

# Towards Nuclear Structure from Consistent Chiral NN+3N Interactions

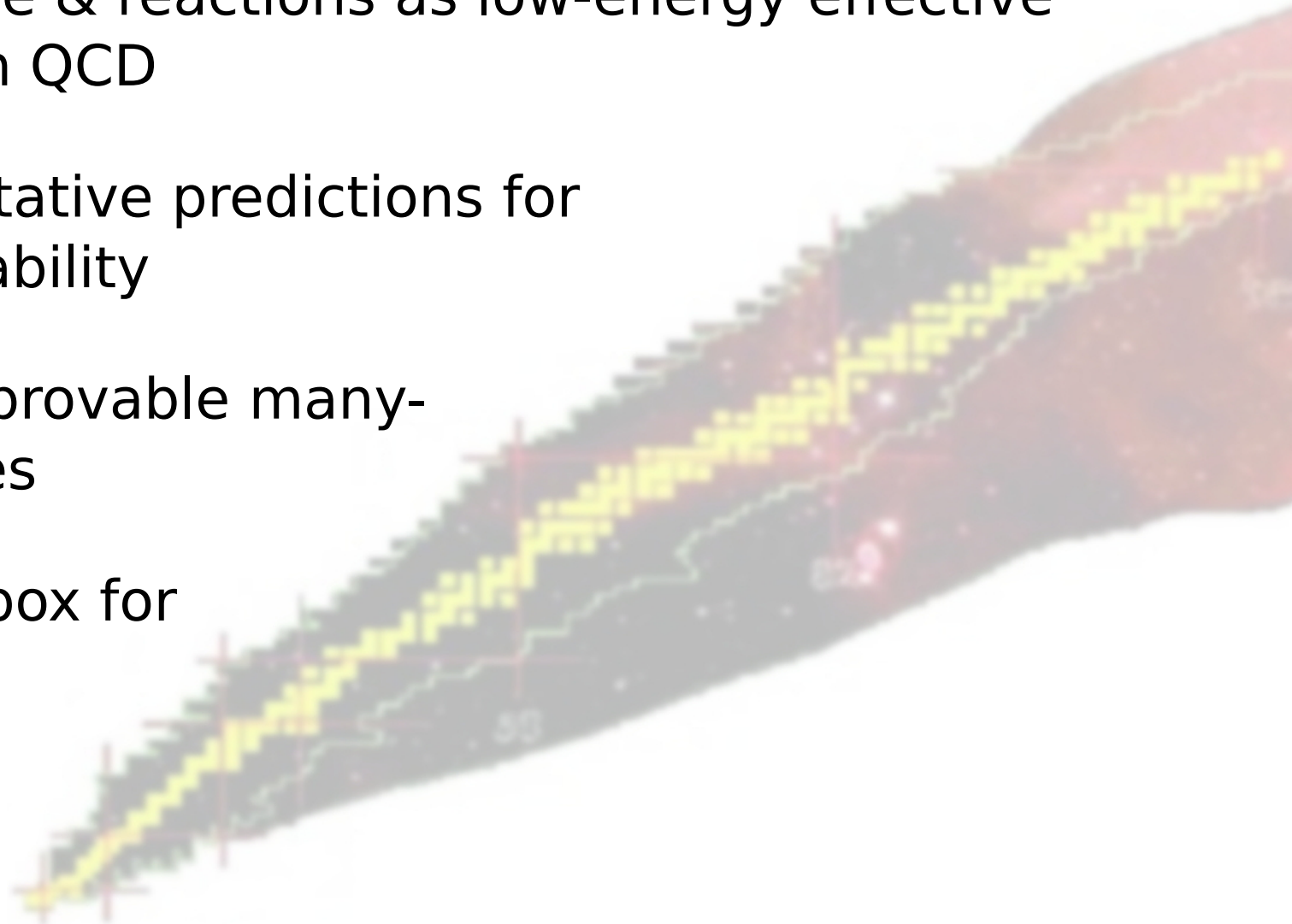
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UNIVERSITÄT  
DARMSTADT

# Nuclear Structure Theory — Wish List

- nuclear structure & reactions as low-energy effective theory based on QCD
- robust & quantitative predictions for nuclei far-off stability
- controlled & improvable many-body approaches
- theoretical toolbox for all masses and observables



# Ab Initio Nuclear Structure

## Nuclear Structure Observables

**Nuclear Lattice Sim.**

chiral EFT on lattice

**Exact Ab-Initio Solutions**

few-body et al.

**Exact Ab-Initio Solutions**

few-body, no-core shell model, etc.

