



Pair Production in $p + {}^7\text{Li}$ Radiative Capture

Peter Gysbers

TRIUMF Ab Initio Workshop

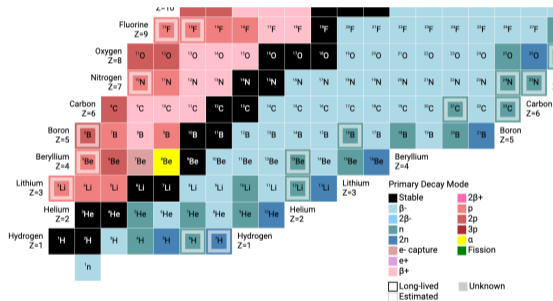
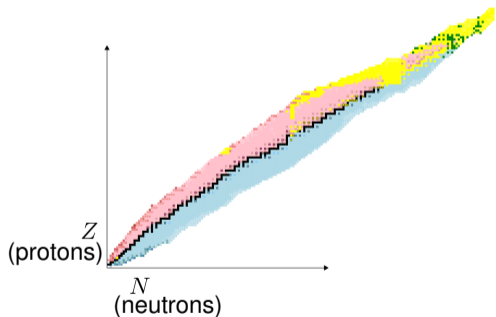
February 28, 2023



Discovery,
accelerated

Goal

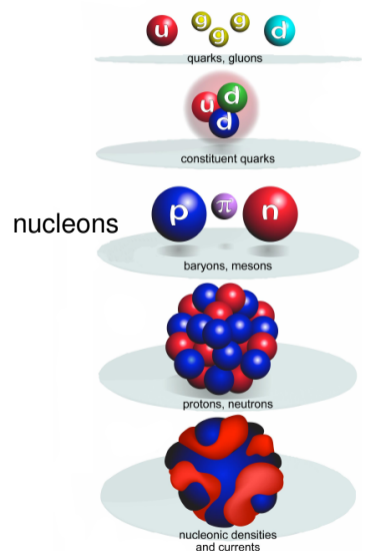
- A predictive theory for nuclei across the nuclear chart



[<https://people.physics.anu.edu.au/ecs103/chart>]

Ab Initio (First Principles) Nuclear Theory

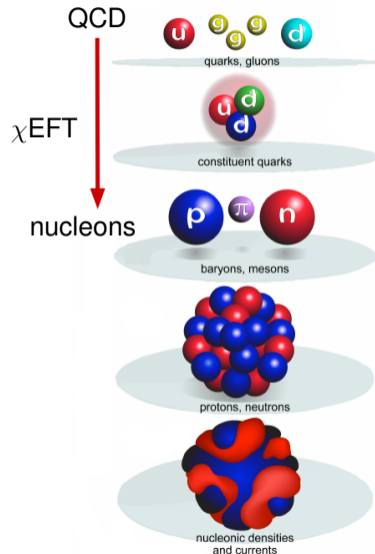
- Nucleons as the degrees of freedom



[Adapted from: G. F. Bertsch, D. J. Dean, W. Nazarewicz, *SciDAC Rev.* 6(2007) 42]

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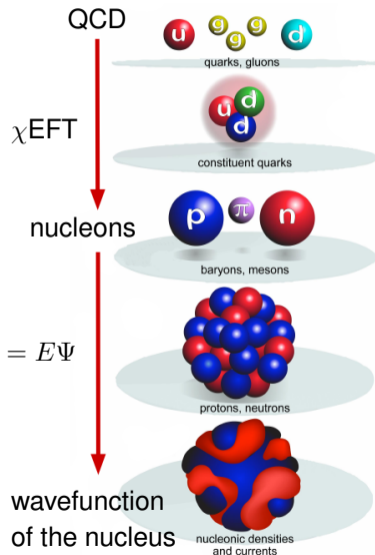
- ▶ Nucleons as the degrees of freedom
- ▶ Nuclear forces from chiral effective field theory (χ EFT)
 - ▶ In principle, calculable from QCD
 - ▶ In practice, parameters set by few (2,3) nucleon data



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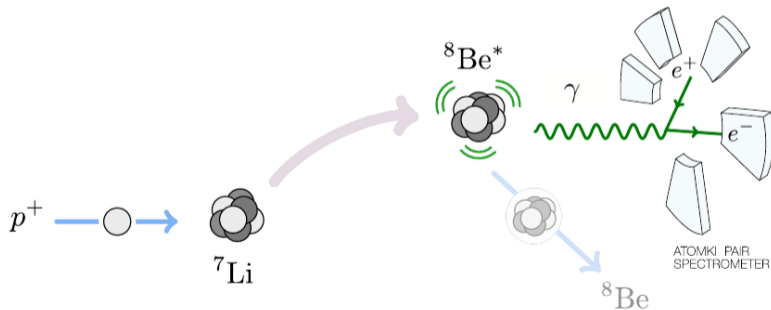
- ▶ Nucleons as the degrees of freedom
- ▶ Nuclear forces from chiral effective field theory (χ EFT)
 - ▶ In principle, calculable from QCD
 - ▶ In practice, parameters set by few (2,3) nucleon data
- ▶ Solve the many-nucleon Schrödinger equation $H\Psi = E\Psi$
 - ▶ Systematically improvable calculations



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The X17 Anomaly in $p + {}^7\text{Li} \rightarrow {}^8\text{Be} + e^+e^-$

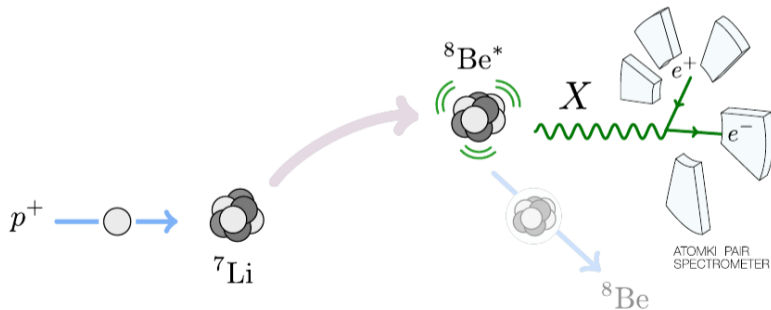
- ▶ ${}^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}$ @ATOMKI (Hungary) [PRL **116** 042501 (2016)]
- ▶ Decay of composite ${}^8\text{Be}$ produces electron-positron pairs



[Feng PRD **95**, 035017 (2017)]

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- ▶ Decay of composite ${}^8\text{Be}$ produces electron-positron pairs
- ▶ Anomaly first seen at the energy of the second 1^+ resonance



[Feng PRD **95**, 035017 (2017)]

Radiative Capture: $A + B \rightarrow C + \gamma$

► Notation: $B(A, \gamma)C$

More Notation:

$$d = {}^2\text{H}$$

$$\alpha = {}^4\text{He}$$



[Adapted from:
Feng PRD **95**, 035017 (2017)]

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▶ Examples:

- ▶ Stellar burning: $d(p, \gamma)^3\text{He}$, $^3\text{He}(\alpha, \gamma)^7\text{Be}$, ...
- ▶ Big Bang Nucleosynthesis: $d(p, \gamma)^3\text{He}$, $^4\text{He}(d, \gamma)^6\text{Li}$, ...
- ▶ Search for new physics: $^7\text{Li}(p, \gamma)^8\text{Be}$, $^3\text{H}(p, \gamma)^4\text{He}$

