Nuclear clusters in low-energy nuclear reaction and neutron-star crust

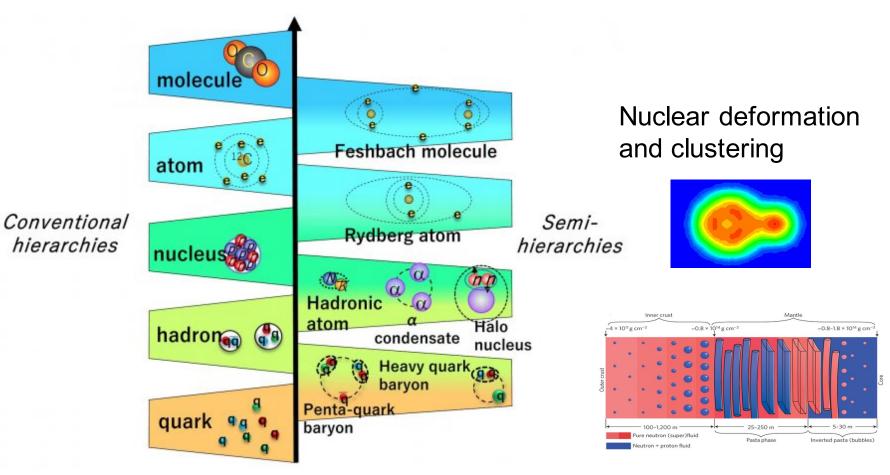
Takashi Nakatsukasa

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- Quantum clusters
- Low-energy nuclear reaction
  - Reaction path, Inertial mass
- Neutron-star crust
  - Pasta phase, Entrainment effect

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### Quantum clusters

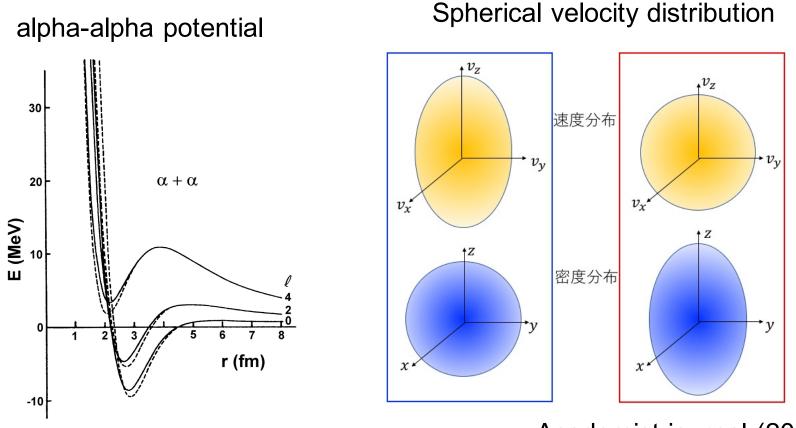


Inner crust of  $N_{\bigstar}$ 

"Classical"

"Quantum"

### Importance of quantum fluctuation



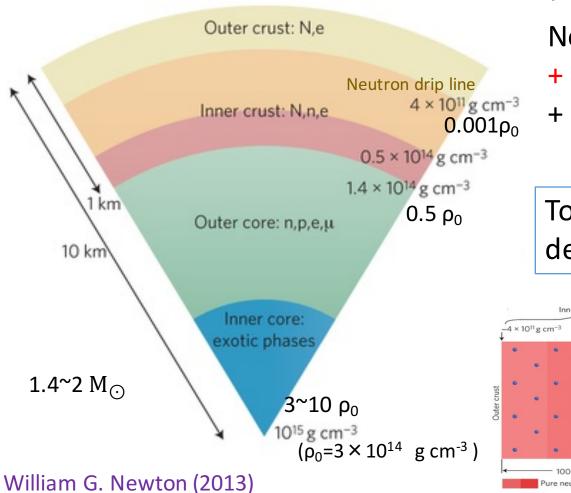
Academist journal (2019)

Minimal kinetic energy  $\rightarrow$  Infinite uniform matter Maximal attractive interaction  $\rightarrow$  Finite nucleus



