

A microscopic treatment of correlated nucleons: Collective properties in stable and exotic nuclei

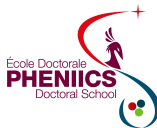
Olivier VASSEUR

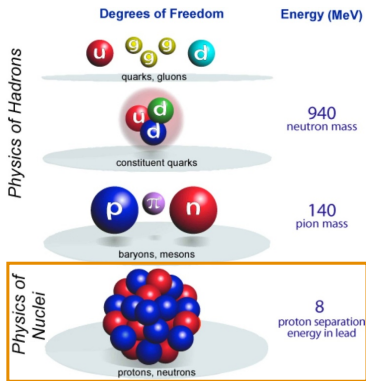
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Theory Group

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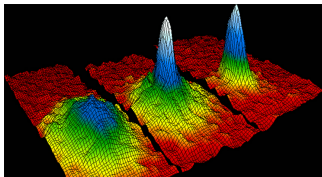




Framework

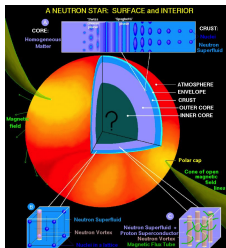
- Low-energy scales
 - nucleons are point-like, structureless particles
 - relevant degrees of freedom = nucleons
- Solve the nuclear many-body problem
 - Use of **effective interactions** → Energy-Density Functionals (EDF): functionals derived in most cases from effective interactions

Atomic physics



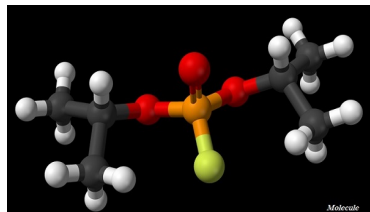
Bose-Einstein condensate of ultra-cold trapped atoms

Astrophysics



Nuclei and other nuclear systems in the crust of neutron stars

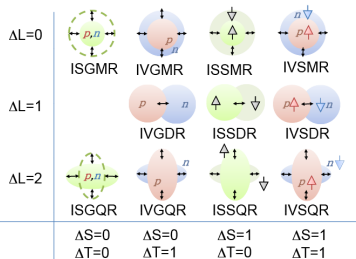
Chemistry & Condensed matter physics



Strong analogy between Energy-Density Functionals (EDF) and Density Functional Theory (DFT)

Challenge

Provide an accurate description of **fragmentation** and **spreading width** of excitations
 → Going **beyond the mean-field approximation**: coupling single-particle degrees of freedom with multiparticle-multi-hole configurations



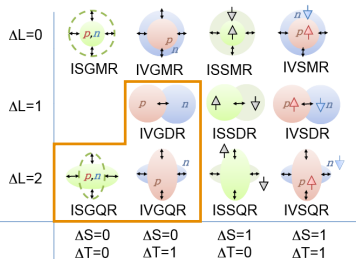
What we want to describe

- Low-lying states
- Giant resonances

Schematic view of giant resonances

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Schematic view of giant resonances

① Starting point: Second RPA (SRPA) and its drawbacks

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- ➍ Summary

1 Starting point: Second RPA (SRPA) and its drawbacks

Formalism of Second RPA
Problems of standard SRPA

2 Correction of SRPA: Subtraction method

Principle of the subtraction procedure
How subtraction deals with problems of SRPA

3 Extension of the SSRPA model

Nuclei with partially-occupied orbitals
Use of the equal-filling approximation

4 Summary

Formalism of Second RPA

Choose the ground state $|0\rangle$ as the Hartree-Fock ground state

Define the excitation operator Q_ν^\dagger :

$$\begin{cases} Q_\nu^\dagger |0\rangle = |\nu\rangle \\ Q_\nu |0\rangle = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$Q_\nu^\dagger := \sum_{m,i} \left(X_{mi}(\nu) a_m^\dagger a_i - Y_{mi}(\nu) a_i^\dagger a_m \right) \longrightarrow \text{1p1h (RPA)}$$

$$+ \sum_{\substack{m, n > m \\ i, j > i}} \left(X_{mnij}(\nu) a_m^\dagger a_n^\dagger a_j a_i - Y_{mnij}(\nu) a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_n a_m \right) \longrightarrow \text{2p2h (SRPA)}$$

