

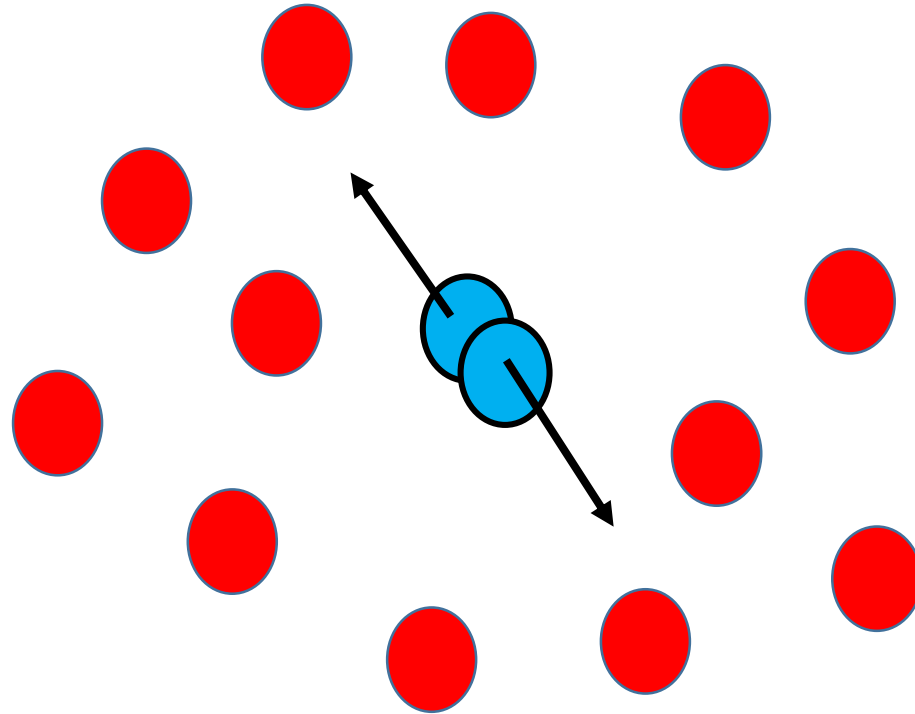
# Short-range correlations with the generalized contact formalism

**Ronen Weiss**

Los Alamos National Lab

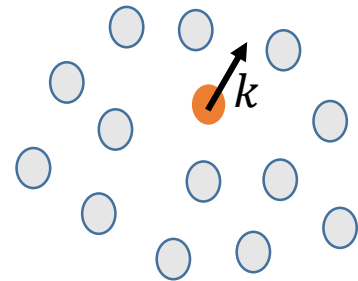
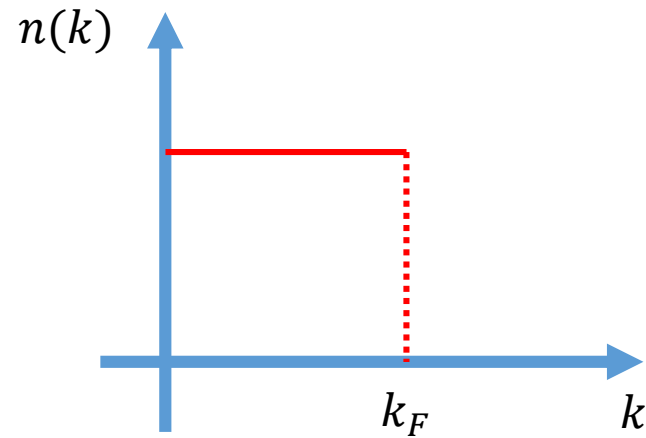
# Short-range correlations (SRCs)

What happens when few particles get close to each other?

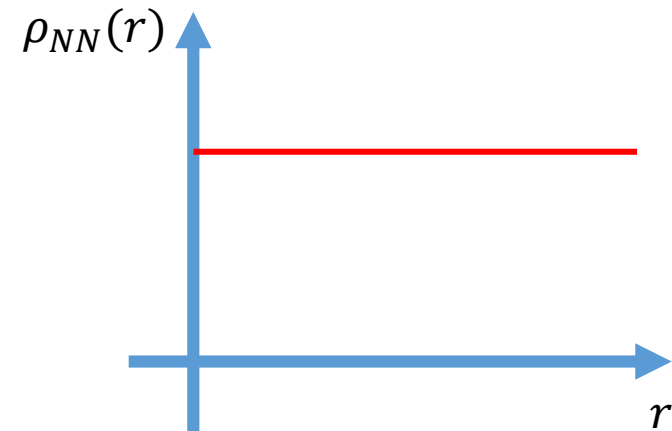


# SRCs vs Mean Field (Fermi gas)

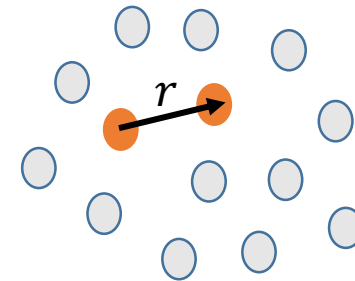
One-body Momentum  
Distribution



Two-body Relative  
Density

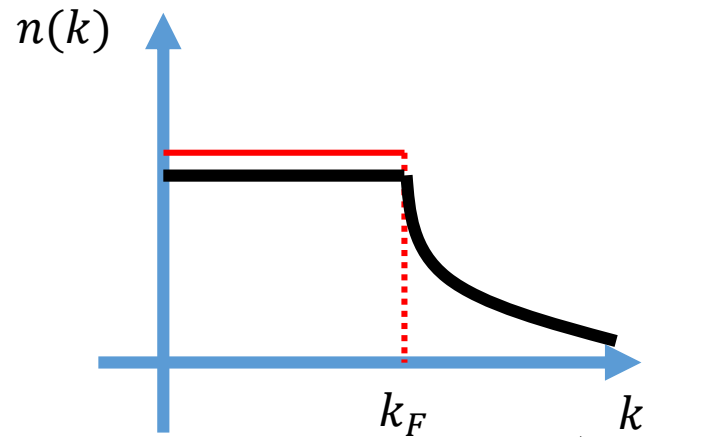


(Ignoring Fermi correlations)

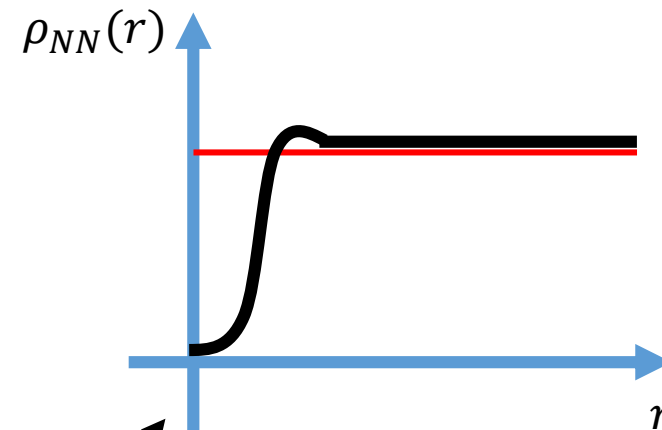


# SRCs vs Mean Field (Fermi gas)

One-body Momentum  
Distribution



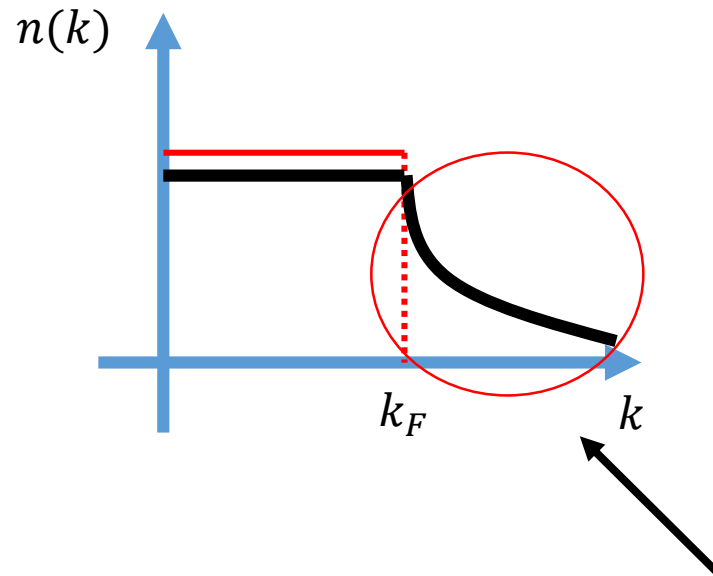
Two-body Relative  
Density



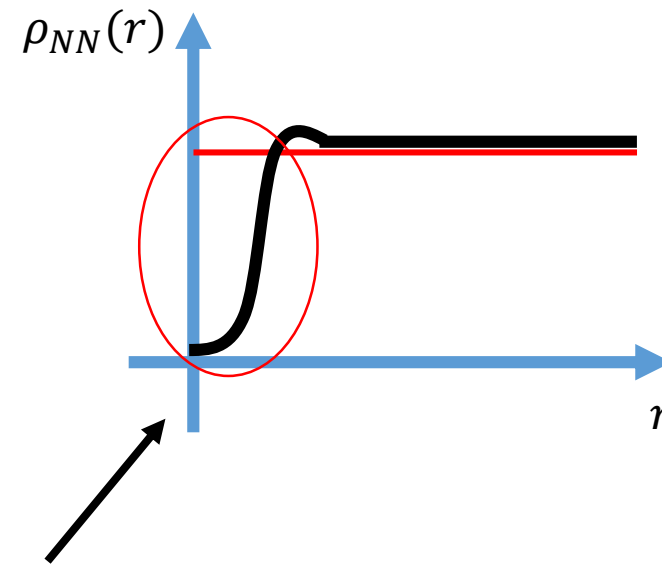
Solving the many-body problem

# SRCs vs Mean Field (Fermi gas)

One-body Momentum  
Distribution



Two-body Relative  
Density

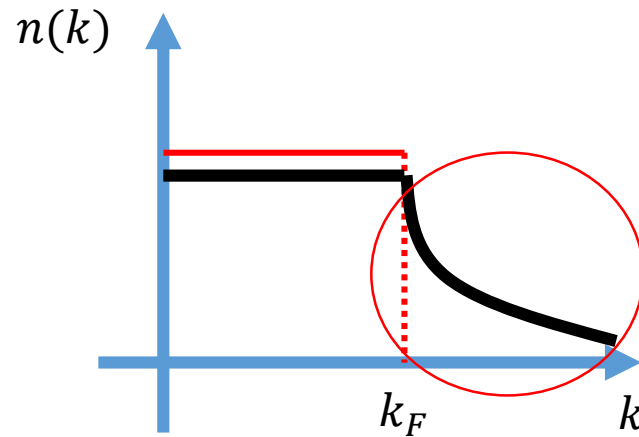


Solving the many-body problem

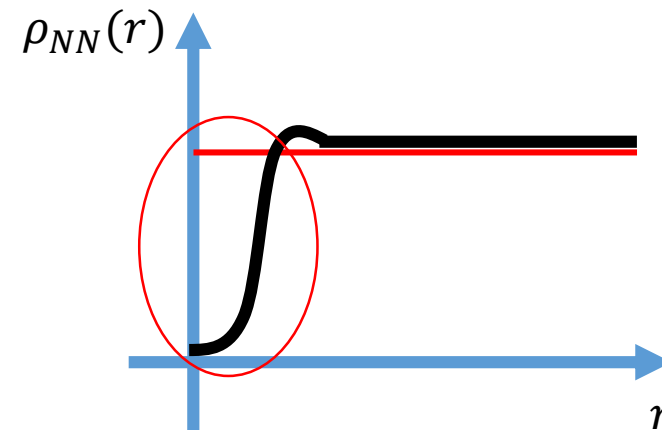
Effects of short-range correlations (SRCs)

# SRCs vs Mean Field (Fermi gas)

One-body Momentum  
Distribution



Two-body Relative  
Density

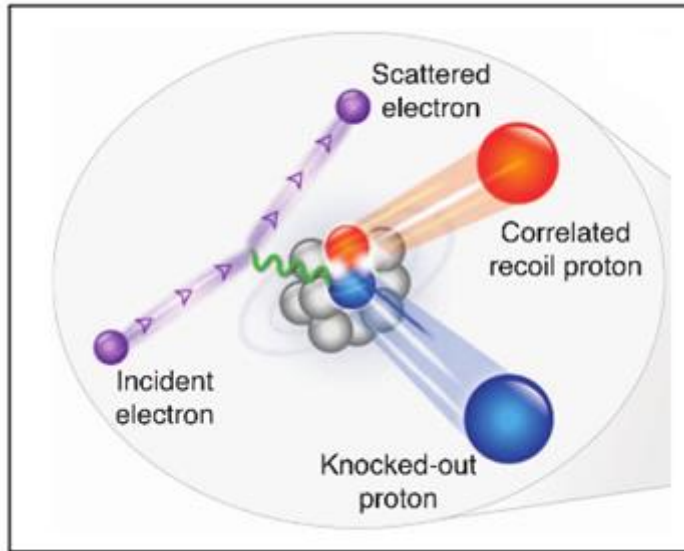


- Significant deviations from mean-field models
- Challenge for the description of quantum systems

# Short-range correlations (SRCs)

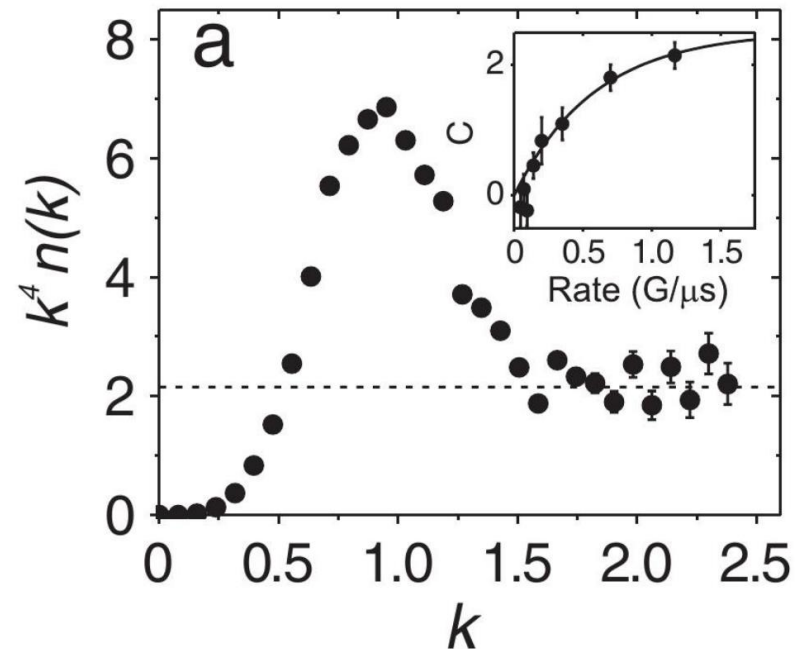
Studied in different systems:

Nuclear systems



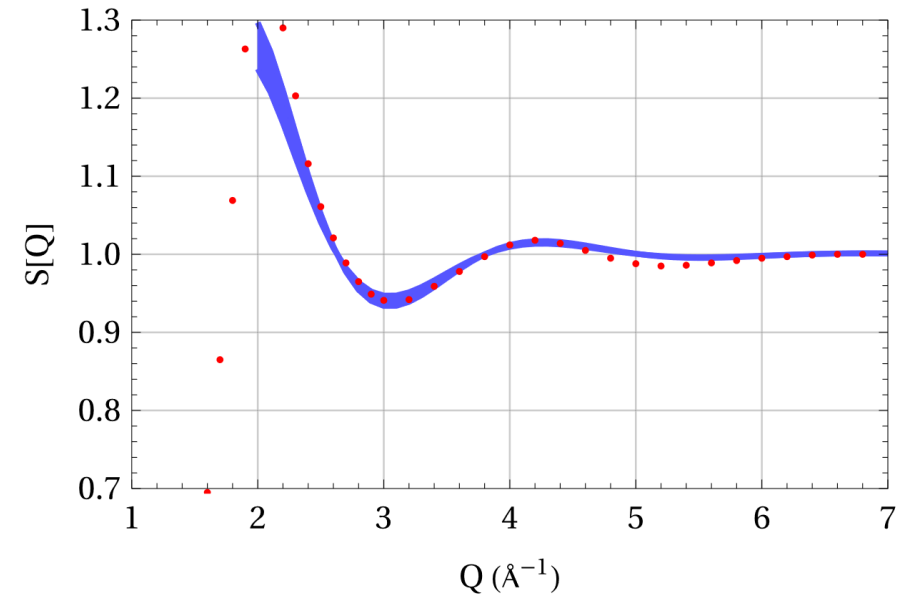
*O. Hen et al., Science 346, 614 (2014)*

Ultracold atomic systems



J. T. Stewart, J. P. Gaebler, T. E. Drake, and D. S. Jin, Phys. Rev. Lett. 104, 235301 (2010)

Liquid  $^4\text{He}$

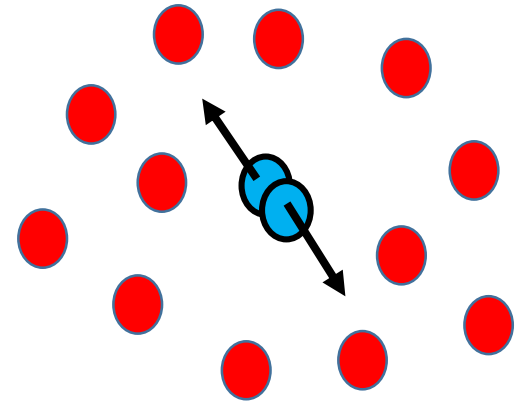


*B. Bazak, M. Valiente, N. Barnea, PRA 101, 010501 (2020)*

# Short-range correlations (SRCs)

## Main features:

- **High momentum** particles with back-to-back configuration
- Universal behavior – “**isolated pair**”
- Neutron-proton dominance

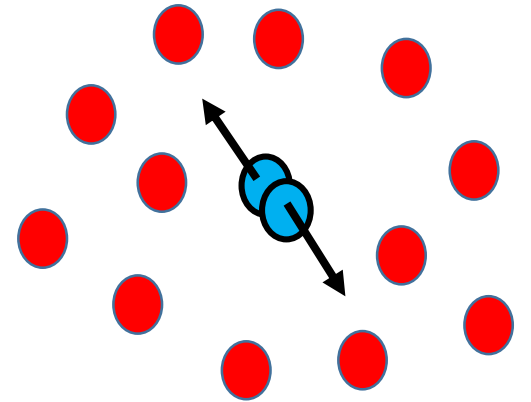




# Short-range correlations (SRCs)

## Main features:

- **High momentum** particles with back-to-back configuration
- Universal behavior – “**isolated pair**”
- Neutron-proton dominance



How can we **explain** these features?

How can we **utilize** information regarding SRCs for the description of the whole system?

# The Generalized Contact Formalism (GCF)

RW, B. Bazak, N. Barnea

# Generalized Contact Formalism

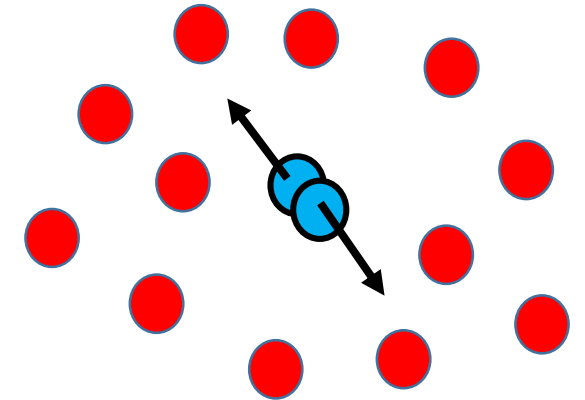
- Generalizing Tan's work for dilute systems
- Starting point – Short-range factorization

S. Tan, Ann. Phys. (N.Y.) 323, 2952 (2008); Ann. Phys. (N.Y.) 323, 2971 (2008); Ann. Phys. (N.Y.) 323, 2987 (2008)

$$\Psi(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_A) \xrightarrow{r_{12} \rightarrow 0} \varphi(\mathbf{r}) \times A(\mathbf{R}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq 1,2})$$

**Universal function**  
(but depends on the potential)

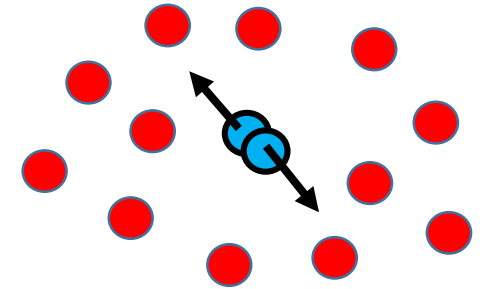
**Nucleus-dependent function**



$\varphi(\mathbf{r}) \equiv$  Zero-energy solution of the **two-body** Schrodinger Eq.

