

# Recent progress in ab initio few (*and not-so-few*) - body theories for nuclear physics

Giuseppina Orlandini  
Dipartimento di Fisica- Universita' di Trento - Italy

## Summary:

- General remarks
- Short review of ab initio methods for bound states (**structure**) and scattering states (**reactions**)
- The LIT method for reactions
- Selected results

Physics of Hadrons

Degrees of Freedom

Energy (MeV)



quarks, gluons



constituent quarks

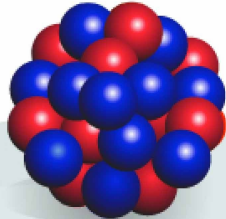
940  
neutron mass



baryons, mesons

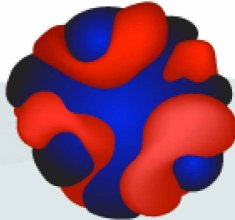
140  
pion mass

Physics of Nuclei



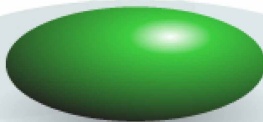
protons, neutrons

8  
proton separation  
energy in lead



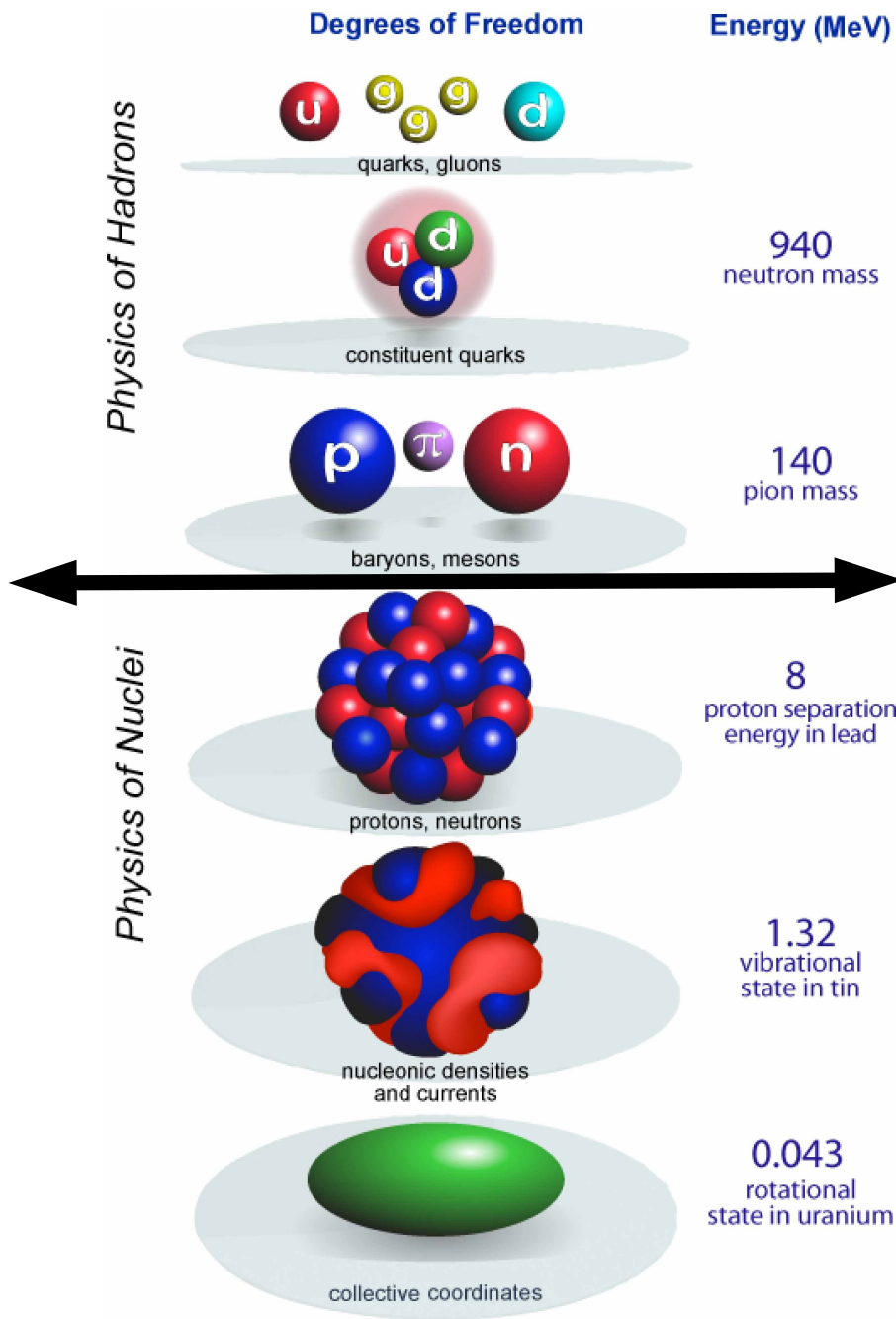
nucleonic densities  
and currents

1.32  
vibrational  
state in tin



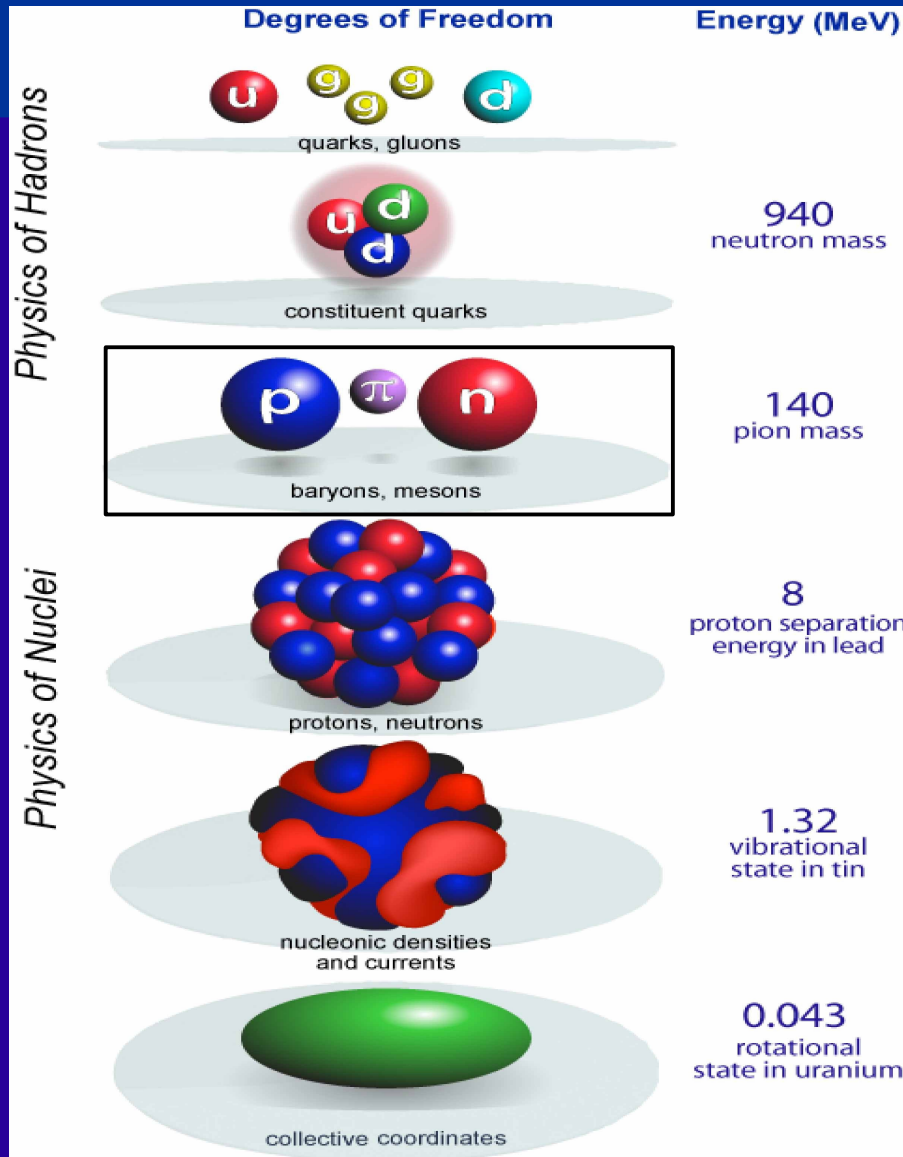
collective coordinates

0.043  
rotational  
state in uranium



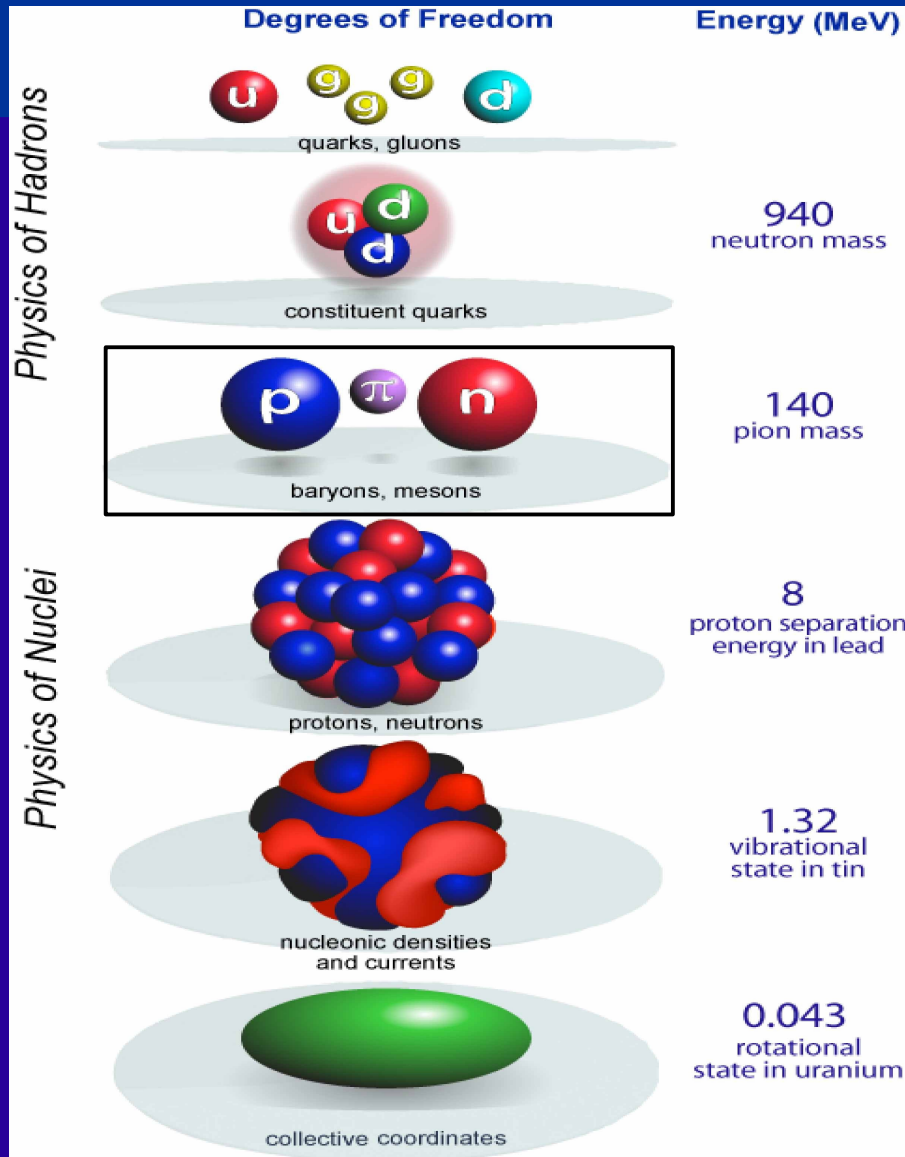
**FEW-BODY PHYSICS**  
*ab initio* methods

