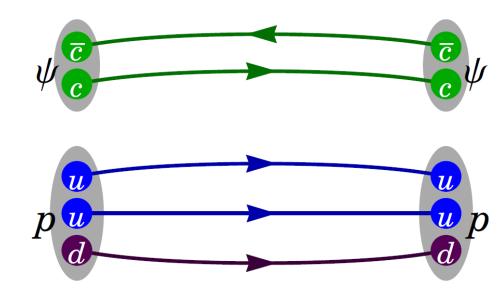


### Motivation

### § Unique Probe for QCD Effects

- Heavy quarkonia share no valence quarks with nuclei
- Normally dominant quark exchange suppressed to second order
- Dominated by two-gluon exchange (color van der Waals)
- Color Stark effect:
   Chromoelectric field induces
   dipoles in neutral hadrons
   that interact

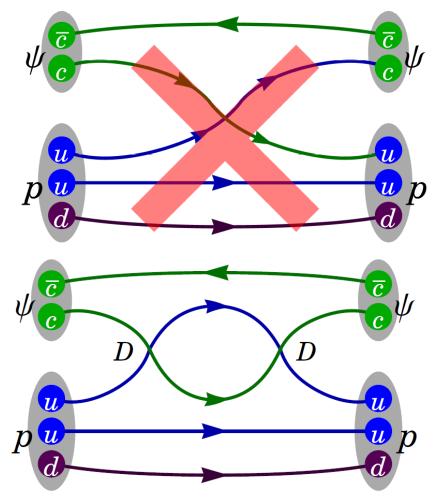




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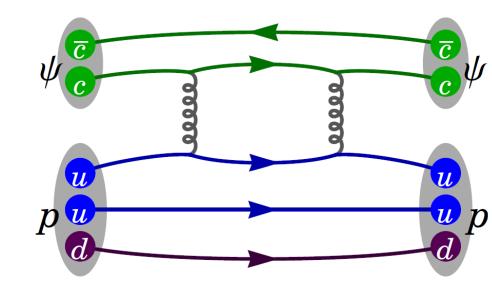




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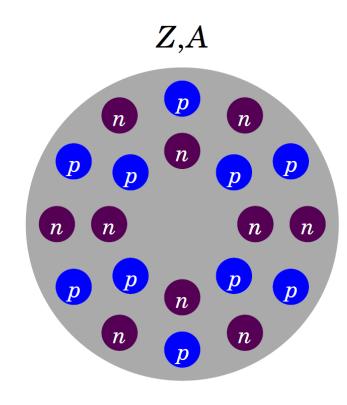
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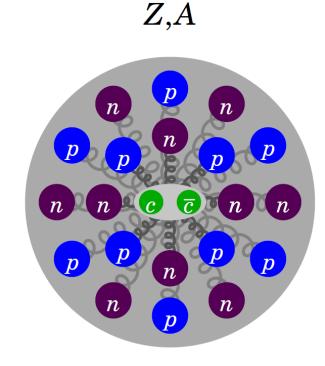




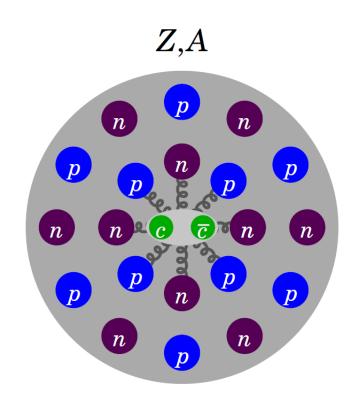
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- No Pauli blocking; no quark-exchange  $\eta_c h$ : 19 MeV,  $\eta_c^9$ Be: 407 MeV(!)
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- Charm binding saturates for large A  $\eta_c h$ : 0.8 MeV,  $\eta_c^{208}$ Pb: 27 MeV



