



## PROBING NEUTRON-STAR MATTER IN THE LABORATORY

Tetyana Galatyuk TU Darmstadt GSI HADES Collaboration Meeting, mini-symposium 19-23 September 2022, Coimbra



### Searching for landmarks of the QCD matter phase diagram



Borsanyi *et al.* [Wuppertal-Budapest Collab.], JHEP 1009 (2010) 073 Isserstedt, Buballa, Fischer, Gunkel, PRD 100 (2019) 074011 Gao, Pawlowski, PLB 820 (2021) 136584 Cuteri, Philipsen, Sciarra, JHEP 11 (2021) 141 McLerran, Pisarski, NPA 796 (2007) 83 Glozman, Philipsen, Pisarski, arXiv:2204.05083 [hep-ph]

- Vanishing  $\mu_B$ , high *T* (lattice QCD):
  - crossover from hadronic to partonic medium
    - $T_{pc} = 156.5 \pm 1.5$  MeV (physical quark masses)  $T_c = 132^{+3}_{-6}$  MeV (at chiral limit)
  - no critical point indicated by lattice QCD at  $\mu_B^{CEP}/T_c < 3$

Bazavov *et al.* [HotQCD], PLB 795 (2019) 15-21 Ding *et al.*, [HotQCD], PRL 123 (2019) 6, 062002 Dini *et al.*, Phys.Rev.D 105 (2022) 3, 034510

- Large  $\mu_B$ , moderate *T* (IQCD inspired effective theories):
  - limits of hadronic existence?
  - 1<sup>st</sup> order transition?
  - QCD critical point?
  - equation-of-state of dense matter?

Worldwide experimental and theory efforts Relevance for astrophysics



Friman *et al.*, Lect. Notes Phys. 814 (2011) 1



### Accessible through heavy-ion collisions at relativistic energies

*time* ~  $10^{-23}$  s





### Accessible through heavy-ion collisions at relativistic energies





Energies  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \cong 2 * m_N \, GeV$ nuclear stopping NS merger matter in the laboratory





### Multi-messenger signals from neutron star merger



• GW170817 17 Aug 2017 12:41:04 UTC First detection of a binary neutron start merger through gravitational waves

LIGO + VIRGO, PRL 119 (2017) 1611001

 GRB 170817A ~1,7 s later: Observation of the same event through electromagnetic waves (gamma-ray burst)



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### Laboratory studies of the matter properties in compact stellar objects





### Laboratory studies of the matter properties in compact stellar objects



### Searching for landmarks of the QCD matter phase diagram



HADES, Nature Phys. 15 (2019) 10, 1040-1045 NA60, Specht *et al.*, AIP Conf.Proc. (2010) 1322 Andronic *et al.*, Nature 561 (2018) no.7723 • Experimental challenge:

- locate the onset of new phases of QCD
- detect the conjectured QCD critical point
- probe microscopic matter properties

#### • Measure with utmost precision:

- light flavour (chemistry, vorticity)
- charm (transport properties)
- event-by-event fluctuations (criticality)
- hypernuclei (interaction)
- dileptons (emissivity)

Challenge: isolate unambiguous signals



## Quest for highest energy



Time  $\equiv$  advances in accelerator and detector technologies



# Quest for utmost precision and sensitivity for rare signals

~20 years progress in technology since AGS (begin of high  $\mu_B$  explorations)



Time  $\equiv$  advances in accelerator and detector technologies



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### High Aceptance DiElectron Spectrometer HADES at SIS18, GSI-Darmstadt, Germany

- Fixed target experiment
- High acceptance

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- Full azimuthal coverage, 18°-85° polar angle
- Efficient track reconstruction
  - Low-mass tracking with drift chambers
  - 0.14 0.3 Tm toroidal field
- Precise: mass resolution few %
- High interaction rate: up to 50kHz accepted trigger rates
- Heavy-ion, p and secondary  $\pi\,{\rm SIS18}$  beams

#### Focus on rare and penetrating probes





### Hadron production and azimuthal anisotropy

# COLLECTIVITY



### Azimuthal anisotropy

with respect to reaction plane (RP)

Fourier coefficients of the distribution

$$\frac{dN}{d(\phi - \Psi_{\rm EP})} \propto 1 + 2\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \cos(n(\phi - \Psi_{\rm EP}))$$



 $v_1$  deflection of matter in the RP

(signal of the phase transition?)

