

# Advances and challenges for ab initio calculations of medium-mass to heavy nuclei

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SSNET'24

**SSNET'24**  
International Conference on  
Shapes and Symmetries in Nuclei:  
from Experiment to Theory  
Orsay, 4 - 8 November 2024

Orsay, Nov. 6, 2024



ERC AdG EUSTRONG



Exzellente Forschung für  
Hessens Zukunft

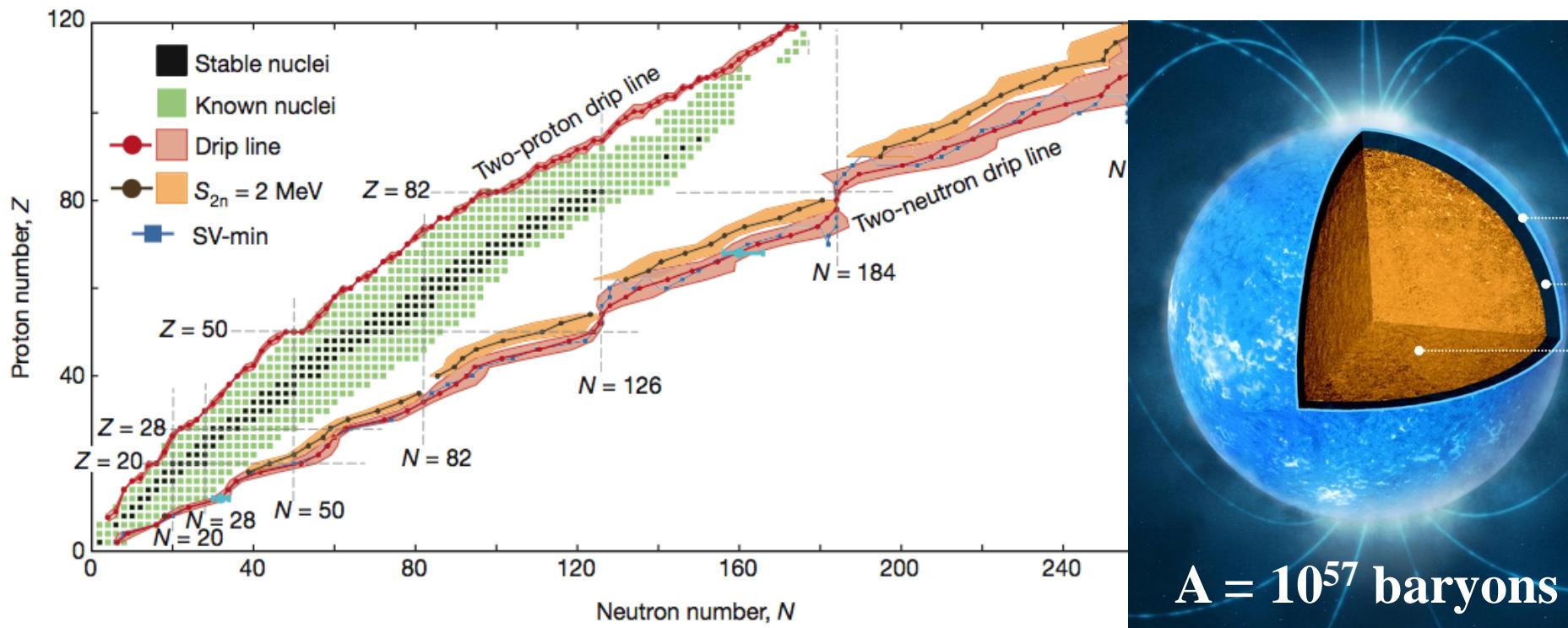
# Structure of nuclei and dense matter in neutron stars

doi:10.1038/nature11188

## The limits of the nuclear landscape

Jochen Erler<sup>1,2</sup>, Noah Birge<sup>1</sup>, Markus Kortelainen<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Witold Nazarewicz<sup>1,2,4</sup>, Erik Olsen<sup>1,2</sup>, Alexander M. Perhac<sup>1</sup> & Mario Stoitsov<sup>1,2,†</sup>

$\sim 4000 \pm 500$  nuclei unknown, extreme neutron-rich



Extreme neutron-rich matter in neutron stars

# Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces

Systematic expansion (power counting) in low momenta ( $Q/\Lambda_b$ )<sup>n</sup>

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

based on symmetries of strong interaction (QCD)

long-range interactions governed by pion exchanges

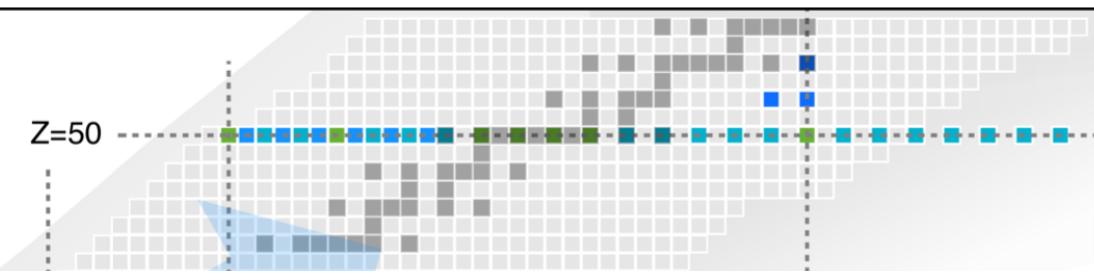
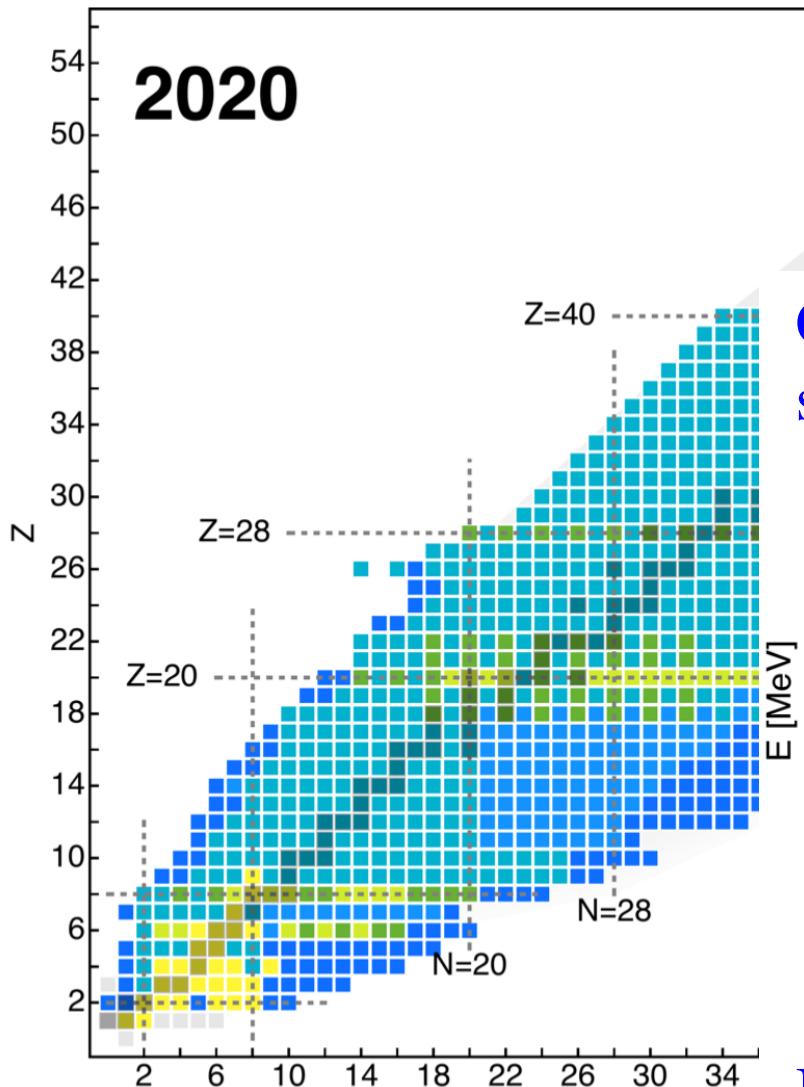
powerful approach for many-body interactions

all 3- and 4-neutron forces predicted to  $N^3LO$

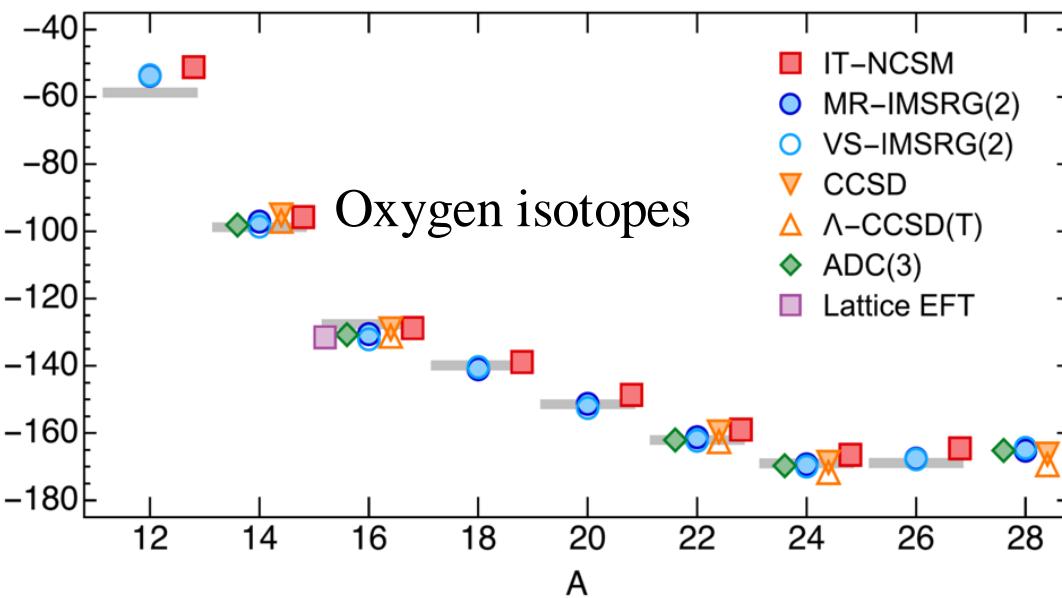
Tews et al., PRL (2013)

derived in (1994/2002)

# Great progress in ab initio calculations of nuclei



Chiral EFT interactions enable controlled solution of many-body Schrödinger eqn.



