

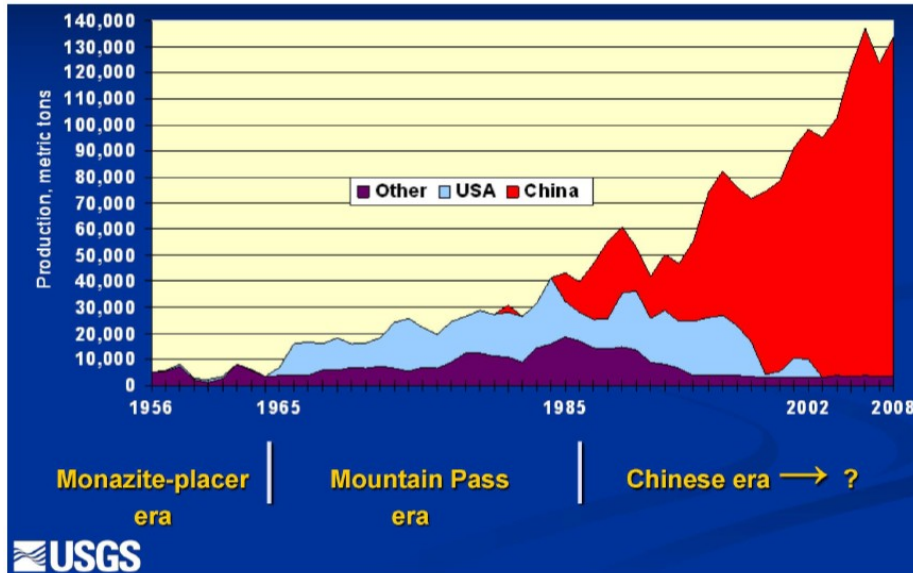
# Nuclear Deformation in High Energy Nuclear Collisions

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Exploring nuclear physics across energy scales 2024: intersection between nuclear structure and high energy nuclear collisions



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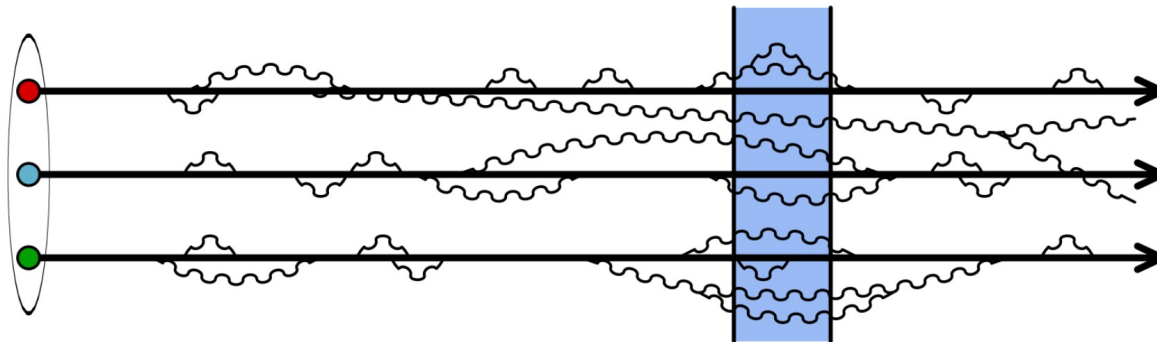


Figure 1. Global rare-earth-oxide production trends.

# OUTLINE

- 1 – Role of nuclear deformation in heavy-ion collisions
- 2 – Implementations of nuclear deformation in high energy collisions
- 3 – Studying and exploiting nuclear deformation at high energy

# 1 – Role of nuclear deformation in heavy-ion collisions



[Gelis, IJMPE 24 (2015) 10, 1530008]

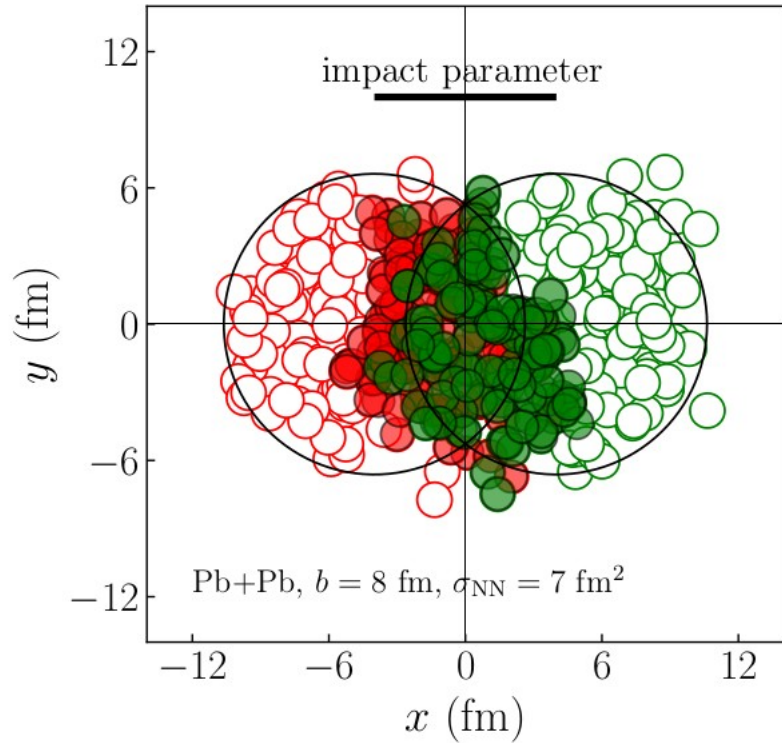
a QCD description of high energy collisions between hadrons may be feasible, provided we can provide “snapshots” of their partonic content at the time of the collision.

$$\text{transition probability from hadrons to } X \approx \sum_{\text{partons } \{q, g\}} \text{probability to find } \{q, g\} \text{ in } \{h_1, h_2\} \otimes \left| \sum_{\{q, g\} \rightarrow X} \text{Amplitudes} \right|^2$$

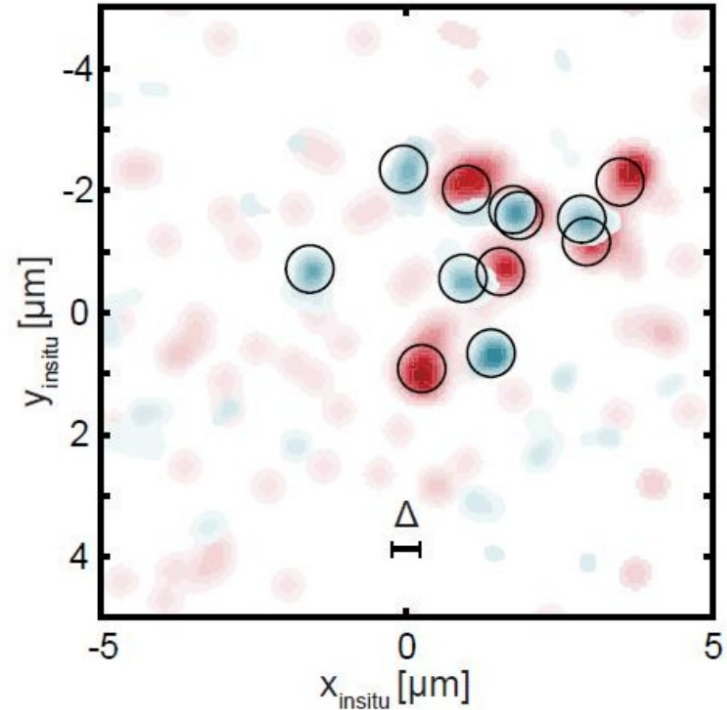
called *initial state factorization*. Roughly speaking, the physical motivation for such a factorization is that the neglected terms are interferences between a hard process that occurs on the timescale of the collision and a process internal to one of the projectiles, happening on much longer timescales.

# Snapshots of atomic nuclei

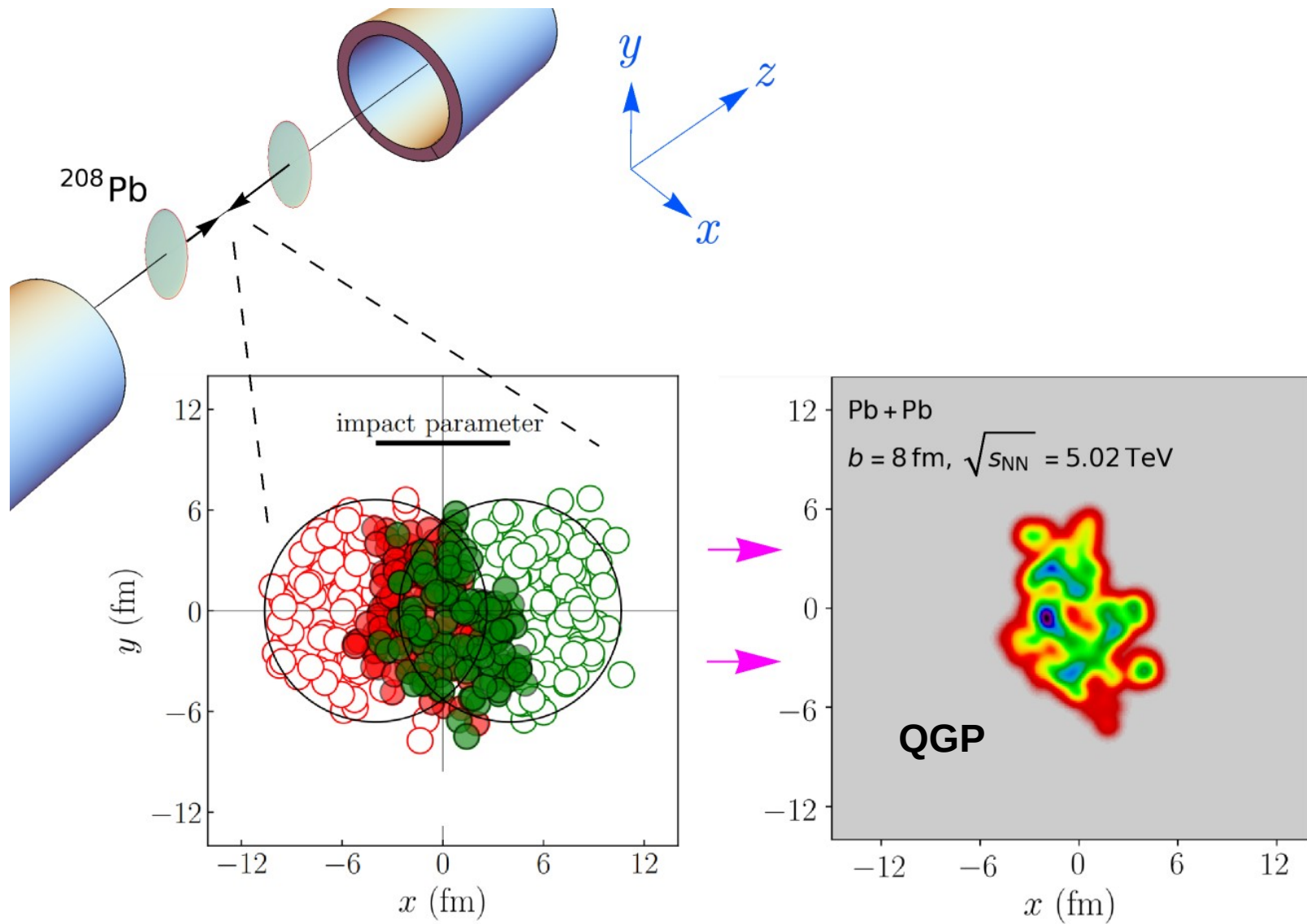
[Miller *et al.*, *Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci.* **57** (2007) 205-243]



**“snapshot”  
of the nucleon positions**



**Image of collapsed wave function of 10 Li atoms**  
[from S. Brandstetter (PI Heidelberg)]



# ANALYTICAL INSIGHTS

- THICKNESS FUNCTION:  $t(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^A g(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{x}_i, w)$

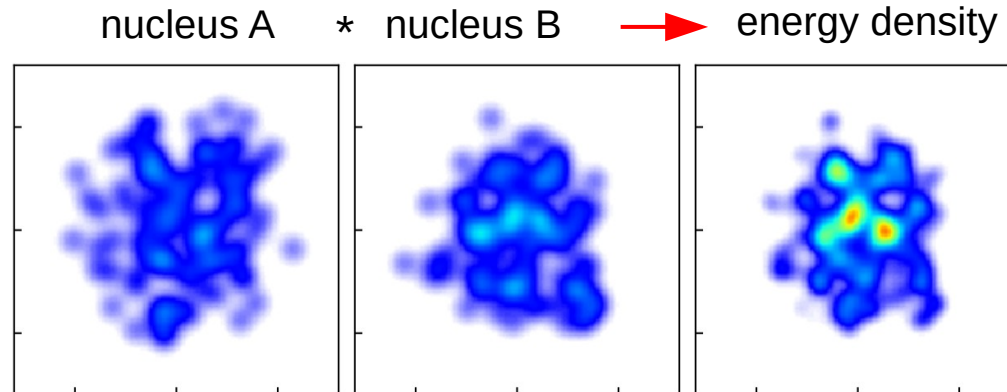
→
 Nucleon “form factor” at high energy.  
 $w$  = nucleon size.

- ENERGY DEPOSITION:

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0^+} \tau e(\mathbf{x}) \propto \left( \frac{t_A(\mathbf{x}) + t_B(\mathbf{x})}{2} \right)^{q/p} \xrightarrow{p=0} [t_A(\mathbf{x})t_B(\mathbf{x})]^{q/2} \xrightarrow{q=2} \underline{t_A(\mathbf{x})t_B(\mathbf{x})}$$

IP-Glasma ( $\tau=0$ )  
 “IP-Jazma”  
 “binary collisions”  
 ...

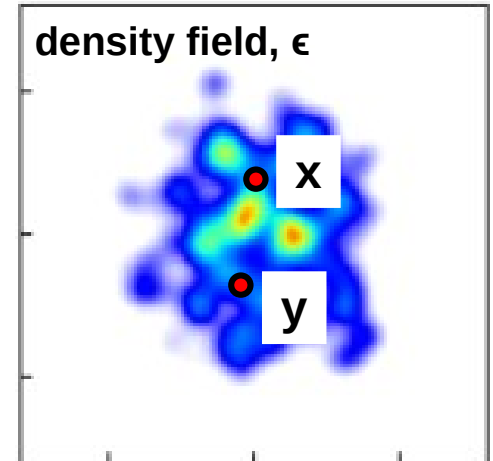
- TAKE HEAD-ON COLLISIONS ( $b=0$ ).



