

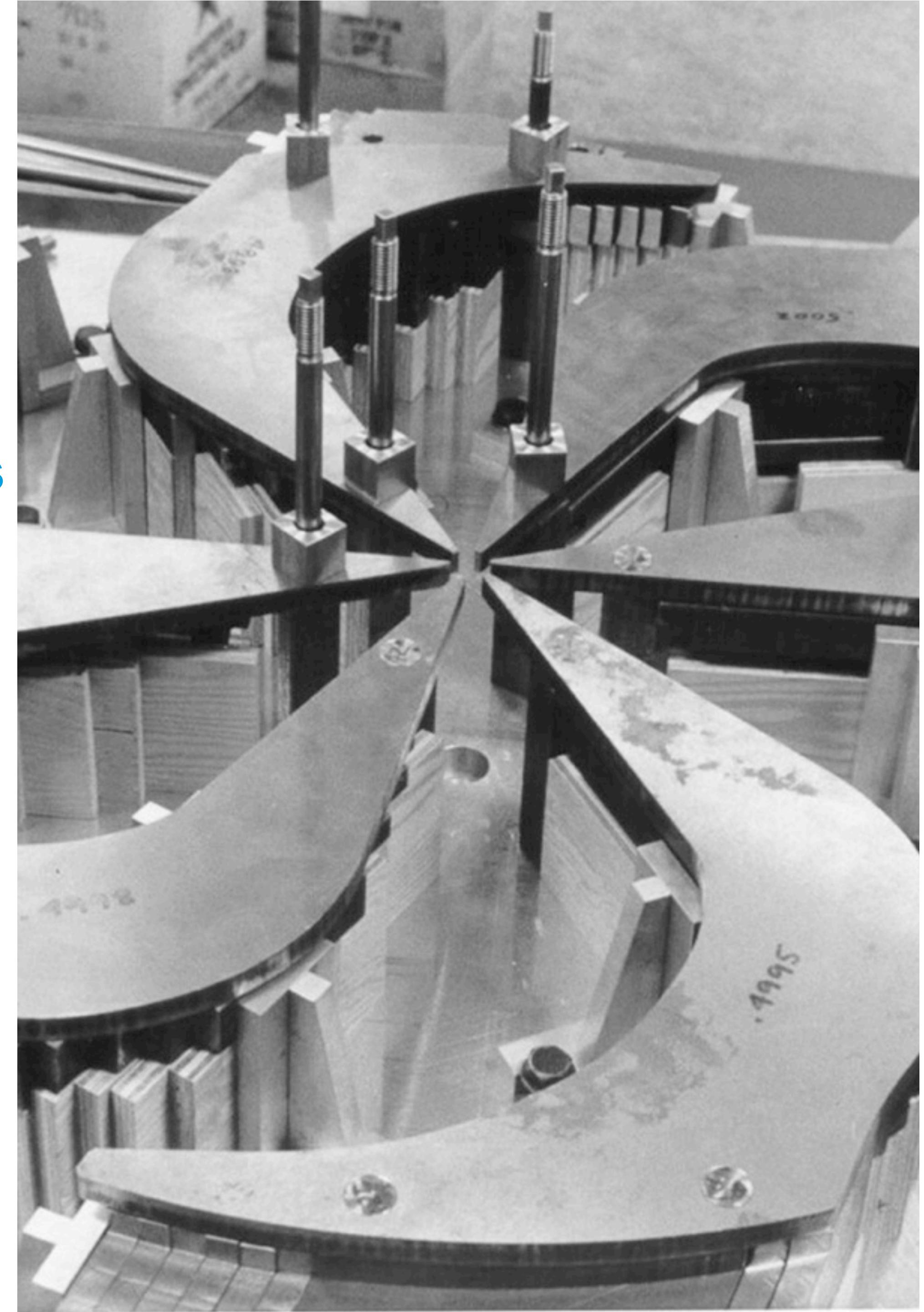
## **Ab initio nuclear corrections to muonic atoms**

Extracting nuclear radii from precision spectroscopy

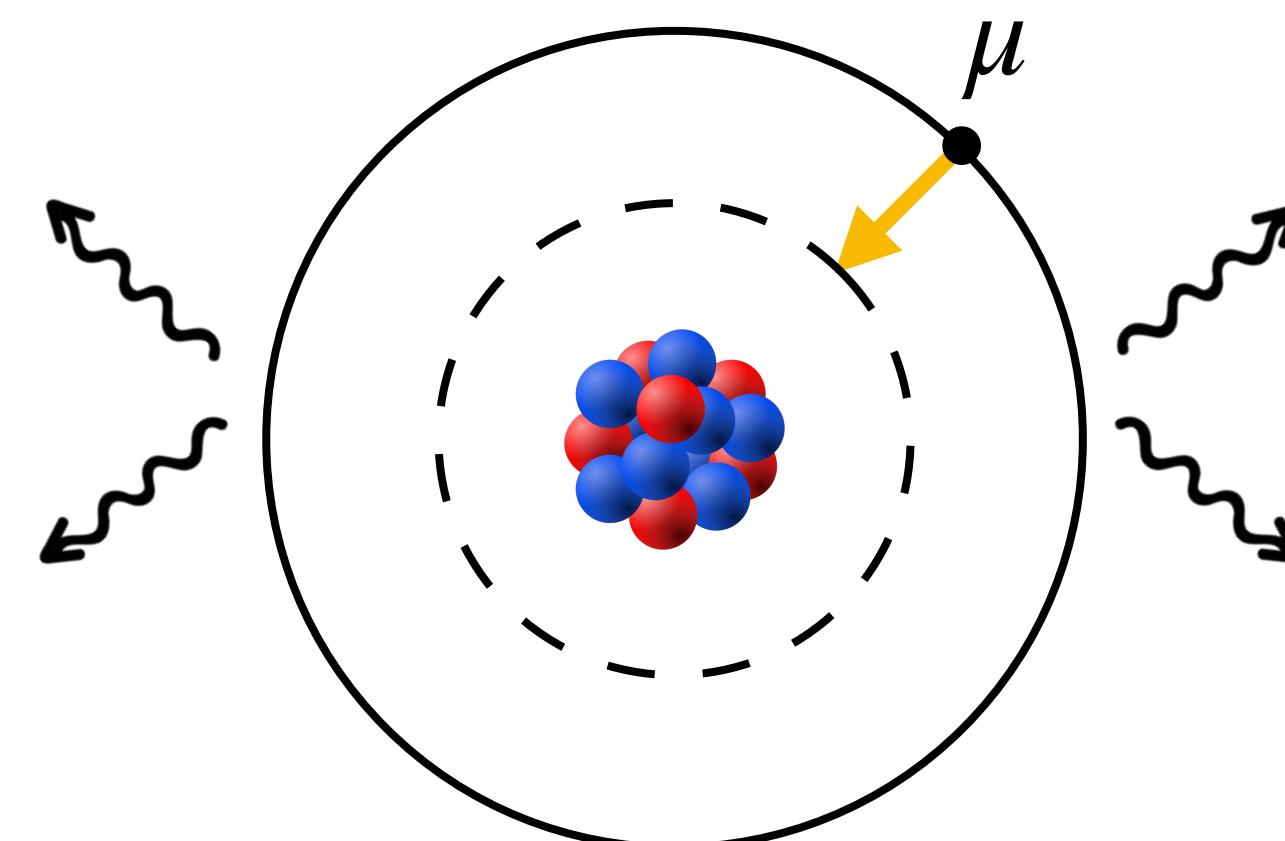
**Collaborators:** Petr Navratil, Michael Gennari

**Mehdi Drissi**  
TRIUMF - Theory department

**PAINT 2025**  
Vancouver - 25th of February 2025



# Muonic atoms and charge radii

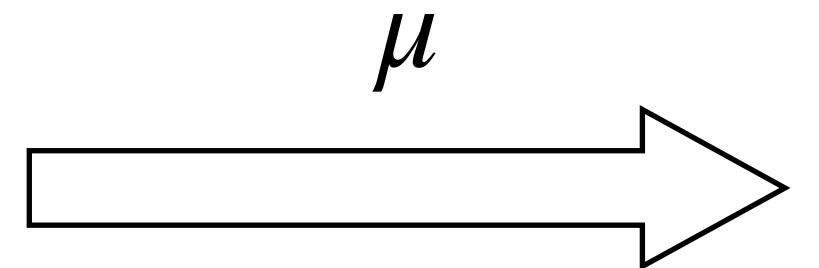


# Observing muonic atoms with X-rays

3

## How to make muonic atom

$\pi^+$   $\pi^-$   $\pi^+$   $\pi^-$



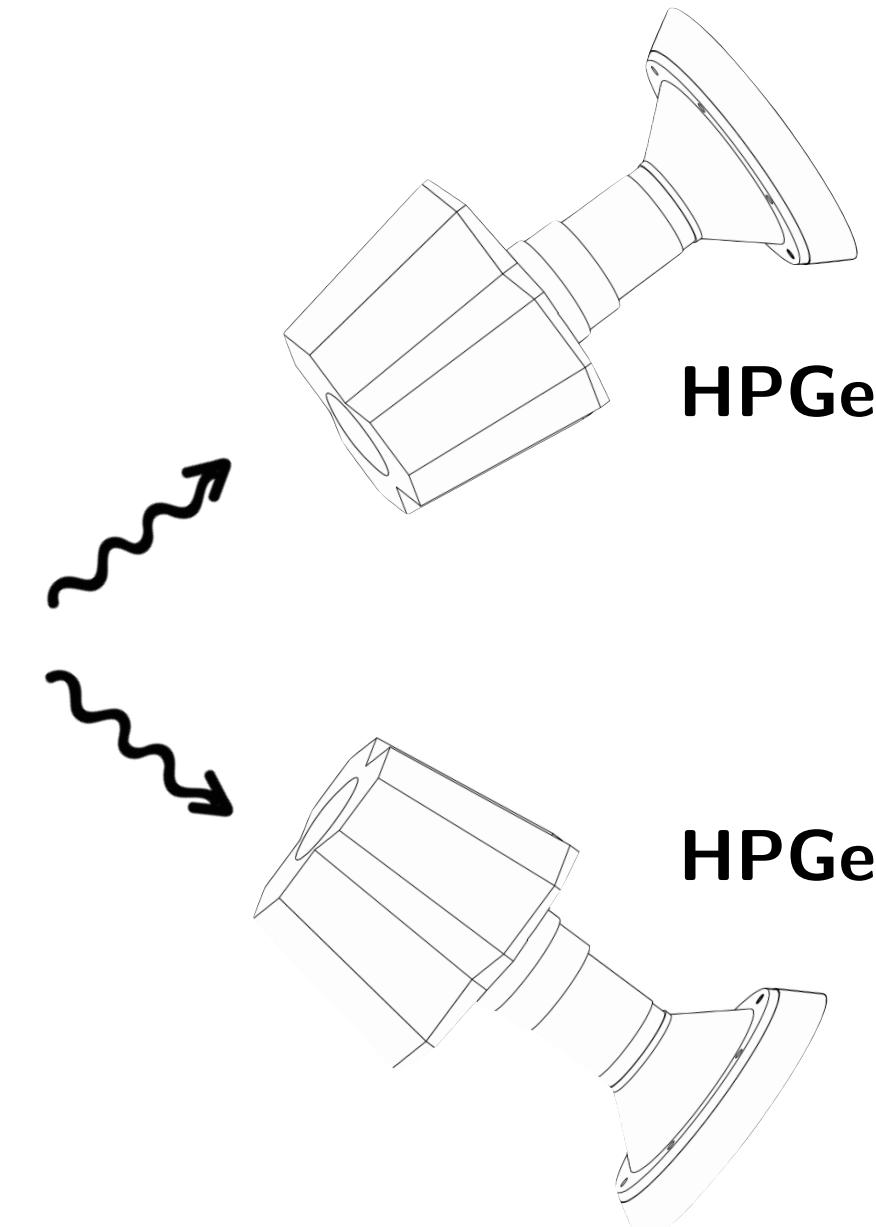
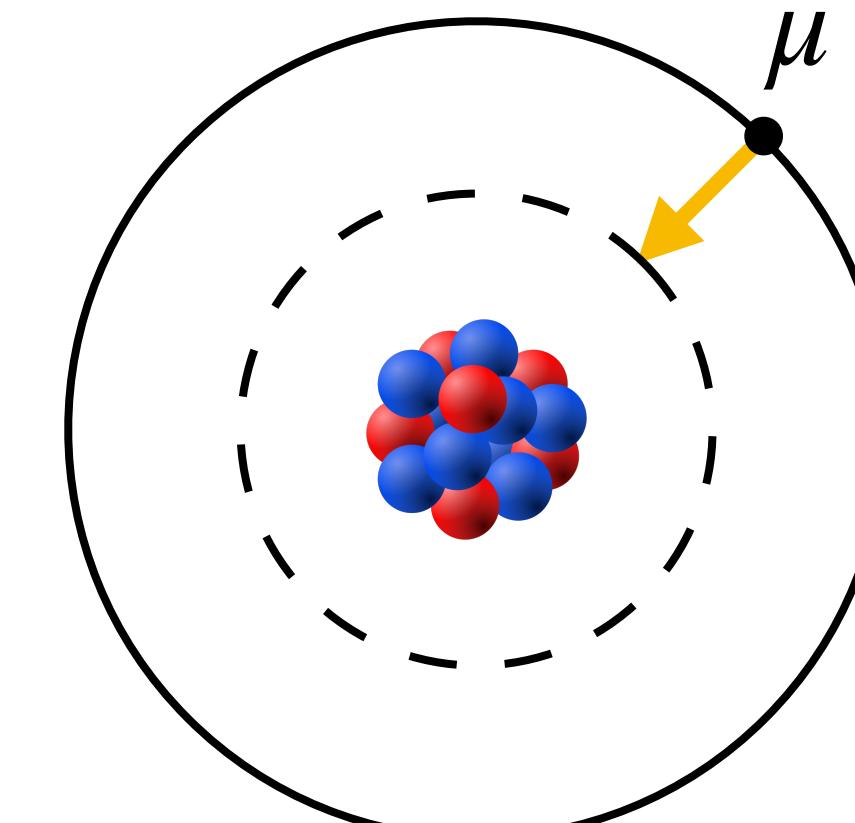
(i) Pion decay:  
muon source

(ii) High intensity beam:  
muon selection

(iii) Thick target:  
capture muons

Typically muons captured on orbitals with  $n \sim \sqrt{\frac{m_\mu}{m_e}} \sim 14$

## Observing characteristic X-rays

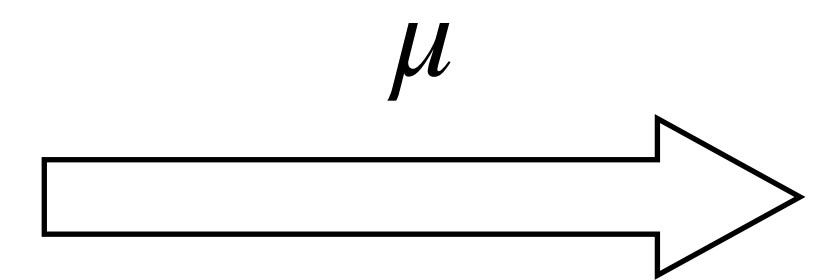


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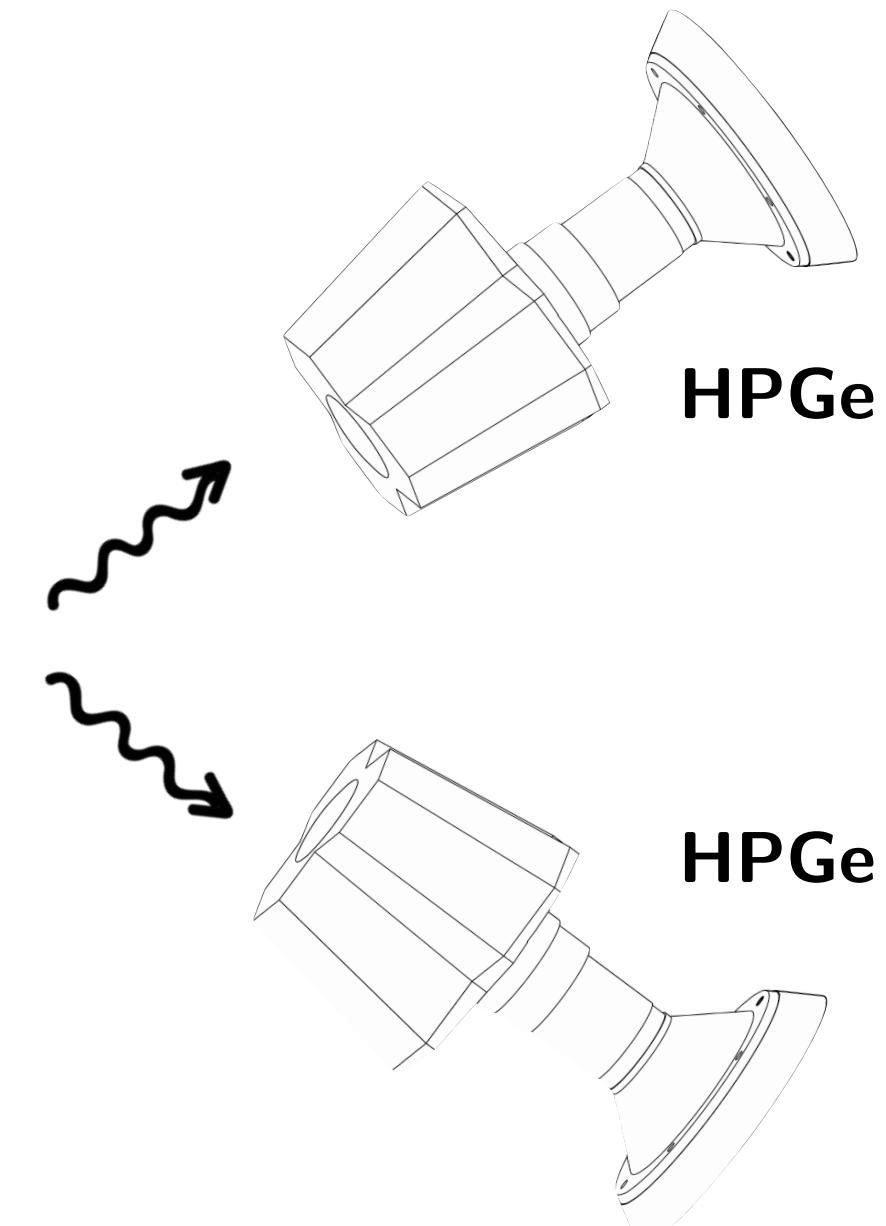
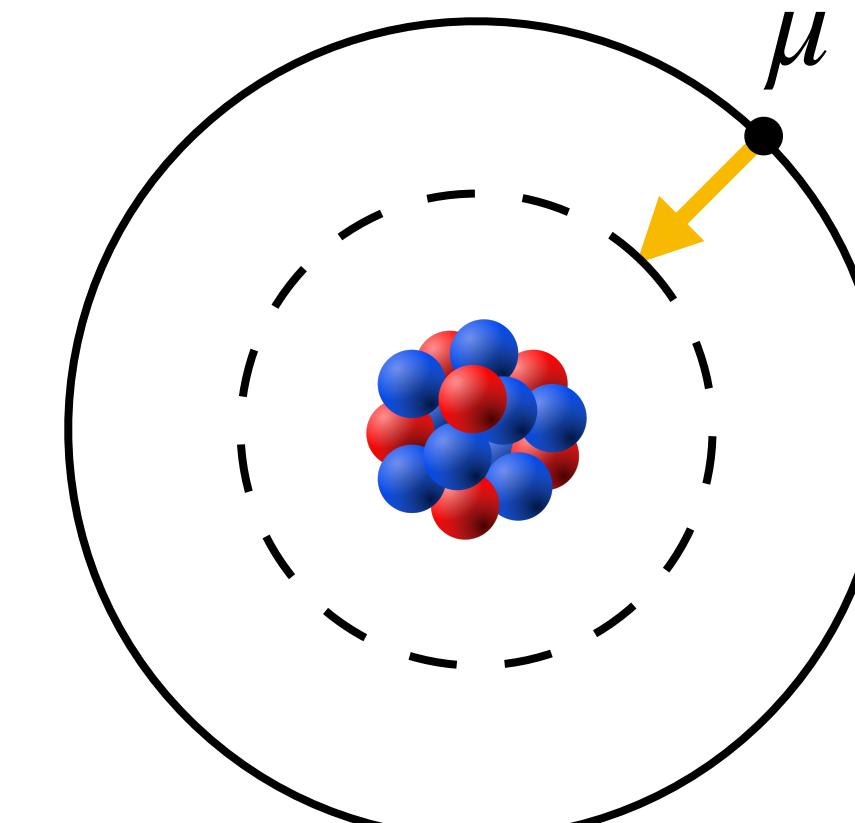
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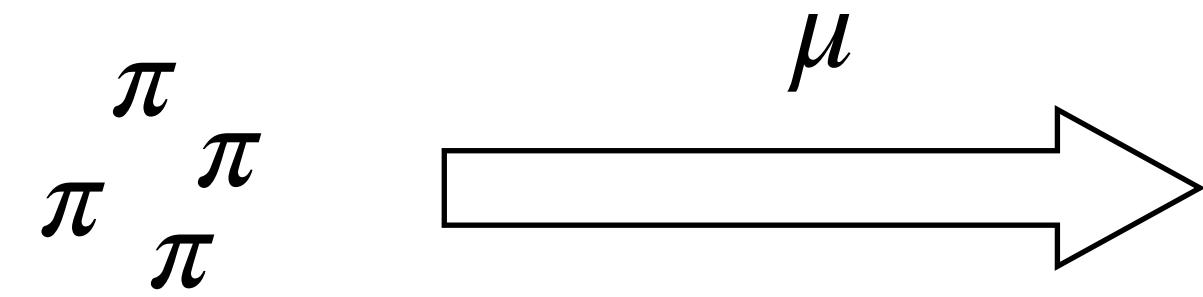
## Muonic atom achievements

- Precise spectroscopy of almost all stable elements
- Charge radii extraction  $\Rightarrow$  **highest absolute accuracy**
- Combined with isotope-shift  $\Rightarrow$  **radii for unstable nuclei**
- **Higher sensitivity due to higher overlap**  $\sim \left(\frac{m_\mu}{m_e}\right)^3 \sim 10^7$

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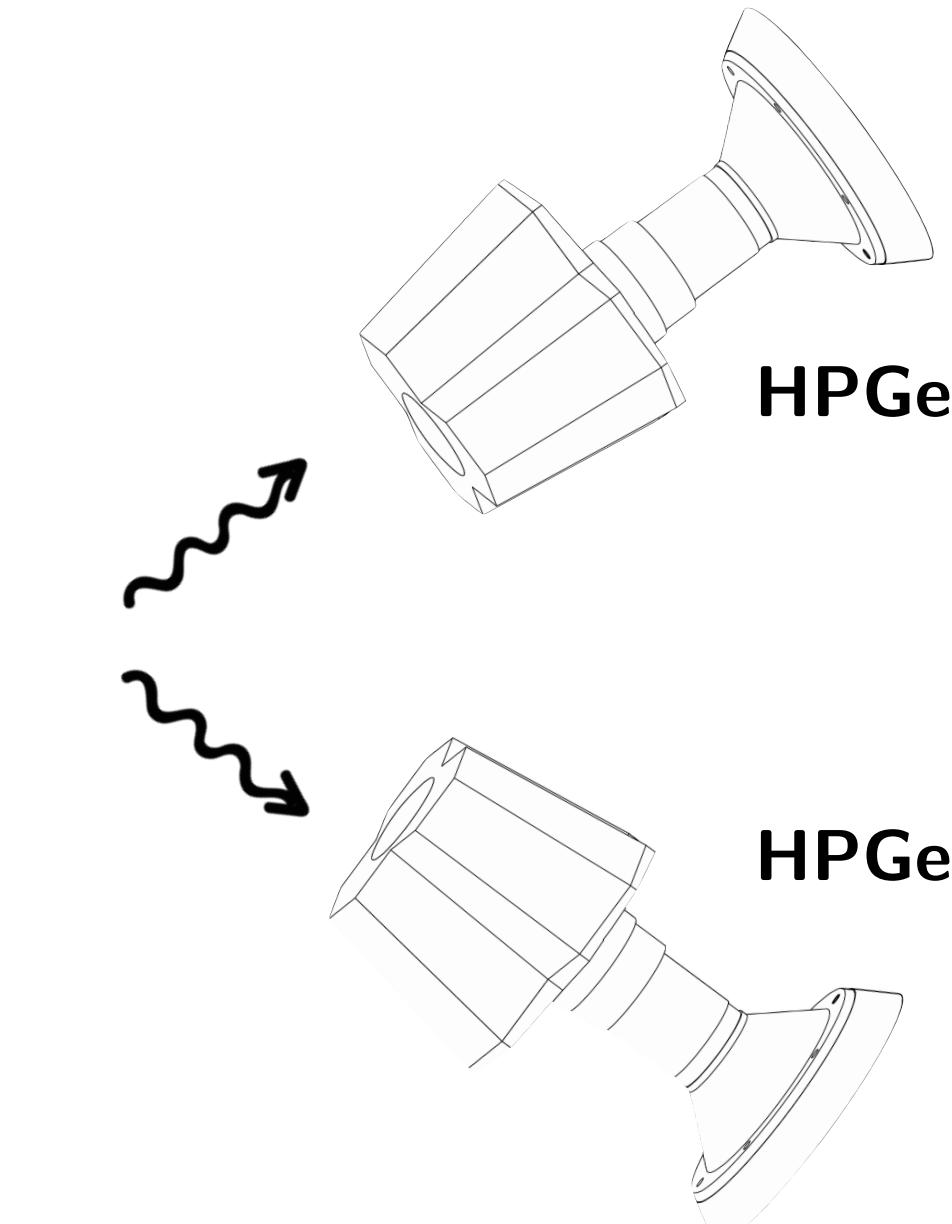
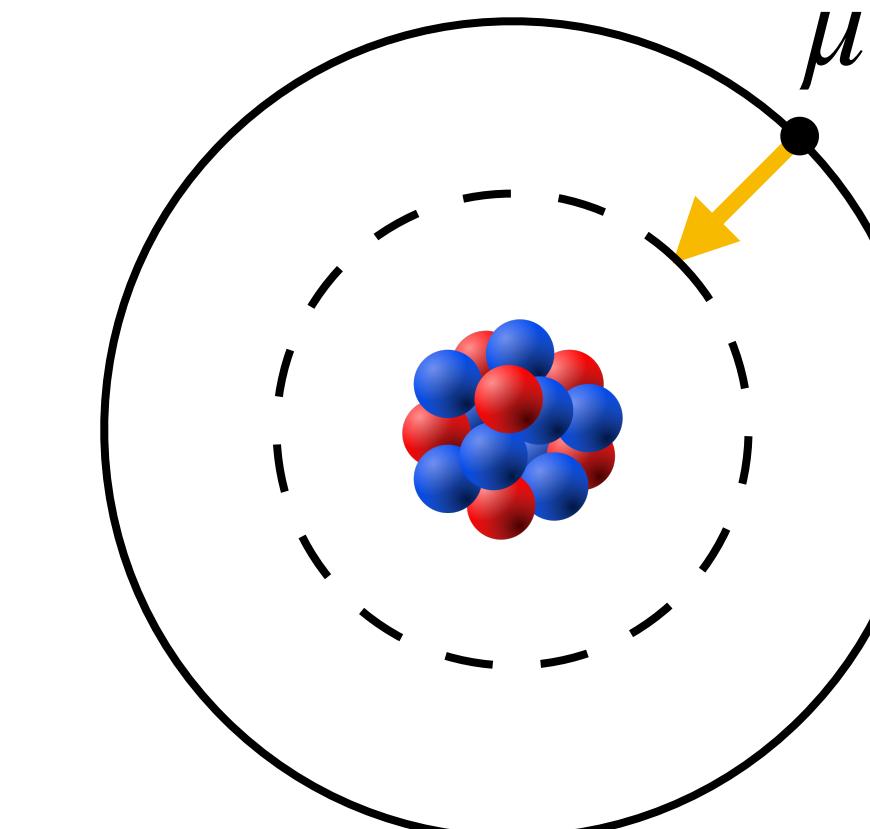
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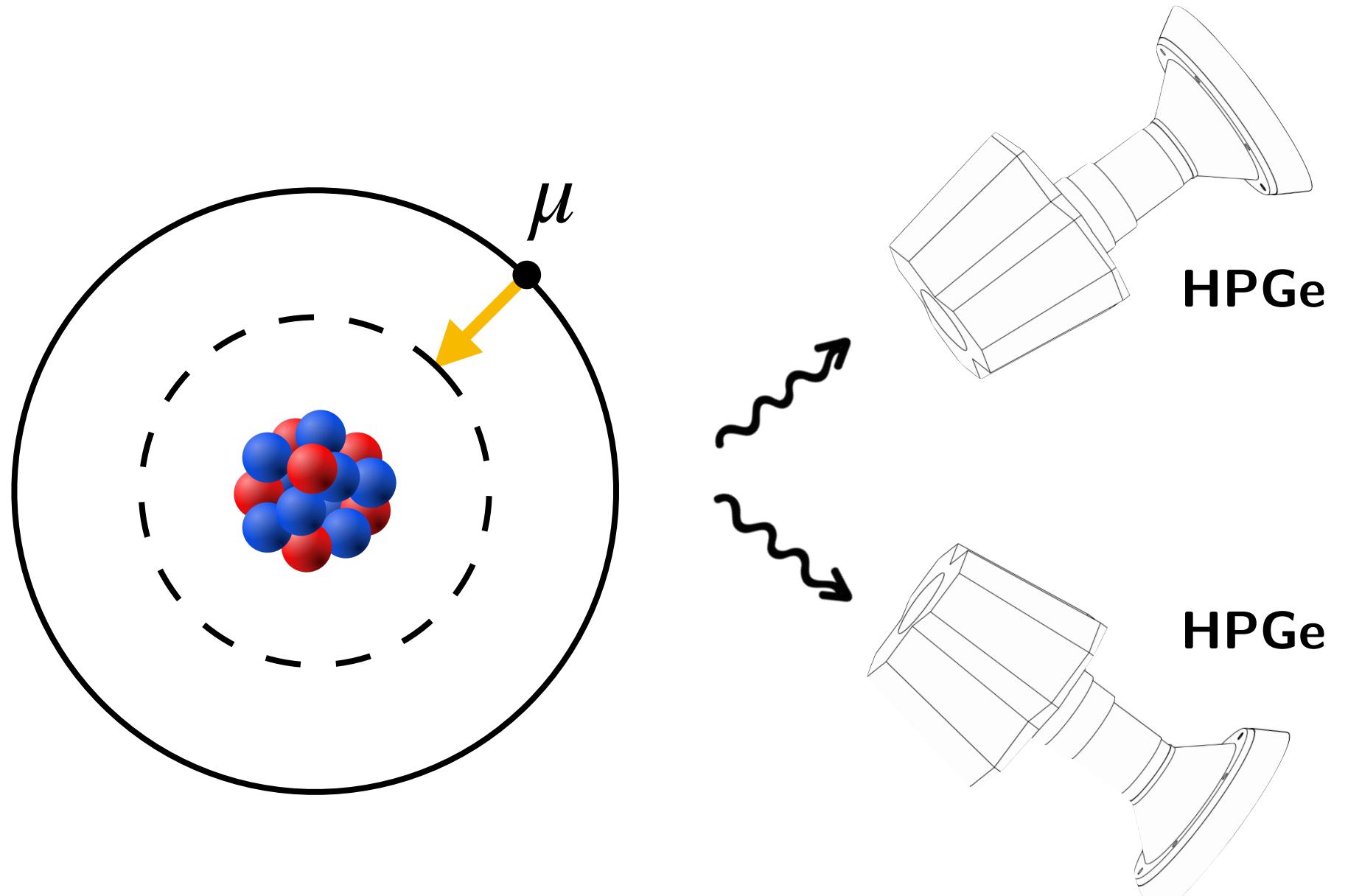
## Practical limitations

