

# Large Scale Calculations of Nuclear Structure and Nuclear Transition Matrix Elements



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# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

Part I: Progress on the BIGSTICK shell model code

+ W. Erich Ormand (LLNL), Ken McElvain (UC Berkeley), Hongzhang Shan (LBL)

Part II: Transitions and the Brink-Axel hypothesis

+ Michael K. G. Kruse (LLNL), W. Erich Ormand (LLNL) and Micah Schuster (SDSU)

Part III: *ab initio* Gamow-Teller transitions (in progress)

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## Part I: Progress on the BIGSTICK shell model code

+ W. Erich Ormand (LLNL), Ken McElvain (UC Berkeley), Hongzhang Shan (LBL)

Many-fermion code: 2<sup>nd</sup> generation after REDSTICK code  
(started in *Baton Rouge, La.*)

Uses “factorization” algorithm: Johnson, Ormand, and Krastev,  
Comp. Phys. Comm. 184, 2761(2013)

Arbitrary single-particle radial waveforms

Allows local or nonlocal two-body interaction

**Three-body forces implemented and validated**

Applies to both nuclear and atomic cases

Runs on both desktop and parallel machines

--can run at least dimension 200-400M+ on desktop

**--has done dimension 2 billion+ on supercomputers**

45 kilolines of code

Fortran 90 + MPI + OpenMP

# WHY BIGSTICK?

Comparison of nonzero matrix storage with factorization

${}^7\text{Li}$

(loop over spectators)

Space	Basis dim	matrix store (2-body)	factorization (2-body)	matrix store (3-body)	factorization (3-body)
$N_{\max}=8$	6 M	36 Gb	1.5 Gb	1 Tb	26 Gb
$N_{\max}=10$	43 M	430 Gb	10 Gb	170 Tb	250 Gb
$N_{\max}=12$	250 M	4 Tb	60 Gb		

Space	Basis dim	matrix store (2-body)	factorization (2-body)	matrix store (3-body)	factorization (3-body)
$N_{\text{shell}}=3$	0.4 M	0.8 Gb	6 Mb	10 Gb	44 Mb
$N_{\text{shell}}=4$	45 M	330 Gb	0.3 Gb	9 Tb	4 Gb
$N_{\text{shell}}=5$	2 G	38 Tb	16 Gb	2 Pb	140 Gb
$N_{\text{shell}}=6$	50 G	2 Pb	87 Gb	170 Pb	3 Tb

# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

## What's new with BIGSTICK?

Lanczos vectors now broken up and distributed – can go to much larger model spaces (CWJ + K. McElvain, Berkeley)

Improved reorthogonalization across MPI nodes – much faster now (K. McElvain)

### **Next steps:**

Continue pushing performance—plan to go to  $\text{dim} = 9$  billion by summer

Improve 3-body force capabilities, will install 4-body

Beyond Lanczos—install LOBPCG or similar algorithm

Science applications: dark matter cross-sections, transition matrix elements

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*Baldwin*



"It's not enough to just show up. You have to have a business plan."

# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

## Part II: Transitions and the Brink-Axel hypothesis

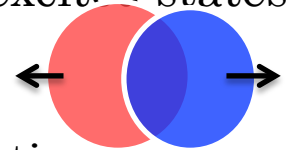
+ Michael K. G. Kruse (LLNL), W. Erich Ormand (LLNL), and Micah Schuster (SDSU)

Brink-Axel hypothesis (D. Brink, D. Phil. thesis, Oxford University (unpublished), 1955; P. Axel, Phys. Rev. **126**, 671 (1962)):

If the ground state has a giant dipole resonance (GDR), then excited states should have GDR

and

because the GDR is a collective proton-versus-neutrons oscillations, the GDR should be insensitive to the initial state.



Electric dipole

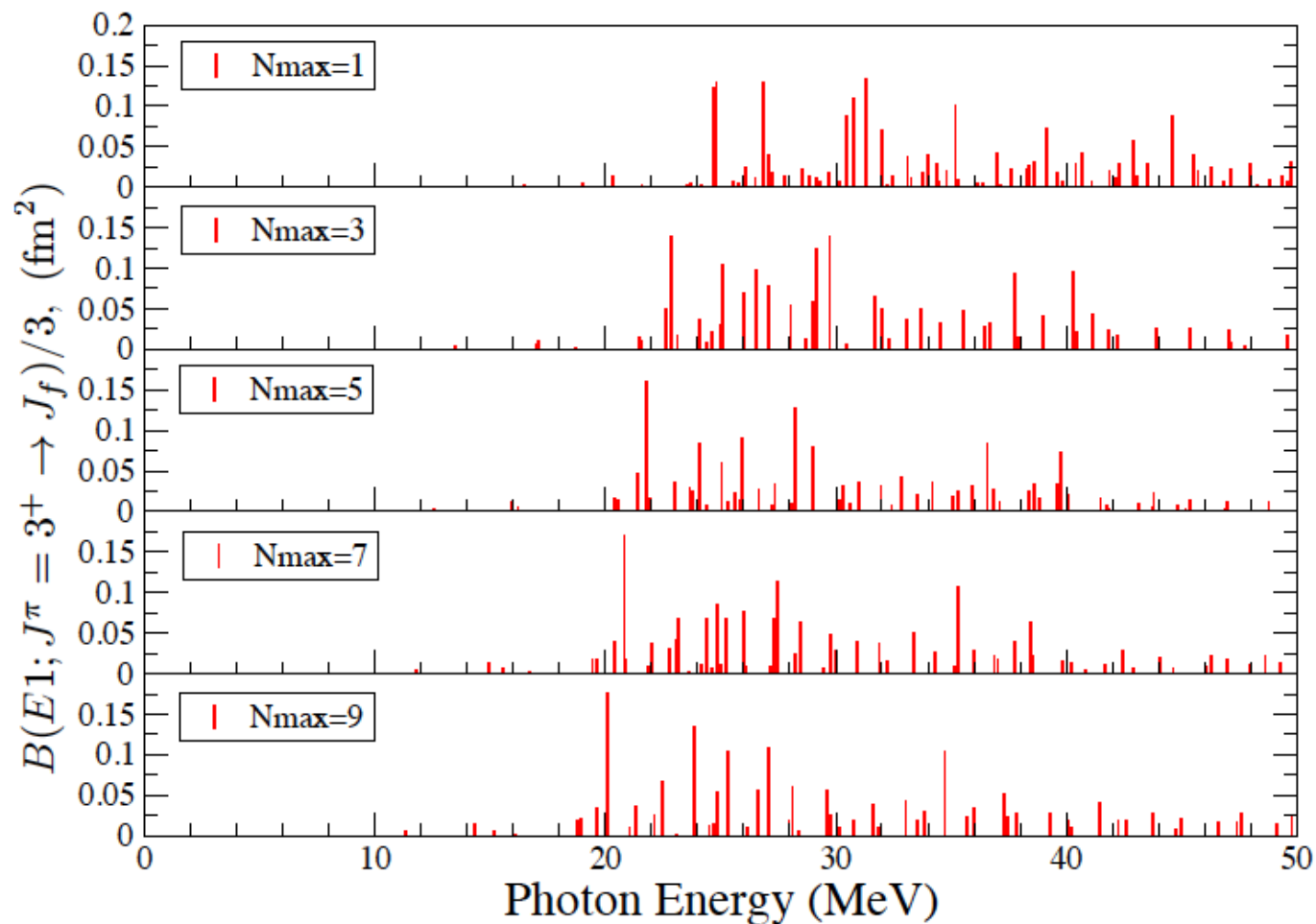
$$S(E_i, E_x) = \sum_f |\langle f | \hat{T} | i \rangle|^2 \delta(E_x - E_f + E_i)$$

“Transition strength function”

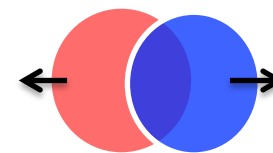
Brink-Axel: “ $S(E_i, E_x)$  independent of  $E_i$ ”

# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

Kruse, Ormand, and Johnson: arXiv:1502:03464



$^{10}\text{B}$  E1 response

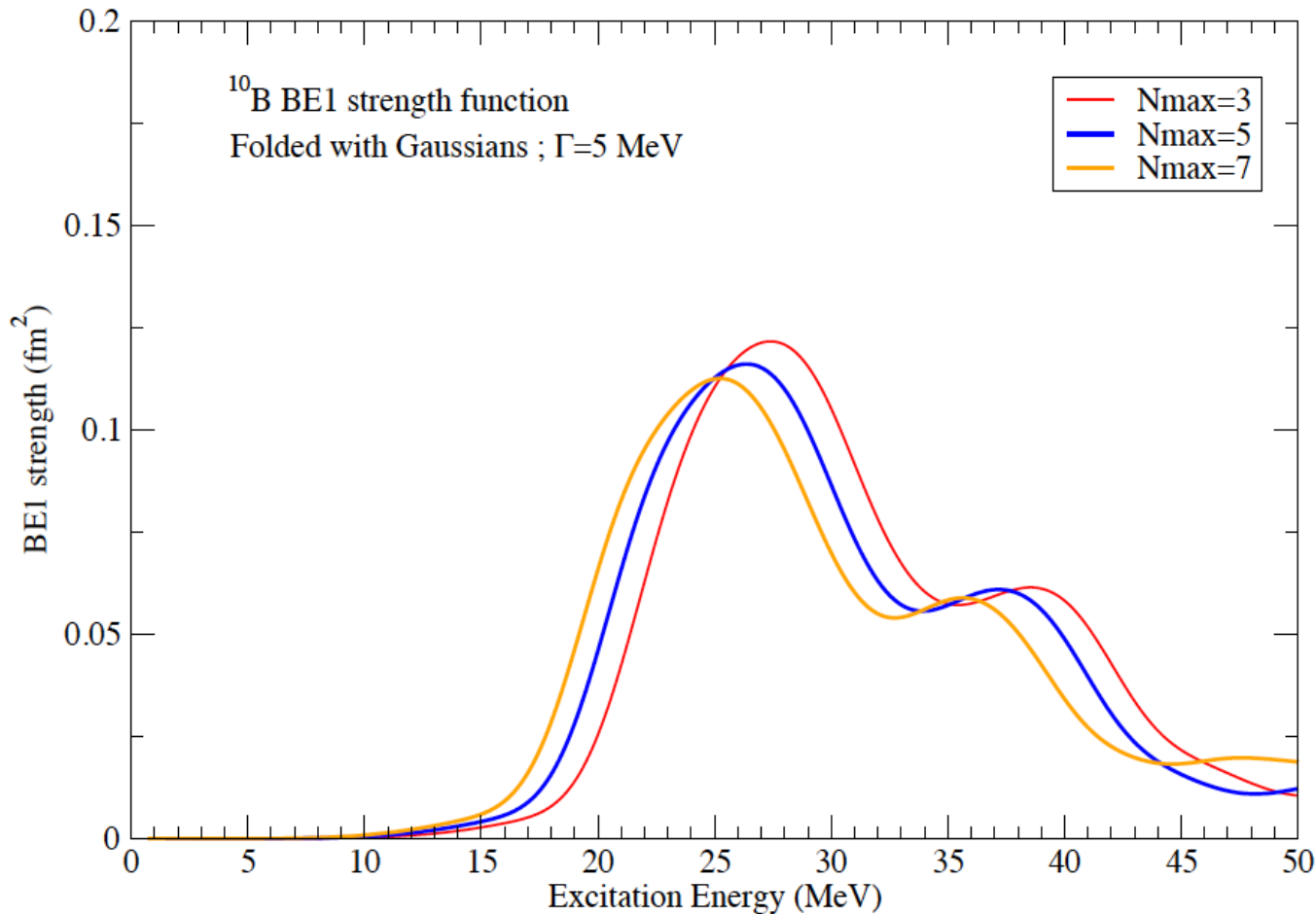


Electric dipole



# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

## BE1 strength with increasing basis size



Strength distribution shape is robust in Nmax.

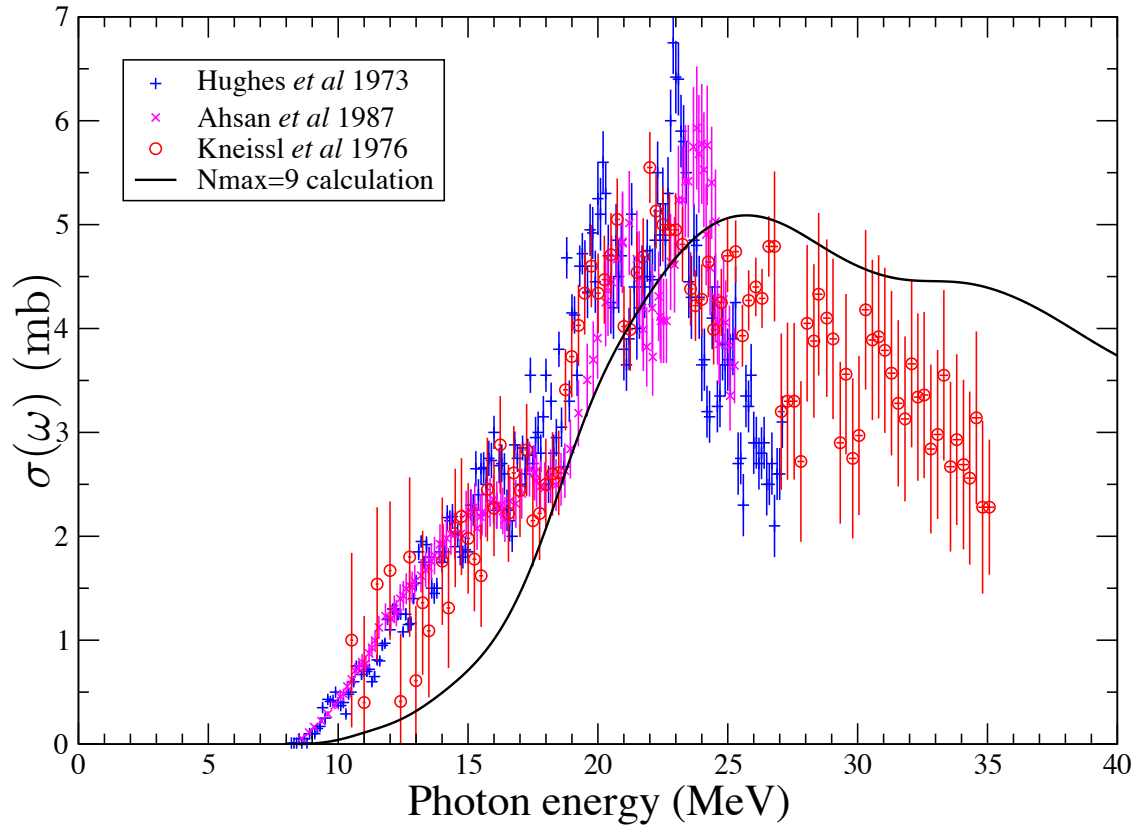
Slowly moves down in energy as a function of Nmax.

How to extrapolate this distribution?

Perhaps it is best to extrapolate centroids?