## DENSITY CORRELATIONS IN THE OVERLAP REGION

$$\langle \epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\text{ev}} = A^2 \left( \int_{\xi_i} P_{1\perp}(\xi_i) g(\mathbf{x} - \xi_i) \right)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \epsilon(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\text{ev}} &= \left( A \int_{\xi_i} P_{1\perp}(\xi_i) g(\mathbf{x} - \xi_i) g(\mathbf{y} - \xi_i) \right. \\ \text{ENERGY DENSITY} & \\ & \left. + (A^2 - A) \int_{\xi_i \neq \xi_j} P_{2\perp}(\xi_i, \xi_j) g(\mathbf{x} - \xi_i) g(\mathbf{y} - \xi_j) \right)^2 \\ & \qquad \qquad \text{NUCLEAR STRUCTURE} \qquad \text{NUCLEON STRUCTURE} \end{aligned}$$



[Giacalone, EPJA 59 (2023) 12, 297]

**nuclear  $n$ -body density:**  
 (  $\perp$  = integrated over “z” )

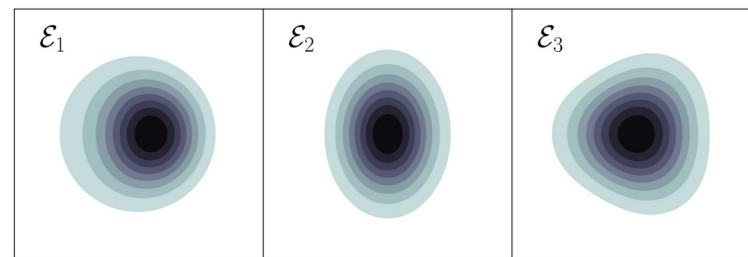
$$P_n(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n) = \sum_{s,t} \int d\mathbf{r}_{n+1} \dots d\mathbf{r}_A |\Psi_A|^2$$

**GROUND STATE**



## BONUS: CONNECTION TO EXPERIMENTAL OBSERVATIONS

- ECCENTRICITY: 
$$\mathcal{E}_n = - \frac{\int_{\mathbf{x}} \epsilon(\mathbf{x}) |\mathbf{x}|^n e^{in\phi_x}}{\int_{\mathbf{x}} \epsilon(\mathbf{x}) |\mathbf{x}|^n}$$



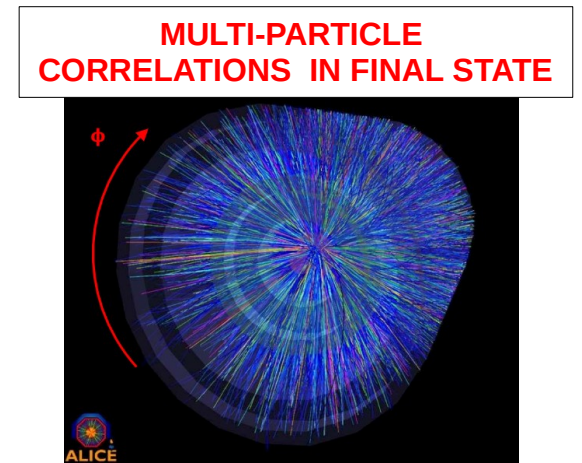
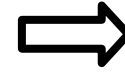
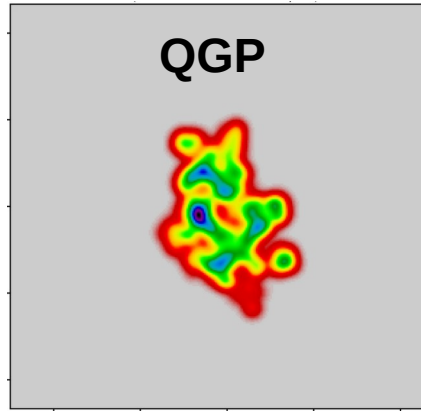
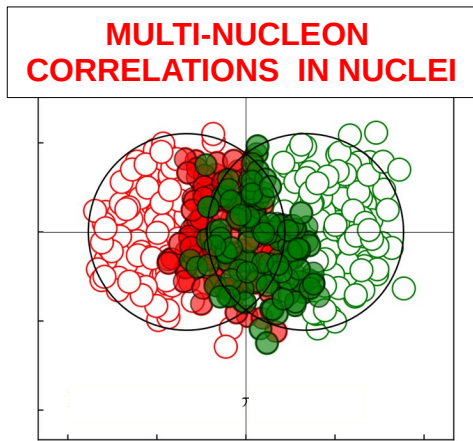
- PERTURBATIVE EXPANSION: 
$$\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \rangle + \delta\epsilon(\mathbf{x})$$

[Blaziot, Broniowski, Ollitrault, PLB 738 (2014) 166-171]

- MEAN SQUARED ANISOTROPY:

$$\langle \mathcal{E}_n \mathcal{E}_n^* \rangle \stackrel{\text{INITIAL STATE}}{=} \frac{\int_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}} |\mathbf{x}|^n |\mathbf{y}|^n e^{in(\phi_x - \phi_y)} \langle \epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \epsilon(\mathbf{y}) \rangle}{\left( \int_{\mathbf{x}} \langle \epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \rangle |\mathbf{x}|^n \right)^2} \stackrel{\text{FINAL STATE}}{\propto} \langle V_n V_n^* \rangle$$

$P_{2\perp}(\xi_i, \xi_j)$  **TWO-NUCLEON DENSITY**



Recent reviews:

[Ollitrault, EPJA 59 (2023) 10, 236]

[Giacalone, EPJA 59 (2023) 12, 297]

1-nucleon density

$$P_1(\mathbf{r}_1) = \sum_{s,t} \int d^3\mathbf{r}_2 \dots d^3\mathbf{r}_A |\Psi_A(\mathbf{r}_1 \dots \mathbf{r}_A)|^2$$

2-nucleon density

$$P_2(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = \sum_{s,t} \int d^3\mathbf{r}_3 \dots d^3\mathbf{r}_A |\Psi_A(\mathbf{r}_1 \dots \mathbf{r}_A)|^2$$

3-nucleon density

$$P_3(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3) = \sum_{s,t} \int d^3\mathbf{r}_4 \dots d^3\mathbf{r}_A |\Psi_A(\mathbf{r}_1 \dots \mathbf{r}_A)|^2$$



MEAN TRANSVERSE MOMENTUM

1 particle

$$\langle [p_t] \rangle_{\text{ev}} = \left\langle \frac{1}{N_{\text{ch}}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{ch}}} p_{t,i} \right\rangle_{\text{ev}}$$

MEAN SQUARED ANISOTROPY

2 particles

$$v_n^2 = \langle V_n V_n^* \rangle_{\text{ev}} = \left\langle \frac{\sum_{i \neq j} e^{in(\phi_i - \phi_j)}}{N_{\text{ch, ev}}(N_{\text{ch, ev}} - 1)} \right\rangle_{\text{ev}}$$

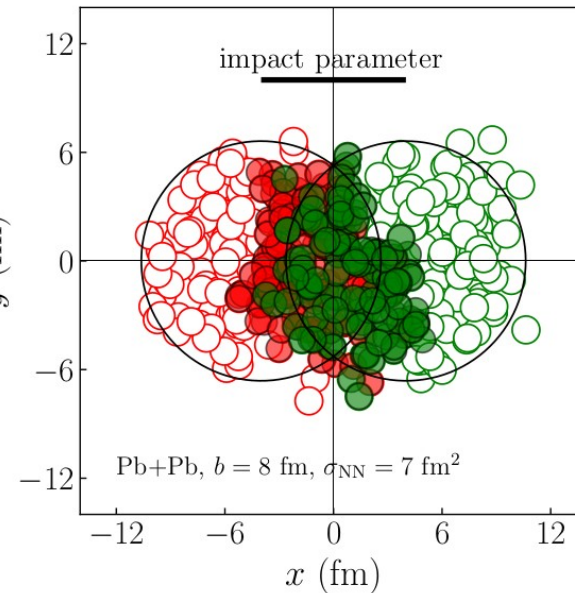
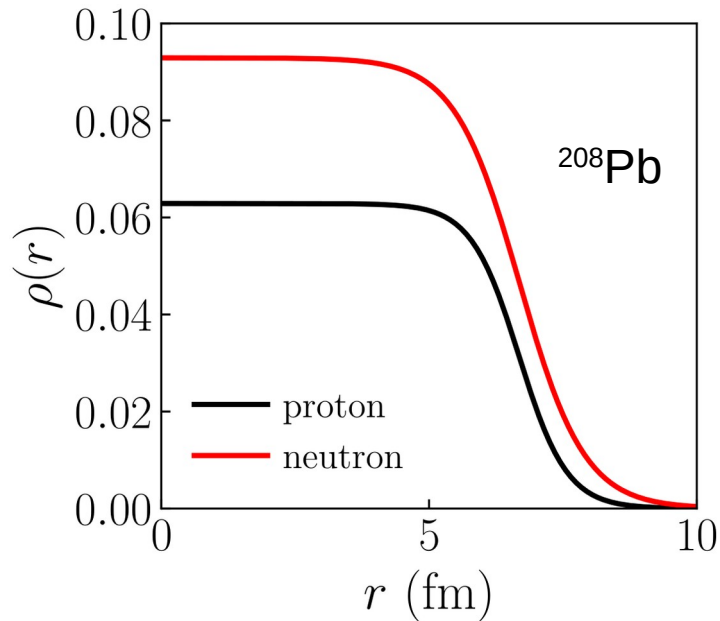
MOMENTUM-ANISOTROPY CORRELATION

3 particles

$$\text{cov}([p_t], v_n^2) = \left\langle \frac{\sum_{i \neq j \neq k} (p_i - \langle [p_t] \rangle_{\text{ev}}) e^{in(\phi_j - \phi_k)}}{N_{\text{ch, ev}}(N_{\text{ch, ev}} - 1)(N_{\text{ch, ev}} - 2)} \right\rangle_{\text{ev}}$$

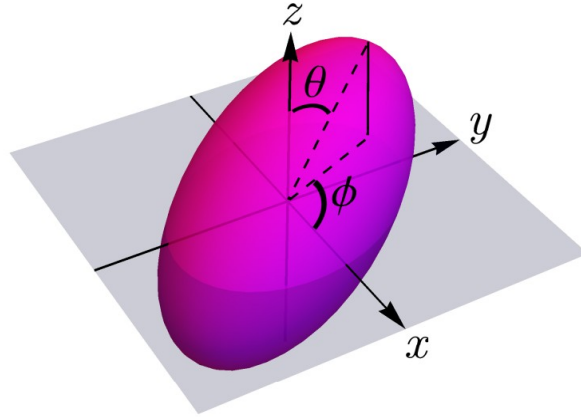
**Independent fermions:**  $h_i = \frac{p_i^2}{2m} + V(r_i) \longrightarrow P_A(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = P_1(\mathbf{r}_1)P_1(\mathbf{r}_2) \dots P_1(\mathbf{r}_A)$

**All information in the one-body density:**  $P_1(r) \propto \frac{1}{1 + e^{(r-R)/a}}$  e.g. Woods-Saxon



**Information from nuclear structure = radial profile + number of nucleons**

However, nuclei display strong spatial correlations = shapes



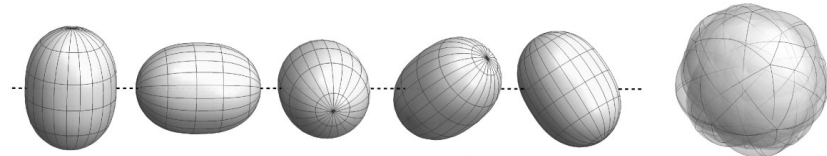
$${}^{238}_{92}\text{U} \quad E = B J(J+1)$$

10 <sup>+</sup>	↓	775.9
8 <sup>+</sup>	↓ 258	518.1
6 <sup>+</sup>	↓ 211	307.18
4 <sup>+</sup>	↓ 159	148.38
2 <sup>+</sup>	↓ 104	44.916
0 <sup>+</sup>	45	0.0

Correlations from random rotation of an intrinsic deformed object

$$P_1(\mathbf{r}_1) = \int_{\Omega} \rho_{\Omega}(\mathbf{r}_1)$$

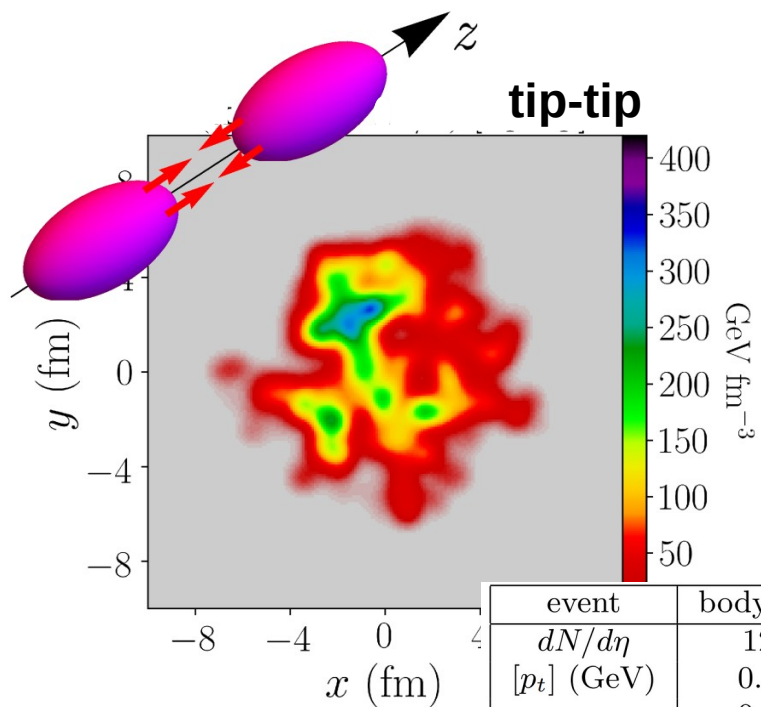
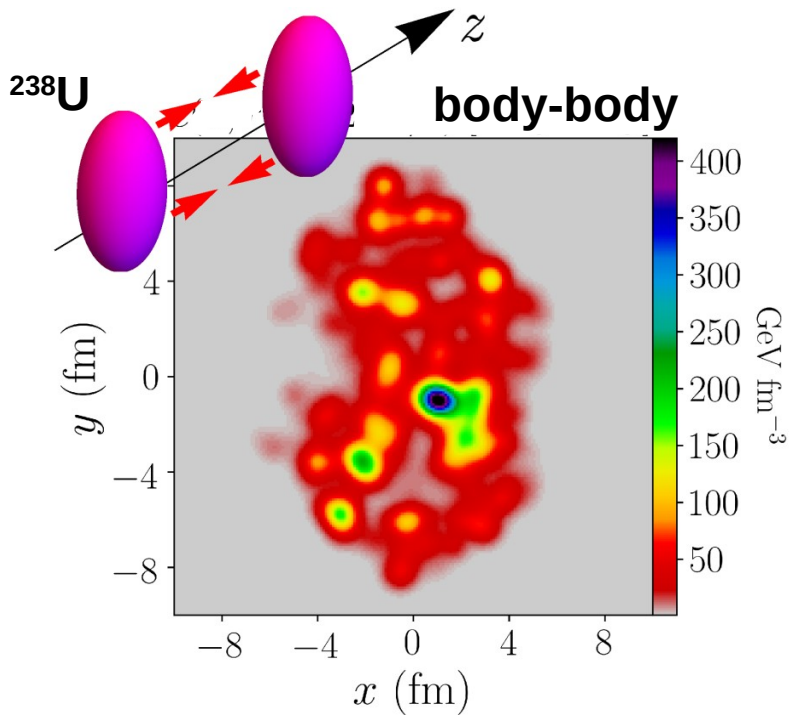
→ EULER ANGLES



[STAR collaboration, arXiv:2401.06625]

$$P_2(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = \int_{\Omega} \rho_{\Omega}(\mathbf{r}_1) \rho_{\Omega}(\mathbf{r}_2) \neq P_1(\mathbf{r}_1) P_1(\mathbf{r}_2)$$

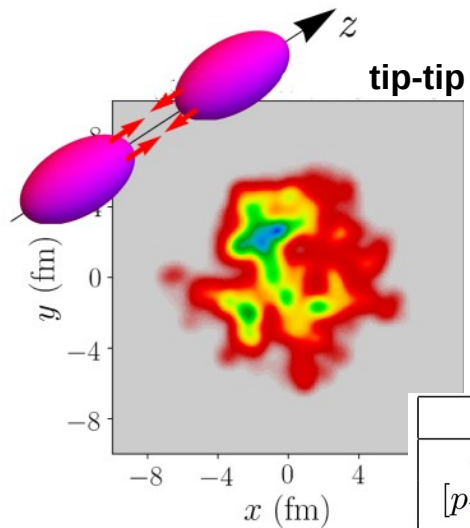
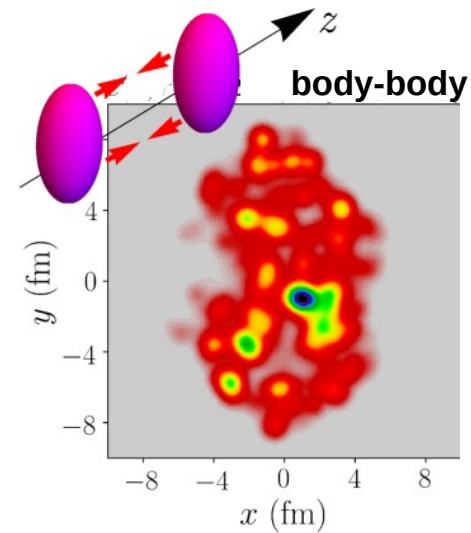
DEFORMATION



