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Energy Functionals from Low-Momentum Potentials¹ S.K. BOGNER, Ohio State University — The nonperturbative nature of conventional inter-nucleon interactions is strongly scale or resolution dependent, and can be radically modified by using the renormalization group to lower the momentum cutoff of the two-nucleon potential. Recent calculations demonstrate that using lowmomentum potentials (" $V_{\text{low } k}$ ") with consistent three-body forces leads to saturating nuclear matter at the Hartree-Fock level, with rapidly converging perturbative corrections in the particle-particle channel ^a. With these interactions, the density matrix expansion (DME) becomes a natural tool for the microscopic construction of a universal energy functional for nuclei ^b. By varying the cutoff, the resolution dependence of the functional can be studied. The use of sharp momentum cutoffs in $V_{\text{low } k}$ complicates the application of the DME in coordinate space. This problem is resolved with the recent generalization of $V_{\text{low } k}$ to smooth cutoff regulators.

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