Effective field theories applied to nuclear systems





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1. Introduction

2. Effective field theory and the renormalization group for nuclear interactions

3. Three-nucleon interactions: a frontier in nuclear structure

4. Summary and developments



1. Strong interaction physics in the lab and cosmos QCD + electroweak interactions 401728-34 X-ray burst Crab pulsar

QCD Vacuum

Matter at the extremes: $\rho \sim 10^{11}...10^{15} \text{ g/cm}^3$ Z/N ~0.05...0.6, T ~...30 MeV

 $\frac{\text{Interaction challenges:}}{\text{QCD} \Rightarrow \text{EFT}} \Rightarrow \text{Low-momentum interactions}$

<u>Many-body challenges:</u> evolution with isospin and asymmetric systems

pairing and superfluidity

impact on the universe, nuclear equation of state in astrophysics

large scattering lengths lead to new phenomena ν physics for supernovae, neutron star cooling .



Interaction challenges and lattice QCD



Many-body methods

A<~6: exact few-body methods

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Benchmark test calculation of a four-nucleon bound state

In the past, several efficient methods have been developed to solve the Schrödinger equation for fournucleon bound states accurately. These are the Faddeev-Yakubovsky, the coupled-rearrangement-channel Gaussian-basis variational, the stochastic variational, the hyperspherical variational, the Green's function Monte Carlo, the no-core shell model, and the effective interaction hyperspherical harmonic methods. In this article we compare the energy eigenvalue results and some wave function properties using the realistic AV8' NN interaction. The results of all schemes agree very well showing the high accuracy of our present ability to calculate the four-nucleon bound state.

A<~16: imaginary-time evolution GFMC, large basis diagonalizations NCSM

A<~100: Shell model with truncations to states of valence N on top of closed shells, Coupled Cluster theory

NCSM: Barrett, Navratil, Vary et al. (2007)









all highlight importance of 3N

Towards a universal nuclear density functional

Density functional theory (DFT) for all A, based on densities not wave functions, ~500keV deviation

Hohenberg-Kohn theorem:

from Kohn's 1998 Nobel Prize lecture

I begin with a provocative statement. In general the many-electron wavefunction $\Psi(r_1,...,r_N)$ for a system of N electrons is <u>not a legitimate scientific concept</u>, when $N \ge N_0$, where $N_0 \approx 10^3$.

I will use two criteria for defining "legitimacy": a) That Ψ can be calculated with sufficient accuracy and b) can be recorded with sufficient accuracy.

exists energy functional $E[\rho]$, minimized by density of a noninteracting system that yields exact ground-state energy and density

start from interacting fermions in external V_{HO} , turn off interactions and change external V such that density remains that of interacting system, new V is the Kohn-Scham potential of DFT



<u>Challenges:</u> many..... reliable extrapolations connect/constrain to NN and many-N interactions



Large scattering lengths and universal properties

neutron-neutron scattering length $a_{nn} = -18.5 \pm 0.3 \,\text{fm}$

large compared to interaction range $R \sim 1/m_\pi \approx 1.4 \, {
m fm}$ 20

can imagine tuning quark masses to infinite a_{nn} Beane, Savage (2002)

generate same properties by tuning scattering length of any dilute system to universal regime

only Fermi momentum sets scale, physics independent of interaction details

universal properties of fermionic ⁶Li or ⁴⁰K atoms and extremely low-density neutrons

controlled strong interactions in cold atoms + spin-polarization, m/M or Bose-Fermi mixtures, rotation (vortices), optical lattices,.....



scattering length (a_o)

Nuclear physics dominated by large scattering lengths Low-density neutron matter: EFT for large a_s and r_e AS, Pethick (2005) universal energy $\frac{E}{N} = \xi \left(\frac{E}{N}\right)_{\text{free}} = \xi \frac{3k_{\text{F}}^2}{10m}$ Friedman+Pandharipande (1981) Bao et al. (1994) Vlow k Hartree-Fock ξ =0.42 for cold atoms, ~0.5 for neutron matter E/N [MeV] universal superfluid gap $\Delta \sim \varepsilon_{\rm F}$ critical $T_c \sim 0.2-0.3 T_F$ Thomas et al. (2006) 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 Borromean systems $k_{\rm F} [{\rm fm}^{-1}]$ Many large scattering lengths in nuclear astrophysics:

 $n-4He \ a_{P_{3/2}} = -62.95 \,\text{fm}^3, \ ^4He-^4He \ \dots$

Physics of supernova neutrinosphere dominated by large scattering lengths temperature T~4 MeV from ~20 SN1987a events density n~10¹¹-10¹² g/cm³ described by virial expansion Horowitz, AS (2006), O'Connor et al. (2007)



2. Effective field theory and the renormalization group Resolution scale dependence of nuclear interactions

with high-energy probes: deconfined quarks+gluons cf. scale/scheme dependence of parton distribution functions



