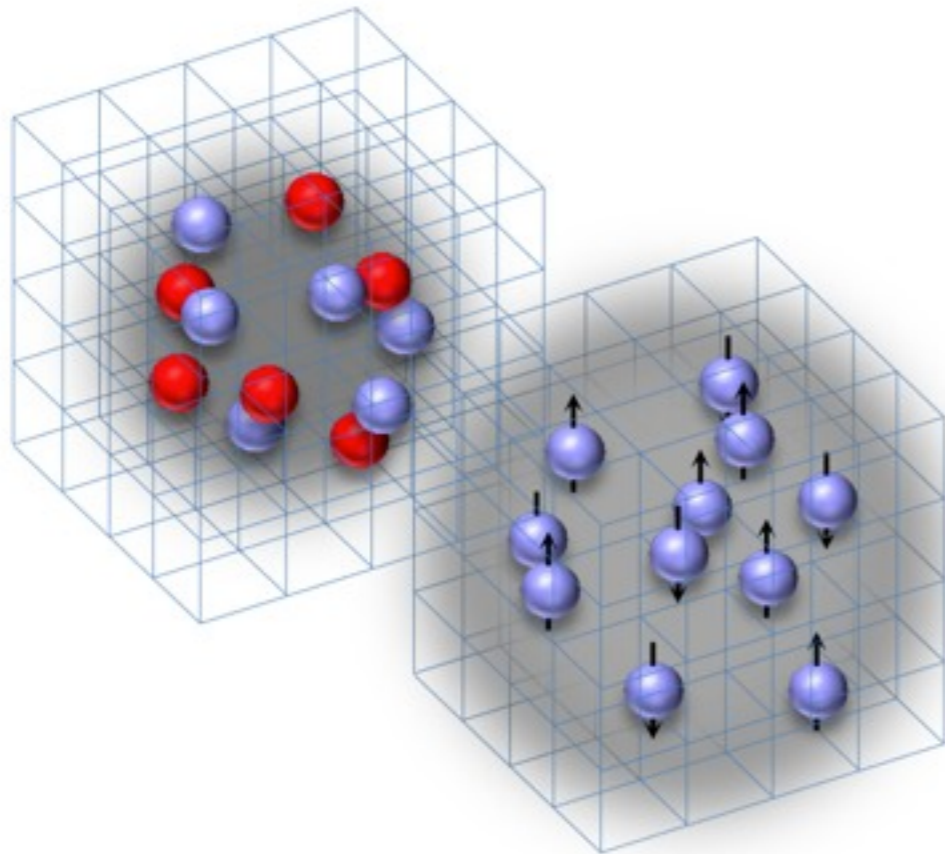


# Lattice Effective Field Theory for Nuclei from $A = 4$ to $A = 28$



## Nuclear Lattice EFT Collaboration

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**The 31<sup>st</sup> International Symposium  
on Lattice Field Theory (Lattice 2013)**

**Mainz, Germany**

**July 29, 2013**



# Outline

Brief introduction to Lattice EFT for nuclei

Carbon-12 and the Hoyle state

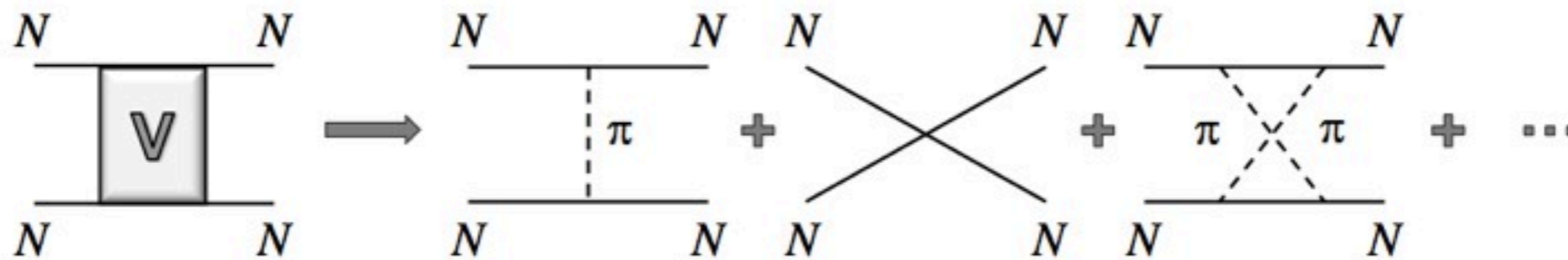
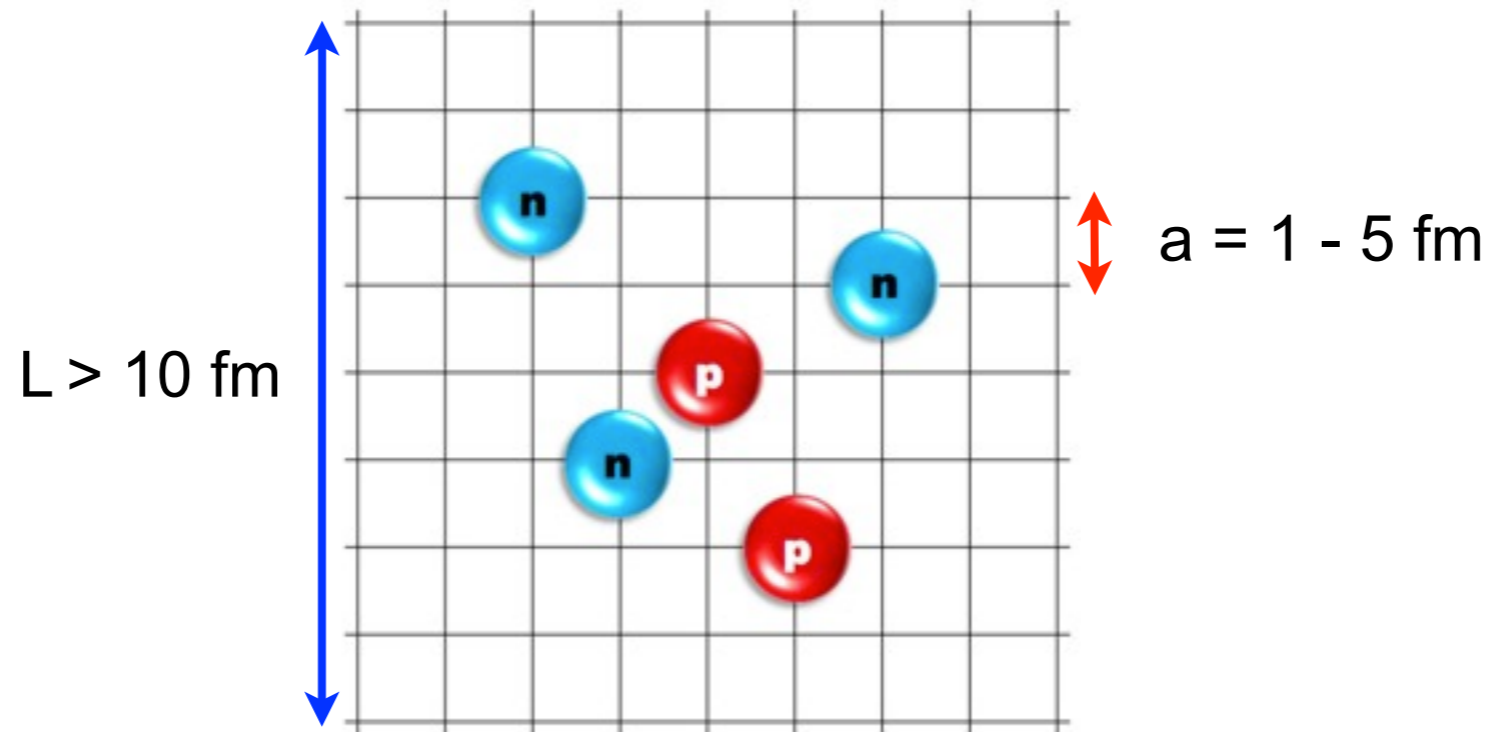
Production of Carbon-12 in red giant stars

Bounds on the anthropic scenario

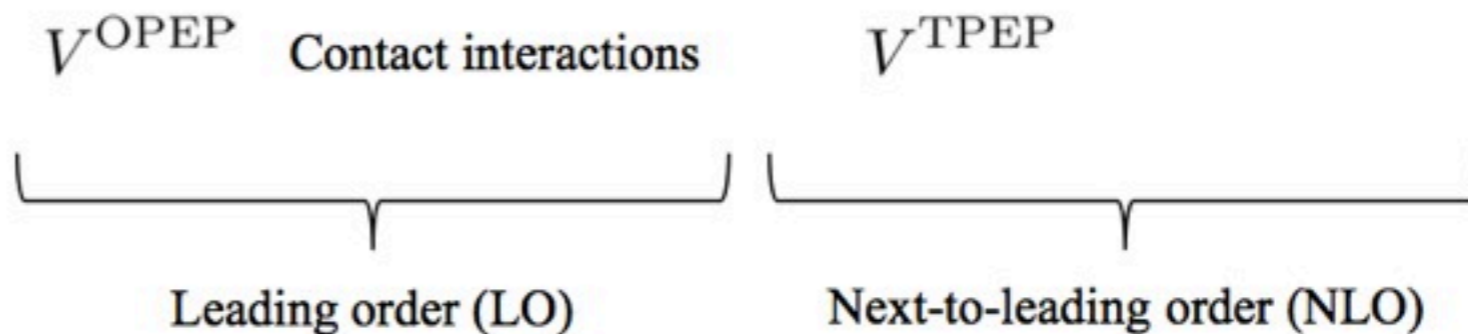
Preliminary results up to  $A = 28$

# Low-energy nucleons

Chiral effective field theory on the lattice ...



