Relativistic approach to atomic nuclei including quasiparticle-vibration coupling

Caroline Robin, Elena Litvinova



The fifth conference on Nuclei and Mesoscopic Physics (NMP17) March 8, 2017, East-Lansing, USA.

Outline

***** Introduction:

Relativistic Nuclear Field Theory: connecting the scales of nuclear physics from Quantum Hadrodynamics to emergent collective phenomena

- ***** Formalism
- ***** Applications to nuclear excitation modes:
 - *A few results in the particle-hole neutral channel
 - *Response theory for spin-isospin excitations:
 Gamow-Teller transitions, beta-decay half-lives and the "quenching" problem
- ***** Conclusion & perspectives

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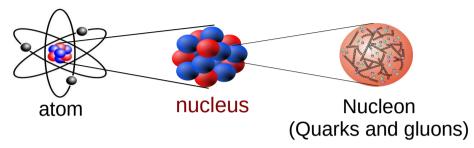
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Introduction

Atomic nucleus = challenging many-body system!



At the frontiers between microscopic & macroscopic worlds

* Exhibits generic properties of many-body systems:



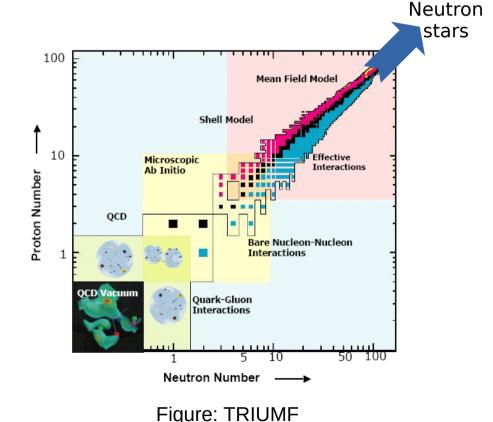
particle-decay and radiation

emergent collective phenomena

superfluidity



- * Also has specific features and difficulties:
 - Two types of particles (neutrons & protons) which are not structureless
 - NN interaction unknown, existence of many-body forces...



Relativistic Nuclear Field Theory: foundations

Connects the scales from heavy mesons to the complex dynamics of heavy nuclei

Walecka/Serot



Mesons

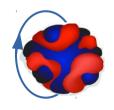
 $m_{\pi,\sigma,\omega,\rho}^{}$ ~140-800 MeV



nucleons S_n ~ 10 MeV

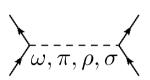


collective vibrations (phonons) ~ few MeV



nucleons & phonons

More correlations



Ouantum Hadrodynamics (QHD)

Bohr-Mottelson

self-consistent extensions

of the

Relativistic Mean-Field

via

Green function techniques

successive corrections in the singleparticle motion

and

effective

interaction

Nuclear Field theory - Particle-Vibration coupling

(2p-2h)

More correlations

Bogoliubov/BCS Ring /Gorkov Relativistic mean-field + superfluidity Ring Argentina-Copenhagen -Milano...

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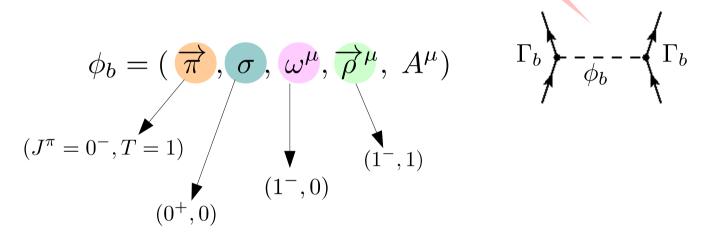
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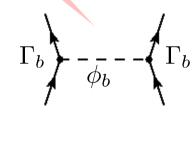
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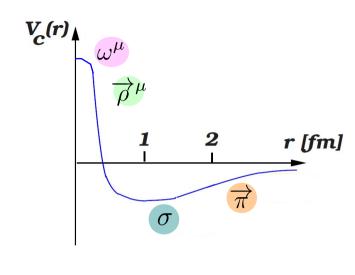
From QHD to relativistic mean field

★ Effective QHD Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \mathcal{L}_{Nucleons} + \mathcal{L}_{bosons} + \mathcal{L}_{int}$$







When both nucleons and mesons are quantized the equations of motion:

$$(i\gamma_{\mu}\partial^{\mu}-m-\sum_{b}\Gamma_{b}\phi_{b})\psi=0$$
 (Nucleons)
$$(\Box+m_{b}^{2})\phi_{b}=\mp\bar{\psi}\Gamma_{b}\psi$$
 (Mesons)

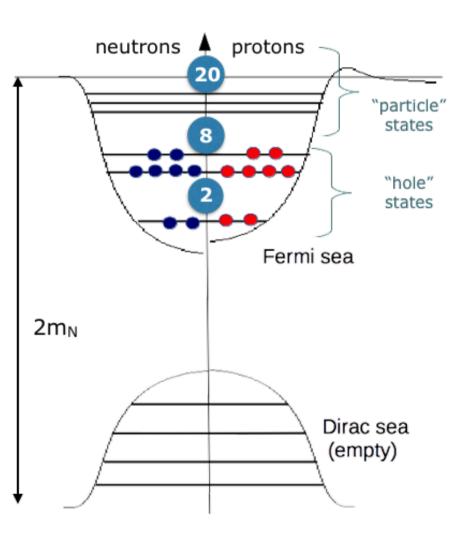
are very complicated to solve...

From QHD to relativistic mean field

* Possible approximation: **Mean-field approximation** I.e. treat the bosons classically

$$\phi_b \to \langle \phi_b \rangle$$

⇒ the pion does not contribute in the ground state (would break parity)

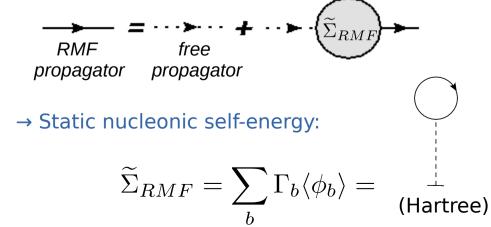


⇒ EoM describe independent nucleons in classical meson fields:

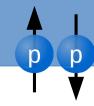
$$(i\gamma_{\mu}\partial^{\mu}-m-\widetilde{\Sigma}_{RMF})\psi=0$$
 (Nucleons)

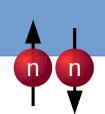
$$(-\Delta+m_b^2)\langle\phi_b
angle=\mp\langlear{\psi}\Gamma_b\psi
angle$$
 (Mesons)

→ One-nucleon motion (propagator):



From QHD to relativistic mean field





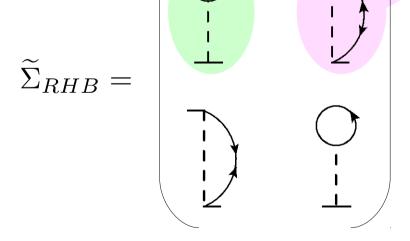
+ Superfluid pairing correlations in open-shell nuclei:

Hartree

→ Introduce quasiparticles = superpositions of particles and holes (BCS/Bogoliubov)

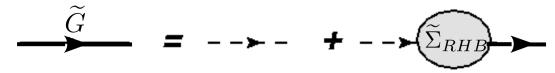
$$\Rightarrow egin{aligned} &\left\{ (-\Delta + m_b^2) \langle \phi_b
angle = \mp \langle V^T eta \Gamma_b V^*
angle & ext{(for bosons)} \ \mathcal{H}_{RHB} | \psi_{m{k}}^{m{\eta}}
angle = m{\eta} E_{m{k}} | \psi_{m{k}}^{m{\eta}}
angle \;,\; \eta = \pm 1 & ext{(for quasi-nucleons)} \end{aligned}$$

· RHB self-energy:



pairing field

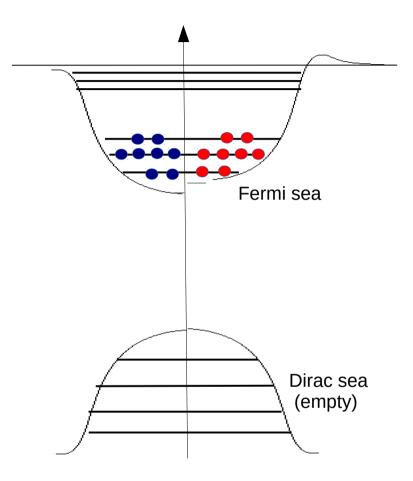
→ RHB quasiparticle propagator:



 $\begin{pmatrix} \langle 0 | \mathcal{T} \left(\psi(1) \bar{\psi}(2) \right) | 0 \rangle & \langle 0 | \mathcal{T} \left(\psi(1) \psi(2) \right) | 0 \rangle \\ \langle 0 | \mathcal{T} \left(\bar{\psi}(1) \bar{\psi}(2) \right) | 0 \rangle & \langle 0 | \mathcal{T} \left(\bar{\psi}(1) \psi(2) \right) | 0 \rangle \end{pmatrix}$

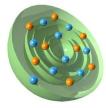
Gorkov-GF

Going beyond mean-field: quasiparticles coupled to vibrations

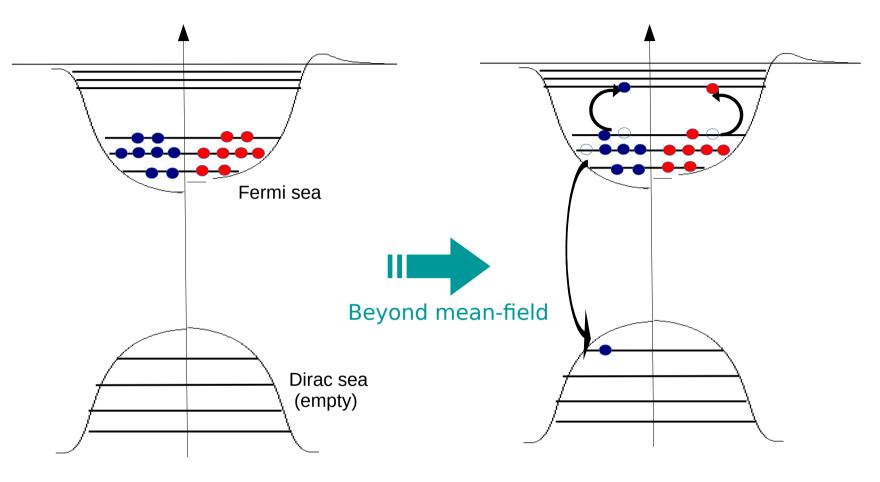


Mean-field ground-state

- = independent (quasi)particles
- = 0-th order approximation

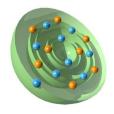


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Mean-field ground-state

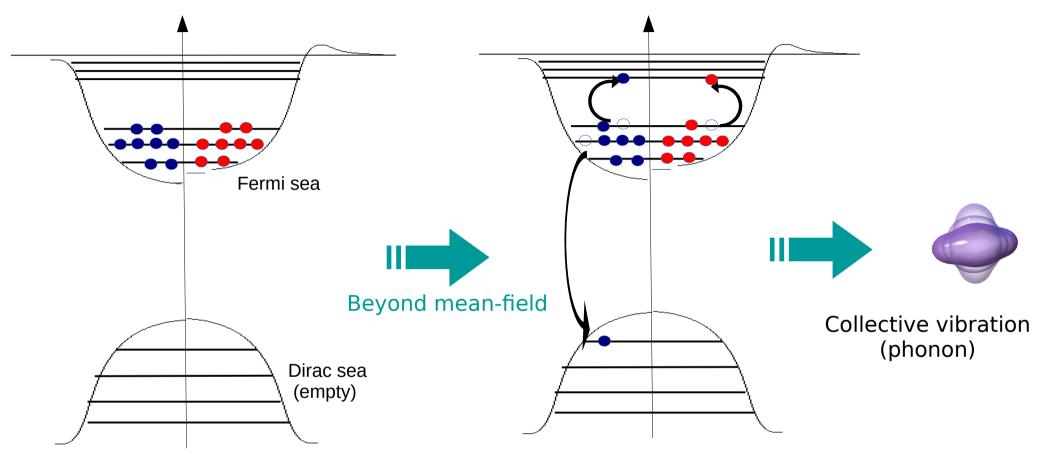
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correlations

