

# AN ALTERNATIVE ENERGY DENSITY FUNCTIONAL BASED ON THE HYPERRADIAL DENSITY

**Giuseppina Orlandini**



Work In collaboration with

***Alejandro Kievsky*** (INFN Pisa)

***Mario Gattobigio*** (Univ. Nice)

# EXPLORING UNIVERSALITY WITH A MANY-BODY DENSITY FUNCTIONAL

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- Exploring systems from “**few**-body” to “**many**-body” within a unified picture  
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consider a very powerful approach: Energy Density Functional
- However, maintain translation/Galileian invariances  
see how to overcome this drawback implicit in usual EDF
- Study systems that are close to the unitary limit and are suited for effective expansion of the interaction  
an example at the end

# Summary

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- Self bound systems and Hyperspherical Coordinates  
*(interacting particles, no external one-body potential)*
- Different formulation of DFT and KS equation  
*(the many-body hyperradial density)*
- Application to bosons close to the unitary limit  
*(<sup>4</sup>He atom clusters)*

# 1: Fast recall of Density Functional Theory (DFT) and Kohn-Sham (KS) equation

*systems of interacting particles placed  
in an external one-body potential*

# The EDF approach in a couple of slides:

P. Hohenberg and W. Kohn, Phys. Rev. 136, B864 (1964)

$$1) E(\mathbf{n}) \geq E_{\text{gs}} \quad 2) E(\mathbf{n}_{\text{gs}}) = E_{\text{gs}}$$

We have an Hamiltonian of interacting particles subject to an **external potential**

$$H = \sum_i^N \frac{p_i^2}{2m} + \sum_{i < j}^N V(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j) + \sum_i^N v_{ext}(\vec{r}_i) \equiv \mathbf{T} + \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{v}_{ext}^{[1]}$$

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$\mathbf{n} \equiv \mathbf{n}(\vec{r})$  is the **one-body density**, namely the mean value of the one-body density operator  $\sum_{i=1}^N \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_i)$  on some N-body wave function

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$$\mathbf{n}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{N} \int d\vec{r}_1 d\vec{r}_2 \dots d\vec{r}_N \Psi^*(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \dots, \vec{r}_N) \sum_{i=1}^N \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_i) \Psi(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \dots, \vec{r}_N)$$

And what is  $E(\mathbf{n})$  ? It is a particular functional of the one-body density defined as

$$E[\mathbf{n}] = \langle \Psi^{\mathbf{n}} | T + V | \Psi^{\mathbf{n}} \rangle + \int d\vec{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}) n^{[1]}(\vec{r})$$

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$$\langle \Psi^{\mathbf{n}} | T + V | \Psi^{\mathbf{n}} \rangle \equiv \min_{\Psi \rightarrow \mathbf{n}} \langle \Psi | T + V | \Psi \rangle \equiv F(\mathbf{n})$$



## The proof of the Theorem (following Levy 1979):

1)  $E(n) \geq E_{gs}$  Obvious! because of the Rayleigh–Ritz variational principle

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Proof of 2):

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Equal!

# The practical use of the theorem goes via the Kohn-Sham equation Phys. Rev. 140, A1133 (1965)

The **Kohn-Sham equation** is the Schroedinger equation of a **fictitious** system (the "Kohn-Sham system") of **independent** particles that generates the **same  $n_{gs}(\mathbf{r})$**  as any given system of **interacting** particles.

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Assuming the **W-representability** of  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{n})$ , namely

$$\mathbf{E}^W(\mathbf{n}) = \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{n})$$

→ solving the one-body **Kohn-Sham equation**

$$\left( -\frac{\nabla^2}{2m} + W_{KS}(\vec{r}) \right) \psi_i(\vec{r}) = \epsilon_i \psi_i(\vec{r})$$

$$\mathbf{E}^W(\mathbf{n}_{\text{gs}}) = \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{n}_{\text{gs}}) = \mathbf{E}_{\text{gs}}$$

By *reductio ad absurdum* one can show that

$W_{KS}$  is unique!

But what is this one-body potential  $W_{KS}$  ???

At  $n=n_{gs}$   $E_{gs}$  is the minimum of  $E(n)$  namely

$$dE^V(n)/dn = 0 \implies dT^{n,V}/dn + dV^n/dn + v_{ext}(r) = 0$$

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Formally:

$$W(r) = dT^{n,V}/dn - dT^{n,W}/dn + dV^n/dn + v_{\text{ext}}(r)$$

As to  $V^n(\mathbf{n})$  :

$$V(\mathbf{n}) \simeq U_H(\mathbf{n}) + V_{\text{exc}}(\mathbf{n}) + V_{\text{corr}}(\mathbf{n})$$

???

Moreover

$$dT^{n,V}/dn - dT^{n,W}/dn$$

???



The **KS** Hamiltonian is **not** translation/Galileian invariant  
(as is not the original Hamiltonian that contains an external field)

So, what to do for self bound systems ??

## 2: Self bound systems and Hyperspherical Coordinates

*(interacting particles, **no** external one-body potential)*

For self-bound systems one requires  
Translation / Galileian invariance

$$[H, \mathbf{P}_{\text{CM}}] = 0 \quad / \quad [H, \mathbf{R}_{\text{CM}}] = 0$$

$$H = \sum_i^N \frac{p_i^2}{2m} + \sum_{i < j}^N V(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j) + \sum_i^N \cancel{V_{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}_i)} \equiv \mathbf{T} + \mathbf{V} + \cancel{V_{\text{ext}}}$$

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$$H = \frac{P_{CM}^2}{2Nm} + \frac{1}{2Nm} \sum_{i<j=1}^N |\vec{p}_i - \vec{p}_j|^2 + \sum_{i<j}^N V(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)$$

