

PREX and CREX: Evidence for Strong Isovector Spin-orbit Interaction

Zhen Zhang (张振)

Sino-French Institute of Nuclear Engineering and Technology, Sun Yat-sen University

XIIth International Symposium on Nuclear Symmetry Energy (Nusym24) Grand Accélérateur National d'Ions Lourds (GANIL), Caen, France, September 9, 2024

Collaborators: Lie-Wen Chen (SJTU), Tong-Gang Yue (SJTU)

Lead (²⁰⁸Pb) Radius Experiment: PREX





• Parity-violating asymmetry in longitudinally polarized elastic electron scattering :

$$A_{PV} = rac{\sigma_R - \sigma_L}{\sigma_R + \sigma_L} pprox rac{G_F Q^2 |Q_W|}{4\sqrt{2}\pilpha Z} rac{F_W(Q^2)}{F_{ch}(Q^2)}$$

Donnelly et al., NPA503, 589 (1989); Horowitz et al., PRC63, 025501 (2001).

• Free from most strong interaction uncertainties.

• PREX-2 results (
$$\langle Q^2 \rangle = 0.00616 \text{ GeV}^2$$
) :
 $A_{\rm PV}^{\rm meas} = 550 \pm 16(\text{ stat}) \pm 8(\text{ syst}) \text{ppb}$
 $F_W(\langle Q^2 \rangle) = 0.368 \pm 0.013(\exp) \pm 0.001(\text{ theo})$

²⁰⁸ Pb Parameter	Value
Weak radius (R_W)	$5.800 \pm 0.075 \mathrm{fm}$
Interior weak density (ρ_W^0)	$-0.0796 \pm 0.0038 \ {\rm fm}^{-3}$
Interior baryon density (ρ_b^0)	$0.1480 \pm 0.0038 ~{\rm fm}^{-3}$
Neutron skin $(R_n - R_p)$	$0.283 \pm 0.071 \mathrm{fm}$

PREX-2



Reed et al., PRL126, 172503 (2021)



Superstiff symmetry energy from relativistic EDF analysis:

 $J = (38.1 \pm 4.7)$ MeV,

 $L = (106 \pm 37) \text{ MeV},$

• Challenge our understanding of the symmetry energy.



Calcium (⁴⁸**Ca) Radius Experiment: CREX**



CREX, PRL129, 042501 (2022)



 $\Delta F_{\rm CW}^{48}(q) = 0.0277 \pm 0.0055, \quad q = 0.8733 {\rm fm}^{-1}, CREX$

- $\Delta F_{\rm CW}^{208}(q) = 0.041 \pm 0.013, \quad q = 0.3977 {\rm fm}^{-1}, PREX$
- Extracted neutron skin of Ca48

Quantity	$Value \pm (exp) \pm (model) \ (fm)$	
$\frac{R_W - R_{\rm ch}}{R_n - R_p}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.159 \pm 0.026 \pm 0.023 \\ 0.121 \pm 0.026 \pm 0.024 \end{array}$	

• Strong tension between **CREX** and **PREX-2** results?

Too small Nskin of ⁴⁸Ca or too large Nskin of ²⁰⁸Pb



Challenging modern nuclear EDF theory!

PREX-CREX Puzzle





Parity-violating asymmetry in calcium

https://frib.msu.edu/news/2022/prl-paper.html

Tension between the results of CREX and PREX measurements and the predictions of current global models.



Chen, Ko, Li, &Xu, PRC82, 024321 (2010)



Horowitz & Piekarewitz, PRC86, 045503 (2012)



FIG. 2. (Color online) Electroweak skin $(R_{wk}-R_{ch})$ with and without spin-orbit corrections as a function of neutron skin (R_n-R_p) for the various neutron-rich nuclei considered in this work. Predictions are made using both the (a) NL3 and (b) FSU interactions.

