

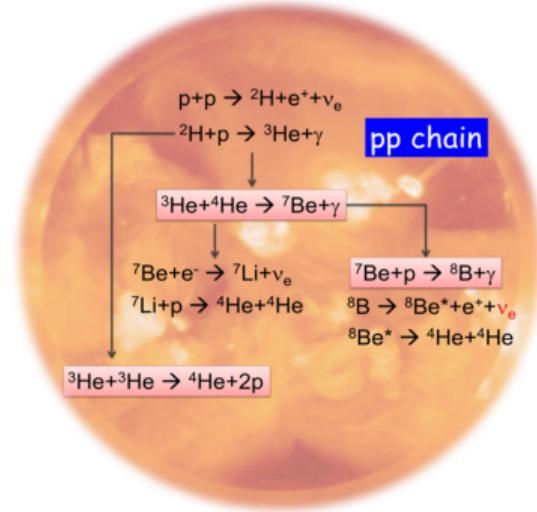
What's missing? An investigation of ${}^3\text{He}(\alpha, \gamma){}^7\text{Be}$ radiative capture

Mack C. Atkinson

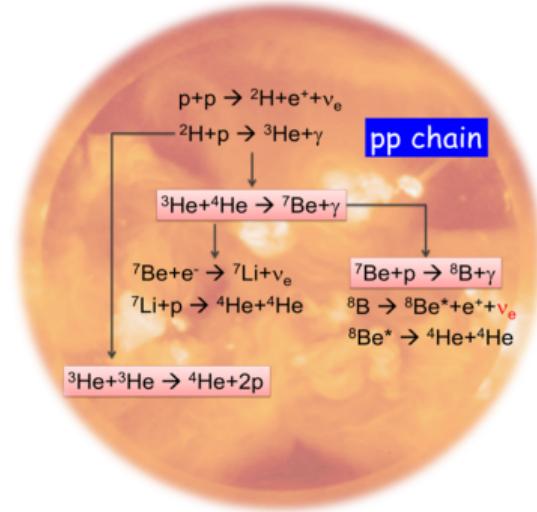
University of Santa Barbara



$^3\text{He}(\alpha, \gamma)^7\text{Be}$ important for solar-model predictions

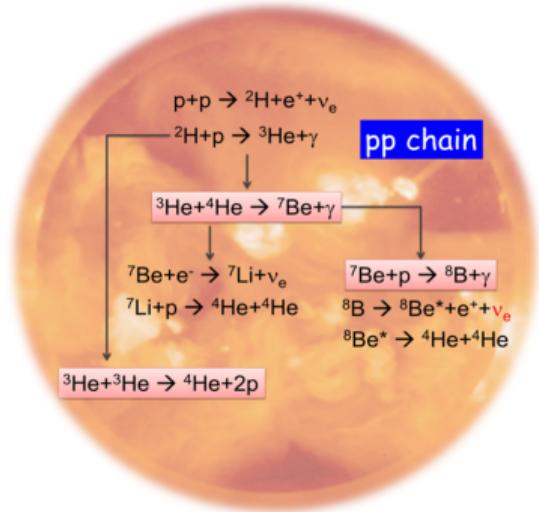
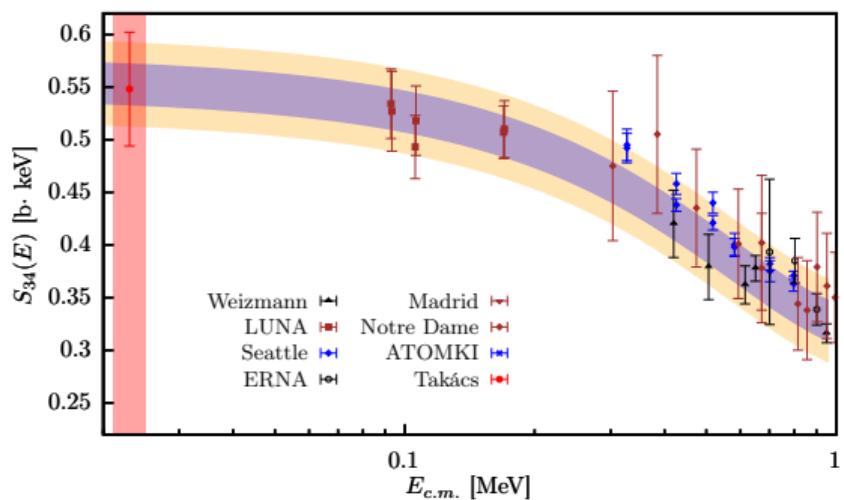


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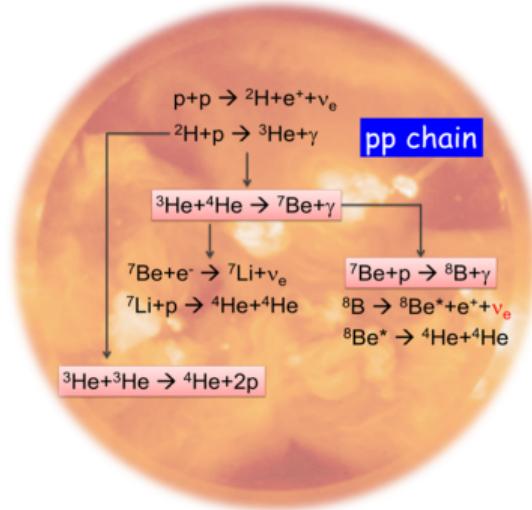
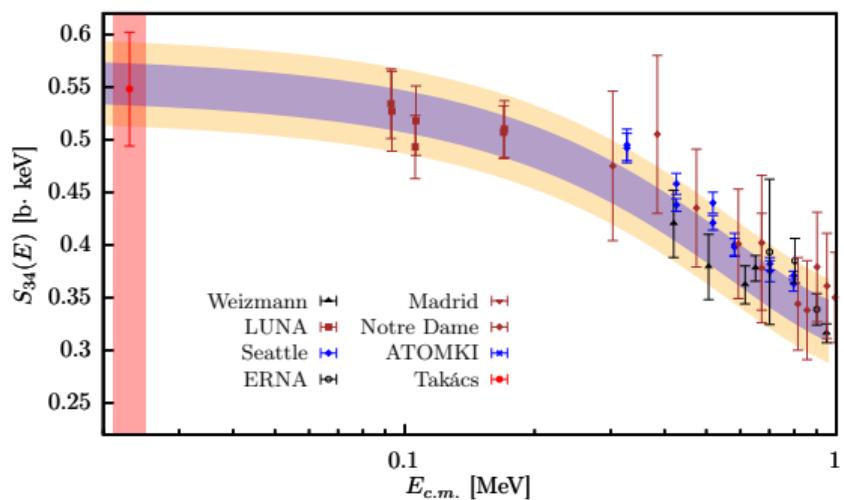
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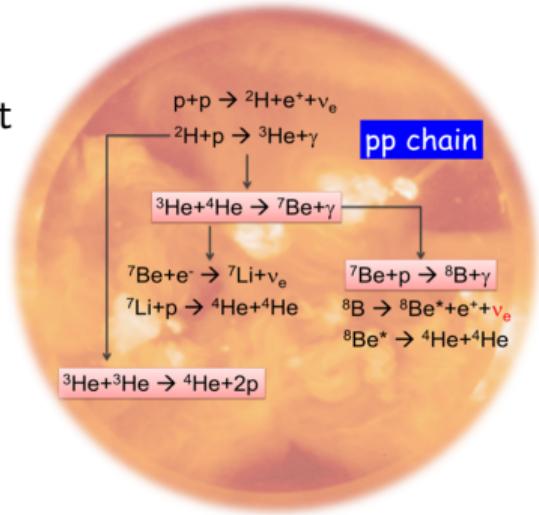
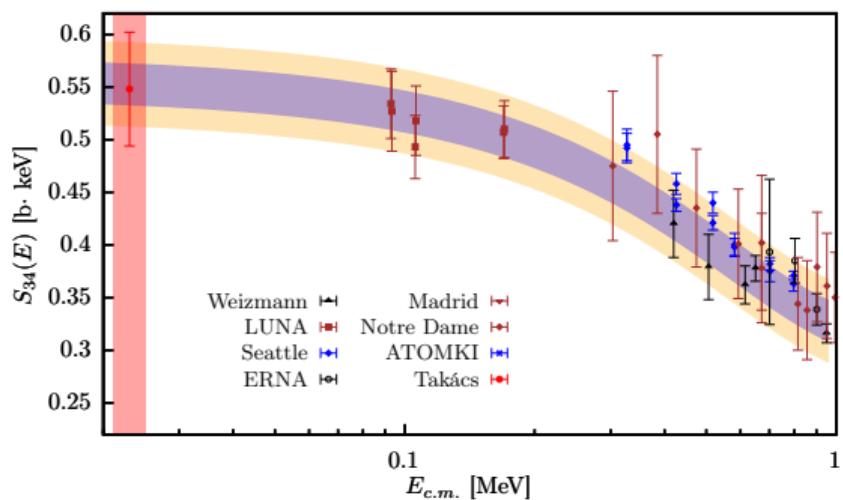
- Reaction rates too low at solar energies in the lab



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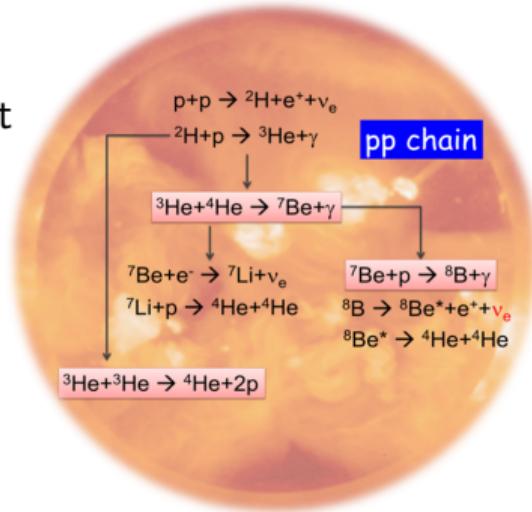
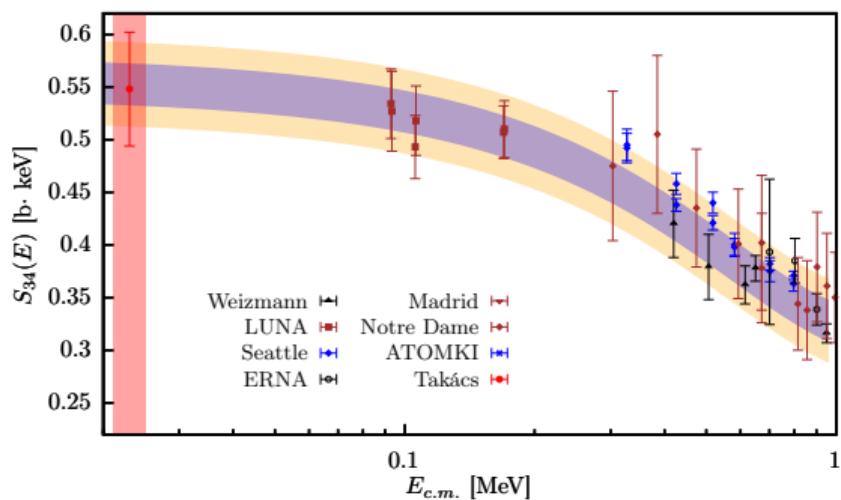
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$^3\text{He}(\alpha, \gamma)^7\text{Be}$ important for solar-model predictions

- Reaction rates too low at solar energies in the lab
- Current evaluations depend on both theory and experiment
- Ideally, theory will accurately predict $S_{34}(E)$



$$\sigma(E) = \frac{S_{34}(E)}{E} \exp \left\{ -\frac{2\pi Z_1 Z_2 e^2}{\hbar \sqrt{2E/m}} \right\}$$

