

# 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

# 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

- 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

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

Similarity Renormalization Group

NN+3N Interactions from Chiral EFT

Low-Energy QCD

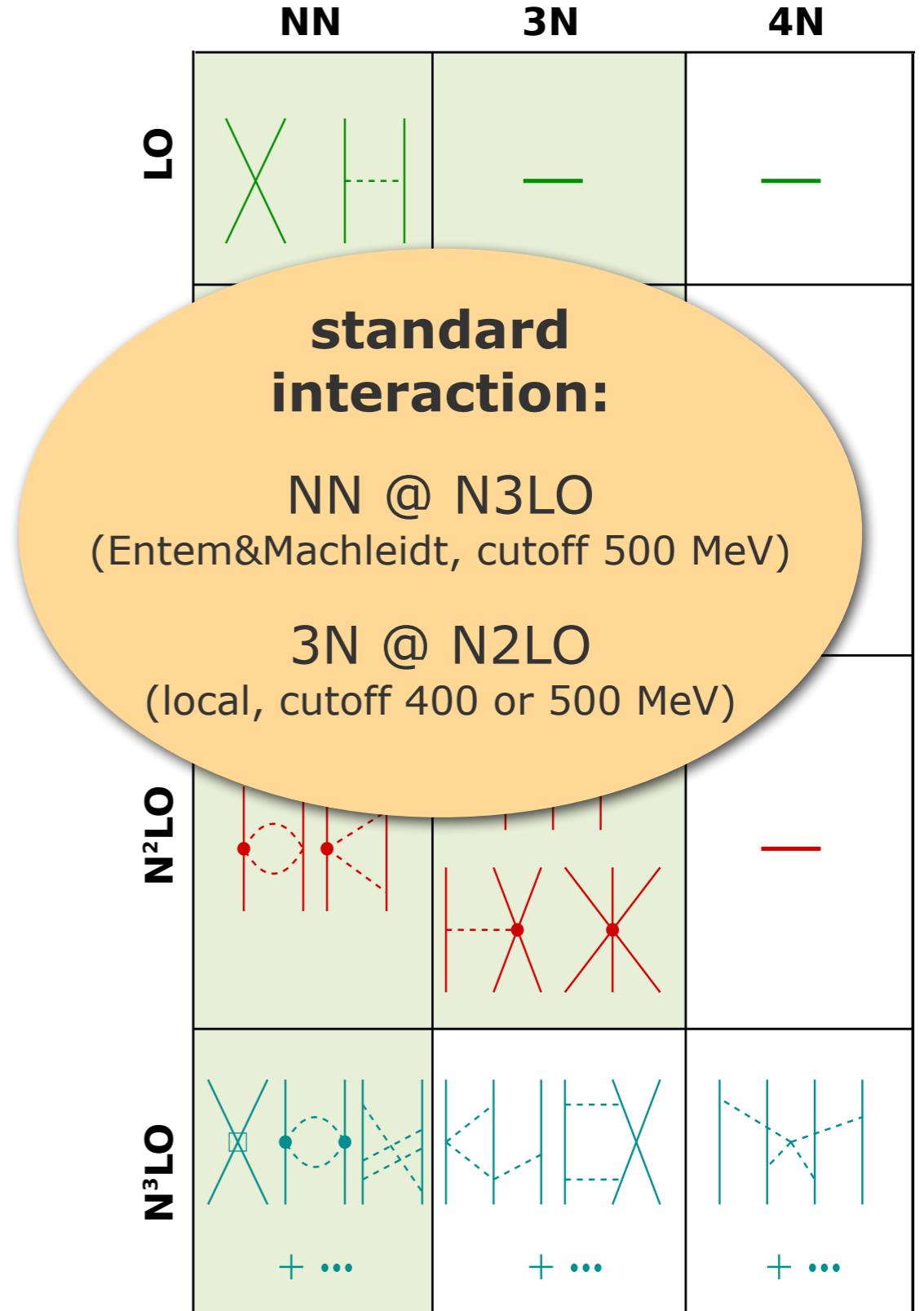
- different many-body methods for different observables and mass regimes
- hot topics: continuum & open-shell medium-mass nuclei

# 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 ( $\pi, N$ ) 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

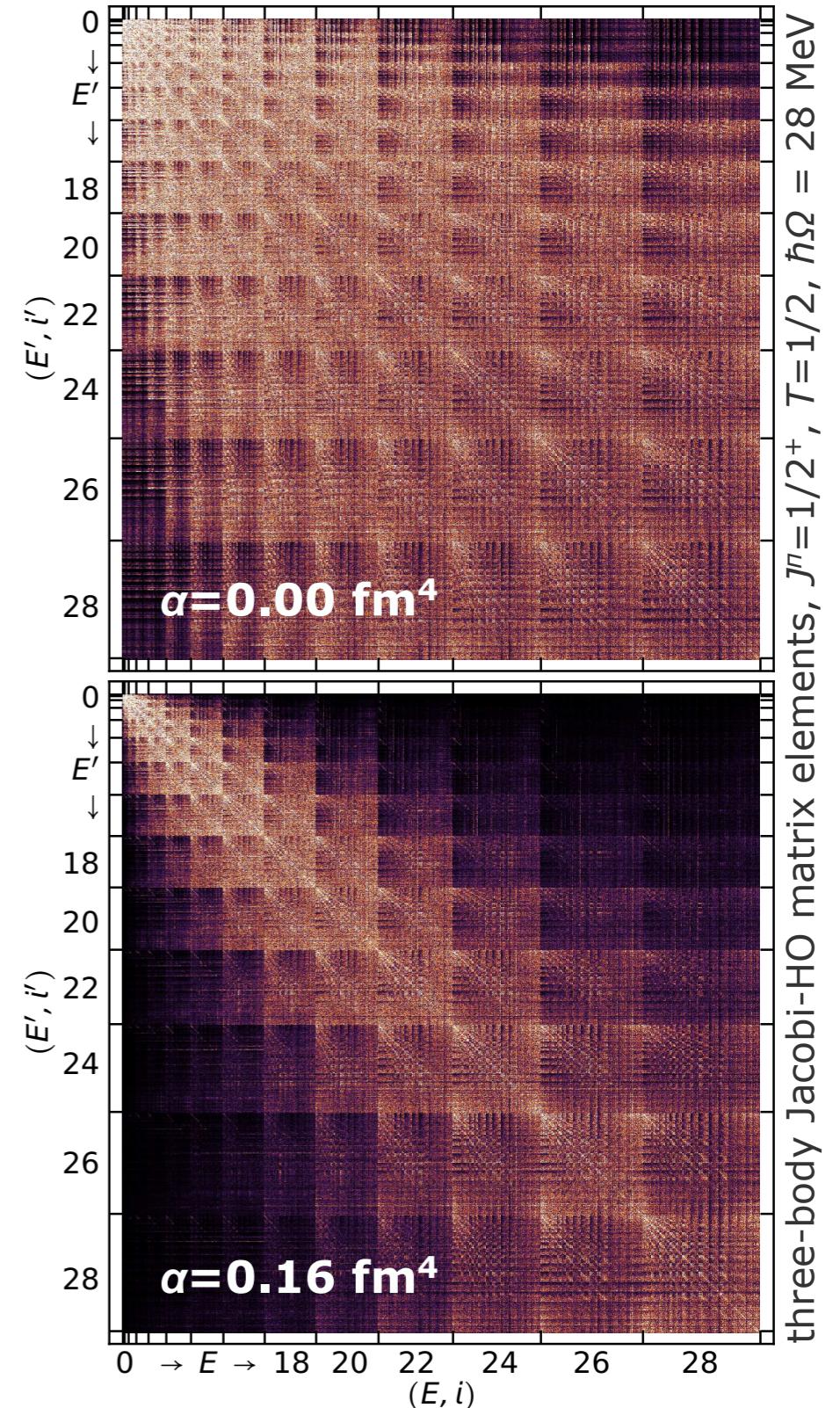
$$H_\alpha = U_\alpha^\dagger H_0 U_\alpha \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{d}{d\alpha} H_\alpha = [\eta_\alpha, H_\alpha]$$

- dynamic generator determines physics of transformation

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

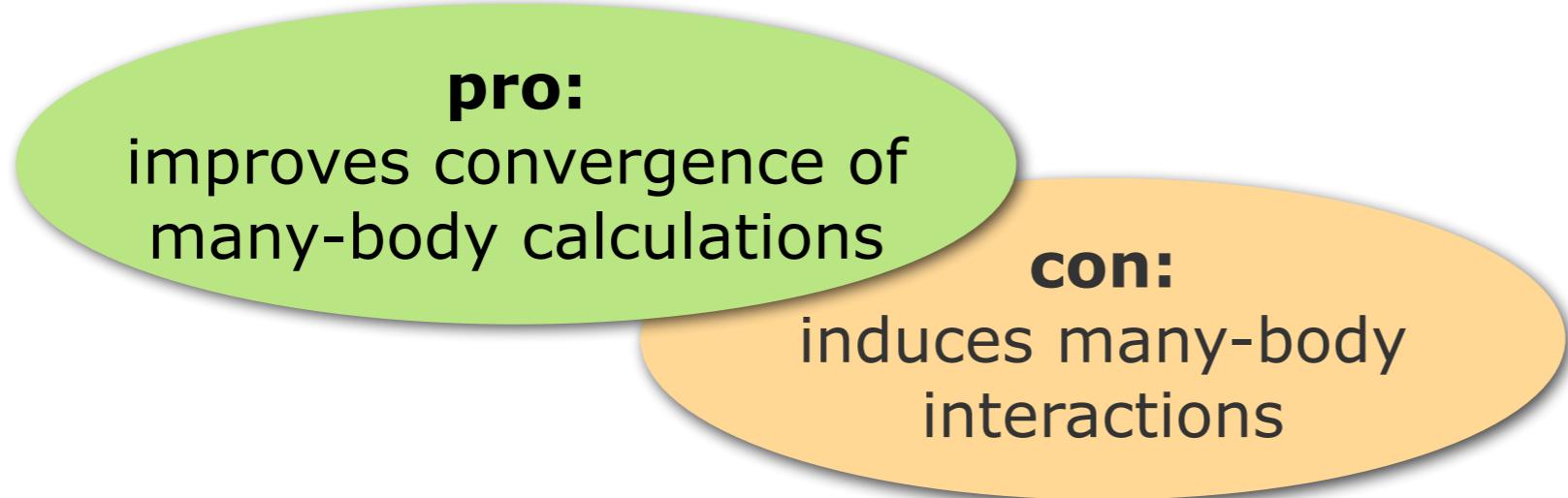
- solve flow equation using matrix representation in two- and three-body space

- flow parameter  $\alpha$  determines how far to go



# Similarity Renormalization Group

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



- need to truncate evolved Hamiltonian

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

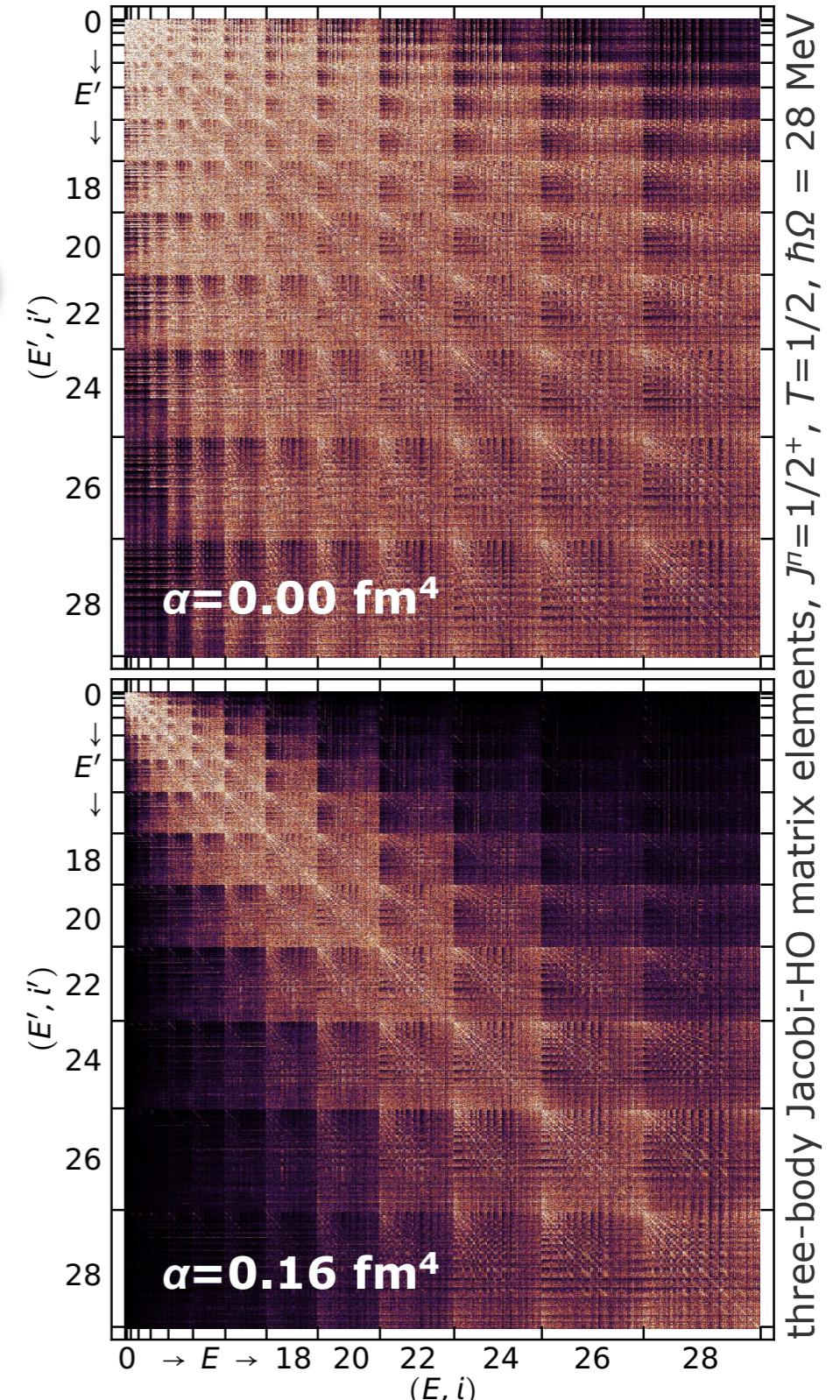
- variation of flow parameter provides diagnostic for omitted many-body terms
- truncations used in the following:

