17th Nuclear Physics Workshop "Marie & Pierre Curie") 17 – 22 September 2010 at Kazimierz Dolny, Poland

SYMMETRY & SYMMETRY BREAKING IN NUCLEAR PHYSICS

Spinodal phase separation in nuclear collisions

Jørgen Randrup, LBNL

1977: Mikołaiki

1995: Piaski

2010: Kazimierz

- dedicated to the memory of Władek Swiatecki











Simple examples of

NUCLEAR CATASTROPHIES

- spontaneous symmetry breaking







Schematic and simplified phase diagram of strongly interacting matter





Nuclear matter



Spinodal pattern formation



Density undulations are amplified in the spinodal region:

Long-wavelength distortions grow slowly (it takes time to relocate the matter)

Short-wavelength distortions grow slowly (they are hardly felt due to finite range)

Ph Chomaz, M Colonna, J Randrup *Nuclear Spinodal Fragmentation* Physics Reports 389 (2004) 263



There is an *optimal length scale* that grows faster than all others



Spinodal decomposition occurs in many areas of science and technology, for example:

Colloidal aggregation Polymer blends Binary fluid mixtures Binary metallic alloys Inorganic glasses Sticky emulsions

It also plays a role in nuclear <u>multifragmentation!</u>

Does it play a role in the *hadronization* of the QGP?

Nuclear dynamics at $E_{coll} \approx E_{Fermi}$



Individual nucleons move in common one-body field while occasionally experiencing Pauli-suppressed binary collisions

One-particle Hamiltonian



Two-body collisions



The state of the system is characterized by its reduced one-particle phase-space density:



Instabilities in Fermi liquids: Nuclear matter

$$\delta f(\boldsymbol{r},\boldsymbol{p},t) = f(\boldsymbol{r},\boldsymbol{p},t) - f_{0}(\boldsymbol{p})$$

$$\delta f(\boldsymbol{r},\boldsymbol{p},t) = \sum_{\boldsymbol{k}} f_{\boldsymbol{k}}(\boldsymbol{p},t) e^{i\boldsymbol{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{r}}$$

$$h[f](\boldsymbol{r},\boldsymbol{p}) = \frac{p^{2}}{2m^{*}} + U(\rho(\boldsymbol{r})) \qquad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \delta f + \boldsymbol{v} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{r}} \delta f - \frac{\partial f_{0}}{\partial \boldsymbol{p}} \cdot \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial \rho}\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{r}}\delta\rho\right) = 0 \qquad \boldsymbol{v} = \frac{\partial h}{\partial \boldsymbol{p}} = \frac{\boldsymbol{p}}{m^{*}}$$

$$\delta \rho(\boldsymbol{r},t) = g \int \frac{d^{3}\boldsymbol{p}}{h^{3}} \delta f(\boldsymbol{r},\boldsymbol{p},t) \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \rho_{\boldsymbol{k}}(t) = g \int \frac{d^{3}\boldsymbol{p}}{h^{3}} f_{\boldsymbol{k}}(\boldsymbol{p},t)$$

$$f_{\boldsymbol{k}}(\boldsymbol{p},t) = f_{\boldsymbol{k}}(\boldsymbol{p}) e^{-i\omega_{\boldsymbol{k}}t} \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad (-\omega_{\boldsymbol{k}} + \boldsymbol{v} \cdot \boldsymbol{k}) f_{\boldsymbol{k}}(\boldsymbol{p}) = \boldsymbol{v} \cdot \boldsymbol{k} \frac{\partial f_{0}}{\partial \epsilon} \frac{\partial U}{\partial \rho} \rho_{\boldsymbol{k}}$$

$$1 \doteq \frac{\partial U}{\partial \rho} g \int \frac{d^{3}\boldsymbol{p}}{h^{3}} \frac{\boldsymbol{v} \cdot \boldsymbol{k}}{\boldsymbol{v} \cdot \boldsymbol{k} - \omega_{\boldsymbol{k}}} \frac{\partial f_{0}}{\partial \epsilon} = \frac{\partial U}{\partial \rho} g \int \frac{d^{3}\boldsymbol{p}}{h^{3}} \frac{(\boldsymbol{v} \cdot \boldsymbol{k})^{2}}{(\boldsymbol{v} \cdot \boldsymbol{k})^{2} - \omega_{\boldsymbol{k}}^{2}} \frac{\partial f_{0}}{\partial \epsilon}$$

