

# The $^4\text{He}$ spectrum

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 First excited state:  $0^+$
- 3 2nd excited state:  $0^-$
- 4 Applications
- 5 Conclusions

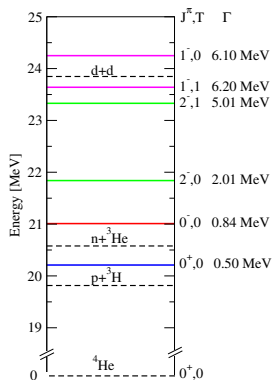
## Collaborators

- A. Kievsky, D. Logoteta, & L.E. Marcucci - *INFN-Pisa & Pisa University, Pisa (Italy)*
- L. Girlanda & E. Filandri *University of Salento & INFN-Lecce, Lecce (Italy)*
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- J. Dohet-Eraly *ULB, Bruxel (Belgium)*

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# The $^4\text{He}$ spectrum



[Tilley, Weller, & Hale, 1992]

Numerical techniques for  $A = 4$  for scattering

No true excited states – only resonances  
1st and 2nd excited states “narrow”  
resonances

## Interactions

- NN potentials
  - N3LO500, N3LO600 [Entem & Machleidt, 2003, 2011]
  - N4LO450, N4LO500, N4LO550 [Nosyk, Entem & Machleidt, 2017]
  - NV1a & NV1b [Piarulli *et al.*, 2018]
- + accompanying 3N potential at N2LO [Epelbaum *et al.*, 2002]

- Faddeev-Yakubovsky methods [Lazauskas & Carbonell, 2004], [Deltuva & Fonseca, 2007]
- Expansion on a basis: NCSM [Quaglioni, Navratil & Roth, 2010], Gaussians [Aoyama *et al.*, 2011], R-matrix [Descouvemont & Baye, 2010], HH [Kievsky, Marcucci, MV, *et al.*, 2008], ...

# HH method for continuum states

$AB \rightarrow AB + CD + \dots$  process

$$\Omega_{AB,LS}^{\pm}(q_{AB}) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N}} \sum_{perm.=1}^N \left[ Y_L(\hat{\mathbf{y}}_p) \otimes [\phi_A \otimes \phi_B]_S \right]_{JJ_z} \left( f_L(y_p) \frac{G_L(\eta, q_{AB} y_p)}{q_{AB} y_p} \pm i \frac{F_L(\eta, q_{AB} y_p)}{q_{AB} y_p} \right)$$

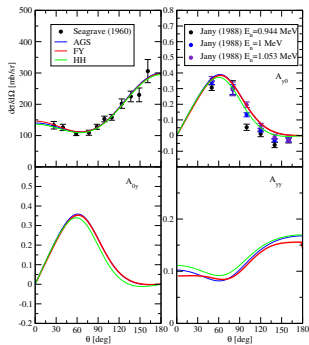
$$|\Psi_{AB,LS}^{JJ_z}\rangle = \sum_{n,[K]} a_{AB,LS,[K]} |n, [K]\rangle + |\Omega_{AB,LS}^{-}(q_{AB})\rangle - \sum_{L'S'} S_{LS,L'S'}^{(AB,AB),J} |\Omega_{AB,L'S'}^{+}(q_{AB})\rangle - \sum_{L'S'} S_{LS,L'S'}^{(AB,CD),J} |\Omega_{CD,L'S'}^{+}(q_{CD})\rangle - \dots$$

- $|n, [K]\rangle$  HH states – essentially, homogeneous polynomials of degree  $K$
- Asymptotically  $\Omega_{AB,LS}^{\pm}(q) \sim e^{\pm iqy}$
- $S_{LS,L'S'}^{(AB,CD),J}$  = S-matrix ( $T = (S - I)2\pi$ )
- $a_{AB,LS,[K]}$ ,  $S_{LS,L'S'}^{(AB,AB),J}$ ,  $S_{LS,L'S'}^{(AB,CD),J}$ , ... computed using the Kohn variational principle
- For more details, see [MV *et al.* PRC **35**, 063101 (2020)]

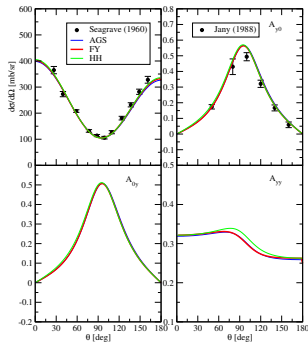
# Benchmark test of 4N scattering calculations - $n - {}^3\text{He}$ scattering

