

The nuclear contact and the photoabsorption cross section

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The Team

Ronen Weiss, Betzalel Bazak



Wine tasting, new year's eve Tzora (2014).

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Tan's Relations**
- 3. The Nuclear Contact(s)**
- 4. Nuclear Photoabsorption**
- 5. Experimental Evaluation of the np Contact**
- 6. Momentum Distributions**
- 7. Conclusions**

Short range interaction

We start with 2-body Schrodinger ...

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{m} \nabla^2 + V(\mathbf{r}) \right] \psi = E\psi$$

At vanishing distance, $r \rightarrow 0$

- The energy becomes negligible $E \ll \hbar^2 / mr^2$
- The w.f. ψ assumes an asymptotic **energy independent** form φ

$$\left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{m} \nabla^2 + V(r) \right] \varphi(\mathbf{r}) = 0$$

$$r\varphi(r) = 0|_{r=0}$$

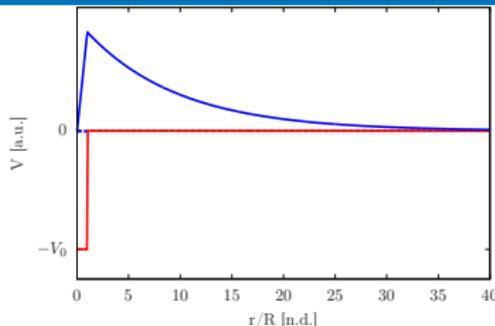
- Valid for any A -body system.

The Limit of vanishing energy

- Short range: only the s -wave survives
- Most of the wave function is outside the range of the potential.
- The wave function depends on a single length scale - the **scattering length** a
- The potential can be replaced by the boundary condition [Bethe-Peierles]

$$\boxed{\left. \frac{d \log(r\psi)}{dr} \right|_0 = \left. \frac{u'}{u} \right|_0 = -\frac{1}{a}}$$

- Valid for **any** short range potential.



The Contact - Tan's Relations

A system of spin up - spin down fermions

Tan relations connects the contact C with:

- **Tail of momentum distribution** $|a|^{-1} \ll k \ll r_0^{-1}$

$$n_{\sigma}(k) \longrightarrow \frac{C}{k^4}$$

- The energy relation

$$T + U = \sum_{\sigma} \int \frac{dk}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} \left(n_{\sigma}(k) - \frac{C}{k^4} \right) + \frac{\hbar^2}{4\pi m a} C$$

- Adiabatic relation

$$\frac{dE}{d1/a} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{4\pi m} C$$

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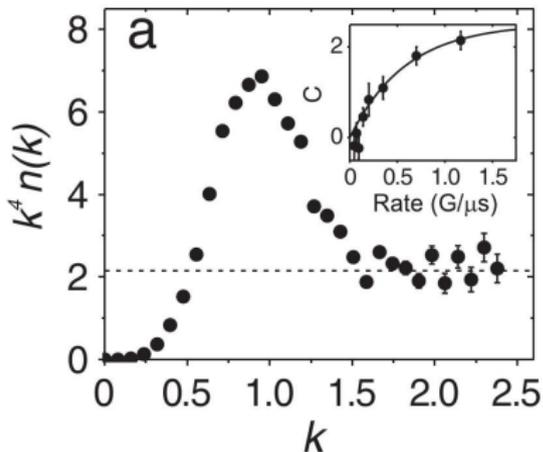
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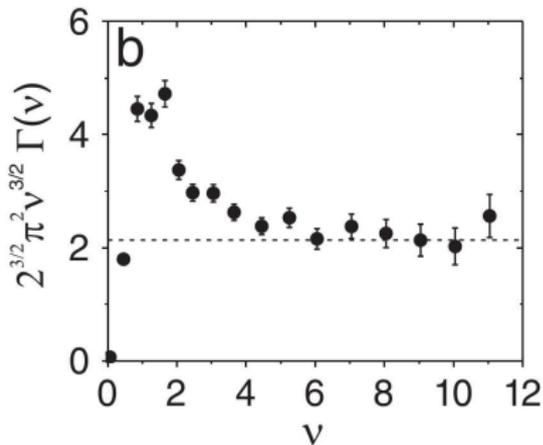
- ...

The Contact - Experimental Results

Momentum Distribution



RF line shape



Verification of Universal Relations in a Strongly Interacting Fermi Gas
J. T. Stewart, J. P. Gaebler, T. E. Drake, and D. S. Jin, Phys. Rev. Lett. 104, 235301 (2010)

The short range factorization

[Tan, Braatan & Platter, Werner & Castin, ...]

