

# Effective single-particle energies in correlated many-nucleon systems

*An ab-initio take on academic, though recurring, questions*

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# Disclaimer

## Disclaimer

- Old question, i.e. everyone has some sort of (a different) view on it
- The main objective of the present study is simply to
  - ① Clarify certain key concepts that are often mixed up
  - ② Profit by the availability of ab-initio calculations of medium-mass nuclei
  - ③ Connect to effective SM and EDF approaches
- Knowledge mostly exists; i.e. do not be surprised if parts are known to you

# Outline

- 1 Context and basic ingredients
- 2 Effective single-particle energies
- 3 Results from CCSD calculations
- 4 Extension to particle-number breaking theories
- 5 Take away messages

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# Problem

## Context

- **Single-nucleon shells** = pillar of our understanding of nuclear structure
- Evolution of shells drives the physics of exotic nuclei
- However the only thing one can solve is a **A-body problem**

$$H|\Psi_k^A\rangle = E_k^A|\Psi_k^A\rangle$$

- **One-nucleon pick-up and stripping reactions** give access to

$$E_k^\pm \equiv \pm \left( E_k^{A\pm 1} - E_0^A \right) \text{ and } \sigma_k^\pm$$

## The nucleus is a correlated system

- ✗ Is  $\{E_k^\pm\}$  related to a set of **uniquely defined** single-particle energies  $\{\epsilon_p\}$ ?
- ✗ If yes, to which **independent-particle problem**  $h$  are the  $\{\epsilon_p\}$  associated?
- ✗ If yes, is the single-nucleon shell structure  $\{\epsilon_p\}$  of any practical use, i.e.
  - ✗ Is a **simplified picture** needed and **beneficial** or **potentially misleading**?
  - ✗ Is any variant of  $\epsilon_p$  more or less equivalent?
  - ✗ Is inferring behavior of observable  $E_k^\pm, 2_1^+, \dots$  from  $\{\epsilon_p\}$  **safe** and **easy**?

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# Basic ingredients (1)

## Elements from one-nucleon addition and removal processes

- 1 Spectroscopic amplitudes (= overlap functions) in basis  $\{a_p^\dagger\}$  of  $\mathcal{H}_1$

$$\langle \Psi_\mu^{A+1} | a_p^\dagger | \Psi_0^A \rangle \equiv U_\mu^{p*} \quad , \quad \langle \Psi_\nu^{A-1} | a_p | \Psi_0^A \rangle \equiv V_\nu^{p*}$$

- 2 Spectroscopic "probability" matrix in basis  $\{a_p^\dagger\}$

$$S_\mu^{+pq} \equiv \langle \Psi_0^A | a_p | \Psi_\mu^{A+1} \rangle \langle \Psi_\mu^{A+1} | a_q^\dagger | \Psi_0^A \rangle$$

$$S_\nu^{-pq} \equiv \langle \Psi_0^A | a_q^\dagger | \Psi_\nu^{A-1} \rangle \langle \Psi_\nu^{A-1} | a_p | \Psi_0^A \rangle$$

- 3 Spectroscopic factors (basis independent)

$$SF_\mu^+ \equiv \sum_{p \in \mathcal{H}_1} S_\mu^{+pp} \quad , \quad SF_\nu^- \equiv \sum_{p \in \mathcal{H}_1} S_\nu^{-pp}$$

provide the norm of one-nucleon overlap functions

## Basic ingredients (2)

One-nucleon transfer spectral-function  $\mathbb{S}(\omega) = \mathbb{S}^+(\omega) + \mathbb{S}^-(\omega)$

- Defines an *energy-dependent* matrix on  $\mathcal{H}_1$

$$\mathbb{S}_{pq}(\omega) \equiv \sum_{\mu \in \mathcal{H}_{A+1}} S_{\mu}^{+pq} \delta(\omega - E_{\mu}^{+}) + \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{H}_{A-1}} S_{\nu}^{-pq} \delta(\omega - E_{\nu}^{-})$$

containing the same information as the dressed one-body Green's function

$$i\mathbb{G}_{pq}(t-t') \equiv \langle \Psi_0^A | T \{ a_p(t) a_q^{\dagger}(t') \} | \Psi_0^A \rangle$$

- Moments of the spectral-function

$$\mathbb{M}^{(n)} \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \omega^n \mathbb{S}(\omega) d\omega$$

- Defines an *energy-independent* matrix on  $\mathcal{H}_1$
- Diagonal element  $S_{pp}(\omega)$  has the meaning of a PDF as  $\mathbb{M}^{(0)} = \mathbb{1}_1$

