#### Challenges in Low-Energy Nuclear Physics Witek Nazarewicz (MSU/Warsaw)

The 5th international conference on "COLLECTIVE MOTION IN NUCLEI UNDER EXTREME CONDITIONS"

"All the matter that makes up all the living organisms and ecosystems, planets and stars, throughout every galaxy in the universe, is made of atoms, and 99.9% of the mass of all the atoms in the (visible) universe comes from the nuclei at their centers which are over 10,000 times smaller in diameter than the atoms themselves"

NRC Decadal Study Report



- Why?
- ...should one care?
- What?
- ...are the overarching questions?
- How?
- ...to answer them?
- Where?
  - ...are we today?

#### The Nuclear Landscape and the Big Questions

- Where do nuclei and elements come from? Balantekin, Kistryn
- How are nuclei organized? Harakeh, Casten
- What are practical and scientific uses of nuclei? Olko

#### TIMESCALE

- from QCD transition (color singlets formed; 10 ms after Big Bang) till today (13.8 billion years later)
   DISTANCE SCALE
- ➡ from 10<sup>-15</sup> m (proton's radius) to ~12 km (neutron star radius)



collective coordinates



## Isospin Splittings in the Light-Baryon Octet from Lattice QCD and QED (ab initio calculation of the neutron-proton mass difference)



"The neutron–proton mass difference, one of the most consequential parameters of physics, has now been calculated from fundamental theories. This landmark calculation portends revolutionary progress in nuclear physics." Wilczek, Nature 520, 303 (2015)

## How to explain the nuclear landscape from the bottom up? **Theory revolution**





#### Revision of nuclear structure textbook knowledge



#### New shell closures at N = 32 & 34?

#### Revision of nuclear structure textbook knowledge



- <sup>16</sup>O is a textbook doubly-magic nucleus
- Measurements of the neutron-rich isotopes <sup>22</sup>O and <sup>24</sup>O suggest the presence of new magic numbers at N=14 and 16.
- A dineutron in <sup>26</sup>O? The lifetime could be as large as 10<sup>-12</sup> s.
- Is (doubly-magic) <sup>28</sup>O unbound? If so, how much?

### <sup>12</sup>C structure: Ground-state and Hoyle-state

In 1954, Hoyle postulated that a7.65 MeV carbon state. This state plays a crucial role in the hydrogen burning of stars heavier than our sun and in the production of carbon and other elements necessary for life.



## Carbon-12 Caught in a Triangle



 $T_{\rm s.p.} = 4R/v_{\rm F}$   $v_{\rm F} \approx 0.25c$   $T_{\rm s.p.} \approx 1.3 \cdot 10^{-22} \, {\rm sec}$ 

10<sup>-22</sup> sec = 1 babysec=0.1 zsec (z=zepto)=100 ysec (y=yocto)

 $T_{1/2} = \ln 2\hbar/\Gamma$  But what if  $T_{1/2} \lesssim T_{
m s.p.}$  ?

## Nuclear collective motion

# Giant nuclear vibrationsIsoscalarIsovectorp-n in phasep-n out of phase

COMEXS



- Dipole polarizability and skins
- Isoscalar dipole and EDM
- Monopole modes, radii and beta decay
- Multipole modes and fission
- Scissors (magnetic) modes

Monopole (GMR)

Dipole (GDR)











squeezing mode

by A. Krasznahorkay

Nuclear response to external force

## What are the limits of atoms and nuclei? Do very long-lived superheavy nuclei exist in nature?

Structure of nuclei at the limit of mass and charge (Coulomb frustration) Cosmic origin of superheavy nuclei? Very relativistic atoms with  $Z\alpha \rightarrow 1$ 

- Around 30 new superheavy isotopes found since 2007
- Z=114 (FI) and 116 (Lv) named in 2012
- Z=117, 115, 113 confirmed
- Unique spectroscopic data above Z>102
- Chemistry of Z=106, 112, 114

IUPAC: Discovery of a chemical element is the experimental demonstration, beyond reasonable doubt, of the existence of a nuclide with an atomic number Z not identified before, existing for at least 10<sup>-14</sup> s



### Periodic Table of Elements 2015



MetalsNon-metalsNot confirmed

#### Generic IUPAC names:

113: Ununtrium, Uut115: Ununpentium, Uup117: Ununseptium, Uus118: Ununoctium, Uuo



Z=112: Copernicium

Li Be 114 Na Mg 20 K Ca 116 Sr Strontlum 56 Ba Cs Hs Mt Ds FIE Pm Sm Lu Gd Tb Dy Ho Er m Y Ra Np Pu Am Cm Bk Cf Es Fm Md Livermorium

Z=114: Flerovium; Z=116: Livermorium

## Quest for understanding the neutron-rich matter on Earth and in the Cosmos

#### Crustal structures in neutron stars

Data



The covariance ellipsoid for the neutron skin  $R_{skin}$  in  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  and the radius of a  $1.4M_{\odot}$  neutron star. The mean values are:  $R(1.4M_{\odot}$ )=10 km and  $R_{skin}$ = 0.17 fm.