Goal: Improve the theoretical prediction of $S_{34}(E)$

Current evaluation:

$$S_{34}(0) = 0.56 \pm 0.02(\text{expt.}) \pm \mathbf{0.02}(\text{theor.})$$

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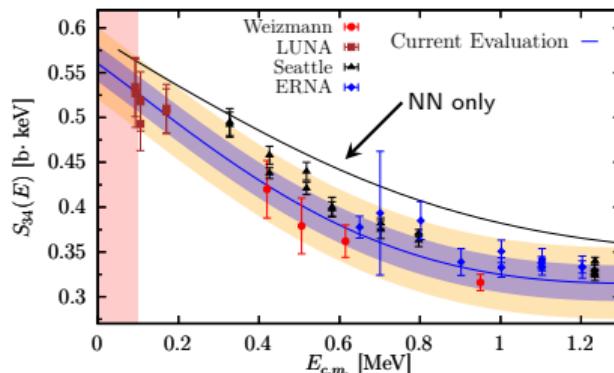
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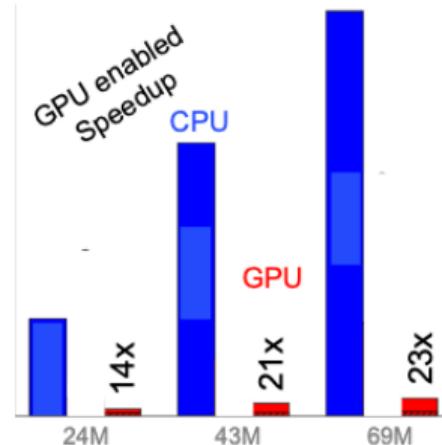
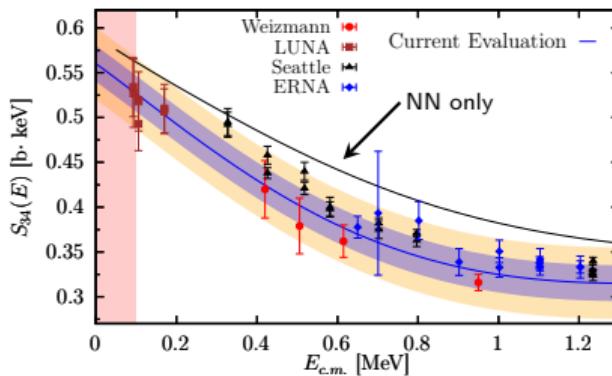


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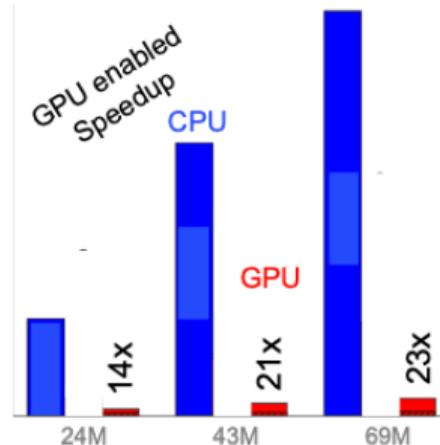
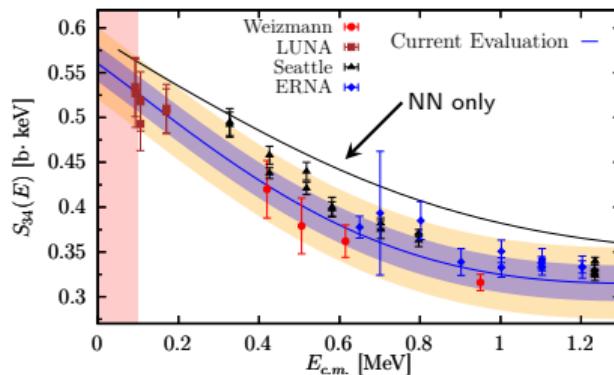


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- GPU speedup \implies NNN forces are now included

Ab initio reaction theory needed for capture calculations

- Calculate EM transitions from ${}^3\text{He} + \alpha$ scattering state to ${}^7\text{Be}$ bound state

Ab initio reaction theory needed for capture calculations

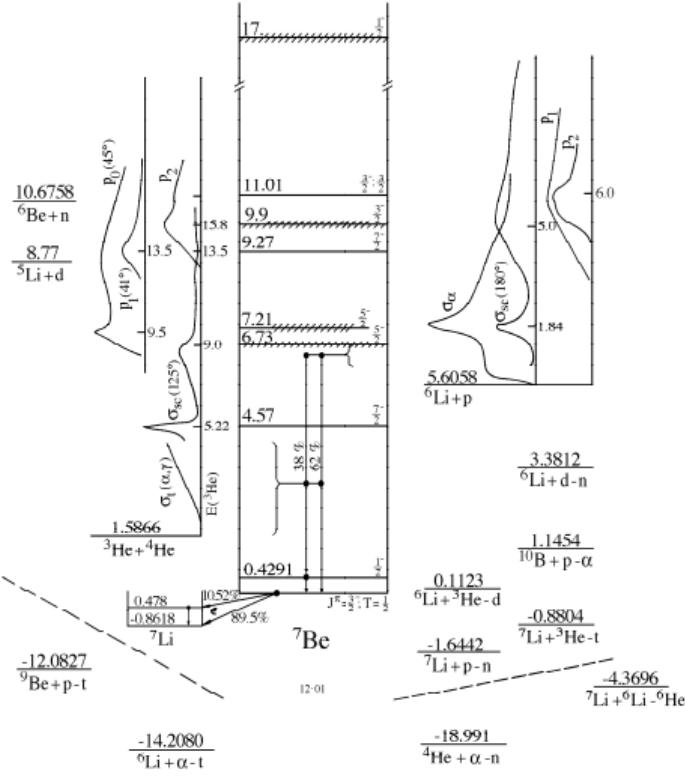
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$$\left\langle \Psi_{bs}({}^7\text{Be}) \mid \hat{\mathcal{M}}_{\text{EM}} \mid \Psi_{sc}({}^3\text{He} + \alpha) \right\rangle$$

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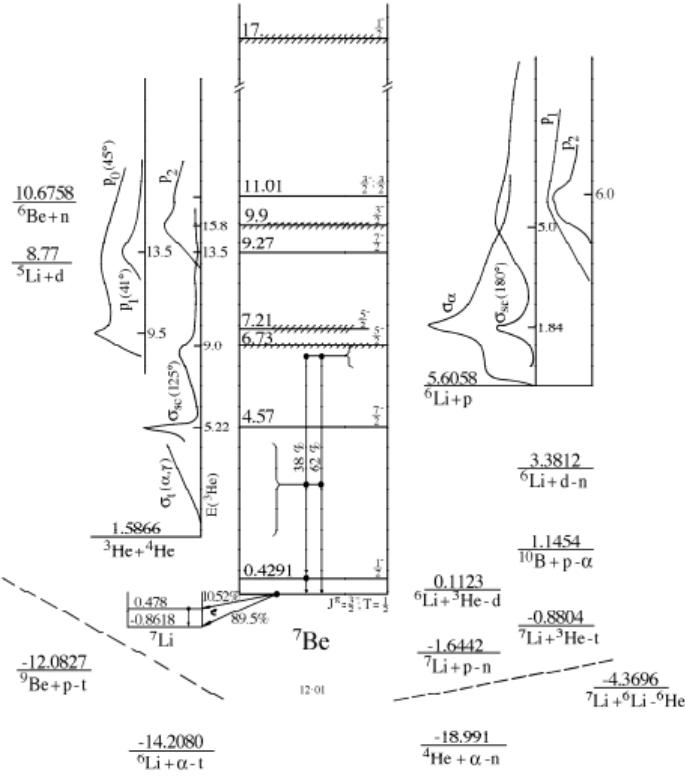


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- Need a method to calculate ψ_{sc} and ψ_{bs} simultaneously



The *ab initio* method: from NCSM to NCSMC

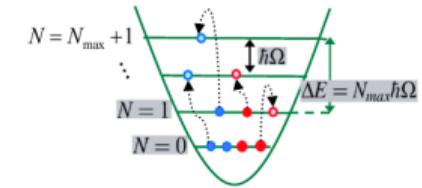
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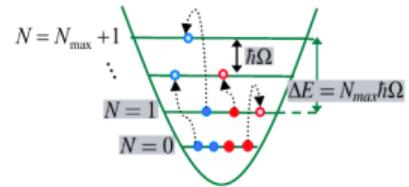


$$\Psi^A = \sum_{N=0}^{N_{\max}} \sum_i c_{Ni} \Phi_{Ni}^A$$

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?

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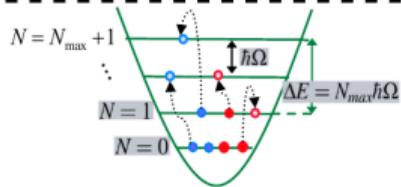
$$\hat{H} = \hat{T} + \hat{V}_{NN} + \hat{V}_{NNN}$$

$$\hat{H} |\Psi^A\rangle = E |\Psi^A\rangle$$

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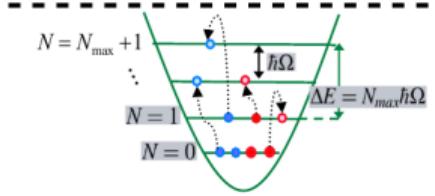
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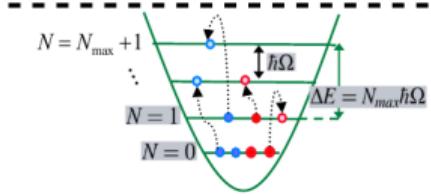
NCSM

$$\Psi^{(A)} = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} |(A) \text{ nuclei}, \lambda \rangle + \sum_v \int d\vec{r} \gamma_v(\vec{r}) \hat{A}_v \left|_{(A-a)} \text{ nuclei}, v \right\rangle$$

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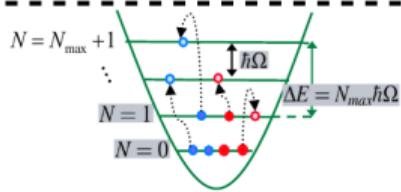
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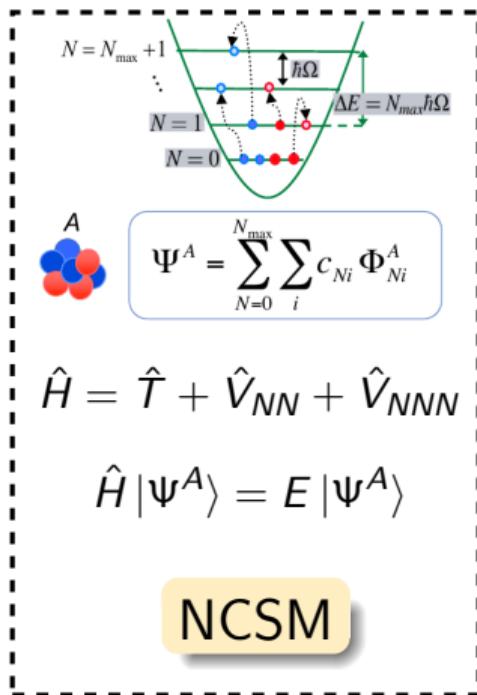
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↑ ↑
 $|^7\text{Be}\rangle$ $|\alpha\rangle \otimes |^3\text{He}\rangle$