- ✗ In general: limitations are very experiment dependent
- ✗ Never with a perfect energy resolution
- **Many experimental challenges !**

# Muonic atoms as a precision probe

4

## Observing muonic atoms



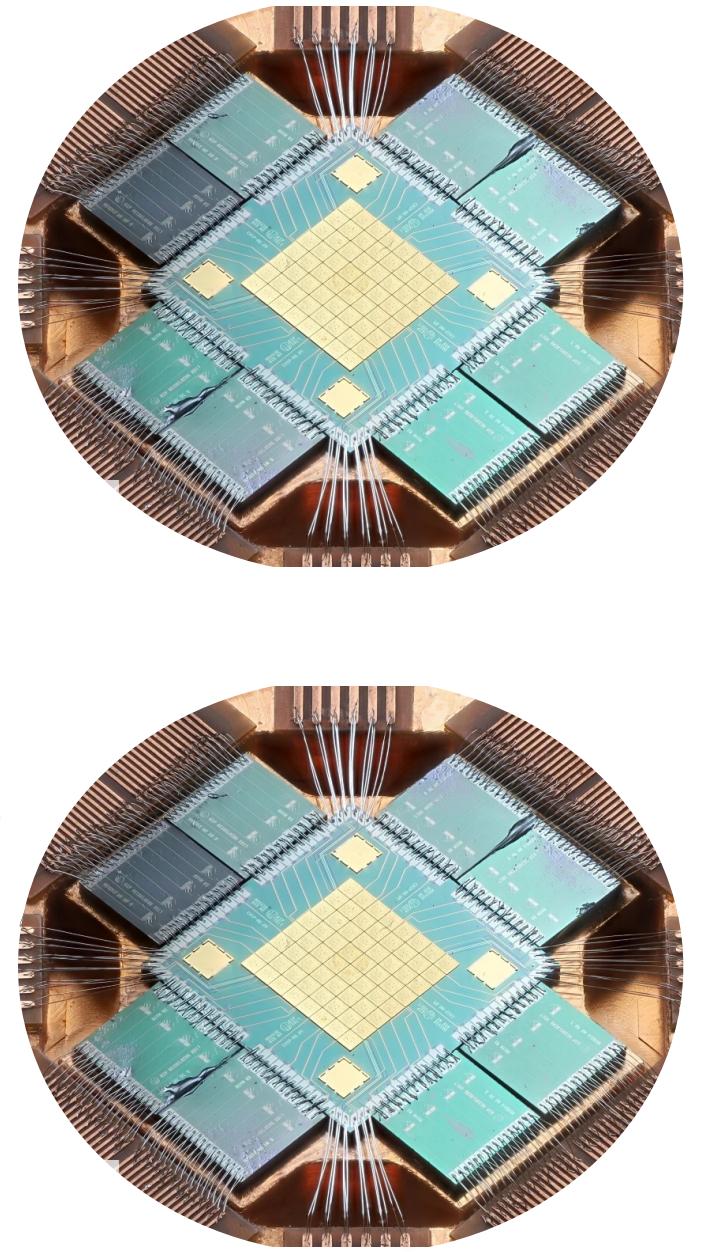
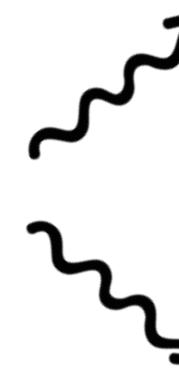
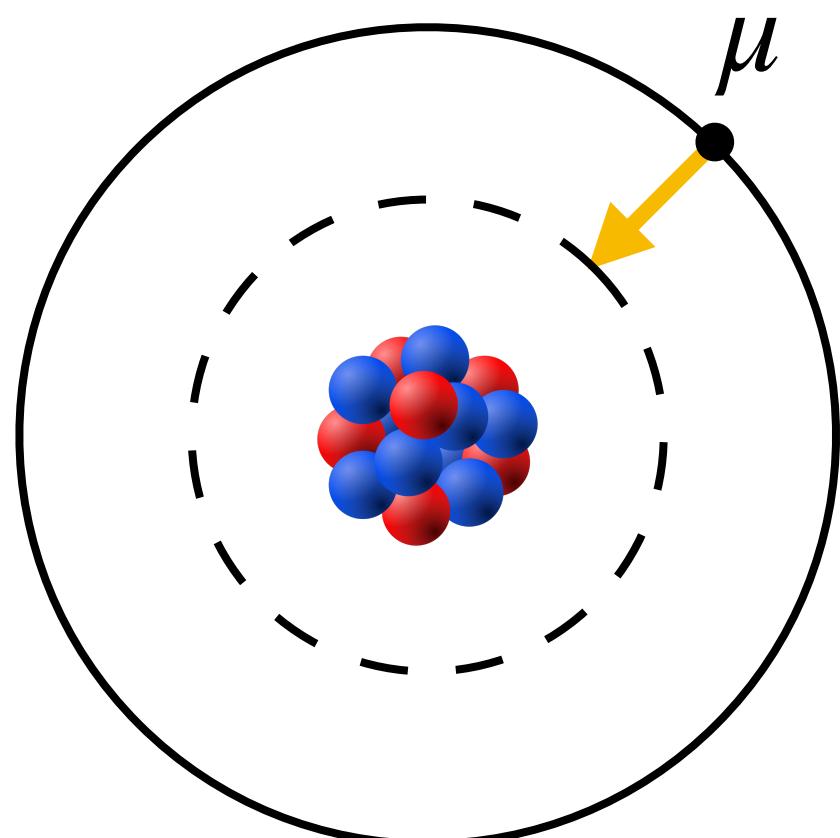
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- ➊ Improving energy resolution
  - Quantum sensor detector to reach low-Z nuclei
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## Observing muonic atoms



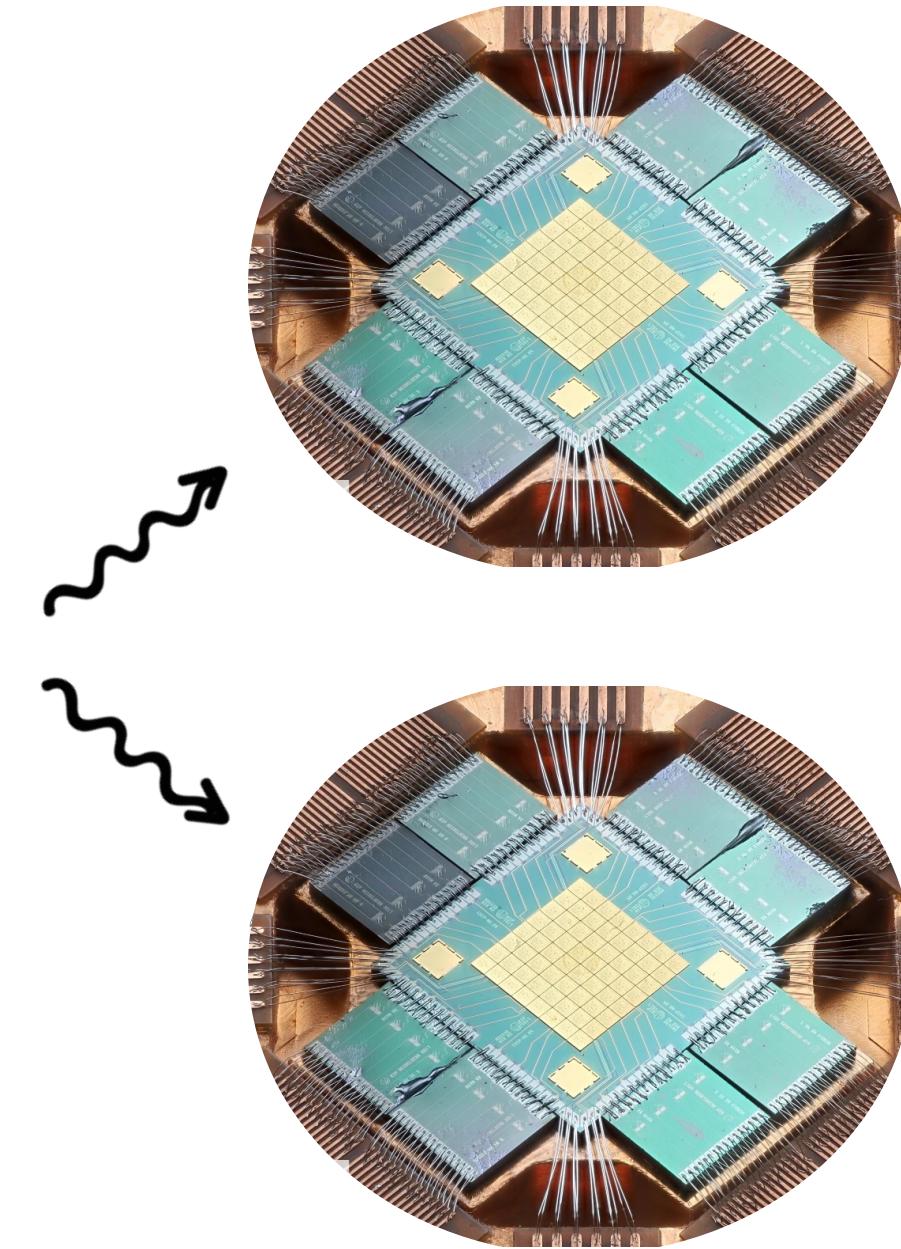
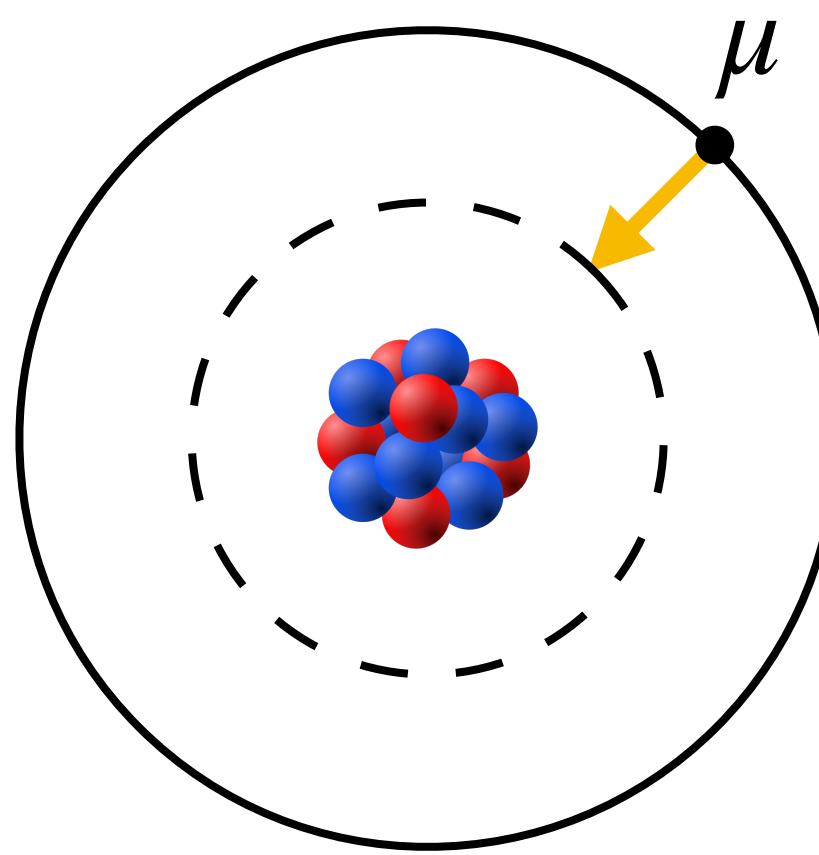
[Unger et al. J. Low Temp. Phys. (2024)]

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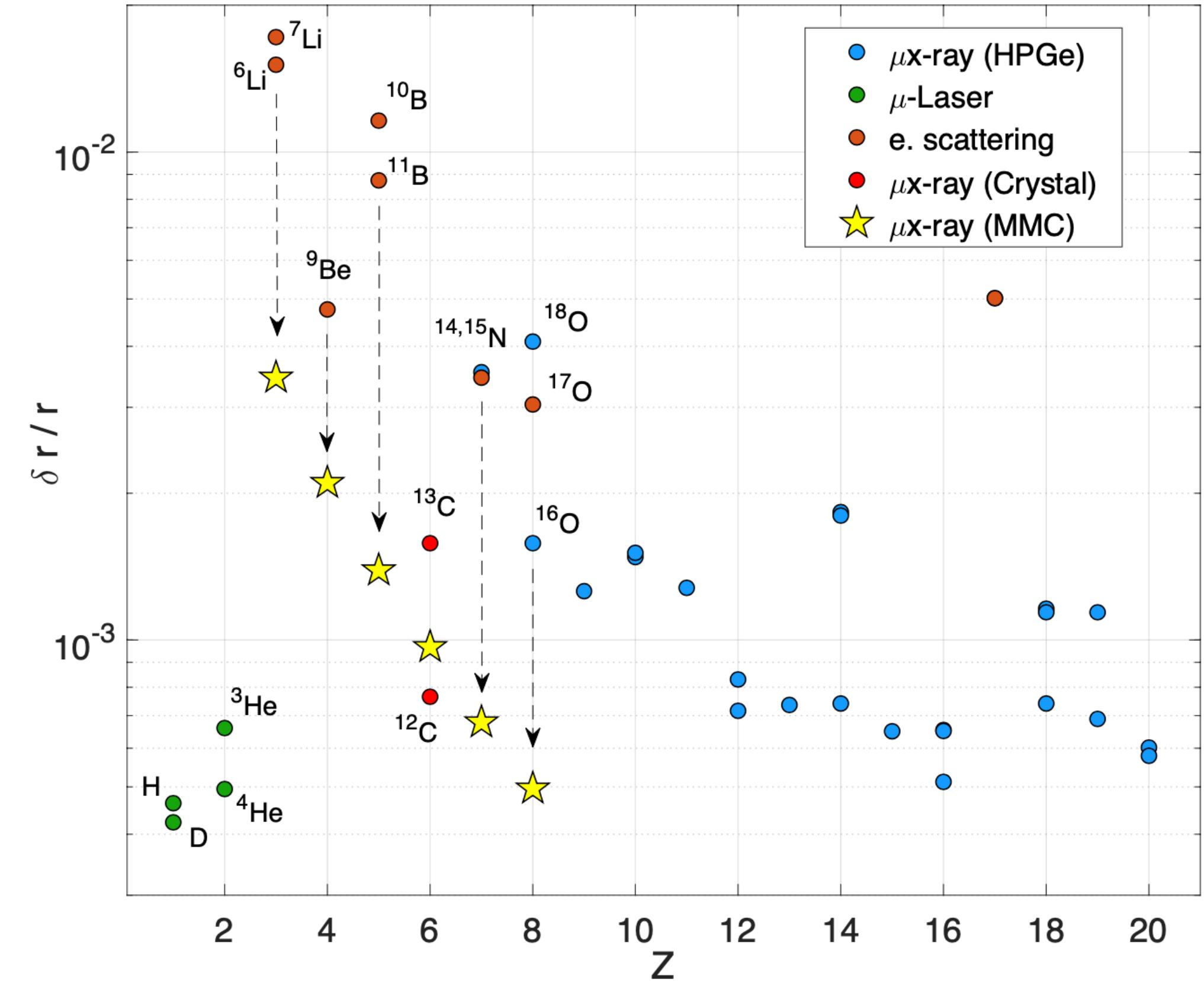
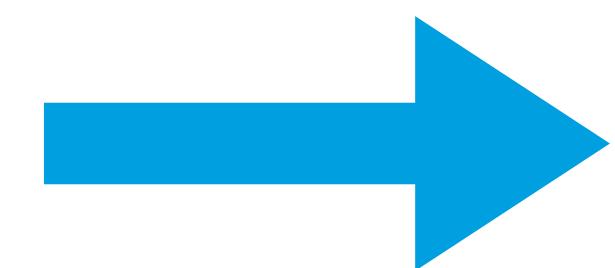
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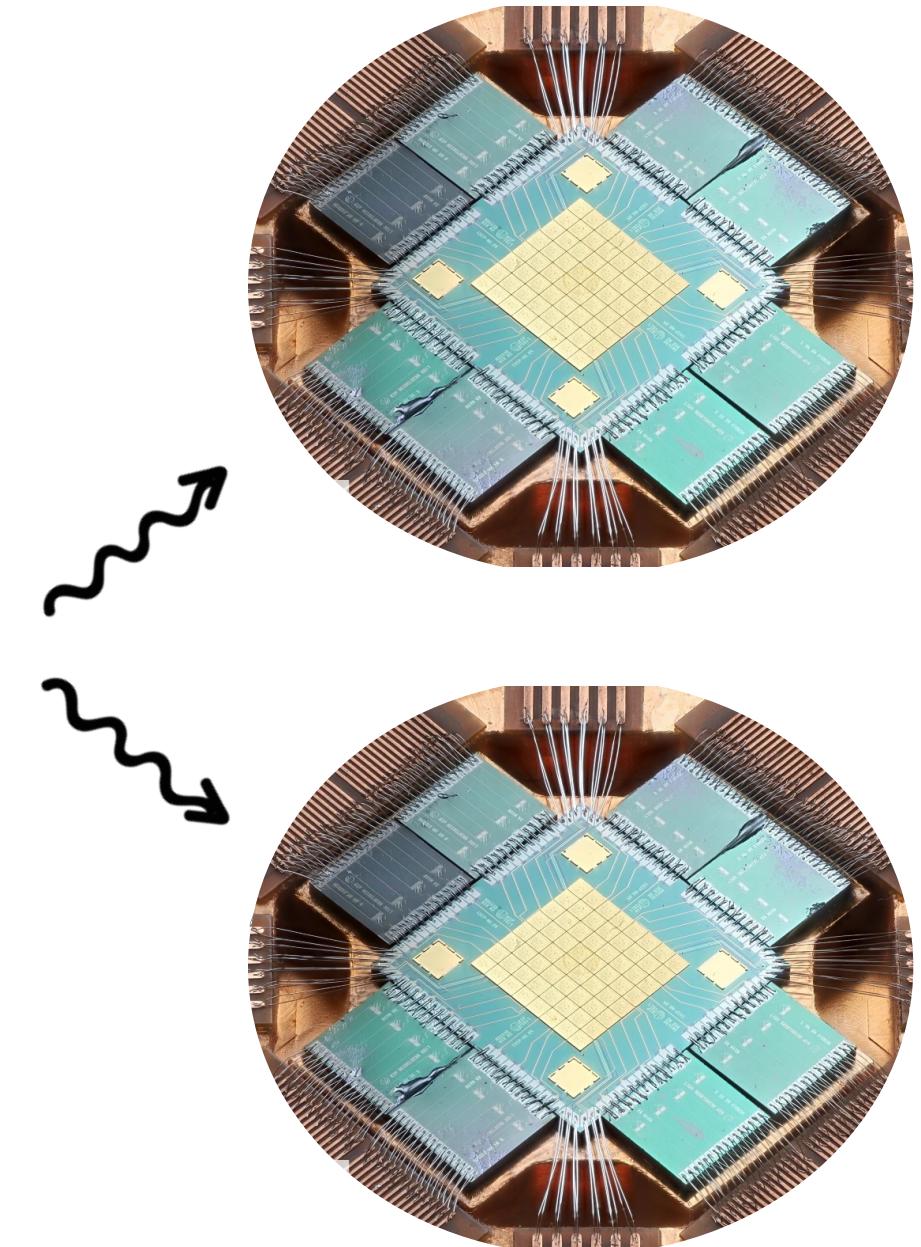
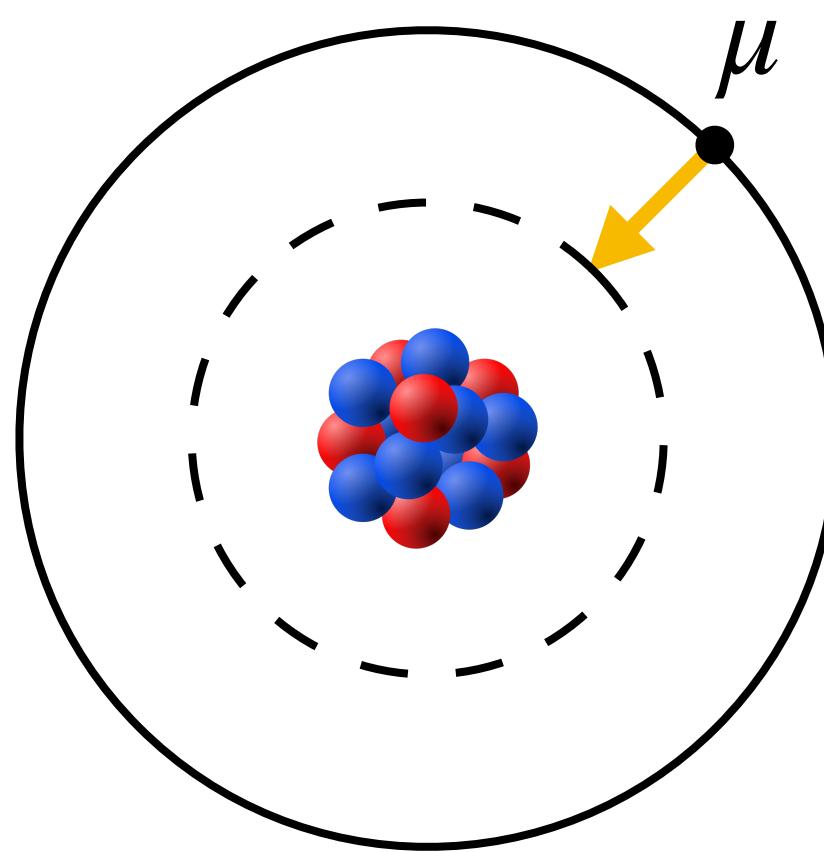
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[Antognini et al., arXiv:2210.16929] NuPECC Long Range Plan 2024

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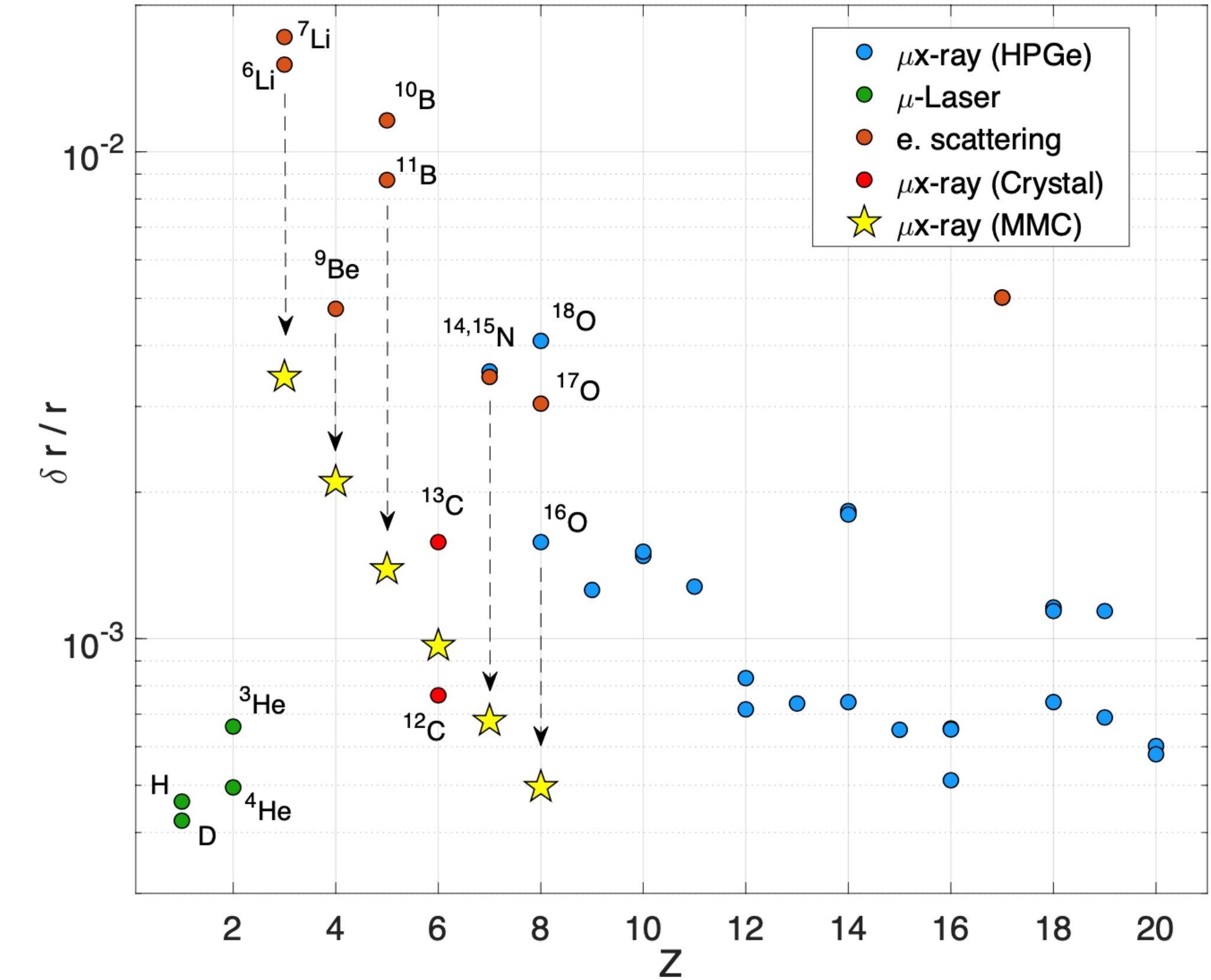
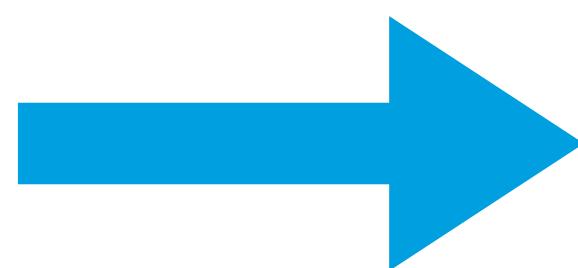
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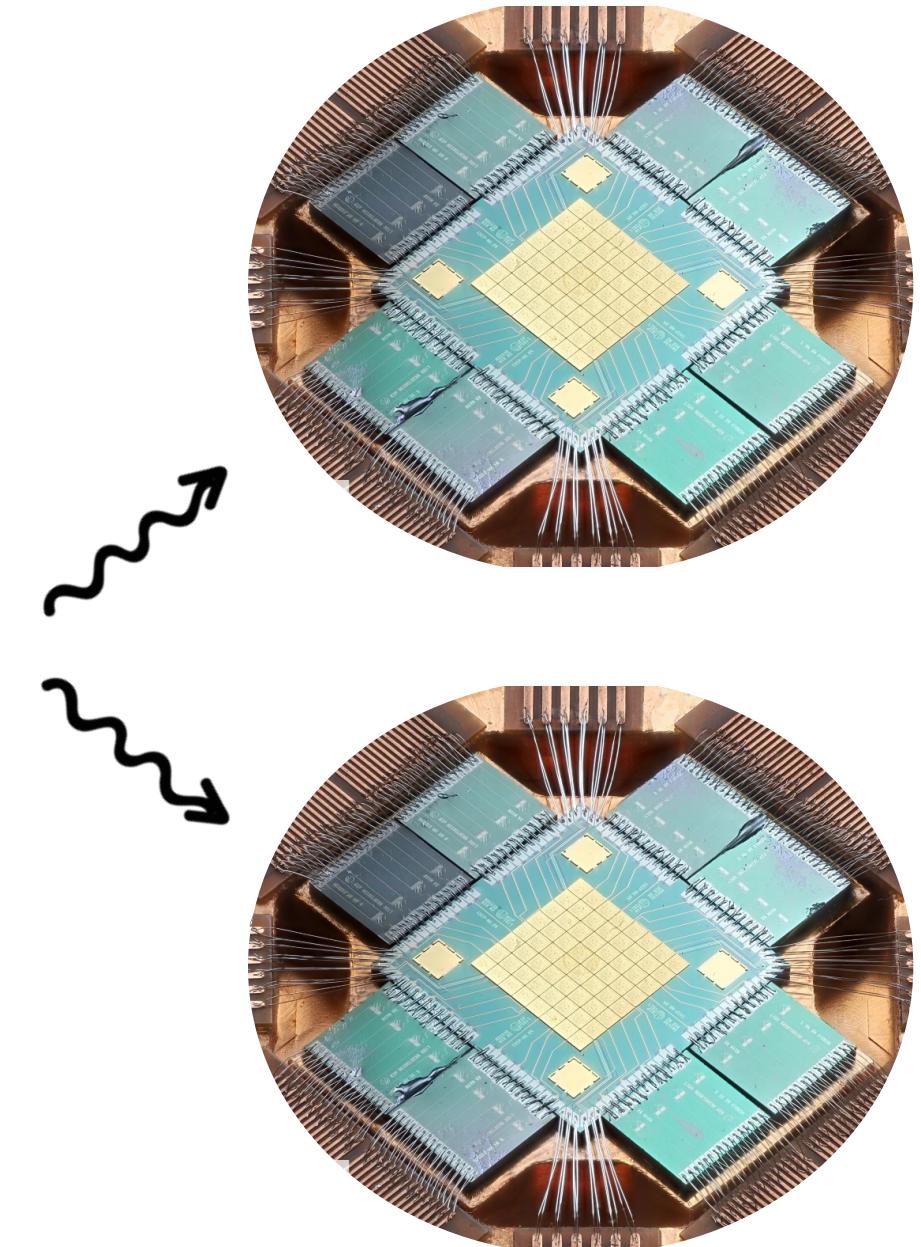
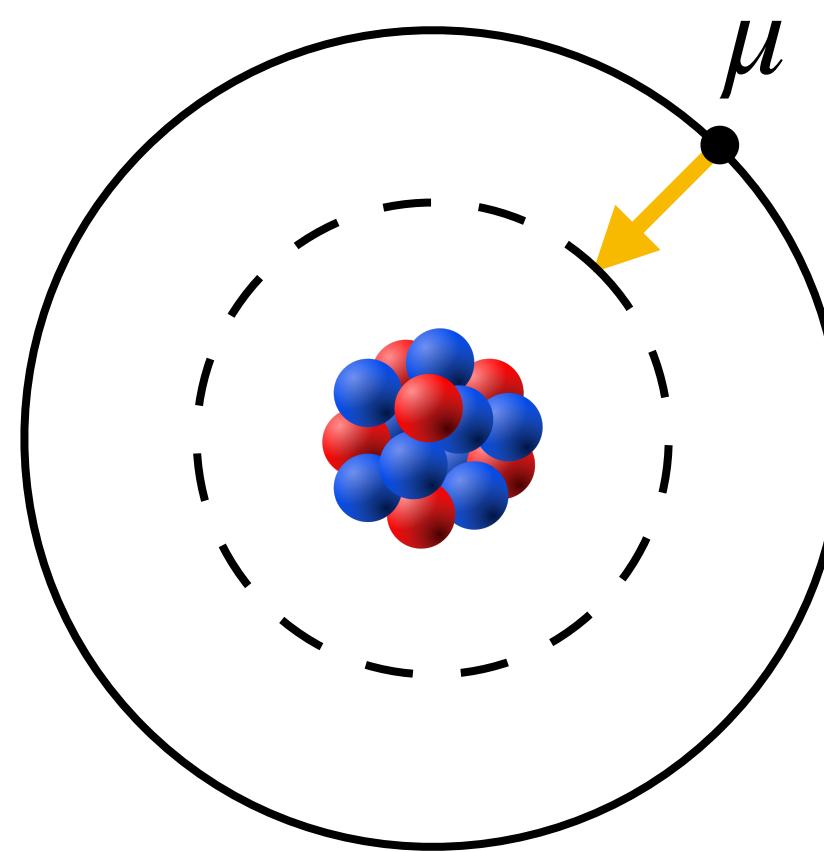