Paech et al., Nucl.Phys.A 681 (2001) 41-48

 $v_2 < 0$  when spectators pass slower than fireball expands

squeeze-out

squeeze-out

/side-splash, bounce-off



 $v_2 > 0$  when spectators pass faster than fireball expands



constrain EoS by means of microscopic transport model

HADES, in preparation



### Known knowns and known unknowns

Predictions of the transport models differ too much to allow extraction of reliable constraints on the symmetry energy from the data



- Density dependence of *E<sub>sym</sub>*, *L*<sub>0</sub> is of a great importance and becomes a part of multi-messenger
- Important, but very uncertain at high-density!

#### **Characteristics of nucleonic matter EOS**

$$\begin{split} E(\varrho, \delta) &= E_0(\varrho) + E_{\rm sym}(\varrho)\delta^2 + \mathcal{O}(\delta^4) \quad \text{nucleon specific energy} \\ \delta &= (\varrho_n - \varrho_p)/\varrho \qquad \text{isospin assymetry at } T = 0 \\ E_o(\varrho) \qquad \text{nucleon specific energy in symmetric NM} \end{split}$$



#### Potentials in transport models

Typically a Skyrme-type mean field potential (hard or soft density dependence)

 $V_{\rm Sk} = \alpha \left(\frac{\varrho_{int}}{\varrho_0}\right) + \beta \left(\frac{\varrho_{int}}{\varrho_0}\right)^{\gamma}$ 

The parameters are partly **fixed** by demanding stable nuclear matter **around saturation density** 

Problem of relativistic treatment





### Azimuthal anisotropy and EoS

- High precision multi-differential data for protons and light nuclei  $v_n$ , n = 1 6 HADES, PRL 125 (2020) 262301
- Data compared to QMD and BUU models
  - higher moments provide more discriminating power
  - consistent description of all flow harmonics over the whole phase space and at all centralities is missing





### Azimuthal anisotropy of charged pions: Au+Au $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.42$ GeV



- Good statistics to constrain models and equation of state
- There is room for improvement in the models
- Simultaneous description of collision system, centrality and energy dependence (HADES data Au+Au, Ag+Ag)













EM interaction



- Transport models consistently fail to describe the data
- Main source of pions baryonic resonances propagating in hot and dense fireball









n/p

0.9

0.8 1.0 1.5 1.0 1.5 1.0 1.5 1.0 1.5 1.0 1.5 1.0 1.5 1.0 1.5 1.0 1.5 1.0 1.5 1.0 1.5

 Main source of pions – baryonic resonances propagating in hot and dense fireball Ono *et al.*, PRC 100 (2019) 4, 044617

HADES, arXiv:2202.12750 [nucl-ex]





# Correlated pion-proton pair emission $\pi^+p$ and $\pi^-p$ analysis

dN/dM (GeV/c<sup>2</sup>)<sup>-1</sup> M<sub>0</sub> (MeV/c<sup>2</sup>) HADES Au+Au-1300 HADES Au+Au ഹ EOS Ni+Cu √s<sub>NN</sub>=2.42 GeV s<sub>NN</sub>=2.42 GeV π+n 0<v<1.8 1250 π<sup>+</sup>p  $\Delta(1232)$  mixed charges, PDG19 0 -10% 1200 10-20% 10 ÷ 20-30% ÷ ራ 1150 30-40% 0<y<1.8 -0.1<y\_<0.1 1100 100 200 300 0 400 1.2 1.4 A >  $M_{\pi = n}$  (GeV/c<sup>2</sup>) `part  $\sigma_{BW}(M_{\pi p}) = \frac{q^3}{q^3 + \mu^3} \frac{\sigma_0}{1 + 4[(M_{\pi p} - M_0)/\Gamma_0]^2}$ 

HADES, PLB 819 (2021) 136421

- High statistics allows multi-differential analysis
- Input to transport model calculations (*i.e.* fix in-medium  $NN \leftrightarrow N\Delta$  cross sections)
- · Sensitivity to in-medium spectral function
- Understanding of "kinematical" mass shift with S-matrix formalism

UrQMD, Reichert *et al.*, NPA 1007 (2021) 122058 RVUU, Godbey *et al.*, PLB 829 (2022) 137134

cf. Hees and Rapp, PLB 606 (2005) 59-66

Dashen et al., Phys. Rev. 187 (1969) 345



### Thermodynamics of an interacting $\pi N$ system



- Phase shifts fully encode hadronic interactions
- Include also non-resonant contribution not captured by Breit-Wigner parametrization
  - moves e.g.  $\Delta$ ,  $\rho$  pole towards lower M
  - strong effect on yields
- $\Rightarrow$  Application: analysis of hadron yields,  $p_T$  spectra



