# Imaging nuclear shape in heavy ion collisions

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Nov 27, 2024 NICA workshop

129Xe

96ZY

60

208Pb

238[]

hiversity

Stony Br

## Traditional imaging method



 $\rho(xyz) = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{hkl}^{+\infty} |F(hkl)| \cdot e^{-2\pi i [hx+ky+lz-\phi(hkl)]}$ Phases

$$\gamma + \mathrm{p} 
ightarrow \, \mathrm{J}/\psi + \mathrm{p} \ \mathrm{Au} \ \mathrm{Au}$$



$$A \sim \int d^2b \, dz \, d^2r \, \psi^* \psi^V(\vec{r}, z, Q^2) e^{-i(\vec{b} - (\frac{1}{2} - z)\vec{r}) \cdot \vec{\Delta}} N(\vec{r}, x, \vec{b})$$

Sensitive to the overall structure of the p/Au

$$\frac{d\sigma^{\gamma^* p \to V p}}{dt} = \frac{1}{16\pi} \left| \left\langle A^{\gamma^* p \to V p} \left( x_P, Q^2, \overrightarrow{\Delta} \right) \right\rangle \right|^2$$

#### Image taken before destruction

### Imaging by smashing: some examples

Smashing a deformed droplet on surface

 $F = \nabla P$ 

strongly-coupled cold atomic gas

Cience 238, 2120 (2003)  $L_{mfp} = 1/\rho\sigma$ 

fs laser fast molecule stripping foil position and tim ensitive detecto -0.5 -1.0 1.0 0.5 Normalized momentum, d

Coulomb Explosion Imaging in Chemistry

Instantaneous stripping of electrons and let atoms explode under mutual coulomb repulsion



## Imaging by smashing: heavy ion collisions



Large entropy production enable a semi-classifical description

- Initial condition is a fast snapshot of nuclear structure
- Transformed to final state via hydrodynamic expansion (EFT)
- Reverse engineer this snapshot, aided by large information output

#### Ability to imaging $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ understanding of the QGP

### Imaging by smashing: heavy ion collisions



#### Preserving the snapshot to the final state

Shape-flow transmutation via pressure-gradient force:



#### Preserving the snapshot to the final state

Several real event display at LHC





#### A plethora of observables/measurements

• Single particle distribution Flow vector:  $V_n = v_n e^{\mathrm{i}n\Psi_n}$ 

$$\frac{d^2 N}{d\phi dp_{\rm T}} = N(p_T) \left[ 1 + 2\sum_n v_{\rm n}(p_T) \cos n(\phi - \Psi_n(p_T)) \right]$$
$$= N(p_T) \left[ \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} V_{\rm n}(p_T) e^{in\phi} \right]$$
Radial flow Anisotropic flow

Two-particle correlation function

$$\left\langle rac{d^2 N_1}{d \phi d p_{\mathrm{T}}} rac{d^2 N_2}{d \phi d p_{\mathrm{T}}} 
ight
angle \quad igapla \ \left\langle oldsymbol{V}_n(p_{T1}) oldsymbol{V}_n^*(p_{T2}) 
ight
angle \ n-n=0$$

Multi-particle correlation function

$$egin{aligned} &\langle [p_{\mathrm{T}}]^k rac{d^2 N_1}{d \phi d p_{\mathrm{T}}} \dots rac{d^2 N_m}{d \phi d p_{\mathrm{T}}} 
ight
angle &\Rightarrow ig\langle [p_{\mathrm{T}}]^k oldsymbol{V}_{n_1} oldsymbol{V}_{n_2} \dots oldsymbol{V}_{n_m} ig
angle \ &p([p_{\mathrm{T}}], oldsymbol{V}_2, oldsymbol{V}_3 \dots) = rac{1}{N_{\mathrm{evts}}} rac{\psi}{d[p_{\mathrm{T}}] d oldsymbol{V}_2 d oldsymbol{V}_3 \dots} \end{aligned}$$

EbyE fluctuations of initial volume, size and shape

E-by-E flow amplitude distribution p(vn)



Event-plane correlation  $p(\Psi_n, \Psi_m, \Psi_k)$ 



 $v_n$  amplitude correlation  $p(v_n, v_m)$ 





illed Symbo

 $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$  (GeV)

Open Symbols ALICE Pb+Pb It seems we can infer the initial condition of QGP which carries imprints of the colliding nuclei.