Nuclear deformation Clustering

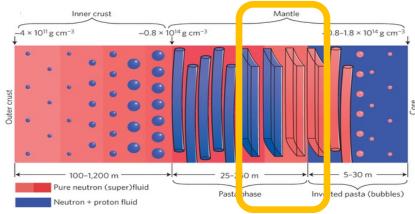
### Neutron stars matter



Inner crust
 Neutron rich Nuclei

- + low-density neutrons gas
- + electrons gas

## Toward accurate description of inner crust



#### **Nuclear Landscape**



#### Ab initio

Protons

**Configuration Interaction Density Functional Theory** 



known nuclei

neutrons

terra incognita

r-proces

126

### Self-consistent band calculation

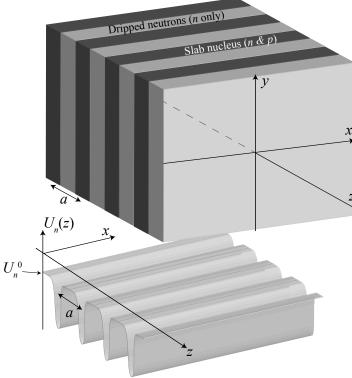
Periodic potential along z axis
 V(z + a)=V(z)

• KS equation :  

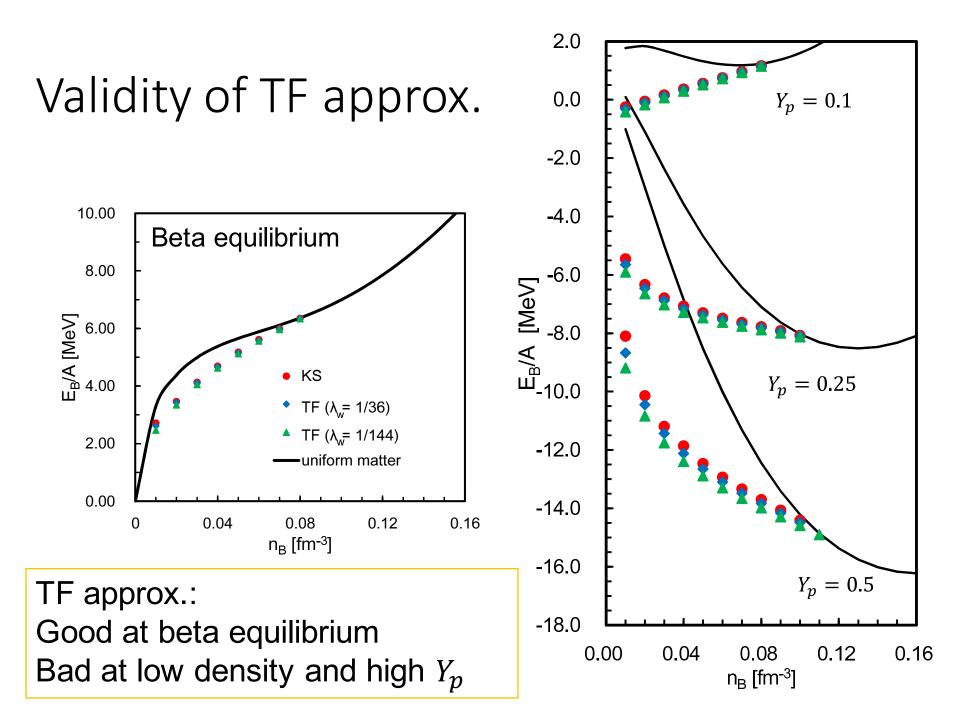
$$h_{k}[\rho]\phi_{k,i}(z) = \varepsilon_{k,i}\phi_{k,i}(z)$$

