

# Di-neutron correlation in neutron-rich nuclei

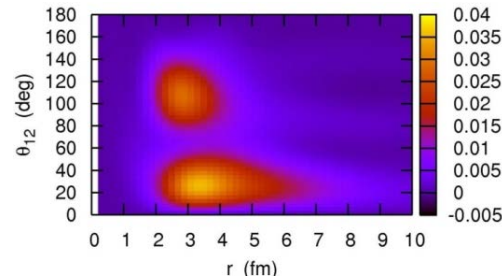
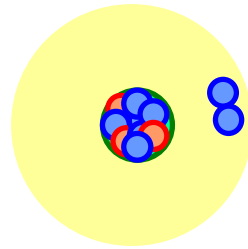
Kouichi Hagino

*Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan*

Hiroyuki Sagawa (*U. of Aizu*)



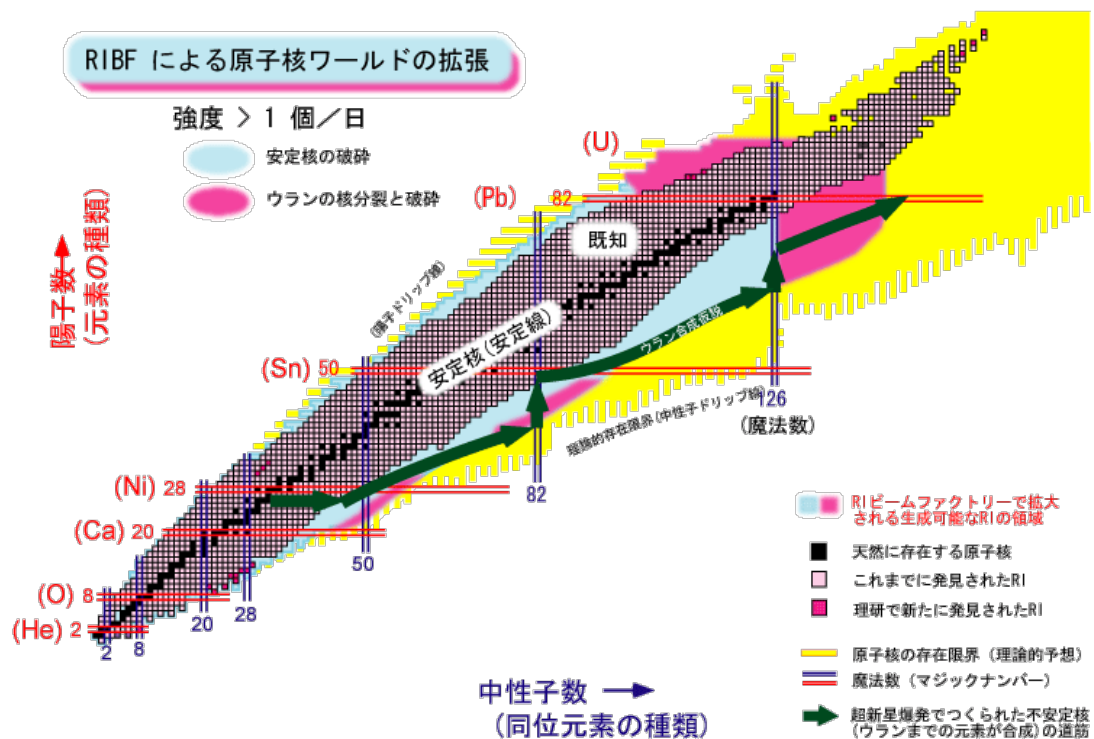
TOHOKU  
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- 1. Borromean nuclei and di-neutron correlation*
- 2. Three-body model approach*
- 3. Coulomb breakup*
- 4. Two-neutron decay of unbound nucleus  $^{26}\text{O}$*
- 5. Summary*

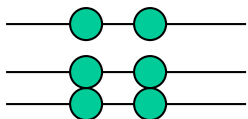
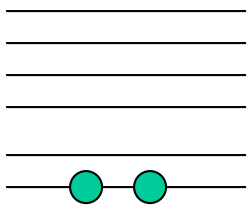
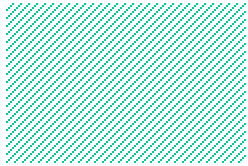
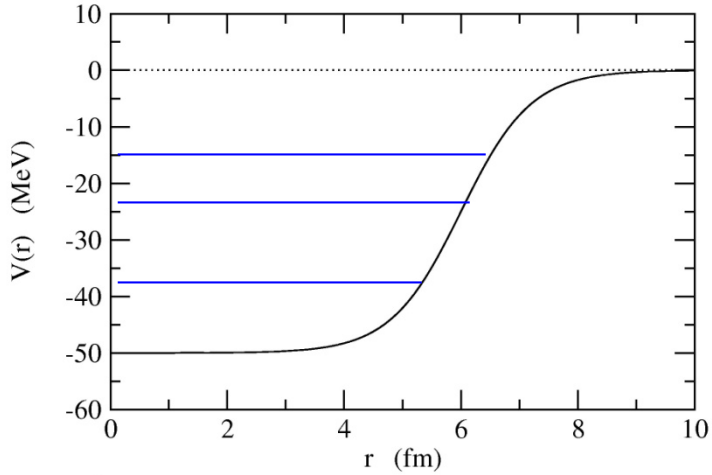
# Introduction: neutron-rich nuclei

Next generation RI beam facilities : e.g., RIBF (RIKEN, Japan)

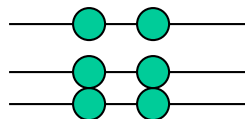
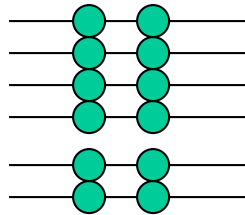
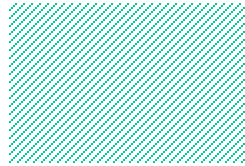
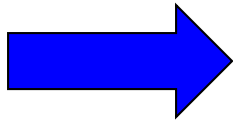


- halo/skin structure
- large E1 strength
- shell evolution
- .....

# Mean-field approximation

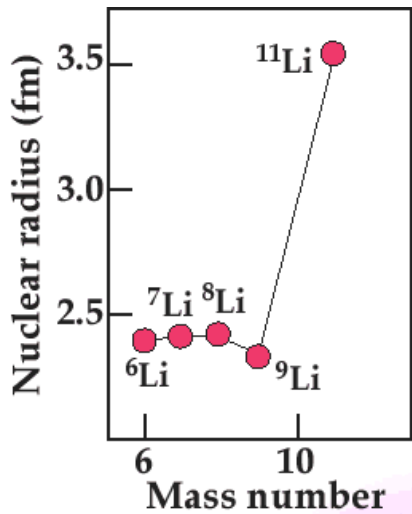


stable nuclei



neutron-rich nuclei

weakly bound systems !!



I. Tanihata et al.  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 55, 2676 (1985)

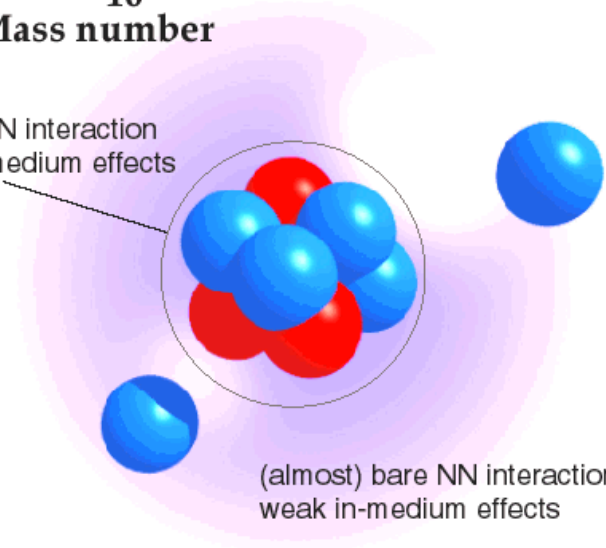
Interaction cross section  
measurements at Bevalac  
(790 MeV/u)

**11Li**

$$\psi(r) \sim \exp(-\kappa r)$$

$$\kappa = \sqrt{2m|\epsilon|/\hbar^2}$$

effective NN interaction  
strong in-medium effects



(almost) bare NN interaction  
weak in-medium effects

**halo nucleus**

weakly bound systems

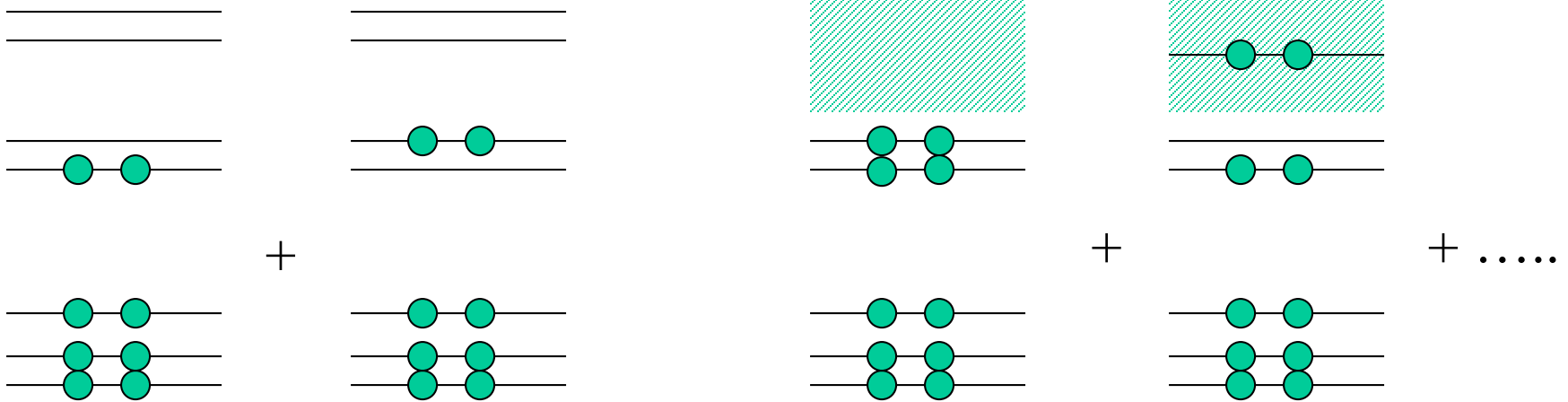


large extension of density

# Role of residual interaction

$$H = \sum_i T_i + \sum_{i < j} v_{ij} \rightarrow H = \sum_i (T_i + V_i) + \underbrace{\sum_{i < j} v_{ij} - \sum_i V_i}_{\text{residual interaction (pairing)}}$$

residual interaction  
(pairing)



open shell nuclei

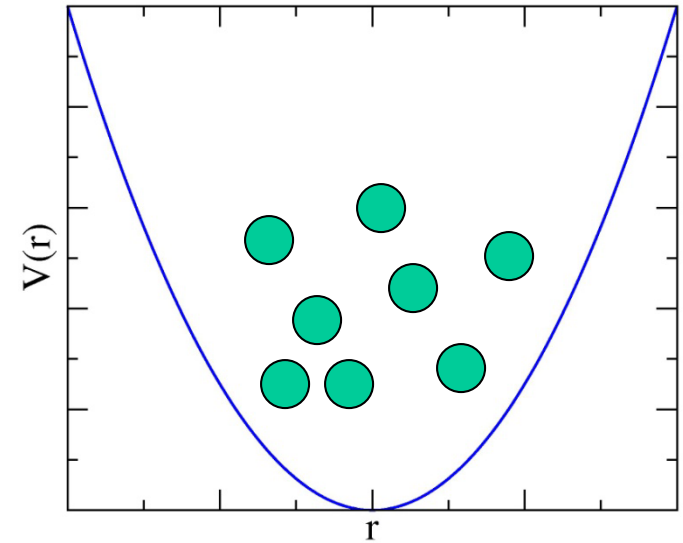
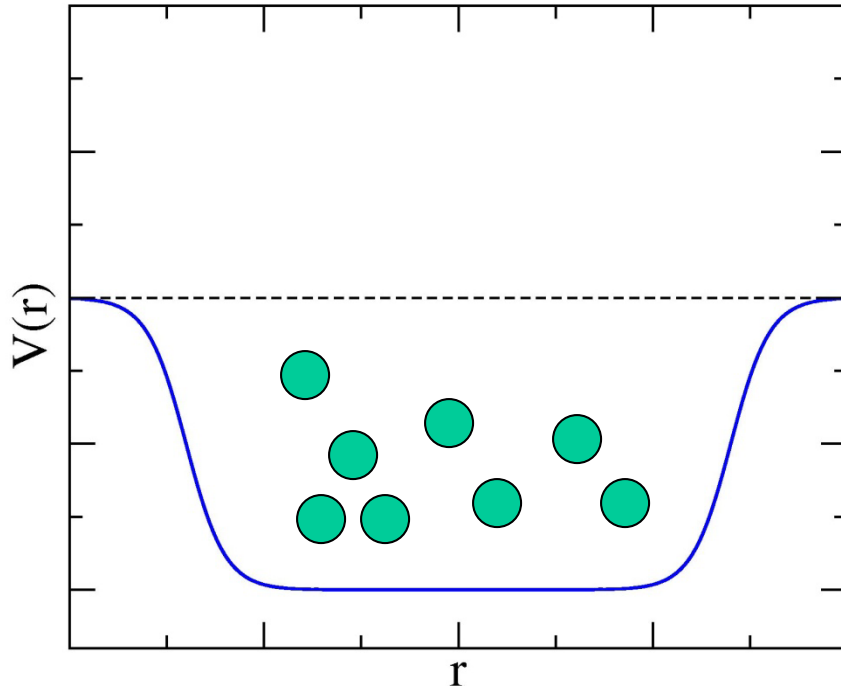
weakly bound nuclei

