

# Non-empirical energy functionals from low-momentum interactions

## I. Introduction to Energy Density Functional methods

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# Lecture series

## Outline

- ① Introduction to energy density functional methods
  - Basics of formalism
  - Empirical energy functionals: form, performances and limitations
  - Towards non-empirical energy functionals
- ② Low-momentum interactions from renormalization group methods
- ③ The building of non-empirical energy functionals

# Take-away message

## Theoretical methods

- ➊ Ab-initio methods =  $A$ -body problem solved in terms of vacuum  $H(\Lambda)$
- ➋ Ab-initio methods limited to  $A \leq 16$  plus a few doubly-magic nuclei
- ➌ Approaches to heavier nuclei need to be benchmarked by ab-initio methods

## Energy density functional method

- ➊ Two successive levels of implementation: single reference and multi reference
- ➋ Empirical energy functionals successful but lack predictive power
- ➌ Need to connect the energy functional to vacuum  $H(\Lambda)$  = **non-empirical EDF**

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- Basic facts about low-energy nuclear physics
- Theoretical methods

## ② Energy density functional methods

- Sketch of the overall EDF formalism
- Single-reference implementation: elements of formalism
- Empirical energy functionals
- Performances and limitations
- Towards non-empirical energy functionals

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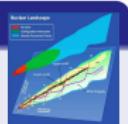
### ③ Bibliography

What is low-energy nuclear physics interested in?

In generic terms

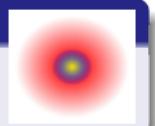
- **Spectrum** of  $H|\Psi_i^A\rangle = E_i^A |\Psi_i^A\rangle$  for all  $A=N+Z$
  - Observables for each state, e.g.  $r^2 \equiv \langle \Psi_i^A | \sum_k^A \hat{r}_k^2 | \Psi_i^A \rangle / A$
  - Decays between  $|\Psi_i\rangle$ , i.e. nuclear, electromagnetic, electro-weak

## Ground state



### Mass, deformation

## Limits



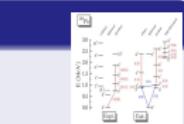
## Drip-lines, halos

Spectroscopy

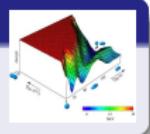
### Excitations modes

## Reaction properties

Fusion, transfer...



## Heavy elements



Fission, fusion, SHE

## Astrophysics

NS, SN, r-process



How does that translate to low-energy nuclear theory?

## Goals for low-energy nuclear theory

- ➊ Model the unknown nuclear Hamiltonian  $H$
  - ➋ Solve  $A$ -body problem and describe properties of nuclei
  - ➌ Understand states of nuclear matter in astrophysical environments

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Which theoretical method(s)?

### Ab-initio methods

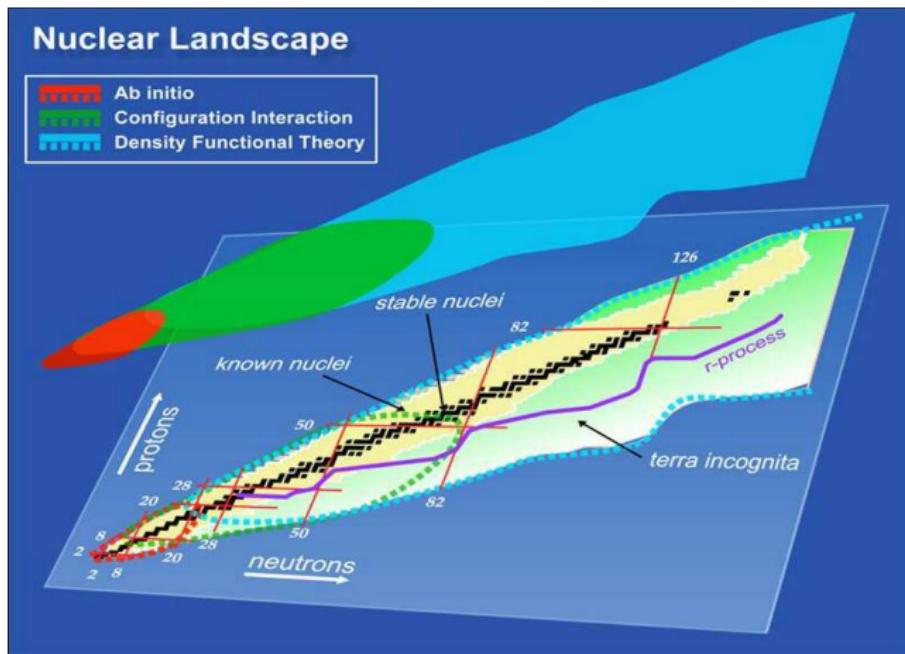
- Solve the N-body problem in terms of point-like nucleons+ $H(\Lambda)$

| Name                                    | Short description   | Variational | Scale as | Up to   |
|---|---|-------------|----------|---|
| Few-body<br>(Faddeev...)                | $H\Psi = E\Psi$   |             | Yes      | $M^A$<br>$A = 2-4$  |
| Green-Function<br>Monte-Carlo<br>(GFMC) | $\Psi(\tau) = e^{-(H-E_0)\tau}\Psi_T,$<br>$= [e^{-(H-E_0)\Delta\tau}]^n\Psi_T$<br>+ auxiliary field |             | Yes      | $\frac{M!}{(M-A)!A!}$<br>$A < 12$                             |
| No-core<br>Shell Model                  | $H\Psi = E\Psi$   |             | Yes      | $4^A$<br>$A < 16$   |
| Coupled-<br>Cluster<br>(CC)             | $ \Psi\rangle = e^S  \Psi_0\rangle$<br>$S = S_1 + S_2 + \dots$                                      |             | No       | $(M-A)^4 A^2$<br>$A < 100$<br>Only<br>doubly-magic<br>for now |

From D. Lacroix

- Limited reach over the mass table

Which theoretical method(s)?