**Approx. Many-Body Methods**

controlled & improvable schemes

**Similarity Transformations**

physics-conserving transform. of observables

**Chiral Interactions**

consistent & improvable NN, 3N,... interactions

**Energy-Density-Functional Theory**

guided by chiral EFT

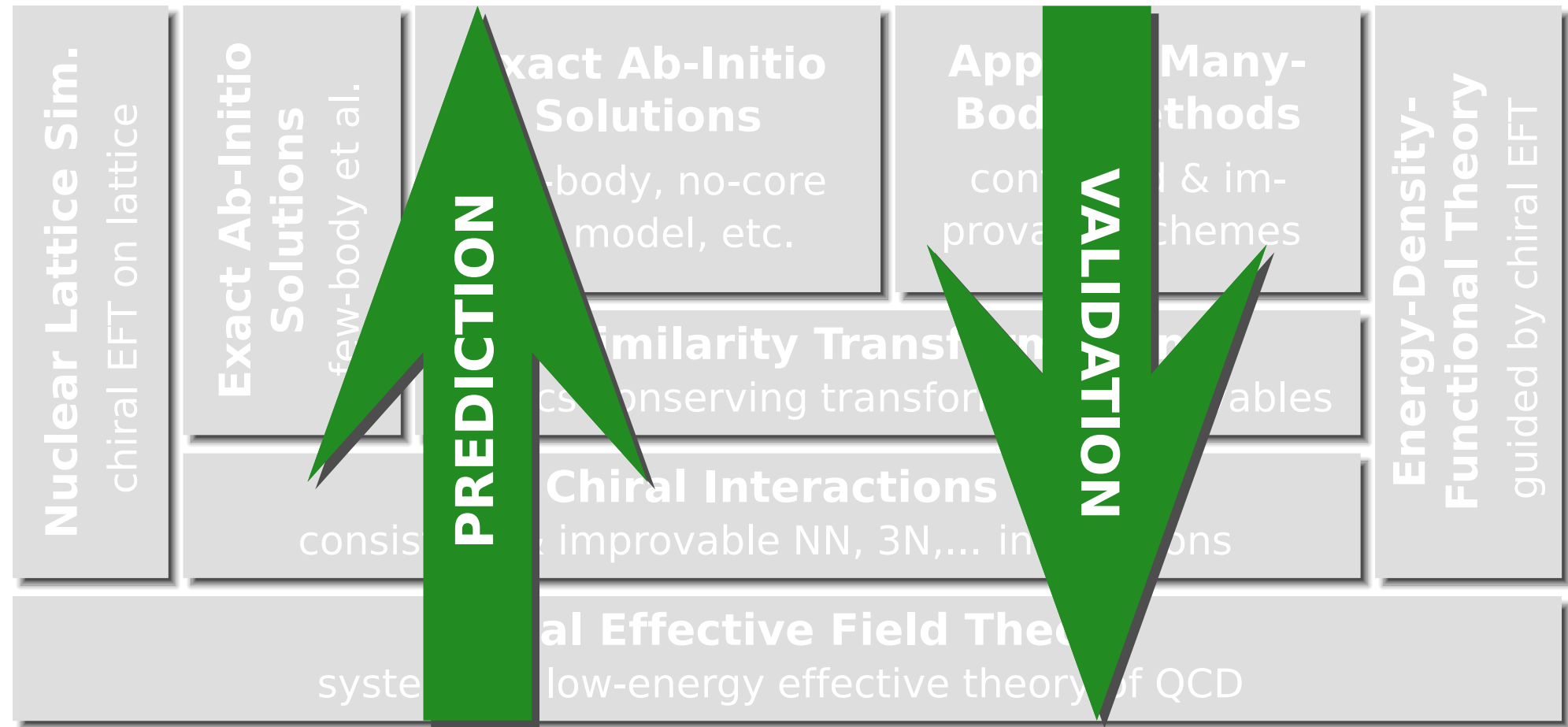
**Chiral Effective Field Theory**

systematic low-energy effective theory of QCD

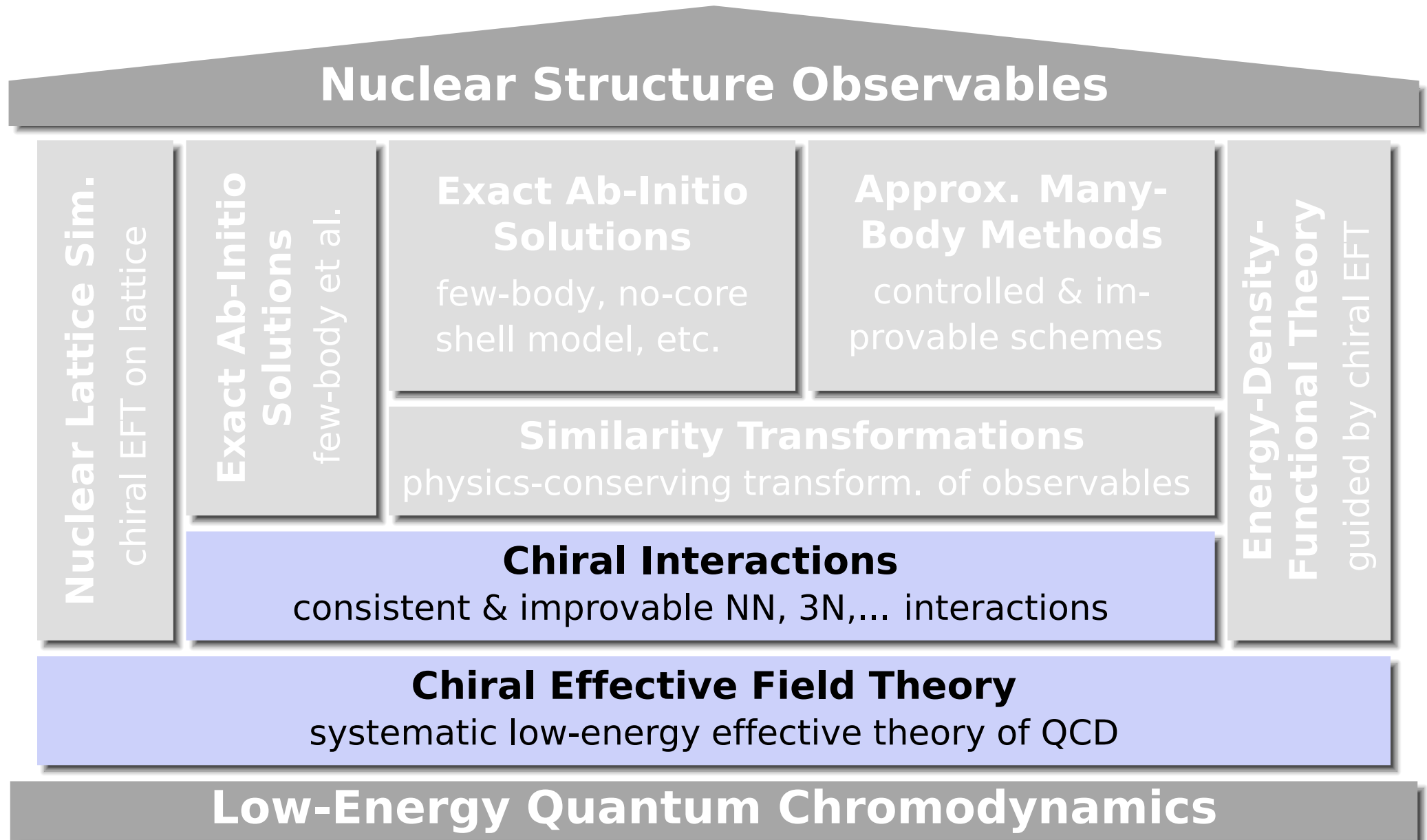
**Low-Energy Quantum Chromodynamics**

# Ab Initio Nuclear Structure

## Nuclear Structure Observables



# Ab Initio Nuclear Structure

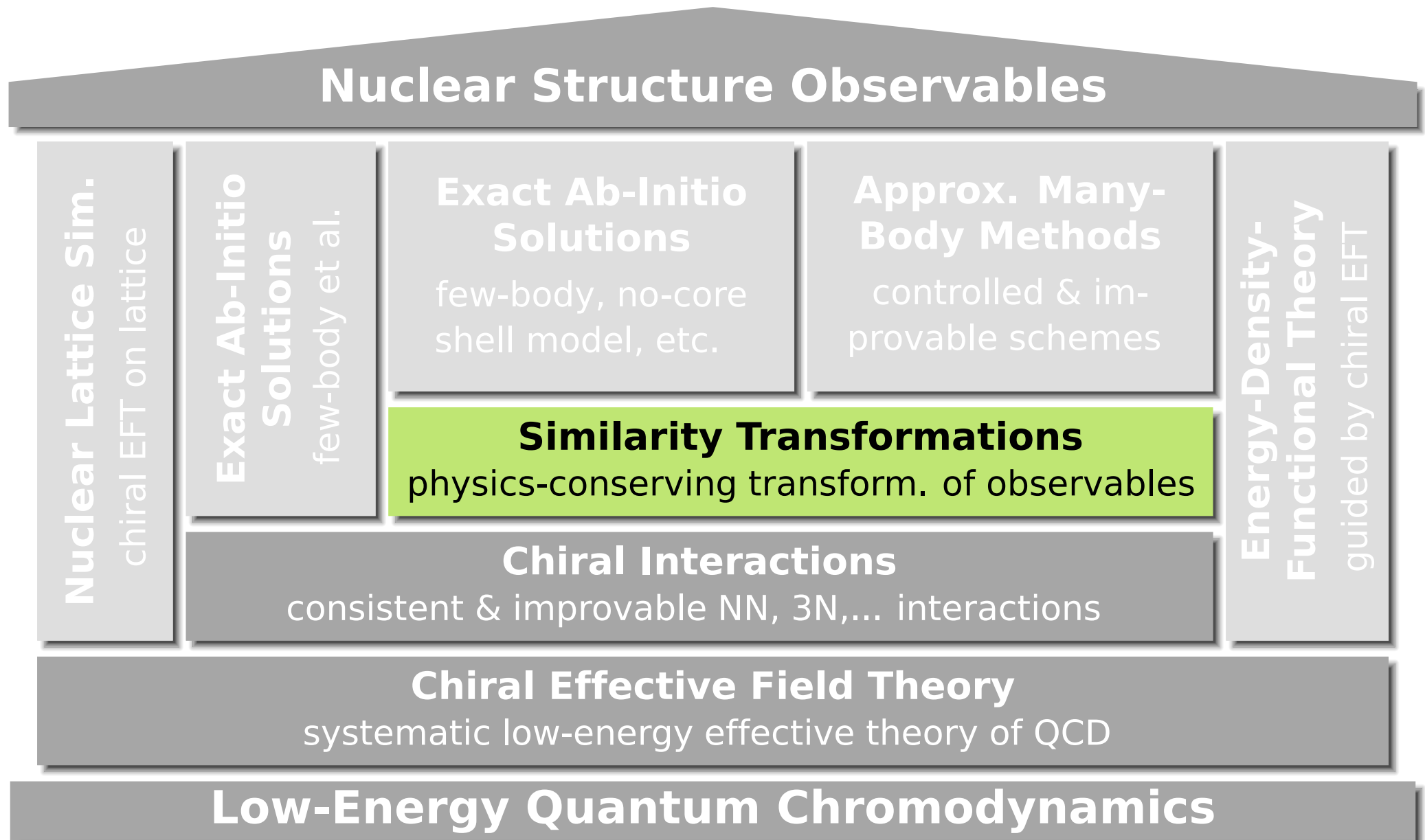


# Nuclear Interactions from Chiral EFT

- low-energy **effective field theory** for relevant degrees of freedom ( $\pi, N$ ) based on symmetries of QCD
- long-range **pion dynamics** explicitly
- short-range physics absorbed in **contact terms**, low-energy constants fitted to experiment ( $NN, \pi N, \dots$ )
- hierarchy of **consistent NN, 3N, ... interactions** (plus currents)
  - 3N interaction at  $N^3LO$
  - explicit inclusion of  $\Delta$ -resonance
  - formal issues: power counting, renormalization, cutoff choice, ...

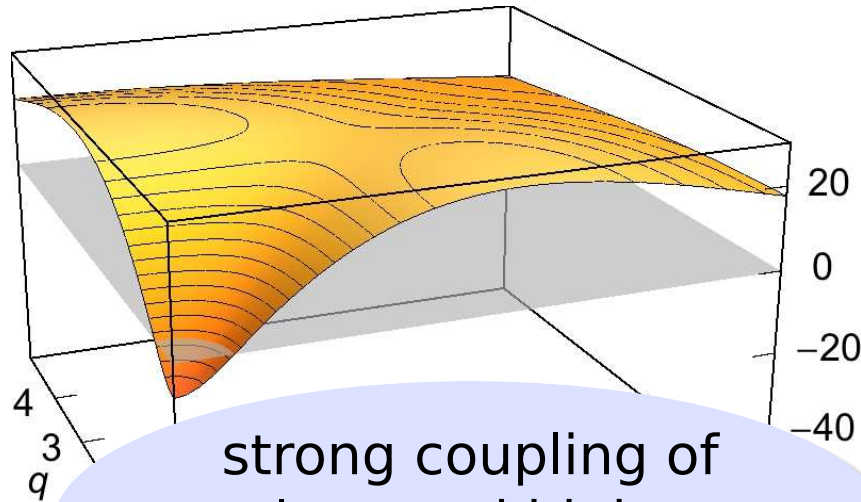
	NN	3N	4N
LO			
NLO			
N <sup>2</sup> LO			
N <sup>3</sup> LO			

# Ab Initio Nuclear Structure

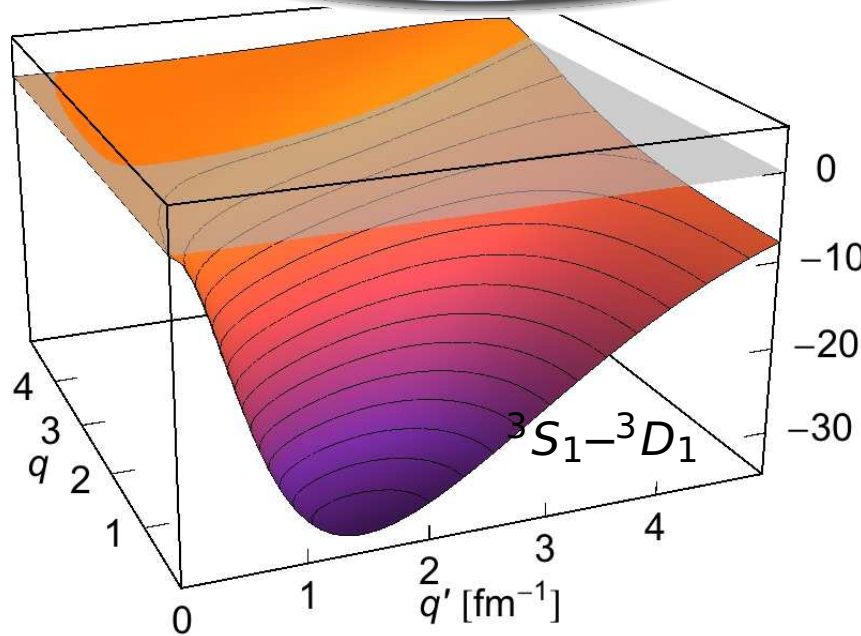


# Why Similarity Transformations?

momentum-space matrix elements



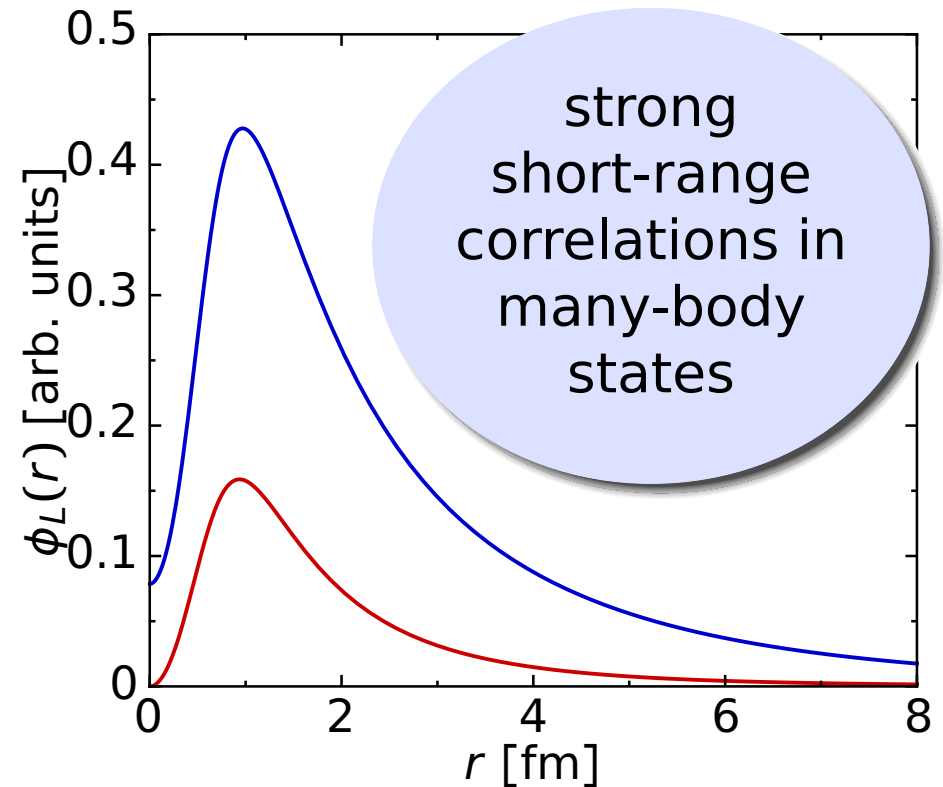
strong coupling of low- and high-momentum modes



Argonne V18

$$J^\pi = 1^+, T = 0$$

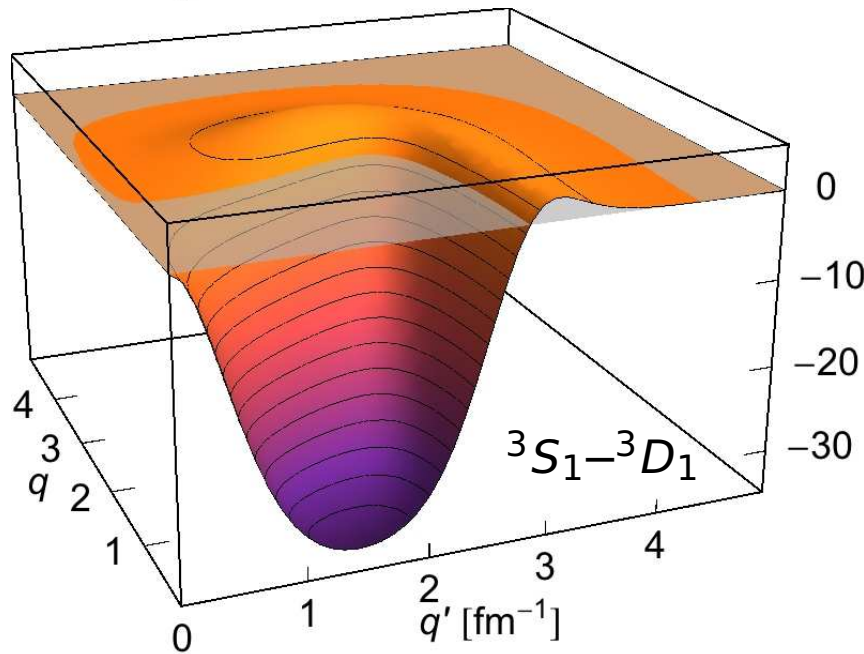
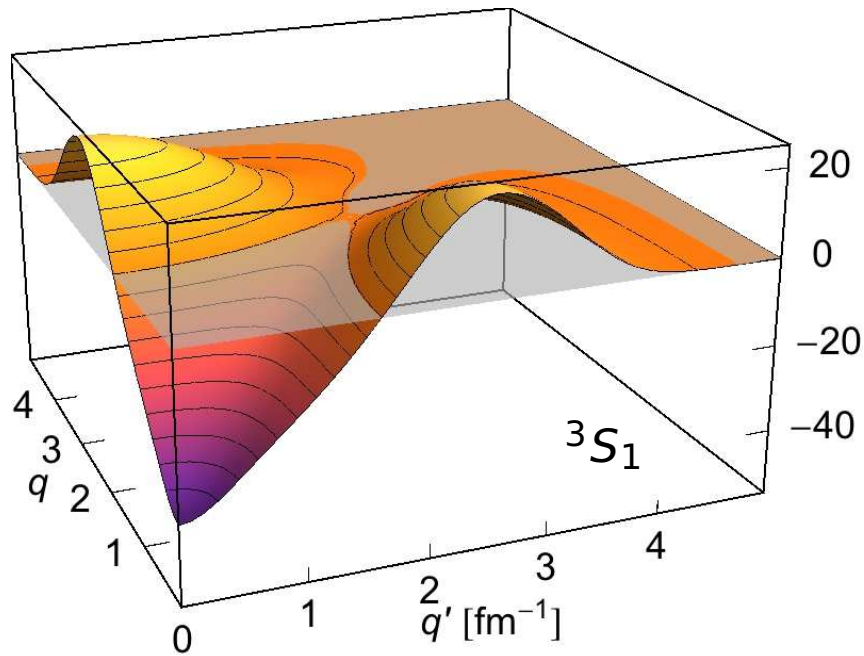
deuteron wave-function





# Why Similarity Transformations?

momentum-space matrix elements

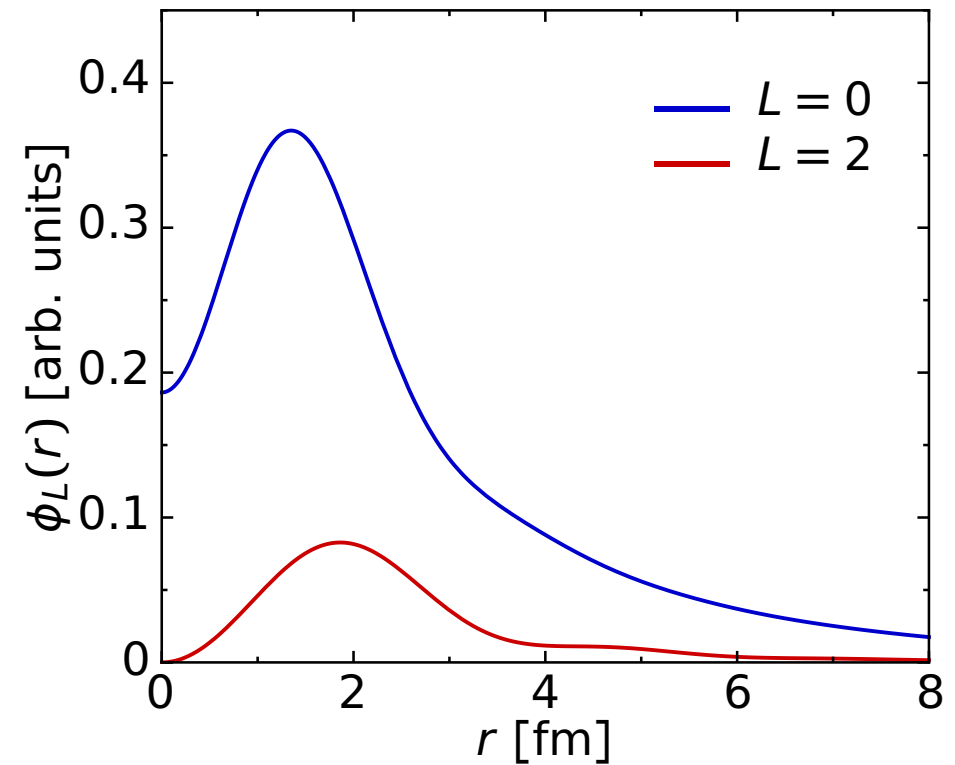


chiral  $N^3\text{LO}$

Entem & Machleidt, 500 MeV

$$J^\pi = 1^+, T = 0$$

deuteron wave-function



# Similarity Renormalization Group

continuous transformation driving  
**Hamiltonian to band-diagonal form**  
with respect to a chosen basis