The Nskin of Ca48 is sensitive to spin-orbit coupling W0 in the standard SHF!
Spin-orbit coupling makes significant contribution to electroweak skin Rwk-Rch.
Ca48 and Pb208 have different shell and surface structures – Both are related to Spin-Orbit interaction

Spin-orbit interaction





Strong spin-orbit interaction-> magic numbers

 $V(r) \to V(r) + W(r)L \cdot S$ $W(r) = -|V_{LS}| \left(\frac{\hbar}{m_{\pi}c}\right)^2 \frac{1}{r} \frac{dV(r)}{dr}$

Relativistic effects (Duerr, PR103), 469(1956)



Mayer and Jensen (1949) Nobel Prize, 1963 (Also Wigner)

 Naturally introduced in Relativistic mean-field models.
 Nonrelativistic energy density functionals (Skyrme): Spin-orbit interaction: $iW_0\sigma \cdot [P' \times \delta(r)P]$

Spin-orbit energy density: *Chabanat, et al., NPA 627, 710 (1997)* $\mathcal{H}_{so} = \frac{1}{2} W_0 \left[J \cdot \nabla \rho + J_p \nabla \rho_p + J_n \nabla_n \right]$

Is the neutron spin-orbit interaction the same with that of proton?



Hamiltonian Density from Spin-Orbit Interaction:

 $E_{\rm so} = \int d^3r \left[\frac{b_{\rm IS}}{2} \boldsymbol{J} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla} \rho + \frac{b_{\rm IV}}{2} (\boldsymbol{J}_n - \boldsymbol{J}_p) \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla} (\rho_n - \rho_p) \right]$ Isovector

Standard Skyrme EDF: $b_{\rm IV} = b_{\rm IS}/3 = W_0/2 \approx 60 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm}^5$ Reinhard and Flocard, NPA 584, 467488 (1995) Bender, Heenen, and Reinhard, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 121 (2003). Ebran, Mutschler, Khan, and Vretenar, PRC 94, 024304 (2016).

Relativistic mean field model (nonrelativistic reduction): $b_{\rm IV}\approx 0$

Lack experimental probes to constraint $b_{\rm IV}$

✤ The isovector spin-orbit coupling b_{IV} is expected to have significant effects on lighter nuclear with larger $J_n - J_p$.

Spin-orbit density in ^{48}Ca and ^{208}Pb



208P



Spin-Orbit density (spherical nuclei):

$$q(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi r^3} \sum_{i} v_i^2 (2j_i + 1)$$

 $\times \left[j_i (j_i + 1) - l_i (l_i + 1) - \frac{3}{4} \right] R_i^2(r)$

Colo et al., Phys. Lett. B 646, 227 (2007) Contributions from $j_>$ and $j_<$ largely cancel with each other $j_> = l + 1/2$: positive contribution $j_< = l - 1/2$: negative contribution

♦ $|J_n - J_p|$ is large in ⁴⁸Ca, but relatively small in ²⁰⁸Pb

- Ca40: $J_p \approx 0, J_n \approx 0$
- Ca48: $J_p \approx 0, J_n > > 0$ due to the 8 $1f_{\frac{7}{2}}$ neutrons of unpaired I s partner
- Pb208: $J_p \approx J_n > > 0$ due to 14 $1i_{\frac{13}{2}}$ neutrons and 12 $1h_{\frac{11}{2}}$ protons

← The isovector spin-orbit coupling b_{IV} is expected to have significant effect on Ca48 while essentially no influence on Pb208!

Jp

Jn



Standard Skyme interaction:

$$\begin{aligned} v\left(r_{1}, r_{2}\right) &= t_{0}\left(1 + x_{0}P_{\sigma}\right)\delta(\mathbf{r}) + \frac{1}{2}t_{1}\left(1 + x_{1}P_{\sigma}\right)\left[\mathbf{k}^{\prime2}\delta(\mathbf{r}) + \delta(\mathbf{r})\mathbf{k}^{2}\right] + t_{2}\left(1 + x_{2}P_{\sigma}\right)\mathbf{k}^{\prime}\cdot\delta(\mathbf{r})\mathbf{k} \\ &+ \frac{1}{6}t_{3}\left(1 + x_{3}P_{\sigma}\right)\left[\rho(\mathbf{R})\right]^{\alpha}\delta(\mathbf{r}) + iW_{0}(\sigma_{1} + \sigma_{2})\cdot\left[\mathbf{k}^{\prime}\times\delta(\mathbf{r})\mathbf{k}\right], \\ & Chabanat, et al., NPA 627, 710 (1997) \end{aligned}$$

