

Status and future of neutrinoless $\beta\beta$ decay nuclear matrix elements

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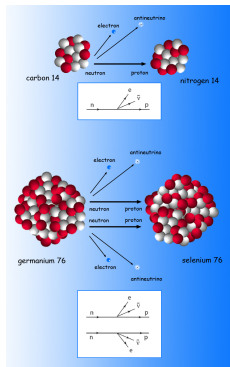
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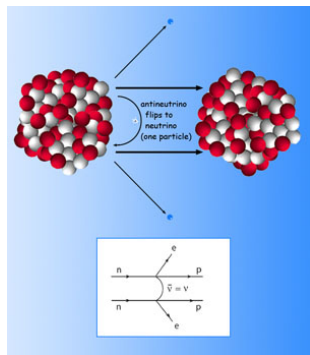
Lepton-number conservation

Lepton number is conserved
in all physical processes
observed to date

Uncharged massive particles
like Majorana neutrinos (ν)
theoretically allow lepton number violation



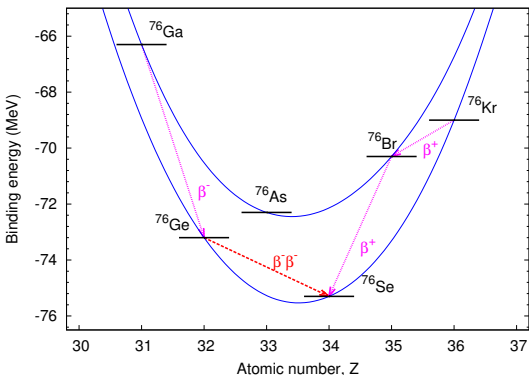
β decay, $\beta\beta$ decay...



Neutrinoless $\beta\beta$ ($0\nu\beta\beta$) decay

Double-beta decay

Double-beta decay is a second-order process, only to be observed when single- β decay is energetically forbidden or hindered by large spin difference between initial and final states



Transition	Experiment
$^{48}\text{Ca} \rightarrow ^{48}\text{Ti}$	CANDLES
$^{76}\text{Ge} \rightarrow ^{76}\text{Se}$	GERDA, MAJORANA
$^{82}\text{Se} \rightarrow ^{82}\text{Kr}$	SuperNEMO
$^{96}\text{Zr} \rightarrow ^{96}\text{Mo}$	
$^{100}\text{Mo} \rightarrow ^{100}\text{Ru}$	AMoRE
$^{110}\text{Pd} \rightarrow ^{110}\text{Cd}$	
$^{116}\text{Cd} \rightarrow ^{116}\text{Sn}$	COBRA
$^{124}\text{Sn} \rightarrow ^{124}\text{Te}$	
$^{130}\text{Te} \rightarrow ^{130}\text{Xe}$	CUORE, SNO+
$^{136}\text{Xe} \rightarrow ^{136}\text{Ba}$	EXO, KamLAND-Zen, NEXT
$^{150}\text{Nd} \rightarrow ^{150}\text{Sm}$	

Present lifetime limits in ^{76}Ge , ^{136}Xe set to $T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta} > 10^{25}$ y, 10^{26} y!

$0\nu\beta\beta$ decay mechanisms

$0\nu\beta\beta$ process needs massive Majorana neutrinos ($\nu = \bar{\nu}$), but several mechanisms mediating the decay are possible

$$\left(T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta}(0^+ \rightarrow 0^+)\right)^{-1} = \sum_i G_i \left|M_i^{0\nu\beta\beta}\right|^2 (\eta_i)^2$$

G_i is the phase space factor: $Q_{\beta\beta}$, leptons...