But what kinds of images do we expect to get?

That requires an intro to atomic nuclei

## Atomic nuclei

Many-body quantum systems, govern by short-range strong nuclear force Emergent properties in between bulk nuclear matter and discrete nucleon, like quantum doc. Configuration is one that minimizes E, which is often deformed away from magic numbers

#### **Cluster of nucleons**



Cluster of atoms

#### Atomic nuclei and their shapes

Many-body quantum systems, govern by short-range strong nuclear force Emergent properties in between bulk nuclear matter and discrete nucleon, like quantum doc. Configuration is one that minimizes E, which is often deformed away from magic numbers





#### Nuclear shape in low-energy methods

Each DOF has zero-point fluctuations within certain timescale.



Spectroscopic methods probe a superposition of these fluctuations Infer shape from model comparison to energy-transition-lifetime measurements. But instantaneous shapes are not directly seen  $\rightarrow$  intrinsic shape is not observable

## Nuclear shape in high-energy smashing experiment

To see event-by-event shape directly, one must have access to instantaneous many-body correlations  $\rho(\mathbf{r_1}, \mathbf{r_2}...)$ 

But we will see all DOFs longer than this timescale:  $\tau > \tau_{expo}$ Nucleons, hadrons, quark, gluons, gluon saturations

Concept of shape is collision energy dependent



Spherical Woods-saxon Sampled with A nucleons

centrality [%]





## Imaging by smashing



Nucleon width Nucleon distance substructure

- What is the space-time dynamics of QGP
- How energy is deposited to form initial condition
- How to apply nuclear imaging method

## Impact of deformation

Consider deformed <sup>238</sup>U and compare with near spherical <sup>197</sup>Au



Collision geometry depends on the orientations: Headon collisions has two extremes body-body or tip-tip collisions

Body-body: large eccentricity large size

v₂∕ p<sub>T</sub>∖

Tip-tip : small eccentricity small size

v₂∿ p<sub>T</sub>↗

Deformation enhances the fluctuations of  $v_2$  and  $[p_T]$ . and leads to anti-correlation between  $v_2$  and  $[p_T]$ .

$$238\bigcup \qquad 197 \text{AU}$$

$$\langle v_2^2 \rangle = a_1 + b_1 \beta_2^2 , \qquad \langle v_2^2 \rangle = a_1 + b_2 \beta_2^2 , \qquad \langle v_2^2 \delta p_{\mathrm{T}} \rangle = a_3 - b_3 \beta_2^3 \cos(3\gamma) \qquad \langle v_2^2 \delta p_{\mathrm{T}} \rangle = a_3$$

How to disentangle contribution from global deformation and fluctuations?

#### Impact of deformation

Seen directly by comparing <sup>238</sup>U+<sup>238</sup>U with near-spherical <sup>197</sup>Au+<sup>197</sup>Au



Near-spherical  $\rightarrow$  flat  $\rho_2$  vs centrality Strongly prolate  $\rightarrow$  decreasing of  $\rho_2$  vs centrality



Ratios cancel final state effects and isolate impacts of initial state, including nuclear structures!

U deformation dominates the UCC (ultra-central collisions)  $\rightarrow$ 50%-70% impact on <( $\delta p_T$ )<sup>2</sup>> and <v<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup>>, 300% for <v<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup> $\delta p_T$ > More smooth centrality dependence for <( $\delta p_T$ )<sup>2</sup>> than <v<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup>>  $\rightarrow$ v<sub>2</sub> is dominated by v<sub>2</sub><sup>RP</sup> (unaffected by deformation), having residual impact in UCC

#### Compared to hydrodynamic models



Compare with state-of-the-art ipglasma+music+UrQMD hydro model.

The  $\langle (\delta p_T)^2 \rangle$  and  $\langle v_2^2 \delta p_T \rangle$  data seems prefers value closer to  $\beta_{2U} = 0.28$  and a small  $\gamma_U$ .