## Neutron-rich nuclei:

- weakly bound systems: low neutron density
- residual interaction (pairing interaction)
- many-body correlations

laboratory  
for NS matter  
at low densities

many-particles in a confining potential



cf. a harmonic trap

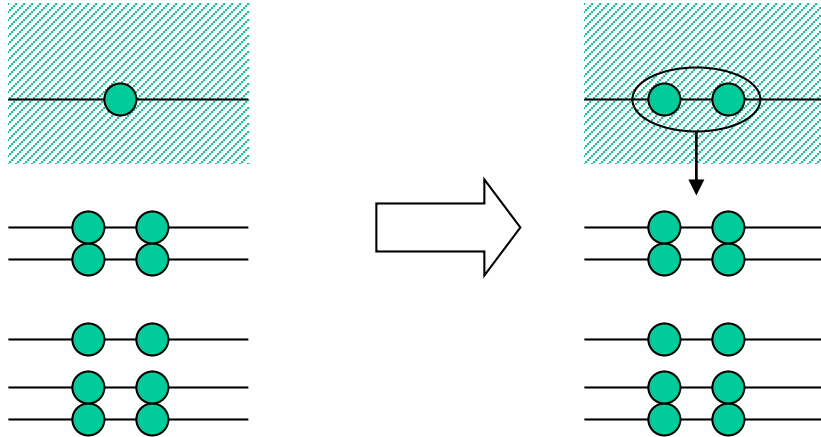
- finite-well confining potential
- self-consistent potential



a challenging problem

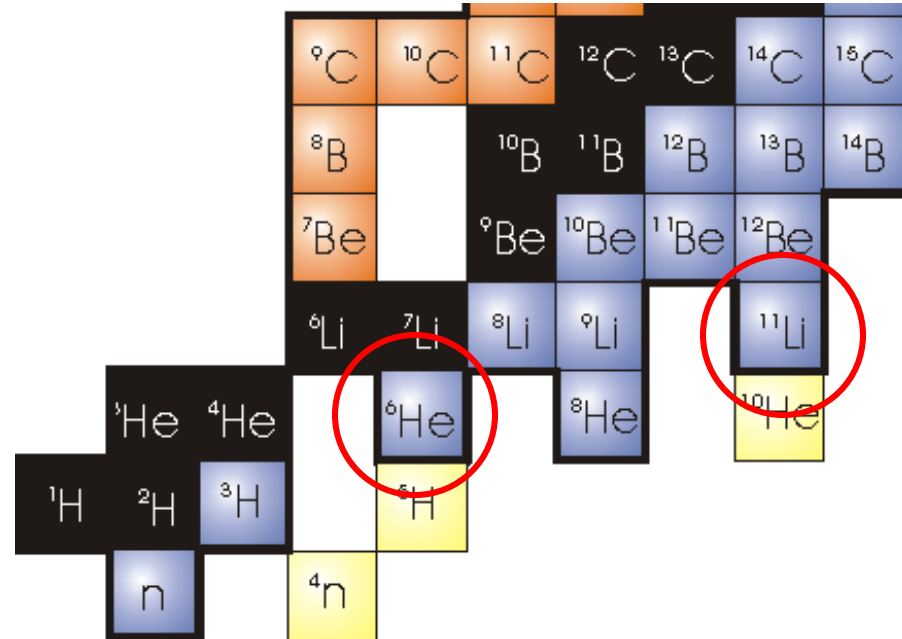
# Borromean nucleus

residual interaction  $\rightarrow$  attractive



particle unstable

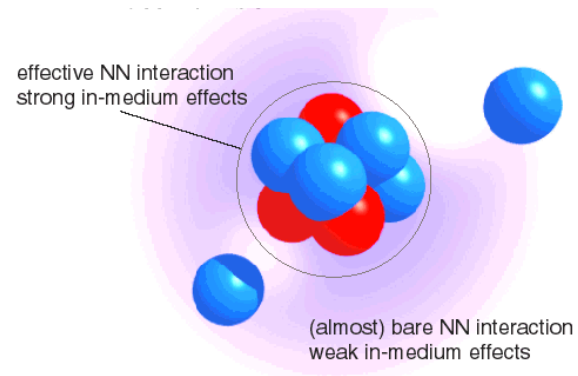
particle stable



“Borromean nuclei”

## Remaining problems

- *What is the spatial structure of the valence neutrons?*  
(To what extent is this picture correct?)
- *E1 excitations?*
- *Influence to nuclear reactions?*



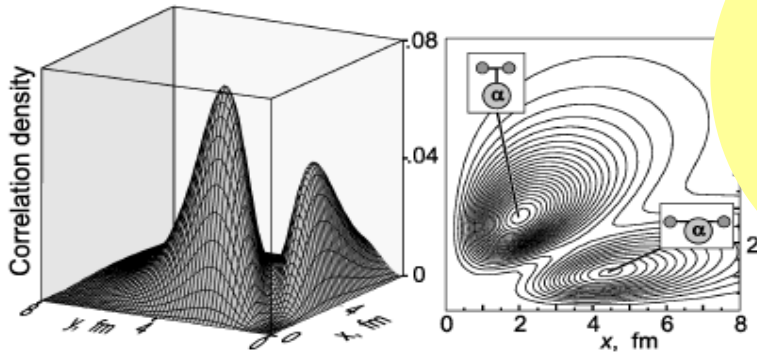
# Borromean nuclei and Di-neutron correlation

Borromean nuclei: unique three-body systems

Three-body model calculations:

strong di-neutron correlation  
in  $^{11}\text{Li}$  and  $^6\text{He}$

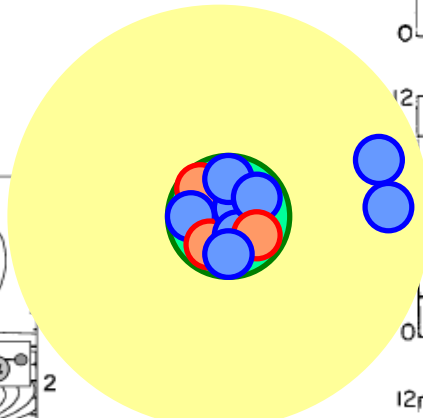
$x^2 y^2 \rho_2(x, y)$  for  $^6\text{He}$



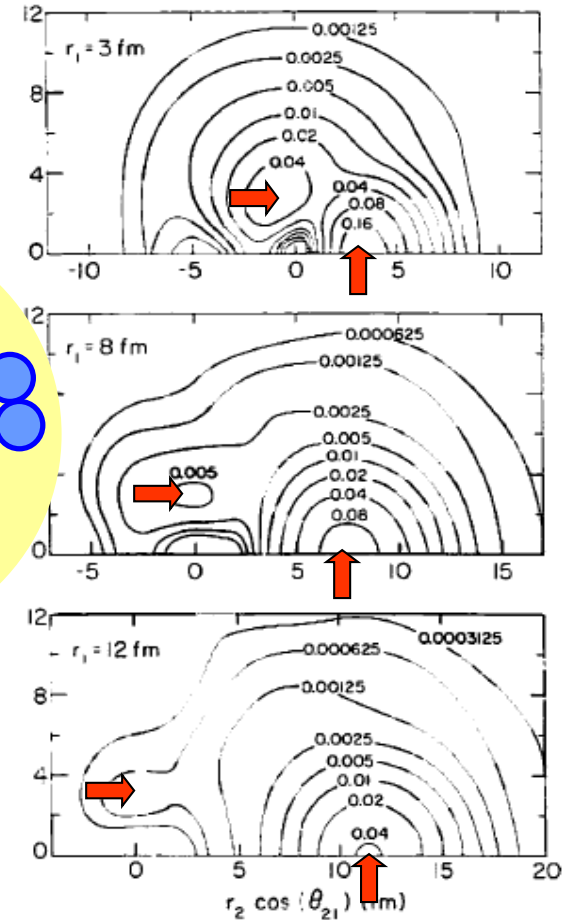
Yu.Ts. Oganessian et al., *PRL*82('99)4996  
M.V. Zhukov et al., *Phys. Rep.* 231('93)151

cf. earlier works

- ✓ A.B. Migdal ('73)
- ✓ P.G. Hansen and B. Jonson ('87)



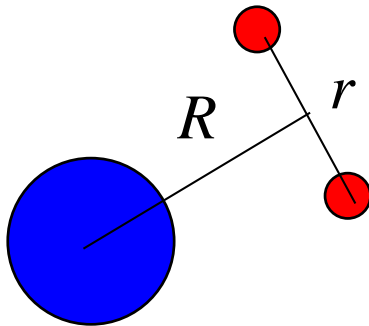
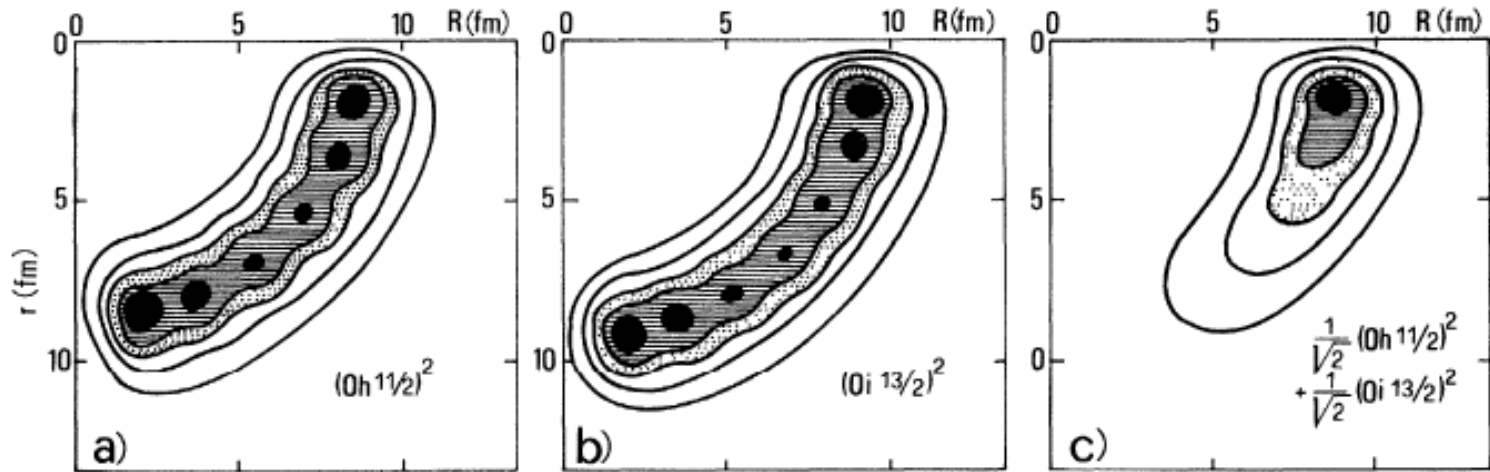
$\rho_2(r_1, r_2, \theta_{12})$  for  $^{11}\text{Li}$



G.F. Bertsch, H. Esbensen,  
*Ann. of Phys.*, 209('91)327



dineutron correlation: caused by the admixture of different parity states



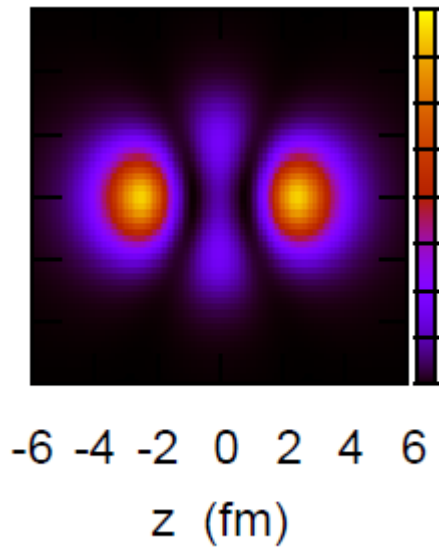
F. Catara, A. Insolia, E. Maglione,  
and A. Vitturi, PRC29('84)1091