Order-by-order construction of the effective NN potential



# Current status of lattice chiral EFT

## Improved NNLO interaction ...

*Epelbaum, Hammer, Meißner, Rev. Mod. Phys. 81 (2009) 1773*

|                                   | Two-nucleon force                | Three-nucleon force | Four-nucleon force |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| $\mathcal{O}((Q/\Lambda_\chi)^0)$ | LO<br>2 LECs<br>                 | —                   | —                  |
| $\mathcal{O}((Q/\Lambda_\chi)^2)$ | NLO<br>7 LECs<br>                | —                   | —                  |
| $\mathcal{O}((Q/\Lambda_\chi)^3)$ | N <sup>2</sup> LO<br>            | 2 LECs<br>          | —                  |
| $\mathcal{O}((Q/\Lambda_\chi)^4)$ | N <sup>3</sup> LO<br>15 LECs<br> |                     |                    |

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{A}_{\text{LO}} = & C_{S=0,I=1} f(\mathbf{q}) \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_j \right) \left( \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \boldsymbol{\tau}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_j \right) \\
 & + C_{S=1,I=0} f(\mathbf{q}) \left( \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_j \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} \boldsymbol{\tau}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_j \right) \\
 & - \tilde{g}_{\pi N}^2 \boldsymbol{\tau}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_j \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma}_i \cdot \mathbf{q} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_j \cdot \mathbf{q}}{q^2 + M_\pi^2},
 \end{aligned}$$

Smearing of LO contact interactions

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_0 &= \frac{3}{4} C_{S=0,I=1} + \frac{1}{4} C_{S=1,I=0} \\
 C_I &= \frac{1}{4} C_{S=0,I=1} - \frac{1}{4} C_{S=1,I=0}
 \end{aligned}$$

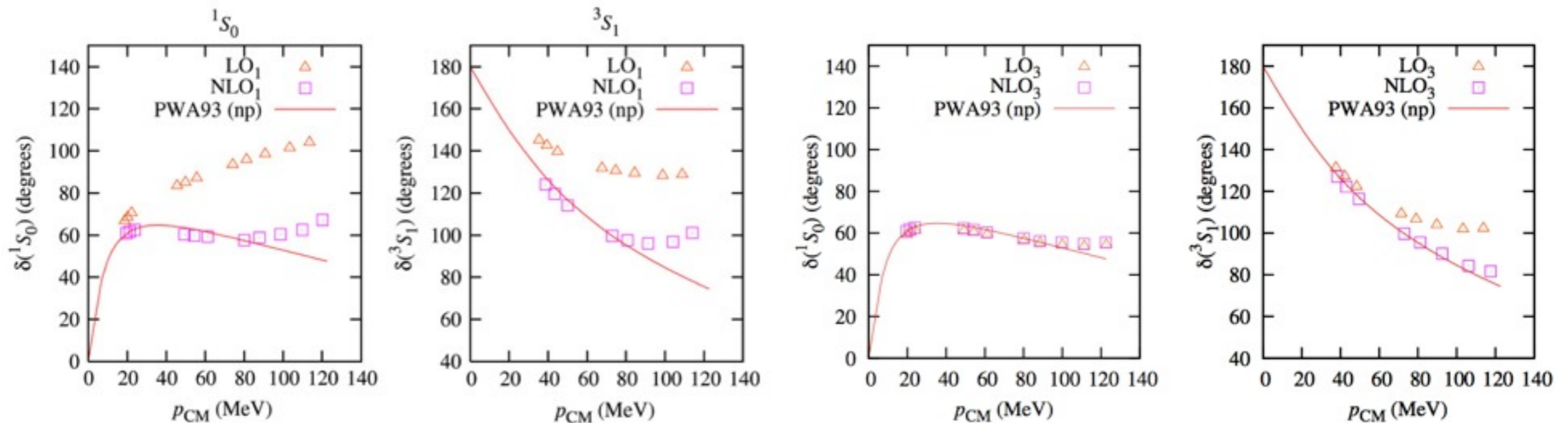
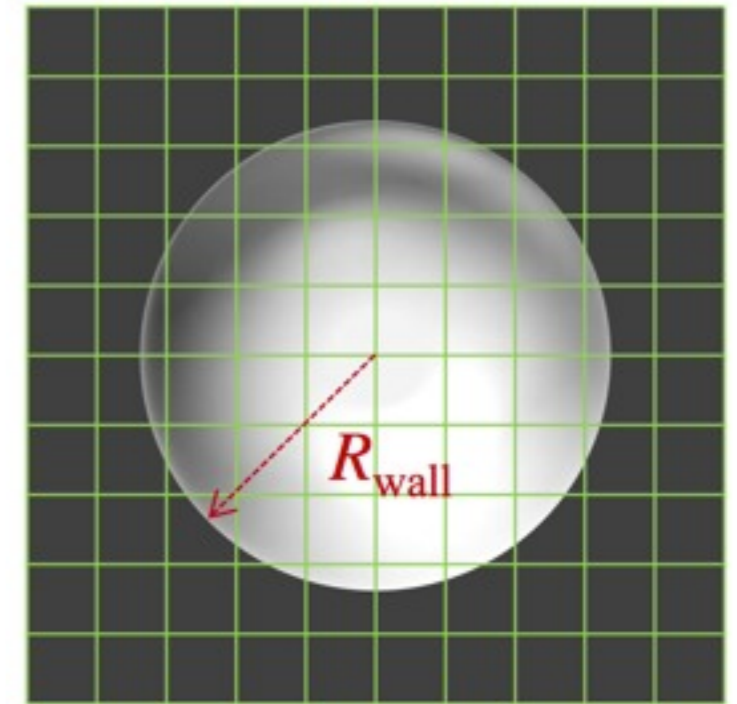


# Fix constants from the two-nucleon sector

Lattice EFT is predictive for  $A > 2$  ...

$$\cos \delta_L \cdot j_L(kR_{\text{wall}}) = \sin \delta_L \cdot y_L(kR_{\text{wall}}),$$

$$\delta_L = \tan^{-1} \left[ \frac{j_L(kR_{\text{wall}})}{y_L(kR_{\text{wall}})} \right].$$



Gaussian smearing of contact terms

*Borasoy, Krebs, Lee, Meißner,*  
*Nucl. Phys. A768 (2006) 179; Eur. Phys. J. A31 (2007) 105;*  
*Lee, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 63 (2009) 179*

# Euclidean time projection

Ground state energy ...

$$Z_A(t) = \langle \psi_A | \exp(-tH) | \psi_A \rangle$$

Lattice Hamiltonian  
(discretized)

$$E_A = - \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d(\ln Z_A)}{dt}$$

Extrapolation  
(from finite time)

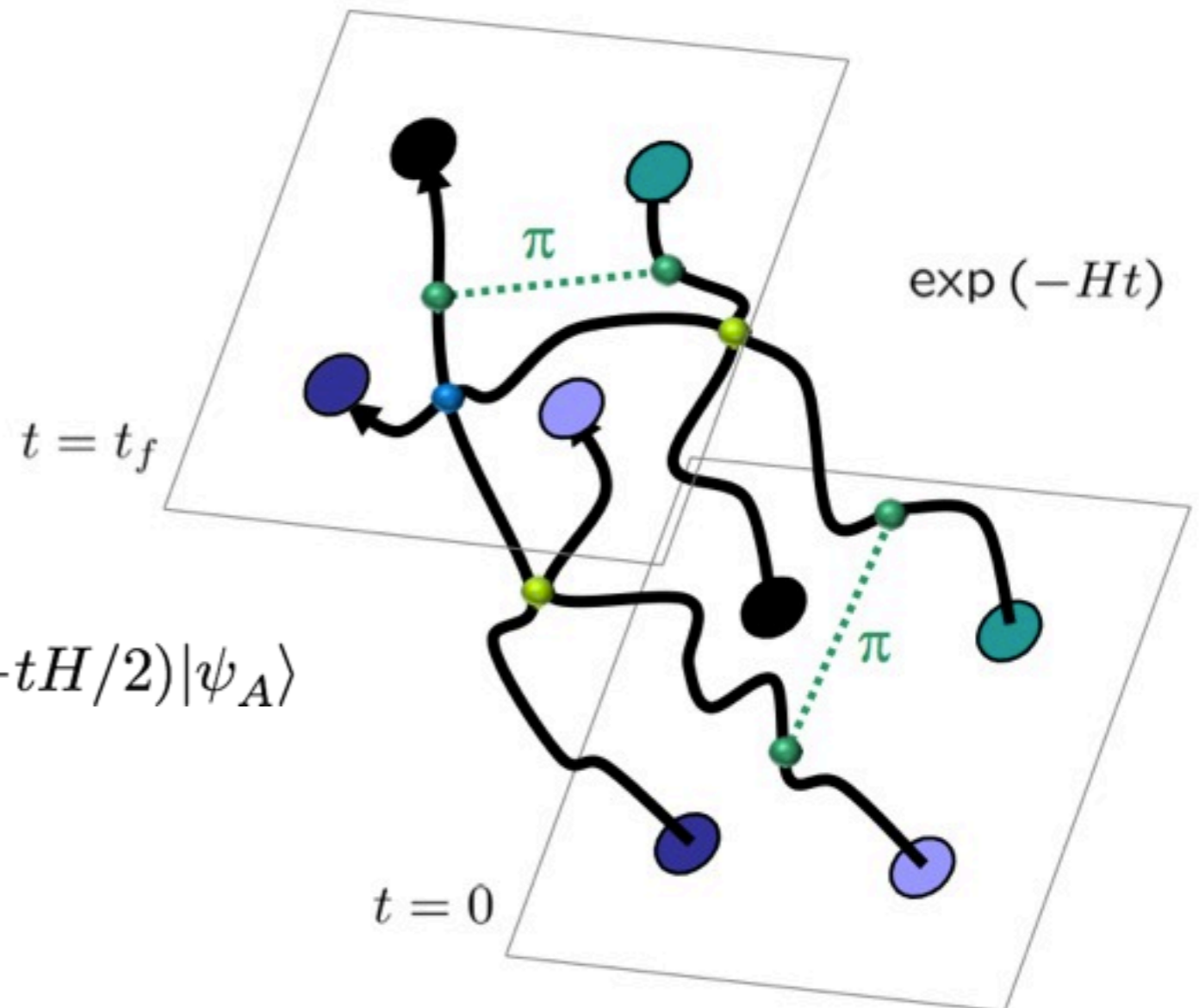
Operator expectation values ...

