# Nuclear physics uncertainties in direct detection

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#### Direct dark matter detection

WIMP scattering off nuclei needs nuclear structure factors as input

particularly sensitive to nuclear physics for spin-dependent couplings

relevant momentum transfers  $\sim m_{\pi}$ 

calculate systematically with chiral effective field theory Menendez, Gazit, AS, PRD **86**, 103511 (2012), Klos, Menendez, Gazit, AS, 1304.7684.

dark matter response may have more complex couplings in nuclei Liam Fitzpatrick, Haxton et al. (2012)



from CDMS collaboration

# From QCD to nuclei

Chiral effective field theory provides a systematic basis for nuclear forces and the coupling to external probes based on the Standard Model

**QCD Vacuum** 

combined with powerful many-body methods can access nuclei



Weinberg, van Kolck, Kaplan, Savage, Wise, Epelbaum, Kaiser, Machleidt, Meissner,...

# Frontier of ab-initio calculations at A~50

# Masses of exotic calcium isotopes pin down nuclear forces

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<sup>53,54</sup>Ca masses measured at ISOLTRAP/CERN using new MR-TOF mass spectrometer

excellent agreement with theoretical predictions from NN+3N forces: NN+3N (MBPT)

establish prominent N=32 shell closure in calcium



#### Chiral EFT for WIMP currents in nuclei



Chiral EFT currents and electromagnetic interactions predicts consistent electromagnetic 1+2-body currents

GFMC calculations of magnetic moments in light nuclei Pastore et al. (2012) 2-body currents (meson-exchange currents=MEC) are key!



# Two-body currents and 3N forces

weak axial currents and WIMP currents couple to spin, similar to pions spin-dep. WIMP-nucleon int. = isospin rotation of weak axial current

two-body currents predicted by  $\pi N$ , NN, 3N couplings to N<sup>3</sup>LO



two-body analogue of Goldberger-Treiman relation

explored in light nuclei, but not for larger systems

dominant contribution to Gamow-Teller transitions, important in nuclei (Q~100 MeV)

3N couplings predict quenching of  $g_A$  (dominated by long-range part) and predict momentum dependence (weaker quenching for larger p) Menendez, Gazit, AS (2011)

#### WIMP currents in nuclei and uncertainties

one-body currents with isoscalar/isovector couplings  $a_{0/1}$ 

$$Q^{0}: \sum_{i=1}^{A} \mathbf{J}_{i,1b} = \sum_{i=1}^{A} \frac{1}{2} \left[ a_{0}\sigma_{i} + a_{1}\tau_{i}^{3}\sigma_{i} \right]$$
$$Q^{2}: \sum_{i=1}^{A} \mathbf{J}_{i,1b} = \sum_{i=1}^{A} \frac{1}{2} \left[ a_{0}\sigma_{i} + a_{1}\tau_{i}^{3} \left( \frac{g_{A}(p^{2})}{g_{A}}\sigma_{i} - \frac{g_{P}(p^{2})}{2mg_{A}}(\mathbf{p}\cdot\sigma_{i})\mathbf{p} \right) \right]$$

Q<sup>2</sup> similar to phenomenological currents, but slightly different p-dep.

two-body currents at Q<sup>3</sup> predicted by c<sub>3</sub>, c<sub>4</sub> couplings from  $\pi$ N, NN, 3N  $\int_{N}^{N} \int_{N}^{x} \int_{x}^{x} J_{12}^{3} = -\frac{g_{A}}{4F_{\pi}^{2}} \frac{1}{m_{\pi}^{2} + k^{2}} \left[ 2\left(c_{4} + \frac{1}{4m}\right)\mathbf{k} \times (\sigma_{X} \times \mathbf{k})\tau_{X}^{3} + 4c_{3}\mathbf{k} \cdot (\sigma_{1}\tau_{1}^{3} + \sigma_{2}\tau_{2}^{3})\mathbf{k} - \frac{i}{m}\mathbf{k} \cdot (\sigma_{1} - \sigma_{2})\mathbf{q}\tau_{X}^{3} \right]$ 

due to interactions among nucleons, dominated by long-range part

include as density-dependent one-body currents (normal ordering), uncertainties due to leading-order two-body currents reflected in  $c_3$ ,  $c_4$ 

