



International Workshop

# Nuclear Theory in the Supercomputing Era

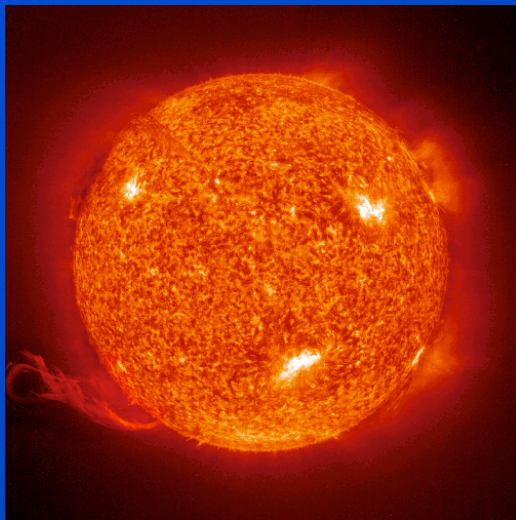
Pacific National University, Khabarovsk, Russia  
June 18–22, 2012

## New Perspectives on the Atomic Nucleus

James P. Vary  
Iowa State University

# Brief review of the four known interactions (or forces) in nature

| Property   | Gravitational Interaction      | Weak Interaction<br>(Electroweak) | Electromagnetic Interaction | Strong Interaction |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Acts on:   | Mass – Energy                  | Flavor                            | Electric Charge             | Color Charge       |
| Particles experiencing:  | All                            | Quarks, Leptons                   | Electrically Charged        | Quarks, Gluons     |
| Particles mediating:   | Graviton<br>(not yet observed) | $W^+$ $W^-$ $Z^0$                 | $\gamma$                    | Gluons             |
| Strength at $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 10^{-18} \text{ m} \\ 3 \times 10^{-17} \text{ m} \end{array} \right.$ | $10^{-41}$<br>$10^{-41}$       | 0.8<br>$10^{-4}$                  | 1<br>1                      | 25<br>60           |



These three interactions govern nuclear reactions and scattering & compose the “Standard Model” of elementary particles

## Main hypothesis

If the Standard Model is correct, we should be able to accurately describe all nuclear processes

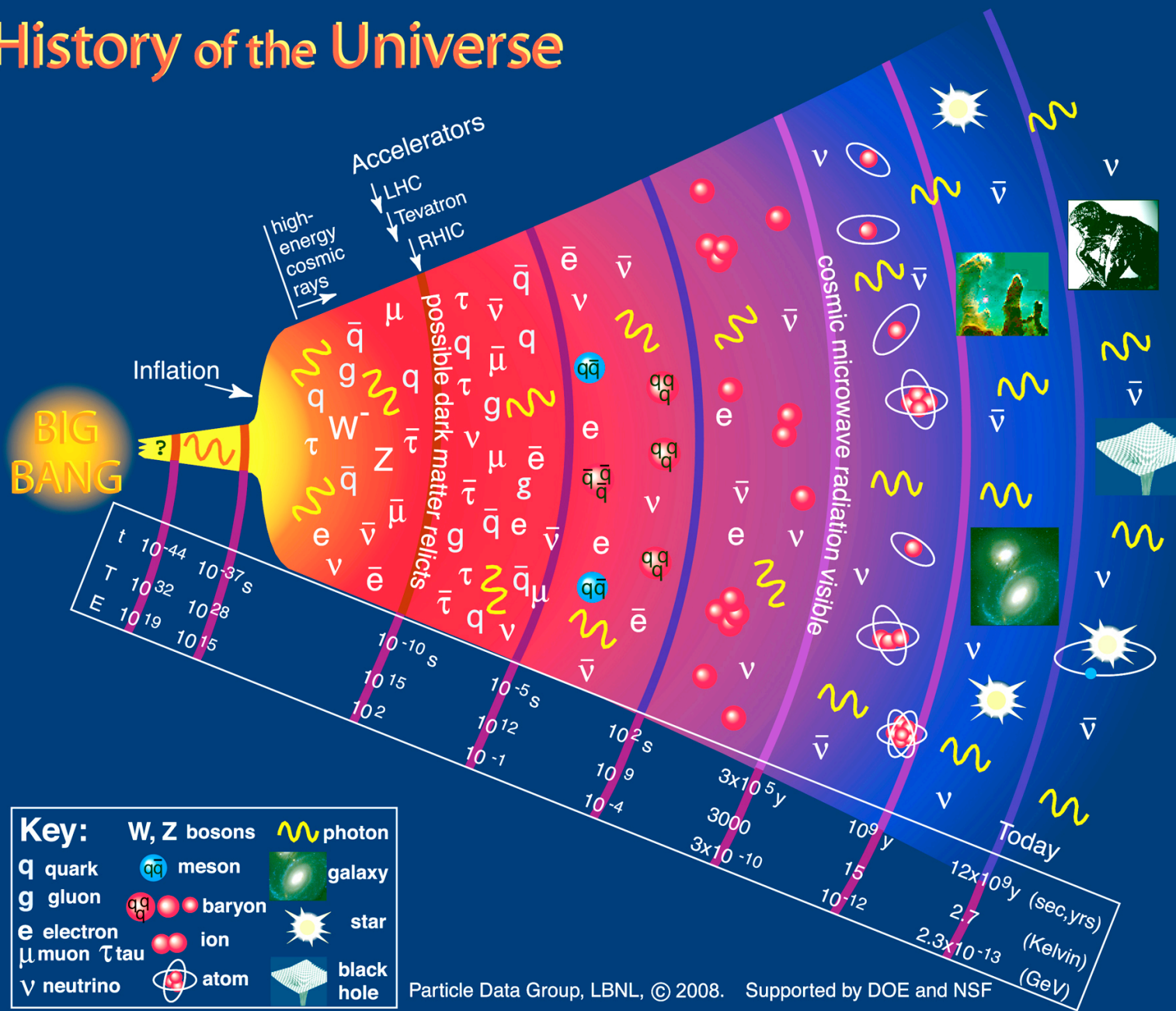
## Purpose of this International Workshop

Current progress with theory and supercomputer simulations

## Long-term goal

Use all fundamental interactions including yet unknown interactions to construct a model for the evolution of the entire universe

# History of the Universe



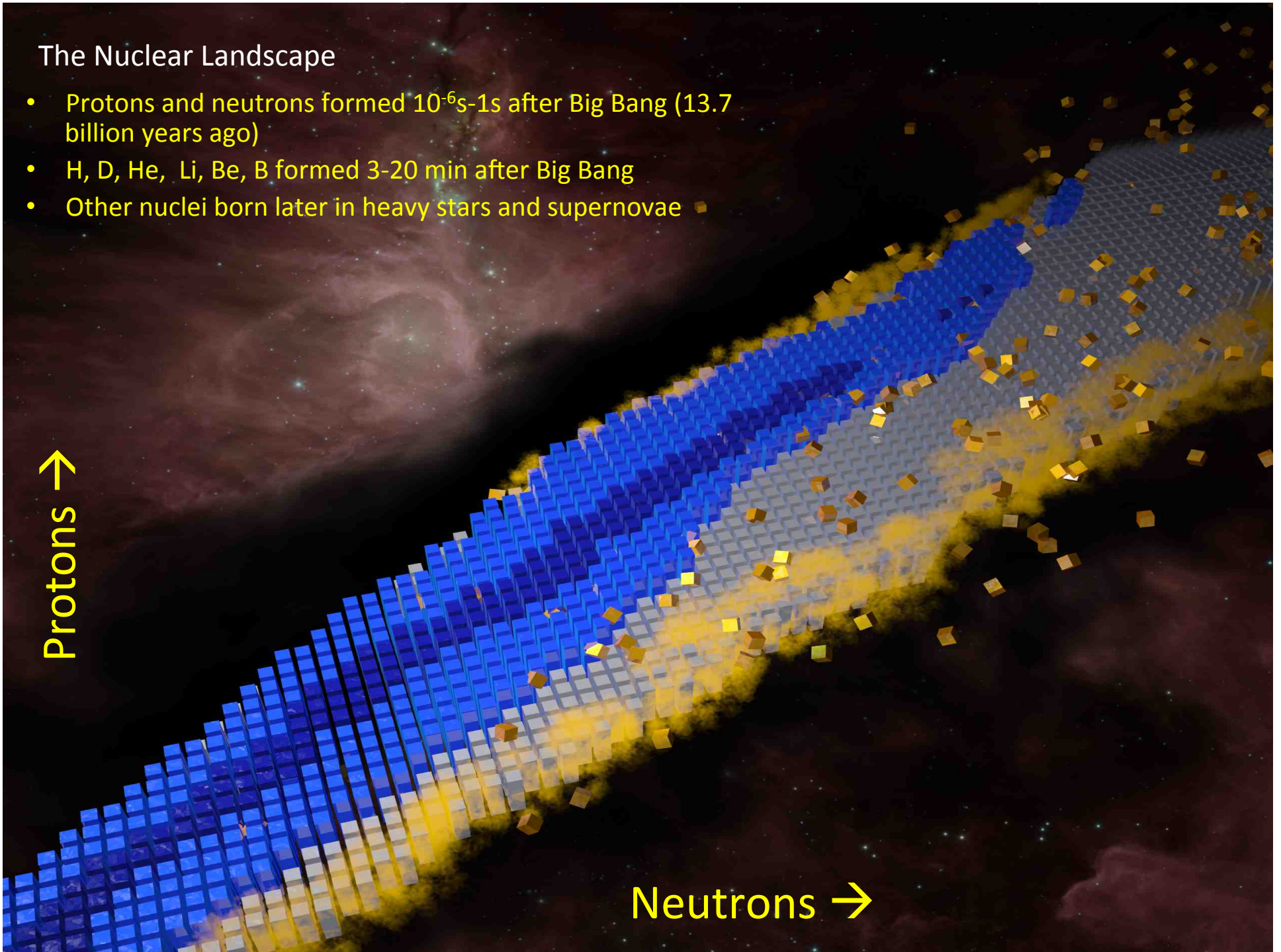


## The Nuclear Landscape

- Protons and neutrons formed  $10^{-6}$ s-1s after Big Bang (13.7 billion years ago)
- H, D, He, Li, Be, B formed 3-20 min after Big Bang
- Other nuclei born later in heavy stars and supernovae

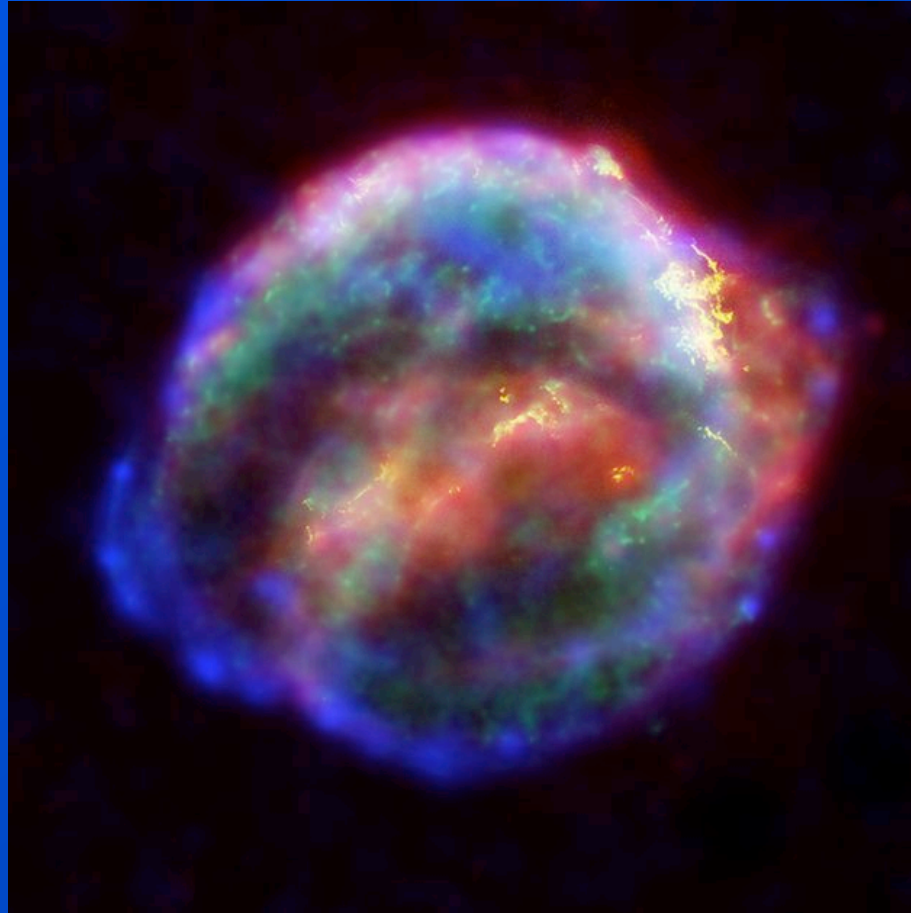
Protons →

Neutrons →



Formation of heavy elements ( $A > 56$ ) requires extreme conditions - difficult to create in laboratory experiments. Where can we find the “factory” that produces these isotopes?