N3LO500 potential -  ${}^3\text{He}(n, n){}^3\text{He}$  elastic scattering

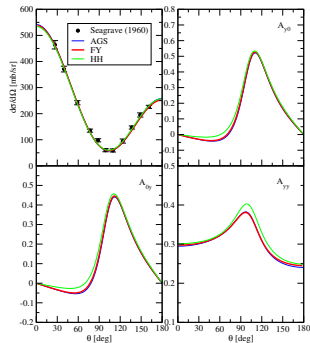
${}^3\text{He}(n, n){}^3\text{He}$  elastic scattering at  $E_n = 1$  MeV



${}^3\text{He}(n, n){}^3\text{He}$  elastic scattering at  $E_n = 2$  MeV



${}^3\text{He}(n, n){}^3\text{He}$  elastic scattering at  $E_n = 3.5$  MeV

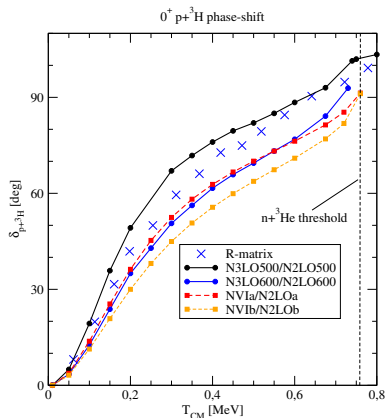


AGS= Deltuva & Fonseca – FY= Lazauskas & Carbonell – HH= present work

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# $p + {}^3\text{H}$ scattering: $0^+$ phase-shifts



- Extraction of the resonance parameters
- 1) Time-delay [Thompson & Nunes, "Nuclear reactions for astrophysics" p. 301]
  - 2) Poles of the  $S$  matrix [Rakityansky, Sofianos, & Elander, (2007)]

Interaction	$E_R$ (MeV)	$\Gamma$ (MeV)
N3LO500/N2LO500	0.09	0.26
N3LO600/N2LO600	0.10	0.39
NVIa/N2LOa	0.10	0.39
NVIb/N2LOb	0.08	0.47
Expt.	0.39	0.50

$$\frac{q^2}{2\mu} - \Delta B = \frac{(q')^2}{2\mu}$$

$$|\psi_{pt,LS}^{JJ_z}\rangle = \sum_{n,[K]} a_{pt,LS,[K]} |n, [K]\rangle + |\Omega_{pt,LS}^-(q)\rangle - \sum_{L'S'} S_{LS,L'S'}^{(pt,pt),J} |\Omega_{pt,L'S'}^+(q)\rangle - \underbrace{\sum_{L'S'} S_{LS,L'S'}^{(pt,nh),J} |\Omega_{nh,L'S'}^+(iq')\rangle}_{\text{Vanishing as } \exp(-q'y)}$$



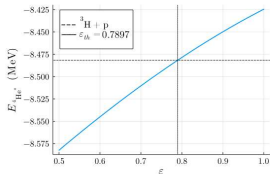
# Extrapolation analysis

Extraction of the resonance parameters [Gattobigio & Kievsky, 2023]  
based on the “Analytic continuation in the coupling constant” (ACCC) method  
[Kukulin, Krasnopol’sky, & J. Hor’acek, Theory of Resonances (1989)]

Method 1:  $H = H_{st} + \epsilon V_{Coul}$

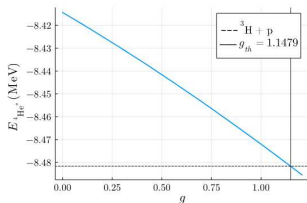
For  $\epsilon = 0$ , the 1st excited state is more bound than  ${}^3\text{H}$

increase  $\epsilon$  from 0 to  $\epsilon_{thres}$



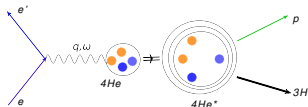
Method 2:  $H' = H - gV_{4N}$

Add an attractive 4N interaction  $g \geq 0$   
decrease  $g$  from  $\infty$  to  $g_{thres}$



Using the ACCC formalism, one can extrapolate to the cases  $\epsilon \rightarrow 1$  and  $g \rightarrow 0$   
Results quoted in [Gattobigio & Kievsky, 2023]:  $E_R = 0.07(1)$  MeV

# Electron scattering



Transition form factor for  $0_{gs}^+ \rightarrow 0_{1st}^+$

See, for example, [Epelbaum,

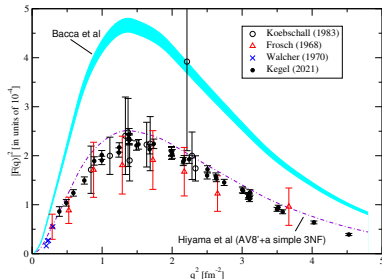
<https://physics.aps.org/articles/v16/58>]

Experimentally...