$$Z_A^{\mathcal{O}}(t) = \langle \psi_A | \exp(-tH/2) \mathcal{O} \exp(-tH/2) | \psi_A \rangle$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{Z_A^{\mathcal{O}}(t)}{Z_A(t)} = \langle \psi_A | \mathcal{O} | \psi_A \rangle$$

Choice of trial wavefunction:

- Standing waves
- Alpha clusters
- Shell model wavefunctions

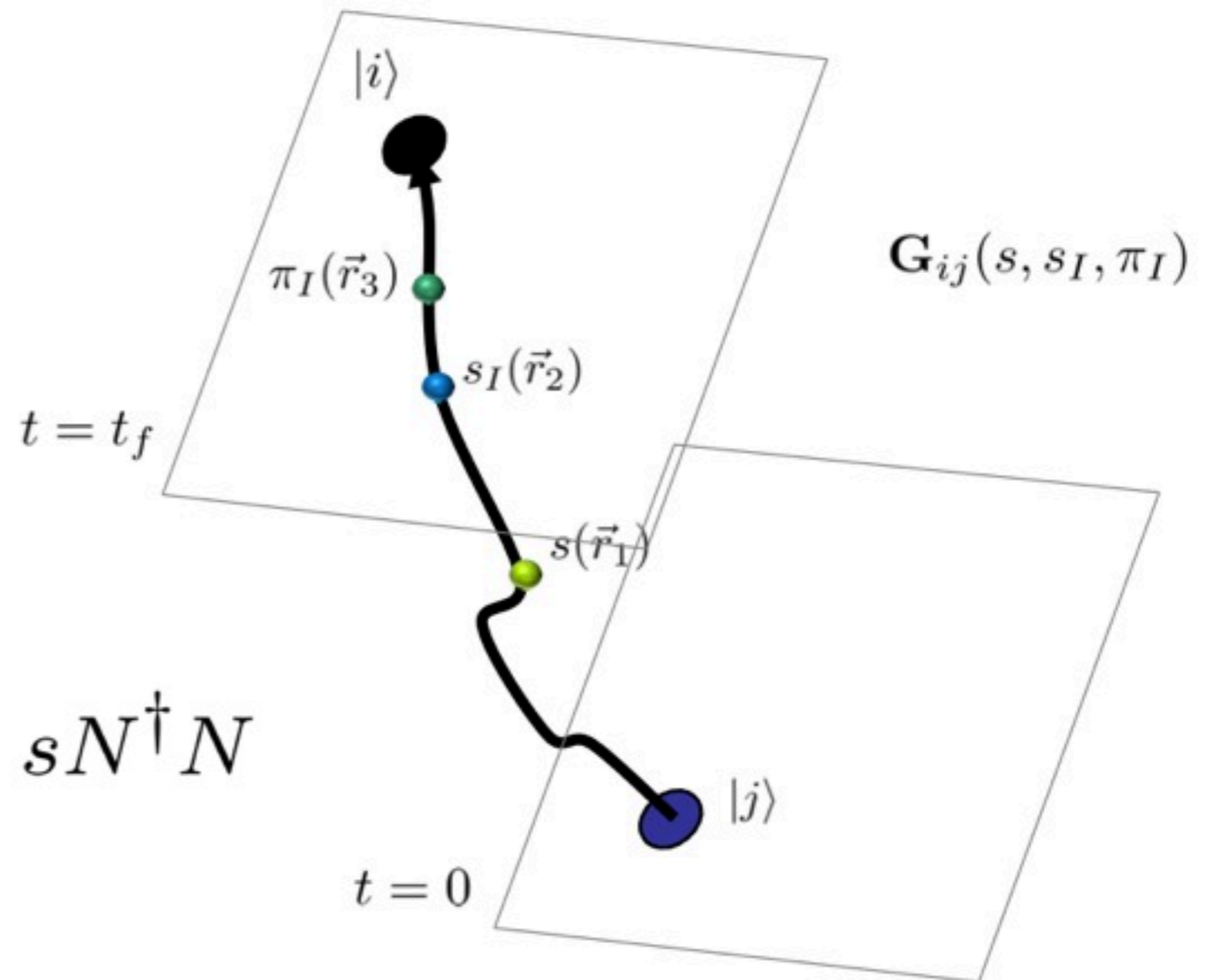
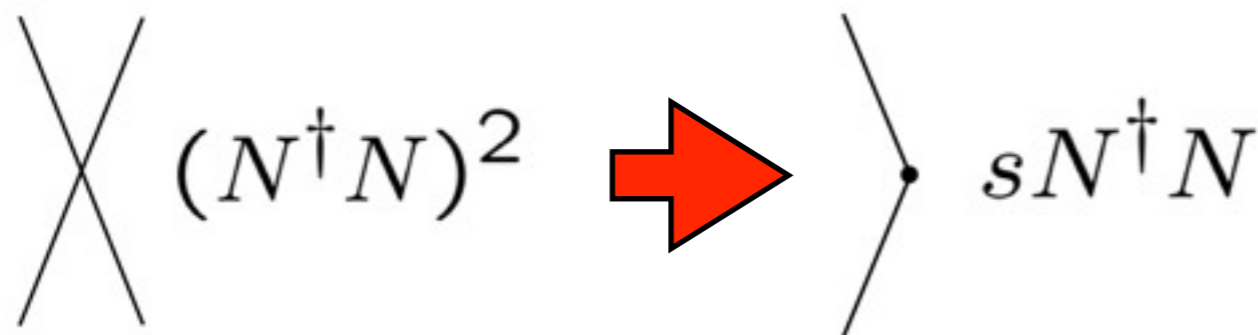


# Decoupling of nucleon-nucleon interactions

Hubbard-Stratonovich transformation ...

$$\exp \left[ -\frac{C}{2} (N^\dagger N)^2 \right] = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} ds \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} s^2 + \sqrt{-C} s (N^\dagger N) \right]$$

Replace interactions between nucleons with interactions of each nucleus with a background field



# Auxiliary Field Quantum Monte Carlo (AFQMC)

Discretized Euclidean time evolution ...

$$\boxed{\text{light blue}} = M_{\text{LO}} \quad \boxed{\text{white}} = M_{\text{approx}} \quad \boxed{\text{yellow}} = O_{\text{observable}}$$

sign problem  
(not too severe)

positive definite  
strength can be varied

Hybrid Monte Carlo sampling

$$Z_{n_t, \text{LO}} = \langle \psi_{\text{init}} | \boxed{\text{white}} \boxed{\text{light blue}} \boxed{\text{white}} | \psi_{\text{init}} \rangle$$

$$Z_{n_t, \text{LO}}^{\langle O \rangle} = \langle \psi_{\text{init}} | \boxed{\text{white}} \boxed{\text{light blue}} \boxed{\text{yellow}} \boxed{\text{light blue}} \boxed{\text{white}} | \psi_{\text{init}} \rangle$$

$$e^{-E_{0, \text{LO}} a_t} = \lim_{n_t \rightarrow \infty} Z_{n_t+1, \text{LO}} / Z_{n_t, \text{LO}}$$

$$\langle O \rangle_{0, \text{LO}} = \lim_{n_t \rightarrow \infty} Z_{n_t, \text{LO}}^{\langle O \rangle} / Z_{n_t, \text{LO}}$$

*For a thorough review, see:  
Lee, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 63 (2009) 179*



## AFQMC + Hybrid Monte Carlo

Substantial investment of supercomputing time ...

### CPU time allocations:

- JUQUEEN (FZ Jülich), 30 Mcore-h (project) + > 100 Mcore-h (institutional)
- RWTH cluster (Aachen), 1.3 Mcore-h (project) + "free CPU time" (long queue)