Smaller  $\beta_{2U}$  value for  $\langle v_2^2 \rangle$ 

#### Sensitivity to other structure parameters



 $ho(r) = rac{r_0}{1 + e^{(r- R_0 (1 + \sum_n eta_n Y_n^0( heta, \phi)) / a_0}}$ 

dependence on other structure parameters:  $R_0$ ,  $a_0$ , higher-order deformation, nucleon separation

In ultra-central collisions, ratios are controlled by  $\beta_{2U}$  and  $\gamma_U$ . In non-central collisions,  $v_2$  ratio is also sensitive to nuclear skin Focus on 0-5% most central collisions to constrain the Uranium shape

### Constraining the U238 shape



Confirming this relation, including strong sensitivity to triaxiality focus on  $\langle (\delta p_T)^2 \rangle$ ,  $\langle v_2^2 \delta p_T \rangle$ 

#### Results





Gassian-like, nucleon fluctuations. Described well by hydro model Variations in energy deposition, saturation effects are subleading. Similar findings from B. Schenke. et.al



#### Ratios cancel final state effects

- Vary the shear/bulk viscosity in Music hydro model
  - Flow signal change by more than factor of 2, yet the ratio unchanged.





By Elizabeth Gibney

https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-024-03466-3

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# Rare snapshots of a kiwi-shaped atomic nucleus

Smashing uranium-238 ions together proves to be a reliable way of imaging their nuclei. High-energy collision experiments reveal nuclear shapes that are strongly elongated and have no symmetry around their longest axis.



https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-03633-6

#### Strategy for nuclear shape imaging



Compare two systems of similar size but different structure

$$R_{\mathcal{O}} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{O}_{\mathrm{Ru}}}{\mathcal{O}_{\mathrm{Zr}}} \approx 1 + c_1 \Delta \beta_2^2 + c_2 \Delta \beta_3^2 + c_3 \Delta R_0 + c_4 \Delta a \quad \text{arXiv: 2111.15559}$$

Deviation from unity depends only on their structure differences  $c_1$ - $c_4$  are function of centrality

#### Available collision systems

#### Nuclear Structure $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ Initial Condition $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ QGP dynamics/properties RHIC $\sqrt{s}$ =200GeV LHC $\sqrt{s}$ =5000 GeV

$ \begin{array}{c}     ^{197}Au + {}^{197}Au  vs  {}^{238}U + {}^{238}U \\                                    $	Establish methodology <ul> <li>Large sensitivity</li> <li>See tal</li> </ul>	$\beta_{2Xe} + \gamma_{Xe} = \gamma_{Xe} + 208 Pb + 208 Pb$ $\beta_{2Xe} + \gamma_{Xe} = Neutron skin$ k of G. Nils, C. Zhang, Y. Zhou, H. Xu			
$\begin{array}{c} {}^{96}\text{Ru} + {}^{96}\text{Ru} \text{ vs } {}^{96}\text{Zr} + {}^{96}\text{Zr} \\ \beta_{2\text{Ru}} & \beta_{3\text{Zr}} \\ {}^{1}\text{large skin} \end{array}$	Establish precision <ul> <li>0.2% measurement error vs 5-18</li> <li>High-order observables</li> </ul>	5% signal See talk of C. Zhang, H. Xu			
d+ <sup>197</sup> Au vs <sup>16</sup> O+ <sup>16</sup> O	<ul> <li>Structure of light nuclei</li> <li>Cluster, subnucleon structure.</li> <li>Benchmark ab-initio models</li> </ul>	<sup>16</sup> O+ <sup>16</sup> O vs <sup>20</sup> Ne+ <sup>20</sup> Ne?			
p+p, p+ <sup>27</sup> Al, p+ <sup>197</sup> Au, <sup>3</sup> He+ <sup>197</sup> Au,	What can we learn from these	2 p+p. p+ <sup>16</sup> O. p+ <sup>208</sup> Pb			
<sup>63</sup> Cu+ <sup>63</sup> Cu, <sup>63</sup> Cu+ <sup>197</sup> Au					

#### What interesting species to consider & what questions do they answer?

#### Isobar <sup>96</sup>Ru+<sup>96</sup>Ru and <sup>96</sup>Zr+<sup>96</sup>Zr collisions at RHIC 200 GeV

QM2022 poster, Chunjian Zhang



 $R_{\mathcal{O}} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{O}_{\mathrm{Ru}}}{\mathcal{O}_{\mathrm{Zr}}}$ 

