# Transport Code Comparison under Controlled Conditions

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### The Search for the Nuclear Symmetry Energy

$$E(\rho_B, \delta)/A = E_{nm}(\rho_B) + E_{sym}(\rho_B)\delta^2 + O(\delta^4) + \dots \qquad \delta = \frac{\rho_n - \rho_p}{\rho_n + \rho_p}$$



### HIC one way to obtain information on the EoS - but complex processes

Fermi energies: (multi)-fragmentation in central collisions



Intermediate energies: several 100 MeV/A to several GeV/A

Vaporization, production of new particles, like pions,

Aim of this talk:

- discussion of transport approaches to HIC
- not application to interpretation of data, but rather to the accuracy of description of transport approaches
- comparison between different approaches among each other for heavy ion collisions with identical physics input
- and with exact limits in nuclear matter (box calculations)
- limited to the hadronic regime, no phase transitions
- but hopefully an indication of what might be useful in other regimes
- also hybrid approaches use kinetic theory for initialization and hadronization
- highlight the role of fluctuations in the description of HIC

On behalf of the Code Comparison Project

- of the order of 30 participants

- core group: Akira Ono (Sendai), Yingxun Zhang (CIAE, Beijing), Jun Xu (SINAP, Shanghai), Jongjia Wang (Houzhou, China), Maria Colonna (Catania), Betty Tsang (MSU), Pawel Danielewcz (MSU), HW (Munich)

#### Transport theory based on a chain of approximations

Martin-Schwinger real time formalism, irreversability hierarchy in many-body Green functions, truncation, introduction of self energies (1-body quantities),

Quantum transport theory: Kadanoff-Baym theory

Semiclassical approximation :

Wigner transform, treat as phase space probabilities Gradient approximation (separation of short and long scales)

**Quasi-particle approximation** 

Spectral function  $\rightarrow$  delta function with effective momenta and masses neglect off-shell effects (or treat approximately)

 $\rightarrow$  kinetic equation

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{\vec{p}}{m} \vec{\nabla}^{(r)} f - (\vec{\nabla}^{(r)} U(r, p) \vec{\nabla}^{(p)} + \vec{\nabla}^{(p)} U(r, p) \vec{\nabla}^{(r)}) f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}; t) = \\ \int d\vec{p}_2 d\vec{p}_{1'} d\vec{p}_{2'} v_{21} \sigma_{12}^{in-med}(\Omega) (2\pi)^3 \delta(p_1 + p_2 - p_{1'} - p_{2'}) \Big[ f_{1'} f_2(\vec{f}_1 \vec{f}_2) - f_1 f_2(\vec{f}_{1'} \vec{f}_{2'}) \\ & \text{Pauli blocking factors,} \\ & main quantum ingredienet \end{aligned}$$

Mean field evolution (Vlasov) + uncorr. 2-body collisions (Boltzmann)

+ Pauli-blocking of final states (Uehling-Uhlenbeck)

#### physical input:

mf potential U(r,p), momentum dependent  $\sigma^{\text{in-med}}$  in-medium cross sections

#### Obtainable

e.g. from Bruecker theory microscopically or modeling (density functionals, cross sect.)

### Two families of transport approaches

Boltzmann-Vlasov-like (BUU/BL/BLOB)

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\vec{p}}{m}\vec{\nabla}^{(r)} - \vec{\nabla}U(r)\vec{\nabla}^{(p)}\right)f(\vec{r},\vec{p};t)$$
$$= I_{coll}\left[\sigma^{in-med}\right] + \delta I_{fluct}$$

Dynamics of the 1-body phase space distribution function *f* with 2-body dissipation

fluctuations around diss. solution  $f(r,p,t) = \overline{f}(r,p,t) + \delta f(r,p,t)$ 



Molecular-Dynamics-like (QMD/AMD)

$$|\Phi\rangle = \bigwedge_{i=1}^{A} \varphi(r; r_i, p_i) |0\rangle$$
  
$$\dot{r}_i = \{r_i, H\}; \quad \dot{p}_i = \{p_i, H\}; \quad H = \sum_i t_i + \sum_{i,j} V(r_i - r_j)$$

TD-Hartree(-Fock) (or classical molecular dynamics with extended particles) plus stochastic NN collisions

No quantum fluctuations, but classical N-body fluctuations, damped by the smoothing.