# fundamental issues in nuclear physics:



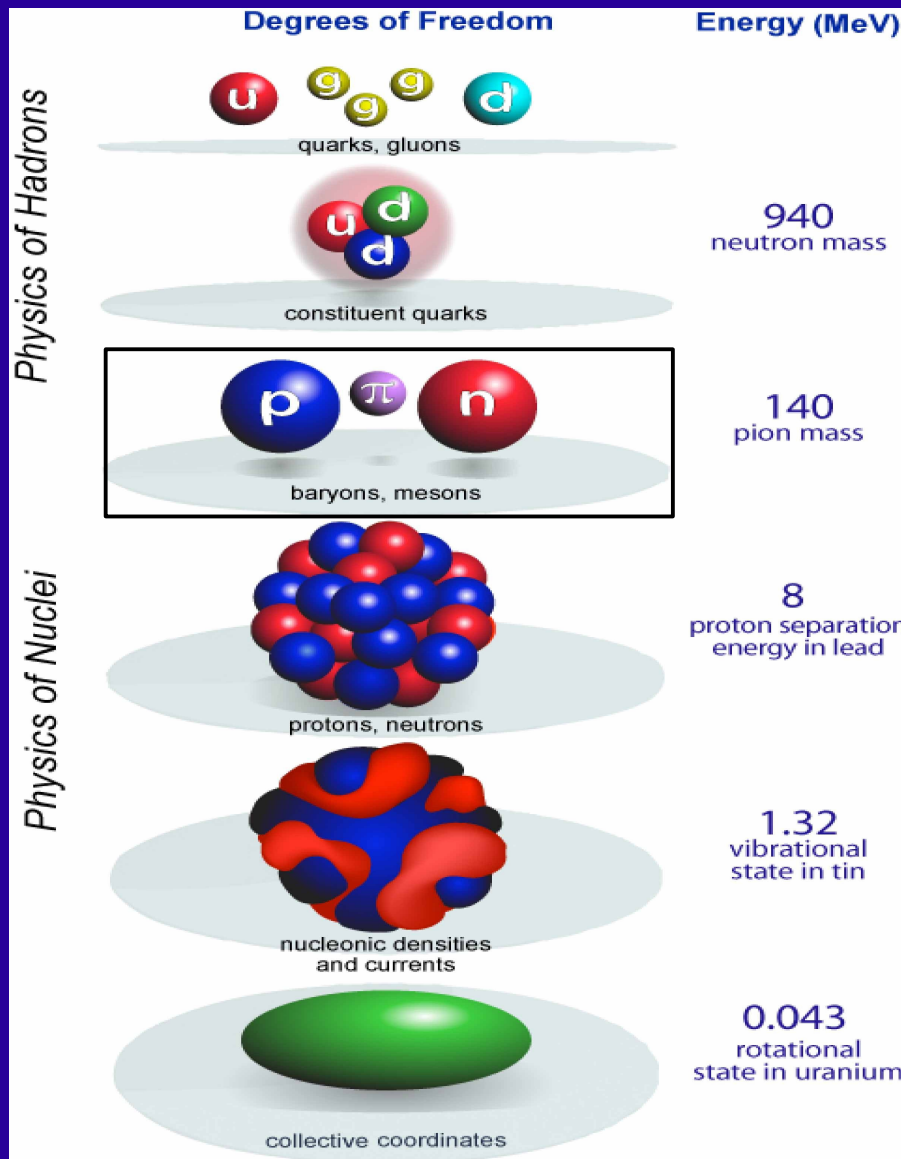
→ relevant degrees of freedom

# fundamental issues in nuclear physics:



What is the Nuclear Interaction?

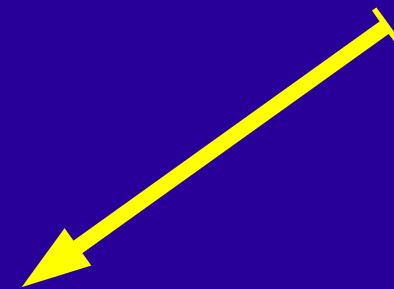
# fundamental issues in nuclear physics:



QCD



What is the Nuclear Interaction?



typical MB properties  
(clusterization, collectivity,  
mean field properties  
etc.)

“**Few(?)**-body” theories are *ab initio* in the following sense:

**d.o.f.:** A nucleons

**Potential:** “realistic” interaction

“**Few(?)**-body” theories are *ab initio* in the following sense:

d.o.f.: A nucleons

Potential: “realistic” interaction

Nucleons are not elementary -----> **N-N**, **N-N-N**, **N-N-N-N**... potential



# State of the art of **ab initio** theories:

## **bound states:**

A= 2 – 4 many different methods (see PRC 64 (2001) 044001)

# *ab initio* $A=4$ bound state calculations

$E_b$  = binding energy of  ${}^4\text{He}$

## TABLES

TABLE I. The expectation values  $\langle T \rangle$  and  $\langle V \rangle$  of kinetic and potential energies, the binding energies  $E_b$  in MeV and the radius in fm.

Method	$\langle T \rangle$	$\langle V \rangle$	$E_b$	$\sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle}$
FY	102.39(5)	-128.33(10)	-25.94(5)	1.485(3)
JRCGV	102.30	-128.20	-25.90	1.482
SVM	102.35	-128.27	-25.92	1.486
HH	102.44	-128.34	-25.90(1)	1.483
GFMC	102.3(1.0)	-128.25(1.0)	-25.93(2)	1.490(5)
NCSM	103.35	-129.45	-25.80(20)	1.485
EIHH	100.8(9)	-126.7(9)	-25.944(10)	1.486

from H.Kamada et al. (18 authors 7 groups) PRC 64 (2001) 044001

# *ab initio* $A=4$ bound state calculations

## Excellent accuracy !

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# *Bound State Methods can be grouped in 3 classes*

## Monte Carlo methods:

A

**GFMC** = **G**reen **F**unction **M**onte **C**arlo

**AFMC** = **A**uxiliary **F**ield **M**onte **C**arlo

.....

## Expansion methods + “effective interaction” (to accelerate convergence):

B

**NCSM** = **N**o **C**ore **S**hell **M**odel

**EIHH** = **E**ffective **I**nteraction in **H**yperspherical **H**armonics expansion

.....

## correlation operator ( $e^S$ ) methods:

C

**CC** = **C**oupled **C**luster

**UCOM** = **U**nitary **C**orrelation **O**perator **M**ethod

# State of the art of **ab initio** theories:

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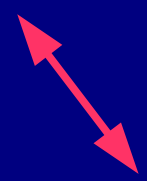
A > 4

EIHH,

GFMC,

NCSM,

AFMC, CC, UCOM



upper limit in A:

6 - 8?

10-12?

12-14??

40-56 ???

# $^8\text{Be}$ : From **ab initio Monte Carlo** to **two alpha – cluster** !

From

S.C. Pieper & R.B. Wiringa  
Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci  
51 (2001) 53

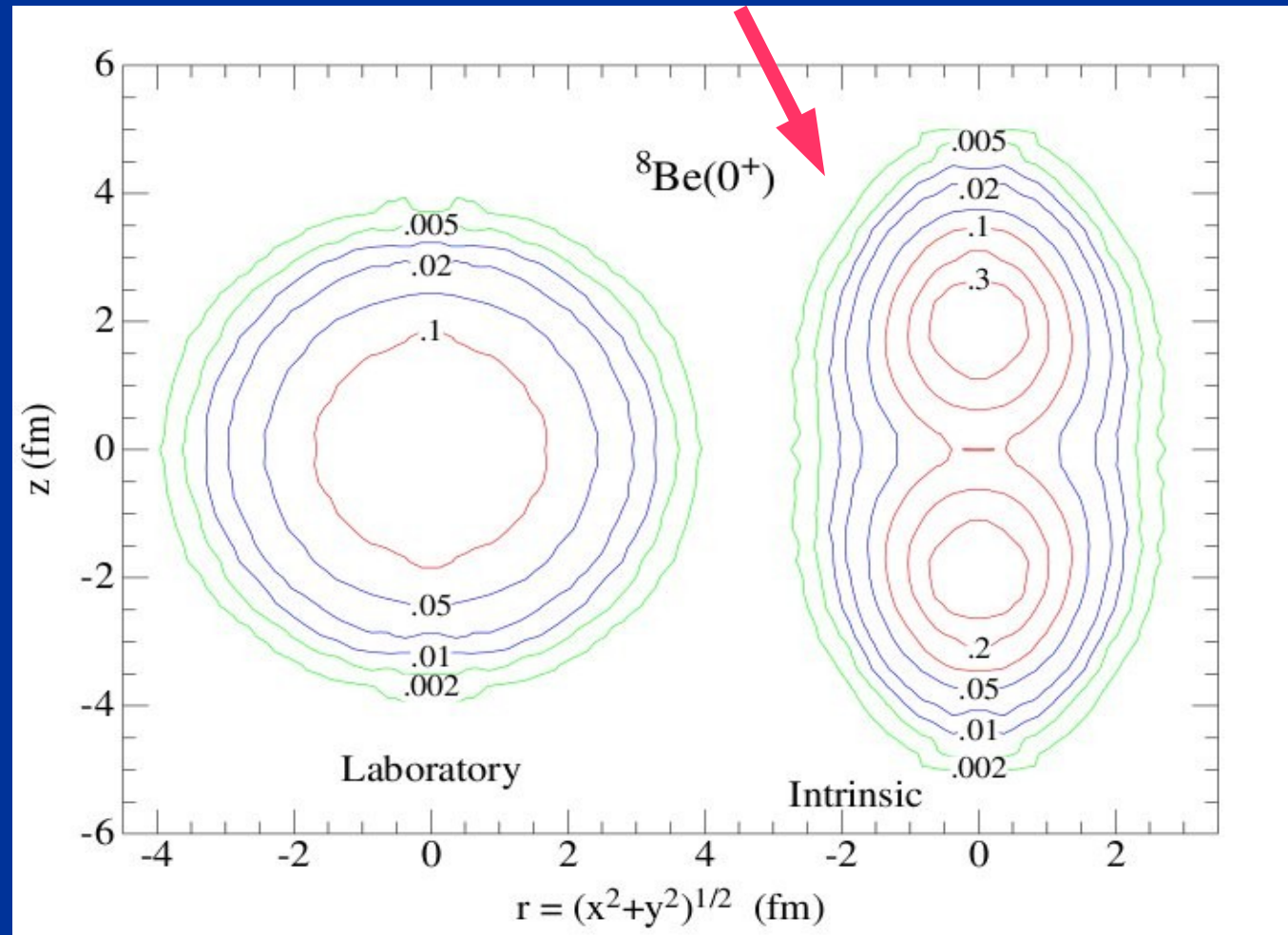


Fig.11 - Calculated density contours of  $^8\text{Be}$  in the lab frame (left) and the intrinsic frame (right), labeled with densities in  $\text{fm}^{-3}$

# State of the art of **ab initio** theories:

bound states:

continuum (scattering) states -----> REACTIONS

**conventional** approach:

A=3: Faddeev equations (2-body and 3-body break-up) , HH

A=4: Yakubowski (AGS) only 2-body break up , HH

A > 4 ???

# State of the art of **ab initio** theories:

**bound states:**

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A > 4 ???

**unconventional** approach: **LIT method**

reduces the continuum problem to bound state like problem



# The Lorentz Integral Transform (LIT) method

*First proposed in:*

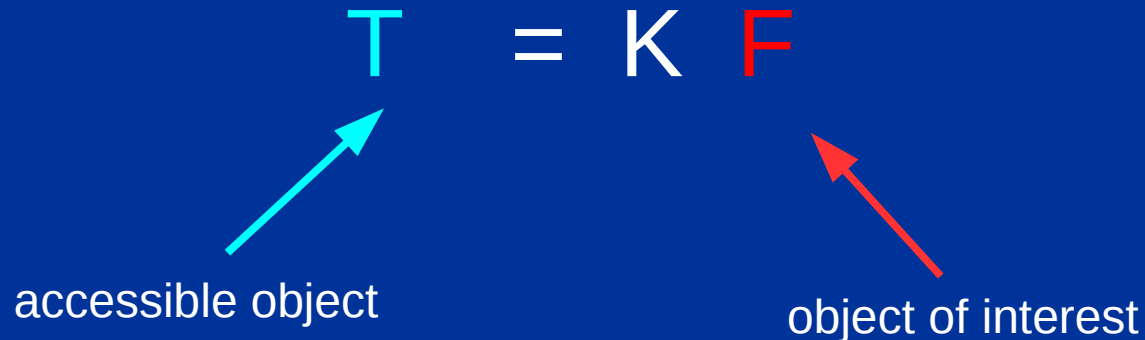
*V. D. Efros, W. Leidemann and G. Orlandini,*  
**Phys. Lett. B338, 130 (1994)**

*Recent Topical Review:*

*V. D. Efros, W. Leidemann, G. Orlandini and N. Barnea*  
**J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 34 (2007) R459-R528**

# Integral transform approaches

There are many examples in physics where one uses  
“integral transform approaches”



There are many classes of problems that are difficult to solve in their original representations. An integral transform "maps" an equation from its **original "domain"** into **another domain**. Manipulating and solving the equation in the **target domain** is sometimes much easier than manipulation and solution in the **original domain**. The solution is then **mapped back** to the original domain with the inverse of the integral transform.

