

Predictive Power of Mathematical Modelling for Nuclear Physics

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A review and a short introduction can be found in:

1) Nuclear Hamiltonians: The Question of their Spectral Predictive Power and the Associated Inverse Problem;

JD, B. Szpak, M-G, Porquet, H. Molique, K. Rybak, B. Fornal
J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. **37** (2010) 064031

FOCUS Special Issue: Open Problems in Nuclear Theory

2) Nuclear Mean Field Hamiltonians and Factors Limiting their Predictive Power: Formalism;

JD, K. Rybak, B. Szpak, M-G, Porquet, H. Molique & B. Fornal
Int. J. Mod. Phys. E **19** (2010) 652

**3) Statistical significance of theoretical predictions:
A new dimension in nuclear structure theories (I);**

J. Dudek, B. Szpak, M.-G. Porquet and B. Fornal
Journal of Physics: Conference Series, 267 (2011) 012062

**4) Statistical significance of theoretical predictions:
A new dimension in nuclear structure theories (II);**

B. Szpak, J. Dudek, M.-G. Porquet and B. Fornal
Journal of Physics: Conference Series, 267 (2011) 012063

**5) Nuclear Physics Hamiltonians, Inverse Problem
and the Related Issue of Predictive Power;**

JD, B. Szpak, A. Dromard, M.-G. Porquet, B. Fornal and A. Gózdź
Int. J. Mod. Phys. E 21, No. 5 (2012) 1250053

Part I

Nuclear Hamiltonians and Nuclear Theories: Predictive-Power Perspective

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- At this moment “theory predictions” turn into “modelling result” of the experiment - without anybody doing anything on theory side
- At this point - **what begins** - are the issues of **lacking precision** in very posing of the problem, arbitrariness and **semantical confusion**, the implied questions, troubles, possibly **mathematical non-sense...**

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- ...and one may try using similar, a slightly modified wording: What carries certain interest is, possibly, theory’s good predictive power!

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**) This notion is still to be defined for you here ...*

#) So is the very notion of probability (12 'official' definitions and 16 interpretations)

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- Conclusion: The desired truth remains unknown to us because of $\delta\hat{H}^{\text{ignor}} \rightarrow$ ignorance decreasing with research time

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Conclusion: Not knowing 'the truth' we may introduce several competing hypotheses & calculate their relative probabilities!

A New Strategy for Theories and Predicting

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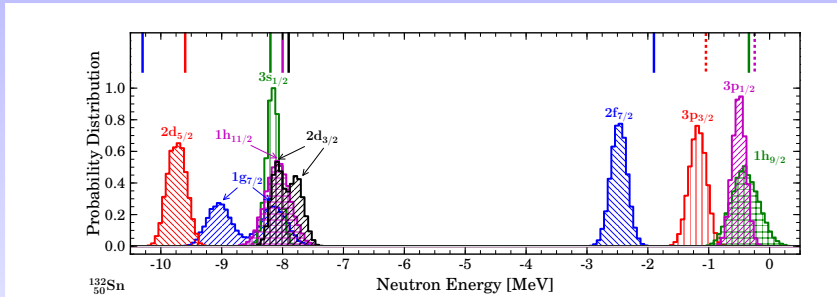
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but also by their probability distributions:

$$P_1 = P_1(\mathbf{f}_1), P_2 = P_2(\mathbf{f}_2), \dots, P_p = P_p(\mathbf{f}_p)$$

Inverse Problem and Predictive Power: ^{132}Sn

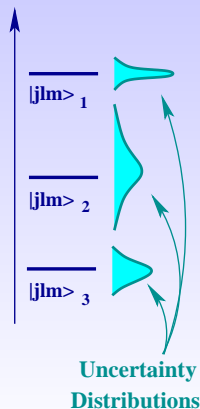


Results of the extrapolation from the ^{208}Pb to the ^{132}Sn nucleus for the neutrons, bars - cf. preceding table. Monte-Carlo simulation with $N=20\,000$ Gaussian-distributed parameter sets, based on ^{208}Pb results; noise width $\sigma=0.1\text{MeV}$. With each of the so obtained $N=20\,000$ sets of parameters the results for the neutrons in ^{132}Sn nucleus have been obtained. Observe 'pathologies': $1g_{7/2}$ and $1f_{7/2}$ cf. following figures.

Energy Levels as Probability Distributions

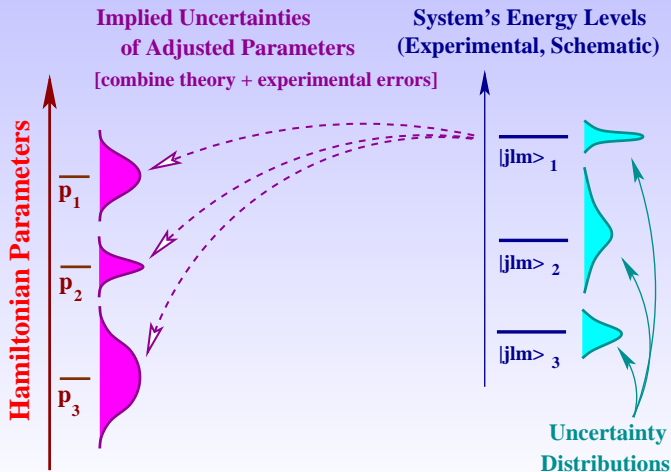
Experimental levels represent, from both quantum-mechanical and experimental points of view an ensemble of probability distributions

**System's Energy Levels
(Experimental, Schematic)**



Energy-Levels as Probability Distributions

The biggest uncertainties of Hamiltonian Parameters originate not so much from the experimental but rather from the theory uncertainties



Combining Theoretical and Experimental Errors

Stochastic Nature of Theoretical Predictions

- Theories are incomplete whereas experiments plagued with errors:

$$\text{Theo.} \rightarrow \boxed{e_n = e_n^{\text{true}}(p) + \delta e_n^{\text{error}}} \quad \& \quad \boxed{\varepsilon_n = \varepsilon_n^{\text{true}} + \delta \varepsilon_n^{\text{err}}} \leftarrow \text{Exp.}$$

e_n and ε_n are random variables \rightarrow distributions $P_n^{\text{th.}}(e_n)$ and $P_n^{\text{exp}}(\varepsilon_n)$

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- Errors propagate to the theory predictions through parameter fits

$$\chi^2(p) \sim \sum w_n \left[\underbrace{(\varepsilon_n^{\text{true}} + \delta \varepsilon_n^{\text{err}})}_{\text{Experiment}} - \underbrace{(e_n^{\text{true}} + \delta e_n^{\text{err}})}_{\text{Theory}} \right]^2 \rightarrow \frac{\partial \chi^2}{\partial p} = 0$$

thus the optimal parameter values $p \equiv \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_f\}$ are random variables and consequently characterised by probability distributions

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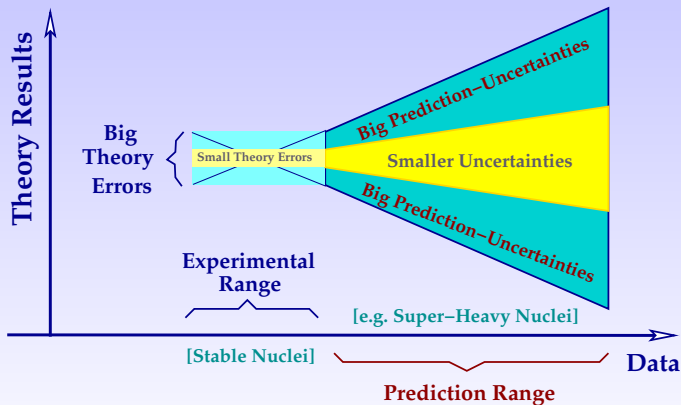
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- Conclusion: All predictions have their probability distributions!

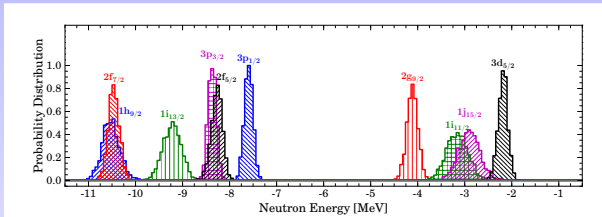
Smaller Theory Errors vs. Bigger Predictive-Power

- Constraining theory errors may help stabilising theory predictions:
The necessary although not sufficient condition of model's stability

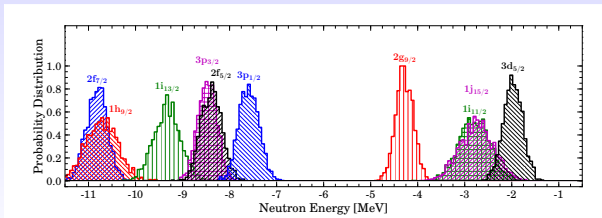


Theoretical Predictions & Probability Distributions

- Neutron levels for ^{208}Pb . Top: WS, bottom: HF Hamiltonians



Realistic phenomenological Woods-Saxon Hamiltonian



Realistic Skyrme-Hartree-Fock Hamiltonian

Part II

Nuclear Theories: Inference & Inverse Problem

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- Hamiltonian parameters fitted by physicists reflect at the same time both the form of the interactions and the data sampling (choice)

PARAMETERS INVOLVE ARBITRARY JUDGEMENT

Direct and Inverse Problems in Quantum Theories

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- Consider an arbitrary, e.g. many-body, theory with its Hamiltonian:

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- If we know the parameters, we are able to solve the Direct Problem:

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- However, before any comparison theory-experiment, and even more generally: Before any calculation we must solve the Inverse Problem:

Determine the optimal parameters of the Hamiltonian

Inverse Problem in Quantum Theories

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- Parameter adjustment usually corresponds to the χ^2 -minimisation

$$\chi^2(p) = \sum_{j=1}^d [e_j^{exp} - e_j^{th}(p)]^2 \rightarrow \frac{\partial \chi^2}{\partial p_k} = 0, k = 1 \dots m$$

where: d - number of data points; m - number of model parameters

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- Usually we iterate this non-linear problem using Taylor linearization

$$e_j^{\text{th}}(p^{[it+1]}) \approx e_j^{\text{th}}(p^{[it]}) + \sum_{k=1}^m \left(\frac{\partial e_j^{\text{th}}}{\partial p_k} \right) \Big|_{p=p^{[it]}} (p_k^{[it+1]} - p_k^{[it]})$$

Short-hand notation: $J_{jk}^{[it]} \stackrel{df}{=} \left(\frac{\partial e_j^{\text{th}}}{\partial p_k} \right) \Big|_{p=p^{[it]}}$ and $b_j^{[it]} = [e_j^{\text{exp}} - e_j^{\text{th}}(p^{[it]})]$

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- Inserting the above into $\chi^2(p)$ gives the Linearized Representation

$$\chi^2(p^{[it+1]}) = \sum_{j=1}^d \left[\sum_{k=1}^m J_{jk}^{[it]} \cdot (p_k^{[it+1]} - p_k^{[it]}) - b_j^{[it]} \right]^2$$

Inverse Problem in Linearized Representation

- One may easily show that within the new, linearized representation

$$\frac{\partial \chi^2}{\partial \mathbf{p}_i} = 0 \rightarrow (\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J}) \cdot \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{b} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} \stackrel{\text{df}}{=} \mathcal{A}$$

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- In *Applied Mathematics* we slightly change wording and notation:

$$\{\mathbf{p}\} \rightarrow \mathcal{P} : \text{'Causes'} \text{ and } \{J^T \mathbf{b}\} \rightarrow \mathcal{D} : \text{'Effects'} \Rightarrow \mathcal{A} \cdot \mathcal{P} = \mathcal{D}$$

Inverse Problem in Linearized Representation

- One may easily show that within the new, linearized representation

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- From the measured 'Effects', called Data, represented by \mathcal{D} , we extract information about the optimal parameters, \mathcal{P} , by inverting the matrix \mathcal{A} :

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{A} \cdot \mathcal{P} = \mathcal{D}}_{\text{Direct Problem}} \rightarrow \underbrace{\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{D}}_{\text{Inverse Problem}}$$

Stability of Solutions of Nuclear Inverse Problem

- We consider linear equations:

$$\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{D} \leftrightarrow \mathcal{P} = \mathcal{C} \cdot \mathcal{D}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{P}_1 \\ \mathcal{P}_2 \\ \dots \\ \mathcal{P}_m \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{C}_{11} & \mathcal{C}_{12} & \dots & \mathcal{C}_{1d} \\ \mathcal{C}_{21} & \mathcal{C}_{22} & \dots & \mathcal{C}_{2d} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \mathcal{C}_{m1} & \mathcal{C}_{m2} & \dots & \mathcal{C}_{md} \end{bmatrix}}_{m \times d \text{ rectangular matrix}} \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{D}_1 \\ \mathcal{D}_2 \\ \dots \\ \mathcal{D}_d \end{bmatrix}$$

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- If this happens \rightarrow \mathcal{C} -matrix becomes singular [Ill-Posed Problem]

Ill-Posed: Correlation between parameters and the data is lost!

