



WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Effective Field Theory Perspective On King Non-linearity

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of Science

Based on

[Assi, Carey, Jäger, Lee, Paz, Perez, Zupan, arXiv:2512.03157]

Outline

- Introduction: King linearity and non-linearity

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- EFT Perspective On King Non-linearity

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- Conclusions

Introduction:
King linearity
and
King non-linearity

King linearity

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$$E_n^A = -\frac{1}{2n^2}(Z\alpha)^2 \frac{m_e m_A}{m_e + m_A} \approx -\frac{1}{2n^2} m_e (Z\alpha)^2 \left(1 - \frac{m_e}{m_A}\right)$$

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- Two sources with a different **electronic** dependence and a different **nuclear** dependence
- Two sources \Rightarrow linear relation between $\nu_i^{AA'}$'s \Rightarrow King linearity [W. H. King, J. Opt. Soc. Am. **53** 638 (1963)]

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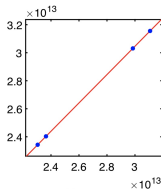


Image from [Counts et al., PRL **125** 123002 (2020)]

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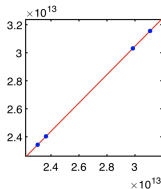


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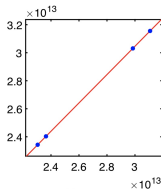
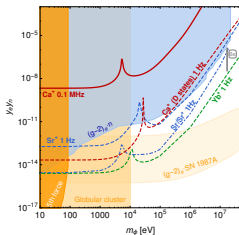


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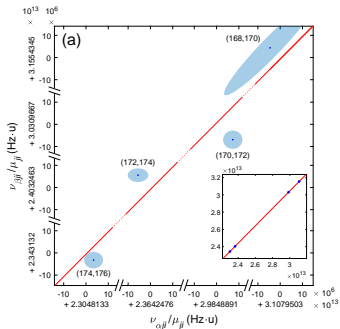


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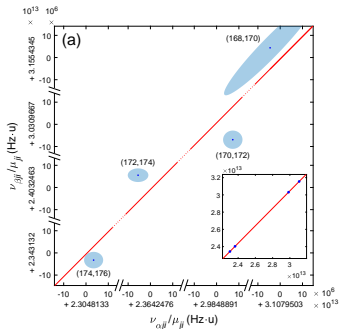


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- Is it new physics?
- Nuclear effects such as $\langle r^4 \rangle$ or $\langle r^2 \rangle^2$ also lead to non-linearity!
reminder: $[\langle r^k \rangle \equiv \int d^3r r^k \rho(r)]$

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- King non-linearity was observed with a large number of σ 's
- Is it new physics?
- Are these all the possible nuclear effects?

EFT Perspective on King Non-linearity

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- We will use Non Relativistic QED (NRQED)

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- Step 3: Use the QM potentials to find $\Delta E = h \Delta\nu$

Step 1: Match SM onto NRQED

NRQED Lagrangian

- The NRQED Lagrangian up to dimension 8
[Hill, Lee, GP, Solon, PRD **87** 053017 (2013)]

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$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L}_{\text{NRQED}} = \chi^\dagger \bigg\{ & iD_t + \frac{D^2}{2M} + c_{Fg} g \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}}{2M} + c_{Dg} g \frac{[\boldsymbol{\partial} \cdot \mathbf{E}]}{8M^2} + ic_{Sg} g \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{E} - \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{D})}{8M^2} \\
 & + \frac{D^4}{8M^3} + c_{W1g} g \frac{\{D^2, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}\}}{8M^3} - c_{W2g} g \frac{D^i \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B} D^i}{4M^3} + ic_{Mg} g \frac{\{D^i, [\boldsymbol{\partial} \times \mathbf{B}]^i\}}{8M^3} \\
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 & + c_{X1} g \frac{[D^2, \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D}]}{M^4} + c_{X2} g \frac{\{D^2, [\boldsymbol{\partial} \cdot \mathbf{E}]\}}{M^4} + c_{X3} g \frac{[\boldsymbol{\partial}^2 \boldsymbol{\partial} \cdot \mathbf{E}]}{M^4} \\
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 & + ic_{X6} g \frac{\epsilon^{ijk} \sigma^i D^j [\boldsymbol{\partial} \cdot \mathbf{E}] D^k}{M^4} + c_{X7} g^2 \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B} [\boldsymbol{\partial} \cdot \mathbf{E}]}{M^4} + c_{X8} g^2 \frac{[\mathbf{E} \cdot \boldsymbol{\partial} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}]}{M^4} \\
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 \end{aligned}$$

