



Ab Initio Calculations of Radiative Capture

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INT-26-2b - Quantum Physics of Stars
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Acknowledgements

- ▶ TRIUMF: Petr Navrátil, Jakub Herko
 - ▶ University of Victoria: Roan Stafford, Marshall Kodar
- ▶ LLNL: Sofia Quaglioni, Kostas Kravvaris
- ▶ IJCLab: Guillaume Hupin

Outline

- ▶ No-Core Shell Model with Continuum (NCSMC)
- ▶ Proton Capture: Extensions to Electron-Positron Pair Production
 - ▶ ${}^7\text{Li}(p, \gamma/e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}$
 - ▶ ${}^{11}\text{B}(p, \gamma/e^+e^-){}^{12}\text{C}$
- ▶ Applications to the CNO-Cycle
 - ▶ ${}^{12}\text{C}(p, \gamma){}^{13}\text{N}$
 - ▶ ${}^{14}\text{N}(p, \gamma){}^{15}\text{O}$

Ab Initio Calculations of Many-Nucleon Systems

Find the eigenstates of a realistic nuclear Hamiltonian

$$H^A |\Psi_\lambda\rangle = E_\lambda |\Psi_\lambda\rangle, \text{ where } H^A = \sum_i^A T_i + \sum_{i<j} V_{ij}^{NN} + \sum_{i<j<f} V_{ijf}^{3N}$$

- ▶ e.g. $NN(N^3LO) + 3N_{lnl}(N^2LO)$ interaction: [PRC **101**, 014318 (2020)]
- ▶ Low-energy constants determined in $A = 2, 3, 4$ systems

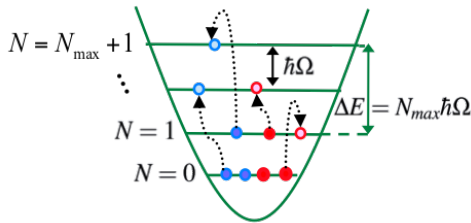
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No-Core Shell Model (NCSM)

$$|^{(A)}\text{He}, \lambda\rangle = \sum_{N=0}^{N_{\max}} \sum_j c_{Nj}^\lambda |\Phi_{Nj}\rangle$$

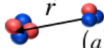


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No-Core Shell Model with Continuum (NCSMC)

$$\Psi^{(A)} = \sum_\lambda c_\lambda \left| {}^{(A)} \text{  , \lambda \right\rangle + \sum_\nu \int d\vec{r} \gamma_\nu(\vec{r}) \hat{A}_\nu \left| \text{  (a) , \nu \right\rangle$$

NCSMC Equations

$$H \Psi^{(A)} = E \Psi^{(A)}$$

$$\Psi^{(A)} = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} \left| \begin{array}{c} (A) \\ \text{cluster} \end{array}, \lambda \right\rangle + \sum_v \int d\vec{r} \gamma_v(\vec{r}) \hat{A}_v \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{cluster} \\ (A-a) \end{array}, v \right\rangle$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cc} \boxed{E_{\lambda}^{NCSM} \delta_{\lambda\lambda'}} & \boxed{\left\langle \begin{array}{c} (A) \\ \text{cluster} \right| H \hat{A}_v \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{cluster} \\ (a) \end{array} \right\rangle_{(A-a)}} \\ \downarrow \text{blue} & \downarrow \text{green} \\ \begin{pmatrix} H_{NCSM} & h \\ h & H_{RGM} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c \\ \gamma \end{pmatrix} & = E \begin{pmatrix} 1_{NCSM} & g \\ g & N_{RGM} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c \\ \gamma \end{pmatrix} \\ \uparrow \text{red} & \uparrow \text{red} \\ \boxed{\left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{cluster} \\ (A-a) \right\rangle_{(a)} \left| \hat{A}_{v'} H \hat{A}_v \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{cluster} \\ (a) \right\rangle_{(A-a)} \right.} \end{array} \right.} & \boxed{\left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{cluster} \\ (A-a) \right\rangle_{(a)} \left| \hat{A}_{v'} \hat{A}_v \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{cluster} \\ (a) \right\rangle_{(A-a)} \right.} \end{array} \right.} \end{array} \end{array}$$

NCSMC for ${}^7\text{Li}(p, \gamma){}^8\text{Be}$

$$|\Psi_{\text{NCSMC}}^{(8)}\rangle = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} |{}^8\text{Be}, \lambda\rangle + \sum_{\nu} \int dr \gamma_{\nu}(r) \hat{A}_{\nu} |{}^7\text{Li} + p, \nu\rangle + \sum_{\mu} \int dr \gamma_{\mu}(r) \hat{A}_{\mu} |{}^7\text{Be} + n, \mu\rangle$$

Process:

- ▶ Solve NCSM for each constituent nucleus: ${}^8\text{Be}$, ${}^7\text{Li}$ and ${}^7\text{Be}$
 - ▶ 15 (+) and 15 (-) eigenstates from ${}^8\text{Be}$
 - ▶ 5 eigenstates each from ${}^7\text{Li}$ and ${}^7\text{Be}$
- ▶ Solve NCSMC for $c_{\lambda}(E)$, $\gamma_{\nu}(r, E)$, $\gamma_{\mu}(r, E) \rightarrow |\Psi(E)\rangle$
 - ▶ R-matrix on a Lagrange mesh
- ▶ Reaction cross-sections depend on transition matrix elements:
e.g. $\langle \Psi(E_f) | M1 | \Psi(E_i) \rangle$

