Nucleon-α Scattering and Resonances in $^5$He and $^5$Li with JISP16 and Daejeon16 $NN$ Interactions

A. M. Shirokov,1,2,3 A. I. Mazur,3 I. A. Mazur,3 E. A. Mazur,3
I. J. Shin,4 Y. Kim,4 L. D. Blokhintsev,1,3 and J. P. Vary2

1Skobeltsyn Institute of Nuclear Physics, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow 119991, Russia
2Department of Physics and Astronomy, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50011, USA
3Department of Physics, Pacific National University, Khabarovsk 680005, Russia
4Rare Isotope Science Project, Institute for Basic Science, Daejeon 305-811, Korea

The SS-HORSE approach to analysis of resonant states is generalized to the case of charged particle scattering utilizing analytical properties of partial scattering amplitudes and applied to the study of resonant states in the $^5$Li nucleus and non-resonant s-wave proton-α scattering within the no-core shell model using the JISP16 and Daejeon16 $NN$ interactions. We present also the results of calculations of neutron-α scattering and resonances in the $^5$He nucleus with Daejeon16 and compare with results published previously using JISP16.

I. INTRODUCTION

There is considerable progress in developing ab initio methods for studying nuclear structure [1] based on a rapid development of supercomputer facilities and recent advances in the utilization of high-performance computing systems. In particular, modern ab initio approaches, such as the Green’s Function Monte Carlo (GFMC) [2], the Hyperspherical expansion [1], the No-Core Shell Model (NCSM) [3], the Coupled-Cluster Theory [4, 5], and the Nuclear Lattice Effective Field Theory [6, 7] are able to reproduce properties of atomic nuclei with mass up to $A = 16$ and selected heavier nuclear systems around closed shells.

Within the NCSM as well as within other variational approaches utilizing the harmonic oscillator basis, the calculation of nuclear ground states and other bound states starts conventionally from estimating the dependence of the energy $E_\nu(h\Omega)$ of the bound state $\nu$ in some model space on the harmonic oscillator frequency $h\Omega$. The minimum of $E_\nu(h\Omega)$ is correlated with the energy of the state $\nu$. The convergence of calculations and accuracy of the energy prediction is estimated by comparing with the results obtained in neighboring model spaces. To improve the accuracy of theoretical predictions, various extrapolation techniques have been suggested recently [8–21] which make it possible to estimate the binding energies in the complete infinite basis space. The studies of extrapolations to the infinite model spaces reveal general trends of convergence patterns of variational calculations with the harmonic oscillator basis, in the shell model calculations in particular.

An extension of the ab initio methods to the studies of the continuum spectrum and nuclear reactions is one of the mainstreams of modern nuclear theory. A remarkable success in developing the ab initio reaction theory was achieved in few-body physics where exact Faddeev and Faddeev–Yakubovsky equations [22] or the AGS method [23] are nowadays routinely used for calculating various few-body reactions.

The most important breakthrough in developing ab initio theory of nuclear reactions in systems with total number of nucleons $A > 4$ was achieved by combining NCSM and Resonating Group Method (RGM); the resulting approaches are conventionally referred to as NCSM/RGM and the No-Core Shell Model with Continuum (NCSMC) [3, 24–26]. It is also worth noting the Lorentz integral transform approach to nuclear reactions with electromagnetic probes [1, 27] and the GFMC calculations of elastic $n\alpha$ scattering [28]. Nuclear resonances can be also studied within the No-core Gamow Shell Model (NCGSM) [29].

Both NCGSM and NCSM/RGM complicate essentially the shell model calculations. A conventional belief is that the energies of shell model states in the continuum should be associated with the resonance energies. It was shown however in Refs. [30, 31] that the energies of shell model states may appear well above the energies of resonant states, especially for broad resonances. Moreover, the analysis of Refs. [30, 31] clearly demonstrated that the shell model should also generate some states in a non-resonant nuclear continuum. In Refs. [32–36] we suggested an SS-HORSE approach which provides an interpretation of the shell model states in the continuum and makes it possible to deduce resonance energies and widths or low-energy non-resonant phase shifts directly from shell-model results without introducing additional Berggren basis states as in NCGSM or additional calculations as in the NCSM/RGM and NCSMC approaches.

The SS-HORSE approach is based on a simple analysis of the $h\Omega$ and basis size dependencies of the results of standard variational shell-model calculations. We have successfully applied it to extracting resonance energies and widths in $n\alpha$ scattering as well as non-resonant $n\alpha$ elastic scattering phase shifts [32, 33] from the NCSM calculations of $^5$He and $^4$He nuclei with the JISP16 $NN$ interaction [37]. To describe democratic decays [38, 39] of few-nucleon systems, we developed a hyperspherical
extension of the SS-HORSE method [40, 41]. An application of this extended SS-HORSE approach to the study of the four-neutron system (tetraneutron) [40–42] predicted for the first time a low-energy tetraneutron resonance consistent with a recent experiment [43] with soft realistic \( NN \) interactions like JISP16 [37], Daejeon16 [44] and SRG-softened chiral effective field theory (\( \chi \text{EFT} \)) \( NN \) interaction of Ref. [45].

In this contribution, we discuss an extension of the SS-HORSE method to the case of charged particle scattering. The SS-HORSE technique provides the \( S \)-matrix or scattering phase shifts in some energy interval above the threshold where the shell model calculations generate eigenstates with various \( h\Omega \) values and various basis truncations. Next we parametrize the \( S \)-matrix to obtain it in a wider energy interval and to locate its poles associated with resonances. We have shown [32, 33] that this parametrization should provide a correct description of low-energy phase shifts. The phase shift parametrization utilized in Refs. [32–34] was derived from the symmetry properties of the \( S \)-matrix. However, due to the long-range Coulomb interaction in the case of charged particle scattering, the analytical properties of the \( S \)-matrix become much more complicated and cannot be used for its low-energy parametrization. In Ref. [35] we suggested a version of the SS-HORSE approach which utilizes the phase shift parametrization based on analytical properties of the partial-wave scattering amplitude. In the case of charged particle scattering, instead of the partial-wave scattering amplitude, one can use the so-called renormalized Coulomb-nuclear amplitude [46, 47] which has similar analytical properties. This opens a route to the generalization of the SS-HORSE method to the case of the charged particle scattering proposed in Ref. [36] where we have verified this approach using a model problem of scattering of particles interacting by the Coulomb and a short-range potential. To calculate the Coulomb-nuclear phase shifts, we make use of the version of the HORSE formalism suggested in Ref. [48] and utilized later in our studies of Refs. [30, 31].