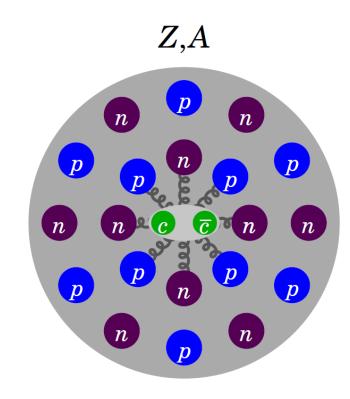
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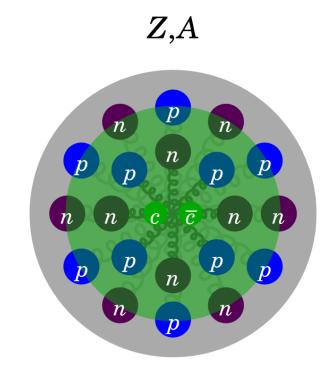
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- At saturation:  $\Upsilon A$ : 4 MeV,  $J/\psi A$ : 11 MeV
- Induced dipole depends on radius of quarkonium like  $r^3$ ; excited  $\psi'$  has huge radius
- Excited state becomes ground state in nuclear matter!  $\psi'(2s)A$ : 700 MeV(!!)



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## More History

### § Many additional model calculations; small selection shown

- Shevchenko [PLB392,457 (1997)] uses vacuum-correlator method No binding(?) except for very large nuclei
- de Teramond, Espinoza, Ortega-Rodriguez [PRD58,034012 (1998)] Tune their potential to pp spin correlations; No binding in light nuclei  $\eta_c$  <sup>6</sup>Li: 0.1 MeV,  $\eta_c$  <sup>208</sup>Pb: 9 MeV
- Lee and Ko [PRC67,038202 (2000)] look again at  $\psi'$  at saturation  $J/\psi$  A: 5 MeV,  $\psi'(3686)$  A: 130 MeV
- Thomas [PRC83,065208 (2011)] uses quark-meson coupling model  $J/\psi$   $\alpha$ : 5 MeV,  $J/\psi$  <sup>208</sup>Pb: 18 MeV



## Experimental Prospects

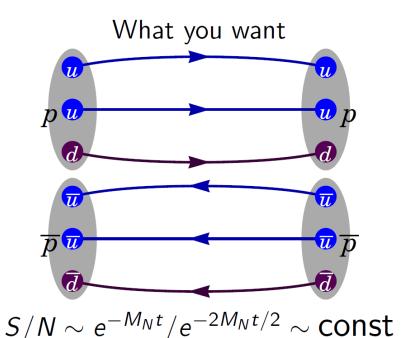
- Long history of proposals to measure charmonium-nucleus binding
  - ATHENNA 12-GeV upgrade at CEBAF (JLab) (ep scattering)
  - PANDA at FAIR (GSI) ( $\bar{p}p$  scattering)
- Also attempts to measure nucleus-bound  $\phi$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\eta'$  or  $\eta$
- $\eta h$ : 4(4) MeV(??) at MAMI [PRL92,252001 (2004)] not confirmed by COSY; some theoretical problems
- COSY-GEM [PRC79,012201 (2009)] found  ${}_{\eta}^{25}$ Mg: 12(2) MeV
- Models of other mesic nuclei
  - [PRC34,1845 (1986)]: A < 12 unbound,  $\eta A$ : 17 MeV
  - Thomas predicts  $\eta A$ : 90 MeV at saturation
  - [Prog.Th.Phys.124,147 (2010)]:  $\phi A$ : 4–40 MeV at saturation

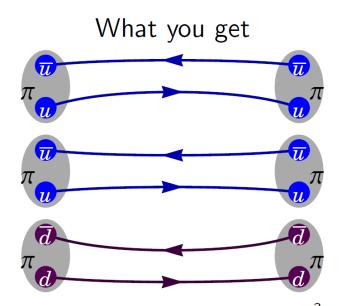


### What Can LQCD Do?

### § Signal-to-noise problem: hard to calculate nuclei

Recall that variance is  $\sigma_O^2 = \langle O^2 \rangle - \langle O \rangle^2$ . For a nucleon correlator, our operator is  $O \propto qqq(t) \, \bar{q}\bar{q}\bar{q}(0)$ 