In theoretical physics:

Laplace Kernel

$$\Phi(\tau) = \int \langle |\Theta^\dagger(\tau, \mathbf{x}) \Theta(0, 0)| \rangle d^3\mathbf{x} \longrightarrow \int e^{-\tau\omega} S(\omega) d\omega$$

$$\tau = it$$

**In Condensed Matter Physics:**

$\Theta$  = Density Operator

$S(\omega)$  = Dynamical Structure Function

$\Phi(\tau)$  is obtained with Monte Carlo Methods

**In Nuclear Physics:**

$\Theta$  = Charge or current density operator

$S(\omega) = \mathbf{R}(\omega)$  "Response" Function

(to external perturbative probe)

$\Phi(\tau)$  is obtained with Monte Carlo Methods

**In QCD**

$\Theta$  = quark or gluon creation operator

$S(\omega)$  = Hadronic Spectral Function

$\Phi(\tau)$  is obtained by OPE - QCD sum rules or Lattice

$$\Phi(\tau) = \int d\omega K(\omega, \sigma) S(\omega)$$

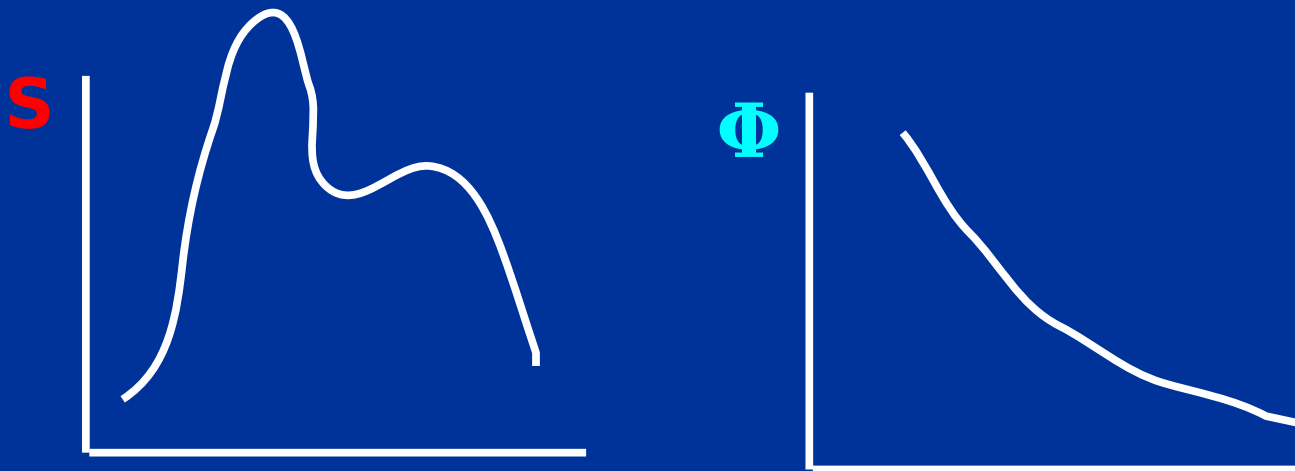
One is able to calculate  $\Phi(\tau)$  but wants  $S(\omega)$ ,  
which is the quantity of direct physical meaning.

Problem:

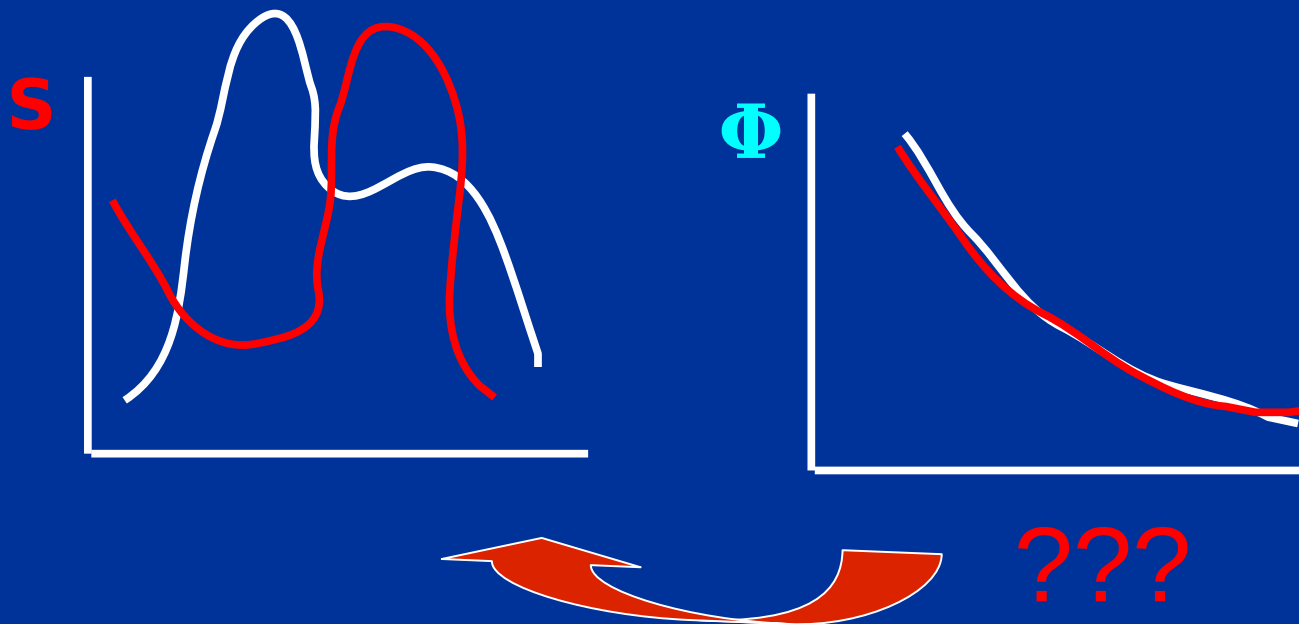
The “inversion” of  $\Phi(\tau)$  may be problematic (“**ill posed problem**”)

It is well known that the numerical inversion of the **Laplace** Transform  
is a terribly **ill-posed** problem

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a “good” Kernel has to satisfy two requirements

1) one must be able to calculate the integral transform

2) one must be able to invert the transform minimizing instabilities



What is the perfect Kernel?

What is the perfect Kernel?

the delta-function!

What would be the “perfect” Kernel?

the delta-function!

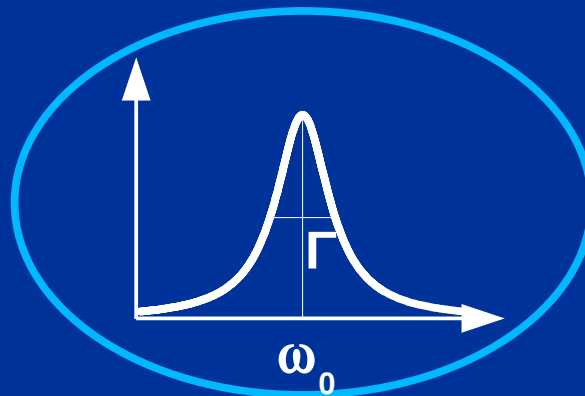
in fact

$$\Phi(\tau) = S(\tau) = \int \delta(\omega - \tau) S(\omega) d\omega$$



the **LIT method** is based on the idea to use one of the so-called “representations of the delta-function”:

it turns out that a very good Kernel is the **Lorentzian function**



$$\Phi(\omega, \Gamma) = \int [(\omega - \omega_0)^2 + \Gamma^2]^{-1} S(\omega) d\omega$$

**The Lorentz Kernel satisfies the two requirements !**

**N.1.** one can calculate the integral transform

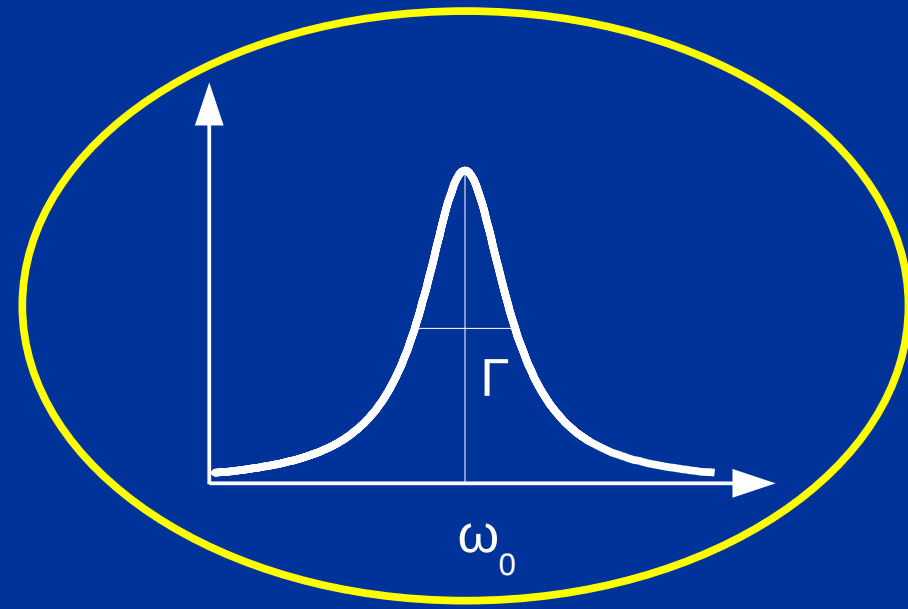
**N.2** one is able to invert the transform, minimizing instabilities  
with controlled resolution

# Illustration of requirement

**N.1:** one can calculate the integral transform

Suppose we want an  $\mathbf{R}(\omega)$  defined as  
(for example for perturbation induced inclusive reactions)

$$R(\omega) = \sum_n |\langle n | \Theta | 0 \rangle|^2 \delta(\omega - E_n + E_0)$$



**THEOREM:**

$$\Phi(\omega_0, \Gamma) = \langle \tilde{\Psi} | \tilde{\Psi} \rangle = \int R(\omega) L(\omega, \omega_0, \Gamma) d\omega$$

where

$$|\tilde{\Psi}\rangle = \frac{1}{(H - E_0 - \omega_0 + i\Gamma)} \Theta |0\rangle$$



Proof of the theorem:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Phi(\omega_0, \Gamma) &= \int_{E_{th}^-}^{\infty} d\omega \frac{R(\omega)}{(\omega - \omega_0)^2 + \Gamma^2} \\
 &= \int_{E_{th}^-}^{\infty} d\omega \frac{\sum_n |\langle n | \Theta | 0 \rangle|^2 \delta(\omega - E_n + E_0)}{(\omega - \omega_0 - i\Gamma)(\omega - \omega_0 + i\Gamma)} \\
 &= \sum_n \langle 0 | \Theta^\dagger \frac{1}{(E_n - E_0 - \omega_0 - i\Gamma)} | n \rangle \times \\
 &\quad \times \langle n | \frac{1}{(E_n - E_0 - \omega_0 + i\Gamma)} \Theta | 0 \rangle \\
 &= \sum_n \langle 0 | \Theta^\dagger \frac{1}{(H - E_0 - \omega_0 - i\Gamma)} | n \rangle \langle n | \\
 &\quad \frac{1}{(H - E_0 - \omega_0 + i\Gamma)} \Theta | 0 \rangle \\
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 &= \langle \tilde{\Psi} | \tilde{\Psi} \rangle \\
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 \end{aligned}$$

Closure = 1

Proof of the theorem:

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 \end{aligned}$$

# The LIT in practice:

1.

$$|\tilde{\Psi}\rangle = \frac{1}{(H - E_0 - \omega_0 + i\Gamma)} \Theta |0\rangle$$

is found solving for fixed  $\Gamma$  and many  $\omega_0$

$$(H - E_0 - \omega_0 + i\Gamma) \tilde{\Psi} = \Theta |0\rangle$$

2. the overlap  $\langle \tilde{\Psi} | \tilde{\Psi} \rangle$  is calculated

3. the transform is inverted


$$\langle \tilde{\Psi} | \tilde{\Psi} \rangle = \int R(\omega) L(\omega, \omega_0, \Gamma) d\omega$$

# main point of the LIT :

Schrödinger-like equation with a source

$$(H - E_0 - \omega_0 + i\Gamma) \tilde{\Psi} = S$$

$$S = \Theta |0\rangle$$


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Theorem:

The  $\tilde{\Psi}$  solution is unique and has **bound state** asymptotic behavior

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Theorem:

The  $\tilde{\Psi}$  solution is unique and has **bound state** asymptotic behavior



one can apply **bound state methods**

# The LIT method

- reduces the **continuum** problem to a **bound state-like** problem
- needs **only** a “good” method for **bound state** calculations (FY, HH, NCSM, ...???)
- has been **benchmarked** in “directly solvable” systems (A=2,3)



# Illustration of requirement

**N.2:** one can invert the integral transform minimizing instabilities

## Inversion of the LIT: the **regularization** method

$$R(\omega) = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{max}} c_n \chi_n(\omega, \alpha_i)$$

The  $\chi_n$  are given functions with nonlinear parameters  $\alpha_i$ .

