

Pairing Phase Transition in Hot Nuclei

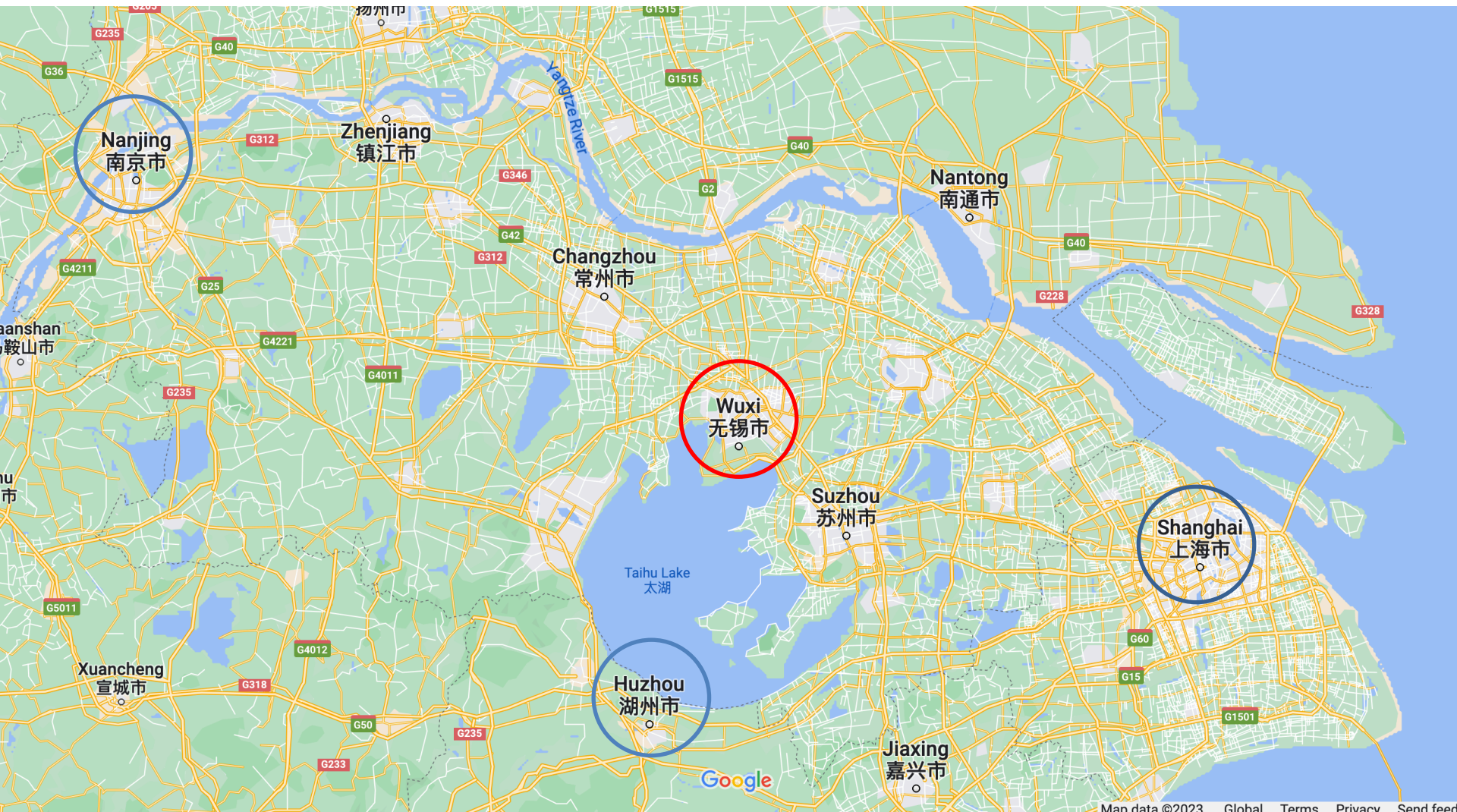
Lang Liu (刘朗)



江南大学

JIANGNAN UNIVERSITY

2023-07-13 @ IMP, Huizhou



Outline

- Introduction
- Theoretical framework
- Numerical details
- Results and discussion
- Summary

Introduction

✓ Pairing correlations are very crucial for nuclei;

The energy gap;

Odd-even effect of binding energy;

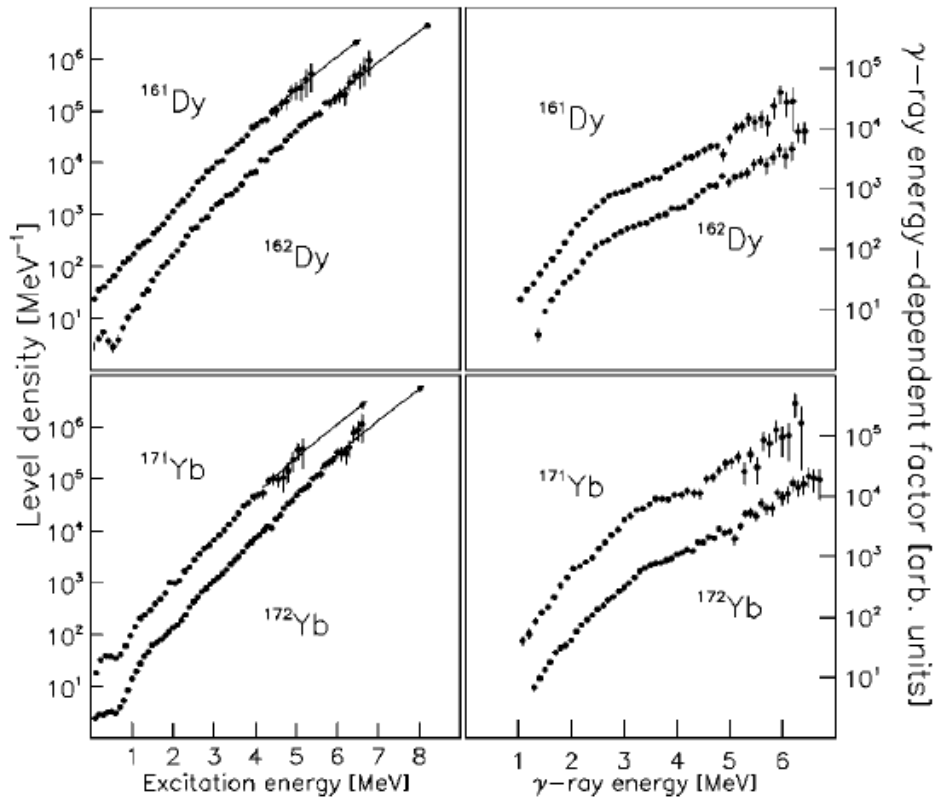
The moments of inertia;

The level density;

.....

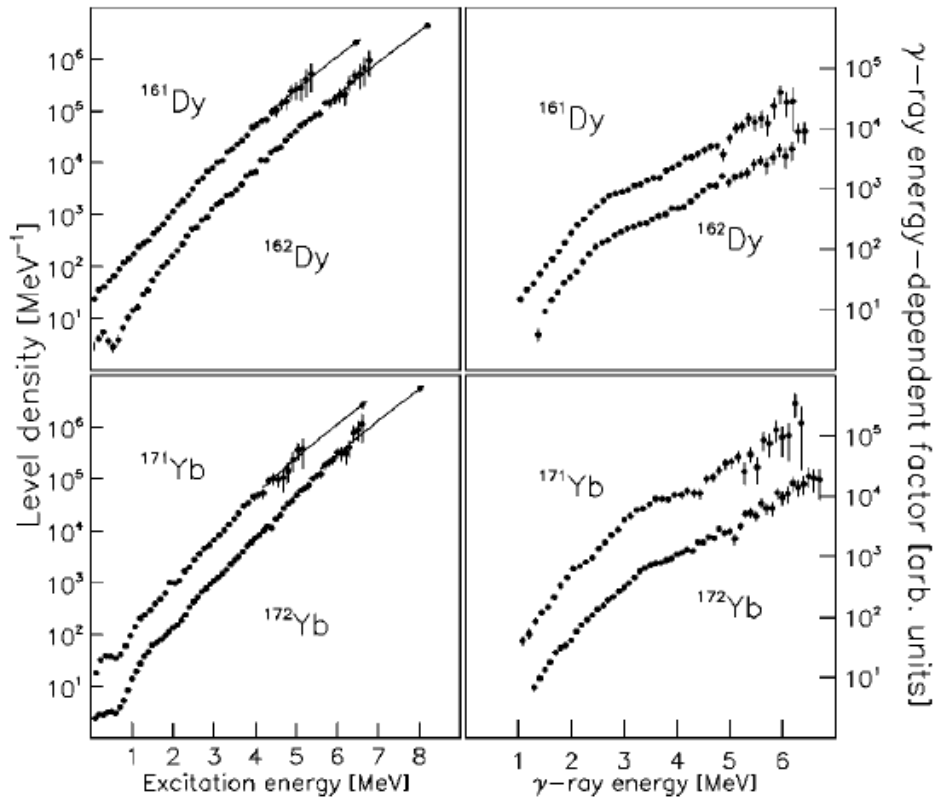
P. Ring and P. Schuck, "The Nuclear Many-Body Problem"
Springer-Verlag New York Inc. 1980

The accurate experiment of level density for $^{161,162}\text{Dy}$ and $^{171,172}\text{Yb}$



E. Melby, *et al. Phys. Rev. Lett.* **83** 3150 (1999)
A. Schiller, *et al. Phys. Rev. C* **63** 021306R (2001)

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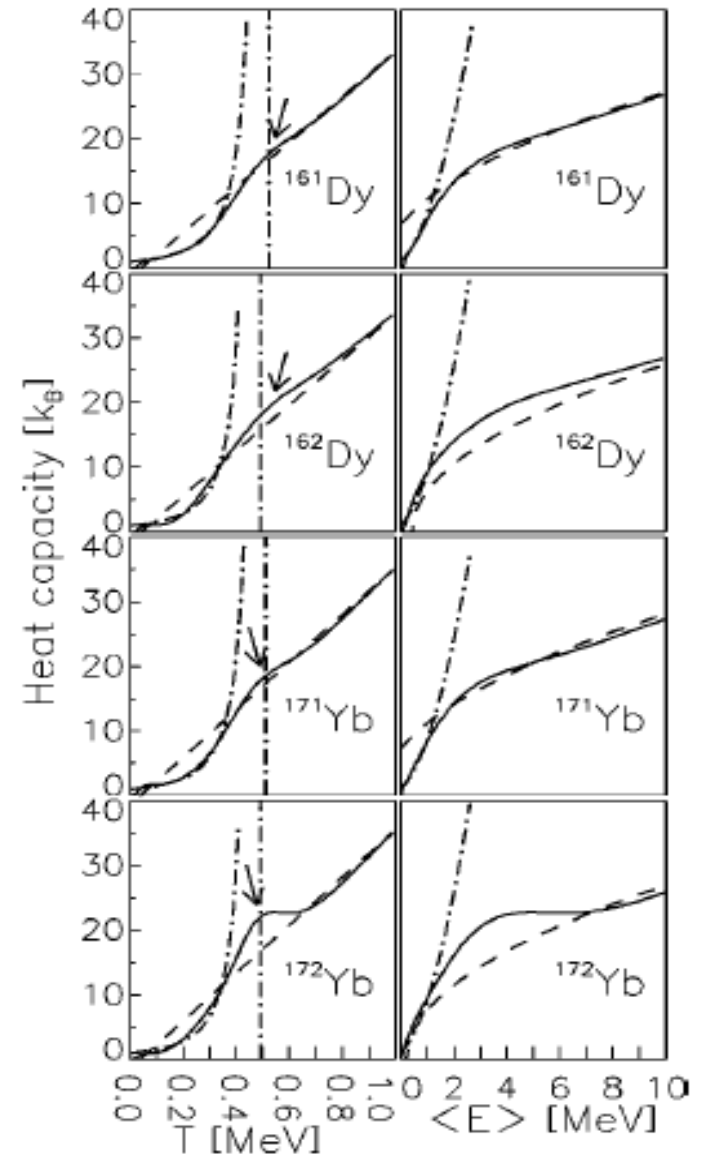
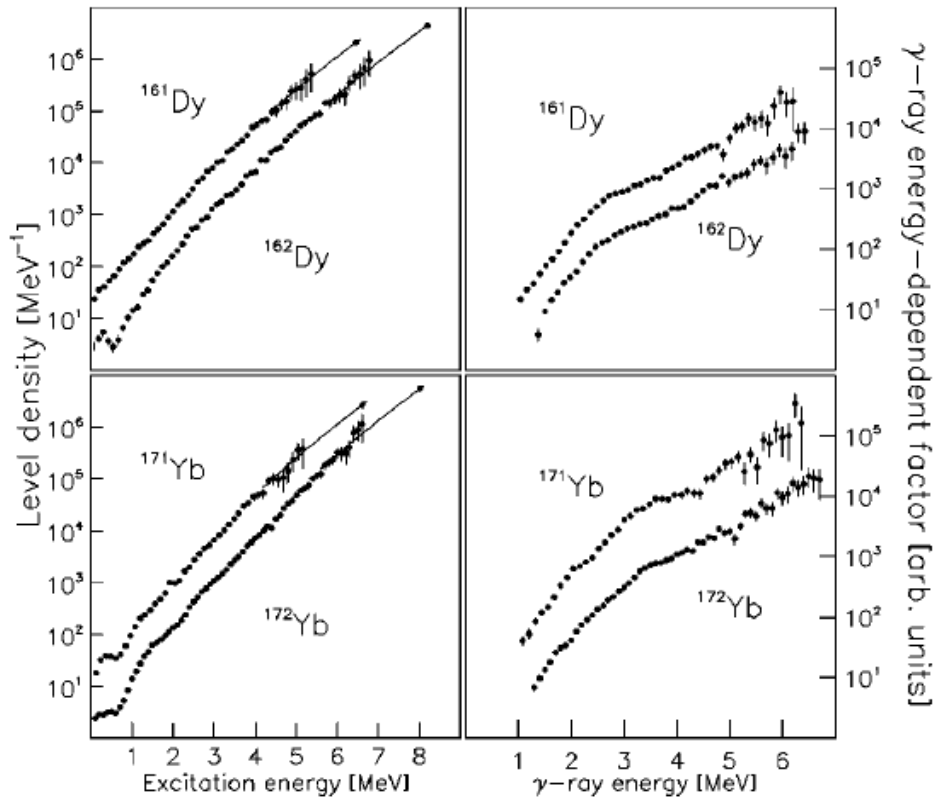
$$Z = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \rho(E_n) e^{-E_n/T},$$

