

# Di-neutron correlation and two-neutron decay of the $^{26}\text{O}$ nucleus

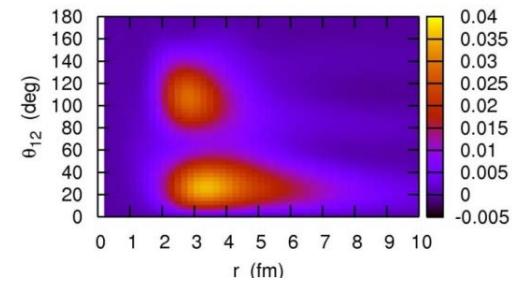
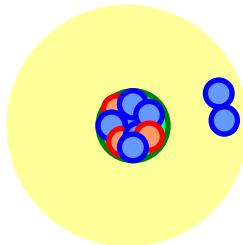
Kouichi Hagino

*Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan*



Hiroyuki Sagawa

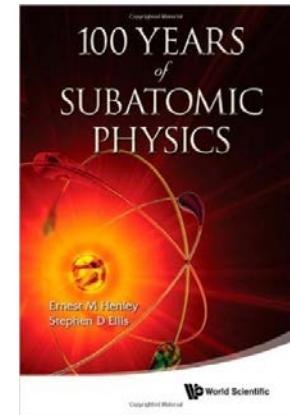
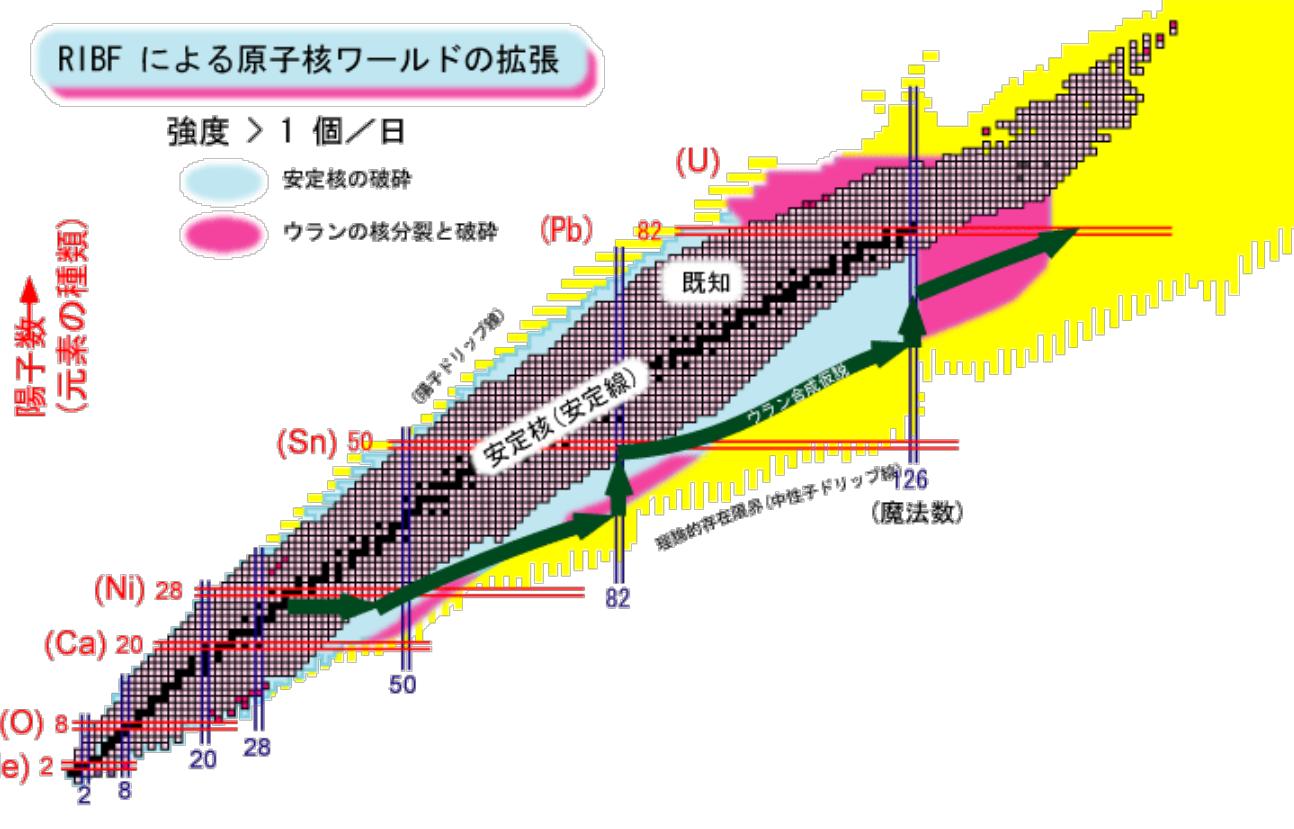
*University of Aizu / RIKEN*



1. *Di-neutron correlation: what is it?*
2. *Coulomb breakup*
3. *Two-neutron decay of unbound nucleus  $^{26}\text{O}$*
4. *Summary*

# Introduction: neutron-rich nuclei

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



ed. by E.M. Henley  
and S.D. Ellis

*“Exotic nuclei far from the stability line”*

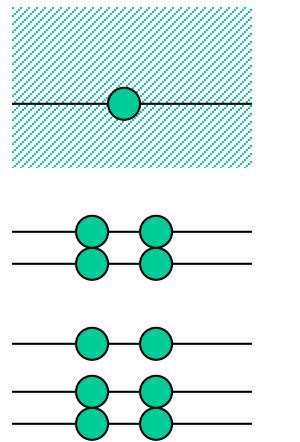
K.H., I. Tanihata, and  
H. Sagawa

- halo/skin structure
- Borromean nuclei
- large E1 strength

- shell evolution
- .....

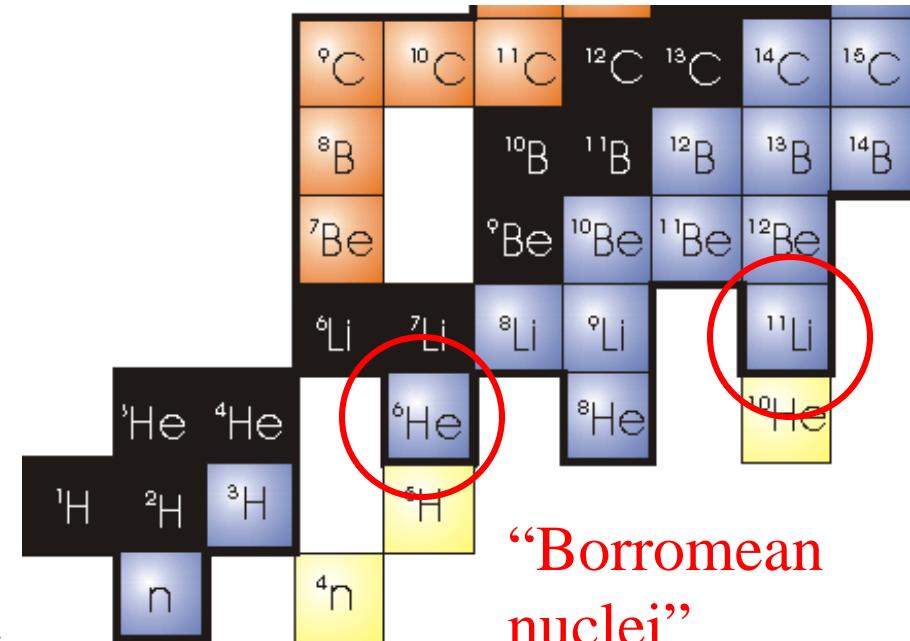
# Borromean nuclei

residual interaction → attractive



particle unstable

particle stable



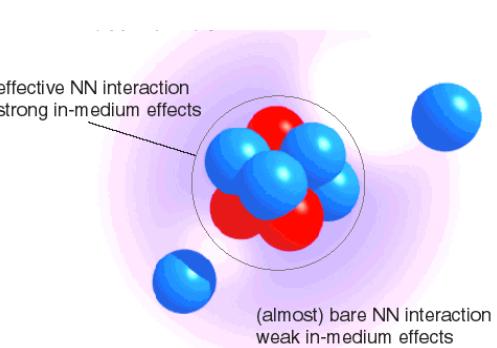
"Borromean  
nuclei"

$$^{11}\text{Li} = {}^9\text{Li} + n + n$$

$${}^6\text{He} = {}^4\text{He} + n + n$$

## Structure of Borromean nuclei

- What is the spatial structure of the valence neutrons?
- To what extent is this picture correct? →

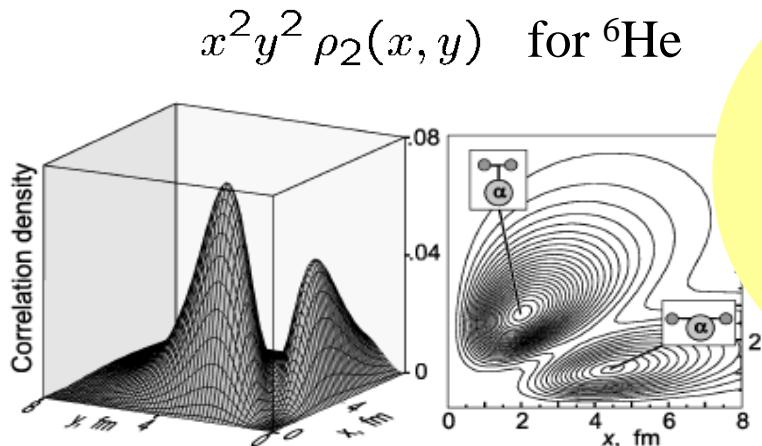


# Borromean nuclei and Di-neutron correlation

Borromean nuclei: unique three-body systems

Three-body model calculations:

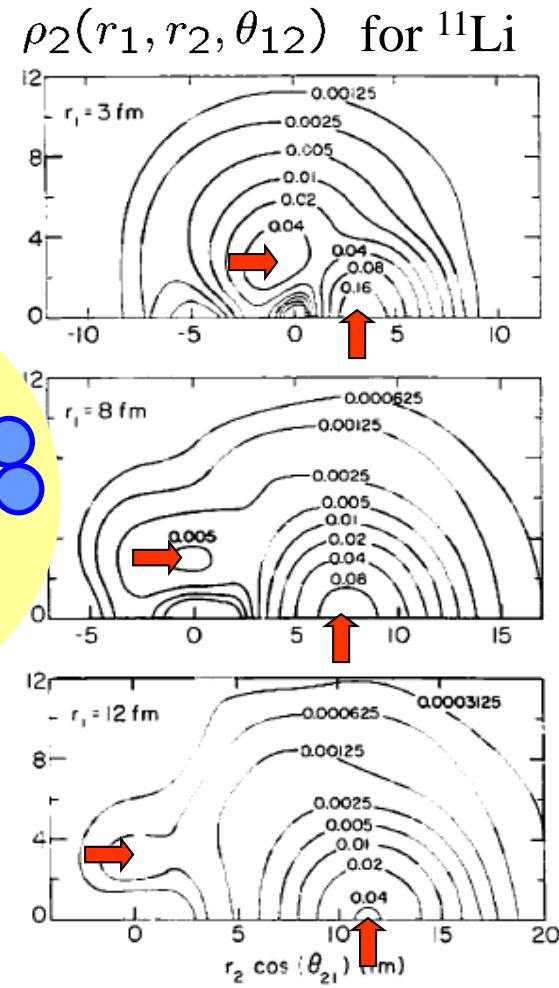
strong di-neutron correlation  
in  $^{11}\text{Li}$  and  $^6\text{He}$



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)



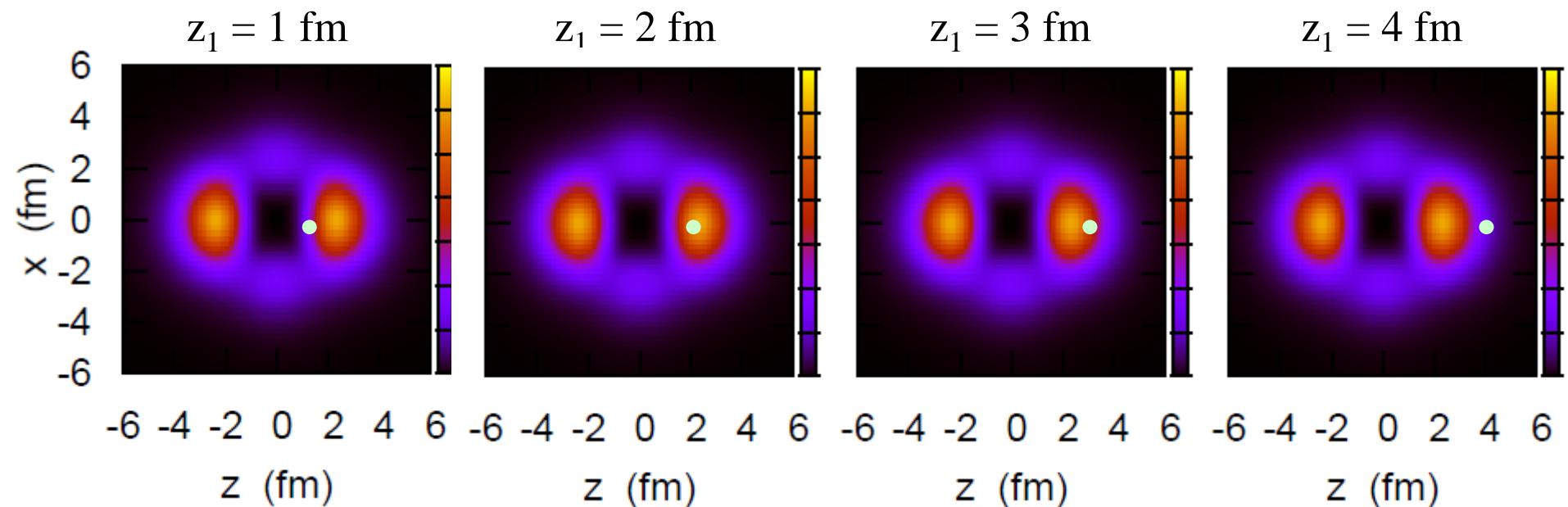
G.F. Bertsch, H. Esbensen,  
*Ann. of Phys.*, 209('91)327

# What is Di-neutron correlation?

Example:  $^{18}\text{O} = ^{16}\text{O} + \text{n} + \text{n}$

i) Without nn interaction:  $|\text{nn}\rangle = |(1d_{5/2})^2\rangle$

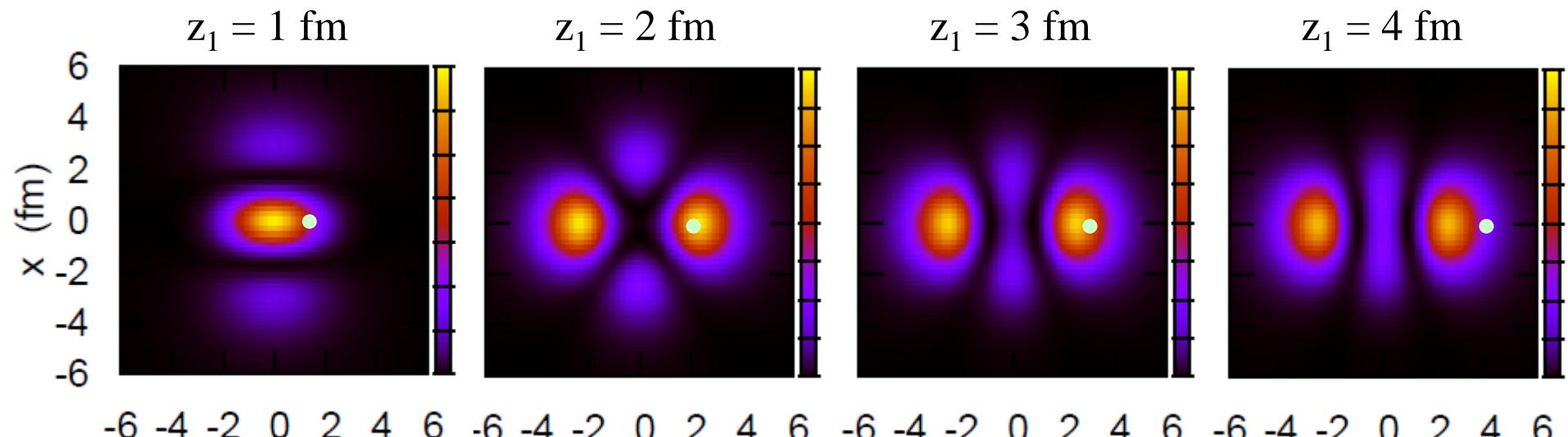
Distribution of the 2<sup>nd</sup> neutron when the 1<sup>st</sup> neutron is at  $z_1$ :