- [Walcher, 1970]
- [Frosh *et al.*, 1968]
- [Kobschall *et al.*, 1983]
- [Kegel *et al.*, 2021]

... and theoretically

- [Hiyama *et al.*, (2004)] treating the first excited state as a bound state
- [Bacca *et al.*, (2013)–(2015)] using the LIT and a  $\chi$ EFT interaction
- [Kamimura, 2023] seen yesterday...



- Present work: 1) Compute the transition  $\langle \Psi_{3+1}^{m_3, m_1} | \rho(\mathbf{q}) | \Psi_4 \rangle$  using accurate bound and continuum wave functions [Kievsky *et al.*, (2008)], [MV *et al.*, (2020)]
- 2) include the effects of MEC in  $\rho(\mathbf{q})$  [Pastore *et al.*, (2009)–(2011)]

# Theoretical analysis (1)

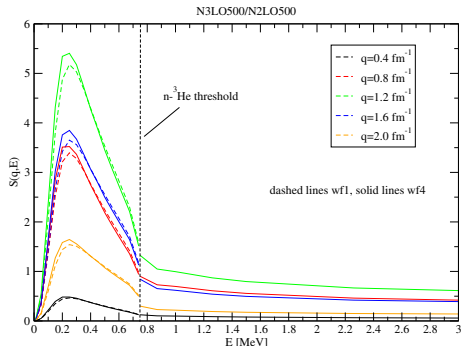
$$\Psi_{3+1}^{m_3, m_1} = \sum_{LSJ_z} \dots \Psi_{AB, LS}^{JJ_z} \sim \phi_3^{m_3} \phi_1^{m_1} e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{y}}$$

- We take into account only the component with  $L = S = J = 0$
- $\Rightarrow$  RME  $C_{AB}(q, E)$  calculated at various kinetic energies  $E$
- $q_{AB} =$  relative  $AB$  momentum;  $E = \frac{q_{AB}^2}{2\mu_{AB}}$ ;  $\mu = AB$  reduced mass
- (IA):  $\rho(\mathbf{q}) = \sum_{j=1}^A \frac{1+\tau_z(j)}{2} e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_j} G_D(q)$ ,  $G_D = \frac{1}{(1+0.056q^2)^2}$  Dipole FF

$$|F(q)|^2 = \frac{1}{16\pi} \sum_{m_1, m_3} \sum_{\mathbf{p}} |\langle \Psi_{3+1}^{m_3, m_1} | \rho(\mathbf{q}) | \Psi_4 \rangle|^2 = \frac{1}{16\pi} \int dE \underbrace{\sum_{AB=pt, nh, \dots} 8\mu_{AB} q_{AB} |C_{AB}(q_{AB}, E)|^2}_{S(q, E)}$$

# Theoretical analysis (2)

wf1, . . . , wf5 = calculations performed using HH bases of increasing number of components

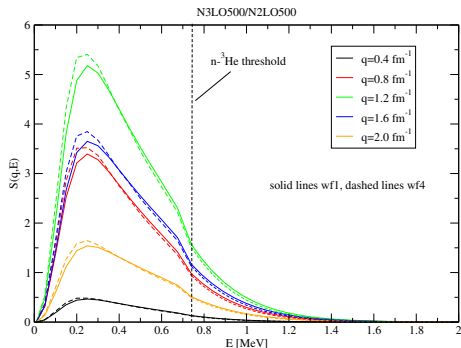
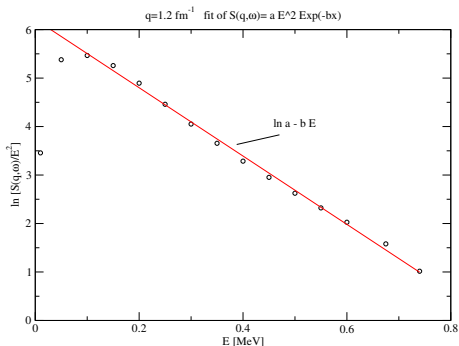


(PRELIMINARY)