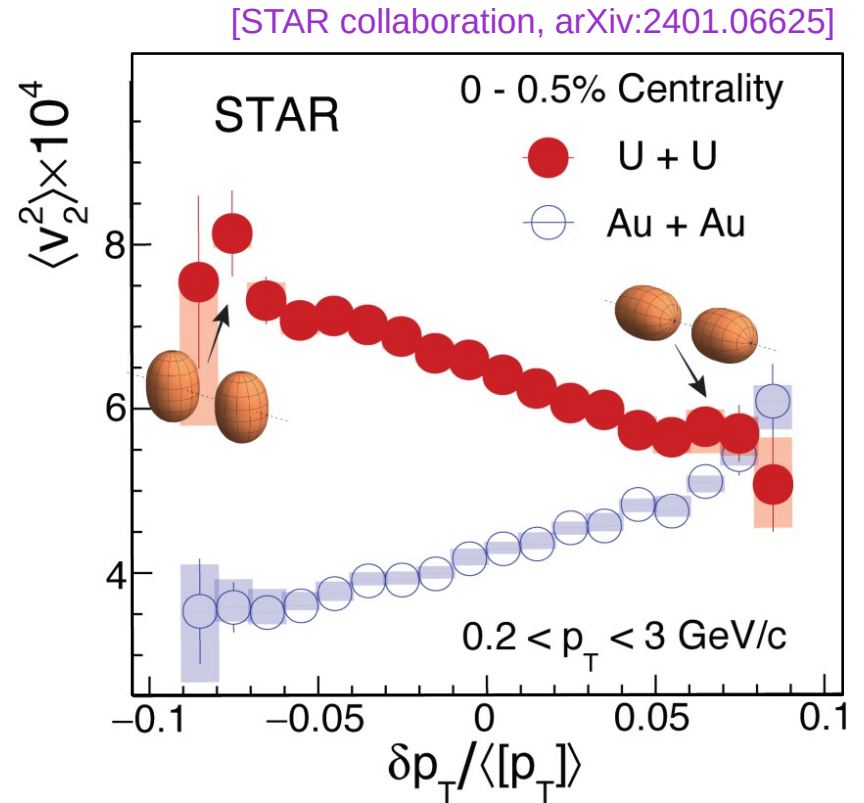
**LARGE-SCALE  
FLUCTUATIONS!**

event	body-body	tip-tip
$dN/d\eta$	1296	1280
$[p_t]$ (GeV)	0.587	0.651
$v_2$	0.083	0.027

# “Seeing” the deformation of $^{238}\text{U}$

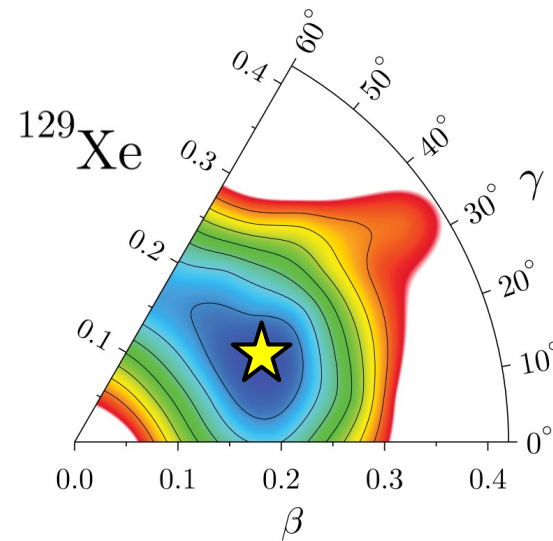
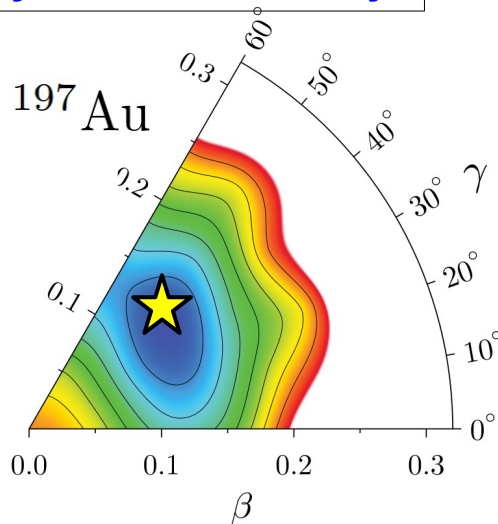
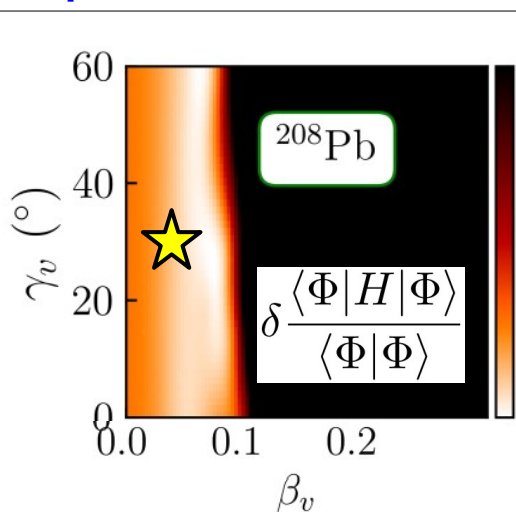


event	body-body	tip-tip
$dN/d\eta$	1296	1280
$\langle p_t \rangle$ (GeV)	0.587	0.651
$v_2$	0.083	0.027



## 2 – Implementations of nuclear deformation in high energy collisions

# Implementation from energy density functional theory



## Intrinsic one-body density from mean-field states

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{s,t} \langle \Phi(\vec{\beta}) | a_{s,t}^\dagger(\mathbf{r}) a_{s,t}(\mathbf{r}') | \Phi(\vec{\beta}) \rangle \Big|_{\mathbf{r}=\mathbf{r}'}$$

[Bally *et al.*, PRL **128** (2022) 8, 082301]

[Bally, Giacalone, Bender, EPJA **58** (2022) 9, 187]

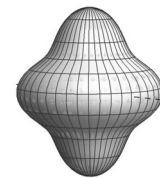
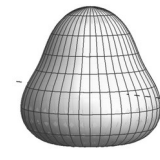
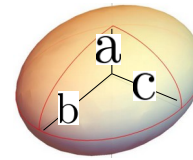
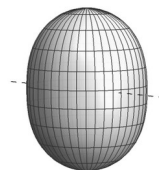
[Bally, Giacalone, Bender EPJA **59** (2023) 3, 58]

[Ryssens *et al.*, PRL **130** (2023) 21, 212302]

## Fit some appropriate function

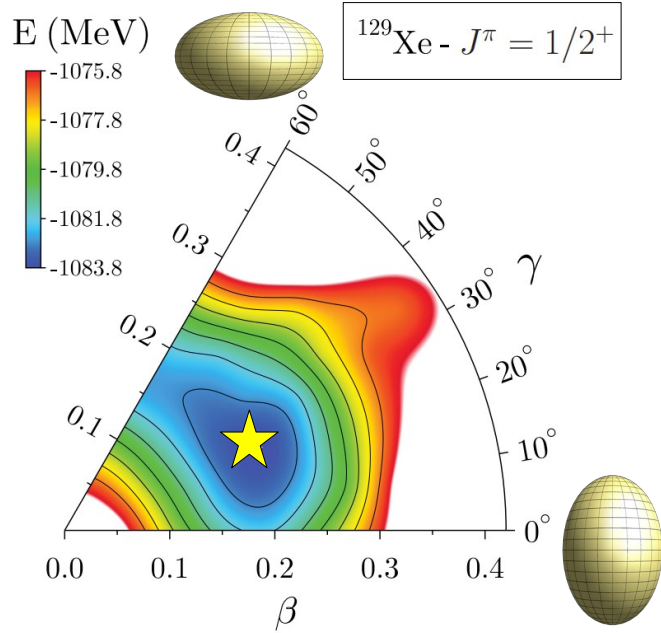
$$\rho(r, \theta, \phi) \propto \frac{1}{1 + \exp([r - R(\theta, \phi)]/a)}, \quad R(\theta, \phi) = R_0 \left[ 1 + \beta_2 \left( \cos \gamma Y_{20}(\theta) + \sin \gamma Y_{22}(\theta, \phi) \right) + \beta_3 Y_{30}(\theta) + \beta_4 Y_{40}(\theta) \right]$$

e.g. Woods-Saxon

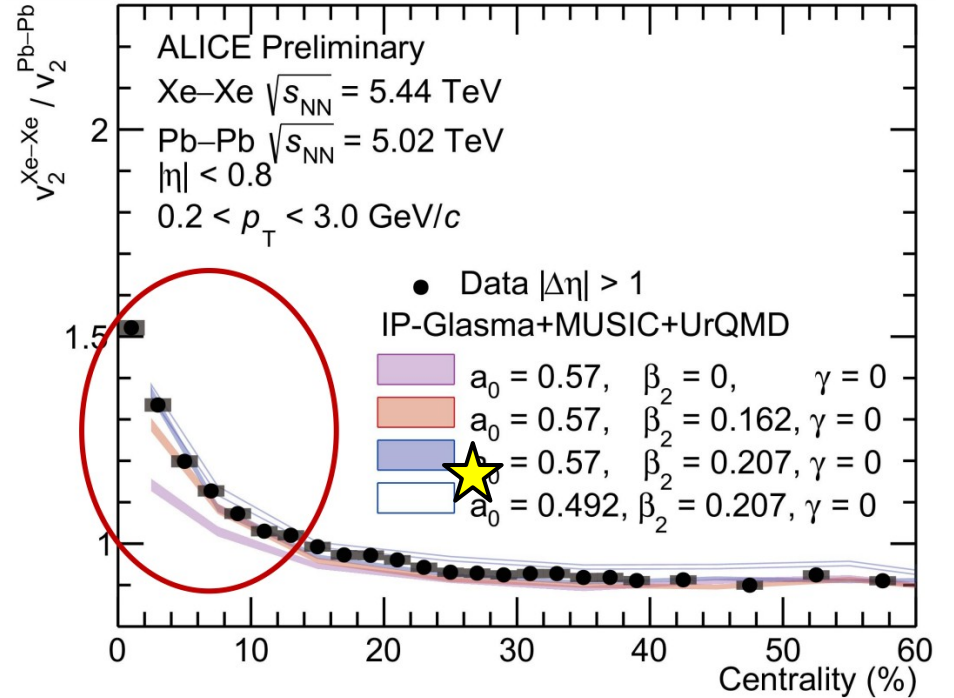




# Deformation of $^{129}\text{Xe}$ at the LHC



[Bally *et al.*, PRL **128** (2022) 8, 082301]  
 [Jia, PRC **105** (2022) 4, 044905]



**NUCLEAR TWO-BODY DENSITY**

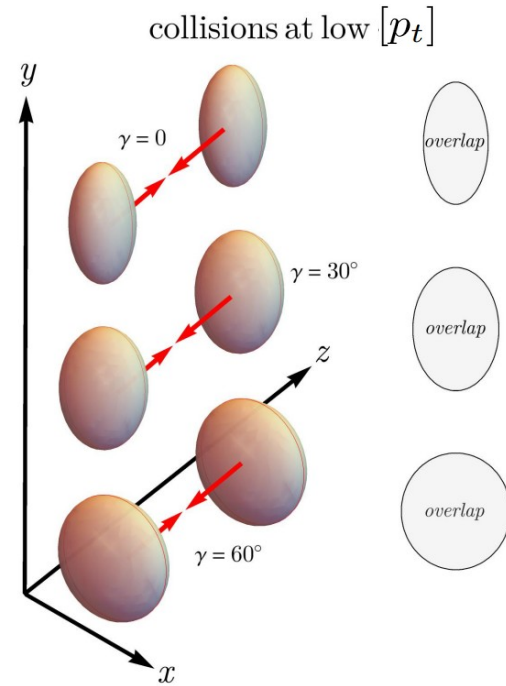
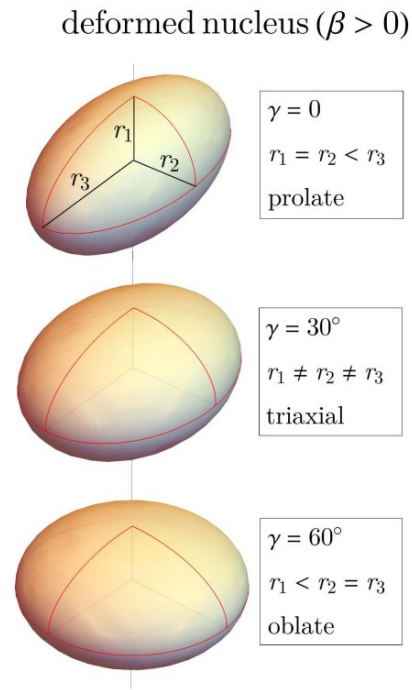
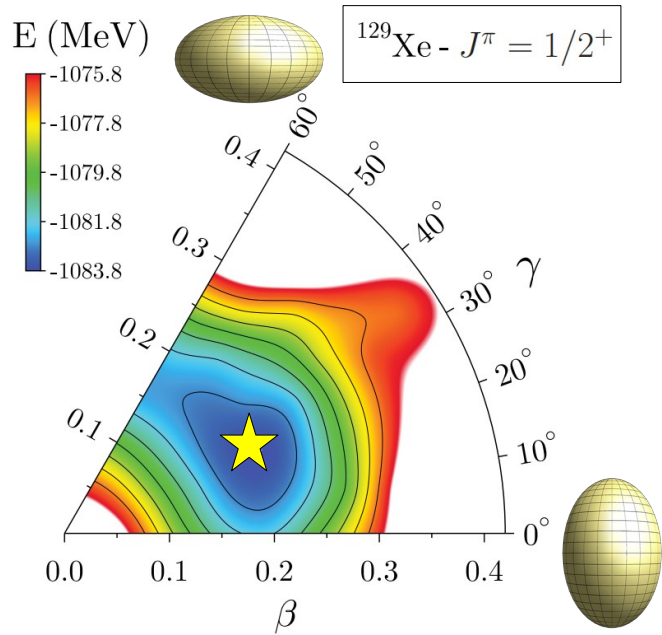
$$P_2(r_1, r_2) = \sum_{s,t} \int d^3r_3 \dots d^3r_A |\Psi_A(r_1 \dots r_A)|^2$$



**MEAN SQUARED ANISOTROPY**

$$v_n^2 = \langle V_n V_n^* \rangle_{\text{ev}} = \left\langle \frac{\sum_{i \neq j} e^{in(\phi_i - \phi_j)}}{N_{\text{ch, ev}}(N_{\text{ch, ev}} - 1)} \right\rangle_{\text{ev}}$$

