

(Un)welcome intruders: Getting your
nucleus to come out of its shell
(in *ab initio* calculations)

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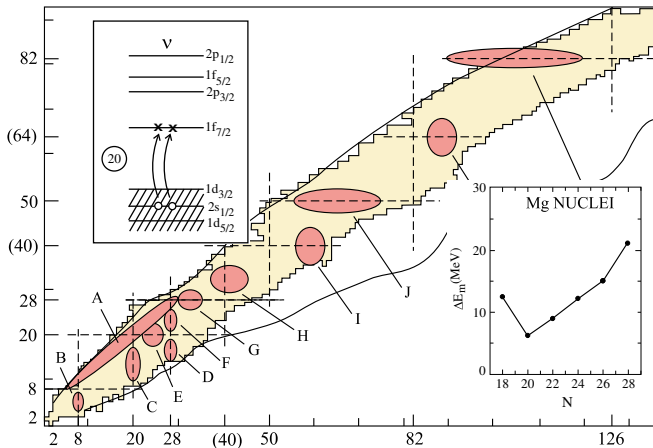
Institute for Nuclear Theory
University of Washington
Seattle, WA
March 12, 2024



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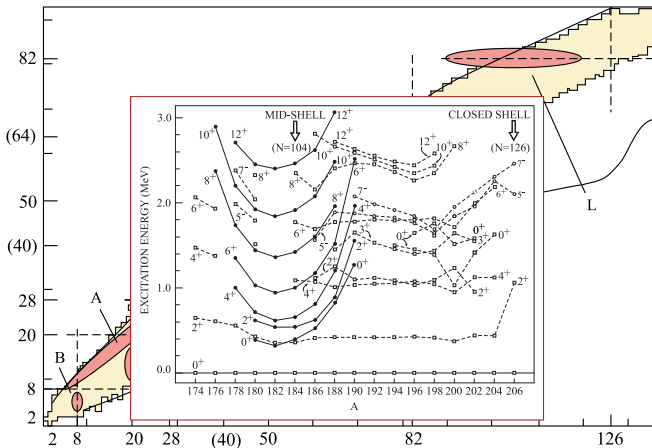
Intruder structure (and shape coexistence)

“[T]he intruder configuration ... corresponds to a more correlated state compared to the $0\hbar\omega$ states. Thus, low-lying $2p-2h$ intruder configurations are favored only at and near to the ... shell closure.” *Normal ($0\hbar\omega$) vs. intruder ($2\hbar\omega$)*



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E0 transition as signature of shape mixing

“Transitions with E0 components are a model-independent signature of the mixing of configurations with different mean-square charge radii.”

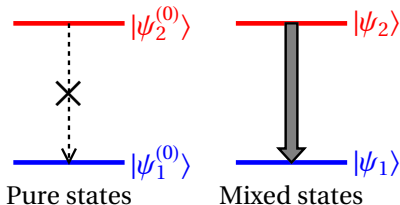
K. Heyde and J. L. Wood, Rev. Mod. Phys. **83**, 1467 (2011).

For *unmixed* (“pure”) configurations $|\psi_1^{(0)}\rangle$ and $|\psi_2^{(0)}\rangle$... *Monopole moments*

$$M_1 \equiv \langle \psi_1^{(0)} | \mathcal{M}(E0) | \psi_1^{(0)} \rangle = Ar_1^2 \quad M_2 \equiv \langle \psi_2^{(0)} | \mathcal{M}(E0) | \psi_2^{(0)} \rangle = Ar_2^2$$
$$\langle \psi_2^{(0)} | \mathcal{M}(E0) | \psi_1^{(0)} \rangle = 0$$

For *mixed* configurations $|\psi_1\rangle$ and $|\psi_2\rangle$... *Mixing angle θ*

$$\langle \psi_1 | \mathcal{M}(E0) | \psi_2 \rangle = \cos\theta \sin\theta \left[\langle \psi_2^{(0)} | \mathcal{M}(E0) | \psi_2^{(0)} \rangle - \langle \psi_1^{(0)} | \mathcal{M}(E0) | \psi_1^{(0)} \rangle \right]$$
$$= \frac{1}{2}(\sin 2\theta)A(r_2^2 - r_1^2)$$

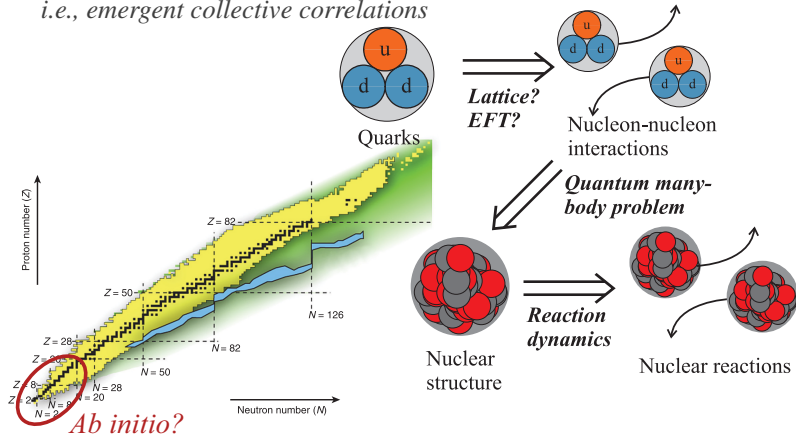


Goal of *ab initio* nuclear structure

First-principles understanding of nature *Nuclei from QCD*

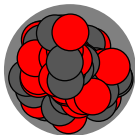
Can we understand the origin of “simple patterns in complex nuclei”?

i.e., emergent collective correlations

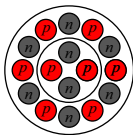


Adapted from B. Schwarzschild, *Physics Today* 63(8), 16 (2010).

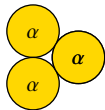
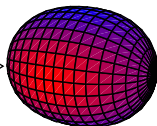
Nucleon interactions



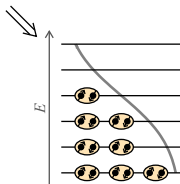
Shell structure



Collective deformation



Cluster correlations



Pair condensation

Many-particle Schrödinger equation

$$\sum_{i=1}^A \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_i} \nabla_i^2 \right) \Psi + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^A V(|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|) \Psi = E \Psi$$

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = ?$$

Outline

- Rotation and shape coexistence from clustering
- Nuclear structure *ab initio* “No-core” approach
- Emergence of rotation *Be isotopes*
- Shape coexistence, $E0$ transitions & mixing ^{10}Be , ^{14}C

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Separation of rotational degree of freedom

Factorization of wave function $|\psi_{JKM}\rangle \quad J = K, K+1, \dots$

$|\phi_K\rangle$ *Intrinsic structure* ($K \equiv a.m.$ projection on symmetry axis)

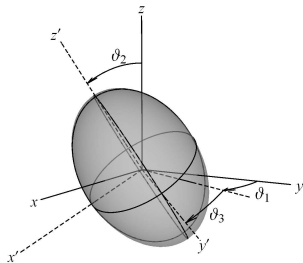
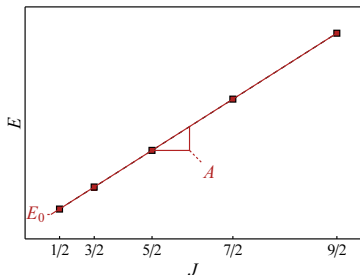
$\mathcal{D}_{MK}^J(\vartheta)$ *Rotational motion in Euler angles ϑ*