In this contribution we present the results of SS-HORSE calculations of proton-\( \alpha \) resonant and non-resonant scattering phase shifts based on the \textit{ab initio} NCSM results for \(^3\text{Li} \) and \(^4\text{He} \) nuclei obtained with the JISP16 [37] and a newer Daejeon16 [44] \( NN \) interaction derived from a \( \chi \text{EFT} \) inter-nucleon potential and better fitted to the description of light nuclei than JISP16. We search for the \( S \)-matrix poles to evaluate the eigenenergies and widths of resonant states in the \(^3\text{Li} \) nucleus. The NCSM-SS-HORSE calculations of the \(^3\text{He} \) resonant states have been performed with the JISP16 interaction in Refs. [32, 33]. We present here also the results of the NCSM-SS-HORSE \(^5\text{He} \) resonant state calculations with the Daejeon16 to complete the studies of the nucleon-\( \alpha \) resonances with the realistic JISP16 and Daejeon16 \( NN \) potentials. The previous \textit{ab initio} analyses of nucleon-\( \alpha \) resonances with various modern realistic inter-nucleon interactions were performed in Ref. [28] within the GFMC.

II. SS-HORSE METHOD FOR CHANNELS WITH NEUTRAL AND CHARGED PARTICLES

A. General formulae

The SS-HORSE approach relies on the \( J \)-matrix formalism in quantum scattering theory.

Originally, the \( J \)-matrix formalism was developed in atomic physics [54]; therefore, the so-called Laguerre basis was naturally used within this approach. A generalization of this formalism utilizing either the Laguerre or the harmonic oscillator bases was suggested in Ref. [55]. Later the harmonic-oscillator version of the \( J \)-matrix method was independently rediscovered by Kiev (G. F. Filippov and collaborators) [56] and Moscow (Yu. F. Smirnov and collaborators) [57] groups. The \( J \)-matrix with oscillator basis is sometimes also referred to as an \textit{Algebraic Version of RGM} [56] or as a \textit{Harmonic Oscillator Representation of Scattering Equations (HORSE)} [48]. We use here a generalization of the HORSE formalism to the case of charged particle scattering proposed in Ref. [48].

Within the HORSE approach, the basis function space is split into internal and external regions. In the internal region which includes the basis states with oscillator quanta \( N \leq \mathbb{N} \), the Hamiltonian completely accounts for the kinetic and potential energies. The internal region can be naturally associated with the shell model basis space. In the external region, the Hamiltonian accounts for the relative kinetic energy of the colliding particles (and for their internal Hamiltonians if needed) only and its matrix takes a form of an infinite tridiagonal matrix of the kinetic-energy operator (plus the sum of eigenenergies of the colliding particles at the diagonal if they have an internal structure). The external region clearly represents the scattering channel under consideration. If the eigenenergies \( E_\nu, \nu = 0, 1, \ldots \), and the respective eigenvectors of the Hamiltonian matrix in the internal region are known, one can easily calculate the \( S \)-matrix, phase shifts and other parameters characterizing the scattering process (see, e.g., Refs. [48, 55, 58, 59]).

An interesting feature peculiar to the \( J \)-matrix method was highlighted as far back as 1974 [54]. The point is that, at the energies coinciding with the eigenvalues \( E_\nu \) of the Hamiltonian matrix in the internal region, the matching condition of the \( J \)-matrix method becomes substantially simpler while the accuracy of the \( S \)-matrix and phase shift description at these energies is much better than at the energies away from the eigenvalues \( E_\nu \) [36, 60, 61]. Taking an advantage of this feature,
H. Yamani [61] was able to construct an analytic continuation to the complex energy plane within the R-matrix method and to obtain accurate estimates for the energies and widths of resonant states.

The Single-State HORSE (SS-HORSE) method suggested in Refs. [32–34] also benefits from the improved accuracy of the HORSE approach at the eigenstates of the Hamiltonian matrix truncated to the internal region of the whole basis space. In the case of scattering of uncharged particles interacting by a short-range potential, the phase shifts \( \delta_l(E_\nu) \) in the partial wave with the orbital momentum \( l \) at the eigenenergies \( E_\nu \) of the internal Hamiltonian matrix are given by [32–34]

\[
\tan \delta_l(E_\nu) = -\frac{S_{N+2,l}(E_\nu)}{C_{N+2,l}(E_\nu)}.
\]

(1)

Here \( S_{N,l}(E) \) and \( C_{N,l}(E) \) are respectively regular and irregular solutions of the free Hamiltonian at energy \( E \) in the oscillator representation for which analytical expressions can be found in Refs. [48, 55, 58, 59]. Varying the oscillator spacing \( \hbar \Omega \) and the truncation boundary \( N \) of the internal oscillator basis subspace, we obtain a variation of the eigenenergy \( E_\nu \) of the truncated Hamiltonian matrix over an energy interval and obtain the phase shifts \( \delta_l(E) \) in that energy interval by means of Eq. (1). Next, we parametrize the phase shifts \( \delta_l(E) \) as discussed in the next subsection to have the phase shifts and the \( S \)-matrix in a wider energy interval which makes it possible to locate the \( S \)-matrix poles.