# Generalized Contact Formalism

$$\Psi(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_A) \xrightarrow{r_{12} \rightarrow 0} \underbrace{\varphi(r)}_{\text{universal function}} \times A(\mathbf{R}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq 1,2})$$



For any **short-range** two-body operator  $\hat{O}$

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle = \langle \varphi | \hat{O}(r) | \varphi \rangle C \quad C \propto \langle A | A \rangle$$

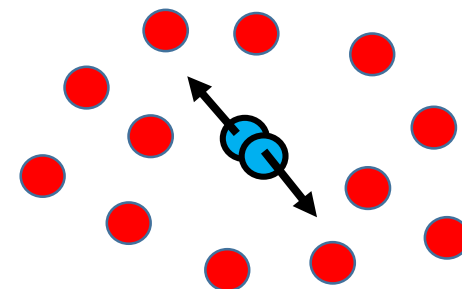
- Two-body dynamics
- Universal for all nuclei
- Simply calculated

- The “contact”
- Number of correlated pairs
- Depends on the nucleus
- Independent of the operator

# Generalized Contact Formalism

$$\Psi(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_A) \xrightarrow{r_{12} \rightarrow 0} \varphi(\mathbf{r}) \times A(\mathbf{R}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq 1,2})$$

universal  
function



For any **short-range** two-body operator  $\hat{O}$

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle = \langle \varphi | \hat{O}(r) | \varphi \rangle C \quad C \propto \langle A | A \rangle$$

$$\Psi \xrightarrow{r_{ij} \rightarrow 0} \sum_{\alpha} \varphi_{ij}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}_{ij}) A_{ij}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{R}_{ij}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq i,j}) \quad ; \quad C_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} \propto \langle A_{ij}^{\alpha} | A_{ij}^{\beta} \rangle$$

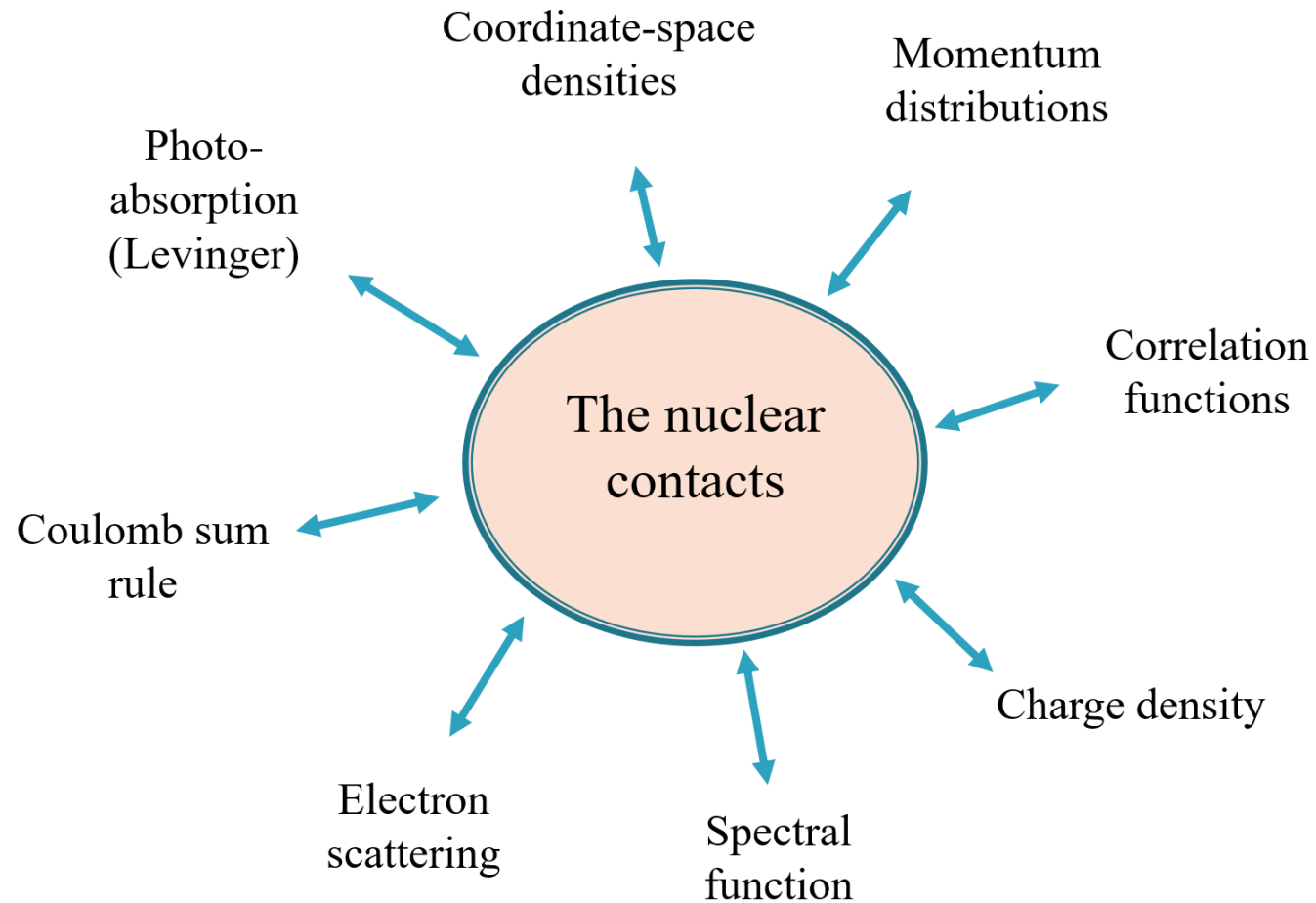
Channels  $\alpha$   
=  $(\ell_2 S_2) j_2 m_2$

Universal  
functions

The pair kind  
 $ij \in \{pp, nn, pn\}$

3 matrices of  
Nuclear Contacts

# The nuclear contact relations



*RW, B. Bazak, N. Barnea, PRC 92, 054311 (2015)*

*RW, B. Bazak, N. Barnea, PRL 114, 012501 (2015)*

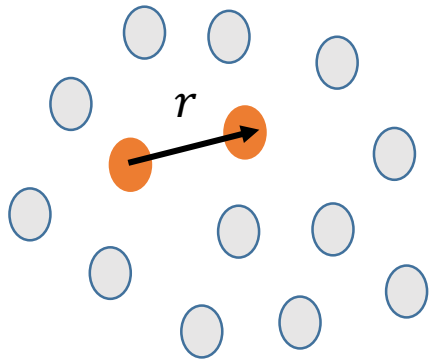
*RW, R. Cruz-Torres, N. Barnea, E. Piassetzky and O. Hen, PLB 780, 211 (2018)*

*RW, I. Korover, E. Piassetzky, O. Hen and N. Barnea, PLB 791, 242 (2019)*

*R. Cruz-Torres, D. Lonardonì, RW, et al., Nature Physics (2020)*

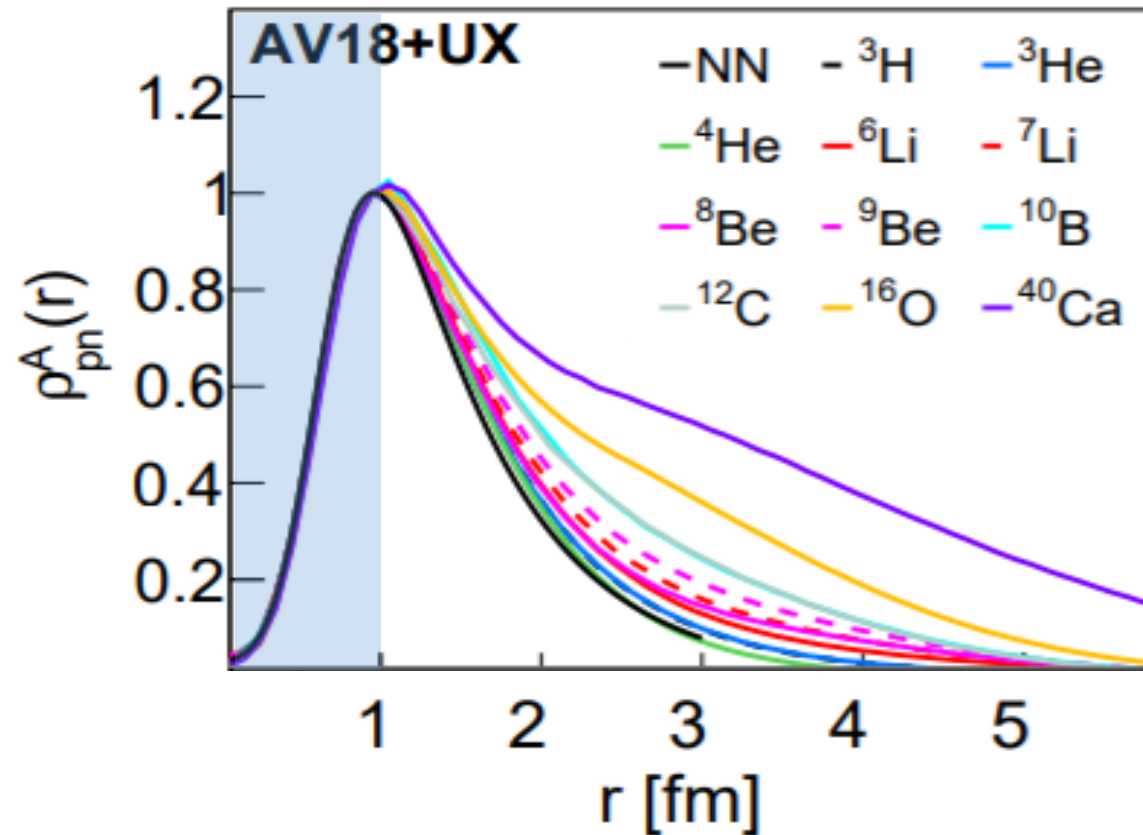
*A. Schmidt, J.R. Pybus, RW, et al., Nature 578, 540 (2020)*

# Two-body density



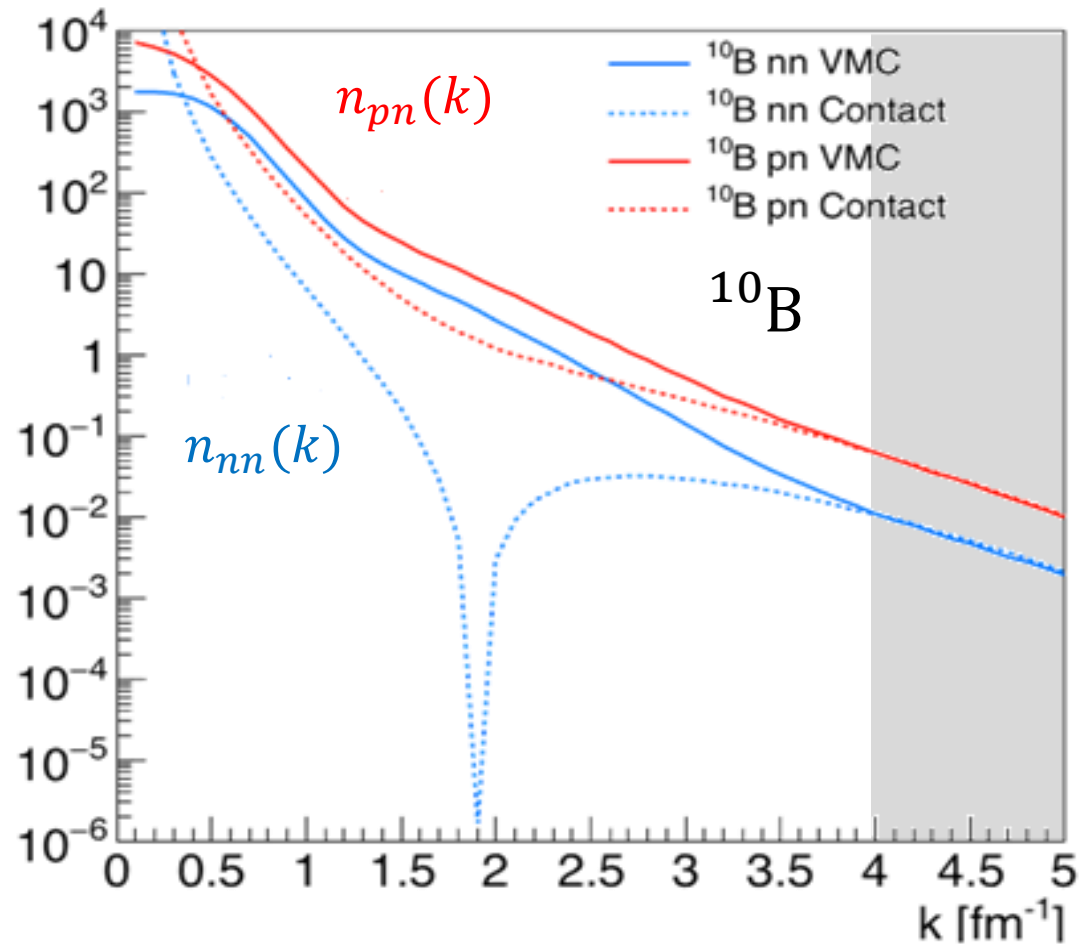
$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle = \langle \varphi | \hat{O}(r) | \varphi \rangle C$$

$$\rho_{NN}(\mathbf{r}) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow 0} C |\varphi(\mathbf{r})|^2$$



Shows the validity of the factorization

# Two-body momentum distribution

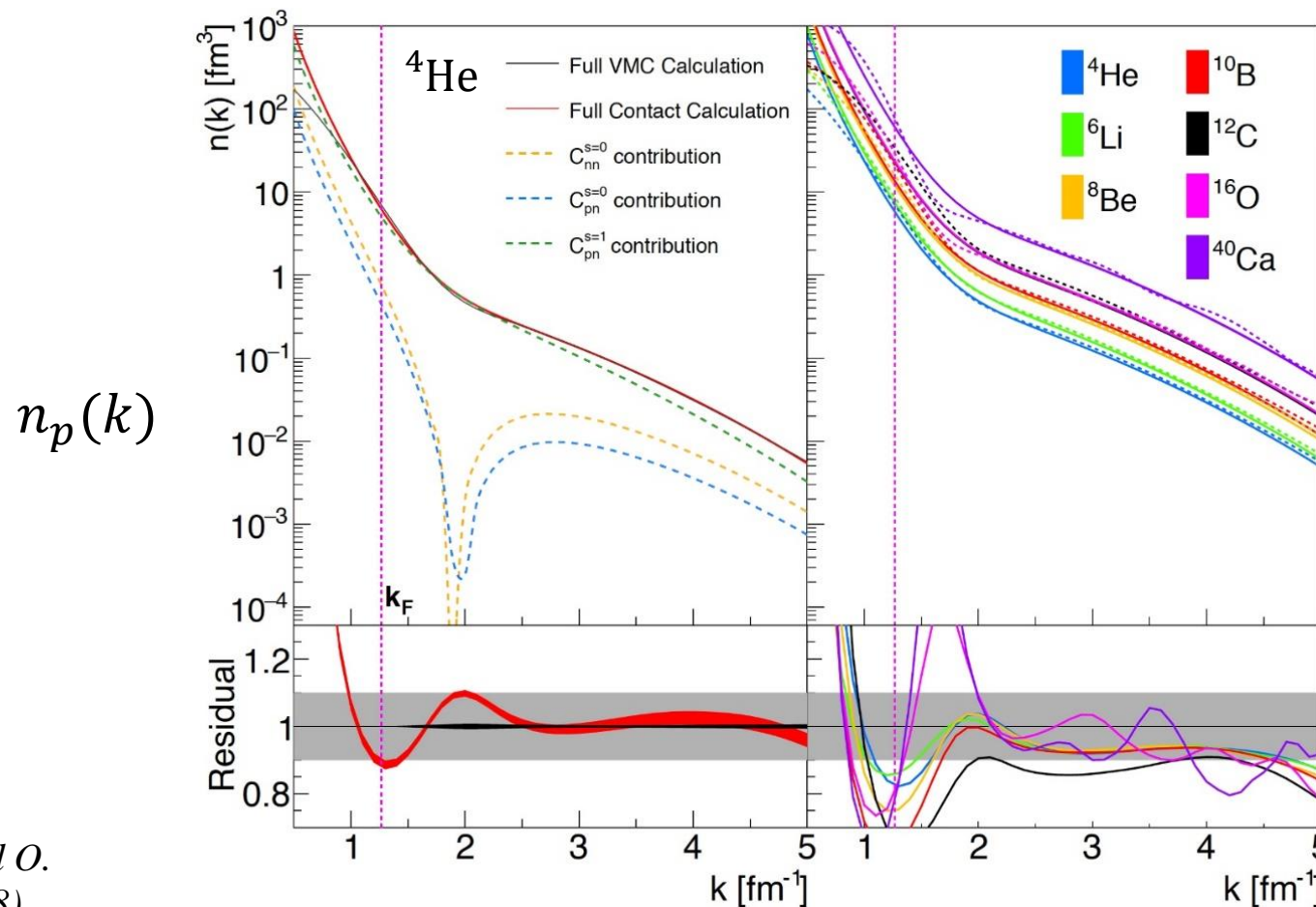




# One-body momentum distribution

$$n_p(k) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} C_{pn}^1 |\varphi_{pn}^d(k)|^2 + C_{pn}^0 |\varphi_{pn}^0(k)|^2 + 2C_{pp}^0 |\varphi_{pp}^0(k)|^2$$

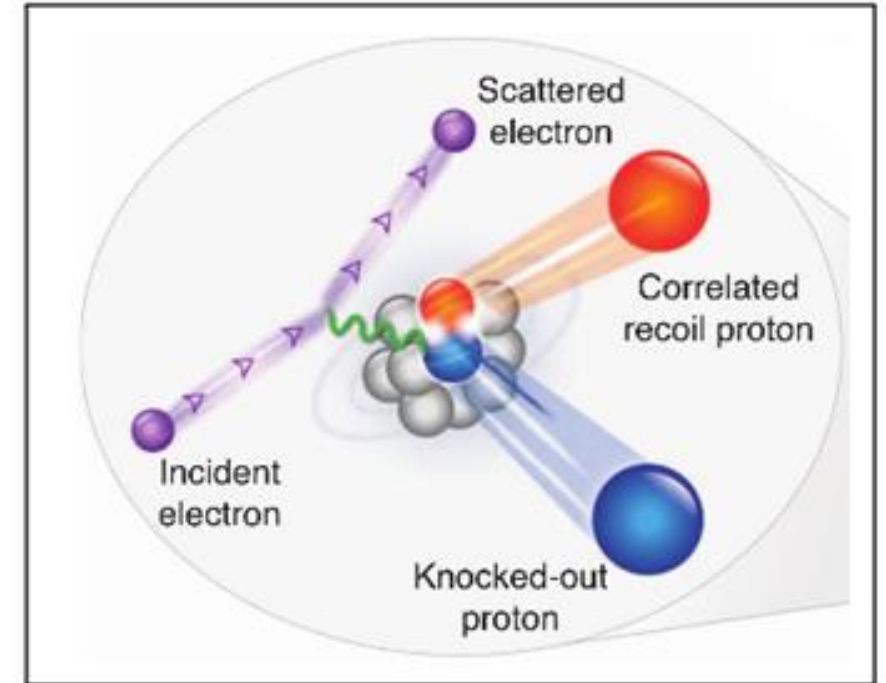
- *s*-wave contributions
- All *NN* pairs



No fitting parameters!

