

# Equation of State of Neutron-Rich Matter from Heavy-Ion Reactions

**Bao-An Li**



- (1) Basics of transport models for heavy-ion reactions**
- (2) Probes of symmetric nuclear matter EOS**
- (3) Probes of nuclear symmetry energy**

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& DE-SC0009971 (CUSTIPEN)



# Probing nuclear symmetry energy $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$

- What do we currently know about  $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$ ?
- How to probe the  $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$ ?

## Examples:

- (1) gravitational waves, radii and masses of neutron stars
- (2) neutron-skin of heavy nuclei
- (3) ratio of charged pions in heavy-ion reactions
- Why is the  $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$  still so uncertain especially at high  $\rho$ ?
- What is the impact on  $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$  of the new measurements of **Masses of  $^{63}\text{Ge}$ ,  $^{64,65}\text{As}$  and  $^{66,67}\text{Se}$  at IMP/Lanzhou**

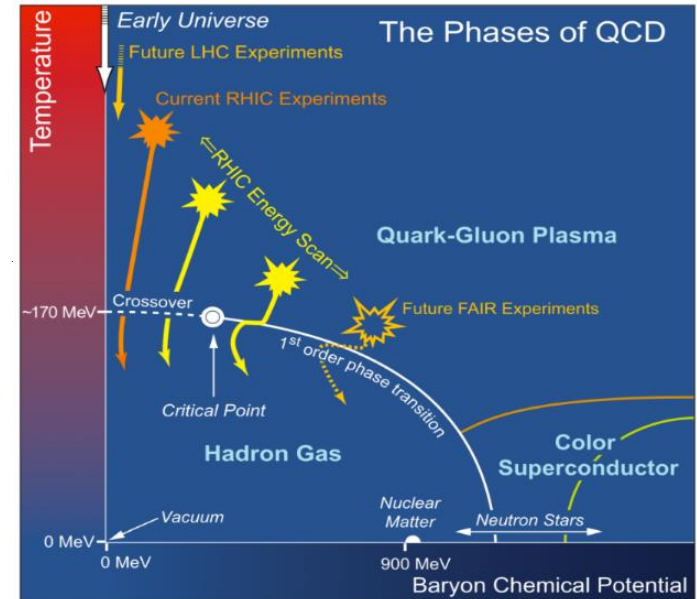
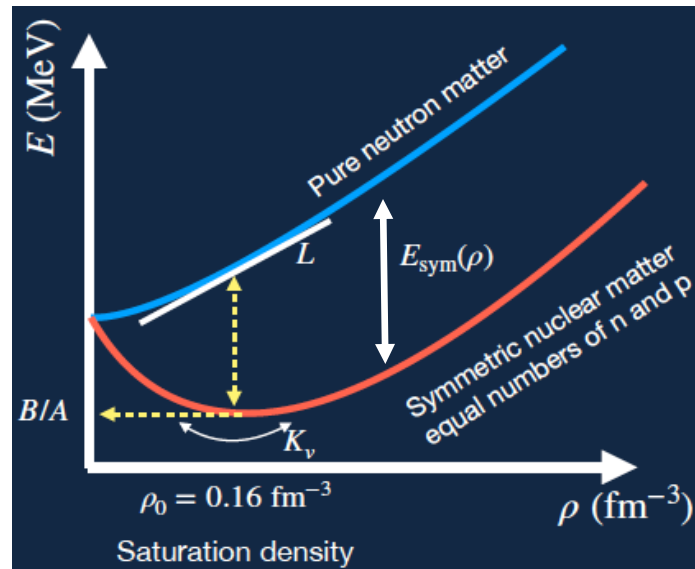
# Empirical parabolic law of the EOS of cold, neutron-rich nucleonic matter

$$E(\rho_n, \rho_p) = E_0(\rho_n = \rho_p) + E_{\text{sym}}(\rho) \left( \frac{\rho_n - \rho_p}{\rho} \right)^2 + o(\delta^4)$$

symmetry energy  
Isospin asymmetry

Energy per nucleon in symmetric matter

Energy in asymmetric nucleonic matter



**New opportunities**  
**Isospin asymmetry**  
 $\delta = (\rho_n - \rho_p) / \rho$

Isospin effects in observables of structures & collisions of neutron stars & heavy nuclei

$P_{\text{asy}}(\rho)$

$$E_{\text{sym}}(\rho) = E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_i) + \int_{\rho_i}^{\rho} \frac{P_{\text{PNM}}(\rho_v) - P_{\text{SNM}}(\rho_v)}{\rho_v^2} d\rho_v$$

Fundamental Microphysics Theories  
underlying each term in the EOS ,  
what ..., why ....., where ...how

Experimental and Observational Macrophysics  
underlying each observable and phenomenon,  
what ..., why ....., where ...how



## Empirical parameterizations especially useful for meta-modeling of EOS

Transport model simulations of heavy-ion collisions, energy density functionals for nuclear structures, Bayesian inferences of EOS, properties of neutron stars, waveforms of gravitational waves, ....

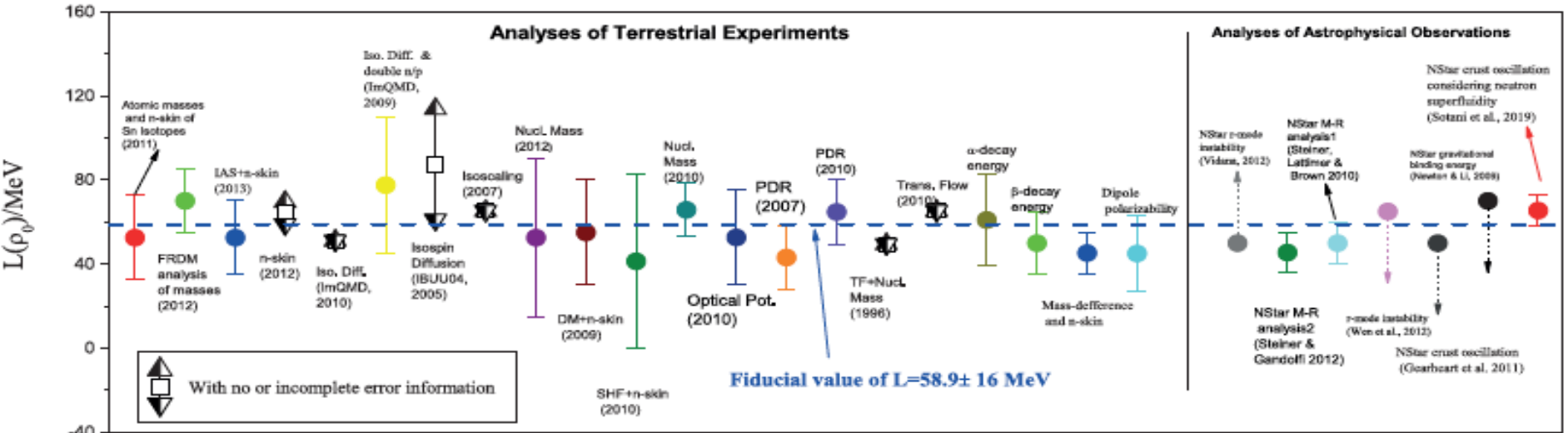
$$E(\rho, \delta) = E_0(\rho) + E_{\text{sym}}(\rho) \cdot \delta^2 \quad \text{Assuming no hadron-quark phase transition}$$

$$E_0(\rho) = E_0(\rho_0) + \frac{K_0}{2} \left( \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0} \right)^2 + \frac{J_0}{6} \left( \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0} \right)^3 + \frac{Z_0}{24} \left( \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0} \right)^4,$$

$$E_{\text{sym}}(\rho) = E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_0) + \frac{L}{3} \left( \frac{\rho}{\rho_0} - 1 \right) + \frac{K_{\text{sym}}}{18} \left( \frac{\rho}{\rho_0} - 1 \right)^2 + \frac{J_{\text{sym}}}{162} \left( \frac{\rho}{\rho_0} - 1 \right)^3 + \mathcal{O} \left[ \left( \frac{\rho}{\rho_0} - 1 \right)^4 \right]$$

Near the saturation density  $\rho_0$ , they are Taylor expansions, appropriate for structure studies.  
Just parameterizations when applied to heavy-ion collisions and the core of neutron stars

# Constraints on L as of 2013 based on 29 analyses of data

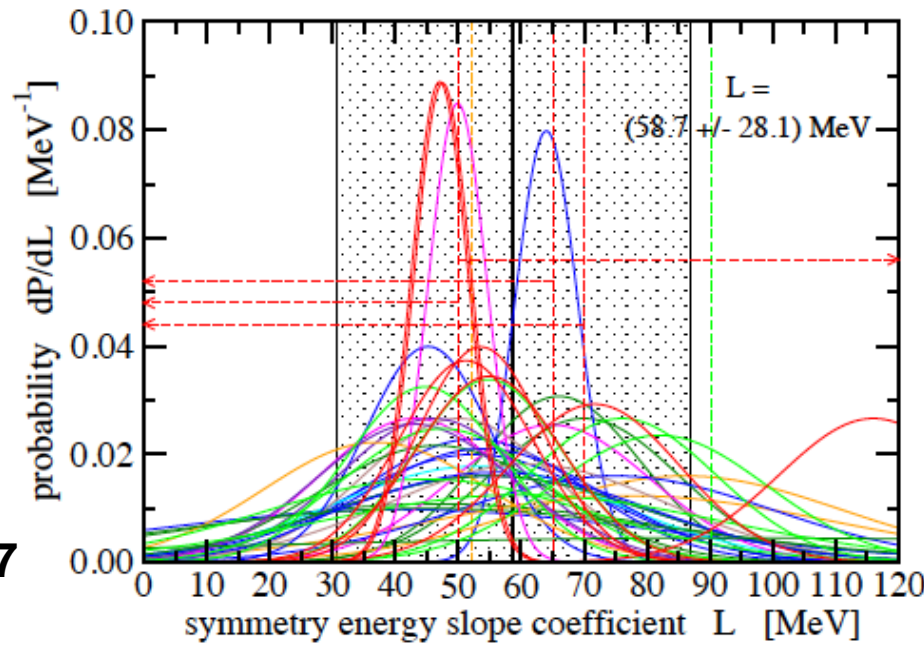


[Bao-An Li](#) and [Xiao Han](#), Phys. Lett. B727 (2013) 276

**L=58.7 ± 28.1 MeV**

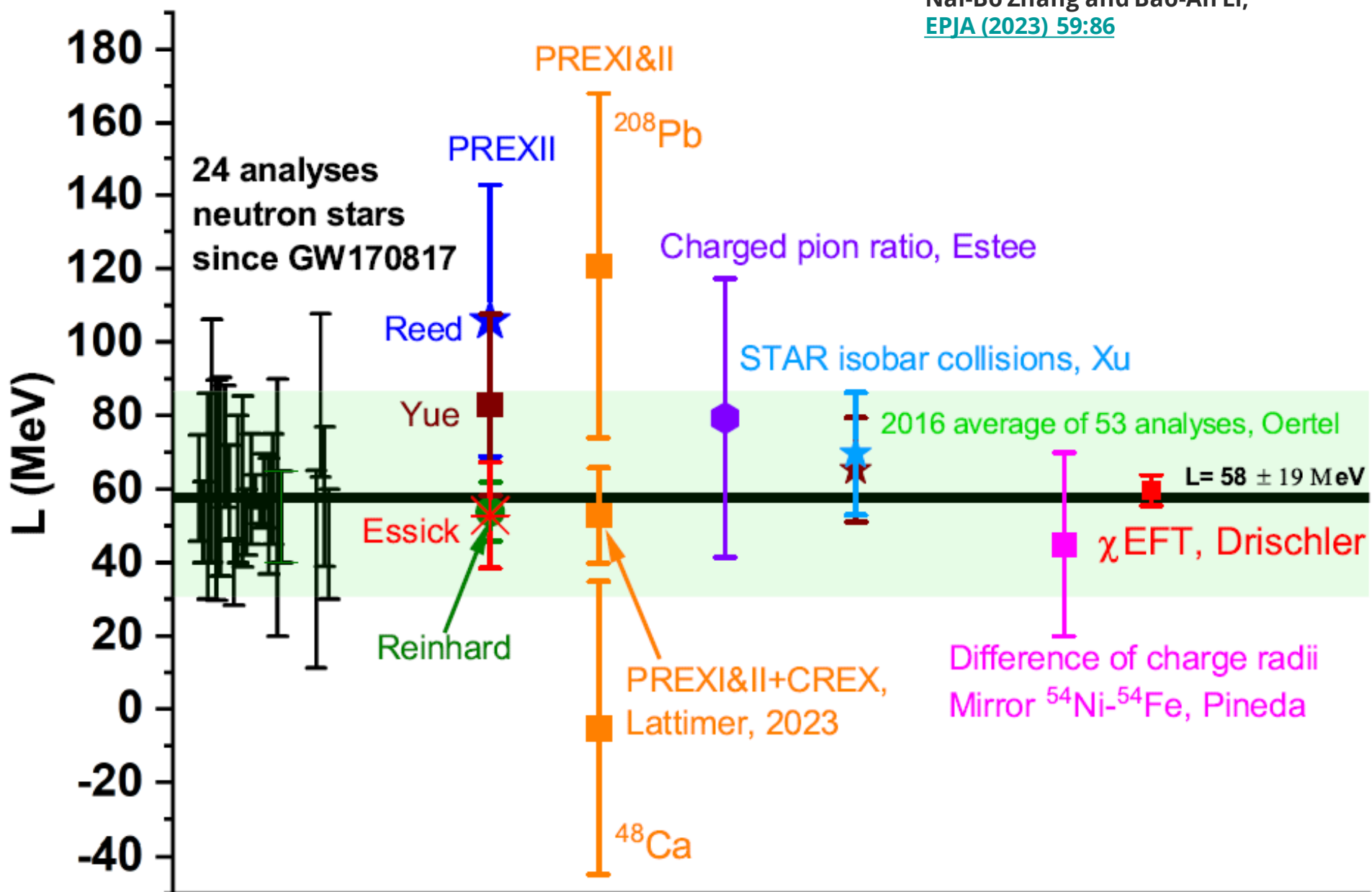
**Fiducial value as of 2016  
from surveying 53 analyses**

M. Oertel, M. Hempel, T. Klähn, S. Typel  
Review of Modern Physics 89 (2017) 015007

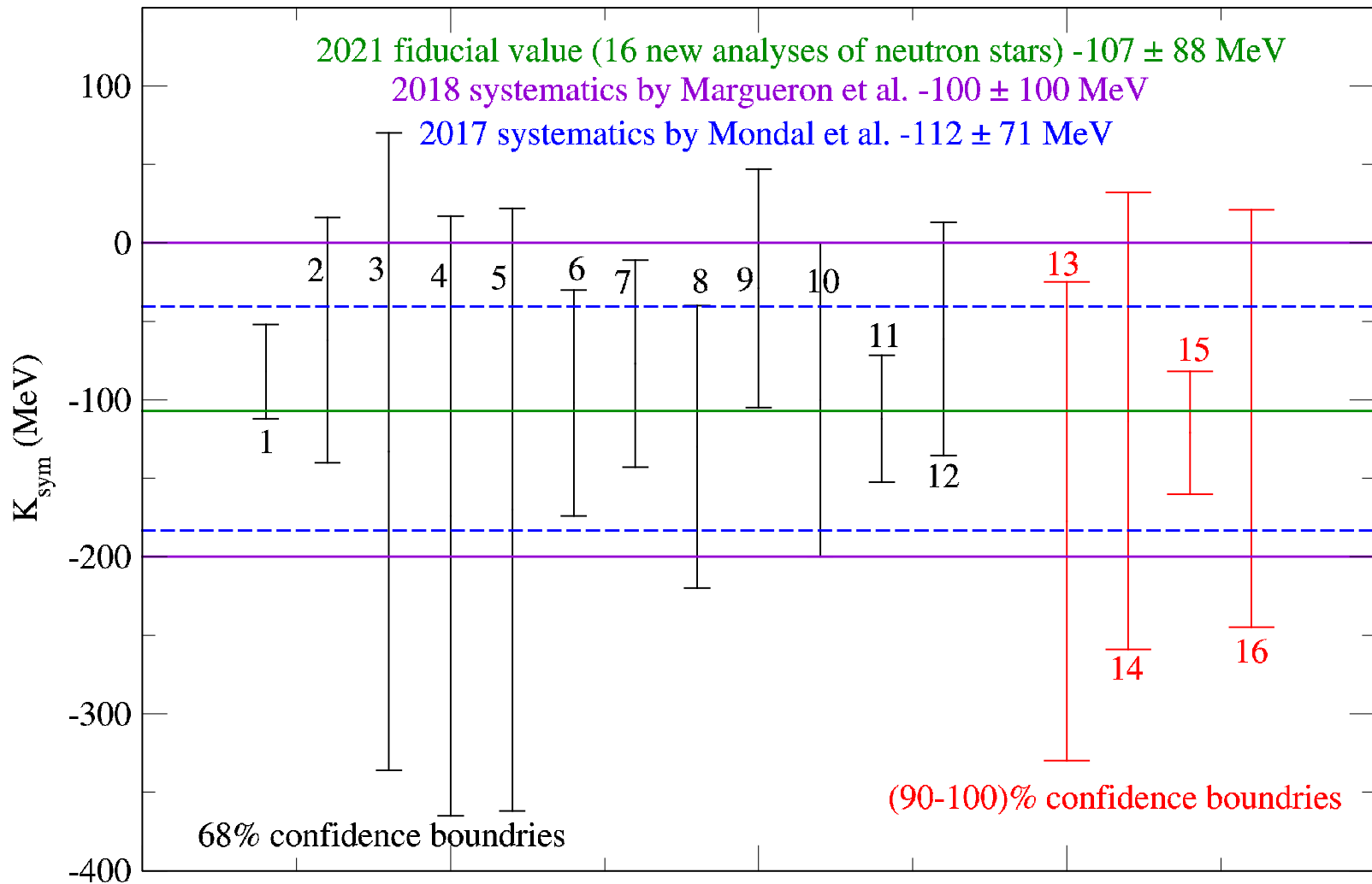


# Slope L of symmetry energy as of Feb. 2023

Nai-Bo Zhang and Bao-An Li,  
[EPJA \(2023\) 59:86](#)



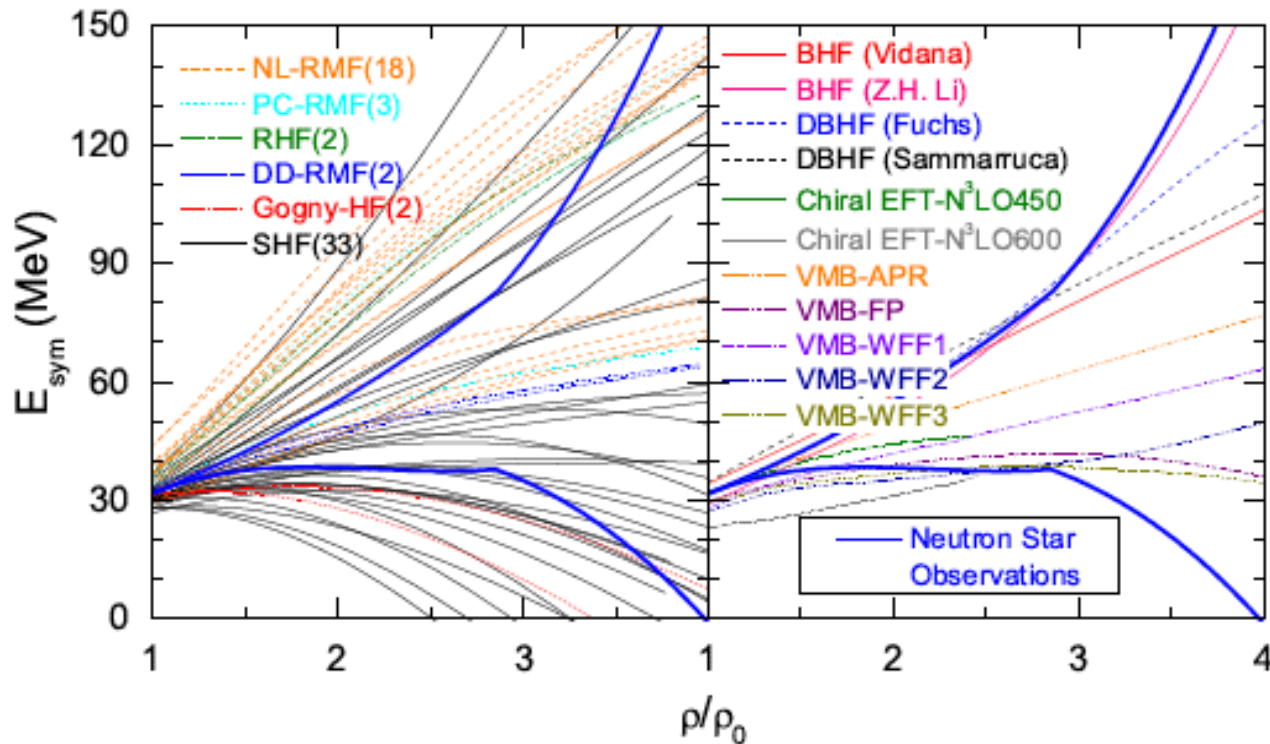
## Curvature of the symmetry energy at saturation density



# Why is the symmetry energy still so uncertain especially at high densities?

Phenomenological Models  
60 examples

Microscopic & *ab initio* Theories  
11 examples



L.W. Chen, Nucl. Phys. Rev. 34, 20 (2017).

N.B. Zhang, B.A. Li, Eur. Phys. J. A 55, 39 (2019).

- $E_{\text{sym}}$  around  $(1-2)\rho_0$  is most relevant for determining the radii of canonical neutron stars, existing  $1.4M_{\text{sun}}$  NS observations do NOT constrain much  $E_{\text{sym}}$  above  $2\rho_0$  where SRC effects are important.

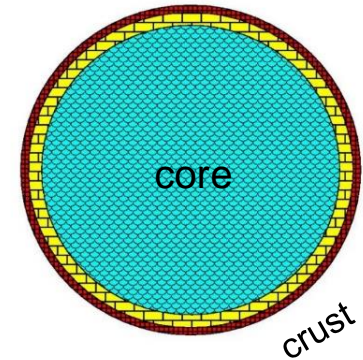


# How does the symmetry energy affect neutron star properties?

- (1) The proton fraction  $x$  is determined by the  $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$  through charge neutrality and beta-equilibrium conditions:

$$x = 0.048 [E_{\text{sym}}(\rho) / E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_0)]^3 (\rho / \rho_0) (1 - 2x)^3$$

Critical for the cooling mechanism of protoneutron stars and associated neutrino emissions, appearance of hyperons, kaon condensation, baryon resonances.....



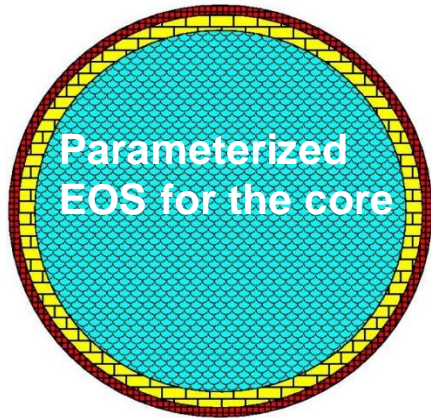
- (2) The pressure in the npe matter at beta equilibrium:

$$P(\rho, \delta) = \rho^2 \left[ \frac{dE_0(\rho)}{d\rho} + \frac{dE_{\text{sym}}(\rho)}{d\rho} \delta^2 \right] + \frac{1}{2} \delta(1 - \delta) \rho E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$$

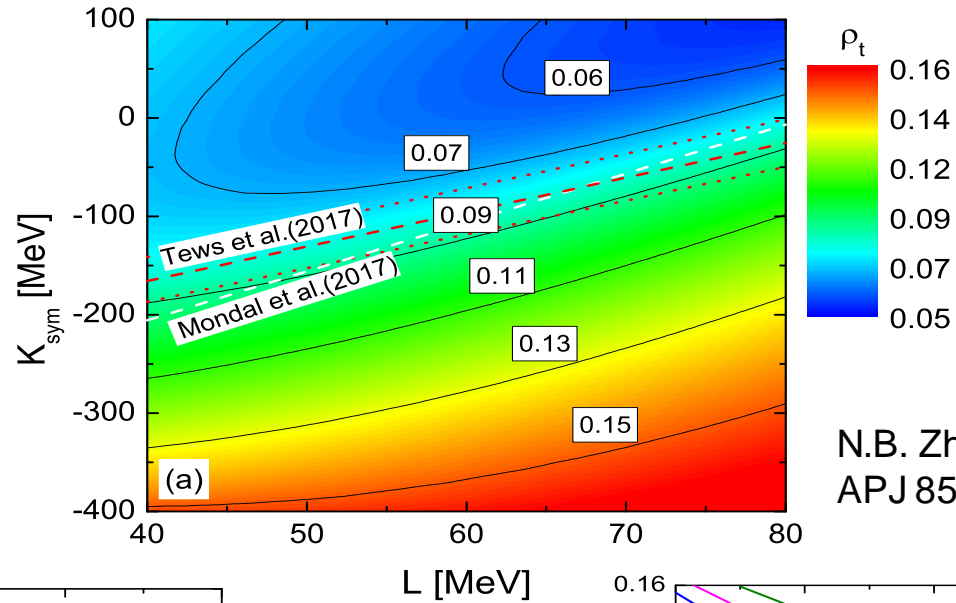
- (3) The crust-core transition density and pressure is determined by setting the **incompressibility of neutron star matter = 0** (speed of sound becomes imaginary):

$$K_\mu = \rho^2 \frac{d^2 E_0}{d\rho^2} + 2\rho \frac{dE_0}{d\rho} + \delta^2 \left[ \rho^2 \frac{d^2 E_{\text{sym}}}{d\rho^2} + 2\rho \frac{dE_{\text{sym}}}{d\rho} - 2E_{\text{sym}}^{-1} \left( \rho \frac{dE_{\text{sym}}}{d\rho} \right)^2 \right] = 0$$

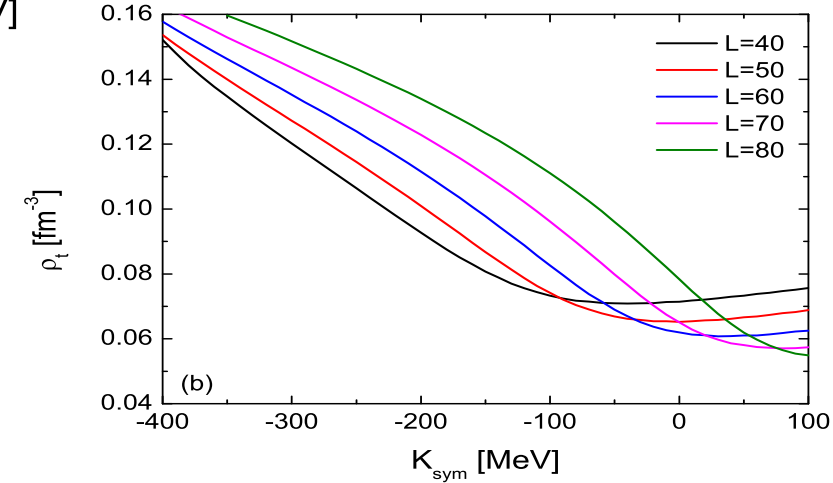
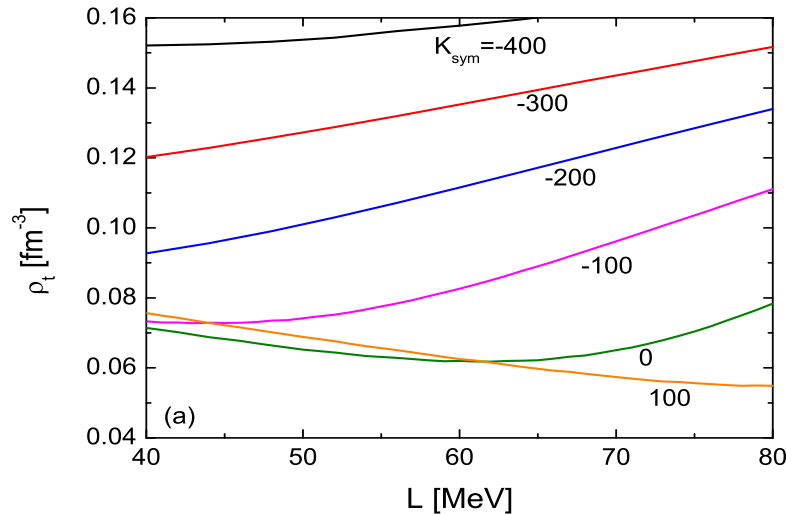
# Effects of symmetry energy on the crust-core transition density