- No “one size fits all” theory for nuclei
  - All theoretical approaches need to be linked

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## Energy Density Functional method

Basic elements

- Approaches not based on a correlated wave-function
  - Energy is postulated to be a functional of one-body density (matrices)
  - Symmetry breaking is at the heart of the method
  - Two formulations (i) Single-Reference (ii) Multi-Reference

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## Pros

- Use of full single-particle space
  - Collective picture but fully quantal
  - Universality of the EDF ( $A \gtrapprox 16$ )
  - Ground-state description
  - Smoothly varying correlations

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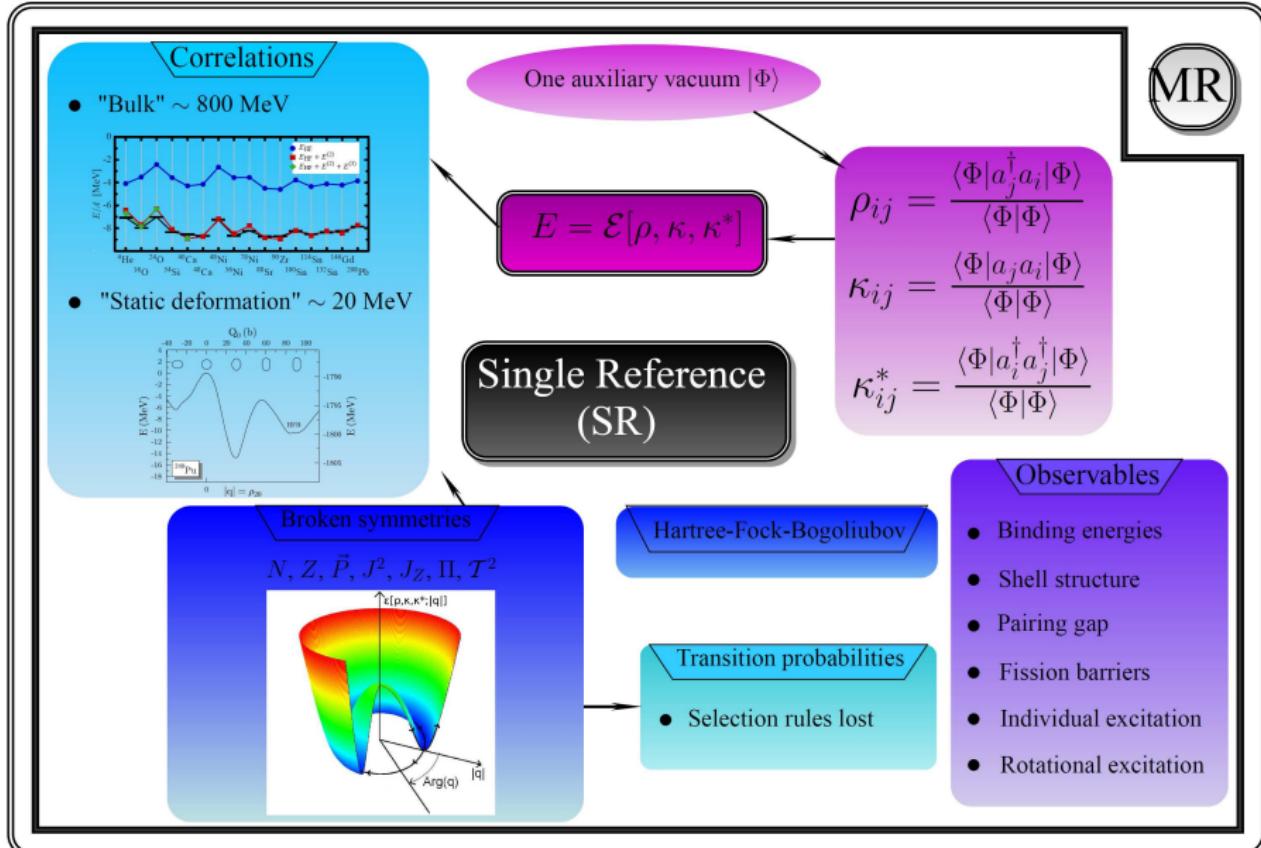
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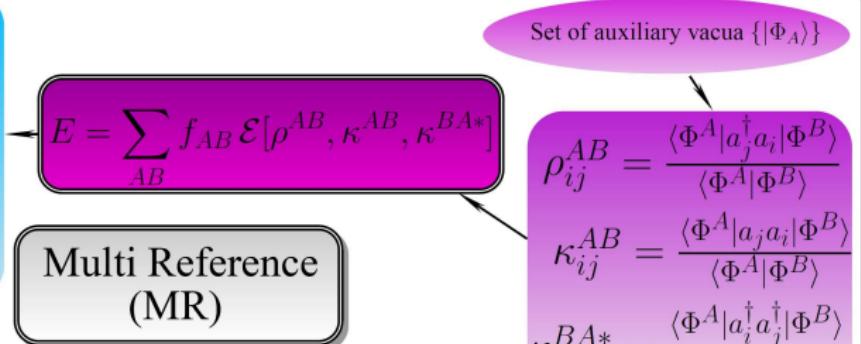
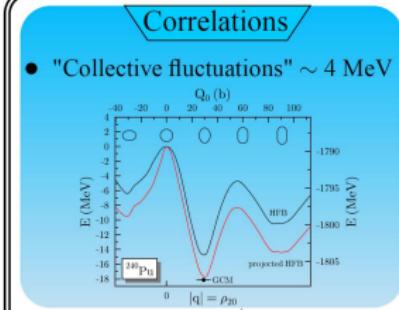
## Difficulties

- No universal parametrization
  - Empirical  $\neq$  predictive power
  - Spectroscopy
  - Fluctuating correlations with  $A$
  - Limited accuracy ( $\sigma_{2135}^{\text{mass}} \approx 700$  keV)