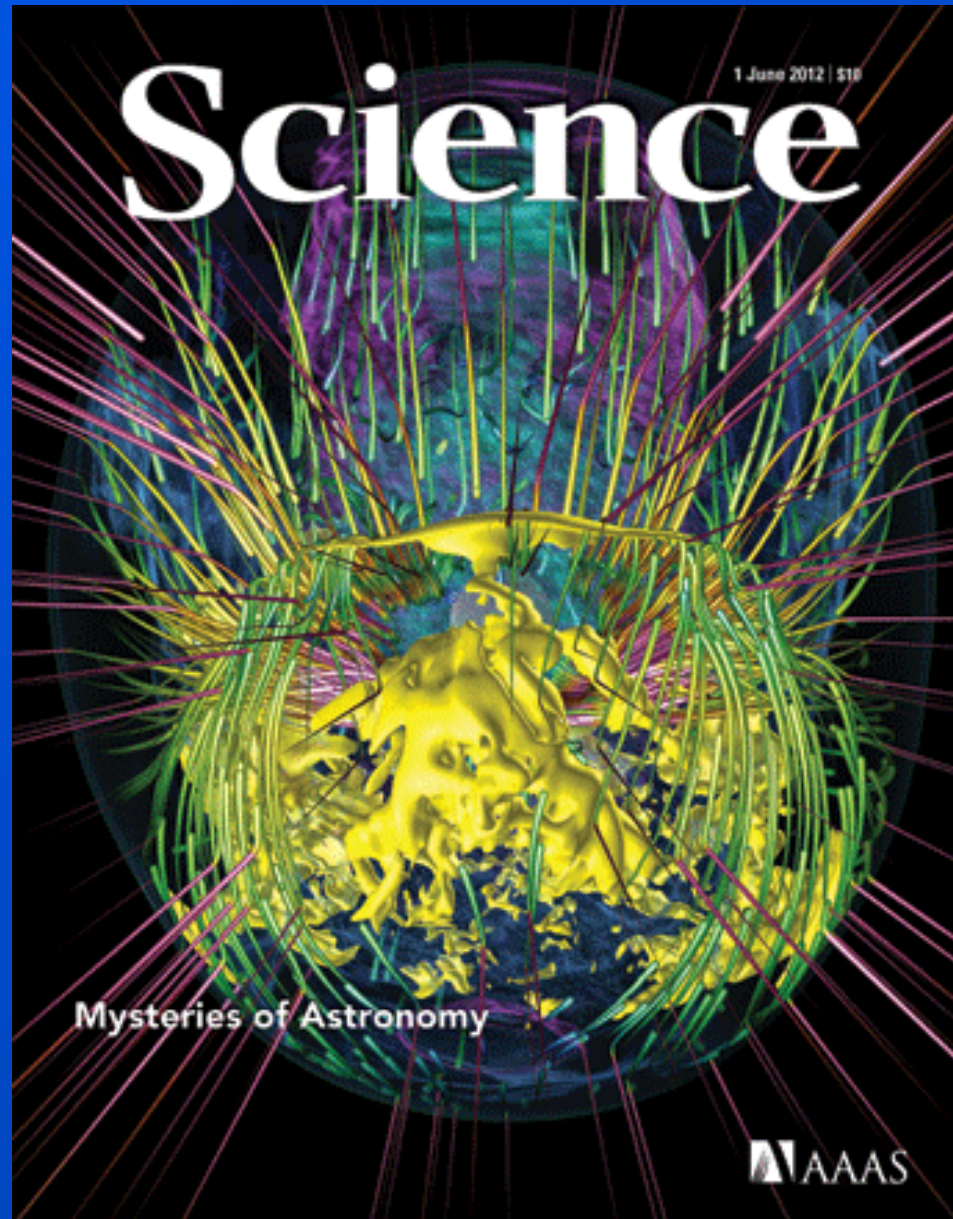
## Kepler's supernova (courtesy: NASA + ESA)



What are supernovae and why are they important?  
Formation of the heavy elements - r/p processes  
Nuclear equation of state governs energy release



Core-collapse supernova simulation – Science, 1 June 2012



Supercomputers play an essential role in testing our theories

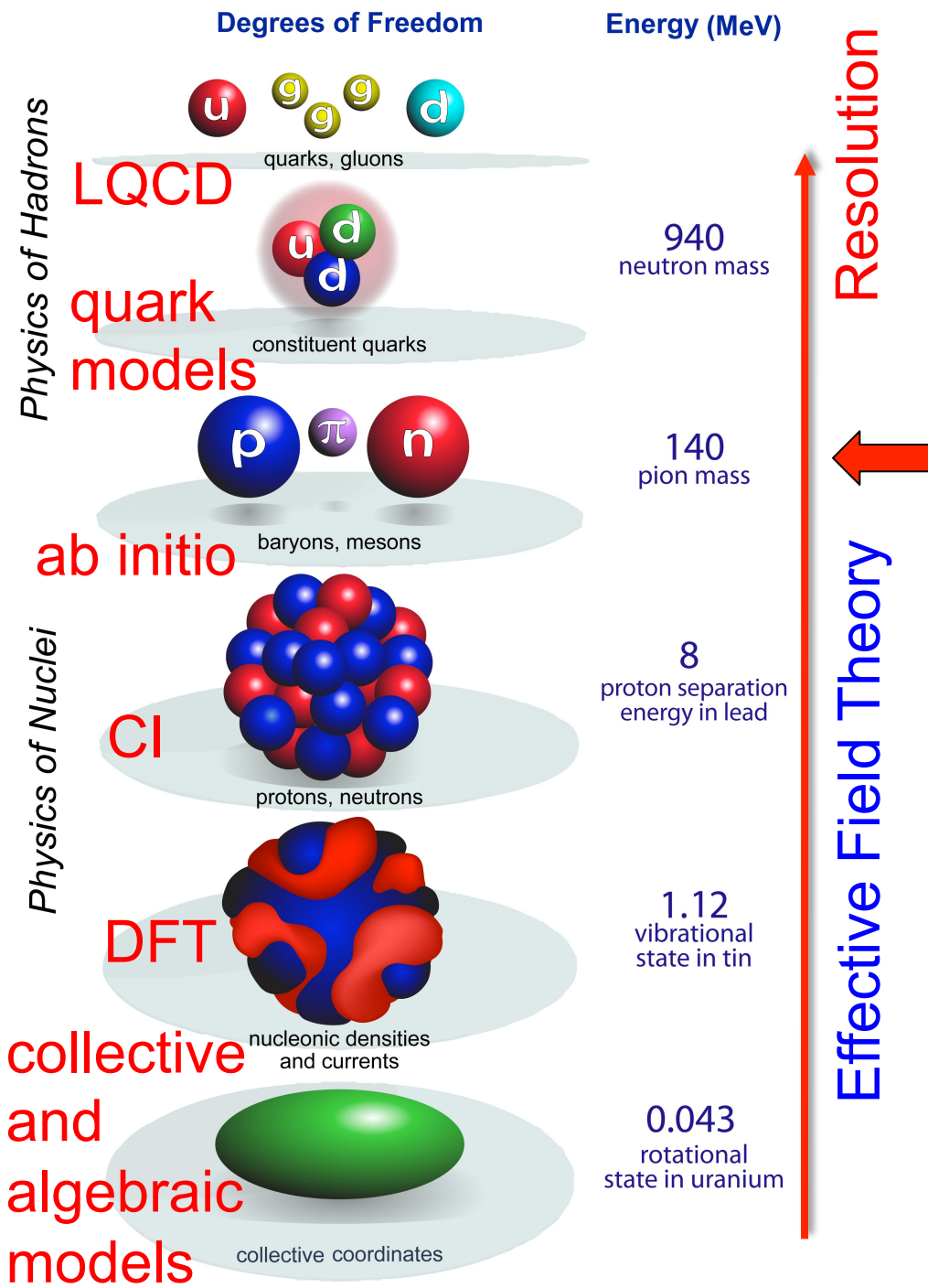


Going to the scale of the nucleus – can we describe and predict nuclear processes governing supernovae, for example?

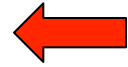
Standard Model is the current starting point  
for describing the nuclear processes  
that brought the universe to the present time  
and hold the key to fusion energy for the future

This starting point defines our “ab initio”  
or “from the beginning” theory of the atomic nucleus

Can we successfully proceed from that starting point  
to explain/predict all nuclear phenomena?



**Resolution**



**Effective Field Theory**

Hot and dense quark-gluon matter

Hadron structure

Hadron-Nuclear interface

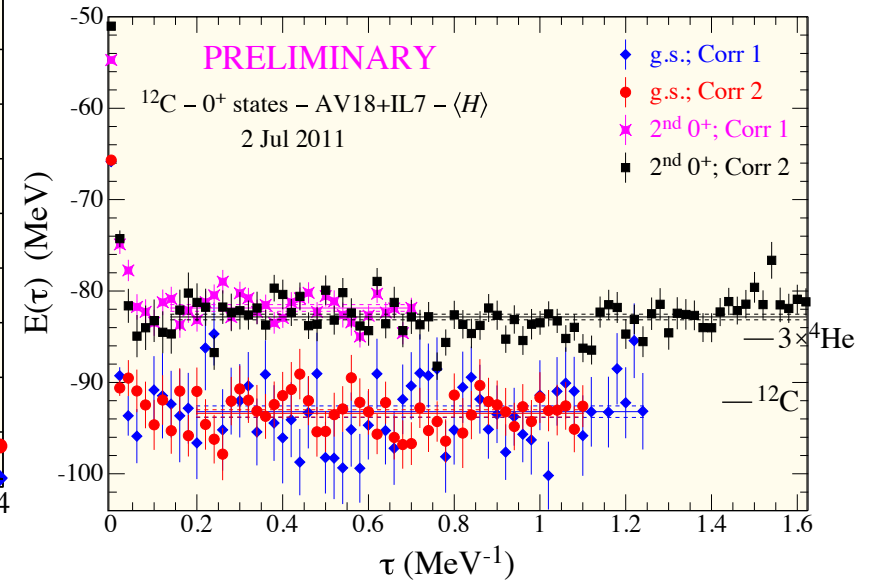
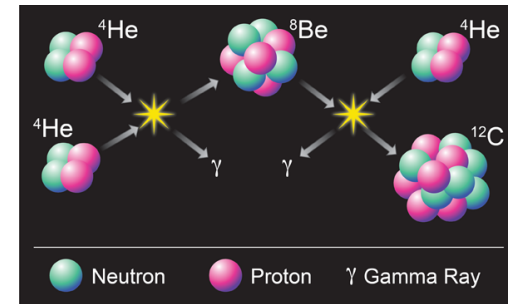
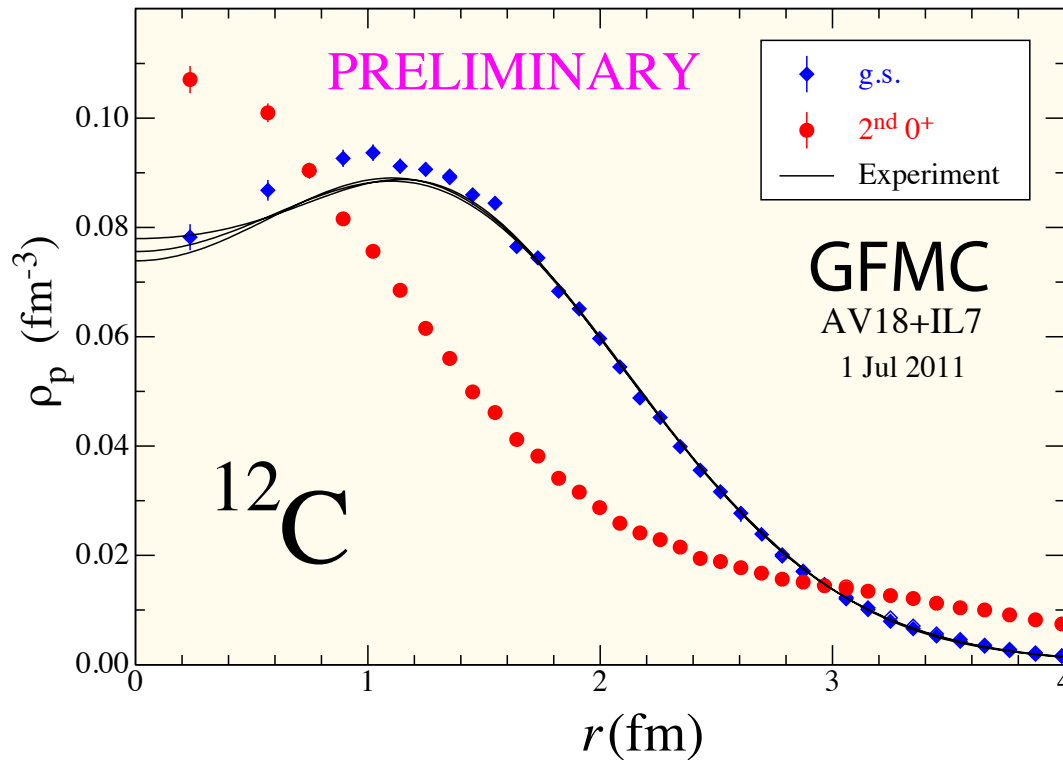


Nuclear structure  
Nuclear reactions

Third Law of Progress in Theoretical Physics by Weinberg:  
 “You may use any degrees of freedom you like to describe a physical system, but if you use the wrong ones, you’ll be sorry!”