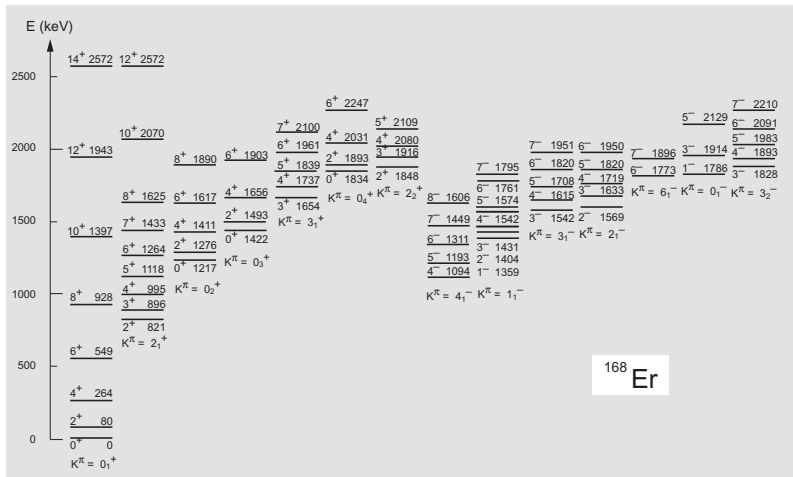
Rotational energy $\overbrace{K=1/2}$

$$E(J) = E_0 + A[J(J+1) + a(-)^{J+1/2}(J + \frac{1}{2})] \quad A \equiv \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mathcal{J}}$$

Rotational relations (Alaga rules) on electromagnetic transitions

$$B(E2; J_i \rightarrow J_f) \propto (J_i K 2 0 | J_f K)^2 (eQ_0)^2 \quad eQ_0 \propto \langle \phi_K | Q_{2,0} | \phi_K \rangle$$





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Figure from D. J. Rowe and J. L. Wood, *Fundamentals of Nuclear Models: Foundational Models* (World Scientific, Singapore, 2010).

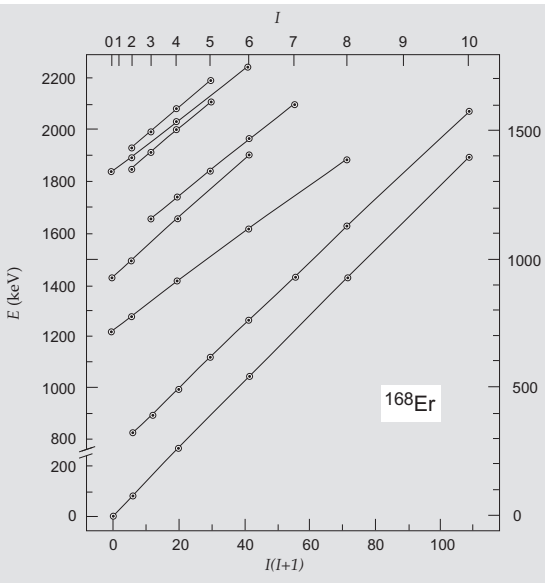
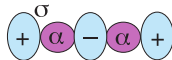
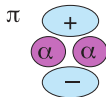
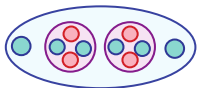
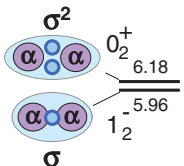


Figure from D. J. Rowe and J. L. Wood, *Fundamentals of Nuclear Models: Foundational Models* (World Scientific, Singapore, 2010).

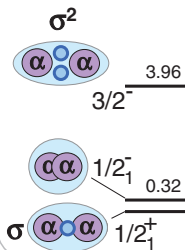
Cluster molecular structure in light nuclei



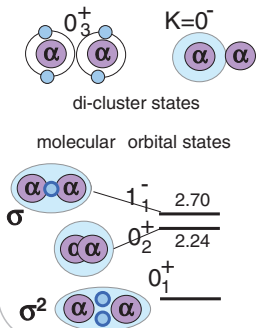
^{10}Be



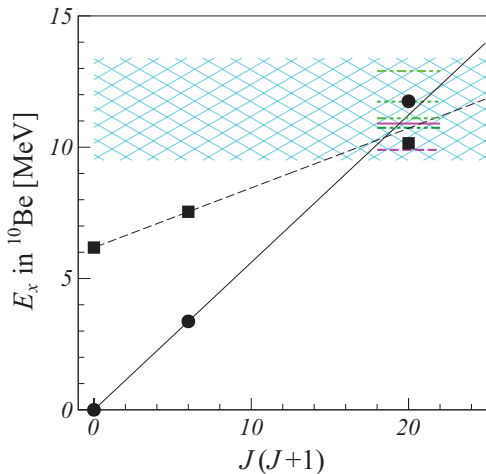
^{11}Be



^{12}Be



Yrast and excited bands in ^{10}Be



From D. Suzuki *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **87**, 054301 (2013). Orbital schematics from Y. Kanada-En'yo, H. Horiuchi, and A. Doté, Phys. Rev. C **60**, 064304 (1999).

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Solution of Schrödinger equation in a basis

Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + V(x)$$

One particle in one dimension

Eigenproblem

$$\hat{H}\psi(x) = E\psi(x)$$

Expand wave function in basis (unknown coefficients a_k)

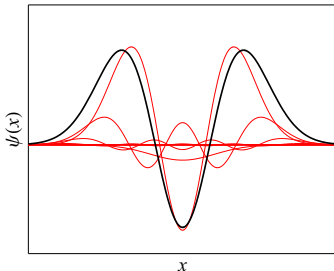
$$\psi(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \varphi_k(x)$$

Matrix elements of Hamiltonian

$$H_{ij} \equiv \langle \varphi_i | \hat{H} | \varphi_j \rangle = \int dx \varphi_i^*(x) \hat{H} \varphi_j(x)$$

Reduces to matrix eigenproblem

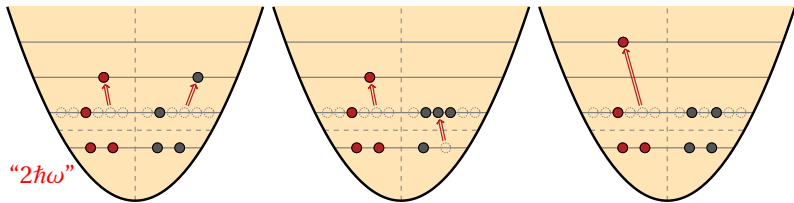
$$\begin{pmatrix} H_{11} & H_{12} & \cdots \\ H_{21} & H_{22} & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$



Many-body problem in an oscillator basis

No-core configuration interaction (NCCI) approach

a.k.a. no-core shell model (NCSM)



"2ħω"

Antisymmetrized product basis *Slater determinants*

Distribute nucleons over oscillator shells

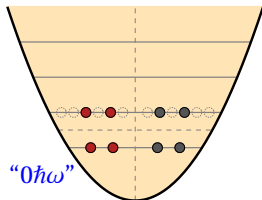
Organize basis by # oscillator excitations N_{ex}

relative to lowest Pauli-allowed filling

$N_{\text{ex}} = 0, 2, \dots$ (i.e., " $0\hbar\omega$ ", " $2\hbar\omega$ ", ...)

Basis must be truncated: $N_{\text{ex}} \leq N_{\text{max}}$

Convergence towards exact result with increasing N_{max} ...