Structure influences everywhere

A significant lever-arm to probe QGP physics

#### Nuclear structure via v<sub>2</sub>-ratio and v<sub>3</sub>-ratio



$$R_{\mathcal{O}} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{O}_{\mathrm{Ru}}}{\mathcal{O}_{\mathrm{Zr}}} \approx 1 + c_1 \Delta \beta_2^2 + c_2 \Delta \beta_3^2 + c_3 \Delta R_0 + c_4 \Delta a \quad \text{2109.00131}$$

Simultaneously constrain four structure parameters



#### Nuclear structure via v<sub>2</sub>-ratio and v<sub>3</sub>-ratio



- $\beta_{2Ru} \sim 0.16$  increase  $v_2$ , no influence on  $v_3$  ratio
- $\Delta a_0 = -0.06$  fm increase  $v_2$  mid-central,
- Radius  $\Delta R_0 = 0.07$  fm slightly affects  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  ratio.

#### Is <sup>96</sup>Zr octupole deformed?

$$R_{\mathcal{O}} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{O}_{\mathrm{Ru}}}{\mathcal{O}_{\mathrm{Zr}}} \approx 1 + c_1 \Delta \beta_2^2 + c_2 \Delta \beta_3^2 + c_3 \Delta R_0 + c_4 \Delta a \quad 2109.00131$$

Simultaneously constrain four structure parameters



## Future opportunities

High-energy: fast snapshot of nucleon distribution for any collision species. Low-energy: complexity & interpretation depends on location in nuclide chart



### Nuclear structure lever-arm: 3D initial condition



- Sensitive to stopping & timescales  $au \sim e^{-\Delta\eta}$
- SR structure sensitive to hydrodynamization

Ideally we want:

$$R(\eta_1, \eta_2) = \frac{\langle V_2(\eta_1) V_2^*(\eta_2) \rangle}{\sqrt{\langle V_2(\eta_1) V_2^*(\eta_1) \rangle \langle V_2(\eta_2) V_2^*(\eta_2) \rangle}}$$

Impossible due to non-flow. This also means no access to longitudinal structure in  $|\Delta \eta|$ <2 region

#### Traditional observables inadequate, e.g.

$$r_{2}(\eta)_{\eta_{\mathrm{ref}}} = \frac{\langle V_{2}(-\eta)V_{2}^{*}(\eta_{\mathrm{ref}}) \rangle}{\langle V_{2}(\eta)V_{2}^{*}(\eta_{\mathrm{ref}}) \rangle} \equiv \frac{R(-\eta, \eta_{\mathrm{ref}})}{R(\eta, \eta_{\mathrm{ref}})}$$

Decorrelations are non-linear!!

Decorrelation are partially canceled out.

#### Deformation-assisted study of longitudinal structure



### Deformation-assisted study of longitudinal structure



Currently the only reliable way to obtain the 3D structure of the initial state.

Can be applied to small systems e.g. dAu vs O+O at RHIC or Ne+Ne vs O+O at LHC.

## Odd N or Z nuclei



nuclear shape is often presumed to be similar to adjacent even-even nuclei.

their spectroscopic data are more complex due to the coupling of the single unpaired nucleon with the nuclear core.

by comparing the flow observables of odd-mass nuclei to selected even-even neighbors with established shapes, the high-energy approach avoids this complication.

## Higher-order deformations $\beta_3$ and $\beta_4$



 $\beta_{4U}$  constrained using v<sub>4</sub> ratio in central region

Order of v<sub>3</sub> reversed by considering non-zero  $\beta_{3U}\beta_{4U}$ 

 $v_2$  ratio is mostly affected by  $\beta_{2U}$ , but also  $\beta_{3U}$ 

### Shape fluctuation and coexistence

Same nuclei can has several low-lying states with different intrinsic shapes Can we probe the shape entanglement ?







186Pb

## Shape fluctuations via high-order correlations.



Fluctuation in  $\gamma$  washes out difference between prolate and oblate, such that all results approach triaxial case.

3-particle correlation can not distinguish between static triaxiality vs large triaxiality fluctuations.