# Basic ingredients (3)

Spectral-strength distribution  $\mathcal{S}(\omega) = \mathcal{S}^+(\omega) + \mathcal{S}^-(\omega)$

$$\mathcal{S}(\omega) \equiv \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_1} [\mathcal{S}(\omega)] = \sum_{\mu \in \mathcal{H}_{A+1}} SF_{\mu}^+ \delta(\omega - E_{\mu}^+) + \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{H}_{A-1}} SF_{\nu}^- \delta(\omega - E_{\nu}^-)$$

- Defines a (basis-independent) function of energy
- May define  $\mathcal{S}^{J^{\pi}}(\omega)$  by only tracing over  $(l, j)$  symmetry sub-block

## Uncorrelated system

- $SF_{\mu}^{\pm} = 0$  or 1
- $\text{Card}\{SF_{\mu}^{\pm} \neq 0\} = \dim \mathcal{H}_1$

## Correlated system

- $0 < SF_{\mu}^{\pm} < 1$
- $\text{Card}\{SF_{\mu}^{\pm} \neq 0\} > \dim \mathcal{H}_1$

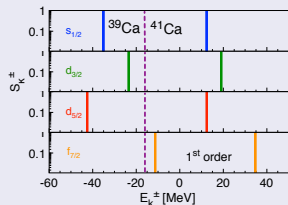
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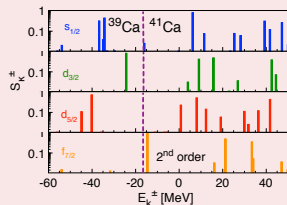
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### Conclusions and questions

- ➊ Direct addition and removal populate more states than  $\dim \gamma_{\mathcal{H}_1}$
- ➋  $E_{\mu}^{\pm}$  spectrum does not possess features of single-particle spectrum
- ➌ Can one meaningfully extract an effective single-particle energy spectrum?

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# Effective single-particle energies

## Centroid energies

- 1 Compute centroid matrix [M. Baranger, NPA149, 225 (1970)]

$$h_{pq}^{\text{cent}} \equiv \sum_{\mu \in \mathcal{H}_{A+1}} S_{\mu}^{+pq} E_{\mu}^{+} + \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{H}_{A-1}} S_{\nu}^{-pq} E_{\nu}^{-} = \mathbb{M}_{pq}^{(1)}$$

which requires information from both stripping *and* pick-up

- 2 Effective Single Particle Energies  $\equiv$  eigenvalues of  $h^{\text{cent}}$

$$h^{\text{cent}} \psi_p^{\text{cent}} = e_p^{\text{cent}} \psi_p^{\text{cent}}$$

- $e_p^{\text{cent}}$  is the mean of the PDF  $\mathbb{S}_{pp}(\omega)$
  - Reduce to eigenvalues of  $h$  for uncorrelated A-body problem
- 3 Basis-independent definition valid for any correlated system
  - Different from computing  $h_{pp}^{\text{cent}}$  in an arbitrarily chosen, e.g. HO, basis
  - Different from guessing an unperturbed reference a priori
- 4 Two sets of connected but different wave functions and energies
  - Overlap functions  $\{U_{\mu}(\vec{r}\sigma\tau), V_{\nu}(\vec{r}\sigma\tau)\}$  decaying with  $\{E_{\mu}^{+}, E_{\nu}^{-}\}$
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# Effective single-particle energies

## Sum rule and correlations

- Identity for  $n^{\text{th}}$  moment of  $\mathbb{S}(\omega)$

$$\mathbb{M}_{pq}^{(n)} = \langle \Psi_0^A | \overbrace{\{ \dots [ [ a_p, H ], H ], \dots \}}^{n \text{ commutators}} | \Psi_0^A \rangle$$

provides for  $n = 1$  [M. Baranger, NPA149, 225 (1970)]

$$h_{pq}^{\text{cent}} = T_{pq} + \sum_{rs} \bar{V}_{prqs}^{2N} \rho_{sr}^{[1]} + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{rstv} \bar{V}_{prtqsv}^{3N} \rho_{svrt}^{[2]} = h_{pq}^{\infty}$$

- $\rho^{[k]}$  is the  $k$ -body density matrix of  $|\Psi_0^A\rangle$
- Accessing ESPEs only require to compute  $|\Psi_0^A\rangle$
- $\epsilon_p^{\text{cent}} - \epsilon_p^{\text{HF}} \neq 0$  due to correlations in  $\rho^{[k]}$
- $h^{\infty} \equiv$  energy-independent part of one-body  $\Sigma(\omega)$  in Dyson-SCGF
- Centroids do screen out most of the correlations
  - $h^{\text{cent}}$  involves monopole part of the interaction  $V^{\text{mon}} \equiv \sum_J (2J+1) V^J$
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## Conclusions