In the case of scattering in the channels with two charged particles, following the ideas of Ref. [48], we formally cut the Coulomb interaction at the distance \( r = b \). As shown in Ref. [36], an optimal value of the Coulomb cutoff distance \( b \) is the so-called natural channel radius \( b_0 \) [48],

\[
b = b_0 \equiv r_{N+2,l}^{cl} = 2r_0 \sqrt{N/2 + 7/4},
\]

(2)
i. e., \( b_0 \) is equivalent to the classical turning point \( r_{N+2,l}^{cl} \) of the first oscillator function \( R_{N+2,l}(r) \) in the external region of the basis space. The parameter \( r_0 = \sqrt{\hbar/(\mu \Omega)} \) entering Eq. (2) is the oscillator radius and \( \mu \) is the reduced mass in the channel under consideration. With this choice of the Coulomb cutoff distance \( b \), the elements of the Hamiltonian matrix in the interval regions are insensitive to the cut of the Coulomb interaction. Therefore the shell model Hamiltonian matrix elements in the internal region can be calculated without any modification of the Coulomb interaction between the nucleons. The scattering phase shifts \( \delta_l^{aux} \) of the auxiliary Hamiltonian with the cutoff Coulomb interaction can be calculated using the standard HORSE or SS-HORSE technique, e. g., with the help of Eq. (1). To deduce an expression for the Coulomb-nuclear phase shifts \( \delta_l \), one should match at the distance \( b \) the plane-wave asymptotics of the auxiliary Hamiltonian wave functions with Coulomb-distorted wave function asymptotics. As a result, we get the following SS-HORSE expression for the Coulomb-nuclear phase shifts \( \delta_l(E_\nu) \) at the eigenenergies \( E_\nu \) of the internal Hamiltonian matrix [36]:

\[
\tan \delta_l(E_\nu) = -\frac{S_{N+2,l}(E_\nu) W_b(n_l, F_l)}{C_{N+2,l}(E_\nu) W_b(n_l, G_l) + C_{N+2,l}(E_\nu) W_b(j_l, G_l)}.
\]

(3)

Here \( j_l \equiv j_l(kr) \) and \( n_l \equiv n_l(kr) \) are respectively the spherical Bessel and Neumann functions [62] while \( F_l \equiv F_l(\eta, kr) \) and \( G_l \equiv G_l(\eta, kr) \) are respectively the regular and irregular Coulomb functions [62]; \( k \) is the relative motion momentum; \( \eta = Z_1 Z_2 e^2 \mu / (\hbar^2 k) \) is the Sommerfeld parameter; the quasi-Wronskian

\[
W_b(\phi, \chi) = \left( \frac{d\phi}{dr} \chi - \phi \frac{d\chi}{dr} \right) |_{r=b}.
\]

(4)

As in the case of neutral particle scattering, we obtain the Coulomb-nuclear phase shifts \( \delta_l(E) \) in some energy interval by varying the internal region boundary \( N \) and the oscillator spacing \( \hbar \Omega \), then parametrize the phase shifts to have them in a wider energy interval. However the phase shift parametrization is more complicated for channels with charged colliding particles as discussed below.

An important scaling property of variational calculations with the harmonic oscillator basis was revealed in Refs. [9, 10]: the converging variational eigenenergies \( E_\nu \) do not depend on \( \hbar \Omega \) and \( N \) independently but only through a scaling variable

\[
s = \frac{\hbar \Omega}{N + 7/2}.
\]

(5)

This scaling property was initially proposed in Refs. [9, 10] for the bound states. We have extended the scaling to the case of variational calculations with the harmonic oscillator basis of the unbound states [32, 33] within the SS-HORSE approach. The SS-HORSE extension to the case of charged particle scattering discussed here can be used to demonstrate that the long-range Coulomb interaction does not destroy the scaling property of the unbound states (see Ref. [36] for details).

### B. Phase shift parametrization

The total partial-wave scattering amplitude in the case of Coulomb and short-range interactions has the form of the sum of the purely Coulomb, \( f^C_l(k) \), and Coulomb-nuclear, \( f^{NC}_l(k) \), amplitudes [63],

\[
f_l(k) = f^C_l(k) + f^{NC}_l(k),
\]

(6)

which, in turn, are related to the purely Coulomb, \( \sigma_l = \arg \Gamma(1 + l + i\eta) \), and Coulomb-nuclear phase shifts, \( \delta_l \), as

\[
f^C_l(k) = \exp \left( \frac{2i\sigma_l - 1}{2ik} \right).
\]

(7)
Analytic properties of the Coulomb-nuclear amplitude $f^{NC}_I(k)$ in the complex momentum plane differ from the analytic properties of the scattering amplitude for neutral particles. However, the renormalized Coulomb-nuclear amplitude [46, 47],

$$f_I^{NC}(k) = \exp(2i\sigma_I) \frac{\exp(2i\delta_I) - 1}{2ik},$$

(8)

we prefer to parametrize the Coulomb-modified effective-range function (12) or the standard effective-range function for neutral particle scattering (14) thus reducing the number of fit parameters. The resonant parameters are obtained by a numerical location of the amplitude pole as discussed below.

The Coulomb-modified effective-range function $K_I(E)$ as well as the effective-range function for neutral particle scattering $K_I(E)$ is real on the real axis of momentum $k$, is regular in the vicinity of zero, and admits an expansion in even powers of $k$, or, equivalently, in power series of the relative motion energy $E = \hbar^2 k^2/(2\mu)$ [46, 47],

$$K_I(E) = w_0 + w_1 E + w_2 E^2 + \ldots$$

(16)

The expansion coefficients $w_0$ and $w_1$ are related to the so-called scattering length $a_I$ and effective range $r_I$ [63]:

$$w_0 = \frac{1}{a_I}, \quad w_1 = \frac{r_1 \mu}{\hbar^2}.$$ 

(17)

We use the expansion coefficients $w_0$, $w_1$ and $w_2$ as fit parameters for the phase shift parametrization. Such a parametrization works well in the case of nucleon-$\alpha$ scattering but may fail in other problems. Note, as seen from Eq. (12) or Eq. (14), the positive energies at which the phase shift takes the values of 0, $\pm\pi$, $\pm2\pi$, ..., are the singular points of the effective-range function. In the case of possible presence of such singular points in the range of energies of interest for a particular problem, one should use a more elaborate parametrization of the effective-range function, e.g., in the form of the Padé approximant.

