

Understanding collective behavior in beryllium isotopes

Anna E. McCoy

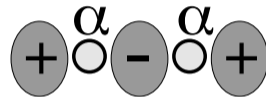
Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, Michigan State University
Washington University in St. Louis

Aug. 1, 2023

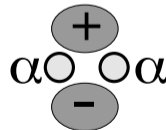
Neutron-rich beryllium isotopes

- Depicted as α dumbbell with valence neutrons
Antisymmetrized molecular dynamics (AMD): valence neutrons in σ and π orbitals.
- Tension between shell effects and clustering
- Island of inversion near $N = 8$ shell closure.
Parity inversion in ^{11}Be and intruder ground state in ^{12}Be .
- Appearance of shape coexistence
Rotational bands with very different moment of inertia

(a) σ -orbit

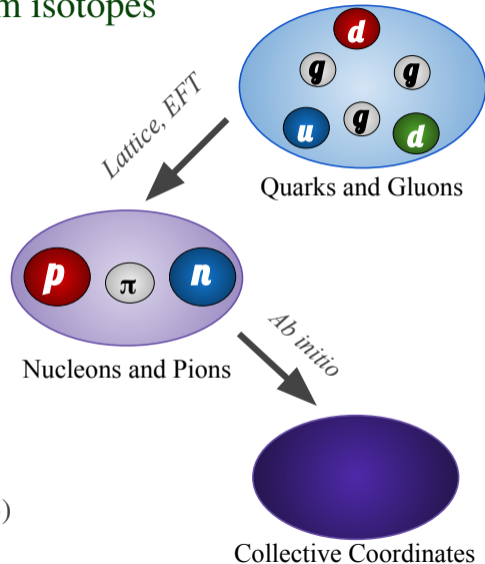


(b) π -orbit



Ab initio look at beryllium isotopes

- Effective field theory and lattice QCD provide a link between the quark scale and the nucleon scale.
- Solve nuclear many-body problem where protons and neutrons as degrees of freedom
No-core shell model (NCSM)
- Signatures of collective behavior emerge in NCSM calculated spectrum
- Probe wave functions to gain insight into, e.g., underlying symmetries and correlations *Elliott's SU(3)*



No-core shell model

Solve many-body Schrodinger equation

$$\sum_i^A -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_i} \nabla_i^2 \Psi + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^A V(|r_i - r_j|) \Psi = E \Psi$$

Expanding wavefunctions in a basis

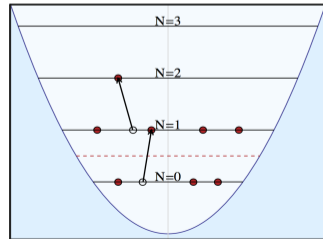
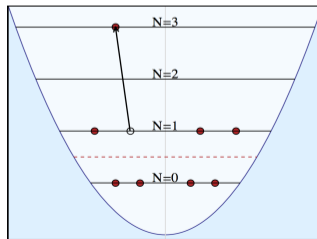
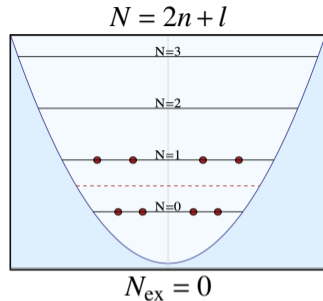
$$\Psi = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k \phi_k$$

Reduces to Hamiltonian matrix eigenproblem

$$\begin{pmatrix} H_{11} & H_{12} & \dots \\ H_{21} & H_{22} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

Harmonic oscillator basis

- Basis states are configurations, i.e., distributions of particles over harmonic oscillator shells (*nlj substates*)
- States are organized by total number of oscillator quanta above the lowest Pauli allowed number N_{ex}
- States with higher N_{ex} contribute less to the wavefunction
- Basis must be truncated:
Restrict $N_{\text{ex}} \leq N_{\text{max}}$

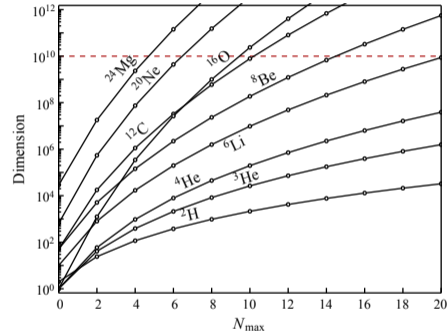
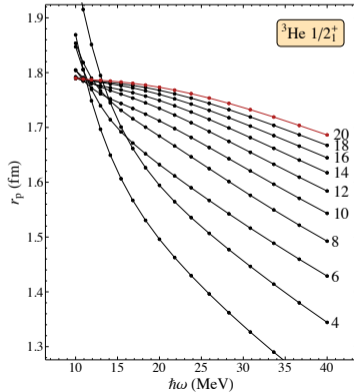
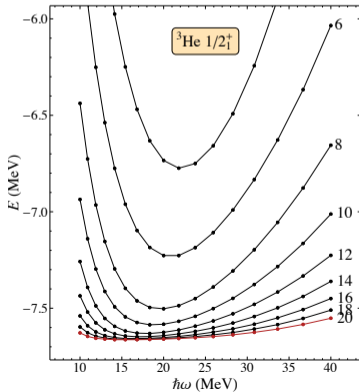