A Mathematical Model of Predictive Power

A Mathematical Model for Predicting Data

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- We will generate a set of pseudo-experimental data using function

$$f(x) \equiv \frac{\exp(\beta x)}{1 + \alpha(\beta x)^2}; \quad \rightarrow \quad \boxed{\{f_i^{\text{exp}} \equiv f(x_i); i = 1, 2, \dots, n_s\}}$$

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 - **Sampling**: Controlling the number- and type of data points
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- We introduce the pseudo-experimental errors δf_i by setting

$$f_i^{\text{exp}} \rightarrow f_i^{\text{exp}} + \delta f_i$$

where δf_i are random numbers, here: Gaussian $\mathbf{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma)$ -distribution

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- We call the ‘A,B,C,D’-model exact since generally we have

$$\exp(\beta \mathbf{x}) \equiv [\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{C} \cdot \sinh(\beta \mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{D} \cdot \cosh(\beta \mathbf{x})] \Big|_{\mathbf{A}=\mathbf{B}=0, \mathbf{C}=\mathbf{D}=1}$$

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- By convention we generate the pseudo-experimental errors using

$$\delta f(\mathbf{x}; \sigma) = 1 / \left(\sqrt{2\pi\sigma} \right) \exp \left[- \mathbf{x}^2 / (2\sigma^2) \right]$$

- We say that
 - The value of $\sigma = 0.0001$ represents 'precise' measurements
 - The value of $\sigma = 0.0005$ represents 'average' measurements
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- We consider two cases:
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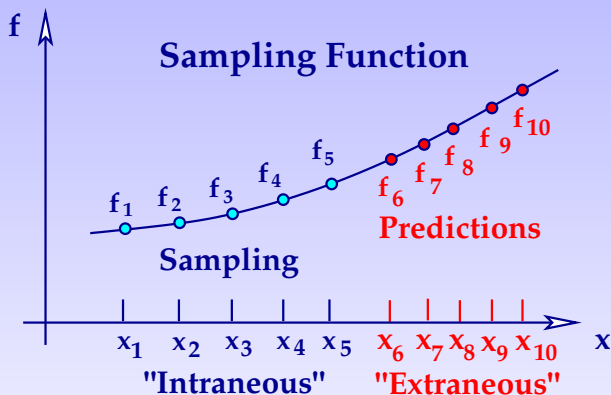
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- When $\alpha \neq 0 \rightarrow$ The 'a,b,c,d' formula can, in the best case, only approximate the above exponential, but it becomes exact at $\alpha \rightarrow 0$

Intraneous vs. Extraneous Predictions: Summary

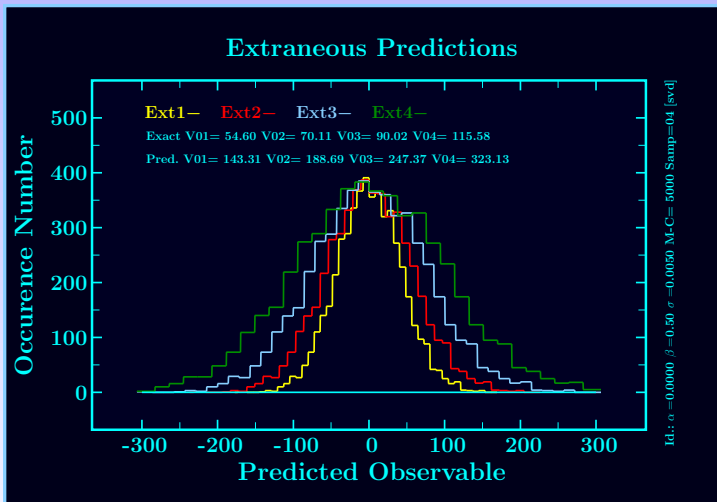


- Observe: From now on we 'forget about the $\{x_j\}$ ' \rightarrow focus on $\{f_j\}$
- Pseudo-experiment: $\{f_j\}$ \rightarrow We add random error (distributions)

Extraneous Regime:

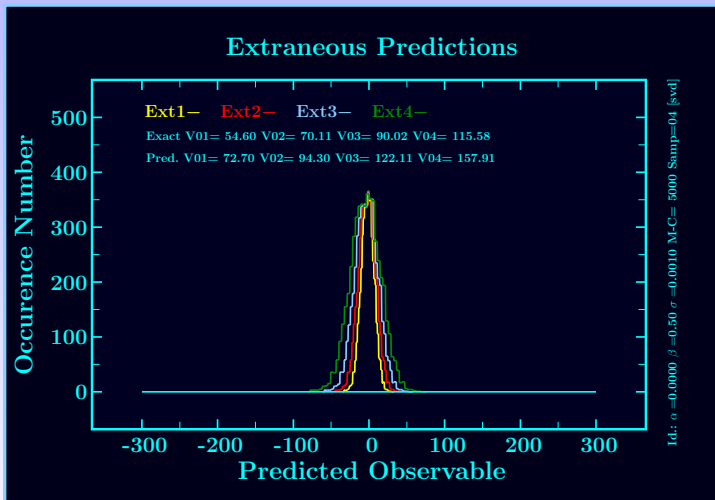
The Impact of Decreasing Experimental Error in the Case of an Exact Theory

Extraneous Predictions for an Exact Theory



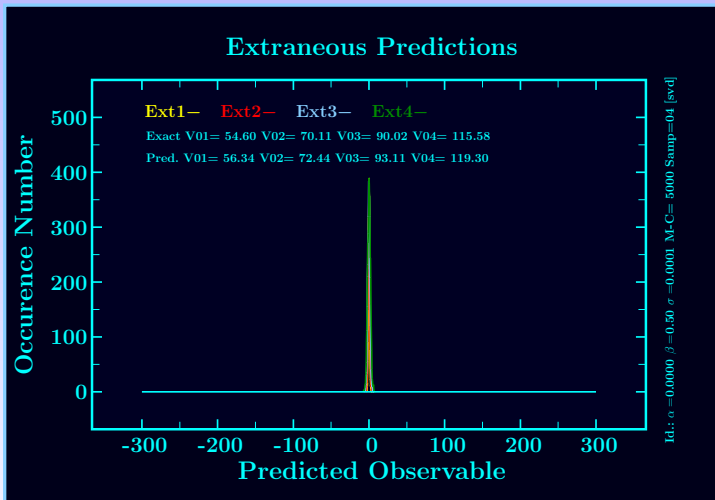
- Conditions: Big errors and weak sampling \rightarrow **No Predictive Power**
[Sampling: 4 points; Big Error $\sigma = 0.005$; Model: $\alpha = 0$]

Extraneous Predictions for an Exact Theory



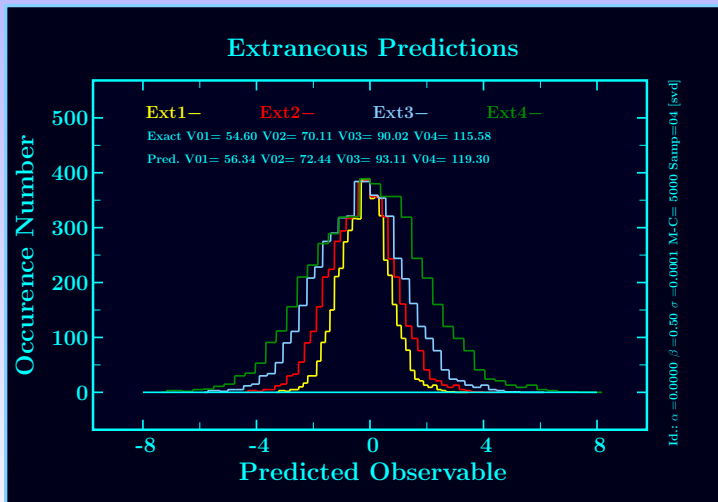
- Smaller errors (a factor of 5) → But: No 'Good' Predictive Power [Sampling: 4 points; Moderate Error $\sigma = 0.001$; Model: $\alpha = 0$]

Extraneous Predictions for an Exact Theory



- Smaller errors (a factor of 10) → Here: Some Predictive Power [Sampling: 4 points; Small Error $\sigma = 0.0001$; Model: $\alpha = 0$]

Extraneous Predictions for an Exact Theory



- Error Impact → The same as before but using an enlarged scale [Sampling: 4 points; Small Error : $\sigma = 0.0001$; Model: $\alpha = 0$]

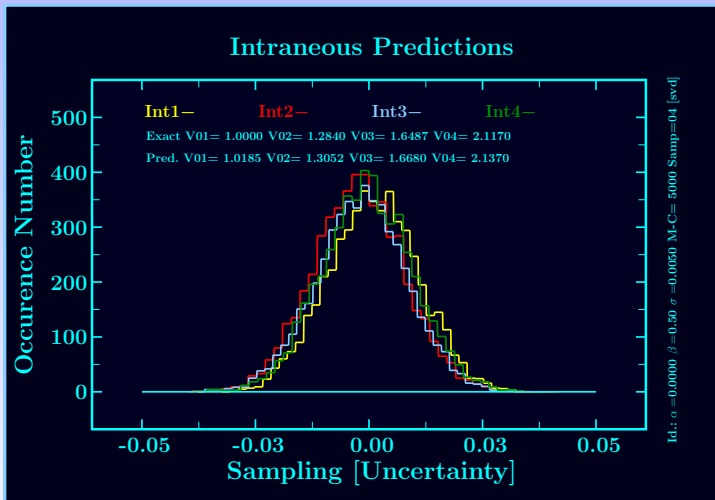
Conclusion:

**Experimental errors may totally ruin
the Extraneous Predictive Power
even in the case of an Exact Theory**

Intraneous Regime:

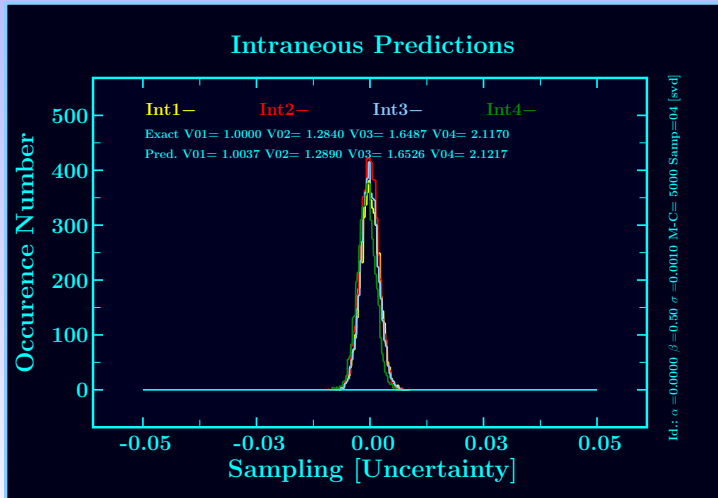
The Impact of Decreasing Experimental Error in the Case of an Exact Theory

Intraneous Predictions for an Exact Theory



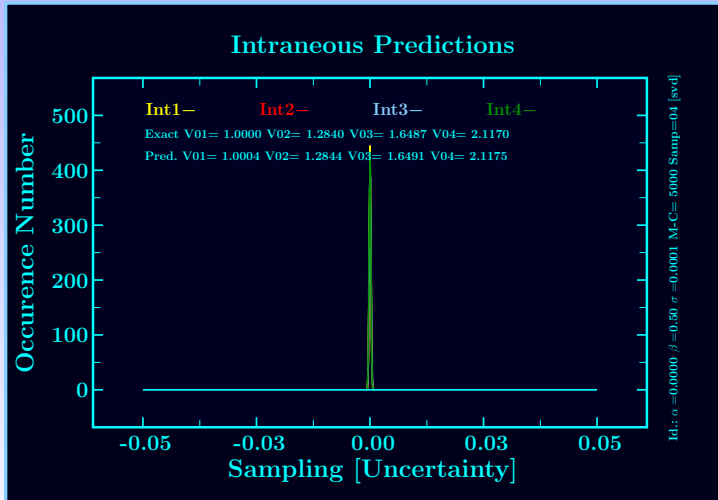
- Big errors \rightarrow Small sampling \rightarrow Very good fit \rightarrow χ -by-the-eye
[Sampling: 4 points; Big Error : $\sigma = 0.005$; Model: $\alpha = 0$]

Intraneous Predictions for an Exact Theory



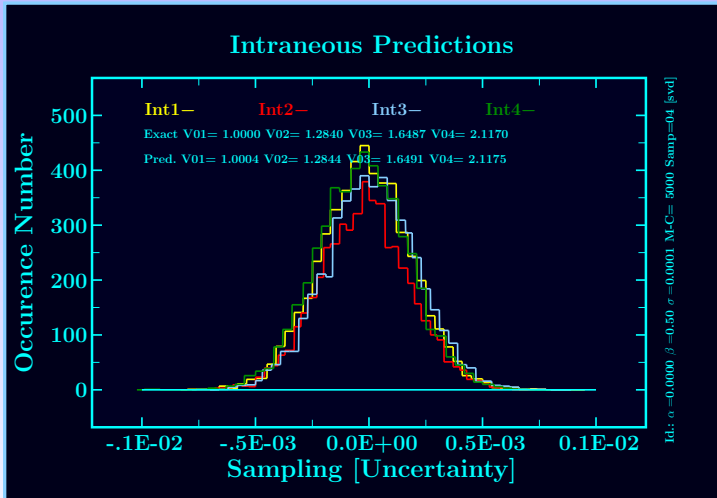
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[Sampling: 4 points; Moderate Error : $\sigma = 0.001$; Model: $\alpha = 0$]

