# Relativistic nuclear collisions as a new laboratory to test effective theories for nuclei

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### Intersection of nuclear structure and high-energy nuclear collisions: a new research direction.



Next Initial Stages conference (Copenhagen, 2023) will have a track related to nuclear structure.

Input to Nuclear Physics LRP in the US, both hot QCD (e.g. arXiv link) and nuclear theory.

Contributed input to NUPECC LRP 2024 [with Y. Zhou (NBI Copenhagen)]

Just started a Topical Issue on EPJA on the intersection of the two areas (~20 papers in 2023) [T. Duguet, G. Giacalone, V. Somà, Y. Zhou]

# OUTLINE

1 – High-energy nuclear physics and collision geometry.

- 2 Nuclear structure input.
- 3 Nuclear shapes in high-energy nuclear experiments.

4 – Prospects: light nuclei and *ab initio* calculations.

1 – High-energy nuclear physics and collision geometry.

# **HIGH ENERGY NUCLEAR PHYSICS**

Long Island (NY)



Huge experimental program.

#### **Emergent phenomena in strong-interaction matter.**



Effective fluid description:  $T^{\mu\nu} = (\epsilon + P)u^{\mu}u^{\nu} - Pg^{\mu\nu} + \text{transport} (\eta/s, \zeta/s, ...)$ [Romatschke & Romatschke, arXiv:1712.05815]

Equation of state from lattice QCD. Large number of DOF (~40): QGP.

[HoTQCD collaboration, PRD 90 (2014) 094503]

Relevant temperature at top LHC energy:  $\approx$  220 MeV (2.6 x 10<sup>12</sup> K).

[Gardim, Giacalone, Luzum, Ollitrault, Nature Phys. 16 (2020) 6, 615-619]

# Main goals: understanding initial condition/transport properties/hadronization.

# How do we reconstruct the initial condition of the QGP?



Low-momentum particles follow the hydrodynamic expansion.

$$\frac{d^2N}{dp_{\rm T}d\phi} = \frac{dN}{2\pi dp_{\rm T}} \left( 1 + 2\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \cos n(\phi - \Phi_n) \right)$$
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Mapping initial-state geometry to final-state observables via pressure-gradient force.

 $F = -\nabla P$  [Ollitrault, PRD **46** (1992) 229-245]



Shape and size of the QGP can be reconstructed from data!

2 – Nuclear structure input.

# Formation of QGP starts with an input from nuclear structure.



**High-energy model** 

# Scattering occurs mainly within nucleons.

"quantum measurement" of the nucleon positions.



[from Sandra Brandstetter (Heidelberg), Collapsed wave function of a system of 10 <sup>6</sup>Li atoms]

#### Mean-field-based approach. Independent nucleons from Woods-Saxon density

$$\rho(r) = \frac{\rho_0}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{r-R}{a}\right)}$$

Nucleus-nucleus interaction does not modify the shape of the interaction region on large scales.





[Wilke van der Schee, ESNT workshop]

We are in a precision era. Nuclear structure input becomes an issue!

Describing heavy-ion collisions requires a priori knowledge of all spatial correlations,

 $\rho_k^{\text{JMNZ}}(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \vec{r}_3, \vec{r}_4) \equiv \langle \Psi_k^{\text{JMNZ}} | c^{\dagger}(\vec{r}_1) c^{\dagger}(\vec{r}_2) c(\vec{r}_3) c(\vec{r}_4) | \Psi_k^{\text{JMNZ}} \rangle \quad \text{2-body correlation function}$ 

# Help from low-energy nuclear physics:

Spatial correlations encapsulated in "intrinsic shapes". Instead of A-body correlation functions, use 1-body density with a deformed shape.



The bag of nucleons is now deformed and with a random orientation.

The collision selects one such orientation.

# Generalize the Woods-Saxon profile to include intrinsic deformations:

$$\rho(r,\Theta,\Phi) \propto \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\left[r - R(\Theta,\Phi)\right]/a\right)} , R(\Theta,\Phi) = R_0 \left[1 + \frac{\beta_2}{2} \left(\cos\gamma Y_{20}(\Theta) + \sin\gamma Y_{22}(\Theta,\Phi)\right) + \frac{\beta_3}{\beta_3} Y_{30}(\Theta) + \frac{\beta_4}{\beta_4} Y_{40}(\Theta)\right]$$

Intrinsic shapes are non-observable for direct measurements, but they leave their fingerprint on virtually all nuclear observables and phenomena Michael Bender – RBRC Workshop Jan 2022

2 – Nuclear shapes in high-energy nuclear experiments.

