

News from Ab Initio Theory

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Ab Initio Workflow

Nuclear Structure & Reaction Observables

Many-Body Solution via
NCSM, CC, IM-SRG,...

Similarity Renormalization
Group

NN+3N Interactions from
Chiral EFT

Low-Energy QCD

- chiral EFT offers systematics, improvability and uncertainty estimation
- typically one "chiral interaction" is used in nuclear structure
- improved chiral EFT interactions offer opportunity to quantify uncertainties systematically

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Similarity Renormalization
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NN+3N Interactions from
Chiral EFT

Low-Energy QCD

- drastically improves convergence but induces many-body forces
- induced beyond-3N interactions are a major limitation for many applications
- improvement: either include or suppress induced forces

Ab Initio Workflow

Nuclear Structure & Reaction Observables

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NCSM, CC, IM-SRG,...

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NN+3N Interactions from
Chiral EFT

Low-Energy QCD

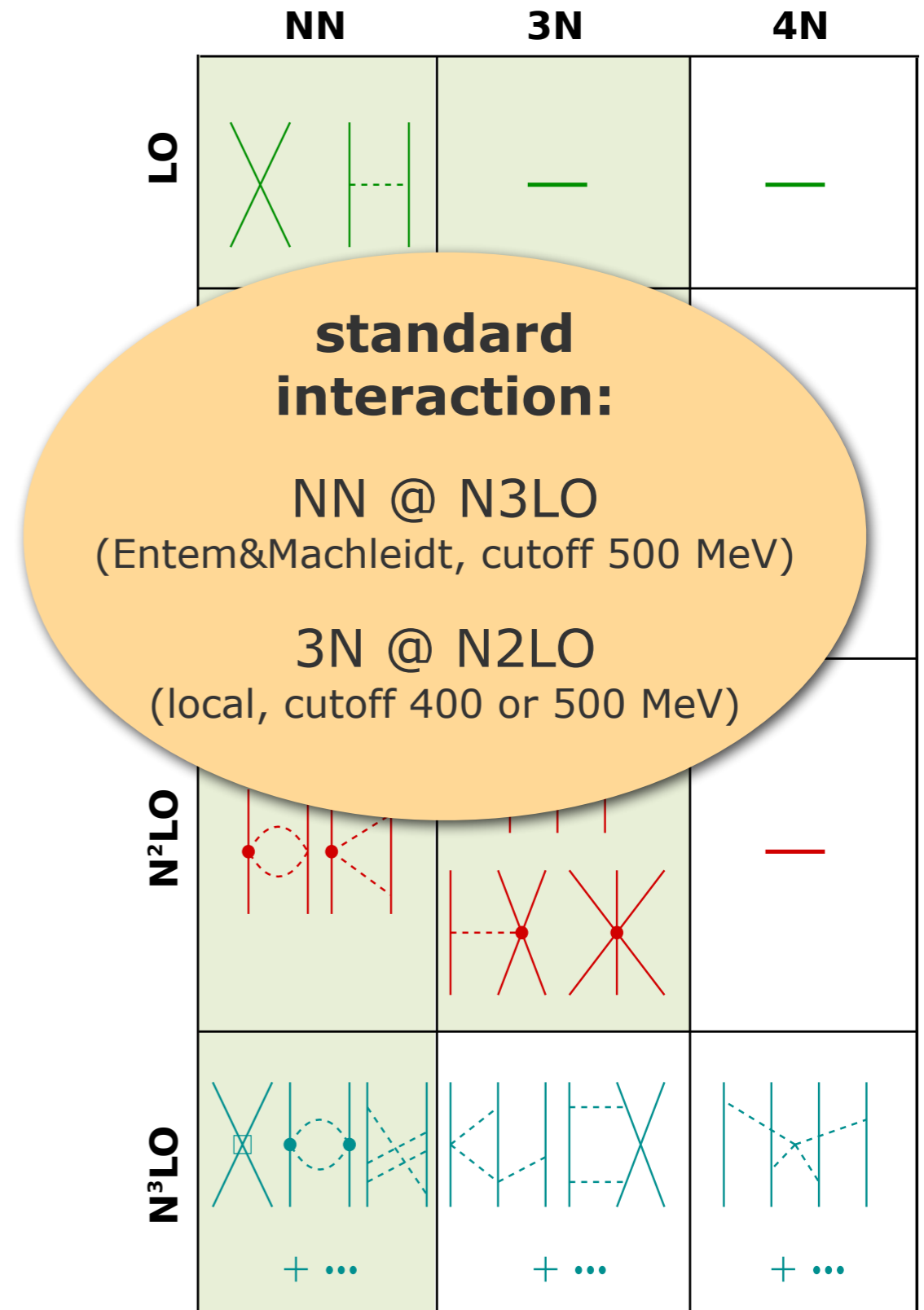
- different many-body methods for different observables and mass regimes
- hot topics: continuum & open-shell medium-mass nuclei

Interactions

Chiral EFT for Nuclear Interactions

Weinberg, van Kolck, Machleidt, Entem, Meissner, Epelbaum, Krebs, Bernard,...

- low-energy **effective field theory** for relevant degrees of freedom (π, N) based on symmetries of QCD
- explicit long-range **pion dynamics**
- unresolved short-range physics absorbed in **contact terms**, low-energy constants fit to experiment
- hierarchy of **consistent NN, 3N, 4N, ...** interactions and current operators
- many **ongoing developments**
 - improved NN up to N4LO
 - 3N interaction up to N3LO
 - 4N interaction at N3LO
 - improved fits and error analysis



Similarity Renormalization Group

Glazek, Wilson, Wegner, Perry, Bogner, Furnstahl, Hergert, Roth,...

continuous unitary
transformation driving Hamiltonian
towards diagonal form

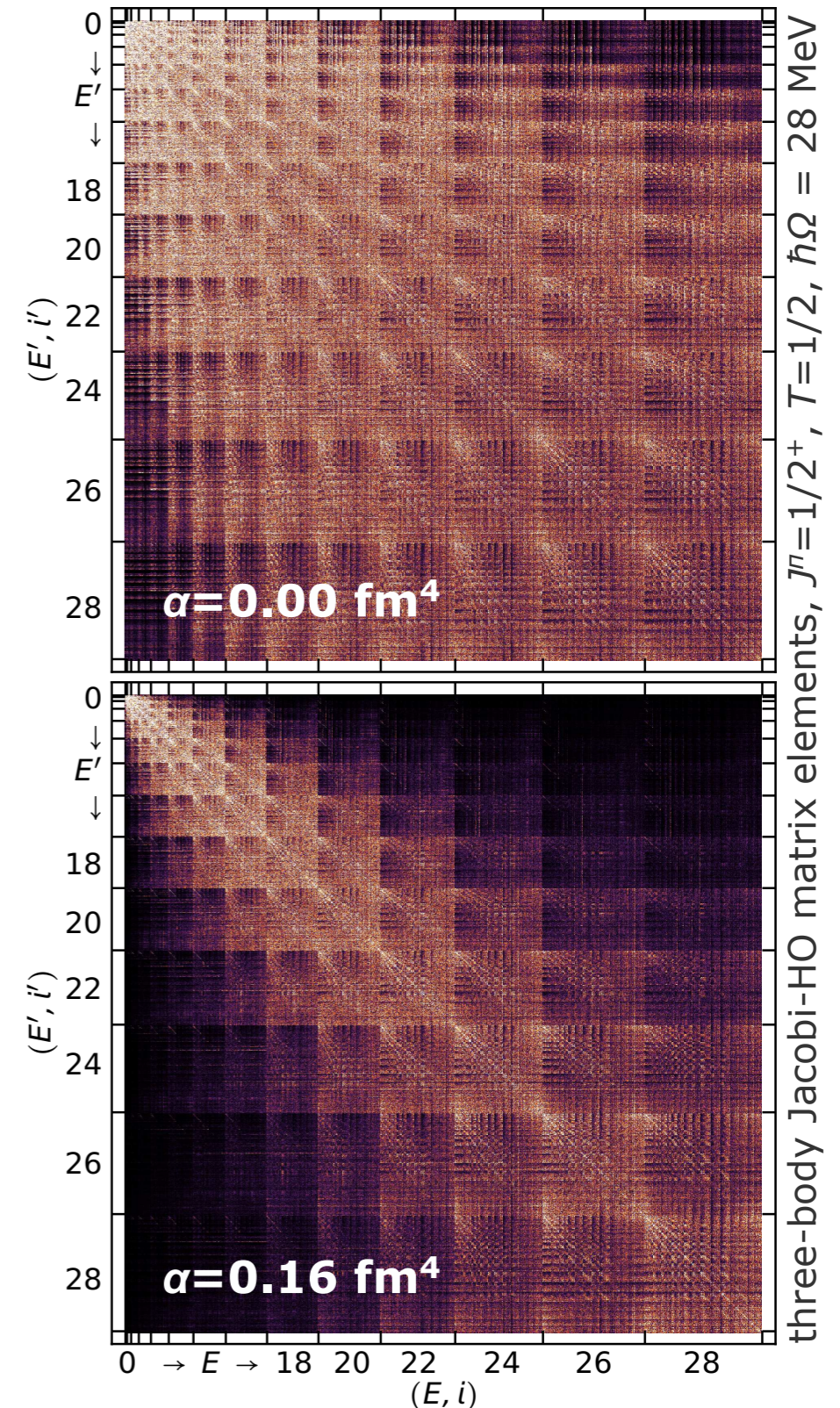
- unitary transformation via flow equation

$$H_\alpha = U_\alpha^\dagger H_0 U_\alpha \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{d}{d\alpha} H_\alpha = [\eta_\alpha, H_\alpha]$$

- dynamic generator determines physics of transformation

$$\eta_\alpha = (2\mu)^2 [T_{\text{int}}, H_\alpha]$$

- solve flow equation using matrix representation in two- and three-body space
- flow parameter α determines how far to go



Similarity Renormalization Group

Glazek, Wilson, Wegner, Perry, Bogner, Furnstahl, Hergert, Roth,...

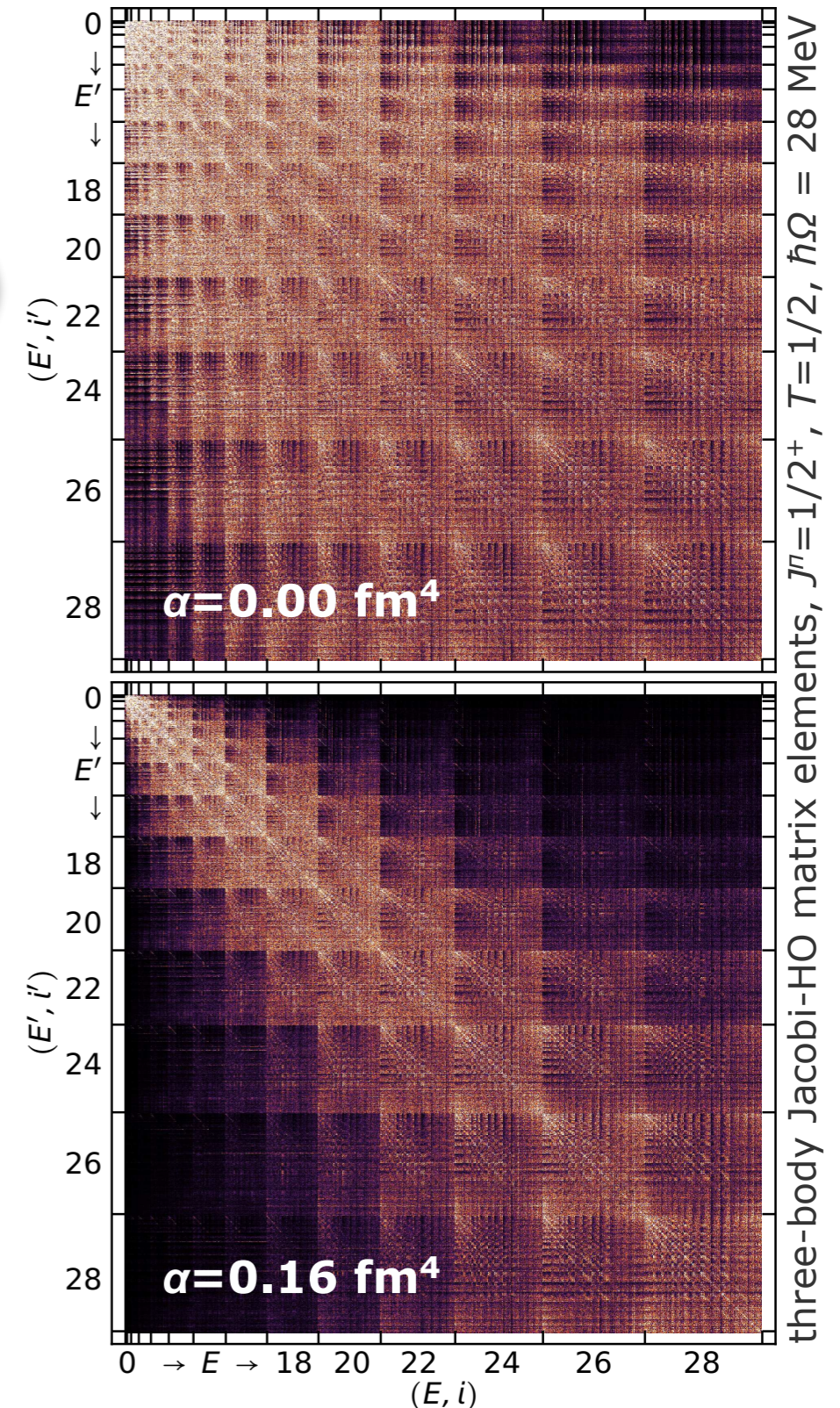
pro:
improves convergence of
many-body calculations

con:
induces many-body
interactions

- need to truncate evolved Hamiltonian

$$H_\alpha = H_\alpha^{[1]} + H_\alpha^{[2]} + H_\alpha^{[3]} + H_\alpha^{[4]} + \dots$$

- variation of flow parameter provides diagnostic for omitted many-body terms
- truncations used in the following:
 - **NN+3N_{ind}**
use initial NN, keep evolved NN+3N
 - **NN+3N_{full}**
use initial NN+3N, keep evolved NN+3N



Light Nuclei

No-Core Shell Model & Friends

Barrett, Vary, Navrátil, Maris, Nogga, Roth,...

NCSM-type approaches are the most powerful and universal ab initio methods for the p- and lower sd-shell

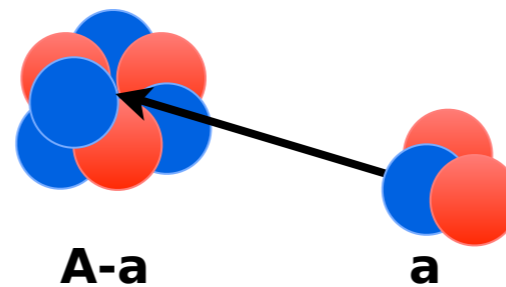
- **NCSM**: solve eigenvalue problem of Hamiltonian represented in model space of HO Slater determinants truncated w.r.t. HO excitation energy $N_{\max}\hbar\Omega$
 - convergence of observables w.r.t. N_{\max} is the only limitation and source of uncertainty
- **Importance-Truncated NCSM**: reduce NCSM model space to physically relevant basis states and extrapolate to full space a posteriori
 - increases the range of applicability of NCSM significantly
- **NCSM with Continuum**: merge NCSM for description of clusters with Resonating Group Method for description of their relative motion
 - explicitly includes continuum degrees of freedom
- more: Gamow NCSM, Symplectic NCSM, ...