Results

The NCSMC allows simultaneous calculation of many observables

- ^8Be Structure
- Scattering: $^7\text{Li}(p, p)^7\text{Li}$, $^7\text{Be}(n, n)^7\text{Be}$
- Transfer Reactions: $^7\text{Li}(p, n)^7\text{Be}$, $^7\text{Be}(n, p)^7\text{Li}$
- Radiative Capture: $^7\text{Li}(p, \gamma)^8\text{Be}$
- Search for new physics: $^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-)^8\text{Be}$, $^7\text{Li}(p, X)^8\text{Be}$

PHYSICAL REVIEW C **110**, 015503 (2024)

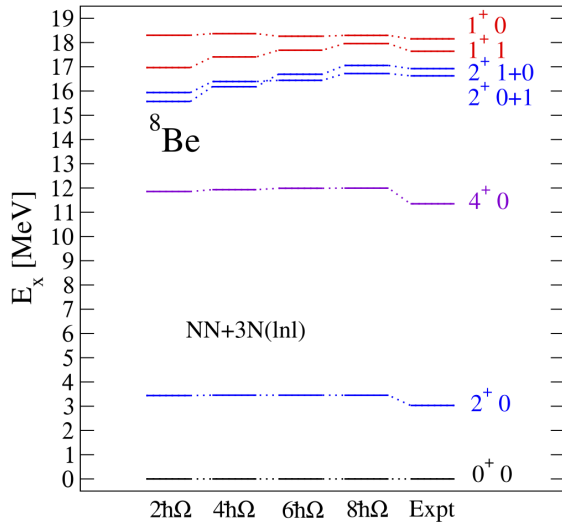
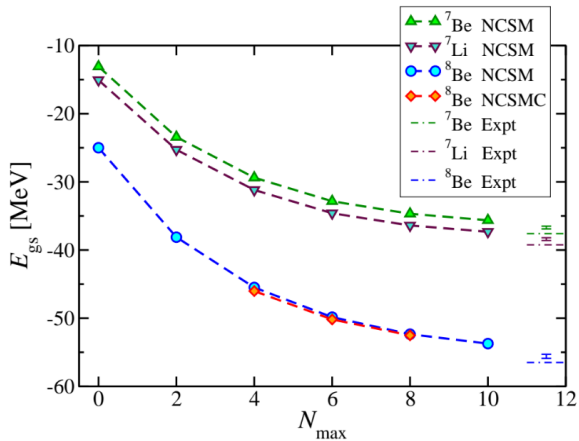
Editors' Suggestion

Ab initio investigation of the $^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-)^8\text{Be}$ process and the X17 boson

P. Gysbers^{1,2,3}, P. Navrátil^{1,4}, K. Kravvaris⁵, G. Hupin⁶, and S. Quaglioni⁵

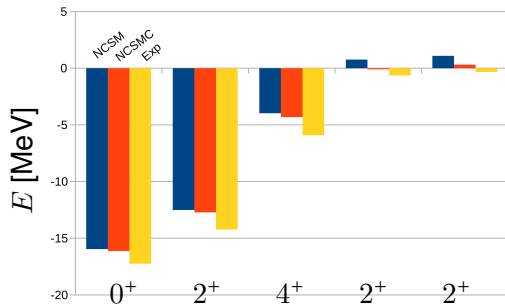
NCSM Convergence

$$\lambda_{\text{SRG}} = 2.0 \text{ fm}^{-1}, \hbar\Omega = 20 \text{ MeV}$$



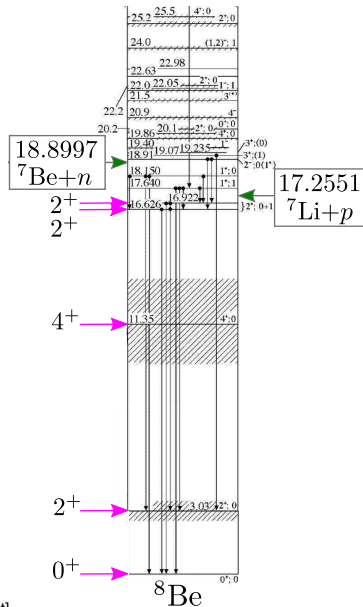
^8Be Structure

Calculations of ^8Be “bound” states (w.r.t. $^7\text{Li} + p$ threshold) are improved by inclusion of the continuum ($N_{max} = 8$)



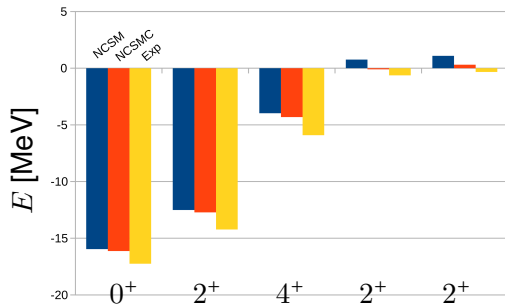
- Energies likely too high due to neglected $\alpha + \alpha$ breakup
- Matches experiment well, except the 3rd 2^+ is still slightly above the $^7\text{Li} + p$ threshold