Species that have been collided so far (excludes p-A, d-A, He-A):



**New questions to address:** 

Testing high-energy model via crosscheck of nuclear deformation effects.

Are low-energy expectations compatible with high-energy observations?

#### HOW TO DO THAT? SHAPE-SIZE CORRELATION.



#### **CENTRAL COLLISIONS OF (PROLATE) DEFORMED IONS**

The ellipticity of the quark-gluon plasma is positively correlated with its area.



### **Breakthrough of 2021: data from "isobar collisions" is released.**



X and Y are isobars.

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

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

$$\frac{\mathcal{O}_{X+X}}{\mathcal{O}_{Y+Y}} \stackrel{?}{=} 1$$

[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.

# Signature of the quadrupole deformation of ruthenium-96.

In full generality, for quadrupole-deformed nuclei, at fixed multiplicity one has:



[Giacalone, PRC **99** (2019) 2, 024910] [Giacalone, Jia, Somà, PRC **104** (2021) 4, L041903] [Giacalone, Jia, Zhang, PRL **127** (2021) 24, 242301] [Jia, PRC **105** (2022) 1, 014905]

Isobar ratio and expand around the fluctuations:

$$\frac{\langle v_2^2 \rangle_{\rm Ru+Ru}}{\langle v_2^2 \rangle_{\rm Zr+Zr}} = 1 + c \left(\beta_{2,\rm Ru}^2 - \beta_{2,\rm Zr}^2\right)$$
positive coeff

Low-energy nuclear physics tells us:

$$\beta_{2,\mathrm{Ru}}^2 \gg \beta_{2,\mathrm{Zr}}^2$$

# Ratio should be above unity.



# Signature of the octupole deformation of zirconium-96.

Same logic follows for octupole-deformed nuclei:

$$\frac{\langle v_3^2 \rangle_{\mathrm{Ru}+\mathrm{Ru}}}{\langle v_3^2 \rangle_{\mathrm{Zr}+\mathrm{Zr}}} = 1 + c \left(\beta_{3,\mathrm{Ru}}^2 - \beta_{3,\mathrm{Zr}}^2\right)$$

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

Significant octupole deformation from low-lying first 3<sup>-</sup> state in <sup>96</sup>Zr.

No experimental information about <sup>96</sup>Ru.





# Explanation from nuclear structure theory? Octupole deformation is a "beyond-mean-field" effect.

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



Preliminary work confirms large octupole deformation in zirconium.  $\beta_{3,Zr}^2 \gg \beta_{3,Ru}^2$ Large energy gain from symmetry restoration.

# **Answers to the initial questions:**

- Expectations from low-energy nuclear physics confirmed in high-energy data.
- Quadrupole, triaxiality, octupole, hexadecapole, and radial profile differences between isobars.
- Great confidence that high-energy model is appropriate.
- No clear indication of modifications of nuclear geometry from enhanced gluon fluctuations (Lorentz boost).

# 4 – Prospects: light nuclei and *ab initio* calculations.

**Current works in progress:** 

G. Giacalone

+ G. Nijs, W. van der Schee (Trajectum hydrodynamic framework)

B. Bally, T. Duguet, J-P. Ebran, M. Frosini, T. Rodriguez, V. Somà (*ab initio* PGCM)

+

D. Lee, B-N. Lu (NLEFT)

+

Going beyond shapes: connection with *ab initio* calculations.

# Great opportunity from <sup>16</sup>O+<sup>16</sup>O collisions from both RHIC and LHC.

- 6000 configurations from Cluster Variational Monte Carlo simulations. Interaction: AV18+UIX. Repulsive core implemented. [Lonardoni *et al.*, PRC **96** (2017) 2, 024326] [Lim *et al.*, PRC **99** (2019) 4, 044904]

- 15359 configurations from Nuclear Lattice Effective Field Theory simulations. Interaction: pionless EFT. Pin-hole algorithm to determine nucleon positions.



[Lu et al., PLB **797** (2019) 134863] [Summerfield *et al.*, PRC **104** (2021) 4, L041901]

# Why are they different?

### Due to the different underlying one-body density?



#### Due to the short-range repulsive core?



Nope. It must come from the effect of collective (spatial) correlations. What are the relevant features? Transparent evidence of a "geometric" origin of flow in a "small system"? Exploit bowling-pin-shaped <sup>20</sup>Ne.



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# LHC – Run5 and Run6 (beyond 2032)

# Possibility of collisions of additional species @ LHC Run 5 and Run 6?

Maximizing impact for both low- and high-energy communities?