$N_{\text{ex}} = 2$

Convergence Challenge

Results for calculations in a finite space depend upon:

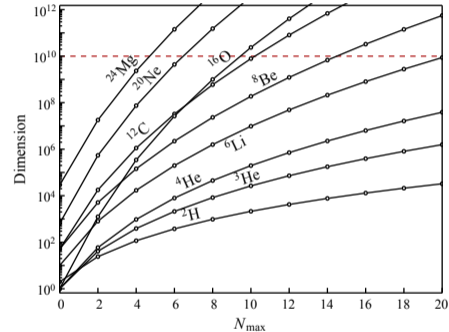
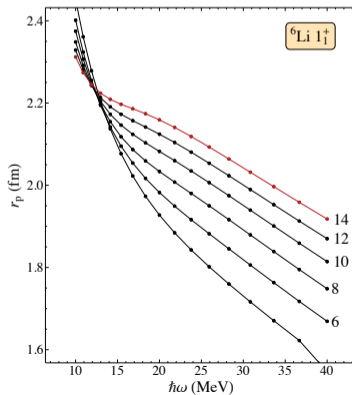
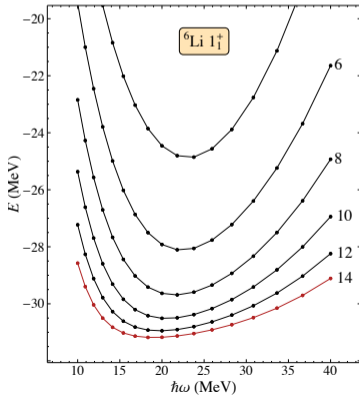
- Many-body truncation N_{\max}
- Single-particle basis scale $\hbar\omega$



Convergence Challenge

Results for calculations in a finite space depend upon:

- Many-body truncation N_{\max}
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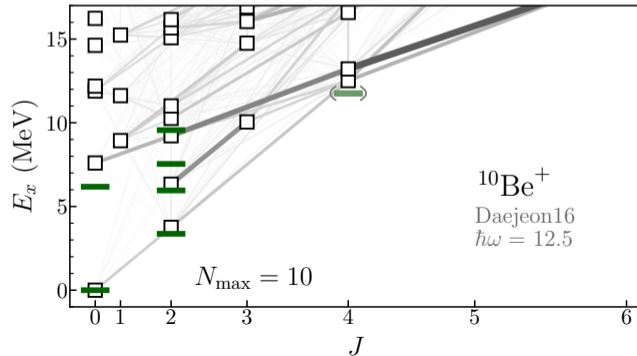
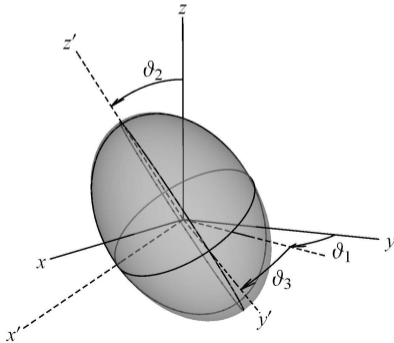
Even not fully converged, ab initio results can still tell us something about the underlying correlations

Nuclear rotations

Characterized by rotation of intrinsic state $|\phi_K\rangle$ by Euler angles ϑ ($J = K, K + 1, \dots$)

$$|\psi_{JKM}\rangle \propto \int d\vartheta \left[\mathcal{D}_{MK}^J(\vartheta) |\phi_K; \vartheta\rangle + (-)^{J+K} \mathcal{D}_{M-K}^J(\vartheta) |\phi_{\bar{K}}; \vartheta\rangle \right]$$

Rotational energy: $E(J) = E_0 + A[J(J + 1)]$

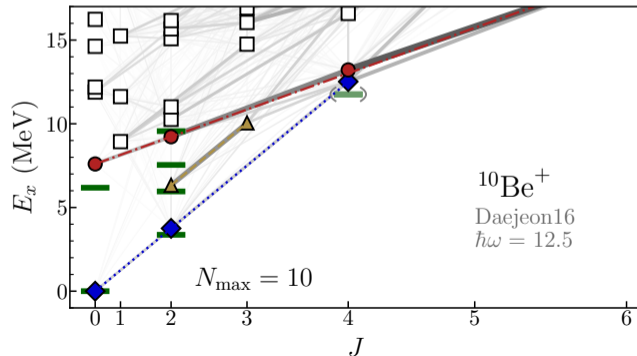
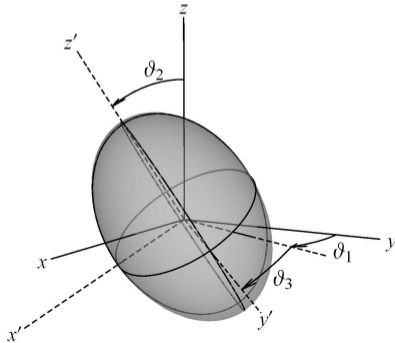