C. Fitting process

In the case of neutral particle scattering, we combine Eqs. (1), (14) and (16) to obtain

$$w_0 + w_1 E + w_2 E^2 = -k^{2l+1} \frac{C_{N+2,l}(E)}{S_{N+2,l}(E)}.$$ 

(18)

In the case of charged particle scattering, we derive a more complicated equation with the help of Eq. (3) and (12):

$$w_0 + w_1 E + w_2 E^2 = -k^{2l+1} (c_{i\eta})^{-1} \left\{ \frac{2\pi\eta}{\exp(2\pi\eta) - 1} \times \left[ \frac{S_{N+2,l}(E) W_b(n_i, G_i) + C_{N+2,l}(E) W_b(j_i, G_i)}{S_{N+2,l}(E) W_b(n_i, F_i) + C_{N+2,l}(E) W_b(j_i, F_i)} + i \right] - 2\eta H(\eta) \right\}. $$ 

(19)

Let $E^{(i)}_\nu$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, D$, be a set of the lowest ($\nu = 0$) or some other particular eigenvalues ($\nu > 0$) of the Hamiltonian matrix truncated to the internal region of the basis space obtained with a set of parameters $(N^{(i)}, \hbar\Omega^{(i)}), i = 1, 2, \ldots, D$. We find energies $E^{(i)}$
as solutions of Eq. (18) or Eq. (19) with some trial set of the effective-range function expansion coefficients \(w_0, w_1, w_2\) for each combination of parameters \([N^{(i)}, h\Omega^{(i)}]\) [note, the oscillator basis parameter \(h\Omega\) enters definitions of functions \(S_{N^{(i)}}(E)\) and \(C_{N^{(i)}}(E)\)]. The optimal set of the fit parameters \(w_0, w_1, w_2\) parametrizing the phase shifts is obtained by minimizing the functional

\[
\mathcal{Z} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{D} \sum_{i=1}^{D} (E_p^{(i)} - E^{(i)})^2}.
\]

With the optimal set of the fit parameters \(w_0, w_1, w_2\) we can use Eq. (18) or Eq. (19) to obtain the \(h\Omega\) dependences of the eigenenergies \(E_\nu(h\Omega)\) in any basis space \(\mathcal{N}\). Therefore Eqs. (18) and (19) provide the extrapolation of the variational results for unbound states to larger basis spaces.

D. Resonance energy \(E_r\) and width \(\Gamma\)

We obtain resonance energies \(E_r\) and widths \(\Gamma\) by a numerical location of the \(S\)-matrix poles which coincide with the poles of the scattering amplitude. If the amplitude has a resonant pole at a complex energy \(E = E_p\), the resonance energy \(E_r\) and its width \(\Gamma\) are related to the real and imaginary part of \(E_p\) [63]:

\[
E_p = E_r - i\frac{\Gamma}{2}.
\]

It follows from Eqs. (11) and (15) that locating the pole of the scattering amplitude is equivalent to solving in the complex energy plane the equation

\[
\mathcal{F}(E) \equiv \tilde{K}_i(E) - 2\eta\hbar^{2l+1}H(\eta)\langle c\eta \rangle^{-1} = 0
\]

in the case of charged particle scattering or the equation

\[
\mathcal{F}(E) \equiv K_i(E) - ik^{2l+1} = 0
\]

in the case of neutral particles. We can use the parametrization of functions \(K_i(E)\) or \(K_i(E)\) in Eqs. (22) and (23). To solve these equations, we calculate the integral

\[
\Upsilon = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_C \frac{\mathcal{F}(E)}{\mathcal{F}(E)} dE
\]

along some closed contour \(C\) in the complex energy plane, where \(\mathcal{F}(E) = \frac{d\mathcal{F}}{dE}\). The contour \(C\) should surround the area where we expect to have the pole of the amplitude. According to the theory of functions of a complex variable [64], the value of \(\Upsilon\) is equal to the number of zeroes of the function \(\mathcal{F}(E)\) in the area surrounded by the contour \(C\). If needed, we modify the contour \(C\) to obtain

\[
\Upsilon = 1.
\]

The position of the pole in the energy plane is calculated as

\[
E_p = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_C \frac{\mathcal{F}'(E)}{\mathcal{F}(E)} dE.
\]

A numerical realization of the algorithm based on Eqs. (24)–(26) provides means for a fast and stable determination of the poles of scattering amplitude.

III. ELASTIC SCATTERING OF NUCLEONS

BY \(\alpha\) PARTICLE

IN THE NCSM-SS-HORSE APPROACH

We present here an application of our SS-HORSE technique to nucleon-\(\alpha\) scattering phase shifts and resonance parameters based on \(ab\) \(initio\) many-body calculations of \(^5\)He and \(^5\)Li nuclei within the NCSM with the realistic JISP16 and Daejeon16 \(NN\) interactions. The NCSM calculations are performed using the code MFDn [65, 66] with basis spaces including all many-body oscillator states with excitation quanta \(N_{\text{max}}\) ranging from 2 up to 18 for both parities and with \(h\Omega\) values ranging from 10 to 40 MeV in steps of 2.5 MeV.

Note, for the NCSM-SS-HORSE analysis we need the \(^5\)He and \(^5\)Li energies relative respectively to the \(n+\alpha\) and \(p+\alpha\) thresholds. Therefore from each of the \(^5\)He or \(^5\)Li NCSM odd (even) parity eigenenergies we subtract the \(^5\)He ground state energy obtained by the NCSM with the same \(h\Omega\) and the same \(N_{\text{max}}\) (with \(N_{\text{max}} - 1\)) excitation quanta, and in what follows these subtracted energies are referred to as the NCSM eigenenergies \(E_r\). Only these \(^5\)He and \(^5\)Li NCSM eigenenergies relative to the respective threshold are discussed below.

