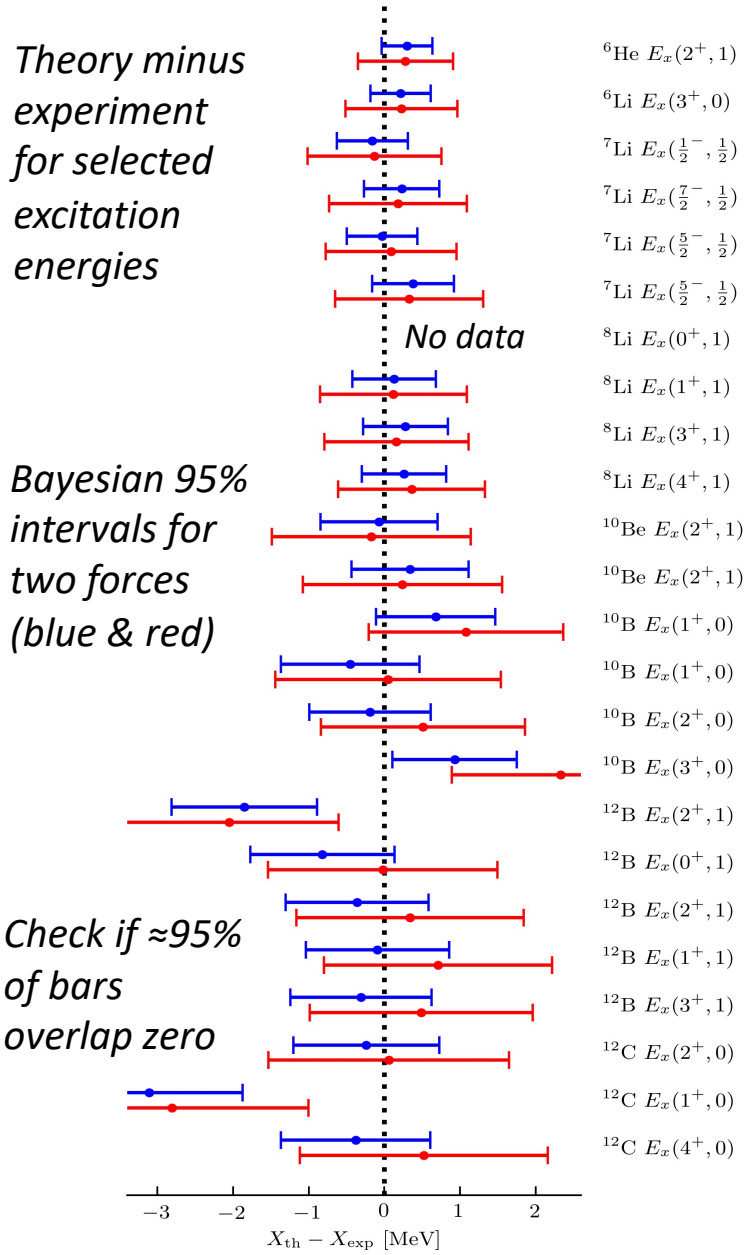
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Office of Science

Excitation energies from effective field theory with quantified uncertainties

NUCLEI Nuclear Computational Low-Energy Initiative



Objectives

- Predict properties of ground and excited states of light nuclei with robust theoretical error estimates.
- Test consistent LENPIC chiral effective field theory (EFT) interactions with 2- and 3-nucleon forces.
- Extend and test a Bayesian statistical model that learns from the order-by-order EFT convergence pattern to account for correlated excitations.

Impact

- First test of novel chiral nucleon-nucleon potentials with consistent three-nucleon forces.
- Demonstrates understanding of theoretical uncertainties due to chiral EFT expansion.
- Accounting for correlations produces agreement with experimental excitation energies (see figure).
- Exceptions in ^{12}C and ^{12}B indicate different theoretical correlations in the nuclear structure.

Accomplishments

P. Maris et al, Phys. Rev. C **103**, 054001 (2021); Editors' Suggestion; arXiv: 2012.12396 [nucl-th]