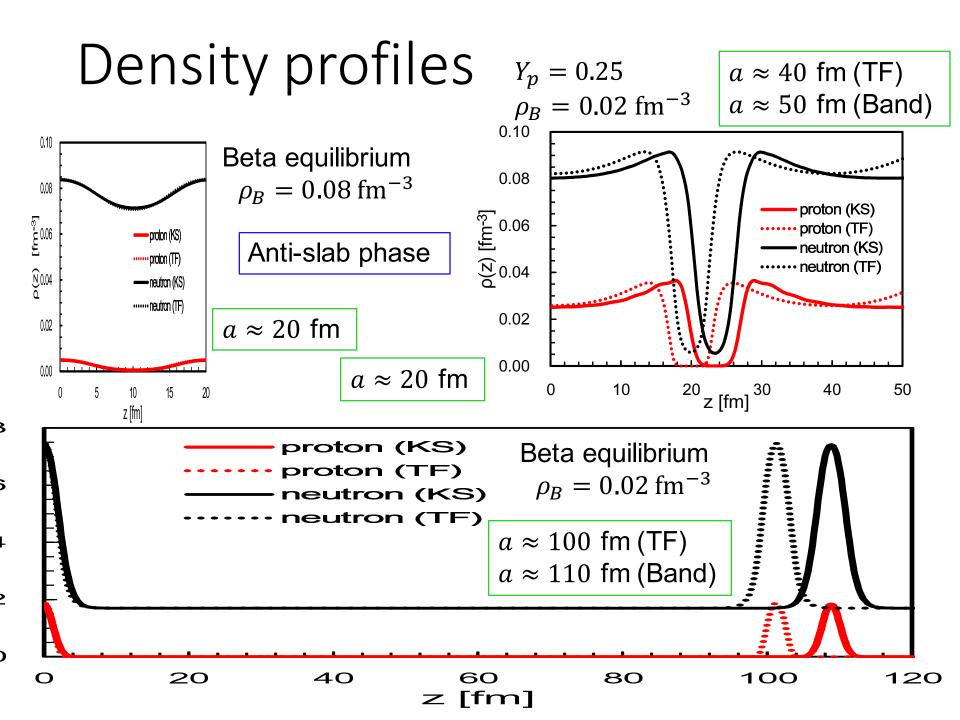
$$h_{k}[\rho] = \frac{(p_{z} + k)^{2}}{2m} + V_{KS}[\rho]$$

$$\phi_{k,i}(z + a) = \phi_{k,i}(z)$$



Number of k = Number of unit cells In the present cal. we adopt 30 points for k.





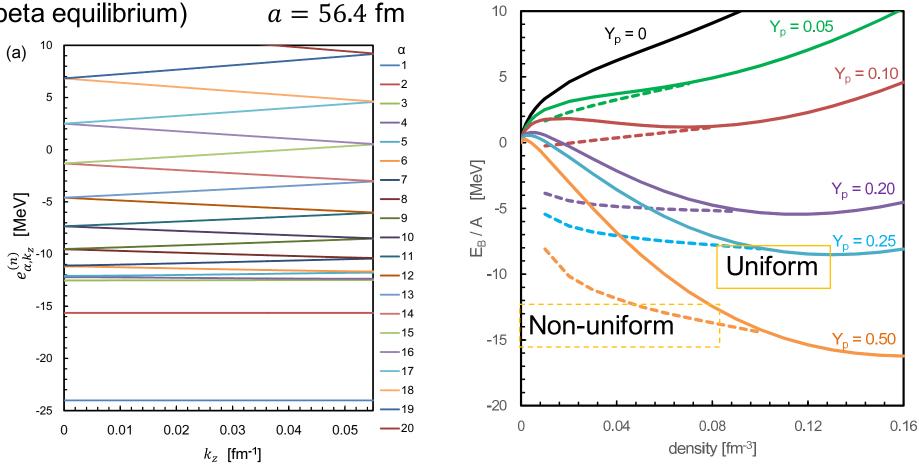
### Band calculation

 $\rho_B = 0.04 \text{ fm}^{-3}$ (beta equilibrium)

 $\mu_n = 8.45 \text{ MeV}$ 

a = 56.4 fm

Kashiwaba and Nakatsukasa, JPS Conf. Proc. 14, 020801 (2017)



### Effective mass for neutrons

Chamel, PRC 85, 035801 (2012)

$$\left(\frac{1}{m_n^*(\boldsymbol{k})^{\alpha}}\right)_{ij} = \frac{1}{\hbar^2} \frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon_{\alpha \boldsymbol{k}}}{\partial k_i \partial k_j},$$

$$n_n^c = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{\alpha} \int \frac{d^3 k}{(2\pi^3)} \tilde{n}_{\alpha \boldsymbol{k}}^0 \operatorname{Tr}\left[\frac{m_n}{m_n^*(\boldsymbol{k})^{\alpha}}\right]_{j=1}^{k}$$