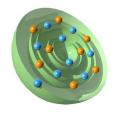


Going beyond mean-field: quasiparticles coupled to vibrations



Mean-field ground-state

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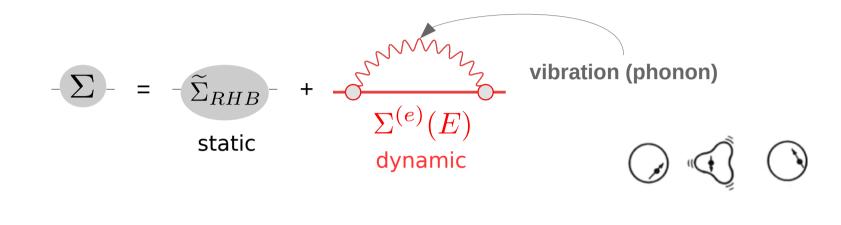


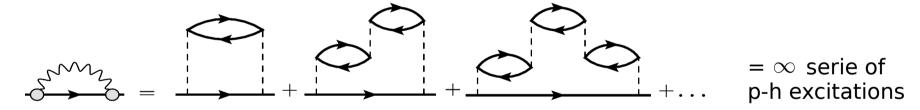
correlations



Going beyond mean-field: Quasiparticles coupled to vibrations

★ Quasiparticle-Vibration Coupling (QVC) in the nucleonic self-energy:





- → Allows a non perturbative treatment of the NN interaction
- → New order parameter = QVC vertex

Going beyond mean-field: Quasiparticles coupled to vibrations

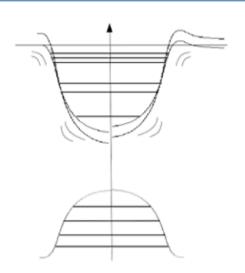
→ quasi-particle propagator:

$$= \xrightarrow{\widetilde{G}} + \xrightarrow{\widetilde{G}} G$$

$$G(E) = \left(\varepsilon - \mathcal{H}_{RHB} - \Sigma^{(e)}(E)\right)^{-1}$$

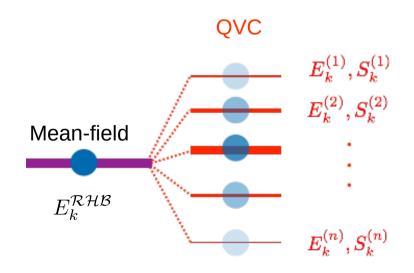
Introduces new poles

$$E_k^{(\nu)} = E_k^{\mathcal{RHB}} + \Sigma_k^{(e)}(E_k^{(\nu)})$$



$$\Sigma_{k_1 k_2}^{(e)\eta_1 \eta_2}(\varepsilon) = \sum_{\eta = \pm 1} \sum_{k,\mu} \frac{\gamma_{\mu;k_1 k}^{\eta;\eta_1 \eta} \gamma_{\mu;k_2 k}^{\eta;\eta_2 \eta*}}{\varepsilon - \eta(E_k + \Omega_{\mu} - i\delta)}$$

→ fragmentation of single (quasi)particle states:



No more well defined (quasi)nucleons on single (quasi)particle shells → fractional occupation numbers

$$E_k^{\mathcal{RHB}} = \sum_{\nu} S_k^{(\nu)} E_k^{(\nu)}$$

$$\sum_{\nu} S_k^{(\nu)} = 1$$

* Response of the nucleus to an external field:



→ Transition strength:

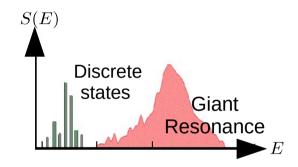
$$S(E) = \sum_{f} |\langle \Psi_f | \hat{F} | \Psi_i \rangle|^2 \delta(E - E_f + E_i)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{\pi} \lim_{\Delta \to 0^+} \operatorname{Im} \langle \Psi_i | \hat{F}^{\dagger} R(E + i\Delta) \hat{F} | \Psi_i \rangle$$

Response function (2-body propagator)

solution of the Bethe-Salpeter equation (BSE):

$$R = \frac{1}{R} + \frac{1}{R}$$



$$V=i\frac{\delta\Sigma}{\delta G}$$
 effective interaction induced by the nuclear medium

* Response of the nucleus to an external field:



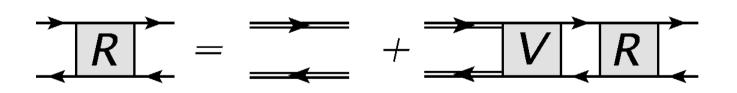
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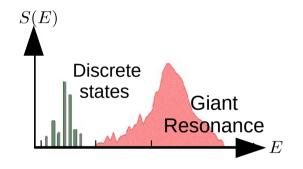
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solution of the Bethe-Salpeter equation (BSE):



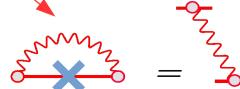


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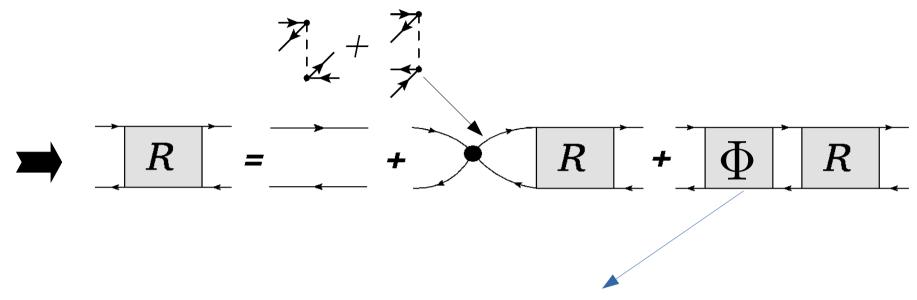


$$V(E) = i \frac{\delta \widetilde{\Sigma}_{RHB}}{\delta G} + i \frac{\delta \Sigma^{e}(E)}{\delta G}$$

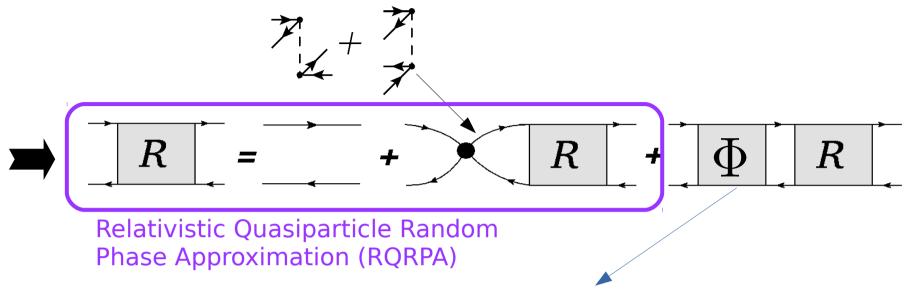
Static meson exchange + pairing



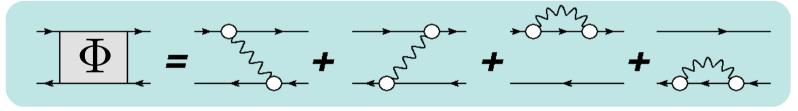
Energy-dependent phonon exchange

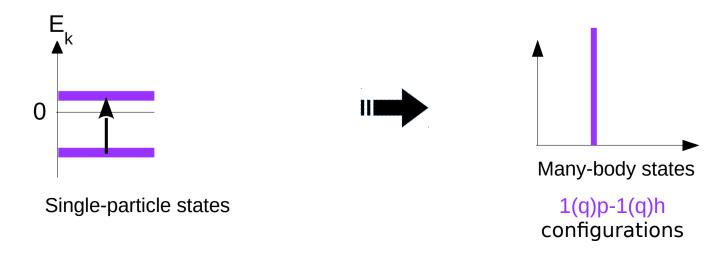


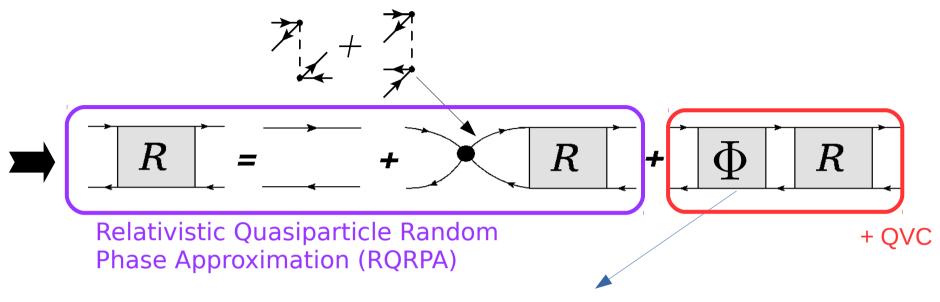
Quasiparticle-Vibration Coupling amplitude:



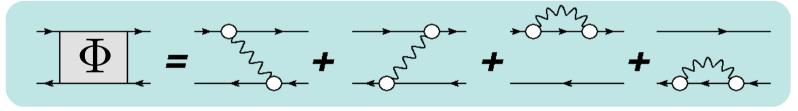
Quasiparticle-Vibration Coupling amplitude:

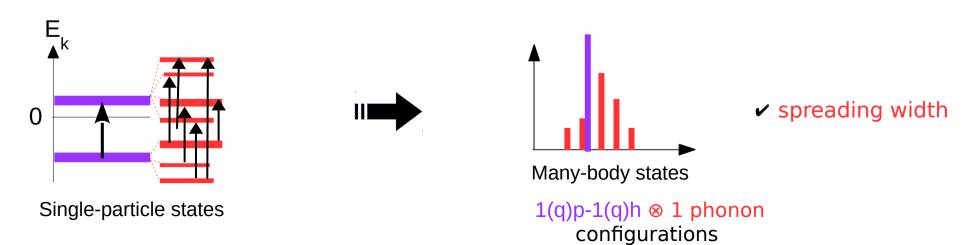




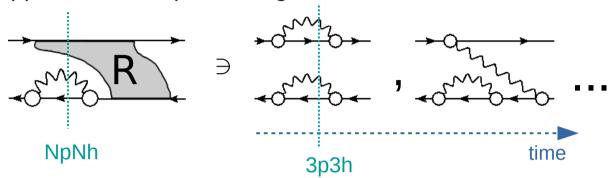


Quasiparticle-Vibration Coupling amplitude:





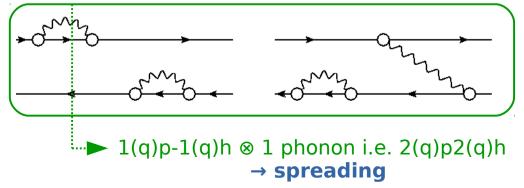
Problem: Integration over all intermediate times ⇒ complicated BSE (integrations do not separate), appearance of NpNh configurations:



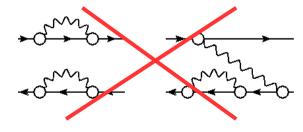
Solution: Time-Blocking Approximation [V.I. Tselyaev, Yad. Fiz. 50,1252 (1989)]



→ allowed configurations:



 \rightarrow blocked configurations: 3(q)p-3(q)h, 4(q)p4(q)h...



... but can be included in a next step (under development)

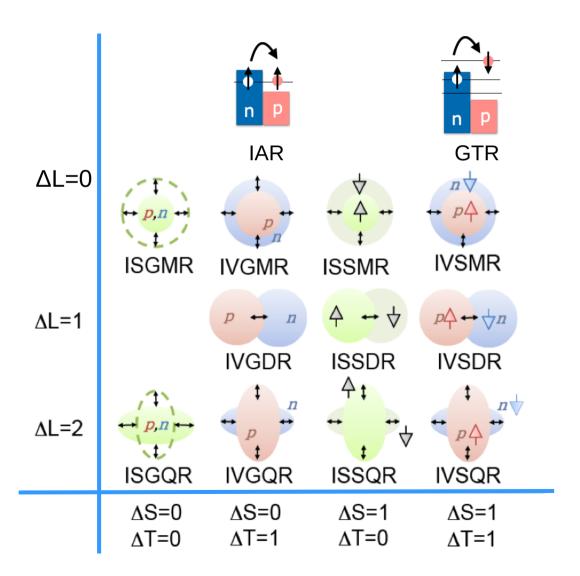
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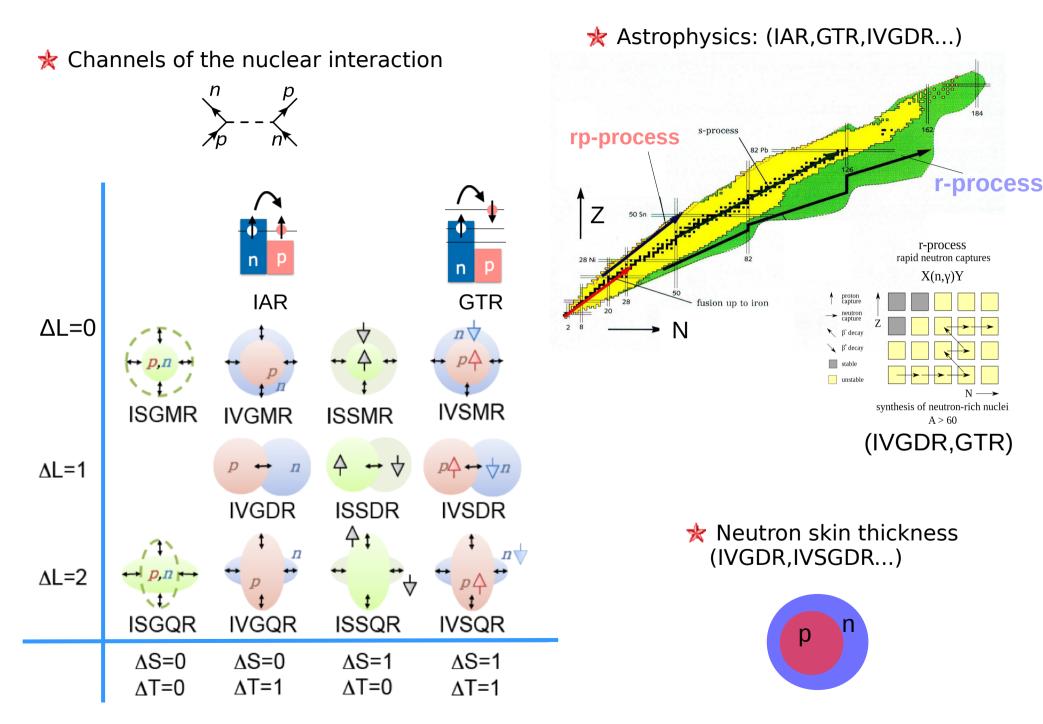
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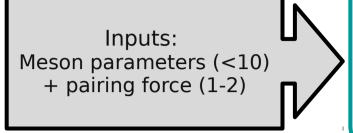
Nuclear vibrational motion and their applications



Nuclear vibrational motion and their applications



Numerical scheme



Relativistic mean-field with pairing

(NL3 & monopole pairing force)

RQRPA ⇒ phonon spectrum and their coupling vertices

Phonons selected according to their T, J[™] and energy

Typically: neutral (T=0) phonons with $J^{\pi} = 2+ \rightarrow 6+$, $E_{max} = 20-30$ MeV

external field

Solve BSE with RQTBA

for the response function with given quantum numbers



Strength distribution:
$$S(E) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \lim_{\Delta \to 0^+} {\rm Im} \ \langle \Psi_i | \hat{F}^\dagger R(E+i\Delta) \hat{F} | \Psi_i \rangle$$

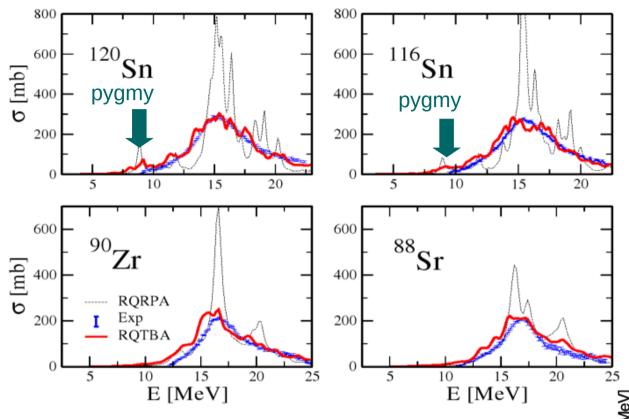
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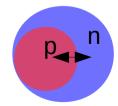
A few results in the ph neutral ($\Delta T_{7}=0$) channel



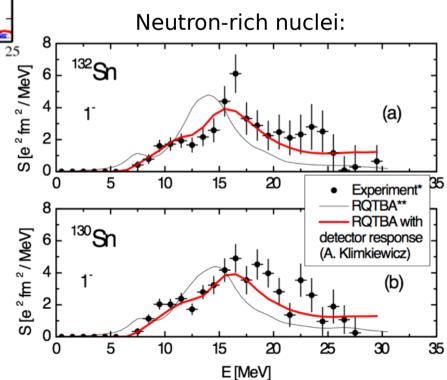
Test case: E1 (IVGDR)

Giant and pygmy resonances

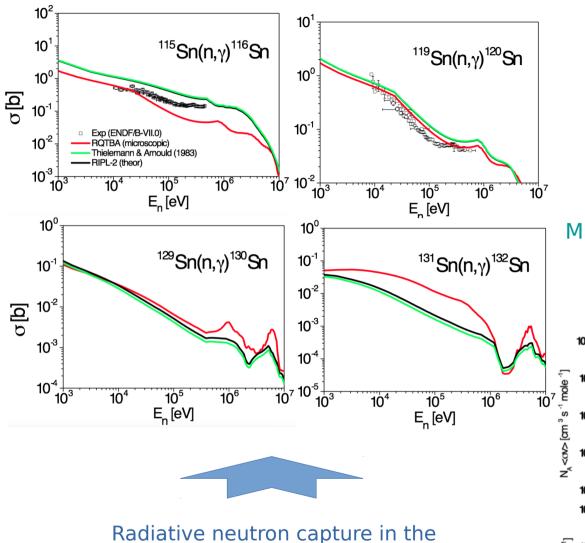
Pygmy Dipole Resonance (PDR): Oscillation of the neutron skin against the core



Litvinova, Ring, and Tselyaev, PRC 78, 014312 (2008) Adrich et al., PRL 95, 132501 (2005) Litvinova, Ring, Tselyaev, Langanke, PRC 79, 054312 (2009)



A few results in the ph neutral ($\Delta T_{7}=0$) channel



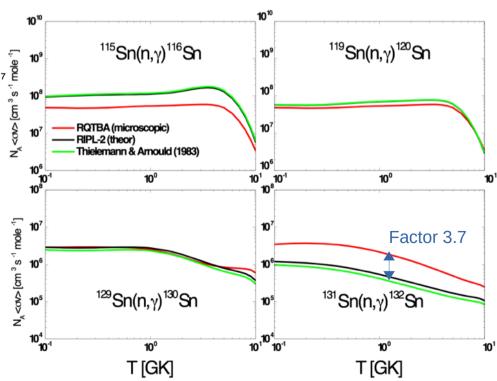
Radiative neutron capture in the Hauser-Feshbach model: standard Lorentzians vs microscopic structure

E. Litvinova et al., Nucl. Phys. A 823, 26 (2009).

(n,γ) stellar reaction rates



Microscopic structure is important, especially when PDR is at the neutron threshold