NCSM with Continuum

Baroni, Navrátil, Quaglioni, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 110, 022505 (2013)

comprehensive ab initio description of light nuclei

bound states
& spectroscopy



resonances
& scattering states

(IT-)NCSM

ab initio description of
nuclear clusters

NCSMC

RGM

describing relative
motion of clusters

focus on NCSMC with 3N interactions
for p-shell spectroscopy

NCSMC with 3N Forces

Hupin, Langhammer, Navrátil, Quaglioni, Calci, Roth; Phys. Rev. C 88, 054622 (2013)

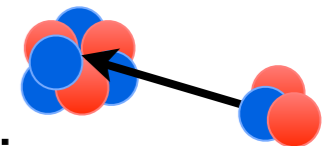
- representing $H|\psi^{J\pi T}\rangle = E|\psi^{J\pi T}\rangle$ using the **over-complete basis**

$$|\Psi^{J\pi T}\rangle = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} |\Psi_A E_{\lambda} J^{\pi} T\rangle + \sum_{\nu} \int dr r^2 \frac{\chi_{\nu}(r)}{r} |\xi_{\nu r}^{J\pi T}\rangle$$

expansion in A -body
(IT-)NCSM eigenstates



identical to the
NCSM/RGM expansion



leads to the **NCSMC equations**

$$\begin{pmatrix} H_{\text{NCSM}} & h \\ h & \mathcal{H} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c \\ \chi(r)/r \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} c \\ \chi(r)/r \end{pmatrix}$$

with $3N$ contributions in

H_{NCSM}

covered by
(IT-)NCSM

h

given by
 $\langle \Psi_A E_{\lambda'} J^{\pi} T | \hat{H} | \xi_{\nu r}^{J\pi T} \rangle$

\mathcal{H}

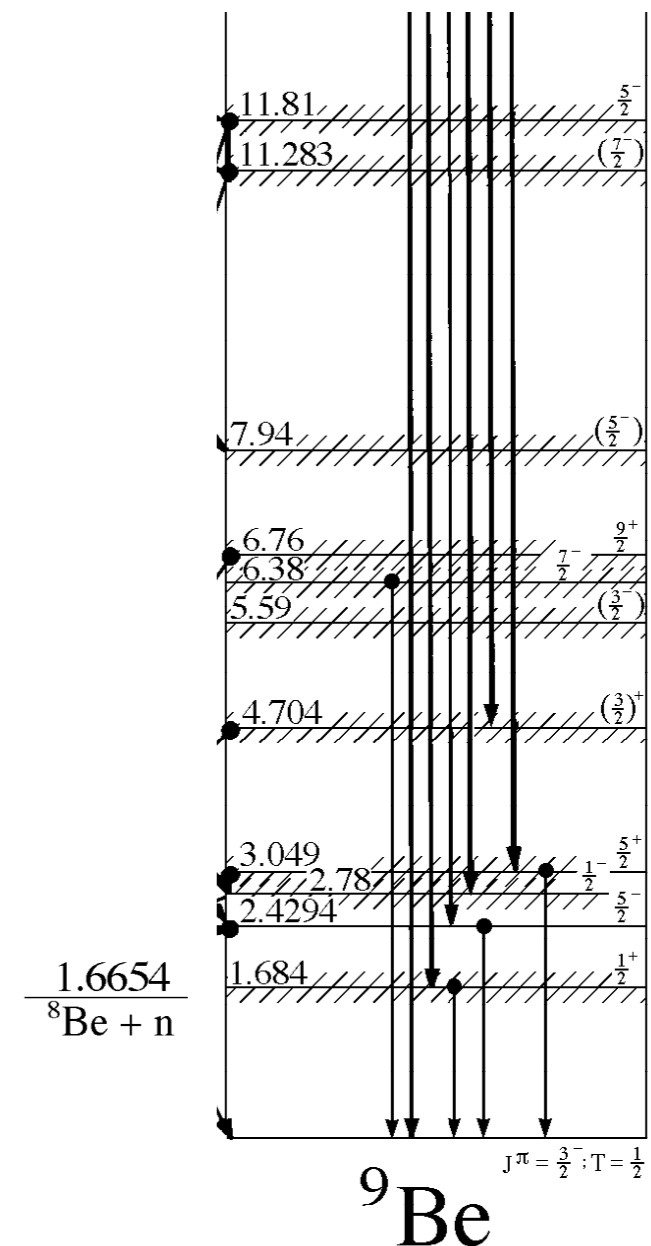
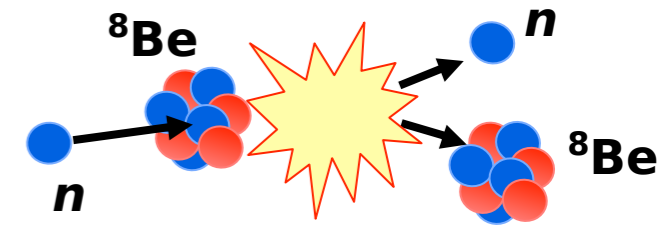
contains NCSM/RGM
Hamiltonian kernel

access targets beyond
 ${}^4\text{He}$ using uncoupled densities
and on-the-fly algorithm

Spectrum of ${}^9\text{Be}$

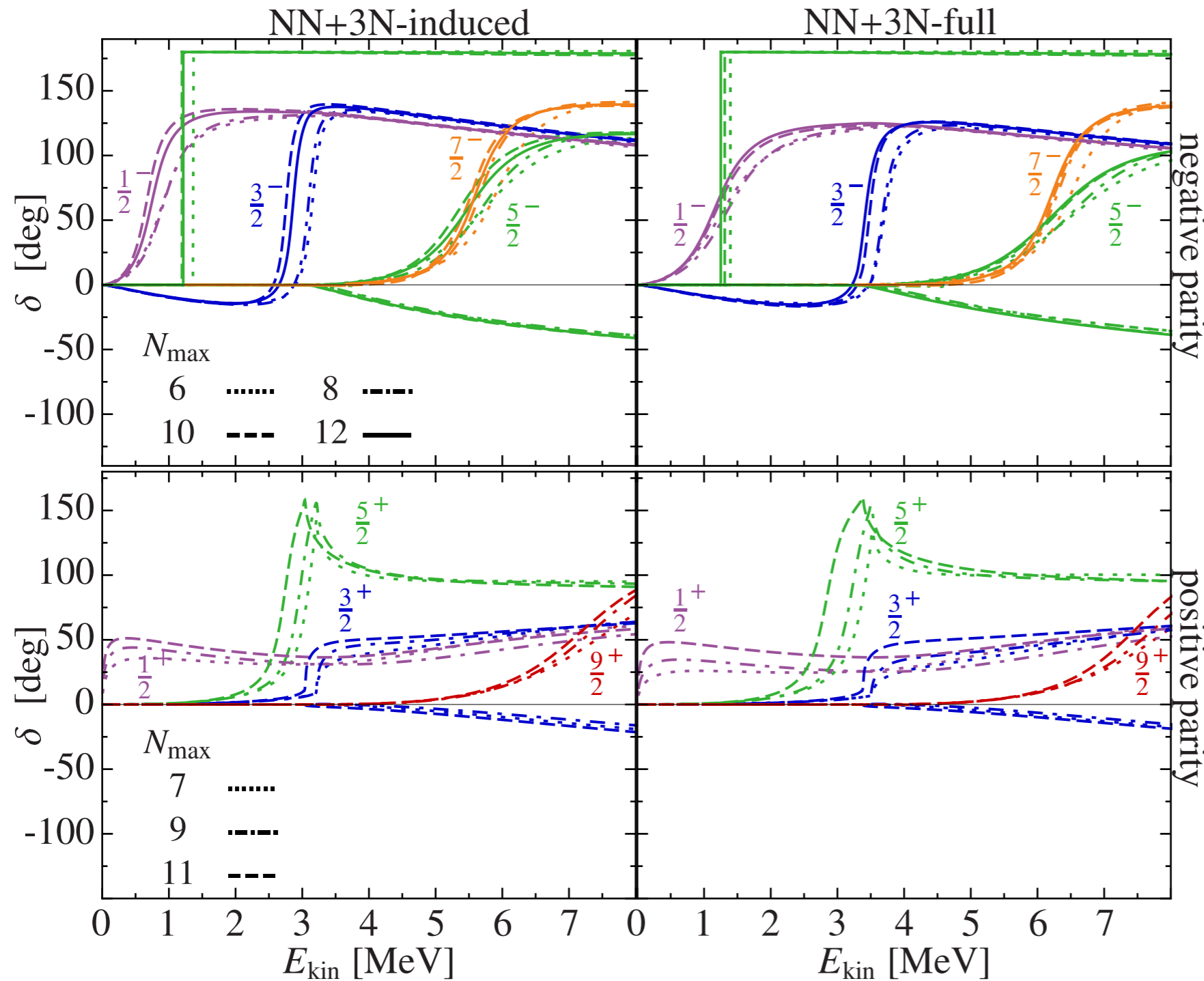
Langhammer et al.; PRC 91, 021301(R) (2015)

- ${}^9\text{Be}$ is excellent candidate to study continuum effects on spectra
- all excited states are resonances
- previous NCSM studies with NN interactions show clear discrepancies in spectrum: 3N or continuum effects?
- include n - ${}^8\text{Be}$ continuum in NCSMC
 - use $0^+, 2^+$ NCSM states of ${}^8\text{Be}$ for n - ${}^8\text{Be}$ dynamics
 - include 6 neg. and 4 pos. parity NCSM states of ${}^9\text{Be}$
- use standard NN+3N Hamiltonian
 - NN @ N3LO, Entem & Machleidt, cutoff 500 MeV
 - 3N @ N2LO, local, cutoff 500 MeV



Phase Shifts for n-⁸Be Scattering

Langhammer et al.; PRC 91, 021301(R) (2015)

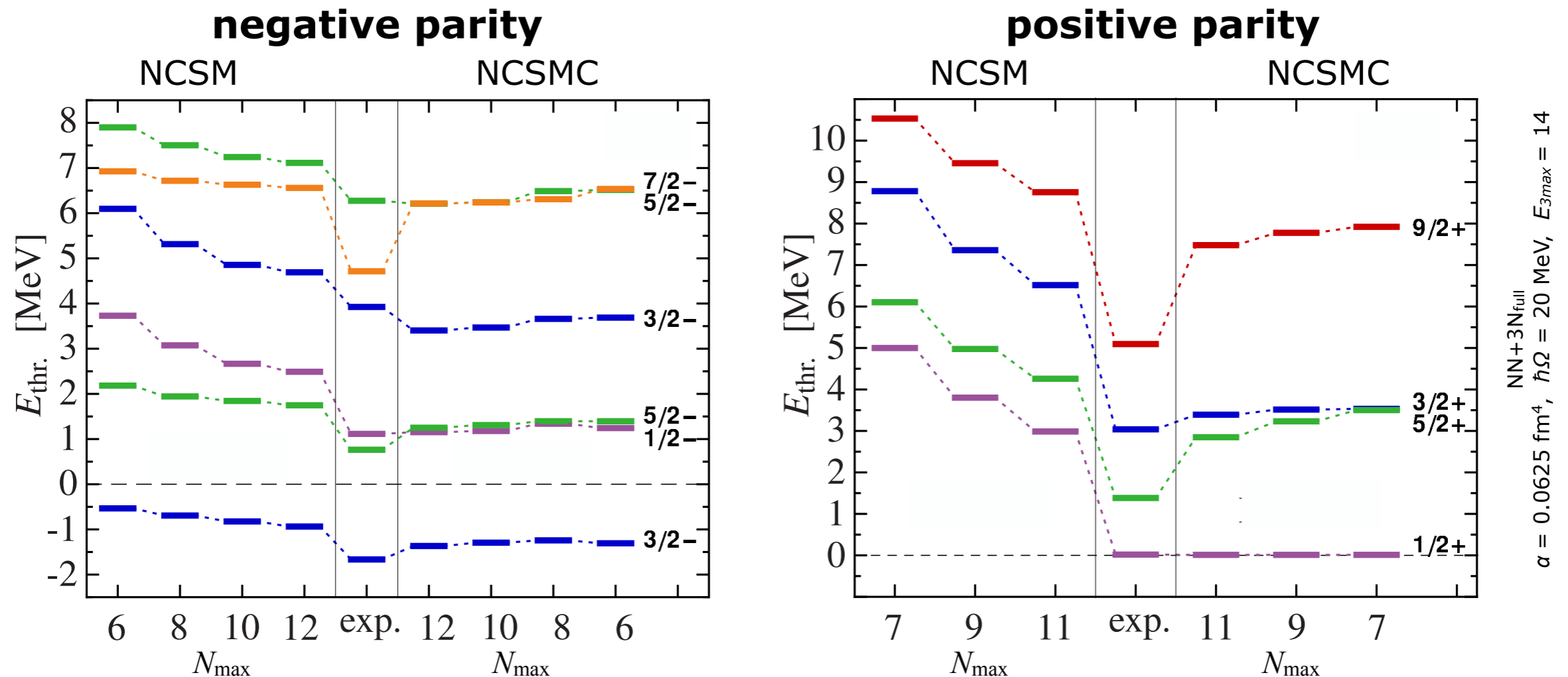


- negative parity phase-shifts are well converged, positive parity more difficult
- extract resonance parameters from inflection point and derivative

$$\alpha = 0.0625 \text{ fm}^4, \quad \hbar\Omega = 20 \text{ MeV}, \quad E_{3max} = 14$$

${}^9\text{Be}$: NCSM vs. NCSMC

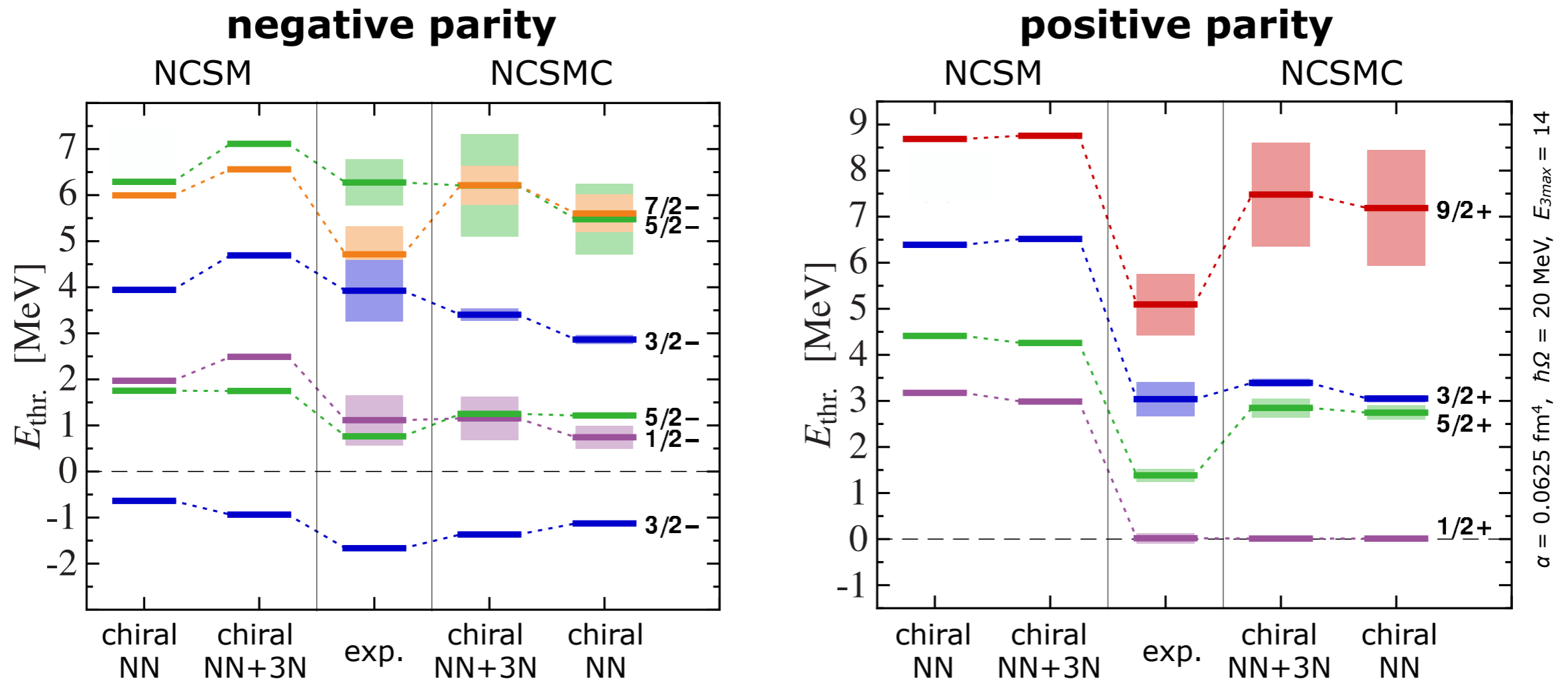
Langhammer et al.; PRC 91, 021301(R) (2015)



- NCSMC shows much better N_{max} convergence
- NCSM tries to capture continuum effects via large N_{max}
- drastic difference for the $1/2^+$ state right at threshold

${}^9\text{Be}$: Spectrum

Langhammer et al.; PRC 91, 021301(R) (2015)



- continuum plays more important role than chiral 3N interaction
- NCSMC predictions for widths are in fair agreement with experiment

Bridge to Medium-Mass Nuclei

Oxygen Isotopes

- **oxygen isotopic chain** has received significant attention and documents the **rapid progress** over the past years

Otsuka, Suzuki, Holt, Schwenk, Akaishi, PRL 105, 032501 (2010)

- 2010: **shell-model calculations** with 3N effects highlighting the role of 3N interaction for drip line physics

Hagen, Hjorth-Jensen, Jansen, Machleidt, Papenbrock, PRL 108, 242501 (2012)

- 2012: **coupled-cluster calculations** with phenomenological two-body correction simulating chiral 3N forces

Hergert, Binder, Calci, Langhammer, Roth, PRL 110, 242501 (2013)

- 2013: **ab initio IT-NCSM** with explicit chiral 3N interactions and first **multi-reference in-medium SRG** calculations...