- The interaction is represented through the boundary condition

$$\left[\partial \log r_{ij} \Psi / \partial r_{ij} \right]_{r_{ij}=0} = -1/a$$

- Thus, when two particles approach each other

$$\Psi \xrightarrow{r_{ij} \rightarrow 0} (1/r_{ij} - 1/a) A_{ij}(\mathbf{R}_{ij}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq i,j})$$

- The contact C represents the probability of finding an interacting pair within the system

$$C \equiv 16\pi^2 \sum_{ij} \langle A_{ij} | A_{ij} \rangle$$

- Where

$$\langle A_{ij} | A_{ij} \rangle = \int \prod_{k \neq i,j} d\mathbf{r}_k d\mathbf{R}_{ij} A_{ij}^\dagger(\mathbf{R}_{ij}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq i,j}) \cdot A_{ij}(\mathbf{R}_{ij}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq i,j})$$

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The Nuclear Contact(s)

Scales

- NN interaction range $\mu_{\pi}^{-1} = \hbar/m_{\pi}c \approx 1.4$ fm
- NN scattering lengths $a_t = 5.4$ fm , $a_s \approx 20$ fm thus $\mu_{\pi}|a| \geq 3.8$
- The nuclear radius is $R \approx 1.2A^{1/3}$ fm
- The interparticle distance $d \approx 2.4$ fm thus $\mu_{\pi}d \approx 1.7$

Conclusions

- The Tan conditions are not strictly applicable in nuclear physics.
- The interaction range is significant.
- There could be different interaction channels - not only s-wave.
- Therefore, we need replace the asymptotic form

$$\Psi \xrightarrow{r_{ij} \rightarrow 0} (1/r_{ij} - 1/a)A_{ij}(\mathbf{R}_{ij}, \{r_k\}_{k \neq i,j})$$

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The Nuclear Contact(s)

- In nuclear physics we have **3** possible particle pairs

$$ij = \{pp, nn, pn\}$$

- For each pair there are different channels

$$\alpha = (s, \ell)jm$$

- For each pair we define the contact matrix

$$C_{ij}^{\alpha\beta} \equiv 16\pi^2 N_{ij} \langle A_{ij}^{\alpha} | A_{ij}^{\beta} \rangle$$

- For $\ell = 0$ we need consider only **4** contacts

$$P = \{(pp)_{s=0}, (nn)_{s=0}, (np)_{s=0}, (np)_{s=1}\}$$

- Adding isospin symmetry the number of contacts is reduced to 2,

$$\begin{aligned} C_s &\longleftrightarrow \{(pp)_{s=0}, (nn)_{s=0}, (np)_{s=0}\} \\ C_t &\longleftrightarrow \{(np)_{s=1}\} \end{aligned}$$

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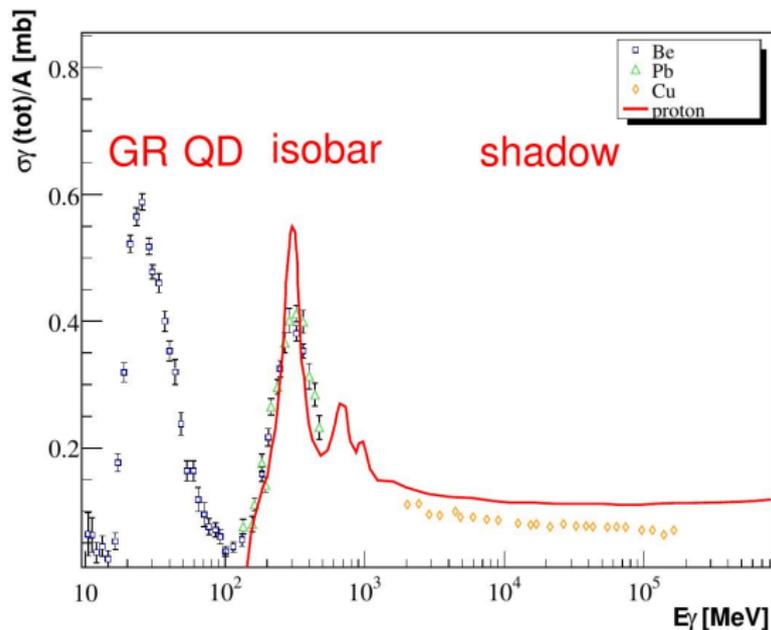
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The nuclear contact relations/applications

- 1 **The nuclear photoabsorption cross-section - The quasi-deuteron model**
R. Weiss, B. Bazak, N. Barnea, PRL **114**, 012501 (2015)
- 2 **The 1-body and 2-body momentum distributions**
R. Weiss, B. Bazak, N. Barnea, PRC **92**, 054311 (2015)
- 3 **Generalized treatment of the photoabsorption cross-section**
R. Weiss, B. Bazak, N. Barnea, EPJA (2016)
- 4 **Electron scattering**
O. Hen et al., PRC **92**, 045205 (2015)
- 5 **Symmetry energy**
BJ Cai, BA Li, PRC **93**, 014619 (2016)
- 6 ...