More fluctuations than BUU, since degrees of freedom are nucleons:  $\rightarrow$  amount controlled by width of single particle packet  $\Delta L$ 

# Implementations of Transport Equation

1. BUU 
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{\ddot{p}}{m} \nabla^{(r)} f - \nabla U(r) \nabla^{(p)} f(\bar{r}, \bar{p}; t) = \int d\bar{v}_2 \, d\bar{v}_r \, d\bar{v}_2 \, v_{21} \, \sigma_{12}(\Omega) (2\pi)^3 \, \delta(p_1 + p_2 - p_r - p_2) \\ [f_r, f_2r, (1 - f_1)(1 - f_2) - f_1 f_2 (1 - f_r)(1 - f_2')] \end{bmatrix}$$
non-linear integro-differential equation, no closed solution but deterministic !  
a) solution on a lattice: has been used for low-dimensional model systems, but too expensive for realistic cases  
b) test particle (TP) method (Wong 82) 
$$f(r, p; t) = \frac{i}{h_{tr}} \sum_{l=1}^{M_{tr}} \delta(r - r_l(t)) \, \delta(p - p_l(t))$$
where  $\{f_l(t), p_l(t)\}$  are the positions and momenta of the TP as a funct. of time, and  $N_{tp}$  is the number of TP per nucleon (usually 50 - 200)  
 $\Rightarrow$  variant: Gaussian TP: smoother distribution with fewer TP  
 $\int \frac{\partial f_l}{\partial t} = \frac{p_l}{m}; \quad \frac{\partial p_l}{\partial t} = -\nabla U_{r_l}$ 
c) the rhs (collision term) is simulated, stochastically, by collisions of test particles; like cascadow is describes average effect of collisions ( $\rightarrow$  dissipation), NO Fluctuations  
 $\Rightarrow$  if  $N_{Tp} \to \infty$  exact solution of BUU eqn. !  
 $b < b_{max} = \frac{1}{x} \sqrt{\sigma^{tot}(\sqrt{s})}$   
2. Molecular Dynamics (QMD)  
Very similar equation of motions for centers of wave packets (nucleons, not test particles)  
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Very similar equation of motions for centers of wave packets (nucleons, not test particles)  
2. Dote the stochastic features (wave packet splitting),





LC's are not stabilized by the mean field but by many body correlations. Introduce as explicit degrees of freedom, generated by the collision term



(P. Danielewicz and Q. Pan, PRC 46 (1992)) (d,t,3He, but no  $\alpha$ !)

Perhaps the way to deal with the hadron-quark phase transition in transport approaches

Fluctuation in the instable region are Amplified and stabilized by the mean field



BUU calculation in a box with initial conditions inside the instability region:  $\rho = \rho_0/3$ , T=5 MeV,  $\delta = 0$ 

(V.Baran, et al., Phys.Rep.410,335(05))

### **Particle Production**

Inelastic collisions: Production of particles and resonances



#### What can one learn from different species?

- $\bullet$  pions: production at all stages of the evolution via the  $\Delta\text{-resonace}$
- kaons (strange mesons with high mass): subthreshold production, probe of high density phase
- ratios of  $\pi^+/\pi^-$  and  $K^0/K^+$ :
- $\rightarrow$  probe for symmetry energy

e.g. pion and kaon production;

coupling of  $\Delta$  and strangeness channels.



Many new potentials, elastic and inelastic cross sections needed,  $\Delta$  dynamics in medium

### Code Comparison Project

Boltzmann-Vlasov-like (BUU/BL/BLOB)  $\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\vec{p}}{m}\vec{\nabla}^{(r)} - \vec{\nabla}U(r)\vec{\nabla}^{(p)}\right)f(\vec{r},\vec{p};t)$   $= I_{coll}[\sigma^{in-med},f_i]$ 

6-dim integro-differential, non-linear eq.

Molecular-Dynamics-like (QMD/AMD)

$$|\Phi\rangle = \bigwedge_{i=1}^{A} \varphi(r; r_i, p_i) |0\rangle$$
  
$$\dot{r}_i = \{r_i, H\}; \quad \dot{p}_i = \{p_i, H\}; \quad H = \sum_i t_i + \sum_{i,j} V(r_i - r_j)$$

6A-dim many body problem + stochastic coll.

→ very complex, simulate solutions introduces many technical details



### → Transport Code Evaluation (Comparison) Project

#### Code Comparison: A need for more consistency in HI simulations: examples

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

double ratio of n/p pre-equilibrium emiss.

Reasons for differences often not clear, since calculations slightly different in the physical parameters.