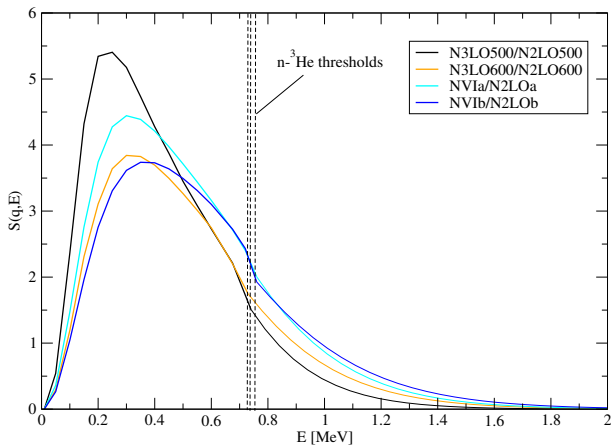
- Slow convergence: at the peak, just below threshold
- Above threshold  $|S^{pt,pt}| \rightarrow 0$  while  $|S^{pt,nh}| \rightarrow 1$
- The charge exchange mechanism starts to be dominant – no formation of the resonance
- Plan: use the  $S(q, E)$  below threshold and “complete” the peak

# Theoretical analysis (3)

(PRELIMINARY) Fit with  $S(q, E) = aE^2 e^{-bE}$ ; note that  $\ln[S(q, E)/E^2] = \ln a - bE$



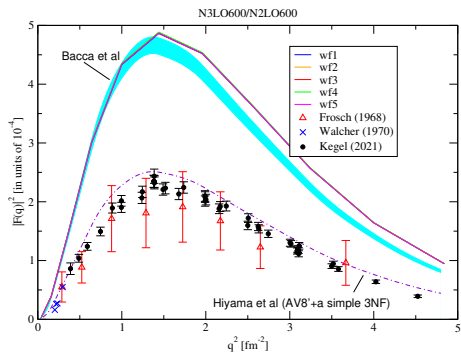
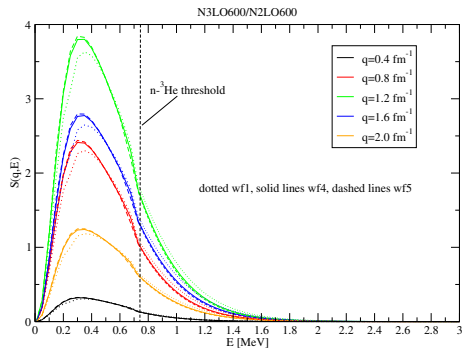
# Comparison of the $S(q, E)$ at $q = 1.2 \text{ fm}^{-1}$



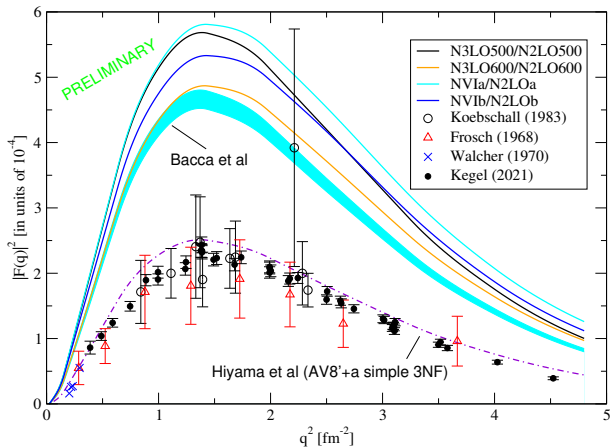
NVIa: short-range cutoff in  $r$ -space  $R_S = 1.2 \text{ fm}$

NVIb: short-range cutoff in  $r$ -space  $R_S = 1.0 \text{ fm}$

# Convergence



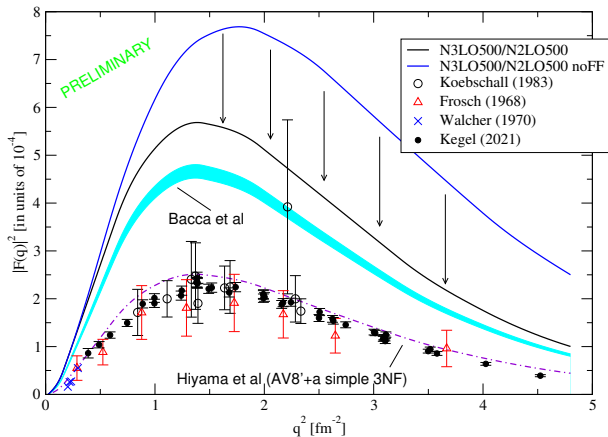
# Results



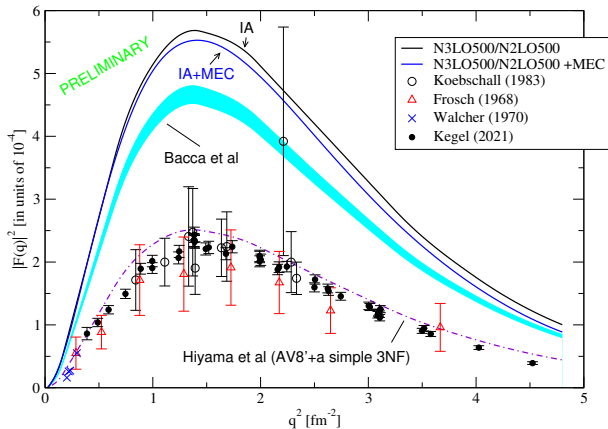
(PRELIMINARY)