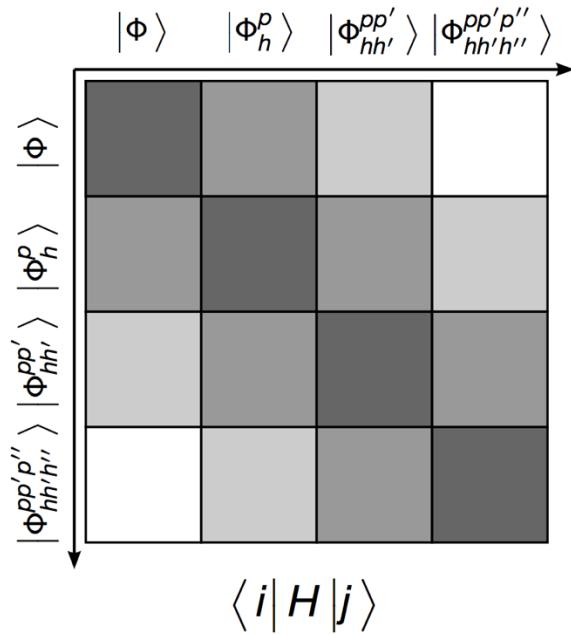
Interaction uncertainties dominate

figures from Hergert (2020)

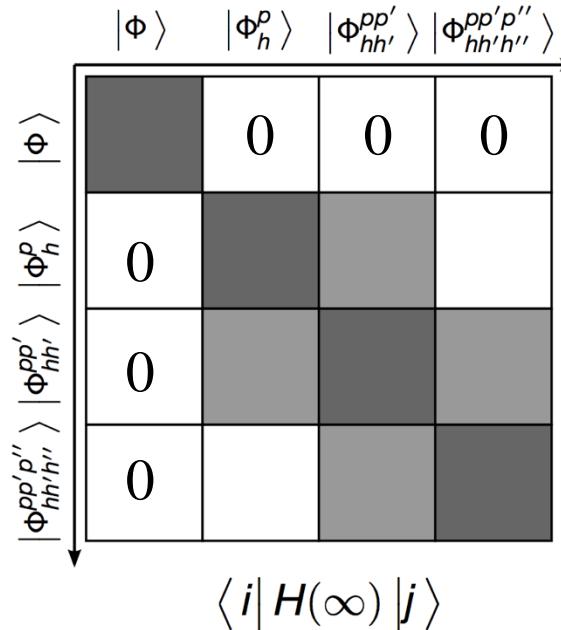
# In-medium similarity renormalization group (IMSRG)

Tsukiyama, Bogner, AS, PRL (2011), Hergert et al., Phys. Rep. (2016)

RG flow equations to decouple higher-lying particle-hole states



IMSRG  
→



$$\langle i | H | j \rangle$$

$$s = 0$$

$$H(s) = U(s)H(0)U^\dagger(s)$$

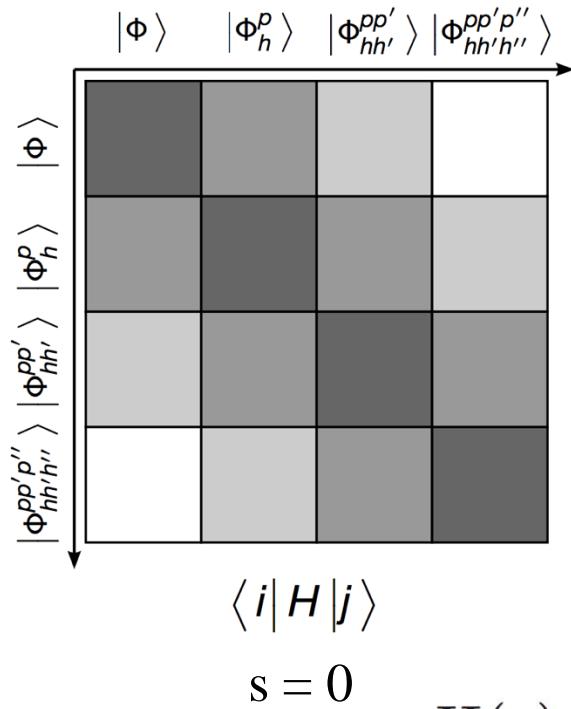
$$\langle i | H(\infty) | j \rangle$$

$$s = \infty$$

# In-medium similarity renormalization group (IMSRG)

Tsukiyama, Bogner, AS, PRL (2011), Hergert et al., Phys. Rep. (2016)

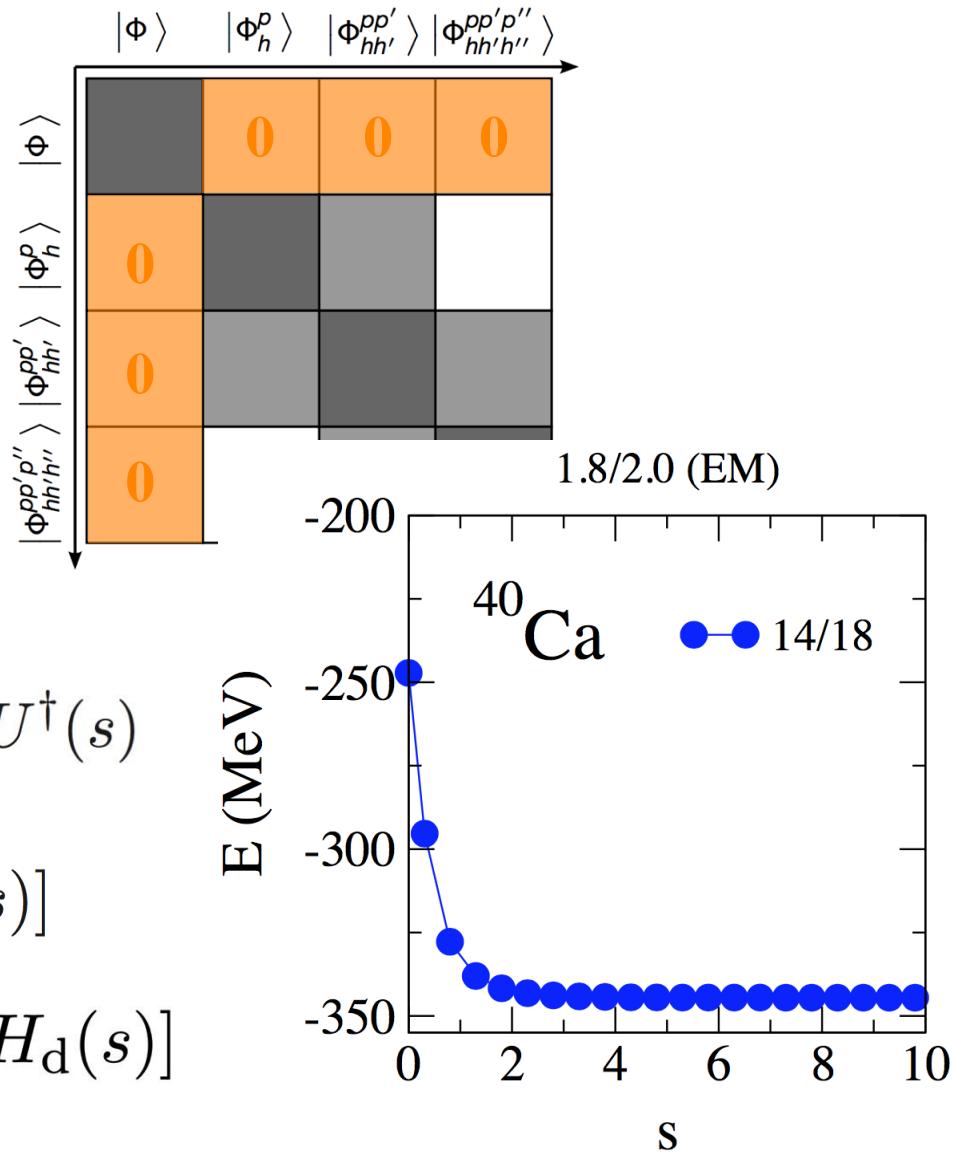
RG flow equations to decouple higher-lying particle-hole states



$$H(s) = U(s)H(0)U^\dagger(s)$$

$$\frac{d}{ds}H(s) = [\eta(s), H(s)]$$

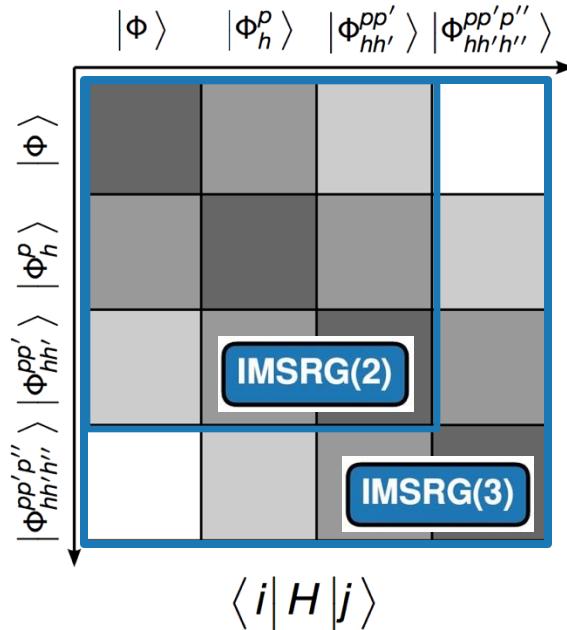
with generator  $\eta(s) = [H_{\text{od}}(s), H_{\text{d}}(s)]$