We note here that the NCSM utilizes the truncation based on the many-body oscillator quanta \(N_{\text{max}}\) while the SS-HORSE requires the oscillator quanta truncation \(\mathcal{N}\) of the interaction describing the relative motion of nucleon and \(\alpha\) particle. We relate \(\mathcal{N}\) to \(N_{\text{max}}\) as

\[
\mathcal{N} = N_{\text{max}} + N_0,
\]

where \(N_0 = 1\) is the minimal oscillator quanta in our five-body \(N\alpha\) systems. A justification of using this relation for the SS-HORSE analysis is obvious if the \(\alpha\) particle is described by the simplest four-nucleon oscillator function with excitation quanta \(N_{\alpha_{\text{max}}} = 0\). Physically it is clear that the use of Eq. (27) for the SS-HORSE should work well also in a more general case when the \(\alpha\) particle is presented by the wave function with \(N_{\alpha_{\text{max}}} > 0\) due to the dominant role of the zero-quanta component in the \(\alpha\) particle wave function. Instead of attempting to justify algebraically the use of \(N_{\text{max}}\) within the SS-HORSE, we suggested in Ref. [32, 33] an \textit{a posteriori} justification: we demonstrated in Ref. [32, 33] that we obtained no phase shift parametrizations consistent with the NCSM results obtained with very different \(N_{\text{max}}\) and \(h\Omega\) values; more, we were able to predict the NCSM results with large
$N_{\text{max}}$ using the phase shift parametrizations based on the NCSM calculations with much smaller model spaces. It would clearly be impossible if the use of $N_{\text{max}}$ truncation for the SS-HORSE analysis did not work properly. We performed the same a posteriori analysis of our results in the present study of nucleon-$\alpha$ scattering to ensure the justification of our approach though we do not present and discuss it below. Generally, the fact that the phase shifts calculated using Eq. (1) or (3) at the NCSM eigenenergies obtained with different $N_{\text{max}}$ truncations form a single curve as a function of energy serves as a confirmation of the consistency of the whole NCSM-SS-HORSE approach and of the use of the NCSM $N_{\text{max}}$ for the SS-HORSE phase shift calculation in particular. The ranges of $N_{\text{max}}$ and $\hbar\Omega$ values where this consistency is achieved differ for different $NN$ interactions and different angular momenta and parities. Such a consistency, which can be also interpreted as a convergence of the phase shift calculations, is seen in the figures below to be achieved in all calculations at least at largest basis spaces in some range of $\hbar\Omega$ values.

A. Phase shifts of resonant $p\alpha$ scattering

Figure 1 presents the results of the NCSM calculations of the $^5\text{Li}$ $^{3/2}_-\alpha$ ground state energies $E_0^{(i)}$ relative to the $p+\alpha$ threshold. The respective phase shifts calculated using Eq. (3) for all $^5\text{Li}$ eigenstates $E_0^{(i)}$ are shown in the Fig. 2. For the SS-HORSE analysis we should select a set of consistent (converged) NCSM eigenstates $E_0^{(i)}$ which form a single curve of the phase shifts $\delta_i(E_0^{(i)})$ vs energy as discussed in detail in Refs. [32–36]. Alternativley one can use for the eigenstate selection the graph of $E_0^{(i)}$ vs the scaling parameter $s$ or the graph of the Coulomb-modified effective range function $K_l(E_0^{(i)})$ vs energy where the converged eigenstates should also form a single curve. Our selection of the eigenstates $E_0^{(i)}$ is illustrated by the shaded area in Fig. 1 while the method of the eigenstate selection is seen from comparing Fig. 2 and Fig. 3: the symbols in Fig. 2 depict the phase shifts $\delta_i(E_0^{(i)})$ corresponding to all eigenstates $E_0^{(i)}$ while those in Fig. 3 correspond to the selected eigenstates only. More details regarding the eigenstate selection can be found in Refs. [32, 33] and we will follow these

![Figure 1](image1.png)

**FIG. 1.** The lowest $^5\text{Li}$ $^{3/2}_-\alpha$ eigenenergies $E_0^{(i)}$ relative to the $p+\alpha$ threshold obtained by the NCSM with the JISP16 $NN$ interaction with various $N_{\text{max}}$ (symbols) as functions of $\hbar\Omega$. The shaded area shows the energy values selected for the SS-HORSE analysis. Solid curves are solutions of Eq. (19) for energies $E$ with parameters $w_0$, $w_1$ and $w_2$ obtained by the fit.

![Figure 2](image2.png)

**FIG. 2.** $p\alpha$ scattering in the $^{3/2}_-\alpha$ state with JISP16 $NN$ interaction. The $^{3/2}_-\alpha$ $p\alpha$ phase shifts obtained directly for all calculated $^5\text{Li}$ eigenstates $E_0^{(i)}$ using Eq. (3) (symbols, see Fig. 1 for details).

![Figure 3](image3.png)

**FIG. 3.** $p\alpha$ scattering in the $^{3/2}_-\alpha$ state with JISP16 $NN$ interaction. The fit of the $^{3/2}_-\alpha$ $p\alpha$ phase shifts (solid curve) and the phase shifts obtained directly from the selected $^5\text{Li}$ eigenstates $E_0^{(i)}$ using Eq. (3) (symbols, see Fig. 1 for details) are compared. Experimental data (stars) are taken from Ref. [67].
established procedures without further elaboration.

A good quality reproduction of the Coulomb-modified effective range function \( \tilde{K}_l(E) \) by the fit is illustrated in Fig. 4. We note that the quality of description of the functions \( \tilde{K}_l(E) \) and \( K_l(E) \) by the fit in cases of other states and interactions is approximately the same and we shall not present the graphs of these functions in what follows. A numerical estimate of the fit quality in our approach is the rms deviation \( \Xi \) of the eigenenergies \( E_0^{(i)} \) presented in Table I. It is seen that in all cases \( \Xi \) is of the order of few tens of keV.