$M_i^{0\nu\beta\beta}$ is the nuclear matrix element

η_i describes new physics

Exchange of

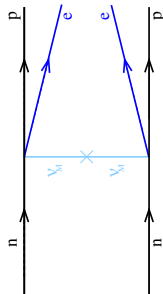
Standard Model neutrinos ($\eta = m_{\beta\beta}$),

sterile neutrinos ($\eta \sim m_\nu$),

left-right symmetric models ($\eta \sim W_R$ mass, $W_R - W_L$ mixing),

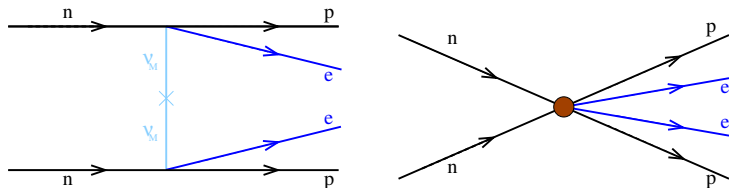
exchange of supersymmetric particles ($\eta \sim \text{LNV couplings}$)

Possible to constrain new physics beyond neutrino masses

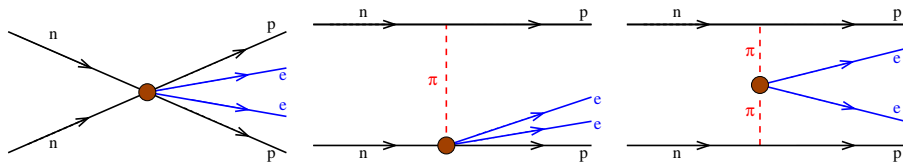


Standard Model and new physics

Exchange of Standard Model neutrinos: standard scenario
Exchange of heavy particles test new physics



For the exchange of heavy particles pion physics plays key role,
long-range terms dominant in EFT expansion Prezeau et al. PRD68 034016(2003)
short-range diagrams additionally suppressed: nucleons ~ 1 fm away



Input from Lattice QCD **A. Walker-Loud** plenary talk

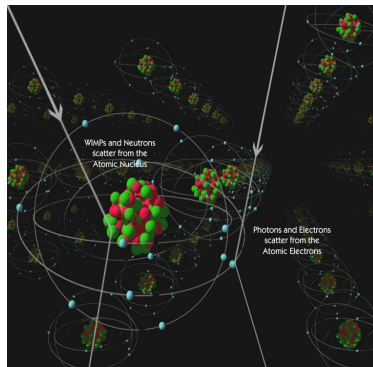
Nuclear matrix elements

The Nuclear Matrix Element of the process has to be evaluated

$$\langle \text{Final} | H_{\text{leptons-nucleons}} | \text{Initial} \rangle = \langle \text{Final} | \int dx j^\mu(x) J_\mu(x) | \text{Initial} \rangle$$

Nuclear structure calculation
of the initial and final states:
Ab initio, phenomenological...

Description of the
lepton-nucleus interaction:
Evaluation (non-perturbative)
of the hadronic currents inside nucleus:
phenomenological, effective theory