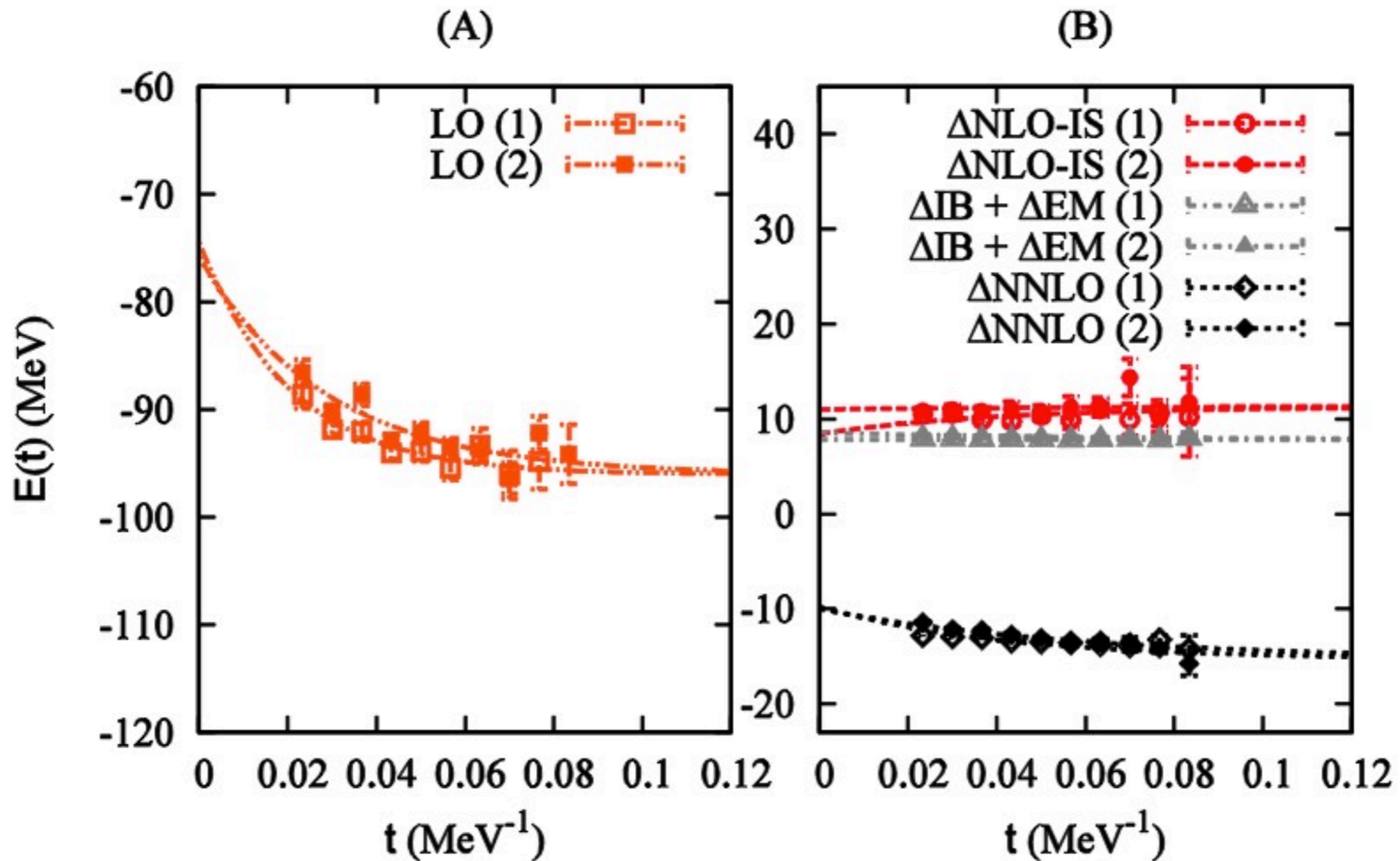


*Figure courtesy of Jülich  
Supercomputer Centre (JSC)*

# AFQMC results for $^{12}\text{C}$ (ground state)

Improved NNLO interaction ...

$a = 1.97$  fm



*Epelbaum, Krebs, D.L, Meißner, PRL 106 (2011) 192501*

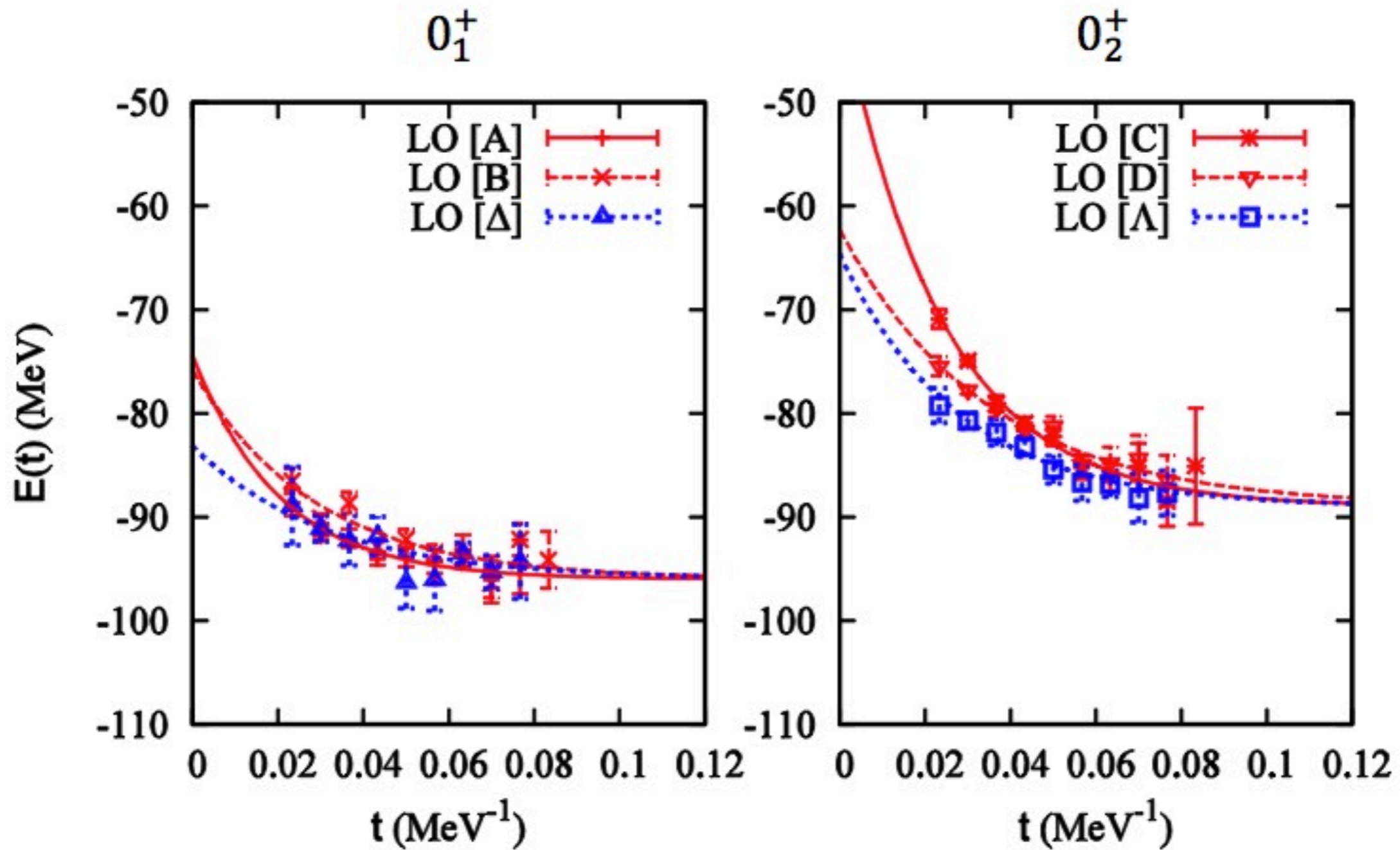
*Epelbaum, Krebs, Lähde, D.L, Meißner, PRL 109 (2012) 252501*



# AFQMC - ground and Hoyle states of $^{12}\text{C}$

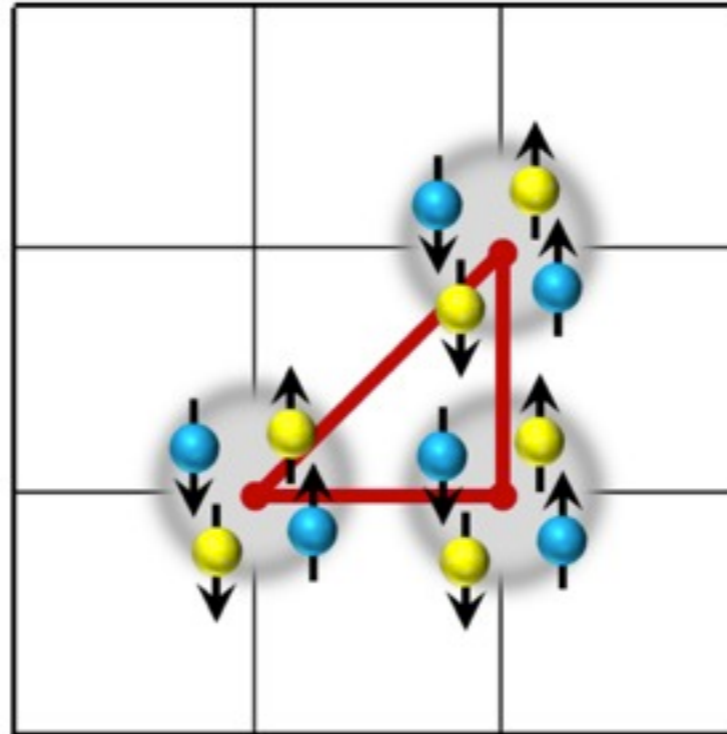
Multiple trial wavefunctions ...

$a = 1.97$  fm



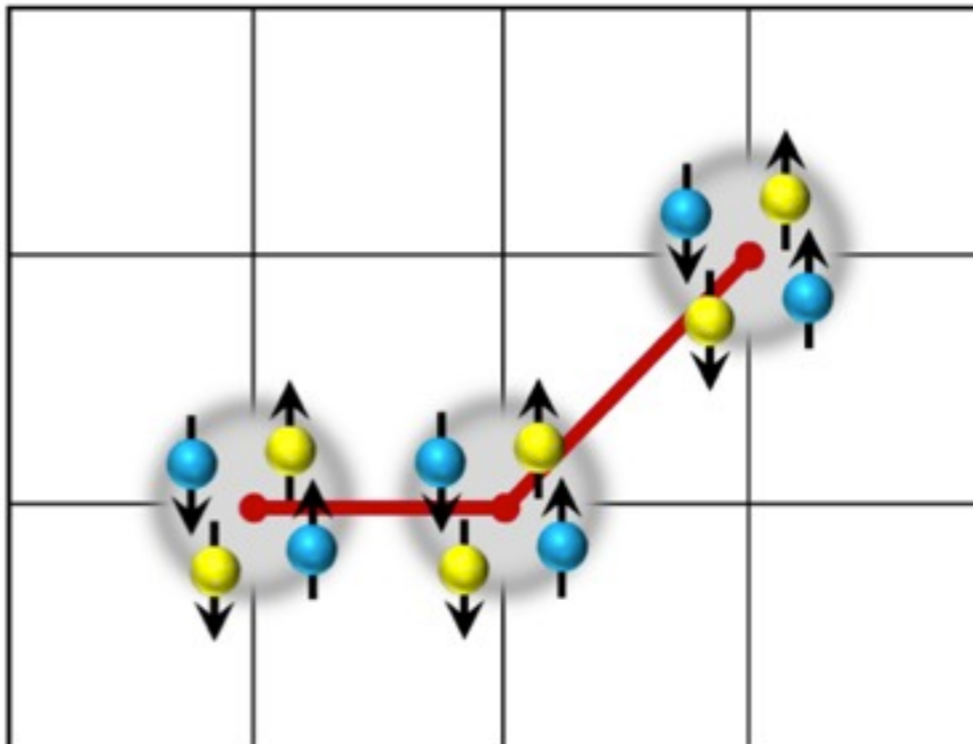
# Alpha cluster structure of $^{12}\text{C}$ ...