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Calculating Radiative Capture

To calculate the rate of reaction (cross section) we need:

- ▶ initial wavefunction: $|\Psi_i\rangle$ ($A + B$)
- ▶ final wavefunction: $|\Psi_f\rangle$ (C)
- ▶ photon interaction (electromagnetic operator): \hat{O}_γ

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We need to calculate the transition matrix elements: $\langle\Psi_f|\hat{O}_\gamma|\Psi_i\rangle$

$$\sigma \sim \sum_{if} |\langle\Psi_f|\hat{O}_\gamma|\Psi_i\rangle|^2$$

Bound States: $|\Psi_f\rangle = |J_f^{\pi_f}\rangle$

Eigenstate of the nuclear Hamiltonian:

$$H^A |\Psi_k\rangle = E_k |\Psi_k\rangle, \text{ where } H^A = \sum_i^A T_i + \sum_{i<j} V_{ij}^{NN} + \sum_{i<j<f} V_{ijf}^{3N}$$

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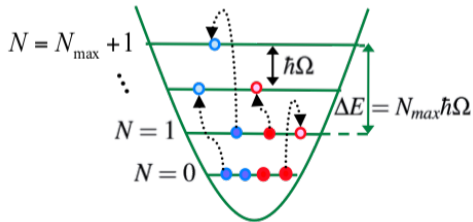
The No-Core Shell Model (NCSM)

Expand in anti-symmetrized products of harmonic oscillator single-particle states:

$$|\Psi_k\rangle = \sum_{N=0}^{N_{max}} \sum_j c_{Nj}^k |\Phi_{Nj}\rangle$$

Convergence to an exact solution as

$$N_{max} \rightarrow \infty$$



Unbound (Continuum) States: $|\Psi_i\rangle = \left[\left[|\Psi_A\rangle |\Psi_B\rangle \psi(\vec{r}_A - \vec{r}_B) \right]^{(J_i^{\pi_i})} \right]$

- ▶ The incoming state is made of distinct clusters with center of mass separation
- ▶ Harmonic oscillator states cannot describe long-range physics (the tails of the wavefunction are too small)
- ▶ A method beyond the NCSM is needed for scattering, reactions and proper bound state asymptotics

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No-Core Shell Model with Continuum (NCSMC)

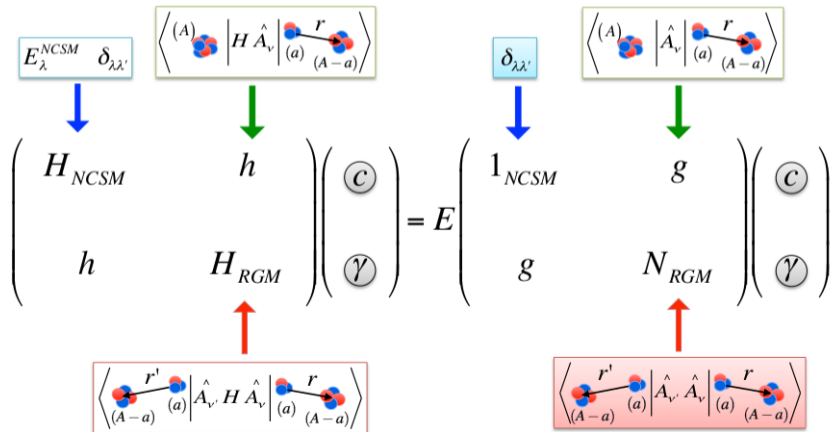
- ▶ Solution: extend the NCSM basis!

$$\Psi^{(A)} = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} \left| \begin{array}{c} (A) \\ \text{cluster} \\ \lambda \end{array} \right\rangle + \sum_{\nu} \int d\vec{r} \gamma_{\nu}(\vec{r}) \hat{A}_{\nu} \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{cluster} \\ (A-a) \quad (a) \\ \nu \end{array} \right\rangle$$

NCSMC Equations

$$H \Psi^{(A)} = E \Psi^{(A)}$$

$$\Psi^{(A)} = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} \left| \begin{matrix} (A) \\ \text{cluster} \end{matrix}, \lambda \right\rangle + \sum_{\nu} \int d\vec{r} \gamma_{\nu}(\vec{r}) \hat{A}_{\nu} \left| \begin{matrix} (A-a) \\ \text{cluster} \end{matrix}, \nu \right\rangle$$



NCSMC for ${}^7\text{Li}(p, \gamma){}^8\text{Be}$

$$|\Psi_{\text{NCSMC}}^{(8)}\rangle = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} |{}^8\text{Be}, \lambda\rangle + \sum_{\nu} \int dr \gamma_{\nu}(r) \hat{A}_{\nu} |{}^7\text{Li} + p, \nu\rangle + \sum_{\mu} \int dr \gamma_{\mu}(r) \hat{A}_{\mu} |{}^7\text{Be} + n, \mu\rangle$$

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Process:

- ▶ Solve NCSM for each constituent nucleus: ${}^8\text{Be}$, ${}^7\text{Li}$ and ${}^7\text{Be}$
 - ▶ 30 eigenstates from ${}^8\text{Be}$
 - ▶ 5 eigenstates each from ${}^7\text{Li}$ and ${}^7\text{Be}$
- ▶ Solve NCSMC for $c_{\lambda}(E)$, $\gamma_{\nu}(r, E)$, $\gamma_{\mu}(r, E) \rightarrow |\Psi(E)\rangle$
- ▶ Cross-section depends on transition matrix elements e.g. $\langle \Psi(E_f) | \hat{O}_{\gamma} | \Psi(E_i) \rangle$

Results

The NCSMC allows simultaneous calculation of many observables

- ${}^8\text{Be}$ Structure

- Scattering: ${}^7\text{Li}(p, p){}^7\text{Li}$, ${}^7\text{Be}(n, n){}^7\text{Be}$

- Transfer Reactions: ${}^7\text{Li}(p, n){}^7\text{Be}$, ${}^7\text{Be}(n, p){}^7\text{Li}$

- Radiative Capture: ${}^7\text{Li}(p, \gamma){}^8\text{Be}$

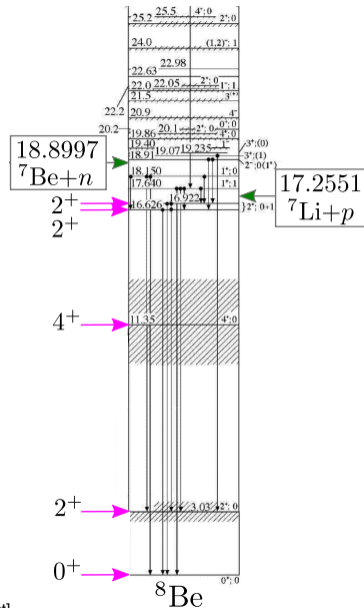
- Search for new physics: ${}^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}$, ${}^7\text{Li}(p, X){}^8\text{Be}$

^8Be Structure

Calculations of ^8Be “bound” states (w.r.t. $^7\text{Li} + p$ threshold) are improved by inclusion of the continuum ($N_{max} = 9$)

State	Energy [MeV]		
	NCSM	NCSMC	Experiment
0^+	-15.96	-16.13	-17.25
2^+	-12.51	-12.72	-14.23
4^+	-3.97	-4.31	-5.91
2^+	+0.76	-0.10	-0.63
2^+	+1.09	+0.31	-0.33

