# CREX and PREX: Insights from a combined theoretical/experimental approach

Heaven and Earth INT workshop 7/12/2022



- Motivation -> meaningful link between nuclei and neutron stars
- •Green's functions/propagator method
  - vehicle for ab initio calculations --> matter & finite nuclei
  - -> Illustrate importance of NN tensor force --> asymmetric matter
  - •as a framework to link data at positive and negative energy (and to generate predictions for exotic nuclei as well as neutron skins)
  - -> Dispersive optical model (DOM <- started by Claude Mahaux)
- Neutron skin in <sup>48</sup>Ca and <sup>208</sup>Pb -> PREX II, CREX
- Ground-state energy and EOS -> saturation properties
- Conclusion and outlook

## Example momentum distribution SCGF asymmetric matter

Asymmetry dependence



- Incorporates/represents np dominance <--> influence of tensor force
- So more correlations for minority species
- S-wave pairing at low density well constrained; P-wave pairing less so at high density PNM
- EOS available as a function of T and asymmetry (and several  $V_{NN} + V_{NNN}$ )

Neutron skins and EOS

Dispersive Optical Model (St. Louis group)

- Mahaux & Sartor 1991 —> Washington University group since 2006
- Use experimental data to constrain the nucleon self-energy while linking structure and reaction domain using dispersion relations







E<0 ->

Indirectly:

Predict neutron distribution —> skin

M. C. Atkinson, M. H. Mahzoon, M. A. Keim, B. A. Bordelon, C. D. Pruitt, R. J. Charity, and W. H. Dickhoff Phys. Rev. C 101, 044303 (2020), 1-15. [arXiv:1911.09020]



DOM

## Neutron skins in <sup>48</sup>Ca and <sup>208</sup>Pb from DOM predictions

• DOM 2017



M. H. Mahzoon, M. C. Atkinson, R. J. Charity, and W. H. Dickhoff Phys. Rev. Lett. **119**, 222503 (2017), 1-5.

• DOM 2020



M. C. Atkinson, M. H. Mahzoon, M. A. Keim, B. A. Bordelon, C. D. Pruitt, R. J. Charity, and W. H. Dickhoff Phys. Rev. C 101,044303 (2020), 1-15.

#### MCMC and standard DOM prediction of neutron skins



TABLE I. Neutron skins ( $\Delta r_{np}$ ), in fm, from this work. The 16th, 50th, and 84th percentile values of the skin distribution are reported as  $50_{16}^{84}$ .

<sup>16</sup> O	<sup>18</sup> O	<sup>40</sup> Ca	<sup>48</sup> Ca	<sup>58</sup> Ni	<sup>64</sup> Ni	<sup>112</sup> Sn	<sup>124</sup> Sn	<sup>208</sup> Pb
$-0.025^{-0.023}_{-0.027}$	$0.06_{0.02}^{0.11}$	$-0.051^{-0.048}_{-0.055}$	$0.22_{0.19}^{0.24}$	$-0.03^{-0.02}_{-0.05}$	$-0.01^{0.03}_{-0.04}$	$0.05_{0.02}^{0.08}$	$0.17_{0.12}^{0.23}$	$0.18_{0.12}^{0.25}$

C. D. Pruitt, R. J. Charity, L. G. Sobotka, M. C. Atkinson, and W. H. Dickhoff Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 102501 (2020), 1-6.

DOM

## **CREX** surprise

Precision Determination of the Neutral Weak Form Factor of <sup>48</sup>Ca

(The CREX Collaboration)



• But...

DOM

#### Binding at saturation of symmetric matter

• Maybe 16 MeV binding is not needed!





Neutron skins and EOS

# Conclusions

- Ab initio Green's function method at finite T -> asymmetric matter <-> tensor force
- Asymmetric matter: Minority species more correlated quantitatively determined by tensor force
- Pairing gaps relevant for cooling scenarios
- Empirical Green's function method —> DOM
- DOM describes lots of data and can predict hard to access experimental data —> neutron skin
- DOM suggests that some reexamining of nuclear saturation properties might be in order: 16 MeV at saturation may be too large
- DOM should be extended to describe response functions simultaneously

Neutron skins and EOS