Intraneous Predictions for an Exact Theory



- Smaller errors \rightarrow Small sampling \rightarrow Excellent Fit \rightarrow χ -by-the-eye
[Sampling: 4 points; Small Error : $\sigma = 0.0001$; Model: $\alpha = 0$]

Intraneous Predictions for an Exact Theory



- Same information, x-axis scaled \rightarrow Excellent Fit \rightarrow χ -by-the-eye
[Sampling: 4 points; Small Error : $\sigma = 0.0001$ Model: $\alpha = 0$]

Conclusions:

**Even very large experimental errors
may have a rather small impact
on the Intraneous Predictive Power*)**

*) This is what is usually called the chi-by-the-eye “method”

About Chi-by-the-Eye “Method”

- After laborious theoretical constructions, we get terribly exhausted and forget that: *Parameter determination is a noble, mathematically sophisticated procedure based on the statistical theories often more involved than the physical problems under study!*

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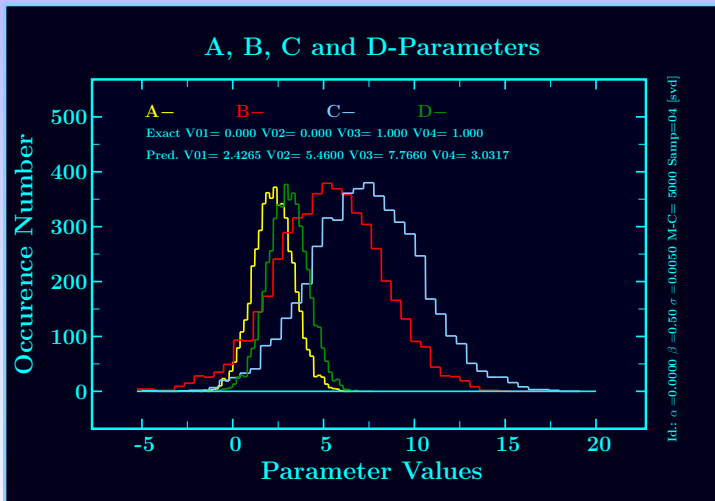
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“Unfortunately, many practitioners of parameter estimation never proceed beyond determining the numerical values of the parameter fit. They deem a fit acceptable if a graph of data and model ‘l o o k s g o o d’. This approach is known as chi-by-the-eye. Luckily, its practitioners get what they deserve” [i.e. - what is meant is: “they” get a ‘statistical nonsense’]

The Mechanism: Why?

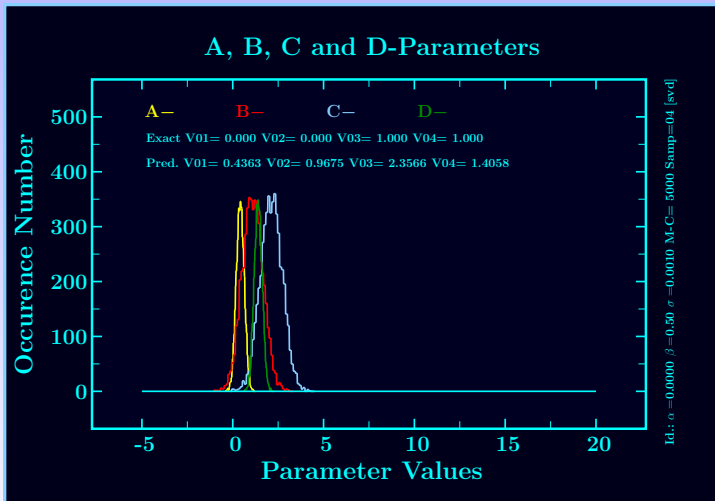
Why are the Intrinsic and Extrinsic components of Predictive Power so strongly decorrelated?

Fitted Parameters for an Exact Theory



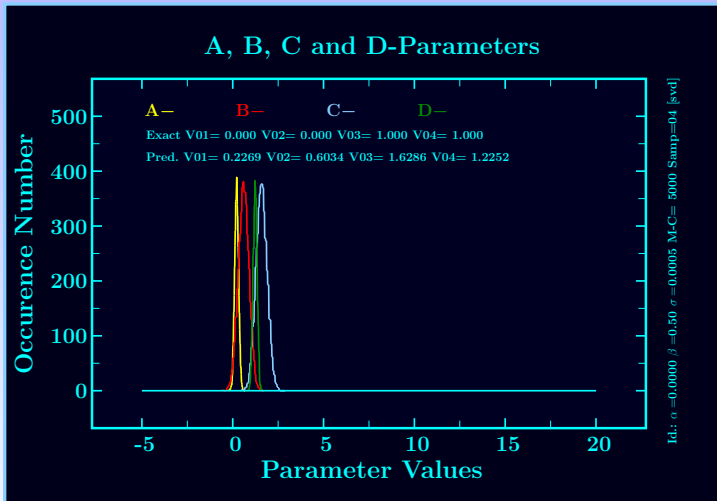
- Parameters totally wrong, but: \rightarrow Excellent Fit \rightarrow χ -by-the-eye
[Sampling: 4 points; Big Error: $\sigma = 0.005$; Model: $\alpha = 0$]

Fitted Parameters for an Exact Theory



- Parameters still quite wrong: \rightarrow Excellent Fit \rightarrow χ -by-the-eye
[Sampling: 4 points; Moderate Error: $\sigma = 0.001$; Model: $\alpha = 0$]

Fitted Parameters for an Exact Theory

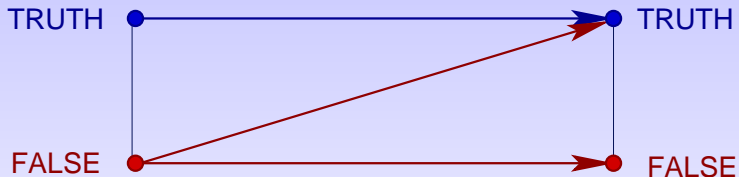


- Parameters not really good, but: \rightarrow Excellent Fit $\rightarrow \chi$ -by-the-eye
[Sampling: 4 points; Small Error: $\sigma = 0.0005$; Model: $\alpha = 0$]

Errors: In Experiment and in Thinking

- As it is well known in logic:

An error may imply the truth!



- Parameters were totally wrong, and yet: → Excellent Fit**
- Exact theories/models are rare but extremely instructive**

Conclusions:

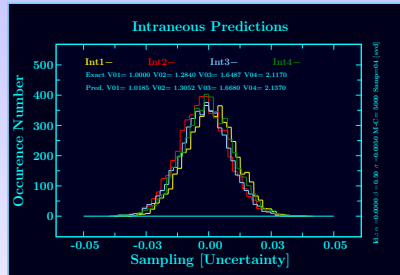
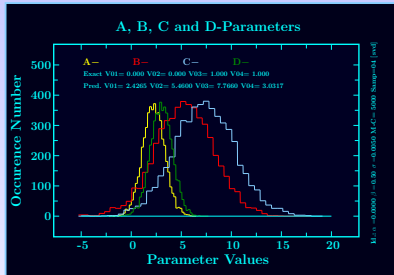
1. We may easily obtain an excellent fit with totally wrong parameters
2. This mechanism is a known sign of an ill-posed Inverse Problem

Illustrations:

A Comparative Study of Various Quantities of the Model

Fit vs. Intraaneous Predictive Power

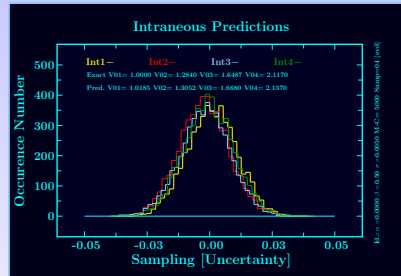
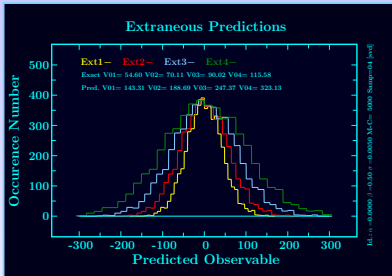
- There is a risk of fooling oneself with the chi-by-the-eye technique
- ... and yet: The reproduction of the input may seem excellent ...



- Parameters totally wrong, but: → Excellent Fit → χ -by-the-eye
[Sampling: 4 points; Big Error: $\sigma = 0.005$; Model: $\alpha = 0$]

Extra- vs. Intraneous Predictions: An Exact Theory

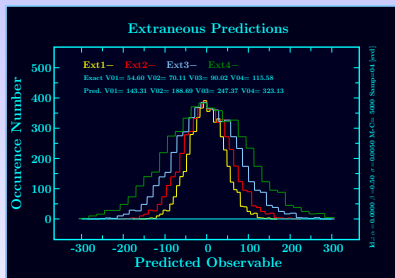
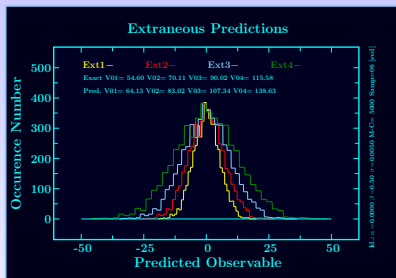
- There is a risk of fooling oneself with the chi-by-the-eye technique
- Although: The reproduction of the input may seem excellent...



- There is no extraneous predictive power whatsoever = 'Good' Fit
[Sampling: 4 points; Big Error: $\sigma = 0.005$; Model: $\alpha = 0$]

Increasing the Sampling vs. Predictive Power

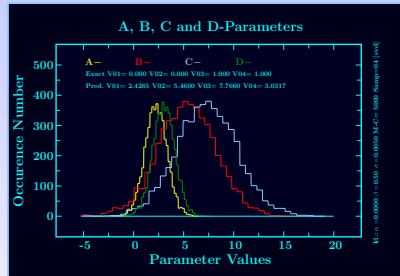
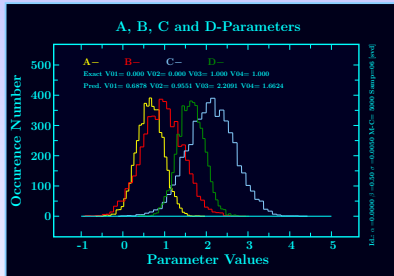
- Big errors but increasing sampling \rightarrow Improving Predictive Power?
[Sampling: 6 points [left]; 4 points [right]; Error $\sigma = 0.005$]



- Increasing sampling at a constant experimental error modelling decreased the relative percentage errors by \sim an order of magnitude

Increasing the Sampling: Intraeous vs. Extraneous

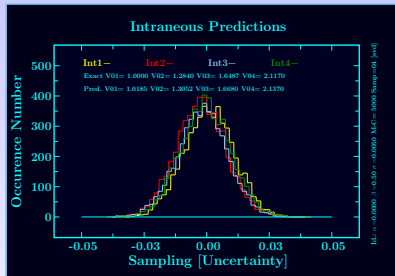
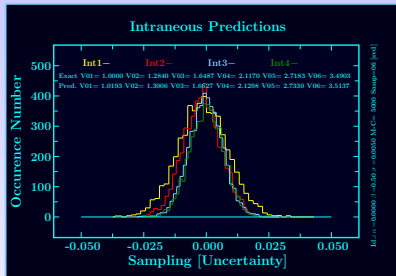
- Big errors but increasing sampling \rightarrow Improving Predictive Power?
[Sampling: 6 points [left]; 4 points [right]; Error $\sigma = 0.005$]



- Increasing sampling at a constant experimental error modelling we restore the order of solutions and their approximate magnitude

Increasing the Sampling: Intraaneous Predictions

- Big errors but increasing sampling \rightarrow Improving Predictive Power
[Sampling: 6 points [left]; 4 points [right]; Error $\sigma = 0.005$]



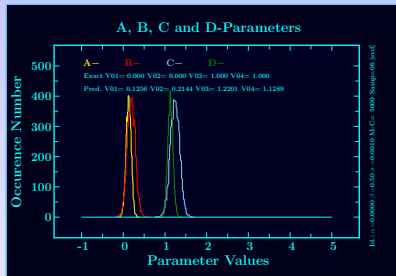
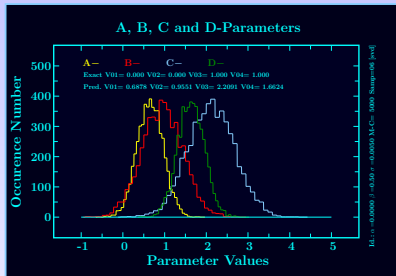
- Increasing sampling at a constant experimental error modelling has no impact on the intraaneous performance of predictive power

Possible Improvements:

**The Focus
on the Experimental Errors
& Their Impact on Parameters**

Decreasing Experimental Errors: Fitted Parameters

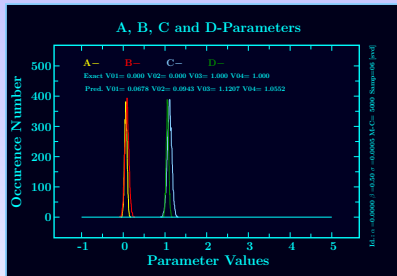
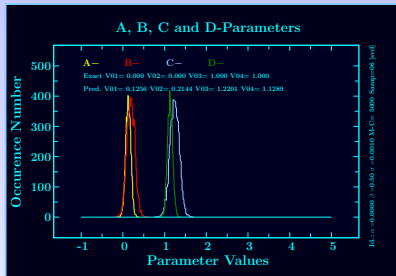
- In how much decreasing experimental errors improves modelling?
[Sampling: 6 points; Error $\sigma = 0.005$ (left) $\sigma = 0.001$ (right)]