$$\langle E \rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n \rho(E_n) e^{-E_n/T},$$

$$C_V = \frac{\partial \langle E \rangle}{\partial T}$$

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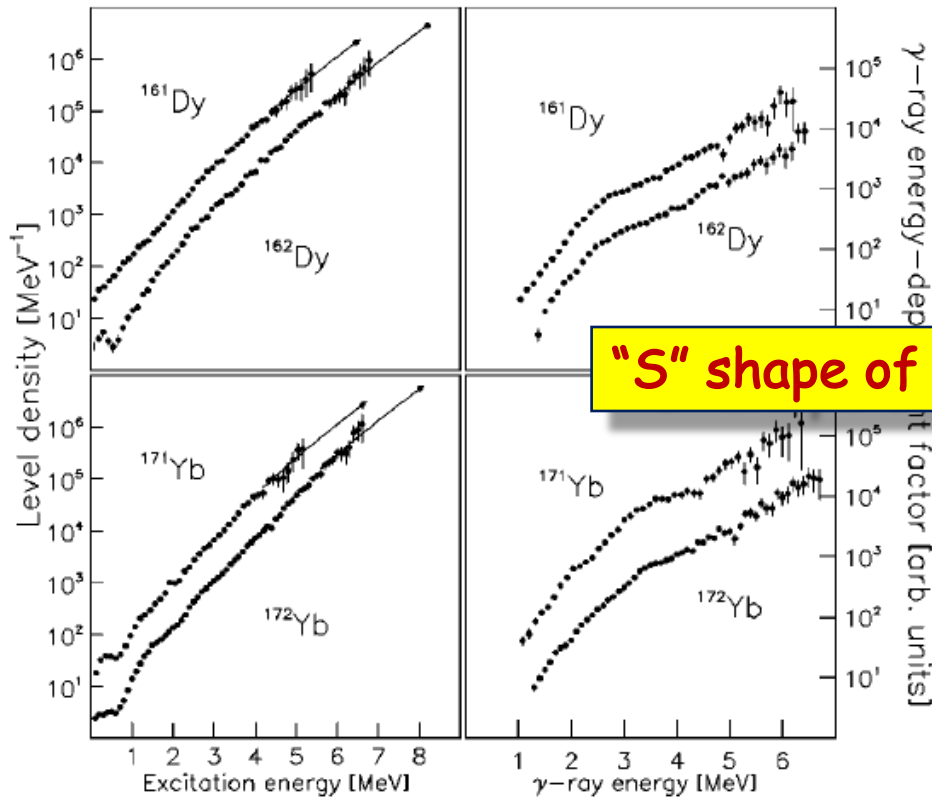
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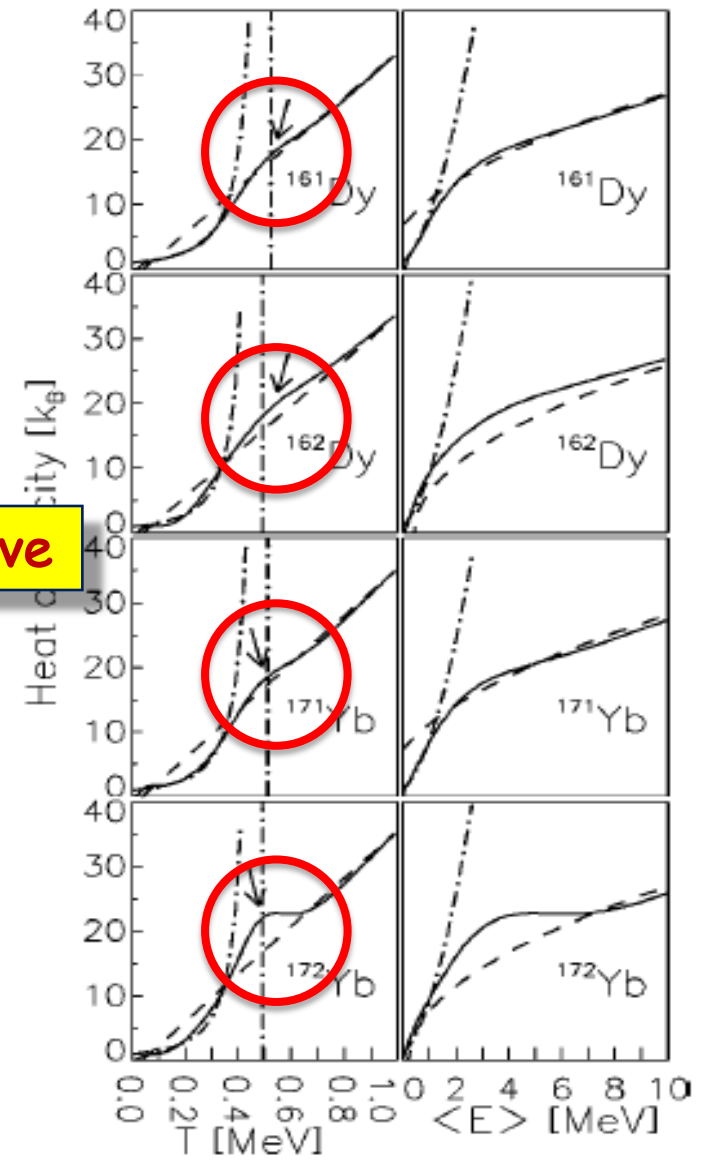
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The accurate experiment of level density for $^{161,162}\text{Dy}$ and $^{171,172}\text{Yb}$



"S" shape of Cv curve



E. Melby, et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **83** 3150 (1999)
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✓ Based on **BCS** or **Bogoliubov** transformation:

- **Finite-temperature Hartree-Fock-Bogoliubov:**

J. L. Egidio, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **85**, 26 (2000);

- **Relativistic Hartree-Fock-BCS:**

B. K. Agrawal, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C* **62**, 044307 (2000);

- **Finite-temperature relativistic Hartree-Bogoliubov theory based on a point-coupling functional, with the Gogny or separable pairing force:**

Y. F. Niu, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C* **88**, 034308 (2013);

W. Zhang, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C* **97**, 054302 (2018).

- **Continuum coupling are supplemented to the BCS equation:**

N. Sandulescu, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C* **55**, 1250 (1997); *Phys. Rev. C* **61**, 044317 (2000).

- **Relativistic Hartree-Fock-Bogoliubov:**

J. J. Li, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C* **92**, 014302 (2015).

Theoretical studies

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- **Finite-temperature Hartree-Fock-Bogoliubov with separable pairing force:**

1) S shape of C_v ;

2) abrupt change of pairing gap

Y. F. Niu, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C* **88**, 034308 (2013);

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Theoretical studies

✓ Based on **projection** method:

- Particle-number projected statistics (PNPS):

C. Esebbag, *et al.*, *Nucl. Phys. A* **552**, 205 (1993);

- Finite-temperature variation before projection BCS (FT-VBP):

K. Esashika, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C* **72**, 044303 (2005);

- Finite-temperature variation after projection BCS (FT-VAP):

D. Gambacurta, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C* **88**, 034324 (2013).

✓ Other works

- S. Rombouts, *et al.* *Phys. Rev. C* **58**, 3295 (1998); S. Liu, *et al.* *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **87**, 1 (2001);

- M. Guttormsen, *et al.* *Phys. Rev. C* **63**, 044301 (2001); *Phys. Rev. C* **64**, 034319 (2001).

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- Finite-temperature variation after projection BCS (FT-VAP):

D. Gambacurta,

- 1) S shape of C_v ;
- 2) **gradual** change of pairing gap

✓ Other works

- S. Rombouts, *et al.* *Phys. Rev. C* **58**, 3295 (1998); S. Liu, *et al.* *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **87**, 1 (2001);

- M. Guttormsen, *et al.* *Phys. Rev. C* **63**, 044301 (2001); *Phys. Rev. C* **64**, 034319 (2001).

division and difficulty

Phase transition
of pairing

others



interpretation of
"S" shape of C_v



no phase
transition

K. Esashika, *et al.*

division and difficulty

Phase transition
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others



what is the order of phase transition?



interpretation of
"S" shape of C_v



no phase
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division and difficulty

Phase transition
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interpretation of
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no phase
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others

K. Esashika, *et al.*



what is the order of phase transition?

Ehrenfest's classification of phase transitions is based on the thermodynamic limits of large numbers of particles, and does not apply to small systems such as atomic nuclei.

P. Borrmann, *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **84**, 3511 (2000).

G. Jaeger, *et al.*, Exact. Sci. **53**, 51 (1998).

Introduction

A theorem on **the distribution of roots** of the grand partition function in small system.

T. D. Lee and C. N. Yang, *Phys. Rev.* **87**, 410(1952).

This theorem has been extended to the canonical ensemble through the analytic continuation of the inverse temperature **in the complex plane**.

S. Grossmann, *et al.*, *Z. Phys.* **207**, 138 (1967).

S. Grossmann, *et al.*, *Z. Phys.* **218**: 449-59 (1969).

A classification scheme for phase transition in finite systems, such as **atomic systems**, based on the distribution of zeros (DOZ) of the canonical partition function in complex temperature plane.

P. Borrmann, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **84**, 3511 (2000).

O. Mülken, *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. A* **64**, 013611 (2001).

Motivation

Covariant density functional theory (CDFT)

P. Ring, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. **37**, 193 (1996)

J. Meng, *et al.*, AAPPS Bulletin **31** (2021).

Shell-like model approach (SLAP)

J. Y. Zeng, *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. A **405**, 1 (1983).

J. Meng, J. Y. Guo, L. Liu, *et al.*, Front. Phys. China **1**, 38 (2006).

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SLAP Hamiltonian

Hamiltonian

$$H = H_{s.p.} + H_{pair}$$

where

$$H_{s.p.} = \sum_{\nu>0} \boxed{\varepsilon_{\nu}} (a_{\nu}^{\dagger} a_{\nu} + a_{\bar{\nu}}^{\dagger} a_{\bar{\nu}}) \quad H_{pair} = -\boxed{G} \sum_{\substack{\mu \neq \nu \\ \mu, \nu > 0}} a_{\mu}^{\dagger} a_{\bar{\mu}}^{\dagger} a_{\bar{\nu}} a_{\nu}$$

single particle energy

pairing strength

1. Solve Dirac Eq. in CDFT to obtain single-particle levels;
2. Construct multi-particle configuration (MPC);
3. Diagonalize Hamiltonian in MPC.

J. Y. Zeng, and T. S. Cheng, *Nucl. Phys. A* **405**, 1 (1983).

J. Meng, J. Y. Guo, L. Liu, S. Q. Zhang, *Front. Phys. China* **1**, 38 (2006).

Multi-particle configuration (MPC)

1. Solve Dirac Eq. in CDFT to obtain single-particle levels;
2. Construct multi-particle configuration (MPC);
3. Diagonalize Hamiltonian in MPC.

➤ Fully paired state ($s=0$) : (s : Seniority)

$$|\phi_i^n\rangle = |\alpha_1 \bar{\alpha}_1 \cdots \alpha_n \bar{\alpha}_n\rangle, \quad K = 0, \quad n: \text{number of pair}$$

➤ One pair broken state ($s=2$) :

$$|\phi_j^{n-1}\rangle = |\mu \bar{\nu} \alpha_1 \bar{\alpha}_1 \cdots \alpha_{n-1} \bar{\alpha}_{n-1}\rangle, \quad K = \Omega_\mu \pm \Omega_\nu,$$

...

