# Investigating dense matter relevant to supervovae and neutron stars

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# Outline

- Present constraints on the EOS.
- Relevance to dense astrophysical objects:
- Probing asymmetric matter at  $\rho \leq 2\rho_0$ .

What is known about the EOS for symmetric matter?
Main information comes from heavy ion collisions.
Monopole, isoscaler dipole resonances sample ~ 5% variations in density (i.e. curvature about minimum)

#### Pressure and collective flow dynamics



• The blocking by the spectator matter provides a clock with which to measure the expansion rate.

## Constraints on symmetric matter EOS at $\rho > 2 \rho_0$ .

Observables: transverse, elliptical flow.





- Additional measurements were needed to constrain:
  - Momentum dependence of mean fields.
  - Cross-sections due to residual interactions.

#### Extrapolation to neutron stars

 $E/A(\rho, \delta) = E/A(\rho, 0) + \delta^2 \cdot S(\rho)$ 



• Uncertainty due to the density dependence of the asymmetry term is greater than that due to symmetric matter EOS.

#### $\delta = (\rho_n - \rho_p) / (\rho_n + \rho_p) = (N-Z) / A \approx 1$

## Symmetry term influences:

- Macroscopic properties:
  - Neutron star radii, moments of inertia and central densities.
  - Maximum neutron star masses and rotation frequencies.
- Proton and electron fractions throughout the star.
  - Cooling of proton-neutron star.
- Thickness of the inner crust.
  - Frequency change accompanying star quakes.
- Role of Kaon condensates and mixed quark-hadron phases in the stellar interior.

How can one probe the asymmetry term?
Note: observables are needed mainly to constrain the interaction term:

$$S(\rho) = S_{kin}(\rho) + S_{int}(\rho);$$
  
$$S_{kin}(\rho) \approx \frac{1}{3} E_{Fermi}(\rho) \approx 13 \cdot (\rho / \rho_0)^{2/3} MeV$$

Other observables will also be needed to constrain isospin dependent in-medium NN cross sections and neutron and neutron and proton effective masses

## Probing the asymmetry term



- Sign of mean field opposite for protons and neutrons.
- Shape is influenced by incompressibility.

# Quantities sensitive to asymmetry term: $S(\rho) \approx C_{sym} (\rho / \rho_0)^{\gamma}$

- At sub-saturation densities
  - Isospin diffusion
    - Tsang, PRL **92**, 062701 (2004)
    - <u>B.Li, JINA (2005) 0.7<y<1.1</u>
  - Asymmetry of bound residues.
  - Prequilibrium n vs. p emission.
  - Transverse flow (n.vs.p).
  - Difference between neutron and proton matter radii (TJLab future experiment).
- At supra-saturation densities
  - Isospin dependencies of pion production.
  - Transverse flow (n.vs.p).

# **Central collisions: isospin fractionation**

#### For a neutron rich system at $\rho < \rho_0$ :



BUU predictions for central <sup>124</sup>Sn + <sup>124</sup>Sn ( $N_0/Z_0=1.48$ ) collisions at E/A=50 MeV

EOS	Residue N/Z	EOS	Residue N/Z
F_3 (asy-soft)	95/77=1.23	F_1 (asy-stiff)	102/71=1.44



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# Comparison of n and p spectra

- Probes the pressure from asymmetry term at saturation density and below.
  - Some of the primordial nucleons emerge as clusters; this can be addressed within codescence invariant analyses



• Double ratio is less sensitive to energy calibration and neutron efficiency uncertainties.

#### n/p Experiment <sup>124</sup>Sn+<sup>124</sup>Sn; <sup>112</sup>Sn+<sup>112</sup>Sn; E/A=50 MeV



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#### P-detection: Scattering Chamber



#### Coalescence invariant spectra

Comparison of double ratios



- <u>Coalescence invariant analysis</u> decreases sensitivity to cluster production model uncertainties:
  - Approach consistent with successful flow analyses.
  - Permits accurate comparisons to theory at E/A>30 MeV

# Summary

- We have two promising observables to probe the asymmetry term:
  - Isospin diffusion
  - Comparisons of neutron and proton emission rates and flow.
- We expect that three quantities need to be constrained:
  - density dependence: started
  - momentum-isospin dependence: started
  - isospin dependent in-medium cross sections: next
- We have promising other observables to constrain these quantities:
  - <u>New neutron area in N2 vault at the CCF.</u>
- Other factors:
  - uncertainty in the impact parameter.
  - role of fluctuations.

#### Future plans: S2 reconfiguration

- A program of neutron measurements in the S2 vault was favorably reviewed by the program advisory committee at its latest meeting.
- Collaboration WMU (Famiano), MSU (Lynch, Tsang) and WU (Sobotka, Charity).
- Objectives are to constrain  $S(\rho)$ ,  $m^*_{n,}m^*_p$ ,  $\sigma_{pp}$  and  $\sigma_{np}$ .



#### Coalescence invariant analyses

$$\frac{dM_n}{dv^3}_{eff} = \sum_i \frac{dM_n}{dv^3} N_i$$
$$\frac{dM_p}{dv^3}_{eff} = \sum_i \frac{dM_p}{dv^3} Z_i$$

• Assumptions: The modification of nucleon momenta by the cluster production is small compared to the nucleon momenta themselves.



## Isospin Dependence of the Nuclear **Equation of State**



uncertain even at  $\rho_0$ .