- Decreasing the experimental error by a factor of 5 at constant sampling implies a significant improvement in fitting parameters

Decreasing Experimental Errors: Fitted Parameters

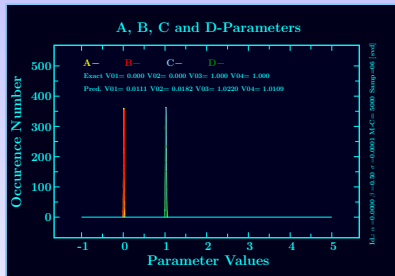
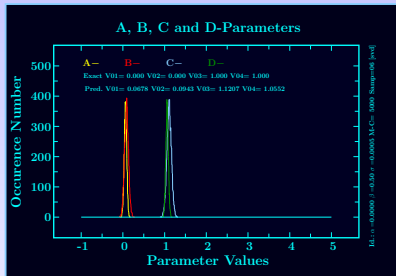
- In how much decreasing experimental errors improves modelling?
[Sampling: 6 points; Error $\sigma = 0.001$ (left) $\sigma = 0.0005$ (right)]



- Decreasing the experimental error by a factor of 5 at constant sampling implies more significant improvement in fitting parameters

Decreasing Experimental Errors: Fitted Parameters

- In how much decreasing experimental errors improves modelling?
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Conclusions & Questions

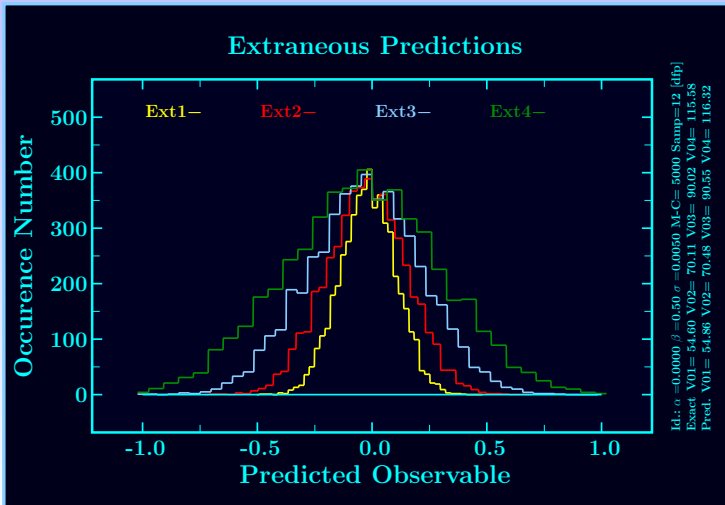
1. By increasing the experimental precision we definitely approach the right parameters of the Exact Theory
2. Are we definitely solving the issue of the ill-posed Inverse Problem?

Possible Improvements:

**The Focus
on the Improved Sampling:
Impact on Extraneous Predictions**

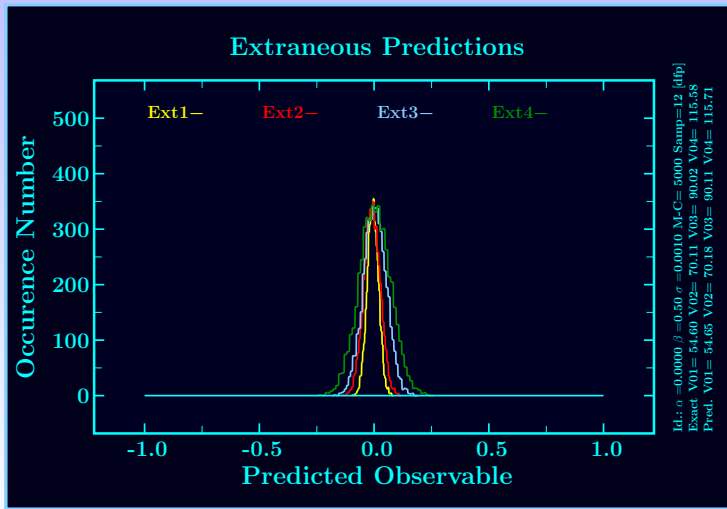
Extraneous Predictions at Sufficient Sampling

- We fix sampling at 12 points and see how far we can go improving?
[Sampling: 12 points; Decreasing Error, here: $\sigma = 0.005$]



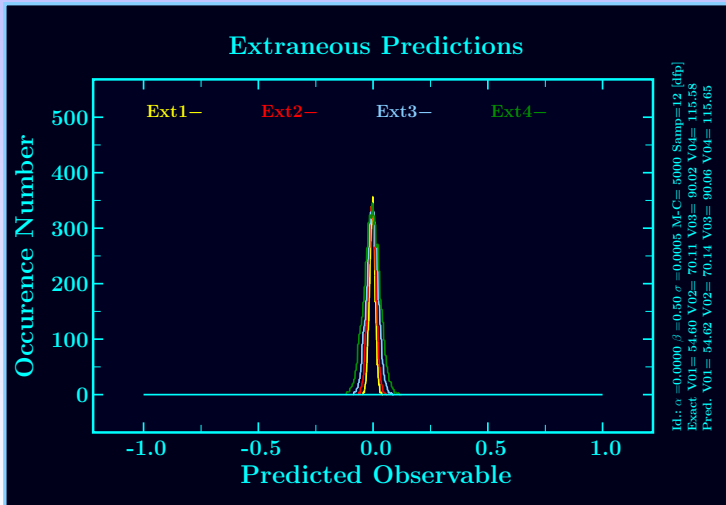
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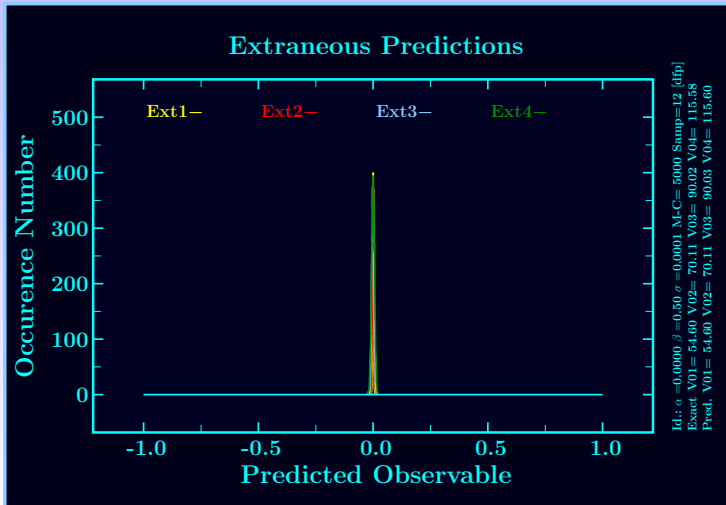
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Conclusions & Questions

1. By increasing the number of fit data-points we definitely arrive at “predicting” of our extraneous data-points
2. Again: Are we definitely solving the issue of the ill-posed Inverse Problem?

A So-Far Ignored Mechanism:

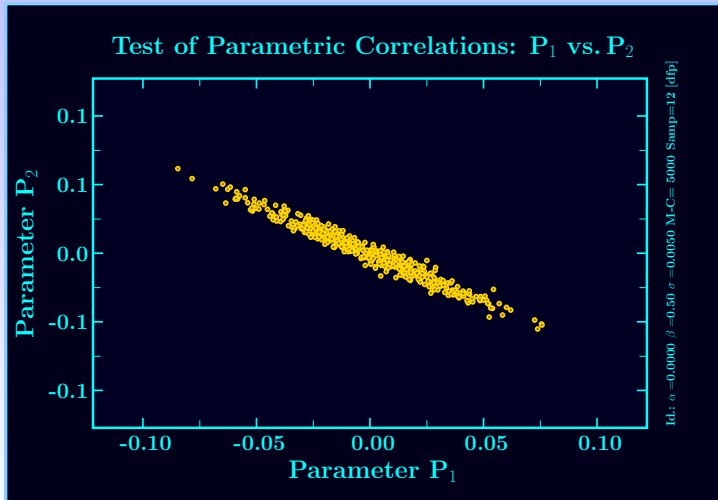
Parametric Correlations in Mathematical Modelling

Principles of a Simple Monte-Carlo Technique

- We generate pseudo-experimental errors: Here we will use random numbers following the Gaussian distribution $N(0, \sigma)$ for $n_S = 50\,000$
- We repeat the parameter fit 50 000 times thus obtaining 50 000 “optimal parameter sets” - they are denoted: P_1, P_2, P_3 and P_4
- We plot two-dimensional projections in the form of points with the coordinates P_i vs. P_j on the x-y plane (in principle: 50 000 points)
- If there are no parametric correlations - the parameters fill in a certain sub-set on the x-y plane: a circle, an ellipsoid, etc.
- Any pattern that resembles a line will be interpreted here as the corresponding parametric correlation P_i vs. P_j (*remaining parameters*)

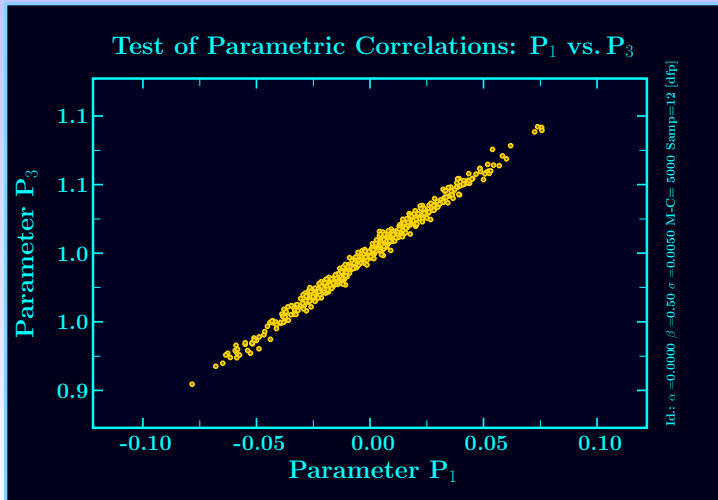
Ill-Posedness and Parametric Correlations

- Not done at all! Discover a disaster whose name is: Correlations!!
[Parametric Correlations between parameters $A=P_1$ and $B=P_2$]



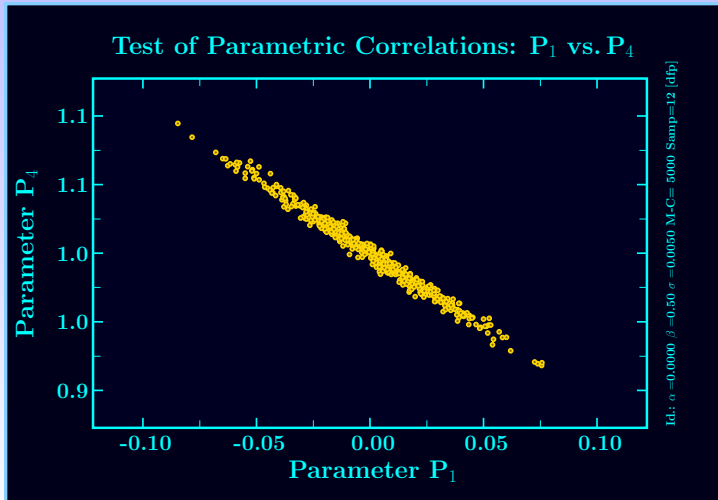
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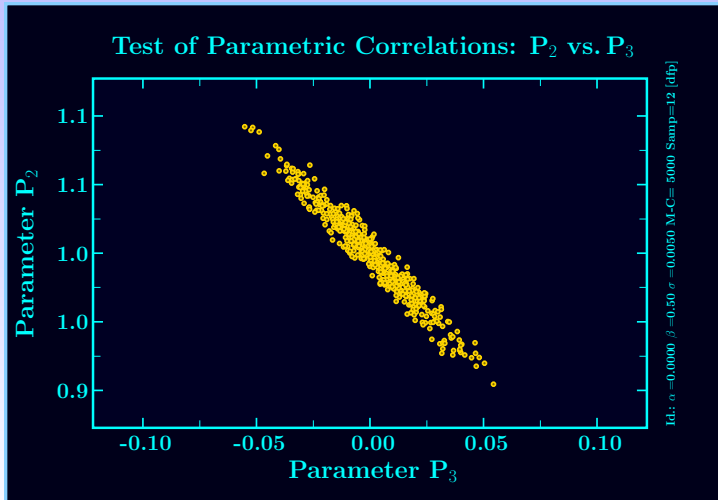
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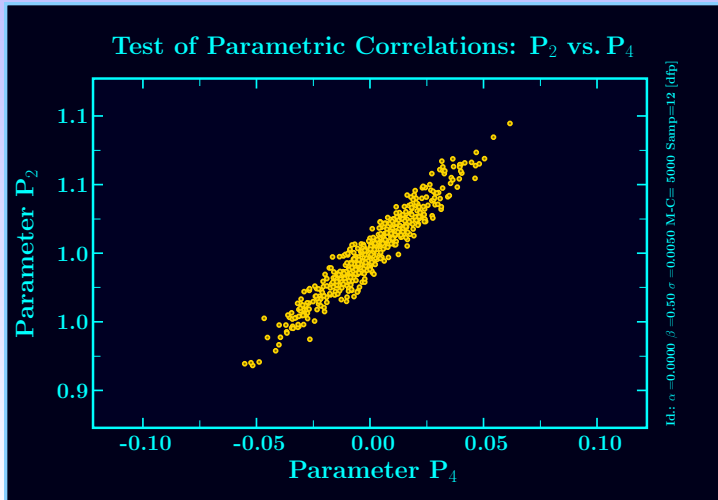
Ill-Posedness and Parametric Correlations

