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And now for
something
a little bit
different!



Calvin W. Johnson, San Diego State University

This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Office of Nuclear Physics, under Award Number DE-FG02-96ER40985”

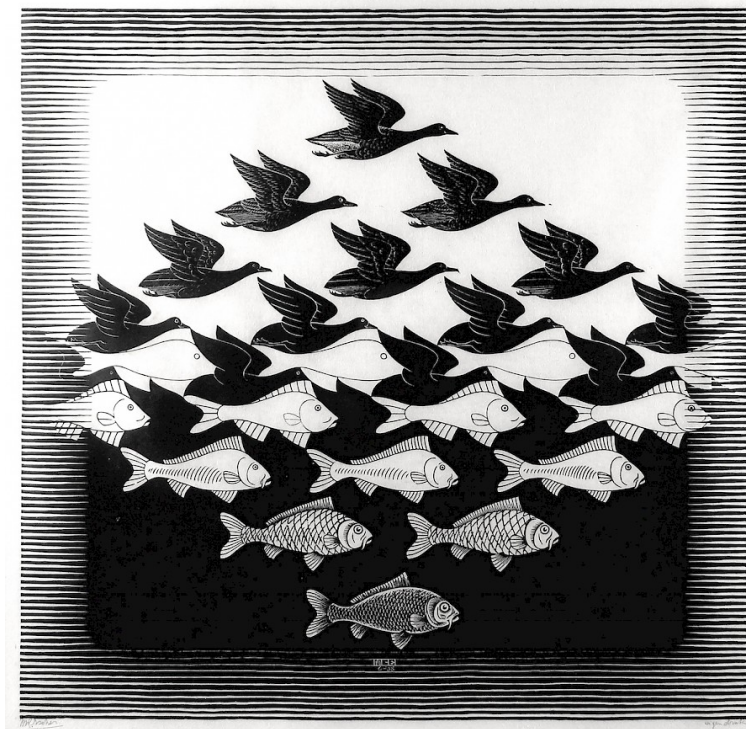
Progress in ab initio methods/ TRIUMF / Feb 28 2019

SRG through the lens of group theory

The Similarity Renormalization Group seen through the lens of Group Theory



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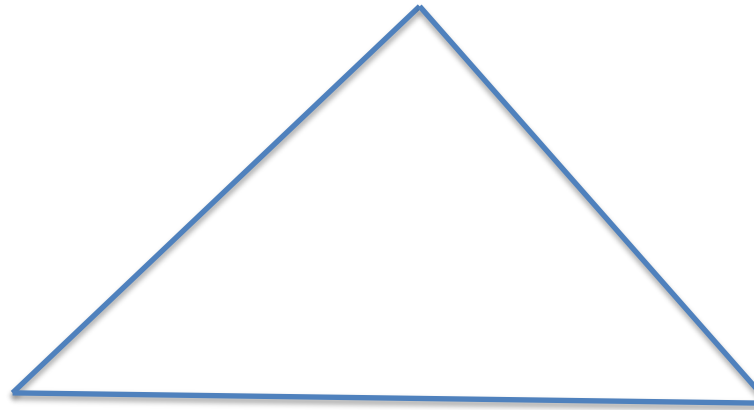
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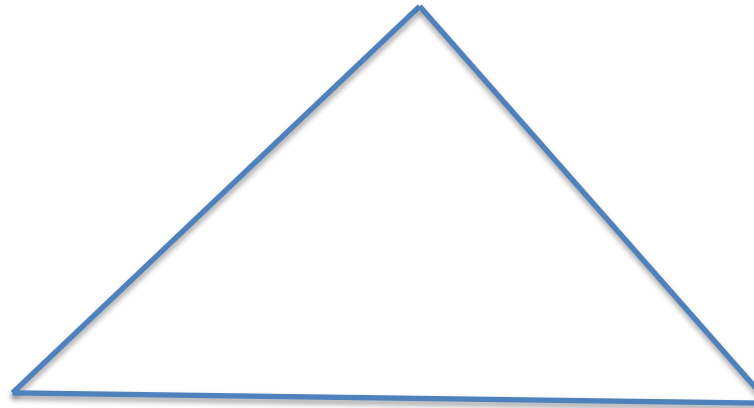


This talk has the shape of a triangle:





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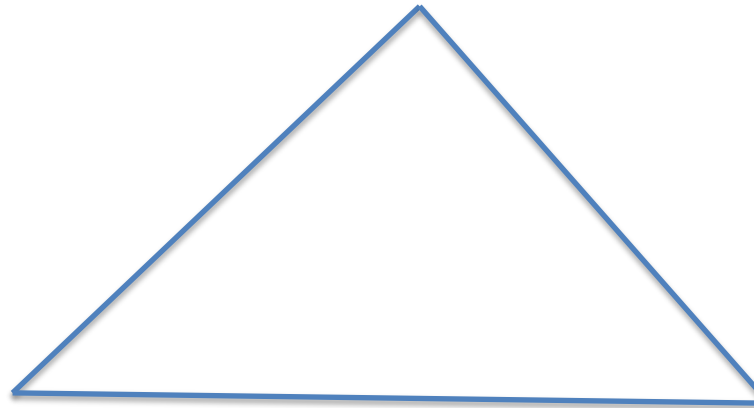


SRG: the similarity
renormalization group:
-> *unitary*
transformations



This talk has the shape of a triangle:

Decomposing shell model
wave functions by group irreps
-> *quasi-dynamical symmetries*



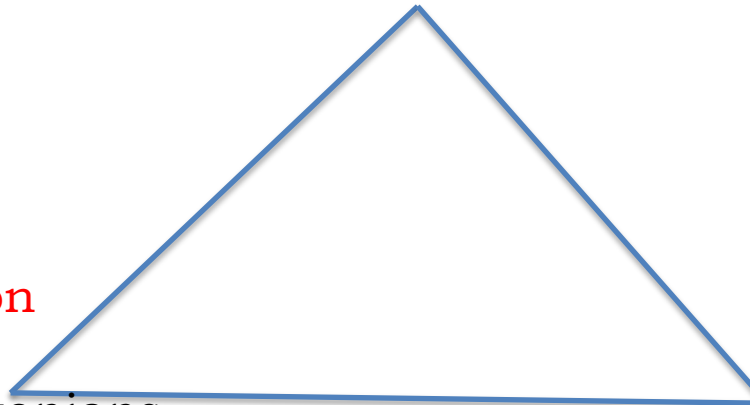
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**Spectral distribution
theory**, a metric on
the space of Hamiltonians
-> *a new way to look at SRG
and a new SRG*



SRG: the **similarity
renormalization group**:
-> *unitary
transformations*

In configuration-interaction method
(a.k.a. shell model diagonalization):

we use the matrix formalism



Maria Mayer

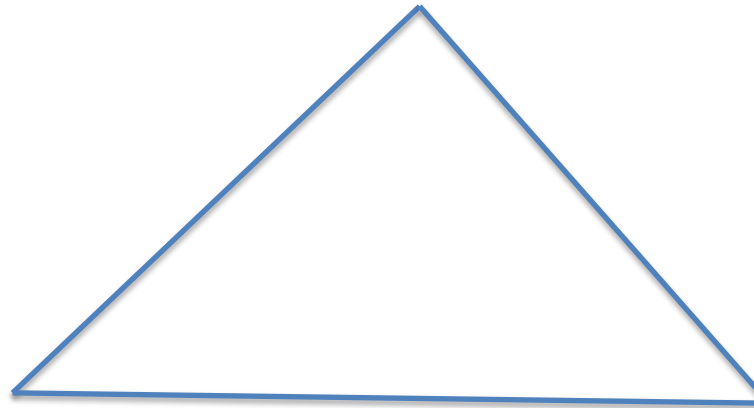
$$\hat{\mathbf{H}}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$$

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha} |\alpha\rangle \quad H_{\alpha\beta} = \langle \alpha | \hat{\mathbf{H}} | \beta \rangle$$

$$\sum_{\beta} H_{\alpha\beta} c_{\beta} = E c_{\alpha}$$

To facilitate calculations, we often
“soften” the nuclear interaction using
the similarity renormalization group





SRG: the similarity
renormalization group:
-> *unitary*
transformations



The *similarity renormalization group (SRG)* is widely used in *ab initio* calculations to transform and soften the nuclear force





$$H(s) = U(s)H(0)U^\dagger(s)$$

$$U(s) = e^\eta$$

$$\frac{dH(s)}{ds} = [\eta, H(s)]$$

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Typically, $\eta = [G, H]$
where G is the *generator*.

SRG drives $H(s)$ to be “more like” G .
(More on this soon).

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A common choice is the kinetic energy

The *similarity renormalization group (SRG)* is widely used in *ab initio* calculations to transform and soften the nuclear force





$H(s) =$

SRG is applied at the few-body level;
how can we understand the effect
on the many-body wave function?

U

ΔH

The nuclear force



$$\gamma = [G, H]$$

the *generator*.

$H(s)$ to be “more like” G .

(this soon).



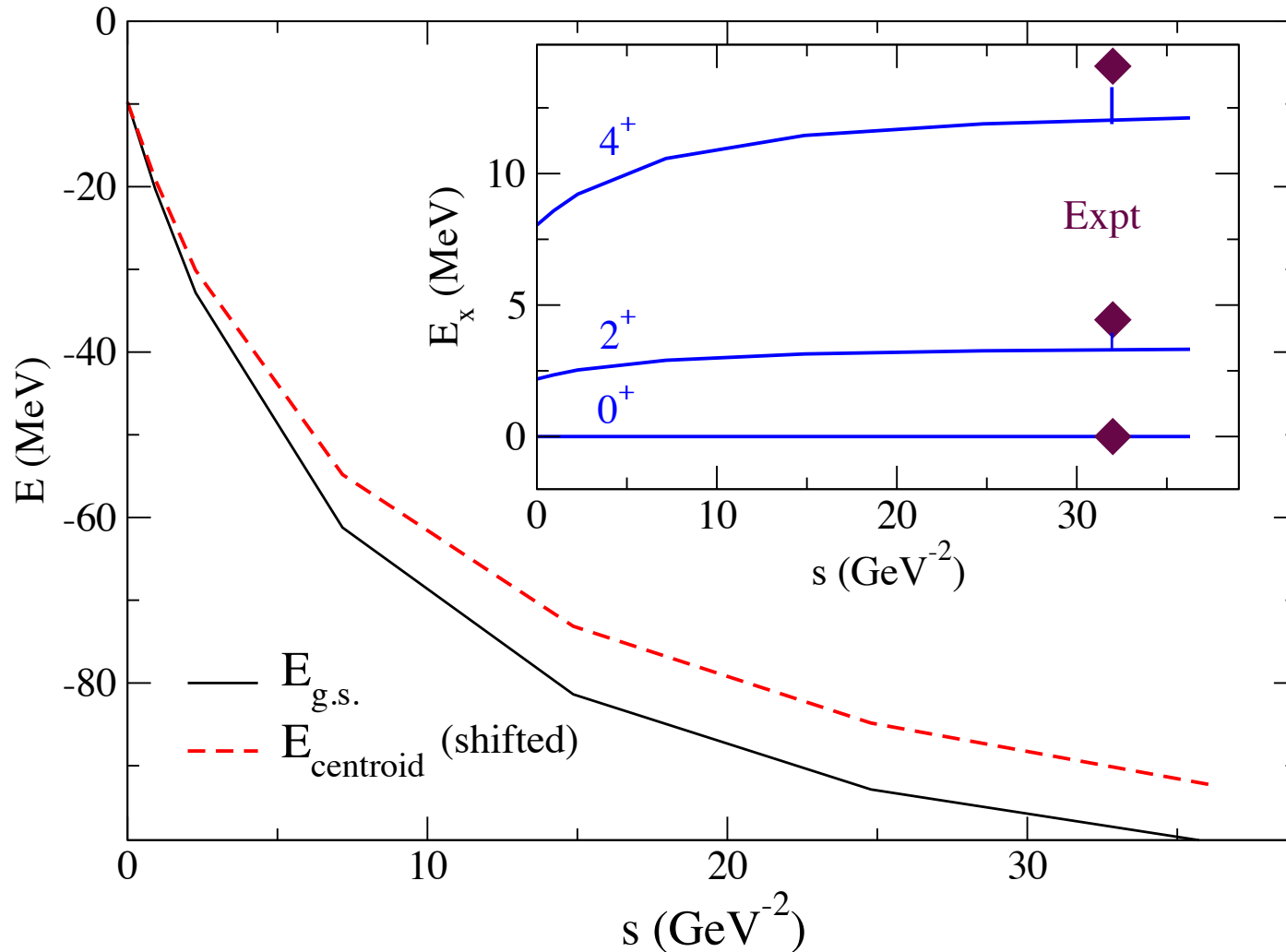
A common choice is the kinetic energy



^{12}C , $N_{\text{max}} = 6$

Entem-Machleidt evolved via SRG

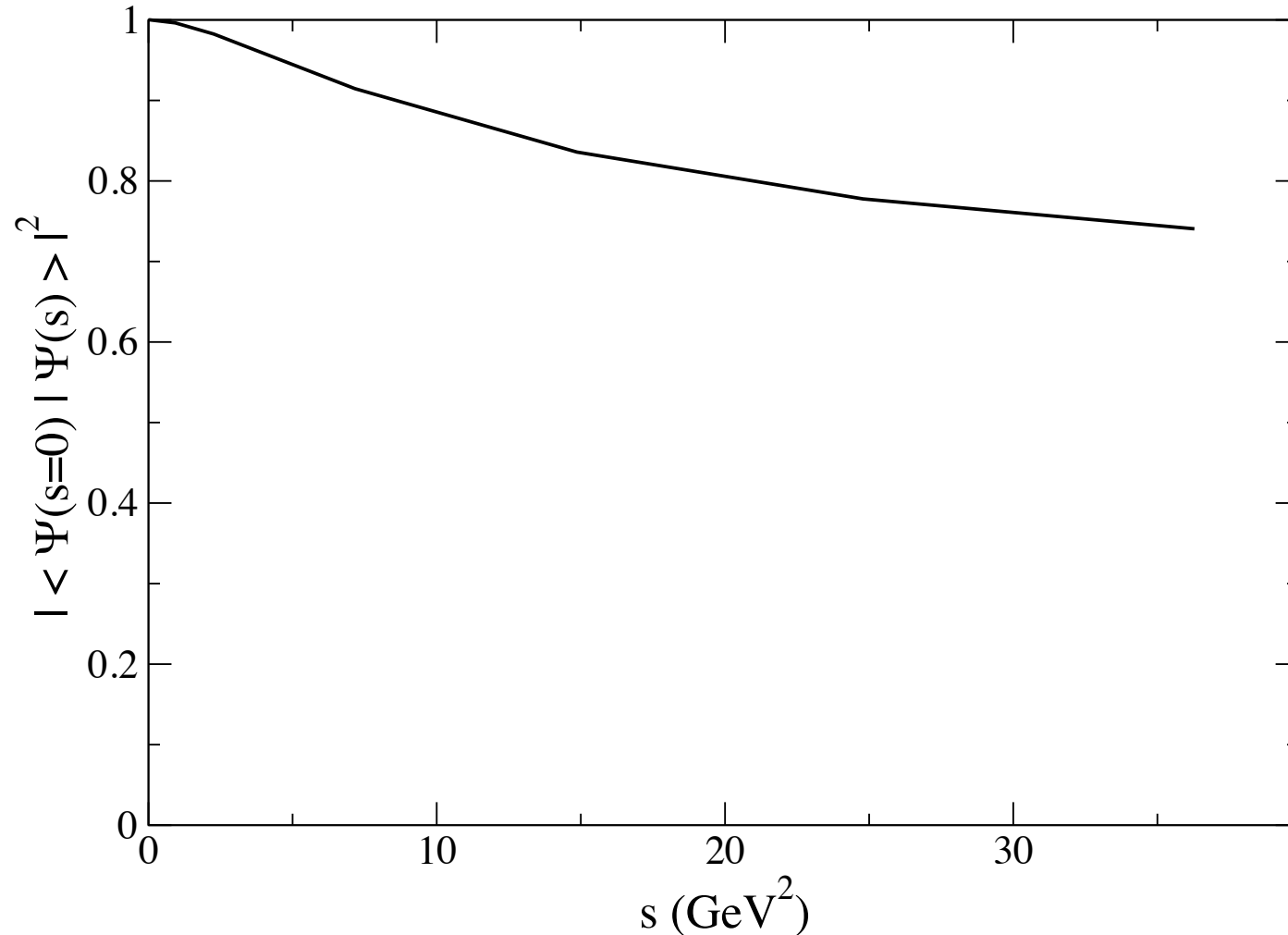
CWJ, Phys. Lett. B. **774**, 465 (2017)





^{12}C , $N_{\text{max}} = 6$

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FOR EXAMPLE....

In configuration-interaction method
(a.k.a. shell model diagonalization):

we use the matrix formalism

$$\hat{\mathbf{H}}|\Psi\rangle = E|\Psi\rangle$$

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha} |\alpha\rangle \quad H_{\alpha\beta} = \langle\alpha|\hat{\mathbf{H}}|\beta\rangle$$



Maria Mayer

Largest (?) known M-scheme calculation

${}^6\text{Li}$, $N_{\max}=22$, **25 billion basis states**

(Forssen *et al*, arXiv:1712.09951 with pANTOINE)

FOR EXAMPLE

In configuration
(a.k.a. shell m

w

H

*“The purpose of computing is insight, not numbers”
–Richard Hamming*



$$c_\alpha |\alpha\rangle$$

$$H_{\alpha\beta} = \langle \alpha | \hat{H} | \beta \rangle$$

Largest (?) known M-scheme calculation

${}^6\text{Li}$, $N_{\max}=22$, **25 billion basis states**

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FOR EXAMPLE

In configuration
(a.k.a. shell m

w

That's a lot of numbers!
How can we understand them?

We can use group theory!

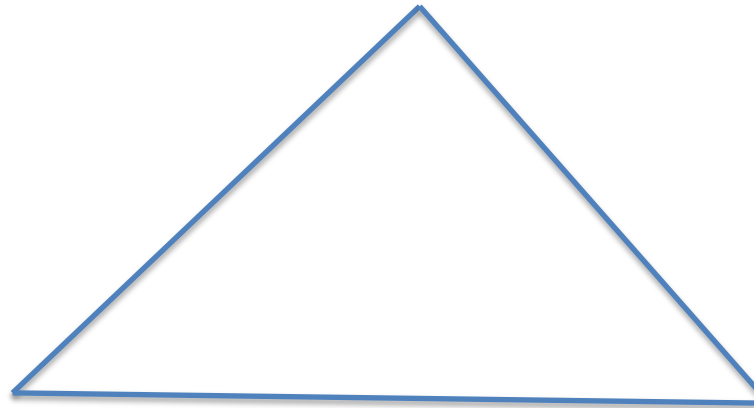


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This talk has its own triangle:

Decomposing shell model
wave functions by group irreps
-> *quasi-dynamical symmetries*



SRG: the **similarity
renormalization group**:
-> *unitary
transformations*



Specifically, we use eigenvalues
of Casimir operators to label
subspaces (“irreps”)





Casimir

$$\hat{C} |z, \alpha\rangle = z |z, \alpha\rangle$$

In particular, if the Casimir(s) commute(s) with the Hamiltonian,

$$[\hat{H}, \hat{C}] = 0$$

then the Hamiltonian is block-diagonal in the *irreps* (irreducible representation*)





Casimir

$$\hat{C} |z, \alpha\rangle = z |z, \alpha\rangle$$

In particular, if the Casimir(s) commute(s) with the Hamiltonian, $[\hat{H}, \hat{C}] = 0$

This is known as *dynamical symmetry*





Casimir

$$\hat{C} |z, \alpha\rangle = z |z, \alpha\rangle$$

For some wavefunction $|\Psi\rangle$, we define
the *fraction of the wavefunction in an irrep*

$$F(z) = \sum_{\alpha} \left| \langle z, \alpha | \Psi \rangle \right|^2$$





Casimir

$$\hat{C} |z, \alpha\rangle = z |z, \alpha\rangle$$

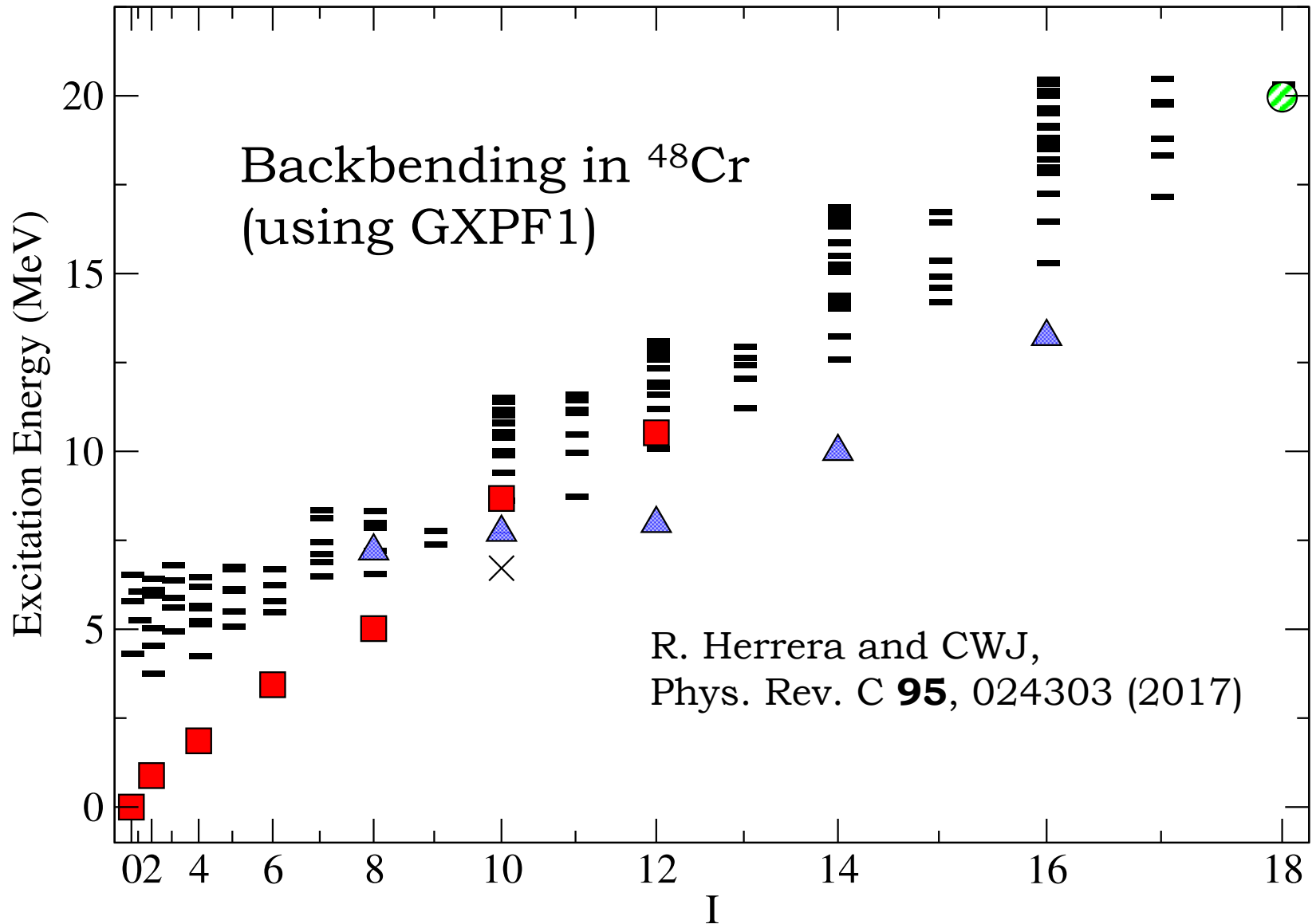
For 2-body SU(3) Casimir,
 eigenvalue $z =$
 $\lambda^2 + \lambda\mu + \mu^2 + 3(\lambda + \mu),$
 where λ, μ label the irreps