Employing trivial spectral function for the nucleon ( $\delta$ -function) and the free spectral function of the  $\Delta$  resonance, is incorrect





### Prospects





- New high precision differential measurements at high and low energies
- State-of-the-art dynamical models
- Bayesian multi-parameter techniques

Constraints on EoS at high density including uncertainty for symmetry energy



System with multi-particle correlations

# MATTER EFFECTS



### Are we creating a thermal medium in experiments?

Hadron yields and statistical hadronization model (SHM)



- Factor 1000 in beam energy / factor ~2 in temperature
- Hadron abundances described in framework of SHM
  - calculation carried out with vacuum masses
  - strangeness canonical treatment at low beam energies
  - include feed-down from <sup>4</sup>He, <sup>4</sup>H, <sup>4</sup>Li

Hahn, Stöcker, NPA 476 (1988) 718-772 Shuryak, Torres-Rincon PRC 101 (2020) 3, 034914





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### $\Lambda$ polarization at HADES

#### Do we observe a maximum of the global polarization at SIS18 energies?

HADES, arXiv:2207.05160 [nucl-ex]





 $P_{\Lambda}$  grows towards peripheral collisions (in line with expectations for larger orbital angular momentum)

Within uncertainties no clear  $p_t$  and y dependence is observed

O. Vitiuk et al., PLB803 (2020) 135298

- Directed flow slope at midrapidity follows world data
- Ag+Ag vs Au+Au collisions: effect of the different system size?



### Matter effects on strangeness production

VOLUME 55, NUMBER 24

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

9 DECEMBER 1985

#### Subthreshold Kaon Production as a Probe of the Nuclear Equation of State

J. Aichelin and Che Ming Ko<sup>(a)</sup>

Joint Institute for Heavy Ion Research, Holifield Heavy Ion Research Facility, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831 (Received 11 June 1985; revised manuscript received 23 September 1985)

The production of kaons at subthreshold energies from heavy-ion collisions is sensitive to the nuclear equation of state. In the Boltzmann-Uehling-Uhlenbeck model, the number of produced kaons from central collisions between heavy nuclei at incident energies around 700 MeV/nucleon can vary by a factor of  $\sim$  3, depending on the equation of state.

In a nutshell:

- softer EoS leads to higher compression leads to more secondary interaction
- thus larger probability to produce particles below free nucleon-nucleon production threshold



FIG. 1. Central density  $\rho/\rho_0$  and total kaon-production probability  $P_K$  as functions of the collision time for reactions between Nb nuclei at an incident energy 700.4 MeV and at an impact parameter b = 0.5 fm.





### Rare sub-threshold strangeness production

#### HADES, PLB 793 (2019) 457



- Universal scaling with participant number  $M \sim \langle A_{part} \rangle^{\alpha}$  (same observation in Ag+Ag data)
- Does not reflect the hierarchy of NN production thresholds
  - $-K^{+}\Lambda:$  -130 MeV
  - $K^+K^-: -440 \text{ MeV}$
- Not expected if strangeness produced in *isolated* NN collisions

Scaling with absolute amount of strangeness not with individual hadron states





### Rare sub-threshold strangeness production

#### HADES, PLB 793 (2019) 457



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  - $K^+\Lambda$ : -130 MeV $- K^+K^-$ : -440 MeV
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Scaling with absolute amount of strangeness not with individual hadron states



Connection to "soft deconfinement"? Fukushima, Kojo, Weise, PRD 102 (2020) 9, 096017

Quantum percolation at  $\rho \sim 1.8 \rho_0$  of the interaction meson clouds



HADES, PRC 102 (2020) 2, 024001



### Meson cloud

#### First measurement of massive $\gamma^*$ emission from $N^*$ baryon resonances

HADES. arXiv:2205.15914 [nucl-ex]



#### • $\pi^- p \rightarrow n + \pi^- + \pi^+$

- included in PWA (Bonn-Gatchina) to provide partial wave decomposition



4 first entries  $(N\rho)$ 4 additional entries

#### • $\pi^- p \rightarrow n + e^- + e^+$

- study the structure of the nucleon as an extended object (quark core and meson cloud)
- Dominance of the  $N^*(1520)$  resonance at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 1.49$  GeV
  - $-\rho$  meson as "excitation" of the meson cloud
  - Vector Meson Dominance basis of emissivity calculations for QCD matter





Electromagnetic radiation

# EMISSIVITY



### Electromagnetic radiation as multi-messenger of fireball



Electromagnetic radiation ( $\gamma$ ,  $\gamma^*$ )

