

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

Supported by DE-SC0013702
& DE-SC0009971 (CUSTIPEN)



Connecting Quarks with the Cosmos: Eleven Science Questions for the New Century US National Research Council (2003)

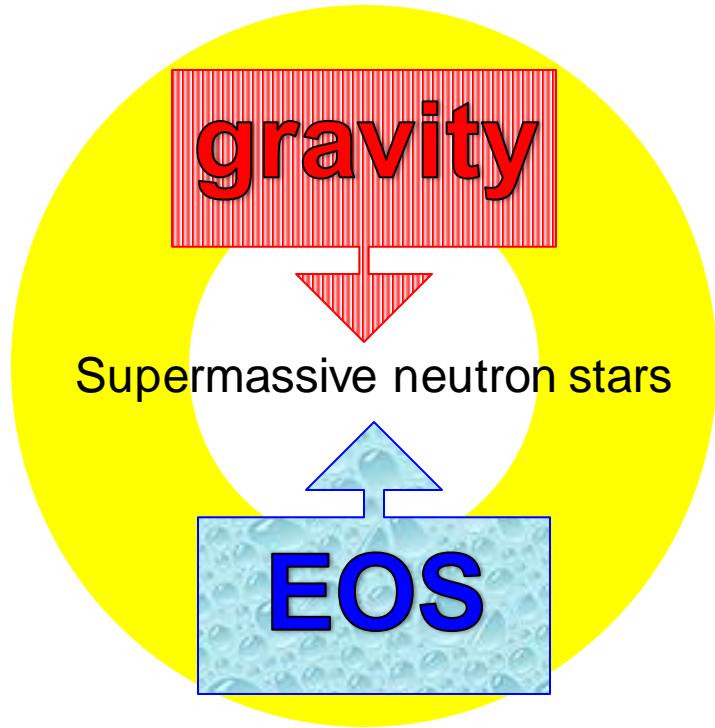
- What is the dark matter?
- What is the nature of the dark energy?
- How did the universe begin?
- **What is gravity?**
- Are there additional spacetime dimensions?
- What are the masses of the neutrinos, and how have they shaped the evolution of the universe?
- How do cosmic accelerators work and what are they accelerating?
- Are protons unstable?
- **Are there new states of matter at exceedingly high density and temperature?**
- How were the elements from iron to uranium made?
- Is a new theory of matter and light needed at the highest energies?



- (1) Compact stars are natural laboratories to investigate some of these questions**
- (2) Nuclear EOS, especially the high-density symmetry energy is important in some cases**

Gravity-EOS degeneracy in supermassive neutron stars

Strong-field gravity: Einstein's GR or Modified Gravity?



GR or [Modified Gravity]?

? Variation of Total Action
 $S = S_{\text{gravity}} + S_{\text{matter}} + \text{couplings}$

Adjusting Nuclear EOS
or adding [Dark Matter]+[Dark Energy]+xyz?

Contents and stiffness of the EOS of super-dense matter

At high-densities, cold neutron-rich nucleonic matter, the most uncertain part of the EOS is the nuclear symmetry energy besides possible phase transitions

Independent information about nuclear EOS from terrestrial experiments is critical

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

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 ρ_0 , they are Taylor expansions, appropriate for structure studies.
Just parameterizations when applied to heavy-ion collisions and the core of neutron stars

“Current” status of the restricted EOS parameter space:

Low density: $K_0 = 240 \pm 20$, $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_0) = 31.7 \pm 3.2$ and $L = 58.7 \pm 28.1$ MeV

High density: $-400 \leq K_{\text{sym}} \leq 100$, $-200 \leq J_{\text{sym}} \leq 800$, and $-800 \leq J_0 \leq 400$ MeV

Probes of the EOS of symmetric nuclear matter

- **Collective vibrations of nuclei probing the incompressibility K around ρ_0**
- **Particle production especially strange particles (e.g., Kaons) from heavy-ion collisions**
- **Collective flow of various particles & clusters probing K around ρ_0 and high-density EOS with the caveat that they are also sensitive to the poorly known viscosity (in-medium particle-particle scattering cross sections)**

MANY interesting issues!

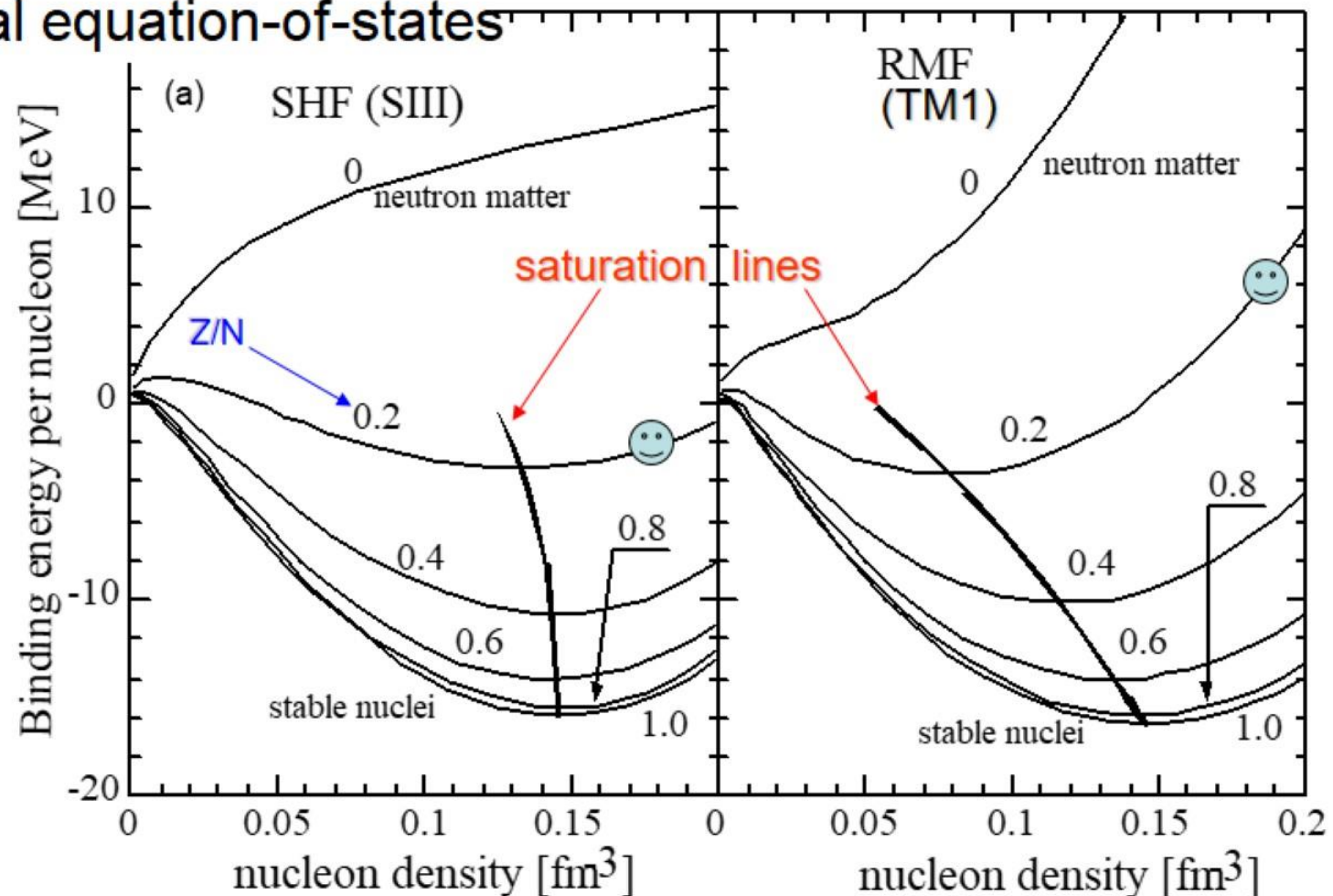
The K from different approaches may be different

Equation of State of Neutron-Rich Matter:

$$E(\rho, \delta) = E(\rho, 0) + E_{sym}(\rho)\delta^2 + o(\delta^4)$$

Isospin asymmetry $\delta \equiv (\rho_n - \rho_p) / (\rho_n + \rho_p)$

Two typical equation-of-states



Along the saturation line of infinite isospin-asymmetric matter

$$\rho_{\text{sat}}(\delta) = \left[1 - \frac{3L}{K_0}\delta^2 + \left(\frac{3K_{\text{sym}}L}{K_0^2} - \frac{3L_{\text{sym},4}}{K_0} - \frac{3J_0L^2}{2K_0^3} \right) \delta^4 + O(\delta^6) \right] \rho_0. \quad (22)$$

$$K_{\text{sat}}(\delta) \equiv 9\rho_{\text{sat}}^2 \left. \frac{\partial^2 E(\rho, \delta)}{\partial \rho^2} \right|_{\rho=\rho_{\text{sat}}} \approx K_0 + K_{\text{sat},2}\delta^2 + O(\delta^4)$$

$$K_{\text{sat},2} = K_{\text{sym}} - 6L - J_0L/K_0.$$

L.W. Chen, B.J. Cai, C.M. Ko, B.A. Li,
C. Shen and J. Xu, PRC 80, 014322 (2009)

Derivations:

Step-1: Taylor expand the EOS in isospin asymmetry δ $e(\rho, \delta) = e_0(\rho) + e_2(\rho)\delta^2 + e_4(\rho)\delta^4 + \dots + e_{2n}(\rho)\delta^{2n}$.

Step-2: Taylor expand all coefficient in density deviation z $z = (\rho - \rho_0)/\rho_0$.

Step-3: Apply the saturation condition at a given δ

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial e}{\partial z} \Big|_{z=z_{\text{sat}}} = 0 & \quad a_{01} + 2a_{02}z + 3a_{03}z^2 + \dots + na_{0n}z^{n-1} + \\ & + (a_{11} + 2a_{12}z + 3a_{13}z^2 + \dots + na_{1n}z^{n-1})\delta^2 + \\ & + (a_{21} + 2a_{22}z + 3a_{23}z^2 + \dots + na_{2n}z^{n-1})\delta^4 + \\ & + \dots + \\ & + (a_{n1} + 2a_{n2}z + 3a_{n3}z^2 + \dots + na_{nn}z^{n-1})\delta^{2n} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} e_0(\rho) &= e_0(\rho_0) + a_{01}z + a_{02}z^2 + \dots + a_{0n}z^n \\ e_2(\rho) &= e_2(\rho_0) + a_{11}z + a_{12}z^2 + \dots + a_{1n}z^n \\ e_4(\rho) &= e_4(\rho_0) + a_{21}z + a_{22}z^2 + \dots + a_{2n}z^n \\ &\vdots \\ e_{2n}(\rho) &= e_{2n}(\rho_0) + a_{n1}z + a_{n2}z^2 + \dots + a_{nn}z^n. \end{aligned}$$

Step-4: try the polynomial solution with $z_{\text{sat}} = A_2\delta^2 + A_4\delta^4 + \dots + A_{2k}\delta^{2k}$,

Step-5: set all coefficients of δ^{2n} to zero

$$z_{\text{sat}} = -\frac{3L}{K_0}\delta^2 + \left(\frac{3K_{\text{sym}}L}{K_0^2} - \frac{3L_{\text{sym},4}}{K_0} - \frac{3J_0L^2}{2K_0^3} \right) \delta^4$$

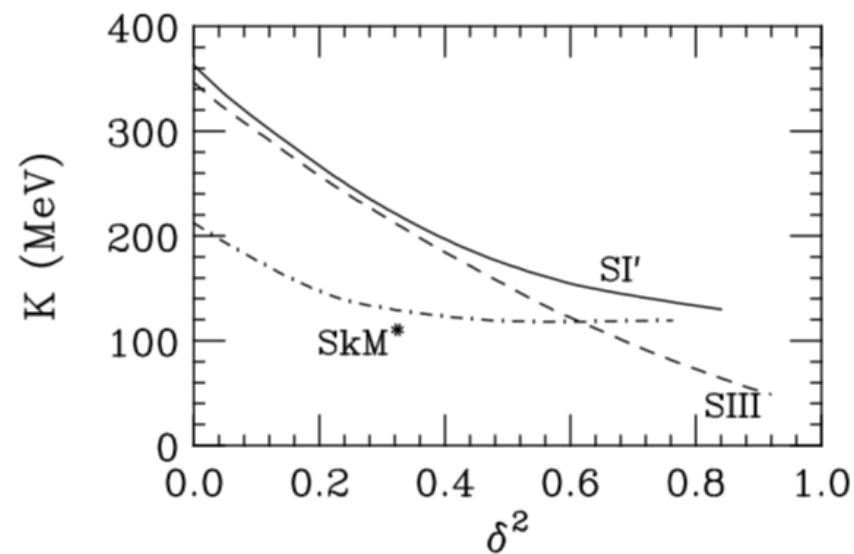
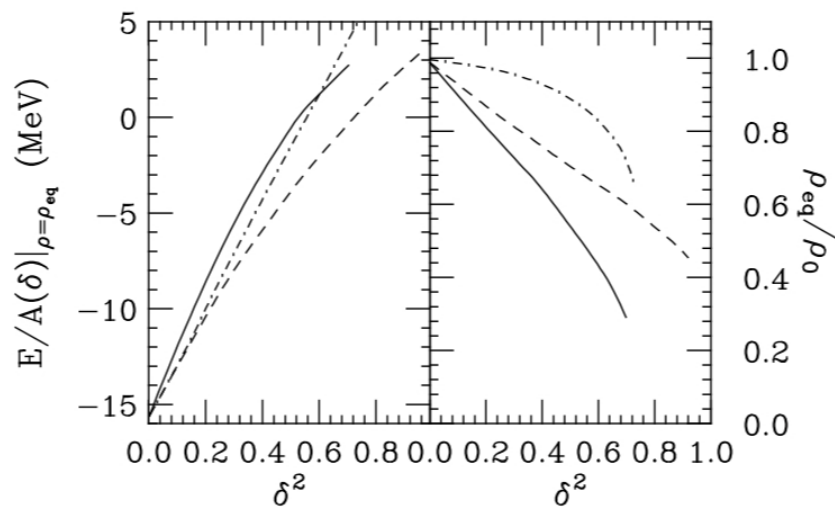
$$\begin{aligned} K_{\text{sat}} &= K_0 + \left(K_{\text{sym}} - 6L - \frac{J_0}{K_0}L \right) \delta^2 \\ &+ \left(K_{\text{sym},4} - 6L_{\text{sym},4} - \frac{J_0L_{\text{sym},4}}{K_0} + \frac{9L^2}{K_0} - \frac{J_{\text{sym}}L}{K_0} \right. \\ &\left. + \frac{I_0L^2}{2K_0^2} + \frac{J_0K_{\text{sym}}L}{K_0^2} + \frac{3J_0L^2}{K_0^2} - \frac{J_0^2L^2}{2K_0^3} \right) \delta^4 \end{aligned}$$

Examples: binding energy,
saturation density and
incompressibility

along the saturation line of
neutron-rich matter

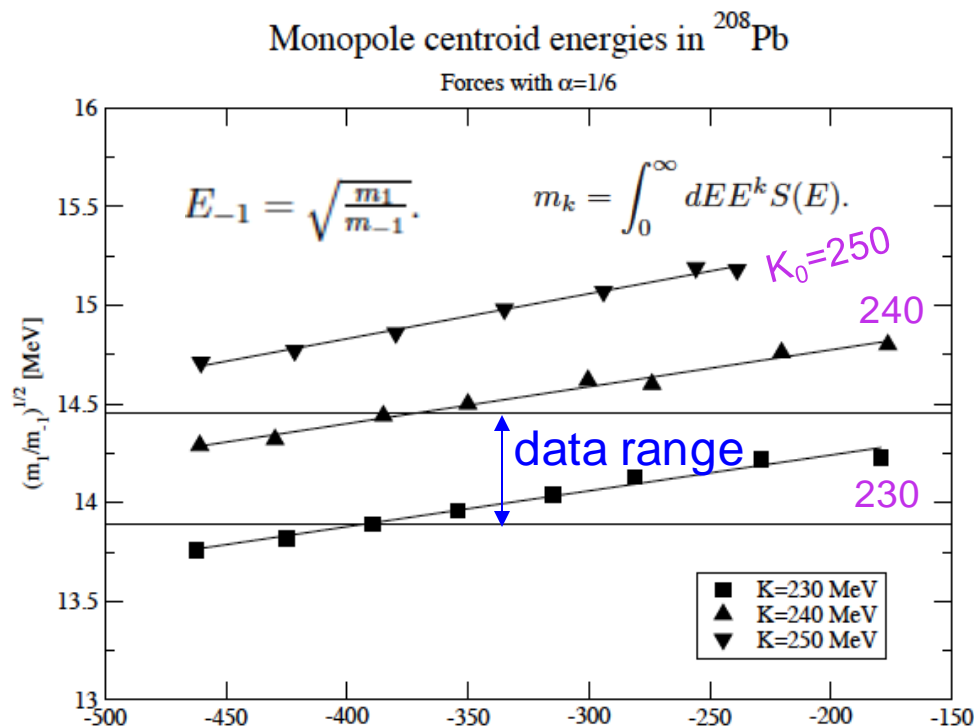
- K. Kolehmainen et al., NPA 439, 535 (1985).
- J. Treiner et al., Ann. Phys. (N.Y.), 170, 406 (1986).
- D. Bandyopadhyay et al., NPA511, 1 (1990).

Predictions using Skyrme Hartree-Fock



The main source of the remaining uncertainty of K_0 (K_∞) from giant resonances: Its correlation with the poorly known isospin dependent term K_τ in the incompressibility K_A of finite nuclei

J. Colo, N. Van Giai, J. Meyer, K. Bennaceur, and P. Bonche, PRC 70, 024307 (2004).



the K_τ term $K_{\text{sym}} - 6L - J_0L/K_0$.

Along the saturation line of finite nuclei:

$$K_A \approx K_\infty(1 + cA^{-1/3}) + K_\tau \delta^2 + K_{\text{Cou}} Z^2 A^{-4/3}$$

J.P. Blaizot, Phys. Rep. 64, 171 (1980)

$$\rho_{\text{eq}} \approx \rho_0 + \frac{3\rho_0}{K_0} \left(1 - LI^2 + 2a_S A^{-1/3} - a_C \frac{Z^2}{A^{4/3}} \right)$$

X. Roca-Maza and N. Paar, PPNP 101, 96 (2018)

$I=\delta$

Isoscalar Excitation Modes of Nuclear Resonance

Lecture by a pioneer at NUSYS23

Prof. Mohsen Harakeh

$$K_0 = 240 \pm 20 \text{ MeV}$$

$$E_{ISGMR} \approx \sqrt{\frac{K_A}{m \langle r^2 \rangle}}$$

$$E_{ISGDR} \approx \sqrt{\frac{3}{7} \frac{K_A + (27/25)\varepsilon_F}{m \langle r^2 \rangle}}$$



$$K_A = K_{vol} + K_{surf} A^{-1/3} + K_\tau \delta^2 + K_{Coul} \frac{Z^2}{A^{4/3}}$$



Isospin dependence of incompressibility

$$K_\tau = K_{sym} - 6L(\rho_0) - \frac{J_0 L(\rho_0)}{K_0}$$

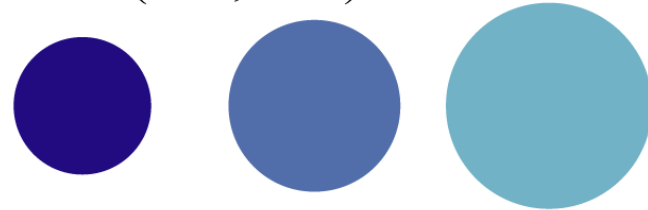
$$K_\tau = -550 \pm 100 \text{ MeV}$$

Nothing conclusive about K_{sym}

[G. Colò](#), [U. Garg](#), [H. Sagawa](#), Eur. Phys. J. A 50, 26 (2014)

Isoscalar Giant Resonances:

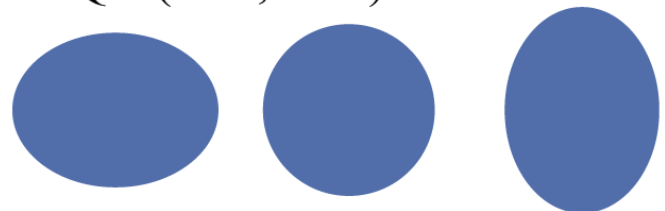
ISGMR (T=0, L=0)



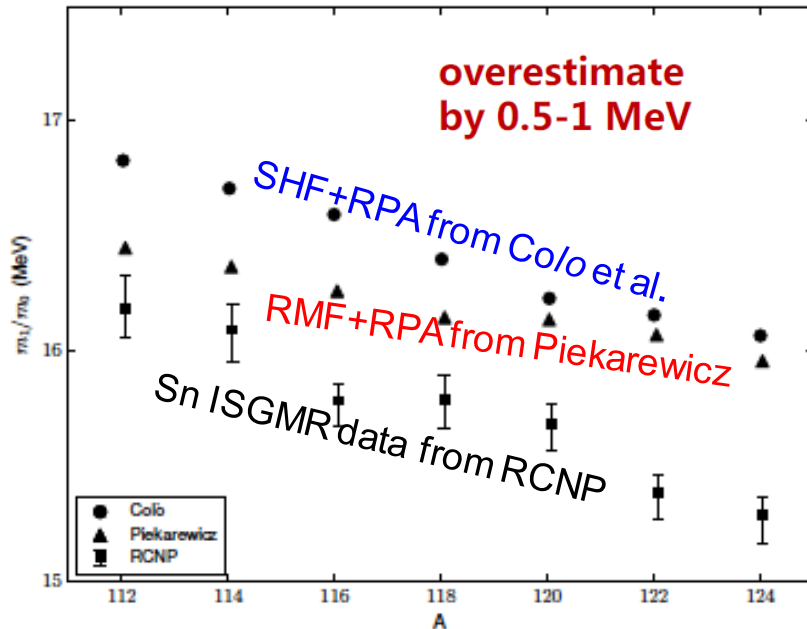
ISGDR (T=0, L=1)



ISGQR (T=0, L=2)



The soft-tin ``puzzle’’: both relativistic and non-relativistic models that well describe the ISGMR of ^{208}Pb can NOT reproduce the data of Sn isotopes



Two relatively recent reviews:

