## Observables for the High-Density Symmetry Energy from Heavy Ion Collisions

Hermann Wolter Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (LMU)

HIM-Meeting, Pohang, Korea, APRIL 13, 2012





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#### Munich at Eastern 2012

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#### Points to discuss

- I. Motivation: The nuclear Symmetry Energy: density (and momentum) dependence, uncertainties from many-body theory, importance, astrophysics
- II. Study of Symmetry Energy in heavy ion collisions, choice of asymmetry and density regime. non-equilibrium: transport theory

III. Discussion of observables in the regime  $\rho \ge \rho_0$ possible obervables correlation and consistency between observables sparse data: projects like KORIA important

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#### The Nuclear Symmetry Energy in different "realistic" models

The EOS of symmetric and pure neutron matter in different manybody approaches

20

0

(A) -20 (K) (WeA) -40

-60

C. Fuchs, H.H. Wolter, EPJA 30(2006)5,(WCI book)



Why is symmetry energy so uncertain?? ->In-medium  $\rho$  mass, and short range tensor correlations (B.A. Li, PRC81 (2010)); -> effective mass scaling (Dong, Kuo, Machleidt, arxiv 1101.1910)

## Importance of Nuclear Symmetry Energy



## Importance of Nuclear Symmetry Energy



#### **Astrophysics: Supernovae and neutron stars**





- 1) Approximation to a much more complicated non-equilibrium quantum transport equation (Kadanoff-Baym) by neglecting finite width of particles
- 2) Coupled transport eqs. for neutrons and protons
- 3) Isovector effects are small relative to isoscalar quantities
- 4) Relativistic transport equations: Walecka-type (RMF) models
- 5) Inelastic collisions (particle production; mesons  $\pi$ ,K)

# Investigation of the Symmetry Energy in Different Density Ranges

 ρ<<ρ₀: expanding fireball in Fermi-energy heavy ion collisions. cluster correlations at low density and temperature → talk by C. Horowitz and my talk on monday

- 2. ρ<ρ₀: Isospin transport in Fermi energy central and peripheral collisions, (multi-)fragmentation,</li>
   → see talks by Betty Tsang
- 3. ρ~ρ₀: structure and low energy excitations of (asymmetric) nuclei: skin thickness, Pygmy resonances, IAS,
   →talk by Betty
- 4. ρ>ρ₀: Intermediate energy heavy ion collisions: light cluster emission, flow and particle production,
   → more here
- 5.  $\rho >> \rho_0$ : Ultrarelativistic HI collisions, dependence of mixed and deconfinement phase on asymmetry?  $\rightarrow$  not here, e..g. DiToro, et al.,



#### Sketch of reaction mechanism at intermediate energies and observables



Reaction mechanism can be tested with several observables: Consistency required!

## Ratios of emitted pre-equilibrium particles



B.Tsang, et al., PRL102, 122701 (09)

# Check density and momentum dependence of symmetry energy in detail: <sup>136,124</sup>Xe+<sup>124,112</sup>Sn, E = 32,...,150 AMeV data R. Bougault (Ganil, IWM11)











The single t/3He ratios seem to be a promissing observable, double ratios under study

## **"Flow", Momentum distribution of emitted particles**



## First measurement of isospin flow

Au+Au @ 400 AMeV, FOPI-LAND (Russotto, et al., PLB 697, 471 (11))



directed flow (v1) not very sensitive,

but elliptic flow (v2), originates in compressed zone

determines a rather stiff symmetry energy (γ~1)



Each band: soft vs. stiff eos of symmetric matter, (Cozma, arXiv 1102.2728) → robust probe

new ASYEOS experiment at GSI May 2011, being analyzed

# Particle production as probe of symmetry energy

Difference in neutron and proton potentials

- 1. "direct effects": difference in proton and neutron (or light cluster) emission and momentum distribution
- 2. "secondary effects": production of particles, isospin partners  $\pi^{-,+}$ , K<sup>0,+</sup>



#### Two limits:

1. isobar model (yield determined by CG-Coeff of  $\Delta$ ->N $\pi$ 

$$\pi^{-}/\pi^{+} = rac{5N^{2} + NZ}{5Z^{2} + NZ} \approx \left(rac{N}{Z}
ight)^{2}$$

um 
$$\pi^{-}/\pi^{+} \propto \exp \frac{2(\mu_{n}-\mu_{p})}{T} = \exp \frac{8\delta E_{sym}(\rho)}{T}$$

2. chemical equilibrium

->  $\pi$ -/ $\pi$ + hould be a good probe!





## Particle production as probe of symmetry energy

**Two effects:** 

**1. Mean field effect:** U<sub>sym</sub> more repulsive for neutrons, and more for asystiff

 $\rightarrow$  pre-equilibrium emission of neutron, reduction of asymmetry of residue

2. Threshold effect, in medium effective masses:

Canonical momenta have to be conserved. To convert to kinetic momenta, the self energies enter

In inelastic collisions, like nn->p $\Delta^-$ , the selfenergies may change. Simple assumtion about self energies of  $\Delta_-$ .

Yield of pions depends on  $\sigma = \sigma_{inel}(\mathbf{S}_{in} - \mathbf{S}_{th})$ 

**Detailed analysis gives** 

$$\frac{\boldsymbol{n}}{\boldsymbol{\rho}} \downarrow \Rightarrow \frac{\boldsymbol{Y}(\varDelta^{o,-})}{\boldsymbol{Y}(\varDelta^{\circ,++})} \downarrow \Rightarrow \frac{\pi^{-}}{\pi^{+}} \downarrow$$

decrease with asy – stiffness

$$\Sigma_i(\Delta^-) = \Sigma_i(n),$$
  

$$\Sigma_i(\Delta^0) = \frac{2}{3}\Sigma_i(n) + \frac{1}{3}\Sigma_i(p),$$
  

$$\Sigma_i(\Delta^+) = \frac{1}{3}\Sigma_i(n) + \frac{2}{3}\Sigma_i(p),$$
  

$$\Sigma_i(\Delta^{++}) = \Sigma_i(p),$$

 $rac{\pi}{\pi^+}$   $\uparrow$  increase with asy – stiffness

Competing effects! Not clear, whether taken into account in all works. Assumptions may also be too simple.

G.Ferini et al., PRL 97 (2006) 202301

# **Dynamics of particle production** ( $\Delta,\pi,K$ ) in heavy ion collisions



## Pion ratios in comparison to FOPI data (W.Reisdorf et al. NPA781 (2007) 459)



## Other pion observables, or kaons



## Present constraints on the symmetry energy



Moving towards a better determination of the symmetry energy

Large uncertainties at higher density

Conflicting theoretical conclusions for pion observables.

Work in exp. and theory necessary!

## **Summary and Outlook:**

•While the EOS of symmetric NM is now fairly well determined, the density (and momentum) dependence of the Symmetry Energy is still rather uncertain, but important for exotic nuclei, neutron stars and supernovae.

• Different probes for the Symmetry Energy in heavy ion collisions with transport theory at different energy (density) ranges

• Explore the sensitivity of observables to the ingredients (asy-EOS, momentum dependence of SymEn, medium, esp. isospin dependence of cross sections.

Consistent description of many observables mandatory, also from structure and astrophysics

• High density region particularly open. Experimental constraints very important.

#### Thank you!