# spatial localization of two neutrons (dineutron correlation)

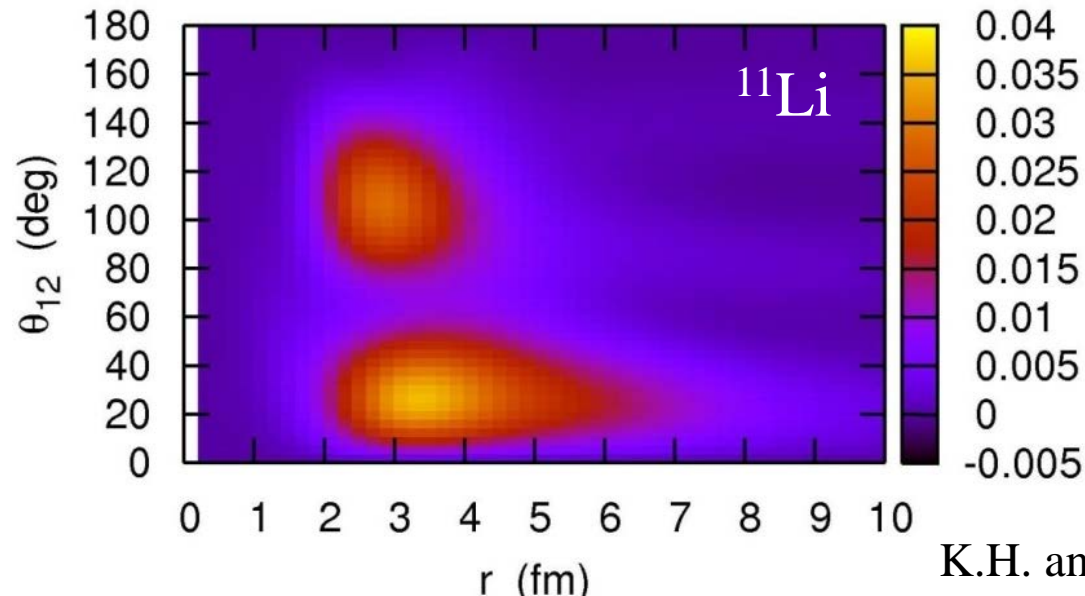
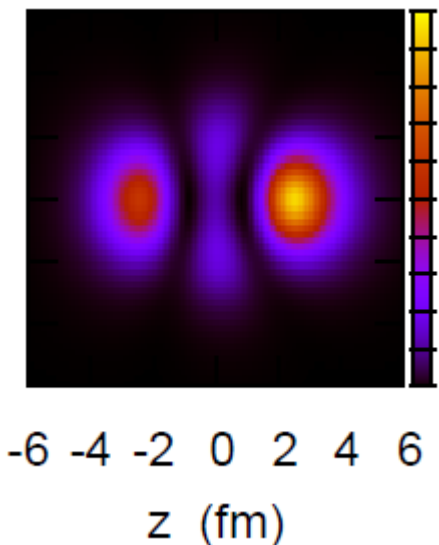
cf. Migdal, Soviet J. of Nucl. Phys. 16 ('73) 238  
Bertsch, Broglia, Riedel, NPA91('67)123

## weakly bound systems

- easy to mix different parity states due to the continuum couplings
- + enhancement of pairing on the surface

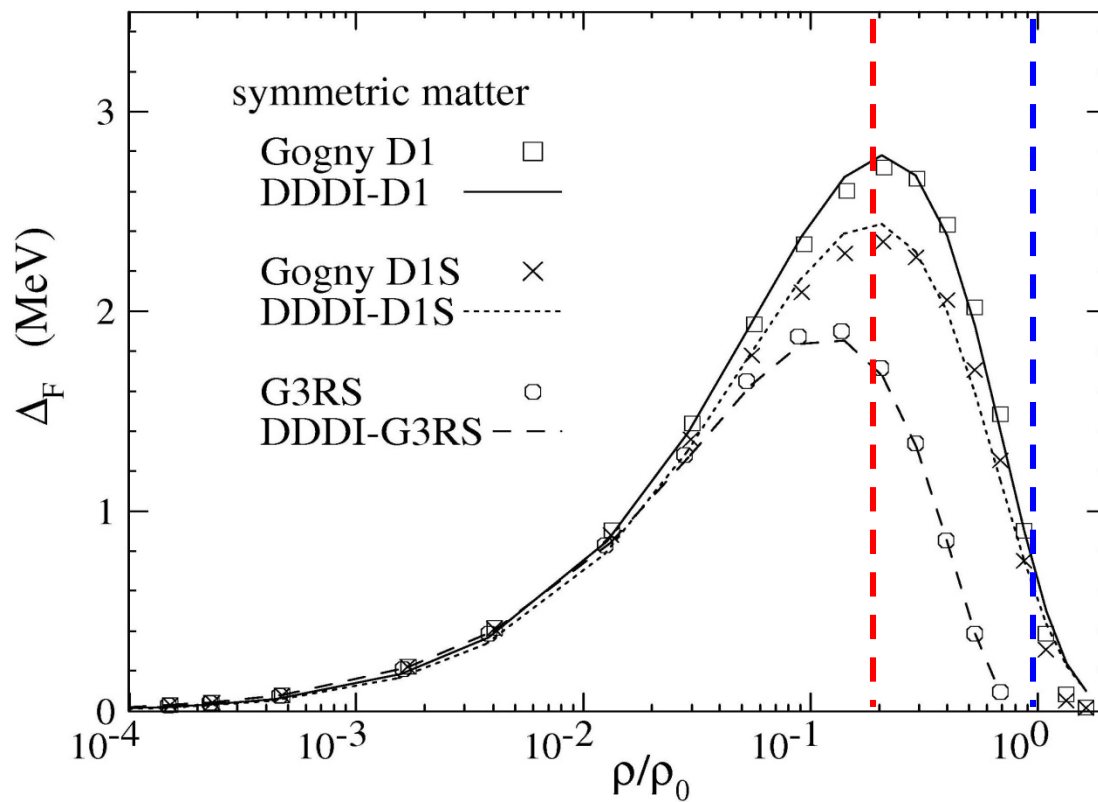


parity mixing



K.H. and H. Sagawa,  
PRC72('05)044321

## pairing gap in infinite nuclear matter



M. Matsuo, PRC73('06)044309

# spatial localization of two neutrons (dineutron correlation)

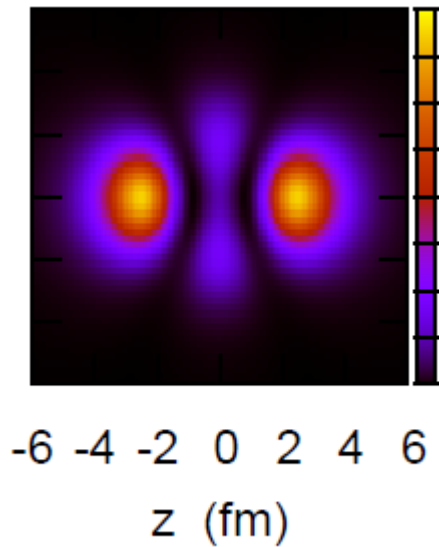
cf. Migdal, Soviet J. of Nucl. Phys. 16 ('73) 238  
Bertsch, Broglia, Riedel, NPA91('67)123

## weakly bound systems

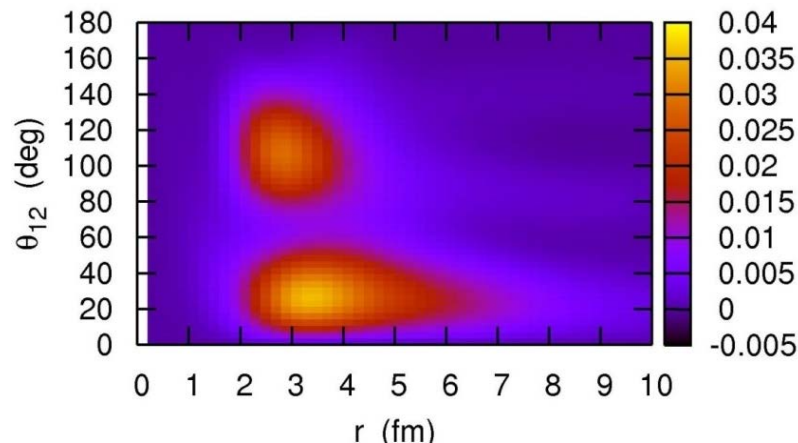
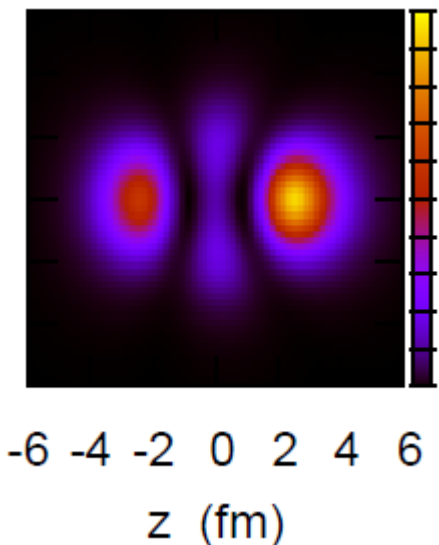
→ easy to mix different parity states due to the continuum couplings  
+ enhancement of pairing on the surface

→ dineutron correlation: enhanced

cf. - Bertsch, Esbensen, Ann. of Phys. 209('91)327  
- M. Matsuo, K. Mizuyama, Y. Serizawa, PRC71('05)064326



parity mixing



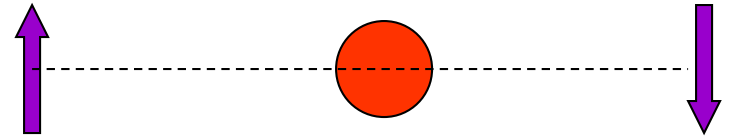
K.H. and H. Sagawa,  
PRC72('05)044321

# Pairing correlations in atomic nuclei

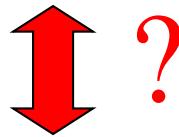
## Spatial structure of a Cooper pair?

Coherence length of a Cooper pair:

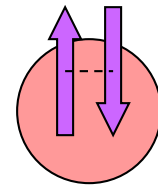
$$\xi = \frac{\hbar^2 k_F}{m\Delta}$$



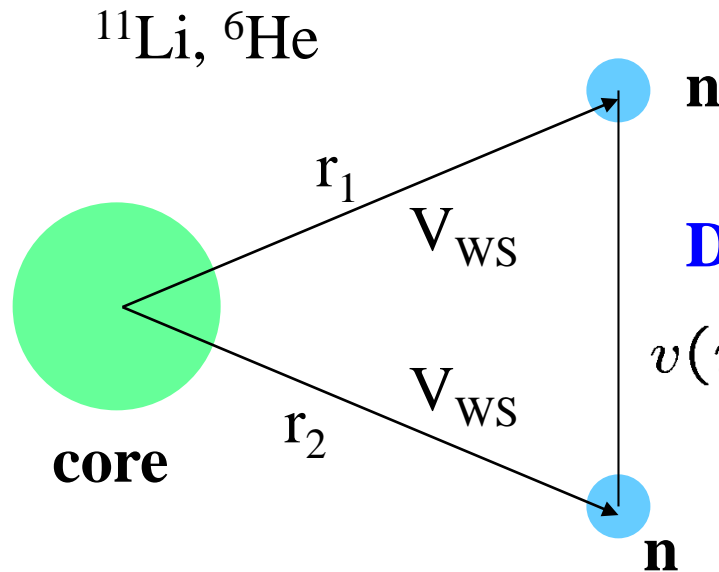
much larger than the nuclear size



Di-neutron correlations in neutron-rich nuclei



# Three-body model with density-dependent delta force



G.F. Bertsch and H. Esbensen,

*Ann. of Phys.* 209('91)327

H. Esbensen, G.F. Bertsch, K. Hencken,

*Phys. Rev. C* 56('99)3054

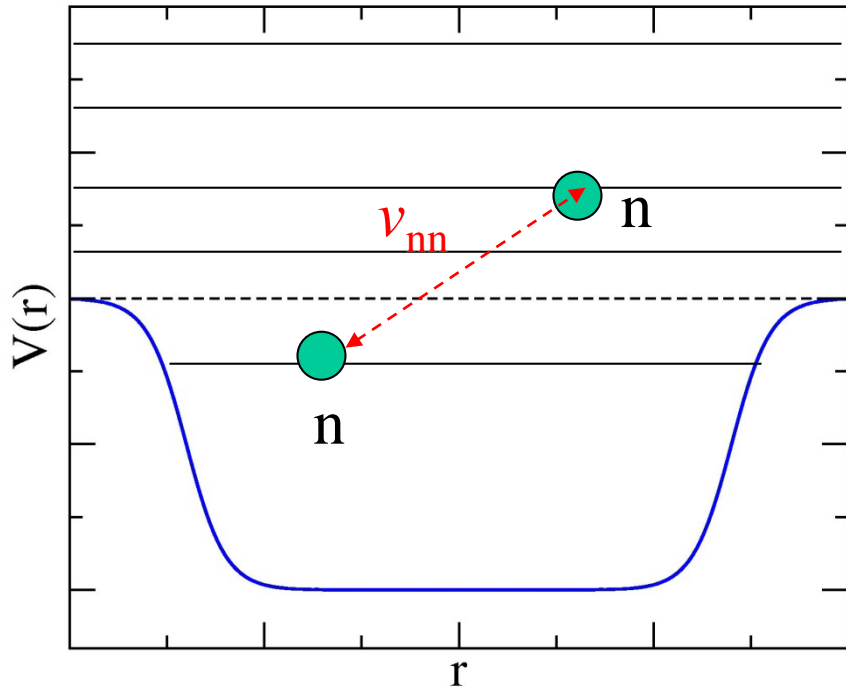
K.H. and H. Sagawa, *PRC* 72('05)044321

## Density-dependent delta-force

$$v(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = v_0(1 + \alpha\rho(r)) \times \delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$$

$$H = \frac{p_1^2}{2m} + \frac{p_2^2}{2m} + V_{nC}(r_1) + V_{nC}(r_2) + V_{nn} + \frac{(p_1 + p_2)^2}{2A_c m}$$

$$H = \frac{p_1^2}{2m} + \frac{p_2^2}{2m} + V_{nC}(r_1) + V_{nC}(r_2) + V_{nn} + \frac{(p_1 + p_2)^2}{2A_C m}$$



