

Model-independent measurement of isospin diffusion at Fermi energies with INDRA-FAZIA: new quantitative constraints on symmetry energy

Caterina Ciampi



for the INDRA-FAZIA collaboration

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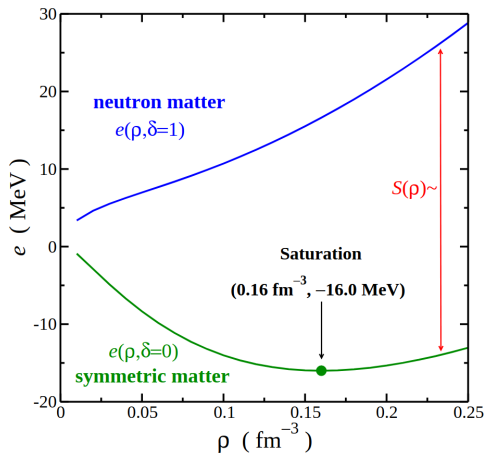
Nuclear Equation of State (nEoS): Thermodynamic description of nuclear matter.

Outline

1. Introduction
2. Experimental data
 - Reaction centrality
 - Isospin analysis
3. Comparison with transport model
 - BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
 - Comparison protocol
 - Sensitive density region
4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

Nuclear Equation of State (nEoS): Thermodynamic description of nuclear matter.

$$e(\rho, \delta) = e(\rho) + S(\rho)\delta^2 \quad \rightarrow \text{Largest uncertainties on symmetry energy } S(\rho)$$



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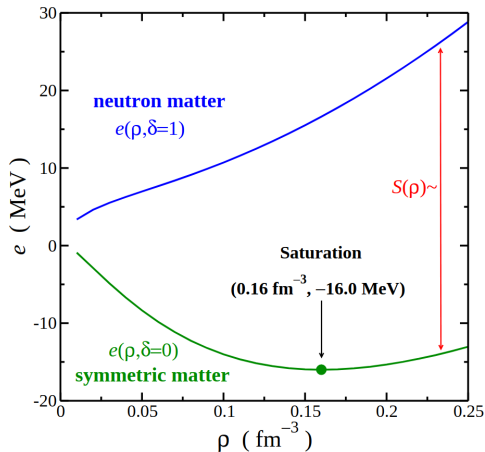
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Isospin transport phenomena:
sensitive probe to study $S(\rho)$

$$\mathbf{j}_n - \mathbf{j}_p \propto S(\rho) \nabla \delta + \delta \frac{\partial S(\rho)}{\partial \rho} \nabla \rho$$

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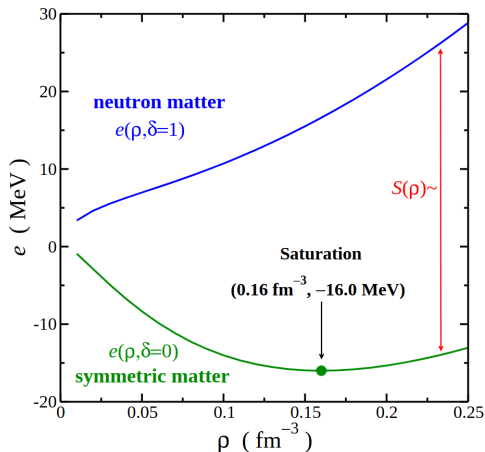
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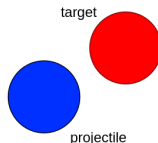
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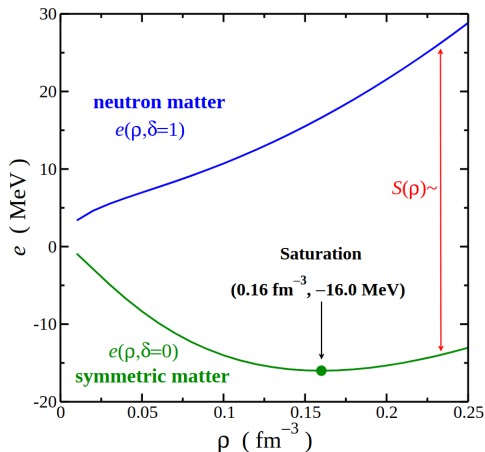
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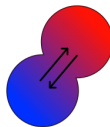
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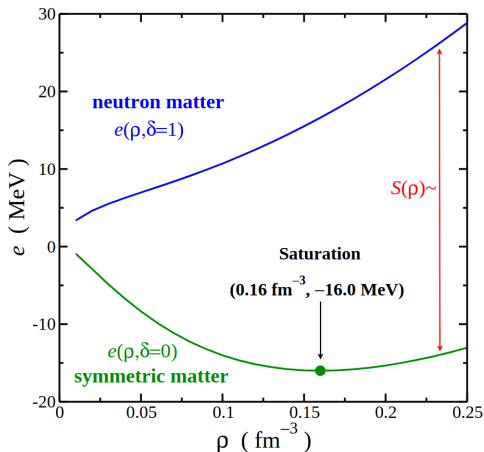
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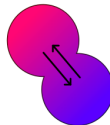
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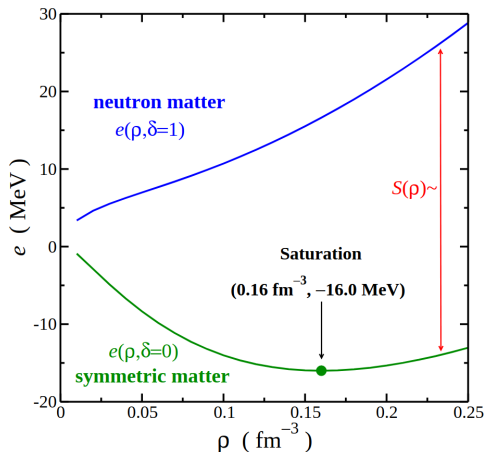
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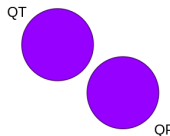
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The INDRA-FAZIA setup

Exploring isospin dynamics in heavy ion collisions



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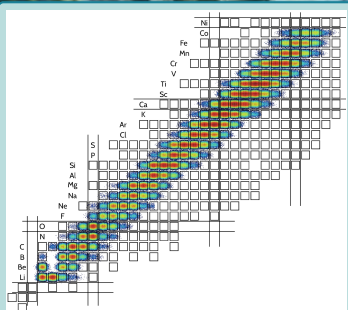
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FAZIA

Forward-angle A and Z Identification Array

State of the art of ion identification
in the Fermi energy domain

Covers the most forward polar angles
for (Z,A) identification of QP-like fragments



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INDRA

*Identification de Noyaux et Détection
avec Résolutions Accrues*

Offers large solid angle coverage
($\sim 80\%$ of 4π) with high granularity

Provides a good
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Build global variables for
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Centrality-related observable $X \longleftrightarrow$ deduce the correspondence with b

(see J. D. Frankland et al., PRC104, 034609 (2021), R. Rogly et al., PRC98, 024902 (2018))

$\Rightarrow$ Need to model the conditional probability distribution: $P(X|b)$

Step 1

Parametrize the $P(X|b)$, taking into account both the mean value and the fluctuations

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data
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Impact parameter reconstruction

Basic structure of the method

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$$P(X) = \int_0^\infty P(b) P(X|b) db \quad P(b) = \frac{2\pi b}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{b-b_0}{\Delta b}\right)}$$

