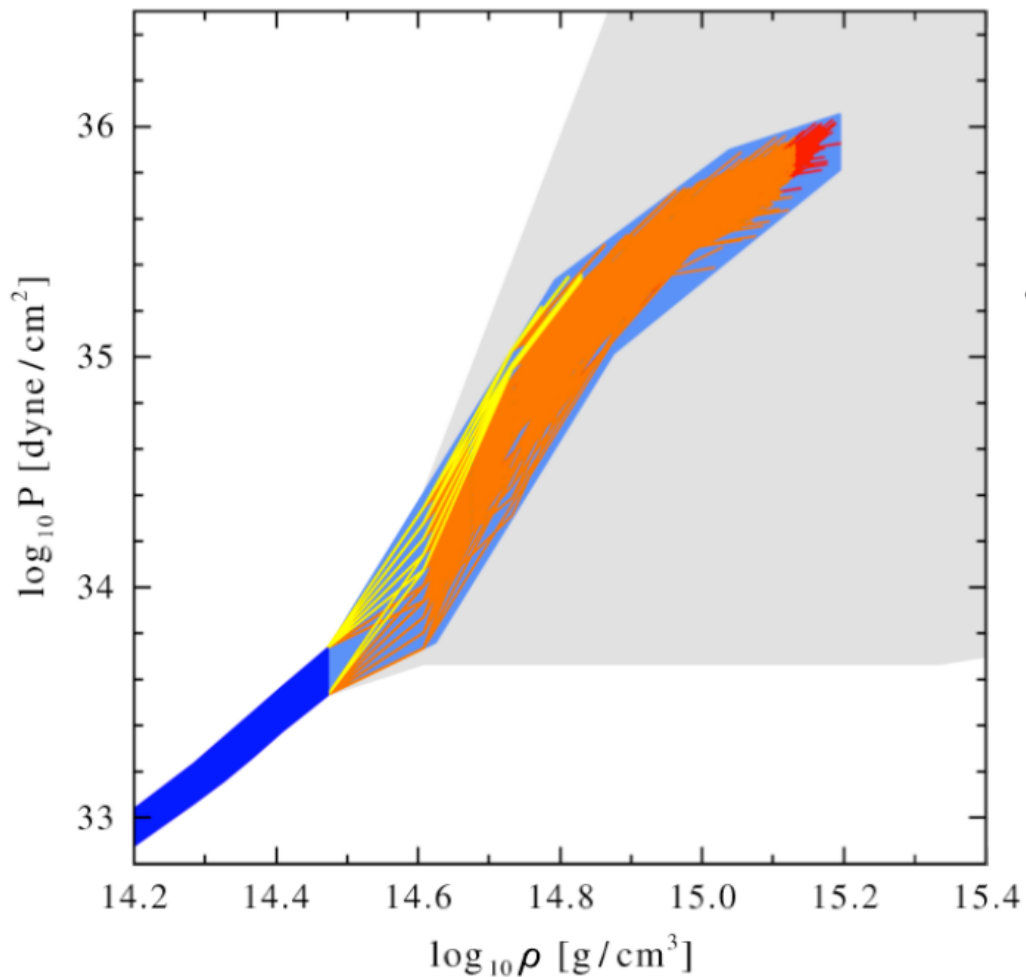
Uncertainties from many-body forces and polytropic expansion

➤ How to reduce uncertainties?

IT, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk, PRL (2013)

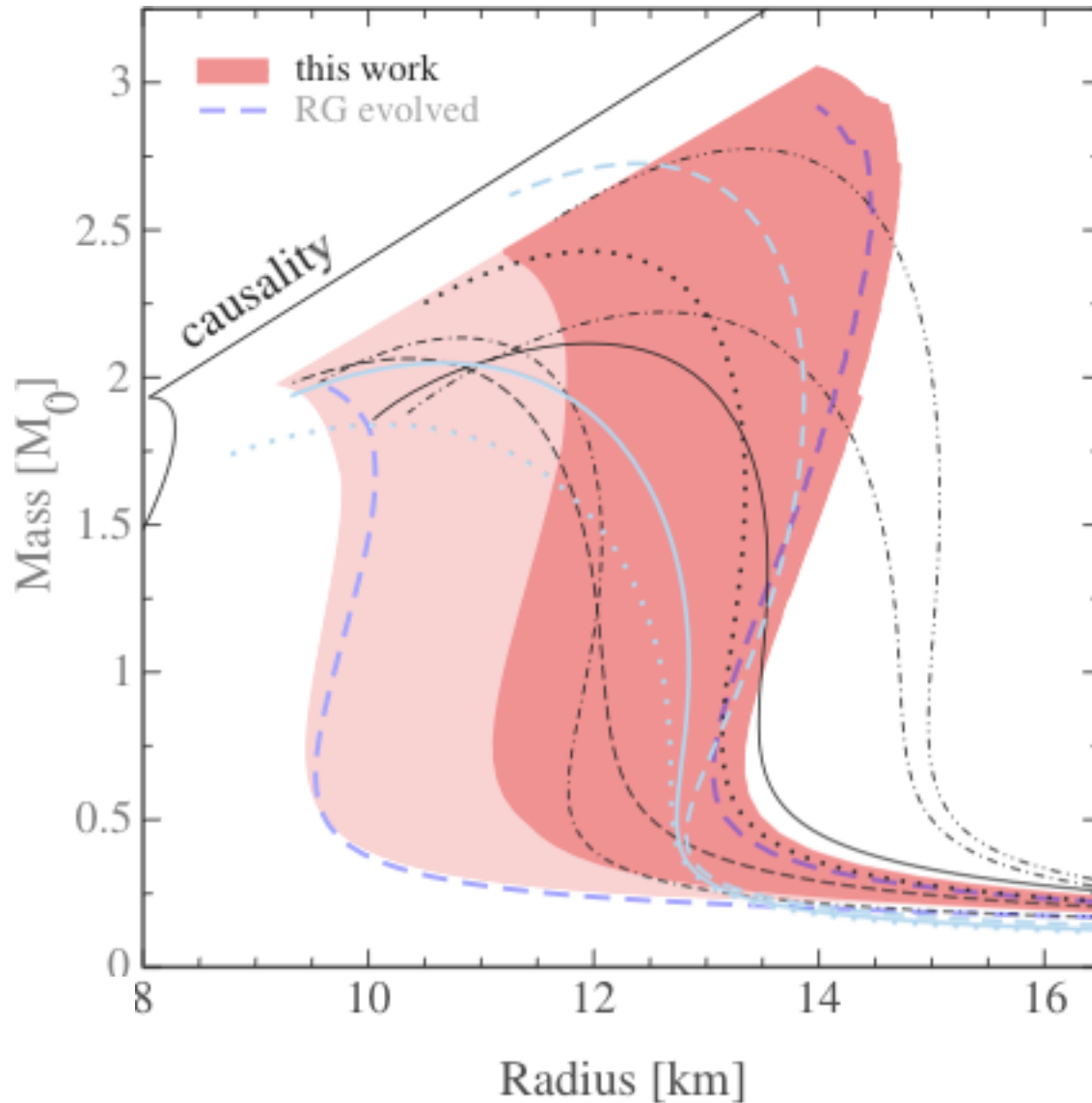
# Neutron Stars

If a  $2.4 M_{\odot}$  neutron star was observed:



Hebeler et al., PRL (2010) and APJ (2013)

# Neutron Stars



Radius for  $1.4 M_{\odot}$  neutron star:

➤  $R = 11.5 - 13.9$  km

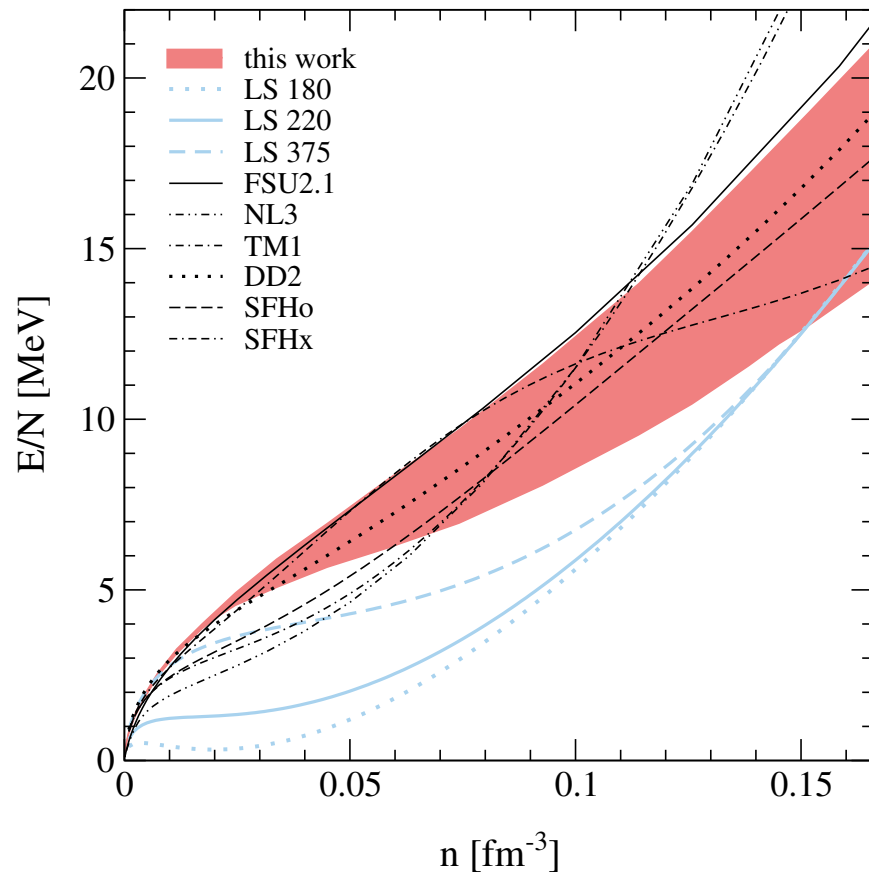
Maximum mass neutron star:

➤  $M_{max} \leq 3.05 M_{\odot}$  (14 km)

Uncertainties from many-body forces and polytropic expansion

IT, Krüger, Gezerlis, Hebeler, Schwenk (2013)