Lattice QCD



momenta Q ~ λ^{-1} ~ m_{π} : chiral effective field theory

nucleons, interacting with pion exchanges and contact interactions, note typical Fermi momentum in nuclei $k_F \sim m_{\pi}$

 $Q << m_{\pi}$ =140 MeV - pion not resolved: pionless effective field theory nucleons and contact interactions

applicable to loosely-bound, dilute systems, reactions at astro energies

Idea of the renormalization group (RG)

integrate out high-momentum modes that are not resolved and incorporate their effects in low-energy couplings

schematically

$$Z = \int dx \int dy \, e^{-S(x,y)} = \int dx \int dy \, e^{-a(x^2+y^2)-b(x^2+y^2)^2}$$

$$= \int dx \, e^{-S_{\text{eff}}(x)} = \int dx \, e^{-a'x^2-b'x^4-c'x^6+\dots}$$
separate into slow and fast modes

$$\phi(\omega,k) = \begin{cases} \phi_{<}(\omega,k) & \text{for } \omega, k < \Lambda \\ \phi_{>}(\omega,k) & \text{else} \end{cases}$$
and integrate out fast modes

$$Z = \int \prod d\phi_{<}(\omega,k) \, e^{-S_{\text{free}}[\phi_{<}]} \int \prod d\phi_{>}(\omega,k) \, e^{-S_{\text{free}}[\phi_{>}]-S_{\text{int}}[\phi_{<},\phi_{>}]}$$

$$= \int \prod d\phi_{<}(\omega,k) \, e^{-S_{\text{eff}}[\phi_{<}]}$$

effective action $S_{\text{eff}}[\phi_{\leq}]$ with couplings $g_i(\Lambda)$

when we integrate out momentum modes by $\delta\Lambda$ the couplings evolve $g_i(\Lambda - \delta\Lambda) = g_i(\Lambda) - \frac{\delta\Lambda}{\Lambda}\beta_i(\{g_j(\Lambda)\}, \Lambda)$

leads to renormalization group equations $\Lambda \frac{d}{d\Lambda} g_i(\Lambda) = \beta_i (\{g_j(\Lambda)\}, \Lambda)$

Idea of effective field theory (EFT) Separation of scales $\frac{1}{\lambda} = Q \ll \Lambda_{\rm b} = \frac{1}{R}$ limited resolution at low energies, can expand in powers $Q/\Lambda_{\rm b}$

details of short-distance physics not resolved, capture in few low-energy constants in effective action, fit couplings to data

include long-range physics explicitly (pions for chiral EFT)

systematic: can work to desired accuracy and obtain error estimates

NN scattering in
$$\mathcal{L}_{EFT} = \psi^{\dagger} \Big[i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\overrightarrow{\nabla}^2}{2m} \Big] \psi - \frac{C_0}{2} (\psi^{\dagger} \psi)^2 + \frac{C_2}{16} \Big[(\psi\psi)^{\dagger} (\psi \overrightarrow{\nabla}^2 \psi) + \text{h.c.} \Big]$$

pionless EFT,
general expansion
Kaplan, Savage, Wise,
van Kolck, Bedaque,
Hammer, Phillips,
Griesshammer,...
with EFT potential $\langle \mathbf{k} | V_{EFT} | \mathbf{k}' \rangle = C_0 + \frac{1}{2} C_2 (\mathbf{k}^2 + \mathbf{k}'^2) + C'_2 \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k}' + \mathcal{O} \Big(\frac{Q^4}{A_b^4} \Big)$

NN scattering in pionless EFT

sum iterated leading-order NN interactions, yields scattering amplitude



sum over intermediate states is divergent, regularize, here with cutoff Λ $I(k,\Lambda) = \int^{\Lambda} \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\frac{k^2}{m} - \frac{q^2}{m} + i\epsilon} = \frac{m}{4\pi} \left[\frac{2}{\pi} \Lambda - ik + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{k^2}{\Lambda^2}\right) \right] + \text{renormalization:}$

match scattering amplitude to low-energy effective range expansion/data $T_0(k) = \frac{C_0(\Lambda)}{1 - I(k,\Lambda) C_0(\Lambda)} \longleftrightarrow T_0(k) = -\frac{4\pi}{m} \frac{1}{k \cot \delta_0(k) - ik} = \frac{4\pi}{m} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{a_s} - \frac{1}{2} r_e k^2 + ik}$ yields

yields

$$C_{0}(\Lambda) = \frac{4\pi}{m} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{a_{s}} - \frac{2}{\pi}\Lambda}$$
(i) for weak scattering, can chose $\Lambda a_{s} \ll 1$ over wide
cutoff range \Rightarrow weak-coupling $C_{0}(\Lambda) \simeq \frac{4\pi a_{s}}{m}$
(ii) for $\frac{1}{a_{s}} = 0$ fine-tuned $C_{0}(\Lambda) = -\frac{2\pi^{2}}{m\Lambda}$
(iii) for $\frac{1}{a_{s}} = 0$ fine-tuned $C_{0}(\Lambda) = -\frac{2\pi^{2}}{m\Lambda}$
(iii) find $r_{e} \sim \frac{1}{\Lambda}$ implies trunc error $\mathcal{O}\left[\left(\frac{Q^{2}}{\Lambda_{b}^{2}}\right), \left(\frac{Q^{2}}{\Lambda^{2}}\right)\right]$