# Examples: Ab Initio

$^{12}\text{C}$  in GFMC: Pieper et al.



The ADLB (Asynchronous Dynamic Load-Balancing) version of GFMC was used to make calculations of  $^{12}\text{C}$  with a complete Hamiltonian (two- and three-nucleon potential AV18+IL7) on **32,000 processors** of the Argonne BGP. These are believed to be the best converged ab initio calculations of  $^{12}\text{C}$  ever made. **The computed binding energy is 93.5(6) MeV compared to the experimental value of 92.16 MeV and the point rms radius is 2.35 fm vs 2.33 from experiment.**

Lattice spacing 1.97 fm

Epelbaum et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, 192501 (2011)

TABLE II. Lattice results for the low-lying excited states of  $^{12}\text{C}$ . For comparison the experimentally observed energies are shown. All energies are in units of MeV.

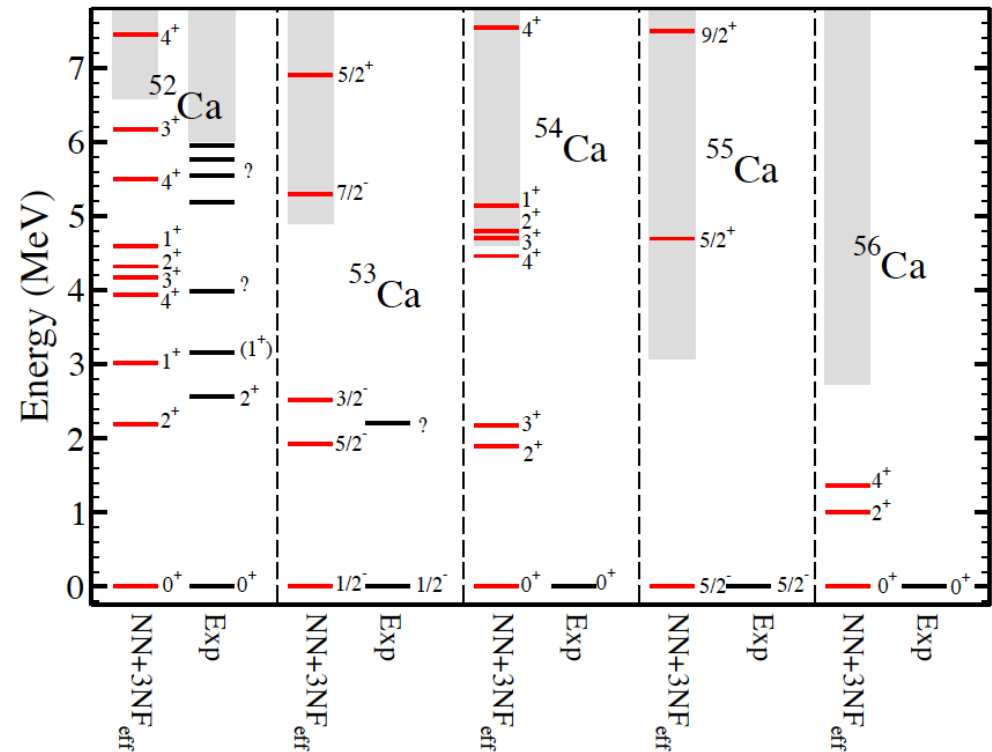
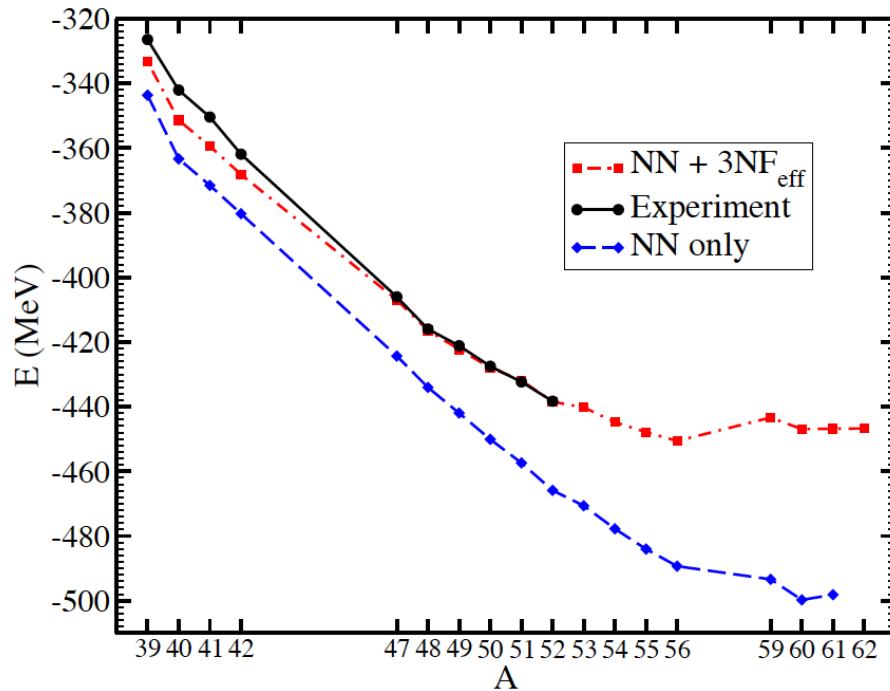
|                                | $0_2^+$ | $2_1^+, J_z = 0$ | $2_1^+, J_z = 2$ |
|--------------------------------|---------|------------------|------------------|
| LO [ $\mathcal{O}(Q^0)$ ]      | -94(2)  | -92(2)           | -89(2)           |
| NLO [ $\mathcal{O}(Q^2)$ ]     | -82(3)  | -87(3)           | -85(3)           |
| IB + EM [ $\mathcal{O}(Q^2)$ ] | -74(3)  | -80(3)           | -78(3)           |
| NNLO [ $\mathcal{O}(Q^3)$ ]    | -85(3)  | -88(3)           | -90(4)           |
| Experiment                     | -84.51  |                  | -87.72           |



# Coupled-cluster method

## description of medium-mass open nuclear systems

G. Hagen et al., arXiv:1204.3612 (2012)



|         | $^{53}\text{Ca}$ |          | $^{55}\text{Ca}$ |          | $^{61}\text{Ca}$ |          |
|---------|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| $J^\pi$ | $\text{Re}[E]$   | $\Gamma$ | $\text{Re}[E]$   | $\Gamma$ | $\text{Re}[E]$   | $\Gamma$ |
| $5/2^+$ | 1.99             | 1.97     | 1.63             | 1.33     | 1.14             | 0.62     |
| $9/2^+$ | 4.75             | 0.28     | 4.43             | 0.23     | 2.19             | 0.02     |

$1/2^+$  virtual state

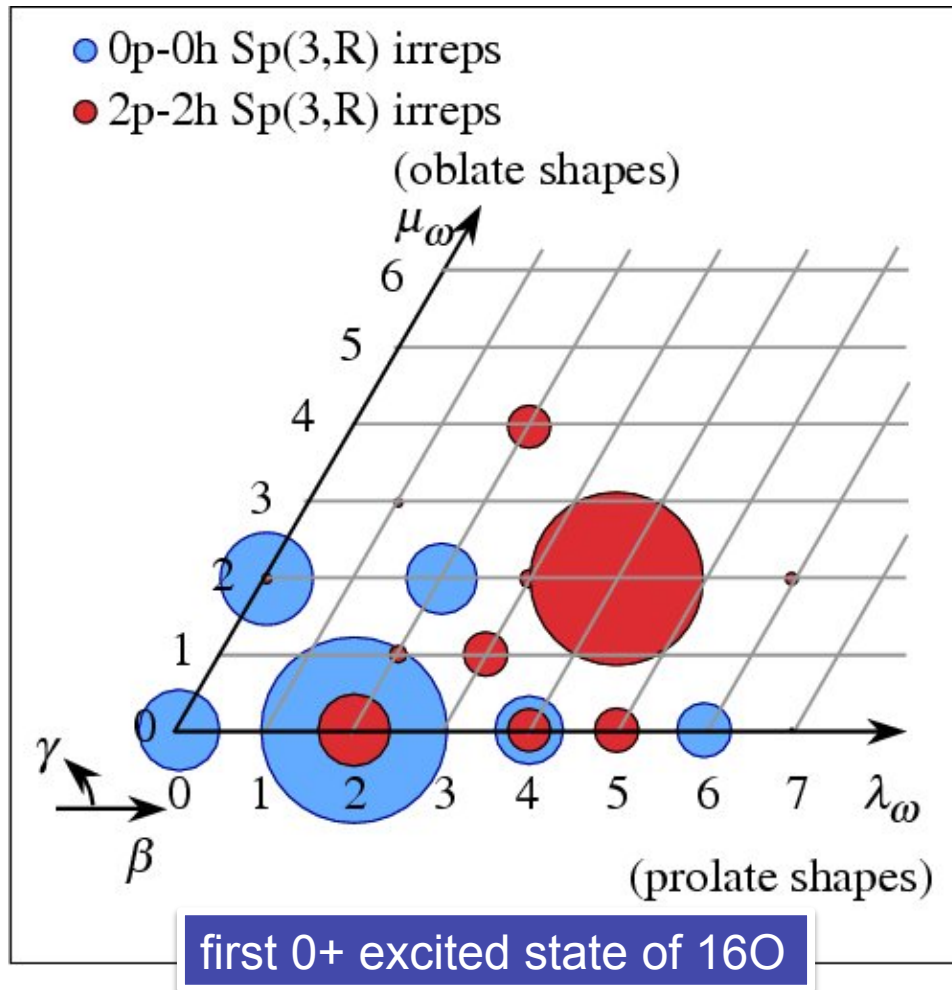
- Strong coupling to continuum for neutron rich calcium isotopes
- Level ordering of states in the *gds* shell is contrary to naive shell model picture

# Ab initio symplectic no-core shell model

T Dytrych, K D Sviratcheva, J P Draayer, C Bahri, and J P Vary. J. Phys. G 35, 123101 (2008)