Substituting such an expansion in the integral equation

$$\Phi(\omega_0, \Gamma) = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{max}} c_n \tilde{\chi}_n(\omega_0, \alpha_i),$$

where

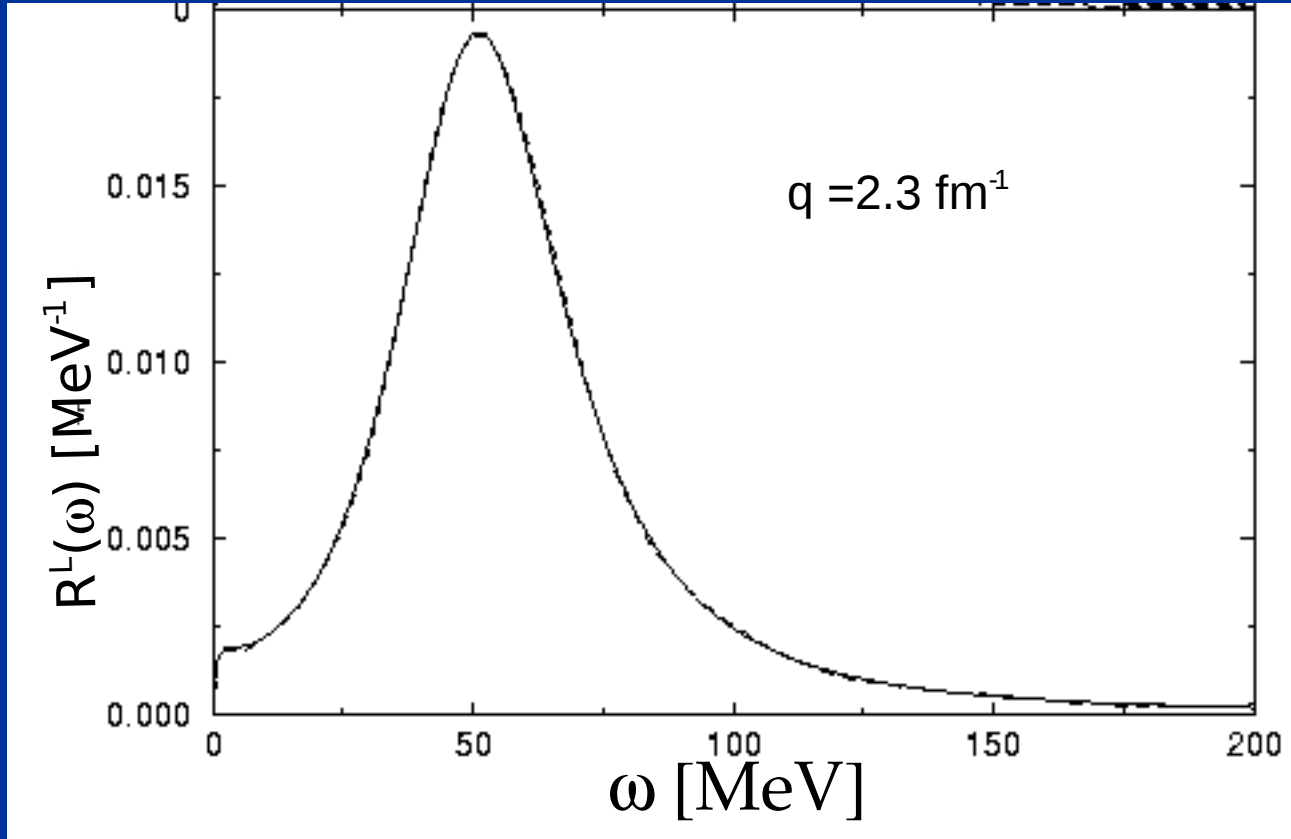
$$\tilde{\chi}_n(\omega_0, \alpha_i) = \int_0^{\infty} d\omega \frac{\chi_n(\omega, \alpha_i)}{(\omega - \omega_0)^2 + \Gamma^2}.$$

For given  $\alpha_i$  the linear parameters  $c_n$  are determined from **a least-square best fit** to the calculated  $\Phi(\omega_0, \Gamma)$  for a **number of  $\omega_0$  points much larger than  $N_{max}$ .**

**Works very well with “bell shaped” kernels**

**test** on the Deuteron:

$R(\omega)$  is the longitudinal (e,e') response function

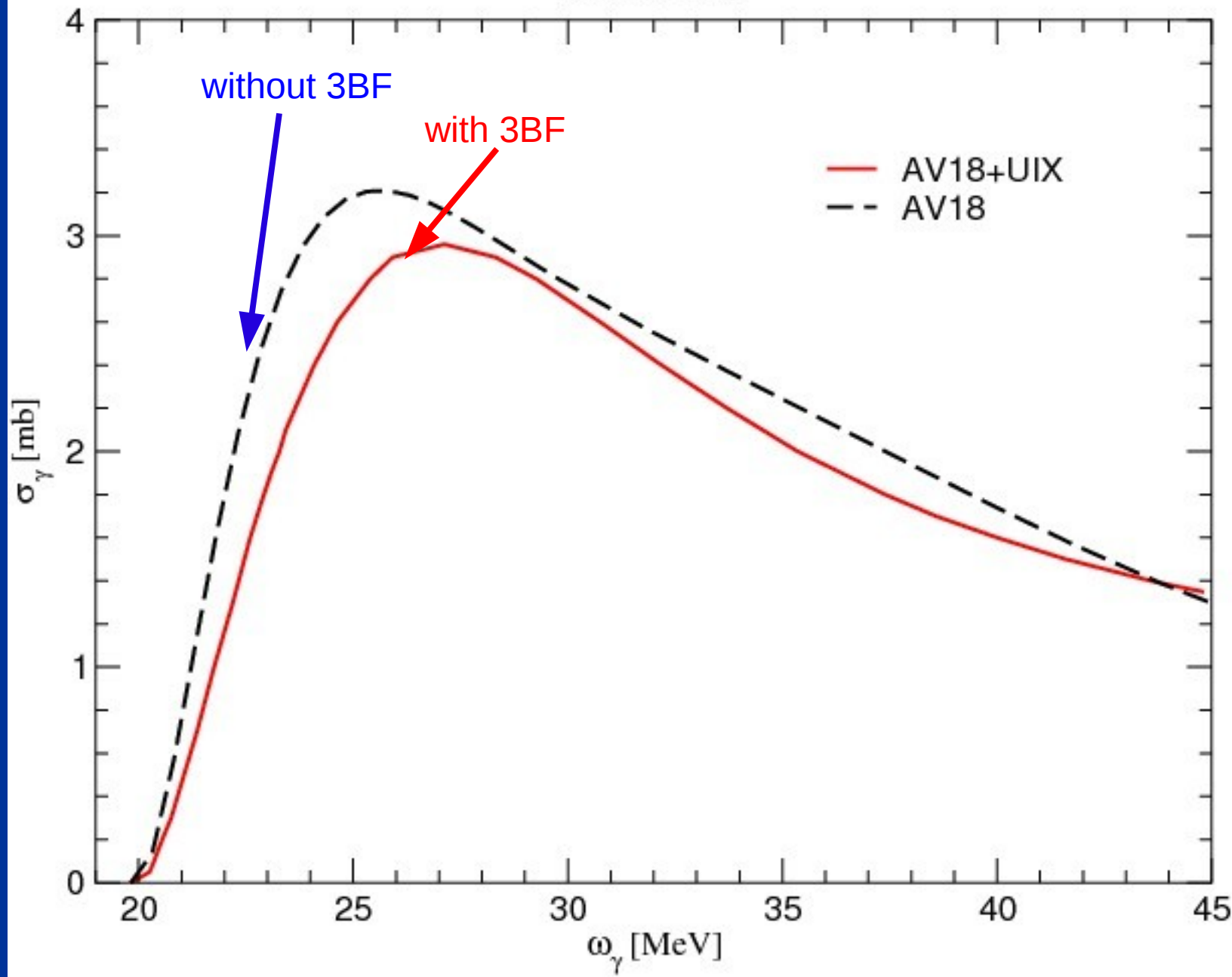


Phys Lett. B338 (1994) 130

Electromagnetic probes (**photons**, electrons) are a very  
“**clean**” source of information

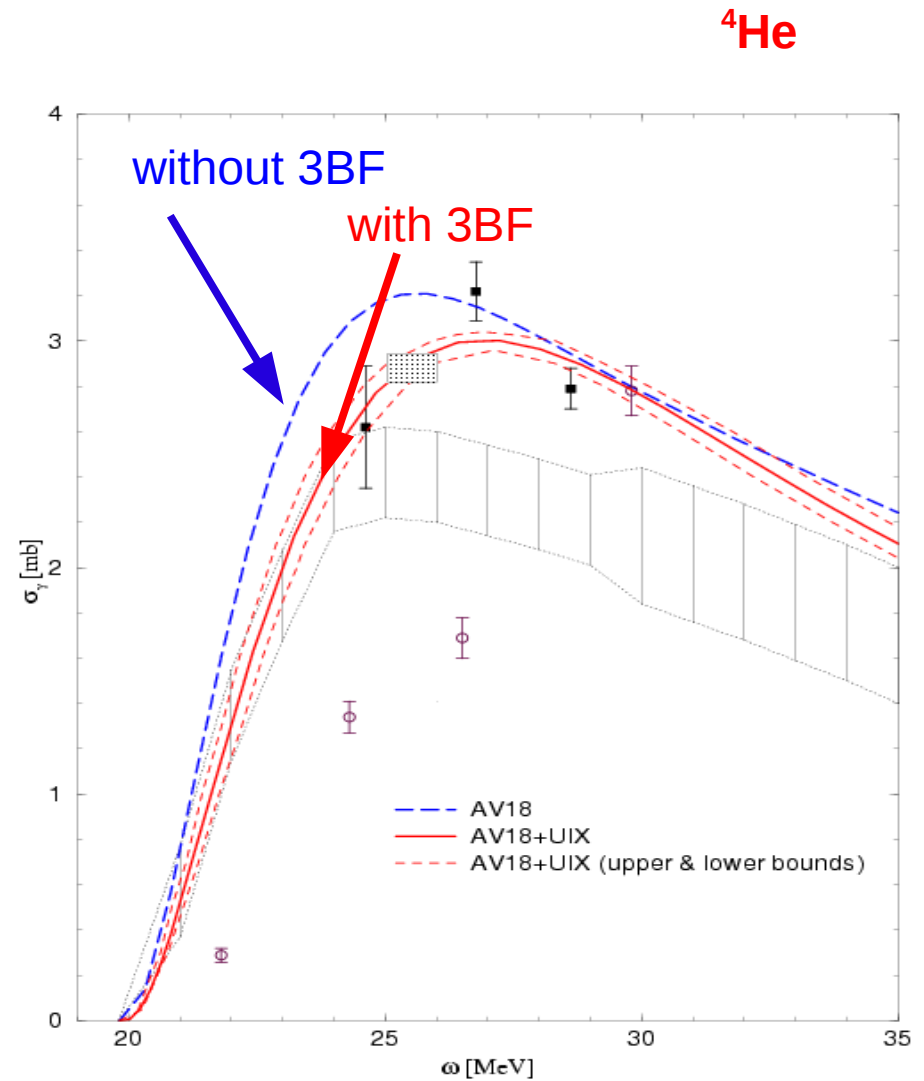
# Total Photodisintegration of $4\text{He}$

AV18 + UIX



# Total Photoabsorption Cross Section of $^4\text{He}$

Theory: LIT + EIHH



D.Gazit, S. Bacca et al. PRL 96 (2006) 112301

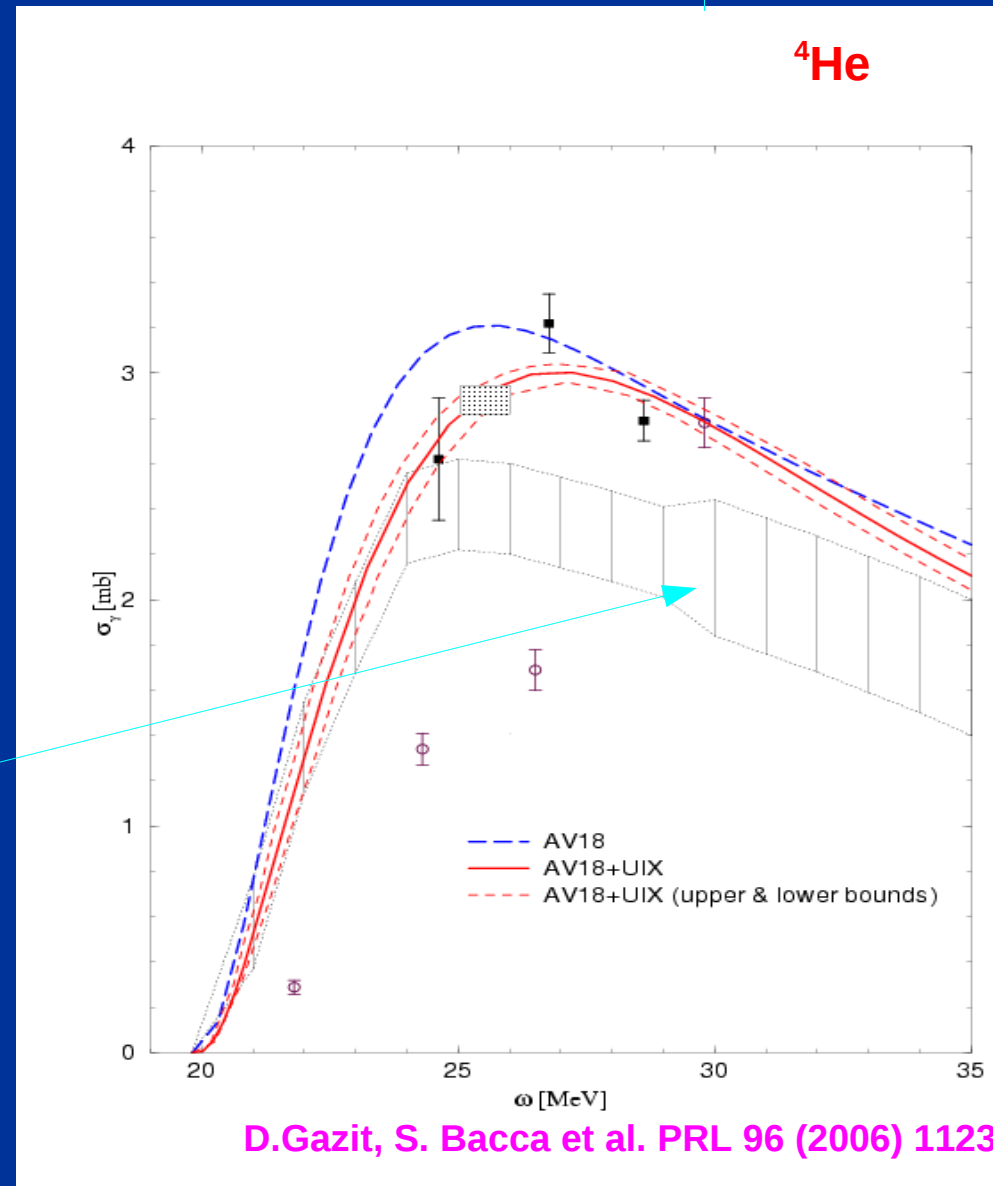
# Total Photoabsorption Cross Section of $^4\text{He}$