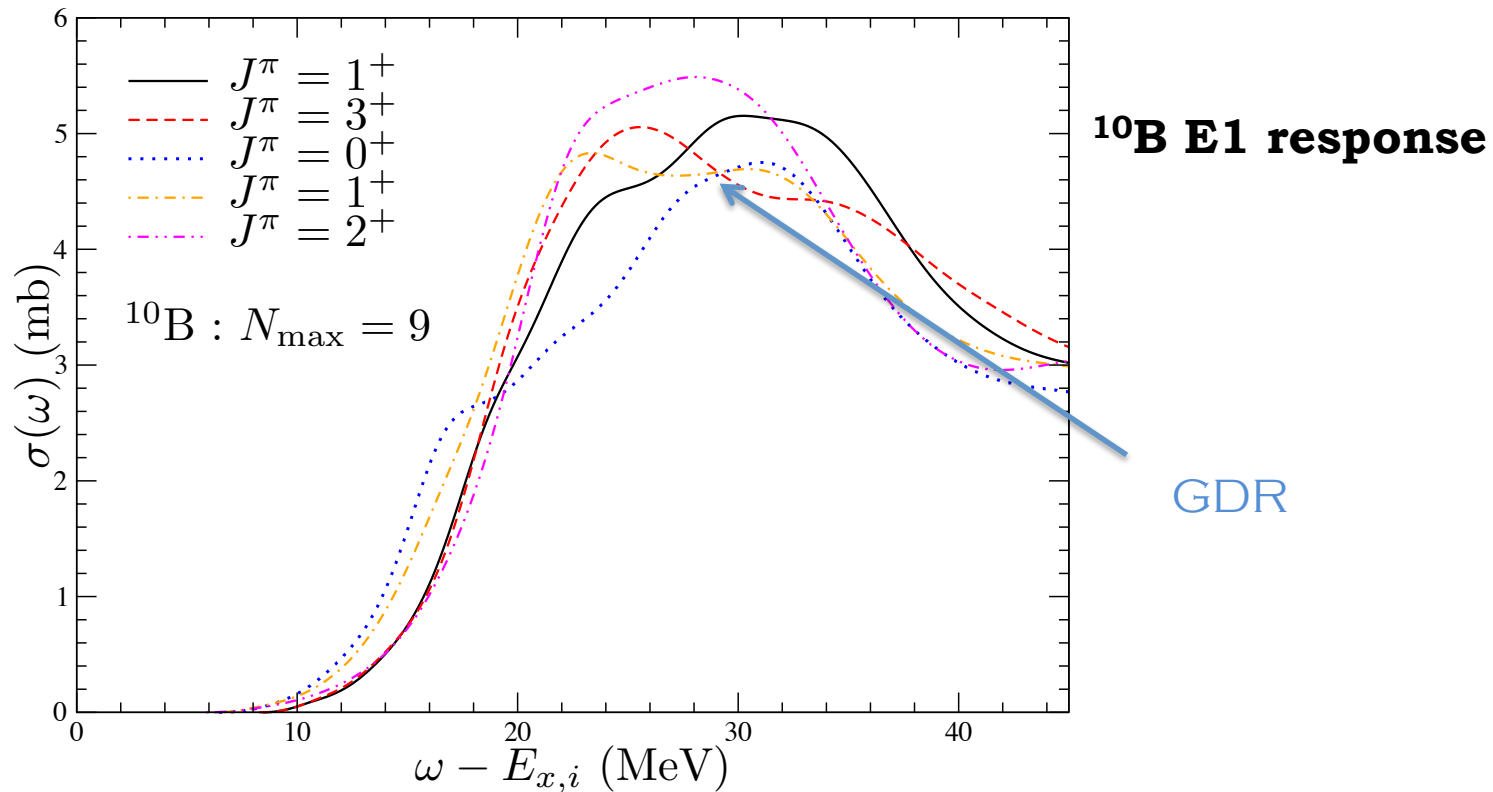
# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

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Brink-Axel: “ $S(E_i, E_x)$  independent of  $E_i$ ”

# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS



Is this true in general? What if you look at more states?

Is this true for other operators? \*

\* Some evidence to the contrary (with Gamow-Teller operator):  
Frazier, Brown, Millener, and Zelevinsky, Phys. Lett B **414**, 7 (1997);  
Misch, Fuller, and Brown, PRC 90, 065808 (2014)

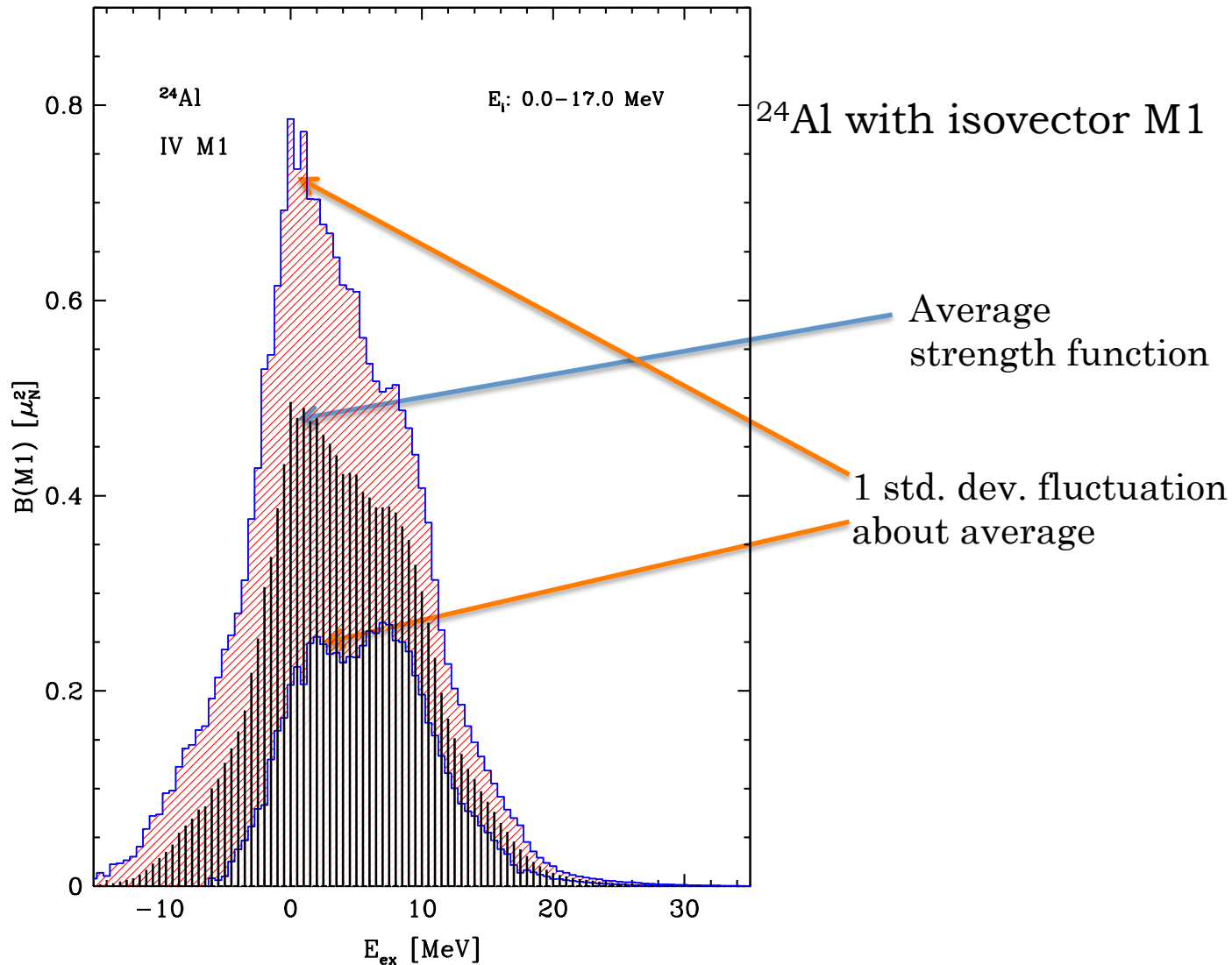
# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

Some preliminary work by Micah Schuster:  
phenomenological calculations in *sd*-shell where  
we can compute hundreds of initial states

Took energy bins of initial states, computed strength functions,  
and computed average strength function + fluctuations about average