➤ For axial symmetrical case, K and parity are good quantum number, as well as the seniority, MPC for $\pi = +$ can be reduced as

$$\begin{array}{l}
 (s = 0, K = 0) \\
 \oplus (s = 2, K = 0) \quad \oplus (s = 2, K = 1) \quad \oplus (s = 2, K = 2) \quad \oplus \cdots \\
 \oplus (s = 4, K = 0) \quad \oplus (s = 4, K = 1) \quad \oplus (s = 4, K = 2) \quad \oplus \cdots \\
 \oplus \quad \cdots
 \end{array}$$

Wave functions and energies

1. Solve Dirac Eq. in CDFT to obtain single-particle levels;
2. Construct multi-particle configuration (MPC);
3. Diagonalize Hamiltonian in MPC.



energy spectra

$$E_m$$

wave function of the g.s. and excited states

$$|\Psi^{(m)}\rangle = \sum_i V_i^{(m)} |\phi_i^n\rangle + \sum_j V_j^{(m)} |\phi_j^{n-1}\rangle + \dots$$

$m=0$ (g.s), 1, 2, ... (excited states);

n : number of pair;

i, j : index of MPC

Thermodynamic quantities

energy spectra

$$E_m$$

wave function of the g.s. and excited states

$$|\Psi^{(m)}\rangle = \sum_i V_i^{(m)} |\phi_i^n\rangle + \sum_j V_j^{(m)} |\phi_j^{n-1}\rangle + \dots$$

Partition Function

$$Z = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \rho(E_m) e^{-E_m/T}$$

Average of physical quantities

$$\langle O \rangle = Z^{-1} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} O_m \rho(E_m) e^{-E_m/T},$$

Heat capacity

$$C_V = \frac{\partial \langle E \rangle}{\partial T}$$

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Numerical details : ^{162}Dy

➤ RMF

- 1) PK1 effective interaction;
- 2) 14 oscillator major shells.

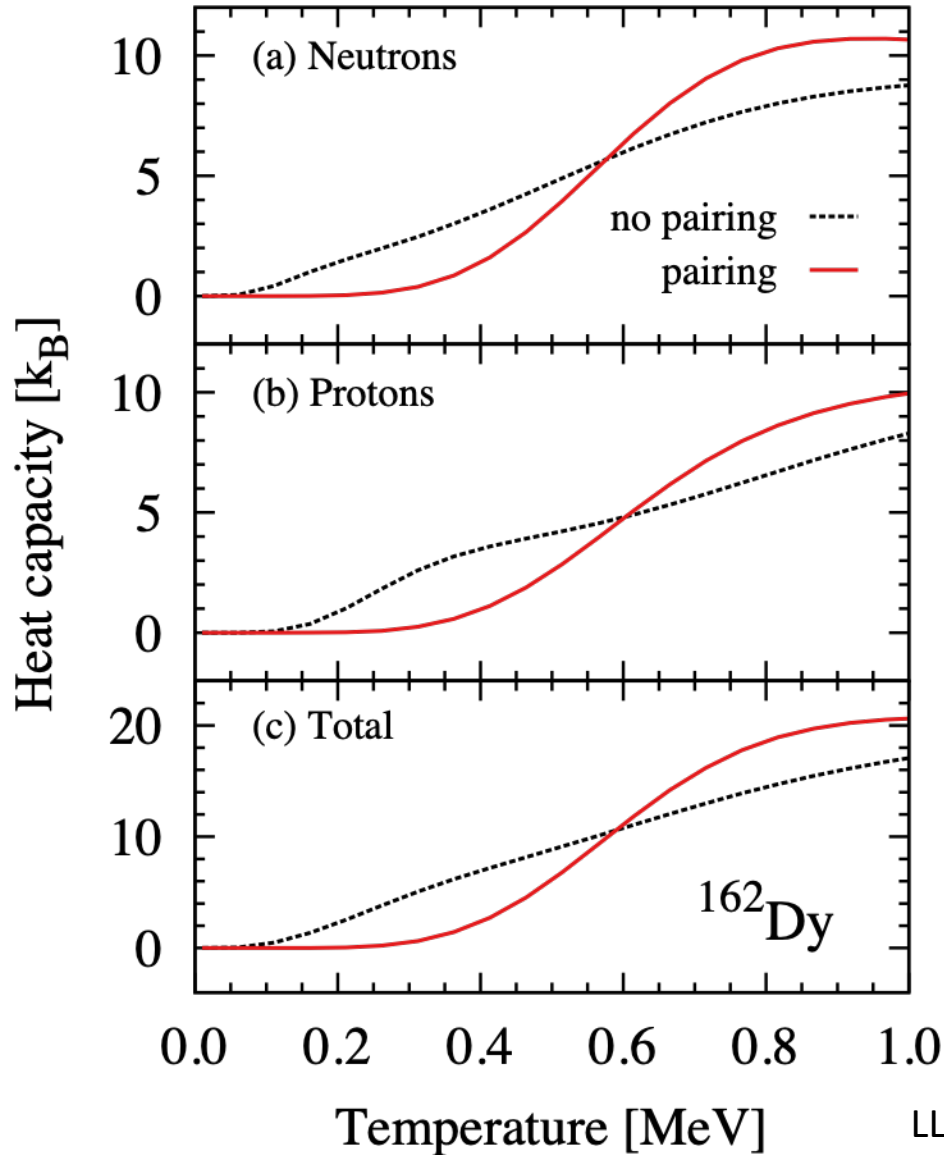
➤ SLAP

- 1) 12 particles and 20 single-particle levels for either neutrons or protons;
- 2) $E_c = 30$ MeV for either neutrons or protons;
- 3) Dimension of MPCs: $5 \cdot 10^5$ for neutrons, $3 \cdot 10^5$ for protons;
- 4) Pairing strength G is fitted according to experimental odd-even mass differences. $^{161,162,163}\text{Dy}$ for G_n , ^{161}Tb , ^{162}Dy and ^{163}Ho for G_p . $G_n = 0.29$ MeV, $G_p = 0.32$ MeV.

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Heat capacity



$$\langle E \rangle = Z^{-1} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} E_m \rho(E_m) e^{-E_m/T}$$

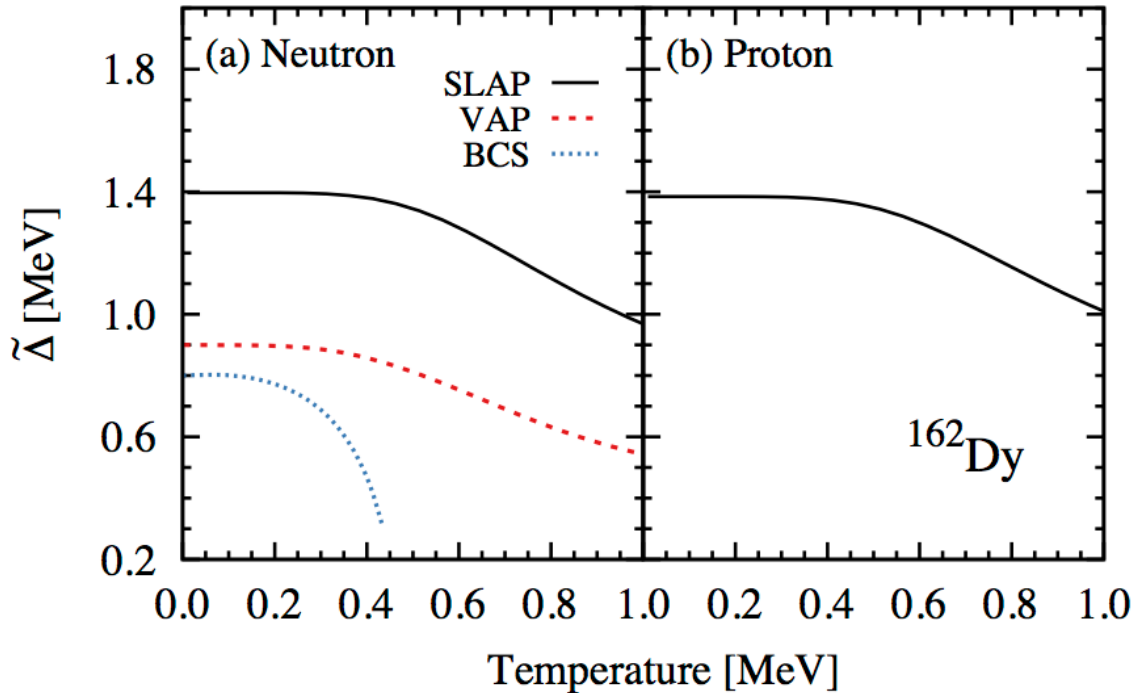
$$C_V = \frac{\partial \langle E \rangle}{\partial T}$$

straight line w/o pairing

"S" shape with pairing

Pairing is important
in hot nuclei

Pairing gap



$$\Delta^{(m)} = G \left[-\frac{1}{G} \langle \Psi^{(m)} | H_p | \Psi^{(m)} \rangle \right]^{1/2}$$

L. F. Canto, et al.
Phys. Lett. B **161**, 21 (1985).

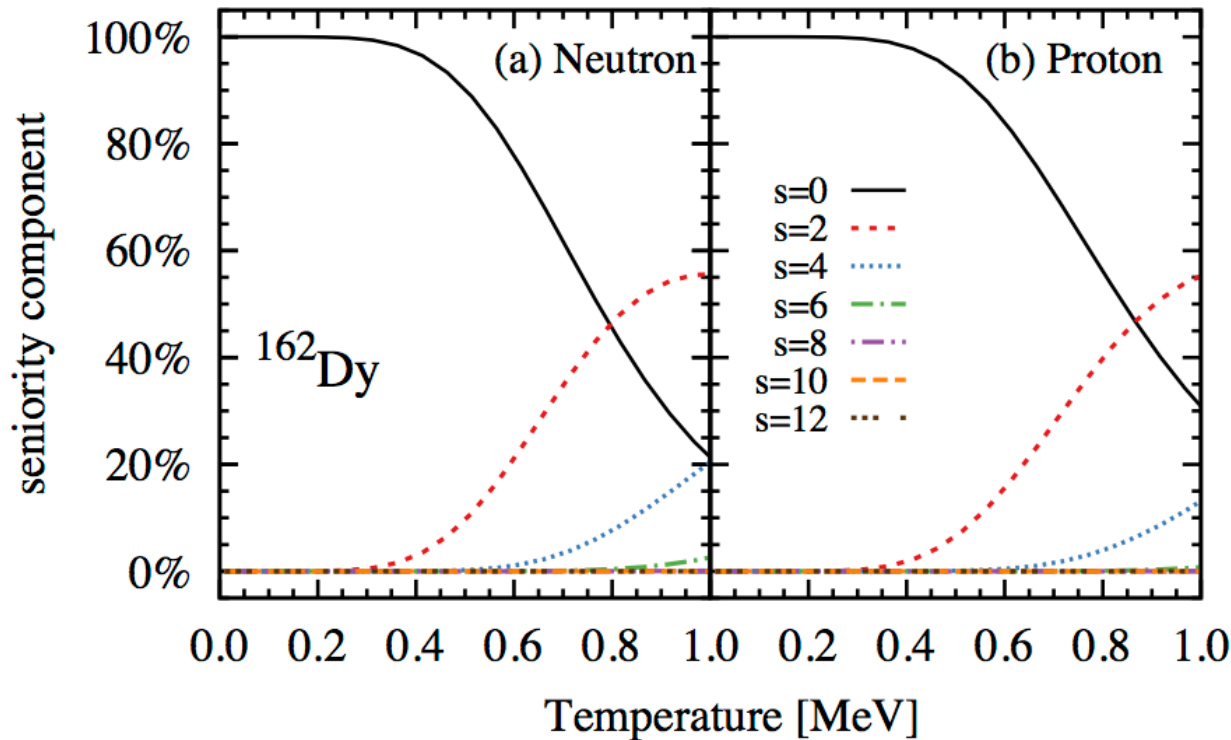
$$\tilde{\Delta} = Z^{-1} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \Delta^{(m)} \rho(E_m) e^{-E_m/T}$$

- ✓ Constant pairing gap at low T;
- ✓ Gradually decrease at high T;
- ✓ never collapse



- ✓ difficult to excite;
- ✓ many excited states appear;
- ✓ particle number conserving.