- **unitary transformation** of Hamiltonian

$$\tilde{H}_\alpha = U_\alpha^\dagger H U_\alpha$$

simplicity and flexibility  
are great advantages of  
the SRG approach

- **evolution equations** for  $\tilde{H}_\alpha$  and  $U_\alpha$

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} \tilde{H}_\alpha = [\eta_\alpha, \tilde{H}_\alpha]$$

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} U_\alpha = \dots$$

other transformation  
approaches (UCOM,  $V_{lowk}$ )  
follow as special cases

- **dynamic generator**: commutator with the operator in whose eigenbasis  $H$  shall be diagonalized

$$\eta_\alpha = (2\mu)^2 [T_{int}, \tilde{H}_\alpha]$$

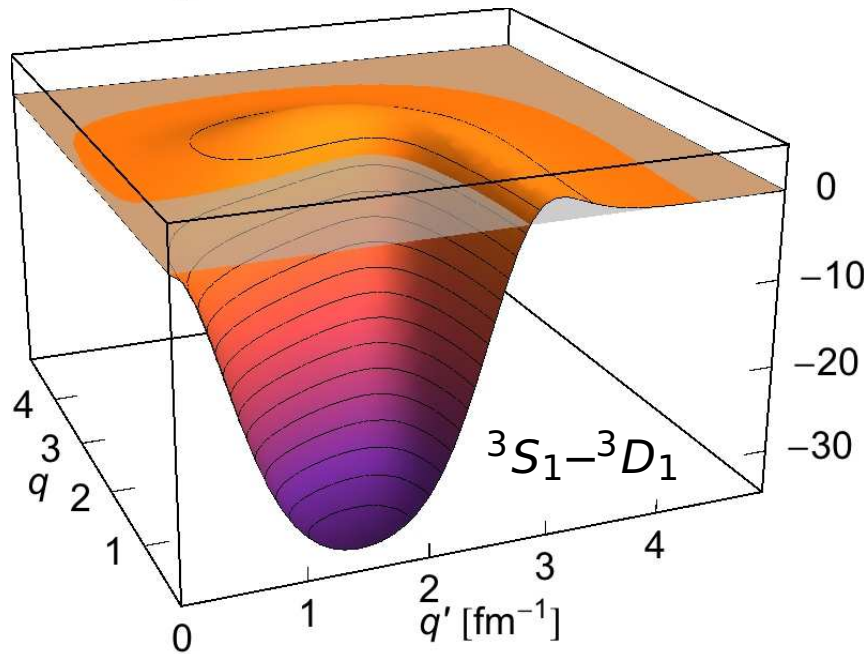
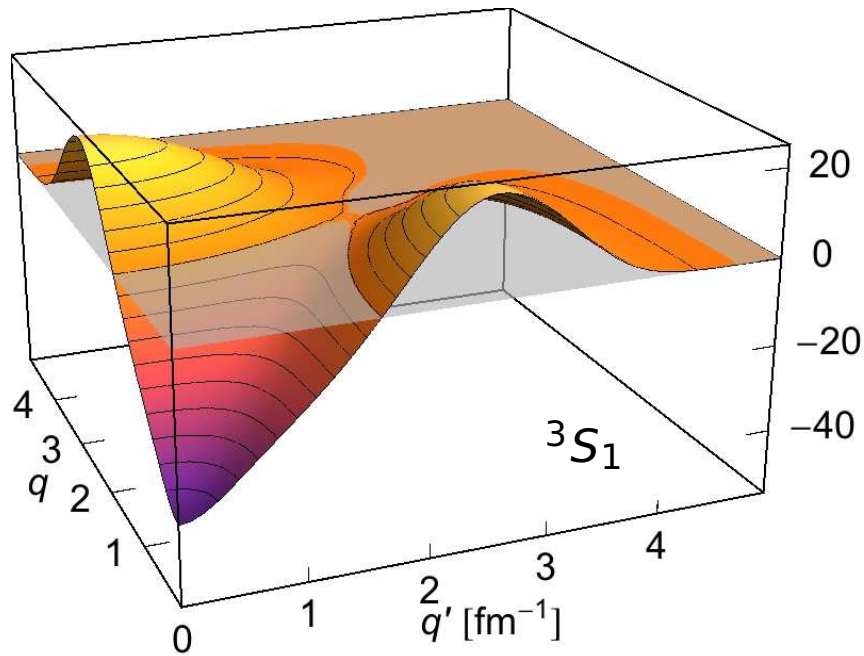
# SRG Evolution of Matrix Elements

- convert Fock-space operator equations into **coupled evolution equations for matrix elements** in  $n$ -body Hilbert space
- $n = 2$ : use **antisym. relative  $LS$ -coupled two-body states**
  - momentum space:  $|q(LS)JT\rangle$
  - harmonic oscillator:  $|n(LS)JT\rangle$
- system of **coupled evolution equations** for each  $J^\pi ST$ -block

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} \langle n(LS)JT | \tilde{H}_\alpha | n'(L'S)JT \rangle = (2\mu)^2 \sum_{n''L''} \sum_{n'''L'''} \left[ \begin{aligned} & \langle nL\dots | T_{\text{int}} | n''L''\dots \rangle \langle n''L''\dots | \tilde{H}_\alpha | n'''L'''\dots \rangle \langle n'''L'''\dots | \tilde{H}_\alpha | n'L'\dots \rangle \\ & - 2 \langle nL\dots | \tilde{H}_\alpha | n''L''\dots \rangle \langle n''L''\dots | T_{\text{int}} | n'''L'''\dots \rangle \langle n'''L'''\dots | \tilde{H}_\alpha | n'L'\dots \rangle \\ & + \langle nL\dots | \tilde{H}_\alpha | n''L''\dots \rangle \langle n''L''\dots | \tilde{H}_\alpha | n'''L'''\dots \rangle \langle n'''L'''\dots | T_{\text{int}} | n'L'\dots \rangle \end{aligned} \right]$$