Nuclear rotations

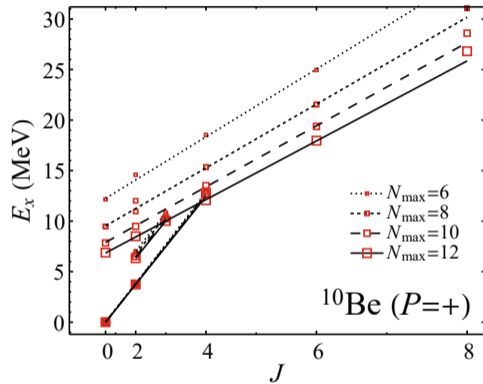
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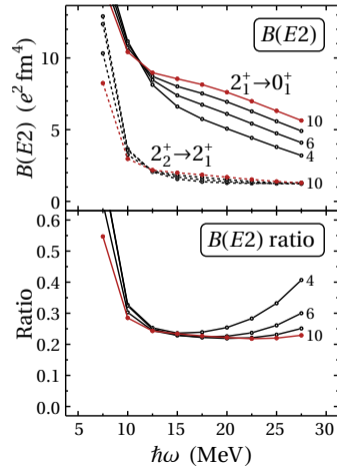
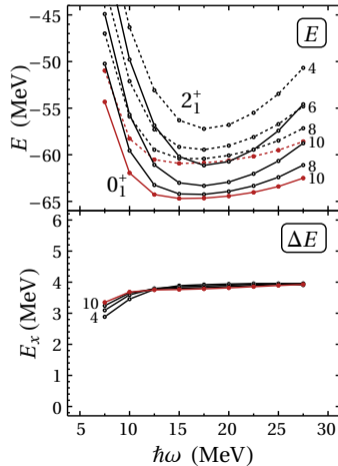
Rotational energy: $E(J) = E_0 + A[J(J + 1)]$



Robustness of band properties

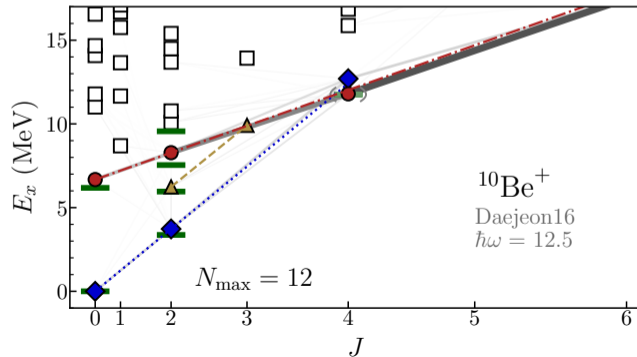
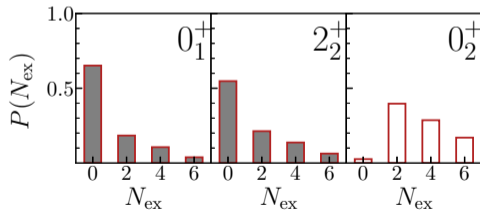


M. A. Caprio, P. J. Fasano, A. E. McCoy, P. Maris, J. P. Vary,
Bulg. J. Phys. **46**, 455 (2019).



Probing underlying symmetries

- *Ab initio* calculations provides access to underlying wave functions of the collective states
- Using the “Lanczos trick” we can decompose the wave functions according to different symmetries
C. W. Johnson. Phys. Rev. C **91** (2015) 034313.



Elliott SU(3)

Elliott's SU(3): Irrep labels (λ, μ) associated with deformation parameters

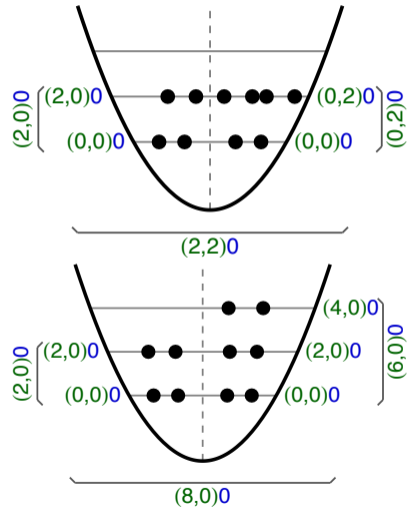
O. Castanos, J. P. Draayer, Y. Leschber, Z. Phys. A 329 (1988) 3.

$$\beta^2 \propto r^{-4}(\lambda^2 + \lambda\mu + \mu^2 + 3\lambda + 3\mu + 3)$$

$$\gamma \propto \tan^{-1}[\sqrt{3}(\mu + 1)/(2\lambda + \mu)]$$

SU(3) symmetry of a configuration

- Each particle has SU(3) symmetry $(N, 0)$, $N = 2n + \ell$
- SU(3) couple particles to get total SU(3)
- Allowed spins dictated by antisymmetry constraints
- Final quantum numbers are $N_{\text{ex}}(\lambda\mu)S$.