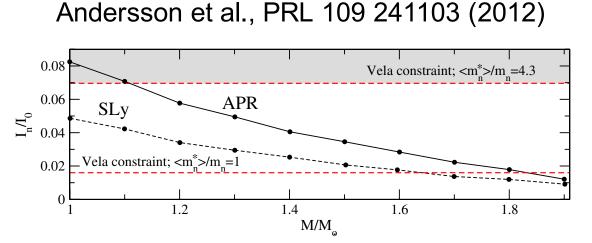
$$m_n^{\star} = m_n \frac{n_n^{\rm f}}{n_n^{\rm c}}.$$

Effective mass larger than 10 times more!

TABLE I. Composition of the inner crust of cold nonaccreting neutron stars as obtained from Ref. [2]. Z and A are, respectively, the average number of protons and the *total* average number of nucleons inside the Wigner-Seitz cell.  $n_n$  is the average neutron density,  $n_n^f$  is the density of free neutrons as defined by the quantity  $\rho_{Bn}$  in Ref. [2],  $n_n^c$ is the density of conduction neutrons, and  $m_n^{\star}$  is the neutron effective mass. Note that in the densest layer,  $n_n^f > n_n$  due to the formation of bubbles as indicated in Fig. 1.

$\bar{n}$ (fm <sup>-3</sup> )	Ζ	Α	$n_n^{\mathrm{f}}/n_n~(\%)$	$n_n^{\rm c}/n_n^{\rm f}$ (%)	$m_n^\star/m_n$
0.0003	50	200	20.0	82.6	1.21
0.001	50	460	68.6	27.3	3.66
0.005	50	1140	86.4	17.5	5.71
0.01	40	1215	88.9	15.5	6.45
0.02	40	1485	90.3	7.37	13.6
0.03	40	1590	91.4	7.33	13.6
0.04	40	1610	88.8	10.6	9.43
0.05	20	800	91.4	30.0	3.33
0.06	20	780	91.5	45.9	2.18
0.07	20	714	92.0	64.6	1.55
0.08	20	665	104	64.8	1.54

### Observational constraints



$$I_n \approx \frac{8\pi}{3} \int_{R_c}^R r^4 e^{(\lambda-\nu)/2} n_n \mu_n dr,$$

 $R_c$ : Crust-core interface  $\mu_n$ : Neutron chemical pot.  $n_n$ : Free neutron density

FIG. 3 (color online). The moment of inertia ratio  $I_n/I_0$  as a function of the stellar mass for the models from Ref. [15] (APR) and Ref. [22] (SLy). If the glitches in the Vela pulsar are to be explained by the crust superfluid alone, then the moment of inertia ratio must satisfy  $I_n/I_0 \ge 0.016 \times (\langle m_n^* \rangle/m_n) \approx 0.07$  (gray region, with entrainment according to Ref. [10]; we also show the constraint when entrainment is not accounted for, as in Ref. [7].)

Average value:

$$\frac{m_n^*}{m_n} \sim 4.3 - 4.4$$

Crust does not have enough neutrons to explain the glitches in the Vela pulsar.

### Effective mass

Kashiwaba and Nakatsukasa, arXiv: 1904.10712

Mobility coef.

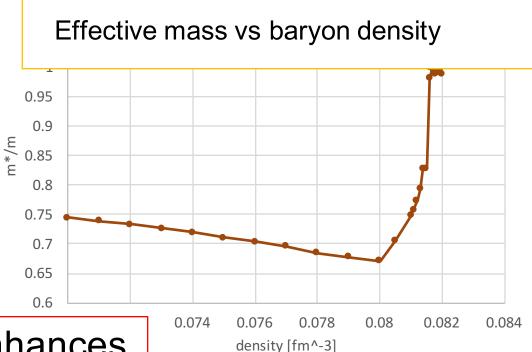
$$K^{zz} = 2\sum_{\alpha} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^2\varepsilon_{\alpha k}}{dk_z^2} \theta(\mu_n - \varepsilon_{\alpha k})$$