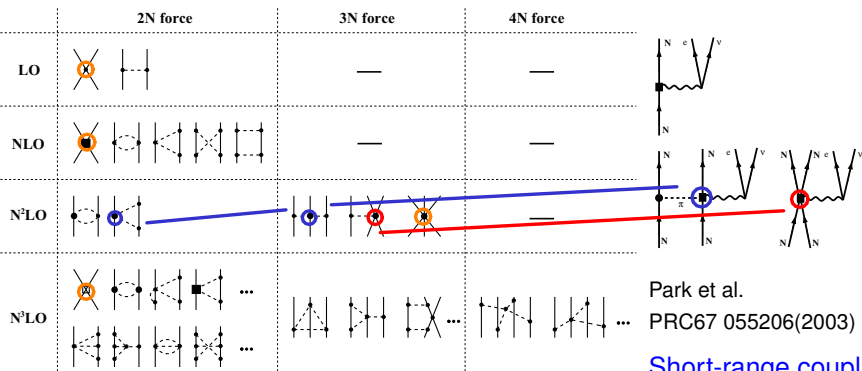
CDMS Collaboration

Chiral effective field theory

Chiral EFT: low energy approach to QCD, nuclear structure energies

Approximate chiral symmetry: pion exchanges, contact interactions

Systematic expansion: nuclear forces and currents



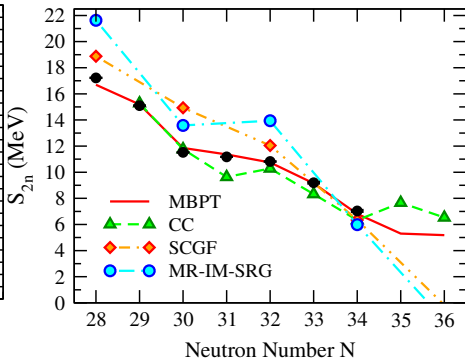
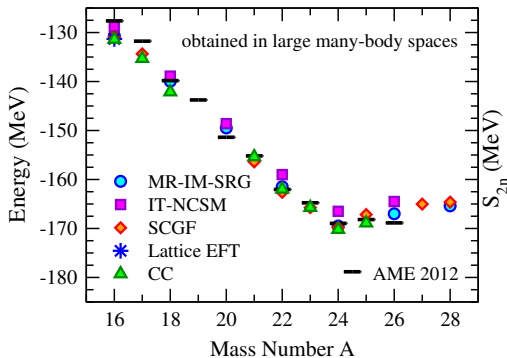
Park et al.
PRC67 055206(2003)

Short-range couplings
fitted to experiment once

Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Meißner, Epelbaum, Weise...

Nuclear structure with chiral EFT forces

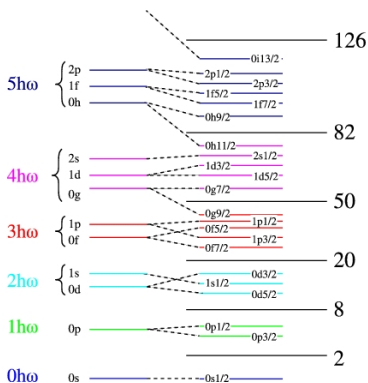
Great success prediction of oxygen dripline and calcium separation energies



Hergert et al. PRL110 242501 (2013)
Cipollone et al. PRL111 062501 (2013)
Jansen et al. PRL113 142502 (2014)

Gallant et al. PRL 109 032506 (2012)
Wienholtz et al. Nature 498 346 (2013)
Hagen et al. PRL 109 032502 (2012)
Somà et al. PRC 89 061301 (2014)
Hergert et al. PRC 90.041302 (2014)

Nuclear shell model (Configuration Interaction)



Nuclear shell model configuration space only keep essential degrees of freedom

- Outer orbits: always empty
- Valence space: where many-body problem is solved
- Inner core: always filled

$$H|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle \rightarrow H_{eff}|\Psi\rangle_{eff} = E|\Psi\rangle_{eff}$$

$$|\Psi\rangle_{eff} = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha} |\phi_{\alpha}\rangle, \quad |\phi_{\alpha}\rangle = a_{i1}^{+} a_{i2}^{+} \dots a_{iA}^{+} |0\rangle$$

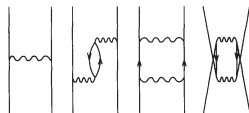
Many-body perturbation theory to generate H_{eff}
 very recently non-perturbative methods:
 VS-IMSRG, CCEI also available

Shell model codes diagonalize up to

Exact: $\sim 10^{10}$ Slater det. *Caurier et al. RMP 77 (2005)*

Approximate: $\sim 10^{20}$ Slater det. *Togashi et al. PRL 117 (2016)*

Two-Body Matrix Elements



Neutrinoless $\beta\beta$ decay operator

The matrix element is $M^{0\nu\beta\beta} = \langle 0_f^+ | \sum_{n,m} \tau_n^- \tau_m^- \sum_X H^X(r) \Omega^X | 0_i^+ \rangle$

- $\tau_n^- \tau_m^-$ transform two neutrons into two protons

- Ω^X is the spin structure:

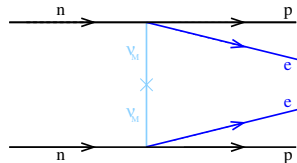
Fermi ($\mathbb{1}$), Gamow-Teller ($\sigma_n \sigma_m$), Tensor $[Y^2(\hat{r}) [\sigma_n \sigma_m]^2]^0$