Figure 3 demonstrates a good quality of the fit of the phase shift points \( \delta_l(E_0^{(i)}) \). The fitted phase shifts are seen from this panel to reproduce qualitatively the results of the phase shift analysis of the experimental data of Ref. [67]. However the theoretical phase shift behavior indicates that the resonance has a slightly higher energy and a larger width than observed experimentally; as a result, the theoretical phase shifts lie approximately 10 degrees below those extracted from experiment at the end of the resonance region and at higher energies.

The results of the calculations of the same phase shifts with the Daejeon16 \( NN \) interaction are presented in Fig. 5 and Fig. 6. It is seen that in this case we reproduce the experimental phase shifts in the resonance region even better than with JISP16. However we can select for the SS-HORSE analysis much less NCSM re-

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**TABLE I.** Energies \( E_\gamma \) and widths \( \Gamma \) of resonant states \( ^3\text{He} \) and \( ^{3}\text{Li} \) in \(^{3}\text{He} \) and \(^{3}\text{Li} \) obtained in the NCSM-SS-HORSE approach with JISP16 and Daejeon16 \( NN \) interactions. The JISP16 results for \(^3\text{He} \) resonances are taken from Ref. [32]. \( \Xi \) presents the rms deviation of energies obtained in the fit, \( D \) is the number of selected NCSM eigenenergies used in the fit. \( \Delta \) is the spin-orbit splitting. The NCSM results obtained with \( \chi\text{EFT} \) \( NN \) and \( NNN \) interactions are from Ref. [52] and the experimental results are from Ref. [68].

|       | \( E_\gamma \) (MeV) | \( \Gamma \) (MeV) | \( \Xi \) (meV) | \( D \) | \( E_\gamma \) (MeV) | \( \Gamma \) (MeV) | \( \Xi \) (meV) | \( D \) | \( \Delta \) (MeV) |
|-------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----|------------------|
|       | \(^{3}\text{He}, 3/2^-\) | \(^{3}\text{Li}, 1/2^-\) | \(^{3}\text{He}, 3/2^-\) | \(^{3}\text{Li}, 1/2^-\) | \(^{3}\text{He}, 3/2^-\) | \(^{3}\text{Li}, 1/2^-\) | \(^{3}\text{He}, 3/2^-\) | \(^{3}\text{Li}, 1/2^-\) | \(^{3}\text{He}, 3/2^-\) | \(^{3}\text{Li}, 1/2^-\) |
| Experim. | 1.69 | 1.23 | 3.18 | 6.60 | 1.49 | 1.69 | 1.23 | 3.18 | 6.60 | 1.49 |
| JISP16 | 1.84 | 1.80 | 43 | 60 | 3.54 | 6.94 | 63 | 59 | 1.70 | 1.84 | 1.80 | 43 | 60 | 3.54 | 6.94 | 63 | 59 | 1.70 |
| Daejeon16 | 1.52 | 1.05 | 24 | 40 | 3.21 | 5.63 | 50 | 40 | 1.69 | 1.52 | 1.05 | 24 | 40 | 3.21 | 5.63 | 50 | 40 | 1.69 |
| NCSMC | 1.77 | 1.70 | 3.11 | 7.90 | 1.34 | 1.77 | 1.70 | 3.11 | 7.90 | 1.34 |

**FIG. 4.** Coulomb-modified effective range function \( \tilde{K}_l(E) \) for the \( p\alpha \) scattering in the \(^{-}\text{3}\) state with JISP16 \( NN \) interaction calculated using Eq. (16) with parameters \( w_0 \), \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \) obtained by the fit (solid curve) and calculated using the r.h.s. of Eq. (19) at the selected eigenenergies \( E_0^{(i)} \) (symbols, see Fig. 1 for details).

**FIG. 5.** The same as Fig. 1 but the lowest \(^{3}\text{Li} \) \(^{3}\text{He} \) eigenenergies \( E_0^{(i)} \) are obtained with the Daejeon16 \( NN \) interaction.

**FIG. 6.** \( p\alpha \) scattering in the \(^{-}\text{3}\) state with the Daejeon16 \( NN \) interaction. Dashed curve presents the phase shifts obtained with JISP16 for comparison. See Fig. 3 for other details.
FIG. 7. The same as Fig. 1 but for the lowest $^5$Li $\frac{1}{2}^-$ eigenenergies $E_0^{(i)}$ obtained with the JISP16 $NN$ interaction.

FIG. 8. $p\alpha$ scattering in the $\frac{1}{2}^-$ state with the JISP16 $NN$ interaction. See Fig. 3 for details.

FIG. 9. The same as Fig. 1 but for the lowest $^5$Li $\frac{1}{2}^-$ eigenenergies $E_0^{(i)}$ obtained with the Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction.

FIG. 10. $p\alpha$ scattering in the $\frac{1}{2}^-$ state with the Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction in comparison with that obtained with JISP16. See Fig. 3 for details.

The results than in the case of JISP16: only the NCSM states obtained with Daejeon16 with $N_{\text{max}} \geq 12$ are forming the same curve on the $\delta_1(E_{0}^{(i)})$ vs energy plot while in the JISP16 case we utilize for the SS-HORSE analysis the results with $N_{\text{max}} \geq 4$. In other words, surprisingly, the convergence of continuum state calculations with the Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction is slower than with JISP16 while the Daejeon16 results in a much faster convergence of NCSM calculations for bound states of light nuclei [44]. The same trends in comparing convergence of Daejeon16 and JISP16 continuum calculations are seen in all the rest results presented here.