U. Garg and G. Colo, PPNP 101, 55 (2018)

X. Roca-Maza and N. Paar, PPNP 101, 96 (2018)

Fiducial value of K_0 since 1980: 220-260 MeV

J. P. Blaizot, Phys. Rep. 64, 171 (1980).

My possibly biased and offending (I am very sorry!) observations:

The community “consensus”: Using microscopic models to first describe well all data of finite nuclei before using them to calculate the incompressibility K_0 (K_∞) of infinite matter

The reality: such models do NOT exist, none of the available models can describe all data. Moreover, not all data for the same nuclei from different labs are consistent

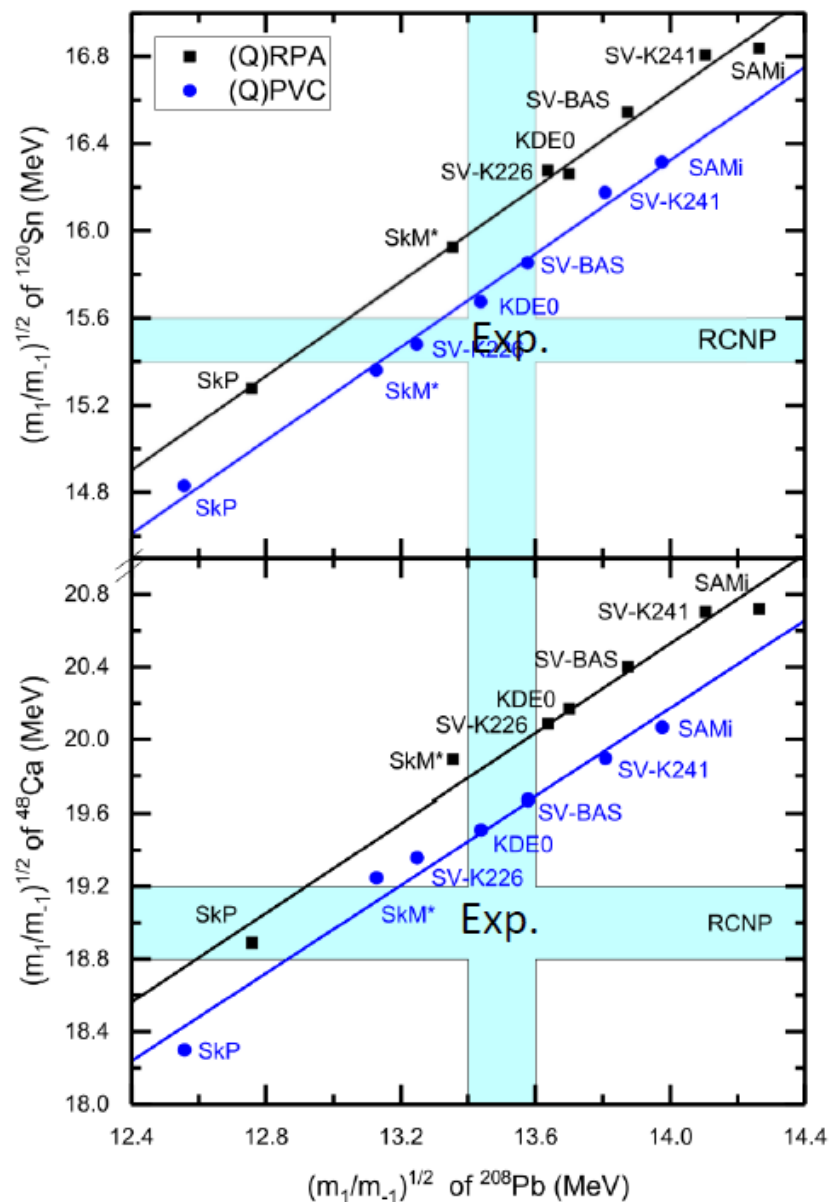
The status quo: the K_0 (K_∞) range of 220-260 MeV has been the same for about 40 years

The challenge: the 30-40 MeV error bar for K_0 (K_∞) is too big for many purposes

The need: “Forget” about the “consensus” to break the status quo

The puzzle is solved!

Yifei Niu



$$E_{\text{ISGMR}} = a' \sqrt{K_{\infty}} + b'$$



Linear correlation of GMR energies between different nuclei

- QRPA => QPVC
Simultaneous description of Sn (or Ca) and Pb is much improved!

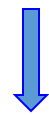
- Best descriptions:
SV-K226 $K_{\infty} = 226$ MeV
KDE0 $K_{\infty} = 229$ MeV
consistent with $K_{\infty} = 240 \pm 20$ MeV

Z.Z.Li, Y.F.Niu, G.Colo, arXiv:2211.01264
(02 Nov, 2022)

Differential analysis of incompressibility in neutron-rich nuclei

Bao-An Li and Wen-Jie Xie, Phys. Rev. C 104, 034610 (2021)

$$K_A \approx K_\infty (1 + cA^{-1/3}) + K_\tau \delta^2 + K_{\text{Cou}} Z^2 A^{-4/3}$$



Using K_A of any two nuclei (Z_1, A_1) and (Z_2, A_2)

$$K_\tau = \left[\frac{K_{A_1}}{S_1} - \frac{K_{A_2}}{S_2} - K_{\text{Cou}} \left(\frac{Z_1^2 A_1^{-4/3}}{S_1} - \frac{Z_2^2 A_2^{-4/3}}{S_2} \right) \right] / \left(\frac{\delta_1^2}{S_1} - \frac{\delta_2^2}{S_2} \right),$$

$$K_\infty = \left[\frac{K_{A_1}}{\delta_1^2} - \frac{K_{A_2}}{\delta_2^2} - K_{\text{Cou}} \left(\frac{Z_1^2 A_1^{-4/3}}{\delta_1^2} - \frac{Z_2^2 A_2^{-4/3}}{\delta_2^2} \right) \right] / \left(\frac{S_1}{\delta_1^2} - \frac{S_2}{\delta_2^2} \right),$$

$$S_i = 1 + cA_i^{-1/3}$$

$$c \approx -1.2 \pm 0.12 \quad K_{\text{Cou}} \approx -5.2 \pm 0.7 \text{ MeV}$$

S. K. Patra, M. Centelles, X. Viñas, M. Del Estal, Phys. Rev. C **65**, 044304 (2002).

H. Sagawa et al., Phys. Rev. C **76**, 034327 (2007).

Errors: smallest with one n-rich and another n-poor

$$\sigma_{K_\tau} \approx \sqrt{\sigma_{K_{A_1}}^2 + \sigma_{K_{A_2}}^2} / \left| \delta_1^2 - \delta_2^2 \right|,$$

$$\sigma_{K_\infty} \approx \sqrt{(\delta_2^2 \cdot \sigma_{K_{A_1}})^2 + (\delta_1^2 \cdot \sigma_{K_{A_2}})^2} / \left| \delta_1^2 - \delta_2^2 \right|$$

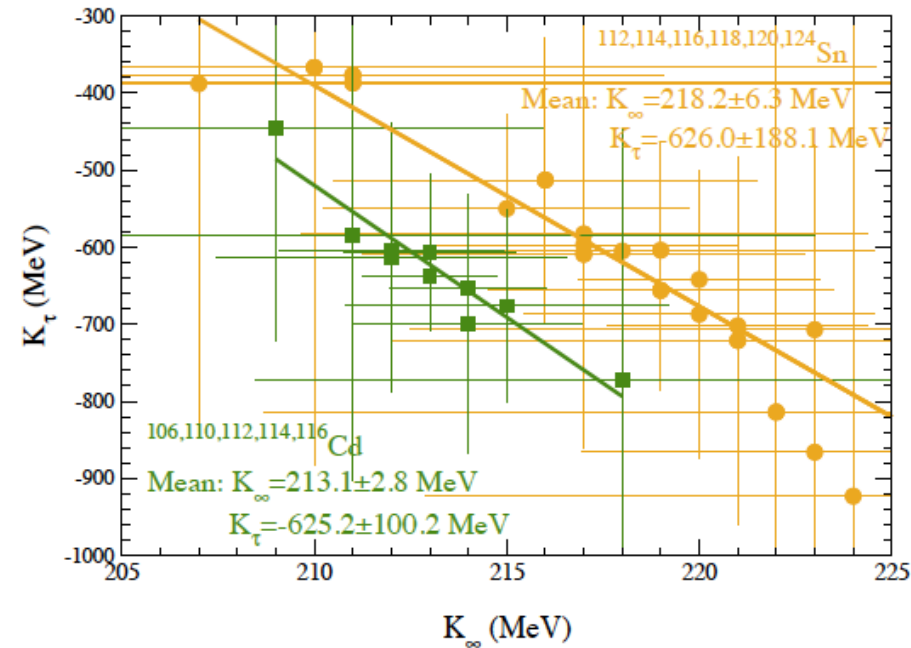
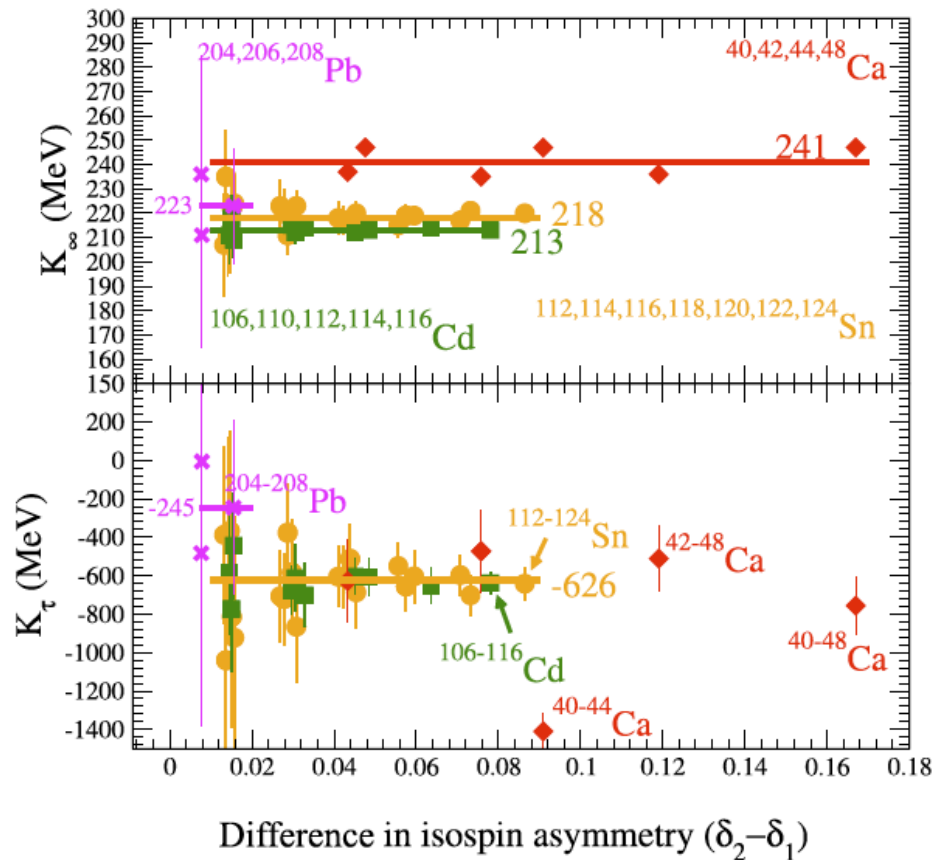
J. P. Blaizot, Phys. Rep. **64**, 171 (1980).

$$K_A = \left(\frac{E_{\text{ISGMR}}}{\hbar c} \right)^2 M c^2 < r^2 >$$

U. Garg and G. Colo, PPNP **101**, 55 (2018)

Nucleus	K_A (MeV)	Reference
⁴⁰ Ca	144.46 ± 0.33	[17]
⁴² Ca	139.00 ± 1.09	
⁴⁴ Ca	137.36 ± 0.66	
⁴⁸ Ca	131.90 ± 4.13	
¹⁰⁶ Cd	127.84 ± 0.86	[14]
¹¹⁰ Cd	124.59 ± 0.86	
¹¹² Cd	123.59 ± 0.77	
¹¹⁴ Cd	120.95 ± 1.24	
¹¹⁶ Cd	118.96 ± 0.86	
¹¹² Sn	131.86 ± 1.53	[12, 13]
¹¹⁴ Sn	129.45 ± 1.64	
¹¹⁶ Sn	127.11 ± 1.53	
¹¹⁸ Sn	126.39 ± 1.54	
¹²⁰ Sn	125.45 ± 1.63	
¹²² Sn	121.33 ± 1.54	
¹²⁴ Sn	120.17 ± 1.62	
²⁰⁴ Pb	136.93 ± 1.99	[15]
²⁰⁶ Pb	137.44 ± 1.99	
²⁰⁸ Pb	136.44 ± 1.99	

All from
RCNP
Garg et al



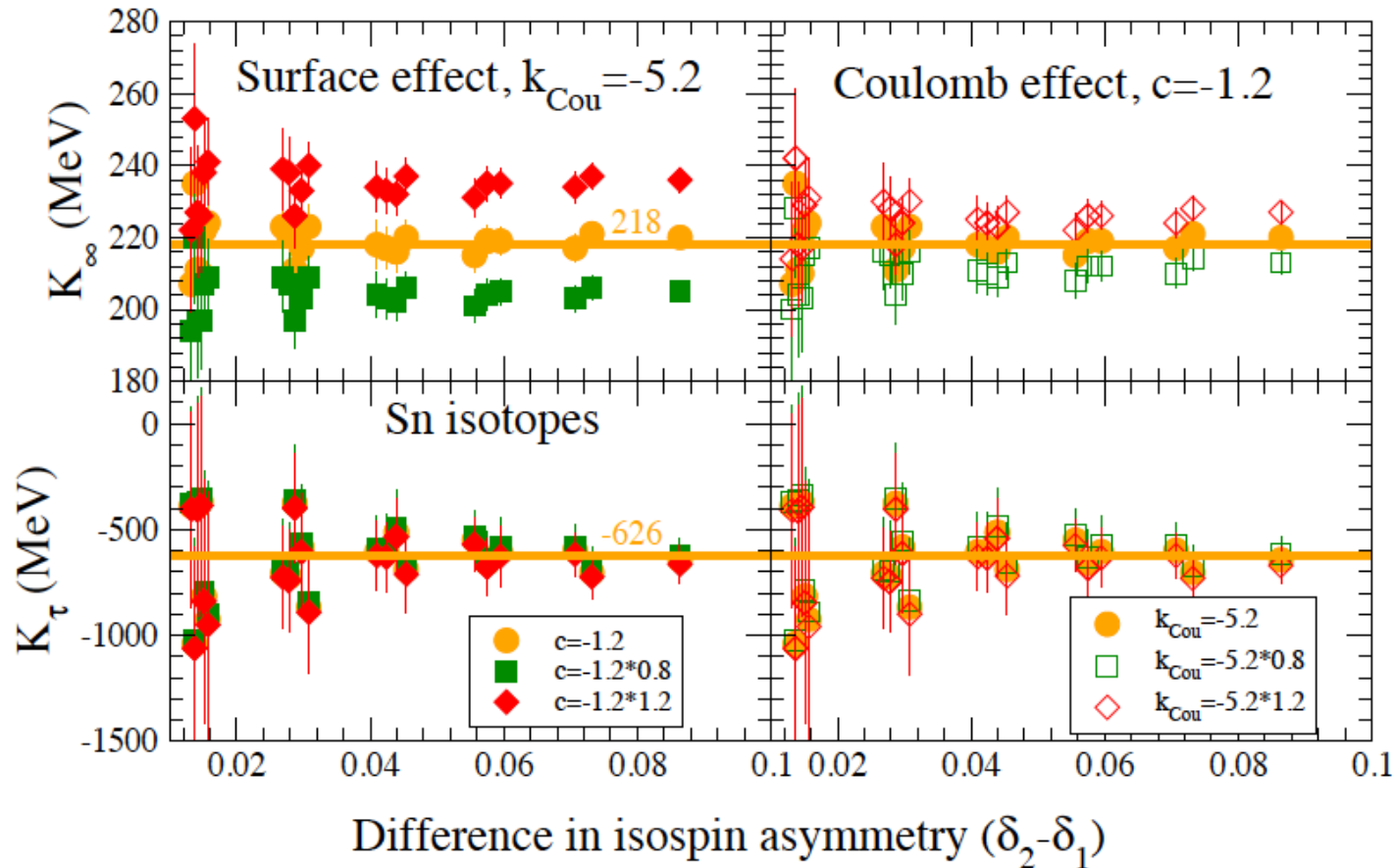
- (1) Pb has only 3 points and all with large errors, needs more data for Pb isotopes
- (2) Pb appears harder because its K_τ is much higher while its K_∞ is consistent with Sn
- (3) Pairs with the largest difference in isospin asymmetry is the best (smallest error)
- (4) Ca isotopes are probably too light for the liquid drop formula to work properly
- (5) Sn looks normal than Pb compared to other nuclei

Soft Sn or Hard Pb puzzle?

J. Piekarewicz and M. Centelles, PRC 79, 054311 (2009)

E. Khan, PRC 80, 011307 and 057302 (2009)

Surface and Coulomb effects

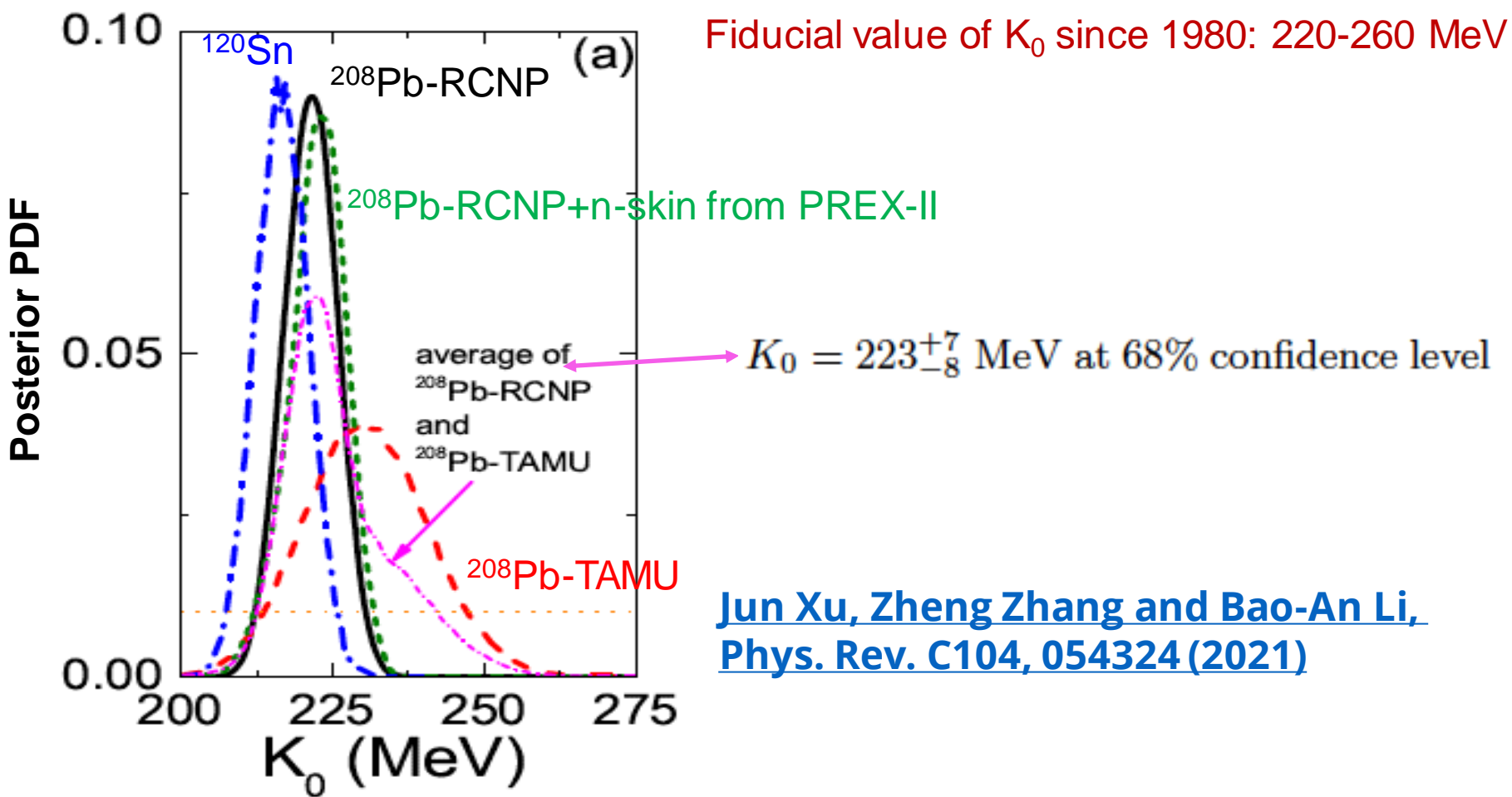


- (1) Varying the surface (c) and/or Coulomb (k_{Coul}) by 40% has little effect on K_τ
- (2) Varying the surface (c) parameter by 40% leads to $210 < K_\infty < 240$ MeV

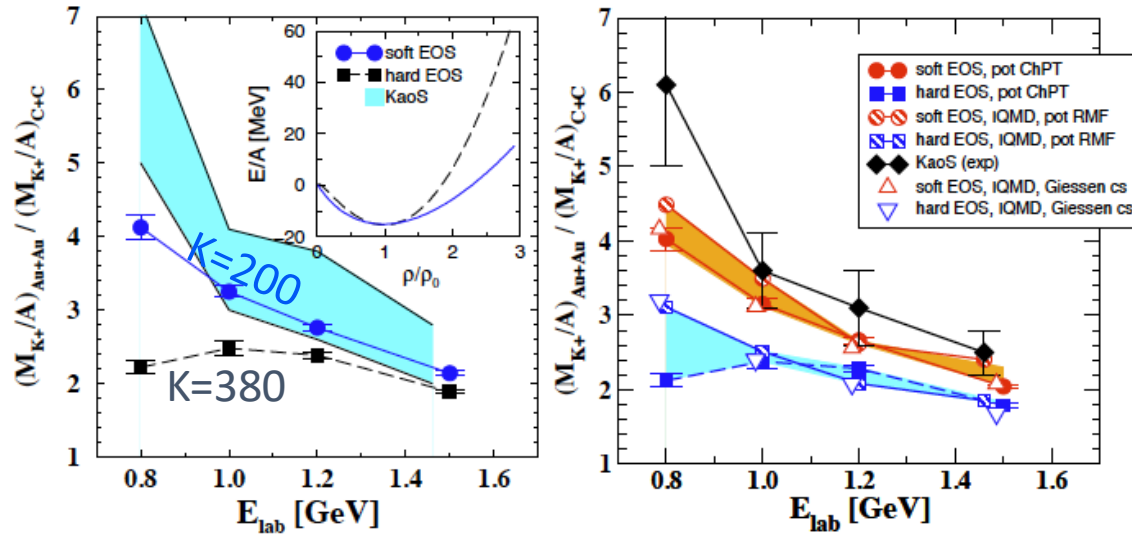
Bayesian inference of K_0 from combined data of centroid energy and electrical Polarizability of IVGDR, n-skin, and centroid energy of ISGMR using SHF+RPA