Cipollone, Barbieri, Navrátil, PRL 111, 062501 (2013)

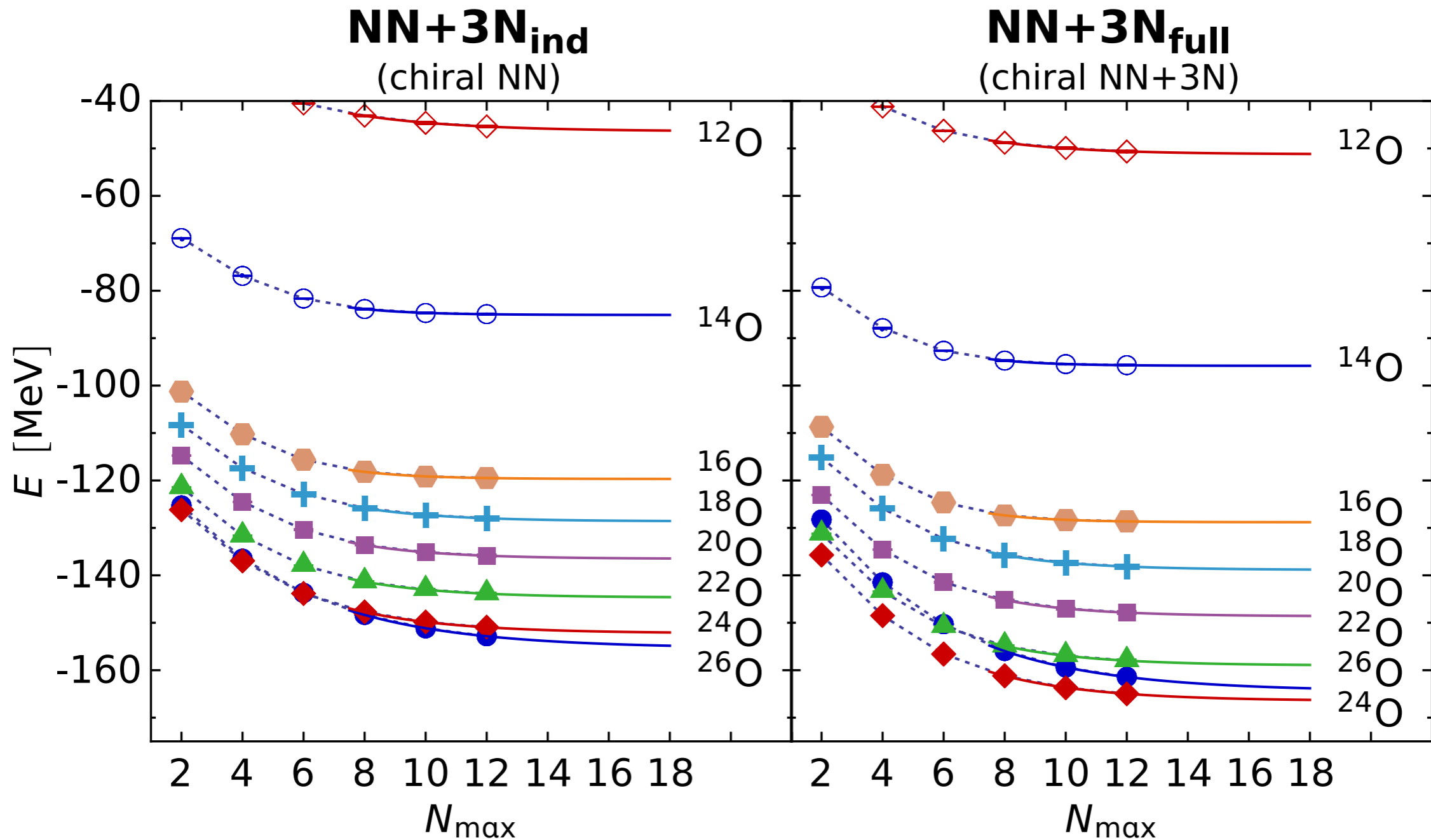
Bogner, Hergert, Holt, Schwenk, Binder, Calci, Langhammer, Roth, PRL 113, 142501 (2014)

Jansen, Engel, Hagen, Navratil, Signoracci, PRL 113, 142502 (2014)

- since: self-consistent Green's function, shell model with valence-space interactions from in-medium SRG or Lee-Suzuki,...

Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

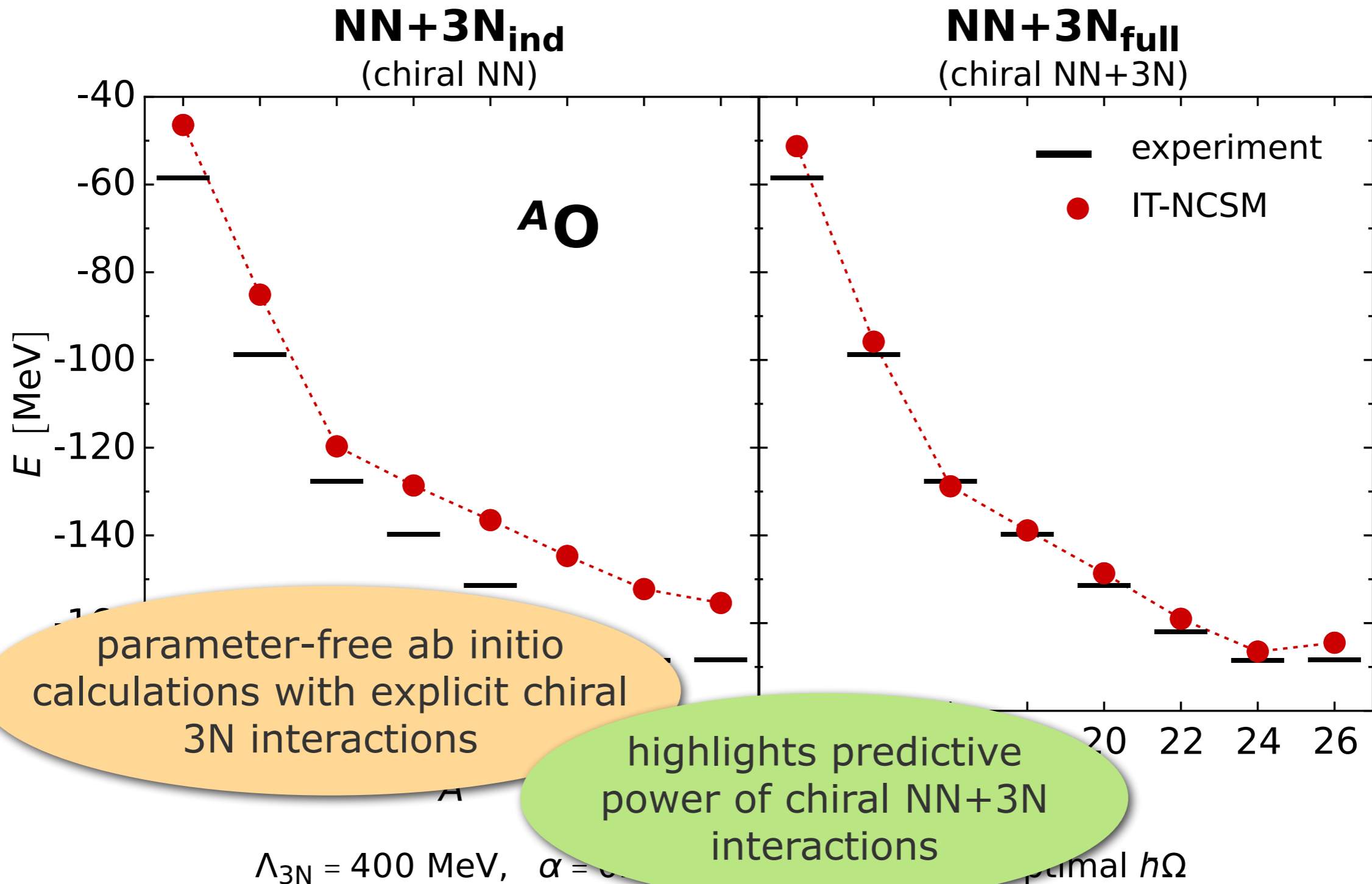
Hergert et al., PRL 110, 242501 (2013)



$\Lambda_{3\text{N}} = 400 \text{ MeV}$, $\alpha = 0.08 \text{ fm}^4$, $E_{3\text{max}} = 14$, optimal $h\Omega$

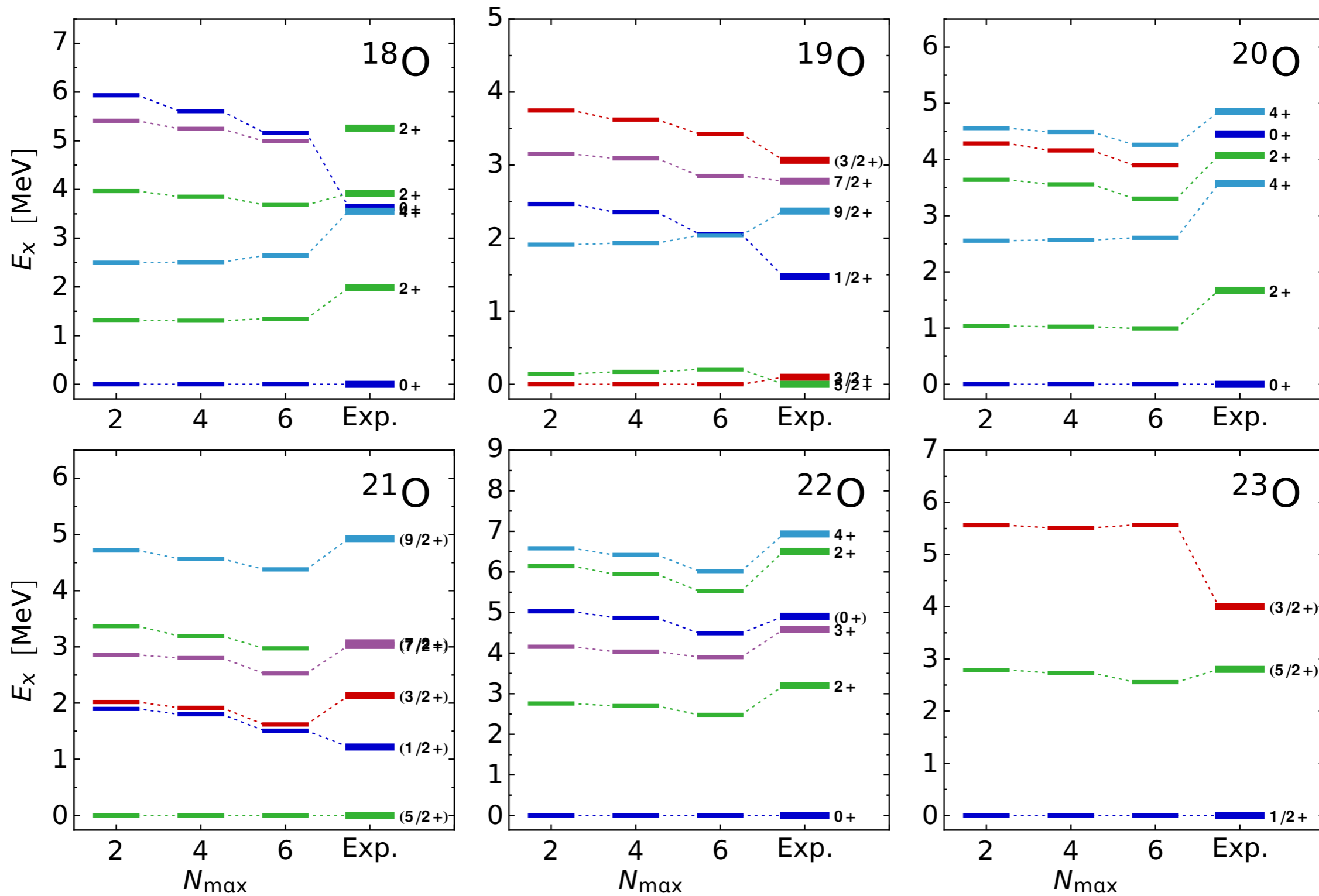
Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

Hergert et al., PRL 110, 242501 (2013)



Spectra of Oxygen Isotopes

Hergert et al., PRL 110, 242501 (2013) & in prep.



NN+3N_{full} (chiral NN+3N)
 $\Lambda_{3N} = 400 \text{ MeV}$, $\alpha = 0.08 \text{ fm}^4$, $\hbar\Omega = 16 \text{ MeV}$

Medium-Mass Approaches

advent of novel ab initio many-body approaches
gives access to the medium-mass regime

Hagen, Papenbrock, Dean, Piecuch, Binder,...

■ **coupled-cluster theory**: ground-state parametrized by exponential
wave operator applied to single-determinant reference state

- truncation at doubles level (CCSD) plus triples correction
- equations of motion for excited states and amplitudes

Utsunomiya, Suzuki, Tsunoyama, Tsunoyama, Schwenk, Hergert,...

■ **in-medium SRG**: coupled-cluster-like approach to hole excitations from
many-body reference state

- normal-ordered Hamiltonian truncated at two-body level
- iterative solution for ground states; excitations via EOM or SM

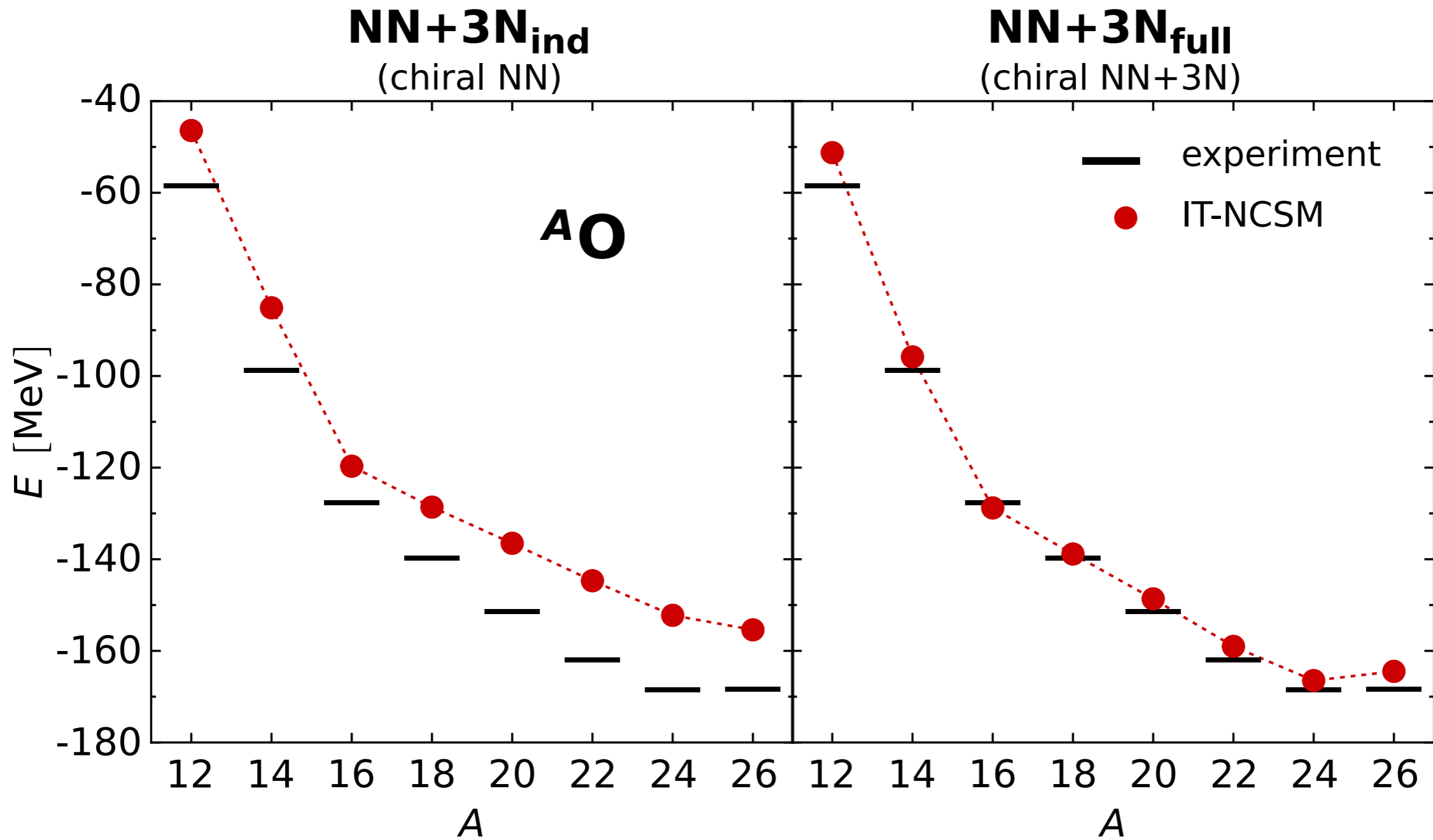
Barbieri, Soma, Duguet,...