# Effect of the nucleon form factor



# Effect of MEC



[Pastore *et al.*, 2011]

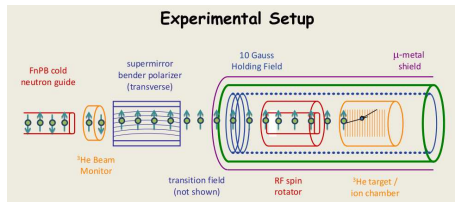
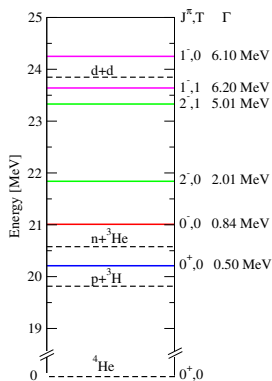


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# Study of the 2nd excited state

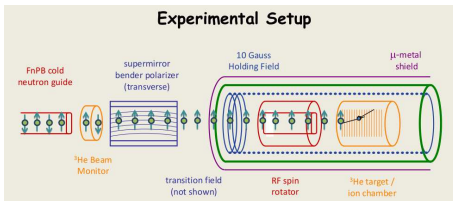
ORNL “n3He” experiment:  $n + {}^3\text{He} \rightarrow p + {}^3\text{H} + 765 \text{ keV}$  with SNS cold neutrons



$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left( \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_u \left( 1 + A_{PV} \hat{s}_n \cdot \hat{k}_p + A_{PA} (\hat{s}_n \times \hat{k}_n) \cdot \hat{k}_p \right)$$

- $A_{PV}$  = parity-violating analyzing power ( $A_X$ )
- $k_p$  in the vertical plane:  $A_{PV}$ 
  - Sensitive to  $V_{PV}$  (still unknown)
  - $A_{PV} = (1.55 \pm 0.97 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.24 \text{ (sys)}) \times 10^{-8}$
  - [Gericke *et al.*, 2020]

ORNL “n3he” experiment:  $n + {}^3\text{He} \rightarrow p + {}^3\text{H} + 765 \text{ keV}$  with SNS cold neutrons



- $A_{PA}$  = parity-allowed analyzing power ( $A_y$ )

- $k_p$  in the horizontal plane :  $A_{PA}$

- Sensitive to  $V_{\text{strong}} + V_{\text{EM}}$  (they should be known ...)

- Interference between S- and

P-waves,  $A_{PA} \sim q_{nh}$

- $E_n \sim 5 \text{ meV}$ ,  $q_{nh} \sim 10^{-5} \text{ fm}^{-1}$

- $A_{PA} =$

$(-43.9 \pm 6.0 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.2 \text{ (sys)})$

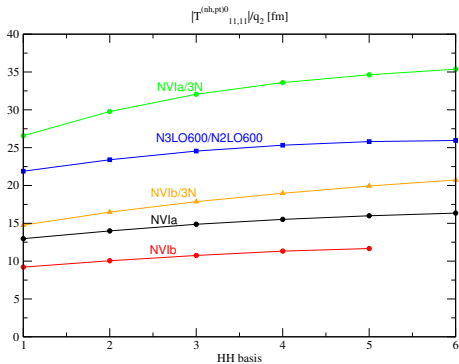
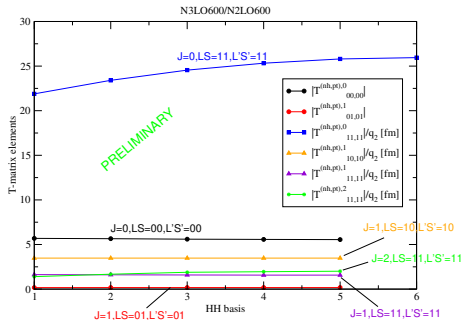
- (PRELIMINARY) [n3he Coll. in preparation]