- ✓ ESPE extract **meaningful s.p. shell structure** from correlated nuclei
- ✓  $e_p^{\text{cent}}$  = centroid of  $E_\mu^+ / E_\nu^-$  weighted by  $|\langle \Psi_\mu^{A+1} | b_p^\dagger | \Psi_0^A \rangle|^2 / |\langle \Psi_\nu^{A-1} | b_p | \Psi_0^A \rangle|^2$
- ✓ Require both **stripping and pick-up** reactions experiment
- ✓ **Is it useful? It depends**
  - ✓ **Yes** = analyze shell-structure evolution via  $e_p^{\text{cent}}$  (NOT via  $E_\mu^+ / E_\nu^-$ )
  - ✓ **No** = may not reflect actual physics, i.e.  $E_\mu^+ / E_\nu^-$ ,  $2_1^+$ , drip-line position
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# Calculation setting

## EOM-CCSD method in (Gamow) HF basis

- ❶  $V^{2N} = \text{Chiral N}^3\text{LO} (\Lambda_\chi = 500 \text{ MeV}) + \text{RG} (V_{\text{low } k})$  down to  $\Lambda_{\text{RG}} = 2.4 \text{ fm}^{-1}$
- ❷ Harmonic oscillator model space
  - O:  $n_{\text{max}} = 12$ ;  $\hbar\omega = 16 \text{ MeV} + 30 \text{ WS orbitals}$  for "valence" neutron PW
  - Ca:  $n_{\text{max}} = 12$ ;  $\hbar\omega = 16 \text{ MeV}$

## Probing the effect of correlations

- ❶ Normal-ordered form of  $H$  with respect to  $|\Phi_0^{\text{HF}}\rangle$  in HF single-particle basis

$$H = E_0^{\text{HF}} + \sum_p \epsilon_p^{\text{HF}} : b_p^\dagger b_p : + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{pqrs} \bar{V}_{pqrs}^{2N} : b_p^\dagger b_q^\dagger b_s b_r : \equiv h^{\text{HF}} + V_{\text{res}}$$

$$\epsilon_p^{\text{HF}} = T_{pp} + \sum_{q=1}^A \bar{V}_{pqpq}^{2N}$$

- ❷ Define  $V_{\text{res}}(\lambda) \equiv \lambda V_{\text{res}}$  such that  $H(0) = h^{\text{HF}}$  and  $H(1) = H$
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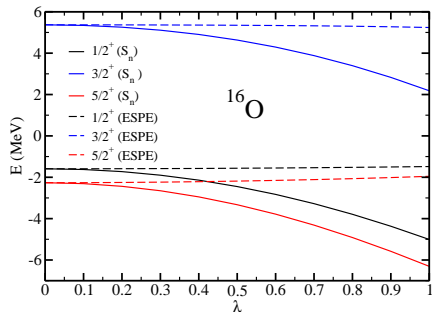
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# From an uncorrelated to a correlated system



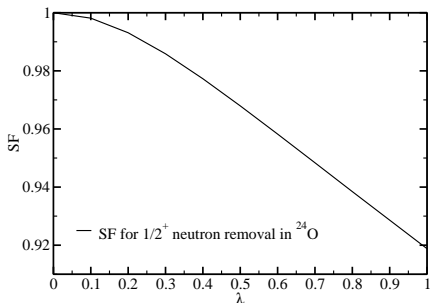
## Correlations in doubly-magic $^{16}\text{O}$

- 1 Neutron  $E_\mu^+(\lambda)$  in  $^{17}\text{O}$
- 2 Neutron centroid energies  $e_p^{\text{cent}}(\lambda)$

## Switching on correlations in doubly-magic $^{16}\text{O}$

- 1 Uncorrelated limit:  $e_p^{\text{cent}}(0) = E_\mu^+(0) = \epsilon_p^{\text{HF}}$  (Koopman's theorem)
- 2 Strongly correlated system as  $E_\mu^+(1) - e_p^{\text{cent}}(1) \approx -3 \text{ MeV}$
- 3 Centroid energies almost untouched by correlations as  $\partial_\lambda e_p^{\text{cent}}(\lambda) \approx 0$
- 4 Both would be significantly more affected in open-shell nucleus