■ self-consistent Green's function approaches and others...

**controlling and quantifying the uncertainties
due to various inherent truncations is a major task**

Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

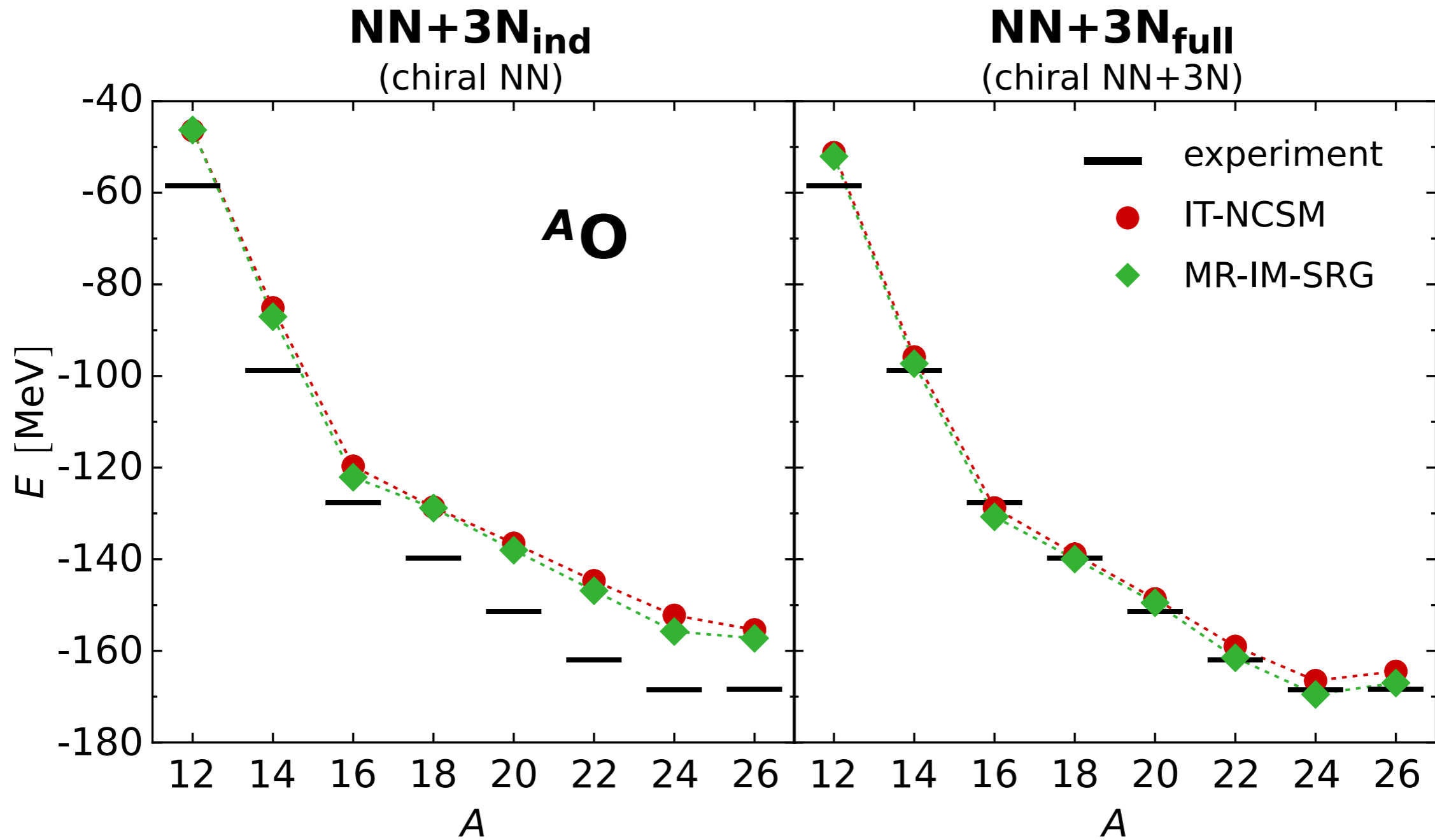
Hergert et al., PRL 110, 242501 (2013)



$$\Lambda_{3N} = 400 \text{ MeV}, \quad \alpha = 0.08 \text{ fm}^4, \quad E_{3\text{max}} = 14, \quad \text{optimal } h\Omega$$

Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

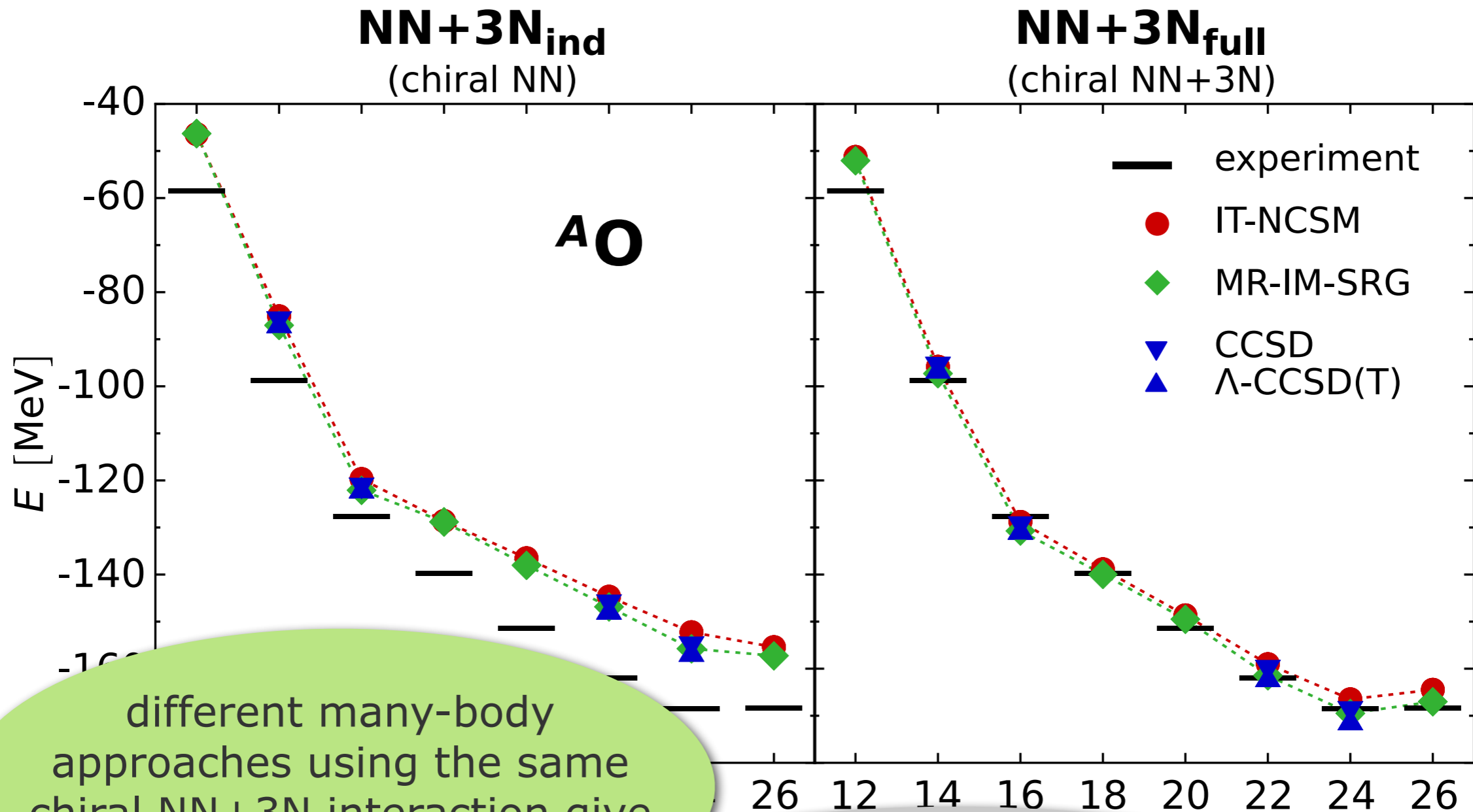
Hergert et al., PRL 110, 242501 (2013)



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Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

Hergert et al., PRL 110, 242501 (2013)

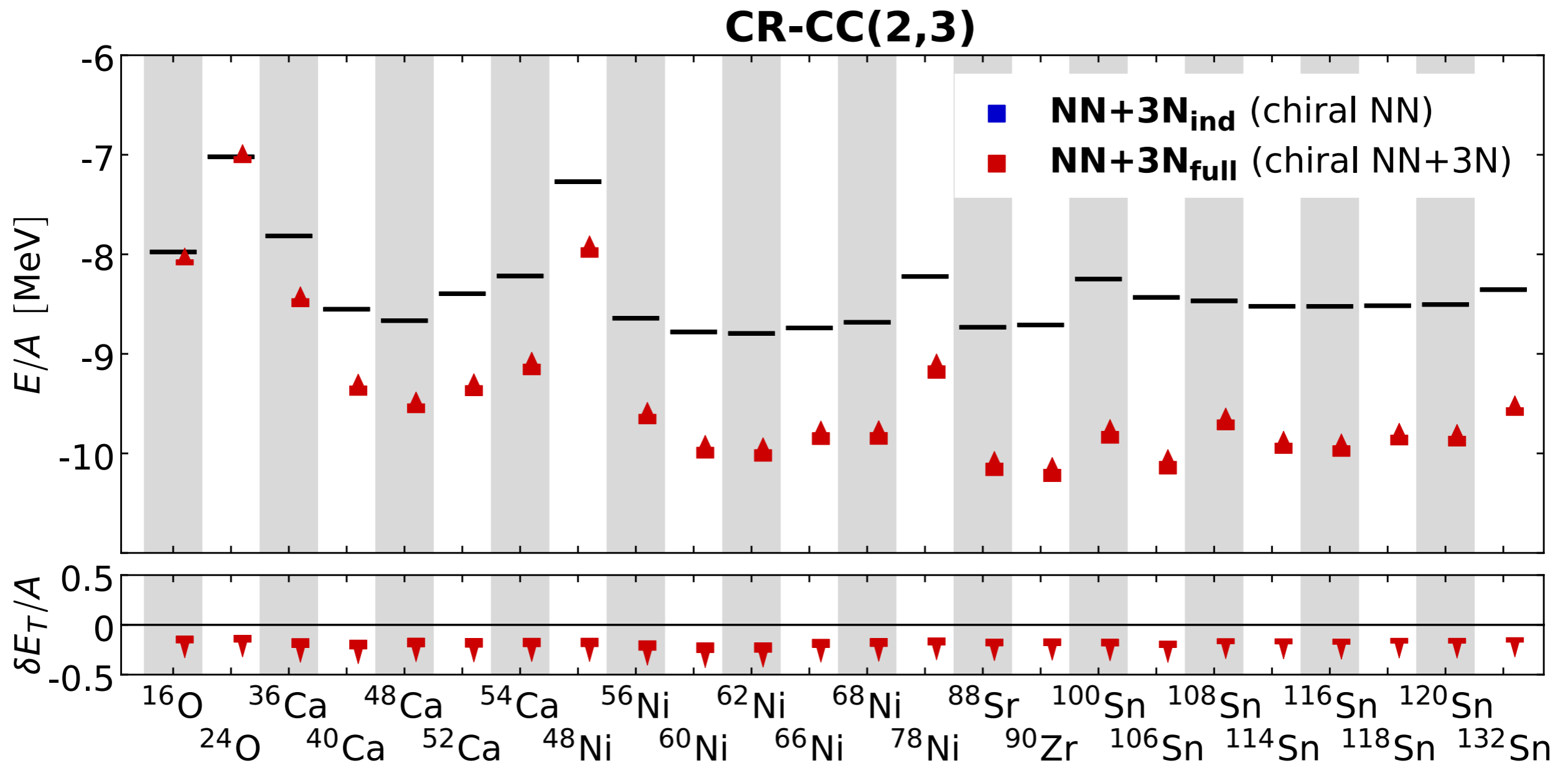


different many-body approaches using the same chiral NN+3N interaction give consistent results

minor differences are understood in terms of uncertainties due to truncations

Towards Heavy Nuclei - Ab Initio

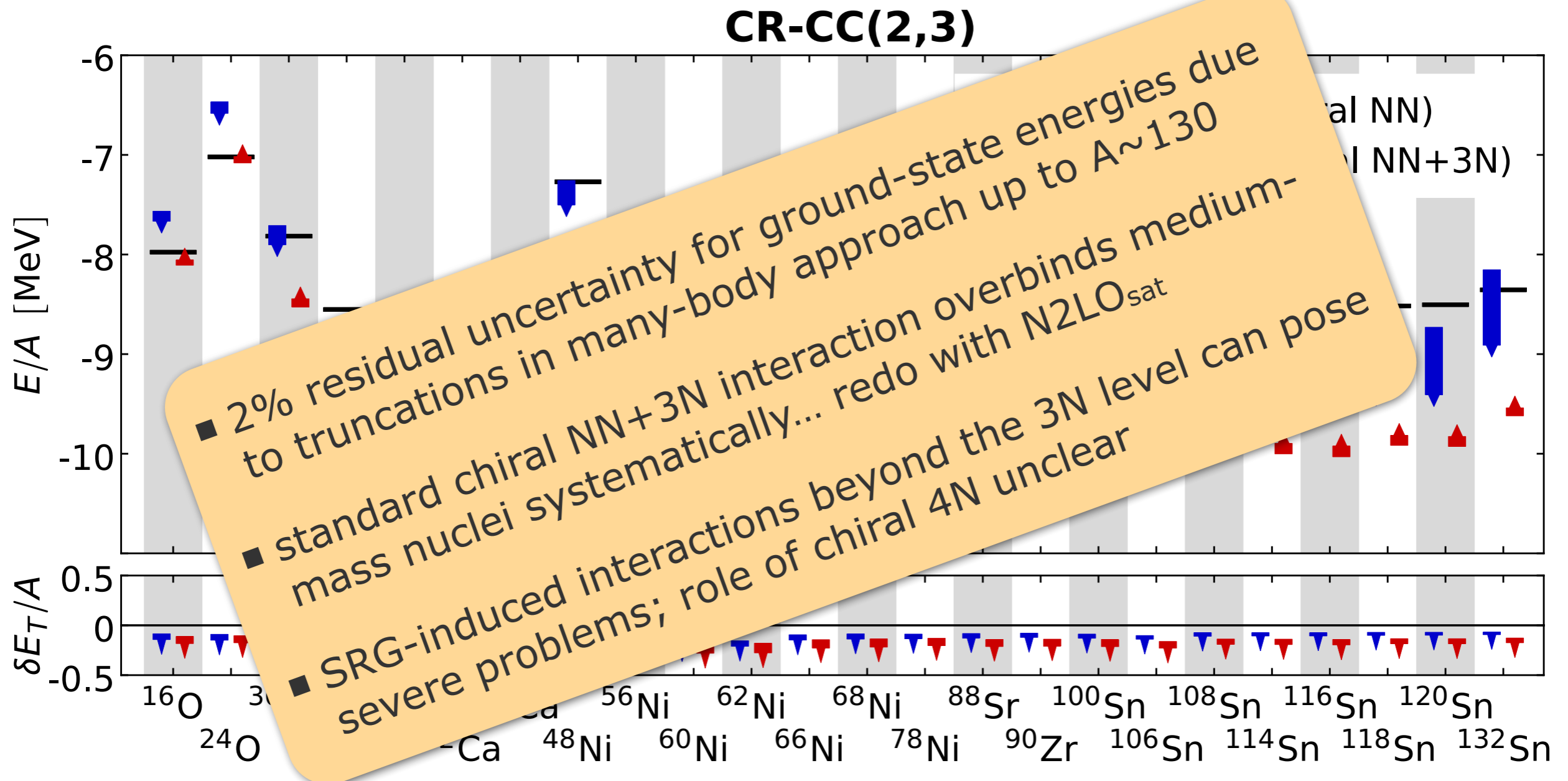
Binder et al., PLB 736, 119 (2014)



$$\Lambda_{3N} = 400 \text{ MeV}, \quad \alpha = 0.08 \rightarrow 0.04 \text{ fm}^4, \quad E_{3\text{max}} = 18, \quad \text{optimal } h\Omega$$