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

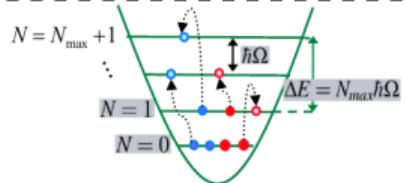
↑

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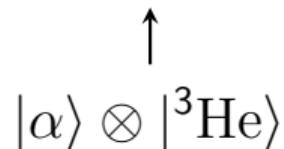
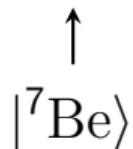
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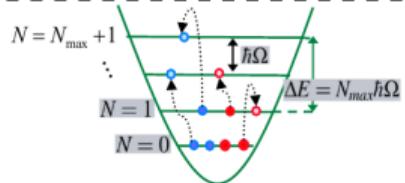
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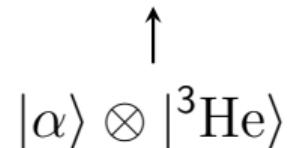
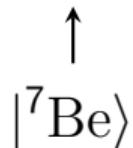
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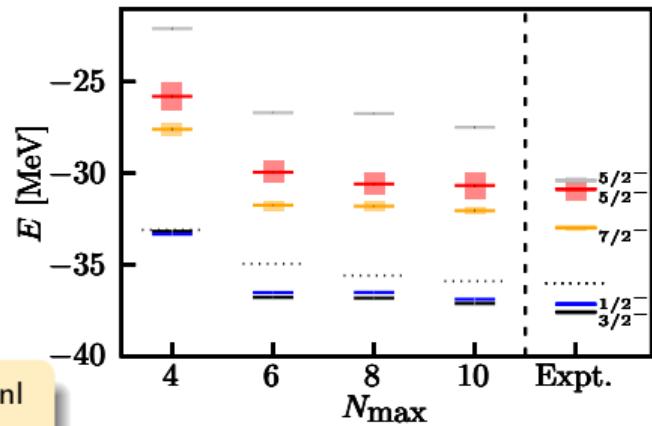


NCSMC Calculation of ${}^3\text{He} + {}^4\text{He}$ well-converged, levels need shifting

$$\begin{array}{c}
 E_{\lambda}^{NCSM} \quad \delta_{\lambda\lambda'} \\
 \left\langle \begin{array}{c} (A) \\ \bullet \bullet \end{array} \middle| H \hat{A}_v \left| \begin{array}{c} (a) \\ (A-a) \end{array} \right. \right\rangle \\
 \downarrow \qquad \downarrow \\
 \left(\begin{array}{cc} H_{NCSM} & h \\ h & H_{RGM} \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{C} \\ \mathcal{Y} \end{array} \right) = E \left(\begin{array}{cc} 1_{NCSM} & g \\ g & N_{RGM} \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{C} \\ \mathcal{Y} \end{array} \right)
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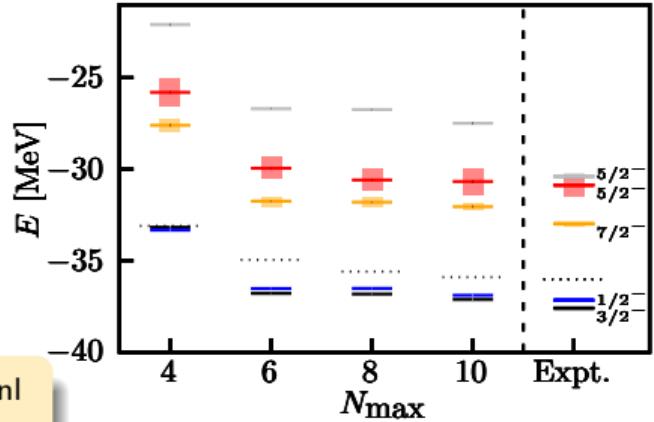
NN-N3LO+3Nlnl

$\hbar\Omega = 20$ MeV

$\lambda_{SRG} = 2.0$ fm $^{-1}$

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$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{\lambda}^{NCSM} & \delta_{\lambda\lambda'} \\ H_{NCSM} & h \\ h & H_{RGM} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \langle (A) | H \hat{A}_v | (a) \rangle \\ \langle (A) | \hat{A}_v | (a) \rangle \\ \langle (A) | \gamma | (a) \rangle \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} 1_{NCSM} & g \\ g & N_{RGM} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \langle (A) | \mathcal{C} | (a) \rangle \\ \langle (A) | \gamma | (a) \rangle \end{pmatrix}$$



NN-N3LO+3NIInl

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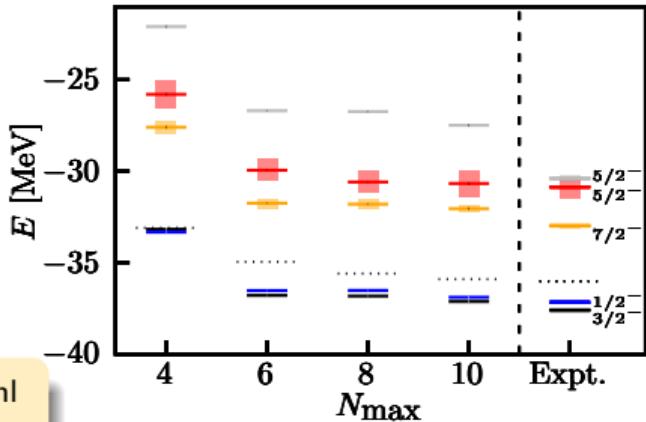
- Capture rate accurate only if Expt. levels reproduced

$E_{3/2^-} : -37.1$ MeV $\rightarrow -37.7$ MeV

$E_{1/2^-} : -36.9$ MeV $\rightarrow -37.2$ MeV

NCSMC Calculation of ${}^3\text{He} + {}^4\text{He}$ well-converged, levels need shifting

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{\lambda}^{NCSM} & \delta_{\lambda\lambda'} \\ H_{NCSM} & h \\ h & H_{RGM} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} (A) & |H \hat{A}_v|_{(a)(A-a)} \\ \delta_{\lambda\lambda'} & \langle (A) | \hat{A}_v | (a)(A-a) \rangle \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} 1_{NCSM} & g \\ g & N_{RGM} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} (\mathcal{C}) \\ (\mathcal{Y}) \end{pmatrix}$$



NN-N3LO+3NIlnl

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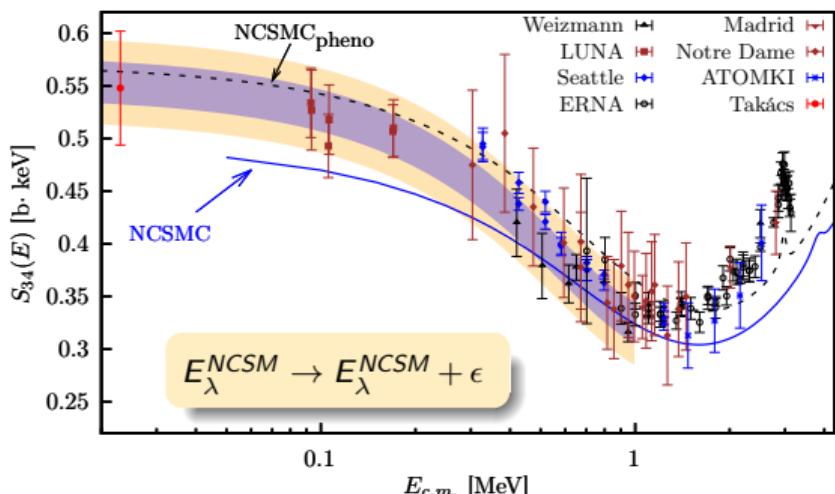
$$E_{\lambda}^{NCSM} \rightarrow E_{\lambda}^{NCSM} + \epsilon$$

$$E_{3/2^-} : -37.1 \text{ MeV} \rightarrow -37.7 \text{ MeV}$$

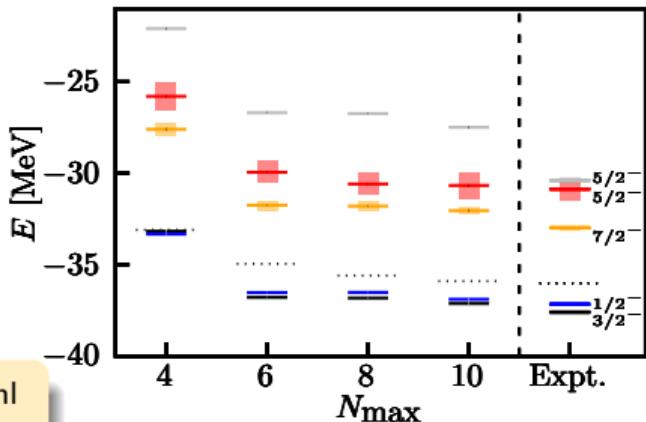
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$$\begin{array}{c}
 \left\langle \begin{array}{c} (A) \\ \text{blue dots} \end{array} \middle| \hat{H} \hat{A}_v \right. \left. \begin{array}{c} r \\ (a) \quad (A-a) \end{array} \right\rangle \\
 \downarrow \quad \quad \quad \downarrow \quad \quad \quad \downarrow \quad \quad \quad \downarrow \\
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$$\begin{aligned} \text{NN-N3LO+3Nlnl} \\ \hbar\Omega = 20 \text{ MeV} \\ \lambda_{\text{SRG}} = 2.0 \text{ fm}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$



- Capture rate accurate only if Expt. levels reproduced

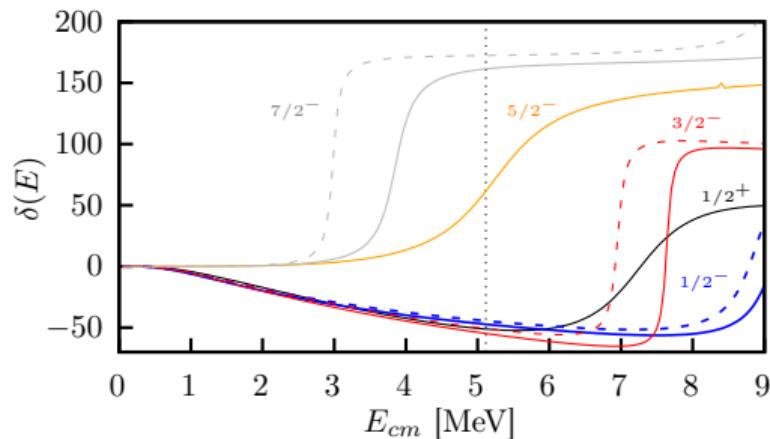
$$E_{3/2^-} : -37.1 \text{ MeV} \rightarrow -37.7 \text{ MeV}$$

Minimal effect of phenomenological shift on scattering states

- Main impact of pheno is to alter ψ_{bs}

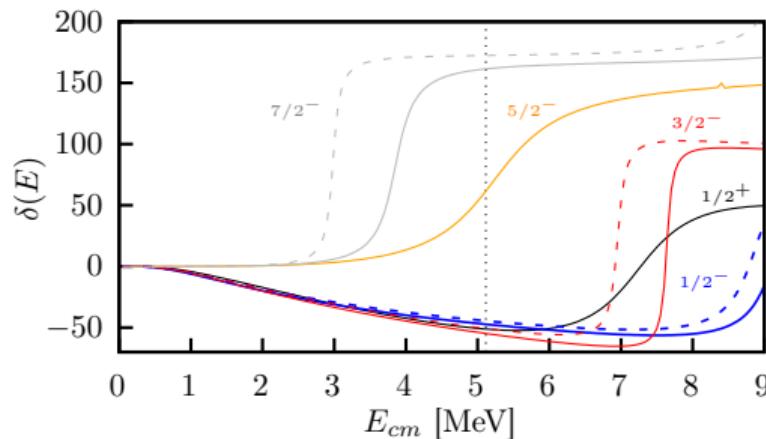
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Minimal effect of phenomenological shift on scattering states