OLD data:

$(\gamma, n)$  Berman et al. '80

+

$(\gamma, p)$  Feldman et al. '90



# Total Photoabsorption Cross Section of $^4\text{He}$

**NEW** data:

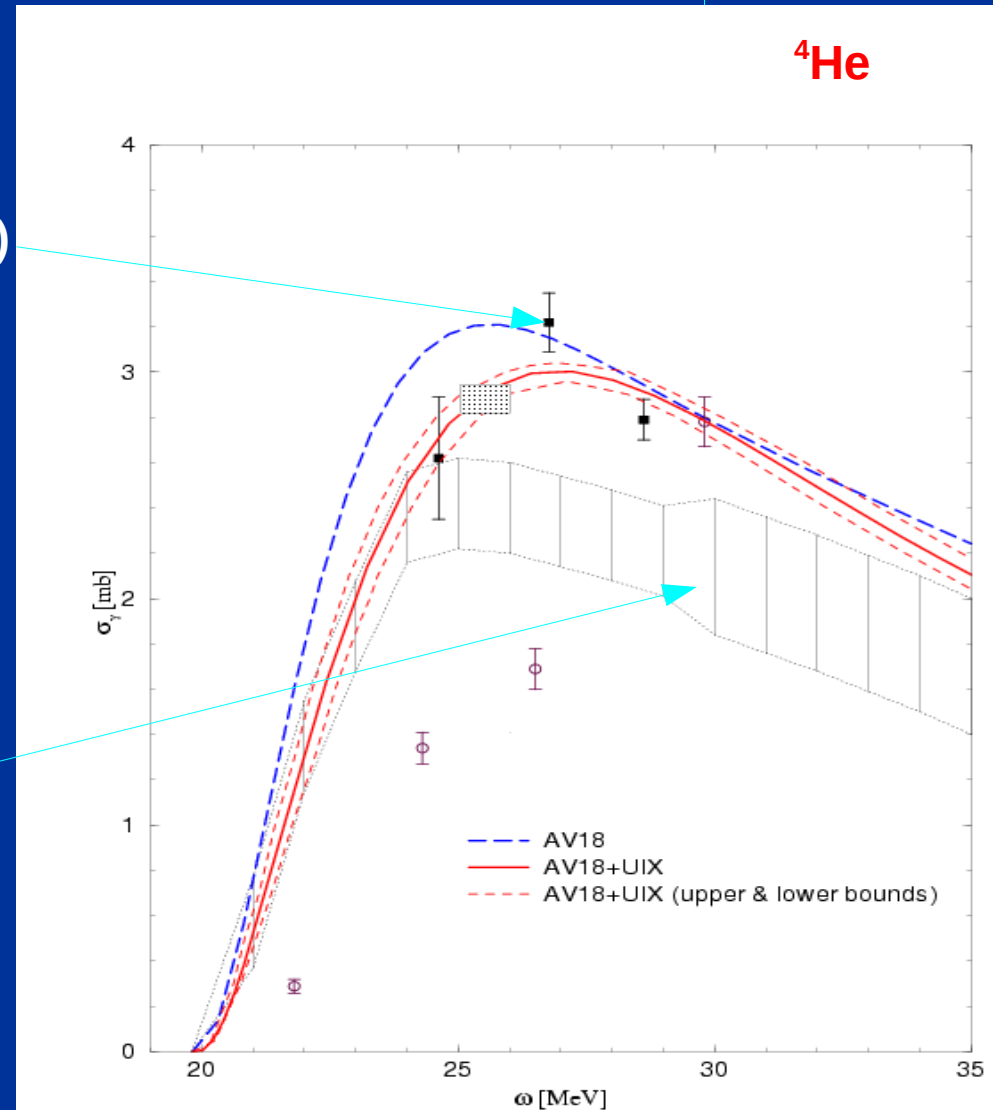
Nilsson et al. MAXLAB Lund (2005)

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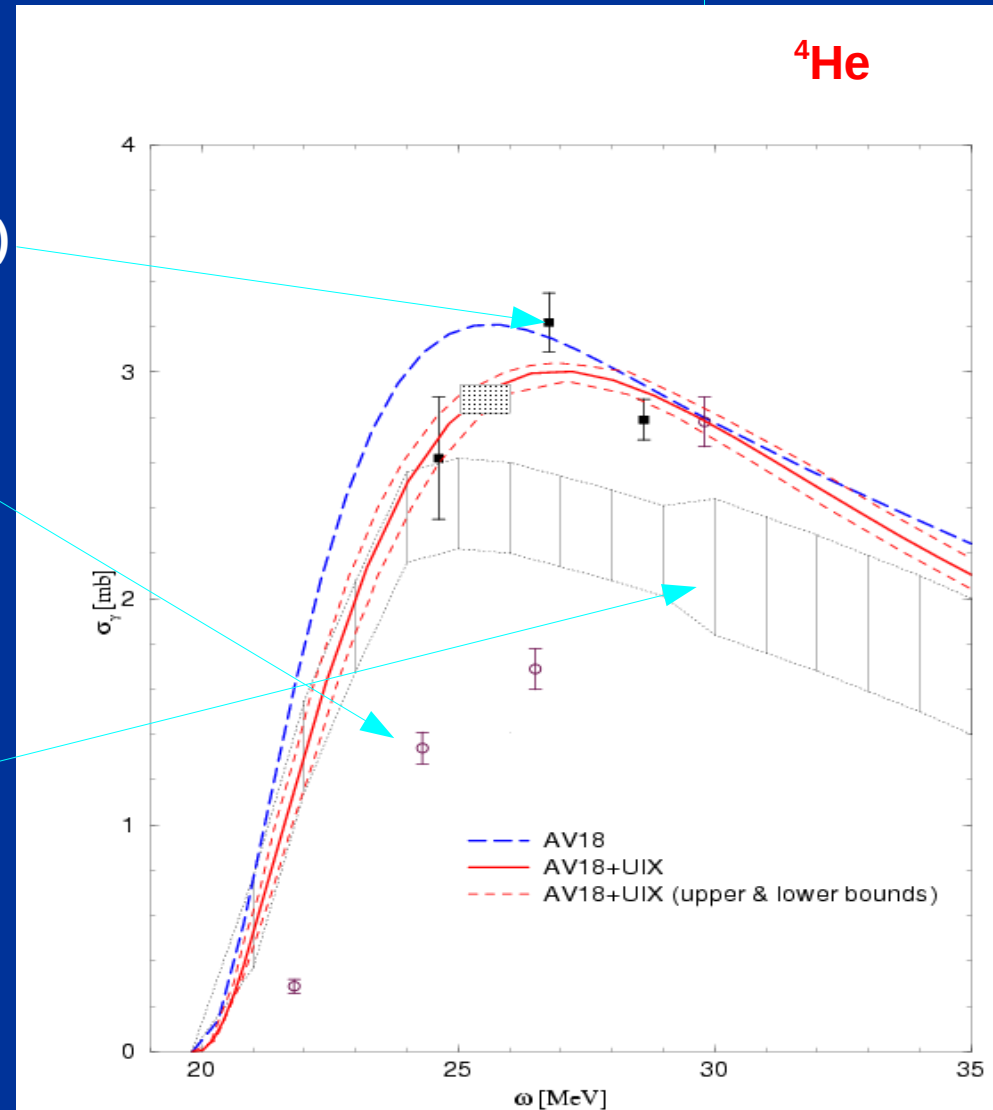
Shima et al. Osaka (2005)

**OLD** data:

$(\gamma, n)$  Berman et al. '80

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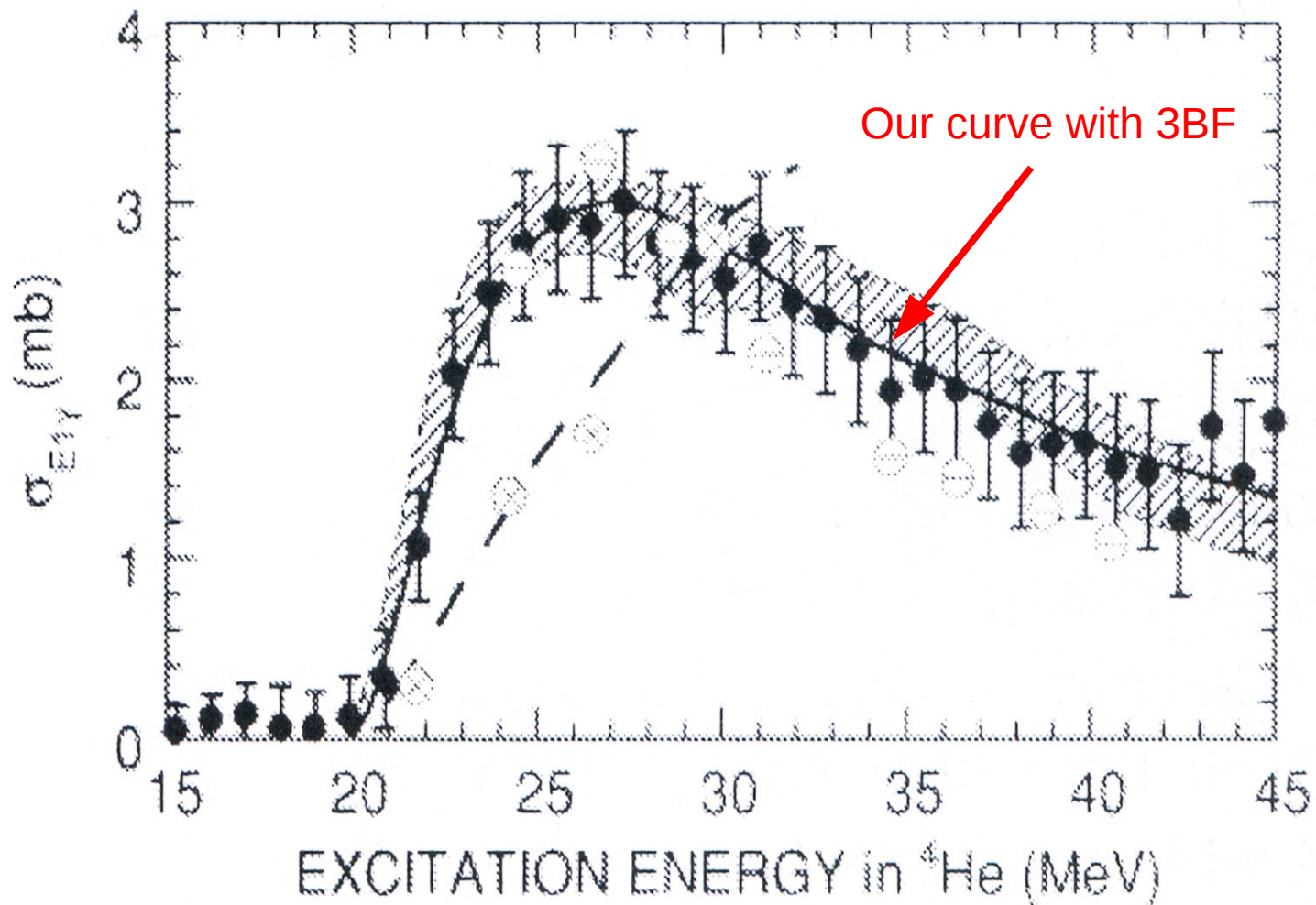
$(\gamma, p)$  Feldman et al. '90



D.Gazit, S. Bacca et al. PRL 96 (2006) 112301

Nakayama et al. PHYSICAL REVIEW C 76, 021305(R) (2007)

