

Nuclear symmetry energy and neutron skin thickness

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Outline:

- Introduction

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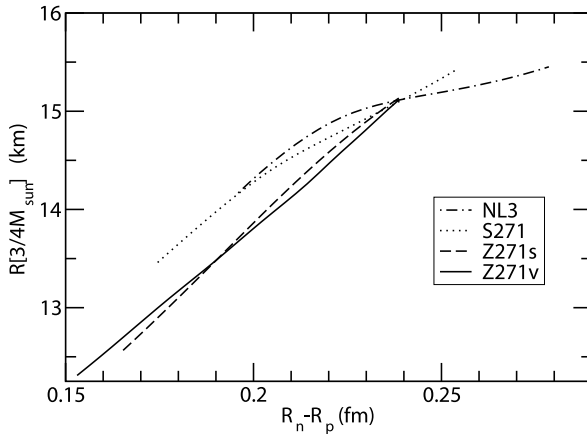
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- PREX experiment
- Conclusions

Neutron star radius vs. neutron skin:



Implementations of nuclear symmetry energy

- Nuclear physics

binding energy, drip lines, density distributions, neutron skin, giant resonances, HIC, isospin diffusion, multifragmentation

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supernova explosions, stellar nucleosynthesis, r-process, neutron stars

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- Interdisciplinary areas

parity non-conservation experiments

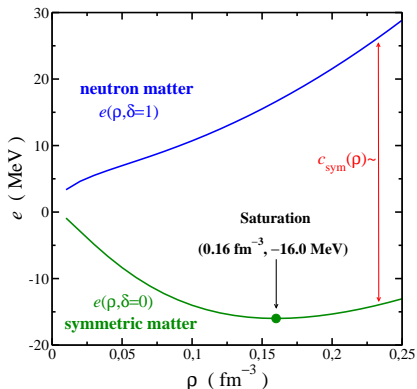
Symmetry energy of infinite nuclear matter

$$e(\rho, \delta) \approx e(\rho, \delta = 0) + c_{sym}(\rho)\delta^2$$

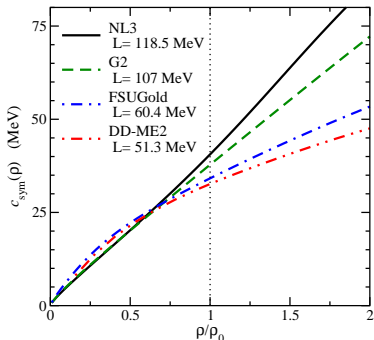
$$c_{sym}(\rho) = J - L\epsilon + \frac{K_{sym}}{2}\epsilon^2 + O(\epsilon^3)$$

$$\delta = (\rho_n - \rho_p)/\rho$$

$$\epsilon = (\rho_0 - \rho)/3\rho_0$$



$$c_{sym}(\rho) = J - L\epsilon + \frac{K_{sym}}{2}\epsilon^2 + O(\epsilon^3)$$



Symmetry energy at saturation
 $J = c_{sym}(\rho_0) \approx 32 \text{ MeV}$

Slope of symmetry energy
 $L = 3\rho_0 \left. \frac{\partial c_{sym}(\rho)}{\partial \rho} \right|_{\rho_0}$

Curvature of symmetry energy
 $K_{sym} = 9\rho_0^2 \left. \frac{\partial^2 c_{sym}(\rho)}{\partial \rho^2} \right|_{\rho_0}$

Large L – stiff symmetry energy
 Small L – soft symmetry energy

Symmetry energy in finite nuclei

$$E = E_{vol} + E_{surf} + E_{Coul} + E_{sym} + E_{pair}$$

$$E_{sym} = a_{sym}(A)(1 - x_A I_C)^2 A \approx a_{sym} I^2 A$$

$$I = \frac{N - Z}{A} \quad I_C = \frac{e^2 Z}{20 J r_0 A^{1/3}} \quad x_A = \frac{9J}{4Q} A^{-1/3}$$

$$a_{sym}(A) = \frac{J}{1 + x_A}$$

Q - surface stiffness coefficient

W. D. Myers and W. J. Świątecki,

Ann. of Phys. (N.Y.) 55, 395 (1969); Ann. of Phys. (N.Y.) 84, 186 (1974)

How nuclear matter symmetry energy $c_{sym}(\rho)$
and symmetry energy in finite nuclei $a_{sym}(A)$ are related?