For
 the

the
 irrep

$$F(z) = \sum_{\alpha} |\langle z, \alpha | \Psi \rangle|$$





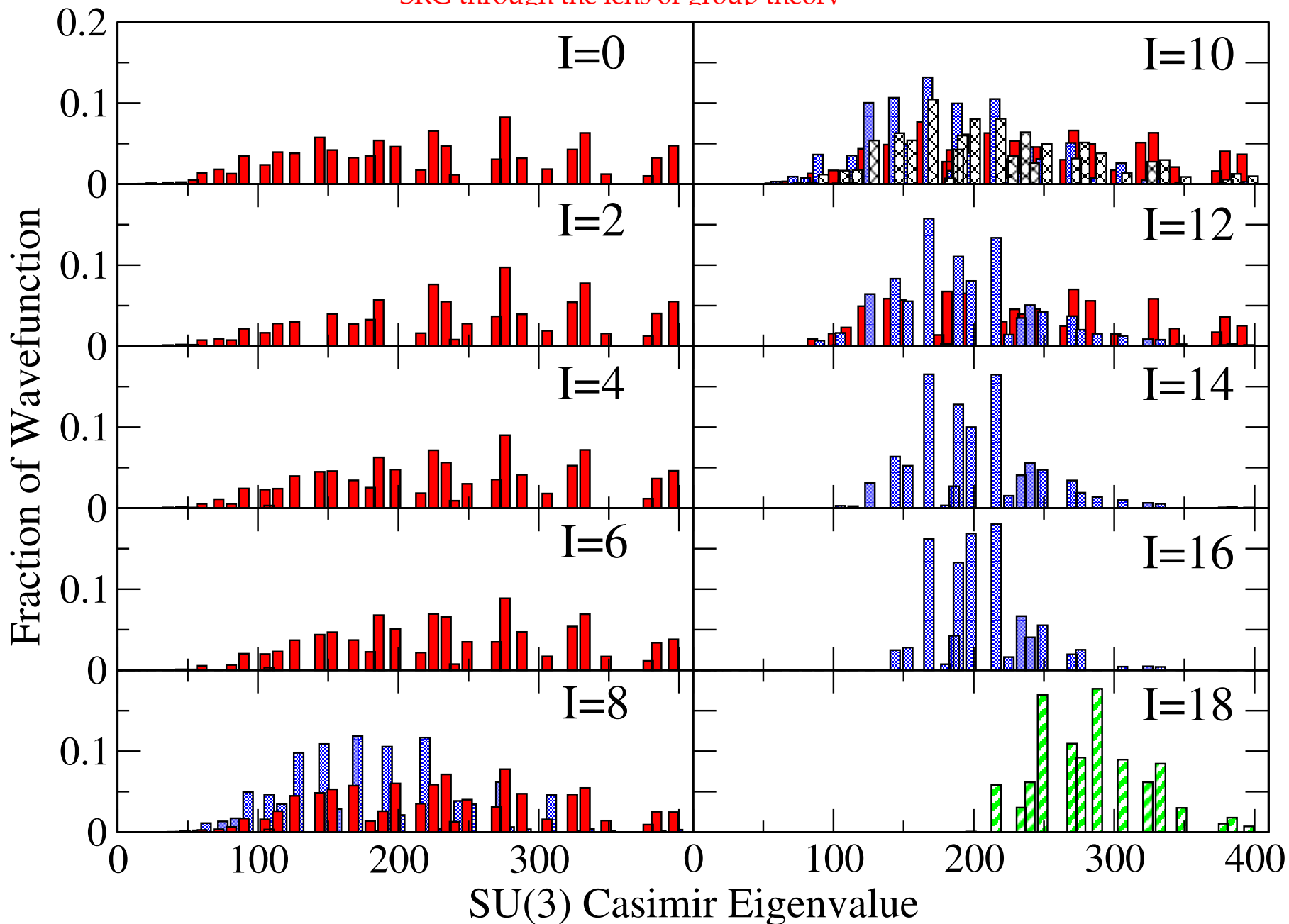
Backbending in ^{48}Cr (using GXPF1)

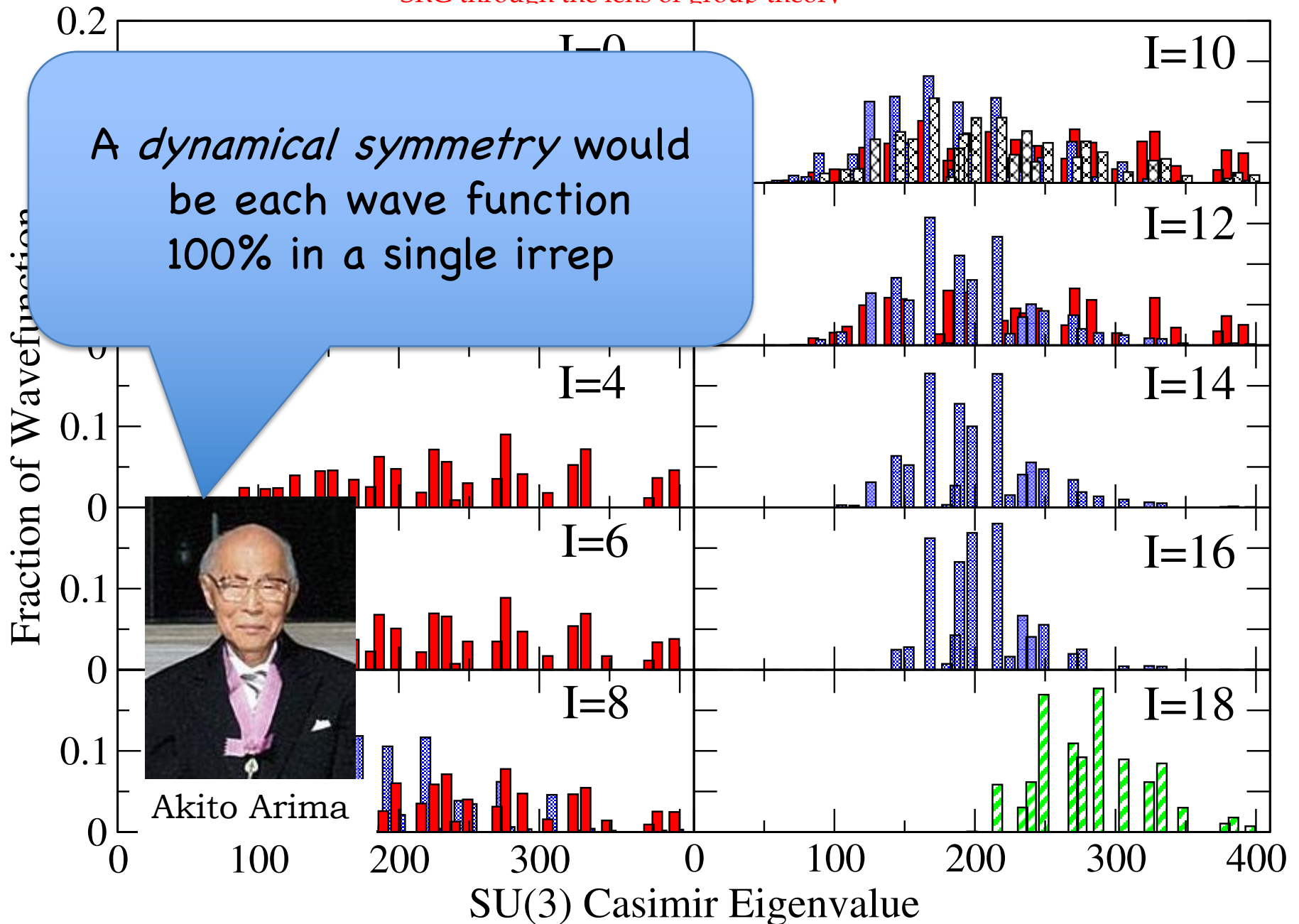
Wave functions computed in interacting shell model* using GXPF1 interaction; then $SU(3)$ 2-body Casimir read in and decomposition done with Lanczos

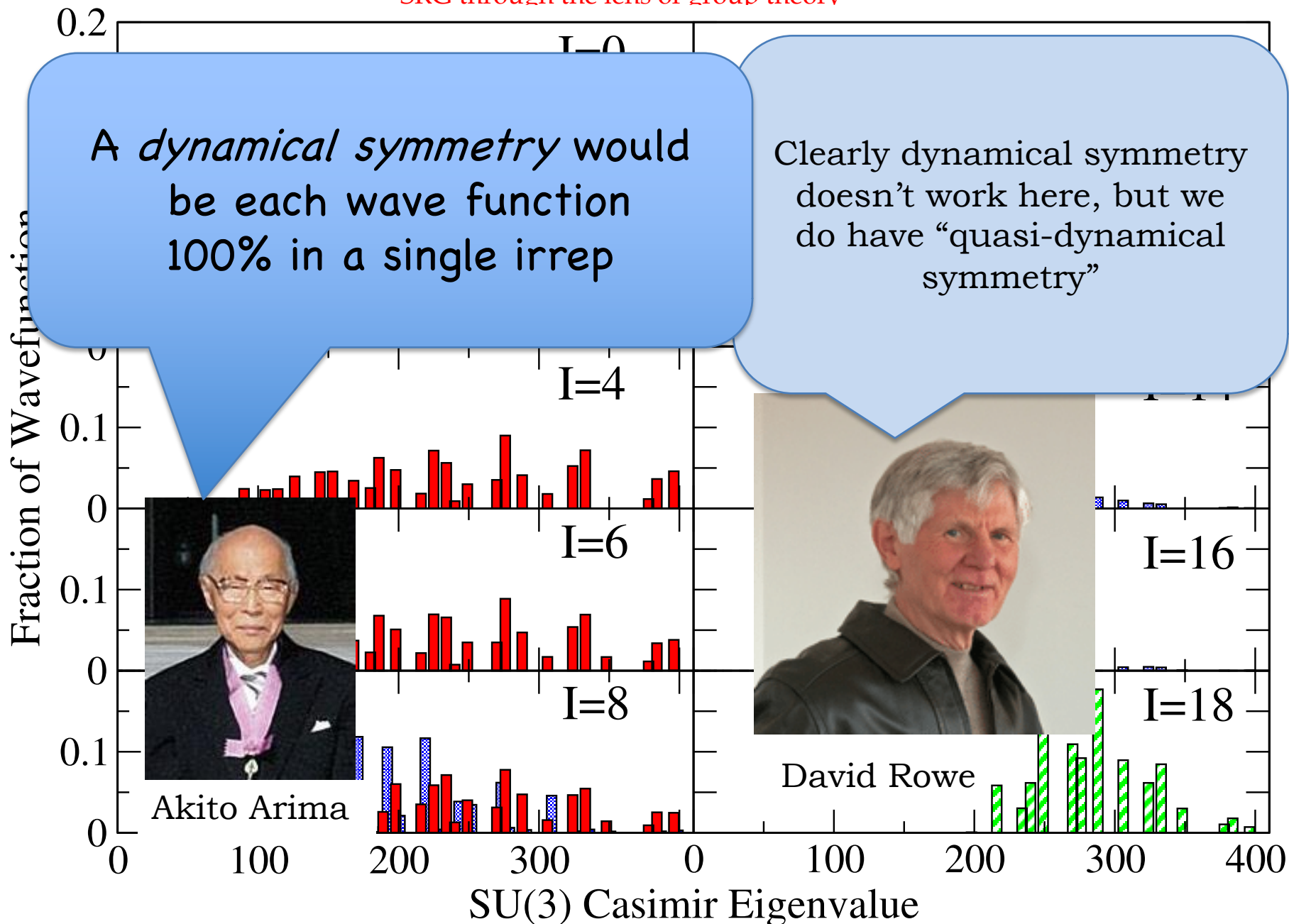


R. Herrera and CWJ,
Phys. Rev. C **95**, 024303 (2017)

*BIGSTICK shell model code: [github/cwjsdsu/BigstickPublic](https://github.com/cwjsdsu/BigstickPublic)
CWJ, Ormand, and Krastev, Comp. Phys. Comm. **184**, 2761-2774 (2013)
CWJ, Ormand, McElvain, and Shan arXiv:1801:08432



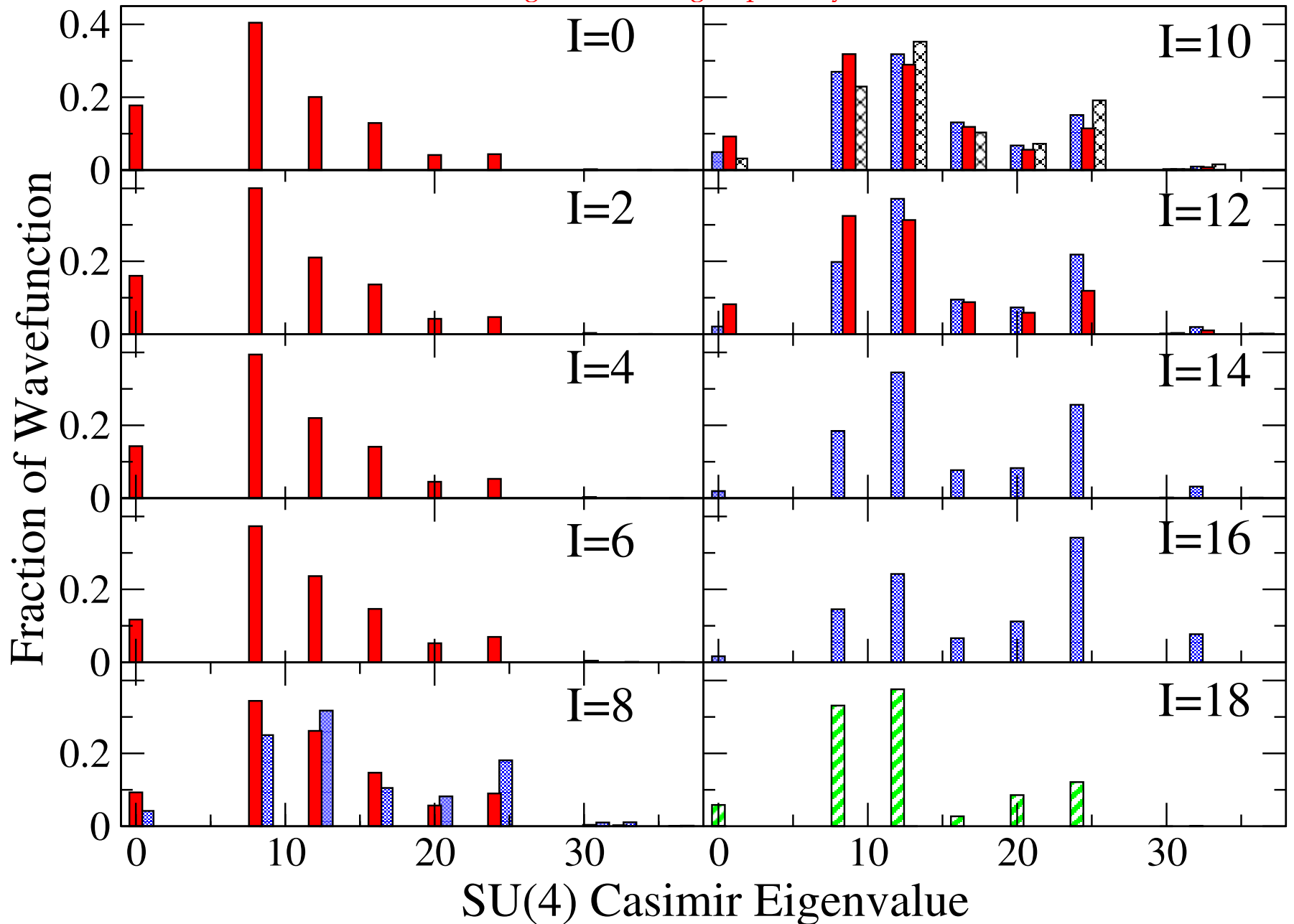




What about
other groups?



Eugene Wigner

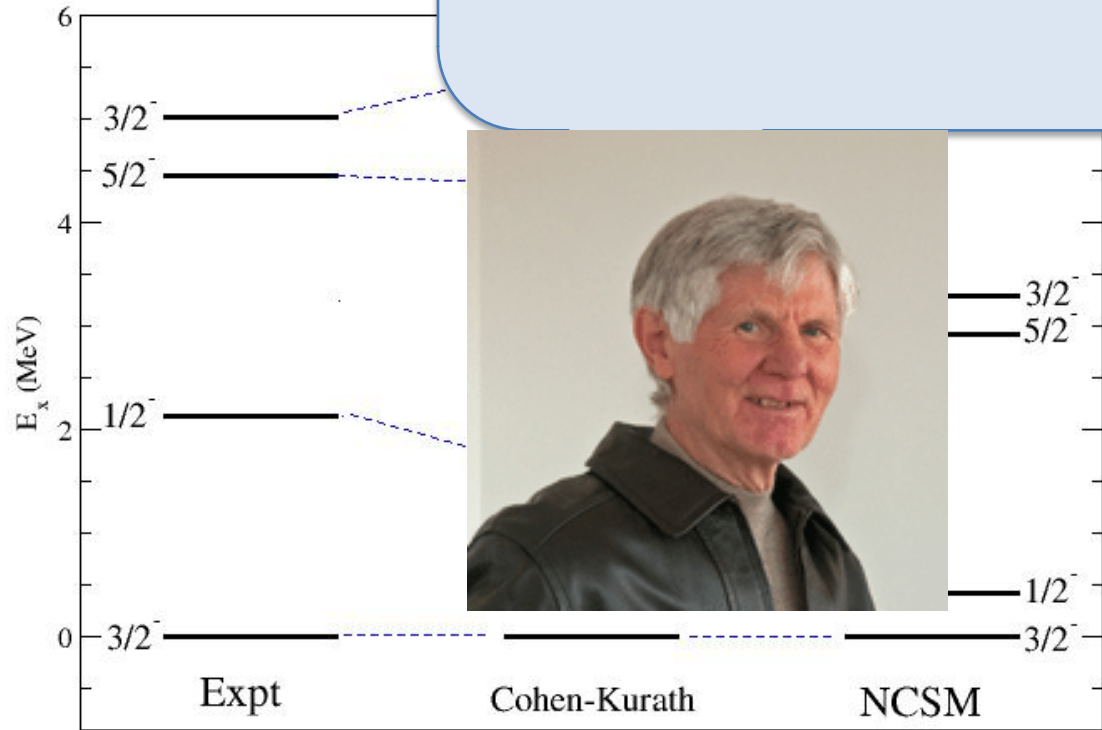


^{11}B

Phenomenological Cohen-Kurath m -scheme dim

NCSM: N³LO chiral 2-body force SRG evolved
 m -scheme dimension: 20 million

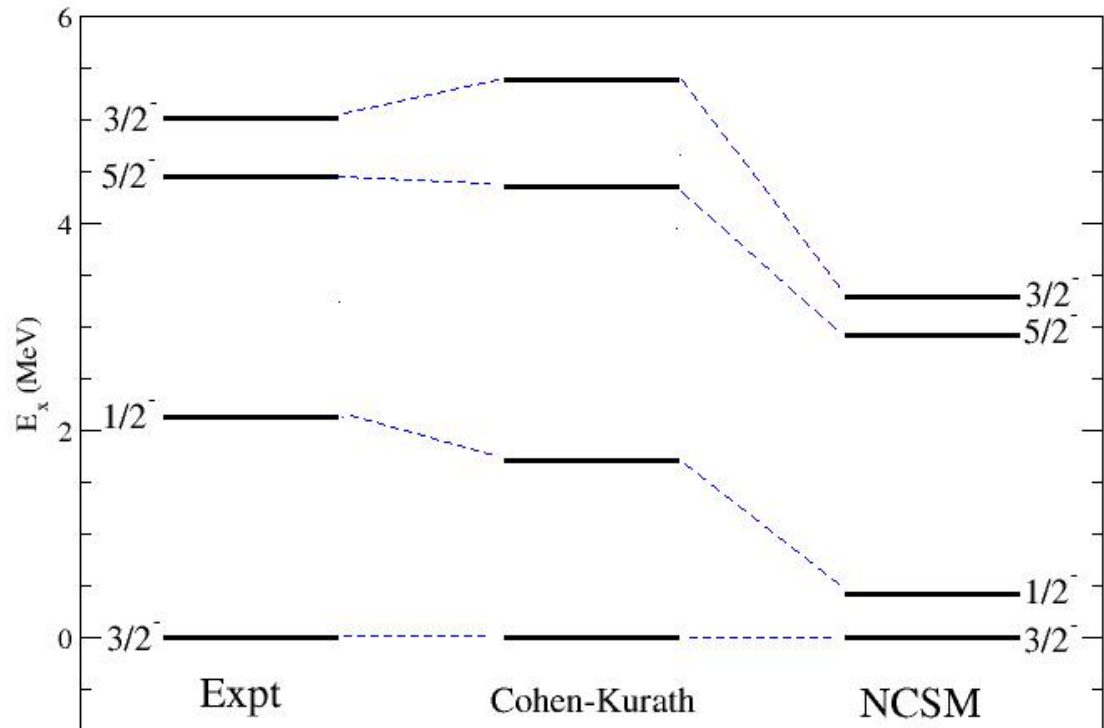
What about
 in the
 NCSM?



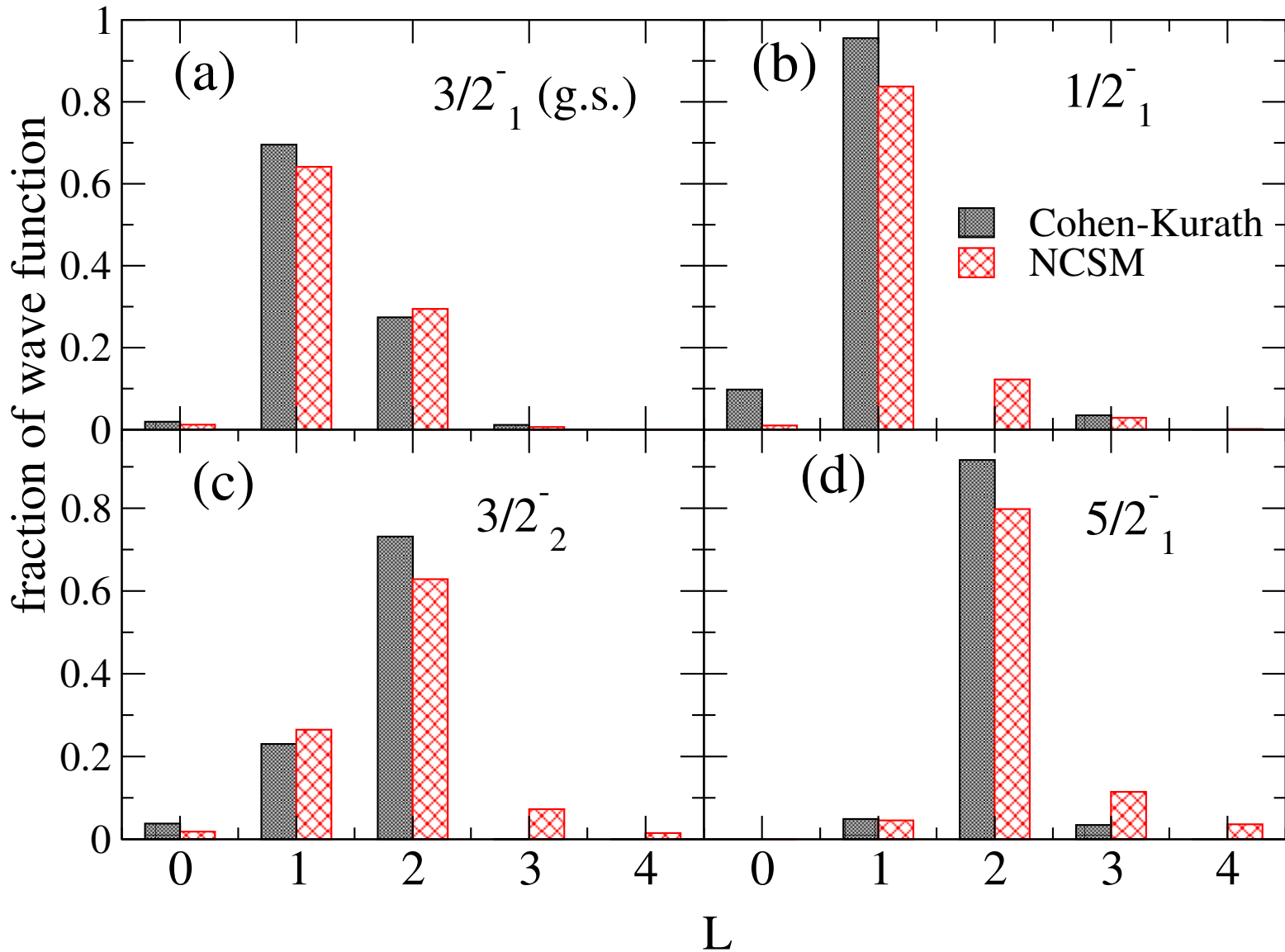
^{11}B

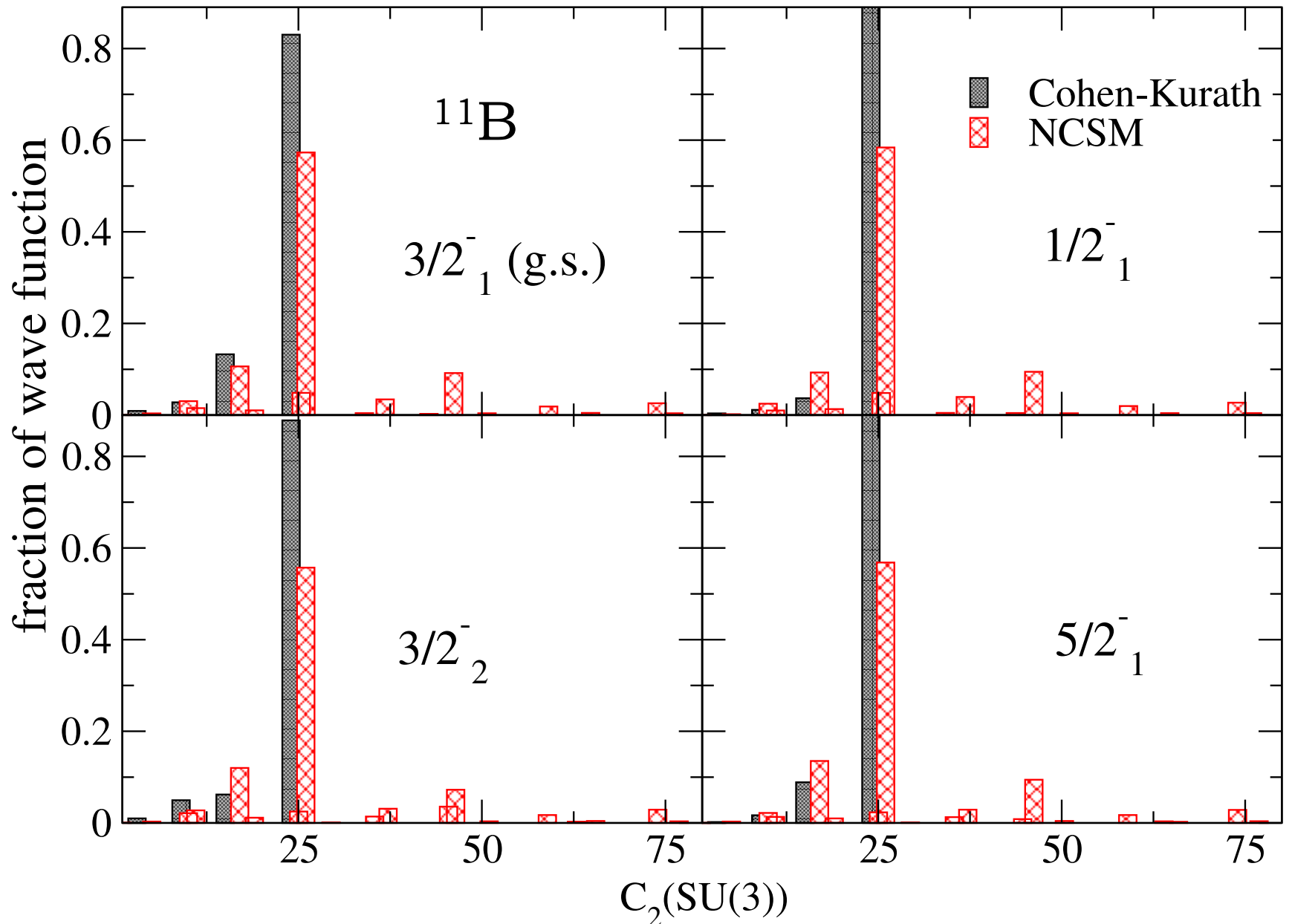
Phenomenological Cohen-Kurath m -scheme dimension: 62

NCSM: N³LO chiral 2-body force SRG evolved to $\lambda = 2.0 \text{ fm}^{-1}$, $N_{\text{max}} = 6$, $\hbar\omega = 22 \text{ MeV}$
 m -scheme dimension: 20 million



SRG through the lens of group theory







Is there some way to turn a
quasi-dynamical symmetry
into a *dynamical* symmetry?
Like a unitary
transformation?