# In-medium similarity renormalization group (IMSRG)

Tsukiyama, Bogner, AS, PRL (2011), Hergert et al., Phys. Rep. (2016)

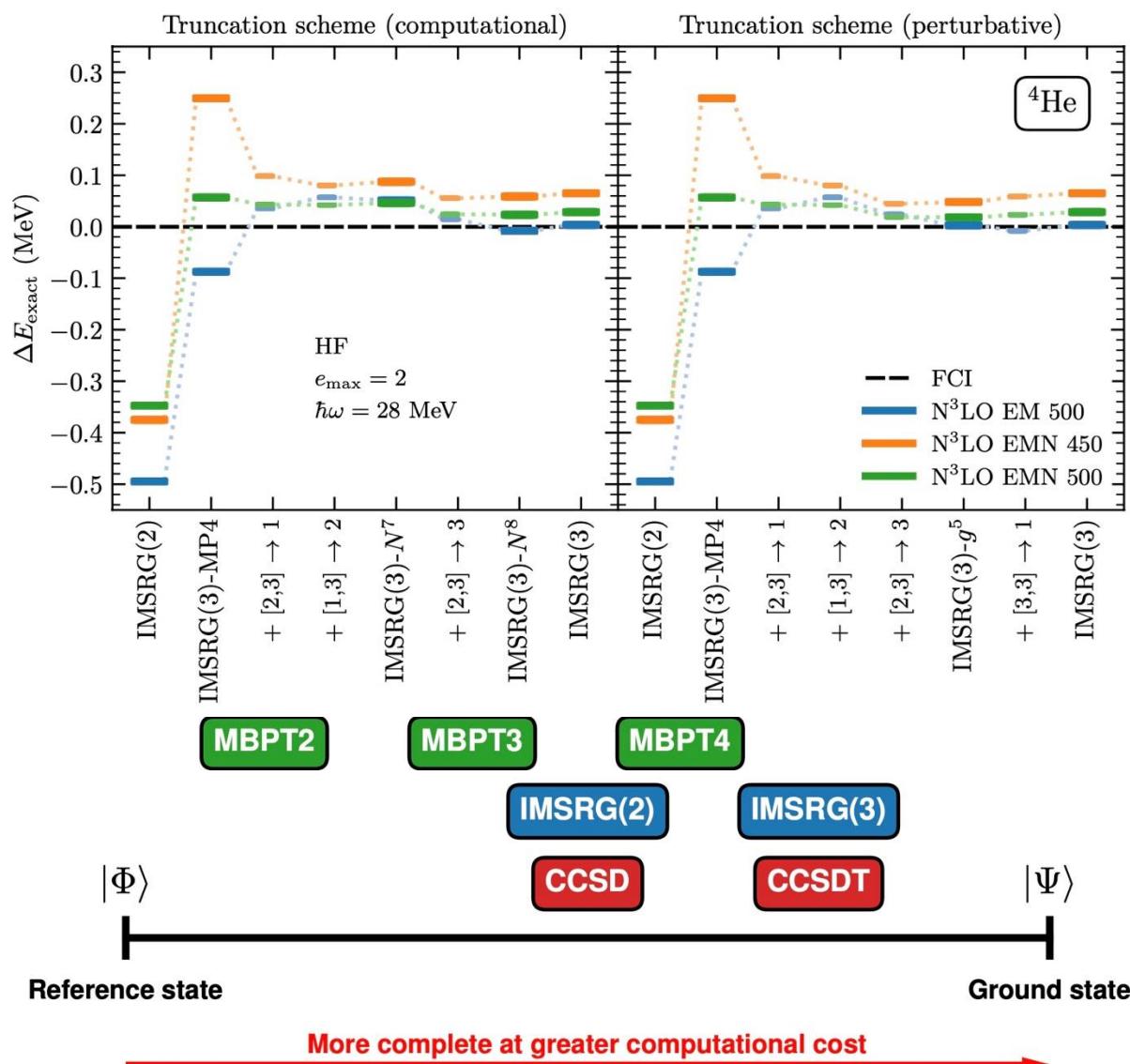
RG flow equations to decouple higher-lying particle-hole states



Standard truncation of  
IMSRG flow equations  
at normal-ordered  
2-body level: IMSRG(2)

First IMSRG(3) results

Heinz et al., PRC (2021)



# Outline

New chiral low-resolutions interactions

Pierre Arthuis, Hebeler, AS, arXiv:2401.06675

Probing nuclear structure with nonlinear King plots  
in ytterbium isotopes

Door, Yeh, Matthias Heinz, Kirk, Lyu, Takayuki Miyagi et al., arXiv:2403.07792

Uncertainty quantification for low-resolution interactions

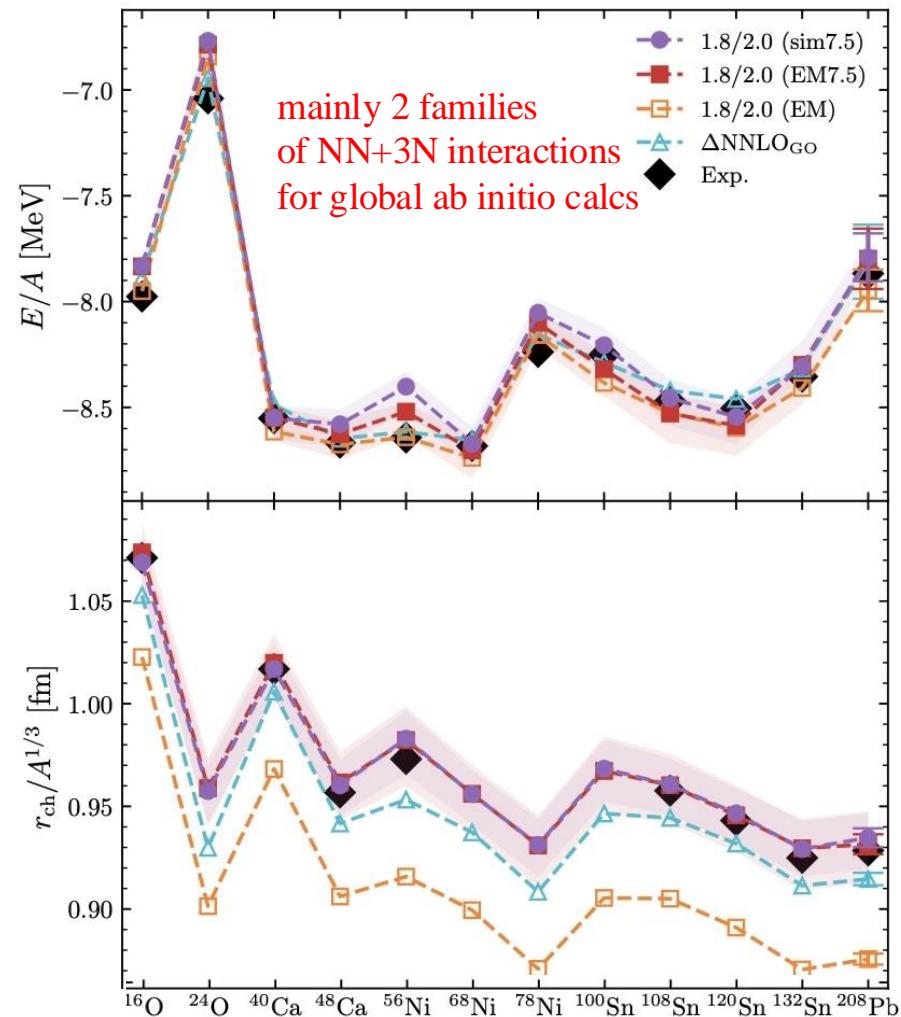
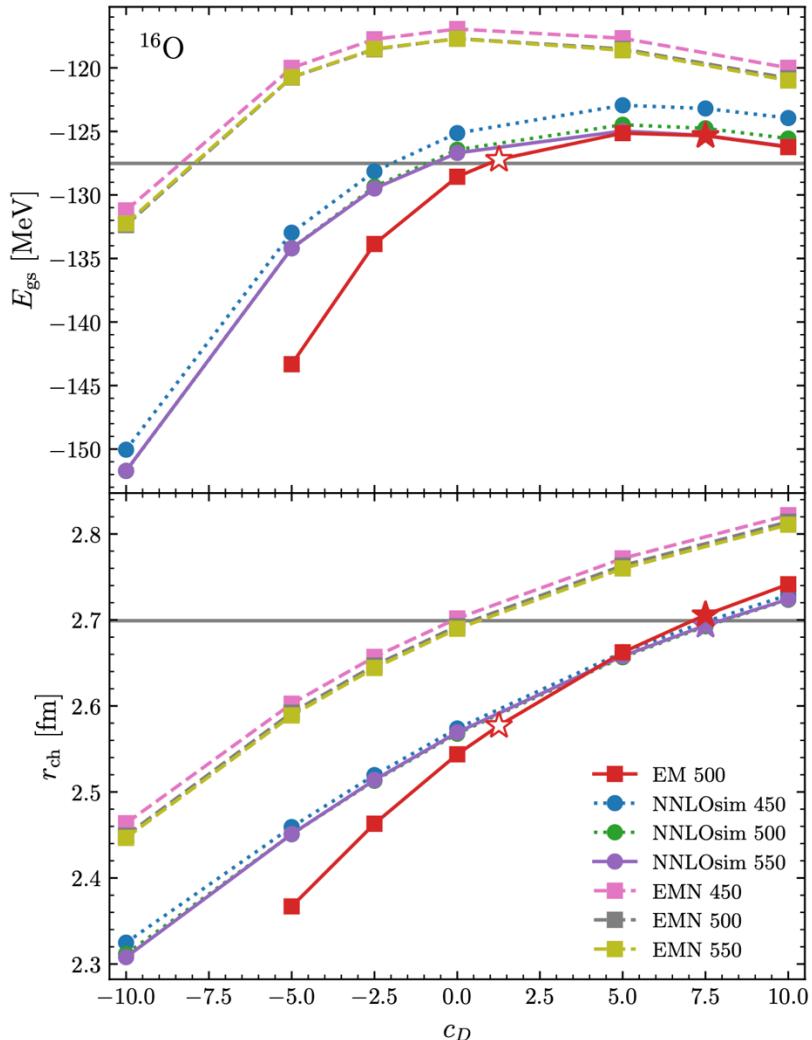
Tom Plies, Matthias Heinz, AS, preliminary