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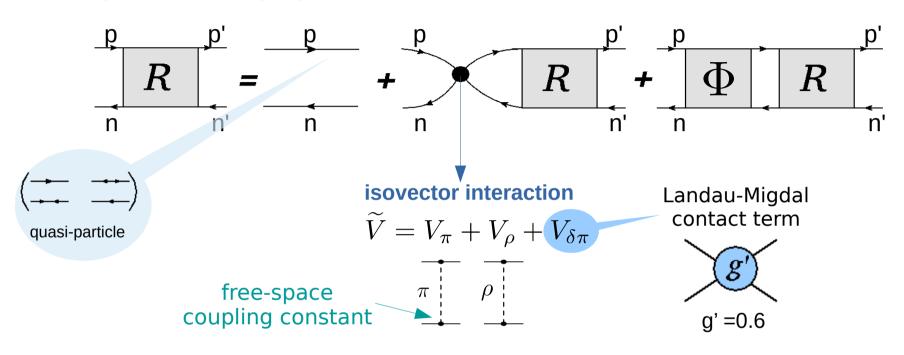
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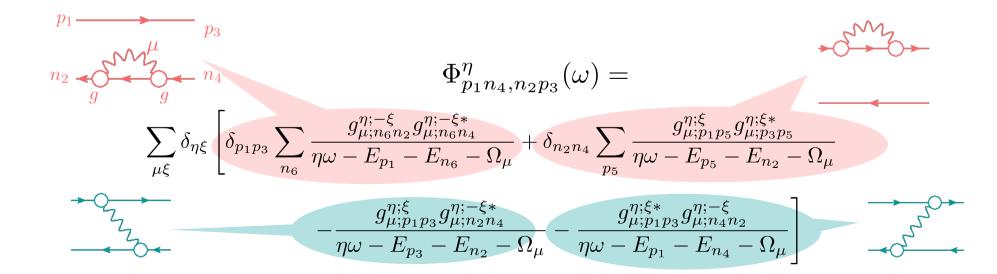
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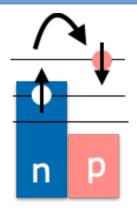
Response theory for isospin-transfer modes

* Response in the ph proton-neutron channel:





Gamow-Teller transitions in Nickel isotopes (Ni → Cu)



$$\left(F_{GT^{-}} = \sum_{n} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma^{i}_{(n)} & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^{i}_{(n)} \end{pmatrix} au_{-}^{(n)} \right)$$

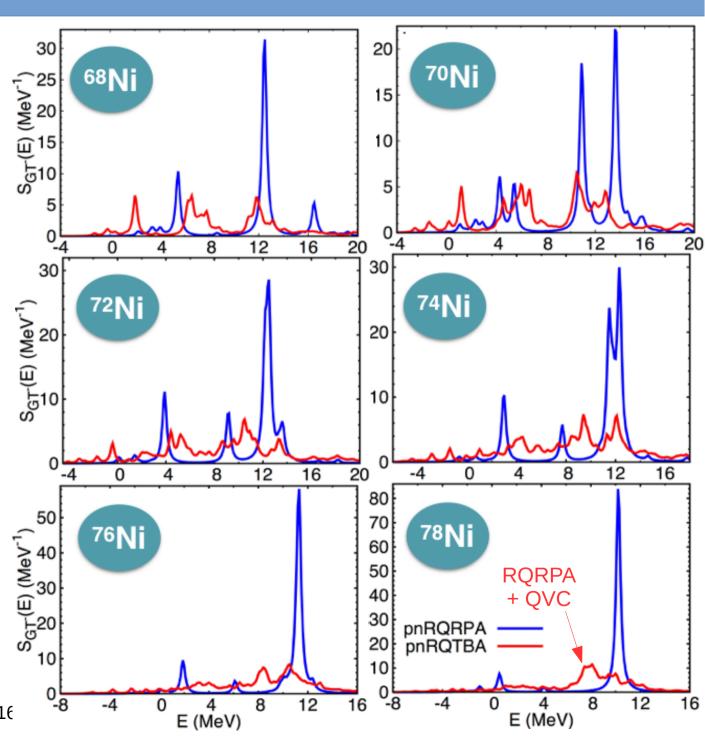
$$\Delta T_z = -1$$
$$\Delta S = 1$$

$$\Delta L = 0$$

QPVC brings fragmentation of the strength and distribution over a larger energy range

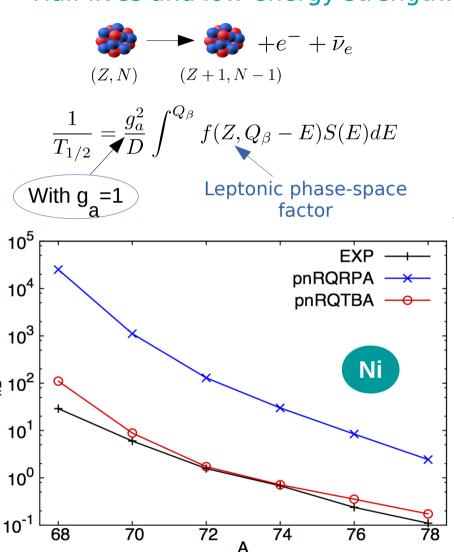
(Smearing Δ = 200 keV)

C. R. and E. Litvinova EPJA 52, 205 (2016



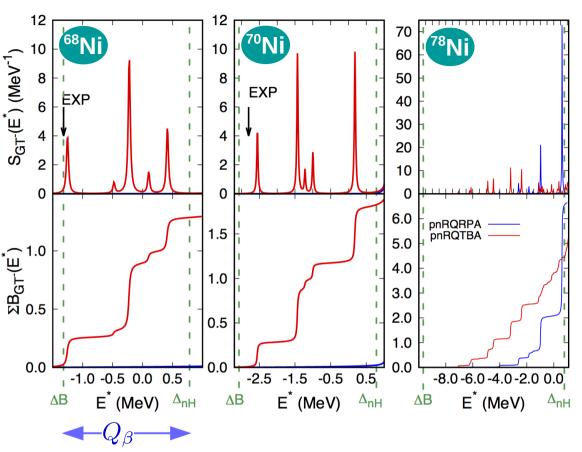
Low-energy GT strength and β-decay half-lives





→ big improvement due to QVC!

exp data from nndc.bnl.gov C.R. and E. Litvinova EPJA 52, 205 (2016).



- 68 Ni and 70 Ni : appearance of strength in the Q_{β} window due to QVC \rightarrow finite lifetime
- ⁷⁸Ni: more strength with RQRPA but located at higher energies → smaller lifetime with QVC due to phase space factor

"Quenching problem":

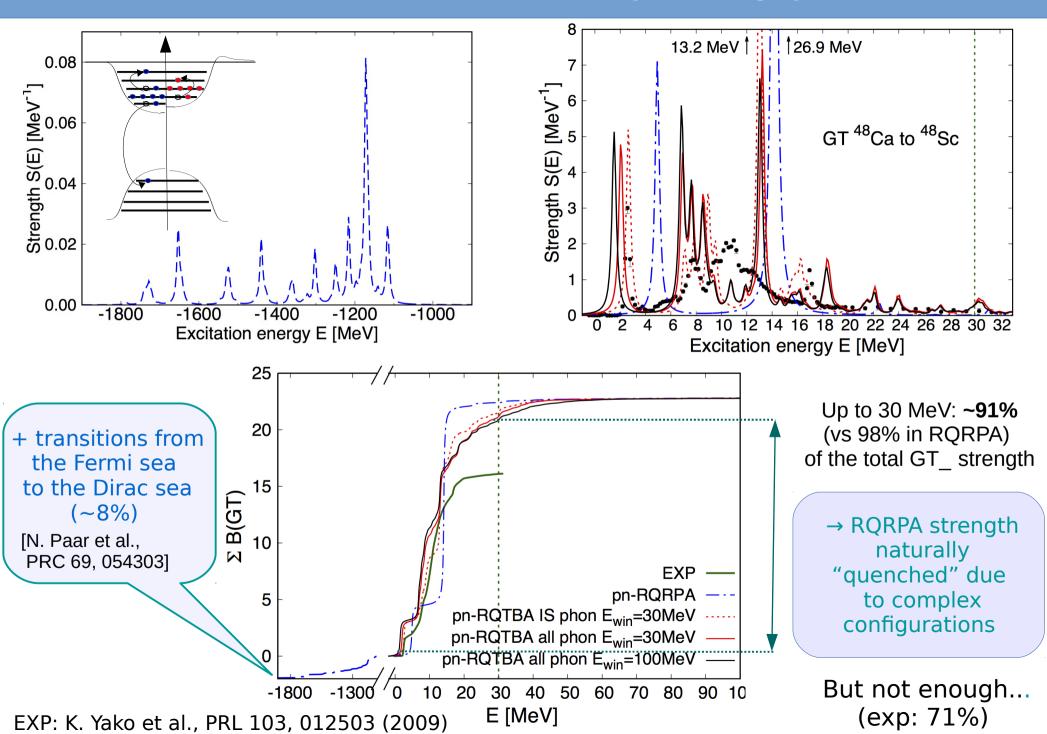
The observed GT strength (\sim up to the GR region) in nuclei is \sim 30-40% less than the model independent Ikeda sum rule: $S_- - S_+ = 3(N-Z)$

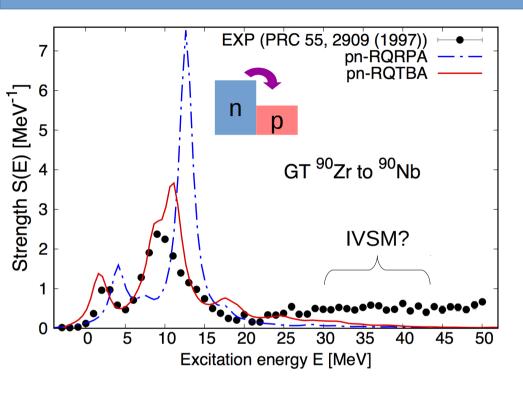
$$S_- = \sum B(GT^-)$$
 n p $S_+ = \sum B(GT^+)$ n p

- ⇒ some strength is pushed at high energies → possible mechanisms?
 - * Coupling of 1p1h to Δ baryon (believed to be small)
 - ★ Coupling of 1p1h to higher-order configurations such as 2p2h, 3p3h... (Believed to be the most important)
 - ⇒ important to introduce complex configurations in large model spaces

At present with RNFT+TBA:

✓2(q)p-2(q)h configurations✓in an energy window from 30 MeV up to ~100 MeV in light or doubly magic nuclei





GT strength only:

0-50 MeV:

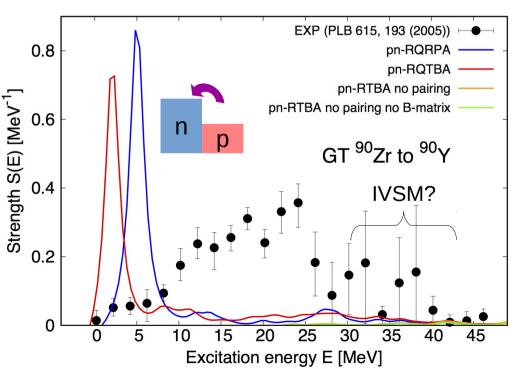
$$S_{-}^{EXP} \sim 29.3$$

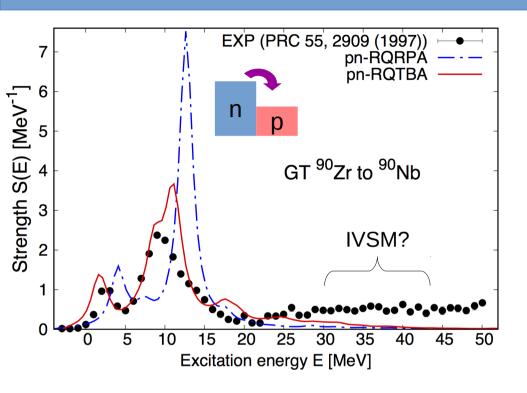
$$S_-^{RQTBA} \sim 30.35$$

0-32 MeV:

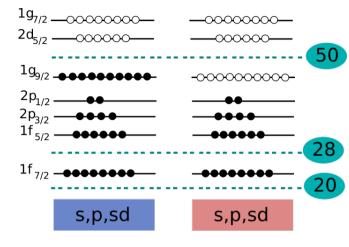
$$S_{+}^{EXP} \sim 2.9$$

$$S_{+}^{RQTBA} \sim 2.54$$





Schematic mean-field - no pairing:



Pauli-blocked

GT strength only:

0-50 MeV:

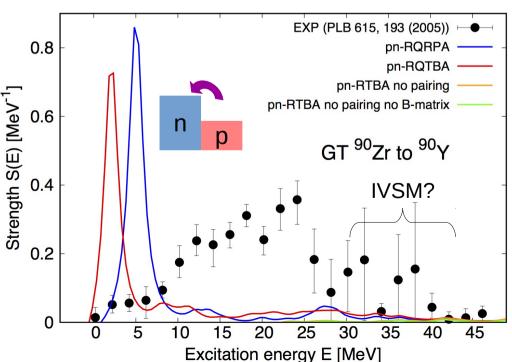
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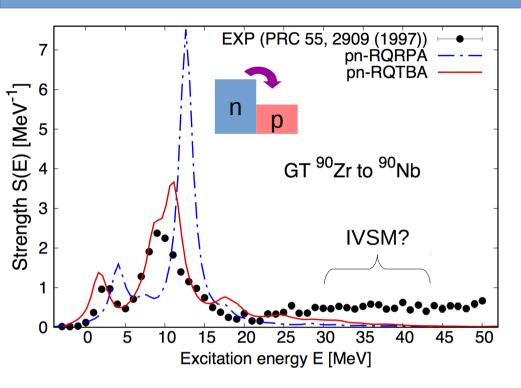
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GT strength only:

0-50 MeV:

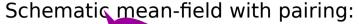
$$S_{-}^{EXP} \sim 29.3$$

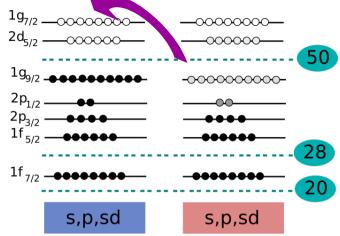
$$S_-^{RQTBA} \sim 30.35$$

0-32 MeV:

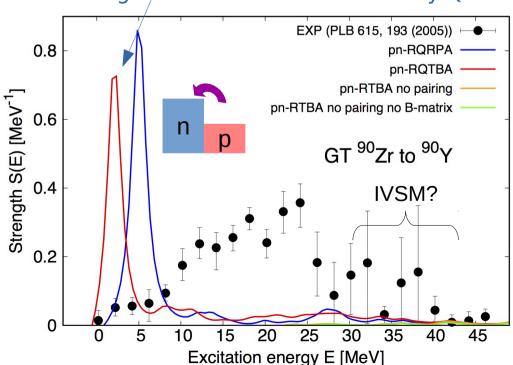
$$S_{+}^{EXP} \sim 2.9$$

$$S_{\perp}^{RQTBA} \sim 2.54$$



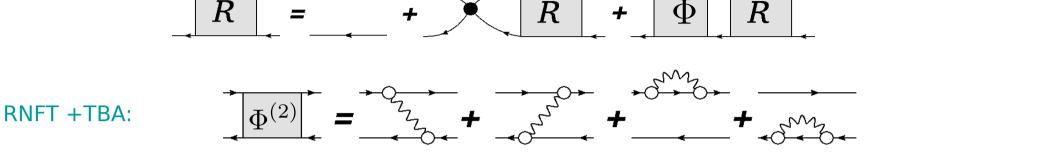


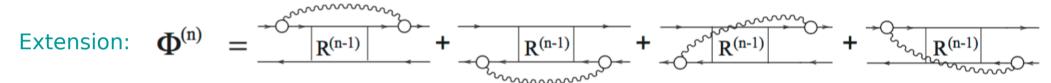
GT strength in β^+ channel caused by groundstate correlations (pairing here). But need further fragmentation \rightarrow GSC induced by QVC?



...Ongoing developments in the RNFT

★ Inclusion of higher-order Np-Nh configurations in the response





E. Litvinova, Phys. Rev. C 91, 034332 (2015)

- → important for an accurate description of fine details of the transition strength
- ★ Ground-state correlations induced by QVC = backward going diagrams



→ important for e.g. (n,p) strength in neutron-rich nuclei / (p,n) strength in proton-rich nuclei

Outline

***** Introduction:

Relativistic Nuclear Field Theory: connecting the scales of nuclear physics from Quantum Hadrodynamics to emergent collective phenomena

- **Formalism**
- ***** Applications to nuclear excitation modes:
 - *A few results in the particle-hole neutral channel
 - ★ Response theory for spin-isospin excitations:
 Gamow-Teller transitions, beta-decay half-lives and the "quenching" problem
- ***** Conclusion & perspectives

Conclusion, perspectives

→ Conclusions:

- ★ The RNFT is a powerful framework for the microscopic description of mid-mass to heavy nuclei, which allows the account for complex configurations of nucleons in a large model space.
- * It has been quite successful in the description of neutral excitations.
- ★ It appears promising in the spin-isospin channel (description of both the low-energy strength and overall distribution to higher excitation energy).
- * However, in its present formulation (time-blocking approximation) it is often not sufficient.

→ Perspectives:

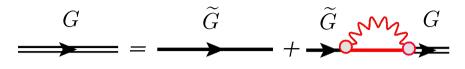
- * Inclusion of higher-order configurations and ground-state correlations
- * Application to double-charge exchange and double-beta decay (2νββ and 0νββ)
- ★ Together with RNFT in the neutral channel, this framework provides a high-quality and consistent description of both phases of the r-process nucleosynthesis, (n,γ) and β -decay \Rightarrow implementation in astrophysical modeling
- ★ Long-term goals: inclusion of the Fock term, start from bare interaction...
- ★ Other ongoing developments at WMU: coupling to continuum and extension to finite temperature (Ph.D. of H. Wibowo), description of neutral pairing vibrations (Ph.D of I. Egorova)

Thank you!

This work is supported by US-NSF Grants PHY-1404343 and PHY-1204486

Next step beyond mean-field: Quasiparticles coupled to vibrations

→ quasi-particle propagator:

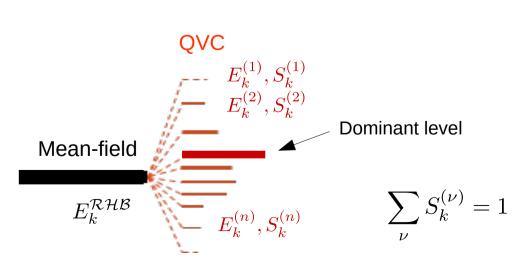


$$G(E) = \left(\varepsilon - \mathcal{H}_{RHB} - \Sigma^{(e)}(E)\right)^{-1}$$

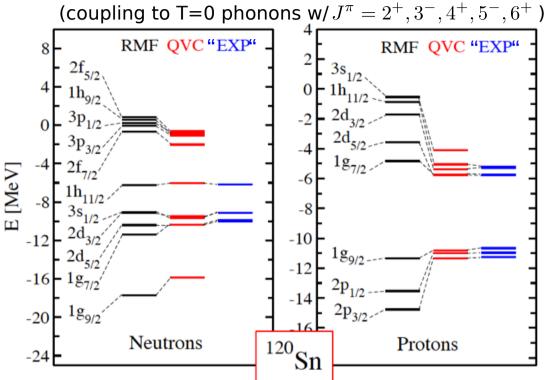
Introduces new poles

$$E_k^{(\nu)} = E_k^{\mathcal{RHB}} + \Sigma_k^{(e)}(E_k^{(\nu)})$$

→ fragmentation of single (quasi)particle states:



Dominant level:



E. Litvinova, PRC 85, 021303(R) (2012)

Neutrons

Spectroscopic factors in 120Sn:

(nlj) v	S th	"Sexp "
2d _{5/2}	0.32	0.43
1g _{7/2}	0.40	0.60
2d _{3/2}	0.53	0.45
3s _{1/2}	0.43	0.32
1h _{11/2}	0.58	0.49
2f _{7/2}	0.31	0.35
3p _{3/2}	0.58	0.54

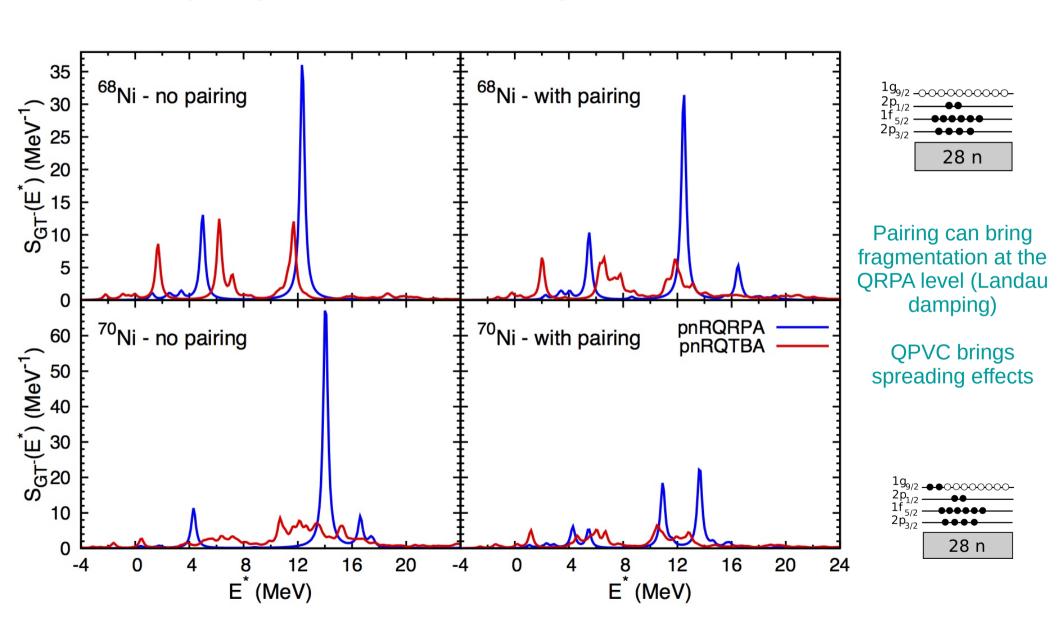


model dependence...