- $H(r)$ is the neutrino potential, depends on m_ν

$$H^X(r) = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{R}{g_A^2(0)} \int_0^\infty f^X(pr) \frac{h^X(p^2)}{(\sqrt{p^2 + m_\nu^2}) (\sqrt{p^2 + m_\nu^2} + \langle E^m \rangle - \frac{1}{2} (E_i - E_f))} p^2 dp \sim \frac{R}{r}$$

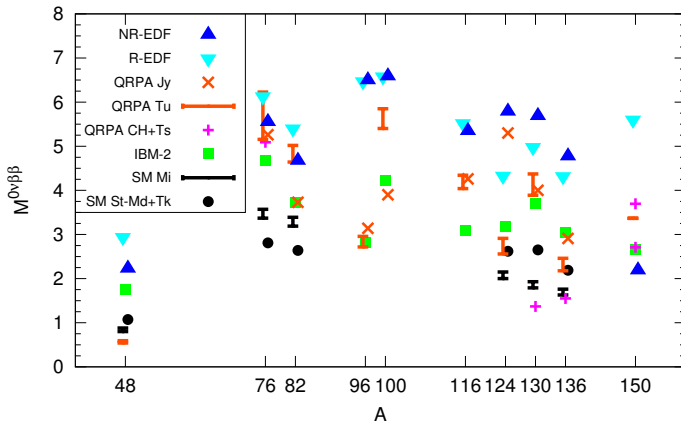
$2\nu\beta\beta$ decay: momentum transfer limited by $Q_{\beta\beta}$

$0\nu\beta\beta$ decay: larger momentum transfers,
 $p \sim 100 - 200$ MeV, set by typical distance between
the two decaying nucleons



Neutrinoless $\beta\beta$ decay matrix elements

Large difference in nuclear matrix element calculations: factor $\sim 2 - 3$



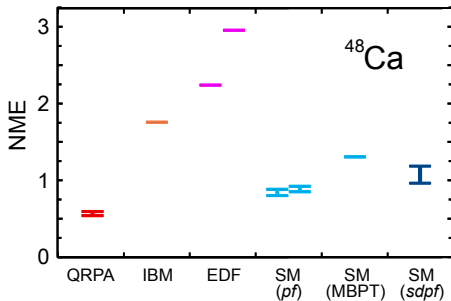
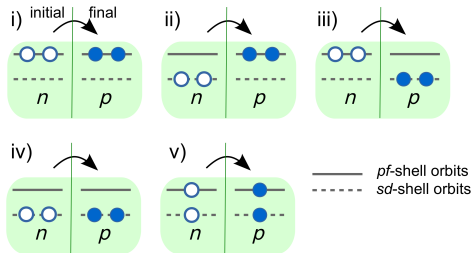
EDF, IBM, QRPA large matrix elements: missing nuclear correlations?

Shell model small matrix elements: Small configuration space?

Shell model configuration space

For ^{48}Ca enlarge configuration space from pf to $sdpf$ (4 to 7 orbitals) increases matrix elements but only moderately 30%

Iwata et al. PRL116 112502 (2016)



The contributions dominated by pairing ($2p-2h$) excitations enhance the $\beta\beta$ matrix element, but the contributions dominated by $1p-1h$ excitations suppress the $\beta\beta$ matrix element

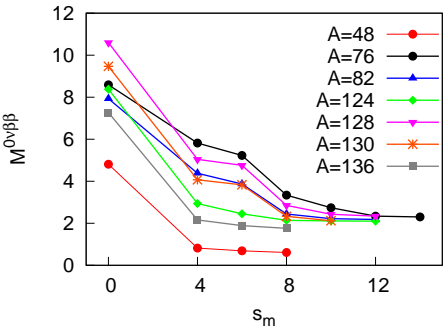
Shell model Monte Carlo calculations for heavier nuclei under way