NV+BPS EOS  
for the crust



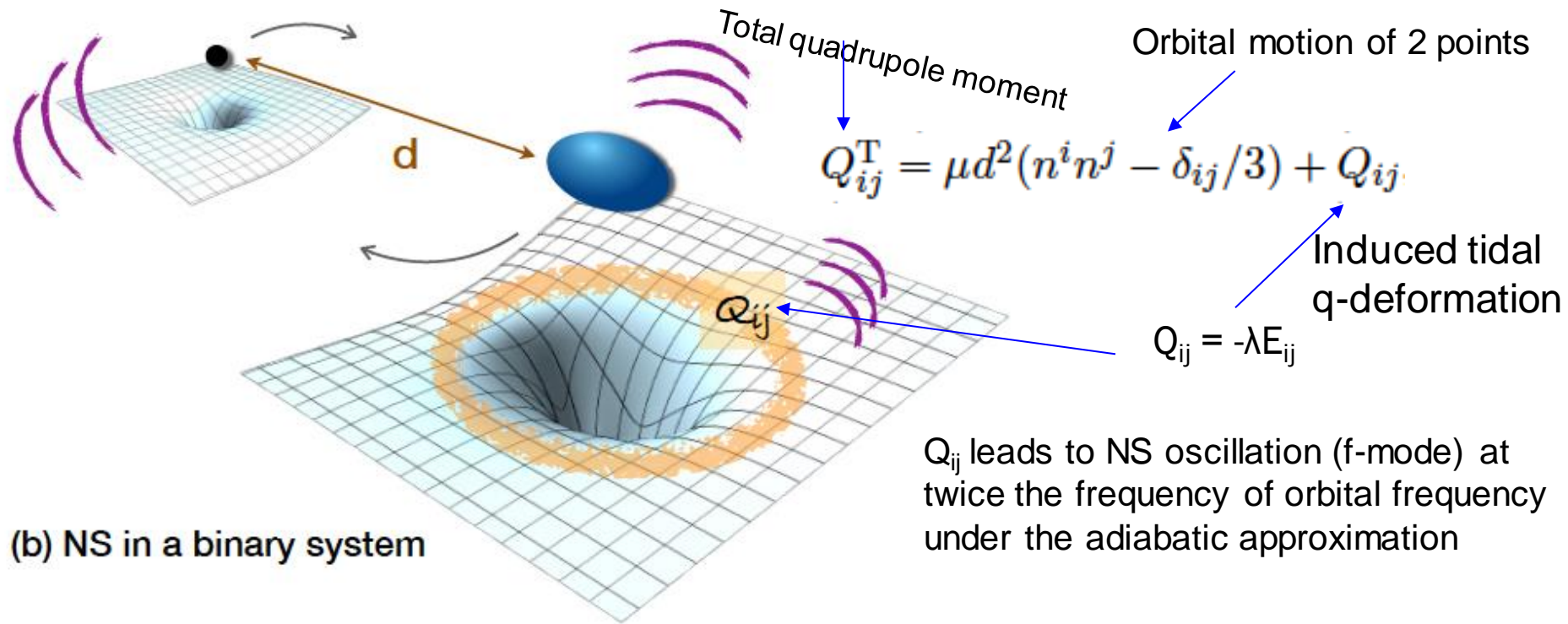
N.B. Zhang, B.A. Li and J. Xu,  
APJ 859, 90 (2018)



At the crust-core transition: Incompressibility in neutron stars at  $\beta$  equilibrium = 0

$$K_\mu = \rho^2 \frac{d^2 E_0}{d\rho^2} + 2\rho \frac{dE_0}{d\rho} + \delta^2 \left[ \rho^2 \frac{d^2 E_{\text{sym}}}{d\rho^2} + 2\rho \frac{dE_{\text{sym}}}{d\rho} - 2E_{\text{sym}}^{-1} \left( \rho \frac{dE_{\text{sym}}}{d\rho} \right)^2 \right]$$

Lattimer & Prakash, Phys. Rep., 442, 109 (2007)



Fourier transform of the strain amplitude  $h(t)$  to the frequency domain

$$\tilde{h}(f) = \mathcal{A} f^{-7/6} \exp [i (\psi_{\text{point-mass}} + \psi_{\text{tidal}})]$$

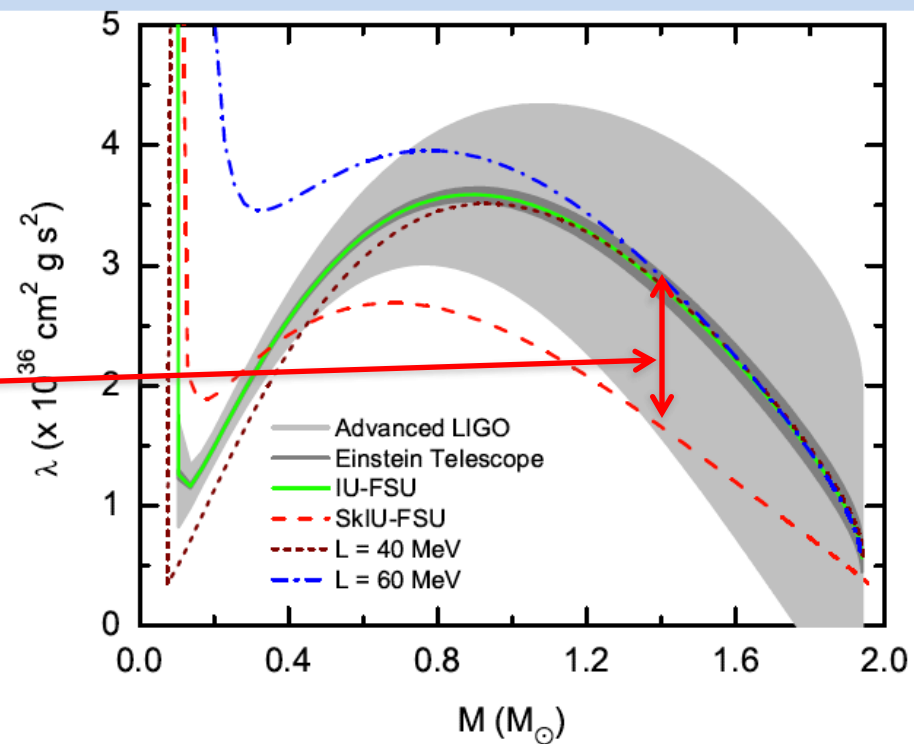
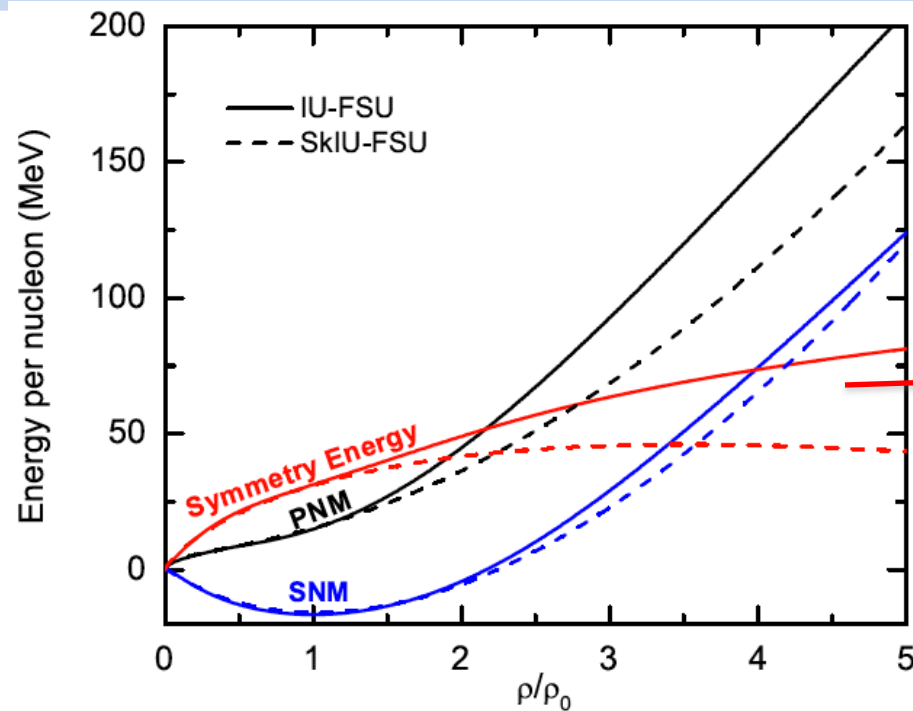
Nuclear EOS comes into the tidal correction to the total phase angle of GW

$$\psi_{\text{tidal}} = \frac{3}{128(\pi G M f / c^3)^{5/3}} \left[ -\frac{39}{2} \tilde{\Lambda} (\pi G M_T f / c^3)^{10/3} \right]$$

Accumulated tidal effect (finite size of mass in neutron star) in the whole LIGO f-bandwidth is about 1-orbit/16,000 orbits of two point particles

$$\tilde{\Lambda} = \frac{16c^{10}}{13G^4 M_T^5} \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{12M_2}{M_1} \right) \lambda_1 + \left( 1 + \frac{12M_1}{M_2} \right) \lambda_2 \right]$$

# Impact of high-density symmetry energy on the tidal deformability of neutron stars in mergers



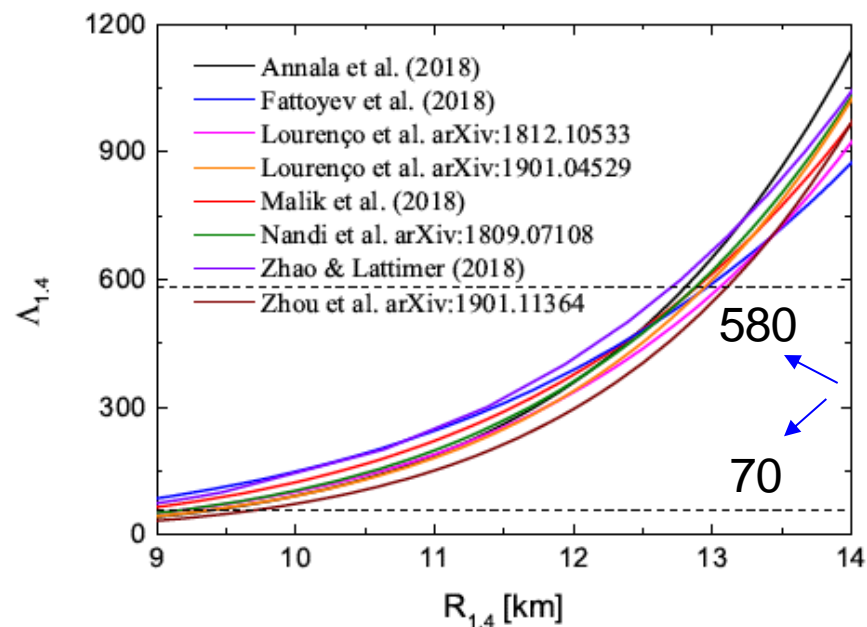
F. Fattoyev, J. Carvajal, W.G. Newton and B.A. Li, PRC87, 15806 (2013)

The tidal deformation:

$$\lambda = 2k_2 R^5 / (3G)$$

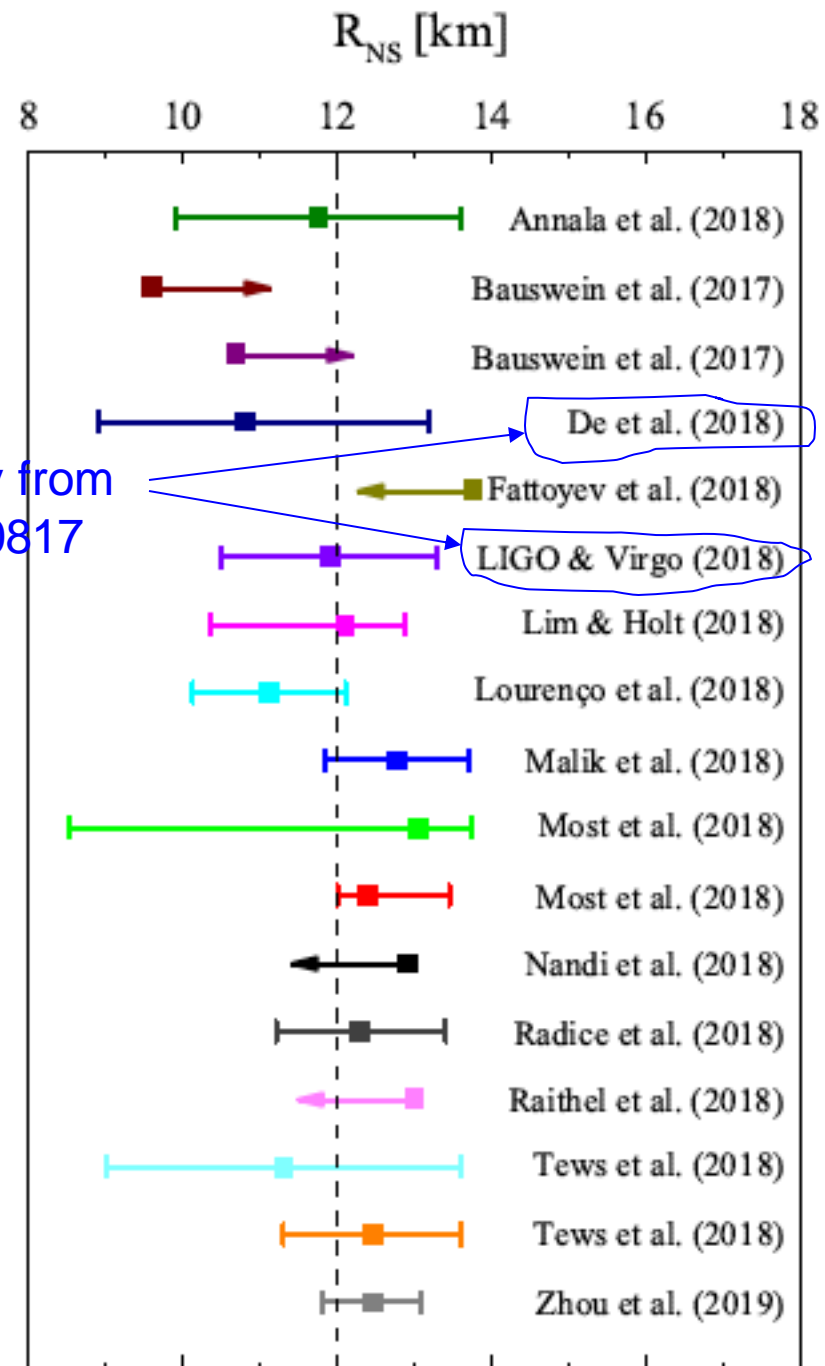
Given a EOS, the Love number  $k_2$  and radius  $R$  for a given mass  $m$  can be solved from the Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff Eq. coupled with a differential Eq. for the strength of the perturbed time-time component of the metric

# Tidal deformability and radius from GW170817

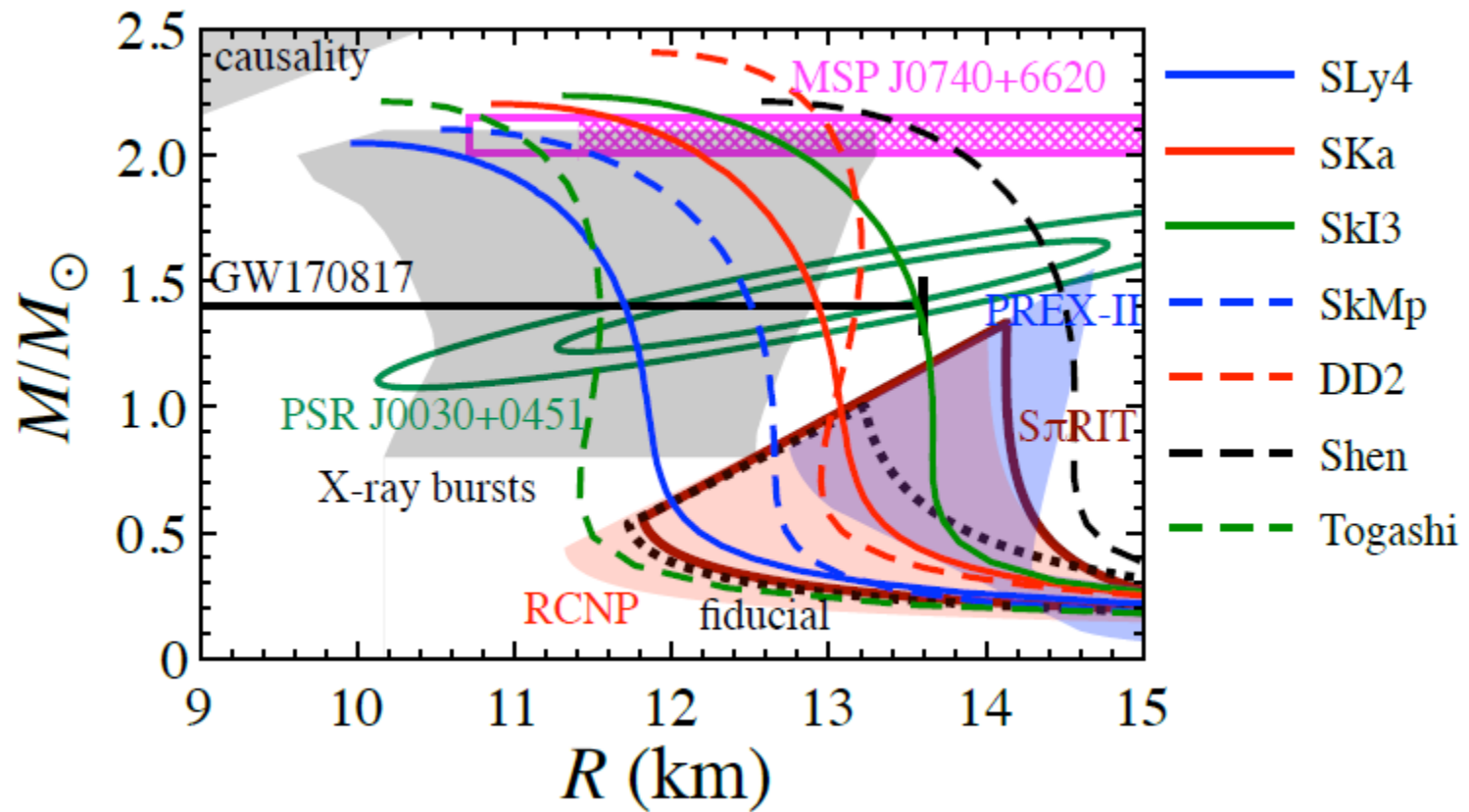


$$\Lambda = \frac{2}{3} \frac{k_2}{\beta^5}$$

B.A. Li, P.G. Krastev, D.H. Wen and N.B. Zhang  
Review Article, EPJA 55, 117 (2019)



# Currently available mass-radius observational data



[Hajime Sotani](#), [Nobuya Nishimura](#), [Tomoya Naito](#)

*Progress of Theoretical and Experimental Physics*, Vol. 2022,

Issue 4, April 2022, 041D01, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ptep/ptac055>



**Table 1.** The radius  $R_{1.4}$  data used in this work.

Radius $R_{1.4}$ (km) (90% confidence level)	Source	Reference
$11.9^{+1.4}_{-1.4}$	GW170817	(Abbott et al. 2018)
$10.8^{+2.1}_{-1.6}$	GW170817	(De et al. 2018)
$11.7^{+1.1}_{-1.1}$	QLMXBs	(Lattimer & Steiner 2014)
$11.9 \pm 0.8, 10.8 \pm 0.8, 11.7 \pm 0.8$	Imagined case-1	this work
$11.9 \pm 0.8$	Imagined case-2	this work

[Wen-Jie Xie and Bao-An Li](#)  
[APJ 883, 174 \(2019\)](#)  
[APJ 899, 4 \(2020\)](#)

Posterior probability distribution  $P(\mathcal{M}|D) = \frac{P(D|\mathcal{M})P(\mathcal{M})}{\int P(D|\mathcal{M})P(\mathcal{M})d\mathcal{M}},$  (Bayes' theorem)

Likelihood:  $P[D(R_{1,2,3})|\mathcal{M}(p_{1,2,...6})] = \prod_{j=1}^3 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_{\text{obs},j}} \exp[-\frac{(R_{\text{th},j} - R_{\text{obs},j})^2}{2\sigma_{\text{obs},j}^2}],$

Meta-modeling of nuclear EOS

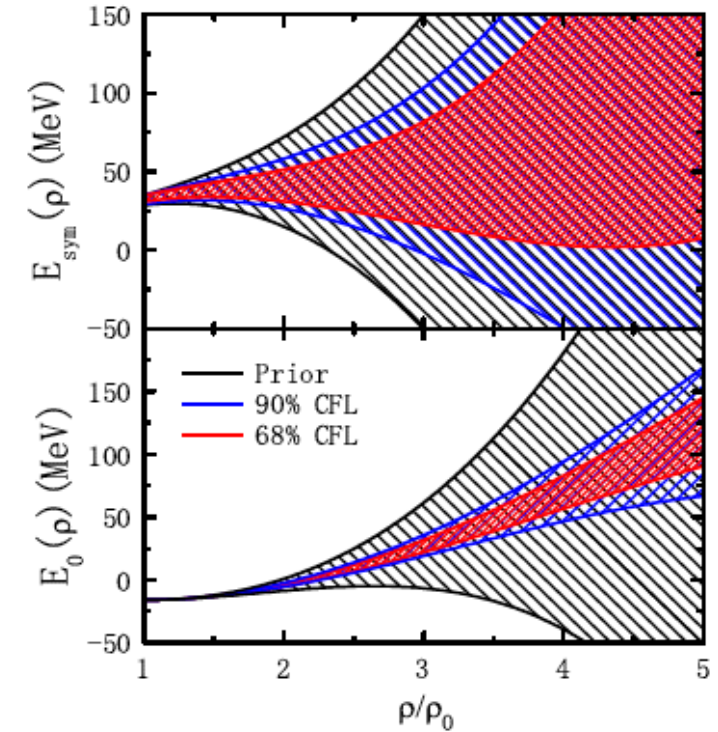
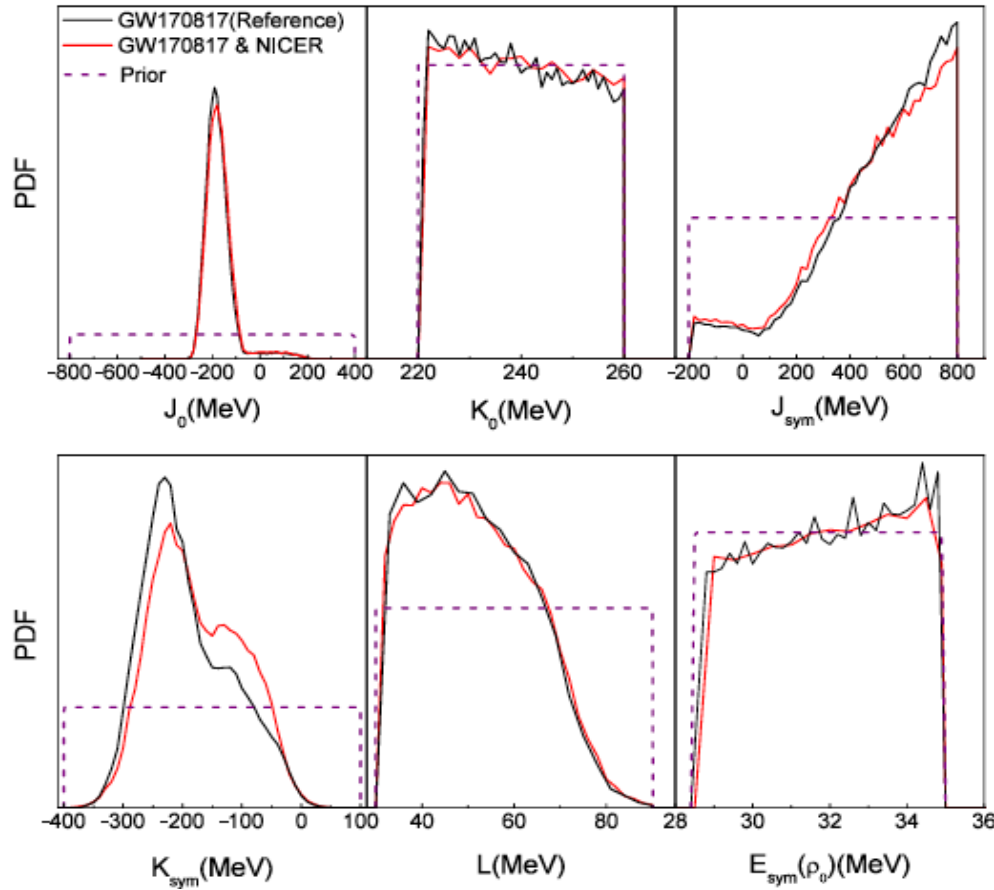
Uniform prior distribution  $P(\mathcal{M})$  in the ranges of

Bayesian inference of  
high-density  $E_{\text{sym}}$  from the radii  
 $R_{1.4}$  of canonical neutron stars  
in 6D EOS parameter space

**Table 2.** Prior ranges of the six EOS parameters used

Parameters	Lower limit	Upper limit (MeV)
$K_0$	220	260
$J_0$	-800	400
$K_{\text{sym}}$	-400	100
$J_{\text{sym}}$	-200	800
$L$	30	90
$E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_0)$	28.5	34.9

# Posterior probability distribution function (PDF) of 6 EOS parameters from Bayesian analyses of GW170817 & NICER data for the canonical PSR J0030+0451 of masses around 1.4 solar mass



[Wen-Jie Xie and Bao-An Li](#)  
[APJ 883, 174 \(2019\)](#)  
[APJ 899, 4 \(2020\)](#)



# Solving the NS inverse-structure problems by calling the TOV solver within 3 Do-Loops: Given an observable→ Find ALL necessary & sufficient EOSs

$$E_0(\rho) = E_0(\rho_0) + \frac{K_0}{2}(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0})^2 + \boxed{J_0}(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0})^3, \tag{2.15}$$

$$E_{\text{sym}}(\rho) = E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_0) + L(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0}) + \boxed{K_{\text{sym}}}(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0})^2 + \boxed{J_{\text{sym}}}(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0})^3 \tag{2.16}$$

$$E(\rho, \delta) = E_0(\rho) + E_{\text{sym}}(\rho) \cdot \delta^2$$

Fix the saturation parameters  $E_0(\rho_0)$ ,  $K_0$ ,  $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_0)$  and  $L$  at their most probable values currently known

Example:

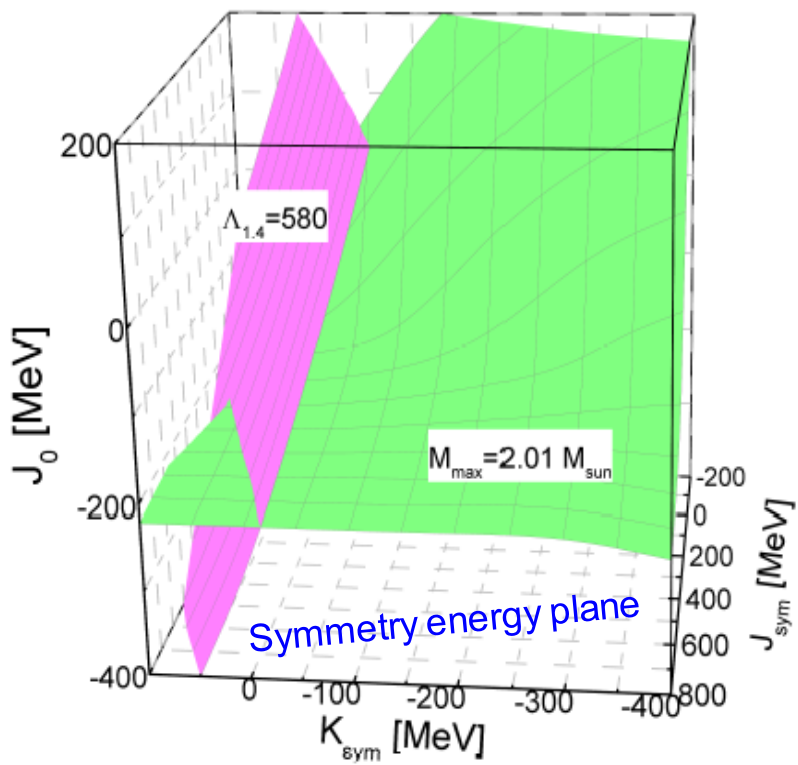
$J_0=-189$  is found  
given  $M_{\text{max}}=2.01M_{\text{sun}}$

$J_0$  loop

Inversion by brute force

TOV

at  $K_{\text{sym}}=-200$  &  $J_{\text{sym}}=400$   
inside the  $K_{\text{sym}}$  and  $J_{\text{sym}}$  loops