Protons

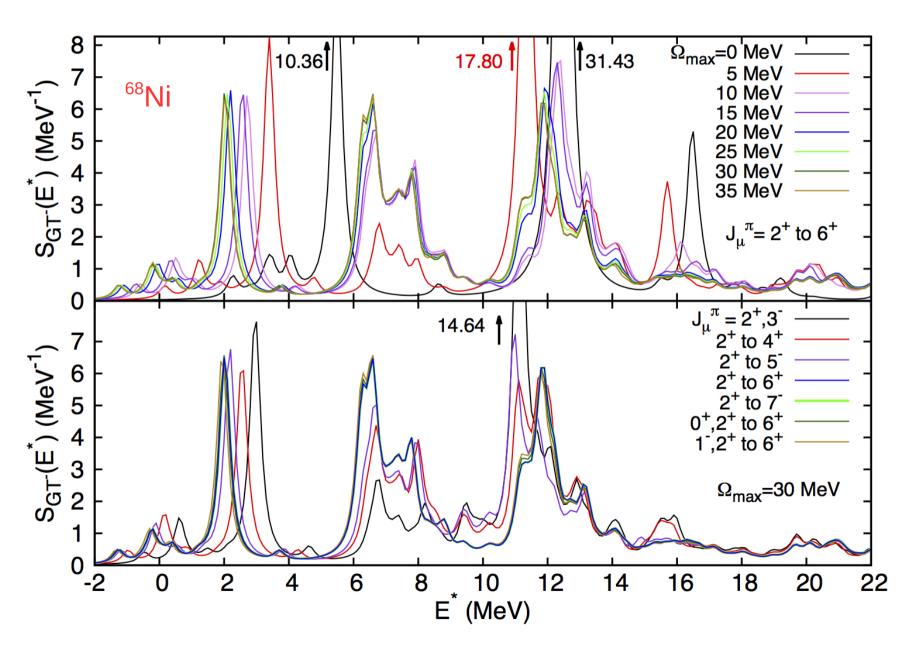
Gamow-Teller resonance in Nickel

Effect of pairing correlations on the strength distribution:



Gamow-Teller transitions in Nickel isotopes (Ni → Cu)

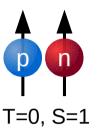
Convergence of the strength according to the phonon spectrum (neutral phonons only):



Low-energy GT strength and beta-decay half-lives

- ★ Problem with QRPA description: the beta-decay half-lives are systematically overestimated.
- → issue overcome by considering T=0 pn-pairing

But this type of pairing is not well understood (no deuteron condensate \rightarrow T=0 pairing is dynamic (?)...) And not well constrained ...

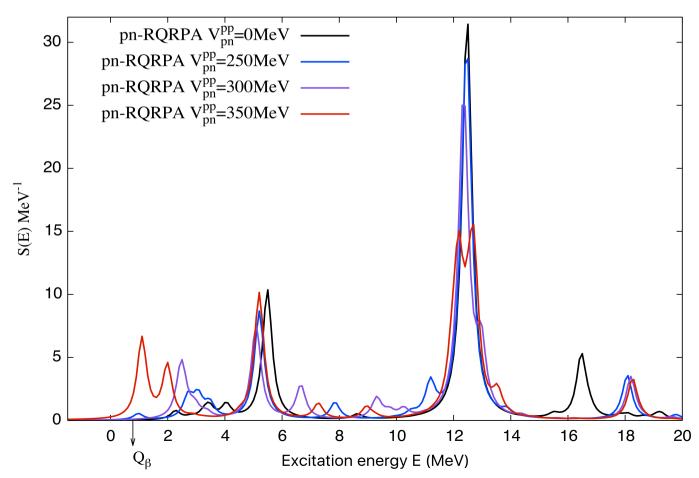


→ often treated phenomenologically with an additional static pn residual interaction in the

particle-particle channel.

→ Example in ⁶⁸Ni:

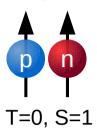
⇒ Lack of predictive power



Low-energy GT strength and beta-decay half-lives

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→ often treated phenomenologically with an additional static pn residual interaction in the particle-particle channel.

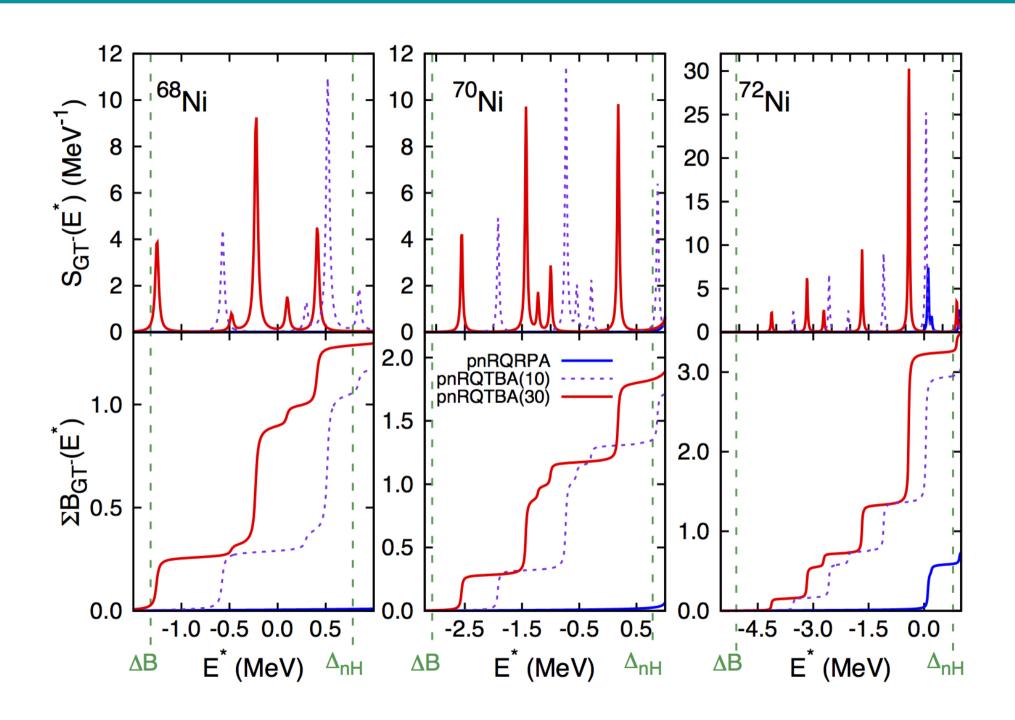
Goal: evaluate the effect of QVC on the half-lives and provide a possible microscopic mechanism for pn-pairing:

$$\frac{p}{n} = \frac{p'}{n} + \frac{p'}{n}$$

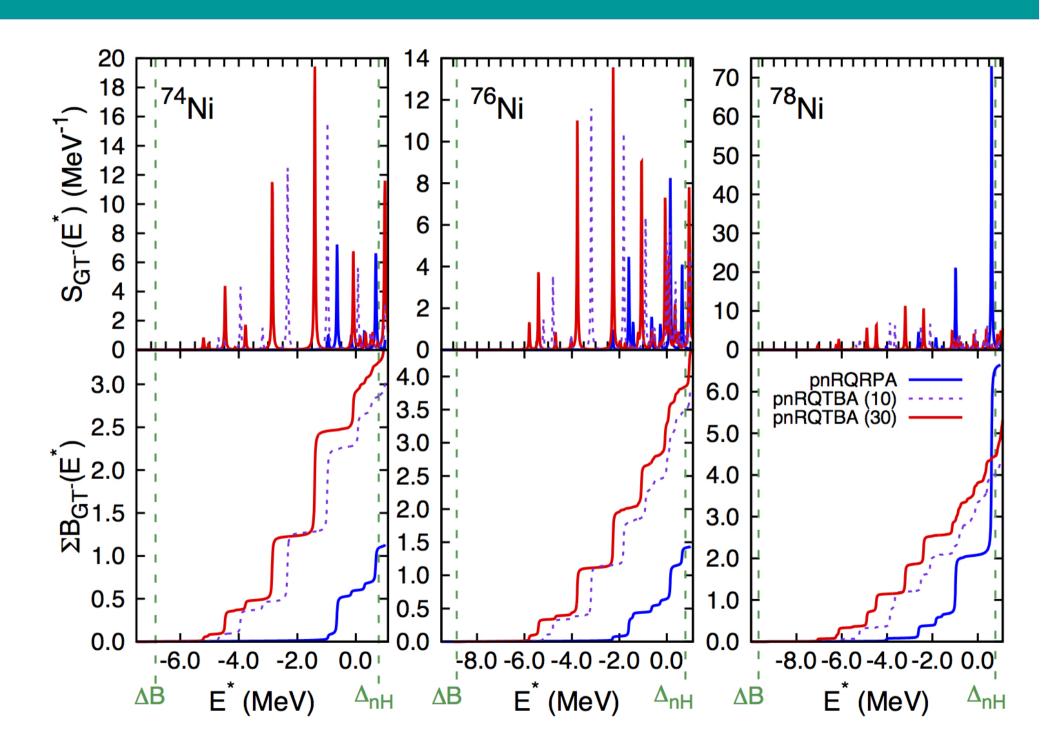
Quasiparticle = superposition of particles and holes:

- → QVC generates a pn effective interaction in the particle-hole and particle-particle channels.
- → QVC can provide an underlying mechanism for dynamical proton-neutron pairing