NRQED Lagrangian

- 1st simplification: King NL experiments are done with spin-zero nuclei

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 \mathcal{L}_{\text{NRQED}} = \chi^\dagger & \left\{ iD_t + \frac{D^2}{2M} + c_{Fg} \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}}{2M} + c_{Dg} \frac{[\boldsymbol{\partial} \cdot \mathbf{E}]}{8M^2} + ic_{Sg} \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{E} - \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{D})}{8M^2} \right. \\
 & + \frac{D^4}{8M^3} + c_{W1g} \frac{\{D^2, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}\}}{8M^3} - c_{W2g} \frac{D^i \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B} D^i}{4M^3} + ic_{Mg} \frac{\{D^i, [\boldsymbol{\partial} \times \mathbf{B}]^i\}}{8M^3} \\
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} χ

NRQED Lagrangian

- 2nd simplification: $1/r_N \ll M$, since $1/r_N \sim A^{-1/3}/r_p$ and $M \sim A m_p$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{NRQED}} = \chi^\dagger \left\{ \begin{aligned} & iD_t \\ & + c_D g \frac{[\partial \cdot \mathbf{E}]}{8M^2} \\ & + \\ & + c_{A1} g^2 \frac{(\mathbf{B}^2 - \mathbf{E}^2)}{8M^3} - c_{A2} g^2 \frac{\mathbf{E}^2}{16M^3} \\ & + c_{X3} g \frac{[\partial^2 \partial \cdot \mathbf{E}]}{M^4} \end{aligned} \right\} \chi$$

- Only 5 operators remain out of the 24

• NRQED Lagrangian

- NRQED Lagrangian up to dim. 8 [Hill, Lee, GP, Solon, PRD **87** 053017 (2013)]

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Scalar NRQED Lagrangian in the $M \rightarrow \infty$ limit

- Changing $\chi \rightarrow S$, the scalar NRQED Lagrangian in the $M \rightarrow \infty$ limit takes the simple form

$$\mathcal{L}_S = S^\dagger \left\{ iD_t + \frac{c_{\langle r^2 \rangle}}{\Lambda_N^2} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) + \frac{c_{E^2}}{\Lambda_N^3} \mathbf{E}^2 + \frac{c_{B^2}}{\Lambda_N^3} \mathbf{B}^2 + \frac{c_{\langle r^4 \rangle}}{\Lambda_N^4} \nabla^2 (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) \right\} S$$

Scalar NRQED Lagrangian in the $M \rightarrow \infty$ limit

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$$\mathcal{L}_S = S^\dagger \left\{ iD_t + \frac{c_{\langle r^2 \rangle}}{\Lambda_N^2} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) + \frac{c_{E^2}}{\Lambda_N^3} \mathbf{E}^2 + \frac{c_{B^2}}{\Lambda_N^3} \mathbf{B}^2 + \frac{c_{\langle r^4 \rangle}}{\Lambda_N^4} \nabla^2 (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) \right\} S$$

- To determine the Wilson coefficients we perform matching and get

$$\mathcal{L}_S = S^\dagger \left\{ iD_t + eZ \frac{\langle r^2 \rangle}{6} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) + \frac{\alpha_E}{2} \mathbf{E}^2 + \frac{\beta_M}{2} \mathbf{B}^2 + eZ \frac{\langle r^4 \rangle}{120} \nabla^2 (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) \right\} S$$

- If the nuclear charge density is $\rho(r)$, $\langle r^k \rangle \equiv \int d^3r r^k \rho(r)$
- α_E is the electric polarizability and β_M the magnetic polarizability

Four-fields operators Lagrangian

- At dimension 8 we have many more operators
Lorentz invariance implies relations between Wilson coefficients
[Hill, Lee, GP, Solon, PRD **87** 053017 (2013)]

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{S\psi_e} = & \frac{d_2 m_e}{\Lambda_N^3} S^\dagger S \psi_e^\dagger \psi_e + \frac{d_3}{\Lambda_N^4} S^\dagger D_+^j S \psi_e^\dagger D_+^j \psi_e + \frac{d_6}{m_e \Lambda_N^3} S^\dagger S \psi_e^\dagger (\mathbf{D}^2 + \overleftarrow{\mathbf{D}}^2) \psi_e \\ & + \frac{g d_{10}}{\Lambda_N^4} S^\dagger S \psi_e^\dagger \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B} \psi_e + \frac{i d_{11}}{m_e \Lambda_N^3} \epsilon^{ijk} S^\dagger D_+^k S \psi_e^\dagger \sigma^i D_-^j \psi_e, \end{aligned}$$