## Symplectic $Sp(3,R)$ symmetry-adapted basis

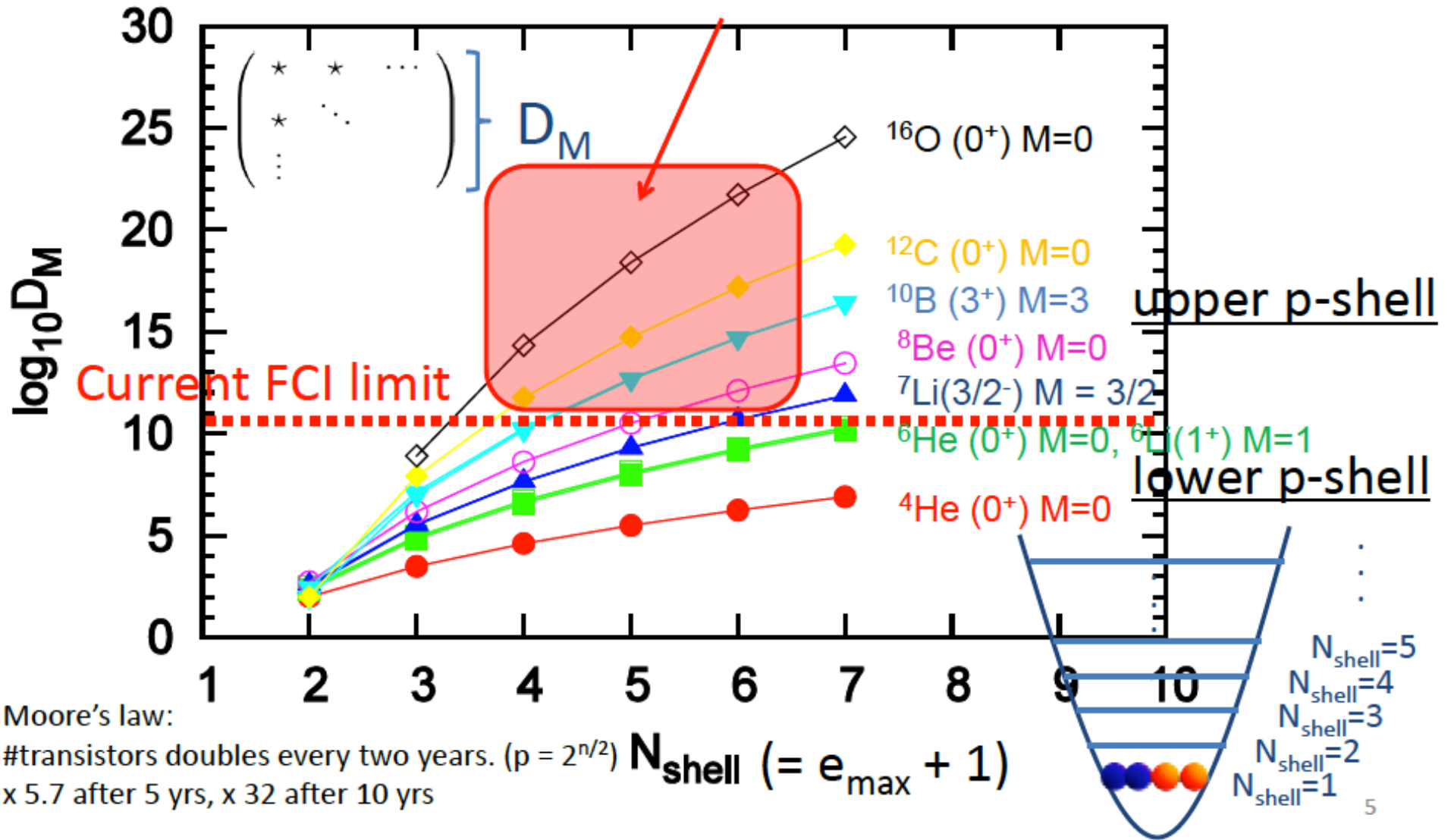
G. Rosensteel and D.J. Rowe, Phys. Rev. Lett. 38, 10 (1977)



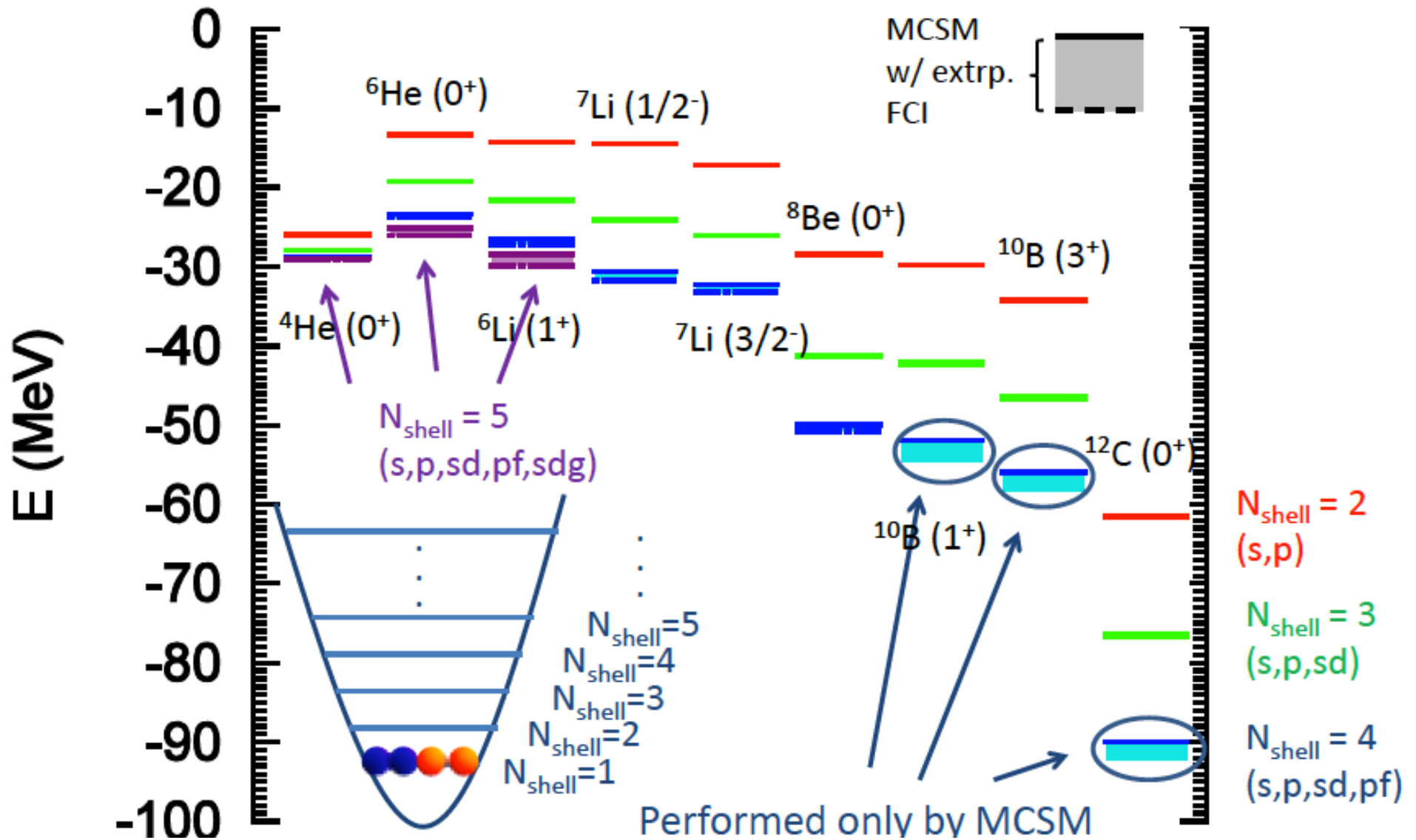
- Effective truncation scheme
- Very promising approach to cluster states

# No Core Monte Carlo Shell Model

Dimension of M-scheme basis for p-shell nuclei



# Energies of the Light Nuclei





# Collaborations with Pacific National University developed the NN interaction used to make these predictions “Proton-Dripping Fluorine-14”

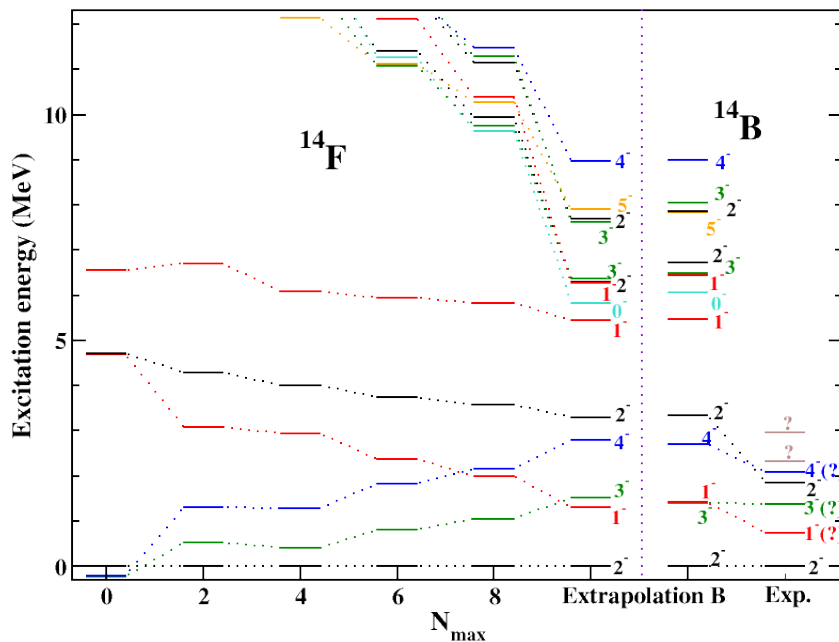
## Objectives

- Apply *ab initio* microscopic nuclear theory’s predictive power to major test case

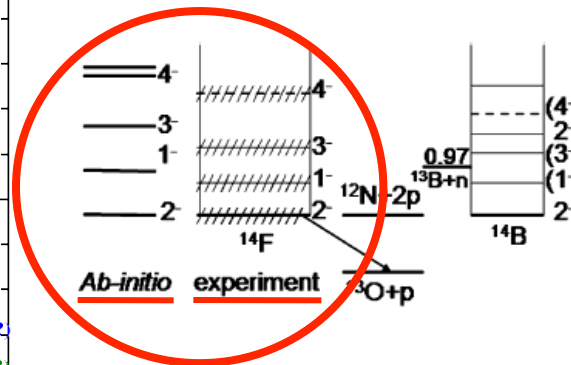
## Impact

- Deliver robust predictions important for improved energy sources
- Provide important guidance for DOE-supported experiments
- Compare with new experiment to improve theory of strong interactions