Photoabsorption of Nuclei



R. Al Jebali, PhD Thesis, U. Glasgow (2013)

Photoabsorption of Nuclei

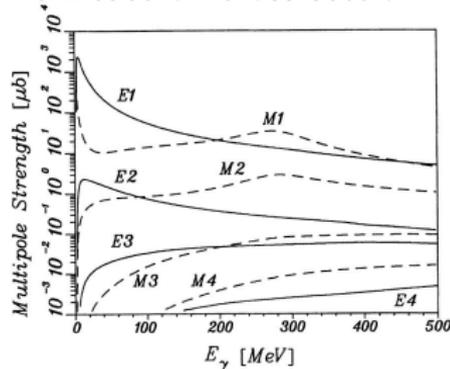
Up to $\hbar\omega \approx 200$ MeV the cross-section $\sigma_A(\omega)$ is dominated by the **dipole** operator

$$\sigma_A(\omega) = 4\pi^2\alpha\omega R(\omega)$$

R is the response function

$$R(\omega) = \sum_f \left| \langle \Psi_f | \mathbf{e} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{D}} | \Psi_0 \rangle \right|^2 \delta(E_f - E_0 - \omega)$$

The Deuteron cross-section



H. Arenhovel, and M. Sanzone, *Few-Body Syst.* (1991).

The Quasi-Deuteron picture

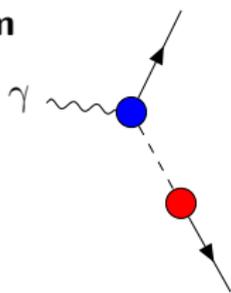
J. S. Levinger

"The high energy nuclear photoeffect", Phys. Rev. **84**, 43 (1951).

- The photon carries **energy** but (almost) **no momentum**
- It is captured by a single **proton**.
- The proton is ejected without any FSI.
- Momentum conservation \Rightarrow a nucleon with opposite momentum must be ejected $k \approx -k_p$.
- Dipole dominance \Rightarrow this partner must be a **neutron**.
- $\hbar\omega \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow \sigma(\omega)$ depends on a **universal** short range pn wave-function.
- The resulting cross-section is given by

$$\sigma_A(\omega) = L \frac{NZ}{A} \sigma_d(\omega)$$

- L is known as the Levinger Constant



The Quasi-Deuteron in the zero range model

The initial and final wave functions Ψ_0, Ψ_f

- When a **pn** pair are close together Ψ_0 is factorized into

$$\Psi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = \sum_{\alpha} \varphi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}_{pn}) A_{pn}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{R}_{pn}, \{\mathbf{r}_j\}_{j \neq p,n}) + \dots$$

- A *pn* pair is emitted with

$$\mathbf{k}_n \approx -\mathbf{k}_p \equiv \mathbf{k}$$

- They can form either an $S = 0$ or an $S = 1$ spin state
- The $A - 2$ spectators are frozen
- For *s*-wave dominance, α is either singlet or triplet.

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$$\Psi_f^{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = \frac{4\pi}{\sqrt{C_{\alpha}}} \hat{A} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Omega}} e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{pn}} \chi_S A_{pn}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{R}_{pn}, \{\mathbf{r}_j\}_{j \neq p,n}) \right\}$$

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The Quasi-Deuteron

The transition matrix element

- Considering now the transition matrix element
- Comparing to the deuteron matrix element
- Assuming s -wave dominance, and $\varphi_\alpha \approx \varphi_d$,

$$\langle \Psi_f^\alpha | \mathbf{e} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{D}} | \Psi_0 \rangle \approx \sqrt{\frac{C_\alpha a_t}{8\pi}} \langle \psi_{d,f} | \mathbf{e} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{D}} | \psi_{d,0} \rangle$$

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$$\sigma_A(\omega) = \frac{a_t}{4\pi} \frac{(C_s + C_t)}{2} \sigma_d(\omega) = \frac{a_t}{4\pi} \bar{C}_{pn} \sigma_d(\omega)$$