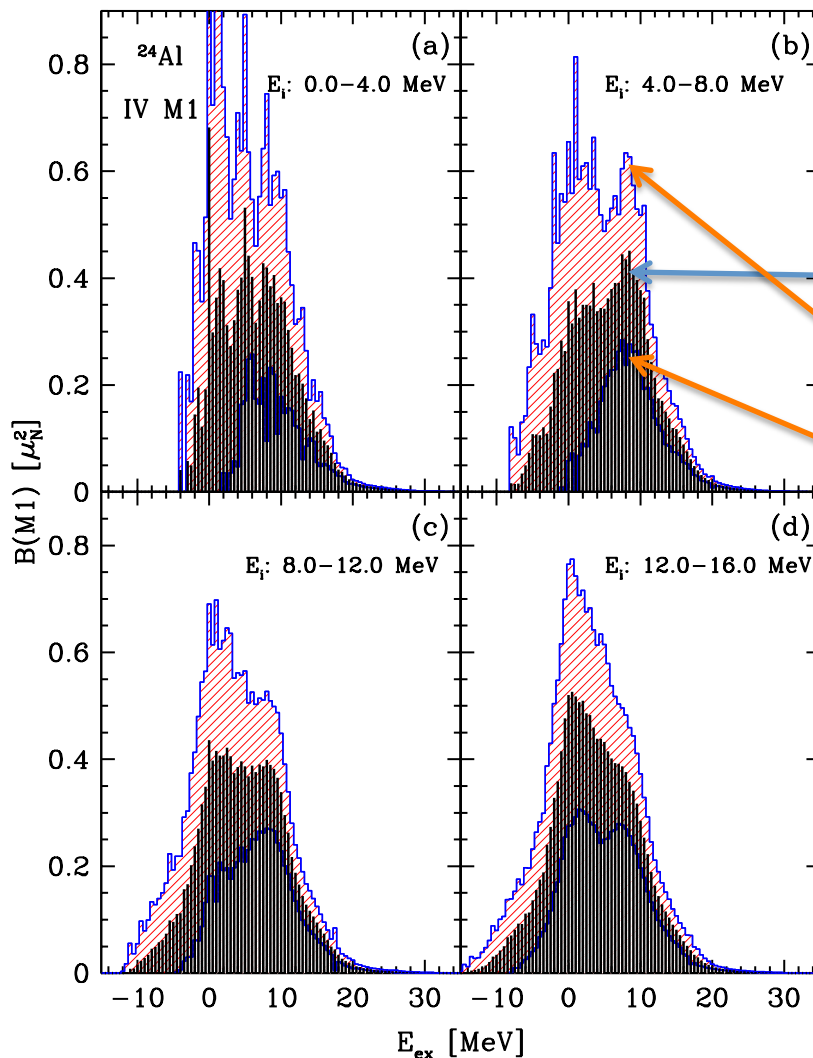
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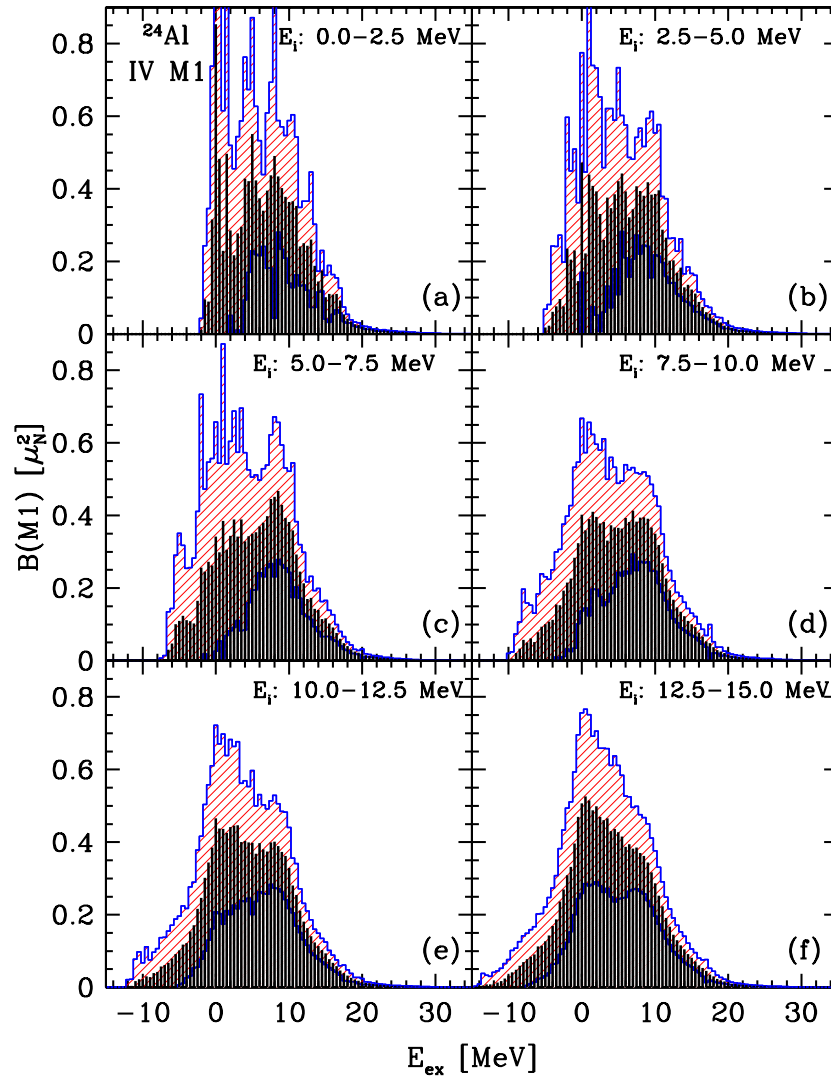
$^{24}\text{Al}$  with isovector M1

Average  
strength function

1 std. dev. fluctuation  
about average

# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

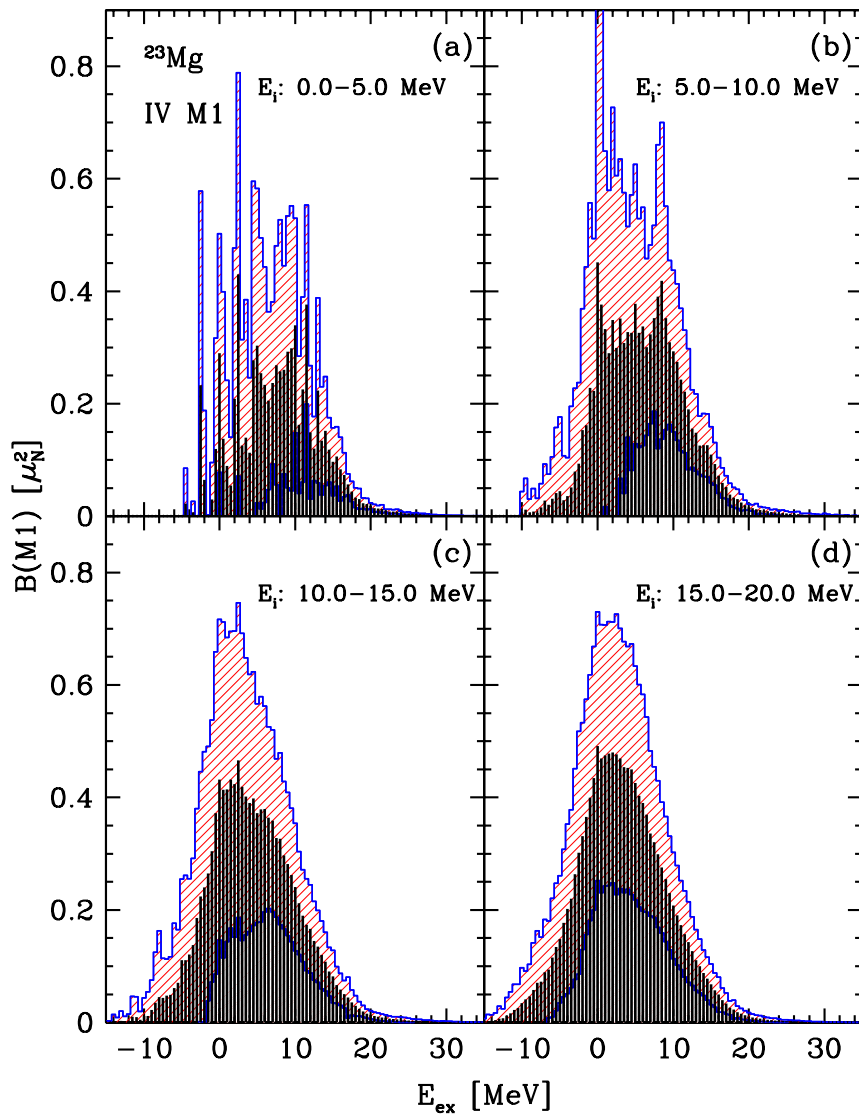
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$^{24}\text{Al}$  with isovector M1



# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS



$^{23}\text{Mg}$  with isovector M1

Looks like large  
fluctuations  
about the  
average; can we  
characterize /  
quantify this?



# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

The total strength  
(or *non-energy-weighted sum rule*)  
can be computed as a simple expectation value

Looks like large  
fluctuations  
about the  
average; can we  
characterize /  
quantify this?