P. Maris, A. Shirokov and J.P. Vary,  
Phys. Rev. C 81 (2010) 021301(R)

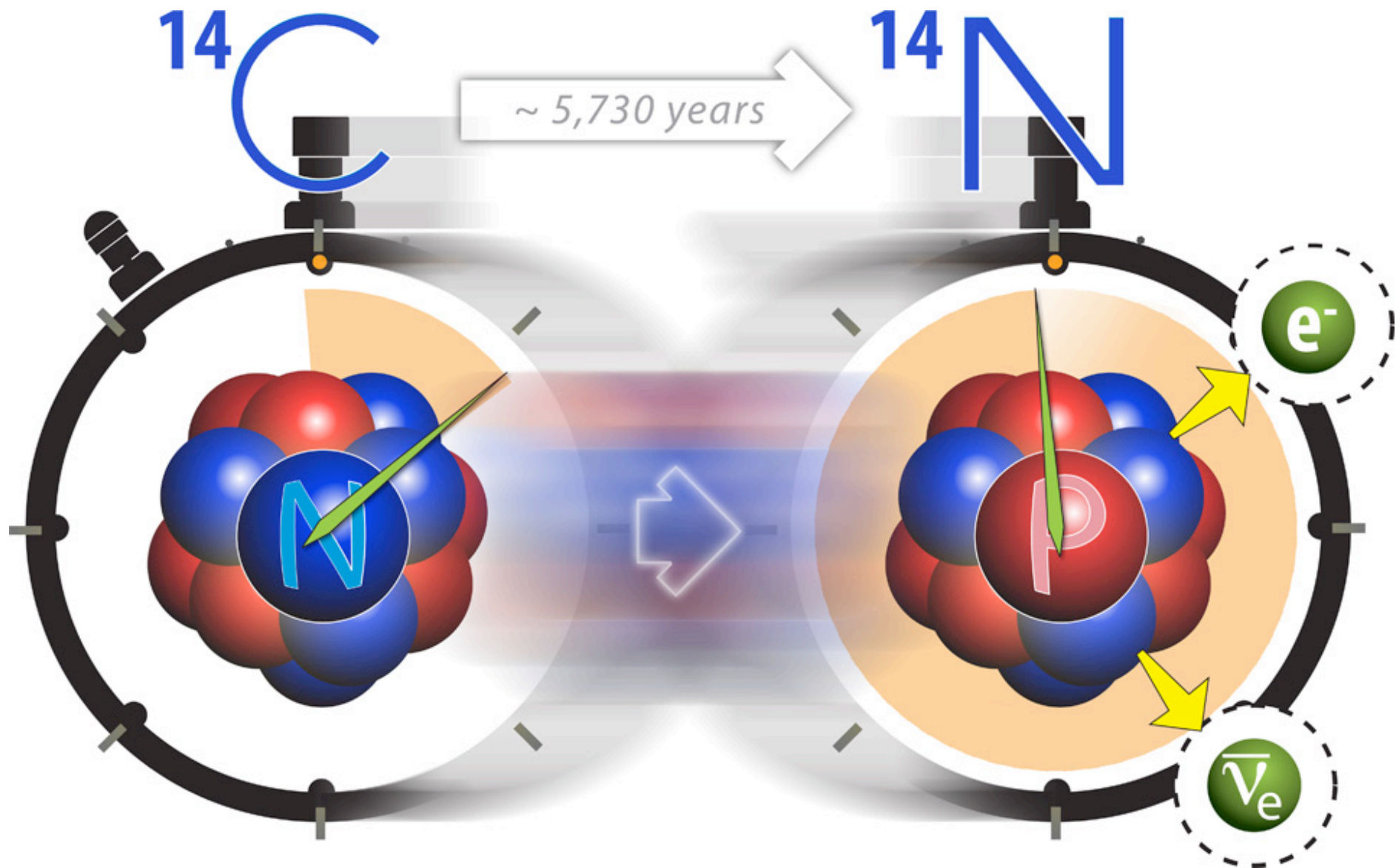


## Experiment confirms our published predictions!

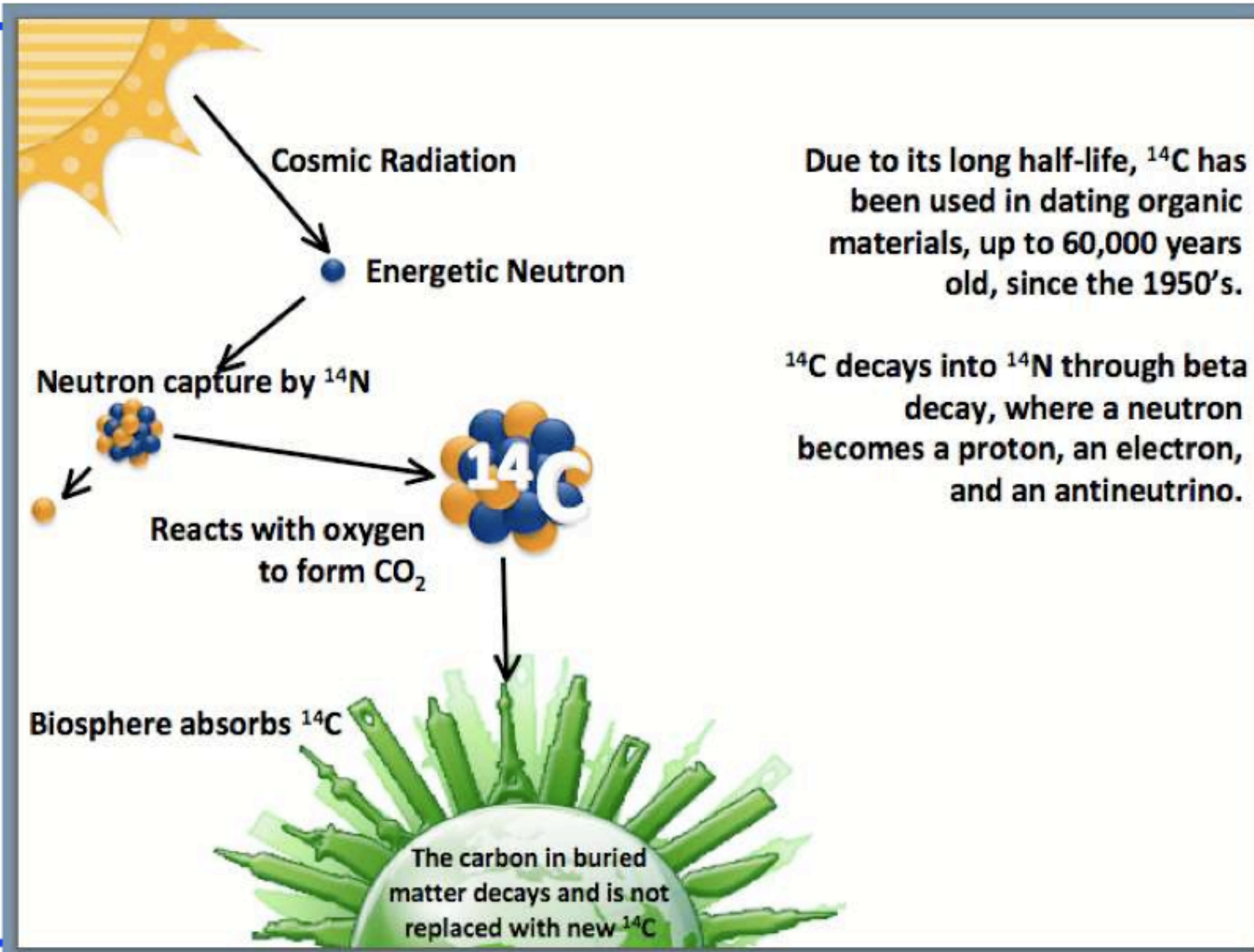


V.Z. Goldberg et al.,  
Phys. Lett. B 692, 307 (2010)

- Dimension of matrix solved for 14 lowest states  $\sim 2 \times 10^9$
- Solution takes  $\sim 2.5$  hours on 30,000 cores (Cray XT4 Jaguar at ORNL)
- “Scaling of *ab-initio* nuclear physics calculations on multicore computer architectures,” P. Maris, M. Sosonkina, J. P. Vary, E. G. Ng and C. Yang, 2010 Intern. Conf. on Computer Science, Procedia Computer Science 1, 97 (2010)



## ***Petascale Early Science – Ab-initio structure of Carbon-14***



Due to its long half-life,  $^{14}\text{C}$  has been used in dating organic materials, up to 60,000 years old, since the 1950's.

$^{14}\text{C}$  decays into  $^{14}\text{N}$  through beta decay, where a neutron becomes a proton, an electron, and an antineutrino.





# "Anomalous Long Lifetime of Carbon-14"

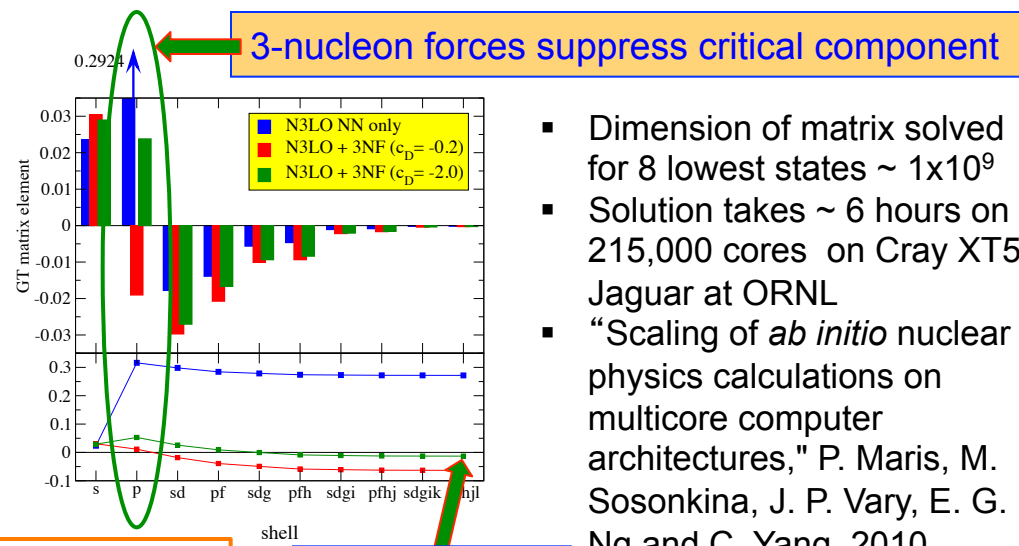
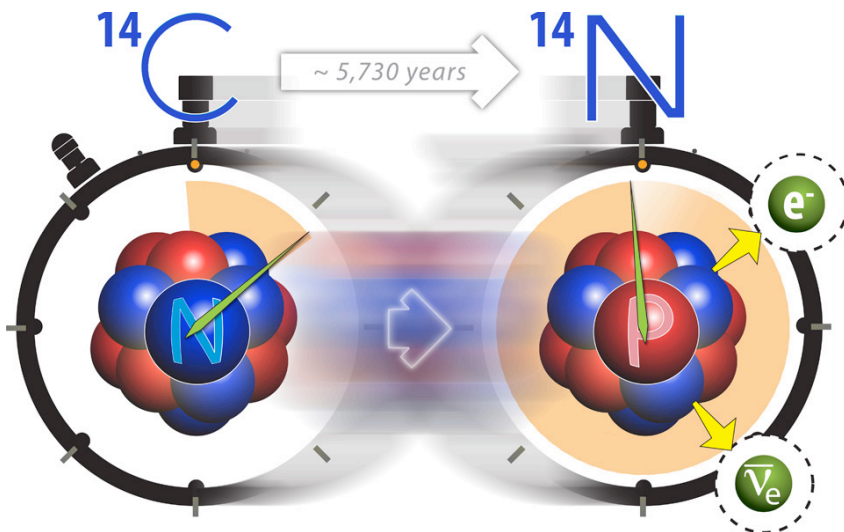


## Objectives

- Solve the puzzle of the long but useful lifetime of  $^{14}\text{C}$
- Determine the microscopic origin of the suppressed  $\beta$ -decay rate

## Impact

- Establishes a major role for strong 3-nucleon forces in nuclei
- Verifies accuracy of *ab initio* microscopic nuclear theory
- Provides foundation for guiding DOE-supported experiments



- Dimension of matrix solved for 8 lowest states  $\sim 1 \times 10^9$
- Solution takes  $\sim 6$  hours on 215,000 cores on Cray XT5 Jaguar at ORNL
- "Scaling of *ab initio* nuclear physics calculations on multicore computer architectures," P. Maris, M. Sosonkina, J. P. Vary, E. G. Ng and C. Yang, 2010 Intern. Conf. on Computer Science, Procedia Computer Science 1, 97 (2010)

PRL 106, 202502 (2011)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
20 MAY 2011

### Origin of the Anomalous Long Lifetime of $^{14}\text{C}$

P. Maris,<sup>1</sup> J. P. Vary,<sup>1</sup> P. Navrátil,<sup>2,3</sup> W. E. Ormand,<sup>3,4</sup> H. Nam,<sup>5</sup> and D. J. Dean<sup>5</sup>



Office of  
Science



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY



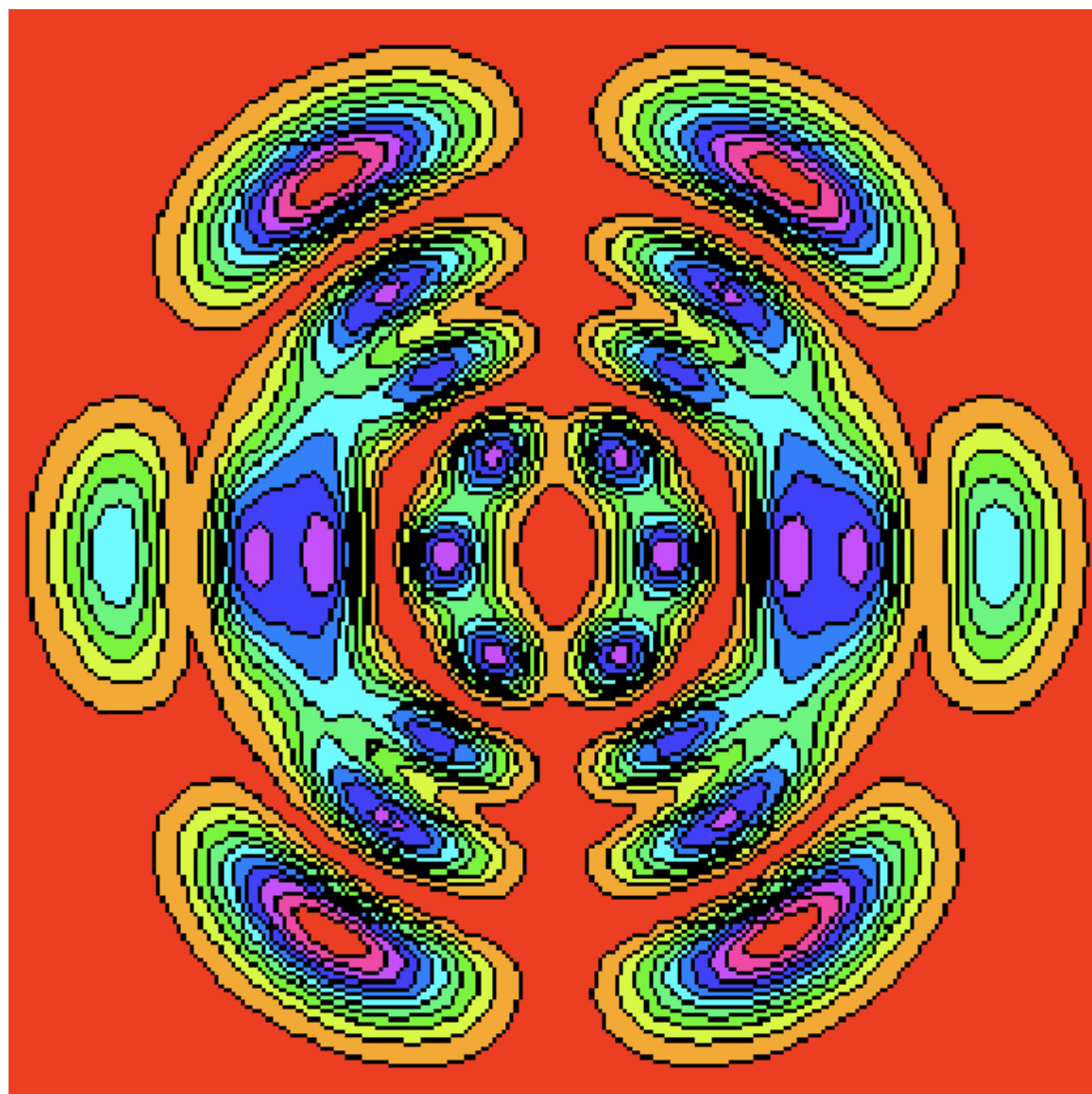
UNEDF SciDAC Collaboration  
Universal Nuclear Energy Density Functional



