

Four-Body Nuclear Systems

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Critical Stability, Erice, October 13-17 2008

Outline

- 1 Aims
- 2 Nuclear forces
- 3 Bound states
- 4 Scattering states
- 5 Four neutron system
- 6 Conclusions

Collaborators

- L. Girlanda, L.E. Marcucci, and S. Rosati - *Pisa University (Italy)*
- A. Kievsky and R. Alvarez-Rodriguez - *INFN, Sezione di Pisa (Italy)*

Four nucleon systems - Aims

- Tests of NN & 3N interaction models
- Tests of many-body techniques
- Study of reactions of astrophysical interest
- Study of reactions for energy production

NN interaction

Phenomenological models...

- Argonne V18, CD-Bonn, Nijmegen ($\chi^2 \approx 1$)
- Fit of 3N data using non-locality in P-waves (ISuj [Doleschall, 2008])

... new developments...

- Effective field theory
 - N3LO-Jülich [Epelbaum and Coll, 1998-2006]
 - N3LO-Idaho [Entem & Machleidt, 2003]
- Low-q interaction [Bogner and Coll., 2001-2007]

and small effects

- CSB (strong + em effects)
- Parity-violating (weak interaction between nucleons)

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3N interaction

Old models...

- Tucson-Melbourne [Coon *et al*, 1979, Friar *et al*, 1999]
- Brazil [Robilotta & Coelho, 1986]
- Urbana [Pudliner *et al*, 1995]

and new developments

- Effective field theory
 - ▶ N2LO-Jülich [Epelbaum *et al*, 2002]
 - ▶ N2LO-Navratil [Navratil, 2007]
- Illinois [Pieper *et al*, 2001]
- Under progress: N3LO, Δ , CSB, ...

Theoretical methods

Kamada *et al*, PRC **64**, 044001 (2001)

Faddeev-Yakubovsky equations

Solved in configuration or momentum space

- Bochum-Cracow-Jülich, Lisboa, Grenoble, LANL, ...

GFMC

- ANL-LANL

Variational methods

- 1 Gaussian basis [Kamimura, Varga]
- 2 HH & EIHH [Pisa, Trento-Jerusalem]
- 3 HO (NCSM) [Navratil and Coll.]

The HH method

HH functions

- hyperradius $\rho^2 = \frac{2}{A} \sum_{i < j} r_{ij}^2$
- hyperangles $\Omega = \left\{ \frac{\xi_1}{\rho}, \dots, \frac{\xi_{A-1}}{\rho} \right\}$ (ξ_i Jacobi vectors)
- $T = T_\rho + T_\Omega/\rho^2$
- The HH functions $\mathcal{Y}_{[K]}(\Omega)$ are the eigenstates of T_Ω

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{n,[K]} a_{n,[K]} |n, [K]\rangle, \quad \langle \mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A | n, [K]\rangle = L_n^{(3A-4)}(\gamma\rho) e^{-\gamma\rho/2} \mathcal{Y}_{[K]}(\Omega)$$

$$[K] \rightarrow K, L, S, T, \mu, \quad T_\Omega \mathcal{Y}_{[K]}(\Omega) = (\hbar^2/M) K(K+7) \mathcal{Y}_{[K]}(\Omega)$$

Advantages - bound state

Simplified calculation of the matrix elements of

- local/non-local NN & 3N potentials
- given in coordinate/momentum space

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Degeneracy

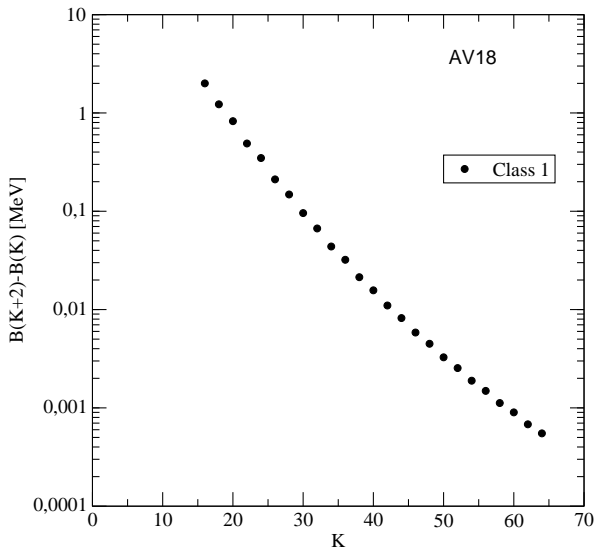
Number of **independent** states $\mathcal{Y}_{[K]}(\Omega)$ of given K, L, S, T, J and π

