# Probing the nuclear structure with relativistic heavy ion collisions

## Huichao Song

Peking University

第十五届QCD相变与重离子碰撞研讨会

12/18/2023

Landscape of nuclear physics

#### degrees of freedeom



## Landscape of nuclear physics



### **Relativistic Heavy Ion Collisions**



- Relativistic heavy ion collisions -create and study QGP -the QCD phase diagram -the deconfinement & chiral phase transition
- -the QCD vacuum





# Hottest Matter on Earth



# **Most Vortical Fluid**

<sup>197</sup>Au+<sup>197</sup>Au、<sup>238</sup>U+<sup>238</sup>U、<sup>208</sup>Pb+<sup>208</sup>Pb、<sup>129</sup>Xe+<sup>129</sup>Xe、<sup>96</sup>Zr+<sup>96</sup>Zr、 <sup>96</sup>Ru+<sup>96</sup>Ru、<sup>64</sup>Cu+<sup>64</sup>Cu、<sup>16</sup>O+<sup>16</sup>O、p+<sup>208</sup>Pb、p+p .....









Probe the deformation of nuclei with relativistic heavy ion collisions

- Relativistic heavy collisions start from nuclei



initial conditions: (with deformations)



initial conditions: (with deformations) Probe the deformation of nuclei with relativistic heavy ion collisions

- Relativistic heavy collisions start from nuclei

-Collision time < 10<sup>-24</sup> s directly probe the ground state of nuclei



Collision time < 10<sup>-24</sup> s





#### initial conditions: (with deformations)

heavy ion collision at intermediate energies breaks up / excites nuclei during the collisions Probe the deformation of nuclei with relativistic heavy ion collisions

- Relativistic heavy collisions start from nuclei

-Collision time < 10<sup>-24</sup> s directly probe the ground state of nuclei



#### Collision time < 10<sup>-24</sup> s





Probe the deformation of nuclei with relativistic heavy ion collisions

- Relativistic heavy collisions start from nuclei

 -Collision time < 10<sup>-24</sup> s directly probe the ground state of nuclei
 -Well calibrated calculations for QGP evolution; to focus on the initial state

initial conditions: (with deformations) Initial conditions viscous hydro hadron cascade

# Study the deformation of <sup>96</sup>Ru and <sup>96</sup>Zr at RHIC isobar run



#### <sup>96</sup>Ru+<sup>96</sup>Ru and <sup>96</sup>Zr+<sup>96</sup>Zr Collisions @ RHIC isobar run



-to search the Chiral Magnetic Effect (CME)

-Obviously different early magnetic field for Ru+Ru and Zr+Zr collisions

#### Deformation of <sup>96</sup>Ru and <sup>96</sup>Zr



#### Model calculation for Nuclear Deformation



#### Deformation of <sup>96</sup>Ru & <sup>96</sup>Zr – DFT calculations



Gogny energy density functional |(Tiaxial) T R. Rodríguez EMMI RRTF 2022

#### **Skyrme EDF (with** rotational correction)

 $\gamma$  (°)

 $20^{\circ}$ 

W Ryssens EMMI RRTF 2022

**Beyond-mean-field** correction İS very important Rong, Lu, arXiv:2201.02114



### Probe the deformation (mass distributions) of <sup>96</sup>Ru & <sup>96</sup>Zr with isobar collisions





initial conditions: (deformation / mass distributions)



#### Hydrodynamic calculation with initially deformed nuclei

#### **Initial conditions (TRENTO)**

-Sample nucleon position in deformed nuclei with:

 $\rho(r,\theta,\phi) = \frac{\rho_0}{1 + e^{(r-R(\theta,\phi))/a_0}}$ Quadrupole: Octupole:  $R(\theta,\phi) = R_0 \left(1 + \frac{\beta_2}{\left[\cos\gamma Y_{2,0} + \sin\gamma Y_{2,2}\right]}\right)$  $+\beta_3 \sum_{m=-3}^{3} \alpha_{3,m} Y_{3,m} + \beta_4 \sum_{m=-4}^{4} \alpha_{4,m} Y_{4,m}$ Well calibrated calculations Initial conditions viscous hydro hadron cascade Hadron Gas

# V<sub>2</sub> and V<sub>3</sub> for Ru+Ru and Zr+Zr collisions



-With fine tuning parameters, iEBE-VISHNU fits V2 & V3 for Ru+Ru collisions

-Using β<sub>2</sub> β<sub>3</sub> in table1, it "predicts" V<sub>2</sub> &
V<sub>3</sub> for Zr+Zr collisions & the related ratio
-- (the data are roughly described).

