Structure and electric dipole response of open-shell nuclei from coupled-cluster theory



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Nuclear matter

Neutron star



Watts et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 88, 021001 (2016)

Nuclear matter

Neutron star



Neutron stars merger



Watts et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 88, 021001 (2016)

$$\frac{E}{A}(\rho,\beta) = \frac{E}{A}(\rho,0) + S(\rho)\beta^2 + O(\beta^4)$$

$$\rho = \rho_n + \rho_p$$
$$\beta = \frac{\rho_n - \rho_p}{\rho}$$

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Symmetry energy

$$S(\rho) = J + \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0}L$$

$$\rho_0 = 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$$

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 $ho_0 = 0.16 \ {\rm fm}^{-3}$

J: symmetry energy at saturation density



How to constrain *L*?

Electric dipole response



Electric dipole polarizability

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Electric dipole polarizability

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Strong linear **correlation** between α_D and the **slope** of the symmetry energy *L*





Coupled-cluster (CC) ground-state

$$|\Psi_0\rangle = e^T |\Phi_0\rangle$$

Hagen et al., Rep. Prog. Phys. 77, 096302 (2014)

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 $|\Phi_0\rangle$ Reference state

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Coupled-cluster (CC) ground-state



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$T \approx T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + \cdots$ *n*-particle *n*-hole amplitudes

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Hagen et al., Rep. Prog. Phys. 77, 096302 (2014)

Challenges



Unified treatment of nuclear **structure** and **response** functions



Open-shell nuclei

Part 1: Structure of open-shell nuclei

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Symmetry-breaking approaches

Symmetry-breaking approaches



Tichai et al., Phys. Lett. B 851, 138571 (2024)

Symmetry-breaking approaches

PairingDeformationImage: DeformationImage: DeformationImage: Deformed CCImage: Deformed CC

Tichai et al., Phys. Lett. B **851**, 138571 (2024) Hagen et al. Phys. Rev. C **105**, 064311 (2022)

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Equations-of-motion

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Closed-shell

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 $|\Psi_f^{(A-2)}\rangle = R_f^{(A-2)}|\Psi_0\rangle$

Symmetry-breaking approaches

Equations-of-motion

Pairing Bogoliubov CC



Tichai et al., Phys. Lett. B **851**, 138571 (2024) Hagen et al. Phys. Rev. C **105**, 064311 (2022)

Closed-shell $|\Psi_0\rangle = e^T |\Phi_0\rangle$ Two-particle-removed (2PR) nucleus

Excitation operator







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Binding energies in Ca chain



Binding energies in Ca chain



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FM et al., arxiv:2504.11012



2PR with the $\Delta NNLO_{GO}$ (394) interaction describes well several **excited states**

Part 2: Electric dipole polarizability

$$R(\omega) = \sum_{f} \left| \left\langle \Psi_{f} | \Theta | \Psi_{0} \right\rangle \right|^{2} \delta(E_{f} - E_{0} - \omega)$$

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Continuum

Lorentz integral transform (LIT)

$$L(\sigma,\Gamma) = \frac{\Gamma}{\pi} \int d\omega \frac{R(\omega)}{(\omega-\sigma)^2 + \Gamma^2} = \frac{\Gamma}{\pi} \langle \tilde{\Psi}_L | \tilde{\Psi}_R \rangle$$

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Bound pseudo-state
$$|\widetilde{\Psi}_R\rangle$$

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LIT-CC ansatz

$$\left| \widetilde{\Psi}_{R}^{(A-2)} \right\rangle = \mathcal{R}^{(A-2)} | \Phi_{0} \rangle$$

Discretized response function



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Photoneutron cross sections



Electric dipole polarizability in O isotopes



Electric dipole polarizability in O isotopes



Electric dipole polarizability in Ca isotopes



Electric dipole polarizability in Ca isotopes



Electric dipole polarizability in Ca isotopes



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Conclusions and perspectives

- We have applied coupled-cluster theory to study the ground state, excited states and electric dipole polarizability of **open-shell** nuclei close to magicity
- Binding energies and selected excited states are well reproduced. A tendency to underestimate the electric dipole polarizability appears
- Future developments: higher-order truncations, response of odd nuclei, response functions with theory uncertainties ...

Thank you for your attention!

Collaborators



Darmstadt:

Alex Tichai



FRIB/Oak Ridge:

Francesca Bonaiti



Mainz: Sonia Bacca



Oak Ridge: Gaute Hagen, Gustav Jansen

... and save the date!

Many-body Theory: Nuclear Physics Meets Quantum Chemistry

Mainz Institute for Theoretical Physics

Aug 24th – Sep 4th 2026

Organizers:

Francesco Marino (JGU Mainz) Alexander Tichai (TU Darmstadt) Sonia Bacca (JGU Mainz) Jürgen Gauss (JGU Mainz)