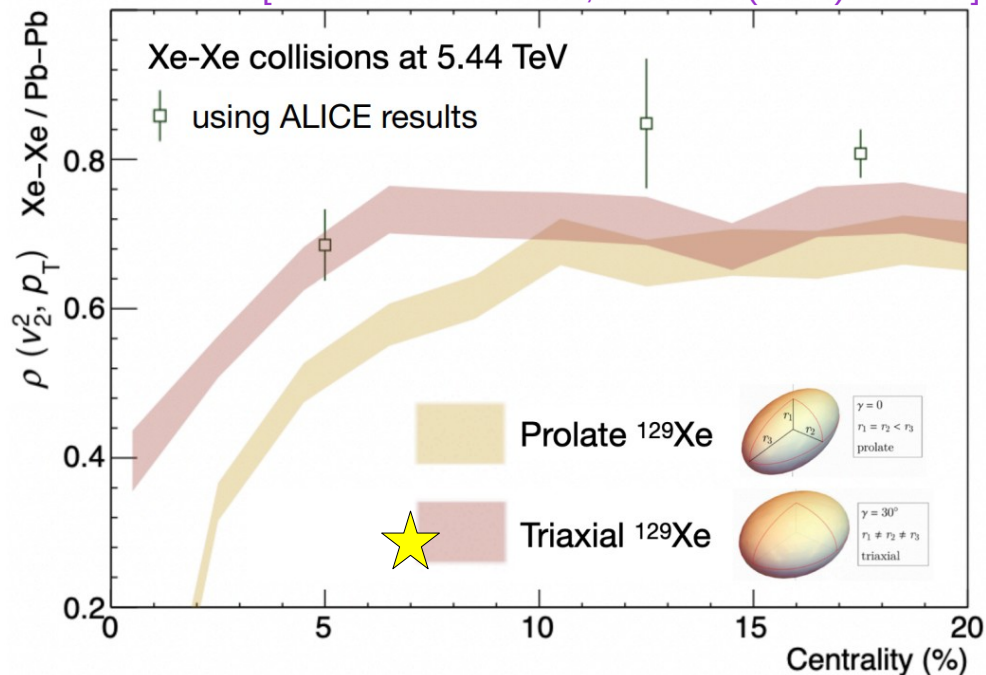
# Evidence of triaxiality in $^{129}\text{Xe}$



[Bally *et al.*, PRL **128** (2022) 8, 082301]

# Probing three-body correlations

[ALICE Collaboration, PLB **834** (2022) 137393]



## NUCLEAR THREE-BODY DENSITY

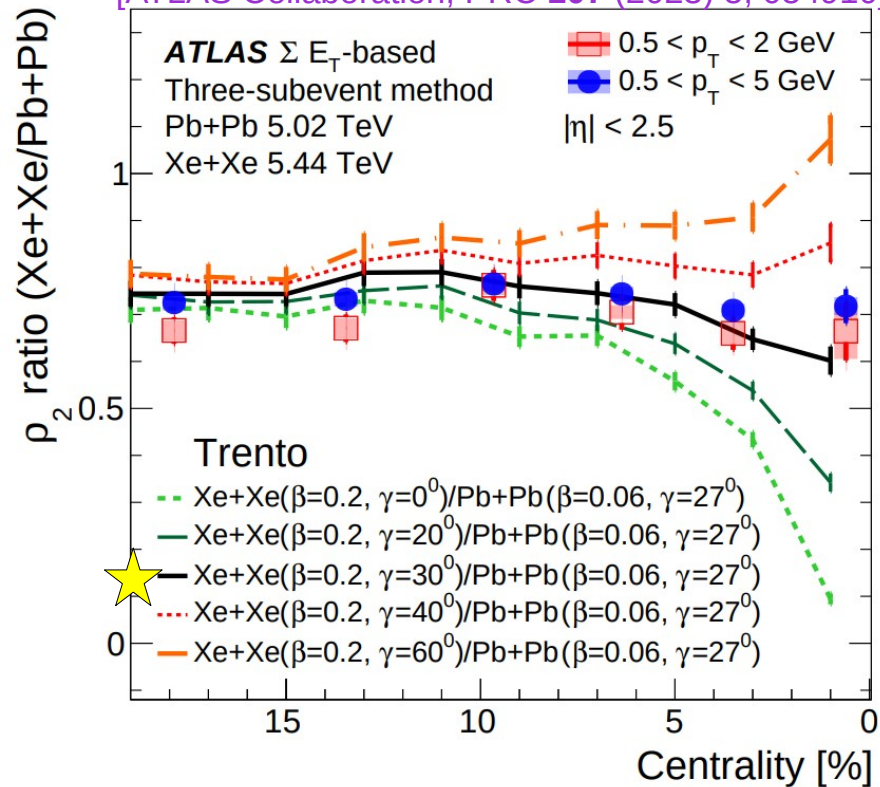
$$P_3(r_1, r_2, r_3) = \sum_{s,t} \int d^3r_4 \dots d^3r_A |\Psi_A(r_1 \dots r_A)|^2$$



[Jia, PRC **105** (2022) 4, 044905]

[Giacalone, EPJA **59** (2023) 12, 297]

[ATLAS Collaboration, PRC **107** (2023) 5, 054910]



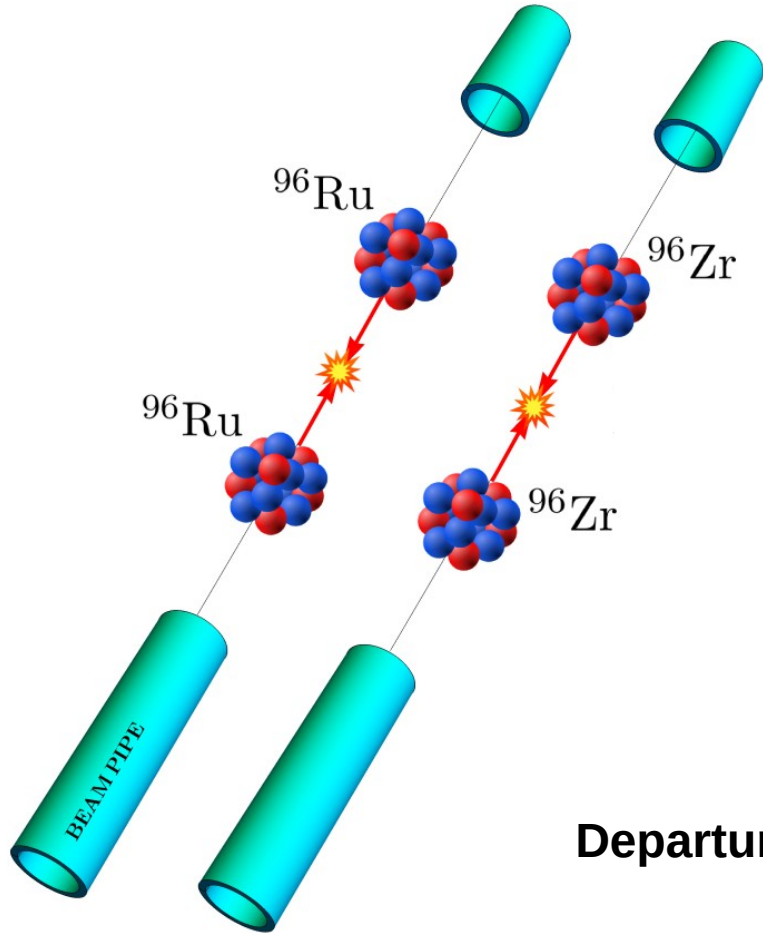
## MOMENTUM-ANISOTROPY CORRELATION

$$\rho_n \propto \text{cov}([p_t], v_n^2) = \left\langle \frac{\sum_{i \neq j \neq k} (p_i - \langle [p_t]_{\text{ev}} \rangle) e^{in(\phi_j - \phi_k)}}{N_{\text{ch, ev}} (N_{\text{ch, ev}} - 1) (N_{\text{ch, ev}} - 2)} \right\rangle_{\text{ev}}$$

$$\rho_n \propto -\cos(3\gamma) \beta_3^2$$

## Breakthrough of 2021: data from “isobar collisions” is released.

TALK BY J. JIA



X and Y are isobars.

X+X collisions produce QGP with same properties as Y+Y collisions.

*Ratios of observables (O) should be unity...*

$$\frac{O_{X+X}}{O_{Y+Y}} \stackrel{?}{=} 1$$

[STAR collaboration, PRC **105** (2022) 1, 014901]  
[Giacalone, Jia, Somà, PRC **104** (2021) 4, L041903]

Departure from unity is mainly due to nuclear structure.

Extremely precise measurements.

# Quadrupole and octupole deformations

$$\langle v_n^2 \rangle = a + b\beta_n^2$$

spherical  
baseline

QGP  
response

deformation

[Giacalone, Jia, Zhang, PRL **127** (2021) 24, 242301]

[Jia, PRC **105** (2022) 1, 014905]

[Jia, Zhang, PRL **128** (2022) 2, 022301]

Isobar ratio and Taylor expand around unity:

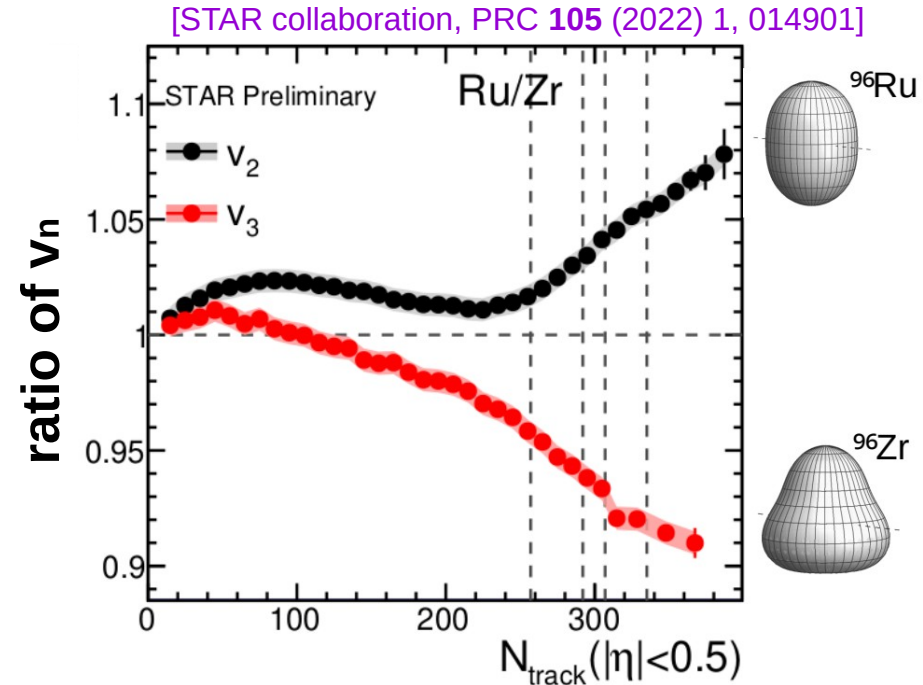
$$\frac{\langle v_n^2 \rangle_{\text{Ru+Ru}}}{\langle v_n^2 \rangle_{\text{Zr+Zr}}} = 1 + c (\beta_{n,\text{Ru}}^2 - \beta_{n,\text{Zr}}^2)$$

positive coeff

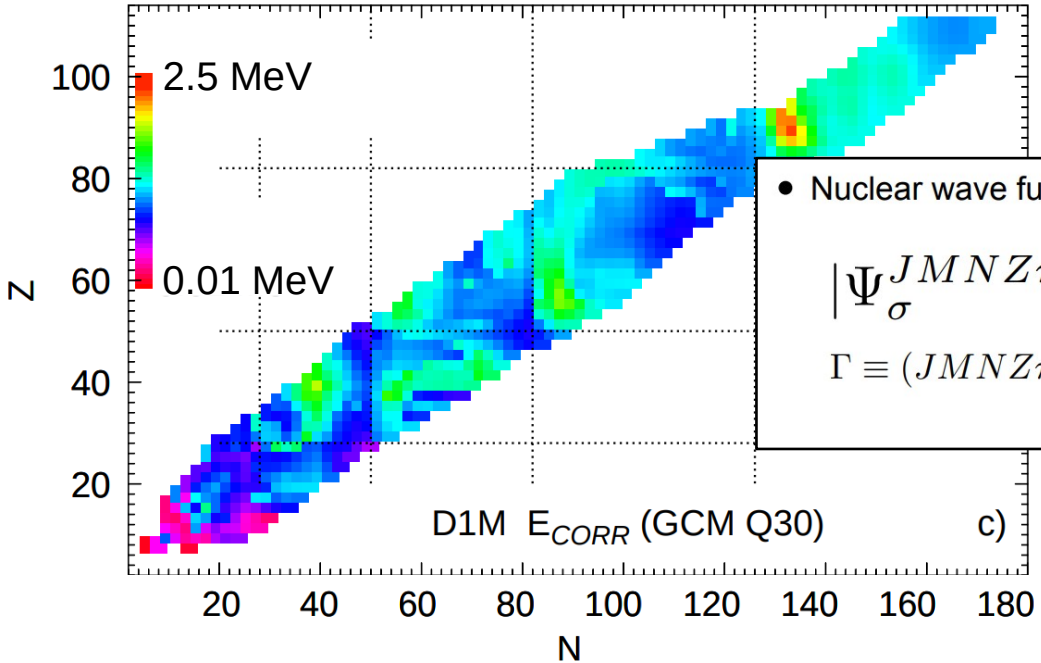
Low-energy nuclear physics:  $\beta_{2,\text{Ru}}^2 \gg \beta_{2,\text{Zr}}^2$

TALK BY M. ZIELIŃSKA

RHIC data:  $\beta_{2,\text{Ru}}^2 \gg \beta_{2,\text{Zr}}^2$   $\beta_{3,\text{Zr}}^2 \gg \beta_{3,\text{Ru}}^2$



Octupole requires correlations “beyond mean field”. A feature of the 2-body density.



• Nuclear wave functions

: Generator Coordinate Method (GCM) ansatz

$$|\Psi_{\sigma}^{JMNZ\pi}\rangle = \sum_{qK} f_{\sigma;qK}^{JMNZ\pi} P_{MK}^J P^N P^Z P^{\pi} |\Phi(q)\rangle$$

$\Gamma \equiv (JMNZ\pi)$

MIXING

PROJECTION

DEFORMED  
MF STATE

[Bertsch, Robledo, J. Phys. G 42 (2015) 5, 055109]

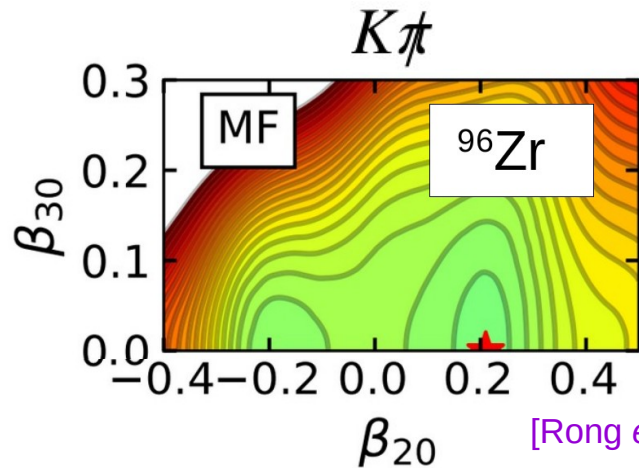
TALK BY D. VRETENAR

But how do we sample it?