G. Colò, L. Cao, N. Van Gia, and L. Capelli, [Comput. Phys. Commun. 184, 142 \(2013\)](#).

	E_{-1} (MeV)	α_D (fm ³)	Δr_{np} (fm)	E_{ISGMR} (MeV)	E_b (MeV)	R_c (fm)
²⁰⁸ Pb-TAMU	13.46 ± 0.10	19.6 ± 0.6	0.170 ± 0.023	14.17 ± 0.28	-7.867452 ± 3%	5.5010 ± 3%
²⁰⁸ Pb-RCNP	13.46 ± 0.10	19.6 ± 0.6	0.170 ± 0.023	13.9 ± 0.1	-7.867452 ± 3%	5.5010 ± 3%
²⁰⁸ Pb-RCNP-PREXII	13.46 ± 0.10	19.6 ± 0.6	0.283 ± 0.071	13.9 ± 0.1	-7.867452 ± 3%	5.5010 ± 3%
¹²⁰ Sn	15.38 ± 0.10	8.59 ± 0.37	0.150 ± 0.017	15.7 ± 0.1	-8.504548 ± 3%	4.6543 ± 3%



Constraints on K from Kaon production in heavy-ion collisions



C. Fuchs et al., PRL 86 (2001) 1974

C. Hartnack et al., PRL 96 (2006) 012302

Indication: the incompressibility K should be less than 200 MeV

Azimuthal Anisotropy

$$E \frac{dN^3}{d^3 p} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d^2 N}{p_t dp_t dy} \left(\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{isotropic}}}{1} + \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{directed}}}{2v_1 \cos(\phi - \psi_R)} + \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{elliptic}}}{2v_2 \cos 2(\phi - \psi_R)} + \dots \right)$$

Radial flow

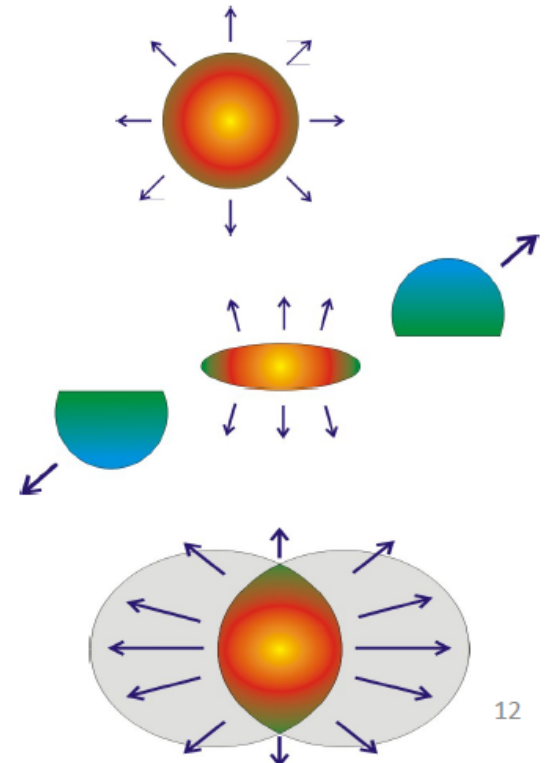
Isotropic expansion of participant zone
Measurable via slope parameter of spectra

Directed flow (v_1)

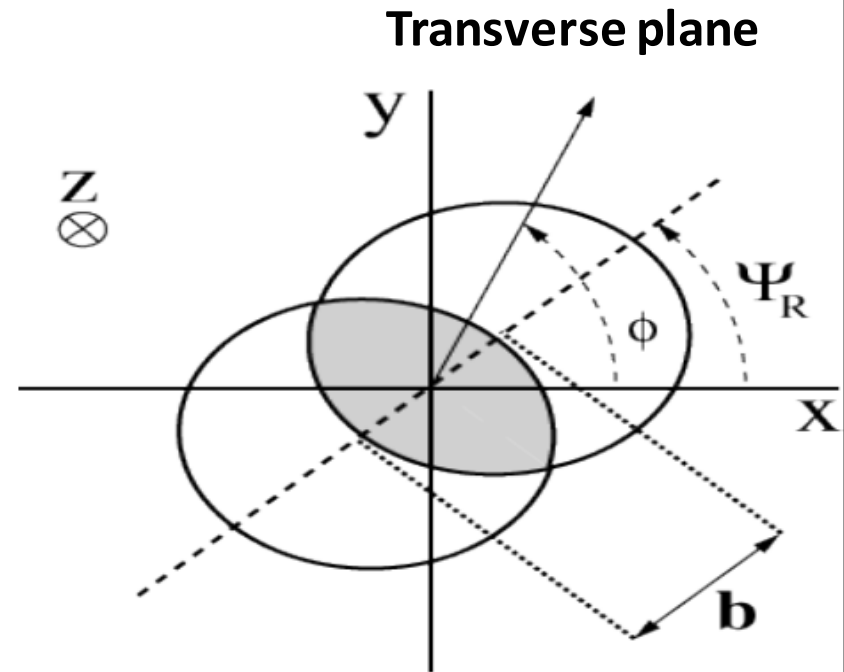
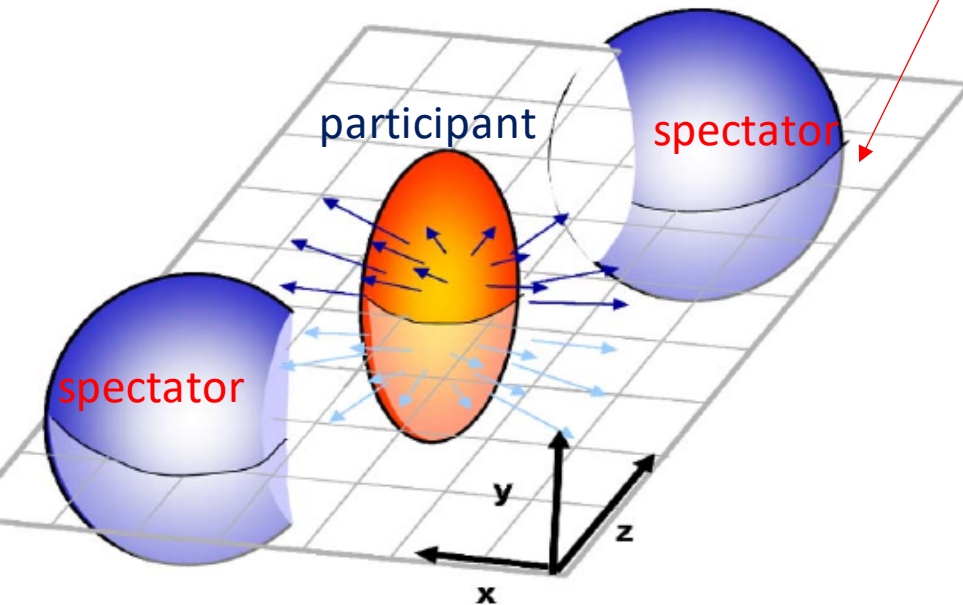
Spectators deflected from dense reaction zone
Sensitive to pressure
Strong sensitivity to EoS

Elliptic flow (v_2)

Asymmetry out- vs. in-plane emission
Emission mostly during early phase
Sensitive to EoS



Reaction Plane



- Reaction plane provides natural coordinate system in non central collisions
- Experimentally the reaction plane Ψ_r is unknown
- Experimental estimator of the reaction plane is event plane
- Anisotropic flow \equiv azimuthal correlation with the reaction plane⁰

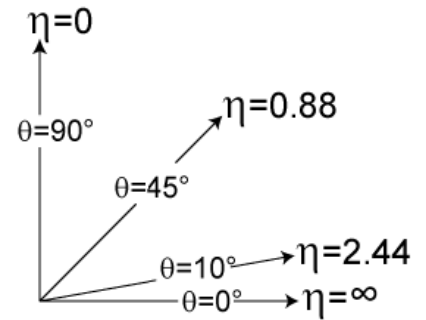
Momentum $\mathbf{P}=(\mathbf{p}_x,\mathbf{p}_y,\mathbf{p}_z)=(p_T,y)$

Rapidity y

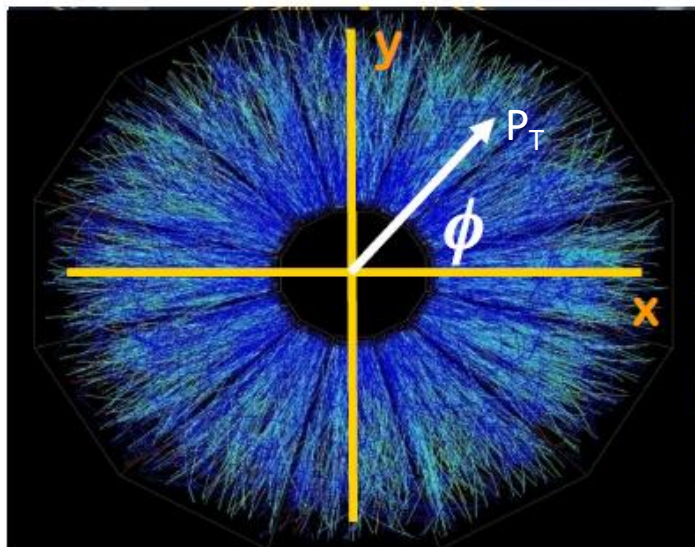
$$y = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{E + p_z c}{E - p_z c} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{Highly relativistic}}$$

pseudo-rapidity η

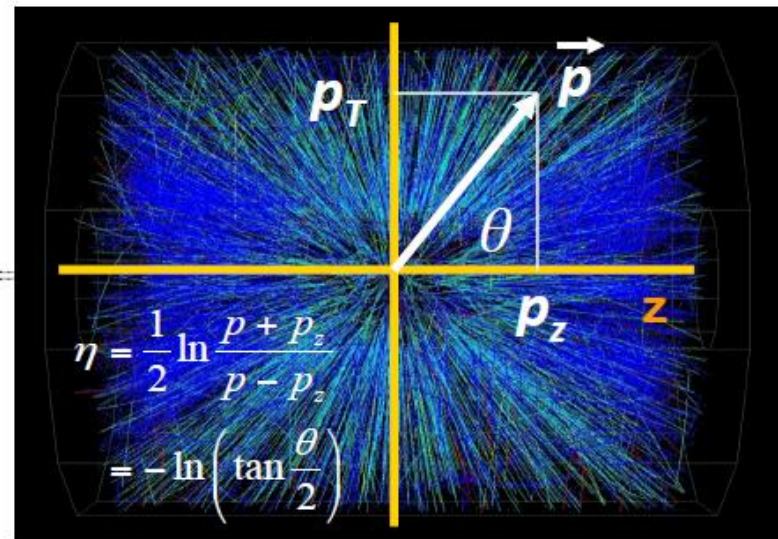
$$y \simeq -\ln \tan \frac{\theta}{2}$$



Transverse plane

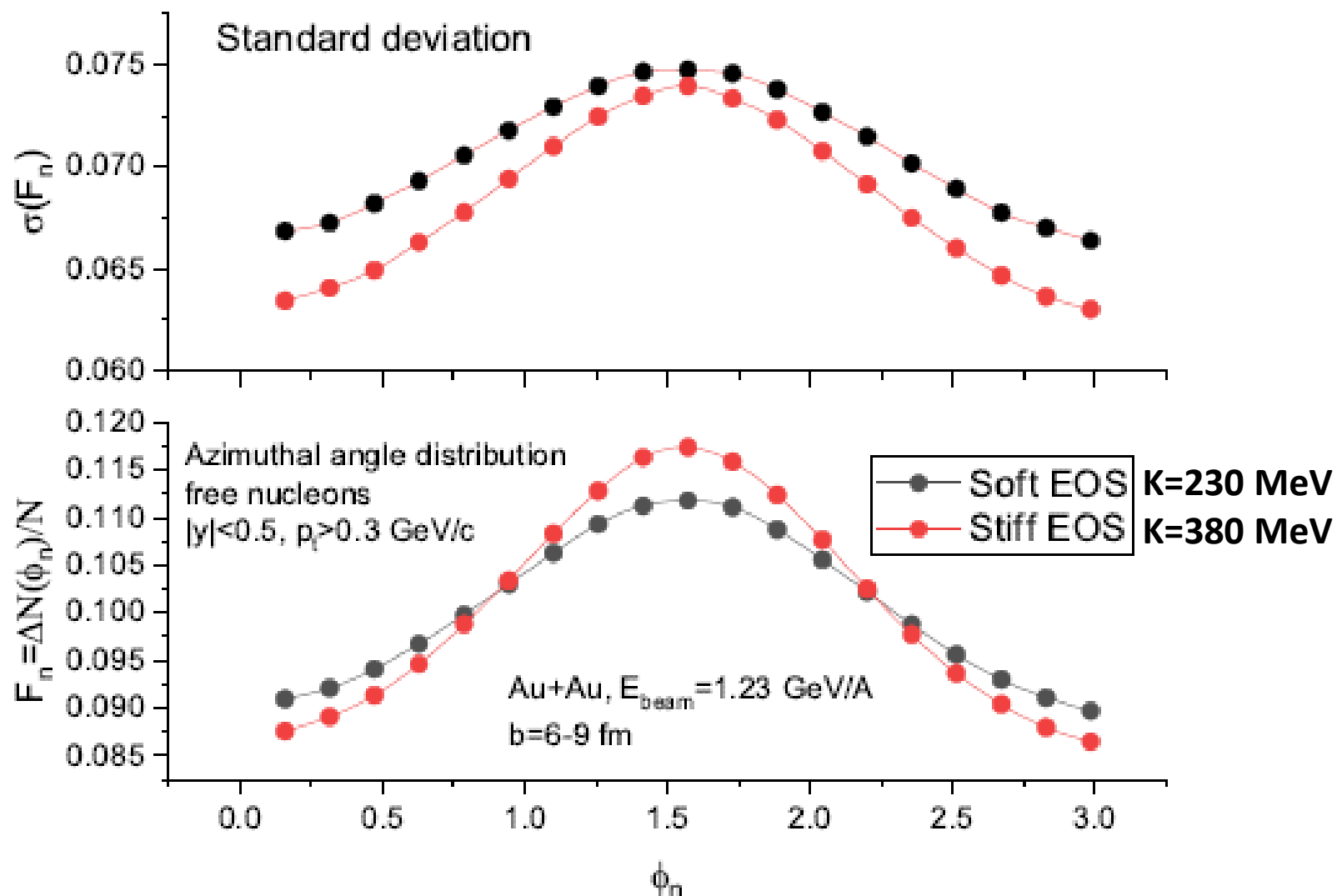


ZDC



ZDC





IBUU transport model simulations

Bao-An Li and Jake Richter, Nucl. Phys. A 1034 (2023) 122640



Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

TRANSVERSE MOMENTUM ANALYSIS OF COLLECTIVE MOTION IN RELATIVISTIC NUCLEAR COLLISIONS

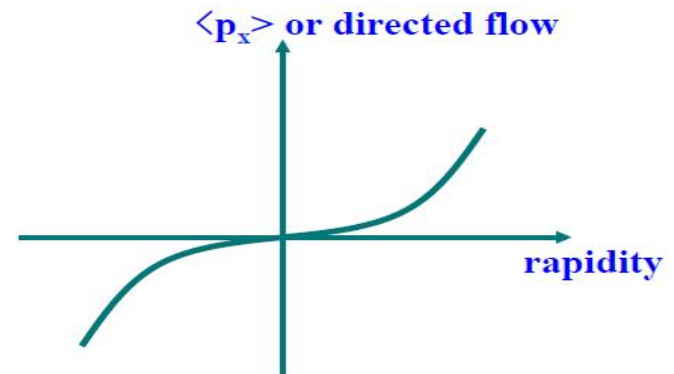
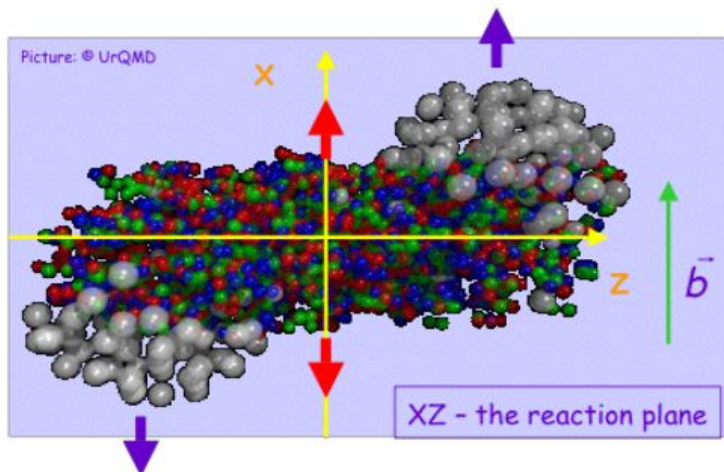
P. Danielewicz and G. Odyniec

Phys. Lett. B 157 (1985) 146

Directed flow (v_1)

$$v_1(y, p_t) = \langle \cos(\phi) \rangle (y, p_t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{p_{ix}}{p_{it}}$$

Directed flow is quantified by the first harmonic (v_1)

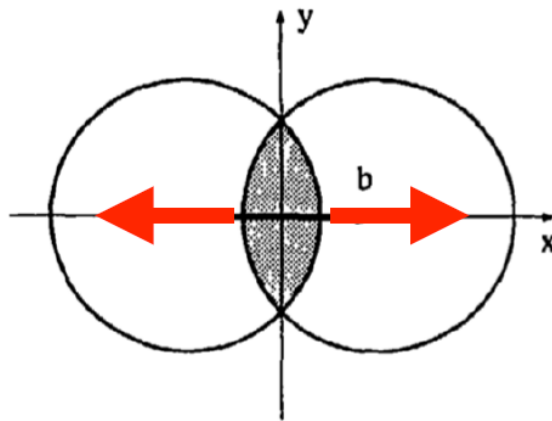


Azimuthal anisotropy in non-central collisions

Jean-Yves Ollitrault, IPhT Saclay, France

JY O, Phys. Rev. D 46, 229 (1992)

In hydrodynamics, fluid acceleration is proportional to pressure **gradient**: Larger acceleration along **smaller** dimension x . **Azimuthal anisotropy is generated.**



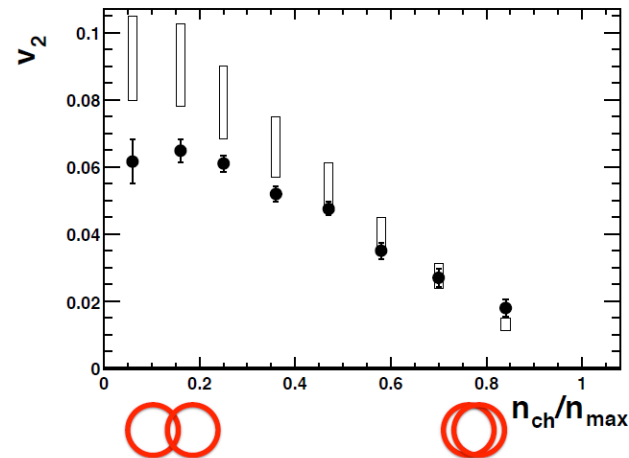
Transverse plane

$$v_2(y, p_t) = \langle \cos(2\phi) \rangle (y, p_t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{p_{ix}^2 - p_{iy}^2}{p_{it}^2}$$

Euler Eq. For flow velocity **U** in ideal fluid:
 $\frac{DU}{Dt} = -\text{gradient of Pressure} / \text{density} + \text{external force}$