Seniority component

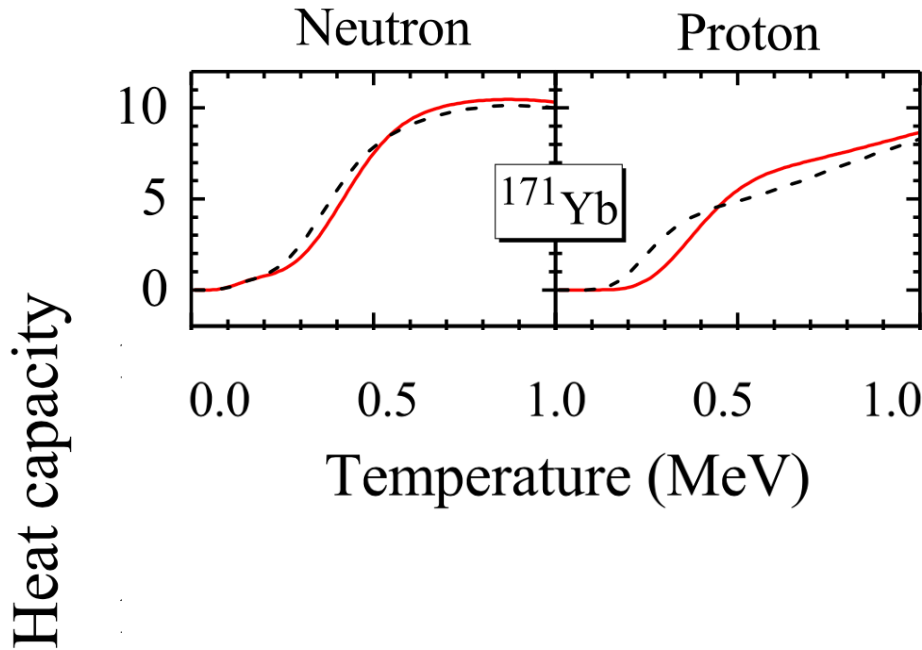


seniority component:

$$Z^{-1} \sum_{m \in \{s\}} \rho(E_m) e^{-E_m/T}$$

- ✓ $s=0$ states dominant at low T ;
- ✓ $s=2$ states become important at high T ;
- ✓ $s=4$ states contribute a little bit

Heat capacity for odd-A nuclei

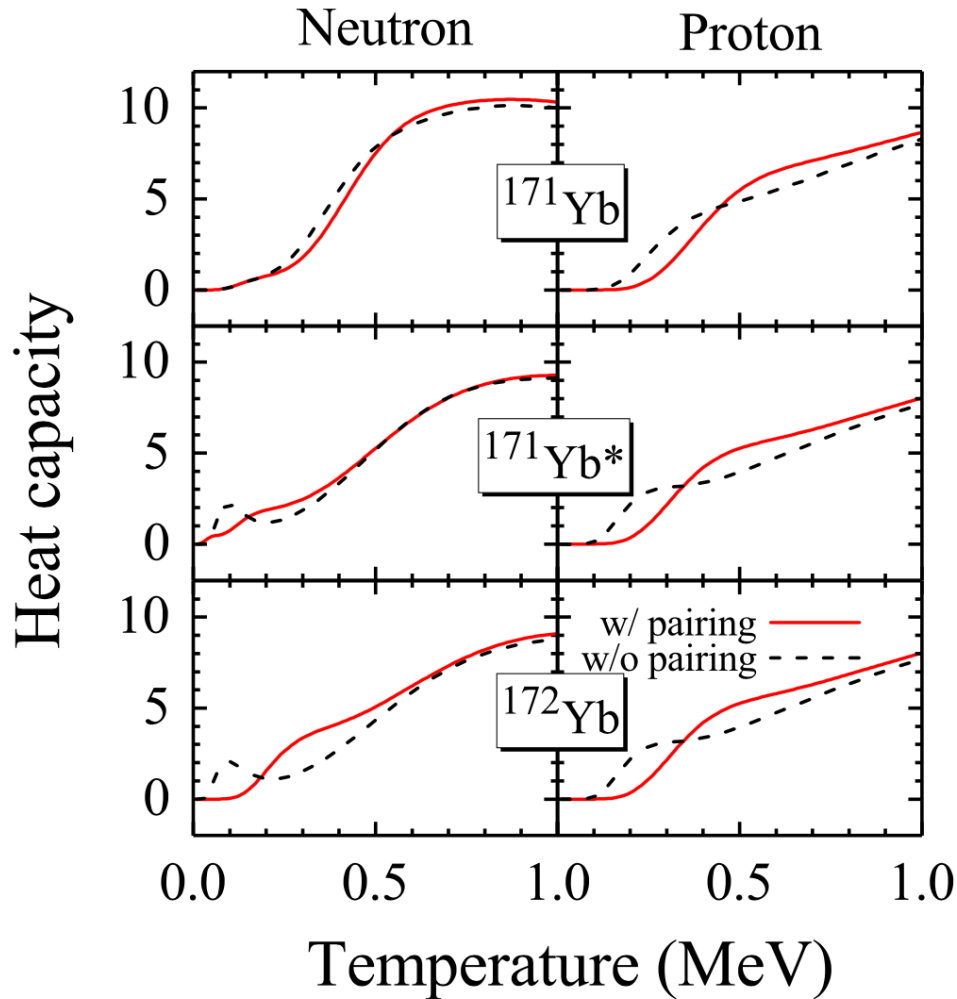


$$\langle E \rangle = Z^{-1} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} E_m \rho(E_m) e^{-E_m/T}$$

$$C_V = \frac{\partial \langle E \rangle}{\partial T}$$

"S" shape with and w/o pairing

Heat capacity for odd nuclei

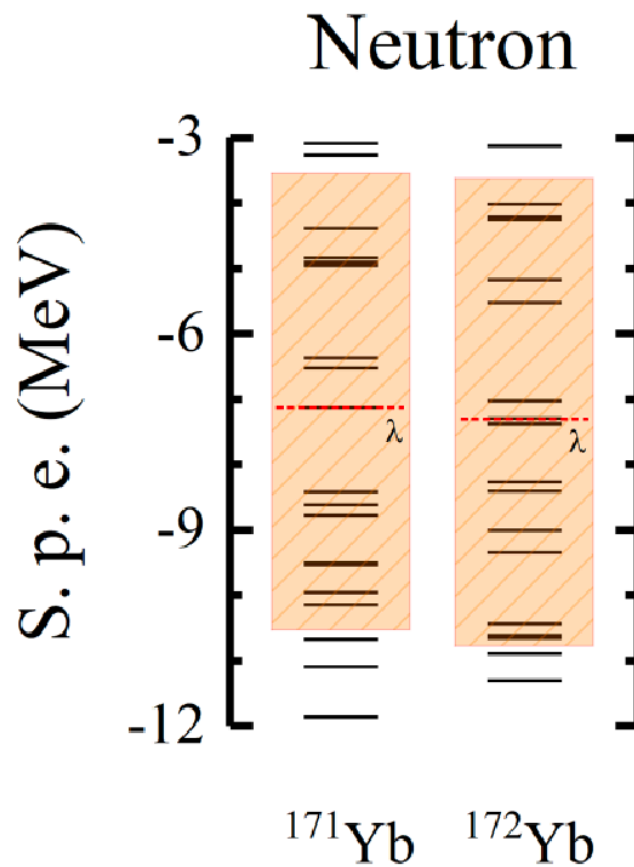
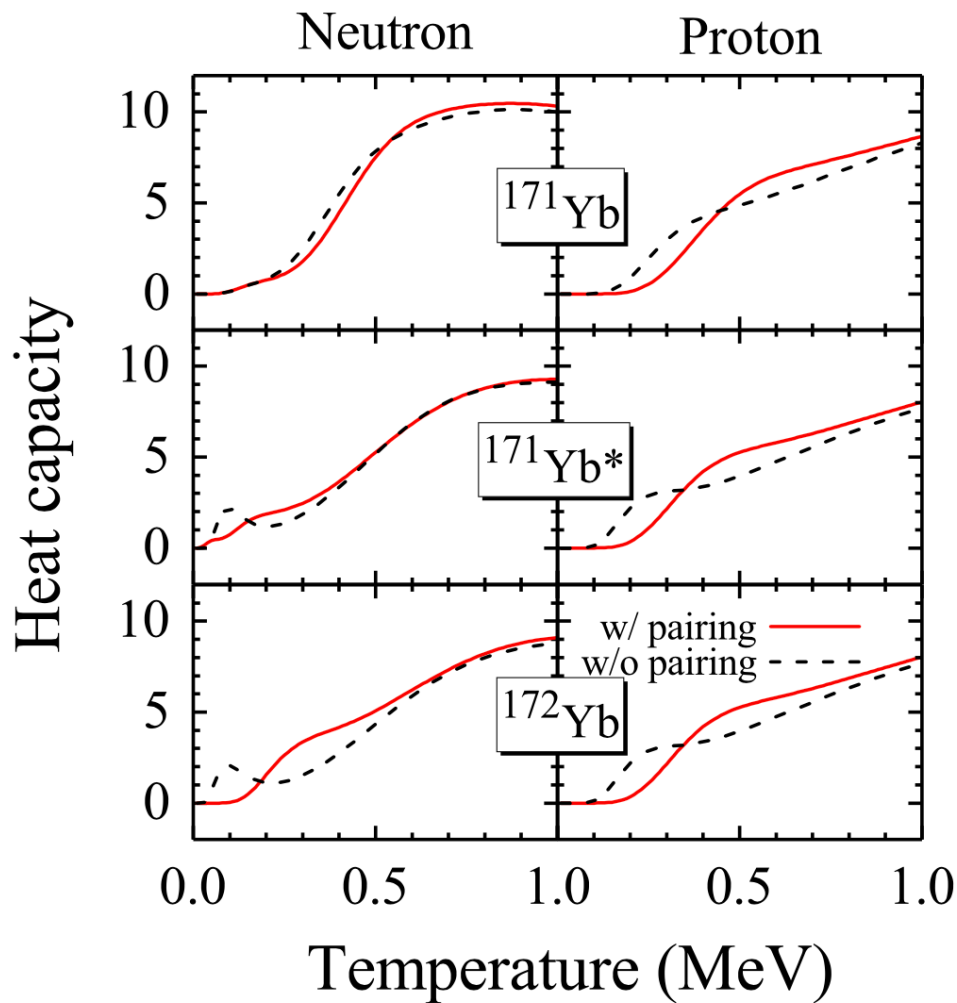


$$\langle E \rangle = Z^{-1} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} E_m \rho(E_m) e^{-E_m/T}$$

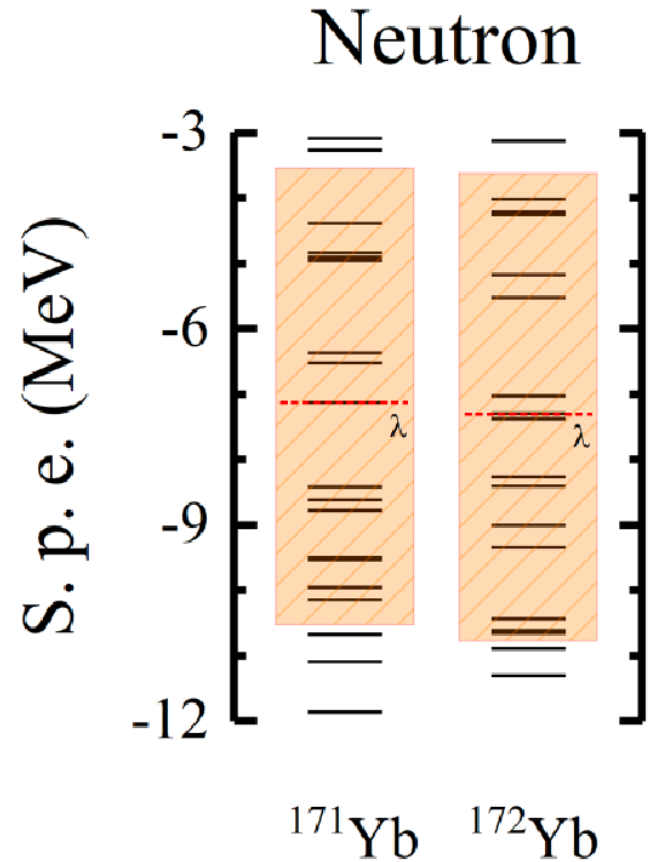
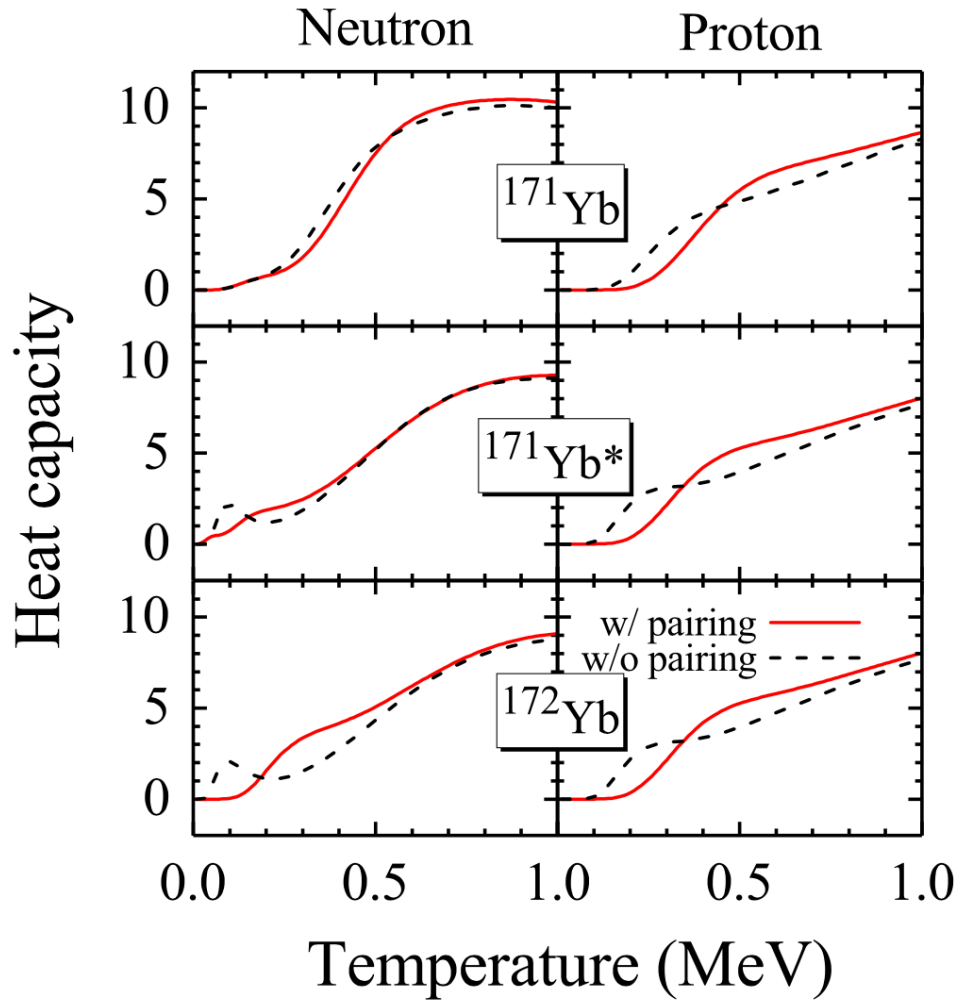
$$C_V = \frac{\partial \langle E \rangle}{\partial T}$$