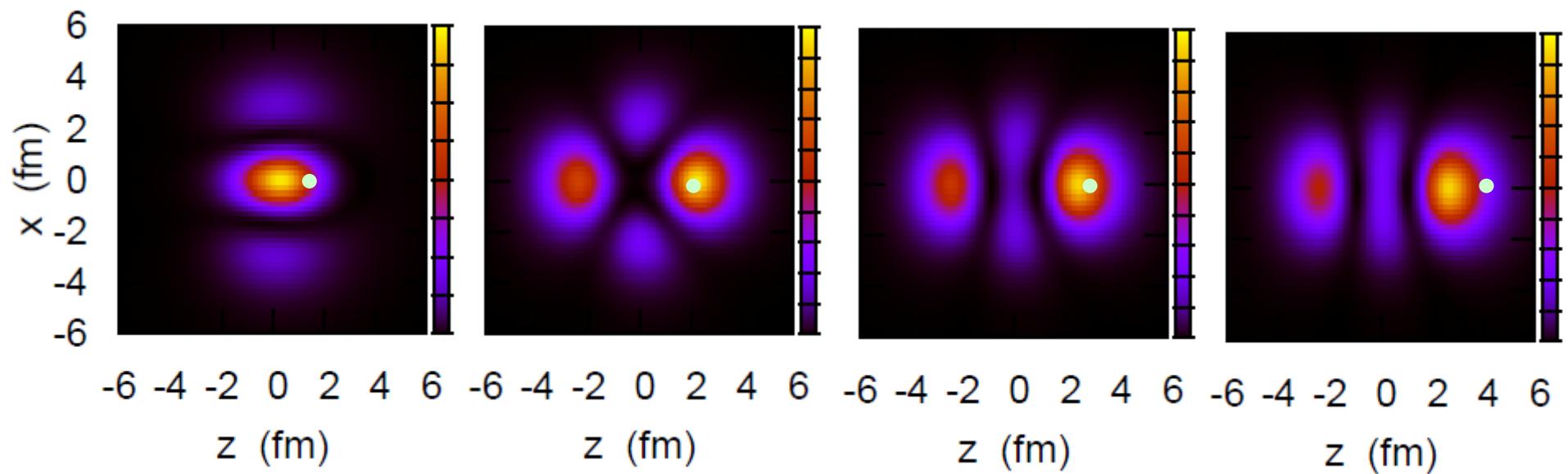
- ✓ Two neutrons move independently
  - ✓ No influence of the 2<sup>nd</sup> neutron from the 1<sup>st</sup> neutron
- need correlations to form a “pair”

Example:  $^{18}\text{O} = ^{16}\text{O} + \text{n} + \text{n}$       cf.  $^{17}\text{O}$  : 3 bound states ( $1\text{d}_{5/2}$ ,  $2\text{s}_{1/2}$ ,  $1\text{d}_{3/2}$ )

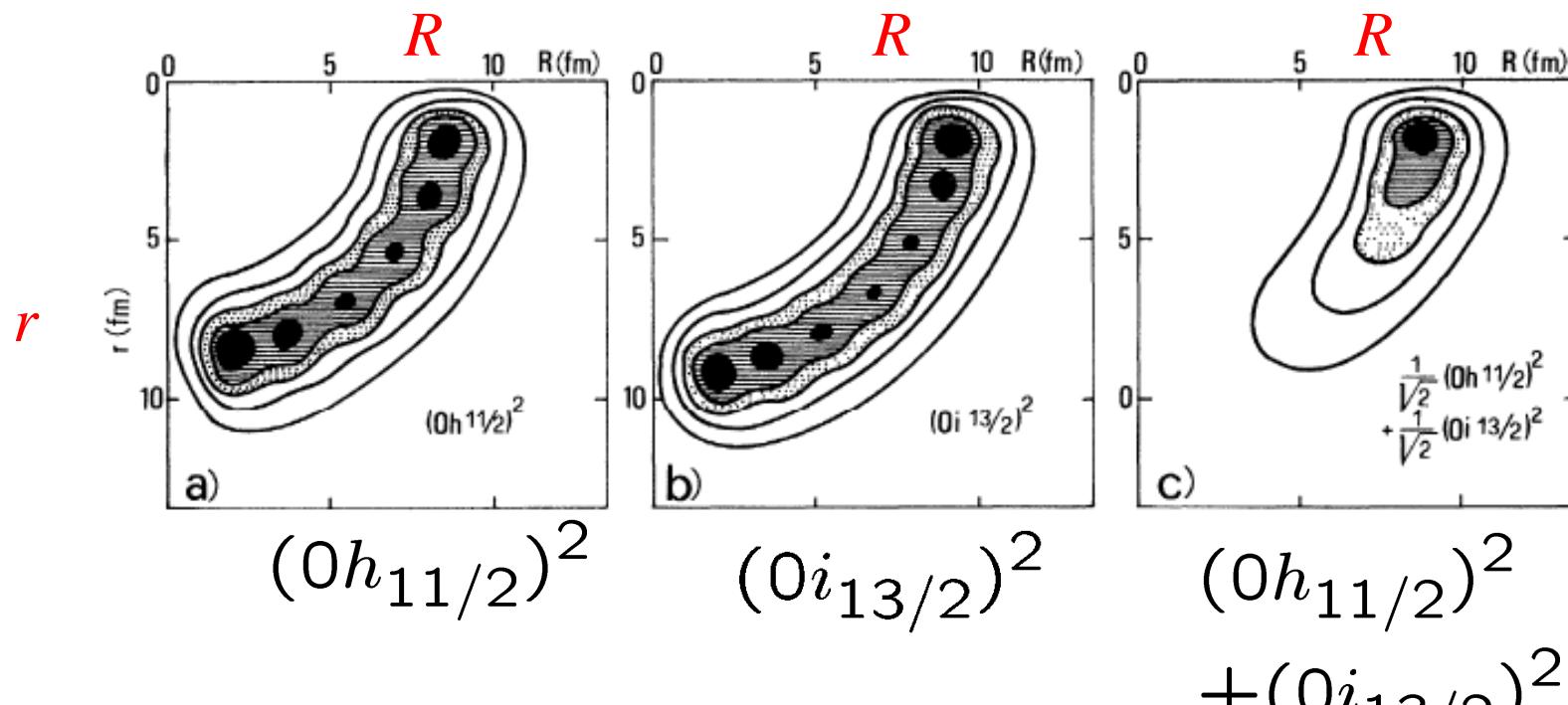
i) even parity only  $\longrightarrow$  insufficient



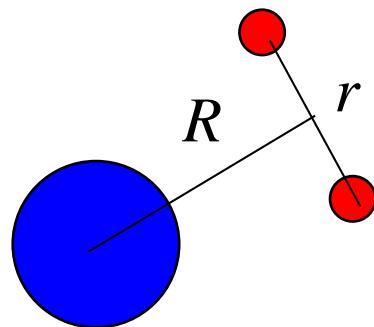
ii) both even and odd parities



dineutron correlation: caused by the admixture of different parity states



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



interference of even and odd partial waves

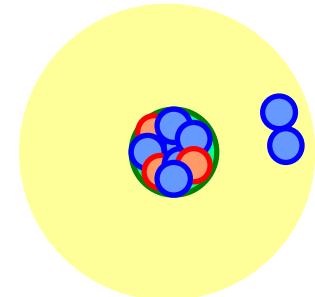
$$\rho_2(x_1, x_2) = |\Psi_{ee}(x_1, x_2)|^2 + |\Psi_{oo}(x_1, x_2)|^2 + 2\Psi_{ee}(x_1, x_2)\Psi_{oo}(x_1, x_2)$$

## Dineutron correlation in the momentum space

$$\Psi(r, r') = \alpha \Psi_{s^2}(r, r') + \beta \Psi_{p^2}(r, r') \rightarrow \theta_r = 0: \text{enhanced}$$

→ Fourier transform

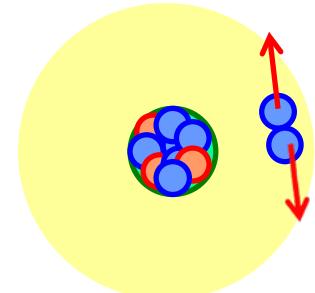
$$\tilde{\Psi}(k, k') = \int e^{ik \cdot r} e^{ik' \cdot r'} \Psi(r, r') dr dr'$$



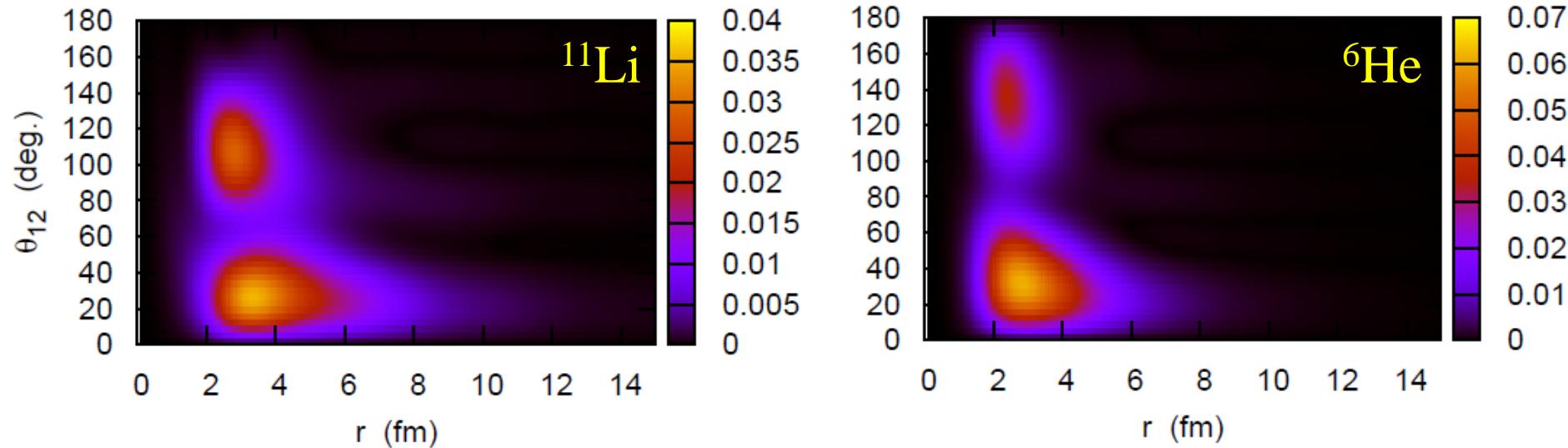
$$e^{ik \cdot r} = \sum_l (2l+1) i^l \dots \rightarrow i^l \cdot i^l = i^{2l} = (-)^l$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow$   
 $r \quad r'$

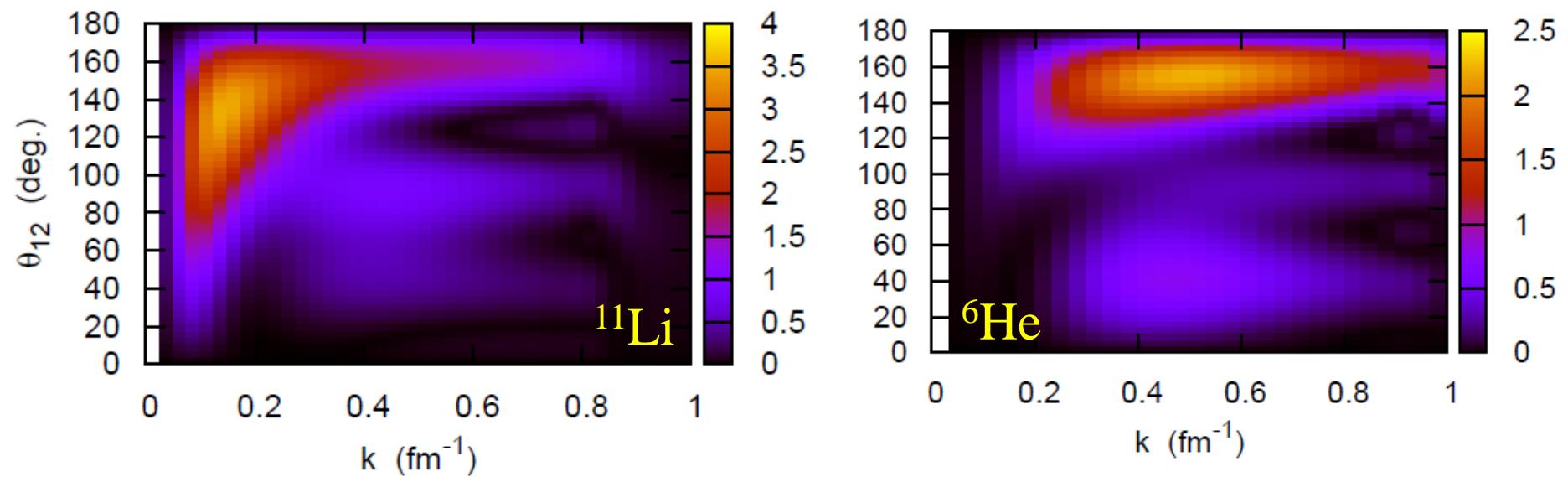
$$\tilde{\Psi}(k, k') = \alpha \tilde{\Psi}_{s^2}(k, k') - \beta \tilde{\Psi}_{p^2}(k, k') \rightarrow \theta_k = \pi: \text{enhanced}$$



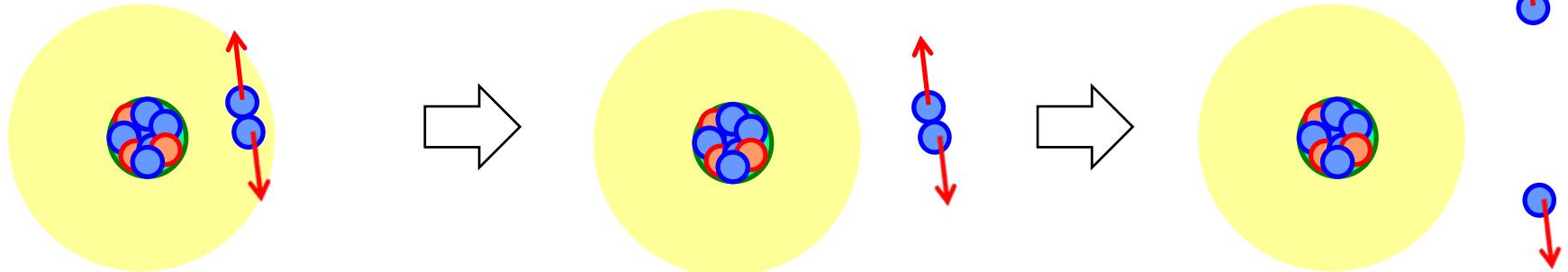
Two-particle density in the  $r$  space:  $8\pi^2 r^4 \sin \theta \cdot \rho(r, r, \theta)$



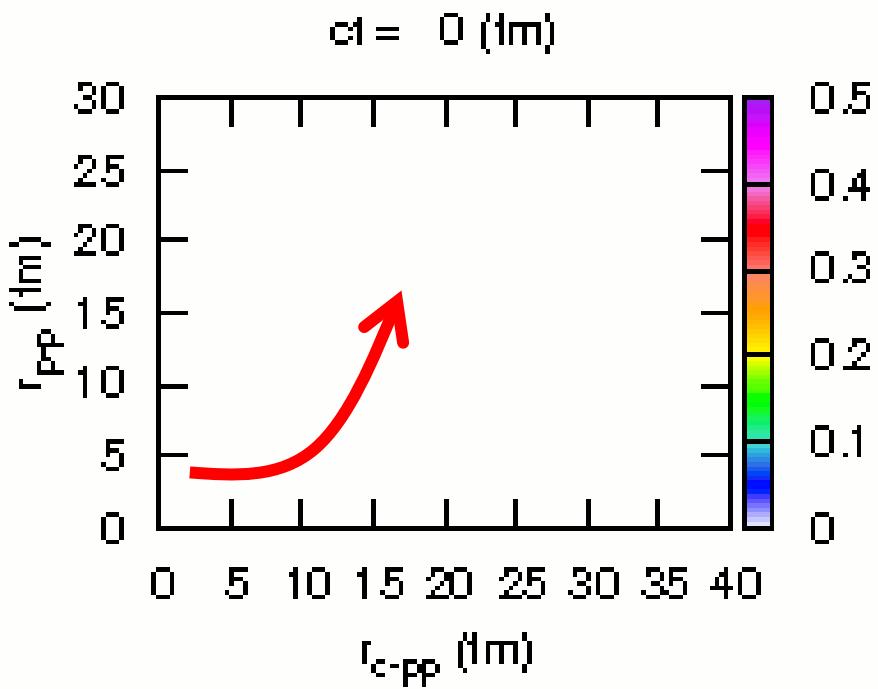
Two-particle density in the  $p$  space:  $8\pi^2 k^4 \sin \theta \cdot \rho(k, k, \theta)$