Theoretical treatment  
in terms of the matrix elements  $T$

$$\frac{A_{PA}}{q_{nh}} \sim \Im \left[ \frac{({}^0 T_{11,11}^{2,1})^*} {q_{nh}} {}^1 T_{01,01}^{2,1} \right] + \dots$$

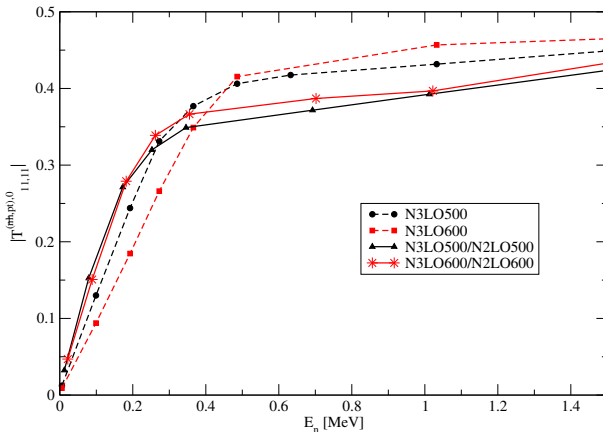
# Convergence

T-matrix elements  $T_{LS,L'S'}^{(nh,pt),J}$  [ $T = (S - 1)/2I$ ]



# Energy dependence of $T_{11,11}^{(nh,pt),0}$

$T_{11,11}^{(nh,pt),0}$  as function of  $E_n$



From  $S_{11,11}^{(nh,pt),0}$  we can also extract the energy and width of the  $0^-$  resonance  
Poles of the S matrix [Rakityansky, Sofianos, & Elander, (2007)]

# Results

$A_{PA}/q_{nh}$  is independent on the energy for very small  $q_{nh}$

Interaction	$E_R$ [MeV]	$\Gamma$ [MeV]	$ T_{11,11}^{(nh,pt),0} /q_{nh}$ [fm]	$A_{PA}/q_{nh} \times 10$ [fm]
N3LO500	0.16	0.41	20.7	-1.03
N3LO600	0.24	0.51	16.9	-0.57
NV1a	0.31	0.53	17.3	-0.55
NV1b	0.30	0.54	13.0	-0.09
N3LO500/N2LO500	0.06	0.26	30.1	-2.13
N3LO600/N2LO600	0.09	0.30	25.9	-1.12
NV1a/N2LOa	0.04	0.36	35.4	-2.49
NV1b/N2LOb	0.12	0.40	23.9	-1.09
Experimental	0.44	0.84		-0.44
				$\pm 0.06$ (stat)
				$\pm 0.03$ (sys)

Experimental value of  $A_{PA}$  still (PRELIMINARY)

Determination of corrections and systematic uncertainties still in progress [McCrea *et al.*, 2023]



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# Evidences of a new boson? Search of the X17

- ${}^7\text{Li}(p, e^+e^-){}^8\text{Be}$  [Krasznahorkay *et al.*, 2016]
- ${}^3\text{H}(p, e^+e^-){}^4\text{He}$  [Krasznahorkay *et al.*, 2019-2021]
- ${}^{11}\text{B}(p, e^+e^-){}^{12}\text{C}$  [Krasznahorkay *et al.*, 2022]

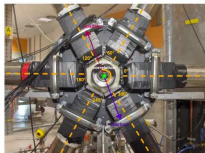
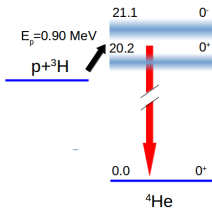
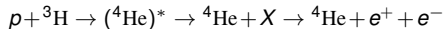
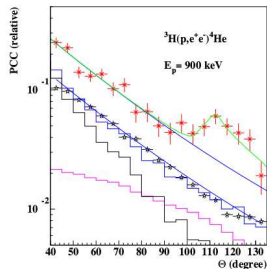