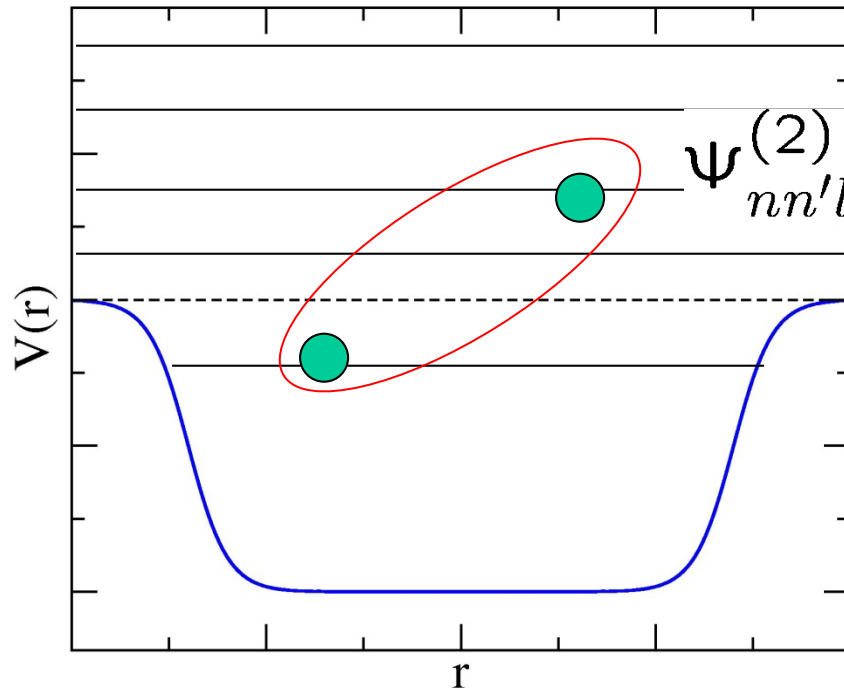
continuum states:  
discretized in a large box

$$V_{nn}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = \delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) \left( v_0 + \frac{v_\rho}{1 + \exp[(r_1 - R_\rho)/a_\rho]} \right)$$

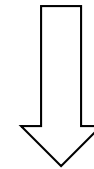
- ✓ contact interaction
- ✓  $v_0$ : free n-n ← scattering length
- ✓ density dependent term: medium many-body effects

$$H = \frac{p_1^2}{2m} + \frac{p_2^2}{2m} + V_{nC}(r_1) + V_{nC}(r_2) + V_{nn} + \frac{(p_1 + p_2)^2}{2A_cm}$$

$$\Psi_{gs}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \mathcal{A} \sum_{nn'lj} \alpha_{nn'lj} \Psi_{nn'lj}^{(2)}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$$



uncorrelated basis



diagonalization of Hamiltonian matrix

(~ 1500 dimensions)

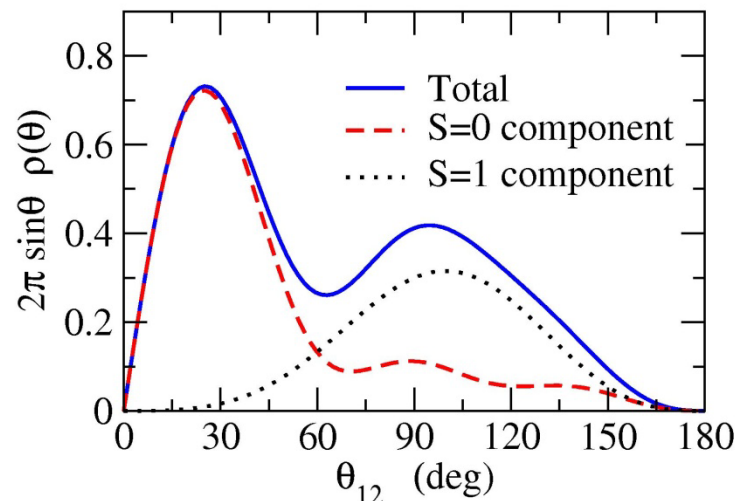
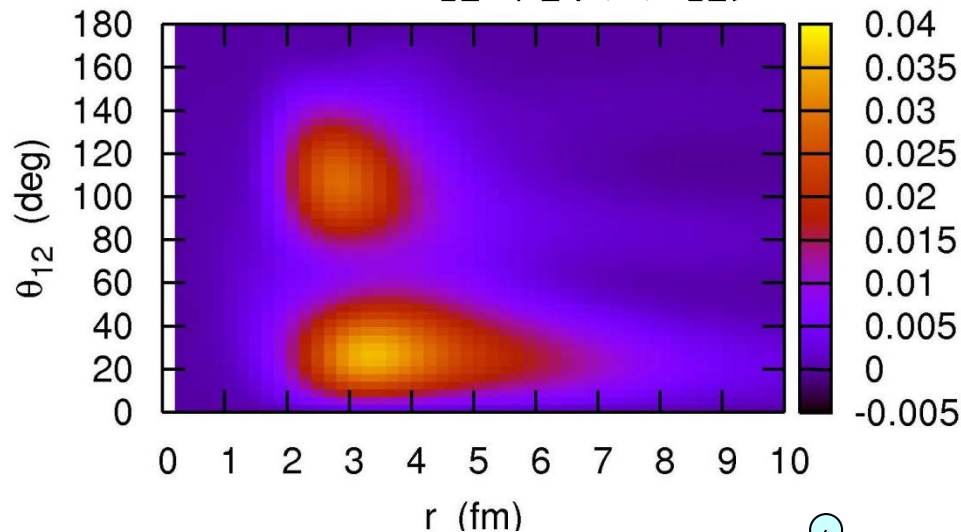


# Two-particle density for the ground state

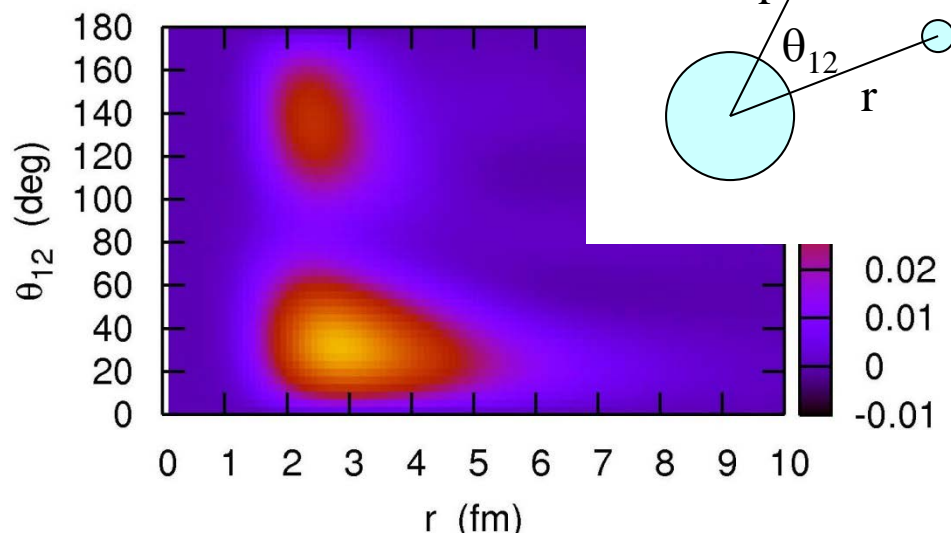
→ strong di-neutron correlation

<sup>11</sup>Li

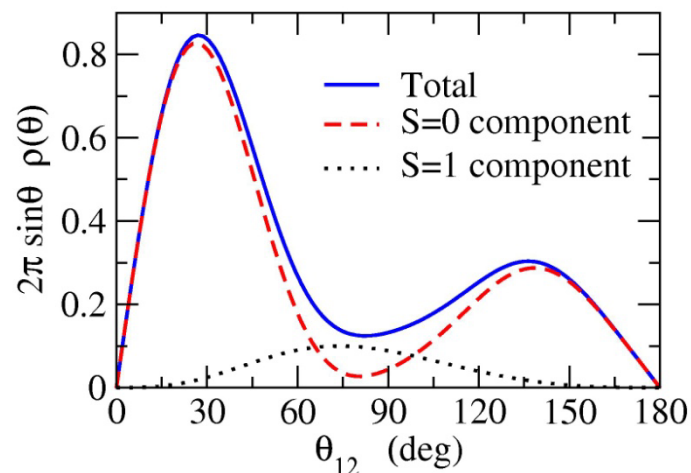
$$8\pi^2 r^4 \sin \theta_{12} \cdot \rho_2(r, r, \theta_{12})$$



<sup>6</sup>He



→  $\langle \theta_{12} \rangle = 65.29$  deg.

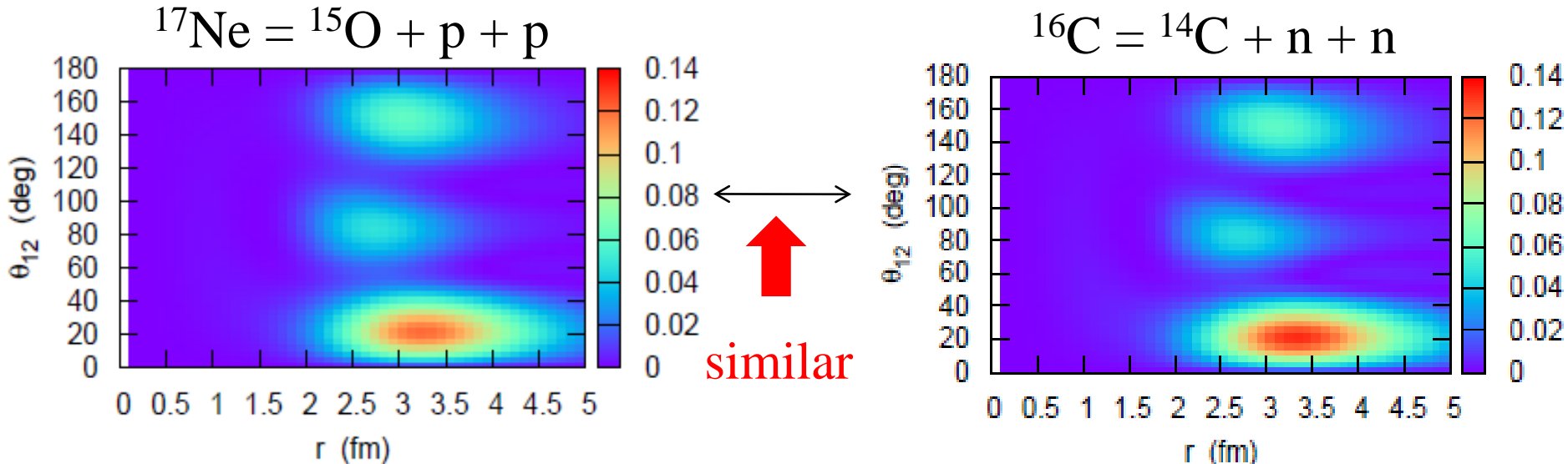


→  $\langle \theta_{12} \rangle = 66.33$  deg.