SRPA equation:

$$\overbrace{\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ B^* & A^* \end{pmatrix}}^{\text{Stability matrix}} \begin{pmatrix} X(\nu) \\ Y(\nu) \end{pmatrix} = \hbar\omega_\nu \begin{pmatrix} G & 0 \\ 0 & -G^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X(\nu) \\ Y(\nu) \end{pmatrix}$$

with $A = \begin{pmatrix} (A_{mi,nj}) & (A_{pk,minj}) \\ (A_{minj,pk}) & (A_{minj,pqkl}) \end{pmatrix}$ and $X(\nu) = \begin{pmatrix} X_1(\nu) \\ X_2(\nu) \end{pmatrix}$

$A_{mi,nj} = \delta_{mn}\delta_{ij}(\epsilon_m - \epsilon_i) + v_{mjin}$ in the HF limit

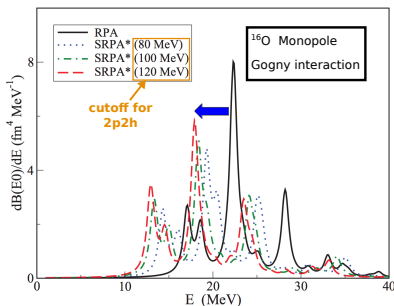
Problems of standard SRPA

- Very strong shift to low energies
 - Instabilities
-
- Double-counting of correlations
 - Cutoff dependence with zero-range interactions

Thouless theorem does not hold in SRPA

Papakonstantinou, *Phys. Rev. C* **90**, 024305 (2014)

Use of an **effective interaction**
“EDF problems”



Gambacurta, Grasso *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C* **86**, 021304 (R) (2012)

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- The SRPA equation can be written as an energy-dependent RPA-like problem
- Removal of double-counting of correlations is achieved by imposing that the stability matrix in this energy-dependent RPA-like problem be equal, at zero energy, to the RPA stability matrix

Tselyaev, *Phys. Rev. C* **88**, 054301 (2013)

- This translates into a subtraction of only 1p1h elements in , e.g. A_{11} becomes

$$A'_{11} := A_{11} - \Sigma(0)$$

$\Sigma(0)$: 2nd-order self-energy at zero excitation energy

$$\Sigma(0) = -A_{12}A_{22}^{-1}A_{12}^\dagger + B_{12}({}^tA_{22})^{-1}B_{12}^\dagger$$

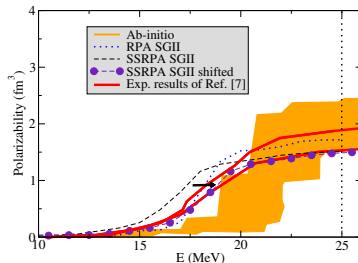
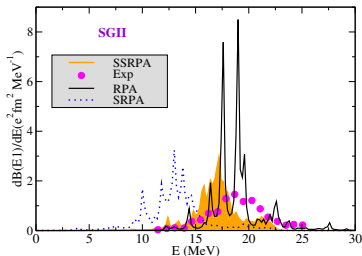
- The subtraction has been successfully applied, dealing with all the drawbacks of SRPA

Gambacurta, Grasso, J. Engel, *Phys. Rev. C* **92**, 034303 (2015)

Gambacurta, Grasso, *Eur. Phys. J. A* **52**, 198 (2016)

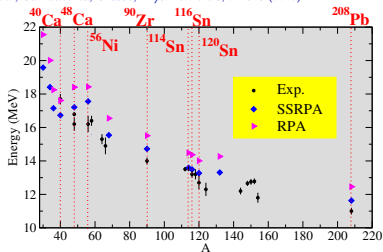
Electric dipole strength and polarizability in ^{48}Ca

Gambacurta, Grasso, Vasseur, *Phys. Lett. B* 777, 163-168 (2018)



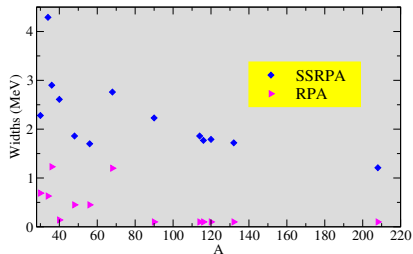
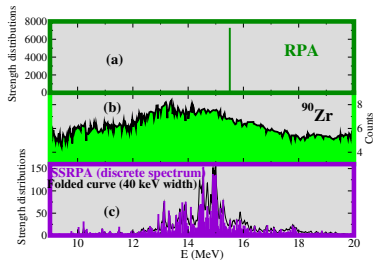
Quadrupole response: Systematics on medium- and heavy-mass nuclei