[TUNL Nuclear Data Evaluation Project]



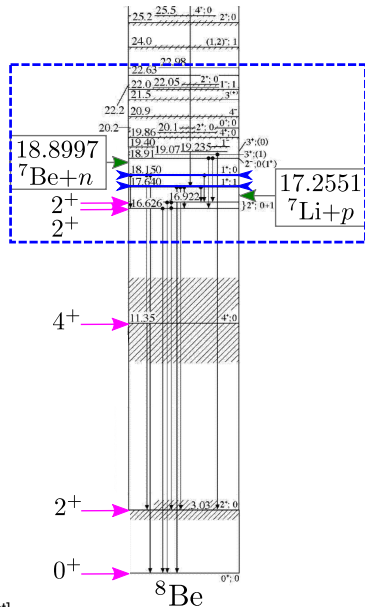
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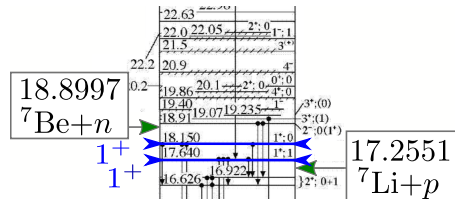
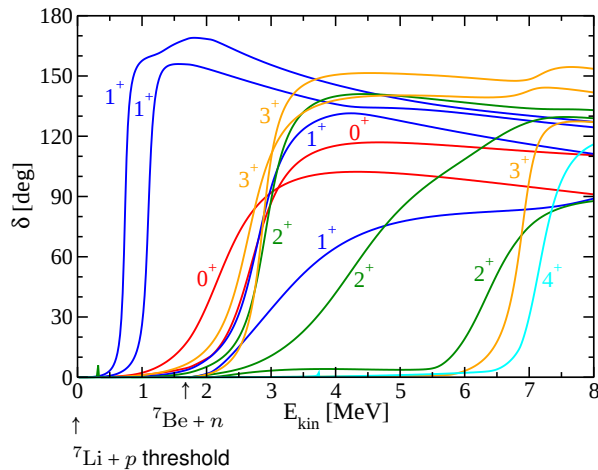


- Energies likely too high due to neglected $\alpha + \alpha$ breakup
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[TUNL Nuclear Data Evaluation Project]



Eigenphase-shift Results (positive parity)

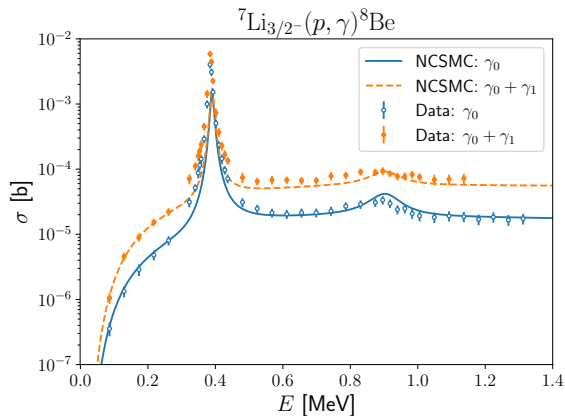


Additional resonances are seen compared to TUNL data evaluation

Radiative Capture (γ)

$$\hat{O}_\gamma = E1 + M1 + E2$$

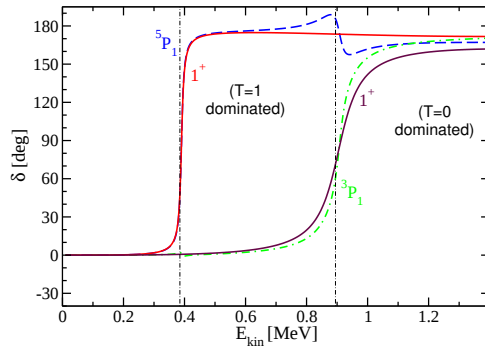
$${}^{2S+1}P_J : \left[\left(|{}^7\text{Li}\rangle |p\rangle \right)^{(S)} Y_L(\hat{r}) \right]_P^J_{L=1}$$



γ_0 : decay to ground state (0^+)

γ_1 : decay to first excited (2^+)

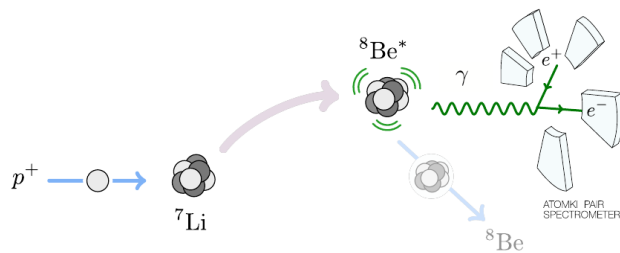
[Data: Zahnow et al
Z.Phys.A **351** 229-236 (1995)]