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quasi-dynamical symmetry
into a *dynamical* symmetry?
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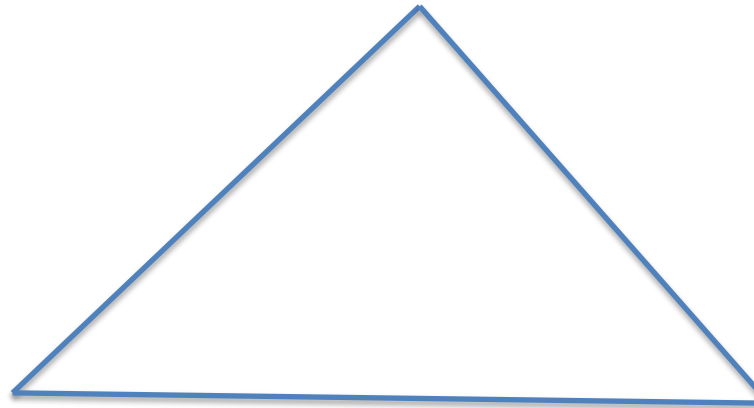


Sure! Why not use
the *similarity*
renormalization
group (SRG)?





Decomposing shell model
wave functions by group irreps
-> *quasi-dynamical symmetries*



SRG: the similarity
renormalization group:
-> *unitary*
transformations back
to ***dynamical*** symmetry



$$H(s) = U(s)H(0)U^\dagger(s)$$

$$U(s) = e^\eta$$

$$\frac{dH(s)}{ds} = [\eta, H(s)]$$

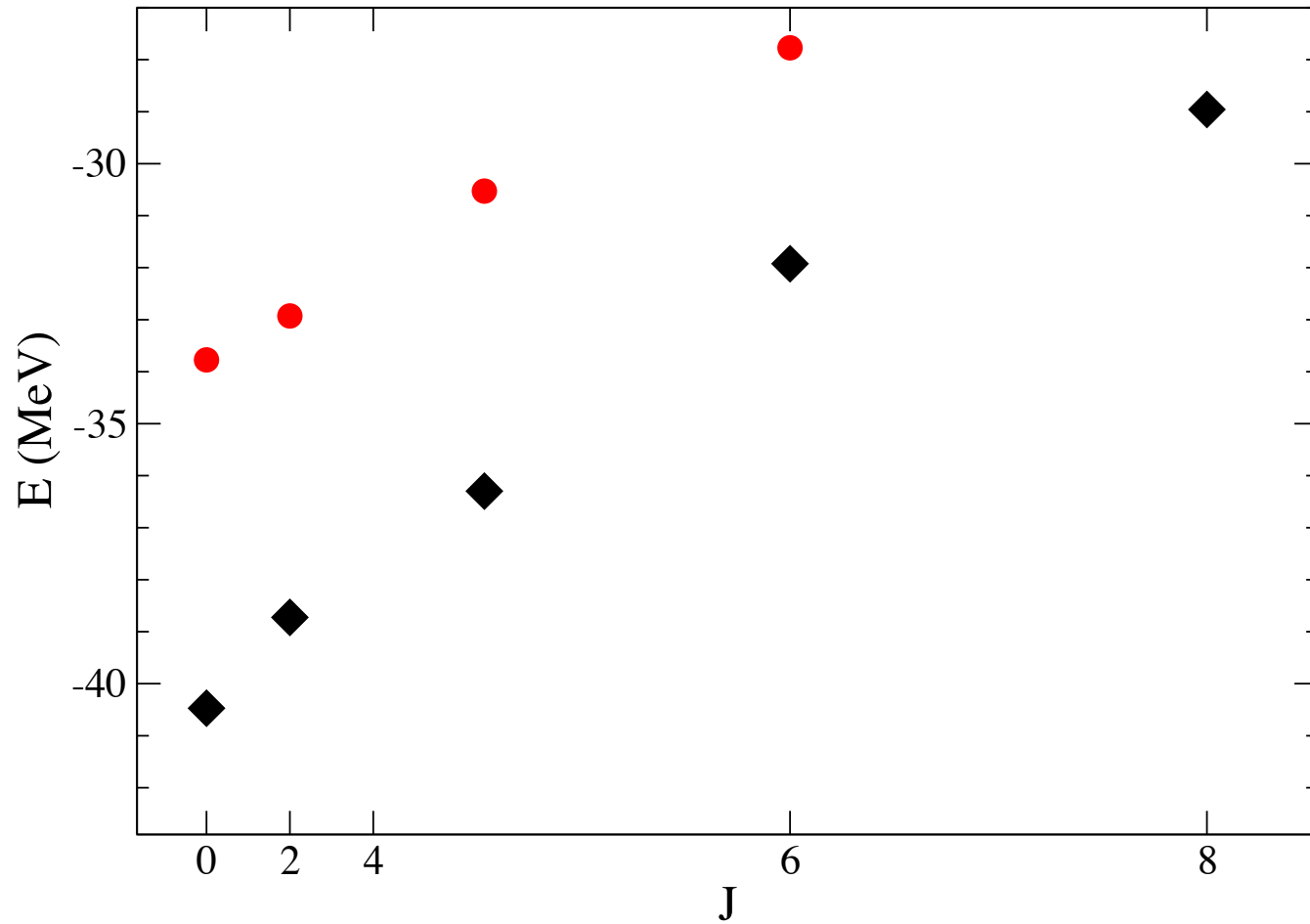
Typically, $\eta = [G, H]$
where G is the *generator*.

SRG drives $H(s)$ to be “more like” G .
(More on this soon).

A common choice is the kinetic energy,
but I’ll use the **SU(3) Casimir operator**

The *similarity renormalization group (SRG)* is widely used in *ab initio* calculations to transform and soften the nuclear force





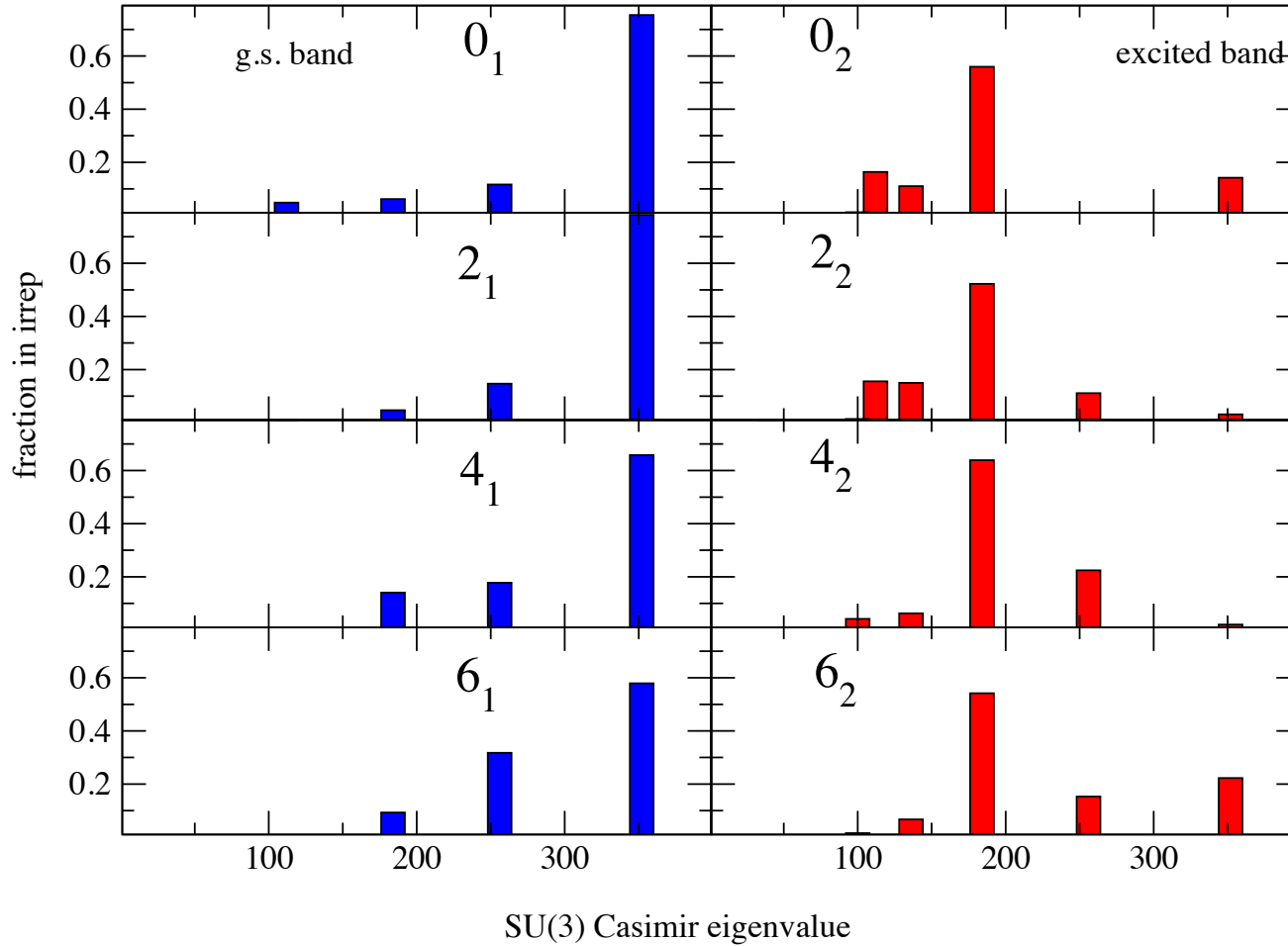
^{20}Ne

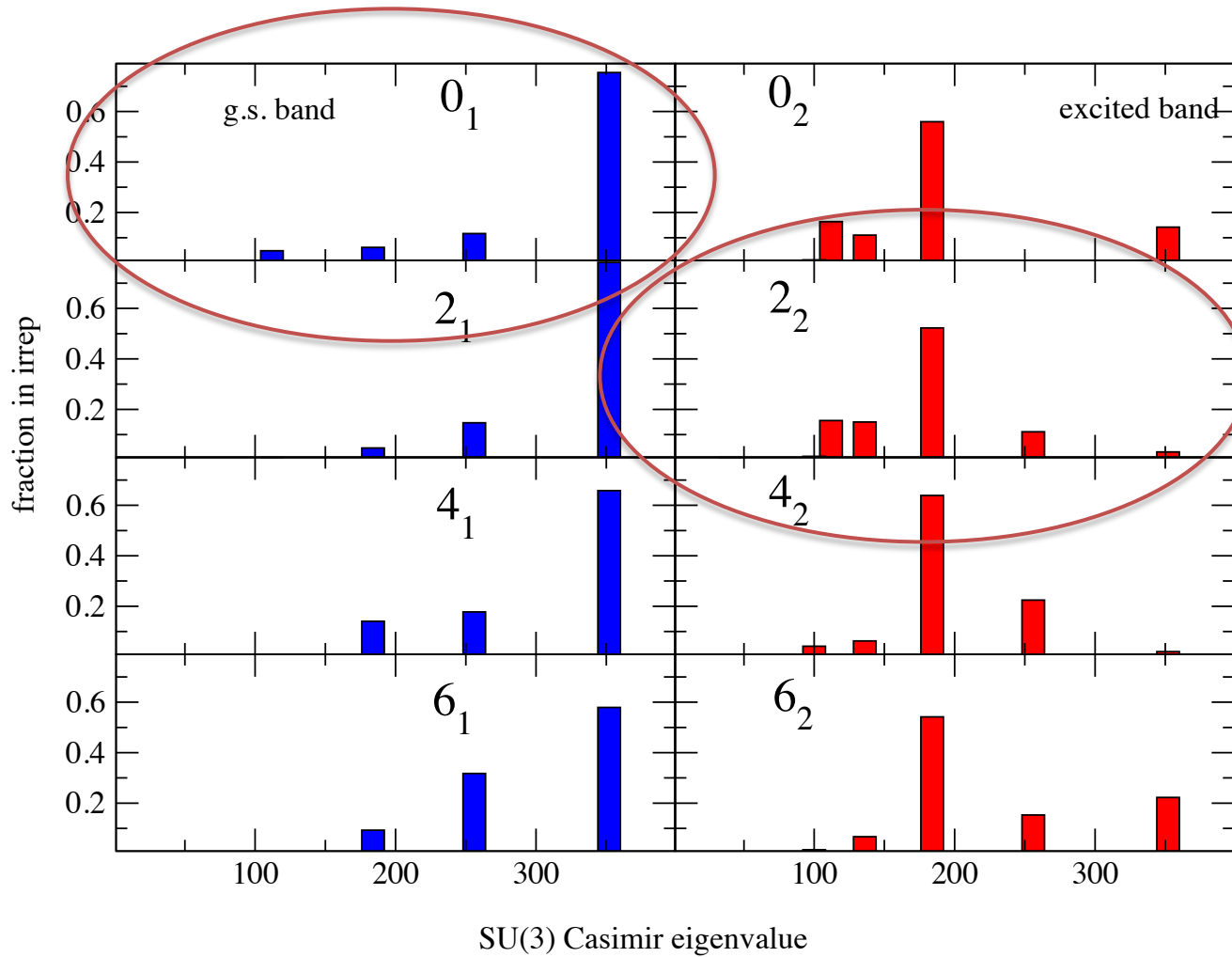
USDB interaction



^{20}Ne

USDB interaction





^{20}Ne

USDB interaction

dimension = 640



$$\frac{dH(s)}{ds} = \left[\left[G, H(s) \right], H(s) \right]$$

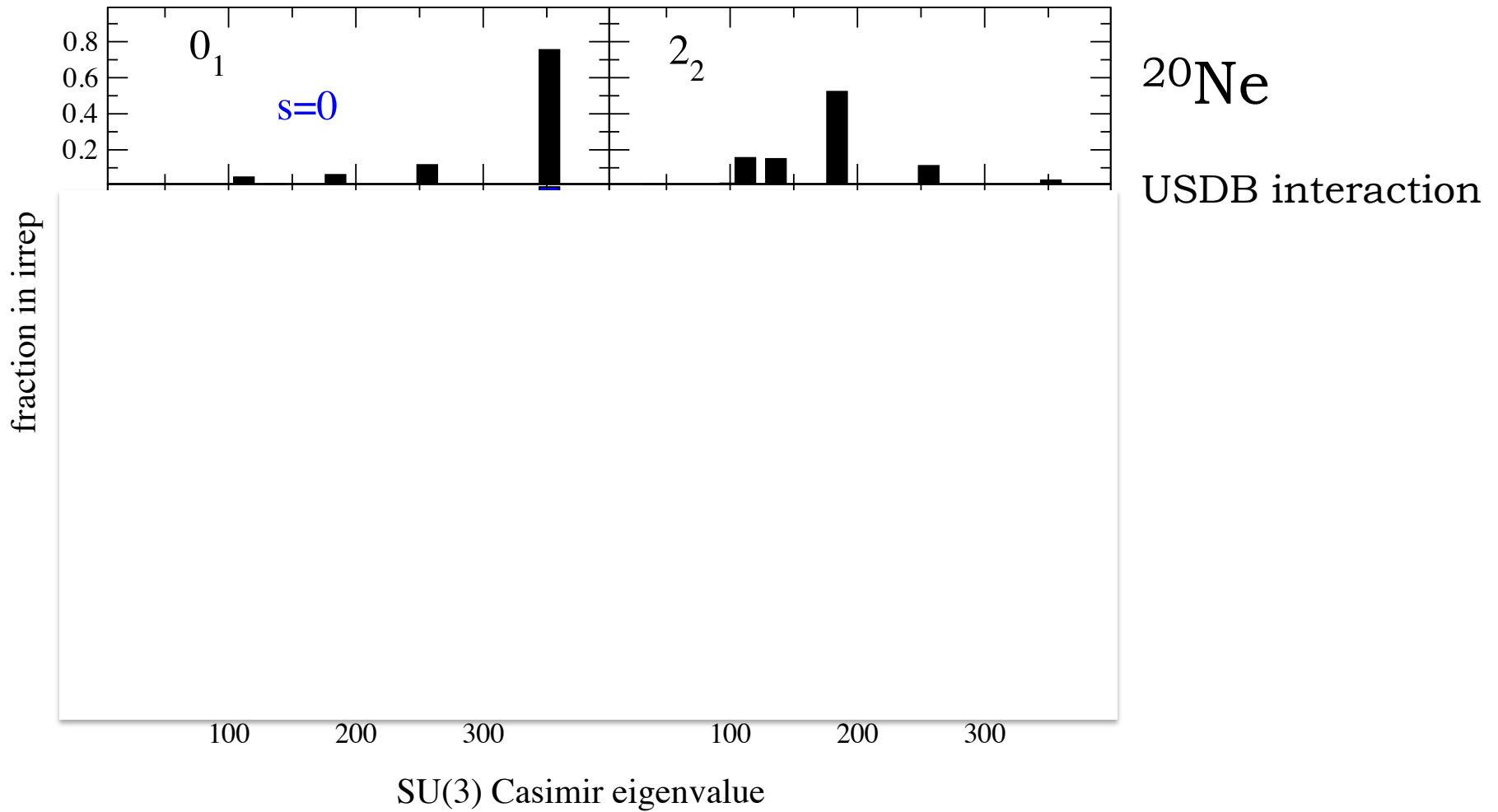
$G = \text{SU}(3)$ Casimir operator

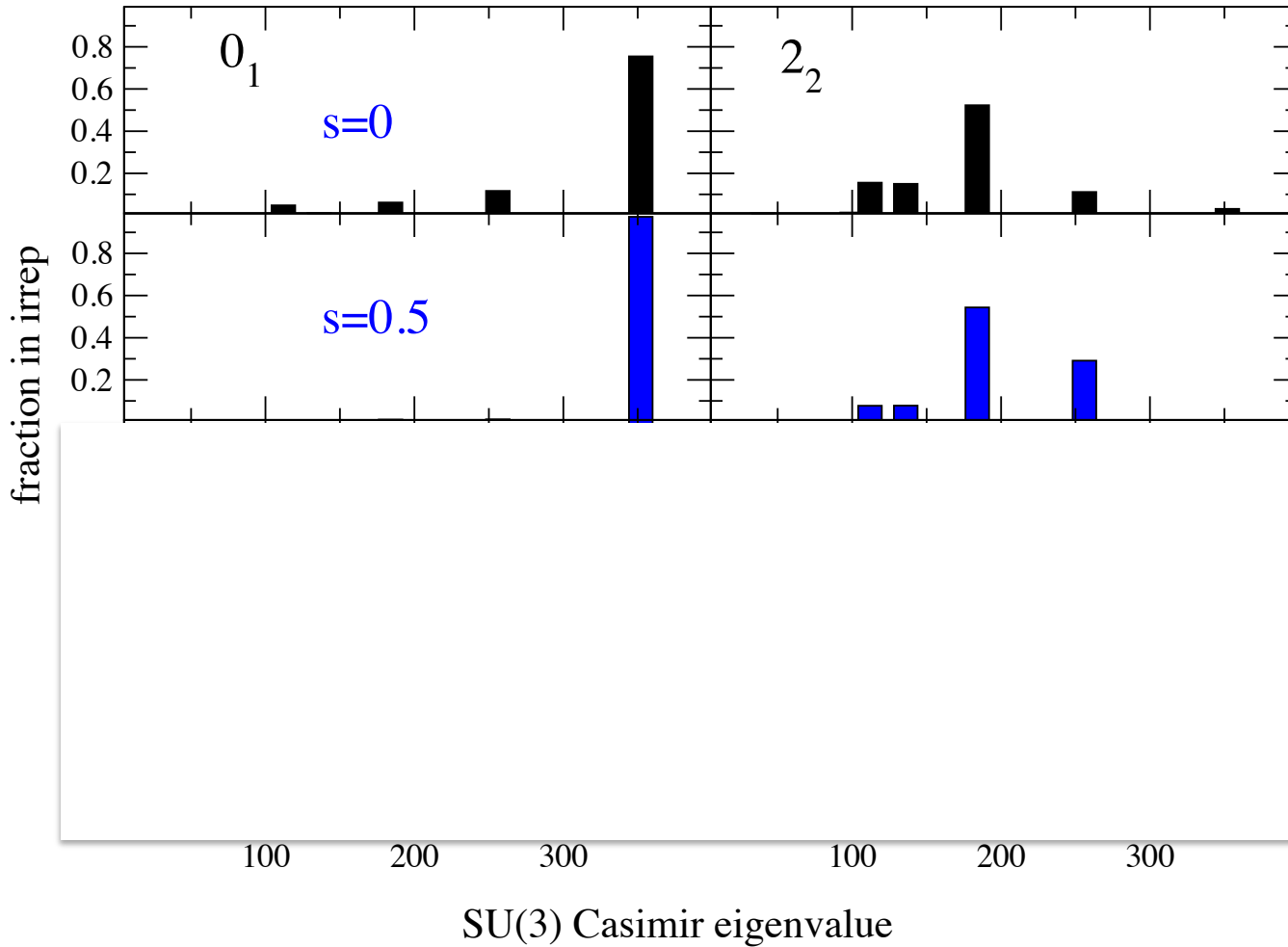
Calculations done on the many-body matrix directly

I transform \mathbf{H} and diagonalize, but decompose using the **untransformed** Casimir.