Ground state



**12 rotational orientations**

Hoyle state



**24 rotational orientations**

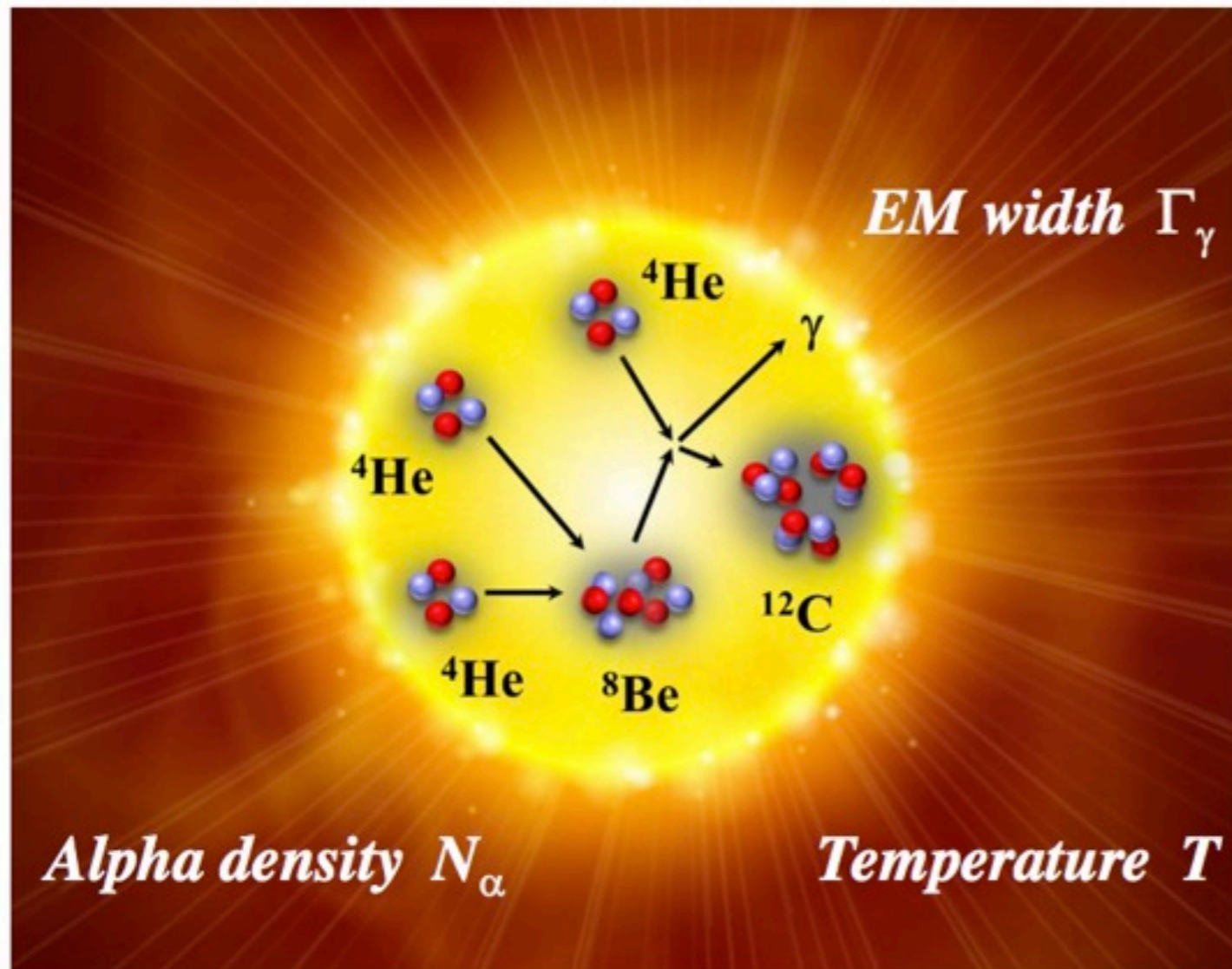


# Production of $^{12}\text{C}$ in red giant stars

Resonant production via  $^8\text{Be}$  and Hoyle state ...

$$r_{3\alpha} = 3^{\frac{3}{2}} N_{\alpha}^3 \left( \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{M_{\alpha}k_{\text{B}}T} \right)^3 \frac{\Gamma_{\gamma}}{\hbar} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta E_{h+b}}{k_{\text{B}}T}\right)$$

Is the Universe  
fine-tuned?



Energy of Hoyle state in  $^{12}\text{C}$   
relative to triple alpha

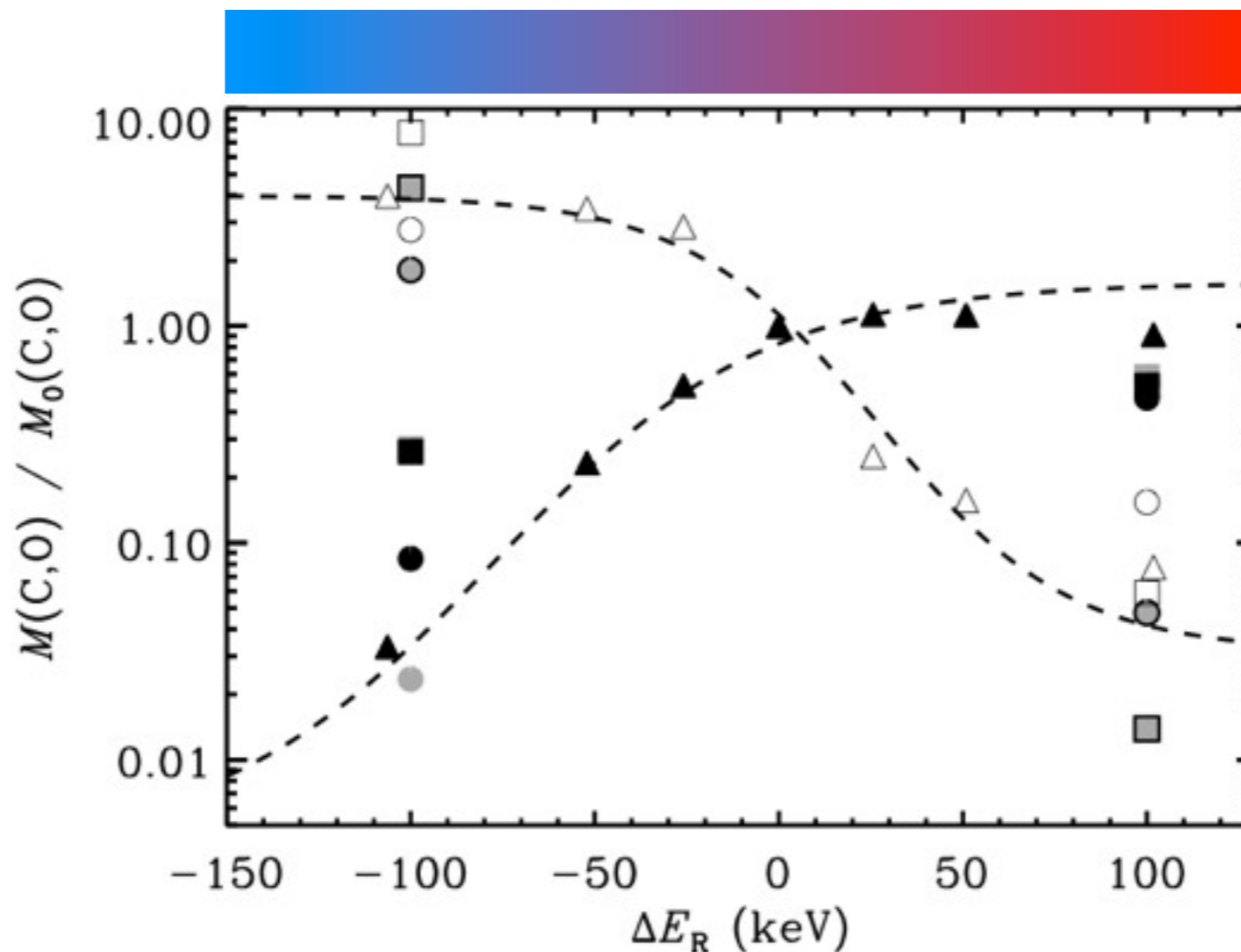
$$\Delta E_b + \Delta E_h = E_{12}^* - 3E_4$$

Experiment: 379.47  
 $\pm 0.18$  keV

# What if the Hoyle state is moved?

## Calculations of stellar nucleosynthesis ...

Very little  
 $^{16}\text{O}$  produced:  
 $^{12}\text{C} + ^4\text{He} \rightarrow ^{16}\text{O}$   
 too inefficient



All  $^{12}\text{C}$   
 converted to  $^{16}\text{O}$ :  
 $^{12}\text{C} + ^4\text{He} \rightarrow ^{16}\text{O}$   
 too efficient

