

Canada's national laboratory for particle and nuclear physics Laboratoire national canadien pour la recherche en physique nucléaire et en physique des particules

Ab Initio calculations of Nuclear Structure and Reactions

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RIUMF Our goal is to develop a fundamental theory for the description of structure and dynamics of light nuclei





From QCD to nuclei





Nuclear structure and reactions



Chiral Effective Field Theory

- First principles for Nuclear Physics: QCD
 - Non-perturbative at low energies
 - Lattice QCD in the future
- For now a good place to start:
- Inter-nucleon forces from chiral effective field theory
 - Based on the symmetries of QCD
 - Chiral symmetry of QCD $(m_u \approx m_d \approx 0)$, spontaneously broken with pion as the Goldstone boson
 - Degrees of freedom: nucleons + pions
 - Systematic low-momentum expansion to a given order (Q/Λ_x)
 - Hierarchy
 - Consistency
 - Low energy constants (LEC)
 - Fitted to data
 - Can be calculated by lattice QCD



 Λ_{χ} ~1 GeV : Chiral symmetry breaking scale



From QCD to nuclei



RIUMF Unified approach to bound & continuum states; to nuclear structure & reactions

- Ab initio no-core shell model
 - Short- and medium range correlations
 - Bound-states, narrow resonances



Harmonic oscillator basis





From QCD to nuclei



WTRIUMF Unified approach to bound & continuum states; to nuclear structure & reactions

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- Bound & scattering states, reactions
- Cluster dynamics, long-range correlations







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S. Baroni, P. Navratil, and S. Quaglioni, PRL **110**, 022505 (2013); PRC **87**, 034326 (2013).

NCSMC





Coupled NCSMC equations



Scattering matrix (and observables) from matching solutions to known asymptotic with microscopic *R*-matrix on Lagrange mesh



p-⁴He scattering within NCSMC

p-⁴He scattering phase-shifts for NN+3N potential:

Convergence

Differential p-⁴He cross section with NN+3N potentials





Structure of ⁹Be



⁹Be is a stable nucleus ... but all its excited states unbound A proper description requires to include effects of continuum

The lowest threshold: $n^{-8}Be(n-\alpha-\alpha)$

Optimal description: Square-integrable ⁹Be basis + n-⁸Be clusters



NCSMC with chiral NN+3N: Structure of ⁹Be

NN NN+3N Expt. NN+3N NN





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Three-nucleon interaction *and* continuum improve agreement with experiment for negative parity states

Continuum crucial for the description of positive-parity states

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 91, 021301(R) (2015)

Continuum and three-nucleon force effects on ⁹Be energy levels

Joachim Langhammer,^{1,*} Petr Navrátil,^{2,†} Sofia Quaglioni,³ Guillaume Hupin,^{3,‡} Angelo Calci,^{1,2} and Robert Roth^{1,§}





NCSM/RGM calculations of transfer reactions

$$\int dr \ r^{2} \left(\left\langle \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{r}^{\prime} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{n} \end{array} \right| \hat{A}_{1}(H-E) \hat{A}_{1} \right| \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{n} \end{array} \right) \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{r}^{\prime} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{n} \end{array} \right| \hat{A}_{1}(H-E) \hat{A}_{2} \\ \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{n} \\ \mathbf{n} \end{array} \right| \hat{A}_{1}(H-E) \hat{A}_{2} \\ \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{n} \\ \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{n} \\ \mathbf{$$

Straightforward to couple different mass partitions in the NCSM/RGM formalism

Applications to (d,p) and (d,n) reactions Example: ³He(d,p)⁴He

 $S(E) = E\sigma(E) \exp[2\pi\eta(E)]$ $\eta(E) = Z_{A-a}Z_a e^2 / \hbar v_{A-a,a}$



Ab Initio Many-Body Calculations of the ${}^{3}H(d, n){}^{4}He$ and ${}^{3}He(d, p){}^{4}He$ Fusion Reactions