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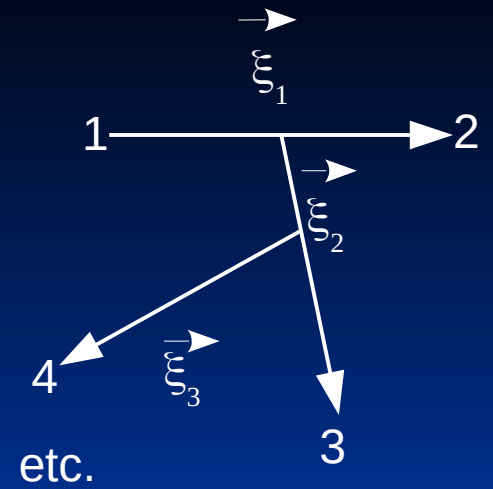
*Invariant  $H_{inv}$*

Having eliminated the CM coordinate we need a set of N-1 vectors i.e. 3N-3 independent coordinates:

**Jacobi coordinates**

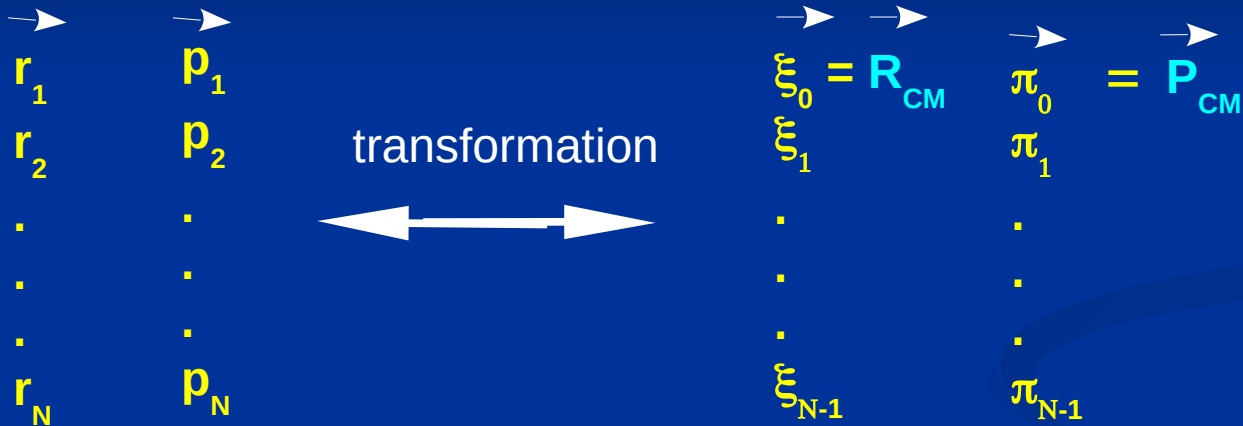
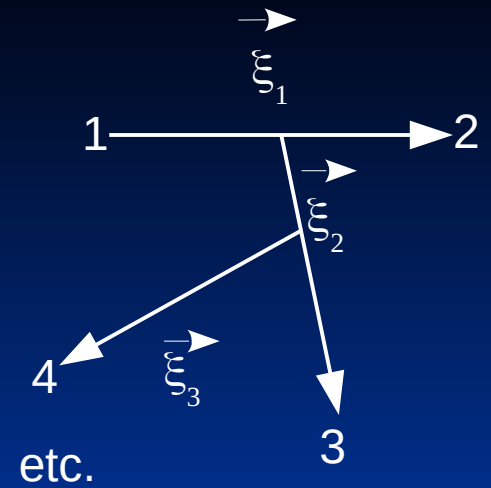
# Jacobi coordinates

$\xi_i$  = distances between each particle "i" and the cm of the previous (N - i) particles



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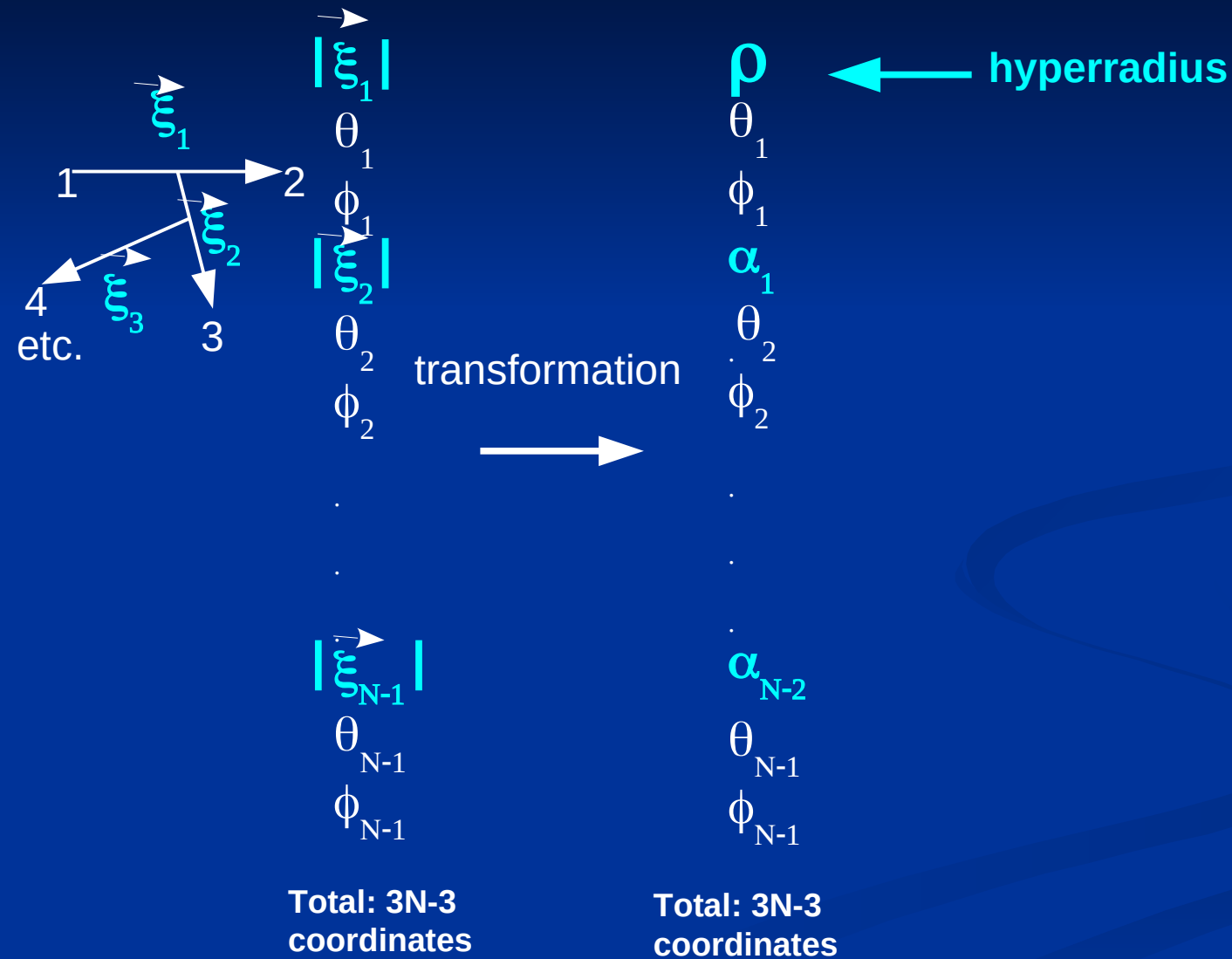
# Remarks:

- When expressed in terms of Jacobi coordinates, any 1-body or 2-body potential becomes of “N-body nature”
- The translation invariant wave function is highly *correlated* (i.e. particles are not independent) beyond the correlation due to the dynamics

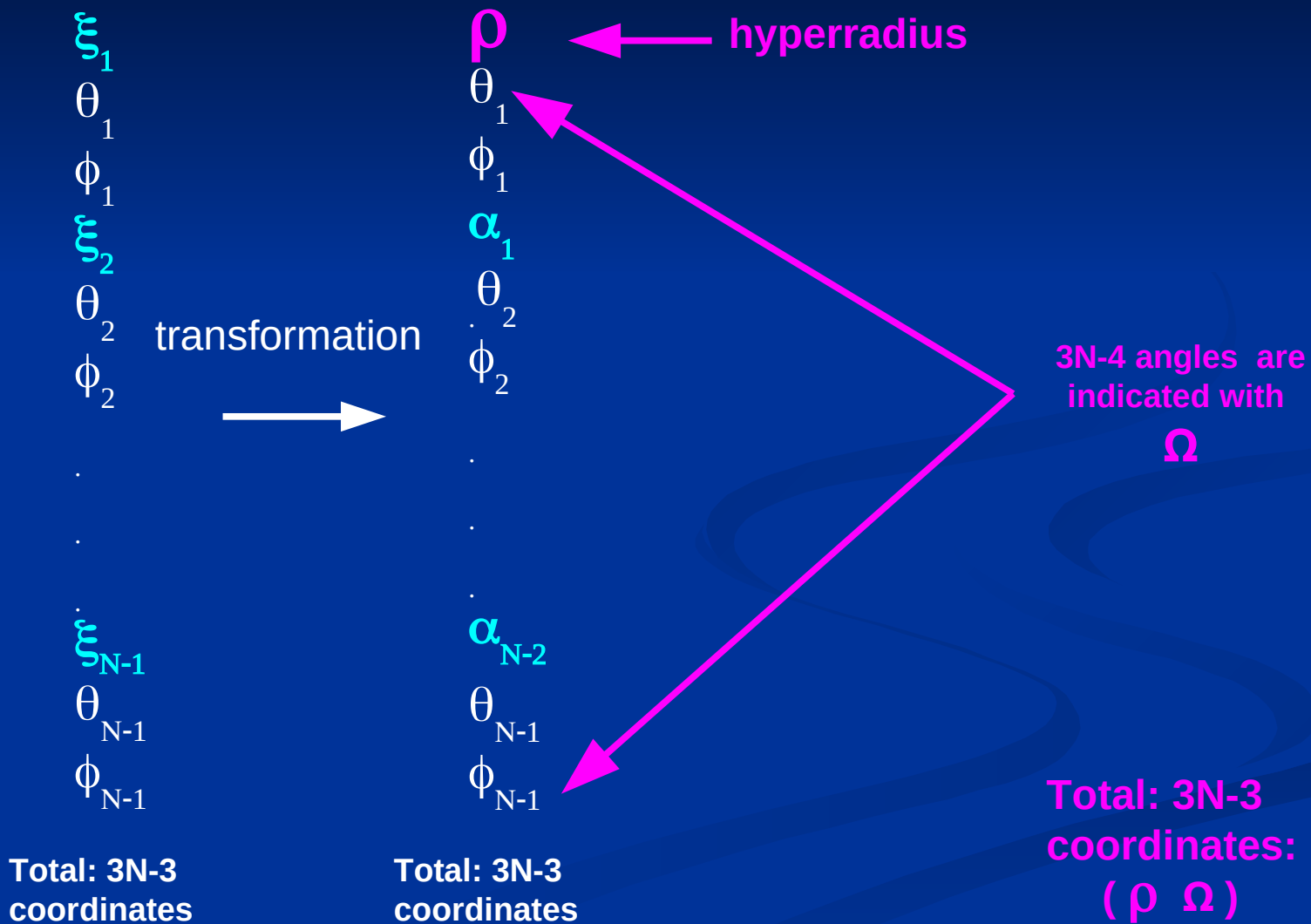


**One can further transform the Jacobi  
coordinates into a new set of coordinates  
called **Hyperspherical Coordinates****