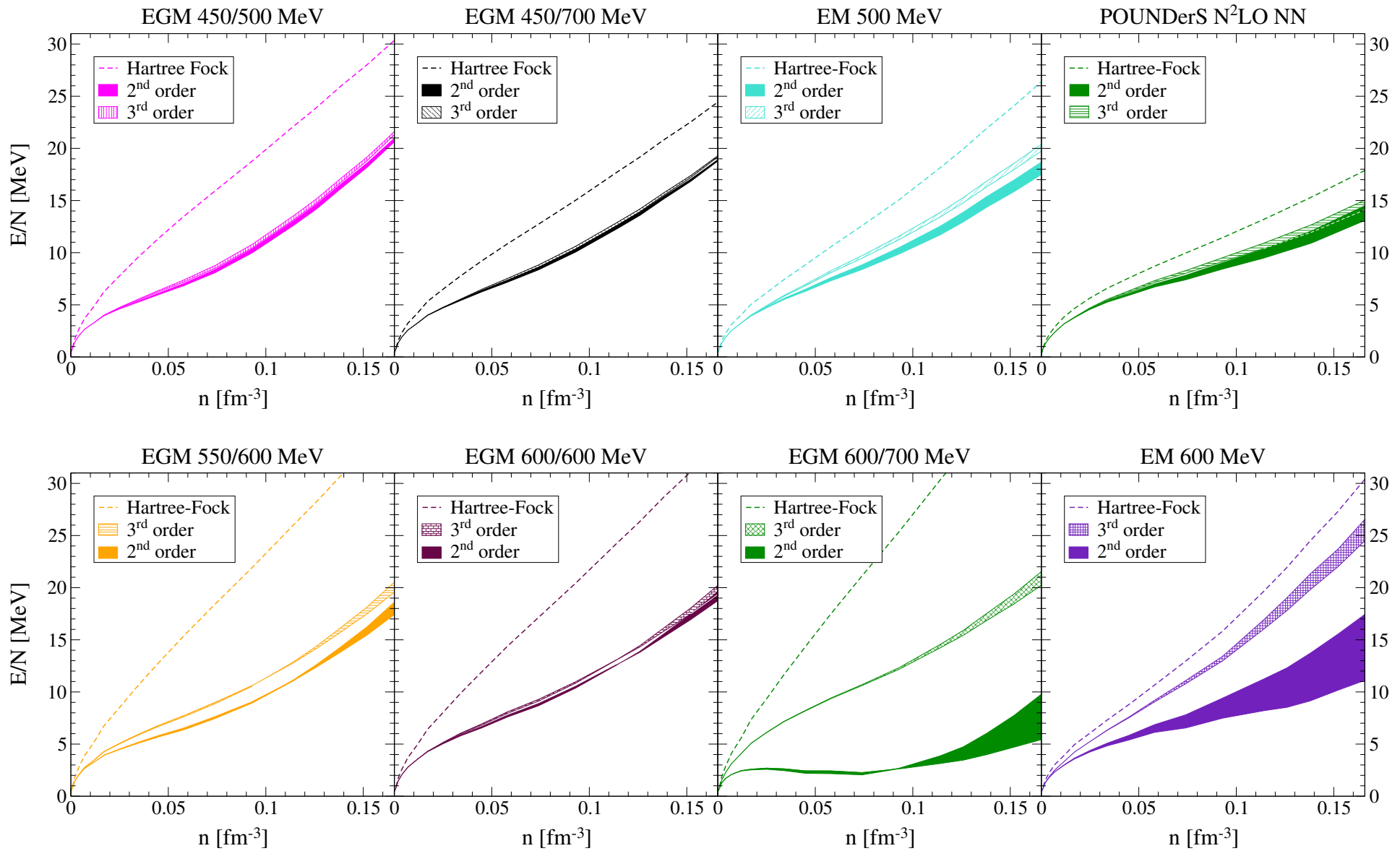
# Improving neutron-matter band



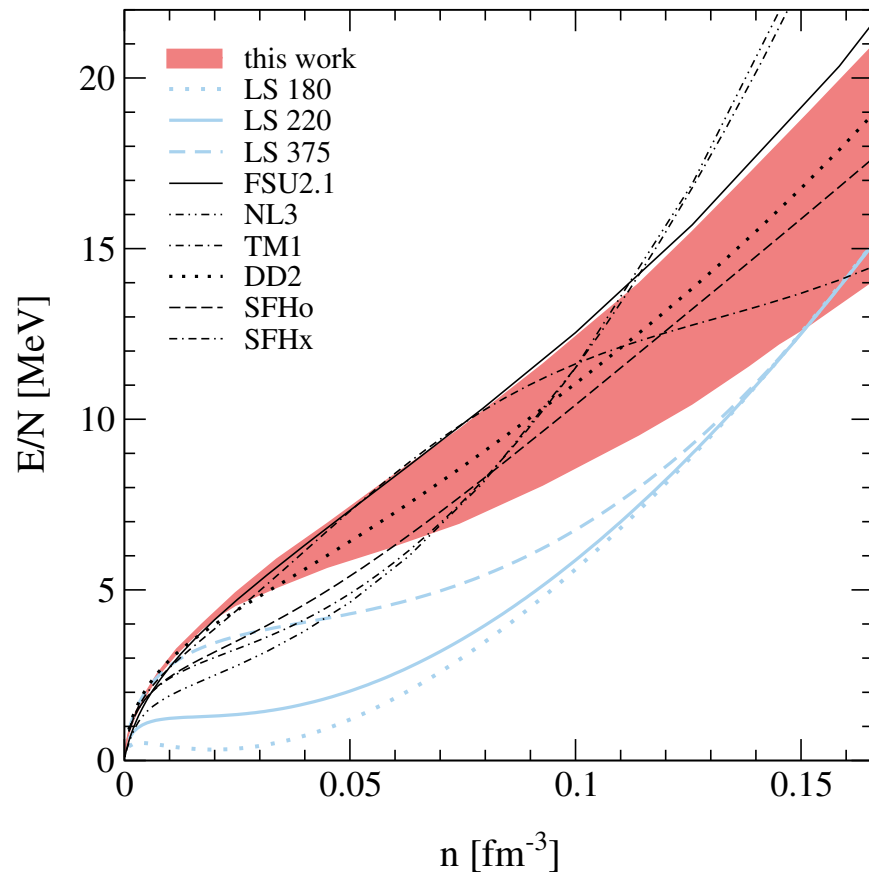
IT, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk (2013)

- Chiral EFT constrains neutron matter equation of state
- So far used in perturbative calculations (MBPT)
- need for **nonperturbative benchmark**

# Improving neutron-matter band

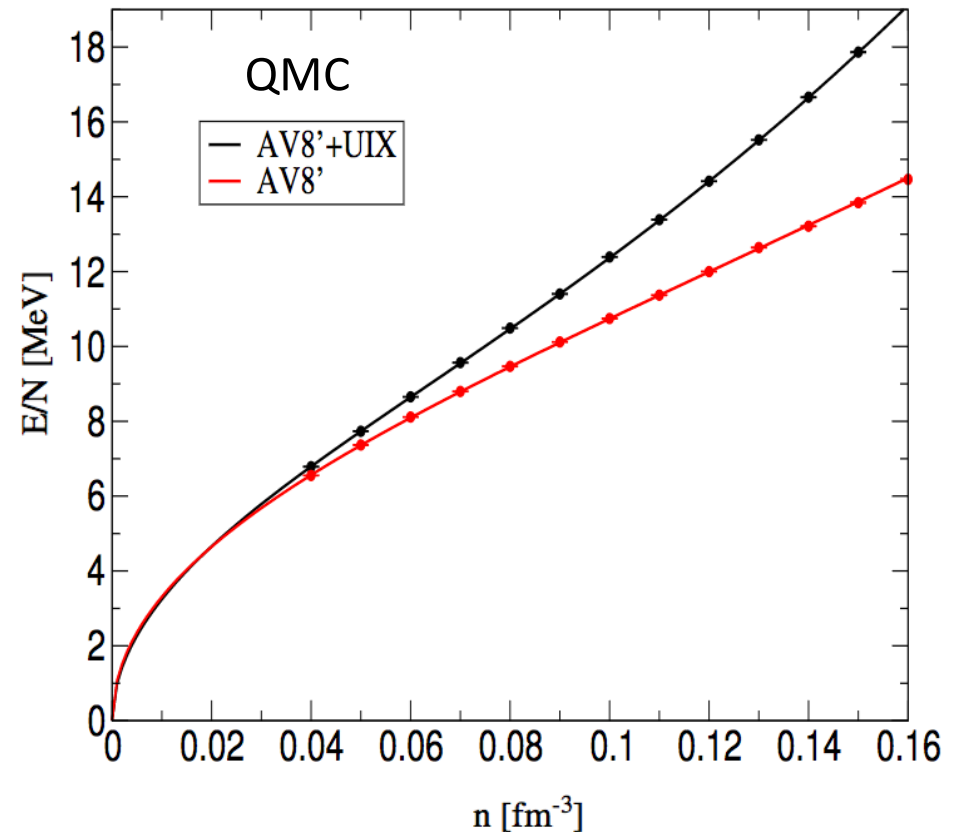


# Improving neutron-matter band



IT, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk (2013)

Fourth order in **chiral EFT**  
(**nonlocal interactions**),  
Many-body perturbation theory



Credit: Stefano Gandolfi

Phenomenological forces,  
**Quantum Monte Carlo**  
(**needs local interaction**)

Solve the many-body Schrödinger equation

$$H |\psi\rangle = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} |\psi\rangle, \quad \tau = it$$
$$\psi(R, \tau) = \int dR'^{3N} \langle R | e^{-(T+V)\tau} | R' \rangle \psi(R', 0)$$

Basic steps:

- Choose **trial wavefunction** which overlaps with the ground state

$$|\psi(R, 0)\rangle = |\psi_T(R, 0)\rangle = \sum_i c_i |\phi_i\rangle \rightarrow \sum_i c_i e^{-(E_i - E_0)\tau} |\phi_i\rangle$$

- **Evaluate propagator** for small timestep  $\Delta\tau$ , feasible **only for local potentials**
- Make **consecutive small time steps** using Monte Carlo techniques to project out ground state

$$|\psi(R, \tau)\rangle \rightarrow |\phi_0\rangle \quad \text{for} \quad \tau \rightarrow \infty$$

More details:

Carlson, Gandolfi, Pederiva, Pieper, Schiavilla, Schmidt, Wiringa, RMP (2015)



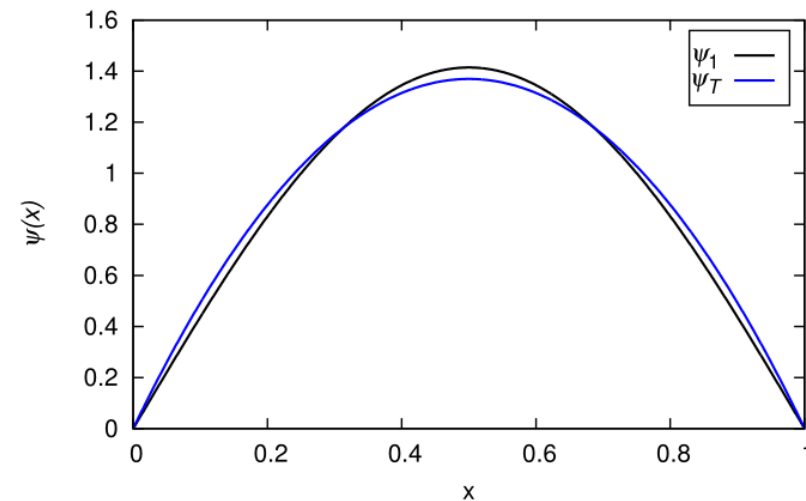
Particle in a 1D box, solution:

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{2} \sin(n\pi x), \quad E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{2}$$

Basic steps:

- Choose parabolic **trial wavefunction** which overlaps with the ground state

Animation by Joel Lynn, TU Darmstadt

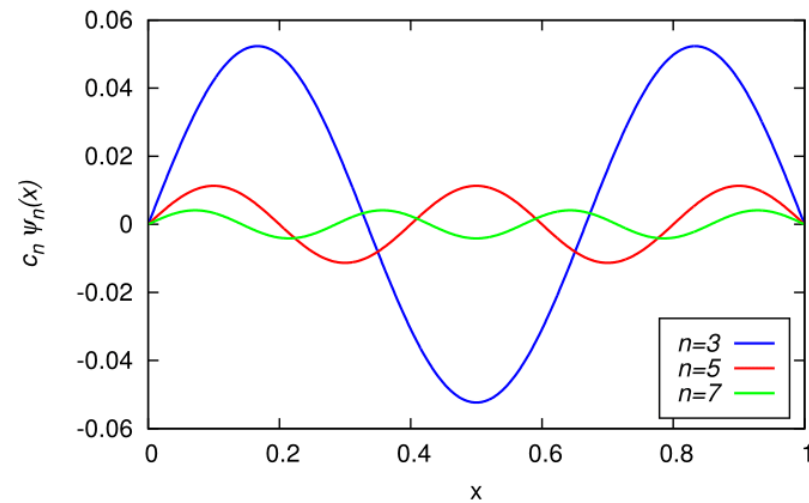
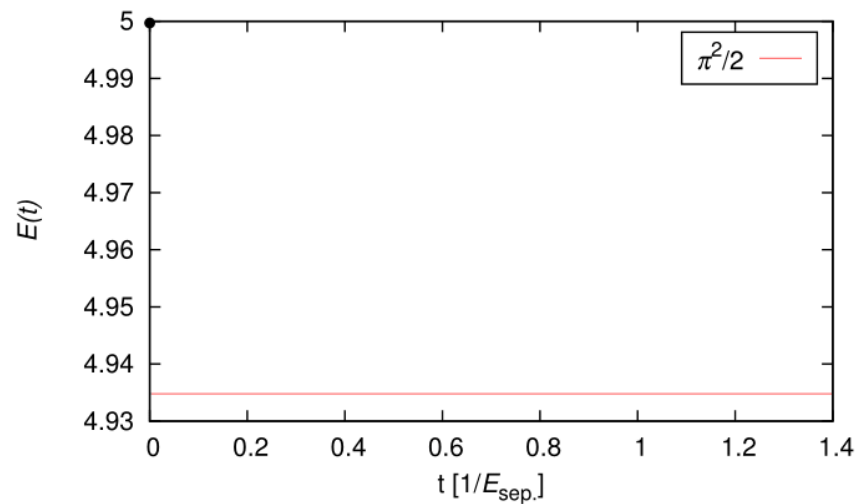


Particle in a 1D box, solution:

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{2} \sin(n\pi x), \quad E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{2}$$

➤ Make **consecutive small timesteps**,  $\tau = 0.0 \left( \frac{1}{E_{\text{sep}}} \right)$