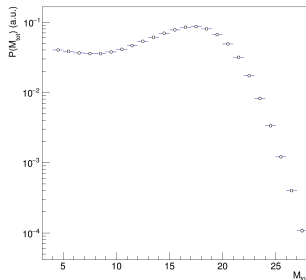
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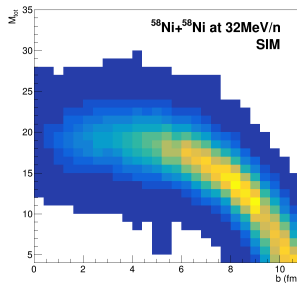
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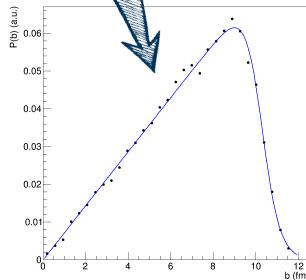
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INDRA-FAZIA results on symmetry energy



INPC2025, Daejeon, 29/05/2025

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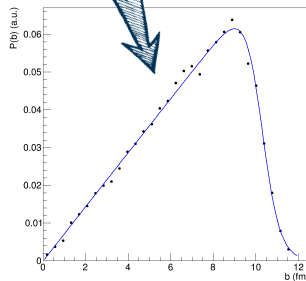
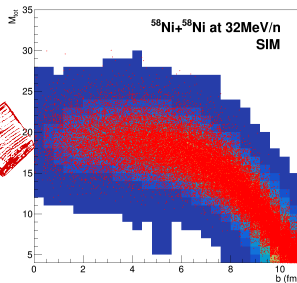
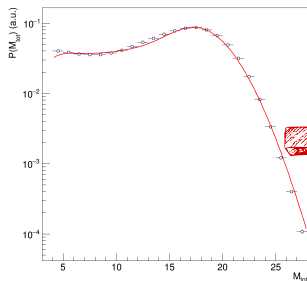
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Step 3

Having the $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{b})$, for each X selection we can evaluate:

$$P(b|x_1 < X < x_2) = \frac{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} P(b, X) dX}{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} P(X) dX} = \frac{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} P(X) P(b|X) dX}{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} P(X) dX} = \frac{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} P(b) \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{b}) dX}{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} P(X) dX}$$



To obtain the impact parameter distribution, it is necessary to perform the fit on the most inclusive $P(X)$ distribution, for which the $P(b)$ above can be assumed.

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INDRA-FAZIA experimental data

Model independent impact parameter distributions

Combined analysis of two Ni-Ni@32 MeV/nucleon datasets bearing complementary information:

INDRA-FAZIA dataset $\rightarrow$ $^{58,64}\text{Ni} + ^{58,64}\text{Ni}$ at 32 MeV/nucl.

Includes the information on the *isospin content of the QP remnant*. Biasing trigger for semiperipheral collisions.

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Trigger $M_{\text{tot}} \geq 4 \rightarrow$ minimum bias, suitable for the application of the *impact parameter reconstruction method*.

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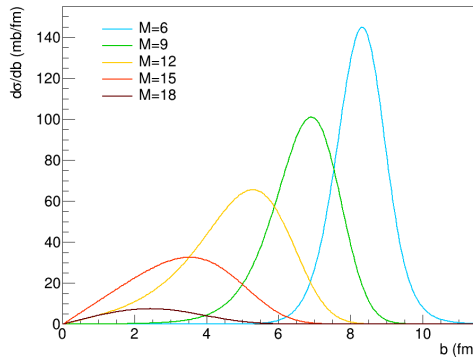
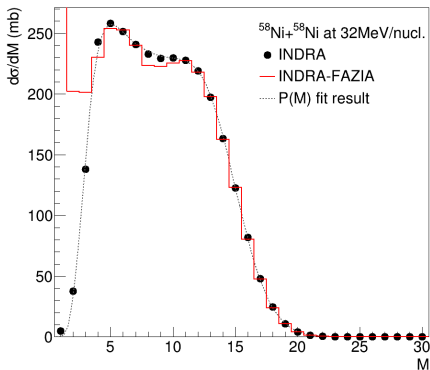
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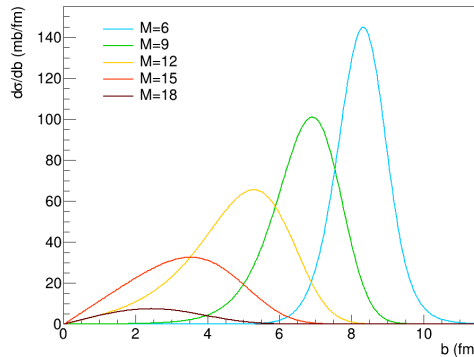
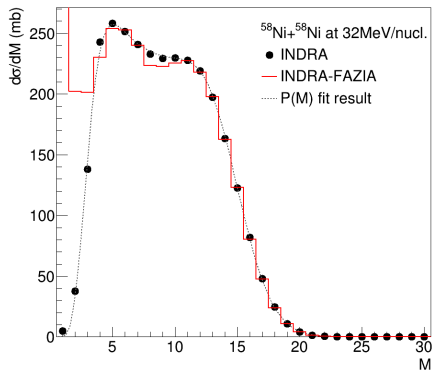
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$\rightarrow$ important role of **intrinsic fluctuations**: relatively different M selections populate partly (or entirely) superimposed b intervals

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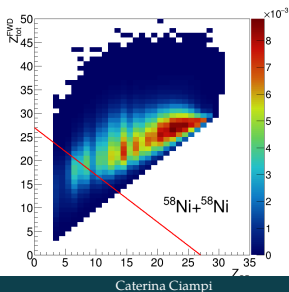
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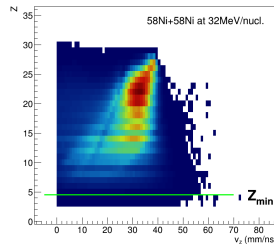
In view of producing the most general result, easily comparable with any theoretical prediction, we avoid a strictly exclusive analysis.

- No distinction among different output channels
- QP remnant selected as:
 - 1 fragment with largest Z in forward hemisphere
 - 2 if more than one with same Z , select largest $v_z^{c.m.}$
- Minimum size to consider a QP remnant: $Z_{QP} \geq 5$
 → include light products from very dissipative events



Light QP remnants → carefully check the completeness of the event to exclude those in which the heaviest fragment has been lost.

- The total undetected charge in the forward hemisphere should not exceed Z_{QP}
- Accept event if $Z_{QP} \geq 28 - Z_{tot}^{FWD}$
- We verified that by removing $< 13\%$ of events, the final result becomes stable against reasonable variations of Z_{QP}^{min}



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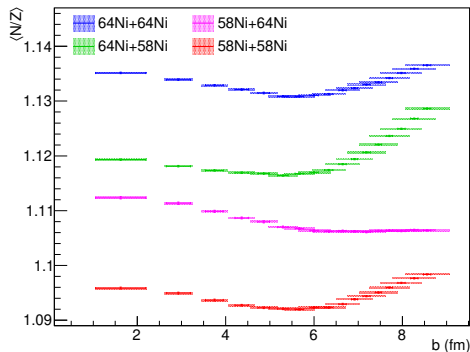
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From the distributions of (Z_{QP}, A_{QP}) vs M_{resc} , the number of counts for each produced nuclear species for each M_{resc} value is independently redistributed according to the corresponding b distribution $\Rightarrow$ take into account the fluctuations



Model-independent $\langle N/Z \rangle$ for the QP remnant as a function of b for the four systems in the INDRA-FAZIA dataset

Clear effect of isospin equilibration down to the most central collisions:

- *peripheral*: similar result for reactions with same projectile
- *central*: $\langle N/Z \rangle$ depends on target, mixed systems tend to each other

Horizontal error bars: statistics + uncertainty on the estimation of b_0 in the $P(b)$ assumed for the impact parameter reconstruction method (affecting less central collisions to a greater extent).

