

# Alpha correlations and clustering in the shell model

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Two-nucleon correlation functions

Alpha correlation functions

Alpha clustering

*Neutron-proton pairing, ESN7, September 2023*

# Two-nucleon correlators

Two-nucleon correlation operators are defined as

$$\sum_{i < j} \delta(r - \hat{r}_{ij}), \quad \sum_{i < j} \delta(R - \hat{R}_{ij}) \delta(r - \hat{r}_{ij})$$

with

$$\hat{R}_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} |\hat{r}_i + \hat{r}_j|, \quad \hat{r}_{ij} = |\hat{r}_i - \hat{r}_j|$$

Expectation value defines a probability density:

*times  $dr \rightarrow$  probability of two nucleons separated by  $r$ ;*

*times  $drdR \rightarrow$  probability of two nucleons separated by  $r$  and at a distance  $R$  from the centre of mass.*

# Two-nucleon correlation functions

## Expectation values for a two-nucleon state

$$\langle abLST | \delta(r - \hat{r}_{12}) | cdLST \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} r^2 \sum_{N\mathcal{L}nn'l} \tilde{a}_{N\mathcal{L}nl,LST}^{n_a l_a n_b l_b} \tilde{a}_{N\mathcal{L}n'l,LST}^{n_c l_c n_d l_d} R_{nl} \left( \frac{r}{\sqrt{2}} \right) R_{n'l} \left( \frac{r}{\sqrt{2}} \right)$$

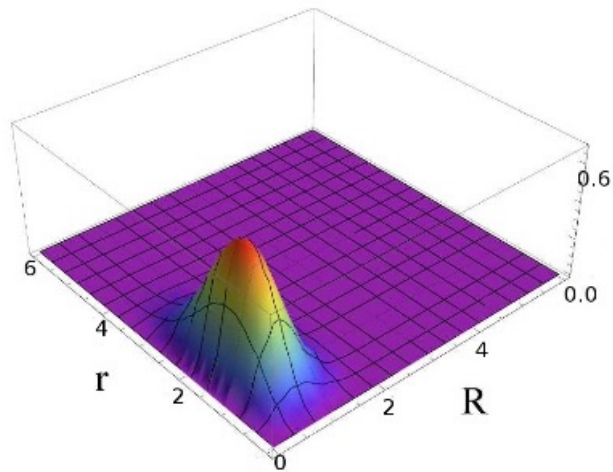
and

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle abLST | \delta(R - \hat{R}_{12}) \delta(r - \hat{r}_{12}) | cdLST \rangle \\ &= R^2 r^2 \sum_{NN'\mathcal{L}} \sum_{nn'l} \tilde{a}_{N\mathcal{L}nl,LST}^{n_a l_a n_b l_b} \tilde{a}_{N'\mathcal{L}n'l,LST}^{n_c l_c n_d l_d} R_{N\mathcal{L}}(\sqrt{2}R) R_{N'\mathcal{L}}(\sqrt{2}R) R_{nl} \left( \frac{r}{\sqrt{2}} \right) R_{n'l} \left( \frac{r}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

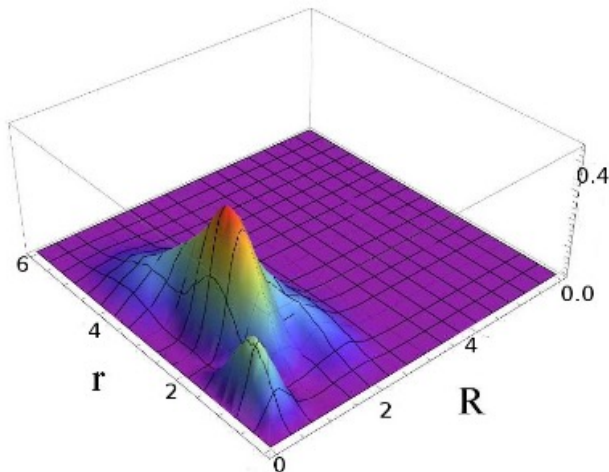
in terms of modified Talmi-Moshinsky brackets

$$\tilde{a}_{N\mathcal{L}nl,LST}^{n_a l_a n_b l_b} \equiv \frac{1 - (-)^{l+S+T}}{\sqrt{2(1 + \delta_{n_a n_b} \delta_{l_a l_b})}} a_{N\mathcal{L}nl,L}^{n_a l_a n_b l_b}$$

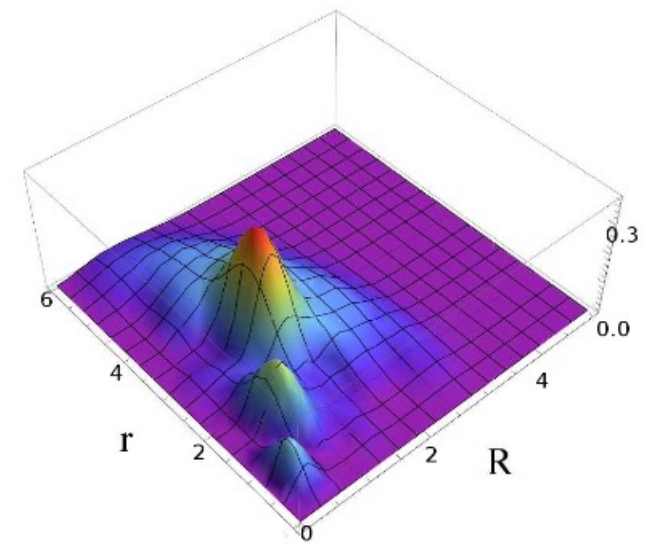
# Two identical nucleons in $s$ orbitals



(a)  $|(0s)^2; 00\rangle$

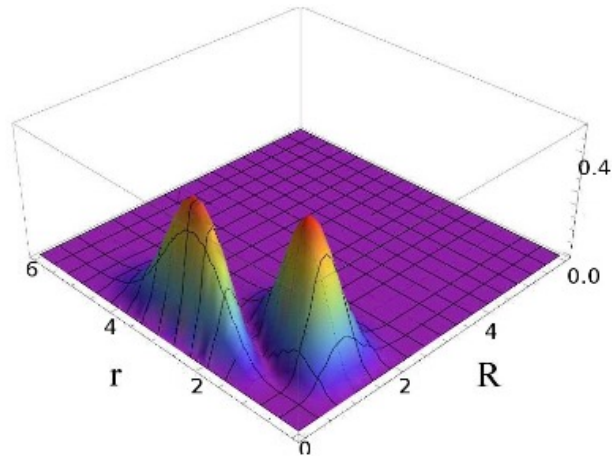


(b)  $|(1s)^2; 00\rangle$

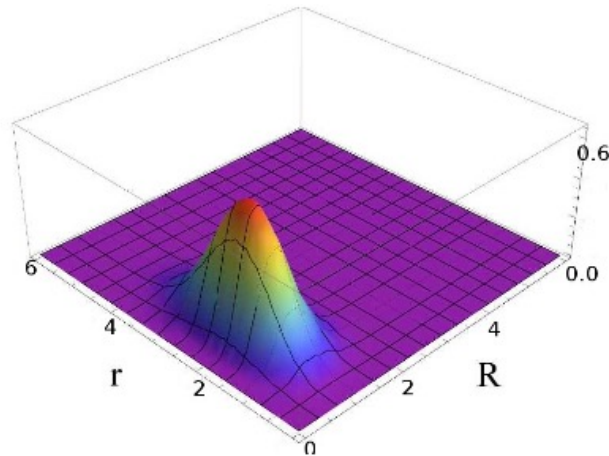


(c)  $|(2s)^2; 00\rangle$

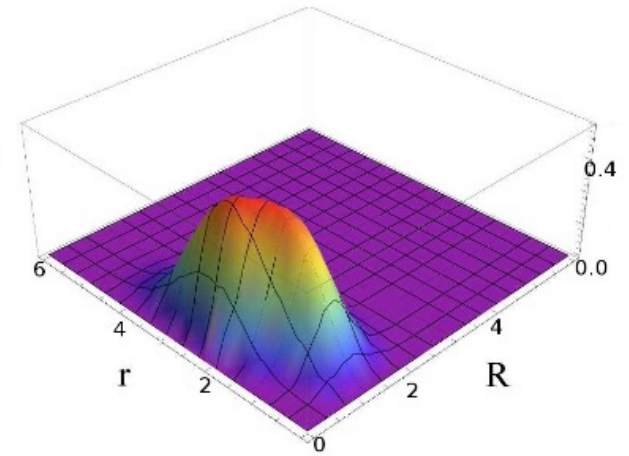
# Two identical nucleons in $p$ orbitals