# Nuclear structure for direct detection

valence-shell Hamiltonian calculated from NN interactions + corrections to compensate for not including 3N forces (will improved in the future)

valence spaces and interactions have been tested successfully in nuclear structure calculations, largest spaces used



very good agreement for spectra; ordering and grouping well reproduced Menendez, Gazit, AS (201)

connects WIMP direct detection with double-beta decay

#### Nuclear structure II

#### similar agreement for other nuclei relevant to direct detection Menendez, Klos, Gazit, AS (2013)



#### Nuclear structure factors

differential cross section for spin-dependent WIMP scattering  $\sim$  axial-vector structure factor  $S_A(p)$ 

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dp^2} = \frac{1}{(2J_i + 1)\pi v^2} \sum_{s_f, s_i} \sum_{M_f, M_i} |\langle f| \mathcal{L}_{\chi}^{\text{SD}} |i\rangle|^2$$
$$= \frac{8G_F^2}{(2J_i + 1)v^2} S_A(p),$$

decompose into longitudinal, transverse electric and transverse magnetic

$$S_A(p) = \sum_{L \ge 0} \left| \langle J_f || \mathcal{L}_L^5 || J_i \rangle \right|^2 + \sum_{L \ge 1} \left( \left| \langle J_f || \mathcal{T}_L^{\text{el5}} || J_i \rangle \right|^2 + \left| \langle J_f || \mathcal{T}_L^{\text{mag5}} || J_i \rangle \right|^2 \right)$$

transverse magnetic multipoles vanish for elastic scattering

can also decompose into isoscalar/isovector structure factors  $S_{ij}(p)$  $S_A(p) = a_0^2 S_{00}(p) + a_0 a_1 S_{01}(p) + a_1^2 S_{11}(p)$ 

#### Xenon response with one-body currents



<sup>129,131</sup>Xe are even Z, odd N, spin is carried mainly by neutrons

at p=0 structure factors at the level of one-body currents dominated by "neutron"-only

$$egin{aligned} S_{\mathcal{A}} &= rac{(2J+1)(J+1)}{\pi J} ig| a_{\mathcal{P}} \langle S_{\mathcal{P}} 
angle + a_{\mathcal{P}} \langle S_{\mathcal{P}} 
angle ig|^2, \ a_{n/\mathcal{P}} &= (a_0 \mp a_1)/2, \ S_{\mathcal{P}}(0) \propto ig| \langle S_{\mathcal{P}} 
angle ig|^2 \ S_{\mathcal{P}}(0) \propto ig| \langle S_{\mathcal{P}} 
angle ig|^2. \end{aligned}$$

#### Xenon response with 1+2-body currents



leading two-body currents renormalize isovector coupling: not "neutron"/"proton" only

lead to reduction of axial current enhancement of pseudoscalar curr.

transverse multipoles reduced; longitudinal reduced at low p, but enhanced at high p

uncertainty band due to  $c_3$ ,  $c_4$  and normal-ordering

#### Xenon response with 1+2-body currents



two-body currents due to strong interactions among nucleons



WIMPs couple to neutrons and protons at the same time

enhances coupling to even species in all cases

first calculations with chiral EFT currents and state-of-the-art nuclear interactions

## Limits on SD WIMP-neutron interactions

best limits from XENON100 Aprile et al., 1301.6620, see talk by T. Marrodan Undagoitia used our calculations with uncertainty bands for WIMP currents in nuclei



# Spin-dependent WIMP-nucleus response for <sup>19</sup>F, <sup>23</sup>Na, <sup>27</sup>Al, <sup>29</sup>Si, <sup>73</sup>Ge, <sup>127</sup>I

Klos, Menendez, Gazit, AS (2013)



# Summary

#### chiral effective field theory

nuclear forces and electroweak/WIMP/... interactions, systematic for energies below ~300 MeV, so for direct detection

**structure factors** for spin-dependent elastic WIMP scattering based on **large-scale nuclear structure calculations** and systematic expansion of **WIMP-nucleon currents in chiral EFT** 

included **predicted chiral two-body currents** for the first time **renormalizes isovector coupling and p-dependence** 

similar two-body current contributions to double-beta decay Menendez, Gazit, AS, PRL 107, 062501 (2011).

future: advance nuclear structure calcs. based on NN+3N forces