Animation by Joel Lynn, TU Darmstadt

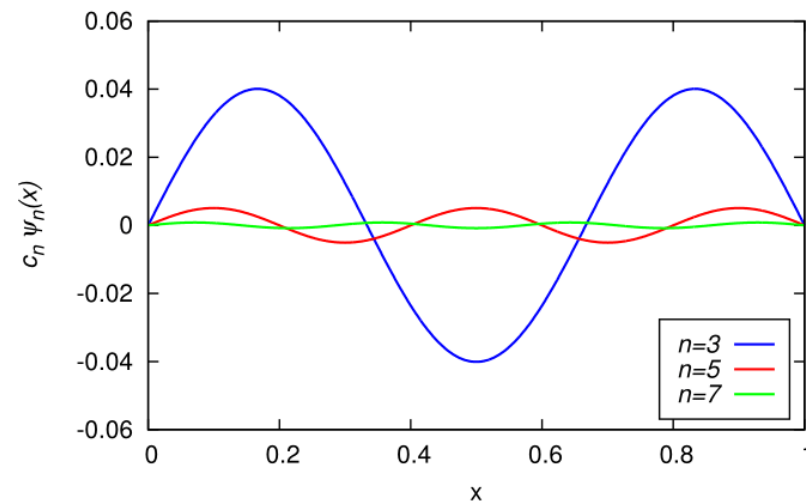
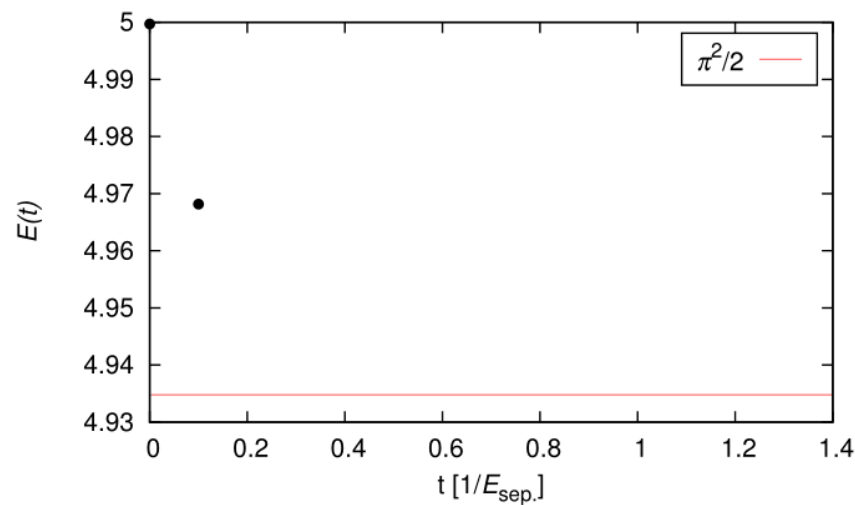


Particle in a 1D box, solution:

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{2} \sin(n\pi x), \quad E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{2}$$

➤ Make **consecutive small timesteps**,  $\tau = 0.1 \left( \frac{1}{E_{\text{sep}}} \right)$

Animation by Joel Lynn, TU Darmstadt



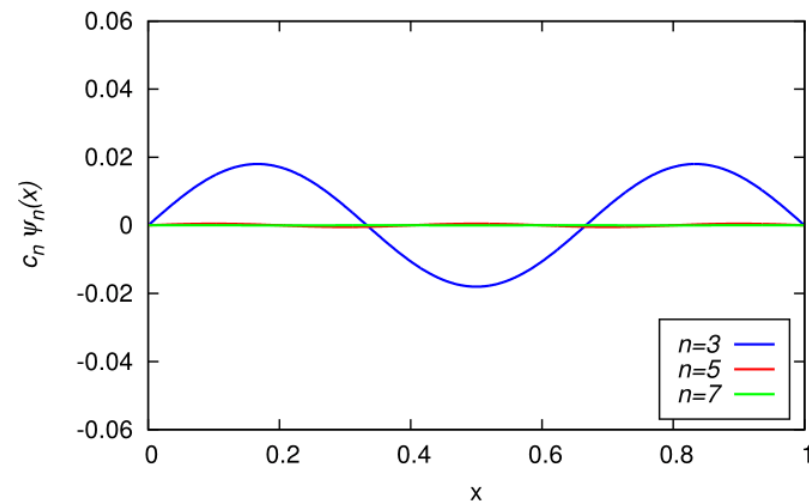
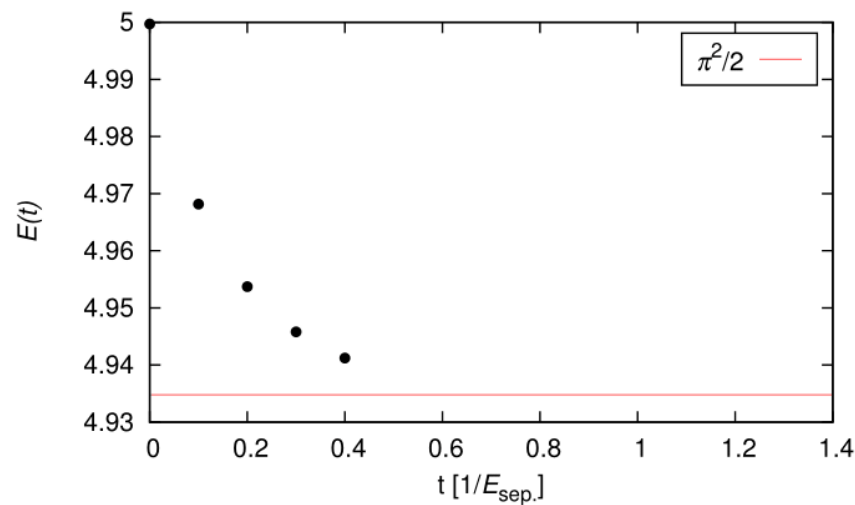
# Quantum Monte Carlo method

Particle in a 1D box, solution:

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{2} \sin(n\pi x), \quad E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{2}$$

➤ Make **consecutive small timesteps**,  $\tau = 0.4 \left( \frac{1}{E_{\text{sep}}} \right)$

Animation by Joel Lynn, TU Darmstadt

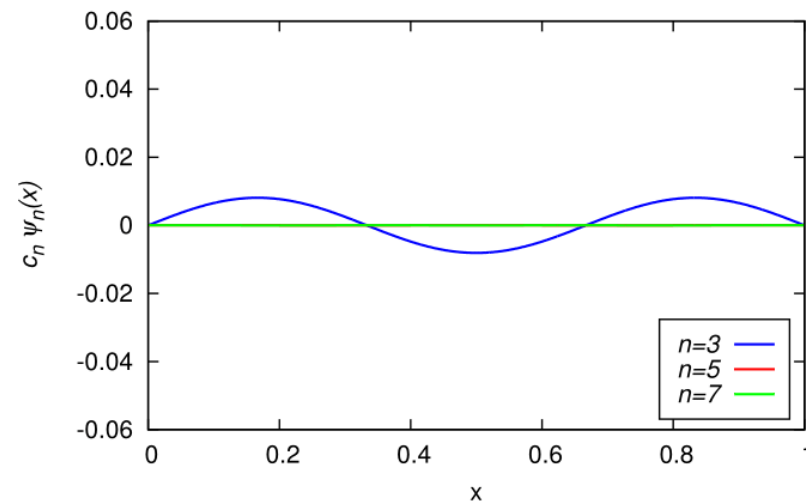
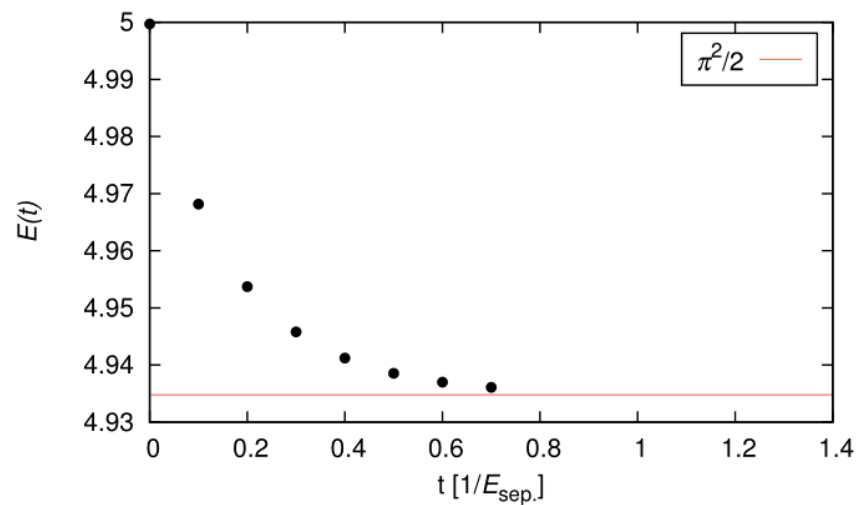


Particle in a 1D box, solution:

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{2} \sin(n\pi x), \quad E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{2}$$

➤ Make **consecutive small timesteps**,  $\tau = 0.7 \left( \frac{1}{E_{\text{sep}}} \right)$

Animation by Joel Lynn, TU Darmstadt

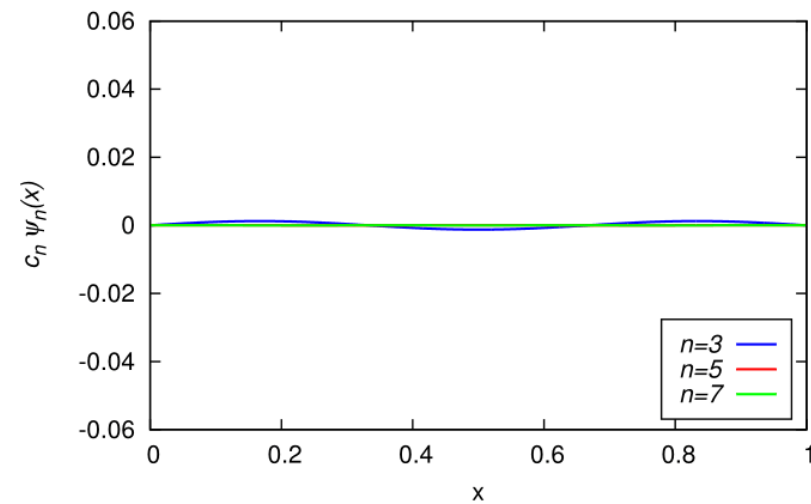
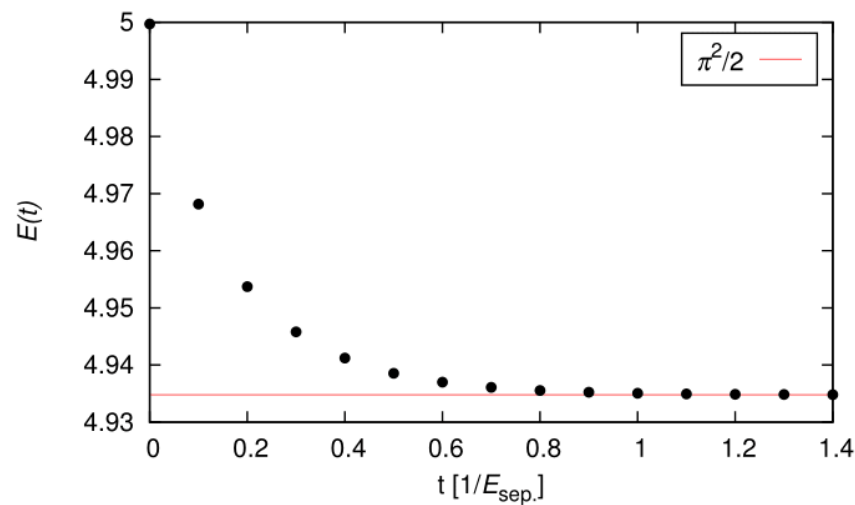


Particle in a 1D box, solution:




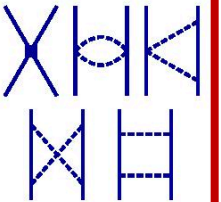


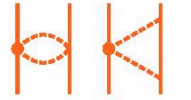
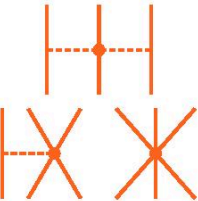

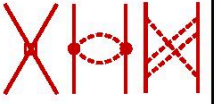
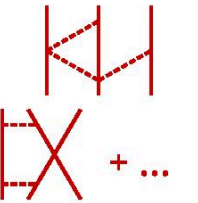

$$\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{2} \sin(n\pi x), \quad E_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{2}$$

➤ Make **consecutive small timesteps**,  $\tau = 1.4 \left( \frac{1}{E_{\text{sep}}} \right)$

Animation by Joel Lynn, TU Darmstadt



# Local chiral interactions

		NN	3N	4N
LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^0}{\Lambda^0}\right)$			
NLO	$O\left(\frac{Q^2}{\Lambda^2}\right)$			
N <sup>2</sup> LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^3}{\Lambda^3}\right)$			
N <sup>3</sup> LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^4}{\Lambda^4}\right)$	 + ...	 + ...	 + ...