# SRG Evolution in Two-Body Space

momentum-space matrix elements

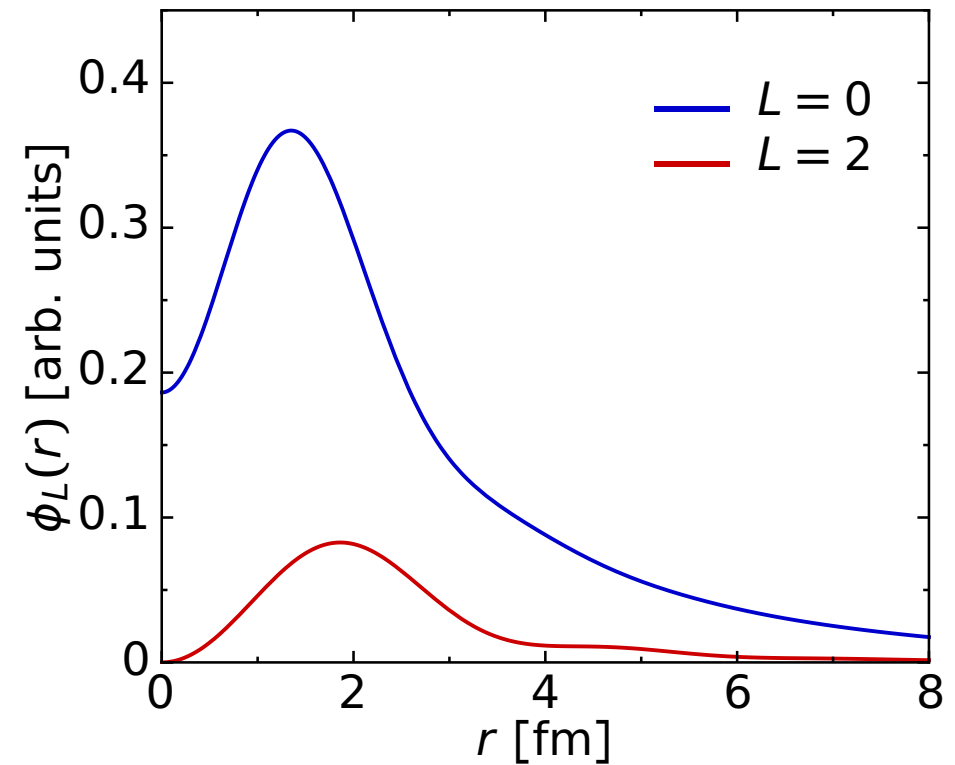


$$\alpha = 0.000 \text{ fm}^4$$

$$\Lambda = \infty \text{ fm}^{-1}$$

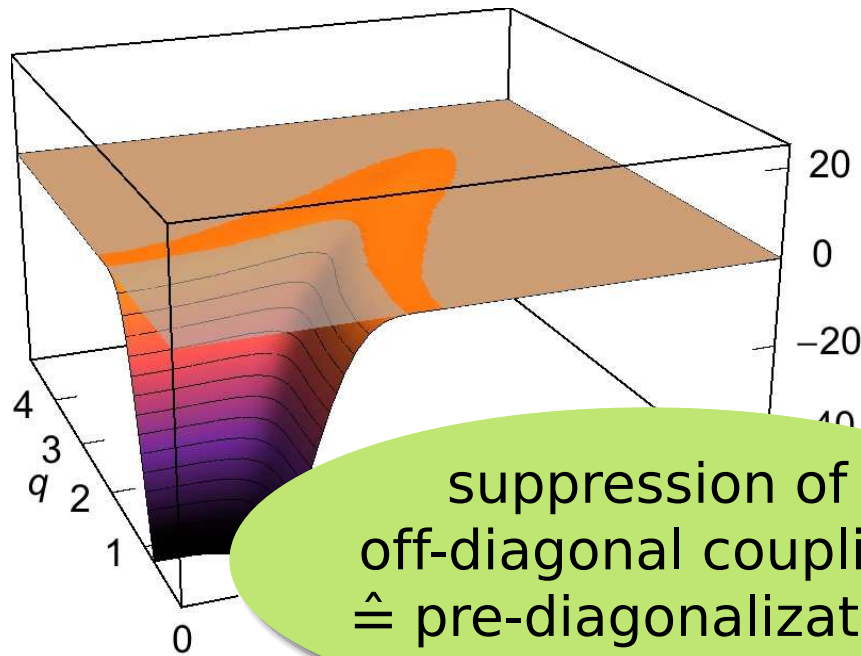
$$J^\pi = 1^+, T = 0$$

deuteron wave-function

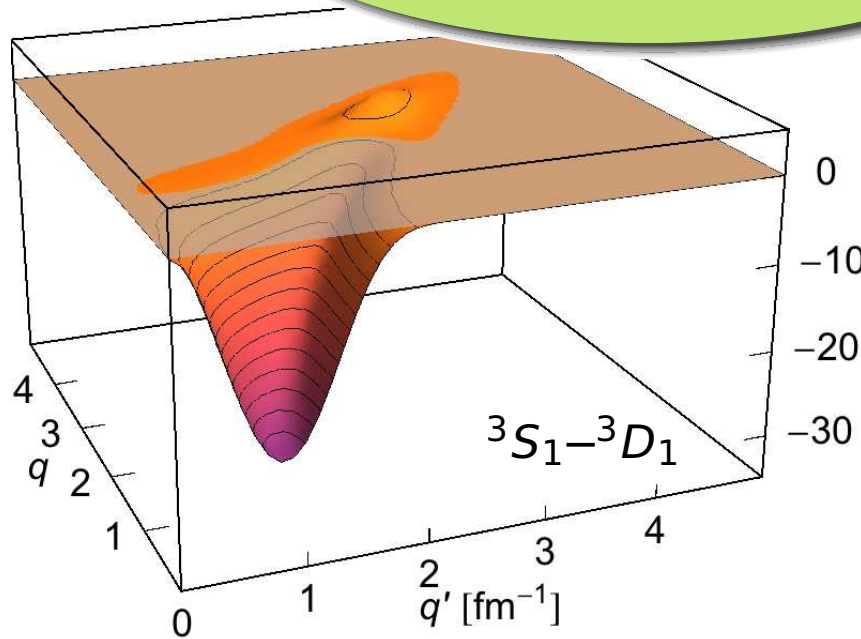


# SRG Evolution in Two-Body Space

momentum-space matrix elements



suppression of off-diagonal coupling  $\hat{=}$  pre-diagonalization

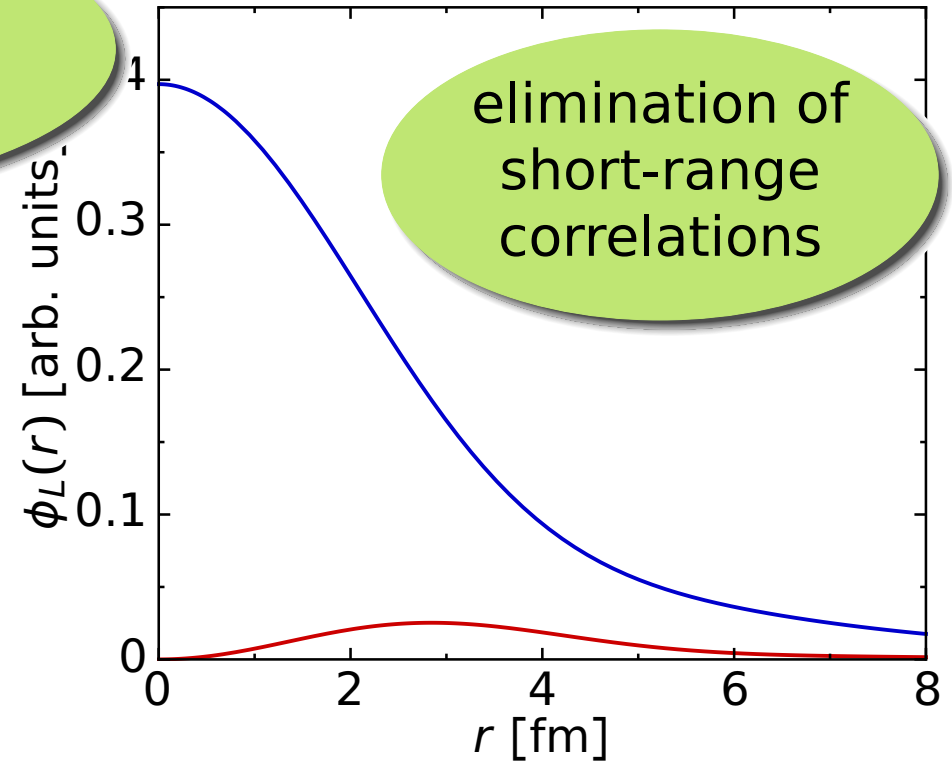


$$\alpha = 0.320 \text{ fm}^4$$

$$\Lambda = 1.33 \text{ fm}^{-1}$$

$$J^\pi = 1^+, T = 0$$

deuteron wave-function



elimination of short-range correlations

# SRG Evolution of Matrix Elements

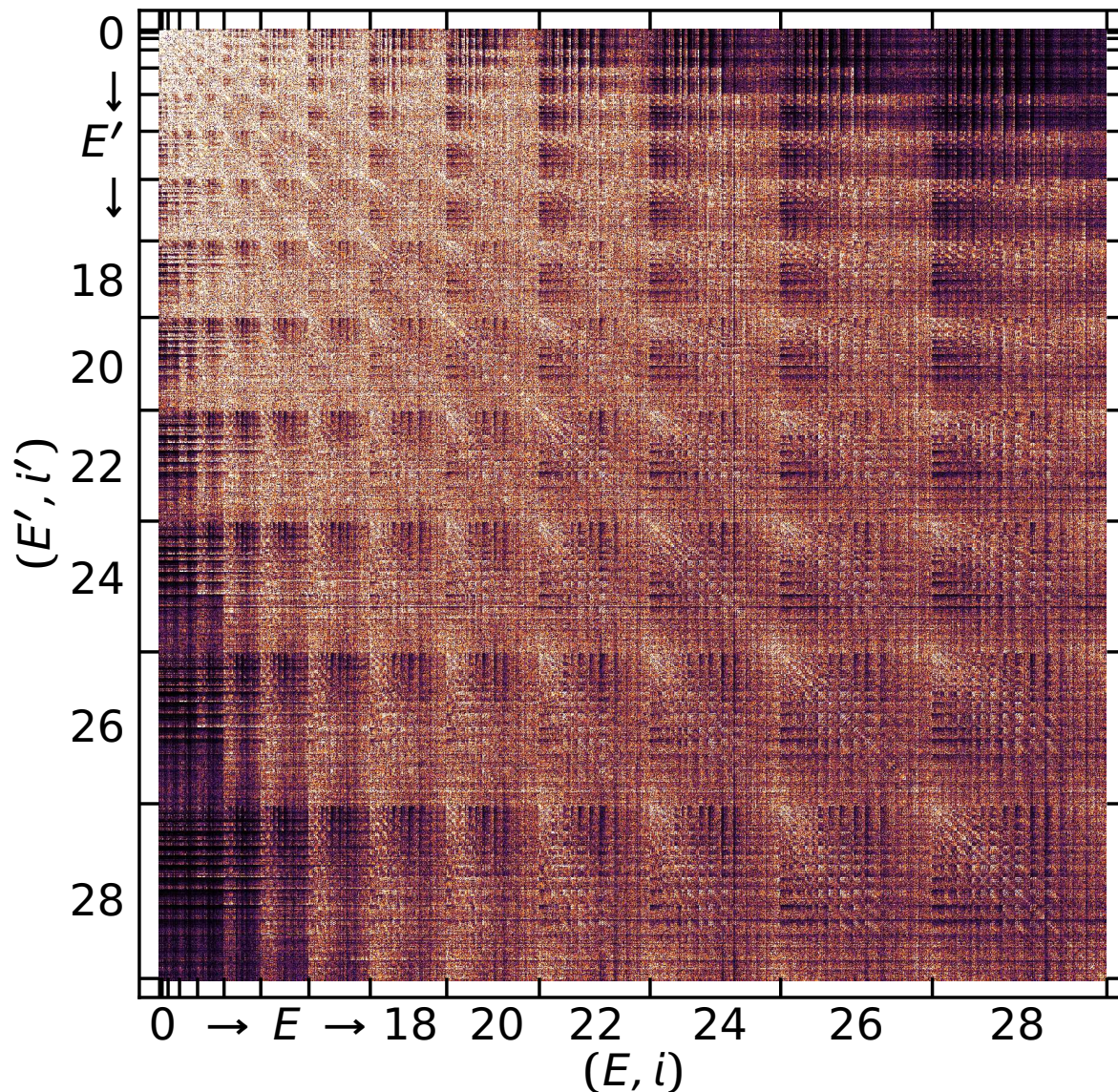
- convert Fock-space operator equations into **coupled evolution equations for matrix elements** in  $n$ -body Hilbert space
- $n = 3$ : use **antisym. Jacobi-coordinate three-body states**
  - harmonic oscillator:  $|Eij^\pi T\rangle$
- system of **coupled evolution equations** for each  $J^\pi T$ -block

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} \langle Eij^\pi T | \tilde{H}_\alpha | E'i'J^\pi T \rangle = (2\mu)^2 \sum_{E''i''}^{E_{\text{SRG}}} \sum_{E'''i'''}^{E_{\text{SRG}}} \left[ \begin{aligned} & \langle Ei\dots | T_{\text{int}} | E''i'' \dots \rangle \langle E''i'' \dots | \tilde{H}_\alpha | E'''i''' \dots \rangle \langle E'''i''' \dots | \tilde{H}_\alpha | E'i' \dots \rangle \\ & - 2 \langle Ei\dots | \tilde{H}_\alpha | E''i'' \dots \rangle \langle E''i'' \dots | T_{\text{int}} | E'''i''' \dots \rangle \langle E'''i''' \dots | \tilde{H}_\alpha | E'i' \dots \rangle \\ & + \langle Ei\dots | \tilde{H}_\alpha | E''i'' \dots \rangle \langle E''i'' \dots | \tilde{H}_\alpha | E'''i''' \dots \rangle \langle E'''i''' \dots | T_{\text{int}} | E'i' \dots \rangle \end{aligned} \right]$$

- we use  $E_{\text{SRG}} = 40$  for  $J \leq 5/2$  and ramp down to 24 in steps of 4 (sufficient to converge the intermediate sums for  $\hbar\Omega \gtrsim 16$  MeV)

# SRG Evolution in Three-Body Space

## 3B-Jacobi HO matrix elements

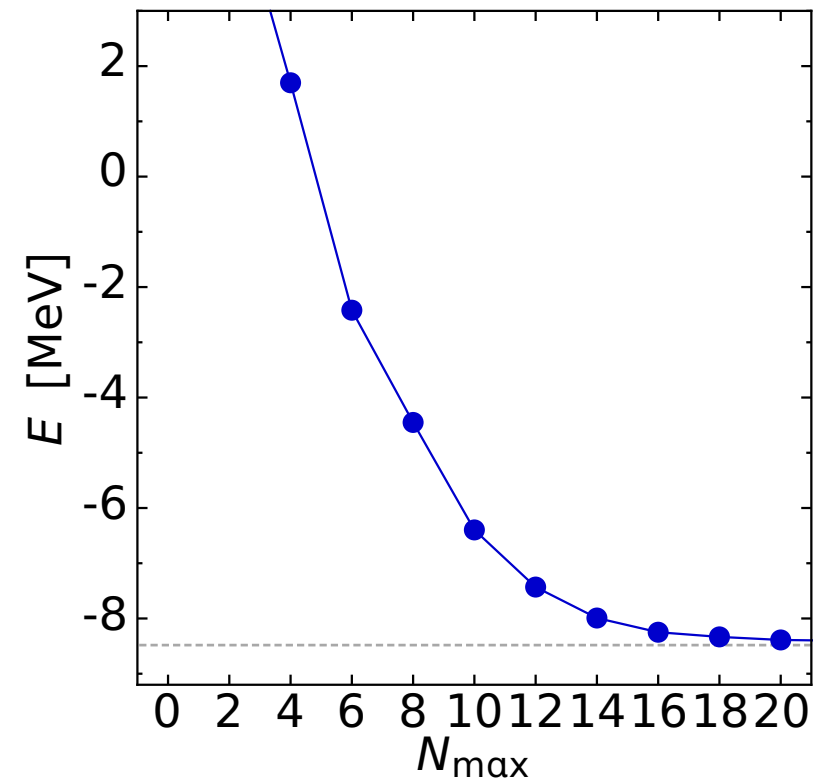


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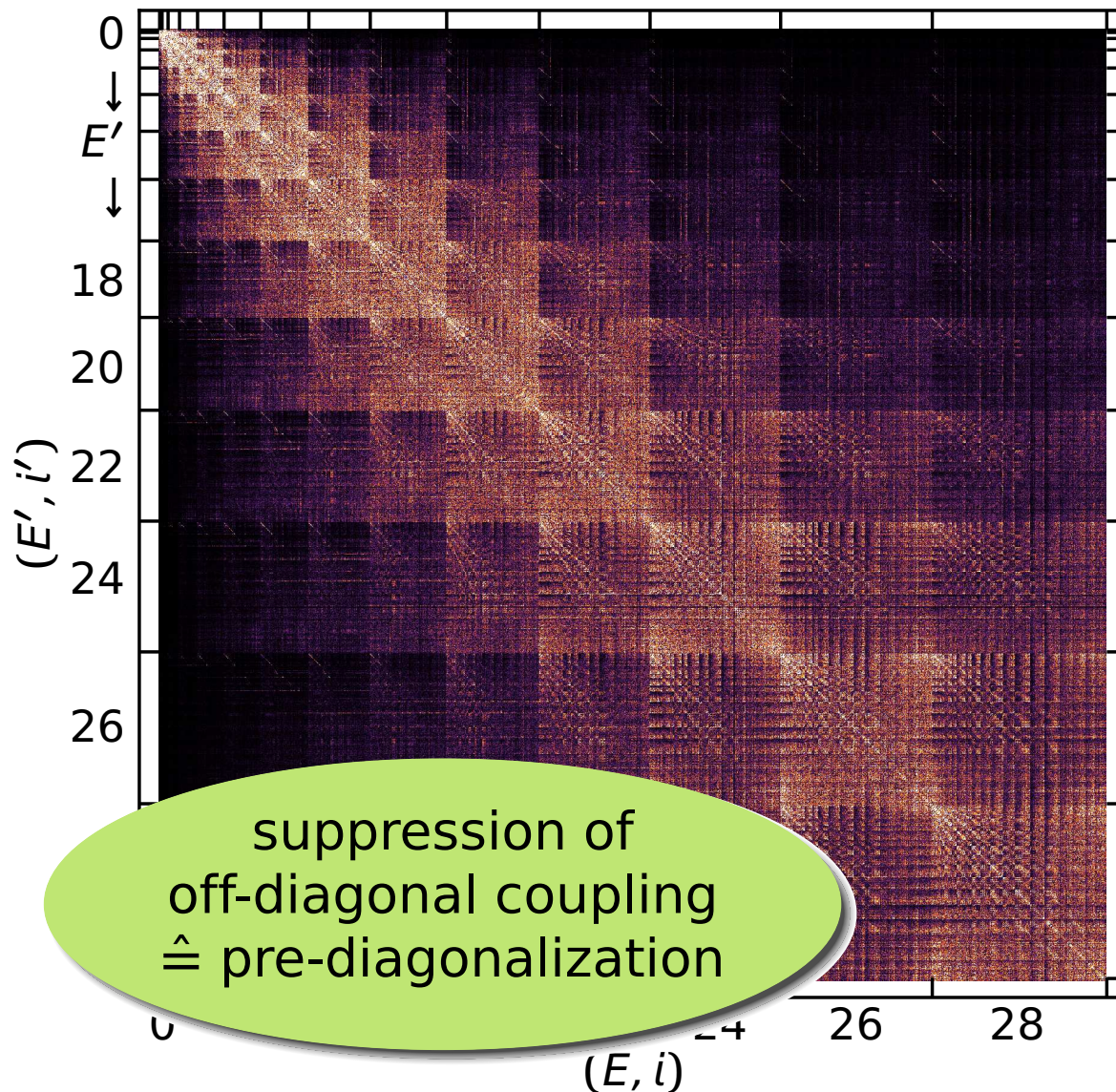
$$J^\pi = \frac{1}{2}^+, T = \frac{1}{2}, \hbar\Omega = 28 \text{ MeV}$$

## NCSM ground state ${}^3\text{H}$



# SRG Evolution in Three-Body Space

## 3B-Jacobi HO matrix elements

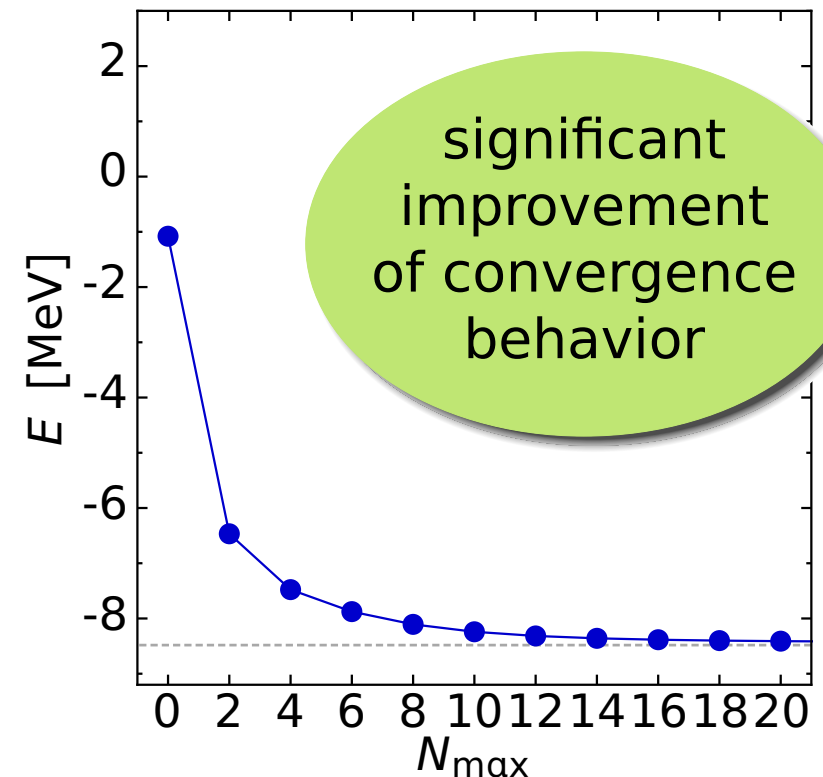


$$\alpha = 0.320 \text{ fm}^4$$

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$$J^\pi = \frac{1}{2}^+, T = \frac{1}{2}, \hbar\Omega = 28 \text{ MeV}$$