"0ħω"

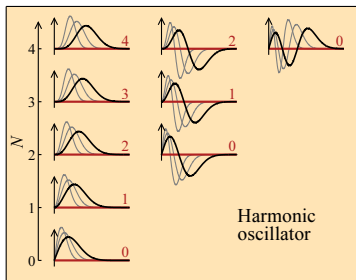
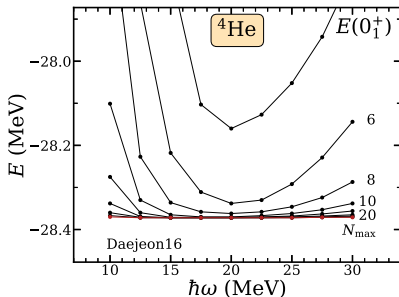
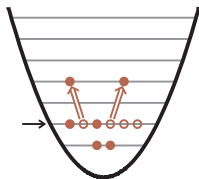
Convergence of NCCI calculations

Results in finite space depend upon:

- Many-body truncation N_{\max}
- Oscillator length b (or $\hbar\omega$)

$$b = \frac{(\hbar c)}{[(m_N c^2)(\hbar\omega)]^{1/2}}$$

Convergence of results signaled
by independence of N_{\max} & $\hbar\omega$



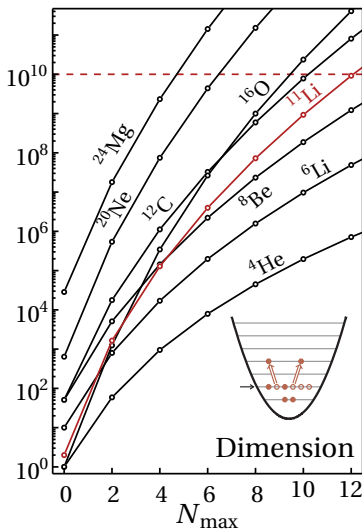
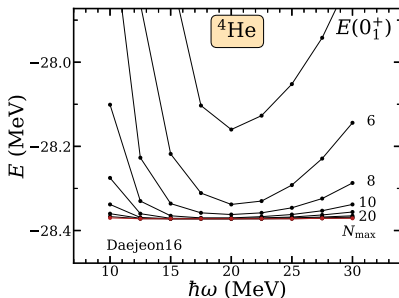
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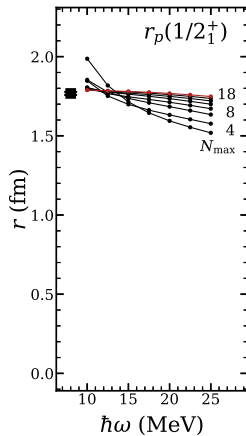
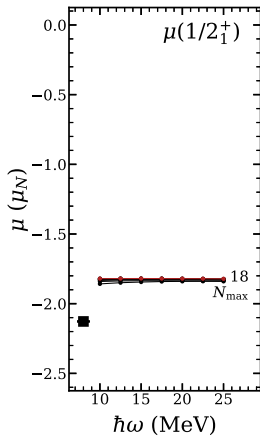
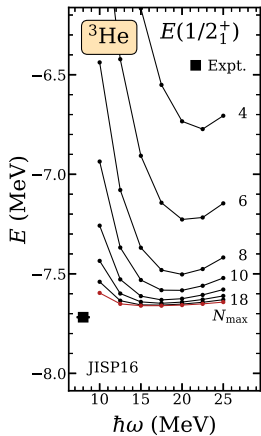
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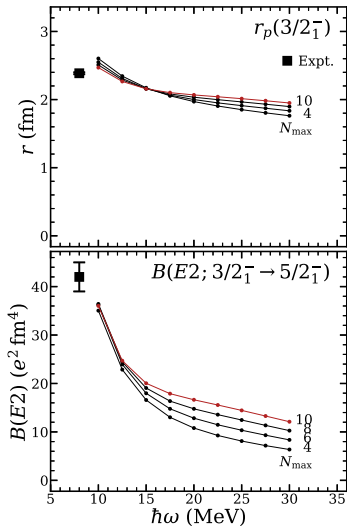
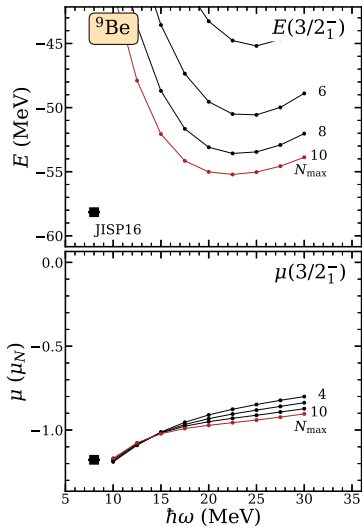
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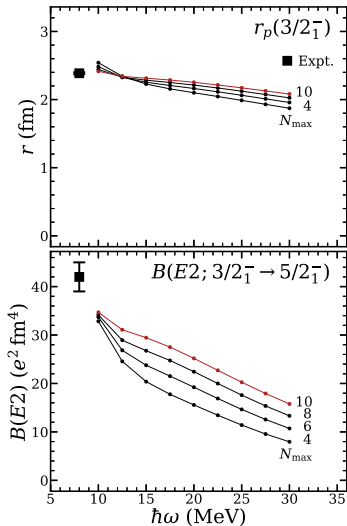
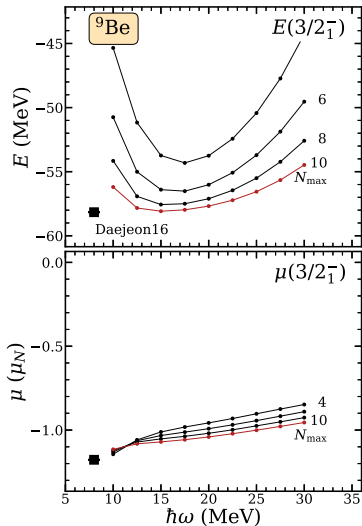
Convergence of NCCI calculations



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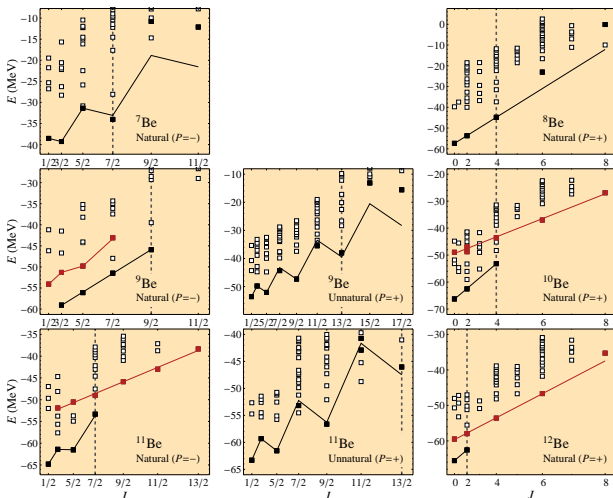


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Rotational bands in ${}^7\text{-}^{12}\text{Be}$ from NCCI calculations



M. A. Caprio, P. Maris, and J. P. Vary, Phys. Lett. B **719**, 179 (2013).

P. Maris, M. A. Caprio, and J. P. Vary, Phys. Rev. C **91**, 014310 (2015).

Separation of rotational degree of freedom

Factorization of wave function $|\psi_{JKM}\rangle \quad J = K, K+1, \dots$

$|\phi_K\rangle$ *Intrinsic structure* ($K \equiv a.m.$ projection on symmetry axis)