- ▶ Energies likely too high due to neglected $\alpha + \alpha$ breakup
- ▶ Matches experiment well, except the 3rd 2^+ is still slightly above the $^7\text{Li} + p$ threshold

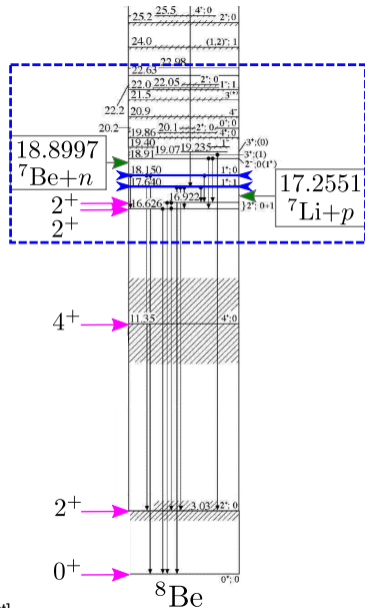


^8Be Structure

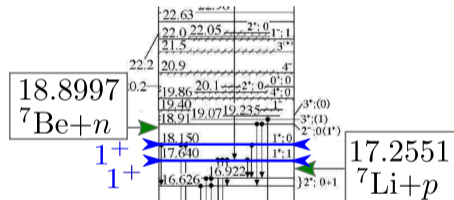
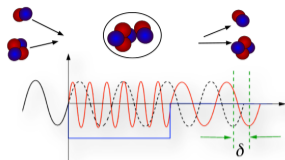
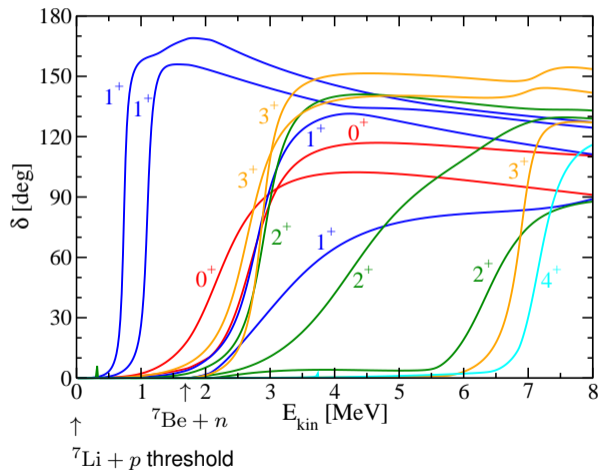
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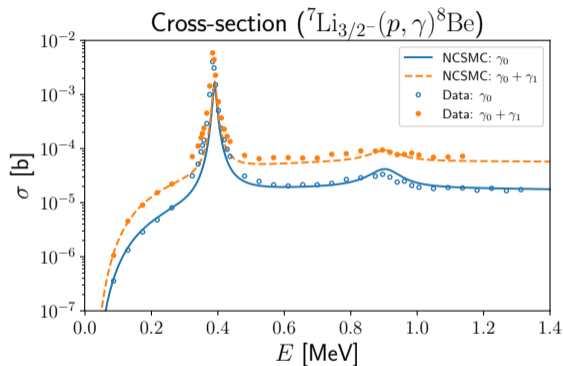


Eigenphase-shift Results (positive parity)



Additional resonances are seen compared to TUNL data evaluation

Radiative Capture: ${}^7\text{Li}(p, \gamma){}^8\text{Be}$



γ_0 : decay to ground state (0^+)

γ_1 : decay to first excited (2^+)

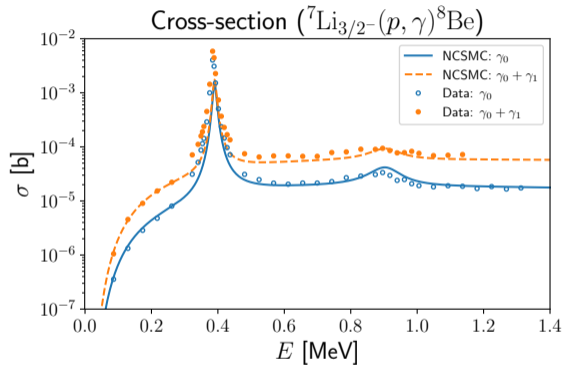
$$\hat{O}_\gamma = E1 + M1 + E2$$

[Data: Zahn et al
Z.Phys.A **351** 229-236 (1995)]

Radiative Capture: ${}^7\text{Li}(p, \gamma){}^8\text{Be}$

$${}^{2S+1}P_J : \left[\left(|{}^7\text{Li}\rangle |p\rangle \right)^{(S)} Y_L(\hat{r}) \right]^J$$

$$P : L = 1$$

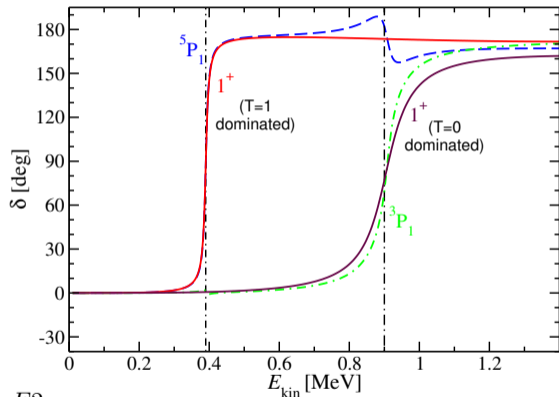


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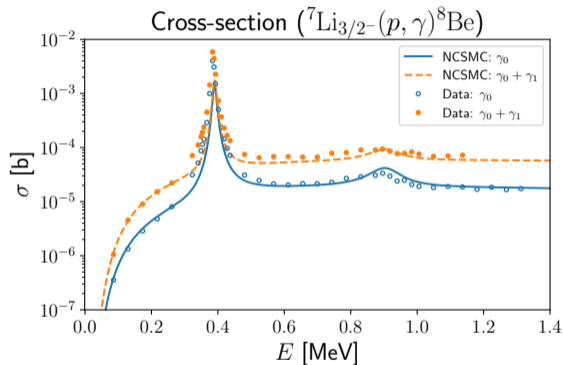
[Data: Zahnow et al
 Z.Phys.A **351** 229-236 (1995)]

${}^7\text{Li}+p$ phase shifts



Phenomenological adjustment: fit threshold and resonance positions to match experiment

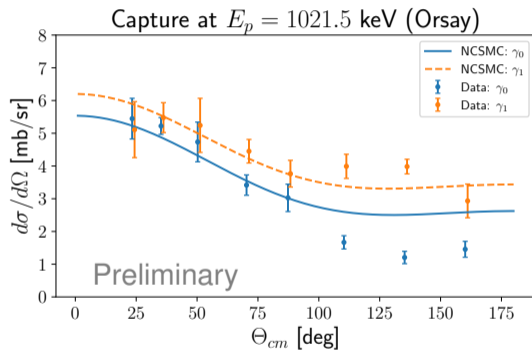
Radiative Capture (cont.)