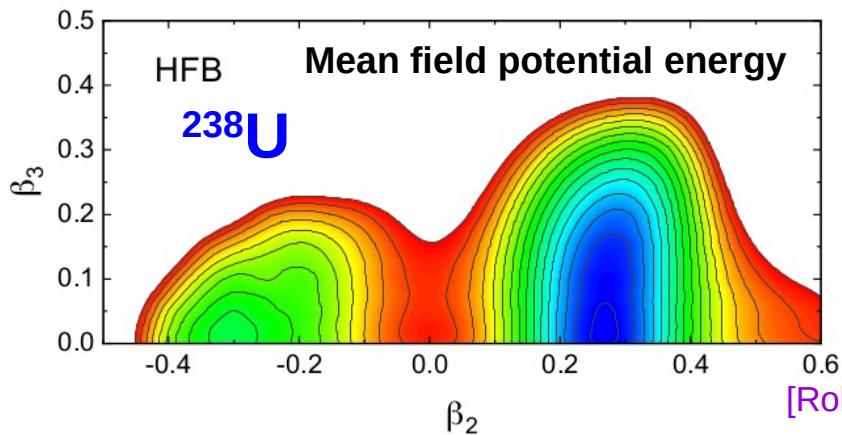
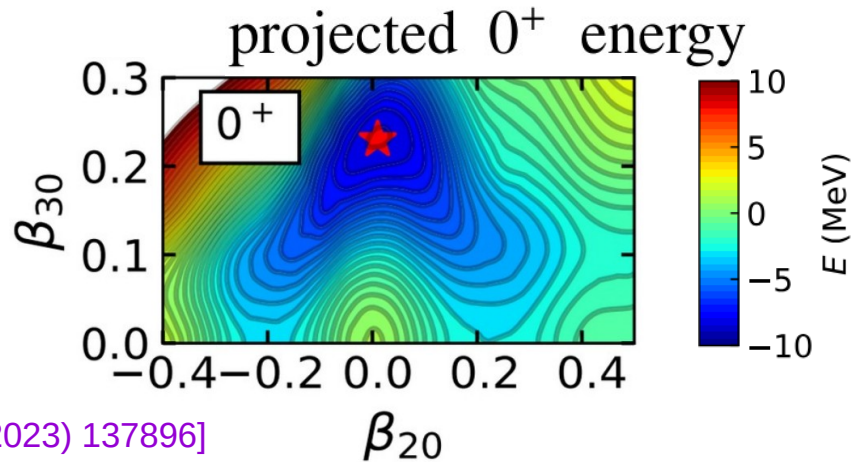
Evaluate mean field state at the maximum of  $g^2$  / minimum of projected energy. Sample nucleons.

[Bally *et al.*, PRL **128** (2022) 8, 082301]

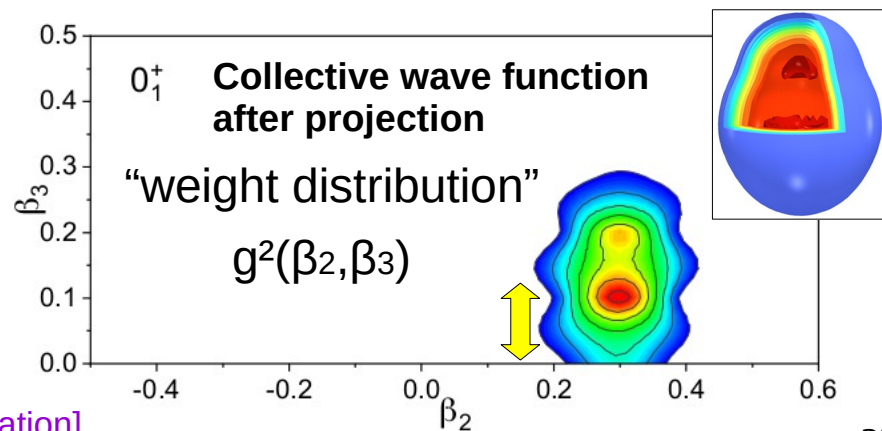
[Bally, Giacalone, Bender EPJA **59** (2023) 3, 58]



[Rong *et al.*, PLB **840** (2023) 137896]



[Robledo *et al.*, in preparation]



## Implementation from zero-point fluctuations

$$|\Psi(t)\rangle = |0\rangle + \sum_n c_n |n\rangle e^{-i\omega_n t}$$

TALK BY P. RING

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}, t) = \langle \Psi(t) | \sum_{i=1}^A \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_i) | \Psi(t) \rangle$$

To leading order in the perturbation:

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}, t) = \rho_0(\mathbf{r}) + \sum_n \left\{ c_n \delta\rho^n(\mathbf{r}) e^{-i\omega_n t} + \text{c.c.} \right\}$$

[Ring, Schuck, Nuclear Many Body Problem]

**Transition densities computed within relativistic nuclear effective theory**

Equations-of-Motion Method and the Extended Shell Model

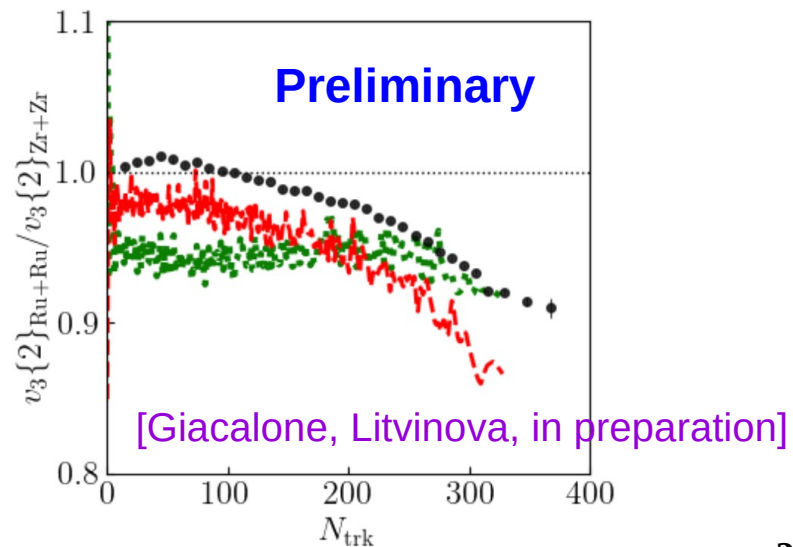
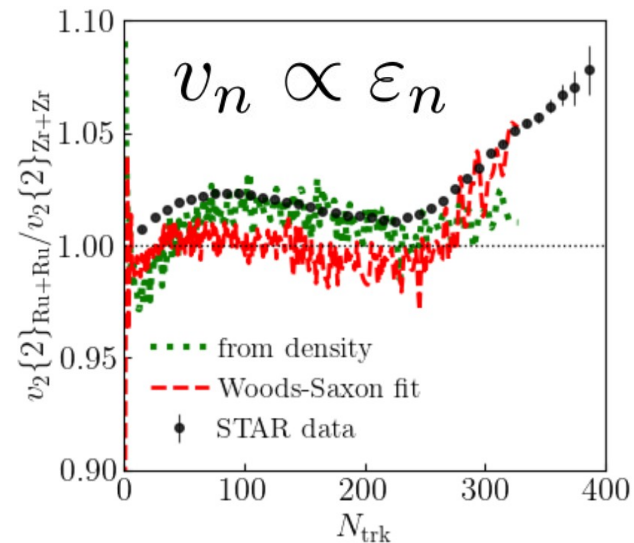
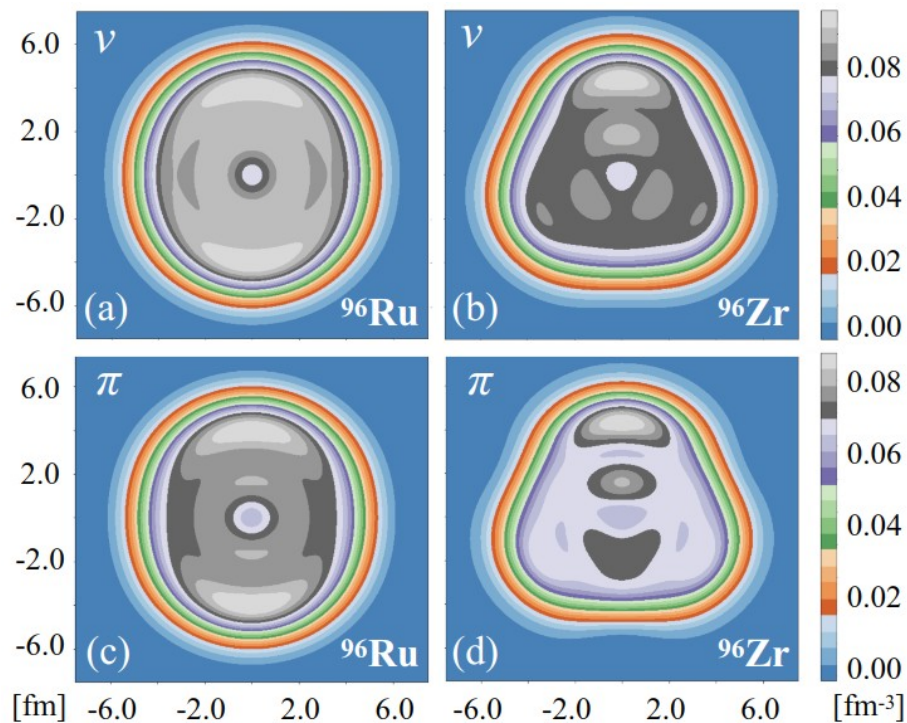
D. J. ROWE  
Rev. Mod. Phys. **40**, 153 – Published 1 January 1968

Citing Articles (948)

[Litvinova, Schuck, PRC **107** (2023) 2, 029903]

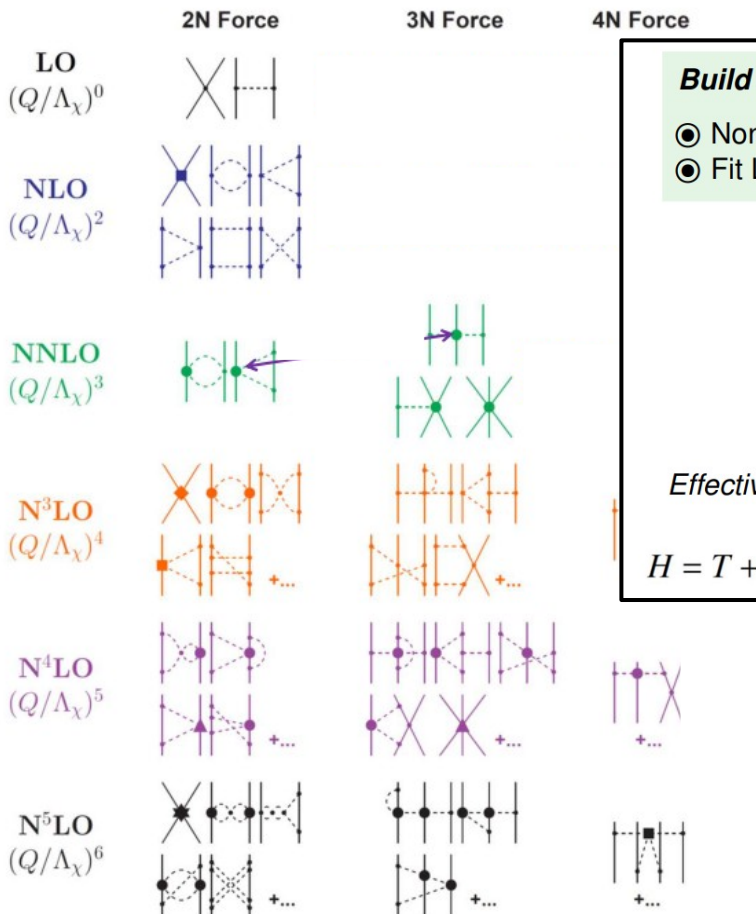


The dominant softness of  $^{96}\text{Ru}$  is of the quadrupole character, with the lowest quadrupole state at  $\approx 833$  (880) keV in the experiment [9] (theory), which is well separated from the higher excited states. In  $^{96}\text{Zr}$ , the lowest  $2_1^+$  and  $3_1^-$  states which define the dominant fluctuation shape are nearly degenerate, appearing at the energies  $\approx 1751$  (1790) keV and  $\approx 1897$  (1990) keV



## Chiral effective field theory

[T. Duguet, ESNT workshop, Sep 2022]



Build  $H$  (and other operators) with  $\chi$ EFT at various orders

- Non-trivial formal task whose difficulty increases with order (e.g. 3N at N<sup>2</sup>LO, 4N at N<sup>3</sup>LO...)
- Fit LECs of mode-2k tensors to experimental data (or lattice QCD) in  $A = k$ -body systems

Organization = power counting  
Importance of interaction terms

A-body Schrödinger Equation

$$H|\Psi_k^A\rangle = E_k^A|\Psi_k^A\rangle$$

Effective description = A-body operator in principle

$$H = T + V^{2N} + V^{3N} + V^{4N} + \dots + V^{AN}$$

[Weinberg, Gasser, Leutwyler, van Kolck, ..]

## Describing nuclear systems:

- 1) Consistently (from a single theoretical rationale?)
- 2) Systematically (complete phenomenology?)
- 3) Accurately enough (relevant to experimental uncertainty?)
- 4) From inter-nucleon interactions (right balance between reductionism/emergence?)
- 5) Rooted in QCD (sound connection to underlying EFT?)

# Opportunities from O+O

## 1 – Variational Monte Carlo – Auxiliary Field Diffusion Monte Carlo (VMC-AFDMC)

MC solution of Schrödinger eq. from time evolution of trial wave function.

[Lonardononi *et al.*, PRC **97** (2018) 4, 044318]

[Lim *et al.*, PRC **99** (2019) 4, 044904]

## 2 – Nuclear Lattice Effective Field Theory (NLEFT)

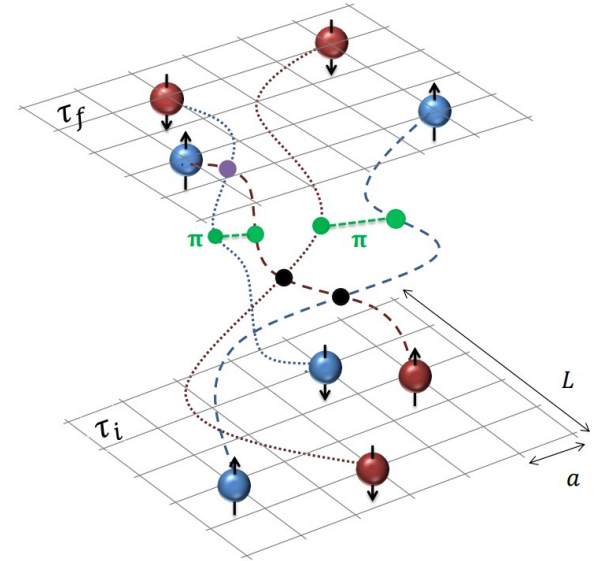
MC solution of Schrödinger eq. on a lattice.

[Lu *et al.*, PLB **797** (2019) 134863]

[Summerfield *et al.*, PRC **104** (2021) 4, L041901]

TALK BY U. MEISSNER

→ sampled nucleons include up to A-body correlations



## 3 – *ab initio* Projected Generator Coordinate Method (*ab initio* PGCM)

Wave function from variational calculation  
(as in density functional theory).