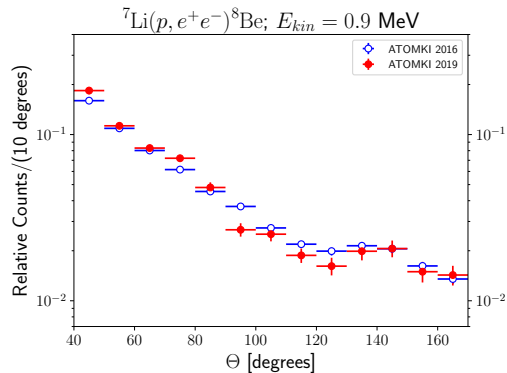
Phenomenological adjustment: fit threshold and resonance positions to match experiment

The X17 Anomaly in $p + {}^7\text{Li} \rightarrow {}^8\text{Be} + e^+e^-$

- ▶ ${}^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}$ @ATOMKI (Hungary) [PRL **116** 042501 (2016)]
- ▶ Decay of composite ${}^8\text{Be}$ produces electron-positron pairs

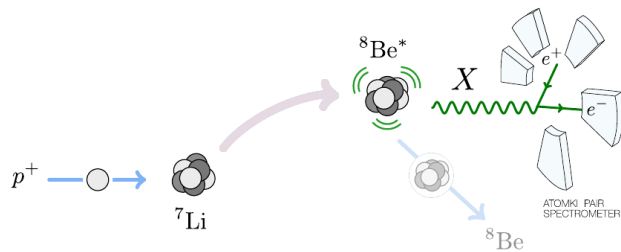


[Feng PRD **95**, 035017 (2017)]

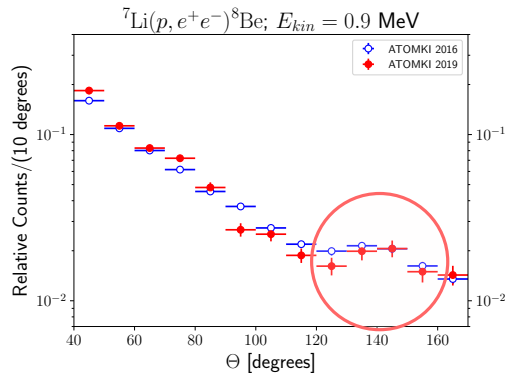


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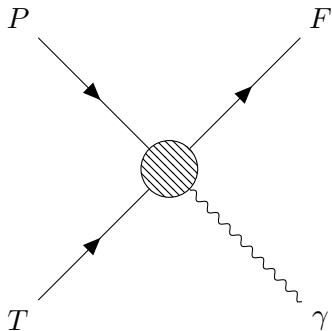
- ▶ ${}^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}$ @ATOMKI (Hungary) [PRL **116** 042501 (2016)]
- ▶ Decay of composite ${}^8\text{Be}$ produces electron-positron pairs
- ▶ Anomaly in pair distribution implies an intermediate particle of mass 17 MeV



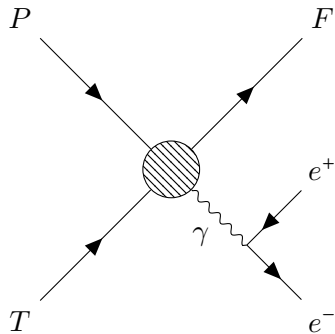
[Feng PRD **95**, 035017 (2017)]



Radiative Capture: $P + T \rightarrow F + \gamma/e^+e^-$



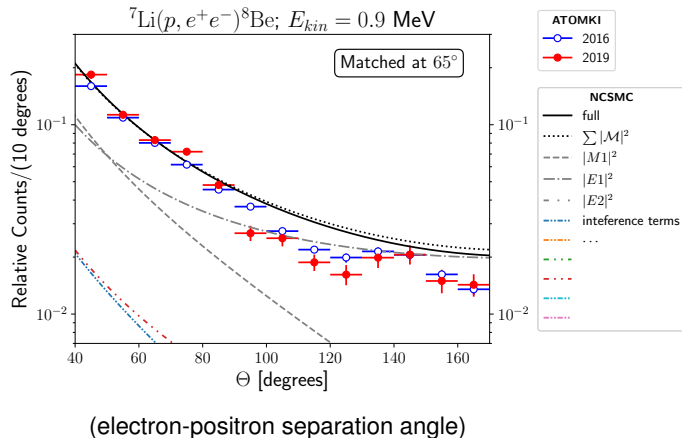
$$d\sigma \sim dq_\gamma |\langle \psi(P+T) | \hat{O}_\gamma | \psi(F) \rangle|^2$$



$$d\sigma \sim dp_+ dp_- \int \frac{dq}{q^4} |\langle \psi(P+T) | \hat{O}_{e^+e^-} | \psi(F) \rangle|^2$$