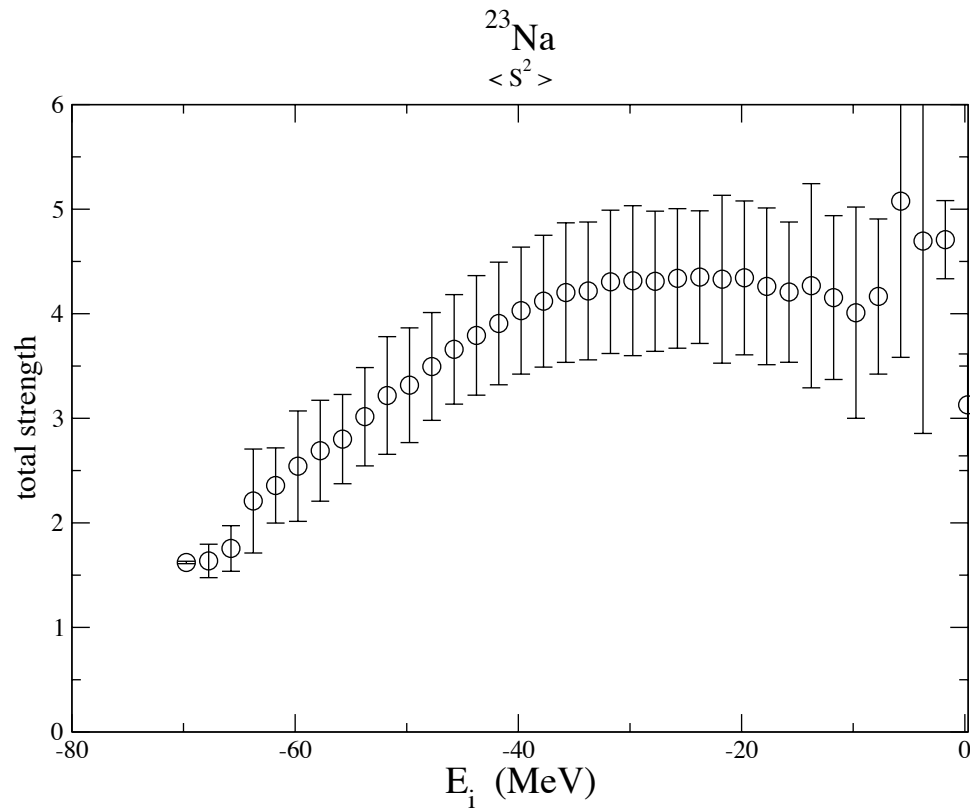
$$S_0(E_i) = \int S(E_i, E_x) dE_x = \sum_f |\langle f | \hat{T} | i \rangle|^2 = \langle i | \hat{T}^\dagger \hat{T} | i \rangle$$



# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

The total strength (or *non-energy-weighted sum rule*)

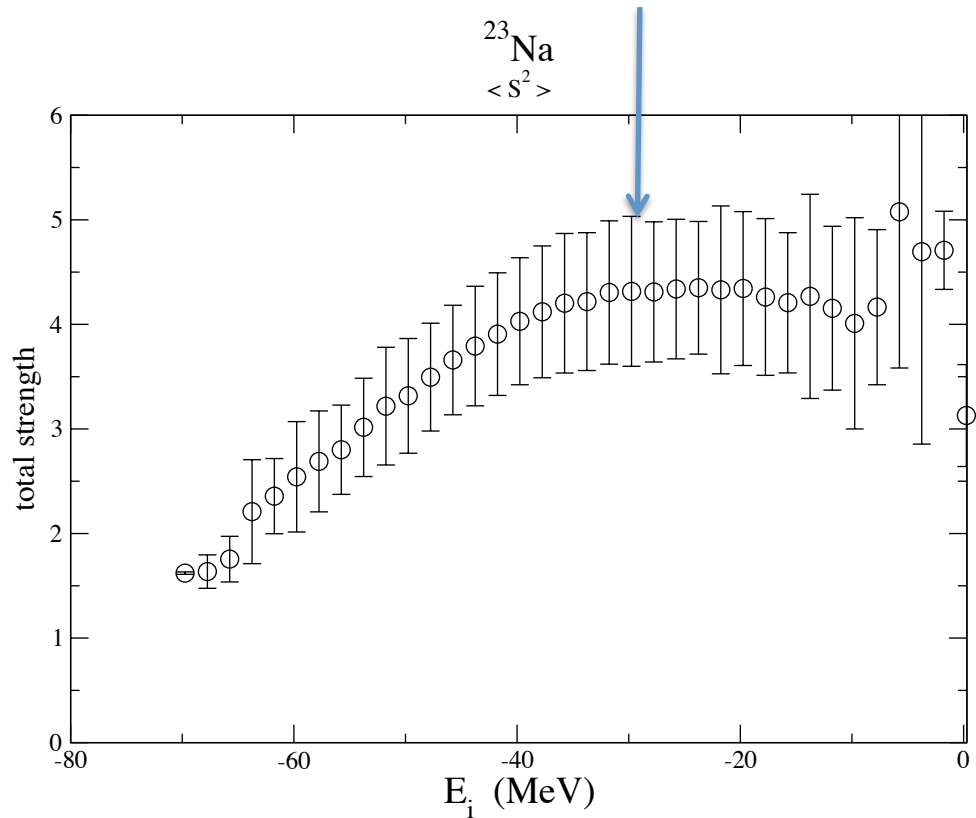
$$\int S(E_i, E_x) dE_x = \sum |\langle f | \hat{T} | i \rangle|^2 = \langle i | \hat{T}^\dagger T | i \rangle$$



# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

$$(\Delta S_0(E_i))^2 = \langle i | (\hat{T} + T)^2 | i \rangle$$

The fluctuations  
about the  
average are also  
easy to represent



# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

Furthermore, the  
smooth secular  
behavior is easily  
understood through  
*spectral distribution  
theory*  
of J. B. French *et al*

Average expectation value is just a trace!

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \langle i | \hat{O} | i \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \text{tr} (\hat{O})$$



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(Linear) energy dependence is *also* a trace!

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_i E_i \langle i | \hat{O} | i \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \langle i | \hat{O} H | i \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \text{tr} (\hat{O} H)$$

Slope is given by  $\langle O H \rangle - \langle O \rangle \langle H \rangle$



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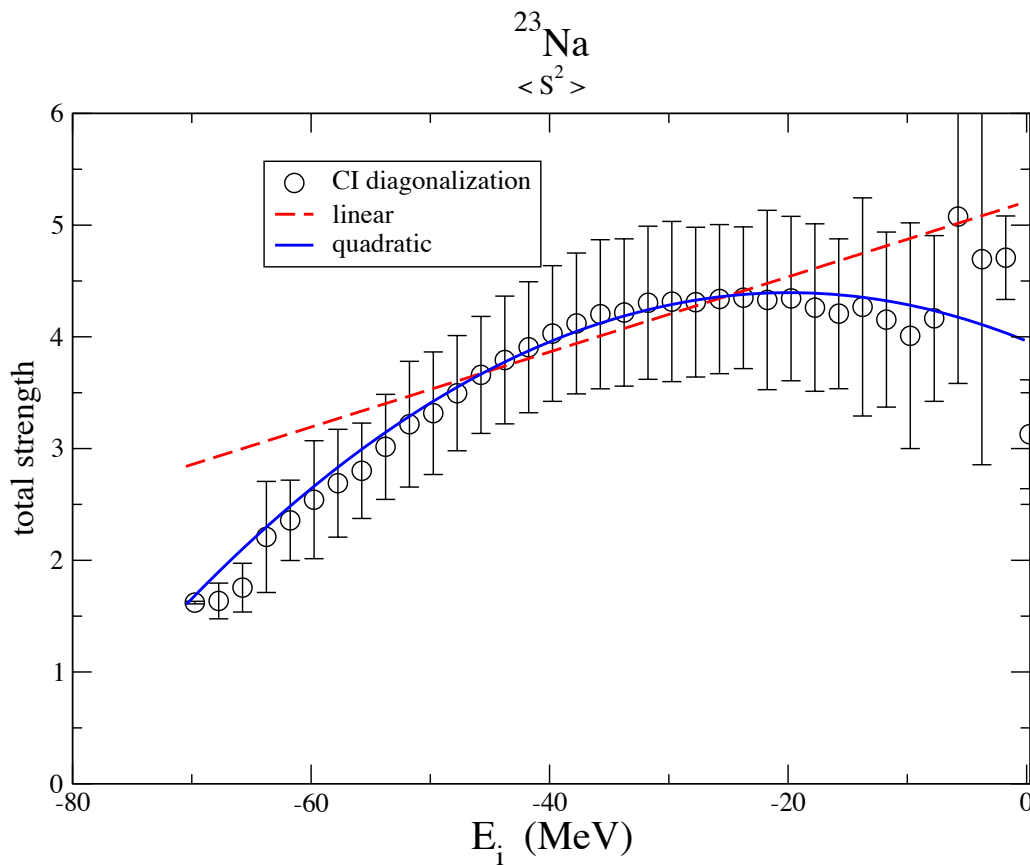
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From this we can derive the secular  
behavior of expectation values