## NCSM ground state ${}^3\text{H}$





# Calculations in A-Body Space

- **cluster decomposition**: decompose evolved Hamiltonian from 2B/3B space into irreducible  $n$ -body contributions  $\tilde{H}_\alpha^{[n]}$

$$\tilde{H}_\alpha = \tilde{H}_\alpha^{[1]} + \tilde{H}_\alpha^{[2]} + \tilde{H}_\alpha^{[3]} + \dots$$

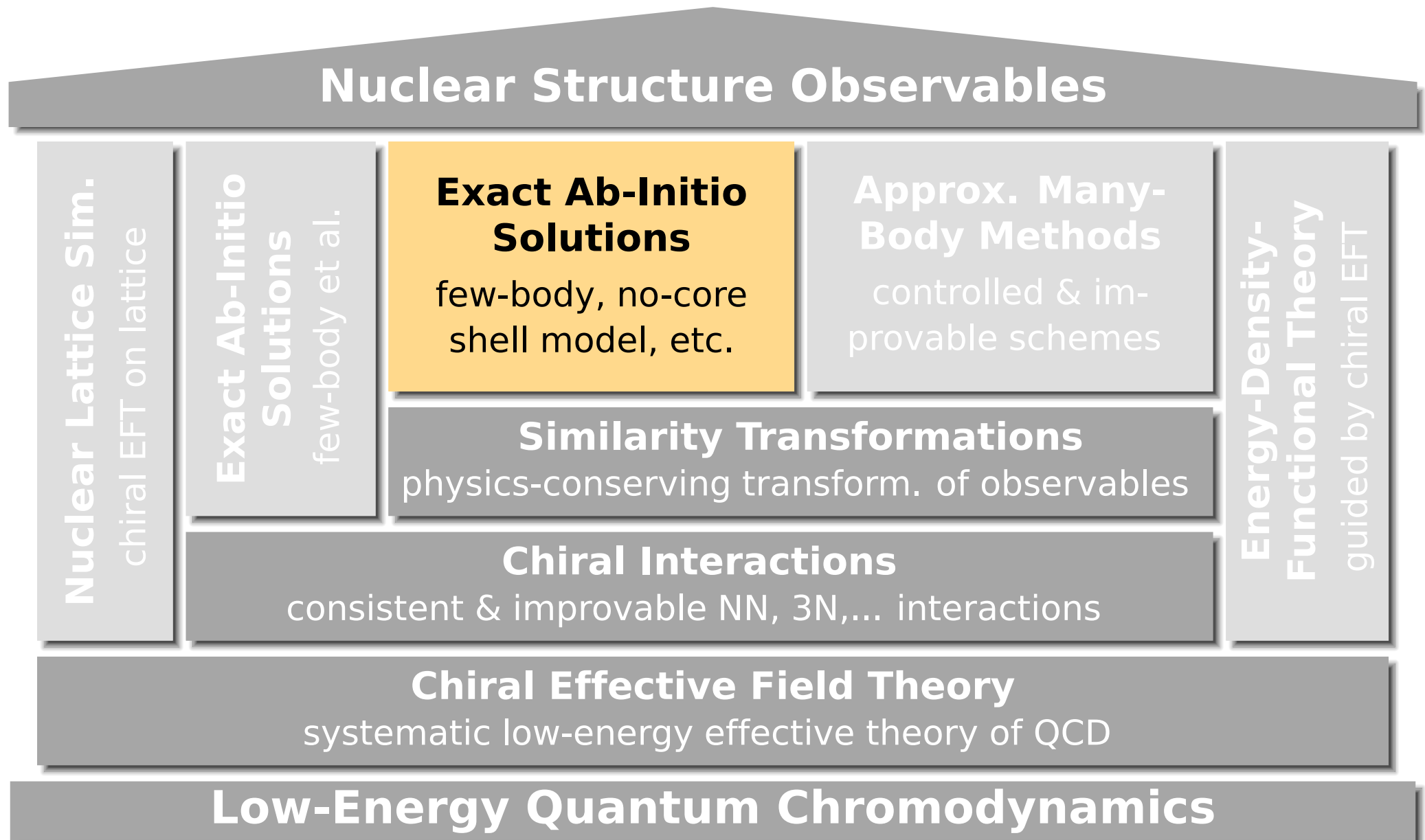
- **cluster truncation**: can construct cluster-orders up to  $n = 3$  from evolution in 2B and 3B space, have to discard  $n > 3$ 
  - only the **full evolution in A-body space** is formally unitary and conserves A-body energy eigenvalues (independent of  $\alpha$ )
  - $\alpha$ -dependence of eigenvalues **Hamiltonian** measures impact of **Hamiltonian**

$\alpha$ -variation provides a **diagnostic tool** to assess the omitted induced many-body interactions

# Sounds easy, but...

- ❶ computation of initial 2B/3B-Jacobi HO matrix elements of chiral NN+3N interactions
  - we use Petr Navratil's ManyEff code for computing 3B-Jacobi matrix elements and corresponding CFPs
- ❷ SRG evolution in 2B/3B space and cluster decomposition
  - efficient implementation using adaptive ODE solver & BLAS; largest block takes a few hours on single node
- ❸ transformation of 2B/3B Jacobi HO matrix elements into JT-coupled representation
  - formulated transformation directly into JT-coupled scheme; highly efficient implementation; can handle  $E_{3\max} = 16$  in JT-coupled scheme
- ❹ data management and on-the-fly decoupling in many-body codes
  - invented optimized storage scheme for fast on-the-fly decoupling; can keep all matrix elements up to  $E_{3\max} = 16$  in memory

# Ab Initio Nuclear Structure



# No-Core Shell Model (NCSM)

NCSM is one of the most powerful and universal exact ab-initio methods

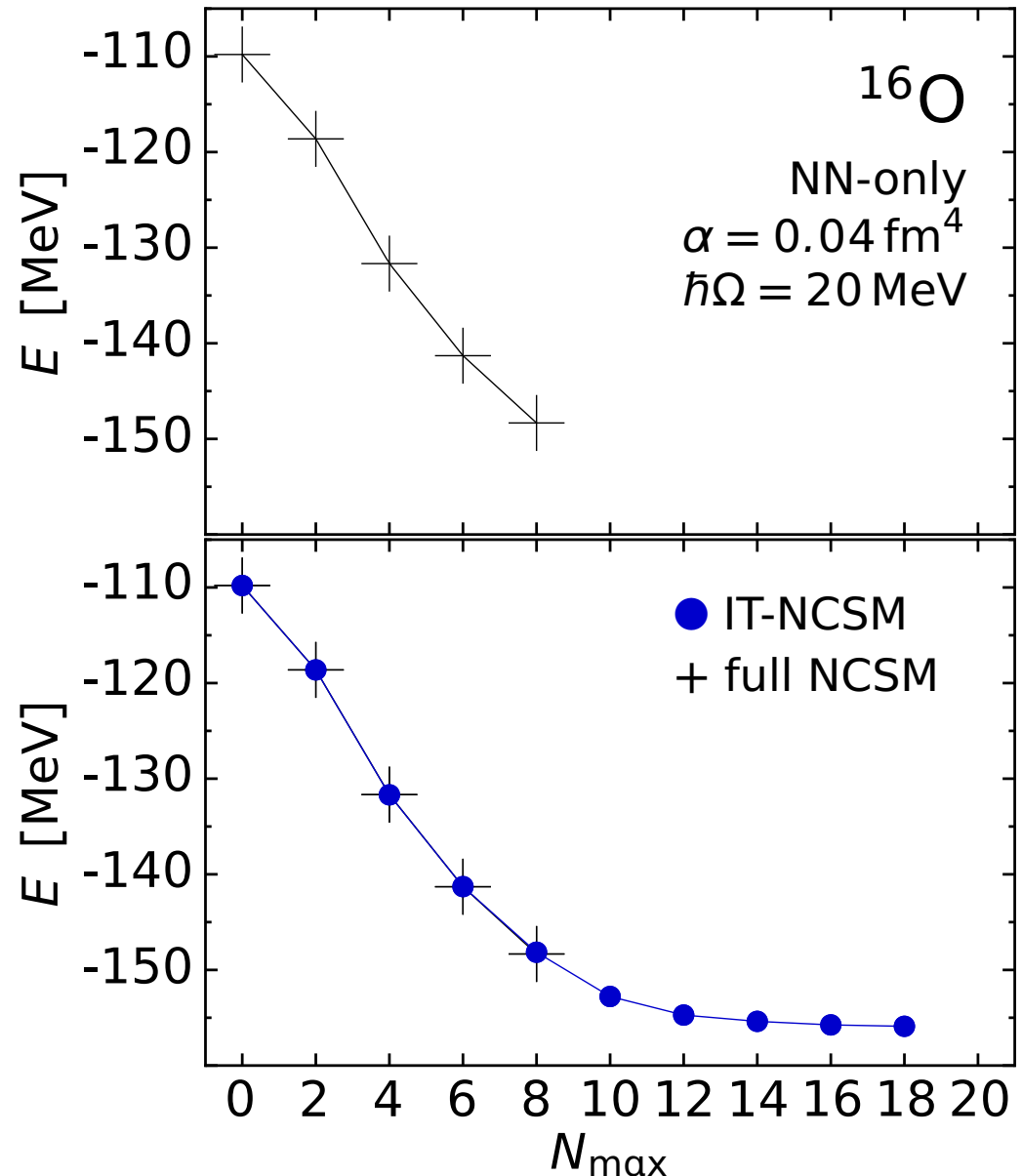
- construct matrix representation of Hamiltonian using a **basis of HO Slater determinants** truncated w.r.t. HO excitation energy  $N_{\max}\hbar\Omega$
- solve **large-scale eigenvalue problem** for a few extremal eigenvalues
- **all relevant observables** can be computed from the eigenstates
- range of applicability limited by **factorial growth** of basis with  $N_{\max}$  &  $A$
- adaptive **importance truncation** extends the range of NCSM by reducing the model space to physically relevant states
- we have developed a **parallelized IT-NCSM/NCSM code** capable of handling 3N matrix elements up to  $E_{3\max} = 16$

# Importance Truncated NCSM

- converged NCSM calculations essentially restricted to lower/mid p-shell
- full 10 or 12 $\hbar\Omega$  calculation for  $^{16}\text{O}$  not really feasible (basis dimension  $> 10^{10}$ )

## Importance Truncation

reduce model space to the relevant basis states using an **a priori importance measure** derived from MBPT



# Importance Truncation: General Idea

- given an initial approximation  $|\psi_{\text{ref}}^{(m)}\rangle$  for the **target states**
- **measure the importance** of individual basis state  $|\Phi_\nu\rangle$  via first-order multiconfigurational perturbation theory

$$K_\nu^{(m)} = -\frac{\langle \Phi_\nu | H | \psi_{\text{ref}}^{(m)} \rangle}{\epsilon_\nu - \epsilon_{\text{ref}}}$$

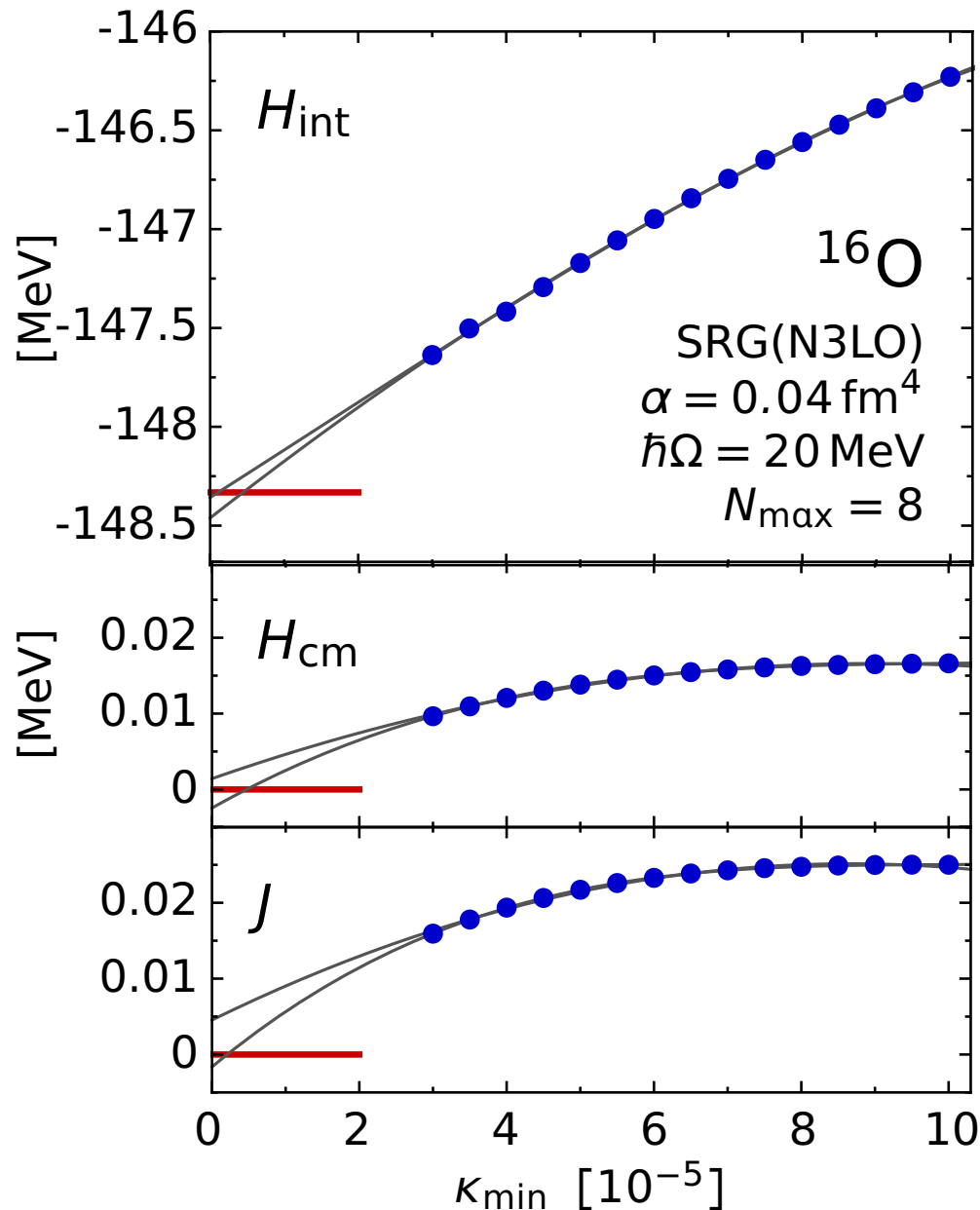
- construct **importance truncated space** spanned by basis states with  $|K_\nu^{(m)}| \geq K_{\text{min}}$  and solve eigenvalue problem

