Extended Skyrme interactions for transport model simulations of heavy-ion collisions

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Based on an extended Skyrme interaction that includes the terms in relative momenta up to sixth order, corresponding to the so-called Skyrme pseudopotential up to next-to-next-to leading order (N3LO), we derive the expressions of Hamiltonian density and single-nucleon potential under general nonequilibrium conditions which can be applied in transport model simulations of heavy-ion collisions induced by neutron-rich nuclei. While the conventional Skyrme interactions, which include the terms in relative momenta up to second order, predict an incorrect behavior as a function of energy for nucleon optical potential in nuclear matter, the present extended N3LO Skyrme interaction can give a nice description for the empirical nucleon optical potential. We also construct three interaction sets with different high-density behaviors of the symmetry energy by fitting both the empirical nucleon optical potential up to energy of 1 GeV and the empirical properties of isospin asymmetric nuclear matter. These extended N3LO Skyrme interactions will be useful in transport model simulations of heavy-ion collisions induced by neutron-rich nuclei at intermediate and high energies, and they can also be useful in nuclear structure studies within the mean-field model.

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I. INTRODUCTION

One of primary goals of nuclear physics is to study the in-medium nuclear effective interactions. These studies help us to understand the properties of neutron-rich nuclear matter at both subsaturation and suprasaturation densities, which are of fundamental importance in nuclear physics and astrophysics to investigate the properties of various nuclear systems or nuclear processes [1–15], e.g., heavy-ion collisions induced by neutron-rich nuclei, the properties of nuclei close to the drip lines, the nucleosynthesis in different astrophysical sites, the structure of compact stars, and the explosion mechanism of supernova. The equation of state (EOS) is one of basic properties of nuclear matter, and it is conventionally defined as the binding energy per nucleon. While the EOS of symmetric nuclear matter has been relatively well constrained, even up to about five times nuclear saturation density (ρ_0) by analyzing the experimental data on giant resonances of finite nuclei [16-19] as well as the collective flows and kaon production in heavy-ion collisions [2,20,21], the isospin-dependent part of the EOS of isospin asymmetric nuclear matter, which is described by the symmetry energy, is still largely uncertain, especially for its suprasaturation density behaviors (see, e.g., Ref. [10,22]). Determining the density dependence of the symmetry energy provides the main motivation of many radioactive beam facilities around the world, such as CSR/Lanzhou and BRIF-II/Beijing in China, SPIRAL2/GANIL in France, FAIR/GSI in Germany, SPES/LNL in Italy, RIBF/RIKEN in Japan,

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RAON in Korea, and FRIB/NSCL and T-REX/TAMU in the USA.

At subsaturation densities, information on the EOS of neutron-rich nuclear matter or the symmetry energy can be obtained from analyzing experimental data either from finite nuclei, e.g., the binding energy, the charge radius as well as the isovector modes of resonances [23–27], or from heavy-ion collisions (HICs) induced by neutron-rich nuclei at intermediate energies, such as collective flows and particle production [4,7,28–31]. As for the exploration of the suprasaturation density behaviors of the symmetry energy, heavy-ion collisions at intermediate to high energies turn out to be a unique tool in terrestrial labs [32-39]. Theoretically, microscopic transport models, e.g., the Boltzmann-Uehling-Uhlenbeck (BUU) equation [40] and the quantum molecular dynamics (QMD) model [41], provide a powerful tool to extract information on nuclear matter EOS from analyzing data in heavy-ion collisions [42,43]. The microscopic transport models can be also applied to describe some dynamical properties of finite nuclei, e.g., the giant or pygmy resonances [44–50]. The basic input in one-body transport model (e.g., the BUU equation) is the single-nucleon potential (nuclear mean-field potential) under nonequilibrium conditions since the reaction system in the dynamical process of heavy-ion collisions is generally far from equilibrium. Due to the exchange term of finiterange nuclear interaction, intrinsic momentum dependence of nuclear interaction, nuclear short-range correlations, and other possible contributions, the single-nucleon potentials are generally dependent on nucleon momentum [51–53], and this is also evident from the observed momentum/energy dependence of nucleon optical model potential. In the past few decades, many momentum-dependent mean-field potentials have been constructed and developed and extensively employed to study both nuclear matter and heavy-ion collisions [30,54–65].

Most of momentum-dependent mean-field potentials so far applied in transport model simulations for heavy-ion collisions are parameterized phenomenologically and they are difficult to be directly used in mean-field calculations for finite nuclei. Therefore, it is interesting and constructive to use the same effective interaction to describe the properties of both finite nuclei and heavy-ion collisions on the same footing. By doing this, experimental observables from finite nuclei and heavy-ion collisions will provide crosschecks for the single-nucleon potentials and thus obtain more reliable information on the in-medium nuclear effective interactions and the associated nuclear matter EOS.