Figure 3. The Atomki nuclear spectrometer. This is an upgraded detector

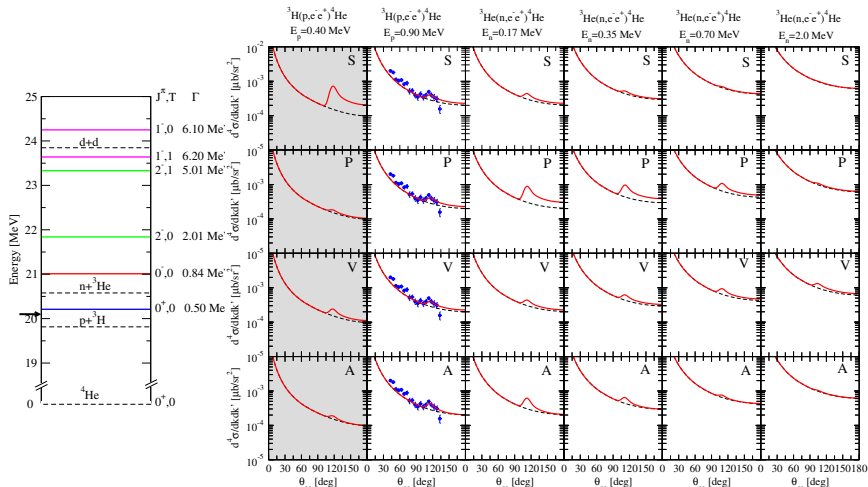


Angular distribution of the  $e^-e^+$  pair



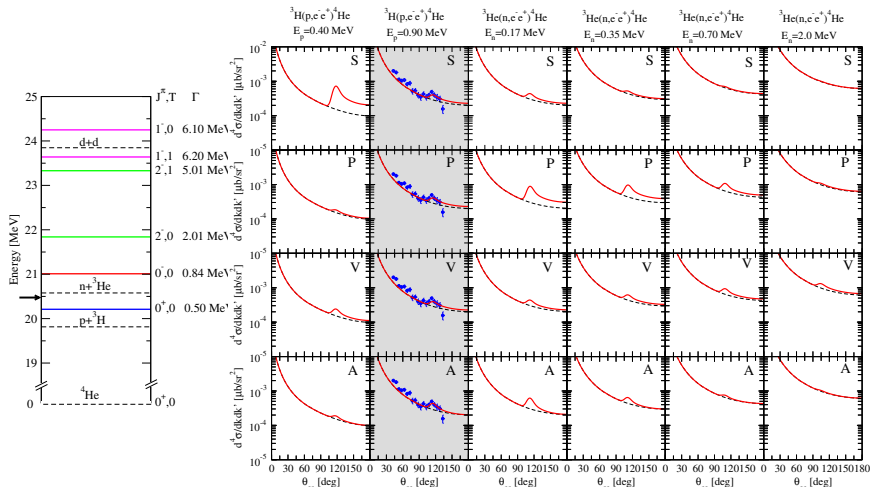
# Theoretical study of ${}^3\text{H}(p, e^+e^-){}^4\text{He}$ & ${}^3\text{He}(n, e^+e^-){}^4\text{He}$