➤ Choose local set of short-range operators at NLO (7 out of 14)

➤ Pion exchanges up to N<sup>2</sup>LO are local

➤ This freedom can be used to remove all nonlocal operators up to N<sup>2</sup>LO

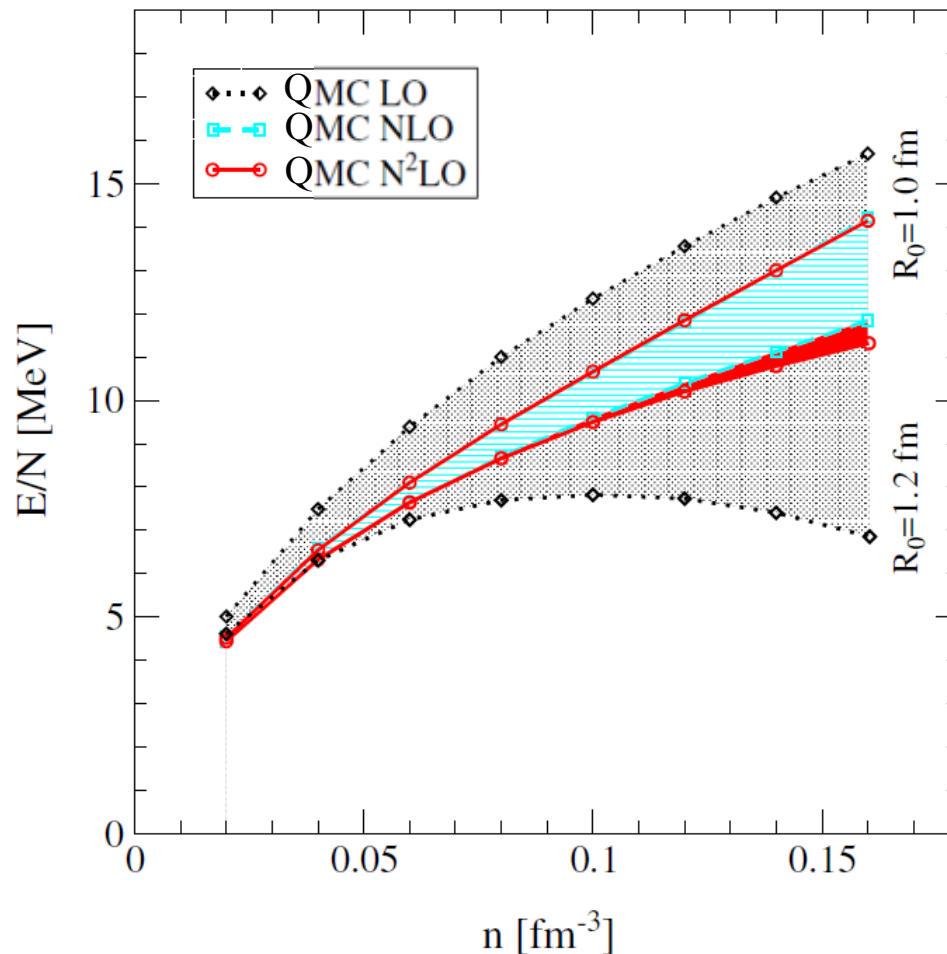
Gezerlis, IT, Epelbaum, Gandolfi, Hebeler, Nogga, Schwenk, PRL (2013)

Gezerlis, IT, Epelbaum, Freunek, Gandolfi, Hebeler, Nogga, Schwenk, PRC (2014)

➤ LECs fit to phase shifts

Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise,  
Epelbaum, Kaiser, Machleidt, Meißner, Hammer ...

# QMC results for NN forces



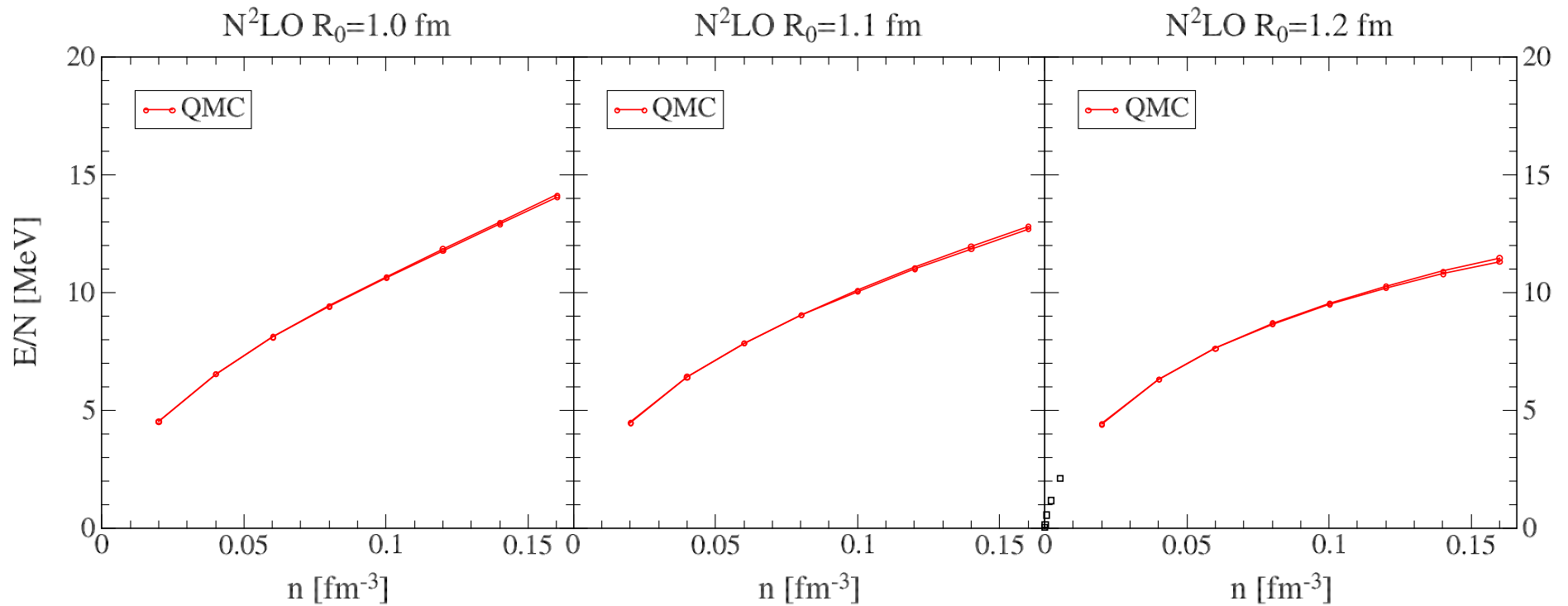
Gezerlis, IT, Epelbaum, Freunek, Gandolfi, Hebeler, Nogga,  
Schwenk, PRL (2013) and PRC (2014)

NN-only calculation:

- QMC:  
Statistical uncertainty of points negligible
- Bands include NN cutoff variation  
 $R_0 = 1.0 - 1.2$  fm
- Order-by-order convergence up to saturation density

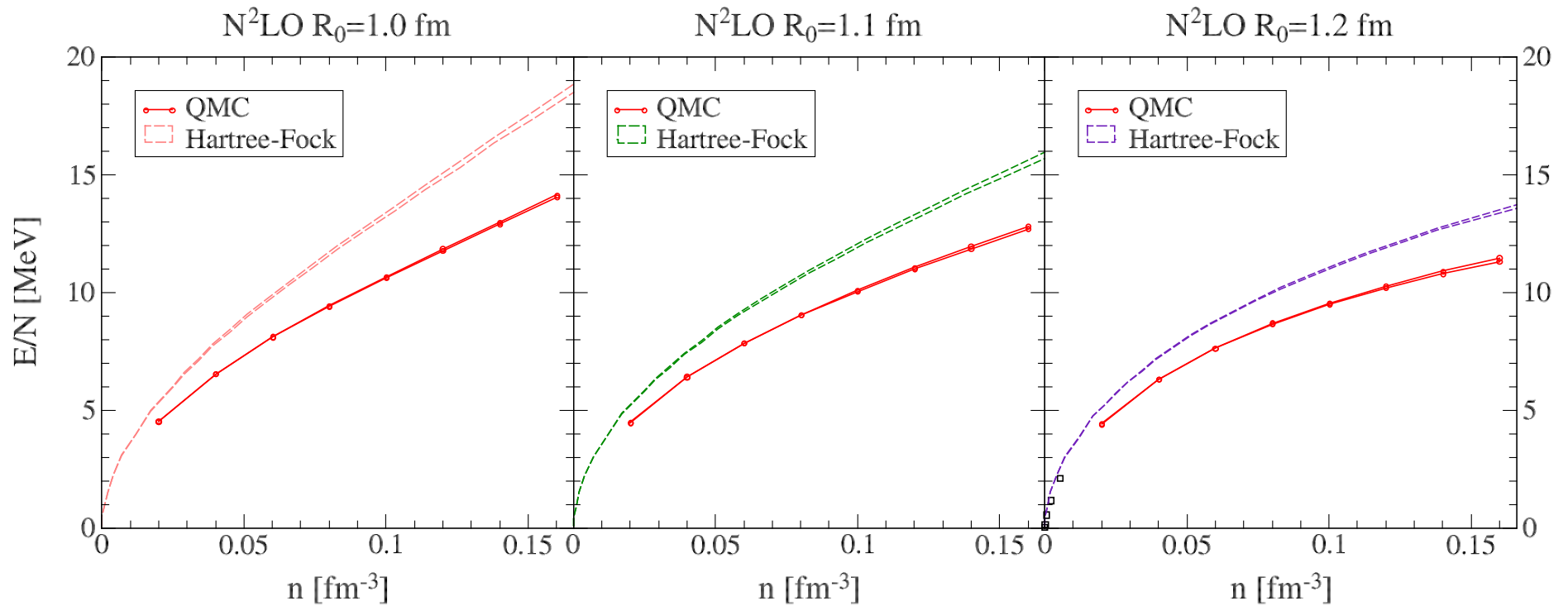


# Benchmark of MBPT



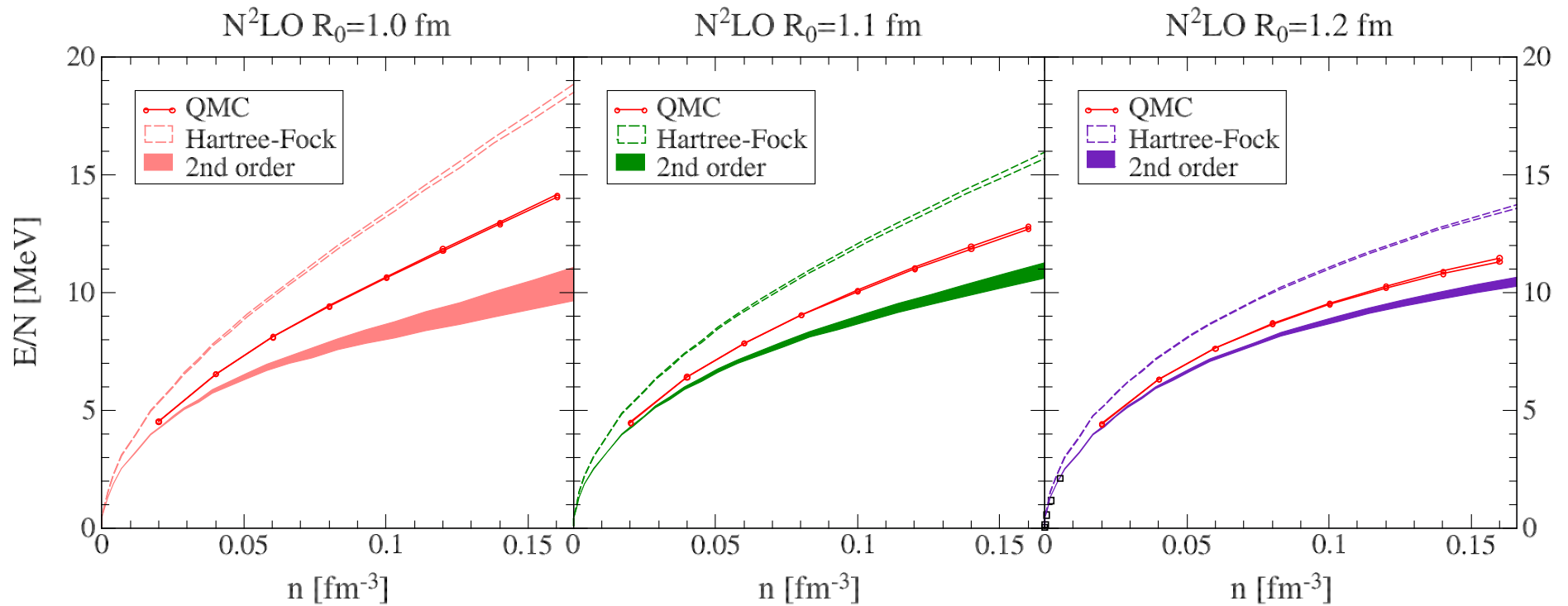
Gezerlis, IT, Epelbaum, Freunek, Gandolfi, Hebeler, Nogga, Schwenk, PRC (2014)