- **sequential scheme**: construct next  $N_{\text{max}}$  using previous eigenvalues

for  $K_{\text{min}} \rightarrow 0$  the full NCSM model space and thus the **exact solution is recovered**

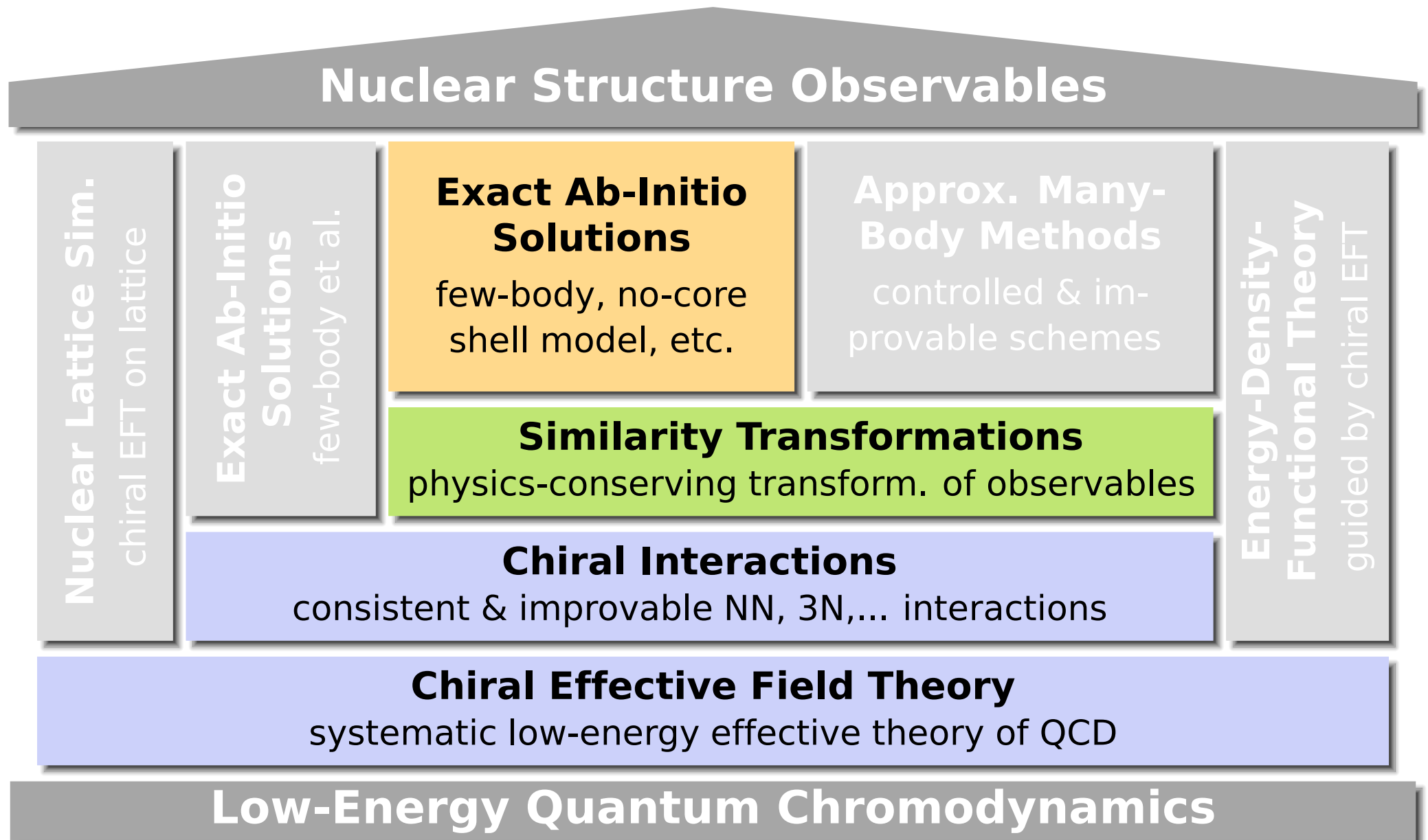
- a posteriori **threshold extrapolation** and **perturbative correction** used to recover contributions from discarded basis states

# Threshold Extrapolation



- do calculations for a **sequence of importance thresholds**  $K_{\min}$
- observables show smooth threshold dependence
- systematic approach to the **full NCSM limit**
- use **a posteriori extrapolation**  $K_{\min} \rightarrow 0$  of observables to account for effect of excluded configurations

# Ab Initio Nuclear Structure





# A Tale of Three Hamiltonians

## Initial Hamiltonian

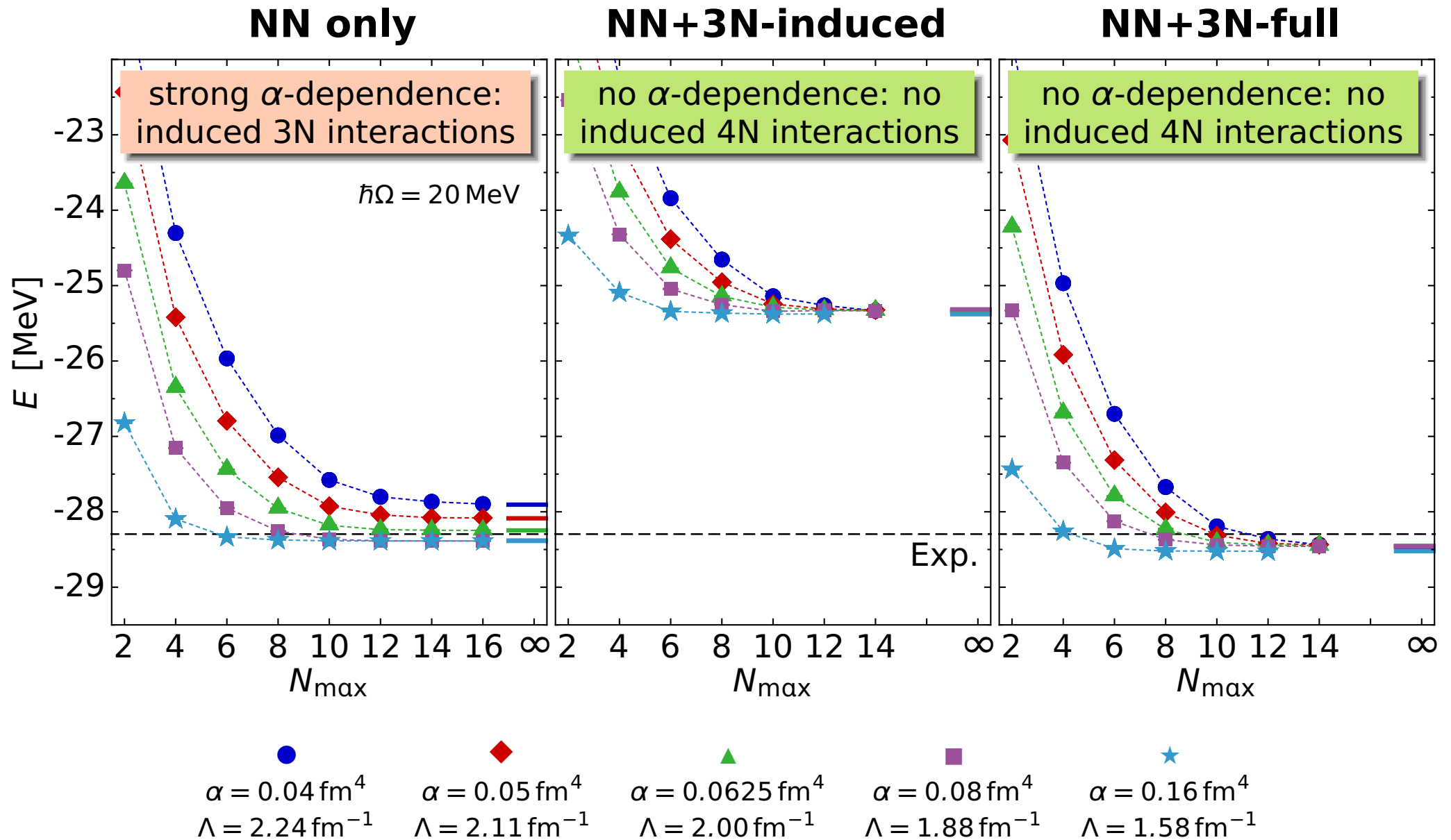
- NN: chiral interaction at  $N^3\text{LO}$  (Entem & Machleidt, 500 MeV)
- 3N: chiral interaction at  $N^2\text{LO}$  ( $c_D, c_E$  from  ${}^3\text{H}$  binding & half-life)

## SRG-Evolved Hamiltonians

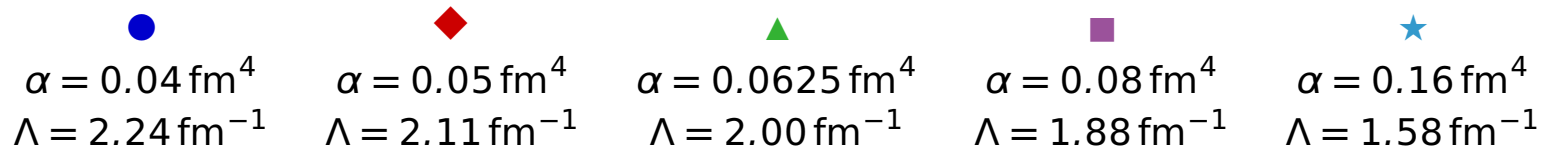
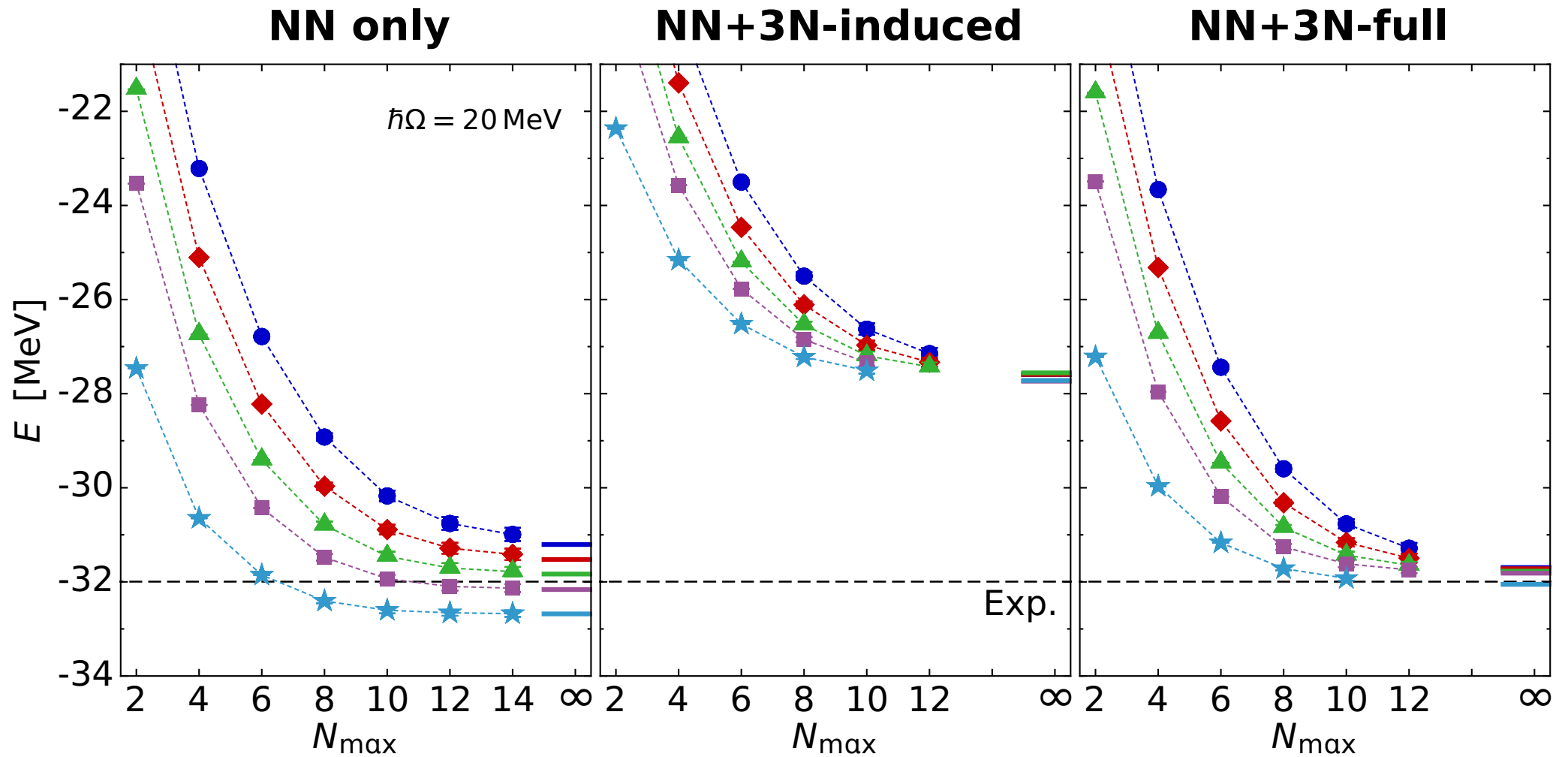
- **NN only**: start with NN initial Hamiltonian and keep two-body terms only
- **NN+3N-induced**: start with NN initial Hamiltonian and keep two- and three-body terms
- **NN+3N-full**: start with NN+3N initial Hamiltonian and keep two- and three-body terms

$\alpha$ -variation provides a **diagnostic tool** to assess the contributions of omitted many-body interactions