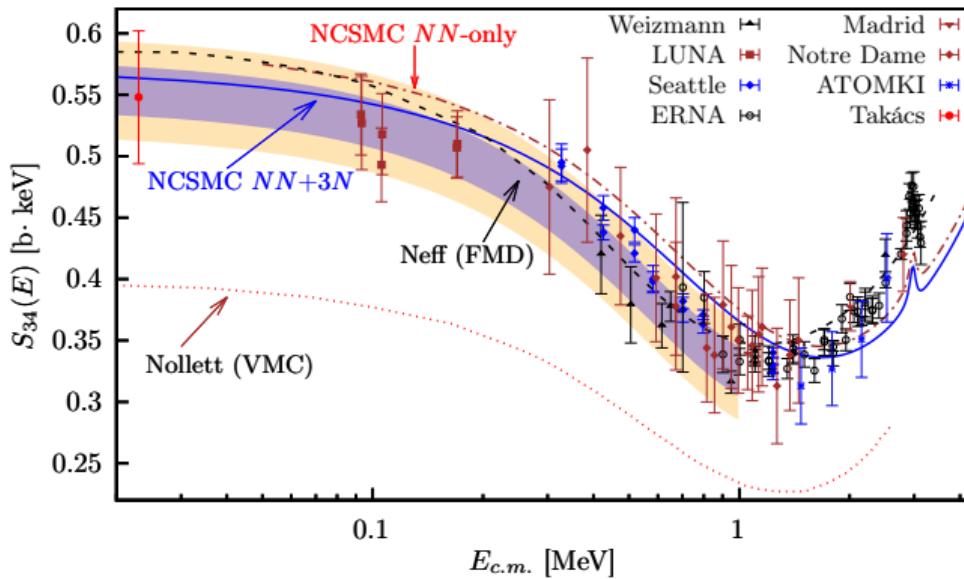
- Main impact of pheno is to alter ψ_{bs}
- Phase shifts at the relevant energies do not change
- The $3/2^-$ and $1/2^-$ scattering channels contribute minimally to $S_{34}(E)$
 - Dominated by the $E1$ transitions from $1/2^+$ scattering channel



Comparing to other theoretical predictions of $S_{34}(E)$

- Inclusion of $3N$ force shows marked improvement over previous **NN-only**

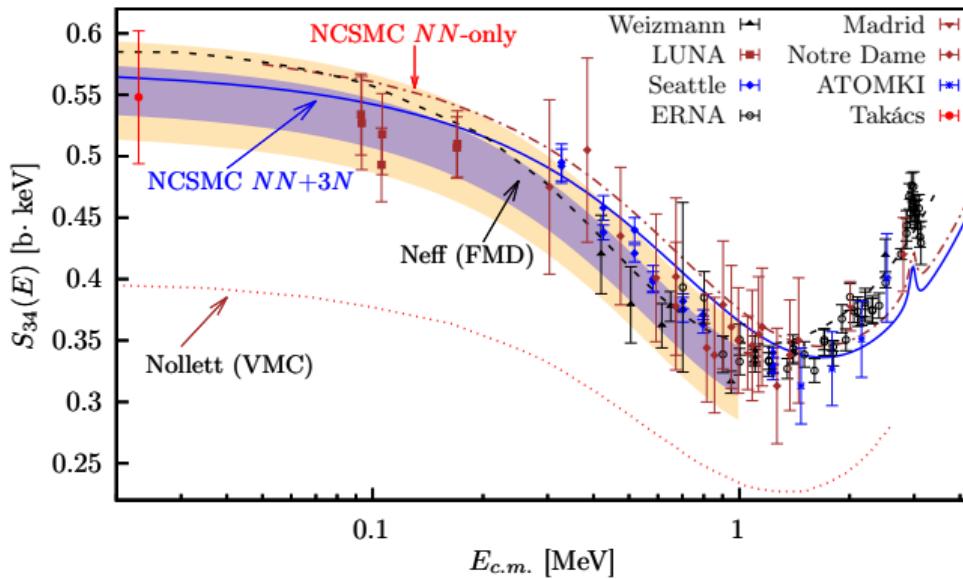
NN-N3LO+3Nlnl
 $\hbar\Omega = 20$ MeV
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- NCSMC prediction similar to FMD (AV18-like interaction)

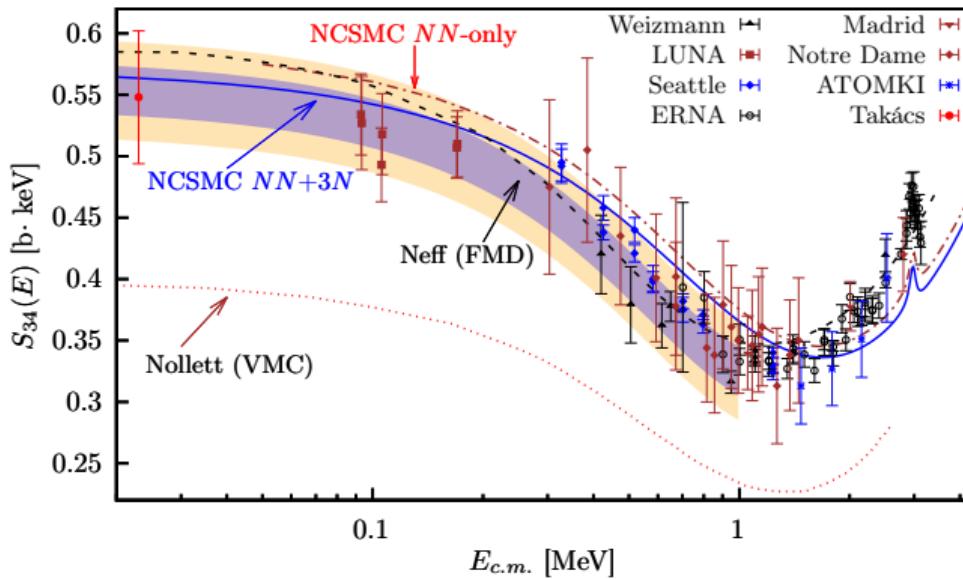
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Comparing to other theoretical predictions of $S_{34}(E)$

- Inclusion of $3N$ force shows marked improvement over previous **NN-only**
- NCSMC prediction similar to FMD (AV18-like interaction)
- Consistent with current evaluation and capture data

NN-N3LO+3Nlnl
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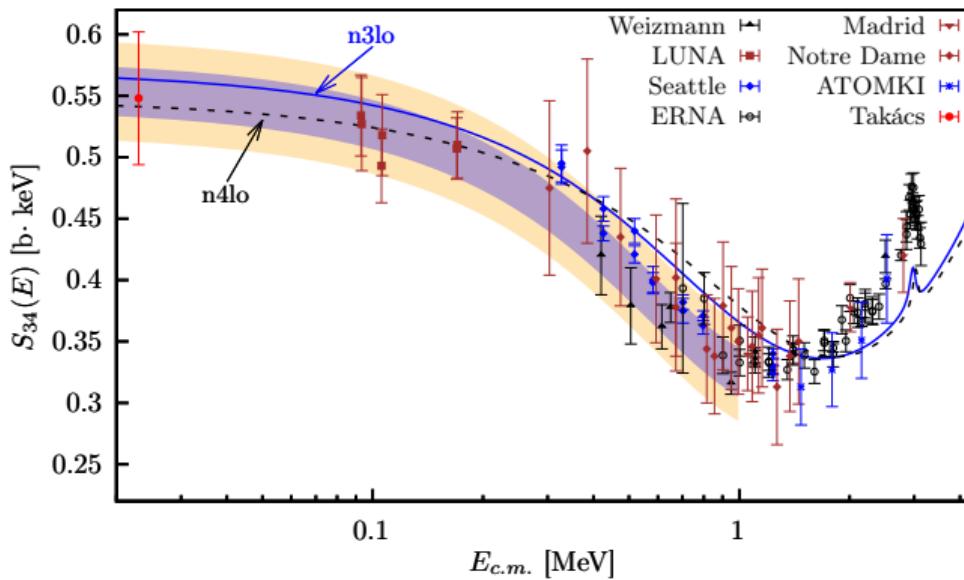


Checking dependence on NN and $3N$ interactions

- Only comparing two interactions, both at $N_{max} = 10$

NN-N3LO+3NlnI
 $\hbar\Omega = 20$ MeV
 $\lambda_{SRG} = 2.0$ fm $^{-1}$

NN-N4LO+3NlnIE7
 $\hbar\Omega = 20$ MeV
 $\lambda_{SRG} = 2.0$ fm $^{-1}$

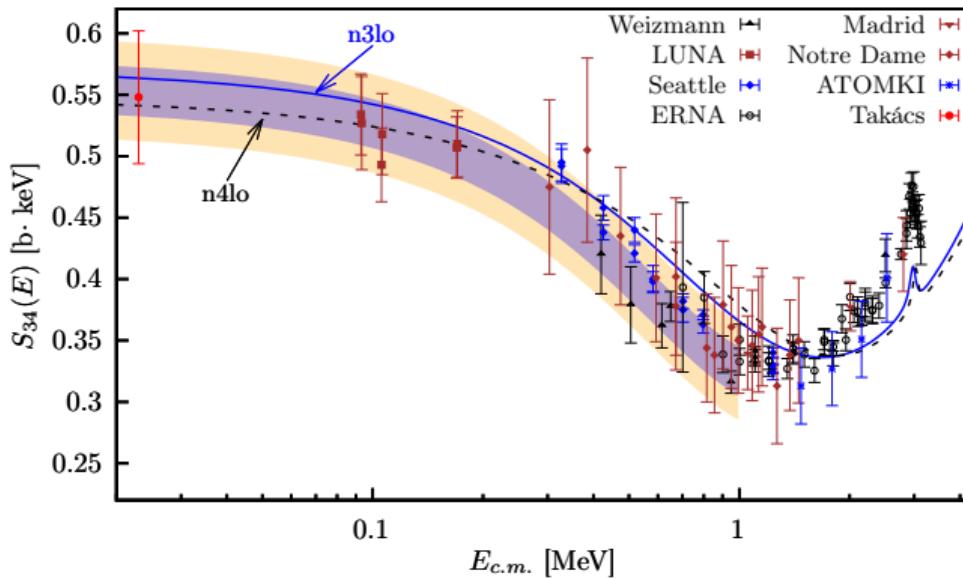


Checking dependence on NN and $3N$ interactions

- Only comparing two interactions, both at $N_{max} = 10$
- Roughly 8% difference in $S_{34}(E)$

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 $\hbar\Omega = 20$ MeV
 $\lambda_{SRG} = 2.0$ fm $^{-1}$

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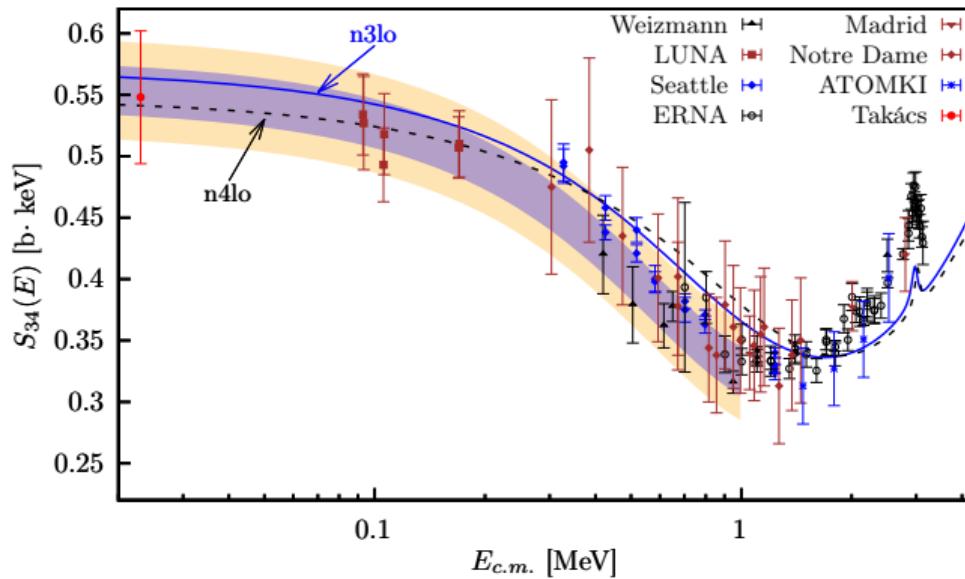


Checking dependence on NN and $3N$ interactions

- Only comparing two interactions, both at $N_{max} = 10$
- Roughly 8% difference in $S_{34}(E)$
- Will analyze more interactions in a future work