Effective mass

$$m^* = n/K^{zz}$$

Near the bottom of the pasta phase

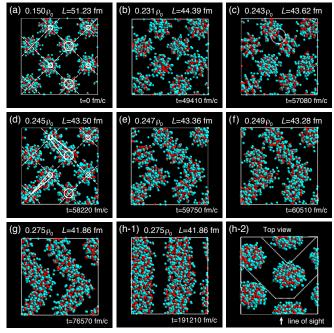
 $\frac{m^*}{m_n} \approx 0.7$ 

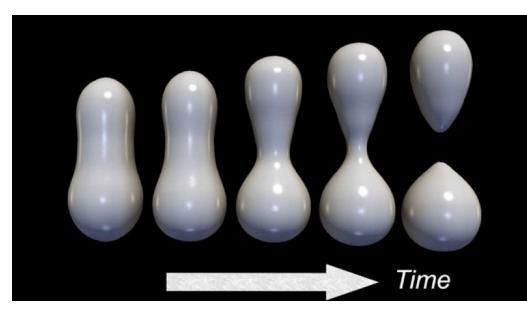


The Bragg scattering enhances mobility of dripped neutrons.

### Emergence of cluster/pasta phase

- What kind of phases appear?
- Dynamical clustering, crust heating
- Finite-temperature effect
- Effect of neutron sea and superfluidity





Scamps et al., Nature (2018)

Watanabe et al., PRL (2009)

### Nuclear reaction and collective motion

- Nuclear decay
  - Spontaneous fission
  - Alpha decay
- Low-energy nuclear reaction
  - Sub-barrier fusion reaction

Quantum tunneling and fluctuation

# Time-dependent density functional theory (TDDFT) for nuclei

Time-odd densities (current density, spin density, etc.)

$$E\left[\rho_{q}(t), \tau_{q}(t), \vec{J}_{q}(t), \vec{j}_{q}(t), \vec{s}_{q}(t), \vec{T}_{q}(t); \kappa_{q}(t)\right]$$
  
kinetic current spin-kinetic spin-current spin pair density

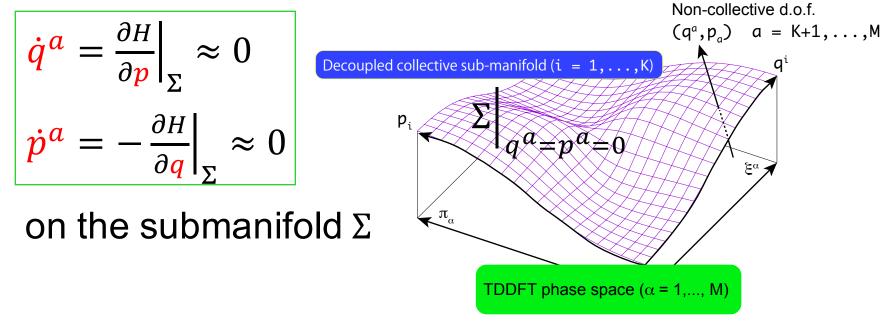
• TD Kohn-Sham-Bogoliubov-de-Gennes eq.

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{pmatrix} U_{\mu}(t) \\ V_{\mu}(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} h(t) - \lambda & \Delta(t) \\ -\Delta^{*}(t) & -(h(t) - \lambda)^{*} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_{\mu}(t) \\ V_{\mu}(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

### **Decoupled** submanifold

Klein, Do Dang, Walet, Phys. Rep. 335, 93 (2000) Nakatsukasa, Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2012, 01A207 (2012)

- Collective canonical variables (q, p)-  $\{\xi^{\alpha}, \pi_{\alpha}\} \rightarrow \{q, p; q^{a}, p_{a}; a = 2, \dots, N_{ph}\}$
- Finding a decoupled submanifold  $\Sigma$