Reflect the whole history of a collision

No strong final state interaction  $\sim$  leave reaction volume undisturbed Encodes information on matter properties enabling unique measurements

- degrees of freedom of the medium
- fireball lifetime, temperature, acceleration, polarization
- transport properties
- restoration of chiral symmetry



## Electromagnetic spectral function in the vacuum

accurately known from  $e^+e^-$  annihilation  $R \propto \frac{Im \prod_{em}^{\nu_{uu}}}{M^2}$ 

Low-mass regime LMR

EM spectral function is saturated by light vector mesons (VMD  $I^P$  =  $1^{-}$  for both  $\gamma^{*}$  and vector meson,  $\rho$  playing a dominant role)





Beringer et al. (PDG), Phys. Rev. D (2012) 010001

#### Intermediate-mass regime IMR

perturbative QCD continuum (quark degrees of freedom)





#### HADES

### Thermal dileptons from baryon rich matter





McLerran - Toimela formula, Phys. Rev. D 31 (1985) 545

- Thermal excess radiation established at HADES (Au+Au, Ag+Ag)
  - $\rho$ -meson peak undergoes a strong broadening in medium
  - in-medium spectral function from many-body theory consistently describes SIS18, SPS, RHIC, LHC energies

Rapp and Wambach, Adv.Nucl.Phys. (2000) 25

• Baryonic effects are crucial



### The fireball lifetime



TG., JPS Conf.Proc. 32 (2020) 010079

 Integrated low-mass radiation 0.3<M<0.7 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> tracks the fireball lifetime Heinz and Lee, PLB 259, 162 (1991) Barz, Friman, Knoll and Schulz, PLB 254, 315 (1991) Rapp, van Hees, PLB 753 (2016) 586

Signature for phase transition (and critical point)?
 → latent heat → longer life time → extra radiation



### Mapping QCD "caloric curve" (T vs $\varepsilon$ )



Rapp and v. Hess, PLB 753 (2016) 586 TG *et al.,* EPJA 52 (2016) 131 https://github.com/tgalatyuk/QCD\_caloric\_curve

- Dilepton invariant mass slope measures radiating source temperature (independent of flow: no blue shift!)
- To date two measurements NA60 and HADES

NA60, EPJC 61(2009) 711 HADES, Nature Phys. 15(2019) 1040

Signature for phase transition?

 → phase transition may show up as a plateau!









# What have we learnt from excess radiation Au+Au $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.4 \text{ GeV}$ ?

- · Radiation from a source
  - long-lived ( $\tau$ ≈13 fm)
  - in local thermal equilibrium
  - $-\langle T \rangle \approx 72 \text{ MeV}$
  - $\varrho = 2 3 \varrho_0$



### The QCD phase structure at high $\mu_B$

Possible HIC trajectories and NS merger simulations within an effective hadronic model



Hanauske *et al.*, Particles 2 (2019) no.1 Rezzolla *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 122 (2019) no. 6, 061101

LS220-M135 simulation (Lattimer-Swesty, NPA 535 (1991) 331-376)



- 18 orders of magnitude in scales, still similar
- T < 70 MeV,  $\rho < 3 \rho_0$  for both
- · Dileptons sensitive to dense phase
- → One EoS for simultaneous description of nuclear physics and observations



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Employing same equation-of-state for simultaneous description of BNS merger and HIC Entropy per baryon (S/A) similar  $\rightarrow$  BNS merger and HIC  $E_{\text{lab}}$  < 1 GeV

### Dilepton signature of a 1<sup>st</sup> order phase transition

Seck et al., PRC 106 (2022) 014904

- CMF model that matches lattice QCD at low  $\mu_{R}$ and neutron-star constraints at high density Motornenko et al., PRC 101 (2020) no.3, 034904
- 3+1 D fluid dynamics with and w/o first order nuclear matter – quark matter phase transition





Different dilepton rates give both an increase of factor ~2 due to extended "cooking"

see also Li and Ko, PRC 95 (2017) no.5, 055203

Strong increase of the dilepton emission for a phase transition

10-1

4 4.5

 $\rho_{\rm B}/\rho_{\rm o}$ 





### Effective hadronic theory for nuclear matter

- **Parity-doublet model** describes nuclear liquid-gas transition together with a chiral phase transition
- · Thermodynamically consistent spectral functions from aFRG flows





#### Tripolt, Jung, Smekal, Wambach, PRD 104, 054005 (2021)



Tripolt *et al.*, NPA 982 (2019) 775 Jung *et al.*, PRD 95 (2017) 036020



# OUTLOOK



### The future is bright



### Future experiments aim at utmost precision measurements for rare probes

- · High intensity beams
- Multipurpose detectors:
  - large acceptance, high efficiency
  - trigger-less, free streaming read-out electronics with high bandwidth online event selection
  - substantial progress in detector technologies
- High-performance / scientific computing

#### New theoretical developments



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HADES



How can heavy-ion experiments

help us understand

neutron star mergers?