Elliptic flow at RHIC

STAR nucl-ex/0009011



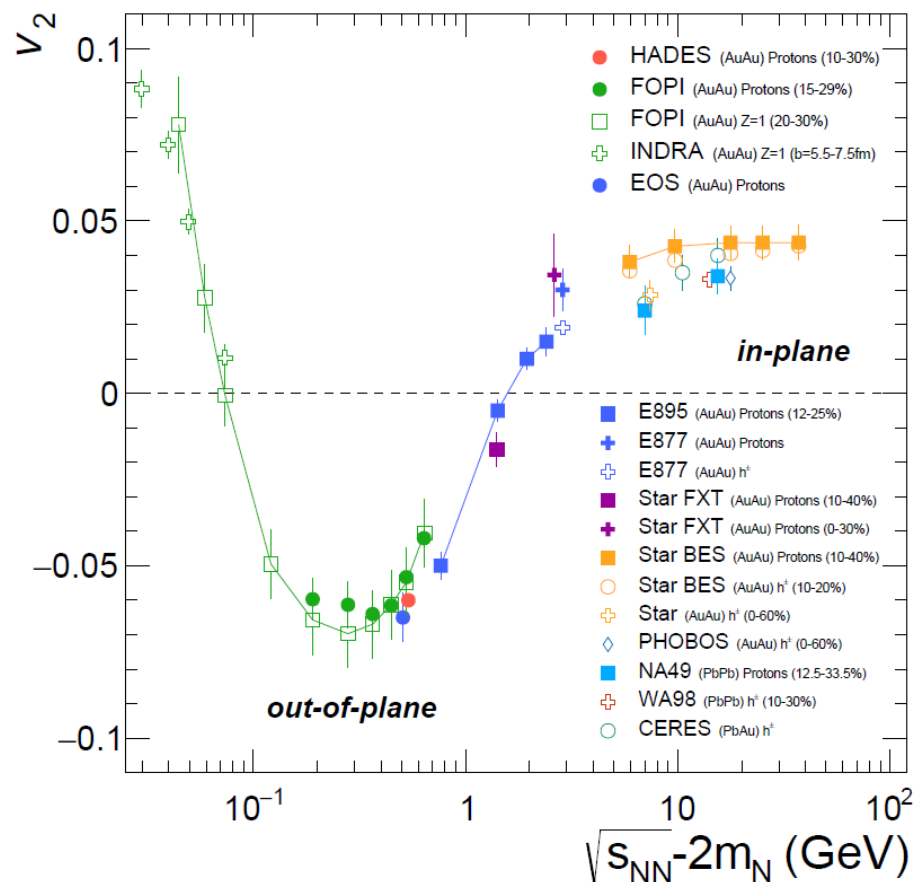
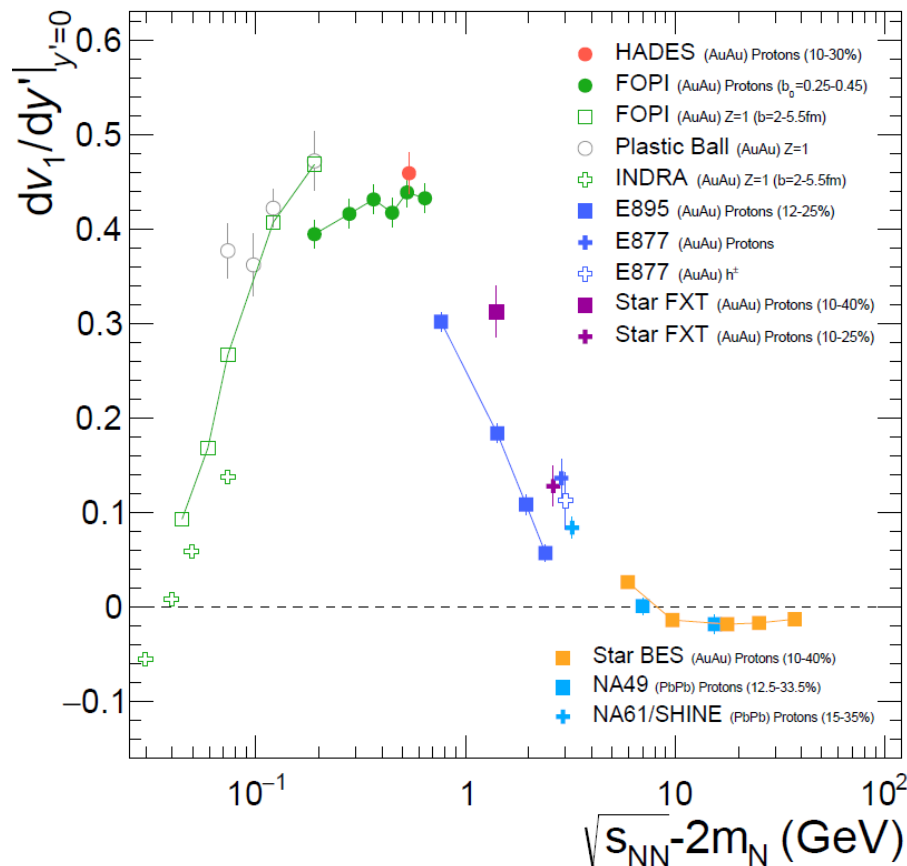
The observation of a large v_2 , compatible with hydrodynamic predictions, came as a surprise, and soon established hydrodynamics as the only way of modeling the expansion

$$\frac{2\pi}{N} \frac{dN}{d\phi} = 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \cos[n(\phi - \Psi_{PP_n})]$$

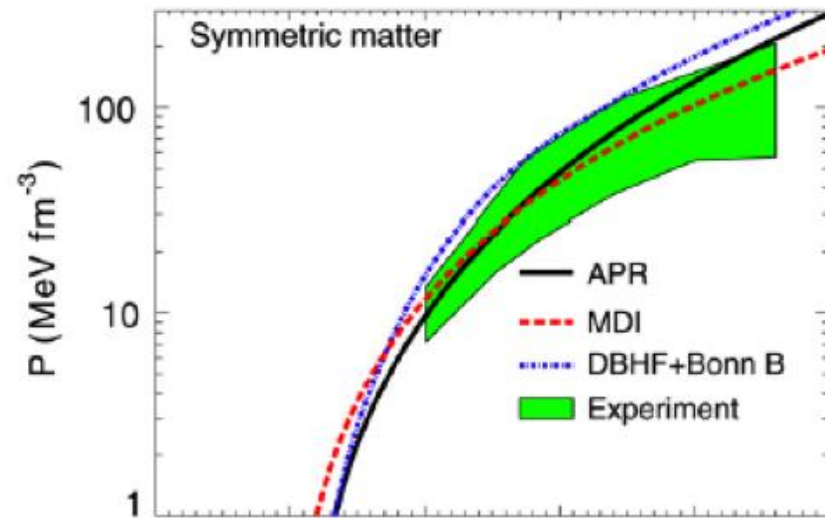
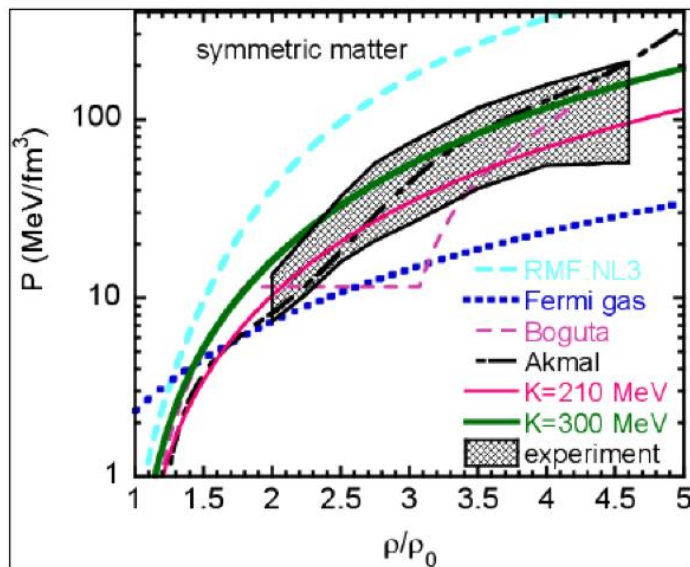
$$v_1(y, p_t) = \langle \cos(\phi) \rangle(y, p_t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{p_{ix}}{p_{it}}$$

$$v_2(y, p_t) = \langle \cos(2\phi) \rangle(y, p_t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{p_{ix}^2 - p_{iy}^2}{p_{it}^2}$$

v_1 and v_2 are anti-correlated

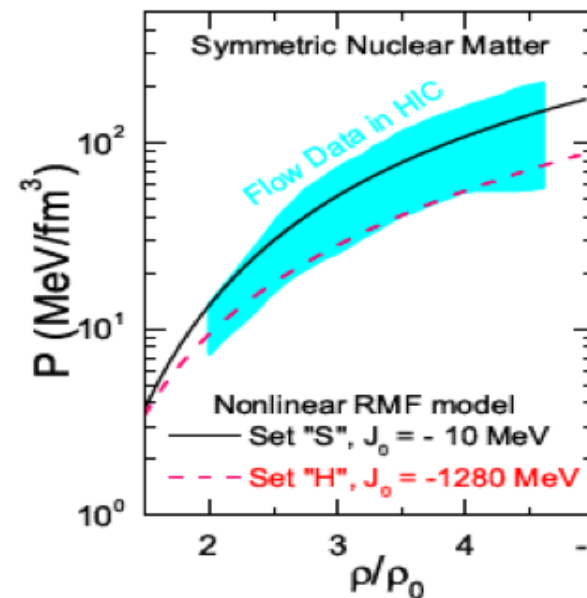
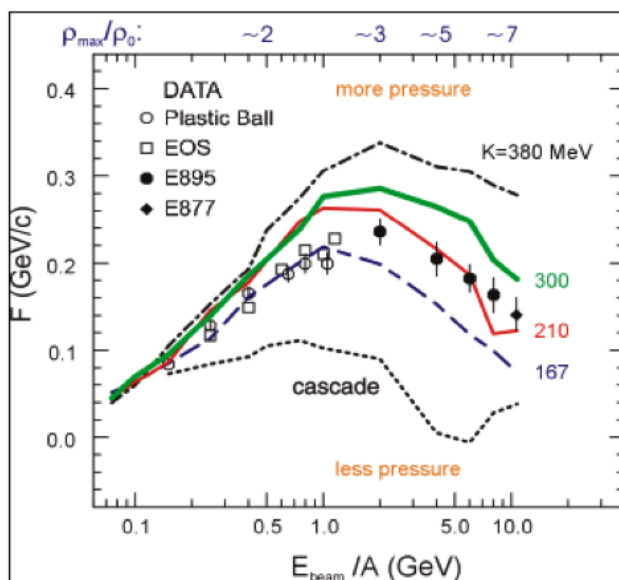


Danielewicz P. L., Lacey R and Lynch W G 2002 *Science* 298 1592



P. G Krastev, Bao-An Li, A. Worley,
PLB 668, 1 (2008)

Flow favors K=167-210 MeV



BJ Cai, LW Chen, NST 28 (12), 1-9 (2017)

Hadronic transport equations:

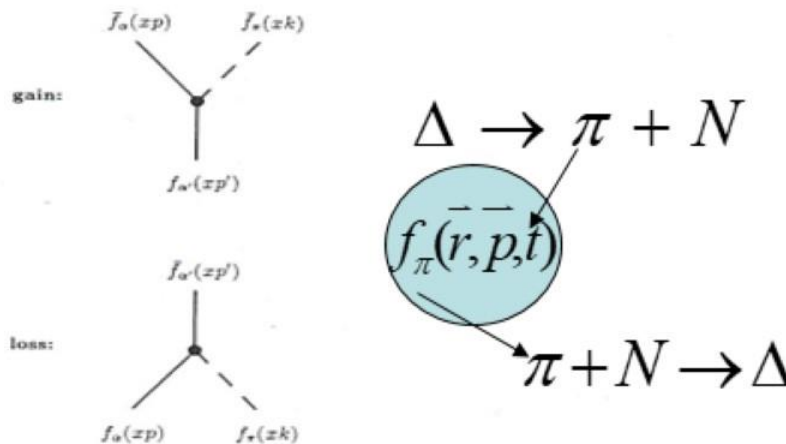
Mean-field potential for baryons

Baryons:
$$\frac{\partial f_b}{\partial t} + \frac{\vec{p}}{E_b} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_r f_b - \vec{\nabla}_r \cdot \vec{U} \vec{\nabla}_p f_b = I_{bb}^b + I_{bm}^b$$

Mesons:
$$\frac{\partial f_m}{\partial t} + \frac{\vec{k}}{E_m} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_r f_m = I_{mm}^m + I_{bm}^m$$
 Assuming no mean-field for mesons

An example:

Collision integral $I_{b\pi}^\pi$: changing rate of pion phase space distribution $f_\pi(\vec{r}, \vec{p}, t)$ due to baryon-pion scatterings



Simulate solutions of the coupled transport equations using test-particles and Monte Carlo:

$$f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}, t) \equiv \frac{1}{N_t} \sum_i \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_i) \delta(\vec{p} - \vec{p}_i)$$

The evolution of $f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}, t)$ is followed on a 6D lattice

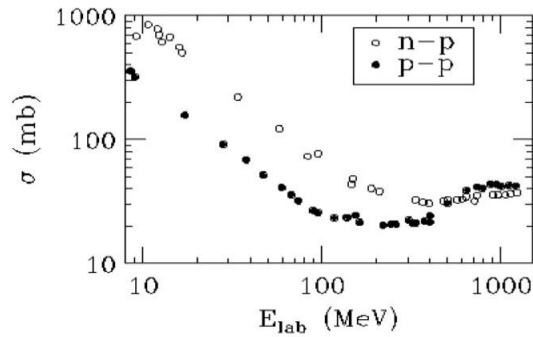
$$I_{b\pi}^\pi(xk) = \frac{\pi}{16} \sum_{\alpha\alpha'} \int \int \frac{M_\alpha M_{\alpha'}}{E_\alpha(p) E_{\alpha'}(p')} W_{b\pi}^\pi(\alpha p, \alpha' p', \pi k) \cdot \delta^{(4)}(p' - p - k) \frac{1}{(2\pi)^6} d\vec{p} d\vec{p}'$$

[(1 + $f_\pi(xk)$) $f_{\alpha'}(xp')$ (1 - $f_\alpha(xp)$)] (gain)
 - $f_\pi(xk) f_\alpha(xp) (1 - f_{\alpha'}(xp'))$] (loss)

Main features:

Pauli blocking (1 - f_α) for Fermions and Bose enhancement (1 + f_π) for bosons are included.

NN cross section in free-space

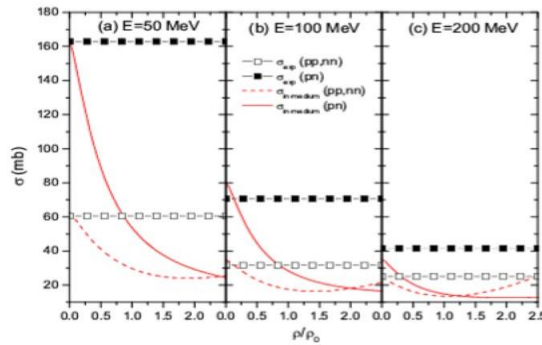


$$\sigma_{np}^{\text{free}} = -70.67 - 18.18\beta^{-1} + 25.26\beta^{-2} + 113.85\beta \text{ (mb)},$$

$$\sigma_{pp}^{\text{free}} = 13.73 - 15.04\beta^{-1} + 8.76\beta^{-2} + 68.67\beta^4 \text{ (mb)},$$

Where $\beta=v/c$ is the speed of the projectile nucleon

In-medium NN cross sections



$$\sigma_{np}^{\text{medium}} = \left[31.5 + 0.092 \text{abs}(20.2 - E_{\text{lab}}^{0.53})^{2.9} \right] \cdot \frac{1.0 + 0.0034 E_{\text{lab}}^{1.51} \rho^2}{1.0 + 21.55 \rho^{1.34}} \text{ (mb)}$$

$$\sigma_{pp}^{\text{medium}} = \left[23.5 + 0.0256(18.2 - E_{\text{lab}}^{0.5})^4 \right] \cdot \frac{1.0 + 0.1667 E_{\text{lab}}^{1.05} \rho^3}{1.0 + 9.704 \rho^{1.2}} \text{ (mb)}.$$

G.Q. Li and R. Machleidt,
Phys. Rev. C48, 11702 and C49, 566 (1994).

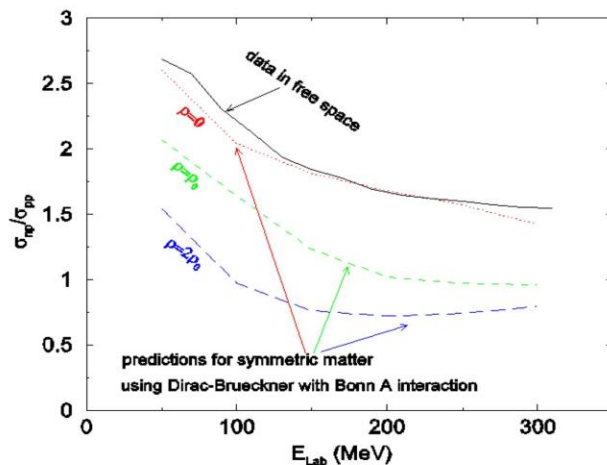
Opposing conclusions with other models:

1. Q. Li et al., PRC 62, 014606 (2000)
2. G. Giansiracusa et al., PRC 53, R1478 (1996)
3. H.-J. Schulze et al., PRC 55, 3006 (1997)
4. M. Kohno et al., PRC 57, 3495 (1998)

Probing the isospin-dependence of in-medium NN cross sections

How does the σ_{np}/σ_{pp} ratio change in neutron-rich medium?

Bao-An Li, Pawel Danielewicz and Bill Lynch, Phys. Rev. C71, 054603 (2005)



Fermi's Golden Rule for scattering:

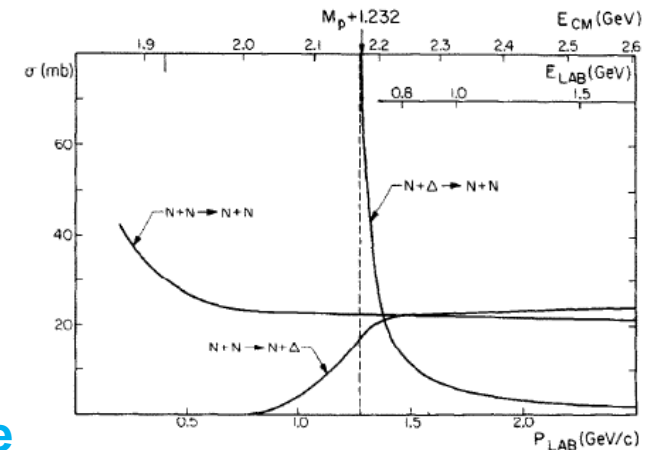
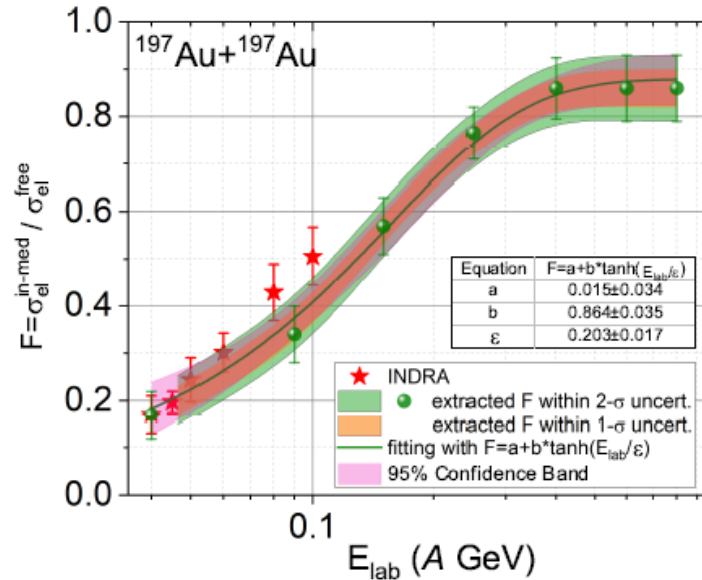
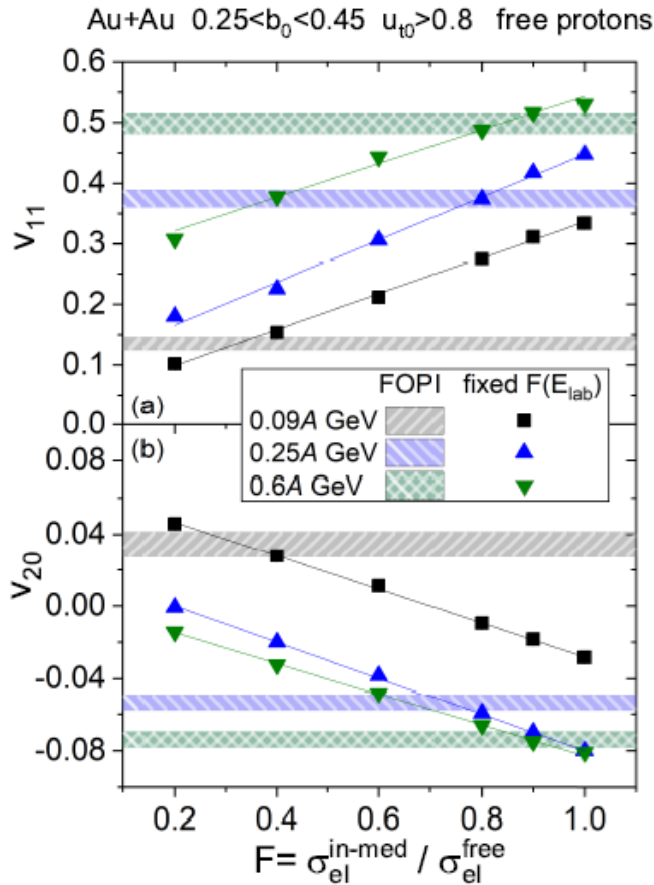
Xsection $\sim M^2 \cdot \text{Density of final state} \cdot \text{Pauli}$

Blocking/Incoming current

Accessing the in-medium effects on nucleon-nucleon elastic cross section with collective flows and nuclear stopping

Pengcheng Li,^{1,2} Yongjia Wang,² Qingfeng Li,^{2,3,*} and Hongfei Zhang⁴

Using UrQMD, Phys. Lett. B 828 (2022) 137019



Only elastic xsections are modified by F
Inelastic xsections are kept the same as in free-space

PION COLLECTIVITY IN RELATIVISTIC HEAVY-ION COLLISIONS

George F. BERTSCH¹, Gerald E. BROWN², Volker KOCH^{2*} and Bao-An LI¹

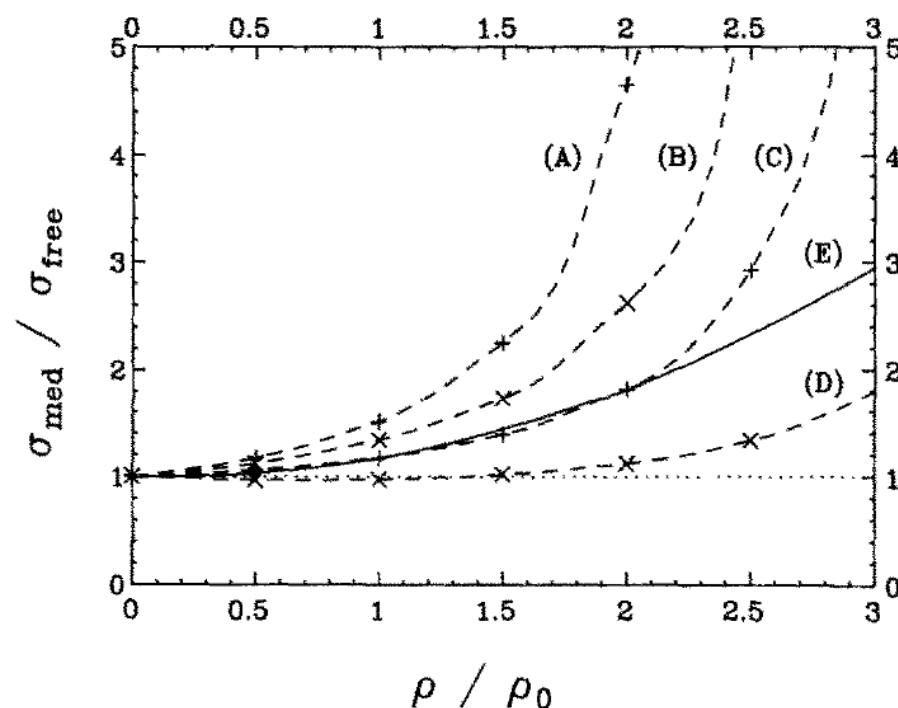
Nuclear Physics **A490** (1988) 745-755

$$\text{NN} \rightarrow \text{N}\Delta \text{ cross section : } \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{|v_1 - v_2|} \frac{m^2}{E_{i1} E_{i2}} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int dm^{*2} \frac{\frac{1}{2}\Gamma}{(m^* - m_\Delta)^2 + \frac{1}{4}\Gamma^2} \\ \times \int d\Omega_3 \frac{mp_3}{\sqrt{s}} |\bar{M}|_{\text{NN} \rightarrow \text{N}\Delta}^2,$$

