## WPCF 2023 - XVI Workshop on Particle Correlations and Femtoscopy & IV Resonance Workshop 2023



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## Three-body resonances and two-nucleon decays

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Nuclei that present a three-body character have attracted particular interest over the past few decades. Of particular relevance is the case of two-neutron halo nuclei, e.g., <sup>6</sup>He, <sup>11</sup>Li or <sup>14</sup>Be, which exhibit exotic features in nuclear collisions. These are Borromean systems, or three-body systems in which all binary subsystems cannot form bound states. The correlations between the valence neutrons, often described in terms of pairing, are known to play a fundamental role in shaping the properties of these systems [2,3]. The evolution of these correlations beyond the driplines gives rise to two-neutron emitters, e.g., <sup>13</sup>Li, <sup>16</sup>Be or <sup>26</sup>O [4]. A similar situation can be found for proton-rich nuclei. For instance, the Borromean <sup>17</sup>Ne nucleus has been proposed to exhibit a two-proton halo, while other exotic systems, such as 'Be and 11O, are two-proton emitters [5]. Since they have a marked core+N+N character, three-body models are a natural choice to describe their structure and processes involving them [6]. The description of the continuum in three-body nuclei, however, is not an easy task. In Ref. [7] we proposed a method to characterize few-body resonances by studying the time dependence of the lowest eigenstates of a resonant operator, with the aim of studying the population of resonances of twonucleon emitters. The method was applied to 16Be, obtaining a remarkable agreement with calculations of the actual three-body continuum [8] for the 0<sup>+</sup> ground-state resonance, and predicting an excited 2<sup>+</sup> resonance. A summary of this work will be presented, and the calculation of the corresponding relative-energy distributions in the decay dynamics will be shown [9]. Results will be compared with recent experimental observations [10], with focus on the initial-state neutron-neutron correlations.

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