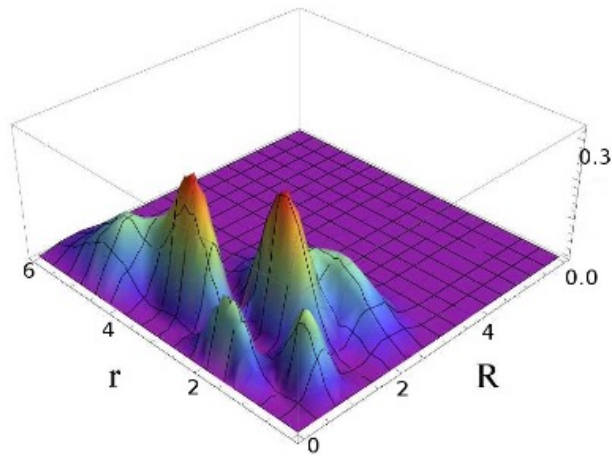
(a)  $|(0p)^2; 00\rangle$



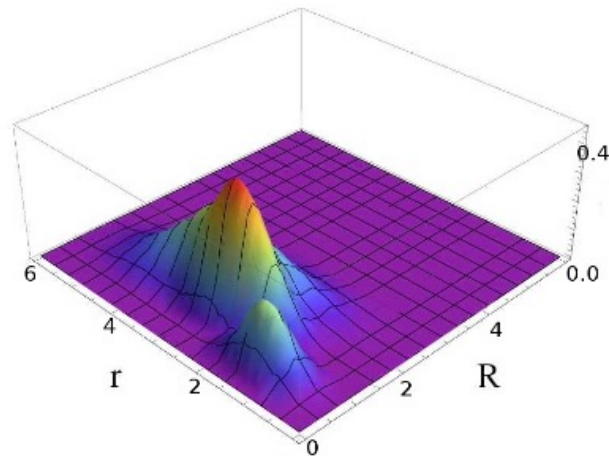
(b)  $|(0p)^2; 11\rangle$



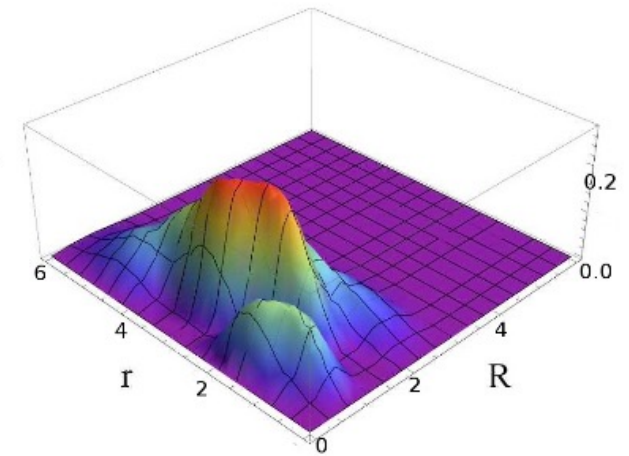
(c)  $|(0p)^2; 20\rangle$



(d)  $|(1p)^2; 00\rangle$

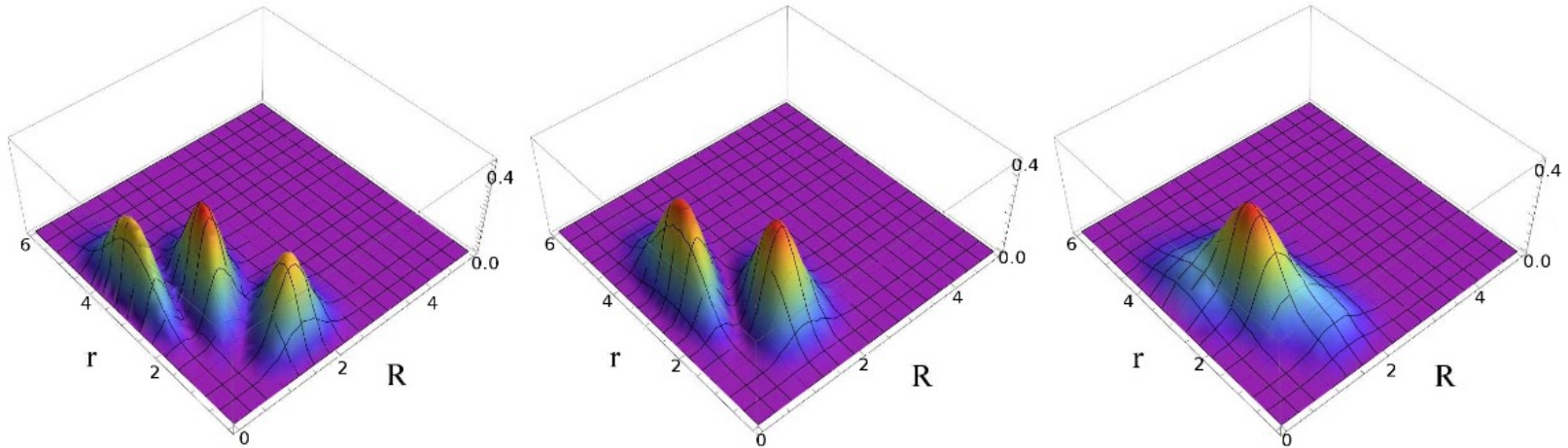


(e)  $|(1p)^2; 11\rangle$



(f)  $|(1p)^2; 20\rangle$

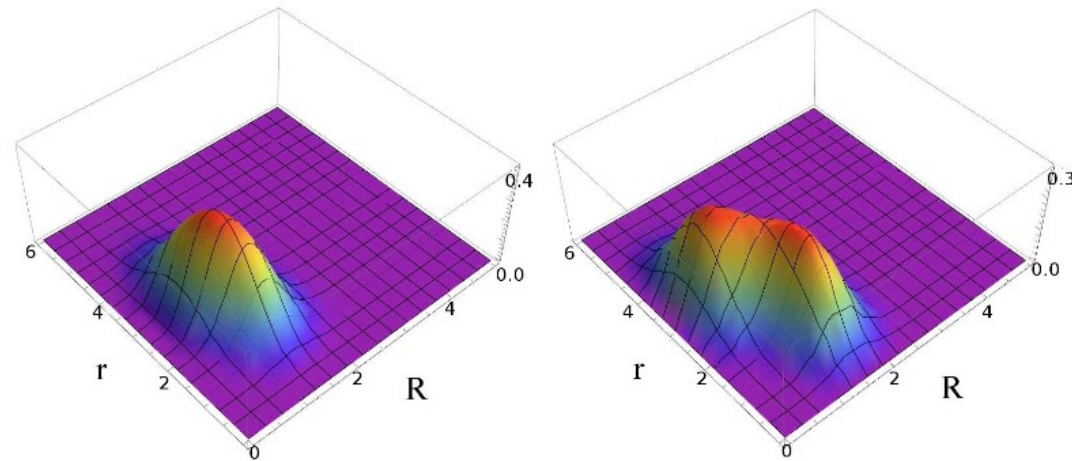
# Two identical nucleons in $0d$ orbital



(a)  $|(0d)^2; 00\rangle$

(b)  $|(0d)^2; 11\rangle$

(c)  $|(0d)^2; 20\rangle$



(d)  $|(0d)^2; 31\rangle$

(e)  $|(0d)^2; 40\rangle$

# Four identical nucleons in $0p$ orbital

A  $J = 0$  state has  $(LS) = (00)$  or  $(LS) = (11)$  with probability densities given by