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[From bad to worse: Correlations between $B=P_2$ and $C=P_3$]



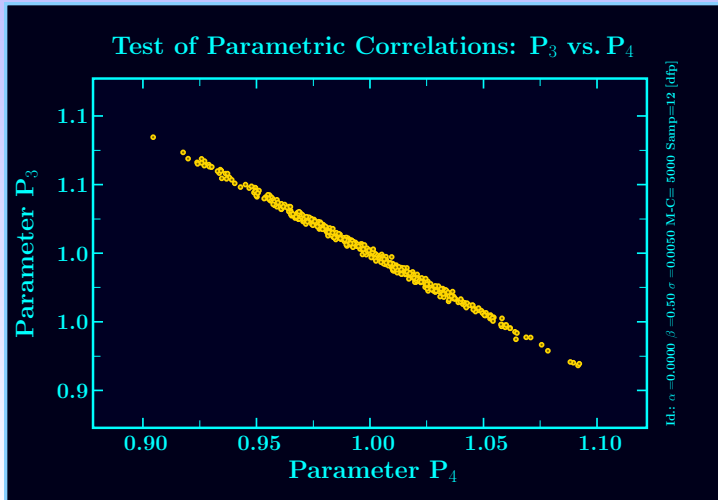
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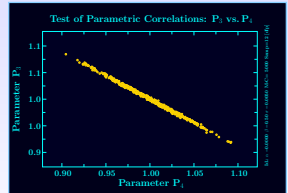
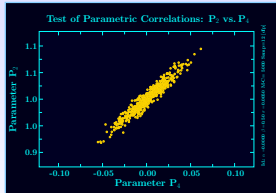
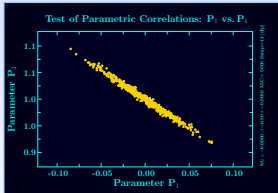
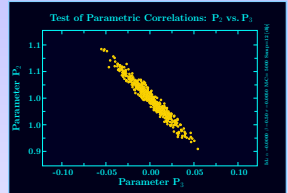
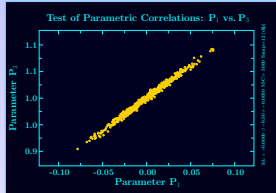
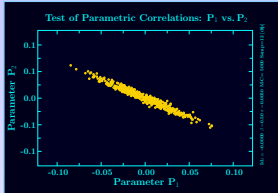
Ill-Posedness and Parametric Correlations

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[If that was not enough: Correlations between $C=P_3$ and $D=P_4$]



All Model Parameters Are Perfectly Correlated!

- This is the worst that may happen: All parameters correlated imply the ill-posedness of the inverse problem: No predictive power



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2. Correlations can be studied and illustrated with the help of the Monte-Carlo 2-D projections as shown above
3. For exact theories & null-errors they can be ignored...
4. ... but when shall we have the null errors?
5. Importantly: In the general case they imply Ill-Posed Inverse Problem: No stability in theory Predictive Power

Parameter-Correlations in Skyrme-HF

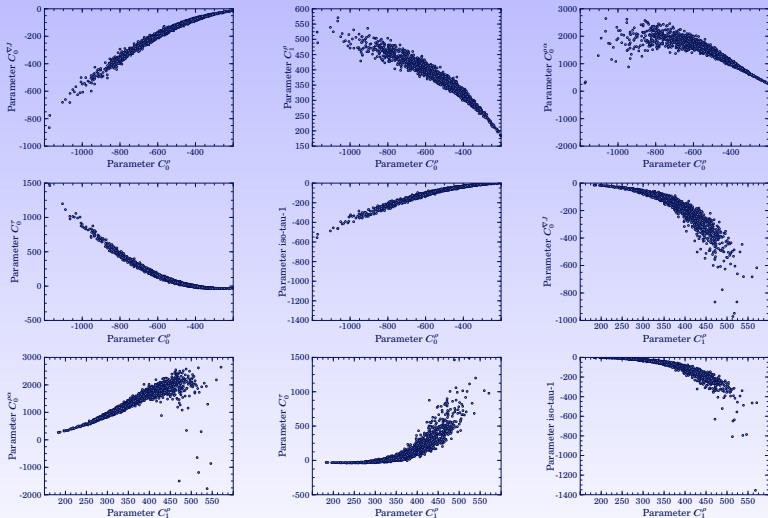


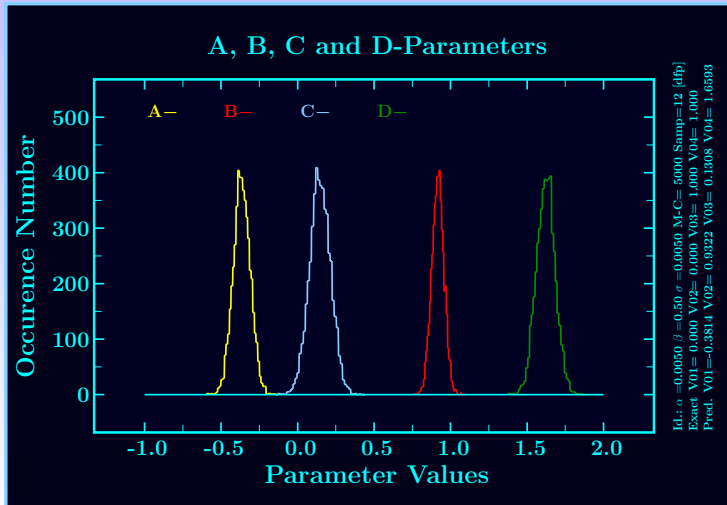
Illustration suggesting that there are rather very few independent parameters

The Case of an Inexact Theory:

**The Number of Factors to Consider
and of Mechanisms to Analyse - Increases:
Things Get More Complicated
[but perfectly doable]**

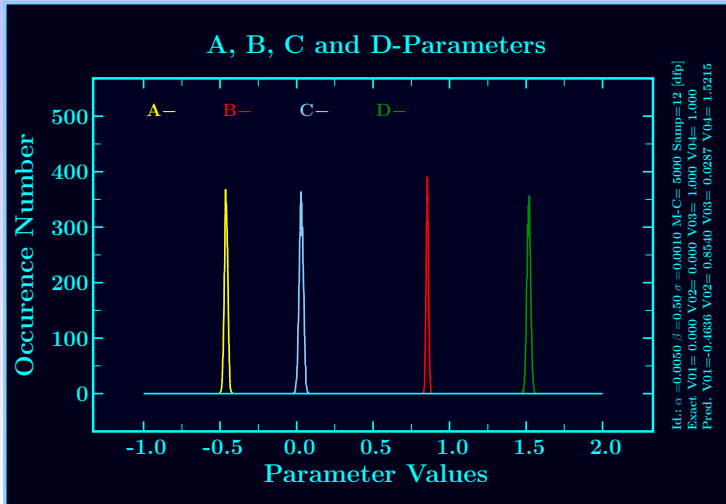
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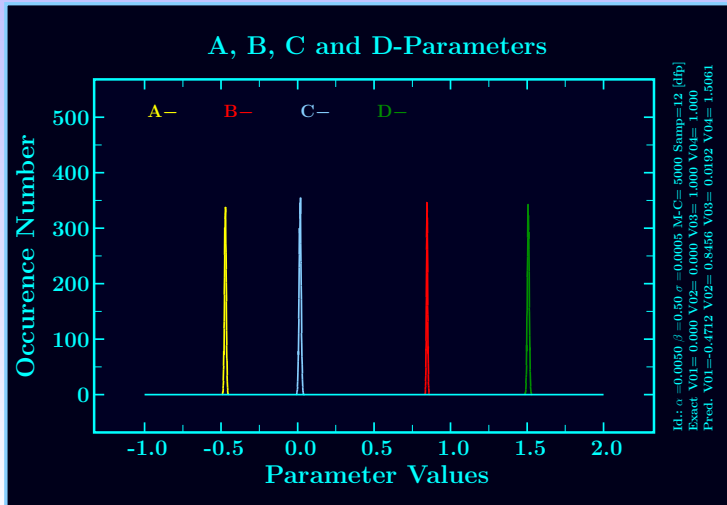
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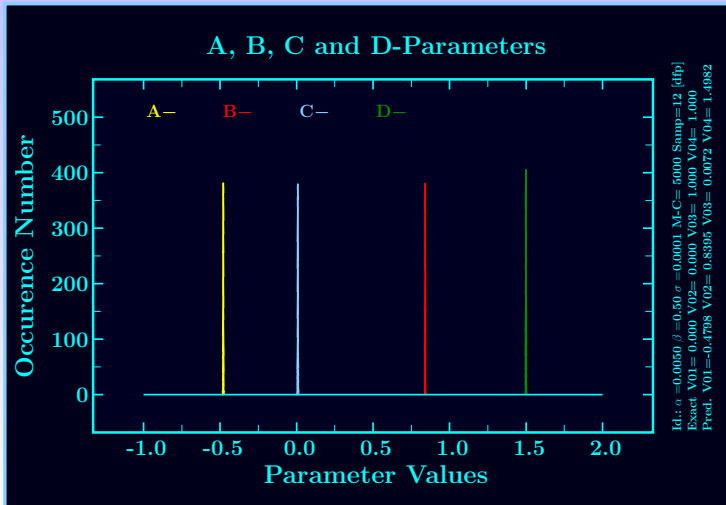
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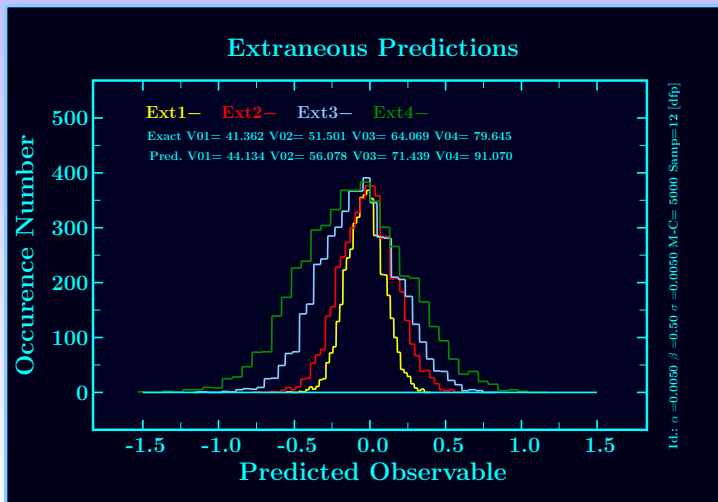
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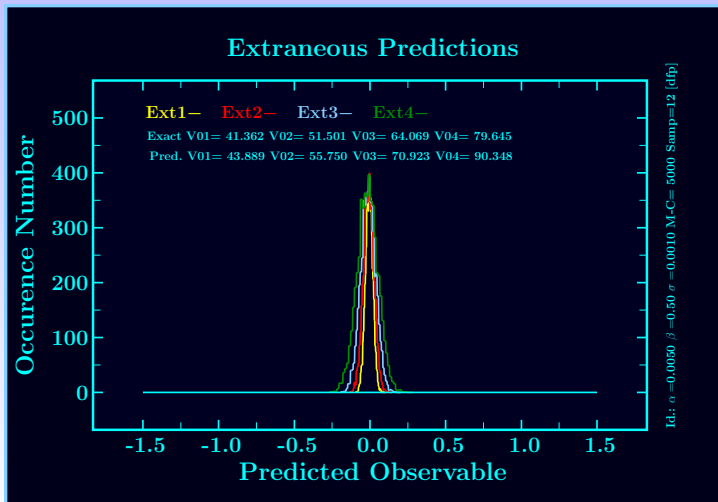
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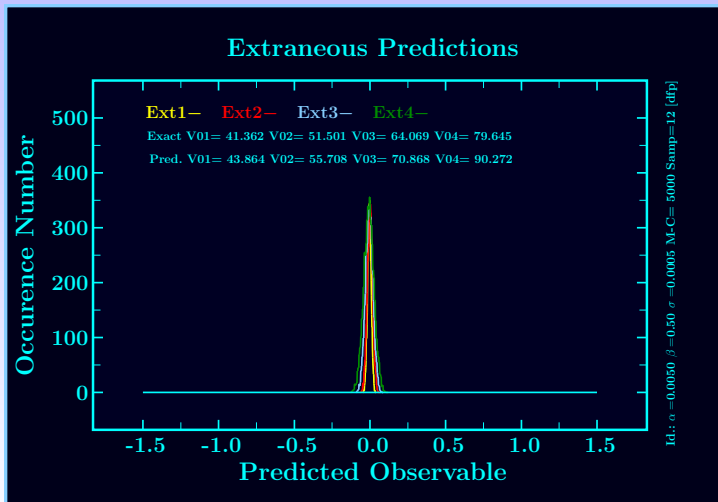
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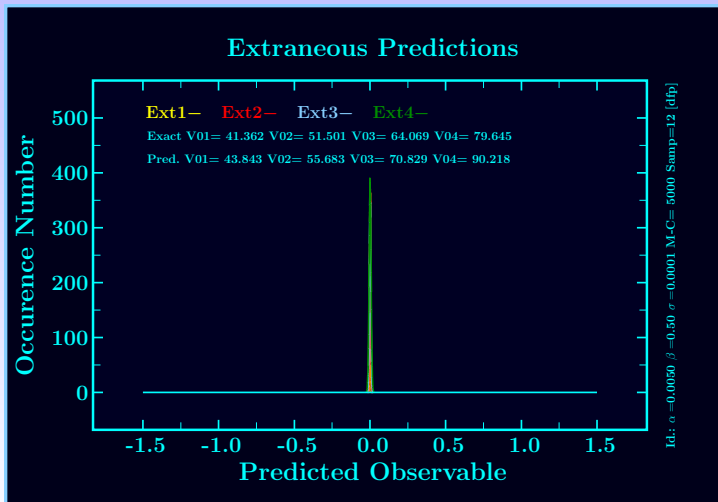
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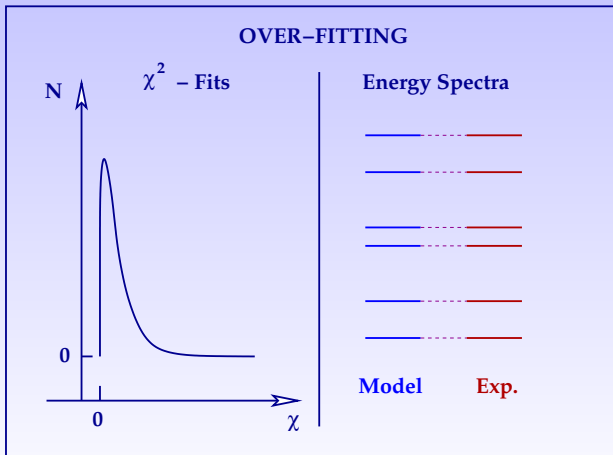
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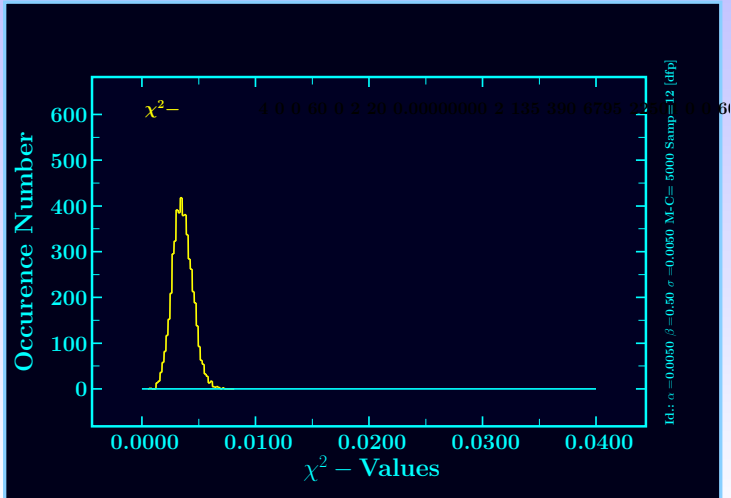
The Mechanism of Over-fitting