K	$L = S = 0$	$L = S = 1$	$L = S = 2$
4	4	4	3
8	14	27	18
12	41	96	63
16	90	250	158
20	176	488	321
24	282	675	445

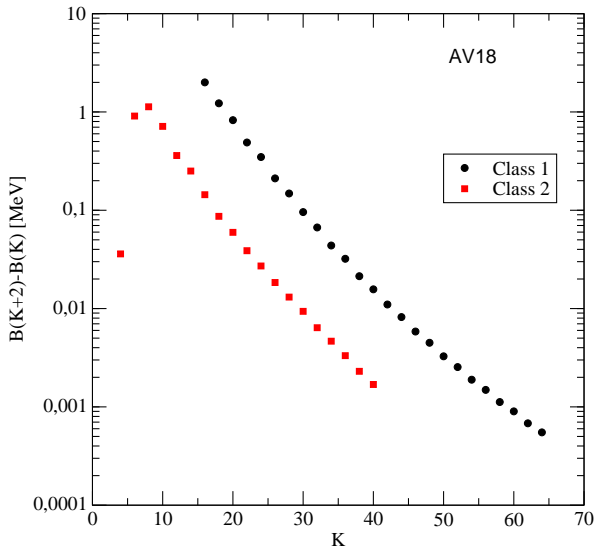
Case: $J = 0,$
 $T = 0, \pi = +$

- **Problem:** due to the repulsion at short interparticle distances and the strong tensor interaction, HH states with large values of K are needed
- **Solution:** organize the basis in *classes*
 - ▶ **class 1** (“potential basis”): take into account 2-body correlations – **small subset but very slow convergence**
 - ▶ **classes 2-6:** more rapid convergence

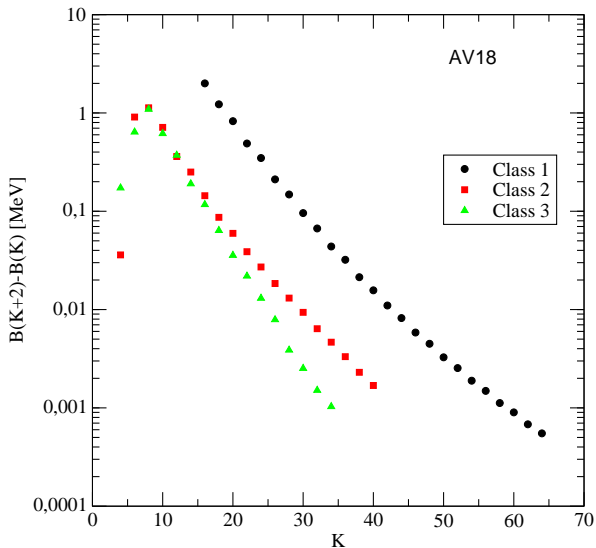
Convergence for the α -particle (1)



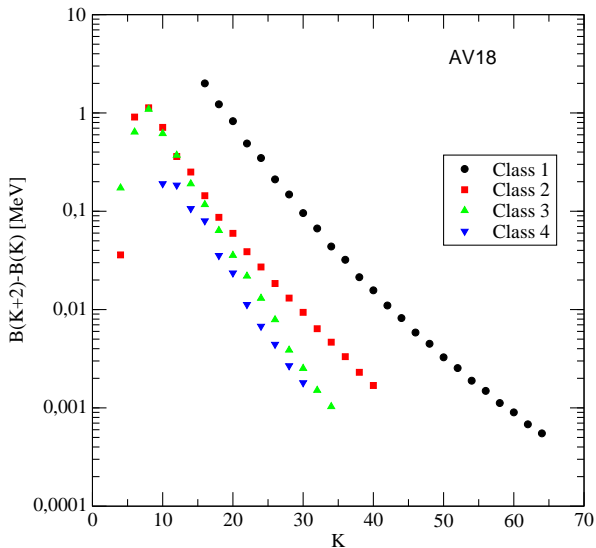
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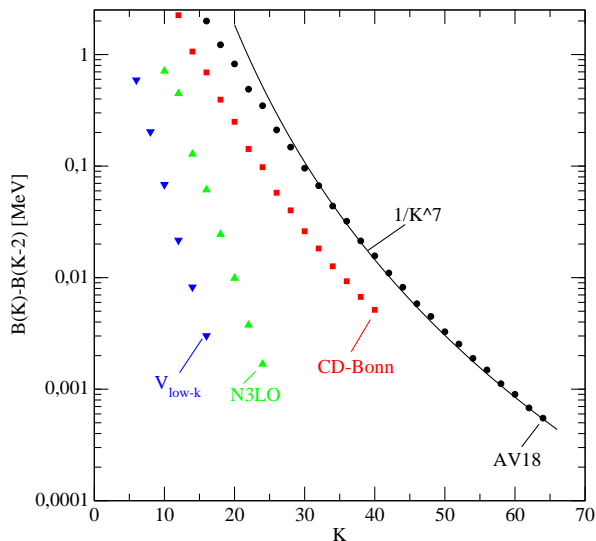
Convergence for the α -particle (1)