Correlations and $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

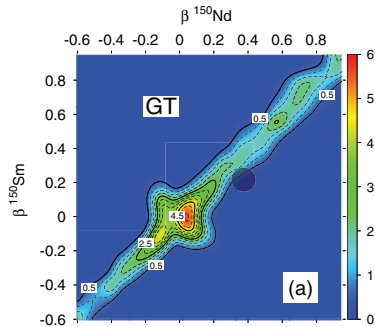
$0\nu\beta\beta$ decay sensitive to pairing, quadrupole correlations

Maximum between superfluid nuclei,
reduced with broken like-particle pairs
or with proton-neutron pairs

Reduced if different deformation in
mother and daughter nuclei



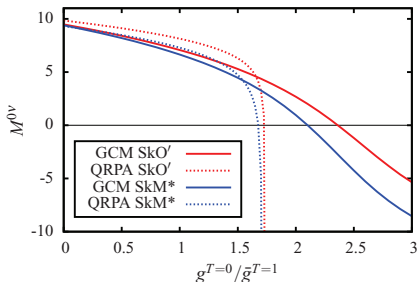
Caurier et al. PRL100 052503 (2008)



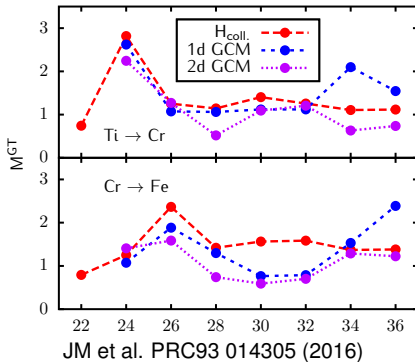
Rodríguez, Martínez-Pinedo
PRL105 252503 (2010)

Proton-neutron pairing and $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

- $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay very sensitive to proton-neutron (isoscalar) pairing
- Matrix elements too large if proton-neutron correlations neglected
- Shell model and GCM agree if proton-neutron correlations included



Hinohara, Engel PRC90 031301 (2014)



JM et al. PRC93 014305 (2016)

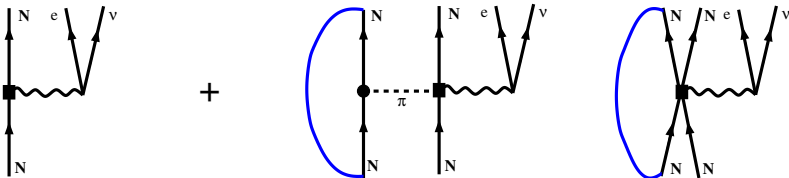
Related to approximate $SU(4)$ symmetry of the $\sum H(r)\sigma_i\sigma_j\tau_i\tau_j$ operator

Weak interactions: hadronic 1b+2b currents

Single- β and $\beta\beta$ decay: $H_W = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} (j_{L\mu} J_L^{\mu\dagger}) + H.c.$

In nuclei (non-relativistic): $\langle \mathcal{N}_F | \sum_i g_V \tau_i^- + g_A \sigma_i \tau_i^- | \mathcal{N}_I \rangle$
corresponding to Fermi and Gamow-Teller transitions

Include $J_L^{\mu\dagger}$ 1b and 2b currents (operators) from chiral EFT
reflect strong interactions between nucleons in nuclei



Normal-ordered long-range two-body currents modify Gamow-Teller operator

$$\mathbf{J}_{n,2b}^{\text{eff}} = -\frac{g_A \rho}{f_\pi^2} \tau_n^- \sigma_n \left[\underbrace{I(\rho, P)}_{p \text{ independent}} \left(\frac{1}{3} (2c_4 - c_3) \right) + \frac{2}{3} c_3 \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{m_\pi^2 + \mathbf{p}^2} \right],$$