*Schlattl et al., Astrophys. Space Sci. 291, 27-56 (2004)*

$$|\delta(\Delta E_{h+b})| < 100 \text{ keV}$$

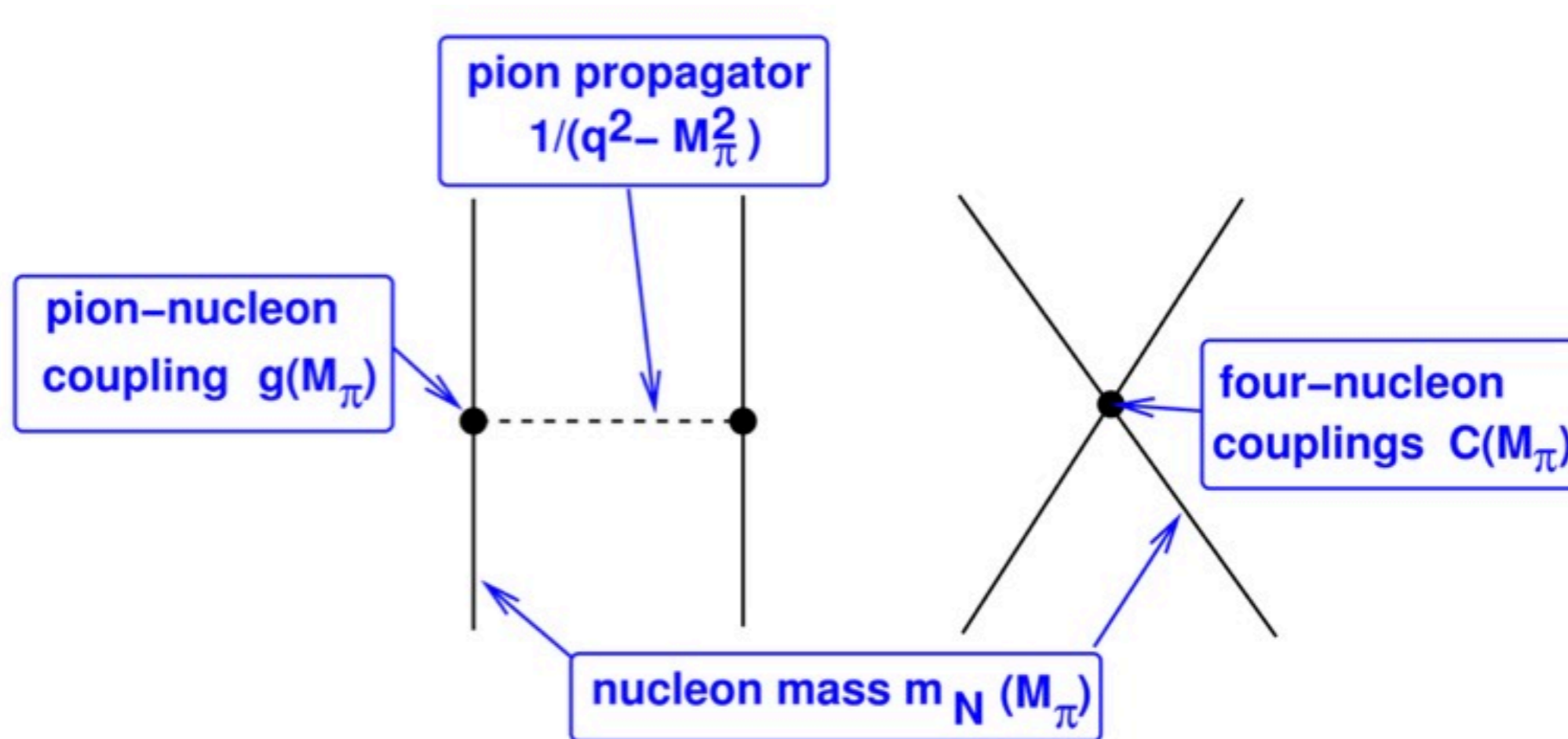
Anthropic bound on (ad hoc)  
 variation of the Hoyle state

# More fundamental description - Chiral EFT

Sources of quark mass dependence ...

ChPT:

$$m_{\pi^\pm}^2 \sim (m_u + m_d)$$



*Figure courtesy of U.-G. Meißner*

# AFQMC calculation for ${}^4\text{He}$ , ${}^8\text{Be}$ and ${}^{12}\text{C}$ ...

$$E_i = E_i(\tilde{M}_\pi, m_N(M_\pi), \tilde{g}_{\pi N}(M_\pi), C_0(M_\pi), C_I(M_\pi))$$




$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{\partial E_i}{\partial M_\pi} \right|_{M_\pi^{\text{ph}}} &= \underbrace{\left. \frac{\partial E_i}{\partial \tilde{M}_\pi} \right|_{M_\pi^{\text{ph}}}}_{\text{AFQMC}} + \underbrace{x_1}_{\text{ChPT, Lattice QCD}} \underbrace{\left. \frac{\partial E_i}{\partial m_N} \right|_{m_N^{\text{ph}}}}_{\text{AFQMC}} + \underbrace{x_2}_{\text{ChPT, Lattice QCD}} \underbrace{\left. \frac{\partial E_i}{\partial \tilde{g}_{\pi N}} \right|_{\tilde{g}_{\pi N}^{\text{ph}}}}_{\text{AFQMC}} \\ &\quad + \underbrace{x_3}_{\text{Two-nucleon scattering}} \underbrace{\left. \frac{\partial E_i}{\partial C_0} \right|_{C_0^{\text{ph}}}}_{\text{AFQMC}} + \underbrace{x_4}_{\text{Two-nucleon scattering}} \underbrace{\left. \frac{\partial E_i}{\partial C_I} \right|_{C_I^{\text{ph}}}}_{\text{AFQMC}} \end{aligned}$$

Small shifts around  
the physical point

$$x_1 := \left. \frac{\partial m_N}{\partial M_\pi} \right|_{M_\pi^{\text{ph}}}$$

$$x_2 := \left. \frac{\partial \tilde{g}_{\pi N}}{\partial M_\pi} \right|_{M_\pi^{\text{ph}}} = \frac{1}{2F_\pi} \left. \frac{\partial g_A}{\partial M_\pi} \right|_{M_\pi^{\text{ph}}} - \frac{g_A}{2F_\pi^2} \left. \frac{\partial F_\pi}{\partial M_\pi} \right|_{M_\pi^{\text{ph}}}$$

$$x_3 := \left. \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial M_\pi} \right|_{M_\pi^{\text{ph}}}, \quad x_4 := \left. \frac{\partial C_I}{\partial M_\pi} \right|_{M_\pi^{\text{ph}}}$$

|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
|  | AFQMC<br>A = 4 - 12       |
|  | ChPT,<br>Lattice QCD      |
|  | Two-nucleon<br>scattering |



# Parameterization of the short-range terms

Lüscher formula ...

$$p \cot \delta = \frac{1}{\pi L} S(\eta) \approx -\frac{1}{a}, \quad \eta := m_N E \left( \frac{L}{2\pi} \right)^2$$

$$\zeta_i := \frac{m_N L}{4\pi^3} S'(\eta_i)$$

$$q_i := \left. \frac{\partial E_i}{\partial C_0} \right|_{C_0^{\text{ph}}}$$

$$\bar{A} = \frac{\partial a^{-1}}{\partial M_\pi} = -\frac{1}{\pi L} S'(\eta) \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial M_\pi}$$

$$-\zeta_s^{-1} \bar{A}_s = \frac{\partial E_s}{\partial \tilde{M}_\pi} \Big|_{M_\pi^{\text{ph}}} + x_1 \frac{E_s}{m_N} + x_1 \frac{\partial E_s}{\partial m_N} \Big|_{m_N^{\text{ph}}}$$

$$+ x_2 \frac{\partial E_s}{\partial \tilde{g}_{\pi N}} \Big|_{\tilde{g}_{\pi N}^{\text{ph}}} + x_3 q_s + x_4 q_s,$$

$$-\zeta_t^{-1} \bar{A}_t = \frac{\partial E_t}{\partial \tilde{M}_\pi} \Big|_{M_\pi^{\text{ph}}} + x_1 \frac{E_t}{m_N} + x_1 \frac{\partial E_t}{\partial m_N} \Big|_{m_N^{\text{ph}}}$$

$$+ x_2 \frac{\partial E_t}{\partial \tilde{g}_{\pi N}} \Big|_{\tilde{g}_{\pi N}^{\text{ph}}} + x_3 q_t - 3x_4 q_t,$$

— Two-nucleon  
problem  
(no AFQMC)

— Theory (ChPT)  
+ Lattice QCD

**$^4\text{He}$**

$$\left. \frac{\partial E_4}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} = -0.339(5) \left. \frac{\partial a_s^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} - 0.697(4) \left. \frac{\partial a_t^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} + 0.0380(14) \begin{matrix} +0.008 \\ -0.006 \end{matrix}$$

**$^8\text{Be}$**

$$\left. \frac{\partial E_8}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} = -0.794(32) \left. \frac{\partial a_s^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} - 1.584(23) \left. \frac{\partial a_t^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} + 0.089(9) \begin{matrix} +0.017 \\ -0.011 \end{matrix}$$

**$^{12}\text{C}$  (ground)**

$$\left. \frac{\partial E_{12}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} = -1.52(3) \left. \frac{\partial a_s^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} - 2.88(2) \left. \frac{\partial a_t^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} + 0.159(7) \begin{matrix} +0.023 \\ -0.018 \end{matrix}$$

**$^{12}\text{C}$  (Hoyle)**

$$\left. \frac{\partial E_{12}^*}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} = -1.588(11) \left. \frac{\partial a_s^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} - 3.025(8) \left. \frac{\partial a_t^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} + 0.178(4) \begin{matrix} +0.026 \\ -0.021 \end{matrix}$$