## cf. “di-proton” correlation

$${}^{17}\text{Ne} = {}^{15}\text{O} + \text{p} + \text{p} \quad (S_{2\text{p}} = 0.944 \text{ MeV})$$

$v_{pp}$  = density-dep. contact interaction + Coulomb



$$\langle v_{pp}^{(\text{nucl})} \rangle = -3.26 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\langle v_{pp}^{(\text{Coul})} \rangle = 0.448 \text{ MeV} \quad \leftarrow \text{about 15\% contribution}$$

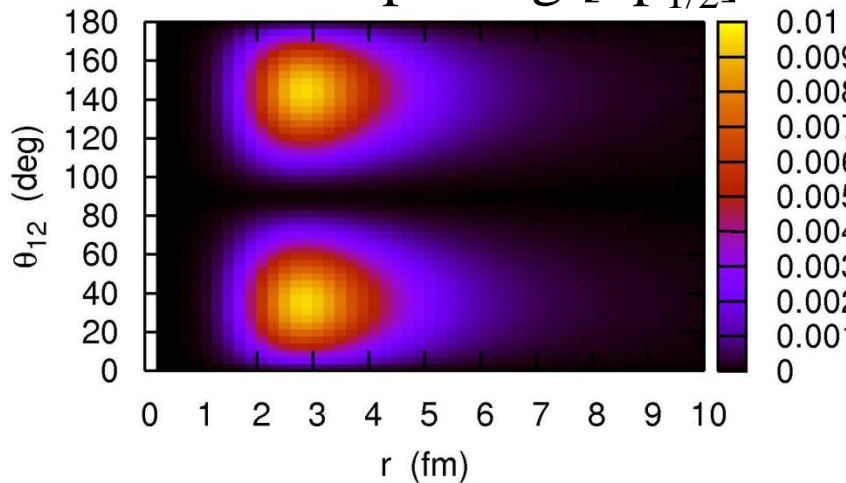
cf. two-proton decays of proto-rich nuclei beyond the proton drip-line

# ✧ Role of pairing correlation

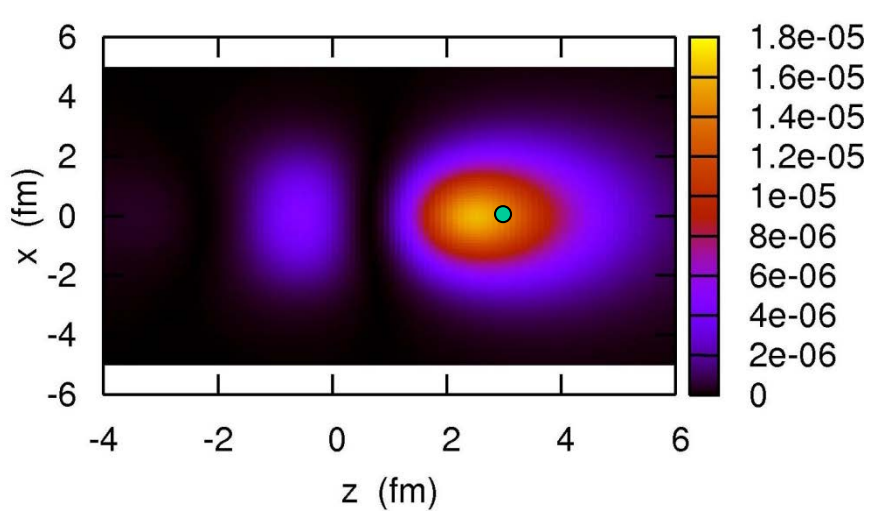
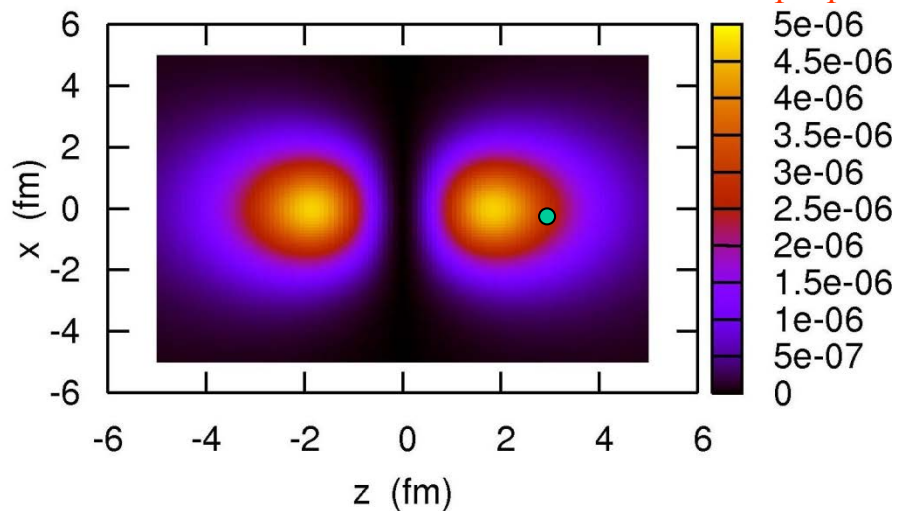
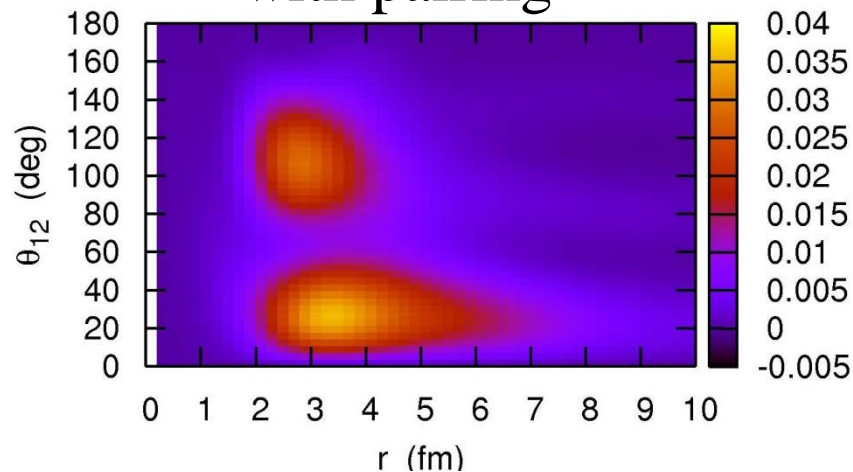
→ configuration mixing of different parity states

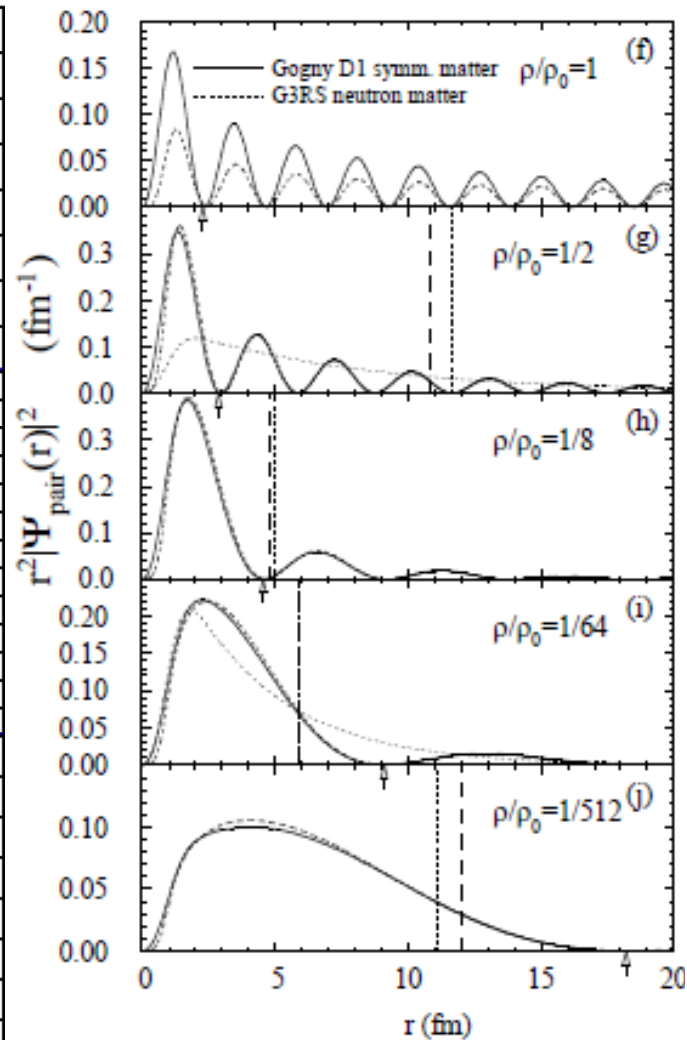
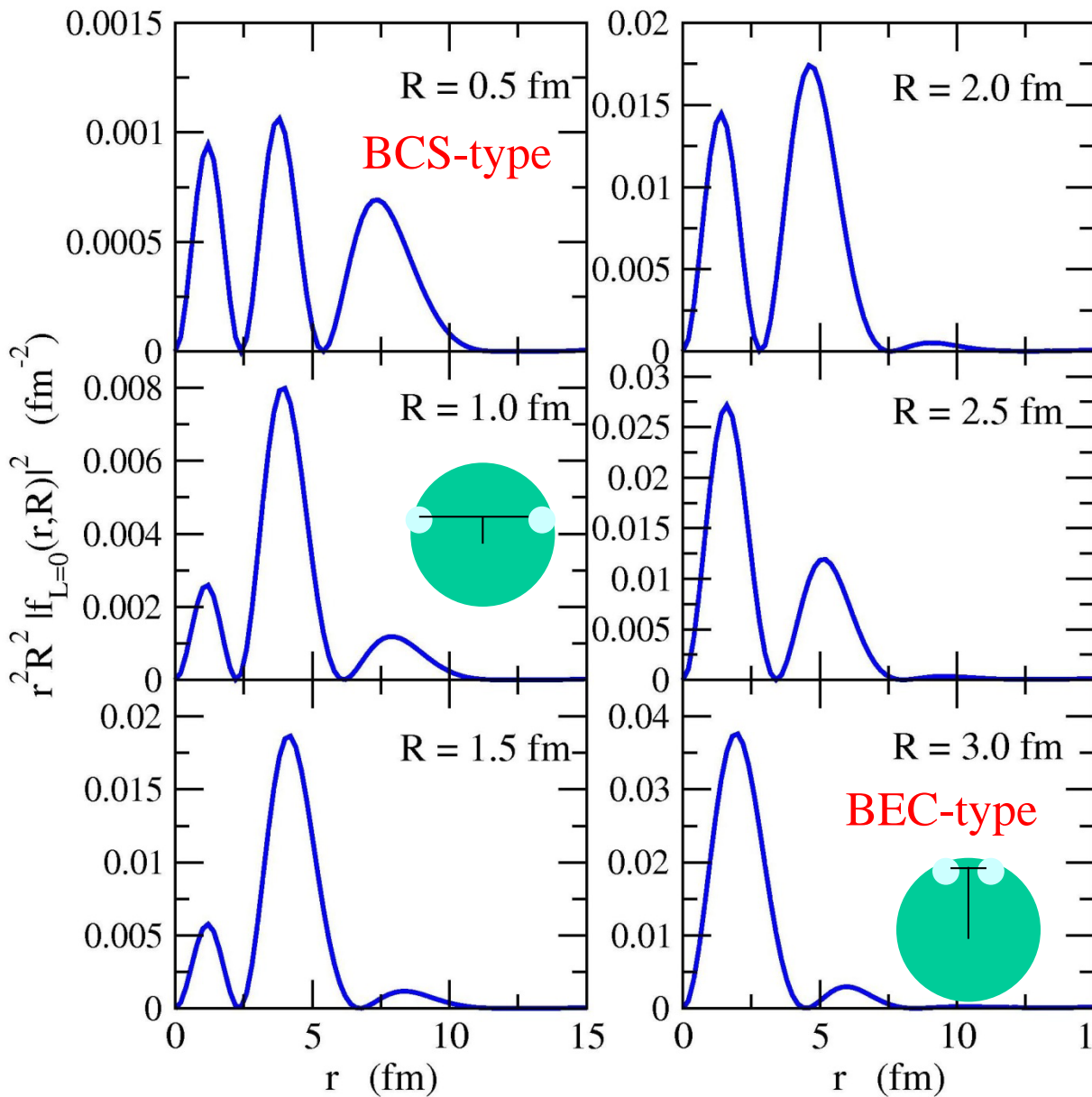
$^{11}\text{Li}$

without pairing  $[1p_{1/2}]^2$



with pairing





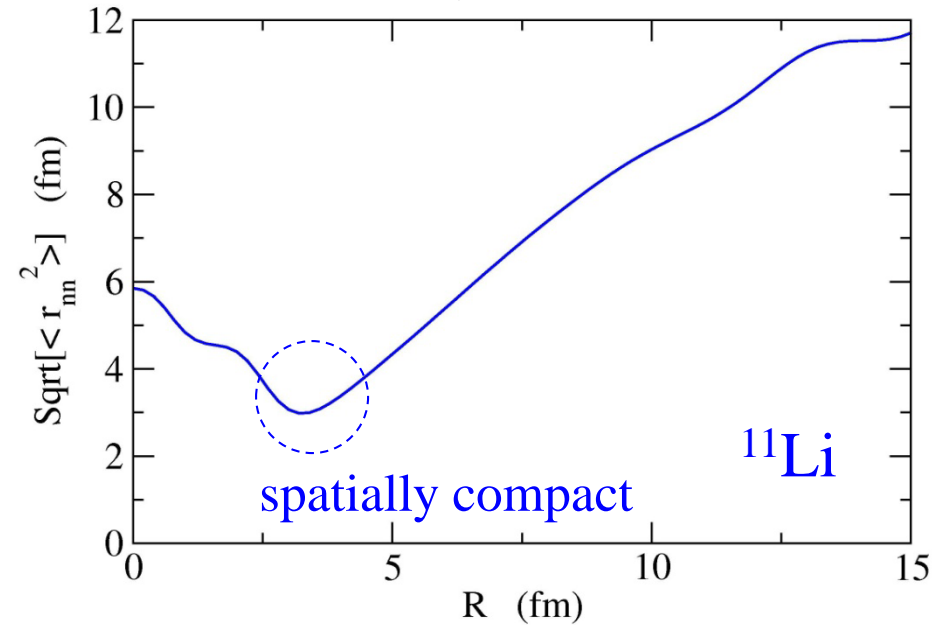
infinite neutron matter

M. Matsuo,  
PRC73('06)044309

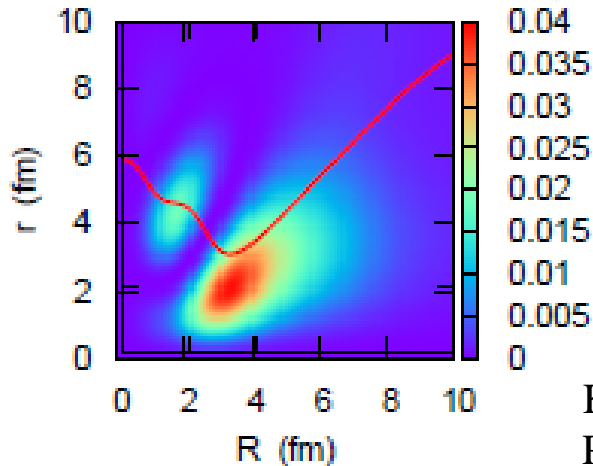
K.Hagino, H. Sagawa, J. Carbonell, and P. Schuck,  
PRL99('07)022506