#### Rare Isotopes and fundamental symmetry tests

Atomic electric dipole moment: The violation of CP-symmetry is responsible for the fact that the Universe is dominated by matter over anti-matter

## Parity doublet Parity doublet $\Psi^{-} = (|\alpha\rangle - |\beta\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$ $\Psi^{+} = (|\alpha\rangle + |\beta\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$

- Closely spaced parity doublet gives rise to enhanced electric dipole moment
- Large intrinsic Schiff moment

   <sup>199</sup>Hg (Seattle, 1980's present)
  - o <sup>225</sup>Ra (Starting at ANL and KVI)
  - o <sup>223</sup>Rn at TRIUMF
  - Potential at FRIB (10<sup>12</sup>/s w ISOL target; far future)



Gaffney et al., Nature 199, 497 (2013)

Prospects



### High Performance Computing and Nuclear Theory



"High performance computing provides answers to questions that neither experiment nor analytic theory can address; hence, *it becomes a third leg supporting the field of nuclear physics*." (NAC Decadal Study Report)

Future: large multi-institutional efforts involving strong coupling between physics, computer science, and applied math

#### The frontier in experiment and theory: neutron-rich calcium isotopes



### Nuclei Matter

Our current understanding of nuclei has benefited from technological improvements in experimental equipment and accelerators that have expanded the range of available isotopes and allowed individual experiments to be performed with only a small number of atoms. Concurrent advances in theoretical approaches and computational science have led to a more detailed understanding and pointed toward which nuclei and what phenomena to study, creating conditions for major advances.

#### **Profound intersections**

- Astrophysics
- Fundamental Symmetries
- Complex systems
- Computing

How can the knowledge and technological progress provided by nuclear physics best be used to benefit society?

- Energy (fission, reactions, decays...)
- Security (stewardship, forensics, detection...)
- Isotopes (medicine, industry, defense, applied research...)
- Industry (radiation, ion implantation...)

### Outlook

The study of atomic nuclei makes the connection between the fundamental building block of matter, complex systems, and the cosmos

- Cool
- Deals with fundamental and complex
- Interdisciplinary
- Relevant
- Significant progress and discoveries worldwide in the physics of nuclei and nuclear astrophysics
- Comprehensive and validated theory of nuclei on the horizon
- World-class science program
- Future is exciting







## Happy birthday, A<sup>2</sup>!







## **Chemical evolution**





#### neutron star merger

Half of the neutron-rich atomic nuclei heavier than iron are built by neutron driven r-process. The final abundances reflect the shell structure of nuclei, which determines the respective nucleosynthesis trajectories.





### Hybrid technology is totally dependent upon Rare Earths





Curiosity Mars Rover – powered by <sup>238</sup>Pu

#### **Theoretical Tools and Connections to Computational Science**

#### 1teraflop=10<sup>12</sup> flops 1peta=10<sup>15</sup> flops (today) 1exa=10<sup>18</sup> flops (next 10 years)

## Tremendous opportunities for nuclear theory!

3,120,000 cores

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				60111175V		RHAT	POWER
	NAME	SPECS	SITE	COUNTRY	CORES	PFL0P/5	MW
1	Tianhe-2 (Milkyway-2)	NUDT, Intel Ivy Bridge (12C, 2.2 GHz) & Xeon Phi (57C, 1.1 GHz), Custom interconnect	NSCC Guangzhou	China	3,120,000	33.9	17.8
2	Titan	Cray XK7, Opteron 6274 (16C 2.2 GHz) + Nvidia Kepler GPU, Custom interconnect	DOE/SC/ORNL	USA	560,640	17.6	8.2
3	Sequoia	IBM BlueGene/Q, Power BQC (16C 1.60 GHz), Custom interconnect	DOE/NNSA/LLNL	USA	1,572,864	17.2	7.9
4	K computer	Fujitsu SPARC64 VIIIfx (8C, 2.0GHz), Custom interconnect	RIKEN AICS	Japan	705,024	10.5	12.7
5	Mira	IBM BlueGene/Q, Power BQC (16C, 1.60 GHz), Custom interconnect	DOE/SC/ANL	USA	786,432	8.59	3.95



#### Some nuclei are more important than others

Over the last decade, tremendous progress has been made in techniques to produce and describe *designer nuclei*, rare atomic nuclei with characteristics adjusted to specific research needs and applications

nuclear structure

astrophysics