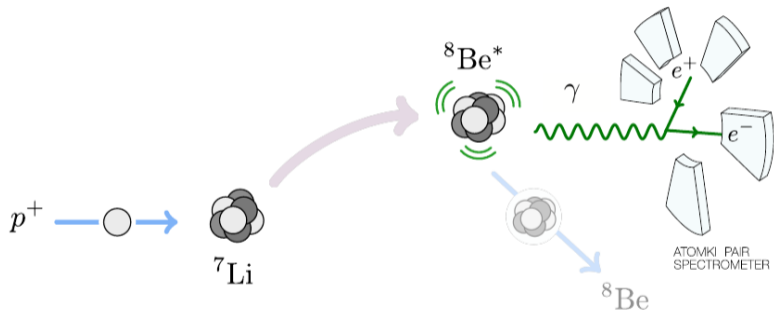
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Radiative Capture with Pair Production: ${}^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}$



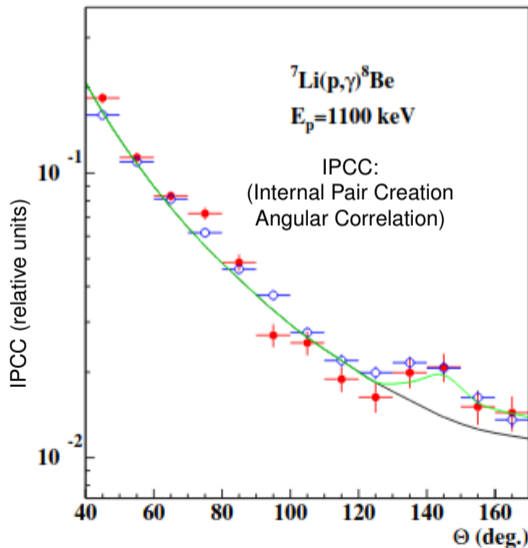
[Feng PRD **95**, 035017 (2017)]

The X17 Anomaly

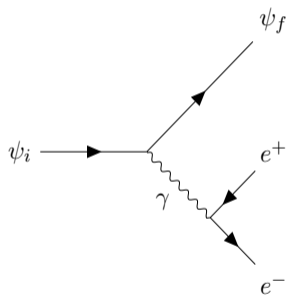
[Firak, Krasznahorkay, et al
EPJ Web of Conferences **232** 04005 (2020)]

- ▶ The angle Θ between the electron and positron was measured
- ▶ Minimum angle from a massive intermediate particle: $\Theta \simeq 2 \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{m_X}{E_X}\right)$
- ▶ Bump could be explained by 17 MeV bosons decaying to e^+e^-

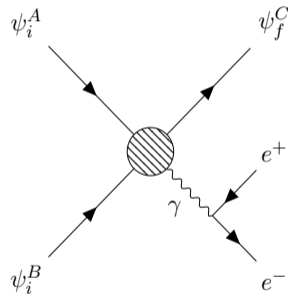
Can *ab initio* nuclear physics help interpret the anomaly?



Pair Production: Bound vs Continuum

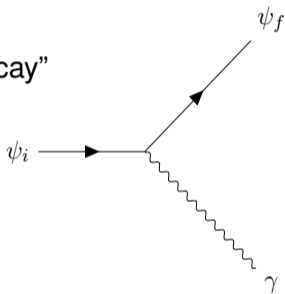


→
Time

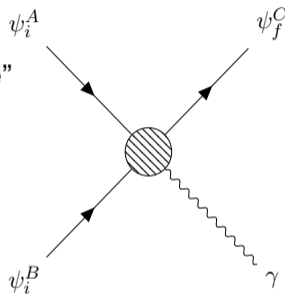


Gamma Emission: Bound vs Continuum

“ γ -decay”



“radiative capture”



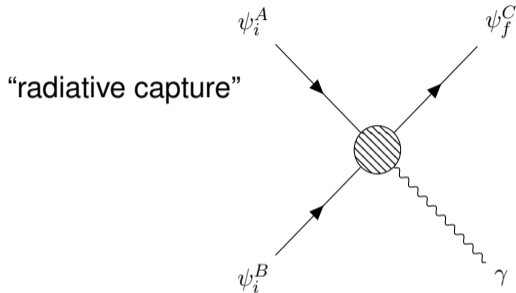
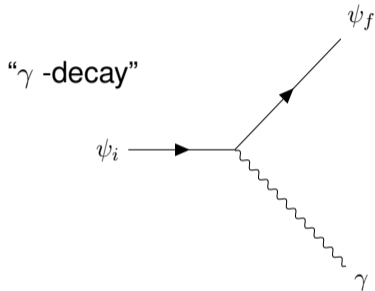
► Rate:

$$d\Gamma \sim \sum_{M_i} \sum_{M_f} \sum_{\lambda} |\mathcal{M}_{fi}^{\lambda}|^2 d^3q$$

► Cross section:

$$d\sigma \sim \frac{1}{v} \sum_{M_i^A M_i^B} \sum_{M_f^C} \sum_{\lambda} |\mathcal{M}_{fi}^{\lambda}|^2 d^3q$$

Gamma Emission: Bound vs Continuum



- ▶ Transition Matrix Elements:

$$\mathcal{M}_{fi}^\lambda \sim \langle J_f | |\vec{e}_\lambda \cdot \vec{J}| | J_i \rangle$$

- ▶ Strict selection rules

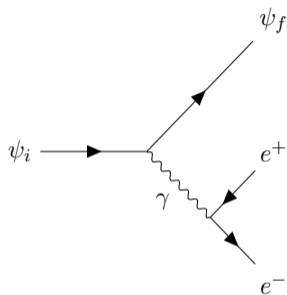
- ▶ Transition Matrix Elements:

$$\mathcal{M}_{fi}^\lambda \sim \sum_{\nu_i} \langle J_f | |\vec{e}_\lambda \cdot \vec{J}| | \nu_i \rangle$$

$$\nu_i = \{L_i, S_i, J_i\}$$

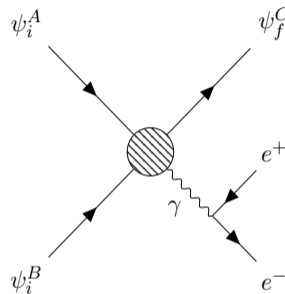
- ▶ Initial channels mix

Pair Production: Bound vs Continuum



► Rate:

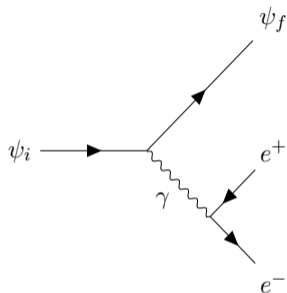
$$d\Gamma \sim \sum_{M_i} \sum_{M_f} \sum_{s_+ s_-} |\mathcal{M}_{fi}^{s_+ s_-}|^2 d^3 p_+ d^3 p_-$$



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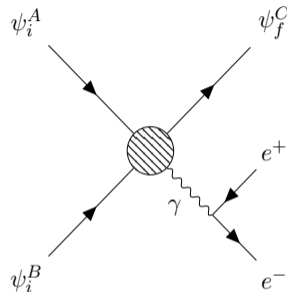
Pair Production: Bound vs Continuum



- ▶ Transition Matrix Elements:

$$\mathcal{M}_{fi}^{s_+s_-} \sim \left(\frac{e^2}{Q^2} \right) \ell_{\mu}^{s_+s_-} \langle J_f || \mathcal{J}^{\mu} || J_i \rangle$$

- ▶ 2 terms: longitudinal and transverse



- ▶ Transition Matrix Elements:

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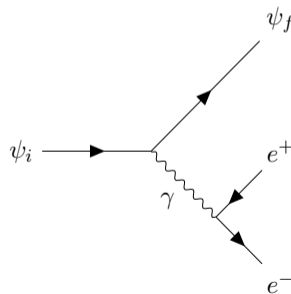
- ▶ 6 terms

$$\nu_i = \{L_i, S_i, J_i\}$$

Pair Production Distribution

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d \cos \Theta}$$

- ▶ Approximate calculation
 - ▶ based on Hayes [PRC **105**, 055502 (2022)]



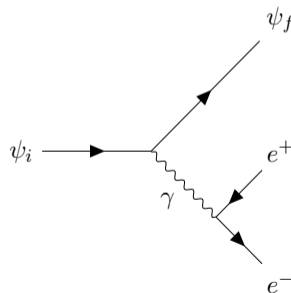
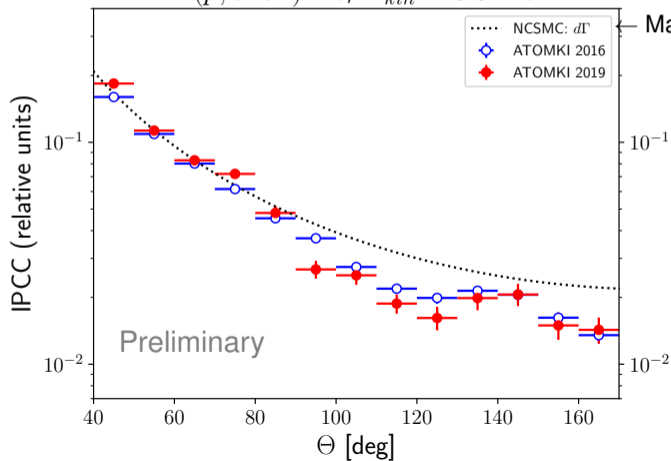
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Theory does not support the background data

${}^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}; E_{kin} = 0.9 \text{ MeV}$



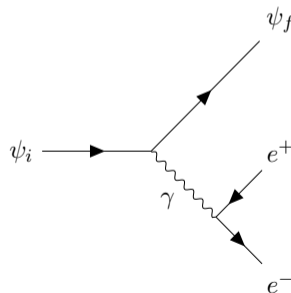
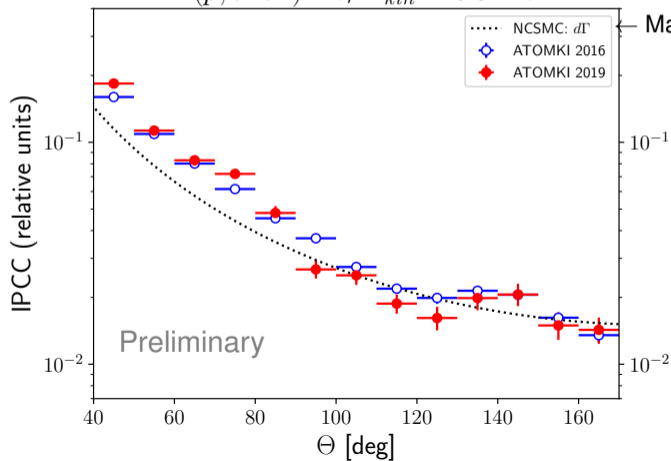
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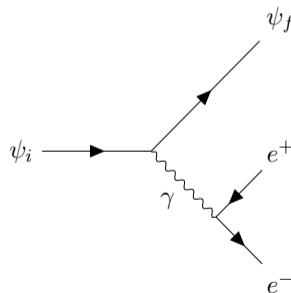
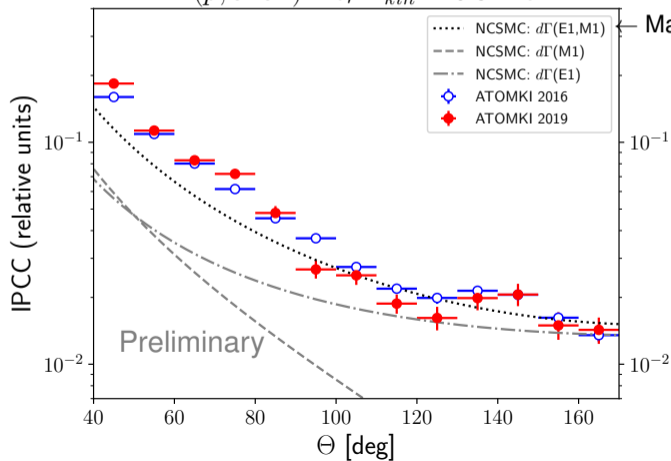
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 - ▶ based on Hayes [PRC **105**, 055502 (2022)]

Theory does not support the background data

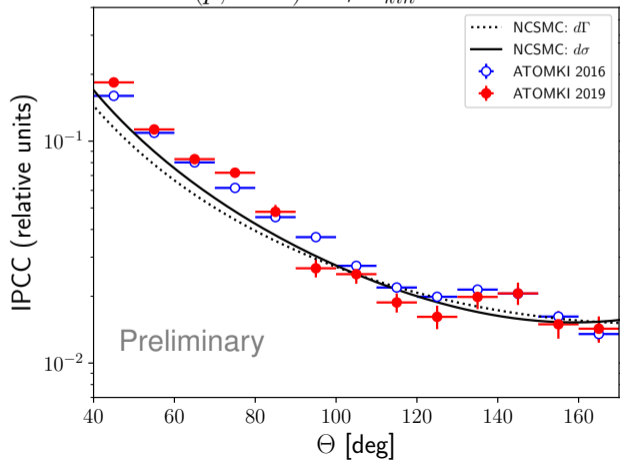
${}^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}; E_{kin} = 0.9 \text{ MeV}$



(Improved) Pair Production Distribution

- ▶ Full continuum \rightarrow bound calculation
 - ▶ expect E1-M1 interference

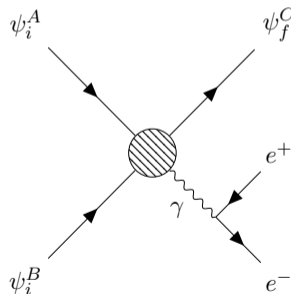
${}^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}; E_{kin} = 0.9 \text{ MeV}$



$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\Theta}$$

Improved agreement with data

Matched to data at 105°

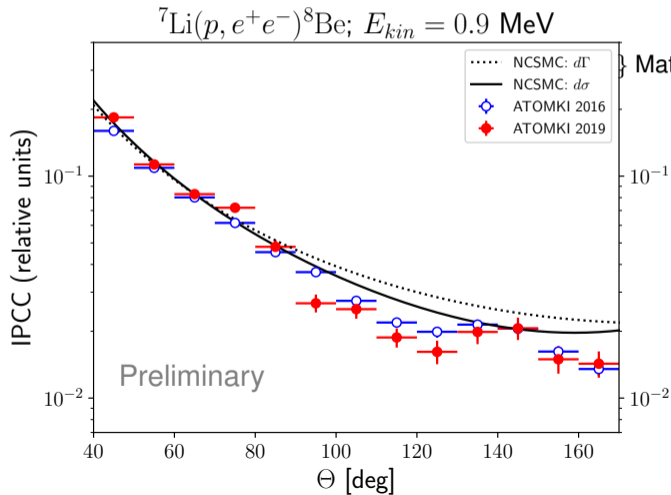


(Improved) Pair Production Distribution

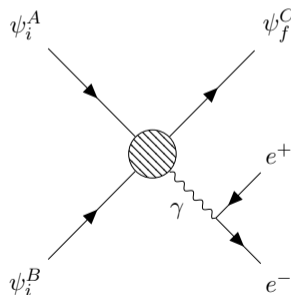
- ▶ Full continuum \rightarrow bound calculation
 - ▶ expect E1-M1 interference