Now I will apply SRG





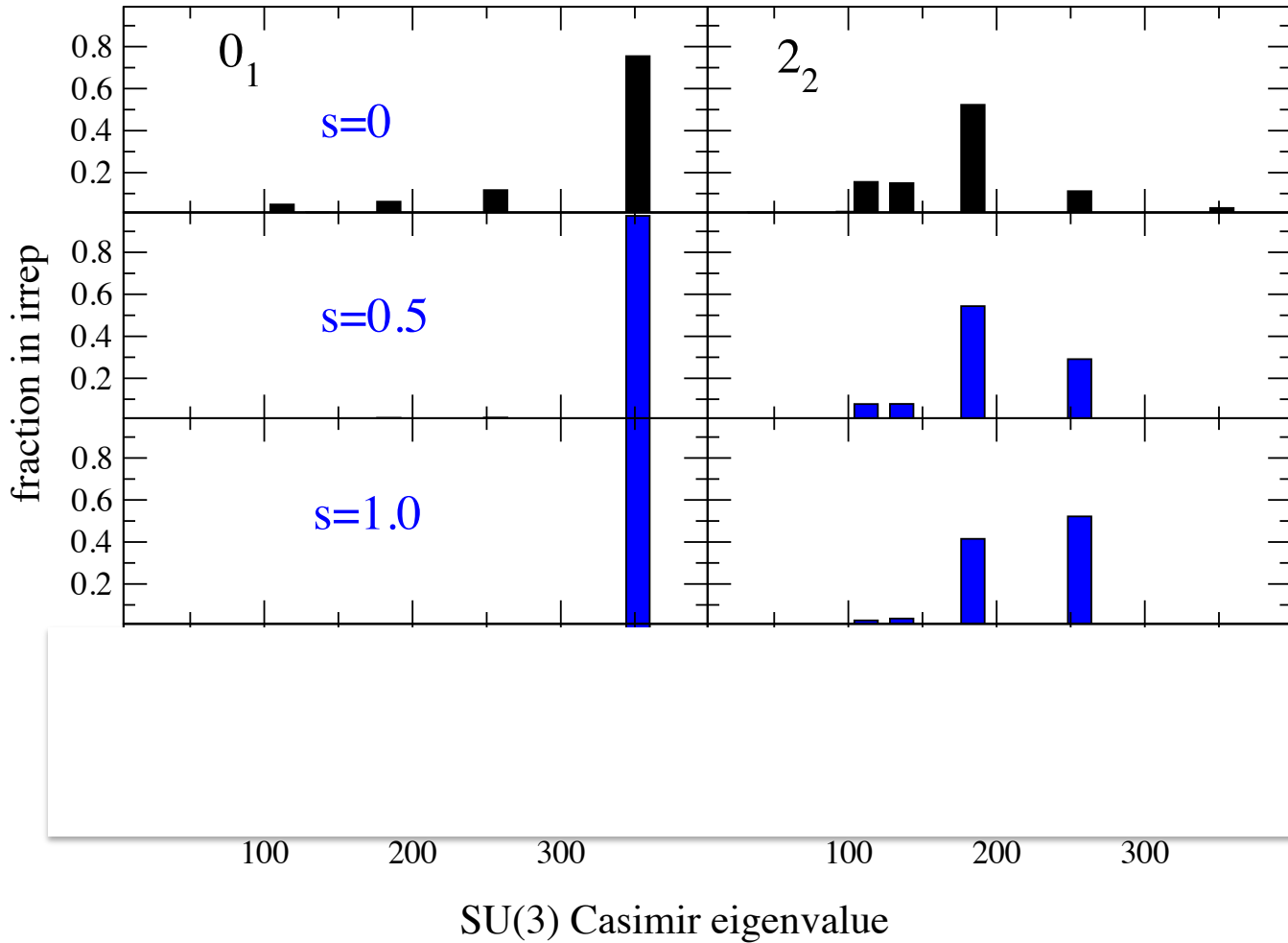


^{20}Ne

USDB interaction

Increasing evolution

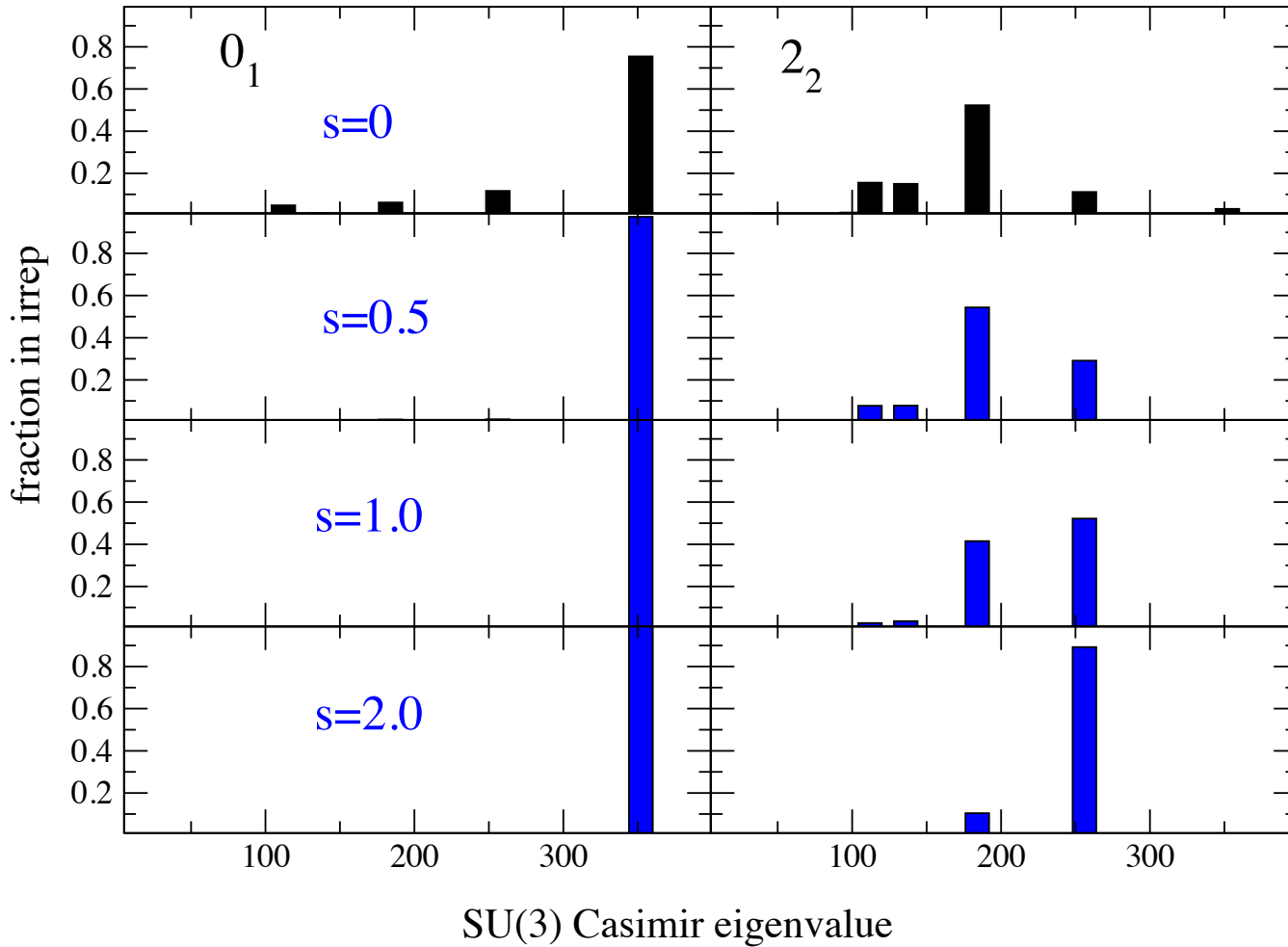




^{20}Ne

USDB interaction

Increasing evolution

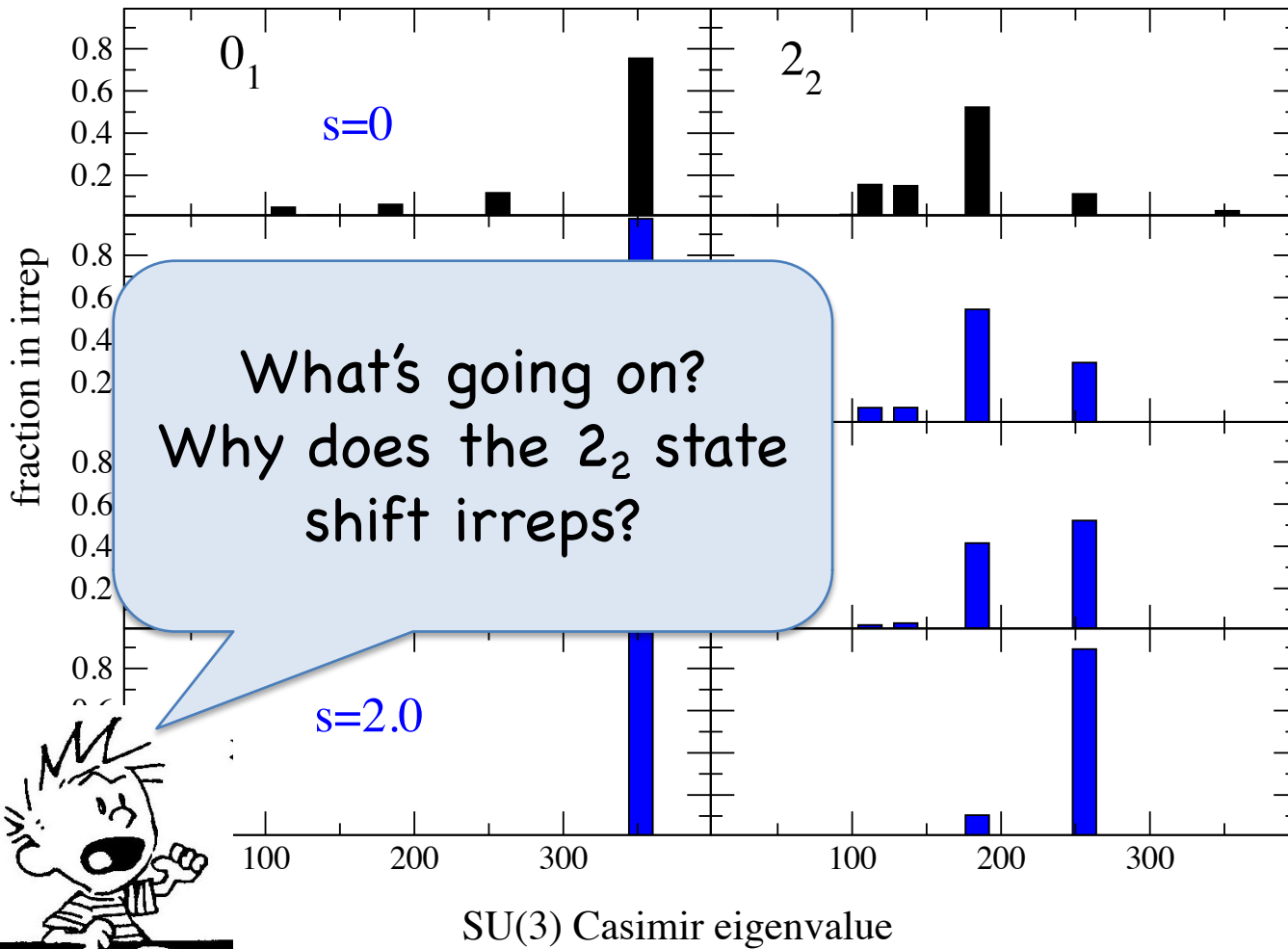


^{20}Ne

USDB interaction



Increasing evolution

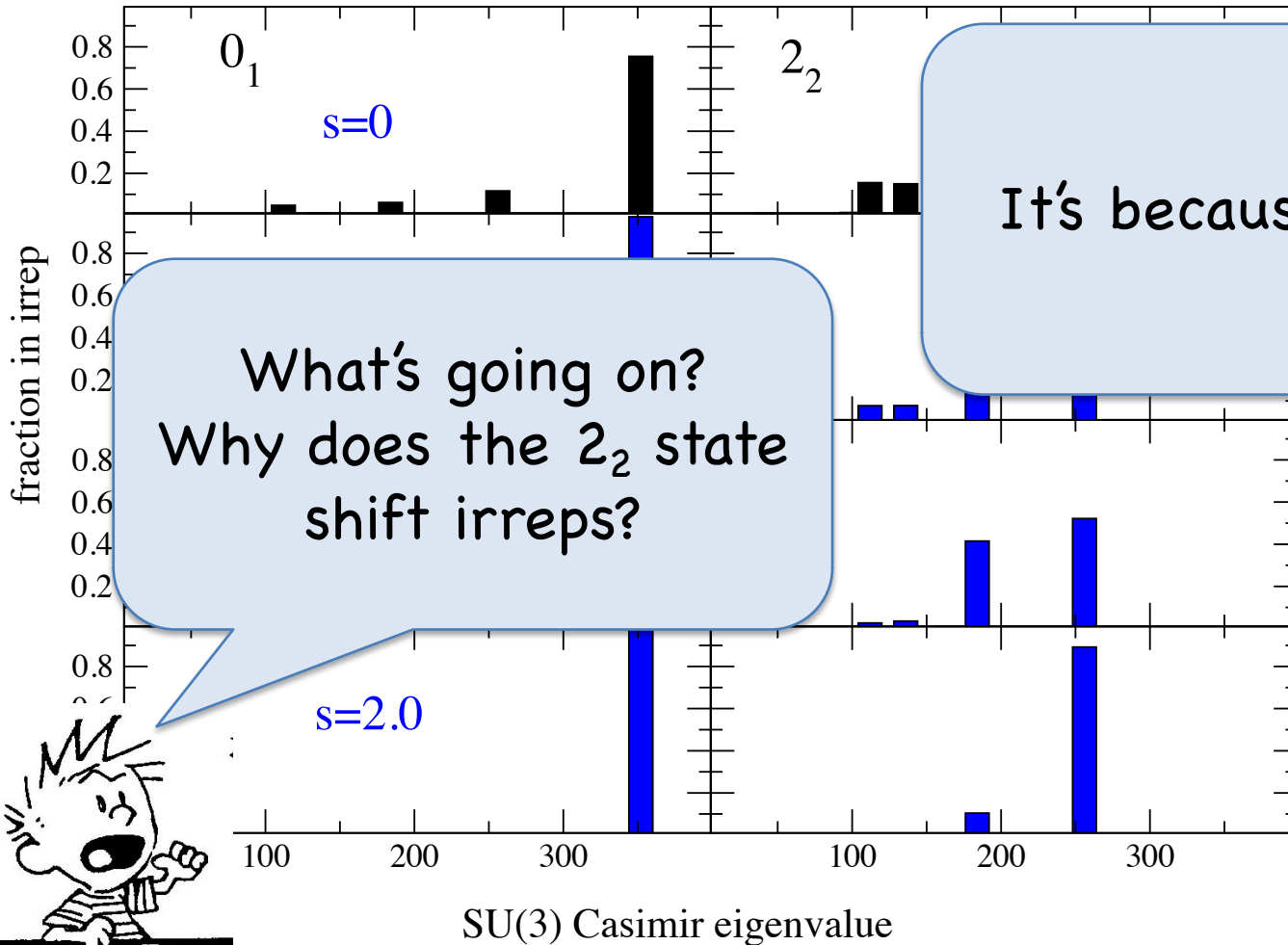


^{20}Ne

USDB interaction

Increasing evolution

SU(3) Casimir eigenvalue



It's because of SRG!

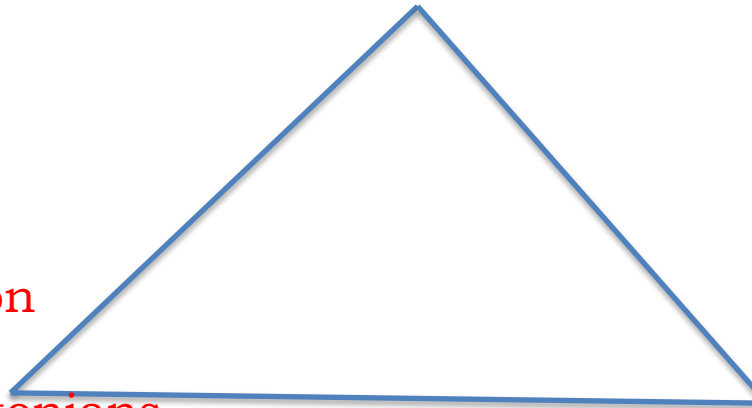
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Decomposing shell model
wave functions by group irreps
-> *quasi-dynamical symmetries*

Spectral distribution
theory, a metric on
the space of Hamiltonians
-> *a new way to look at SRG
and a new SRG*



SRG: the similarity
renormalization group:
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transformations back
to **dynamical** symmetry*



One can re-derive SRG using
spectral distribution theory
(French, Ratcliffe, Wong,
Draayer, many others)

It's because of SRG!

Define an *inner product*
on matrices/Hamiltonian using traces:

$$(A,B) = \text{tr } AB^*$$



*well, there are some subtleties that are not important here



Suppose we want to
transform $H(s)$

$$H(s) = U(s)H(0)U^\dagger(s)$$

so as to increase

$\text{tr}(H(s)G)$

(i.e., to make H more “parallel” to G)

It's because of SRG!





Suppose we want to
transform $H(s)$

$$H(s) = U(s)H(0)U^\dagger(s)$$

so as to increase

$\text{tr}(H(s)G)$

(i.e., to make H more “parallel” to G)

maximizing the derivative $\frac{d}{ds}\text{tr}(GH(s))$

leads to **standard SRG**

$$\frac{dH(s)}{ds} = \left[[G, H(s)], H(s) \right]$$

It's because of SRG!



Standard SRG: want to **increase** $\text{tr} (H(s)G)$

so choose evolution that maximizes derivative

$$\frac{d}{ds} \text{tr}(H(s)G) = \text{tr} \left(\frac{dH(s)}{ds} G \right) = \text{tr} ([\eta, H(s)]G)$$

This derivative can be rewritten as

$\text{tr} (\eta [G, H])$ using cyclic property of traces

The derivative is **maximal** when
 η is proportional to $[G, H]$

hence $\frac{d}{ds} H(s) = [\eta, H] = [[G, H], H]$





Suppose we want to transform $H(s)$

$$H(s) = U(s)H(0)U^\dagger(s)$$

so as to increase

$$\text{tr}(H(s)G)$$

But this drives low-lying wave functions into the highest-weight irrep!
(extremal \rightarrow extremal)

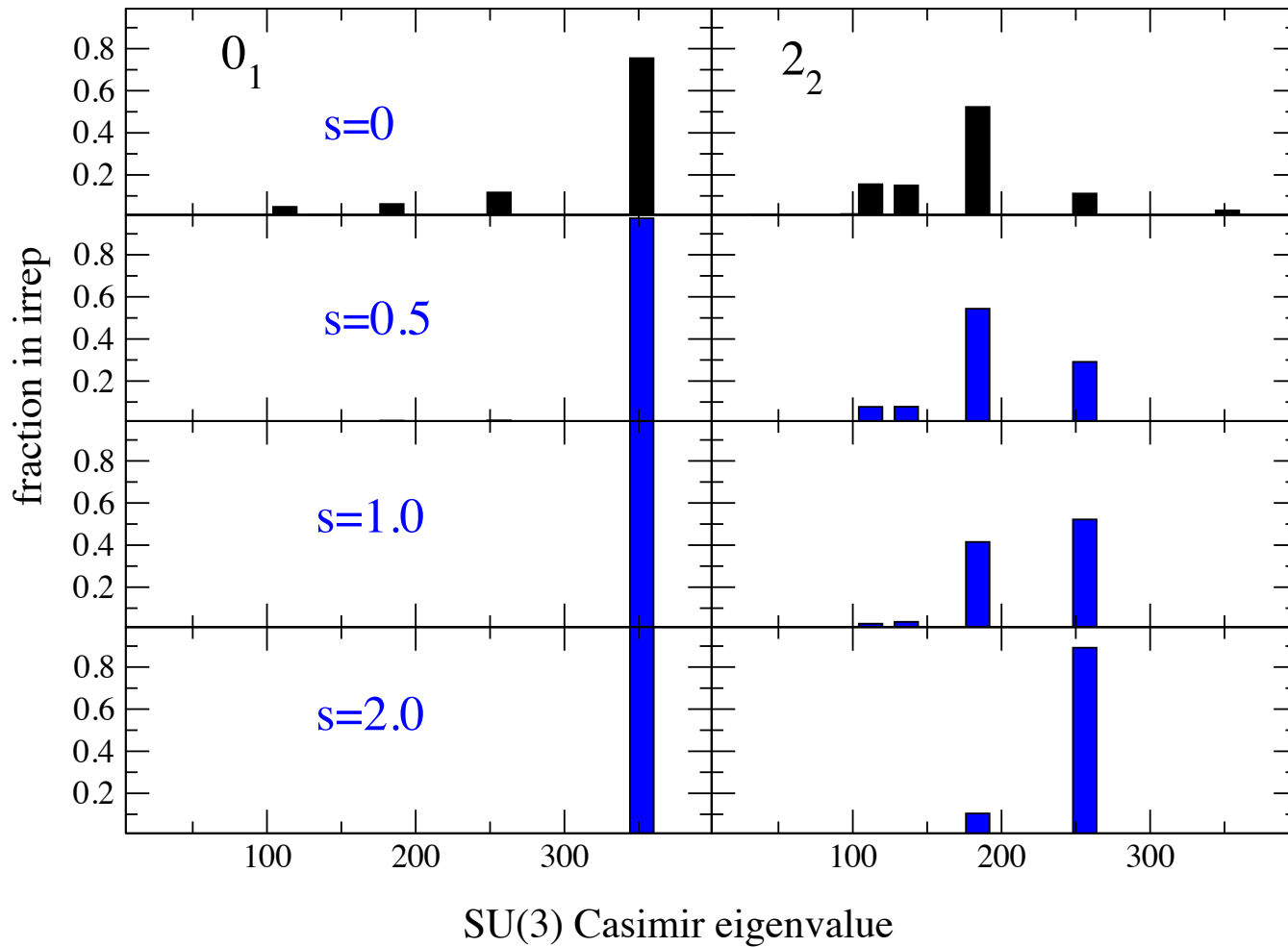
(i.e., to make H more “parallel” to G)

maximizing the derivative $\frac{d}{ds}\text{tr}(GH(s))$

leads to **standard SRG**

$$\frac{dH(s)}{ds} = \left[[G, H(s)], H(s) \right]$$





^{20}Ne

USDB interaction

Increasing evolution





Suppose **instead** we want to transform $H(s)$

$$H(s) = U(s)H(0)U^\dagger(s)$$

so as to **decrease** $\text{tr} [H(s), G]^2$

(i.e., to make H “commute more” with G)

so maximizing the derivative $-\frac{d}{ds}\text{tr} [G, H(s)]^2$
leads to **“new” SRG:**

$$\frac{dH}{ds} = \left[\left[\left[\left[G, H \right], G \right], H \right], H \right]$$

“New” SRG: want to **decrease** $\text{tr} [H(s), G]^2$

so choose evolution that maximizes derivative

$$-\frac{d}{ds} \text{tr}([H(s), G]^2) = -2 \text{tr} \left(\left[\frac{dH}{ds}, G \right] [H, G] \right) = -2 \text{tr}([[\eta, H], G][H, G])$$