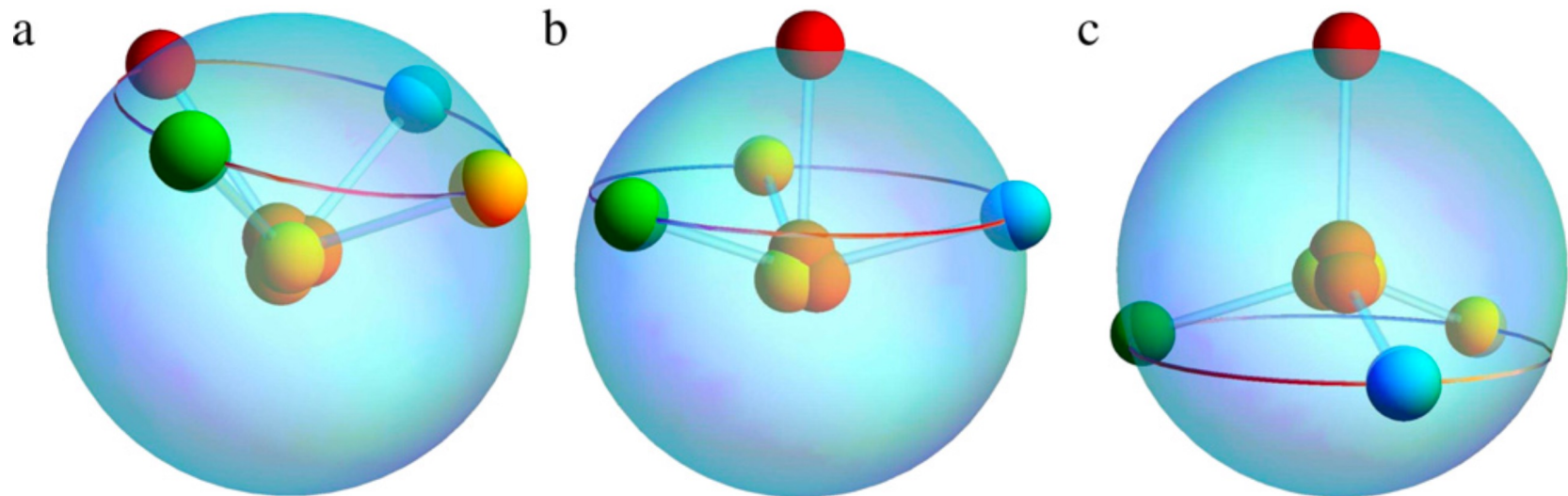
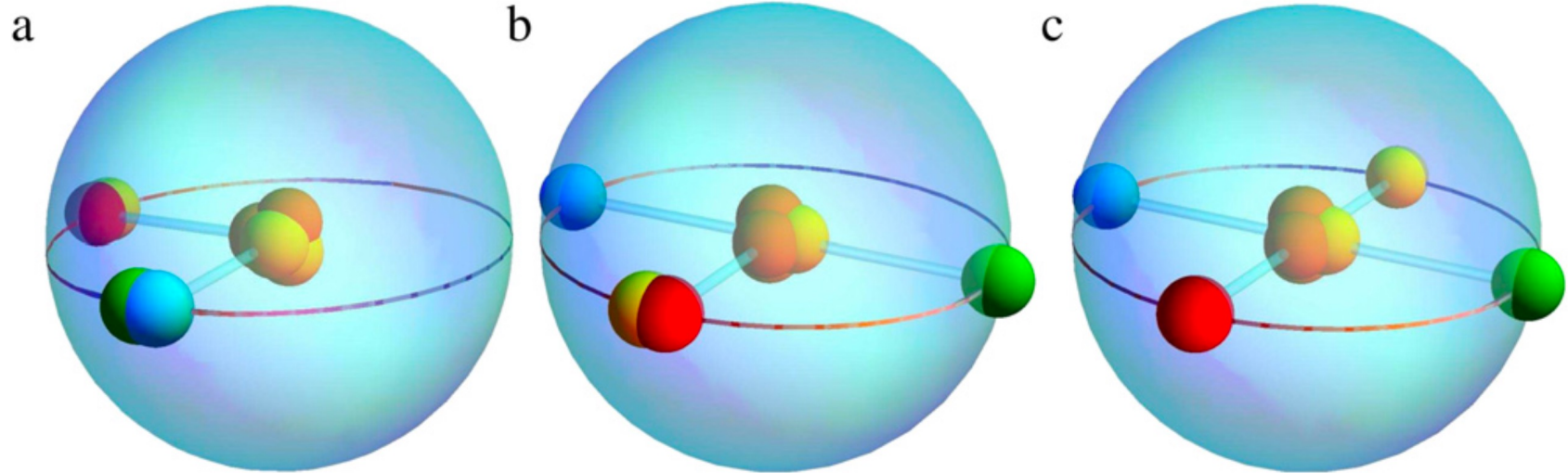
$$\mathcal{P}_{p^4;00} = \frac{9}{1024\pi^4} \sum_{(ij) \neq (kl)} \sin^2 \theta_{ij} \sin^2 \theta_{kl} \cos^2 \theta_{ij,kl}$$

and

$$\mathcal{P}_{p^4;11} = \frac{9}{2048\pi^4} \sum_{(ij) \neq (kl)} \sin^2 \theta_{ij} \sin^2 \theta_{kl} \sin^2 \theta_{ij,kl}$$

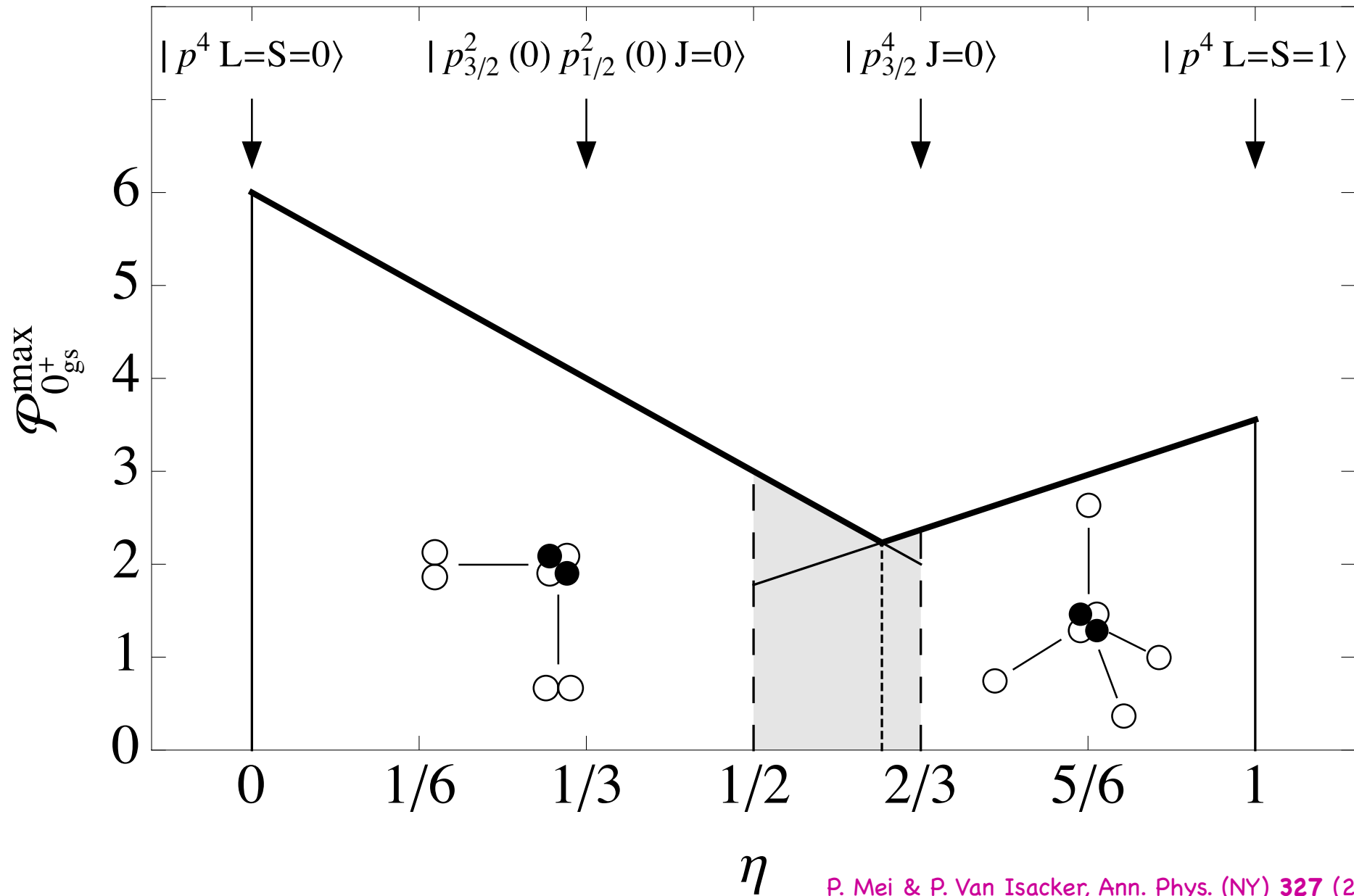
where  $\theta_{ij}$  is the angle between  $\bar{r}_i$  and  $\bar{r}_j$ , and  $\theta_{ij,kl}$  is the angle between  $\bar{r}_{ij}$  and  $\bar{r}_{kl}$ .