Lepage plots

Lepage (1997)

Log-log plots of relative errors vs. E

steeper slope with subsequent orders, same in all channels: S,P,D,... waves

$$V(r) = -\alpha_{\pi} v_{\Lambda}(r) + c \frac{\delta_{1/\Lambda}^{3}(\mathbf{r})}{\Lambda^{2}} - d \frac{\nabla^{2} \delta_{1/\Lambda}^{3}(\mathbf{r})}{\Lambda^{4}}$$
$$P: \quad V_{\pi,P} + \frac{\nabla \delta_{1/\Lambda}^{3} \nabla}{\Lambda^{4}} + \mathcal{O}(1/\Lambda^{6})$$

$$D: \qquad V_{\pi,D} + \mathscr{O}(1/\Lambda^6)$$





Cutoff dependence:

truncation errors decrease with increasing cutoff

no advantages for cutoffs >> breakdown scale (nonlinearities)

Pionless EFT applied to the few-body sector

Leading-order NN contact interactions ${}^{1}S_{0} + {}^{3}S_{1} C_{0}(\Lambda)$ lead to divergence in triton channel, cutoff dependence generates Phillips line Bedaque et al. (1999)

and band around Tjon line in A=3,4 system Platter et al. (2005)

promote 3N contact interaction $D_0(\Lambda)$ to leading order, coupling fixed by triton energy exhibits RG limit cycle



Figure 7 Three-body force coefficient $H(\Lambda)$ computed analytically (line) and numerically (points) as a function of $\log(\Lambda/400 \text{ MeV})$.







Large scattering lengths lead to Efimov effect

LO 2- and 3-body contact interactions:

Efimov spectrum for 3 distinguishable particles or 3 bosons with identical pair-wise scattering lengths

predicts Borromean states: quantum three-body bound states, all two-body subsystems unbound

Universal physics on resonance: infinite bound excited states with scaling $E_n/E_{n+1} = 515$

observed first Efimov resonance in cold atoms by 3-body losses for Cs bosons Kraemer et al. (2006)

predicted Borromean state for three ⁶Li cold atoms Luu, AS (2007)



Borromean states in nuclei



Recent ¹¹Li results: charge radius (isotope shift), mass still unsettled



NN partial wave analysis and phase shifts

Nijmegen PWA93 (filled circles) <u>http://www.nn-online.org</u>



Fig. 3.3. NN phase shifts in triplet P waves. Shown are predictions using a central



Nuclear interactions

Bethe (1953): "more man-hours ... given to this [nuclear force] problem than to any other scientific question in the history of mankind"

Effective theory for NN, many-N interactions, depend on resolution scale

$$H(\Lambda) = T + V_{NN}(\Lambda) + V_{3N}(\Lambda) + V_{4N}(\Lambda) + \dots$$

All nuclear interactions are effective interactions

never have "bare" interactions for composite particles, "bare" only useful to specify reference Hamiltonian

Phenomenological hierarchy: $NN > 3N > 4N > ...^{2}$

NN: constrained by ~4500 NN data, $\chi^2 \sim 1$ 3N: fit to few-body data, $\chi^2 \sim$ poor 4N, ...: estimates small

Last 30+ yrs, most accurate calculations with hard NN interactions



Chiral effective field theory for nuclear forces systematic expansion in low-momenta Q over breakdown scale Λ Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise, Epelbaum, Meissner, Nogga, Machleidt,...



Explains pheno hierarchy: NN > 3N > 4N > ...