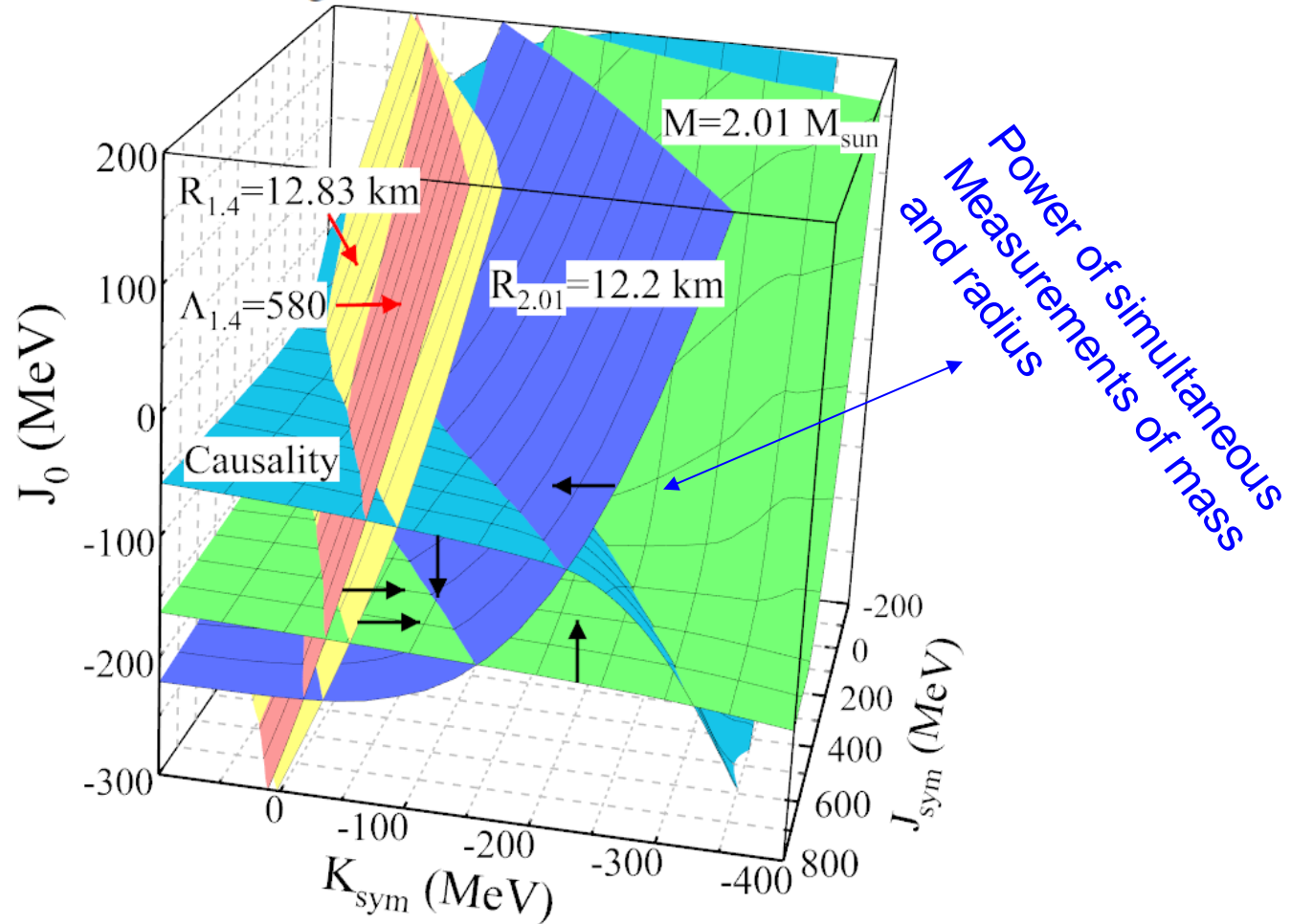


N.B. Zhang, B.A. Li and J. Xu, APJ 859, 90 (2018)



# Impact of NICER's Radius Measurement of PSR J0740+6620 on Nuclear Symmetry Energy at Suprasaturation Densities

Nai-Bo Zhang<sup>1</sup> and Bao-An Li<sup>2</sup>



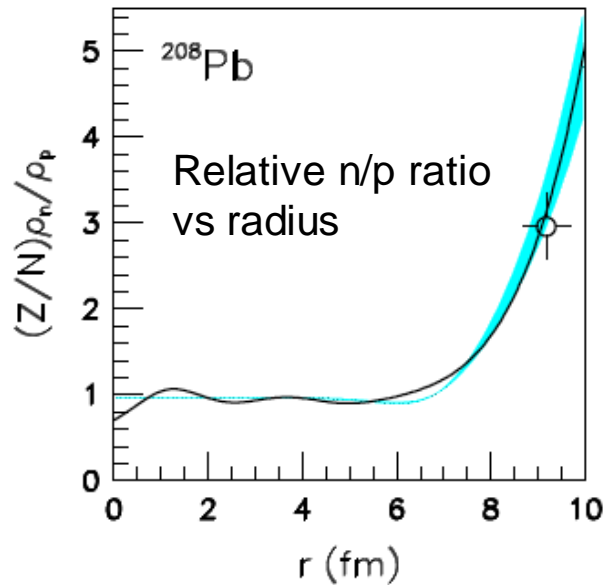
**NICER results :**

Mass:  $2.08 \pm 0.07 M_{\odot}$

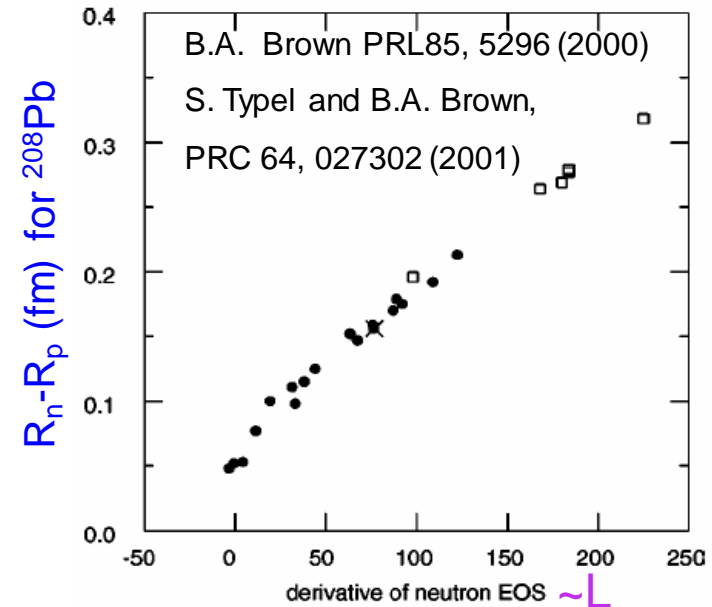
Radius:  $13.7^{+2.6}_{-1.5} \text{ km}$  (68%) (Miller et al. 2021) or  $12.39^{+1.30}_{-0.98} \text{ km}$  (Riley

# Neutron-skin in $^{208}\text{Pb}$ and symmetry energy

**Earlier work:** B.A. Brown, S. Typel, C. Horowitz, J. Piekarewicz, R.J. Furnstahl, J.R. Stone, A. Dieperink et al.



P. Pawłowski and A. Szczurek, PRC 70, 044908 (2004)



$$E_{\text{neutron}} = E_{\text{nuclear}} + E_{\text{sym}},$$

$$R_n - R_p \propto \Delta p_{np} = dE_{\text{nuclear}}/d\rho|_{\rho_0} + dE_{\text{sym}}/d\rho|_{\rho_0} = 0 + dE_{\text{sym}}/d\rho|_{\rho_0}$$

Pressure forces neutrons out against the surface tension from the symmetric core near  $\rho_0$

$$P = \rho^2 \frac{d}{d\rho} \frac{E}{A} \simeq \frac{L}{3\rho_0} \rho^2 \rightarrow \text{n-skin} \sim L$$

Neutron-skin is actually determined by  $L(\sim 2\rho_0/3)$  NOT  $L(\rho_0)$

Z. Zhang and L. W. Chen, Phys. Lett. B 726, 234 (2013)

- Extrapolation from  $L(2\rho_0/3)$  to  $L(\rho_0)$  is very model dependent
- The correlation between n-skin of heavy nuclei and the radius of neutron stars is also VERY model dependent

# Microscopic diagnosis of n-skins in two Skyrme-Hartree-Fock models with similar EOSs for SNM and $E_{\text{sym}}$ as the APR up to $1.5\rho_0$

$$S_1(\rho) = \frac{\hbar^2 k_F^2}{6m_0^*(\rho, k_F)}$$

$$S_2(\rho) = \frac{1}{2}U_{\text{sym},1}(\rho, k_F) ,$$

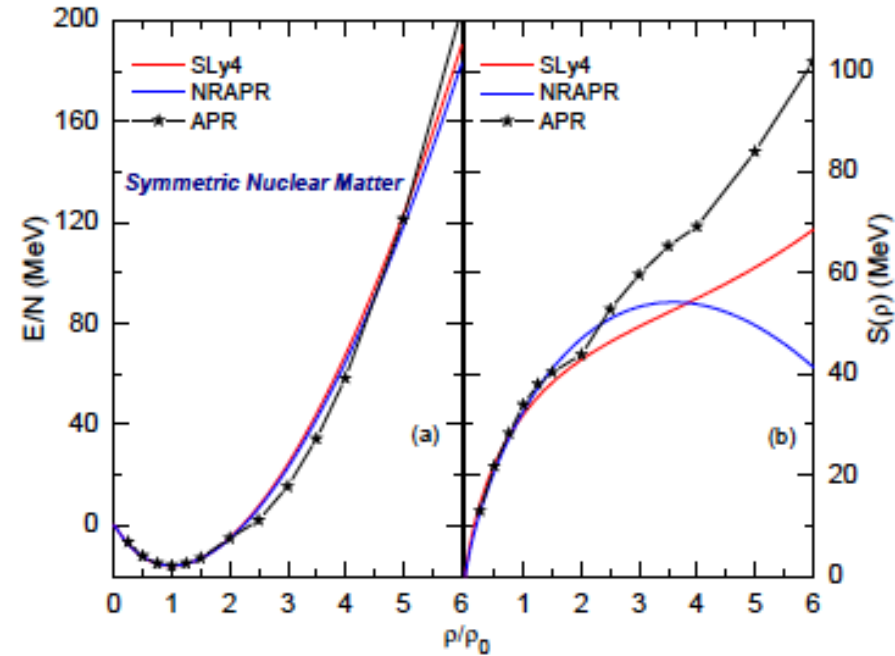
$$L_1(\rho) = \frac{2\hbar^2 k_F^2}{6m_0^*(\rho, k_F)} \equiv 2S_1(\rho)$$

$$L_2(\rho) = -\frac{\hbar^2 k_F^3}{6m_0^{*2}(\rho, k_F)} \frac{\partial m_0^*(\rho, k)}{\partial k} \Big|_{k=k_F}$$

$$L_3(\rho) = \frac{3}{2}U_{\text{sym},1}(\rho, k_F) \equiv 3S_2(\rho)$$

$$L_4(\rho) = \frac{\partial U_{\text{sym},1}(\rho, k)}{\partial k} \Big|_{k=k_F} \cdot k_F$$

$$L_5(\rho) = 3U_{\text{sym},2}(\rho, k_F) .$$

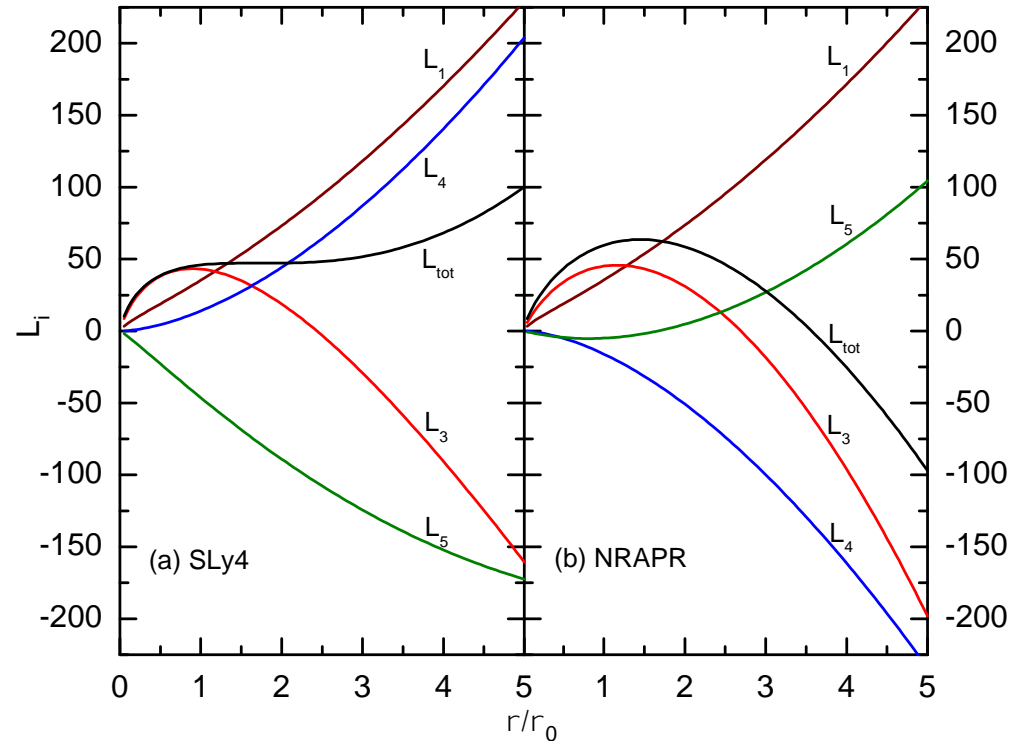


$L_{\text{Sly4}} = 45.9 \text{ MeV}$   
 $L_{\text{NRAPR}} = 59.6 \text{ MeV}$

For  $^{208}\text{Pb}$

$R_{\text{skin\_Sly4}} = 0.157 \text{ fm}$

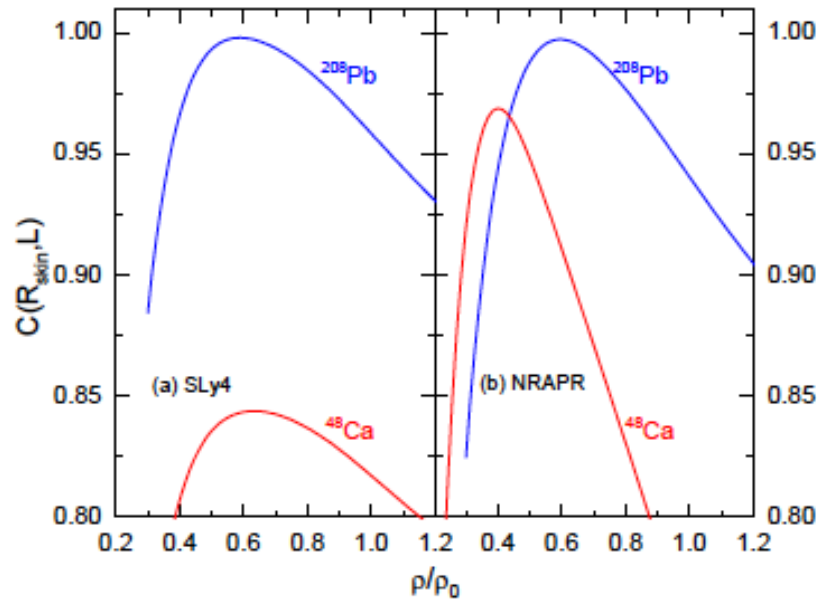
$R_{\text{skin\_NRAPR}} = 0.184 \text{ fm}$



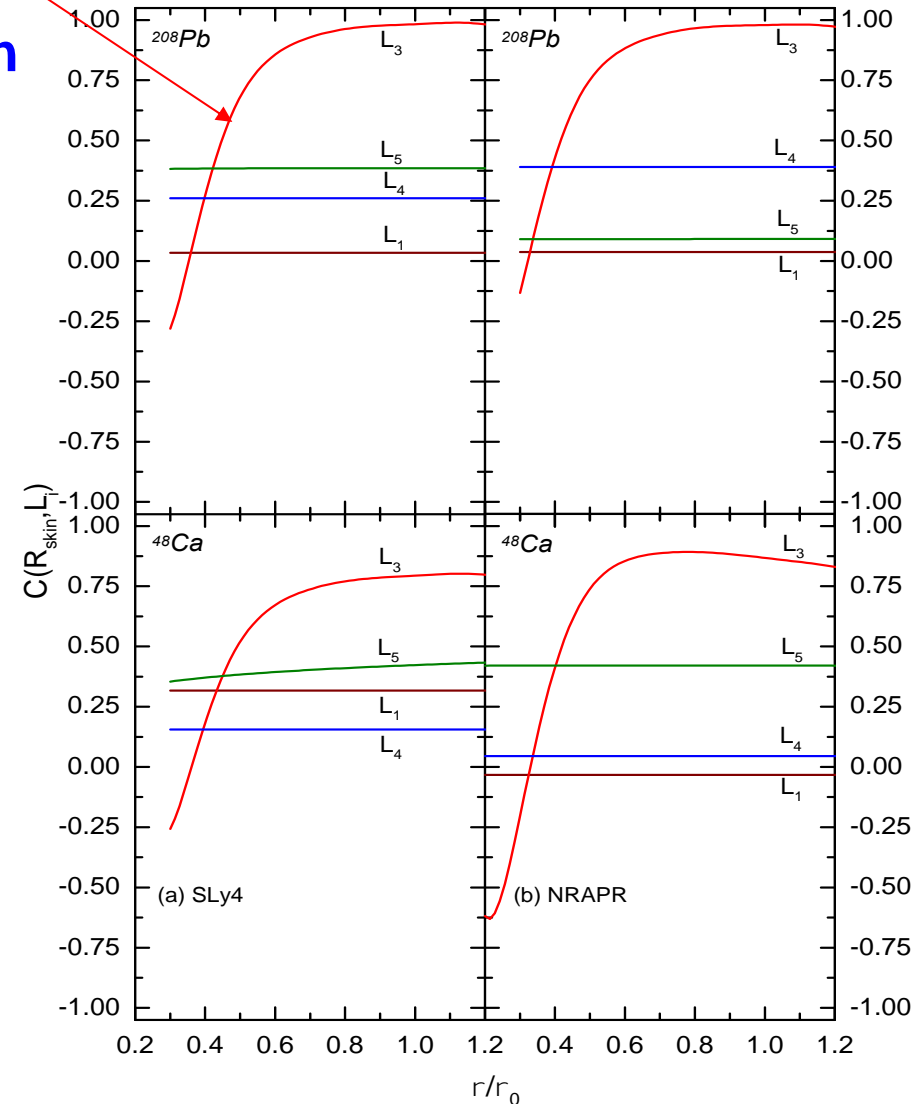
$$E_{sym}(\rho) = \frac{1}{3} \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_0^*} \Big|_{k_F} + \frac{1}{2} U_{sym,1}(\rho, k_F),$$

$$L(\rho) = \underbrace{\frac{2}{3} \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_0^*} \Big|_{k_F}}_{L_1} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{\hbar^2 k^3}{m_0^{*2}} \frac{\partial m_0^*}{\partial k} \right) \Big|_{k_F}}_{L_2} + \underbrace{\frac{3}{2} U_{sym,1}(\rho, k_F)}_{L_3} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial U_{sym,1}}{\partial k} \Big|_{k_F} \cdot k_F}_{L_4} + \underbrace{3U_{sym,2}(\rho, k_F)}_{L_5},$$

## Covariance analysis of the correlation between n-skin and $L_i(\rho)$ within SHF



F. Fattoyev, W.G. Newton and Bao-An Li,  
PRC 90, 022801(R) (2014)



# Single-nucleon potential in isospin-asymmetric nuclear matter

$$U_{n/p}(k, \rho, \delta) = U_0(k, \rho) \begin{matrix} \text{+ for neutrons} \\ \text{- for protons} \end{matrix} \pm U_{sym1}(k, \rho) \cdot \delta + U_{sym2}(k, \rho) \cdot \delta^2 + o(\delta^3)$$

**Isovector**

According to the Hugenholtz-Van Hove (HVH) theorem:

$$E_F = \frac{d\xi}{d\rho} = \frac{d(\rho E)}{d\rho} = E + \rho \frac{dE}{d\rho} = E + P/\rho$$

J. Dabrowski and P. Haensel, PLB 42, (1972) 163.  
 S. Fritsch, N. Kaiser and W. Weise, NPA. A750, 259 (2005).  
 C. Xu, B.A. Li, L.W. Chen, Phys. Rev. C 82 (2010) 054607.

$$E_{sym}(\rho) = \frac{1}{3} \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_0^*} \Big|_{k_F} + \frac{1}{2} U_{sym,1}(\rho, k_F),$$

$$L(\rho) = \frac{2}{3} \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_0^*} \Big|_{k_F} - \frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{\hbar^2 k^3}{m_0^{*2}} \frac{\partial m_0^*}{\partial k} \right) \Big|_{k_F} + \frac{3}{2} U_{sym,1}(\rho, k_F) + \frac{\partial U_{sym,1}}{\partial k} \Big|_{k_F} \cdot k_F + 3U_{sym,2}(\rho, k_F),$$

Potential

Kinetic

Rong Chen, Bao-Jun Cai, Lie-Wen Chen, Bao-An Li, Xiao-Hua Li, Chang Xu, PRC 85, 024305 (2012)

Nucleon effective mass in isospin symmetric matter

$$m_0^*(\rho, k) = \frac{m}{1 + \frac{m}{\hbar^2 k} \frac{\partial U_0(\rho, k)}{\partial k}},$$

Neutron-proton effective mass splitting in neutron-rich matter

$$m_{n-p}^* \approx 2\delta \frac{m}{\hbar^2 k_F} \left[ -\frac{dU_{sym,1}}{dk} - \frac{k_F}{3} \frac{d^2 U_0}{dk^2} + \frac{1}{3} \frac{dU_0}{dk} \right]_{k_F} \left( \frac{m_0^*}{m} \right)^2$$

$$\approx 2\delta \left( \frac{M_s^*}{M} \right)^2 \left[ \frac{M}{M_v^*} - \frac{M}{M_s^*} \right]$$

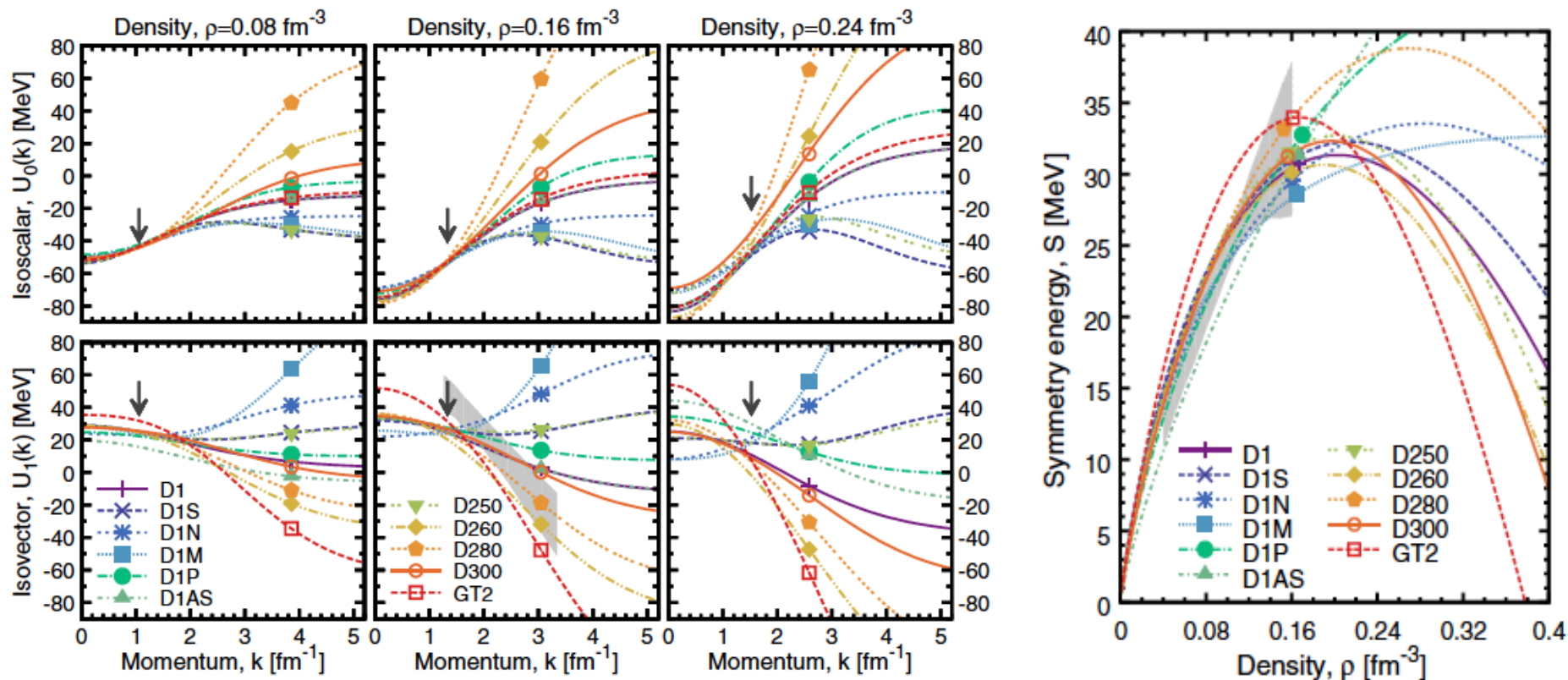


# Density and momentum dependence of Isoscalar and Isovector potentials Gogny Hartree-Fock predictions using 11 popular Gogny (finite-range) forces

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 90, 054327 (2014)

## Isovector properties of the Gogny interaction

Roshan Sellaheewa and Arnau Rios

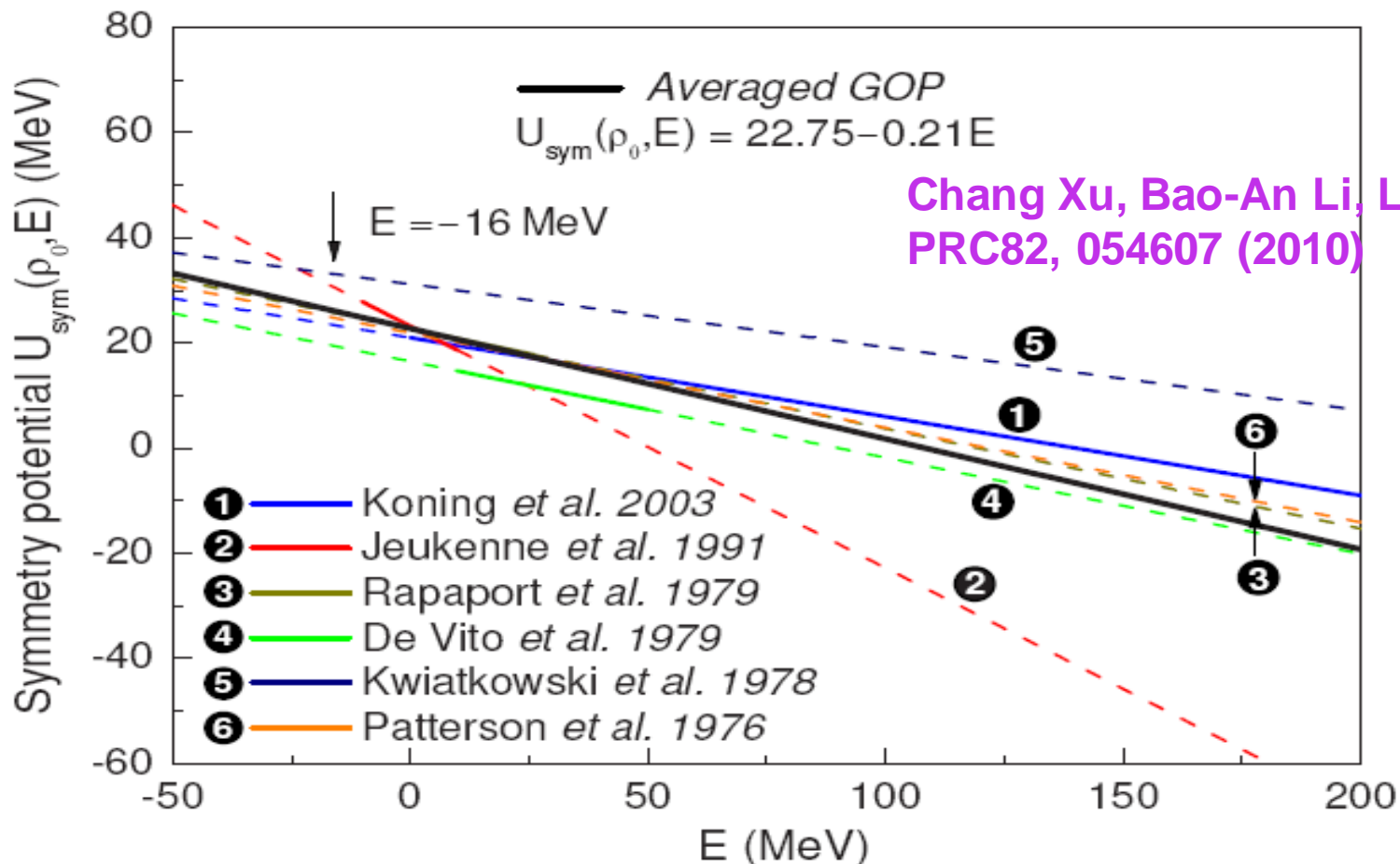


# Symmetry potential at saturation density from global nucleon optical potentials

Systematics based on world data accumulated since 1969:

- (1) Single particle energy levels from pick-up and stripping reaction
- (2) Neutron and proton scattering on the same target at about the same energy
- (3) Proton scattering on isotopes of the same element
- (4) (p,n) charge exchange reactions