Momentum-dependent three-body interaction:

$$v' = v + \frac{1}{2} t_4 \left(1 + x_4 P_{\sigma} \right) \left[\mathbf{k}^{\prime 2} \rho(\mathbf{R})^{\beta} \delta(\mathbf{r}) + \delta(\mathbf{r}) \rho(\mathbf{R})^{\beta} \mathbf{k}^2 \right] + t_5 \left(1 + x_5 P_{\sigma} \right) \mathbf{k}^{\prime} \cdot \rho(\mathbf{R})^{\gamma} \delta(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{k}.$$
Zhang & Chen. PBC 94, 064326 (2016)

Zero-range tensor force:

 z_{11} ang α onen, 1 110 54, 004520 (2010)

$$\begin{split} V_{T} = & \frac{1}{2}T\left\{ \left[\left(\sigma_{1} \cdot \mathbf{k}'\right) \left(\sigma_{2} \cdot \mathbf{k}'\right) - \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{k}'^{2} \left(\sigma_{1} \cdot \sigma_{2}\right) \right] \delta\left(\mathbf{r}\right) + \delta\left(\mathbf{r}\right) \left[\left(\sigma_{1} \cdot \mathbf{k}\right) \left(\sigma_{2} \cdot \mathbf{k}\right) - \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{k}^{2} \left(\sigma_{1} \cdot \sigma_{2}\right) \right] \right\} \\ & + U\left\{ \left(\sigma_{1} \cdot \mathbf{k}'\right) \delta\left(\mathbf{r}\right) \left(\sigma_{2} \cdot \mathbf{k}\right) - \frac{1}{3} \left(\sigma_{1} \cdot \sigma_{2}\right) \left[\mathbf{k}' \cdot \delta\left(\mathbf{r}\right) \mathbf{k}\right] \right\}, \\ Stancu, Brink, and Flocard, PLB 68, 108 (197) \end{split}$$



Energy density functional:

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{E}_{\text{Skyrme}} &= \frac{B_0 + B_3 \rho^{\alpha}}{2} \rho^2 - \frac{B'_0 + B'_3 \rho^{\alpha}}{2} \tilde{\rho}^2 + (B_1 + B_4 \rho^{\beta} + B_5 \rho^{\gamma}) \rho \tau - (B'_1 + B'_4 \rho^{\beta} + B'_5 \rho^{\gamma}) \tilde{\rho} \tilde{\tau} \\ &+ \frac{2B_2 + (2\beta + 3)B_4 \rho^{\beta} - B_5 \rho^{\gamma}}{4} (\nabla \rho)^2 - \frac{2B'_2 + 3B'_4 \rho^{\beta} - B'_5 \rho^{\gamma}}{4} (\nabla \tilde{\rho})^2 - \frac{\beta B'_4}{2} \rho^{\beta - 1} \tilde{\rho} \nabla \rho \cdot \nabla \tilde{\rho} \\ &+ \frac{C_1 + C_2 \rho^{\beta} + C_3 \rho^{\gamma}}{2} J^2 + \frac{C'_1 + C'_2 \rho^{\beta} + C'_3 \rho^{\gamma}}{2} \tilde{J}^2 \\ &+ \frac{b_{\text{IS}}}{2} \nabla \rho \cdot \mathbf{J} + \frac{b_{\text{IV}}}{2} \nabla \tilde{\rho} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{J}} + \frac{\alpha T + \beta T}{4} J^2 + \frac{\alpha T - \beta T}{4} \tilde{J}^2. \end{split}$$

$$\rho_q(\mathbf{r}) &= \sum_i v_i^2 |\varphi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2, \\ \tau_q(\mathbf{r}) &= \sum_i v_i^2 |\nabla \varphi_i \mathbf{r}|^2, \\ J_q(\mathbf{r}) &= -\mathbf{i} \sum_i v_i^2 \varphi_i^+(\mathbf{r}) \nabla \times \hat{\sigma} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}). \end{split}$$

$$\frac{\rho = \rho_n + \rho_p, \quad \tau = \tau_n + \tau_p, \quad J = J_n + J_p, \\ \overline{\tilde{\rho}} = \rho_n - \rho_p, \quad \tilde{\tau} = \tau_n - \tau_p, \quad \tilde{J} = J_n - J_p, \end{split}$$