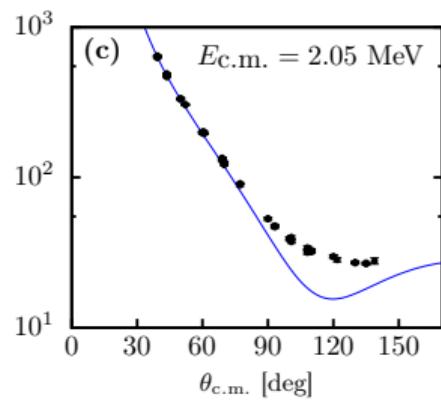
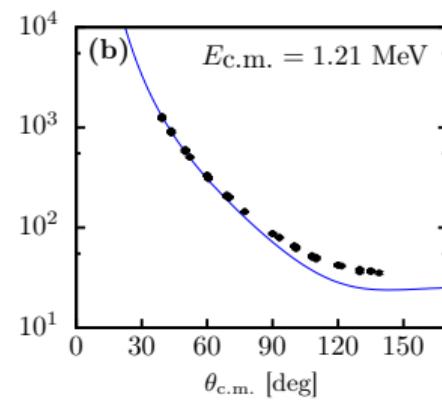
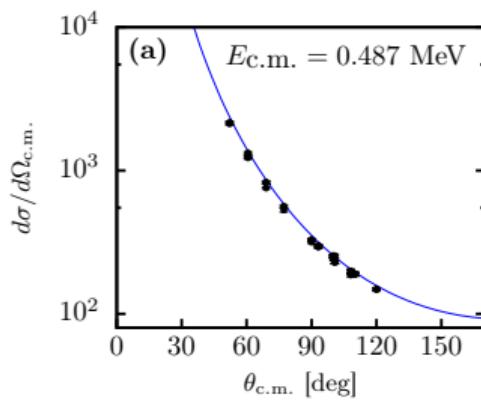
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SONIK $^3\text{He} + ^4\text{He}$ elastic scattering cross sections

- Compare to elastic scattering results to further probe ψ_{sc}



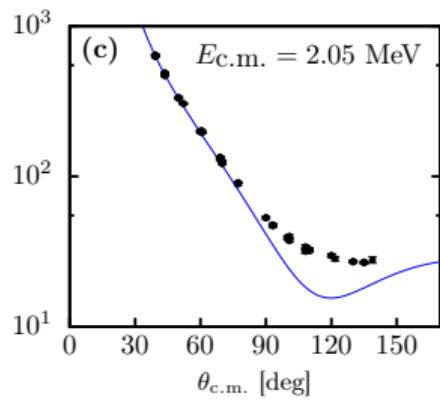
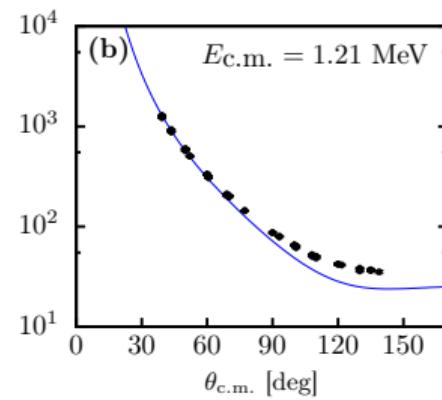
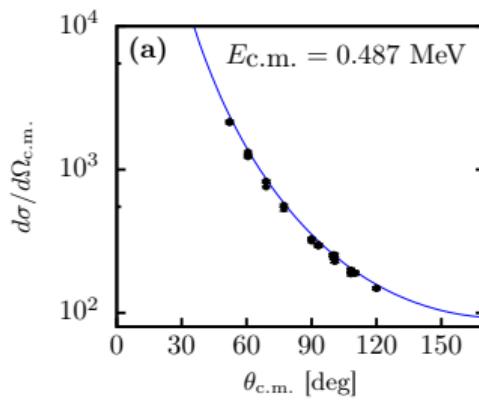
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- Compare to elastic scattering results to further probe ψ_{sc}
- Experiment done at TRIUMF in 2022 → lowest E measured to date



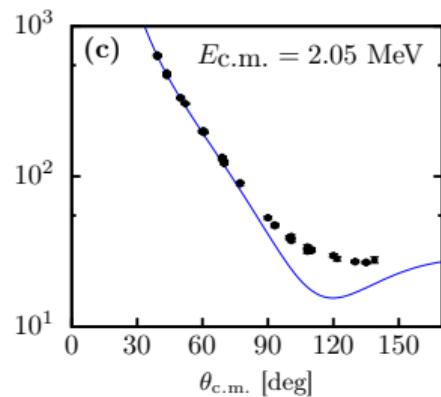
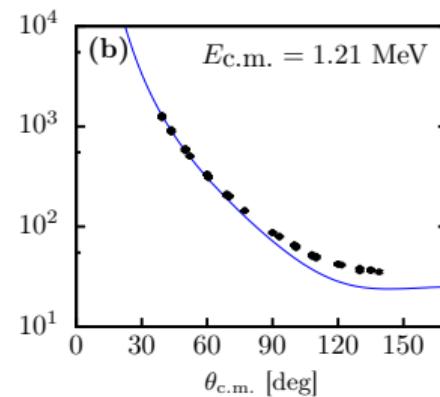
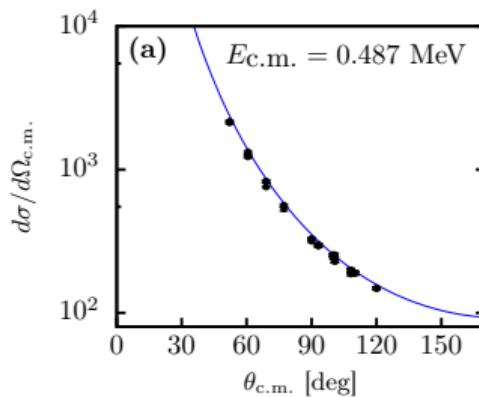
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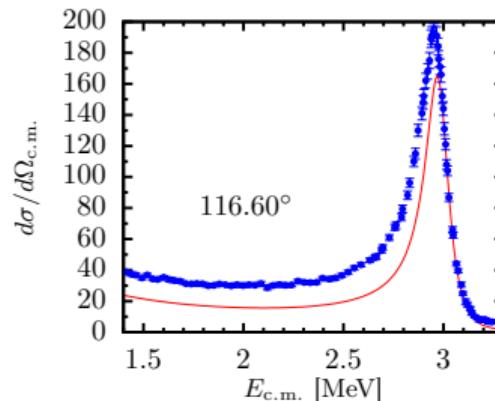
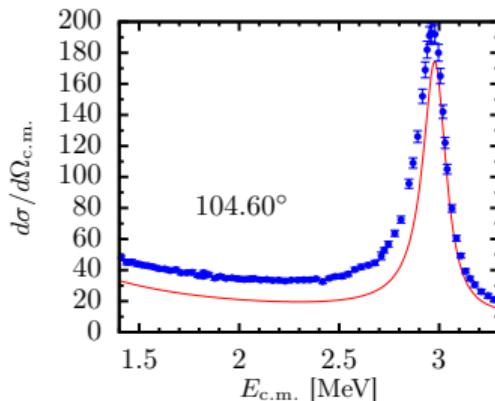
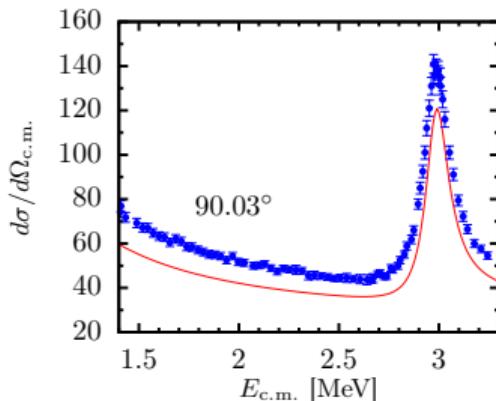
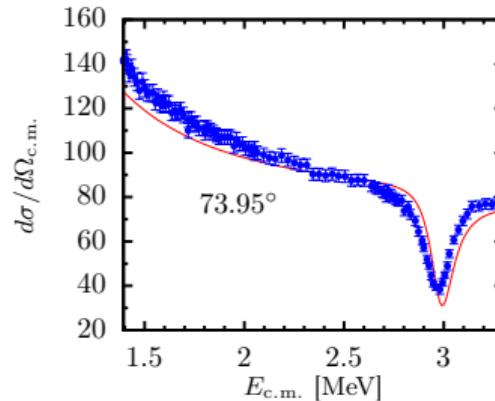
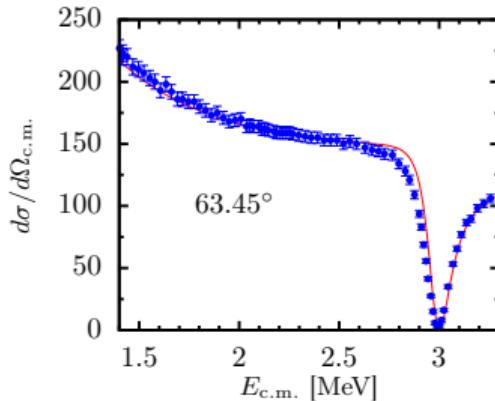
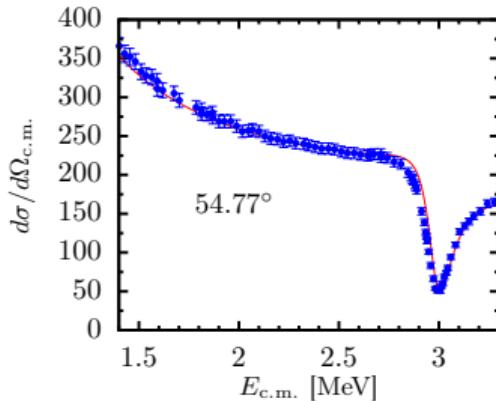
- What is the source of discrepancy at large angles?

NN-N3LO+3Nlnl

$\hbar\Omega = 20$ MeV

$\lambda_{SRG} = 2.0$ fm $^{-1}$

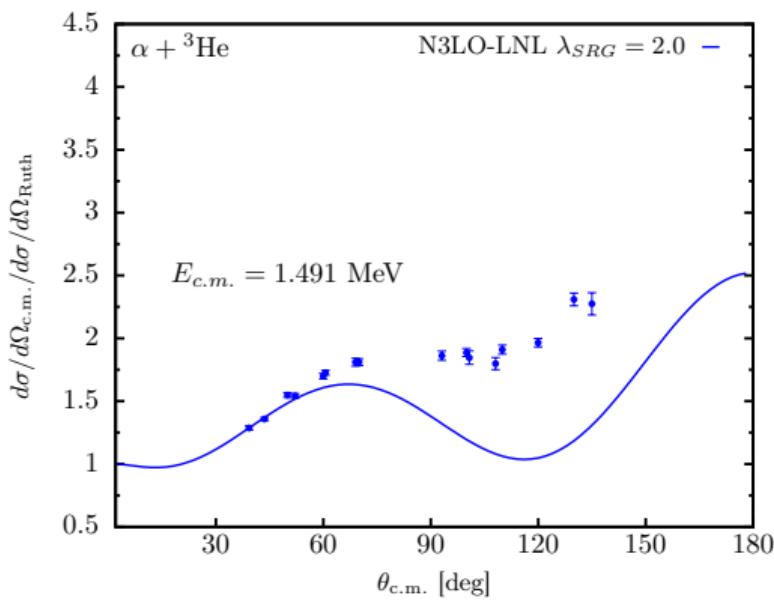
Same large-angle discrepancy when comparing to 1964 Barnard *et al.*



Diagnosing the discrepancy

- Rutherford obscures the fact that a constant shift accounts for the discrepancy