## Energy Density Functional method: single-reference implementation



# Energy Density Functional method: multi-reference implementation



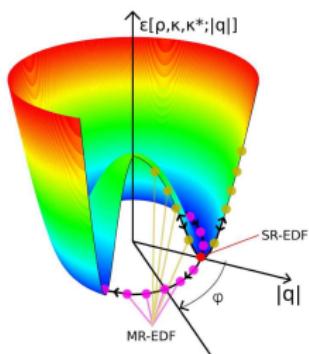
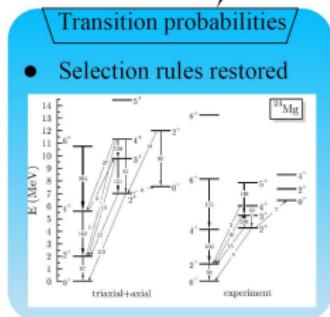
**Symmetry restorations**  
 $N, Z, \vec{P}, J^2, J_Z, \Pi, T^2$

**Generator Coordinate Method**  
 $\Delta_N, \Delta_Z, Q_{20}, Q_{30}, \dots$

$$\rho_{ij}^{AB} = \frac{\langle \Phi^A | a_j^\dagger a_i | \Phi^B \rangle}{\langle \Phi^A | \Phi^B \rangle}$$

$$\kappa_{ij}^{AB} = \frac{\langle \Phi^A | a_j a_i | \Phi^B \rangle}{\langle \Phi^A | \Phi^B \rangle}$$

$$\kappa_{ij}^{BA*} = \frac{\langle \Phi^A | a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger | \Phi^B \rangle}{\langle \Phi^A | \Phi^B \rangle}$$

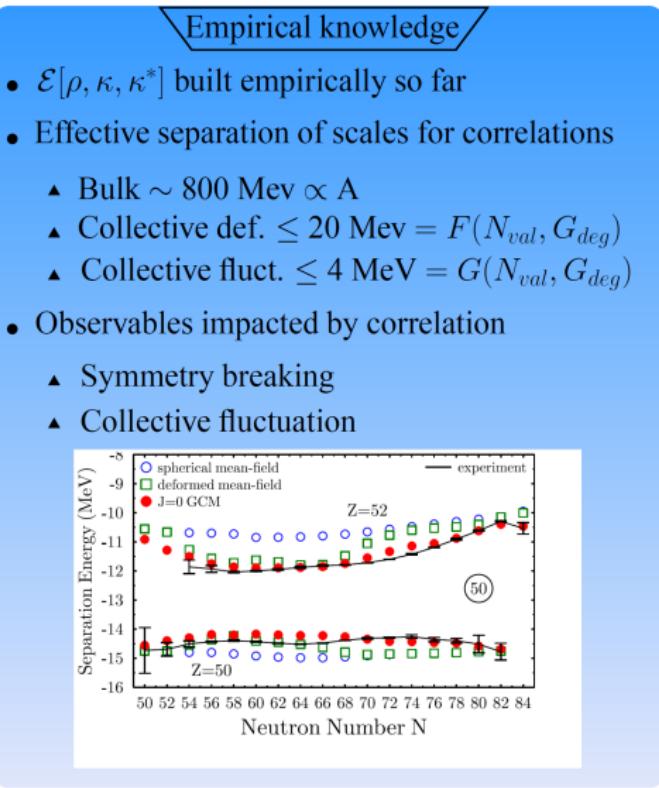
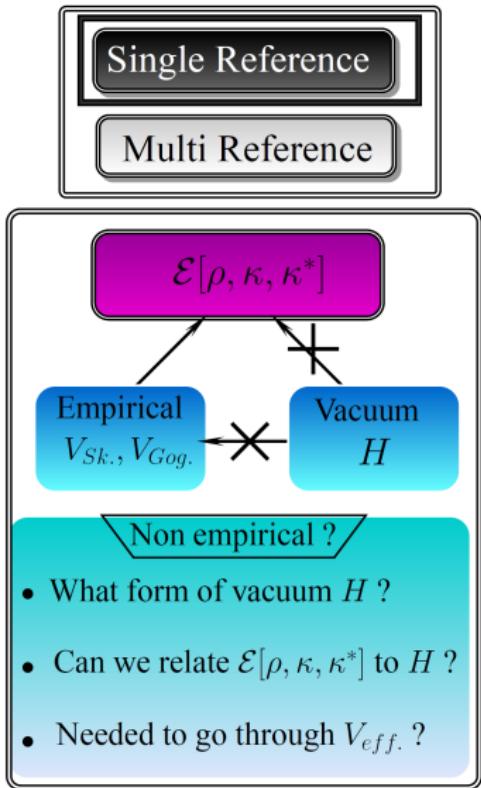


Gaussian overlap approx.  
Harmonic limit  
QRPA  
Bohr hamiltonian

**Observables**

- Same as SR
- Vibration excitations
- Rotational bands of transitional nuclei
- LACM and shape coexistence

# Energy Density Functional method: some relevant questions



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## Single-reference EDF method

## Elements of formalism

- $\mathcal{E}[\rho, \kappa^*, \kappa]$  = functional of one-body density matrices

$$\rho_{ji} \equiv \langle \Phi | b_i^\dagger b_j | \Phi \rangle \quad ; \quad \kappa_{ji} \equiv \langle \Phi | b_i b_j | \Phi \rangle$$

defined in an arbitrary single-particle basis  $\{b_i^\dagger; b_i\}$

## Single-reference EDF method

## Elements of formalism

- $\mathcal{E}[\rho, \kappa^*, \kappa]$  = functional of one-body density matrices
  - $|\Phi\rangle$  = auxiliary symmetry-breaking product state of reference

$$\begin{aligned} |\Phi\rangle &\equiv \prod_i \beta_i |0\rangle \\ \beta_i &\equiv \sum_i U_{ji}^* b_j + V_{ji}^* b_j^\dagger \end{aligned}$$

and is a vacuum, i.e.  $\beta_i |\Phi\rangle = 0 \ \forall i$

## Single-reference EDF method

## Elements of formalism

- $\mathcal{E}[\rho, \kappa^*, \kappa]$  = functional of one-body density matrices
  - $|\Phi\rangle$  = auxiliary symmetry-breaking product state of reference
  - Minimizing  $\mathcal{E}[\rho, \kappa^*, \kappa]$  leads to Hartree-Fock-Bogoliubov-like equations

$$\begin{pmatrix} h - \lambda & \Delta \\ -\Delta^* & -h^* + \lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_i \\ V_i \end{pmatrix} = E_i \begin{pmatrix} U_i \\ V_i \end{pmatrix}$$