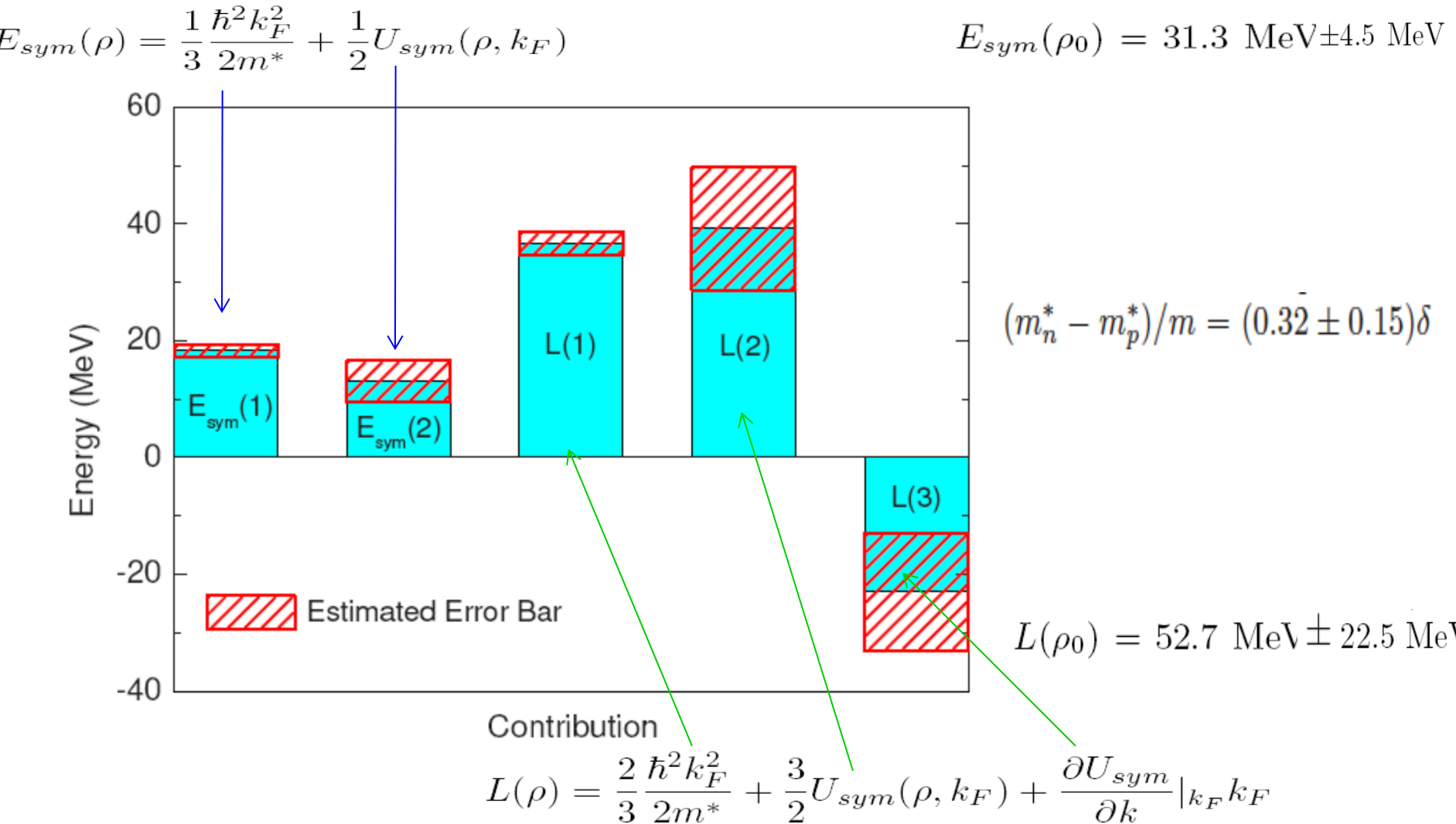
**P.E. Hodgson, The Nucleon Optical Model, 1994 (World Scientific).**





# Constraining the symmetry energy and neutron-proton effective mass splitting using global nucleon optical potentials

Chang Xu, Bao-An Li, Lie-Wen Chen, PRC82, 054607 (2010)



# What are the fundamental physics behind the symmetry energy?

$$U_{n/p}(k, \rho, \delta) = U_0(k, \rho) \pm U_{\text{sym}1}(k, \rho) \cdot \delta + U_{\text{sym}2}(k, \rho) \cdot \delta^2 + o(\delta^3)$$

- **Isospin dependence of strong interactions and correlations**

$$V_{T0} = V'_{np} \quad (\text{n-p pair in the } T=0 \text{ state})$$

Tensor force due to pion and  $\rho$  meson exchange MAINLY in the  $T=0$  channel

$$V_{T1} = V_{nn} = V_{pp} = V_{np} \quad (\text{charge independence in the } T=1 \text{ state})$$

$$V_{np}(T0) \neq V_{np}(T1)$$

In a simple interacting Fermi gas model:

Isospin-dependent correlation function

$$U_{\text{sym}}(k_F, \rho) = \frac{1}{4} \rho \int [V_{T1}(r_{ij}) f^{T1}(r_{ij}) - V_{T0}(r_{ij}) f^{T0}(r_{ij})] d^3 r_{ij}$$

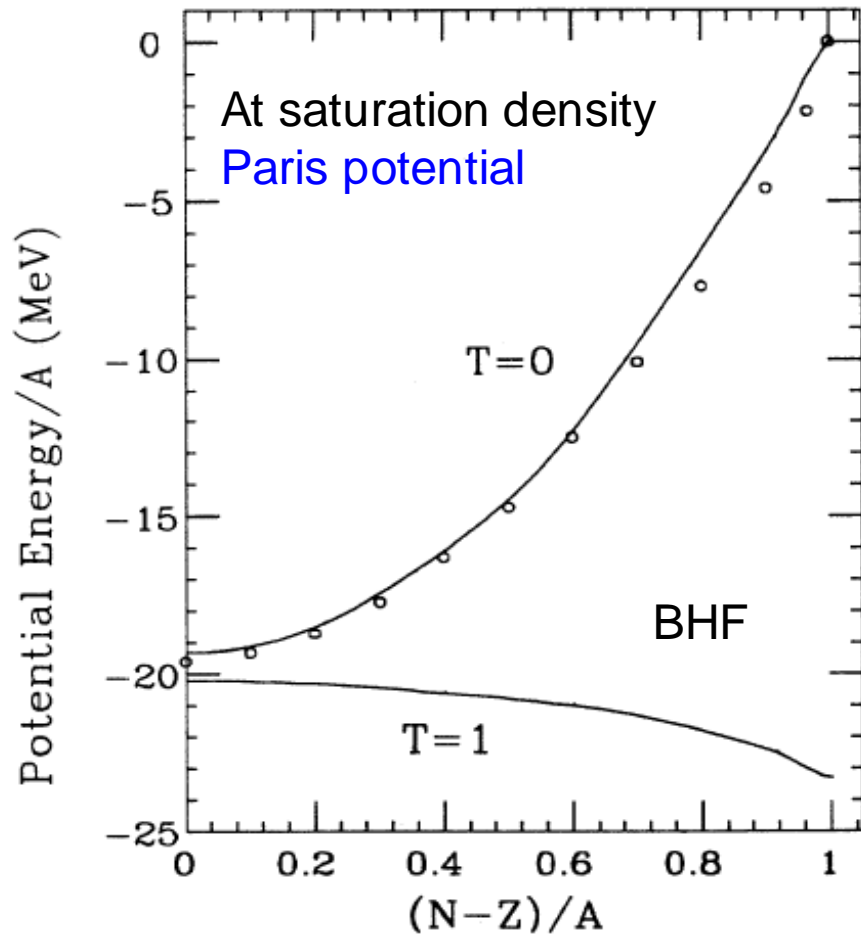
M.A. Preston and R.K. Bhaduri, Structure of the Nucleus, 1975

Isospin-dependent effective 2-body interaction

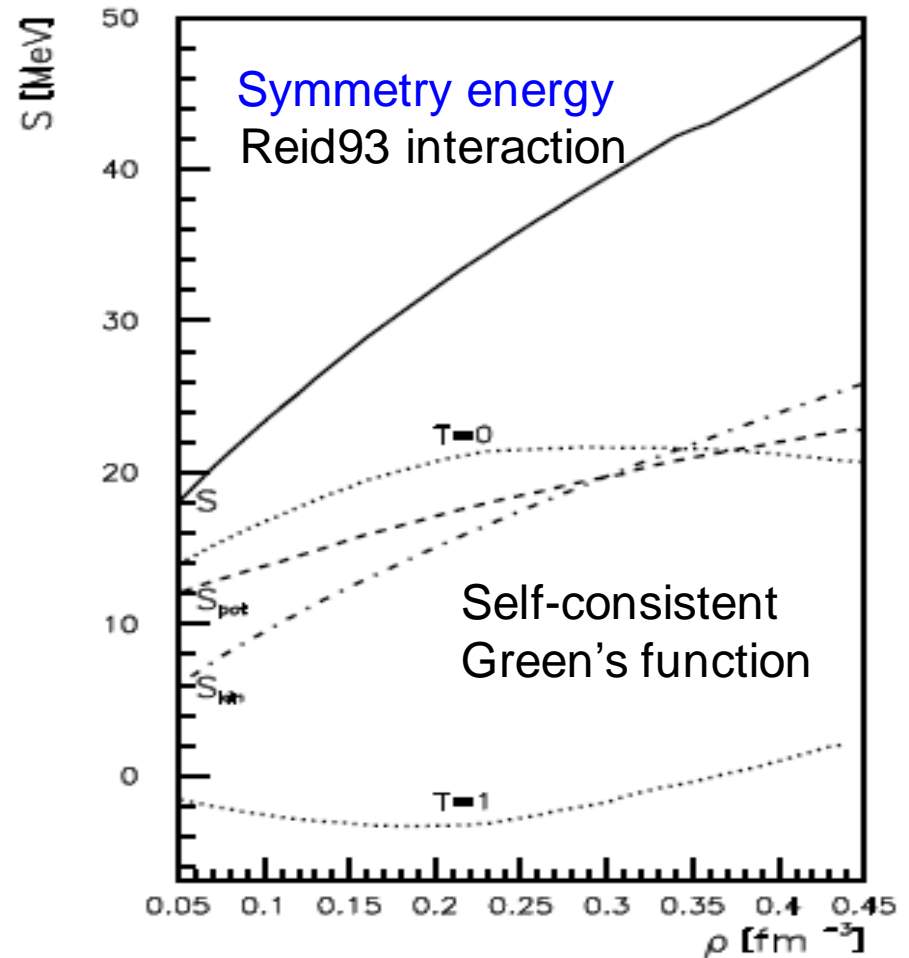
## Major issues relevant to high-density $E_{\text{sym}}$ , heavy-ion reactions and neutron stars

- Momentum dependence of the symmetry potential due to the finite-range of isovector int.
- Short-range correlations due to the tensor force in the isosinglet n-p channel
- Spin-isospin dependence of the 3-body force
- Isovector interactions of  $\Delta(1232)$  resonances and their spectroscopy (mass and width)
- Possible sign inversion of the symmetry potential at high momenta/density

# Dominance of the isosinglet (T=0) interaction



I. Bombaci and U. Lombardo PRC 44, 1892 (1991)



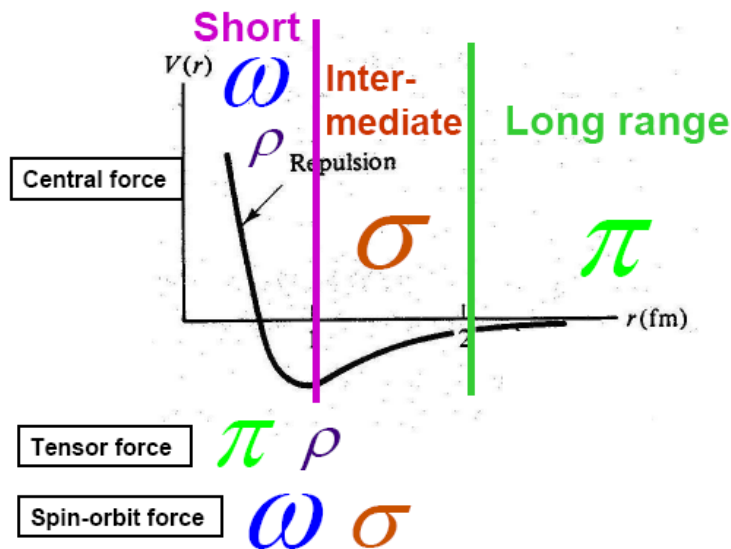
A.E.L. Dieperink,<sup>1</sup> Y. Dewulf,<sup>2</sup> D. Van Neck,<sup>2</sup> M. Waroquier,<sup>2</sup> and V. Rodin<sup>3</sup>

PRC68, 064307 (2003)

$$E_{sym}(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial \delta^2} \approx E(\rho)_{\text{pure neutron matter}} - E(\rho)_{\text{symmetric nuclear matter}}$$

# The short and long range tensor force

Lecture notes of R. Machleidt  
CNS summer school, Univ. of Tokyo  
Aug. 18-23, 2005



$\pi(138)$

$$V_{\pi} = \frac{f_{\pi NN}^2}{3m_{\pi}^2} \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\vec{q}^2 + m_{\pi}^2} \left[ -\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2 - S_{12}(\hat{q}) \right] \vec{r}_1 \cdot \vec{r}_2$$

Long-ranged  
tensor force

$\sigma(600)$

$$V_{\sigma} \approx \frac{g_{\sigma}^2}{\vec{q}^2 + m_{\sigma}^2} \left[ -1 - \frac{\vec{L} \cdot \vec{S}}{2M^2} \right]$$

intermediate-ranged,  
attractive central force  
plus LS force

$\omega(782)$

$$V_{\omega} \approx \frac{g_{\omega}^2}{\vec{q}^2 + m_{\omega}^2} \left[ +1 - 3 \frac{\vec{L} \cdot \vec{S}}{2M^2} \right]$$

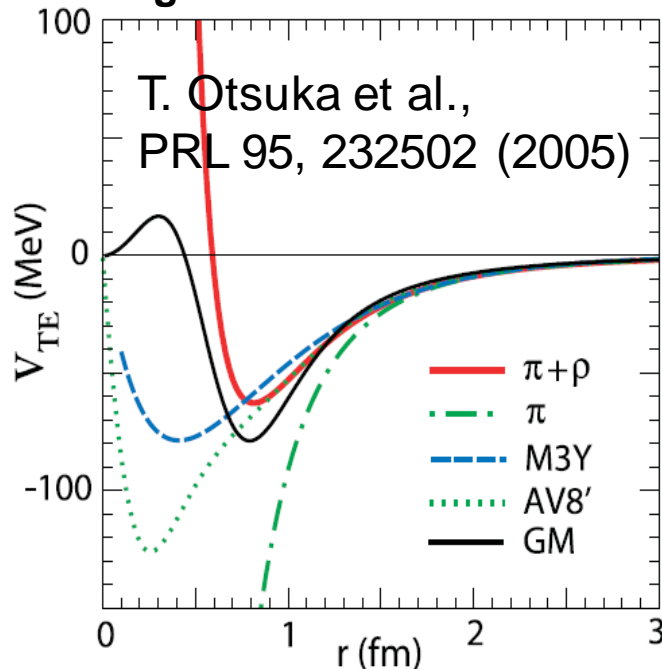
short-ranged,  
repulsive central force  
plus strong LS force

$\rho(770)$

$$V_{\rho} = \frac{f_{\rho}^2}{12M^2} \frac{\vec{q}^2}{\vec{q}^2 + m_{\rho}^2} \left[ -2\vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot \vec{\sigma}_2 + S_{12}(\hat{q}) \right] \vec{r}_1 \cdot \vec{r}_2$$

short-ranged  
tensor force,  
opposite to pion

## Strength of the tensor force



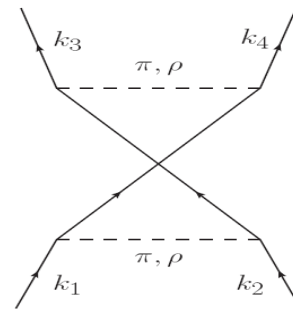
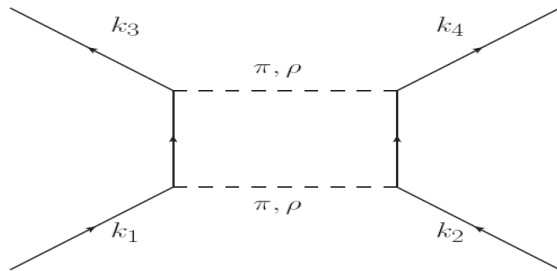
## 2<sup>nd</sup> order tensor force contribution to the potential part of symmetry energy

G.E. Brown and R. Machleidt, Phys. Rev. C50, 1731 (1994).

S.-O. Bacnman, G.E. Brown and J.A. Niskanen, Phys. Rep. 124, 1 (1985).

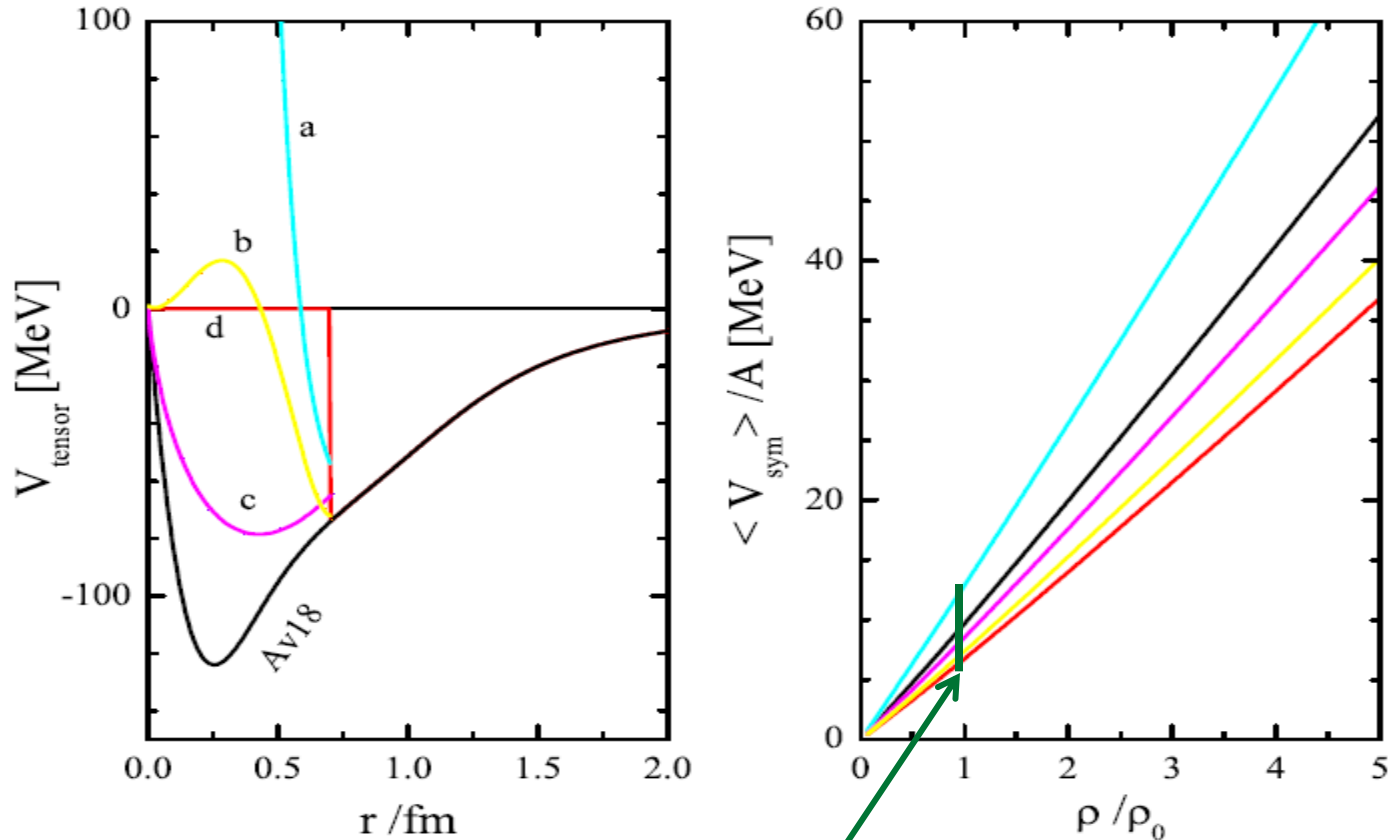
T.T.S. Kuo and G.E. Brown, Phys. Lett. 18, 54 (1965)

$$\langle V_{\text{sym}} \rangle = \frac{12}{e_{\text{eff}}} \langle [V_t(\mathbf{r})]^2 \rangle$$



$$\frac{\langle V_{\text{sym}} \rangle}{A} = \frac{12}{e_{\text{eff}}} \cdot \frac{k_F^3}{12\pi^2} \left\{ \frac{1}{4} \int V_t^2(r) d^3r - \frac{1}{16} \int \left[ \frac{3j_1(k_F r)}{k_F r} \right]^2 V_t^2(r) d^3r \right\}$$

Short-range tensor forces affects the high-density symmetry energy

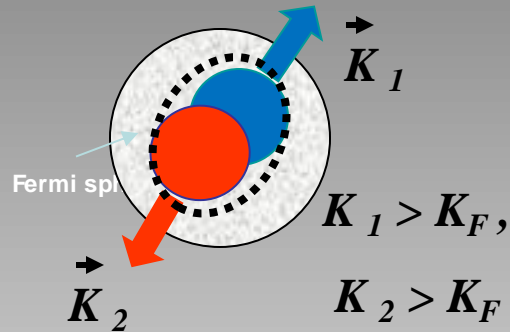


At saturation density, the 2nd order potential contribution due to the tensor force is about 7-14 MeV, it is 9 MeV with Av18

# What are the Short Range Correlations (SRC) in nuclei ?

(Modified from a slide by Eli Piasezky)

## In momentum space:



High momentum tail (HMT):  $(1.3 - 2.5)K_F$

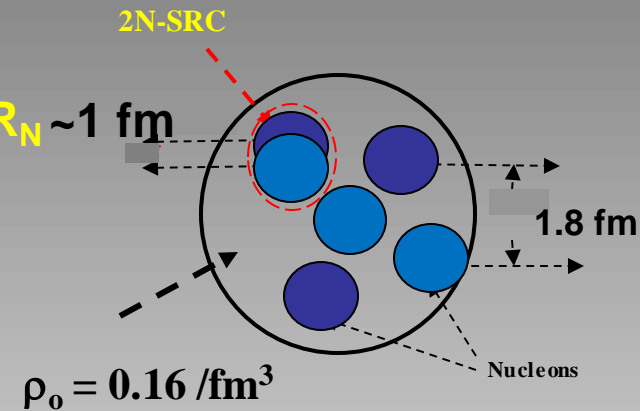
Nucleon pairs with large relative momenta and small CM momenta

## In isospin space:

Dominated by the isosinglet ( $T=0$ ) neutron-proton pairs

SRC  $\sim R_N \sim 1$  fm

## In coordinate space:



**Short Range Correlated pairs:**  
temporal fluctuations of strongly interacting nucleon pairs in close proximity

# Effects of the tensor force in T=0 neutron-proton interaction channel

(1) high-momentum tail in nucleon momentum distribution

(2) isospin dependence of short-range correlation (SRC) in neutron-rich matter

H.A. Bethe

Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci., 21, 93-244 (1971)

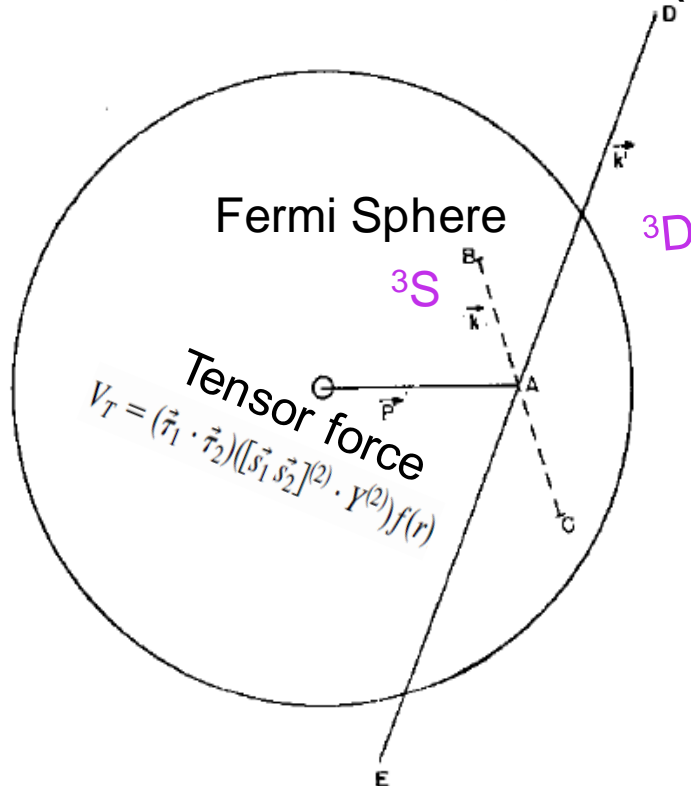
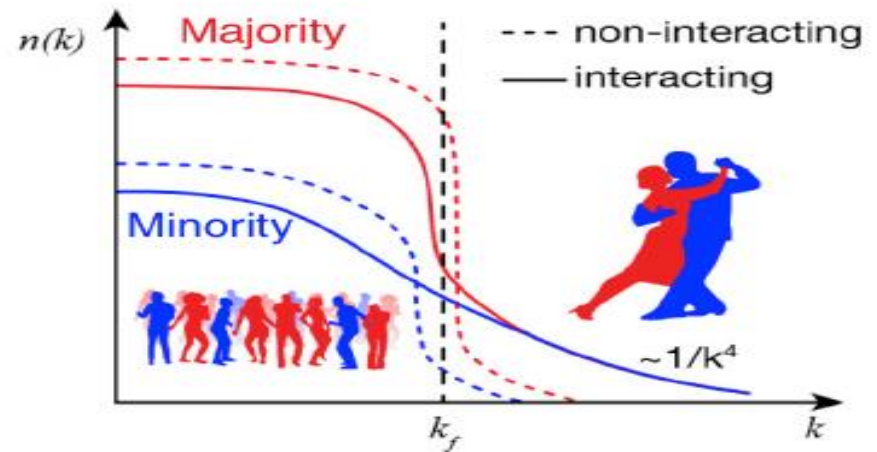
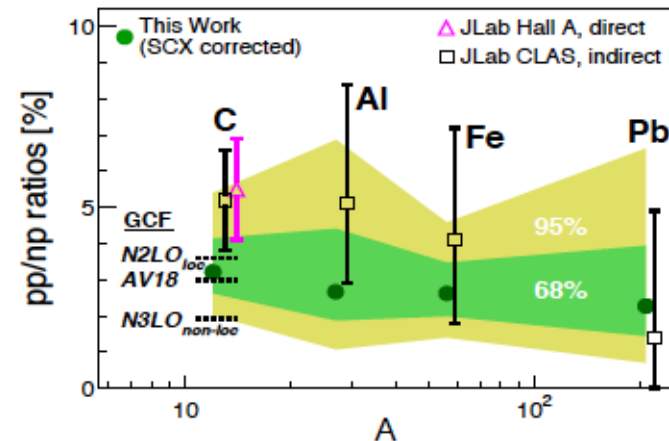


FIGURE 10. Two nucleons are initially in states B and C, having average momentum  $\vec{P}$  and relative momentum  $\vec{k}$ . When they interact they are shifted to states D and E outside the Fermi sphere, with relative momentum  $\vec{k}'$ . If they are initially in a  ${}^3S$  state and interact by tensor force, then they are in a  ${}^3D_1$  state in DE.