# Four identical nucleons in $0p$ orbital





# Example: ${}^8\text{He}$



# Four-nucleon $(2\nu, 2\pi)$ correlators

Four-nucleon correlation operators are defined as

$$\hat{\Delta}_{ijkl}(R_{\nu\pi}, r_{\nu\nu}, r_{\pi\pi}) \equiv \delta(R_{\nu\pi} - \hat{R}_{ij\cdot kl})\delta(r_{\nu\nu} - \hat{r}_{ij})\delta(r_{\pi\pi} - \hat{r}_{kl})$$

with  $(ij \in \nu, kl \in \pi)$

$$\hat{R}_{ij} = \left| \frac{1}{2}(\hat{r}_i + \hat{r}_j) \right|, \quad \hat{r}_{ij} = |\hat{r}_i - \hat{r}_j|,$$

$$\hat{R}_{kl} = \left| \frac{1}{2}(\hat{r}_k + \hat{r}_l) \right|, \quad \hat{r}_{kl} = |\hat{r}_k - \hat{r}_l|,$$

$$\hat{R}_{ijkl} = \left| \frac{1}{2}(\hat{R}_{ij} + \hat{R}_{kl}) \right|, \quad \hat{R}_{ij\cdot kl} = |\hat{R}_{ij} - \hat{R}_{kl}|,$$

$$\hat{r}_{ijkl} = \left| \frac{1}{2}(\hat{r}_{ij} + \hat{r}_{kl}) \right|, \quad \hat{r}_{ij\cdot kl} = |\hat{r}_{ij} - \hat{r}_{kl}|.$$

# Geometry of $2\nu + 2\pi$

If

$r_{\nu\nu}$  is the distance between the neutrons,

$r_{\pi\pi}$  is the distance between the protons,

$R_{\nu\pi}$  is the distance between the centres of mass of the neutrons and of the protons,

$r_{\nu\pi}$  is the distance between a neutron and a proton,

one has the relation, valid for a tetrahedron,

$$4R_{\nu\pi}^2 = 4r_{\nu\pi}^2 - r_{\nu\nu}^2 - r_{\pi\pi}^2$$

# Coordinate transformation

$$\begin{aligned}
 & |ab(L_\nu S_\nu), cd(L_\pi S_\pi); LS\rangle \\
 &= \sum_{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu \mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi} \sum_{n_\nu l_\nu n_\pi l_\pi} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu n_\nu l_\nu, L_\nu S_\nu}^{n_a l_a n_b l_b} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi n_\pi l_\pi, L_\pi S_\pi}^{n_c l_c n_d l_d} \\
 &\quad \times |\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu(\bar{R}'_{12}) n_\nu l_\nu(\bar{r}'_{12})(L_\nu S_\nu), \mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi(\bar{R}'_{34}) n_\pi l_\pi(\bar{r}'_{34})(L_\pi S_\pi); LS\rangle \\
 &= - \sum_{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu \mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi} \sum_{n_\nu l_\nu n_\pi l_\pi} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu n_\nu l_\nu, L_\nu S_\nu}^{n_a l_a n_b l_b} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi n_\pi l_\pi, L_\pi S_\pi}^{n_c l_c n_d l_d} \sum_{\mathcal{L}_\rho l_\rho \mathcal{S}_\rho s_\rho} \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{L}_\nu & l_\nu & L_\nu \\ \mathcal{L}_\pi & l_\pi & L_\pi \\ \mathcal{L}_\rho & l_\rho & L \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & S_\nu \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & S_\pi \\ \mathcal{S}_\rho & s_\rho & S \end{bmatrix} \\
 &\quad \times |\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu(\bar{R}'_{12}) \mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi(\bar{R}'_{34})(\mathcal{L}_\rho \mathcal{S}_\rho), n_\nu l_\nu(\bar{r}'_{12}) n_\pi l_\pi(\bar{r}'_{34})(l_\rho s_\rho); LS\rangle \\
 &= - \sum_{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu \mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi} \sum_{n_\nu l_\nu n_\pi l_\pi} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu n_\nu l_\nu, L_\nu S_\nu}^{n_a l_a n_b l_b} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi n_\pi l_\pi, L_\pi S_\pi}^{n_c l_c n_d l_d} \sum_{\mathcal{L}_\rho l_\rho \mathcal{S}_\rho s_\rho} \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{L}_\nu & l_\nu & L_\nu \\ \mathcal{L}_\pi & l_\pi & L_\pi \\ \mathcal{L}_\rho & l_\rho & L \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & S_\nu \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & S_\pi \\ \mathcal{S}_\rho & s_\rho & S \end{bmatrix} \\
 &\quad \times \sum_{\mathcal{N} \mathcal{L} n l} a_{\mathcal{N} \mathcal{L} n l, \mathcal{L}_\rho}^{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu \mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi} |\mathcal{N} \mathcal{L}(\bar{R}'_{1234}) n l(\bar{R}'_{12.34})(\mathcal{L}_\rho \mathcal{S}_\rho), n_\nu l_\nu(\bar{r}'_{12}) n_\pi l_\pi(\bar{r}'_{34})(l_\rho s_\rho); LS\rangle,
 \end{aligned}$$

# Four-nucleon correlation function

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \langle ab(L_\nu S_\nu), cd(L_\pi S_\pi); LS | \hat{\Delta}_{1234}(R_{\nu\pi}, r_{\nu\nu}, r_{\pi\pi}) | a'b'(L'_\nu S'_\nu), c'd'(L'_\pi S'_\pi); LS \rangle \\
 &= \frac{1}{8} R_{\nu\pi}^2 r_{\nu\nu}^2 r_{\pi\pi}^2 \delta_{S_\nu S'_\nu} \delta_{S_\pi S'_\pi} \sum_{\mathcal{L}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\pi} \sum_{\mathcal{L}'_\nu \mathcal{L}'_\pi} \sum_{l_\nu l_\pi} \sum_{\mathcal{L}_\rho l_\rho} \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{L}_\nu & l_\nu & L_\nu \\ \mathcal{L}_\pi & l_\pi & L_\pi \\ \mathcal{L}_\rho & l_\rho & L \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{L}'_\nu & l_\nu & L'_\nu \\ \mathcal{L}'_\pi & l_\pi & L'_\pi \\ \mathcal{L}_\rho & l_\rho & L \end{bmatrix} \\
 & \times \sum_{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{N}_\pi} \left[ \sum_{n_\nu} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu n_\nu l_\nu, L_\nu S_\nu}^{n_a l_a n_b l_b} R_{n_\nu l_\nu} \left( \frac{r_{\nu\nu}}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \right] \left[ \sum_{n_\pi} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi n_\pi l_\pi, L_\pi S_\pi}^{n_c l_c n_d l_d} R_{n_\pi l_\pi} \left( \frac{r_{\pi\pi}}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \right] \\
 & \times \sum_{\mathcal{N}'_\nu \mathcal{N}'_\pi} \left[ \sum_{n'_\nu} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}'_\nu \mathcal{L}'_\nu n'_\nu l_\nu, L'_\nu S'_\nu}^{n'_a l'_a n'_b l'_b} R_{n'_\nu l_\nu} \left( \frac{r_{\nu\nu}}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \right] \left[ \sum_{n'_\pi} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}'_\pi \mathcal{L}'_\pi n'_\pi l_\pi, L'_\pi S'_\pi}^{n'_c l'_c n'_d l'_d} R_{n'_\pi l_\pi} \left( \frac{r_{\pi\pi}}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \right] \\
 & \times \sum_{\mathcal{N} \mathcal{L} l} \left[ \sum_n a_{\mathcal{N} \mathcal{L} n l, \mathcal{L}_\rho}^{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu \mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi} R_{n l}(R_{\nu\pi}) \right] \left[ \sum_{n'} a_{\mathcal{N} \mathcal{L} n' l, \mathcal{L}_\rho}^{\mathcal{N}'_\nu \mathcal{L}'_\nu \mathcal{N}'_\pi \mathcal{L}'_\pi} R_{n' l}(R_{\nu\pi}) \right],
 \end{aligned}$$

# The $\alpha$ particle: $0\hbar\omega$

If all nucleons are in the  $0s$  orbital, ( $LST$ ) =  $(000)$ , the probability density is

$$P_{000}^{(0)}(R_{\nu\pi}, r_{\nu\nu}, r_{\pi\pi}) = \frac{8}{\pi^{3/2}} R_{\nu\pi}^2 r_{\nu\nu}^2 r_{\pi\pi}^2 e^{-R_{\nu\pi}^2 - \frac{1}{2}r_{\nu\nu}^2 - \frac{1}{2}r_{\pi\pi}^2}$$

The probability peaks at  $r_{\nu\nu} = r_{\pi\pi} = \sqrt{2}$  and  $R_{\nu\pi} = 1$  or  $r_{\nu\pi} = r_{\nu\nu} = r_{\pi\pi} = \sqrt{2}$ .