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2. Experimental data

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Isospin transport ratio: can highlight the isospin diffusion effect, bypassing the effects acting similarly on the four systems (F. Rami et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 84, 1120 (2000))

$$R(x) = \frac{2x_i - x_{AA} - x_{BB}}{x_{AA} - x_{BB}}$$

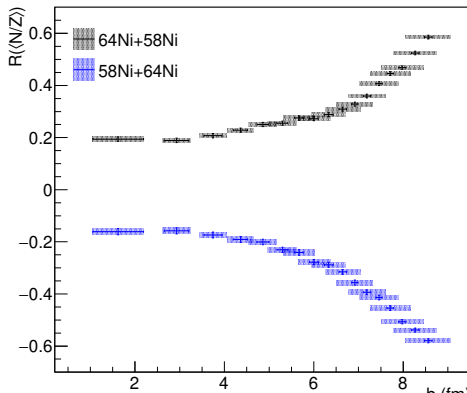
$R(x) = \pm 1 \rightarrow$ non equilibrated

$R(x_{AB}) = R(x_{BA}) \rightarrow$ full equilibration

where $A = {}^{64}\text{Ni}$, $B = {}^{58}\text{Ni}$, $i = AA, AB, BA, BB$ and x is an isospin sensitive observable.

Model-independent isospin transport ratio $R(\langle N/Z \rangle)$ for the QP remnant as a function of the impact parameter b

Regular behavior towards equilibration for increasing centralities (full equilibration is not achieved).



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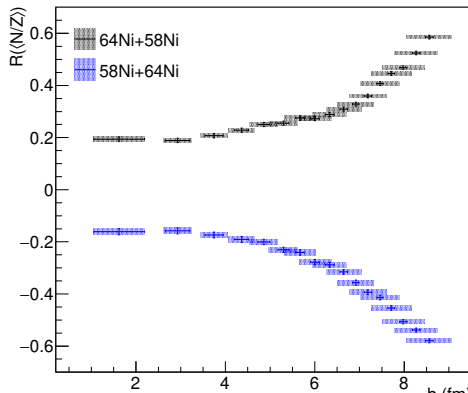
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Experimental result providing a reference for comparison with theoretical predictions from transport models.

C. Ciampi *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C* **111**, 044601 (2025)



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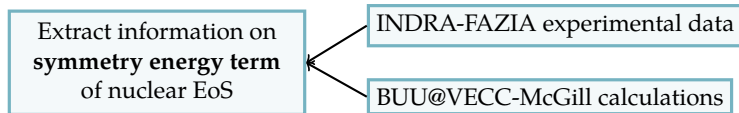
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Compare the experimental isospin transport ratio with the one predicted for *primary fragments* by the transport code:

- Avoid spurious effect from afterburner coupling
- Exploit i.t.r. property of largely suppressing the effects of statistical deexcitation

A. Camaiani et al., Phys. Rev. C 102, 044607 (2020), S. Mallik et al., J. Phys. G 49, 015102 (2021)

Simulations carried out with the BUU@VECC-McGill transport code:

- BUU code, setting 100 test particles/nucleon
- 8 impact parameters for each reaction/parametrization
- 200 events for each impact parameter/reaction/parametrization
- Simulation run until 300fm/c (ITR convergence)
- Possibility to plug in and test different nEoS via metamodeling technique

J. Margueron et al., Phys. Rev. C 97, 025805 (2018)

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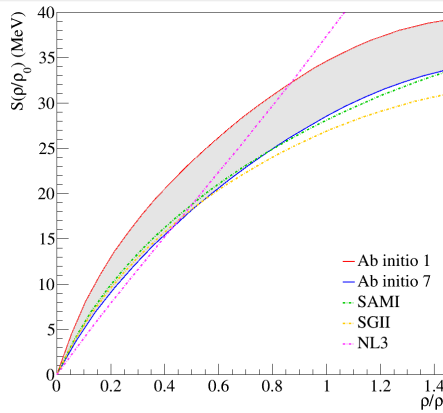
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NEoS parametrizations from *ab initio* and phenomenological approaches:

- *Ab initio*: two extreme χ -EFT interactions from C. Drischler *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 93, 054314 (2016)
- Phenomenological approaches:
 - SAMI (Skyrme), X. Roca-Maza *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 86, 031306(R) (2012)
 - SGII (Skyrme), Nguyen Van Giai *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B106, 379 (1981)
 - NL3 (RMF), G. A. Lalazissis *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 55, 540 (1997)



	$n_{\text{sat}} \text{ (fm}^{-3}\text{)}$	$E_{\text{sat}} \text{ (MeV)}$	$E_{\text{sym}} \text{ (MeV)}$	$L_{\text{sym}} \text{ (MeV)}$	$K_{\text{sat}} \text{ (MeV)}$	$K_{\text{sym}} \text{ (MeV)}$
<i>Ab initio</i> 1	0.189	-16.92	34.57	48.5	241	224
<i>Ab initio</i> 7	0.140	-13.23	28.53	43.9	43.9	-144
SAMI	0.1587	-15.93	28.16	43.7	245	-120
SGII	0.1583	-15.59	26.83	37.6	215	-146
NL3	0.1480	-16.24	37.35	118.3	271	101

Outline

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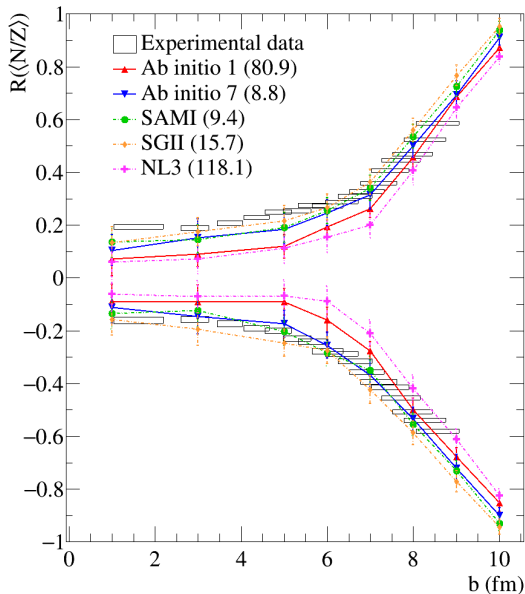
2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
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3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
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4. NEoS constraint and conclusions



A few observations:

- SAMI vs *ab initio* 7:
similar symmetry energy, different isoscalar behavior. Similar ITR indicates we are probing E_{sym} .
- NL3, *ab initio* 1 $\rightarrow$ bad match:
largest E_{sym} values above $0.5\rho_0$ can be excluded.
- SAMI, SGII, *ab initio* 7 $\rightarrow$ good match:
they feature similar E_{sym} values above $0.5\rho_0$

χ^2 values calculated by interpolating between the simulated data points:

	AI1	AI7	SAMI	SGII	NL3
χ^2	80.9	8.8	9.4	15.7	118.1

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

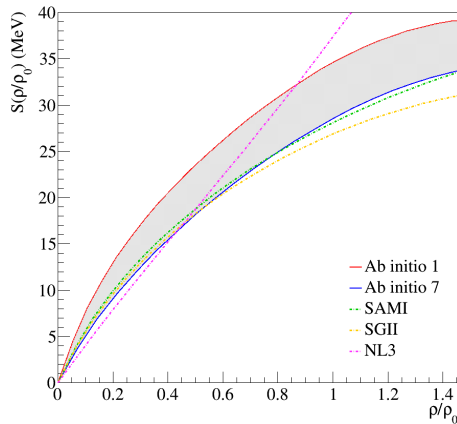
3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