# Electron-scattering experiments

- $A(e, e' N)$  and  $A(e, e' NN)$  cross sections
- $S(\mathbf{p}_1, \epsilon_1) = \text{spectral function}$   
The probability to find nucleon with momentum  $\mathbf{p}_1$  and energy  $\epsilon_1$  in the nucleus
- Using the GCF:

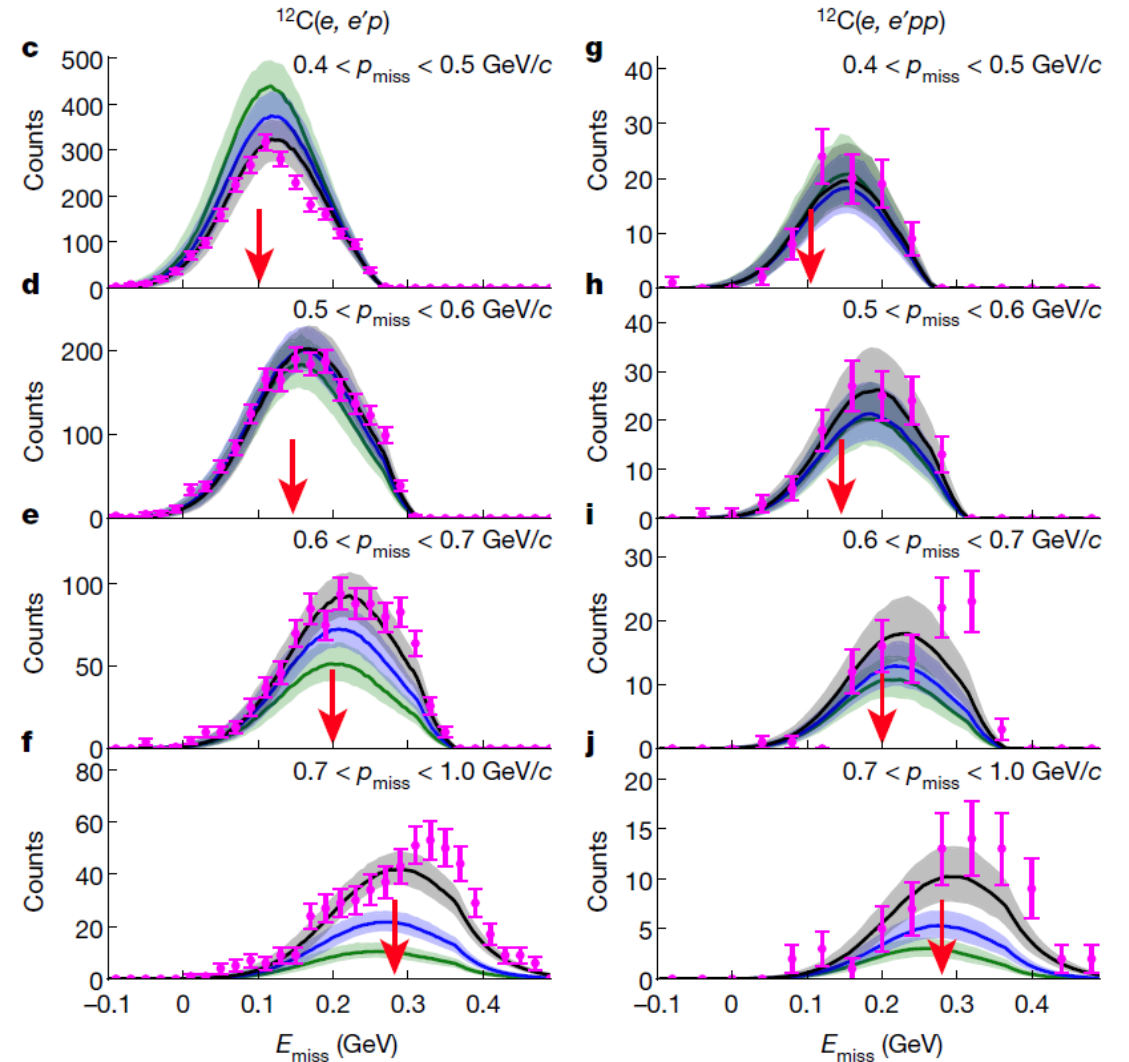
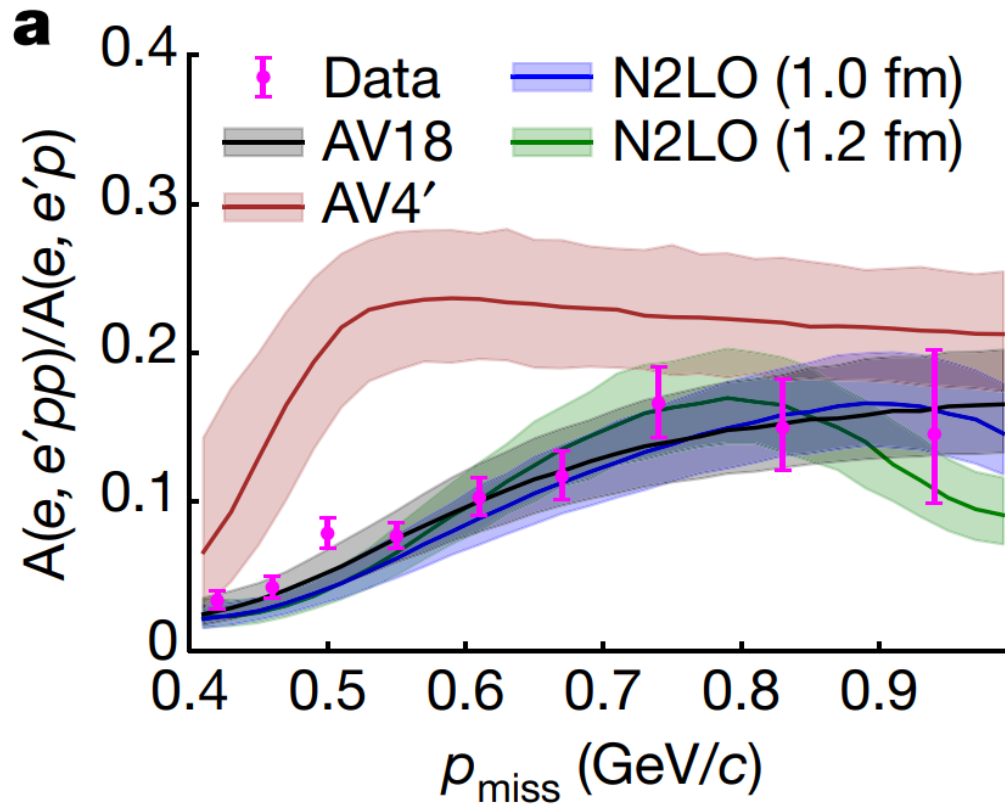


$$S^p(\mathbf{p}_1, \epsilon_1) = C_{pn}^1 S_{pn}^1(\mathbf{p}_1, \epsilon_1) + C_{pn}^0 S_{pn}^0(\mathbf{p}_1, \epsilon_1) + 2C_{pp}^0 S_{pp}^0(\mathbf{p}_1, \epsilon_1)$$

$$(\mathbf{p}_1 > k_F)$$

# Electron-scattering experiments

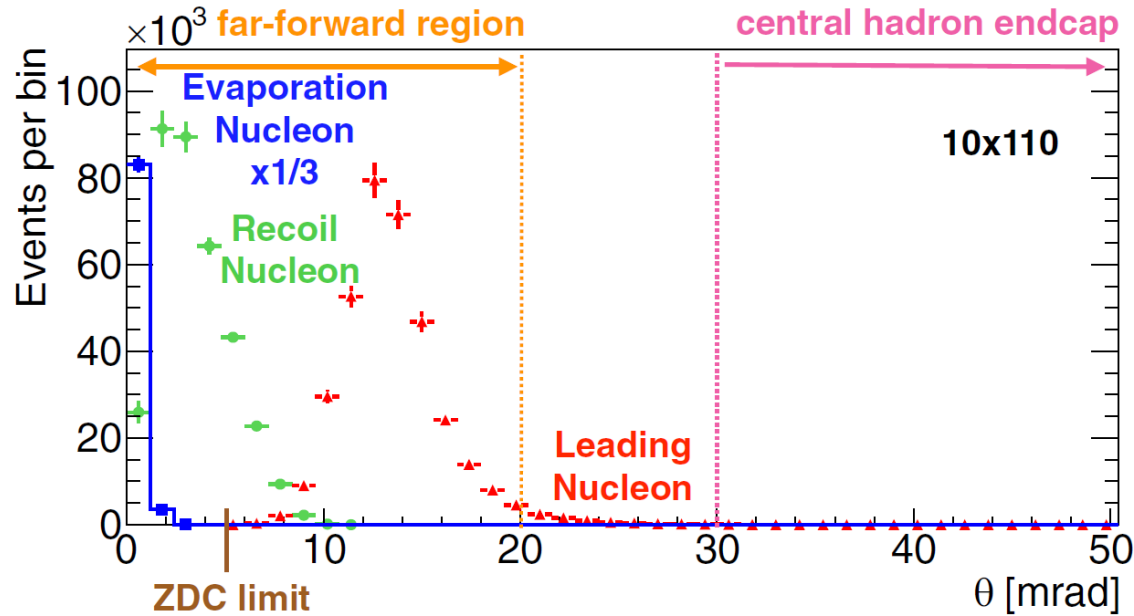
- Good description of experimental data:



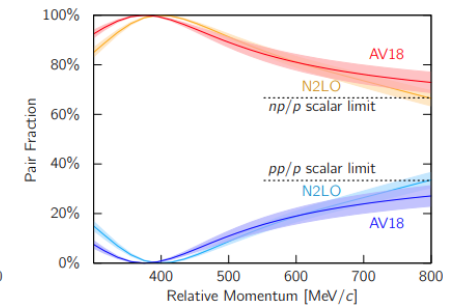
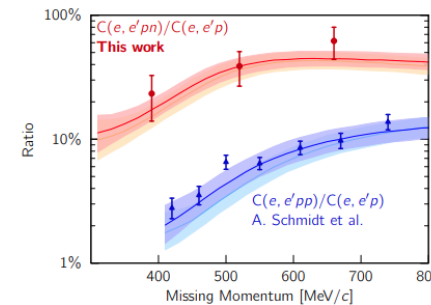
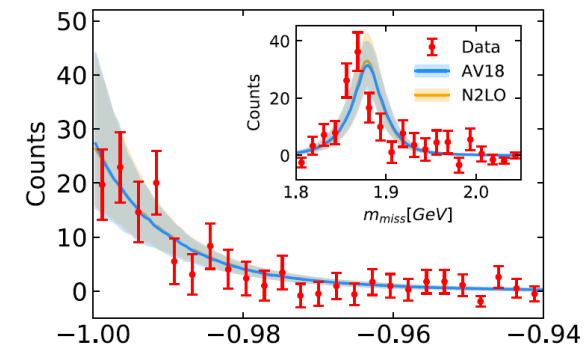
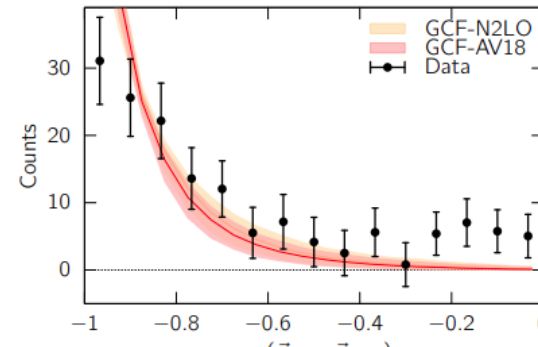
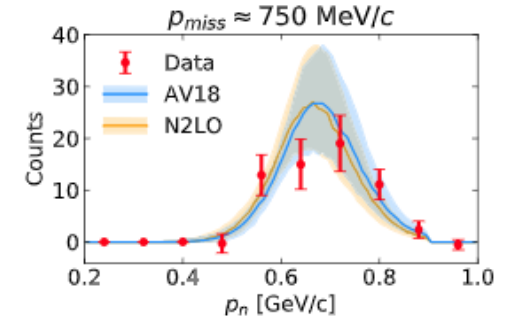
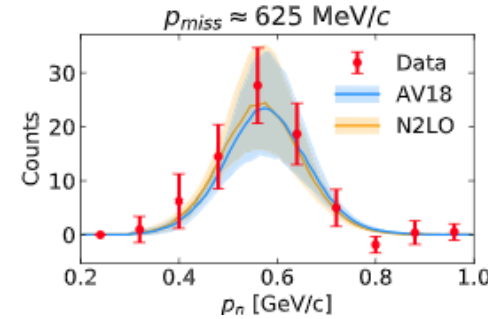
# Analyzing and designing experiments

F. Hauenstein, et al., PRC 105, 034001 (2022)

For the EIC



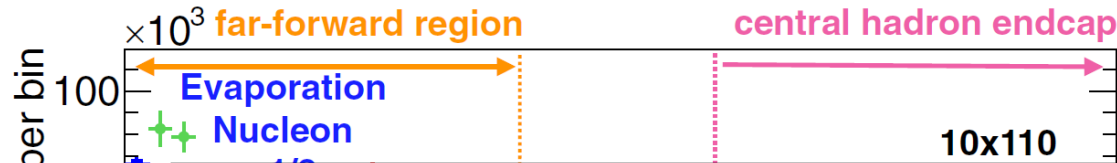
**Dedicated event generator**



# Analyzing and designing experiments

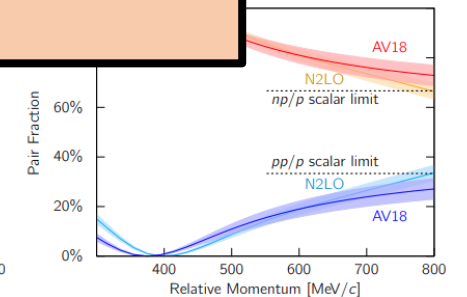
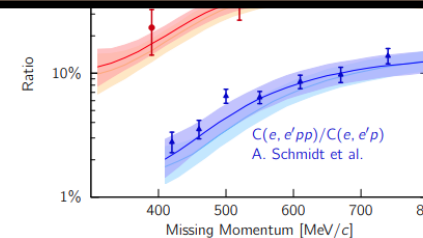
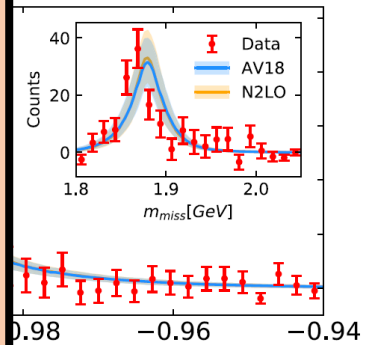
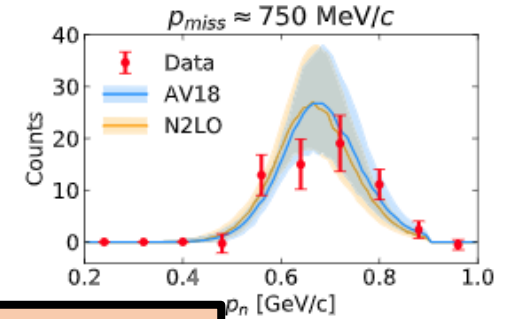
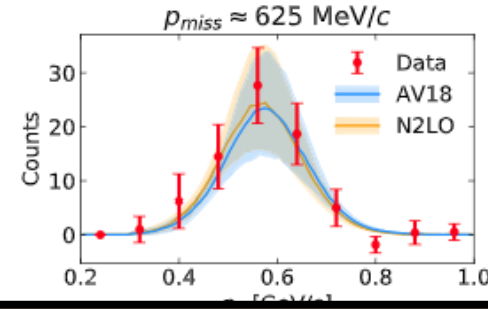
F. Hauenstein, et al., PRC 105, 034001 (2022)

For the EIC



- Consistent and comprehensive description of SRC pairs
- Connection between experiments and nuclear structure and interaction models
- Useful tool for analyzing and designing experiments

**Dedicated event generator**



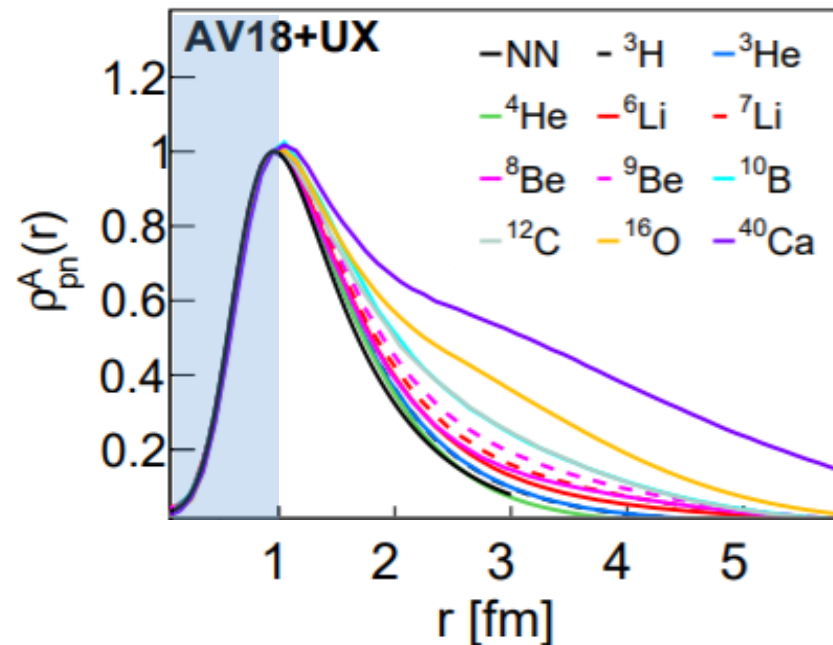
Towards a systematic short-range description

# Corrections to the GCF

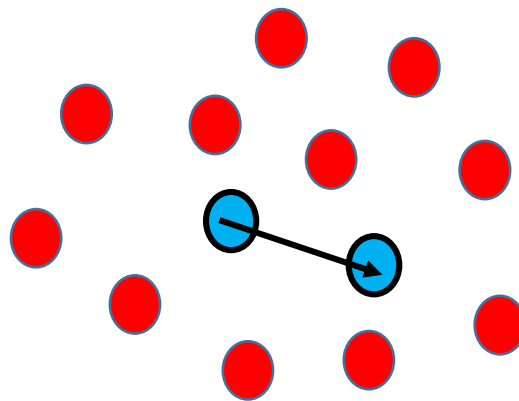
- GCF is based on the short-range factorization

$$\Psi(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_A) \xrightarrow{r_{12} \rightarrow 0} \varphi(\mathbf{r}) \times A(\mathbf{R}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq 1,2})$$

- Begins to fail at larger distances
- Possible corrections:
  - **Three-body correlations**
  - **Pairs at larger distances**



# Systematic short-range expansion for SRC pairs: Beyond factorization





# Short-range expansion

- Factorization for short distances

$$\Psi(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_A) \xrightarrow{r_{12} \rightarrow 0} \varphi(\mathbf{r}) \times A(\mathbf{R}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq 1,2})$$

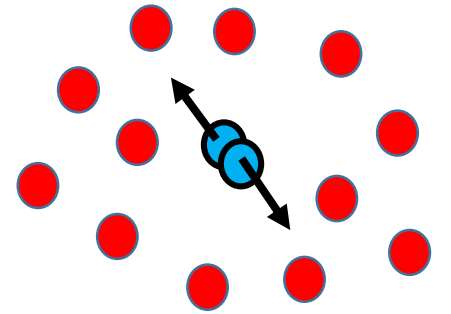
- $\varphi(r) \equiv$  **Zero-energy** solution of the two-body Schrodinger Eq.