O. Hen et al. (Jlab CLAS collaboration),  
Science 346, 614 (2014)

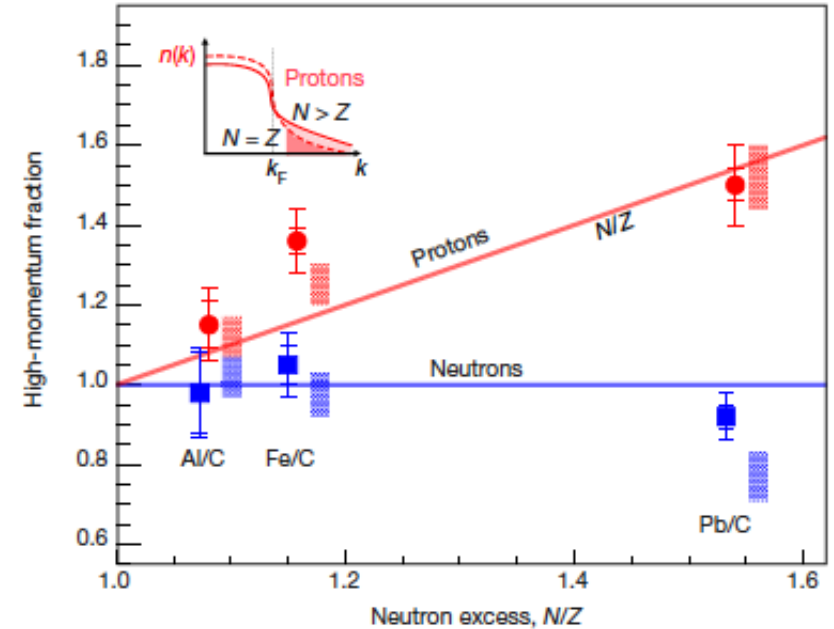
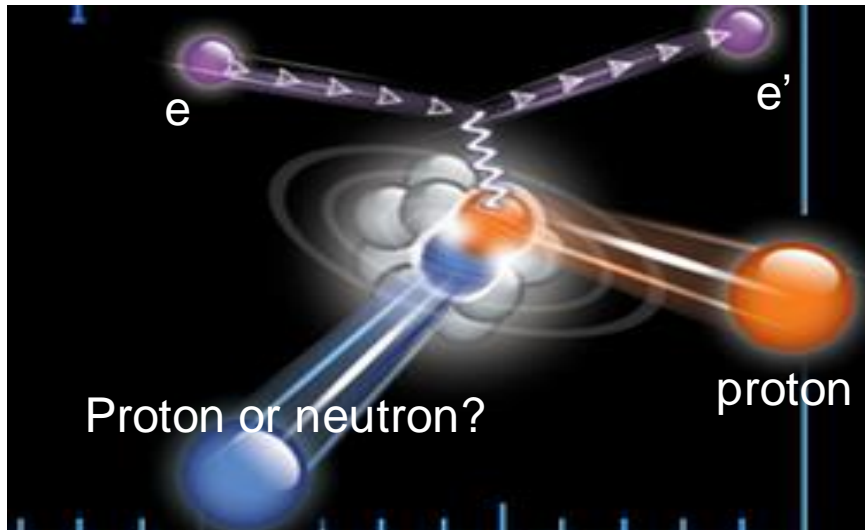


M. Duer et al., PRL 122, 172502 (2019).

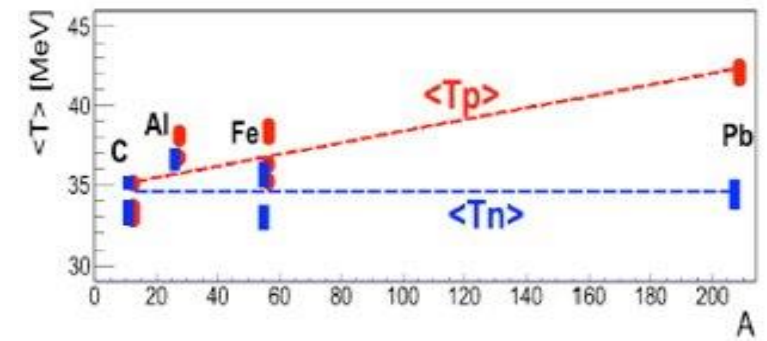
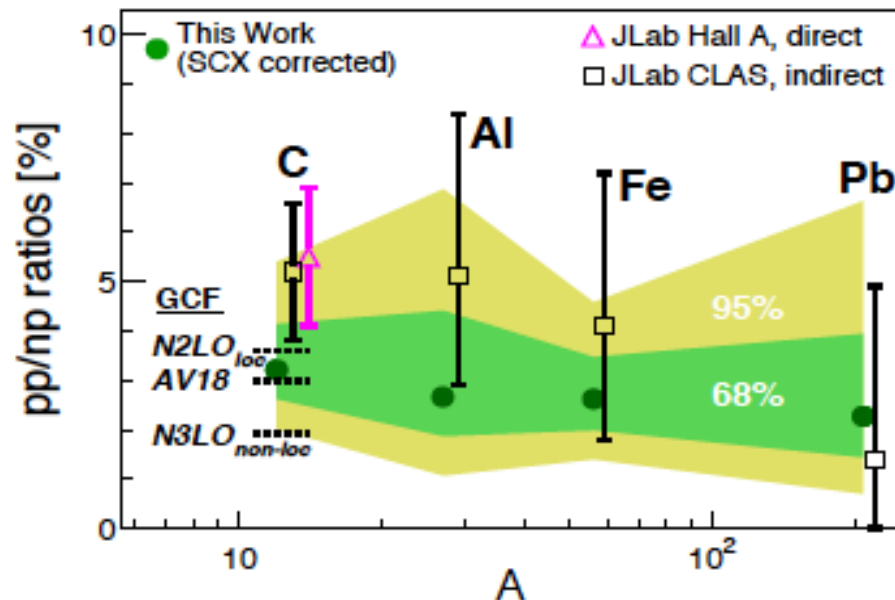




# Experimental evidence of isospin-dependent nucleon momentum distribution: Deformed-Fermi distributions in neutron-rich matter



M. Duer et al., Nature 560, 617 (2018).

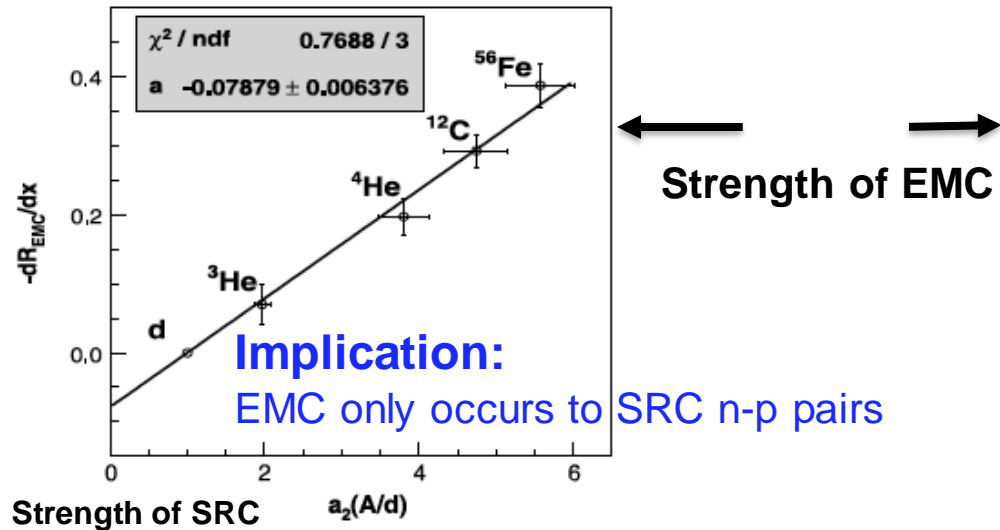


M. Duer et al., PRL 122, 172502 (2019).

# Connections with experiments at LHC/RHIC, JLAB and EIC

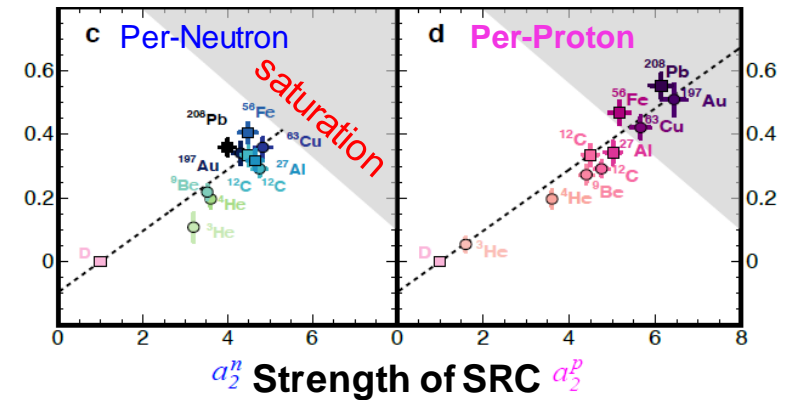
**Relationship between the SRC and EMC effect**  
L.B. Weinstein et al., PRL 106, 052301 (2011)

**EMC:** Medium modifications of nucleon structure function in nuclei w.r.t free nucleons



**Modified Structure of Protons and Neutrons in Correlated Pairs**  
Nature 566, 354 (2019)

B. Schmookler, M. Duer, A. Schmidt, O. Hen, S. Gilad, E. Piasetzky, M. Strikman, L.B. Weinstein et al. (The CLAS Collaboration)



**Implications:**  
In n-rich nuclei, a larger fraction of protons in the SRC  
→ the structure function of protons modified more  
→ Momentum distribution of u quarks modified more

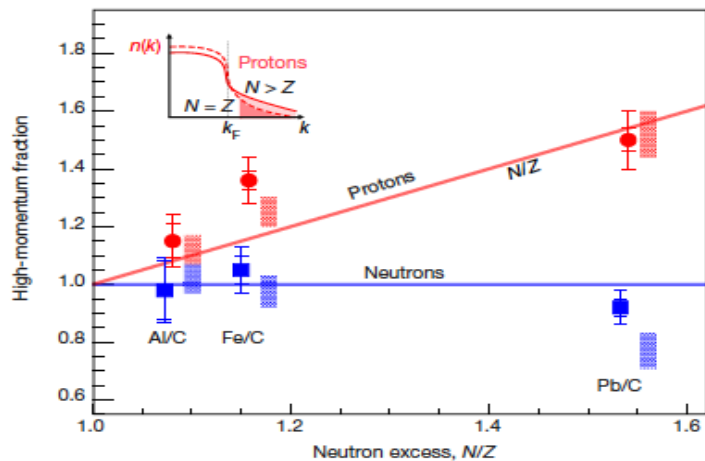
**QCD-based model for the isospin dependence of SRC & EMC:**

bound [ud] diquark formation in overlapping n-p pairs

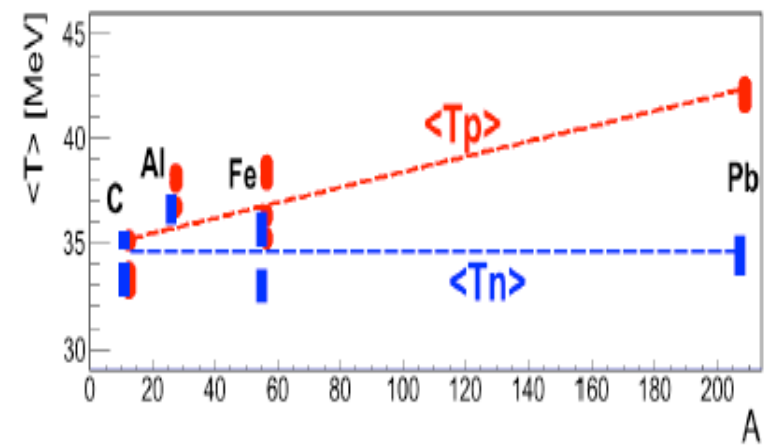
Jennifer West, NPA 1029 (2023) 122563

Diquark	Binding Energy (MeV)	Mass (MeV)	Isospin $I$	Spin $S$
[ud]	$148 \pm 9$	$578 \pm 11$	0	0
(ud)	0	$776 \pm 11$	1	1
(uu)	0	$776 \pm 11$	1	1
(dd)	0	$776 \pm 11$	1	1

$p - n : |[ud]u\rangle |[ud]d\rangle$   
 $p - p : |[ud]u\rangle |[ud]u\rangle$   
 $n - n : |[ud]d\rangle |[ud]d\rangle$

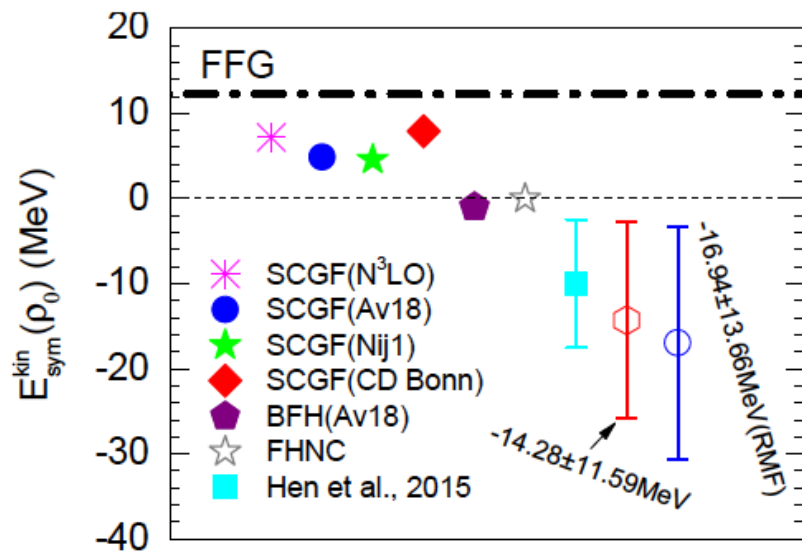


M. Duer et al., Nature 560, 617 (2018).



O. Hen et al., Science 346, 614 (2014)

### Reduced Kinetic symmetry energy wrt free Fermi gas (FFG)

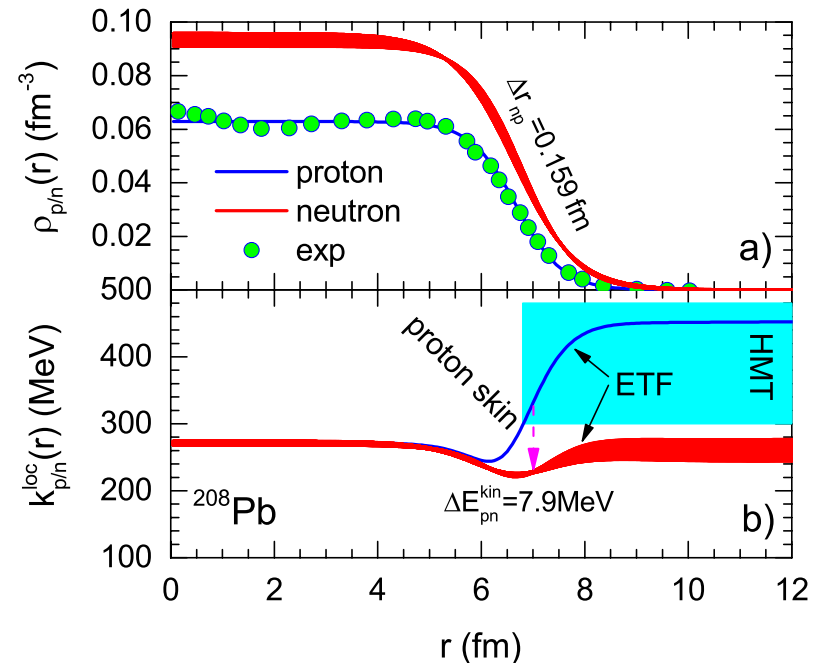


Chang Xu, Ang Li and Bao-An Li, JPCS 420, 012190 (2013).

O. Hen, B.A. Li, W.J. Guo, L.B. Weinstein, E. Piasetzky, Phys. Rev. C 91 (2015) 025803.

B.J. Cai, B.A. Li, Phys. Rev. C 92 (2015) 011601(R).

### Protons move faster than neutrons in n-skin



B.J. Cai, B.A. Li and L.W. Chen, PRC 94, 061302 (R) (2016)

# Effects of isospin-dependent SRC on the kinetic symmetry energy of quasi-nucleons

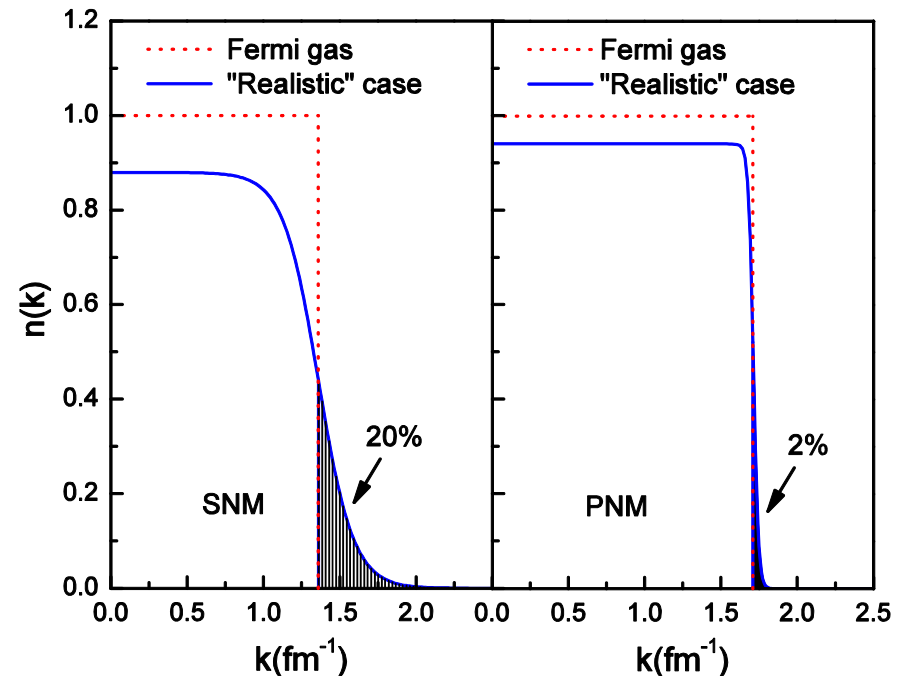
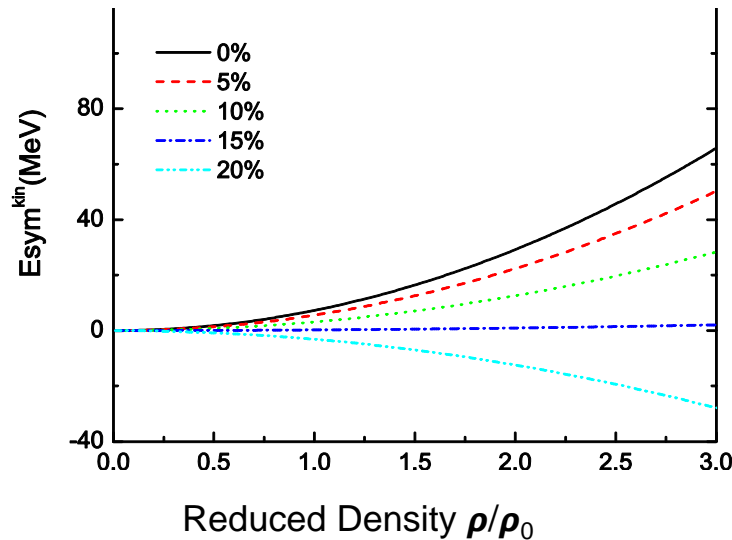
Chang Xu, Ang Li and Bao-An Li,  
JPCS 420, 012190 (2013).

**Free-Fermi Gas (FFG):**  
kinetic  $E_{\text{sym}} = 12.3 \text{ MeV}$  at  $\rho_0$

$$E_{\text{kin}} = \alpha \int_0^\infty \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} n(k) k^2 dk,$$

$$E_{\text{sym}}^{\text{kin}} = E_{\text{PNM}}^{\text{kin}} - E_{\text{SNM}}^{\text{kin}} < 0$$

if more than 15% nucleons are in the high-momentum tail of SNM due to the tensor force for n-p T=0 channel, the kinetic symmetry energy becomes negative



# Confirmation by Microscopic Many-Body Theories

1. [Isaac Vidana](#), [Artur Polls](#), [Constancia Providencia](#)

*PRC84, 062801(R) (2011)*

Brueckner--Hartree--Fock approach using the Argonne V18 potential plus the Urbana IX three-body force

2. [Arianna Carbone](#), [Artur Polls](#), [Arnau Rios](#), *EPL* 97, 22001 (2012)

A. Carbone, A. Polls, C. Providência, A. Rios, I. Vidaña, *EPJA* 50, 13 (2014)

Self-Consistent Green's Function Approach with Argonne Av18, CDBonn, Nij1, N3LO interactions

3. [Alessandro Lovato](#), [Omar Benhar](#) et al.,  
extracted from results already published in  
*Phys. Rev. C* 83:054003, 2011

Using Argonne  $V'_6$  interaction

Fermi-Hyper-Netted-Chain (FHNC)

Single Operator Chains (SOC)

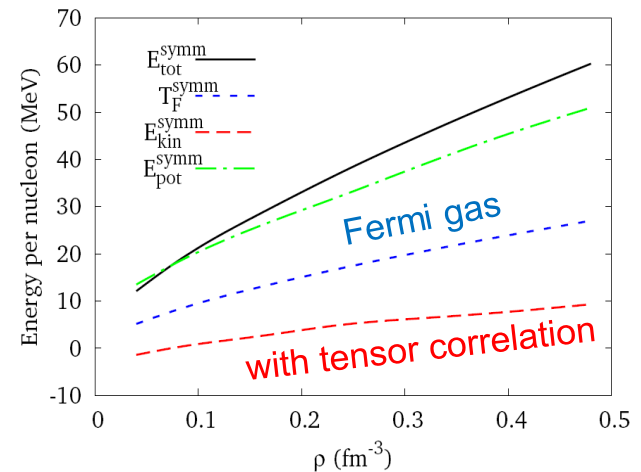
4. [A. Rios](#), [A. Polls](#), [W. H. Dickhoff](#)

*PRC* 89, 044303 (2014).

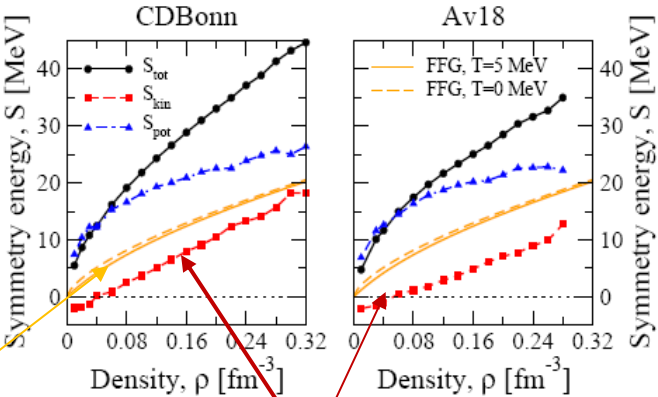
Ladder Self-Consistent Green Function

They all included the tensor force and many-body correlations using different techniques

## Brueckner--Hartree—Fock prediction



# Self-Consistent Green's Function Approach (A. Rios et al.)



Actual kinetic symmetry E

At saturation density, the Free Fermi Gas (FFG) model prediction is about 12.5 MeV

	$S_{\text{tot}}$ [MeV]	$S_{\text{kin}}$ [MeV]	$S_{\text{pot}}$ [MeV]	$L$ [MeV]
Av18	25.1	4.9	20.2	37.7
Nij1	27.4	4.6	22.8	48.5
CDBonn	28.8	7.9	20.9	52.6
N3LO	29.7	7.2	22.4	55.2

Brueckner–Hartree–Fock approach (I. Vidana et al.)

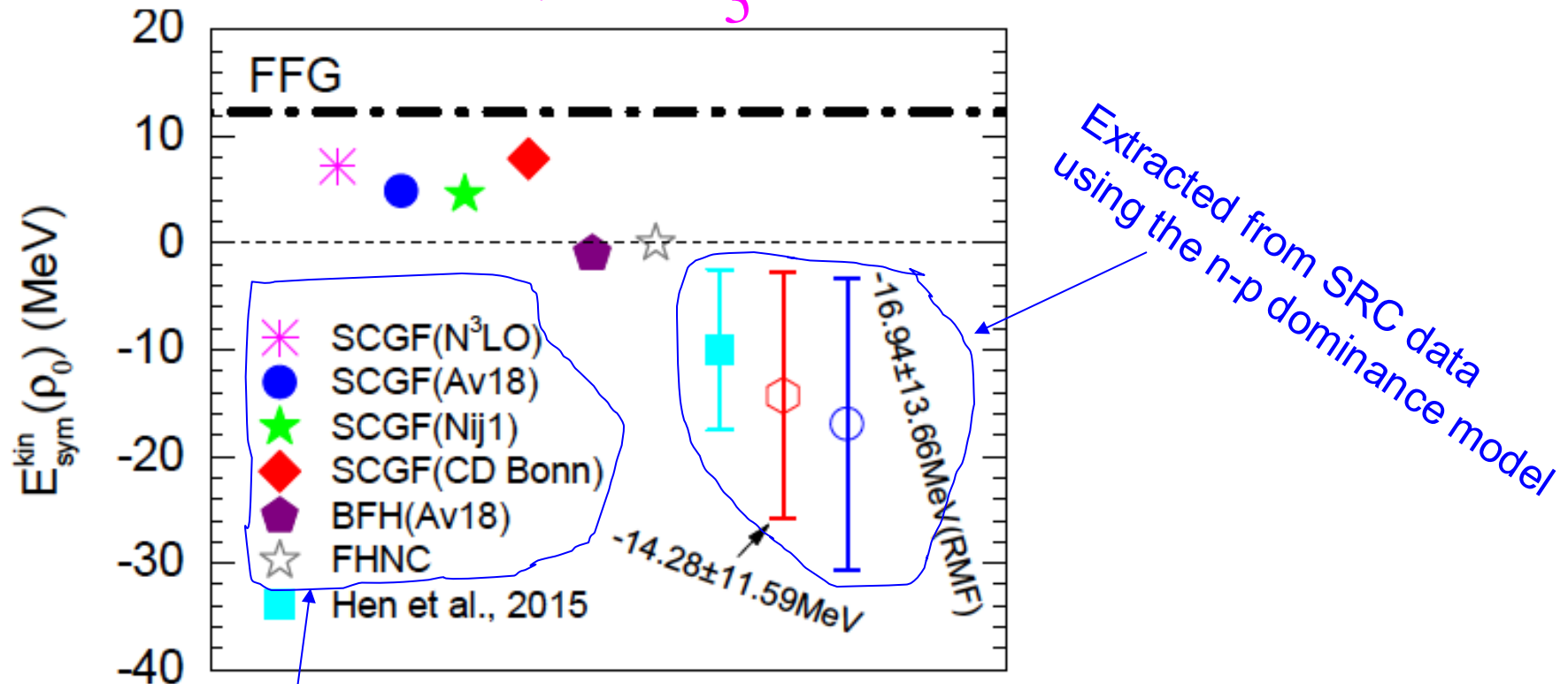
Using the Hellmann–Feynman theorem

V18 potential plus the Urbana IX three-body force.

	$E_{NM}$	$E_{SM}$	$E_{sym}$	$L$
$\langle T \rangle$	53.321	54.294	-0.973	14.896
$\langle V \rangle$	-34.251	-69.524	35.273	51.604
Total	19.070	-15.230	34.300	66.500

# Reduced Kinetic symmetry energy of quasi-nucleons due to the isospin dependence of SRC

Free-Fermi Gas (FFG):  $E_{sym}^{kin}(r) = \frac{1}{3} E_F(r_0) (r/r_0)^{2/3} \gg 12.5 \text{ MeV at } r_0$



O. Hen, B.A. Li, W.J. Guo, L.B. Weinstein, E. Piasetzky, Phys. Rev. C 91 (2015) 025803.

B.A. Li, W.J. Guo, Z.Z. Shi, Phys. Rev. C 91 (2015) 044601.

Microscopic Many-Body Theories with SRC

B.J. Cai, B.A. Li, Phys. Rev. C 92 (2015) 011601(R).