Provides a deformed density.

$$\delta \frac{\langle \Psi | H | \Psi \rangle}{\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle} = 0$$

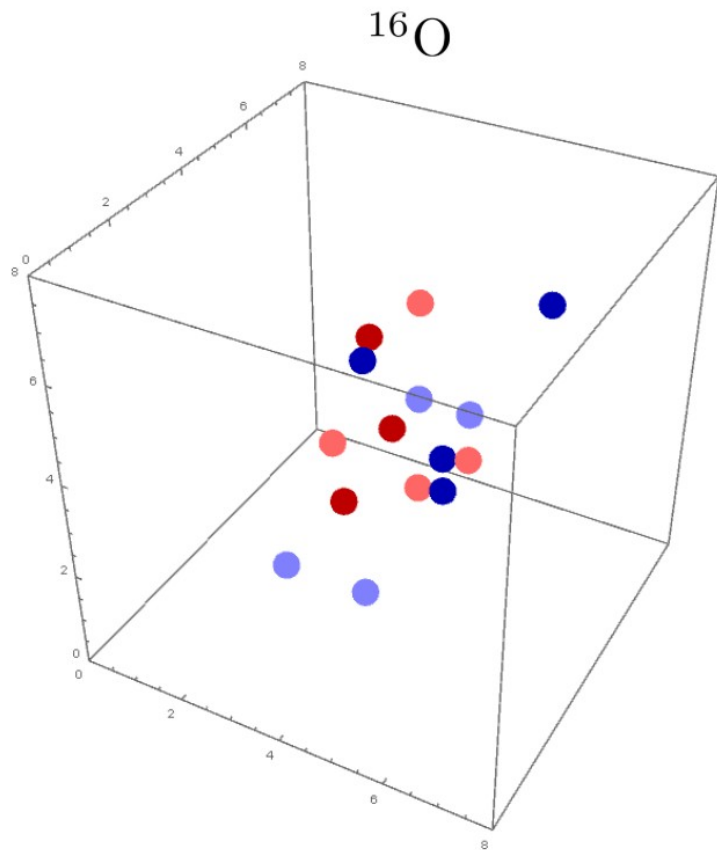
[Frosini *et al.*, EPJA **58** (2022) 4, 62]

EPJA **58** (2022) 4, 63

EPJA **58** (2022) 4, 64]

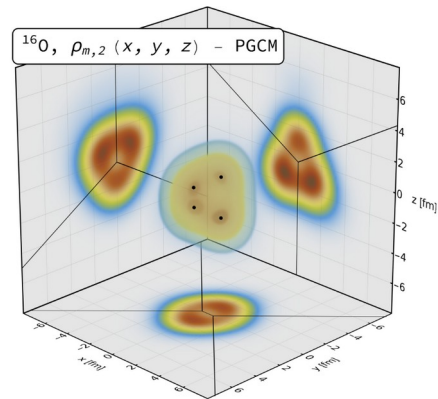
TALK BY B. BALLY

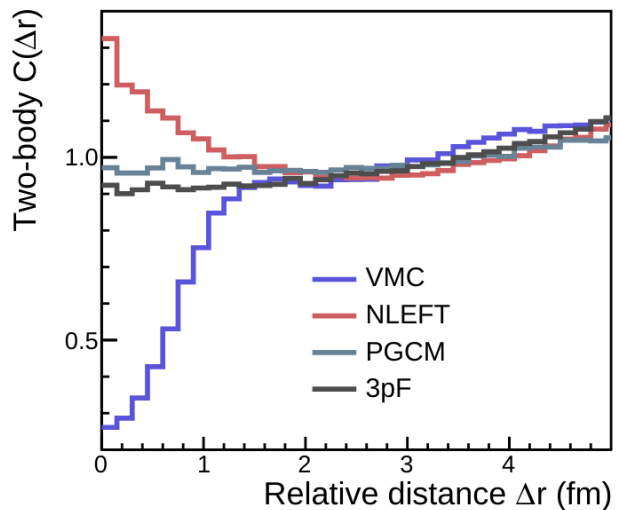
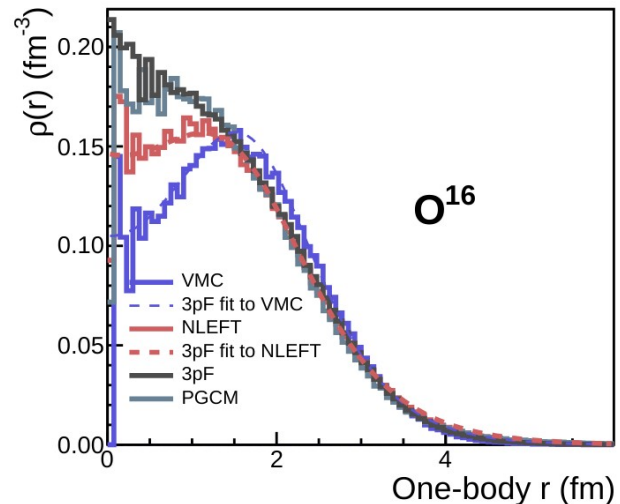
# Deformations?



- proton up
- proton down
- neutron up
- neutron down

NLEFT (similar for VMC)

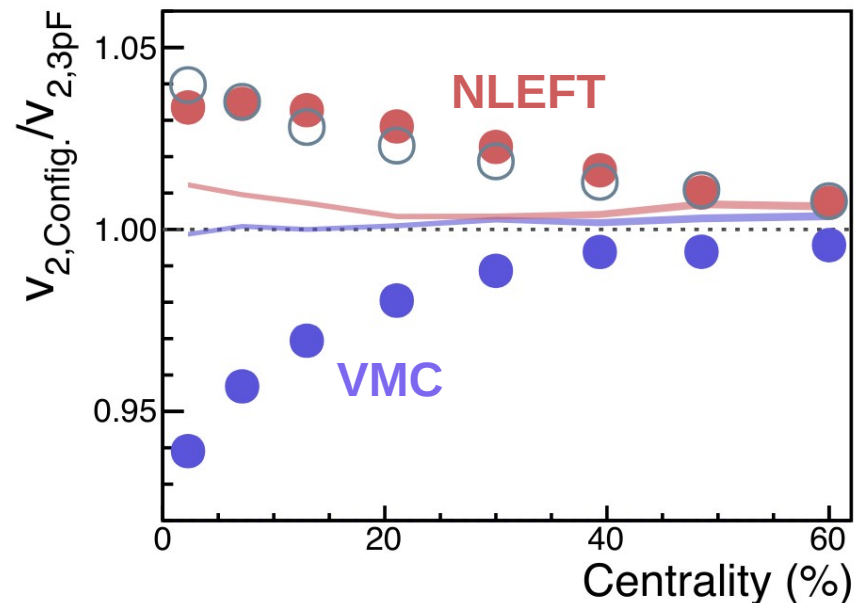




## VMC has strongest clustering/short-range correlations

[Zhang *et al.*, 2404.08385]

[Broniowski, Rybczyński, PRC **100** (2019) 6, 064912]



**Oxygen-oxygen collisions will discern models of clustering and short-range correlations.**

### 3 – Studying and exploiting nuclear deformation at high energy

**1**

**2**

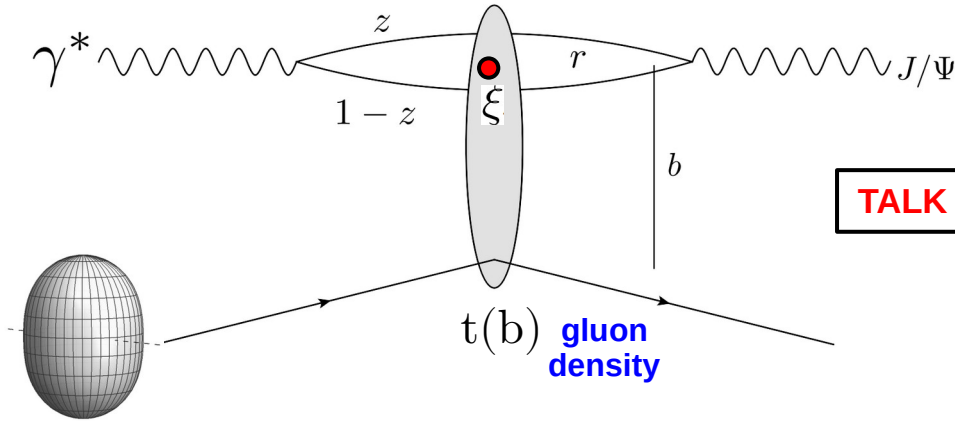
**3**

**4**

# EIC (or UPC) program – Same paradigm?

[Mäntysaari et al., PRL 131 (2023) 6, 062301]

1



TALK BY Z. XU

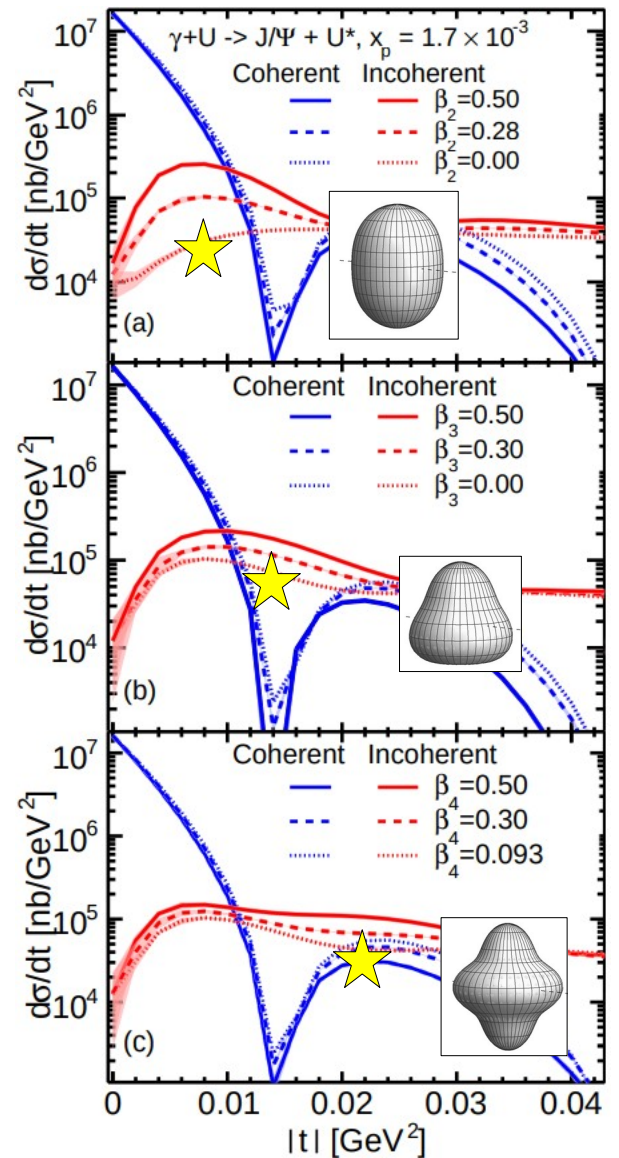
Amplitude:  $\mathcal{A}^{\gamma^* A \rightarrow V A} \propto \int_{\mathbf{b}} e^{-i\mathbf{b} \cdot \Delta} t(\mathbf{b})$  ( $-\Delta^2 = t$ )

$\rightarrow |\langle \mathcal{A}(|t|) \rangle|^2 \rightarrow \int_{\xi_i} P_{1\perp}(\xi_i) e^{-i\Delta \cdot \xi_i}$  (coherent)

$\rightarrow \langle |\mathcal{A}|^2(|t|) \rangle \rightarrow \int_{\xi_i \neq \xi_j} P_{2\perp}(\xi_i, \xi_j) e^{-i\Delta \cdot (\xi_i - \xi_j)}$  (incoherent)

[Caldwell, Kowalski, PRC 81 (2010) 025203]

[Giacalone, EPJA 59 (2023) 12, 297]



# 2

## Consistency of nuclear phenomena across scales

### BAYESIAN ANALYSIS

$$\Pr(p \& D) = \Pr(p) \times \Pr(D|p) = \Pr(D) \times \Pr(p|D)$$

prior  $\times$  likelihood = evidence  $\times$  posterior

[e.g. Paquet, arXiv:2310.17618]

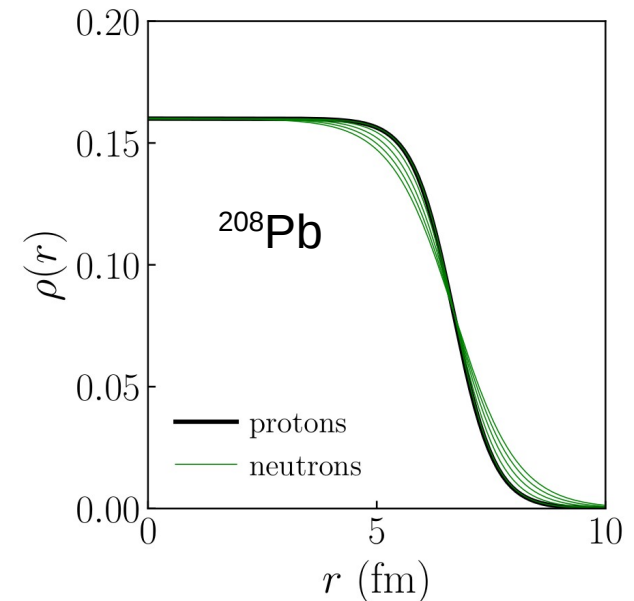
**Beautiful example and opportunity:** The neutron distribution of  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  is poorly known.

$$\rho(r) \propto \frac{1}{1 + e^{(r-R)/a}}$$

**Protons:** density from low-energy scattering.

[Zenihro *et al.*, PRC **82** (2010) 044611]

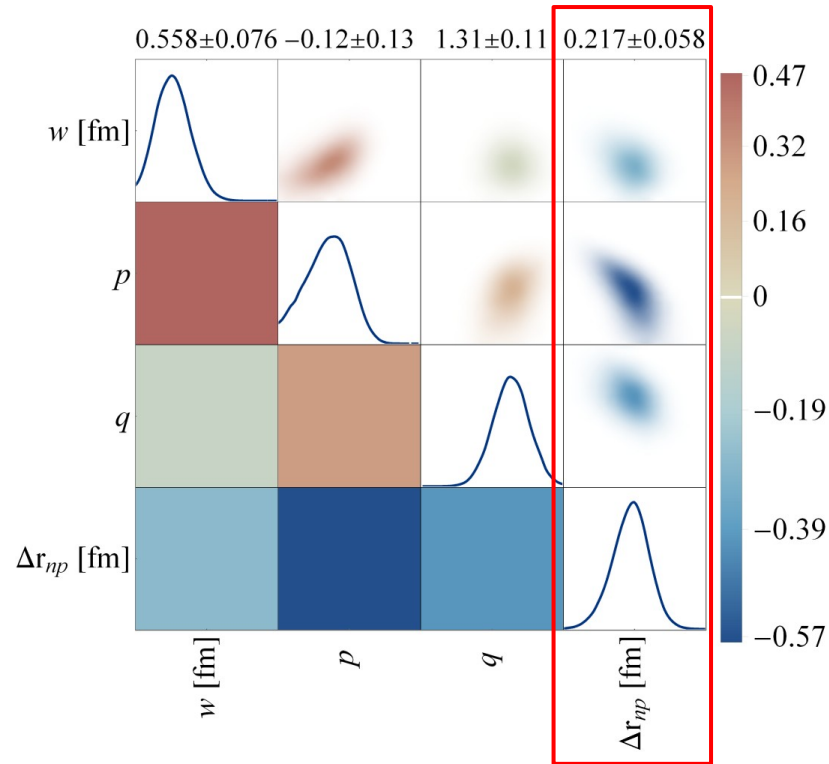
**Neutrons:** same R as protons, infer  $a$  from LHC data.