- **The two-body system:**

$$\left[ -\frac{\hbar^2}{m} \nabla^2 + V(r) \right] \varphi^E(\mathbf{r}) = E \varphi^E(\mathbf{r})$$

- For  $r \rightarrow 0$ : The energy becomes negligible

$$E \ll \frac{\hbar^2}{mr^2}$$



# Short-range expansion – two-body system

- For  $r \rightarrow 0$ :

$$\varphi^E(\mathbf{r}) = \varphi^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) + \dots$$

- Taylor expansion around  $E = 0$ :

$$\varphi^E(\mathbf{r}) = \varphi^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) + \left( \frac{d}{dE} \varphi^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) E + \frac{1}{2!} \left( \frac{d^2}{dE^2} \varphi^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) E^2 + \dots$$

# Short-range expansion – two-body system

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GCF  
leading term

Subleading terms

# Short-range expansion – many-body system

- **The many-body case:** Two-body density

**Leading order:**  $\rho_2(r) = |\varphi_{\ell=0}^{E=0}(r)|^2 C$  (zero energy, s-wave)

# Short-range expansion – many-body system

- **The many-body case:** Two-body density

**Leading order:**  $\rho_2(r) = |\varphi_{\ell=0}^{E=0}(r)|^2 C$  (zero energy, s-wave)

**Expansion:** (energy derivatives,  $\ell > 0$  contributions)

$$\rho_2(r) = \sum_{\alpha} \left( |\varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r)|^2 C_{\alpha}^{00} + \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r) \frac{d}{dE} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r) C_{\alpha}^{01} + \dots \right)$$

# Short-range expansion – many-body system

- **The many-body case:** Two-body density

**Leading order:**  $\rho_2(r) = |\varphi_{\ell=0}^{E=0}(r)|^2 C$  (zero energy, s-wave)

**Expansion:** (energy derivatives,  $\ell > 0$  contributions)

$$\rho_2(r) = \sum_{\alpha} \left( |\varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r)|^2 C_{\alpha}^{00} + \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r) \frac{d}{dE} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r) C_{\alpha}^{01} + \dots \right)$$

- **Power counting** is needed
  - Can be analyzed analytically for the two-body system

# Short-range expansion – many-body system

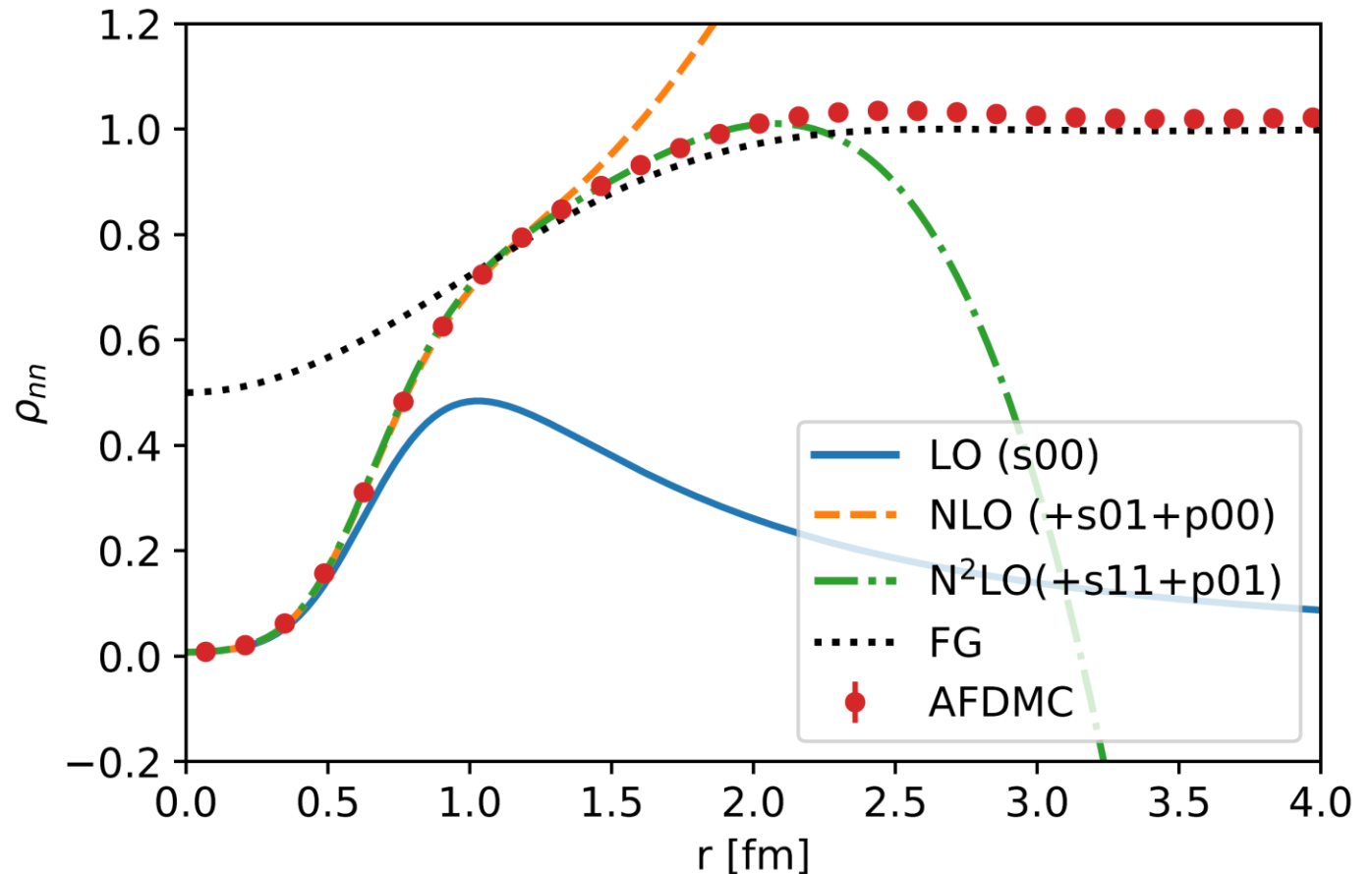
$$\rho_2(r) = \sum_{\alpha} \left( |\varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r)|^2 C_{\alpha}^{00} + \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r) \frac{d}{dE} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r) C_{\alpha}^{01} + \dots \right)$$

- Neutron matter:

AFDMC by Diego Lonardonì &  
Stefano Gandolfi:  
AV4'+UIX<sub>C</sub>  $n = 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$

5 fitting parameters at N<sup>2</sup>LO

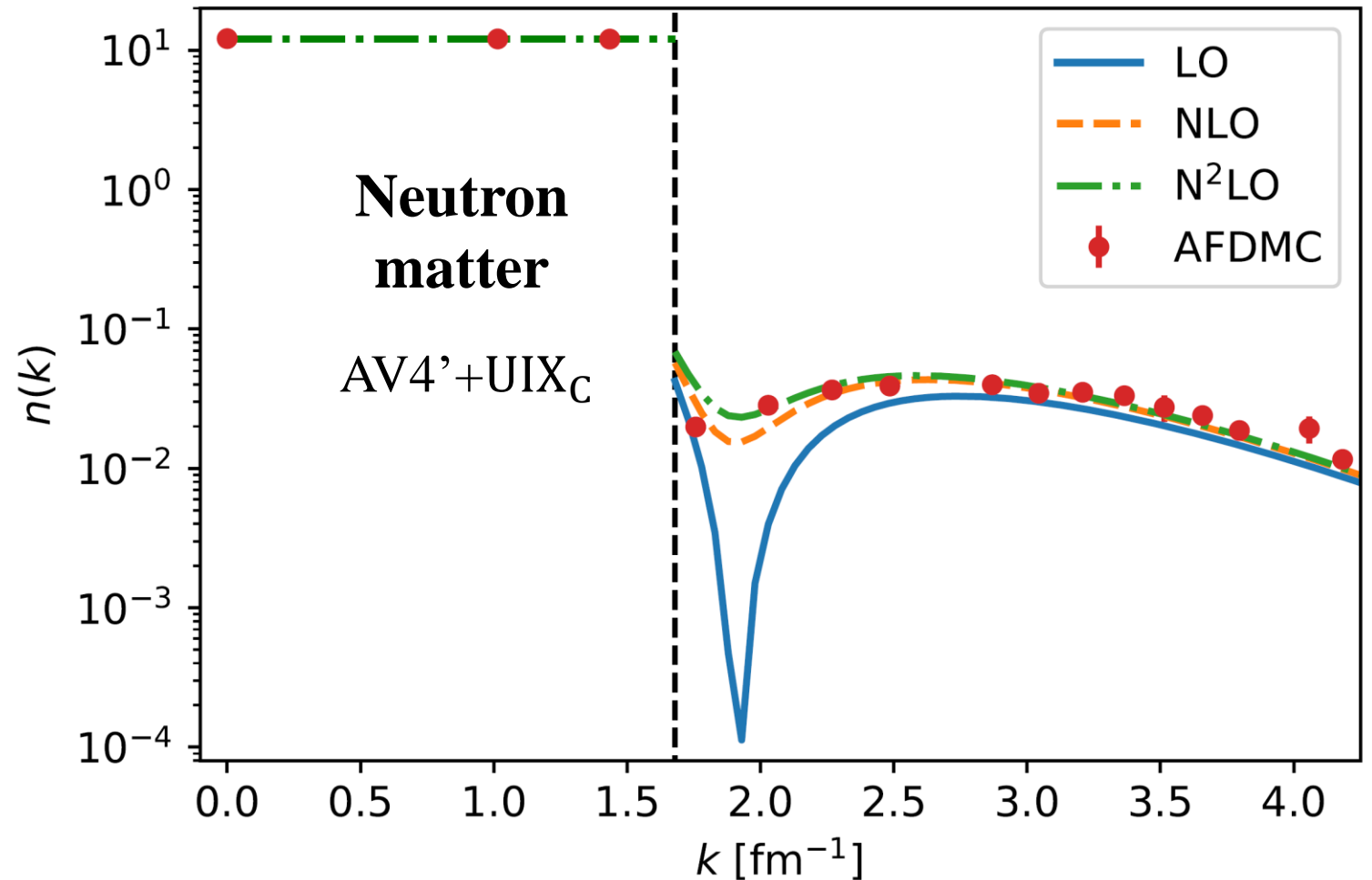
Power counting analyzed  
analytically for the two-body system



# Short-range expansion – many-body system

Momentum distribution

No fitting parameters!



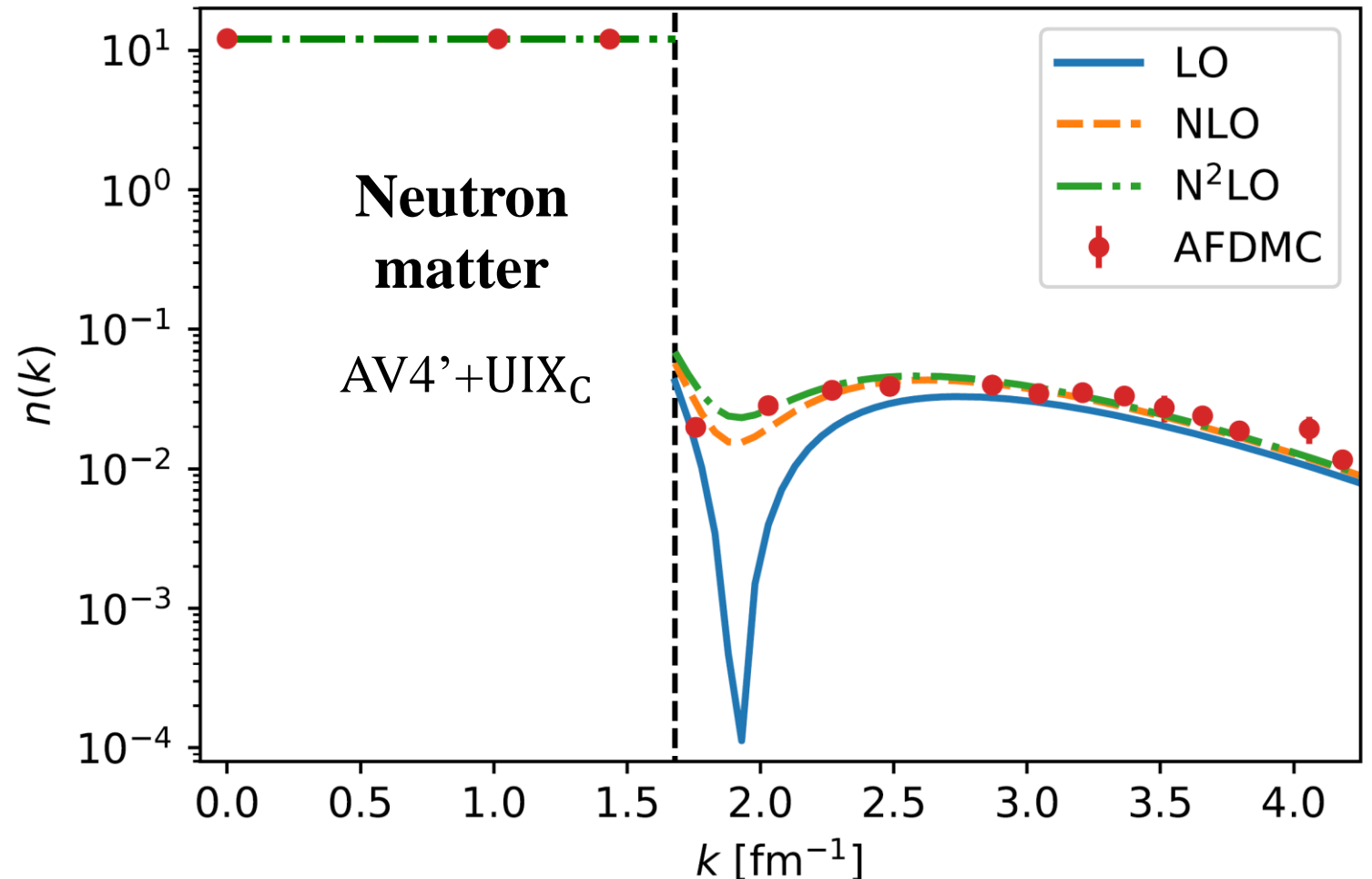


# Short-range expansion – many-body system

## Momentum distribution

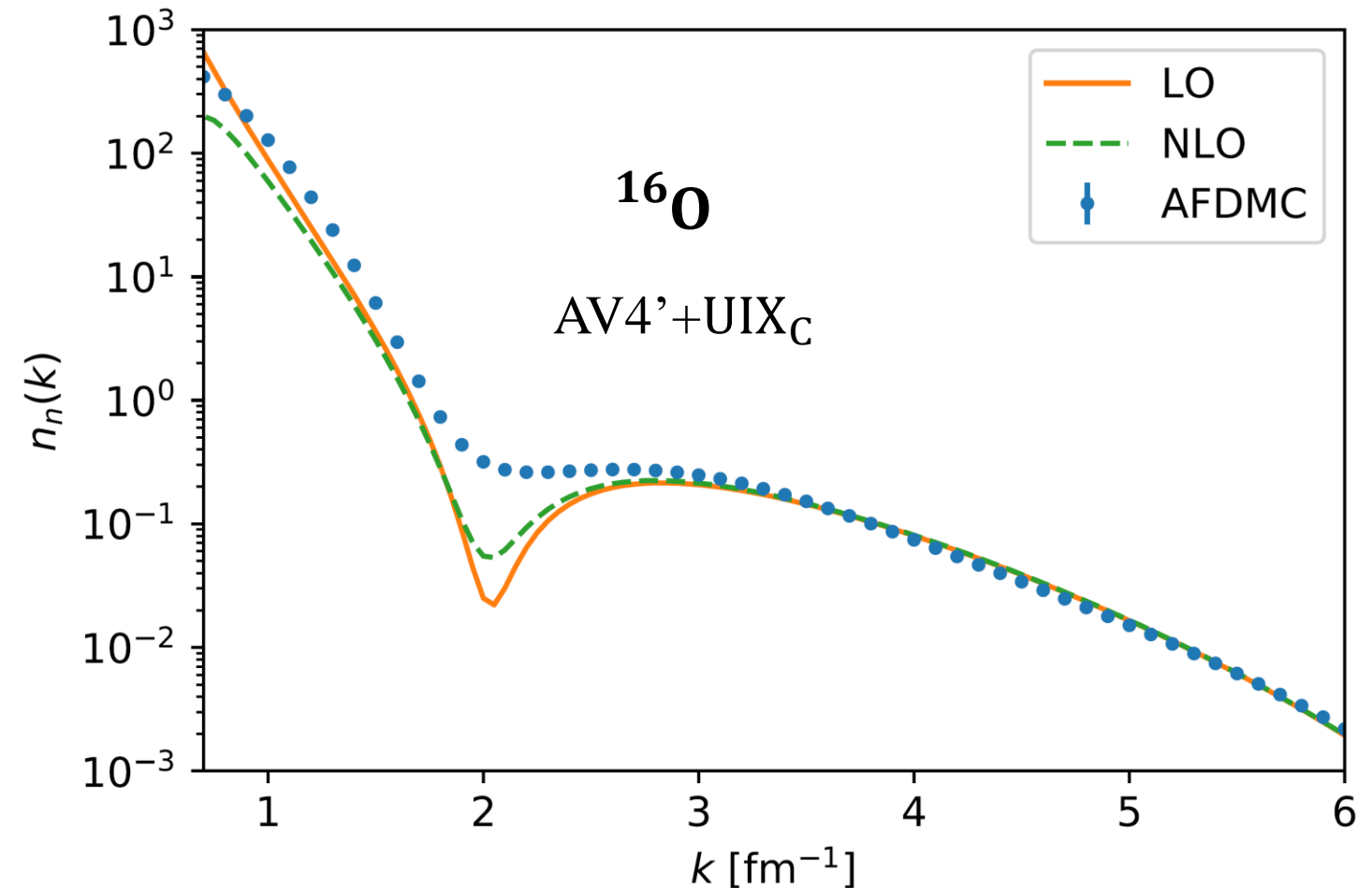
No fitting parameters!

- Systematic description
- Extends to larger distances and smaller momenta
- Future work – analysis of experimental data
- Impact on other observables



# Short-range expansion – many-body system

Three-body correlations are  
needed for finite nuclei



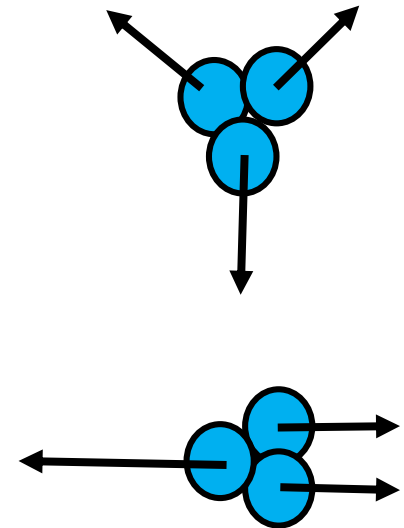
# Three-body correlations

RW and S. Gandolfi, Phys. Rev. C 108, L021301 (2023)

# Three-body correlations

## Various open questions:

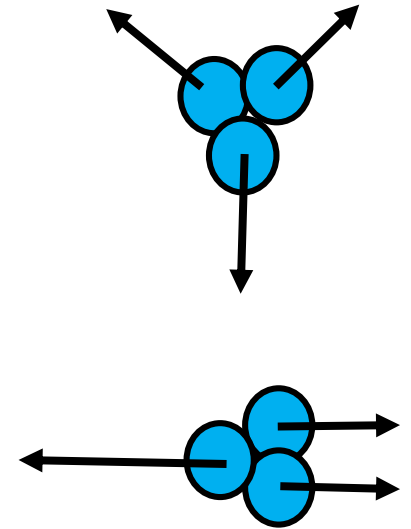
- What are the **dominant configurations**?
- Are 3N SRCs sensitive to the **three-body force**?
- Are they **universal**? What is their **abundance**?
- What is their **contribution to different observables**?



# Three-body correlations

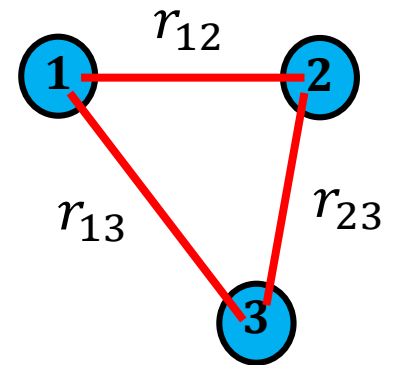
## Various open questions:

- What are the **dominant configurations**?
- Are 3N SRCs sensitive to the **three-body force**?
- Are they **universal**? What is their **abundance**?
- What is their **contribution to different observables**?