# Benchmark of MBPT



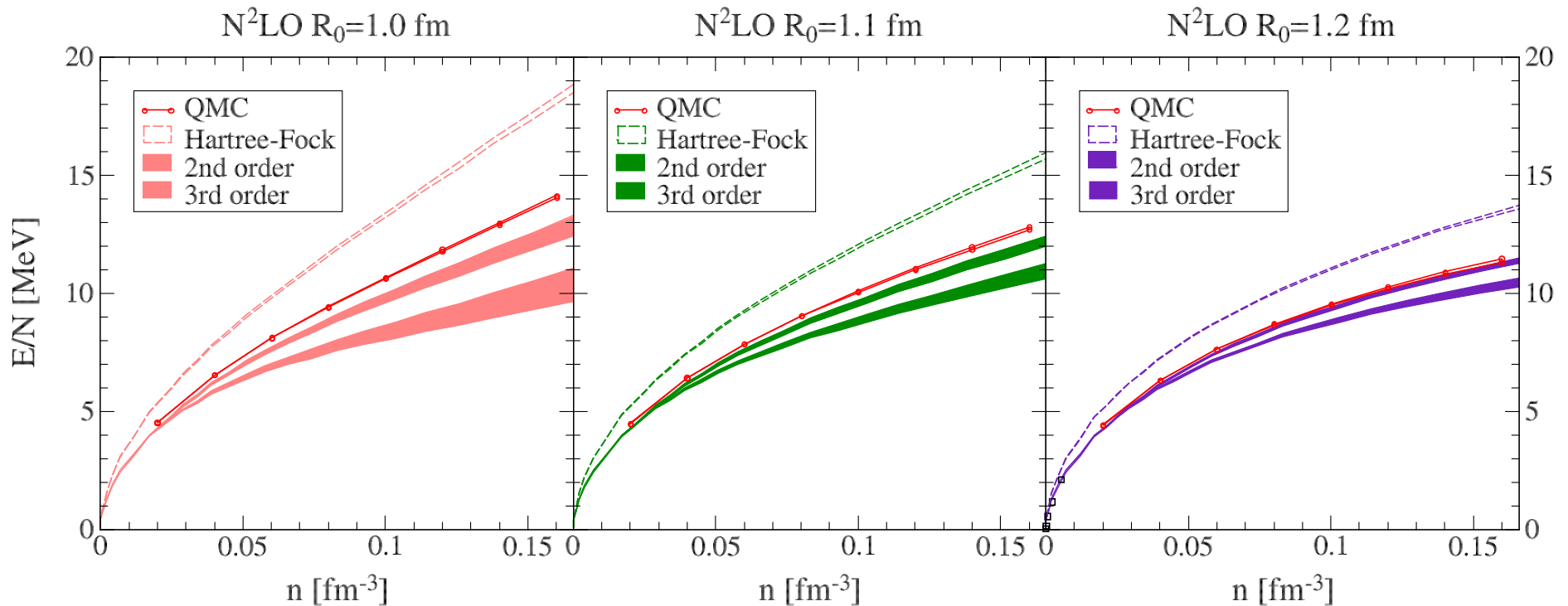
Gezerlis, IT, Epelbaum, Freunek, Gandolfi, Hebeler, Nogga, Schwenk, PRC (2014)

# Benchmark of MBPT



Gezerlis, IT, Epelbaum, Freunek, Gandolfi, Hebeler, Nogga, Schwenk, PRC (2014)

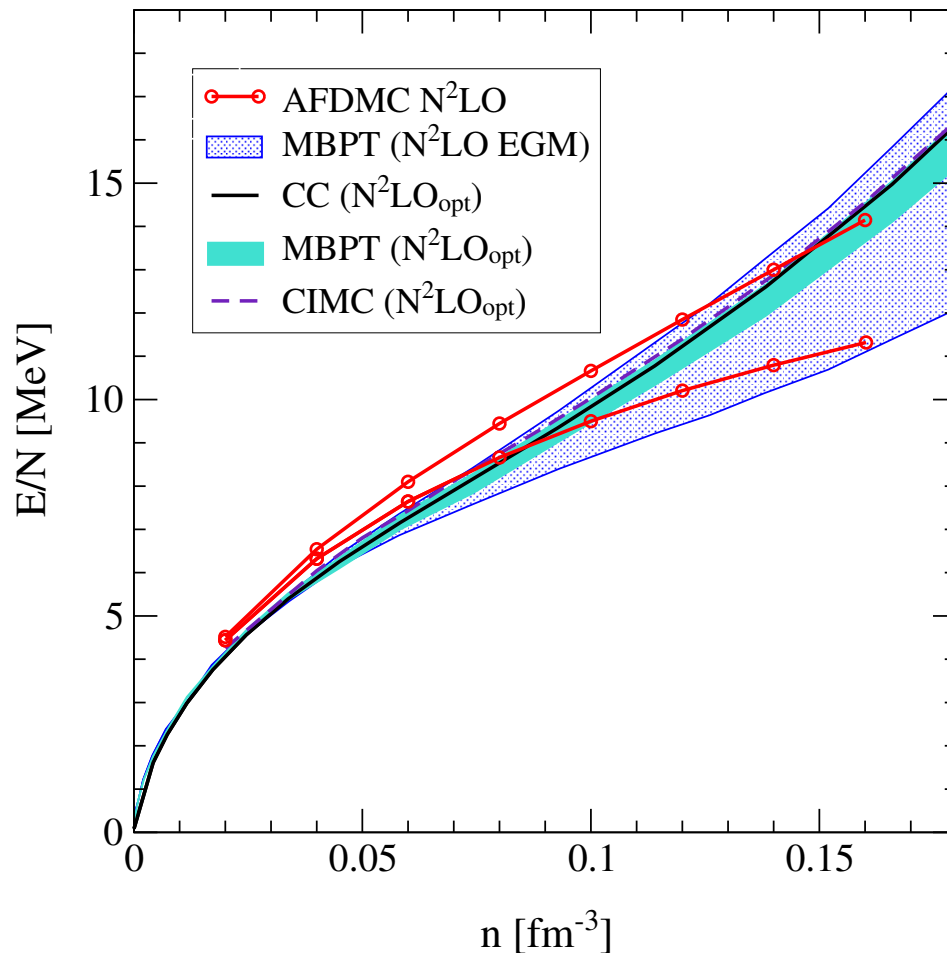
# Benchmark of MBPT



Gezerlis, IT, Epelbaum, Freunek, Gandolfi, Hebeler, Nogga, Schwenk, PRC (2014)

Many-body perturbation theory:

- Excellent agreement with QMC for soft potentials ( $R_0 = 1.2$  fm)
- **Validates perturbative calculations** for those interactions



Gezerlis, IT, Epelbaum, Freunek, Gandolfi, Hebeler, Nogga, Schwenk, PRC (2014)

## NN-only calculation

➤ Good agreement with other approaches:

### MBPT with $N^2LO$ EGM

IT, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk, PRL (2013)

### CC with $N^2LO_{opt}$

Hagen, Papenbrock, Ekström, Wendt, Baardsen, Gandolfi, Hjorth-Jensen, Horowitz, PRC (2013)




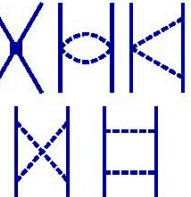


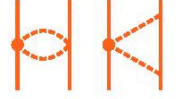
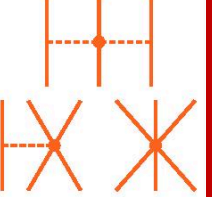


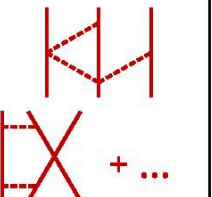
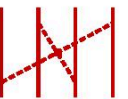
### MBPT with $N^2LO_{opt}$

IT, Krüger, Gezerlis, Hebeler, Schwenk, NTSE (2013)

### CIMC with $N^2LO_{opt}$

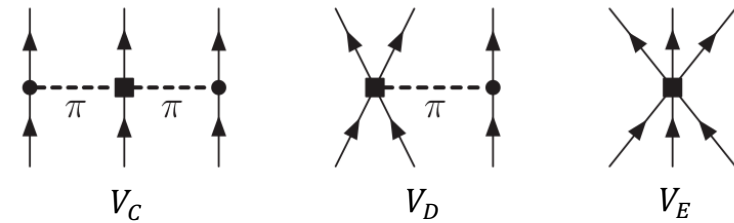
Roggero, Mukherjee, Pederiva, PRL (2014)

# QMC with chiral 3N forces

		NN	3N	4N
LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^0}{\Lambda^0}\right)$			
NLO	$O\left(\frac{Q^2}{\Lambda^2}\right)$			
N <sup>2</sup> LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^3}{\Lambda^3}\right)$			
N <sup>3</sup> LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^4}{\Lambda^4}\right)$	 + ...	 + ...	 + ...

Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise,  
Epelbaum, Kaiser, Machleidt, Meißner, Hammer ...

Next: inclusion of **leading 3N forces**



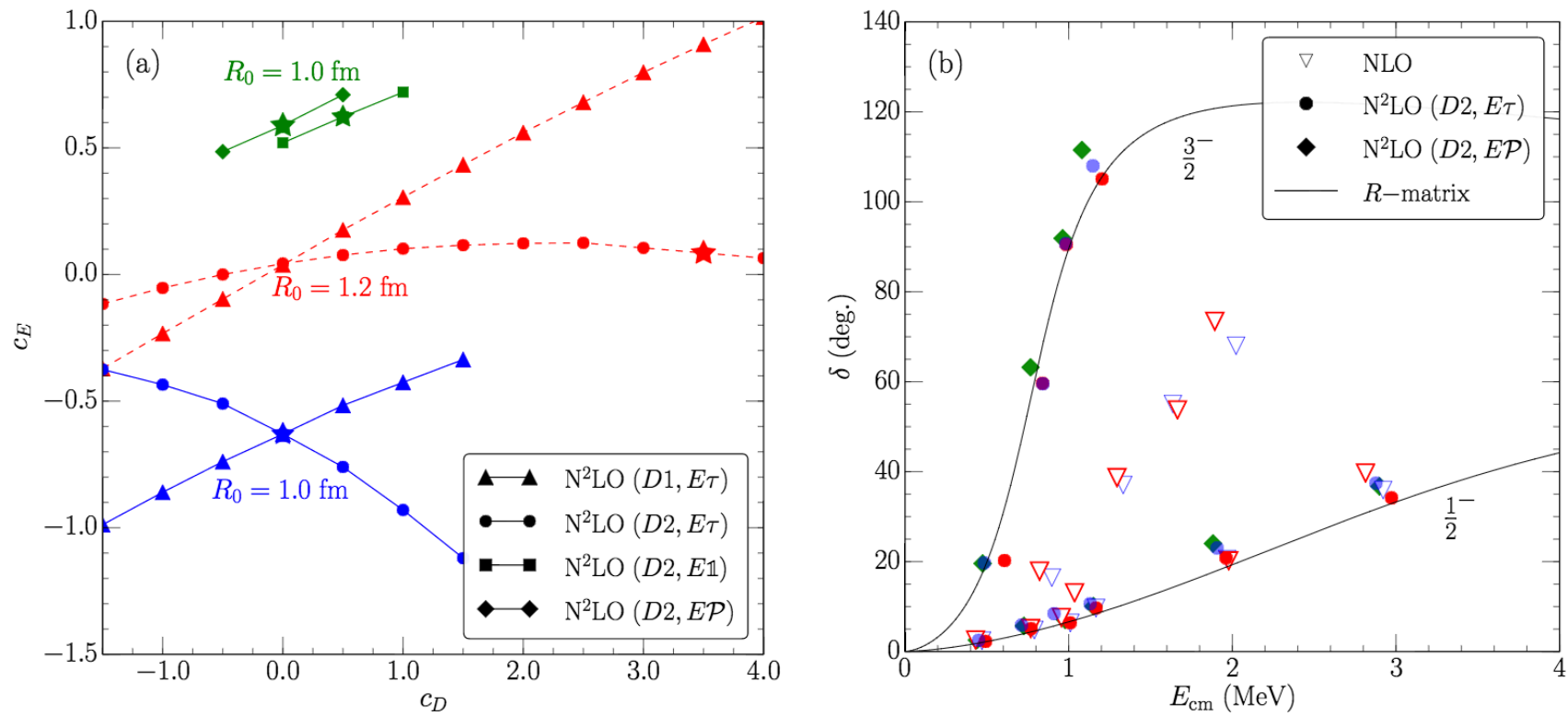
Three topologies:

- Two-pion exchange  $V_C$
- One-pion-exchange contact  $V_D$
- Three-nucleon contact  $V_E$

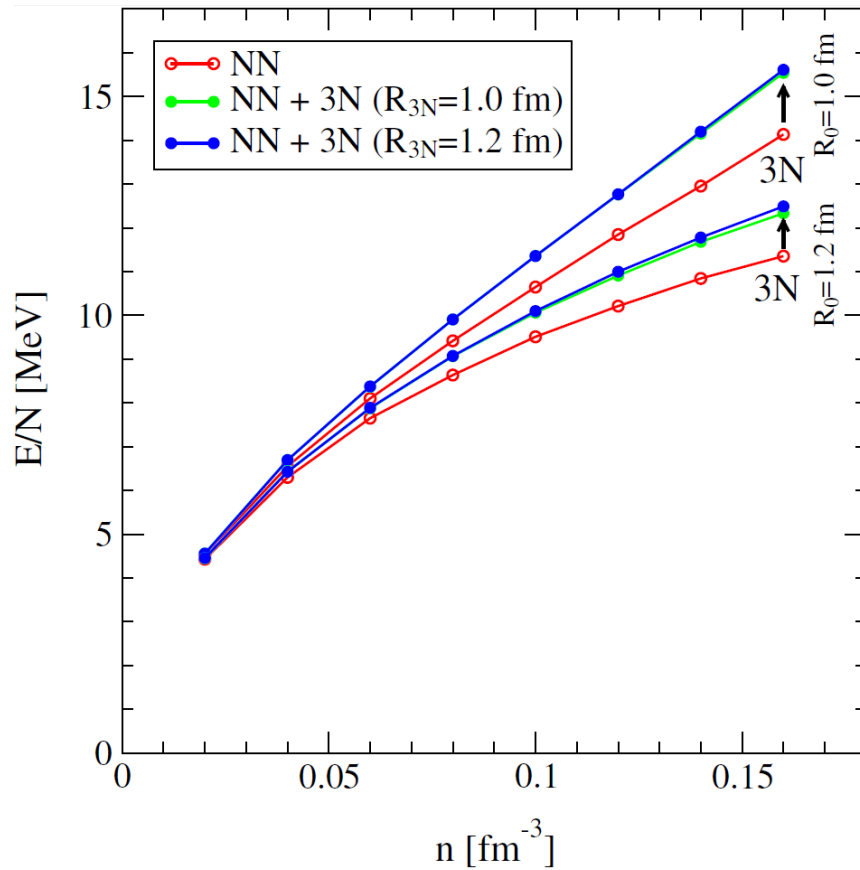
Only two new couplings:  $c_D$  and  $c_E$

Two-pion-exchange most important in PNM:  
**usually  $V_D$  and  $V_E$  vanish** in neutron matter  
(only for regulator symmetric in particle labels)

➤ Fit  $c_E$  and  $c_D$  to  ${}^4\text{He}$  binding energy and  $n$ - $\alpha$  scattering



Lynn, IT, Carlson, Gandolfi, Gezerlis, Schmidt, Schwenk, PRL (2016)

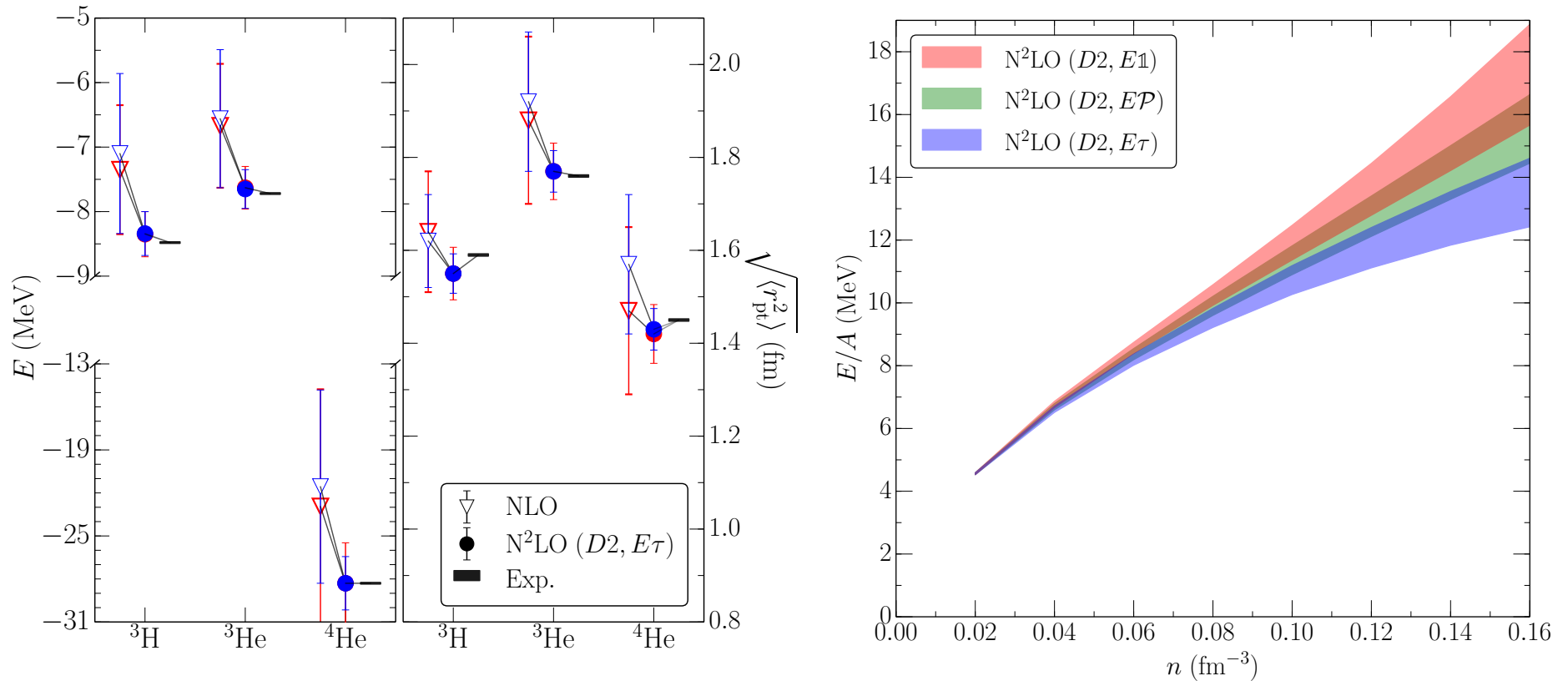


IT, Gandolfi, Gezerlis, Schwenk, PRC (2016)

- Only three-nucleon **two-pion exchange**  
 $\sim c_1$  and  $c_3$
- Auxiliary-field diffusion Monte Carlo:
  - NN + 3N forces
  - $R_0 = 1.0 - 1.2$  fm
  - $R_{3N} = 1.0 - 1.2$  fm
- TPE 3N contributions  $\approx 1 - 2$  MeV
- 3N cutoff dependence small
- Variation with  $c_1 = -(0.37 - 0.81)$  and  $c_3 = -(2.71 - 3.40)$  smaller 0.3 MeV



# Results

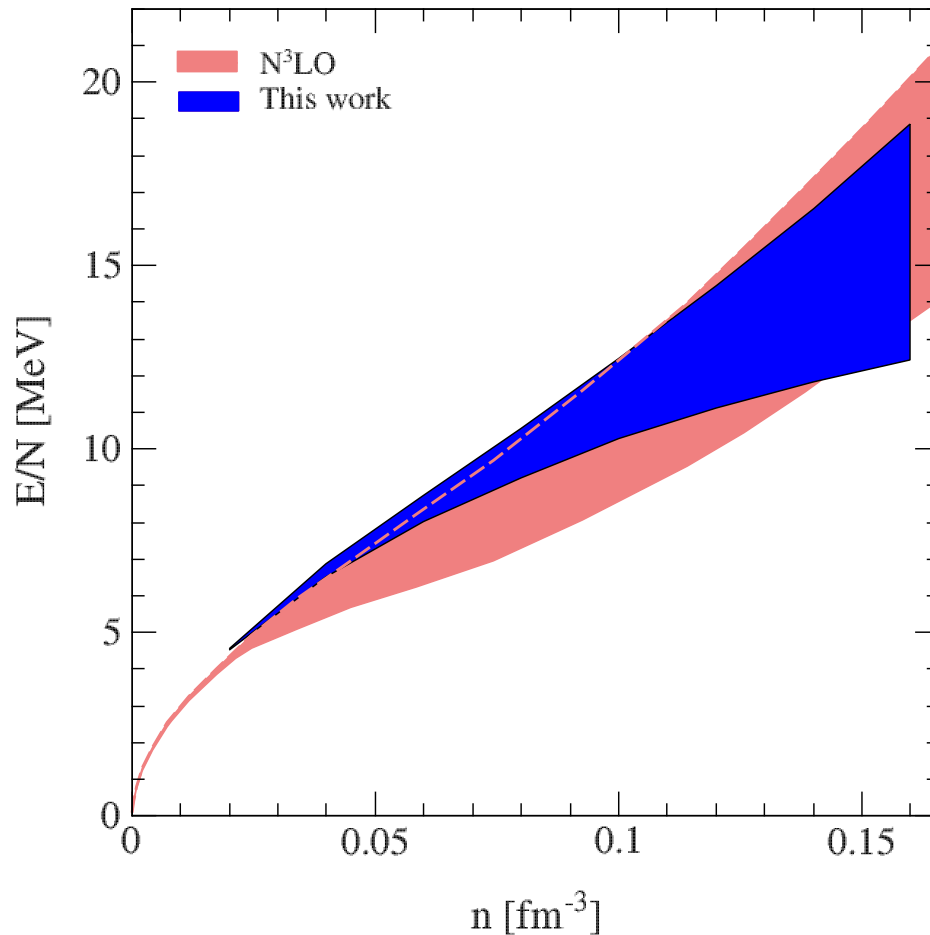


Lynn, IT, Carlson, Gandolfi, Gezerlis, Schmidt, Schwenk, PRL (2016)

- Chiral interactions at  $\text{N}^2\text{LO}$  simultaneously reproduce the properties of  $A=3, 4, 5$  systems and of neutron matter
- Commonly used phenomenological 3N interactions fail for neutron matter

Sarsa, Fantoni, Schmidt, Pederiva, PRC (2003)

Comparing to N<sup>3</sup>LO calculation:



IT, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk, PRL (2013)

Lynn, IT, Carlson, Gandolfi, Gezerlis, Schmidt, Schwenk, PRL (2016)

Chiral EFT forces with the  
Quantum Monte Carlo method:

- Energies agree well with MBPT result within uncertainty bands
- Many-body uncertainty negligible
- **uncertainties comparable** but QMC band only at N<sup>2</sup>LO

- Improve local chiral interactions:
  - Maximally local N<sup>3</sup>LO potentials

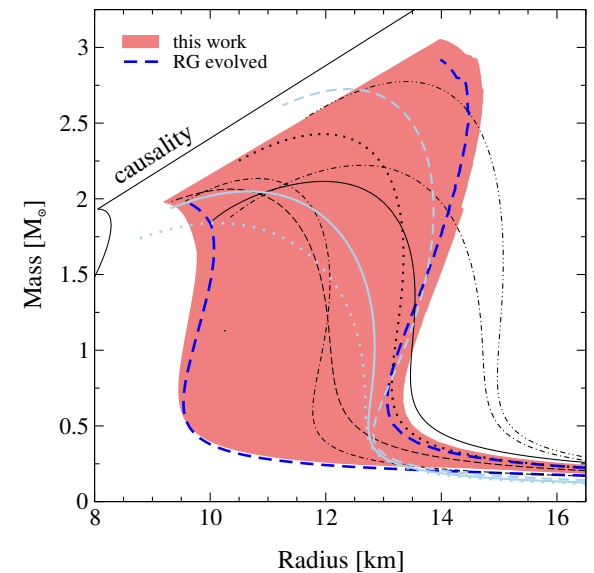
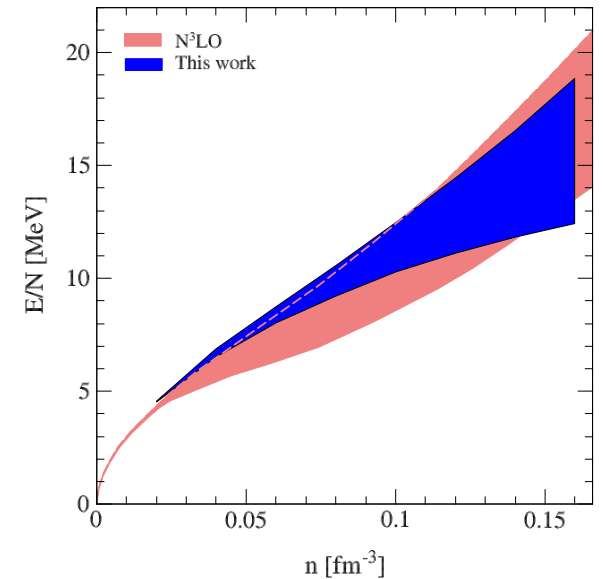
# Summary