Analog of GDR by  $^4\text{He}(^7\text{Li}, ^7\text{Be})$



Electromagnetic probes (electrons, photons) are a very  
“clean” source of information

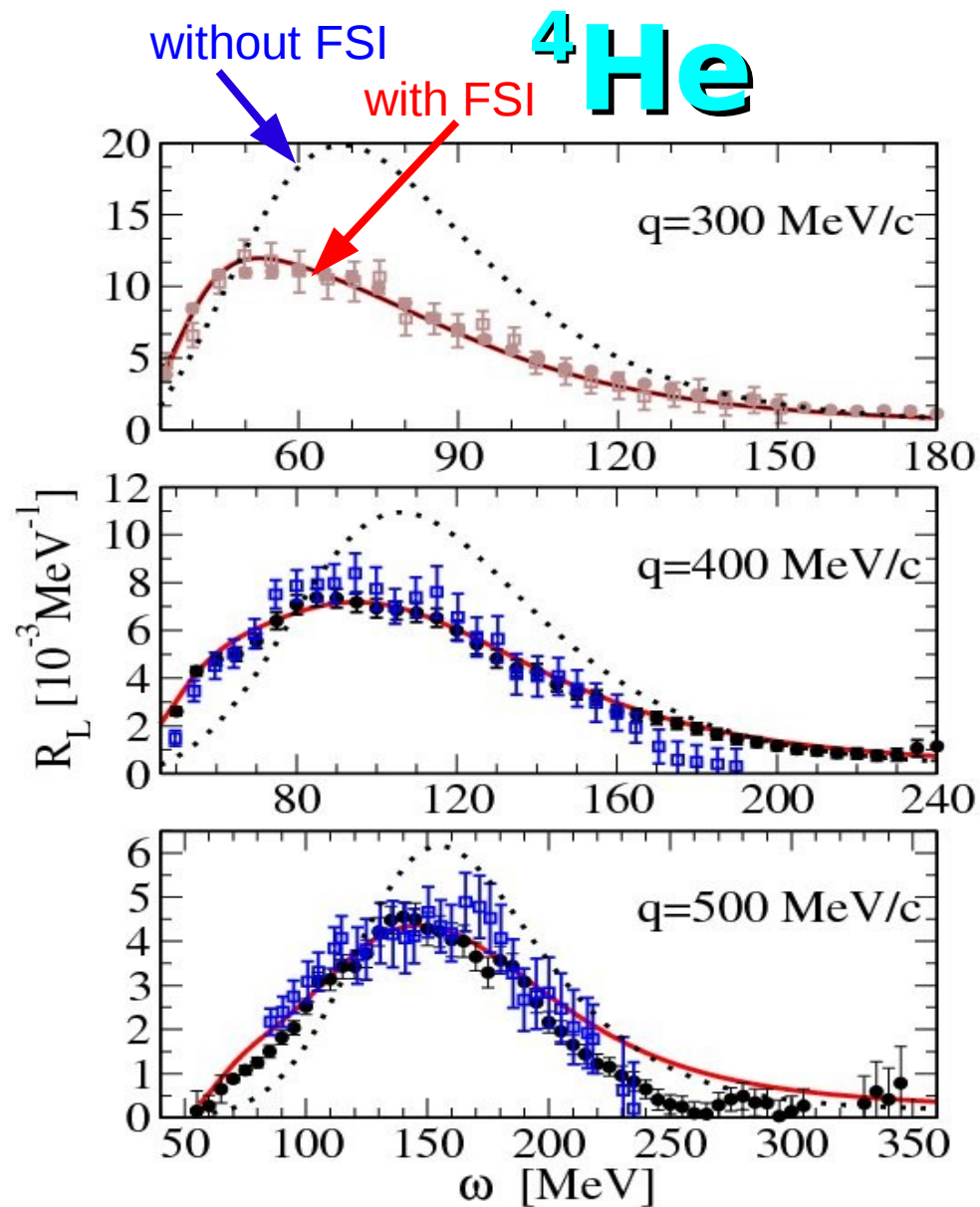
**Electrons** can explore the entire nucleus  
at **different scales** (varying momentum transfer  $q$ )  
and **different excitation energies** (varying energy transfer  $\omega$ ).  
e.g. low  $\omega$  , high  $q$

# “quasi elastic” electron scattering $^4\text{He}$

## Role of Final State Interaction:

dotted: PWIA

full: AV18+UIX



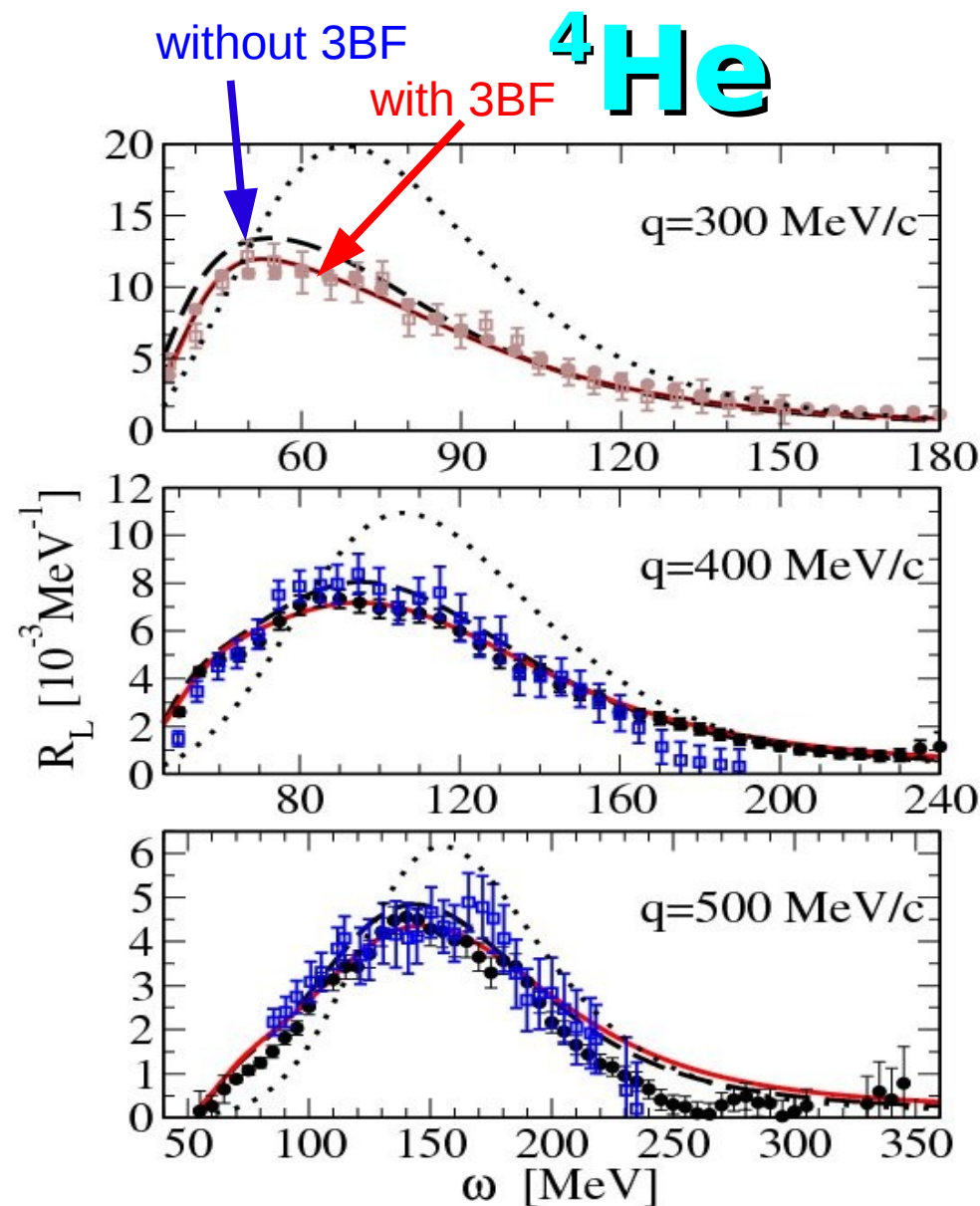
# “quasi elastic” electron scattering

## Role of 3-body force

dashed: AV18

full: AV18+UIX

S.Bacca et al.,  
PRL 102 (2009) 162501



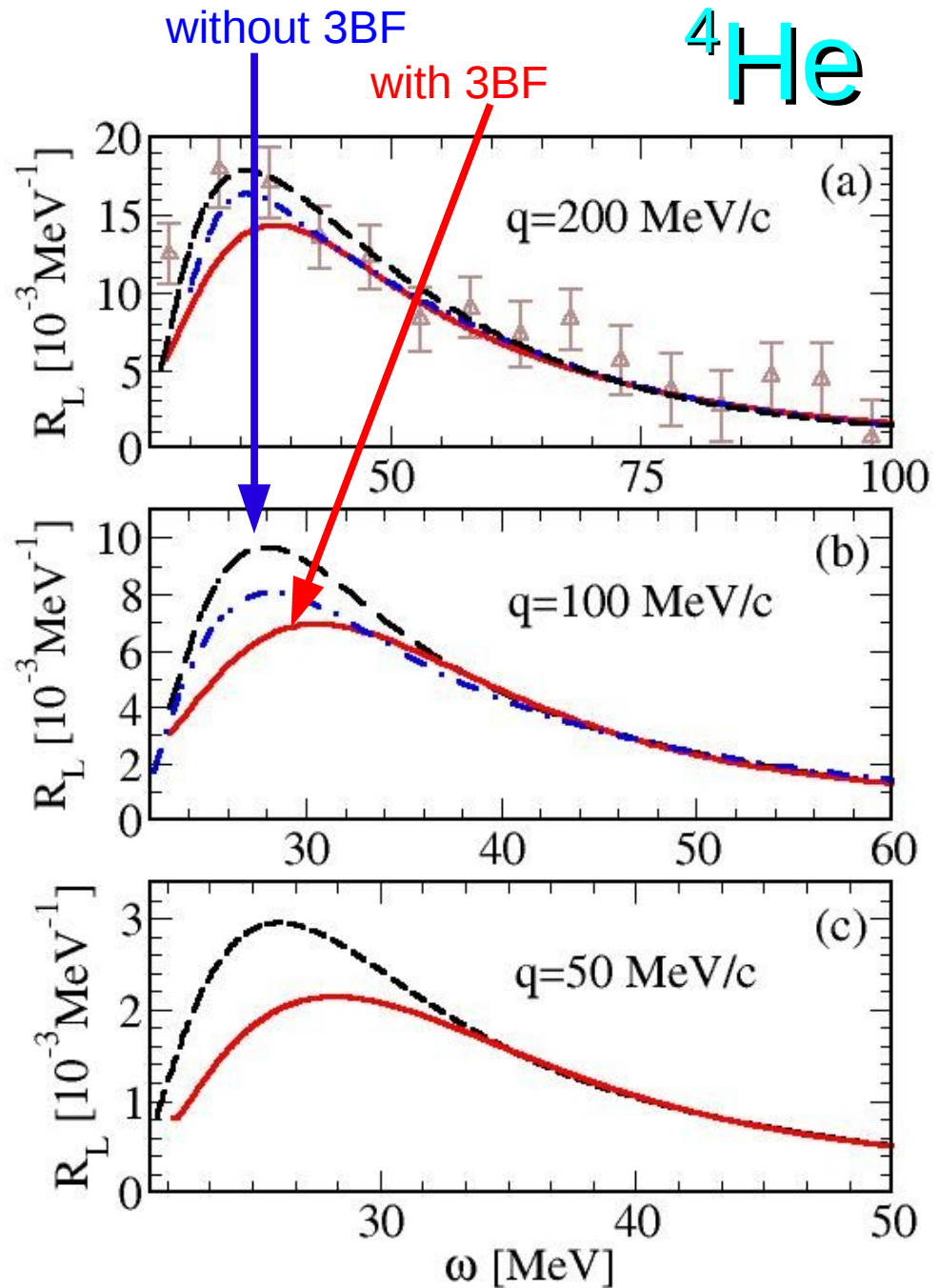
LOW  $q$ :