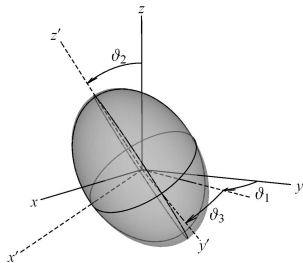
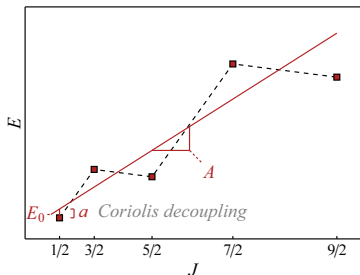
$D_{MK}^J(\vartheta)$ *Rotational motion in Euler angles ϑ*

Rotational energy $\overbrace{A(J(J+1) + a(-)^{J+1/2}(J + \frac{1}{2}))}^{\text{Coriolis } (K = 1/2)}$

$$E(J) = E_0 + A[J(J+1) + a(-)^{J+1/2}(J + \frac{1}{2})] \quad A \equiv \frac{\hbar^2}{2J}$$

Rotational relations (Alaga rules) on electromagnetic transitions

$$B(E2; J_i \rightarrow J_f) \propto (J_i K 2 0 | J_f K)^2 (eQ_0)^2 \quad eQ_0 \propto \langle \phi_K | Q_{2,0} | \phi_K \rangle$$



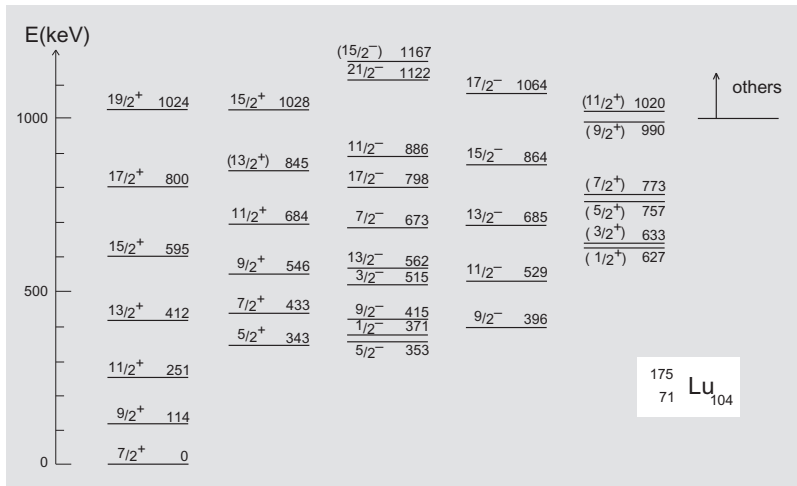
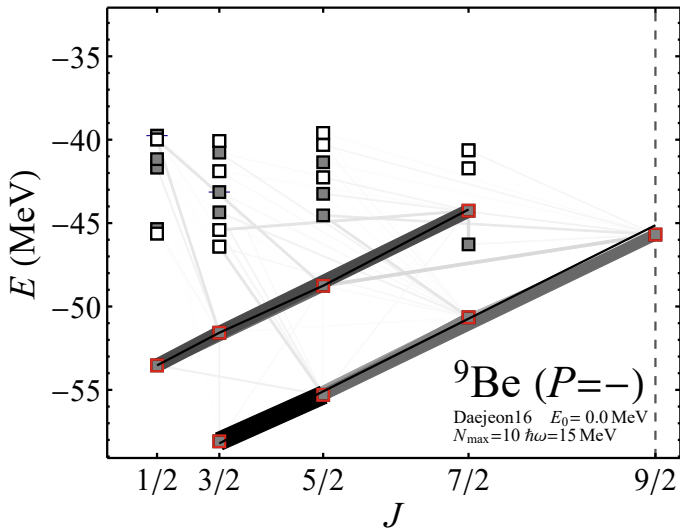


Figure from D. J. Rowe and J. L. Wood, *Fundamentals of Nuclear Models: Foundational Models* (World Scientific, Singapore, 2010).

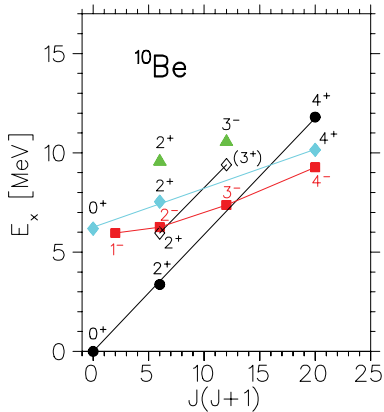
${}^9\text{Be}$: NCCI calculated energies and $E2$ transitions



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H. G. Bohlen *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **75**, 054604 (2007).

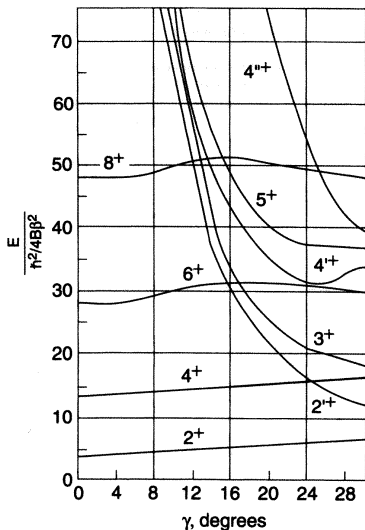
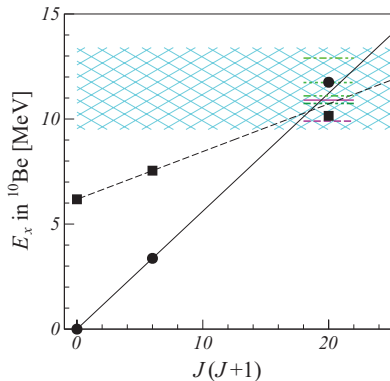
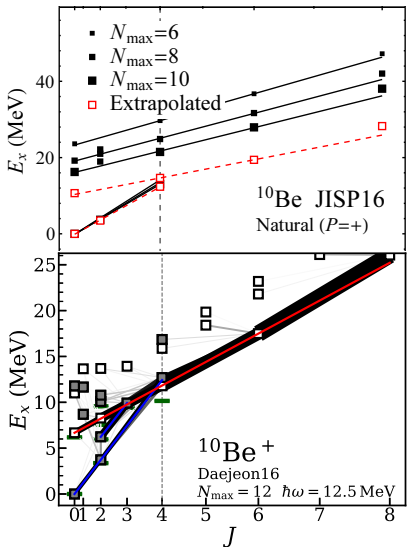


FIG. 6.24. Normal and anomalous levels of the triaxial rotor (Preston, 1975).

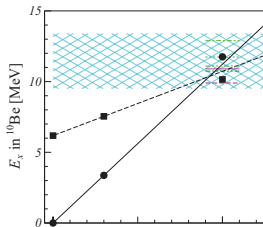
R. F. Casten, *Nuclear Structure from a Simple Perspective*, 2ed. (Oxford, 2000).