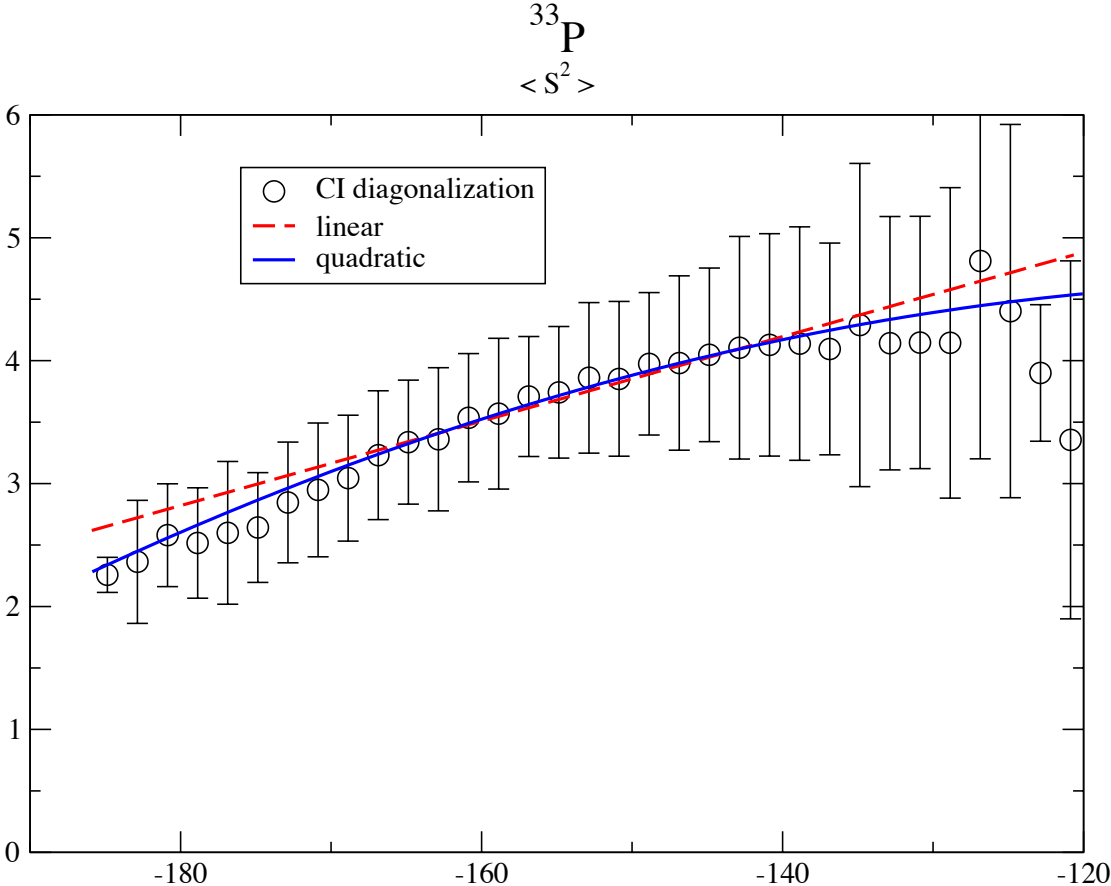
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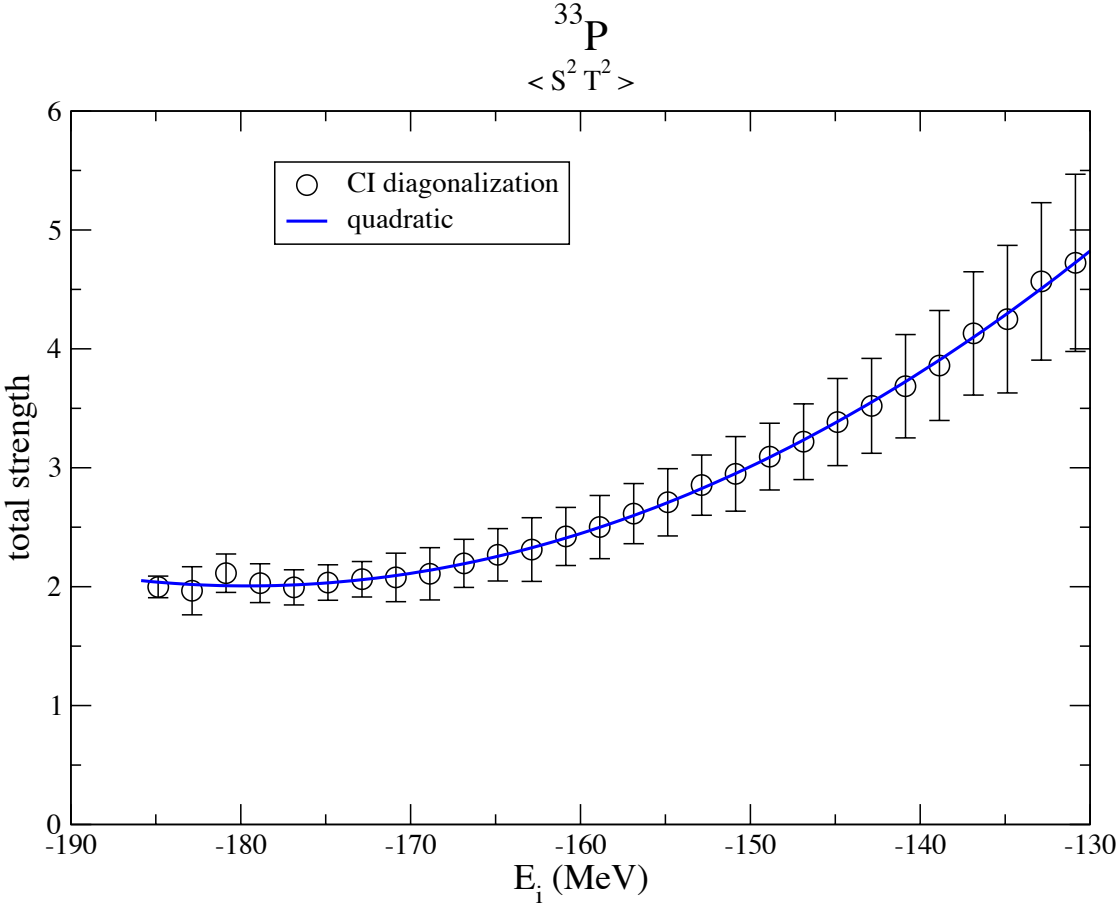




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# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

What we do learn  
from this?



# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

What we do learn  
from this?

The generalized Brink-Axel hypothesis  
(for arbitrary operators) is *wrong!*  
-- total strength evolves with initial (parent) energy  
-- significant fluctuations even for nearby parent states

We can understand this through *spectral  
distribution theory*,  
that is,  
traces of operators (weighted by the energy);