Experimental-simulated data comparison

Extraction of approximate confidence regions in the $\bar{S} - \rho$ plane



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

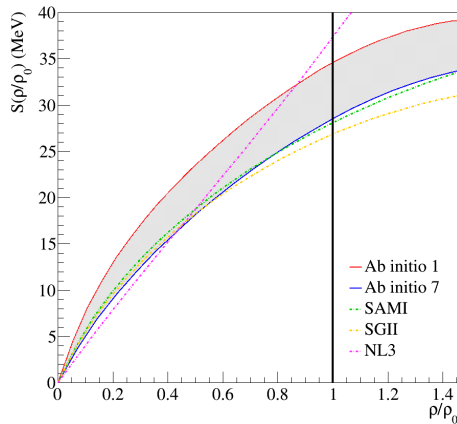
- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. N EOS constraint and conclusions

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At each value of ρ/ρ_0 :



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

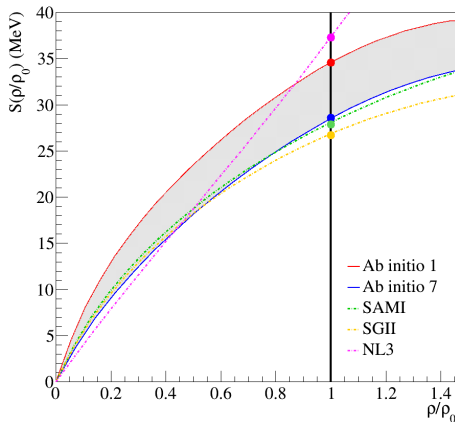
4. N EOS constraint and conclusions

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At each value of ρ/ρ_0 :

- Pick $S(\rho/\rho_0)$ values corresponding to the 5 nEoS parametrizations



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

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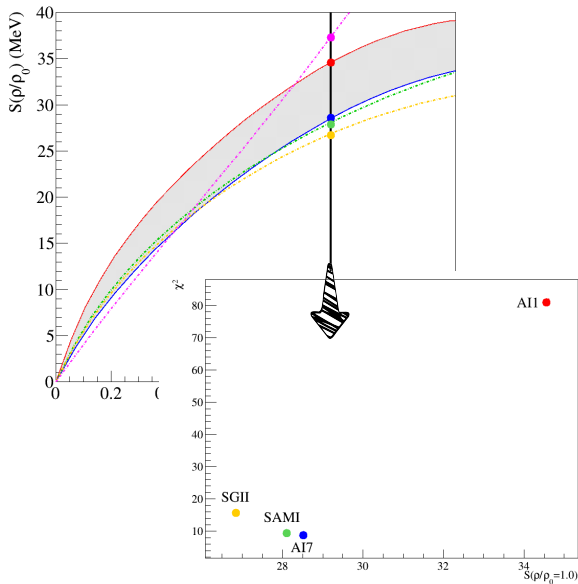
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Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
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- Sensitive density region

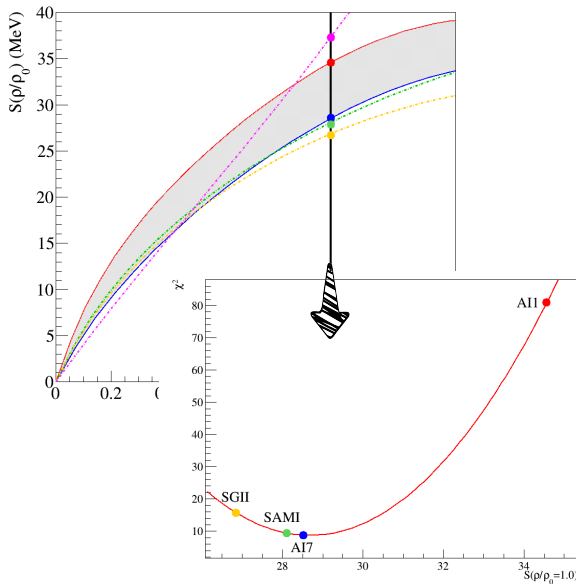
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- Quadratic fit to extract the parabolic dependence $\chi^2(S(\rho/\rho_0))$ around its minimum



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

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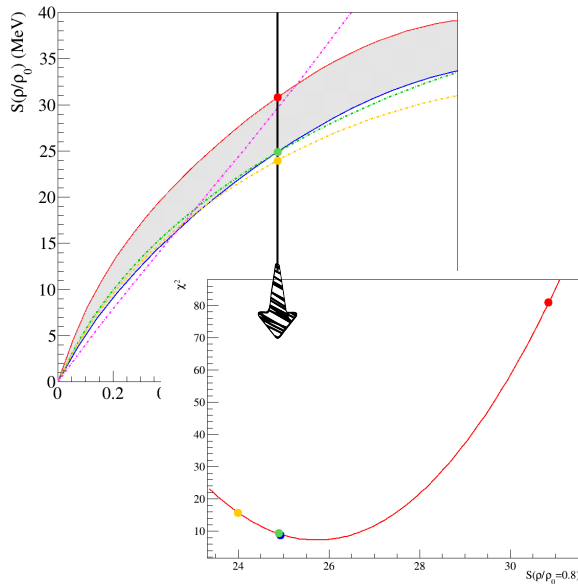
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Extraction of approximate confidence regions in the $S - \rho$ plane

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Repeat along the ρ/ρ_0 axis.



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

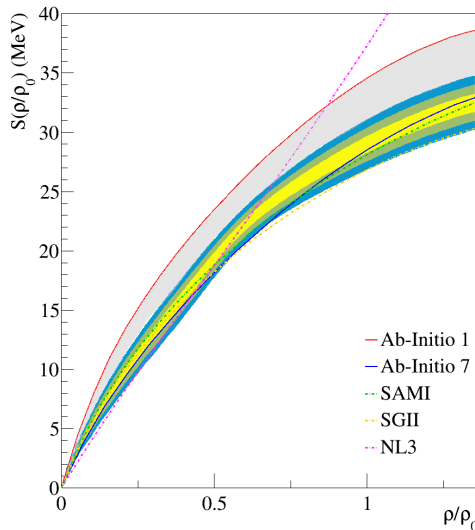
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At each ρ/ρ_0 we thus define a likelihood along $\chi^2(S(\rho/\rho_0))$ as:

$$\mathcal{L}(S(\rho/\rho_0)) \propto e^{-\chi^2(S(\rho/\rho_0))/2}$$

→ extract the $N\sigma$ confidence intervals for $S(\rho/\rho_0)$
→ build approximate confidence region in the $S - \rho/\rho_0$ plane.



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

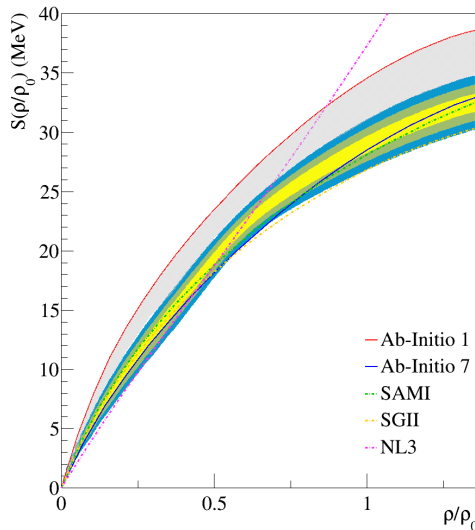
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→ extract the $N\sigma$ confidence intervals for $S(\rho/\rho_0)$
→ build approximate confidence region in the $S - \rho/\rho_0$ plane.