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**Theoretical challenge: reach 10 meV uncertainty!**

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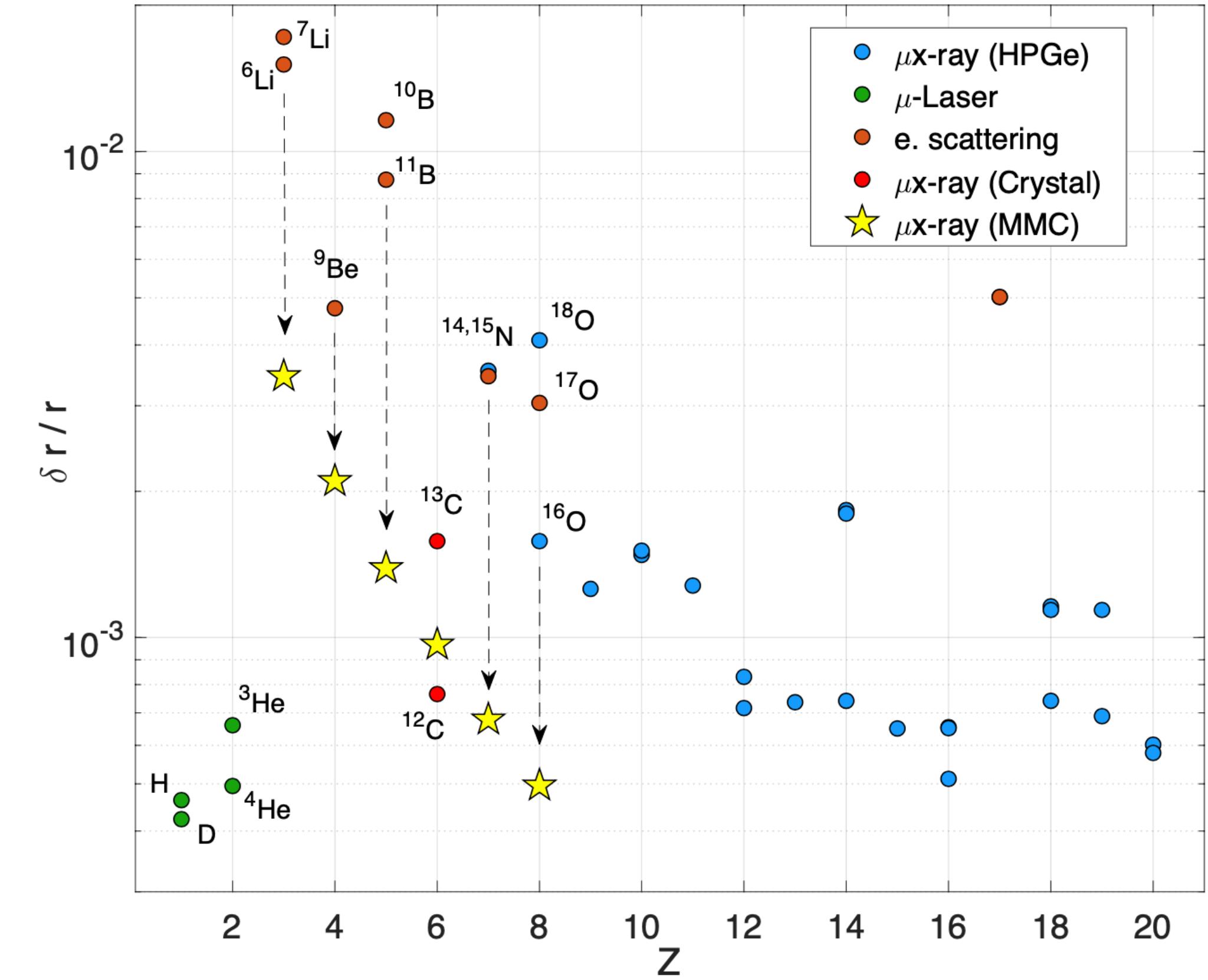
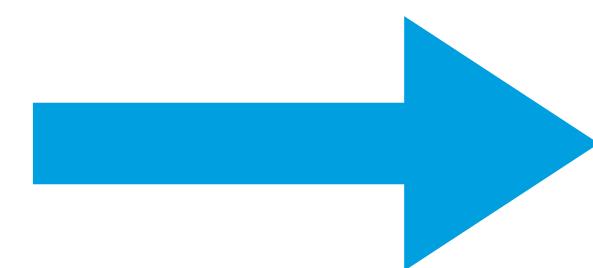
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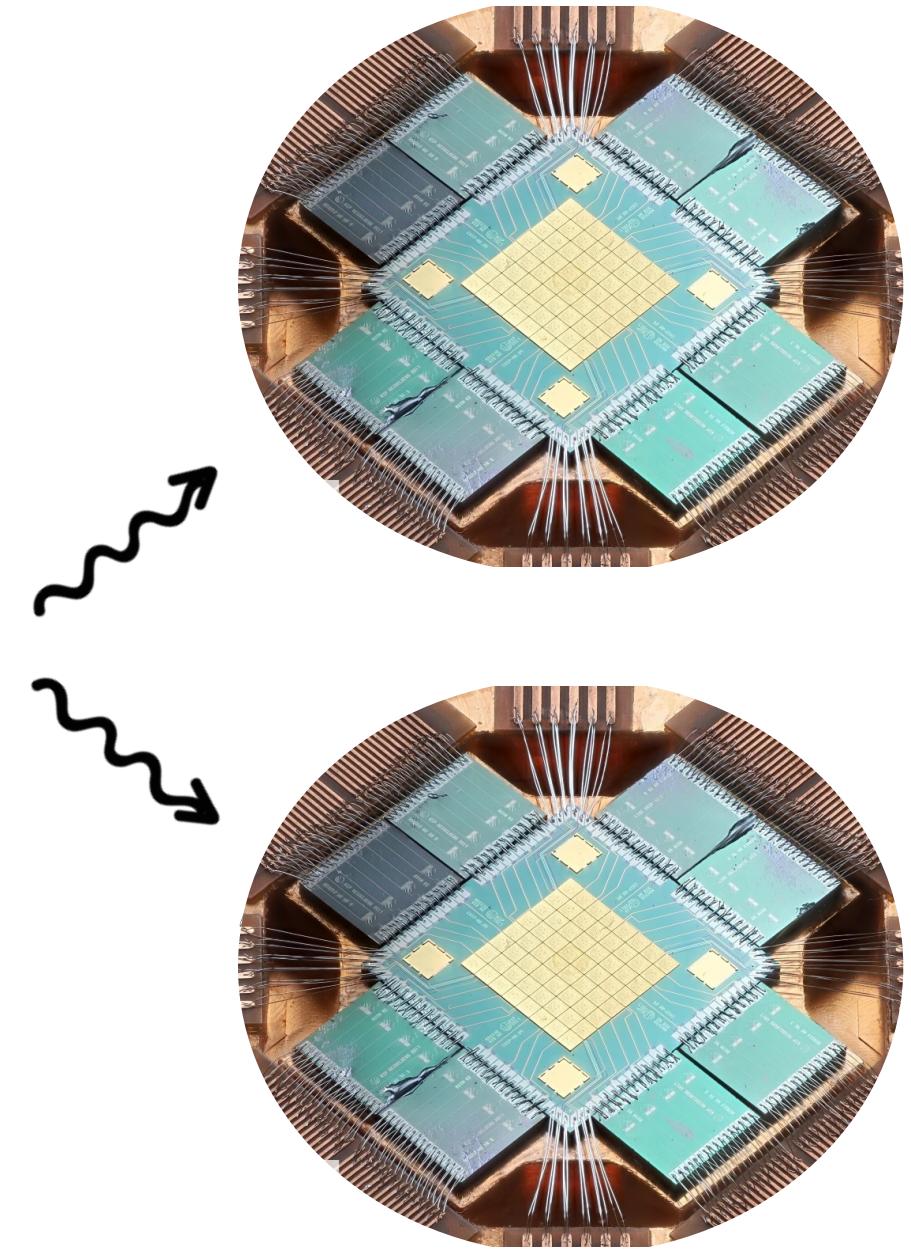
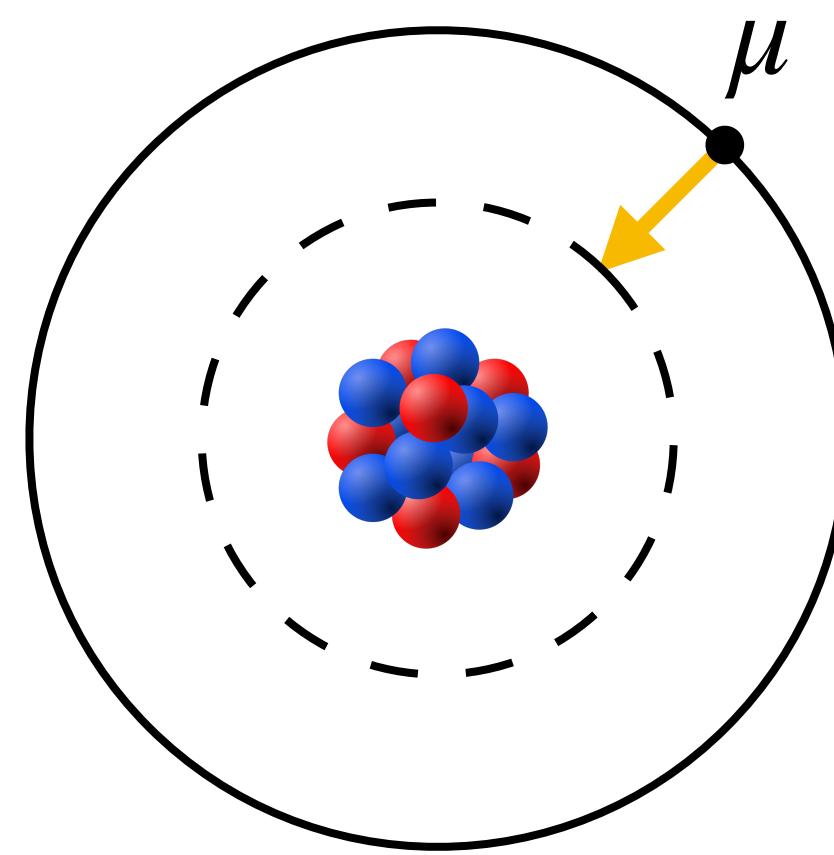


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**Nuclear physics:  $\mu$ -atom reference  $\Rightarrow$  Isotopic chain**

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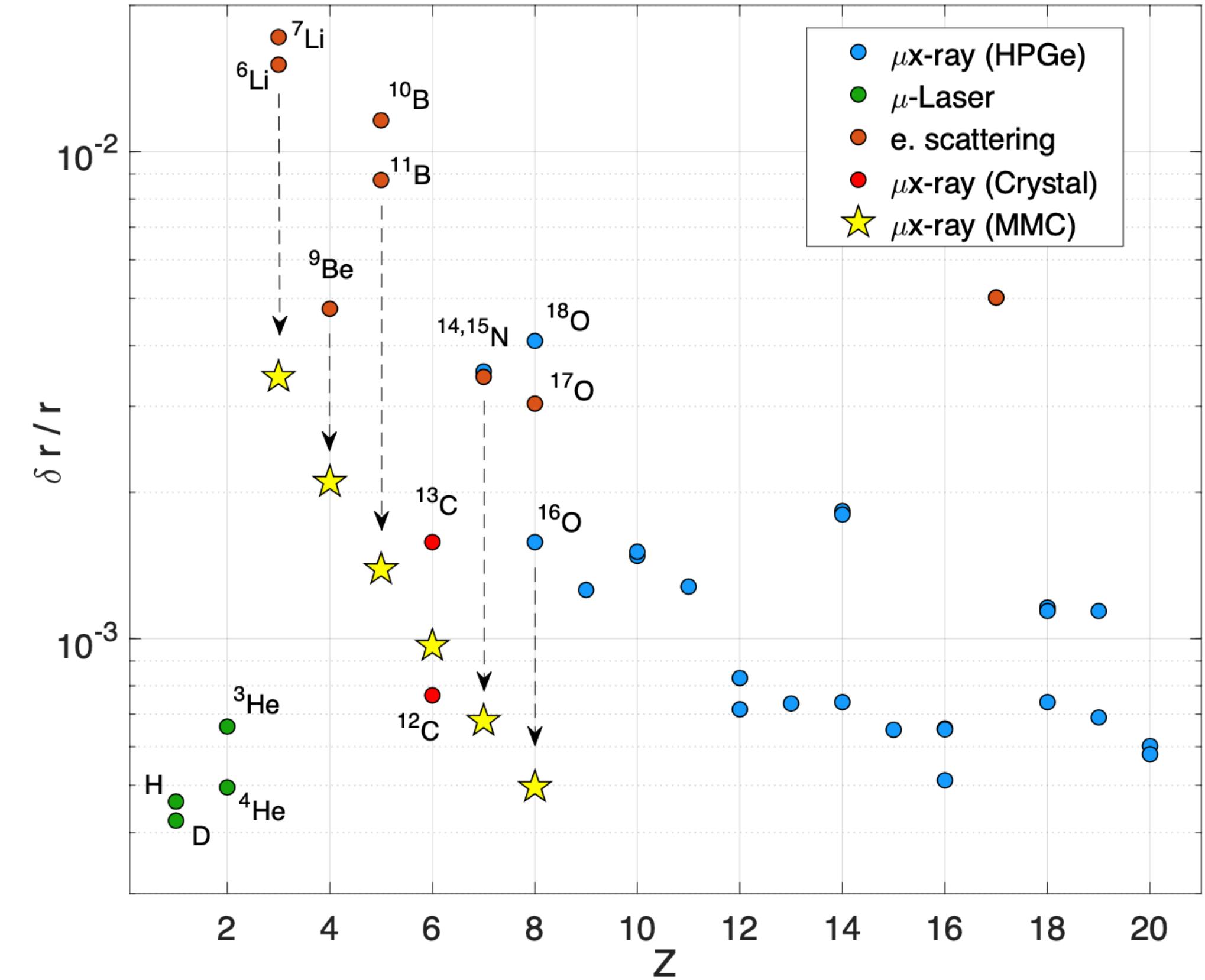
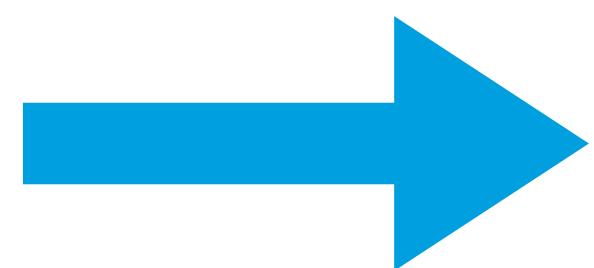
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**On-going puzzles:  $\sim 3.5\sigma$  for  ${}^3\text{-}{}^4\text{He}$  isotope shift**

# From energy levels to nuclear structure

## Converting experimental data

- What to do once precise value of energy levels is known ?
  - Can be used to **test fundamental constants** like  $R_\infty, \alpha, m_e$
  - Can be used to extract **nuclear structure information** like  $r_c$
  - Can be used to test validity of **many-body calculations**
- Example in practice: Lamb shift in meV  $2S_{1/2} - 2P_{1/2}$  ( $r_x$  in fm)

[Antognini et al, SciPost (2021)]

$$\Delta E(\mu\text{H}) = 206.0336(15) - 5.2275(10) \times r_p^2 + 0.0332(20)$$

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- General approach to compute bound state of  $H$

- ✗ In principle use Bethe-Salpeter  $\Rightarrow$  bound states  $\equiv G_n$  poles
- ✓ In practice use **effective external potential**
- Corrections up to  $(Z\alpha)^5$  to match exp accuracy

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Simple point-like  
nucleus



Finite nucleus  
size effect



Nuclear structure  
dependent

## General many-body problem

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## Bound muon within potential

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- Zero-order: external Coulomb potential

- Solve exactly for  $H_0 = \frac{\vec{p}^2}{2m_r} - \frac{Z\alpha}{r}$
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- What effective potential to apply on muon ?

- **Effective potential** as perturbation away from Coulomb
  - Defined to **match QED** scattering at a given order
  - Bound-state  $\Rightarrow$  **Distorted Wave Born approximation**

$$E_{nl} = E^{(0)} + \langle V^{(1)} \rangle + \langle V^{(2)} \rangle + \langle V^{(1)} \frac{1}{(E_0 - H_0)'} V^{(1)} \rangle + \dots$$

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- Main type of QED contributions

- Electron vacuum polarization:  $a_\mu \sim \lambda_e \Rightarrow$  **main one!**
  - Finite nuclear mass  $\Rightarrow$  recoil and relativistic corrections
  - Finite nuclear size contributions  $\Rightarrow$  Main one  $\propto r_c^2$

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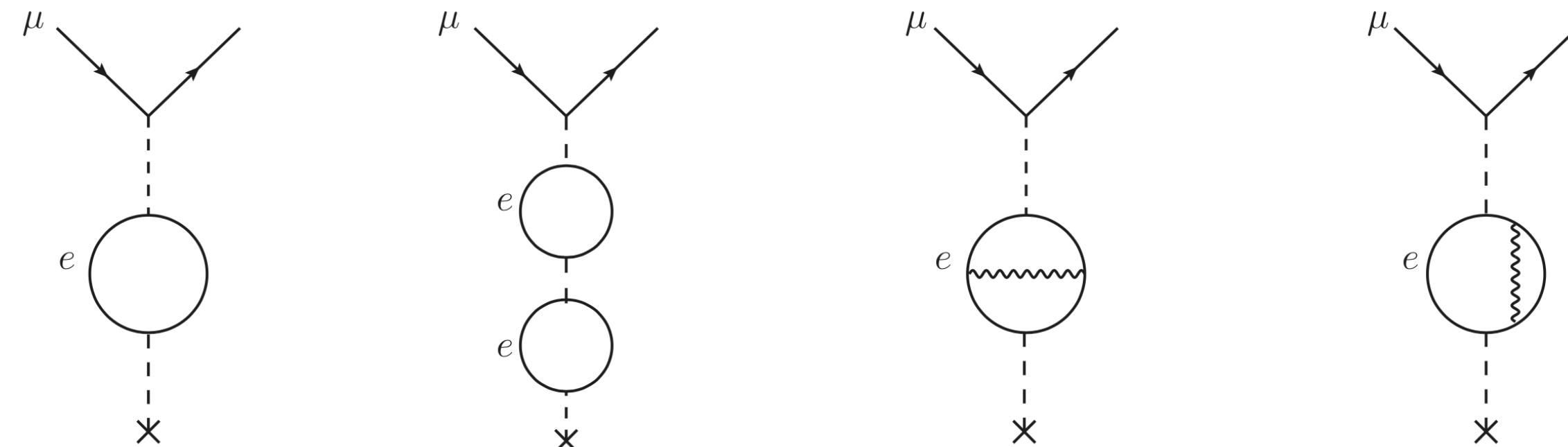
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## Example: electron vacuum polarization corrections

[Pachucki et al. Review of Modern Physics (2024)]



$\Rightarrow \delta_{\text{QED}}$  term in  $\delta_{\text{LS}}$

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- Zero-order: external Coulomb potential

- Solve exactly for  $H_0 = \frac{\vec{p}^2}{2m_r} - \frac{Z\alpha}{r}$
- $E_{nl} = -\frac{(Z\alpha)^2 m_r}{2n^2} \equiv E^{(0)}$

- What effective potential to apply on muon ?

- Effective potential** as perturbation away from Coulomb
- Defined to **match QED** scattering at a given order
- Bound-state  $\Rightarrow$  **Distorted Wave Born approximation**

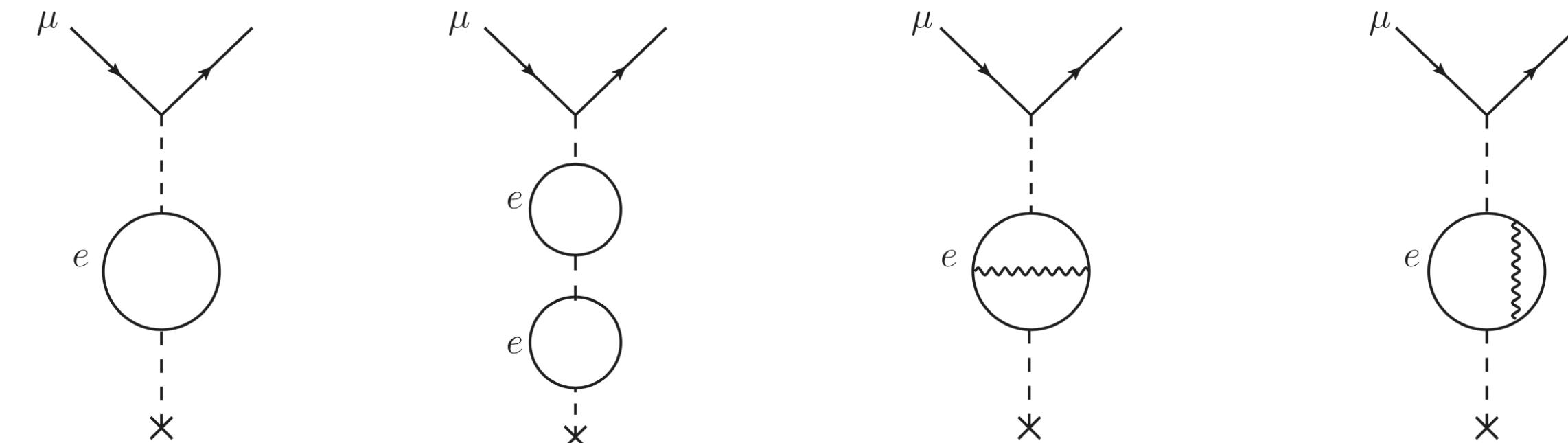
$$E_{nl} = E^{(0)} + \langle V^{(1)} \rangle + \langle V^{(2)} \rangle + \langle V^{(1)} \frac{1}{(E_0 - H_0)'} V^{(1)} \rangle + \dots$$

- Main type of QED contributions

- Electron vacuum polarization:  $a_\mu \sim \lambda_e \Rightarrow$  **main one!**
- Finite nuclear mass  $\Rightarrow$  recoil and relativistic corrections
- Finite nuclear size contributions  $\Rightarrow$  Main one  $\propto r_c^2$

## Example: electron vacuum polarization corrections

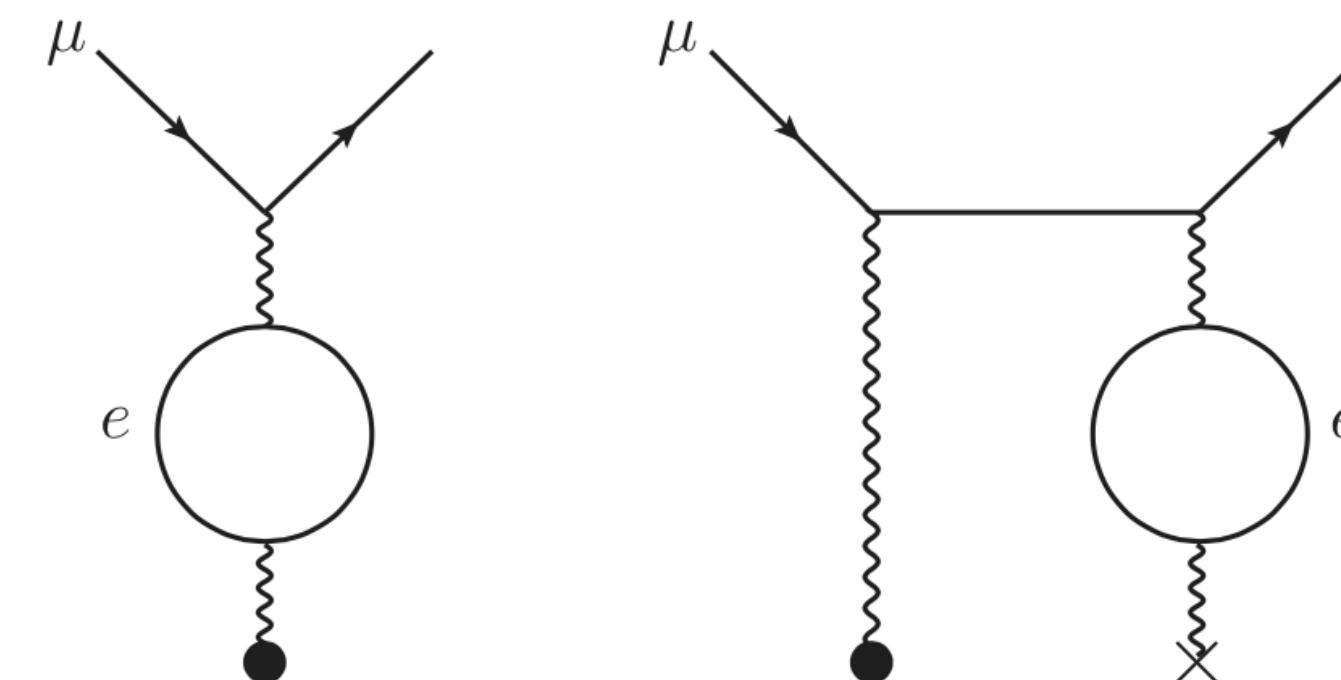
[Pachucki et al. Review of Modern Physics (2024)]



$\Rightarrow \delta_{\text{QED}}$  term in  $\delta_{\text{LS}}$

## Example: finite-size corrections

[Pachucki et al. Review of Modern Physics (2024)]



$\Rightarrow \mathcal{C}r_c^2$  term in  $\delta_{\text{LS}}$

# Bound states QED contributions

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Section	Order	Correction	$\mu\text{H}$	$\mu\text{D}$	$\mu^3\text{He}^+$	$\mu^4\text{He}^+$
III.A	$\alpha(Z\alpha)^2$	eVP <sup>(1)</sup>	205.007 38	227.634 70	1641.886 2	1665.773 1
III.A	$\alpha^2(Z\alpha)^2$	eVP <sup>(2)</sup>	1.658 85	1.838 04	13.084 3	13.276 9
III.A	$\alpha^3(Z\alpha)^2$	eVP <sup>(3)</sup>	0.007 52	0.008 42(7)	0.073 0(30)	0.074 0(30)
III.B	$(Z, Z^2, Z^3)\alpha^5$	Light-by-light eVP	-0.000 89(2)	-0.000 96(2)	-0.013 4(6)	-0.013 6(6)
III.C	$(Z\alpha)^4$	Recoil	0.057 47	0.067 22	0.126 5	0.295 2
III.D	$\alpha(Z\alpha)^4$	Relativistic with eVP <sup>(1)</sup>	0.018 76	0.021 78	0.509 3	0.521 1
III.E	$\alpha^2(Z\alpha)^4$	Relativistic with eVP <sup>(2)</sup>	0.000 17	0.000 20	0.005 6	0.005 7
III.F	$\alpha(Z\alpha)^4$	$\mu\text{SE}^{(1)} + \mu\text{VP}^{(1)}$ , LO	-0.663 45	-0.769 43	-10.652 5	-10.926 0
III.G	$\alpha(Z\alpha)^5$	$\mu\text{SE}^{(1)} + \mu\text{VP}^{(1)}$ , NLO	-0.004 43	-0.005 18	-0.174 9	-0.179 7
III.H	$\alpha^2(Z\alpha)^4$	$\mu\text{VP}^{(1)}$ with eVP <sup>(1)</sup>	0.000 13	0.000 15	0.003 8	0.003 9
III.I	$\alpha^2(Z\alpha)^4$	$\mu\text{SE}^{(1)}$ with eVP <sup>(1)</sup>	-0.002 54	-0.003 06	-0.062 7	-0.064 6
III.J	$(Z\alpha)^5$	Recoil	-0.044 97	-0.026 60	-0.558 1	-0.433 0
III.K	$\alpha(Z\alpha)^5$	Recoil with eVP <sup>(1)</sup>	0.000 14(14)	0.000 09(9)	0.004 9(49)	0.003 9(39)
III.L	$Z^2\alpha(Z\alpha)^4$	nSE <sup>(1)</sup>	-0.009 92	-0.003 10	-0.084 0	-0.050 5
III.M	$\alpha^2(Z\alpha)^4$	$\mu F_1^{(2)}, \mu F_2^{(2)}, \mu\text{VP}^{(2)}$	-0.001 58	-0.001 84	-0.031 1	-0.031 9
III.N	$(Z\alpha)^6$	Pure recoil	0.000 09	0.000 04	0.001 9	0.001 4
III.O	$\alpha(Z\alpha)^5$	Radiative recoil	0.000 22	0.000 13	0.002 9	0.002 3
III.P	$\alpha(Z\alpha)^4$	hVP	0.011 36(27)	0.013 28(32)	0.224 1(53)	0.230 3(54)
III.Q	$\alpha^2(Z\alpha)^4$	hVP with eVP <sup>(1)</sup>	0.000 09	0.000 10	0.002 6(1)	0.002 7(1)

# The two-photon exchange nuclear correction

Radius extraction master formula

$$\delta_{\text{LS}} = \delta_{\text{QED}} + \mathcal{C} r_c^2 + \delta_{\text{NS}}$$

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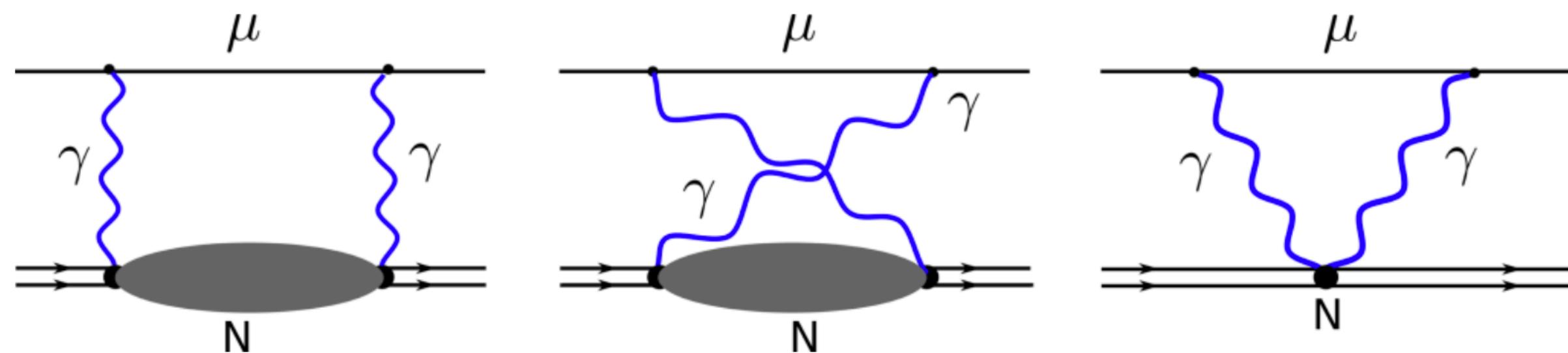
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Two photon exchanges contributions