### Numerical procedure

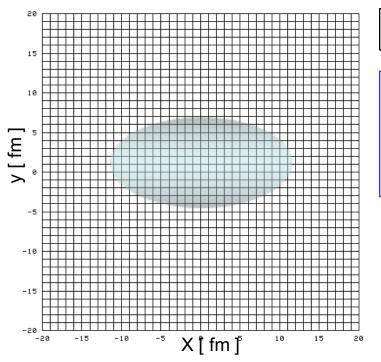
 $\frac{\partial V}{\partial \xi^{\alpha}} - \frac{\partial V}{\partial q} \frac{\partial q}{\partial \xi^{\alpha}} = 0 \qquad \text{Moving mean-field eq.} \\ B^{\beta \gamma} \left( \nabla_{\gamma} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \xi^{\alpha}} \right) \frac{\partial q}{\partial \xi^{\beta}} = \omega^2 \frac{\partial q}{\partial \xi^{\alpha}} \qquad \text{Moving RPA eq.}$ 

Tangent vectors (Generators)

 $q_{,\alpha} = \frac{\partial q}{\partial \xi^{\alpha}} \qquad \xi_{,q}^{\alpha} = \frac{\partial \xi^{\alpha}}{\partial q} \qquad [\xi]$ Moving MF eq. to determine the point:  $\xi^{\alpha}$ Move to the next point  $\xi^{\alpha} + \delta \xi^{\alpha} = \xi^{\alpha} + \varepsilon \xi_{,q}^{\alpha}$ 

#### 3D real space representation

- 3D space discretized in lattice
- BKN functional:  $E_{\text{BKN}}[\rho, \tau]$  (rather schematic)
- Moving mean-field eq.: Imaginary-time method
- Moving RPA eq.: Finite amplitude method (PRC 76, 024318 (2007))



At a moment, no pairing

1-dimensional reaction path extracted from the Hilbert space of dimension of  $10^4 \sim 10^5$ .

### Simple case: $\alpha + \alpha$ scattering

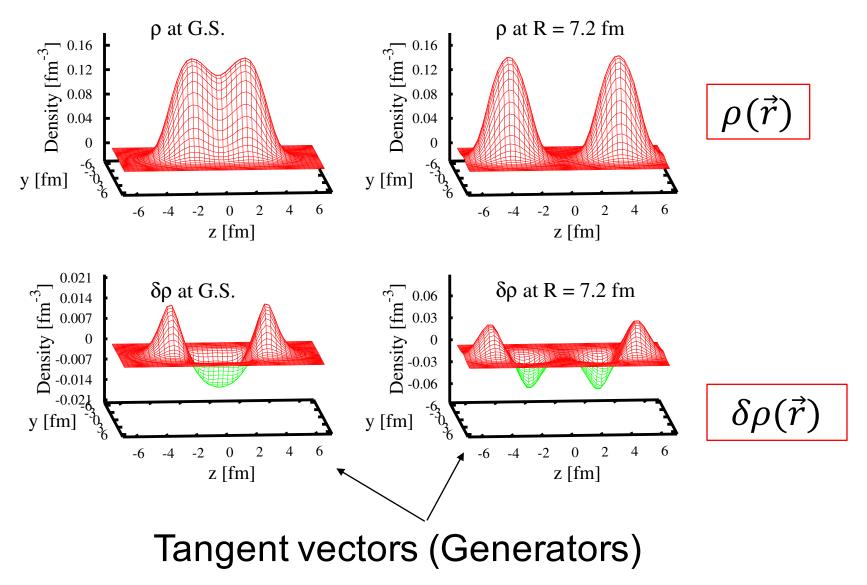


 $\alpha$  particle(<sup>4</sup>He)

 $\alpha$  particle (<sup>4</sup>He)