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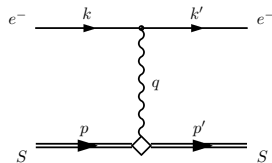
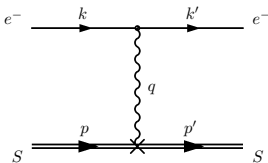
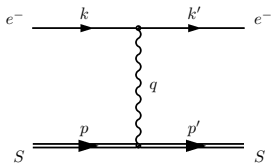
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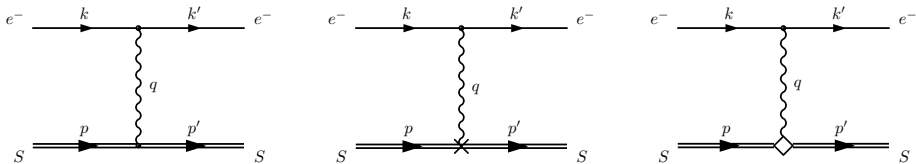
Step 2: Match NRQED onto QM

Example: $V_{1\text{-photon}}(\mathbf{r})$



- Procedure: calculate \mathcal{M} , use $\tilde{V}(\mathbf{q}) = -\mathcal{M}$, take Fourier transform

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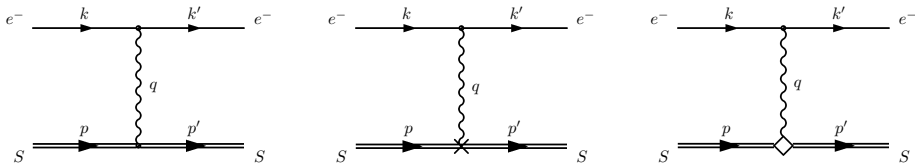
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$$i\mathcal{M}_Z = \frac{c}{q^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \tilde{V}_Z(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{-Ze^2}{q^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad V_Z(r) = -\frac{Z\alpha}{r},$$

$$i\mathcal{M}_{\langle r^2 \rangle} = -\frac{c\langle r^2 \rangle}{6q^2} \mathbf{q}^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \tilde{V}_{\langle r^2 \rangle}(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{Ze^2}{6} \langle r^2 \rangle \quad \Rightarrow \quad V_{\langle r^2 \rangle}(r) = \frac{4\pi Z\alpha}{6} \langle r^2 \rangle \delta^3(r),$$

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- Coulomb potential, $V_Z(r)$, is solved exactly while $V_{\langle r^2 \rangle}$ and $V_{\langle r^4 \rangle}$ are treated as perturbations

Step 3: Use QM potentials to find ΔE

List of potentials

- Atomic scale: a nuclear scale: r_N . Classify potentials by $\epsilon = r_N/a$
This is a rough scaling powers of Z are also important

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- Current level of experimental precision is ϵ^4
 \Rightarrow Use 1st and 2nd order PT for $V_{\langle r^2 \rangle}$ and 1st order for all others

Phenomenological implications

List of potentials by interaction

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- Using the EFT results we can find the contributions to King NL

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$$G_{n,\ell}^{(4)} = \begin{cases} \frac{4\pi Z\alpha}{20} \phi_{n,0}(0) \phi''_{n,0}(0), & \ell = 0, \\ \frac{4\pi Z\alpha}{80\pi} [R'_{n1}(0)]^2, & \ell = 1, \\ 0, & \ell > 1 \end{cases}$$

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Comparison to treatment of $\langle r^2 \rangle^2$ in literature

- Recall that $G_i^{(2)}$, the electronic coefficient of $\langle r^2 \rangle^2$ depend on the **entire** spectrum of the Hamiltonian. Very hard to calculate.
- Approximate treatments were used in the literature:
 - [Counts et al., PRL **125** 123002 (2020)]
 - [Hur et al., PRL **128** 163201 (2022)]
- For hydrogen-like systems we can test these approximations
 - These approximations are **highly** dependent on how the other moments of classical nuclear charge density are treated
 - One approximation is off by 20%, since it includes terms that can be absorbed into F_i
 - Another approximation has the right magnitude but the opposite sign
- Conclusion: current treatment of $\langle r^2 \rangle^2$ term needs to be reconsidered

Conclusions and outlook

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- Allows to go beyond the charge radius and study nuclei structure at unprecedented precision
- Such non-linearity was observed in experiments but its interpretation is obscured by SM effects
- Presented an EFT approach:
 - Match SM onto NRQED
 - Match NRQED onto QM
 - Use QM potentials to find energy-level shifts
- Applied this to find a general expression for King NL and compare and test other more phenomenological approaches

Future directions

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Thank you!