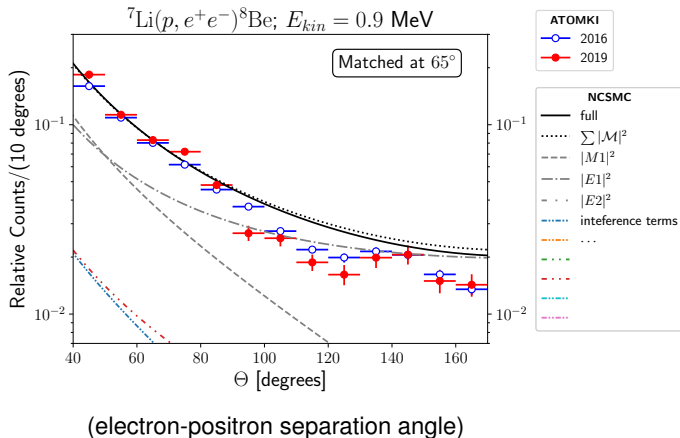
Radiative Capture (e^+e^-)

- ▶ Counts $\propto$ partially integrated differential cross section
- ▶ $E1$ and $M1$ are dominant



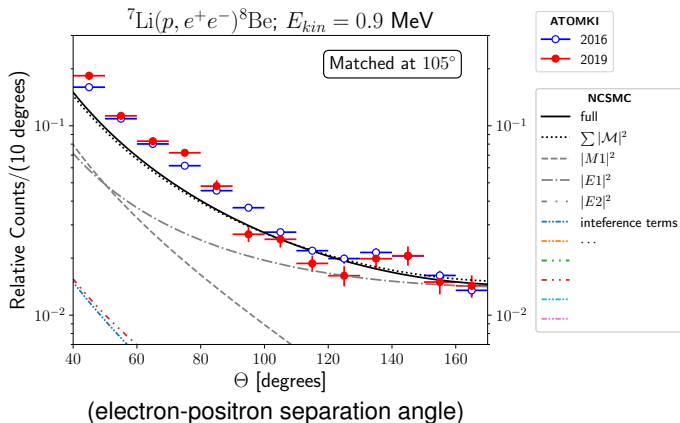
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- ▶ But theory and data still inconsistent - possible $M1$ contamination from lower resonance

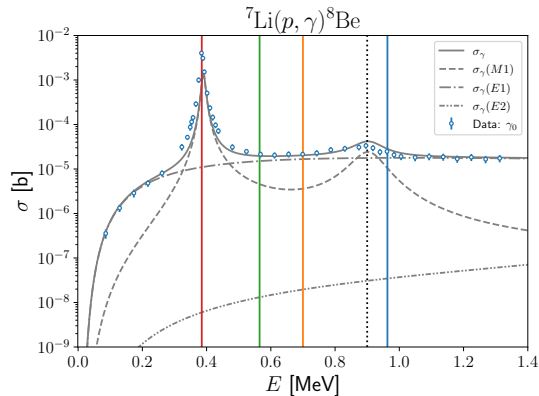
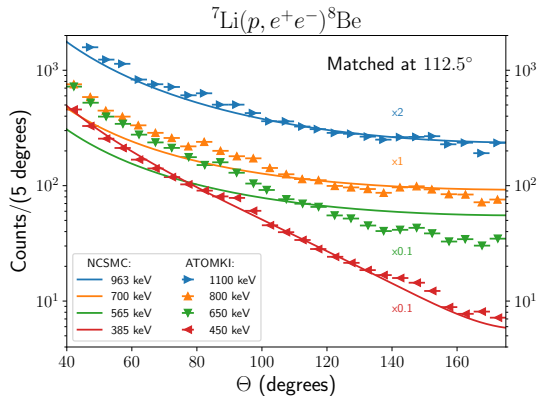


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More Recent Results



- Updated ATOMKI data (2022) arXiv:2205.07744
- Data in-between resonances seems to be contaminated by $M1$ from first resonance

NCSMC for $^{11}\text{B}(p, \gamma)^{12}\text{C}$ and $^{11}\text{B}(p, e^+e^-)^{12}\text{C}$

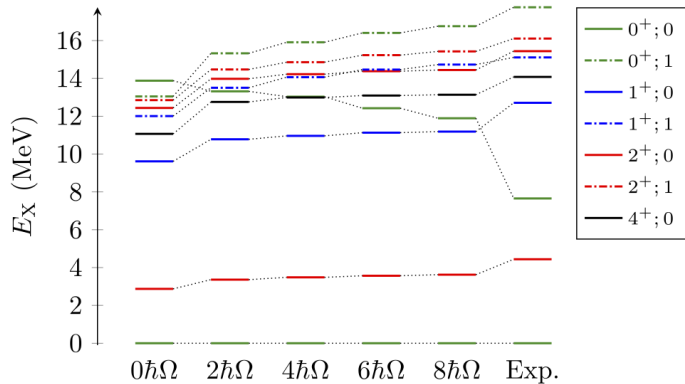
$$|\Psi_{\text{NCSMC}}^{(12)}\rangle = \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} |^{12}\text{C}, \lambda\rangle + \sum_{\nu} \int dr \gamma_{\nu}(r) \hat{A}_{\nu} |^{11}\text{B} + p, \nu\rangle + \sum_{\mu} \int dr \gamma_{\mu}(r) \hat{A}_{\mu} |^{11}\text{C} + n, \mu\rangle$$