- Effective potentials and vertices are defined through

$$h_{ij} \equiv \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}}{\delta \rho_{ji}} \equiv t_{ij} + \sum_{kl} \bar{v}_{ikjl}^{ph} \rho_{lk} \quad ; \quad \Delta_{ij} \equiv \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}}{\delta \kappa_{ij}^*} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \sum_{kl} \bar{v}_{ijkl}^{pp} \kappa_{kl}$$

- $\bar{v}^{ph}/\bar{v}^{pp}$  = Consistent many-body expansion in terms of NN/NNN
  - Quasiparticle w.f. ( $U_i, V_i$ ), energy  $E_i$ , densities...

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Empirical parameterizations of  $\mathcal{E}[\rho, \kappa, \kappa^*]$ ; e.g. Skyrme or Gogny

## Local Skyrme EDF for even-even nuclei ground-state

- Density matrices expressed in position  $\otimes$  spin  $\otimes$  isospin s.p. basis

$$\rho_{\vec{r}\sigma q \vec{r}'\sigma' q} \equiv \langle \Phi | c^\dagger(\vec{r}'\sigma' q) c(\vec{r}\sigma q) | \Phi \rangle$$

$$\kappa_{\vec{r}\sigma q \vec{r}'\sigma' q} \equiv \langle \Phi | c(\vec{r}'\sigma' q) c(\vec{r}\sigma q) | \Phi \rangle$$

- Local densities

$$\rho_q(\vec{r}) \equiv \sum_{\sigma} \rho_{\vec{r}\sigma q \vec{r}\sigma q} \quad \text{Matter}$$

$$\tau_q(\vec{r}) \equiv \sum_{\sigma} \nabla \cdot \nabla' \rho_{\vec{r}\sigma q \vec{r}'\sigma' q} \Big|_{\vec{r}=\vec{r}'} \quad \text{Kinetic}$$

$$J_{q,\mu\nu}(\vec{r}) \equiv \frac{i}{2} \sum_{\sigma\sigma'} \left( \nabla' - \nabla \right)_\mu \rho_{\vec{r}\sigma q \vec{r}'\sigma' q} \sigma_\nu^{\sigma'\sigma} \Big|_{\vec{r}=\vec{r}'} \quad \text{Spin-current tensor}$$

$$J_{q,\kappa}(\vec{r}) \equiv \sum_{\mu,\nu=x}^z \epsilon_{\kappa\mu\nu} J_{q,\mu\nu}(\vec{r}) \quad \text{Spin-orbit}$$

$$\tilde{\rho}_q(\vec{r}) \equiv \sum_{\sigma} \kappa_{\vec{r}\sigma q \vec{r}\bar{\sigma} q} \sigma_z^{\bar{\sigma}\bar{\sigma}} \quad \text{Pair}$$

- Build **scalar** EDF from such densities, e.g. at 2<sup>nd</sup> order in  $\sigma_\nu$  and  $\nabla$

Empirical parameterizations of  $\mathcal{E}[\rho, \kappa, \kappa^*]$ ; e.g. Skyrme or Gogny

## Local Skyrme EDF for even-even nuclei ground-state

- Universal form ( $A \gtrsim 16$ ) but no universal parametrization

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}[\rho, \kappa, \kappa^*] = & \sum_{qq'} \int d\vec{r} \left[ C_{qq'}^{\rho\rho} \rho_q(\vec{r}) \rho_{q'}(\vec{r}) + C_{qq'}^{\rho\Delta\rho} \rho_q(\vec{r}) \Delta\rho_{q'}(\vec{r}) + C_{qq'}^{\rho\tau} \rho_q(\vec{r}) \tau_{q'}(\vec{r}) \right. \\ & + C_{qq'}^{\rho\nabla J} \rho_q(\vec{r}) \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{J}_{q'}(\vec{r}) + C_{qq'}^{JJc} \sum_{\mu,\nu=x}^z J_{q,\mu\nu}(\vec{r}) J_{q',\mu\nu}(\vec{r}) \\ & \left. + C_{qq'}^{JJt} \sum_{\mu,\nu=x}^z \left[ J_{q,\mu\mu}(\vec{r}) J_{q',\nu\nu}(\vec{r}) + J_{q,\mu\nu}(\vec{r}) J_{q',\nu\mu}(\vec{r}) \right] \right] \\ & + \sum_q \int d\vec{r} C_{qq}^{\tilde{\rho}\tilde{\rho}} |\tilde{\rho}_q(\vec{r})|^2 + \text{additional terms involving gradients}\end{aligned}$$

- Density-dependent couplings, i.e.  $C_{qq'}^{ff'}$  may depend on  $\vec{r}$  as well
- Fitted on INM OES and selection of finite nuclei data
- Usually derived from the density-dependent Skyrme+DDD "interaction"

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Empirical parameterizations of  $\mathcal{E}[\rho, \kappa, \kappa^*]$ ; e.g. Skyrme or Gogny