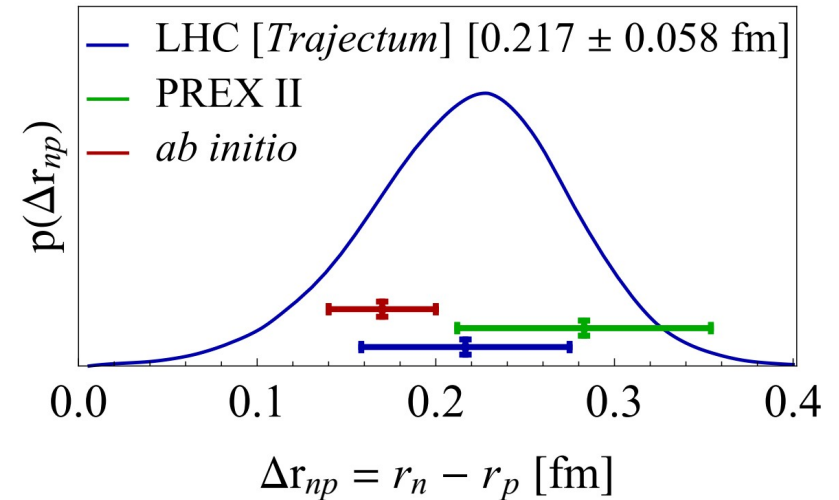


# Correlation between nuclear properties and initial-state parameters

TALK BY G. NIJS



[Giacalone, Nijs, van der Schee, PRL **131** (2023) 20, 20]



[PREX Collaboration, PRL **126** (2021) 17, 172502]  
[Hu *et al.*, Nature Phys. **18** (2022) 10, 1196-1200]

Generalize to deformation parameters - Refining initial-state model

3

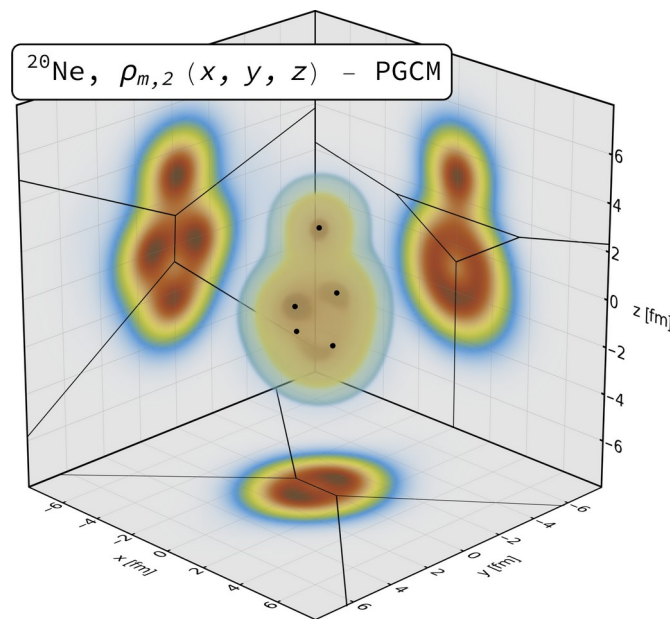
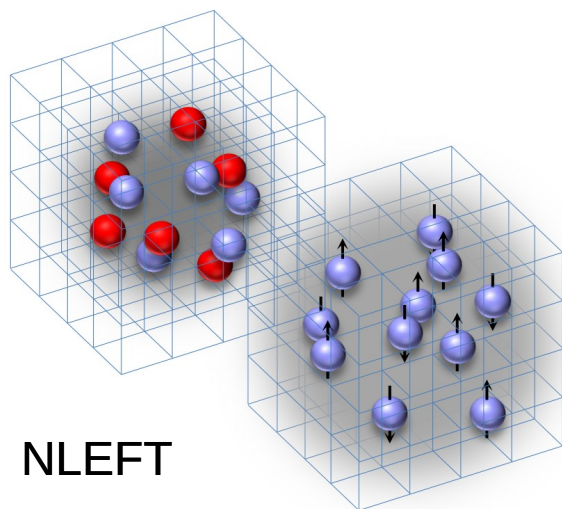
## The unexpected uses of a bowling pin: exploiting $^{20}\text{Ne}$ isotopes for precision characterizations of collectivity in small systems

Giuliano Giacalone,<sup>1,\*</sup> Benjamin Bally,<sup>2</sup> Govert Nijs,<sup>3</sup> Shihang Shen,<sup>4</sup>

Thomas Duguet,<sup>5,6</sup> Jean-Paul Ebran,<sup>7,8</sup> Serdar Elhatisari,<sup>9,10</sup> Mikael Frosini,<sup>11</sup> Timo A. Lähde,<sup>12,13</sup>

Dean Lee,<sup>14</sup> Bing-Nan Lu,<sup>15</sup> Yuan-Zhuo Ma,<sup>14</sup> Ulf-G. Meißner,<sup>10,16,17</sup> Jacquelyn Noronha-Hostler,<sup>18</sup>

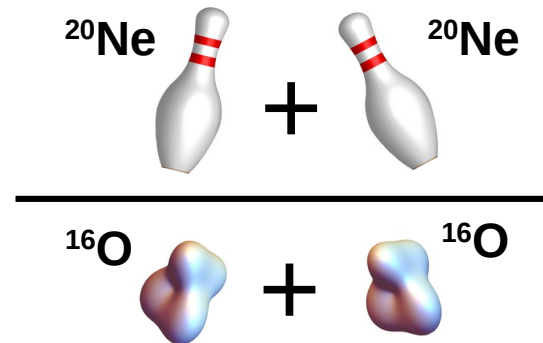
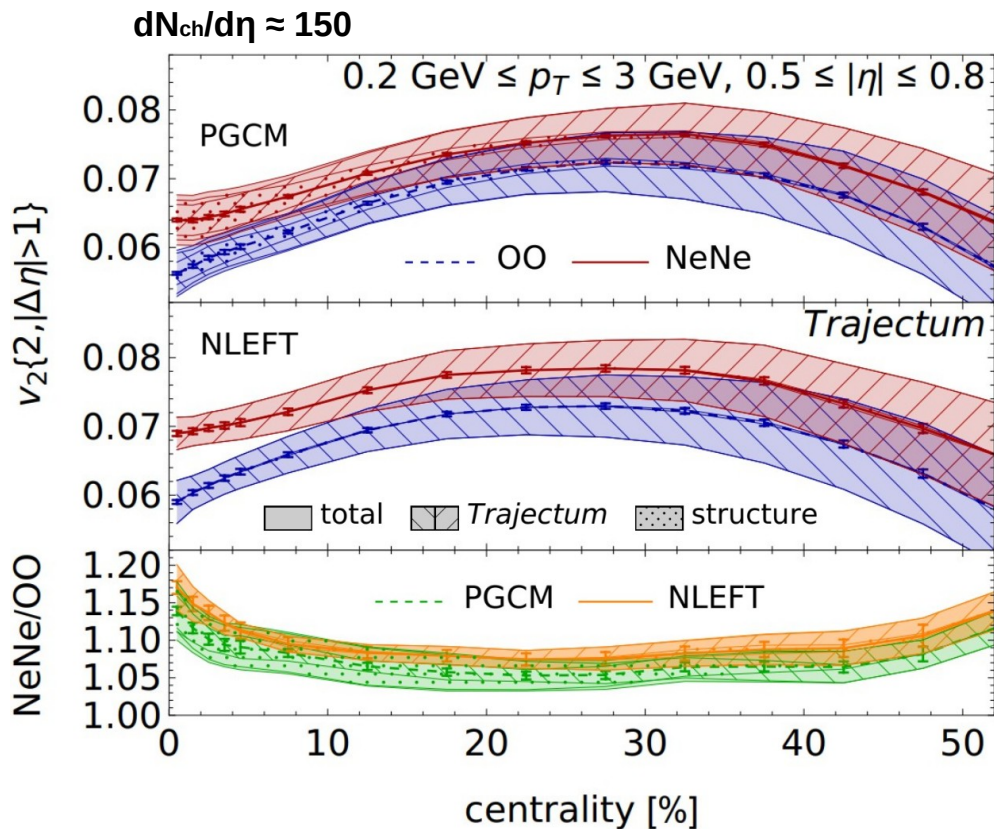
Christopher Plumberg,<sup>19</sup> Tomás R. Rodríguez,<sup>20</sup> Robert Roth,<sup>21,22</sup> Wilke van der Schee,<sup>3,23,24</sup> and Vittorio Somà<sup>5</sup>



### Ancillary files (details):

- [NLEFT\\_dmin\\_0.5fm\\_negativeweights\\_Ne.h5](#)
- [NLEFT\\_dmin\\_0.5fm\\_negativeweights\\_O.h5](#)
- [NLEFT\\_dmin\\_0.5fm\\_positiveweights\\_Ne.h5](#)
- [NLEFT\\_dmin\\_0.5fm\\_positiveweights\\_O.h5](#)
- [PGCM\\_clustered\\_dmin0\\_Ne.h5](#)
- [PGCM\\_clustered\\_dmin0\\_O.h5](#)
- [PGCM\\_uniform\\_dmin0\\_Ne.h5](#)
- [PGCM\\_uniform\\_dmin0\\_O.h5](#)

# Error cancellations – Quantitative predictions for a small system



**Theory with reliable systematic error:**

$$\frac{v_2\{2\}_{\text{NeNe}}}{v_2\{2\}_{\text{OO}}} = \begin{cases} 1.170(8)_{\text{stat.}} (30)_{\text{syst.}}^{Traj.} (0)_{\text{syst.}}^{\text{str.}} & (\text{NLEFT}) \\ 1.139(6)_{\text{stat.}} (27)_{\text{syst.}}^{Traj.} (28)_{\text{syst.}}^{\text{str.}} & (\text{PGCM}), \end{cases}$$

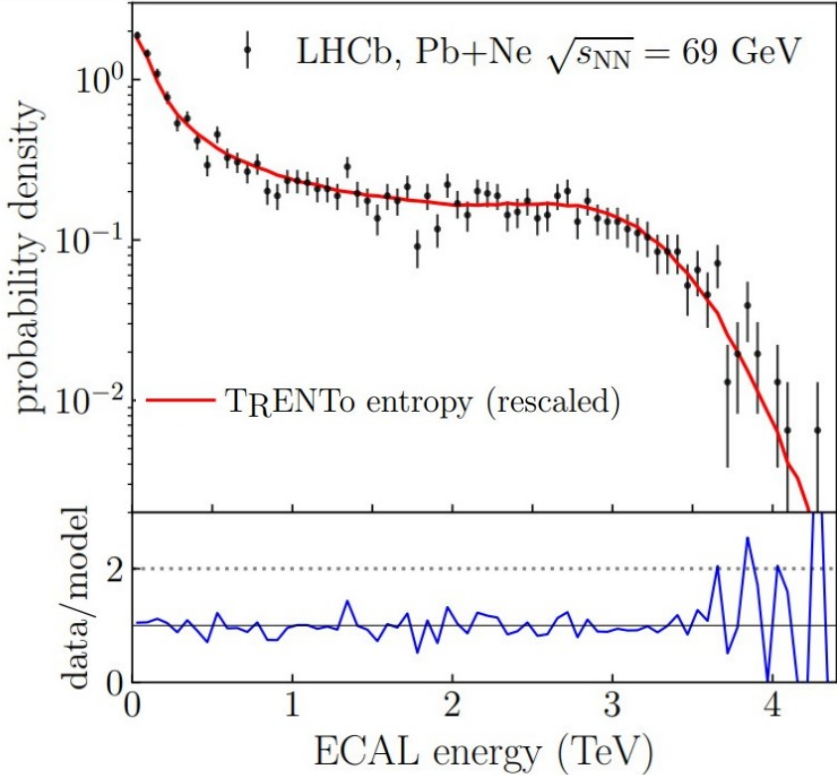
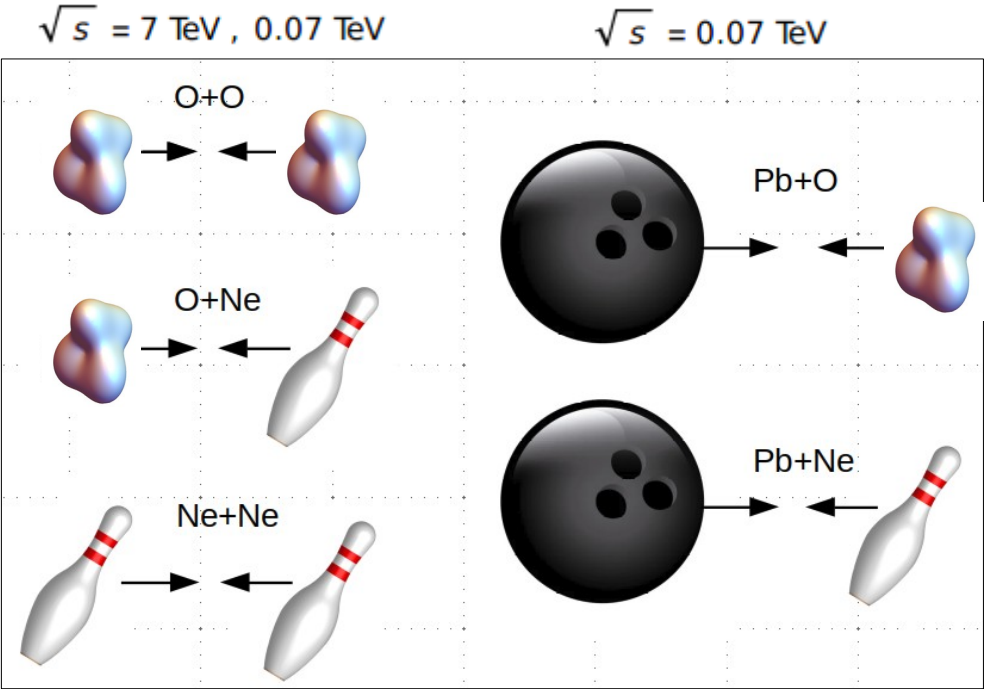
**TALK BY G. NIJS**

**Systematics are from hydrodynamics. Ideal to test physics beyond “standard model”.**

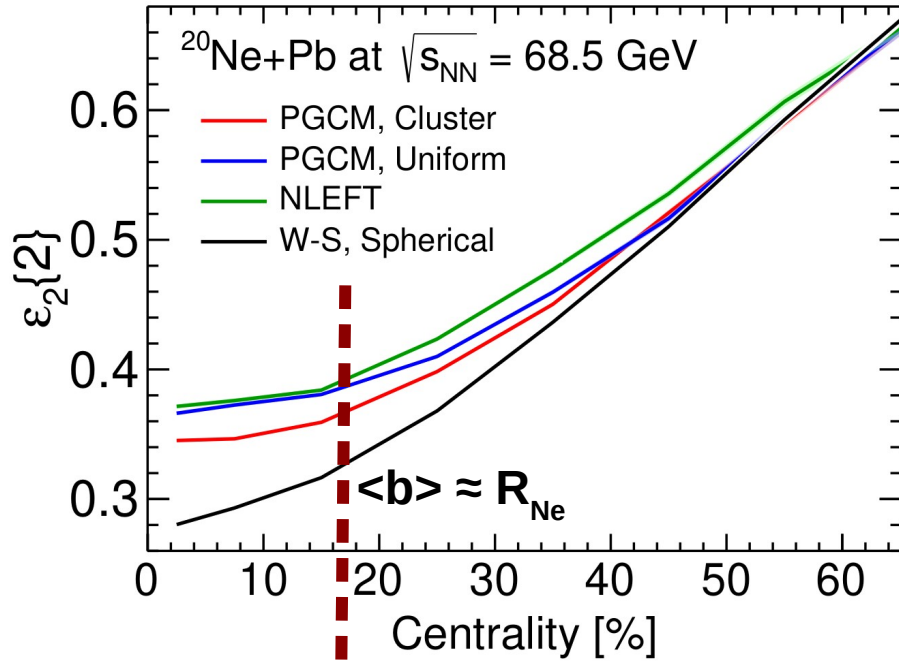
# The unexpected uses of a bowling pin – SMOG2

TALK BY G. GRAZIANI

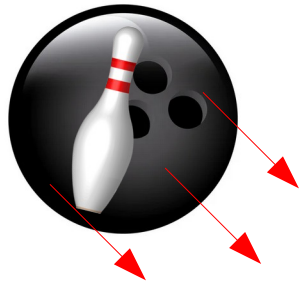
[LHCb Collaboration, JINST 17 (2022) 05, P05009]



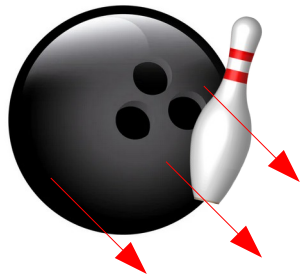
# For deformed nuclei, flat eccentricity up to ~20% centrality



