## Experimental tests of *ab initio* nuclear structure calculations

- *Ab-initio*: start with 2N, 3N forces (e.g. AV18+IL7, CD Bonn)
- Quantum Monte Carlo limited to A≤12
  - Variational Monte Carlo (lowest energy/configuration by variation)
  - Green's Function Monte Carlo (evolve VMC state in imaginary time)
- No Core Shell Model Harmonic-oscillator basis, converge to large  $\hbar\Omega$
- Many Successes
  - Binding and excitation energies
  - Charge and matter radii
  - Spectroscopic overlaps / spectroscopic factors
  - Transition matrix elements
  - Continuum states







E. A. McCutchen *et al.*, PRL **103**, 192501 (2009) (<sup>10</sup>Be); PRC 86, 014312 (2012) (<sup>10</sup>C); PRC 86, 057306 (2012) (<sup>10</sup>B)

 ${}^{10}B(p,p'){}^{10}B^*$  in HELIOS at ANL



45

50

55

60

z (cm)

Kuvin et al., PRC 96, 041301(R) (2017)

65

80

75

70

Correlation between proton energy **B**field and position Target Fan **PSD** Array <sup>10</sup>B beam Ex 0.718 р  ${}^{10}B, \alpha, {}^{6}Li$ E(p) (MeV) 9 Zero-Degree 1.740 Recóil Detector 2.154 Detector 3.587 Protons follow helical trajectories in uniform magnetic field.

Pure beam + recoil detection = better isolation of reaction and ability to observe weak transitions

PID and particle branches



## The discrepancy remains for GFMC in <sup>10</sup>B



Kuvin et al., PRC **96**, 041301(R) (2017)



Spatial symmetry components combine to make B(E2)

## In the continuum: <sup>5</sup>H

- Very close to <sup>4</sup>*n* (the "tetra-neutron")
- Very unbound to <sup>3</sup>H+2*n* but potentially observable
- Many data exist, with conflicting values of the resonance energy and width (Typically:  $E_R \sim 1.8$  MeV,  $\Gamma \sim 1-2$  MeV).
- Properties are very sensitive to nn interaction, influence of the continuum: possibility of observing nn correlations
  - Challenge for *ab-initio* methods
    - NCSMC<sup>1</sup>; QMC<sup>2</sup> for limited cases (2-body clusters)
    - Can overlaps be believed for very unbound systems?

<sup>1</sup>P. Navrátil, Phys. Scr. **91**, 053002 (2016), S. Quaglioni *et al.*, PRC **97**, 034332 (2018) <sup>2</sup>K. Nollett *et al.*, PRL **99**, 022502 (2007), J. Carlson *et al.*, Rev. Mod. Phys. **87**, 1067 (2015)



Reaction products have wide dynamic range in energy: Requires two different types of particle-detector telescope for PID

Bombarding energy is 2.5 times higher than previous measurements

## Detection with the High-Resolution Array (HiRA<sup>1</sup>) at MSU/NSCL

- 2 Si layers
- 4 CsI(TI) crystals



• ΔE(Si): SSD 32 strips



- E(Si): DSSD 32x32 strips ( $\Delta \theta_{lab}$ =0.13°/pixel)
- 14 Telescopes, covers θ<sub>c.m.</sub>=~1-10°

<sup>1</sup>M. S. Wallace et al., Nucl. Instrum. and Meth. A 583, 302 (2007)



GFMC overlaps and two-neutron densities



10

<sup>6</sup>He(2<sup>+</sup>)

*f*(pair)=96%

## Ab Initio with NCSMC

#### PHYSICAL REVIEW C 97, 034332 (2018)

#### Three-cluster dynamics within the *ab initio* no-core shell model with continuum: How many-body correlations and α clustering shape <sup>6</sup>He

Sofia Quaglioni,<sup>1,\*</sup> Carolina Romero-Redondo,<sup>1,†</sup> Petr Navrátil,<sup>2,‡</sup> and Guillaume Hupin<sup>3,§</sup>

No-Core Shell Model and QMC 2-neutron densities are very similar

(This is  ${}^{6}\text{He}_{g.s.}$ , but the neutron configurations in  ${}^{5}\text{H}_{g.s.}$  and  ${}^{6}\text{He}_{g.s.}$  should be similar)

