Nuclear Shell Model: structure of exotic nuclei, weak processes and astrophysical issues

F. Nowacki, K. Sieja (IPHC), N. Smirnova (CENBG), P. Van Isacker (GANIL)



Prospectives nationales 2020-2030 Physique Nucléaire et Astrophysique nucléaire

New Frontiers for Shell Model calculations



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Weak processes



- β decay \iff fundamental interactions
- $\beta\beta$ decay \iff nature of neutrinos

 $[T_{1/2}^{0\nu}(0^+ \rightarrow 0^+)]^{-1} = G_{0\nu} |M^{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{\nu} \rangle^2$



- define effective interaction
- build and diagonalize energy matrix



Astrophysics and nucleosynthesis





Shell Model: Giant Computations

exponential growth of basis dimensions:

$$|\Phi_{lpha}
angle = \prod_{i=\textit{nljm} au} a^{\dagger}_i |0
angle = a^{\dagger}_{i1}...a^{\dagger}_{i\!A} |0
angle$$

$$D \sim \left(\begin{array}{c} d_{\pi} \\ p \end{array}
ight) \cdot \left(\begin{array}{c} d_{\nu} \\ n \end{array}
ight)$$

In *pf* shell : ⁵⁶Ni **1,087,455,228** In *pf-sdg* space : ⁷⁸Ni **210,046,691,518**

- Actual limits in giant diagonalizations: 0.2 10¹² for ¹¹⁴Sn core excitations
- Largest matrices up to now contain up to ~ 10¹⁴ non-zero matrix elements.
- This would require more than 1,000,000 CD-ROM's to store the information for a single matrix !
- They cannot be stored on hard disk and are computed on the fly.





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Structure and decay of exotic nuclei

 Nowadays, LSSM calculations in extended model spaces comprising a few oscillator shells to deal with the changing shell structure and the onset of deformation in very neutron-rich nuclei

• Development of accurate description of isospin-symmetry breaking using chargedependent hamiltonians

• Construction of fully microscopic interactions for valence-space calculations as a path towards regions where no experimental data are available

- Development of numerical techniques and state-of-the-art computations
- Search for additionnal guidelines and shortcuts using symmetry based approaches

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 100, 054329 (2019)



Effective interactions in the sd shell N. A. Smirnova^{*}

⁷⁸Ni revealed as a doubly magic stronghold against nuclear deformation



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Isospin symmetry breaking in the Shell-Model context

• Accurate description of Isospin violation and associated phenomena through development of Isospin Non Conserving Shell Model hamiltonians in extended valence spaces:

 $((sd), (pf), (s_{1/2}d_{3/2}f_{7/2}p_{3/2})$ and beyond

- βp and $\beta p\gamma$ decay studies and extraction of Isospin mixing in the IAS
- Development of Isospin Non Conserving Shell Model hamiltonian in the (sd - pf) valence space and numerous applications
- Improvement of MED and TED description within a band
- Interpretation for b and c coefficients staggering
- support to forthcoming experimental studies



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Superallowed $\beta 0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ as a test of fundamental interactions

- \bullet Large scale calculations for all emitters below A \leq 40 including nuclei in the vicinity of ^{40}Ca
- Use of Isospin Non Conserving hamiltonians and Woods-Saxon wave functions for untruncated *sd* and *pf* calculations
- New approach of radii determination without closure approximation
- Use of new effective interactions developped in Strasbourg
- Lanczos Structure Function Method for δ_C
- New (*sd pf*) interaction
- Effective Fermi Operator
- HF wave functions
- New emitters such as ⁵⁸Zn

$$\mathcal{F}t = (1 + \delta_R)(1 + \delta_{NS} - \delta_C)ft$$
$$= \frac{K}{M_{F0}^2 G_F^2 |V_{ud}|^2 (1 + \Delta_R)}$$



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 Reliable nuclear matrix elements needed to plan and fully exploit impressive experiments looking for neutrinoless ββ decay
 Matrix elements differences

between present calculations, factor 2-3 besides additionnal "quenching" ?

• 48 Ca and 76 Ge matrix elements in larger configuration space increase $\lesssim 30\%$, missing correlations introduced in IBM, EDF

• First Ab-initio calculations of β decays do not need additionnal "quenching", Ab-initio ⁴⁸Ca matrix elements in progress

• $2\nu\beta\beta$ decay, μ -capture/ ν -nucleus scattering and double Gamow-Teller transitions can give insight on $0\nu\beta\beta$ matrix elements

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Reliable nuclear matrix elements needed to plan and fully exploit impressive experiments looking for neutrinoless double-beta decay

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PHYSICAL REVIEW C 100, 014316 (2019)

Renormalization of the Gamow-Teller operator within the realistic shell model

L. Coraggio,¹ L. De Angelis,¹ T. Fukui,¹ A. Gargano,¹ N. Itaco,^{2,1} and F. Nowacki^{3,4,2}



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The calculation of the neutrinoless double- β decay matrix element within the realistic shell model

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Renormalisation of the $(\beta\beta)_{0\nu}$ operator by MBPT Collaboration IPHC - INFN/Université de Naples