Pion dispersion/mean-field affects:

- (1) Delta width through phase space
- (2) Pion propagator, thus NN interaction

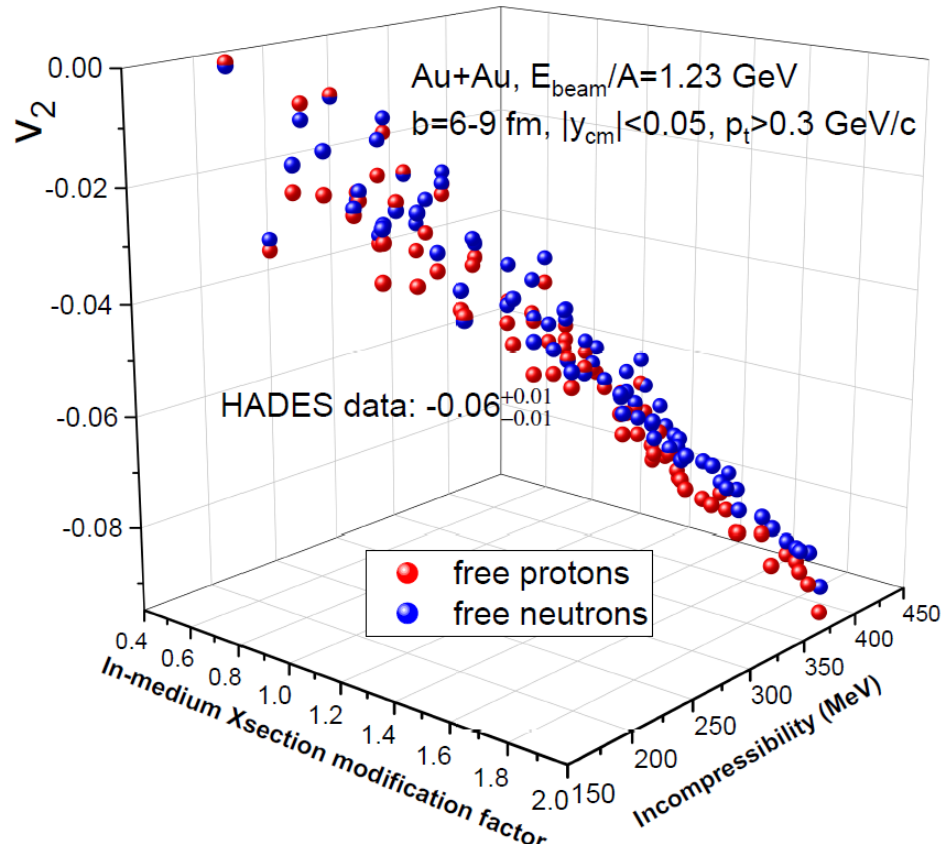
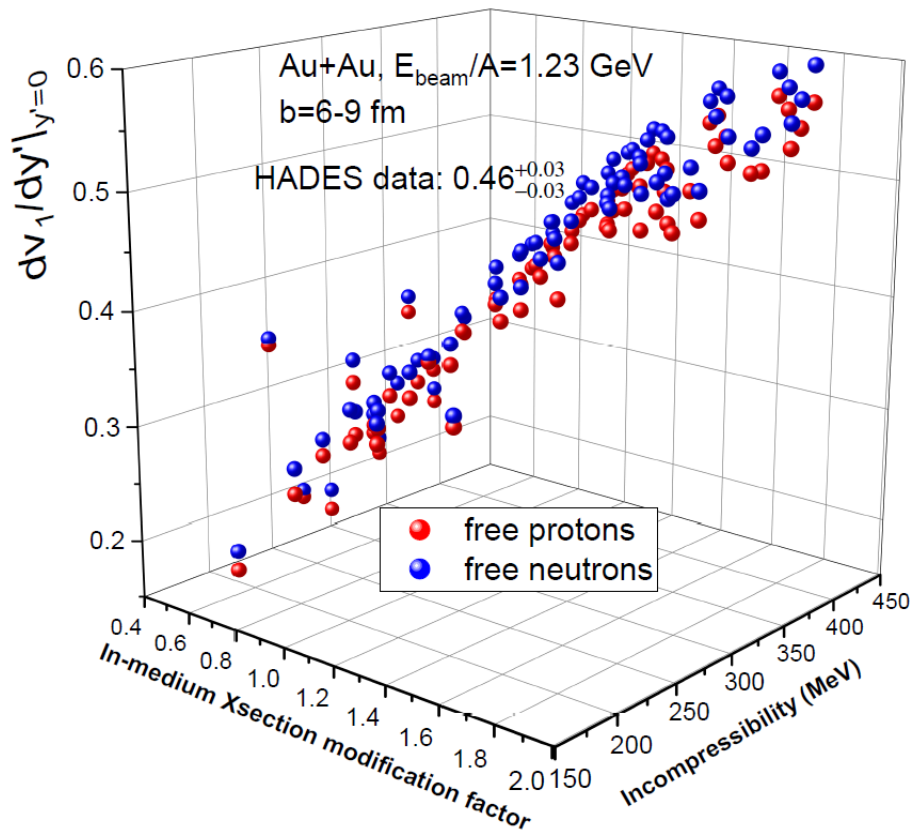
set A	$\Lambda_\pi = 780 \text{ MeV}$ $g'_{\text{N}\Delta} = \frac{1}{3}$	$\Lambda_\rho = 1800 \text{ MeV}$ $f_{\text{NN}}^\rho = 6.24$ $f_{\text{N}\Delta}^\rho = 10.54$ $m_\rho = 770 \text{ MeV}$
set B	$\Lambda_\pi = 565 \text{ MeV}$ $g'_{\text{N}\Delta} = \frac{1}{3}$	no rho exchange
set C	$\Lambda_\pi = 560 \text{ MeV}$ $g'_{\text{N}\Delta} = 0.4$	no rho exchange
set D	$\Lambda_\pi = 545 \text{ MeV}$ $g'_{\text{N}\Delta} = 0.5$	no rho exchange

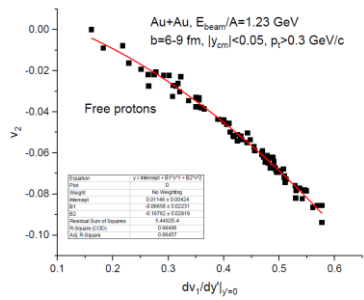


Bayesian inference of in-medium baryon-baryon scattering cross sections from HADES proton flow data

[Bao-An Li and Wen-Jie Xie, 2303.10474 \[nucl-th\], Nucl. Phys. A \(2023\) in press](#)

Using the simplest Skyrme force

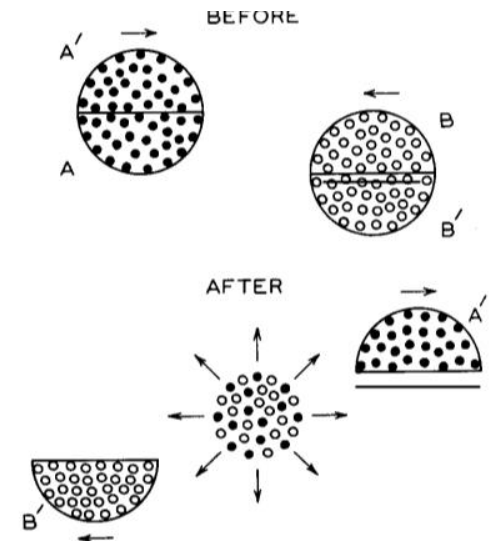




$$v_2(y, p_t) = \langle \cos(2\phi) \rangle (y, p_t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{p_{ix}^2 - p_{iy}^2}{p_{it}^2}$$

$$v_1(y, p_t) = \langle \cos(\phi) \rangle (y, p_t) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{p_{ix}}{p_{it}}$$

v_1 and v_2 are anti-correlated



Reaching the stationary state in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) process

Bayes' theorem:

Prior distribution

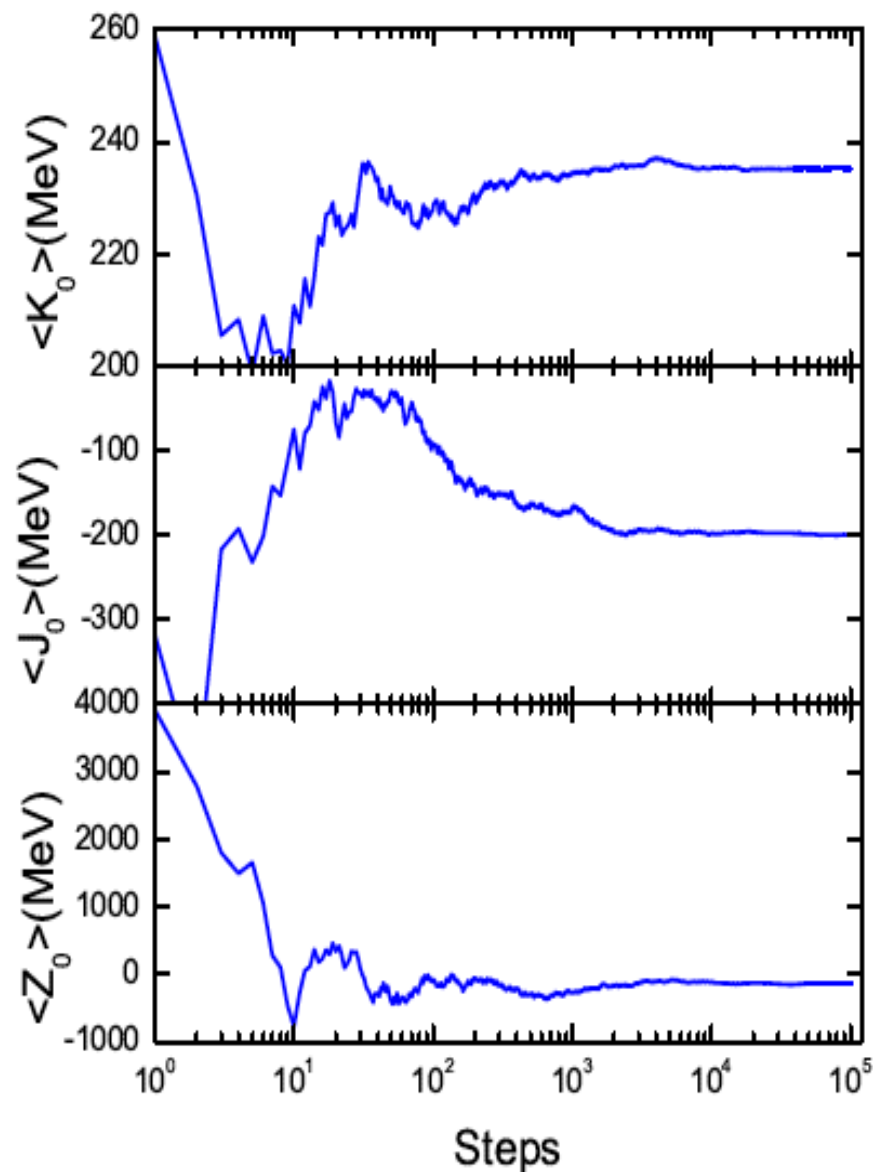
$$P(\mathcal{M}(K_0, J_0, Z_0)|D) = CP(D|\mathcal{M}(K_0, J_0, Z_0))P(\mathcal{M}(K_0, J_0, Z_0)),$$

Likelihood function

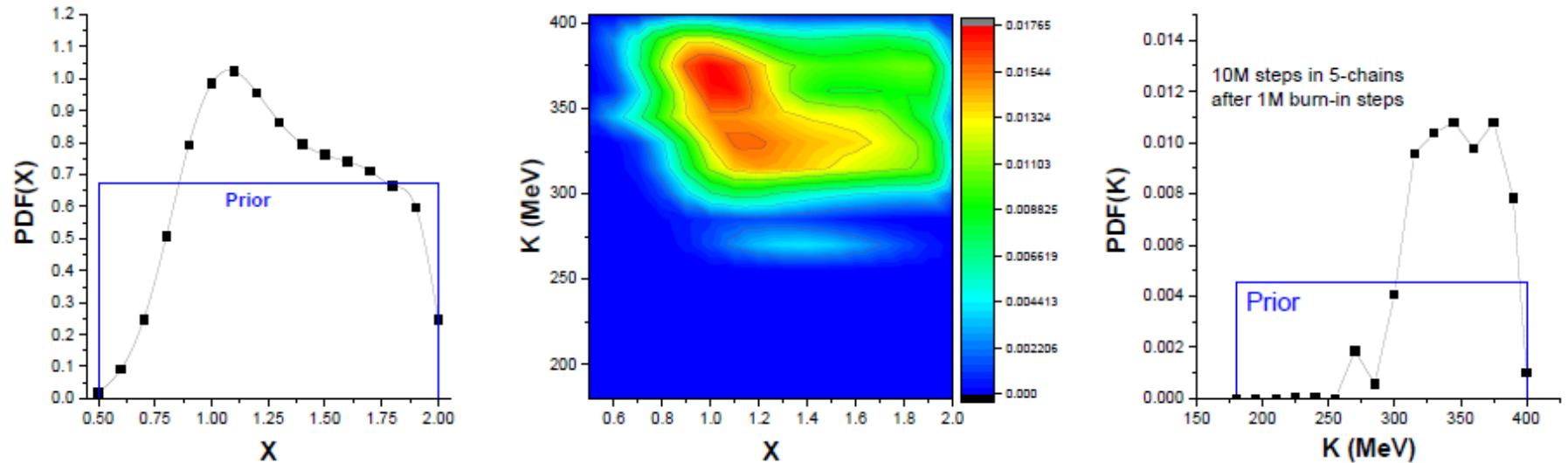
Calculations data

$$P[D|\mathcal{M}(K_0, J_0, Z_0)] = \prod_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_{D,j}} \exp \left[-\frac{(P_{th,j} - P_{D,j})^2}{2\sigma_{D,j}^2} \right]$$

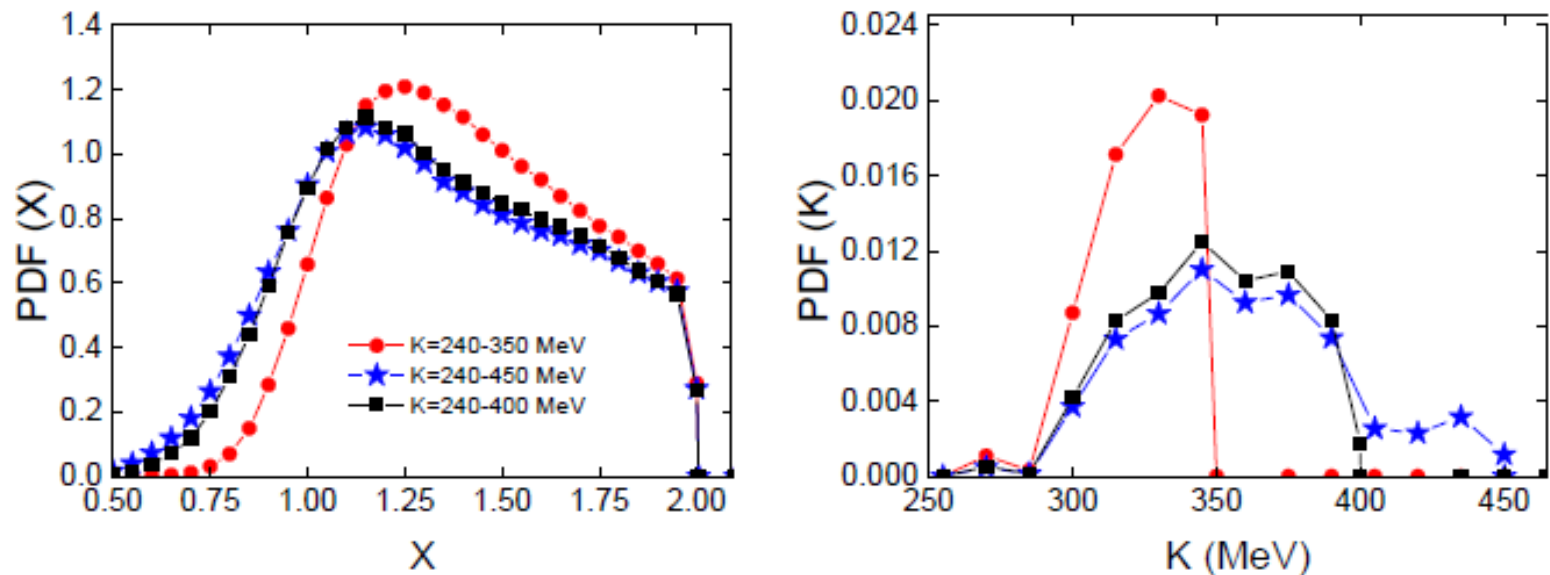
Metropolis-Hastings algorithm
in deciding each step



Indication of enhanced in-medium NN cross sections



Effects of prior ranges



HADES data prefers an ENHANCED in-medium K and a stiff K much higher than what GMR data indicates

Prior range of K (MeV)	Mean of X	Mean of K	MPV of X	MPV of K
240-350	1.38,	325.38,	$1.25^{+0.40}_{-0.15}$,	330^{+15}_{-15}
240-400	1.32,	349.98,	$1.20^{+0.45}_{-0.15}$,	375^{+15}_{-45}
240-450	1.31,	358.97,	$1.15^{+0.50}_{-0.20}$,	375^{+15}_{-45}

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

Boltzmann-Uehling-Uhlenbeck equation for one component system

$$P(\rho) = \rho^2 \frac{dE_0(\rho)}{d\rho} = \frac{\rho^2}{\rho - \rho_0} \left[K \left(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0} \right)^2 + \frac{J_0}{2} \left(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0} \right)^3 + \frac{Z_0}{6} \left(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0} \right)^4 \right].$$

$$\frac{\partial f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}, t)}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_r f - \vec{\nabla}_r V \cdot \vec{\nabla}_p f = I_c(f, \sigma_{NN})$$

$$V = V_0 + V_{\text{sym}}$$

Isospin-independent potential

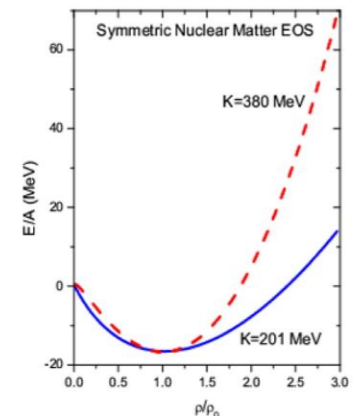
$$V_0 = a(\rho / \rho_0) + b(\rho / \rho_0)^\sigma$$

$$a = -29.81 - 46.90 \frac{K + 44.73}{K - 166.32} \text{ (MeV)},$$

$$b = 23.45 \frac{K + 255.78}{K - 166.32} \text{ (MeV)},$$

$$\sigma = \frac{K + 44.73}{211.05}.$$

EOS of symmetric matter

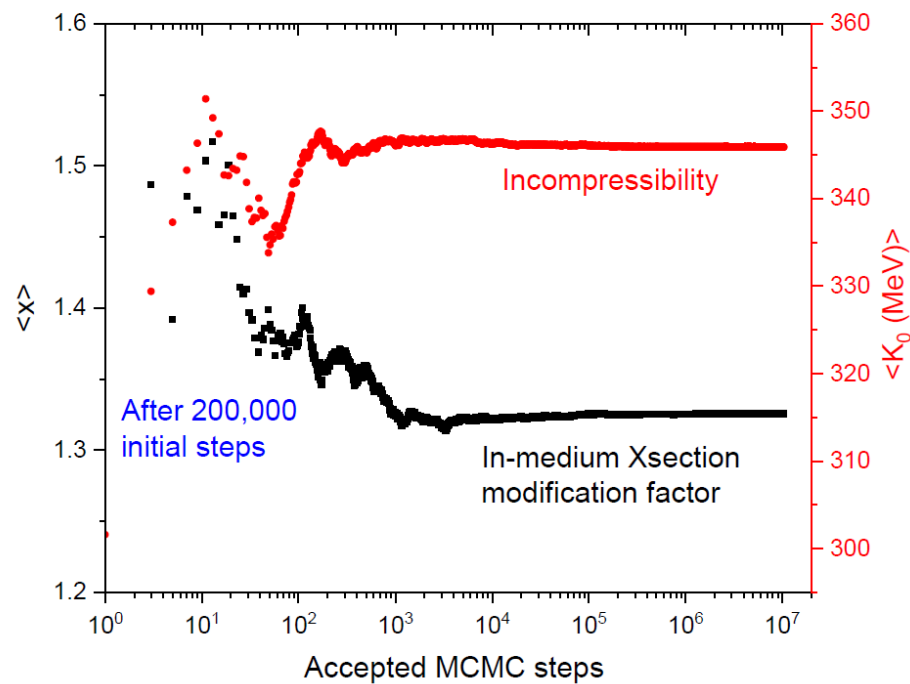


Probes of the EOS of symmetric nuclear matter

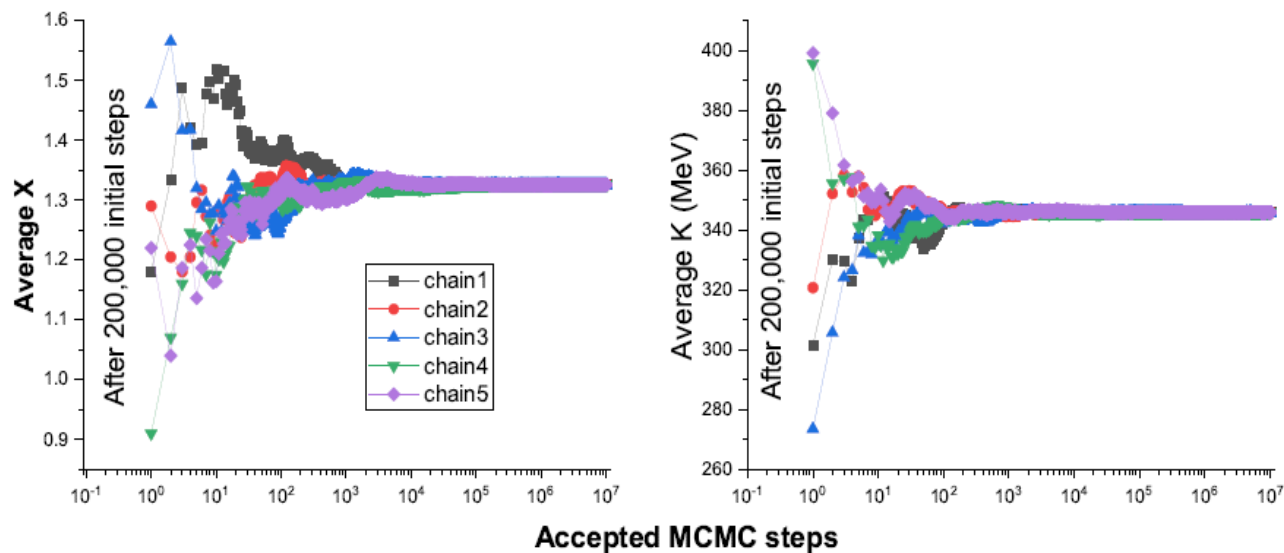
- **Collective vibrations of nuclei probing the incompressibility K around ρ_0**
- **Particle production especially strange particles (e.g., Kaons) from heavy-ion collisions**
- **Collective flow of various particles & clusters probing K around ρ_0 and high-density EOS with the caveat that they are also sensitive to the poorly known viscosity (in-medium particle-particle scattering cross sections)**

