## nuclear physics experiments

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The Future of Neutron Rich Matter: from Neutron Skins to Neutron Stars October 13-15, 2022 ACFI

#### multi-messenger physics



A.W. Steiner et al., Physics Reports, 411 (2005) 325

#### multi-messenger physics



A.W. Steiner et al., Physics Reports, 411 (2005) 325

# Equation Of State $E(\rho, \delta) = E(\rho, 0) + E_{sym}(\rho) \, \delta^2 + \mathcal{O}(\delta)^4$ with $\delta = \frac{\rho_n - \rho_p}{\rho}$ symmetry energy



#### **Equation Of State**

$$E(\rho, \delta) = E(\rho, 0) + E_{sym}(\rho) \,\delta^2 + \mathcal{O}(\delta)^4$$
  
with  $\delta = \frac{\rho_n - \rho_p}{\rho}$   
symmetry energy  
$$E_{sym}(\rho) = \left[S_v + \frac{L}{3}\left(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{\rho_0}\right) + \frac{K_{sym}}{18}\left(\frac{\rho - \rho_0}{\rho_0}\right)^2\right] + \dots$$

slope parameter

$$L = 3\rho_0 \frac{\partial E_{sym}\left(\rho\right)}{\partial \rho} \bigg|_{\rho_0}$$

curvature parameter

$$K_{sym} = 9\rho_0^2 \frac{\partial^2 E_{sym}\left(\rho\right)}{\partial \rho^2} \bigg|_{\rho_0}$$



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J. Piekarewicz, F.J. Fattoyev, Physics Today 72, 7, 30 (2019)



pressure forces neutrons out against surface tension





6/26

E1 MILLION



from measurable observables to neutron skin 6/26

#### from observables to neutron skin







#### from observables to neutron skin







What is actually measured?

How is the measured observable connected to the neutron skin? What are the assumptions implicit in making this connection? How sensitive is the extraction of the neutron skin to these assumptions?



(in unit of frustration)

Theo. uncertainties (a.u)

#### from observables to neutron skin



(in unit of frustration)





Neutron Skins of Nuclei

... documenting the relative merits of each experimental approach and to provide a realistic estimate of systematic errors, including theoretical uncertainties associated with the extraction of the neutron skin from the measured experimental observable.

MT, C. Sfienti, J. Piekarewicz, C. Horowitz, M. Vanderhaeghen, J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 46 (2019) 093003

neutron skin

#### What is actually measured?

How is the measured observable connected to the neutron skin? What are the assumptions implicit in making this connection? How sensitive is the extraction of the neutron skin to these assumptions?







••

 $\begin{aligned} R_{skin}^{208} &= 0.211_{-0.063}^{+0.054} fm \\ \text{J. Zenihiro et al.,} \\ \text{PRC 82 (2010) 044611} \quad 8/26 \end{aligned}$ 





R<sub>skin</sub> depends strongly on energy!



 $\begin{aligned} R_{skin}^{208} &= 0.211_{-0.063}^{+0.054} fm \\ \text{J. Zenihiro et al.,} \\ \text{PRC 82 (2010) 044611} \quad \frac{8}{26} \end{aligned}$ 





## incomplete knowledge of the nucleon-nucleon (NN) scattering amplitude inside the nuclear medium!



J. Zenihiro et al., PRC 82 (2010) 044611 9/26



L. Ray, G.W. Hoffmann, PRC 31 (1985) 538 D.P. Murdock, C.J. Horowitz, PRC 35 (1987) 1442 V.E. Starodubsky, N.M. Hintz, PRC 49 (1994) 2118 S. Terashima et al., PRC 77 (2008) 024317 J. Zenihiro et al., arXiv 1810.1179 (2018)





incomplete knowledge of the nucleon-nucleon (NN) scattering amplitude inside the nuclear medium!