Similarly, 2-particle correlation can not distinguish between static  $\beta_2$  from its fluctuations

Need to go higher-order:



#### Neutrinoless double-beta decay





Nuclear matrix element

Need to model the overlap of nuclear wavefunction between initial nuclei and its final isobar nuclei.

x2-3 difference in matrix element, corresponding to x10 change in lifetime

Challenge: modeling nucleon correlations in nuclear structure. eg: quadruple and pairing correlations

66.000													20.002				00.40	00.040
Potassium	Calcium		Scandium	Titanium	Vanadium	Chromium	Manganese	Iron	Cobalt	Nickel	Copper	Zinc	Gallium	Germanium	Arsenic	CONTINUE	Bromine	Krypton
19	20		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
Κ	Ca		Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Со	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	C_	Br	Kr
39.098	-10:010(-1)		44.950	47.867	50.942	51.996	54.938	55.845(2)	58.933	58.693	63.546(3)	65.38(2)	69.723	12.000(0)	74.922	78.971(8)	79.904	83.798(2)
Rubidium	Strontium		Yttrium		Niobium	Molybdenum	Technetium	Ruthenium	Rhodium	Palladium	Silver	Ondershum	Indium	Tin	Antimony		lodine	
37	38		39	40	41		43	44	45	46	47	48	49	===	51	52	53	54
Rb	Sr		Y	Zr	Nb	Мс	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te		Xe
85.468	87.62		88.906	91.224(2)	92.906(2)		[98.906]	101.07(2)	102.91	106.42	107.87	112.41	114.82		121.76	127.60(3)	126.90	101.20
Caesium	Barium		Lutetium		Tantalum	Tungsten	Rhenium	Osmium	Iridium	Platinum	Gold	,	Thallium	Lead	Bismuth	Polonium	Astatine	
55	56	57-70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86
Cs	Ba	*	Lu	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	lr	Pt	Au	Hg	<b>TI</b>	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
Francium	Padium	2	Lawrencium	Butherfordium	Dubnium	Seabornium	Bobrium	Hassium	Meitnerium	Dermetadtium	Poentoenium	Copernicium	Nibonium	Elerovium	Moscowium	Livermorium	Teopessine	000000000
87	88	89-102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118
Fr	Ra	**	Lr	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn	Nh	FI	Мс	Lv	Ts	Og
[223.02]	[226.03]		[262.11]	[267.12]	[270.13]	[269.13]	[270.13]	[270.13]	[278.16]	[281.17]	[281.17]	[285.18]	[286.18]	[289.19]	[289.19]	[293.20]	[293.21]	[294.21]
				<b></b>								1						
				Lantha	num Ceriu 58	m Praseodyr	mium Neodymi	Promethic 61	m Samariur	n Europium 63	Gadolinium 64	65	Dysprosium 66	Holmium 67	Erbium 68	69	Ytterbium 70	
*leathanaida									Cm	Eu	Gd	Th	Dv		Er	Tm	Vh	
Tanthanoids				a   U				I SII	l Cu	Gu		UY		Er		I D		
				138.	91 140.	12 140.9	1 144.24	[144.91	150.36(2	151.96	157.25(3)	158.93	162.50	164.93	167.26	168.93	173.05	

### Imaging the radial structures

Radial parameters  $R_0$ ,  $a_0$  are properties of one-body distribution  $\rightarrow \langle \mathbf{p}_T \rangle$ ,  $\langle \mathbf{N}_{ch} \rangle$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_2^{RP} \langle \mathbf{v}_2 \langle \mathbf{4} \rangle$ ,  $\sigma_{tat}$ , 



### Summary and outlook

- Collective flow assisted nuclear shape imaging is a discovery tool for exploring nuclear structure and high energy nuclear collisions
- High- and low-energy techniques together enable study of evolution of nuclear structure across energy and time scales.
- Future research could leverage collider facilities to conduct experiments with selected isobaric or isobar-like pairs