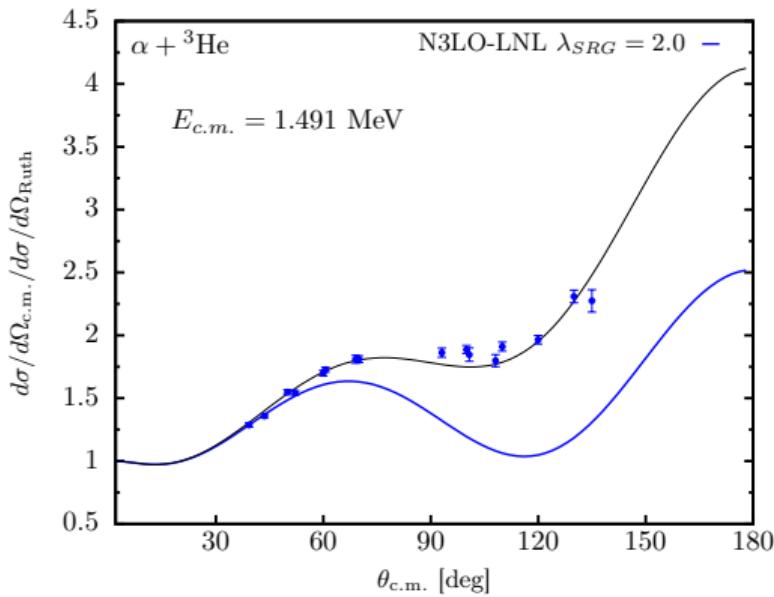
$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}_{\text{Ruth}} = \left(\frac{Z_1 Z_2 e^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0 m v^2 \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)} \right)^2$$



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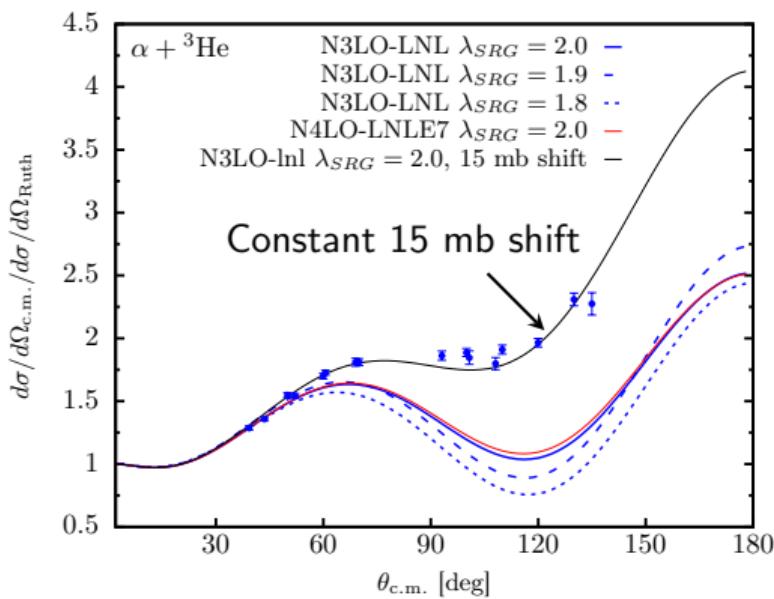


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$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}_{\text{Ruth}} = \left(\frac{Z_1 Z_2 e^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0 m v^2 \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)} \right)^2$$

- Varied properties of the interaction
- Nothing in the NCMSC appears to reproduce the 15 mb shift



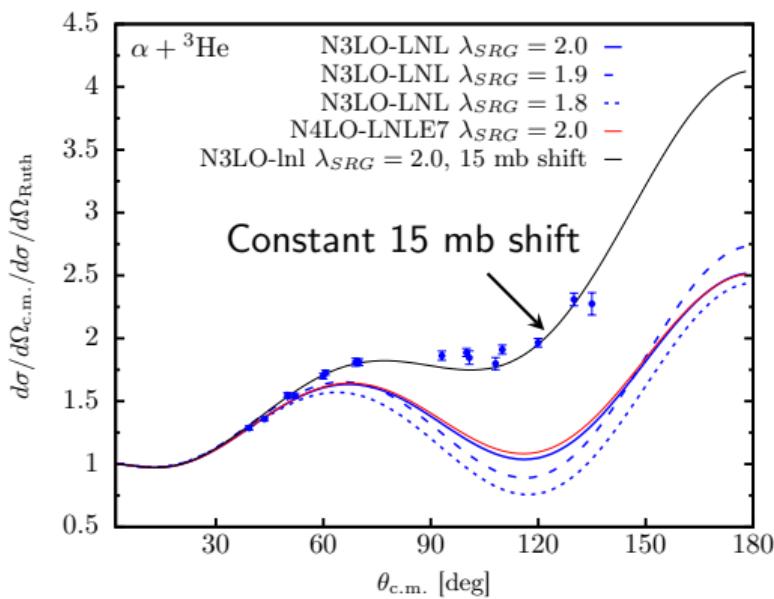
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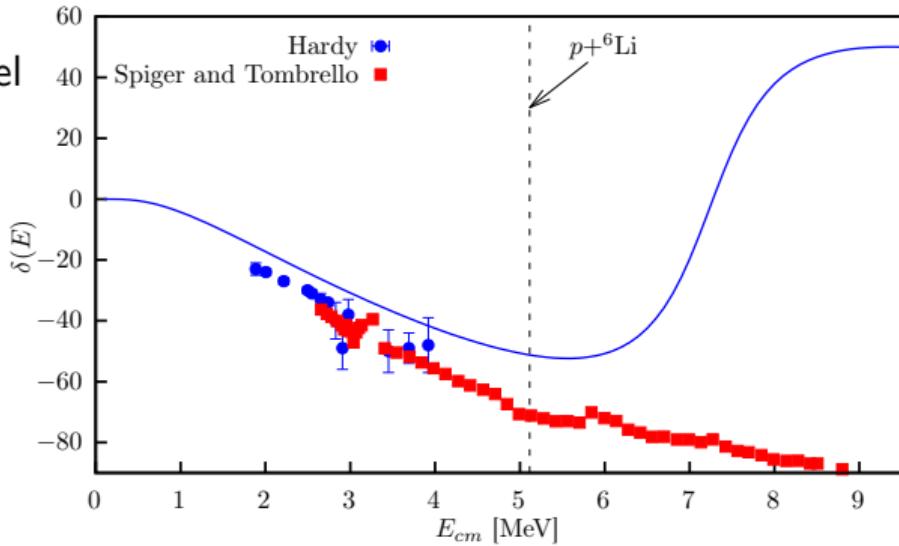
- Varied properties of the interaction
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How can we emulate a constant shift?



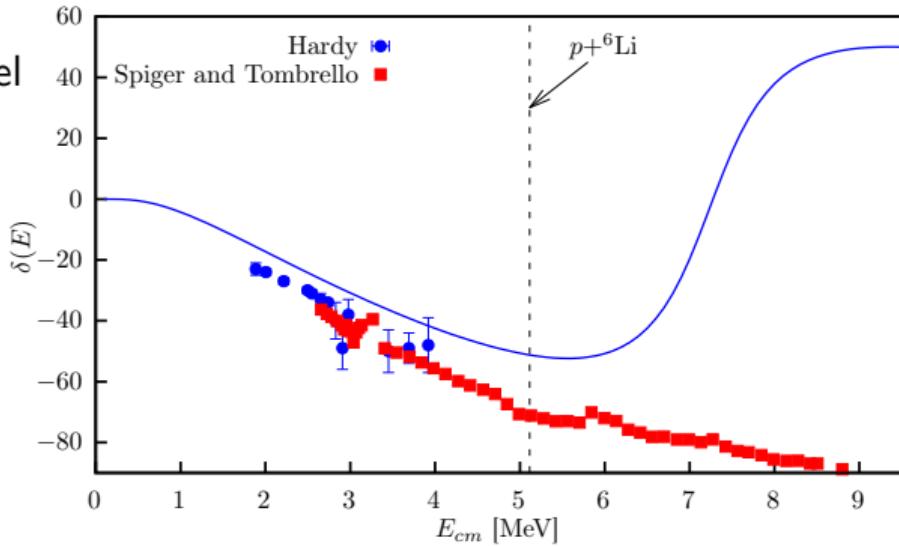
The $1/2^+$ channel can produce this constant shift

- More repulsion is needed in the $1/2^+$ channel



The $1/2^+$ channel can produce this constant shift

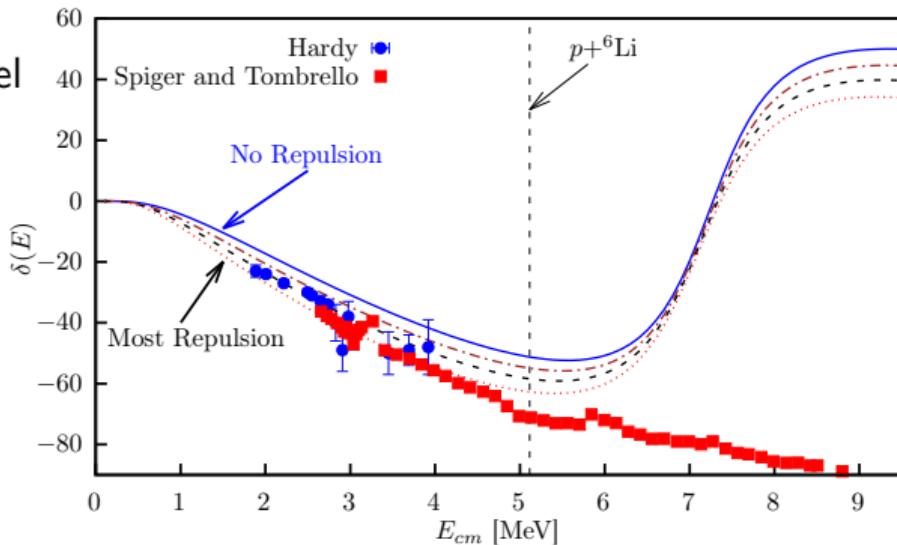
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The $1/2^+$ channel can produce this constant shift

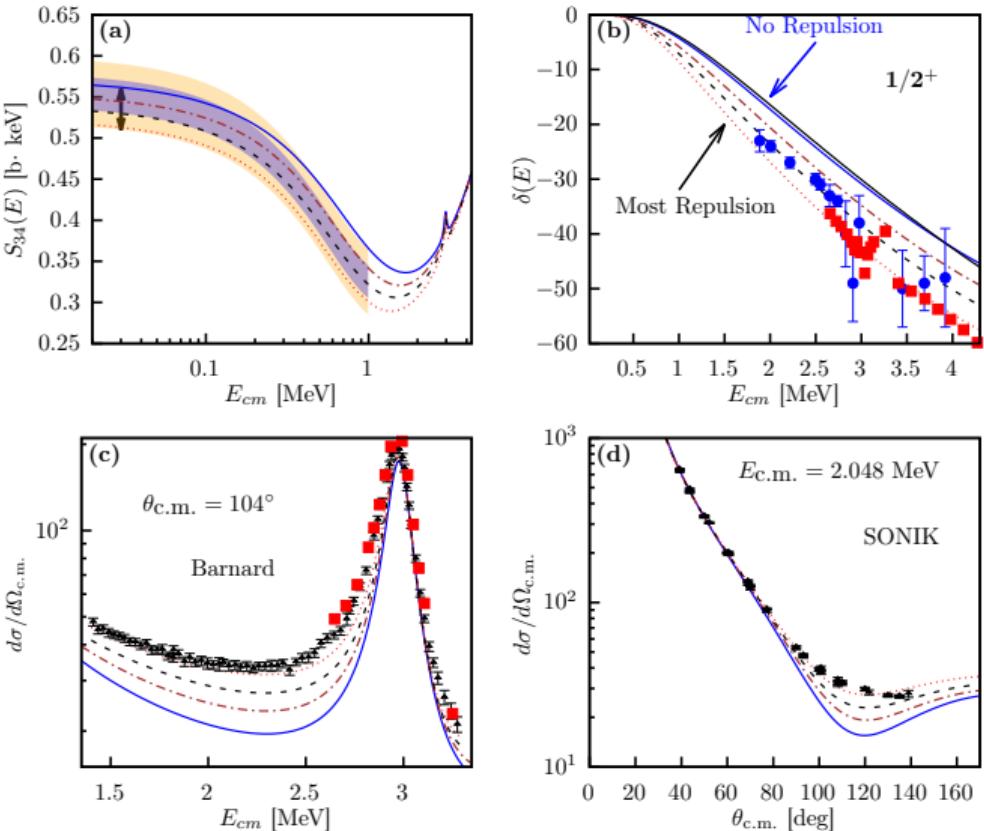
- More repulsion is needed in the $1/2^+$ channel
- Already shown that changing NN and $3N$ interactions does not fix
- We explicitly add repulsion to the $1/2^+$ Hamiltonian kernel