- **NN+3N<sub>ind</sub>**

use initial NN, keep evolved NN+3N

- **NN+3N<sub>full</sub>**

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

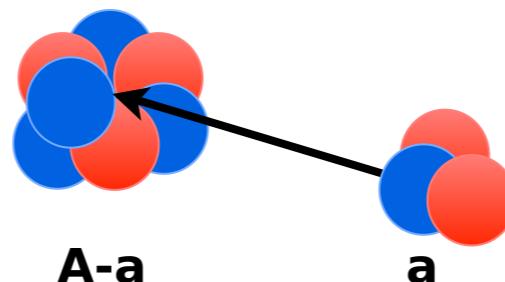
- **NCSM**: solve eigenvalue problem of Hamiltonian represented in model space of HO Slater determinants truncated w.r.t. HO excitation energy  $N_{\max}\hbar\Omega$ 
  - convergence of observables w.r.t.  $N_{\max}$  is the only limitation and source of uncertainty
- **Importance-Truncated NCSM**: reduce 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)

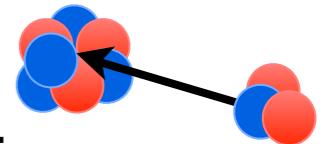
- representing  $H|\psi^{J\pi T}\rangle = E|\psi^{J\pi T}\rangle$  using the **over-complete basis**

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

expansion in  $A$ -body  
(IT-)NCSM eigenstates



identical to the  
NCSM/RGM expansion



leads to the **NCSMC equations**

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

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

with 3N contributions in

$H_{\text{NCSM}}$

covered by  
(IT-)NCSM

$h$

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

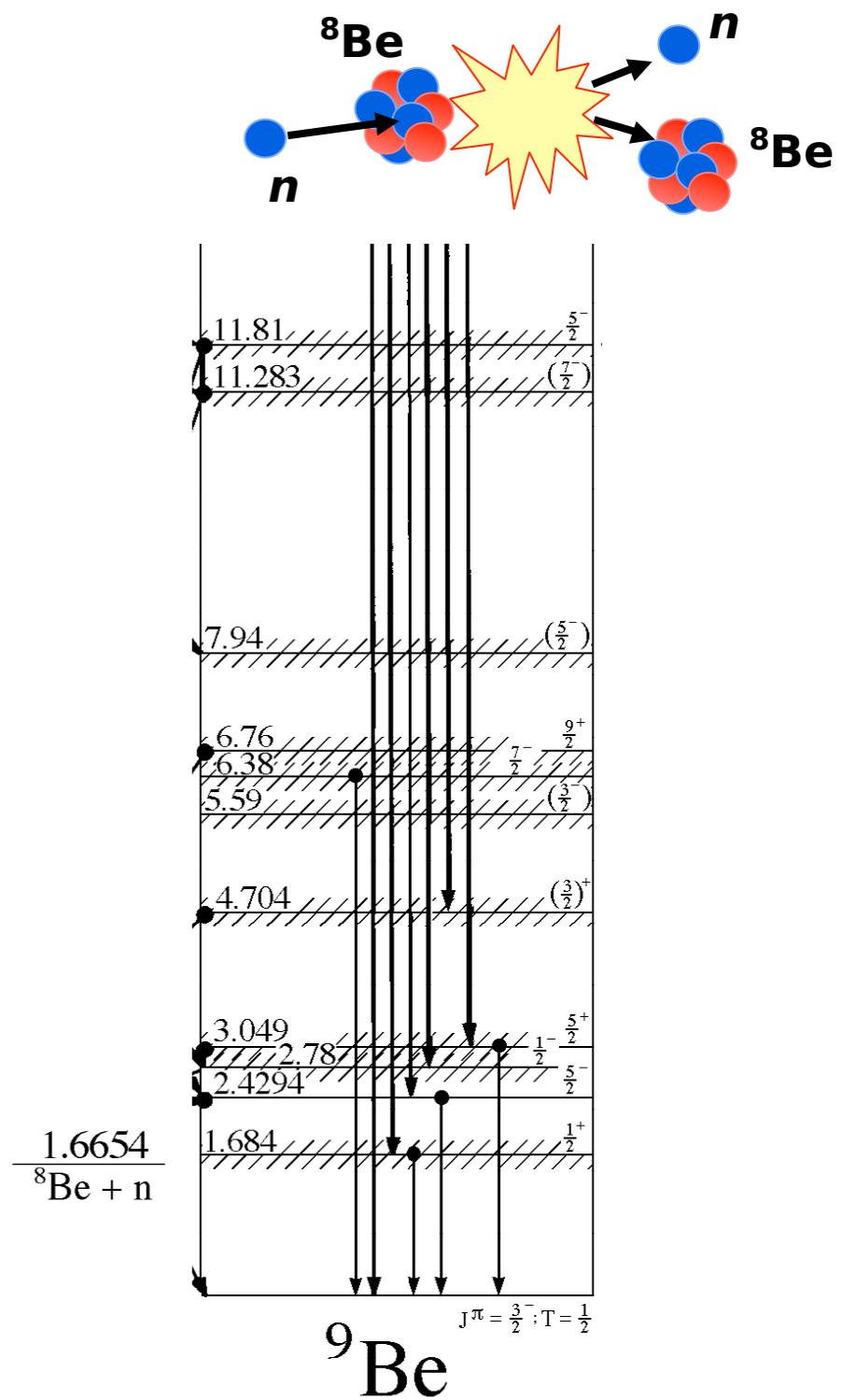
$\mathcal{H}$

contains NCSM/RGM  
Hamiltonian kernel

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

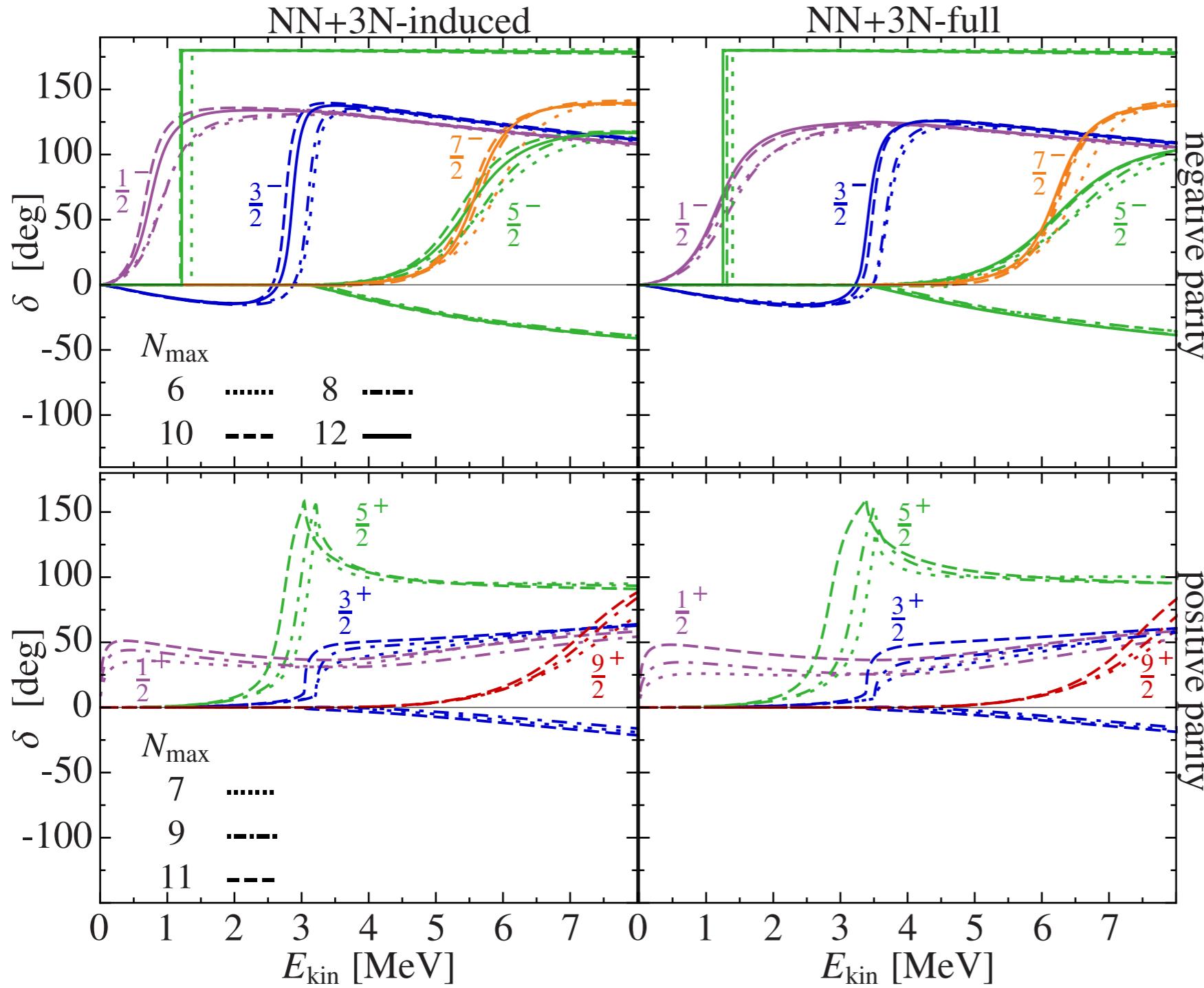
Langhammer et al.; PRC 91, 021301(R) (2015)

- ${}^9\text{Be}$  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-<sup>8</sup>Be Scattering

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

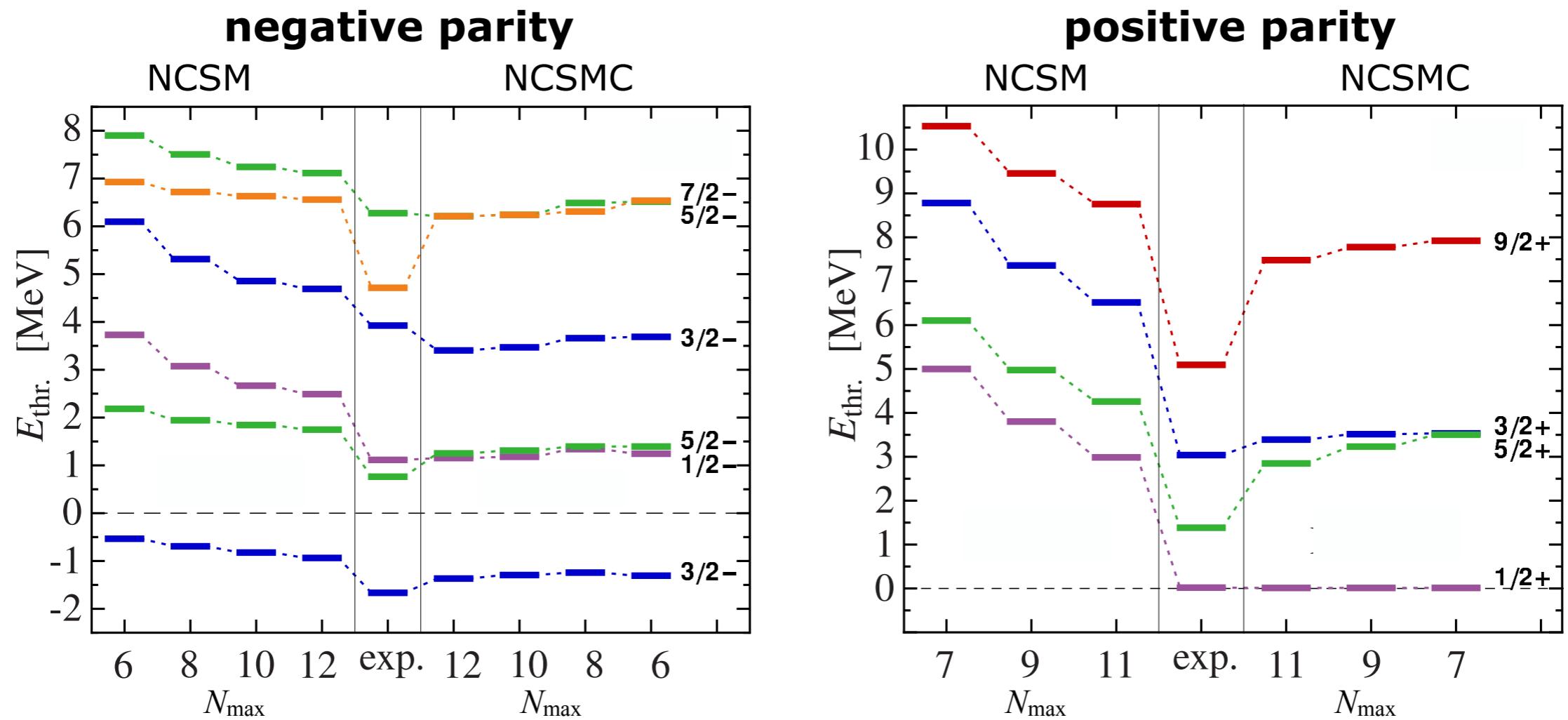


- negative parity phase-shifts are well converged, positive parity more difficult
- extract resonance parameters from inflection point and derivative