				-	1		1		-	-	
A	isobars	A	isobars	A	isobars	A	isobars	Α	isobars	A	isobars
36	Ar, S	80	Se, Kr	106	Pd, Cd	124	Sn, Te, Xe	148	Nd, Sm	174	Yb, Hf
40	Ca, Ar	84	Kr, Sr, Mo	108	Pd, Cd	126	Te, Xe	150	Nd, Sm	176	Yb, Lu, Hi
46	Ca, Ti	86	Kr, Sr	110	Pd, Cd	128	Te, Xe	152	$\mathrm{Sm},\mathrm{Gd}$	180	Hf, W
48	Ca, Ti	87	Rb, Sr	112	Cd, Sn	130	Te, Xe, Ba	154	Sm, Gd	184	W, Os
50	$\mathrm{Ti},\mathrm{V},\mathrm{Cr}$	92	Zr, Nb, Mo	113	Cd, In	132	Xe, Ba	156	Gd,Dy	186	W, $Os$
54	Cr, Fe	94	Zr, Mo	114	Cd, Sn	134	Xe, Ba	158	Gd,Dy	187	Re, Os
64	Ni, Zn	96	Zr, Mo, Ru	115	In, Sn	136	Xe, Ba, Ce	160	Gd,Dy	190	Os, Pt
70	Zn, Ge	98	Mo, Ru	116	Cd, Sn	138	Ba, La, Ce	162	Dy,Er	192	Os, Pt
74	Ge, Se	100	Mo, Ru	120	Sn, Te	142	Ce, Nd	164	Dy,Er	196	Pt, Hg
76	Ge, Se	102	Ru, Pd	122	Sn, Te	144	Nd, Sm	168	Er,Yb	198	Pt, Hg
78	Se, Kr	104	Ru, Pd	123	Sb, Te	146	Nd, Sm	170	Er,Yb	204	Hg, Pb

#### 2102.08158

Recently organized activities:

RBRC workshop Jan 2022, link

EMMI Taskforce May&Oct 2022, link

ESNT workshop Sep 2022, link

INT program Jan-Feb2023 link

Dalian workshop Aug 2023 link

Beijing workshop April 2024 In preparation

#### Shape fluctuations via high-order correlations.



### Deformation-assisted study of longitudinal structure

$$\mathcal{E}_2 = \mathcal{E}_{2,sp} + \mathcal{E}_{2,\beta}$$
$$V_2 = V_{2,sp} + V_{2,\beta}$$

 Deformation-driven flow and normal flow components have similar long-range decorrelations

$$\left\langle v_{2}^{2}
ight
angle =a+beta_{2}^{2}$$

a,b have the same decorrelation!



Can be applied to small systems e.g. dAu vs O+O at RHIC or Ne+Ne vs O+O at LHC. Currently the only reliable way to obtain the 3D structure of the initial state.

### Long-range correlations in many small systems



One interpretation:  $\partial_{\mu}T^{\mu\nu} = 0$   $T_{\mu\nu}(\tau = 0)$ 

Key unknown: initial condition and longitudinal structure

## Origin of collectivity in small collision systems



#### How to experimentally distinguish these sources?

## Nuclear structure lever-arm: small system

- Clearly, initial condition in small systems has large uncertainties

   ¬nucleon correlations (clustering), subnucleonic fluctuations, longitudinal fluctuations, energy deposition...
- Hydrodynamic picture is qualitatively consistent, but hardly proven.
- Impossible to unwind the clock only based on final state measurements



 $au_{ ext{freezeout}}$ 

Vary structure input and check final state responses → powerful way to disentangle different components

## Disentangle geometrical and non-geometrical components



Roles of nucleon, subnucleon and decorrelations are entangled



Response different for different origins

## Precision







#### Seen at LHC



Collision dynamics





 $t \sim 10 \text{ fm/c} = 10^{-22} \text{ s}$ 



Credit: Bjoern Schenke

3D relativistic viscous hydrodynamics

#### Isobar ratio constraints on the initial condition



c<sub>n</sub> relates nuclear structure and initial condition



## Flow-assisted nuclear shape imaging at high-energy



Key: 1) fast snapshot, 2) large multiplicity for many-body correlations

#### Accessing information in body-fixed frame

$$d_{\perp}=1/R_{\perp} \qquad \mathcal{E}_2\equivarepsilon_2 e^{2i\Phi_2}\propto\int_{f r}{f r}^2
ho({f r}) \qquad d_{\perp}\propto-\int_{f r}|{f r}^2|
ho({f r}) \qquad \delta d_{\perp}=d_{\perp}-\langle d_{\perp}
angle$$

• We measure moments of  $p(1/R, \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_3...)$  via  $p([p_T], v_2, v_3...)...$ 