Elliott's Rotational Model

- Bands arise from projecting out states with good L and K_L from intrinsic state with definite $(\lambda\mu)$

$$|(\lambda\mu)K_L L M_L\rangle$$

- Couple to spin to get good J states

$$L \times S \rightarrow J, \quad K = K_L + K_S$$

- Lowest energies correspond to most deformed state

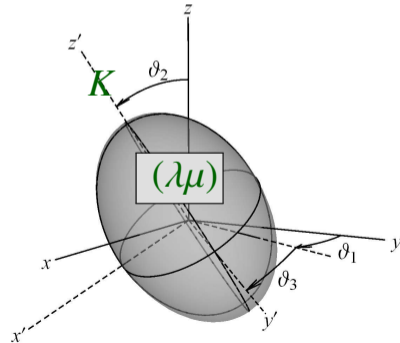
$$\beta^2 \propto \langle Q \cdot Q \rangle / \langle r^2 \rangle^2$$

$$H = \underbrace{H_0}_{\text{shell}} - \underbrace{\kappa Q \cdot Q}_{\text{correlations}}$$

D. J. Rowe, G. Thiamova, and J. L. Wood. Phys. Rev. Lett. **97** (2006) 202501.

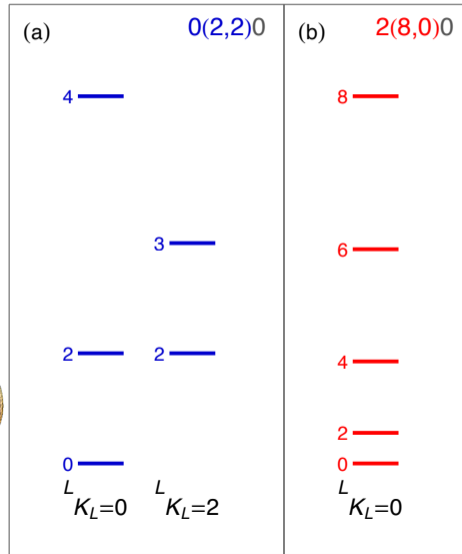
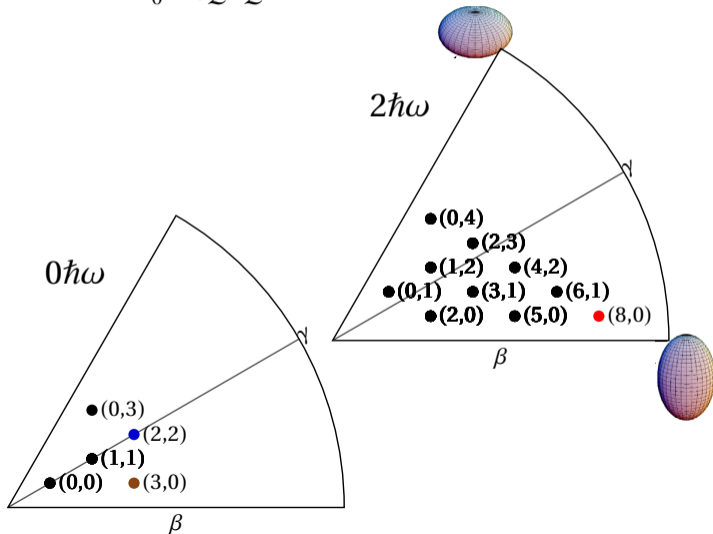
SU(3) generators

Q_{2M}	<i>Algebraic quadrupole</i>
L_{1M}	<i>Orbital angular momentum</i>



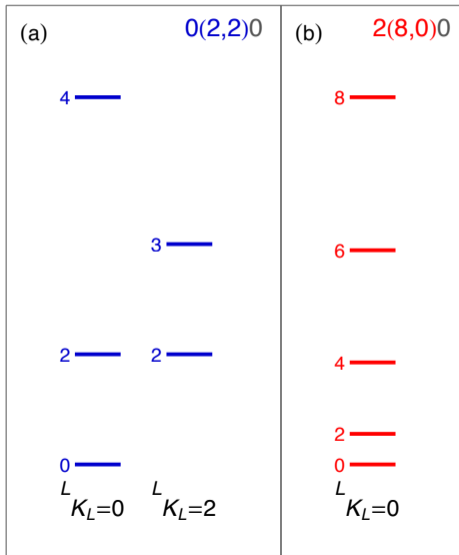
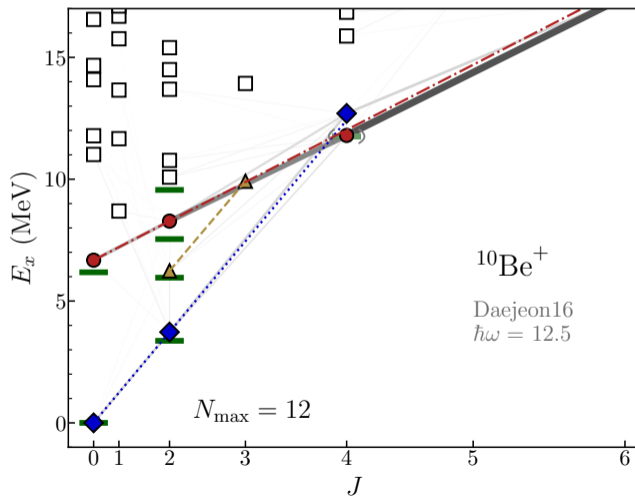
Elliott rotational bands: ^{10}Be