This derivative can be rewritten as

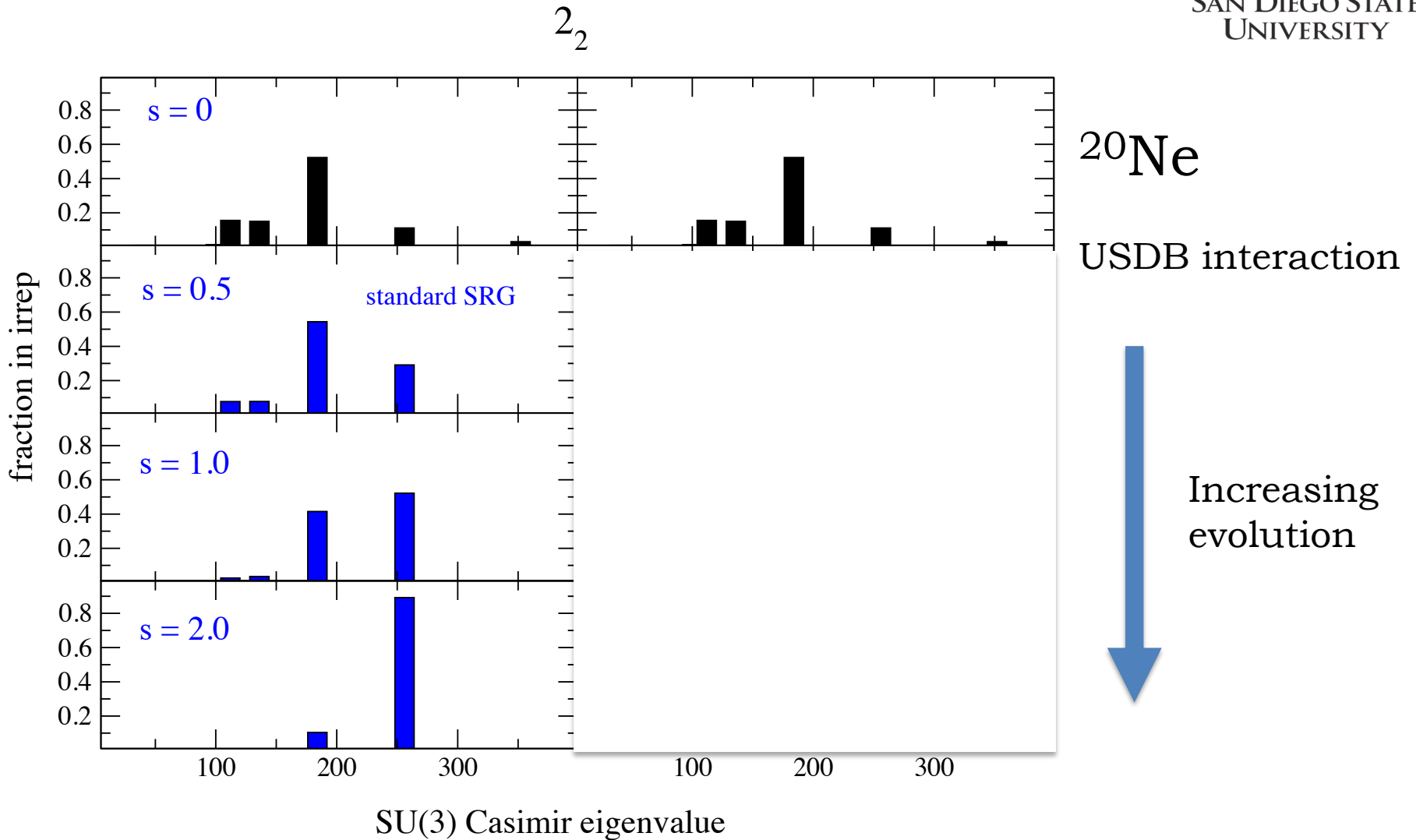
$$-\text{tr} (\eta [[H, G], G], H)$$

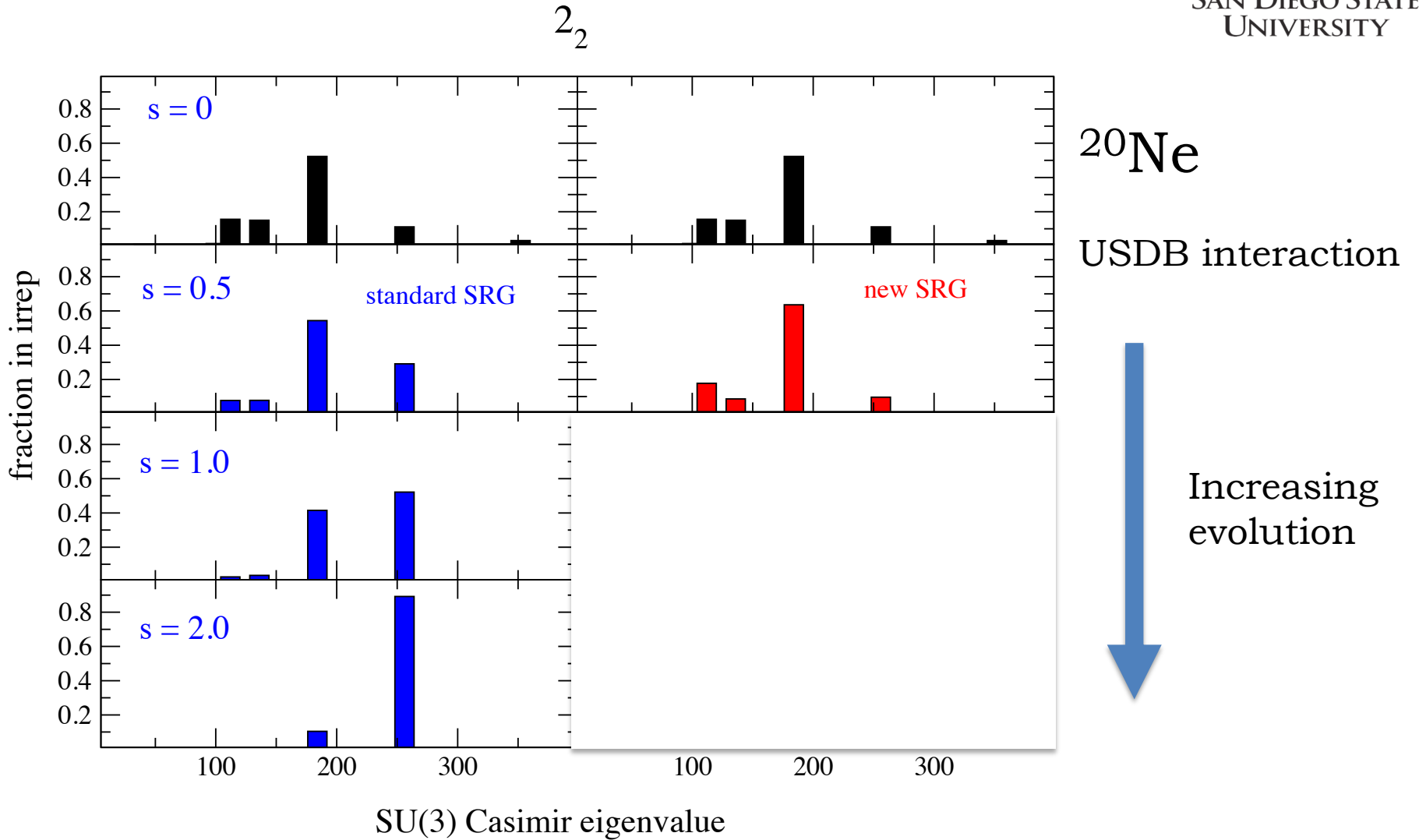
The derivative is maximal when

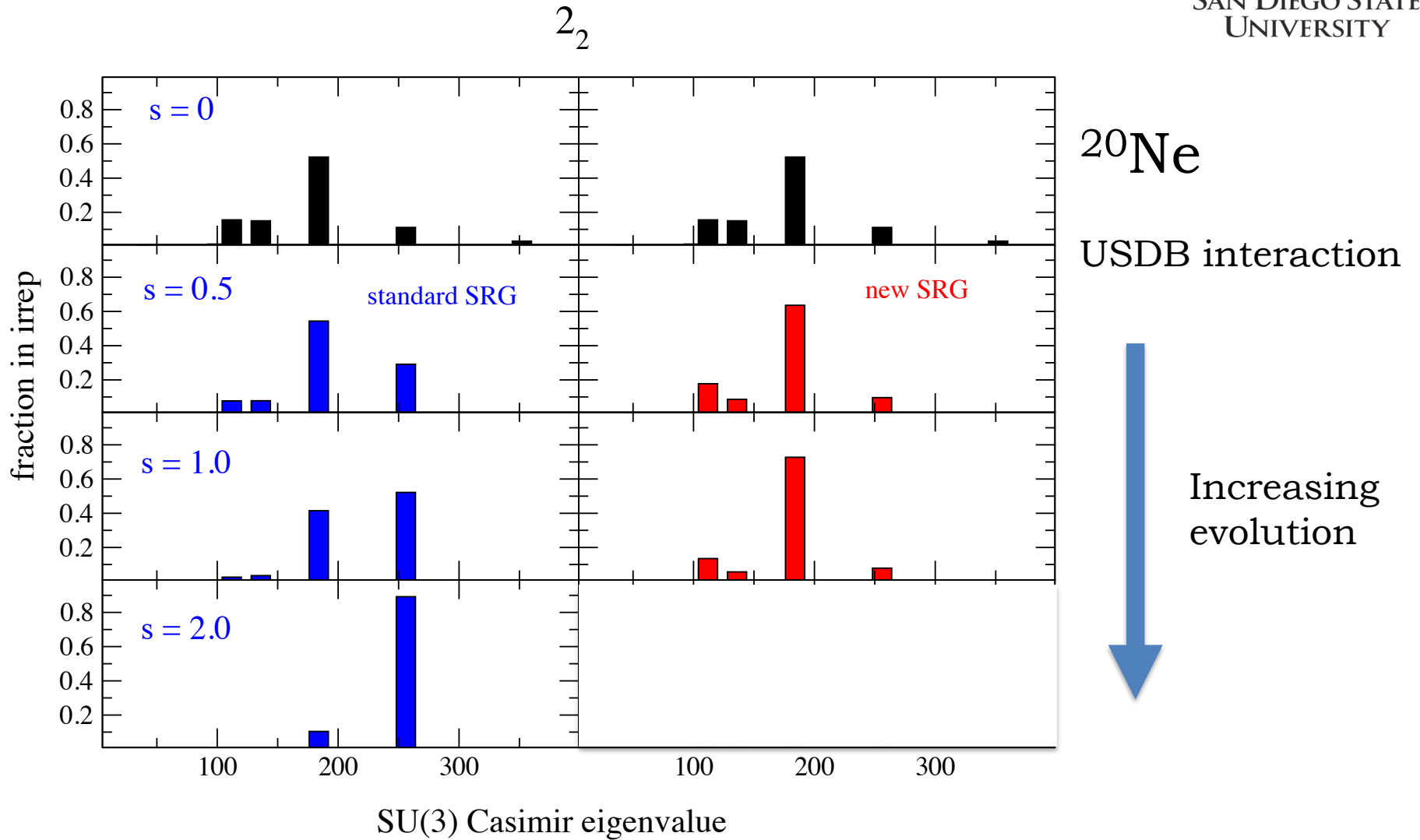
η is proportional to $[[[G, H], G], H]$

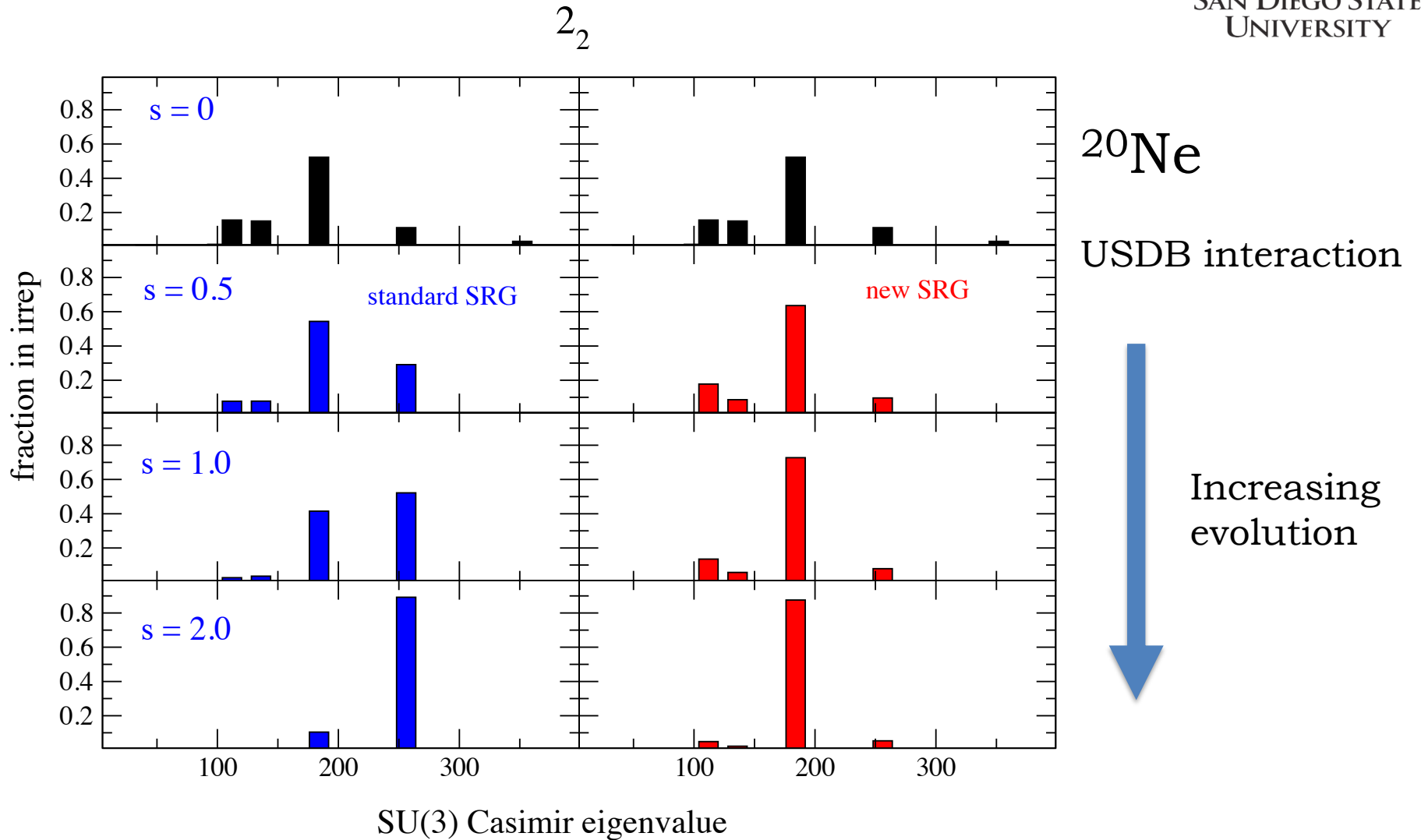
hence
$$\frac{d}{ds} H(s) = [\eta, H] = [[[[G, H], G], H], H]$$