Convergence for “intruder” band ^{10}Be

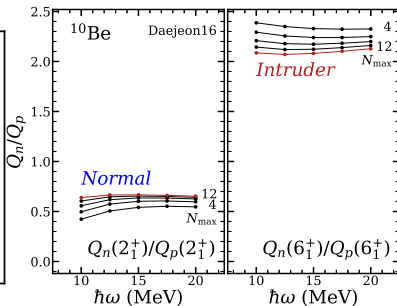
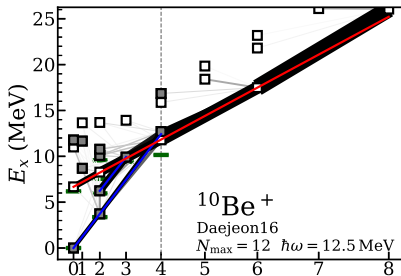
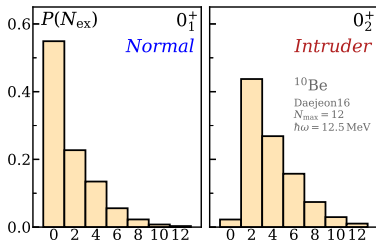


From D. Suzuki *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **87**, 054301 (2013).

Structure of “intruder” band ^{10}Be



D. Suzuki (2013).



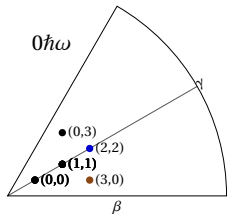
“Leading” U(3) irreps for ^{10}Be

Intrinsic deformation for irrep (λ, μ)

$$\beta \propto (Q \cdot Q)^{1/2}$$

$$\propto (\lambda^2 + \lambda\mu + \mu^2 + 3\lambda + 3\mu + 3)^{1/2}$$

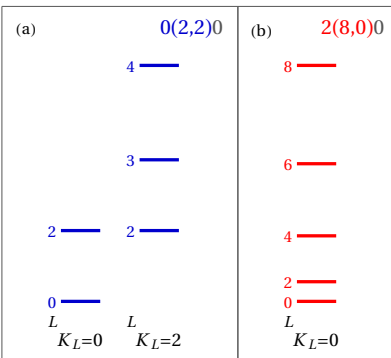
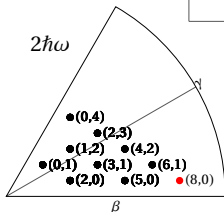
$$\gamma = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}(\mu + 3)}{2\lambda + \mu + 3} \right)$$



Proton-neutron SU(3) structure

$$\pi(2,0) \times \nu(0,2) \Rightarrow (2,2)$$

prolate oblate



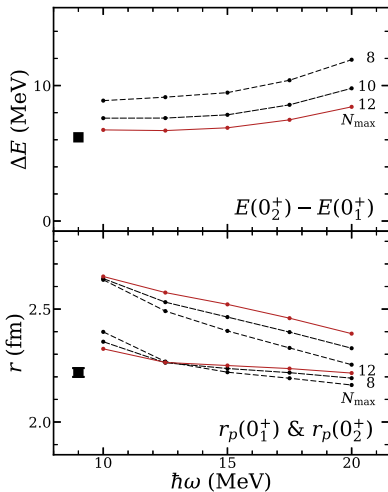
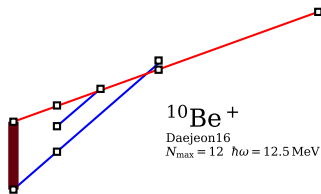
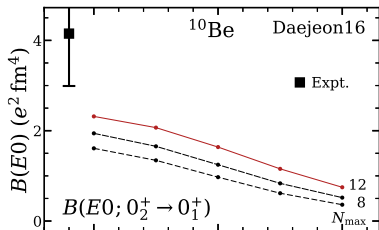
Elliott model

$$H \propto -Q \cdot Q = -6C(\lambda, \mu) + 3L^2$$

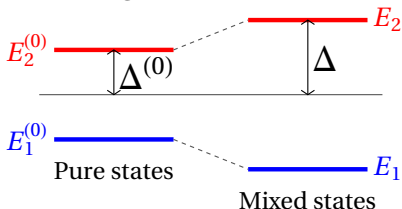
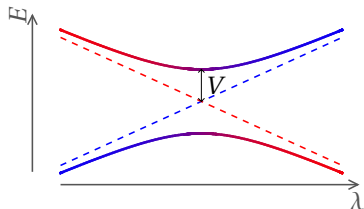
Z	O 8				^{13}O	^{14}O	^{15}O	^{16}O <i>EO</i>	
	N 7				^{12}N	^{13}N	^{14}N	^{15}N	
	C 6		^9C	^{10}C	^{11}C	^{12}C <i>EO</i>	^{13}C	^{14}C <i>EO</i>	
	B 5		^8B	^9B	^{10}B	^{11}B	^{12}B	^{13}B	
	Be 4		^7Be	^8Be	^9Be	^{10}Be <i>EO</i>	^{11}Be	^{12}Be <i>EO</i>	
	Li 3		^6Li	^7Li	^8Li	^9Li		^{11}Li	
	He 2	^3He	^4He <i>EO</i>		^6He		^8He		
	H 1	^2H	^3H						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
					N				

Ab initio calculation of $E0$ transition in ^{10}Be

Daejeon16 interaction



Two-state mixing



$$H = \begin{pmatrix} E_1^{(0)}(\lambda) & 0 \\ 0 & E_2^{(0)}(\lambda) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & V \\ V & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} |\psi_1\rangle \\ |\psi_2\rangle \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} |\psi_1^{(0)}\rangle \\ |\psi_2^{(0)}\rangle \end{pmatrix}$$

Weak mixing (perturbative) limit... $V/\Delta^{(0)} \ll 1$

$$\theta \approx -\frac{V}{2\Delta^{(0)}}$$

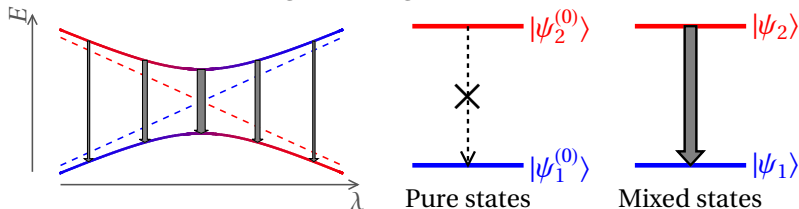
Strong mixing (full) solution...

$$\tan 2\theta = -\frac{V}{\Delta^{(0)}}$$

Level repulsion...

$$\Delta^2 = (\Delta^{(0)})^2 + V^2$$

Deducing mixing from transition



Suppose transition between pure states vanishes...

$$\langle \psi_2^{(0)} | \mathcal{M} | \psi_1^{(0)} \rangle = 0$$

Then transition between mixed states comes from “mixed in” contribution from diagonal matrix elements...

$$\langle \psi_1 | \mathcal{M} | \psi_2 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} (\sin 2\theta) \left[\langle \psi_2^{(0)} | \mathcal{M} | \psi_2^{(0)} \rangle - \langle \psi_1^{(0)} | \mathcal{M} | \psi_1^{(0)} \rangle \right]$$