Convergence for the α -particle (1)



Convergence for the α -particle (2)



Convergence of
class 1

$1/K^n$ law:
[Schneider, 1972],
[Demin, 1977]

Triton and ^4He binding energies (1)

Potential	Method	$B(^3\text{H})$	$B(^4\text{He})$
AV18	HH	7.624	24.22
	FE/FY Nogga	7.621	24.23
	FE/FY Deltuva	7.621	24.24
	FE/FY Lazauskas	7.616	24.22
CDBonn	HH	7.998	26.13
	FE/FY Nogga	8.005	26.23 (26.16)
	FE/FY Deltuva	7.998	26.11
	NCSM Navratil	7.99(1)	
N3LO-Idaho	HH	7.854	25.38
	FE/FY Nogga	7.854	25.37
	FE/FY Deltuva	7.854	25.38
	NCSM Navratil	7.852(5)	25.39(1)

Triton and ^4He binding energies (2)

Potential	Method	$B(^3\text{H})$	$B(^4\text{He})$
AV18/UIX	HH	8.479	28.47
	FE/FY Nogga	8.476	28.53
	FE/FY Lazauskas	8.473	
CDBonn/TM	HH	8.474	29.00
	FE/FY Nogga	8.482	29.09
N3LO-Idaho/N2LO	HH	8.474	28.37
	NCSM Navratil	8.473(5)	28.34(2)

Scattering states

$$\Omega_{LSJJ_z}^{\pm} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4}} \sum_{i=1}^4 \left[[\mathbf{s}_i \otimes \phi_{jkl}] \mathbf{s} \otimes Y_L(\hat{\mathbf{y}}_i) \right]_{JJ_z} \left(f_L(y_i) \frac{G_L(\eta, qy_i)}{qy_i} \pm i \frac{F_L(\eta, qy_i)}{qy_i} \right)$$

$$|\Psi_{LSJJ_z}\rangle = \sum_{n, [K]} a_{LSJJ_z, [K]} |n, [K]\rangle + \left[\delta_{LL'} \delta_{SS'} |\Omega_{LSJJ_z}^{-}\rangle - S_{LS, L'S'}^J |\Omega_{L'S'JJ_z}^{+}\rangle \right]$$

Method of calculation: projection of the asymptotic states in partial waves $\ell \leq l_{\max}$

Simplified calculation of the matrix elements of

- local/non-local NN & 3N potentials
- given in coordinate/momentum space
- Coulomb interaction

The breakup channels can be taken into account (work in progress)

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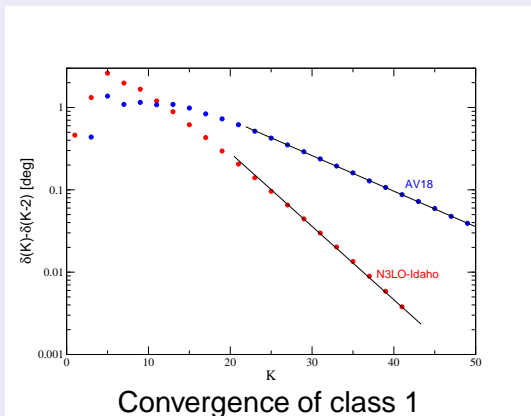
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Convergence