## 2n-rms distance

$$\sqrt{\langle r_{nn}^2 \rangle}(R) = \sqrt{\frac{\int r^4 dr |f_{L=0}(r, R)|^2}{\int r^2 dr |f_{L=0}(r, R)|^2}}$$

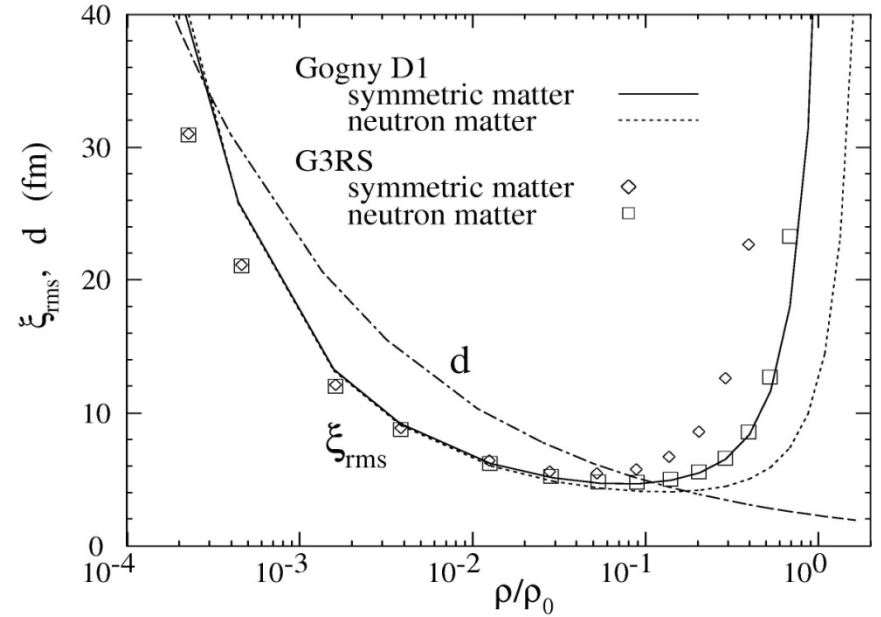


K.Hagino, H. Sagawa, J. Carbonell, and P. Schuck, PRL99('07)022506

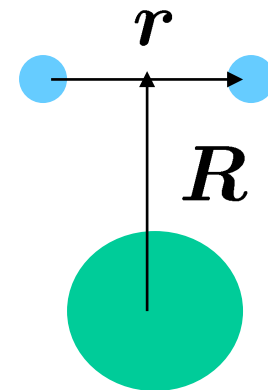


K.H., H. Sagawa, and  
P. Schuck, J. of Phys. G37('10)064040

## Matter Calculation

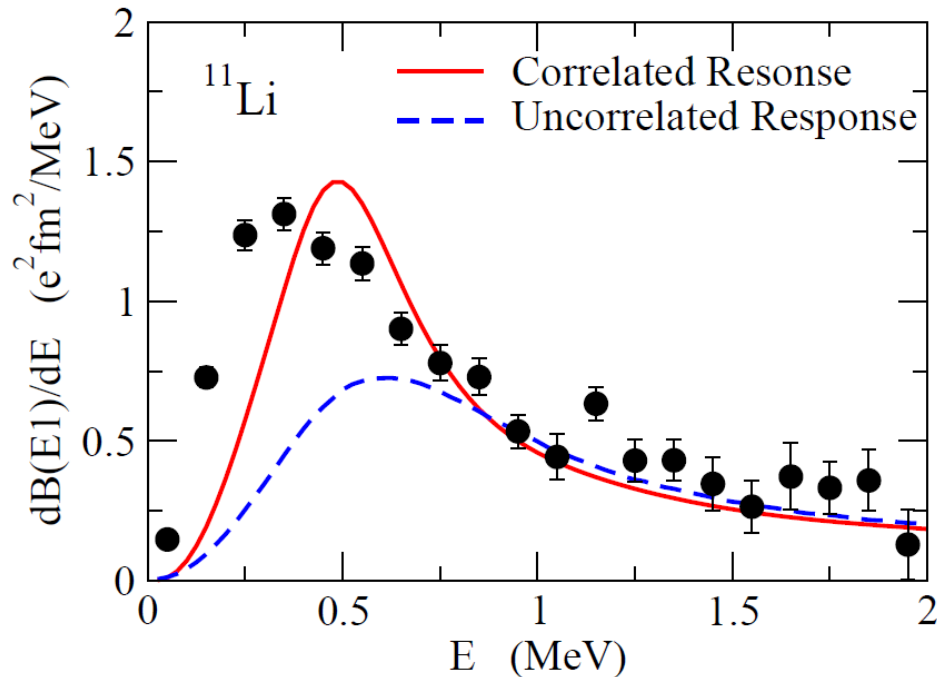


M. Matsuo, PRC73('06)044309

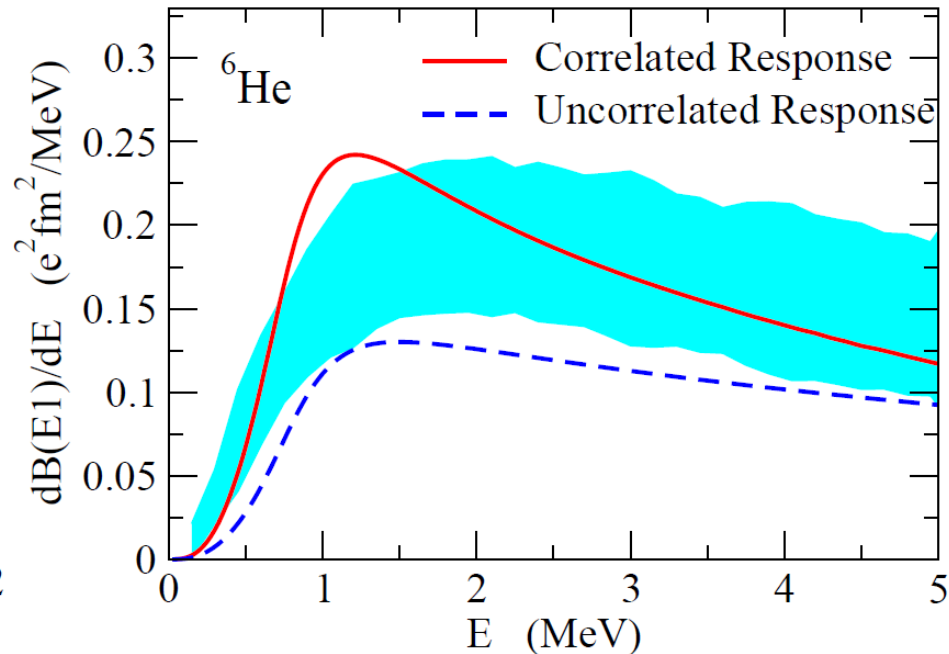


# Coulomb breakup of 2-neutron halo nuclei

How to probe the dineutron correlation?  $\longrightarrow$  Coulomb breakup



T. Nakamura et al., PRL96('06)252502



T. Aumann et al., PRC59('99)1252

3-body model calculations:

K.H., H. Sagawa, T. Nakamura, S. Shimoura, PRC80('09)031301(R)

cf. Y. Kikuchi et al., PRC87('13)034606  $\longleftarrow$  structure of the core nucleus ( $^9\text{Li}$ )

also for  $^{22}\text{C}$ ,  $^{14}\text{Be}$ ,  $^{19}\text{B}$  etc. (T. Nakamura et al.)



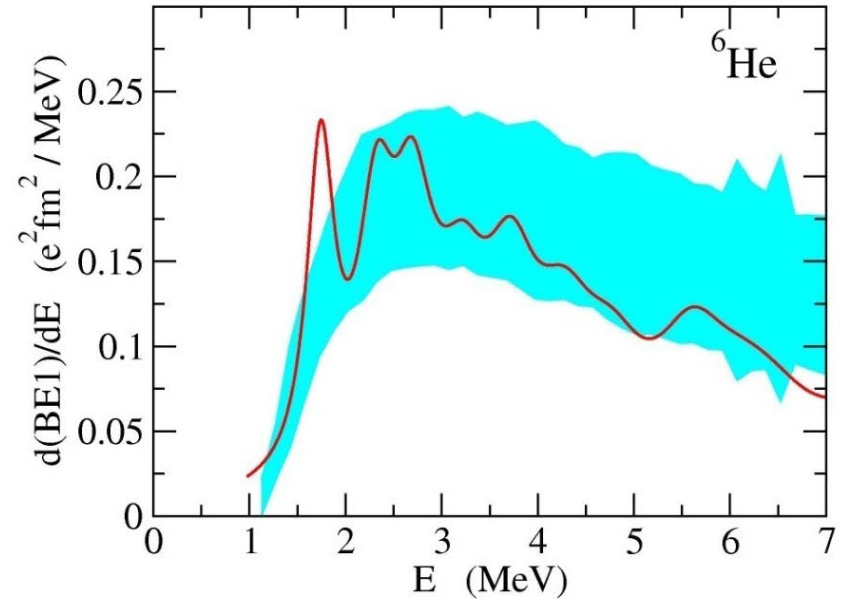
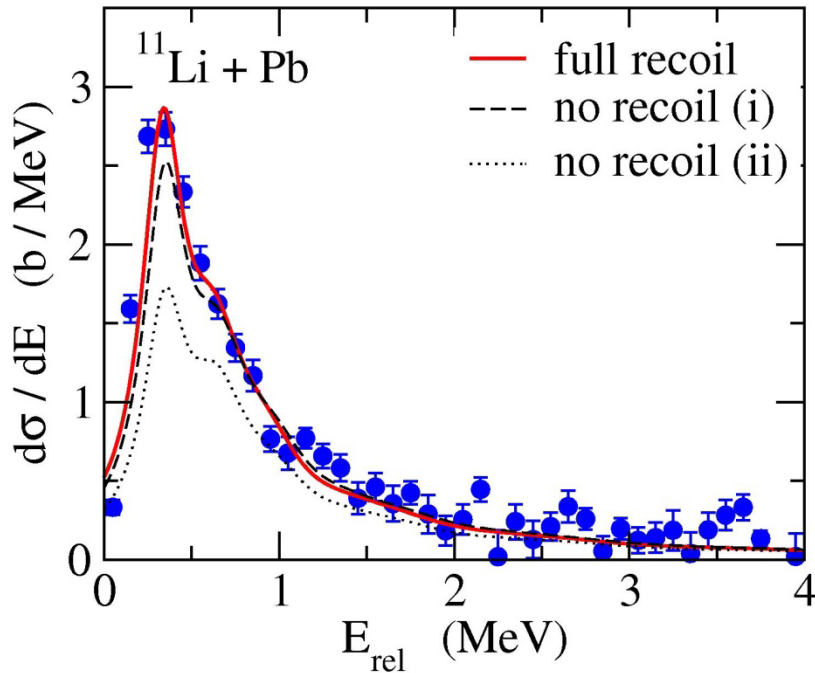
# Dipole excitations

Response to the dipole field:

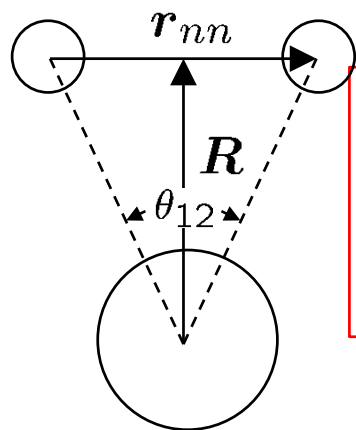
$$B_k(E1) = 3 |\langle \Psi_{1-}^k | \hat{D}_0 | \Psi_{gs} \rangle|^2$$

excited states      ground state

$$\hat{D} = -\frac{Ze}{A} (r_1 + r_2)$$



# Geometry of Borromean nuclei



## Cluster sum rule

$$B_{\text{tot}}(E1) = \sum_f |\langle \Psi_f | \hat{T}_{E1} | \Psi_0 \rangle|^2$$

$$\sim \frac{3}{\pi} \left( \frac{Z_c e}{A_c + 2} \right)^2 \langle R^2 \rangle$$

reflects the g.s. correlation

“experimental data” for opening angle

$$\sqrt{\langle R^2 \rangle} \longleftarrow B_{\text{tot}}(E1)$$

$$\sqrt{\langle r_{nn}^2 \rangle} \longleftarrow \text{matter radius or HBT}$$

$$\langle \theta_{12} \rangle = 65.2 \pm 12.2 \text{ (}^{11}\text{Li)}$$

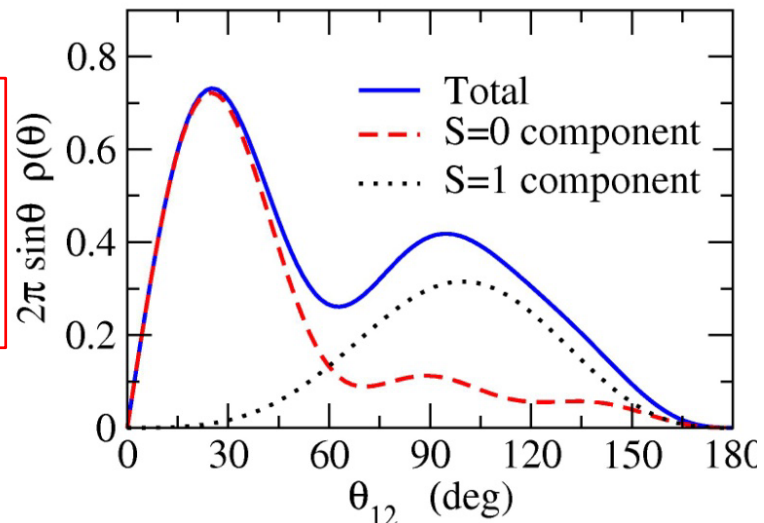
$$= 74.5 \pm 12.1 \text{ (}^6\text{He)}$$

K.H. and H. Sagawa, PRC76('07)047302

cf. T. Nakamura et al., PRL96('06)252502

C.A. Bertulani and M.S. Hussein, PRC76('07)051602

## 3-body model calculations



$$\langle \theta_{12} \rangle = 65.29 \text{ deg.}$$

$\langle \theta_{12} \rangle$  : significantly smaller than 90 deg.

suggests dineutron corr.  
(but, an average of small and large angles)

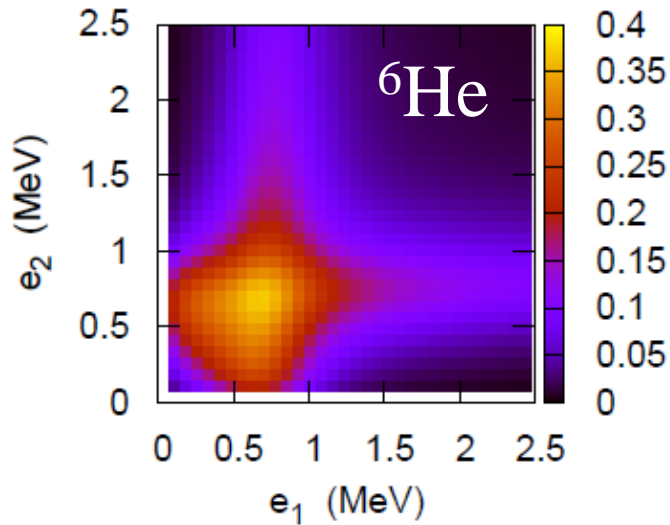


•Coulomb excitations

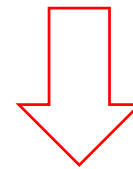
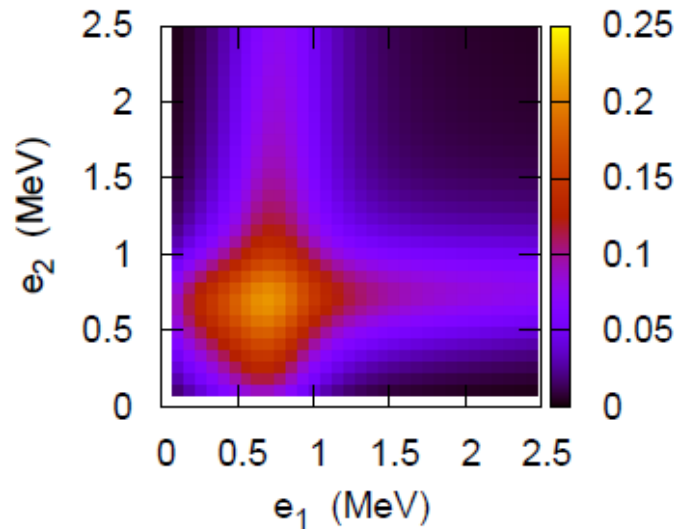
→ A problem: an external field is too weak

Energy distribution of emitted neutrons

- ✓ shape of distribution: insensitive to the nn-interaction (except for the absolute value)
- ✓ strong sensitivity to  $V_{nC}$
- ✓ similar situation in between  $^{11}\text{Li}$  and  $^6\text{He}$



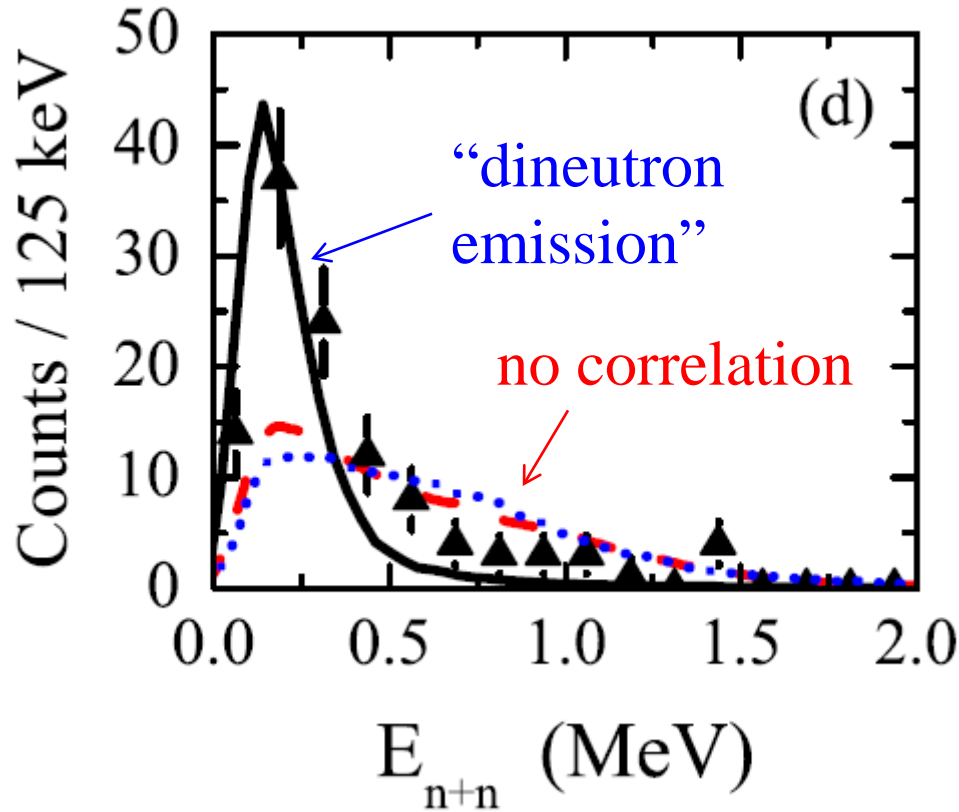
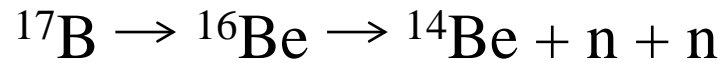
↓  $v_{nn} = 0$



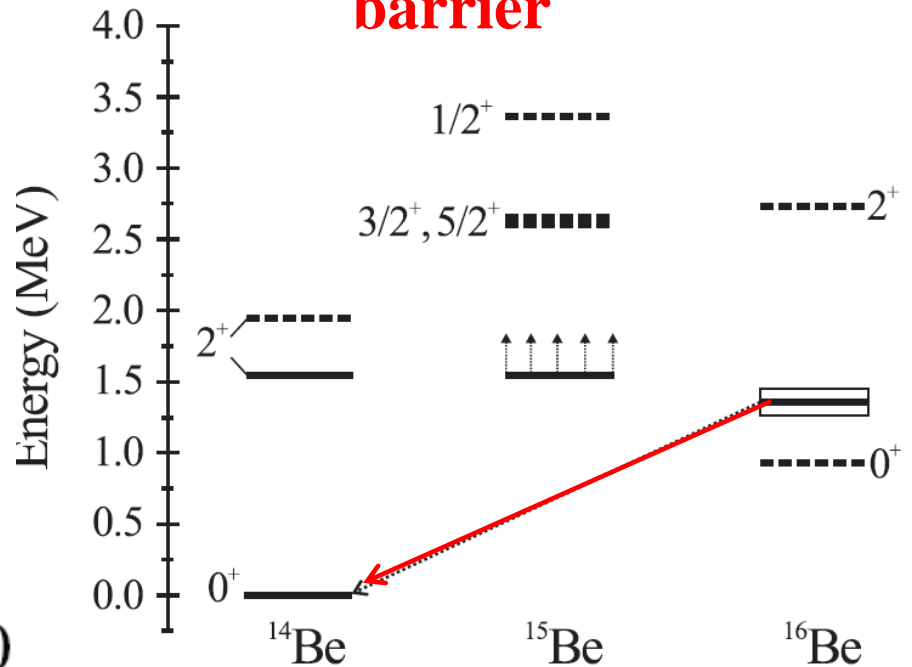
other probes?

- two-neutron transfer reactions
- two-nucleon emission

# 2-neutron decay (MoNA@MSU)



3-body resonance  
due to the **centrifugal barrier**



A. Spyrou et al., PRL108('12) 102501

Other data:

$^{13}\text{Li}$  (Z. Kohley et al., PRC87('13)011304(R))

$^{14}\text{Be} \rightarrow ^{13}\text{Li} \rightarrow ^{11}\text{Li} + 2n$

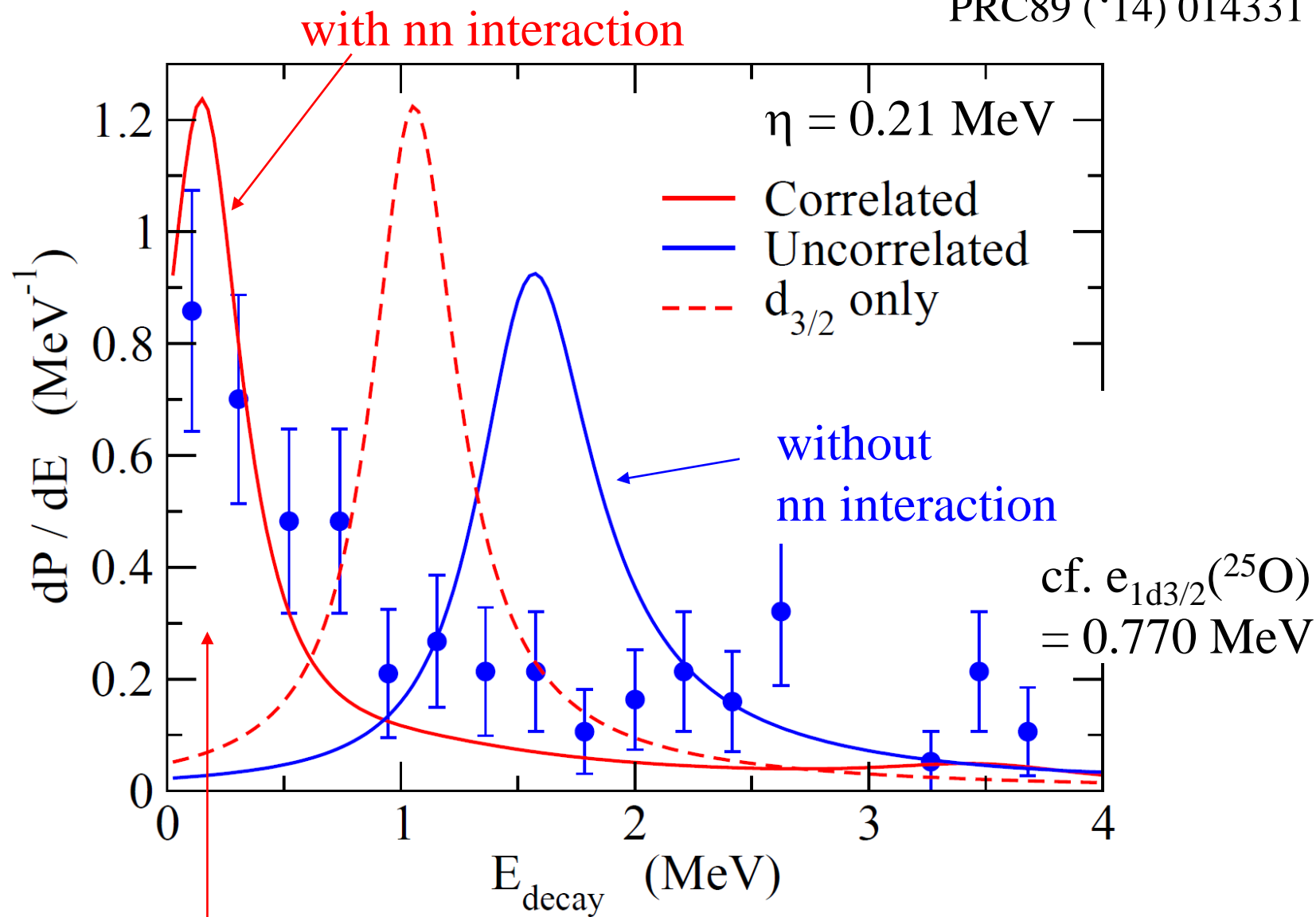
$^{26}\text{O}$  (E. Lunderbert et al., PRL108('12)142503)