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[Bernabeu et al, Nuclear Physics A (1974)] [Rosenfelder Nuclear Physics A (1983)]

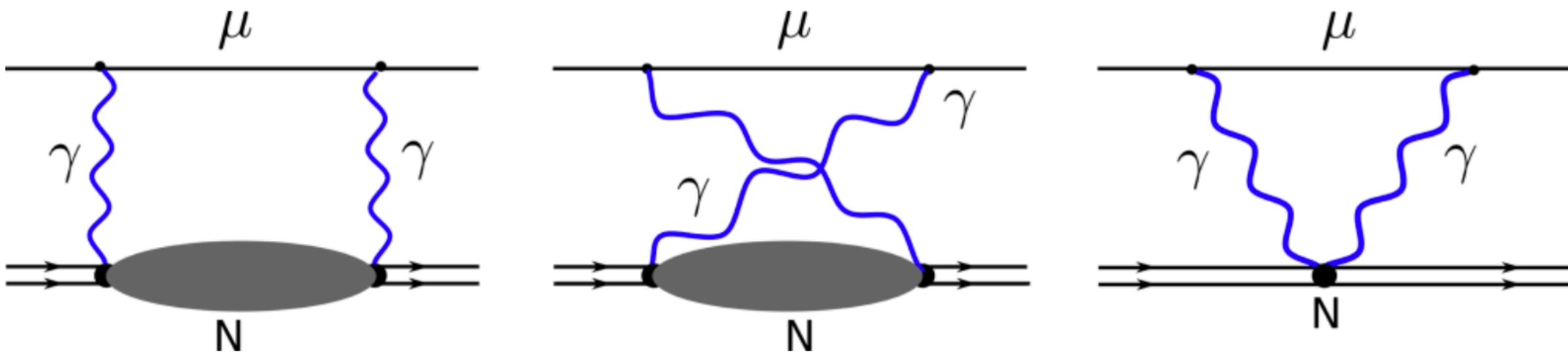
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$$T_{\mu\nu}(q) = \delta_{\mu\nu} \left\langle \Psi \left| \int d^3x e^{iq \cdot x} f_{SG}(x, 0) \right| \Psi \right\rangle \\ + \sum_{N \neq 0} \left[ \frac{\langle \Psi | J_\mu(0) | N \vec{q} \rangle \langle N \vec{q} | J_\nu(0) | \Psi \rangle}{E_0 - E_N + q_0 + i\epsilon} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{\langle \Psi | J_\nu(0) | N - \vec{q} \rangle \langle N - \vec{q} | J_\mu(0) | \Psi \rangle}{E_0 - E_N - q_0 + i\epsilon} \right]$$

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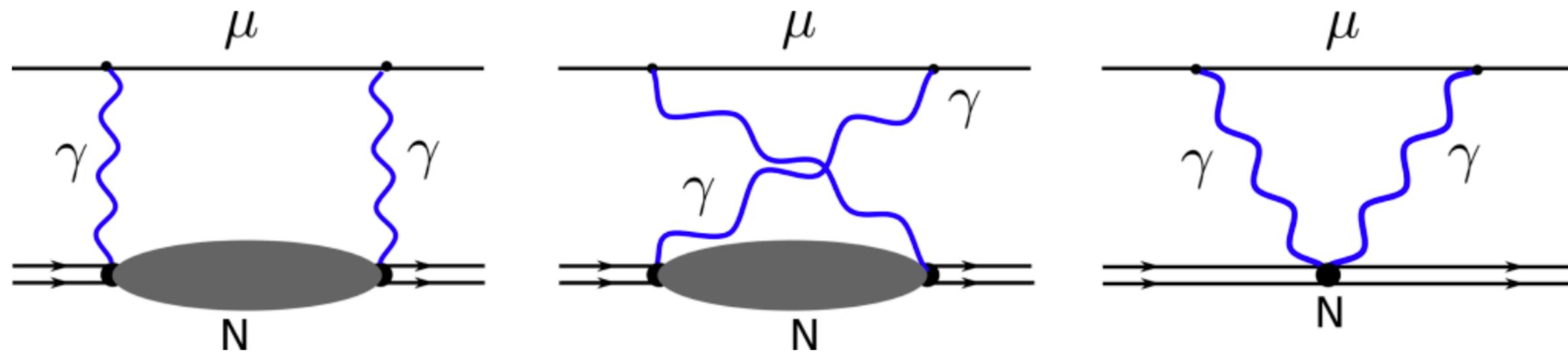
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- TPE decomposition:  $\delta_{TPE} = (\delta_{el}^N + \delta_{pol}^N) + (\delta_{el}^A + \delta_{pol}^A)$

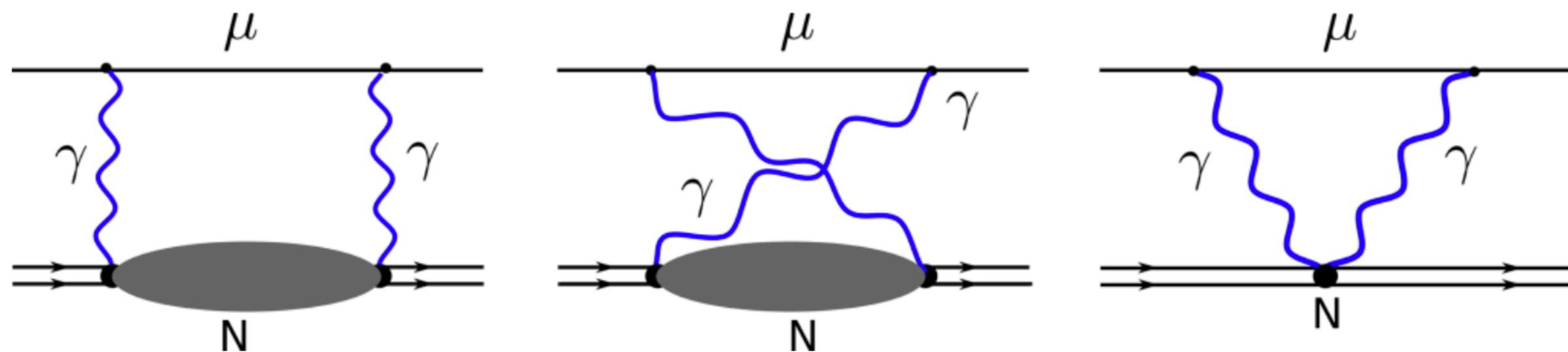
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  - $\Delta_X \equiv \int dq \int d\omega K_X(\omega, q) S_X(\omega, q)$

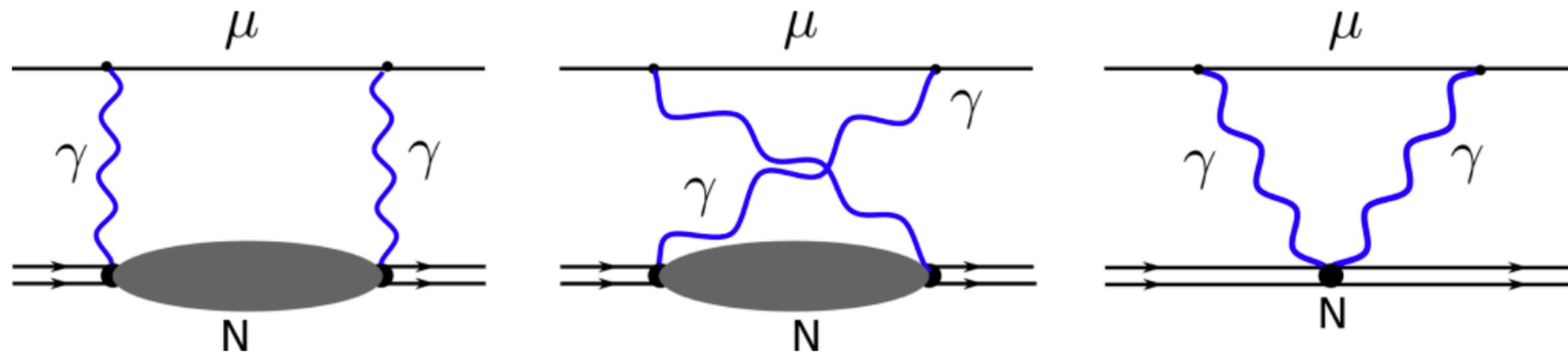
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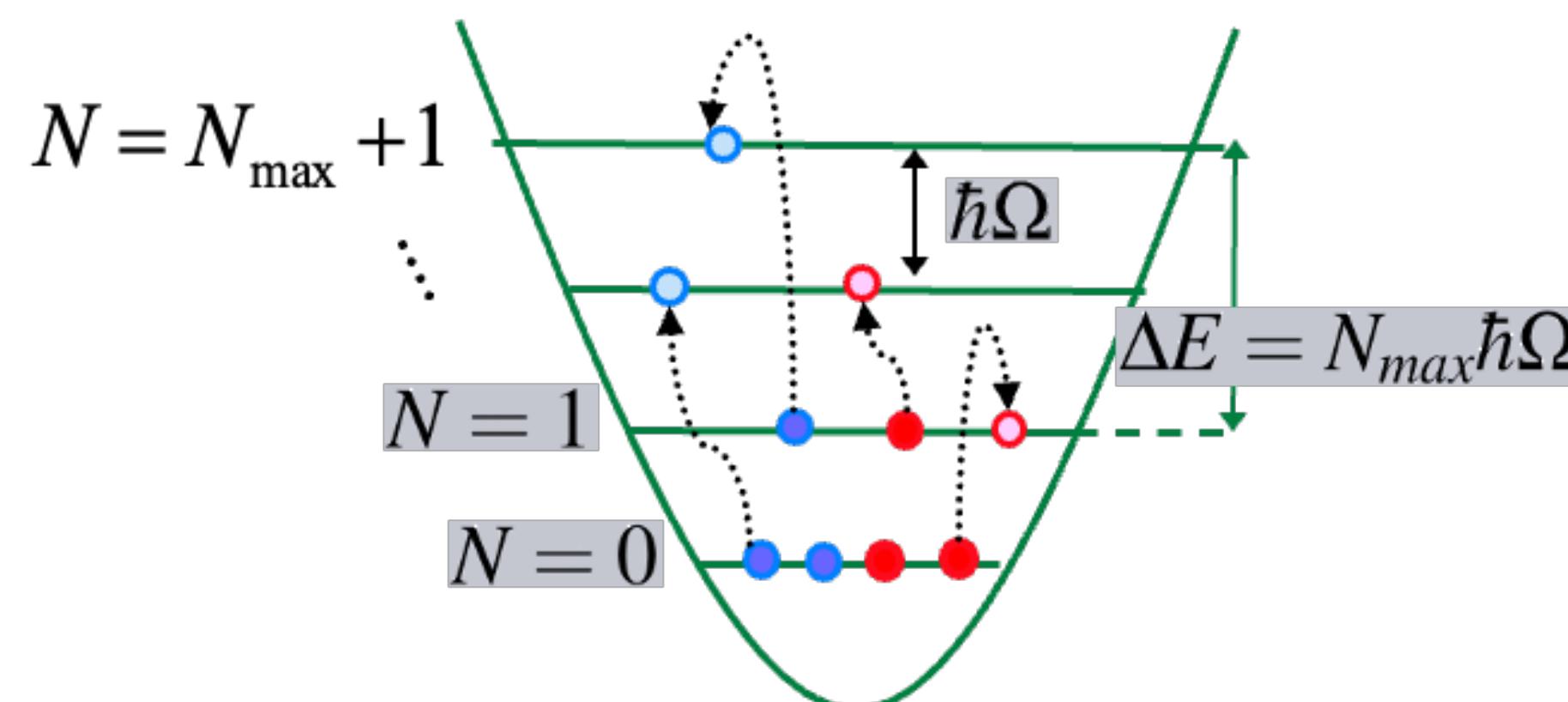
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- Spectral functions:
  - $S_X(\omega, q) \equiv \sum_{J \geq 0} \sum_{N \neq 0} |\langle N | O_{X,J}(q) | \Psi \rangle|^2 \delta(E_N - E_0 - \omega)$

# Ab initio nuclear corrections



# Nuclear physics modelling

## Model used for nuclear currents

### Electromagnetic current modelling

- General one-body current for point-like particles
- Form factors given by the isovector dipole model

$$f_{SN}(q) = \left( 1 + \frac{q^2}{M_V^2} \right)^{-2}, \quad F_{1,2}^{(T)}(q) = F_{1,2}^{(T)}(0) f_{SN}(q)$$

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10

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### Model space

- Harmonic oscillator Slater determinant
- Vary many-body basis:  $(\Omega, N_{\max})$

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### Many-body approximation

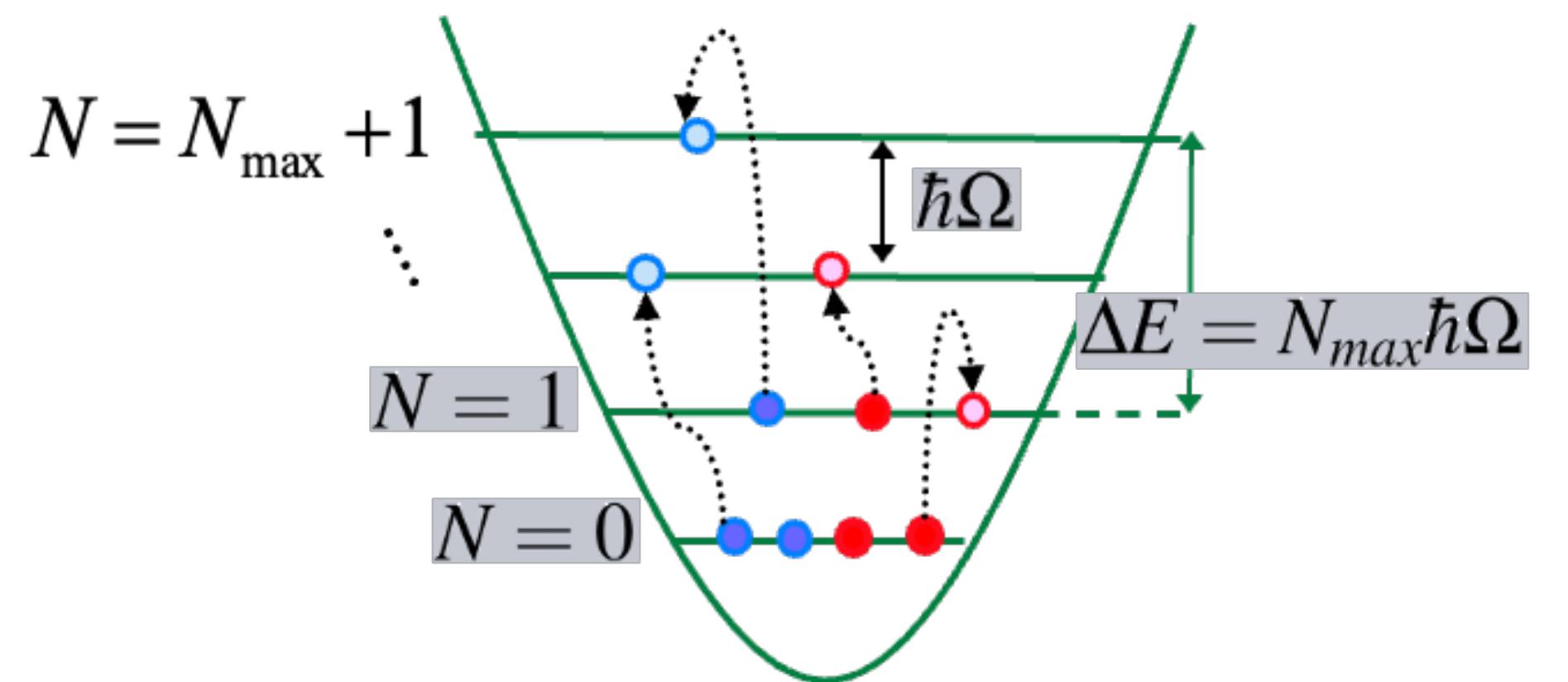
- No-Core Shell Model
- More details in next section

→ Negligible many-body approximation uncertainty

# The No-Core Shell Model

11

Anti-symmetrized products of  
many-body HO states



# The No-Core Shell Model

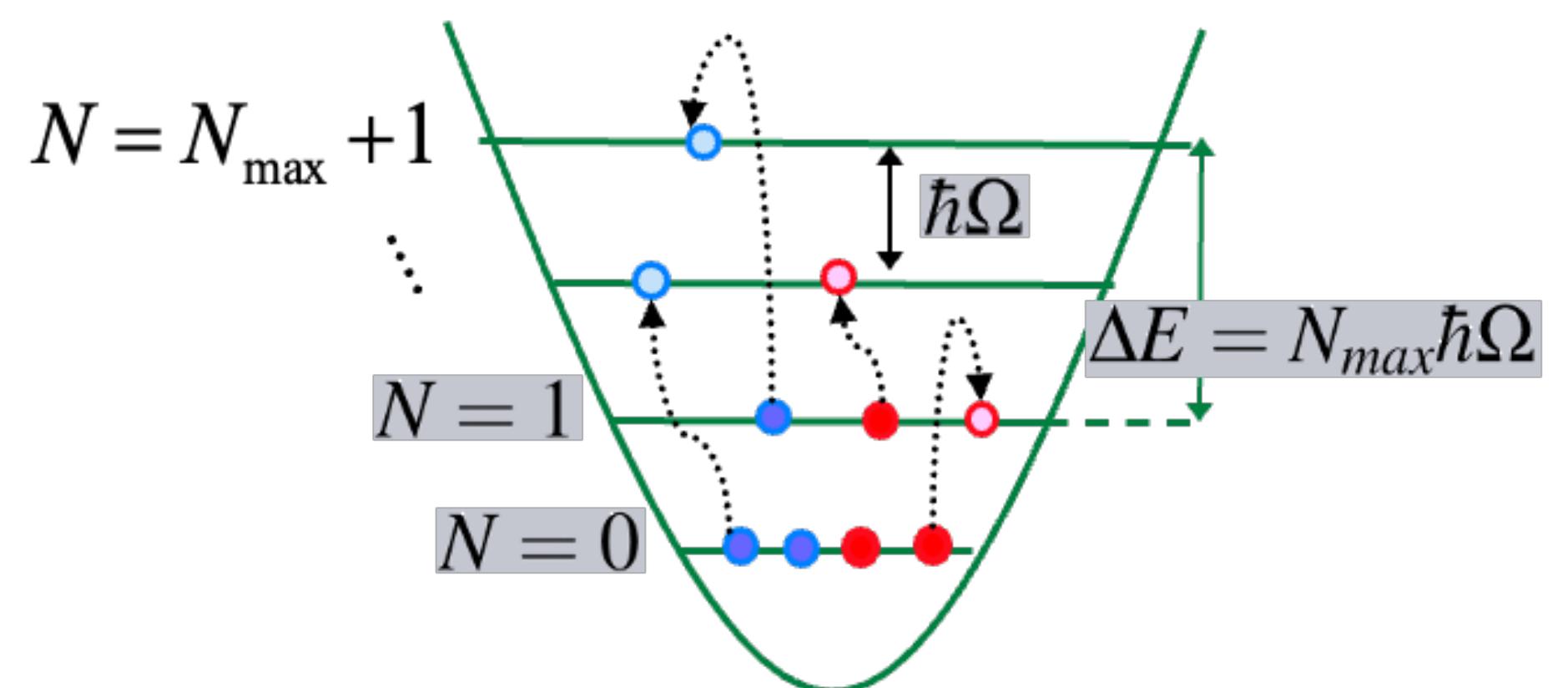
11

## Lanczos tridiagonalization algorithm [Lanczos (1950)]

- Initialization: normalized pivot  $|\phi_1\rangle$
- Recursion:  $\alpha_i$ ,  $\beta_i$  and  $|\phi_i\rangle$ 
  - $\beta_{i+1}|\phi_{i+1}\rangle = H|\phi_i\rangle - \alpha_i|\phi_i\rangle - \beta_i|\phi_{i-1}\rangle$
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- Output:
  - Lanczos basis and coefficients  $\{|\phi_i\rangle, \alpha_i, \beta_i\}$  → ***H in Lanczos basis***
  - Lanczos basis  $\equiv$  orthonormal basis in Krylov space  $\{|\phi_1\rangle, H|\phi_1\rangle, \dots, H^{N_L}|\phi_1\rangle\}$

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## Anti-symmetrized products of many-body HO states



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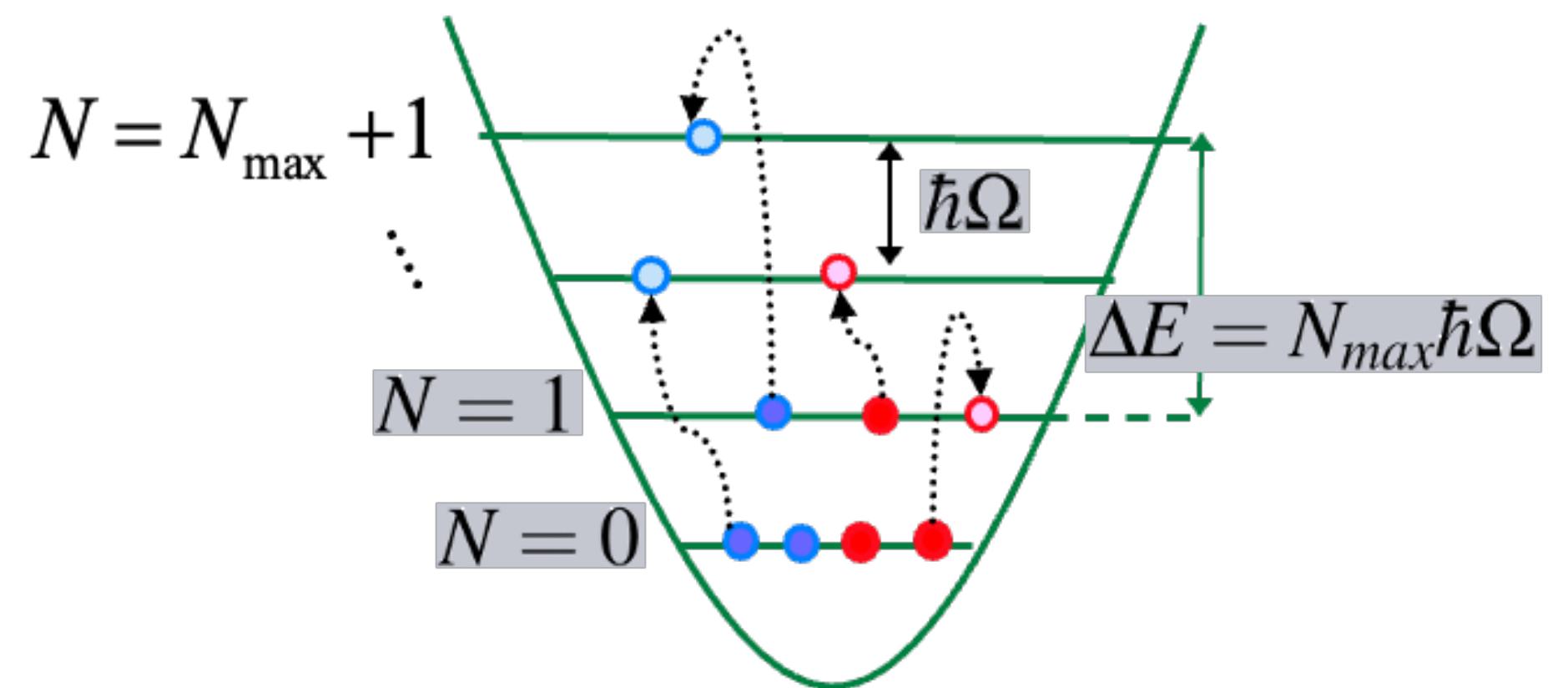
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## Anti-symmetrized products of many-body HO states



## Application to nuclear structure

- Efficient calculation of spectra
  - Selection rules sparsity ⇒ **Fast matrix-vector multiplication**
  - In practice:  $N_L \sim 100 - 200$  is sufficient to converge low-lying states
  - Cost of diagonalization of the tridiagonal matrix is negligible

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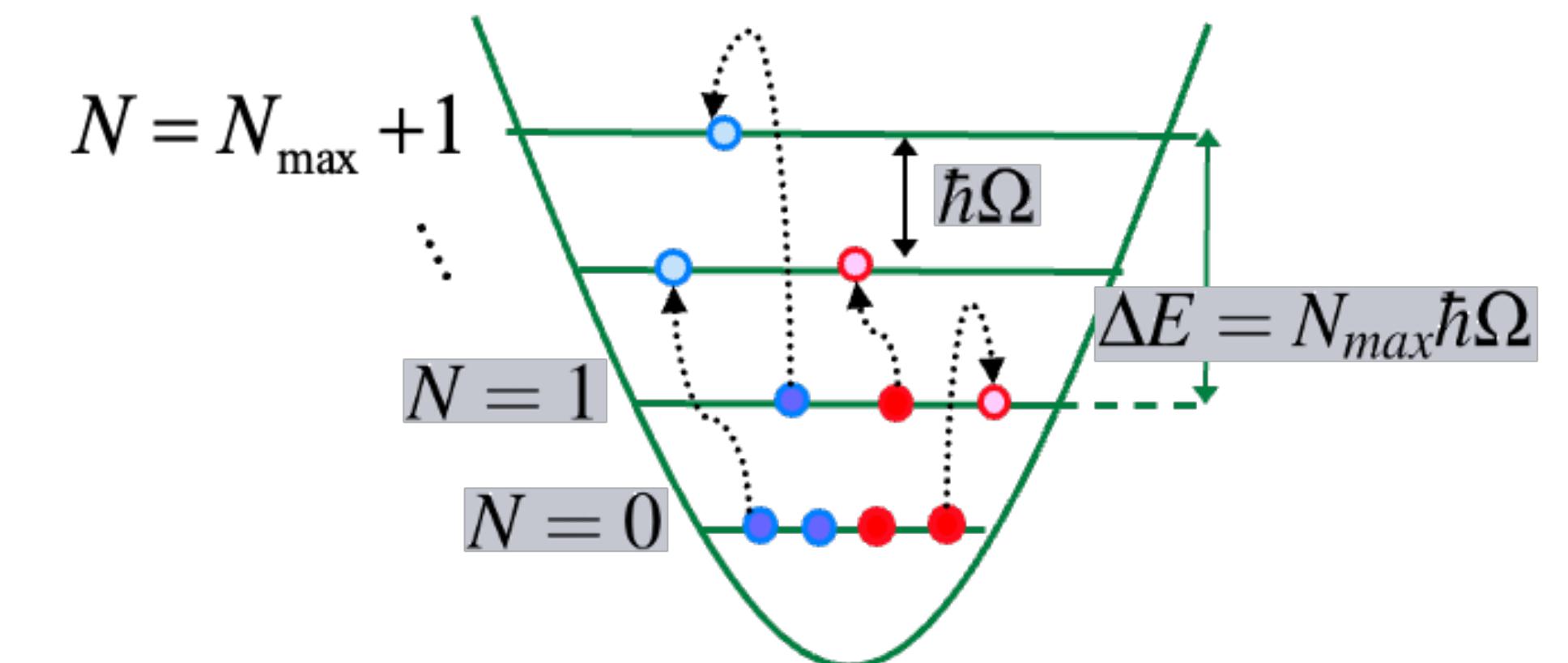
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## Application to ${}^7\text{Li}$

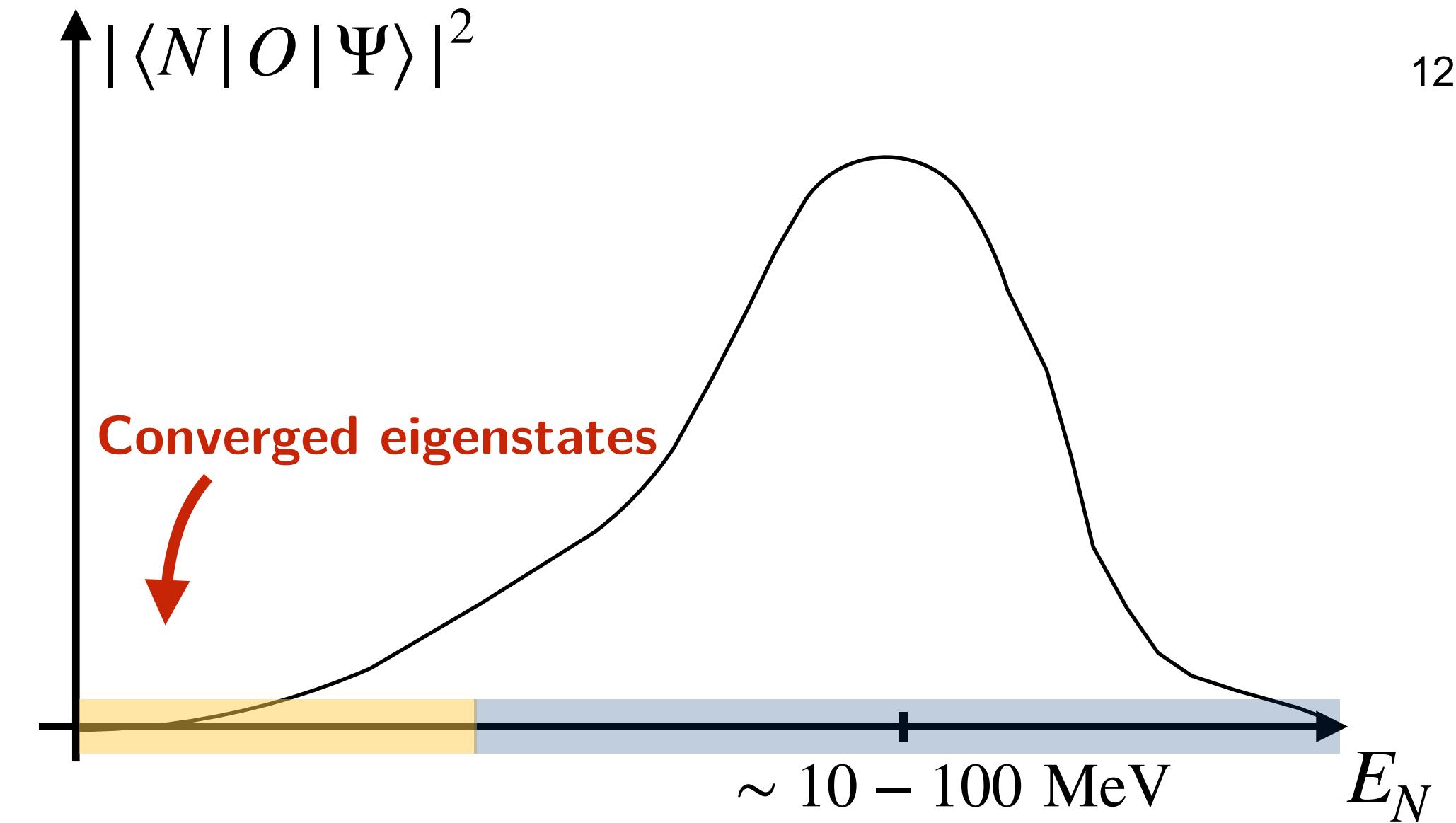
- Parameters of many-body calculation
  - $N_L = 200$  for  $N_{\max} = 1$  to 9
- Results
  - Ground-state of  ${}^7\text{Li}$   $|\Psi\rangle$  ⇒ **Starting point for  $\delta_{\text{pol}}^A$**