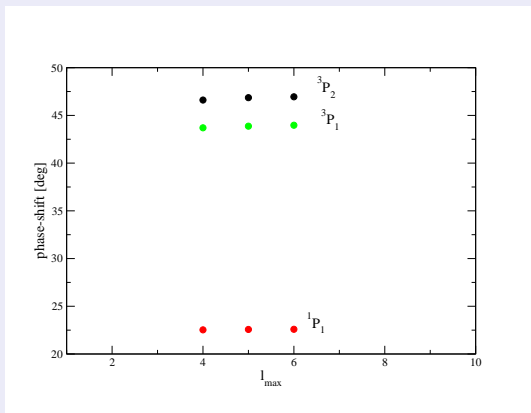
$n - {}^3\text{H}$ at $E_{cm} = 3 \text{ MeV}$, 3P_2 wave



Convergence

$n - {}^3\text{H}$ at $E = 3$ MeV, 3P_2 , 3P_1 , and 1P_1 waves

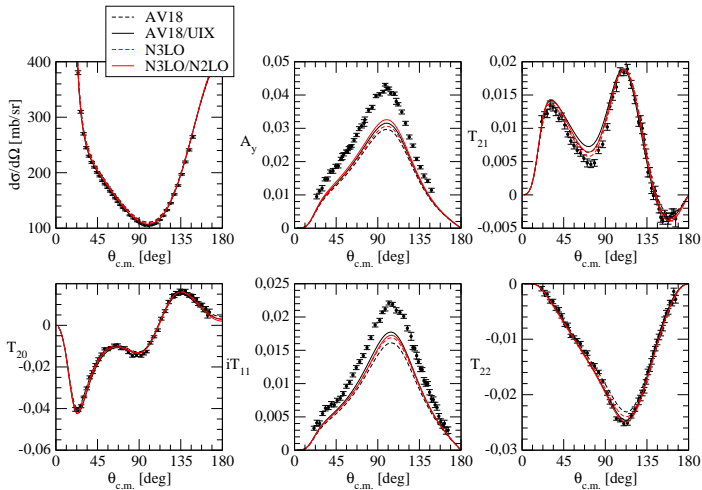
Truncation of the partial wave expansion of $\Omega_{LSJJ_z}^{\pm}$ up to l_{max}



N-d elastic scattering

First results with non-local potentials

p-d scattering at $E_{c.m.} = 1.666$ MeV



$n - {}^3\text{H}$ elastic scattering

Comparison with the FY calculation by [Deltuva & Fonseca, 2007](#)

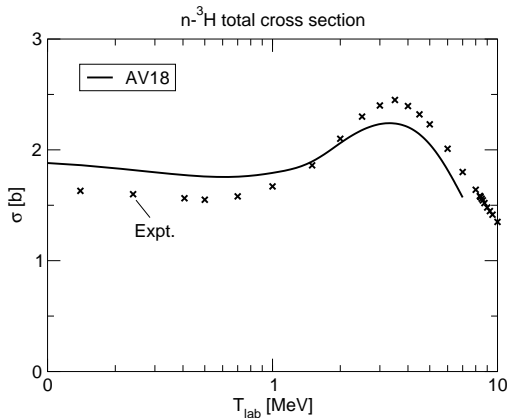
N3LO-Idaho potential, $E_{\text{c.m.}} = 3 \text{ MeV}$

preliminary

Phase-shift	HH	FY	Phase-shift	HH	FY
1S_0	-69.3	-69.1	3P_0	23.2	23.3
3S_1	-61.4	-61.2	1P_1	22.7	22.5
3D_1	-1.14	-1.10	3P_1	44.4	44.5
ϵ	0.77	0.80	ϵ	9.80	9.64
1D_2	-1.72	-1.90	3P_2	48.4	48.7
3D_2	-0.94	-1.01	3F_2	0.07	0.09
ϵ	2.74	2.81	ϵ	1.24	1.26