# New chiral low-resolution interactions

Arthuis, Hebeler, AS, arXiv:2401.06675

based on SRG-evolved NN interactions, 3N couplings fit to  $^3\text{H}$  and  $^{16}\text{O}$

accurate for ground-state properties from  $^{16}\text{O}$  to  $^{208}\text{Pb}$



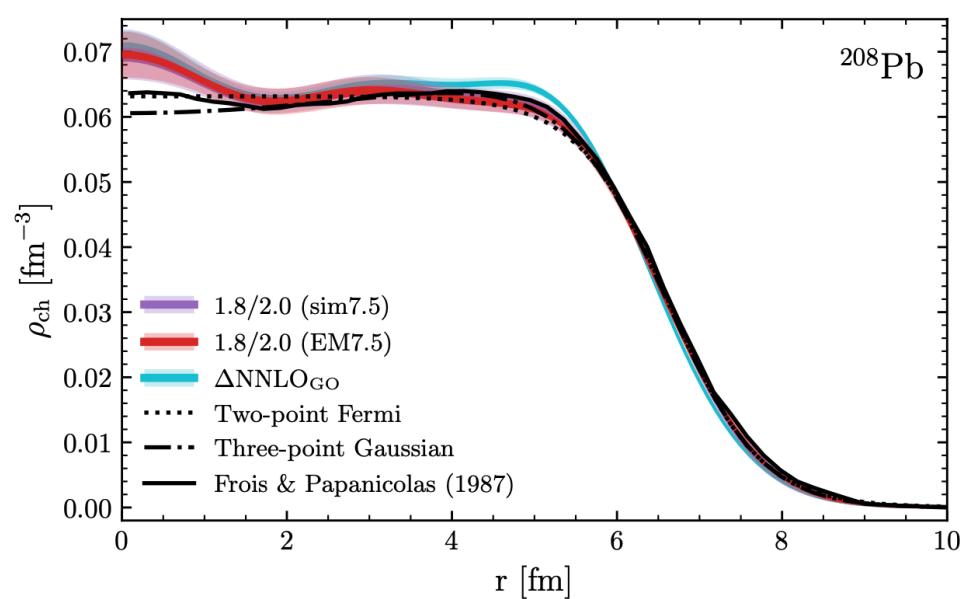
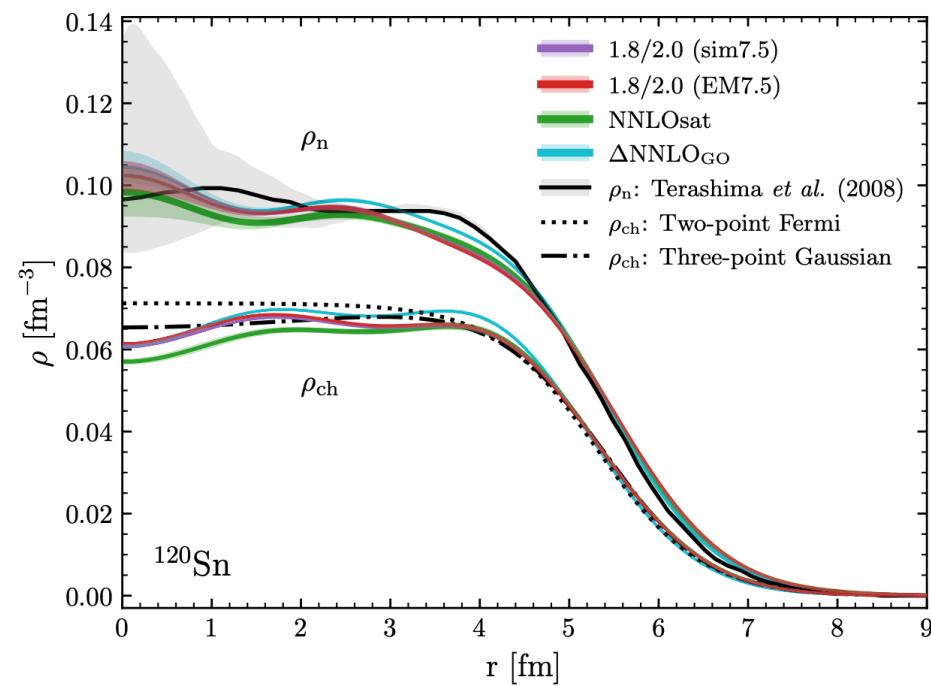
# Neutron/proton density distributions in medium-heavy nuclei

Arthuis, Hebeler, AS, arXiv:2401.06675

based on SRG-evolved NN interactions, 3N couplings fit to  $^3\text{H}$  and  $^{16}\text{O}$

accurate for ground-state properties from  $^{16}\text{O}$  to  $^{208}\text{Pb}$

very good agreement for density distributions in  $^{120}\text{Sn}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$



# Neutron skins

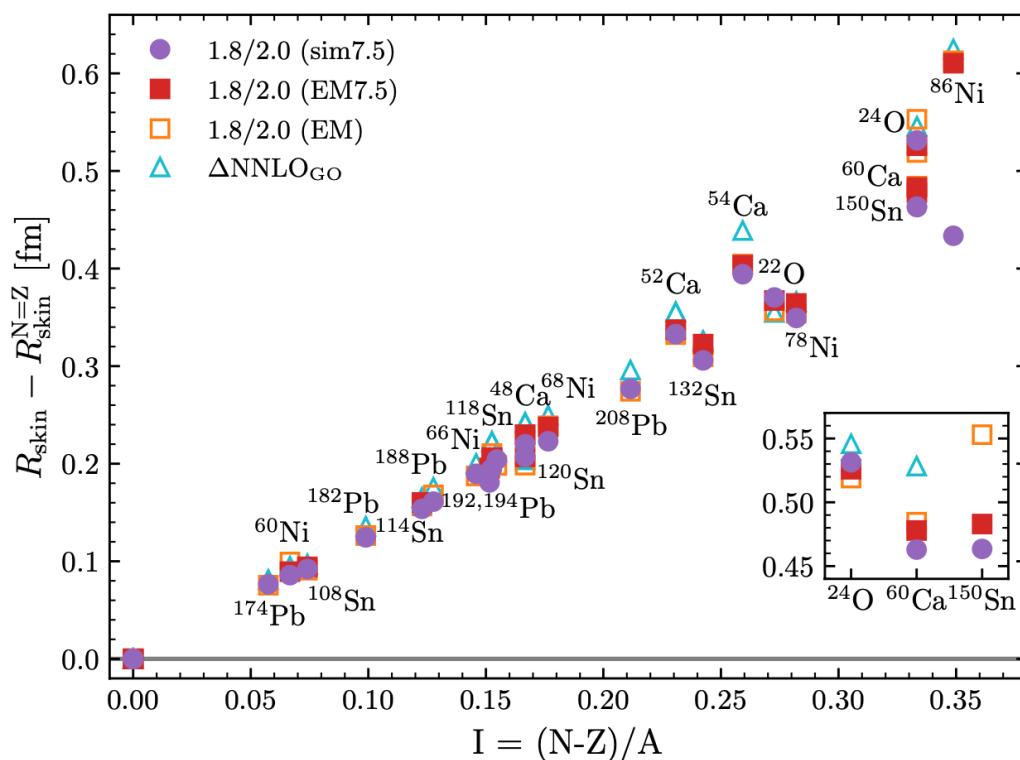
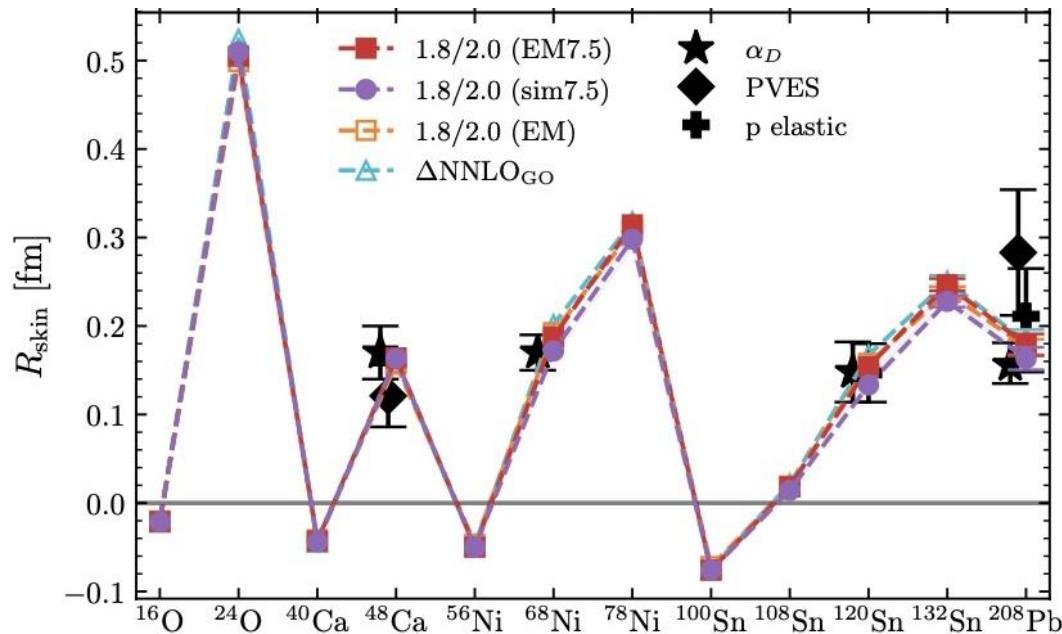
Arthuis, Hebeler, AS, arXiv:2401.06675