Density-dependent Skyrme "force" for the particle-hole part

- Schematic effective vertex, i.e. a **convenient intermediate** to generate  $\mathcal{E}^{\rho\rho^{1+\alpha}}$

$$\begin{aligned}v_{\text{cent}} &= t_0 (1 + x_0 P_\sigma) \delta(\vec{r}) \\&+ \frac{1}{2} t_1 (1 + x_1 P_\sigma) [\delta(\vec{r}) \overrightarrow{k}^2 + \overleftarrow{k'}^2 \delta(\vec{r})] \\&+ t_2 (1 + x_2 P_\sigma) \overleftarrow{k'} \cdot \delta(\vec{r}) \overrightarrow{k} \\&+ \frac{1}{6} t_3 (1 + x_3 P_\sigma) \rho_0^\alpha(\vec{r}) \delta(\vec{r}) \\v_{\text{ls}} &= i W_0 (\vec{\sigma}_1 + \vec{\sigma}_2) \overleftarrow{k'} \wedge \delta(\vec{r}) \overrightarrow{k} \\v_{\text{tens}} &= \frac{t_e}{2} \left\{ [3(\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \overleftarrow{k'}) (\vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot \overleftarrow{k'}) - (\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2) \overleftarrow{k'}^2] \delta(\vec{r}) \right. \\&\quad \left. + \delta(\vec{r}) [3(\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \overrightarrow{k}) (\vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot \overrightarrow{k}) - (\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2) \overrightarrow{k}^2] \right\} \\&+ t_o \left\{ 3(\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \overleftarrow{k'}) \delta(\vec{r}) (\vec{\sigma}_2 \cdot \overrightarrow{k}) - (\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2) \overleftarrow{k'} \cdot \delta(\vec{r}) \overrightarrow{k} \right\}\end{aligned}$$

- Only  $C_{qq'}^{\rho\rho}$  depends on the density

# Empirical parameterizations of $\mathcal{E}[\rho, \kappa, \kappa^*]$ ; e.g. Skyrme or Gogny

## Density-dependent Skyrme "force" for the particle-hole part

- Schematic effective vertex, i.e. a convenient intermediate to generate  $\mathcal{E}^{\rho\rho^{1+\alpha}}$

## Density-dependent delta "interaction" for the particle-particle part

- Schematic effective vertex, i.e. a **convenient intermediate** to generate  $\mathcal{E}^{\kappa\kappa}$

$$\tilde{v}_{\text{cent}} = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{t}_0 \left( 1 - \eta \frac{\rho_0(\vec{r})}{\rho_{\text{sat}}} \right) (1 - P_\sigma) \delta(\vec{r})$$

- $C_{qq}^{\tilde{\rho}\tilde{\rho}}(\vec{r})$  is constant over the "Volume" ( $\eta = 0$ ) or "Surface"-peaked ( $\eta = 1$ )
- Pairing correlations
  - ➊ Are characterized by the dependence of the EDF on  $\kappa/\tilde{\rho}$
  - ➋ Are responsible for the superfluid nature of (most of the) nuclei
  - ➌ Impact low-energy properties of finite nuclei and neutron stars
  - ➍ Reflect (mostly) the strong NN attraction in the  ${}^1S_0$  channel

# Empirical parameterizations of $\mathcal{E}[\rho, \kappa, \kappa^*]$ ; e.g. Skyrme or Gogny

## Density-dependent Skyrme "force" for the particle-hole part

- Schematic effective vertex, i.e. a convenient intermediate to generate  $\mathcal{E}^{\rho\rho^{1+\alpha}}$

## Density-dependent delta "interaction" for the particle-particle part

- Schematic effective vertex, i.e. a convenient intermediate to generate  $\mathcal{E}^{\kappa\kappa}$

## Energy density functional $\mathcal{E}[\rho, \kappa, \kappa^*]$

- Does NOT mimic a Hartree-Fock approximation in terms of NN+NNN
- Mocks up correlations BEYOND Hartree-Fock (see Lecture 3)
  - ➊ Through rich (enough?) functional form
  - ➋ Through fitting of parameters
- Not all correlations are easily resummed into  $\mathcal{E}[\rho, \kappa, \kappa^*]$  itself
  - ➊ Symmetry breaking captures important correlations
  - ➋ Need for explicit configuration mixing = Multi-reference EDF method

# Single-particle field $h^q$

$h^q$  from the Skyrme EDF

$$h_{ij}^q \equiv \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}}{\delta \rho_{ji}^q} = \int d\vec{r} \varphi_i^\dagger(\vec{r}) h^q(\vec{r}) \varphi_j(\vec{r})$$

where the local field takes the form

$$h_q(\vec{r}) \equiv -\nabla \cdot B_q(\vec{r}) \nabla + U_q(\vec{r}) - \frac{i}{2} \sum_{\mu, \nu=x}^z [W_{q,\mu\nu}(\vec{r}) \nabla_\mu + \nabla_\mu W_{q,\mu\nu}(\vec{r})] \sigma_\nu$$

with multiplicative potentials defined as

$$\begin{aligned} U_q(\vec{r}) &\equiv \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}}{\delta \rho_q(\vec{r})} \\ B_q(\vec{r}) &\equiv \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}}{\delta \tau_q(\vec{r})} \\ W_{q,\mu\nu}(\vec{r}) &\equiv \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}}{\delta J_{q,\mu\nu}(\vec{r})} \end{aligned}$$

# Single-particle field $h^q$

$h^q$  drives the correlated (!) s.p. motion

- $h^q$  provides the "shell structure"

$$h^q(\vec{r}) \varphi_i(\vec{r}) \equiv \epsilon_i \varphi_i(\vec{r})$$

## ① Separation energies

- $\epsilon_p \approx \mathcal{E}_p^{N+1} - \mathcal{E}_0^N \approx E_p^{N+1} - E_0^N$
- $\epsilon_h \approx \mathcal{E}_0^N - \mathcal{E}_h^{N-1} \approx E_0^N - E_h^{N-1}$

## ② Excitation energies

- $\epsilon_p - \epsilon_h \approx \mathcal{E}_{ph}^N - \mathcal{E}_0^N \approx E_{ph}^N - E_0^N$