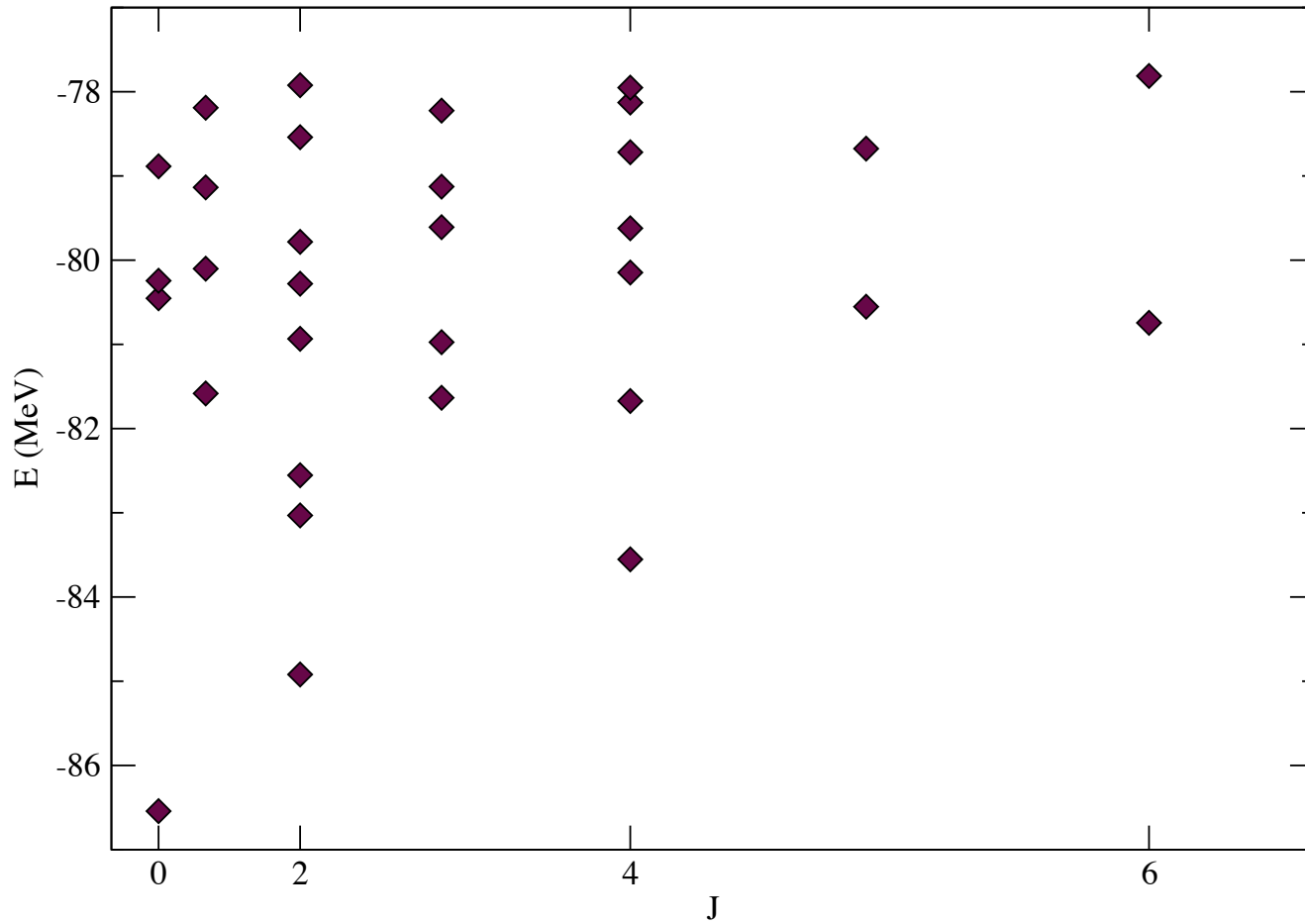






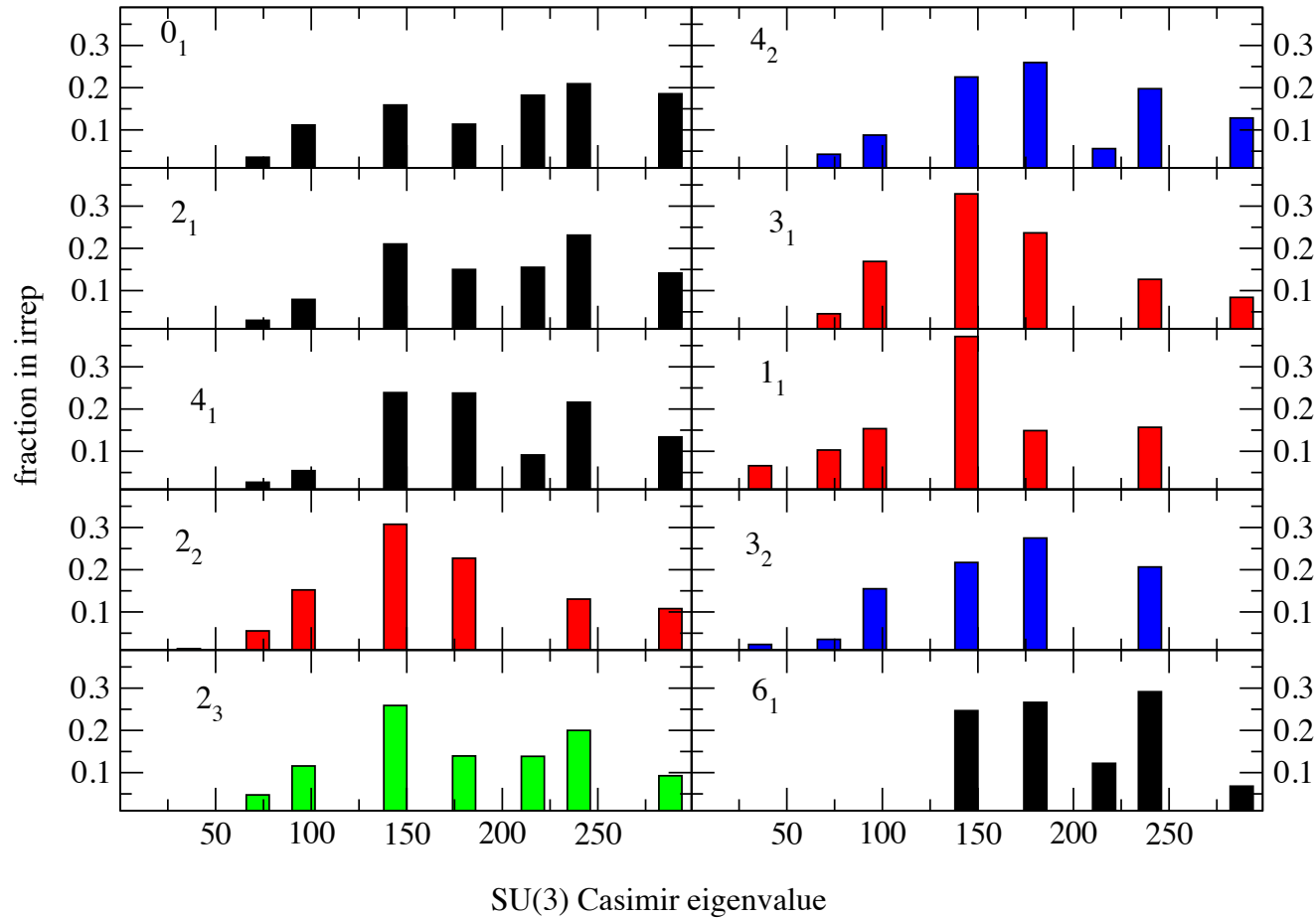






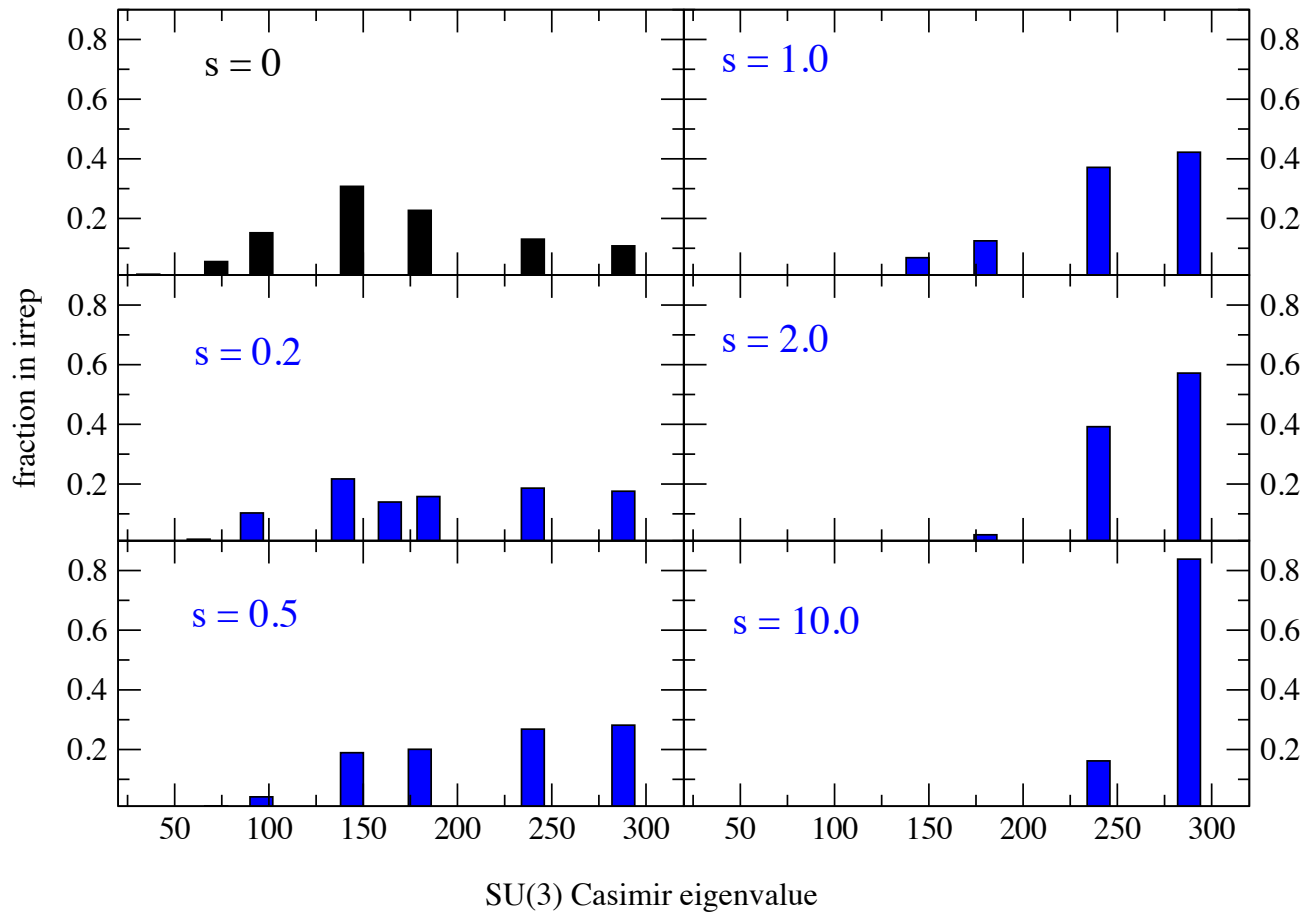
^{28}Ne

USDB interaction



^{28}Ne

USDB interaction

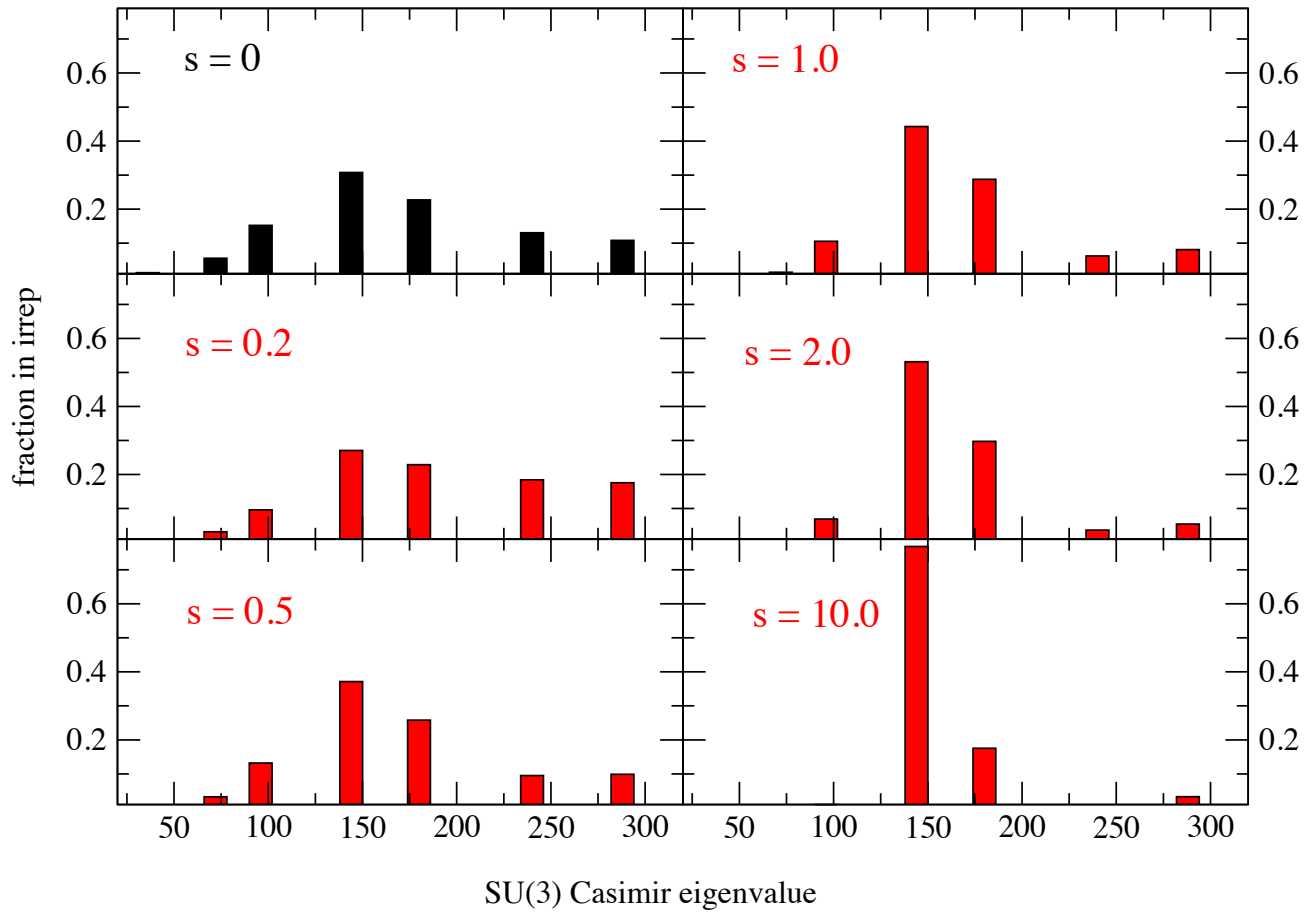


^{28}Ne

USDB interaction

2_2 state

standard
SRG

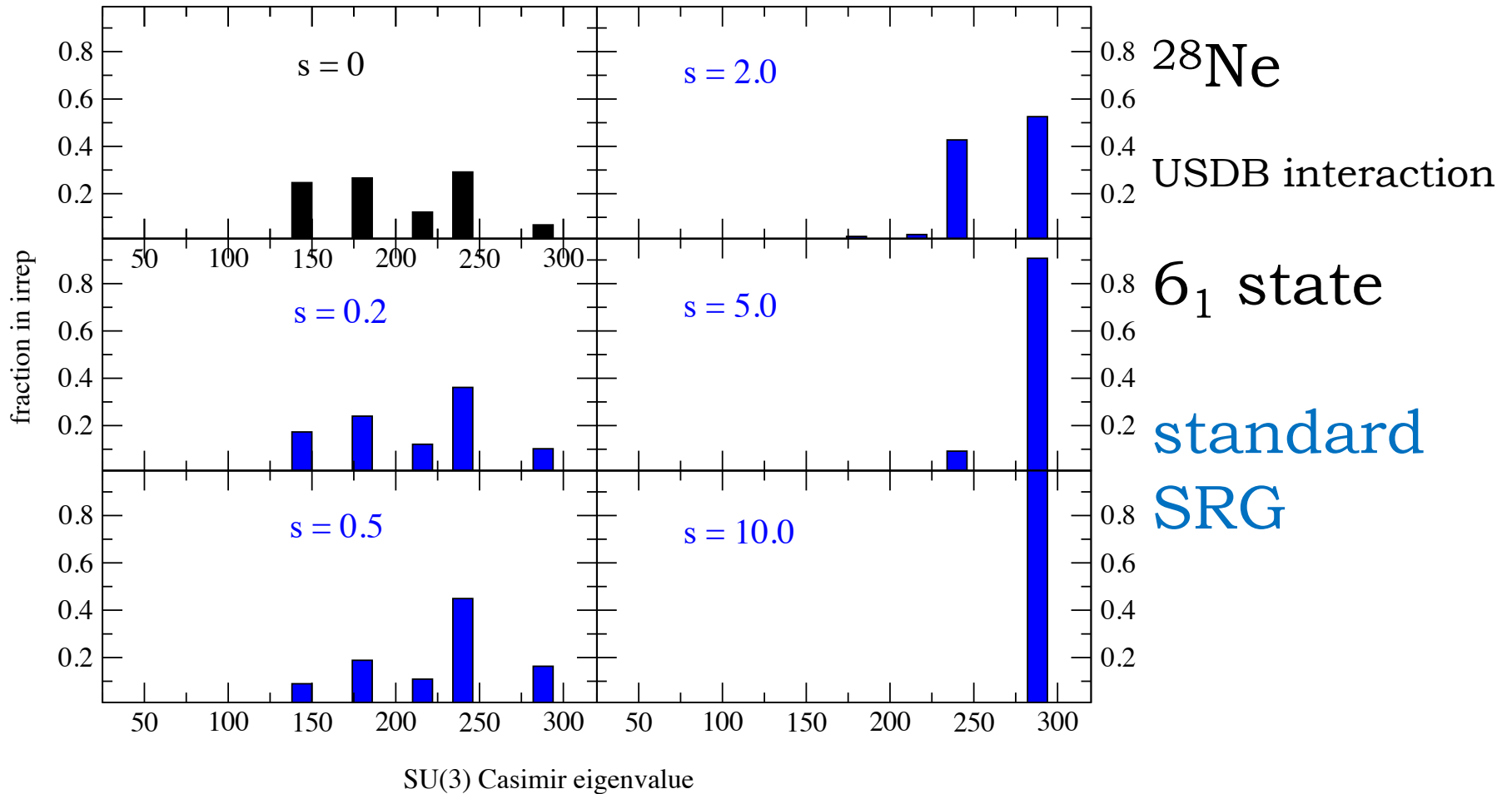


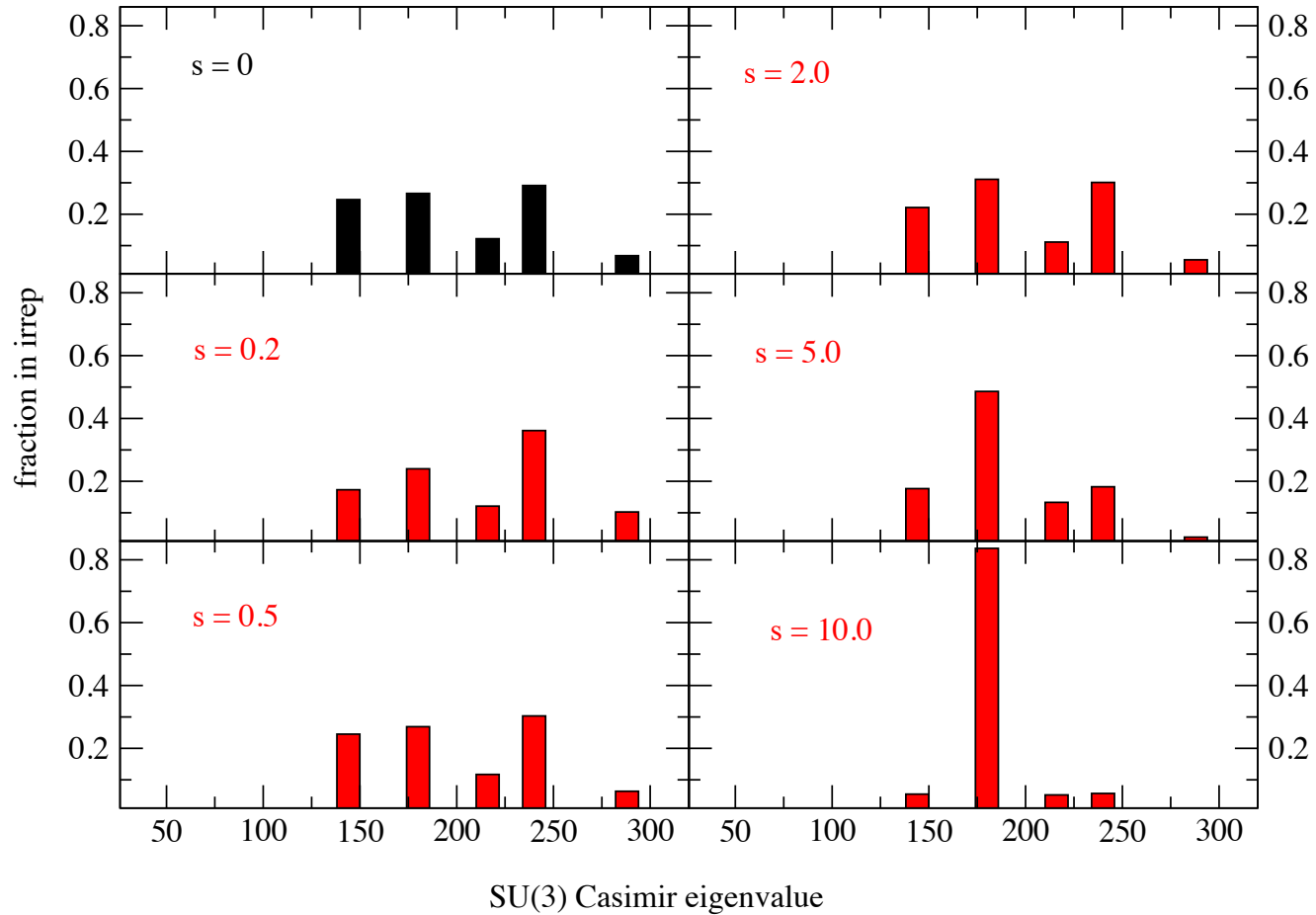
^{28}Ne

USDB interaction

2_2 state

new SRG



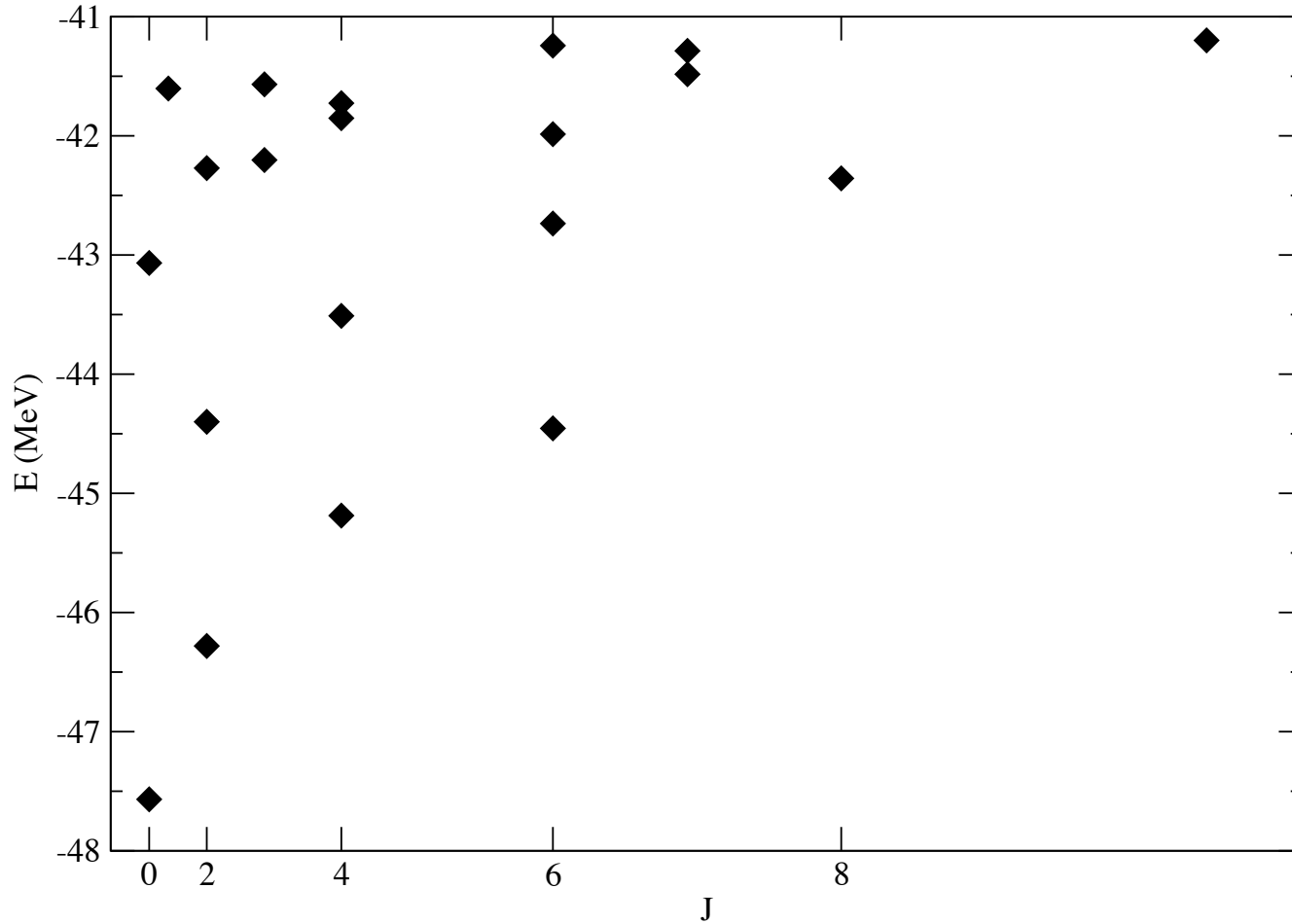


^{28}Ne

USDB interaction

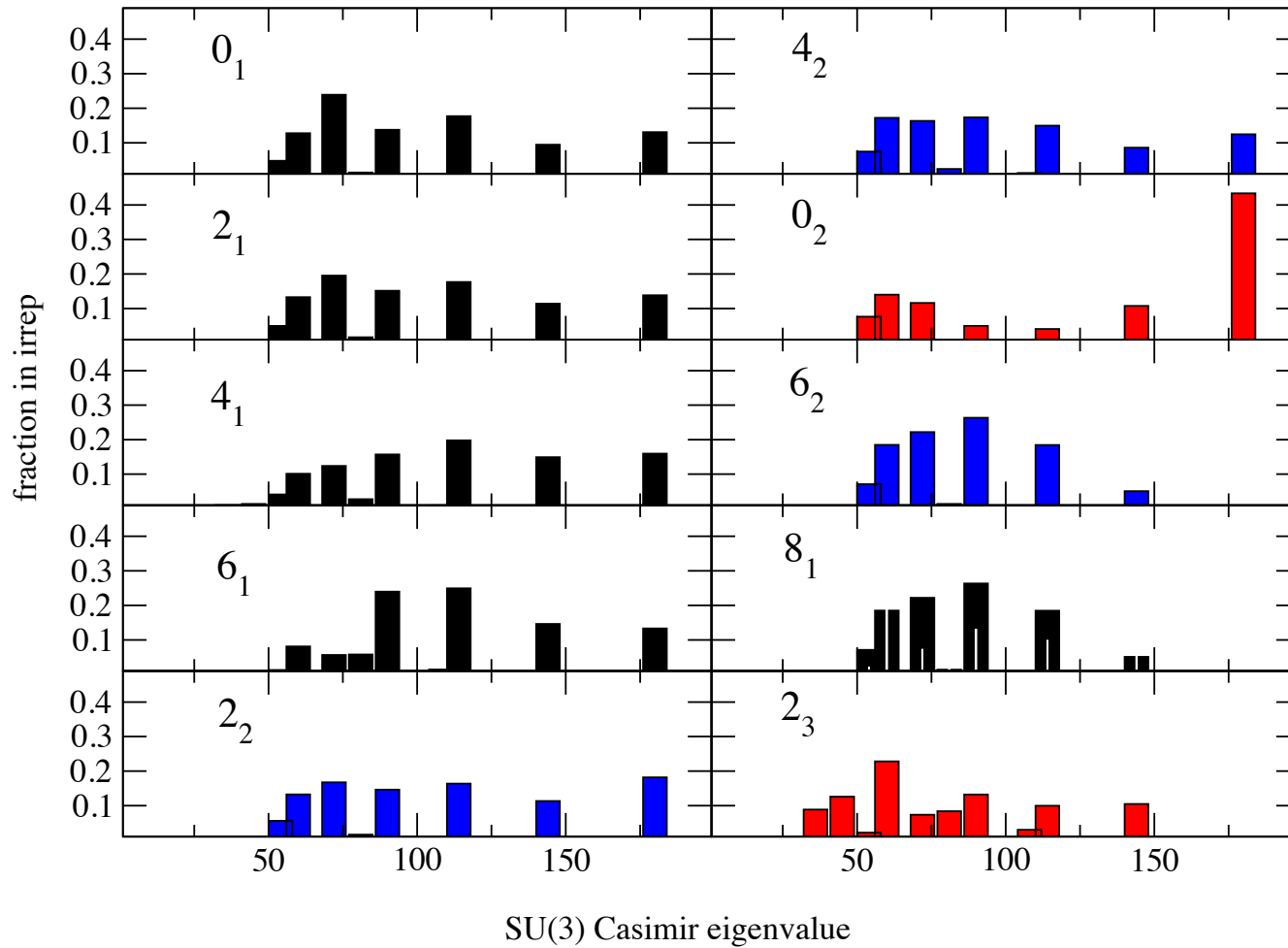
6_1 state

new SRG



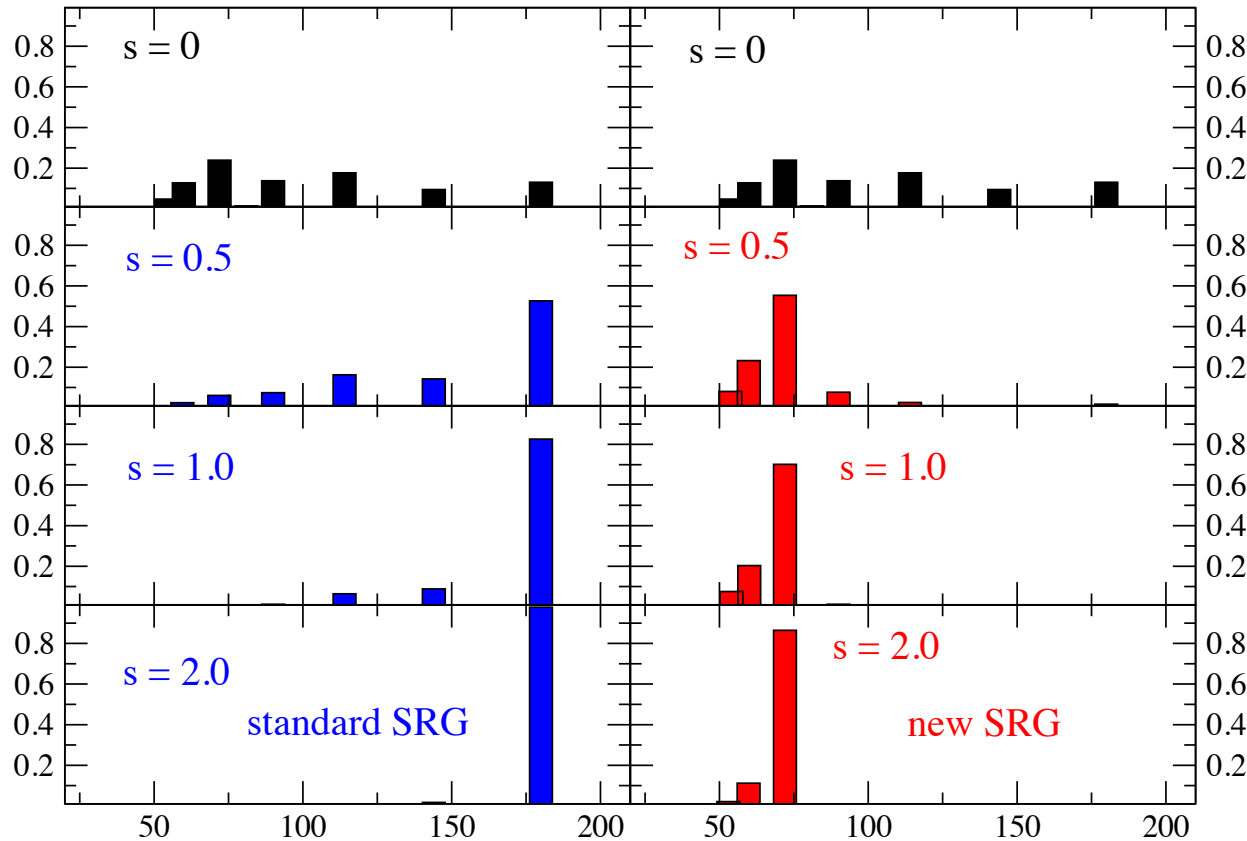
^{44}Ti

GX1A interaction



^{44}Ti

GX1A interaction



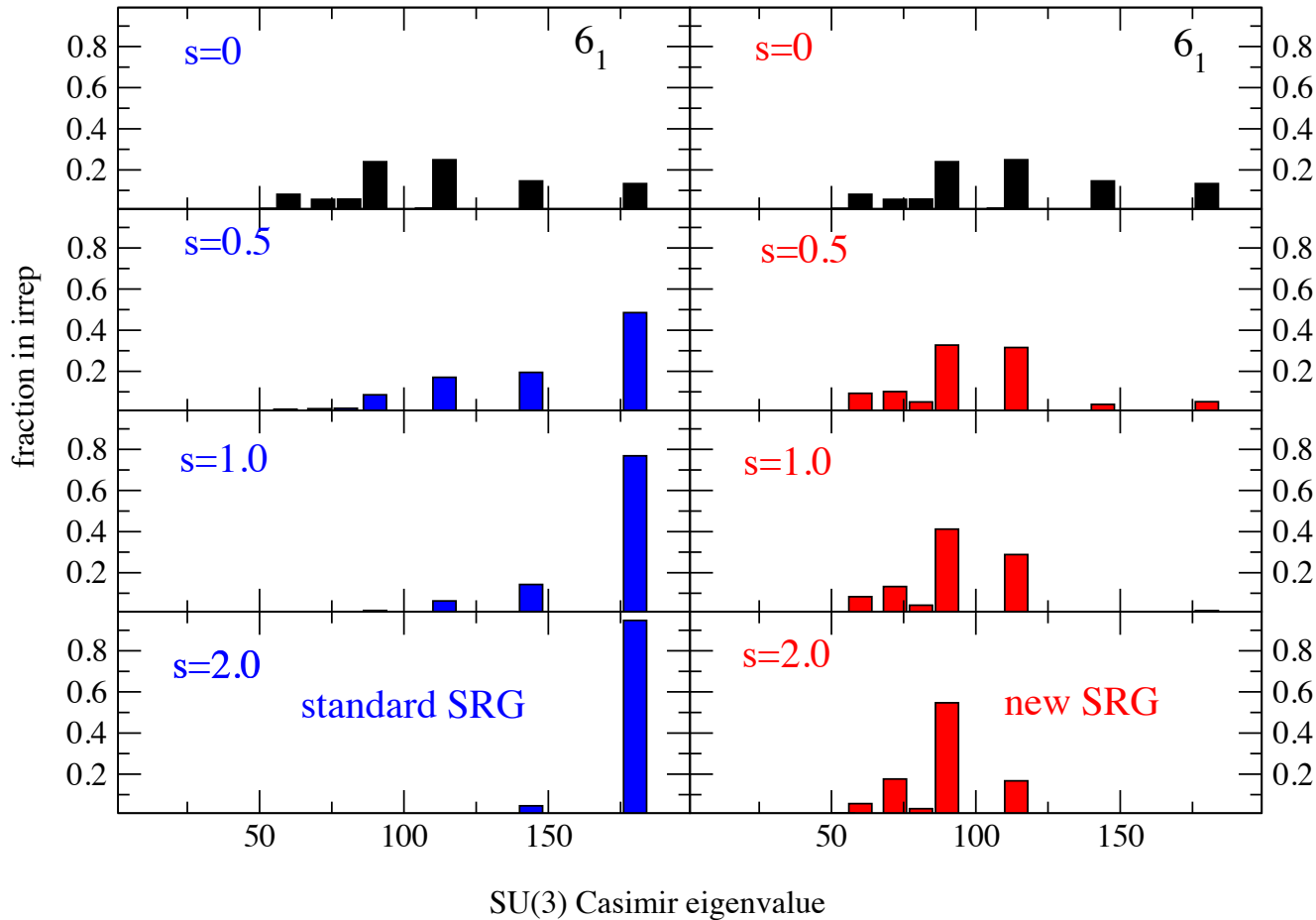
^{44}Ti

GX1A interaction

O_1 g.s.



