

Nuclear Physics

19



Nuclear Forces from  
the Effective Field Theory  
perspective

Part 1 : Pionless EFT

# FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM OF NUCLEAR PHYSICS



Derivation of nuclear forces  
from first principles

QCD



Meson theory → pre QCD

It's not the solution  
to the problem

# Post QCD

↳ not a solvable theory  
(at low energies)

↳ alternatives

1) Lattice QCD

need supercomputer,  
still not complete

2) EFT

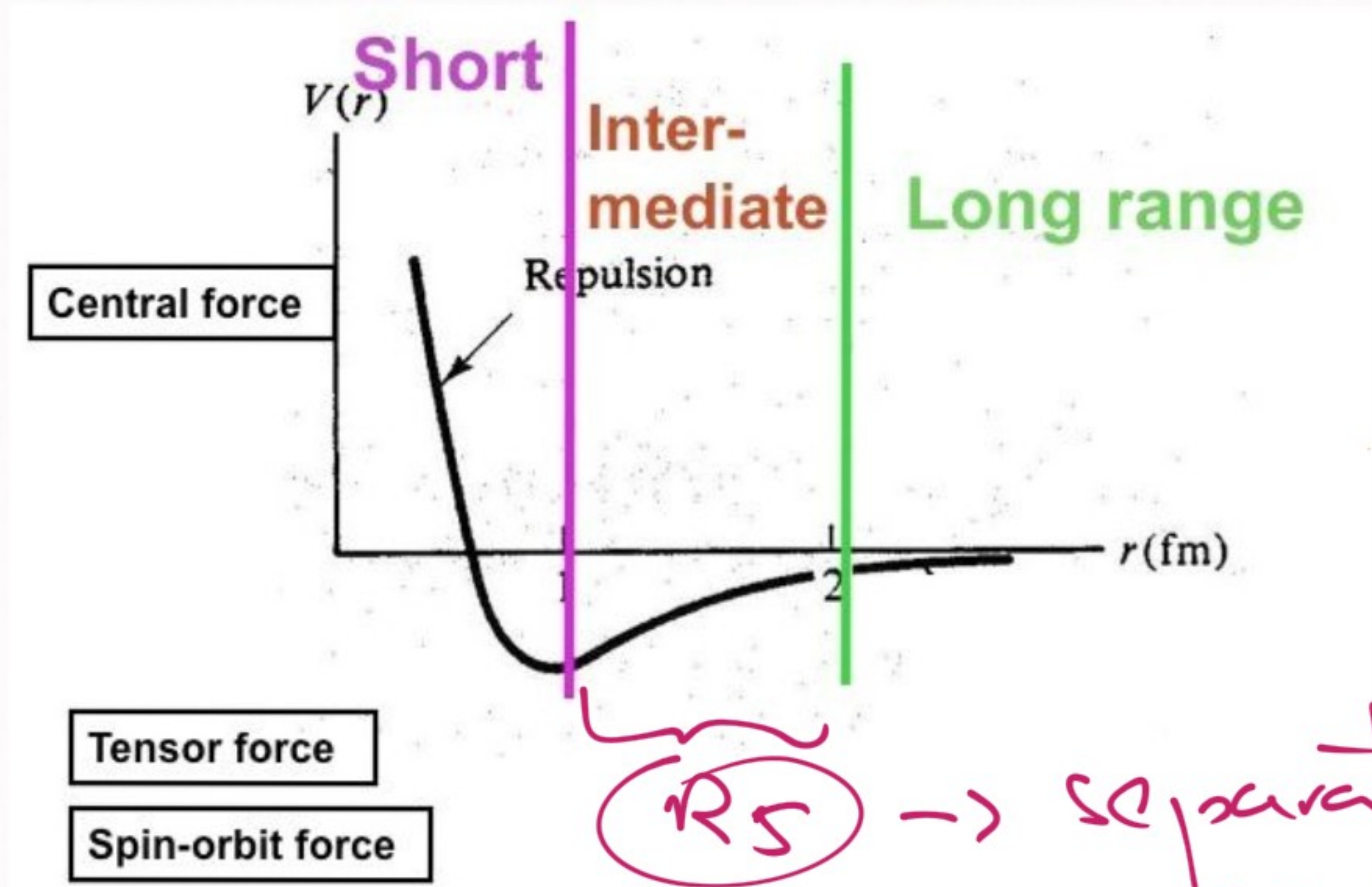
↳ the indirect method



Also, the modern method

Basic difference w/ OBE:

1) We can divide  $V$  in regions



2) Different treatments:

2. a) OBE  $\rightarrow$  meson exchanges

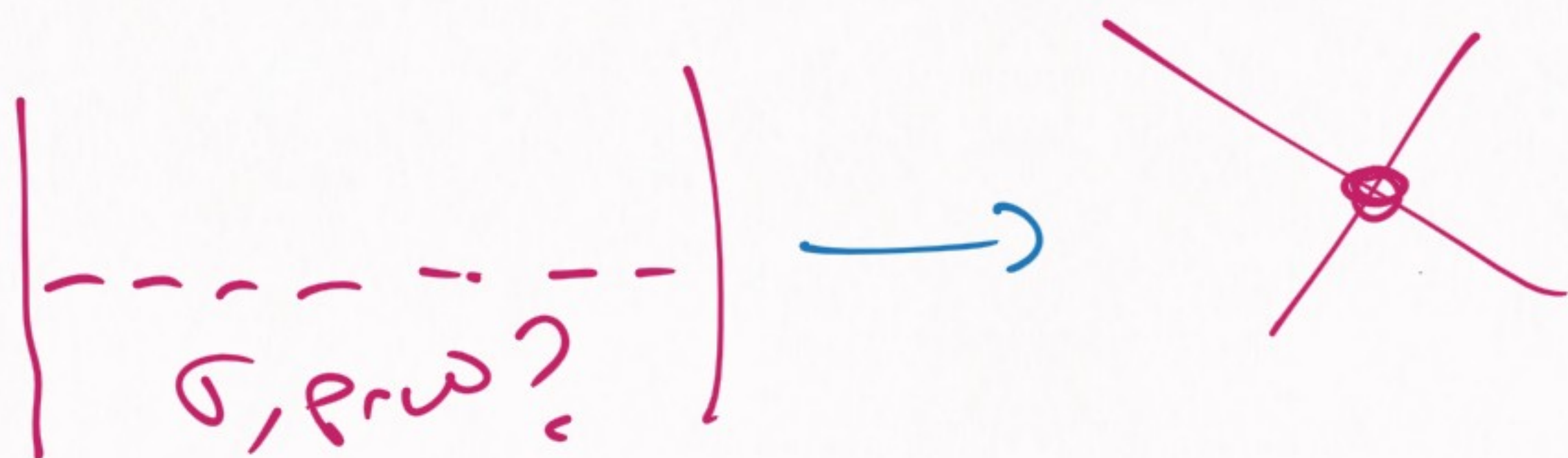
(phenomenology)

2. b) EFT  $\rightarrow$  choose  $R_S$

$r > R_S \rightarrow$  known

$r < R_S \rightarrow$  unknown

Unknown part:



→ contact interactions

$$V_c(\vec{q}) = C_0 + C_2 \vec{q}^2 + \dots$$

or more generally:

$$\langle \vec{p}' | V_c | \vec{p} \rangle = C_0 + C_2 (p^2 + p'^2) + C_4 (\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^2 + \dots$$

→ REMEMBER: depends on choice of  $R_S$

1)  $m_{\pi} R_S > 1 \rightarrow$  pionless EFT

EFT( $\pi$ )

$\rightarrow$  only contact interactions

2)  $m_{\pi} R_S < 1 \rightarrow$  pionful EFT

EFT( $\pi$ )

$\rightarrow$  pions + contacts

$\rightarrow$  chiral symmetry

————  $\otimes$  ————

We will begin w/ pionless

## EFT( $\pi$ )

→ valid for  $k < m\pi$

→ really simple & useful theory

→ only contact-interactions

## S-waves

$$\begin{aligned}\langle p' | V | p \rangle &= C_0 + C_2(p^2 + p'^2) \\ &+ C_4(p^4 + p'^4) + C_4' p^2 p'^2 \\ &+ \dots\end{aligned}$$