MANY interesting issues remain to be resolved

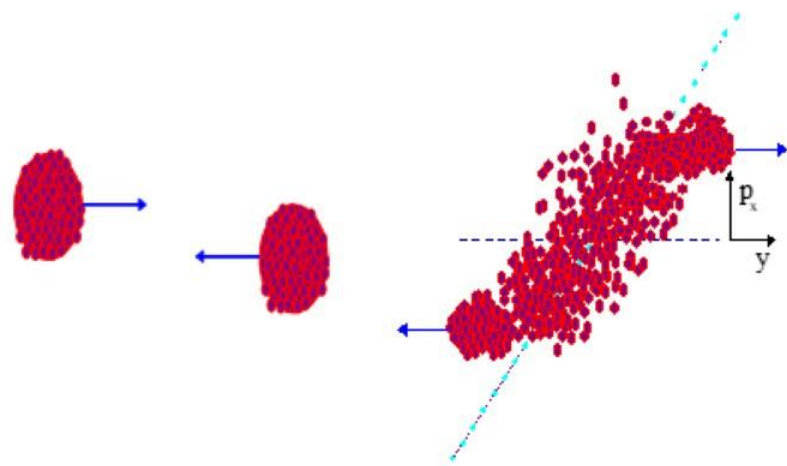
A single MCMC chain



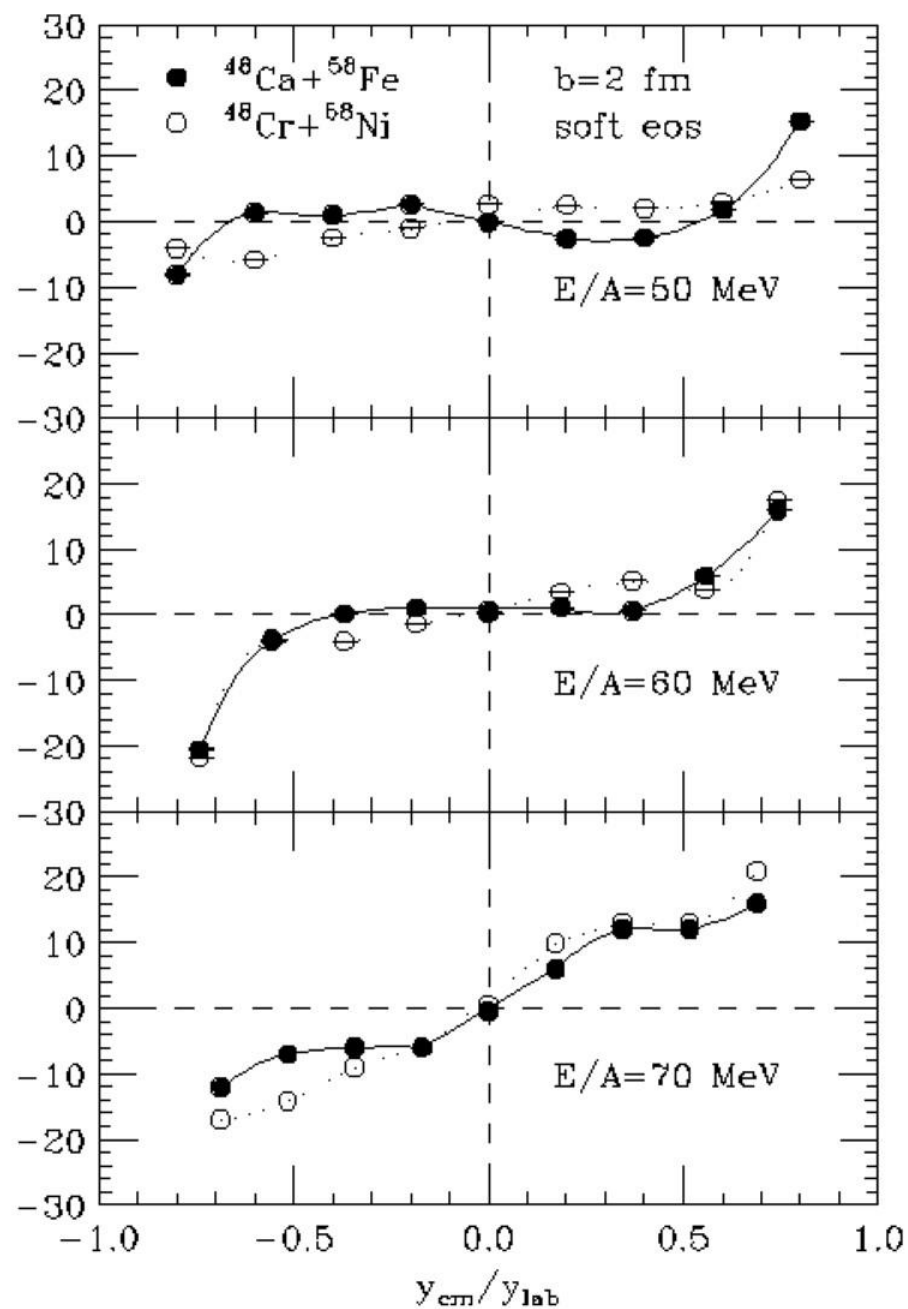
Multi MCMC chains



Transverse momentum analysis of collective flow near the balance energy

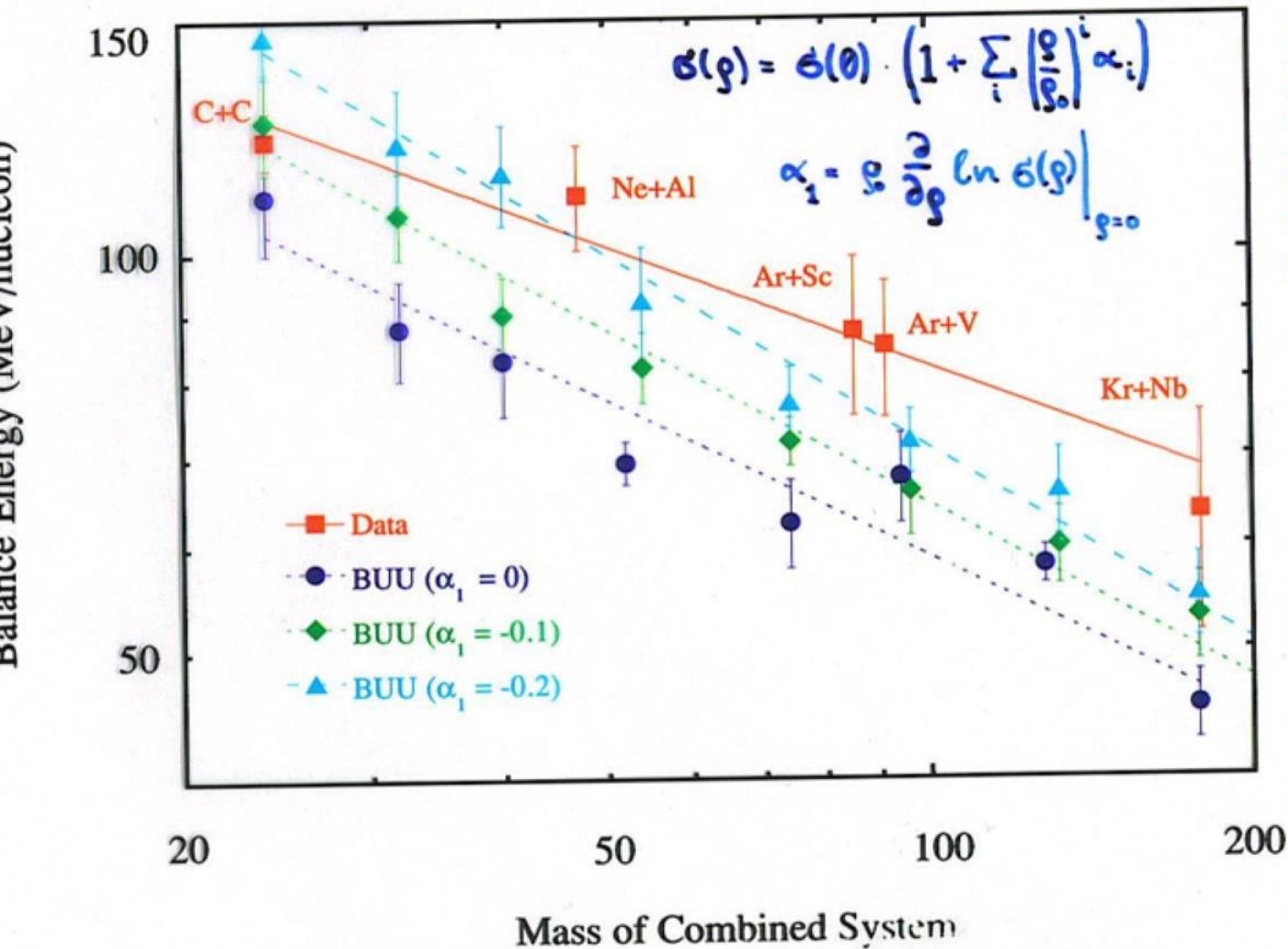


$\langle p_x/A \rangle$ (MeV/c/nuc.)



$$\sigma_{\text{medium}} = \sigma_{\text{free space}} \cdot \left(1 + \alpha \frac{r}{\rho_0}\right)$$

Mass Dependence of the Disappearance of Flow



No information about the isospin dependence of the in-medium NN cross section is obtained

Data: G. Westfall et al., PRL 71, 1986 (1993)

Calculations: D. Klakow, G. Welke, W.B., PRC 48, 1982 (1993)

Bayesian inference of high-density SNM EOS parameters from heavy-ion reaction data

	K_0	J_0	Z_0
A_V	235	-200	-146
σ	30	200	1728
Min	145	-800	-5330
Max (3σ)	325	400	5038

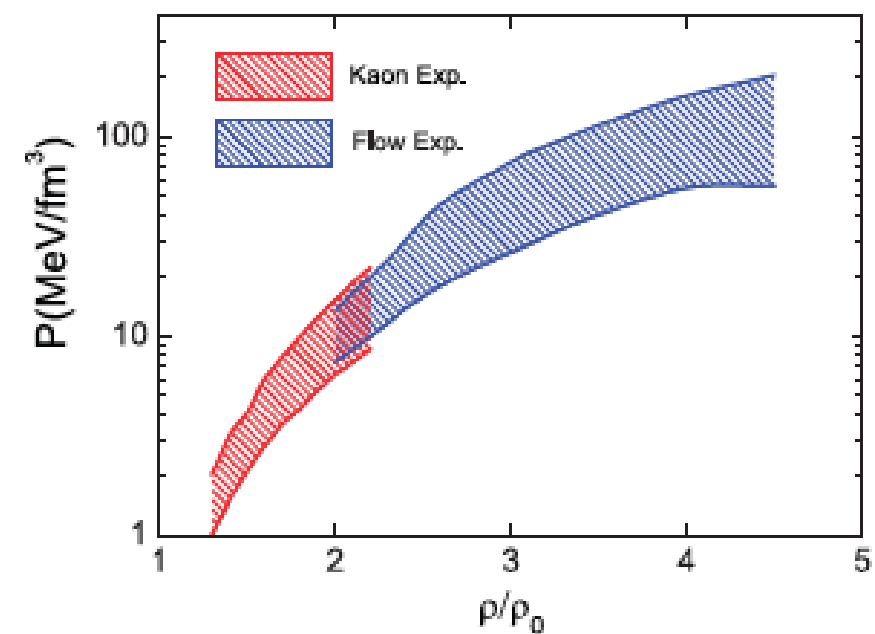
Prior ranges of SNM EOS parameters based on theories and data available

Margueron J, Hoffmann C R and Gulminelli F
2018 PRC97, 025805 and 025806

Antic S, Chatterjee D, Carreau T and Gulminelli F
2019 J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part Phys. 46 065109

The pressure in symmetric nuclear matter

$$P(\rho) = \rho^2 \frac{dE_0(\rho)}{d\rho} = \frac{\rho^2}{\rho - \rho_0} \left[K_0 \left(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0} \right)^2 + \frac{J_0}{2} \left(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0} \right)^3 + \frac{Z_0}{6} \left(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{3\rho_0} \right)^4 \right].$$



Constraints on the EOS of symmetric nuclear matter from heavy-ion collisions

Danielewicz P. I., Lacey R and Lynch W G 2002 *Science* 298 1592

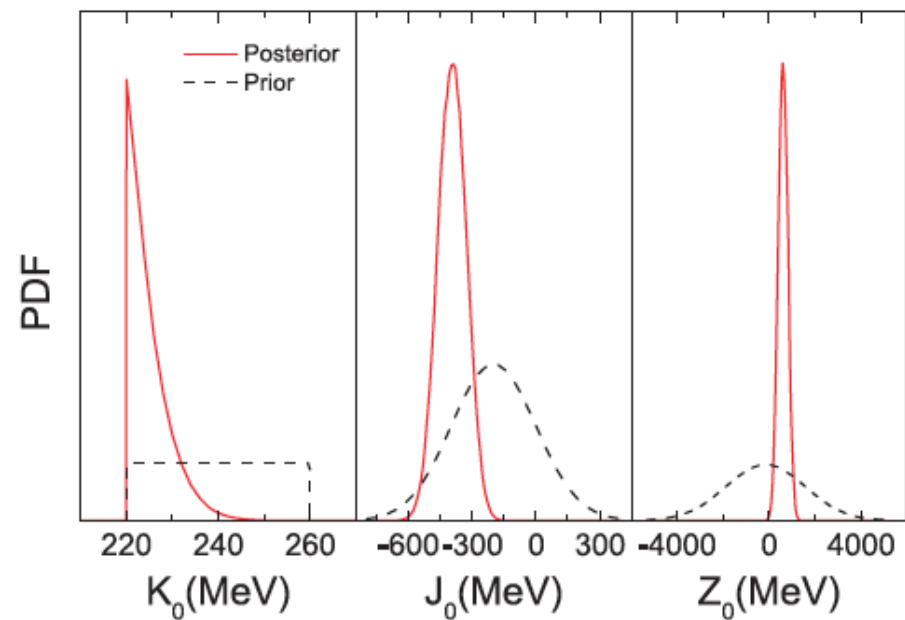
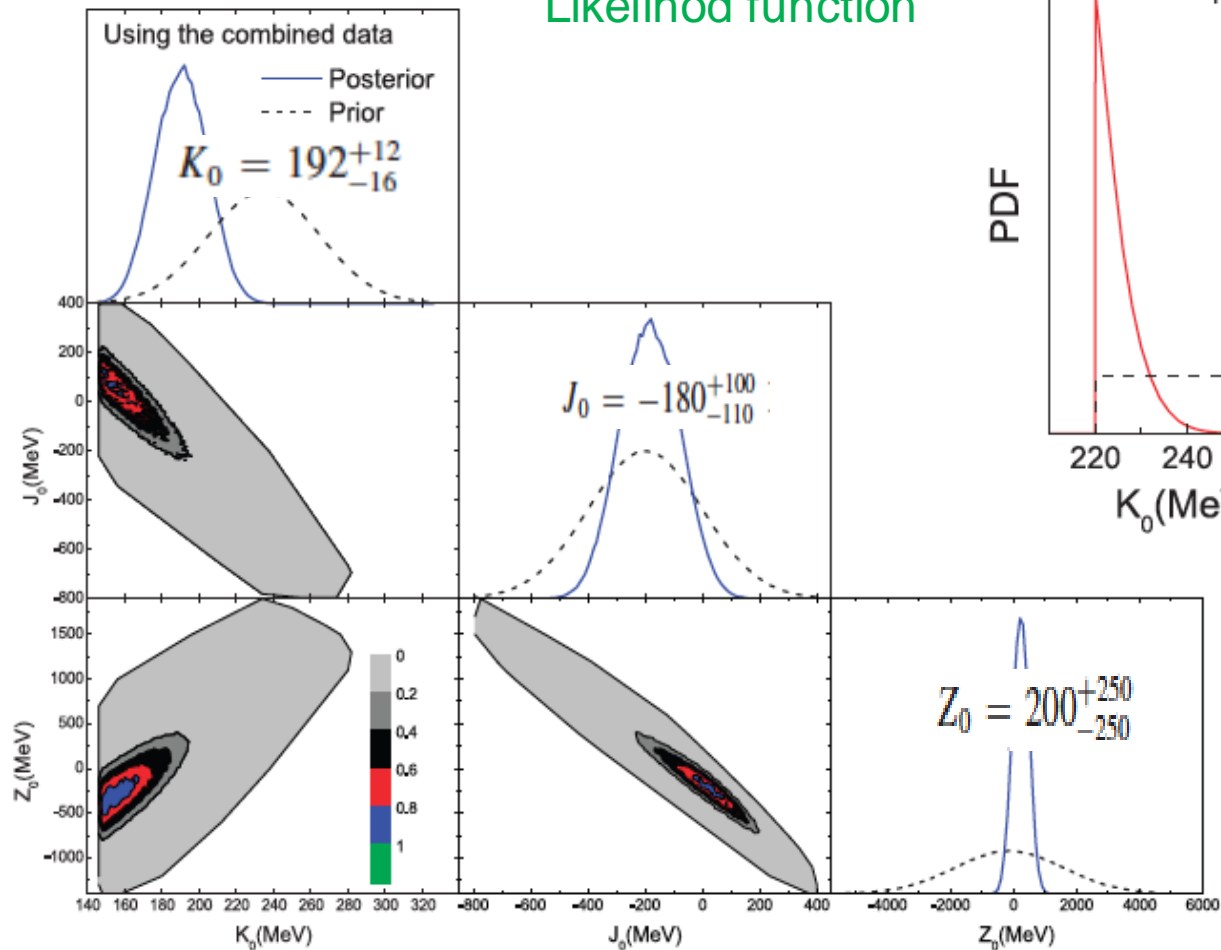
Fuchs C 2006 *Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys.* 56 1

Lynch W G et al 2009 *Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys.* 62 427

Posterior PDF: $P(\mathcal{M}(K_0, J_0, Z_0)|D) = CP(D|\mathcal{M}(K_0, J_0, Z_0))P(\mathcal{M}(K_0, J_0, Z_0))$,

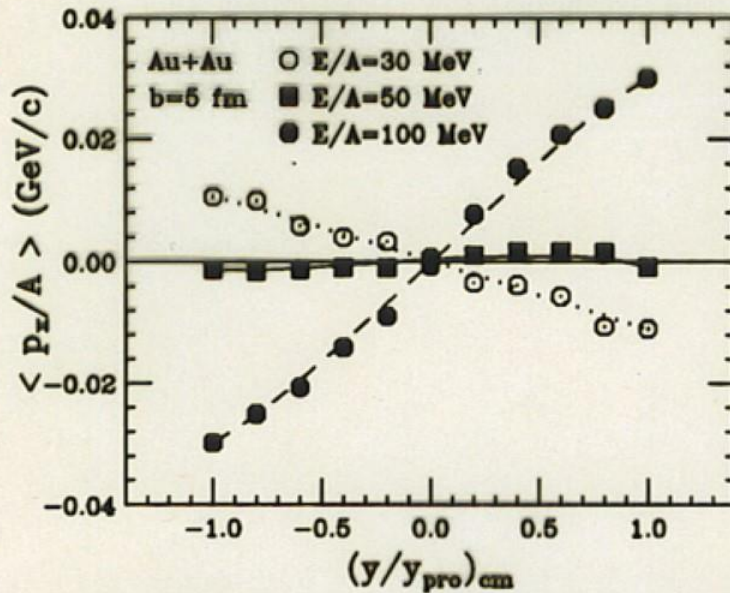
$$P[D|\mathcal{M}(K_0, J_0, Z_0)] = \prod_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_{D,j}} \exp \left[-\frac{(P_{th,j} - P_{D,j})^2}{2\sigma_{D,j}^2} \right]$$

Likelihood function



Kaon production and elliptical flow data from GSI favors a K_0 smaller than the fiducial value from ISGMR data: 240 ± 20 MeV

Transverse
flow



IBUU calculations
Bao-An Li and A. Sushkov
PRL 82, 5004 (1999)