For a meaningful constraint we take into account the density region probed by the isospin diffusion phenomenon

→ define a *weight function*



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

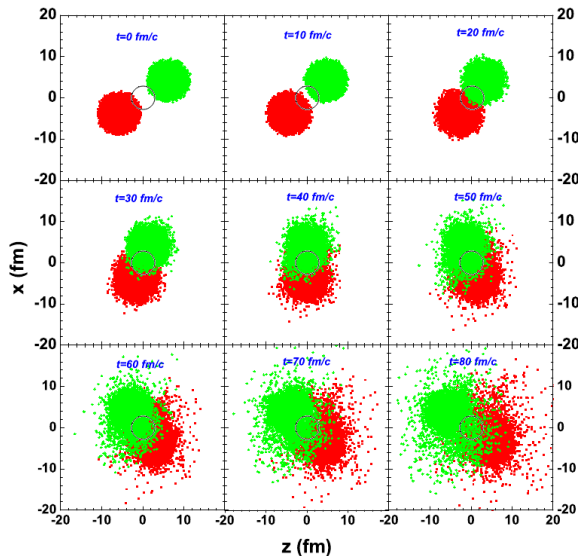
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Study of the evolution of **baryonic density** and **isospin current density** extracted from BUU@VECC-McGill

- *Ab initio* 7 nEoS
- 200 events for 4 selected impact parameters ($b = 3, 5, 7, 9$ fm)
- Quantities evaluated over spherical volume with $r = 3$ fm



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

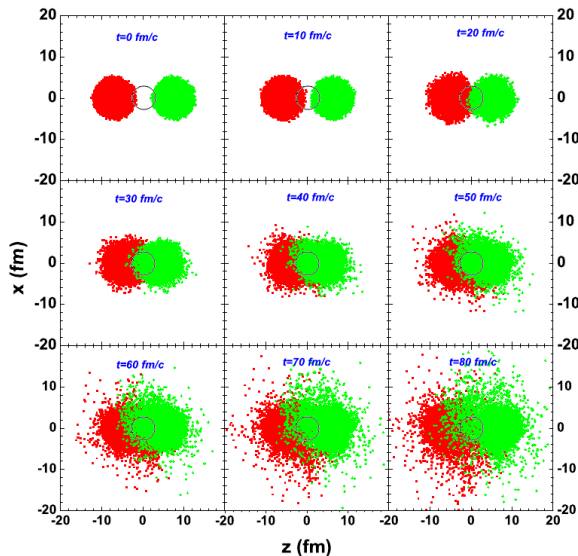
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Principal axis extracted at each timestep by diagonalizing the momentum of inertia tensor.
Current densities evaluated in its reference frame.



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

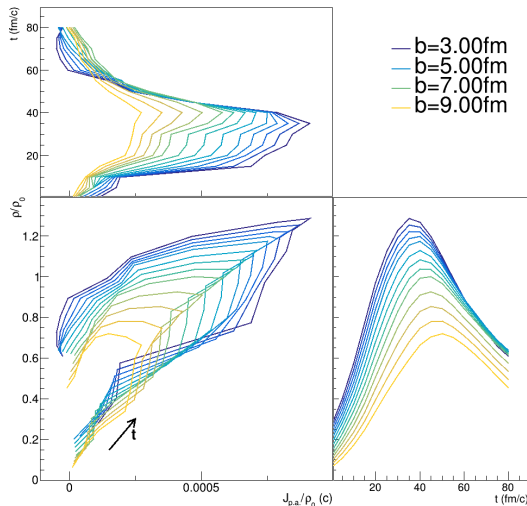
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n/p current densities evaluated as:

$$\vec{j}_q^{(X)} = \frac{1}{V} \int_V d^3r \rho_q^{(X)}(\vec{r}) \vec{v}_q^{(X)}(\vec{r}).$$

Nucleon exchange determined by $\vec{j}_q^{(X)}$ components along the principal axis.

Net isospin current density obtained as the difference between neutron and proton current densities.



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

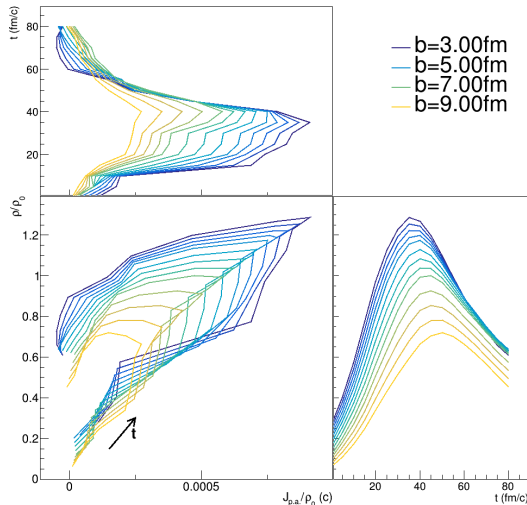
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Net isospin current density obtained as the difference between neutron and proton current densities.

N.B. maximum exchange found in the compression phase, when the highest densities are reached.



Outline

1. Introduction
2. Experimental data
 - Reaction centrality
 - Isospin analysis
3. Comparison with transport model
 - BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
 - Comparison protocol
 - Sensitive density region
4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

Sensitive density region

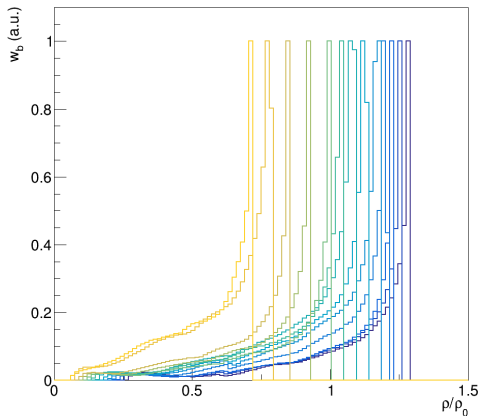
Weight function

Weight function for a given impact parameter $w_b(\rho/\rho_0)$:

built as baryonic density cumulated over time, weighted by the corresponding current density

$$w_b(\rho/\rho_0) = \int_{t_{\text{start}}}^{t_{\text{stop}}} j_{\text{p.a.}}(t) \delta(\rho/\rho_0 - \rho(t)/\rho_0) dt$$

→ evaluated between 0 and 80 fm/c



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

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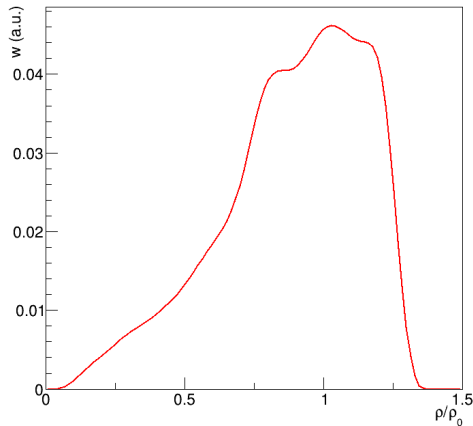
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→ evaluated between 0 and 80 fm/c

Global weight function $w(\rho/\rho_0)$:

$$w(\rho/\rho_0) = \int_{b_{\text{min}}}^{b_{\text{max}}} \tilde{w}_b(\rho/\rho_0) db$$

→ b interval between 3 and 9 fm



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

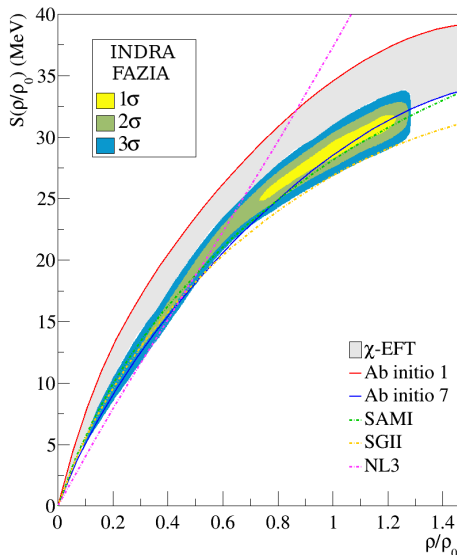
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Constraint on the nuclear EoS