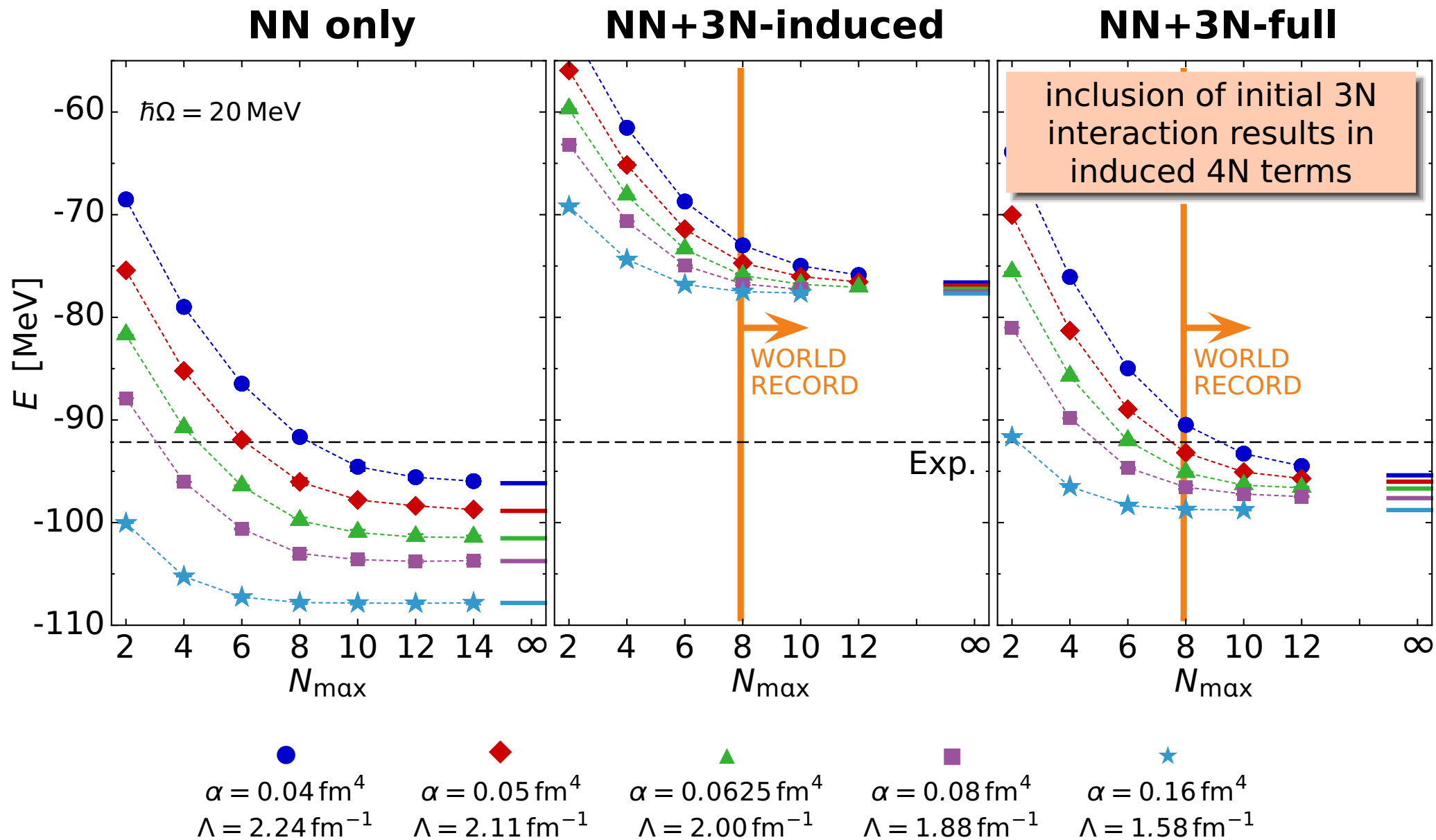
# $^4\text{He}$ : Ground-State Energies



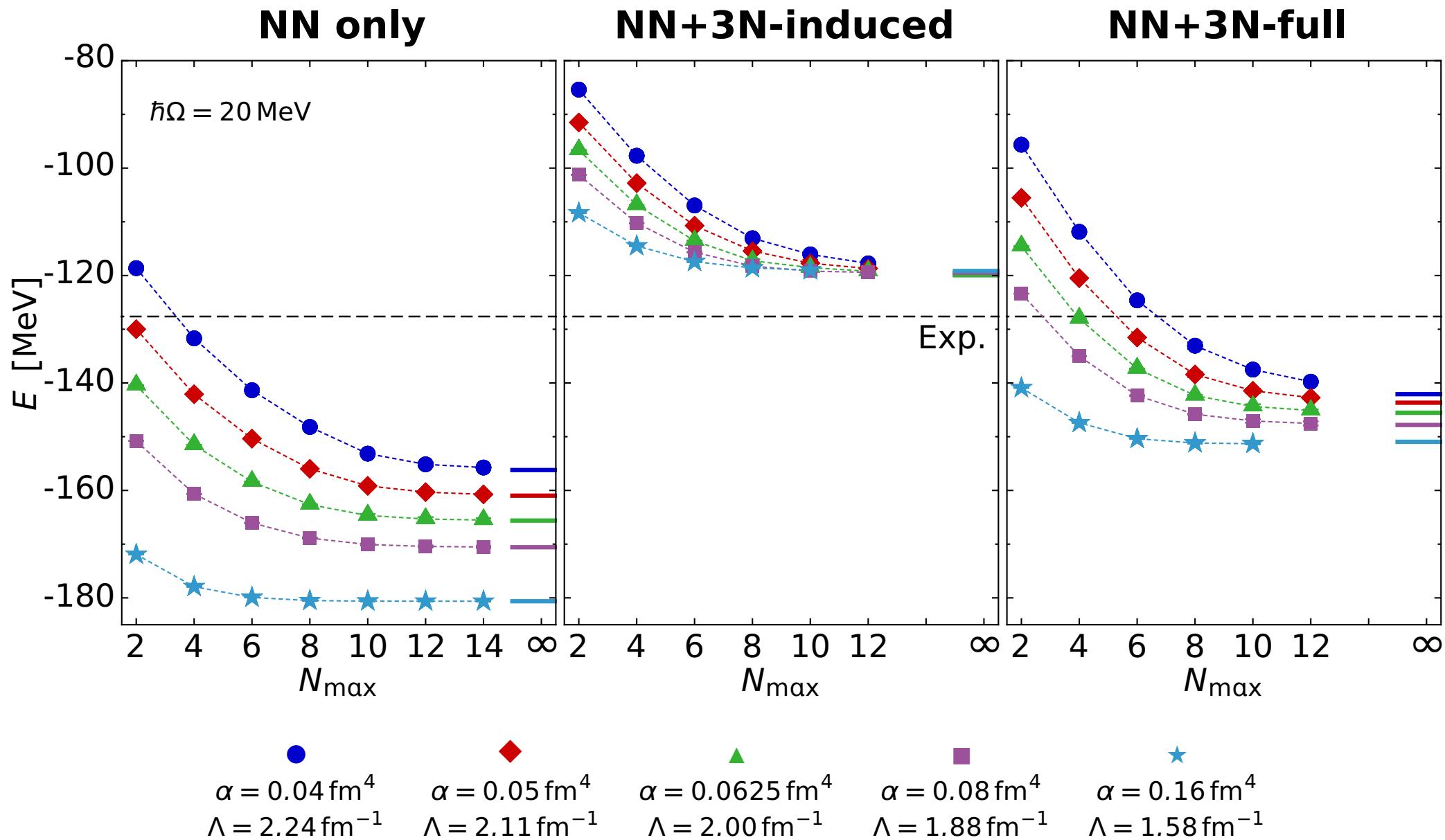
# ${}^6\text{Li}$ : Ground-State Energies



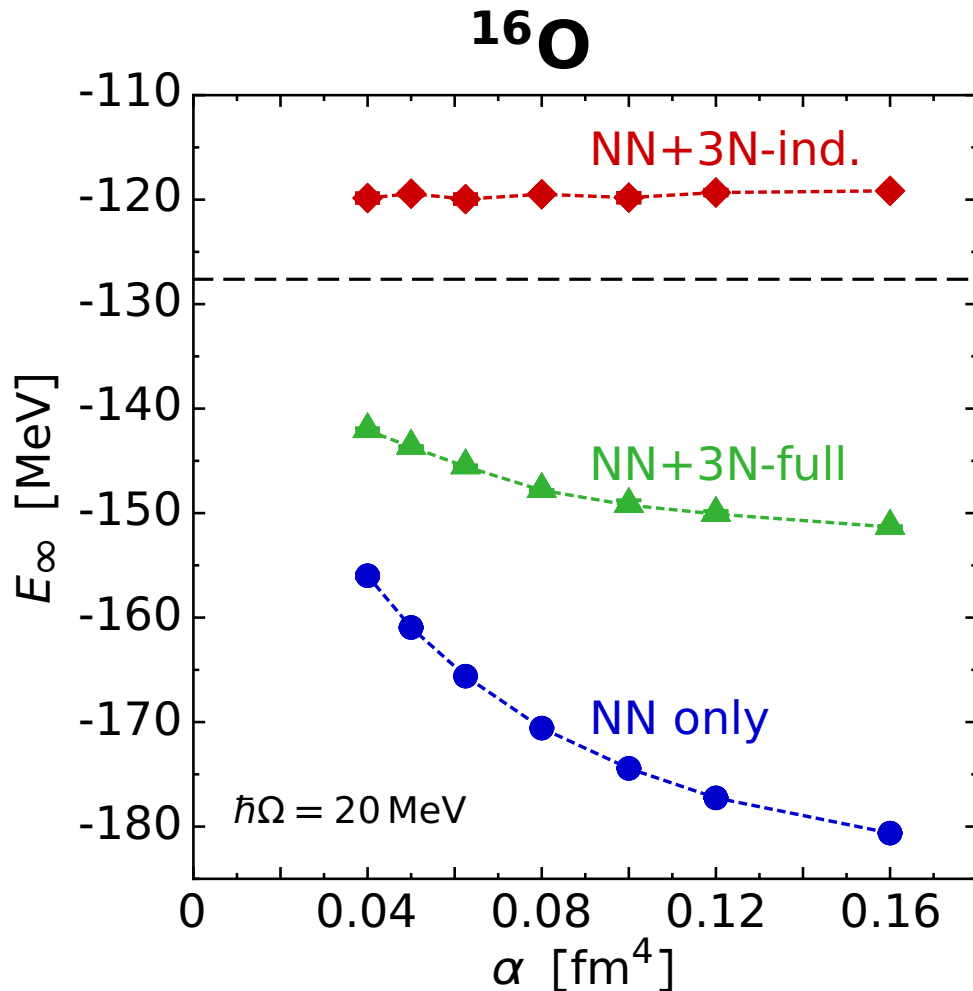
# $^{12}\text{C}$ : Ground-State Energies



# $^{16}\text{O}$ : Ground-State Energies



# $^{16}\text{O}$ : Energy vs. Flow Parameter



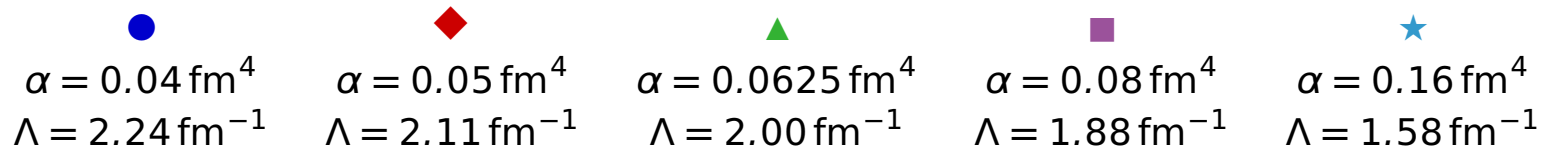
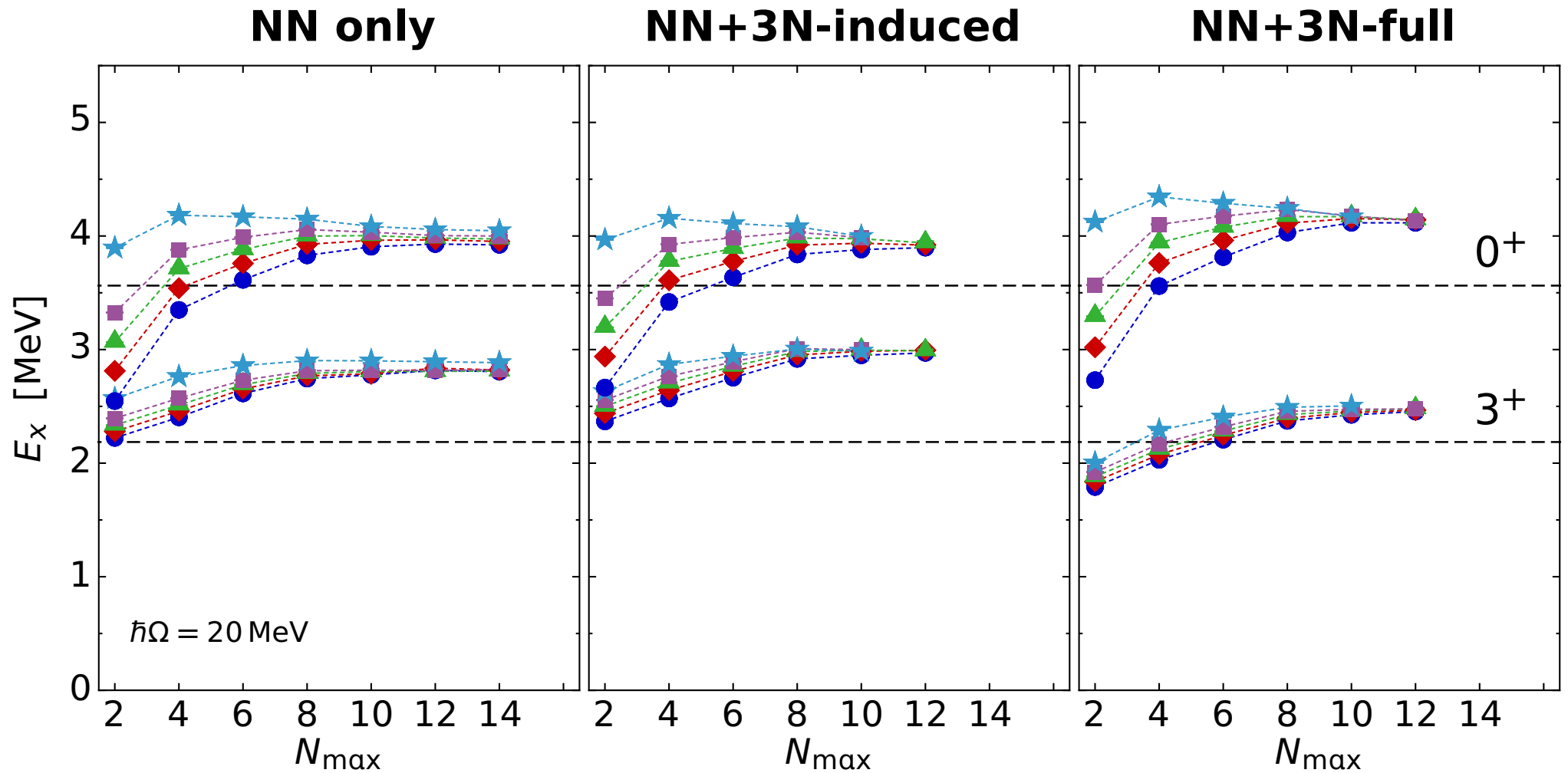
## ■ initial NN Hamiltonian