# HYPERSPHERICAL COORDINATES



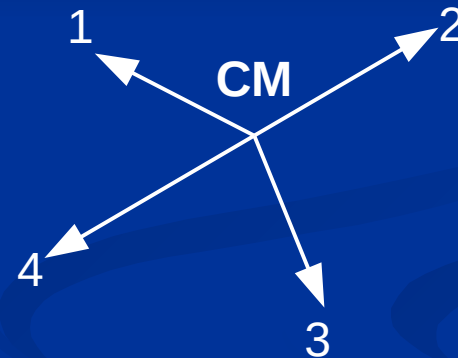
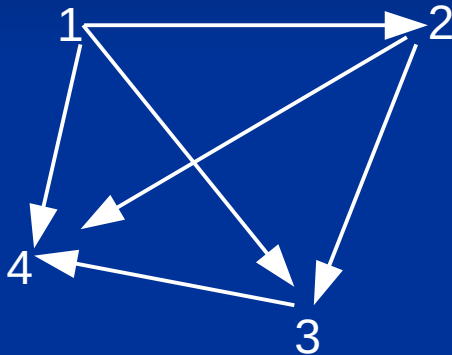
# HYPERSPHERICAL COORDINATES



LET'S FOCUS ON THE HYPERRADIUS  $\rho$  :

$$\rho^2 \sim \sum_{ij} (\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)^2$$

$$\rho^2 \sim \sum_i (\vec{r}_i - \vec{R}_{CM})^2$$



$\rho$  can be considered as a highly  
“collective” variable

***Very interesting feature of  
Hyperspherical Coordinates (HC):***

***With HC the expression of the 2 body invariant  
kinetic energy expressed in spherical coordinates  
is generalized to the N-body case***

2 body: Kinetic Energy in **SPHERICAL** coordinates

$$T = \Delta_r - \frac{L^2}{r^2} = -\frac{1}{2m} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{L^2}{r^2}$$

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N body: Kinetic Energy in **HYPERSPHERICAL** coordinates

$$T = \Delta_\rho - \frac{K^2}{\rho^2} = -\frac{1}{2m} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{(3N-4)}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{K^2}{\rho^2}$$

## 2 body: SPHERICAL HARMONICS

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$$L^2 Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi) = L(L+1) Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)$$



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## N body: HYPERSPHERICAL HARMONICS

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$$K^2 Y_{K \dots}(\Omega) = K(K+3N-5) Y_{K \dots}(\Omega)$$

In terms of Hyperspherical coordinates the invariant Hamiltonian becomes

$$H = (\Delta_{\rho} - K^2 / \rho^2) + V(\rho, \Omega)$$

Kinetic energy

Potential energy

# Remember:

- When expressed in terms of Jacobi coordinates, even a 1-body operator becomes of “N-body nature”

## Remarks in view of EDF:

- In  $H_{\text{inv}}$  there is no “real” **one-body** (IPM) density
- But one may define an analogous “**many-body**” density

$$n(r) \longrightarrow \nu(\rho)$$

$$r^2 n^{[1]}(r) = \int d\Omega_r d\vec{r}_2 \dots d\vec{r}_N \Psi^*(\vec{r}, \vec{r}_2, \dots, \vec{r}_N) \Psi(\vec{r}, \vec{r}_2, \dots, \vec{r}_N)$$



$$\rho^{3N-4} \nu(\rho) = \int d\Omega \Psi^*(\rho, \Omega) \Psi(\rho, \Omega)$$

**The idea is to try an EDF  
approach for  $v(\rho)$**

# 3: Different formulation of DFT and KS equation

(the many-body **hyperradial density**)

# The EDF approach for $v(\rho)$

The **ANALOGOUS** of the Hohenberg Kohn statement:

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The **ANALOGOUS** of the Hohenberg Kohn statement:

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Given the invariant H  $H_{inv} = (\Delta_{\rho} - K^2/\rho^2) + V(\rho, \Omega)$

What is  $E(v)$  ?

$$E[v] = \langle \Psi^v | T + V | \Psi^v \rangle \equiv \min_{\Psi \rightarrow v} \langle \Psi | T + V | \Psi \rangle$$

The proof goes along the same line as before....



## Before:

### The proof of the Theorem (following Levy 1979):

1)  $E(\mathbf{n}) \geq E_{gs}$  Obvious! because of the Rayleigh-Ritz variational principle

2)  $E(\mathbf{n}_{gs}) = E_{gs}$

Proof of 2):

$$E[\mathbf{n}_{gs}] = F(\mathbf{n}_{gs}) + \int d\vec{r} v_{ext}(\vec{r}) n_{gs}^{[1]}(\vec{r}) \geq E_{gs} \text{ because of 1)}$$

$$F(\mathbf{n}_{gs}) \equiv \min_{\Psi \rightarrow \mathbf{n}_{gs}} \langle \Psi | T + V | \Psi \rangle \leq \langle \Psi_{gs} | T + V | \Psi_{gs} \rangle$$

because it is a minimum

by definition

$$E_{gs} = \langle \Psi_{gs} | T + V | \Psi_{gs} \rangle + \int d\vec{r} v_{ext}(\vec{r}) n_{gs}^{[1]}(\vec{r})$$

therefore  $E_{gs} \geq F(\mathbf{n}_{gs}) + \int d\vec{r} v_{ext}(\vec{r}) n_{gs}^{[1]}(\vec{r})$



Equal!

Now:

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Proof of 2):

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$\mathbf{n} \rightarrow \mathbf{v}$

$$F(\mathbf{n}_{gs}) \equiv \min_{\Psi \rightarrow \mathbf{n}_{gs}} \langle \Psi | T + V | \Psi \rangle \leq \langle \Psi_{gs} | T + V | \Psi_{gs} \rangle$$

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$$H_{AKS} = T + W_{AKS}(\rho) \text{ where } W_{AKS} \text{ is such that } \nu_{gs} = \nu^{AKS}$$

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Again, by *reductio ad absurdum* one can show that  $W_{AKS}(\rho)$  is unique!

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...provided the **W-representability** of the functional  $E(\nu)$

# The practical use of the theorem goes via the “Analogous” of the Kohn-Sham equation

$$\left[ \Delta_{\rho} + \frac{K^2}{\rho^2} + W_{AKS}(\rho) \right] \Phi_{[K_{min}]}(\rho) = E_{gs} \Phi_{[K_{min}]}(\rho)$$

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$$K_{min} = 0 \text{ for bosons} \quad K_{min} \neq 0 \text{ for fermions}$$

for KS:

$$W_{KS}(r)$$

???

for AKS:

$$W_{AKS}(\rho)$$

???