Weighted confidence regions

Confidence regions $1\sigma, 2\sigma, 3\sigma$ defined based on weighted $\mathcal{L}(S(\rho/\rho_0))$:

- Sensitivity close to saturation - anticipated by NL3 rejection, different from SAMI, SGII, AI7 for $\rho > 0.5\rho_0$



C. Ciampi, S. Mallik *et al.*, submitted (2025).

Outline

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- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
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- Sensitive density region

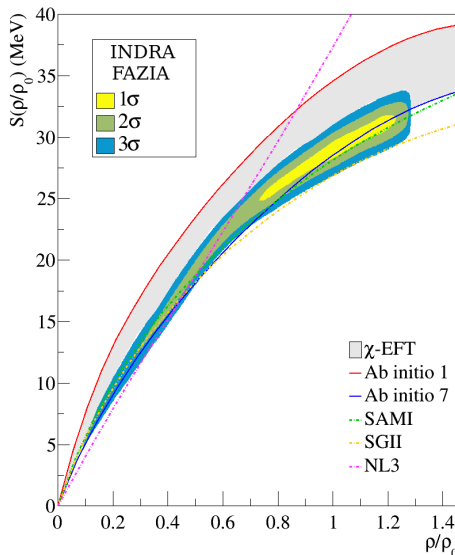
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Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

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3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

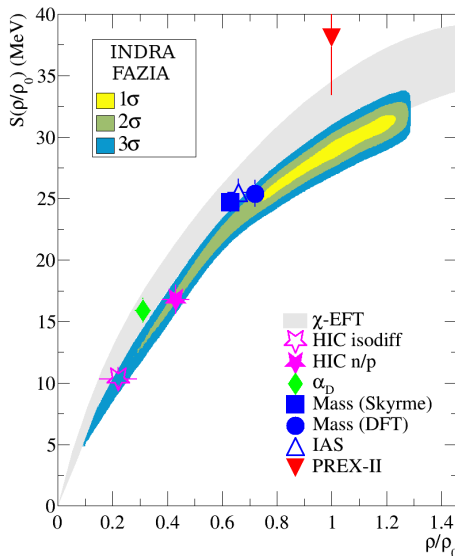
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- Good agreement with χ -EFT - towards the softer side of its uncertainty band
- Good agreement with isospin diffusion data in Sn+Sn collisions -
(but we declare a different ρ sensitivity)

W. G. Lynch *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 830, 137098 (2022).
M. B. Tsang *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 122701 (2009).
P. Morfouace *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 799, 135045 (2019).
Z. Zhang *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 92, 031301R (2015).
M. Kortelainen *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C 85, 024304 (2012).
P. Danielewicz *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. A 958, 147 (2017).
B. T. Reed *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 126, 172503 (2021).



C. Ciampi, S. Mallik *et al.*, submitted (2025).

Outline	
1. Introduction	
2. Experimental data	- Reaction centrality - Isospin analysis
3. Comparison with transport model	- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations - Comparison protocol - Sensitive density region
4. NEoS constraint and conclusions	

A new nuclear EoS constraint from isospin diffusion data:

- Comparison of model-independent experimentally-measured isospin transport ratio in $^{58,64}\text{Ni}+^{58,64}\text{Ni}$ collisions at 32 MeV/nucleon with the predictions of BUU@VECC-McGill transport model.
- EoS from both *ab initio* and phenomenological approaches considered.
- Consistent study of the time dependence of the baryonic density and of the isospin current density for the determination of the density region probed by the experiment.

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

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Thank you!

C. Ciampi, S. Mallik, F. Gulminelli, D. Gruyer, J. D. Frankland, N. Le Neindre, R. Bougault, A. Chbihi, L. Baldesi, S. Barlini, B. Borderie, A. Camaiani, G. Casini, I. Dekhissi, J. A. Dueñas, Q. Fable, F. Gramegna, M. Henri, B. Hong, S. Kim, A. Kordyasz, T. Kozik, I. Lombardo, O. Lopez, T. Marchi, S. H. Nam, J. Park, M. Pârlog, G. Pasquali, S. Piantelli, G. Poggi, S. Valdré, G. Verde, E. Vient



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

Backup slides

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

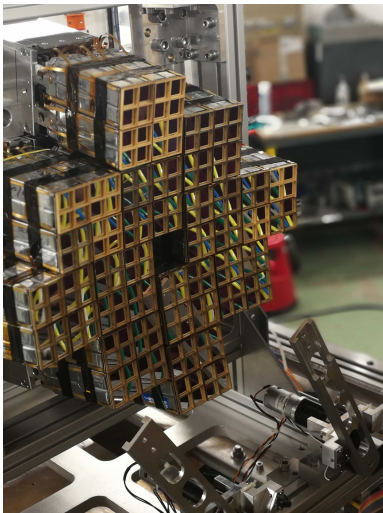
- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. N_{EoS} constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides



FAZIA (*Forward-angle A and Z Identification Array*):
optimal ion identification in the Fermi energy domain.

- Result of R&D activities to refine:
 - detector performance
 - digital treatment of signals
 - Basic module: **block**, consisting of 16 three stage **telescopes** ($2 \times 2 \text{ cm}^2$ active area):
 - Si1 300 μm thick
 - Si2 500 μm thick
 - CsI(Tl) 10cm thick
- + read-out electronics for all telescopes.
- Identification techniques: ΔE -E / PSA
 - Charge discrimination tested up to $Z \sim 55$
 - Mass discrimination up to $Z \sim 25$ / $Z \sim 22$

R. Bougault et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 50, 47 (2014)

S. Valdré et al., NIMA 930, 27 (2019)

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

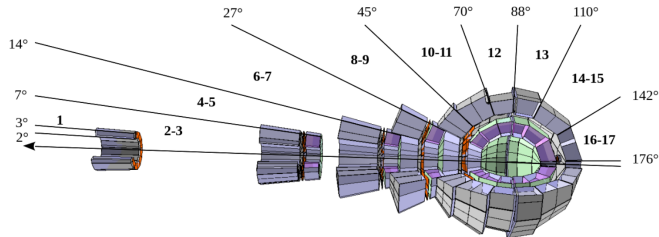
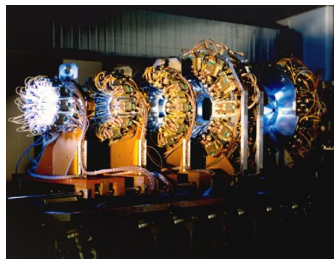
- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides

INDRA (*Identification de Noyaux et Détection avec Résolutions Accrues*): highly segmented array for detection and identification of charged products of heavy ion collisions at intermediate energies ($10 < E < 100$ AMeV).

- Original configuration of 17 rings:
 - 1: Phoswich detectors
 - 2-9: Ionisation ch. + Si + CsI(Tl)
 - 10-17: Ionisation ch. + CsI(Tl)
- Charge discrimination up to uranium, mass discrimination up to $Z \sim 4$
 → Electronics upgrade (2020): now up to $Z \sim 10$
 J. D. Frankland et al., *Nuovo Cim. C* 45, 43 (2022)



- Large solid angle coverage (90%) with high granularity (336 modules)

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides

Here we present a combined analysis of two datasets of Ni-Ni collisions at 32 MeV/nucleon bearing complementary information:

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides

Here we present a combined analysis of two datasets of Ni-Ni collisions at 32 MeV/nucleon bearing complementary information:

INDRA-FAZIA dataset $\rightarrow$ $^{58,64}\text{Ni} + ^{58,64}\text{Ni}$ at 32 MeV/nucl.