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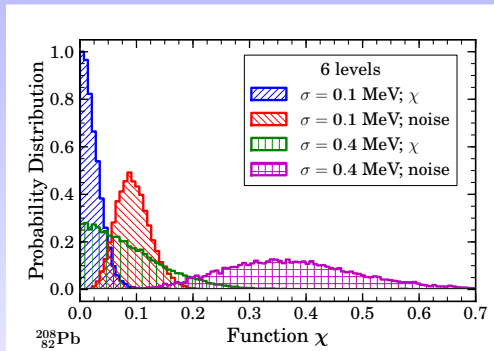


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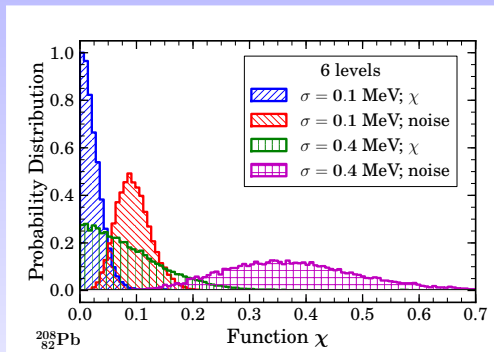
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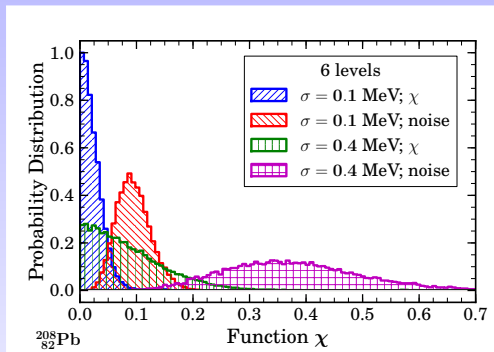


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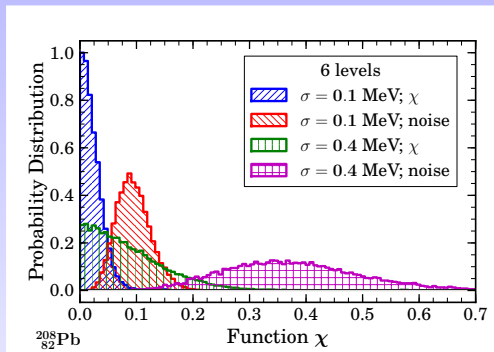
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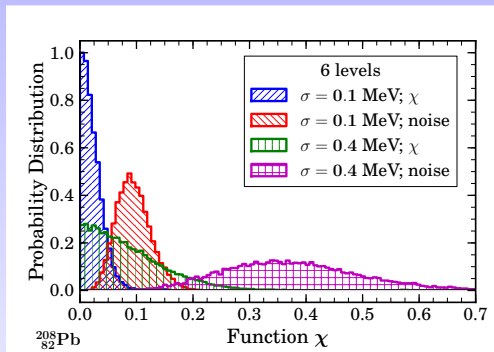
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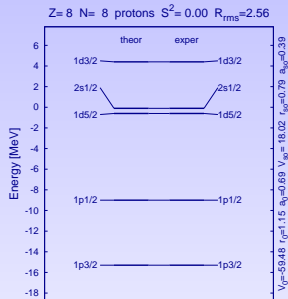
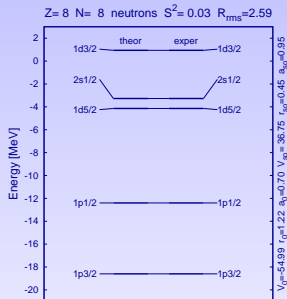
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- We introduce the Gaussian noise into the experimental-level input, repeat the χ^2 -fit - and plot the histograms in function of χ^2 .
- Under the mathematical conditions discussed there are a large number of exact fits possible. Over-Fitting - is a form of ill-posedness

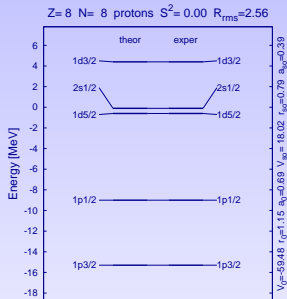
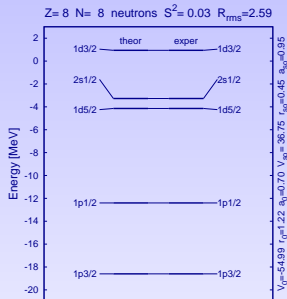
'Chi-by-the-Eye' Results May Look Attractive...

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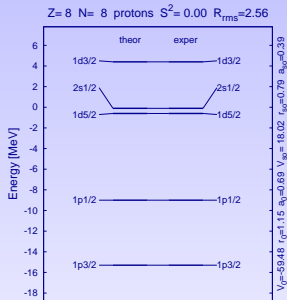
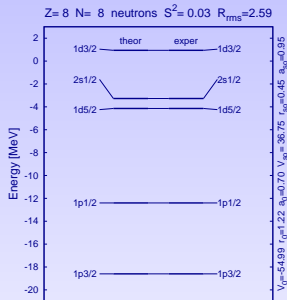
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- This result may look surprising: the quality of the fit is such that *graphical illustrations are insufficient to show it !!!*
- On the other hand: If we trust the model - we may hope that also the remaining levels are close to the experimental results to come

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- Inexact theories involve always theory uncertainties (which must be estimated) and related probability distributions can be modelled
- In the future theoretical approaches: Theory provides not only the numerical predictions but also probability distributions of the associated uncertainties
- We believe that quite often it is easier to estimate the uncertainties of the present theory rather than to document a new interaction term

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- Suppose we have already used out all the existing experimental data: as theorists we can modify models / analyse uncertainties...
- In other words: We improve predictive power of our theory by reducing the number of parameters, by regularising the associated Inverse Problem, but first of all through including all interactions

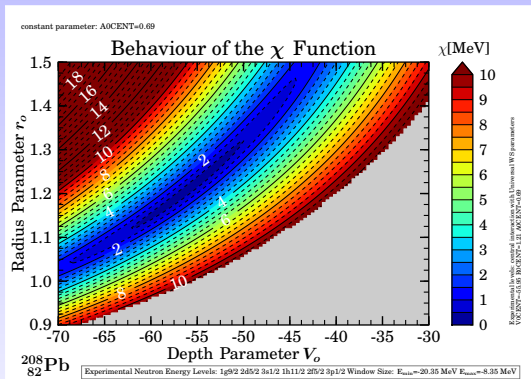
Part III

III-Posed Problems with Parametric Correlations: Illustrative Examples with Realistic Hamiltonians

Spherical Woods-Saxon and Correlations V_0 vs. r_0

- The valley on the χ^2 -plot showing correlation:

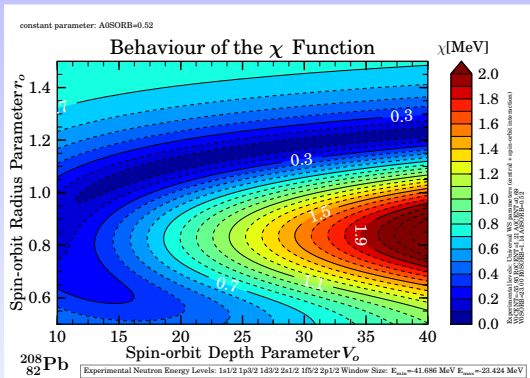
$$r_0 = f(V_0)$$



A map of χ^2 from the fit based on six exp. levels close to the Fermi level

Spherical Woods-Saxon and Correlations V_0^{SO} vs. r_0^{SO}

- Valley on the χ^2 -plot showing parametric correlations for $V_{WS}^{SO}(r)$



We plot the χ^2 in function of the S-O strength (horizontal) and the S-O radius (vertical) axis. We start with the six lowest levels: $r_0^{SO} = F(V_0^{SO})$

Parameter Correlations and Correlation Matrix [WS]

- Given random variables X and Y . Correlation matrix in this case:

$$\text{corr}(X, Y) = \frac{\sum_i [(X_i - \bar{X})(Y_i - \bar{Y})]}{\sqrt{\sum_i (X_i - \bar{X})^2} \sqrt{\sum_i (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2}}; \quad \bar{X} \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i, \quad \bar{Y} \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$$

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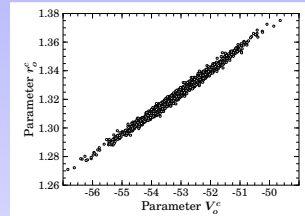
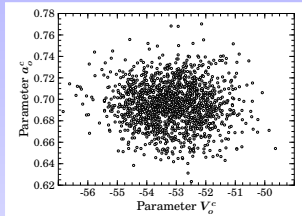
$$\text{corr}(X, Y) = \frac{\sum_i [(X_i - \bar{X})(Y_i - \bar{Y})]}{\sqrt{\sum_i (X_i - \bar{X})^2} \sqrt{\sum_i (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2}}; \quad \bar{X} \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i, \quad \bar{Y} \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$$

- Generally: $\{X, Y\} \rightarrow \{X_k\} = \{V_0^c, r_0^c, a_0^c, V_0^{so}, r_0^{so}\}$ we obtain:

Correlation matrix for the Woods-Saxon Hamiltonian parameters as obtained from the Monte-Carlo simulation

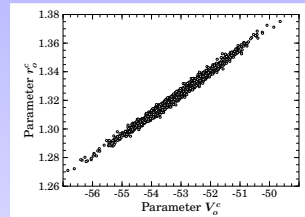
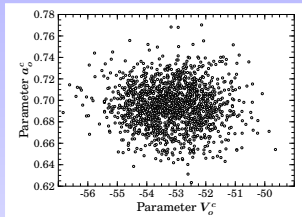
	V_0^c	r_0^c	a_0^c	V_0^{so}	r_0^{so}
V_0^c	1.000	0.994	-0.028	0.000	0.265
r_0^c	0.994	1.000	0.016	0.005	0.270
a_0^c	0.028	0.016	1.000	0.259	0.288
V_0^{so}	0.000	0.005	0.259	1.000	0.506
r_0^{so}	0.265	0.270	0.288	0.506	1.000