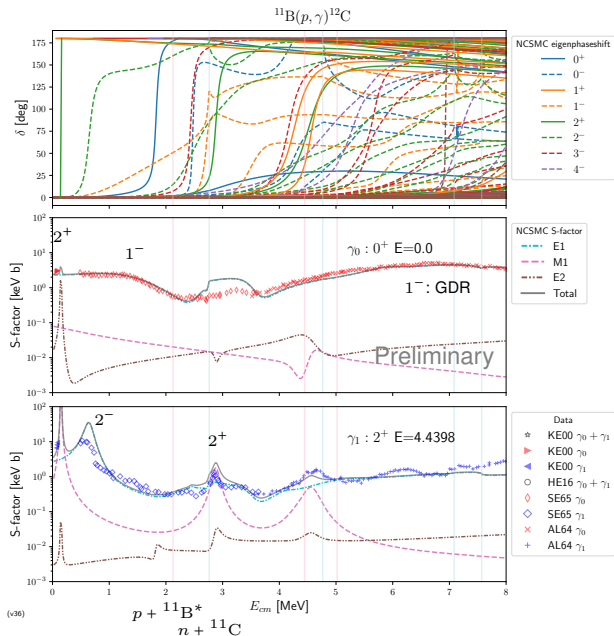
Process:

- ▶ Solve NCSM for each constituent nucleus: ^{12}C , ^{11}B and ^{11}C
 - ▶ 40 (-) and 13 (+) eigenstates from ^{12}C ($E_{ex} \lesssim 24$ MeV)
 - ▶ 4 eigenstates each from ^{11}B and ^{11}C
 - ▶ $N_{max} = 6, 7$
- ▶ Interaction: $\text{NN}(N^4LO) + 3\text{N}_{lnlE7}(N^2LO+)$
includes additional subleading 3N term [PRC **84**, 014001 (2011)]

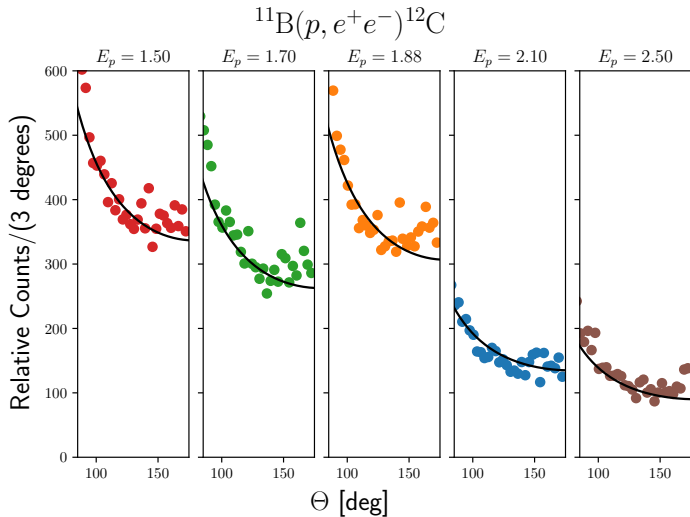
NCSM predicts most bound states (except excited 0^+)

^{12}C spectrum

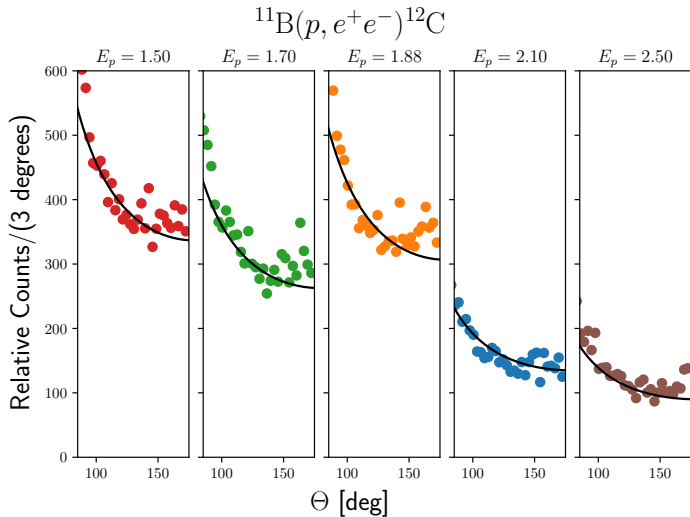




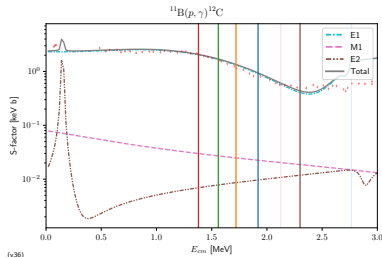
- Capture to 0^+ ground state and 2^+ first excited well produced
- Some pheno-adjustment required for resonance positions
 - 2-4 MeV region difficult to fit
 - Many ambiguous states in TUNL evaluation