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

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

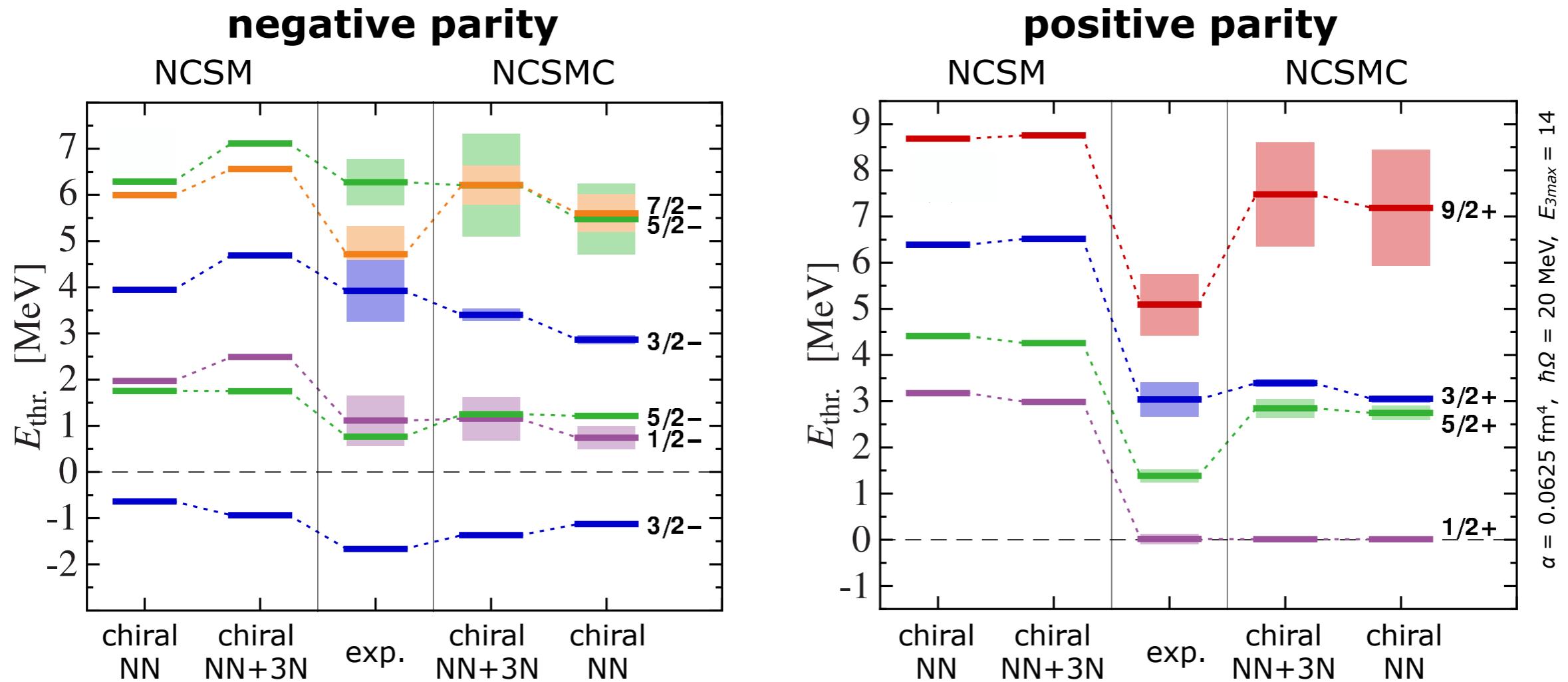
Langhammer et al.; PRC 91, 021301(R) (2015)



- NCSMC shows much better  $N_{\text{max}}$  convergence
- NCSM tries to capture continuum effects via large  $N_{\text{max}}$
- 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)*

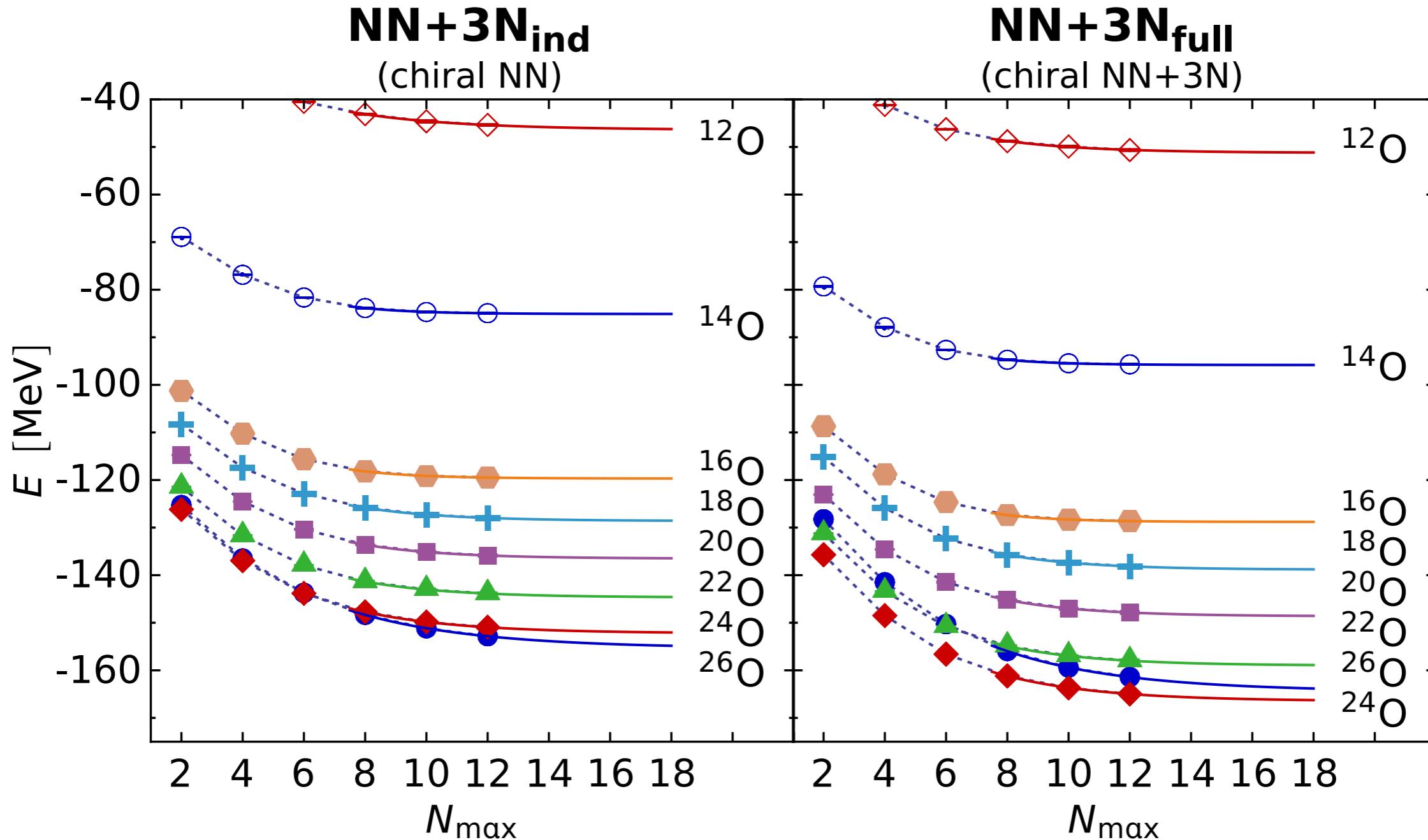
*Bogner, Hergert, Holt, Schwenk, Binder, Calci, Langhammer, Roth, PRL 113, 142501 (2014)*

*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

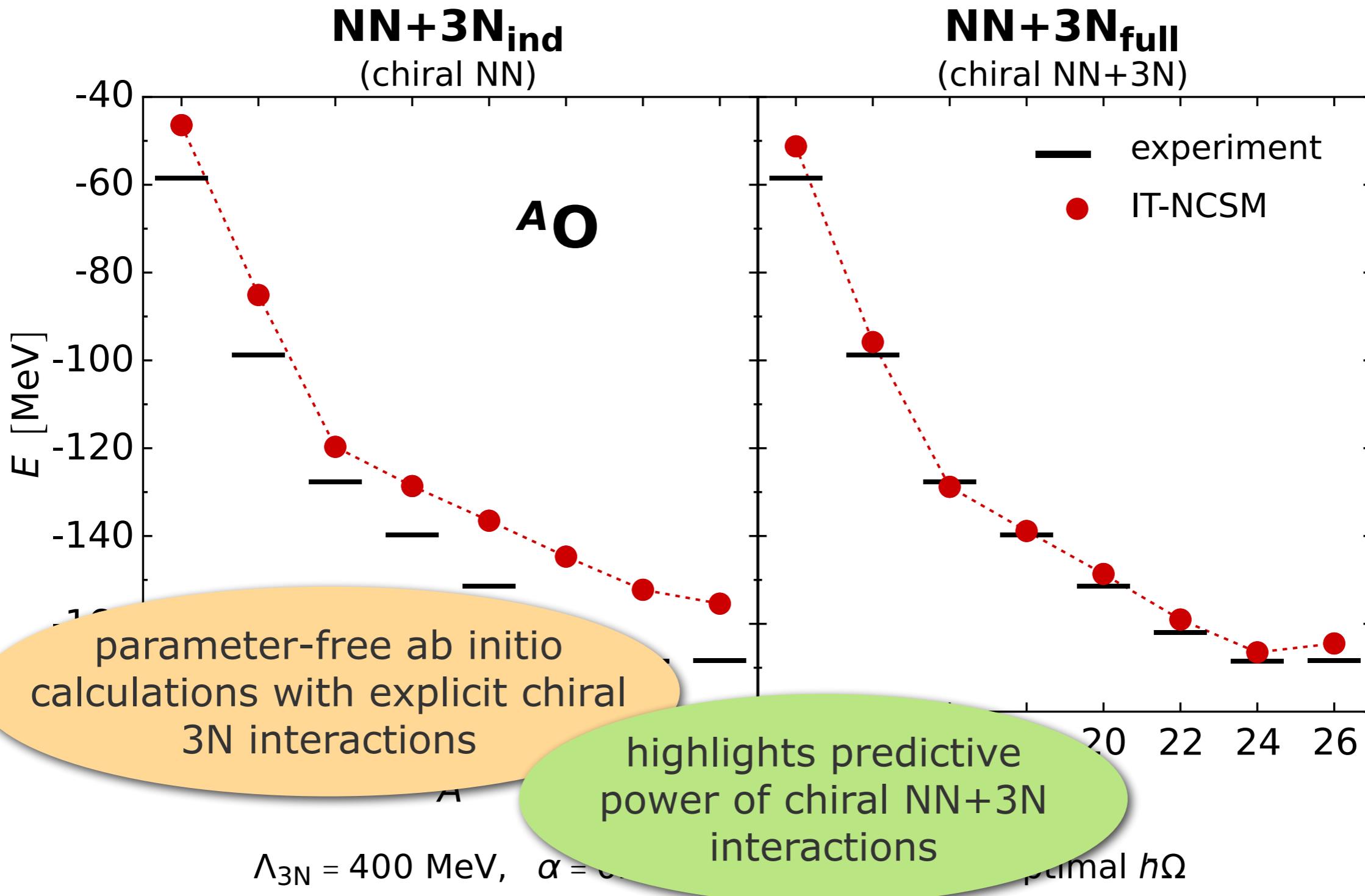
Hergert et al., PRL 110, 242501 (2013)



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

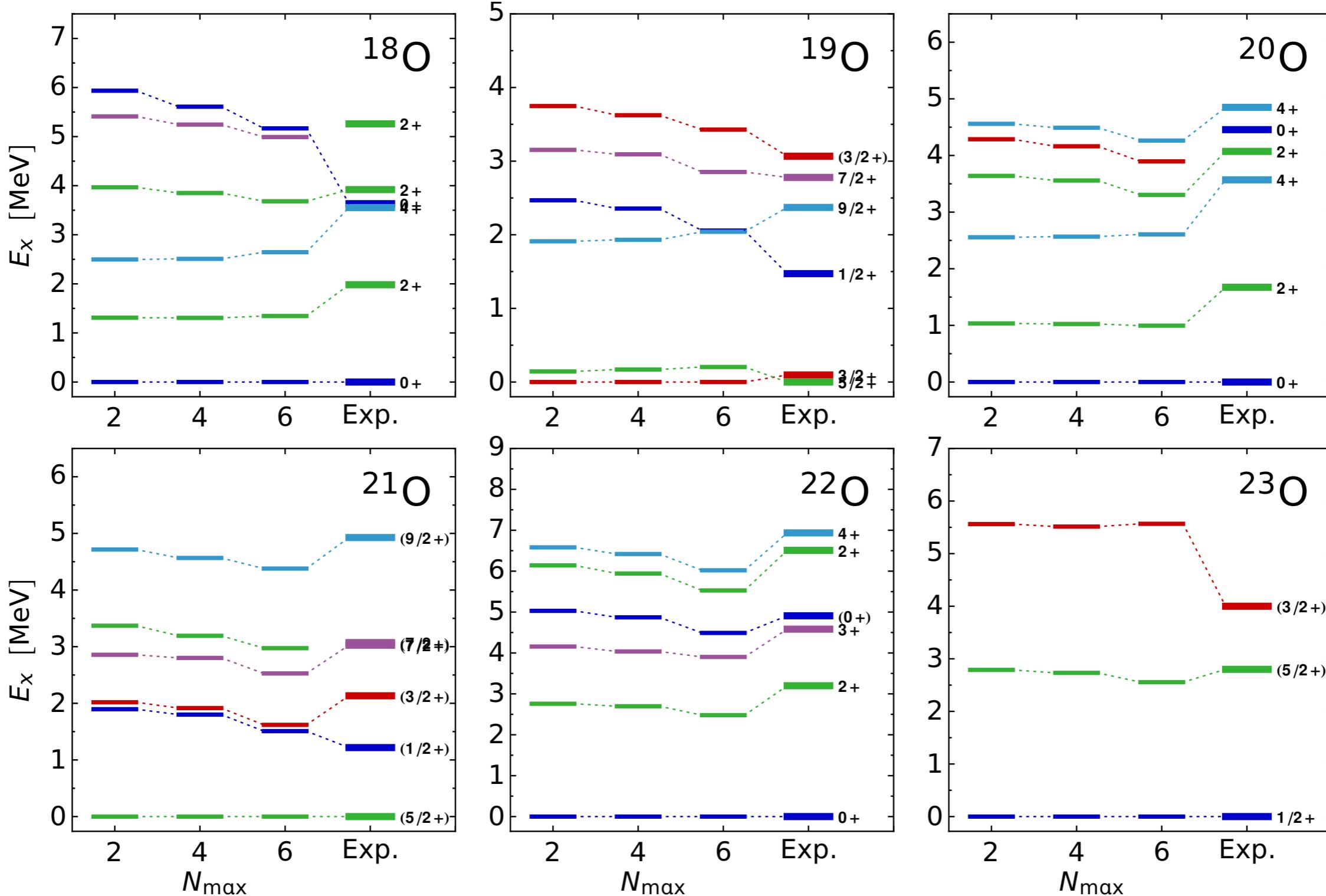
# Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

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



# Spectra of Oxygen Isotopes

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



# 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 hole excitations

Suzuki, Suzuki, Schwenk, Hergert,...

