Welcome to the



Center for Exploration of Energy and Matter

Scott Wissink, Director







What is CEEM?

The Center for Exploration of Energy and Matter (CEEM) is a multidisciplinary research facility – the continuation of a tradition of scientific excellence at Indiana University – with 20 faculty, 5 postdocs, 25 graduate students, ~15 undergrad students, and 8 professional / technical and support staff. Key research areas include theoretical and experimental nuclear physics, and condensed matter (n scattering).

CEEM resides in the Multidisciplinary Engineering and Sciences Hall (MESH), which also houses IU's Intelligent Systems Engineering, our world-renown Drosophila lab, (Biology) and one of the largest machine shops in Indiana.







LENS: a Low Energy Neutron Source

Unique facility for carrying out studies in materials science and neutron radiation effects

And: excellent environment for developing new instruments for neutron scattering and detection, new methods for producing and controlling properties of neutron beams, and providing a facility for nREF studies for commercial and defense applications.





Experimental Nuclear Physics at Indiana

- Large group: 7 teaching faculty, 4 research faculty, 4 post-docs, ~20 grads, many undergrads, support staff, …
- IU Nuclear Physics graduate program (expt + theory) ranked #6 in US, strongly supported by NSF, DOE, other agencies
- Play leading roles in high-priority exp'ts at many national labs (RHIC@BNL, FNAL, LANL, NIST, SNS@ORNL, FRIB@MSU, GlueX@JLAB) and internationally (Belle-II@KEK, GANIL)
- Use excellent resources / infrastructure / professional support of MESH and CEEM to develop and build cutting-edge equipment for particle detectors, cryogenic devices, front-end electronics
- Strong track record among Ph.D.'s: ~40 graduates now in faculty/staff positions at major research universities and national labs, many more in industry, medical physics

Nucleon structure: using QCD to probe protons

Use high-energy, polarized proton collisions to learn:

- How do the gluons, the virtual field quanta that bind quarks together inside a proton contribute to the spin of the proton?
- What role is played by sea anti-quarks? Do up and down antiquarks contribute with opposite sign to the total spin?
- Is transverse motion of the partons within a proton correlated with orbital angular momentum, and hence the proton's spin?

The 30 ton, 20-foot diameter *Endcap Electromagnetic Calorimeter (EEMC),* designed and built at CEEM, is part of the STAR detector system at RHIC

Neutrinos: their properties and behavior

Leaders in COHERENT Collaboration \rightarrow first observation of ν 's scattering "coherently" from entire nucleus, as predicted. Cover of Science and others

Plan to lead improved measurements of CEvNS in Ar, determine absolute neutrino flux using D₂O detector,

Develop 1-ton Ar detector for CEvNS, DUNE supernova detector calibration, accelerator-based dark matter search

LEGEND: ⁷⁶Ge neutrinoless double beta decay experiment, \rightarrow determine if $v = \overline{v}$

Start commissioning 200-kg exp't experiment in Italy now

Project 8: precise measurement of tritium decay endpoint \rightarrow directly determine neutrino mass

Neutron properties and precision measurements

Search for parity-violating "spin rotation" of n in ⁴He \rightarrow evidence for exotic spin force

NOPTREX: search for time-reversal violation in *n*+*A* resonance spectroscopy

Use UCN τ apparatus, designed and built at CEEM, to measure n lifetime to accuracy of 0.1% (world best)

Use precision PV e-scattering as a tool to: Measure thickness of 'neutron skin' in heavy n-rich nuclei \rightarrow properties of neutron stars MOLLER: ultra-precise study of polarized e-e scattering \rightarrow search for BSM physics

Addressing critical questions in Nuclear Theory

Coulomb gauge Quantum Chromodynamics: a new formalism to describe hadron structure and quark confinement Partial Wave Analysis: analyze scattering experiments to uncover new, possibly "exotic" hadrons and their properties

Precise predictions for strongly-interacting elementary particles in nonperturbative QCD. Using Chiral Perturbation Theory and Dispersive methods to extract fundamental parameters of nature and test the Standard Model and its extensions.

Theory of hot nuclear matter and phenomenology of high-energy heavy ion collisions, leading to formation of quark-gluon plasma. Investigate the unusual properties of the QGP and novel quantum phenomena that emerge in this matter created at RHIC and LHC

Large-scale virial and relativistic mean field calculations of the pressure of dense nuclear matter as a function of density and temperature – results relevant in astrophysical simulations of supernovae, neutron star mergers, and black hole formation.

Enjoy the tour! We're glad you're here!