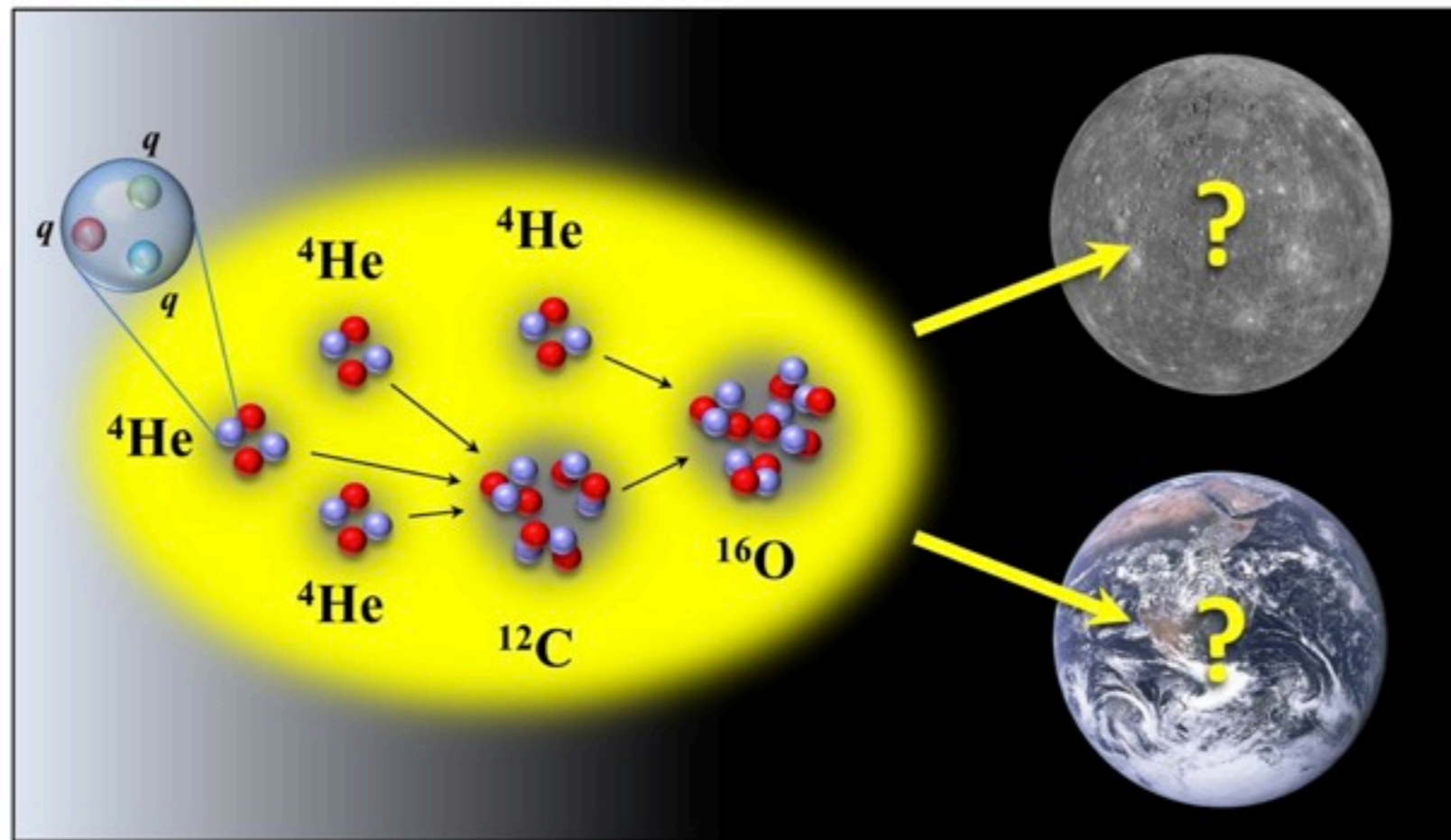
*Epelbaum, Krebs, Lähde, D.L, Meißner, PRL 110 (2013) 112502; ibid., arXiv:1303.4856*

*Berengut et al., Phys. Rev. D 87 (2013) 085018*

$$\left. \frac{\partial \Delta E_{h+b}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} = -0.572(19) \left. \frac{\partial a_s^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} - 0.933(15) \left. \frac{\partial a_t^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} + 0.064(6) \begin{matrix} +0.010 \\ -0.009 \end{matrix}$$

--> Viability of carbon-oxygen based life:  $|\delta(\Delta E_{h+b})| < 100 \text{ keV}$

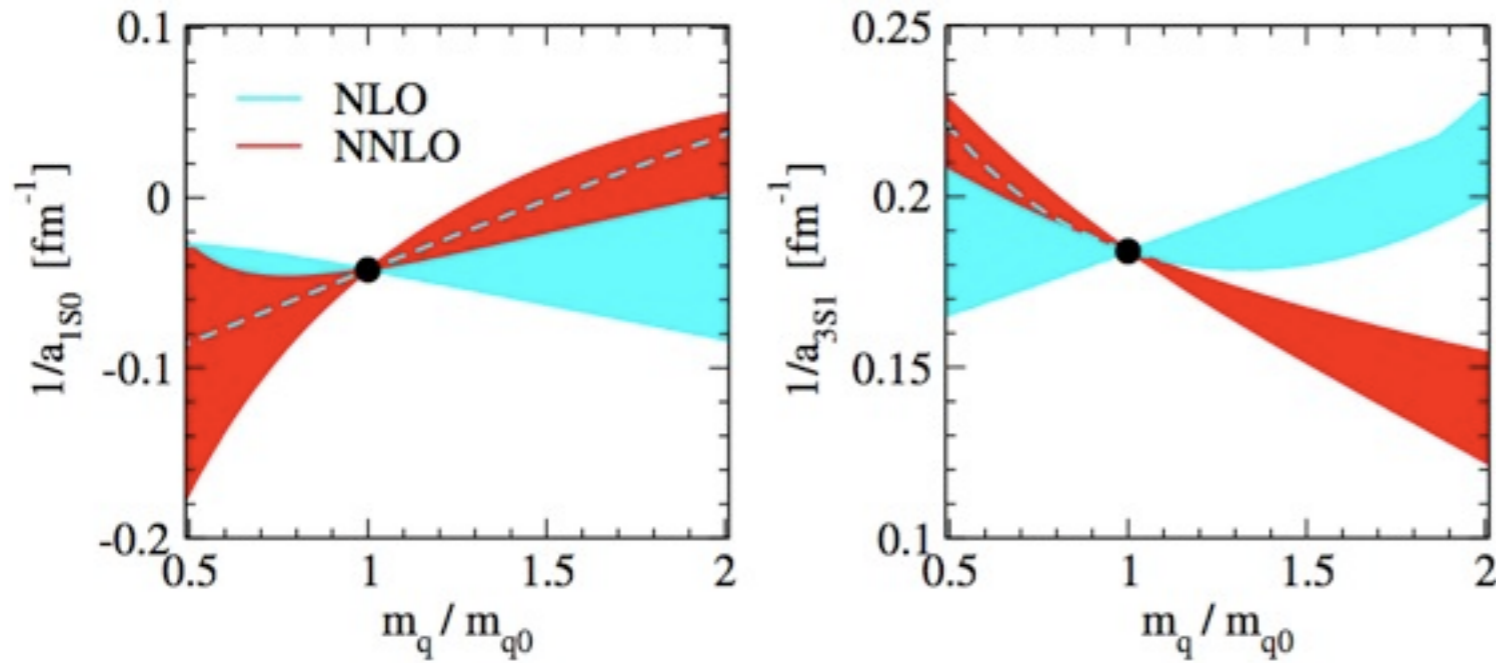
$$\left| \left[ 0.572(19) \bar{A}_s + 0.933(15) \bar{A}_t - 0.064(6) \right] \times \left( \frac{\delta m_q}{m_q} \right) \right| < 0.15\%$$



*Epelbaum, Krebs, Lähde, D.L, Meißner, PRL 110 (2013) 112502; ibid., arXiv:1303.4856*  
*Berengut et al., Phys. Rev. D 87 (2013) 085018*



# Current theoretical knowledge of the quark mass dependence of the S-wave scattering lengths ...



$$-\frac{\partial a_s^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \equiv \frac{A_s}{a_s m_\pi}, \quad A_s \equiv \frac{K_{a_s}^q}{K_\pi^q},$$

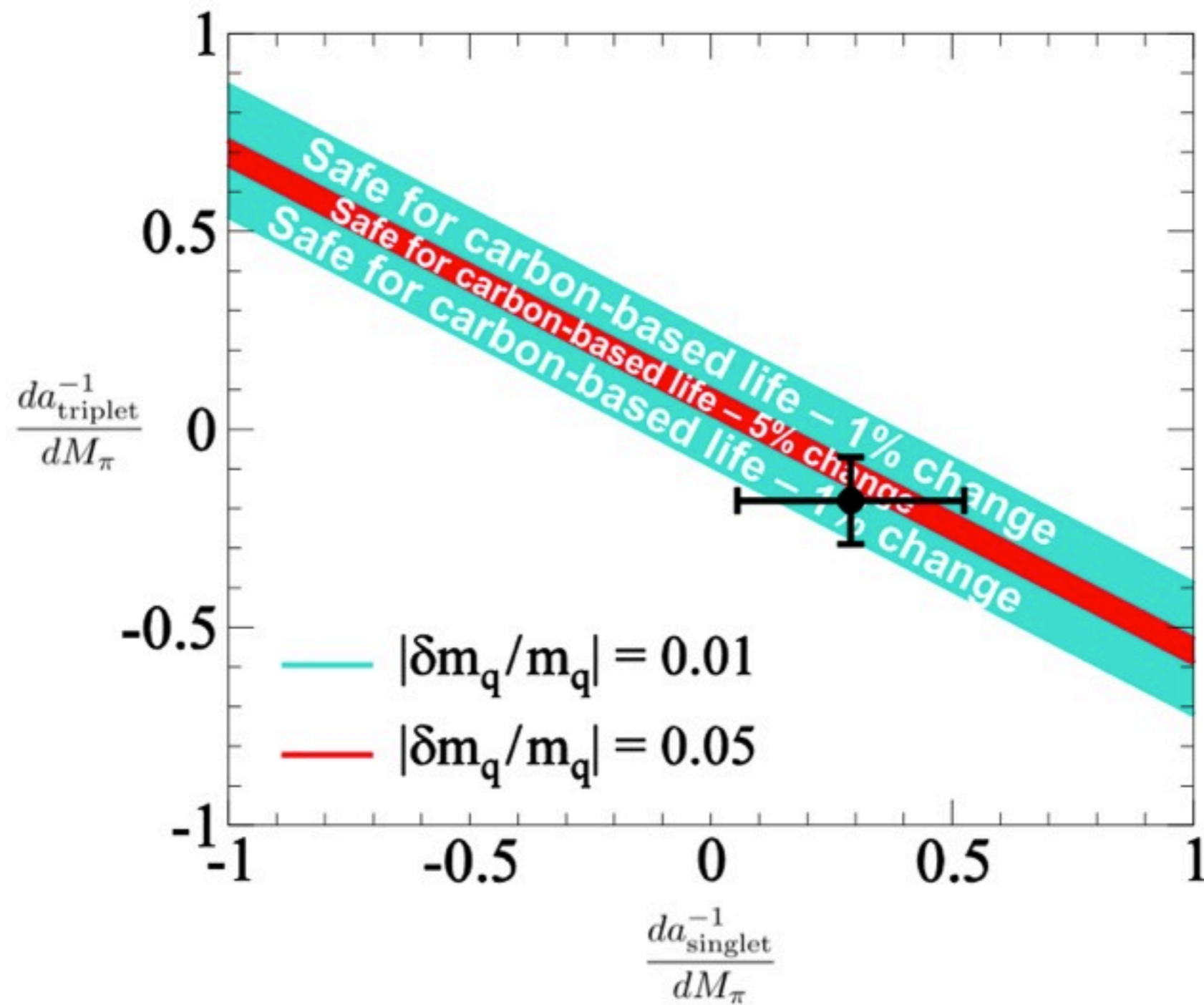
$$K_{a_s}^q = 2.3_{-1.8}^{+1.9}, \quad K_{a_t}^q = 0.32_{-0.18}^{+0.17}$$