## Consequence to a two-nucleon emission decay

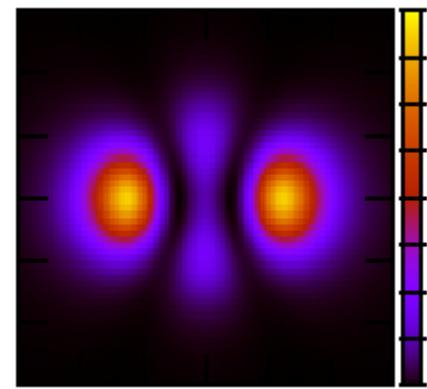


2p decay of  ${}^6\text{Be}$   
: time-dependent calculations



T. Oishi (Tohoku → Jyvaskyla),  
K.H., H. Sagawa,  
PRC90 ('14) 034303

# Di-neutron correlation in weakly-bound exotic nuclei

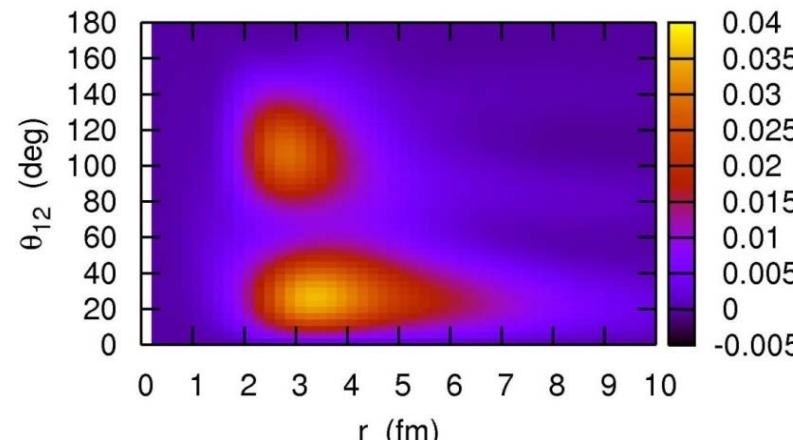
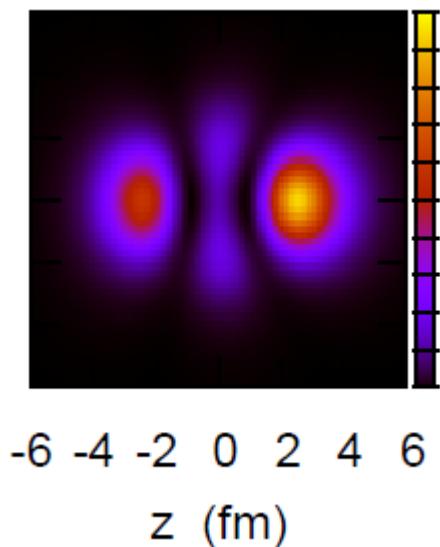


spatial localization of two neutrons  
(dineutron correlation)

## **weakly bound systems**

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

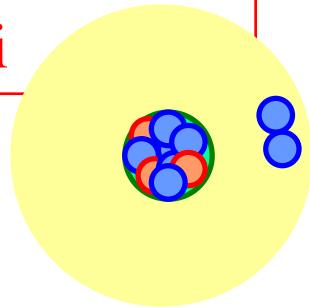
cf. - Bertsch, Esbensen, Ann. of Phys. 209('91)327  
- M. Matsuo, K. Mizuyama, Y. Serizawa,  
PRC71('05)064326



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

# Di-neutron correlation in neutron-rich nuclei

Strong di-neutron correlation  
in neutron-rich nuclei



✓ Borromean nuclei (3body calc.)

Bertsch-Esbensen ('91)

Zhukov et al. ('93)

Hagino-Sagawa ('05)

Kikuchi-Kato-Myo ('10)

✓ Heavier nuclei (HFB calc.)

Matsuo et al. ('05)

Pillet-Sandulescu-Schuck ('07)

How to probe it?

➤ Coulomb breakup

T. Nakamura et al.  
cluster sum rule

(mean value of  $\theta_{nn}$ )

➤ pair transfer reactions

➤ two-proton decays

Coulomb 3-body problem

➤ two-neutron decays

3-body resonance due to  
a centrifugal barrier

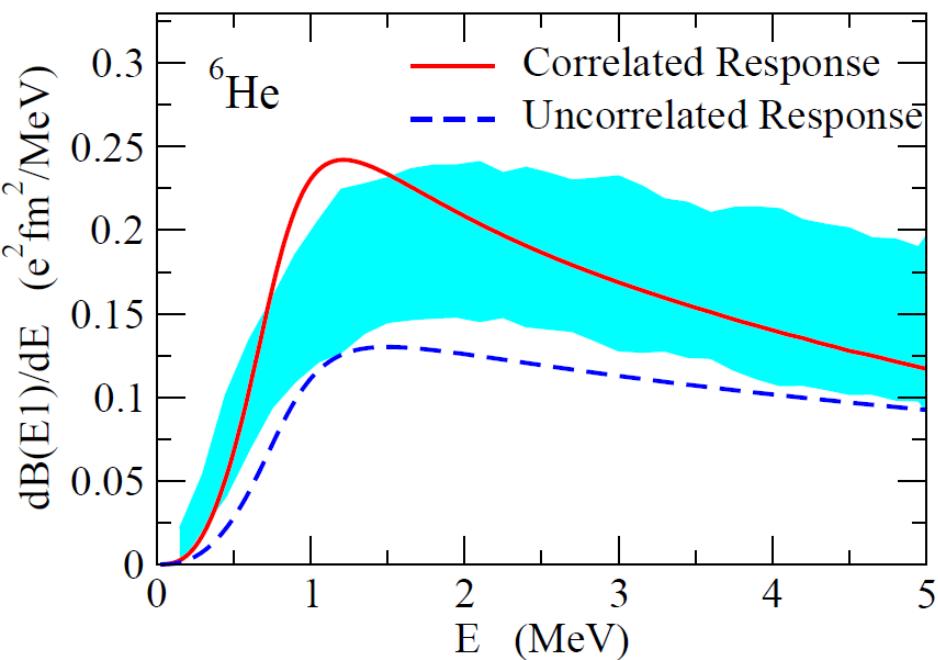
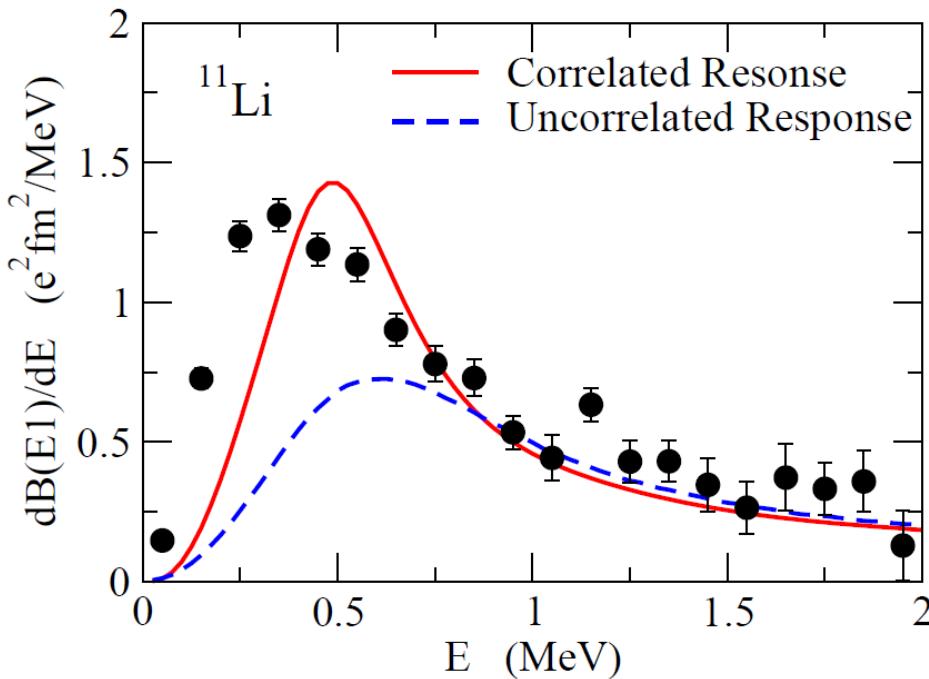
MoNA ( $^{16}\text{Be}$ ,  $^{13}\text{Li}$ ,  $^{26}\text{O}$ )

**SAMURAI ( $^{26}\text{O}$ )**

GSI ( $^{26}\text{O}$ )

# Coulomb breakup of 2-neutron halo nuclei

How to probe the dineutron correlation? → Coulomb breakup



## Experiments:

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

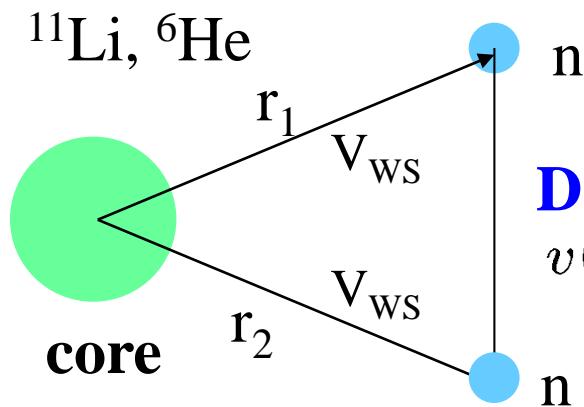
T. Aumann et al., PRC59('99)1252

## 3-body model calculations:

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

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

# 3-body model calculation for Borromean nuclei



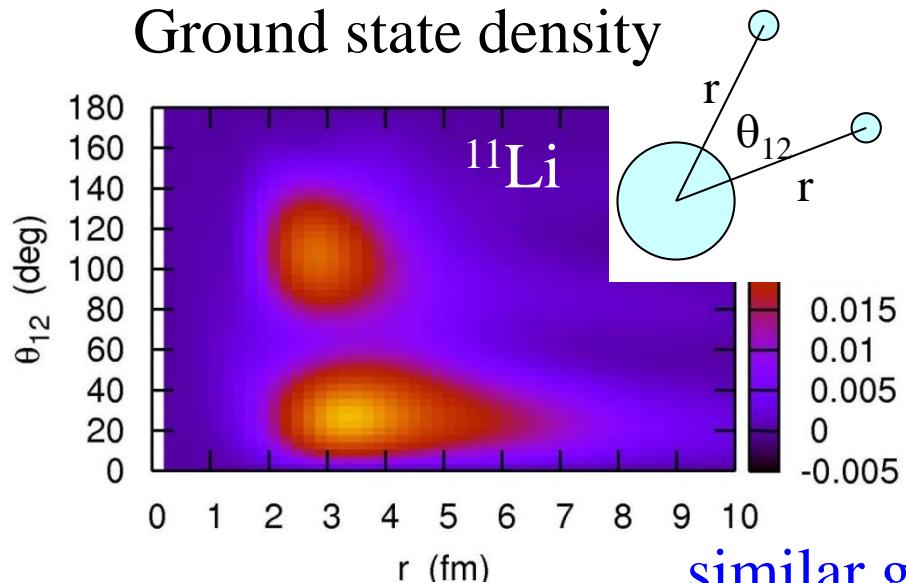
G.F. Bertsch and H. Esbensen,  
*Ann. of Phys.* 209('91)327; *PRC*56('99)3054

## Density-dependent delta-force

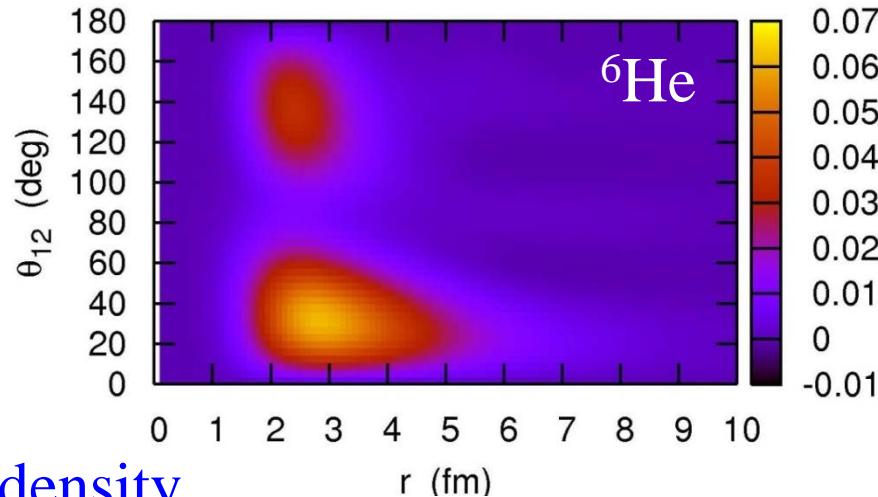
$$v(r_1, r_2) = v_0(1 + \alpha\rho(r)) \times \delta(r_1 - r_2)$$

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

## Ground state density

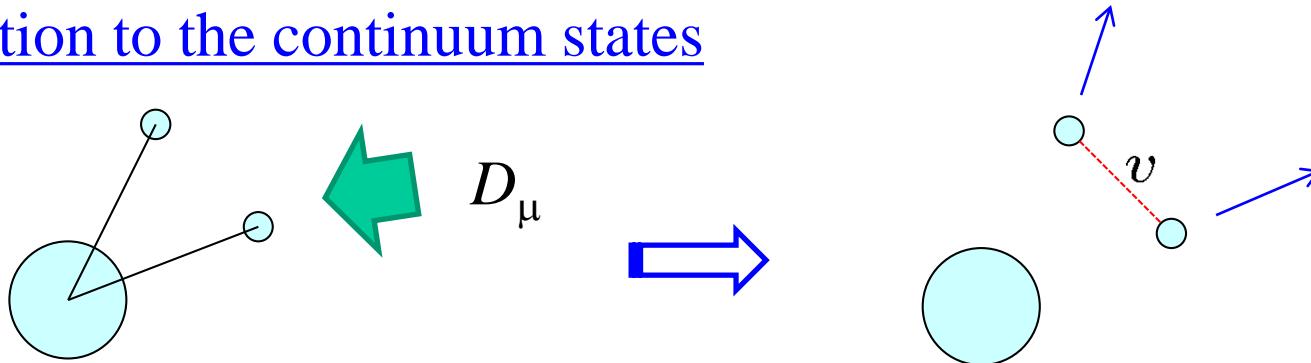


K.H. and H. Sagawa, *PRC*72('05)044321



similar g.s. density

## E1 excitation to the continuum states

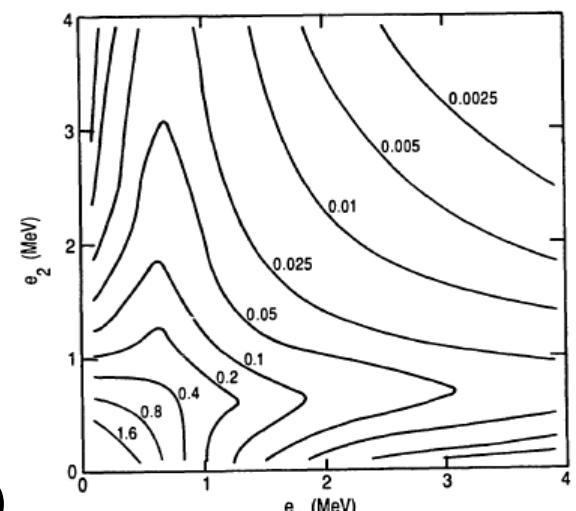


$$\begin{aligned}
 M(E1) &= \langle (j_1 j_2)_\mu^1 | (1 - vG_0 + vG_0 vG_0 - \dots) D_\mu | \Psi_{gs} \rangle \\
 &= \langle (j_1 j_2)_\mu^1 | \underbrace{(1 + vG_0)^{-1}}_{\text{FSI}} D_\mu | \Psi_{gs} \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