"S" shape w/ and w/o pairing

Single-particle level

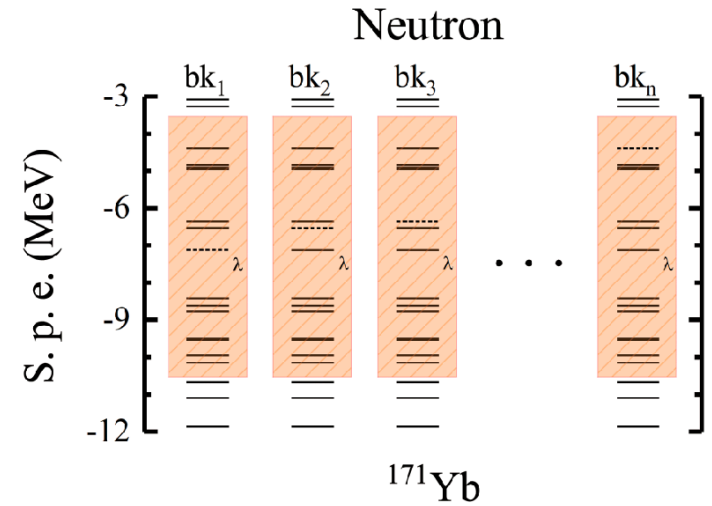
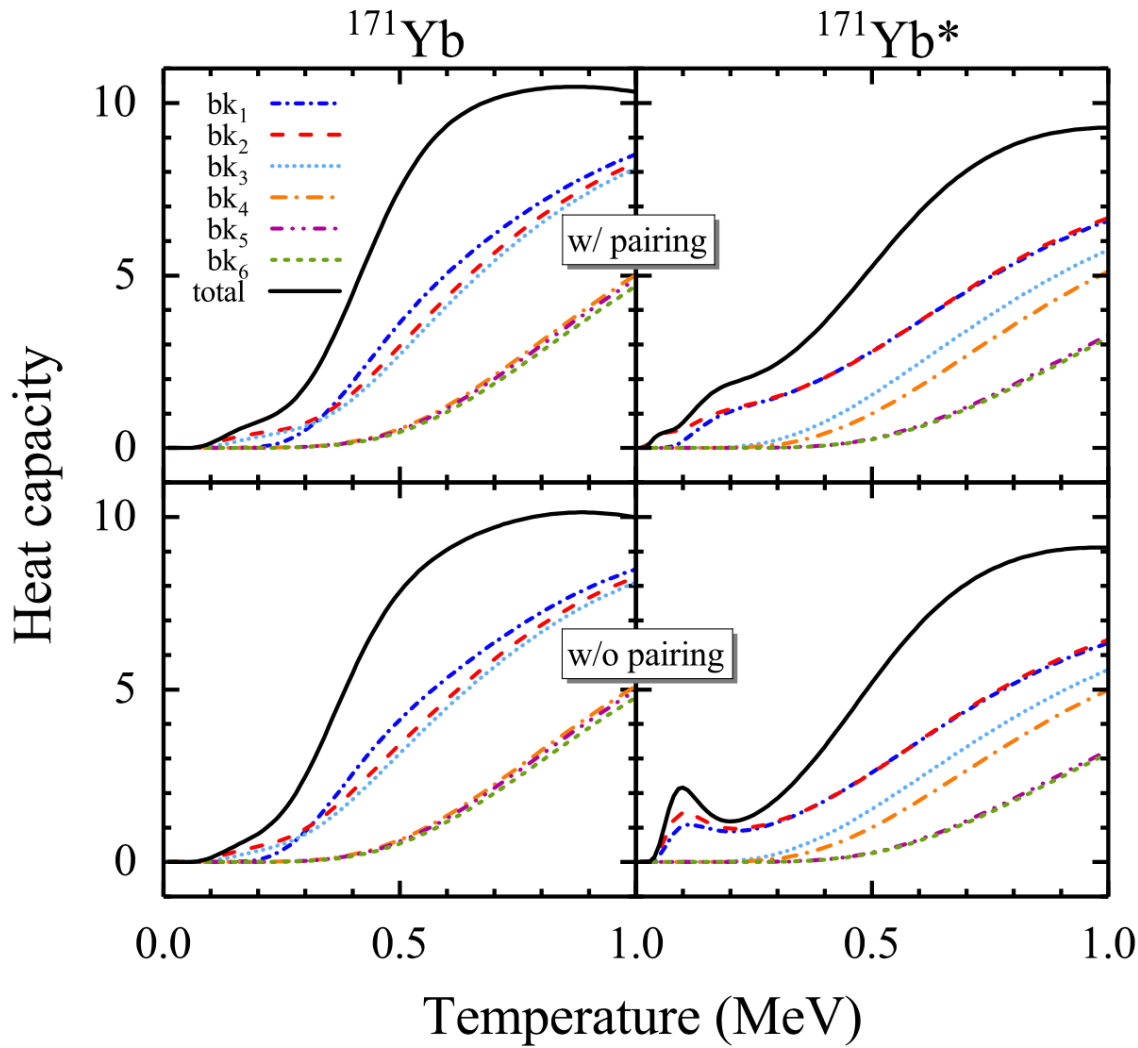