## Chiral effective field theory:

- Provides constraints on symmetry energy, neutron star EOS
- Improvement of neutron-matter EOS work in progress
- Using QMC methods with higher order interactions expected to reduce theoretical uncertainties by a factor of two  
Gezerlis, IT, Epelbaum, Gandolfi, Hebeler, Nogga, Schwenk, PRL (2013) & PRC (2014)  
IT, Gandolfi, Gezerlis, Schwenk, PRC (2016)  
Lynn, IT, Carlson, Gandolfi, Gezerlis, Schmidt, Schwenk, PRL (2016)

## Constraints on symmetry energy and neutron stars:

- $S_V = 28.9 - 34.9$  MeV
- $L = 43.0 - 66.6$  MeV
- Radius for  $1.4 M_\odot$  neutron star:  $9.7 - 13.9$  km  
IT, Krüger, Hebeler, Schwenk, PRL & PRC (2013)



# Thanks

Thanks to my collaborators:

- Technische Universität Darmstadt:  
K. Hebeler, J. Lynn, A. Schwenk
- Universität Bochum: E. Epelbaum
- Los Alamos National Laboratory: J. Carlson, S. Gandolfi
- University of Guelph: A. Gezerlis
- Forschungszentrum Jülich: A. Nogga



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission



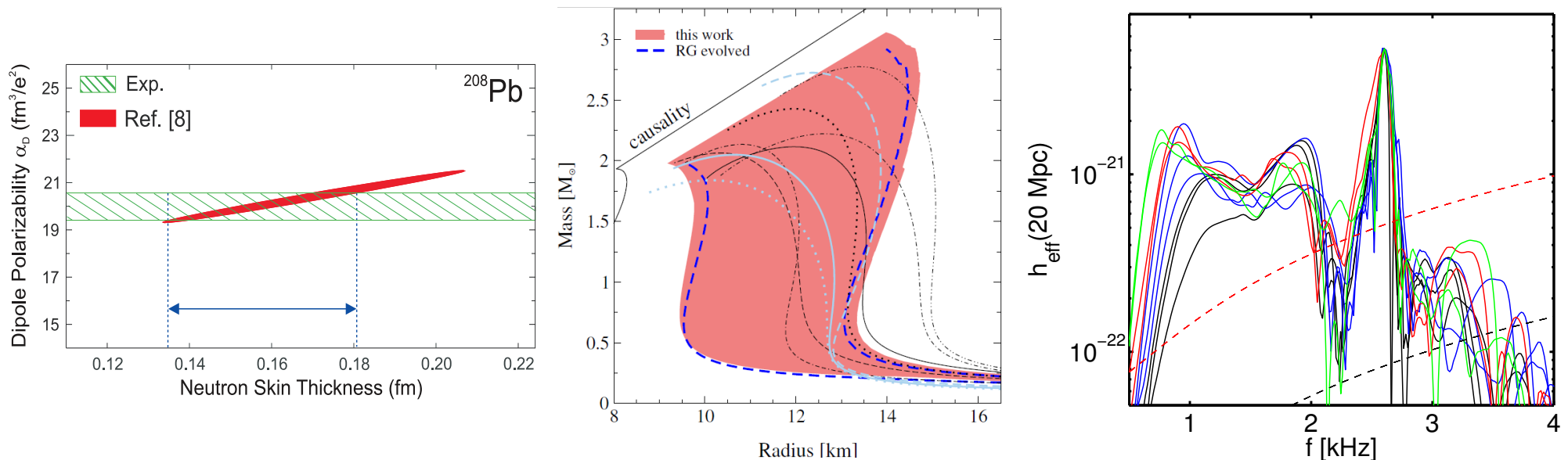
JINA-CEE

Thanks to **FZ Jülich** for computing time and  
NIC excellence project.



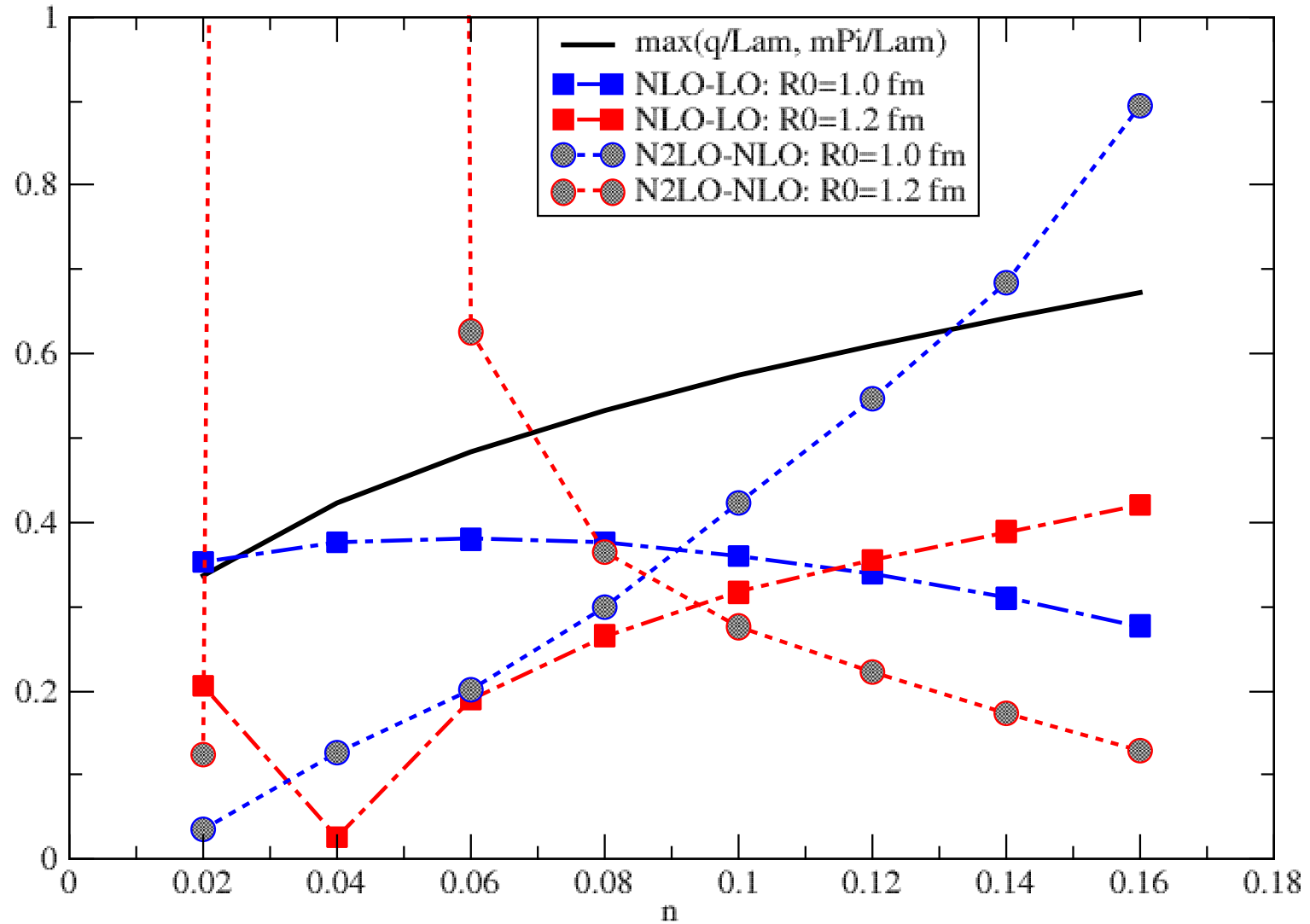
## Thank you!

- Improve local chiral interactions to nuclei and nuclear matter:
  - Maximally local N<sup>3</sup>LO potentials
  - Inclusion of Delta degree of freedom
  - Try different power counting (?)



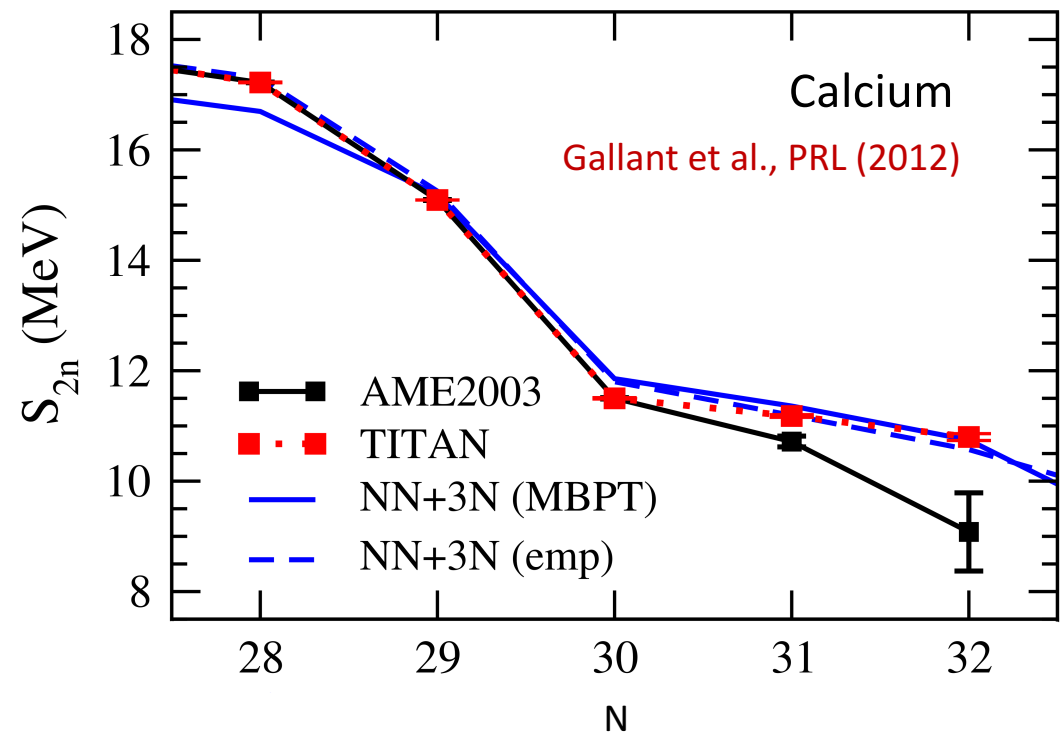
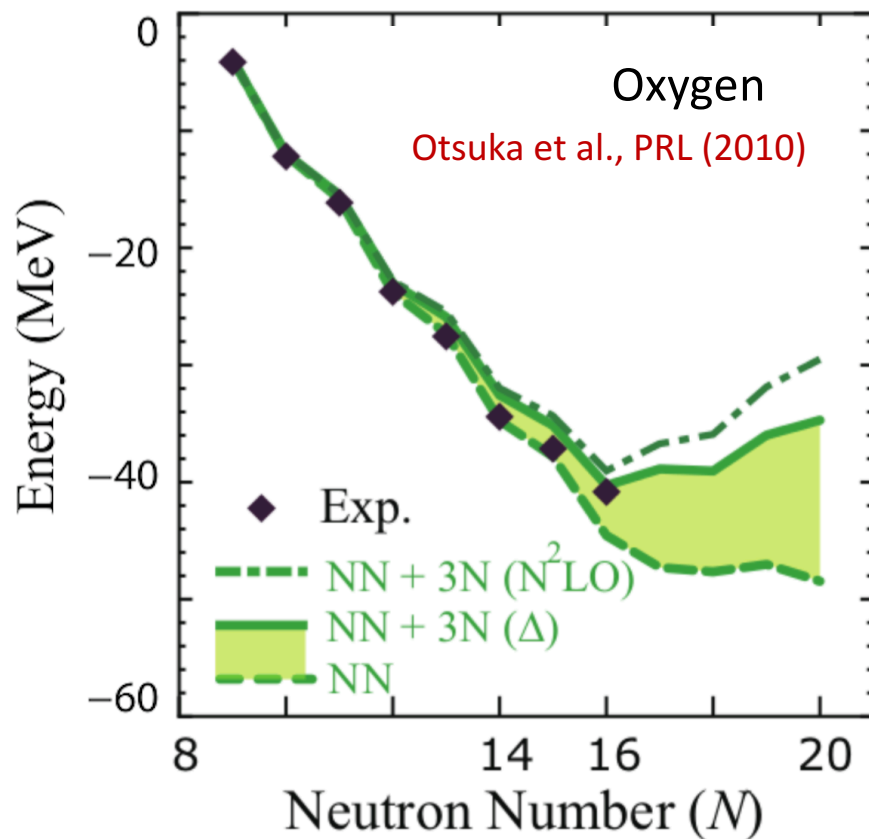
- Study perturbativeness of different chiral orders and power-counting scheme
- Connect nuclear physics to the underlying theory of QCD
- **Long-term goal: enable chiral EFT predictions from first principles**