 $\rightarrow$  therefore comparison of calculations with same physical input, i.e. under controlled conditions

### Code Comparison Project

Idea: Comparison of transport simulations Determine a kind of - measure for the reliability - i.e. a systematic theoretical error

History: Workshop in Trento 2004 (1 AGeV regime, mainly particle production  $\pi$ ,K **E. Kolomeitsev, et al., J. Phys. G 31 (2005) S741 )** 

Workshop in Trento 2009 (100, 400 AMeV) Workshops in Shanghai and Lanzhou 2014, Shanghai 2015 (Au+Au collisions, 100, 400 AMeV) J. Xu, et al., Phys. Rev. C 93, 044609 (2016)

Workshop ICNT and NuSYM 2017, MSU 2017 (Cascade box calculations) Y.X.Zhang, et al., Phys. Rev. C 97, 034625 (2018)

to be continued : Zhuhai (China, 2018) and NuSYM 2018 (Busan, Korea)

**Steps in Code Comparison of Transport Simulations** 

1. Full heavy ion collisions (Au+Au, 100, 400 AMeV) comparison of initialization, collision rates and observables -> considerable discrepancies

2. Calculations of nuclear matter (box with periodic boundary conditions) test separately ingredients in a transport approach:
a) collision term without and with blocking (Cascade) done
b) mean field propagation (Vlasov)
c) pion , ∆ production in cascade in progress

d) instabilities , fragmentation

.....

e) momentum dependent fields

planned

BUU type	Code correspondents	Energy range	Reference	QMD type	Code correspondents	Energy range	Reference
BLOB	P. Napolitani, M. Colonna	0.01-0.5	[19]	AMD	A. Ono	0.01-0.3	[28]
GIBUU-RMF	J. Weil	0.05-40	[20]	<b>IQMD-BNU</b>	J. Su, F. S. Zhang	0.05 - 2	[29]
GIBUU-Skyrme	J. Weil	0.05-40	[20]	IQMD	C. Hartnack, J. Aichelin	0.05 - 2	[30-32]
IBL	W. J. Xie, F. S. Zhang	0.05 - 2	[21]	CoMD	M. Papa	0.01-0.3	[33,34]
IBUU	J. Xu, L. W. Chen, B. A. Li	0.05 - 2	[11,22]	ImQMD-CIAE	Y. X. Zhang, Z. X. Li	0.02-0.4	[35]
pBUU	P. Danielewicz	0.01-12	[23,24]	IQMD-IMP	Z. Q. Feng	0.01-10	[36]
RBUU	K. Kim, Y. Kim, T. Gaitanos	0.05-2	[25]	IQMD-SINAP	G. Q. Zhang	0.05-2	[37]
RVUU	T. Song, G. Q. Li, C. M. Ko	0.05-2	[26]	TuQMD	D. Cozma	0.1-2	[38]
SMF	M. Colonna, P. Napolitani	0.01-0.5	[27]	UrQMD	Y. J. Wang, Q. F. Li	0.05-200	[39,40]

- $\rightarrow$  BUU- and QMD-type
- $\rightarrow$  non-rel. and relativistic codes
- $\rightarrow$  antisymmetrized QMD code: AMD, CoMD
- $\rightarrow$  BUU codes with explicit fluctuations: SMF, BLOB
- → many new Chinese codes: (I)QMD-XXX: much new activity in China, often originally closely related

![](_page_15_Figure_0.jpeg)

"...many individuals..."

".. in full bloom..." often closely related

### Set-up of code comparison for Heavy Ion Collisions ("homework")

- typical reaction in low and intermediate energy: Au+Au, 100 and 400 AMeV
- impact parameter 20 fm (no collision, stability of initialization) and 7 fm (midcentral collision)
- simple physics case (not necessarily realistic) standard Skyrme mean field, momentum independent, equivalent RMF constant cross section, no inelastic collisions
- "close" initialization of colliding nuclei prescribed density profile, momentum in local Fermi sphere
- collision and blocking procedures as in standard use of code
- different "modes": Vlasov (only mean field), Cascade (only collisions), "full"
- monitor: (test) particle motion, number, energy and time of collisions, Pauli-blocking, observables (rapidity, flow)

#### PHYSICAL REVIEW C 93, 044609 (2016)

#### Understanding transport simulations of heavy-ion collisions at 100A and 400A MeV: Comparison of heavy-ion transport codes under controlled conditions

editing group

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### Code Comparison Project (1st stage):

HIC at b=7m (midcentral) selected contour plots; different evolution apparent →compare collision numbers, blocking, and observables

![](_page_17_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Initialization and Stability

![](_page_17_Figure_4.jpeg)

"identical" initialization difficult, since it depends also on repesentation of (test) particles

- prescribed density profile is not neccessarily ground state and may be non-stationary

- diff. initializations affect evolution also in case of a collision

time evolution of isolated nucleus(examp)

![](_page_17_Figure_9.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_0.jpeg)

Considerable difference both for :

- attempted collisions, mostly low energy(!)
- (depends on strategy for finding collision pairs)
- blocking factor (depends on occupation of final state)
- better consistency for higher energy
- not much difference for BUU and QMD

### Observables: directed flow

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

quantify spread of simulations by value of "flow"=slope at midrapidity

#### **Observables: directed flow**

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **2nd stage: Box calculation comparison**

simulation of the static system of infinite nuclear matter,  $\rightarrow$  solve transport equation in a periodic box