# Mass measurements show slowdown of rapid proton capture process at waiting-point nucleus $^{64}\text{Ge}$

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X. Zhou<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Wang<sup>1,2</sup> , Y. H. Zhang<sup>1,2</sup> , Yu. A. Litvinov<sup>1,3</sup> , Z. Meisel<sup>4</sup>, K. Blaum<sup>5</sup>, X. H. Zhou<sup>1,2</sup>, S. Q. Hou<sup>1,2,6</sup>, K. A. Li<sup>1</sup>, H. S. Xu<sup>1,2</sup>, R. J. Chen<sup>1,3</sup>, H. Y. Deng<sup>1,2</sup>, C. Y. Fu<sup>1</sup>, W. W. Ge<sup>1</sup>, J. J. He<sup>7</sup>, W. J. Huang<sup>1,8</sup>, H. Y. Jiao<sup>1,2</sup>, H. F. Li<sup>1,2</sup>, J. G. Li<sup>1</sup>, T. Liao<sup>1,2</sup>, S. A. Litvinov<sup>1,3</sup>, M. L. Liu<sup>1</sup>, Y. F. Niu<sup>9</sup>, P. Shuai<sup>1</sup>, J. Y. Shi<sup>1,2</sup>, Y. N. Song<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Z. Sun<sup>1</sup>, Q. Wang<sup>1,2</sup>, Y. M. Xing<sup>1</sup>, X. Xu<sup>1</sup>, F. R. Xu<sup>10</sup>, X. L. Yan<sup>1</sup>, J. C. Yang<sup>1,2</sup>, Y. Yu<sup>1,2</sup>, Q. Yuan<sup>10</sup>, Y. J. Yuan<sup>1,2</sup>, Q. Zeng<sup>11</sup>, M. Zhang<sup>1,2</sup> & S. Zhang<sup>10</sup>

Gravitational redshift

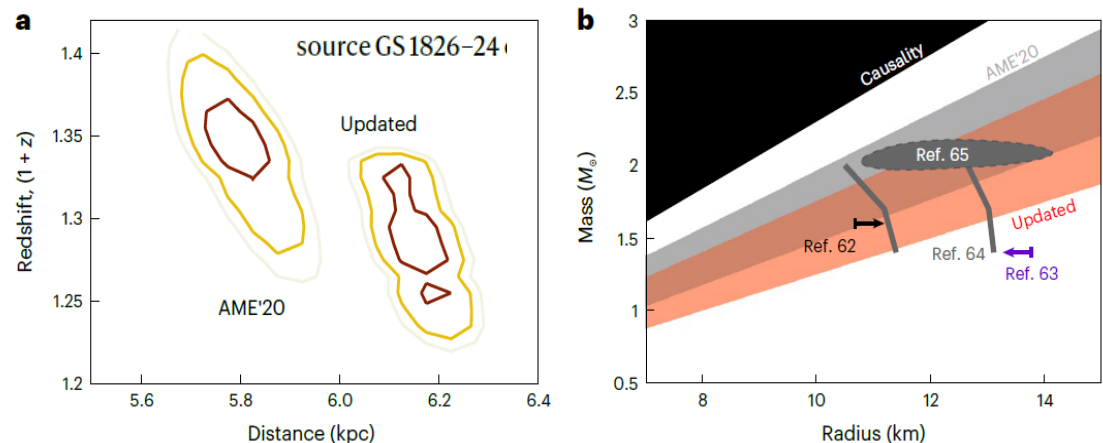
$$1 + z = (1 - 2\xi)^{-1/2}$$

Compactness

$$\xi = M_{\text{NS}}/R \text{ (adopting } c = G = 1)$$

Indication of the IMP exps: (95% CL):

NS compactness is about 0.244~0.342





# Central Speed of Sound, Trace Anomaly and Observables of Neutron Stars from Perturbative Analyses of Scaled TOV Equations

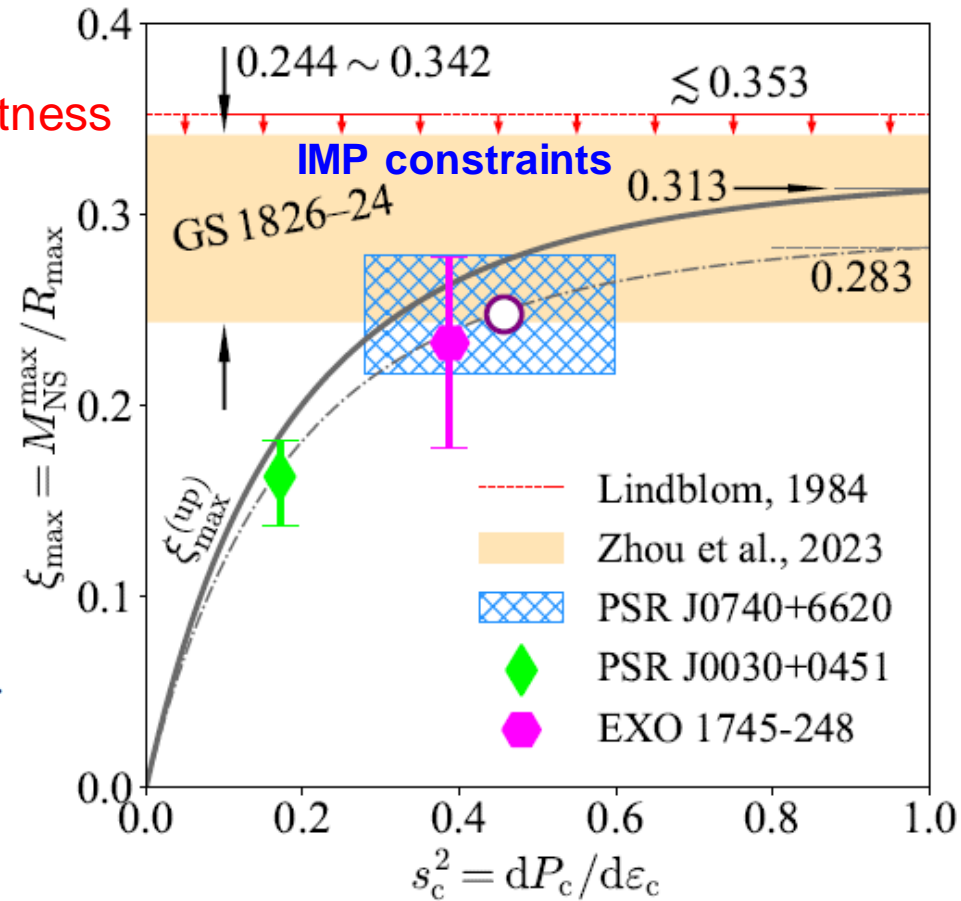
Bao-Jun Cai,<sup>1</sup> Bao-An Li,<sup>2</sup> and Zhen Zhang<sup>3</sup>

[arXiv:2307.15223](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.15223)

Previous upper limit on the compactness

Maximum compactness in neutron stars

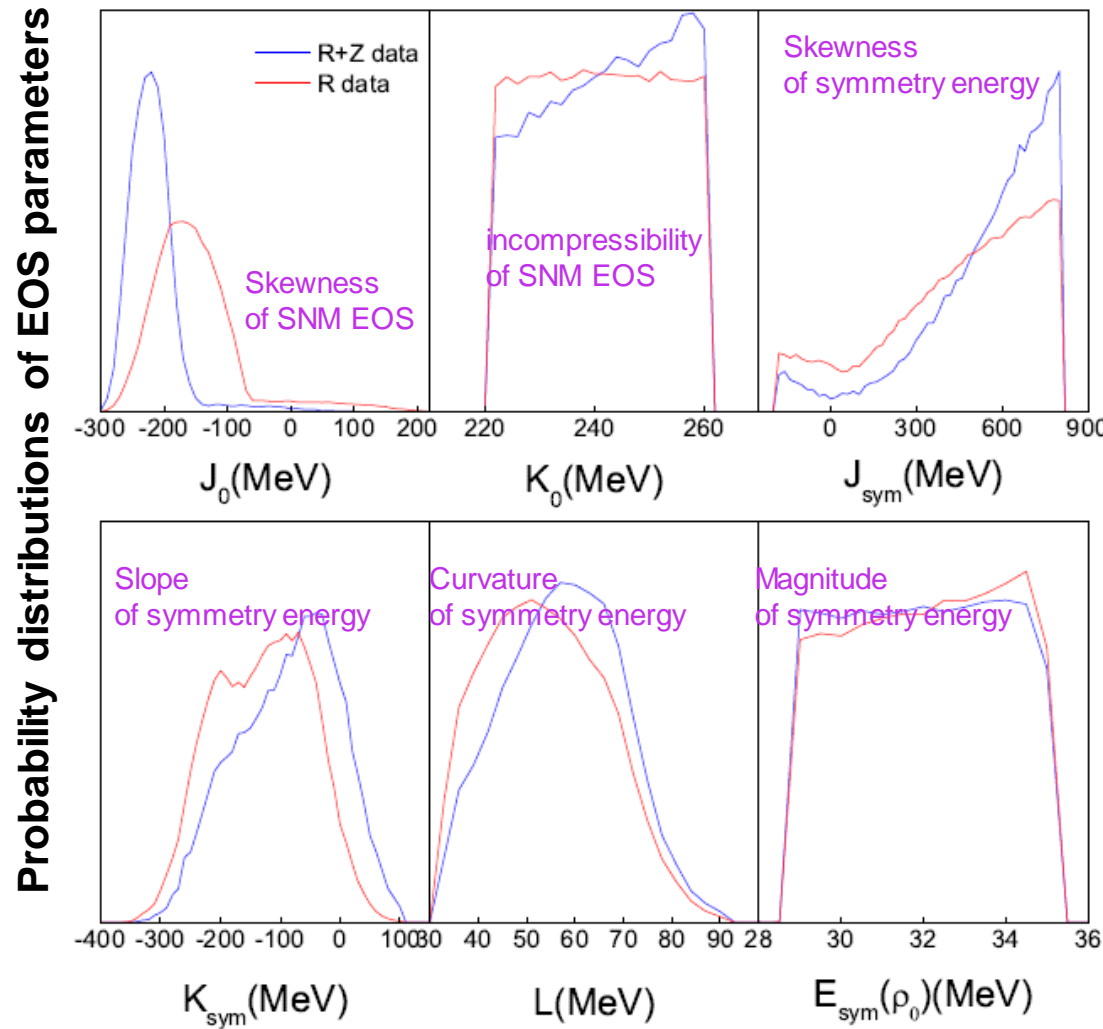
$$\xi_{\max} \leq \frac{0.173 \times 10^4 \Gamma_c}{1.05 \times 10^3 \nu_c} \left( \frac{M_\odot}{\text{km}} \right) \approx \frac{2.44 \hat{P}_c}{1 + 3\hat{P}_c^2 + 4\hat{P}_c} \equiv \xi_{\max}^{(\text{up})}.$$



Central speed of sound squared  
Stiffness of the core EOS

# Impact of IMP's new mass measurements for $^{63}\text{Ge}$ , $^{64,65}\text{As}$ and $^{66,67}\text{Se}$ on the Equation of State of dense neutron-rich matter

## Results of Bayesian analyses

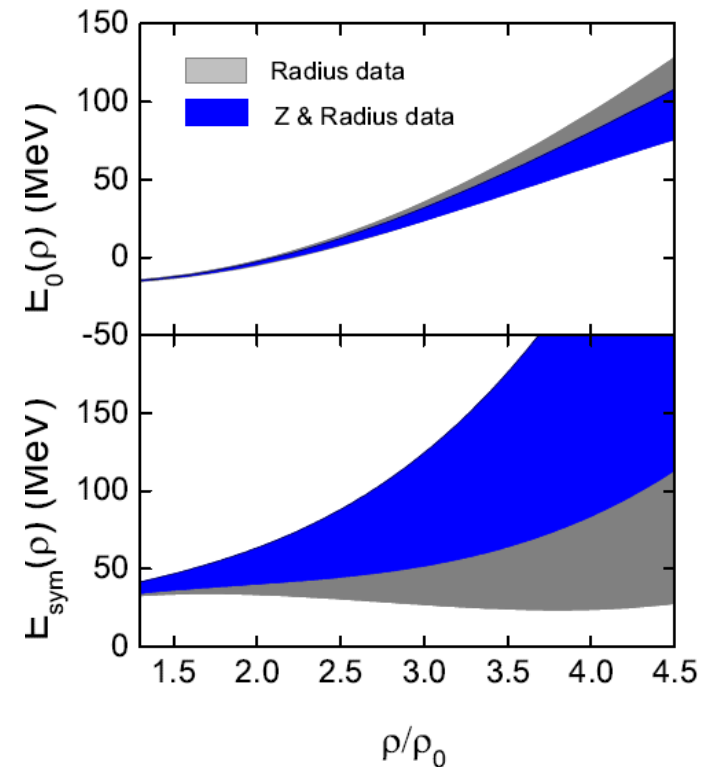


Indication of the IMP exp. (95% CL):

NS compactness is about 0.244~0.342

$$\xi = M_{\text{NS}}/R \text{ (adopting } c = G = 1)$$

**(1) Softens the EOS of symmetric nuclear matter (SNM)**



**(2) Stiffens the symmetry energy**

## **EOS of dense neutron-rich matter is a major scientific motivation of**

- (1) High-energy rare isotope beam facilities around the world**
- (2) Various x-ray satellites**
- (3) Various gravitational wave detectors**

### **Among the promising observables of high-density symmetry energy:**

- $\pi^-/\pi^+$  and n/p spectrum ratio, neutron-proton differential flow and correlation function in heavy-ion collisions at intermediate energies**
- Radii of neutron stars**
- Neutrino flux of supernova explosions**
- Tidal polarizability in neutron star mergers, strain amplitude of gravitational waves from deformed pulsars, frequency and damping time of neutron star oscillations**

B.A. Li, L.W. Chen and C.M. Ko, Phys. Rep. 464, 113 (2008)



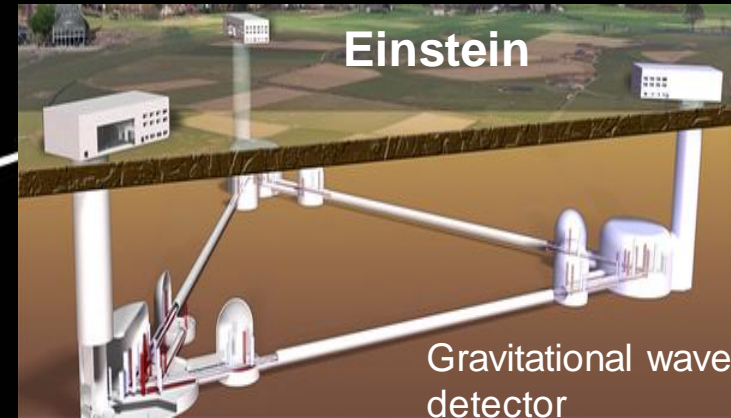
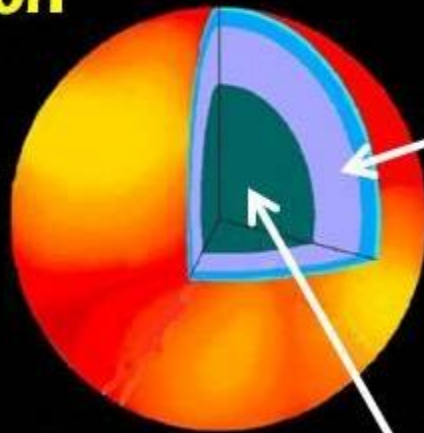
**Topical Issue on Nuclear Symmetry Energy**  
edited by Bao-An Li, Àngels Ramos,  
Giuseppe Verde and Isaac Vidaña

EPJA, Vol. 50, No. 2 (2014)

# From Earth to Heaven: multi-messengers of nuclear EOS

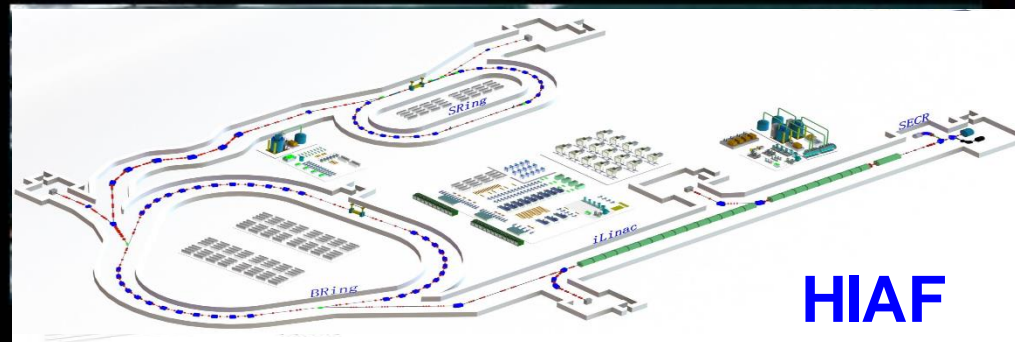
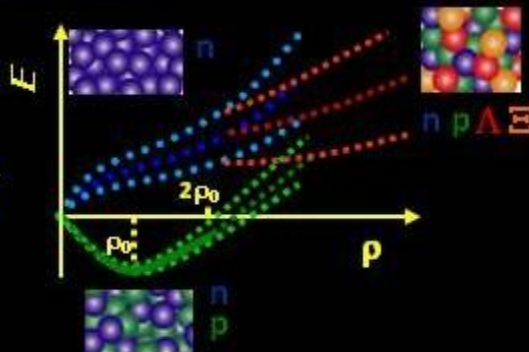
Truly **multi-messenger approach** to probe the EOS of dense neutron-rich matter  
= astrophysical observations + terrestrial experiments + theories + ...

ASTRO-~~X~~ Observation



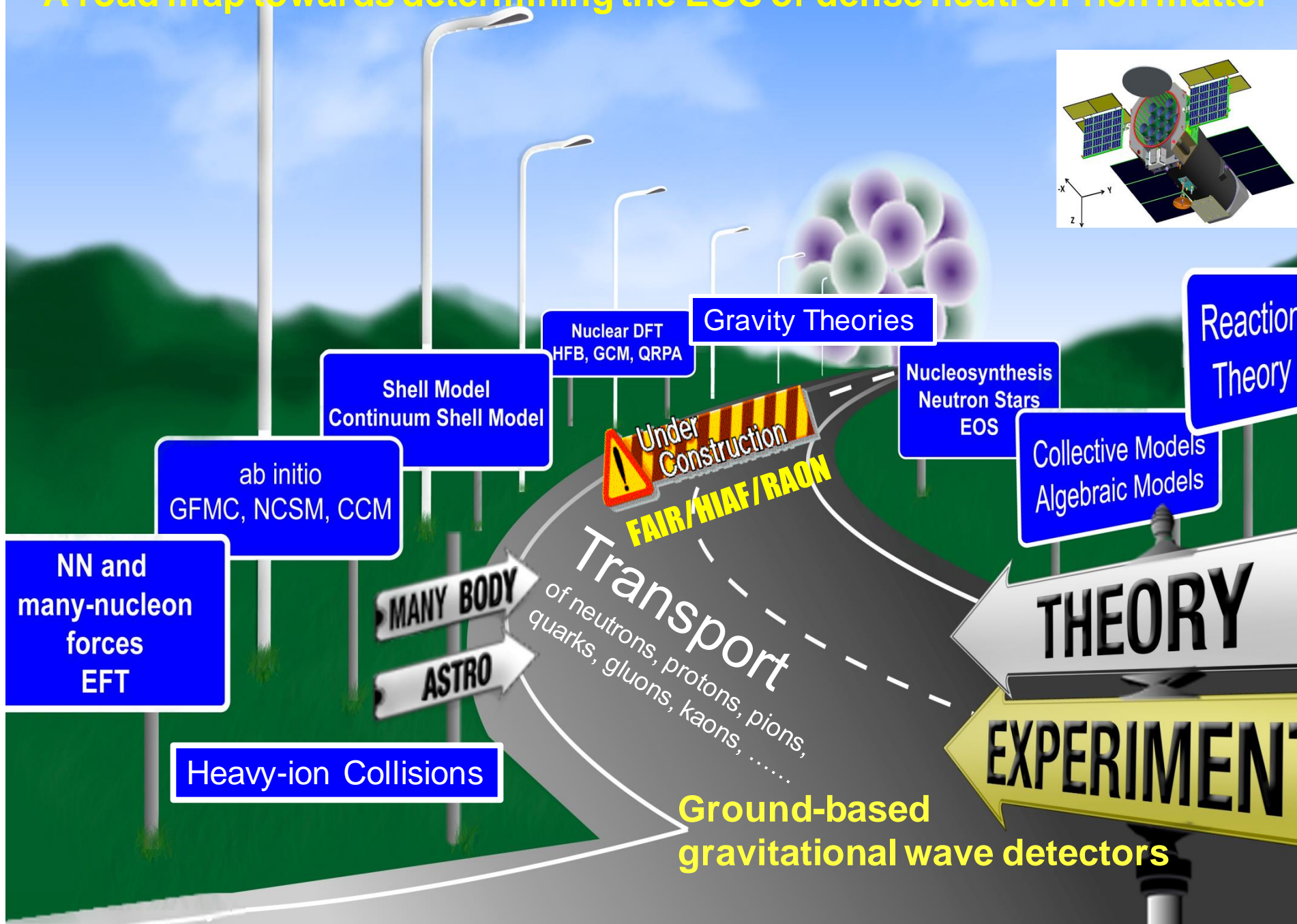
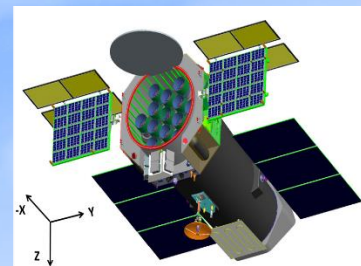
Experiments

EOS  
Theory





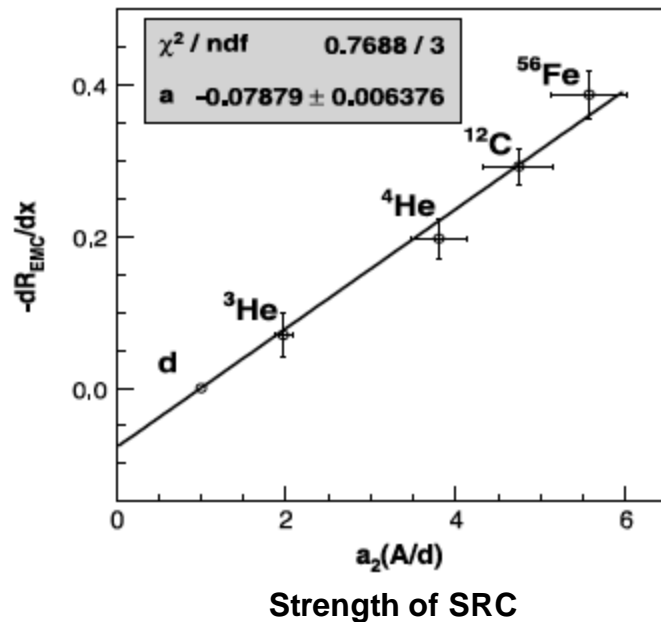
# A road map towards determining the EOS of dense neutron-rich matter



## Relationship between the SRC and EMC effect

L.B. Weinstein et al., PRL 106, 052301 (2011)

**EMC:** Medium modifications of the momentum distribution of quarks in nuclei w.r.t free nucleons



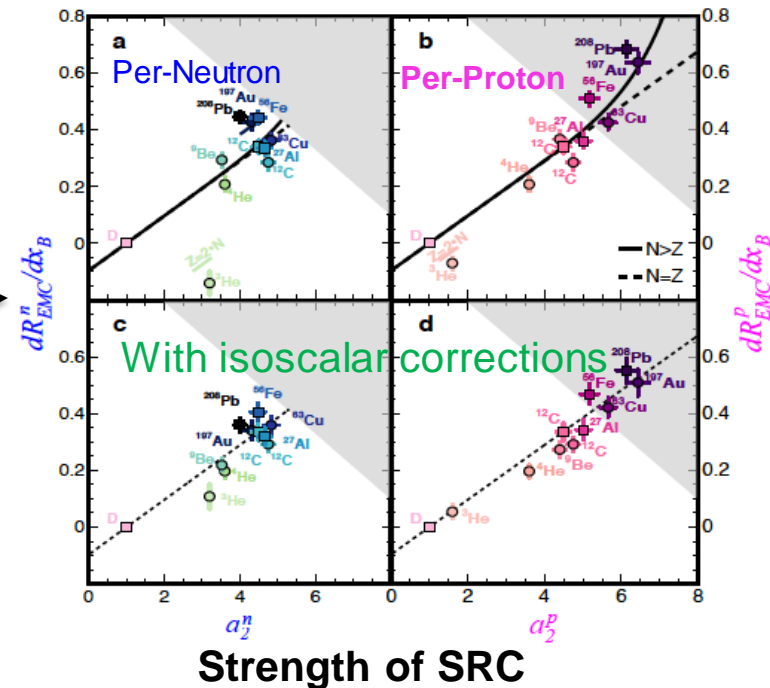
Strength of EMC

## Modified Structure of Protons and Neutrons in Correlated Pairs

Nature 566, 354 (2019)

B. Schmookler, M. Duer, A. Schmidt, O. Hen, S. Gilad, E. Piasetzky, M. Strikman, L.B. Weinstein et al. (The CLAS Collaboration)

Scaled by **n** and **p** numbers



**Implication:** only the momentum distribution of quarks in SRC pairs are modified when a local temporal high-density is formed in nuclei

## Implications:

- In n-rich nuclei, a larger fraction of protons in the SRC
- the structure function of protons are modified more
- u quarks will be modified more
- DIS neutrino/antineutrino-nuclei interactions affected differently as they scatter primarily from d/u quark separately

# Modified Gogny Hartree-Fock energy density functional incorporating SRC-induced high momentum tail in the single nucleon momentum distribution

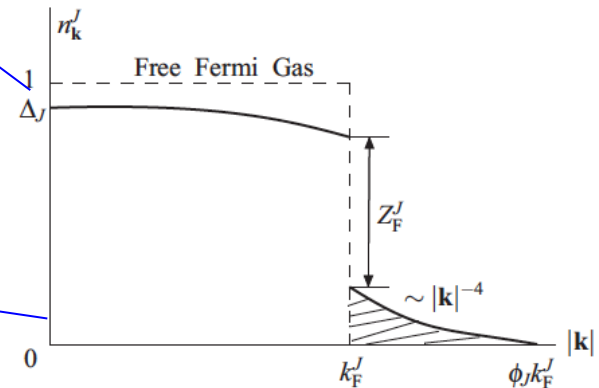
$$\begin{aligned}
 E(\rho, \delta) = & \text{Kinetic} + \text{Zero-range Two-body force} + \text{Three-body force} \\
 E(\rho, \delta) = & E^{\text{kin}}(\rho, \delta) + \frac{A_\ell(\rho_p^2 + \rho_n^2)}{2\rho\rho_0} + \frac{A_u\rho_p\rho_n}{\rho\rho_0} + \frac{B}{\sigma+1} \left(\frac{\rho}{\rho_0}\right)^\sigma (1-x\delta^2) \\
 & + \sum_{J,J'} \frac{C_{J,J'}}{\rho\rho_0} \int d\mathbf{k} d\mathbf{k}' f_J(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{k}) f_{J'}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{k}') \Omega(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}'), \quad \Omega(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') = \left[1 + \frac{(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}')^2}{\Lambda^2}\right]^{-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

Momentum-dependent potential energy due to finite-range 2-body interaction

[C. B. Das](#), [S. Das Gupta](#), [C. Gale](#), [Bao-An Li](#) Phys.Rev.C67:034611,2003

$$\int_0^{k_F^J} (\text{FFG step function}) f d\mathbf{k} \longrightarrow \int_0^{\phi_J k_F^J} n_{\mathbf{k}}^J (\text{HMT}) f d\mathbf{k}$$

$$E^{\text{kin}}(\rho, \delta) = \sum_{J=n,p} \frac{1}{\rho_J} \int_0^\infty \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{2M} n_{\mathbf{k}}^J(\rho, \delta) d\mathbf{k}$$

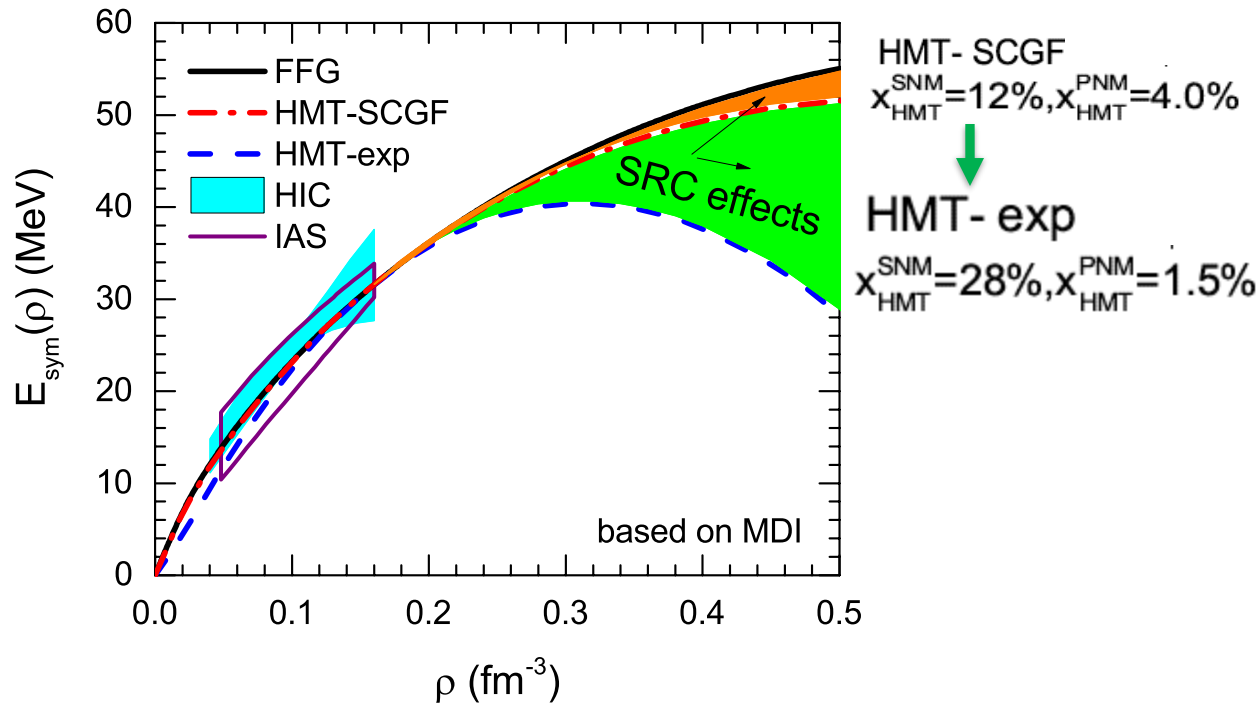


SRC-induced HMT in the single-nucleon momentum distribution affects both the kinetic energy and the momentum-dependent part of the potential energy



Readjusting model parameters to reproduce the same saturation properties of nuclear matter as well as  $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_0)=31.6$  MeV and  $L(\rho_0)=58.9$  MeV