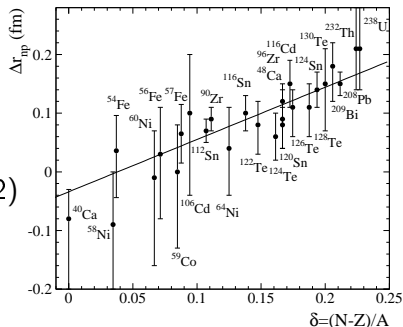
What can we learn about nuclear matter symmetry energy
from nuclear structure?

Neutron skin thickness:

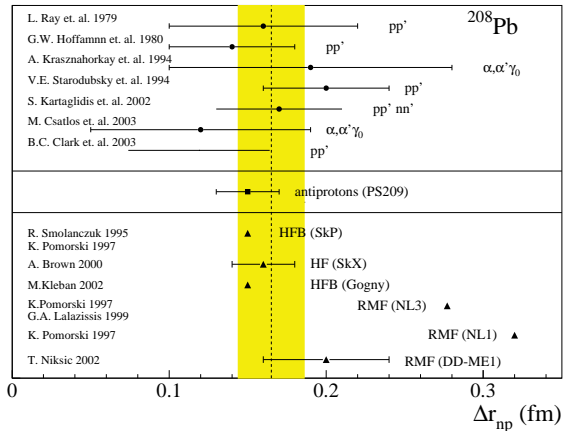
$$\Delta r_{np} = \langle r^2 \rangle_n^{1/2} - \langle r^2 \rangle_p^{1/2}$$

$$\Delta R_{np} = (0.90 \pm 0.15)I + (-0.03 \pm 0.02)$$

Jastrzebski et al. Int. J. Mod. Phys. E13, 343 (2004).



Neutron skin thickness in ^{208}Pb :



Jastrzbski et al. *Int. J. Mod. Phys. E* **13**, 343 (2004).

Droplet model:

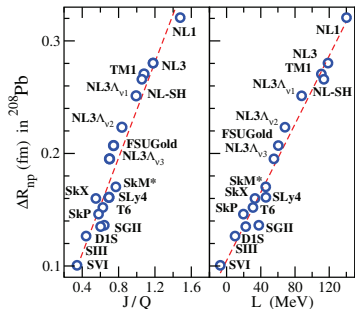
$$\Delta R_{np} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{5}} \left[t - \frac{e^2 Z}{70J} + \frac{5}{2R} (b_n^2 - b_p^2) \right]$$