Differential
transverse
flow

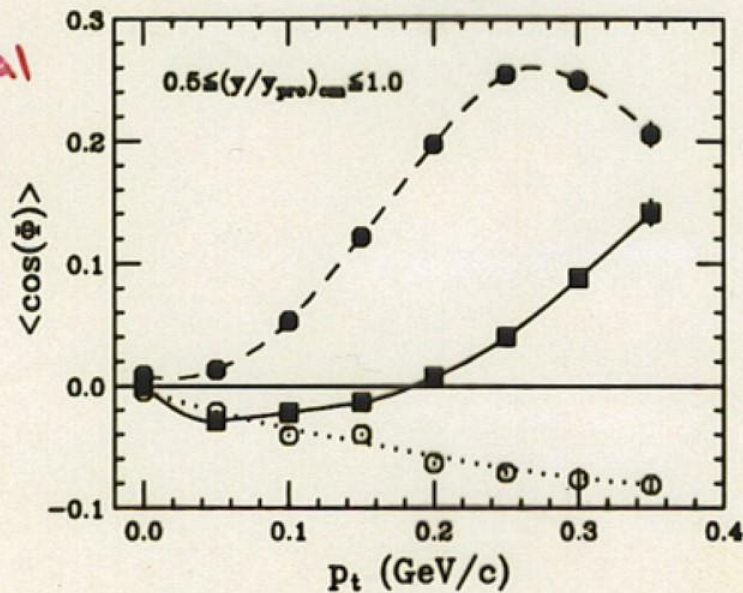


FIG. 1. Total (upper) and differential (lower) transverse flow analysis for the reaction of Au+Au

Isospin Dependence of Collective Flow in Heavy-Ion Collisions at Intermediate Energies

Bao-An Li,¹ Zhongzhou Ren,^{2,3} C. M. Ko,¹ and Sherry J. Yennello⁴

¹Cyclotron Institute and Department of Physics, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843

²Ganil, BP5027, F14021 Caen Cedex, France

³Department of Physics, Nanjing University, Nanjing 210008, People's Republic of China

⁴Cyclotron Institute and Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843
(Received 11 January 1996)

Within the framework of an isospin-dependent Boltzmann-Uehling-Uhlenbeck model using initial proton and neutron densities calculated from the nonlinear relativistic mean-field theory, we compare the strength of transverse collective flow in reactions $^{48}\text{Ca} + ^{58}\text{Fe}$ and $^{48}\text{Cr} + ^{58}\text{Ni}$, which have the same mass number but different neutron/proton ratios. The neutron-rich system ($^{48}\text{Ca} + ^{58}\text{Fe}$) is found to show significantly stronger negative deflection and consequently has a higher balance energy, especially in peripheral collisions. [S0031-9007(96)00431-0]

Isospin Dependence of Collective Transverse Flow in Nuclear Collisions

R. Pak,¹ W. Benenson,¹ O. Bjarki,¹ J. A. Brown,¹ S. A. Hannuschke,¹ R. A. Lacey,² Bao-An Li,³ A. Nadasen,⁴ E. Norbeck,⁵ P. Pogodin,⁵ D. E. Russ,⁶ M. Steiner,¹ N. T. B. Stone,¹ A. M. Vander Molen,¹ G. D. Westfall,¹ L. B. Yang,⁵ and S. J. Yennello⁷

¹National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory and Department of Physics and Astronomy, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1321

²Department of Chemistry, State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, New York 11794-3400

³Cyclotron Institute and Department of Physics, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843-3366

⁴Department of Natural Sciences, University of Michigan, Dearborn, Michigan 48128-1491

⁵Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1479

⁶Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742-2021

⁷Cyclotron Institute and Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843-3366
(Received 3 June 1996)

Collective transverse flow of nuclear matter was measured as a function of the ratio of neutrons to protons (N/Z) of the interacting system for the first time. The collisions of three isotopically pure beams of $A = 58$ nuclei with two $A = 58$ targets were studied at 55 MeV/nucleon. The results for the flow variables demonstrate the sensitivity of transport models to elementary aspects of the nucleon-nucleon collisions. [S0031-9007(97)02359-4]

Isospin Dependence of the Balance Energy

R. Pak,¹ Bao-An Li,² W. Benenson,¹ O. Bjarki,¹ J. A. Brown,¹ S. A. Hannuschke,¹ R. A. Lacey,³ D. J. Magestro,¹ A. Nadasen,⁴ E. Norbeck,⁵ D. E. Russ,⁶ M. Steiner,¹ N. T. B. Stone,¹ A. M. Vander Molen,¹ G. D. Westfall,¹ L. B. Yang,⁵ and S. J. Yennello⁷

¹National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory and Department of Physics and Astronomy, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1321

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³Department of Chemistry, State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, New York 11794-3400

⁴Department of Natural Sciences, University of Michigan, Dearborn, Michigan 48128-1491

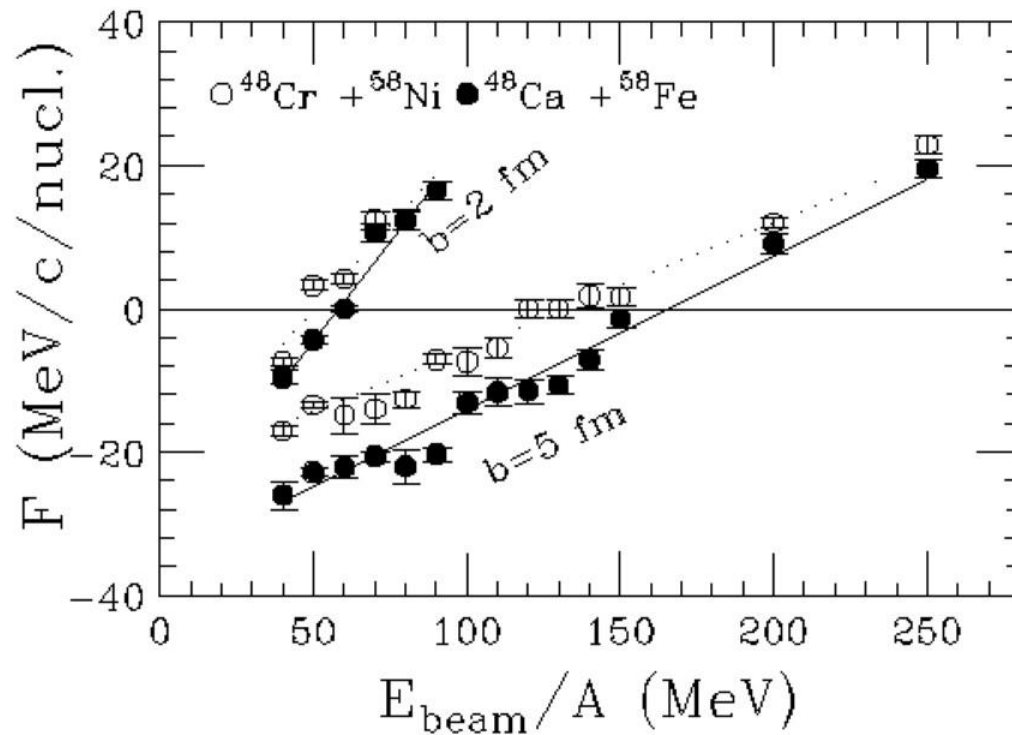
⁵Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1479

⁶Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742-2021

⁷Cyclotron Institute and Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843-3366
(Received 20 August 1996)

The energy at which collective transverse flow in the reaction plane disappears, the balance energy E_{bal} , is found to depend on the isospin of the system using the reactions $^{58}\text{Fe} + ^{58}\text{Fe}$ and $^{58}\text{Ni} + ^{58}\text{Ni}$. The more neutron-rich system exhibits higher balance energies for all measured impact parameters, in agreement with the predictions of a transport model which incorporates an

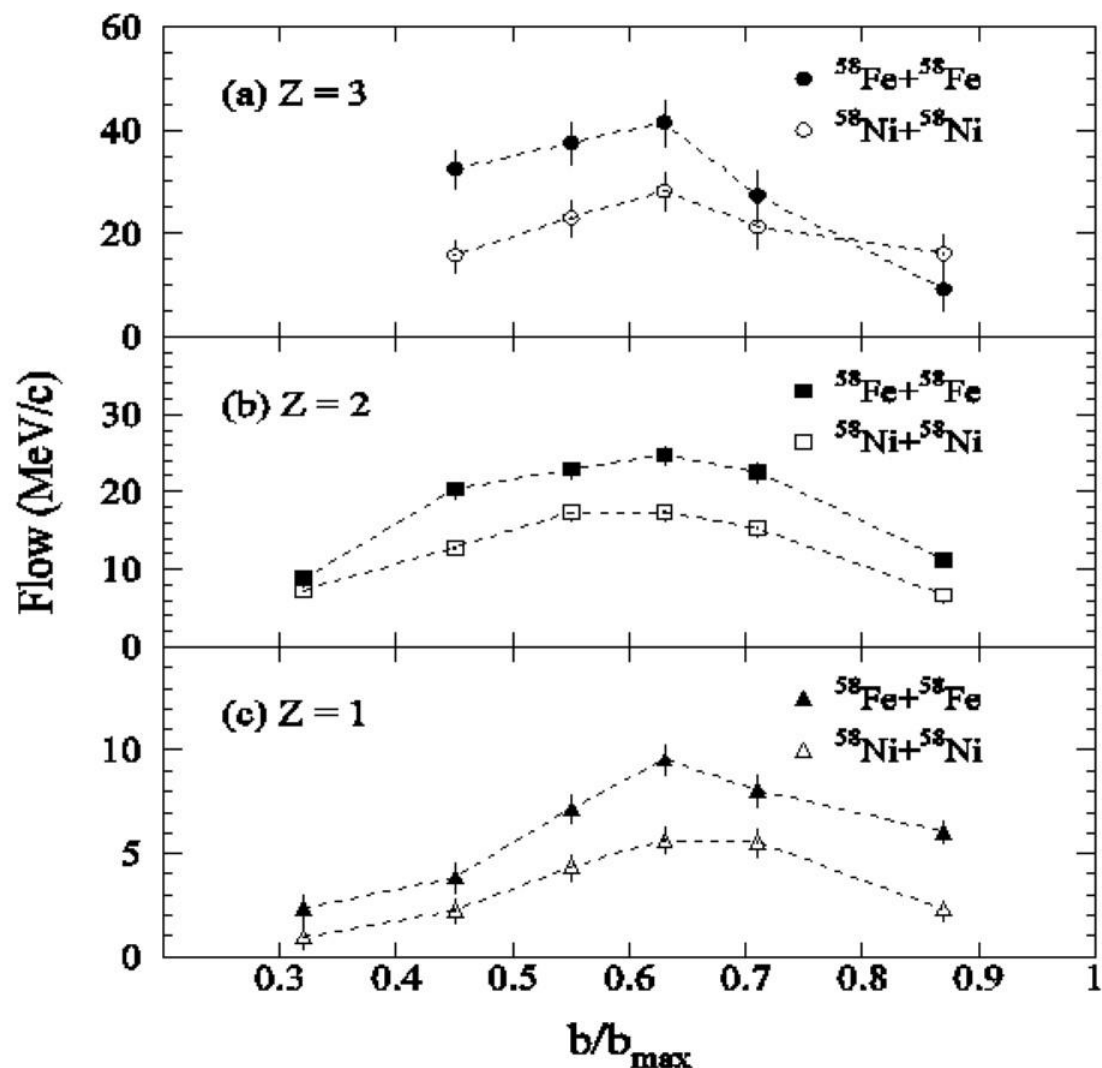
Isospin dependence of collective flow
and excitation function of the flow parameter $F=dP_x/dy$



B.A. Li, Z.Z. Ren, C.M. Ko and S.J. Yennello, PRL 76, 4492 (1996).

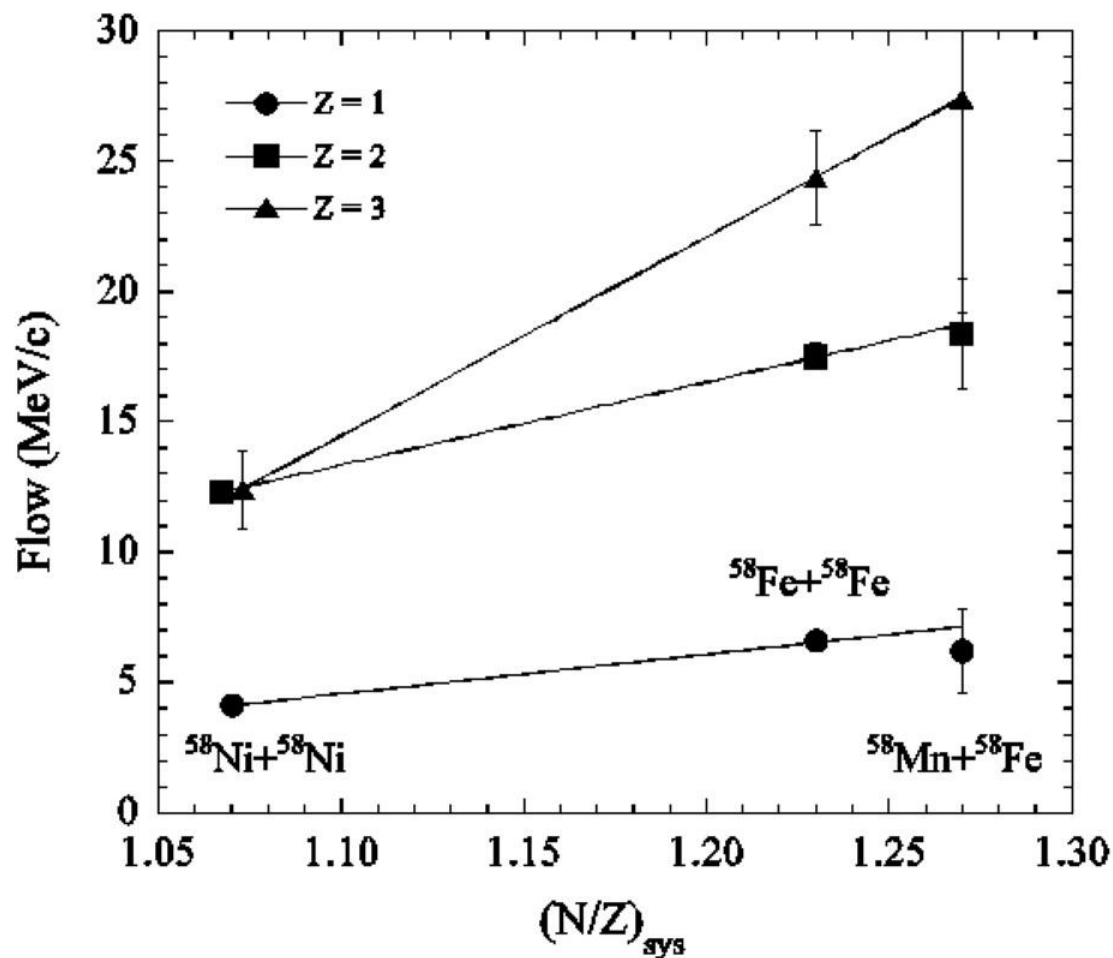
Isospin dependence of collective flow

R. Pak et al., PRL 78, 1022 and 1026 (1997).

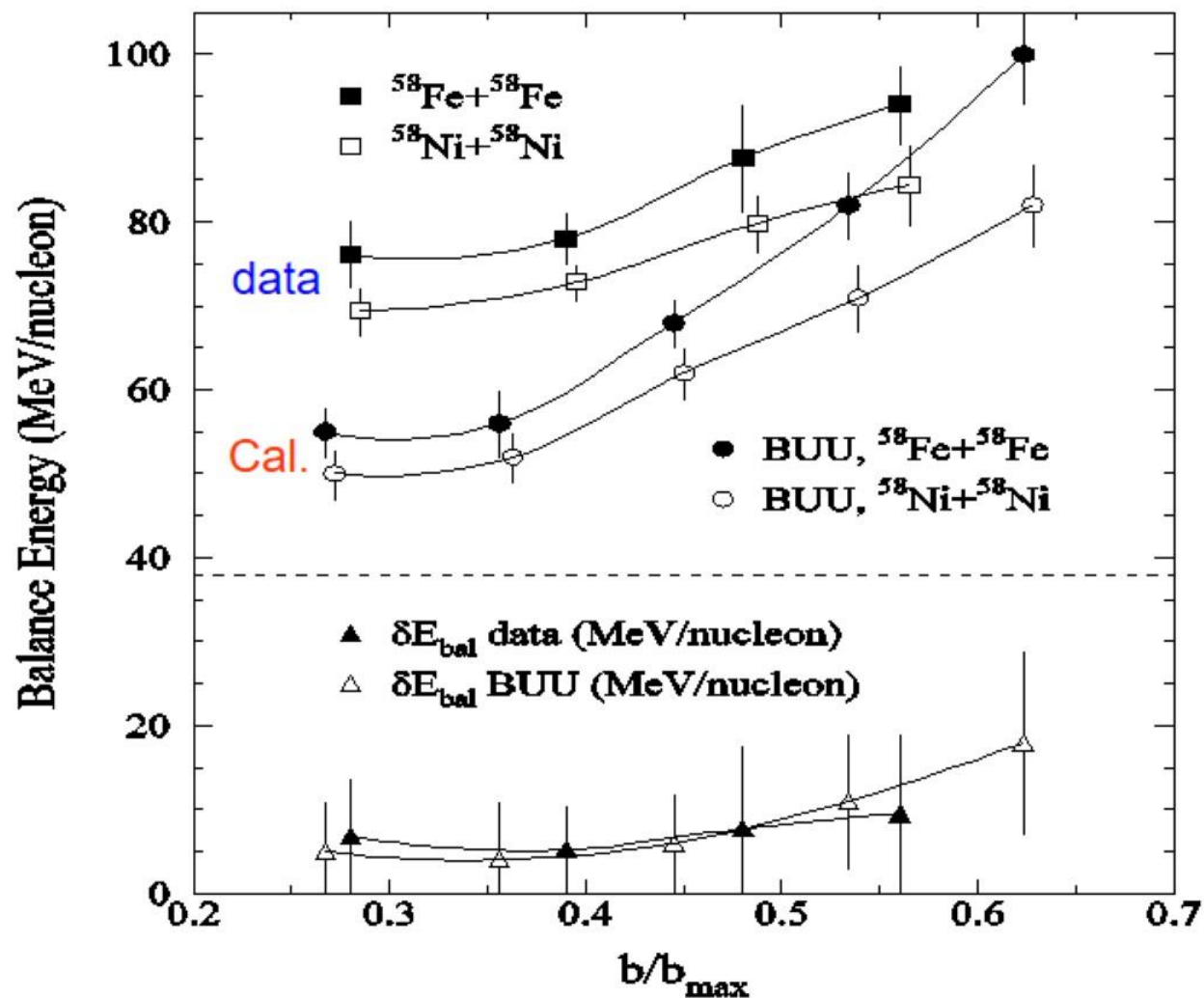


Isospin-dependence of flow

G.D. Westfall et al.



Comparing with the experimental data



Indication: reduced, possibly isospin-dependent, in-medium NN cross sections are required !

Isospin-dependence of nucleon-nucleon cross sections in neutron-rich matter

The effective mass scaling model:

$$\sigma_{medium} / \sigma_{free} \approx \left(\frac{\mu_{NN}^*}{\mu_{NN}} \right)^2$$

μ_{NN}^* is the reduced effective mass of the colliding nucleon pair NN

valid for $\rho \leq 2\rho_0$ and relative momenta ≤ 240 MeV/c according to Dirac-Brueckner-Hatree-Fock calculations
F. Sammarruca and P. Krastev, nucl-th/0506081
Phys. Rev. C (2005) in press.

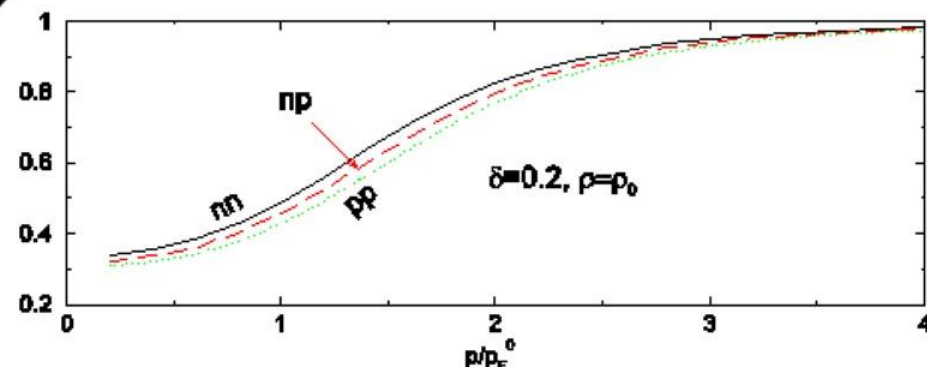
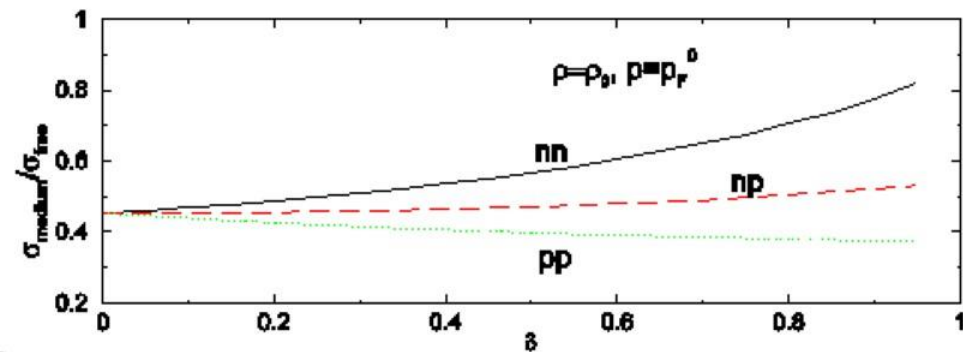
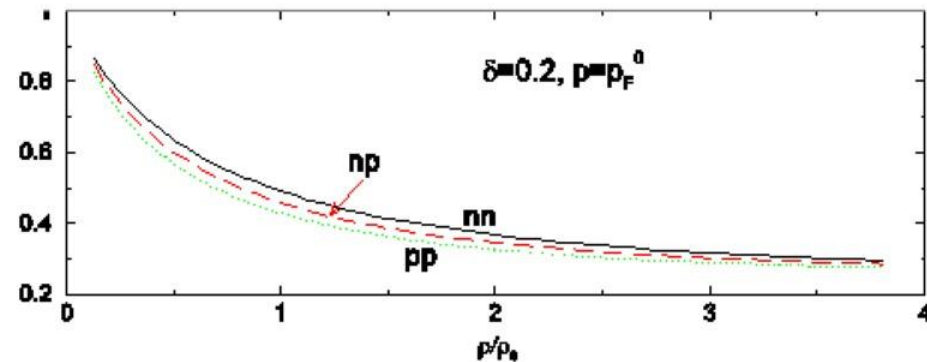
Applications in symmetric nuclear matter:

J.W. Negele and K. Yazaki, PRL 47, 71 (1981)
V.R. Pandharipande and S.C. Pieper, PRC 45, 791 (1992)
M. Kohno et al., PRC 57, 3495 (1998)
D. Persram and C. Gale, PRC65, 064611 (2002).