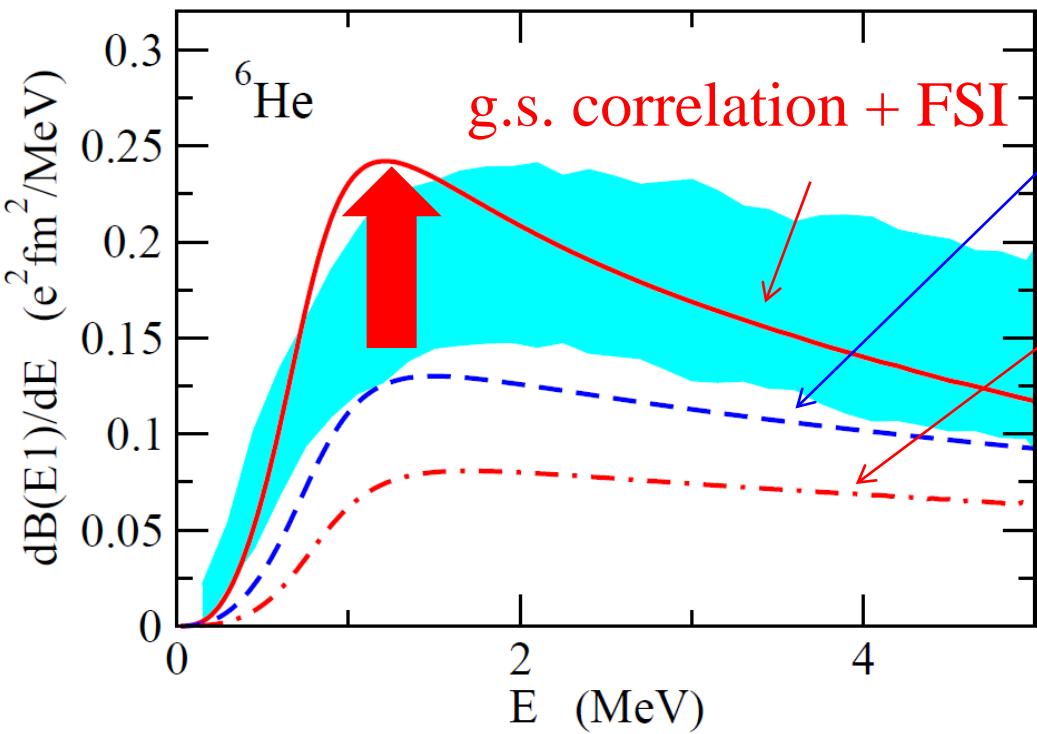
unlabelled continuum wf      FSI      dipole operator

$$G_0(E) = \sum_{\mu, f.st.} \frac{\langle (j_1 j_2)_\mu^1 \rangle \langle (j_1 j_2)_\mu^1 |}{e_1 + e_2 - E - i\eta}$$

$$\frac{d^2B(E1)}{de_1 de_2} = 3 \sum_{l_1 j_2 l_2 j_2} |M(E1)|^2 \frac{dk_1}{de_1} \frac{dk_2}{de_2}$$



## g.s. correlation? or correlation in excited states?



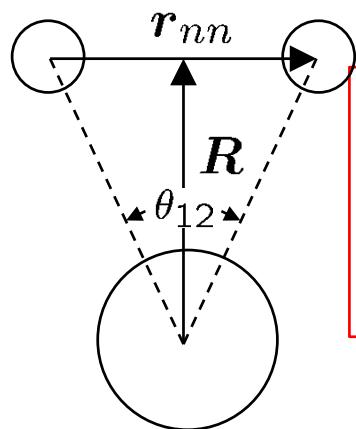
g.s. correlation only  
(no nn interaction in  
the final state)

g.s.: odd-l only  
(no dineutron correlation)  
+ FSI

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

✓ Both FSI and dineutron correlations: important role in E1 strength

# 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

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

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

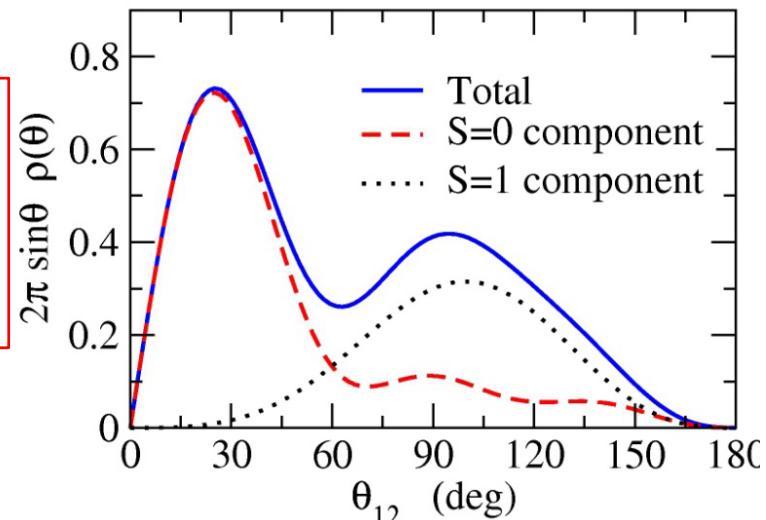
$$\begin{aligned} \langle \theta_{12} \rangle &= 65.2 \pm 12.2 \text{ } (^{11}\text{Li}) \\ &= 74.5 \pm 12.1 \text{ } (^6\text{He}) \end{aligned}$$

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



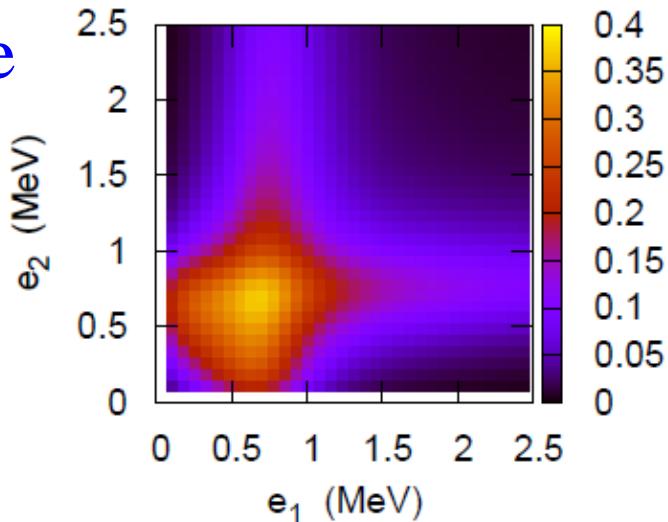
$$\langle \theta_{12} \rangle = 65.29 \text{ deg.}$$

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

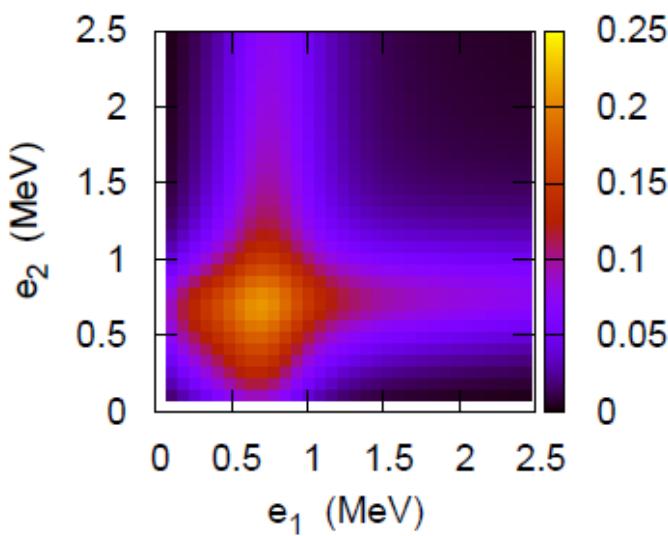
suggests dineutron corr.  
(but, an average of small and large angles)

## Energy distribution of emitted neutrons

$^6\text{He}$

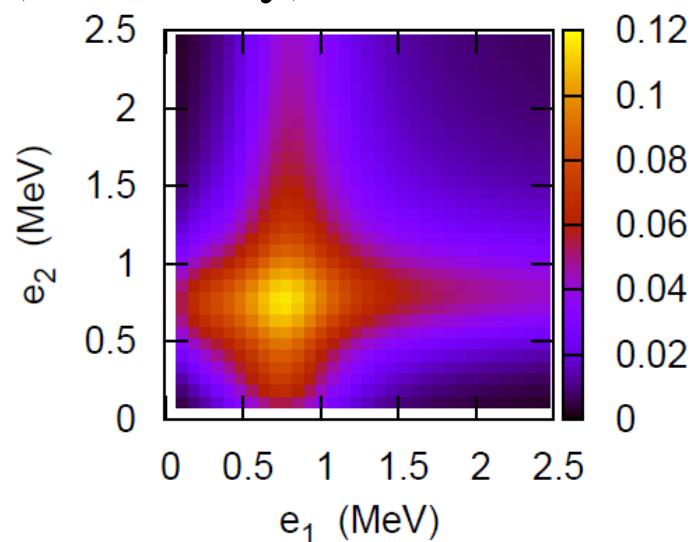


$$v_{nnn} = 0$$

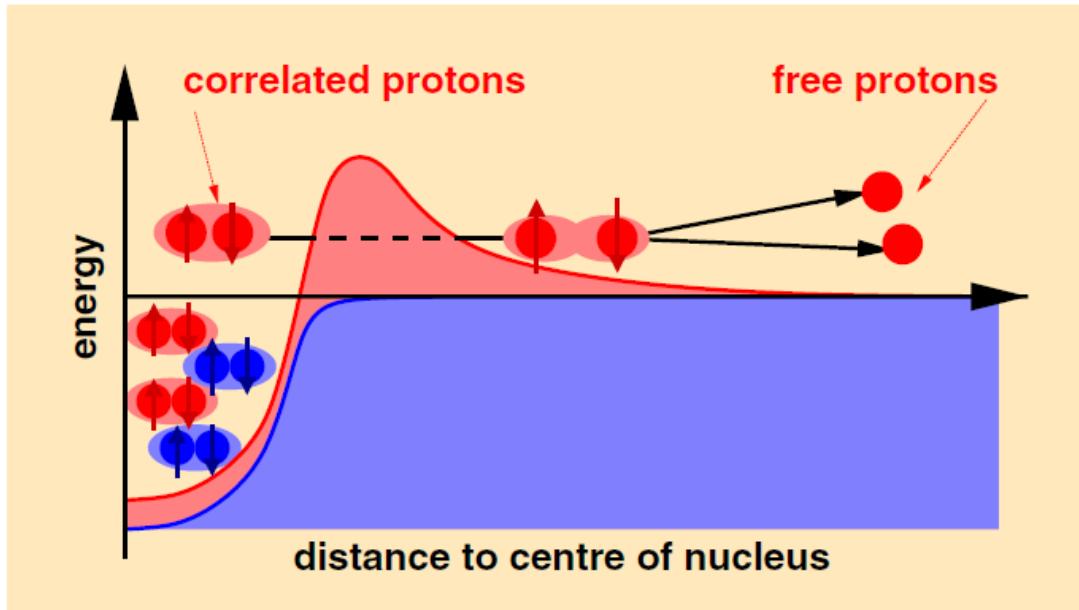


- ✓ shape of distribution: insensitive to the nn-interaction (except for the absolute value)
- ✓ strong sensitivity to  $V_{nC}$
- ✓ similar situation in between  $^{11}\text{Li}$  and  $^6\text{He}$

no di-neutron corr. in the g.s.  
(odd- $l$  only)



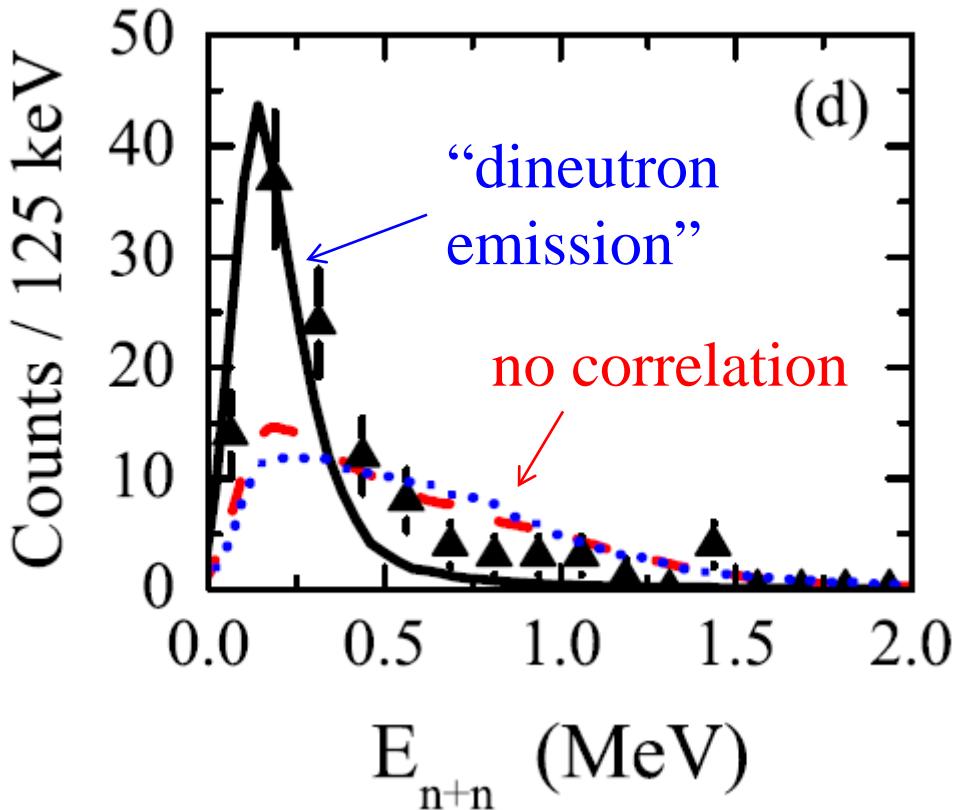
# 2-proton radio activity



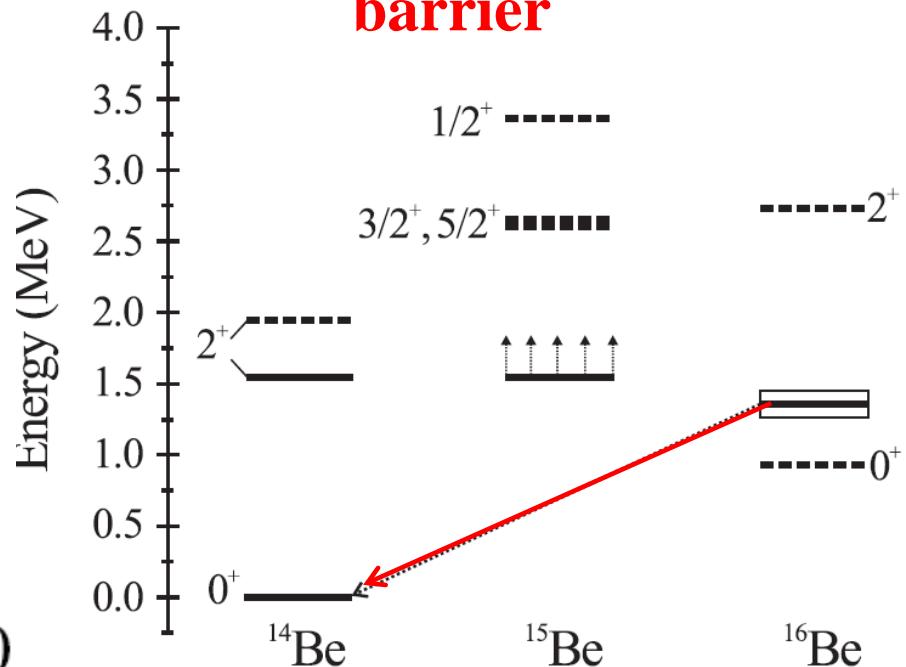
B. Blank and M. Ploszajczak, Rep. Prog. Phys. 71('08)046301

- ✓ probing correlations from energy and angle distributions of two emitted protons?
- ✓ Coulomb 3-body system
  - Theoretical treatment: difficult
  - how does FSI disturb the g.s. correlation?
    - diproton correlation: unclear in many systems  
(theoretical calculations: not many)