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\Theta}$$

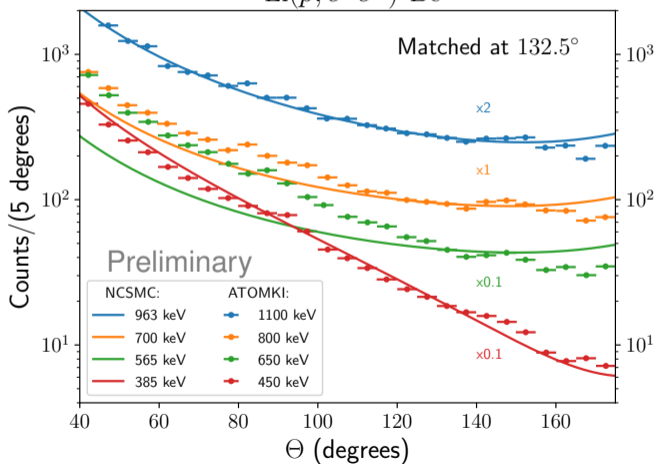
Improved agreement with data



Matched to data at 65°



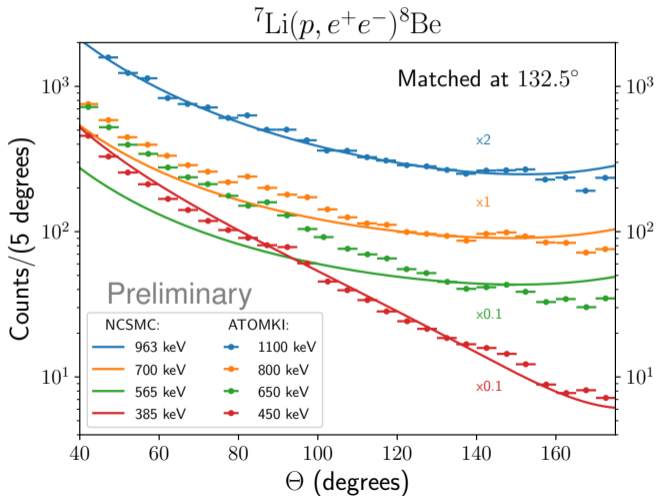
More Recent Data (2022)



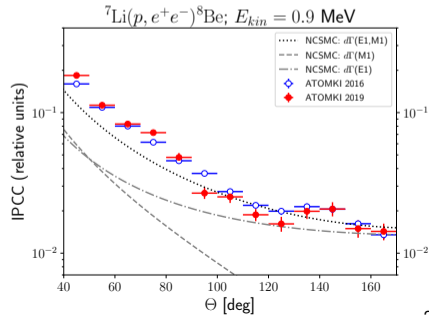
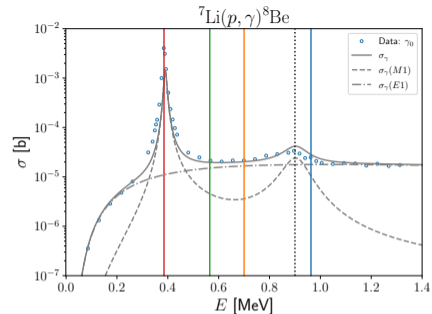
[Data: arXiv:2205.07744]

- ▶ On-resonance theory and experiment agree well
- ▶ Off-resonance experiment has additional M1 contamination

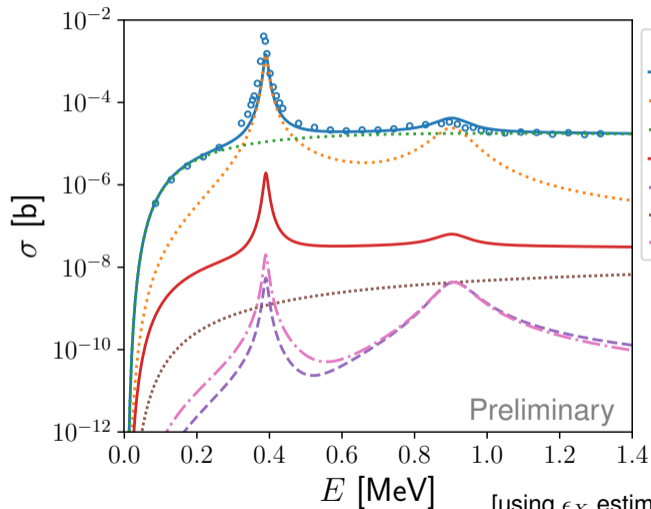
More Recent Data (2022)



[Data: arXiv:2205.07744]



Estimated ${}^7\text{Li}(p, X){}^8\text{Be}$ Cross-sections

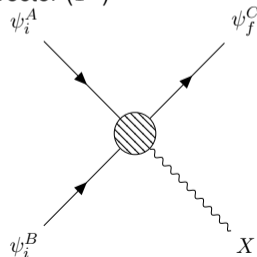


[using ϵ_X estimates from
Backens, PRL **128** 091802 (2022)]

► A vector X17 is the best candidate for anomalies off-resonance

[arxiv:2205.07744]

Pseudo-scalar (0^-)
Vector (1^-)
Axial-vector (1^+)



Summary

- ▶ NCSMC successfully describes the spectrum of ${}^8\text{Be}$ including the 1^+ resonances
- ▶ Calculations of ${}^7\text{Li}(p, \gamma){}^8\text{Be}$ radiative capture match data
- ▶ Full calculations of ${}^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}$ improve agreement to data

Outlook

- ▶ Compare ${}^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}$ to more data with $\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$ operator and various $X \rightarrow e^+e^-$ operators (e.g. axions, vector bosons, axial vector bosons)
- ▶ Calculations of ${}^3\text{H}(p, e^+e^-){}^4\text{He}$, ${}^{11}\text{B}(p, e^+e^-){}^{12}\text{C}$ are also relevant to the X17 anomaly
- ▶ Explore charge-exchange reactions relevant for nucleosynthesis:
 ${}^7\text{Be}(n, p){}^7\text{Li}$, ${}^7\text{Li}(p, n){}^7\text{Be}$

Backup Slides

Nuclear Currents: $\langle f || e\vec{\lambda} \cdot \vec{J} || i \rangle \sim \sum_{J \geq 1} \lambda \mathcal{T}_J^M + \mathcal{T}_J^E$

Approximations:

$$\mathcal{T}_J^E \sim \omega^J E_J$$

$$E_J \sim e \langle f || r^J Y_J || i \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{T}_1^M \sim \omega M_1$$

$$M_1 \sim \mu_N \langle f || g_s S + g_l L || i \rangle$$

► γ -decay rate

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{fi}}{d\Omega} = \sum_{n=\text{even}} b_n^{fi} P_n(\cos\theta)$$

$$\Gamma_{fi} \sim \sum_{J \geq 1} \sum_{\sigma=E,M} |\mathcal{T}_J^\sigma(f, i)|^2$$