$^{27}\text{F} \rightarrow ^{26}\text{O} \rightarrow ^{24}\text{O} + 2n$

3-body model calculation with nn correlation: application to  $^{26}\text{O}$  decay

i) Decay energy spectrum for  $^{26}\text{O}$  decay

K.H. and H. Sagawa,  
PRC89 ('14) 014331

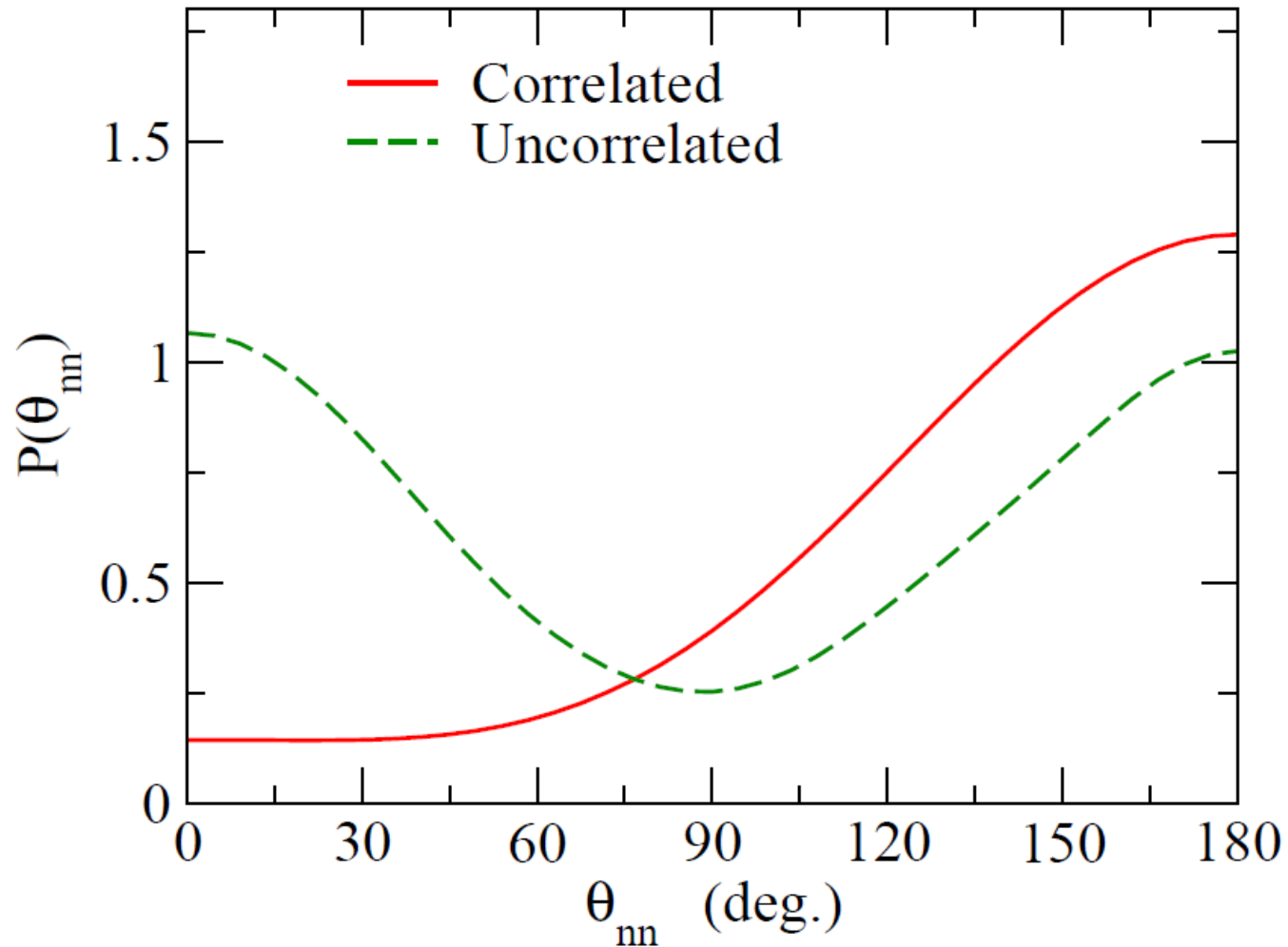


very narrow three-body resonance state ( $\Gamma_{\text{exp}} \sim 10^{-10} \text{ MeV}$ )

$E_{\text{peak}} = 0.14 \text{ MeV}$  with this setup for the Hamiltonian

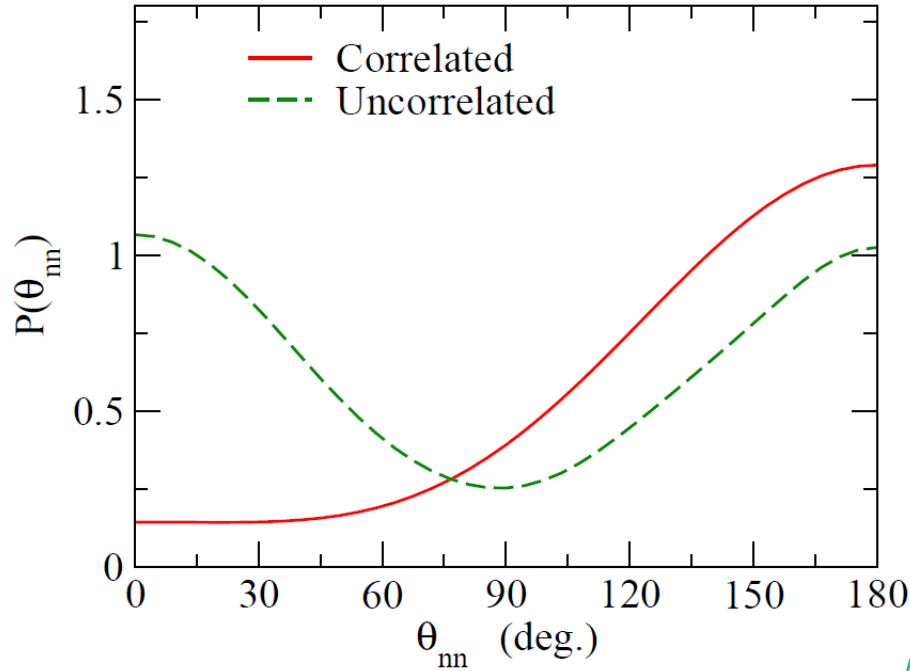
## ii) angular correlations of the emitted neutrons

K.H. and H. Sagawa,  
PRC89 ('14) 014331



correlation  $\rightarrow$  enhancement of back-to-back emissions  
 $\langle \theta_{nn} \rangle = 115.3^\circ$

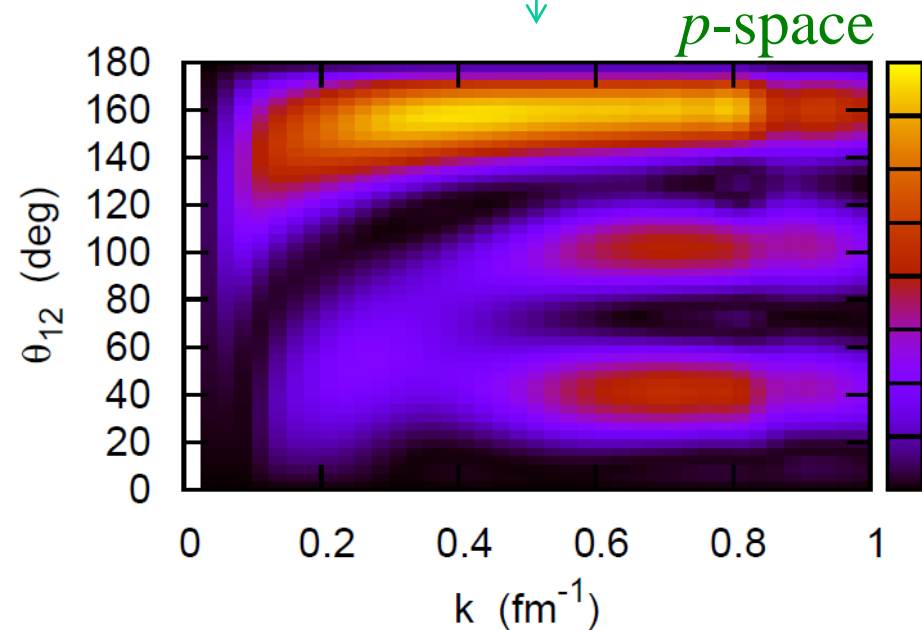
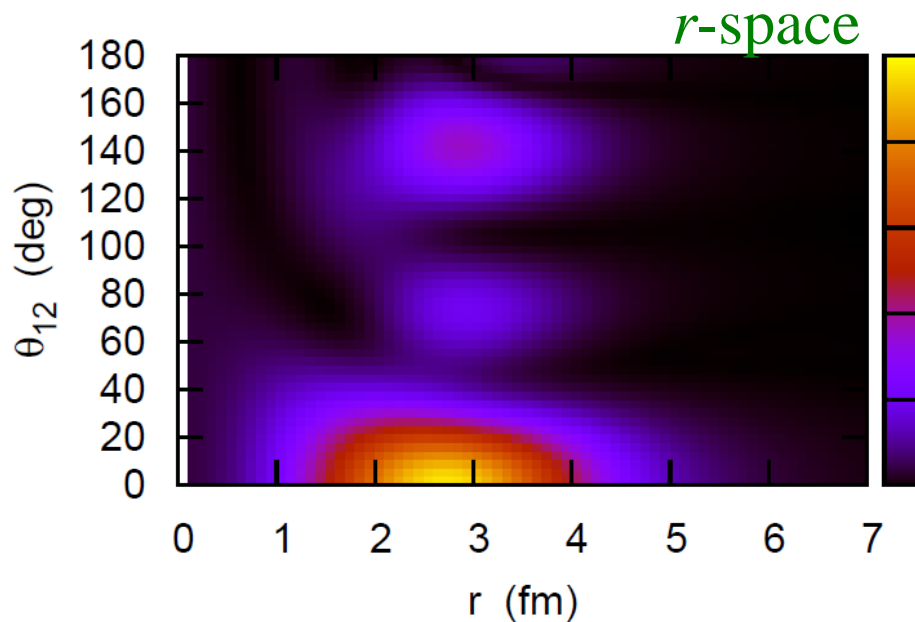
## ii) distribution of opening angle for two-emitted neutrons



density of the resonance state (with the box b.c.)

$$\rho(r, r, \theta)$$

$$8\pi^2 k^4 \sin \theta \cdot \rho(k, k, \theta)$$



# Summary

## Di-neutron correlation : spatial localization of two neutrons

- ✓ parity mixing
- ✓ neutron-rich nuclei: scattering to the continuum states  
enhancement of pairing on the surface

### how to probe it?

- Coulomb breakup
  - ✓ enhancement of  $B(E1)$  due to the correlation
  - ✓ Cluster sum rule (only with the g.s. correlation)
  - ✓ opening angle of two neutrons
- 2-neutron emission decay
  - ✓ decay energy spectrum
  - ✓ opening angle of two emitted neutrons (back-to-back)  
↔ dineutron correlation