$$H = H_0 - \kappa Q \cdot Q$$

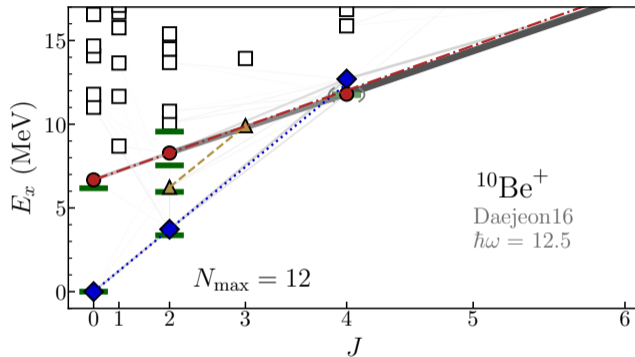


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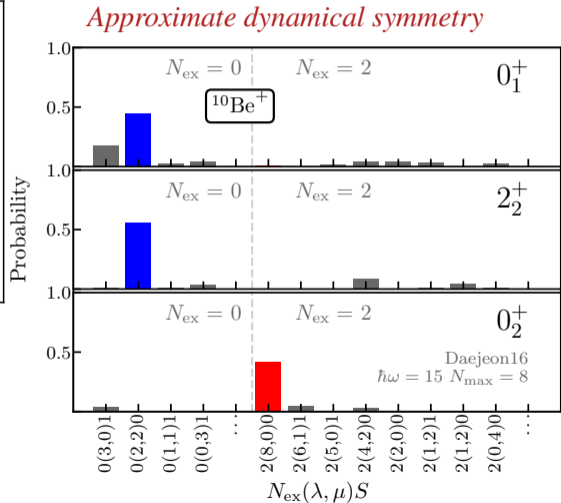
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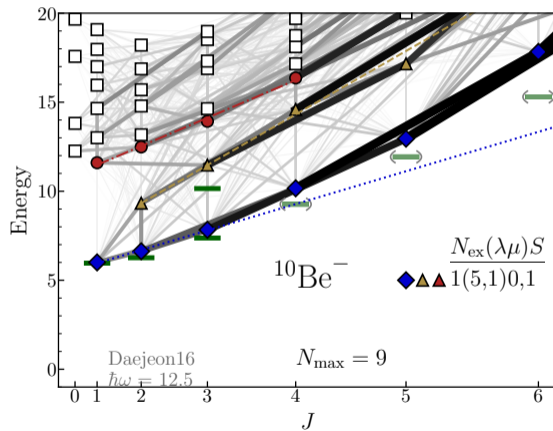
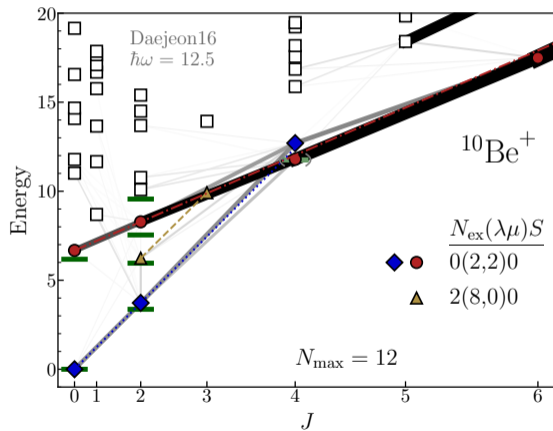
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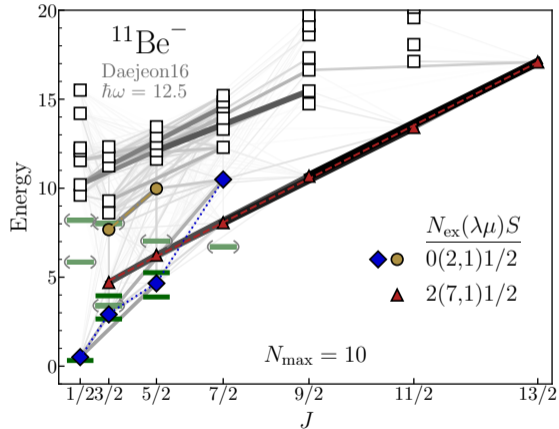
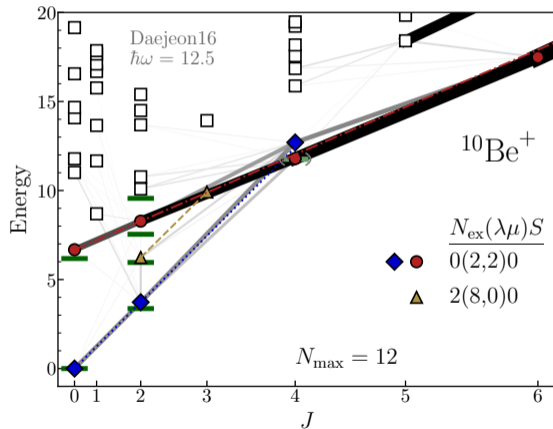
- Ground state band: $N_{\text{ex}}(\lambda\mu)S = 0(2, 2)0$
- Intruder band: $N_{\text{ex}}(\lambda\mu)S = 2(8, 0)0$



