Flour outer space to deep inside: exploring neutron skins of nuclei



New Vistas in Low-Energy Precision Physics (LEPP)

4-7 April 2016 Kupferbergterrasse Mainz



IS

### **Neutron Skin for beginner**

#### Nuclear charge radii



#### Where do the neutrons go?

## **Neutron Skin for beginner**

#### Where do the neutrons go?



#### Pressure forces neutrons out against surface tension



ETTINA**SFIENTI** 



$$E\left(\rho,\delta\right) = E\left(\rho,0\right) + E_{sym}\left(\rho\right)\delta^{2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\delta\right)^{4}$$
$$E_{sym}(\rho) = \left[S_{v} + \frac{L}{3}\left(\frac{\rho - \rho_{0}}{\rho_{0}}\right) + \frac{K_{sym}}{18}\left(\frac{\rho - \rho_{0}}{\rho_{0}}\right)^{2}\right] + \dots$$



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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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## ... from deep inside to outer space ...

#### <u>Neutron skins</u> constrain the EOS<sub>[@low p]</sub>

**ONCETTINASFIENTI** 



Pressure @ low ρ ----> Crust thickness

## The answer to the ultimate question



CONCETTINASFIENTI

## The answer to the ultimate question



# WHY?

#### ....do we produce these plots in the first place?!?!















## FROM MEASURABLE OBSERVABLES TO THE NEUTRON SKIN

All observables are equal, but some observables are more equal than others ... Pedigree!







How is the measured observable connected to the neutron skin?

What are the assumptions implicit in making this connection? Impulse approximation, off-shell ambiguities, distortion effects, ...

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What is actually measured? Cross section, asymmetry, spin observables, ...

- How sensitive is the extraction of the neutron radius/skin to these assumptions?
- Quantitative assessment of both statistical and systematic errors

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Neutron Skins of Nuclei: from laboratory to stars C. Horowitz, J. Piekarewicz, CS, MVdH

#### **Theory informing experiment**



Quantitative assessment of both statistical and systematic errors; theory must provide error bars!

Uncertainty quantification and covariance analysis (theoretical errors & correlations)

#### Is there a need for more than one Q-square point?

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Radius and diffuseness ... the whole form factor?



- Precision required in the determination of the neutron radius/skin?
- As precisely as "humanly possible" fundamental nuclear structure property
- To strongly impact Astrophysics?
- What astrophysical observables to benchmark?
  - Is there a need for a systematic study over "many" nuclei? PREX, CREX, SREX, ZREX, ...

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#### Neutron Skins of Nuclei: from laboratory to stars C. Horowitz, J. Piekarewicz, CS, MVdH

# Neutron Skin@Mainz

**MESA:** Parity Violation















#### Full azimuthal coverage⇔4xstat









Full azimuthal coverage⇔**4xstat** 

Assuming same PREX luminosity:  $\Delta \theta = 4^{\circ}$ : Rate=8.25 GHz, A<sub>PV</sub>=0.66 ppm **1440h**  $\rightarrow \delta R_n/R_n = 0.5\%$ (assuming 1% syst.  $\delta A_{PV}/A_{PV}$ )



#### 1<sup>st</sup> possibility: <sup>208</sup>Pb









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2<sup>nd</sup> possibility: <sup>48</sup>Ca











#### Neutron Skins of Nuclei

17-27 May 2016 Mainz Institute for Theoretical Physics, Johannes Gutenberg University Europe/Berlin timezone



#### Is there a need for a systematic study over "many" nuclei? PREX, CREX, SREX, ZREX, ...

M. Centelles, et al Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 122502 (2009)





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IF (YES) {
IF (MONEY==∞ && TIME ==∞) {
 (PVES)
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#### **Neutron skin extraction:**

- ⇒ Nuclear structure away from stability
- ⇒ Experiment informing theory



# Neutron Skin@Mainz

#### **MAGIX: Internal Target**



# Neutron Skin@Mainz

#### **MAGIX: Internal Target**





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The Good...





From outer space to deep inside: exploring neutron skins of nuclei



The Good...





#### The Bad...





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The Good...









# AND THE UGLY