Towards Heavy Nuclei - Ab Initio

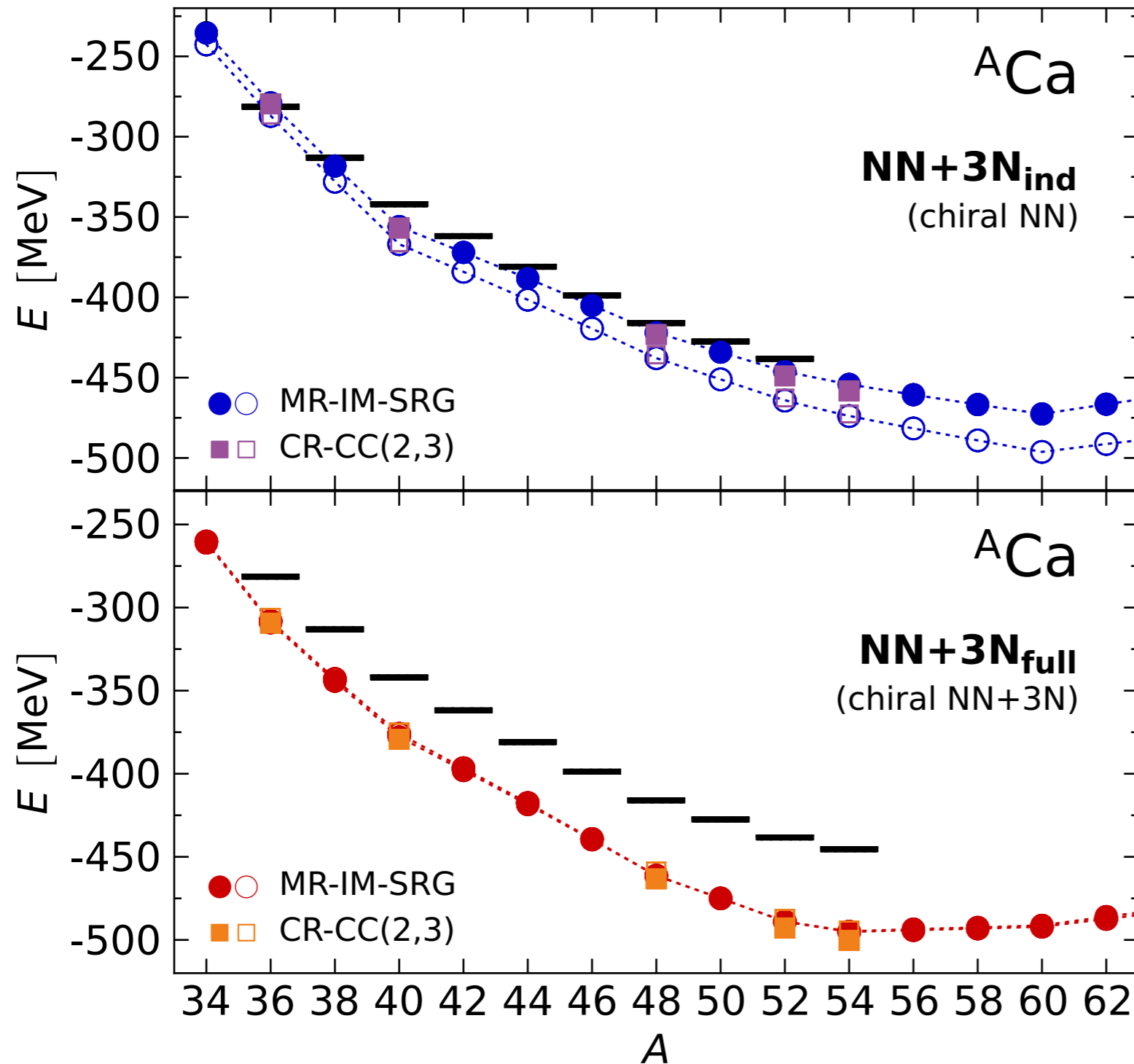
Binder et al., PLB 736, 119 (2014)



$$\Lambda_{3N} = 400 \text{ MeV}, \quad \alpha = 0.08 \rightarrow 0.04 \text{ fm}^4, \quad E_{3\text{max}} = 18, \quad \text{optimal } h\Omega$$

Open-Shell Medium-Mass Nuclei

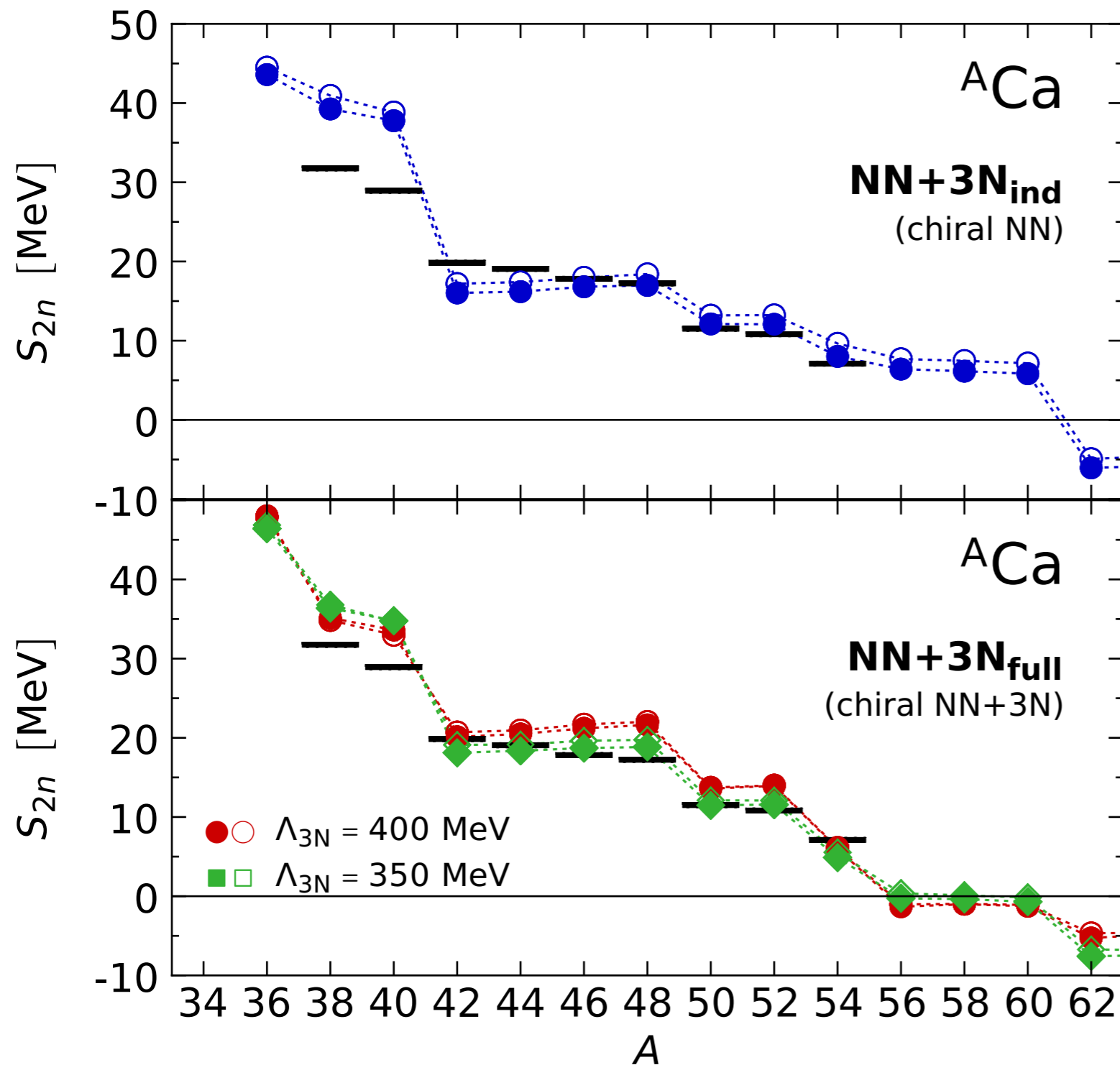
Hergert et al., PRC 90, 041302(R) (2014)



- systematic MR-IM-SRG study of even Ca and Ni isotopes
- excellent agreement with best available coupled-cluster results
- chiral 3N interaction changes behavior at and beyond ^{54}Ca

Open-Shell Medium-Mass Nuclei

Hergert et al., PRC 90, 041302(R) (2014)



- two-neutron separation energies hide overall energy shift

- compares well to updated Gor'kov-GF results

[priv. comm. V. Soma]

- chiral 3N interaction predicts flat "drip-region" from ⁵⁶Ca to ⁶⁰Ca

News:

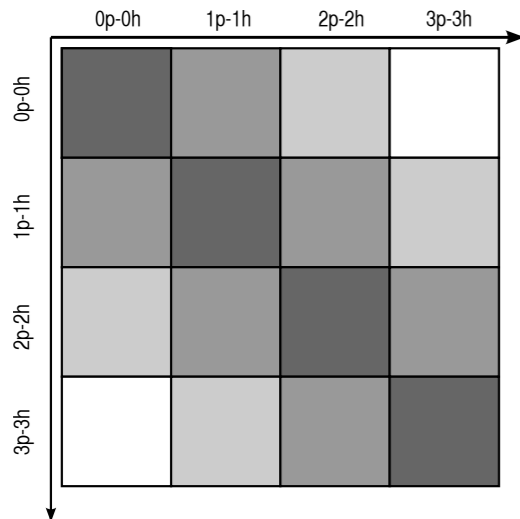
Merging NCSM and IM-SRG

with

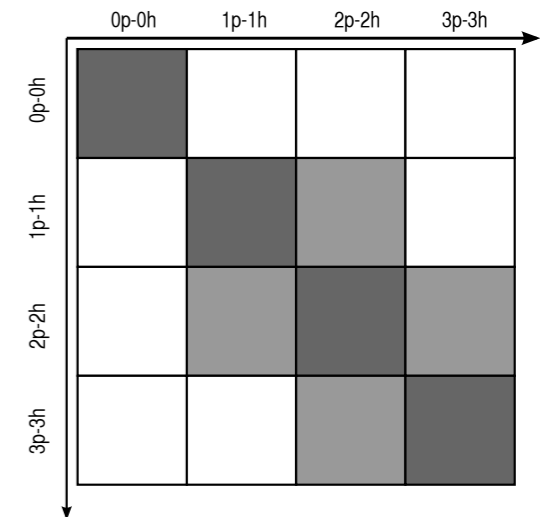
Eskendr Gebrerufael, Heiko Hergert, Klaus Vobig

In-Medium SRG

Tsukiyama, Bogner, Schwenk, Hergert,...



use SRG flow equations for normal-ordered Hamiltonian to decouple many-body reference state from excitations



- flow equation for Hamiltonian

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

- Hamiltonian in single-reference or multi-reference (Kutzelnigg/Mukherjee) normal order, omitting normal-ordered 3B term

$$H(s) = E(s) + \sum_{ij} f_j^i(s) \tilde{A}_j^i + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{ijkl} \Gamma_{kl}^{ij}(s) \tilde{A}_{kl}^{ij} + \frac{1}{36} \sum_{ijklmn} W_{lmn}^{ijk}(s) \tilde{A}_{lmn}^{ijk}$$

IM-SRG Generators

- **Wegner**: simple, intuitive, inefficient

$$\eta = [H_d, H] = [H_d, H_{od}]$$

- **White**: efficient, problems with near degeneracies

$$\eta_2^1 = (\Delta_2^1)^{-1} n_1 \bar{n}_2 f_2^1 - [1 \leftrightarrow 2]$$

$$\eta_{34}^{12} = (\Delta_{34}^{12})^{-1} n_1 n_2 \bar{n}_3 \bar{n}_4 \Gamma_{34}^{12} - [12 \leftrightarrow 34]$$

- **Imaginary Time**: good work horse [Morris, Bogner]

$$\eta_2^1 = \text{sgn}(\Delta_2^1) n_1 \bar{n}_2 f_2^1 - [1 \leftrightarrow 2]$$

$$\eta_{34}^{12} = \text{sgn}(\Delta_{34}^{12}) n_1 n_2 \bar{n}_3 \bar{n}_4 \Gamma_{34}^{12} - [12 \leftrightarrow 34]$$

- **Brillouin**: better work horse [Hergert]

$$\eta_2^1 = \langle \Phi | [\tilde{A}_2^1, H] | \Phi \rangle$$

$$\eta_{34}^{12} = \langle \Phi | [\tilde{A}_{34}^{12}, H] | \Phi \rangle$$

Interfaces with NCSM

NCSM before IM-SRG

- use ground-state from NCSM at small N_{\max} as reference state for multi-reference IM-SRG
- not limited to subsets of open-shell nuclei and systematically improvable

NCSM after IM-SRG

- use normal-ordered Hamiltonian $H(s)$ at some value of the flow parameter for a subsequent NCSM or CI calculation
- access to excited states and full spectroscopy, additional diagnostics for the ground state
- can use the in-medium evolved Hamiltonian also in other approaches, e.g., equations-of-motion methods, RPA, Second-RPA
- this is different from IM-SRG for generating shell-model interactions

NCSM-MR-IM-SRG-NCSM Workflow

- pick interaction and nucleus
- solve NCSM problem in small N_{\max}
- ground state defines reference state