At  $v=v_{gs}$   $E_{gs}$  is the minimum of  $E(v)$  namely

$$dE^V(v)/dv = 0 \implies dT^{n,V}/dn + dV^n/dn = 0$$

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$$dE^W(\nu)/d\nu = 0 \implies dT^{\nu,W}/d\nu + \boxed{W(\rho)} = 0$$

## Simplest guess:

remember

$$H_{inv} = (\Delta_{\rho} - K^2/\rho^2) + V(\rho, \Omega)$$

Try integral on the hyperangular part of the ground state wave function

Sort of “mean field” for the  $\rho$  coordinate!

$$W_{AKS}(\rho) = N(N-1)/2 \int d\Omega V^{[2]}(\rho, \Omega) |Y_{[Kmin]}(\Omega)|^2 + \\ N(N-1)(N-2)/6 \int d\Omega V^{[3]}(\rho, \Omega) |Y_{[Kmin]}(\Omega)|^2 + \dots$$

$W(\rho)$  must entail a very complex **kinetic and potential** dynamics, in fact:

- ✧ With  $H=T+V$  the true solution is obtained via **a set of coupled HH equations** in principle for an infinite number of  $K$  (diagonalization of the Hamiltonian represented on HH up to convergence)
- ✧ With  $H=T+W$  the true solution is obtained only with **one single equation at  $K_{\min}$ !**
- ✧.... “universal” character ? ....

## 4: Application to bosons close to the unitary limit ( $^4\text{He}$ atoms)



# Helium clusters

## Remarks:

The dimer of  ${}^4\text{He}$  has a binding energy of about **1 mK**, three orders of magnitude less than the typical energy scale of  $\hbar^2 / m r_{\text{vdW}}^2 = \mathbf{1.677\text{ K}}$ ,

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The **first term** of this expansion is a **contact interaction** between the two helium atoms. However, as it is well known, the three-body system (as well as larger systems) collapses, even if the contact interaction is set to produce an infinitesimal binding energy. This phenomenon is known as the **Thomas collapse** and it is remedied by the introduction of a contact **three-body force** set to correctly describe the trimer energy

Accordingly, the **leading order (LO)** of this **effective theory** has two terms,

$$V_{LO}^{[2]} = \sum_{i < j} A e^{-r_{ij}^2 / \alpha^2}, \quad V_{LO}^{[3]} = \sum_{i < j < k} B e^{-r_{ijk}^2 / \beta^2},$$

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- a)** fit to **trimer** and **tetramer** binding energies
- b)** in view of the fact that  $W(\rho)$  has to account for energies at any  $N$ , one can obtain couples **(B,  $\beta$ ) values**, all fitting the **tetramer** binding energy.

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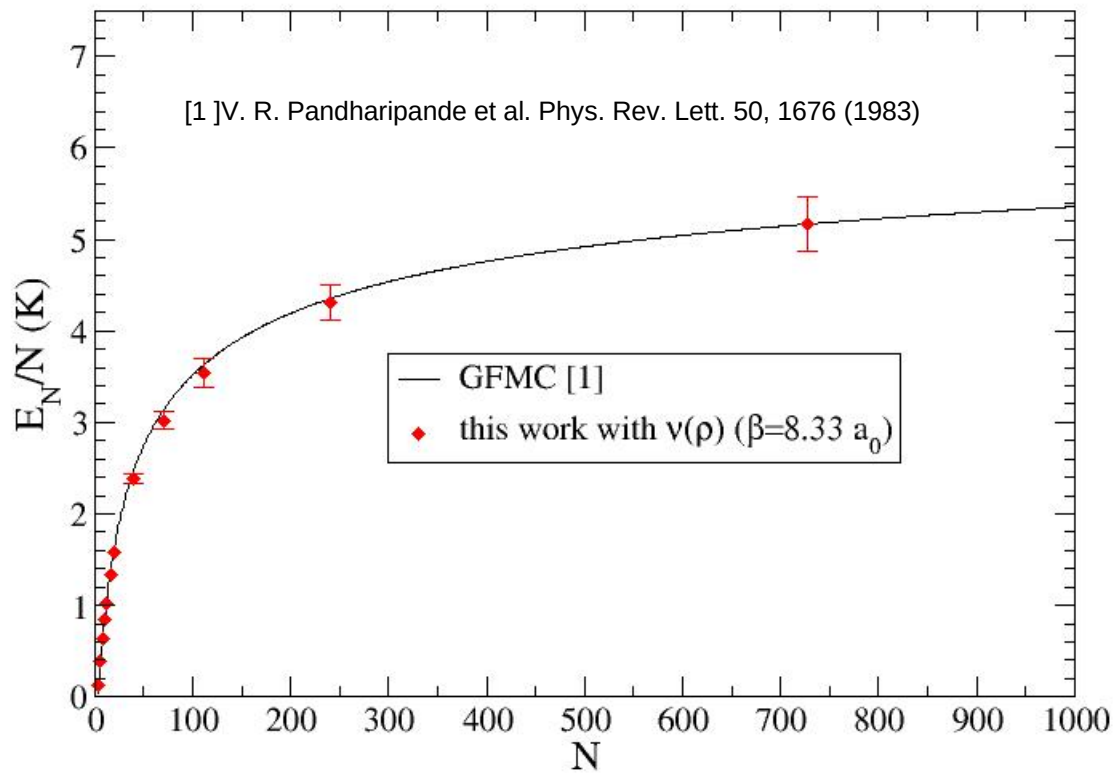
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**RESULTS FOR BINDING ENERGIES**  
**FOR ANY NUMBER  $N$  OF PARTICLES**

# Binding energy per particle for any N

Phys. Rev. A 104, 030801 (2021)