# The Lanczos strength algorithm

## Computing strength functions

- We need to compute for each eigenstate and operator:
  - Eigenvalues:  $E_N$
  - Overlaps:  $|\langle N | O | \Psi \rangle|^2$
- Lanczos strength algorithm
  - Variant of Lanczos: ensure convergence of **sum rules**

} **Too expansive  
to converge all of them !!**

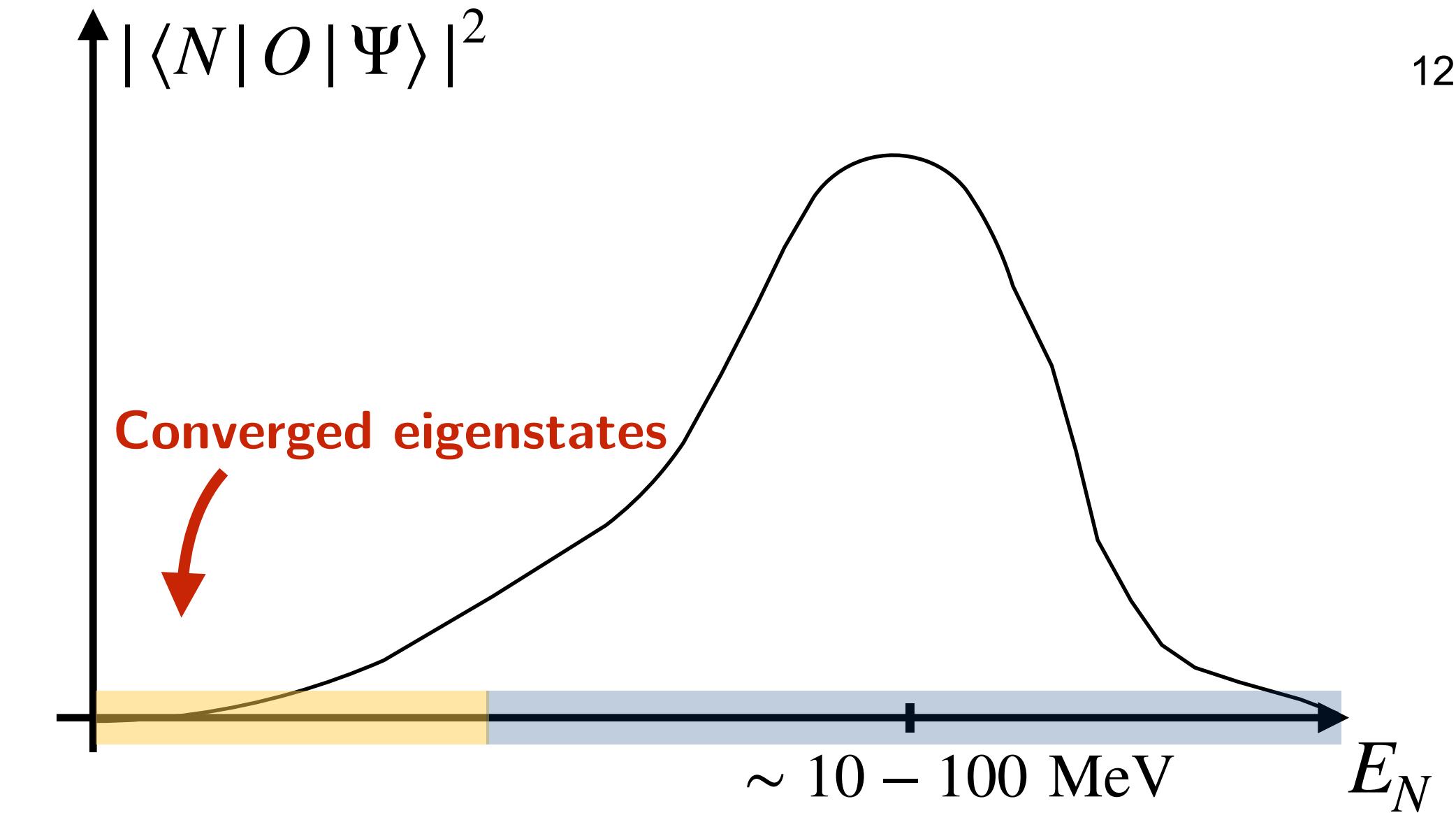


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## Sum rules convergence

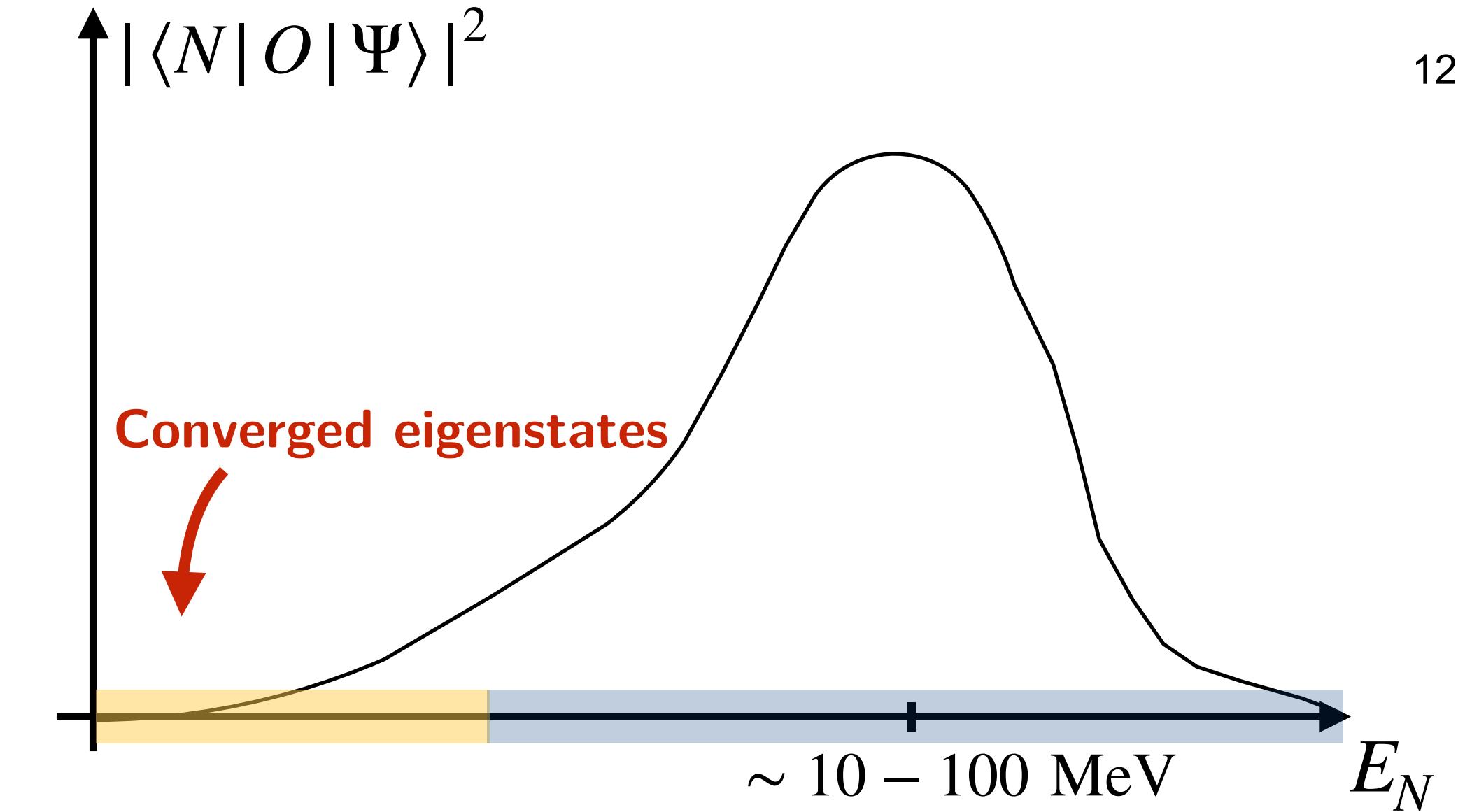
- Convergence problem
    - Often the **strength is fragmented**
    - Only low-lying states converged in general
  - Lanczos strength algorithm
    - Recover exactly  $\int d\omega \omega^n S_O(\omega)$  for any  $n \leq 2N_L$
- **Fast convergence of**  $\int d\omega f(\omega)S_O(\omega)$  (if  $f \sim P_{100}(\omega)$ )

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## Main idea of the algorithm

- For each operator  $O$ 
  - Compute  $\frac{O|\Psi\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\Psi|O^\dagger O|\Psi\rangle}}$  ⇒ **Pivot**  $|\phi'_1\rangle$  for 2<sup>nd</sup> Lanczos
- Extract strength from orthonormality of Lanczos basis
  - $|\langle\Psi|O|N\rangle|^2 = \langle\Psi|O^\dagger O|\Psi\rangle \times |\langle\phi'_1|N\rangle|^2$

## Sum rules convergence

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    - Often the **strength is fragmented**
    - Only low-lying states converged in general
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# A first test case for N4LO-E7 and $N_{\max} = 7$

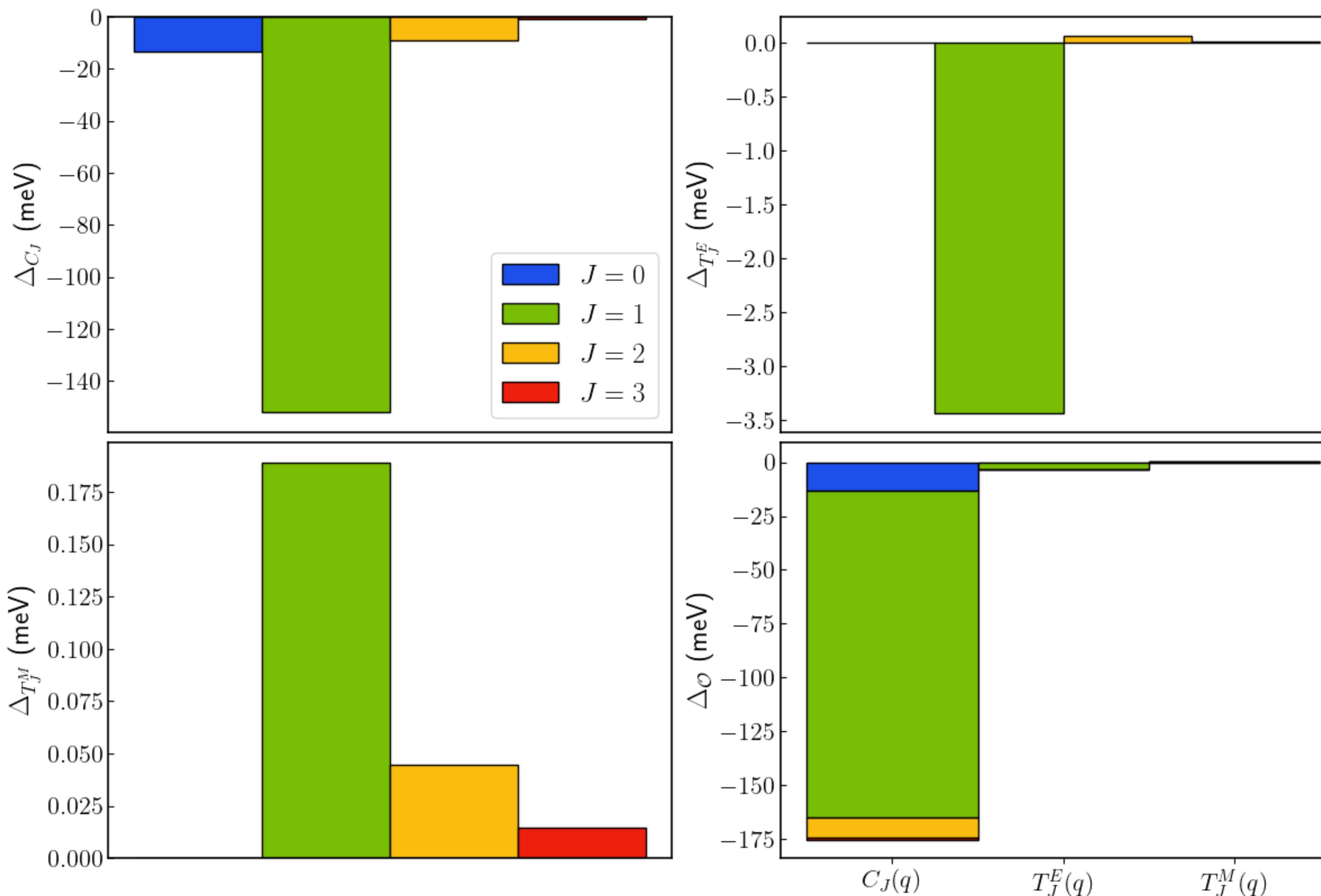
13

## Numerical calculations

- $q_{\max} = 700$  MeV and  $\Delta q = 10$  MeV
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- 700 NCSM calculations at  $N_{\max} = 7$

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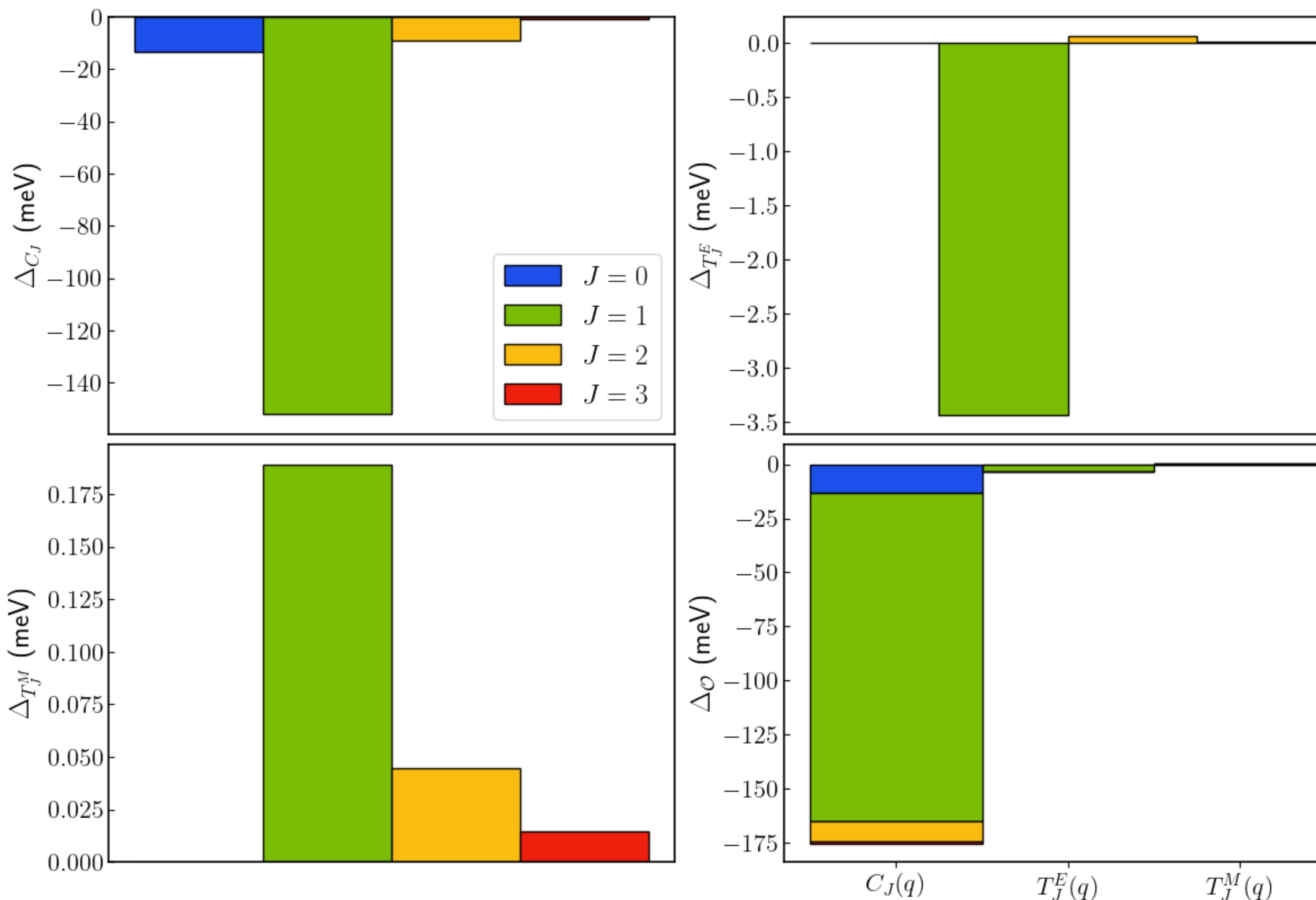


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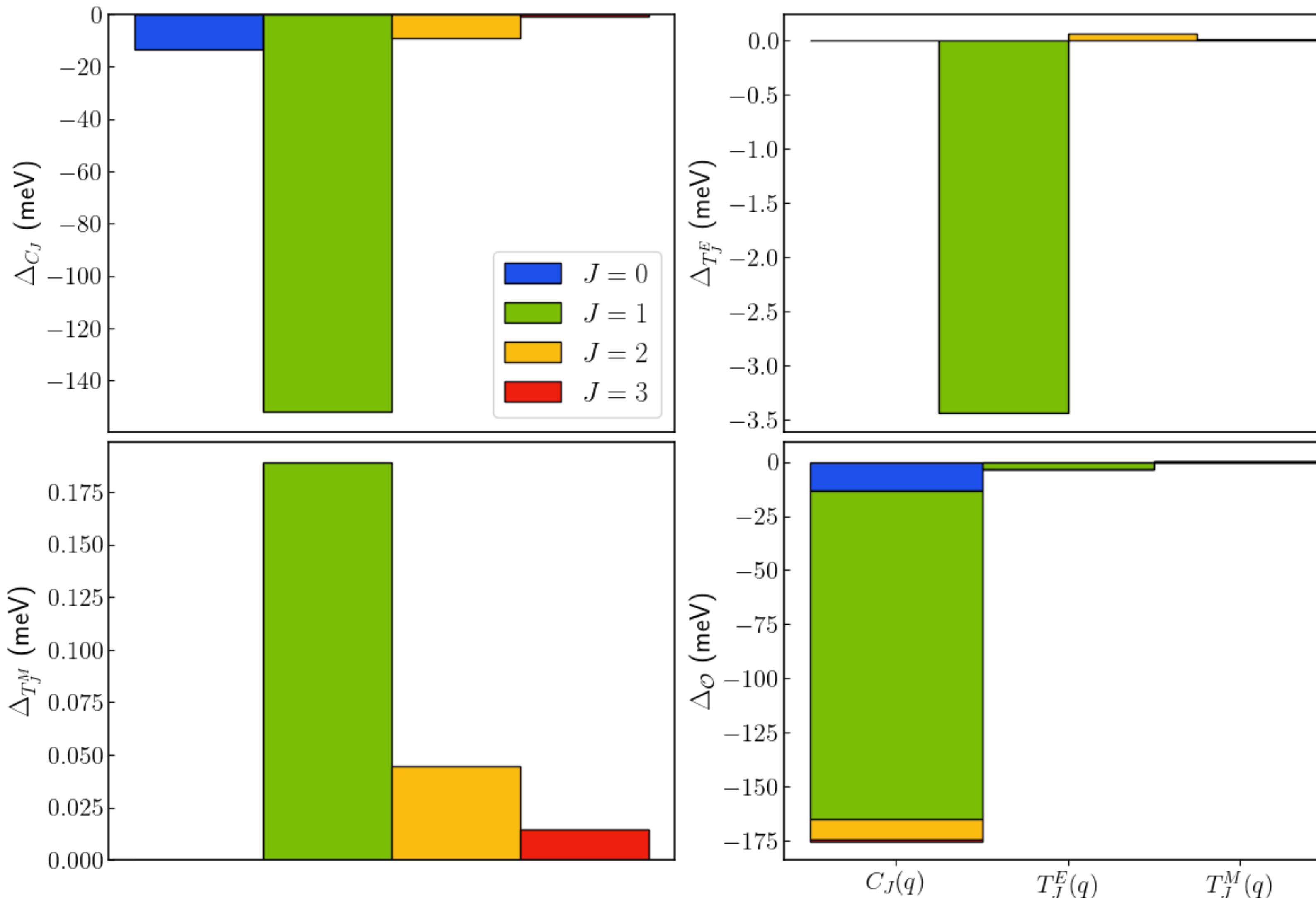
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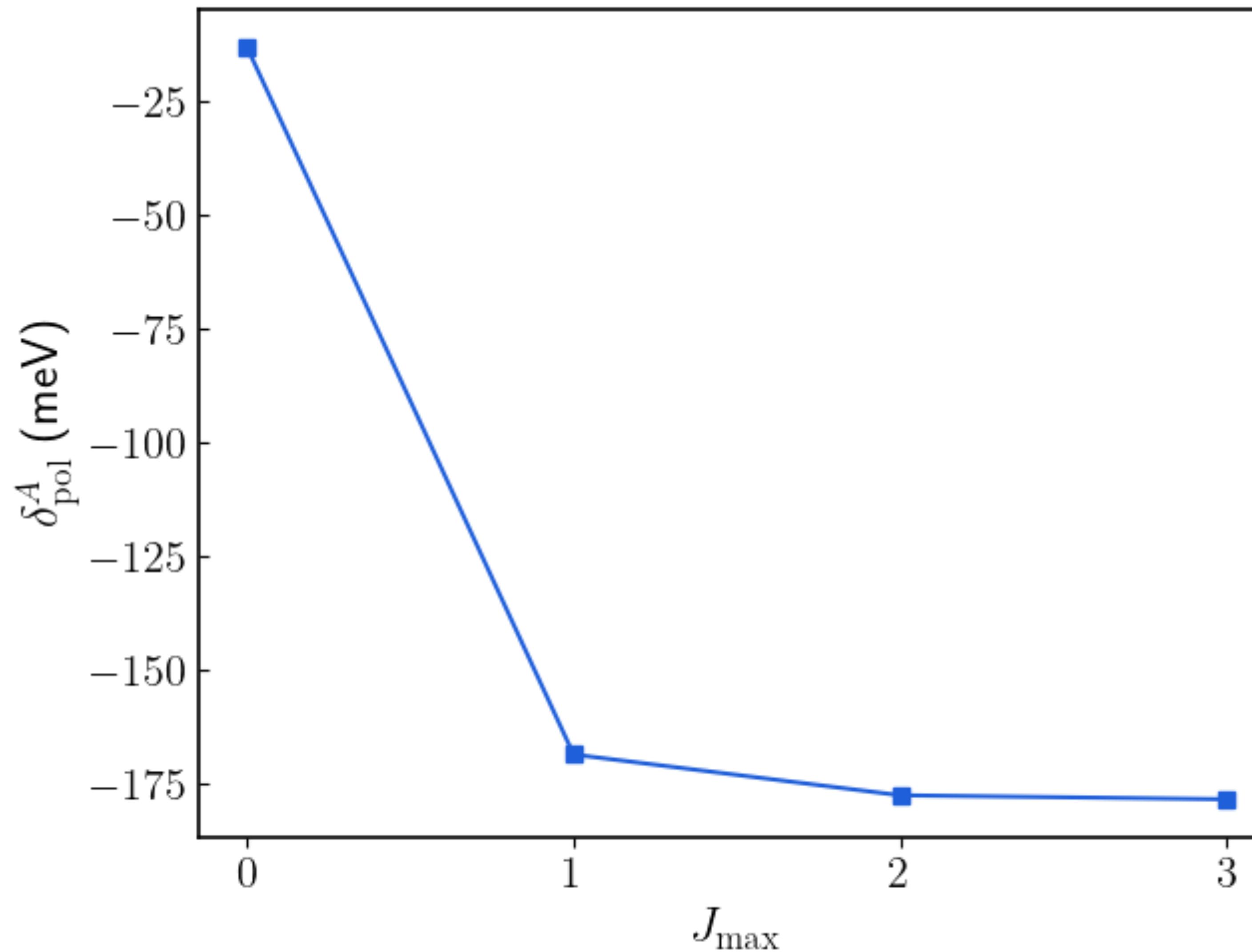
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  - Negligible contributions
    - TM is negligible for any  $J$
    - TE is relevant only for  $J = 1$
- Only half the operators are relevant

# Checking convergence in $J_{\max}$

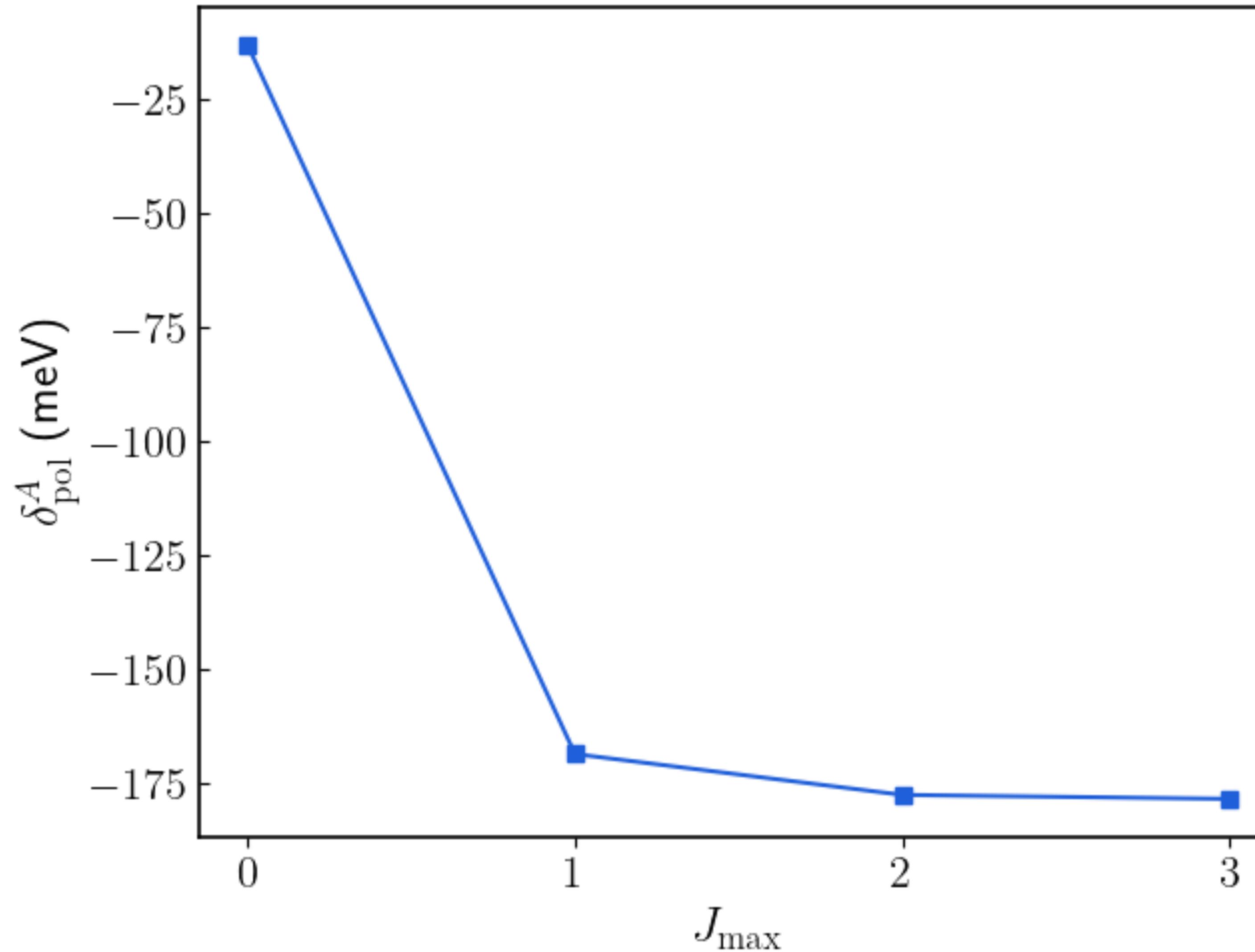


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14



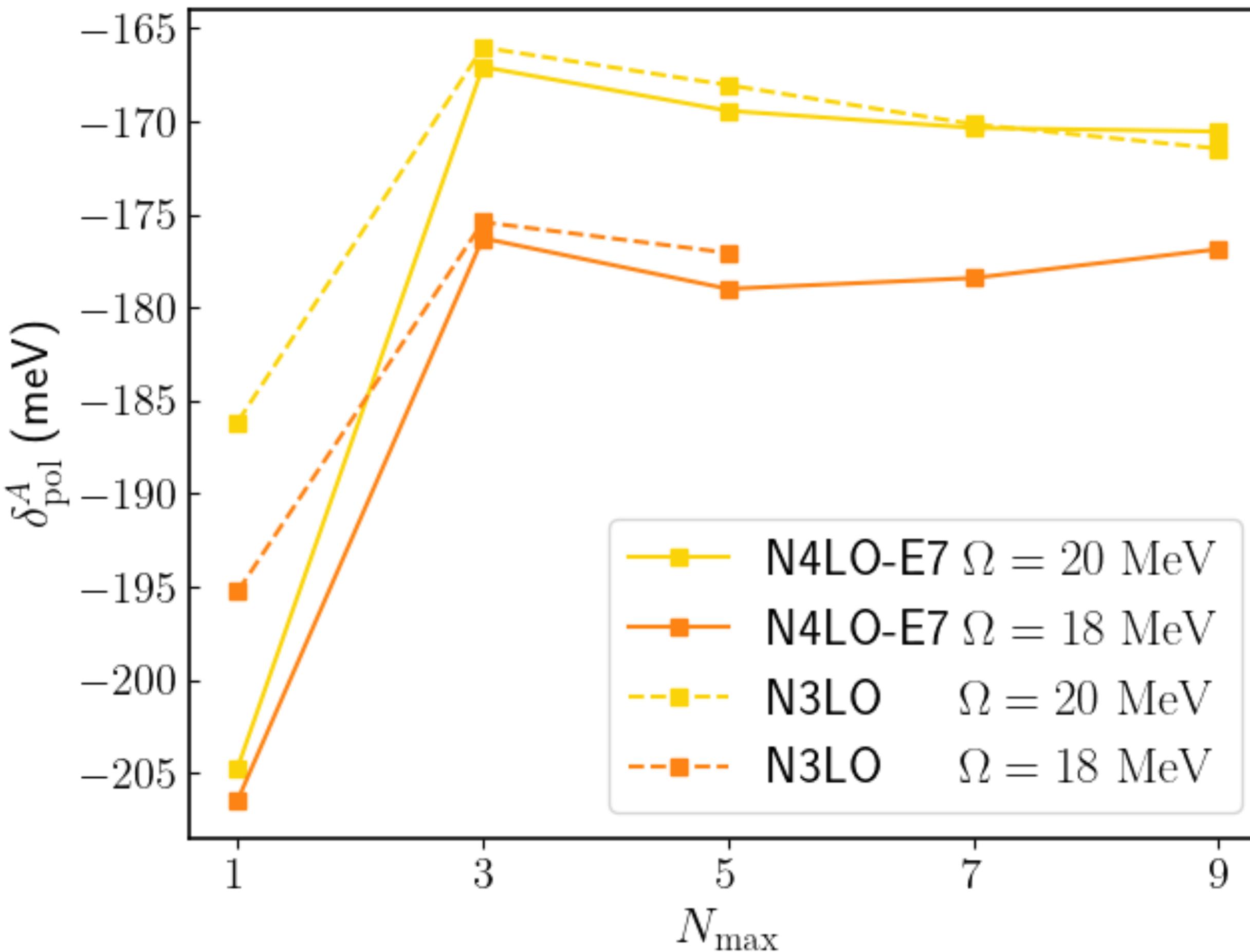
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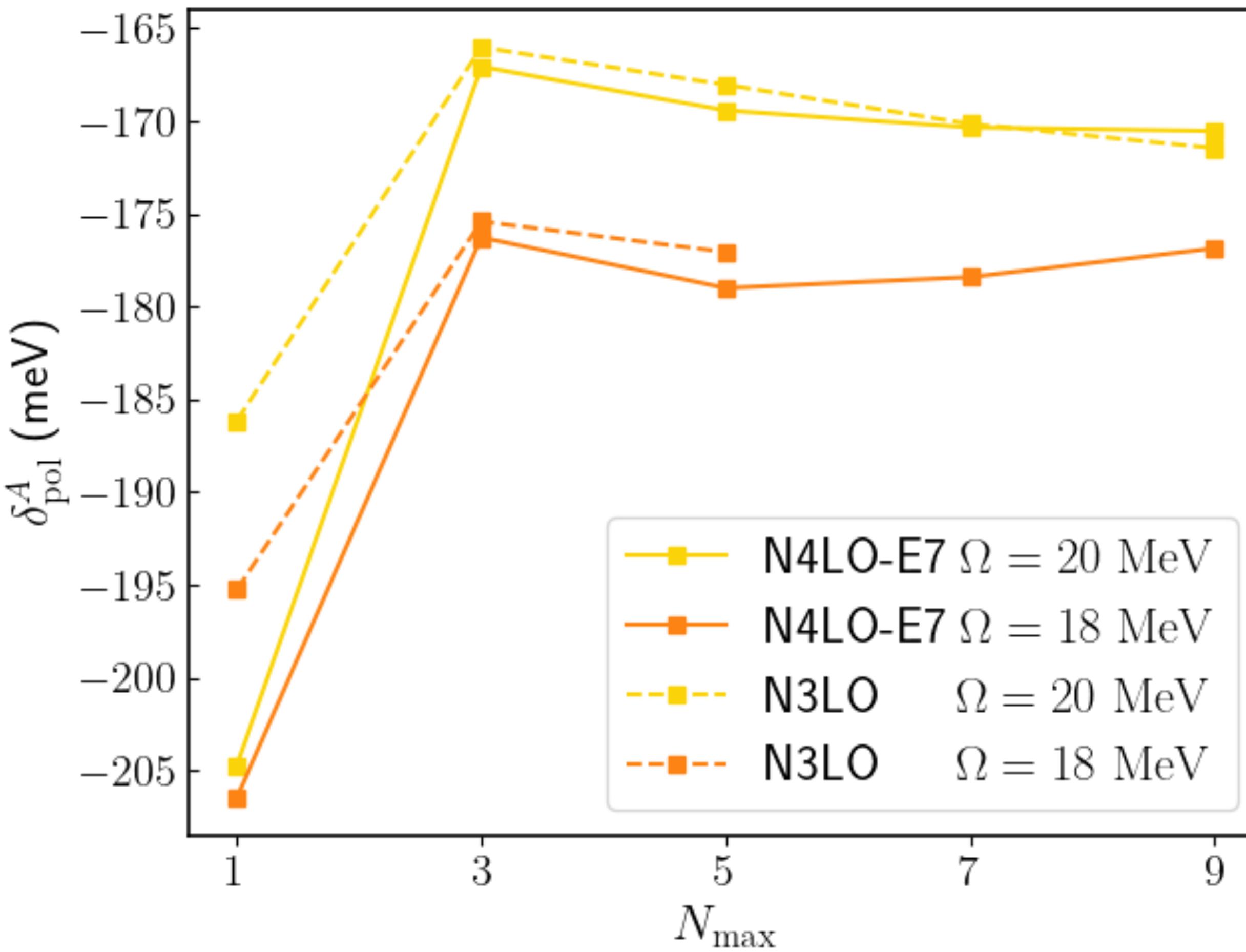
$$\epsilon_{J_{\max}} \lesssim 0.1 \text{ meV}$$