 Construct 6 new EDFs to simultaneously fit CREX and PREX results, ground- and excited-state of a number of typical (semi-)closed-shell nuclei, and constraints on EOS of nuclear matter.
 (e)S500T, (e)S240T, and (e)S240. [e: extended, T: tensor force, number: the value of b_{IV}

Six New EDFs with strong isovector spin-orbit interaction





The isovector spin-orbit coupling b_{IV} should be larger than ~ 240 MeV fm⁵ to fit CREX/PREX data (b_{IV} ~60 MeV fm⁵ in conventional non-relativistic EDFs. Note: b_{IS} ~120 MeV fm⁵)

✦ Strong isovector dependence of spin-orbit interaction (b_{IV}~ 240 MeV fm⁵ versus b_{IS}~120 MeV fm⁵)

	S240	eS240	$S240_{\mathrm{T}}$	$eS240_{T}$	$\mathrm{S500_{T}}$	$eS500_{T}$
ρ_0	0.16359	0.15580	0.16498	0.15442	0.16342	0.15089
E_0	-16.147	-16.170	-16.220	-16.190	-16.288	-15.957
$ar{m}_{s,0}$	0.982	0.939	0.993	0.865	1.022	0.921
$ar{m}_{v,0}$	0.816	0.898	0.883	0.765	0.602	0.662
S	34.08	34.45	35.19	34.06	39.03	36.96
L	46.6	60.5	52.7	57.4	99.7	80.6
$K_{\rm sym}$	-207.4	-87.3	-190.4	-133.1	-101.1	-189.5
$\Delta F_{\rm CW}^{208}$	0.0280	0.0288	0.0291	0.0287	0.0400	0.0408
$\Delta F_{\rm CW}^{48}$	0.0329	0.0312	0.0321	0.0310	0.0291	0.0288
$\Delta r_{ m np}^{208}$	0.189	0.195	0.194	0.195	0.263	0.273
$\Delta r_{ m np}^{48}$	0.139	0.090	0.128	0.099	0.100	0.105
$lpha_{ m D}^{208}$	19.35	20.15	19.51	20.20	22.77	22.98
$\alpha_{\rm D}^{48}$	2.29	2.29	2.29	2.23	2.68	2.85

S500T and eS500T overpredict the measured electric dipole polarizability alphaD at RCNP

□ S240/eS240/S240T/eS240T:

Nskin(Pb208) ~ 0.19 fm, Nskin(Ca48) ~ 0.12 fm
 E_{sym}(ρ₀) ~ 34 MeV, L ~ 55 MeV
 (Nicely agree with World Average Values!)

Correlation analysis for $\Delta F_{\rm CW}$ in Ca48 and Pb208





Ground-state properties: mass, radius, spin-orbit splitting



Tong-Gang Yu, ZZ, and Lie-Wen Chen, arXiv:2406.03844



The new EDFs with strong isovector spin-orbit interaction can well describe the nuclear global properties!

EOS of symmetric nuclear matter and neutron matter





The new EDFs with strong isovector spin-orbit interaction can well describe the empirical EOS of SNM and PNM! (but S500T and eS500T predict too stiff PNM EOS)



- **PREX-CREX puzzle can be resolved by introducing a strong isovector spin-orbit interaction.**
- Such a strong isovector spin-orbit interaction is expected to have significant impacts on essentially all properties of neutron-rich nuclei: The location of neutron-drip line, shell evolution in exotic nuclei, the new magic number, the properties of superheavy nuclei, ...
- Future PVES for some stable nuclei (MREX/MESA):
 Pb208, Ni60,...: Not sensitive to the isovector Spin-Orbit interactions (Esym);
 Ca48, Zr90,...: Sensitive to the isovector Spin-Orbit interactions (b_{IV})



Thanks for your attention

TABLE III. Experimental data and adopted errors for nuclear structure observables used in the sampling (see Sec. III for details). The second line shows the globally adopted error for each observable. That error is multiplied for each observable by a further integer weight factor given in the parenthesis next to the data value.