→ *The most probable geometry of an  $\alpha$  particle is a Platonic tetrahedron.*

# The $\alpha$ particle: $1\hbar\omega$

The isoscalar  $1^-$  state ( $LST$ ) = (100) is spurious and has the probability density

$$P_{100}^{(1)}(R_{\nu\pi}, r_{\nu\nu}, r_{\pi\pi}) = \frac{8}{\pi^{3/2}} R_{\nu\pi}^2 r_{\nu\nu}^2 r_{\pi\pi}^2 e^{-R_{\nu\pi}^2 - \frac{1}{2}r_{\nu\nu}^2 - \frac{1}{2}r_{\pi\pi}^2}$$

The probability peaks at  $r_{\nu\nu} = r_{\pi\pi} = \sqrt{2}$  and  $R_{\nu\pi} = 1$  or  $r_{\nu\pi} = r_{\nu\nu} = r_{\pi\pi} = \sqrt{2}$ .

→ *The spurious state has the same density distribution as the  $0\hbar\omega$  ground state since it has the same intrinsic structure.*

# The $\alpha$ particle: $1\hbar\omega$

The isovector  $1^-$  state ( $LST$ ) = (101) has the probability density

$$P_{101}^{(1)}(R_{\nu\pi}, r_{\nu\nu}, r_{\pi\pi}) = \frac{16}{3\pi^{3/2}} R_{\nu\pi}^4 r_{\nu\nu}^2 r_{\pi\pi}^2 e^{-R_{\nu\pi}^2 - \frac{1}{2}r_{\nu\nu}^2 - \frac{1}{2}r_{\pi\pi}^2}$$

The probability peaks at  $r_{\nu\nu} = r_{\pi\pi} = \sqrt{2}$  and  $R_{\nu\pi} = \sqrt{2}$  or  $r_{\nu\pi} = \sqrt{3}$ .



# The $\alpha$ particle: $1\hbar\omega$

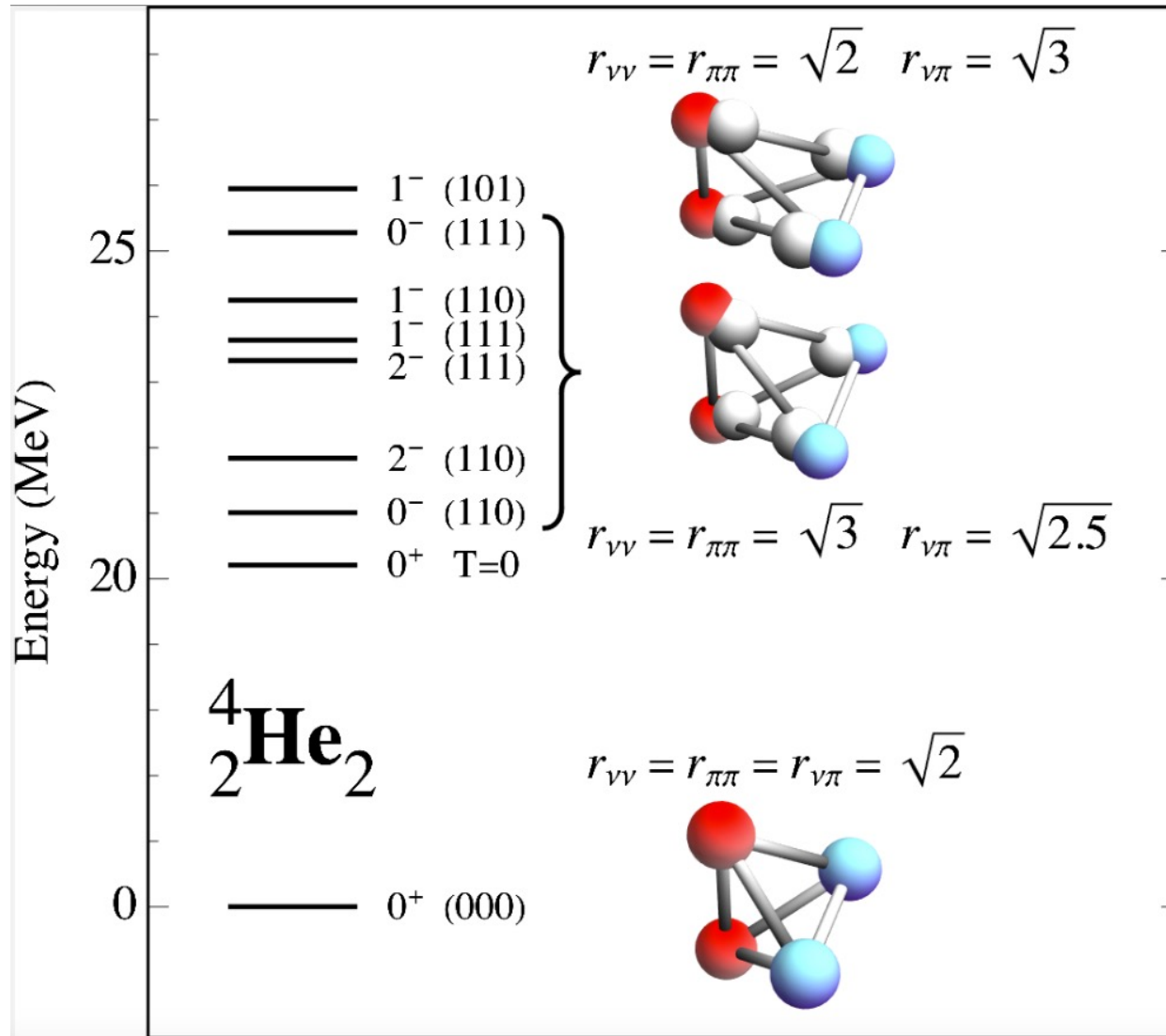
The isoscalar and isovector states with  $(LS) = (11)$  have the probability density

$$P_{110}^{(1)}(R_{\nu\pi}, r_{\nu\nu}, r_{\pi\pi}) = \frac{4}{3\pi^{3/2}} R_{\nu\pi}^2 r_{\nu\nu}^2 r_{\pi\pi}^2 (r_{\nu\nu}^2 + r_{\pi\pi}^2) e^{-R_{\nu\pi}^2 - \frac{1}{2}r_{\nu\nu}^2 - \frac{1}{2}r_{\pi\pi}^2}$$

$$P_{111}^{(1)}(R_{\nu\pi}, r_{\nu\nu}, r_{\pi\pi}) = \frac{4}{3\pi^{3/2}} R_{\nu\pi}^2 r_{\nu\nu}^2 r_{\pi\pi}^2 (r_{\nu\nu}^2 + r_{\pi\pi}^2) e^{-R_{\nu\pi}^2 - \frac{1}{2}r_{\nu\nu}^2 - \frac{1}{2}r_{\pi\pi}^2}$$

The probability peaks at  $r_{\nu\nu} = r_{\pi\pi} = \sqrt{3}$  and  $R_{\nu\pi} = 1$  or  $r_{\nu\pi} = \sqrt{2.5}$ .

# The $\alpha$ particle: $0\hbar\omega + 1\hbar\omega$



# The $\alpha$ particle: $0\hbar\omega + 2\hbar\omega$

The tensor force mixes the  $(LS) = (00)$  ground state with  $(LS) = (22)$ , with probability density

$$P_{220}^{(2)}(R_{\nu\pi}, r_{\nu\nu}, r_{\pi\pi}) = \frac{8}{9\pi^{3/2}} R_{\nu\pi}^2 r_{\nu\nu}^4 r_{\pi\pi}^4 e^{-R_{\nu\pi}^2 - \frac{1}{2}r_{\nu\nu}^2 - \frac{1}{2}r_{\pi\pi}^2}$$

The probability peaks at  $r_{\nu\nu} = r_{\pi\pi} = 2$  and  $R_{\nu\pi} = 1$  or  $r_{\nu\pi} = \sqrt{3}$ .