Multipole truncation  $\Rightarrow$  Negligible uncertainty

# Dependence on $(\Omega, N_{\max})$ and the interaction



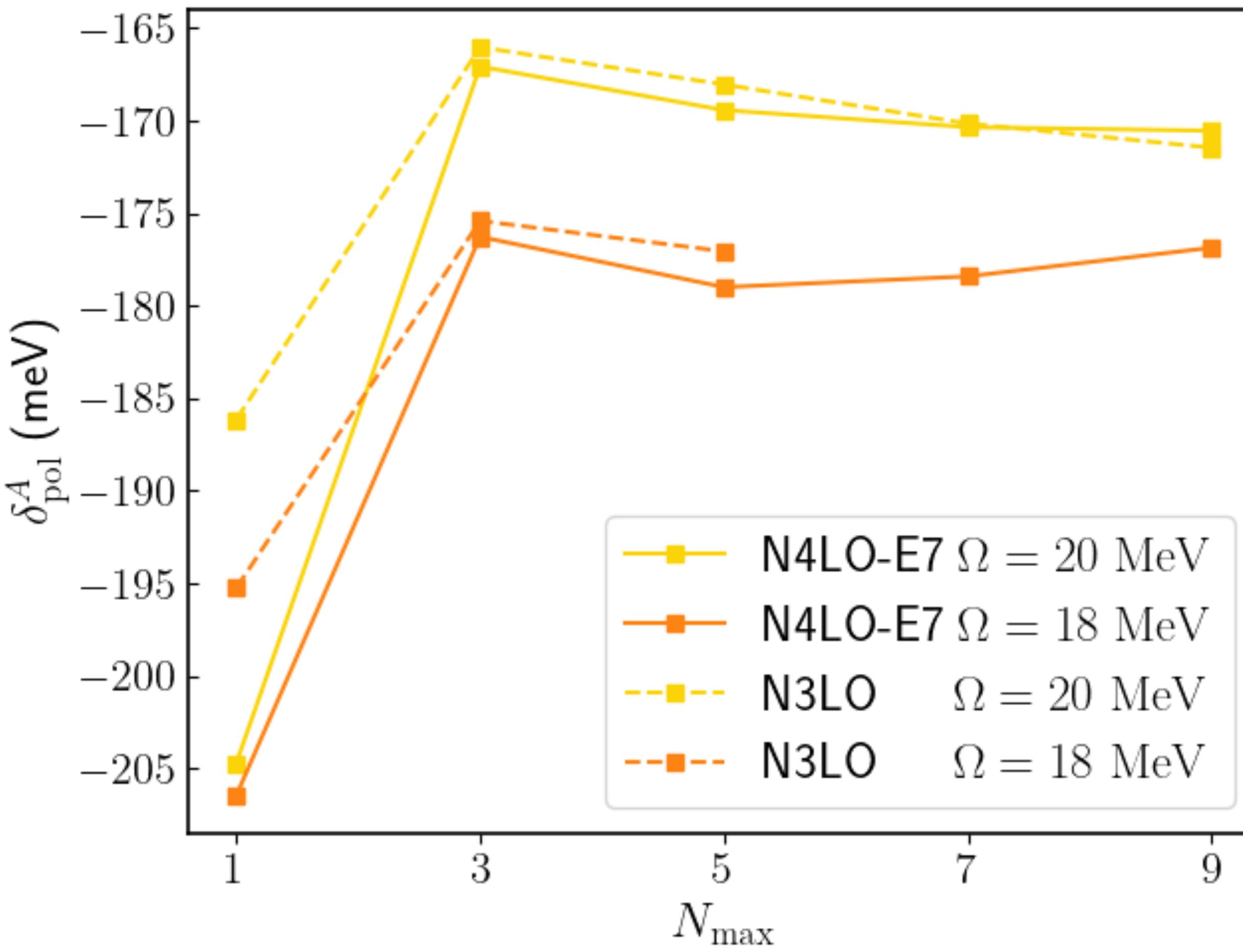
# Dependence on $(\Omega, N_{\max})$ and the interaction



## Numerical results

- ➊ Model-space dependence
  - Optimal frequency around 20 MeV
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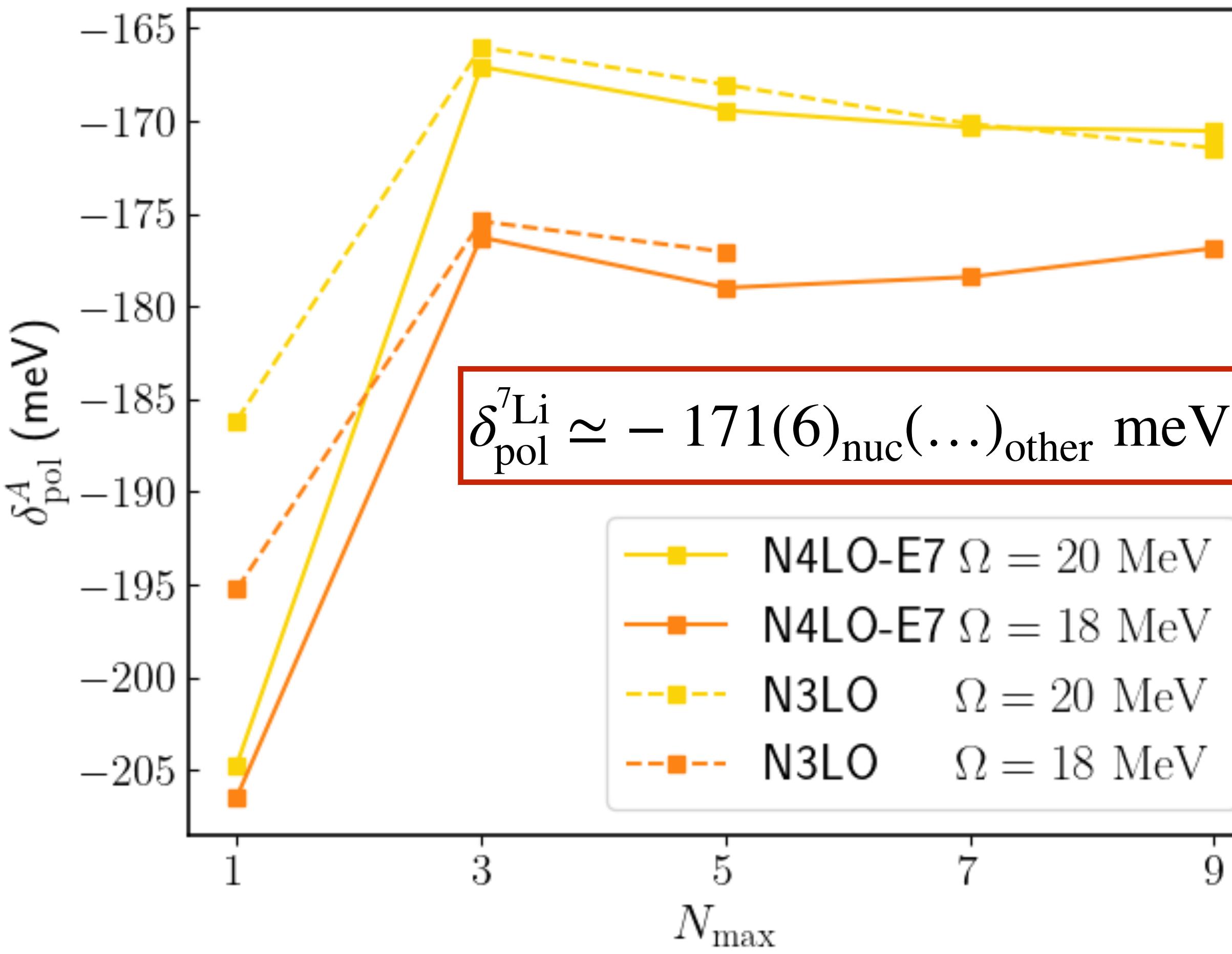
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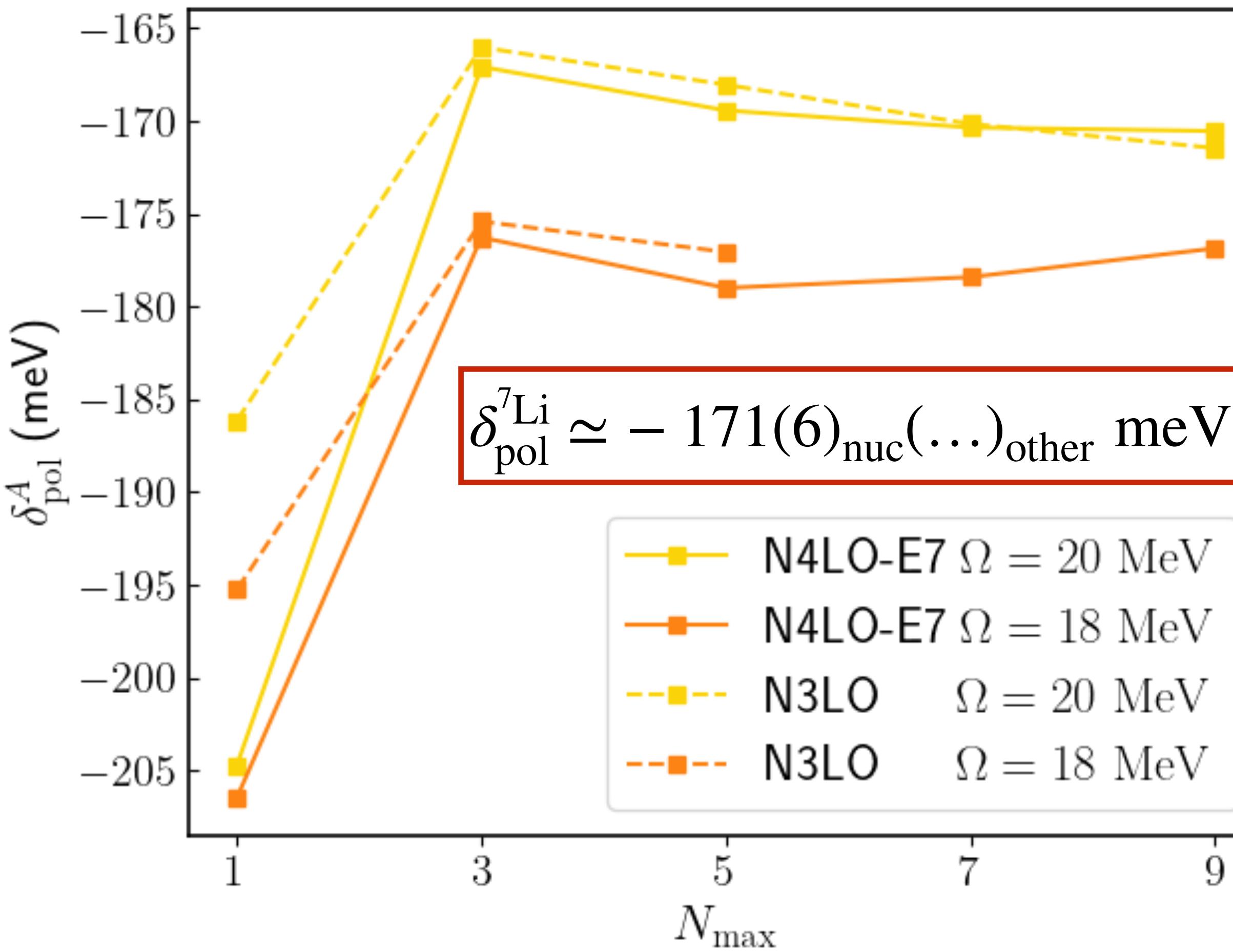
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A 10 meV precision for nuclear structure corrections seems doable in the near future!

# Conclusion

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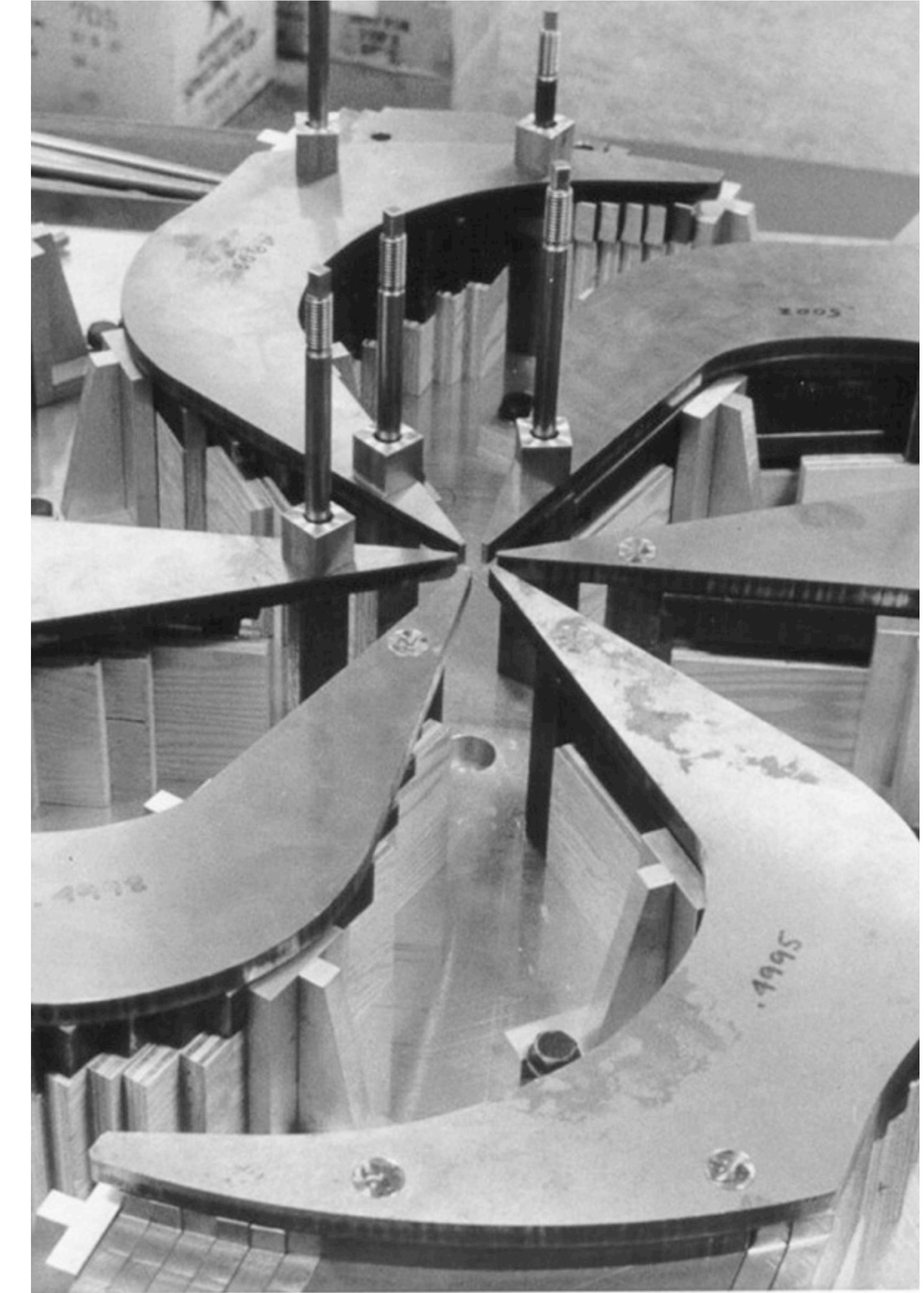
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- Towards better controlling theoretical uncertainty
  - Shifting from pheno towards EFT approach
  - EFT based on **potential-NRQED** for  $Z > 1$

Thank you  
Merci

[www.triumf.ca](http://www.triumf.ca)

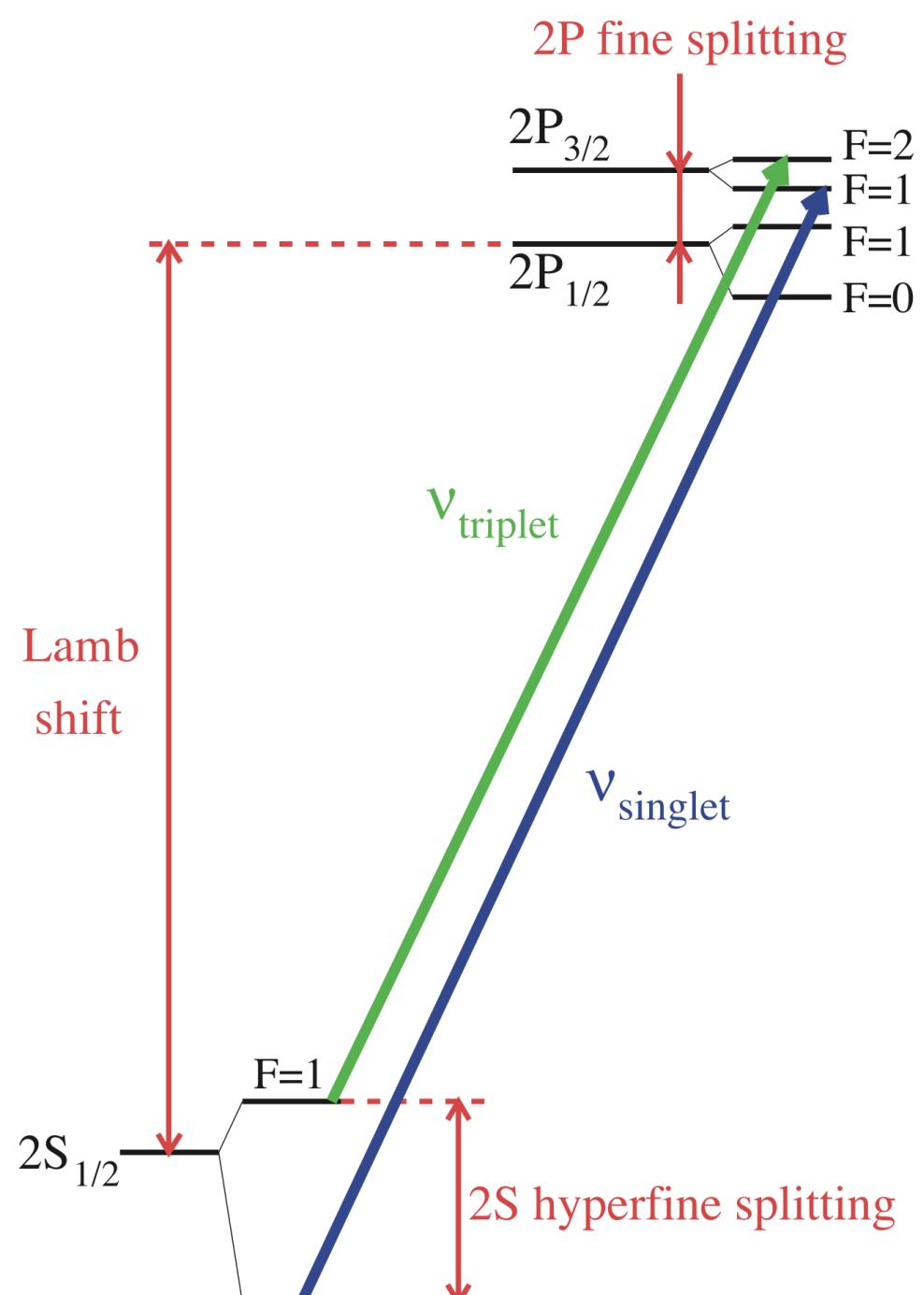
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# Backup slides

# The muonic Lamb shift as a precision probe

19

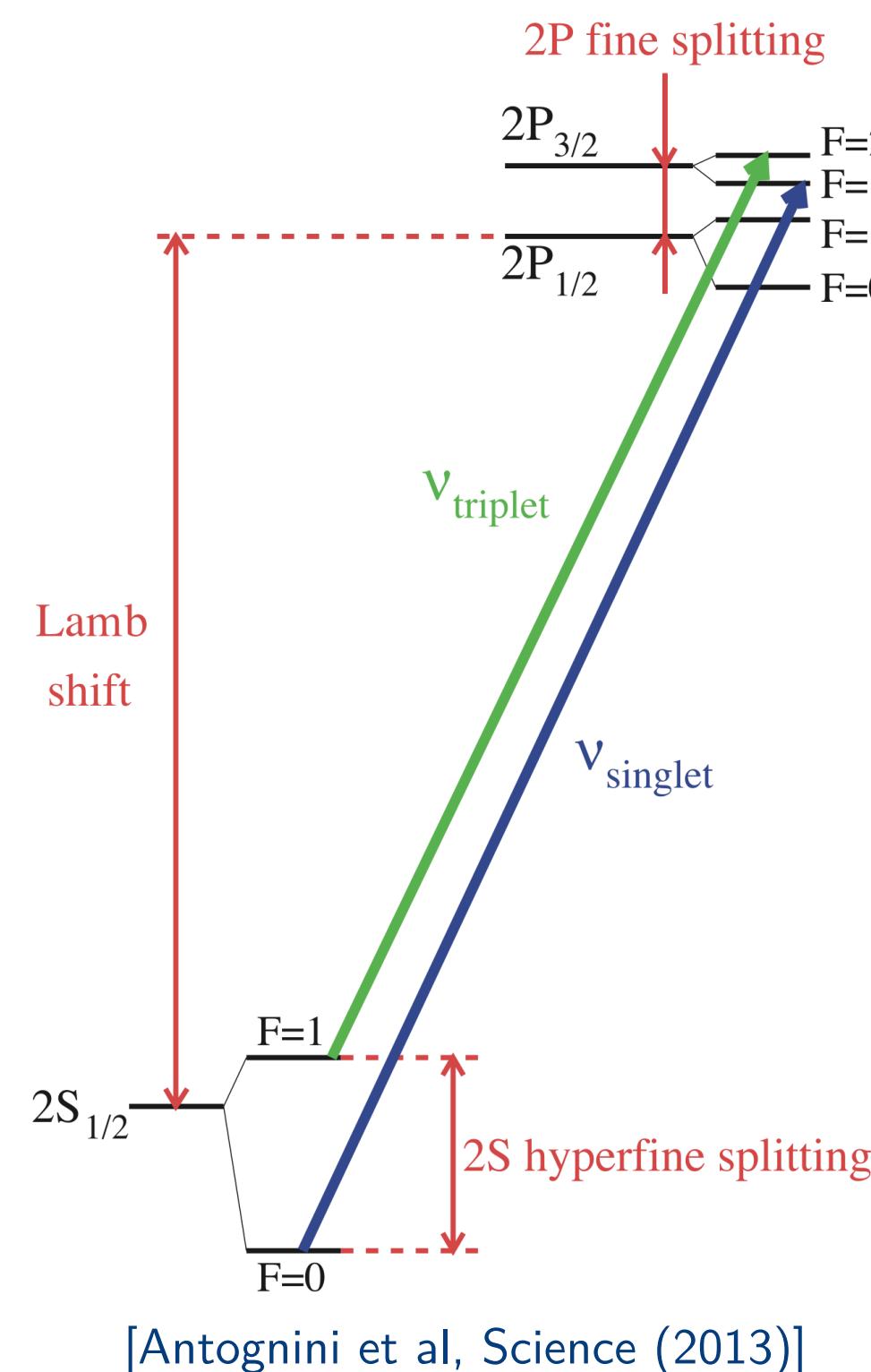
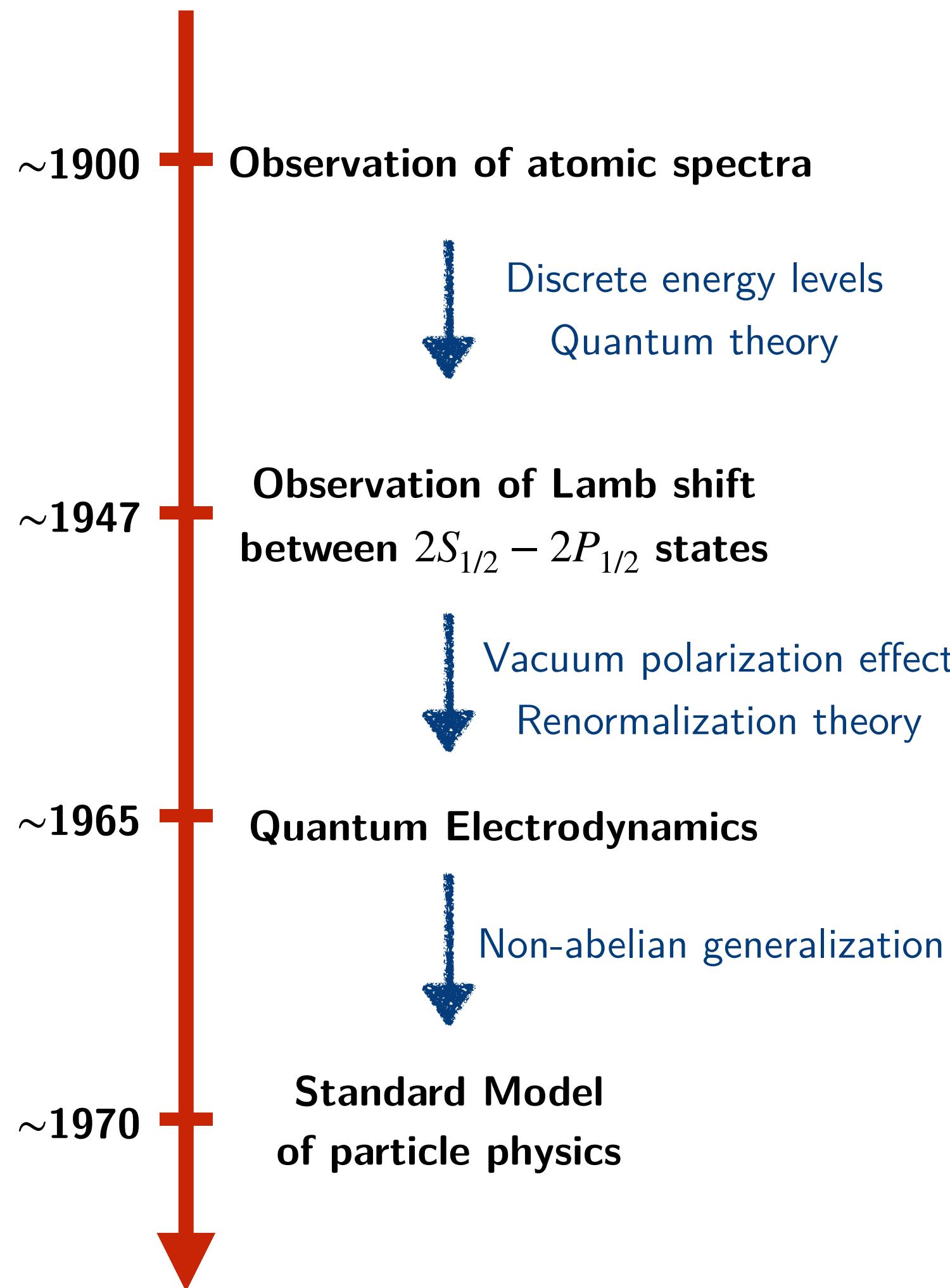