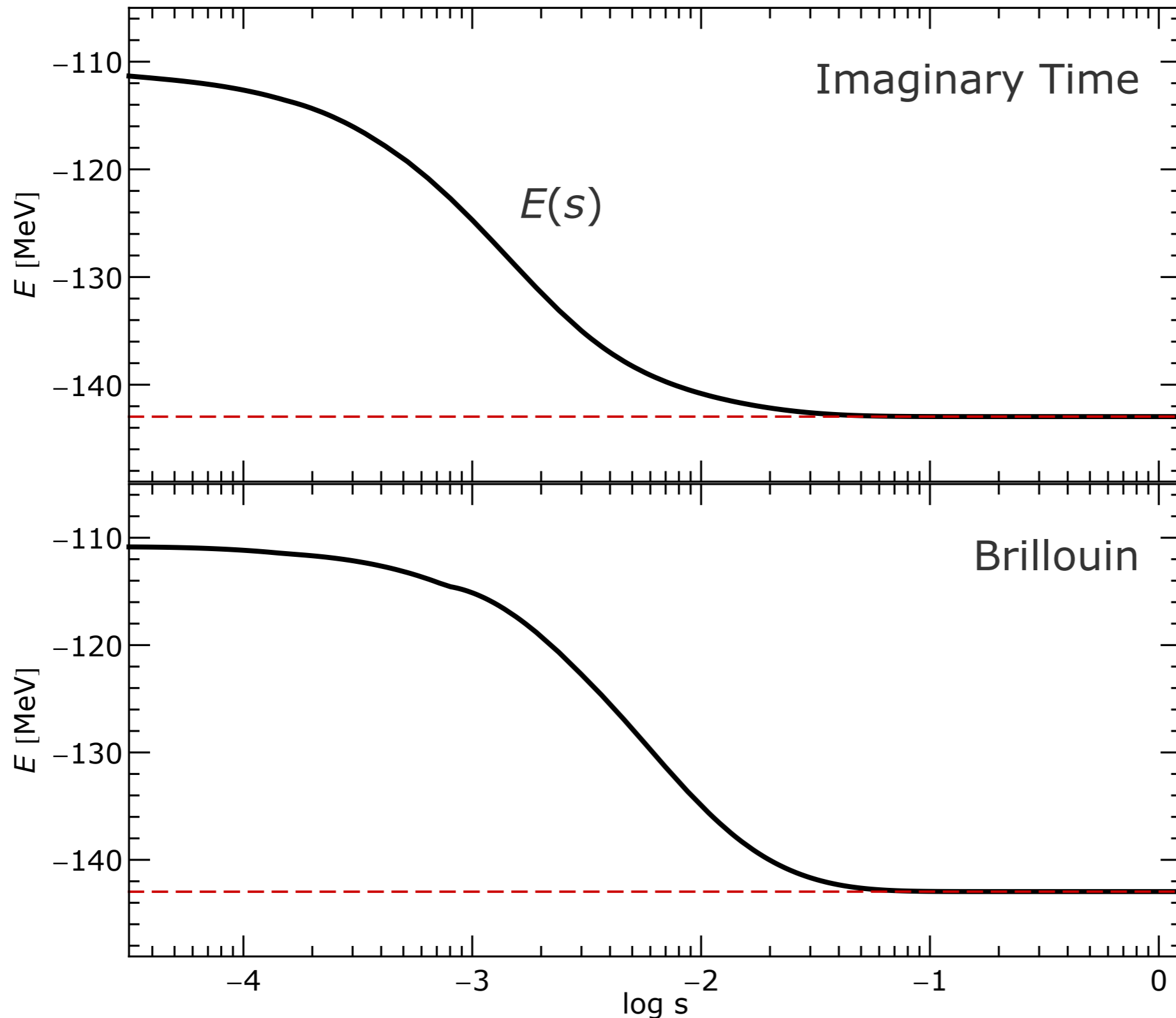
compute density matrices and multi-ref. normal-ordered Hamiltonian

- solve MR-IM-SRG flow equations
- spherical formulation limited to scalar densities for now

extract evolved Hamiltonian in vacuum representation

- NCSM or CI calculation for ground and excited states
- ...

^{16}O : Flowing Energy



^{16}O

chiral NN+3N

$\Lambda_{3N}=500$ MeV

$\alpha=0.08$ fm⁴

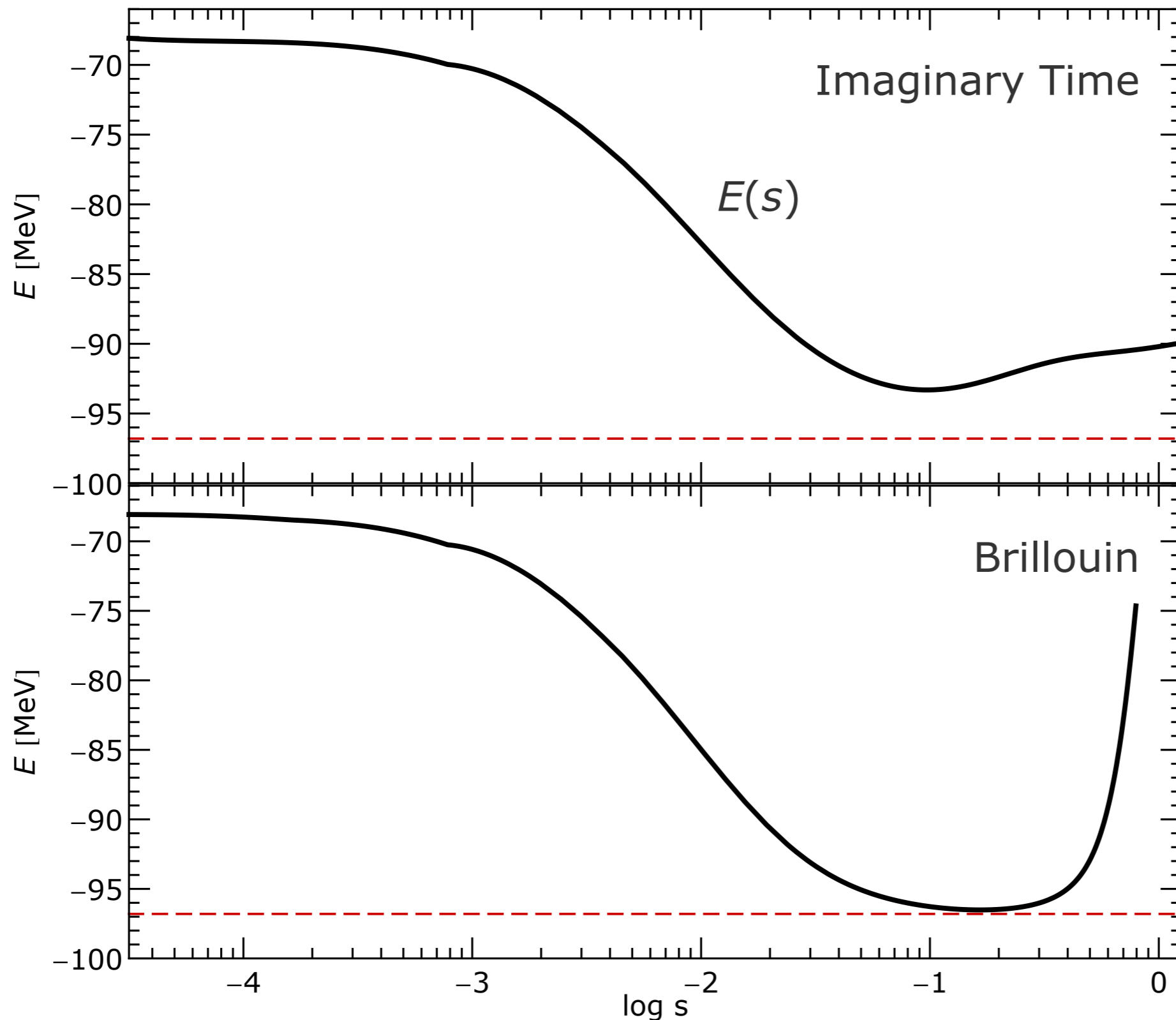
$\hbar\Omega=20$ MeV

$N_{\max}=0$

reference state

$e_{\max}=4$

^{12}C : Flowing Energy



^{12}C

chiral NN+3N

$\Lambda_{3N}=500$ MeV

$\alpha=0.08$ fm⁴

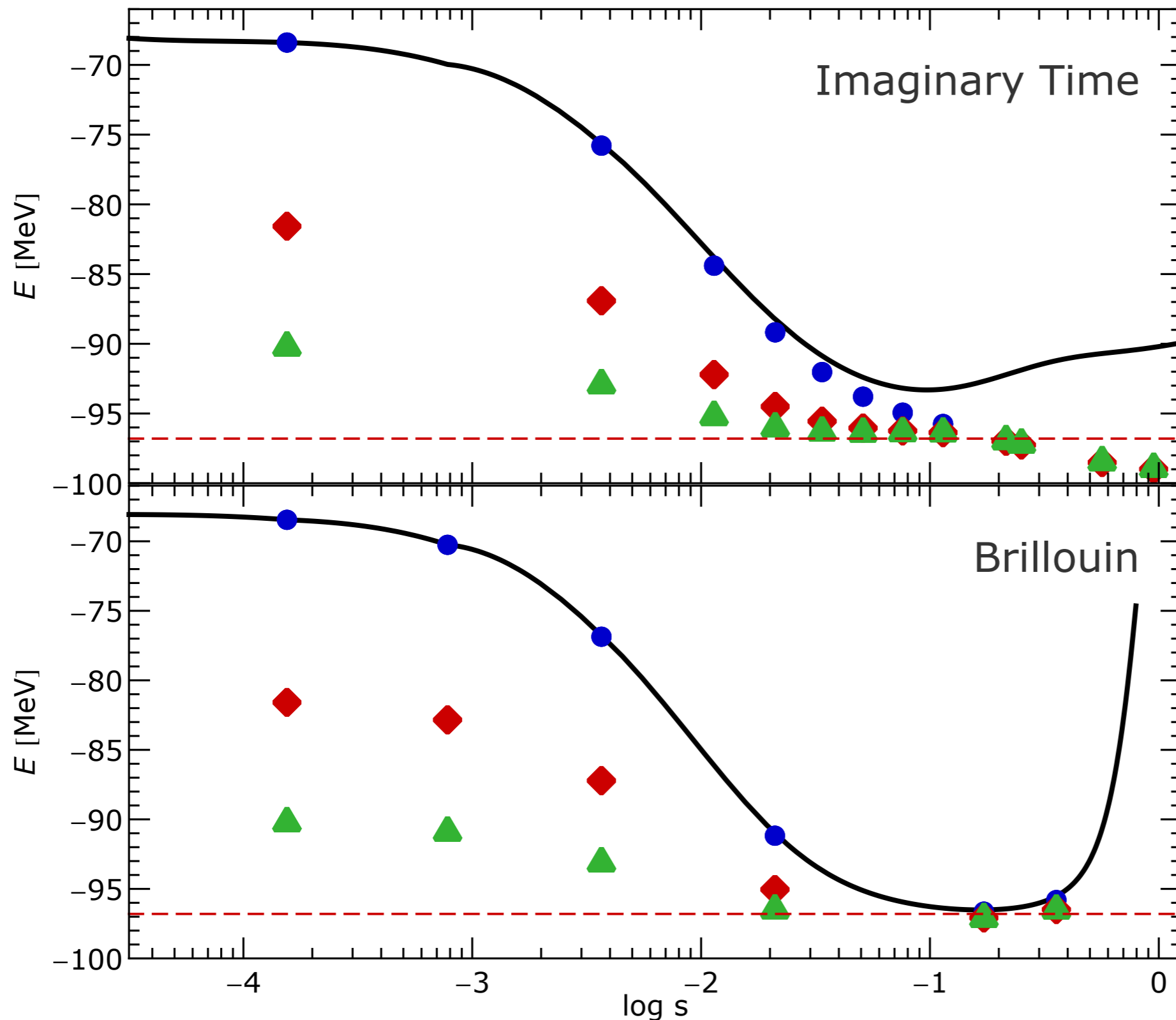
$\hbar\Omega=20$ MeV

$N_{\max}=0$

reference state

$e_{\max}=4$

^{12}C : Flowing Energy



^{12}C

chiral NN+3N

$\Lambda_{3N}=500$ MeV

$\alpha=0.08$ fm⁴

$\hbar\Omega=20$ MeV

$N_{\max}=0$

reference state

$e_{\max}=4$

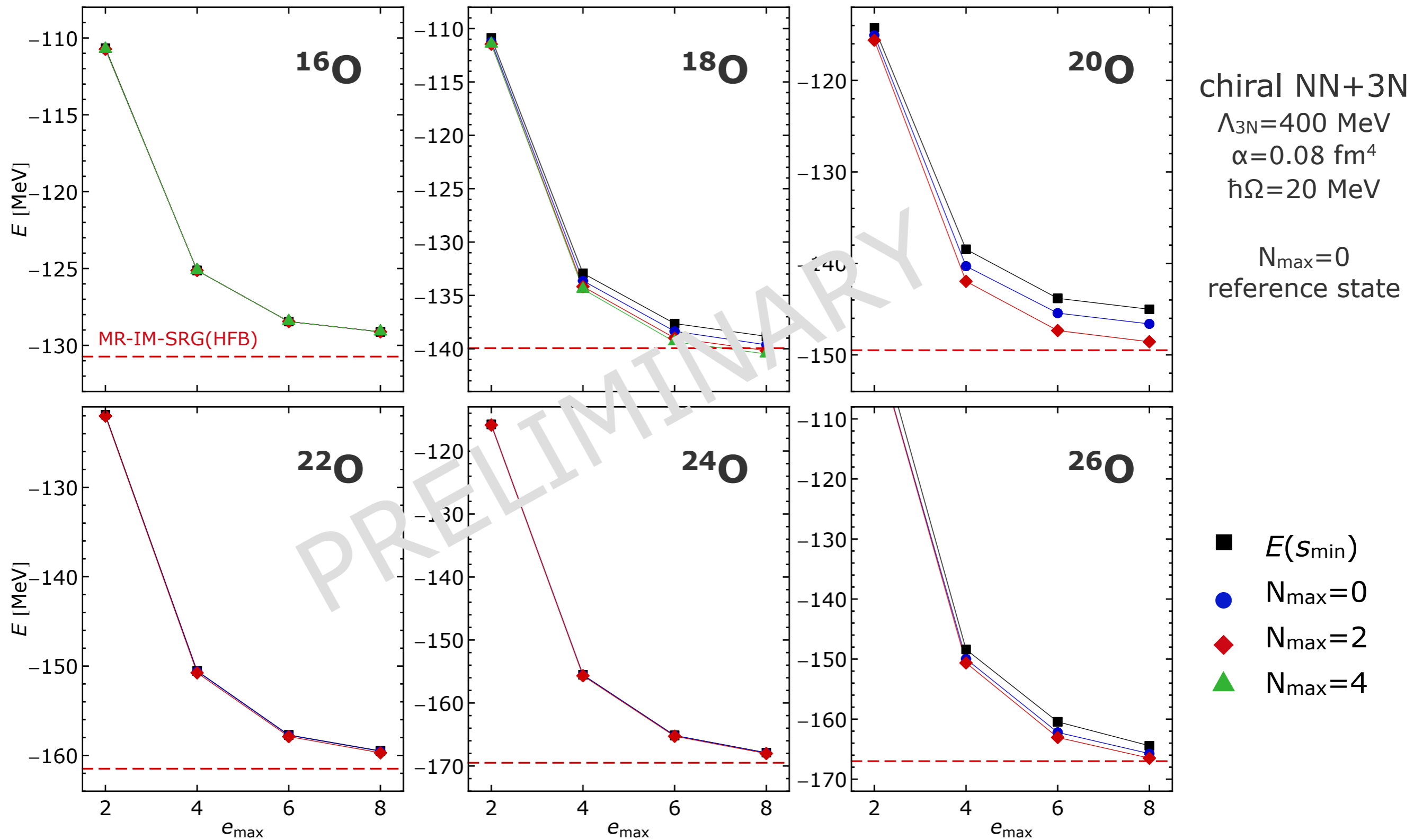
NCSM with flowing
Hamiltonian

● $N_{\max}=0$

◆ $N_{\max}=2$

▲ $N_{\max}=4$

Oxygen Isotopes



News:

Importance Truncated Shell Model

with Christina Stumpf

Importance Truncation

PRC 79, 064324 (2009), PRL 99, 092501 (2007)

adaptive and physics-driven truncation
criterion based on a perturbative estimate for the
amplitude of individual basis states

- **importance measure** for basis state $|\Phi_\nu\rangle$ for the description of target state represented by $|\Psi_{\text{ref}}\rangle$

$$K_\nu = -\frac{\langle \Phi_\nu | H | \Psi_{\text{ref}} \rangle}{\epsilon_\nu - \epsilon_{\text{ref}}}$$

- reduce model space to important basis states with $|K_\nu| \geq K_{\text{min}}$ for a given **importance threshold** K_{min}
- solve eigenvalue problem for a set of importance thresholds and extrapolate a posteriori to full space