- induced 3N interactions are significant
- no indication of induced 4N
- NN+3N-induced unitarily equivalent to initial NN

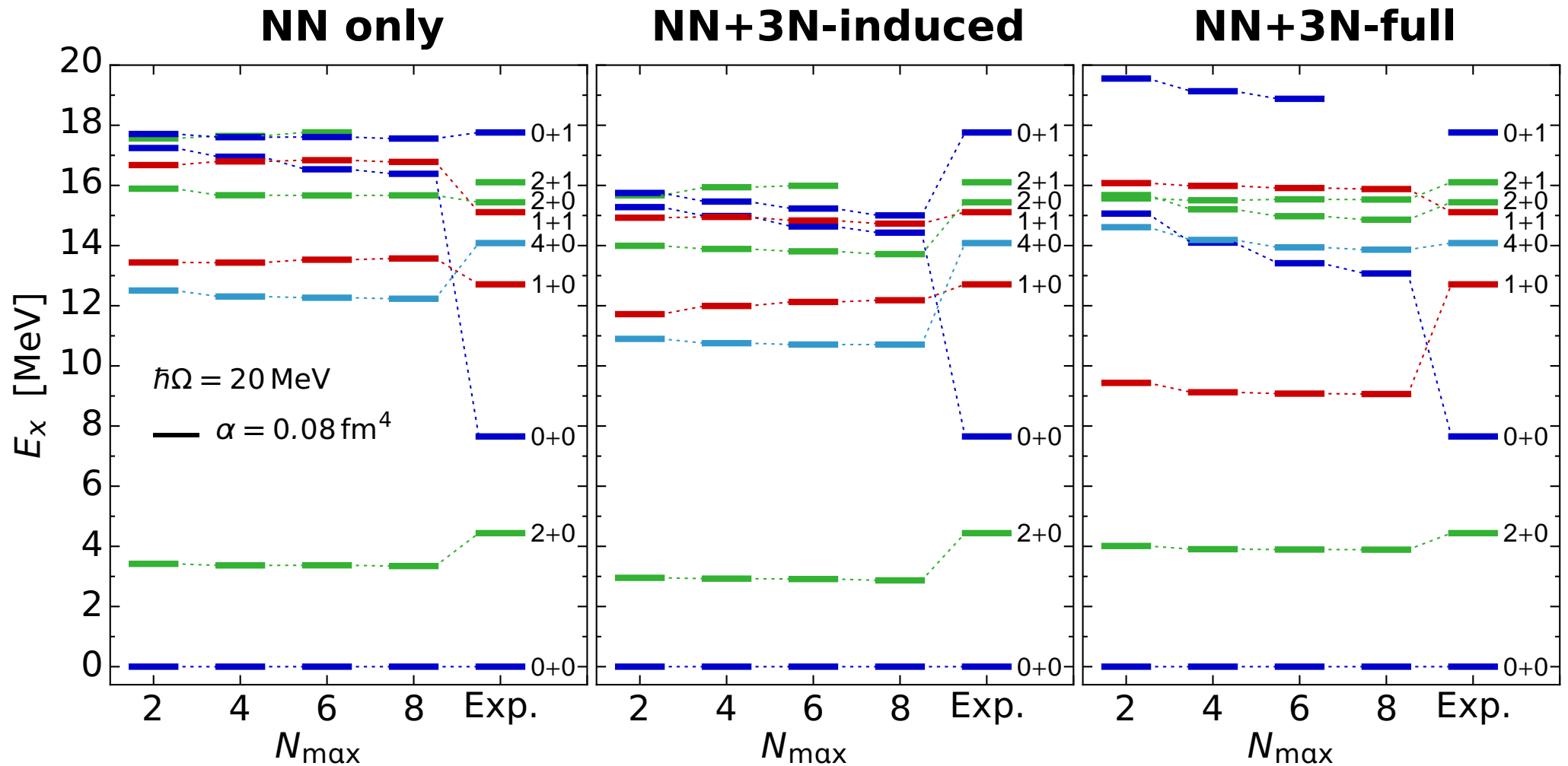
## ■ initial NN+3N Hamiltonian

- induced 4N interactions are sizable in upper p-shell
- generated by long-range  $2\pi$  terms of initial 3N interaction
- design modified SRG generator to suppress induced 4N

# ${}^6\text{Li}$ : Excitation Energies



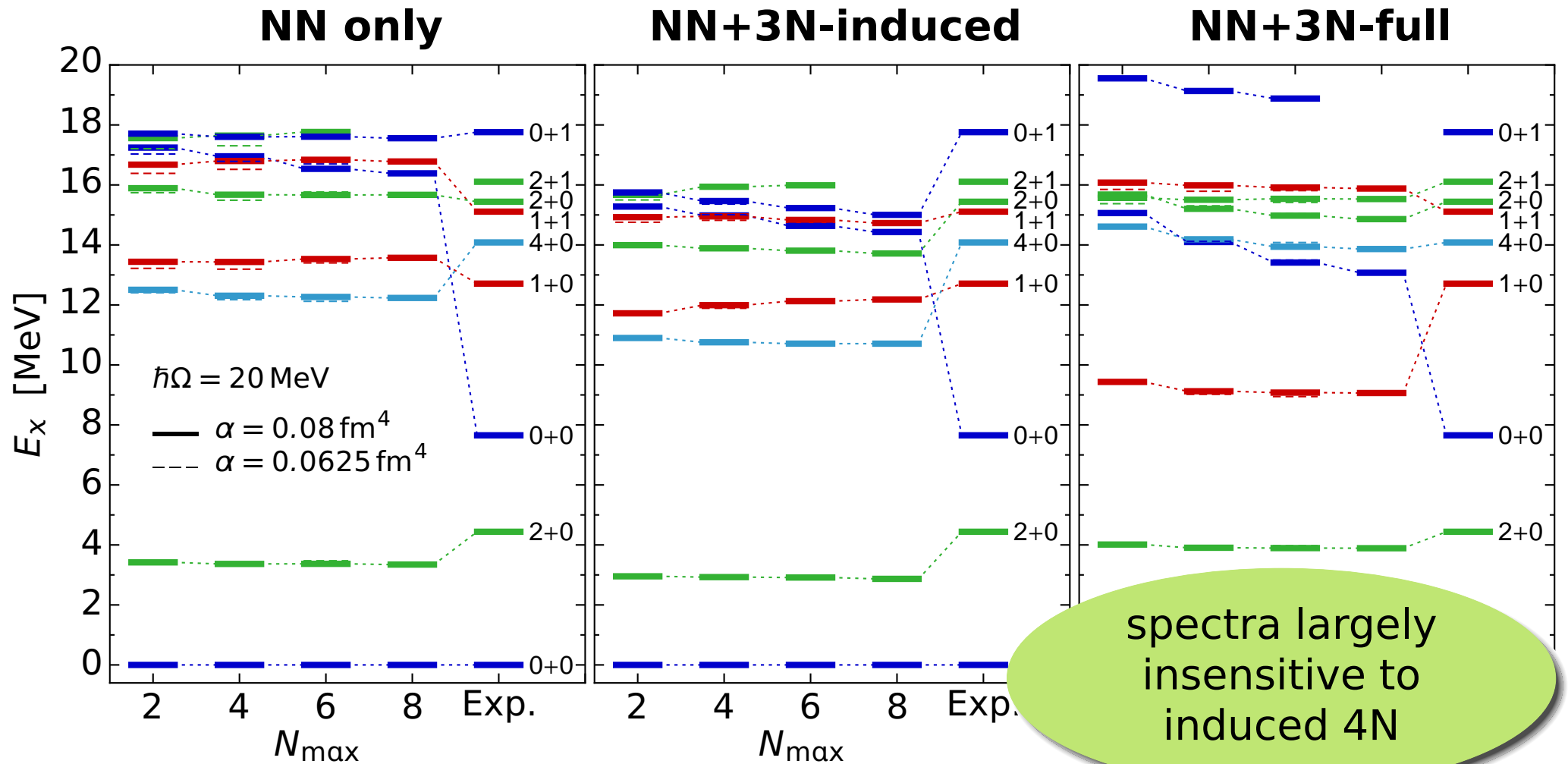
# Spectroscopy of $^{12}\text{C}$



- IT-NCSM gives access to **complete spectroscopy of p- and sd-shell nuclei** starting from chiral NN+3N interactions

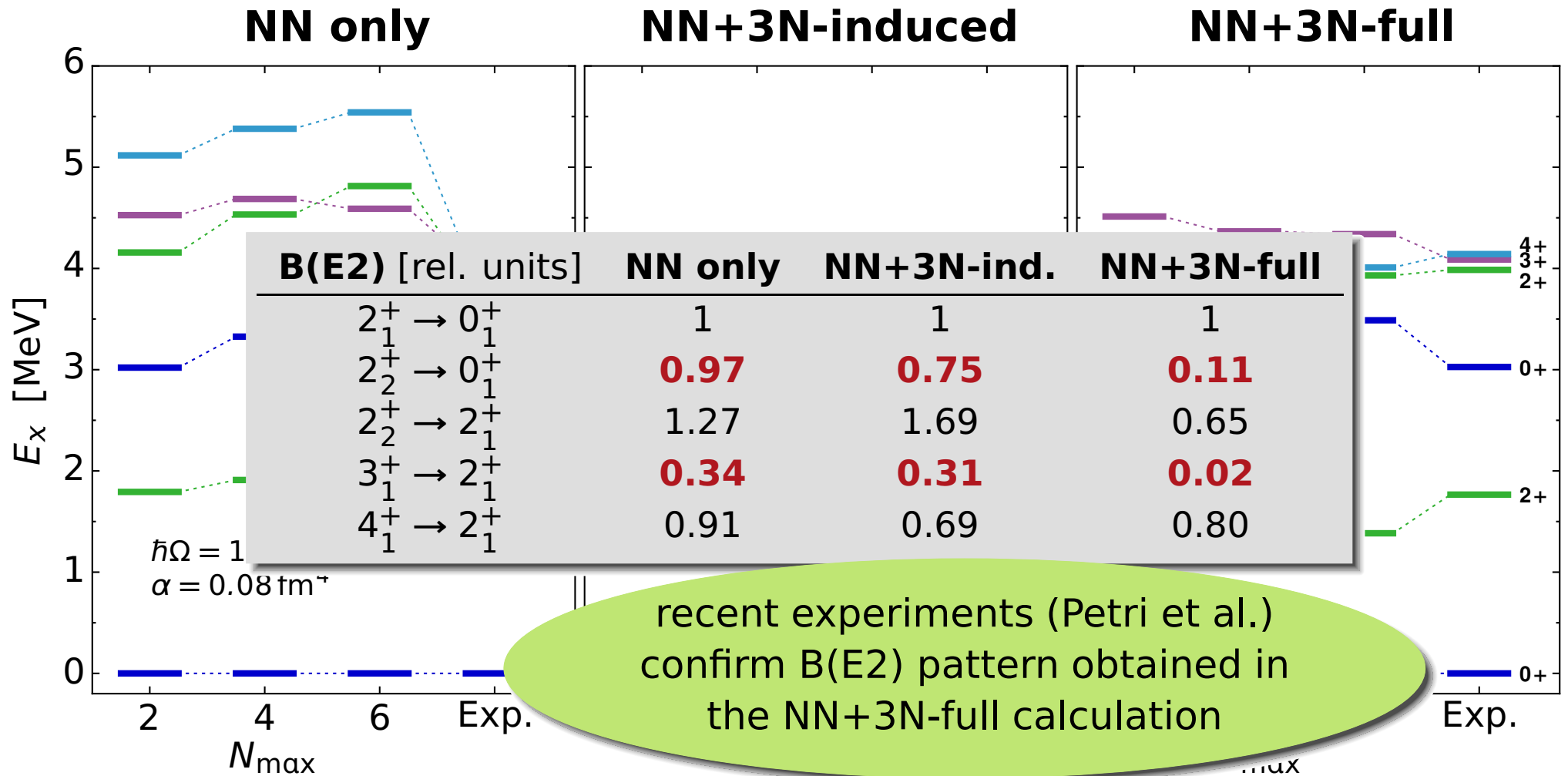


# Spectroscopy of $^{12}\text{C}$



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# Spectroscopy of $^{16}\text{C}$



# Conclusions

# Conclusions

- new era of **ab-initio nuclear structure and reaction theory** connected to QCD via chiral EFT
  - chiral EFT as universal starting point... some issues remain
- consistent **inclusion of 3N interactions** in similarity transformations & many-body calculations
  - breakthrough in computation & handling of 3N matrix elements
- **innovations in many-body theory**: extended reach of exact methods & improved control over approximations
  - versatile toolbox for different observables & mass ranges
- many **exciting applications** ahead...

# Epilogue

## ■ thanks to my group & my collaborators

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LLNL Livermore, USA

- H. Hergert, P. Piecuch

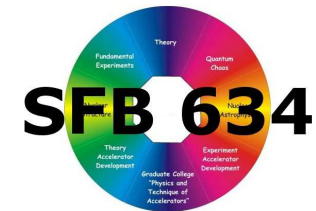
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- C. Forssén

Chalmers University, Sweden

- H. Feldmeier, T. Neff,...

GSI Helmholtzzentrum



Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft

**DFG**



Helmholtz International Center

 **LOEWE** – Landes-Offensive  
zur Entwicklung Wissenschaftlich-  
ökonomischer Exzellenz