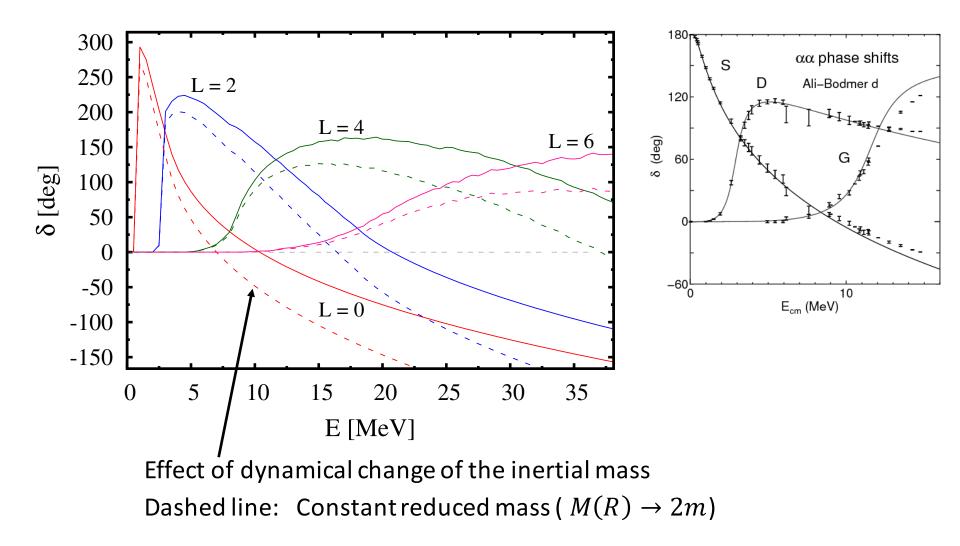
- Reaction path
- After touching
  - No bound state, but
  - a resonance state in <sup>8</sup>Be

### <sup>8</sup>Be: Tangent vectors (generators)



# $\alpha + \alpha$ scattering (phase shift)

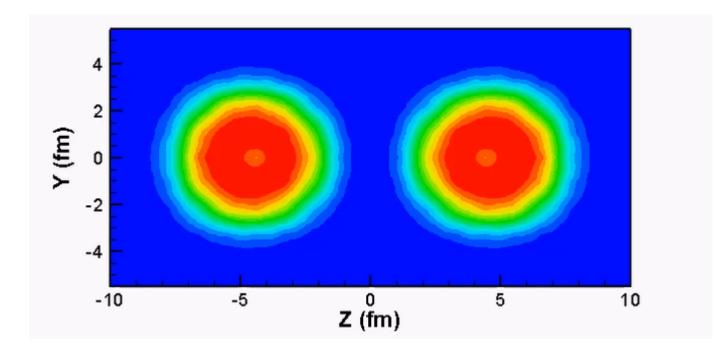
Wen, T.N., PRC 94, 054618 (2016).



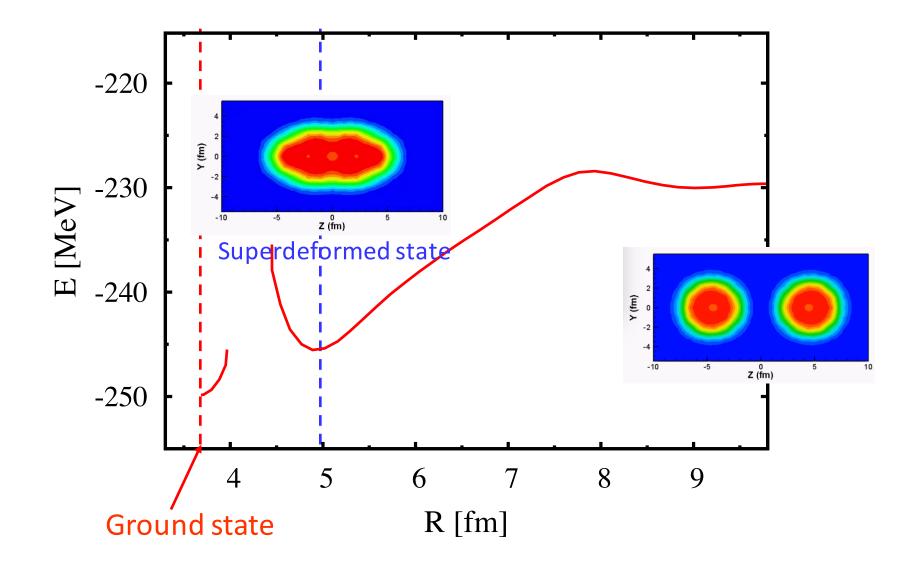
### $^{16}O+^{16}O \rightarrow ^{32}S$ : Reaction path

Wen, T.N., PRC 96, 014610 (2017).