Finite range:

$$\tilde{g}(r_{12}): \quad \tilde{U} = \tilde{g} * U: \quad \partial_{\rho}U \rightarrow \tilde{g}_k \partial_{\rho}U$$

Landau $F_0 = rac{\partial h}{\partial \epsilon_F}$

 ω is imaginary when F₀ < -1

Nuclear spinodal instabilities



Spinodal instability in nuclear matter





Spinodal instability in finite nuclear systems



RPA calculations for unstable octupole modes in Sn isotopes:

- (a) radial dependence of the form factor at the dilution D = 1:5 for neutrons (solid), protons (dotted), and nucleons (dashed);
- (b) contour plots of the perturbed neutron density;
- (c) contour plots of the perturbed proton density.

M. Colonna, Ph. Chomaz, S. Ayik, Phys. Rev. Lett. 88 (2002) 122701

Statistical multifragmentation:



Spinodal fragmentation:



=> *Equal* sizes

=> *Different* fragment sizes

(Igor Mishustin)

Optimal collision energy



Experiment: INDRA @ GANIL

B. Borderie *et al*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 86 (2001) 3252

32 MeV/A Xe + Sn (b≈0)













B. Borderie et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 86 (2001) 3252

Spinodal phase separation does occur for the liquid-gas transition:





B. Borderie *et al:* PRL 86 (2001) 3252

Does spinodal phase separation occur for the confinement transition?



Idealized equations of state: HG -> QGP



Hadron Gas:

 $p^{H} = p_{\pi} + p_{N} + p_{\bar{N}} + p_{w}$ $p_{\pi}(T) = -g_{\pi} \int_{m_{\pi}}^{\infty} \frac{\rho \epsilon d\epsilon}{2\pi^{2}} \ln[1 - e^{-\beta\epsilon}]$ $p_{N}(T, \mu_{0}) = g_{N} \int_{m_{N}}^{\infty} \frac{\rho \epsilon d\epsilon}{2\pi^{2}} \ln[1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon - \mu_{0})}]$ $p_{\bar{N}}(T, \mu_{0}) = g_{N} \int_{m_{N}}^{\infty} \frac{\rho \epsilon d\epsilon}{2\pi^{2}} \ln[1 + e^{-\beta(\epsilon + \mu_{0})}]$ $p_{w}(\rho) = \rho \partial_{\rho} w(\rho) - w(\rho)$ $w(\rho) = \left[-A \left(\frac{\rho}{\rho_{s}}\right)^{\alpha} + B \left(\frac{\rho}{\rho_{s}}\right)^{\beta} \right] \rho$

Quark-Gluon Plasma:

$$p^{Q} = p_{g} + p_{q} + p_{\bar{q}} - B$$

$$p_{g} = g_{g} \frac{\pi^{2}}{90} T^{4}$$

$$p_{q} + p_{\bar{q}} = g_{q} \left[\frac{7\pi^{2}}{360} T^{4} + \frac{1}{12} \mu_{q}^{2} T^{2} + \frac{1}{24\pi^{2}} \mu_{q}^{4} \right]$$

 $\mu = \mu_0 + \partial_\rho w = 3\mu_q$





(Under what circumstances) can spinodal phase separation occur in relativistic collisions?





Spinodal decomposition <u>may</u> occur at $E_{\text{lab}} \approx 5-10 \text{ GeV/A}$ (FAIR & NICA):

1) Exists an optimal E range

2) Significant amplification

- but:

Full dynamical calculations are required!

No suitable transport model has yet been developed!!



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