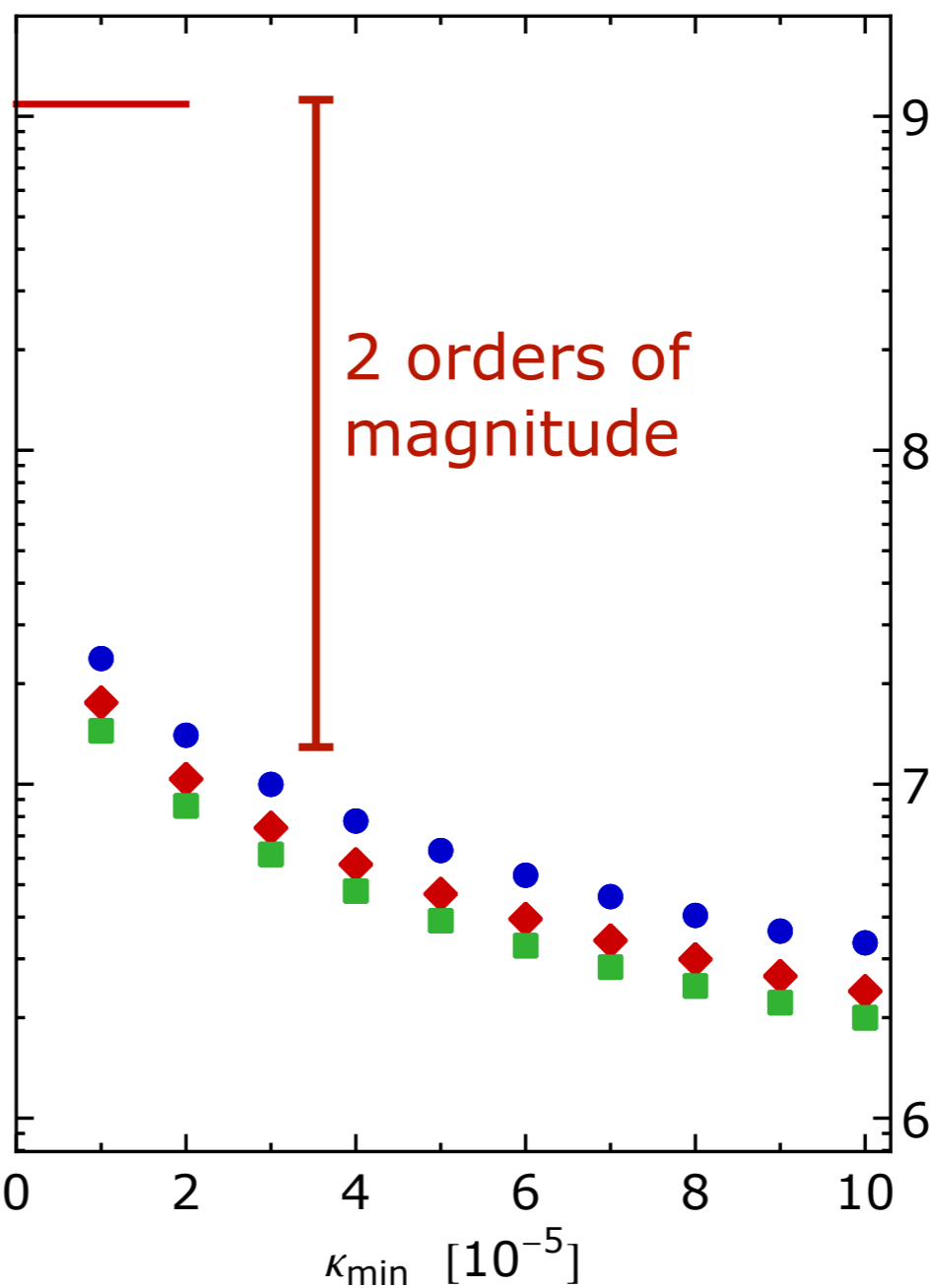
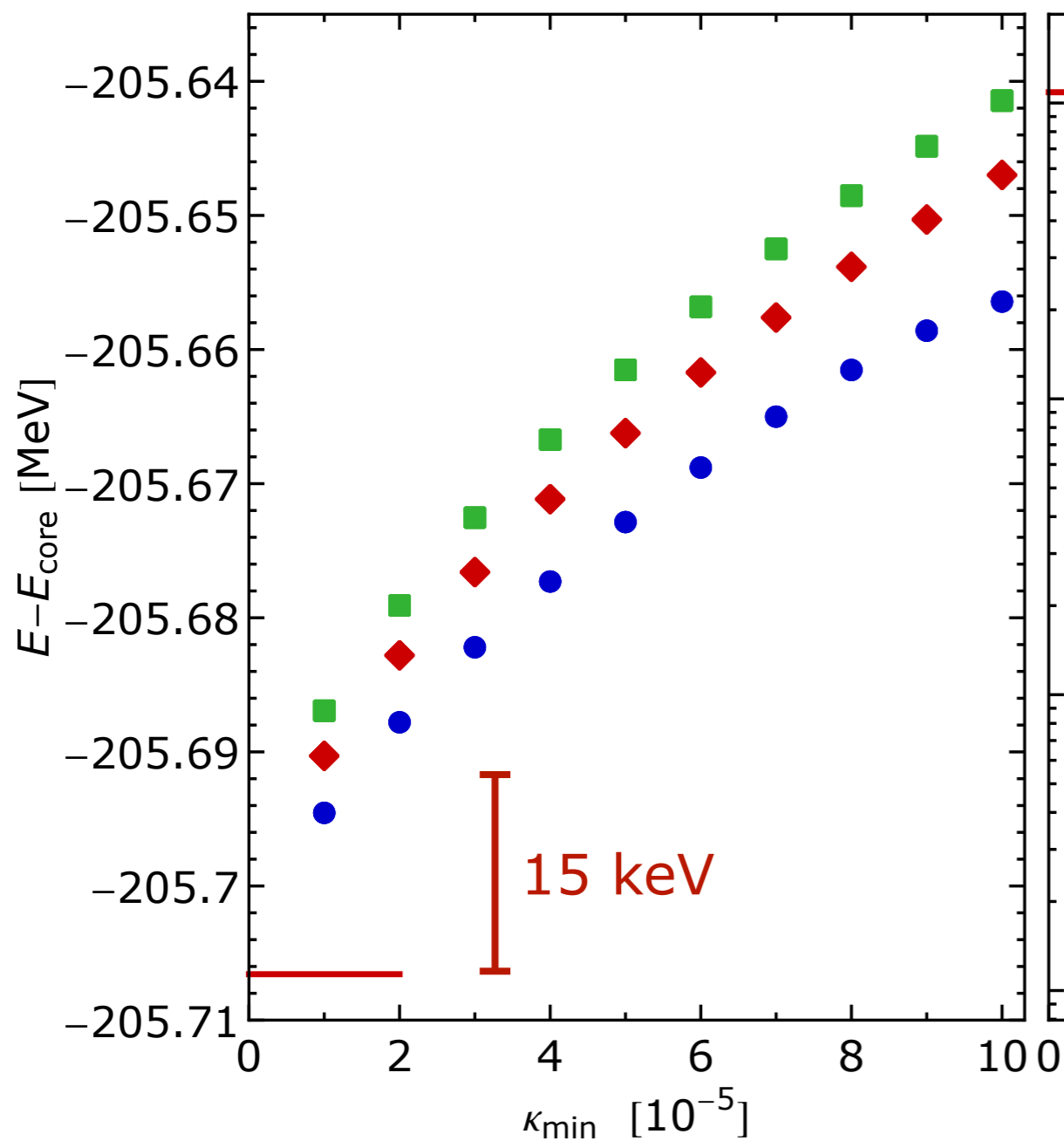
Importance Truncated SM

- valence-space shell model also **limited by model-space dimension**, specifically for pf-shell and beyond or multi-shell valence spaces
- apply **importance truncation** for a sequence of T_{\max} -truncated model spaces, analogously to N_{\max} sequence in NCSM
- **sequential IT-SM** algorithm:
 - (1) do full SM calculation up to convenient T_{\max}
 - (2) use components of eigenstates with $|C_{\nu}| \geq C_{\min}$ to define reference states
 - (3) consider all basis states from $T_{\max} = T_{\max}+2$ space and add those with $|K_{\nu}| \geq K_{\min}$ to importance truncated space
 - (4) solve eigenvalue problem in importance truncated space (for set of K_{\min})
 - (5) goto (2)
- in the limit $K_{\min}, C_{\min} \rightarrow 0$ the full T_{\max} -truncated model space is recovered

^{56}Ni : Threshold Dependence

ground-state energy

dimension



^{56}Ni

GXPF1A

full pf space
($T_{\text{max}}=16$)

C_{min}

- 1×10^{-4}
- ◆ 2×10^{-4}
- 3×10^{-4}

— full SM; Horoi, Brown et al; PRC 73, 061305(R) (2006)

Energy Variance

energy variance provides a model-independent measure for the “distance” of an approximate state (truncated space) from a true eigenstate (full space)

$$\Delta E^2 = \langle \Psi | H^2 | \Psi \rangle - \langle \Psi | H | \Psi \rangle^2$$

- energy shows predominantly linear dependence on ΔE^2 , use quadratic term as sub-leading correction

Mizusaki, Imada, PRC 67, 041301 (2003)

- evaluation of expectation value of H^2 is expensive...
 - NCSM: insert completeness relation for full N_{\max} space
 - SM: compute valence-space matrix elements of H^2 explicitly (up to 4B)

- was explored in NCSM and is applied routinely in MCSM calculations

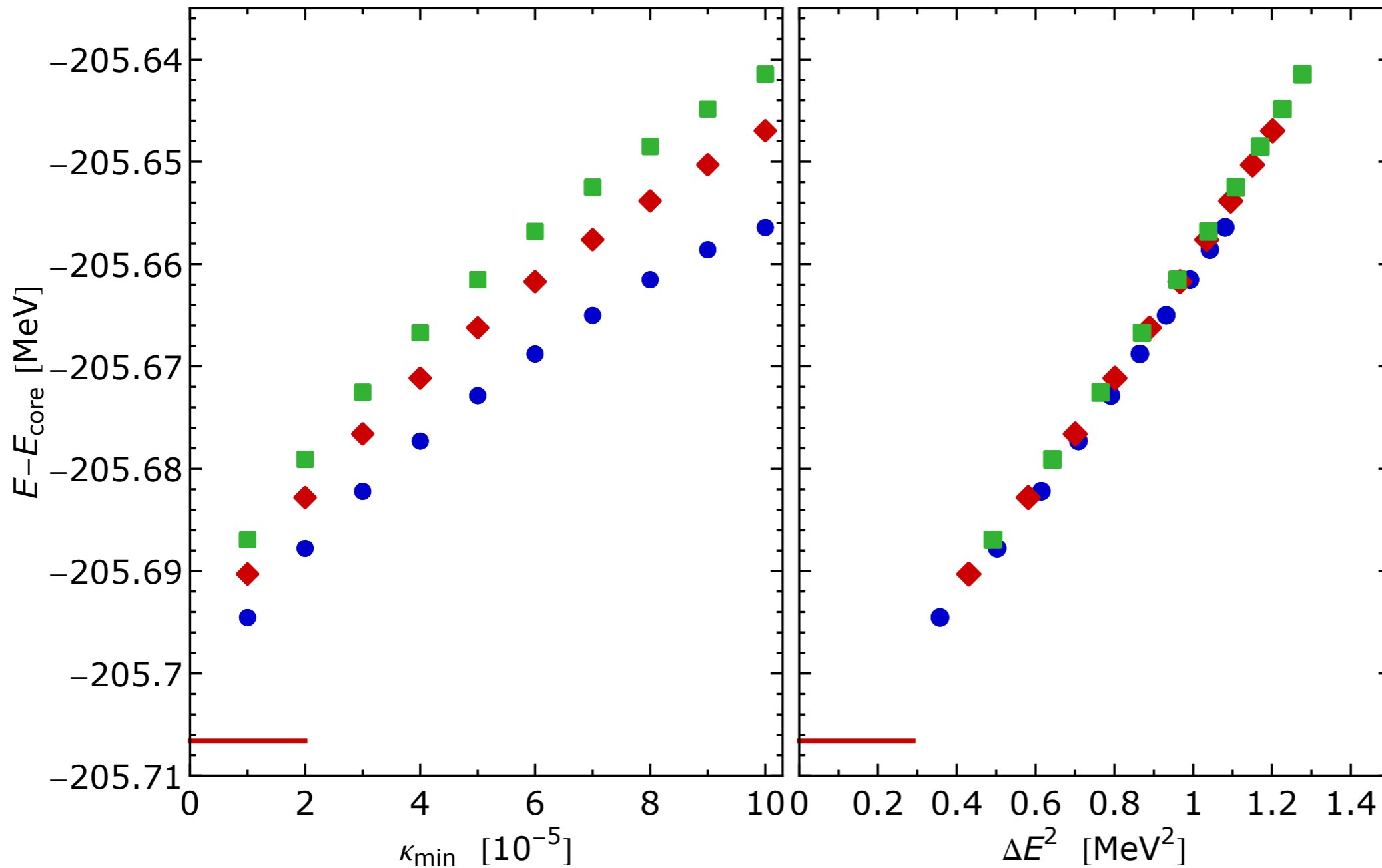
Zhan, Nogga, et al., PRC 69, 034302 (2004)

Shimizu, Abe, et al., Prog. Theo. Exp. Physics 2012, 01A205 (2012)

^{56}Ni : Threshold vs. Variance

threshold dep.

variance dep.



^{56}Ni

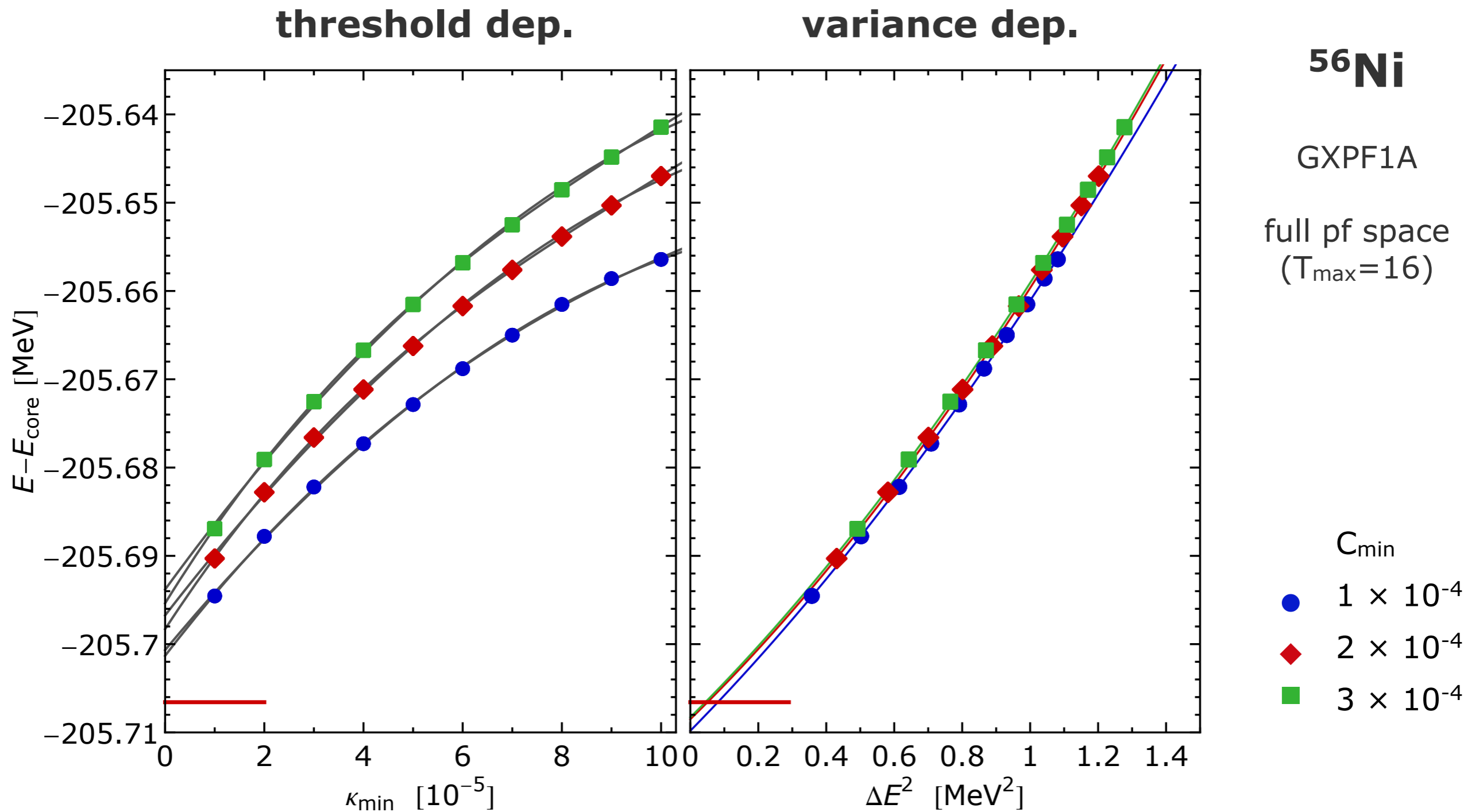
GXPF1A

full pf space
($T_{\text{max}}=16$)