Vasseur, Gambacurta, Grasso, *Phys. Rev. C* 98, 044313 (2018)



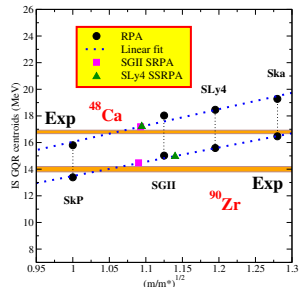
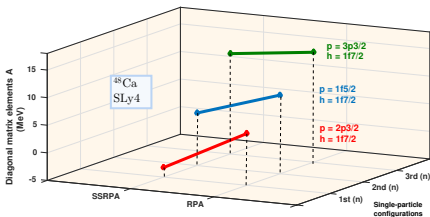
- Better reproduction of experimental values of centroids in SSRPA (for most nuclei)
- Coupling between 1p1h and 2p2h configurations (absent in RPA) → spreading

How subtraction deals with problems of SRPA



Grasso, Gambacurta, Vasseur, *Phys. Rev. C* **98**, 051303(R) (2018)

Effective masses in nuclear matter from axial breathing modes in ^{48}Ca and ^{90}Zr



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- With a Hartee-Fock ground state, EFA \implies wave functions renormalized by a factor
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$$\implies \text{e.g. in RPA: } A_{mi,nj} = \delta_{mn}\delta_{ij}(\epsilon_m - \epsilon_i) + v_{mj}n_i\sqrt{n_i n_j (1 - n_m)(1 - n_n)}$$

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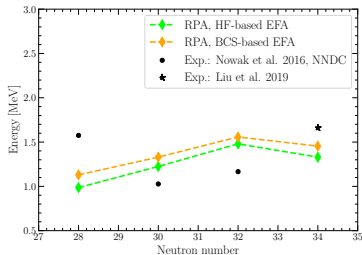
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- Second step: calculate the occupation numbers in BCS
 \longrightarrow Estimation of pairing correlations

Low-energy quadrupole strength in Ar isotopes

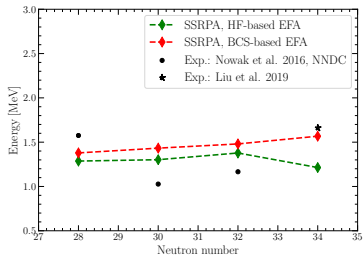
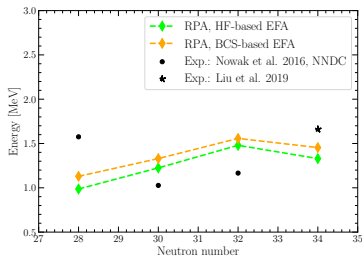
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Nowak et al., *Phys. Rev. C* **93**, 044335 (2016); NNDC (BNL)



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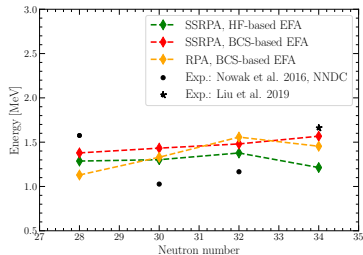
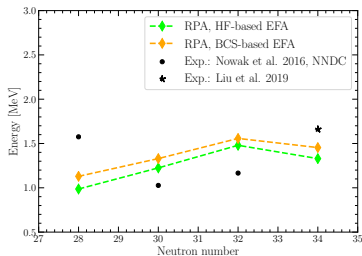
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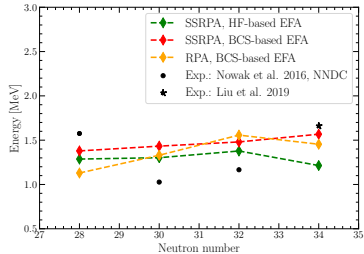
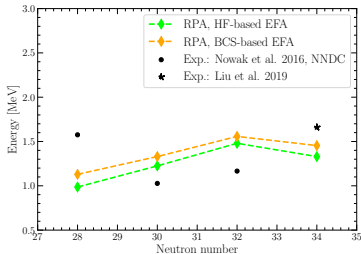
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- A first attempt to include pairing correlations in SRPA
- The two rises corresponding to shell closures at $N = 28$ and $N = 34$ are not reproduced...
- ... but both the inclusion of 2p2h configurations and of pairing correlations improve the agreement with experiments

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 - 1 Use the EFA to reach nuclei with non fully-occupied orbitals
 - 2 Renormalize matrix elements using occupation numbers
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Thank you for your attention!