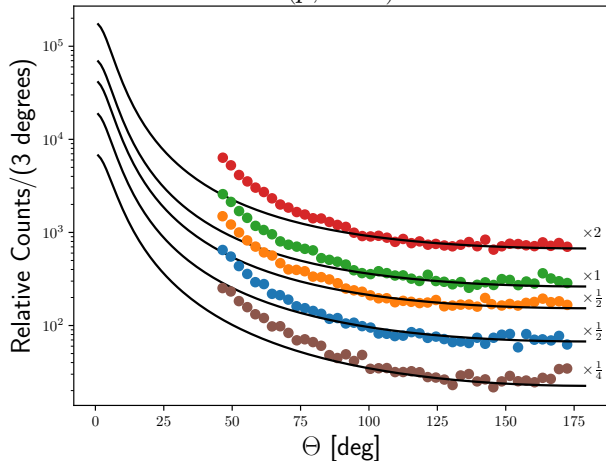
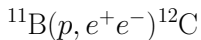


- ▶ Experiment: PRC **106**
L061601 (2022)
- ▶ E1 component completely dominates
- ▶ New development: E0
 - ▶ but contribution is very small



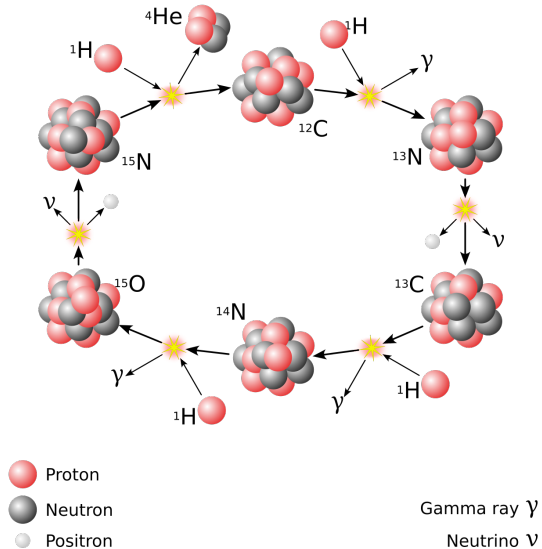
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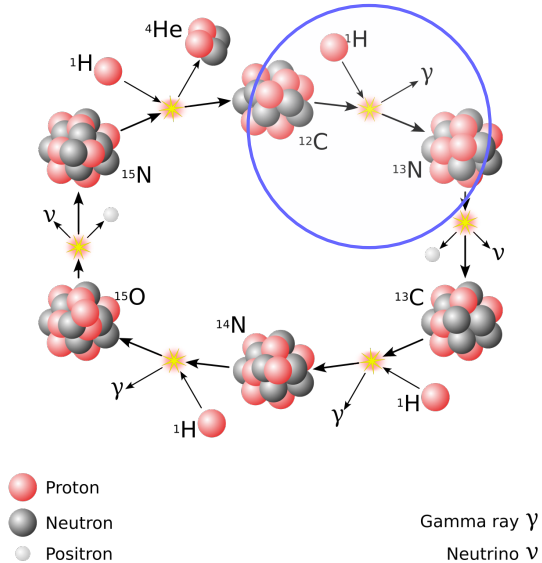


- ▶ Experiment: PRC **106**
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- ▶ E1 component completely dominates
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 - ▶ but contribution is very small
- ▶ Counts too high below $\Theta \simeq 90^\circ$
 - ▶ M1 contamination again?
 - ▶ No resonance looks like a culprit

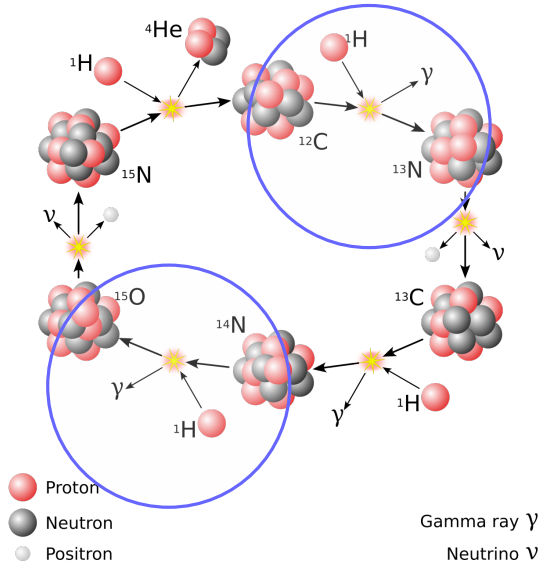
CNO cycle



CNO cycle



CNO cycle



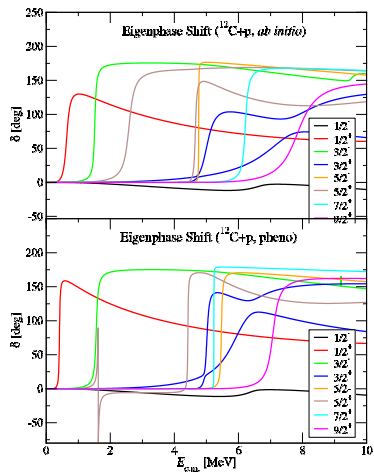


- ▶ Only one physical bound state ($\frac{1}{2}^-$)

▶

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi_{\text{NCSMC}}^{(13)}\rangle &= \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} |^{13}\text{N}, \lambda\rangle \\ &+ \sum_{\nu} \int dr \gamma_{\nu}(r) \hat{A}_{\nu} |^{12}\text{C} + p, \nu\rangle \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ ^{13}N : 15 (+) and 15 (-) eigenstates
- ▶ ^{12}C : 2 eigenstates (0^+ , 2^+)
- ▶ $N_{max} = 6, 7$