Single-particle level



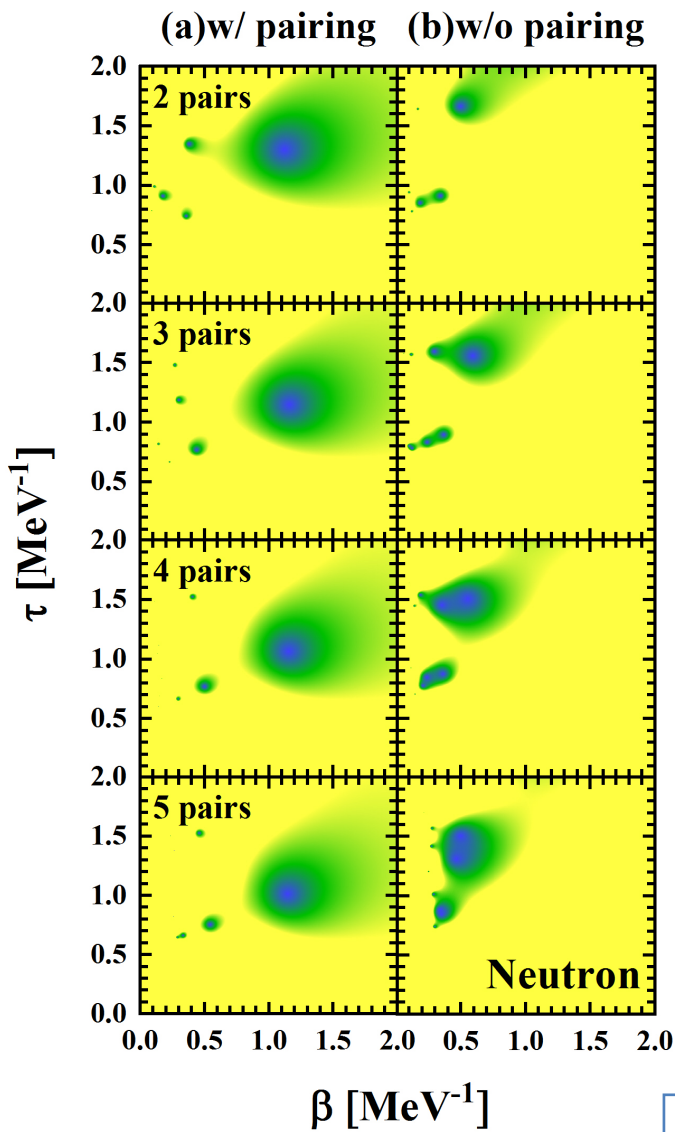
s.p.e structure can affect Cv curve

Blocking effect

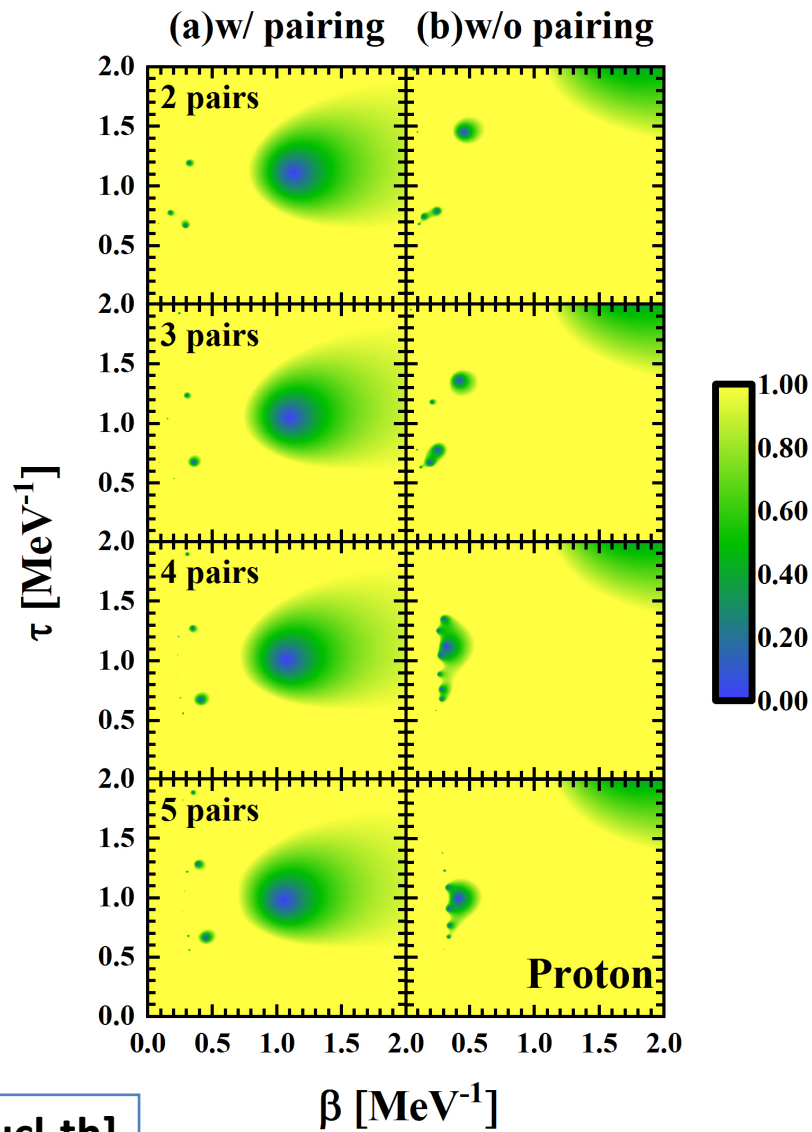


block s.p.e. from Fermi level
one by one

The contour plots of the partition function

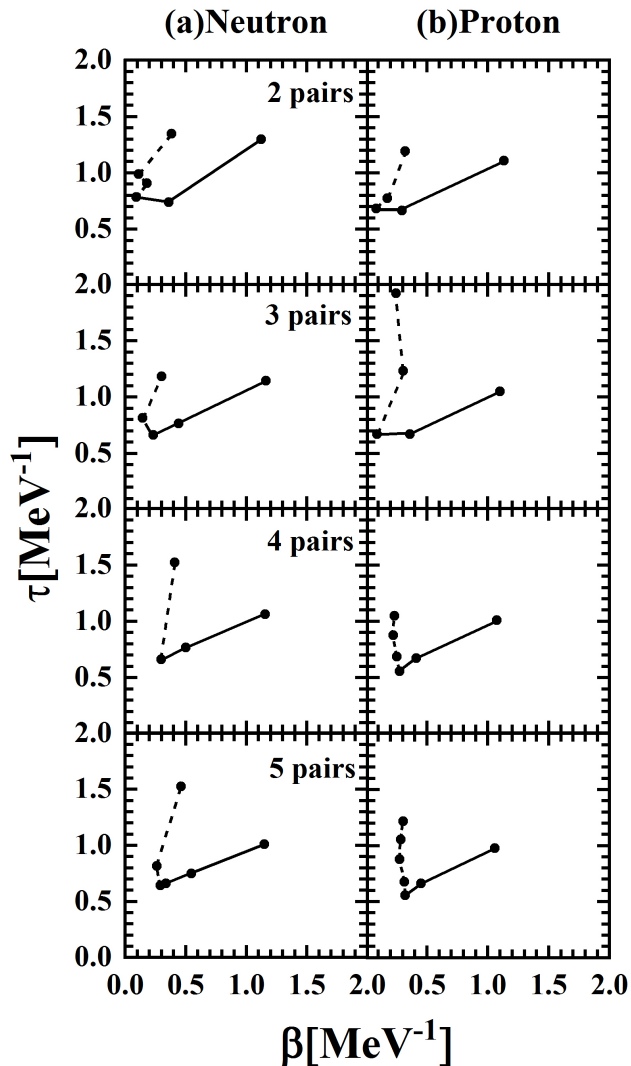


$$\mathcal{B} = \beta + i\tau$$
$$\beta = 1/T$$



[arXiv:2303.09039](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.09039) [nucl-th]

The DOZ of the partition function



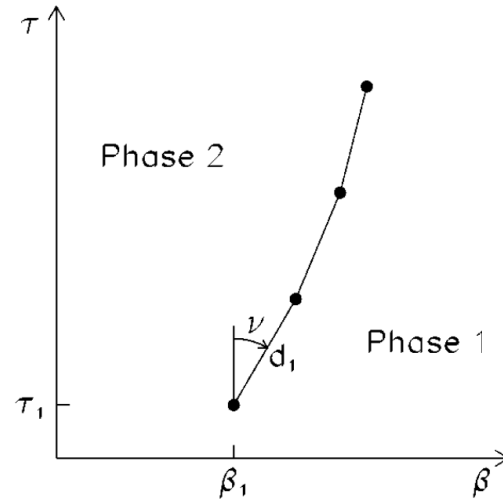
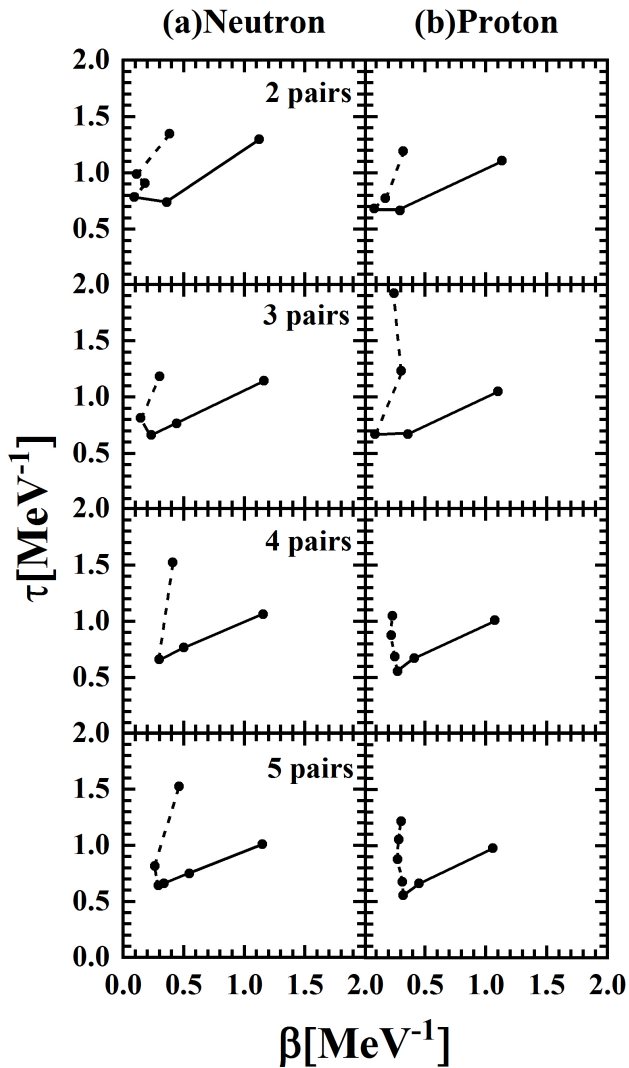
✓ **The dashed line** quasiclassical phase

Phys. Rev. C **66**, 024322 (2002).

✓ **The solid line** represent the pairing phase transition.

[arXiv:2303.09039](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.09039) [nucl-th]

The DOZ of the partition function



schematic diagram

$$\alpha = \frac{\ln \Phi(\tau_3) - \ln \Phi(\tau_2)}{\ln \tau_3 - \ln \tau_2}.$$

$$\Phi = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{d_{j-1}} + \frac{1}{d_j} \right), \quad d_j = \sqrt{(\beta_{j+1} - \beta_j)^2 + (\tau_{j+1} - \tau_j)^2}.$$

$\alpha < 0$ first order

$0 < \alpha < 1$ second order

$\alpha > 1$ higher order

The DOZ of the partition function

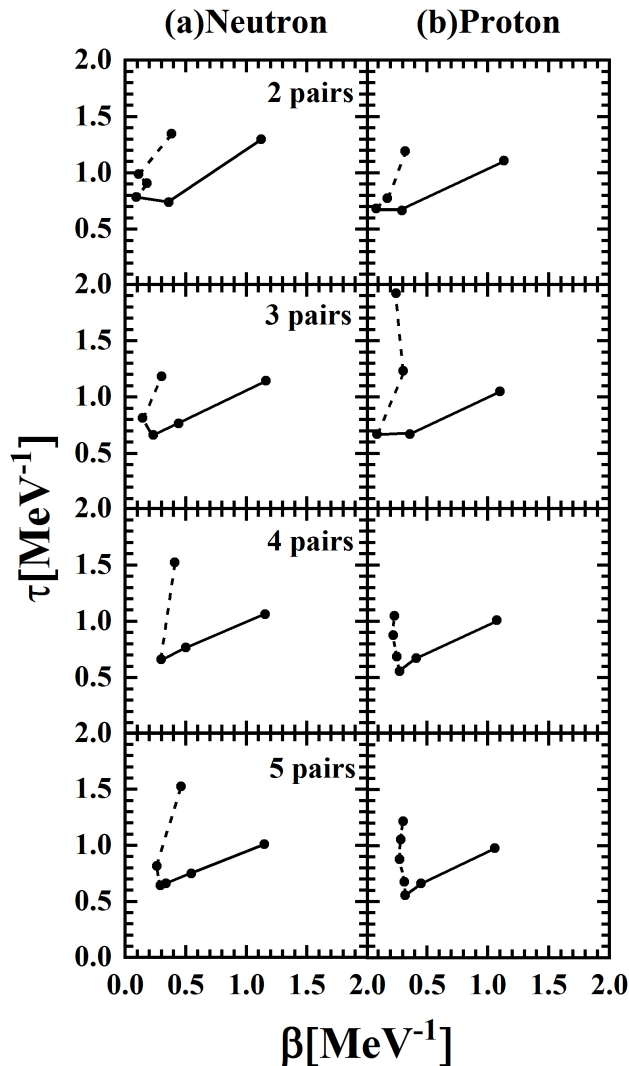
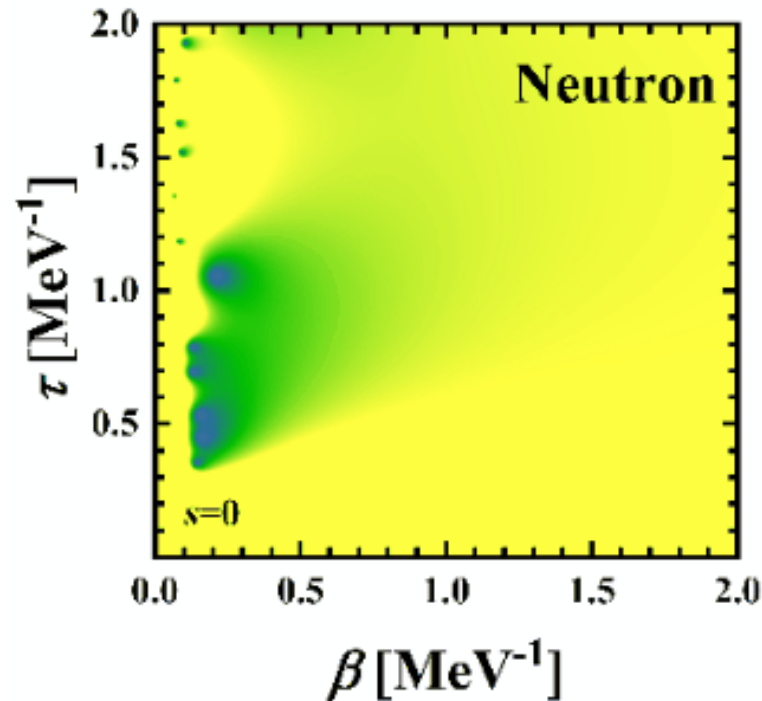


TABLE I. The value of α with 2, 3, 4, 5 pairs of neutrons and protons.

	2 pairs	3 pairs	4 pairs	5 pairs
neutron	$\alpha=-4.61$	$\alpha=-4.31$	$\alpha=-4.63$	$\alpha=-4.74$
proton	$\alpha=-5.5$	$\alpha=-4.57$	$\alpha=-4.55$	$\alpha=-4.73$

✓ **The solid line** represent the pairing phase transition and the defined α indicates that this phase transition is **a first order** phase transition.

Evolution of pairing phase transition



✓ $s=0$ (no pair broken)

✓ $s=2,4,6,8$

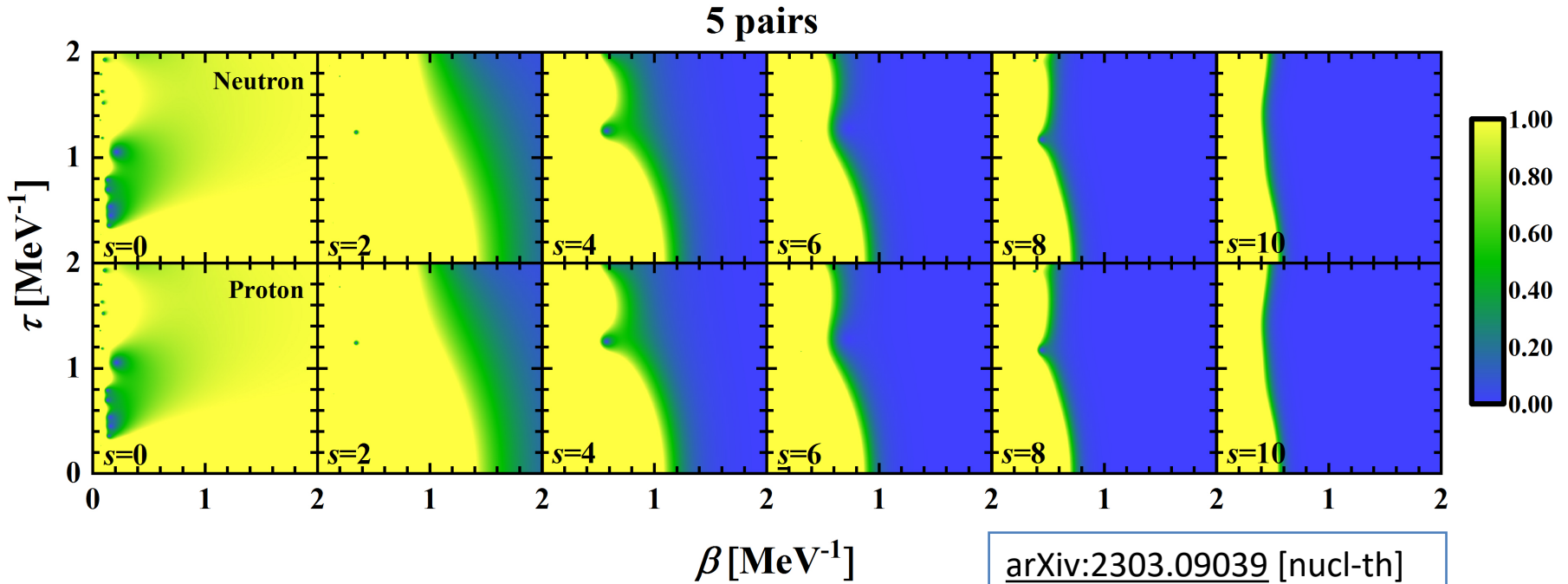
✓ $s=10$ (all pairs broken)

✓ The nucleus is in **the superfluid phase**;

✓ **The normal and superfluid phases coexist**;

✓ The nucleus is entirely in **the normal phase**.

