Symmetry energy from electromagnetic properties of exotic nuclei



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Outline



- Introduction
 - EOS, symmetry energy and observables
- Dipole polarizability and how to measure it
- Influence of decay and detector response
- Dipole polarizability of ^{68,70}Ni (above n threshold)
- E1 strength of ¹³²Sn below n threshold
- Outlook:
 - Improving setup response
 - Using charge radii to constrain the symmetry energy



Nuclear Equation of State

50

neutron matter

20

10

E_{bind} [MeV]

-10

100

<mark>₀- -</mark>0 var AV₁₈+3-BF

NL3

DD-TW

ChPT

• Two extremes:

ဂ

Fuchs

and H.H. Wolter,

EPJA

- $\alpha = 0$: symmetric matter
- $\alpha = 1$: neutron matter
- Symmetry energy: difference between symmetric and neutron matter, at a given density
- Good experimental constraints for symmetric nuclear matter exist (experiments with stable nuclei)









Nuclear symmetry energy parameters





- Symmetry energy J (at saturation density) is reasonably well constrained (masses, reactions, giant resonances, n-stars) between 30 and 35 MeV
- Slope parameter L still elusive
- 20 MeV ≤ L ≤ 120 MeV



Choosing the "right" observable





- Calculations provide correlation matrices of various EOS parameters and observable quantities
- Identify parameter/observable pairs with strongest possible correlations





- Reduced model dependence by considering multiple interaction families at same time
- Provides theoretical uncertainty in addition to experimental one

Choosing the "right" observable

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Why use unstable isotopes for EOS studies?

- Possibility to change asymmetry $\left(\frac{N-Z}{A}\right)$ over a much smaller mass range
- Study isotopic or isotonic chains (only change either N or Z)





- Some nuclear effects only appear beyond a certain asymmetry
- ➔ Add a second degree of freedom in choice of nucleus



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Dipole polarizability





$$\alpha_D^{\rm DM} \approx \frac{\pi e^2}{54} \frac{A \langle r^2 \rangle}{J} \left[1 + \frac{5}{3} \frac{L}{J} \epsilon_A \right]$$

- Dipole polarizability and n-skin thickness of various interaction families each have own linear correlation
- The product α_D^*J reveals a less modeldependent correlation

Dipole polarizability of ²⁰⁸Pb

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PRL 107, 062502 (2011) PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS sweek ending 5 AUGUST 2011

Complete Electric Dipole Response and the Neutron Skin in ²⁰⁸Pb

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- Short lifetime of projectile → requires experiment in inverse kinematics
- Heavy-ion-induced **electromagnetic excitation**, *via* the virtual photon approach
- Reconstruction of excitation energy (using invariant mass) of each event requires detection of ALL participating species (identification and momentum):
 - → Requires high-efficiency and high-resolution neutron and gamma detectors (for n-rich nuclei)

GSI and FAIR complex







R³B Overview







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R³B

Influence of decay properties



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1.0 Acceptance / efficiency mm 1n Total LAND efficiency + acceptance Nominal efficiency 0.8 0.8 2n 3n 0.6-0.6 **Experiment-specific** 4n efficiency 0.4 0.4 Acceptance 0.2 0.2 0.0 10 5 10 20 15 Neutron Ekin in rest frame [MeV] Neutron E_{trin} sum [MeV] Experimental data can be corrected for LAND Total efficiency + acceptance curves for 1n to 4n channels acceptance and efficiency Nominal efficiency: determined by ²H experiment Sum of neutron kinetic energies sufficiently good • Experiment-specific efficiency: depends on dead observable • and semi-dead paddles Loss of detection efficiency at low E due to Acceptance: depends on the kinetic energy of the overlapping hit distributions Experimental data corrected with these functions neutrons



Influence of neutron detection



Influence of gamma detection





Experimental setup response function











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Fitting experimental data

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Bin-wise deconvolution (68Ni)





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- Head towards more exotic systems → greater proton/neutron asymmetry
- Will require efficient multi-neutron detection capabilities
- Example for ¹³⁶Sn@1 GeV/nucleon using NeuLAND, assuming 100% calorimetric efficiency of gamma detector (full CALIFA detector)





Experimental challenges: multiple photon detection





CALIFA: CALorimeter for In Flight detection of gamma rays and high-energy charged pArticles





CALIFA barrel:

- Total of 1952 CsI(Tl) crystals (1152 in front half)
- Barrel mounted in Cave C for 2020 beam



- CEPA (CsI(TI)) and iPhos (LaBr₃/LaCl₃) in testing phase
- Completion expected >2020



NeuLAND





Design goals:

>90% efficiency for 0.2-1.0 GeV neutrons
multi-hit capability for up to 5 neutrons
invariant mass resolution down to ΔE < 20 keV at 100 keV above thr.

NeuLAND detector parameters:

- full active detector using RP/BC408
- face size 250x250 cm²
- active depth 300 cm
- 3000 scintillator bars + 6000 PMTs
- 32 tons
- $\sigma_{x,y,z} \approx 1$ cm & $\sigma_t < 150$ ps



double plane 11 during bar mounting



Tracking Detectors: TOF Wall

- Size: 120 x 100 cm²
- Total of 176 paddles, arranged into 4 layers
- No light guide, PMT R8619 coupled directly to scintillator
- Movable holding structure to sweep TOF wall across beam









BECOLA experimental setup



SFB 1245





BECOLA facility 2 60 KeV19 Beam -100-150 MeVIA thermalization area A1900 fragment separator K500 www.nscl.msu.edu/interactivemap K1200



Coupled cyclotron facility layout



Connection to nuclear symmetry energy



$\Delta R_{np} \equiv R_n(Z, N) - R_p(Z, N) \xrightarrow{\text{c.s.}} R_p(N, Z) - R_p(Z, N) \equiv \Delta R_{ch}$



- Correlations of 48 Skyrme functionals between neutronskin thickness $\Delta R_{n,p}$, mirror charge radius difference ΔR_{ch} and L
- In perfect charge symmetry, the neutron radius of a given nucleus equals the proton radius of its mirror nucleus
- Theoretical challenge to correctly include Coulomb corrections
- Measurement of charge radii of radioactive nuclei to the order of 0.001 fm
- → Error on isotope shift in MHz range (feasible)
- → Error on mass and field shift parameters (atomic theory) often larger (up to 1 order of magnitude)





- Same behavior observed with RMF calculations
- Strong linear correlation between mirror charge difference and L leads to exploration of correlations with neutron-star radii



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Summary



- Dipole polarizability data analysis still ongoing for n-rich Sn and Ni isotopes
- Extraction of E1 strength below neutron threshold in ¹³²Sn in progress
- Multiple experimental challenges to be overcome for future α_{D} measurements
- Key detectors for polarizability studies will be finalized and commissioned in the near future
- New approach using mirror charge radii of ⁵⁴Ni-⁵⁴Fe to constrain symmetry energy



The R³B Collaboration



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