## 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))

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

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

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

3-body model calculation with nn correlation: required

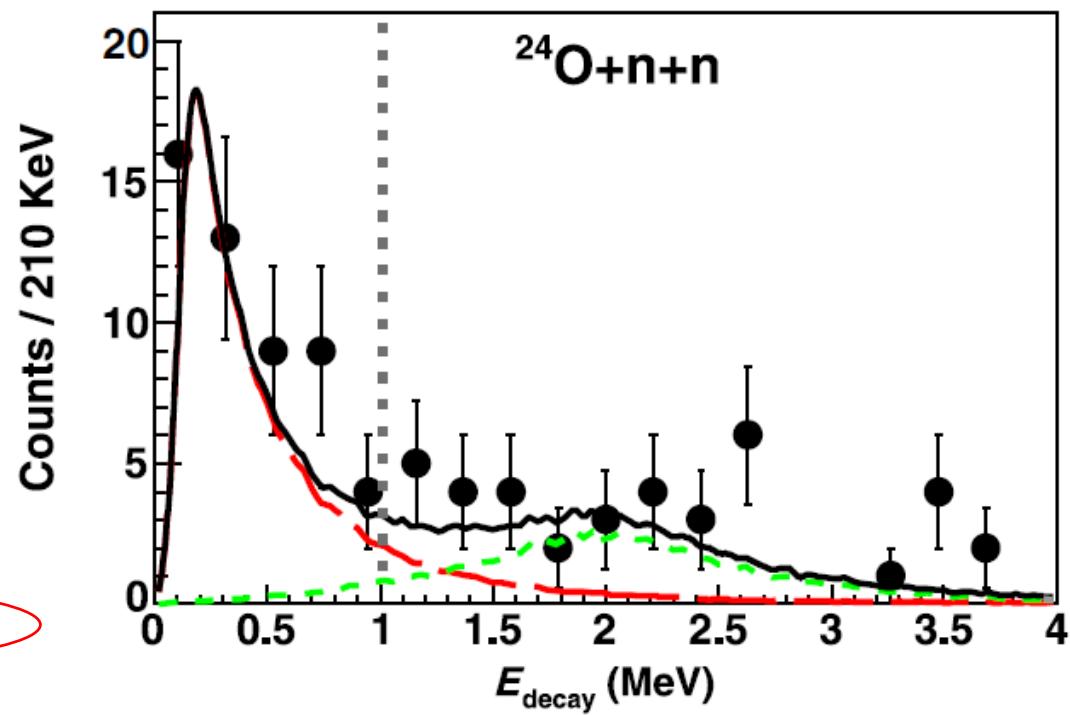
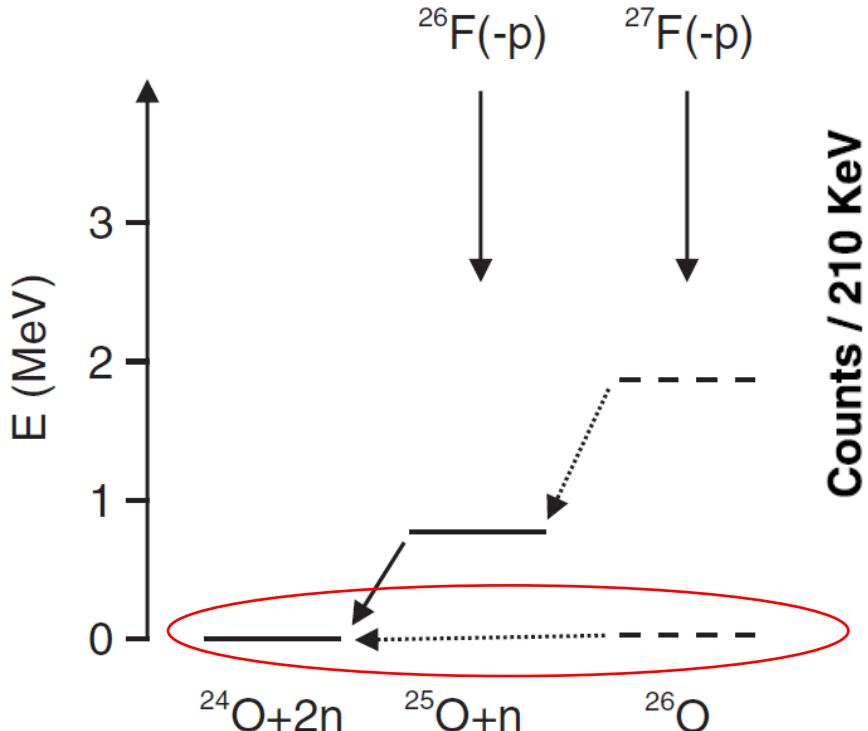
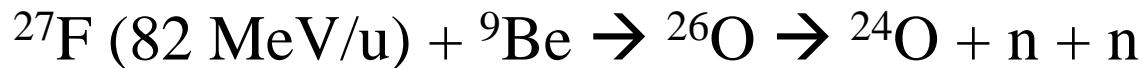
## Two-neutron decay of $^{26}\text{O}$

➤ the simplest among  $^{16}\text{Be}$ ,  $^{13}\text{Li}$ ,  $^{26}\text{O}$  (MSU)

$^{16}\text{Be}$ : deformation,  $^{13}\text{Li}$ : treatment of  $^{11}\text{Li}$  core

### Experiment:

E. Lunderberg et al., PRL108 ('12) 142503  
Z. Kohley et al., PRL 110 ('13) 152501



cf. C. Caesar et al., PRC88 ('13) 034313 (GSI exp.)

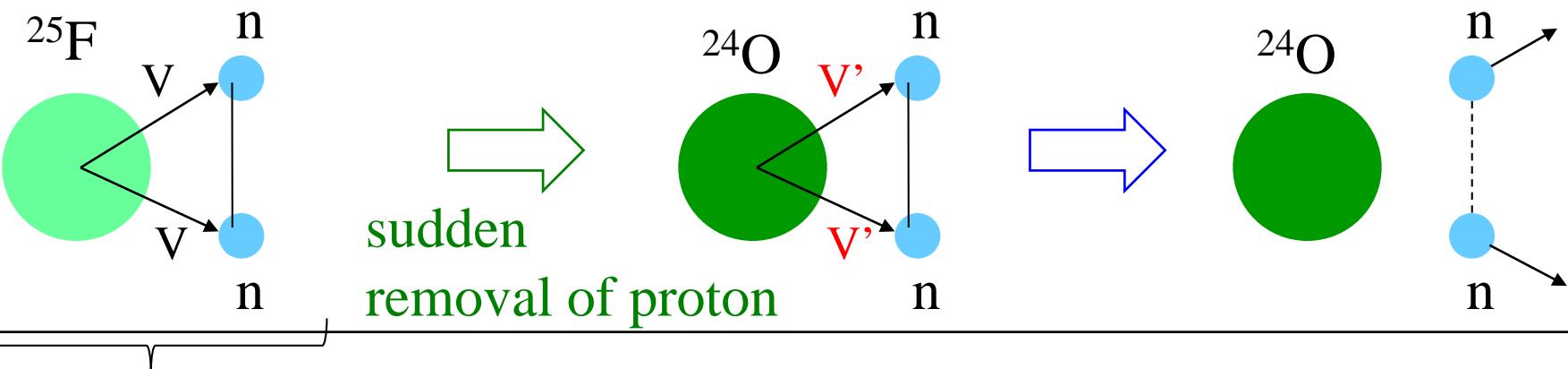
Y. Kondo et al., (SAMURAI)

$$E_{\text{decay}} = 150^{+50}_{-150} \text{ keV}$$

# 3-body model analysis for $^{26}\text{O}$ decay

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

cf. Expt. :  $^{27}\text{F}$  (82 MeV/u) +  $^9\text{Be} \rightarrow ^{26}\text{O} \rightarrow ^{24}\text{O} + \text{n} + \text{n}$



g.s. of  $^{27}\text{F}$  (bound)

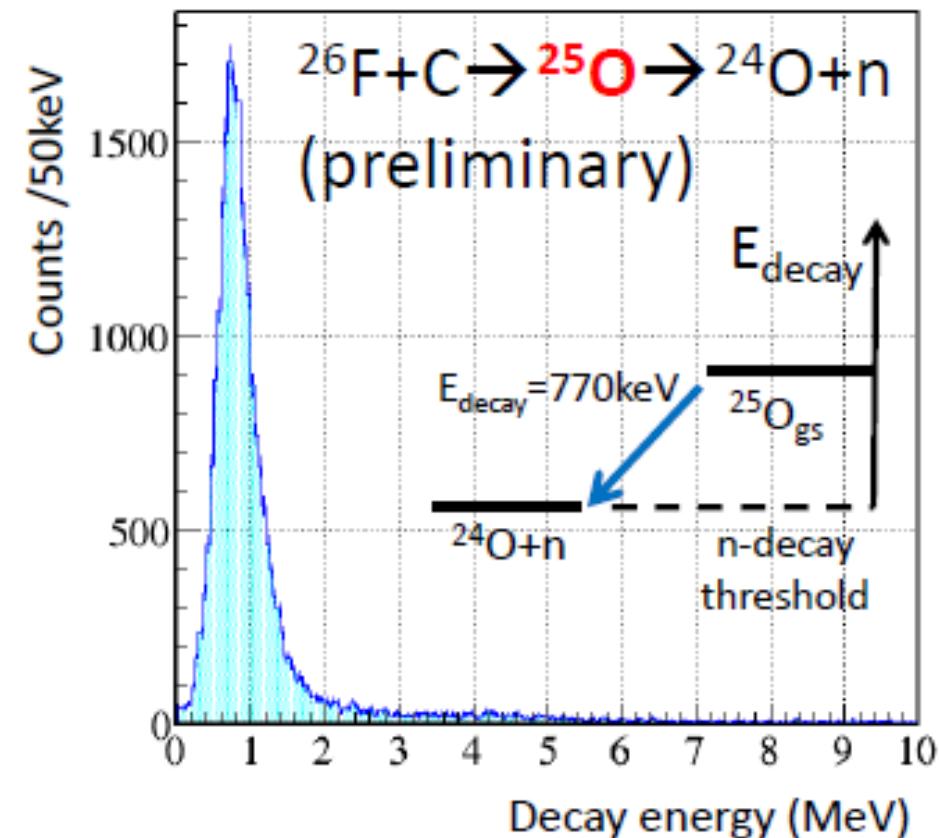
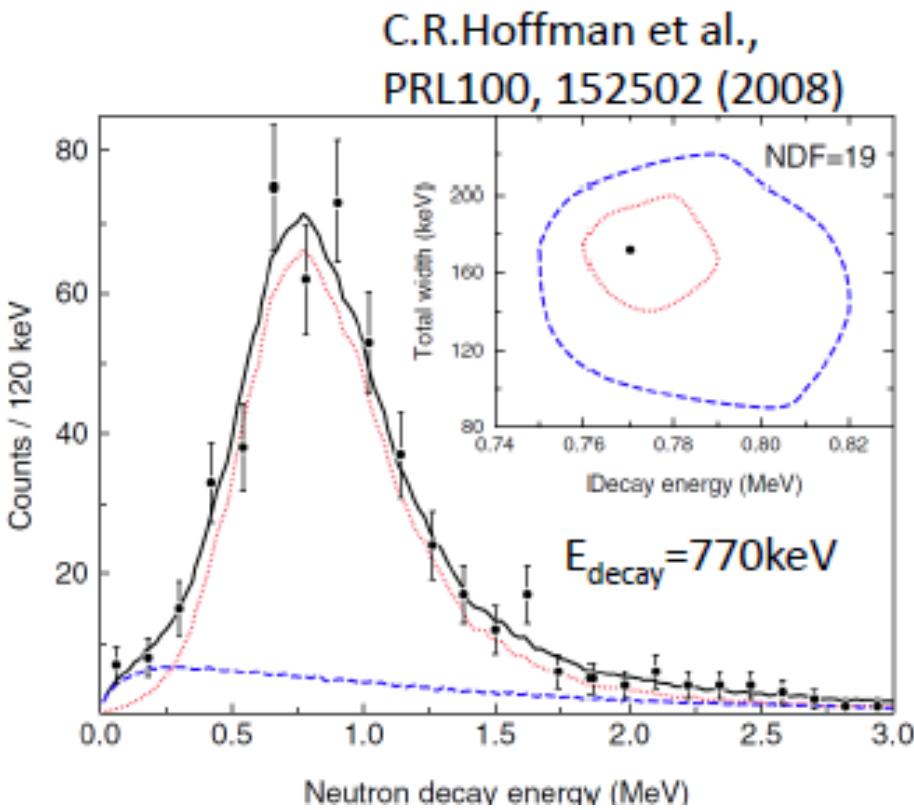
$$\Psi_{nn} \otimes |^{25}\text{F}\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{green arrow}} \Psi_{nn} \otimes |^{24}\text{O}\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{blue arrow}} \text{spontaneous decay}$$

the same config. (non-eigenstate of  $^{24}\text{O} + \text{n} + \text{n}$ )

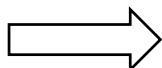
FSI → Green's function method ← continuum effects

# $^{25}\text{O}$ : calibration of the n- $^{24}\text{O}$ potential

Y. Kondo et al. (2015)



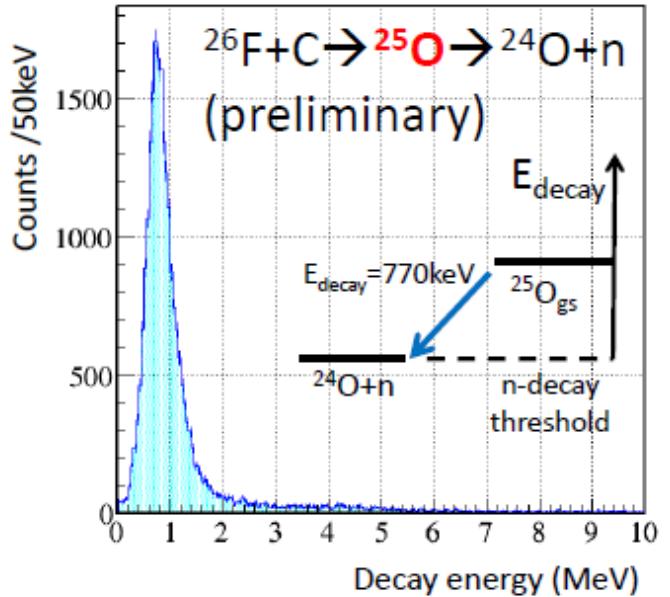
$$E = + 770^{+20}_{-10} \text{ keV}$$
$$\Gamma = 172(30) \text{ keV}$$



$$E = + 749(10) \text{ keV}$$
$$\Gamma = 88(6) \text{ keV}$$

# $n - ^{24}\text{O}$ Woods-Saxon potential

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a = 0.72 \text{ fm (fixed)} \\ r_0 = 1.25 \text{ fm (fixed)} \\ V_0 \leftarrow e_{2s1/2} = -4.09(13) \text{ MeV} \\ V_{ls} \leftarrow e_{d3/2} = 0.749(10) \text{ MeV} \end{array} \right\}$$



Gamow states (outgoing boundary condition)

$d_{3/2}$ :  $E = 0.749 \text{ MeV}$  (input),  $\Gamma = 87.2 \text{ keV}$       cf.  $\Gamma_{\text{exp}} = 86(6) \text{ keV}$

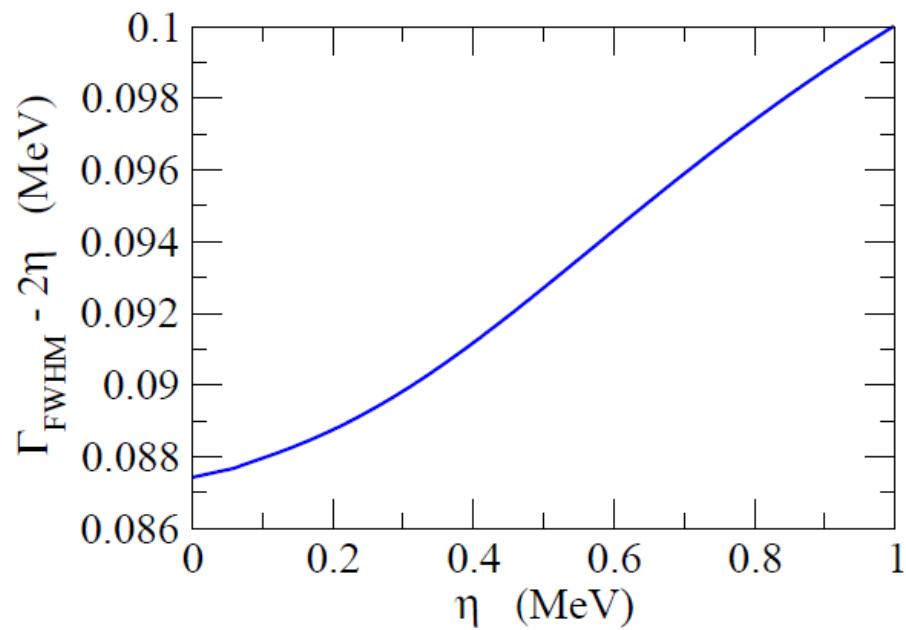
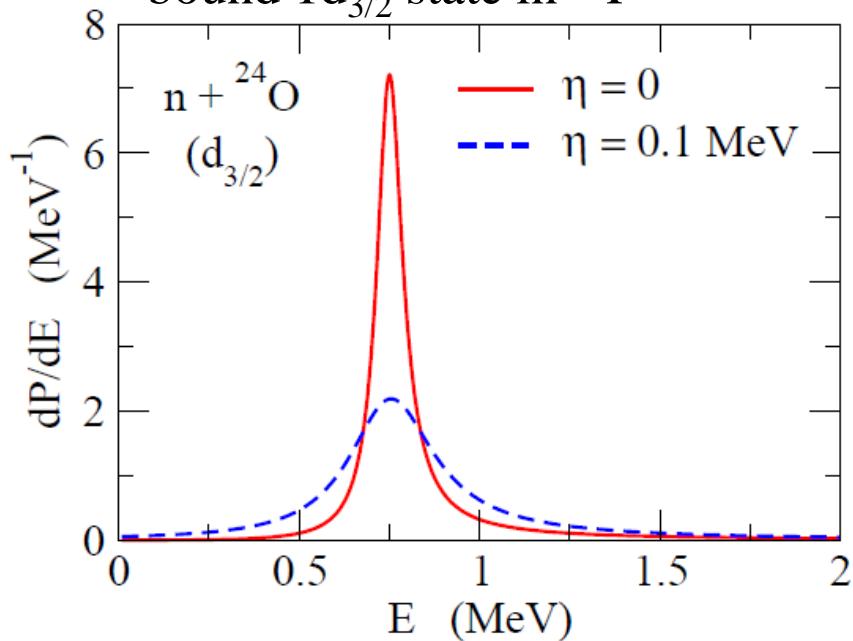
$f_{7/2}$ :  $E = 2.44 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $\Gamma = 0.21 \text{ MeV}$