# The $\alpha$ particle: $0\hbar\omega + 2\hbar\omega$

A schematic Hamiltonian

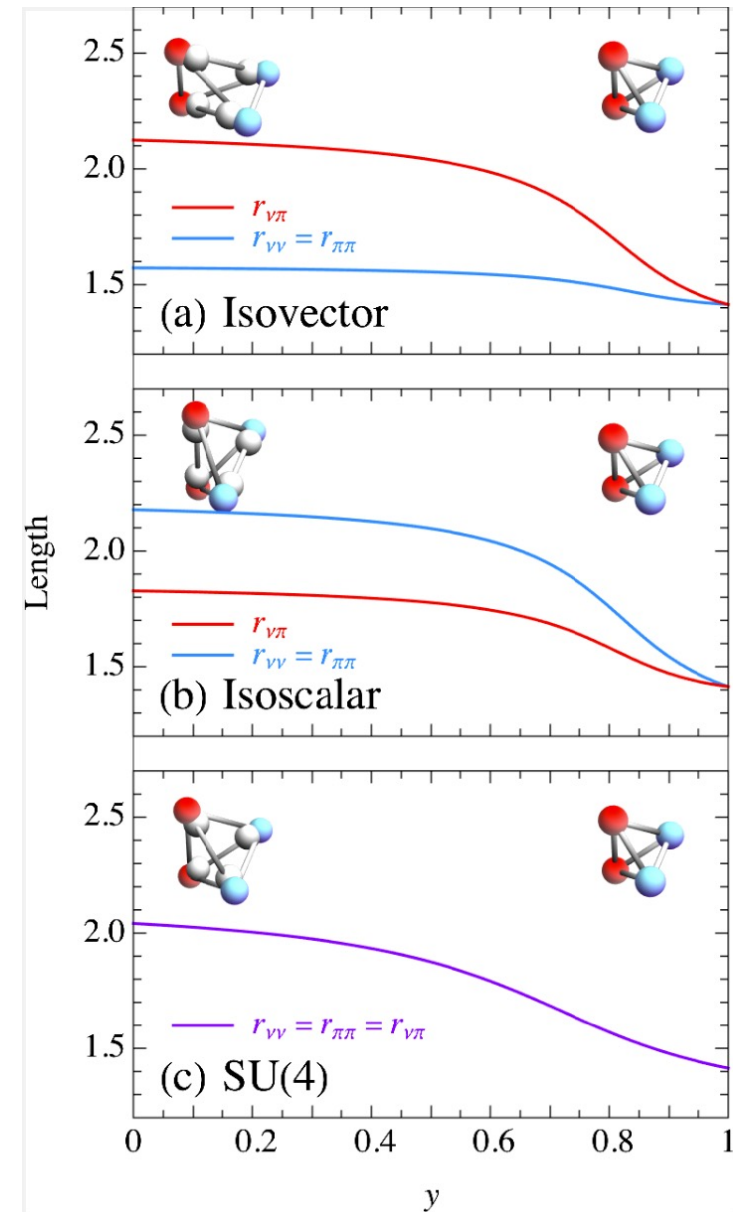
$$\hat{H} = \hbar\omega \hat{n} - 4\pi \sum_{T=0,1} a'_T \sum_{i<j} \delta(\bar{r}_i - \bar{r}_j) \delta(\bar{r}_i - R_0)$$

Orbitals split by  $\hbar\omega$  and SDI with isoscalar and isovector strengths  $a_0$  and  $a_1$ .

# The $\alpha$ particle: $0\hbar\omega + 2\hbar\omega$

If  $y = 0$ , orbitals are degenerate,  $\hbar\omega = 0$ .

If  $y = 1$ ,  $\hbar\omega \gg a_T$  and we recover  $s^4$  solution.



# Alpha clustering

Consider a system of  $n_\nu$  neutrons and  $n_\pi$  protons in the shell model.

Problem: Can we quantify the probability of formation of an  $\alpha$  particle in an arbitrary shell-model state for that system?

Approximation: Assume throughout that the  $\alpha$  particle coincides with two neutrons and two protons in the  $0s$  orbital.

# $\alpha$ -particle probability for $(2\nu, 2\pi)$

Consider two neutrons and two protons in orbitals  $\Omega_\nu$  and  $\Omega_\pi$ , respectively.

The two neutrons (protons) have the oscillator quanta  $N_{q\nu}$  ( $N_{q\pi}$ ) associated with them, which differ from zero ( $\neq \alpha$  particle).

Conjecture: The  $\alpha$ -particle component of the  $(2\nu, 2\pi)$  configuration is obtained by imposing the same *intrinsic* structure as the  $\alpha$  particle. This is achieved if all quanta are put in the centre-of-mass coordinate and none in other degrees of freedom.

# Coordinate transformation

$$\begin{aligned}
 & |a_\nu b_\nu(\Gamma_{2\nu}), a_\pi b_\pi(\Gamma_{2\pi}); \Gamma_4\rangle \\
 &= \sum_{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu n_\nu l_\nu} \sum_{\mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi n_\pi l_\pi} \prod_{\rho=\nu, \pi} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\rho \mathcal{L}_\rho n_\rho l_\rho, L_{2\rho} S_{2\rho}}^{n_{a\rho} l_{a\rho} n_{b\rho} l_{b\rho}} \\
 &\quad \times |\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu(\bar{R}'_\nu) n_\nu l_\nu(\bar{r}'_\nu)(\Gamma_{2\nu}), \mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi(\bar{R}'_\pi) n_\pi l_\pi(\bar{r}'_\pi)(\Gamma_{2\pi}); \Gamma_4\rangle \\
 &= - \sum_{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu n_\nu l_\nu} \sum_{\mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi n_\pi l_\pi} \prod_{\rho=\nu, \pi} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\rho \mathcal{L}_\rho n_\rho l_\rho, L_{2\rho} S_{2\rho}}^{n_{a\rho} l_{a\rho} n_{b\rho} l_{b\rho}} \sum_{\mathcal{R} \mathcal{S} r s} \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{L}_\nu^{1/2} & l_\nu^{1/2} & \Gamma_{2\nu} \\ \mathcal{L}_\pi^{1/2} & l_\pi^{1/2} & \Gamma_{2\pi} \\ \mathcal{R} \mathcal{S} & r s & L_4 S_4 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &\quad \times |\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu(\bar{R}'_\nu) \mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi(\bar{R}'_\pi)(\mathcal{R} \mathcal{S}), n_\nu l_\nu(\bar{r}'_\nu) n_\pi l_\pi(\bar{r}'_\pi)(r s); \Gamma_4\rangle \\
 &= - \sum_{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu n_\nu l_\nu} \sum_{\mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi n_\pi l_\pi} \prod_{\rho=\nu, \pi} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\rho \mathcal{L}_\rho n_\rho l_\rho, L_{2\rho} S_{2\rho}}^{n_{a\rho} l_{a\rho} n_{b\rho} l_{b\rho}} \sum_{\mathcal{R} \mathcal{S} r s} \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{L}_\nu^{1/2} & l_\nu^{1/2} & \Gamma_{2\nu} \\ \mathcal{L}_\pi^{1/2} & l_\pi^{1/2} & \Gamma_{2\pi} \\ \mathcal{R} \mathcal{S} & r s & \Gamma_4 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &\quad \times \sum_{\mathcal{N} \mathcal{L} n l} a_{\mathcal{N} \mathcal{L} n l, \mathcal{R}}^{\mathcal{N}_\nu \mathcal{L}_\nu \mathcal{N}_\pi \mathcal{L}_\pi} |\mathcal{N} \mathcal{L}(\bar{R}'_{\nu\pi}) n l(\bar{r}'_{\nu\pi})(\mathcal{R} \mathcal{S}), n_\nu l_\nu(\bar{r}'_\nu) n_\pi l_\pi(\bar{r}'_\pi)(r s); \Gamma_4\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$



# $\alpha$ -particle probability for $(2\nu, 2\pi)$

The  $\alpha$ -particle probability of the state  $|a_\nu b_\nu(L_2 S_2), a_\pi b_\pi(L_2 S_2); L_4 = S_4 = 0\rangle$  equals

$$\left(\tilde{a}_{N_\nu L_2 00, L_2 S_2}^{n_{a\nu} l_{a\nu} n_{b\nu} l_{b\nu}}\right)^2 \left(\tilde{a}_{N_\pi L_2 00, L_2 S_2}^{n_{a\pi} l_{a\pi} n_{b\pi} l_{b\pi}}\right)^2 \left(a_{N 000, 0}^{N_\nu L_2 N_\pi L_2}\right)^2$$

The  $\alpha$ -particle probability of the state  $|a_\nu b_\nu(J_2), a_\pi b_\pi(J_2); J_4 = 0\rangle$  equals

$$\sum_{S_2} \left( \sum_{L_2} \tilde{a}_{N_\nu L_2 00, L_2 S_2 J_2}^{n_{a\nu} l_{a\nu} j_{a\nu} n_{b\nu} l_{b\nu} j_{b\nu}} \tilde{a}_{N_\pi L_2 00, L_2 S_2 J_2}^{n_{a\pi} l_{a\pi} j_{a\pi} n_{b\pi} l_{b\pi} j_{b\pi}} \begin{bmatrix} L_2 & S_2 & J_2 \\ L_2 & S_2 & J_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} a_{N 000, 0}^{N_\nu L_2 N_\pi L_2} \right)^2$$