- Mean  $\langle d_{\perp} \rangle$ Variance:  $\langle \varepsilon_n^2 \rangle$ ,  $\langle (\delta d_{\perp}/d_{\perp})^2 \rangle$ Skewness  $\langle \varepsilon_n^2 \delta d_{\perp}/d_{\perp} \rangle$ ,  $\langle (\delta d_{\perp}/d_{\perp})^3 \rangle$ Kurtosis  $\langle \varepsilon_n^4 \rangle 2\langle \varepsilon_n^2 \rangle^2$ ,  $\langle (\delta d_{\perp}/d_{\perp})^4 \rangle 3\langle (\delta d_{\perp}/d_{\perp})^2 \rangle^2$   $\langle p_T \rangle$   $\langle v_n^2 \rangle$ ,  $\langle (\delta p_T/p_T)^2 \rangle$   $\langle v_n^2 \delta p_T/p_T \rangle$ ,  $\langle (\delta p_T/p_T)^3 \rangle$   $\langle v_n^4 \rangle 2\langle v_n^2 \rangle^2$ ,  $\langle (\delta p_T/p_T)^4 \rangle 3\langle (\delta p_T/p_T)^2 \rangle^2$
- These moments naturally probe the many-body distributions  $\rightarrow$  frame independent

$$\left\langle \varepsilon_{2}^{2} \right\rangle = \left\langle \mathcal{E}_{2} \mathcal{E}_{2}^{*} \right\rangle \approx \frac{\int_{\mathbf{r}_{1},\mathbf{r}_{2}} \left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right)^{2} \left(\mathbf{r}_{2}^{*}\right)^{2} \rho\left(\mathbf{r}_{1},\mathbf{r}_{2}\right)}{\left(\int_{\mathbf{r}} |\mathbf{r}|^{2} \left\langle \rho(\mathbf{r}) \right\rangle\right)^{2}} \qquad \left\langle \varepsilon_{2}^{2} \delta d_{\perp}/d_{\perp} \right\rangle \approx -\frac{\int_{\mathbf{r}_{1},\mathbf{r}_{2},\mathbf{r}_{3}} \left(\mathbf{r}_{1}\right)^{2} \left(\mathbf{r}_{2}^{*}\right)^{2} |\mathbf{r}_{3}^{2}| \rho\left(\mathbf{r}_{1},\mathbf{r}_{2},\mathbf{r}_{3}\right)}{\left(\int_{\mathbf{r}} |\mathbf{r}|^{2} \left\langle \rho(\mathbf{r}) \right\rangle\right)^{2} \int_{\mathbf{r}} |\mathbf{r}|^{2} \left\langle \rho(\mathbf{r}) \right\rangle}$$

 $\rho(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = \langle \delta \rho(\mathbf{r}_1) \delta \rho(\mathbf{r}_2) \rangle = \langle \rho(\mathbf{r}_1) \rho(\mathbf{r}_2) \rangle - \langle \rho(\mathbf{r}_1) \rangle \langle \rho(\mathbf{r}_2) \rangle \qquad \rho(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3) = \langle \delta \rho(\mathbf{r}_1) \delta \rho(\mathbf{r}_2) \delta \rho(\mathbf{r}_3) \rangle$ 

#### Isobar ratios cancel final state effects

- Vary the shear viscosity by changing partonic cross-section in AMPT
  - Flow signal change by 30-50%, the  $v_n$  ratio unchanged.



Robust probe of initial state!



#### How to obtain the shape of nuclei of interest



b', b are ~ independent of system

Systems with similar A falls on the same curve. Fix a and b with two isobar systems with known  $\beta_2$ , then predict others.

Transition from nearly-spherical to well-deformed nuclei when size increase by less than 7%. Using HI to access the multi-nucleon correlations leading to such shape evolution,





#### Connecting initial condition to nuclear shape



## Small system collectivity



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Flow dominated by geometry response, NOT initial momentum anisotropy. Three sources of geometry: 1) nucleon fluctuation, 2) sub-nucleon fluctuation,

Current status: comparison of p/d/<sup>3</sup>He+Au suggests dominant role of subnucleon fluctuation and possible impact of flow decorrelations Small symmetric O+O provide additional lever arm for nucleon vs subnucleon fluctuations, as well as role of many-nucleon correlations





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 $v_n/\epsilon_n(O+O) \approx v_n/\epsilon_n(^{3}He+Au)$  for quark-Glauber Consistent with expectation of sub-nucleon fluctuation

Small v2{4}/v2{2} ratio in UCC consistent with enhanced v2 fluctuation due to many-nucleon correlations.