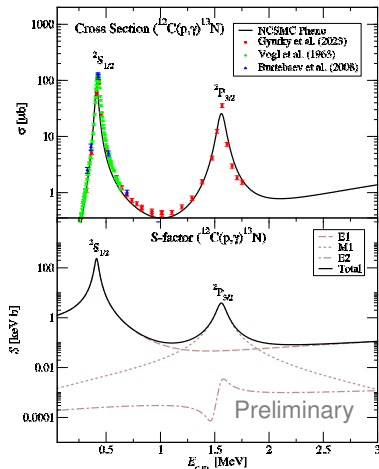


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- ^{13}N : 15 (+) and 15 (-) eigenstates
- ^{12}C : 2 eigenstates (0^+ , 2^+)
- $N_{\text{max}} = 6, 7$





- ▶ 7 bound states

▶

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \Psi_{\text{NCSMC}}^{(15)} \right\rangle &= \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda} \left| ^{15}\text{O}, \lambda \right\rangle \\ &+ \sum_{\nu} \int dr \gamma_{\nu}(r) \hat{A}_{\nu} \left| ^{14}\text{N} + p, \nu \right\rangle \\ &+ \sum_{\mu} \int dr \gamma_{\mu}(r) \hat{A}_{\mu} \left| ^{14}\text{O} + n, \mu \right\rangle \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ ^{15}O : 9 (+) and 12 (-) eigenstates
- ▶ ^{14}N : $1^+, 0^+, 1^+$
- ▶ ^{14}O : 0^+
- ▶ $N_{max} = 6, 7$

$^{14}\text{N}(p, \gamma)^{15}\text{O}$

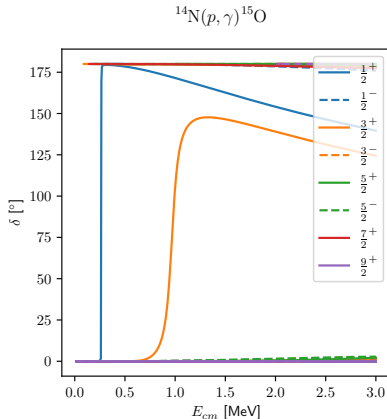
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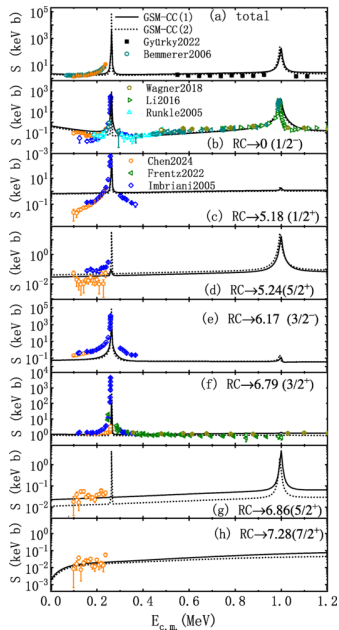
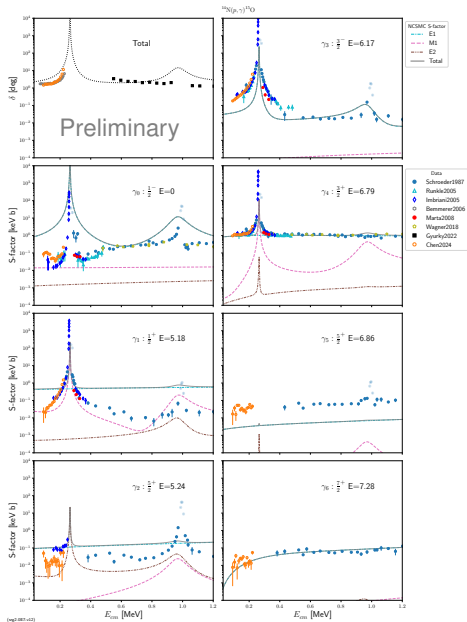
▶

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- ▶ ^{15}O : 9 (+) and 12 (-) eigenstates
- ▶ ^{14}N : 1^+ , 0^+ , 1^+
- ▶ ^{14}O : 0^+
- ▶ $N_{max} = 6, 7$

- ▶ Only 1 bound state ($\frac{1}{2}^-$) in *ab initio*
- ▶ Pheno-adjustment required to move resonances below threshold





Dong et al. PRC 113

L032801 (2026)

Summary and Outlook

- ▶ NCSMC can reproduce low-lying spectra and proton capture cross sections
 - ▶ some fine-tuning required for comparison to experiment
- ▶ Further CNO reactions with NCSMC
 - ▶ $^{13}\text{N} \rightarrow ^{13}\text{C}$ beta decay
 - ▶ inc. $^{12}\text{C} + n$ continuum
- ▶ The X17 remains unconfirmed
 - ▶ unresolved discrepancy with theory below $\Theta \sim 90$
 - ▶ independent experimental tests in progress (NewJEDI, PADME, MEGII)

Backup Slides

NCSM Scaling