very model independent

based on new (and previous)  
chiral NN+3N interactions

dependence of neutron skin  
corrected for Coulomb is  
linear in isospin  
see also Novario et al., PRL (2023)

interesting predictions  
for extreme n-rich nuclei



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Uncertainty quantification for low-resolution interactions

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# Isotope shifts in $^{168,170,172,174,176}\text{Yb}$

Door, Yeh, Heinz, Kirk, Lyu, Miyagi et al., arXiv:2403.07792

isotope shifts of atomic transitions

$$\nu_{\tau}^{A,A'} = \nu_{\tau}^A - \nu_{\tau}^{A'} \approx K_{\tau} w^{A,A'} + F_{\tau} \delta \langle r^2 \rangle^{A,A'}$$

mass shift                          field shift

leading terms give linear King plot

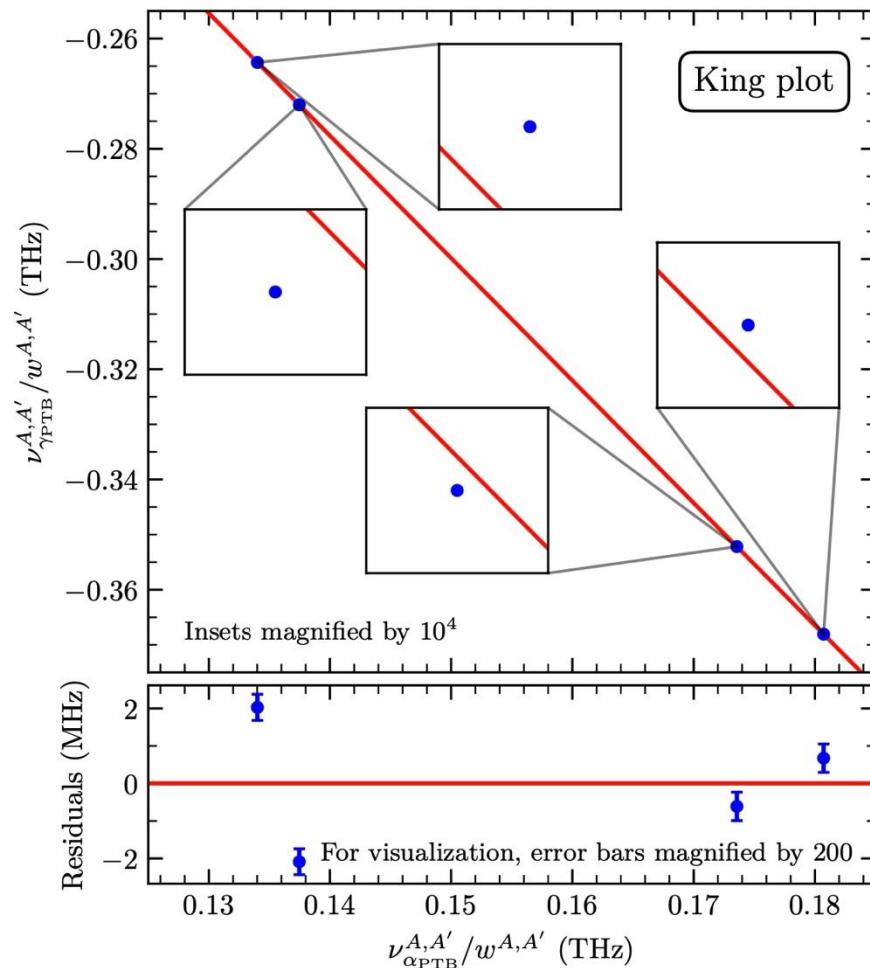
nonlinearities from higher-order  
Standard Model and BSM

$$\nu_{\tau,\text{nonlin.}}^{A,A'} = G_{\tau}^{(2)} (\delta \langle r^2 \rangle^2)^{A,A'} + G_{\tau}^{(4)} \delta \langle r^4 \rangle^{A,A'}$$

higher-order nuclear structure

$$+ \frac{\alpha_{\text{NP}}}{\alpha_{\text{EM}}} D_{\tau} h^{A,A'} + \dots$$

possible new boson



laser spectroscopy (PTB) + Penning trap mass measurements (MPIK)  
show clear nonlinearities

# Isotope shifts in $^{168,170,172,174,176}\text{Yb}$

Door, Yeh, Heinz, Kirk, Lyu, Miyagi et al., arXiv:2403.07792

nonlinearity decomposition suggests  
one dominant contribution

$$\nu_{\tau, \text{nonlin.}}^{A,A'} = G_\tau^{(2)} (\delta \langle r^2 \rangle^2)^{A,A'} + G_\tau^{(4)} \delta \langle r^4 \rangle^{A,A'}$$