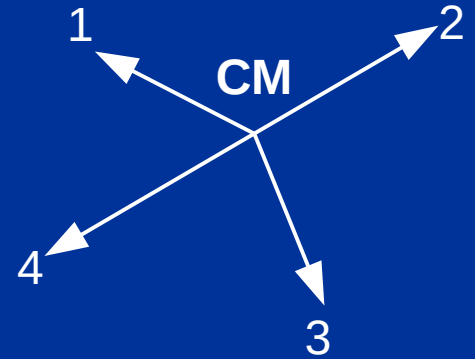
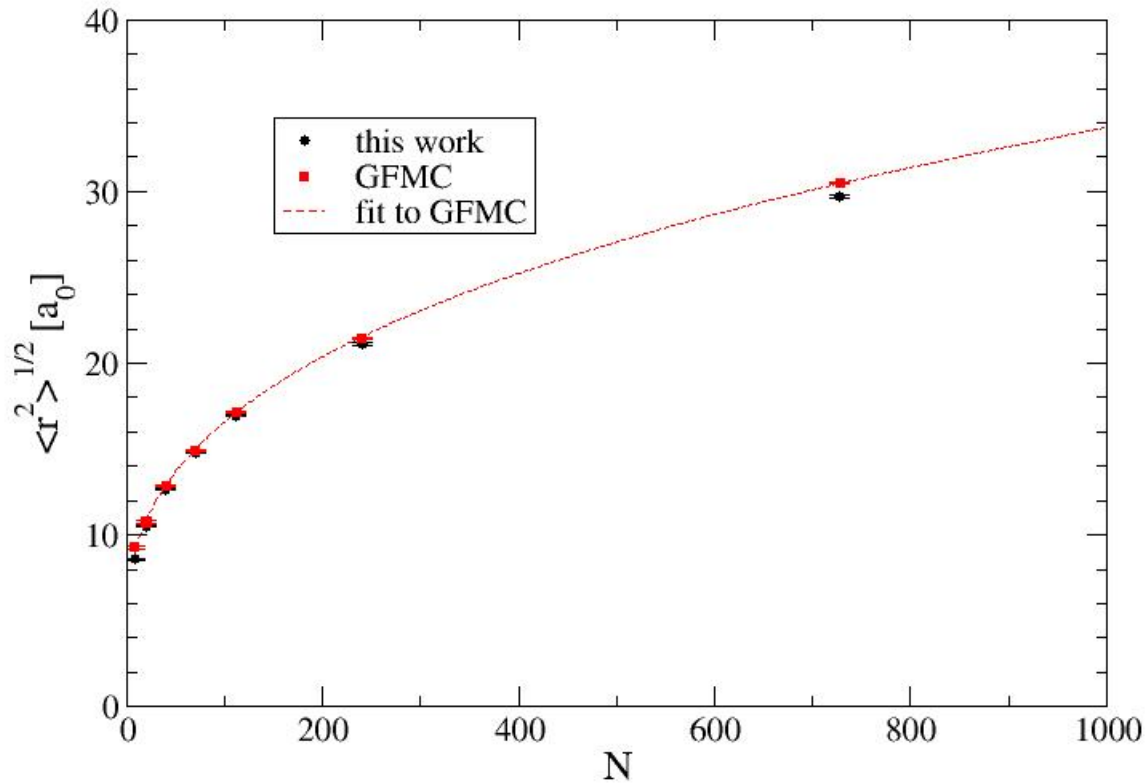
GFMC results are obtained with the “phenomenological” HFDHe2 Aziz potential (two-body only!!)



# Mean square radius

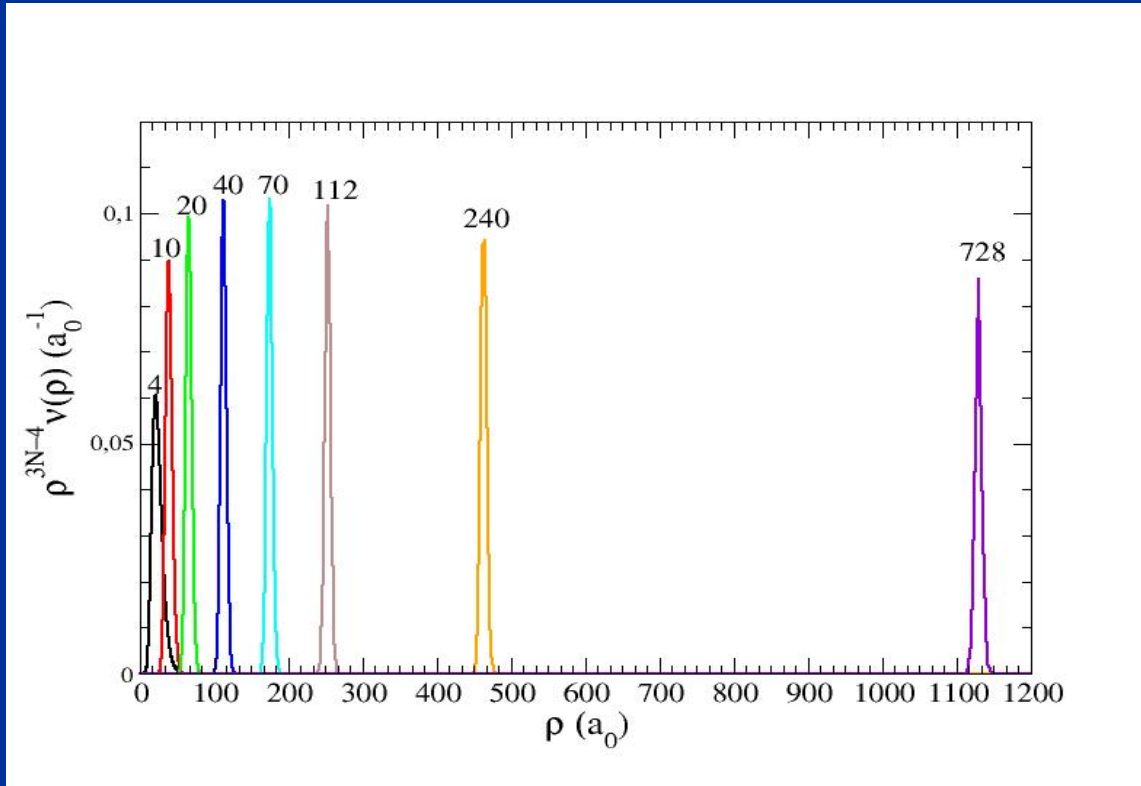
$$\rho^2 \sim \sum_i (\vec{r}_i - \vec{R}_{\text{CM}})^2$$

Phys. Rev. A 104, 030801 (2021)



# (reduced) many-body density $v(\rho)$ for selected number of particles

Phys. Rev. A 104, 030801 (2021)



Extremely **localized density** around a value almost **linear with N** .