"standard"	Ru	Zr
a <sub>o</sub>	0.46	0.52
β <sub>2</sub>	0.162	0.060
β <sub>3</sub>	0.00	0.200

# ac{3}for Ru+Ru and Zr+Zr collisions



ac{3} is sensitive to quadrupole and octupole deformations

$$ac_2{3} = \langle v_2^2 v_4 \cos 4(\Phi_2 - \Phi_4) \rangle,$$



S. Zhao, H. Xu, Y. Liu, H. Song. PLB2023, arXiv: 2204.02387

# Probe the deformation of <sup>96</sup>Ru and <sup>96</sup>Zr

-- a short summary



-<sup>96</sup>Ru and <sup>96</sup>Zr: two ideal nuclei for interdisciplinary research between relativistic heavy ion physics and nuclear structure

-isobar collisions provide rich and high statistical run data for various flow analysis, which could constrain the deformation of <sup>96</sup>Ru and <sup>96</sup>Zr from heavy ion physics side

-Need more efforts to study the deformation of <sup>96</sup>Ru & <sup>96</sup>Zr from both experimental and theoretical sides in nuclear structure

## Probe the $\alpha$ -cluster of <sup>16</sup>O at RHIC and the LHC



<sup>16</sup>O+<sup>16</sup>O collisions and p+<sup>16</sup>O collisions originally aim to study the possible formation of the QGP in small systems





# α-cluster of <sup>16</sup>O from nuclear structure

-ACM calculations show that the low-lying states of 16O can be described as rotation-vibration of a 4 $\alpha$  cluster with tetrahedral symmetry.

R.Bijker and F.Iachello, Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, no.15, 152501 (2014)

-ab initio lattice calculations demonstrate the nucleons are arranged in a tetrahedral alpha clusters in the ground state

E.~Epelbaum, et al Phys. Rev. Lett.112, no.10, 102501 (2014)



8 equivalent orientations.



(b) Initial states "B" and "C", 3 equivalent orientations.

Nuclear structure physics infer the  $\alpha$ -cluster configuration of <sup>16</sup>O from the measured spectrum

#### Relativistic heavy ion collision to probe the structure of <sup>16</sup>O



#### Hydrodynamic calculation w/wo clustering

#### **Initial conditions (TRENTO)**

-Woods-Saxon:

tetrahedral alpha clusters





Y. Wang, S. Zhao, B. Cao, H. Xu and H. Song. Paper in preparation. Please also refer to the work from Y G Ma's groups

#### **Measurement from <sup>16</sup>O+<sup>16</sup>O collisions**



-v<sub>2</sub>{4}/v<sub>2</sub>{2}: enhanced fluctuations in ultra-central collisions heavy ion collision data hint alpha-clustering in <sup>16</sup>O

### Probe neutron skin at RHIC and the LHC



#### Neutron Skin & neutron star

#### EOS of nuclear matter

$$\epsilon(
ho,lpha) = [\epsilon_{SNM}(
ho_0) + S(
ho_0)lpha^2)] + lpha^2 L rac{
ho-
ho_0}{3
ho_0} + rac{1}{2}(K_0+lpha^2 K_{sym})(rac{
ho-
ho_0}{3
ho_0})^2$$

L: the first order term in EOS; symmetry energy; Large L thick neutron skin

#### Probe the Neutron Skin at low energy nuclear physics

#### Parity-Violating Electron Scattering in Jefferson Lab



#### Relativistic heavy ion collision to probe the neutron skin





#### Probing the neutron skin of <sup>197</sup>Au and <sup>208</sup>Pb

#### semi-isobaric double ratio



A scaling behavior was found in double ratio of v2{2}/v3{2} when Au and Pb have the neutron skins of the same size, The measured flow harmonics at various centrality suggest Au and Pb have similar neutron skin

Q. Liu, H. Xu and H. Song. arXiv:2311.01747.



-Nuclear structure: deformation, cluster, neutron skin; shape coexistence, γ-soft (shape phase transition)

-Rich configurations for QGP initial conditions







Relativistic heavy ion collisions have already provide rich collision systems to study various aspects in nuclear structure. Even we focus on these several colliding nuclei, there are lots of things to explore !

# Summary and Outlook



Initial conditions viscous hydro

hadron cascade

-Over the past 40 years -the concept of QGP was proposed -the accelerators was built -the QGP was discovered -the properties of the QGP are being explored

-Put more efforts on initial conditions (<u>nuclear structure aspects</u>) -high energy nuclear physics: necessary for a precisely study QGP -low energy nuclear physics: new insights for nuclear structure

# The future is bright !

# Exploring nuclear physics across energy scales Program + workshop Beijing April 15-28 2024



Program: CCAST April 15-18, 23-28, 2024 seminars + discussions each day Workshop: CHEP, Peking U. April 19-22, 2024

Local Organizing Committee: Huichao Song (Peking U) Co-Chair Shan-Gui Zhou (ITP,CAS) Co-Chair Zhenyu Chen (Shangdong U) Li-Sheng Geng (Beihang U) Xiaofei Yang (Peking U) Pengwei Zhao (Peking U)

#### Program Committee

Giuliano Giacalone (Heidelberg U, Germany Thomas Duguet (SPhN, Saclay, France) Dean Lee (Michigan State Univ. USA) Jiangyong Jia (SUNY, Stony Brook, USA) You Zhou (Niels Bohr Institute, Denmark) Huichao Song (Peking U) Pengwei Zhao (Peking U) Shan-Gui Zhou (ITP, CAS)



高能物理研究中心

Center for High Energy Physics, PKU

China Center of Advanced Science and Technology





Sectaries: Lvlv (Peking U) Ke-qian Hu (Peking U) Chunxia Zhao(ITP,CAS) Email: lvlv@pku.edu.cn

#### **CCAST** Building

#### Discussion area



#### Meeting room

#### Visitor offices



### Exploring nuclear physics across energy scales Program + workshop Beijing April 15-28 2024

Program: CCAST April 15-18, 23-28, 2024 seminars + discussions each day Workshop: CHEP, Peking U. April 19-22, 2024

## Welcome to Beijing in coming April next year!