We cut the expansion when we find it convenient







∇ regularizations are equivalent



We can use easier ones:

$$V_c(r; R_c) = \frac{C_k(R_c)}{4\pi R_c^2} \delta(r - R_c)$$

$$w) C_k = C_0 + C_2 k^2 + C_4 k^4 + \dots$$

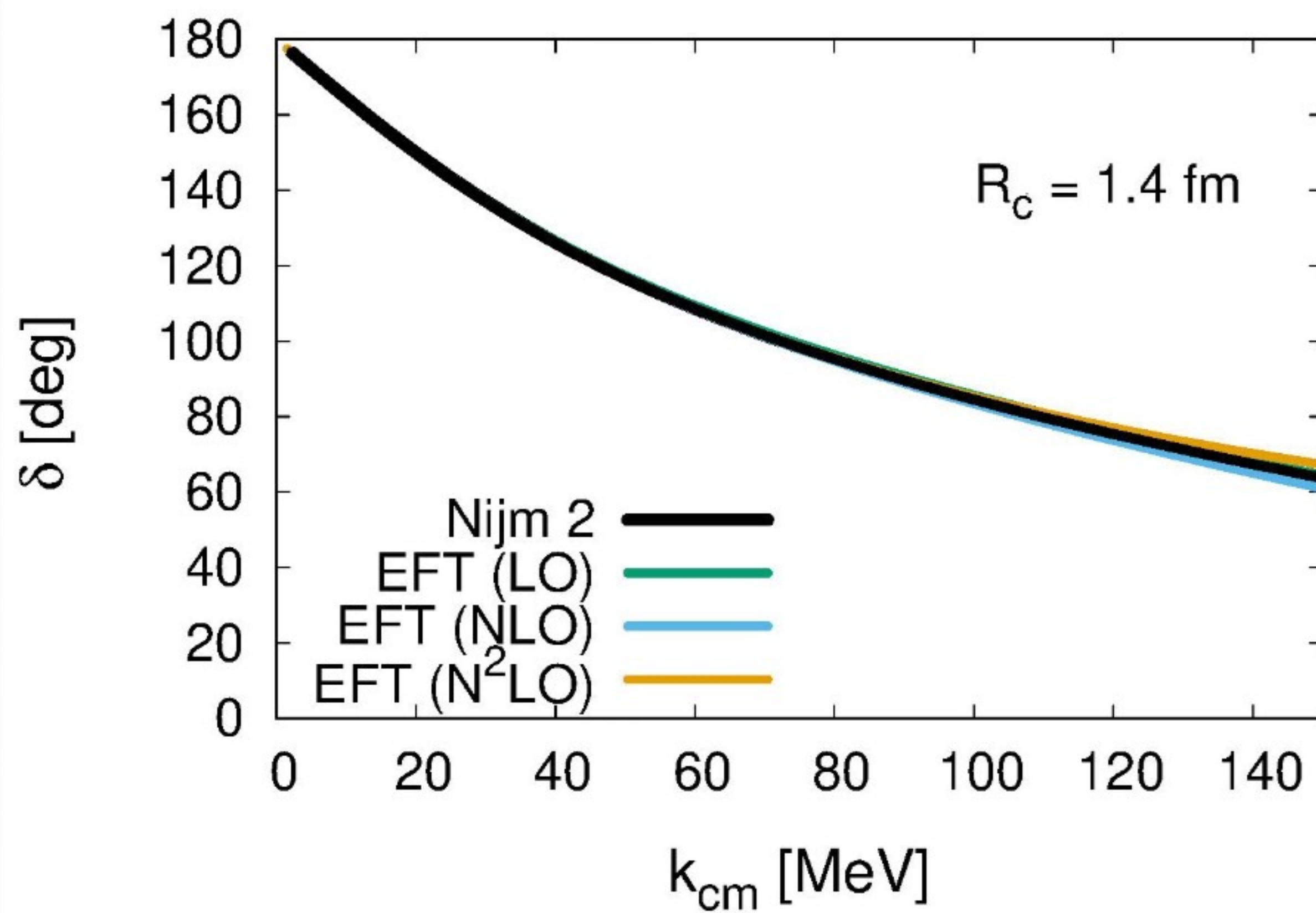
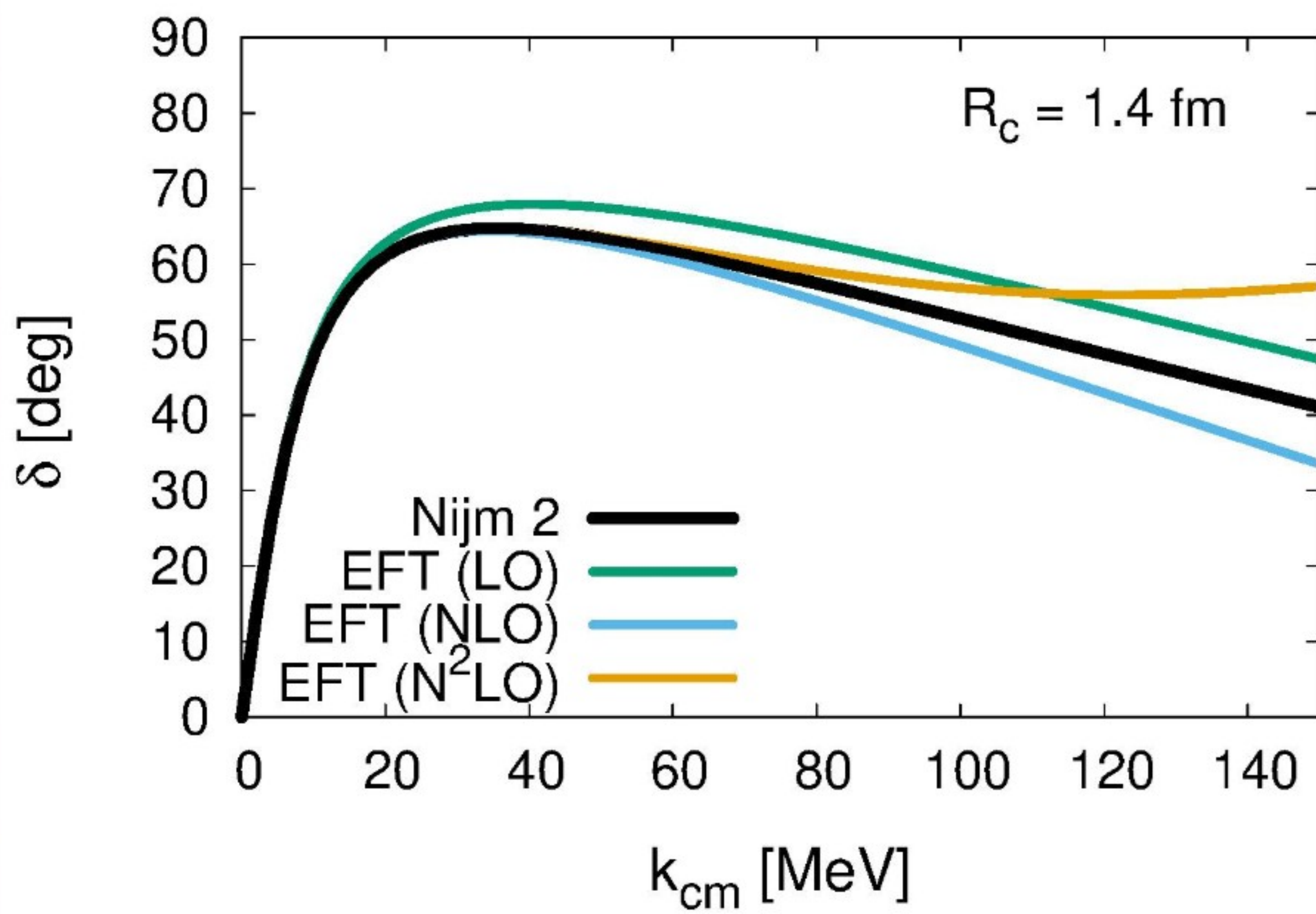


$$k_{cot}(kR_c + S) - k_{cot}kR_c$$

$$= 2\mu \frac{C_k(R_c)}{4\pi R_c^2}$$

(Explicit solution)

# Singlet & Triplet in EFT( $\chi$ )



→ You can program it yourself  
in Mathematica



Comments:

1) EFT( $\pi$ ) equivalent  
to ERE (in the  
two-body sector)

### Nucleon-nucleon effective field theory without pions

Jiunn-Wei Chen (Washington U., Seattle), Gautam Rupak (Washington U., Seattle), Martin J. Savage (Washington U., Seattle and Jefferson Lab)

Feb 24, 1999

27 pages

Published in: *Nucl.Phys.A* 653 (1999) 386-412

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DOI: [10.1016/S0375-9474\(99\)00298-5](#)

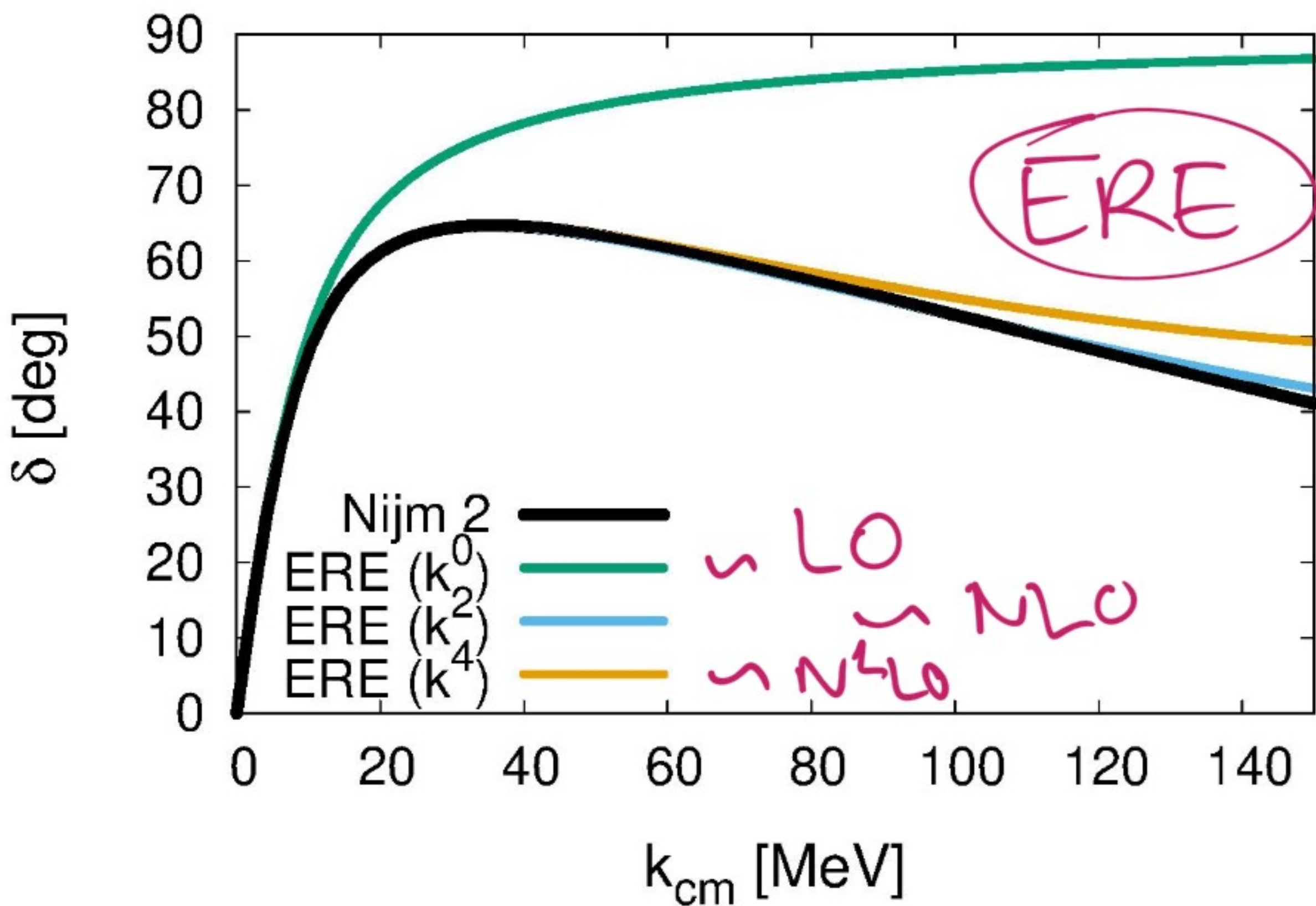
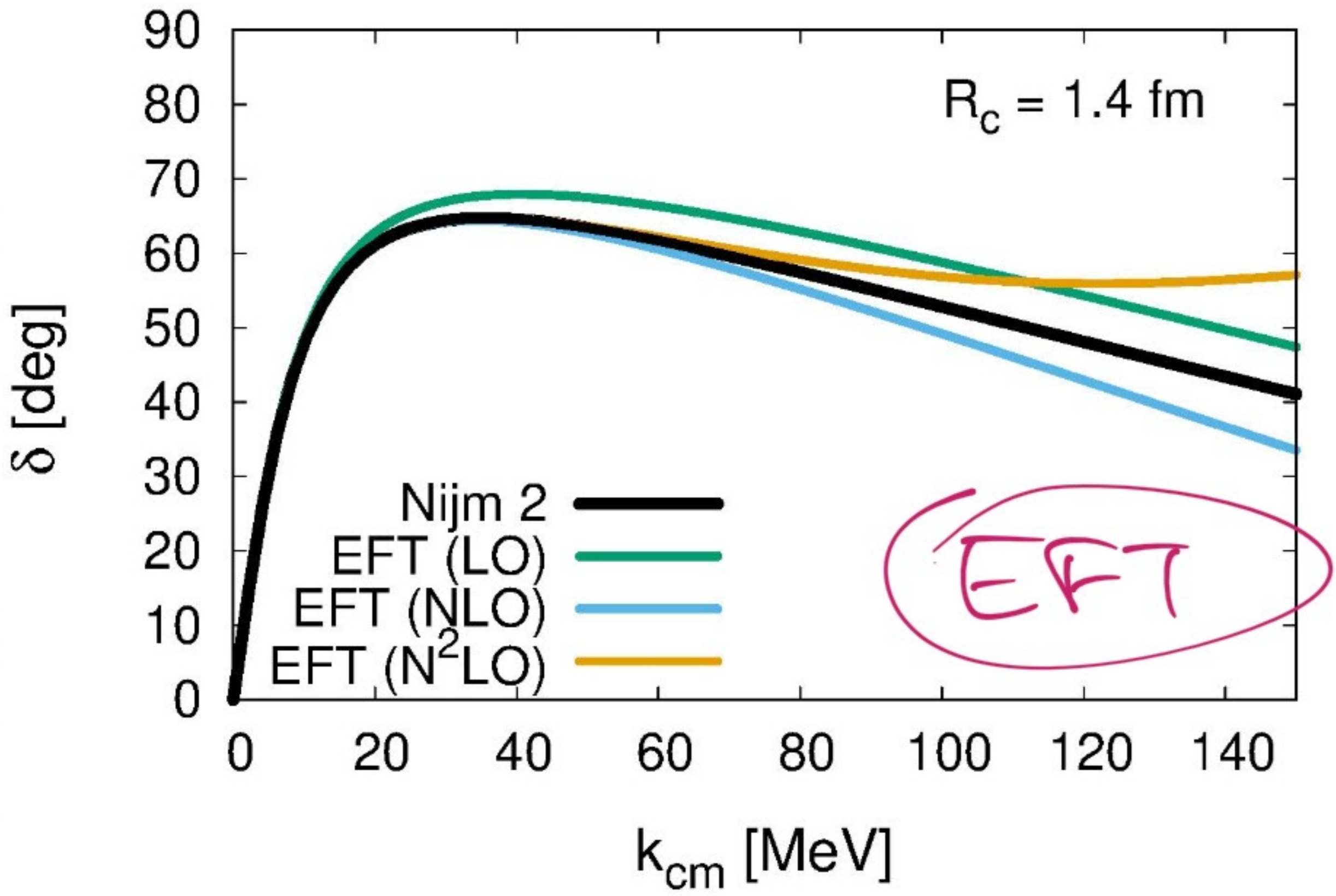
Report number: NT-UW-99-14, JLAB-THY-99-50