# General $\alpha$ -particle probability

The  $\alpha$ -particle probability of the state

$$|\Phi\Gamma_n\rangle = \sum_{\Lambda_{n\nu}\Lambda_{n\pi}} b_{\Lambda_{n\nu}\Lambda_{n\pi}\Gamma_n} |\Lambda_{n\nu}, \Lambda_{n\pi}; \Gamma_n\rangle$$

is

$$p_\alpha \equiv \langle \Phi\Gamma_n | \hat{P}_\alpha | \Phi\Gamma_n \rangle^2 = \sum_{\Lambda_{r\nu}\Lambda_{r\pi}} \sum_{S=0,1} \left( \sum_{\Lambda_{n\nu}\Lambda_{n\pi}} b_{\Lambda_{n\nu}\Lambda_{n\pi}\Gamma_n} d_{\Lambda_{n\nu}\Lambda_{n\pi}\Gamma_n}^{S\Lambda_{r\nu}\Lambda_{r\pi}} \right)^2$$

$$d_{\Lambda_{n\nu}\Lambda_{n\pi}\Gamma_n}^{S\Lambda_{r\nu}\Lambda_{r\pi}} = \sum_{\Gamma_2} [\Lambda_{2\nu}, \Lambda_{r\nu} | \} \Lambda_{n\nu}] [\Lambda_{2\pi}, \Lambda_{r\pi} | \} \Lambda_{n\pi}] \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_2 & \Gamma_{r\nu} & \Gamma_{n\nu} \\ \Gamma_2 & \Gamma_{r\pi} & \Gamma_{n\pi} \\ 00 & \Gamma_n & \Gamma_n \end{bmatrix} c_{\Lambda_{2\nu}\Lambda_{2\pi}}^{S00}$$

$$c_{\Lambda_{2\nu}\Lambda_{2\pi}}^{S00} = -\tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\nu L_2 00, L_2 S_2}^{n_{a\nu} l_{a\nu} n_{b\nu} l_{b\nu}} \tilde{a}_{\mathcal{N}_\pi L_2 00, L_2 S_2}^{n_{a\pi} l_{a\pi} n_{b\pi} l_{b\pi}} \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & S_2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & S_2 \\ S & S & 0 \end{bmatrix} a_{\mathcal{N} 000, 0}^{\mathcal{N}_\nu L_2 \mathcal{N}_\pi L_2}$$

# Dependence on mass number $A$

The oscillator length  $b$  in a nucleus with mass number  $A$  differs from that in the  $\alpha$  particle.

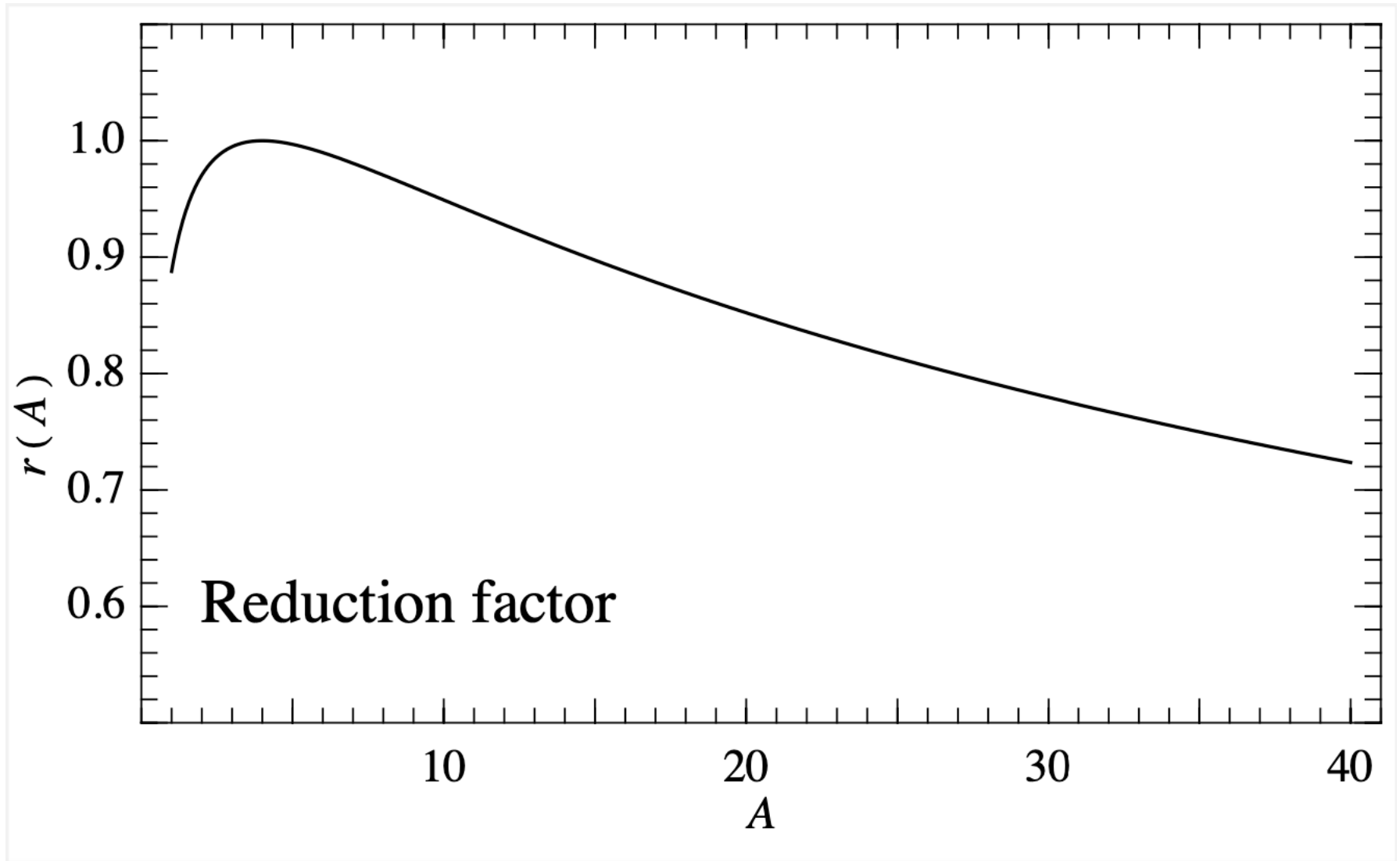
The overlap between  $0s$  wave functions with lengths  $b_A$  and  $b_4$  is

$$\frac{4}{(b_A b_4)^{3/2} \sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty \exp\left[-\left(\frac{b_A^2 + b_4^2}{2b_A^2 b_4^2}\right) r^2\right] r^2 dr = \left(\frac{2b_A b_4}{b_A^2 + b_4^2}\right)^{3/2}$$

The reduction factor is therefore

$$r(A) \equiv \left(\frac{2b_A b_4}{b_A^2 + b_4^2}\right)^{9/2} \approx \frac{64}{A^{3/4}} \left(\frac{1}{1 + (4/A)^{1/3}}\right)^{9/2}$$

# Dependence on mass number $A$



# Example: the *sd* shell

A schematic Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H} = -g \sum_{i=1}^A \bar{l}_i \cdot \bar{s}_i - 4\pi \sum_{T=0,1} a'_T \sum_{i < j=1}^A \delta(\bar{r}_i - \bar{r}_j) \delta(r_i - R_0)$$

SDI with isoscalar and isovector strengths  $a_0$  and  $a_1$  and spin-orbit term with strength  $g$ .

Take  $g = 0 \rightarrow LS$ -coupled eigenstates.

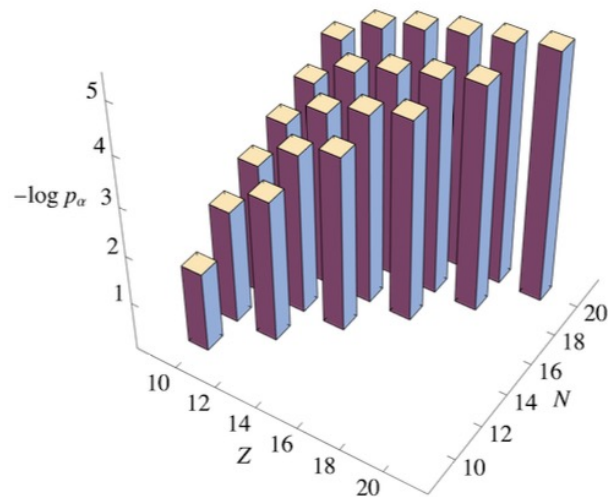
# Example: the *sd* shell

$p_\alpha$  decreases with valence nucleon number.