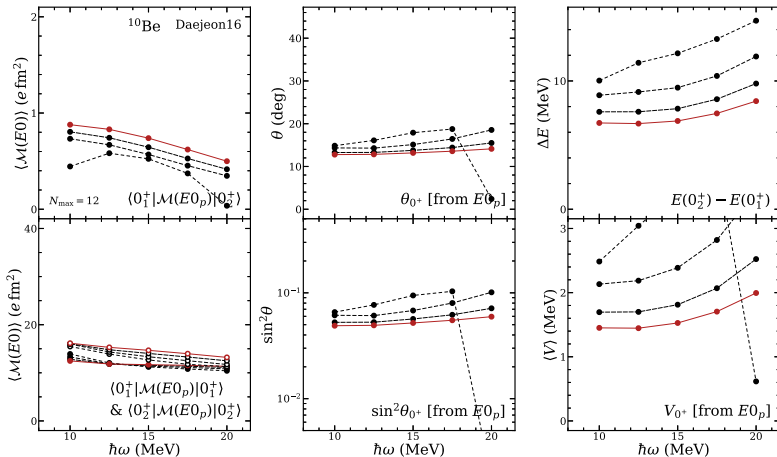
Invert to deduce mixing angle from “mixed” matrix elements...

$$\tan 2\theta = \frac{2 \langle \psi_2 | \mathcal{M} | \psi_1 \rangle}{\langle \psi_2 | \mathcal{M} | \psi_2 \rangle - \langle \psi_1 | \mathcal{M} | \psi_1 \rangle}$$

Mixing analysis of *ab initio* calculations for ^{10}Be

Assume $\langle 0\hbar\omega | \mathcal{M}(E0) | 2\hbar\omega \rangle$ vanishes for “pure” (unmixed) 0^+ states.

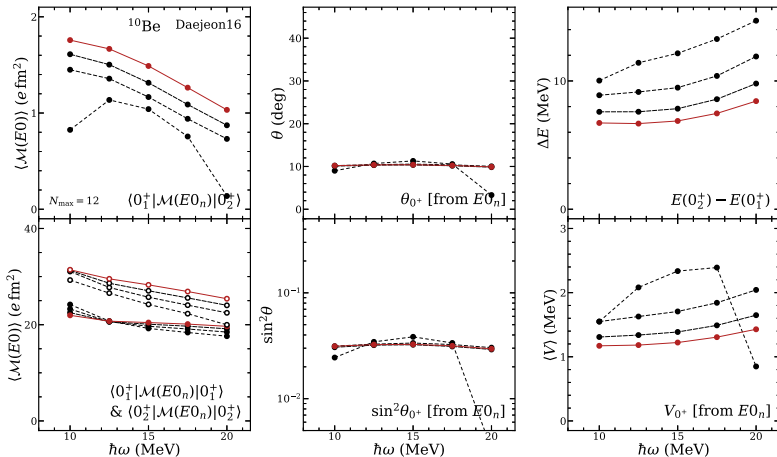
Deduce mixing from matrix elements for NCCI calculated (mixed) states.



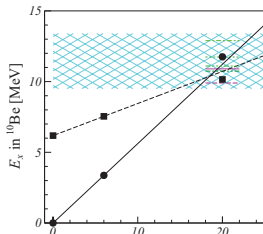
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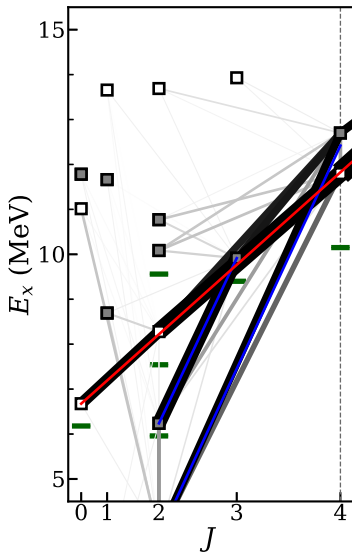
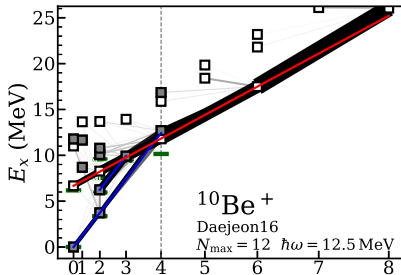
Deduce mixing from matrix elements for NCCI calculated (mixed) states.



Crossing of 4^+ states in ^{10}Be (zoom)



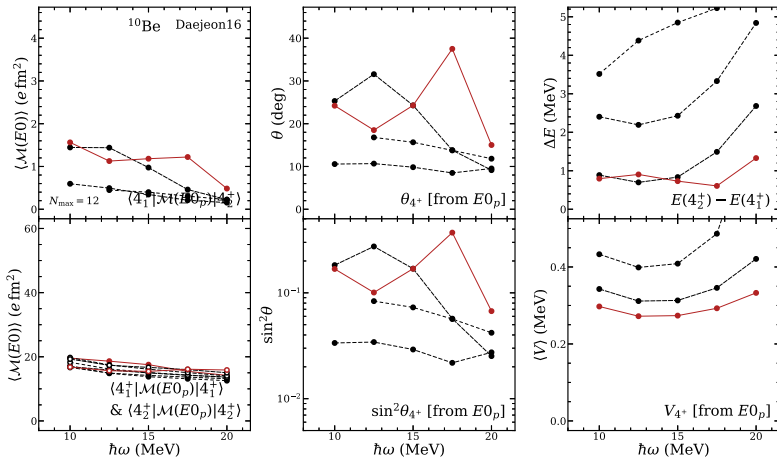
D. Suzuki (2013).



Mixing analysis of *ab initio* calculations for ^{10}Be

Assume $\langle 0\hbar\omega | \mathcal{M}(E0) | 2\hbar\omega \rangle$ vanishes for “pure” (unmixed) 4^+ states.

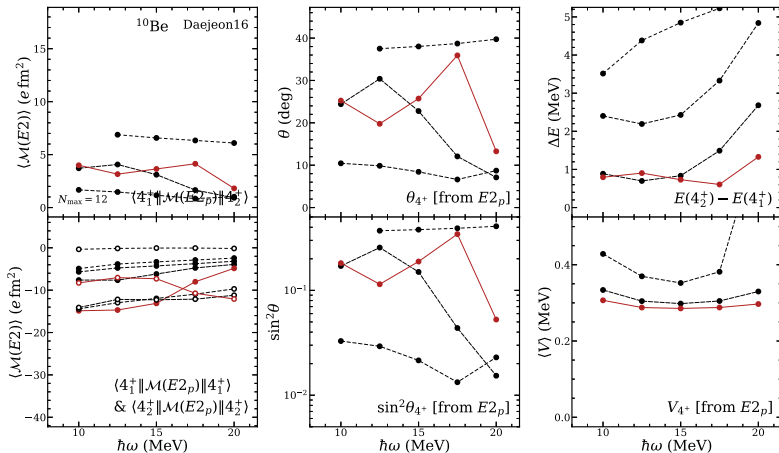
Deduce mixing from matrix elements for NCCI calculated (mixed) states.



Mixing analysis of *ab initio* calculations for ^{10}Be

Assume $\langle 0\hbar\omega | \mathcal{M}(E2) | 2\hbar\omega \rangle$ vanishes for “pure” (unmixed) 4^+ states.

Deduce mixing from matrix elements for NCCI calculated (mixed) states.



The $E2$ strength to the first 2^+ state(s) in ^{14}C ?