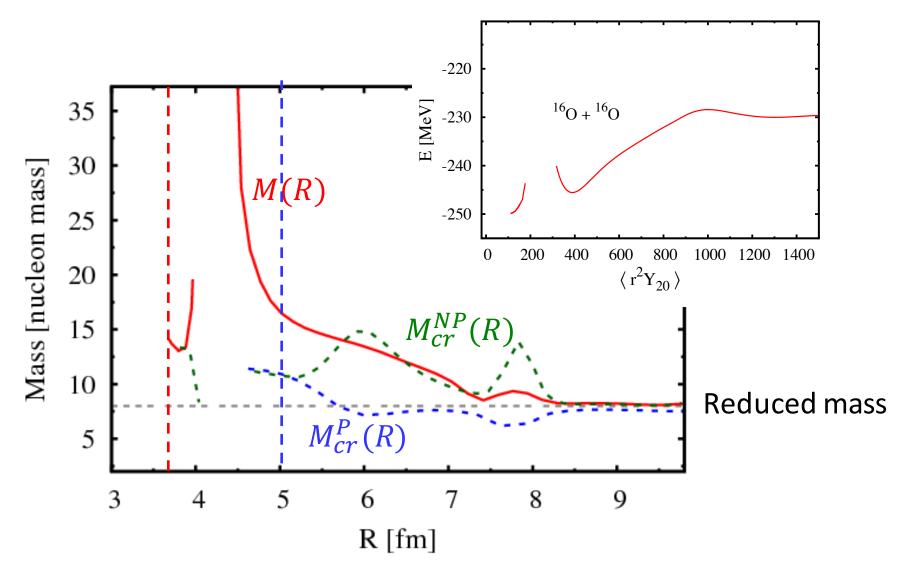
Starting from two <sup>16</sup>O configuration



### $^{16}O+^{16}O \rightarrow ^{32}S$ : Collective potential



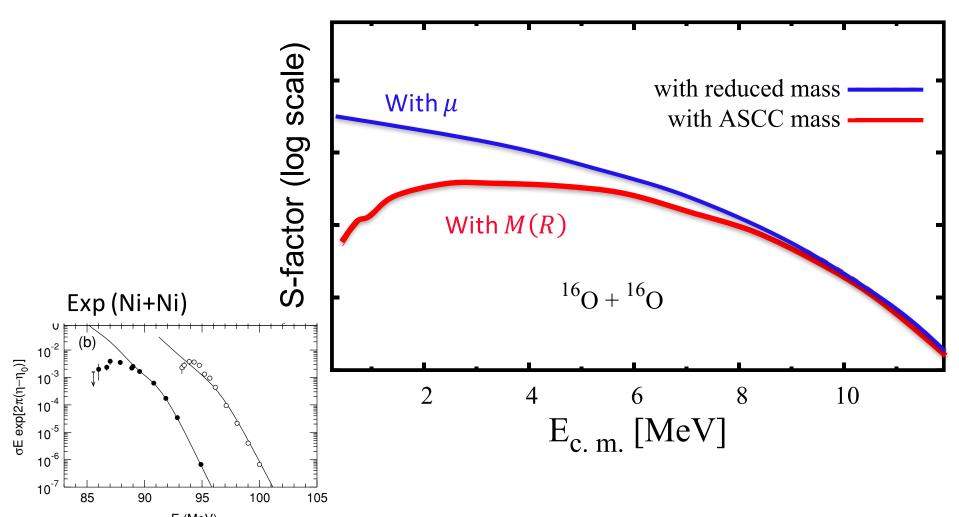
### $^{16}O+^{16}O \rightarrow ^{32}S$ : Collective mass



### Fusion reaction: <sup>16</sup>O + <sup>16</sup>O

Effect of dynamical change of the inertial mass *hinders* 

the fusion cross section by 2 orders of magnitude.



# Summary (Addressed questions)

- Quantum clusters and reaction
  - What kind of clusters? What kind of reaction path?
  - How to incorporate quantum effect (fluctuations)?
  - Velocity-dependent and spin-orbit effect?
  - Excess neutrons effect on reaction dynamics?
  - Effect of superfluidity?
- Inhomogeneous nuclear matter
  - Neutrons' mobility and pulsar glitch crisis?
  - Effect of superfluidity?