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pdf links cite

↳ Discussed in this paper

We can make a direct comparison



2) Cutoff dependence:

2.a) Cutoff independence  
not exact

$$\frac{d}{dR_c} \langle T(\vec{0}|4) \rangle \neq 0 \text{ (stricto sensu)}$$

$$= 0 \text{ (modulo}$$

higher order corrections)

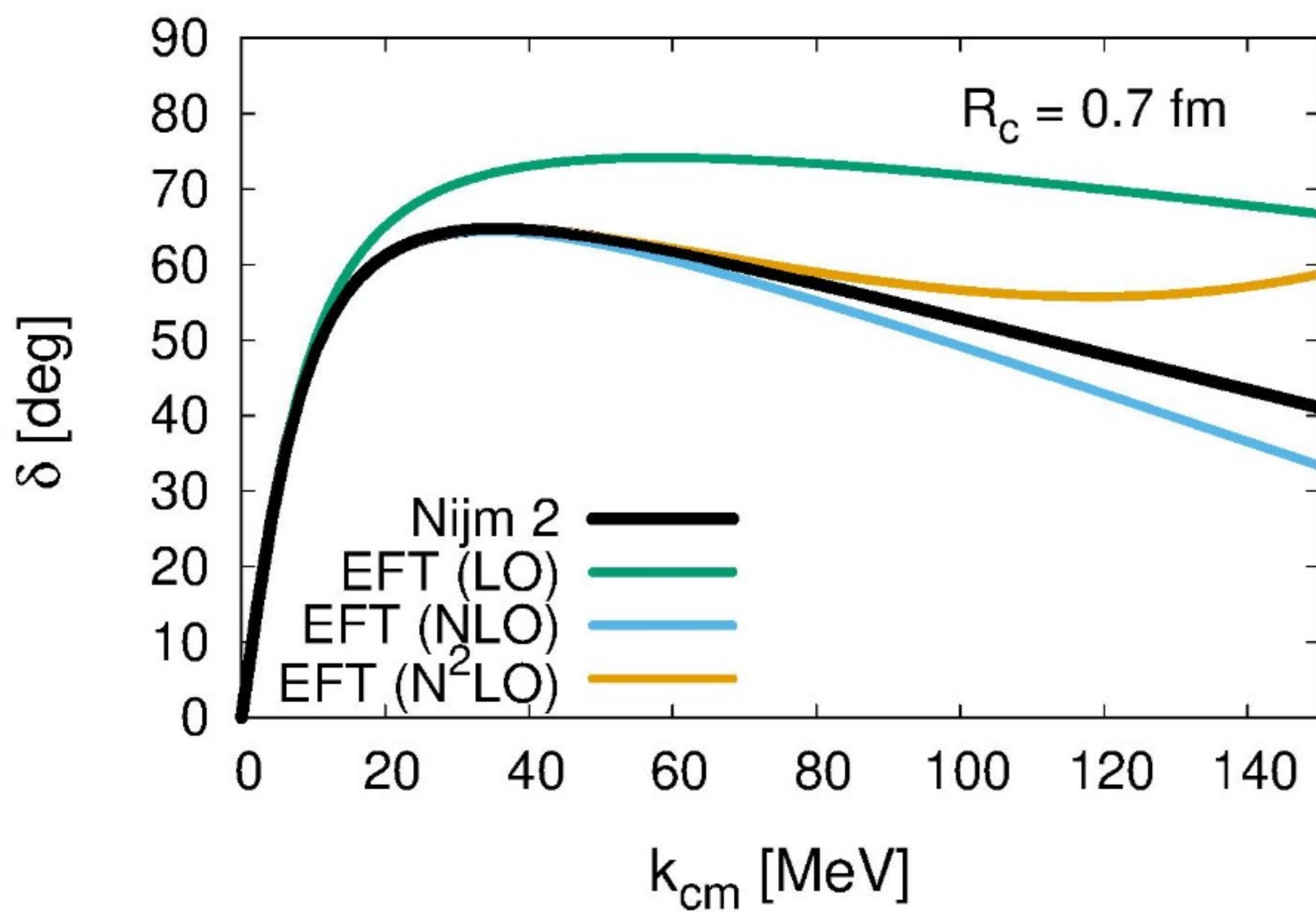
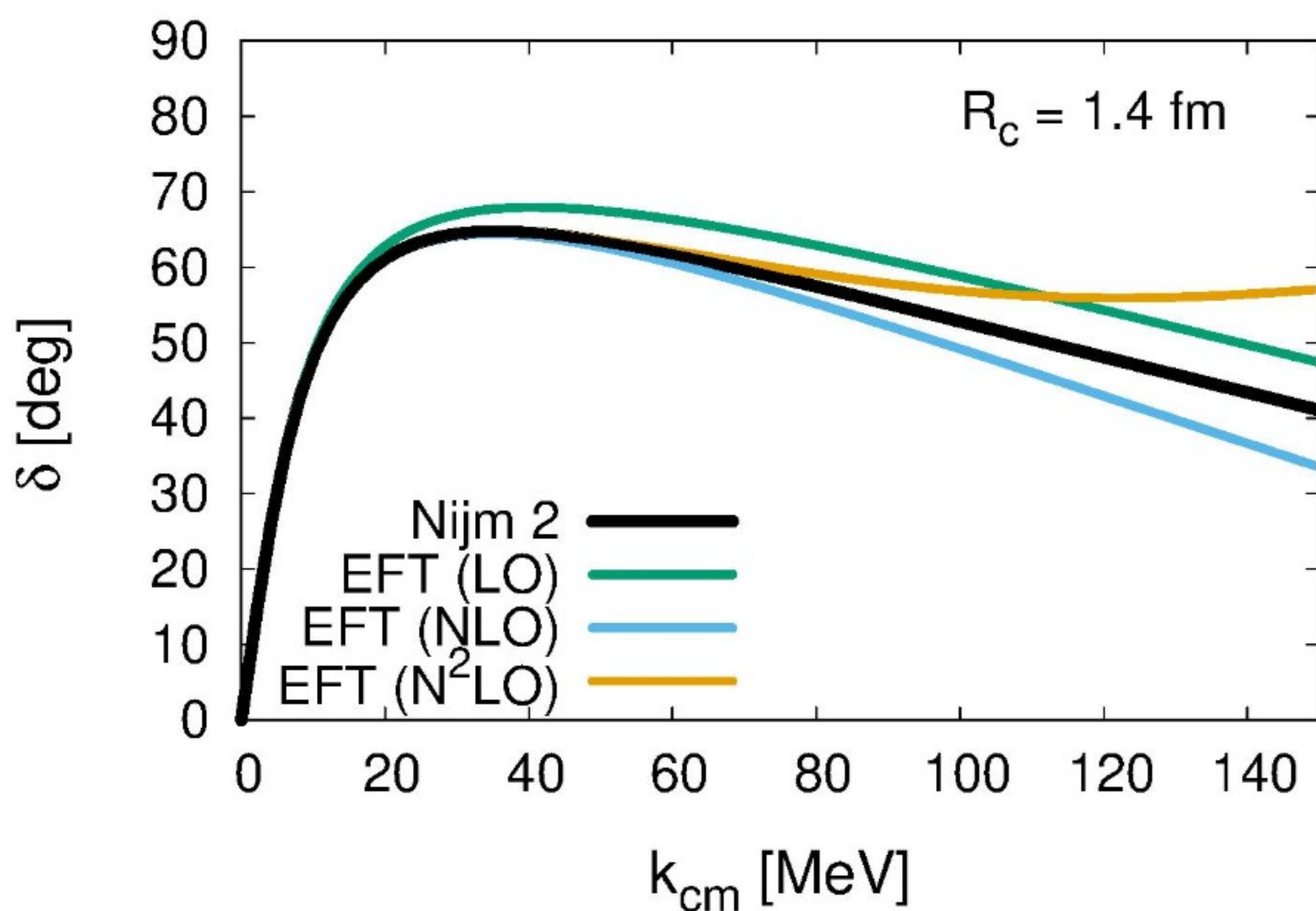
2.b) " $\neq 0$ " called residual  
cutoff dependence

