# **Overview of Nuclear Physics** Program **@MAMI and** MESA





### **The MAMI Legacy**



CONCETTINASFIENTI

### **The Wheelers**



### The Mainz Energy Superconducting Accelerator







### The Mainz Energy Superconducting Accelerator



### **The MESA Wheelers**



#### **The MESA Wheelers**

Solenoid

Spectrometer

Integrating

and tracking

detectors

Polarimetry

(<0.5%)

### THEY CALLED IT P2 ...

### The physics cases



### Low energy nuclear physics

High luminosity + high resolution + polarized beam and target



### The physics cases



### Low energy nuclear physics

High luminosity + high resolution + polarized beam and target



High luminosity + high resolution



High luminosity + polarized beam



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### "The Search for the Nuclear Symmetry Energy" (Theory-Vision)

$$E(\rho, \delta) = E(\rho, 0) + E_{sym}(\rho) \delta^{2} + \mathcal{O}(\delta)^{4}$$

$$E(\rho, \delta) = \left[ \sum_{k=1}^{L} \left( \rho - \rho_{0} \right) + K_{sym}(\rho - \rho_{0})^{2} \right]$$

$$E_{sym}(\rho) = \left[S_v + \frac{L}{3}\left(\frac{p - \rho_0}{\rho_0}\right) + \frac{\pi_{sym}}{18}\left(\frac{p - \rho_0}{\rho_0}\right)\right] + \dots$$



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slope parameter

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

curvature parameter

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

 $\left( \begin{array}{c} \hline \rho_0 \end{array} \right)^+ 18 \left( \begin{array}{c} \rho_0 \end{array} \right)$ 

# ...the (blind!?) search for the Nuclear Symmetry Energy

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ONCETTINA SFIENTI





### 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

Mainz Institute for

Neutron Skins of Nuclei: from laboratory to stars C. Horowitz, J. Piekarewicz, CS (to appear JPG)











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### .... could not lead to Rome...

**Coherent π<sup>0</sup> photoproduction: easy and quick** (A2 Coll. Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 242502)



### ... shine light on the nucleus!

$$\begin{array}{c} \gamma + A_{(g.s.)} \to \pi^0 + A_{(g.s.)} \\ & \hookrightarrow \gamma \gamma \end{array}$$



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Photon probe interaction well understood: No ISI  $\pi^0$  meson produced with  $\approx$  probability on **p AND n TO DO: Reconstruct**  $\pi^0$  from  $\pi^0 \rightarrow 2\gamma$  decay



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$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}(\text{PWIA}) \propto \sin^2\left(\theta_{\pi}^*\right) A^2 F^2\left(q\right)$$



#### P. Capel, <u>F. Colomer, S. Tsaran</u>, M. Vanderhagen





- Working code for PWIA amplitudes for photoproduction  $V_{\pi\gamma}^{(\lambda)}(\mathbf{k}_{\pi},\mathbf{k}_{\gamma})$
- Working code for scattering matrix  $F_{\pi A}$  of  $\pi^0$ 
  - Resolution of the Lippmann-Schwinger equation
  - Singularity of Coulomb solved : better constrains on  $U^{\mathrm{Nucl}}(k',k)$
- $\hfill\square$  DWIA amplitudes calculation
  - Off-shell photoproduction amplitudes  $V^{(\lambda)}_{\pi\gamma}({f k}'_\pi,{f k}_\gamma)$
- $\hfill\square$  Devise a better form for  $U^{\rm Nucl}(k',k)$ 
  - + Treatment of Resonances,
  - + Use Effective Potentials (J. Piekarewicz)
  - + Sensitivity of  $\sigma_{\text{coherent}}$  to neutron density
  - + Benchmark theory with A/Z and Z variation

#### ...it is a long way till Rome ... #MakeHumansSmartAgain



#### The shortest of the roads ...



### The shortest of the roads ..



PHYSICAL REVIEW C88, 034325 (2013)





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 $\Delta \theta$ =4° : expected rate = 8.25 GHz, A<sub>PV</sub> = 0.66 ppm, P = 85%, Q ≈ 86 MeV

1440h →  $\delta R_n/R_n = 0.52\%$  (<sup>208</sup>Pb @ 155 MeV)

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Beam normal (single-spin) asymmetry

- Count rate asymmetry in elastic e-scattering for transverse polarisation (normal to scattering plane)
- No PV effects BUT:
- > Helicity-correlated background contribution in PV experiments caused by transversal polarisation component
- > Necessary to measure for all targets used in PV experiment



Beam normal (single-spin) asymmetry

- Count rate asymmetry in elastic e-scattering for transverse polarisation (normal to scattering plane)
- No PV effects BUT:
- Interference term between one- and multi-photon exchange

➤ First phase: MAMI





Beam normal (single-spin) asymmetry

• Elastic peak is well-separated in precision spectrometers





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 Raw data is uncorrelated between left/right spectrometers: highly stabilised beam!







Beam normal (single-spin) asymmetry

• Elastic peak is well-separated in precision spectrometers

- Raw data is uncorrelated between left/right spectrometers: highly stabilised beam!
  - Systematic study on <sup>12</sup>C: future studies on other targets
- Improving theoryLowest Q@MAGIX



 $Q^2$  [GeV<sup>2</sup>/c<sup>2</sup>]



### **Extension to Nuclear Astrophysics**



Astrophysical S-Factor of  ${}^{12}C(\alpha, \gamma){}^{16}O$ 



- 1. Timereversal  $\gamma + {}^{16}O \rightarrow {}^{12}C + \alpha$
- 2. Covering the Threshold: Electroproduction in limit  $Q^2 \to 0$  $e^{+16}O \to e'^{+12}C + \alpha \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \gamma^* + {}^{16}O \to {}^{12}C + \alpha$

Electron has large momentum, but virtual photon energy goes to zero!

3. Detection of slow recoil  $\alpha \Rightarrow$  gas target, recoil detector



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 $^{12}C$ 

Electron has large momentum, but virtual photon energy goes to zero!

- 3. Detection of slow recoil  $\alpha \Rightarrow$  gas target, recoil detector
  - $\sigma(E_0) \sim 10^{-17}$  barn
  - Time reversed reaction:

 $\sigma(E_0) \sim 10^{-15}$ barn

 Simulations ongoing
 Commissioning of method for higher E<sub>cm</sub> @ MAMI





Cluster of Excellence Pression Physics. Pundamental Interactions and Structure of Marter PRISMA

JGU

"Wen Gott strafen will, dem erfüllt er seine Wünsche"

#### **Concettina Sfienti**



#### 56th International Winter Meeting on Nuclear Physics

22-26 January 2018 Bormio, Italy

General Information NEWS 2018 Edition! Proceedings Registration -**Previous Conferences** Home Enter keywords... PRE-CONFERENCE SCHOOL Long-standing conference bringing together researchers and students from various fields of subatomic physics. The conference location is Bormio, a beautiful mountain resort in the Italian Alps. DEADLINES October 29: Student's fellowship application October 29: Registration and abstract submission December 1 : Notification of abstract acceptance and accommodation