 $\sim e^{-M_N t}/e^{-3M_\pi t/2} \sim e^{-(M_N - \frac{3}{2}M_\pi)t}$ 

§ For nucleus 
$$A = \exp\left[-A(M_N - 3/2m_\pi)t\right]$$



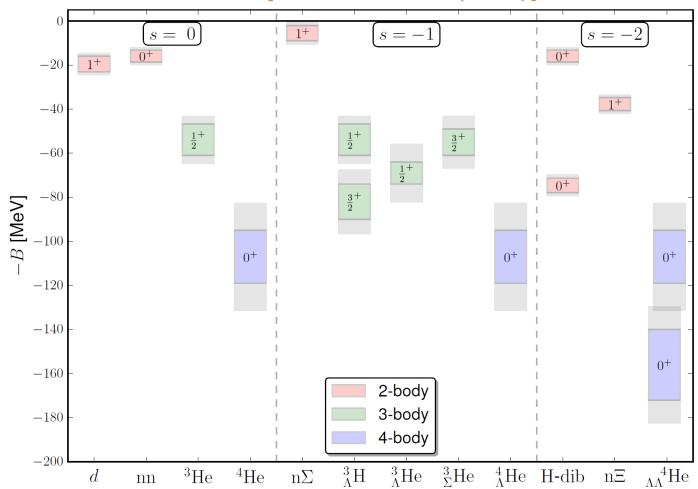
### What Can LQCD Do?

- Work at the SU(3) symmetric point:  $M_{\pi} \approx 800 \text{ MeV}$
- NPLQCD Calculation [PRD87,034506 (2012)]
  - Isotropic 2+1-flavor 800-MeV O(a)-improved Wilson-clover fermions
  - $a_s = 0.145 \text{ fm}$
  - 3 volumes: 3.4 fm, 4.5 fm and 6.7 fm
  - Very high statistics:  $72 \times 3822 \ (3.4 \ \text{fm}), \ 48 \times 3050 \ (4.5 \ \text{fm}), \ 54 \times 1905 \ (6.7 \ \text{fm})$
- Several sources and smearings available for each correlator



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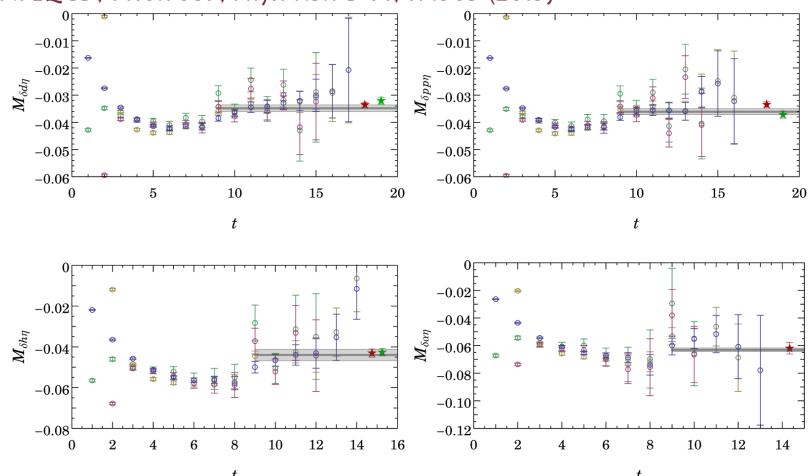