^{10}Be



$^{10}\text{Be} + n$

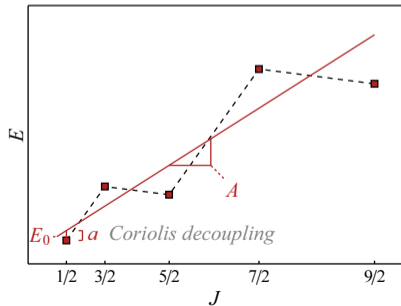


Nuclear rotations

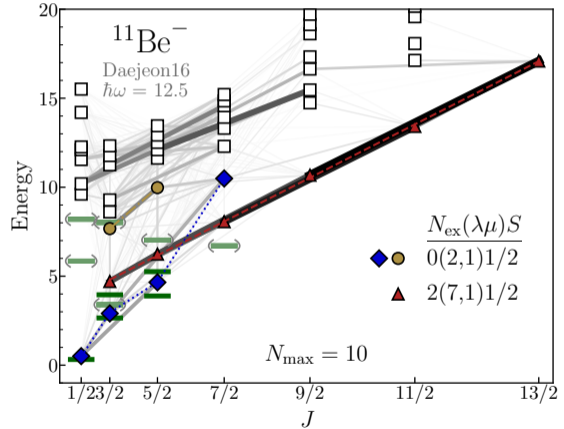
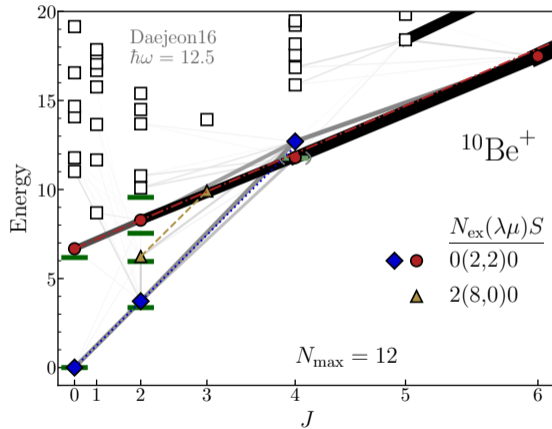
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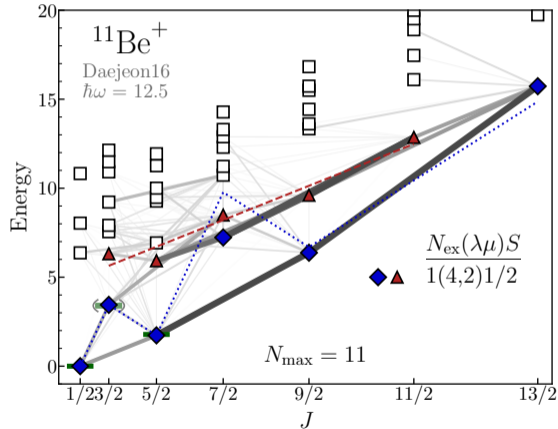
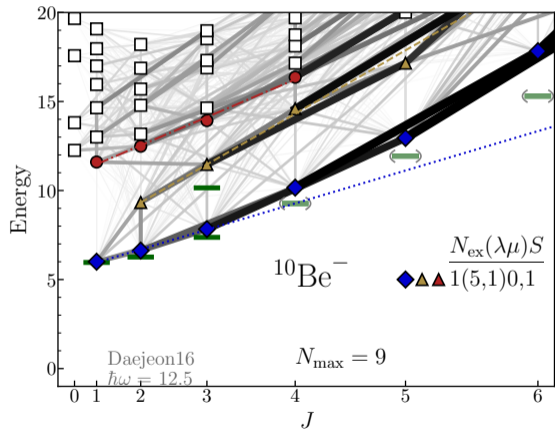
Rotational energy: $E(J) = E_0 + A[J(J+1)] + \underbrace{a(-)^{J+1/2}(J + \frac{1}{2})}_{\text{Coriolis } (K=1/2)}$



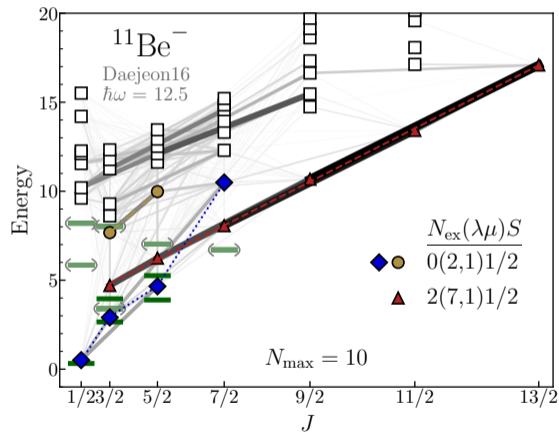
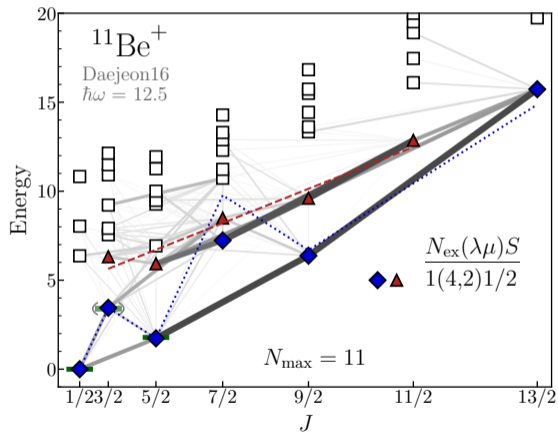
$^{10}\text{Be} + n$