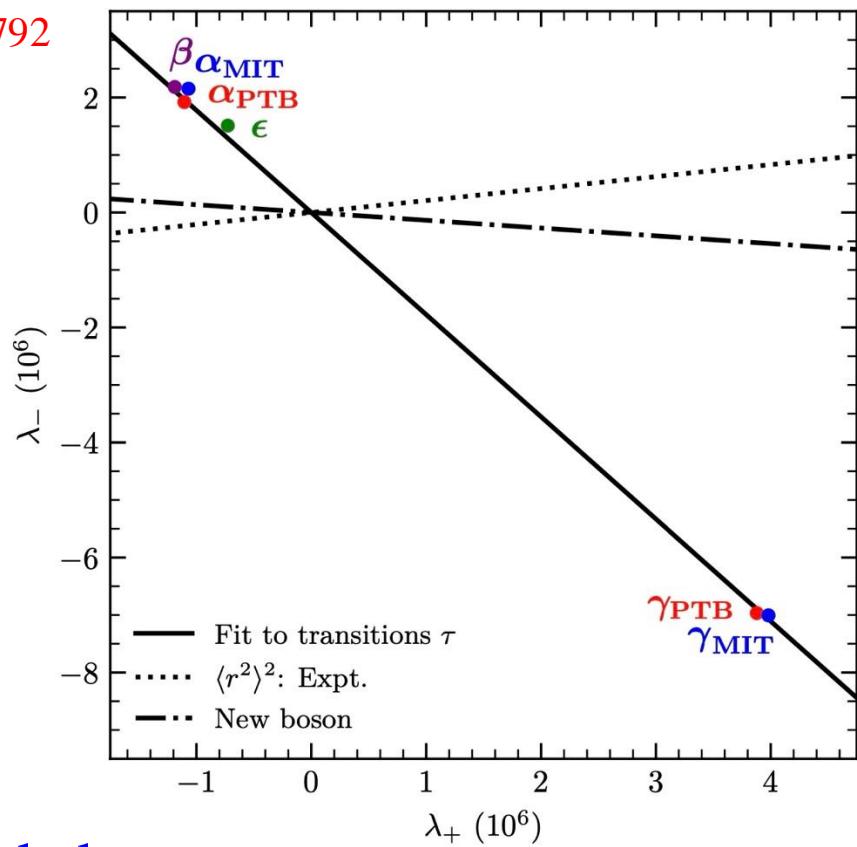
higher-order nuclear structure

$$+ \frac{\alpha_{\text{NP}}}{\alpha_{\text{EM}}} D_\tau h^{A,A'} + \dots$$

possible new boson

- not quadratic field shift
- not new boson

theory predictions of quartic radius needed



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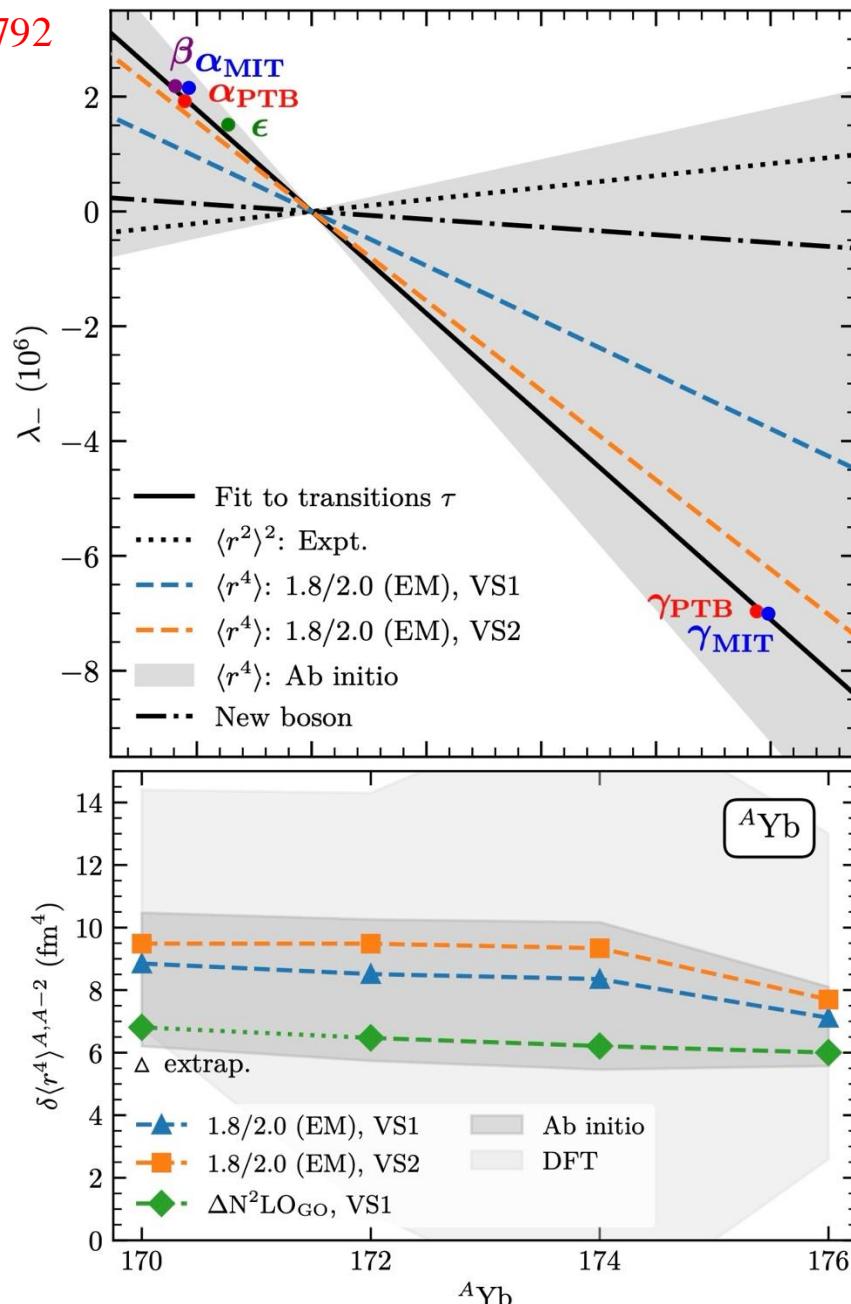
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$$+ \frac{\alpha_{\text{NP}}}{\alpha_{\text{EM}}} D_\tau h^{A,A'} + \dots \quad \text{possible new boson}$$

- not quadratic field shift
- not new boson

theory predictions of quartic radius:  
VS-IMSRG calculations,  
uncertainty estimates from:  
1.8/2.0 (EM),  $\Delta N^2 \text{LO}_{\text{GO}}$  interactions,  
two valence spaces,  
many-body estimated from IMSRG(3)



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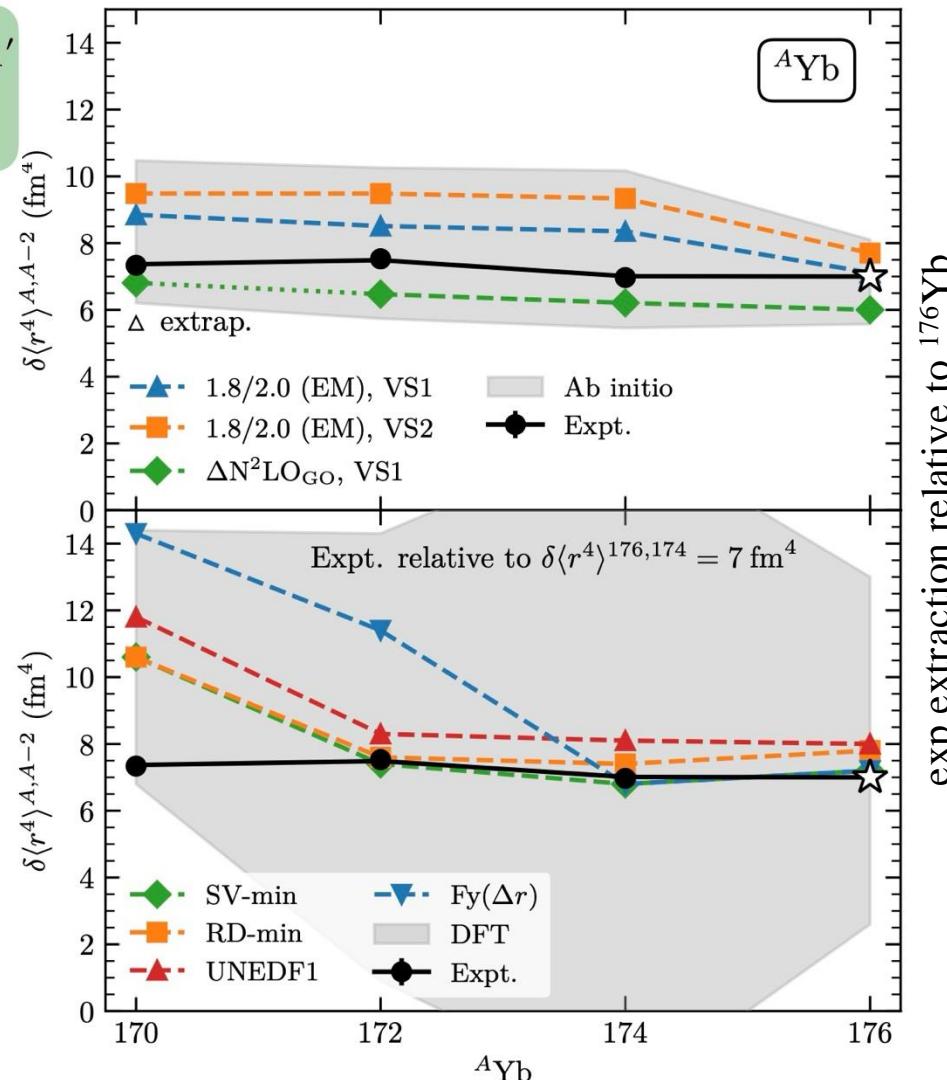
higher-order nuclear structure

$$+ \frac{\alpha_{\text{NP}}}{\alpha_{\text{EM}}} D_\tau h^{A,A'} + \dots$$

possible new boson

- not quadratic field shift
- not new boson
- dominant nonlinearity from quartic radius term

**NEW:** extract quartic radius from experimental data:  
observable related to deformation,  
trends consistent with ab initio



# Outline

New chiral low-resolutions interactions

Pierre Arthuis, Hebeler, AS, arXiv:2401.06675

Probing nuclear structure with nonlinear King plots  
in ytterbium isotopes

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Uncertainty quantification for low-resolution interactions