2.c) Cutoff independence  
recovered for  $R_c \rightarrow 0$

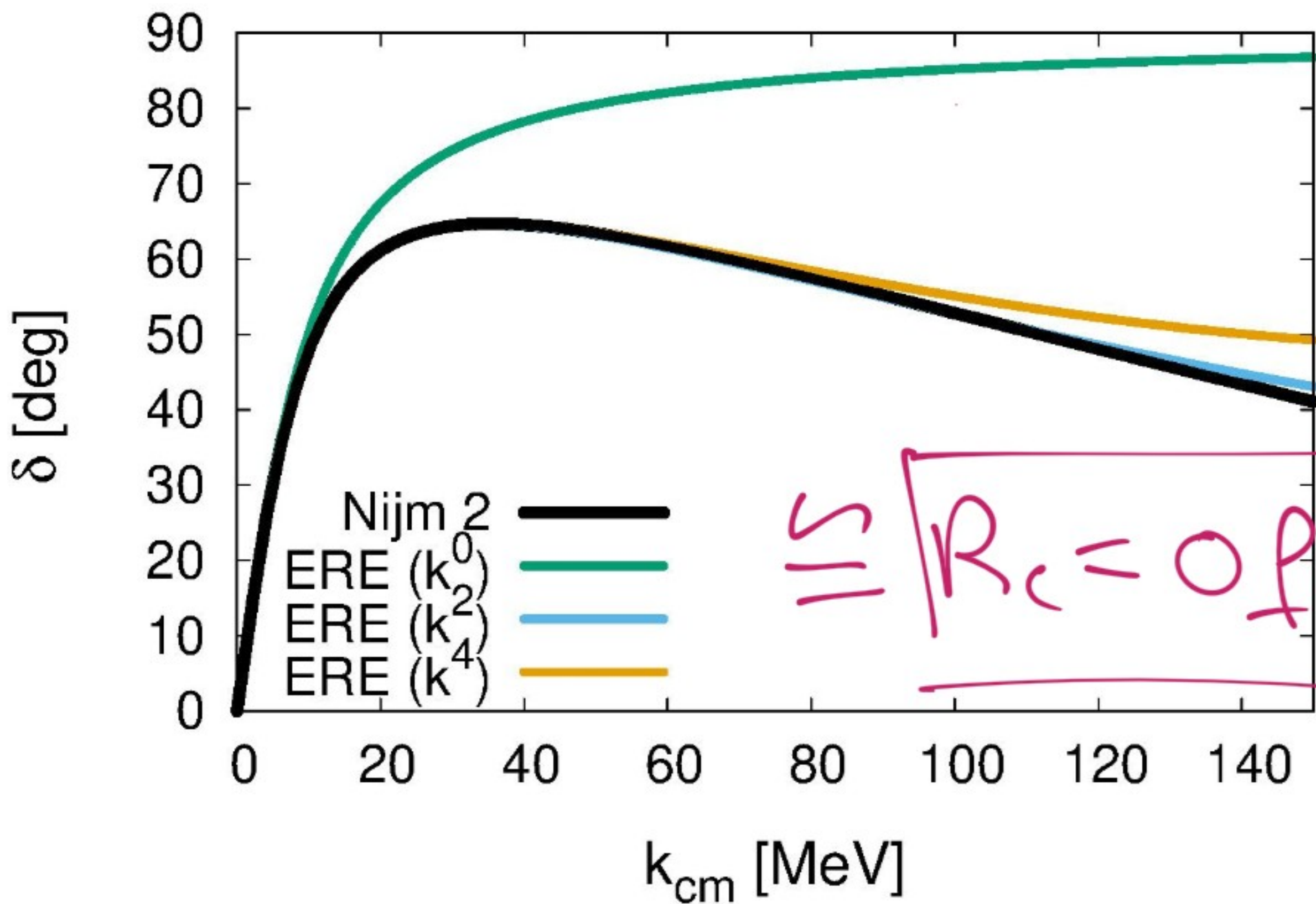
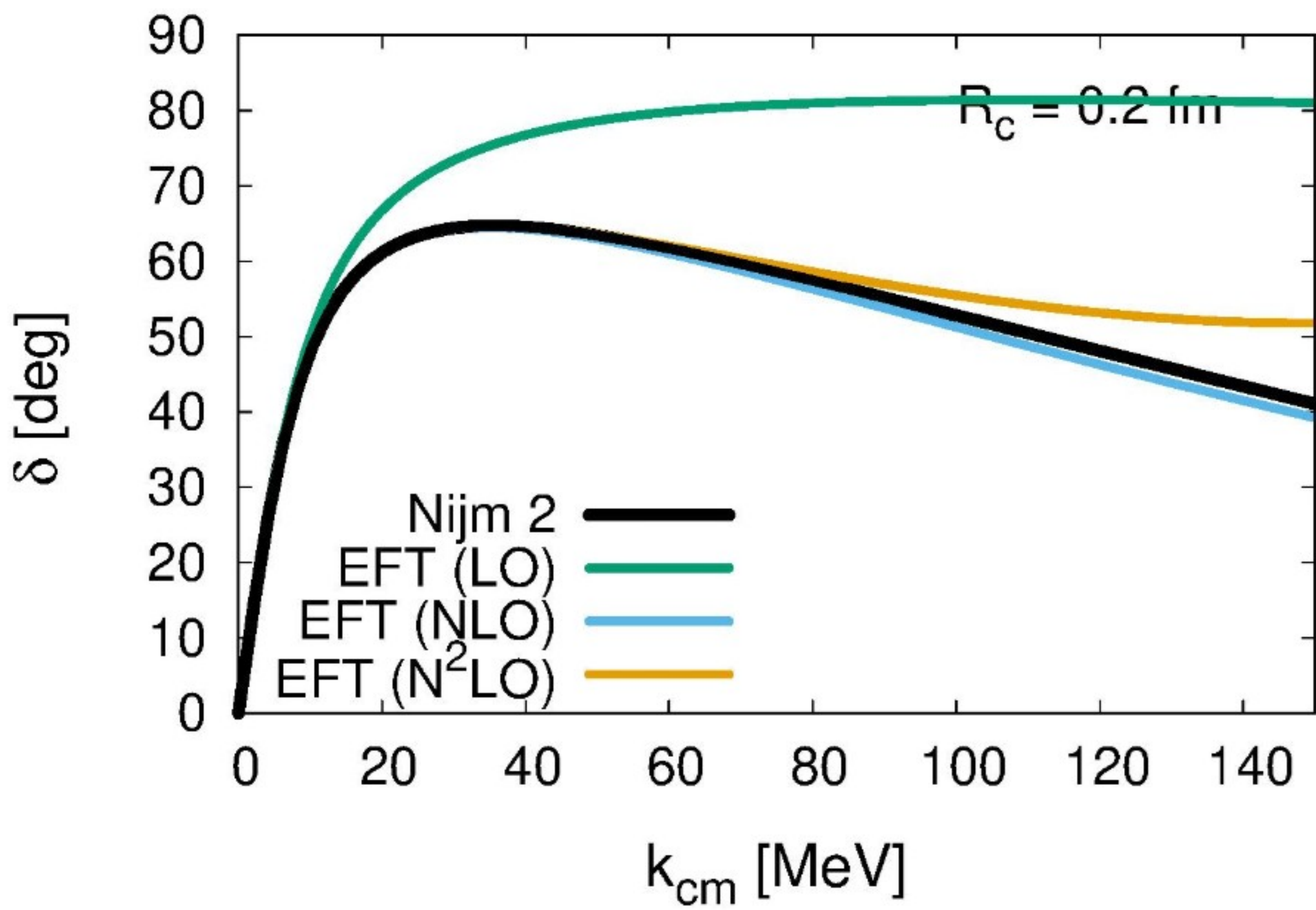
$$\lim_{R_c \rightarrow 0} \frac{d}{dR_c} \langle T(\vec{0}|4) \rangle = 0$$

$\exists R_c \rightarrow 0$  limit

Example:  $^1S_0$  phase shifts



And we continue:



We end up w/ ERE as the limit

# CUTOFF DEPENDENCE

1) It's ok if UNDER CONTROL

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} R_{im} \\ R_c \rightarrow 0 \end{array} \right\} \langle \psi | \hat{O} | \psi \rangle \rightarrow 0$$