Increasing evolution



^{44}Ti

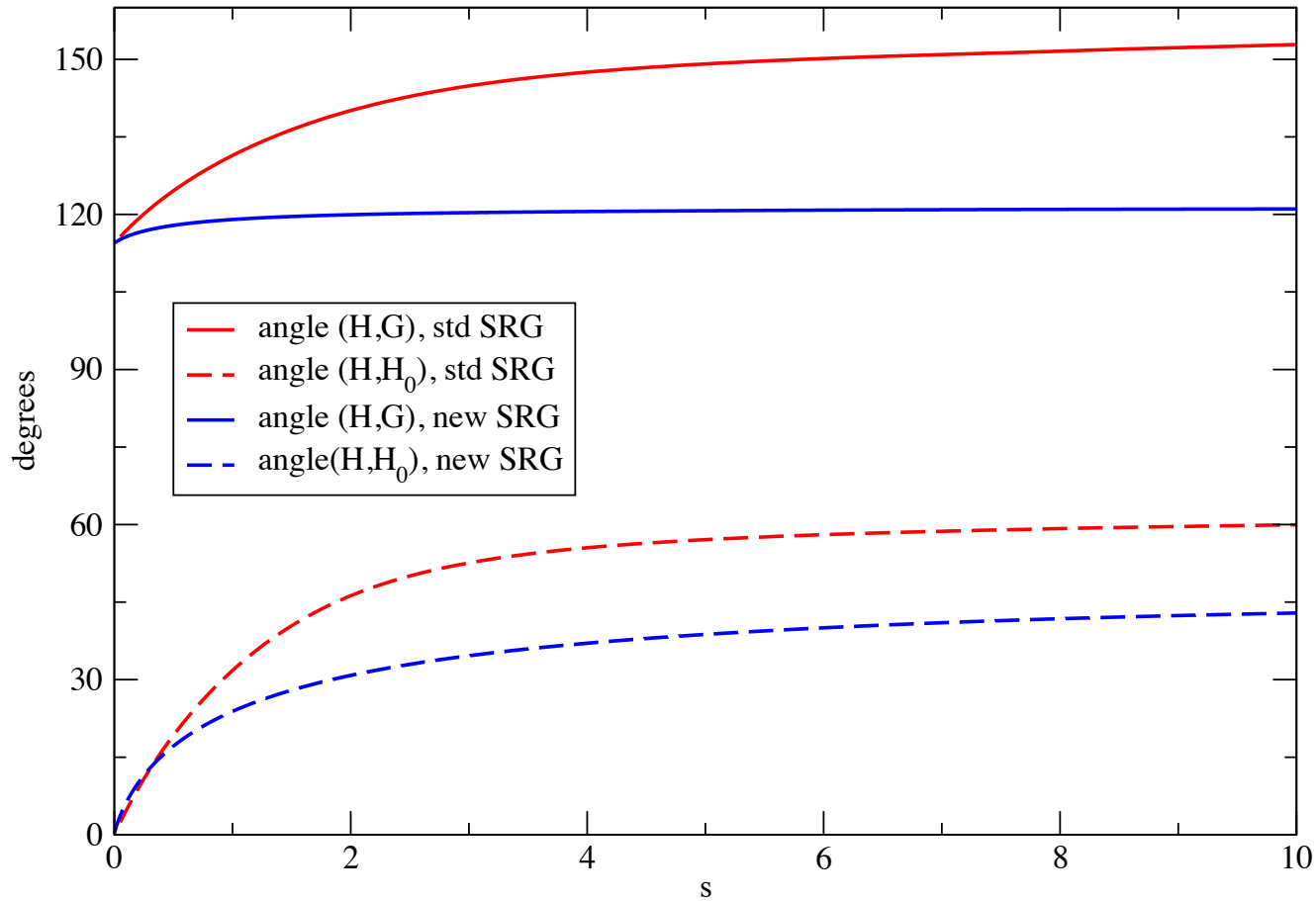
GX1A interaction

6_1 state



Increasing evolution

SRG through the lens of group theory



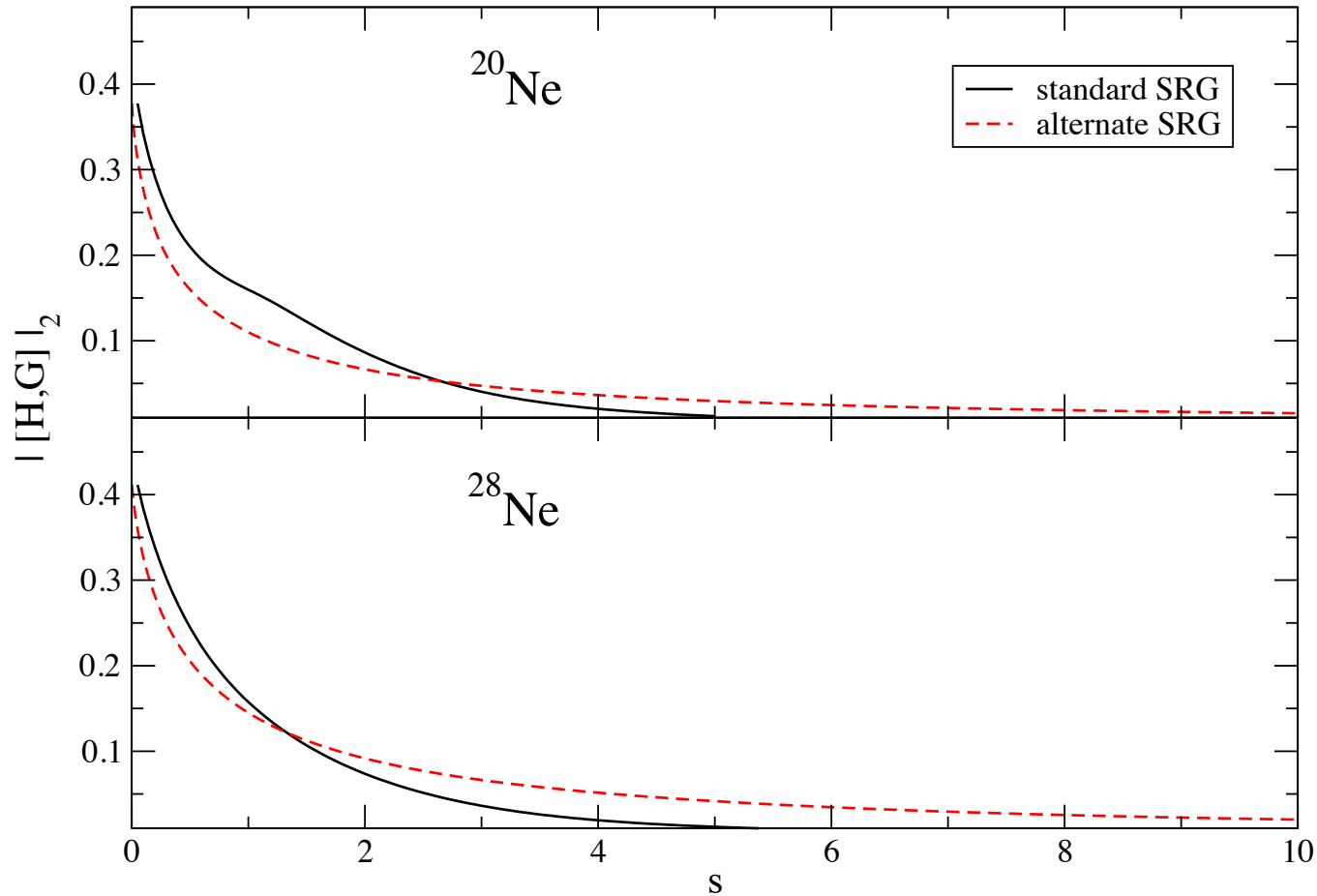
^{28}Ne

USDB interaction

$G = \text{SU}(3)$

2-body Casimir

SRG through the lens of group theory



$^{20,28}\text{Ne}$

USDB interaction

$G = \text{SU}(3)$

2-body Casimir

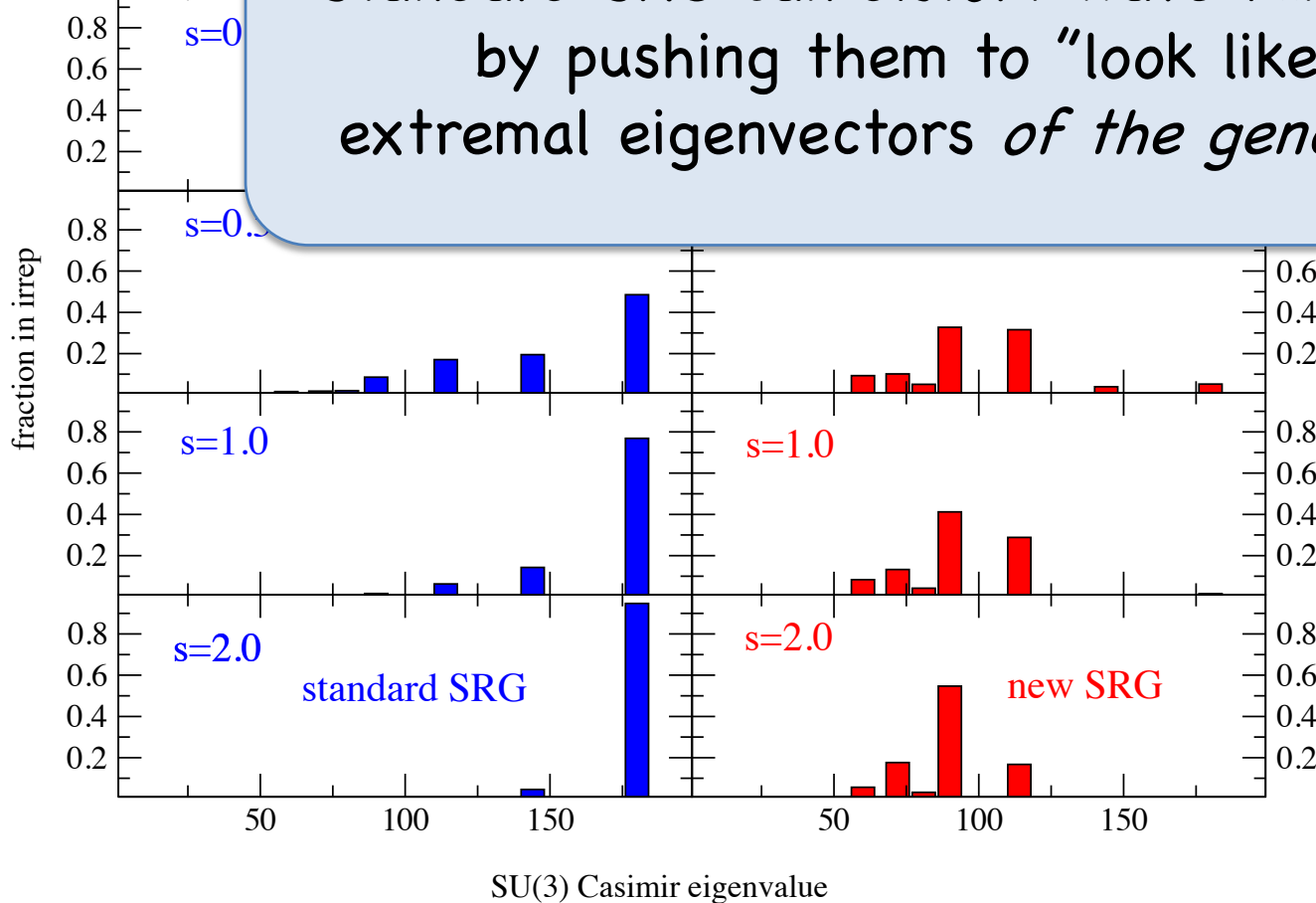


The story here:

Standard SRG can distort wave functions by pushing them to "look like" extremal eigenvectors of the generator

interaction

6_1 state



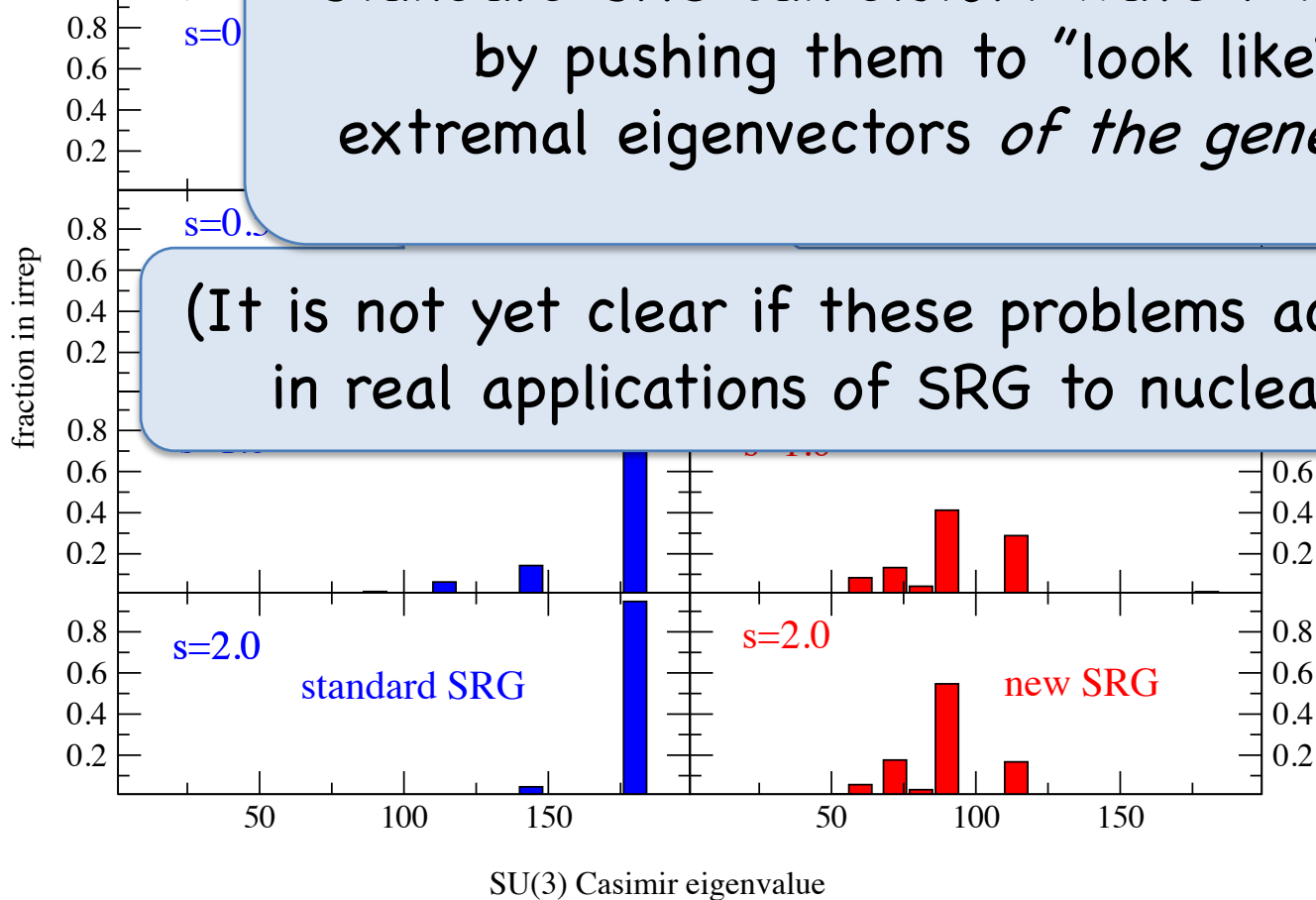


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(It is not yet clear if these problems actually occur in real applications of SRG to nuclear physics)





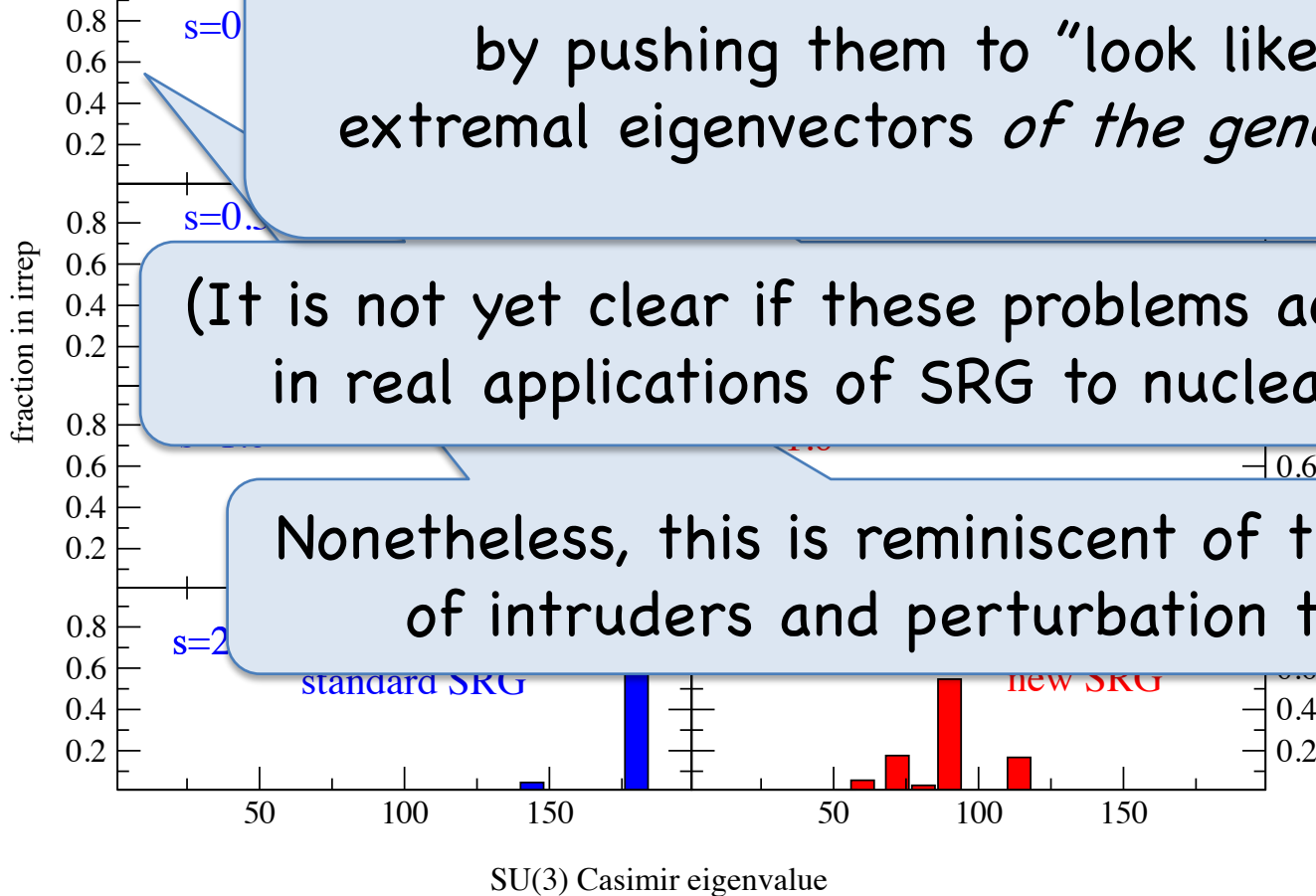
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Standard SRG can distort wave functions by pushing them to "look like" extremal eigenvectors of the generator

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Nonetheless, this is reminiscent of the problem of intruders and perturbation theory.





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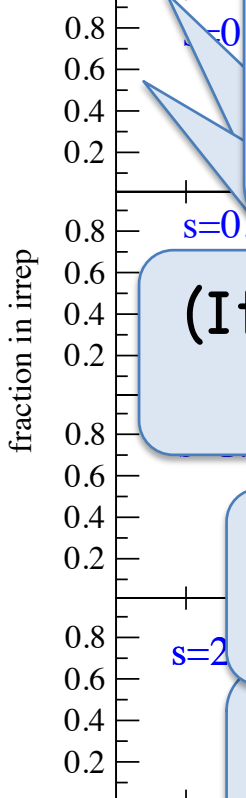
Standard SRG can distort wave functions by pushing them to “look like” extremal eigenvectors *of the generator*

interaction

(It is not yet clear if these problems actually occur in real applications of SRG to nuclear physics)

Nonetheless, this is reminiscent of the problem of intruders and perturbation theory.

The “new” SRG tends to have larger overlaps between the original and evolved wave functions



Future work:

- Transitions! How do $B(E2)$ s change?
- Use "new" SRG in both momentum space (original application of SRG in nuclear structure) and truncated shells ("in-medium SRG").

Can this be an **improved SRG** for nuclear structure?

Thank you!

Additional slides for curious people

Intruders and perturbation theory

Divide up the Hilbert space into the model space P and the excluded space Q .

The Feshbach effective interaction in the model space is

$$P H P + P H Q (E - Q H Q)^{-1} Q H P$$

For wave functions mostly in P , the second term can be well approximated in perturbation theory

For wave functions mostly in Q (“intruders”), the second term does not converge well in perturbation theory

(Barrett and Kirson, early 1970s)



Some technical details

Casimir

$$\hat{C} |z, \alpha\rangle = z |z, \alpha\rangle$$

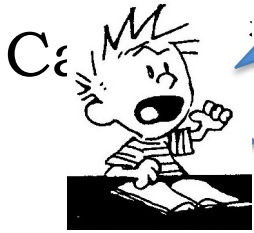
For some wavefunction $|\Psi\rangle$, we define
the *fraction of the wavefunction in an irrep*

$$F(z) = \sum_{\alpha} \left| \langle z, \alpha | \Psi \rangle \right|^2$$





How are those decompositions calculated?



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For some wavefunction $|\Psi\rangle$, we define the *fraction of the wavefunction in an irrep*

$$F(z) = \sum_{\alpha} \left| \langle z, \alpha | \Psi \rangle \right|^2$$



How are those decompositions calculated?



Naïve method: Solve eigenpair problems, e.g.

$$\mathbf{H} | \Psi_n \rangle = E_n | \Psi_n \rangle$$

and

$$\mathbf{L}^2 | l; \alpha \rangle = l(l+1) | l; \alpha \rangle$$

...and then take overlaps, $|\langle l; \alpha | \Psi_n \rangle|^2$

PROBLEM: the spectrum of \mathbf{L}^2 is highly degenerate (labeled by α);
Need to sum over all α not orthogonal to $|\Psi_n \rangle$!



Casin

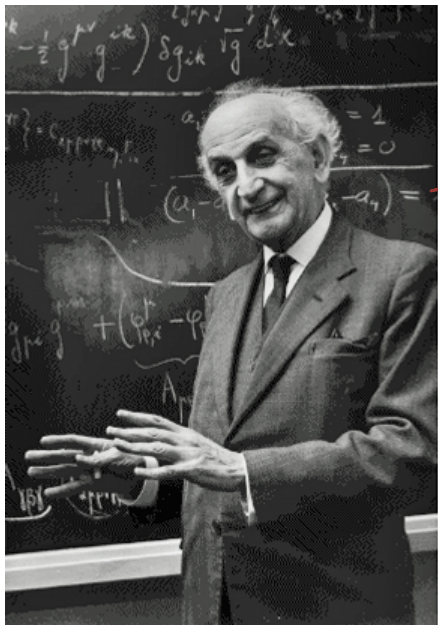
This can be done very efficiently
using the Lanczos algorithm
(see, e.g., CWJ, PRC **91**, 034313 (2015))

Fo
th

$$F(z) = \sum_{\alpha} \left| \langle z, \alpha | \Psi \rangle \right|^2$$

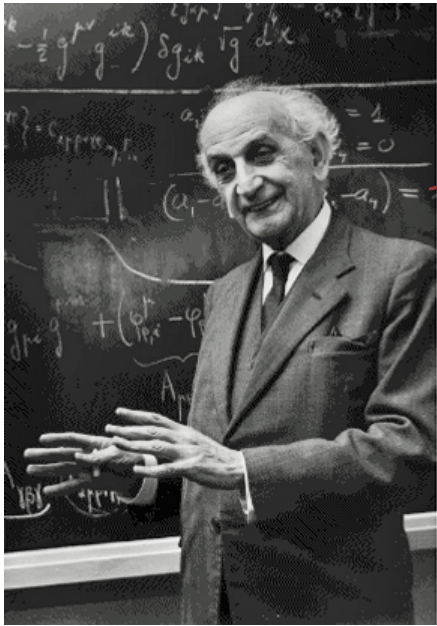


There is another way



(Cornelius Lanczos)

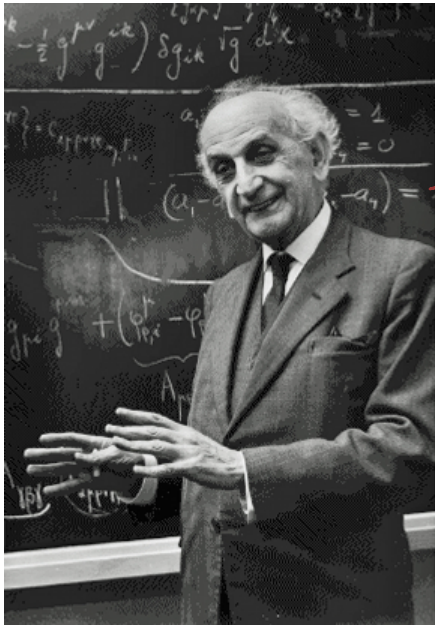
There is another way



(Cornelius Lanczos)

The Lanczos Algorithm!

There is another way



(Cornelius Lanczos)

$$\mathbf{A}\vec{v}_1 = \alpha_1\vec{v}_1 + \beta_1\vec{v}_2$$

$$\mathbf{A}\vec{v}_2 = \beta_1\vec{v}_1 + \alpha_2\vec{v}_2 + \beta_2\vec{v}_3$$

$$\mathbf{A}\vec{v}_3 = \beta_2\vec{v}_2 + \alpha_3\vec{v}_3 + \beta_3\vec{v}_4$$

$$\mathbf{A}\vec{v}_4 = \beta_3\vec{v}_3 + \alpha_4\vec{v}_4 + \beta_4\vec{v}_5$$

Starting from some initial vector (the “pivot”) v_1 , the Lanczos algorithm iteratively creates a new basis (a “Krylov space”) in which to diagonalize the matrix \mathbf{A} .

Eigenvectors are then expressed as a linear combination of the “Lanczos vectors”:

$$|\psi\rangle = c_1 |v_1\rangle + c_2 |v_2\rangle + c_3 |v_3\rangle + \dots$$

There is another way

Eigenvectors are expressed as a linear combination of the “Lanczos vectors”:

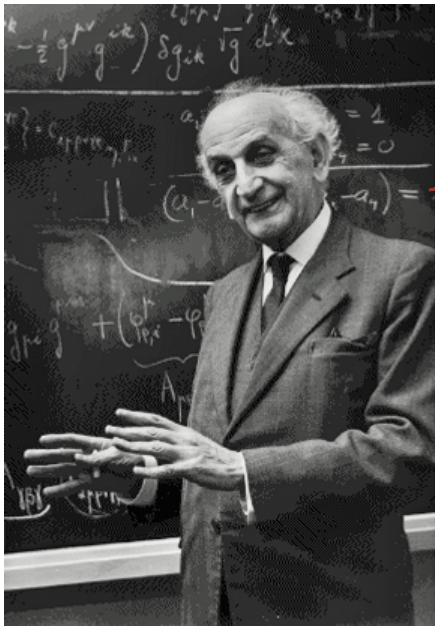
$$|\Psi\rangle = c_1 |v_1\rangle + c_2 |v_2\rangle + c_3 |v_3\rangle + \dots$$

It is easy to read off the overlap of an eigenstate with the “pivot” :

$$|\langle v_1 | \Psi \rangle|^2 = c_1^2$$

Furthermore, the only eigenvectors (of \mathbf{A}) that are contained in the Krylov space are those with nonzero overlap with the pivot $|v_1\rangle$.