- **in-medium SRG**: complex energy shift of nuclei in medium using many-body reference state and coupled to coupled-cluster solution

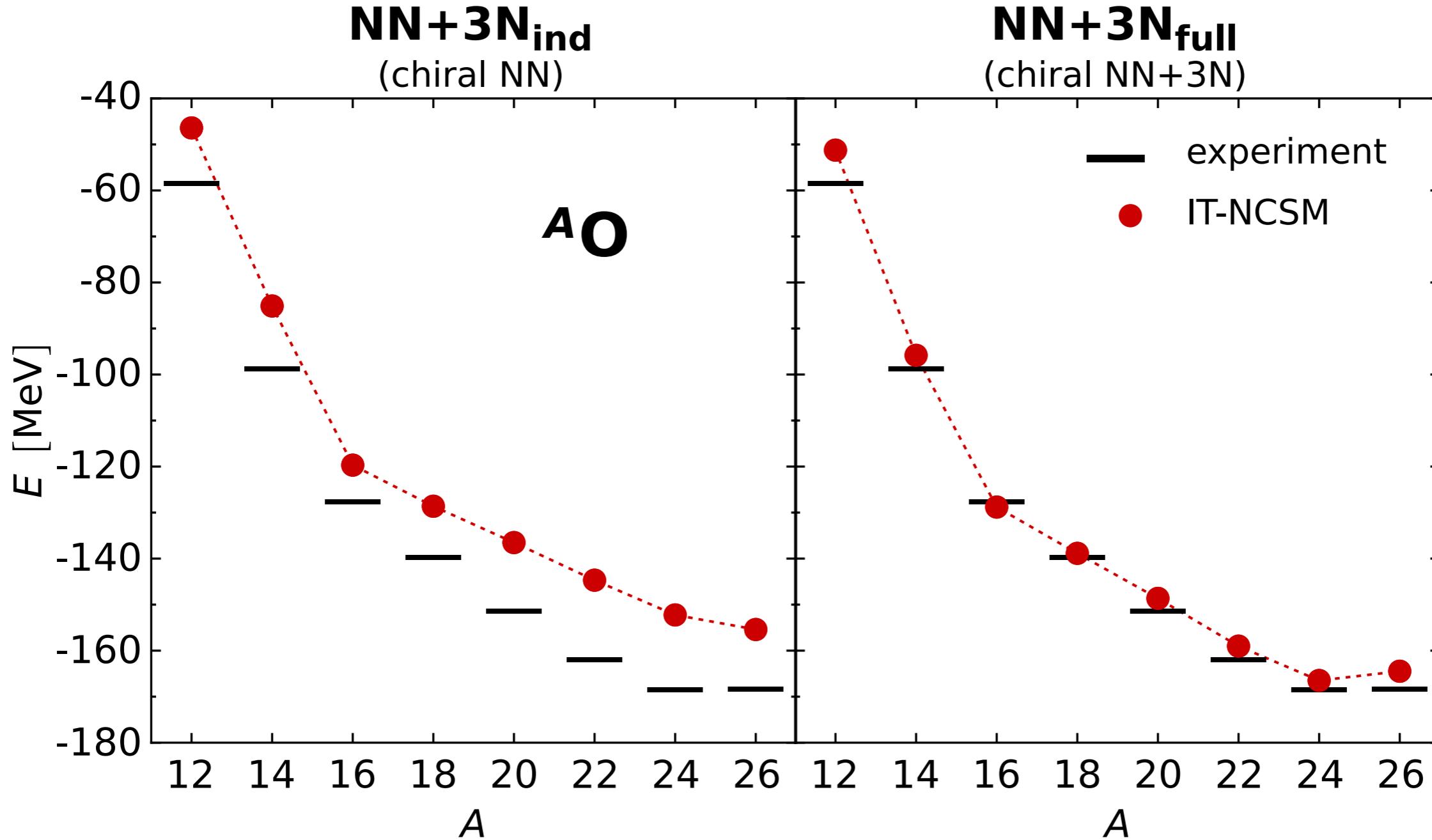
- normal mode expansion of the nuclear Hamiltonian truncated at two-body level
- EOM or SM for ground states; excitations via EOM or SM

Barbieri, Soma, Duguet,...

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

# Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

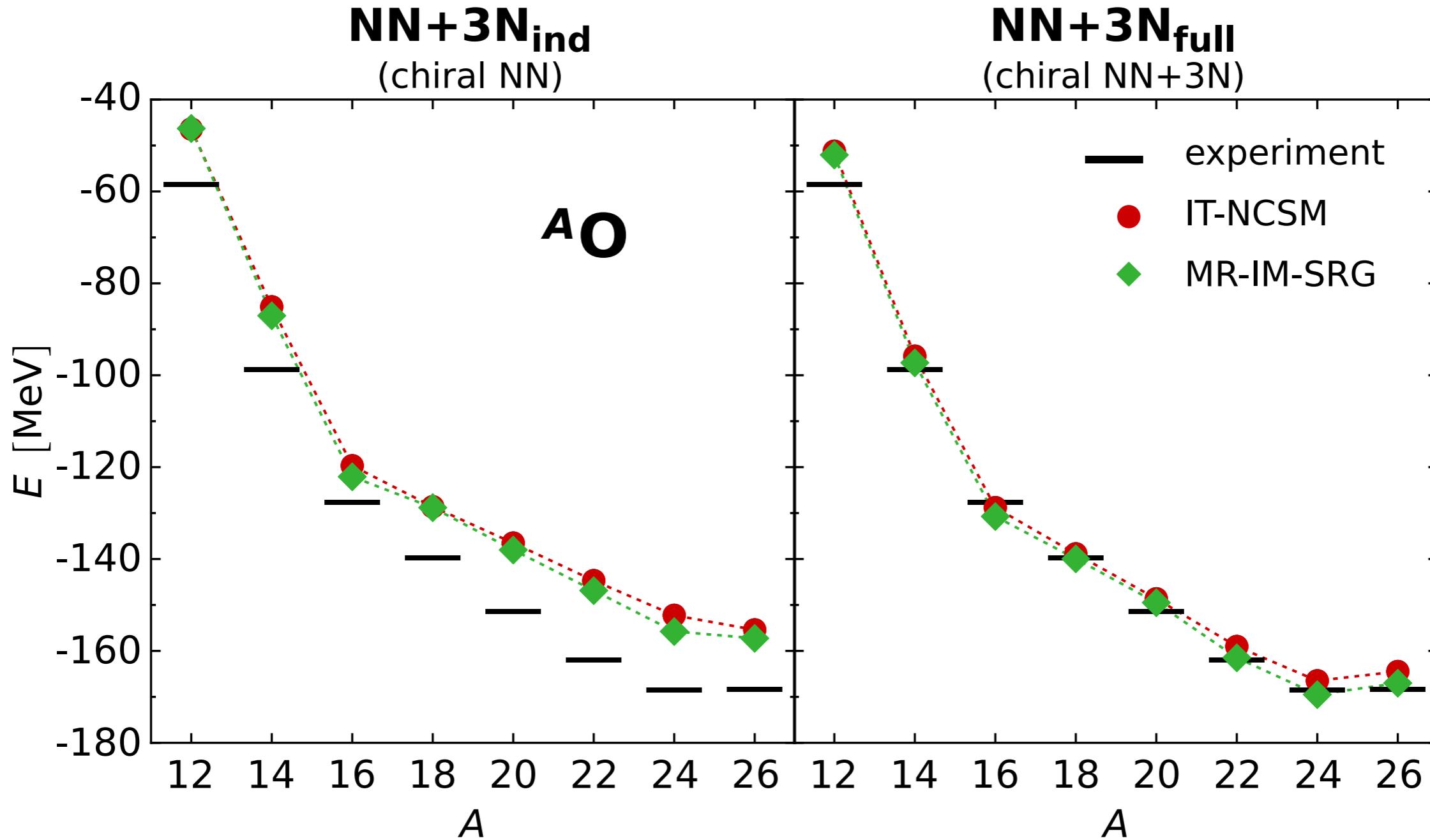
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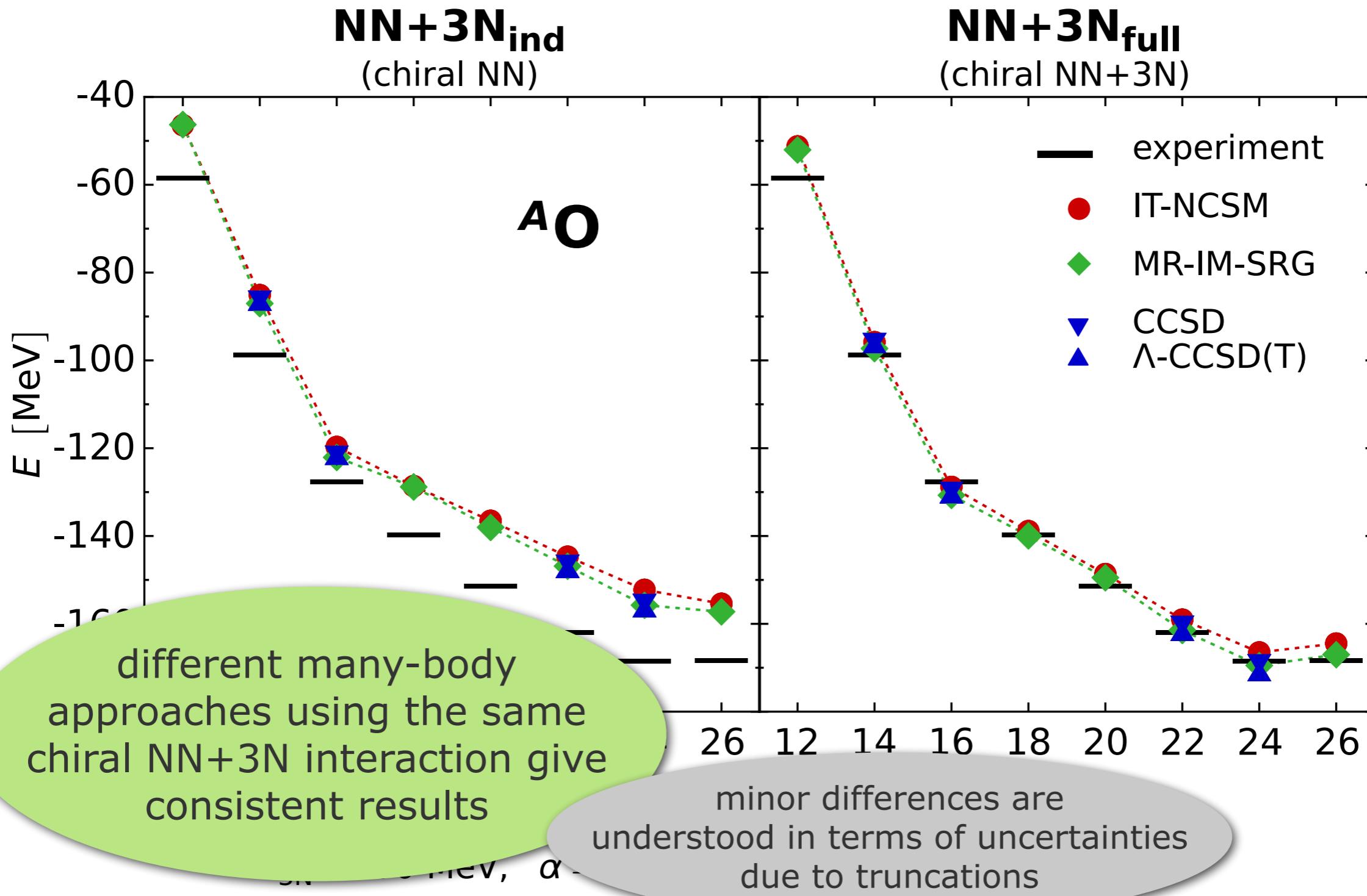
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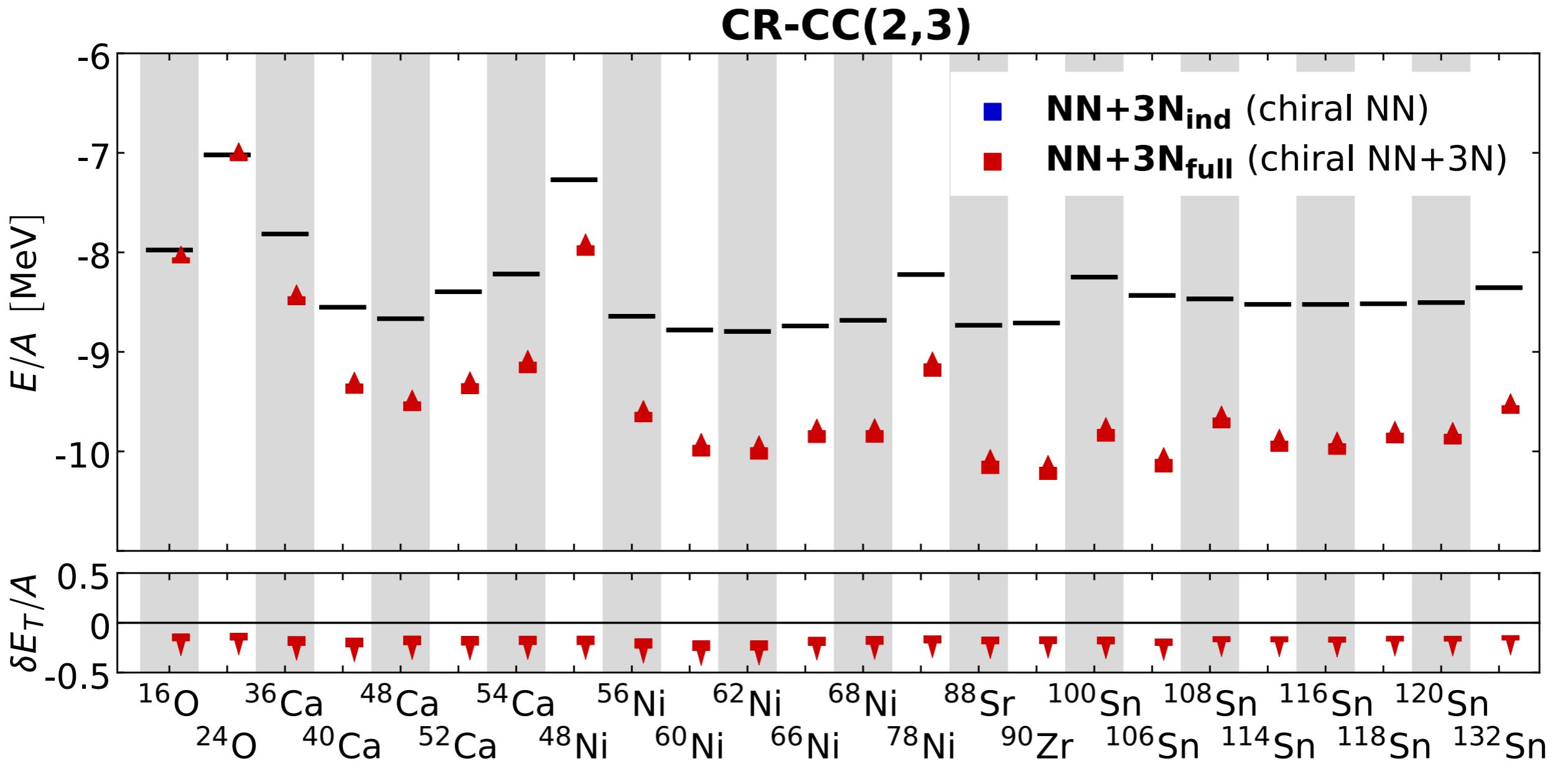
# Ground States of Oxygen Isotopes