## We performed first ab-initio calculations of 3N SRC

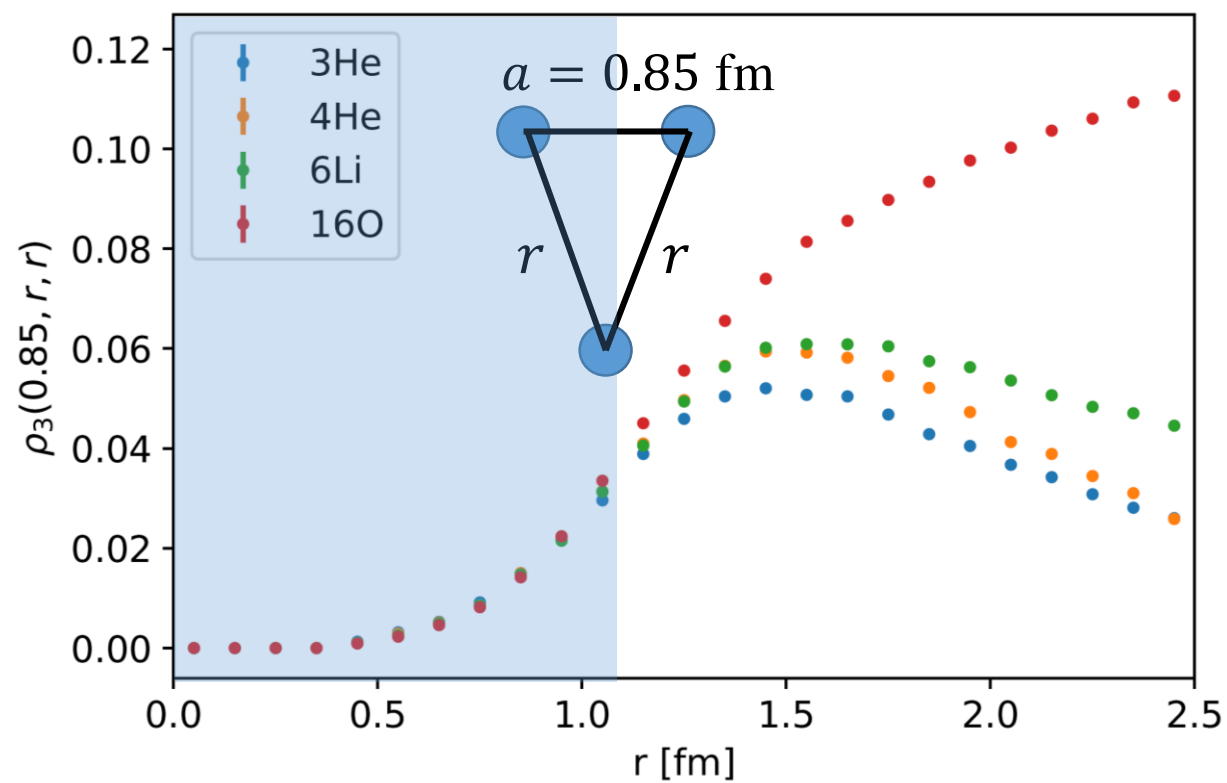
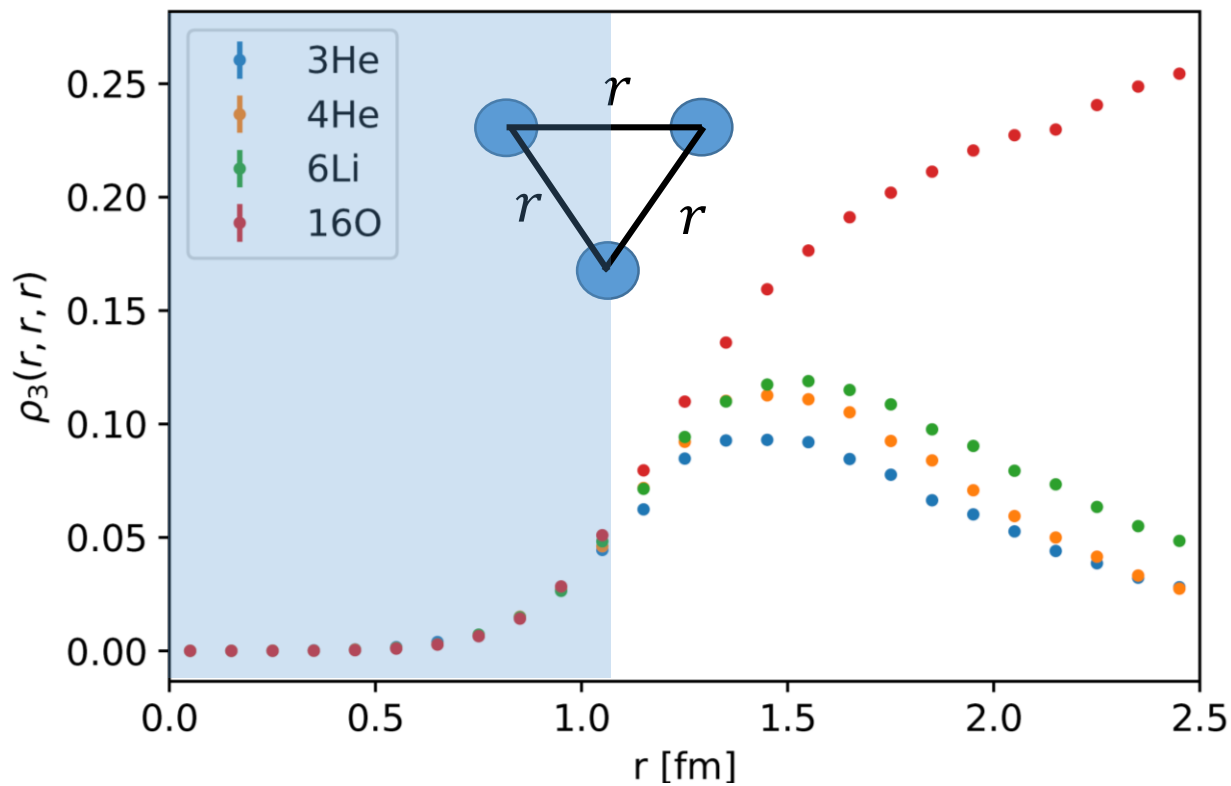
$$\rho_3(r_{12}, r_{13}, r_{23}) \equiv \binom{A}{3} \langle \Psi | \delta(|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2| - r_{12}) \delta(|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_3| - r_{13}) \delta(|\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_3| - r_{23}) | \Psi \rangle$$



# Three-body density

## Universality

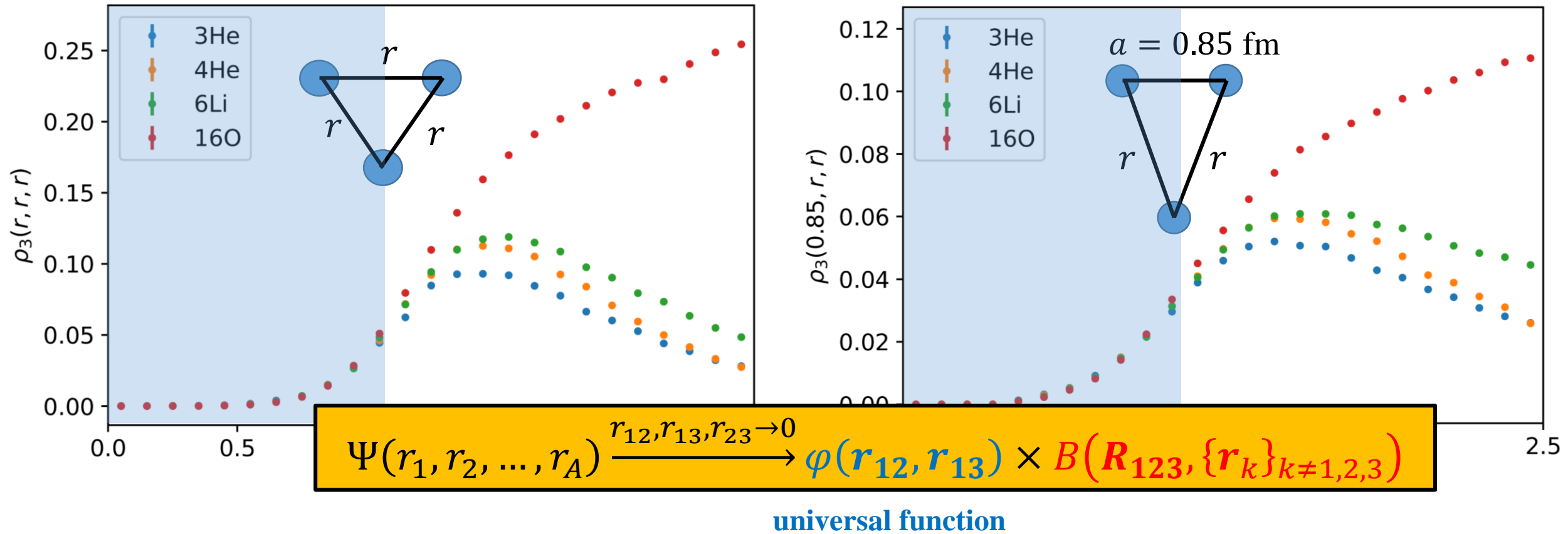
Same scaling  
factor for all  
geometries!



# Three-body density

Same scaling factor for all geometries!

## Universality

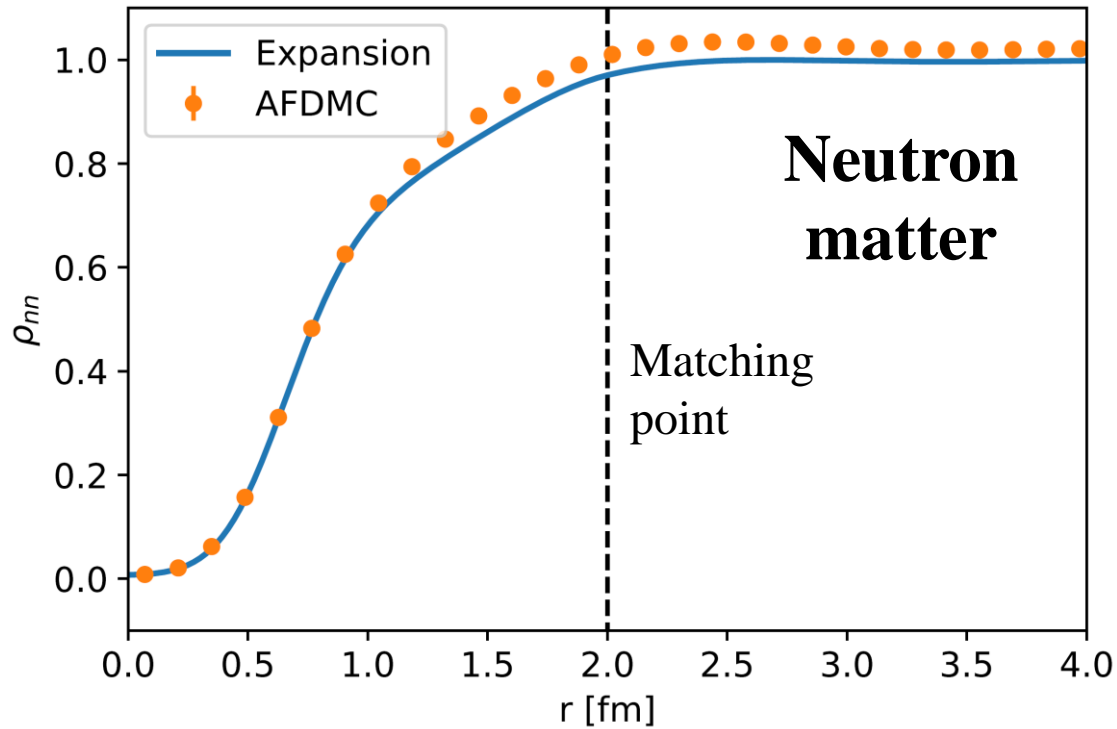


Describing more general quantities

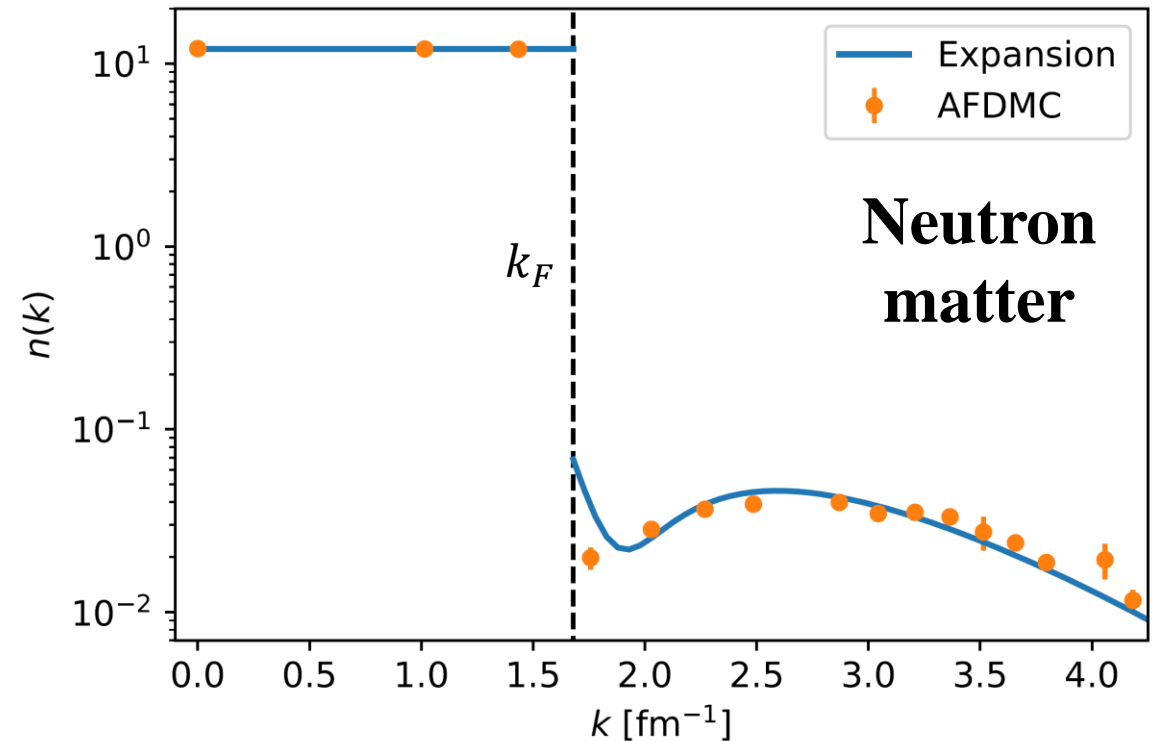


# Matching to long-range model

Fitting only the LO contact and matching to FG:



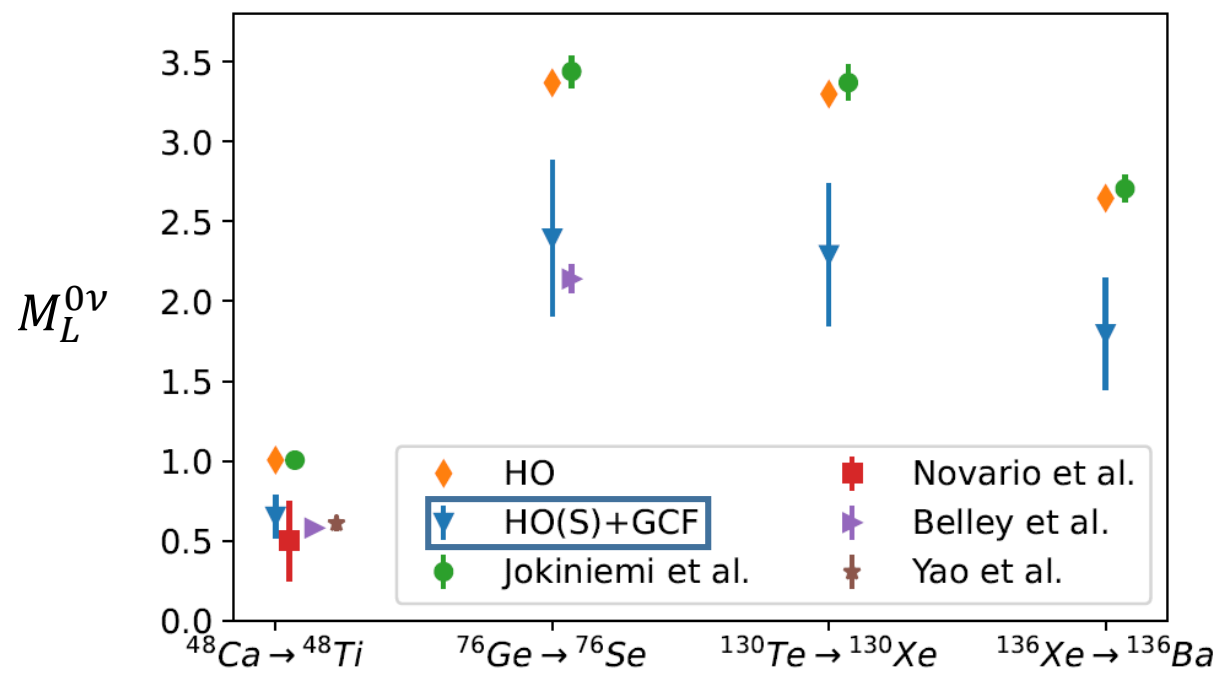
Obtained NN Potential Energy  $\langle V_2 \rangle = -29.3$  MeV  
Exact NN Potential Energy  $\langle V_2 \rangle = -30.1$  MeV



Obtained Kinetic Energy  $\langle T \rangle = 43.2$  MeV  
Exact Kinetic Energy  $\langle T \rangle = 43.3$  MeV

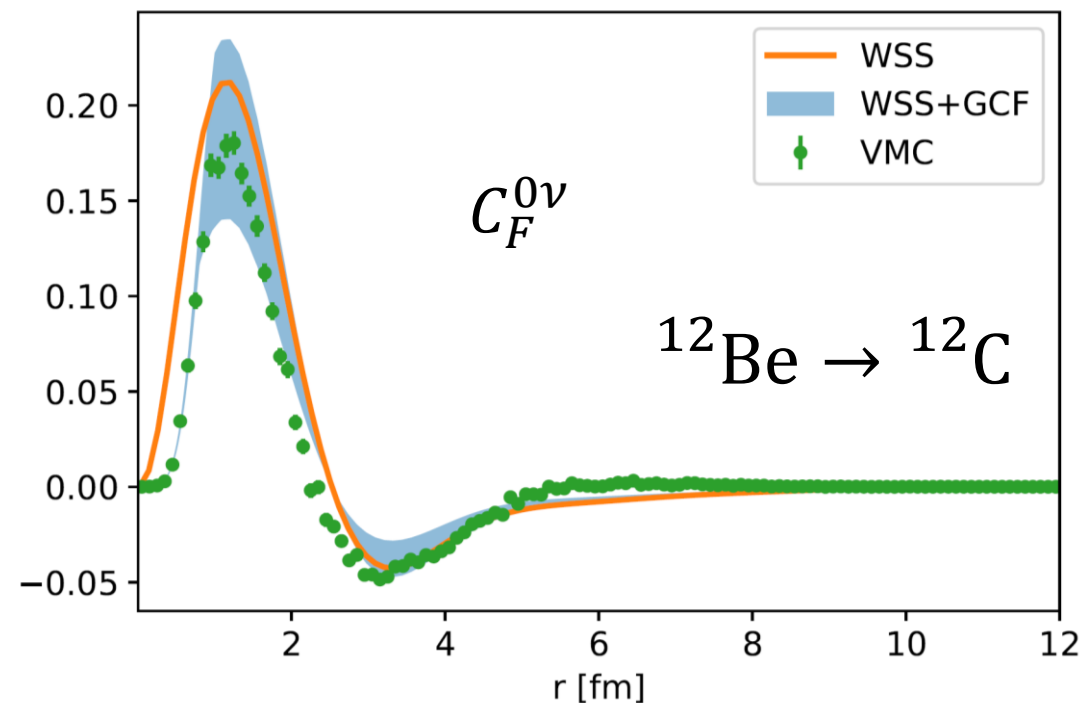
# Neutrinoless double beta decay

QMC + Shell-Model + GCF



$$M_F + M_{GT} + M_T$$

Significant reduction due to SRCs



Similar approach is relevant for more quantities!