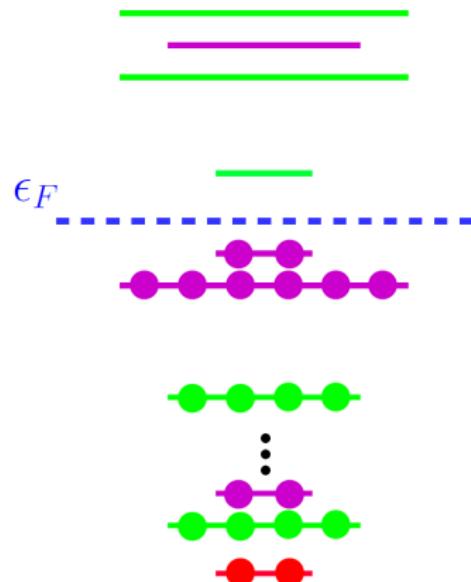
- Keep in mind missing correlations

## ① Symmetry breaking

- Pairing via breaking of  $N$
- Quadrupole via breaking of  $J^2$

## ② Configuration mixing

- Symmetry restorations
- Dynamical part-vib coupling



# Pairing field $\Delta^q$

## $\Delta^q$ from the Skyrme EDF

$$\Delta_{ij}^q \equiv \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}}{\delta \kappa_{ij}^{q*}} = \int d\vec{r} \left[ \varphi_i^\dagger(\vec{r}q) \Delta_q(\vec{r}) \varphi_j^*(\vec{r}q) - \varphi_j^\dagger(\vec{r}q) \Delta_q(\vec{r}) \varphi_i^*(\vec{r}q) \right]$$

where the local field takes the form

$$\Delta_q(\vec{r}) = -\tilde{U}_q(\vec{r}) i\sigma_y + \dots$$

with multiplicative potentials defined as

$$\tilde{U}_q(\vec{r}) \equiv \frac{\delta \mathcal{E}}{\delta \tilde{\rho}_q^*(\vec{r})}$$

⋮

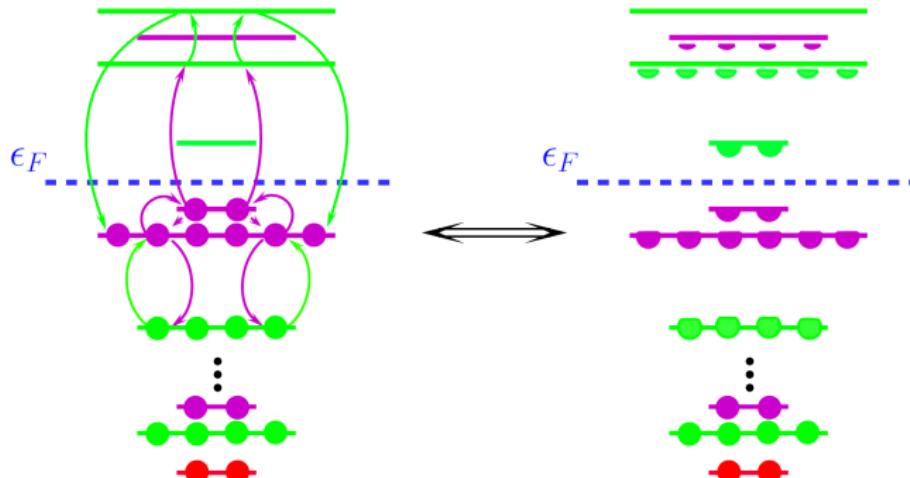
- UV divergence of local pairing EDF must be regularized/renormalized

Pairing field  $\Delta^q$ 

$\Delta^q$  drives pair scattering

- Correlates nucleon pairs in time-reversal states
- Results in smoothed-out single-particle occupations (canonical basis)

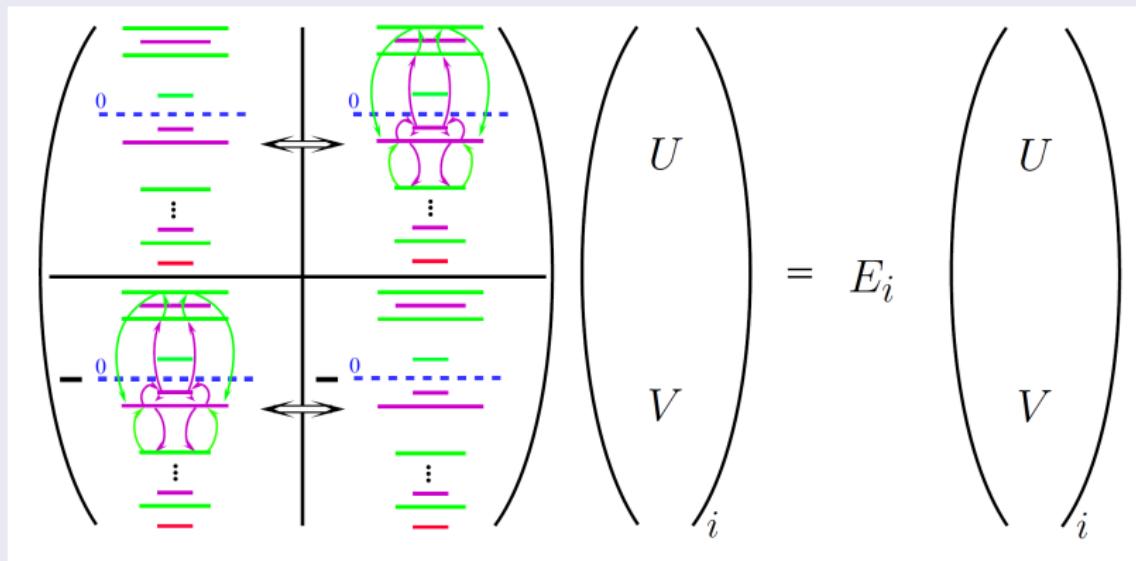
$$\rho_{ii} = v_i^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 - \frac{\epsilon_i - \epsilon_F}{\sqrt{(\epsilon_i - \epsilon_F)^2 + \Delta_{ii}^2}} \right]$$



## Hartree-Fock-Bogoliubov scheme

## Hartree-Fock-Bogoliubov eigenvalue problem

- Modified  $v_i^2$  feedback onto  $h^q$  which feedbacks onto pair scattering...