#### Nuclear structure are required to understand small system collectivity

## Geometry imaging via Isobar-like small system collisions

Controlled variation of nuclear geometry with well-expected final state response



dN / dy ~ 100

 $\frac{v_2 \ [{\rm O}+{\rm O}]}{v_2 \ [{\rm Ne}+{\rm Ne}]} = 0.93 \pm \underline{0.01}$ 

Model uncertainties largely cancel

Direct reflection of nuclear shape and radial structure arising from nucleon correlations.



#### Picture of the heavy ion initial condition



Fluctuations in the initial state play a dominant role for the system evolution!

#### Role of nuclear structure in heavy ion collisions



#### Status

- Precision of QGP properties depends on initial condition and energy deposition
- Detailed nuclear structure information not yet part of hydro framework

#### Two-fold goal

- Constrain the initial condition by comparing nuclei with known structure properties
- Extract properties of nuclei from heavy-ion collisions and compare to low-energy

#### Low-energy vs high-energy method

- Intrinsic frame shape not directly visible in lab frame at time scale  $\tau > \sim l/\hbar \sim 10^{-21} s$
- Mainly inferred from largely "non-invasive" spectroscopic methods.



 High-energy collisions destructive imaging: probe entire mass distribution in the intrinsic frame via multi-point correlations. Shape frozen in nuclear crossing (10<sup>-24</sup>s << rotational time scale 10<sup>-21</sup>s)



#### Example: Probing the nuclear three-body density (triaxiality)



#### Opportunities at the intersection of nuclear structure and hot QCD



Many examples in https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.11042

III. Science cases at the intersection of nuclear structure and hot QCD

- A. Stress-testing small system collectivity with <sup>20</sup>Ne
- B. Shape evolution along the Samarium isotopic chain
- C. The neutron skin of  ${}^{48}$ Ca and  ${}^{208}$ Pb in high-energy collisions
- D. Initial conditions of heavy-ion collisions

See recent INT program 23-1A

E. Impact on future experiments: EIC and CBM FAIR

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#### New tests of effective field theories of low-energy QCD!

#### Nuclear shape in low-energy methods

#### Each DOF has zero-point fluctuations within certain timescale.



(non-invasive) spectroscopic methods probe a superposition of these fluctuations Can infer shape from model comparison to energy-transition-lifetime measurements. But instantaneous nuclear shapes are not directly seen  $\rightarrow$  intrinsic shape is not observable

e+A scattering has very short timescale, but so far mostly probe the one-body (charge) distribution. Impact of deformation appear as increase in radius



#### **Coulomb Explosion Imaging in Chemistry**

Instantaneous stripping of electrons (thin foil or x-ray laser), and then let atoms explode under mutual coulomb repulsion



**Fig. 1.** A schematic view of a Coulomb explosion experiment. When a swift molecule passes through a thin solid film, it loses all of its binding electrons. The remaining positive ions repel each other, thus transforming the microstructure (as seen in the magnified view) into a macrostructure that can be measured precisely with an appropriate detector. The measured traces  $(x, \gamma, t)$  of each fragment nucleus for individual molecules are then transformed into the original molecular structure.

#### "Nuclear explosion imaging" is 10<sup>6</sup>-10<sup>9</sup> times faster.



t=5fs

t=2fs

t = -2fs

t=10fs

t = -20fs

9

## Atomic nuclear

Many-body quantum systems, govern by short-range strong nuclear force Emergent properties in between bulk nuclear matter and discrete nucleon, like quantum doc. Configuration is one that minimizes E, which is often deformed away from magic numbers

Interplay between shell and collective effects





cluster of Na

## Atomic nuclei and their shapes

- Emergent phenomena of the many-body quantum system
  - clustering, halo, skin, bubble...
  - quadrupole/octupole/hexdecopole deformations
  - Non-monotonic evolution with N and Z





 $R(\theta,\phi) = R_0(1 + \frac{\beta_2}{\cos\gamma}Y_{2,0}(\theta,\phi) + \sin\gamma}Y_{2,2}(\theta,\phi)] + \frac{\beta_3}{\gamma}Y_{3,0}(\theta,\phi) + \frac{\beta_4}{\gamma}Y_{4,0}(\theta,\phi))$  $0 \le \gamma \le \pi/3$ 

 $\beta_2$ -landscape