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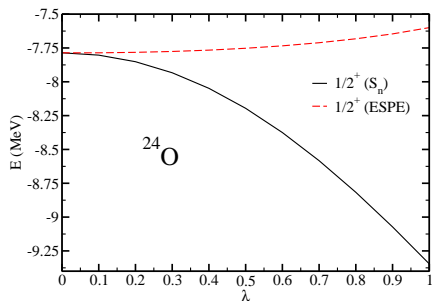
## $J^\pi = 1/2^+$ neutron removal in $^{24}\text{O}$

- 1  $SF_{1/2^+}^-(\lambda)$
- 2  $E_{1/2^+}^-(\lambda)$  versus  $e_{21/2^+}^{\text{cent}}(\lambda)$
- 3 Overlap function  $|V_{1/2^+}(\vec{r}; \lambda)|^2$
- 4 Centroid function  $|\psi_{21/2^+}^{\text{cent}}(\vec{r}; \lambda)|^2$

## Switching on correlations in doubly-magic $^{24}\text{O}$

- 1 Based on  $SF_{1/2^+}^-(1)$  looks like a good single-particle state
- 2 Correlation energy is however significant  $E_{1/2^+}^-(1) - e_{21/2^+}^{\text{cent}}(1) \approx -1.7 \text{ MeV}$
- 3 Asymptotic/norm of  $|V_{1/2^+}(\vec{r}; \lambda)|^2$  changes while  $\partial_\lambda |\psi_{21/2^+}^{\text{cent}}(\vec{r}; \lambda)|^2 \approx 0$
- 4  $|\psi_{21/2^+}^{\text{cent}}(\vec{r}; 0.9)|^2$  decays according to  $e_{21/2^+}^{\text{cent}}(0.9) = -7.65 \text{ MeV}$

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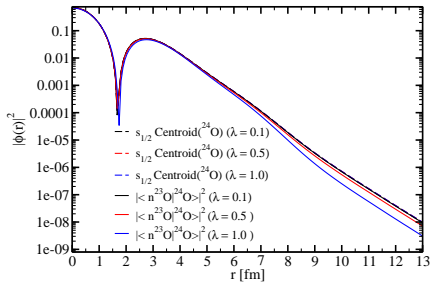
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## Switching on correlations in doubly-magic $^{24}\text{O}$

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# From an uncorrelated to a correlated system



$J^\pi = 1/2^+$  neutron removal in  $^{24}\text{O}$

①  $SF_{1/2+}^-(\lambda)$

②  $E_{1/2+}^-(\lambda)$  versus  $e_{21/2+}^{\text{cent}}(\lambda)$

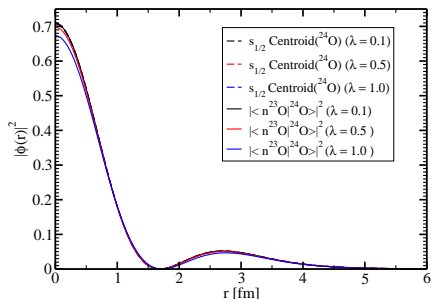
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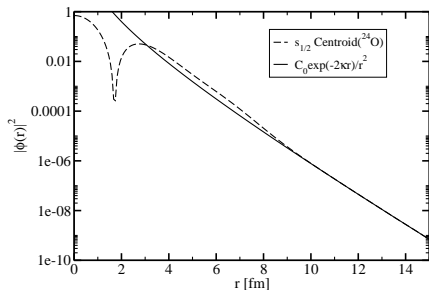
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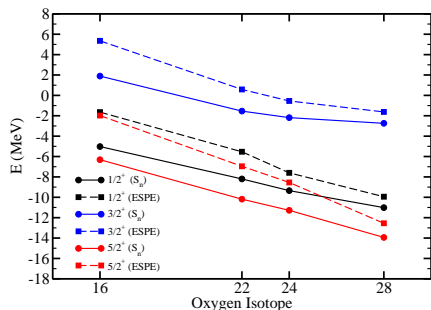
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# Single-nucleon shell structure in O isotopes



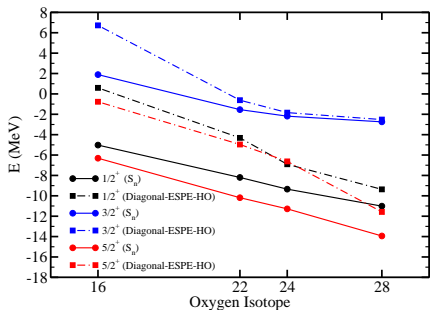
## Doubly-closed shell O isotopes

- Neutron  $E_{\mu}^{+}, E_{\nu}^{-}$
- Neutron centroid energies  $e_p^{\text{cent}}$