Back to Levinger

- The cross-section of **any** nucleus is proportional to the dueteron cross-section $\sigma_d(\omega)$

$$\sigma_A(\omega) = \frac{a_t}{4\pi} \bar{C}_{pn} \sigma_d(\omega)$$

- Comparing this to Levinger formula

$$\sigma_A(\omega) = L \frac{NZ}{A} \sigma_d(\omega)$$

- We see that the Levinger constant L is a close relative of the nuclear contacts,

$$L = \frac{a_t}{4\pi} \frac{A}{NZ} \bar{C}_{pn}$$

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$$\sigma_A(\omega) = \frac{a_t}{4\pi} \bar{C}_{pn} \sigma_d(\omega) \longrightarrow \frac{C_s + C_t}{C_t(^2\text{H})} \sigma_d(\omega)$$

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The Levinger Constant and the Nuclear Contact

- In his original paper Levinger has estimated $L = 6.4$
- In view of the available data we can conclude

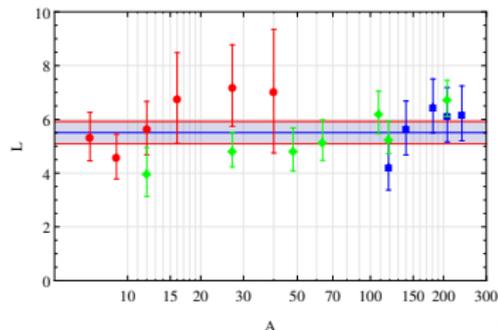
$$L = 5.50 \pm 0.21$$

- $N = Z = A/2$
- Normalize by the Fermi momentum

$$\frac{\bar{C}_{pn}}{k_F A} = \frac{\pi}{k_F a_t} (5.50 \pm 0.21)$$

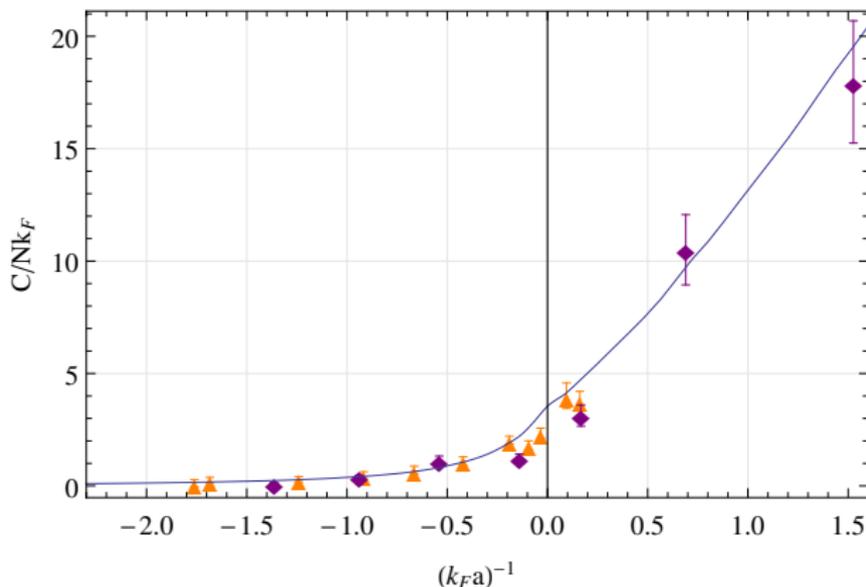
- $1/k_F a_t \approx 0.15$

$$\bar{C}_{pn}/k_F A \approx 2.55 \pm 0.10$$



A. P. Tavares and M. L. Terranova, *J. Phys. G* **18**, 521 (1992).

Comparison to Atomic Physics

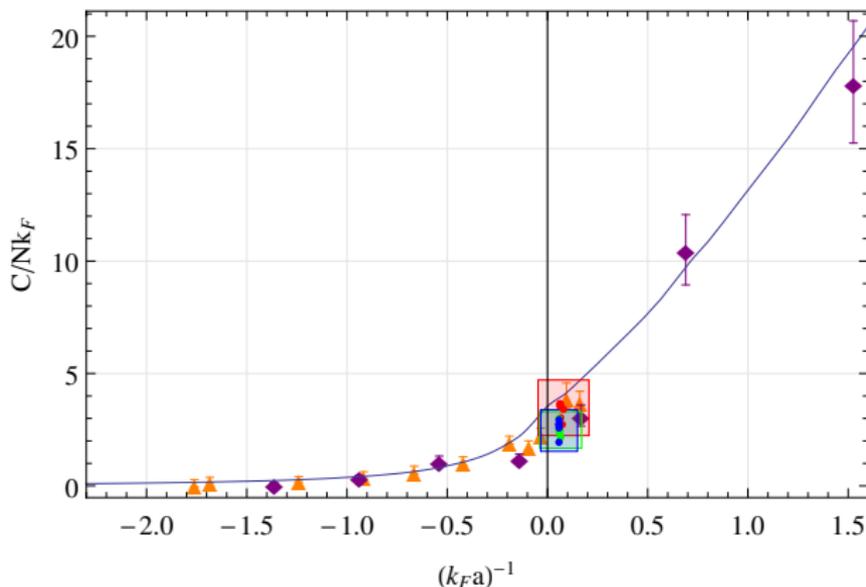


Atomic data - J. T. Stewart, et al., PRL 104, 235301 (2010)

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1-body neutron and proton momentum distributions

$$n_n(\mathbf{k}), n_p(\mathbf{k})$$

2-body nn , np , pp momentum distributions

$$F_{nn}(\mathbf{k}), F_{pn}(\mathbf{k}), F_{pp}(\mathbf{k})$$

Momentum distributions

The proton momentum distribution

$$n_p^{JM}(\mathbf{k}) = Z \int \prod_{l \neq p} \frac{d^3 k_l}{(2\pi)^3} |\tilde{\Psi}(\mathbf{k}_1, \dots, \mathbf{k}_p = \mathbf{k}, \dots, \mathbf{k}_A)|^2$$

Using the asymptotic wave-function

$$\Psi \xrightarrow{r_{ij} \rightarrow 0} \sum_{\alpha} \varphi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}_{ij}) A_{ij}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{R}_{ij}, \{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k \neq i,j})$$