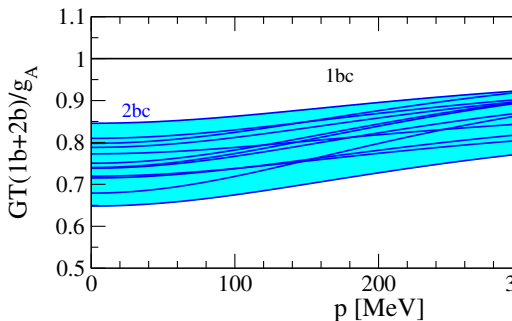
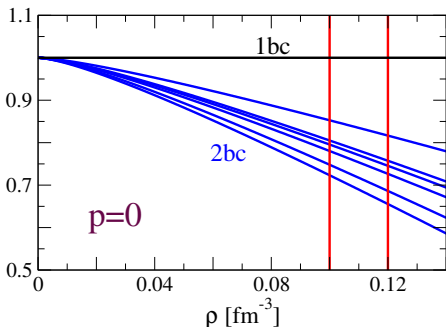
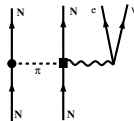
p independent p dependent

2b currents in medium-mass nuclei

Normal-ordered 2b currents modify GT operator

JM, Gazit, Schwenk PRL107 062501 (2011)

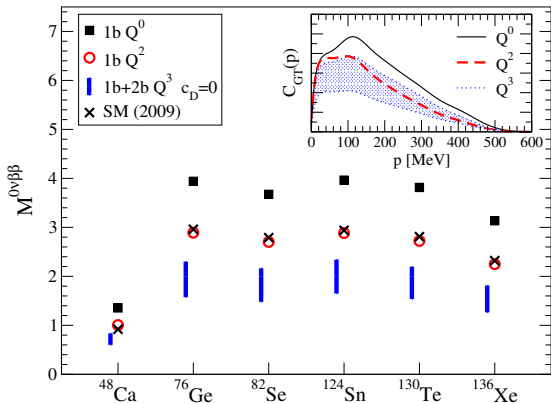
$$\mathbf{J}_{n,2b}^{\text{eff}} \simeq -\frac{g_{A\rho}}{f_\pi^2} \tau_n^- \sigma_n \left[I(\rho, P) \frac{(2c_4 - c_3)}{3} \right] - \frac{g_{A\rho}}{f_\pi^2} \tau_n^- \sigma_n \frac{2}{3} c_3 \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{m_\pi^2 + \mathbf{p}^2},$$



2b currents predict g_A quenching $q = 0.85 \dots 0.66$

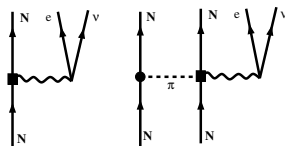
Quenching reduced at $p > 0$, relevant for $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay where $p \sim m_\pi$

Nuclear matrix elements with 1b+2b currents



JM, Gazit, Schwenk PRL107 062501 (2011)

Order Q^0+Q^2 similar to phenomenological currents
JM, Poves, Caurier, Nowacki
NPA818 139 (2009)



Order Q^3 2b currents reduce NMEs $\sim 15\% - 40\%$

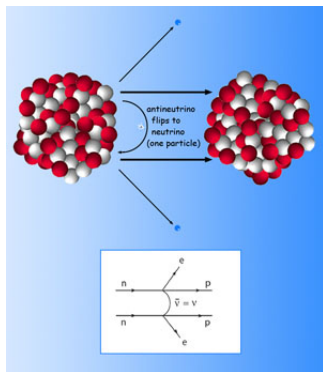
Smaller quenching $q = 0.96 \dots 0.92$ Ekström et al. PRL113 262504 (2014)
Coupled-Cluster study of ^{14}C , $^{22,24}\text{O}$, Hartree-Fock normal-ordering

Systematic calculations in light nuclei under way

Summary

Neutrinoless double-beta decay key process to understand
Majorana neutrino character and neutrino absolute mass and hierarchy

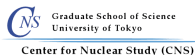
- Matrix element differences
between present calculations, factor 2 – 3
- New ^{48}Ca shell model result $\sim 30\%$ increase
Shell model Monte Carlo underway
- Include isoscalar pairing correlations
in EDF-type approaches
- Phenomenological matrix elements,
ab initio calculations on the way,
allow estimation of theoretical uncertainties
- 2b currents modify (reduce) matrix elements,
but it remains to be settled to what extent: ab
initio calculations in lighter (toy) systems



Collaborators



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