Very compact object. Closer particles are discouraged (incompressible?)  
Also larger values are discouraged.

# CONCLUSIONS

- An energy density functional approach has been formulated in terms of the density  $\mathbf{v}(\boldsymbol{\rho})$  where  $\boldsymbol{\rho}$  is a translation invariant variable of collective nature
- It has been shown that the functional  $\mathbf{E}[\mathbf{v}]$  is governed by a **unique** (unknown) **hyperradial potential  $W(\boldsymbol{\rho})$** .
- The solution of a **single hyperradial equation** with such an hyperradial potential allows to determine the **binding energy for any  $N$**  in a straightforward way.
- We have applied this framework to the bosonic case focusing on  **$^4\text{He}$  clusters**.
- The guess for  $W(\boldsymbol{\rho})$  has been **inspired by the effective theory** approach together with a **generalization of the mean field** concept.

# OUTLOOK

- Extension to **trapped systems**
- Extension to **Fermions**. In Nuclear Physics:  **$W(\rho)$**  ???  
EFT ???

And much more to explore with the **AKS** equation and  
the **Many-Body Density Functional  $E(v(\rho))$**  !!!

Thank You!







# HOW ARE HYPERRADIUS $\rho$ AND HYPERANGLES $\alpha_i$ DEFINED ???

e.g. for **3** particles

$\xi_1$   
 $\theta_1$   
 $\phi_1$   
 $\xi_2$   
 $\theta_2$   
 $\phi_2$

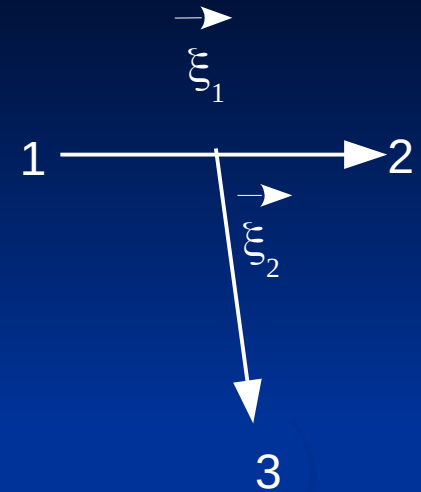
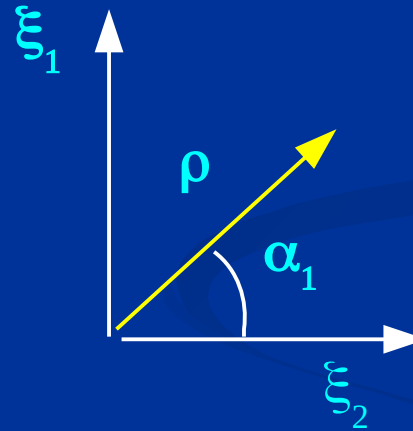
transform



$$\rho = \sqrt{\xi_1^2 + \xi_2^2}$$

$$\alpha_1 = \arccos(\xi_2 / \rho)$$

$\theta_1$   
 $\phi_1$   
 $\theta_2$   
 $\phi_2$



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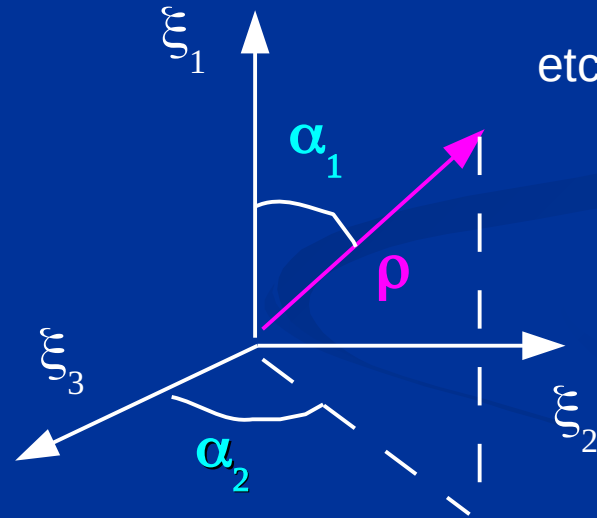
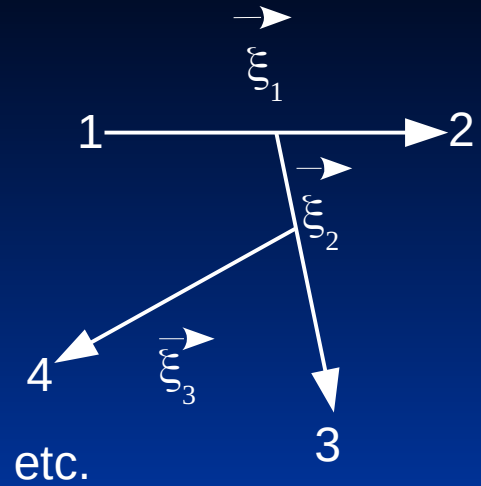
e.g. for 4 particles

$\xi_1$   
 $\theta_1$   
 $\phi_1$   
 $\xi_2$   
 $\theta_2$   
 $\phi_2$   
 $\xi_3$   
 $\theta_3$   
 $\phi_3$