we get

$$n_p(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{2J+1} \sum_{\alpha, \beta} \tilde{\varphi}_{pp}^{\alpha+}(\mathbf{k}) \tilde{\varphi}_{pp}^{\beta}(\mathbf{k}) Z(Z-1) \langle A_{pp}^{\alpha} | A_{pp}^{\beta} \rangle \\ + \frac{1}{2J+1} \sum_{\alpha, \beta} \tilde{\varphi}_{pn}^{\alpha+}(\mathbf{k}) \tilde{\varphi}_{pn}^{\beta}(\mathbf{k}) NZ \langle A_{pn}^{\alpha} | A_{pn}^{\beta} \rangle$$

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Momentum distributions

Similarly

$$F_{ij}(\mathbf{k}) = \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \tilde{\varphi}_{ij}^{\alpha\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) \tilde{\varphi}_{ij}^{\beta}(\mathbf{k}) \frac{C_{ij}^{\alpha\beta}}{16\pi^2}$$

comparing with

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the **asymptotic** relations between the 1-body and 2-body momentum distributions **follows**

$$n_p(\mathbf{k}) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 2F_{pp}(\mathbf{k}) + F_{pn}(\mathbf{k})$$

$$n_n(\mathbf{k}) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 2F_{nn}(\mathbf{k}) + F_{pn}(\mathbf{k})$$

These relations hold regardless of the specific form of φ_{α} and without any assumptions on $\{\alpha\}$

Momentum distributions

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comparing with

$$n_p(\mathbf{k}) = \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \tilde{\varphi}_{pp}^{\alpha\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) \tilde{\varphi}_{pp}^{\beta}(\mathbf{k}) \frac{2C_{pp}^{\alpha\beta}}{16\pi^2} + \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \tilde{\varphi}_{pn}^{\alpha\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) \tilde{\varphi}_{pn}^{\beta}(\mathbf{k}) \frac{C_{pn}^{\alpha\beta}}{16\pi^2}$$

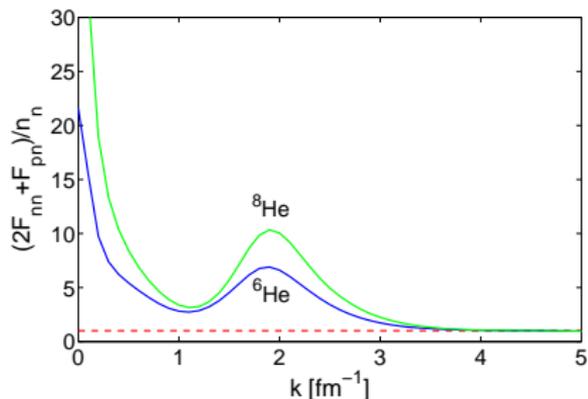
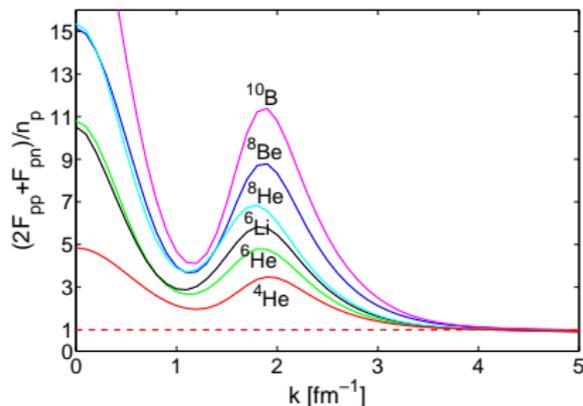
the **asymptotic** relations between the 1-body and 2-body momentum distributions **follows**