#### reduce uncertainties associated with the reaction mechanism!

TO DO:

theory: choose the best energy range

pion production should be suppressed

Impulse Approximation is valid

#### experiment: measurements in that energy range



L. Ray, G.W. Hoffmann, PRC 31 (1985) 538 D.P. Murdock, C.J. Horowitz, PRC 35 (1987) 1442 V.E. Starodubsky, N.M. Hintz, PRC 49 (1994) 2118 S. Terashima et al., PRC 77 (2008) 024317 J. Zenihiro et al., arXiv 1810.1179 (2018)



J. Zenihiro et al., PRC 82 (2010) 044611 9/26





initial state interaction (ISI) and final state interaction (FSI)
 Optical Potential



NO initial state interaction
theoretical interpretation?







Crystal Ball + TAPS detector @ MAMI





Featured in Physics

Editors' Suggestion

#### Neutron Skin of $^{208}\mathrm{Pb}$ from Coherent Pion Photoproduction

C. M. Tarbert *et al.* (Crystal Ball at MAMI and A2 Collaboration) Phys. Rev. Lett. **112**, 242502 – Published 18 June 2014

Physics See Synopsis: Neutron Skin Turns Out to Be Soft

```
R_{skin}^{208} = 0.15 \pm 0.03(stat.)_{-0.03}^{+0.01}(sys.)fm
```





D. Drechsel et al., Nucl. Phys. A 660 (1999) 423 B. Krusche et al., Phys. Lett. B 526 (2002) 287 D. Drechsel et al., EPJA 34 (2007) 69 G.A. Miller, PRC 100 (2019) 044608 13/26





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```

## is this small systematic uncertainty realistic?





D. Drechsel et al., Nucl. Phys. A 660 (1999) 423 B. Krusche et al., Phys. Lett. B 526 (2002) 287 D. Drechsel et al., EPJA 34 (2007) 69 G.A. Miller, PRC 100 (2019) 044608 13/26





F. Colomer

#### Theoretical analysis of the extraction of neutron skin thickness from coherent $\pi^0$ photoproduction off nuclei

F. Colomer,<sup>1,2</sup> P. Capel,<sup>2,1,\*</sup> M. Ferretti,<sup>2</sup> J. Piekarewicz,<sup>3,†</sup> C. Sfienti,<sup>2,‡</sup> M. Thiel,<sup>2,§</sup> V. Tsaran,<sup>2</sup> and M. Vanderhaeghen<sup>2,¶</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Physique Nucléaire et Physique Quantique, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), B-1050 Brussels <sup>2</sup>Institut für Kernphysik, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, 55099 Mainz, Germany <sup>3</sup>Department of Physics, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306, USA

#### arXiv: 2204.13395v2 (accepted for publication in PRC)

# $(E_{\gamma}, \vec{k}_{\gamma})$ $(E_{N}, \vec{p})$ $(E_{N}, \vec{p})$ $(E_{N}, \vec{p}')$ $(E_{A}, -\vec{k}_{\gamma})$ $(E_{A}, -\vec{k}_{\pi})$ $(E_{A}, -\vec{k}_{\pi})$

Plane Wave: no FSI of the pion with the nucleus

Impulse Approximation:  $\pi^0$  production on one single nucleon

#### 14/26





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Plane Wave: no FSI of the pion with the nucleus

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coherent sum on each nucleon:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}(PWIA) \propto \left| f_2\left( \vec{k}_{\pi}, \vec{k}_{\gamma} \right) \rho_A(q) \right|^2$$



- ρ<sub>A</sub>: nucleus density
- should give access to nuclear density, **BUT**...





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... after its production, the  $\pi^0$  undergoes  $\pi$ -A scattering





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Distorted Wave Impulse Approximation

$$F_{\gamma\pi}\left(\vec{k}_{\pi},\vec{k}_{\gamma}\right) = V_{\gamma\pi}\left(\vec{k}_{\pi},\vec{k}_{\gamma}\right) + \frac{A-1}{A}\int \frac{d\vec{k'}_{\pi}}{2\mathcal{M}(k'_{\pi})} \frac{T_{\pi A}\left(\vec{k}_{\pi},\vec{k'}_{\pi}\right)V_{\gamma\pi}\left(\vec{k'}_{\pi},\vec{k}_{\gamma}\right)}{E(k_{\pi}) - E(k'_{\pi}) + i\epsilon}$$