![](_page_21_Figure_2.jpeg)

Useful for many reasons:

- check consistency of calculation e.g. EoS energy dens  $\epsilon$  vs. pressure P
- check consistency of simulation: collision numbers, blocking (exact limits from kinetic theory)
- check aspects of simulation separately Cascade: only collisions without/with blocking
  - Vlasov: only mean field propagation
- check ingredients of particle production e.g. pion production

#### PHYSICAL REVIEW C 97, 034625 (2018)

#### Comparison of heavy-ion transport simulations: Collision integral in a box

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#### **Collision term in box calculations**

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

good agreement with corresponding exact result collision probability ok

 $I_{coll} = \int d\vec{p}_2 d\vec{p}_{1'} d\vec{p}_{2'} v_{21} \sigma_{12}^{in-med}(\Omega) (2\pi)^3 \delta(p_1 + p_2 - p_{1'} - p_{2'}) \left[ f_{1'} f_2 (\bar{f}_1 \bar{f}_2) - f_1 f_2$ 

-IMP

JQMD

400

### with blocking

Sampling of occupation prob. in comp. to prescribed FD distribution (red)

- fluctuation in BUU controlled by TP number, can be made arbritrarily small

- fluctuation in QMD given by width of + wave packet

![](_page_23_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Figure_6.jpeg)

width and averages of calculated occupation numbers in different codes

- prescribed occupation
- average calculated occupation
- average of f<1 occupation (used for the blocking)

### **Collision rates with blocking**

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_2.jpeg)

- almost all codes have too little blocking,
- i.e. allow too many collisions,
- QMD codes more, because of larger fluctuations

- the momentum distribution moves away from the stable Fermi-Dirac distribution towards the classical Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution (dotted line)

Fluctuations influence dynamics of transport calculations. However proper treatment open.

# Box simulations: test of m.f. dynamics (in progress! preliminary)

Study the time evolution of ρ(z)
 L = 20 fm

![](_page_25_Figure_2.jpeg)

$$\rho(z,t=t_0) = \rho_0 + a_\rho \sin(k_i z)$$

$$k_i = n_i 2\pi/L, \ a_\rho = 0.2 \rho$$

![](_page_25_Figure_4.jpeg)

Maria Colonna

- -- Symmetric matter --
- Only mean-field potential
- No surface terms
- Compressibility K = 240 MeV
- 1. Extract the Fourier transform in space

![](_page_25_Figure_11.jpeg)

2. Fourier transform in time: *extract the oscillation frequency* 

 $\rho_k(\omega) = \int dt \cos(\omega t) \rho_k(t)$ 

![](_page_26_Figure_0.jpeg)

Coupling of modes (starting with n=1 mode) SMF

![](_page_26_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Figure_0.jpeg)

Propagation of fluctuations by the unstable mean-field (preliminary)

![](_page_28_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Figure_0.jpeg)

## $\pi,\Delta$ production in box cascade calculation: (in progress, preliminary!)

#### $NN \leftrightarrow N\Delta, \quad \Delta \rightarrow N\pi$

 $\Delta$  mass distribution

![](_page_30_Figure_3.jpeg)

perhaps not surprising that there is now agreement on the interpretation of the pion ratios with respect to the symmetry energy.

Differences may have to do with technical differences in the sequence of simulating creation and decay of  $\Delta$ 's.

### **Summary and Conclusions**

-Transport approaches are an important method to extract physics information from complex nonequilibrium processes, as e.g. heavy ion collisions.

- also in the NICA/FAIR energy range for the description of part (hybrid approaches) or all of the collision.

However, there are open problems in the application of transport theories:

- physical (which degrees of freedom, esp. for phase transitions, fluctuations, correlations, short range)
- questions of implementation: simulation, rather than solution of the transport eqautions
- involves strategies not strictly given by the equations, such as representation of the phase space, coarse graining, criteria for collisions and Pauli blocking
- these may affect the deduction on physical properties from collisions and lead to a kind of systematical theoretical error
- here attempt to understand, quantify and hopefully reduce these uncertainities in a Transport Code Comparison under Controlled Conditions

**Results:** 

- Comparison of full HIC makes evident the discrepancies (initializations, collision term), but difficult to disentangle

- Box calculations to study the different ingredients of transport (collisions, blocking, mf evolution, particle production)

- Important finding is the importance of fluctuations on the simulations
- Fluctuations (and correlations) go beyond the one-body description. Implementions differ:

BUU --> explicit introduction in a fluctuation term (Boltzmann-Langevin eq.)

QMD --> smoothing by wave packet + classical correlations

- more investigations in the future, e.g. in fragmentation and near phase transitions

### Thank you very much for your attention