$$n_p(\mathbf{k}) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 2F_{pp}(\mathbf{k}) + F_{pn}(\mathbf{k})$$

$$n_n(\mathbf{k}) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 2F_{nn}(\mathbf{k}) + F_{pn}(\mathbf{k})$$

These relations hold regardless of the specific form of φ_{α} and without any assumptions on $\{\alpha\}$

Numerical verification of the momentum relations



VMC calculations of light nuclei

- Wiringa et. al. published a series of 1-body, 2-body momentum distributions
R. B. Wiringa, *et al.*, PRC **89**, 024305 (2014)
- The data is available for nuclei in the range $2 \leq A \leq 10$.
- The calculations were done with the VMC method
- For symmetric nuclei $n_p = n_n$

The momentum relations holds for $4 \text{ fm}^{-1} \leq k \leq 5 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

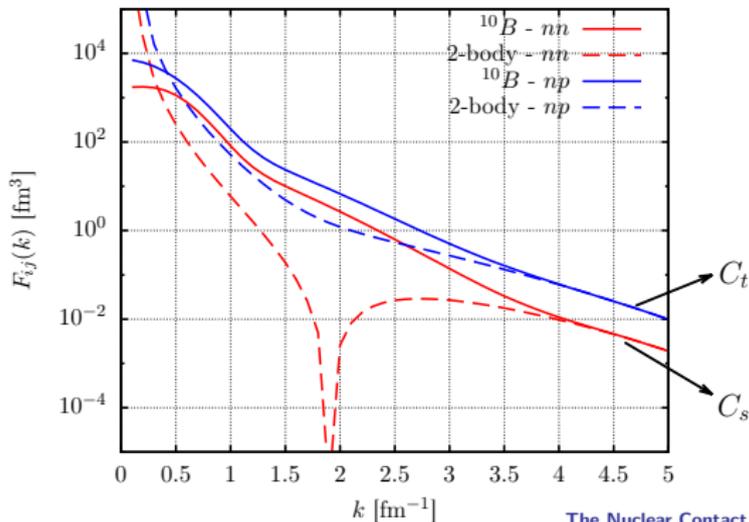
Extracting the contacts

We can extract the leading contacts using the asymptotic 2-body momentum distributions

$$F_{ij}(\mathbf{k}) = \sum_{\alpha} \underbrace{|\tilde{\varphi}_{ij}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{k})|^2}_{\text{2-body}} \frac{C_{ij}^{\alpha\alpha}}{16\pi^2}$$

For non-deuteron channels the 2-body functions are $E = 0$ scattering w.f.

**Example - VMC
calculations of ^{10}B**

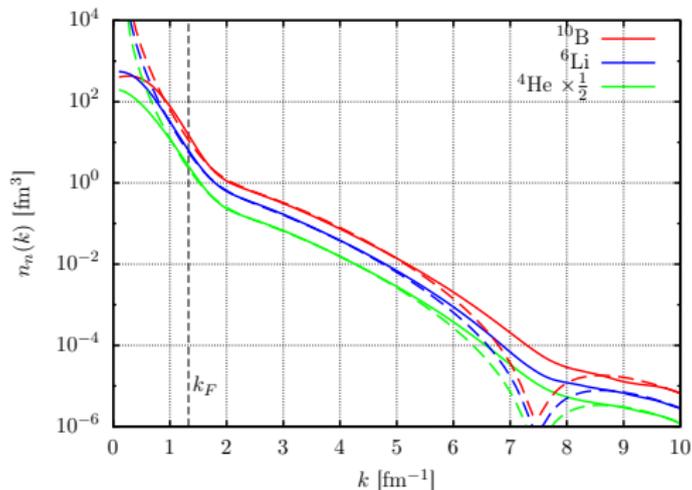


Further numerical verifications

The resulting 1-body momentum distribution is given by

$$n_n^\infty(k) = \sum_\alpha |\tilde{\varphi}_{ij}^\alpha(k)|^2 \frac{C_{np}^{\alpha\alpha}}{16\pi^2} + 2 \sum_\alpha |\tilde{\varphi}_{ij}^\alpha(k)|^2 \frac{C_{nn}^{\alpha\alpha}}{16\pi^2}$$