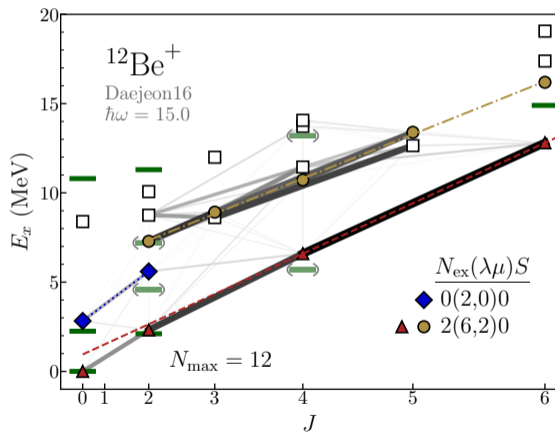
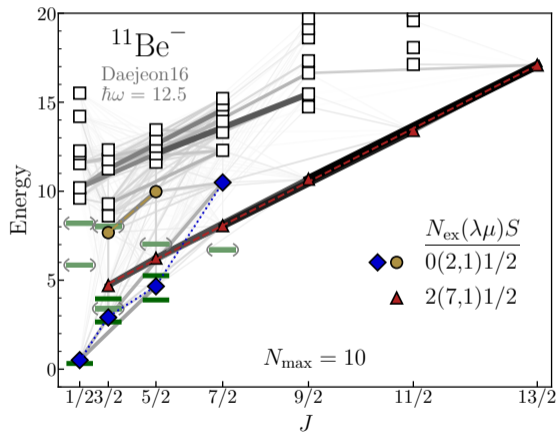
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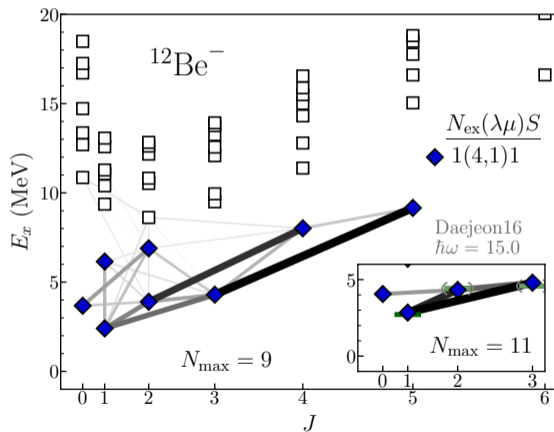
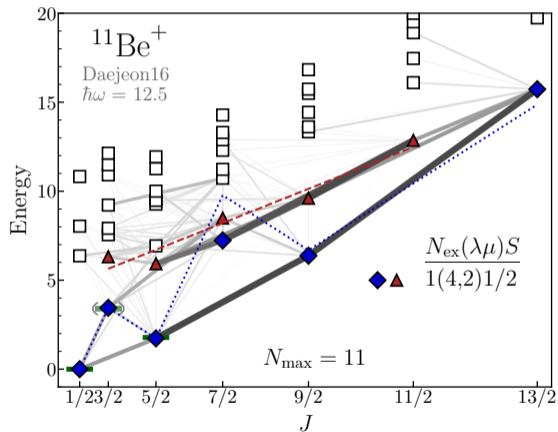
Parity inversion in ^{11}Be



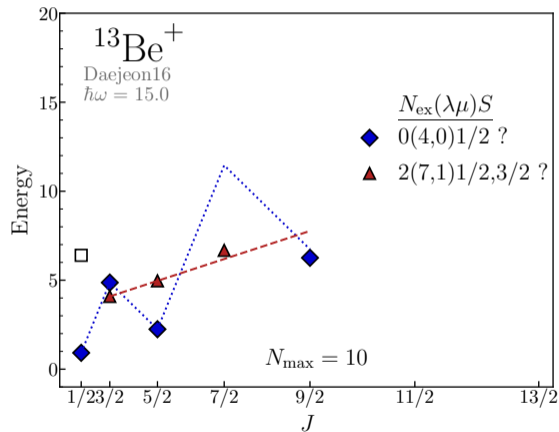
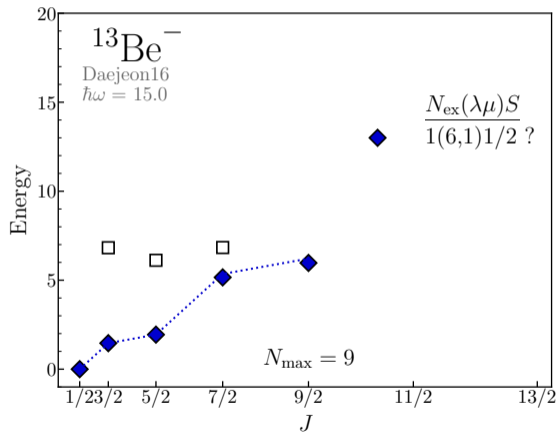
$^{11}\text{Be} + n$