# **Collide them in pairs (isobar strategy)?**

# [from Alexander Kalweit (CERN), ESNT workshop]



[https://indico.cern.ch/event/1078695/]

|   | optimistic scenario                       | 0-0                  | Ar-Ar                | Ca-Ca                | Kr-Kr                | In-In                | Xe-Xe                | Pb-Pb                |
|---|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Nucleon-nucleon<br>luminosity:<br>$\mathcal{L}_{NN} = A^2 \cdot \mathcal{L}_{AA}$ | (LAA) (CM <sup>-2</sup> S <sup>-1</sup> ) | 9.5·10 <sup>29</sup> | 2.0·10 <sup>29</sup> | 1.9·10 <sup>29</sup> | 5.0·10 <sup>28</sup> | 2.3·10 <sup>28</sup> | 1.6·10 <sup>28</sup> | 3.3·10 <sup>27</sup> |
|   | ⟨Lnn⟩ (cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) | 2.4·10 <sup>32</sup> | 3.3·10 <sup>32</sup> | 3.0·10 <sup>32</sup> | 3.0·10 <sup>32</sup> | 3.0·10 <sup>32</sup> | 2.6·1032             | 1.4·10 <sup>32</sup> |
|   | LAA (nb <sup>-1</sup> / month)            | 1.6·10 <sup>3</sup>  | 3.4·10 <sup>2</sup>  | 3.1.10 <sup>2</sup>  | 8.4·10 <sup>1</sup>  | 3.9·10 <sup>1</sup>  | 2.6·10 <sup>1</sup>  | 5.6·10 <sup>0</sup>  |
|   | LNN (pb <sup>-1</sup> / month)            | 409                  | 550                  | 500                  | 510                  | 512                  | 434                  | 242                  |

# SUMMARY



- High-energy model for an excellent description of heavy-ion data.
- Collective spatial correlations (shapes) in nuclei show up clearly at high energy.
- Prospect theory: improved initial conditions from synergy with *ab-initio* nuclear theory.
- Prospect experiments: many opportunities to be discussed/investigated.

# **THANK YOU!**

# Intersection of nuclear structure and high-energy nuclear collisions

https://www.int.washington.edu/programs-and-workshops/23-1a

# Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> - Feb 24<sup>th</sup> 2023



#### **Organizers:**

Jiangyong Jia (Stony Brook & BNL) Giuliano Giacalone (ITP Heidelberg) Jaki Noronha-Hostler (Urbana-Champaign) Dean Lee (Michigan State & FRIB) Matt Luzum (São Paulo) Fugiang Wang (Purdue)

# **BONUS:** Signature of skin thickness in (ratio of) fourth-order cumulant of v<sub>2</sub>.



Gaussian model of  $V_2=(v_x,v_y)$  fluctuations. Reaction plane is along x:

$$p(v_{2x}, v_{2y}) = \frac{1}{\pi \delta^2} \exp\left[-\frac{(v_{2x} - v_2^{rp})^2 + v_{2y}^2}{\delta^2}\right]$$
$$v_2\{4\} = v_2\{6\} = \dots = v_2\{\infty\} = v_2^{rp}$$
probes the skin



see also [Nijs, van der Schee, arXiv:2112.13771] [Xu *et al.*, arXiv:2111.14812] [Xu *et al.*, PLB **819**, 136453 (2021)]

# **BONUS: Neutron skin estimates from high-energy collisions? Two methods.**

Difference in diffuseness gives access to neutron skin difference. Use isobars. <sup>208</sup>Pb, <sup>48</sup>Ca ... can high-energy nuclear physics contribute to these efforts?

[Jia & Zhang, arXiv:2111.15559]

Nice results from STAR in an individual system:  $\Delta r_{np} [197 \text{Au}] = 0.17 \pm 0.03 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 0.08 \text{ (syst.)} \text{ fm}$ Consistent with low-energy nuclear theory.

[STAR Collaboration, Sci.Adv. 9 (2023) 1, eabq3903]

[PREX-II experiment,

PRL 126 (2021) 17, 172502]

Recent measurements for <sup>208</sup>Pb from weak form factor:

 $\Delta r_{np} = 0.283 \pm 0.071 \text{ fm}$ 

$$L = (106 \pm 37) \text{ MeV}$$

Stiffer EoS than expected.



# From NS merger observations.

[Reed et al., PRL **126** (2021) 17, 172503] [Fattoyev et al., PRL **120** (2018) 17, 172702]