- Quasi-particle energy  $E_i \approx \sqrt{(\epsilon_i - \epsilon_F)^2 + \Delta_{i\bar{i}}^2} \geq \Delta_F$

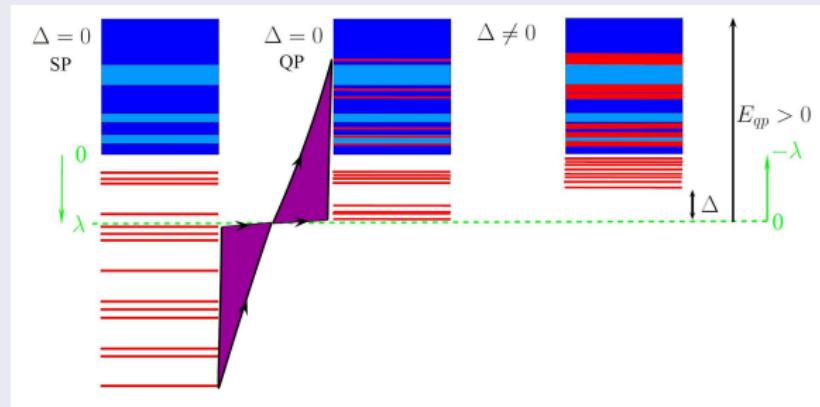
# Hartree-Fock-Bogoliubov scheme

## Hartree-Fock-Bogoliubov eigenvalue problem

- Pairing changes the nature of elementary excitations  $|\Phi_{ij}\rangle = \beta_i^\dagger \beta_j^\dagger |\Phi\rangle$

$$\mathcal{E}_{ij}^{\langle N \rangle} - \mathcal{E}_0^{\langle N \rangle} = E_i + E_j \xrightarrow{\Delta=0} |\epsilon_p - \epsilon_F| + |\epsilon_h - \epsilon_F| = \epsilon_p - \epsilon_h$$

- Spectrum  $E_i$  versus  $|\epsilon_i - \epsilon_F|$



- Gap opens at low energy + mix of hole- and particle-like excitations

# Outline

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- Basic facts about low-energy nuclear physics
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## ② Energy density functional methods

- Sketch of the overall EDF formalism
- Single-reference implementation: elements of formalism
- Empirical energy functionals
- **Performances and limitations**
- Towards non-empirical energy functionals

## ③ Bibliography

# Performance of empirical EDFs (spherical HFB calculations)

## Performance of existing EDFs

- Tremendous over known nuclei
- Especially for bulk properties
- Role of symmetry breaking

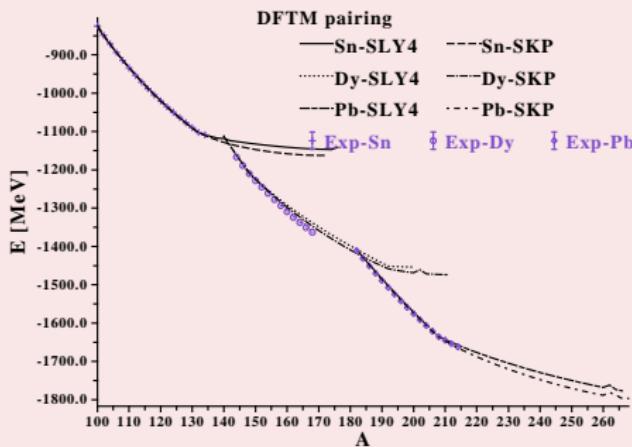
## "Asymptotic freedom"

- Into "the next major shell"
- For most observables
- Signals poor predictive power

## Spectroscopy

- The real challenge for the future...

## Binding energy in Sn, Dy and Pb isotopes



[J. Sadoudi, T. D., unpublished]

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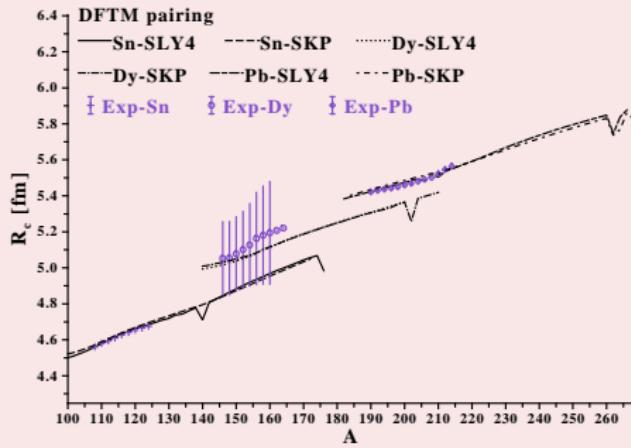
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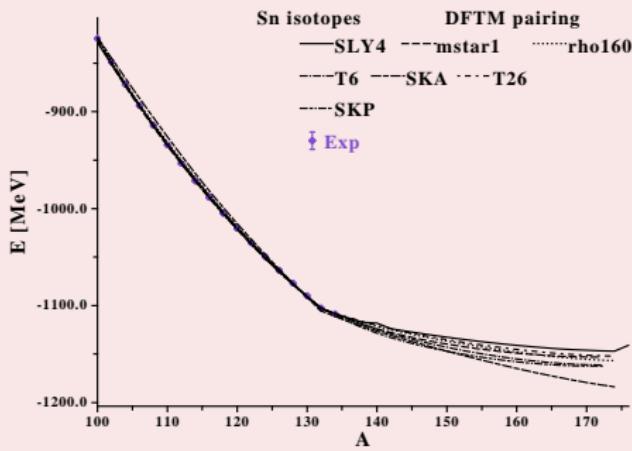
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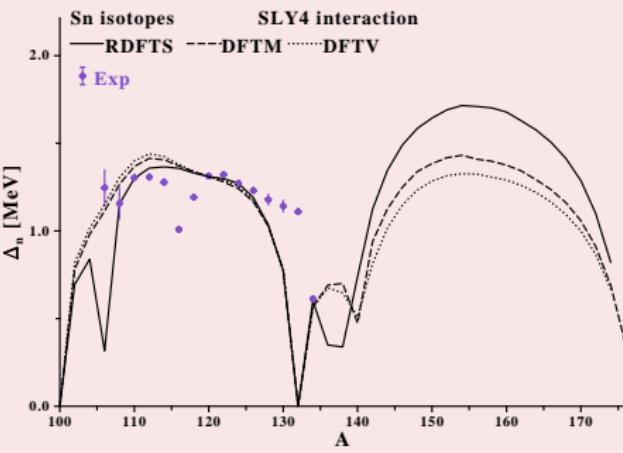
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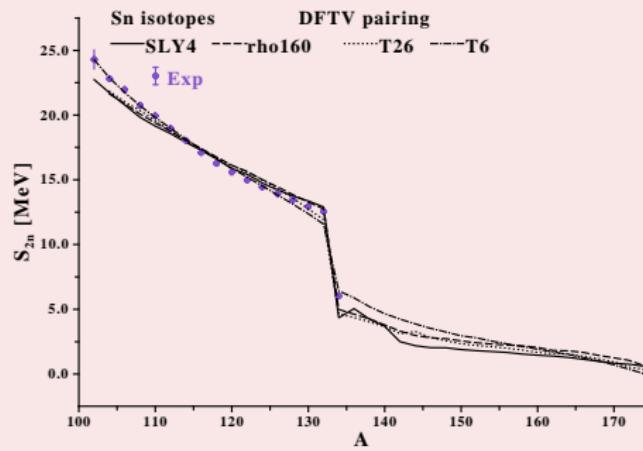
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## Two-neutron sep. energy in Sn isotopes