Application in neutron-rich matter:
nn and pp xsections are splitted due to the neutron-proton effective mass splitting

Bao-An Li and Lie-Wen Chen, nucl-th/0508024,
Phys. Rev. C (2005) in press.

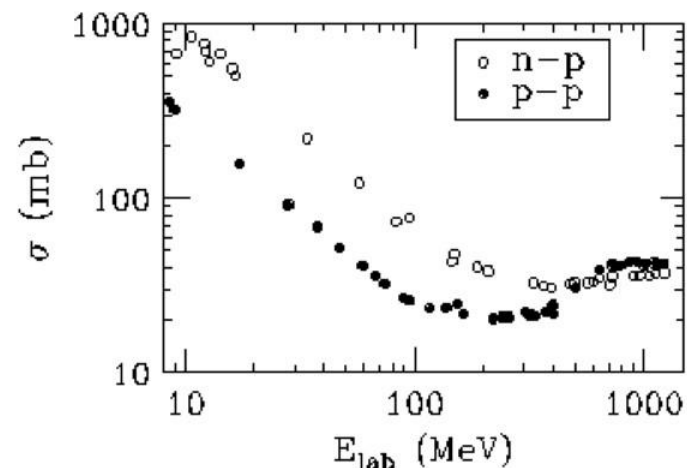
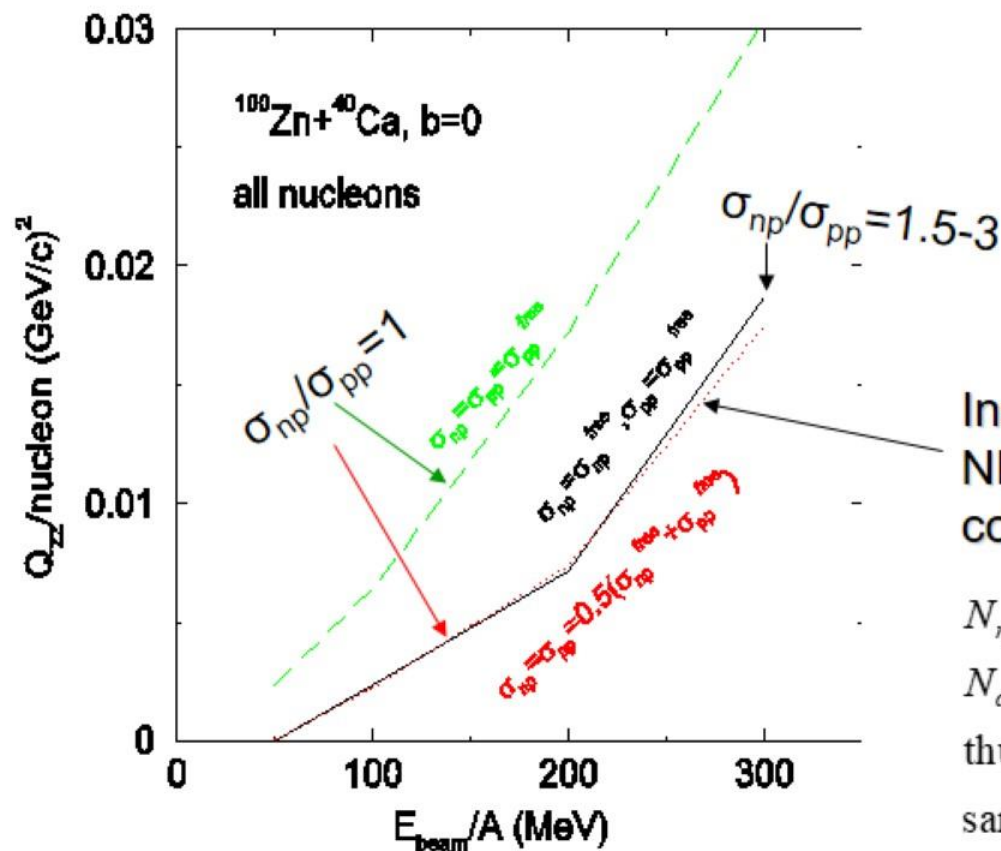
$\sigma_{medium} / \sigma_{free}$ in neutron-rich matter at zero temperature



How to determine experimentally the isospin-dependence of in-medium NN xsections

Traditional measures of stopping power using global observables, such as, quadrupole moment, LMT, ERAT, etc, are sensitive to the values of the in-medium NN xsections, **but they are ambiguous for extracting the isospin-dependence of the NN xsections.**

An example: quadrupole moment Q_{ZZ}



Insensitive to the isospin-dependence of the NN xsection because the total no. of NN collisions are about the same:

$$N_{np} / (N_{nn} + N_{pp}) \approx 1 - 2\delta_1\delta_2$$

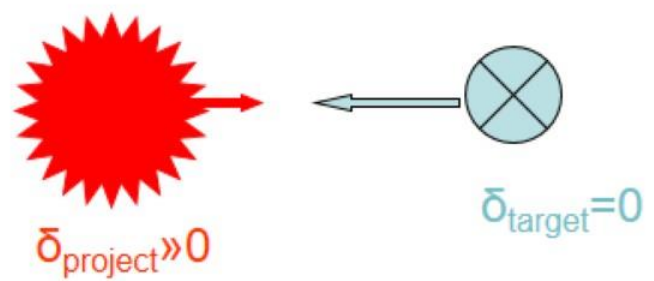
$$N_{\text{coll}} \propto N_{np}\sigma_{np} + (N_{nn} + N_{pp})\sigma_{pp} \approx N_{np}(\sigma_{np} + \sigma_{pp})$$

thus the total number of NN collisions is about the

same with $\sigma_{np} = \sigma_{np}^{\text{free}}$, $\sigma_{pp} = \sigma_{pp}^{\text{free}}$ ($\sigma_{np}/\sigma_{pp} \approx 1.5 \square 3$)

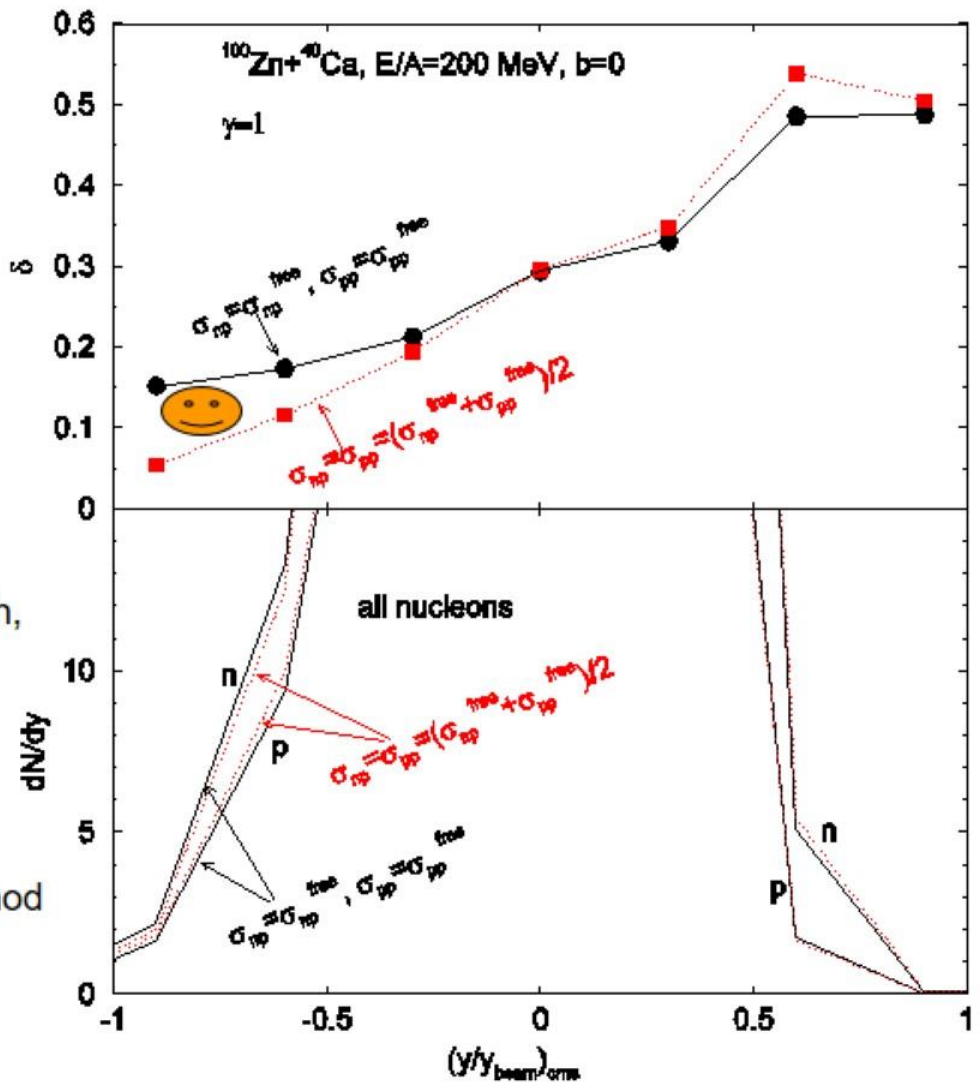
$$\text{or } \sigma_{np} = \sigma_{pp} = \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_{np}^{\text{free}} + \sigma_{pp}^{\text{free}}) \quad (\sigma_{np}/\sigma_{pp} = 1)$$

Isospin tracer in the backward direction in radioactive beam+symmetric target reaction in inverse kinematics as a probe of the isospin-dependence of the σ^{medium}



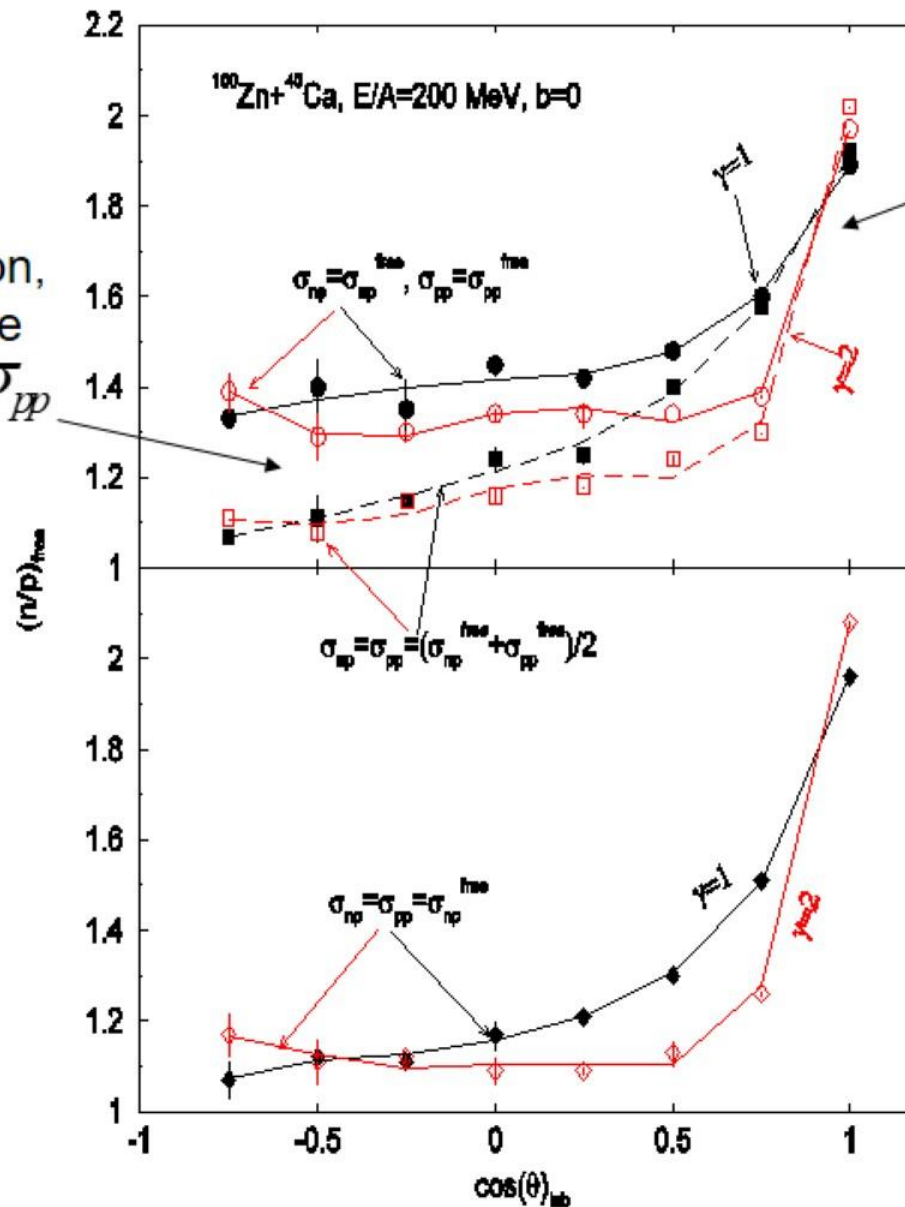
Bao-An Li, Pawel Danielewicz and William G. Lynch,
 Phys. Rev. C **71**, 054603 (2005).

The initial n and p density profiles in ^{100}Zn were calculated using the Hartree-Fock-Bogoliubov method by J. Dobaczewski, Acta. Phys. Polon. B30, 1647 (1999)



Disentangle effects of the symmetry energy and in-medium NN xsections using reactions induced by radioactive beams in inverse kinematics

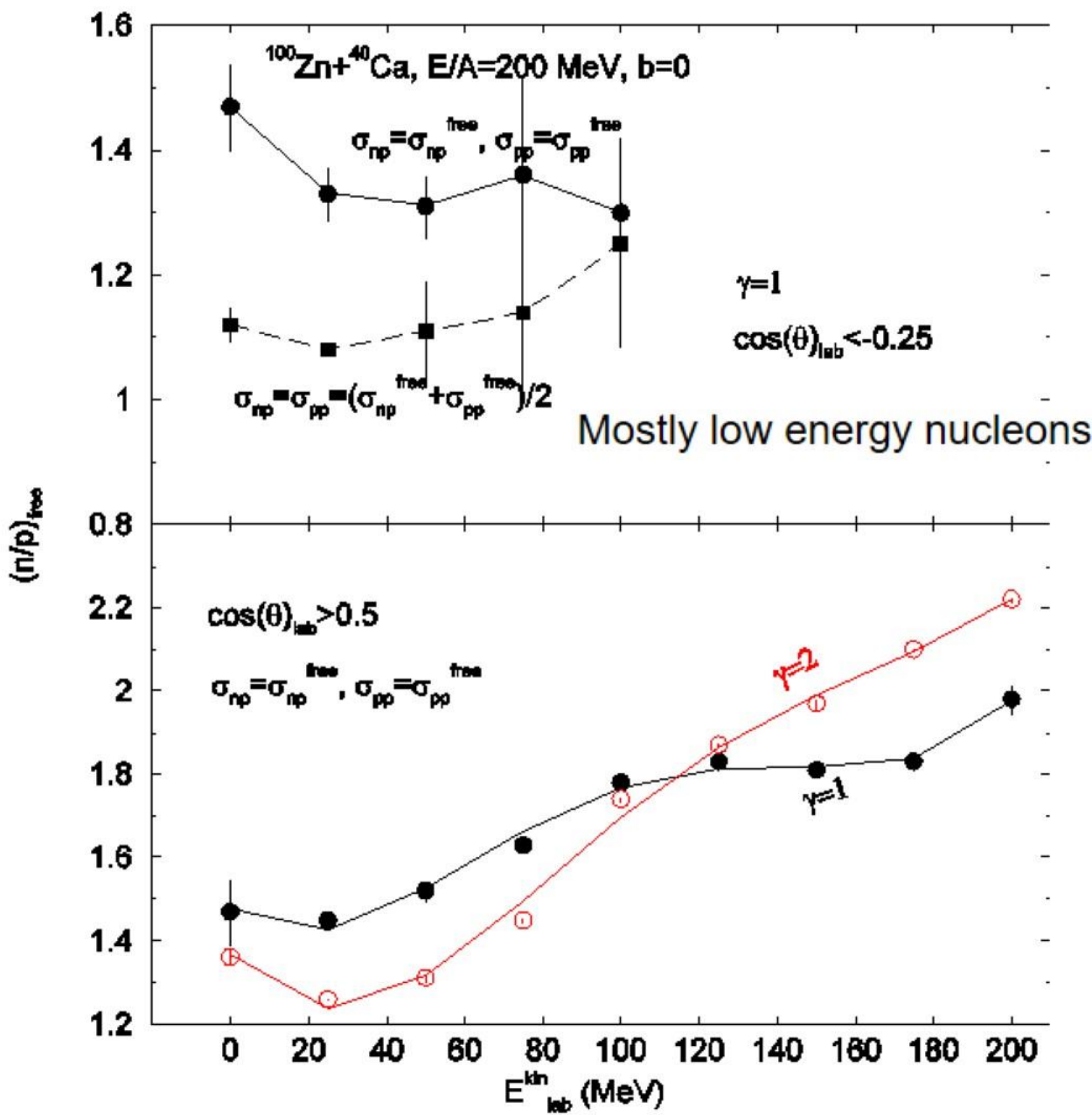
In backward region,
it is more sensitive
to the ratio σ_{np}/σ_{pp}
~15% effect



In forward region,
the $(n/p)_{\text{free}}$ is more
sensitive to the $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$

$$E_{\text{sym}}(\rho) = 30(\rho / \rho_0)^\gamma$$

Disentangle the isospin dependence of in-medium NN cross sections from that of the nuclear mean field



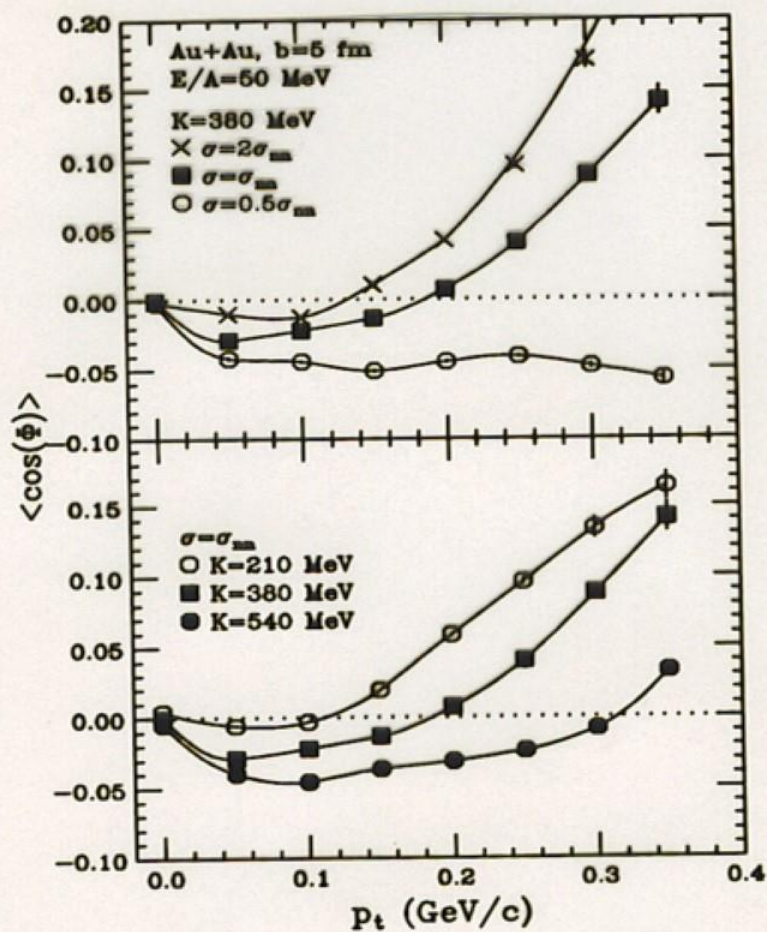


FIG. 3. Dependence of the differential flow on the in-medium cross section (upper) and compressibility (lower) for Au+Au at an impact parameter of 5 fm and a beam energy of 50 MeV/nucleon.

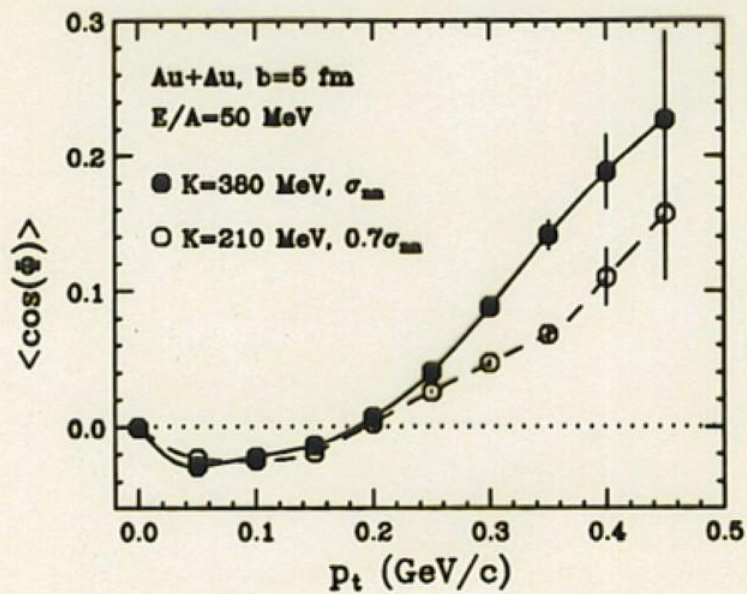


FIG. 2. Differential flow analysis for Au+Au at an impact parameter of 5 fm using two different parameter sets leading to the same balance energy of 50 MeV/nucleon.

Comparing the effective mass scaling model with DBHF in symmetric matter

F. Sammarruca and P. Krastev, nucl-th/0506081, Phys. Rev. C (2005) in press.