**Consequence:** Symmetry energy gets softened at both low and high densities

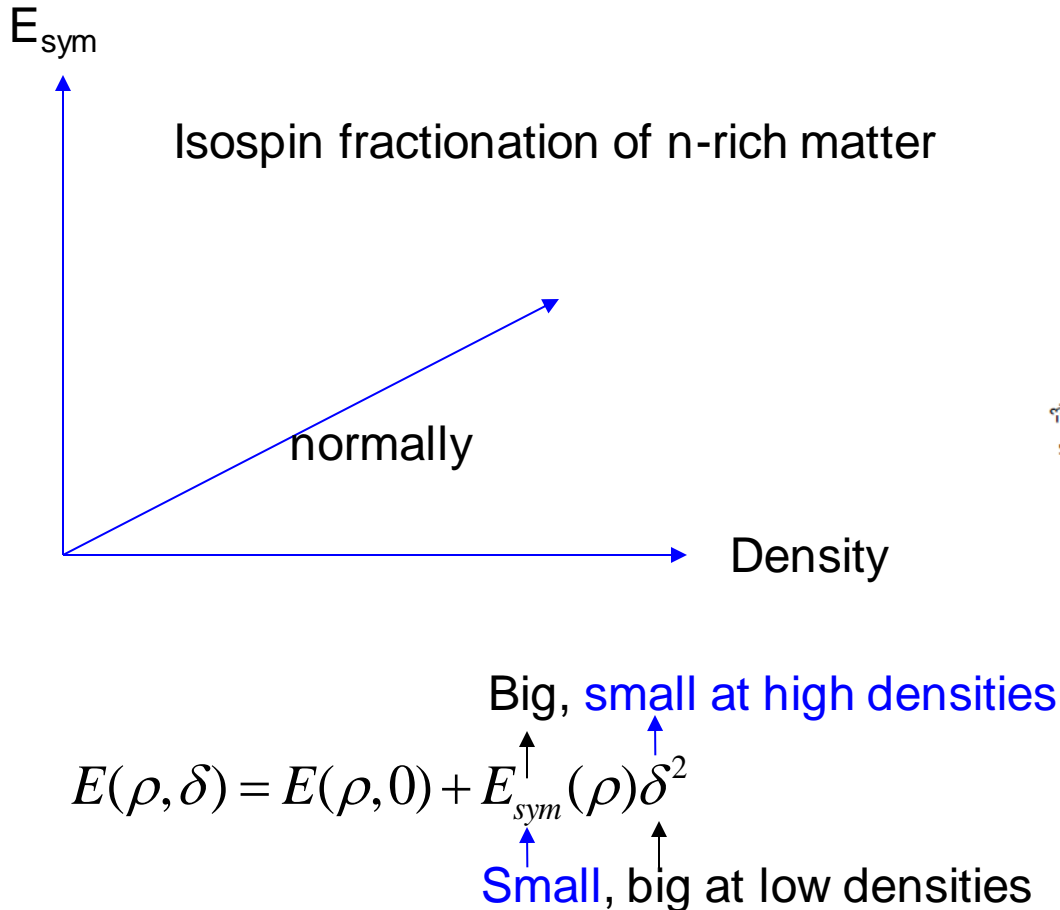


Bao-Jun Cai, Bao-An Li and Lie-Wen Chen,

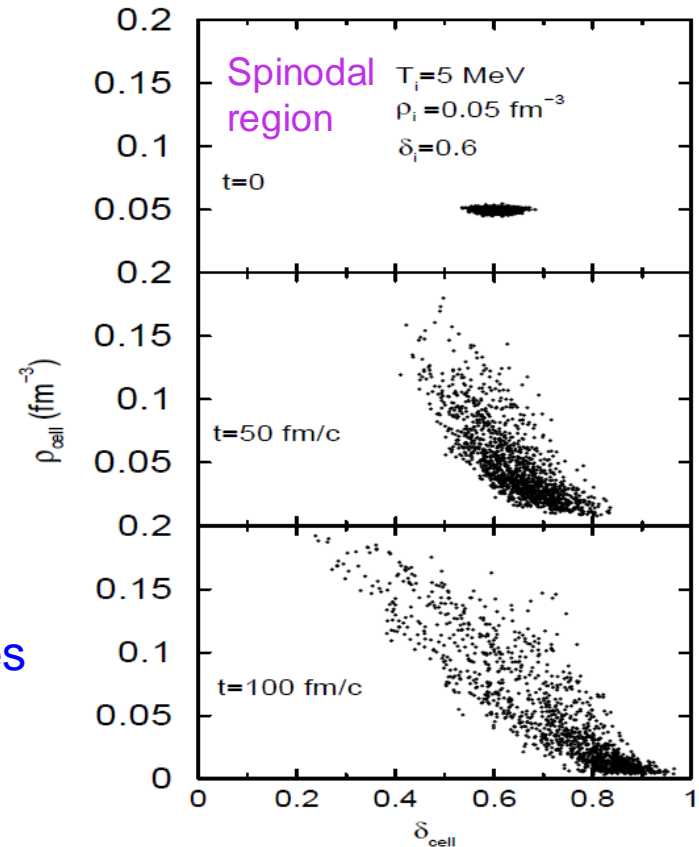
AIP Conference Proceedings 2038, 020041 (2018)

# Why there are neutron skins in heavy nuclei

To minimize the total energy



Transport model simulation of neutron-rich matter in a box



BA Li, AT Sustich, M Tilley, B Zhang  
PRC 64, 051303 (2001)

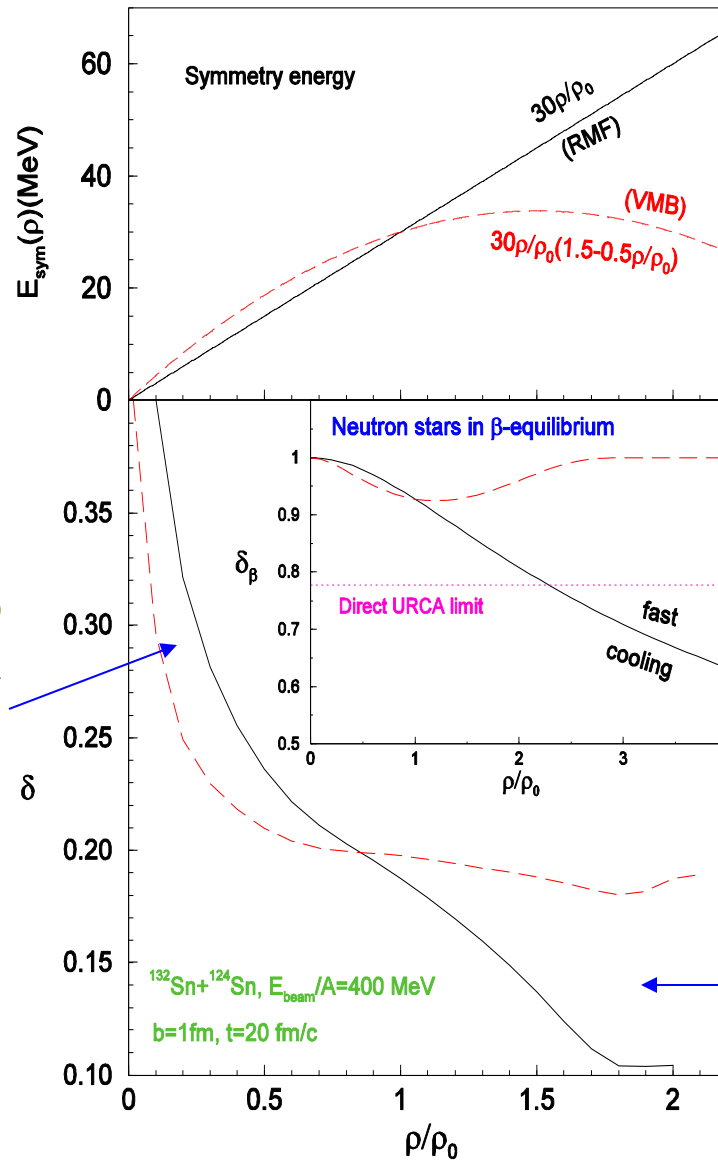
# Isospin fraction during heavy-ion reactions

$$E(\rho, \delta) = E(\rho, 0) + E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)\delta^2$$

high density region is more neutron-rich with soft symmetry energy

The density dependence of isospin asymmetry in neutron stars and heavy-ion reactions are similar

$\pi^-/\pi^+$  ratio at freeze-out and neutron-proton differential flow probing high-density  $E_{\text{sym}}$



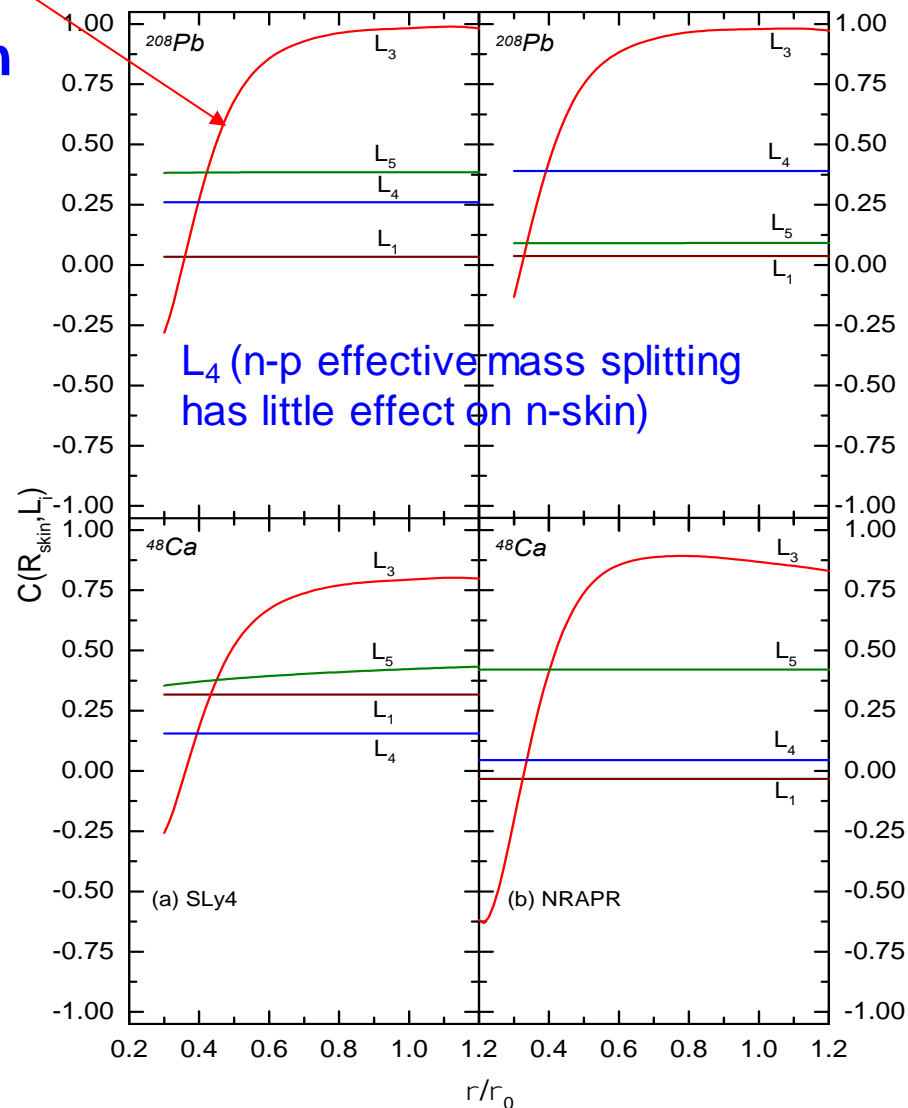
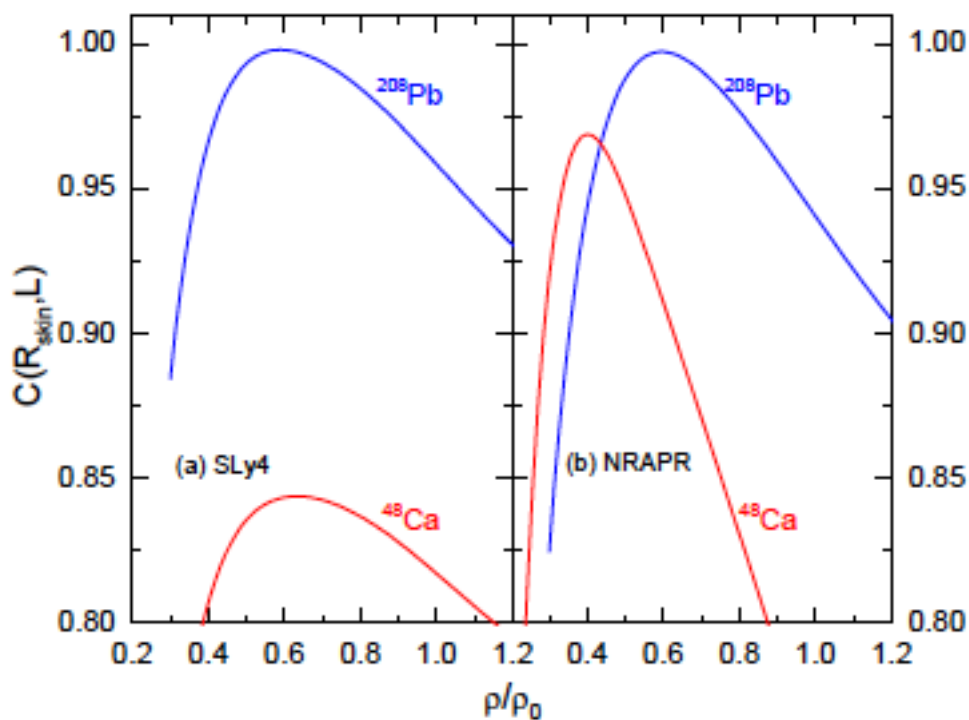
n/p spectrum ratio of pre-equilibrium emission probing neutron-proton effective mass splitting

$$E_{sym}(\rho) = \frac{1}{3} \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_0^*} \Big|_{k_F} + \frac{1}{2} U_{sym,1}(\rho, k_F),$$

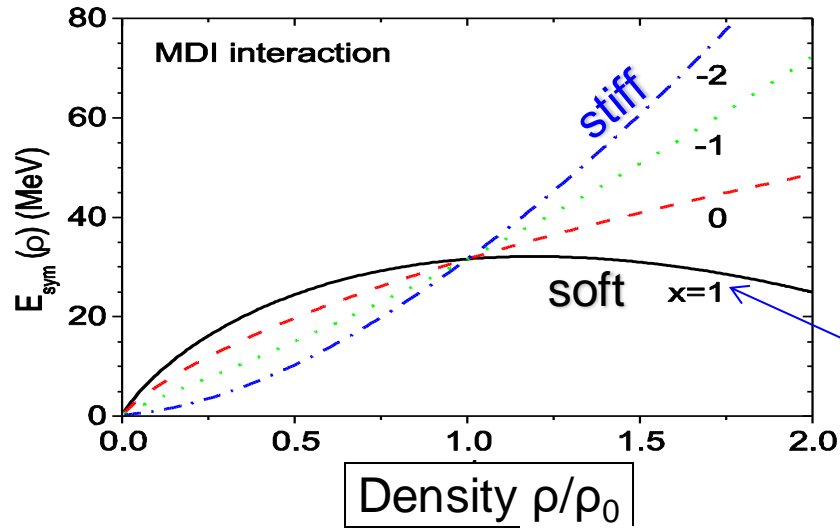
$$L(\rho) = \underbrace{\frac{2}{3} \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_0^*} \Big|_{k_F}}_{L_1} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{\hbar^2 k^3}{m_0^{*2}} \frac{\partial m_0^*}{\partial k} \right) \Big|_{k_F}}_{L_2} + \underbrace{\frac{3}{2} U_{sym,1}(\rho, k_F)}_{L_3} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial U_{sym,1}}{\partial k} \Big|_{k_F} \cdot k_F}_{L_4} + \underbrace{3U_{sym,2}(\rho, k_F)}_{L_5},$$

## Covariance analysis of the correlation between n-skin and $L_i(\rho)$

$$C(X, Y) = \frac{\langle (X - \langle X \rangle) (Y - \langle Y \rangle) \rangle}{\sqrt{\langle (X - \langle X \rangle)^2 \rangle \langle (Y - \langle Y \rangle)^2 \rangle}}$$



# Symmetry energy and single nucleon potential MDI used in the IBUU04 transport model



The  $x$  parameter is introduced to mimic various predictions on the symmetry energy by different microscopic nuclear many-body theories using different effective interactions. It is the coefficient of the 3-body force term

Default: Gogny force

Potential energy density

$$V(\rho, \delta) = \frac{A_1}{2\rho_0}\rho^2 + \frac{A_2}{2\rho_0}\rho^2\delta^2 + \frac{B}{\sigma+1}\frac{\rho^{\sigma+1}}{\rho_0^\sigma}(1 - x\delta^2) + \frac{1}{\rho_0} \sum_{\tau, \tau'} C_{\tau, \tau'} \int \int d^3p d^3p' \frac{f_\tau(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) f_{\tau'}(\vec{r}, \vec{p}')}{1 + (\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^2 / \Lambda^2}$$

Single nucleon potential within the HF approach using a modified Gogny force:

$$U(r, d, p, t, x) = A_u(x) \frac{r_{t'}}{r_0} + A_l(x) \frac{r_t}{r_0} + B \left( \frac{r}{r_0} \right)^\sigma (1 - x d^2) - 8 t x \frac{B}{\sigma+1} \frac{r^{\sigma-1}}{r_0^\sigma} d r_t + \frac{2C_{t,t}}{r_0} \int d^3p' \frac{f_t(r, p')}{1 + (p - p')^2 / \Lambda^2} + \frac{2C_{t,t'}}{r_0} \int d^3p' \frac{f_{t'}(r, p')}{1 + (p - p')^2 / \Lambda^2}$$

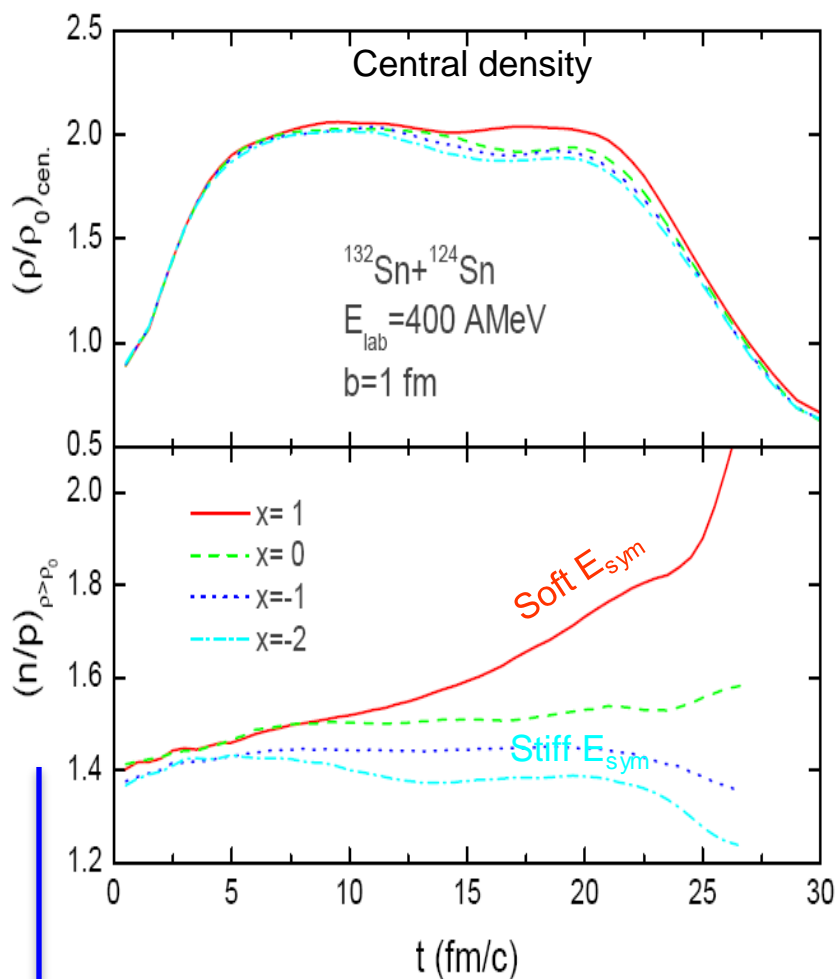
$$t, t' = \pm \frac{1}{2}, A_l(x) = -121 + \frac{2Bx}{\sigma+1}, A_u(x) = -96 - \frac{2Bx}{\sigma+1}, K_0 = 211 \text{ MeV}$$

C.B. Das, S. Das Gupta, C. Gale and B.A. Li, PRC 67, 034611 (2003).

B.A. Li, C.B. Das, S. Das Gupta and C. Gale, PRC 69, 034614; NPA 735, 563 (2004).

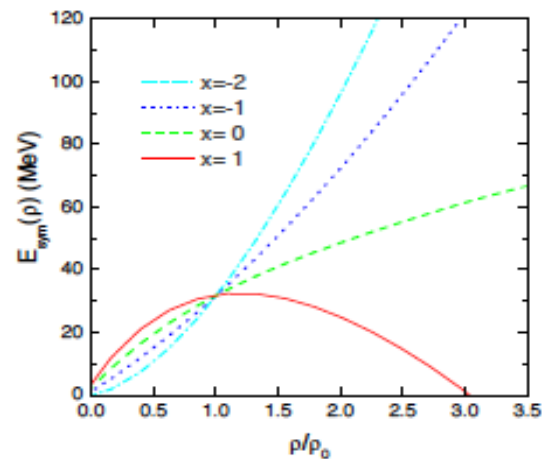
# Probing the symmetry energy at supra-saturation densities

$$E(\rho, \delta) = E(\rho, 0) + E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)\delta^2$$

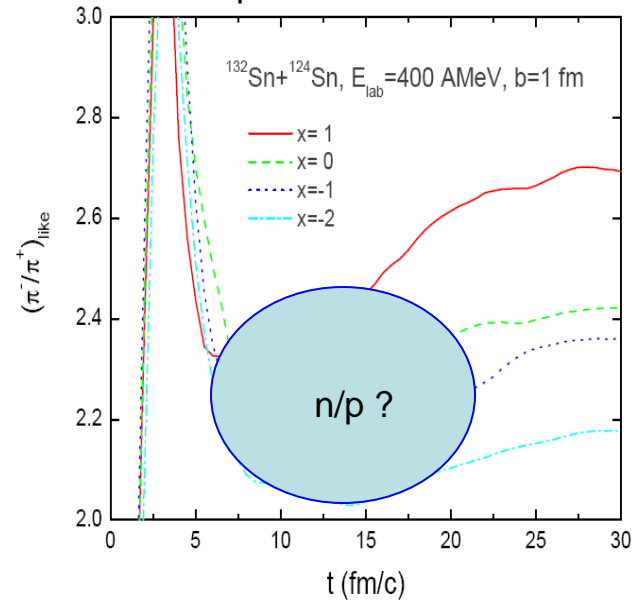


**n/p ratio at supra-saturation densities**

## Symmetry energy



## $\pi^-/\pi^+$ probe of dense matter

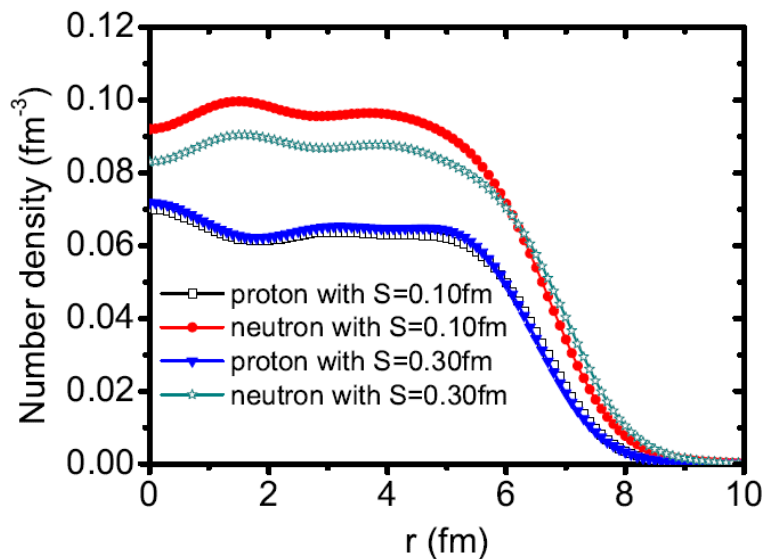


# Influence of neutron-skin thickness on $\pi^-/\pi^+$ ratio in Pb+Pb collisions

Gao-Feng Wei,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Bao-An Li,<sup>1,3,†</sup> Jun Xu,<sup>4,‡</sup> and Lie-Wen Chen<sup>5,6,§</sup>

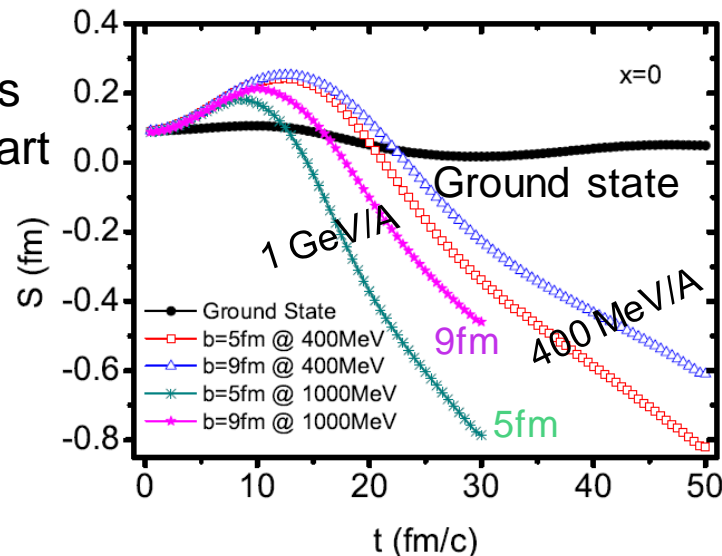
PRC 90 (2014), 014610

## n-skin from SHF for the initial state

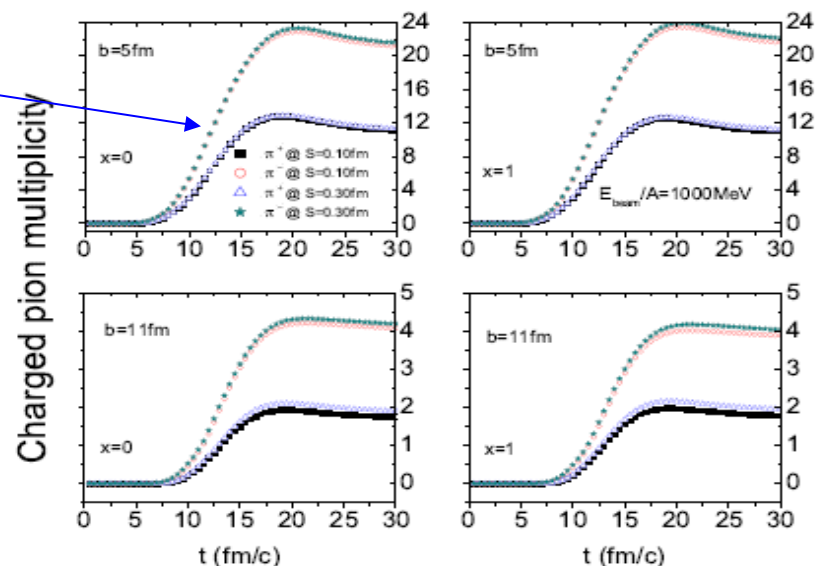


## n-sin of target/proj.-like nuclei during HIC

two surfaces  
are 3 fm apart  
at  $t=0$

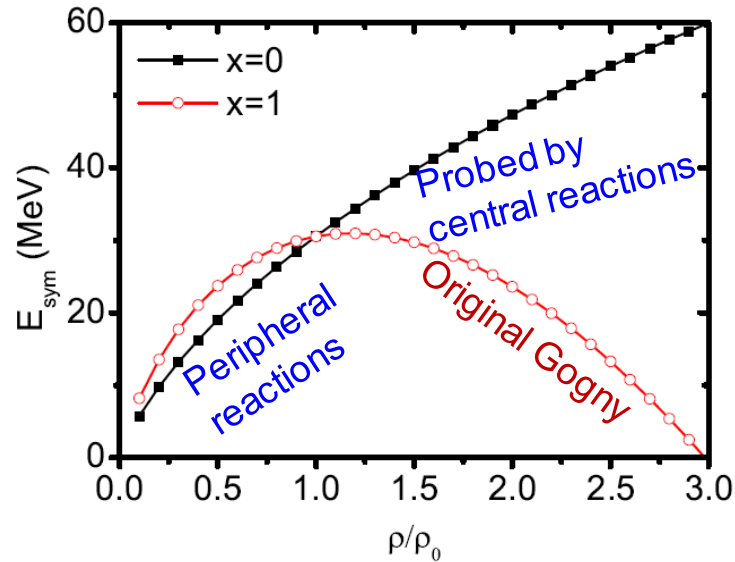


Negative pions are produced earlier  
from the overlapping neutron skins





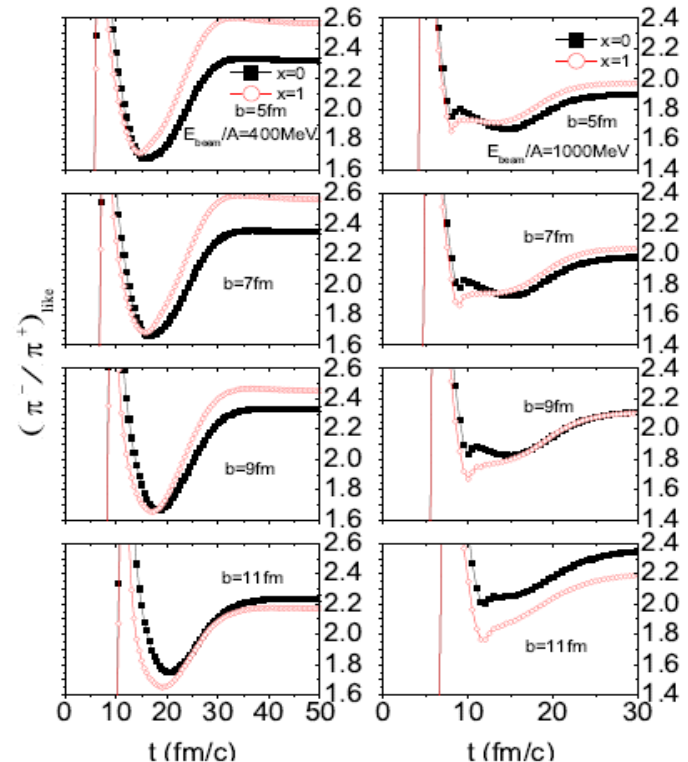
x-parameter: controls the spin-isospin dependence of 3-body force in Gogny-HF EDF