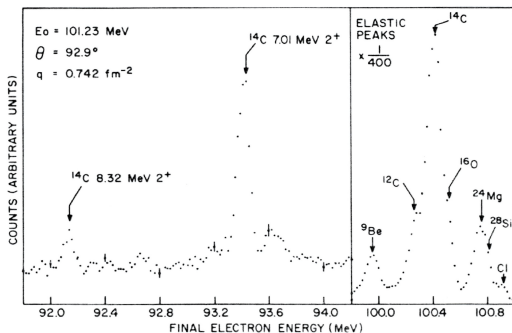
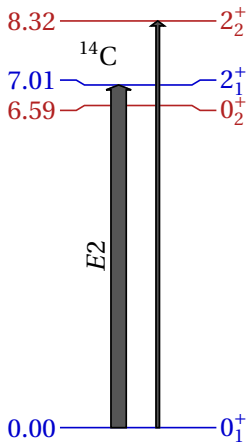
Electron Scattering from Low Lying 2^+ States in $^{14}\text{C}^*$

Hall Crannell, P.L. Hallowell, J.T. O'Brien,
J.M. Finn and F.J. Kline[†]

The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

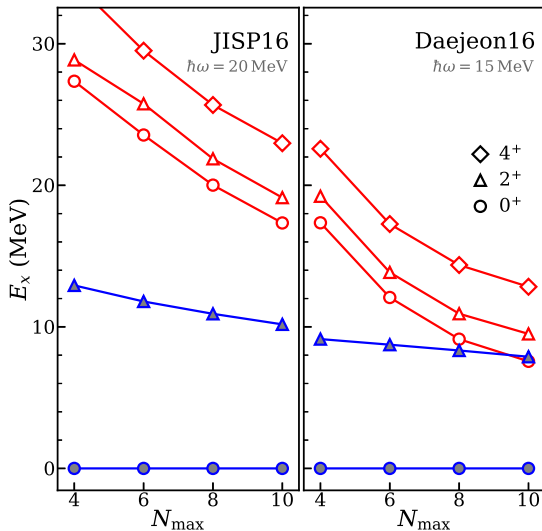
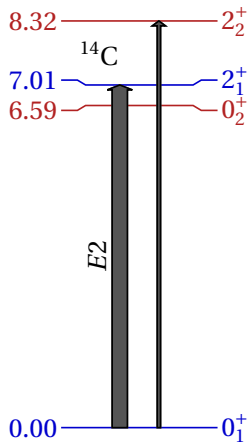
and

S. Penner, J.W. Lightbody, Jr., and S.P. Pivovzinsky
National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C.



H. Crannell *et al.*, Proc. Int. Conf. Nucl. Struct. Studies Using Electron Scattering and Photoreaction, Sendai, Japan (1972).

Convergence of intruder state energies in ^{14}C

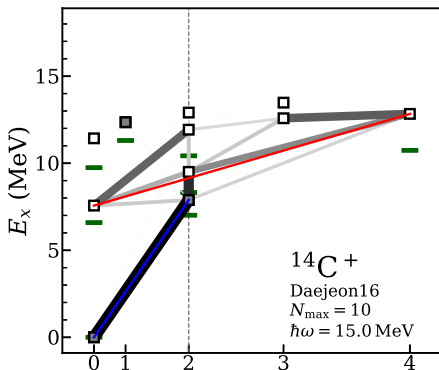
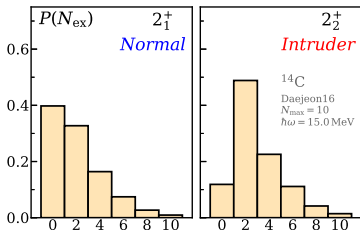
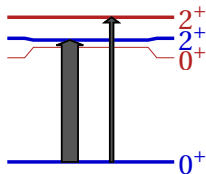


Low-lying intruder structure in ^{14}C

Coexisting $0^+ - 2^+$ sequences: $0\hbar\omega$ and $2\hbar\omega$

Very different “moments of inertia” $\Rightarrow 2^+$ states approach and mix

Excited structure as triaxial rotor? *Elliott SU(3)*

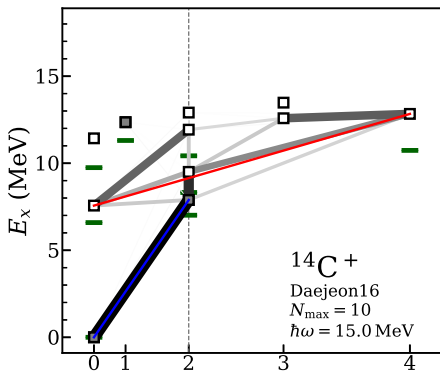
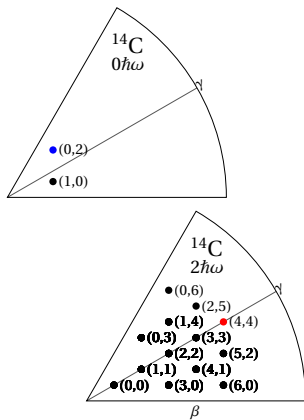


Low-lying intruder structure in ^{14}C

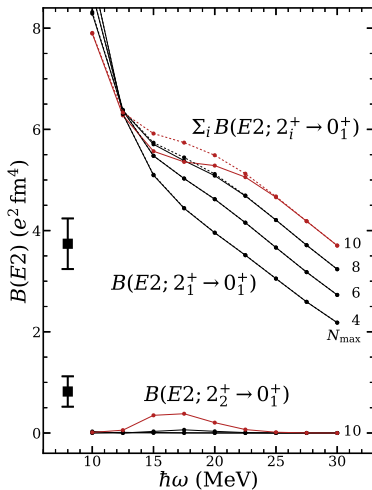
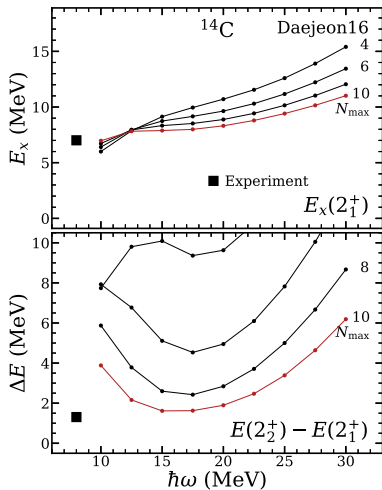
Coexisting $0^+ - 2^+$ sequences: $0\hbar\omega$ and $2\hbar\omega$

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Excited structure as triaxial rotor? *Elliott SU(3)*



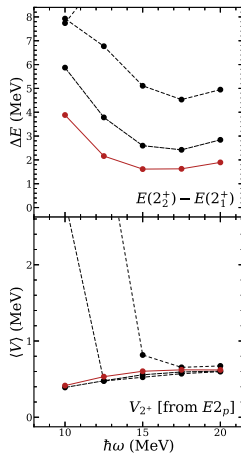
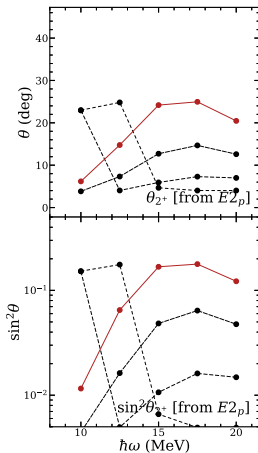
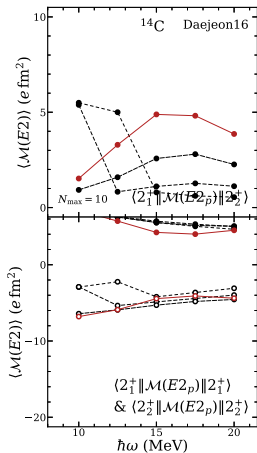
The $E2$ strength to the first 2^+ state(s) in ^{14}C ?