$n - {}^3\text{H}$ elastic scattering

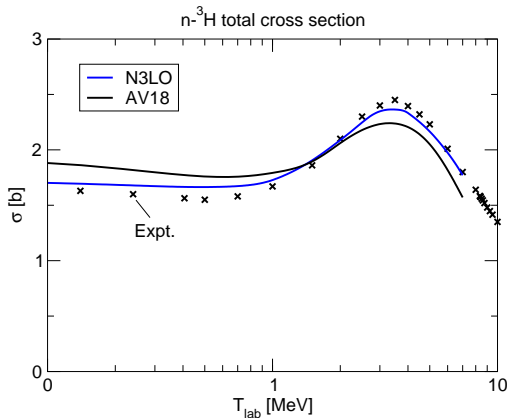
Total cross section (Exp. data: [Phillips et al., 1980])



See also
[Lazauskas &
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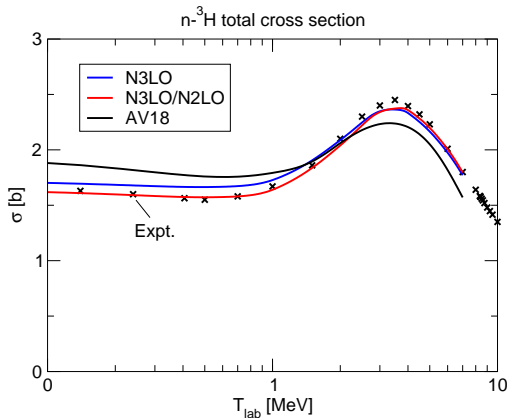


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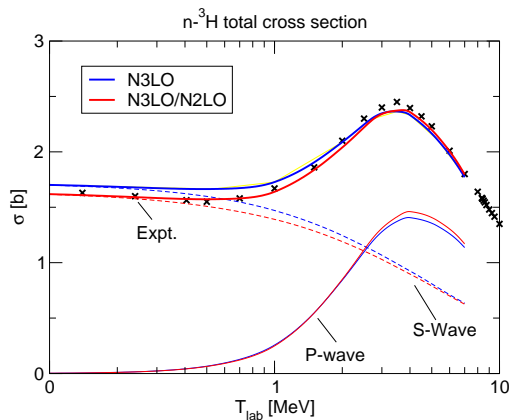


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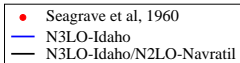
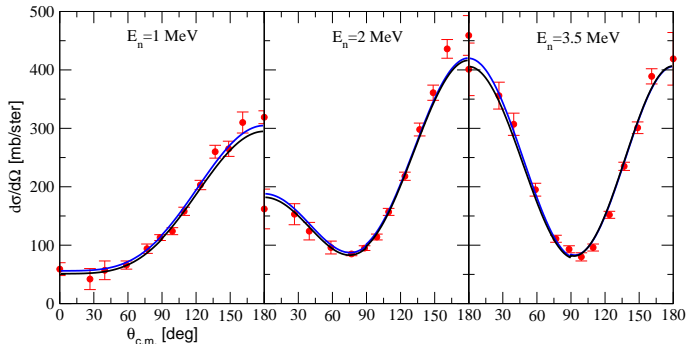
Contribution of S and P waves

Total cross section (Exp. data: [Phillips et al., 1980])



$n - {}^3\text{H}$ elastic scattering

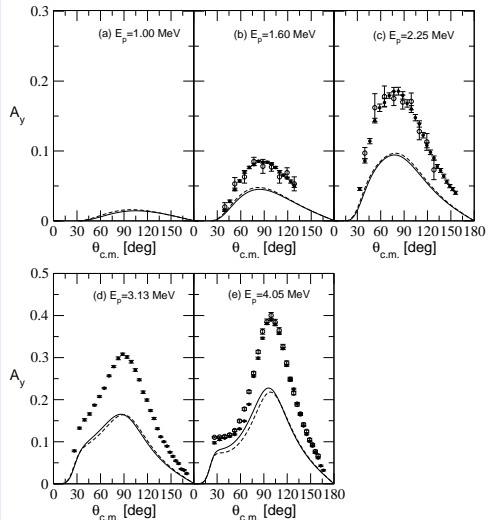
Expt: Seagrave *et al.*, 1960



In agreement with [Deltuva & Fonseca, 2007]

$p - {}^3\text{He}$ elastic scattering - A_y puzzle

old HH calculation - TUNL data **Fisher *et al*, 2006**



Neutron star crust

- The tetra-neutron is not bound [Pieper, 2003] [Lazauskas & Carbonell, 2005]
- May neutron clusters exist in the neutron star crust?

