

# Neutrinoless double-beta decay from valence-space in-medium similarity renormalization group



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Theoretical and Experimental Approaches for Nuclear Matrix Elements of Double Beta Decays (Dec. 21 2023)

#### **Collaborators**



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# **Neutrinoless double-beta decay**



- Hypothetic process: it can happen only if the neutrino is its own antiparticle.
- Lepton number violation:  $2n \rightarrow 2p + 2e (0 \rightarrow 2)$
- Nature of neutrino

 $\Delta m_{21^2} \sim 7.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$  $|\Delta m_{32^2}| \sim 2.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ 



### **Neutrinoless double-beta decay**



Half-life formula:

$$(T^{0\nu\beta\beta})^{-1} = G^{0\nu} |M^{0\nu}|^2 \langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2, \quad \langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle = \left| \sum_i U_{ei} m_i \right|$$

- G<sup>0v</sup>: phase-space factor; known
- M<sup>ov</sup>: nuclear matrix element; only theoretically available
- <m<sub>ββ</sub>>: absolute mass scale; unknown
- We need M<sup>0v</sup> as precise as possible.



A. Gando et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 082503 (2016).

#### **Nuclear matrix element**

- Different theories provide different results
- Spread of theory results is factor 3
  - Meaning of the spread is unclear...
- A theoretical calculation with quantified uncertainty

 $H|\Psi_{\text{parent/daughter}}\rangle = E|\Psi_{\text{parent/daughter}}\rangle$ 

 $M^{0\nu} = \langle \Psi_{\text{daughter}} | \mathcal{O}^{0\nu} | \Psi_{\text{parent}} \rangle$ 

- Reasonable starting nuclear Hamiltonian(s)
- Controllable many-body method(s)

Operators





#### **Nuclear ab initio calculation**



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# **Nuclear interaction from chiral EFT**



Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaiser, Epelbaum, Glöckle, Meißner, Entem, Machleidt, ...

- Lagrangian construction
  - Chiral symmetry
  - Power counting
- Systematic expansion
  - Unknown LECs
  - Many-body interactions
  - Estimation of truncation error



Figure is from E. Epelbaum, H. Krebs, and P. Reinert, Front. Phys. 8, 1 (2020).

# **Nuclear currents from chiral EFT**



- Nuclear observables (EM properties, beta decay, ...) are measured through the interaction between a nucleus and external field.
- Chiral EFT allows us a systematic expansion for charge and current operators.



# g<sub>A</sub> quenching problem



Quenching problem can be understood by higher-order contribution + many-body correlation



P. Gysbers, et al., Nat. Phys. 15, 428 (2019).





Chiral EFT allows us a systematic expansion in lepton number violated sector.



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  - Loop contributions that cannot be absorbed into corrections of form factors.



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  - Short-range contact contribution
  - Loop contributions that cannot be absorbed into corrections of form factors.
  - Ultrasoft contributions depends on structure of the intermediate nucleus.



#### **Contact term**

 The contact term strength can be determined by matching nn → pp amplitude with low- and high-energy regions.

- Contact term enhances NME.



V. Cirigliano et al., J. High Energy Phys. 2021, 289 (2021). R. Wirth, J. M. Yao, and H. Hergert, Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 242502 (2021).



#### Valence-space in-medium similarity renormalization group



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# Valence-space in-medium similarity renormalization group



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#### Valence-space in-medium similarity renormalization group





#### <sup>48</sup>Ca, <sup>76</sup>Ge, and <sup>82</sup>Se





No contact term, not full uncertainty quantification, ...

A. Belley et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 126, 042502 (2021).

# Inclusion of the contact term



The contact term significantly enhances the NME.



A Belley et al., arXiv:2307.15156.

#### **Comparison with results from other methods**





A Belley et al., arXiv:2307.15156.

\*Uncertainty is not fully quantified

# **Correlation: different isotopes**





N. Shimizu, J. Menéndez, and K. Yako, Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 142502 (2018).

# **Correlation: different interaction parameter sets**





\* correlation with 2<sup>+</sup> energy is so far only seen in <sup>76</sup>Ge case.

# **Correlation: different interaction parameter sets**





Global sensitivity analysis

Intermediate-energy phase shift can constrain the NME.

# A better uncertainty quantification



• Uncertainties:

- Interactions
  - Parameter uncertainty
  - EFT truncation
- Operator
  - Closure approximation
  - Contact strength
- Many-body methods
  - VS-IMSRG
  - IM-GCM
- Emulator

See Jiangming's talk



A. Belley et al., arXiv: 2308.15634 25

# **Effect on experimental limits**





Experimental limits: GERDA (<sup>76</sup>Ge) Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 252502, CUPID-Mo (<sup>100</sup>Mo) Eur. Phys. J. C 82 11, 1033 CUORE(<sup>130</sup>Te) Nature 604, 53–58, and Kamland Zen (<sup>136</sup>Xe) Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 051801.

# **Effect on future research**





CUPID (100Mo) arXiv:1907.09376, SNO+(130Te) arXiv:2104.11687and nEXO (136Xe) J. Phys .G 49 1, 015104.

# **Summary & outlook**



- Ab initio NME calculations are becoming possible for realistic candidate nuclei.
- The short-range contact contribution non-negligibly enhances NME.
- Possible correlation with DGT and 1S0 phase shift.
- Uncertainty quantification is ongoing topic.

- Improve many-body techniques
- Explore and exploit observables that can constrain NME
- Two-body current effect