Mixing analysis of *ab initio* calculations for ^{14}C

Assume $\langle 0\hbar\omega | \mathcal{M}(E2) | 2\hbar\omega \rangle$ vanishes for “pure” (unmixed) 2^+ states.

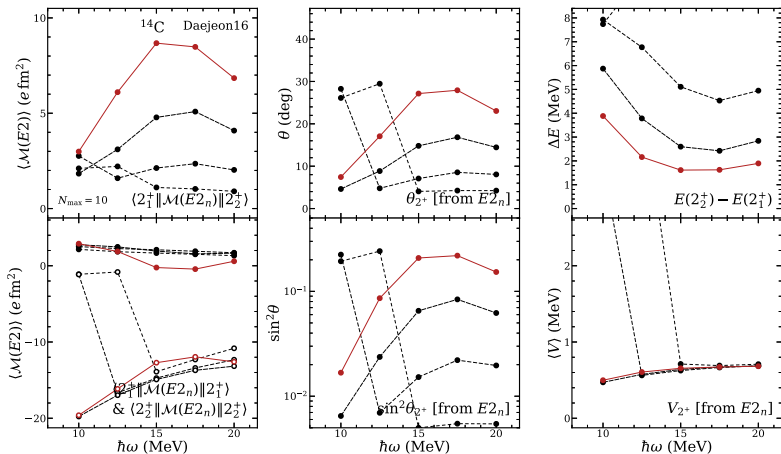
Deduce mixing from matrix elements for NCCI calculated (mixed) states.



Mixing analysis of *ab initio* calculations for ^{14}C

Assume $\langle 0\hbar\omega | \mathcal{M}(E2) | 2\hbar\omega \rangle$ vanishes for “pure” (unmixed) 2^+ states.

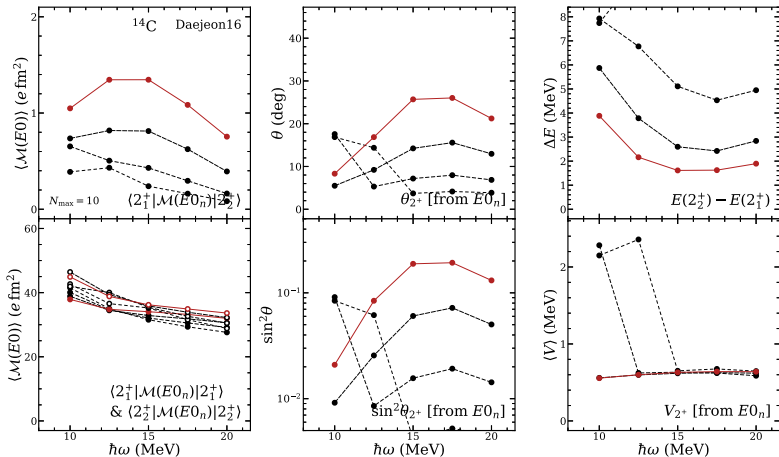
Deduce mixing from matrix elements for NCCI calculated (mixed) states.



Mixing analysis of *ab initio* calculations for ^{14}C

Assume $\langle 0\hbar\omega | \mathcal{M}(E0) | 2\hbar\omega \rangle$ vanishes for “pure” (unmixed) 2^+ states.

Deduce mixing from matrix elements for NCCI calculated (mixed) states.



Notes on emergent mixing in ^{10}Be & ^{14}C

Three related but distinct questions...

Are *truncated ab initio* calculations well-described by mixing?

If so, how “constant” is the mixing matrix element?

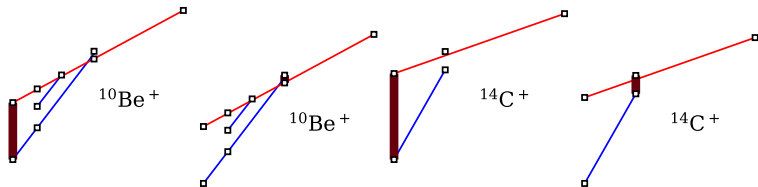
Is the solution to the *untruncated* problem well-described by mixing?

Predicted structure depends (at least in detail) on interaction

What is the actual structure (and mixing) in the *physical nucleus*?

For $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ ground-state transition (weak mixing)... Slowly converging “emergent” shape mixing matrix element (≈ 1 MeV).

For $J^+ \rightarrow J^+$ excited-state transition (strong mixing)... Robust convergence of “emergent” shape mixing matrix element ($\lesssim 0.5$ MeV).



Summary

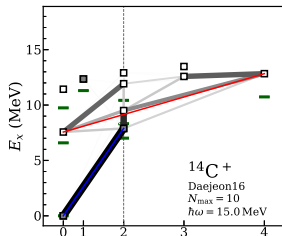
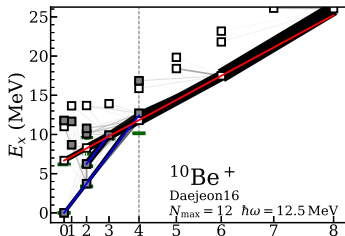
Different states in low-lying spectrum have different...

- Rotational moments of inertia *Energy spacing within band*
- Shell model character *Normal* ($0\hbar\omega$) vs. *intruder* ($2\hbar\omega$)
- Shape/deformation & Elliott SU(3) symmetry

Intruders hard to converge, but tractable with soft interaction *Daejeon16*

Two-state mixing emerges in *ab initio* NCCI results...

- Can be transient (as energies cross) or persistent (at physical energies)
- *Mixing matrix element* extracted from normal-intruder transition
- $B(E0; 0^+ \rightarrow 0^+)$ depends on intruder radius *Slowly convergent*



Island of inversion at $N = 8$ (*ab initio*)

The intruder becomes the ground state...

- Parity inversion ^{11}Be

J. Chen *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **100**, 064314 (2019).

- Predominantly $2\hbar\omega$ (or strongly mixed) ground state ^{11}Li , ^{12}Be

Anna E. McCoy *et al.*, *Intruder band mixing in an ab initio description of ^{12}Be* , arXiv:2402.12606.

O 8			$^{13}\text{O}^{(3/2-)}$	$^{14}\text{O}^{0+}$	$^{15}\text{O}^{1/2-}$	$^{16}\text{O}^{0+}$
N 7			$^{12}\text{N}^{1+}$	$^{13}\text{N}^{1/2-}$	$^{14}\text{N}^{1+}$	$^{15}\text{N}^{1/2-}$
C 6	$^9\text{C}^{(3/2-)}$	$^{10}\text{C}^{0+}$	$^{11}\text{C}^{3/2-}$	$^{12}\text{C}^{0+}$	$^{13}\text{C}^{1/2-}$	$^{14}\text{C}^{0+}$
B 5	$^8\text{B}^{2+}$	$[\text{}^9\text{B}]^{3/2-}$	$^{10}\text{B}^{3+}$	$^{11}\text{B}^{3/2-}$	$^{12}\text{B}^{1+}$	$^{13}\text{B}^{3/2-}$
Be 4	$^7\text{Be}^{3/2-}$	$[\text{}^8\text{Be}]^{0+}$	$^9\text{Be}^{3/2-}$	$^{10}\text{Be}^{0+}$	$^{11}\text{Be}^{1/2+}$	$^{12}\text{Be}^{0+}$
Li 3	$^6\text{Li}^{1+}$	$^7\text{Li}^{3/2-}$	$^8\text{Li}^{2+}$	$^9\text{Li}^{3/2-}$		$^{11}\text{Li}^{3/2-}$
	3	4	5	6	7	8