The results of calculations of the $p\alpha$ scattering in the

FIG. 11. The fit of the JISP16 $\frac{1}{2}^-$ $n\alpha$ phase shifts obtained directly from the selected $^5$He eigenstates $E_0^{(i)}$ using Eq. (3) (symbols, see Fig. 1 for details) using the S-matrix parametrization [32] (dashed curve) and parametrization of the effective-range function $K_l(E)$ (solid curve).
FIG. 12. The same as Fig. 1 but for the lowest $^5\text{He}$ $\frac{3}{2}^-$ eigenenergies $E_0^{(i)}$ obtained with the Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction.

$\frac{1}{2}^-$ state with JISP16 and Daejeon16 are presented in Figs. 7–10. Both interactions are reproducing well the experimental data in the resonance region while the JISP16 phase shifts are closer to the experiment at higher energies.

B. Phase shifts of resonant $n\alpha$ scattering

We have studied the $n\alpha$ scattering within the NCSM-SS-HORSE approach with the JISP16 $NN$ interaction in Refs. [32, 33]. We present for completeness here the $n\alpha$ phase shifts obtained with the Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction. We note however that the phase shifts and resonance parameters in Refs. [32, 33] were obtained using the parametrization of the $S$-matrix in the low-energy region while here we parametrize the effective-range function $K_l(E)$ to calculate the phase shifts and $S$-matrix poles associated with resonances. The effective-range function parametrization with the same number of parameters is more accurate in describing the phase shifts obtained directly from the NCSM eigenenergies as is seen in Fig. 11, however this difference is pronounced in description of the wide $\frac{1}{2}^-$ resonance in $^3\text{He}$ only shown in Fig. 11. The difference in the phase shifts produces, of course, the difference in the energy and width of the $\frac{3}{2}^-$ resonance in $^5\text{He}$ while the parameters of the narrower $\frac{3}{2}^-$ resonance in $^5\text{He}$ are only slightly affected by the different phase shift parametrizations.

FIG. 13. $n\alpha$ scattering in the $\frac{3}{2}^-$ states with the Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction in comparison with that obtained with JISP16 in Ref. [32]. Experimental data (stars) are taken from Ref. [69]. See Fig. 3 for other details.

FIG. 14. The same as Fig. 1 but for the lowest $^5\text{He}$ $\frac{1}{2}^-$ eigenenergies $E_0^{(i)}$ obtained with the Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction.

FIG. 15. $n\alpha$ scattering in the $\frac{1}{2}^-$ states with the Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction in comparison with that obtained with JISP16 in Ref. [32]. Experimental data (stars) are taken from Ref. [69]. See Fig. 3 for other details.
The resonant $na$ phase shifts obtained with Daejeon16 are presented in Figs. 12–15 in comparison with those from JISP16 taken from Refs. [32, 33]. As in the case of the $p\alpha$ scattering, the narrower $\frac{1}{2}^-$ resonance is better described by the Daejeon16 than by the JISP16 interaction while the $\frac{1}{2}^-$ $na$ phase shifts are reproduced better by JISP16. We note again a faster convergence of the JISP16 calculations of $na$ scattering phase shifts as compared with those with Daejeon16.

C. $\frac{3}{2}^-$ and $\frac{1}{2}^-$ resonances in $^5$Li and $^5$He nuclei

The results for energies and widths of the $\frac{3}{2}^-$ and $\frac{1}{2}^-$ resonances in $^5$Li and $^5$He nuclei with respect to the nucleon + $\alpha$ threshold obtained by the numerical location of the scattering amplitude poles as described in Subsection IID, are presented in Table I. For comparison, we present in Table I also the results for the $^5$Li resonances obtained with $\chi$EFT $NN$ and $NNN$ interactions in the $ab\ initio$ NCSM/RGM approach in Ref. [52]. We note that the energy of the resonance was calculated in Ref. [52] as a position of the maximum of the derivative $-d\delta_l(E)/dE$ while the resonance width was evaluated as $\Gamma = 2/(d\delta_l/dE)|_{E=E_r}$. The phase shift $\delta_l(E)$ may have a contribution from a non-resonant background which can result in some shift of the resonance energy $E_r$ and in a modification of its width $\Gamma$ in such calculations as compared with a more theoretically substantiated method relating the resonance parameters to the $S$-matrix and/or scattering amplitude pole. The differences in energy and width from these different theoretical approaches may be large for wide resonances.

We note that all $ab\ initio$ calculations of resonance parameters in $^5$Li and $^5$He nuclei provide a good description of the experimental data of Ref. [68]. The difference in the $\frac{3}{2}^-$ resonance energies in both nuclei obtained with different interactions is less than 300 keV, and the experimental resonance energies are within the respective intervals of predictions obtained with different interactions. The theoretical predictions for the $\frac{3}{2}^-$ resonance widths also embrace the experimental values. However the spread of theoretical predictions for the $\frac{3}{2}^-$ resonance width is about 750 keV in the case of $^5$Li and about 500 keV in the case of $^5$He that appear relatively large compared with the widths.

In the case of the wider $\frac{1}{2}^-$ resonances in $^5$Li and $^5$He nuclei, the spreads of predictions for $^5$Li also embrace the respective experimental energy and width values while our predictions for the $^5$He resonance energy are slightly above and, for the width, are slightly below the experiment. However the spreads of the theoretical predictions for energy and width of the $\frac{1}{2}^-$ resonances in $^5$Li and $^5$He do not exceed approximately 600 keV with an exception of the NCSM/RGM $\chi$EFT $NN + NNN$ prediction for the $\frac{1}{2}^-$ $^5$Li resonance width. Nevertheless, even the 2.3 MeV difference between our Daejeon16 and $\chi$EFT $NN$ + $NNN$ prediction of Ref. [52] for the $\frac{1}{2}^-$ $^5$Li resonance width is much smaller than the experimental width. Therefore we can say that the relative accuracy of the $ab\ initio$ predictions for the $\frac{1}{2}^-$ resonances in $^5$Li and $^5$He nuclei is much better than that for the $\frac{3}{2}^-$ resonances.