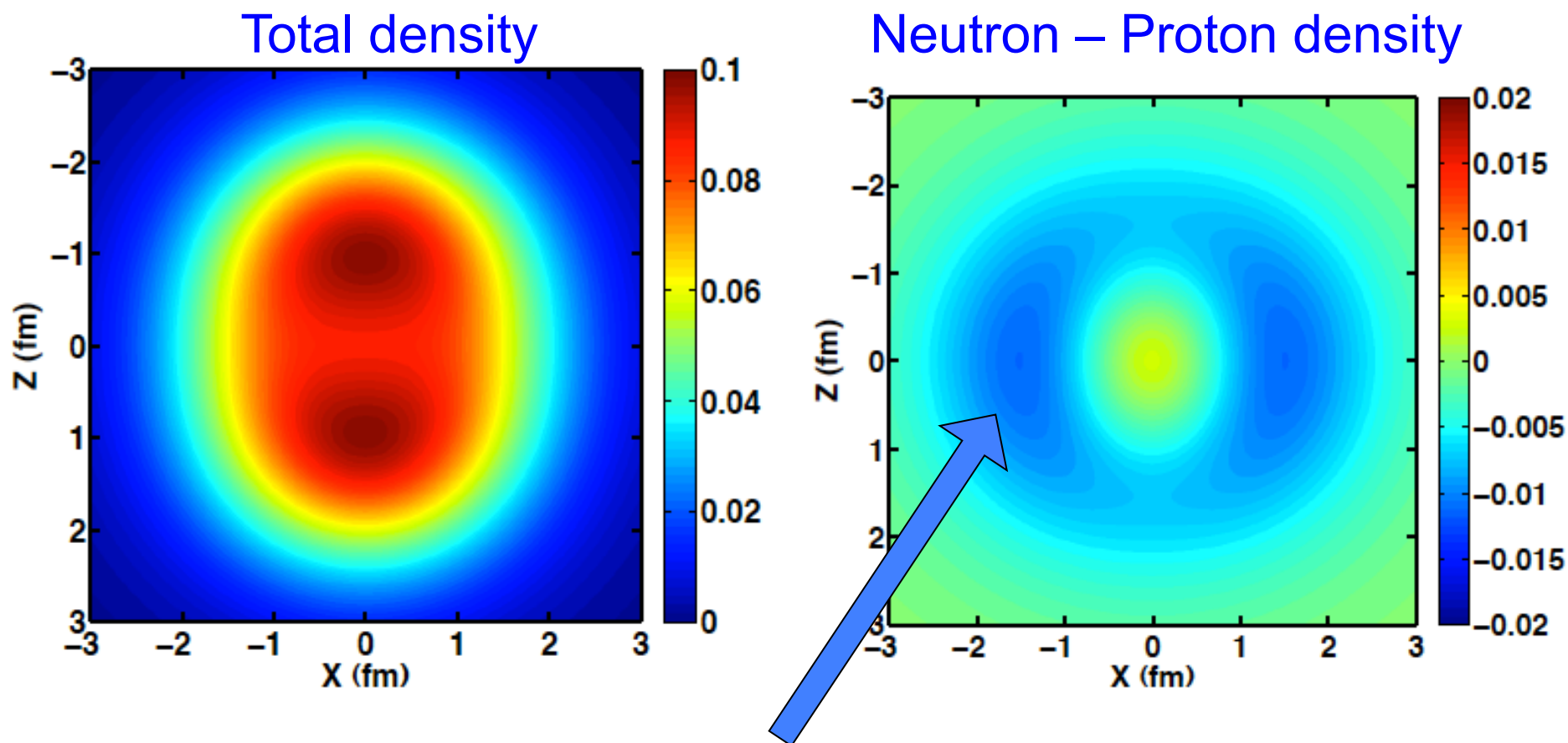
OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY  
Managed by UT-Battelle for the Department of Energy







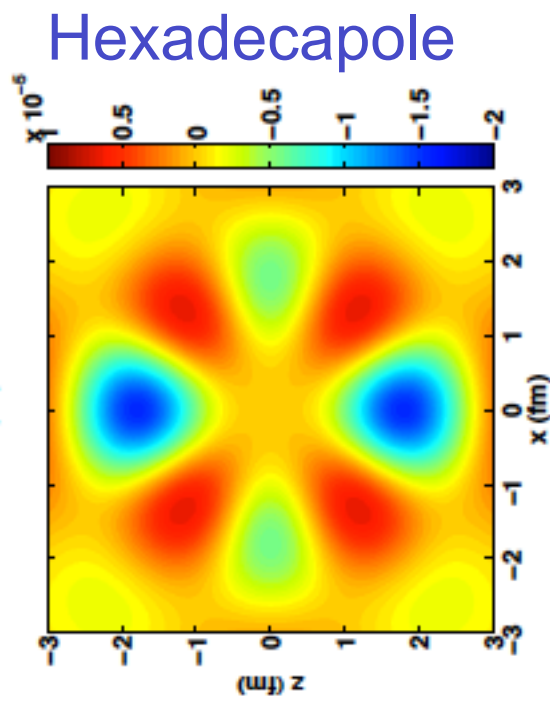
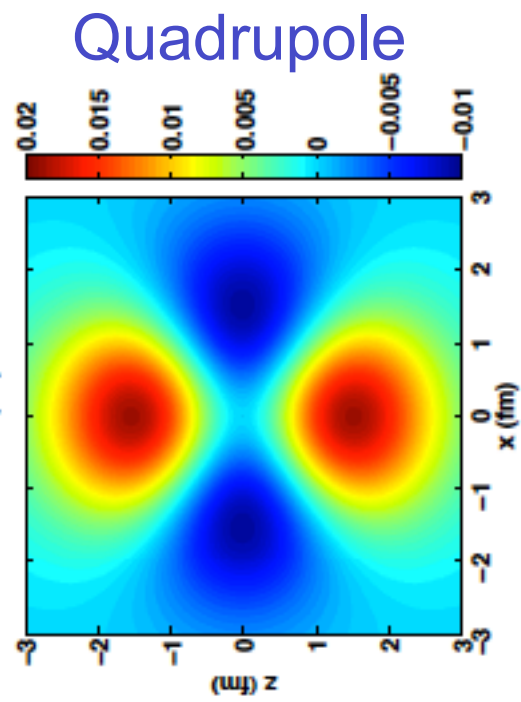
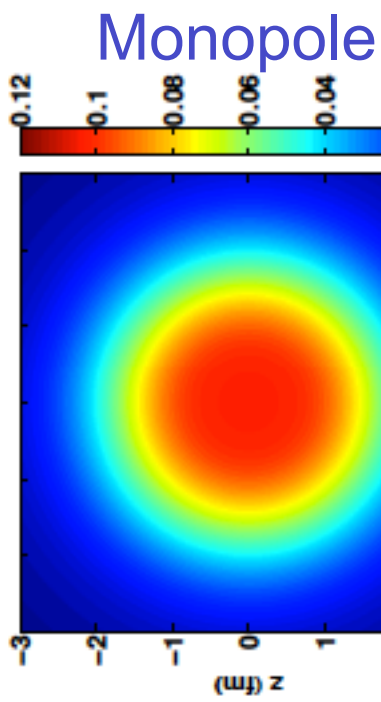
$^9\text{Be}$  Translationally invariant gs density  
Full 3D densities = rotate around the vertical axis



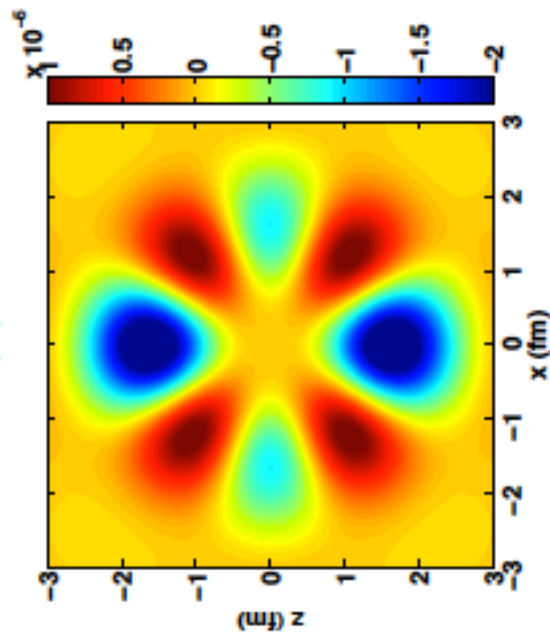
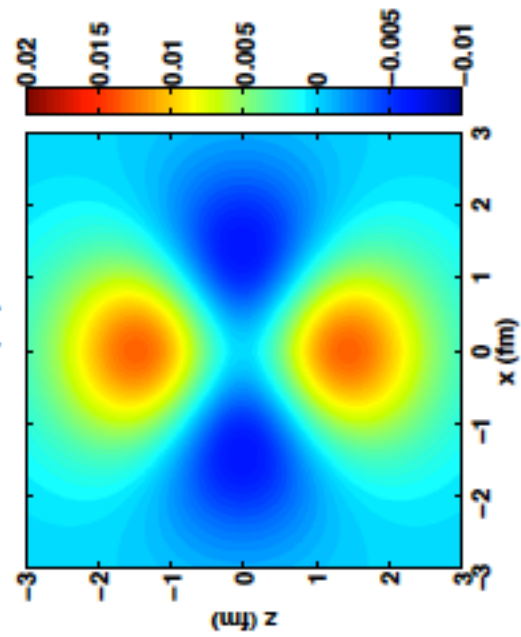
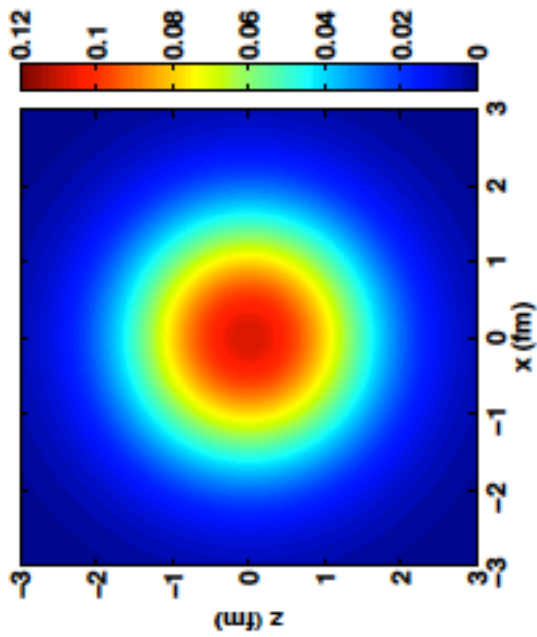
Shows that one neutron provides a “ring” cloud around two alpha clusters binding them together

