Macroscopic description

Nuclei are treated as a classical liquid drop

Bethe-Weizsäcker Formula: Z. Phys. 96, 431 (1935)



Microscopic corrections to the binding energy 1



Nobel Prize 1963 M. Goeppert-Mayer, J.H.D. Jensen "for their discoveries concerning nuclear shell structure"

Microscopic corrections to the binding energy 2



N.N. Bogoliubov (Nuovo Cimento 7, 794 (1958))- J.G. Valatin (Phys. Rev. 122, 1012 (1961)) description leads the same results

Examples of Macro-Micro Mass Models



Microscopic Description of Atomic Nuclei

Assumption: nucleons move independently in a mean field created by all other nucleons in the nucleus

Hartree-Fock method:

Schroedinger equation for the nuclear many-body system:



Two types of effective potential V(i,j):

I) Skyrme, zero-range force advantage: easy to calculate disadvantage: interacting two nucleons have to be in one point

Self-consistent solution:

Wave functions depend on the effective potential and vice versa Unknown wave functions and unknown potential are found iteratively

II) Gogny, finite-range force advantage: realistic interaction length disadvantage: no large-scale calculations could be performed yet



Relativistic Mean Field

The interaction is mediated by three types of mesons and a photon



Dirac equation for nucleons + Klein-Gordon equations for mesons and photon

Mesons generate a nuclear and the photon generates the Coulomb contributions to the mean field in which the nucleons move

The wave function of the nucleus is constructed from a product of single-particle spinors which are the solutions of the Dirac equation

The system is solved selfconsistently

Advantages:

- Spin-orbit interaction comes out automatically with the right order of magnitude
- Finite-range interaction is used

Examples of Microscopic Mass Models



Nuclear Properties from Experiment and Theory

1. Shell structure far away of the valley of beta-stability

Proton Shell Gap
$$2G_p = (m(Z-2,N)-2m(Z,N)+m(Z+2,N)) \cdot c^2$$



Explanation:

Masses of three nuclides enter in the definition of Proton Shell Gap i.e.a nuclear structure change within these nuclides can lead to wrong conclusions

Predictive Power of Mass Models

The rms-error is often used to estimate how reliable are the predictions of a mass model

$$\sigma_{\rm rms}^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (m_i^{\rm exp} - m_i^{\rm theory})^2$$

Unique way to test mass models is to perform new mass measurements. Predictive powers of a few mass models are tested on the 310 new masses measured at GSI

Mass model	$\sigma_{ m rms}$ /keV
FRDM	372
FRLDM	696
Spanier-Johanson	1210
Myers-Swiatecki	395
Duflo-Zucker	668
HF+BCS	960
HFB	650

No mass model exist presently which has the predictive power better then 300 keV