Parameter-Correlations and Correlation Matrix [WS]



Monte-Carlo fitting results for ^{208}Pb with the Woods-Saxon potential
Left: $(a_0^c \text{ vs. } V_0^c)$ -plane and Right: $(r_0^c \text{ vs. } V_0^c)$ -plane

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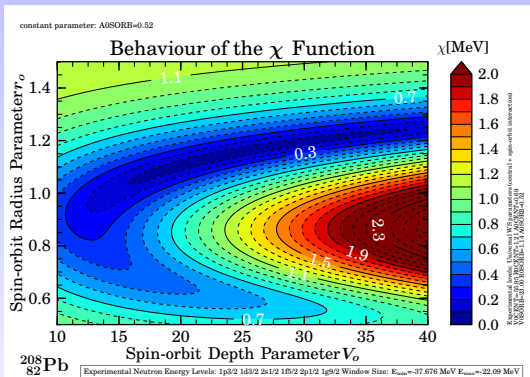
	V_0^c	r_0^c	a_0^c	V_0^{so}	r_0^{so}
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Sampling and Parametric Correlations

We will gradually increase the energy of the six-level window to approach the nucleon binding region and thus gradually approach the present-day experimental situation

Spherical Woods-Saxon - Correlations V_0^{SO} vs. r_0^{SO}

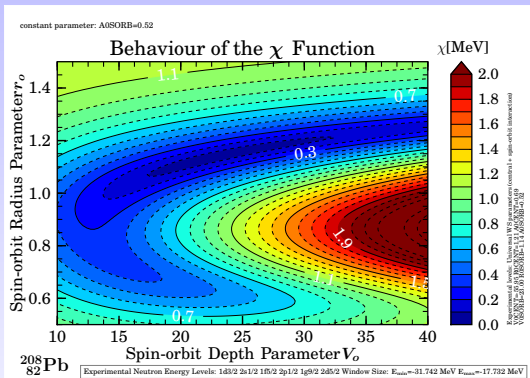
- Impact of sampling (choice of data) on Parametric Correlations



We plot the χ^2 in function of the S-O strength (horizontal) and the S-O radius (vertical) axis. We start with the six lowest levels: $r_0^{SO} = F(V_0^{SO})$

Spherical Woods-Saxon - Correlations V_0^{SO} vs. r_0^{SO}

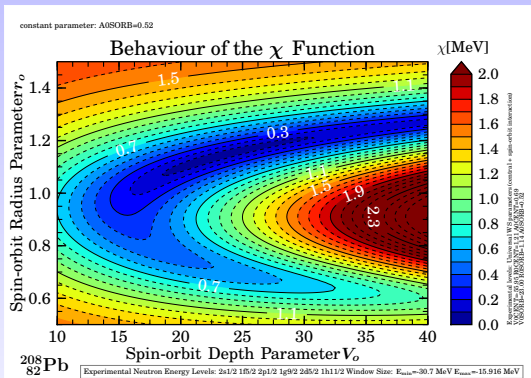
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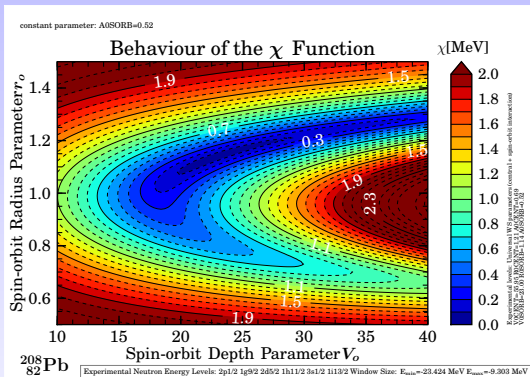
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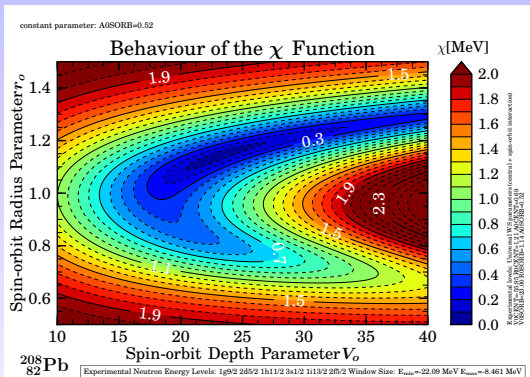
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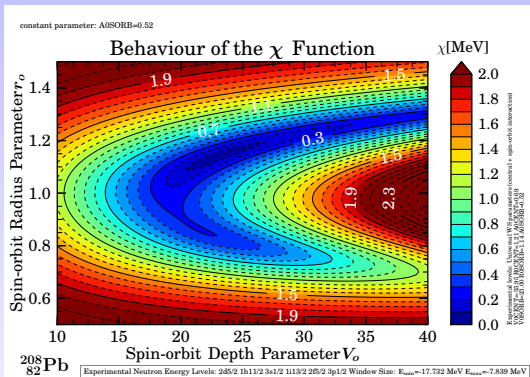
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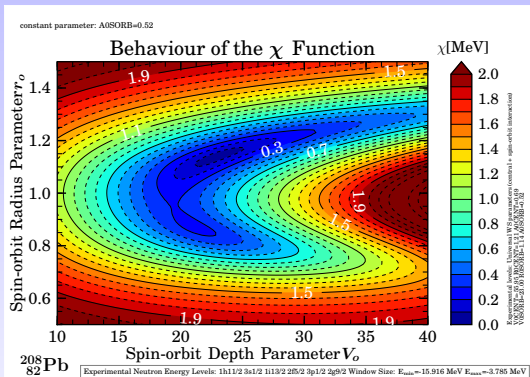
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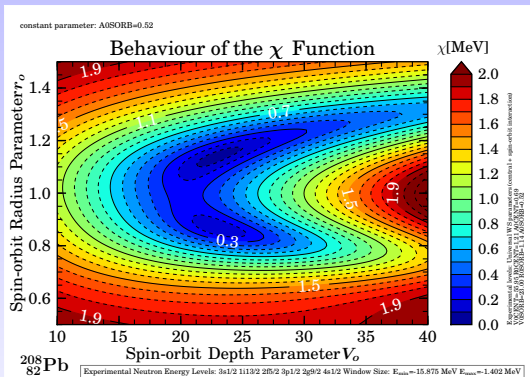
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Sampling and Parametric Correlations

[Illustrations for Skyrme SIII Hartree-Fock Hamiltonian]

Parameter-Correlations and Correlation Matrix [HF]

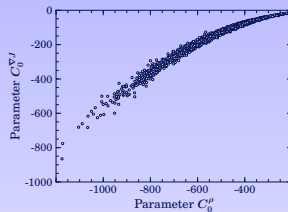
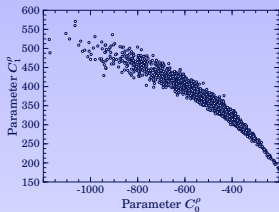


Illustration analogous to the preceding one; here Skyrme Hartree-Fock

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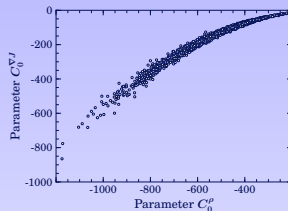
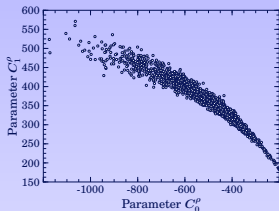


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Correlation matrix for the Skyrme-Hartree-Fock Hamiltonian parameters

	C_0^ρ	C_1^ρ	$C_0^{\rho\alpha}$	C_0^τ	C_1^τ	$C_0^{\nabla J}$
C_0^ρ	1.000	-0.948	-0.506	-0.902	0.952	0.965
C_1^ρ	-0.948	1.000	0.682	0.745	-0.838	-0.854
$C_0^{\rho\alpha}$	-0.506	0.682	1.000	0.102	-0.243	-0.290
C_0^τ	-0.902	0.745	0.102	1.000	-0.985	-0.977
C_1^τ	0.952	-0.838	-0.243	-0.985	1.000	0.993
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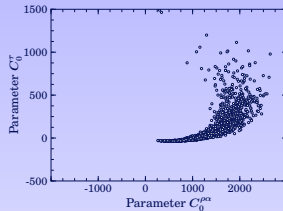
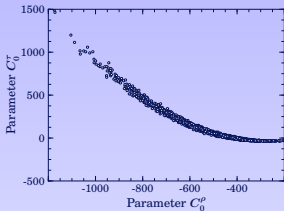


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Parameter-Correlations in Skyrme-HF

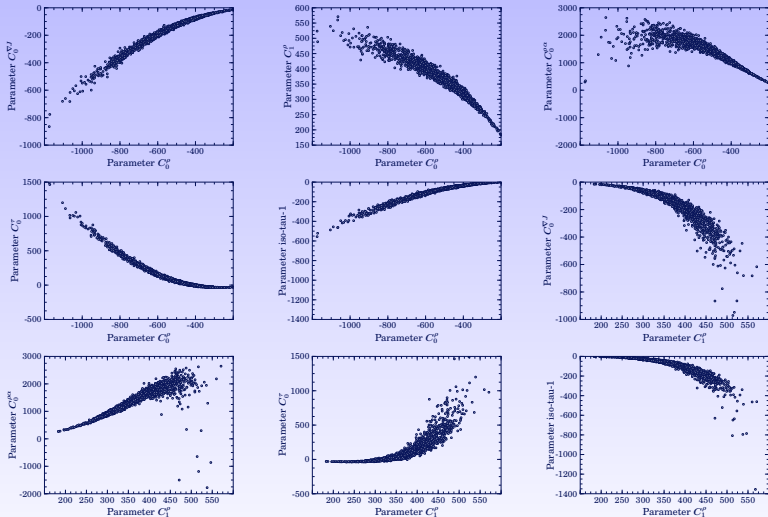


Illustration suggesting that there are rather very few independent parameters

The Following Messages

**The Following Messages
are intended**

**The Following Messages
are intended
for Mature Audiences**

Skyrme-Hartree-Fock $\hat{V}_{int}(\{\rho\}) = \hat{v}_{Skyrme}(\vec{r}_i, \vec{r}_j)$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{v}_{Skyrme}(\vec{r}_i, \vec{r}_j) = & \mathbf{t}_0(1 + \mathbf{x}_0\hat{P}_\sigma) \delta(\vec{r}_{ij}) \\ & + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}_1(1 + \mathbf{x}_1\hat{P}_\sigma) [\hat{\mathbf{k}}'^2\delta(\vec{r}_{ij}) + \delta(\vec{r}_{ij})\hat{\mathbf{k}}^2] \\ & + \mathbf{t}_2(1 + \mathbf{x}_2\hat{P}_\sigma) [\hat{\mathbf{k}}'] \cdot [\delta(\vec{r}_{ij})\hat{\mathbf{k}}] \\ & + \frac{1}{6}\mathbf{t}_3(1 + \mathbf{x}_3\hat{P}_\sigma) \rho^\alpha(\vec{\mathbf{R}}) [\delta(\vec{r}_{ij})\hat{\mathbf{k}}] \\ & + i\mathbf{W}_0(\hat{\sigma}_i + \hat{\sigma}_j) \cdot [\hat{\mathbf{k}}' \times \delta(\vec{r}_{ij})\hat{\mathbf{k}}] \\ & + \mathbf{v}^{\text{tensor}}(\vec{r}_i, \vec{r}_j)\end{aligned}$$

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 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 v^{\text{tensor}}(\vec{r}_i, \vec{r}_j) = & \frac{1}{2} t_e \{ [3(\hat{\sigma}_i \cdot \hat{k}')(\hat{\sigma}_j \cdot \hat{k}') - (\hat{\sigma}_i \cdot \hat{\sigma}_j)(\hat{k}')^2] \delta(\vec{r}_{ij}) \\
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12 Params.: $\{p\} \stackrel{\text{df}}{=} \{ \{t_0, t_1, t_2, t_3\}; \{x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3\}; \{W_0\}; \{t_e, t_o\}; \{\alpha\} \}$

Skyrme-HF in the EDF Formulation up to $N^3\text{LO}$

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- In a comprehensive study Carlsson, Dobaczewski and Kortelainen introduce Skyrme nuclear density functionals up to the sixth order (the standard Skyrme is of second order)

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- Their total energy density contains all these rather than ~ 15 terms

$$\mathcal{H}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\substack{m'l',n'l'v'j' \\ ml,nLvJ,Q}} C_{ml,nLvJ,Q}^{m'l',n'l'v'j'} \times T_{ml,nLvJ,Q}^{m'l',n'l'v'j'}(\vec{r}),$$

where $C_{ml,nLvJ,Q}^{m'l',n'l'v'j'}$ are corresponding necessary coupling constants

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- ... in view of all the couplings present already at the leading order formulations which suggest a totally ill-posed inverse problem $\rightarrow\rightarrow$

Skyrme-HF in the EDF Formulation up to $N^3\text{LO}$

- Numbers of terms depending on the time-even and time-odd densities are given separately. The last two columns give numbers of terms when the Galilean or gauge¹ invariance is assumed, respectively.