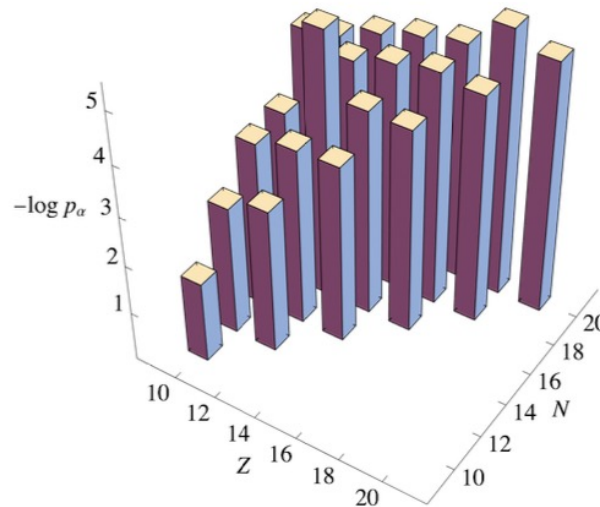
In  $^{20}\text{Ne}$   $p_\alpha = 0.034$  if  $a_0 = a_1$  [SU(4)] and  $p_\alpha = 0.023$  if  $a_0 = 0$  or  $a_1 = 0$ .

In  $^{40}\text{Ca}$   $p_\alpha \sim 10^{-5}$ .

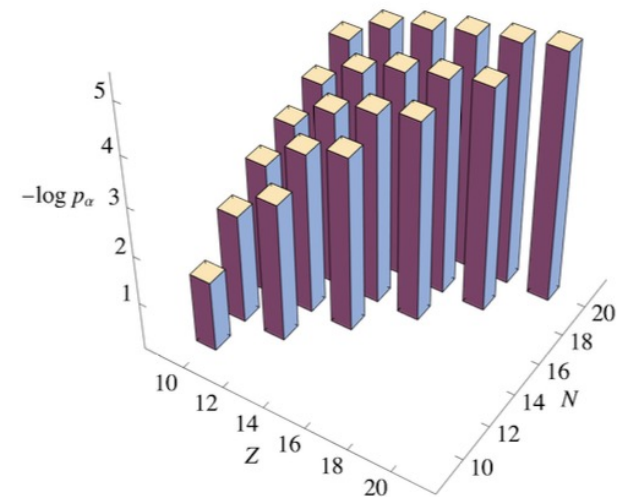
(a) *sd* shell (isovector)



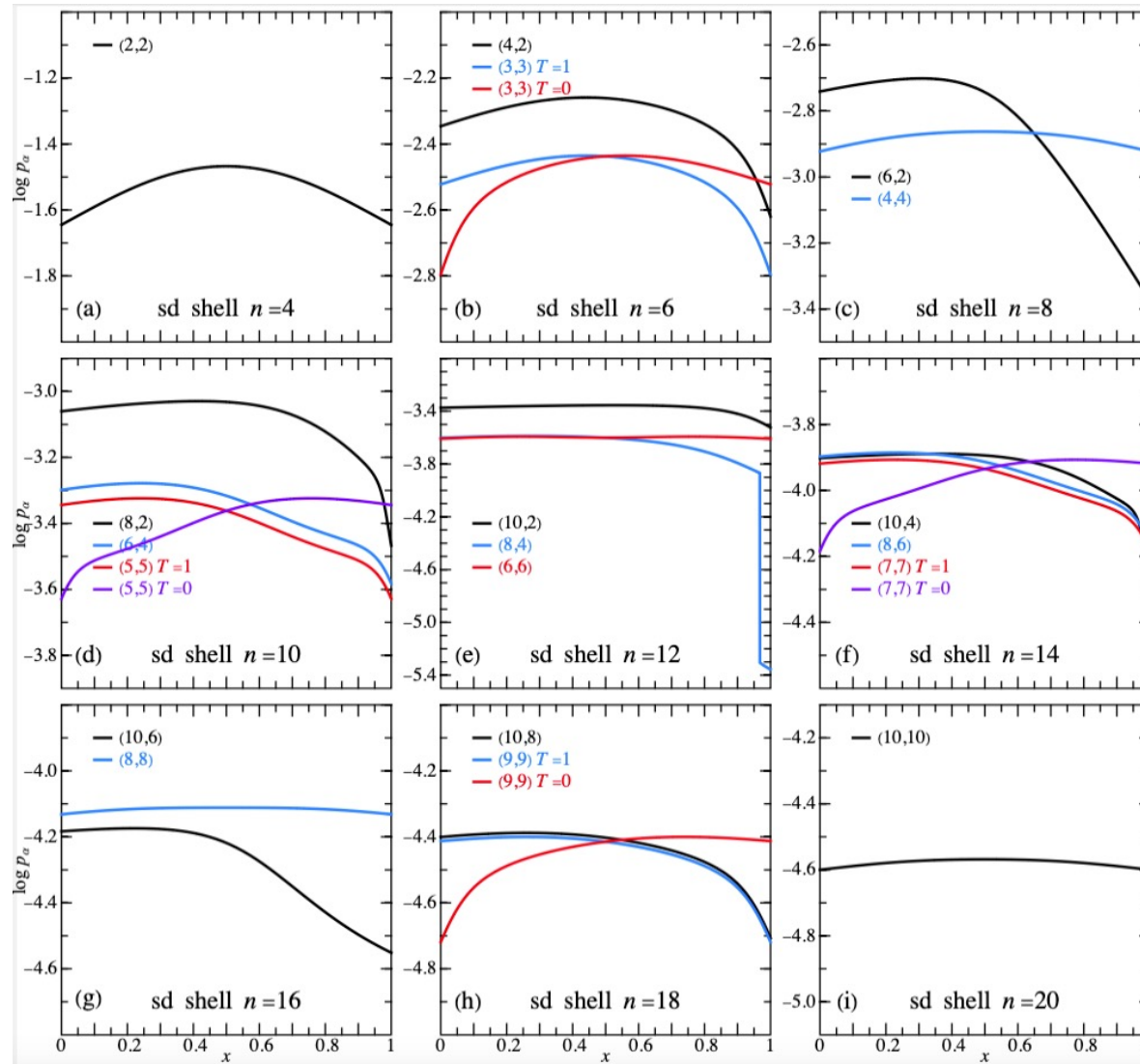
(b) *sd* shell (isoscalar)



(c) *sd* shell [SU(4)]



# Example: the *sd* shell



# Cluster states and $SU(3)$

## ON THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE CLUSTER MODEL AND THE $SU_3$ COUPLING SCHEME FOR PARTICLES IN A HARMONIC OSCILLATOR POTENTIAL

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**Abstract:** It is shown that the cluster model of Wildermuth and Kanellopoulos provides an alternative description of certain states in the  $SU_3$  coupling scheme of Elliott.



# Example: ${}^8\text{Be}$

Example:  ${}^8_4\text{Be}_4$   $p^4$  states with  $(L_S) = (00)$

SU(3) analysis

$$U(12) \supset U(3) \otimes (SU(4) \supset SU_S(2) \otimes SU_T(2))$$

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} (40) \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array} \quad (ST) = \boxed{(00)}$$

$L = 0, 2, 4$

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} (21) \quad \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} (ST) = (01)(10)(11)$$

$L = 1, 2, 3$

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} (02) \quad \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} (ST) = \boxed{(00)}(11)\boxed{(02)}(20)$$

$L = 0, 2$

Three states have  $(L_S) = (00)$

$$(\lambda\mu) = (40): \frac{\sqrt{5}}{3} |(L_V S_V) = (L_R S_R) = (00)\rangle + \frac{2}{3} |(L_V S_V) = (L_R S_R) = (22)\rangle \quad T=0$$

$$(\lambda\mu) = (02): -\frac{2}{3} |(L_V S_V) = (L_R S_R) = (00)\rangle + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{3} |(L_V S_V) = (L_R S_R) = (22)\rangle \quad T=0, 2$$

$\alpha$ -particle probability

$$d_{(00)(00)(00)}^{\lambda} = \frac{1}{8} \sqrt{\frac{5}{6}} \quad \lambda=0 \quad \frac{1}{8} \sqrt{\frac{5}{2}} \quad \lambda=1$$

$$d_{(22)(22)(00)}^{\lambda} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{6}} \quad \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} p_{\alpha} [(\lambda\mu) = (40)] = \frac{3}{32} \\ p_{\alpha} [(\lambda\mu) = (02)] = 0 \end{cases}$$