The neutron star crust

- Density $10^6 \div 10^{10} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$
 - ▶ cubic Coulomb lattice of fully ionized (neutron rich) nuclei
 - ▶ a gas of “free” (delocalized) neutrons
- It explains a variety of observations (pulsar glitches, giant flares, X-ray bursts, etc) [see, for example, Chamel, ArXiv:0709.3798]
- The neutrons can be “confined” by a variety of hypothetical effects
 - ▶ “neutron-lattice” interaction
 - ▶ very intense magnetic fields
 - ▶ holes in the lattice

Question: which is the magnitude of the force needed to bind 4 neutrons?



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Adiabatic method

1 Schrödinger equation

$$\left\{ -\frac{\hbar^2}{M} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{8}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} + \frac{\Lambda^2(\Omega)}{\rho^2} \right) + V(\rho, \Omega) - E \right\} \Psi = 0$$

2 Adiabatic HH functions

$$\left\{ -\frac{\hbar^2}{M} \frac{\Lambda^2(\Omega)}{\rho^2} + V(\rho, \Omega) \right\} \Phi_m(\rho, \Omega) = U_m(\rho) \Phi_m(\rho, \Omega)$$

3 Use the HH expansion $\Phi_m(\rho, \omega) = \sum_{[K]}^{K_{max}} a_{m,\mu}(\rho) \mathcal{Y}_\mu(\Omega)$

4 Search $\Psi = \sum_m f_m(\rho) \Phi_m(\rho, \Omega)$ and solve the coupled equations

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{M} f_m''(\rho) + U_m(\rho) \right] - \frac{\hbar^2}{M} \sum_{m'} \left[2P_{m,m'}(\rho) \frac{d}{d\rho} + Q_{m,m'}(\rho) \right] f_{m'}(\rho) = E f_m(\rho)$$

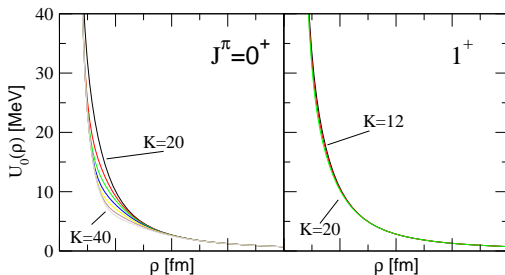
5 To give an idea, look at the lowest eigenpotential $U_0(\rho)$

Lowest adiabatic potential $U_0(\rho)$

Very preliminary

AV18 potential

States $T = 2, T_z = -2$

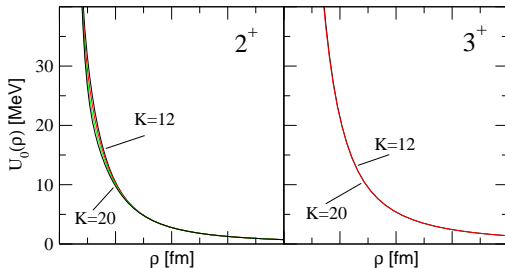


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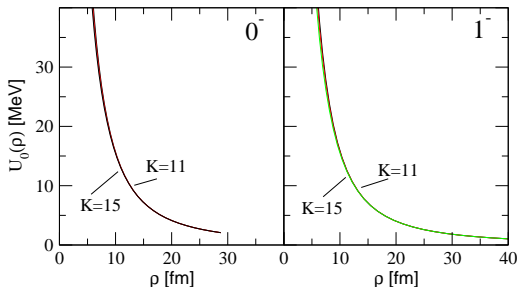


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Magnitude of the extra confining potential $\sim 5 \div 10$ MeV, for interparticle distances ~ 2 fm

Future work: add 3N force / try different interaction models

Work in progress

- Four-body scattering:
 - ▶ Benchmark with **Deltuva & Fonseca**:
 - ▶ N3LO-Idaho & AV18
 - ▶ NN+3N **vs** explicit inclusion of Δ
- Study of parity-violation in few-nucleon systems
 - ▶ Neutron spin rotation in $\vec{n} - d$ scattering **PRC 78, 014002 (2008)**

Future work

- breakup channels (starting with $N + d \rightarrow N + p + n$)
- **Extension to $A > 4$** - See talk by Gattobigio (INL, Nice) - in collaboration with P. Barletta (UCN, London) & C. Romero-Redondo (CSIC, Madrid)

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