C_{min}

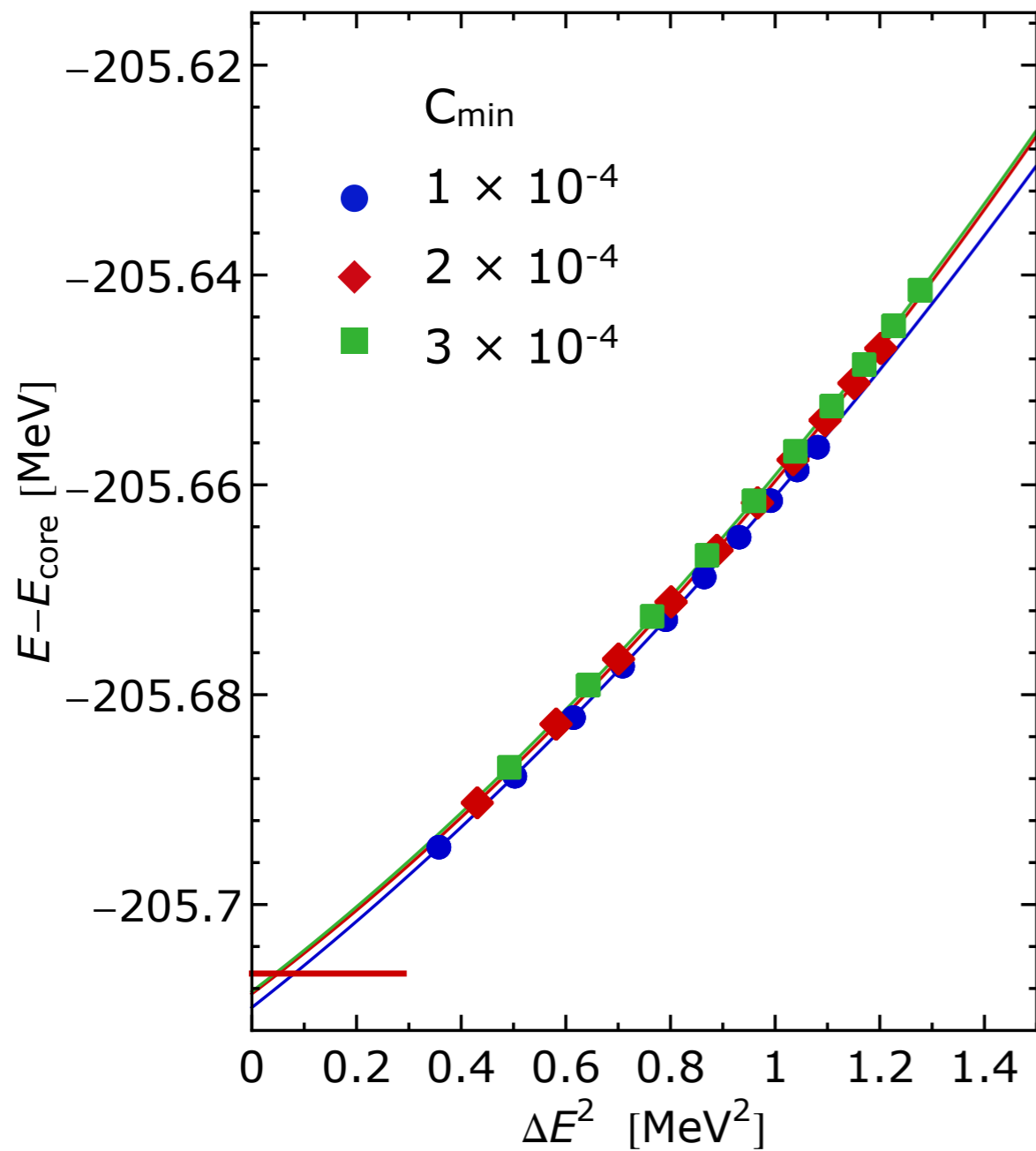
- Blue circle: 1×10^{-4}
- Red diamond: 2×10^{-4}
- Green square: 3×10^{-4}

^{56}Ni : Threshold vs. Variance

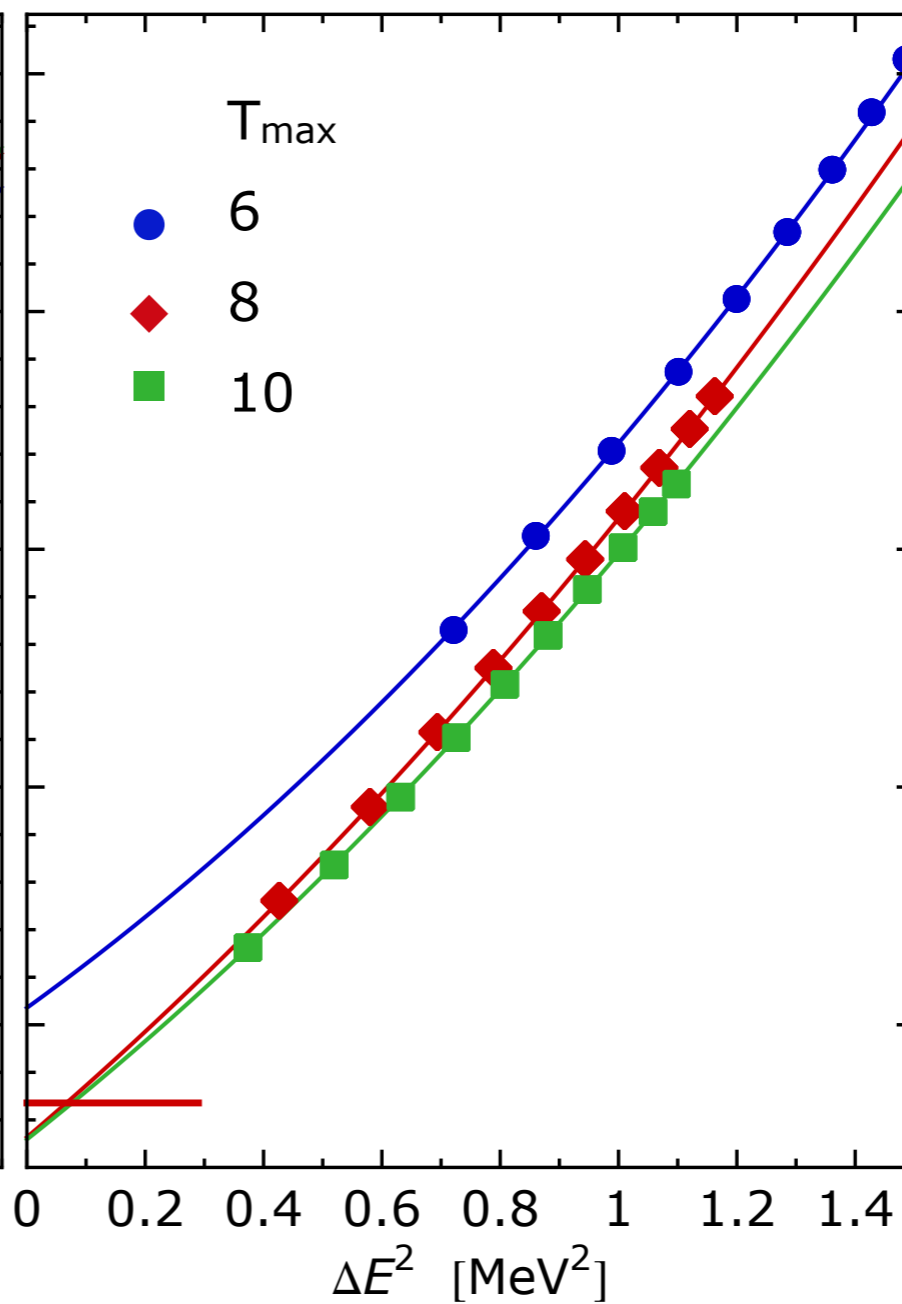


^{56}Ni : Variance with T_{max} Truncation

C_{min} truncation

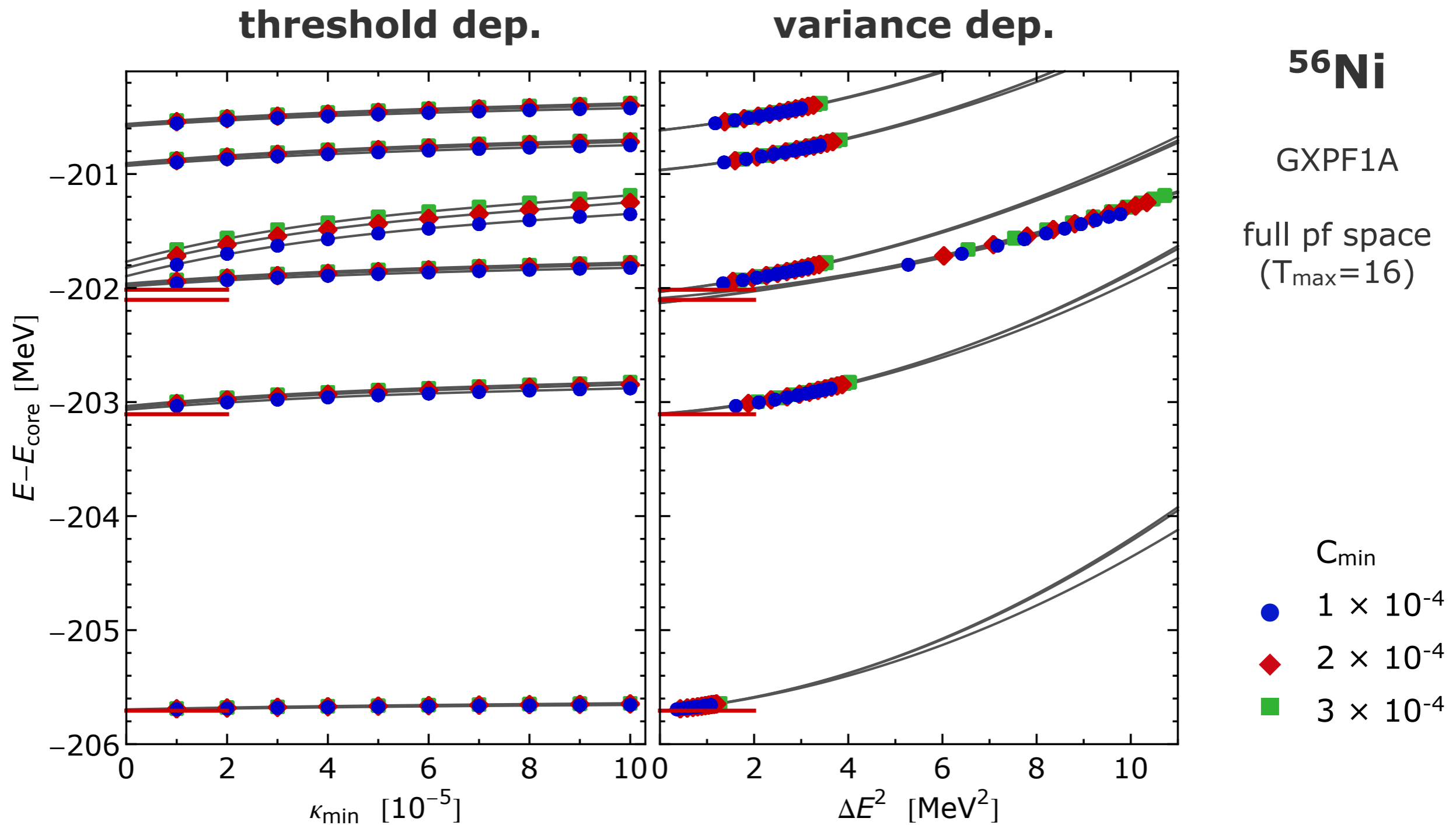


T_{max} truncation

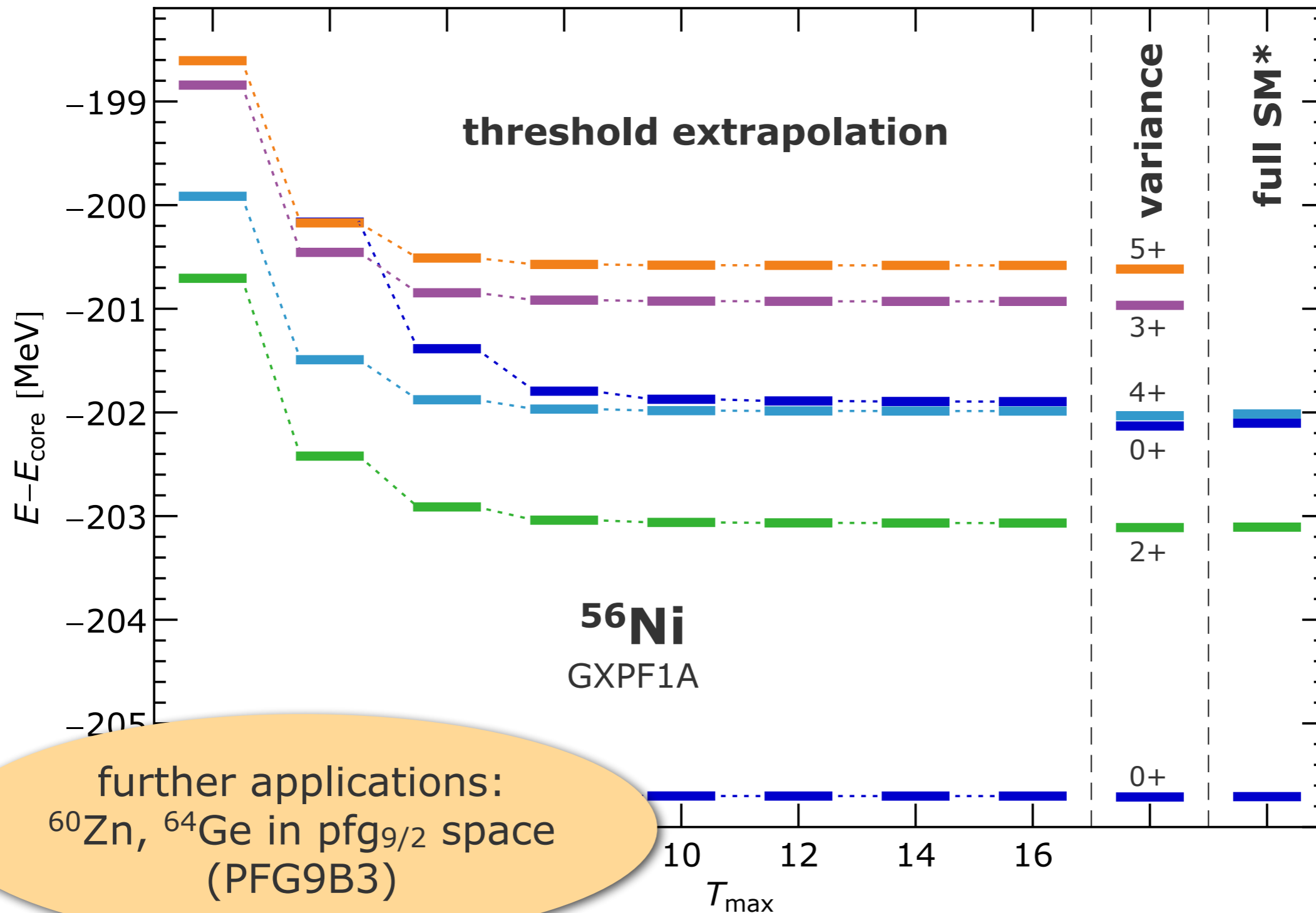


^{56}Ni
GXPF1A
pf space

^{56}Ni : Excitation Spectrum



^{56}Ni : Excitation Spectrum



* Horoi, Brown et al; PRC 73, 061305(R) (2006)

Epilogue

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