Single-particle potential

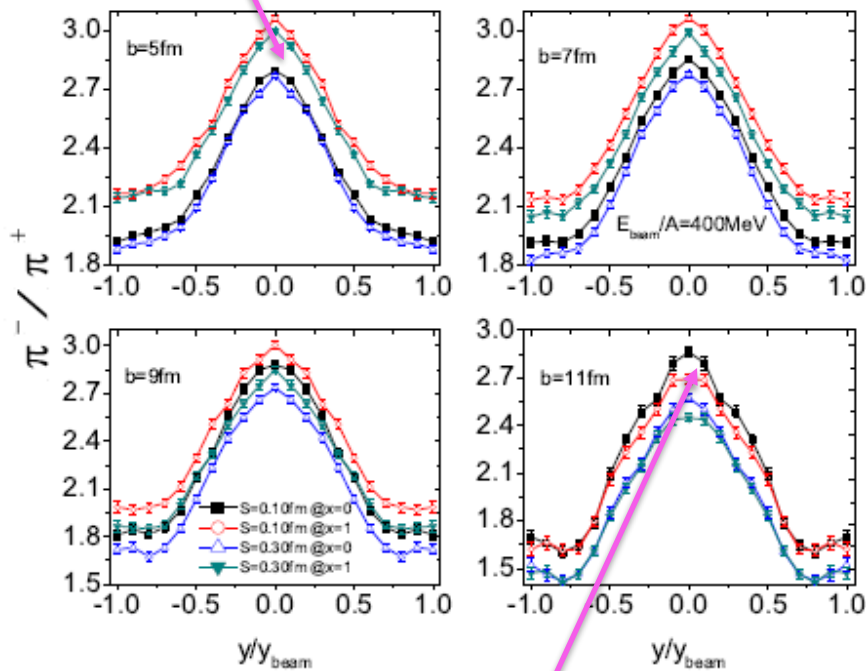
$$\begin{aligned}
 U(\rho, \delta, \vec{p}, \tau) = & A_u(x) \frac{\rho_{-\tau}}{\rho_0} + A_l(x) \frac{\rho_\tau}{\rho_0} \\
 & + B \left( \frac{\rho}{\rho_0} \right)^\sigma (1 - x\delta^2) - 8\tau x \frac{B}{\sigma + 1} \frac{\rho^{\sigma-1}}{\rho_0^\sigma} \delta \rho_{-\tau} \\
 & + \frac{2C_{\tau, \tau}}{\rho_0} \int d^3 p' \frac{f_\tau(\vec{p}')}{1 + (\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^2 / \Lambda^2} \\
 & + \frac{2C_{\tau, -\tau}}{\rho_0} \int d^3 p' \frac{f_{-\tau}(\vec{p}')}{1 + (\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^2 / \Lambda^2}. \quad (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

- (1) Higher  $E_{\text{sym}}$ , lower n/p ratio, lower  $\pi^-/\pi^+$
- (2) The  $E_{\text{sym}}$  effect shows a transition from central to peripheral reaction
- (3) The  $E_{\text{sym}}$  effect is stronger at lower energies

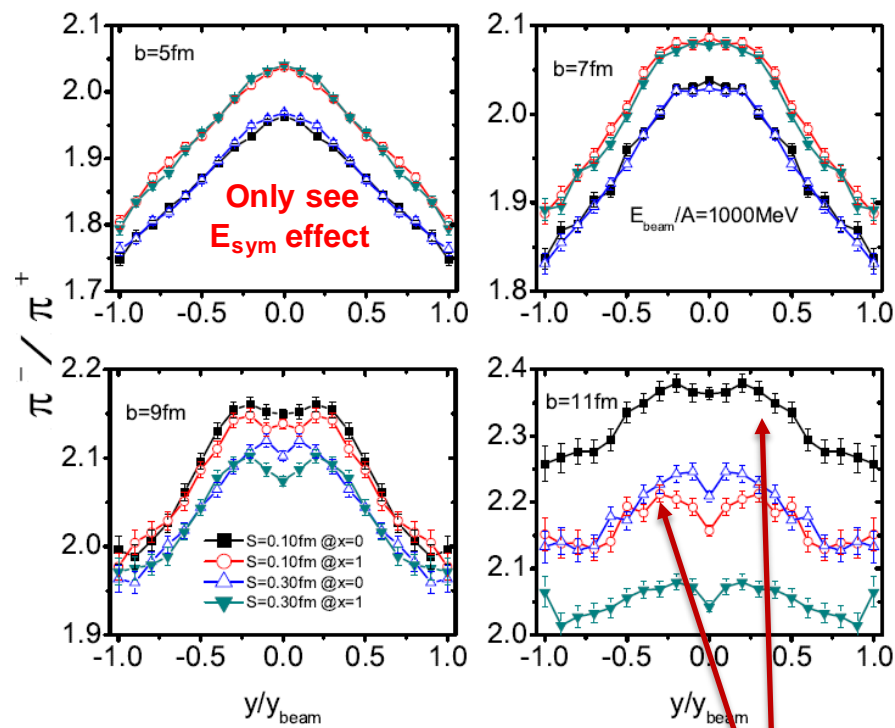


Central reaction: Mostly  $E_{\text{sym}}$  effect, little n-skin effects

400 MeV/A



1000MeV/A



Peripheral reaction: 13% n-ski effect  
but 3%  $E_{\text{sym}}$  effect at mid-rapidity

n-skin &  $E_{\text{sym}}$   
effects 5%  
compatible

**E<sub>sym</sub> and neutron-skin effects on observables of heavy-ion reactions**

$(|y/y_{beam}| \leq 0.5)$

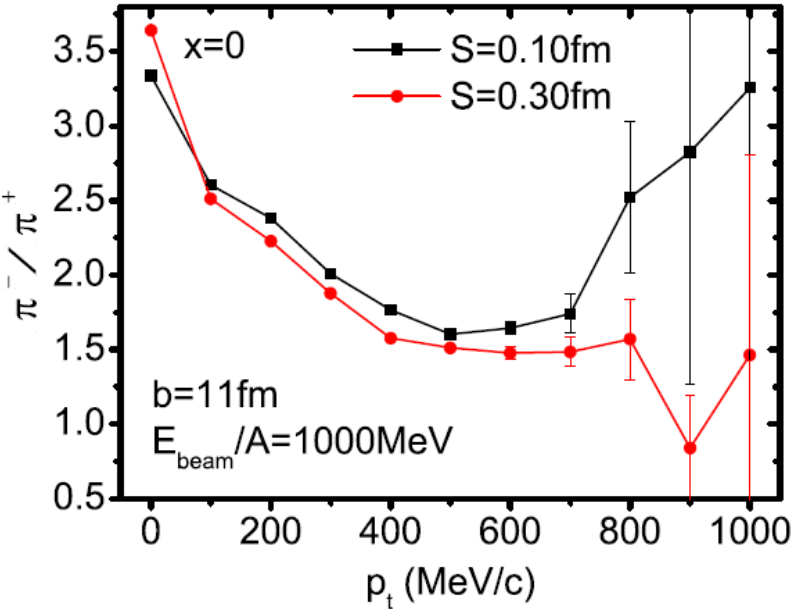
$$F(L_2) = \frac{\Delta(\pi^-/\pi^+)}{\Delta L_2/L_2}$$

L<sub>2</sub> is the slope of E<sub>sym</sub> at 2ρ<sub>0</sub>

	<i>S</i> = 0.10 fm	<i>S</i> = 0.30 fm
<i>E<sub>beam</sub></i> (MeV)	400 (1000)	400 (1000)
<i>b</i> = 5 fm	13.7 (4.0)	12.2 (3.8)
<i>b</i> = 7 fm	11.4 (3.1)	10.4 (2.9)

$$F(S) = \frac{\Delta(\pi^-/\pi^+)}{\Delta S/S},$$

	<i>x</i> = 0	<i>x</i> = 1
<i>E<sub>beam</sub></i> (MeV)	400 (1000)	400 (1000)
<i>b</i> = 5 fm	4.8 (0.4)	8.9 (0.2)
<i>b</i> = 7 fm	11.0 (0.4)	13.9 (0.9)
<i>b</i> = 9 fm	22.1 (7.8)	25.2 (7.2)
<i>b</i> = 11 fm	41.8 (20.6)	33.4 (18.5)



**The most fundamental but least known physics underlying the symmetry energy**

**Spin-isospin dependence of nucleon interactions at short distance  $V_{np}(T_0) \neq V_{np}(T_1)$**

**EOS of dense neutron-rich matter is a major scientific driver of**

**(1) High-energy rare isotope beam facilities around the world**

**(2) Various x-ray satellites**

**(3) Various gravitational wave detectors**

**Among the promising observables sensitive to the high-density symmetry energy:**

- $\pi^-/\pi^+$  and n/p spectrum ratio, neutron-proton differential flow and correlation function in heavy-ion collisions at intermediate energies
- Neutron skins of heavy nuclei and radii of neutron stars
- Neutrino flux of supernova explosions
- Tidal polarizability in neutron star mergers, strain amplitude of gravitational waves from deformed pulsars, frequency and damping time of neutron star oscillations

B.A. Li, L.W. Chen and C.M. Ko, Phys. Rep. 464, 113 (2008)

**Topical Issue on Nuclear Symmetry Energy**  
edited by Bao-An Li, Àngels Ramos,  
Giuseppe Verde and Isaac Vidaña

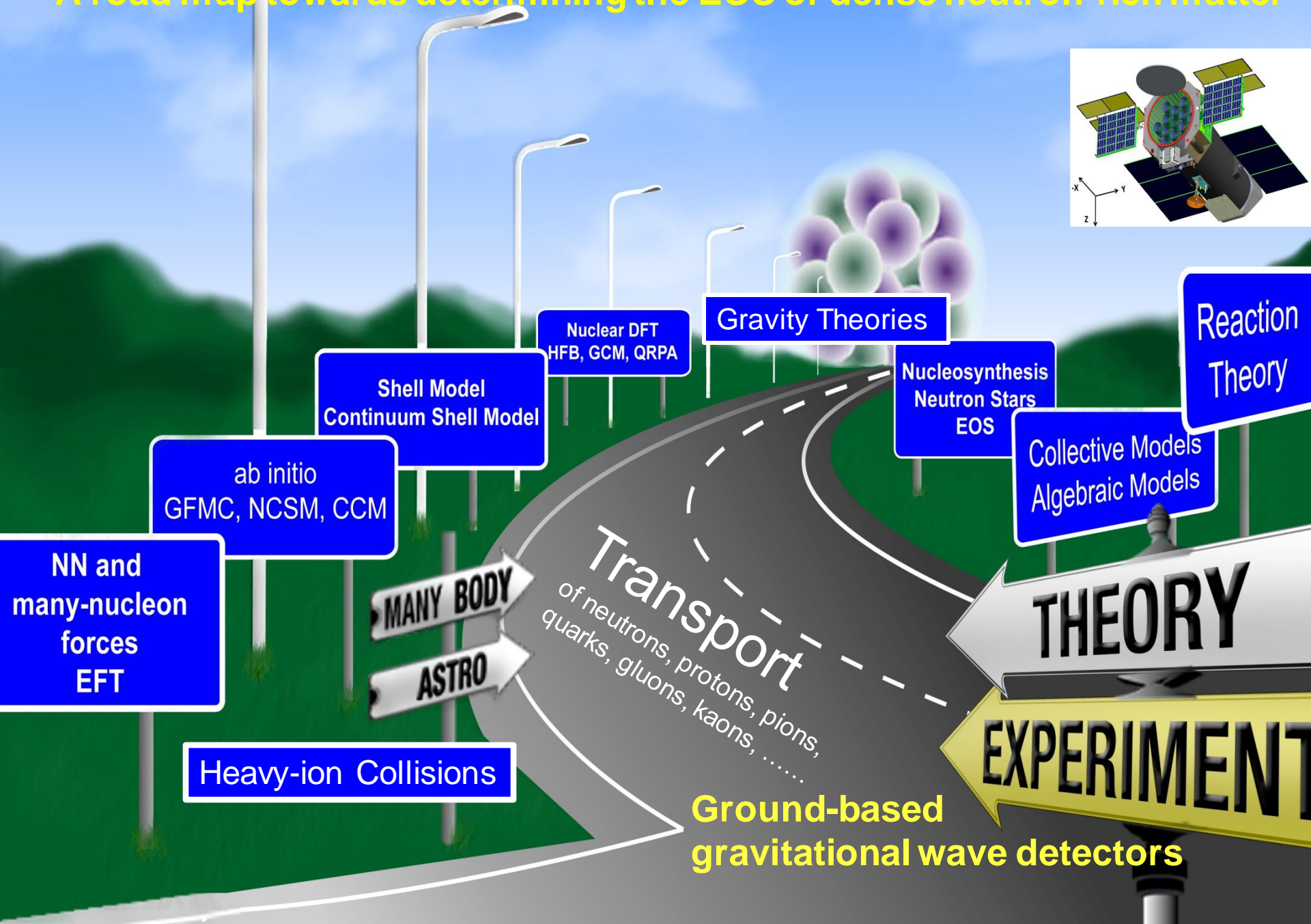
EPJA, Vol. 50, No. 2 (2014)

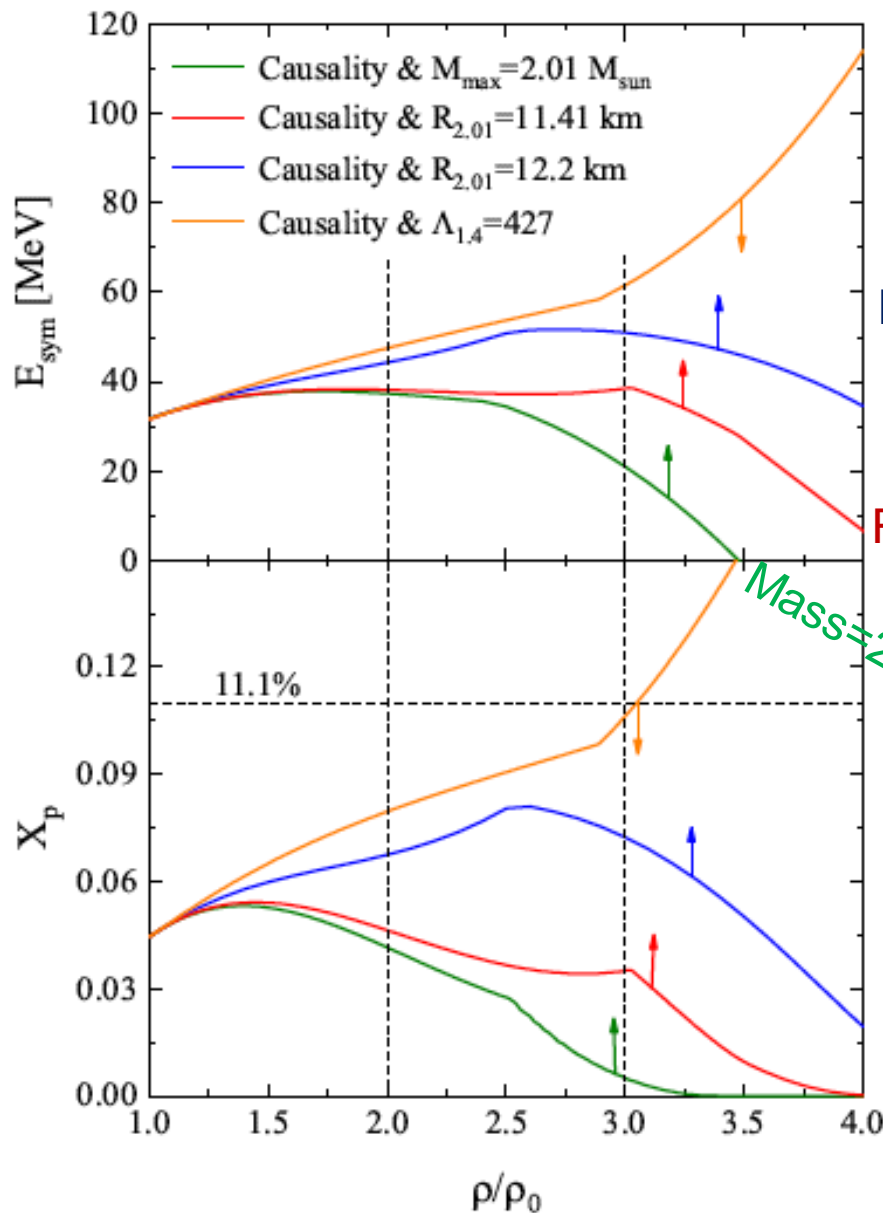
**2023 White Paper:**

**Dense Nuclear Matter Equation of State from Heavy-Ion Collisions**

Agnieszka Sorenson et al., [arXiv:2301.13253](https://arxiv.org/abs/2301.13253)

# A road map towards determining the EOS of dense neutron-rich matter





Upper limit on  $E_{\text{sym}}$  from GW170817

Lower limit on  $E_{\text{sym}}$  from PSR J0740+6620

Miller's lower radius

Riiley's lower radius

Proton fraction in PSR J0704+6620

N.B. Zhang and B.A Li  
APJ 921, 111 (2021)



# Off-shell effects in heavy particle production

G.F. Bertsch <sup>a</sup>, P. Danielewicz <sup>b</sup>

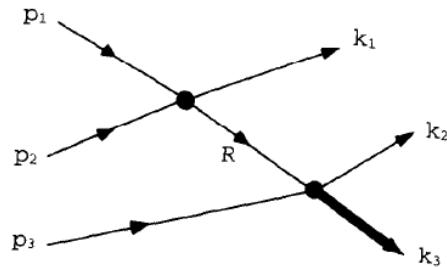


Fig. 1. The graph for heavy particle production below the two-body threshold.

Physics Letters B 367 (1996) 55–59

$$\delta n_{\text{corr}}(k) = \frac{1}{4(2\pi)^3} \int dk^0 \frac{1}{F} \frac{d^4 W_{NN \rightarrow NN}}{dk^4}$$

$$\approx 2\pi\sigma_{NN} \left(\frac{m^*}{m}\right)^2 \frac{\rho^2}{k^4}. \tag{9}$$

In (9) we express the NN matrix element in terms of cross section,  $\sigma_{NN} = (m^2/8\pi)|M|^2$ , and allow for a momentum dependence of the mean field; comparison in the figure is made for  $\sigma_{NN} = 40$  mb,  $m^* = m$ , and  $\rho = \rho_0/4$  (since we ignore the Pauli principle). The result of a complicated calculation and our expression compare favorably for  $k \gg k_F$ . Our result could be

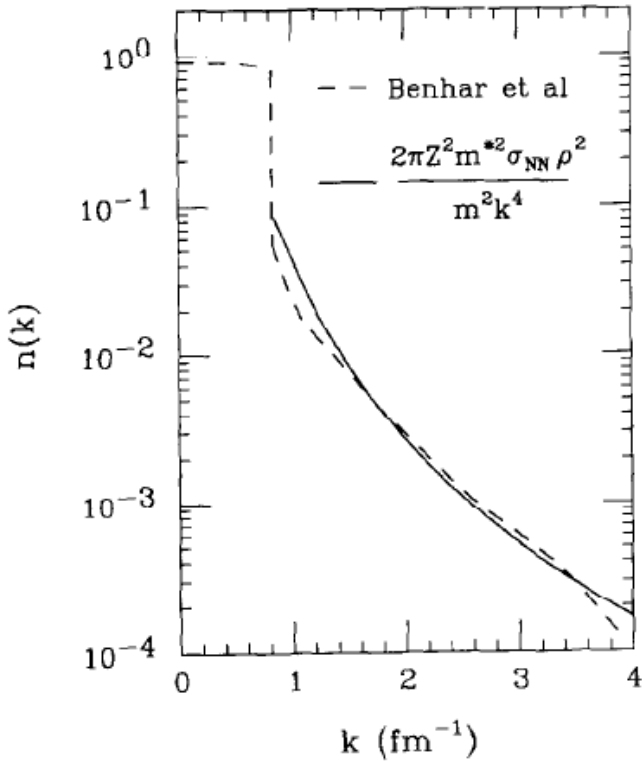


Fig. 2. Momentum occupation in nuclear matter at  $\rho = \rho_0/4$ . The solid line is our result, Eq. (9), applicable for  $k > k_F$ . The dashed line is the result of Ref. [9], including the region for  $k < k_F$  as well as correlation contribution for  $k > k_F$ .

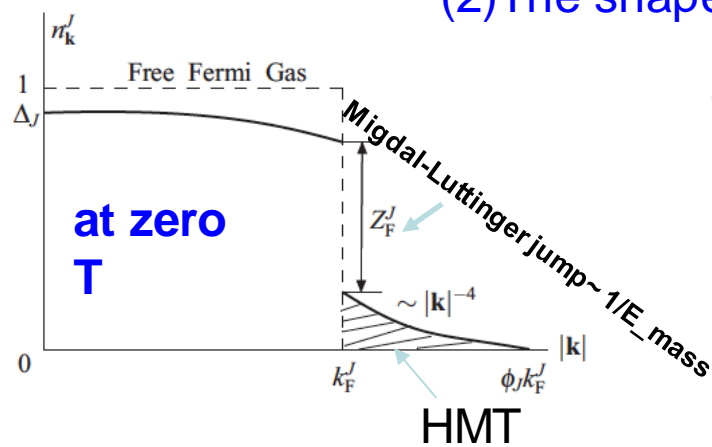


# The high momentum tail in dilute Fermi gas at zero temperature due to the repulsive core

A.B. Migdal, *The momentum distribution of interacting Fermi particles*,  
Sov. Phys. JETP, 333 (1957)

Universal for all 2-component fermion systems

- (1) From 2<sup>nd</sup>-order perturbation theory with a repulsive interaction
- (2) The shape of HMT is universal →  $(K_F/k)^4$



$$\rho_{>}(k)=\frac{\nu-1}{6\pi^2x}(k_Fc)^2\left\{(7x^3-3x-6)\ln\frac{x-1}{x+1}+(7x^3-3x+2)\ln2\right.\\ \left.-8x^3+22x^2+6x-24-4(x^2-2)^{3/2}\right.\\ \left.\times\left[\tan^{-1}\frac{x+2}{(x^2-2)^{1/2}}+\tan^{-1}(x^2-2)^{-1/2}-2\tan^{-1}x(x^2-2)^{-1/2}\right]\right\}.$$

(3) The fraction of HMT  $N_{>}/N=\frac{8}{5}\frac{\nu-1}{\pi^2}(k_Fc)^2$

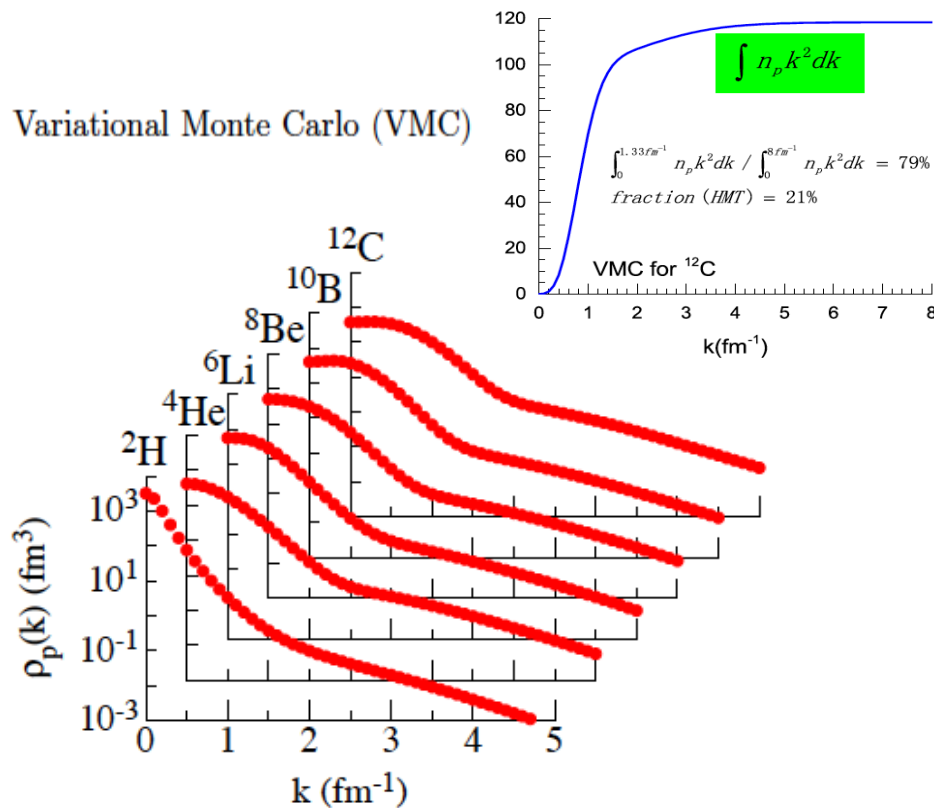
All HMT nucleons are on shell  $\epsilon(k)=k^2/2m+V(k;\epsilon(k))$

V. A. Belyakov, Sov. Phys. JETP 13, 850 (1961).  
**R. Sartor and C. Mahaux, Phys. Rev. C 21, 1546 (1981)**  
 R. Amado, Phys. Rev. C 14, 1264 (1976).  
 S.N. Tan, Ann. Phys. 323, 2952 (2008); 323, 2971 (2008); 323, 2987 (2008).  
 S. K. Bogner and D. Roscher, Phys. Rev. C 86, 064304 (2012)  
 A. Rios, A. Polls, and W.H. Dickhoff, Phys. Rev. C 89, 044303 (2014).

# The shape, size and isospin dependence of SRC/HMT

## The structure of $^{12}\text{C}$ in momentum space

[R. B. Wiringa](#), [R. Schiavilla](#), [Steven C. Pieper](#), [J. Carlson](#), [PRC 89, 024305 \(2014\)](#)



## Strength and isospin dependence of SRC

[R. Subedi et al. Science 320, 1475 \(2008\)](#)

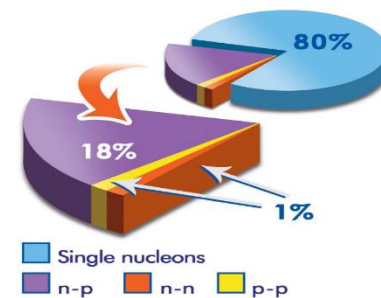
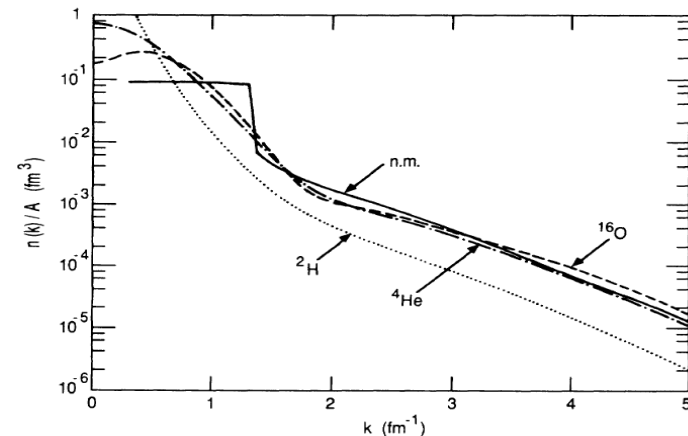


Figure 3: The average fraction of nucleons in the various initial state configurations of  $^{12}\text{C}$ .

## Universal high momentum tails

[O. Benhar](#), [V.R. Pandharipande](#), [Steven C. Pieper](#), [Rev. Modern Phys. 93 \(1993\) 817.](#)



# Momentum dependence of the nucleon optical potential at normal density

X.H. Li, W.J. Guo, B.A. Li, L.W. Chen, F.J. Fattoyev and W.G. Newton PLB 743 (2015) 408