Gamow-Teller resonance in Nickel

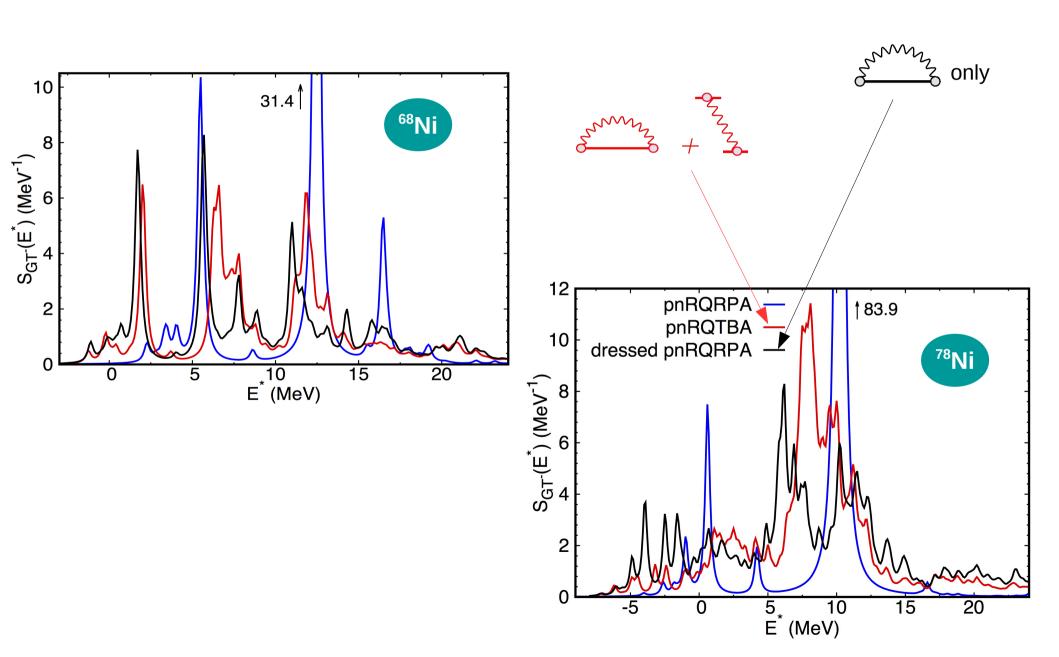


Gamow-Teller resonance in Nickel

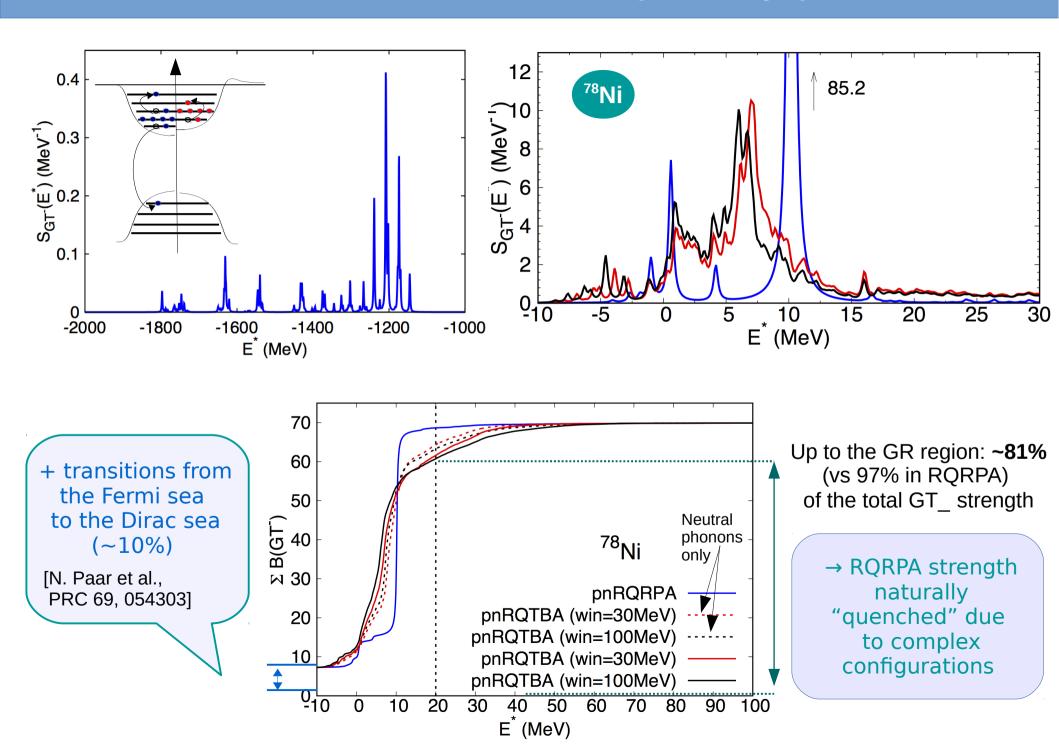


Gamow-Teller transitions in Nickel isotopes (Ni → Cu)

* Effect of phonon-exchange interaction vs self-energy insertions:

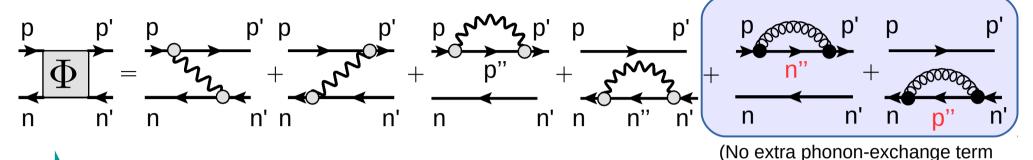


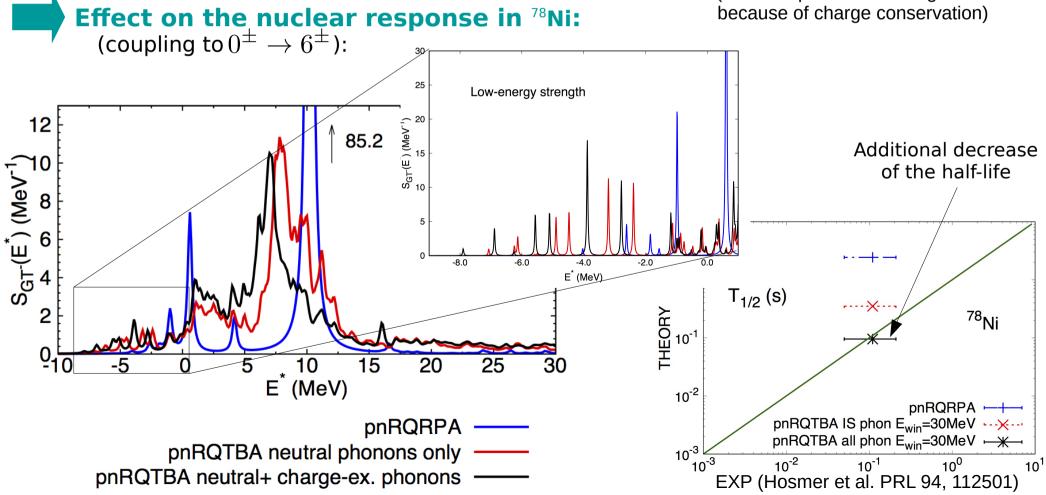
Gamow-Teller transitions and the "quenching" problem



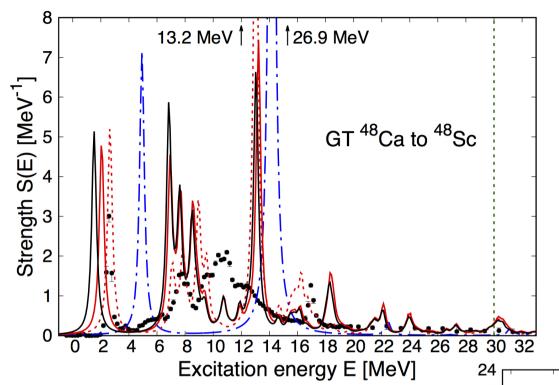
New-developments: coupling to charge-exchange phonons

Existence of low-energy isospin-flip modes which can couple to single-nucleon degrees of freedom → additional terms in the effective interaction:





Gamow-Teller transitions and the "quenching" problem



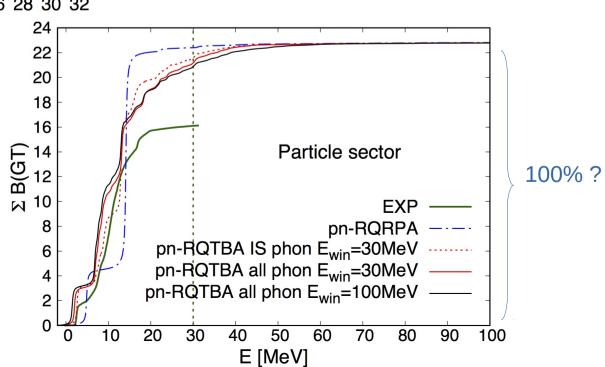
with QVC:

- more detailed description of the transition strength due to 2p-2h configurations
- "quenching" of the RPA strength in the experimental energy window due to fragmentation and redistribution

But not enough...

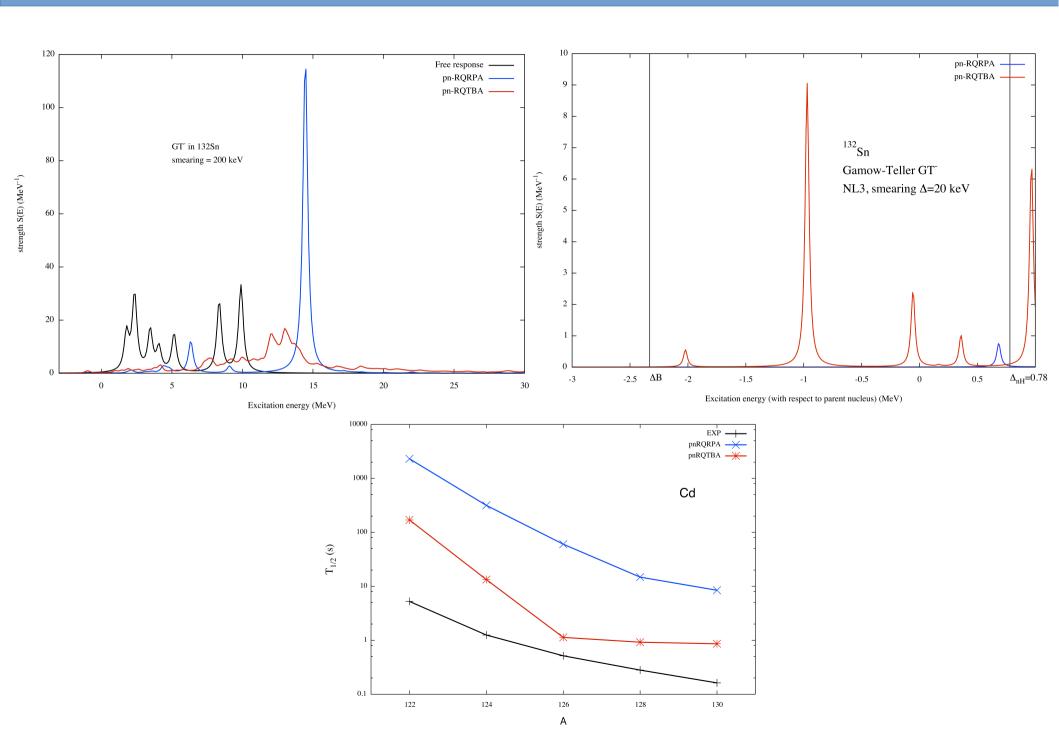
At 30 MeV:

- RQRPA: quasi-saturated (98%)
- RQTBA: 91%
- Exp: ~71%

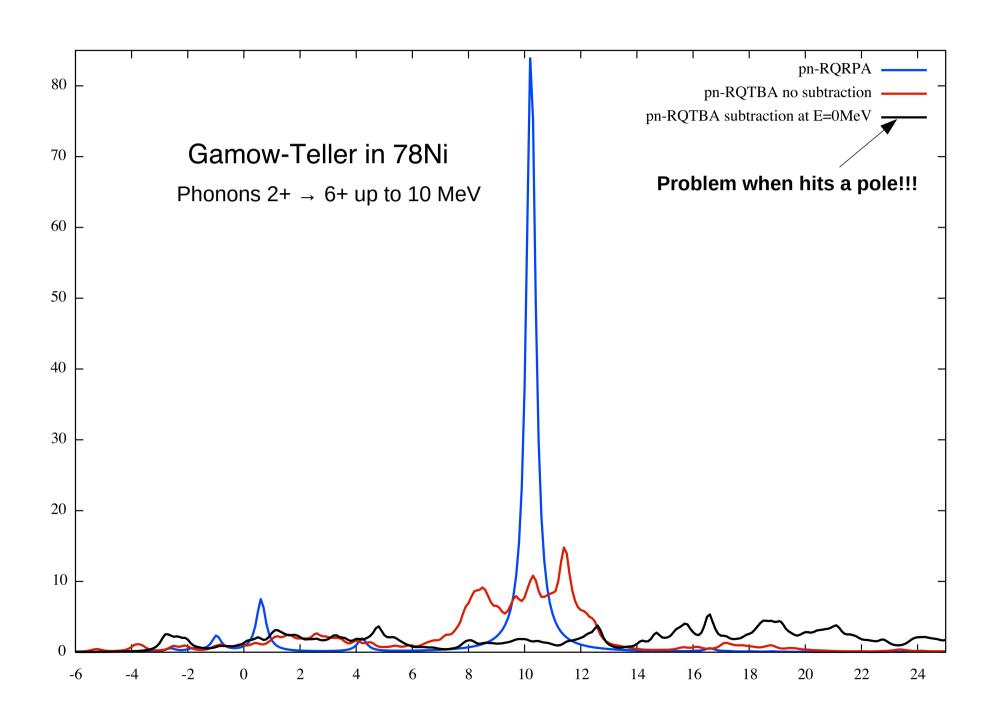


EXP: K. Yako et al, PRL 103, 012503 (2009)

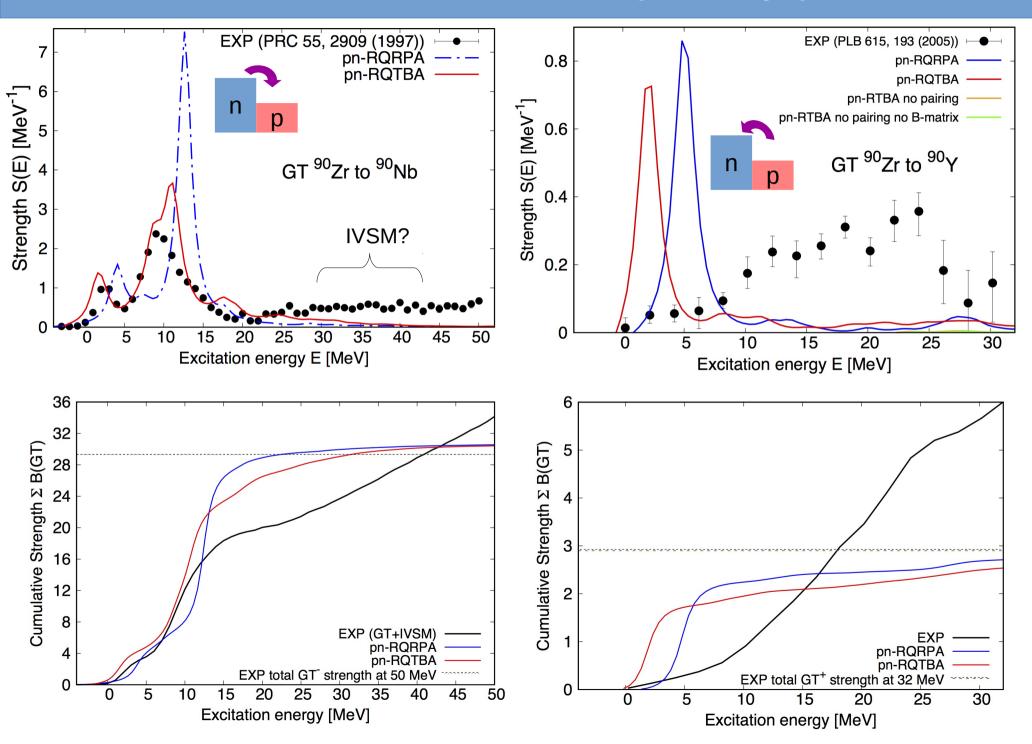
Other GT strengths and beta-decay half-lives



Gamow-Teller in ⁷⁸Ni

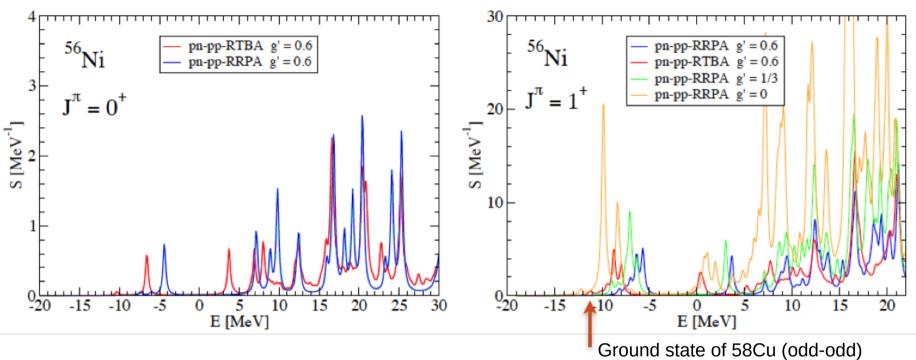


Gamow-Teller transitions and the "quenching" problem



Response in proton-neutron particle-particle (deuteron transfer) channel: quest for deuteron condensate and pn-pairing

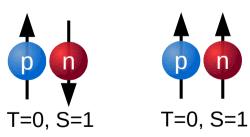




E.L., C. Robin, I. Egorova, arXiv:1612:09182

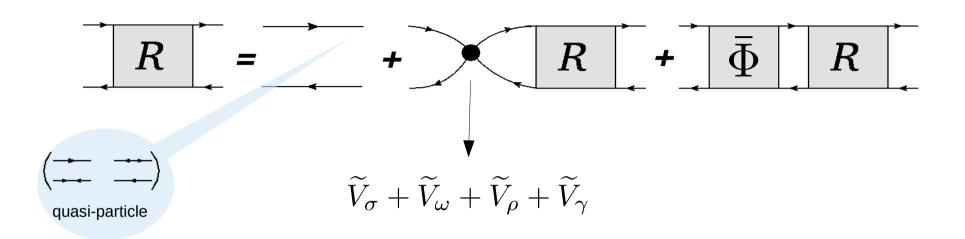
- Spectra of odd-odd nuclei including their ground states can be calculated in pn-pp-RTBA
- Presently in medium-mass N=Z nuclei no deuteron condensate is found at realistic values of g', but the low-lying excitation modes are collective and can mediate T=1 and T=0 proton-neutron dynamical pairing

Work in progress



A few results in the ph neutral ($\Delta T_{7} = 0$) channel

* Response in the neutral ph channel:

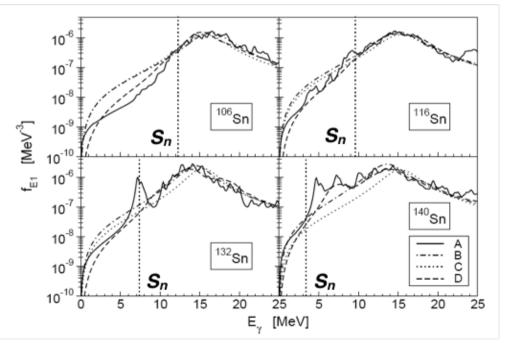


$$\Phi^{\eta}_{k_{1}k_{4},k_{2}k_{3}}(\omega) = \sum_{\mu\xi} \delta_{\eta\xi} \left[\delta_{k_{1}k_{3}} \sum_{k_{6}} \frac{\gamma_{\mu;k_{6}k_{2}}^{\eta;-\xi*} \gamma_{\mu;k_{6}k_{4}}^{\eta;-\xi*}}{\eta\omega - E_{k_{1}} - E_{k_{6}} - \Omega_{\mu}} + \delta_{k_{2}k_{4}} \sum_{k_{5}} \frac{\gamma_{\mu;k_{1}k_{5}}^{\eta;\xi*} \gamma_{\mu;k_{3}k_{5}}^{\eta;\xi*}}{\eta\omega - E_{k_{5}} - E_{k_{2}} - \Omega_{\mu}} - \left(\frac{\gamma_{\mu;k_{1}k_{3}}^{\eta;\xi*} \gamma_{\mu;k_{2}k_{4}}^{\eta;-\xi*}}{\eta\omega - E_{k_{3}} - E_{k_{2}} - \Omega_{\mu}} + \frac{\gamma_{\mu;k_{3}k_{1}}^{\eta;\xi*} \gamma_{\mu;k_{4}k_{2}}^{\eta;-\xi}}{\eta\omega - E_{k_{1}} - E_{k_{4}} - \Omega_{\mu}} \right) \right],$$

The role of the low-lying dipole strength (pygmy dipole resonance)

Microscopic strength and conventional GDR parametrizations





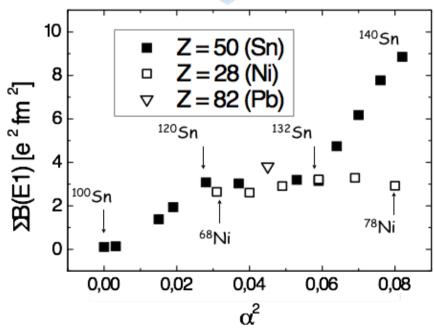
E. L., H.P. Loens, K. Langanke et al., Nucl. Phys. A 823, 26 (2009)

Total PDR strength vs asymmetry parameter α:

$$\alpha = (N-Z)/A$$

RQTBA systematics:

nearly linear dependence on α with deviations around shell closures with intruder orbits



E. L., P. Ring, V. Tselyaev, K. Langanke, Phys. Rev. C 79, 054312 (2009)