$$V(r, r') = \frac{V_0}{1 + e^{(R-r_0)/a_0}} \times e^{(r-r')^2/a_0^2}$$



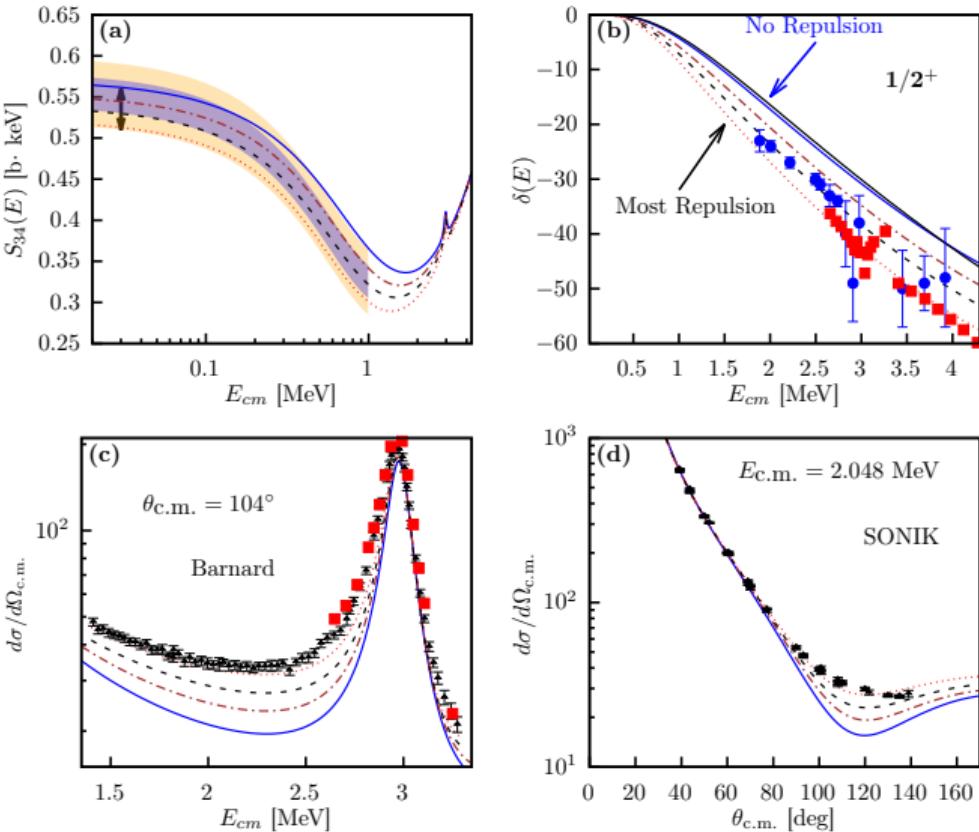
$$\mathcal{H}_{RGM}(r, r') \rightarrow \left\langle \alpha + {}^3He \left| \mathcal{A}^\dagger H \mathcal{A} \right| \alpha + {}^3He \right\rangle + V(r, r')$$

Tension Among Data Sets



Tension Among Data Sets

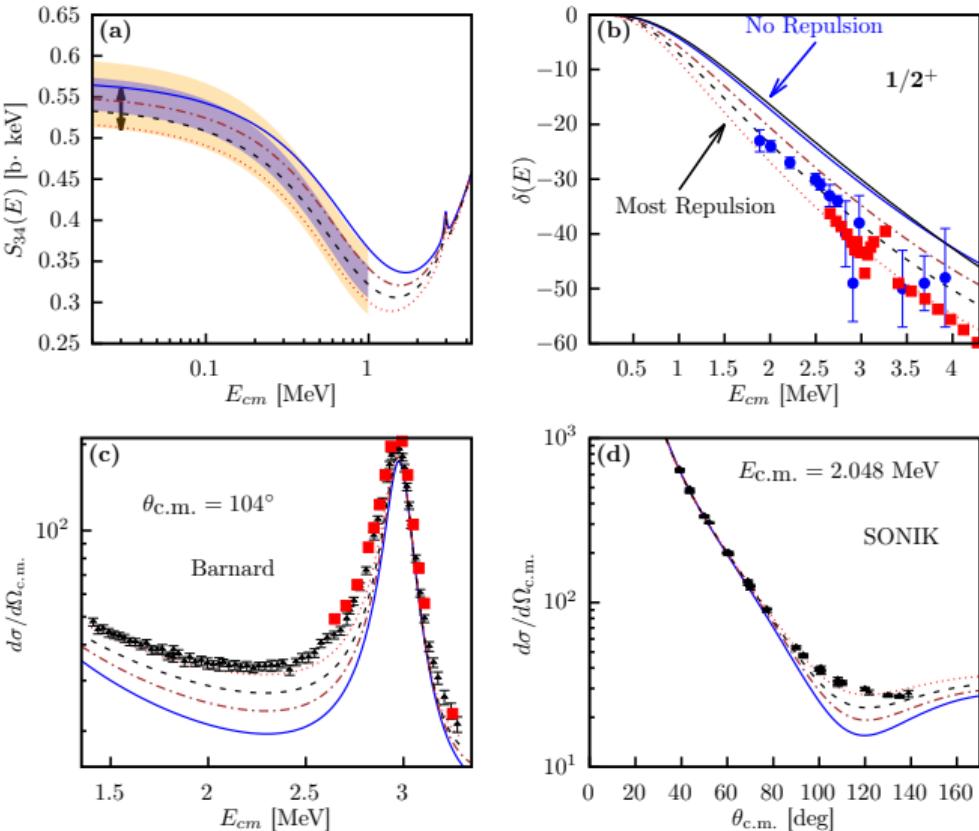
- Elastic and capture data inconsistent
- Cannot describe both simultaneously



Tension Among Data Sets

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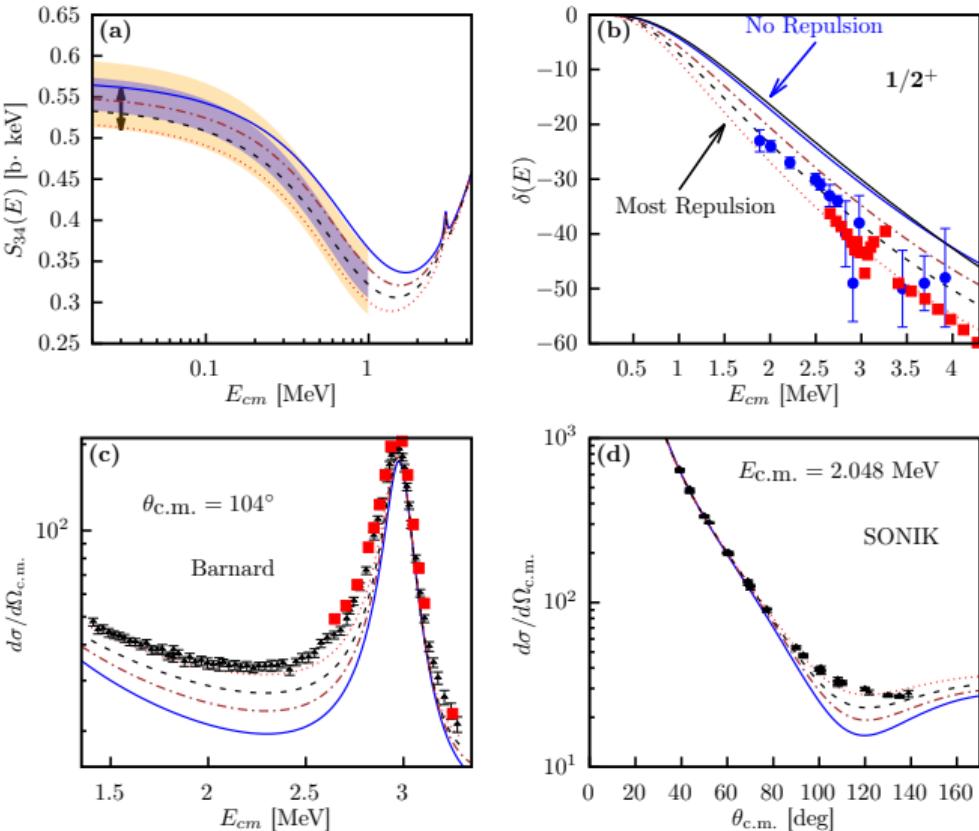
$1/2^+$	a_0
NCSMC	9.07
NCSMC + $V(13\text{MeV})$	14.3
NCSMC + $V(22\text{MeV})$	24.2
NCSMC + $V(34\text{MeV})$	33.2
SONIK R-matrix	36.7



Tension Among Data Sets

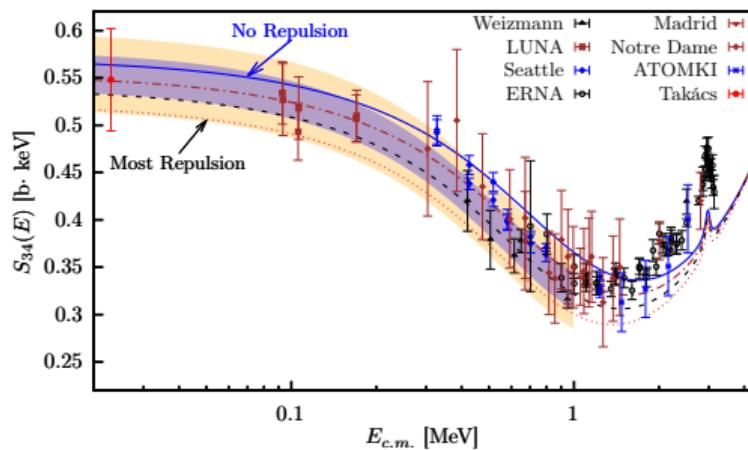
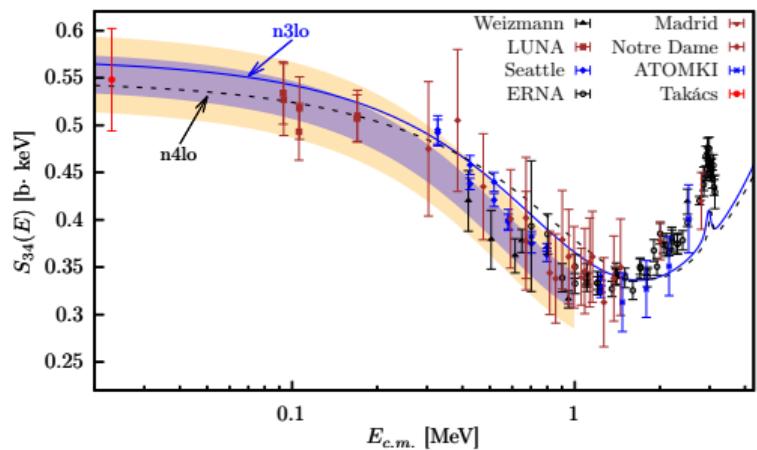
- Elastic and capture data inconsistent
- Cannot describe both simultaneously
- Considering all data provides new band