# Summary and outlook

# Summary

- **Nuclear short-range correlations – beyond mean-field effects**

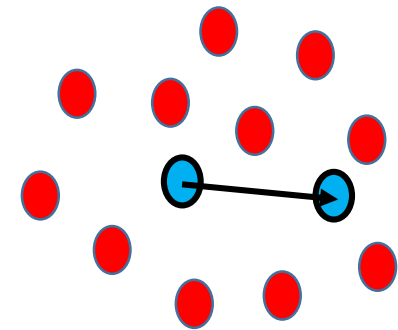
- **Generalized Contact Formalism:**  $\Psi(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_A) \xrightarrow{r_{12} \rightarrow 0} \varphi(\mathbf{r}) \times A(\mathbf{R}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq 1,2})$

- Consistent and comprehensive description of short-range correlated pairs at leading order
- Accurate description of large-momentum transfer **electron scattering reactions**

- **Short-range expansion:**

- **Systematic framework** with organized subleading contributions
- Valid for larger distances / lower momenta
- Various observables can be described (kinetic and potential energy,  $0\nu\beta\beta, \dots$ )

- **3N SRCs**



# Future plans

- **Formalism development:**
  - Including **3N SRCs** in systematic expansion
  - Improving methods to **extract contact values**
  - Improving description of **reactions**: final state interactions, relativistic effects...
  - Matching with **long-range models**
  - Imbedding SRC knowledge in **ab-initio methods**

# Future plans

- **Formalism development:**
  - Including **3N SRCs** in systematic expansion
  - Improving methods to **extract contact values**
  - Improving description of **reactions**: final state interactions, relativistic effects...
  - Matching with **long-range models**
  - Imbedding SRC knowledge in **ab-initio methods**
- **Applications: Neutrino-nucleus scattering**
  - Comparing to **experimental data**
  - Extraction of relevant contact values
  - **Event generators?**
  - Matching with low-momentum approaches
  - Combination with **JLab Ar spectral function** analysis

# Future plans

- **Formalism development:**
  - Including **3N SRCs** in systematic expansion
  - Improving methods to **extract contact values**
  - Improving description of **reactions**: final state interactions, relativistic effects...
  - Matching with **long-range models**
  - Imbedding SRC knowledge in **ab-initio methods**
- **Applications:**
  - **Beta decay** rates, magnetic moments...
  - **$0\nu\beta\beta$**  matrix elements
  - Guiding the **detection of 3N SRCs**
  - Testing nuclear **three-body forces**
  - Design and analysis of **exp** (JLab, GSI, EIC)
  - Liquid  $^4\text{He}$  structure factor, Dipolar excitons

*Questions?*



BACKUP

# The spectral function

$$S(\mathbf{p}_1, \epsilon_1) = \sum_s \sum_{f_{A-1}} \delta(\epsilon_1 + E_f^{A-1} - E_0) |\langle f_{A-1} | a_{\mathbf{p}_1, s} | \psi_0 \rangle|^2$$

The initial  
wave function

$$\psi_0 \rightarrow \sum_{\alpha} \varphi_{ij}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}_{ij}) A_{ij}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{R}_{ij}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq i, j})$$

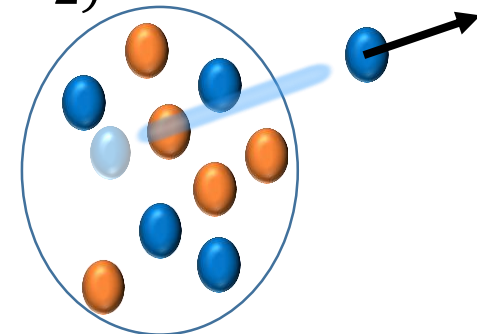
The final wave  
function

$$|\psi_f^{12}\rangle = a_{\mathbf{p}_1, s}^{\dagger} |f_{A-1}\rangle \propto |\Psi_v^{A-2}\rangle e^{i\mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r}_1 + i\mathbf{p}_2 \cdot \mathbf{r}_2} \chi_{s_1} \chi_{s_2}$$

Energy  
conservation:

$$E_f^{A-1} = \epsilon_2 + (A-2)m - B_f^{A-2} + \frac{P_{12}^2}{2m(A-2)}$$

$$B_f^{A-2} \approx \langle B_f^{A-2} \rangle$$



# The spectral function

$$p_1 > k_F$$

$$S^p(\mathbf{p}_1, \epsilon_1) = C_{pn}^1 S_{pn}^1(\mathbf{p}_1, \epsilon_1) + C_{pn}^0 S_{pn}^0(\mathbf{p}_1, \epsilon_1) + 2C_{pp}^0 S_{pp}^0(\mathbf{p}_1, \epsilon_1)$$

$$S_{ab}^\alpha(\mathbf{p}_1, \epsilon_1) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int \frac{d^3 p_2}{(2\pi)^3} \underbrace{\delta(f(\mathbf{p}_2))}_{\text{Energy conservation}} \underbrace{n_{CM}(\mathbf{p}_1 + \mathbf{p}_2)}_{\text{CM momentum distribution (Gaussian)}} \underbrace{|\tilde{\varphi}_{ab}^\alpha(|\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_2|/2)|^2}_{\text{Two-body function}}$$

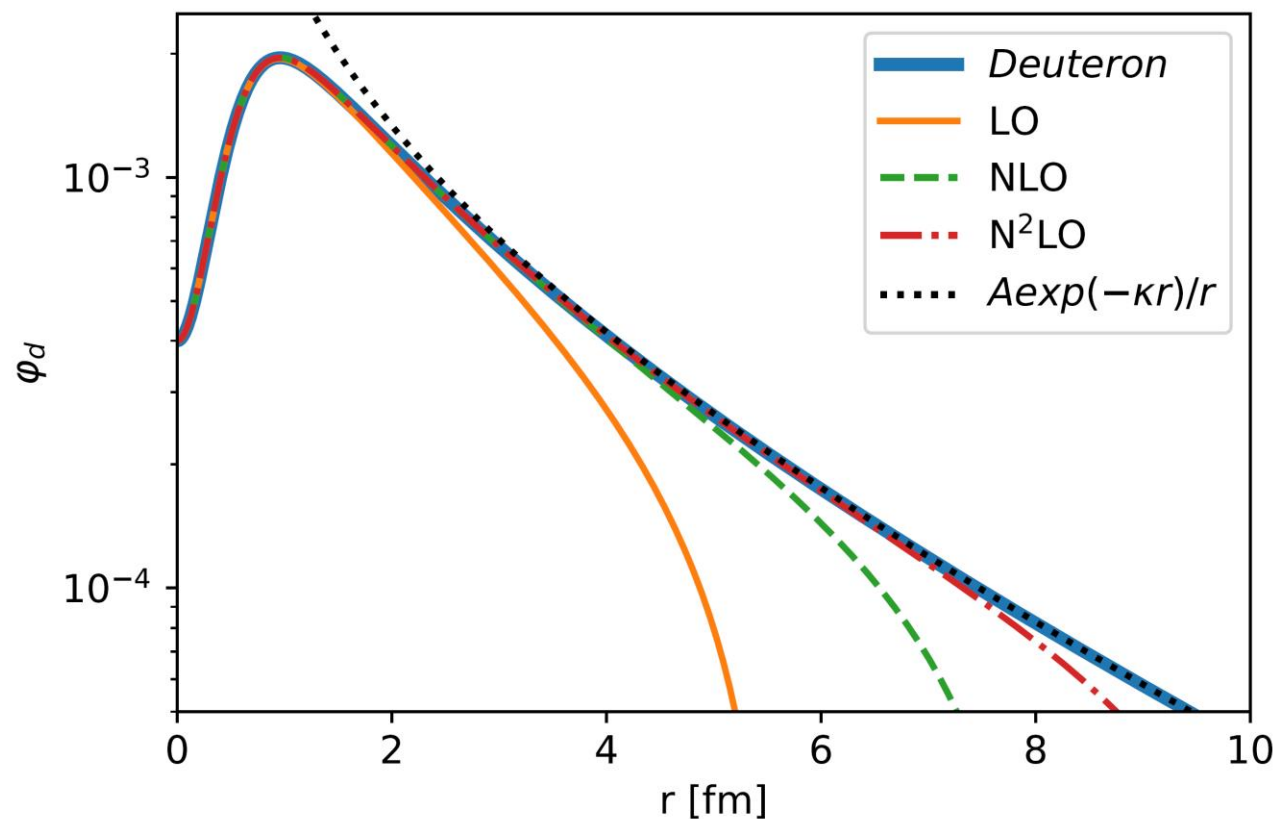
Similar to the convolution model

*C. Ciofi degli Atti, S. Simula, L. L. Frankfurt, and M. I. Strikman, Phys. Rev. C 44, R7(R) (1991),*

*C. Ciofi degli Atti and S. Simula PRC 53, 1689 (1996)*

# Short-range expansion – two-body system

$$\varphi^E(\mathbf{r}) = \varphi^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) + \left( \frac{d}{dE} \varphi^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) E + \frac{1}{2!} \left( \frac{d^2}{dE^2} \varphi^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) E^2 + \dots$$



AV4'  
Deuteron channel  
Bound state

# Short-range expansion – many-body system

- **The many-body case:** Exact expansion

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = \sum_{E, \alpha} \varphi_{\alpha}^E(\mathbf{r}_{12}) A_{\alpha}^E(\mathbf{R}_{12}, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) \quad (\alpha - \text{quantum numbers})$$

Complete set of  
two-body functions



# Short-range expansion – many-body system

- **The many-body case:** Exact expansion


$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = \sum_{E, \alpha} \varphi_{\alpha}^E(\mathbf{r}_{12}) A_{\alpha}^E(\mathbf{R}_{12}, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) \quad (\alpha - \text{quantum numbers})$$

- Taylor expansion around  $E = 0$ :

$$\varphi_{\alpha}^E(\mathbf{r}) = \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) + \left( \frac{d}{dE} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) E + \frac{1}{2!} \left( \frac{d^2}{dE^2} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) E^2 + \dots$$

GCF factorization

Subleading terms


$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = \sum_{\alpha} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}_{12}) A_{\alpha}^{(0)} + \sum_{\alpha} \left( \frac{d}{dE} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) A_{\alpha}^{(1)} + \sum_{\alpha} \left( \frac{d^2}{dE^2} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) A_{\alpha}^{(2)} + \dots$$

# Short-range expansion – many-body system

- The many-body case:

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = \sum_{\alpha} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}_{12}) A_{\alpha}^{(0)} + \sum_{\alpha} \left( \frac{d}{dE} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) A_{\alpha}^{(1)} + \sum_{\alpha} \left( \frac{d^2}{dE^2} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) A_{\alpha}^{(2)} + \dots$$

- Two-body density:

$$\rho_2(r) = \sum_{\alpha} \left( |\varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r)|^2 C_{\alpha}^{00} + \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r) \frac{d}{dE} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r) C_{\alpha}^{01} + \dots \right)$$

- Subleading contacts:

$$C_{\alpha}^{mn} \propto \langle A_{\alpha}^{(m)} | A_{\alpha}^{(n)} \rangle$$

# Short-range expansion – many-body system

$$\rho_2(r) = \sum_{\alpha} \left( |\varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r)|^2 C_{\alpha}^{00} + \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r) \frac{d}{dE} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r) C_{\alpha}^{01} + \dots \right)$$

- **Power counting** is needed
- Two relevant parameters:
  - Number of **energy derivatives**
  - **Orbital angular momentum** ( $s, p, d, \dots$ )
- Can be analyzed analytically for the two-body system



# Short-range expansion: Next order terms

**The many-body case:**

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = \sum_{\alpha} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}_{12}) A_{\alpha}^{(0)} + \sum_{\alpha} \left( \frac{d}{dE} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) A_{\alpha}^{(1)} + \sum_{\alpha} \left( \frac{d^2}{dE^2} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) A_{\alpha}^{(2)} + \dots$$

$$A_{\alpha}^{(0)}(\mathbf{R}_{12}, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = \sum_E A_{\alpha}^E(\mathbf{R}_{12}, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A)$$

$$A_{\alpha}^{(1)}(\mathbf{R}_{12}, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = \sum_E E A_{\alpha}^E(\mathbf{R}_{12}, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A)$$

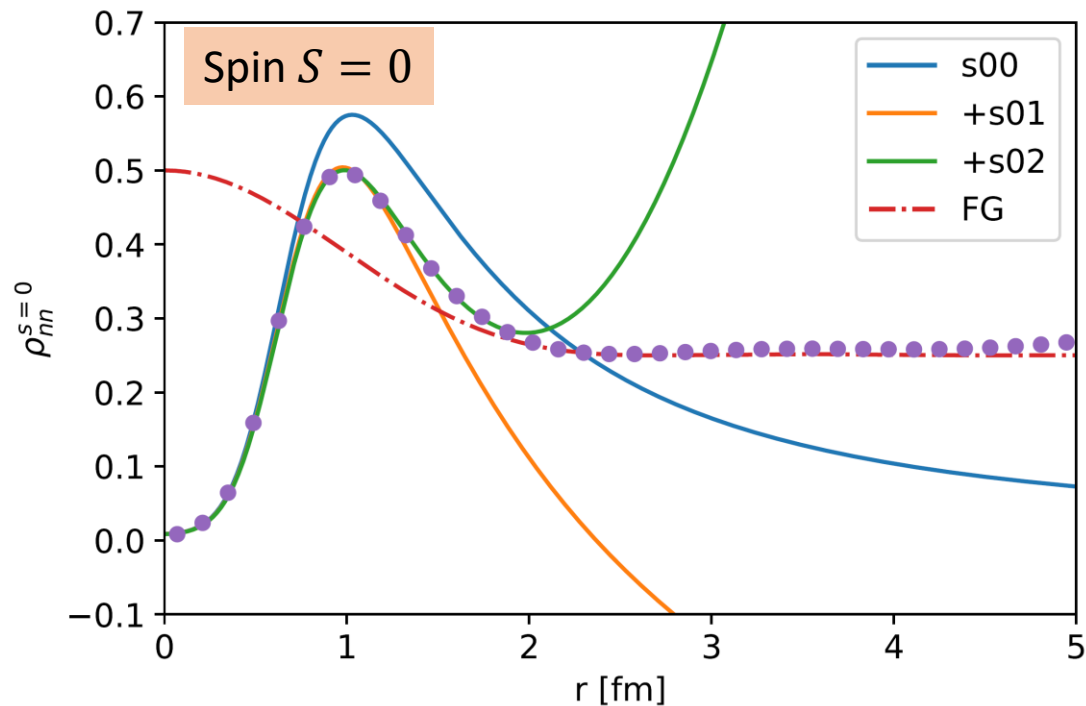
$$A_{\alpha}^{(2)}(\mathbf{R}_{12}, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = \frac{1}{2!} \sum_E E^2 A_{\alpha}^E(\mathbf{R}_{12}, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A)$$

# Short-range expansion

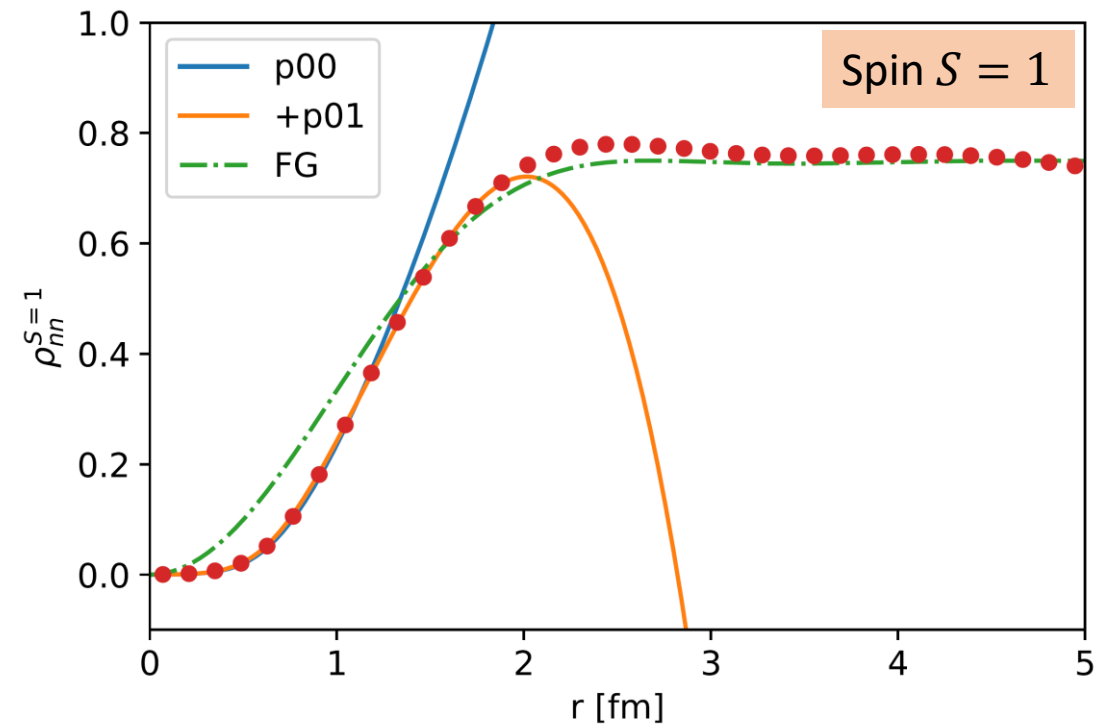
$$\rho_2(r) = \sum_{\alpha} \left( |\varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r)|^2 C_{\alpha}^{00} + \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r) \frac{d}{dE} \varphi_{\alpha}^{E=0}(r) C_{\alpha}^{01} + \dots \right)$$

- Neutron matter:  
( $S + \ell = \text{Even}$ )

AFDMC by Diego Lonardoni & Stefano Gandolfi: AV4'  $n = 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$