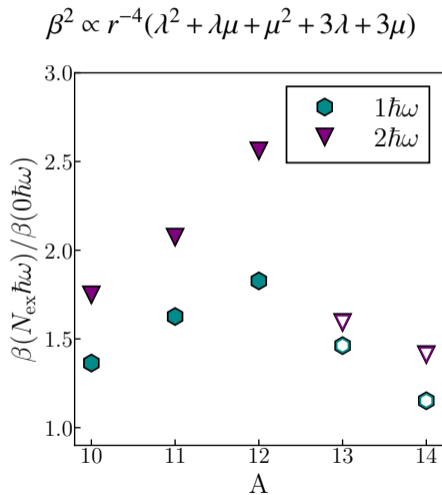
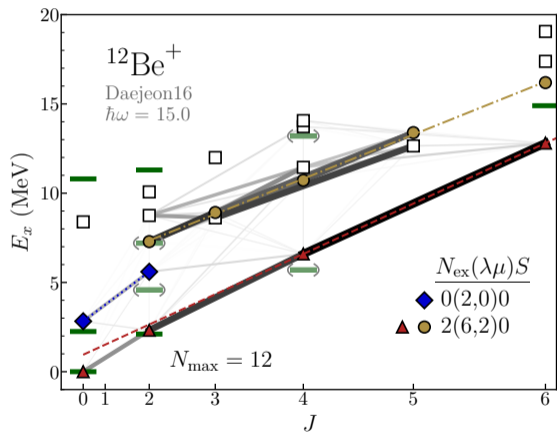
$^{11}\text{Be} + n$



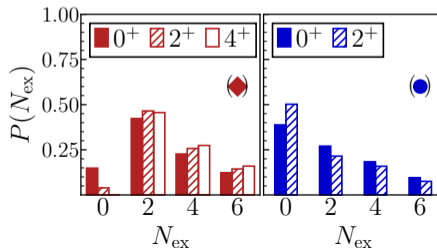
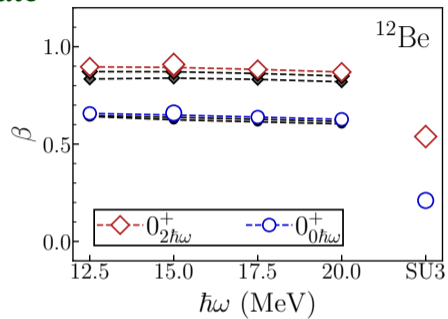
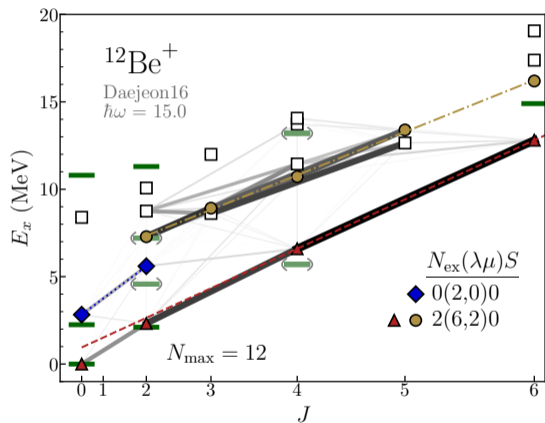
Parity inversion ^{13}Be



SU(3) shape coexistence



SU(3) only approximate



Acknowledgements

In collaboration with...

Mark Caprio *Univ. Notre Dame*

Patrick Fasano *ANL*

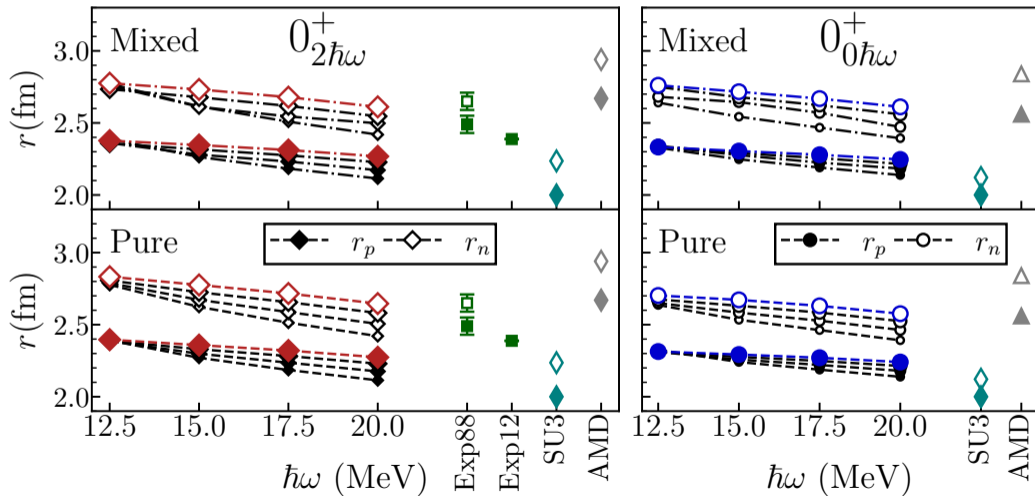
Pieter Maris *Iowa State Univ.*



Summary

- Rotational bands emerge in *ab initio* predictions of In $^{10-13}$ Be.
- Symmetry decompositions of calculated wave functions provide insight into the intrinsic structure of the states
Approximate SU(3) symmetry
- SU(3) provides a simple framework for competition between collectivity and shell effects
Shape coexistence, parity inversion and intruder ground state

^{12}Be radii



$$\beta^2 \sim \langle Q \cdot Q \rangle / \langle r^2 \rangle^2$$