Includes the information on the *isospin content of the QP remnant*.

Exp. aimed to study the **isospin diffusion mechanism** by comparing the products of the two asymmetric reactions with both the n-rich and n-deficient symmetric systems

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. N EOS constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides

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- Trigger condition: $M_{\text{FAZIA}} \geq 1$

Some events are discarded in a non-trivial way, especially for semiperipheral collisions. The triangular $P(b)$ distribution does not well represent the experimental one.

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEMO constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides

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Some events are discarded in a non-trivial way, especially for semiperipheral collisions.

The triangular $P(b)$ distribution does not well represent the experimental one.

INDRA dataset $\rightarrow {}^{58}\text{Ni} + {}^{58}\text{Ni}$ at 32 MeV/nucl.

- Trigger condition: $M_{\text{tot}} \geq 4$

Minimum bias, the $P(b)$ can be well approximated as shown before (with $\Delta b \approx 0.4\text{fm}$). (see J. D. Frankland et al., Phys. Rev. C 104, 034609 (2021), E. Vient et al., Phys. Rev. C 98, 044612 (2018))

Suitable for the application of the *impact parameter reconstruction method*.

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides

Procedure for the reaction in common $^{58}\text{Ni}+^{58}\text{Ni}$ at 32 MeV/nucleon:

- 1 Centrality estimation on “unbiased” INDRA dataset
- 2 Apply $X - b$ relationship to INDRA-FAZIA dataset

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data
- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model
- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. N EOS constraint and conclusions

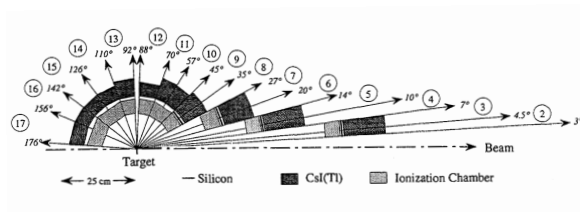
5. Backup slides

INDRA-FAZIA experimental data

Implementation of the impact parameter reconstruction

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Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
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3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEMO constraint and conclusions

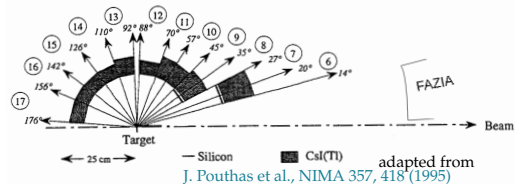
5. Backup slides

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Outline

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- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

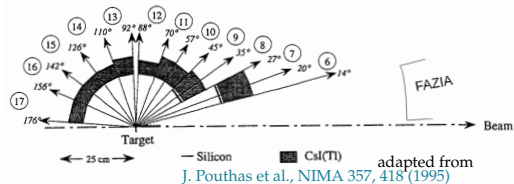
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- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEMO constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides

Procedure for the reaction in common $^{58}\text{Ni}+^{58}\text{Ni}$ at 32 MeV/nucleon:

- 1 Centrality estimation on “unbiased” INDRA dataset
- 2 Apply $X - b$ relationship to INDRA-FAZIA dataset



Centrality observable X

multiplicity M of *identified* and *unidentified* particles in INDRA rings 6 to 17.

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. N EOS constraint and conclusions

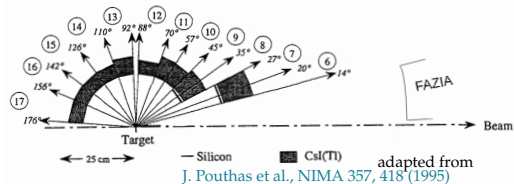
5. Backup slides

INDRA-FAZIA experimental data

Implementation of the impact parameter reconstruction

Procedure for the reaction in common $^{58}\text{Ni}+^{58}\text{Ni}$ at 32 MeV/nucleon:

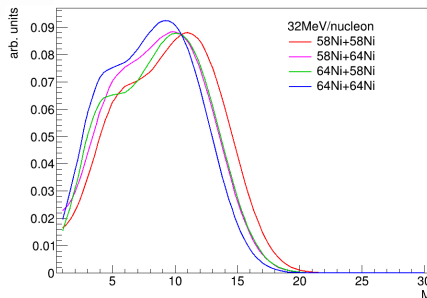
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Procedure for the other systems:

Centrality observable X

multiplicity M of *identified* and *unidentified* particles in INDRA rings 6 to 17.



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

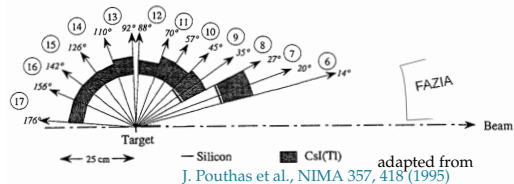
5. Backup slides

INDRA-FAZIA experimental data

Implementation of the impact parameter reconstruction

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Procedure for the other systems:

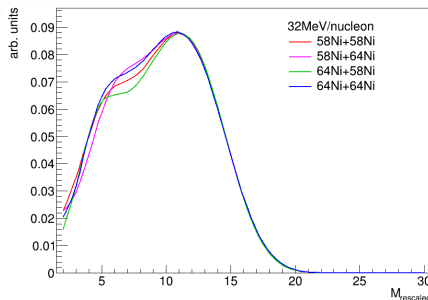
→ rescale the detected multiplicity M_{sys} into a corresponding M_{resc} value for $^{58}\text{Ni}+^{58}\text{Ni}$.

$$M_{\text{resc}} = \lfloor \alpha \cdot (M_{\text{sys}} + r) + \beta \rfloor$$

where $r \sim U([0, 1])$ is a uniformly distributed random variable taking values in $[0, 1]$.

Centrality observable X

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Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEMO constraint and conclusions

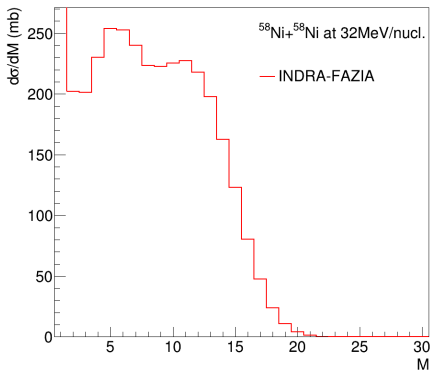
5. Backup slides

Absolute b distributions $\rightarrow$ set $P(b)$ parameters in a model independent way:

$$P(b) = \frac{2\pi b}{1 + \exp[(b - b_0)/\Delta b]}$$

$\Delta b \approx 0.4 \text{ fm}$ as verified in PRC 104, 034609 (2021)

b_0 by inverting $\sigma_R = -2\pi(\Delta b)^2 \text{Li}_2 \left[-\exp\left(\frac{b_0}{\Delta b}\right) \right]$



For the estimation of σ_R , and hence b_0 :

- Use the elastic scattering events in the INDRA-FAZIA dataset ($M_{\text{FAZIA}} \geq 1$) as reference for cross section normalization

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

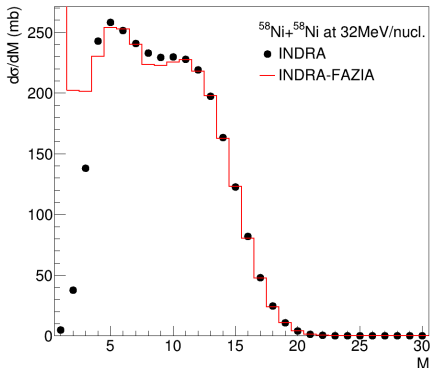
5. Backup slides

Absolute b distributions $\rightarrow$ set $P(b)$ parameters in a model independent way:

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For the estimation of σ_R , and hence b_0 :

- Use the elastic scattering events in the INDRA-FAZIA dataset ($M_{\text{FAZIA}} \geq 1$) as reference for cross section normalization
- Transfer the normalization to the INDRA dataset using the high multiplicity tail, after correcting for small trigger effect
 $\rightarrow \sigma_R \text{ INDRA dataset} \Rightarrow b_0 = (9.8 \pm 0.7) \text{ fm}$

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides

INDRA-FAZIA experimental data

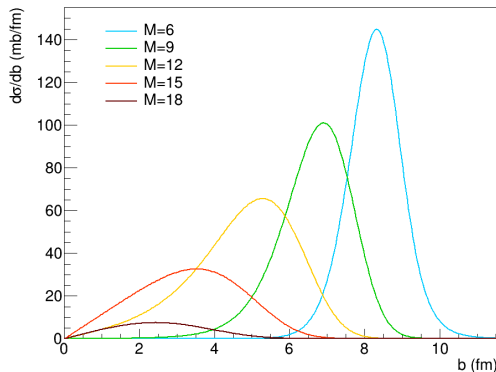
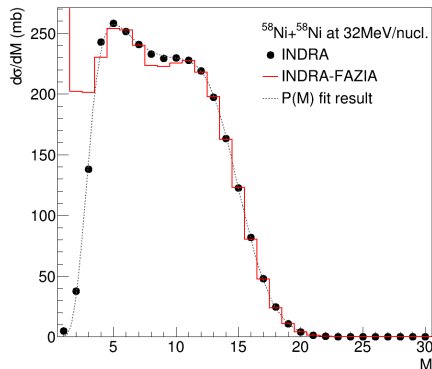
Extraction of σ_R

Absolute b distributions $\rightarrow$ set $P(b)$ parameters in a model independent way:

$$P(b) = \frac{2\pi b}{1 + \exp[(b - b_0)/\Delta b]}$$

$\Delta b \approx 0.4 \text{ fm}$ as verified in PRC 104, 034609 (2021)

b_0 by inverting $\sigma_R = -2\pi(\Delta b)^2 \text{Li}_2 \left[-\exp\left(\frac{b_0}{\Delta b}\right) \right]$



$\rightarrow$ important role of **intrinsic fluctuations**: relatively different M selections populate partly (or entirely) superimposed b intervals

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides

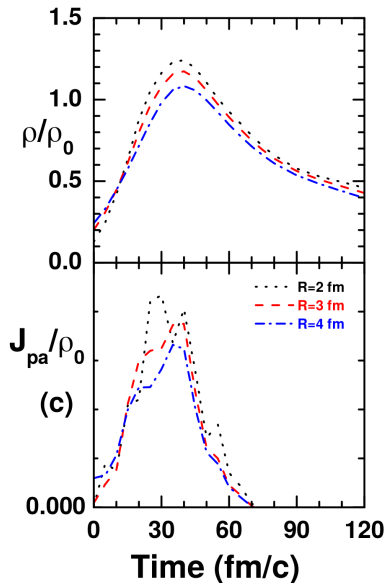
Sensitive density region

Radius of the examination sphere

The values of baryonic density and isospin current density depend on the radius of the spherical volume used for their evaluation.

- For $r > 3$ fm the sphere extends beyond the neck region (including empty areas), which reduces both the density and the current density
- For $r < 3$ fm, the finite number of test particles within the sphere introduces strong statistical fluctuations that affect the current evaluation

The radius equal to 3 fm has been chosen as the optimal value, balancing these competing effects.



Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

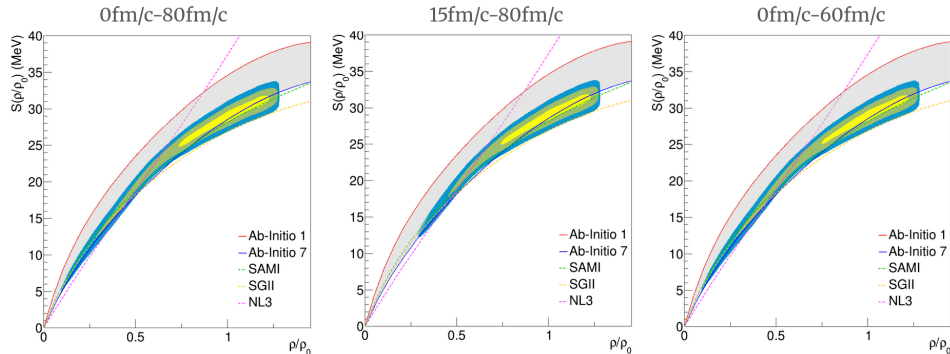
4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides

Constraint on the nuclear EoS

Weighted confidence regions - dependence on t intervals

The confidence regions slightly depend on the choice of b and t intervals for the weight function, but our observations are stable against these arbitrary choices.



e.g., varying the time interval for the weight function evaluation essentially changes the contribution from the low density tail.

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides

Physical information is obtained by comparing experimental results and transport model simulations *assuming the same conditions*.

Impact parameter: experimentally, it can be only deduced from observables such as multiplicities, transverse energies, flow angle...



All physics observables are affected by **intrinsic fluctuations** associated with the underlying processes.

Such fluctuations can limit the accuracy in treating centrality and bias the comparisons with simulated data.

L. Li et al., PRC 97,044606 (2018), G. Q. Zhang et al., PRC 84, 034612 (2011)

Different approaches for reaction centrality characterization:

- Sharp cutoff approximation C. Cavata et al., Phys. Rev. C 42, 1760 (1990)
- Machine learning algorithms trained on simulations
F. Li et al., PRC 104,034608 (2021), F. Haddad et al., PRC 55, 1371 (1997)
- **Model-independent** method to reconstruct impact parameter distributions → includes **fluctuations**
J. D. Frankland et al., PRC104, 034609 (2021), R. Rogly et al., PRC98, 024902 (2018)

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data
- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model
- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides

Given a centrality observable X , its inclusive distribution $P(X)$ can be expressed as:

$$P(X) = \int_0^\infty P(X, b) db = \int_0^\infty P(b) P(X|b) db = \int_0^1 P(X|c_b) dc_b$$

where a change of variables is applied, introducing the centrality $c_b \equiv \int_0^b P(b') db'$ and exploiting that $P(c_b) = 1$.

Key step: model the $P(X|c_b)$ and extract its parameters by fitting the experimental $P(X)$. X assumes positive values $\rightarrow$ non-negative gamma distribution as fluctuation kernel:

$$P(X|c_b) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)\theta^k} X^{k-1} e^{-X/\theta} \quad \text{where } \bar{X} = k\theta \text{ and } \sigma_X = \sqrt{k}\theta$$

where k and θ generally evolve with centrality. For them we assume:

- $k(c_b) = k_{\max}[1 - c_b^\alpha]^\gamma + k_{\min}$, where $\alpha, \gamma, k_{\min}$ and $k_{\max}$ are parameters of the fit
- θ independent of centrality (problem is underconstrained) $\rightarrow \theta$ is a fit parameter

Once the $P(X|c_b)$ is determined, one obtains:

$$P(c_b|x_1 \leq X \leq x_2) = \frac{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} P(c_b, X) dX}{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} P(X) dX} = \frac{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} P(X|c_b) dX}{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} P(X) dX}$$

and by changing back the variable: $P(b|x_1 \leq X \leq x_2) = P(b) P(c_b(b)|x_1 \leq X \leq x_2)$

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Experimental data

- Reaction centrality
- Isospin analysis

3. Comparison with transport model

- BUU@VECC-McGill simulations
- Comparison protocol
- Sensitive density region

4. NEoS constraint and conclusions

5. Backup slides