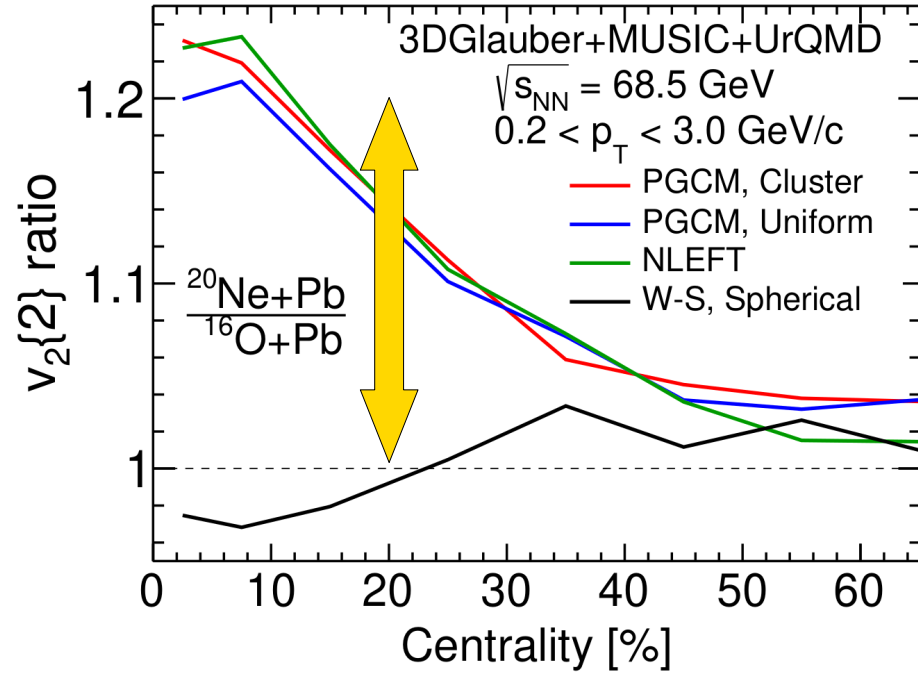
on-target



off-target



[W. Zhao et al., in preparation]

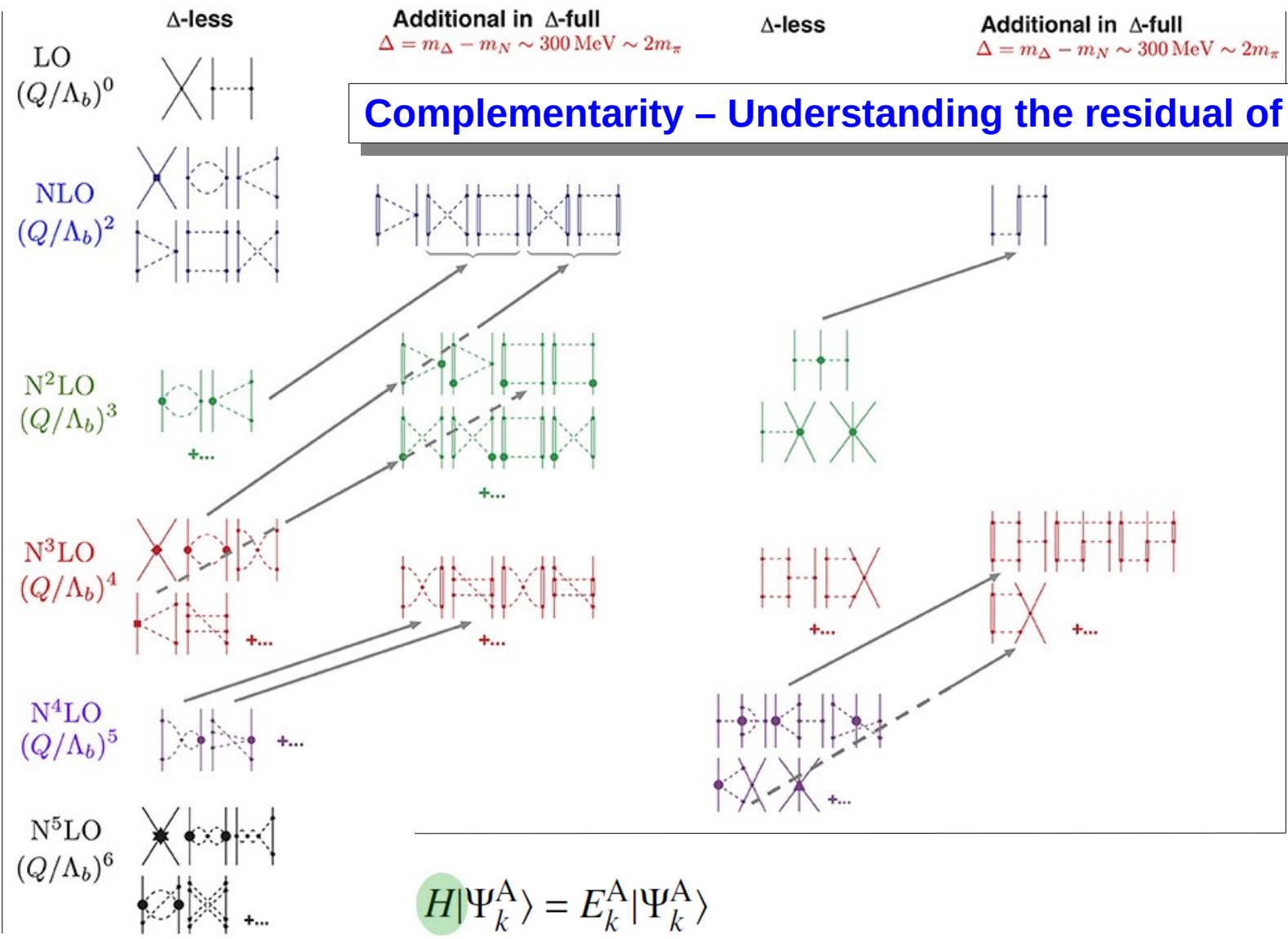


Signal is **gigantic**.

Unique potential of SMOG2 for imaging nuclei.

# 4

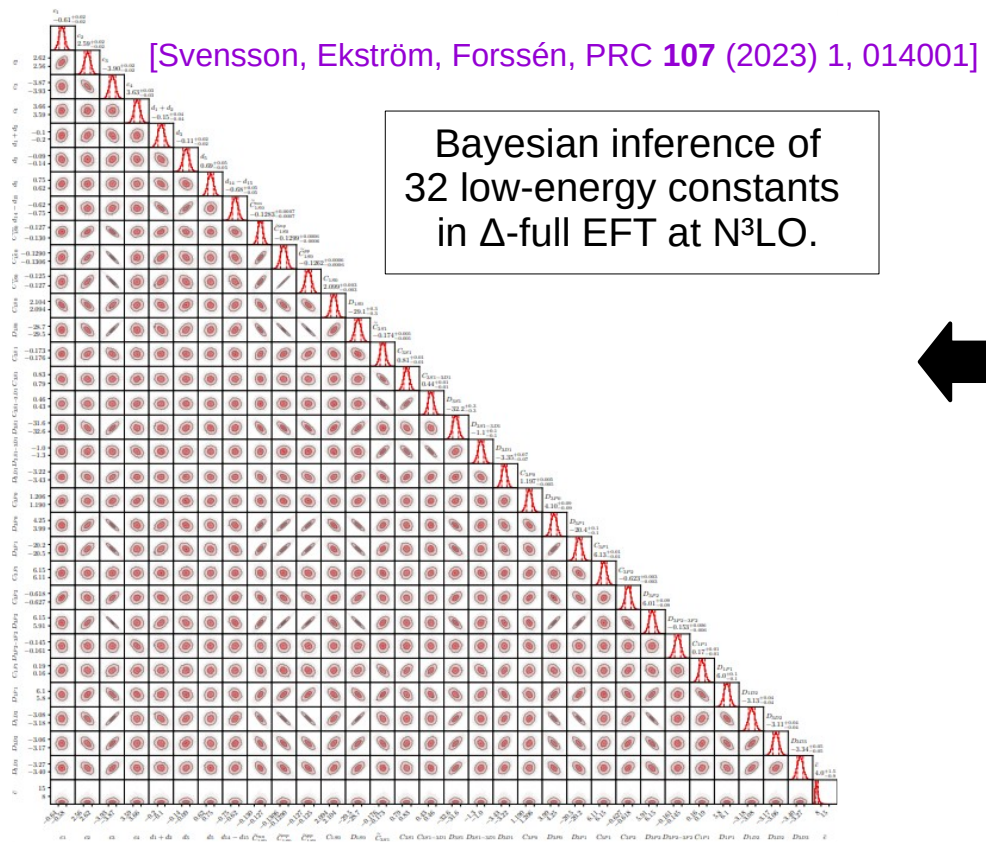
## Complementarity – Understanding the residual of QCD



$$H|\Psi_k^A\rangle = E_k^A|\Psi_k^A\rangle$$

# High-energy collisions and the quest for nuclear interactions

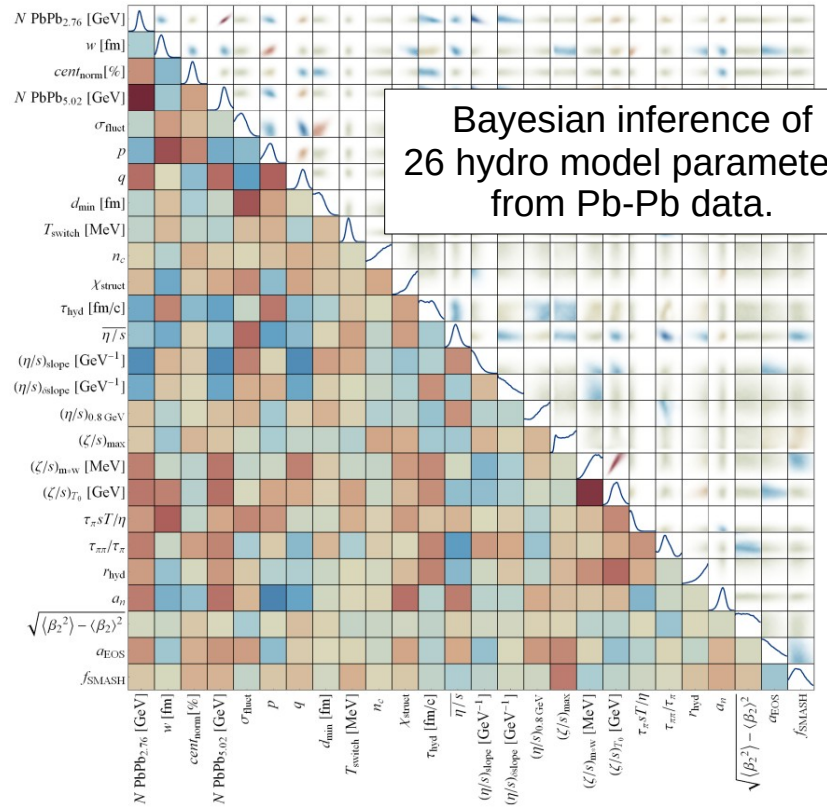
**TALKS BY K. GODBEY, X. ZHANG**



Bayesian inference of 32 low-energy constants in  $\Delta$ -full EFT at  $N^3$ LO.



[Giacalone, Nijs, van der Schee, PRL 131 (2023) 20, 20]



Bayesian inference of 26 hydro model parameters from Pb-Pb data.

**TALK BY G. NIJS**

## Reconstructing the strong nuclear force

$$H_{\text{SU}(4)} = H_{\text{free}} + \frac{1}{2!} C_2 \sum_{\mathbf{n}} \tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{n})^2 + \frac{1}{3!} C_3 \sum_{\mathbf{n}} \tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{n})^3$$

$$\tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{n}) = \sum_i \tilde{a}_i^\dagger(\mathbf{n}) \tilde{a}_i(\mathbf{n}) + s_L \sum_{|\mathbf{n}' - \mathbf{n}|=1} \sum_i \tilde{a}_i^\dagger(\mathbf{n}') \tilde{a}_i(\mathbf{n}')$$

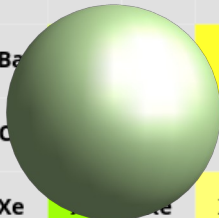
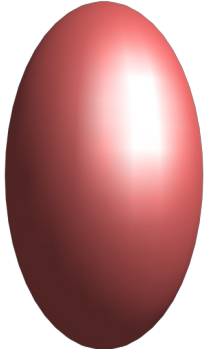
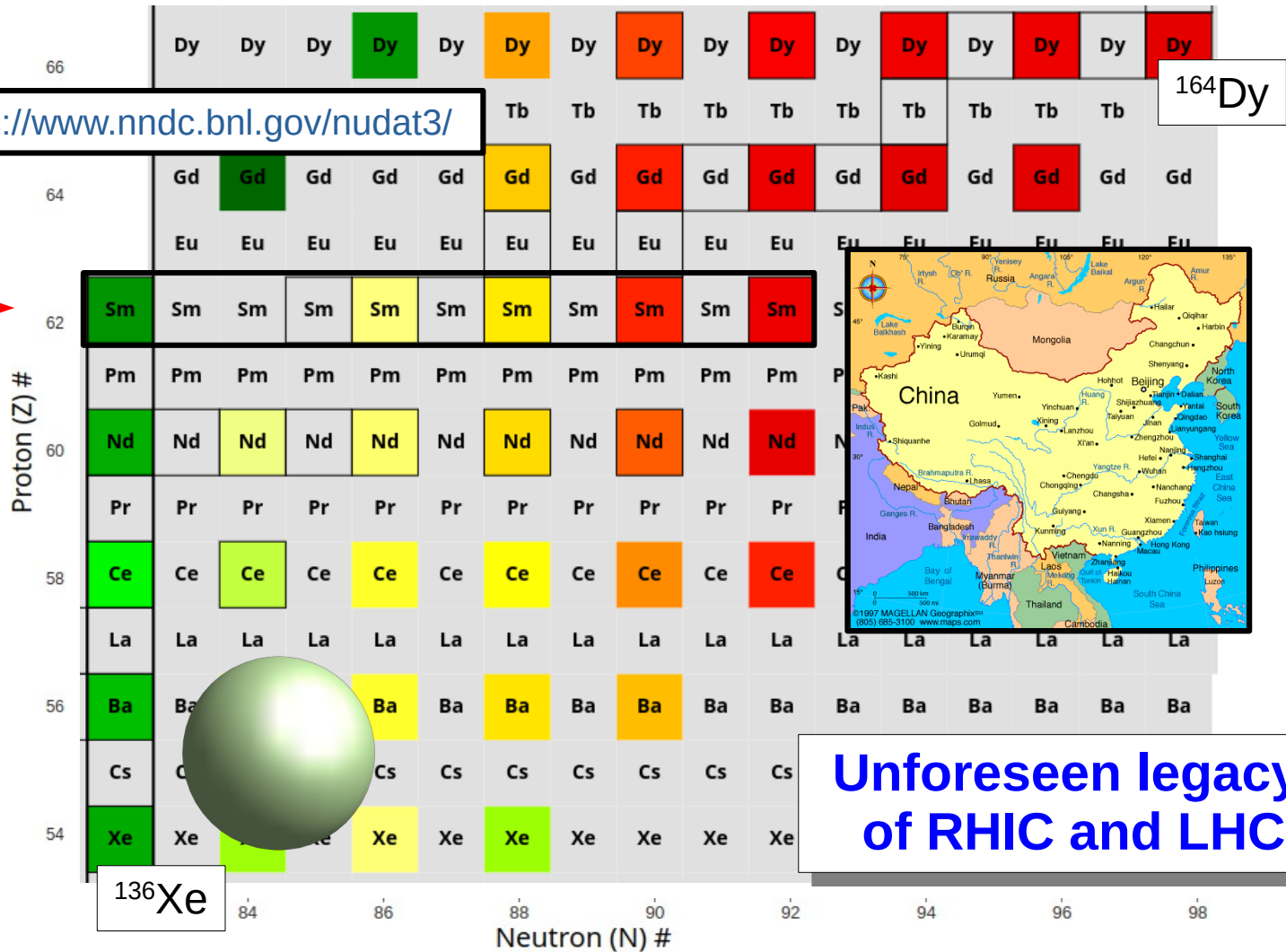
$$\tilde{a}_i(\mathbf{n}) = a_i(\mathbf{n}) + s_{NL} \sum_{|\mathbf{n}' - \mathbf{n}|=1} a_i(\mathbf{n}')$$

Parameters can be extracted from LHC and RHIC data on 16O collisions

Is it important? Different nuclei offering different sensitivities?



from <https://www.nndc.bnl.gov/nudat3/>



**Unforeseen legacy  
of RHIC and LHC**