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Nucleon-nucleon interactions in the large-N_c expansion

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Considering QCD in the limit of the number of colors N_c being large provides important constraints on the nucleon-nucleon interactions. These constraints are particularly valuable for cases for which available data is limited (if it exists at all), such as for interactions that violate symmetries, e.g., parity and time reversal invariance, and operators contributing to neutrinoless double beta decay. In the absence of sufficient data, these constraints may prove useful in guiding both experiment and theory in prioritizing where to focus our efforts to gain a better understanding of these interactions. I will describe recent applications and also discuss the role of intermediate states containing the Delta isobar.

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