$p_{3/2}$ :  $E = 0.577 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $\Gamma = 1.63 \text{ MeV}$

# $n - ^{24}\text{O}$ decay spectrum

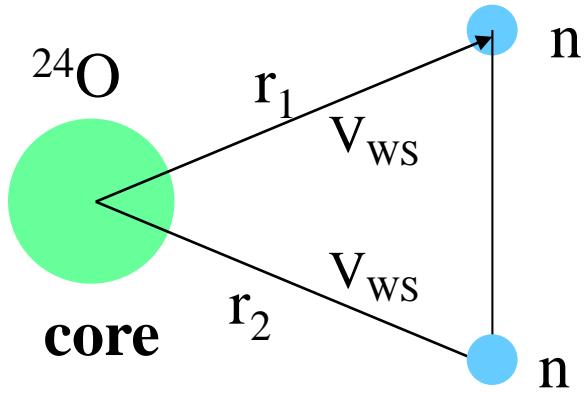
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dP}{dE} = |\langle \Phi_{\text{ref}} | \Psi_E \rangle|^2 &= \int dE' |\langle \Phi_{\text{ref}} | \Psi_{E'} \rangle|^2 \delta(E - E') \\ &\rightarrow \frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \int dE' |\langle \Phi_{\text{ref}} | \Psi_{E'} \rangle|^2 \underbrace{\frac{1}{E' - E - i\eta}}_{= 1 / (H - E - i\eta) = G(E)} \end{aligned}$$

Reference state:  
bound  $1\text{d}_{3/2}$  state in  $^{26}\text{F}$



→ apply a similar method to  $^{24}\text{O} + n + n$

## Two-neutron decay of $^{26}\text{O}$ : i) Decay energy spectrum



$$\frac{dP}{dE} = \int dE' |\langle \Psi_{E'} | \Phi_{\text{ref}} \rangle|^2 \delta(E - E') = -\frac{1}{\pi} \Im \langle \Phi_{\text{ref}} | G(E) | \Phi_{\text{ref}} \rangle$$

correlated Green's function:

$$G(E) = G_0(E) - G_0(E)v(1 + G_0(E)v)^{-1}G_0(E)$$

← continuum effects

uncorrelated Green's function

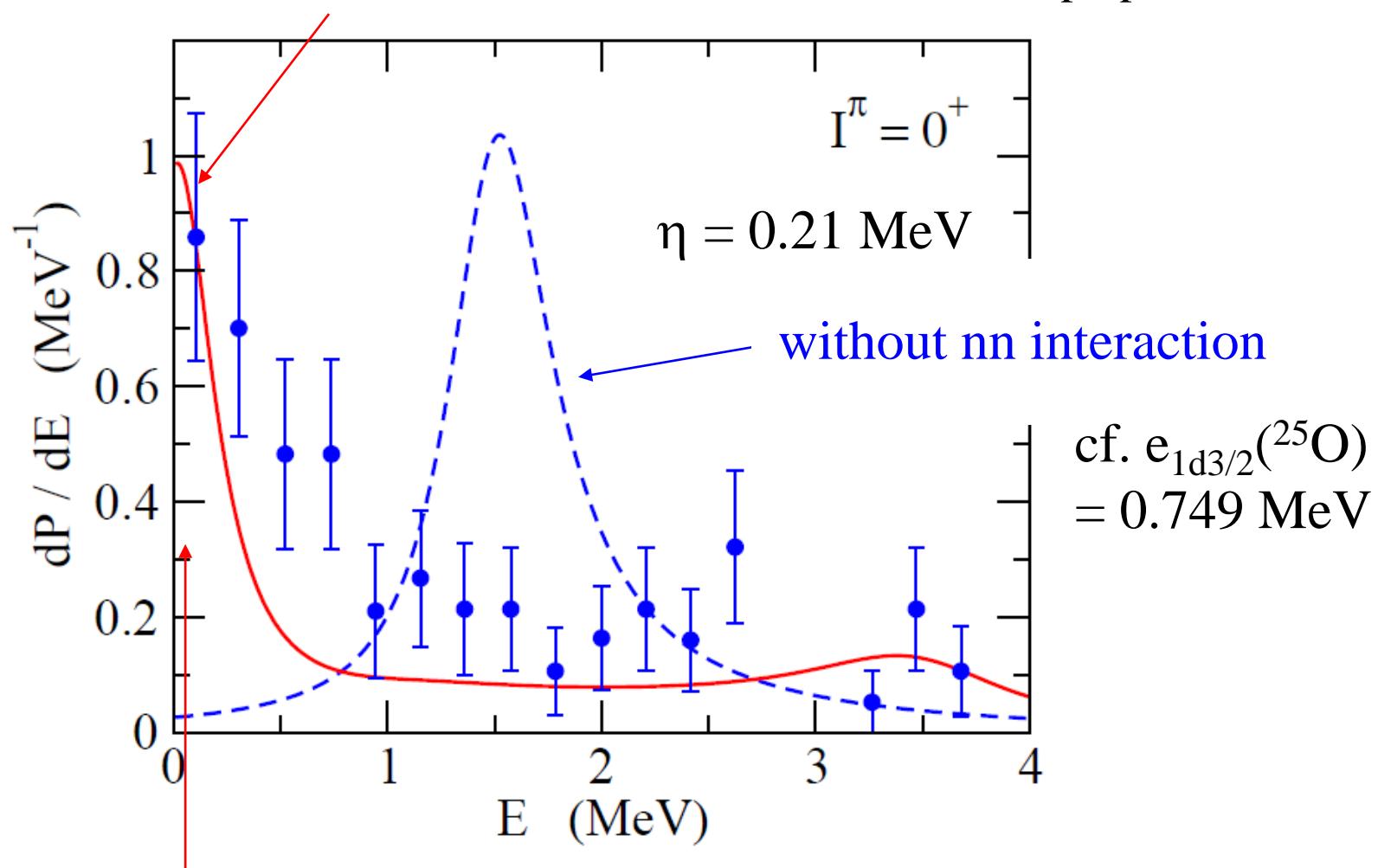
$$G_0(E) = \sum_{j_1, l_1} \sum_{j_2, l_2} \int de_1 de_2 \frac{|\psi_1 \psi_2\rangle \langle \psi_1 \psi_2|}{e_1 + e_2 - E - i\eta}$$

← small, finite  $\eta$

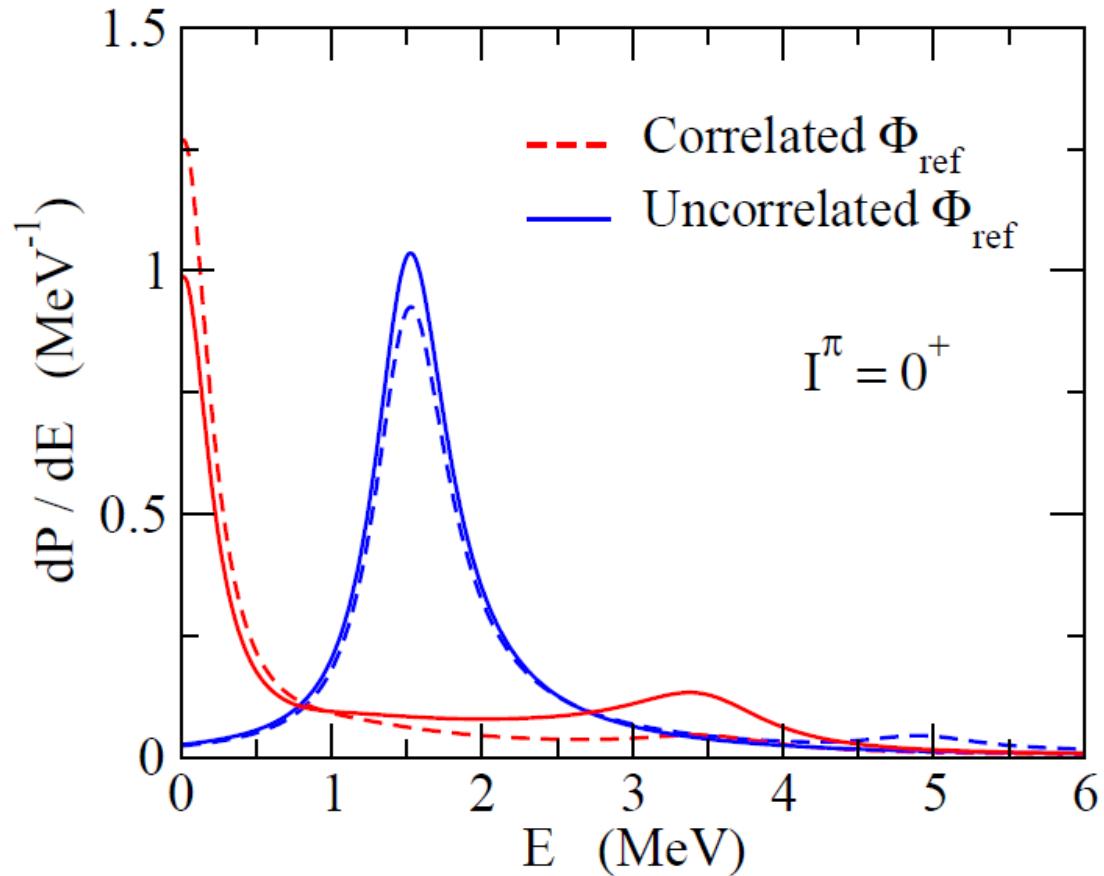
# i) Decay energy spectrum

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

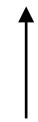
with nn interaction



## Sensitivity to the reference state



not sensitive to  
how  $^{26}\text{O}$  is formed



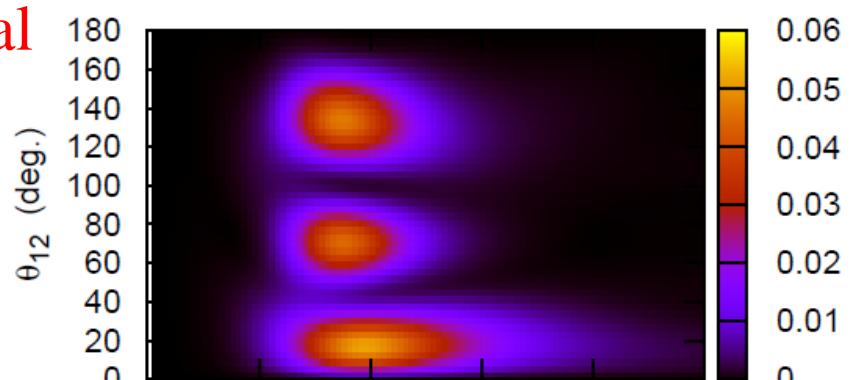
$dP/dE$ : properties  
of  $^{26}\text{O}$  3-body wf

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dP}{dE} &= |\langle \Psi_E | \Phi_{\text{ref}} \rangle|^2 \\ &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \Im \langle \Phi_{\text{ref}} | G_0 - G_0 v (1 + G_0 v)^{-1} G_0 | \Phi_{\text{ref}} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

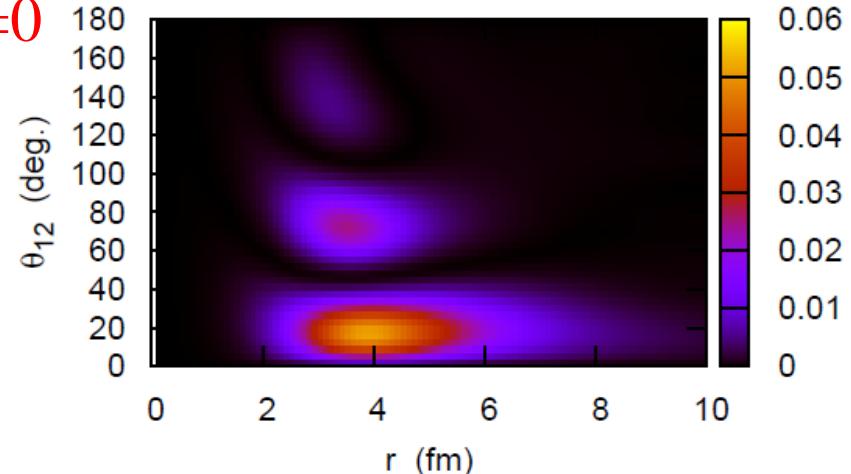
FSI in the nuclear reaction terminology

## Two-particle density in the bound state approximation

total



S=0



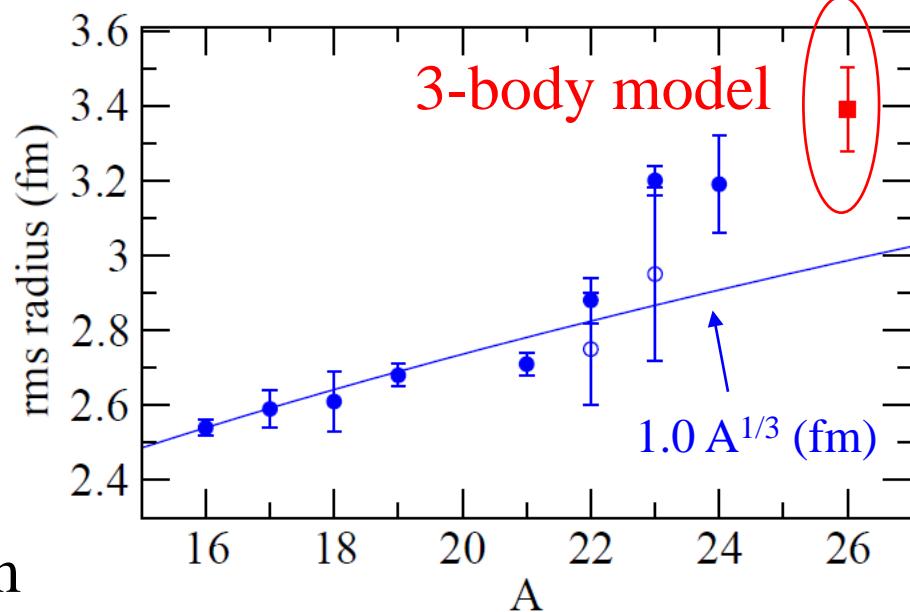
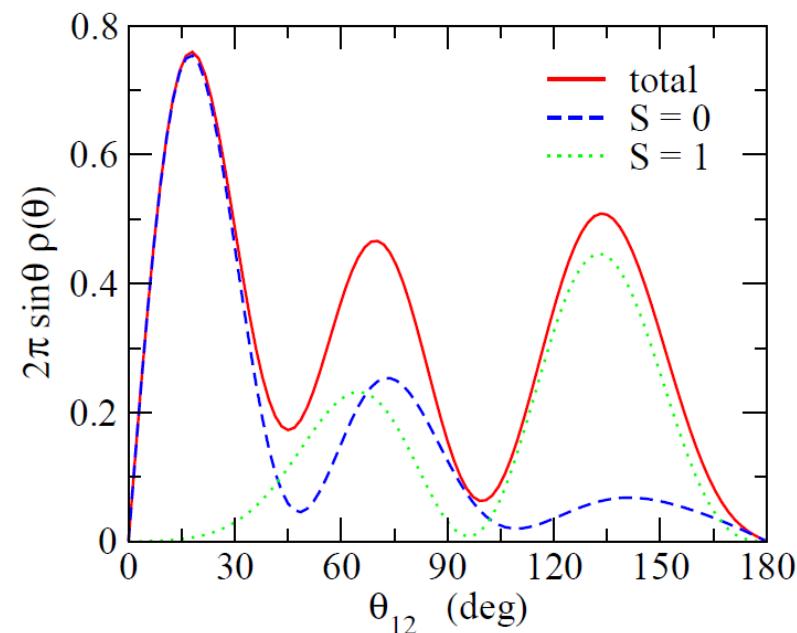
$(d_{3/2})^2 : 66.1\%$