$$t = \frac{3}{2} r_0 \frac{J}{Q} \frac{I - I_C}{1 + x_A}$$

$$t = \frac{2r_0}{3J} [J - a_{\text{sym}}(A)] A^{1/3} (I - I_C)$$

W. D. Myers and W. J. Świątecki,
Ann. of Phys. (N.Y.) 55, 395 (1969); Ann. of Phys. (N.Y.) 84, 186 (1974)

Brown PRL85, 5296; Brown, Typel PRC64, 027302



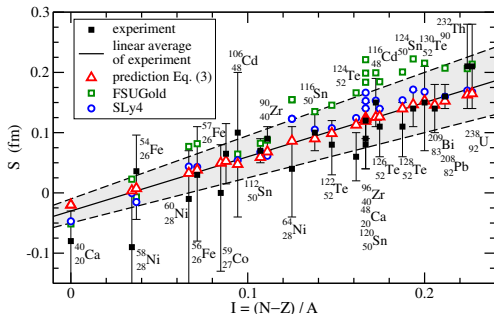
Model	J	$A = 208$		$A = 116$		$A = 40$	
		a_{sym}	ρ	a_{sym}	ρ	a_{sym}	ρ
NL3	37.4	25.8	0.103	24.2	0.096	21.1	0.083
NL-SH	36.1	25.8	0.105	24.6	0.099	21.3	0.086
FSUGold	32.6	25.4	0.098	24.2	0.090	21.9	0.075
TF - MS	32.6	24.2	0.093	22.9	0.085	20.3	0.068
SLy4	32.0	25.3	0.100	24.2	0.091	22.0	0.075
SkX	31.1	25.7	0.102	24.8	0.096	22.8	0.082
SkM*	30.0	23.2	0.101	22.0	0.093	19.9	0.078
SIII	28.2	24.1	0.093	23.4	0.088	21.8	0.077
SGII	26.8	21.6	0.104	20.7	0.096	18.9	0.082
AVERAGE			0.1		0.93		0.8

$$c_{\text{sym}}(\rho) = a_{\text{sym}}(A)$$

$$c_{sym}(\rho) = a_{sym}(A)$$

$$\rho_A = \rho_0 - \frac{\rho_0}{1 + cA^{1/3}}$$

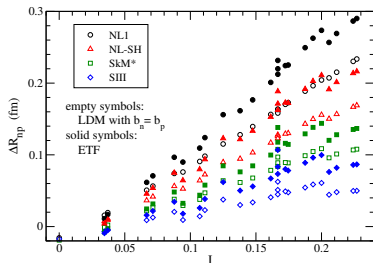
$$t = \frac{2r_0}{3J} L \left(1 - \epsilon \frac{K_{sym}}{2L}\right) \epsilon A^{1/3} (I - I_C).$$



$L = 75 \pm 25$ MeV – soft symmetry energy

Impact of surface distribution on neutron skin thickness

$$\Delta R_{np}^{SW} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{5} \frac{5}{2R}} (b_n^2 - b_p^2)$$

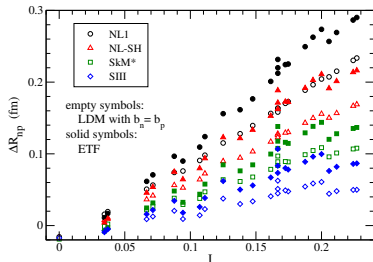


ETF – full symbols

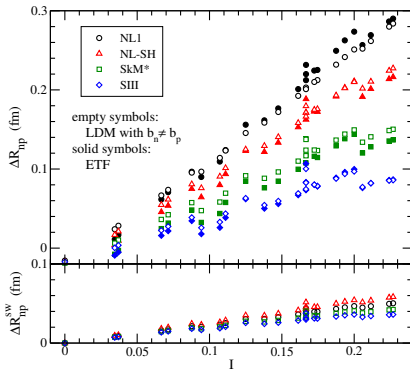
LDM – empty symbols

Impact of surface distribution on neutron skin thickness

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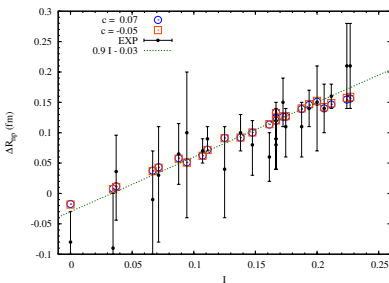
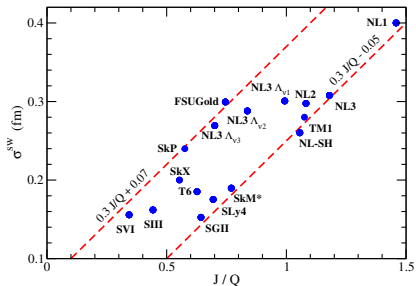
ETF – full symbols
LDM – empty symbols