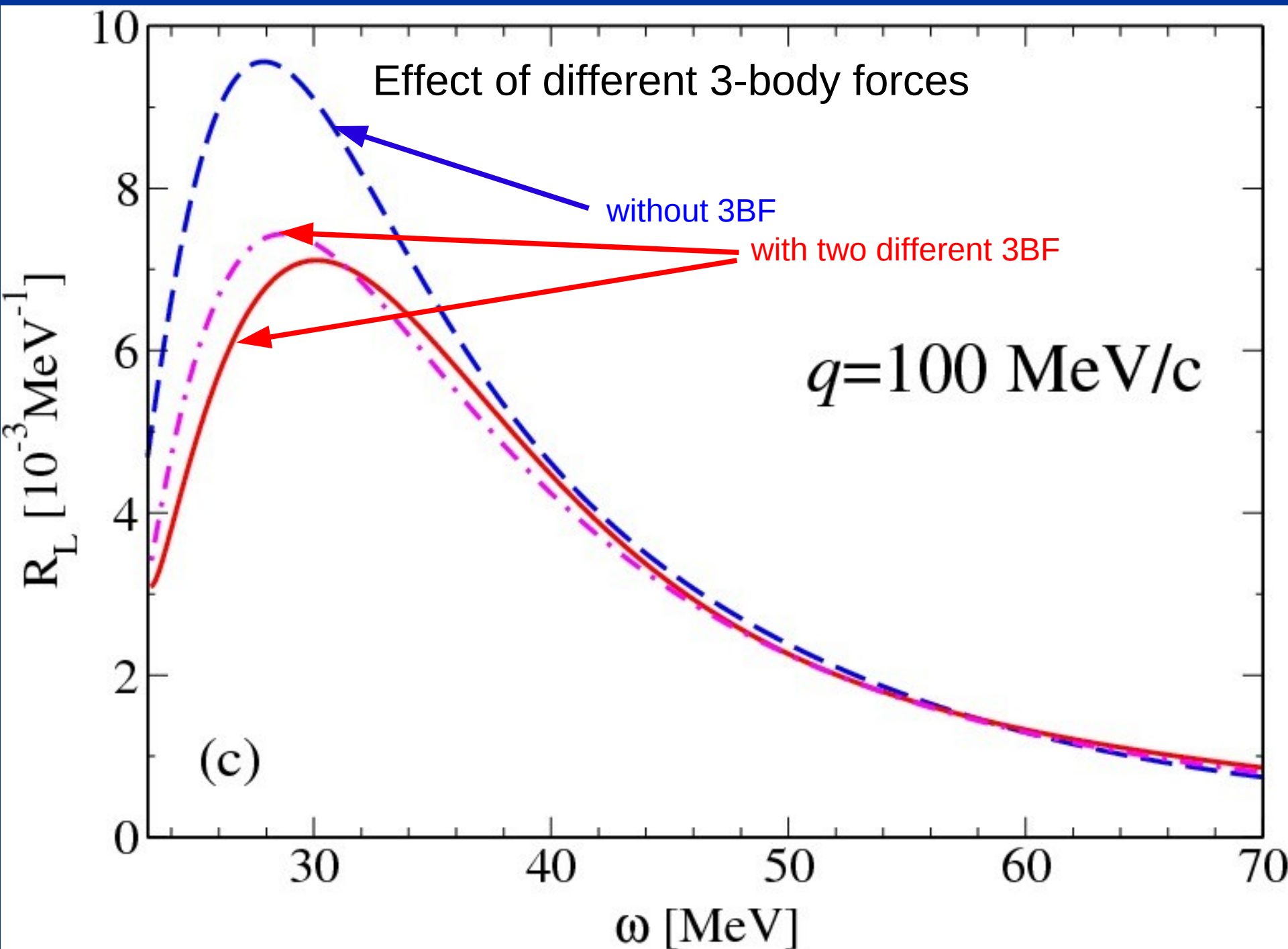
$^4\text{He}$

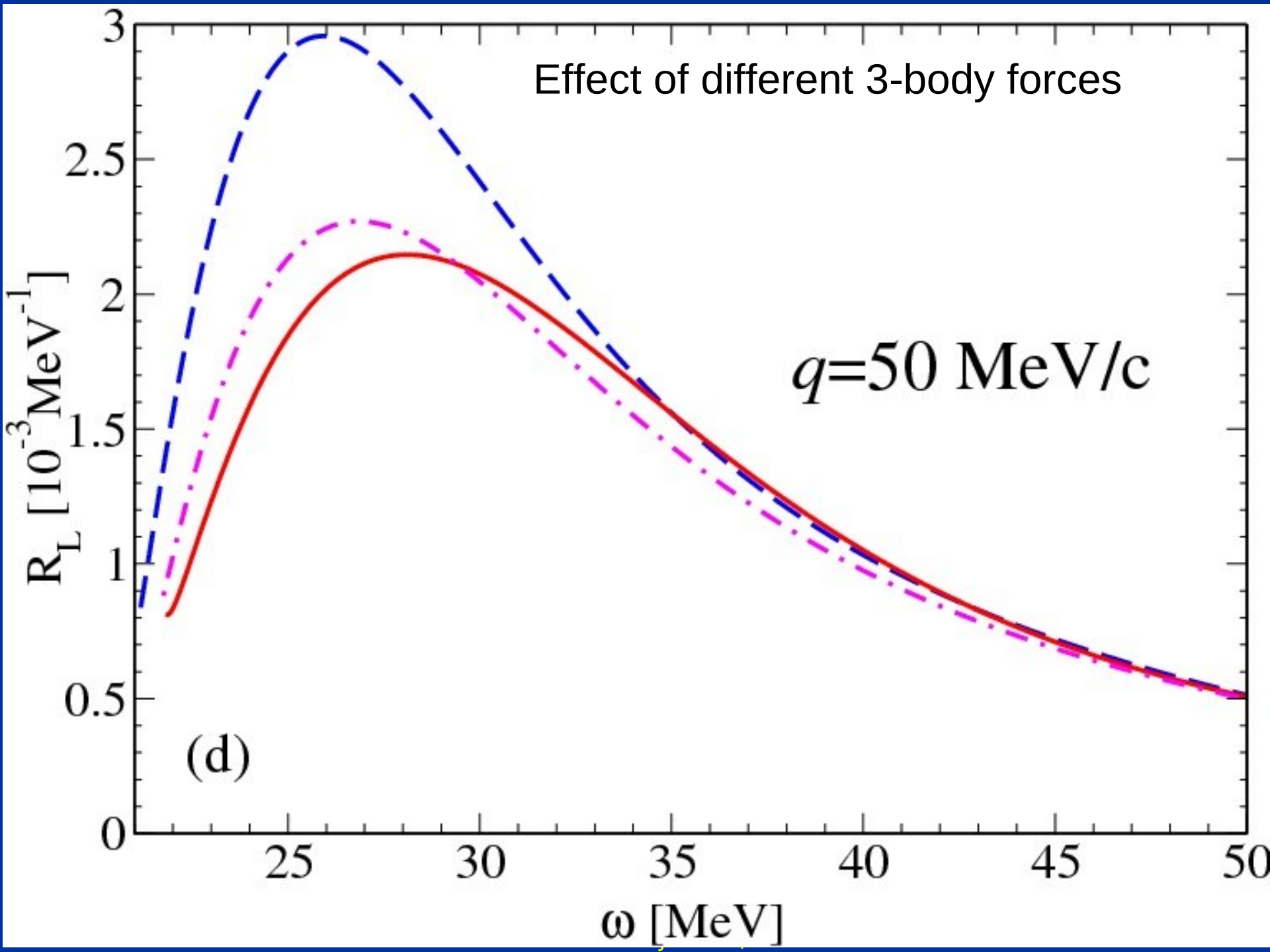
**SURPRISE !**

**LARGE EFFECT OF  
3-BODY FORCE**

**NO MEASUREMENTS  
AT LOW  $q$  !!!**



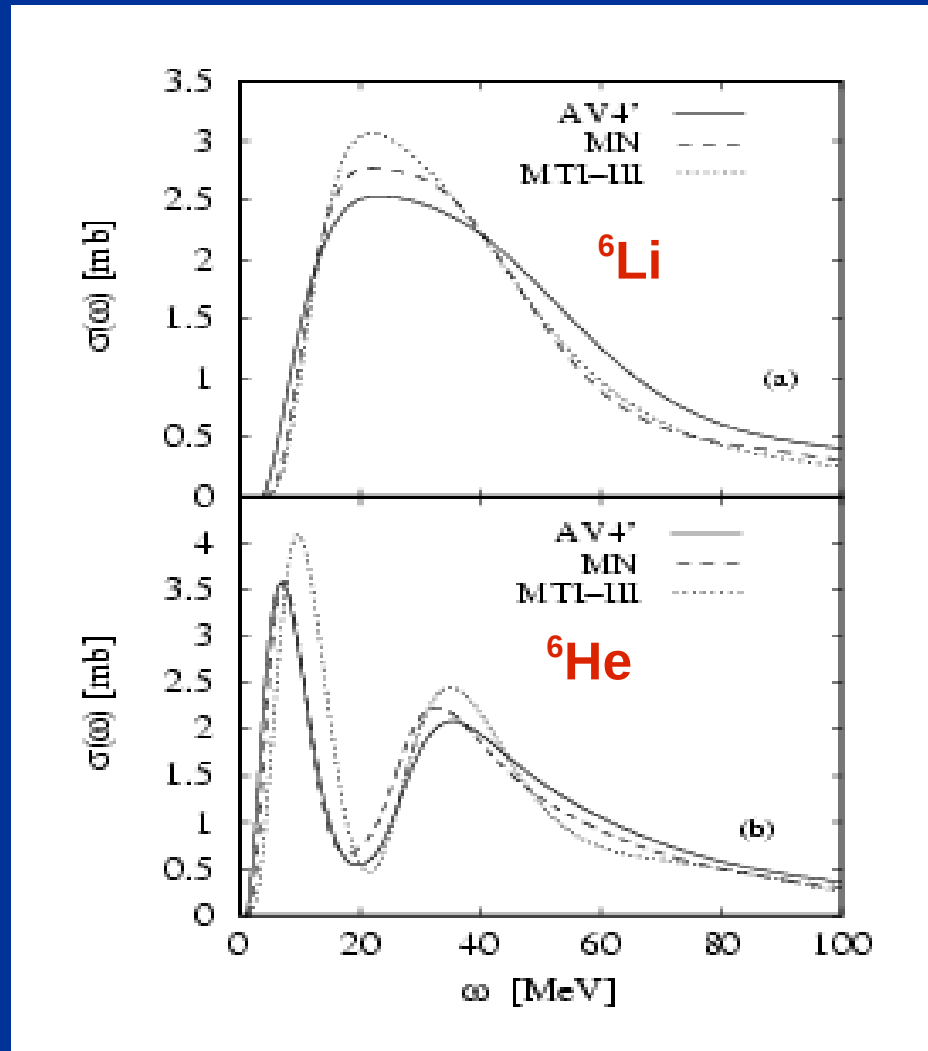






# 6-Body E1 excitation

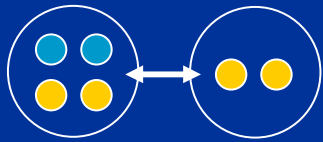
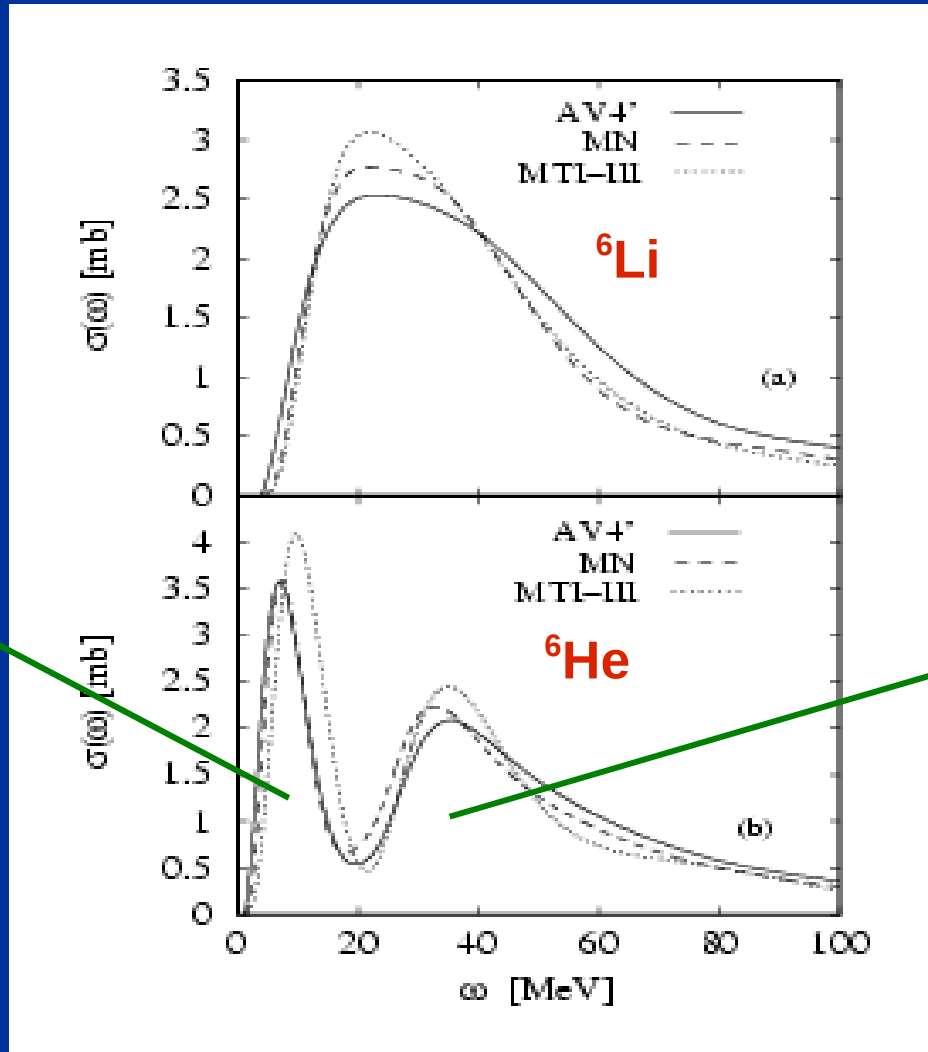
S. Bacca et al. PRL 89(2002)052502