$$\bar{A}_t \equiv \left. \frac{\partial a_t^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} = \frac{-197.33 \text{ MeV fm}}{5.4 \text{ fm} \times 134.98 \text{ MeV}} \times \frac{0.32_{-0.18}^{+0.17}}{0.494_{-0.013}^{+0.009}} \simeq -0.18_{-0.10}^{+0.10}$$

$$\bar{A}_s \equiv \left. \frac{\partial a_s^{-1}}{\partial m_\pi} \right|_{m_\pi^{\text{phys}}} = \frac{-197.33 \text{ MeV fm}}{-23.8 \text{ fm} \times 134.98 \text{ MeV}} \times \frac{2.3_{-1.8}^{+1.9}}{0.494_{-0.013}^{+0.009}} \simeq 0.29_{-0.23}^{+0.25}$$



# The "end of the world" plot :)



*Epelbaum, Krebs, Lähde, Lee, Meißner,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 110 (2013) 112502; arXiv:1303.4856*

## Upcoming results

Spectra of Oxygen-16 and Neon-20

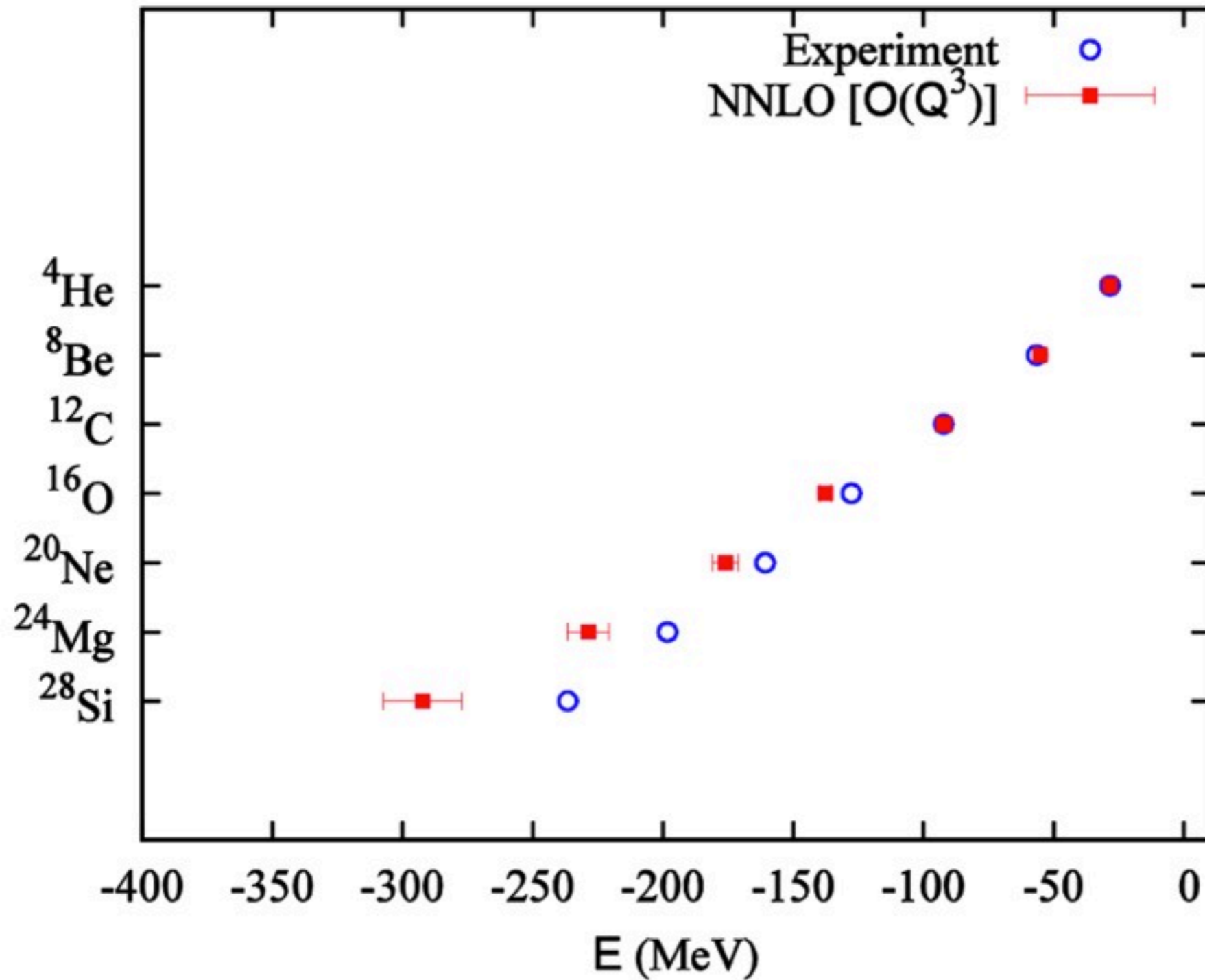
Extension of nuclear lattice EFT up to  $A = 28$

First AFQMC results for non-alpha-cluster nuclei

Extension of chiral NN interaction to N3LO

Effects of lattice spacing and finite volume

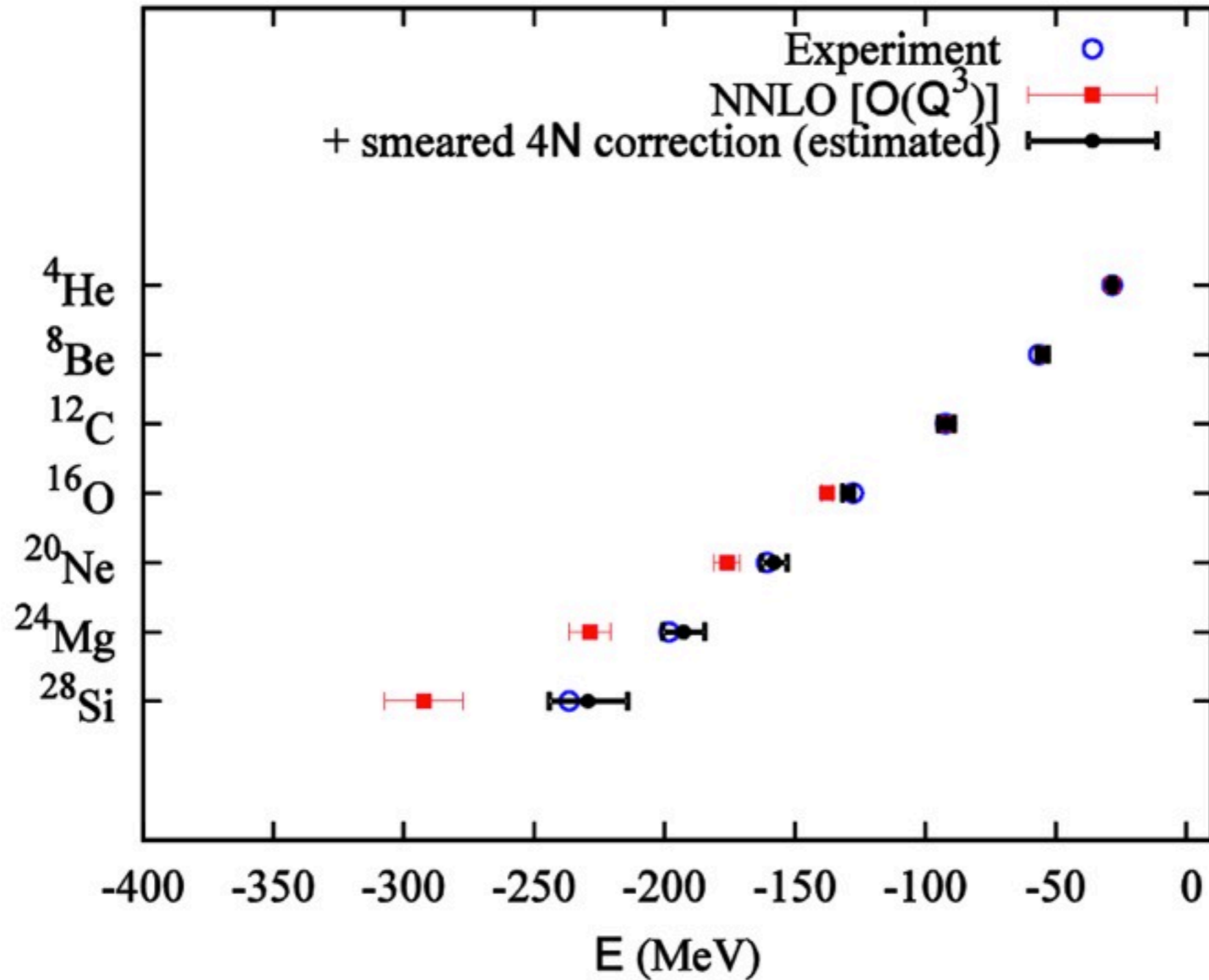
# Preliminary results for binding energies up to $A = 28$ ...



**Improved NNLO interaction  
(includes contact 4N correction)**



# Preliminary results for binding energies up to $A = 28$ ...



Improved NNLO interaction  
+ smeared 4N correction