If not, you have a problem

2) Residual cutoff dependence

→ subleading error  
of the theory

Important point



# REMINDER

## TEAPOT & TEACUP THEORY



$$T = T_0 e^{-\lambda(t-t_0)}$$

$$\Downarrow$$
$$\lambda?$$

$$\lambda = S (c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + \dots)$$

$$x = \left( \frac{S}{I_2} \right) \text{ \& } x < 1$$

ITT's are power series

The same is true for any EFT:

$$1) \quad K_{\text{cut}} \delta |_{\text{EFT}} = K_{\text{cut}} \delta |_{\text{LO}} \times \left[ 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q}{M}\right) \right]$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} Q \rightarrow \text{light scale} \\ M \rightarrow \text{heavy scale} \end{array} \right]$$

$$K_{\text{cut}} \delta |_{\text{EFT}} = K_{\text{cut}} \delta |_{\text{NLO}} \times \left[ 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^2}{M^2}\right) \right]$$

$$K_{\text{cut}} \delta |_{\text{EFT}} = K_{\text{cut}} \delta |_{\text{N}^2\text{LO}} \times \left[ 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{Q^3}{M^3}\right) \right]$$

→ as we go to higher orders,  
the error diminishes

The connection w/  
residual cutoff dependence

$$1) \quad K_{\text{cut}}(R_c) \Big|_{L_0} = -\frac{1}{a_0} + \frac{2}{3}k^2 R_c + \mathcal{O}(R_c^2)$$

$$2) \quad Q \sim a_0, k \quad M \sim m\pi$$

(powerless)

$$3) \quad K_{\text{cut}}(R_c) \Big|_{L_0} = -\frac{1}{a_0} \times$$

$$\left[ 1 - \frac{2}{3} \underbrace{(k a_0)}_{\left(\frac{Q}{M}\right)^0} \underbrace{(k R_c)}_{(Q R_c)} + \dots \right]$$

$$\left(\frac{Q}{M}\right)^0 \quad (Q R_c)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{If } R_c \sim \frac{1}{m\pi} \Rightarrow \boxed{(Q R_c) \sim \left(\frac{Q}{M}\right)}$$

Conclusion:  $\exists$   $\epsilon > 0$  then  
residual cutoff dependence  
equivalent to FFT error



$$K(\omega)_{\omega} = -\frac{1}{a_0} \left[ 1 - \frac{2}{3}(a_0 k)(k R_c) + O(R_c^2) \right]$$

If  $\forall \epsilon > 0$   $\Rightarrow$

$$K(\omega)_{\omega} = -\frac{1}{a_0} \left[ 1 + O\left(\frac{\epsilon}{M}\right) \right]$$



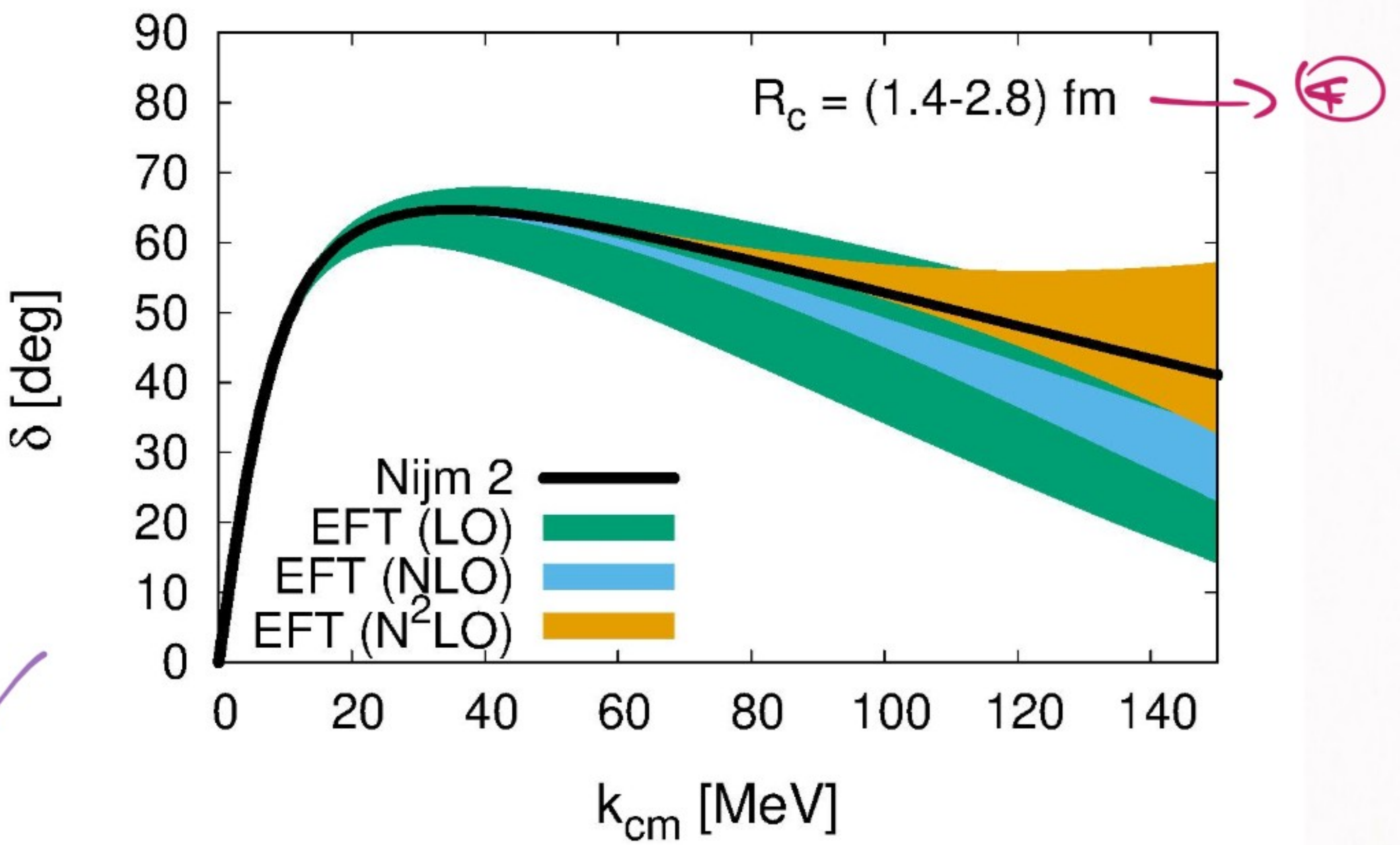
This is what we want



Residual cutoff dependence

⇒ proxy for EFT error

Example → EFT( $\chi$ )