### $\eta_s$ -A Binding Effective Masses

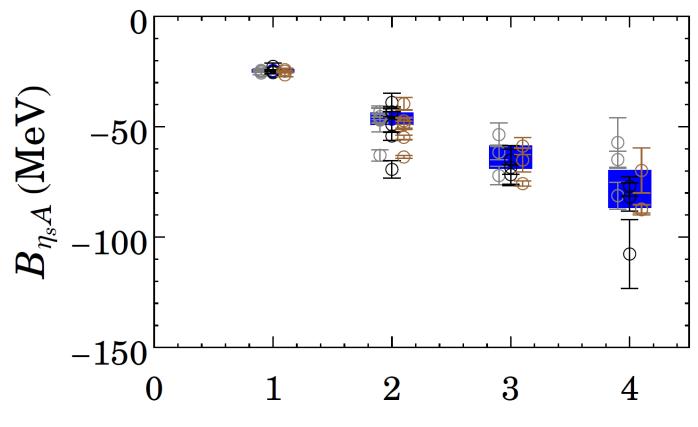
$$\mathcal{R}(t) = \frac{C_{\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B}}(t)}{C_{AB}(t)C_{\overline{Q}\Gamma Q}(t)} \to Ze^{-(E_{12}-(E_1+E_2))(t_f-t_i)}$$

NPLQCD, 1410.7069, Phys. Rev. D 91, 114503 (2015)



### § Estimate systematic errors

NPLQCD, 1410.7069, Phys. Rev. D 91, 114503 (2015)

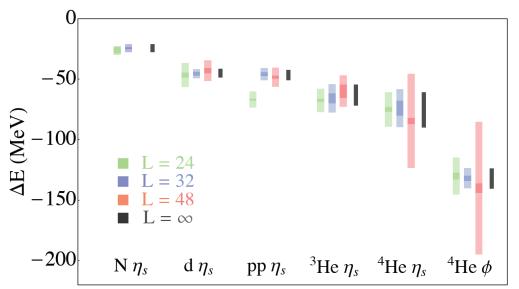


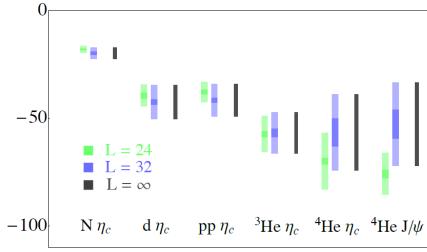
 $\boldsymbol{A}$ 



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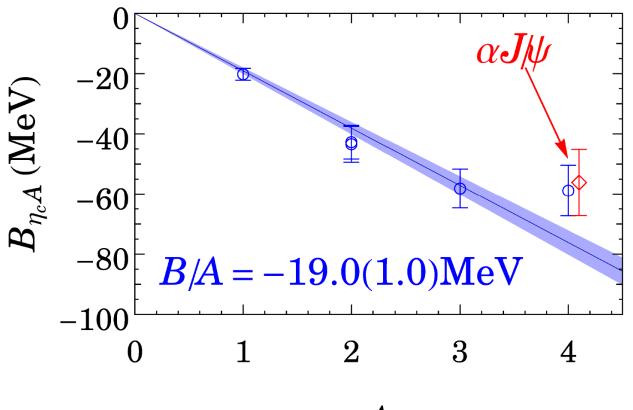
### $\eta_s$ -Nucleus Binding vs A

NPLQCD, 1410.7069, Phys. Rev. D 91, 114503 (2015) B/A = -23.4(5) MeV $\Delta \mathrm{E}_{A\,\eta_s}$  (MeV  $B/A \sim \alpha_V - \alpha_S A^{-1/3}$ -100 $^{4}{\rm He}\,\phi$  =132.1(8.1) MeV



#### Charmonium-Nucleus Binding

NPLQCD, 1410.7069, Phys. Rev. D 91, 114503 (2015)



 $B_{\rm phys}^{\rm NM} \lesssim 40 \,\,{\rm MeV}$ 





## Summary and Outlook

#### Progress So Far

- Now possible to explore gluonic nuclear interactions up to A=4
- $\eta_s$  has an attractive interaction for all  $A \leq 4$
- Multiple volumes show consistent bound state
- Energy shift linear in A with slope  $B_{\eta_s A} = 23.4(5) \text{ MeV}/A$
- $\phi$ - $\alpha$  has a deeply bound state with  $B_{\phi\alpha} = 134(14)$  MeV
- Good signal in charmonium, most bindings close to strange

#### **Future Directions**

- Study coupled channels (e.g.  $N\phi$ - $\Lambda K^*$ )
- Examine boosted systems
- Excited states?
- Move toward lighter pions