*Ab initio* calculations support strong di-neutron correlations



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# Inspiration for further experiments and calculations

- EM transitions: Re-measure 0.16% E2 gamma-ray branching ratio for <sup>10</sup>B (current limit on uncertainty for measured B(E2)) – Planned experiment using GAMMASPHERE
- Energy and width of <sup>5</sup>H<sub>g.s.</sub> (NCSMC calculation; <sup>5</sup>He is not bad)
- <sup>5</sup>H (and unbound <sup>6</sup>He): Compare *n*-*n* correlations following
   <sup>6</sup>He(*d*, <sup>3</sup>He)<sup>5</sup>H and <sup>6</sup>He breakup
- Other reactions to study continuum states in <sup>6</sup>He: Two-neutron transfer with <sup>4</sup>He(*t*,*p*)<sup>6</sup>He (Previously studied only twice in the 70's at low energies)

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<sup>5</sup>H:

10**B**.



#### Experimental Signatures



## σ(E) Q-value dependence

- Cross section decreases with excitation energy, distorting the line-shape (energy conservation and momentum matching)
- Observed profile is narrower and may shift compared to "intrinsic" shape
- Must correct before going any further using reaction theory (DWBA)



## Ab Initio comparisons PHYSICAL REVIEW C 97, 034332 (2018)

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No-Core Shell Model and QMC 2-neutron densities are very similar

(This is <sup>6</sup>He, but the neutron configurations in <sup>5</sup>H and <sup>6</sup>He should be similar)

*Ab initio* calculations support strong di-neutron correlations



#### A very different theory



#### Present empirical "intrinsic" shape

#### Broad states beyond the neutron drip line

#### Examples of $^5\mathrm{H}$ and $^4\mathrm{n}$

L.V. Grigorenko<sup>1,2,a</sup>. N.K. Timofevuk<sup>3</sup>. and M.V. Zhukov<sup>4</sup> Eur. Phys. J. A **19**, 187–201 (2004)



Properties depend on formation mechanism, *e.g.* proton removal from  ${}^{6}\text{He}(0^{+})$ .

The nucleus does *not* forget: "Model with source"

#### Reaction of interest: ${}^{6}\text{He}(d,{}^{3}\text{He}){}^{5}\text{H}({}^{3}\text{H}+2n)$ Q=-(18-20) MeV undetected =proton Si-CsI(TI) =neutron <sup>2</sup>H 1.9mg/cm<sup>2</sup> <sup>5</sup>H (CD<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub> undetected <sup>3</sup>H ~ 190 MeV <sup>6</sup>He 330MeV $^{3}$ He ~ 10 MeV 7x10<sup>5</sup>/sec from Si-Si NSCL

Reaction products have wide dynamic range in energy: Requires two different types of particle-detector telescope for PID

Bombarding energy is 2.5 times higher than previous measurements

#### Calibration reaction: ${}^{6}\text{He}(d,t){}^{5}\text{He}({}^{4}\text{He}+n)$



Reaction products have wide dynamic range in energy: Requires two different types of particle-detector telescope for PID Properties of <sup>5</sup>He<sub>g.s.</sub> are well known.

#### <sup>5</sup>H as a resonance: Data and Theory



With apologies – too many references to cite

#### Reaction of interest: ${}^{10}B(p,p'){}^{10}B(\gamma)$



Protons detected in HELIOS; other reaction products identified in Si-Si telescopes

#### Reaction of interest: ${}^{10}B(p,p'){}^{10}B(\alpha+{}^{6}Li)$



Protons detected in HELIOS; other reaction products identified in Si-Si telescopes







## Where there are challenges

- $T_Z$  dependence of EM transition matrix elements; Focus on  $2^+ \rightarrow 0^+$  transitions in the T=1, A=10 triplet
  - What works, and what doesn't?
  - What aspects are most important? (3BF and different symmetry components)
  - <sup>10</sup>B
- The continuum (unbound systems, scattering states)
  - What can we learn about or from (very) unbound systems?
  - What are the limitations and (how) can they be surpassed?
  - How can we learn more?
  - <sup>6</sup>He/<sup>5</sup>H