ⓕ →  $m_n R_c = (1-2)$

$\left(\frac{1}{m_n} \lesssim 1.4 \text{ fm}\right)$

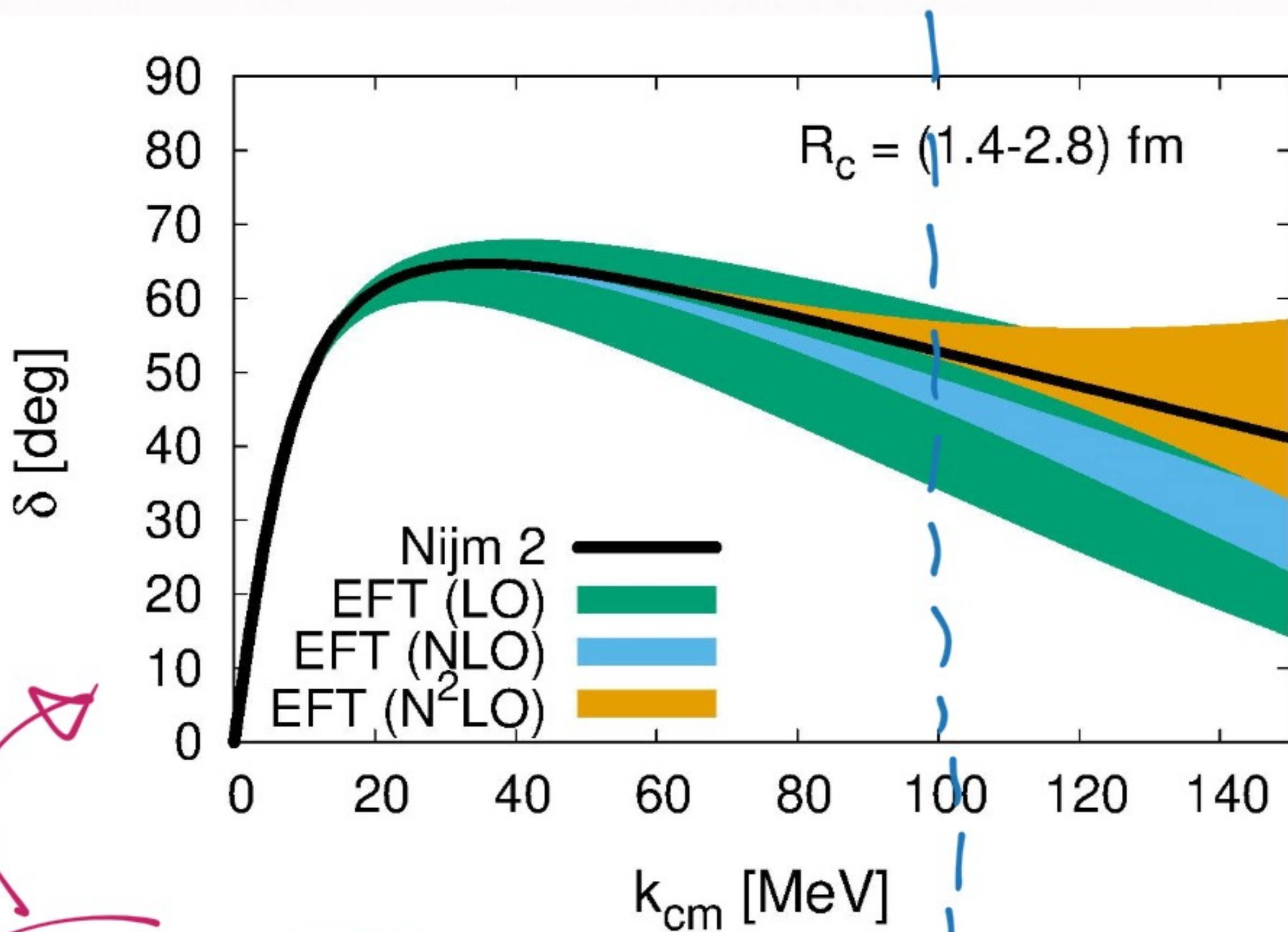
→ Error bands! Hooray!

1) Varying the cutoff

=> Cheap way of getting error bands

(Unfortunately, also prone to errors)

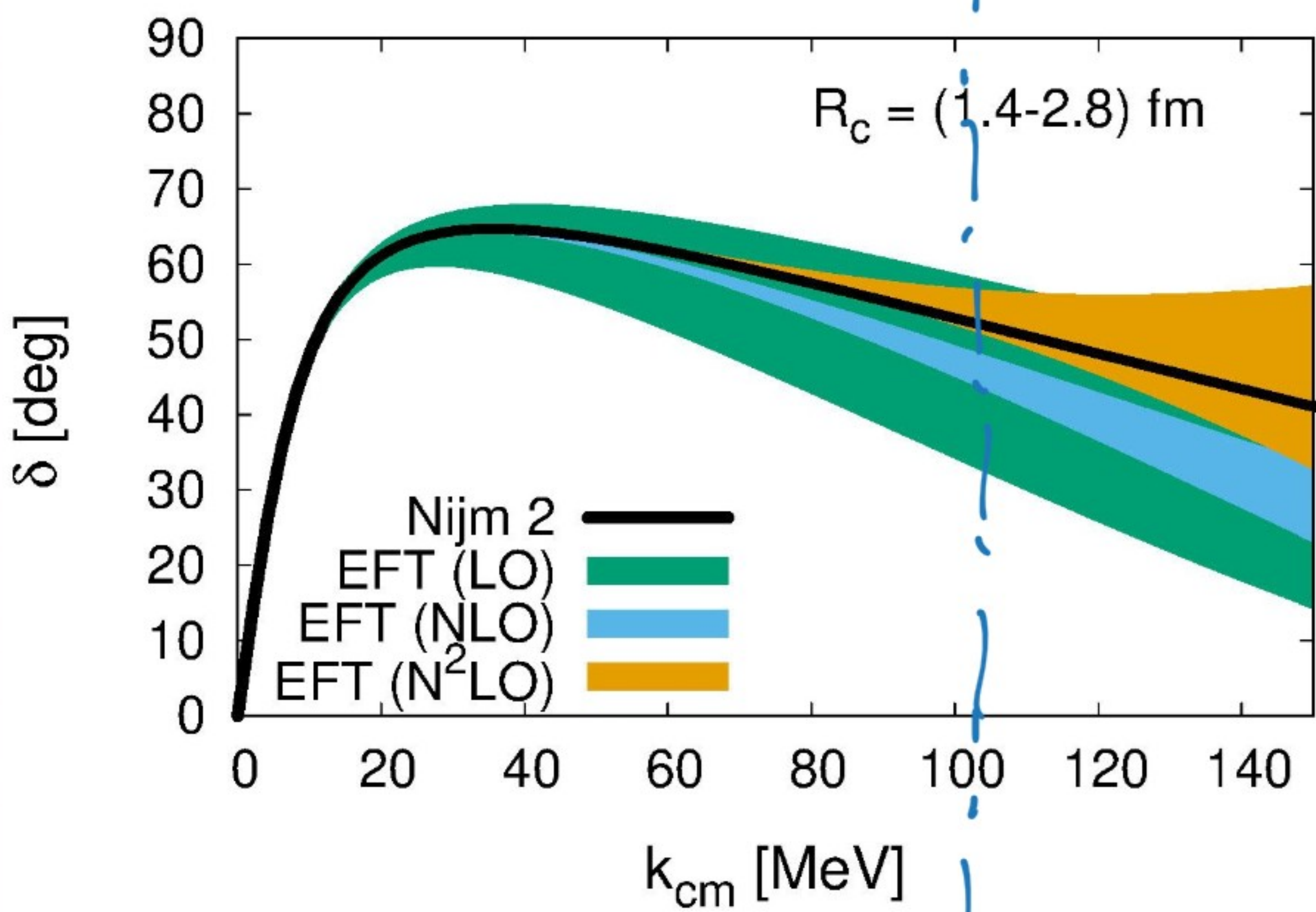
2) For  $k < M \rightarrow$  error bands decrease