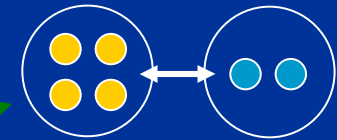
LIT + EIH  
methods

# 6-Body E1 excitation

S. Bacca et al. PRL89(2002)052502



soft mode



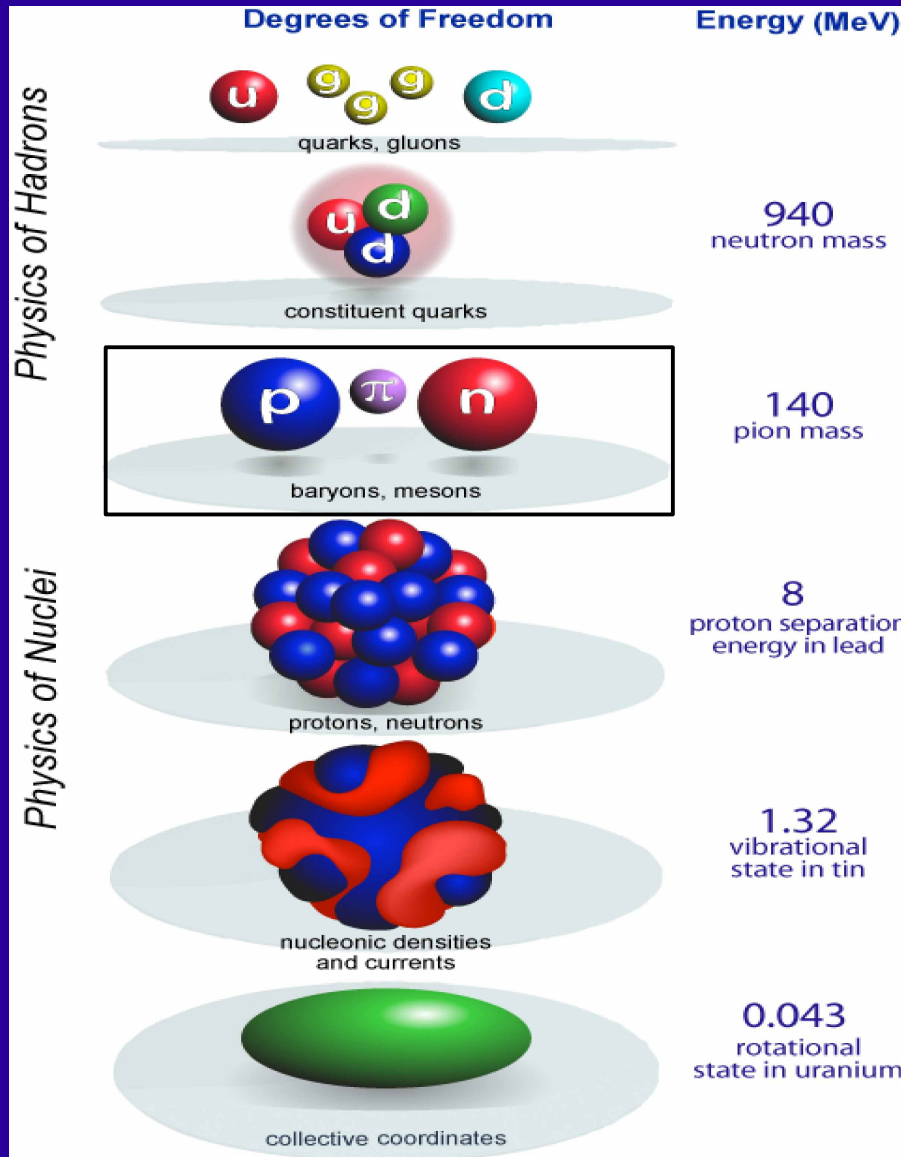
classical GT mode

LIT + E1H  
methods

# Conclusions

- Few body nuclear physics has made important progress both in studying the nuclear interaction and in accounting for typical many – body phenomena
- The **LIT** method has opened up new perspectives to study reactions with ab initio methods, avoiding the many-body scattering problem

# fundamental issues in nuclear physics:



Connects to QCD

nuclear interaction

Connects to typical MB properties (clusterization, collectivity, mean field properties etc.)

**Sonia Bacca**  
*(TRIUMF, Vancouver)*

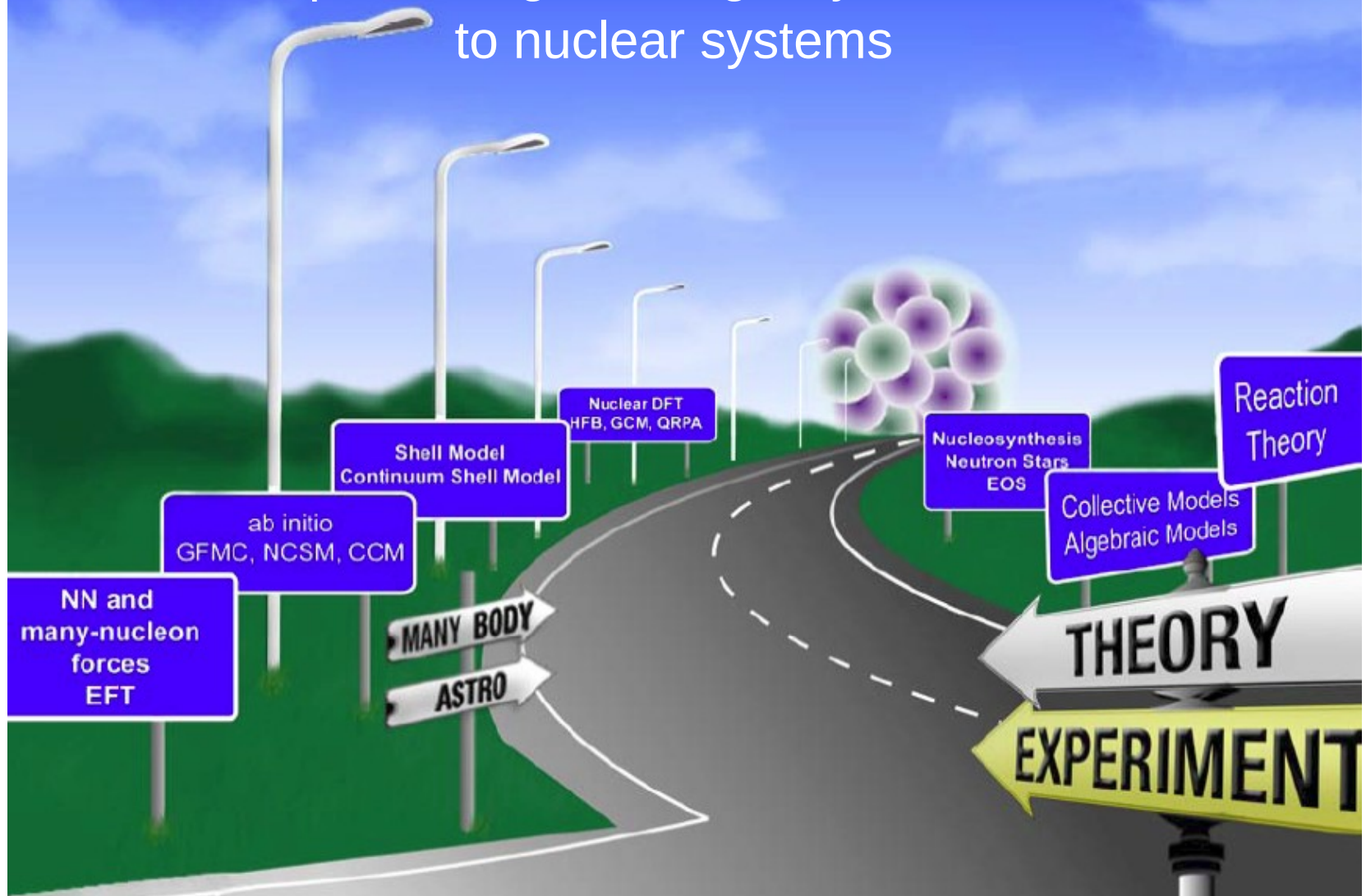
**Victor Efros**  
*(Kurchatov Institute Moscow)*

**Winfried Leidemann**  
*(University of Trento)*

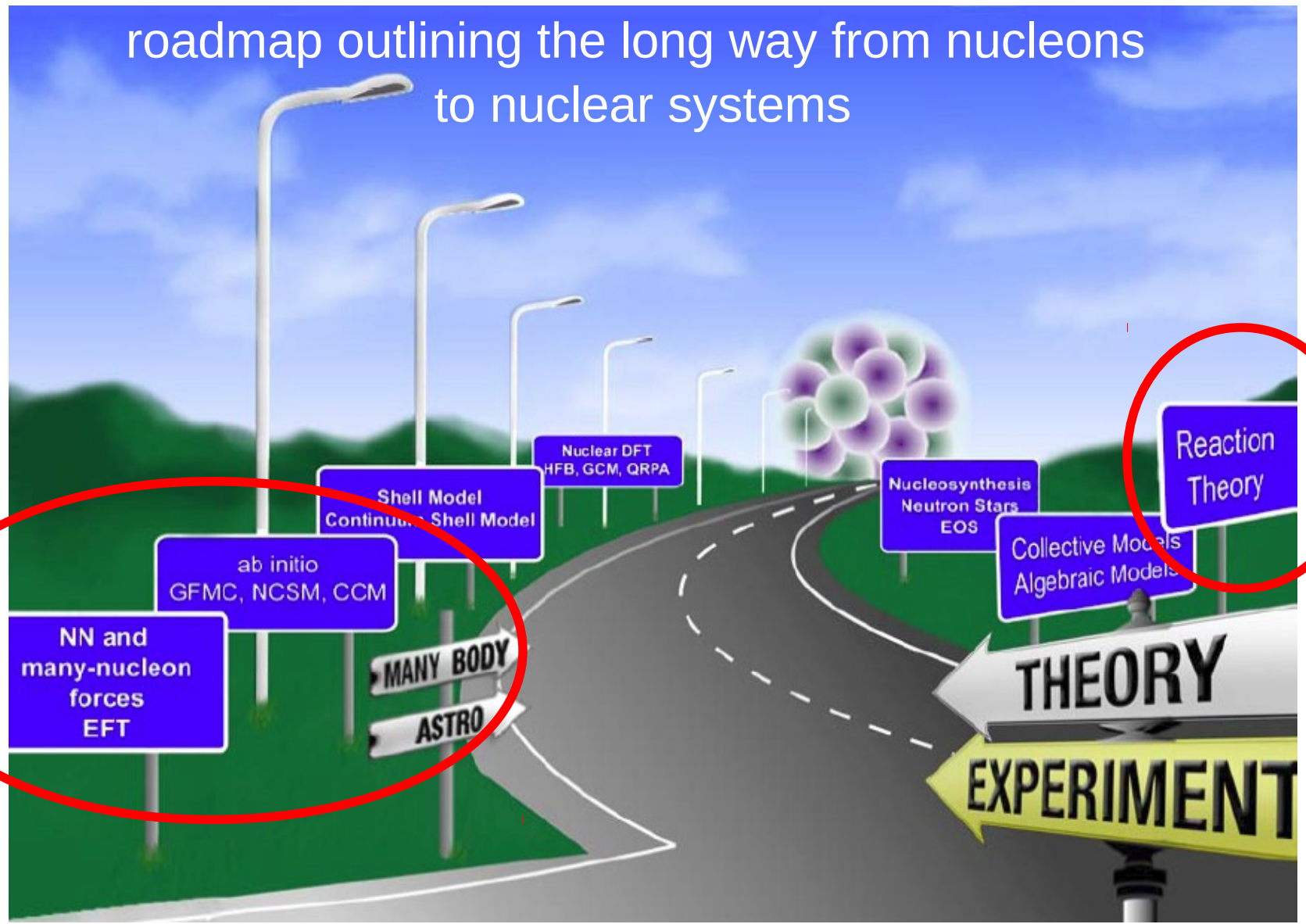
**Nir Barnea**  
*(Hebrew University, Jerusalem)*



# roadmap outlining the long way from nucleons to nuclear systems



# roadmap outlining the long way from nucleons to nuclear systems



NN and many-nucleon forces EFT

ab initio GFMC, NCSM, CCM

Shell Model Continuum Shell Model

Nuclear DFT HFB, GCM, QRPA

Nucleosynthesis Neutron Stars EOS

Collective Models Algebraic Models

Reaction Theory

MANY BODY

ASTRO

THEORY

EXPERIMENT