Slope of surface contribution:

$$\sigma^{SW} = 0.3J/Q - 0.05 \text{ fm}$$

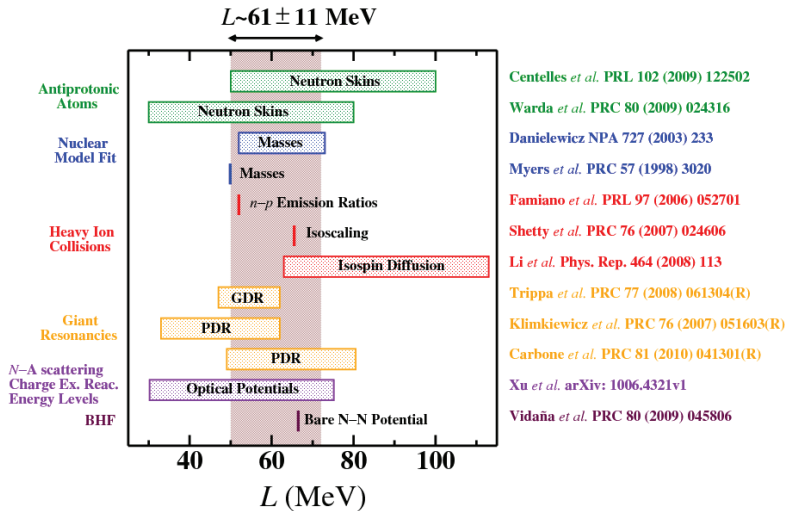
$$\sigma^{SW} = 0.3J/Q + 0.07 \text{ fm}$$



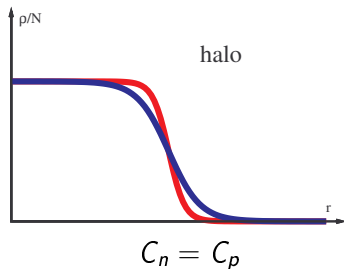
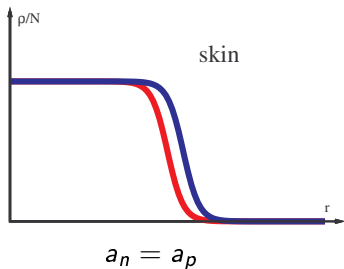
$$\Delta R_{np} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{5}} \left(t - \frac{e^2 Z}{70J} \right) + \left(0.3 \frac{J}{Q} + c \right) l$$

$$L = 55 \pm 25 \text{ MeV}$$

Recent constraints on the slope of the symmetry energy:



Origin of neutron skin



2-parameter Fermi density profile

$$\rho(r) = \frac{\rho_0}{1 + \exp[(r - C)/a]}$$

Which radius describes properly bulk properties?

Central radius C

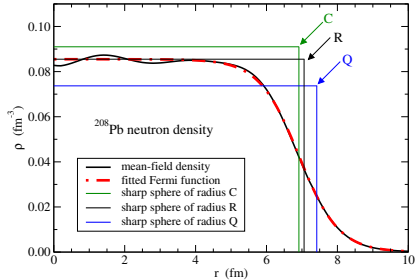
$$C = \frac{1}{\rho(0)} \int_0^\infty \rho(r) dr$$

Equivalent sharp radius R

$$\frac{4}{3}\pi R^3 \rho(\text{bulk}) = 4\pi \int_0^\infty \rho(r) r^2 dr$$

Equivalent rms radius Q

$$\frac{3}{5} Q^2 = \langle r^2 \rangle$$



R. W. Hasse and W. D. Myers, *Geometrical relationships of macroscopic nuclear physics*

Bulk and surface contributions to neutron skin thickness

$$\Delta r_{np} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{5}} (Q_n - Q_p)$$