[Antognini et al, Science (2013)]

# The muonic Lamb shift as a precision probe

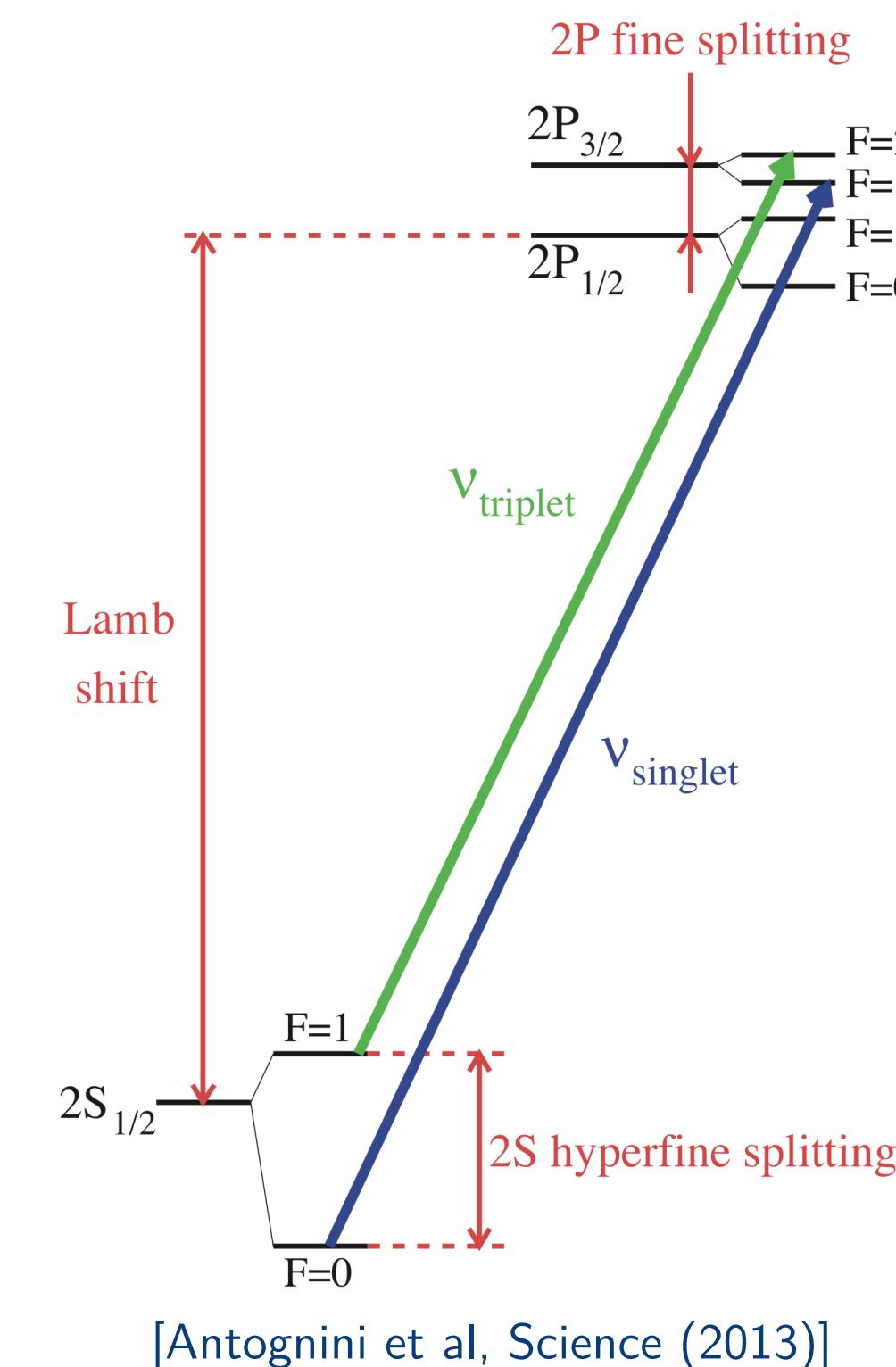
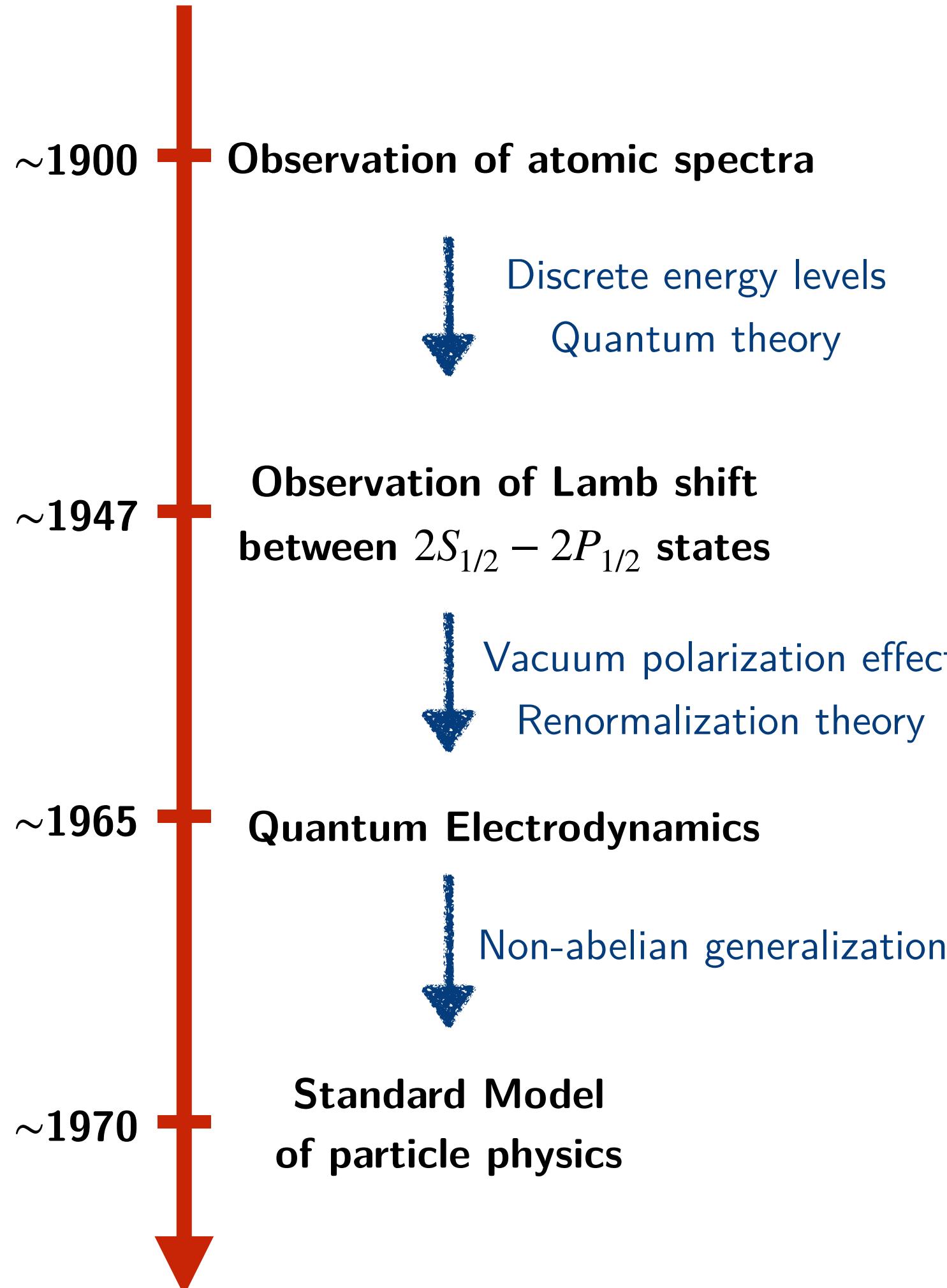
19

A key probe to develop the Standard Model...

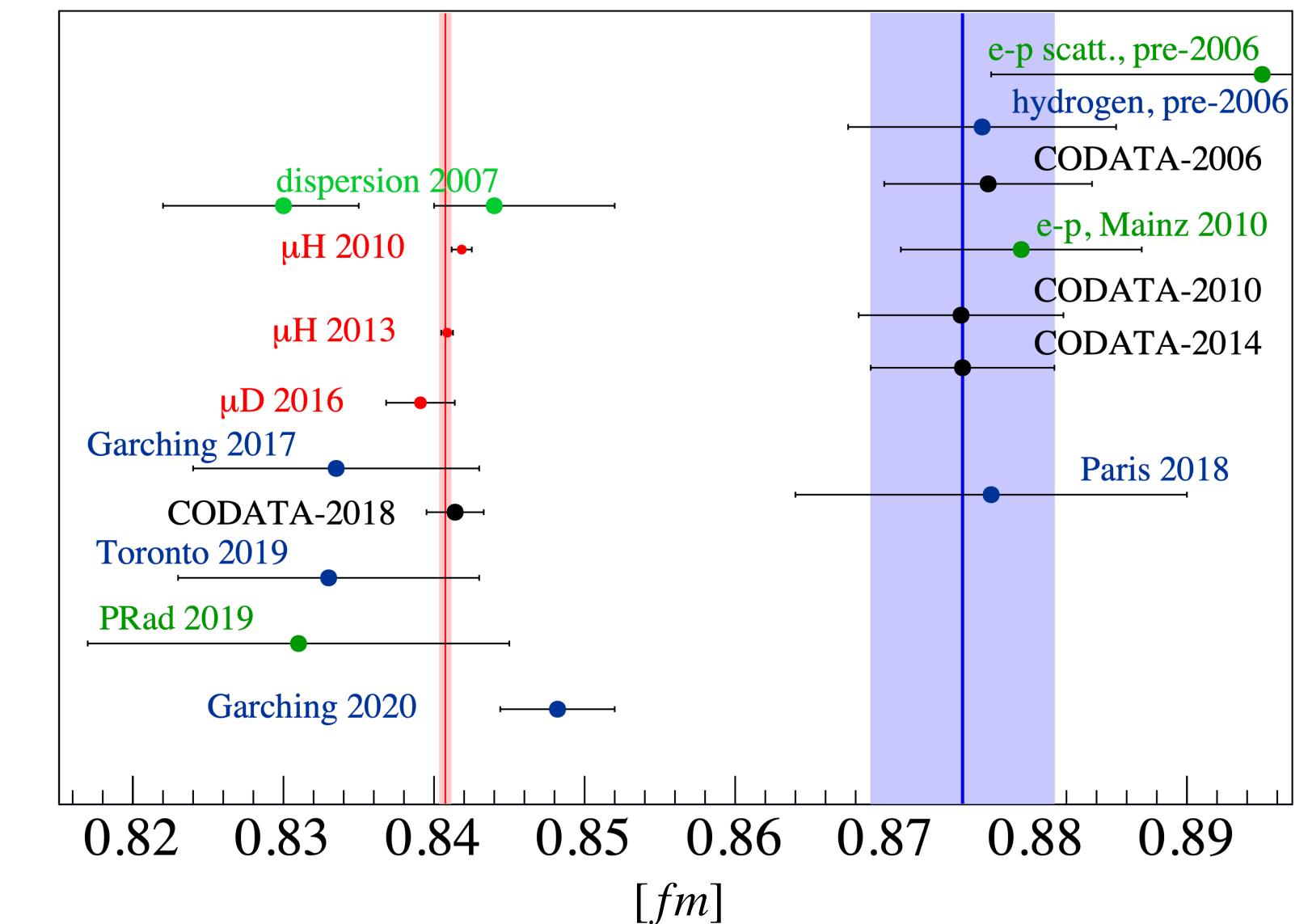


# The muonic Lamb shift as a precision probe

A key probe to develop the Standard Model...



... and pushing the precision frontier further



- Precise measurement of proton radius: [CODATA 2018]

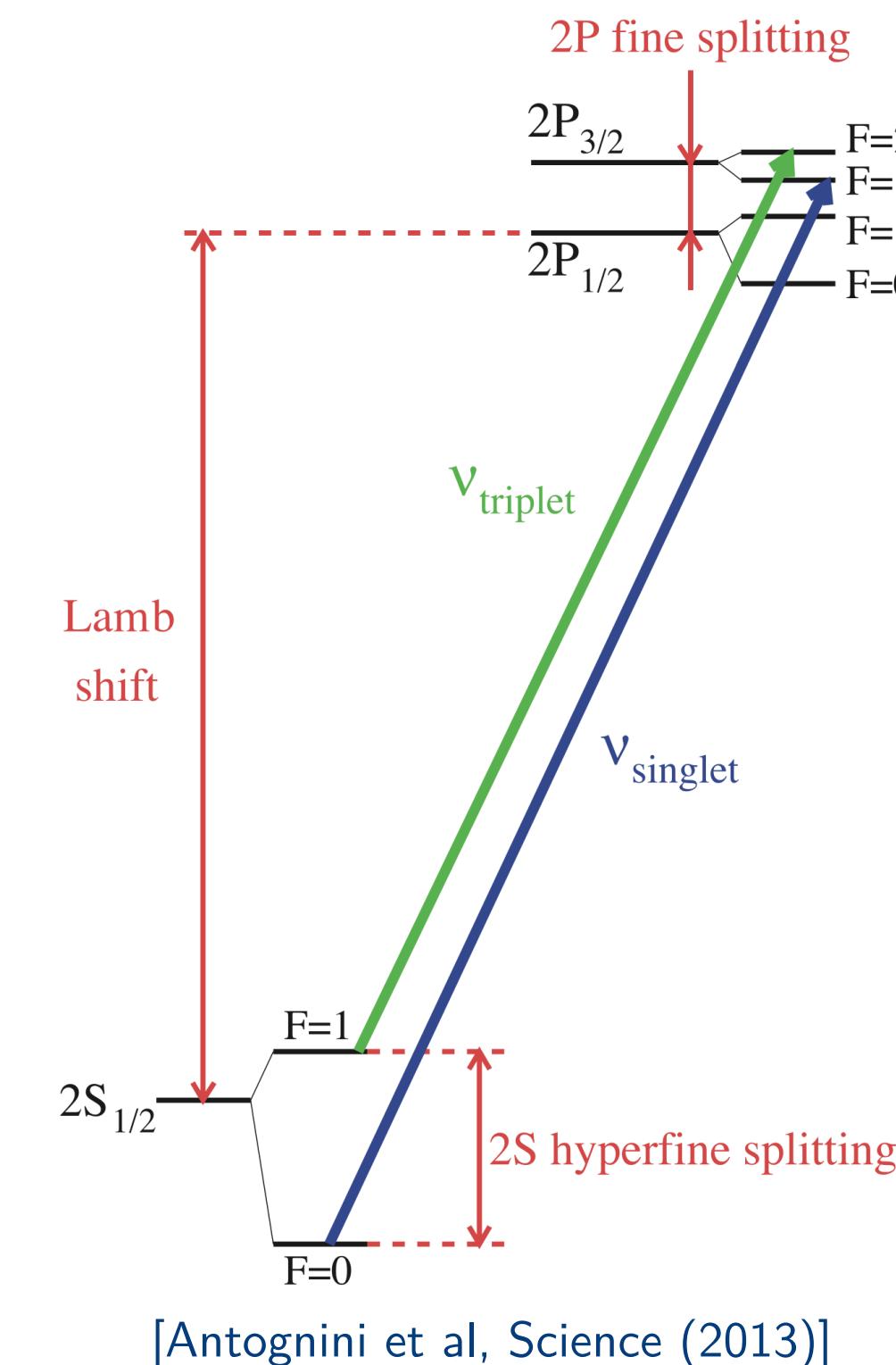
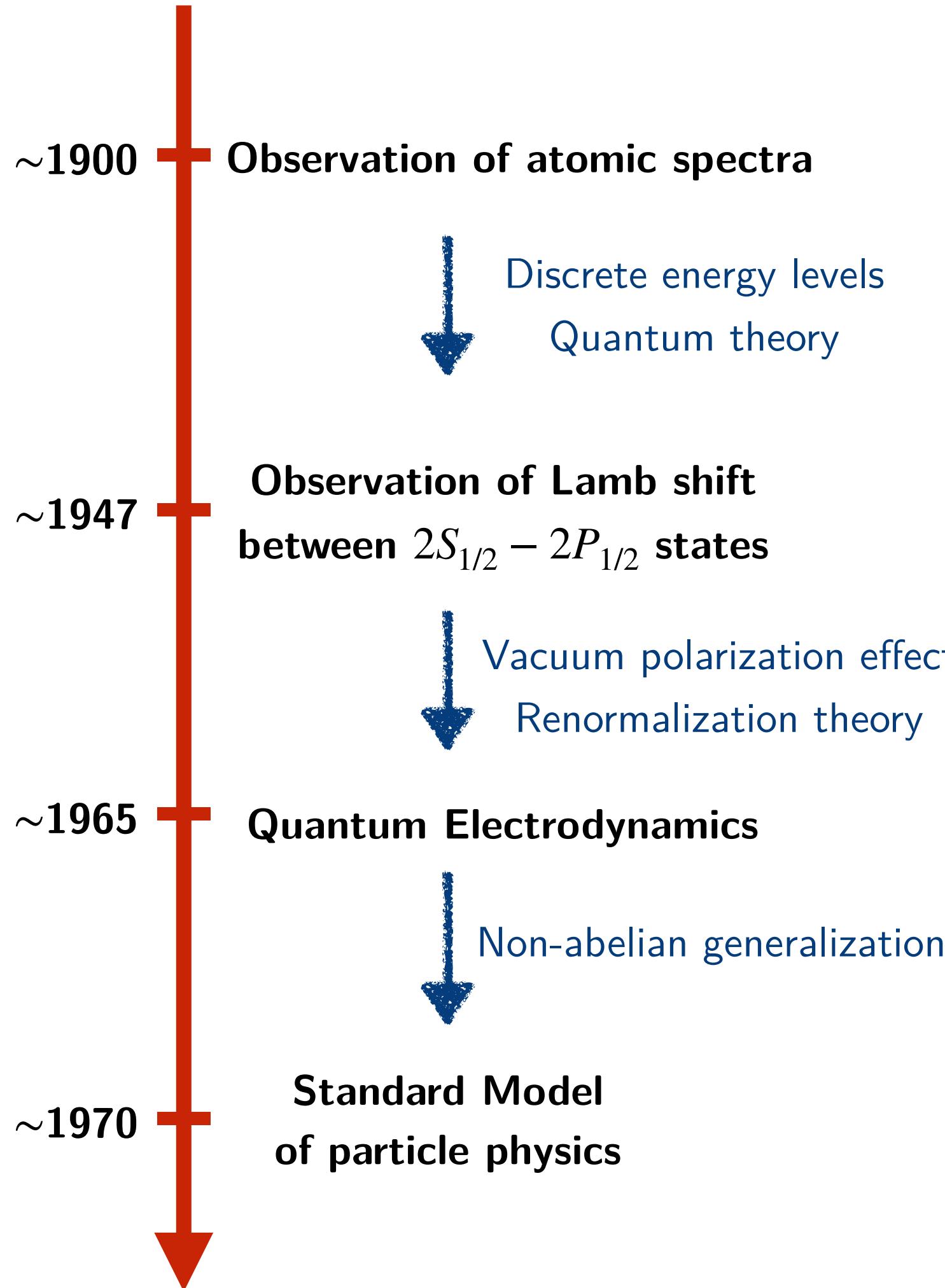
$$r_p = 8.414(19) \times 10^{-16} \text{ m}$$

- Rydberg constant re-evaluation: [CODATA 2018]

$$R_\infty = 10\ 973\ 731.568160(21) \text{ m}^{-1}$$

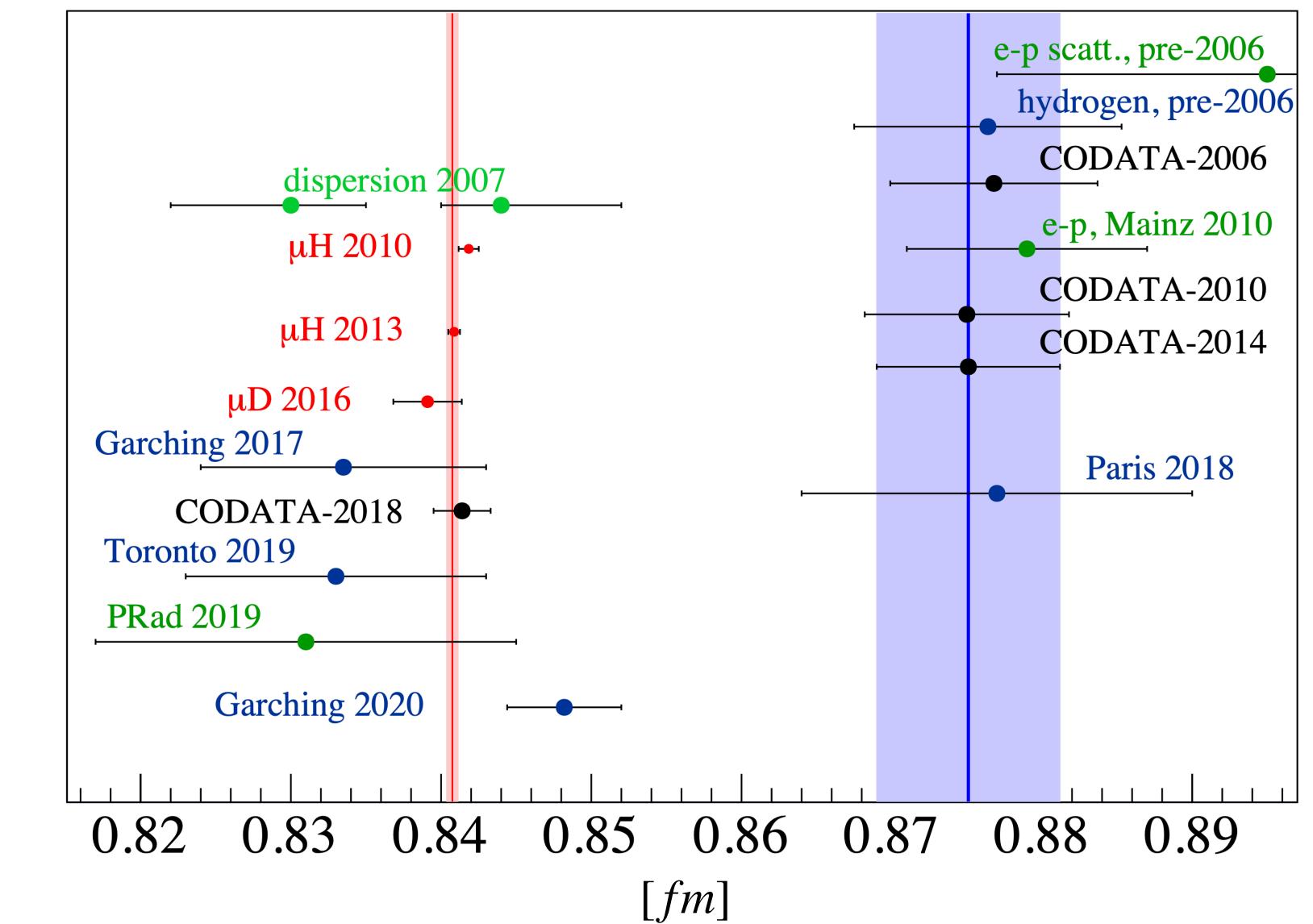
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And much more !!

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# Finite size nuclear contributions

20

## Finite nuclear size contribution

- Correction to account for non-point like nucleus
  - Similar approach as pure QED contributions
  - Multipole expansion of charge distribution
  - Main contributions  $\propto r_c^2$
- Beyond charge radius contributions
  - In principle higher order terms leads to multipoles of  $\rho$
  - Experiments not precise enough for now
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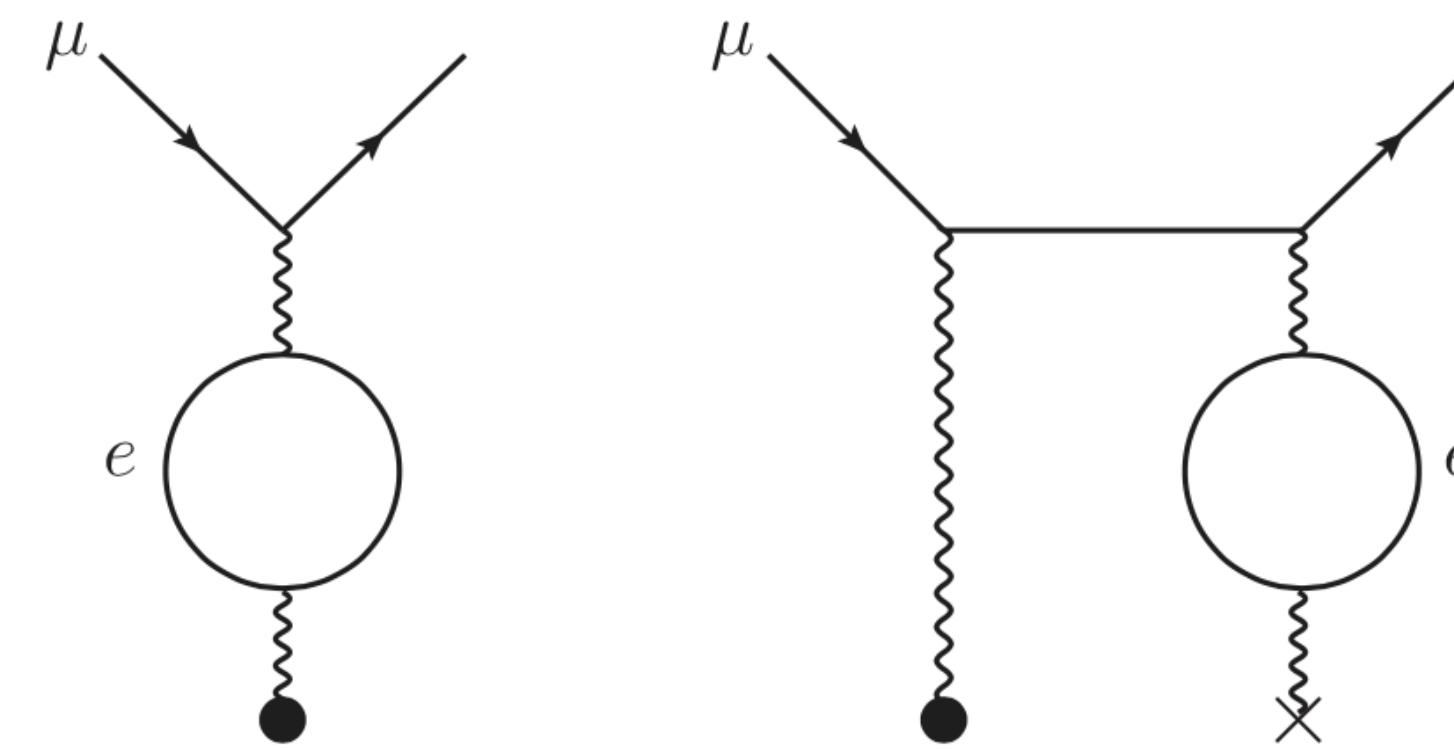
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⇒  $\mathcal{C}r_c^2$  term in  $\delta_{LS}$

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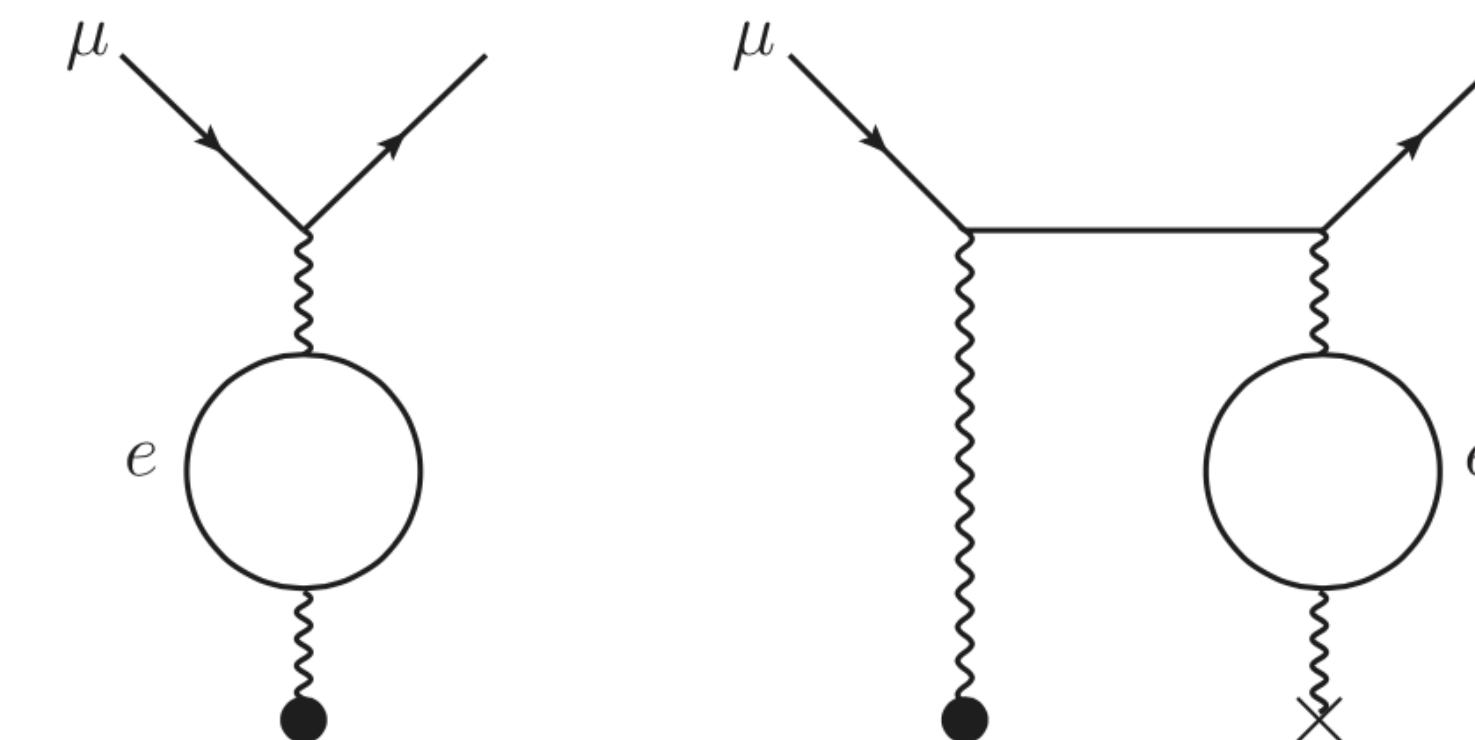
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[Pachucki et al. Review of Modern Physics (2024)]

Section	Order	Correction	$\mu H$	$\mu D$	$\mu^3 He^+$	$\mu^4 He^+$
IV.A	$(Z\alpha)^4$	$r_c^2$	$-5.1975r_p^2$	$-6.0732r_d^2$	$-102.523r_h^2$	$-105.322r_\alpha^2$
IV.B	$\alpha(Z\alpha)^4$	eVP <sup>(1)</sup> with $r_c^2$	$-0.0282r_p^2$	$-0.0340r_d^2$	$-0.851r_h^2$	$-0.878r_\alpha^2$
IV.C	$\alpha^2(Z\alpha)^4$	eVP <sup>(2)</sup> with $r_c^2$	$-0.0002r_p^2$	$-0.0002r_d^2$	$-0.009(1)r_h^2$	$-0.009(1)r_\alpha^2$