Decrease

Increase

3) Also a way to check the range of validity of an EFT



EFT( $\pi$ )  
converges



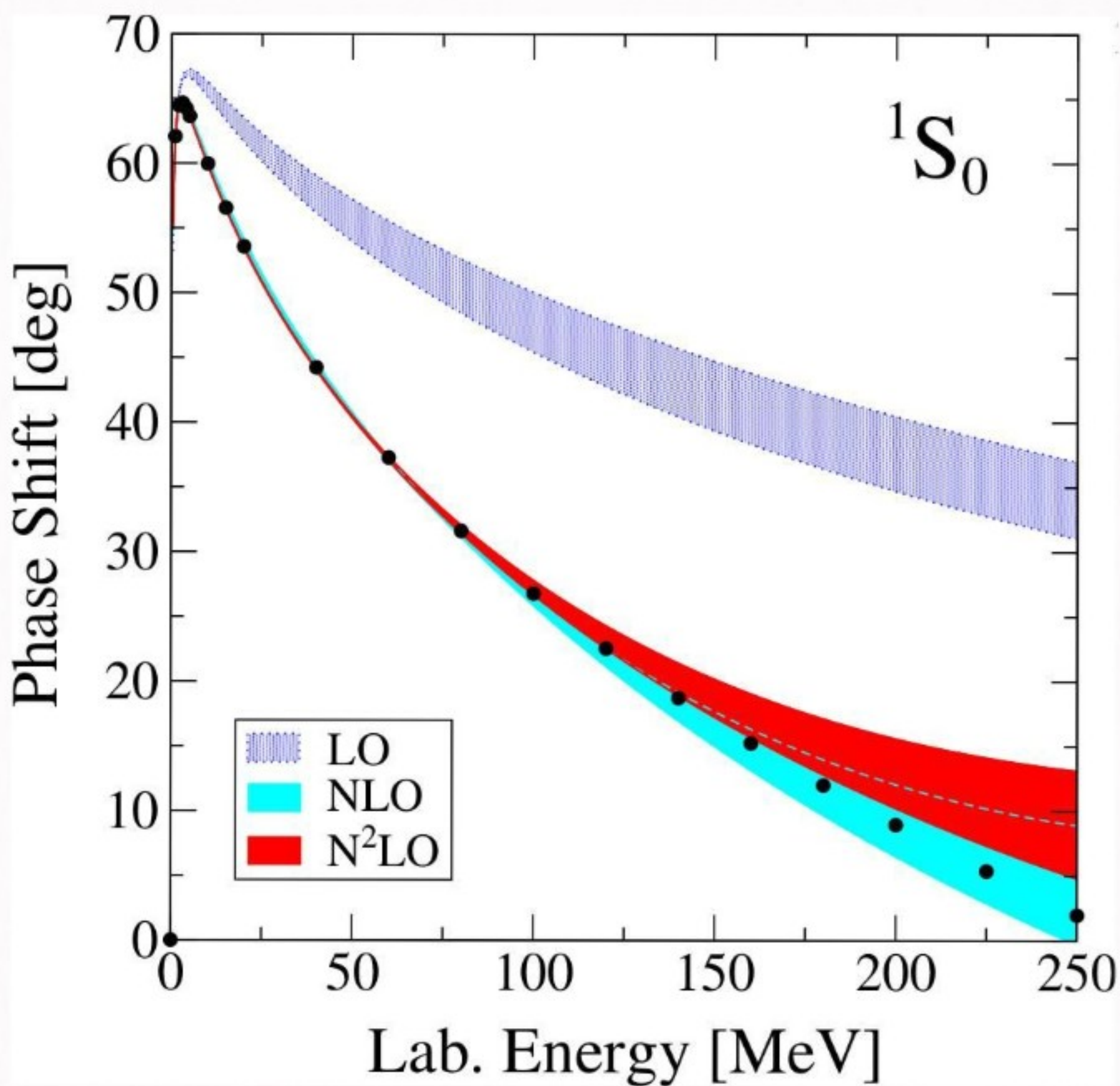
EFT( $\pi$ )  
maybe  
not  
valid

# RECAP

If  $\frac{d}{dR_c} \langle \psi | \hat{O} | \psi \rangle$  under control, residual at all dependence a useful tool



Is also used in pionful EFT



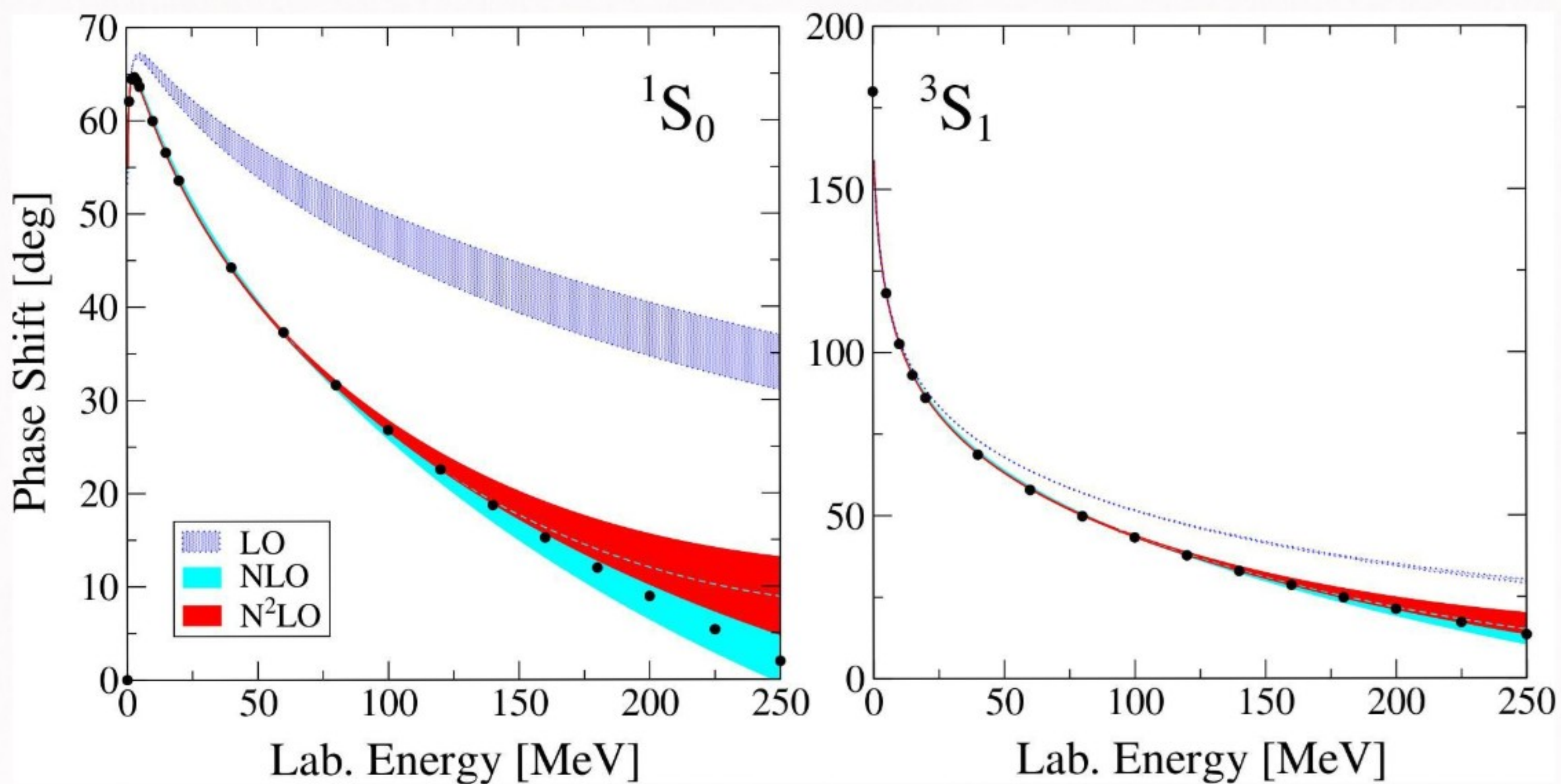
LO band too small



not ideal method  
(only quick & dirty)



A brief look at pionful:



Larger energy range

Local chiral effective field theory interactions and quantum Monte Carlo applications #4

A. Gezerlis (Guelph U.), I. Tews (Darmstadt, Tech. Hochsch. and Darmstadt, EMMI), E. Epelbaum (Ruhr U., Bochum), M. Freunek (Ruhr U., Bochum), S. Gandolfi (Los Alamos) et al. (Jun 2, 2014)

Published in: *Phys.Rev.C* 90 (2014) 5, 054323 • e-Print: 1406.0454 [nucl-th]

pdf DOI cite

139 citations

→ Pionful figures from here

However Panchal EFT is full  
of unsolved problems



NEXT LESSON

# SUMMARY

1) EFTs  $\rightarrow$  modern approach

2) (choice of separation scale

$\Rightarrow$  different EFT's

2.a)  $m_{\pi} R_s \ll 1 \Rightarrow$  EFT( $\pi$ )

2.b)  $m_{\rho} R_s \ll 1 \Rightarrow$  EFT( $\pi$ )

3) RG invariance not automatic

$$\lim_{R_c \rightarrow 0} \frac{d}{dR_c} \langle T(\mathcal{O}) \rangle \rightarrow 0$$

4) Residual  $d/dR_c$  proxy

for EFT errors

(but not ideal)

5) EFT( $\pi$ )  $\subseteq$  ERE

Further reading :

### Effective field theory of short range forces

U. van Kolck (Caltech, Kellogg Lab and Washington U., Seattle)

Aug 4, 1998

38 pages

Published in: *Nucl.Phys.A* 645 (1999) 273-302

e-Print: [nucl-th/9808007](#) [nucl-th]

DOI: [10.1016/S0375-9474\(98\)00612-5](#)

Report number: KRL-MAP-230, NT-UW-98-01

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Savage (Washington U., Seattle and Jefferson Lab)

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↳ The two classic references  
about EFT( $\chi$ )