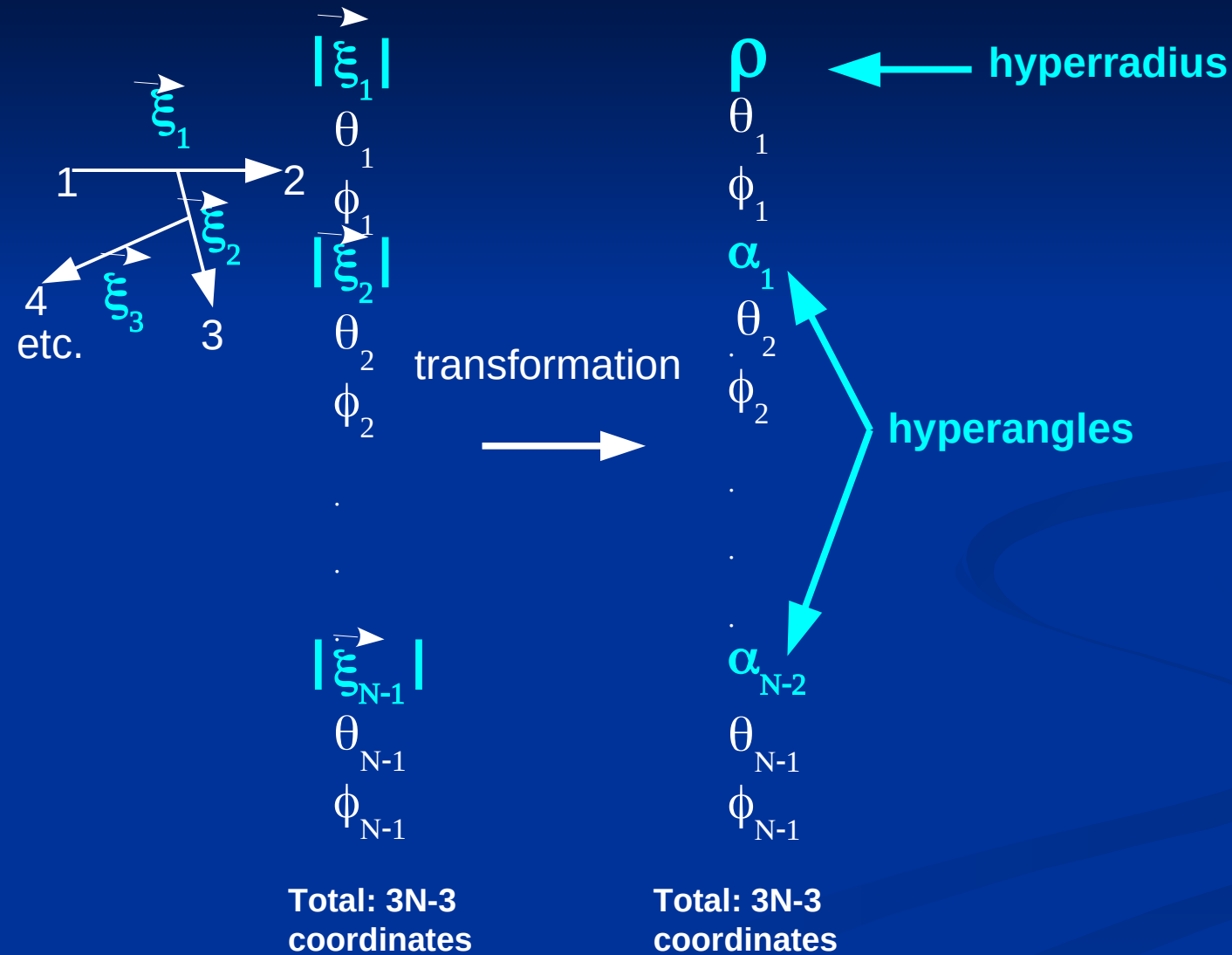
transformation



$\rho = \sqrt{\xi_1^2 + \xi_2^2 + \xi_3^2}$   
 $\theta_1$   
 $\phi_1$   
 $\alpha_1$   
 $\theta_2$   
 $\phi_2$   
 $\alpha_2$   
 $\theta_3$   
 $\phi_3$



# HYPERSPHERICAL COORDINATES



By *reductio ad absurdum* one can show that

**$W_{KS}$  is unique!**

One assumes that two hypercentral potentials,  $W_1(\rho)$  and  $W_2(\rho)$ , differing by more than a constant, exist in such a way that the two Hamiltonians  $H_1^W = T + W_1(\rho)$  and  $H_2^W = T + W_2(\rho)$  have the same  $v(\rho)$ . Let us call  $|\Phi_1\rangle$  and  $|\Phi_2\rangle$  the respective wave functions and  $\mathcal{E}_1$  and  $\mathcal{E}_2$  the corresponding energies. From the Rayleigh-Ritz variational principle the following condition holds:

$$\mathcal{E}_1 < \langle \Phi_2 | H_1^W | \Phi_2 \rangle = \langle \Phi_2 | H_2^W | \Phi_2 \rangle + \langle \Phi_2 | H_1^W - H_2^W | \Phi_2 \rangle, \quad (28)$$

$$\mathcal{E}_1 < \mathcal{E}_2 + \int d\rho \rho^{3(N-4)} [W_1(\rho) - W_2(\rho)] v(\rho). \quad (29)$$

The same can be repeated starting from  $\mathcal{E}_2$  arriving at

$$\mathcal{E}_2 < \mathcal{E}_1 + \int d\rho \rho^{3(N-4)} [W_2(\rho) - W_1(\rho)] v(\rho). \quad (30)$$

Summing both inequalities we arrive at the following contradiction,  $\mathcal{E}_1 + \mathcal{E}_2 < \mathcal{E}_1 + \mathcal{E}_2$ , proving that the first assumption was wrong. Accordingly, it is proven that the density  $v(\rho)$  uniquely determines the hyper-radial potential  $W(\rho)$  that generates it.