Nuclei	E_{B}	r_c	R_d	σ	$\Delta \epsilon_{ls}$	$\Delta \epsilon_F$	$E_{ m GMR}$	$\Delta F_{\rm CW}$
	$(1 \mathrm{MeV})$	(0.02 fm)	(0.04 fm)	(0.04 fm)	(10%)	(1.2 MeV)	(0.074 MeV)	(0.002)
$^{16}\mathrm{O}$	-127.620(1)	2.701(1)	2.777(1)	0.839(1)	6.32(3)	-3.53(1)		
					6.17(3)			
40 Ca	-342.051(1)	3.478(1)	3.845(1)	0.978(1)	6.80(1)	-7.31(1)		
^{48}Ca	-415.990(1)	3.479(1)	3.964(1)	0.881(1)	8.80(1)	6.10(1)		0.0277(1)
56 Ni	-483.990(1)	3.750(1)			7.16(1)	-9.47(1)		
⁶⁸ Ni	-590.430(1)							
100 Sn	-825.800(1)							
$^{132}\mathrm{Sn}$	-1102.900(1)				1.66(3)	8.40(1)		
$^{208}\mathrm{Pb}$	-1636.446(1)	5.504(1)	6.776(1)	0.913(1)	1.46(3)	0.64(1)	13.614(1)	
					0.89(3)			0.0410(1)
					2.13(3)			
Not	o Acidata	are for 16	O(1n 1n	$) \frac{40}{C_{2}}$	f) 48C	$(1f)^{56}$	(1f) 132 Sp	(2d) and

Note. $\Delta \epsilon_{ls}$ data are for ¹⁶O(1 p_p , 1 p_n), ⁴⁰Ca(1 f_n), ⁴⁸Ca(1 f_n), ⁵⁶Ni(1 f_n), ¹³²Sn(2 d_n), and ²⁰⁸Pb(2 d_p , 3 p_n , 2 f_n), respectively.

	S240	eS240	$S240_{T}$	$eS240_{T}$	$\mathrm{S500_{T}}$	$eS500_{T}$
t_0	-2029.4	-1777.4	-2013.2	-1707.4	-1942.9	-1632.7
t_1	319.969	534.945	312.255	576.127	310.4	545.566
t_2	328.400	-44.585	-11.507	128.93	604.89	-946.38
t_3	13713.8	12882.5	13652.8	12107.0	13579.5	12807.8
t_4	_	-1608.5	_	-1718.0	_	-1815.3
t_5	_	-1983.3	_	-1921.9	_	7734.2
x_0	0.2655	0.3706	0.2808	0.3077	-0.4972	-0.1312
x_1	-1.3375	-0.7830	-0.8068	-0.8494	-0.5167	0.8692
x_2	-1.9532	6.6536	18.785	-3.8262	-1.6533	-0.9003
$\overline{x_3}$	0.1038	0.3573	0.1579	0.2180	-1.4670	-0.9644
$\tilde{x_4}$	_	-1.6562	_	-1.7790	_	1.6947
x_5	_	-1.8112	_	-1.8660	_	-1.1009
α	0.27317	0.35737	0.27604	0.37750	0.29794	0.43201
β	_	1	_	1	_	1
γ	_	1	_	1	_	1
\dot{b}_{1S}	160.81	149.72	123.18	124.78	100.56	118.87
$b_{\rm IV}$	240	240	240	240	500	500
	0	0	-200.163	-132.004	-121.47	-1.6178
$\beta_{\rm T}$	Õ	0 0	-51 2445	-3256077	-29574	-244 841
P1	0	0	01.2110	02:00011	200.11	211.011



$$\rho_q(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i v_i^2 |\varphi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2,$$