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Proton capture reaction rates calculations for rp process (X-ray bursts) or novae

$$N_A \langle \sigma v \rangle = 1.54 * 10^{15} (\mu T_9)^{-3/2} \omega \gamma exp(\frac{-11.605 E_r}{T_9}) cm^3 . s^{-1} . mol^{-1}$$

• Strong impact reactions (Cybert et al. AAJ, 2016):

$$^{56}Ni(\alpha, p)^{59}Cu, ^{59}Cu(p, \gamma)^{60}Zn, ^{61}Ga(p, \gamma)^{62}Zn$$

Theoretical determination of unknown quantities:

Resonance energies (with Isospin breaking) Widths with respect to proton and gamma emission

 Several reactions in *sd* shell *pf* shell nuclei around ⁴⁰*Ca* Thomas-Ehrman shift in *sd* shell
 (α, γ), (α, p), (p, α) capture/emission modeling
 ²²*M*q(α, p)²⁵*A*/ and other reactions

• p - sd - pf valence space for non-natural parity states Electron capture rates around ⁴⁰ Ca



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Radiative Neutron Capture: Theoretical Models and Applications

• SM can provide reliable spectroscopic factors and help testing usual theoretical assumptions in cases no experimental data is known \rightarrow work in progress

• Spectroscopy of neutron-rich nuclei around ⁷⁸Ni is still of interest for nuclear models

• *E*1/*M*1 RSF and PSF can be microscopically obtained within the SM

• Shell effects survive at higher excitation energies and are visible in M1 dipole strength functions

• M1 upbend has a significant impact on neutron capture cross sections in exotic nuclei : X10

 develop/constraint/improve global microscopic models (HFB, QRPA) on a SM basis for all kind of applications (astrophysics, nuclear data, reactors etc ...)



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SM Studies

• High predictive power, accurate and detailed information (structure near and far from stability, nuclear and electroweak processes)

success and robustness of the approach encourage further developments and applications

Potential powerful description of simultaneous low-lying phenonema but need of precise dedicated local studies

• Intense support for future experimental programs and developments (but manpower insufficient ...)

• Existing cross fertilizing collaborations in several domains: ab-initio studies, isospin symmetry breaking, astrophysics, $\beta\beta$ decay ... and others to develop !

Ab-initio challenge



FIG. 2. Correlation between the energies of the 2^+_1 excited state in ⁴⁸Ca and ⁷⁸Ni, obtained from the interactions NNLO_{sst} (circle), "2.0/2.0 (PWA)" (square), "2.0/2.0 (EM)" (diamond), "2.2/2.0 (EM)" (triangle up), and "1.8/2.0 (EM)" (triangle down). The error bars estimate uncertainties from enlarging the model space from N = 12 to N = 14. The thin horizontal line marks the known energy of the 2^+_1 state in ⁴⁸Ca.

Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 172501 (2016)



FIG. 3. Convergence of the first 2_1^+ excited state of ⁴⁸Ca and ⁷⁸Ni with increasing model-space size and compared to the data for the interaction 1.8/2.0 (EM) of Ref. [33].

Ab-initio challenge



R. Taniuchi et al., NATURE 569, 53-58 (2019)

Ab-initio challenge



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Resonant Capture



$$\sigma_{(n,\gamma)}^{\mu\nu}(E_i,n) = \frac{\pi\hbar^2}{2M_{i,n}E_{i,n}} \frac{1}{(2J_i^{\mu}+1)(2J_n+1)} \sum_{J,\pi} (2J+1) \frac{T_n^{\mu}T_{\gamma}^{\nu}}{T_n^{\mu}+T_{\gamma}^{\nu}}$$

for $E_n \sim \text{keV}$ $T_n^{\mu} \gg T_{\gamma}^{\nu} \longrightarrow \sigma^{\mu\nu} \sim T_{\gamma}^{\nu}$ $E_{i,n}, M_{i,n}^{}$ center-of-mass energy, reduced mass of the system $J_n = 1/2$ -neutron spin $T_n^{\mu} = T_n(E, J, \pi; E_i^{\mu}, J_i^{\mu}, \pi_i^{\mu}) T_{\gamma}^{\nu} = T_{\gamma}(E, J, \pi; E_m^{\nu}, J_m^{\nu}, \pi_m^{\nu})$ - transmission coefficients

For a given multipolarity $T_{XL}(E, J, \pi, E^{\vee}, J^{\vee}, \pi^{\vee}) = 2\pi E_{\gamma}^{2L+1} f_{XL}(E, E_{\gamma})$ Test, using SM, the key ingredients of Hauser-Feshbach calculations:

- O description of γ emission spectra
- Brink-Axel hypothesis



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Direct Capture



Xi. Yu and S. Goriely, Phys. Rev. C86 (2012) 045801

$$\begin{split} \sigma^{DC}(E) &= \sum_{f=0}^{X} S_{f} \sigma_{dis}(E) \\ &+ \quad \langle S \rangle \int_{E_{X}}^{S_{n}} \sum_{J_{f},\pi_{f}} \rho(E_{f},J_{f},\pi_{f}) \times \sigma_{f}^{cont} dE_{f} \end{split}$$

If no experimental data available:

use combinatorial model for the level density with (S)=0.5

rearThe key ingredients: low-energy levels and spectroscopic factors

■ Validate theoretical approximations (HFB) in exotic nuclei using SM predictions

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