Bulk contribution

Consequence of difference in equivalent sharp radii R_n and R_p

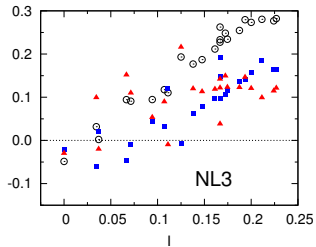
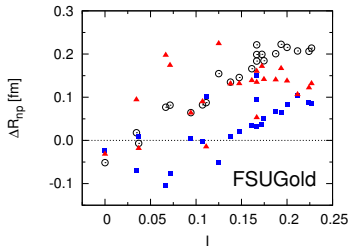
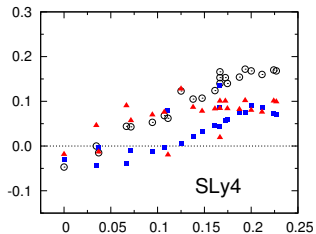
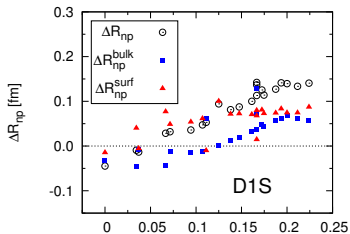
$$\Delta r_{np}^{\text{bulk}} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{5}} (R_n - R_p) = \sqrt{\frac{3}{5}} \left[(C_n - C_p) + \frac{\pi^2}{3} \left(\frac{a_n^2}{C_n} - \frac{a_p^2}{C_p} \right) \right]$$

Surface contribution - all the rest

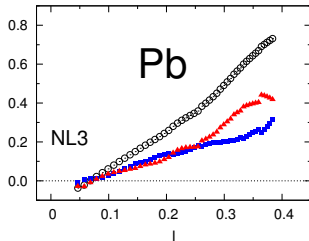
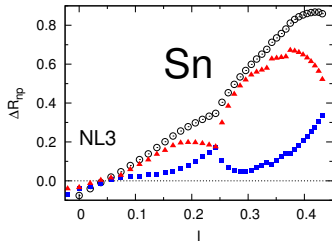
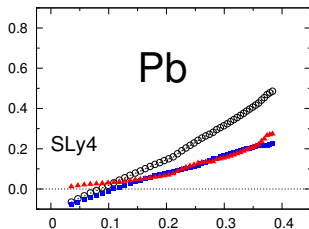
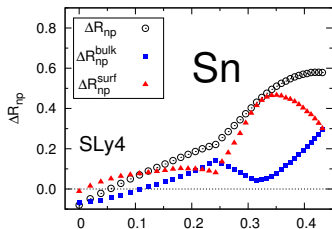
$$\Delta r_{np}^{\text{surf}} = \Delta r_{np} - \Delta r_{np}^{\text{bulk}}$$

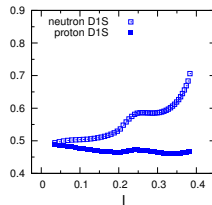
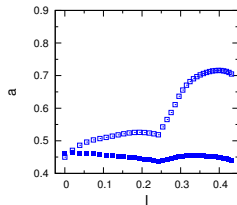
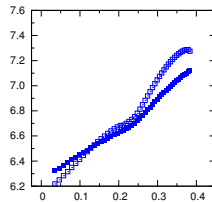
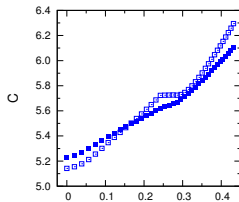
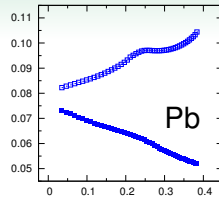
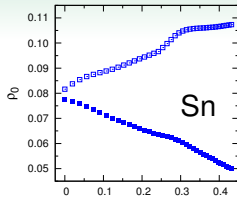
$$\Delta r_{np}^{\text{surf}} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{5}} \frac{5}{2} \left(\frac{b_n^2}{R_n} - \frac{b_p^2}{R_p} \right) = \sqrt{\frac{3}{5}} \frac{5\pi^2}{6} \left(\frac{a_n^2}{C_n} - \frac{a_p^2}{C_p} \right)$$