Comparing with the VMC data



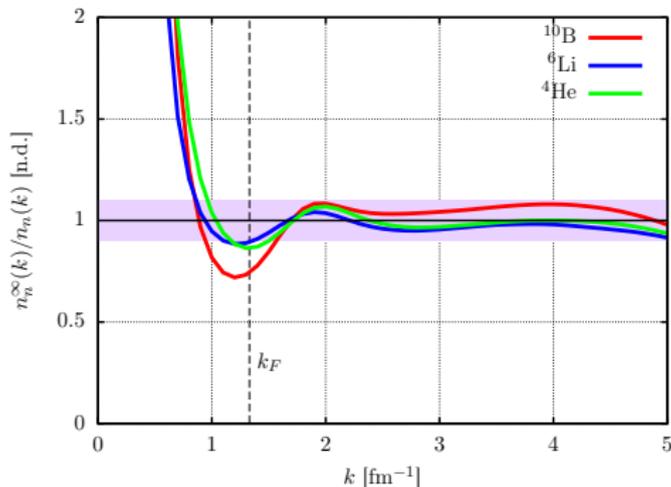
Surprisingly, the agreement holds for $k_F \leq k \leq 6 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

Further numerical verifications

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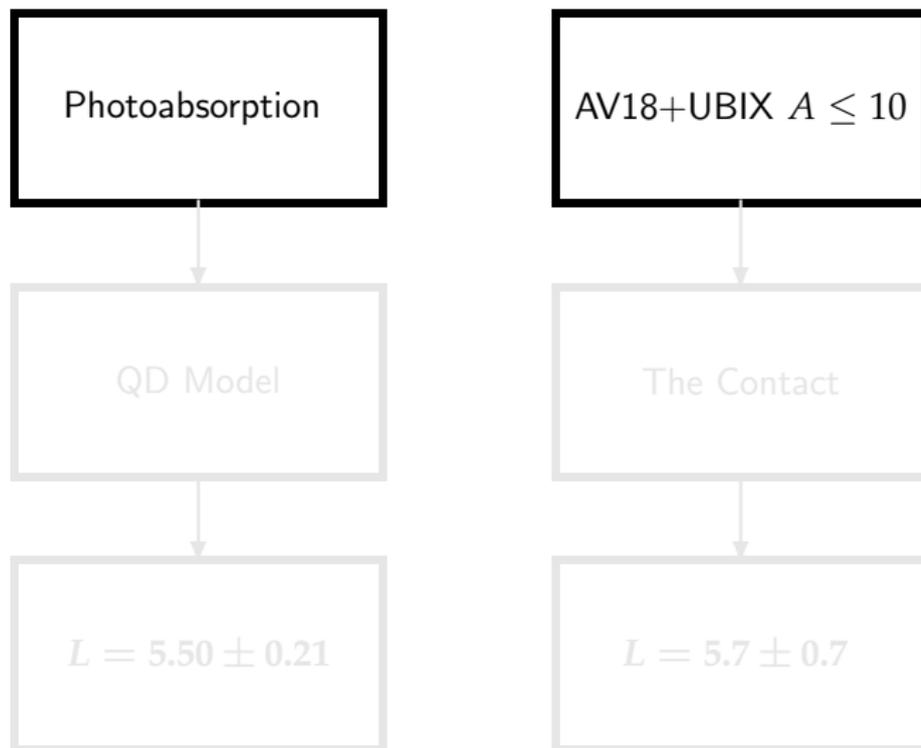
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Surprisingly, the agreement holds for $k_F \leq k \leq 6 \text{ fm}^{-1}$