pair emission in the perpendicular plane – peak fitted at 0.90 MeV



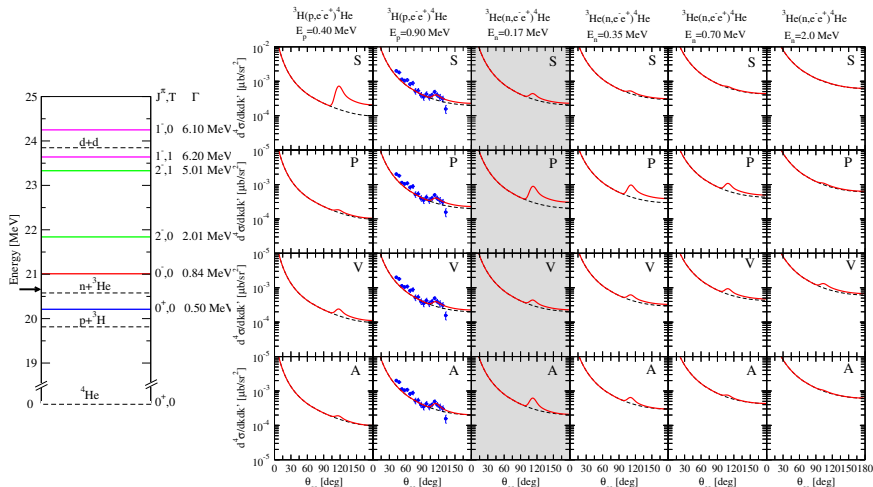
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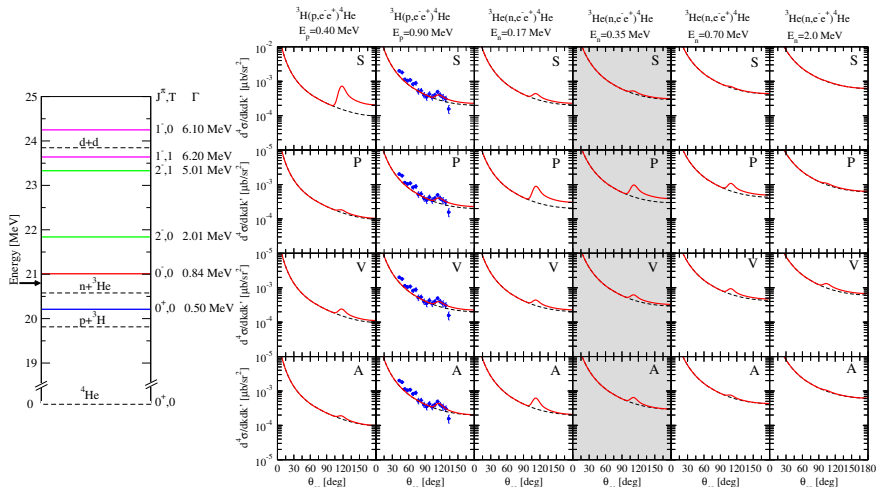
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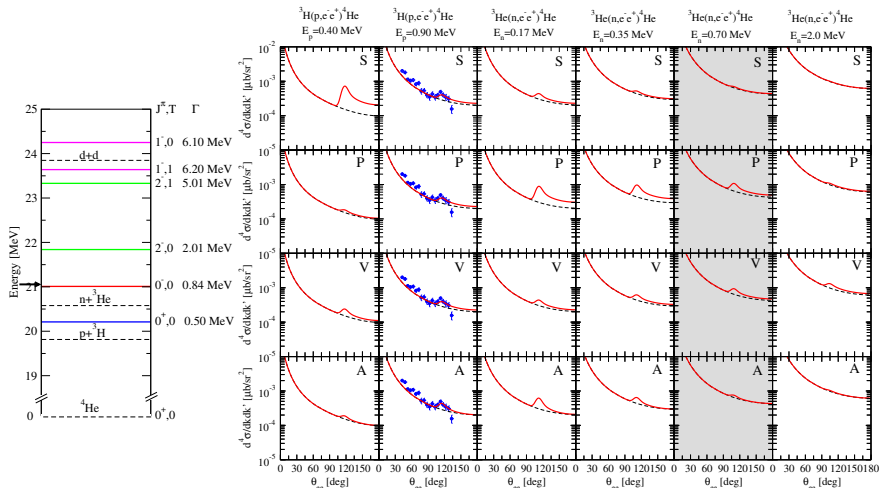
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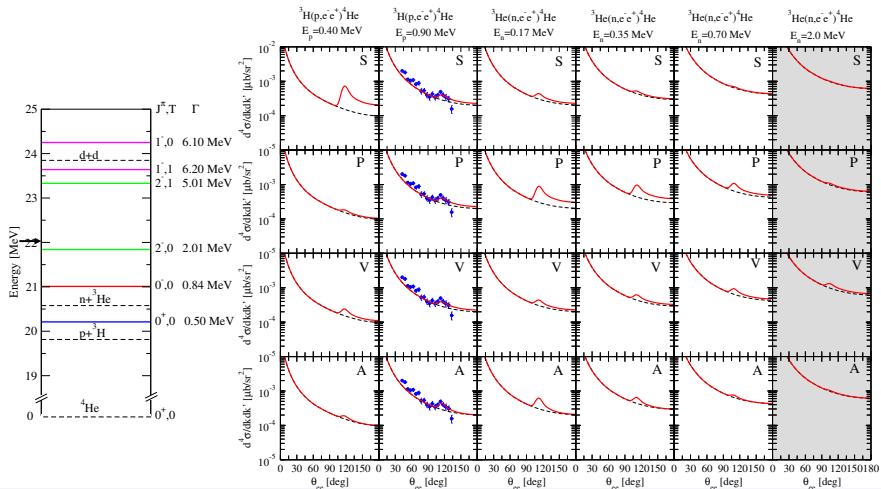
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pair emission in the perpendicular plane – peak fitted at 0.90 MeV





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# Conclusions and perspectives

## Conclusions:

- Still problems with the first two excited states
- Current interactions predicts different positions and widths
- Interesting “handles”
  - Transition form factor
  - $A_{PA}$  at ORNL

## Perspectives:

- Tuning of the 3N force?
- Cutoff dependence of the 3N force?
- “Unitary ambiguity of NN contact interactions and the 3N force” [Girlanda *et atl.*]
  - 5 unknown LECs at N3LO
  - some of them can be used to solve  $n - d$  and  $p - d$   $A_y$  “puzzle”
- Still works to do . . .

Acknowledgements: We thanks for useful discussion S. Bacca, N. Barnea,  
G. Orlandini, & W. Leidemann . . .

. . . and thank you for your attention!