# Nuclear structure dependent corrections

21

## Nuclear structure effects

- Corrections accounting for non static effects
  - Nucleus is no longer treated as a structureless particle
  - Main contribution from **two-photon exchange**  $\delta_{TPE}$
  - **Nuclear excited states** become necessary
    - ➡  $\delta_{TPE}$  contributes at  $(Z\alpha)^5$
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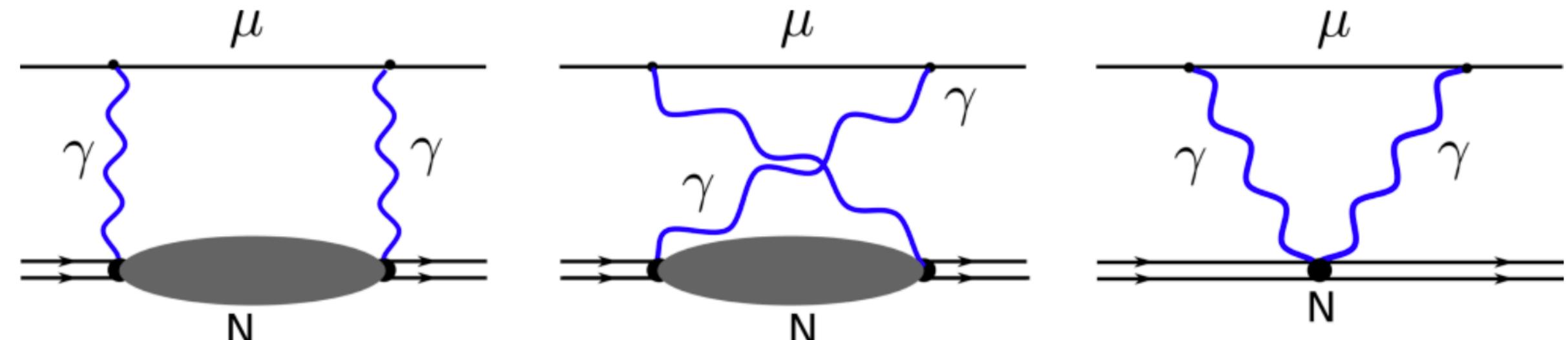
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## Two photon exchanges contributions



$$\Delta E_{nl} = - \frac{(4\pi Z\alpha)}{m_r} |\phi_{nl}(0)|^2 \text{Im} \int \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4} D^{\mu\rho}(q) D^{\nu\tau}(-q) t_{\mu\nu}(q, k) T_{\rho\tau}(q, -q)$$

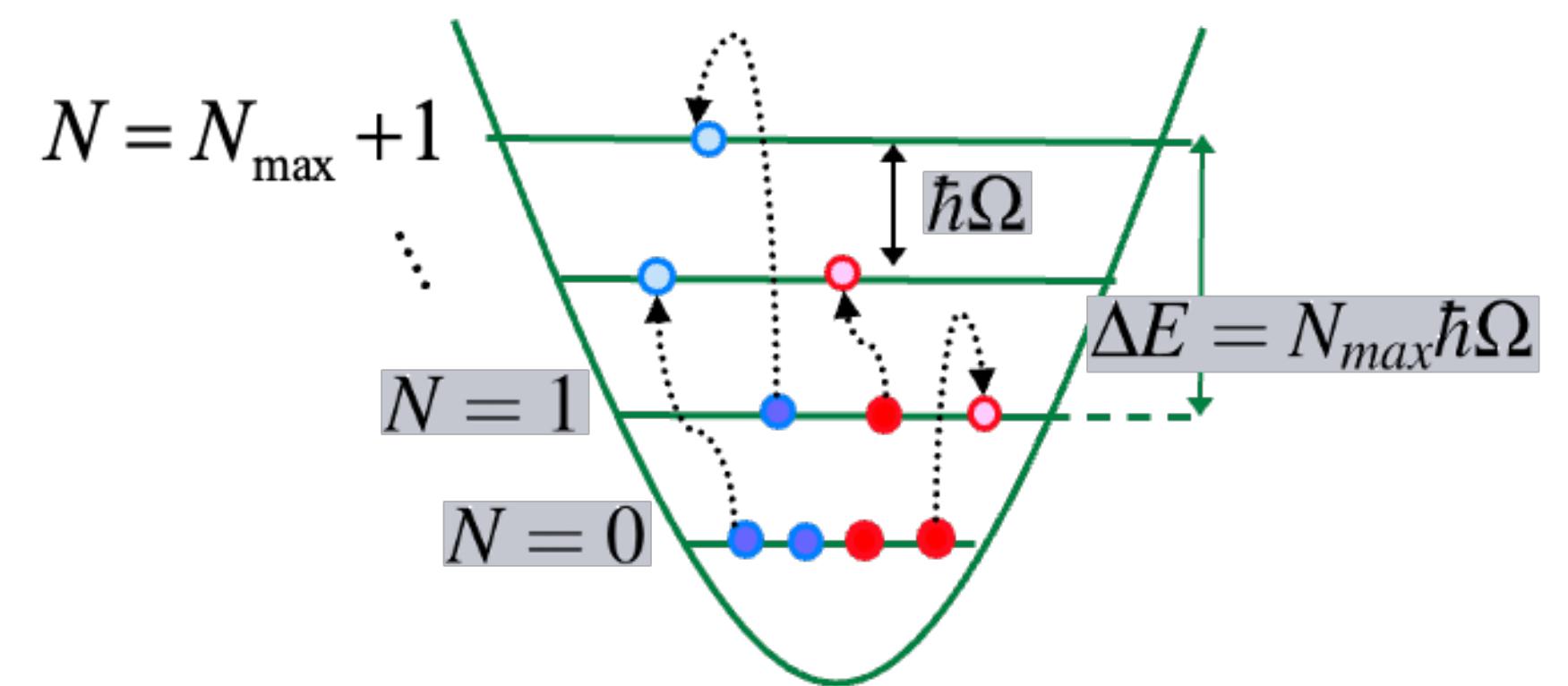
with:

- $D^{\mu\nu}(q) \equiv$  the photon propagator
- $t_{\mu\nu} \equiv$  the leptonic tensor
- $T_{\mu\nu} \equiv$  the hadronic tensor [Bernabeu et al, Nuclear Physics A (1974)]  
[Rosenfelder Nuclear Physics A (1983)]
- $k \equiv (m_r, 0)$  [Hernandez et al. Physical Review C (2019)]

# Ab initio No-Core Shell Model calculations

22

Anti-symmetrized products of  
many-body HO states



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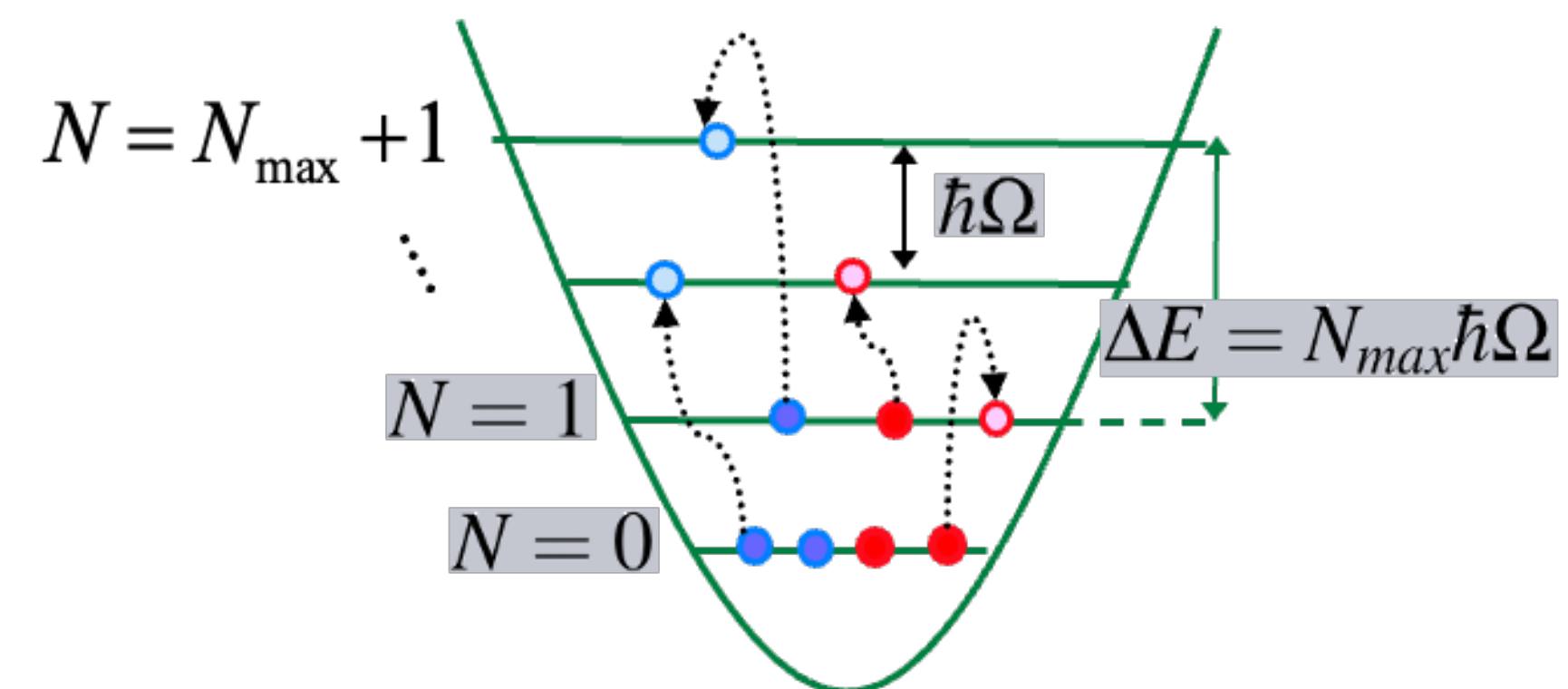
## Lanczos tridiagonalization algorithm [Lanczos (1950)]

- Initialization: normalized pivot  $|\phi_1\rangle$
- Recursion:  $\alpha_i$ ,  $\beta_i$  and  $|\phi_i\rangle$ 
  - $\beta_{i+1}|\phi_{i+1}\rangle = H|\phi_i\rangle - \alpha_i|\phi_i\rangle - \beta_i|\phi_{i-1}\rangle$
  - $\alpha_i = \langle\phi_i|H|\phi_i\rangle$  and  $\beta_{i+1}$  st  $\langle\phi_{i+1}|\phi_{i+1}\rangle = 1$
- Output:
  - Lanczos basis and coefficients  $\{|\phi_i\rangle, \alpha_i, \beta_i\}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & \beta_2 & & & \\ \beta_2 & \alpha_2 & \beta_3 & & \\ \beta_3 & \alpha_3 & \ddots & & \\ \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \beta_{k-1} & \\ & & & \beta_{k-1} & \alpha_{k-1} & \beta_k \\ & & & & \beta_k & \alpha_k \end{pmatrix}$$

$\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}}$  **H in Lanczos basis**

## Anti-symmetrized products of many-body HO states



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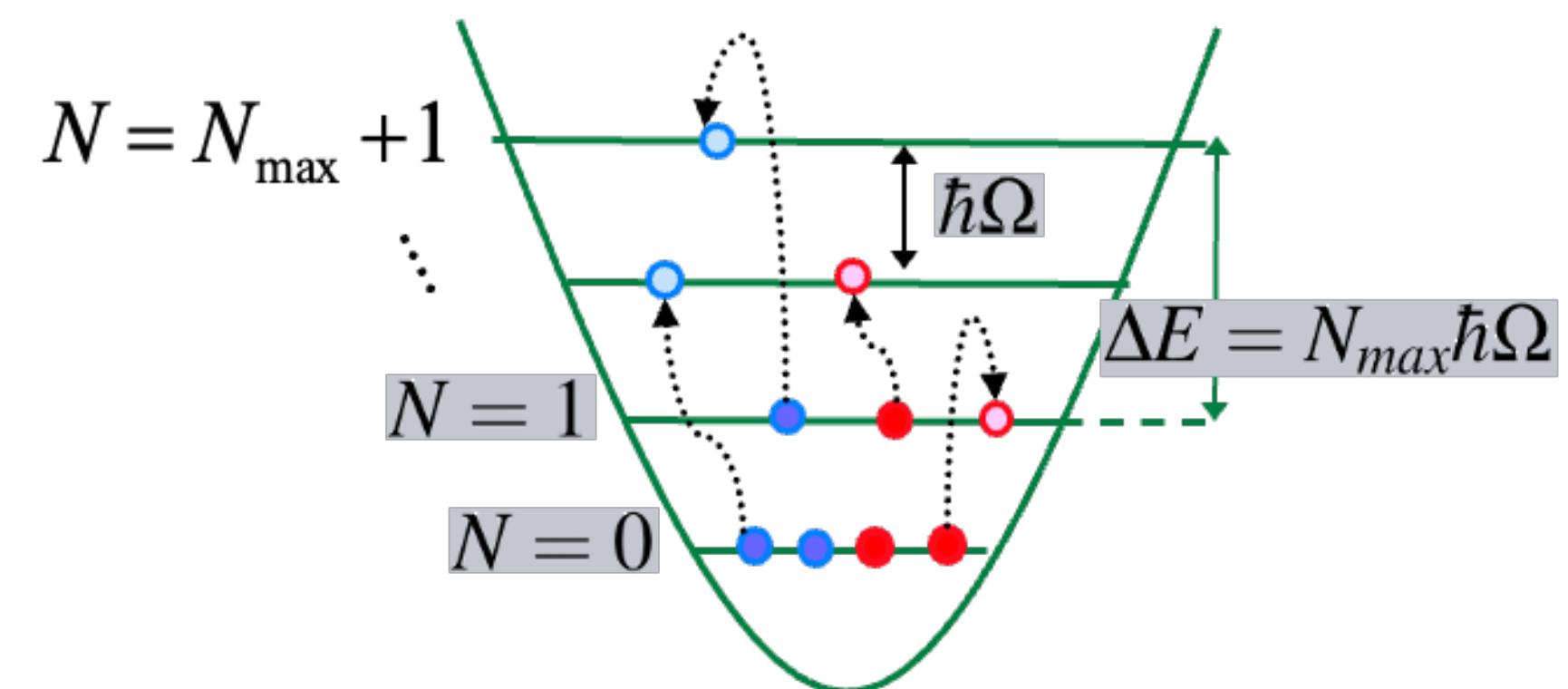
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  - $\beta_{i+1}|\phi_{i+1}\rangle = H|\phi_i\rangle - \alpha_i|\phi_i\rangle - \beta_i|\phi_{i-1}\rangle$
  - $\alpha_i = \langle\phi_i|H|\phi_i\rangle$  and  $\beta_{i+1}$  st  $\langle\phi_{i+1}|\phi_{i+1}\rangle = 1$
- Output:
  - Lanczos basis and coefficients  $\{|\phi_i\rangle, \alpha_i, \beta_i\}$

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$\rightarrow$  **H in Lanczos basis**

## Anti-symmetrized products of many-body HO states



## Application to nuclear structure

- Efficient calculation of spectra
  - Selection rules  $\Rightarrow$  **Fast matrix-vector multiplication**
  - In practice:  $N_L \sim 100 - 200$  is sufficient
- Application to  $^7\text{Li}$ 
  - $N_L = 200$  for  $N_{\max} = 1$  to 9
  - Ground-state of  $^7\text{Li}$   $|\Psi\rangle \Rightarrow$  **Starting point for  $\delta_{\text{pol}}^A$**

# Ab initio No-Core Shell Model calculations

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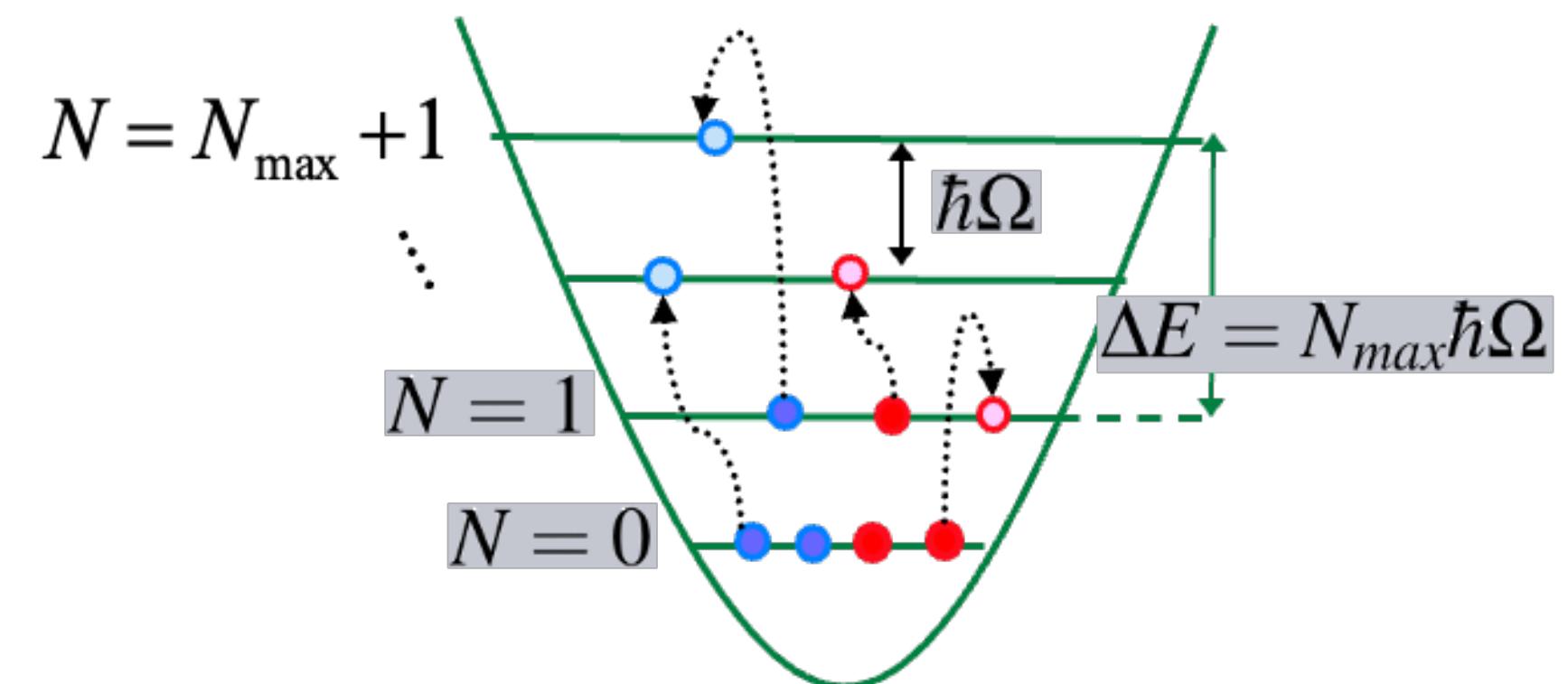
## Lanczos tridiagonalization algorithm [Lanczos (1950)]

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## Lanczos-strength algorithm for $\delta_{\text{pol}}^A$

- Spectral function obtained with a second Lanczos:
  - Pivot based on 1<sup>st</sup> Lanczos output:  $|\phi'_1\rangle = \frac{O|\Psi^{J\pi T}\rangle}{\sqrt{\langle\Psi^{J\pi T}|O^\dagger O|\Psi^{J\pi T}\rangle}}$
  - **Strengths:**  $|\langle\Psi_n^{J\pi T}|O|\Psi^{J\pi T}\rangle|^2 = |\langle\phi'_1|\Psi_n^{J\pi T}\rangle|^2 \langle\Psi^{J\pi T}|O^\dagger O|\Psi^{J\pi T}\rangle$
- Convergence properties:
  - Recovers **exactly** the first  $2n$  moments for  $n$  Lanczos steps!
  - **One additional NCSM run per operator**

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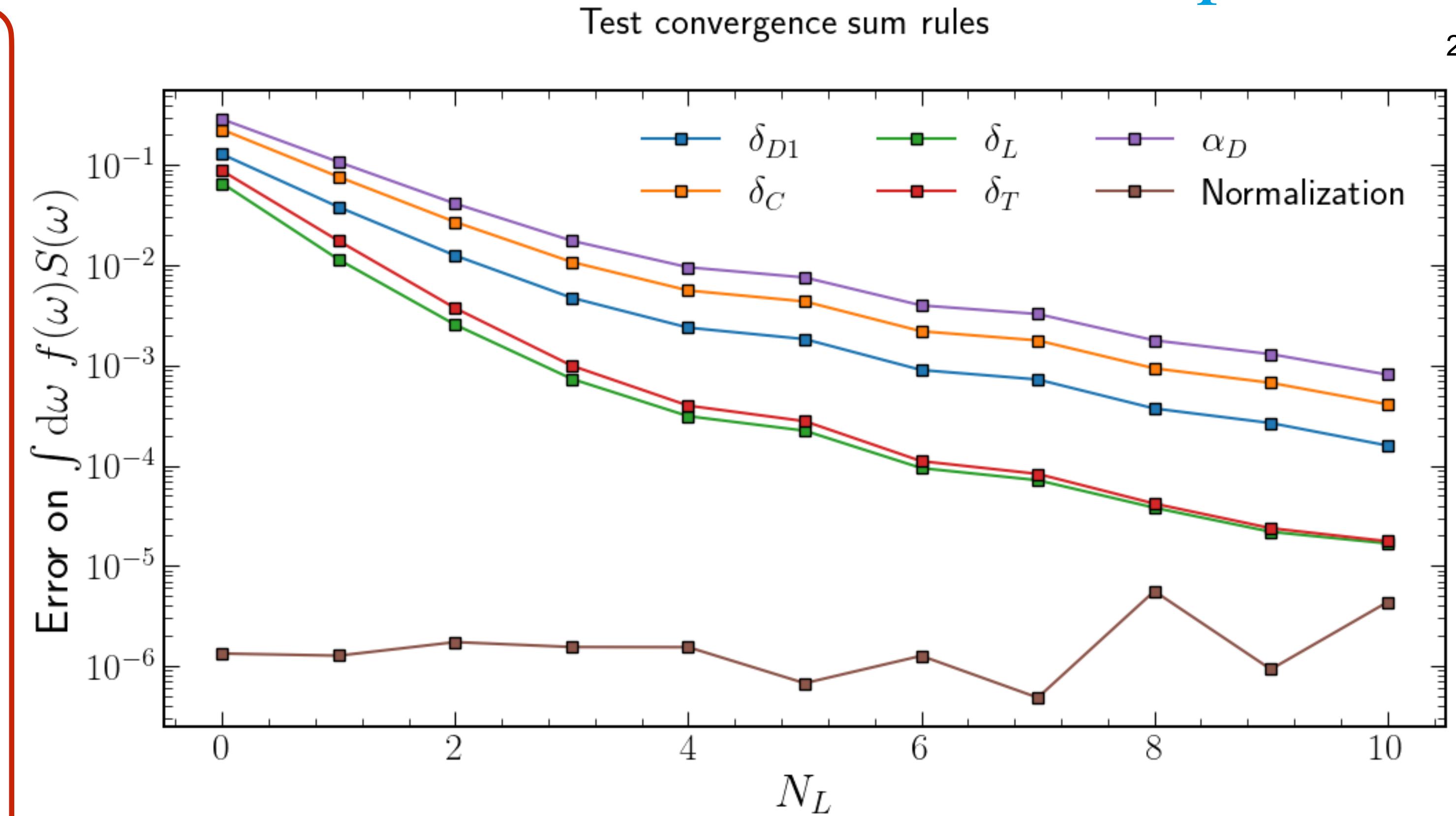
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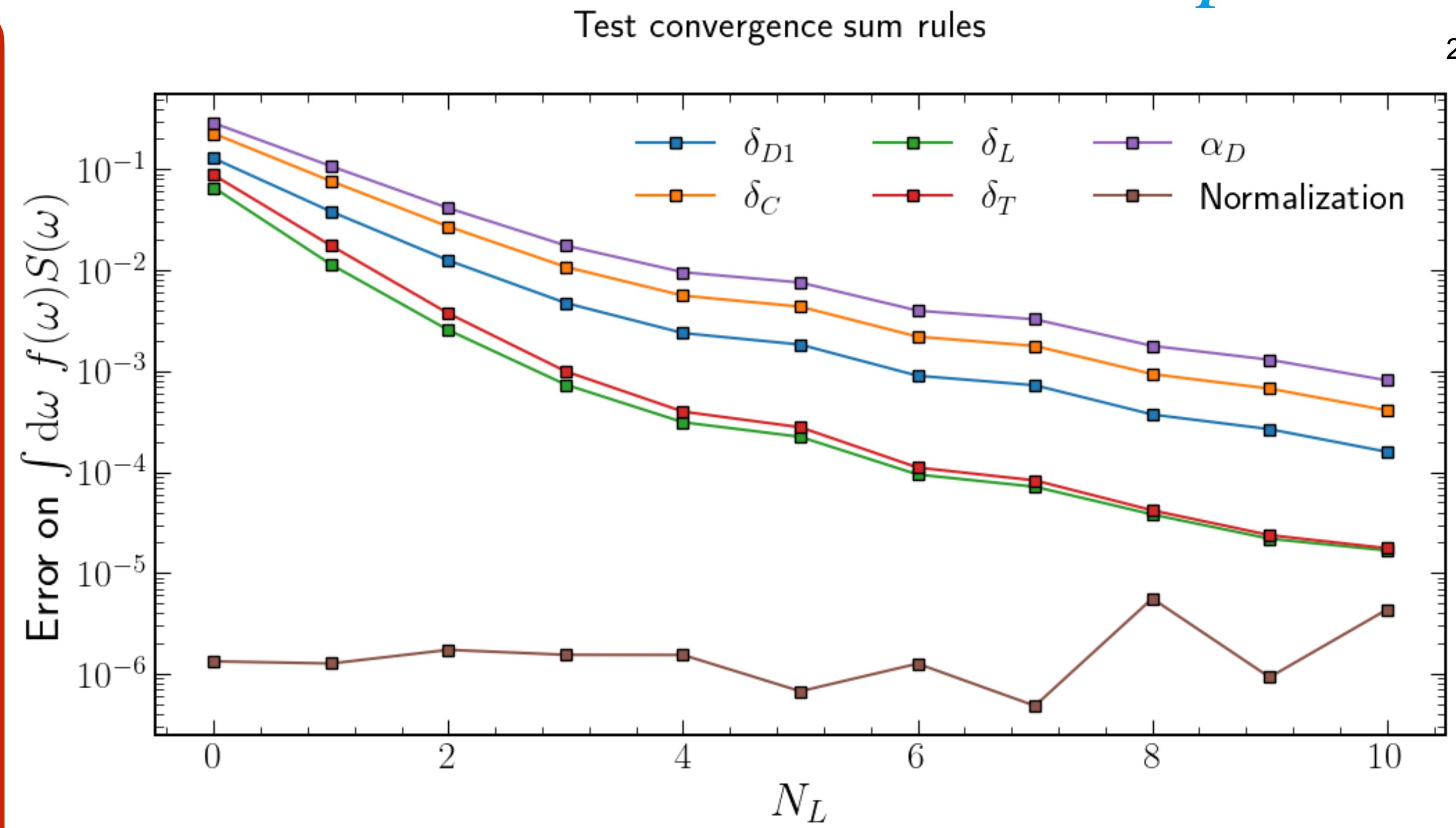


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    - Sum rules converge quickly  $\Rightarrow N_L = 50$  is sufficient
    - Reaches plateau around  $\sim 10^{-5}$  relative error

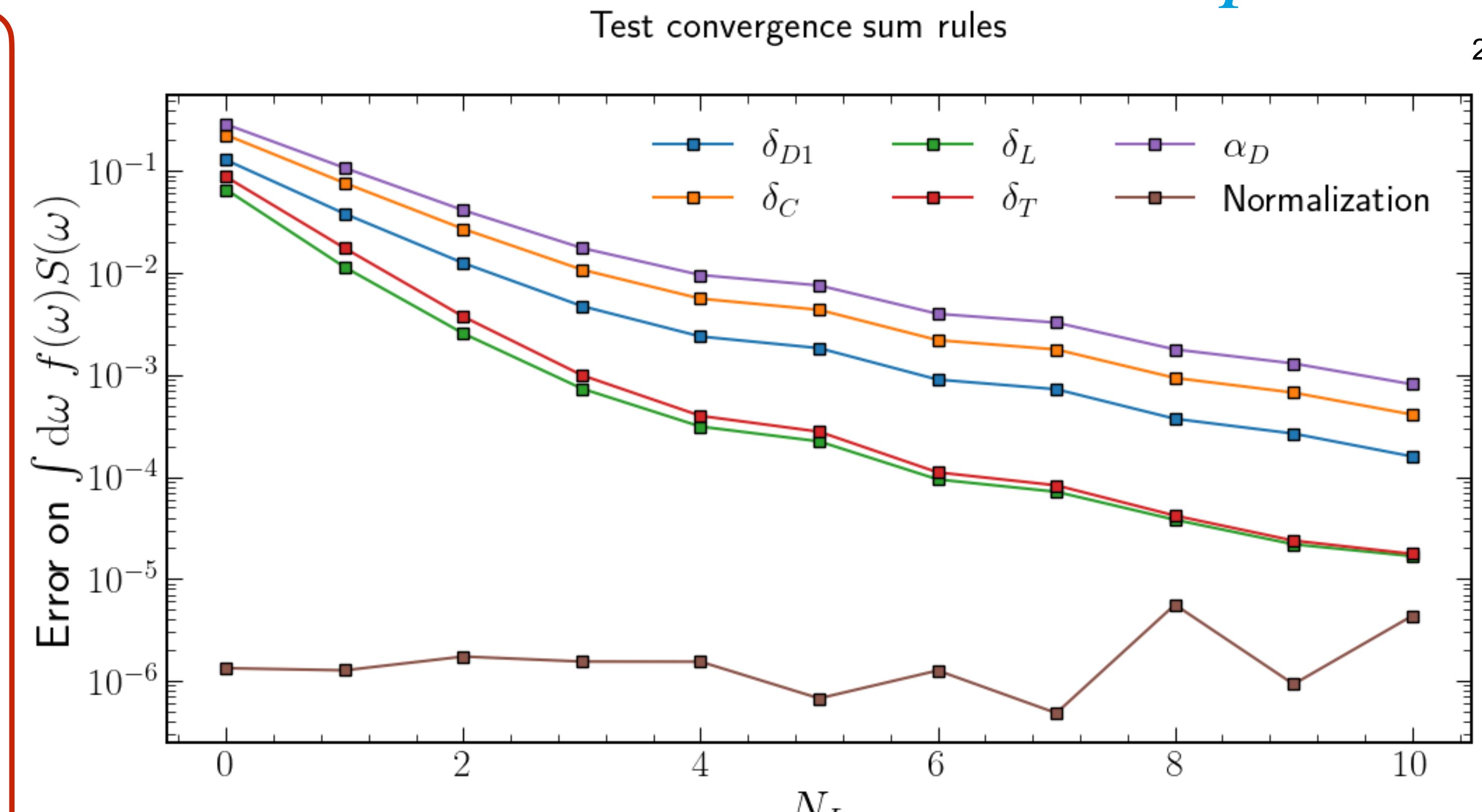


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**First conclusion:** numerical noise from Lanczos algo is negligible

**Next step:** q-dependent calculations of  $\delta_{pol}^A$  !