Tom Plies, Matthias Heinz, AS, preliminary

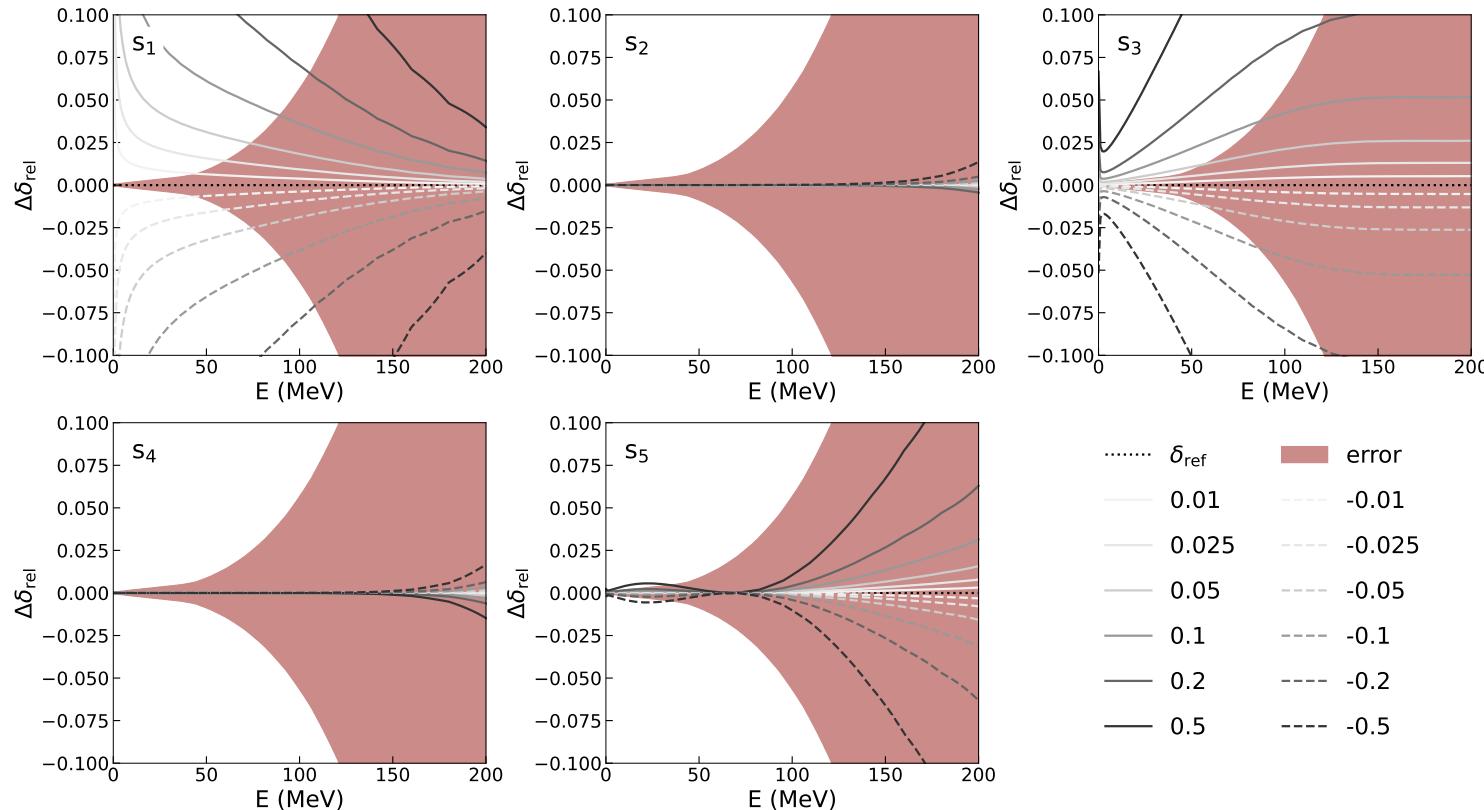
# EFT uncertainties for SRG-evolved interactions

Tom Plies, Matthias Heinz, AS, preliminary

use singular value decomposition (SVD)  
as operator basis see Tichai et al., PLB (2021)

consider lowest 5 singular values/operators

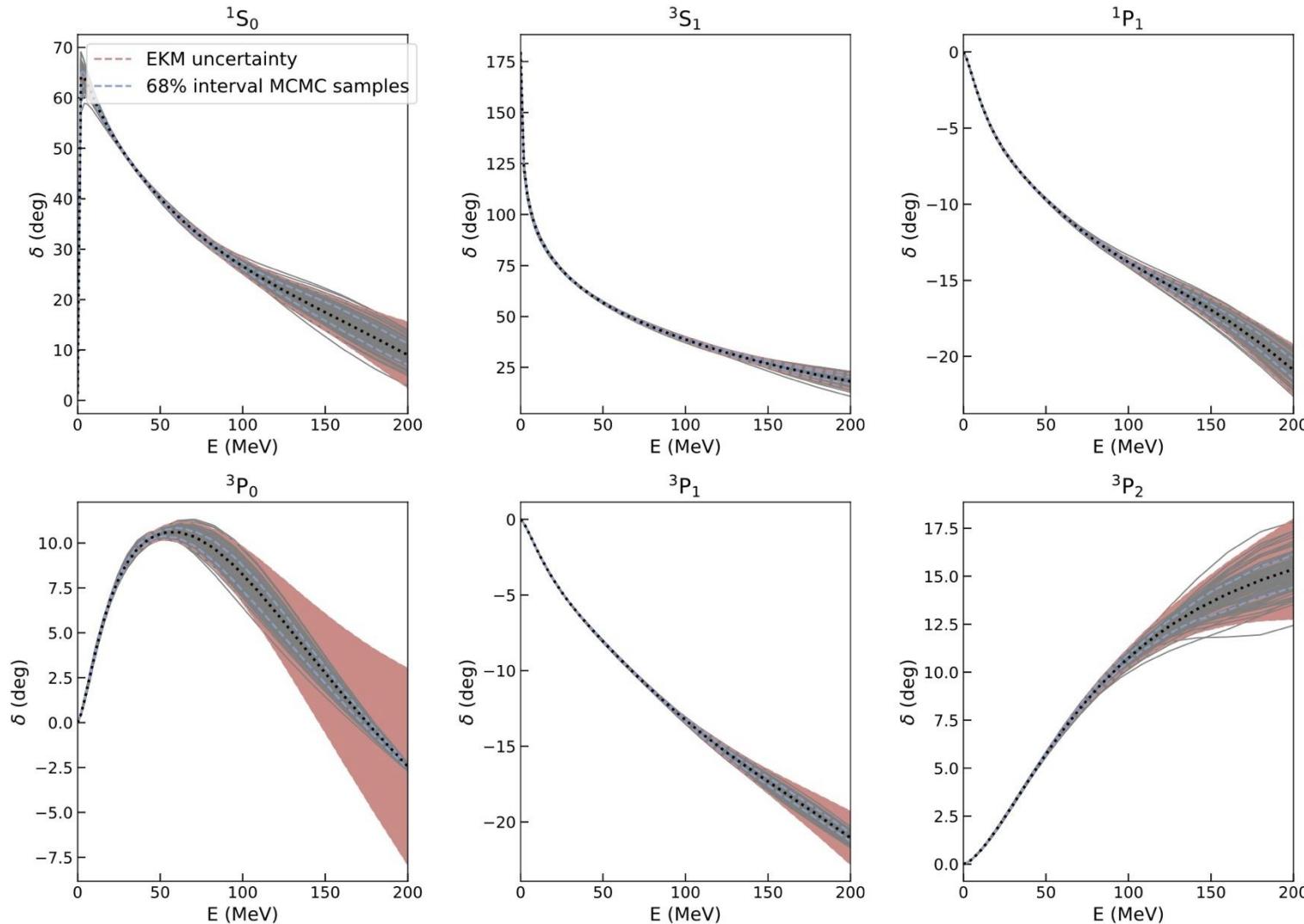
effectively 3 generate phase shift variation



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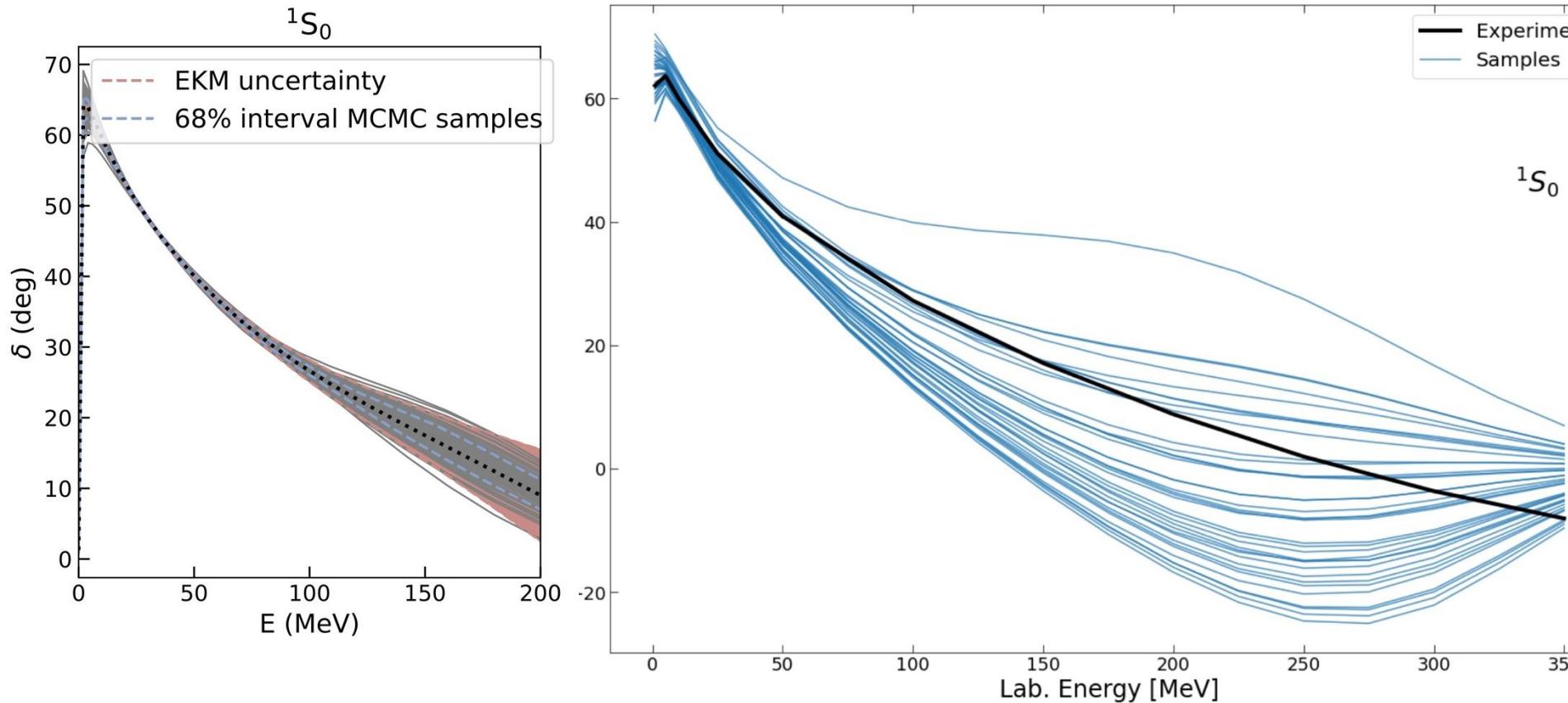
generate range of low-resolution NN interactions from random draws among 3 singular values with likelihood given by EFT uncertainties