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



# Towards Heavy Nuclei - Ab Initio

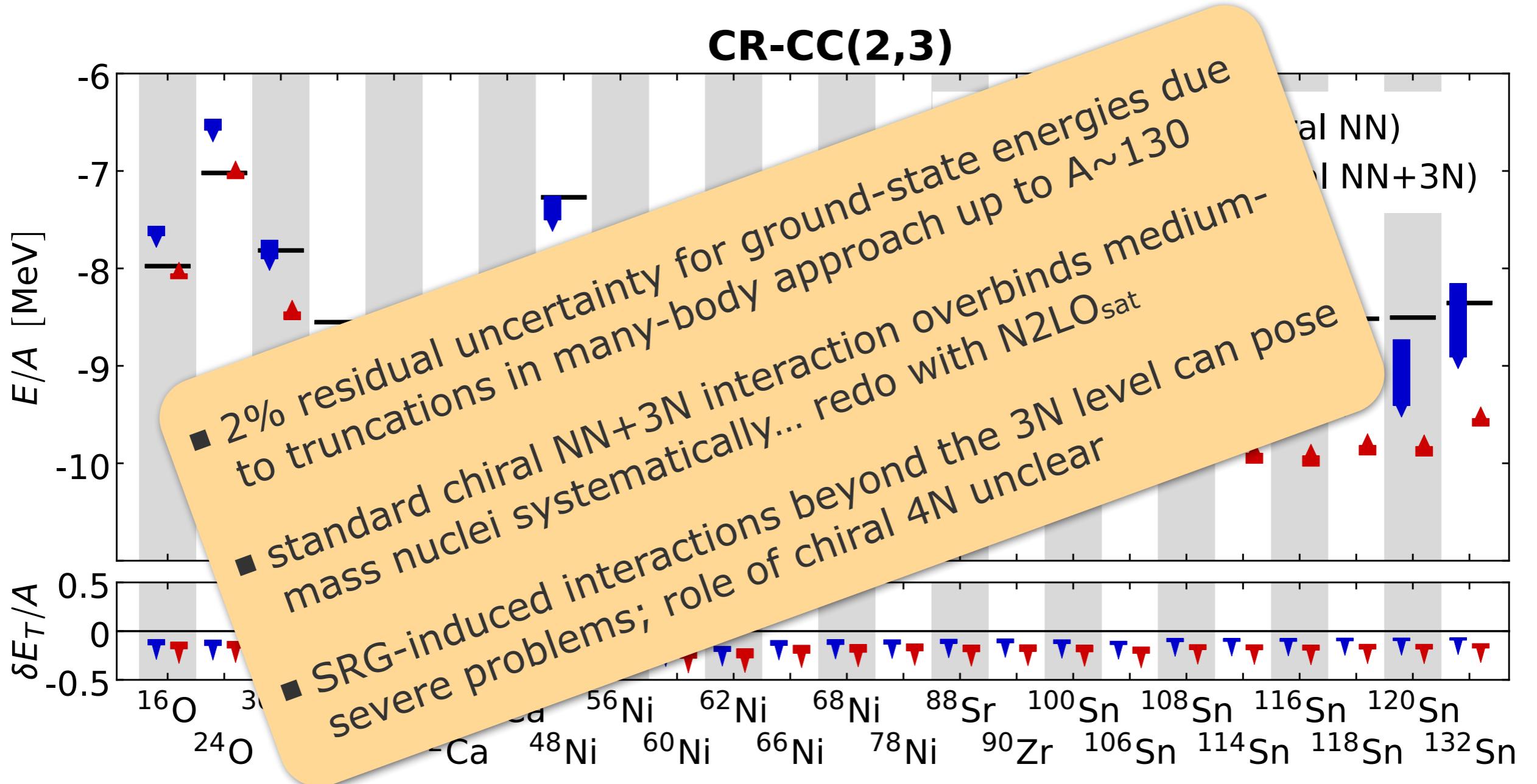
Binder et al., PLB 736, 119 (2014)



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

# Towards Heavy Nuclei - Ab Initio

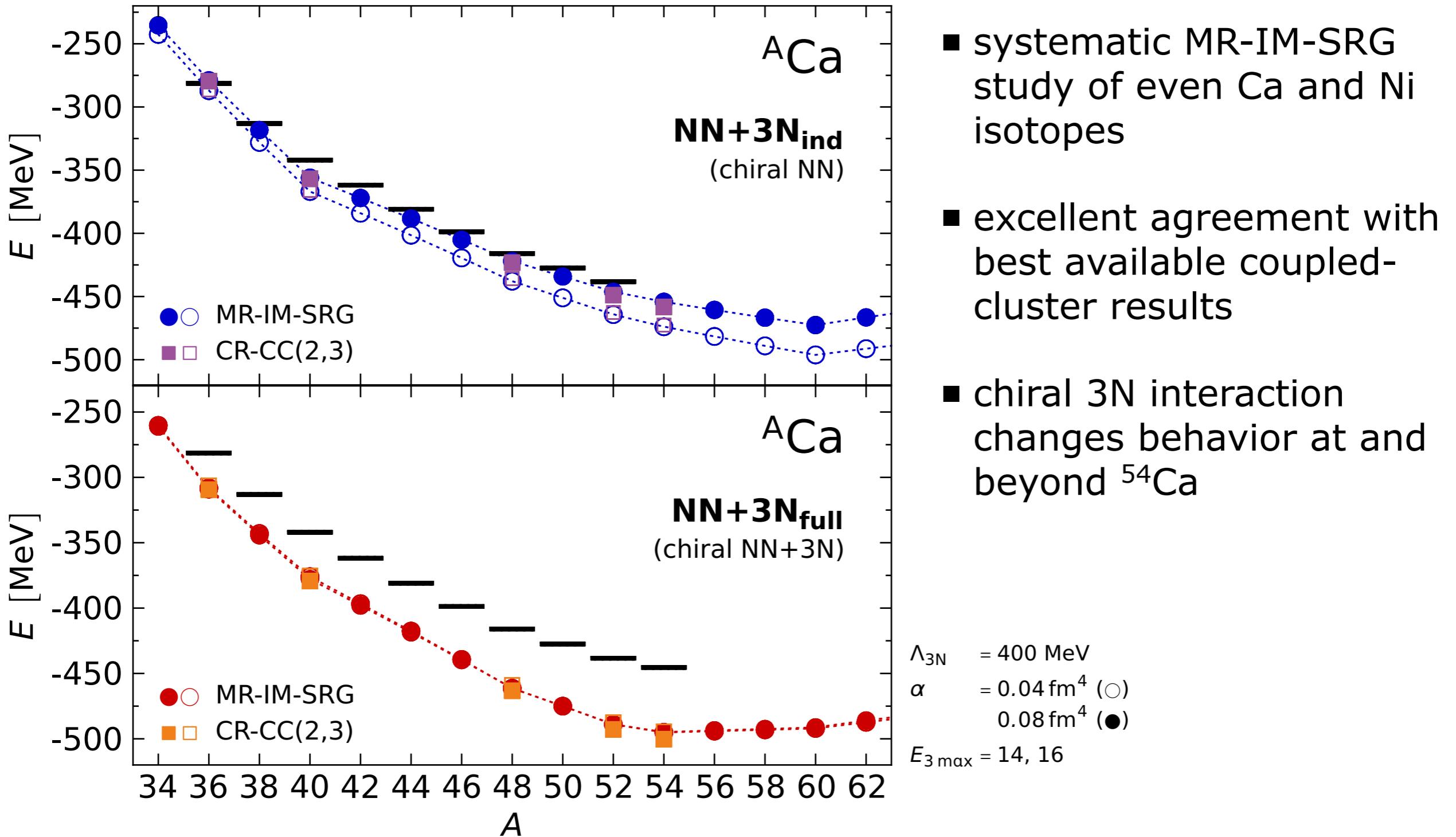
Binder et al., PLB 736, 119 (2014)



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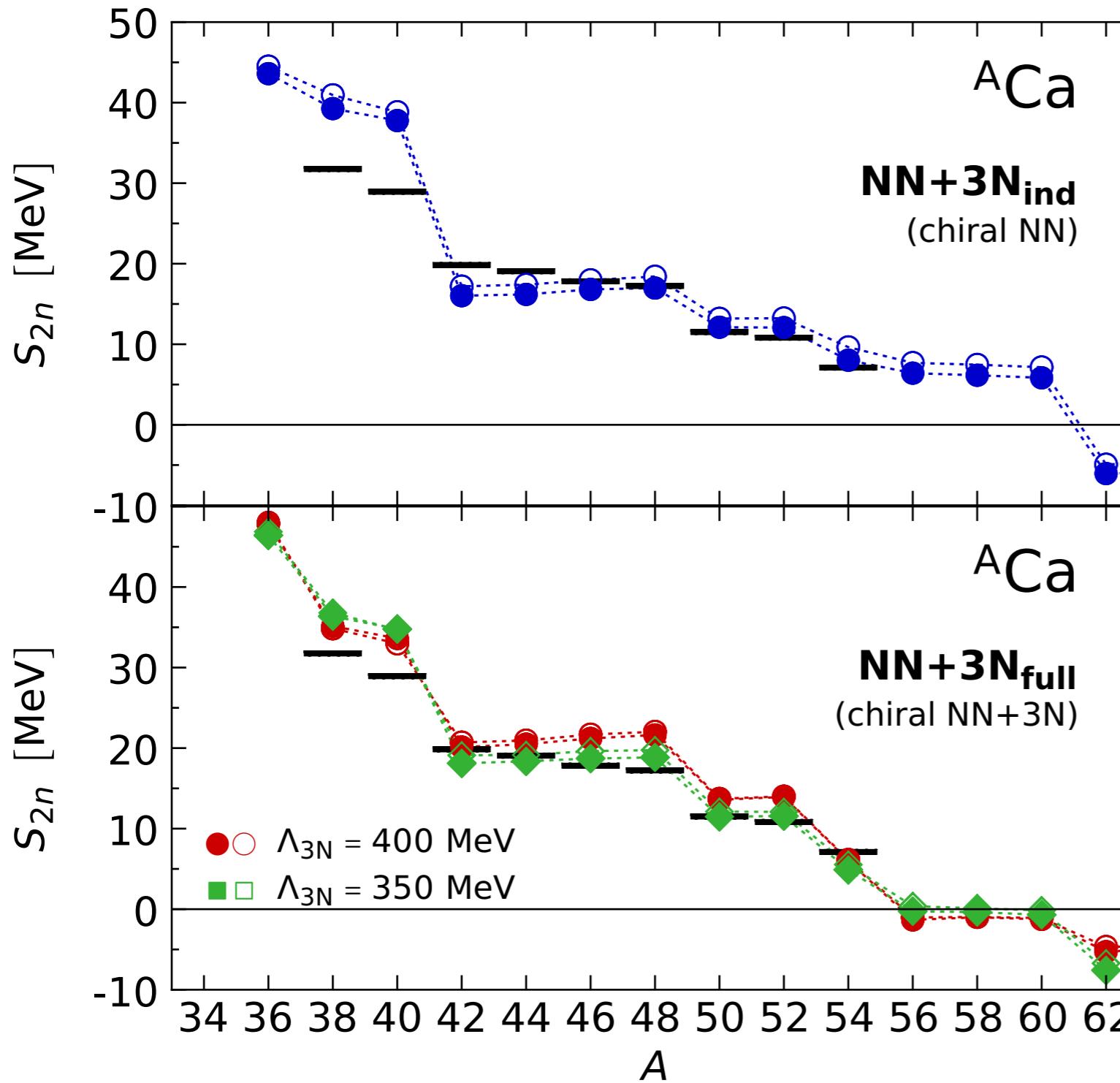
# Open-Shell Medium-Mass Nuclei

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



# 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  $^{56}\text{Ca}$  to  $^{60}\text{Ca}$

all MR-IM-SRG  
 $\alpha = 0.04 \text{ fm}^4$  (○)  
 $\alpha = 0.08 \text{ fm}^4$  (●)  
 $E_{3\max} = 14, 16$

News:

# Merging NCSM and IM-SRG

with

Eskendr Gebrerufael, Heiko Hergert, Klaus Vobig

# In-Medium SRG

Tsukiyama, Bogner, Schwenk, Hergert,...