Petr Navrátil^{1,2} and Sofia Quaglioni²



SRG-N³LO (Λ=1.45 fm⁻¹) NN potential

- Position of the resonance matches experiment



S-factor narrower than the data

Resonance in the $d^{-3}H^{4}S_{1/2}$ partial wave

 $n-^{4}$ He $^{2}D_{3/2}$ decreasing, does not cross 90 degrees

TRIUMF (A-2) (A-2)



³H(*d*,*n*)⁴He fusion with chiral NN+3N



- Towards first ab initio calculation of ³H(d,n)⁴He fusion with 3N forces
 - N_{max} = 9 model space
 - n+⁴He & d+³H continuum channels
 - Up to 14 ⁵He states
 - Only g.s. of ⁴He and ³H: effect of target excitation described by ⁵He states
 - 3-body dynamics approximated above deuteron breakup



RIUMF

Spin-parity assignment of 0.78 MeV resonance of ⁹Be



Low peak in the experimental total cross section: E(5/2)~0.78 MeV above the threshold (Uncertain spin-parity assignment)

Calibration reaction for astrophysical process: $^{7}Li(d,p)^{8}Li$ as target calibration for $^{7}Be(p,\gamma)^{8}B$ (Solar abundance problem)



Possible mechanism of destruction of ⁷Li in the context of baryon-inhomogeneus models of the primordial nucleosynthesis (Primordial Lithium abundance problem)



⁷Li(*d*,p)⁸Li scattering results (NCSM-RGM)



Not-included channels: (1)⁸Be, n (2) ⁶Li, t

NCSM-RGM calculations with SRG-evolved (λ =2.02 fm⁻¹) chiral N³LO NN potentials 4 eigenstates of ⁸Li, 2 eigenstates of ⁷Li and 5 pseudostates of deuteron N_{max}=8, hΩ=20 MeV



Impact of different partial waves (NCSM-RGM)

⁷Li(*d*,p)⁸Li cross section



- Position of the first resonant peak slightly overestimated
- Increasing trend up to deuteron break-up fairly well reproduced (contribution from 3/2⁺ partial wave)
- Double-peak structure at low energy not resolved

Capture reactions important for astrophysics



TRIUMF 7Be

⁷Be(*p*,γ)⁸B radiative capture

- NCSM/RGM calculation of ⁷Be(p,γ)⁸B radiative capture
 - Be states 3/2⁻, 1/2⁻, 7/2⁻, 5/2⁻, 5/2⁻, 5/2⁻
 - Soft NN potential (SRG-N³LO with Λ = 1.86 fm⁻¹)



7.21 6.73

4.57





³He-⁴He and ³H-⁴He scattering



NCSMC calculations with chiral SRG-N³LO *NN* potential (λ =2.15 fm⁻¹)

³He, ³H, ⁴He ground state, $8(\pi$ -) + $6(\pi$ +) eigenstates of ⁷Be and ⁷Li

Preliminary: N_{max} =12, h Ω =20 MeV





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In progress J. Dohet-Eraly, P.N., S. Quaglioni, W. Horiuchi, G. Hupin, F. Raimondi

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Conclusions and Outlook

- Ab initio calculations of nuclear structure and reactions is a dynamic field with significant advances
- We developed a new unified approach to nuclear bound and unbound states
 - Merging of the NCSM and the NCSM/RGM = NCSMC
 - Inclusion of three-nucleon interactions in reaction calculations for A>5 systems
 - Extension to three-body clusters (${}^{6}\text{He} \sim {}^{4}\text{He}+n+n$): NCSMC in progress

Ongoing projects:

- Transfer reactions
- Applications to capture reactions important for astrophysics
- Bremsstrahlung

Outlook

TRIUMF

- Alpha-clustering (⁴He projectile)
 - ¹²C and Hoyle state: ⁸Be+⁴He
 - ¹⁶O: ¹²C+⁴He