$$\tau_q(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i v_i^2 |\nabla \varphi_i \mathbf{r})|^2,$$

$$\mathbf{J}_q(\mathbf{r}) = -\mathbf{i} \sum v_i^2 \varphi_i^+(\mathbf{r}) \nabla \times \hat{\sigma} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\begin{split} \rho &= \rho_n + \rho_p, \ \ \tau = \tau_n + \tau_p, \ \ J = J_n + J_p, \\ \\ \tilde{\rho} &= \rho_n - \rho_p, \ \ \tilde{\tau} = \tau_n - \tau_p, \ \ \tilde{J} = J_n - J_p, \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_q^*} &= \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} + (B_1 + B_4\rho^\beta + B_5\rho^\gamma)\rho - t_q(B_1' + B_4'\rho^\beta + B_5'\rho^\gamma)\tilde{\rho}, \\ U_q &= B_0\rho - t_q B_0'\tilde{\rho} + B_1\tau - t_q B_1'\tilde{\tau} + \frac{\alpha+2}{2}B_3\rho^{\alpha+1} - \frac{B_3'}{2}(\alpha\tilde{\rho} + 2t_q\rho)\rho^{\alpha-1}\tilde{\rho} \\ &+ (\beta+1)B_4\rho^\beta\tau + (\gamma+1)B_5\rho^\gamma\tau - (B_4'\beta\rho^\beta + B_5'\gamma\rho^\gamma)\tilde{\rho}\tilde{\tau} - t_q(B_1' + B_4'\rho^\beta + B_5'\rho^\gamma)\tilde{\tau} \\ &- \frac{\beta(2\beta+3)B_4\rho^{\beta-1} - B_5\gamma\rho^{\gamma-1}}{4}(\nabla\rho)^2 - \frac{2B_2 + (2\beta+3)B_4\rho^\beta - B_5\rho^\gamma}{2}\nabla^2\rho \\ &- \frac{3\beta B_4'\rho^{\beta-1} - \gamma B_5'\rho^{\gamma-1}}{4}\nabla\tilde{\rho} \cdot (2t_q\nabla\rho + \nabla\tilde{\rho}) - \frac{2B_2' + 3B_4'\rho^\beta - B_5'\rho^\gamma}{2}t_q\nabla^2\tilde{\rho} \\ &+ \frac{\beta B_4'}{2}\rho^{\beta-1}(\nabla\tilde{\rho})^2 + \frac{\beta B_4'}{2}\rho^{\beta-1}\tilde{\rho}\nabla^2\tilde{\rho} + \frac{\beta(\beta-1)B_4'}{2}\rho^{\beta-2}\tilde{\rho}(\nabla\rho)^2t_q + \frac{\beta B_4'}{2}\rho^{\beta-1}\tilde{\rho}(\nabla^2\rho)t_q \\ &+ \frac{\beta C_2\rho^{\beta-1} + \gamma C_3\rho^{\gamma-1}}{2}J^2 + \frac{\beta C_2'\rho^{\beta-1} + \gamma C_3'\rho^{\gamma-1}}{2}J^2 - \frac{b_{\rm IS}}{2}\nabla\cdot J - t_q\frac{b_{\rm IV}}{2}\nabla\cdot\tilde{J}, \end{split}$$

$$W_q = \frac{b_{\mathrm{IS}}}{2} \nabla \rho + t_q \frac{b_{\mathrm{IV}}}{2} \nabla (\rho_n - \rho_p) + \frac{\alpha_{\mathrm{J}} + \beta_{\mathrm{J}}}{2} J + t_q \frac{\alpha_{\mathrm{J}} - \beta_{\mathrm{J}}}{2} (J_n - J_p),$$

$$\alpha_{\rm T} = \frac{5}{12}U, \quad \beta_{\rm T} = \frac{5}{24}(T+U),$$

$$\alpha_{\rm C} = 2C_1 + 2C_2\rho^{\beta} + 2C_3\rho^{\gamma}, \quad \beta_{\rm C} = 2C_1' + 2C_2'\rho^{\beta} + 2C_3'\rho^{\gamma}.$$



