SRC studies in inverse kinematics

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Flipping reaction kinematics provides powerful access to SRCs!

nuclear target and p or e^{-} beam





(radioactive) ion beam hitting hadronic probe



Flipping reaction kinematics provides powerful access to SRCs!



- **1.** Inverse kinematics: nuclear structure using hadronic probes
- 2. SRCs in neutron-rich environments

Flipping reaction kinematics provides powerful access to SRCs!



One of the first SRC experiments:



p(12C,X)2pn at EVA/BNL

- → correlated high-momentum nucleon pairs
- \rightarrow np pair dominance

A. Tang et al., PRL 90 (2003) E. Piasetzky et al., PRL 97 (2006)

Quasi-free scattering to study nuclear structure

¹²C(p,2p):

- shell structure
- momentum distributions







Advantages of inverse kinematics experiments

nuclear target and p or e⁻ beam



(radioactive) ion beam hitting hadronic probe



fully exclusive measurement: measure momenta of *all* emerging particles + Lorentz boost

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Disadvantages: In-medium effects

Incoming proton and outgoing protons interact with other nucleons (initial and final state interactions)

- → disturb initial momentum reconstruction
- → extra excitations of the nucleus (break fragment apart)
- \rightarrow eject additional particles (pions, ...)
- \rightarrow attenuation

T. Aumann, C.A. Bertulani, J. Ryckebusch, Phys. Rev. C 88 (2013)



L. Frankfurt, M. Strikman, M. Zhalov, PLB 503 (2001). S. Stevens et al., PLB 777 (2018). 9

Disadvantages: In-medium effects



 \rightarrow attenuation

L. Frankfurt, M. Strikman, M. Zhalov, PLB 503 (2001). S. Stevens et al., PLB 777 (2018).10

Quasi-free scattering at high energies





- + large energy and momentum transfer
- \rightarrow impulse & spectator approximation (~ adiabatic process)
- \rightarrow multiple scattering well described by Glauber theory

Experiment at BM@N Setup (JINR)











Heavy-fragment identification: post-selection



Quasi-free (p,2p) scattering





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 \vec{p}'_N

 $\vec{p}'_{(A-1)}$

 $\mathbf{Q} \quad \vec{p}_p'$

Reaction mechanism under control

Fragment tagging suppresses initial/final state interactions



Single-step nucleon knockout

Proton momentum distribution with fragment tagging to access ground-state distribution



Calculation of QE (p,2p)scattering off *p*-shell nucleon in ¹²C without ISI/FSI

[T. Aumann, C.A. Bertulani, J. Ryckebusch, PRC 88 (2013).]

Fragment recoil momentum

Fragment not impacted by inelastic scattering: adiabatic approximation holds $p_{miss} = -p_{A-1}$



Fragment-proton correlation



Experiment in inverse kinematics at high energy with hadronic probe

is a "clean" technique to study nuclear structure



SRC study in inverse kinematics



Measure:

- scattered proton momenta
- fragment momentum
- recoil nucleon momentum
- final state / energy

Extract:

p_{miss}
 pair c.m.
 factorization
 pair ratios
 spin, parity

SRC breakup using hadronic probe

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{pp} \\ d\sigma &\sim K \cdot \sigma_{eN} \cdot S(p_i, E_i) \\ S(p_i, E_i) &\sim \sum_{\alpha} C^A_{\alpha, NN}(p_{cm}) \times |\tilde{\varphi}^{\alpha}_{NN}(|\vec{p}_{Rel}|)|^2 \end{aligned}$$



SRC identification





23 np pairs (¹⁰B)
2 pp pairs (¹⁰Be)
→ np dominance

(guided by GCF)

+ opening angle > 63°, M_{miss}^2 > 0.42 (GeV/c²)²

Fragment momentum = pair c.m. motion





direct extraction: $\sigma = (156 \pm 27) \text{ MeV/c}$ -> small c.m. momentum



SRC universality & scale separation

factorized Generalized Contact Formalism (GCF)



R. Cruz-Torres, D. Lonardoni, R. Weiss et al., Nature Physics 17 (2021).

Pair correlations

strongly correlated pair: nucleon momentum not balanced by *A-1*

NN back-to-back emission



Pair correlations

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weak interaction between pair and A-2 spectator

→ Factorization measured directly



SRC in inverse kinematics: Direct access to pair properties

Follow-up experiment at JINR

Goal: increase statistics for quantitative results



QFS:

- Absolute cross sections
- Quenching of spectroscopic strength

SRC:

- Recoil nucleon analysis
- SRC origin: fragment final states

Excursion: SRC experiment preparations at JINR 2022

















increased statistics (x3) + improved resolution









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SRCs in neutron-rich nuclei

Short-lived (~ms) nuclei become accessible in inverse kinematics



SRCs in neutron-rich nuclei

Short-lived (~ms) nuclei become accessible in inverse kinematics



S. Stevens, J. Ryckebusch, W. Cosyn, A. Waets, PLB 777 (2018).

Neutron-rich nuclei: towards cold dense nuclear matter



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Neutron-rich nuclei: towards cold dense nuclear matter



Neutron Star:





SRC studies in ¹⁶C at R³B (GSI-FAIR)



Final-state tagging



Final-state tagging











(p,2p) Reconstruction













Ι. How to study nuclear ground-state distributions: Inverse kinematics to suppress quantum-mechanical interference in (p,2p) reactions

Study of SRCs with hadronic probes: Ш. 1st SRC experiment in inverse kinematics with access to new observables -> probe universality

Study of cold dense nuclear matter: III. New pathway for SRC studies with radioactive nuclei



Pb/C

1.6

neutrons

Neutron Excess [N/Z]

1.4

AI/C Fe/C

1.2

High-Momentum Fraction

0.8