<u>NN-3N</u>, π N, $\pi\pi$, electro-weak,... consistency

3N: only 2 new couplings to N³LO!

used to constrain v-deuteron breakup reactions for SNO

theoretical error estimates

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{limited cutoffs} \\ \text{used/explored} \\ \Delta \text{ less vs. full} \\ m_{\Delta} - m_{N} \sim 2m_{\pi} \end{array} \overset{_{60}}{\overset{_{40}}{\overset{_{20}{$

250

Difficulties of conventional nuclear interactions due to high momenta, large cutoffs, very small resolution scale

leads to non-perturbative flipped-potential bound states of $-\lambda V$ for small λ , hinder any perturbative expansion, radius of convergence=0



Low-momentum interactions from the Renormalization Group for low-energy physics, can evolve to lower resolution scale, integrate out high-momentum modes using exact RG equation



Evolution to $V_{low k}(\Lambda)$

collapse due to same long-distance pion exchange and fit to same NN data

small differences correlate with fits to data

defines new class of NN interactions

evolution of $V_{low k}(0,0;\Lambda)$ follows contact interaction $c_0(\Lambda)$ at NLO in pionless EFT regime



evolution of chiral EFT interactions to low-momentum beneficial



Advantages of lower cutoffs for nuclear structure

10

5

Λ=5.0 fm

tractable in an oscillator basis, direct convergence in few-/many-body



Weinberg eigenvalues

study spectrum of $G_0(z)V |\Psi_{\nu}(z)\rangle = \eta_{\nu}(z) |\Psi_{\nu}(z)\rangle$ at fixed energy z governs convergence $T(z) |\Psi_{\nu}(z)\rangle = (1 + \eta_{\nu}(z) + \eta_{\nu}(z)^2 + \dots) V |\Psi_{\nu}(z)\rangle$ can write as Schrödinger eqn $\left(H_0 + \frac{1}{n_{\nu}(z)}V\right)|\Psi_{\nu}(z)\rangle = z |\Psi_{\nu}(z)\rangle$

Repulsive core eigenvalues small for lower cutoffs, Born series always nonperturbative for interactions with cores



Bogner, AS, Furnstahl, Nogga (2005)

2-body nonperturbative at low energies due to near-bound states, in nuclear matter Pauli blocks low energies \Rightarrow deuteron eigenvalue small

Correlations 2??

RG preserves long-range parts of interactions, deuteron observables, with dramatically different wave functions/correlations



Few-nucleon systems

 $V_{low k}(\Lambda)$ defines class of NN interactions with cutoff-independent NN observables

cutoff variation estimates errors due to neglected parts in $H(\Lambda)$

Cutoff dependence explains Tjon line due to neglected 3N interactions, 3N required by renormalization

Experiment breaks from lines

Coester line in nuclear matter Coester et al. (1970) from Baldo et al. (2003)

Hagen, AS, in prep.





3. Three-nucleon interactions: a frontier in nuclear structure Effect of 3N interactions are amplified in nuclei, constrain 3N with few- and many-body data \Rightarrow controlled predictions

<u>3N interaction crucial:</u>





fit D,E couplings to A=3,4 binding energies for range of cutoffs, linear dependences in fits

3N interactions perturbative for $\Lambda \lesssim 2\,{\rm fm}^{-1}$ Nogga, Bogner, AS (2004)

nonperturbative at larger cutoffs, cf. chiral EFT $\Lambda \approx 3 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

3N expectation values natural ~ $(Q/\Lambda)^3 V_{NN}$



Radii and light nuclei

 $V_{low k}(\Lambda)$ + leading chiral $V_{3N}(\Lambda)$ interaction

Cutoff dependence of observables probes neglected many-body int.

Radii with 3N interaction approx. cutoff-independent, agree with exp.

Can provide lower limits on theoretical errors

long-term:

important for nuclear matrix elements needed in fundamental symmetry tests





Towards 3N interactions in medium-mass nuclei based on low-momentum $V_{low k}(\Lambda) + V_{3N}(\Lambda)^{-22}$ ⁴He -23 Hagen et al., arXiv:0704.2854. developed coupled-cluster theory with E_{ccsD(T)} (MeV) 3N interactions, first benchmark for ⁴He -26 Results show that 0-, 1- and 2-body parts -27 extrapolated: -28.23 MeV of 3N interaction dominate exact, FY: -28.20(5)MeV residual 3N interaction can be neglected! Ν ■ 2-body only 10 very promising 0-body 3NF 10 $\Delta E / E_{CCSD}$ I supports: "monopole" l-body 3NF T=1-0.5 /(ab;T) (MeV) corrections for SM 10⁻² estimated triples corrections interactions due to 3N •.2-body 3NF 10^{-3} residual 3NF 10 -2.5 (1)(2)(3)(4)(5)f7f7 f7p3 f7f5 f7p1 p3p3





Bogner, AS, Furnstahl, Nogga (2005)

3N drives saturation but expectation values natural, consistent with EFT

will provide key guidance to microscopic DFT for SciDAC

4. Summary and many on-going developments Exciting era with advances on many fronts!

NCSM, CC calculations in progress

3N contributions to shell model Jason Holt

new power counting for nuclear matter

microscopic guidance for DFT Bogner, Furnstahl, Platter et al. constructing microscopic interactions for HF+GCM+... Rotival, Duguet et al.

superfluidity in neutron stars Hebeler et al.

finite temperature equation of state for supernovae, neutron-star mergers Tolos, Friman, AS (2006)