A lack of energy dependence can occur *only*  
if

$$\langle OH \rangle - \langle O \rangle \langle H \rangle = 0$$



# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

## Part III: *ab initio* Gamow-Teller transitions

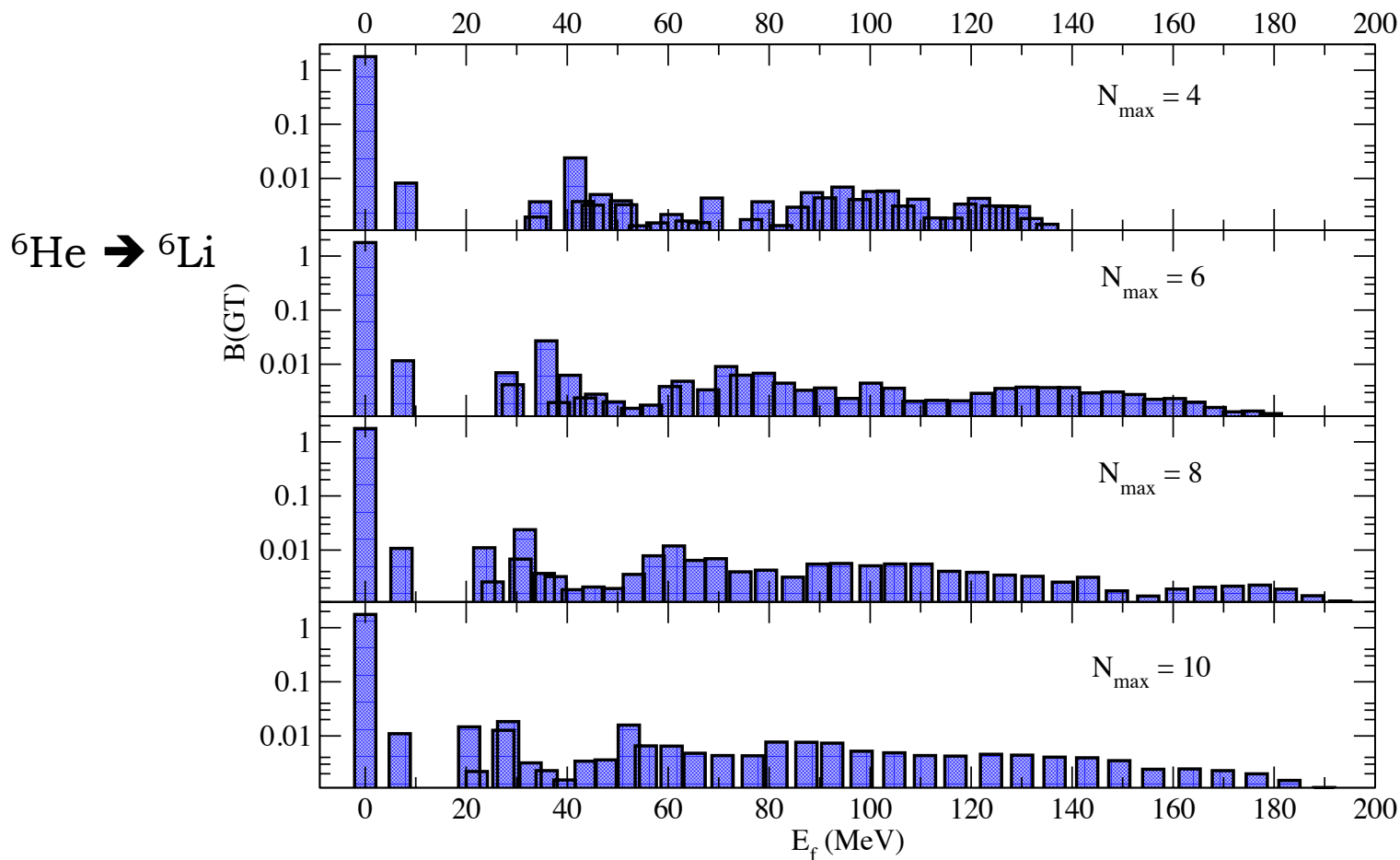
- Gamow-Teller important for weak physics, astrophysics
- Avoids dependence on radial wavefunctions (at lowest order); mostly SU(4) irreps; Ikeda sum rule strong constraint
- **Consistent quenching of coupling—exchange currents, or what?**
- **What about 0-neutrino double-beta decay?**

### Two recent highlights:

Anomalously long  $^{14}\text{C}$  half-life (Maris, Vary, Navratil, Ormand, Nam, Dean) Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, 202502 (2011): ‘accidental’ cancellation of matrix elements driven by 3-body force

Exchange current corrections from EFT (quenching of about 0.8):  
S. Vaintraub, N. Barnea, and D. Gazit, Phys. Rev. C **79**, 065501 (2009);  
J. Menendez, D. Gazit, and A. Schwenk, Phys. Rev. Lett **107**, 062501 (2011)

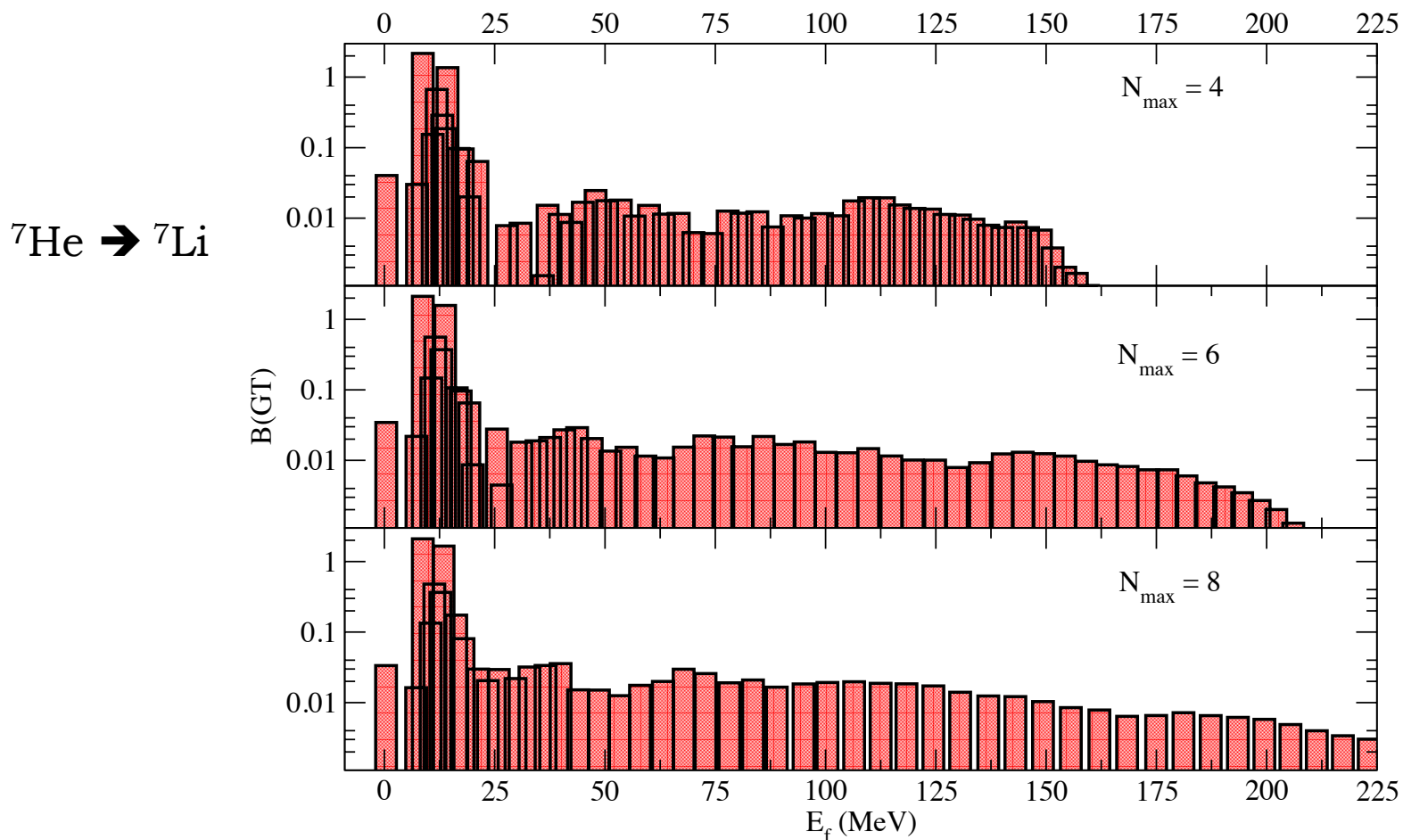
# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS



Preliminary!