$(f_{7/2})^2 : 18.3\%$

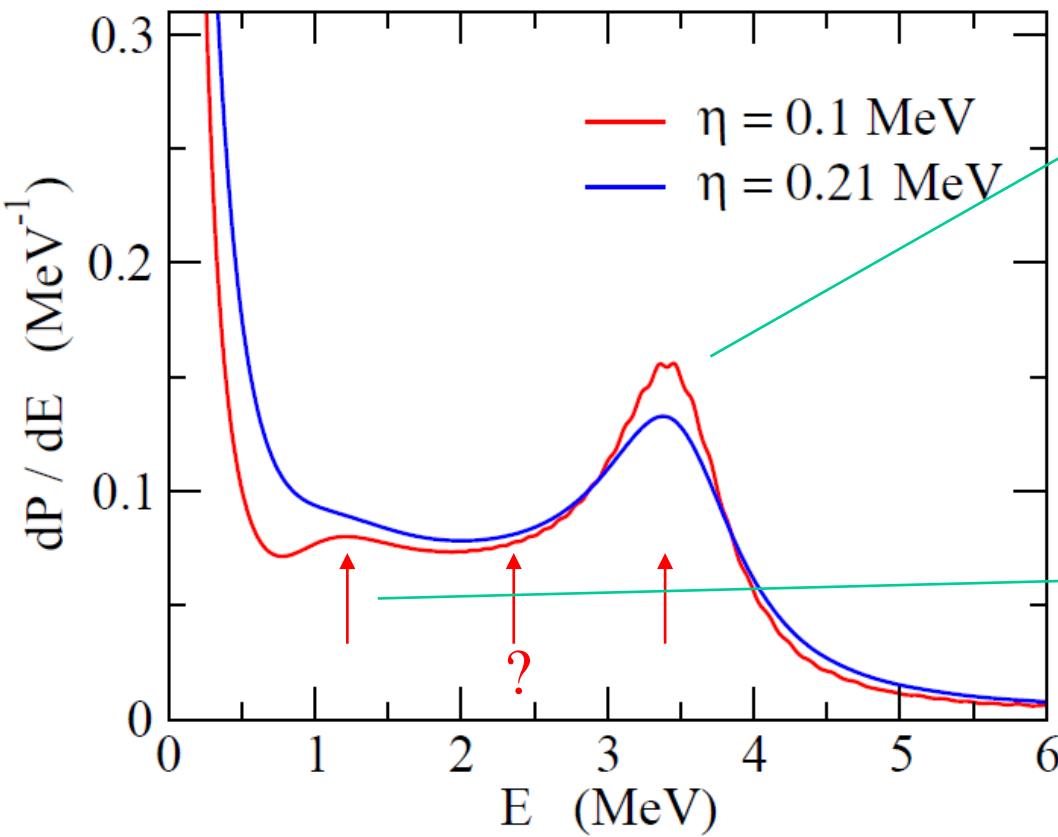
$(p_{3/2})^2 : 10.5\%$

$(s_{1/2})^2 : 0.59\%$

rms radius =  $3.39 \pm 0.11$  fm



## Excited $0^+$ states



$$\langle \Psi_E | (jj)^{(0)} \rangle \\ \propto \langle \Phi_{\text{ref}} | G(E) | (jj)^{(0)} \rangle$$

$\rightarrow E = 3.379 \text{ MeV}$

$\Gamma = 0.737 \text{ MeV}$

$(f_{7/2})^2 : 62.1\%$

$(d_{3/2})^2 : 24.9\%$

$(p_{3/2})^2 : 10.4\%$

$\rightarrow E = 1.215 \text{ MeV}$

$(p_{3/2})^2 : 60.3\%$

$(d_{3/2})^2 : 26.8\%$

$(f_{7/2})^2 : 2.02\%$

cf. Grigorenko et al. (PRC91 ('15) 064617)

$E = 0.01 \text{ MeV} [(d_{3/2})^2 : 79 \%]$

$E = 1.7 \text{ MeV} [(d_{3/2})^2 : 80 \%]$

$E = 2.6 \text{ MeV} [(d_{3/2})^2 : 86 \%]$

cf. s. p. resonances (MeV)

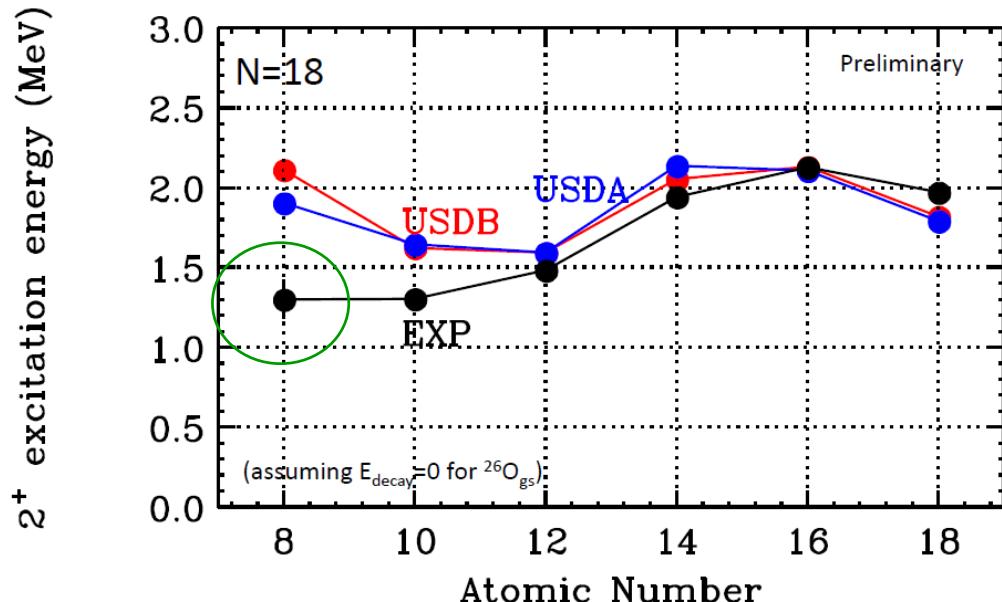
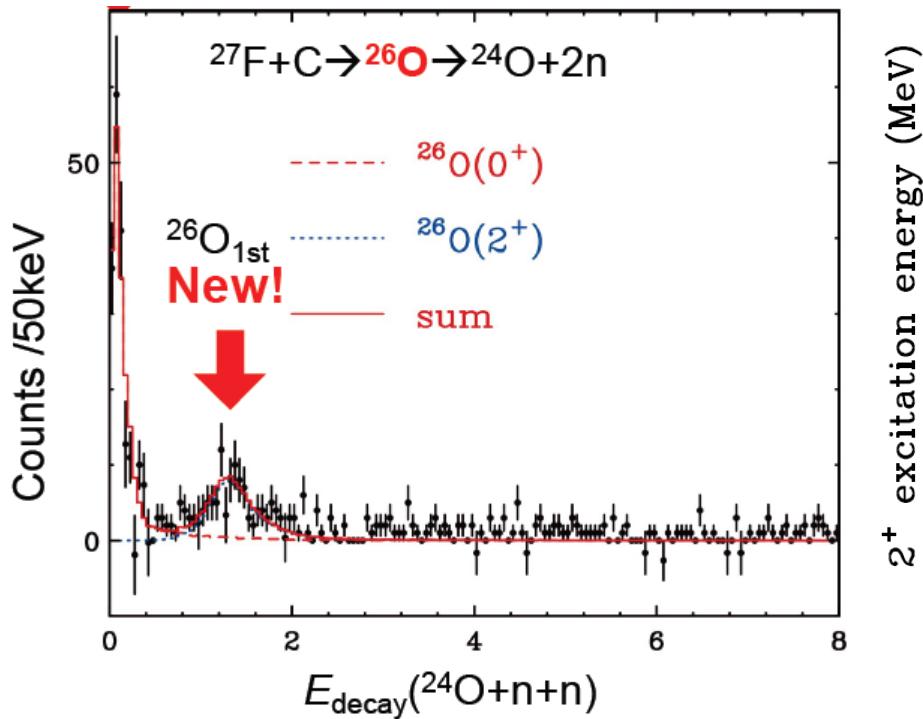
$d_{3/2}: E = 0.75, \Gamma = 0.087$

$f_{7/2}: E = 2.44, \Gamma = 0.21$

$p_{3/2}: E = 0.58, \Gamma = 1.63$

# $2^+$ state in $^{26}\text{O}$

New RIKEN data : a prominent second peak at  $E = 1.28^{+0.11}_{-0.08}$  MeV



Courtesy: Y. Kondo

cf. sdpf-m:  $E_{2^+} = 2.62$  MeV (Y. Utsuno)

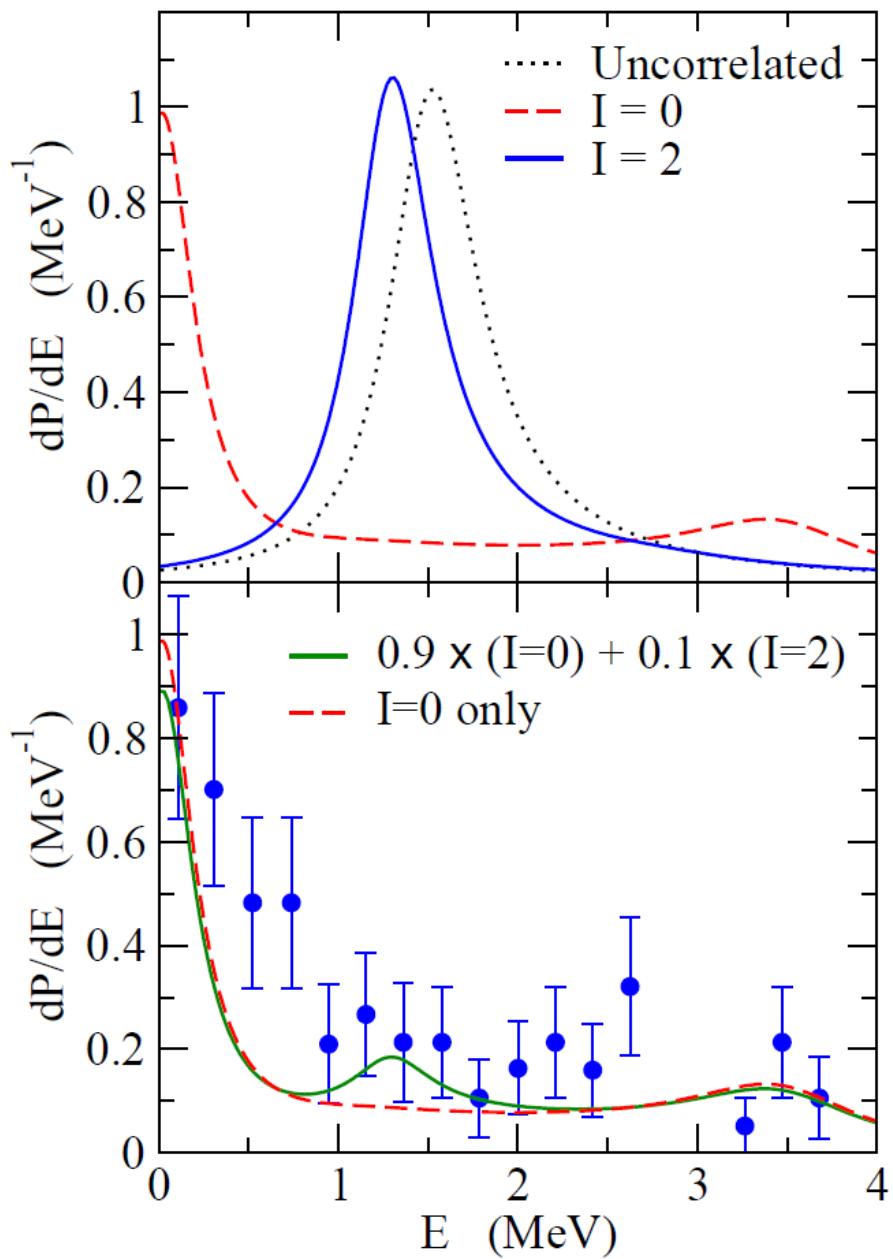
ab-initio calc. with chiral NN+3N:  $E_{2^+} = 1.6$  MeV

(C. Caesar et al., PRC88('13)034313)

continuum shell model:  $E_{2^+} = 1.8$  MeV

(A. Volya and V. Zelvinsky, PRC74 ('14) 064314)

## $2^+$ state of $^{26}\text{O}$



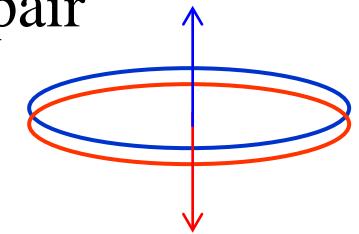
Kondo et al. : a prominent second peak  
at  $E \sim 1.28^{+0.11}_{-0.08}$  MeV

$$\begin{array}{c}
 (\text{MeV}) \\
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 1.498 & \xrightarrow{\text{---}} & (\text{d}_{3/2})^2 \\
 1.282 & \xrightarrow{\text{---}} & 2^+ \\
 & & \Gamma = 0.12 \text{ MeV}
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

$$0.018 \xrightarrow{\text{---}} 0^+$$

a textbook example  
of pairing interaction!

$I=0$  pair

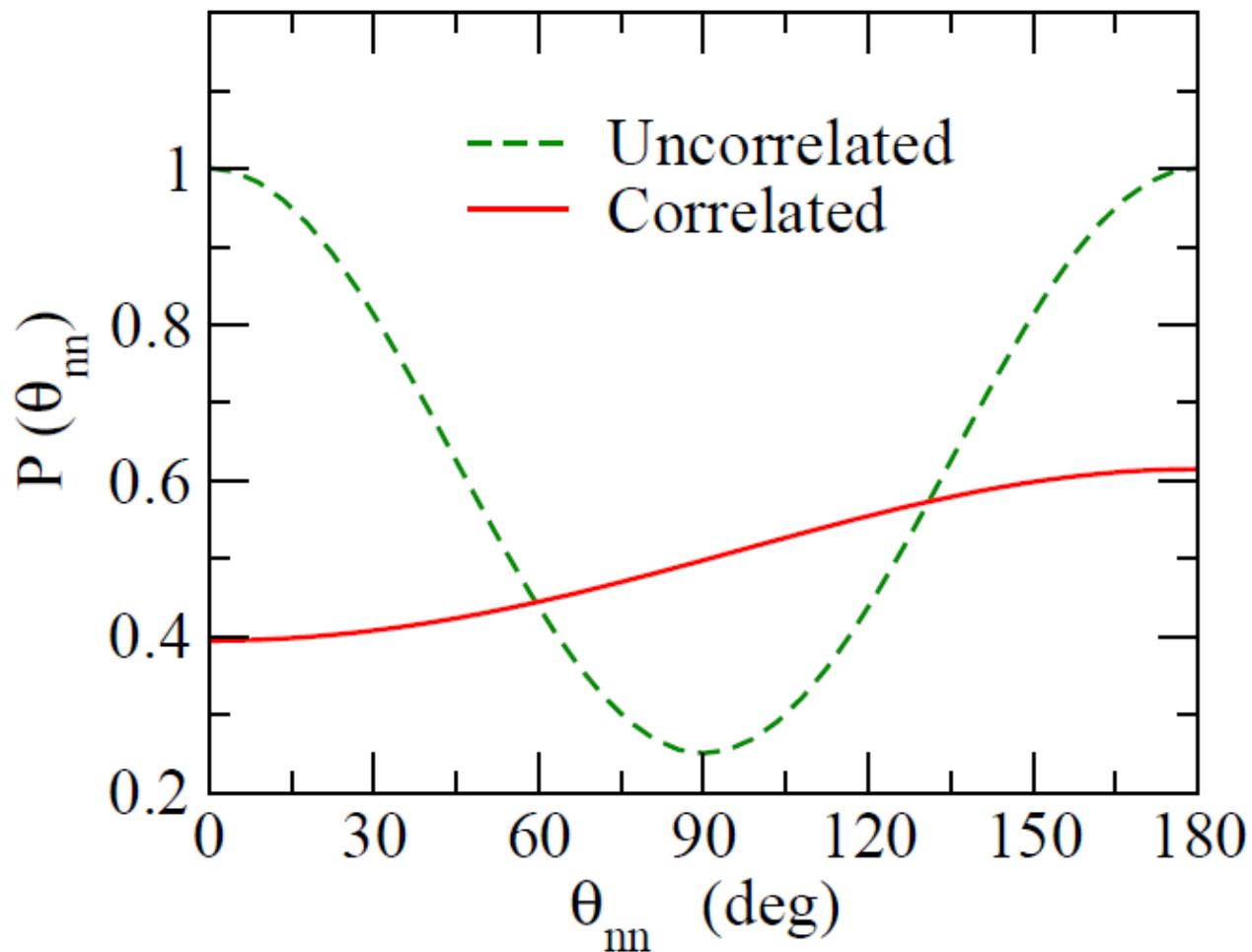


K.H. and H. Sagawa,  
PRC90('14)027303; in preparation.