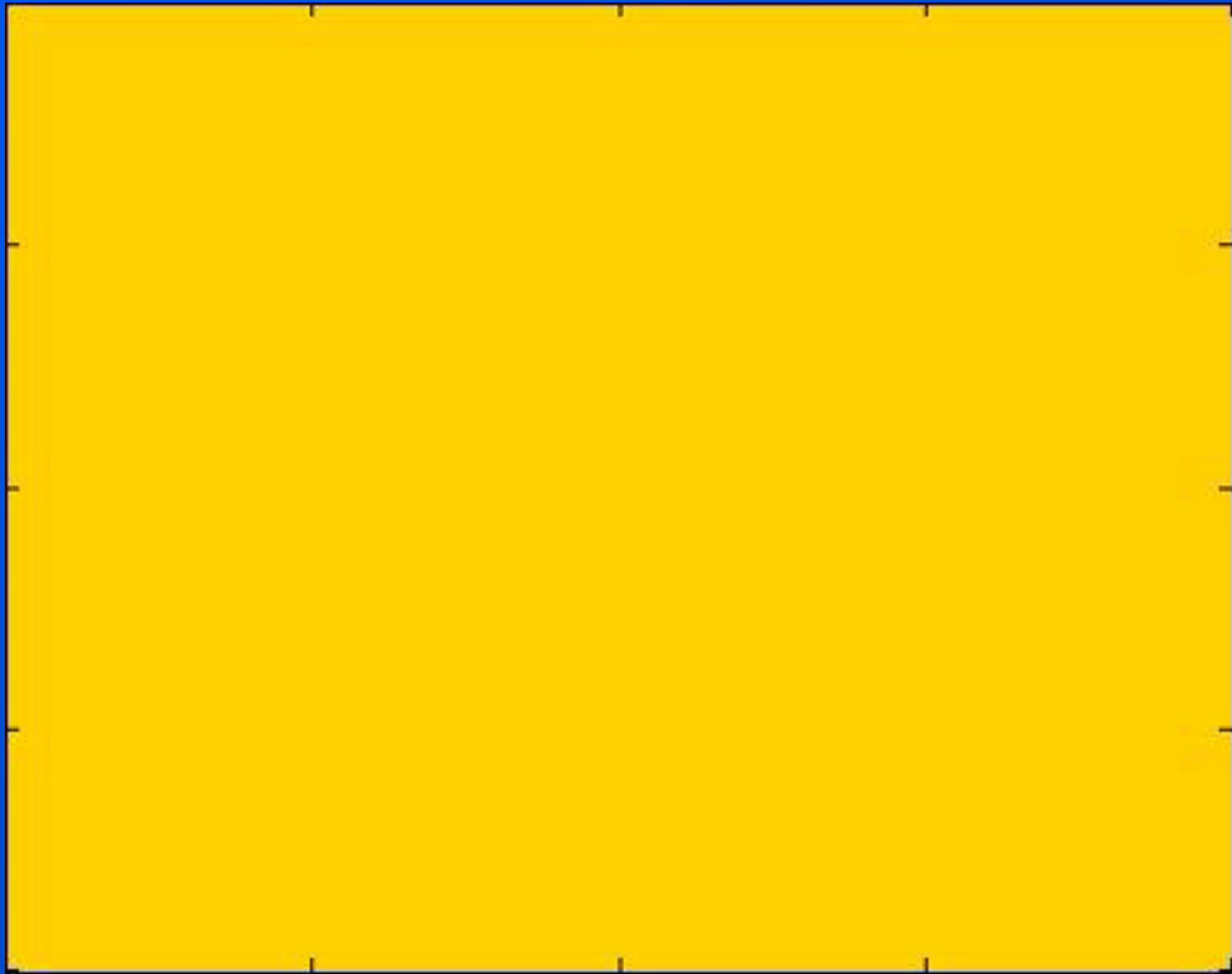
${}^8\text{Li}$  gs  
 $J=2$

Neutrons



Protons





$J = 2$  ground state of  ${}^8\text{Li}$  viewed through a hexadecapole filter (Chase Cockrell, PhD)

# Ab initio nuclear reactions

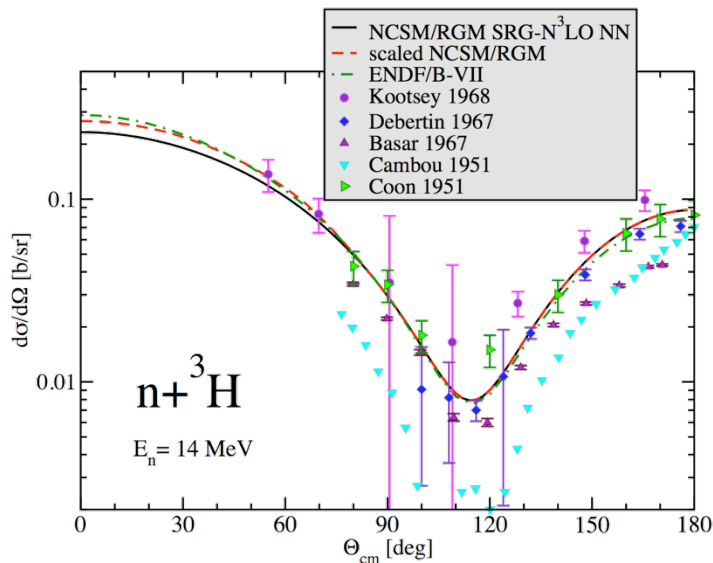
## Objectives

- Arrive at a fundamental understanding of nuclear properties from a unified theoretical standpoint rooted in the fundamental forces among nucleons
- Develop theoretical foundations for an accurate description of reactions between light ions in a thermonuclear environment

## Impact

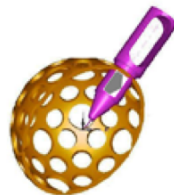
- Computational tools for addressing fusion reactions that power stars and Earth-based fusion facilities such as the National Ignition Facility (NIF)
- Provide research community with accurate evaluations and uncertainties for nuclear astrophysics and fusion diagnostic

Ab initio theory reduces uncertainty due to conflicting data



- The  $n$ - ${}^3\text{H}$  elastic cross section for 14 MeV neutrons, important for understanding how the fuel is assembled in an implosion at NIF, was not known precisely enough. Nuclear theory was asked to help.
- Delivered evaluated data with required 5% uncertainty and successfully compared to measurements using an Inertial Confinement Facility
- “Ab initio theory of light-ion reactions”, by P. Navrátil, S. Quaglioni, and R. Roth, J. Phys. Conf. Ser. **312**, 082002 (2011)
- “First measurements of the differential cross sections for the elastic  $n$ - ${}^2\text{H}$  and  $n$ - ${}^3\text{H}$  scattering at 14.1 MeV using an Inertial Confinement Facility”, by J.A. Frenje *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **107**, 122502 (2011)

<http://physics.aps.org/synopsis-for/10.1103/PhysRevLett.107.122502>





Simulations on high performance computers provide answers to questions that neither experiment nor analytic theory can answer

*It becomes a third leg, in addition to Experiment and Theory, supporting the field of nuclear physics*

||

*Experiment + Theory + Simulations*

# Atanasoff-Berry Computer (ABC)



John Vincent Atanasoff  
1983 photo



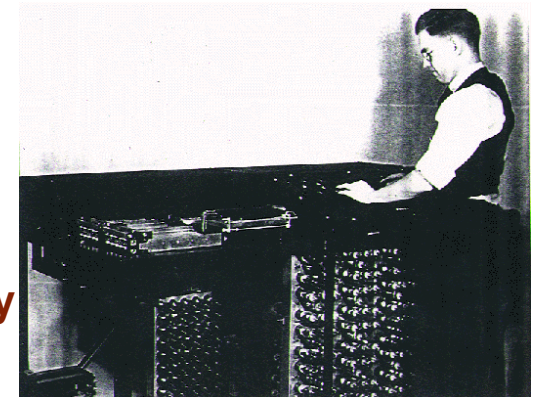
Clifford Berry  
1962 photo

- 1939 - Iowa State Physics Professor Atanasoff invents the electronic digital computer based on binary mathematics with stored program and data along with punch card input. Atanasoff and graduate student Clifford Berry construct the ABC and use ABC to solve simultaneous linear equations
- 1997 - Replica completed and demonstrated in public



**1990 - Atanasoff awarded the  
National Medal of Technology  
by President George W. Bush**

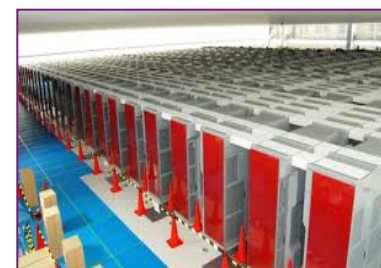
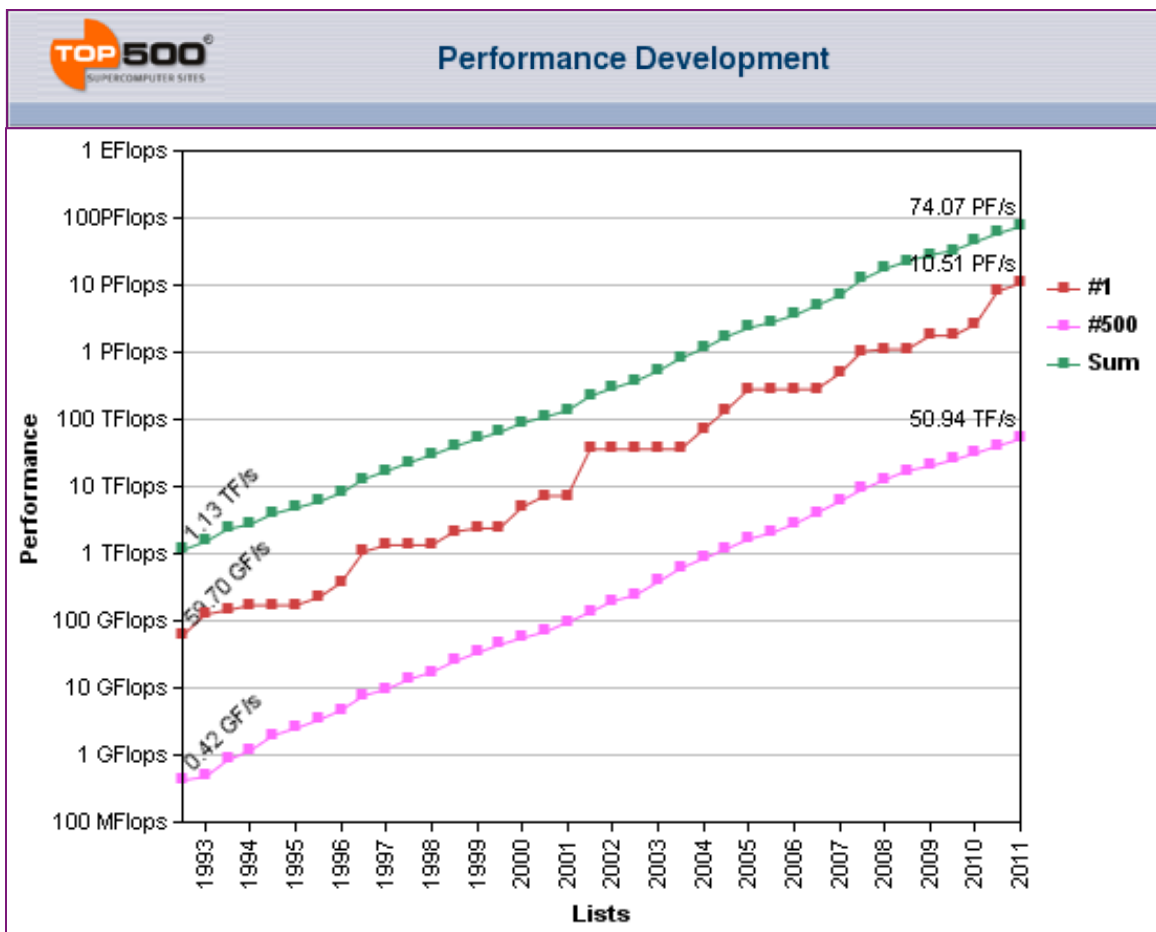
**1942 photo of Clifford Berry  
and the ABC**



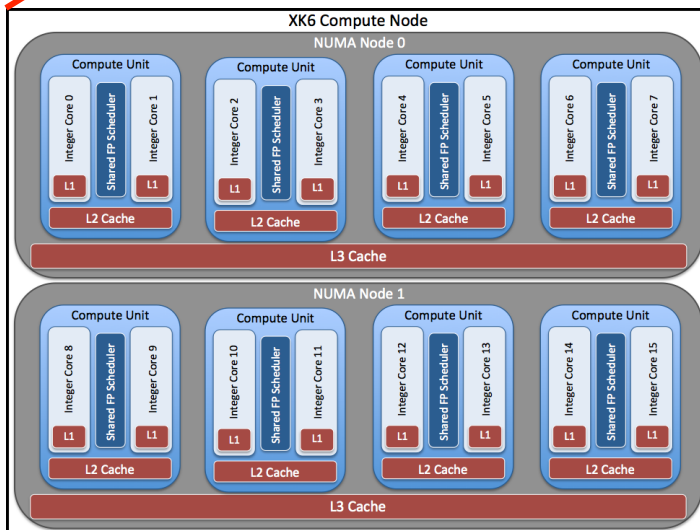
# Theoretical Tools and Connections to Computational Science

1 Teraflop =  $10^{12}$  flops  
1 peta =  $10^{15}$  flops (today)  
1 exa =  $10^{18}$  flops (next 10 years)

Tremendous opportunities  
for nuclear theory!