Bulk and surface contributions to neutron skin thickness

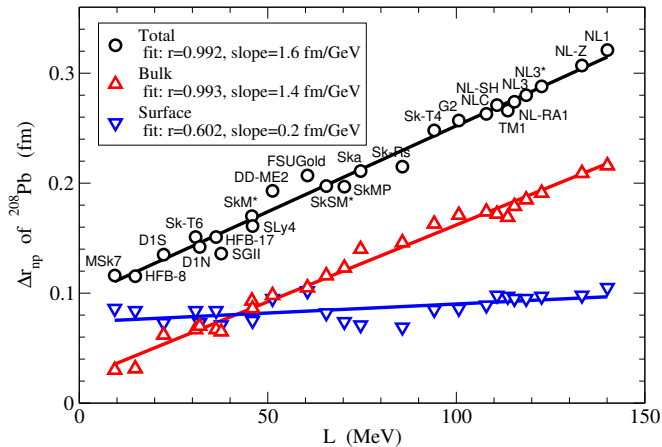


Bulk and surface contributions to neutron skin thickness





Bulk and surface contributions to neutron skin thickness in ^{208}Pb



PREX – Pb Radius Experiment @ Jefferson Lab

Parity Violating Electron Scattering on ^{208}Pb

Polarized electrons interact with a nucleus through electromagnetic field (γ - with protons) and weak field (Z_0 bozon - mainly with neutrons)

Asymmetry of left-handed and right-handed electrons is measured

Asymmetry is of the order of one particle per million

PREX @ JLab:

$$E = 1.06 \text{ GeV}, \theta = 5 \text{ deg}, q_{lab} = 0.47 \text{ fm}^{-1}$$

<http://hallaweb.jlab.org/parity/prex/>

Horowitz et al. Phys. Rev. C63, 025501 (2001)



PREX – Pb Radius Experiment @ Jefferson Lab

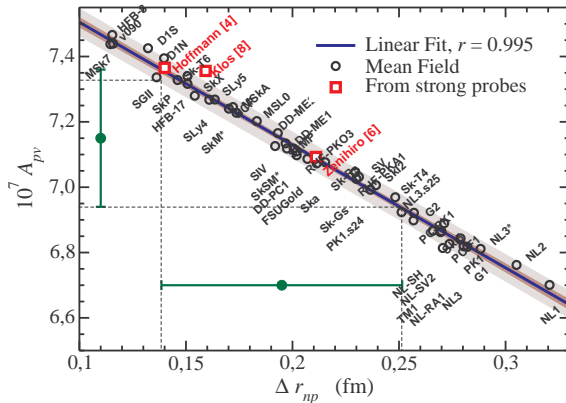
$$V_{\pm}(r) = V_{\text{Coulomb}}(r) \pm V_{\text{weak}}(r)$$

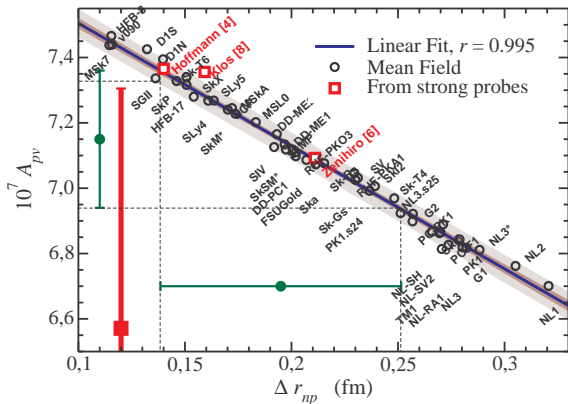
$$V_{\text{weak}}(r) = \frac{G_F}{2^{2/3}} \left[(1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W) Z \rho_p(r) - N \rho_n(r) \right]$$