► radiative capture cross section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \sum_n a_n P_n(\cos\theta), \quad \sigma = 4\pi a_0$$

$$a_0 \sim \sum_{J \geq 1} \sum_{\sigma=E,M} \sum_{\nu_i} |\mathcal{T}_J^\sigma(f, i)|^2$$

$$a_1 \sim \sum_{(-)=(-)^{\sigma+\sigma'+J+J'}} \sum_{\nu_i \nu'_i} \mathcal{T}_J^\sigma(f, i) \mathcal{T}_{J'}^{\sigma'*}(f, i')$$

Leptons:

$$\begin{aligned}\ell_\mu^{s_+s_-} &\sim \bar{u}^{s_-}(P_-)\gamma_\mu v^{s_+}(P_+) \\ \sum_{s_+s_-} \ell_\mu \ell_\nu &\sim P_{+\mu}P_{-\nu} + P_{+\nu}P_{-\mu} - \eta_{\mu\nu}(P_{+\alpha}P_{-\alpha} + m_e^2)\end{aligned}$$

Nuclear Currents: $\mathcal{J}_\mu = (\rho, \vec{\mathcal{J}})$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle f | |\rho| | i \rangle &\sim \sum_{J \geq 0} \mathcal{C}_J \\ \langle f | | \vec{e}_\lambda \cdot \vec{\mathcal{J}} | | i \rangle &\sim \sum_{J \geq 1} \lambda \mathcal{T}_J^M + \mathcal{T}_J^E \\ \langle f | \mathcal{J}_z | i \rangle &\sim \sum_{J \geq 0} \mathcal{L}_J\end{aligned}$$

Multipole Operators:

$$\mathcal{C}_{JM}(q) = \int d^3r M_{JM}(q, \vec{r}) \rho(r)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{JM}(q) = \int d^3r \left(\frac{i\vec{\nabla}}{q} M_{JM}(q, \vec{r}) \right) \cdot \vec{\mathcal{J}}(\vec{r})$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{JM}^E(q) = \int d^3r \left(\frac{\vec{\nabla}}{q} \times \vec{M}_{JJM}(q, \vec{r}) \right) \cdot \vec{\mathcal{J}}(\vec{r})$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{JM}^M(q) = \int d^3r \vec{M}_{JJM}(q, \vec{r}) \cdot \vec{\mathcal{J}}(\vec{r})$$

$$M_{JM}(q, \vec{r}) = j_J(qr) Y_{JM}(\hat{r})$$

$$\vec{M}_{JLM}(q, \vec{r}) = j_J(qr) \vec{Y}_{JLM}(\hat{r})$$

Approximations:

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{J}} = \frac{d\rho}{dt} \simeq -i\omega\rho \implies \begin{cases} \mathcal{L}_J & \simeq \frac{\omega}{q} \mathcal{C}_J \\ \mathcal{T}_J^E & \simeq -\frac{\omega}{q} \sqrt{\frac{J+1}{J}} \mathcal{C}_J \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}_J &\sim q^J E_J = q^J e \langle r^J Y_J \rangle \\ \mathcal{T}_1^M &\sim q M_1 = q \mu_N \langle g_s S + g_l L \rangle \end{aligned}$$

► Rate:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\Gamma}{d \cos \Theta} &= a_C |\rho|^2 \\ &\quad + a_T [|\mathcal{J}_+|^2 + |\mathcal{J}_-|^2] \\ &= a_C \sum_{J \geq 0} |\mathcal{C}_J(f, i)|^2 \\ &\quad + a_T \sum_{J \geq 1} \sum_{\sigma=E, M} |\mathcal{T}_J^\sigma(f, i)|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\left[\mathcal{J}_\lambda = \vec{e}_\lambda \cdot \vec{\mathcal{J}} \right]$$

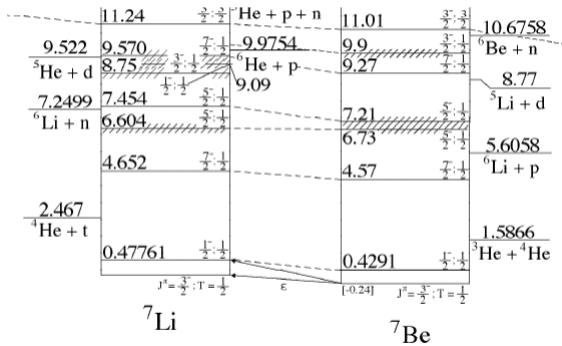
► Cross section:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{d \cos \Theta} &= \sum_{\nu_i \nu'_i} \left\{ v_1 |\rho|^2 + \right. \\ &\quad + v_2 [\rho (\mathcal{J}_+ + \mathcal{J}_-)^* + h.c.] \\ &\quad + v_3 [\rho (\mathcal{J}_+ - \mathcal{J}_-)^* + h.c.] \\ &\quad + v_4 [|\mathcal{J}_+|^2 + |\mathcal{J}_-|^2] \\ &\quad + v_5 [\mathcal{J}_+ \mathcal{J}_-^* + \mathcal{J}_- \mathcal{J}_+^*] \\ &\quad \left. + v_6 [\mathcal{J}_+ \mathcal{J}_-^* - \mathcal{J}_- \mathcal{J}_+^*] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Input States from NCSM

$$\Psi_{\text{NCSMC}}^{(8)} = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} |{}^8\text{Be}, \lambda\rangle + \sum_{\nu} \int dr \gamma_{\nu}(r) \hat{A}_{\nu} |{}^7\text{Li} + p, \nu\rangle + \sum_{\mu} \int dr \gamma_{\mu}(r) \hat{A}_{\mu} |{}^7\text{Be} + n, \mu\rangle$$

- ▶ 3 NCSM calculations: ${}^7\text{Li}$, ${}^7\text{Be}$ and ${}^8\text{Be}$
- ▶ $\{\frac{3}{2}^{-}, \frac{1}{2}^{-}, \frac{7}{2}^{-}, \frac{5}{2}^{-}, \frac{5}{2}^{-}\}$ ${}^7\text{Li}$ and ${}^7\text{Be}$ states in cluster basis
- ▶ 15 positive and 15 negative parity states in ${}^8\text{Be}$ composite state basis

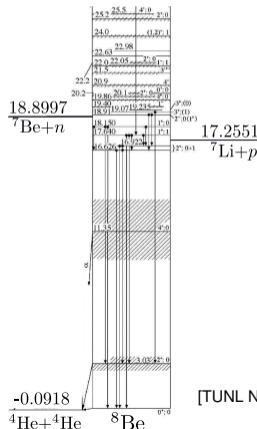


[TUNL Nuclear Data Evaluation Project]

Input States from NCSM

$$\Psi_{\text{NCSMC}}^{(8)} = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} |{}^8\text{Be}, \lambda\rangle + \sum_{\nu} \int dr \gamma_{\nu}(r) \hat{A}_{\nu} |{}^7\text{Li} + p, \nu\rangle + \sum_{\mu} \int dr \gamma_{\mu}(r) \hat{A}_{\mu} |{}^7\text{Be} + n, \mu\rangle$$

- ▶ 3 NCSM calculations: ${}^7\text{Li}$, ${}^7\text{Be}$ and ${}^8\text{Be}$
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[TUNL Nuclear Data Evaluation Project]