Order	T-even	T-odd	Total	Galilean	Gauge
0	1	1	2	2	2
2	8	10	18	12	12
4	53	61	114	45	29
6	250	274	524	129	54
$N^3\text{LO}$	2x312	2x346	2x658	2x188	2x97
	624	692	1316	376	194

- Let us observe a very fast-growing number of terms. To take into account both isospin channels, the number of terms is multiplied by a factor of two

¹For comments about Skyrme HF gauge invariance cf. e.g. J. Dobaczewski and J. Dudek, PRC 52 (1995) 1827

Parametric Correlations - Partial Conclusions

- Parametric correlations are overwhelmingly present and - as it is very well known - they imply an ill-posedness of the inverse problem

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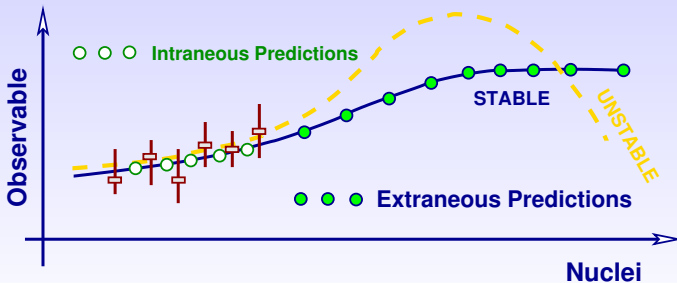
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Part IV

Ill-Posed Inverse Problem in Nuclear Theories [Regularisation, Singular Value Decomposition]

A Powerful Tool: Singular-Value Decomposition

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- We have demonstrated that the finding the parameters of the Hamiltonian is equivalent to solving the algebraic *Inverse Problem*:

$$\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{D} \text{ with } \mathcal{A} = \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{J}^T \text{ where } \mathbf{J} \equiv \text{Jacobian}$$

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- One can demonstrate that an arbitrary rectangular $m \times d$ matrix J can be decomposed as a product of three matrices (D -diagonal)

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{V}^T \text{ with } \mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}, \mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}, \mathbf{D} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$$

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$$D = \text{diag}\{\underbrace{\delta_1, \delta_2, \dots, \delta_{\min(m,d)}}_{\text{decreasing order}}\}$$

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- We find easily that

$$\mathbf{J}^T = \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{D}^T \cdot \mathbf{U}^T \text{ where } \mathbf{D}^T = \text{diag}\left\{\frac{1}{\delta_1}, \frac{1}{\delta_2}, \dots, \frac{1}{\delta_d}; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}, \dots, \mathbf{0}\right\}$$

Fitting, Inverse Problem and Confidence Intervals

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$$\frac{\partial \chi^2}{\partial p_j} \rightarrow (\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J}) \cdot \mathcal{P} = \mathcal{D}$$

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$$(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J})^{-1} = \mathbf{V} \cdot (1/\delta^2) \cdot \mathbf{V}^T$$

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$$(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J})^{-1} = \mathbf{V} \cdot (1/\delta^2) \cdot \mathbf{V}^T$$

- Independently one derives the expression for the correlation matrix

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Fitting, Inverse Problem and Confidence Intervals

- Let us come back to the shown earlier χ^2 -minimum condition:

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- If one or more $\delta_k \rightarrow 0$ then $(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J})^{-1} \rightarrow \infty$ and generally, the confidence intervals of all parameters diverge [null predictive power]

Sing.-Value Decomposition & Conditional Number

- One may show that the parametric instability of the solutions of the inverse problem is directly proportional to the condition number

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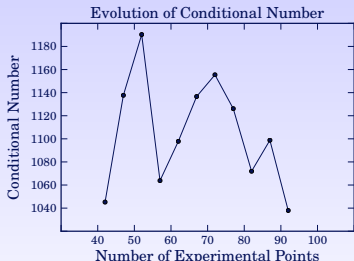
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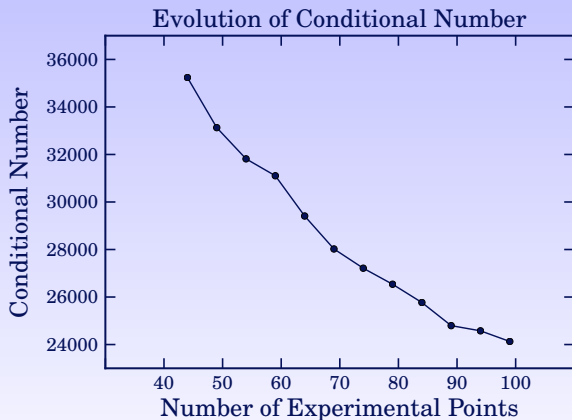
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The Catastrophe of Fitting to the Masses

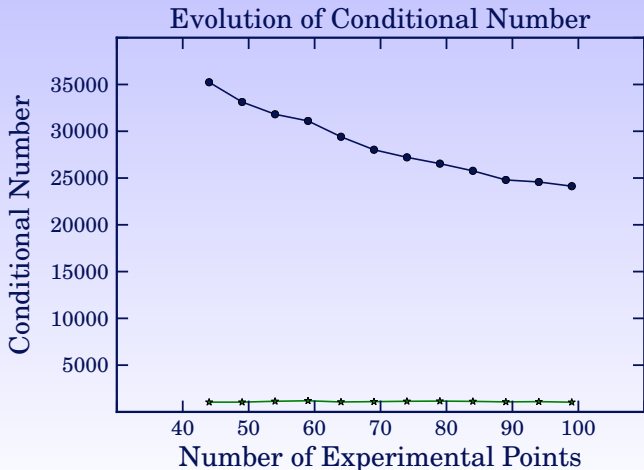
- When fitting the Skyrme Hartree-Fock parameters to the single particle energies and to the masses we obtain $\text{Cond}(A) \sim 10^5$



Conditional number of the SLY4-type Hamiltonian, parameters fitted to the single-particle energies and masses

Smaller Theory Errors vs. Bigger Predictive-Power

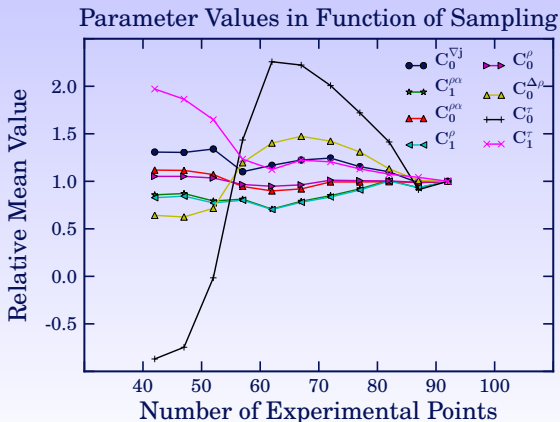
- Constraining theory errors may help stabilising theory predictions:
The necessary although not sufficient condition of model's stability



Parametric Correlations & Density Functionals

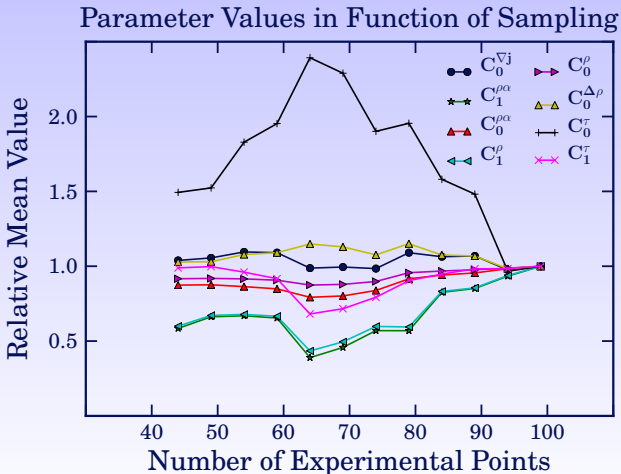
- Parameters expressed using Density-Functional representation

$$\{p\} \leftrightarrow \{C_t^{\rho 0}, C_t^{\rho \alpha}, C_t^{\Delta \rho}, C_t^\tau, C_t^J, C_t^{\nabla J}, t_e, t_o \text{ and } \alpha\}$$



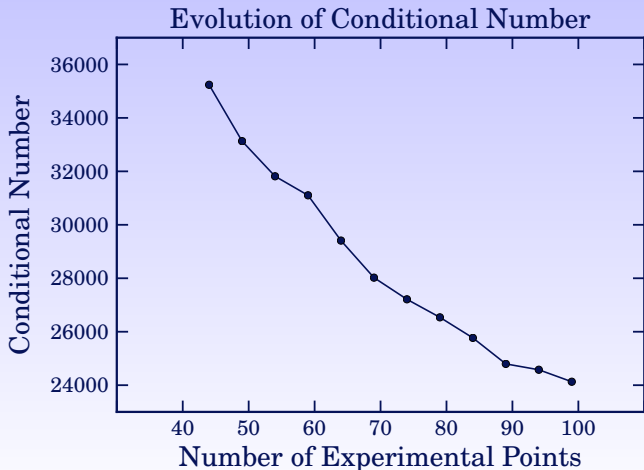
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Part V

Controlling Experiment with the Help of Noise Simulations

Single-Particle Levels - Noise-Simulation Example

- Consider a single particle spectrum $\{e_\nu^o\} \leftrightarrow H\varphi_\nu^o = e_\nu^o \varphi_\nu^o$ obtained with the 'optimal' set of parameters $\{p\}_o$ as in the preceding Table;
- Define the "pseudo-experimental" levels $\{e_\nu^{exp}\} \equiv \{e_\nu^o\}$. Applying the minimisation procedure will now reproduce those $\{e_\nu^o\}$ exactly;
- Chose one level, say $e_\kappa^o \in \{e_\nu^o\}$, and arbitrarily modify its position:

$$e_\kappa^o \rightarrow e_\kappa \equiv (e_\kappa^o - e) \quad \text{with, say } e \in [-2, +2] \text{ MeV;}$$

then refit the χ^2 -test \rightarrow all other levels will move to new positions

- Collect these new positions: they are functions $e_\nu = e_\nu(e_\kappa)$, below referred to as 'error response functions' \rightarrow see illustrations

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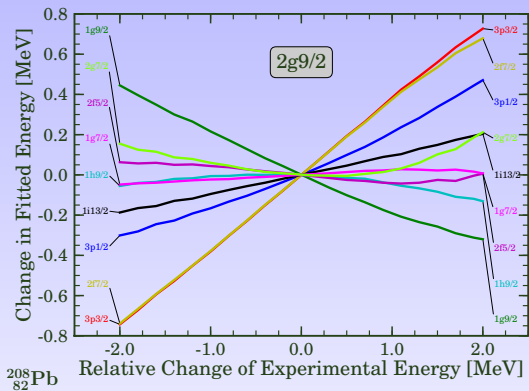
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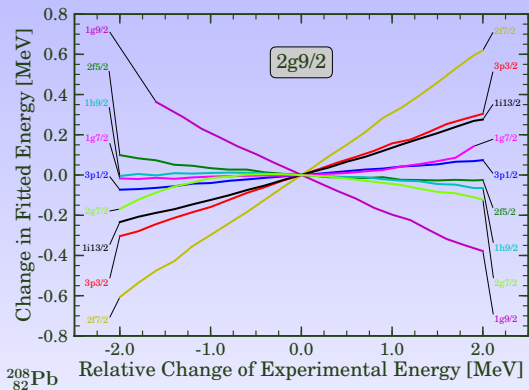
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Example: Error Response Functions to $2g_{9/2}$ -Orbital



To determine precisely the parameters through fitting the energies of $3p_{3/2}$, $2f_{7/2}$ etc. the right position of $2g_{9/2}$ must be analyzed particularly carefully (associated spectroscopic factors precise, particle vibration subtracted, pairing effect subtracted)

Example: Alternative Representation for $2g_{9/2}$ -Orbital



Attention: The figure may look similar but it contains a totally opposite information: All the curves represent the $2g_{9/2}$ -level - this is how the fitting will modify $2g_{9/2}$ if we vary the indicated levels

Conclusions from Error Response-Function Tests

- Observe rather precise indications as to '*which levels influence which*' what allows to discuss the experimental strategies precisely
- The low- ℓ orbitals (such as $3p_{1/2}$, $3p_{3/2}$) have relatively small impact on the error-response functions ...
- ... while some pairs of orbitals couple very strongly
- The highest- ℓ orbitals do not couple in the strongest way
- ... all that in a particular case presented; analysis of this type may require a case-by-case mode of operating...

Part VI

Predictive Power and Over-Fitting Mechanism

A Realistic Toy Model - Noise-Simulation Example

- Let us calculate $\{e_\mu\}$ -levels for a given W-S parameter set, here:

Woods-Saxon parameters for the neutrons in ^{208}Pb reproduce the experimental levels with the r.m.s. deviation of 0.164 MeV and maximum error of 0.353 MeV.

V_o^c	r_o^c	a_o^c	λ	r_o^{so}	a^{so}
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- We will obtain the response of all the levels to a 'linear noise' - vary a level position within a window and refit the H -parameters $\{p\}$

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→ The standard Woods-Saxon Hamiltonian has been used:

No.	E_{calc}	E_{exp}	Level	Err.(th-exp)
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- Suppose we have already used out all the existing experimental data: as theorists we can modify models / analyse uncertainties...
- In other words: We improve predictive power of our theory by reducing the number of parameters, by regularising the associated Inverse Problem, but first of all through including all interactions