$1/2^+$	a_0
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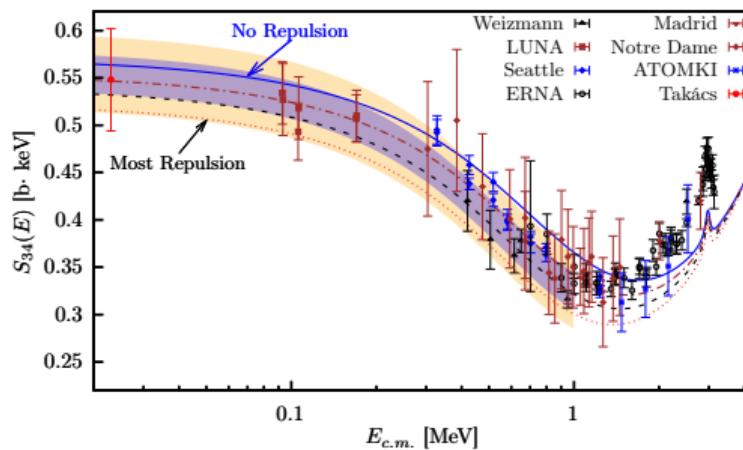
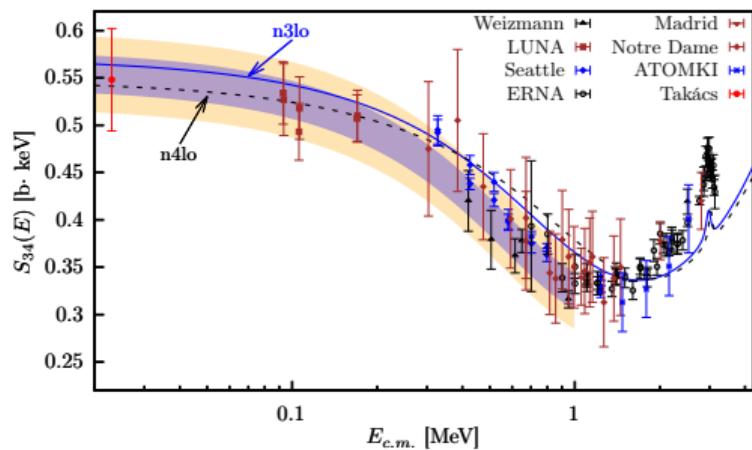
Data-Informed S -factor

- Consider spread of $S_{34}(E)$ from different interactions as well as considering elastic data



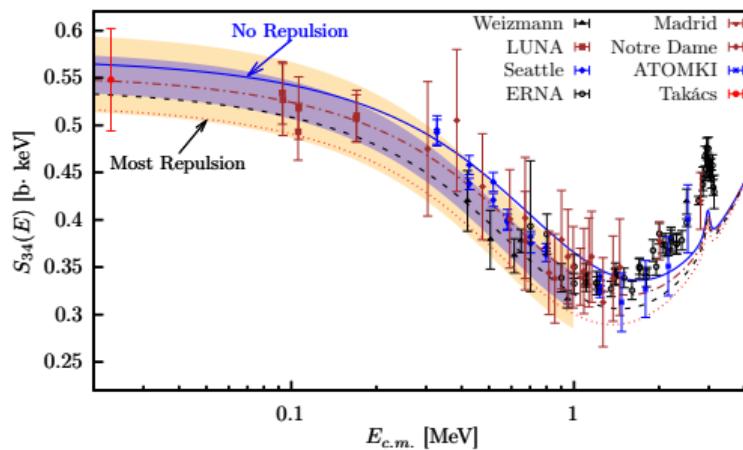
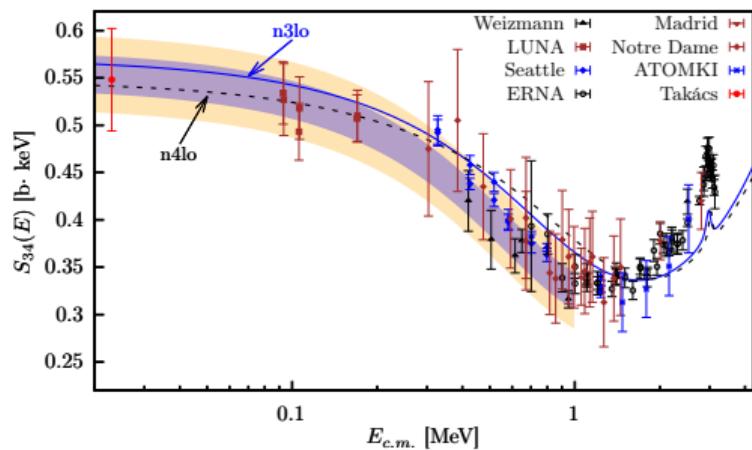
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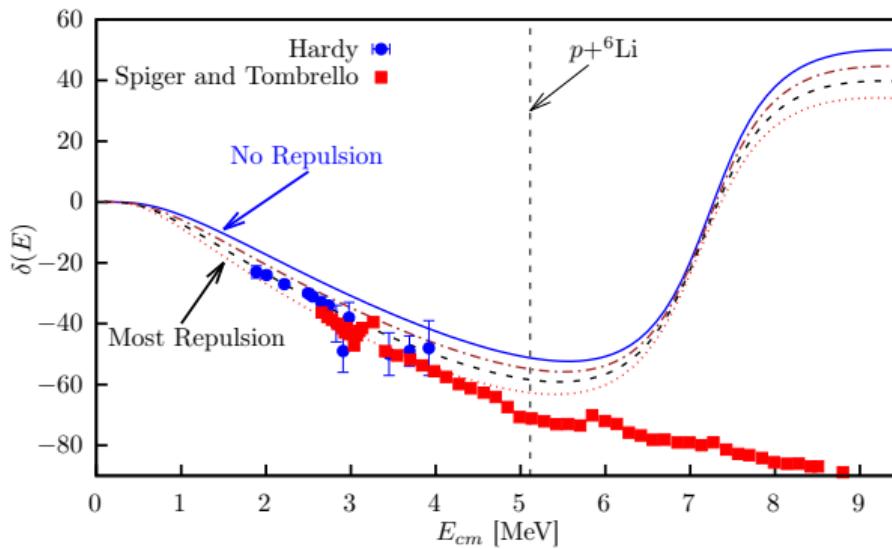
- Consider spread of $S_{34}(E)$ from different interactions as well as considering elastic data
- Discrepancy between elastic and capture data dominates the uncertainty



- For Solar Model calculations, I would provide the spread due to elastic vs. capture data inconsistency (right figure)

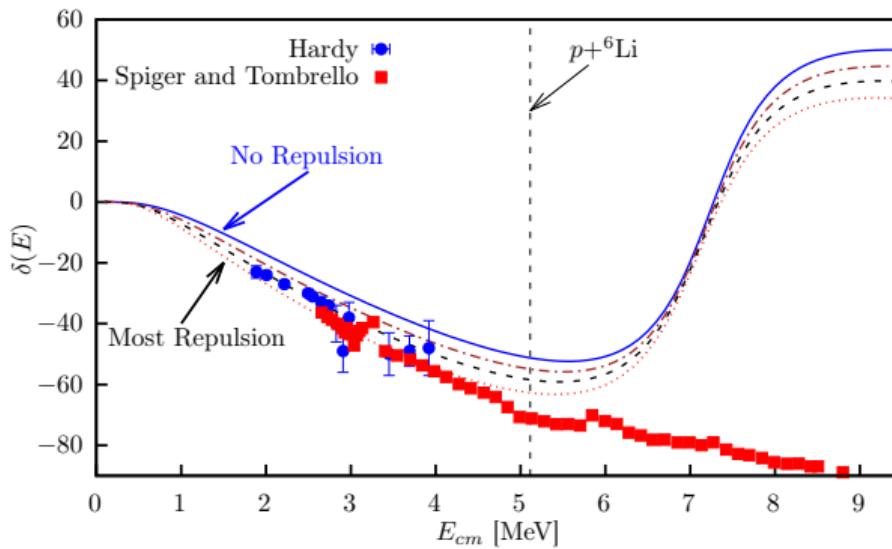
Future: Including $p+{}^6\text{Li}$ channel to improve $1/2^+$ phase shift

- We predict a $1/2^+$ resonance roughly 2 MeV above $p+{}^6\text{Li}$ threshold



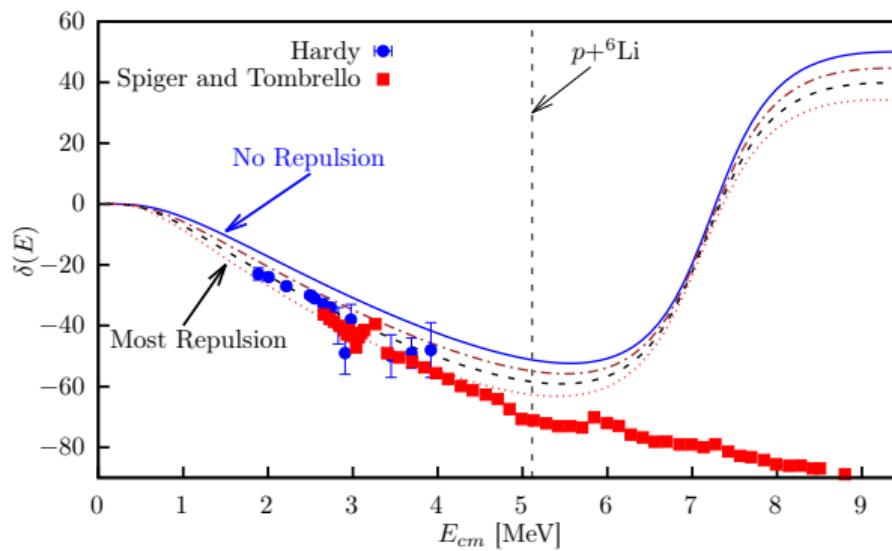
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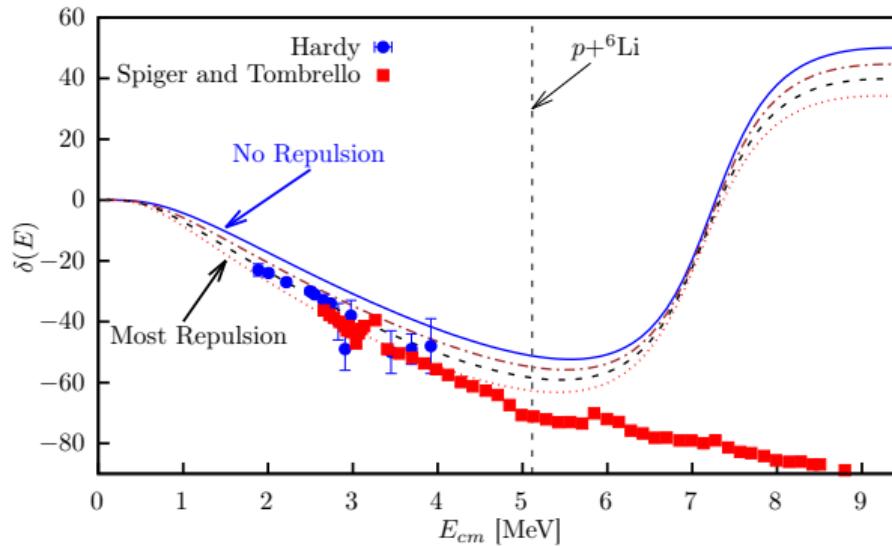
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- Could address discrepancy between data sets



Conclusions

- *Ab initio* calculation of ${}^3\text{He}(\alpha, \gamma){}^7\text{Be}$ capture reaction using the NCSMC
- Can provide both an *ab initio* prediction as well as a data-informed prediction
- The NCSMC allows the simultaneous analysis of elastic and capture data, revealing a discrepancy
- Future: Include $p + {}^6\text{Li}$ channel
- Future: More robust uncertainty quantification

Thanks!



Sofia Quaglioni



Kostas Kravvaris



Guillame Hupin



Petr Navratil

(LLNL)

(IN2P3)

(TRIUMF)