Chiral 2-body forces SRG evolved to  $\lambda=2 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

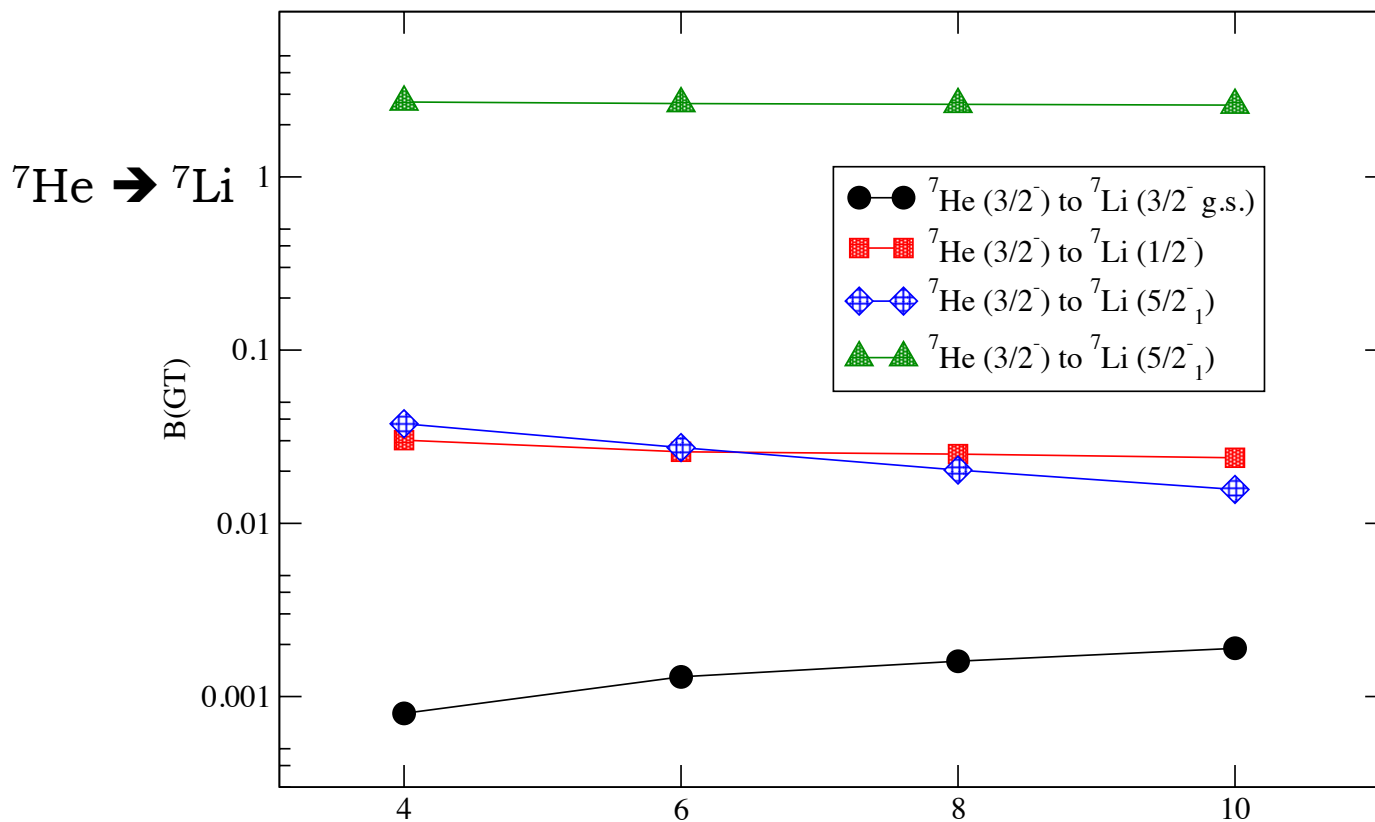
# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS



Preliminary!

(Run on desktop machine with BIGSTICK)

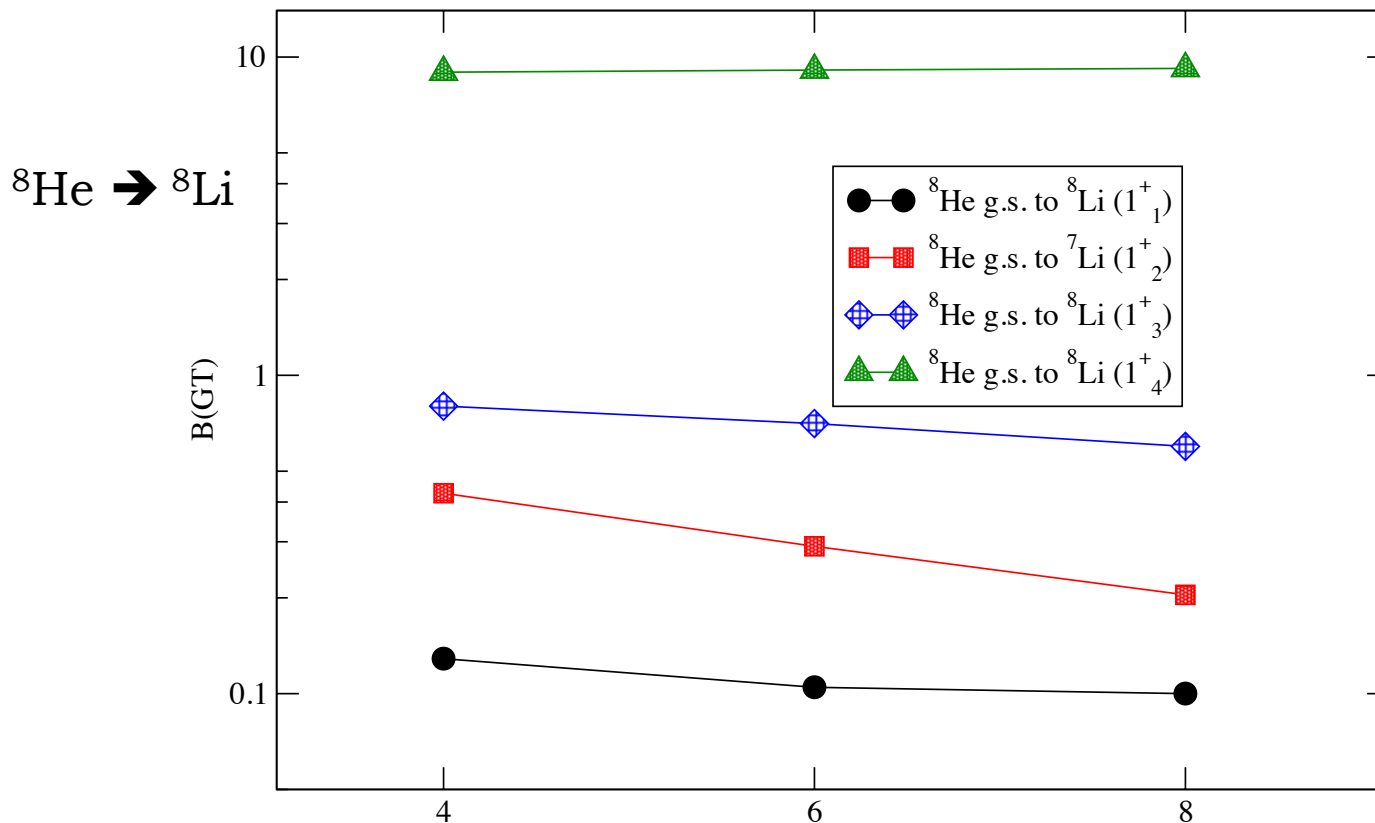
# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS



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# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

## Part III: *ab initio* Gamow-Teller transitions

Need to run higher  $N_{\max}$  (on supercomputers) but ...

Despite being a “simple” operator, transition matrix elements of Gamow-Teller ( $\sigma\tau$ ) do not have simple behavior:

- Some transitions quickly converge as we go up in  $N_{\max}$ , others not
- Should be investigated by doing L-S/SU(4) decomposition
- Effect of 3-body forces likely important
- More work on chiral EFT exchange forces should be done
- Likely strong implications for  $0\nu-\beta\beta$  matrix elements...

# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

## Summary and looking forward

We live in a dynamic universe....

can't understand it without understanding transitions!

- We (and others) can now compute *ab initio* giant resonances  
in agreement with expt
- Some evidence for Brink hypothesis for GDRs, not so for other transitions
- Gamow-Teller transitions are "simple" yet behavior is not trivial  
(i.e., some transitions converge quickly with  $N_{\max}$ , others not)

As the *ab initio* community moves forward, we collectively are developing

- "consistently evolved" operators (e.g., Micah Schuster's poster)
- EFT-derived exchange current corrections (e.g. R. Wiringa, S. Pastore)

# LARGE SCALE CALCULATIONS OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR TRANSITION MATRIX ELEMENTS

## Summary and looking forward

But getting *calculations* = experiment is not enough!

Can we understand systematic behavior?  
for example, systematics of GDRs,  
Brink hypothesis

Some tools:

spectral distribution theory (moment methods) → Brink hypothesis  
→ sum rules

decomposition into irreps (e.g., SU(4) irreps for Gamow-Teller)

# “More work to be done!”