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Applications of the NCSM

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No-core shell model (NCSM)

- NCSM is an *ab initio* approach to solve the many-body Schrödinger equation for bound states – and narrow resonances – starting from *high-precision* NN+NNN *interactions* [1]
- Uses large and finite expansions in HO many-body basis states
- Translational invariance of internal wave function is preserved when single particle Slater Determinant (SD) basis is used with N_{max} truncation



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$$\langle \vec{r}_1 \cdots \vec{r}_A \vec{\sigma}_1 \cdots \vec{\sigma}_A \vec{\tau}_1 \cdots \vec{\tau}_A | A \lambda J M \rangle_{SD} = \langle \vec{\xi}_1 \cdots \vec{\xi}_{A-1} \vec{\sigma}_1 \cdots \vec{\sigma}_A \vec{\tau}_1 \cdots \vec{\tau}_A | A \lambda J M \rangle \varphi_{000} \left(\vec{\xi}_0 \right)$$

Natural orbitals

- Largest obstacle in *ab initio* nuclear theory is accurate description of manybody systems while maintaining reasonable computation times
- Want to choose basis which emphasizes physical structure of nuclei
- Diagonalization of one-body density matrix can better adapt single-particle basis of nucleons to many-body wavefunction [2]

$$\rho_{ab} = {}_{SD} \left\langle A\lambda_f J_f \right| \left| \left(a_b^{\dagger} \widetilde{a}_a \right)^{(0)} \right| \left| A\lambda_i J_i \right\rangle_{SD}$$

 Similarity transformation from harmonic oscillator (HO) to natural orbitals (NO) basis implemented with eigenvectors of density matrix

Natural orbitals

- N_{max} convergence of HO and NO basis calculations of ground state energy of ¹⁶O
- $N^2 LO_{opt}$ interaction
- Importance truncation used at $N_{max} = 8$ for both bases
- NO basis increases convergence by about one step in N_{max}



Antiproton scattering

- Fully microscopic description of antiproton elastic scattering off nuclei possible from chiral effective field theory (EFT)
- $\overline{p}N$ t-matrix computed from antiproton-nucleon interaction in chiral EFT [3] and nonlocal target densities computed in NCSM with SRG evolved $NN N^4LO(500) + 3N_{lnl}$ interaction
- Optical potentials calculated in full from folding integral of nonlocal target densities and $\overline{p}N$ t-matrix

$$U(\vec{q},\vec{K}) = \sum_{N=n,p} \int d\vec{P} \ \eta(\vec{q},\vec{K},\vec{P}) t_{\vec{p}N}(\vec{q},\vec{K},\vec{P}) \rho_N(\vec{q},\vec{P})$$

 Ab initio scattering cross sections for antiproton scattering are extracted from the optical potentials [4]

Antiproton scattering

- Differential cross sections of elastic antiproton scattering as function of center-ofmass scattering angle
- $NN N^4 LO(500) +$ $3N_{lnl}$ interaction with $\lambda_{SRG} = 2.0 fm^{-1}, \hbar\Omega =$ 20.0 MeV for ⁴He and $\hbar\Omega = 16.0 \text{ MeV}$ for ¹²C, ^{16,18}O
- $\overline{p}N$ t-matrix and nonlocal densities reproduce data and minima well



No-core shell model with continuum (NCSMC)

 Many observables in quantum theory are accessible through NCSM, but ultimately NCSM is a theory of bound states – must incorporate continuum basis states 7

 Explicitly include NCSM eigenstates |AλJ^πT > in a generalized expansion of many-body wave function

$$A \quad |\Psi^{J^{\pi}T}\rangle = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda}^{J^{\pi}T} |A \lambda J^{\pi}T\rangle + \sum_{\nu} \int dr \, r^2 \, \frac{g_{\nu}^{J^{\pi}T}(r)}{r} \, \hat{A}_{\nu} |\Phi_{\nu r}^{J^{\pi}T}\rangle$$

 Resulting wave function provides accurate description of bound and unbound states, a wave function suitable for describing clustering, scattering and breakup processes [5]

Precision beta decay

 Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) matrix unitarity is established as sensitive probe of physics beyond the Standard Model

$$|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 = 1$$

- Largest contribution to sum comes from V_{ud} matrix element
- Extraction of V_{ud} from super-allowed 0⁺ \rightarrow 0⁺ Fermi beta decay transitions requires theoretical calculation of isospin symmetry breaking correction δ_c [6]
- We study the beta decay ${}^{10}C \rightarrow {}^{10}B$ where this correction can be computed with high precision in the NCSMC

Intermediate result Structure of ¹⁰C as ⁹B + p

- Phase shifts (solid lines) and eigenphase-shifts (dashed lines) for ⁹B + p scattering
- NCSMC calculations include ³/₂⁻ and ⁵/₂⁻ states from ⁹B
- $NN N^4 LO(500) + 3N_{lnl}$ interaction with $\hbar \Omega =$ 18.0 MeV $\lambda_{SRG} = 1.8 fm^{-1}$



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Conclusions and outlook

Conclusions

- Exploration of physically motivated similarity transformations can help improve convergence rates in traditional HO basis calculations
- Elastic antiproton scattering off nuclei from *ab initio* theory now possible with development of antiproton-nucleon chiral EFT interactions and nonlocal nuclear densities
- Constraints on Standard Model CKM matrix unitarity possible through *ab initio* nuclear structure calculations

Outlook

- Pursuing extensions to natural orbitals framework in the NCSM
- Improvements to connection between NCSM and scattering theory
- Completing calculation of isospin symmetry breaking correction δ_c

References

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