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# Performance of empirical EDFs

## Performance of existing EDFs

- Tremendous successes for known nuclei
- "Asymptotic freedom" as one enters "the next major shell"

## Crucial undergoing works

- Enrich the analytical structure of empirical functionals
  - ➊ Tensor terms, e.g. [T. Lesinski et al., PRC76, 014312]
  - ➋ Higher-order derivatives [B. G. Carlsson et al., PRC78, 044326]
  - ➌  $\rho_n - \rho_p$  dependence to  $C_{qq}^{\tilde{\rho}\tilde{\rho}}(\vec{r})$ , e.g. [J. Margueron et al., PRC77, 054309]
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## One can also propose a complementary approach...

- Data not always constrain unambiguously non-trivial characteristics of EDF
- Interesting not to rely entirely on trial-and-error and fitting data

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# Constructing non-empirical EDFs for nuclei

Long term objective

Build non-empirical EDF in place of existing models

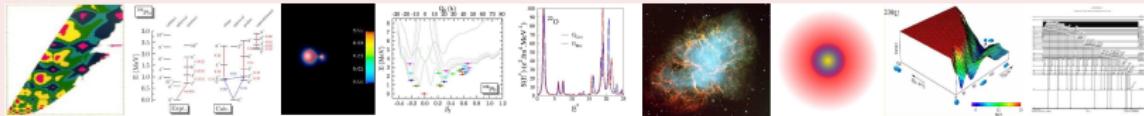
Empirical



Predictive?



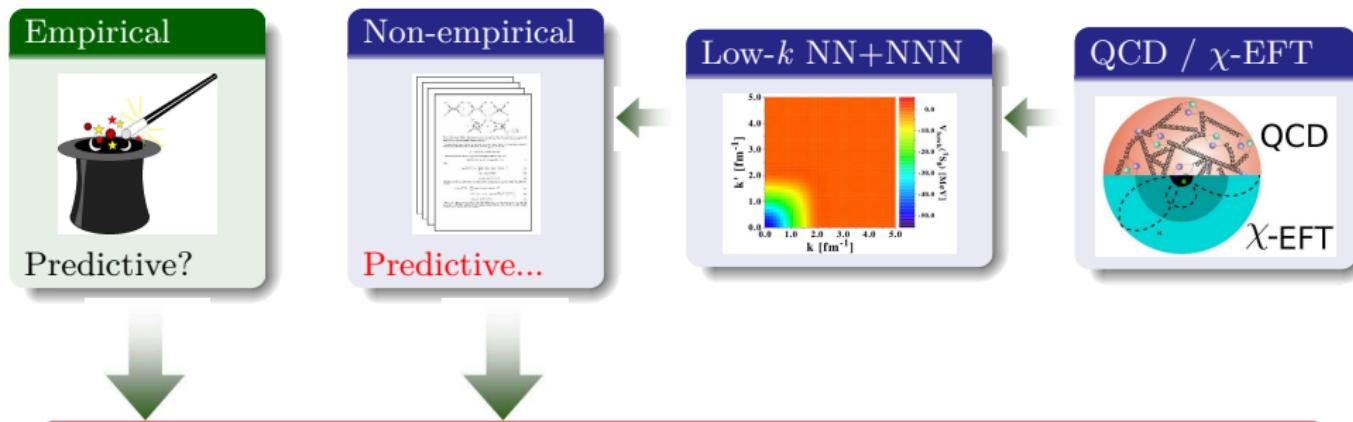
Finite nuclei and extended nuclear matter



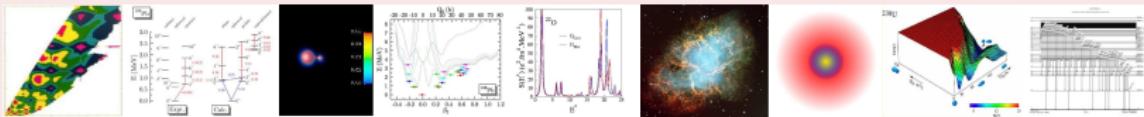
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# Long term project and collaboration

## Design *non-empirical* Energy Density Functionals

- Bridge with *ab-initio* many-body techniques
- Calculate properties of heavy/complex nuclei from NN+NNN
- Controlled calculations with theoretical error bars



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## Selected bibliography



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