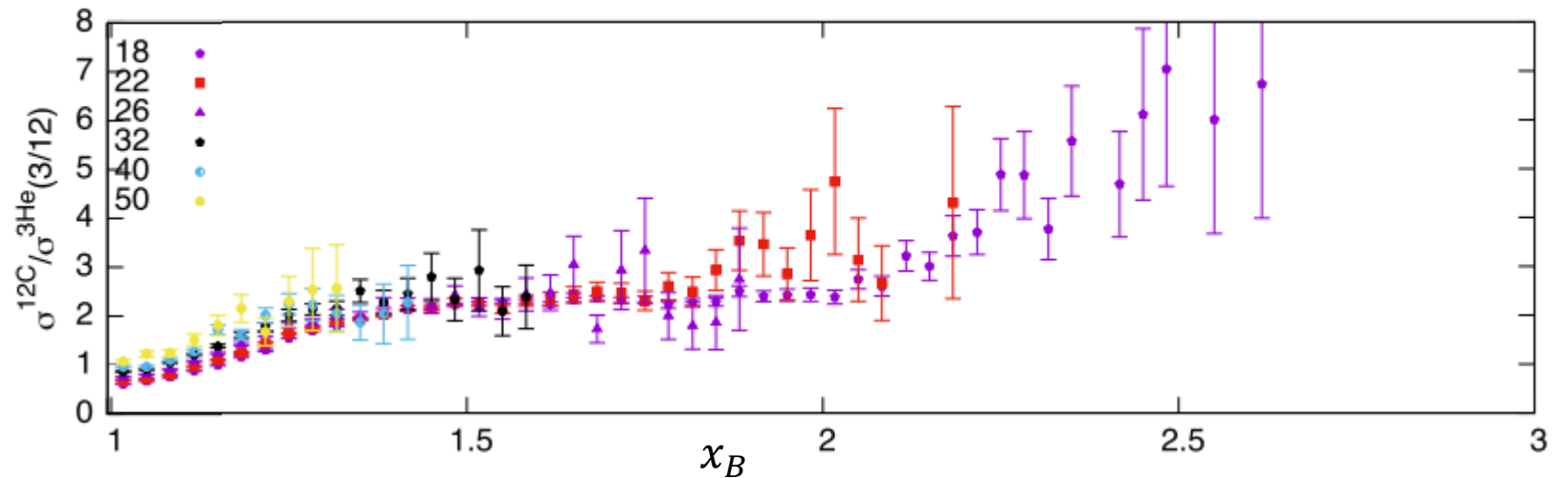
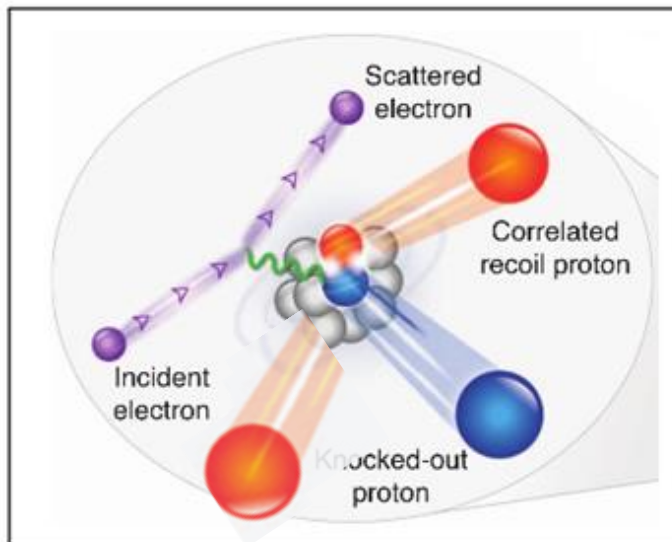
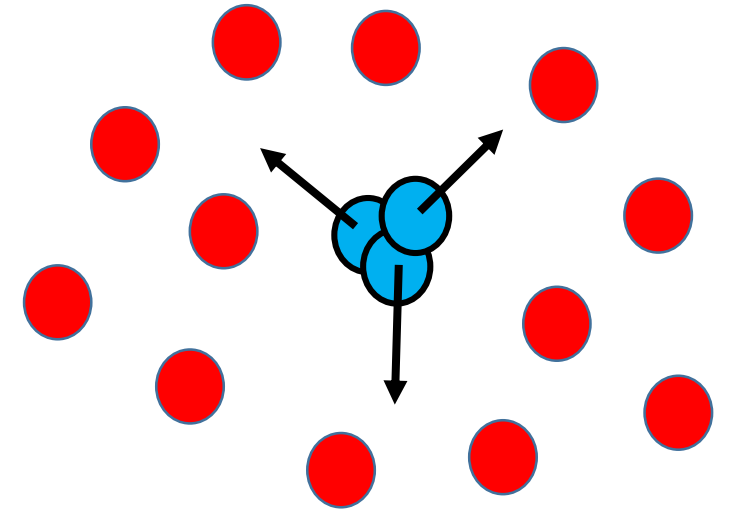
s-wave:  $\ell = 0, S = 0, j = 0$



p-wave:  $\ell = 1, S = 1, j = 0/1/2$

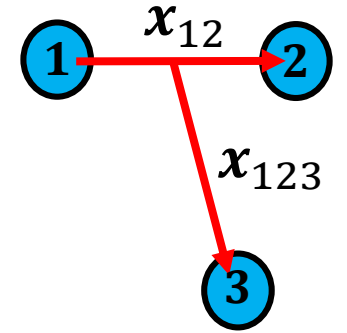
# Three-body correlations

- There is **no clear experimental signal** of 3N SRCs in nuclear systems.
- But significant **experimental efforts**



# Three-body correlations

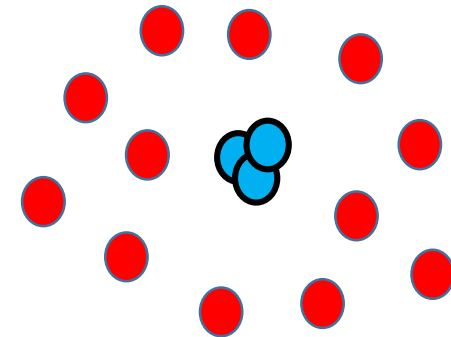
$$\Psi(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_A) \xrightarrow{r_{12}, r_{13}, r_{23} \rightarrow 0} \varphi(\mathbf{x}_{12}, \mathbf{x}_{123}) \times B(\mathbf{R}_{123}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq 1,2,3})$$



- A **single** leading channel:

$$j^\pi = \frac{1^+}{2}, t = \frac{1}{2}$$

- The same quantum numbers as  ${}^3\text{He}$
- Therefore, **at short-distances** we expect:
  - **$T = 1/2$  dominance** (over  $T = 3/2$ )
  - **Universality** - All nuclei should behave like  ${}^3\text{He}$

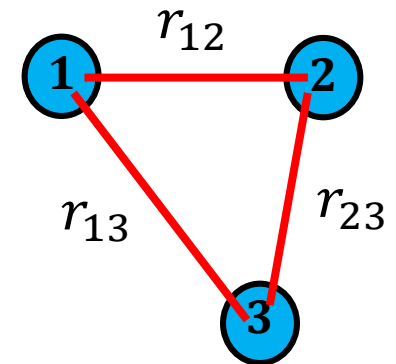


# Three-body density

**Ab-initio calculations** – AFDMC (with Stefano Gandolfi):

$$\rho_3(r_{12}, r_{13}, r_{23}) \equiv \binom{A}{3} \langle \Psi | \delta(|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2| - r_{12}) \delta(|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_3| - r_{13}) \delta(|\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_3| - r_{23}) | \Psi \rangle$$

- Projections to  $T = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $T = \frac{3}{2}$
- N2LO( $R = 1.0$  fm)E1 local chiral interaction
- Nuclei:  ${}^3\text{He}$ ,  ${}^4\text{He}$ ,  ${}^6\text{Li}$ ,  ${}^{16}\text{O}$



# Three-body contact values ( $T = 1/2$ )

$$\frac{c(^4\text{He})}{c(^3\text{He})} \times \frac{3}{4} = 3.8 \pm 0.3$$

$$\frac{c(^6\text{Li})}{c(^3\text{He})} \times \frac{3}{6} = 3.1 \pm 0.3$$

$$\frac{c(^{16}\text{O})}{c(^3\text{He})} \times \frac{3}{16} = 4.2 \pm 0.5$$

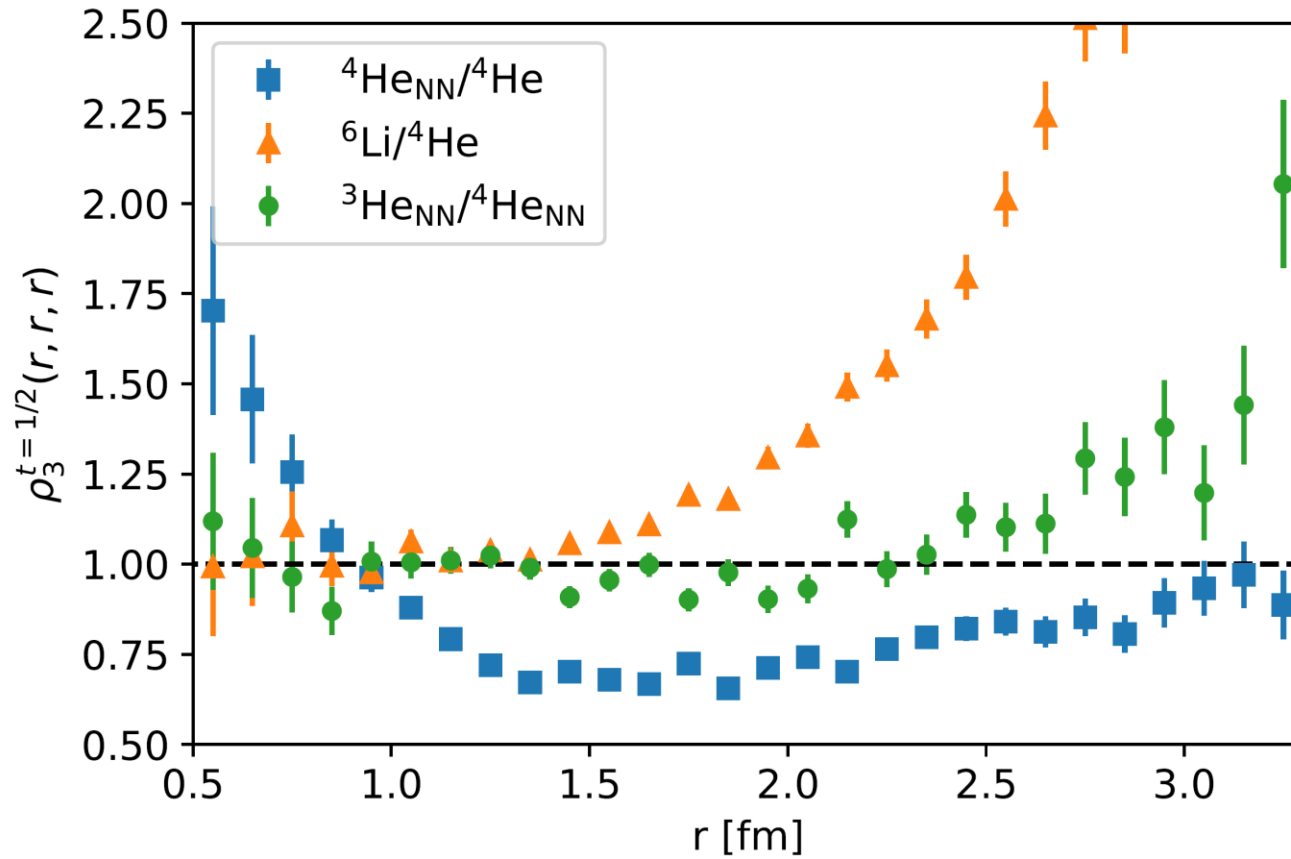
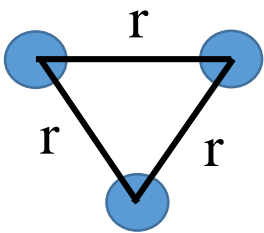
Can be compared to inclusive cross section ratios (in the appropriate kinematics)

$$a_3(A) = \frac{3}{A} \frac{\sigma_{eA}}{(\sigma_{e^3\text{He}} + \sigma_{e^3\text{H}})/2}$$

For a symmetric nucleus  $A$

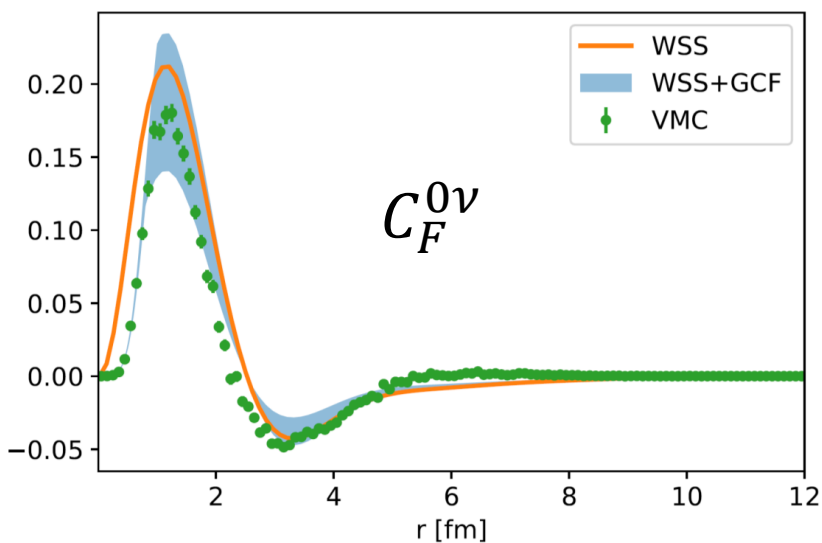
$$a_3(A) = \frac{3}{A} \frac{C(A)}{C(^3\text{He})}$$

# Sensitivity to three-body forces

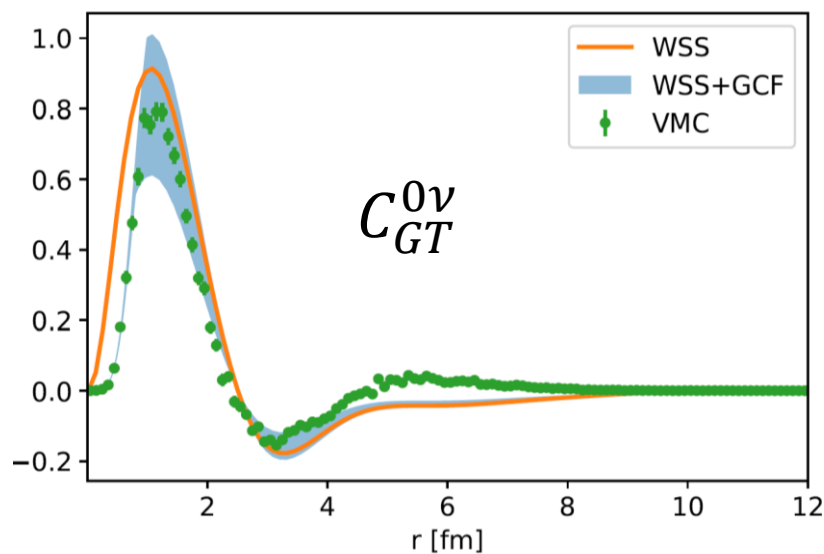


# Results – light nuclei (AV18)

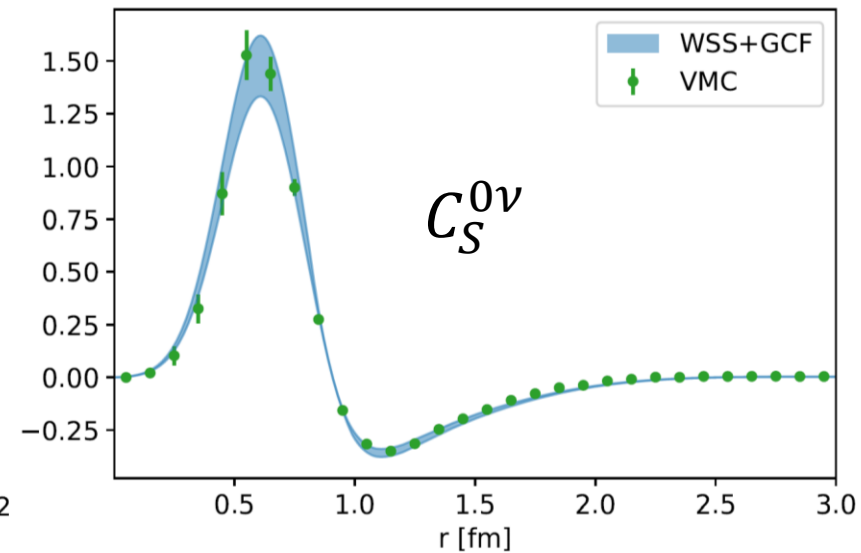
Using  ${}^6\text{He} \rightarrow {}^6\text{Be}$  and  ${}^{10}\text{Be} \rightarrow {}^{10}\text{C}$  to “predict”  ${}^{12}\text{Be} \rightarrow {}^{12}\text{C}$



Short distances - GCF



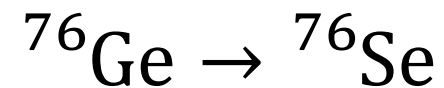
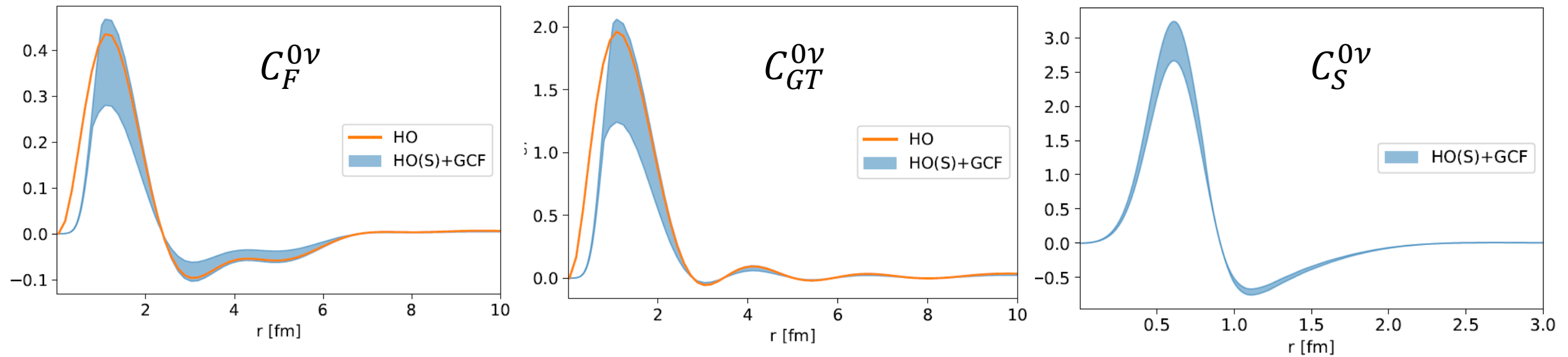
Long distances – Shell model





# Results – heavy nuclei (AV18)

- Transition densities of **heavy nuclei**:



# Model independence of contact ratios

- For  $0\nu 2\beta$ :


$$\frac{C^{AV18}(f_1, i_1)}{C^{AV18}(f_2, i_2)} = \frac{C^{SM}(f_1, i_1)}{C^{SM}(f_2, i_2)}$$

$$C^{AV18}(f_1, i_1) = \frac{C^{SM}(f_1, i_1)}{C^{SM}(f_2, i_2)} C^{AV18}(f_2, i_2)$$

- For example

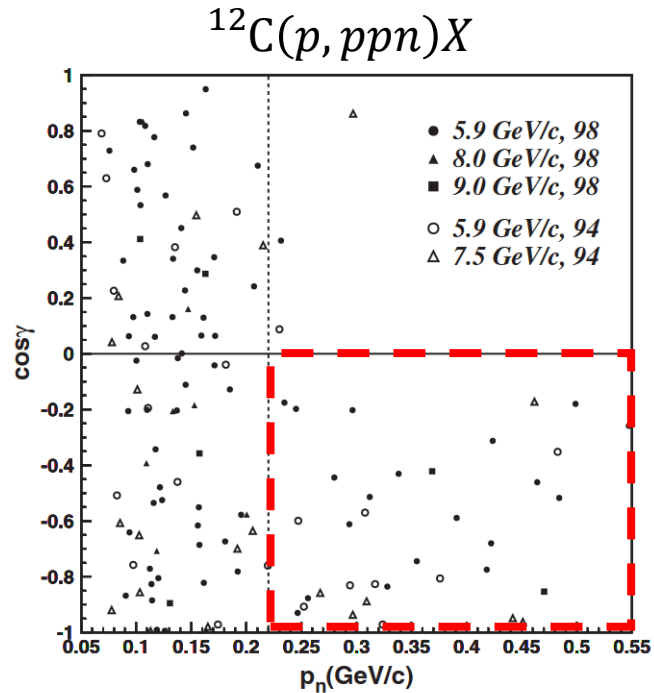
$$C^{AV18}(^{76}\text{Ge} \rightarrow ^{76}\text{Se}) = \frac{C^{SM}(^{76}\text{Ge} \rightarrow ^{76}\text{Se})}{C^{SM}(^{12}\text{Be} \rightarrow ^{12}\text{C})} C^{AV18}(^{12}\text{Be} \rightarrow ^{12}\text{C})$$

Exact QMC  
calculations

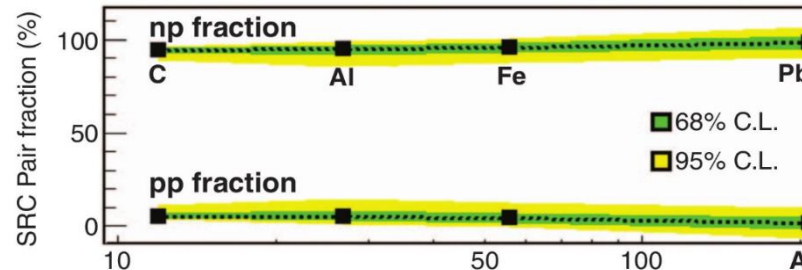
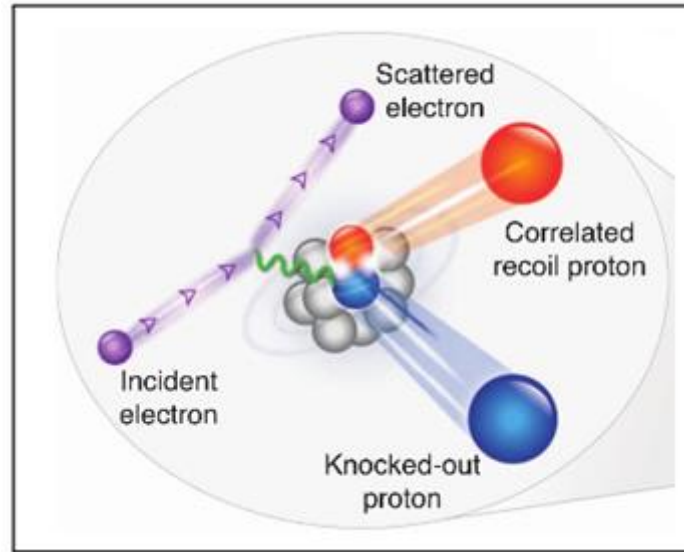