Parity violating asymmetry:

$$A_{PV} \equiv \frac{\frac{d\sigma_+}{d\Omega} - \frac{d\sigma_-}{d\Omega}}{\frac{d\sigma_+}{d\Omega} + \frac{d\sigma_-}{d\Omega}}$$

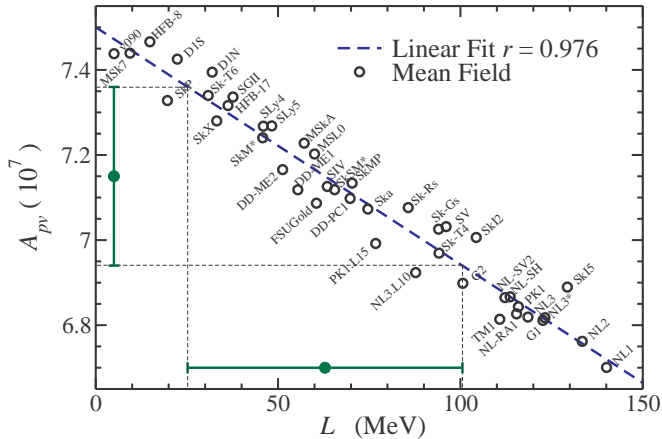
$$A_{PV}^{\text{PWBA}} = \frac{G_F q^2}{4\pi\alpha\sqrt{2}} \left[4 \sin^2 \theta_W + \frac{F_n(q) - F_p(q)}{F_p(q)} \right]$$

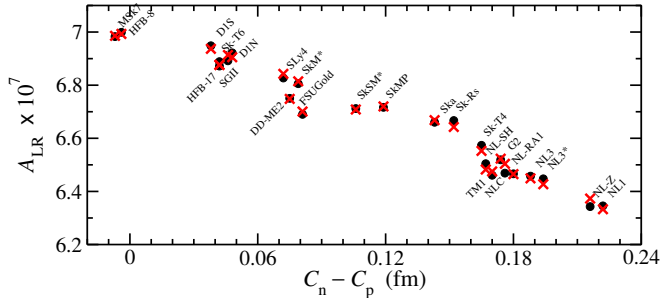
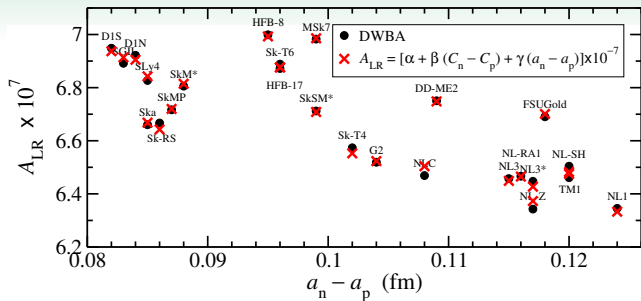




$$A_{PV}^{\text{exp}} = 0.6571 \pm 0.0604(\text{stat}) \pm 0.0130(\text{syst})$$

9% statistic error
 2% systematic error





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- Soft symmetry energy ($L = 55$ MeV) is predicted from neutron skin data
- Surface term should not be omitted in description of neutron skin
- Mixture of bulk and surface contributions is found in numerous nuclei
- Prescription of calculating neutron skin from PREX is given

Published papers:

- M. Centelles, X. Roca-Maza, X. Viñas and M. Warda, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **102**, 122502 (2009)
- M. Warda, X. Viñas, X. Roca-Maza and M. Centelles, *Phys. Rev. C* **80**, 024316 (2009)
- M. Warda, X. Viñas, X. Roca-Maza and M. Centelles, *Phys. Rev. C* **81**, 054309 (2010)
- M. Centelles, X. Roca-Maza, X. Viñas and M. Warda, *Phys. Rev. C* **82**, 054314 (2010)
- X. Roca-Maza, M. Centelles, X. Viñas and M. Warda, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **106**, 252501 (2011)