# EFT uncertainties for SRG-evolved interactions

Tom Plies, Matthias Heinz, AS, preliminary

generate range of low-resolution NN interactions from random draws among 3 singular values with likelihood given by EFT uncertainties



comparison to nonimplausible  $\Delta N^2LO$  interactions [Ekström, Forssen et al.](#)

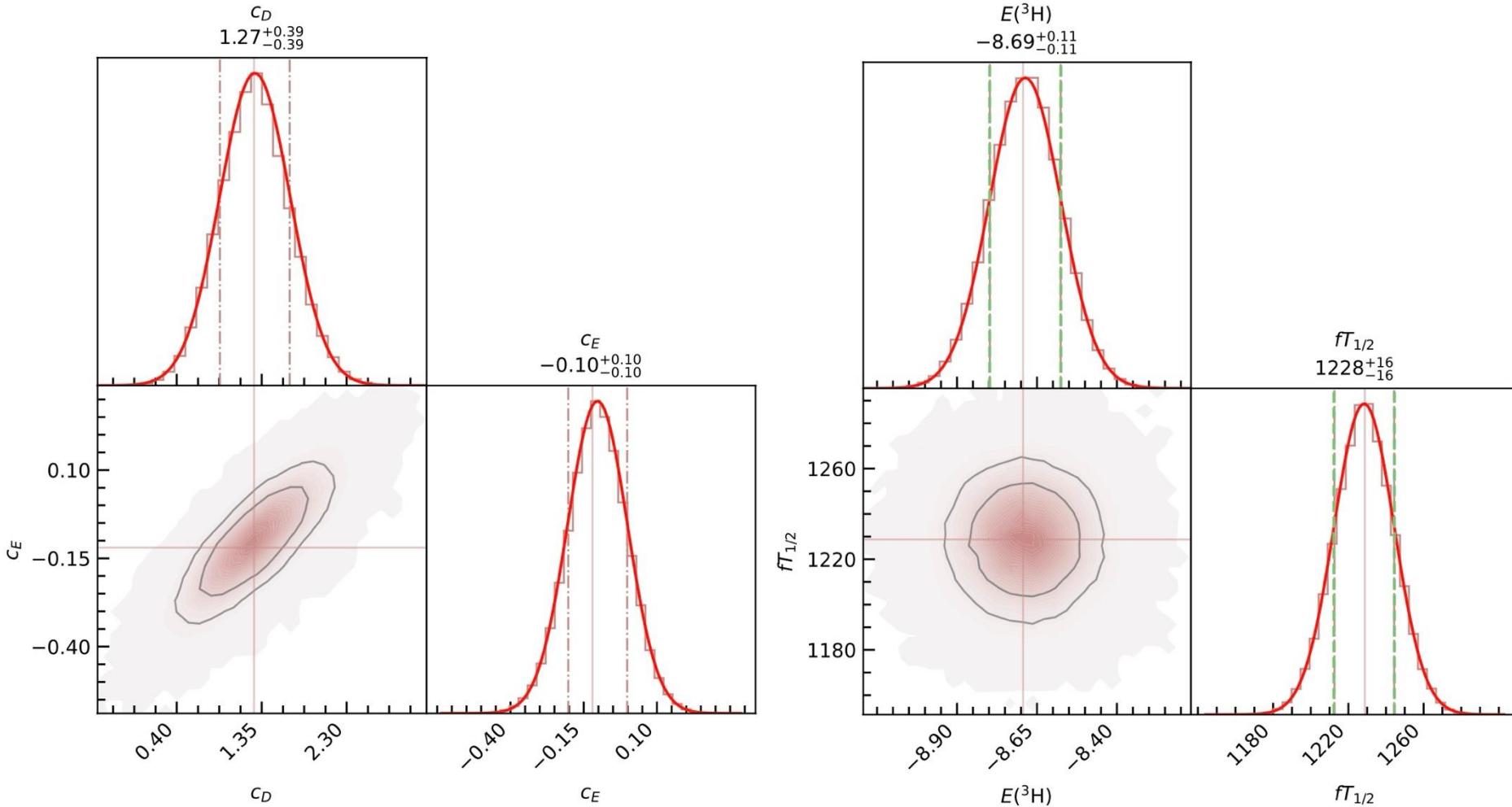
# EFT uncertainties for SRG-evolved interactions

Tom Plies, Matthias Heinz, AS, preliminary

generate range of low-resolution NN+3N interactions

here: S and P waves, higher partial waves unvaried,

3N uncertainties from  ${}^3\text{H}$  binding energy and half-life EFT uncertainties



# EFT uncertainties for SRG-evolved interactions

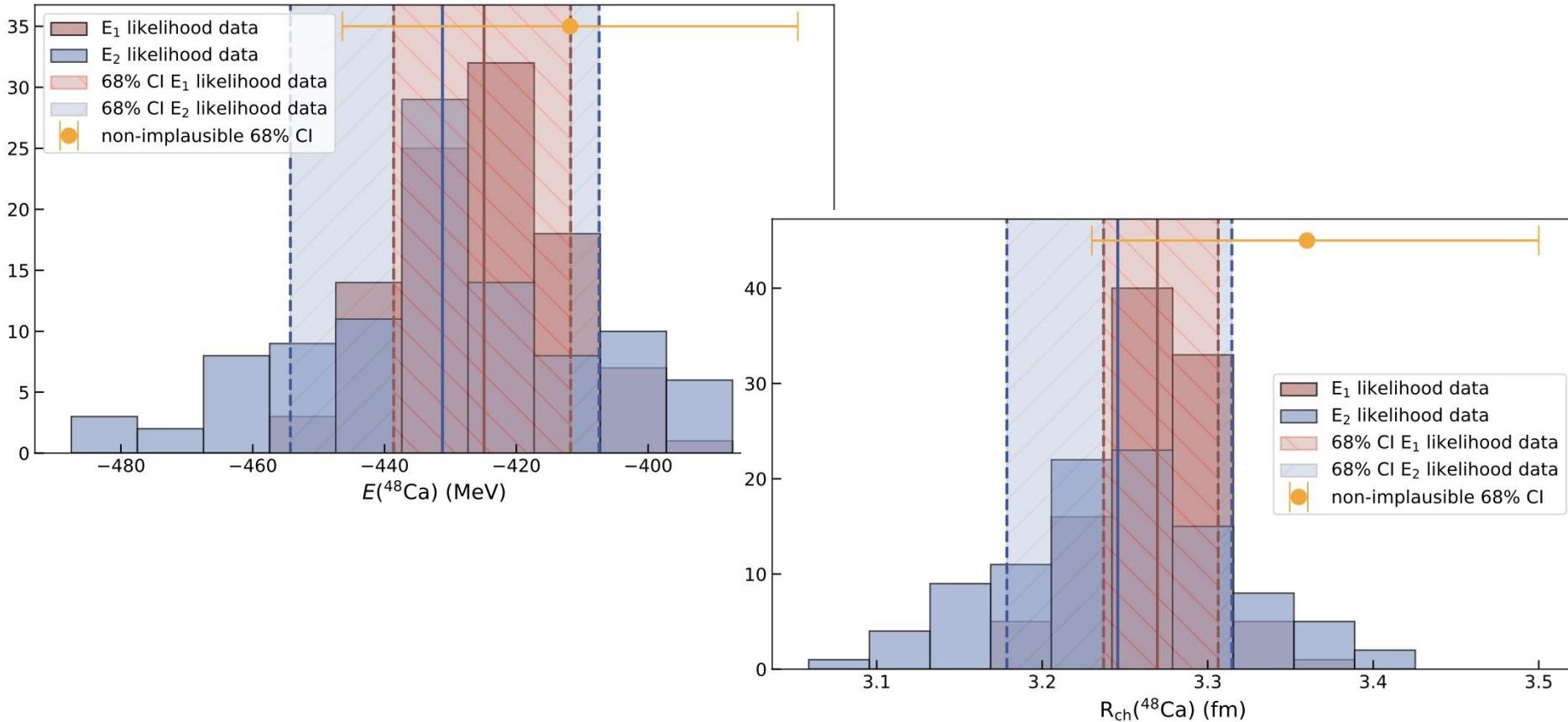
Tom Plies, Matthias Heinz, AS, preliminary

generate range of low-resolution NN+3N interactions

here: S and P waves, higher partial waves unvaried,

3N uncertainties from  $^3\text{H}$  binding energy and half-life EFT uncertainties

resulting posterior distributions for  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  ground-state energy and radius



## Summary

Chiral EFT interactions + powerful many-body methods

- great progress for ab initio calculations of nuclei

New chiral low-resolutions interactions

**Pierre Arthuis, Hebeler, AS, arXiv:2401.06675**

- neutron skins remarkably similar up to  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  for chiral NN+3N

Probing nuclear structure with nonlinear King plots  
in ytterbium isotopes

**Door, Yeh, Matthias Heinz, Kirk, Lyu, Takayuki Miyagi et al., arXiv:2403.07792**

- first extraction of  $\delta R_{\text{ch}}^4$  from isotope shifts, evolution along heavy Yb isotopes in good agreement with IMSRG calculations

Uncertainty quantification for low-resolution interactions

**Tom Plies, Matthias Heinz, AS, preliminary**

- SVD basis to sample EFT uncertainties, first results for  $^{48}\text{Ca}$