Evolution of pairing phase transition



✓ $s=0$ (no pair broken)

✓ $s=2, 4, 6, 8$

✓ $s=10$ (all pairs broken)

✓ The nucleus is in **the superfluid phase**;

✓ **The normal and superfluid phases coexist**;

✓ The nucleus is entirely in **the normal phase**.

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Summary

- ☑ We address a **strict particle number conserving** calculation to investigate the properties of pairing correlations in hot nuclei with **CDFT+SLAP** framework.
- ☑ The **clear "S" shape of C_v curves** for neutrons and protons of ^{162}Dy are presented. **seniority=2,4 states.**
- ☑ The "S" shape of C_v for odd system is studied in terms of s.p.e and blocking effect.
- ☑ One calculates the negative values of α for this phase transition, indicating a **first-order phase transition.**



Thank you !

Collaborators:

Peking University : Peng-Wei Zhao

North China Electric Power University : Zhen-Hua Zhang

Jiangnan University : Yan Tao , Yan-Long Lin , Yu-Hang Gao

Institute of Physics and Nuclear Engineering: N. Sandulescu

Why complex temperature

correlation time, but some care is in order here. The time τ_i is not connected to a single system, but to an ensemble of infinitely many identical systems in a heat bath, with a Boltzmann distribution of initial states. Thus, the times

Phys. Rev. C **66**, 024322 (2002).

$$\begin{aligned} Z(\beta + i\tau) &= \text{Tr}[\exp(-i\tau H) \exp(-\beta H)] \\ &= \langle \Psi_{\text{can}} | \exp(-i\tau H) | \Psi_{\text{can}} \rangle \\ &= \langle \Psi_{\text{can}}(t = 0) | \Psi_{\text{can}}(t = \tau) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

A zero means the overlap of a time evolved canonical state and the initial state vanishes.

The classification scheme for phase transition

1. Define the inverse complex temperature:

$$\mathcal{B} = \beta + i\tau$$

Where $\beta = 1/T$

2. Calculate the average inverse distance:

$$\Phi(\tilde{\tau}_j) = \frac{1}{d_j}$$

Where $\tilde{\tau}_j = (\tau_j + \tau_{j+1})/2$, $d_j = \sqrt{(\beta_{j+1} - \beta_j)^2 + (\tau_{j+1} - \tau_j)^2}$

3. Approximate the function:

$$\Phi(\tau_j) \propto \tau_j^\alpha$$

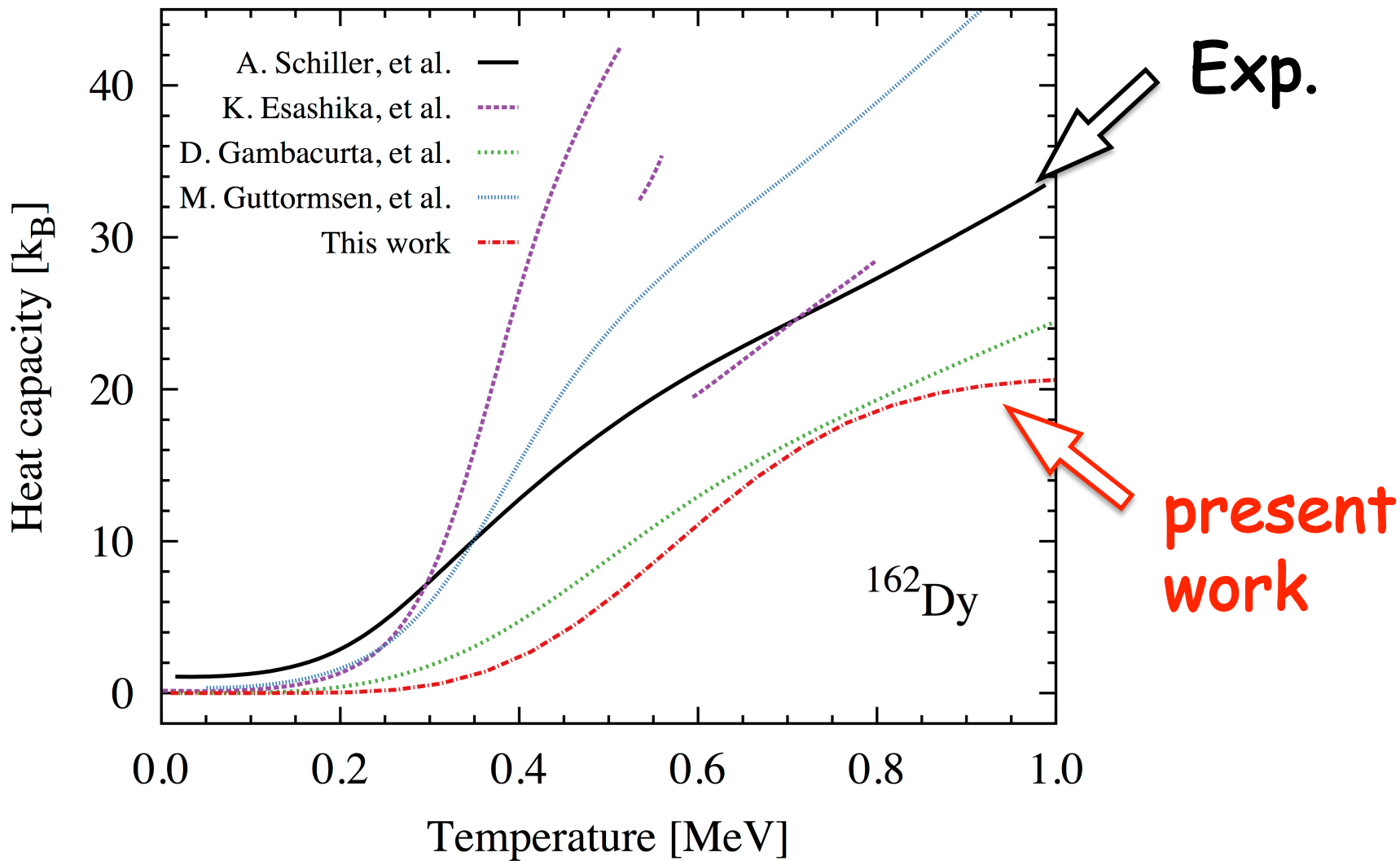
Then

$$\alpha = \frac{\ln \Phi(\tau_3) - \ln \Phi(\tau_2)}{\ln \tau_3 - \ln \tau_2}$$

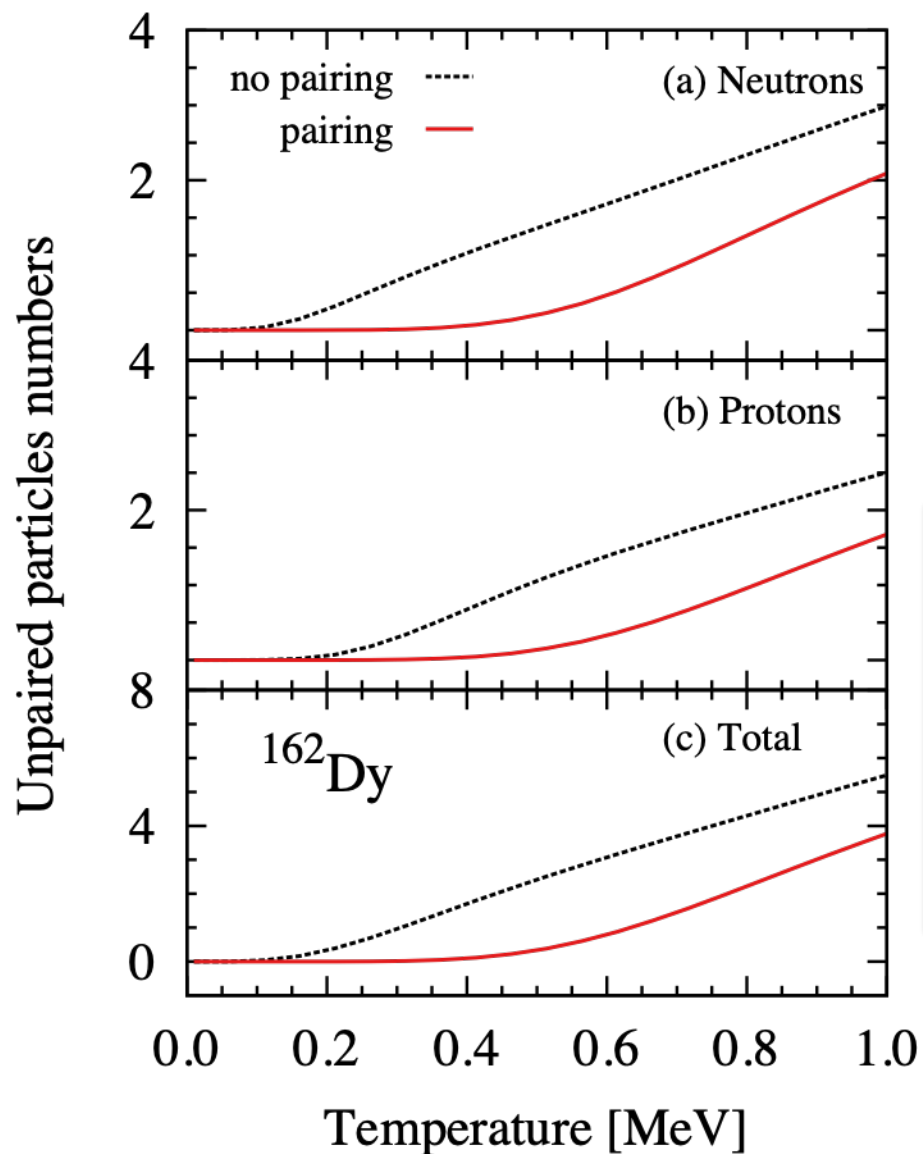
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \alpha < 0, & \text{first order} \\ 0 < \alpha < 1, & \text{second order} \\ 1 < \alpha, & \text{higher order} \end{array} \right.$$

A. Schiller, *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 66, 024322(2002).

Comparison of Cv with Exp. and other calculations



Average unpaired numbers



Why "S" shape ?

Phase transition of pairing correlation ?

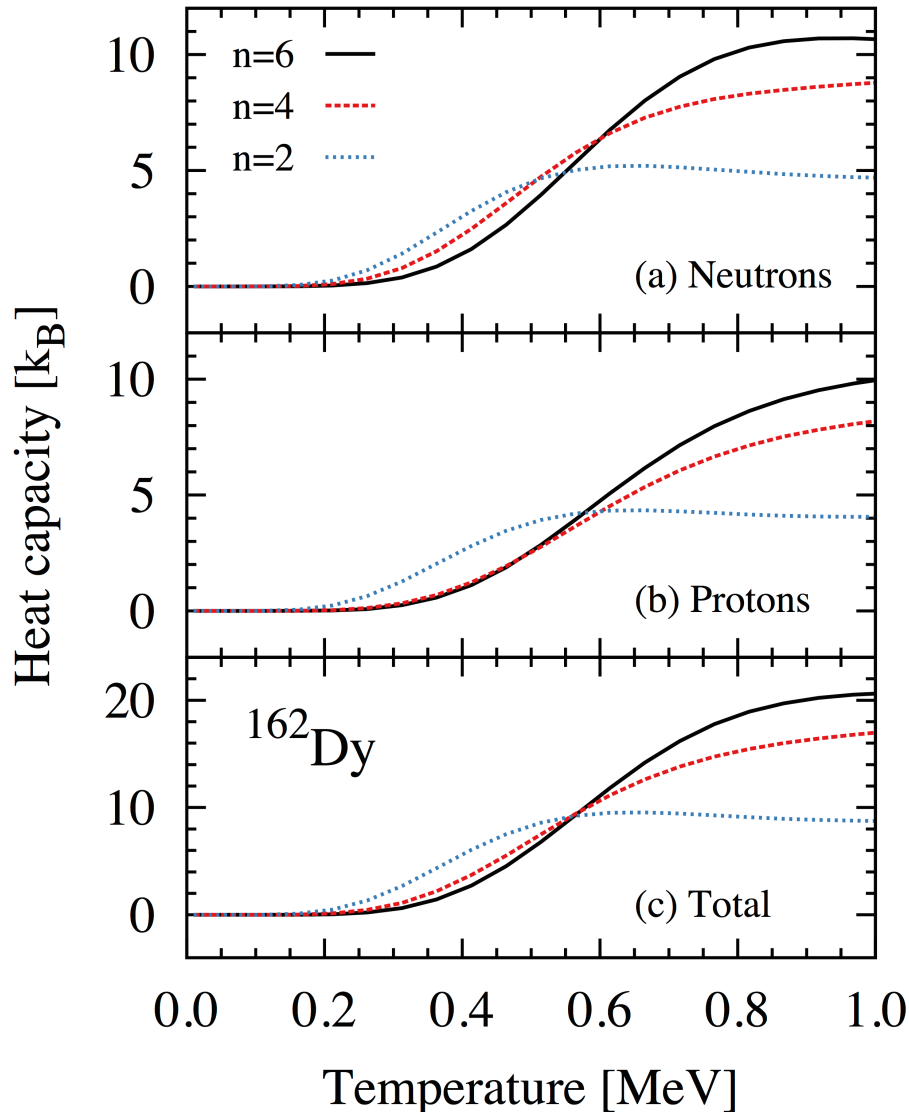
$$\langle s \rangle = Z^{-1} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} s \rho(E_m) e^{-E_m/T}$$

s : seniority

- ✓ straight line w/o pairing;
- ✓ Low T ($T < 0.35$ MeV) with pairing: fully paired;
- ✓ high T ($T > 0.35$ MeV) with pairing: broken pairs,
- ✓ not all particles are broken.