The difference $\Delta = \left(E_r^{\frac{3}{2}^-} - E_r^{\frac{1}{2}^-}\right)$ between the energies of the $\frac{3}{2}^-$ and $\frac{1}{2}^-$ resonances in $^5$He and $^5$Li nuclei is conventionally associated with the spin-orbit splitting of respectively neutrons and protons in the $p$ shell. We note however that this interpretation should be taken with care since the energy difference $\Delta$ has additional contributions from the central part of the $n$–$\alpha$ interaction potential and from the kinetic energy of the relative motion of nucleon and $\alpha$ particle [70]. The $\Delta$ values are presented in Table I. The $\chi$EFT $NN$ + $NNN$ interaction slightly underestimates the proton spin-orbit splitting; the Daejeon16 overestimates both proton and neutron spin-orbit splittings while the JISP16 overestimates the proton and underestimates the neutron spin-orbit splitting. It is interesting to note that the differences between our predictions with JISP16 and Daejeon16 for the $^5$Li resonance energies are of the order of 300 keV while the difference in the respective proton spin-orbit splittings $\Delta$ is only about 75 keV. It is more important to note that both JISP16 and Daejeon16 $NN$ interactions are charge-independent; however the Daejeon16 supports nearly the same $p$-shell spin-orbit splittings for protons and neutrons while the JISP16 suggests a large difference of about 800 keV between the proton and neutron $p$-shell spin-orbit splittings which significantly exceeds the experimental value for this difference of approximately 200 keV.

D. Non-resonant $p\alpha$ scattering

We have used the NCSM-SS-HORSE approach in Ref. [32–34] for calculations of resonant as well as non-resonant $p\alpha$ scattering. The non-resonant phase shifts can be also calculated within the current extension of the NCSM-SS-HORSE to the case of channels with charged colliding particles. Contrary to the phase shifts parametrizations based on the $S$-matrix analytic properties utilized in Refs. [32–34], we use the same Coulomb-modified effective-range function parametrization of Eq. (16) for both resonant and non-resonant scattering.

The results of calculations of the non-resonant $p\alpha$ scattering phase shifts in the $\frac{1}{2}^+$ state with JISP16 and Daejeon16 $NN$ interactions are presented in Figs. 16–19. It is seen that JISP16 provides a faster convergence of the phase shifts in this case too. The results obtained with JISP16 and Daejeon16 are close to each other and repro
duce well the experimental phase shifts of Ref. [67].

E. Non-resonant $n\alpha$ scattering

For completeness, we present here the results of calculations of the non-resonant $\frac{1}{2}^+$ $n\alpha$ scattering phase shifts with the Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction. The results of the NCSM calculations of the lowest $\frac{1}{2}^+$ $^5$He states with Daejeon16 and the selection of eigenstates for the SS-HORSE analysis is shown in Fig. 20; the obtained $\frac{1}{2}^+$ $n\alpha$ phase shifts are presented in Fig. 21 in comparison with the respective JISP16 phase shifts from Ref. [32] and the results of the phase-shift analysis of Ref. [69]. As in the case of the non-resonant $p\alpha$ scattering, the $\frac{1}{2}^+$ $n\alpha$ phase shifts obtained with JISP16 and Daejeon16 $NN$ interactions are close to each other and reproduce well the experimental phase shifts of Ref. [69].

IV. SUMMARY

We present here an extension of the ab initio NCSM-SS-HORSE approach to the case of channels with charged colliding particles where the relative motion wave function asymptotics is distorted by the Coulomb interaction. The extended approach is applied to the study of $p\alpha$ scattering and resonances in the $^5$Li nucleus with realistic JISP16 and Daejeon16 $NN$ interactions. The analysis of the $n\alpha$ scattering and resonances in the $^5$He nucleus

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FIG. 16. The same as Fig. 1 but for the lowest $^5$Li $\frac{1}{2}^+$ eigenenergies $E_0^{(i)}$ obtained with the JISP16 $NN$ interaction.

FIG. 18. The same as Fig. 1 but for the lowest $^5$Li $\frac{1}{2}^+$ eigenenergies $E_0^{(i)}$ obtained with the Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction.

FIG. 17. Non-resonant $p\alpha$ scattering in the $\frac{1}{2}^+$ state with Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction. See Fig. 3 for details and Fig. 16 for the correspondence of the symbols to the NCSM calculations with various $N_{\max}$ values.

FIG. 19. Non-resonant $p\alpha$ scattering in the $\frac{1}{2}^+$ state with the Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction in comparison with that obtained with JISP16. See Fig. 3 for details and Fig. 18 for the correspondence of the symbols to the NCSM calculations with various $N_{\max}$ values.
with the JISP16 $NN$ interaction has been performed by us in Refs. [32–34]; we complete this analysis here by the corresponding calculations with Daejeon16.

We demonstrate that the extended NCSM-SS-HORSE approach works with approximately the same accuracy and convergence rate as its non-extended version applicable to the channels with neutral particles. Surprisingly, we obtain that the JISP16 interaction provides a faster convergence of the $n\alpha$ and $p\alpha$ phase shifts than the Daejeon16 while the convergence of bound state energies in light nuclei within NCSM is much faster with Daejeon16 than with JISP16 [44].

Both JISP16 and Daejeon16 provide a good description of the $\frac{3}{2}^-$ and $\frac{1}{2}^-$ resonances in $^5\text{Li}$ and $^5\text{He}$ nuclei as well as of the $1^+$ non-resonant $n\alpha$ and $p\alpha$ phase shifts. However, the spin-orbit splitting of nucleons in the $p$ shell is overestimated by the charge-independent Daejeon16 $NN$ interaction which supports nearly the same spin-orbit splittings for neutrons and protons; the JISP16 $NN$ interaction which is also charge-independent, overestimates the $p$-shell spin-orbit splitting for protons and underestimates the $p$-shell spin-orbit splitting for neutrons.

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