 $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}(\text{DWIA}) \propto \left|F_{\gamma\pi}\right|^2 \text{ loses its proportionality to }\rho(q)!$ 15/26



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A,  $\overline{\mathbf{q}}$ 

 $\pi^{\mathsf{C}}$ 



★ NOT sensitive to R<sub>skin</sub>!





proton inelastic scattering measurements at very forward angles:

measure cross section and determine the electric dipole E1 response



A. Tamii et al., PRL 107 (2011) 062502



proton inelastic scattering measurements at very forward angles:

measure cross section and determine the electric dipole E1 response



A. Tamii et al., PRL 107 (2011) 062502

$$\alpha_{\rm D} = \frac{8\pi}{9} \int \frac{B(E_1, E_{\rm X})}{E_{\rm X}} dE_{\rm X} = \frac{\hbar c}{2\pi^2} \int \frac{\sigma_{abs}(E_{\rm X})}{E_{\rm X}^2} dE_{\rm X}$$







A. Tamii et al., PRL 107 (2011) 062502



X. Roca-Maza et al., PRC 88 (2013) 024316



A. Klimkiewicz et al., PRC 76 (2007) 051603(R)
A. Carbone et al., PRC 81 (2010) 041301(R)
T. Hashimoto et al., PRC 92 (2015) 031305
J. Birkhan et al., PRL 118 (2017) 252501







A. Tamii et al., PRL 107 (2011) 062502



X. Roca-Maza et al., PRC 88 (2013) 024316





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Friday: Jorge Piekarewicz



A. Klimkiewicz et al., PRC 76 (2007) 051603(R)
A. Carbone et al., PRC 81 (2010) 041301(R)
T. Hashimoto et al., PRC 92 (2015) 031305
J. Birkhan et al., PRL 118 (2017) 252501



experiment: high quality data on a variety of nuclei theory: enormous steady progress

model dependent

## Parity-Violating Electron Scattering (PVES)





PREX setup



side view spectrometer







	•••	•••
electric charge	1	0
weak charge	≈0.07	-1









$$\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{PV}} = \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{R}} - \boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{L}}}{\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{R}} + \boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{L}}}$$

$$A_{PV} = \frac{G_F Q^2}{2\pi\alpha\sqrt{2}} \left[ 1 - 4\sin^2(\theta_w) - \frac{F_w(Q^2)}{F_{ch}(Q^2)} \right]$$







0 ≈0.07 -1





 $e^{-}$ 

	•••	•••
electric charge	1	0
weak charge	≈0.07	-1



### **PVES: extraction of neutron skin**



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C.J. Horowitz, PRC 57 (1998) 3430

1

S. Abrahamyan et al., PRL 108 (2012) 112502

C.J. Horowitz et al., PRC 85 (2012) 032501(R)

D. Adhikari et al., PRL 129 (2022) 042501



## **PVES: extraction of neutron skin**







D. Adhikari et al., PRL 126 (2021) 172502

#### $A_{PV} = 550 \pm 16 \text{ (stat)} \pm 8 \text{ (sys) ppb}$ $R_{skin} = 0.278 \pm 0.078 \text{ fm}$



C.J. Horowitz, PRC 57 (1998) 3430 S. Abrahamyan et al., PRL 108 (2012) 112502 C.J. Horowitz et al., PRC 85 (2012) 032501(R) D. Adhikari et al., PRL 129 (2022) 042501 23/26

## **PVES: extraction of neutron skin**







least model dependent method to determine R<sub>skin</sub>

long, challenging experiments



## future PVES experiment: MREX @MESA

(Mainz Radius Experiment)



## future PVES experiment: MREX @MESA

(Mainz Radius Experiment)





±0.03 fm determination of <sup>208</sup>Pb-R<sub>skin</sub> (C) 60 days)



Friday: Kent Paschke beam energy: 155 MeV current: 150µA target <sup>208</sup>Pb 0.56 g/cm<sup>2</sup>

A<sub>PV</sub>: 0.66 ppm polarization: 85%

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## backup