# BACKUP



# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces

Many-body forces are crucial:



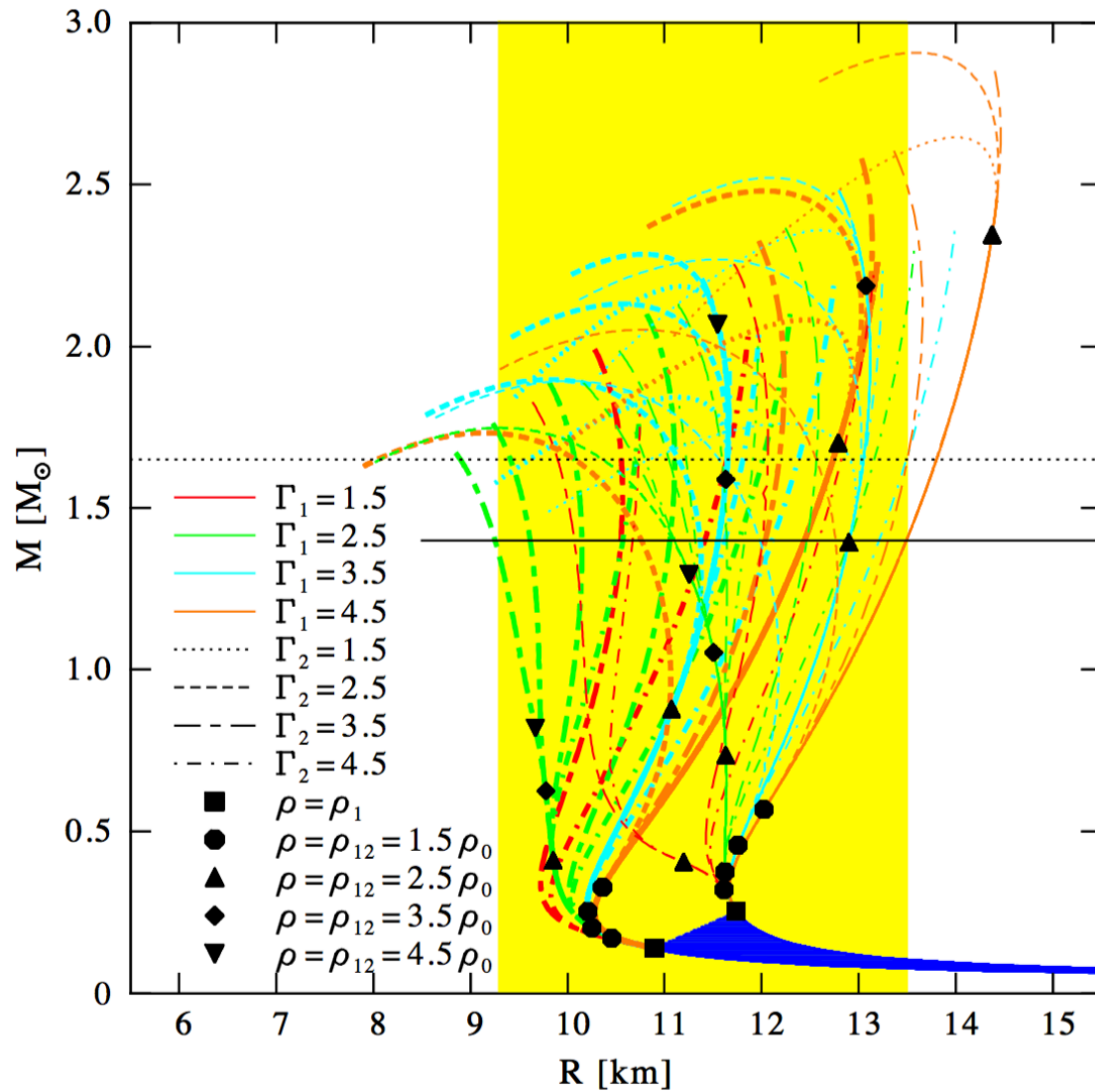
NN + 3N forces:

➤ Give correct physics of neutron-rich nuclei

See also Hebeler et al., ARNPS (2015)




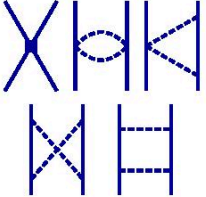


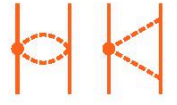
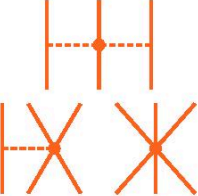

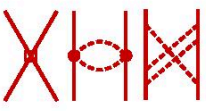
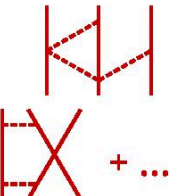
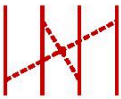


# Neutron Stars



Hebeler, Lattimer, Pethick, Schwenk, PRL (2010) and APJ (2013)

# Local chiral interactions

		NN	3N	4N
LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^0}{\Lambda^0}\right)$			
NLO	$O\left(\frac{Q^2}{\Lambda^2}\right)$			
N <sup>2</sup> LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^3}{\Lambda^3}\right)$			
N <sup>3</sup> LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^4}{\Lambda^4}\right)$	 + ...	 + ...	 + ...

- Leading order  $V^{(0)} = V_{\text{cont}}^{(0)} + V^{\text{OPE}}$
- Pion exchange local → **local regulator**

$$f_{\text{long}}(r) = 1 - \exp(-r^4/R_0^4)$$

- Contact potential:

$$V_{\text{cont}}^{(0)} = \alpha_1 \mathbf{1} + \alpha_2 \sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2 + \alpha_3 \tau_1 \cdot \tau_2 + \alpha_4 \sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2 \tau_1 \cdot \tau_2$$

→ Only two independent (Pauli principle)

$$V_{\text{cont}}^{(0)} = C_S \mathbf{1} + C_T \sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2$$

$$f_{\text{short}}(r) = \alpha \exp(-r^4/R_0^4)$$

Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise,  
Epelbaum, Kaiser, Machleidt, Meißner, Hammer ...

# Local chiral interactions




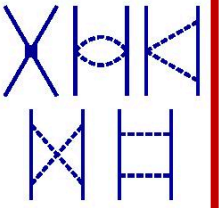


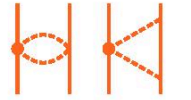
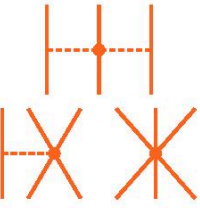

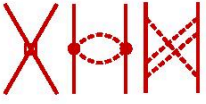
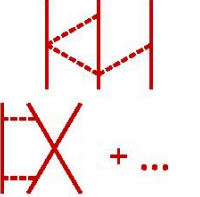
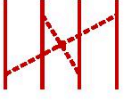
		NN	3N	4N
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N <sup>2</sup> LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^3}{\Lambda^3}\right)$			
N <sup>3</sup> LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^4}{\Lambda^4}\right)$			

- Choose local set of short-range operators at NLO (7 out of 14)

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_{\text{cont}}^{(2)} = & \gamma_1 q^2 + \gamma_2 q^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 + \gamma_3 q^2 \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \\
 & + \gamma_4 q^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \\
 & + \gamma_5 k^2 + \gamma_6 k^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 + \gamma_7 k^2 \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \\
 & + \gamma_8 k^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \\
 & + \gamma_9 (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2)(\mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{k}) \\
 & + \gamma_{10} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2)(\mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{k}) \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \\
 & + \gamma_{11} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{q}) \\
 & + \gamma_{12} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{q}) \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \\
 & + \gamma_{13} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{k}) \\
 & + \gamma_{14} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{k}) \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 .
 \end{aligned}$$

Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise,  
Epelbaum, Kaiser, Machleidt, Meißner, Hammer ...

# Local chiral interactions

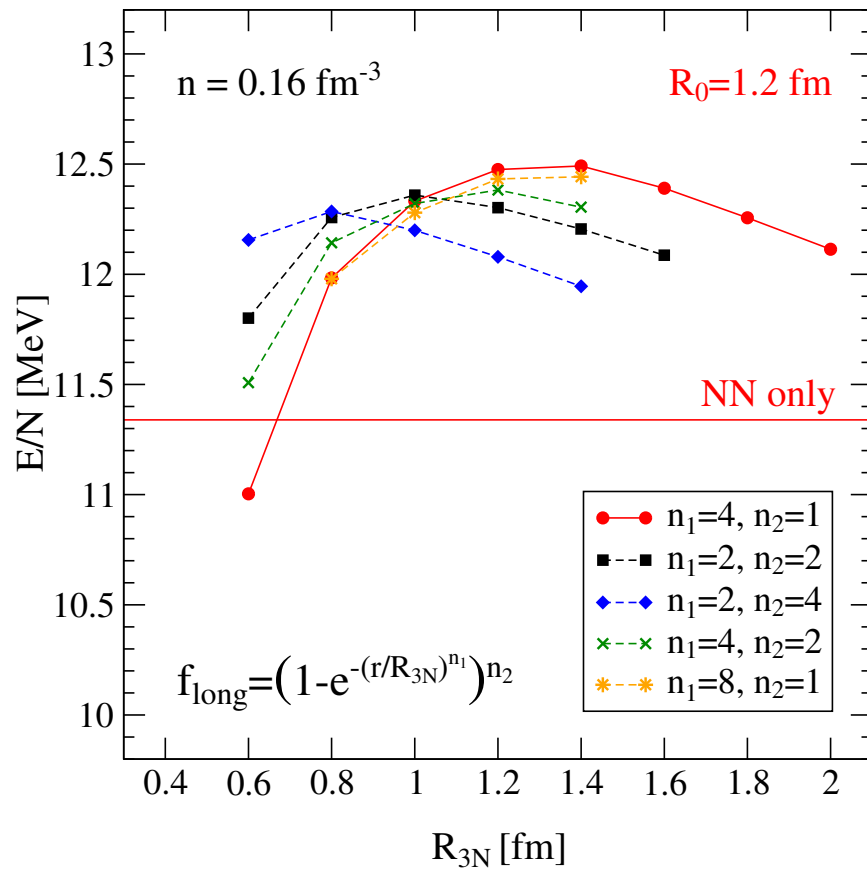
		NN	3N	4N
LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^0}{\Lambda^0}\right)$			
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N <sup>2</sup> LO	$O\left(\frac{Q^3}{\Lambda^3}\right)$			
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 & + \gamma_5 k^2 + \gamma_6 k^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 + \gamma_7 k^2 \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \\
 & + \gamma_8 k^2 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \\
 & + \gamma_9 (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2)(\mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{k}) \\
 & + \gamma_{10} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2)(\mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{k}) \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \\
 & + \gamma_{11} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{q}) \\
 & + \gamma_{12} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{q}) \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 \\
 & + \gamma_{13} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{k}) \\
 & + \gamma_{14} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k})(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{k}) \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_2 .
 \end{aligned}$$

Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise,  
Epelbaum, Kaiser, Machleidt, Meißner, Hammer ...

# QMC results with 3N TPE



IT, Gandolfi, Gezerlis, Schwenk, PRC (2016)

- Only three-nucleon **two-pion exchange**  
 $\sim c_1$  and  $c_3$
- Auxiliary-field diffusion Monte Carlo:
  - NN + 3N forces
  - $R_0 = 1.0 - 1.2 \text{ fm}$
  - $R_{3N} = 1.0 - 1.2 \text{ fm}$
- TPE 3N contributions  $\approx 1 - 2 \text{ MeV}$ , smaller than for nonlocal regulators
- 3N cutoff dependence small
- Variation with  $c_1 = -(0.37 - 0.81)$  and  $c_3 = -(2.71 - 3.40)$  smaller  $0.3 \text{ MeV}$
- Independent of exact regulator form