	0p-0h	1p-1h	2p-2h	3p-3h
0p-0h	■			
1p-1h		■		
2p-2h			■	
3p-3h				■

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

	0p-0h	1p-1h	2p-2h	3p-3h
0p-0h	■			
1p-1h		■		
2p-2h			■	
3p-3h				■

- 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

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

# 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

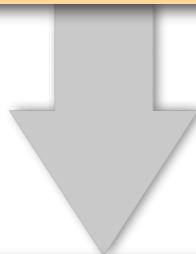
- use ground-state from NCSM at small  $N_{\max}$  as reference state for multi-reference IM-SRG
- not limited to subsets of open-shell nuclei and systematically improvable

## 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

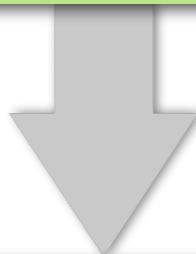
# NCSM-MR-IM-SRG-NCSM Workflow

- 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

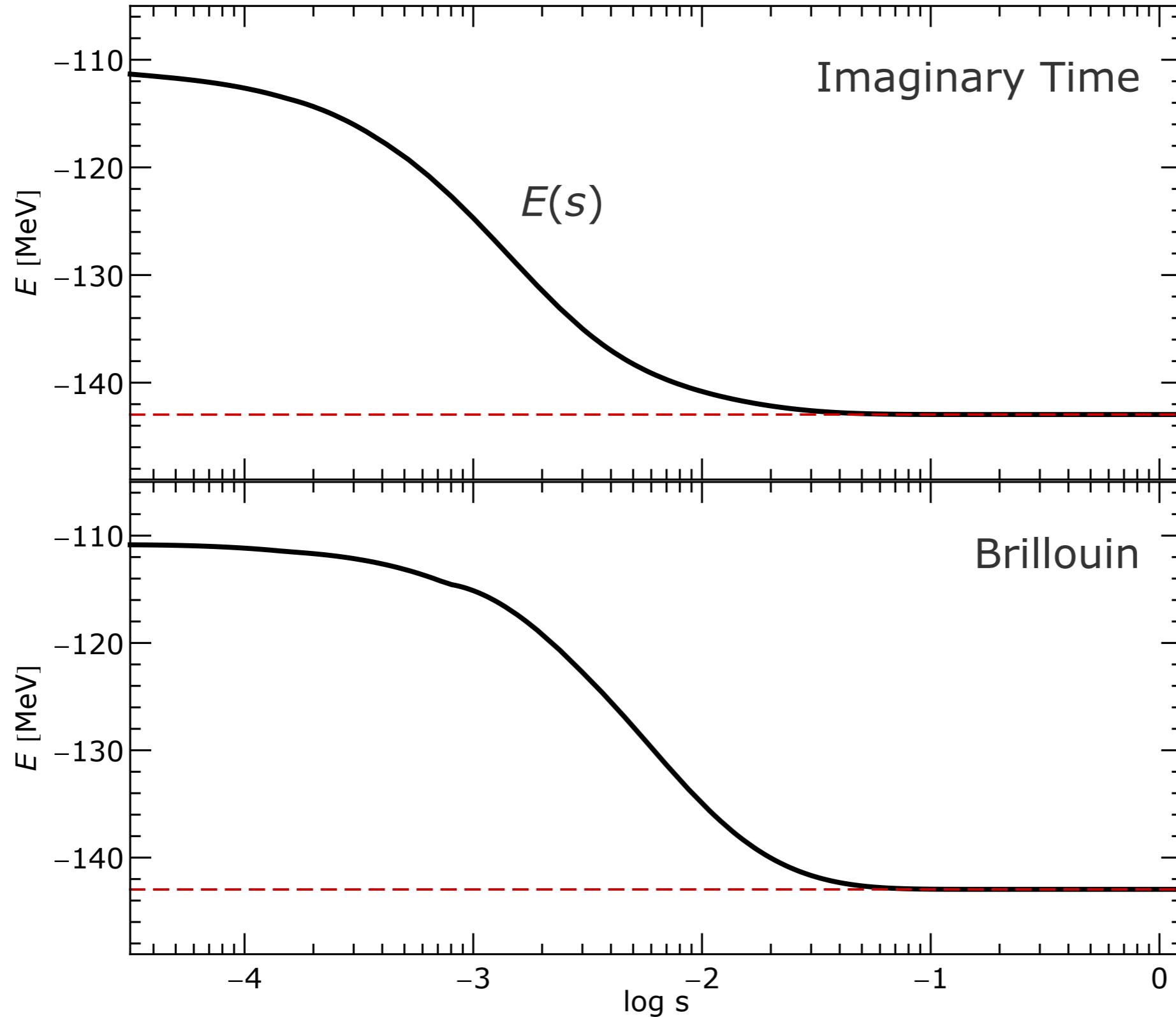
- solve MR-IM-SRG flow equations
- spherical formulation limited to scalar densities for now