no phase transition of pairing

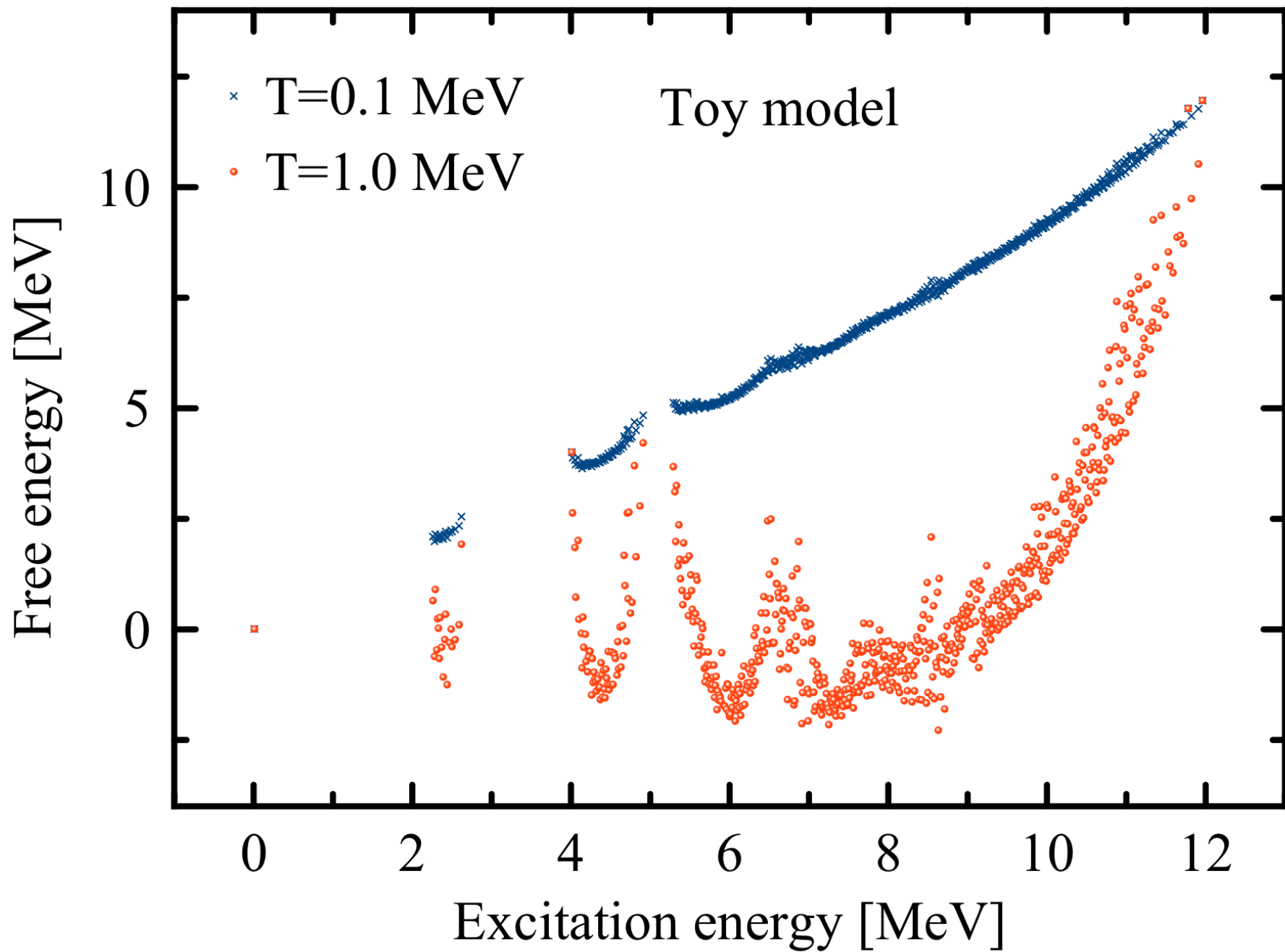
Number of particles dependence

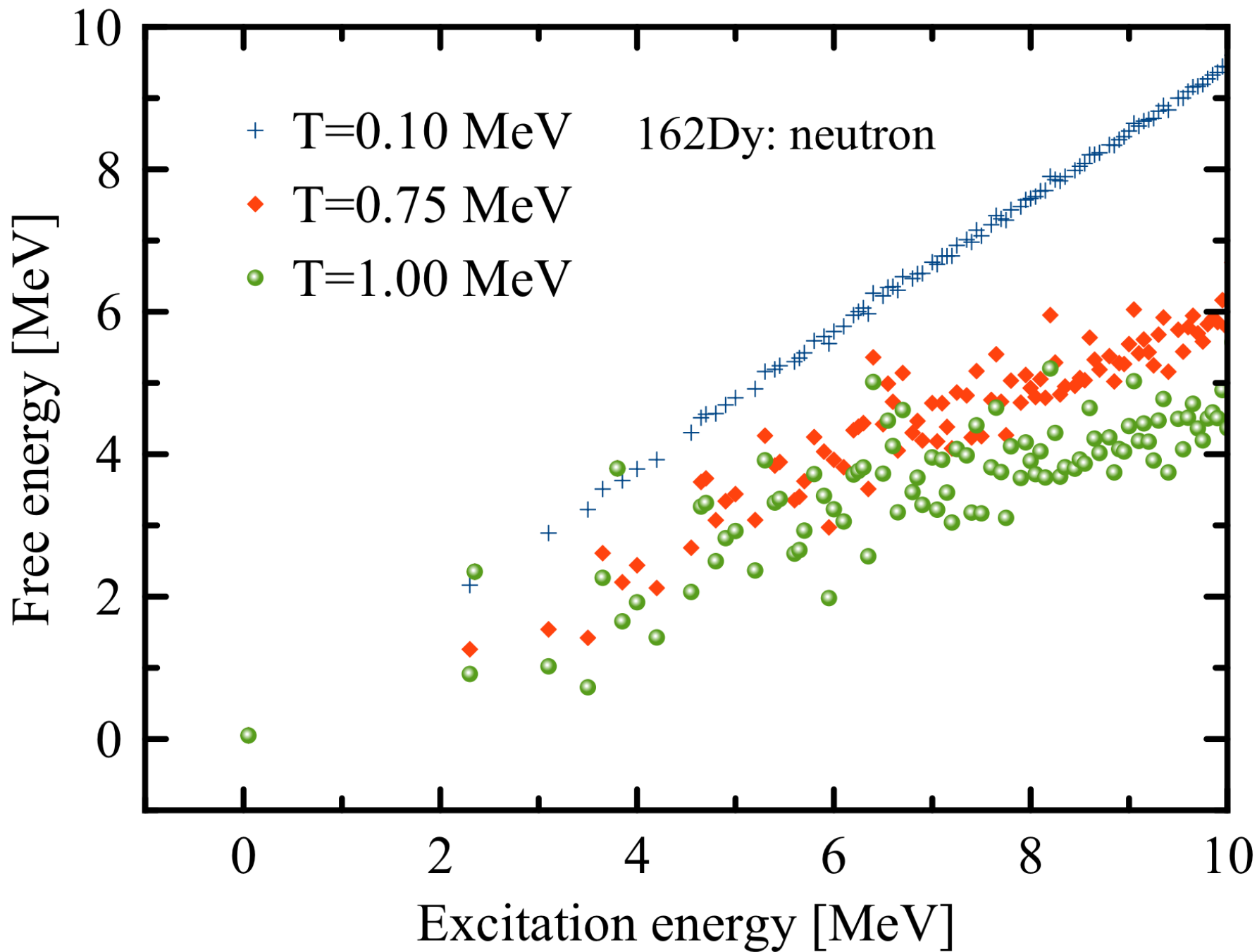


✓ 12,8,4 particles ($n=6,4,2$) are included, respectively;

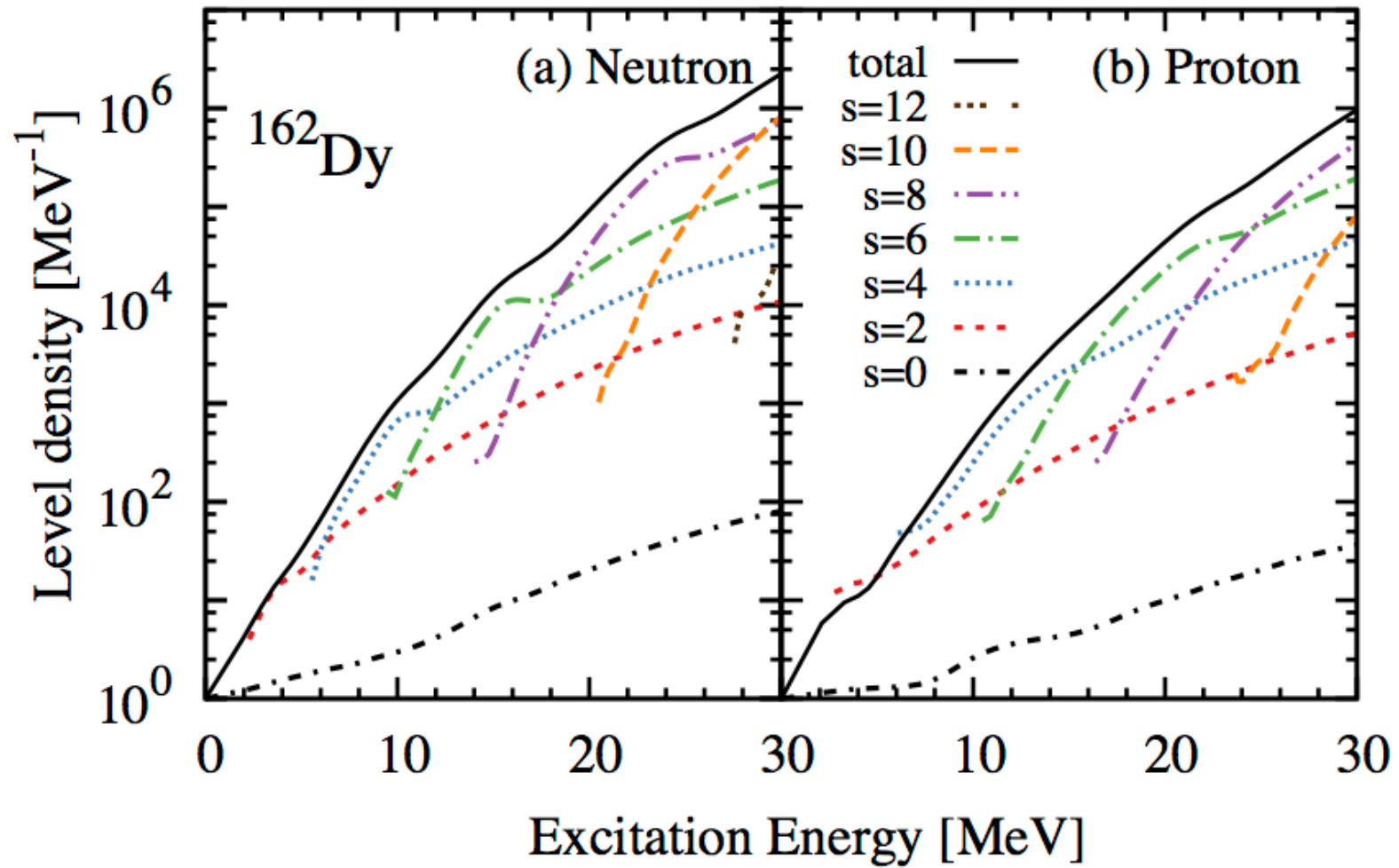
✓ "S" shapes appear in all cases;

✓ Values are different at high T;





Level density



Entropy