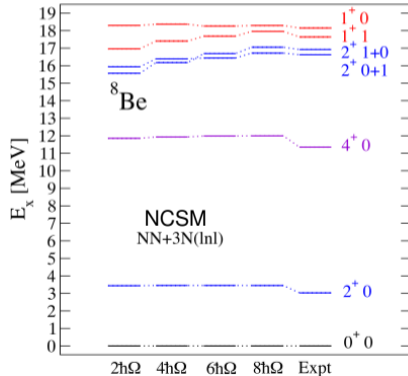
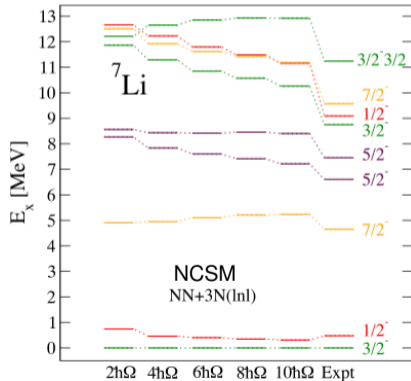
Interaction: Chiral NN $N^3\text{LO} + 3\text{N}(\text{Inl})$

Novel chiral Hamiltonian and observables in light and medium-mass nuclei

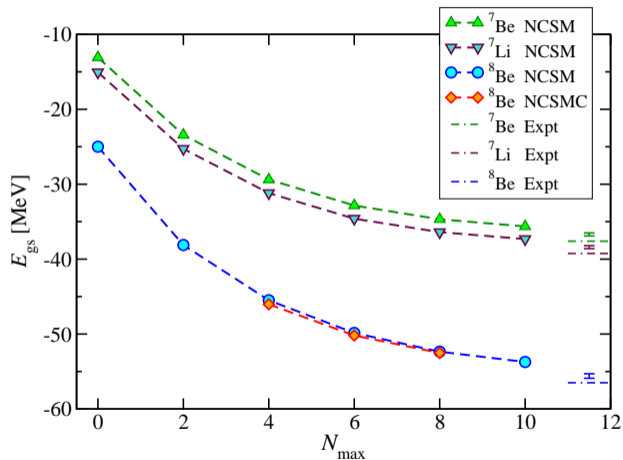
V. Somà,^{1,2} P. Navrátil,^{2,3} F. Raimondi,^{3,4,5} C. Barbieri,^{4,6} and T. Duguet^{1,5,1}

- ▶ Good description of excitation energies in light nuclei
- ▶ Hamiltonian determined in $A = 2, 3, 4$ systems
 - ▶ Nucleon-nucleon scattering, deuteron, ^3H , ^4He

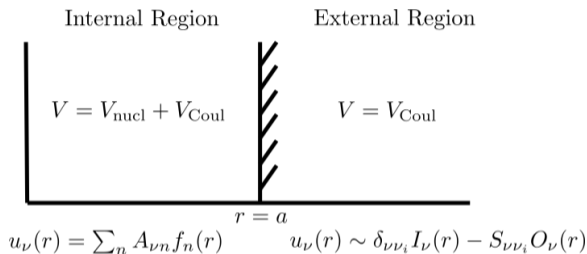
NN $N^3\text{LO}$ (Entem-Machleidt 2003)
3N $N^2\text{LO}$ w local/non-local regulator



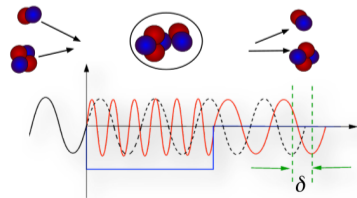
Convergence of ground state energies:



NCSMC details



- ▶ R-matrix on a Lagrange mesh
- ▶ Solve for generalized S -matrix: $S_{\nu\nu_i}^{J\pi}$
- ▶ Diagonal phase shifts: $S_{\nu\nu}^{J\pi} = e^{2i\delta_\nu^{J\pi}}$
- ▶ Eigen-phase shifts: $e^{2i\delta_\mu^{J\pi}}$, eigenvalues of S



More X17 Experiments

- ▶ Many ongoing experiments aim to reproduce the results: Orsay, Montreal, DarkLight (TRIUMF),...
- ▶ Additional ATOMKI experiments
 - ▶ Anomaly seen in ${}^3\text{H}(p, e^+e^-){}^4\text{He}$, between 0^+ and 0^- resonances [PRC **104** 044003 (2021)]
 - ▶ Updated ${}^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}$ results for off-resonance energies (anomaly remains after better experimental background determination) [arXiv:2205.07744]
 - ▶ New claim: anomaly in the 1^- resonance of ${}^{11}\text{B}(p, e^+e^-){}^{12}\text{C}$ [PRC **106** L061601 (2022)]
- ▶ The quantum numbers of a new particle will determine how it interacts with the nucleus

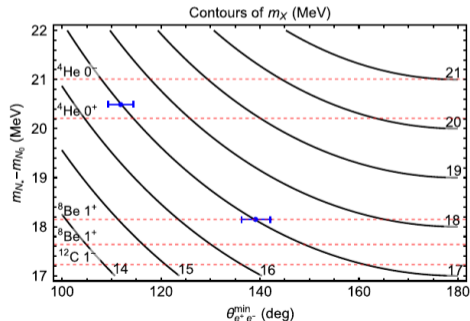
Constraints on m_X

[Feng PRD 95, 035017 (2017)]

In the frame of the X boson the electron and positron momenta are anti-parallel.
Boosted to a minimum separation angle:

$$\theta = 2 \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{m_X}{E_X} \right)$$

- ▶ ^8Be anomaly occurs in the isoscalar transition (decay of 1^+0 resonance)
- ▶ In-between resonances in ^4He
- ▶ Bumps could be explained by 17 MeV bosons decaying to e^+e^-



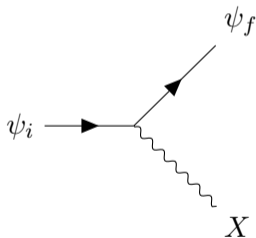
X17 Candidate Bosons

$$(m_X \simeq 17 \text{ MeV}, \Delta E \geq 17.2251 \text{ MeV} [{}^7\text{Li} + p],$$

$$k_X = \sqrt{\Delta E^2 - m_X^2}, k_\gamma = \Delta E)$$

Operators for $1^\pm \rightarrow 0^+$ decay (in the long-wavelength approximation)

- ▶ **Pseudo-scalar** (0^-): $\langle X_P \rangle \sim \epsilon_P \langle \hat{S} \rangle k_X$
- ▶ **Axial-vector** (1^+): $\langle X_A \rangle \sim \epsilon_A \langle \hat{S} \rangle \sqrt{2 + \frac{m_X^2}{\Delta E^2}}$
- ▶ **Vector** (1^-): $\langle X_V \rangle \sim \epsilon_V \langle E1 \rangle \frac{k_X}{k_\gamma}$
- ▶ **For comparison:** γ (E1 (1^-), M1 (1^+), E2 (2^+), etc)
 $\langle E1 \rangle \sim \langle rY_1 \rangle k_\gamma$
 $\langle M1 \rangle \sim \left(g_l \langle \hat{L} \rangle + g_s \langle \hat{S} \rangle \right) k_\gamma$



Exclusion Plot

Current (gray) and projected sensitivities of future experiments

Feng **PRD 95** 035017 (2017)