# “Leadership Class” Computational Resources



16 “cores” on one compute “node”  
Total: 300,000 cores at present  
Titan will have 1GPU/node

& INCITE Award 55M cpu-hrs/yr



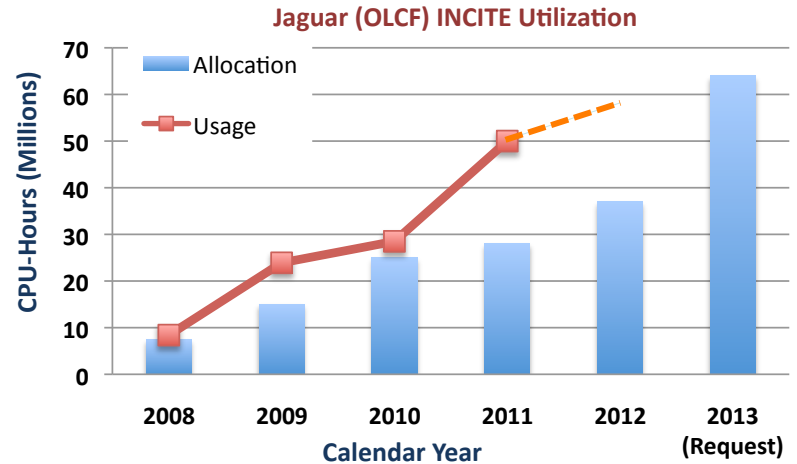
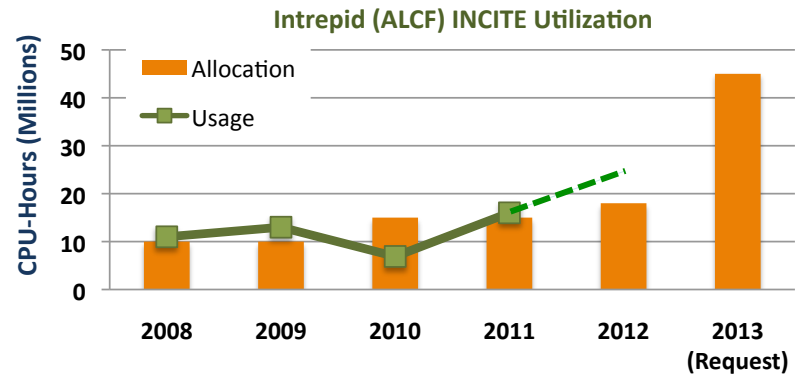
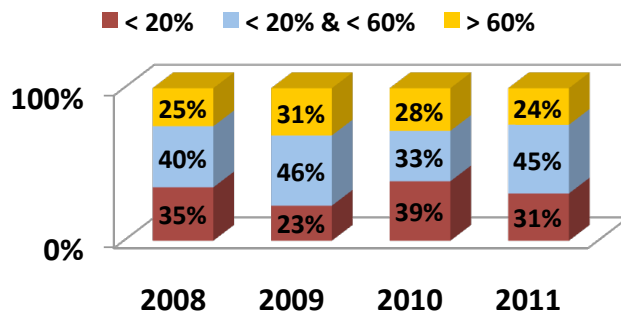
# UNEDF Leadership-class computing

◆ SciDAC collaboration between applied mathematicians, computer scientists, and nuclear physicists leads to efficient utilization of leadership-class computing resources for nuclear physics problems

◆ Significant accomplishments, achieved through leadership-class computing

- Ab-initio calculations of C-12
- Understanding long lifetime of C-14
- Microscopic calculations of select medium-mass nuclei
- Improved energy-density functional UNEDF1

◆ 60% to 80% of computing resources used at leadership-class scale



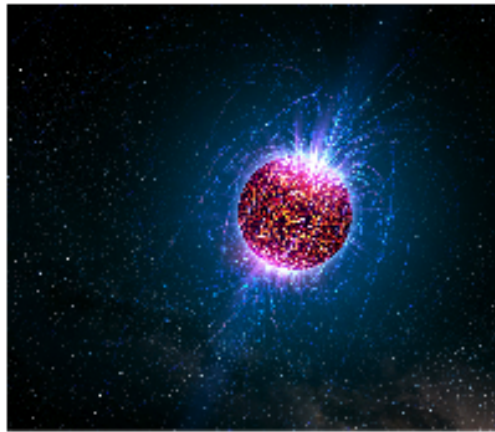
UNEDF SciDAC Collaboration  
Universal Nuclear Energy Density Functional



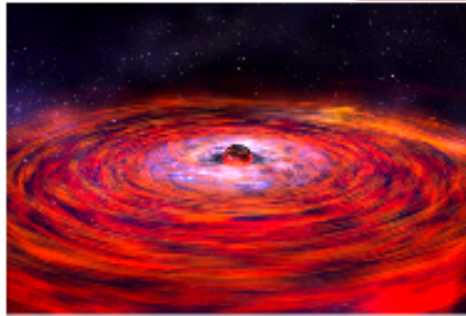


**Суперкомпьютер «Ломоносов»**

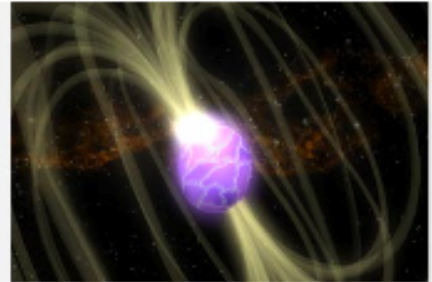
Selected science and technology “drivers”  
for high-performance computing



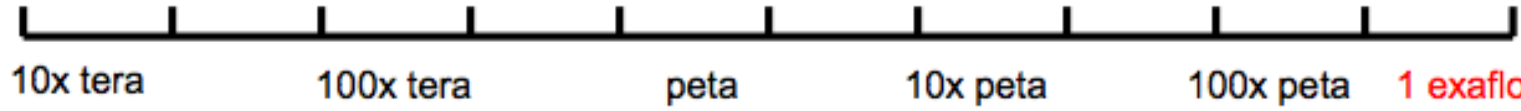
Dynamic/transport properties  
of neutron star crust solved



Static properties  
of neutron star crust solved



Predict shell structure  
of extreme nuclei



Corporations use HPC to speed product development cycles

US Council on Competitiveness case studies (15)

<http://www.compete.org>

Example 1:

“Bringing the power of HPC to Drug Discovery and the Delivery of ‘Smarter’ Health Care,” studies

how HPC and computer-aided engineering is helping GNS Healthcare drive the identification of the right cost-effective intervention for the right patient at the right time.

<http://www.compete.org/publications/detail/1742/>



Example 2:

“HPC Enables Innovation and Productivity at Ford Motor Company.”

From Safety Performance to EcoBoost Technology

<http://www.compete.org/publications/detail/1664/>

Many outstanding nuclear physics  
puzzles and discoveries remain

Clustering phenomena

Origin of the successful nuclear shell model

Nuclear reactions and breakup

Astrophysical r/p processes & drip lines

Predictive theory of fission

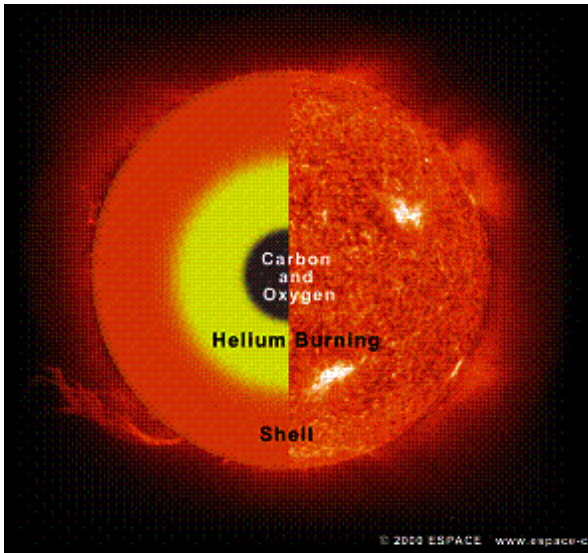
Existence/stability of superheavy nuclei

Physics beyond the Standard Model

Possible lepton number violation

+ Many More!





## $^{12}\text{C}$ - At the heart of matter

The first excited  $0^+$  state of  $^{12}\text{C}$ , the “Hoyle state”, is the key state of  $^{12}\text{C}$  formation in the triple-alpha fusion process that occurs in stars.

Due to its role in astrophysics and the fact that carbon is central to life, some refer to this as one of the “holy grails” of nuclear theory.

### Many important unsolved problems of the Hoyle state:

*Ab initio* origins of the triple-alpha structure are unsolved

Breathing mode puzzle - experiments disagree on sum rule fraction

Laboratory experiments to measure the formation rate are very difficult - resulting uncertainties are too large for predicting the  $^{12}\text{C}$  formation rate through this state that dictates the size of the iron core in pre-supernova stars

Conclusion: Need *ab initio* solutions of the Hoyle state with no-core method that accurately predicts the ground state binding energy

**==> parameter free predictions for the Hoyle state  
achievable with petascale within 1-2 years**

# Are there more than four interactions in nature? Is there evidence that the Standard Model is incomplete?

## Unsolved Mysteries

Driven by new puzzles in our understanding of the physical world, particle physicists are following paths to new wonders and startling discoveries. Experiments may even find extra dimensions of space, mini-black holes, and/or evidence of string theory.

### Universe Accelerating?



The expansion of the universe appears to be accelerating. Is this due to Einstein's Cosmological Constant? If not, will experiments reveal a new force of nature or even extra (hidden) dimensions of space?

### Why No Antimatter?



Matter and antimatter were created in the Big Bang. Why do we now see only matter except for the tiny amounts of antimatter that we make in the lab and observe in cosmic rays?

### Dark Matter?



Invisible forms of matter make up much of the mass observed in galaxies and clusters of galaxies. Does this dark matter consist of new types of particles that interact very weakly with ordinary matter?

### Origin of Mass?



In the Standard Model, for fundamental particles to have masses, there must exist a particle called the Higgs boson. Will it be discovered soon? Is supersymmetry theory correct in predicting more than one type of Higgs?

We are looking for astonishing new discoveries

Supersymmetry

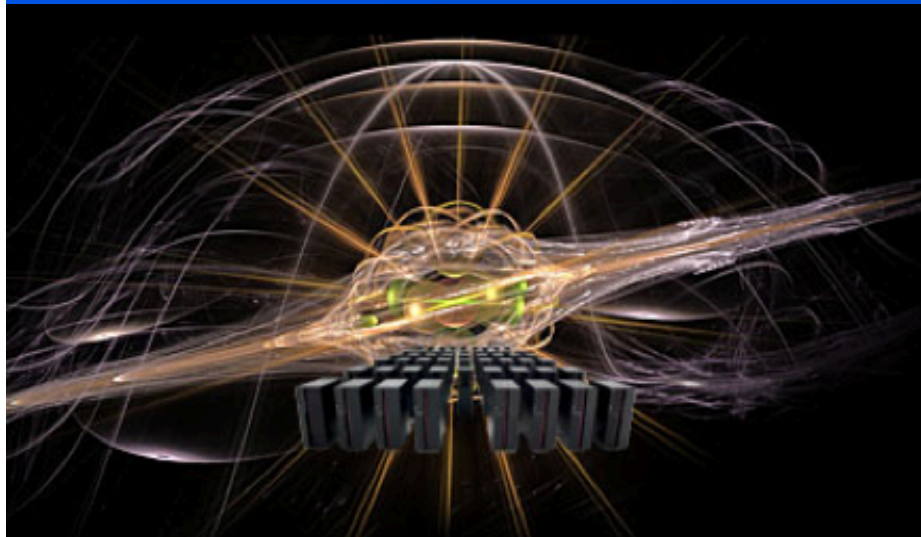
Extra dimensions (string theory)

Multiple universes

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- A third rate theory forbids
- A second rate theory explains after the fact
- A first rate theory predicts

- A. Lomonosov



International Workshop

**Nuclear Theory**

**in the Supercomputing Era**

Pacific National University, Khabarovsk, Russia

June 18–22, 2012

Status report from this workshop

We have successful “models” and we are developing successful predictive theory with wide applicability and the supercomputer simulations to prove that theory

Thank you Pacific National University  
and Khabarovsk for hosting this scientific meeting

I welcome your questions!