# SRCs in Nuclear Systems

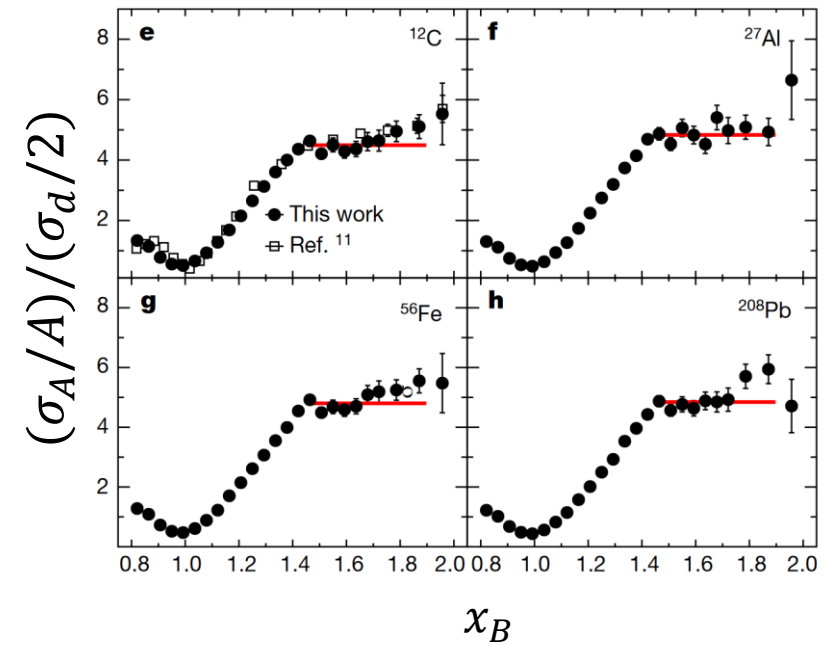
Studied **experimentally** using large momentum transfer quasi-elastic reactions



Piasezky et al., PRL 97, 162504 (2006)



O. Hen et al., Science 346, 614 (2014)



B. Schmookler et al. (CLAS Collaboration),  
Nature 566, 354 (2019)

# Generalized Contact Formalism

$$\Psi \xrightarrow{r_{ij} \rightarrow 0} \sum_{\alpha} \varphi_{ij}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}_{ij}) A_{ij}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{R}_{ij}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq i,j}) \quad ; \quad C_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} \propto \langle A_{ij}^{\alpha} | A_{ij}^{\beta} \rangle$$

Channels  $\alpha$   
=  $(\ell_2 S_2) j_2 m_2$

Universal functions

The pair kind  
 $ij \in \{pp, nn, pn\}$

3 matrices of Nuclear Contacts

Main channels for nuclear systems:

The **spin-one** channel:  $\ell_2 = 0, 2$  ;  $s_2 = 1$  ;  $j_2 = 1$  ;  $t_2 = 0$  (only **np pairs**)

The **spin-zero** channel:  $\ell_2 = 0$  ;  $s_2 = 0$  ;  $j_2 = 0$  ;  $t_2 = 1$  (**All pairs**)

# Generalized Contact Formalism

$$\Psi \xrightarrow{r_{ij} \rightarrow 0} \sum_{\alpha} \varphi_{ij}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}_{ij}) A_{ij}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{R}_{ij}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq i,j}) \quad ; \quad C_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} \propto \langle A_{ij}^{\alpha} | A_{ij}^{\beta} \rangle$$

Channels  $\alpha$   
 $= (\ell_2 S_2) j_2 m_2$

**Universal**  
 functions

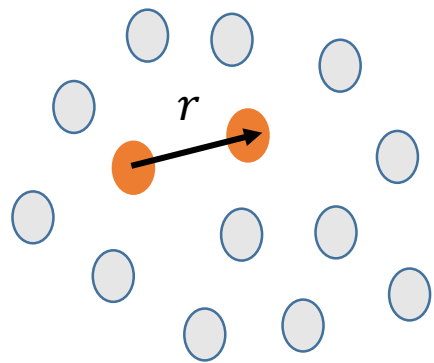
The pair kind  
 $ij \in \{pp, nn, pn\}$

**3 matrices of**  
**Nuclear Contacts**

Some features can be explained using:

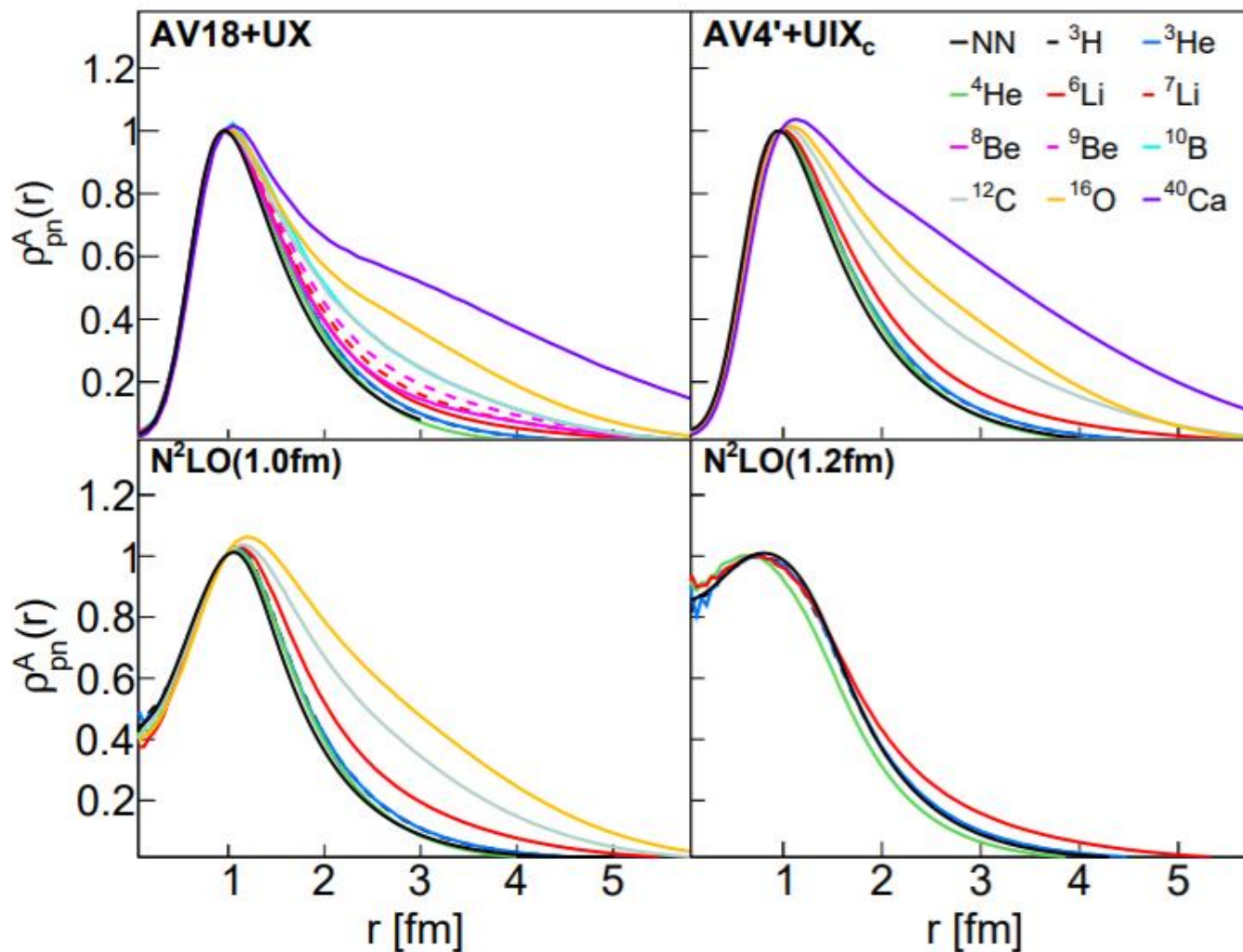
- **RG arguments**      S. K. Bogner and D. Roscher, Phys. Rev. C 86, 064304 (2012).  
                                  A. J. Tropiano, S. K. Bogner, and R. J. Furnstahl, Phys. Rev. C 104, 034311 (2021)
- **Coupled Cluster expansion**      S. Beck, RW, N. Barnea, Phys. Rev. C 107, 064306 (2023)  
    S. Beck, RW, N. Barnea, arXiv:2305.17649 [nucl-th] (2023)

# Two-body density



$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle = \langle \varphi | \hat{O}(r) | \varphi \rangle C$$

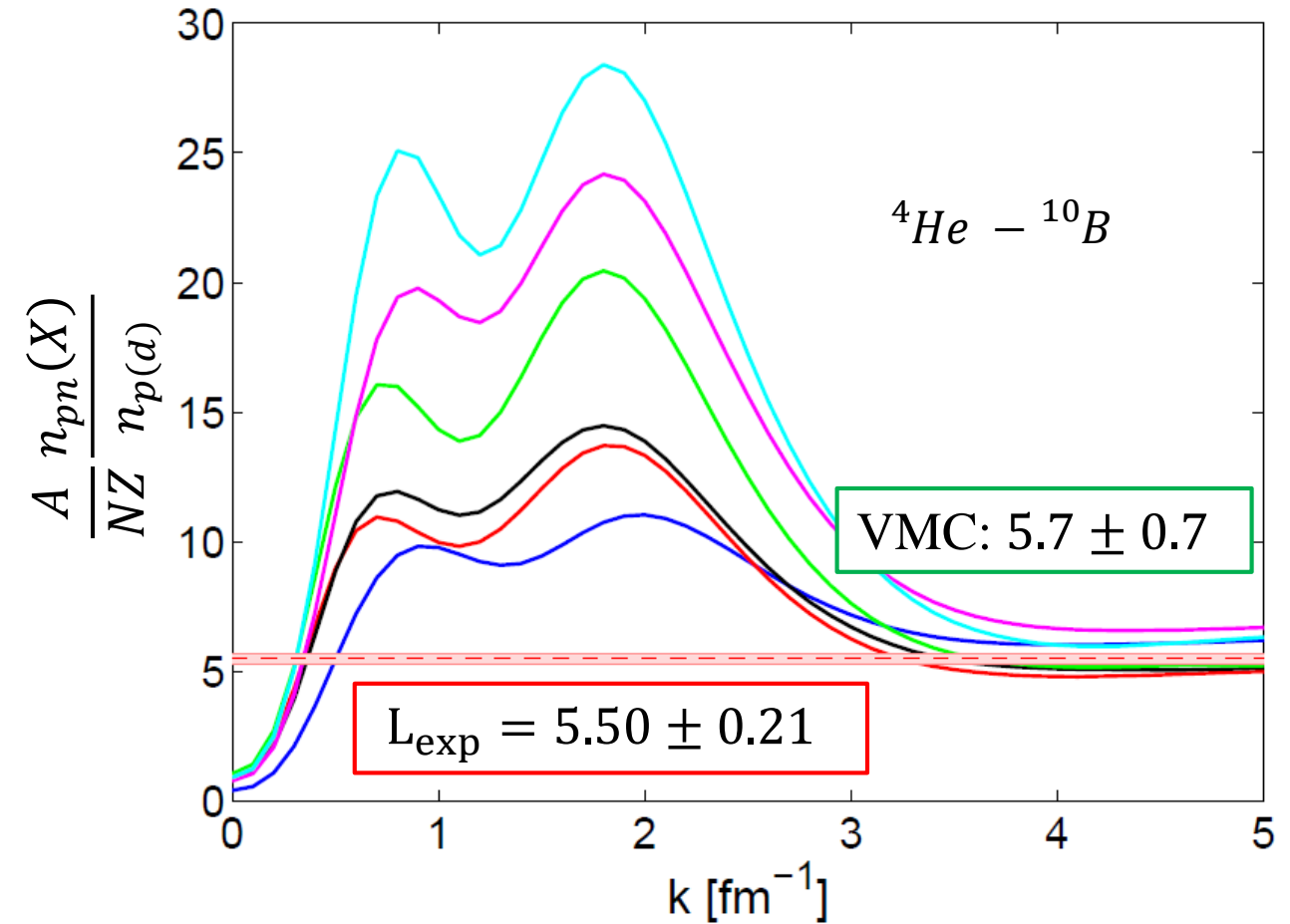
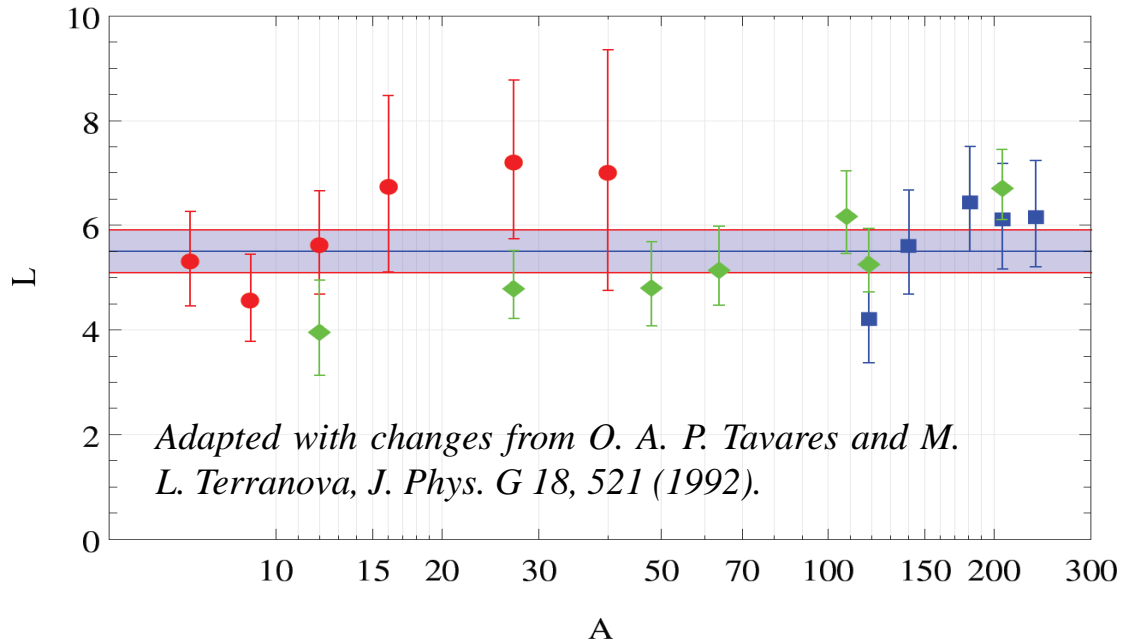
$$\rho_{NN}(r) \xrightarrow{r \rightarrow 0} C |\varphi(r)|^2$$



Shows the validity of the factorization

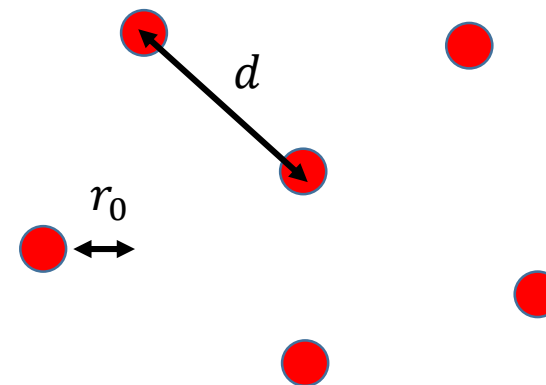
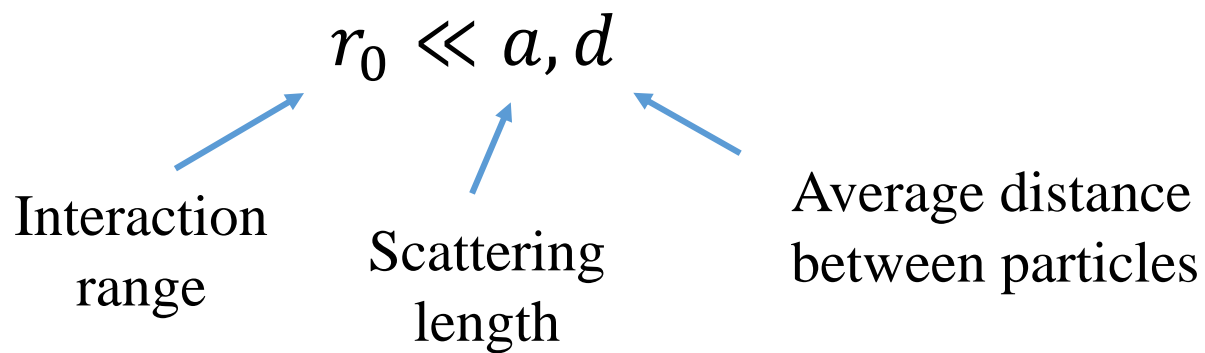
# Nuclear photoabsorption

$$\sigma_X(\omega) = L \frac{NZ}{A} \sigma_d(\omega) \quad \text{Levinger Model}$$



# The Contact Theory

- Dilute systems - with **negligible interaction range**
- Zero-range condition:



- Zero-range model: Non-interacting particles with boundary condition

Independent of  
the details of the  
interaction

$$\Psi(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N) \xrightarrow{r_{12} \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{1}{r_{12}} - \frac{1}{a} \right) \times A(\mathbf{R}_{12}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq 1,2})$$



# The Contact Theory

$$\Psi(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N) \xrightarrow{r_{12} \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{1}{r_{12}} - \frac{1}{a} \right) \times A(\mathbf{R}_{12}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq 1,2})$$

- A parameter – **the contact** – can be defined:

$$C \propto \langle A|A \rangle$$

- $C \approx$  **number of SRC pairs** in the system
- Connected to many quantities in the system

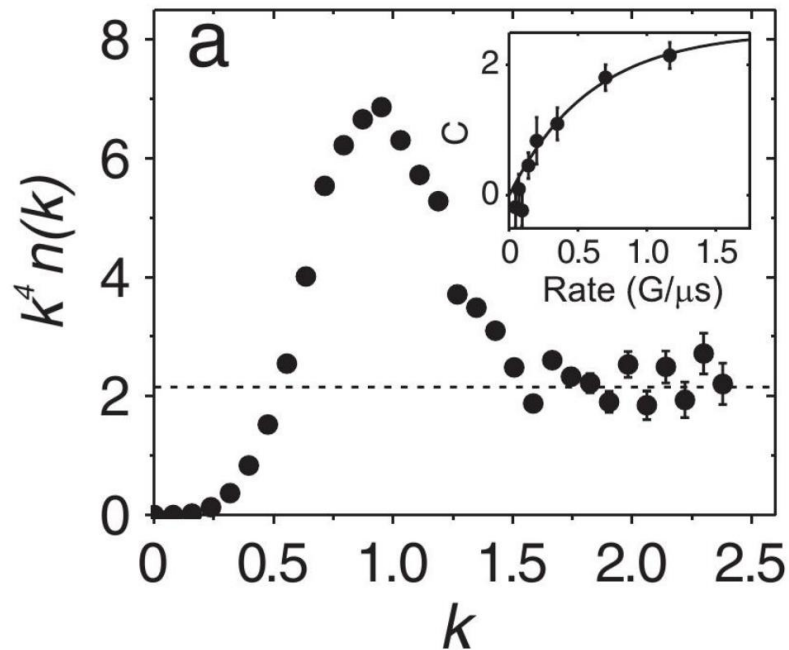
$$n(k) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} C/k^4$$

$$T + U = \frac{\hbar^2}{4\pi m a} C + \sum_{\sigma} \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} \left( n_{\sigma}(\mathbf{k}) - \frac{C}{k^4} \right) \dots$$

# The Contact Theory

- Verified experimentally: (ultra-cold atomic systems)

Momentum distribution



RF line shape