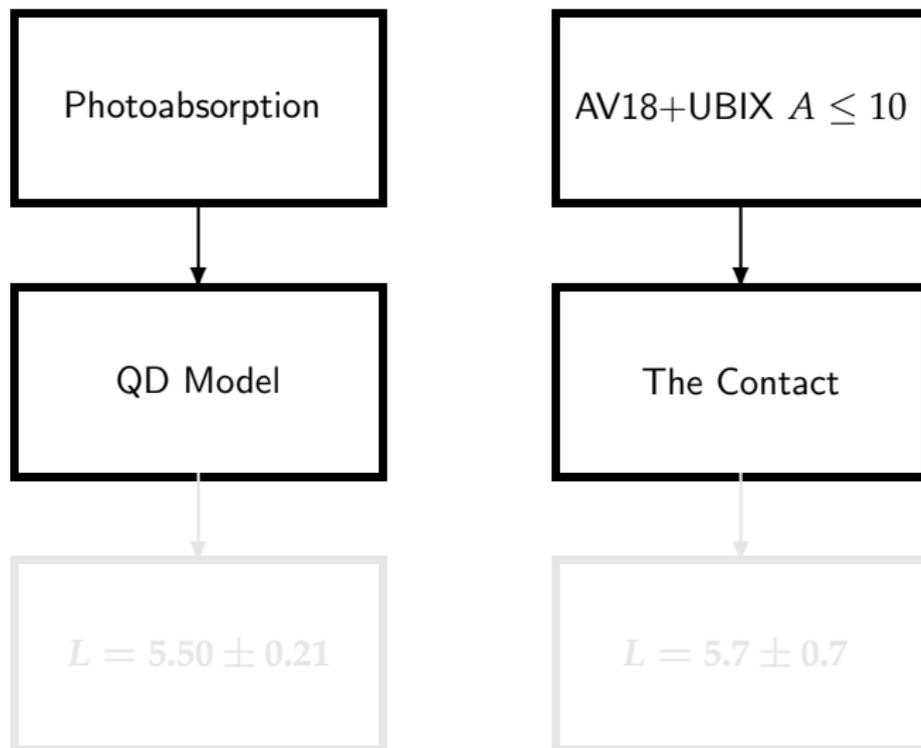
The Levinger Constant again

Theory and Experiment



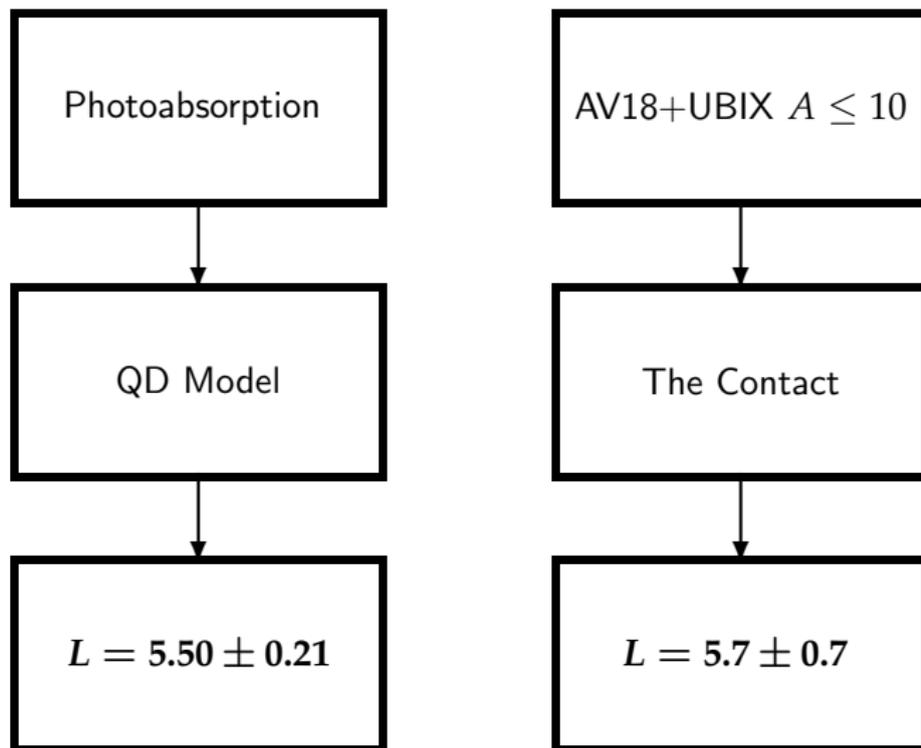
The Levinger Constant again

Theory and Experiment



The Levinger Constant again

Theory and Experiment



Generalizing Tan's contact to nuclear physics

- Rederived the Quasi-Deuteron model utilizing the zero-range model.
- The Levinger constant and the nuclear contacts are close relatives.
- \bar{C}_{pn} was deduced using previous evaluations of Levinger's constant.
- \bar{C}_{pn}/A seems to be constant throughout the nuclear chart.
- Derived momentum relations for nuclear physics.
- The 1-body momentum distribution seems to be dominated (upto 10%) by 2-body correlations, from k_F up.

Outlook

- Electron scattering.
- Neutrino scattering.
- ...
- ...
- ...

We have only started to explore the usefulness of the contact formalism in nuclear physics !