If \mathbf{A} is say \mathbf{L}^2 then we can efficiently expand any state $|v_1\rangle$ into its components with good L .



(Cornelius Lanczos)

There is another way

This trick has been applied before

Computing strength functions

Caurier, Poves, and Zuker, *Phys. Lett.* B252, 13 (1990);
PRL 74, 1517 (1995)

Caurier *et al*, *PRC* 59, 2033 (1999)

Haxton, Nollett, and Zurek, *PRC* 72, 065501 (2005)

Decomposition of wavefunction into $SU(3)$ components,
looking at effect of spin-orbit force:

V. Gueorguiev, J. P Draayer, and C. W. J., *PRC* 63, 014318 (2000).

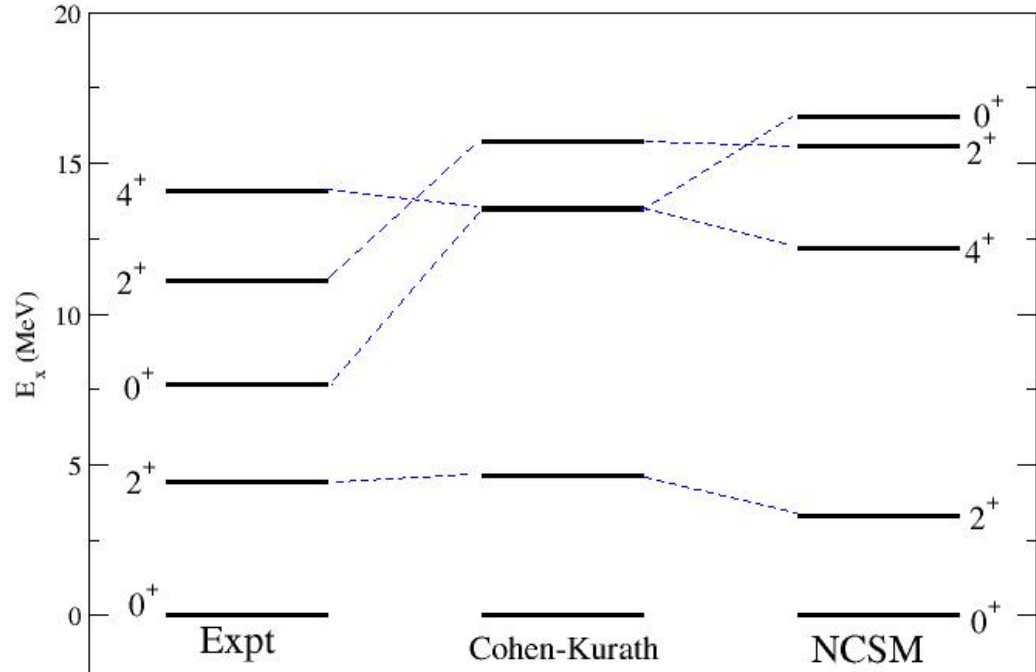
Present calculations carried out using **BIGSTICK** shell-model code:
Johnson, Ormand, and Krastev, *Comp. Phys. Comm.* 184, 2761 (2013).

^{12}C

Phenomenological Cohen-Kurath force (1965) in $0p$ shell
m-scheme dimension: 51

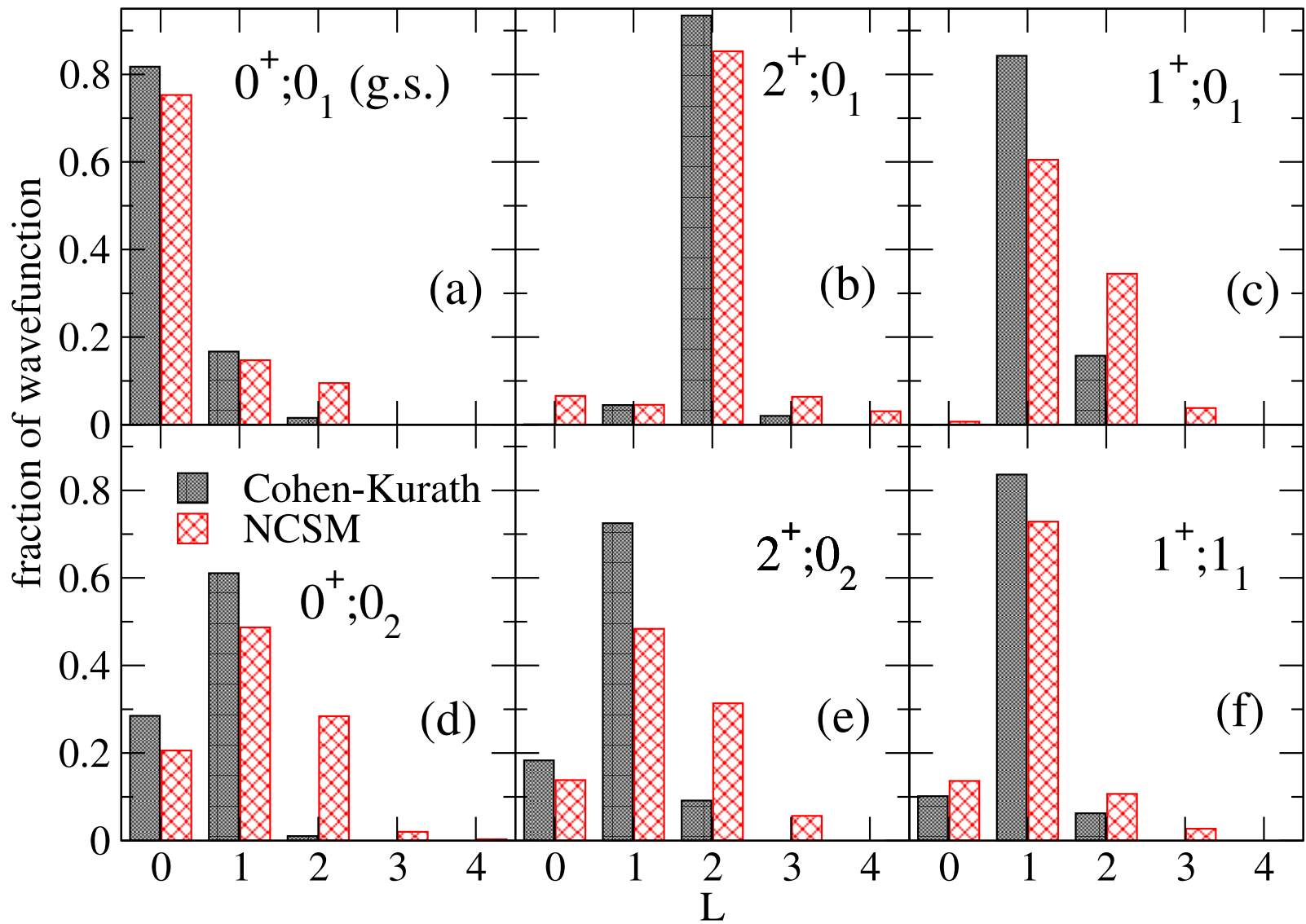
NCSM: N³LO chiral 2-body force SRG evolved* to $\lambda = 2.0 \text{ fm}^{-1}$, $N_{\text{max}} = 6$, $\hbar\omega = 22 \text{ MeV}$
m-scheme dimension: 35 million

(Calculations carried out using
 BIGSTICK shell-model code:
 Johnson, Ormand, and Krastev,
 Comp. Phys. Comm. **184**, 2761
 (2013).)



*code courtesy of P. Navratil,
 any mistakes in using it are mine!

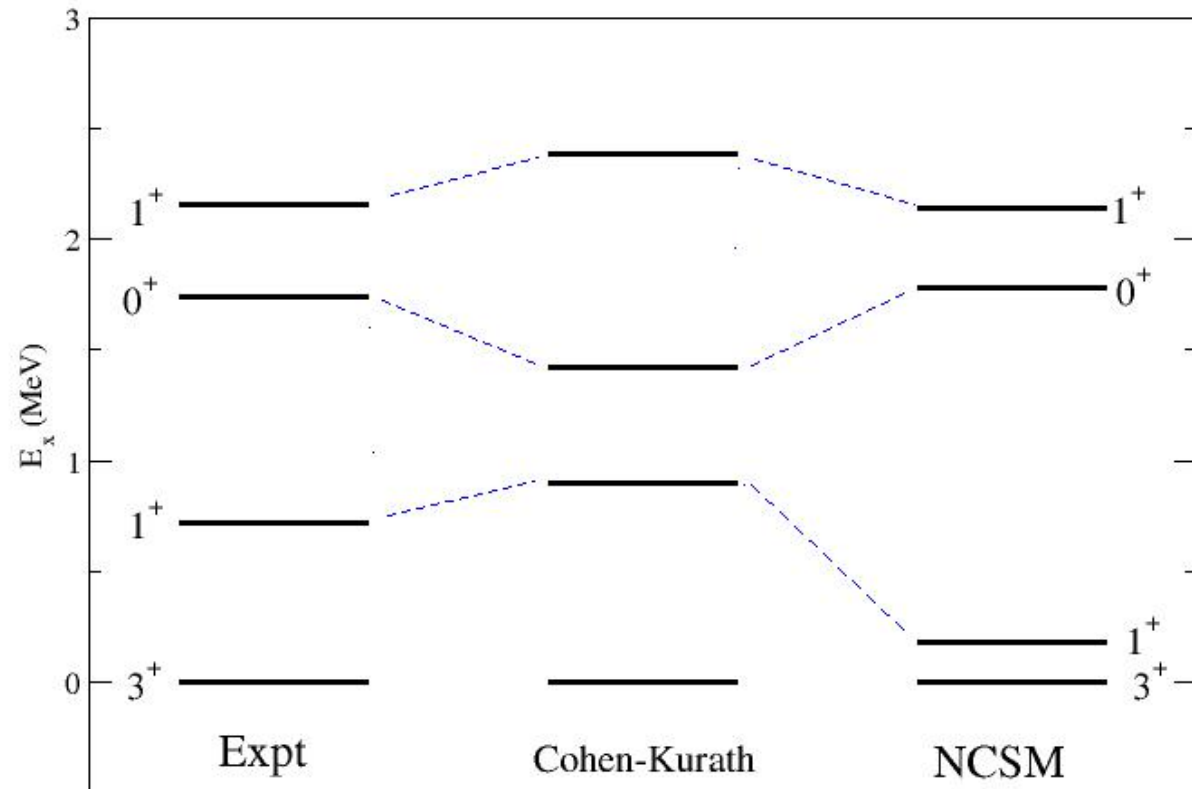
SRG through the lens of group theory

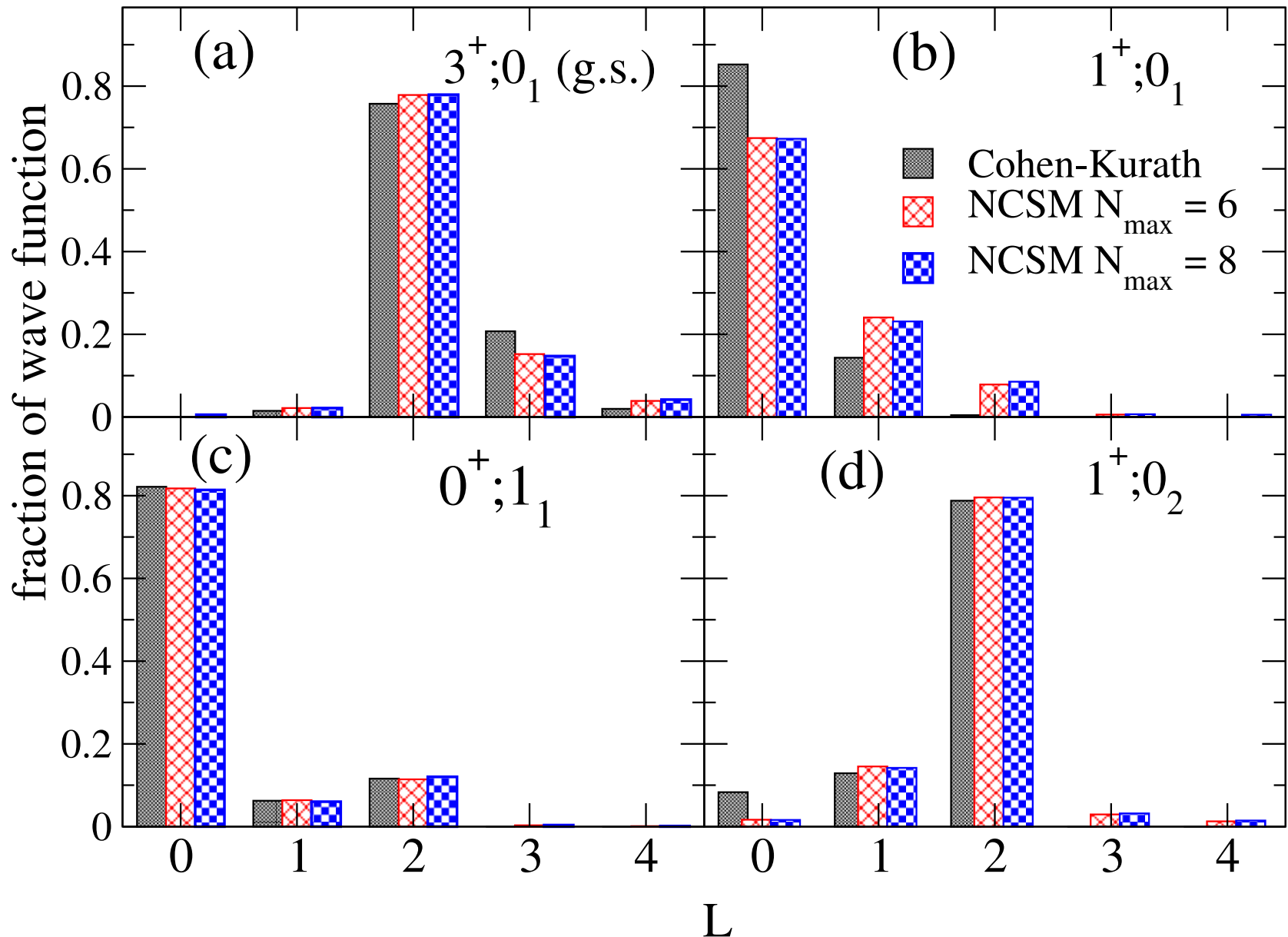


^{10}B

Phenomenological Cohen-Kurath m -scheme dimension: 84

NCSM: N³LO chiral 2-body force SRG evolved to $\lambda = 2.0 \text{ fm}^{-1}$, $N_{\text{max}} = 6$, $\hbar\omega = 22 \text{ MeV}$
 m -scheme dimension: 12 million

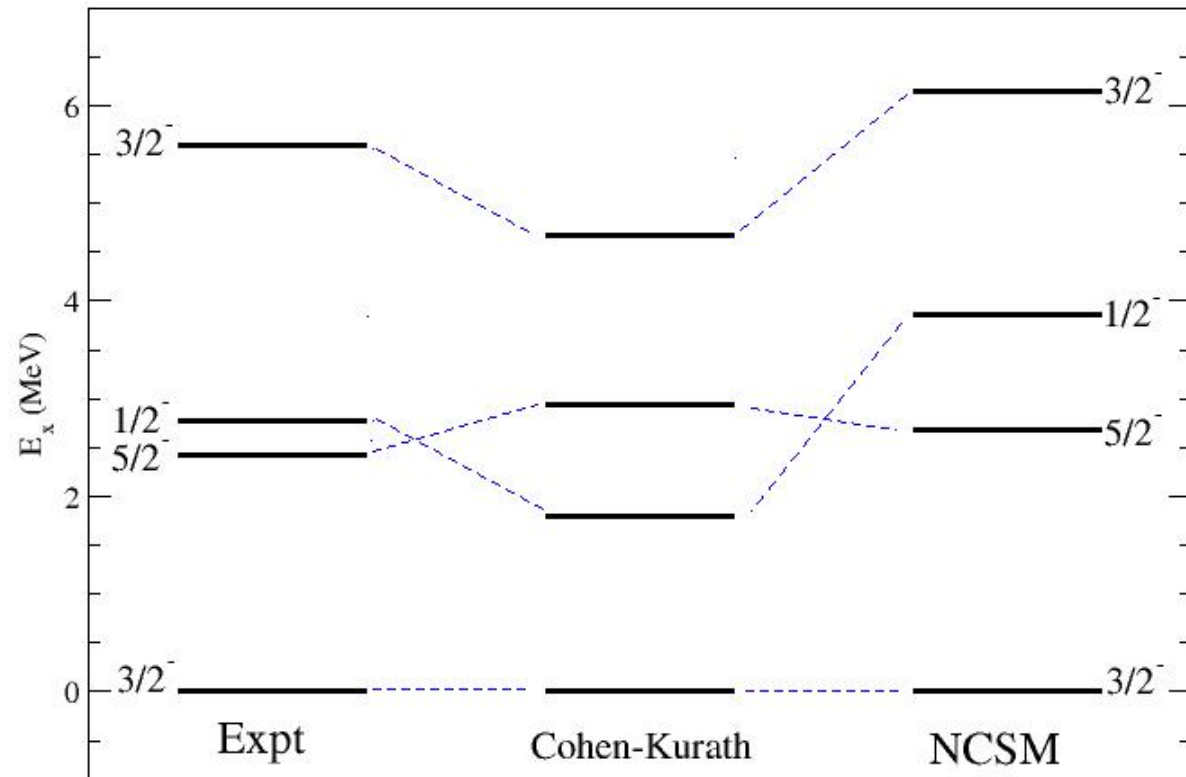




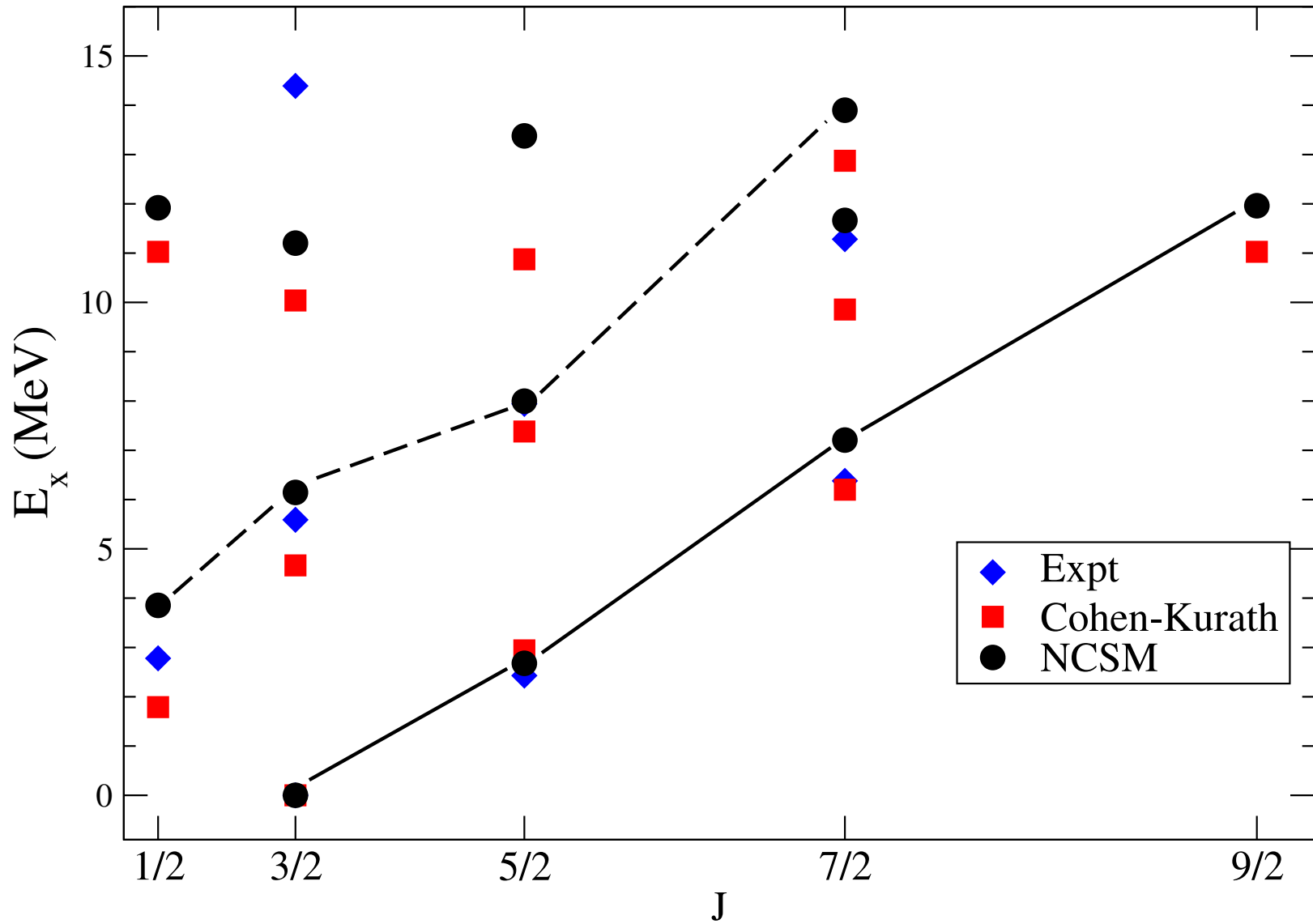
${}^9\text{Be}$

Phenomenological Cohen-Kurath m -scheme dimension: 62

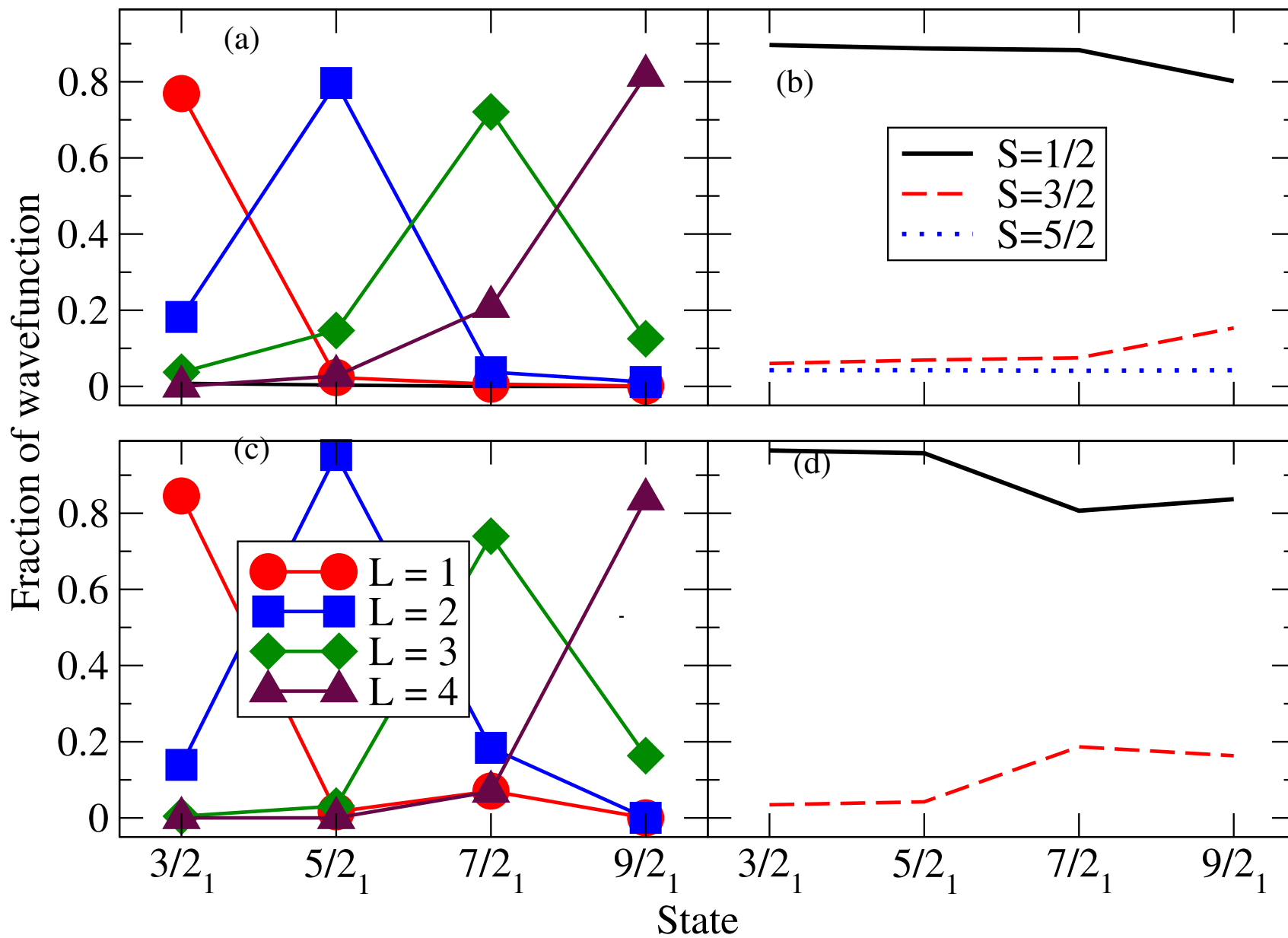
NCSM: N³LO chiral 2-body force SRG evolved to $\lambda = 2.0 \text{ fm}^{-1}$, $N_{\text{max}} = 6$, $\hbar\omega = 22 \text{ MeV}$
 m -scheme dimension: 5.2 million



SRG through the lens of group theory



SRG through the lens of group theory



SRG through the lens of group theory