How can neutron star mergers help us understand heavy-ion experiments?

- Our goal is to understand QCD matter, not neutron star matter or heavy ion collision matter. The latter are mere inputs for simulations.
- BNS mergers + HICs superb tools to explore nuclear matter under extreme conditions.

23 September, 2022 Tetyana Galatyuk | HADES Mini-symposium | Coimbra

### Thank you for your attention!







### Transport properties of the medium

#### **Electrical conductivity**

can be directly obtained from the low-energy limit of the EM spectral function (at vanishing momentum)

$$\sigma_{el}(T) = -e^2 \lim_{q_0 \to 0} \frac{\delta}{\delta q_0} Im \Pi_{em}(q_0, q = 0; T)$$

Transport peak in the limit of very low mass and  $p_{\rm T}$ 





- Conductivity is reduced when thermal-pion interactions included
- Transport peak broadens

Moore and Robert, arXiv:hep-ph/0607172



### **Critical fluctuations**



Direct link to EoS  $\frac{1}{VT^3}k_n = \frac{\partial^n \hat{p}}{\partial \hat{\mu}^n}$   $\hat{p} = \frac{p}{T^4}$  reduced pressure  $\hat{\mu} = \frac{\mu}{T}$  reduced chemical potential

> cf. B. Friman *et al.*, EPJC 71 (2011) 1694 M. Stephanov, Phys.Rev.Lett.107 (2011) 052301

Ling, Stephanov, PRC 93, 034915 (2016)

Cumulants  $k_n$  hold information on multi-particle correlators  $C_n$ Bzdak, Koch, Strodthoff, PRC 95, 054906 (2017)

Investigate  $C_n$  vs.  $\langle N_p \rangle$  to isolate relevant physics,  $C_n \propto \langle N_p \rangle^{\alpha}$ 



□ Stopping of nucleons may produce multi-particle "clusters"

Quarkyonic matter?

□ Remnants of nuclear liquid-gas phase transition?

Bzdak, Koch, Skokov, EPJC (2017) 288 Shuryak, Torres-Rincon Phys.Rev.C 101 (2020) 3, 034914 Kojo, Hidaka, McLerran, Pisarski, Nucl. Phys. A843 (2010), 37 R. Poberezhnyuk et al., Phys.Rev. C100 (2019) no.5, 054904



#### HADES

### AZIMUTHAL ANISOTROPY protons and light nuclei $v_n$ , n = 1 - 6



rapidity dependense paramerized with

 $v_{1,3,5}(y_{cm}) = ay_{cm} + by_{cm}^3$  $v_{2,4,6}(y_{cm}) = c + dy_{cm}^2$ 

# 3D picture of the particle emission pattern in momentum space



#### mid-rapidity: almost elliptical shape

☐ forward/backward rapidity: triangular shape → interplay: central fireball pressure – interaction with spectator matter



### **Transport properties**





Reichert et al., PLB 817 (2021) 136285





### Kaon and $\Lambda$ production and anisotropy in Au+Au



 $U_{opt} = +40 \ MeV \cdot \frac{\rho}{\rho_0}$ 



(repulsive) KN potential relevant to describe  $K_s^0$ distribution but not acting on (helping)  $\Lambda$ ?



No simultaneous description of  $K_{\rm s}^0$  and  $\Lambda$  results



### Thermal dilepton measurements





- Decisive parameters for data quality:
  - interaction rates (*IR*) and signal-to-combinatorial background ratio (*S*/*CB*): effective signal size:  $S_{eff} \sim IR \times S/CB$
- Isolation of thermal radiation by subtraction of measured decay cocktail
- Mid-rapidity, low- $M_{\ell\ell}$ , low- $p_T$  coverage (acceptance correction)
- LMR: total yield ~ fireball lifetime
- IMR: slope ~ emitting source temperature

### Dileptons and chiral symmetry of QCD

**Spontaneously broken** in the vacuum  $\langle 0|\bar{q}q|0\rangle = \langle 0|\bar{q}_Lq_R + \bar{q}_Rq_L|0\rangle \neq 0$ 

**Restoration** at finite *T* and  $\mu_B$  manifests itself through mixing of vector and axial-vector correlators