extract evolved Hamiltonian  
in vacuum representation

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

# $^{16}\text{O}$ : Flowing Energy



$^{16}\text{O}$

chiral NN+3N

$\Lambda_{3\text{N}}=500$  MeV

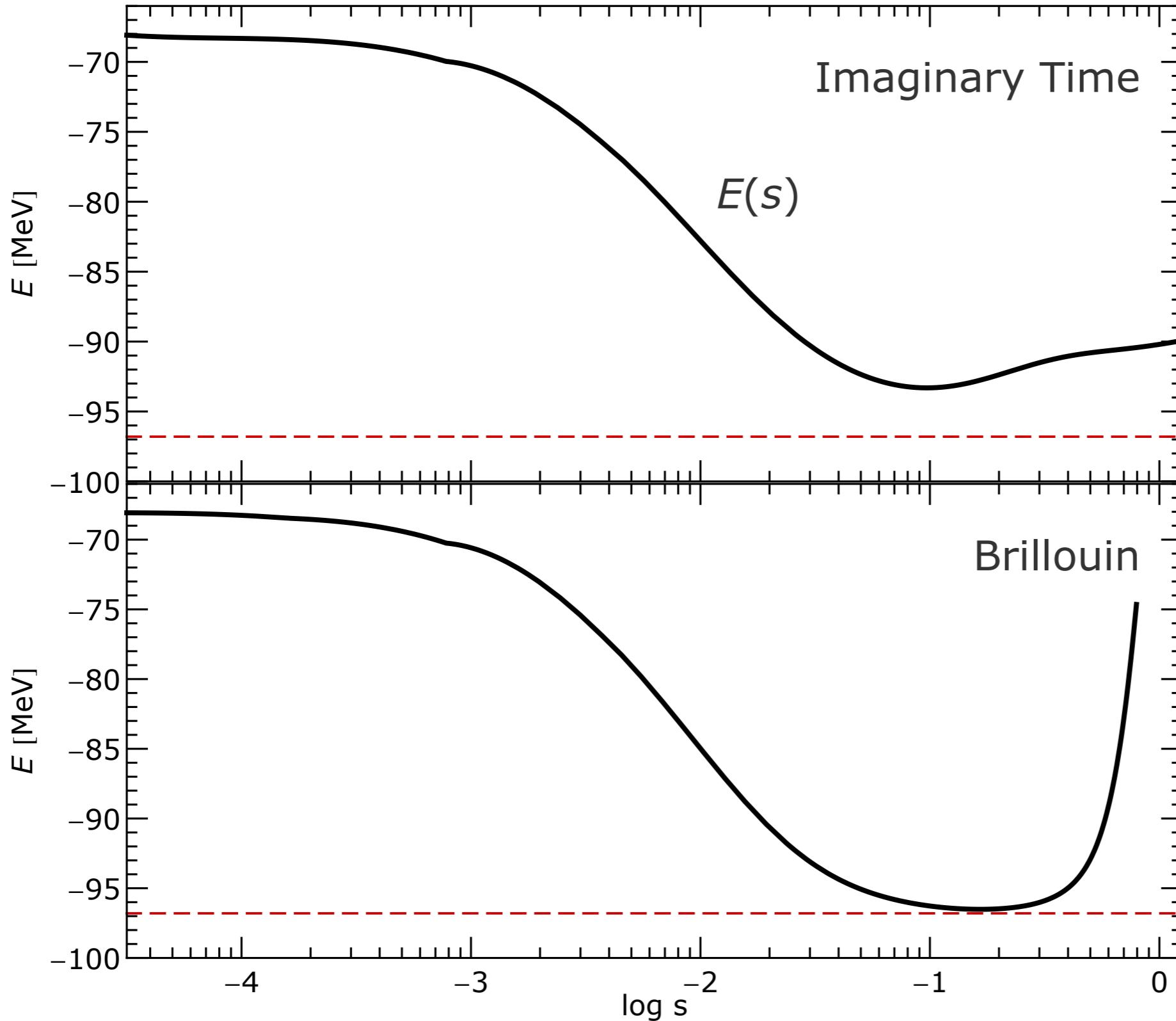
$\alpha=0.08$  fm $^4$

$\hbar\Omega=20$  MeV

$N_{\max}=0$   
reference state

$e_{\max}=4$

# $^{12}\text{C}$ : Flowing Energy



$^{12}\text{C}$

chiral NN+3N

$\Lambda_{3\text{N}}=500$  MeV

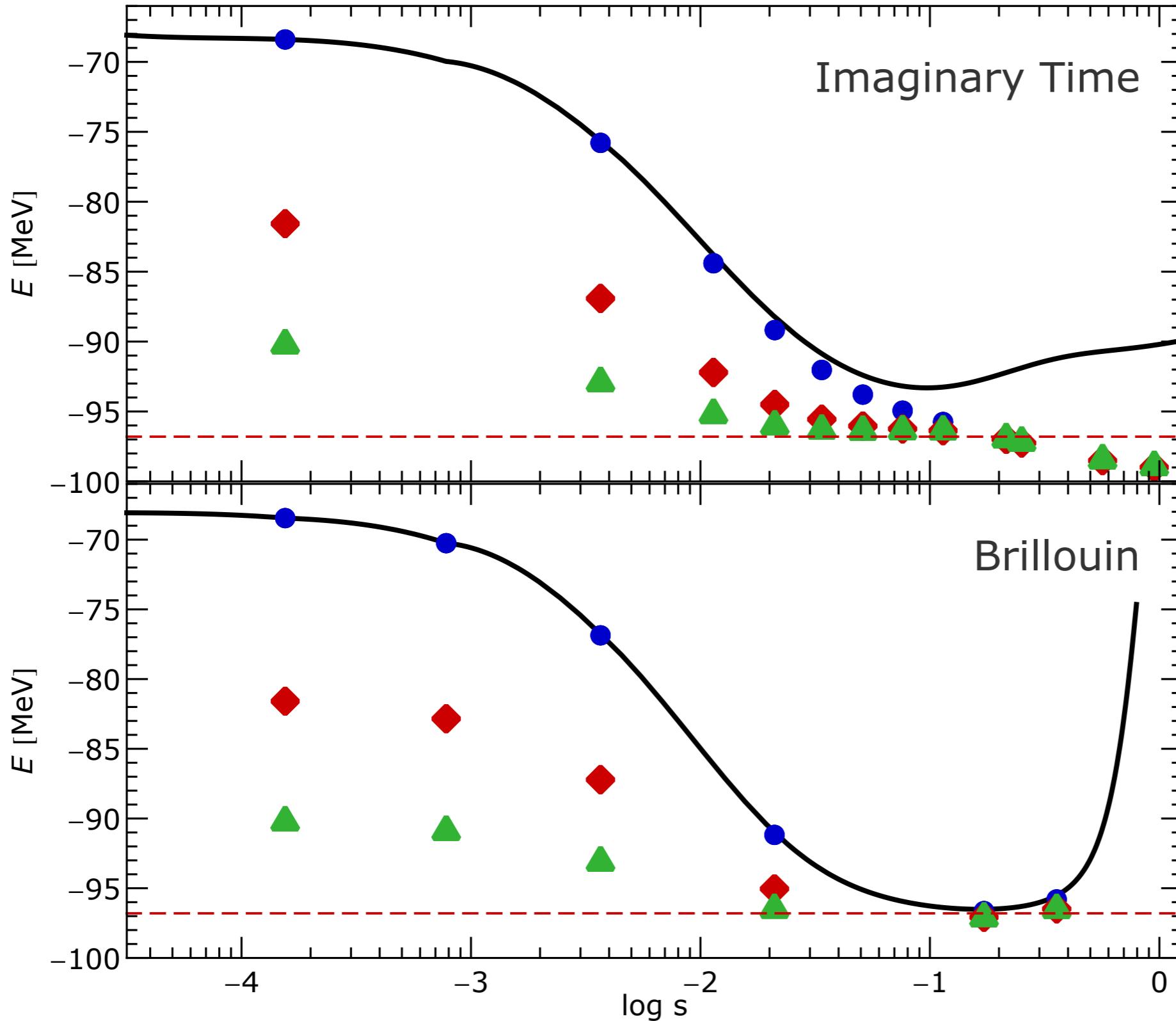
$\alpha=0.08$  fm $^4$

$\hbar\Omega=20$  MeV

$N_{\max}=0$   
reference state

$e_{\max}=4$

# $^{12}\text{C}$ : Flowing Energy



$^{12}\text{C}$

chiral NN+3N

$\Lambda_{3\text{N}}=500$  MeV

$\alpha=0.08$  fm $^4$

$\hbar\Omega=20$  MeV

$N_{\max}=0$   
reference state

$e_{\max}=4$

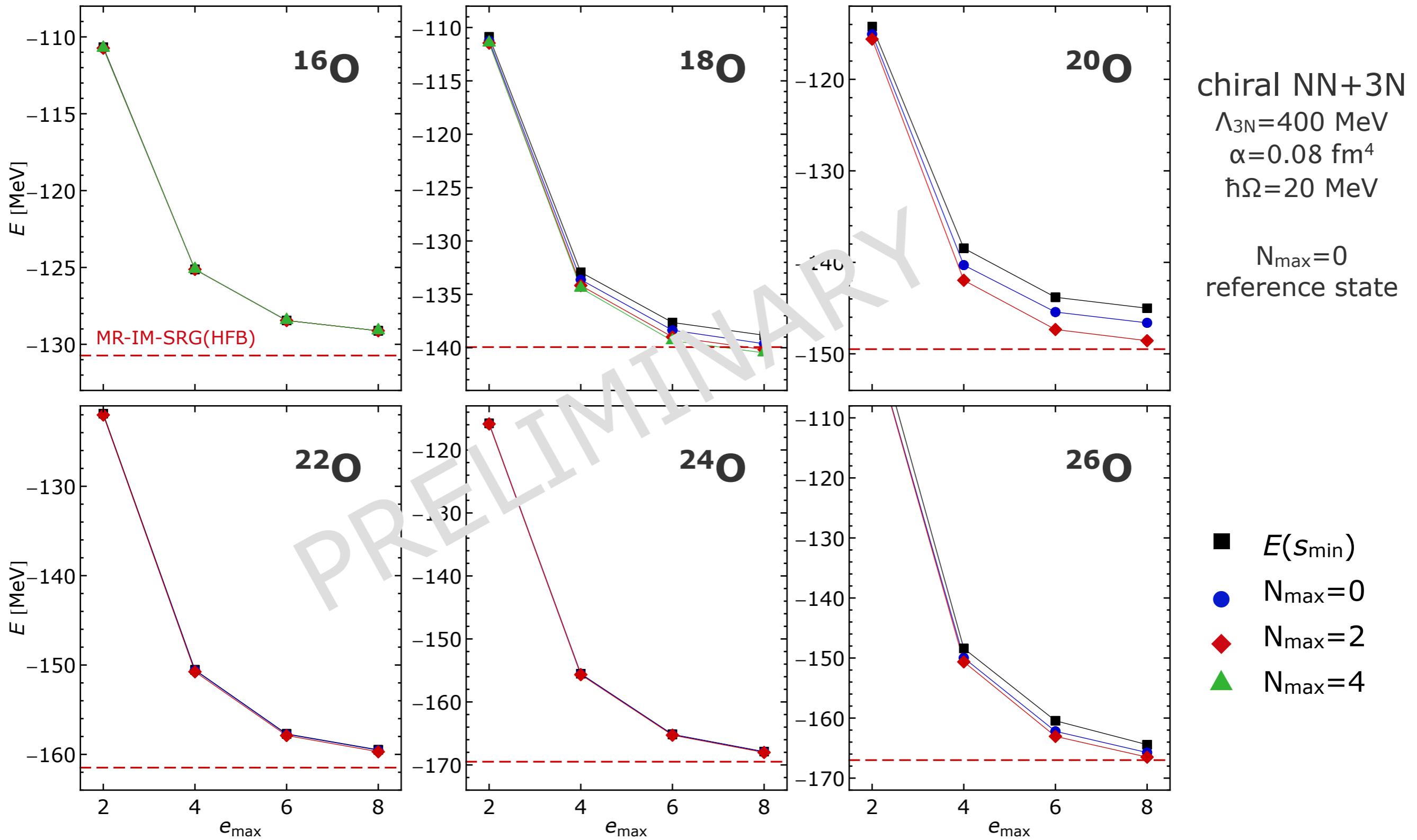
NCSM with flowing  
Hamiltonian

●  $N_{\max}=0$

◆  $N_{\max}=2$

▲  $N_{\max}=4$

# 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  $|\Psi_{\text{ref}}\rangle$

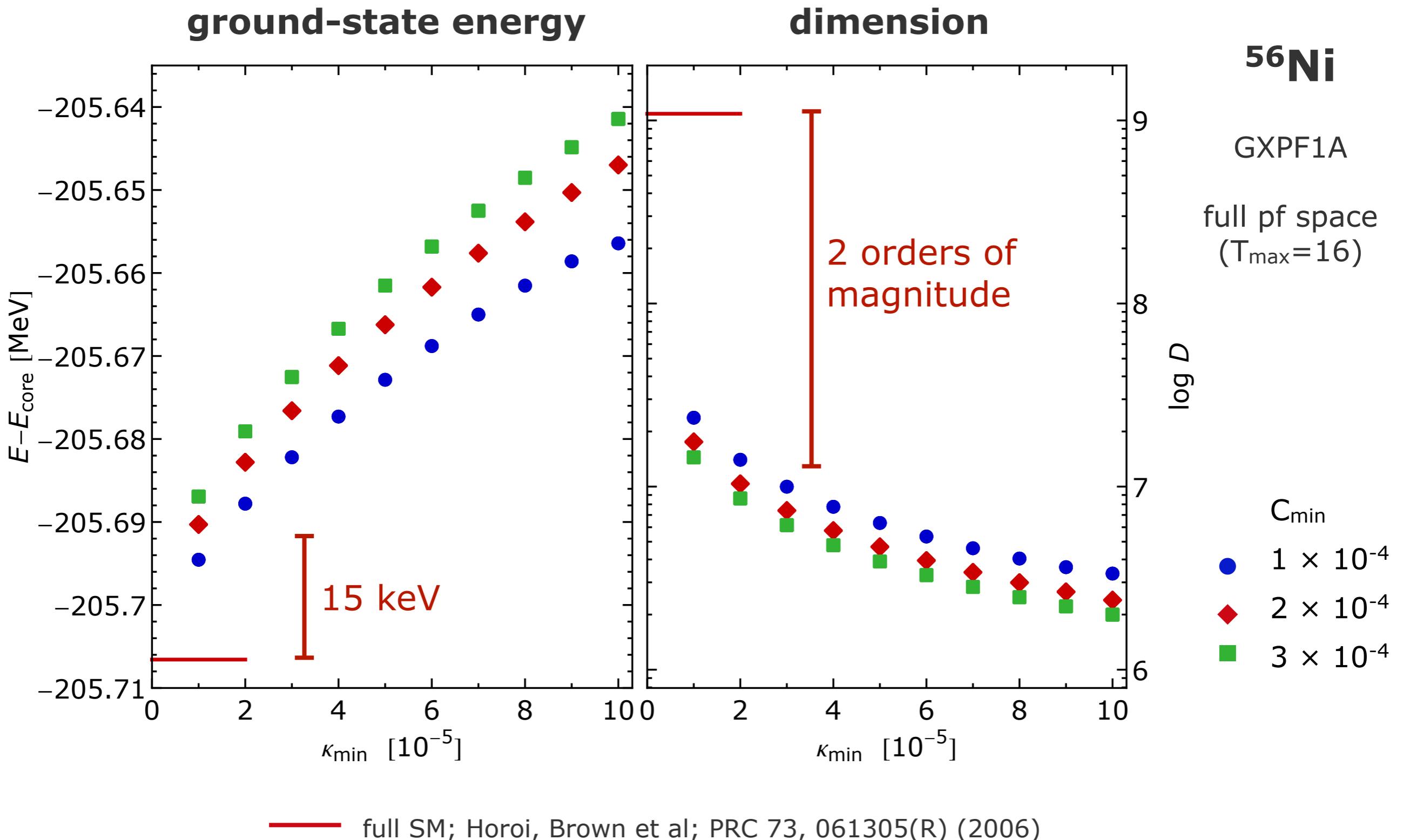
$$K_\nu = - \frac{\langle \Phi_\nu | H | \Psi_{\text{ref}} \rangle}{\epsilon_\nu - \epsilon_{\text{ref}}}$$

- reduce model space to important basis states with  $|K_\nu| \geq K_{\min}$  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  $|\kappa_\nu| \geq \kappa_{\min}$  to importance truncated space
  - (4) solve eigenvalue problem in importance truncated space (for set of  $\kappa_{\min}$ )
  - (5) goto (2)
- in the limit  $\kappa_{\min}, C_{\min} \rightarrow 0$  the full  $T_{\max}$ -truncated model space is recovered

# $^{56}\text{Ni}$ : Threshold Dependence



# Energy Variance

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

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

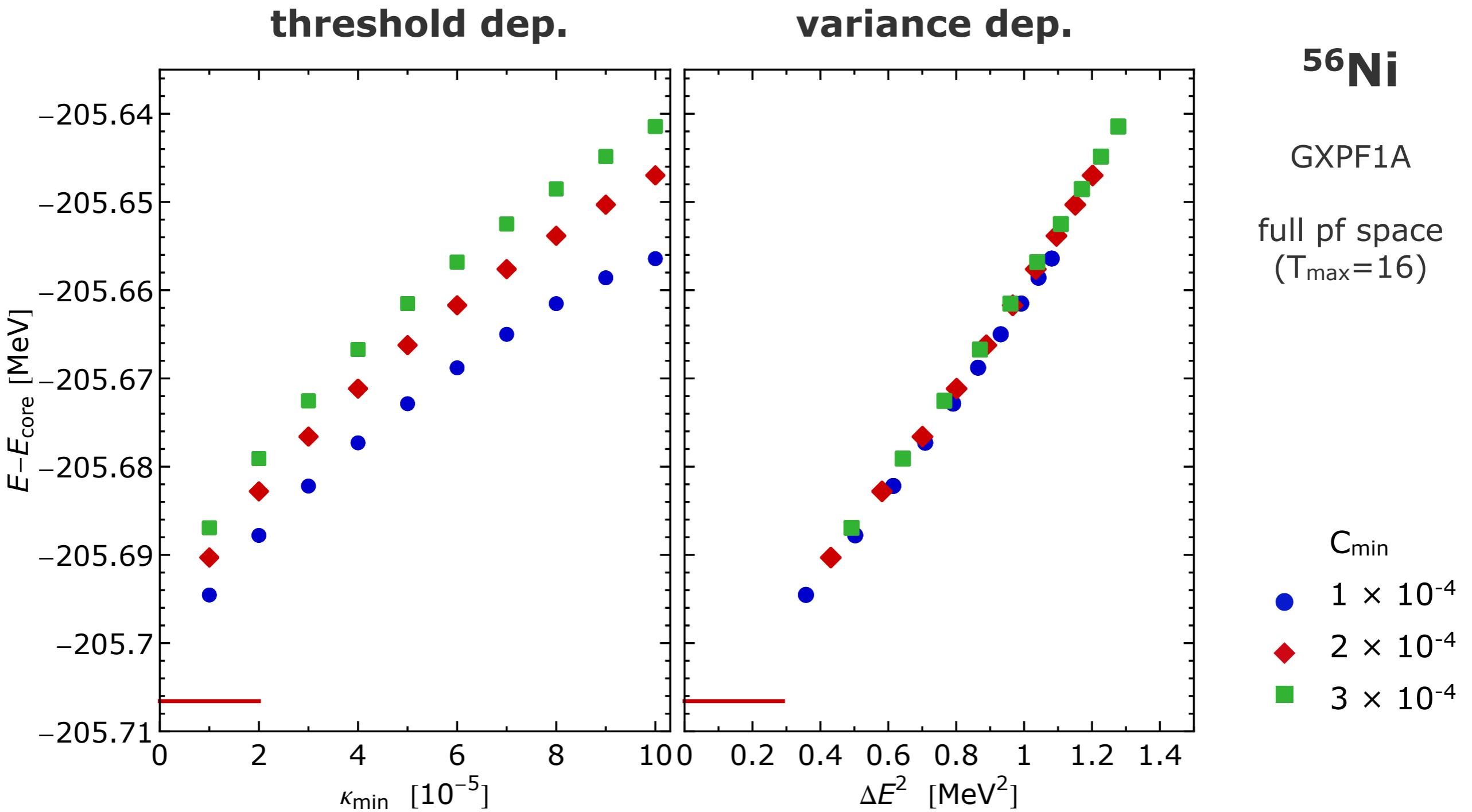
- energy shows predominantly linear dependence on  $\Delta E^2$ , use quadratic term as sub-leading correction

*Mizusaki, Imada, PRC 67, 041301 (2003)*

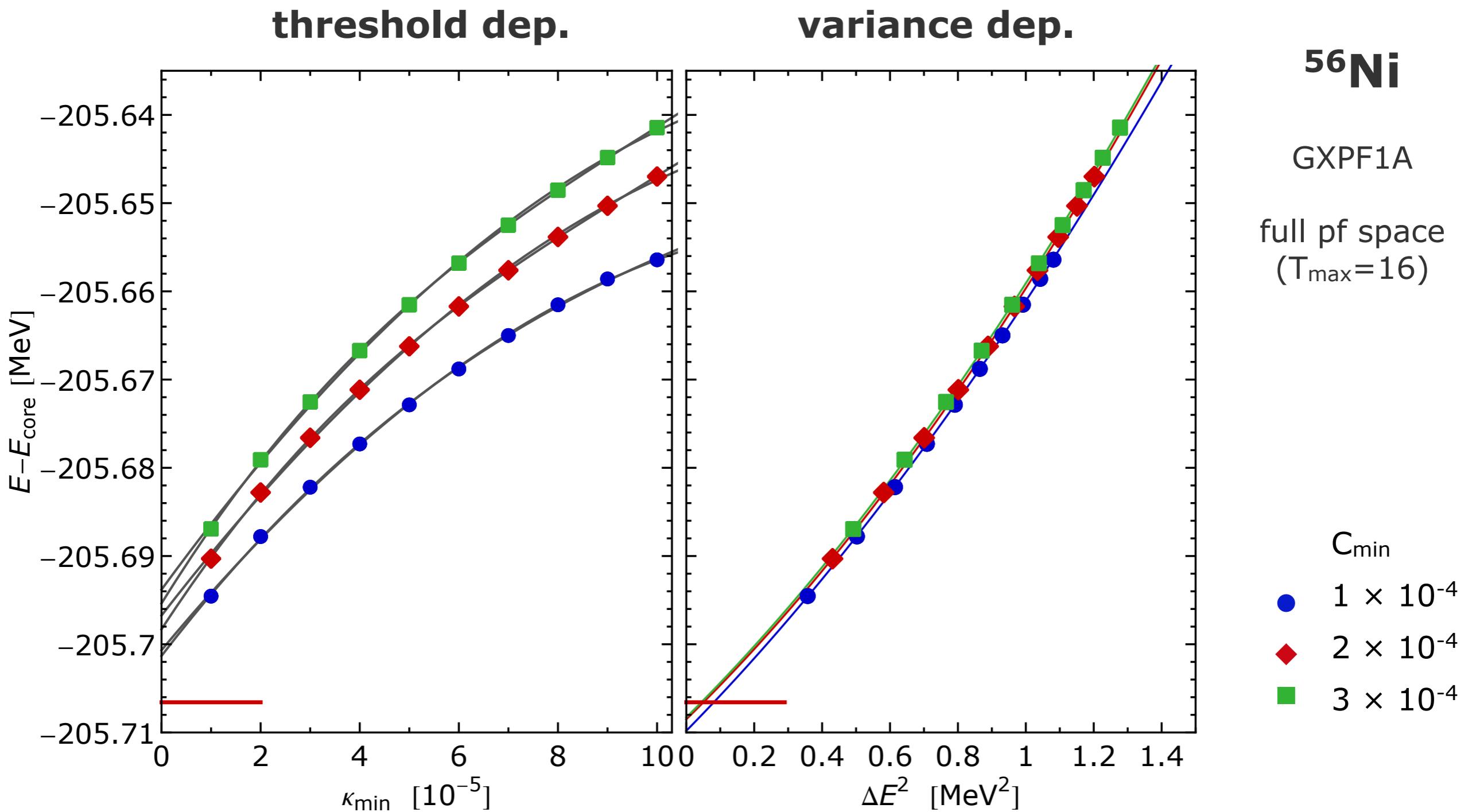
- evaluation of expectation value of  $H^2$  is expensive...
  - NCSM: insert completeness relation for full  $N_{\max}$  space
  - SM: compute valence-space matrix elements of  $H^2$  explicitly (up to 4B)
- was explored in NCSM and is applied routinely in MCSM calculations