## Evolution of neutron states

- $(E_{\mu}^{+}, E_{\nu}^{-})$  differ significantly from  $e_p^{\text{cent}}$  in "good-closed-shell" nuclei
  - Care to be taken when inferring physics from  $e_p^{\text{cent}}$  only
  - Difference is not the same in various "good-closed-shell" nuclei
- SM postulates core to be a perfect closed-shell nucleus, i.e.  $e_p^{\text{core}} \equiv E_{\mu}^{+} \delta_{pk}$ 
  - Wrong but ok in view of large  $SF_{\mu}^{+} = \text{good effective low-energy d.o.f.}$

# Approximate computation of ESPE



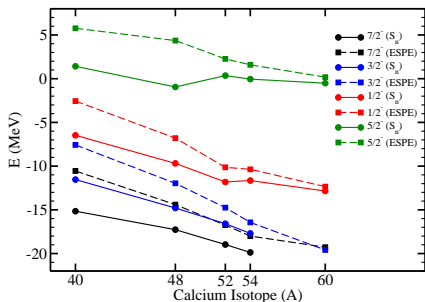
## Doubly-closed shell O isotopes

- Neutron  $E_{\mu}^{+}, E_{\nu}^{-}$
- Neutron "SM-like" centroids
  - Diagonal  $h_{pp}^{\text{cent}}$  in HO basis
  - Naive uncorrelated filling

## Difference with "SM-like" definition of ESPE

- Significant impact but general trend unclear
  - Continuum states and states away from  $\epsilon_F$  are the most affected
  - Must decouple effect from (i) self-consistency (ii) correlated  $\rho^{[1]}$
- Full  $e_p^{\text{cent}}$  follow better ( $E_{\mu}^{+}, E_{\nu}^{-}$ ) overall
- More systematic investigations necessary

# Single-nucleon shell structure in Ca isotopes



## Doubly-closed shell Ca isotopes

- 1 Neutron  $E_{\mu}^{+}, E_{\nu}^{-}$
- 2 Neutron centroid energies  $e_p^{\text{cent}}$

## Evolution of neutron states

- 1  $(E_{\mu}^{+}, E_{\nu}^{-})$  differ significantly from  $e_p^{\text{cent}}$  in "good-closed-shell" nuclei
  - Difference diminishes strongly going from  $^{40}\text{Ca}$  to  $^{60}\text{Ca}$
  - Reflects specificity of  $N \approx Z$  or smooth trend with  $N - Z$ ?
- 2 Perform systematic study of correlation between  $(\Delta e_p^{\text{cent}})_F$  and  $2_1^{+}$
- 3 Extend analysis to mid-shell nuclei

# Outline

- 1 Context and basic ingredients
- 2 Effective single-particle energies
- 3 Results from CCSD calculations
- 4 Extension to particle-number breaking theories**
- 5 Take away messages

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# Take away messages

## The nucleus is a **correlated system**

- 1 Is  $\{E_k^\pm\}$  related to a set of uniquely defined single-particle energies  $\{\epsilon_p\}$ ?
  - $\rightsquigarrow$  **Yes, the so-called centroid energies  $\{e_p^{\text{cent}}\}$**
- 2 To which independent-particle problem  $\mathbf{h}$  are the  $\epsilon_p$  associated?
  - $\rightsquigarrow$   $\{e_p^{\text{cent}}\}$  are eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{h}^{\text{cent}} = \mathbf{h}^\infty$
  - $\rightsquigarrow$  **Associated  $|\Phi^{\text{cent}}\rangle$  can be further characterized (not done here)**
- 3 Is approximating  $\{e_p^{\text{cent}}\}$  safe?
  - $\rightsquigarrow$  **No as self-consistency and continuum effects may be significant**
- 4 Is an effective s.p. picture needed and beneficial or potentially misleading?
  - $\rightsquigarrow$  **A simplified picture is helpful but has to be used with care**
  - $\rightsquigarrow$  **Provides a  $\Lambda_{\text{RG}}$ -dependent analysis tool given  $\mathbf{H}(\Lambda_{\text{RG}})$**
- 5 Is inferring behavior of  $\{E_k^A\}$  and  $\{E_k^\pm\}$  from  $\{e_p^{\text{cent}}\}$  safe and easy?
  - $\rightsquigarrow$  **No as they may be remote even in "good-closed-shell" nuclei**

# Thank you !