	$^{25}\text{O}$ ( $3/2^+$ )	$^{26}\text{O}$ ( $2^+$ )
Experiment	+ 749 (10) keV	$1.28^{+0.11}_{-0.08}$ MeV
USDA	1301 keV	1.9 MeV
USDB	1303 keV	2.1 MeV
sdpf-m (Utsuno)	?	2.6 MeV
chiral NN+3N	742 keV	1.6 MeV
continuum SM (Volya-Zelevinsky)	1002 keV	1.8 MeV
3-body model (Hagino-Sagawa)	749 keV (input)	1.282 MeV

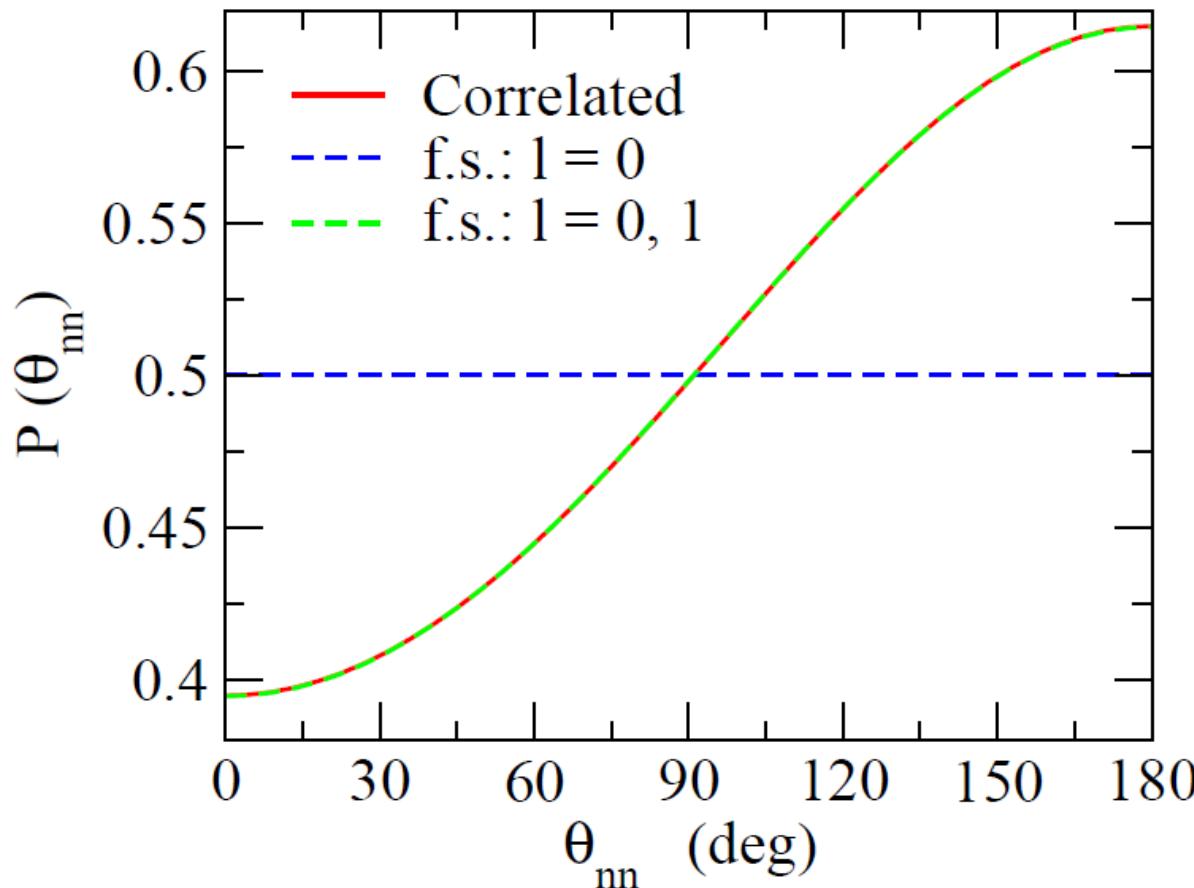
# angular correlations

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



correlation → enhancement of back-to-back emissions

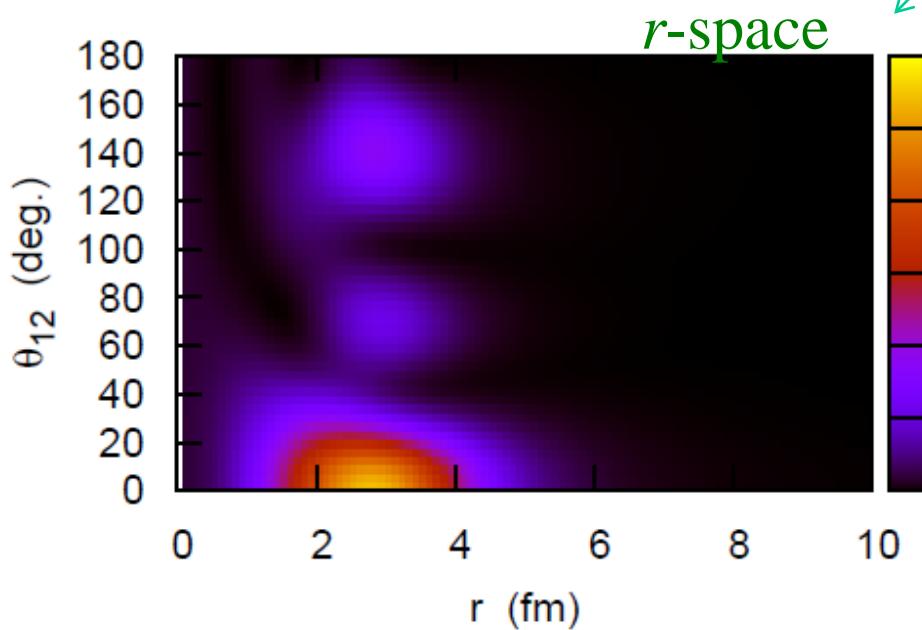
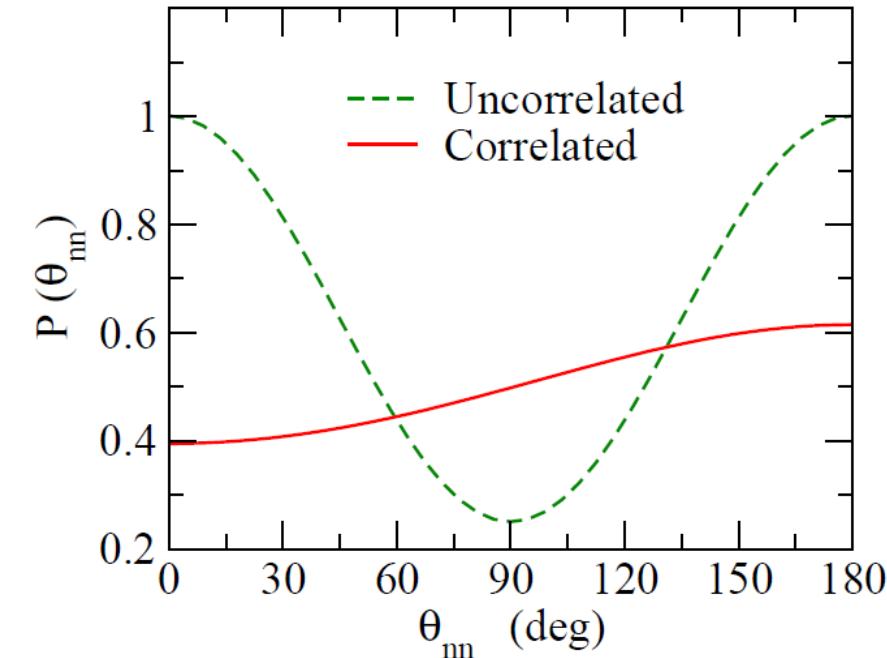
cf. Similar conclusion: L.V. Grigorenko, I.G. Mukha, and M.V. Zhukov,  
PRL 111 (2013) 042501



main contributions: *s*- and *p*-waves in three-body wave function  
(no or low centrifugal barrier)

\*higher *l* components: largely suppressed due to the centrifugal pot.  
( $E_{\text{decay}} \sim 18 \text{ keV}$ ,  $e_1 \sim e_2 \sim 9 \text{ keV}$ )

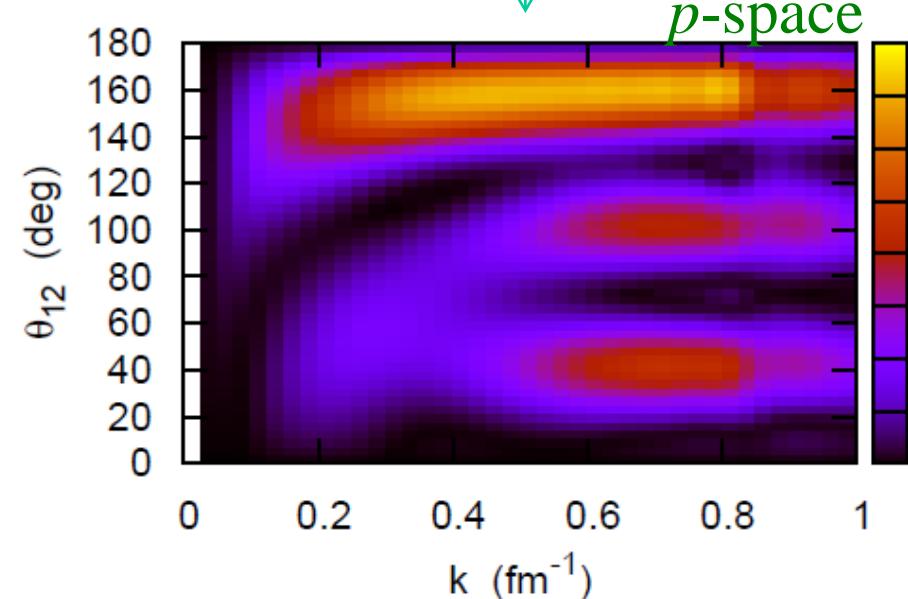
## ii) distribution of opening angle for two-emitted neutrons



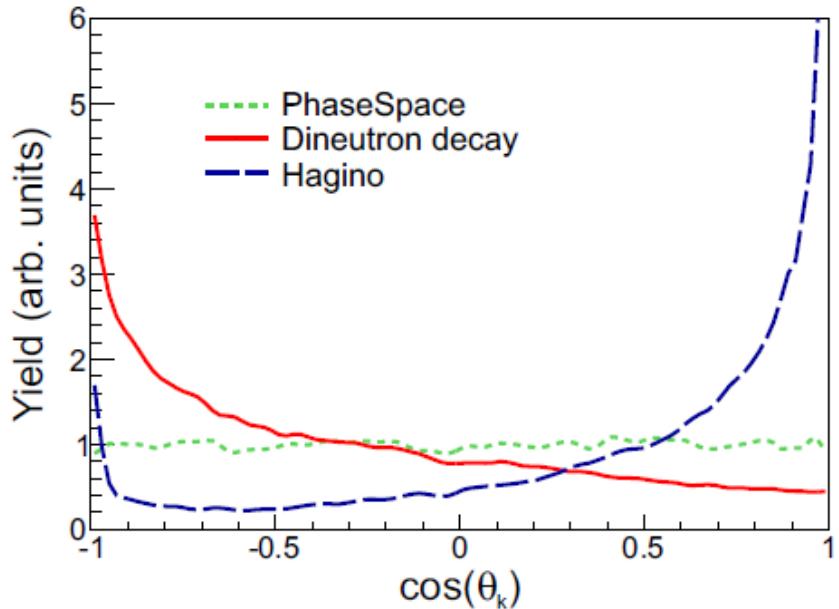
density of the resonance state (with the box b.c.)

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

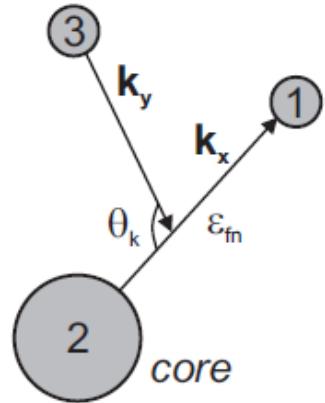
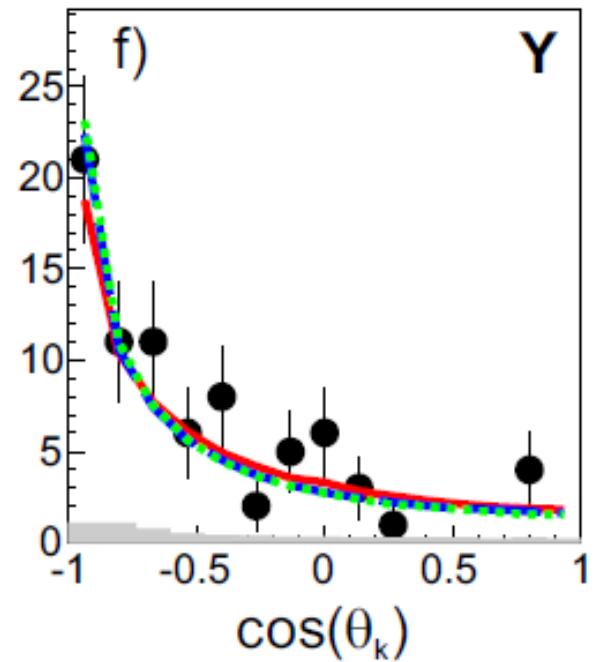
$$8\pi^2 k^4 \sin \theta \cdot \rho(k, k, \theta)$$



# Recent measurements and simulations at MONA



simulation



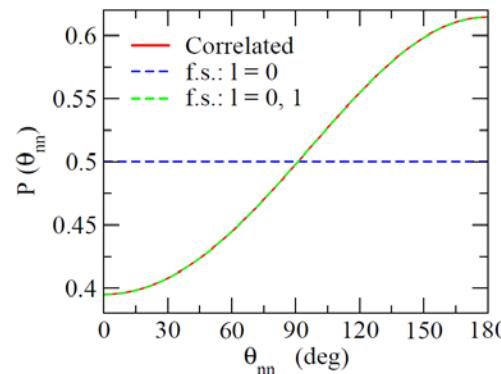
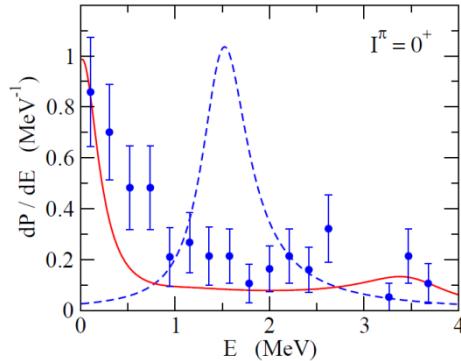
$\gamma$  system

insensitive to the models  
due to the uncertainty in the  
momentum of  $^{24}\text{O}$

# Summary

2n emission decay of  $^{26}\text{O}$  ← three-body model with density-dependent zero-range interaction: continuum calculations: relatively easy

- ✓ Decay energy spectrum: strong low-energy peak
- ✓ Energy distribution of 2 neutrons: three-body resonance
- ✓  $2^+$  energy: excellent agreement with the data
- ✓ Angular distributions: enhanced back-to-back emission  
↔ dineutron emission



## ◻ open problems

- ✓ Analyses for  $^{16}\text{Be}$  and  $^{13}\text{Li}$
- ✓ Decay width?