*Zhan, Nogga, et al., PRC 69, 034302 (2004)*  
*Shimizu, Abe, et al., Prog. Theo. Exp. Physics 2012, 01A205 (2012)*

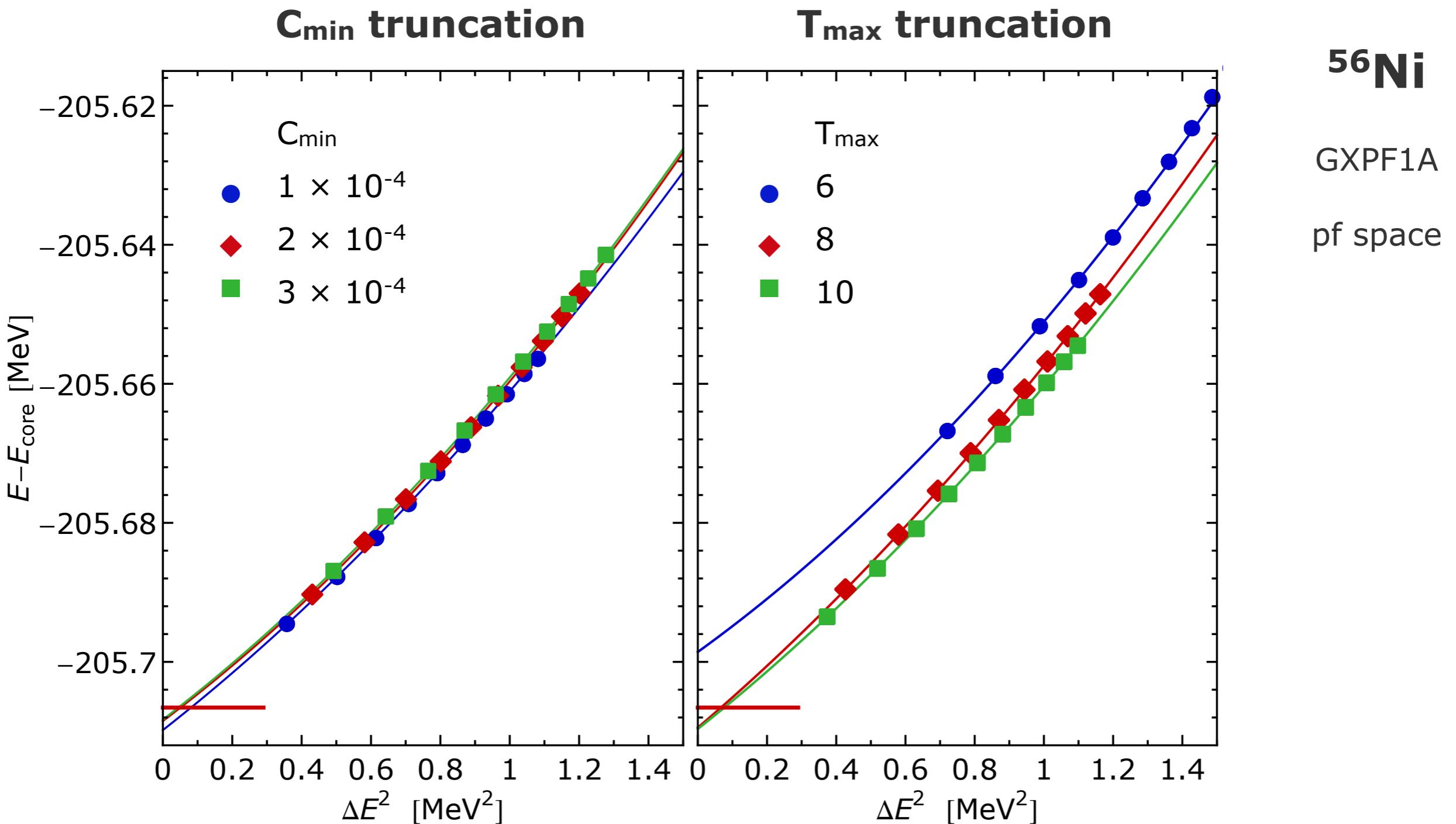
# $^{56}\text{Ni}$ : Threshold vs. Variance



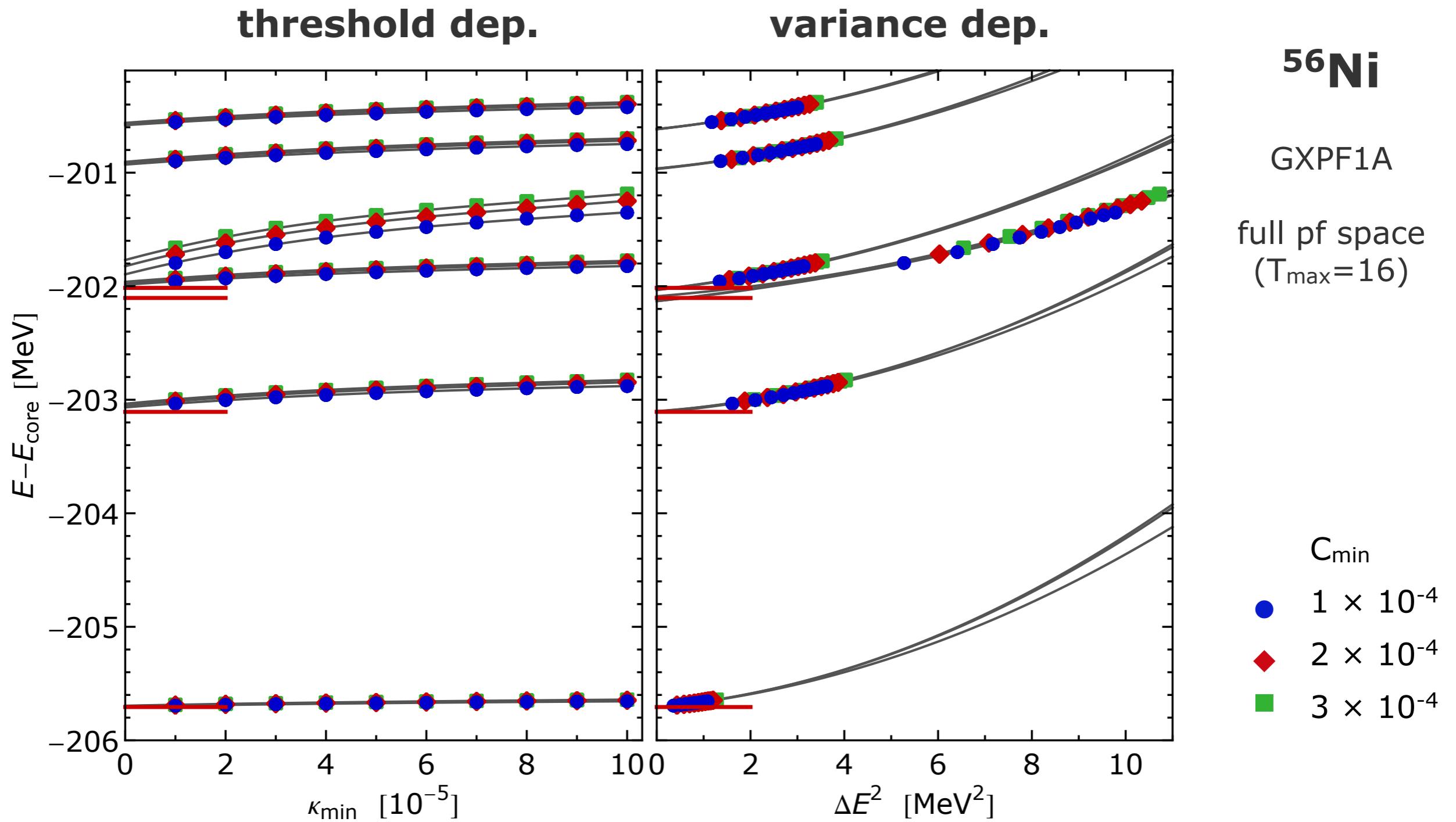
# $^{56}\text{Ni}$ : Threshold vs. Variance



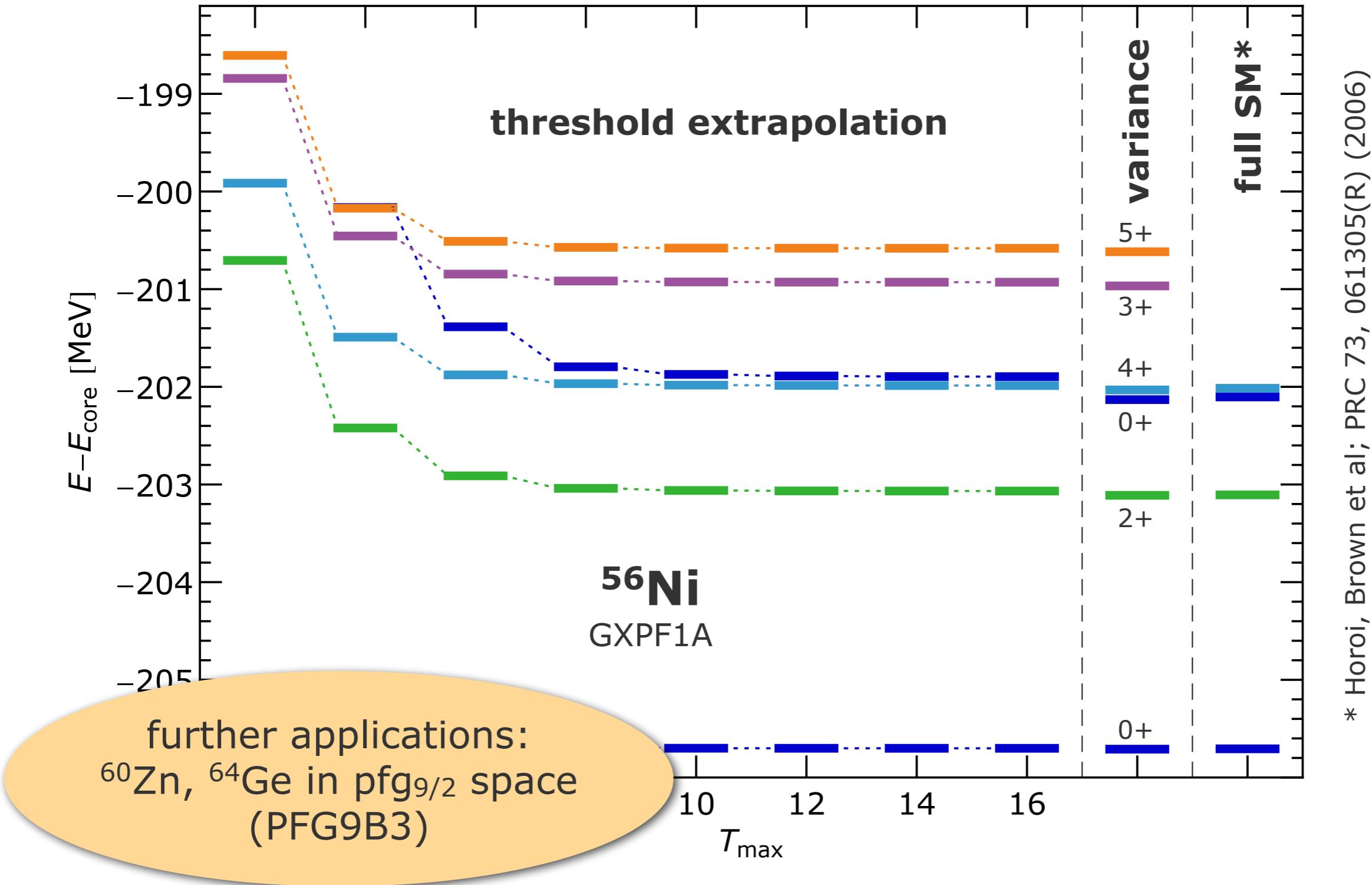
# $^{56}\text{Ni}$ : Variance with $T_{\max}$ Truncation



# $^{56}\text{Ni}$ : Excitation Spectrum



# $^{56}\text{Ni}$ : Excitation Spectrum



# Epilogue

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