The Skyrme interaction [66,67] is perhaps the most popular nuclear effective interaction in nuclear physics, and it has been used very successfully in describing the ground-state and lowly excited state properties of finite nuclei in mean-field calculations [68,69] as well as in the study of heavy-ion collisions at low energies in time-dependent Hartree-Fock (TDHF) calculations [70,71]. Unfortunately, the conventional Skyrme interactions [72–75] (and their various variants, see, e.g., Refs. [76,77]), which include only the terms in relative momenta up to second order, cannot be applied in transport model simulations of heavy-ion collisions at higher energies (above about 300 MeV/nucleon) since the predicted simple parabolic form as a function of momentum for nucleon meanfield potential fails to reproduce the empirical results on the nucleon optical potential obtained by Hama et al. [78,79]. This hinders the application of the Skyrme interaction in transport model simulations of heavy-ion collisions at intermediate and high energies.

In the present work, we demonstrate that the recently developed effective Skyrme pseudopotential [80,81], which includes additional higher-order derivative terms (higher-power momentum dependence) in the conventional Skyrme interactions, may overcome the shortcoming of the conventional Skyrme interactions and can give a nice description for the empirical nucleon optical potential up to energy of 1 GeV. This provides the possibility to study structure properties of finite nuclei and heavy-ion collisions at incident energy up to about 1 GeV/nucleon (where the nuclear matter with about $3\rho_0$ can be formed during the collisions [82]) on the same footing by using the same nuclear effective interaction. In particular, based on the Skyrme pseudopotential up to next-to-next-to-next-to leading order (N3LO) that includes the terms in relative momenta up to sixth order, we derive the Hamiltonian density and isospin- and momentum-dependent single-nucleon potential under general nonequilibrium conditions which can be applied in one-body transport model simulations of heavy-ion collisions induced by neutron-rich nuclei. Furthermore, three new parameter sets are obtained by considering the empirical properties on both EOS of asymmetric nuclear matter and single-nucleon potential up to energy of 1 GeV.

The paper is organized as follows: In Sec. II, we introduce the Skyrme pseudopotential up to N3LO and derive the expressions of the Hamiltonian density and isospinand momentum-dependent single nucleon potential under general nonequilibrium conditions. In Sec. III, we present the experimental data and constraints adopted in our fitting and give three new interaction parameter sets of the extended Skyrme interactions. The properties of cold nuclear matter, including the EOS and single-particle behaviors of the newly constructed interactions, are presented in Sec. IV. Finally, we summarize our conclusions and make a brief outlook in Sec V. We present in Appendix some details of the derivation for the Hamiltonian density with the extended Skyrme interaction used in the present work.

II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

A. N3LO Skyrme pseudopotential

Effective interactions with quasilocal operators depending on spatial derivatives are conventionally called as pseudopotential. In pervious literatures [80,81], the Skyrme interaction has been recognized as the pseudopotential with which a quasilocal nuclear energy-density functional (EDF) can be derived when averaged within the Hartree-Fock (HF) approximation, and a mapping has been established from the N3LO local EDF [80] to Skyrme interaction with additional fourth and sixth-order derivative terms. This is rather important since the quasilocal EDF based on the density-matrix expansion provides an efficient way to investigate the universal EDF of nuclear system. On the other hand, the similar pseudopotential containing derivative terms have also been developed perturbatively up to N3LO (sixth-order derivative terms) based on harmonic-oscillator effective operators [83]. Since the precise structure of nuclear EDF can be derived from low-energy quantum chromodynamics (QCD) with chiral perturbation theory [84-86], such a mapping from quasilocal EDF to quasilocal effective interaction (Skyrme interaction) provides an order-by-order way to examine the validity of each term in the quasilocal effective interaction. The generalization of Skyrme interaction with higher-order derivative terms, or usually called as Skyrme pseudopotential in previous literatures [80,81], has been employed to describe EOS of nuclear matter [87–91], as well as the properties of finite nuclei [92,93] ever since it was introduced.

The N3LO Skyrme pseudopotential [80,81] is a generalization of the standard Skyrme interaction by adding terms that depend on derivative operator (momentum operator) up to sixth order, corresponding to the expansion of the momentum space matrix elements of a generic interaction in powers of the relative momenta up to the sixth order. In this sense, the standard Skyrme interaction [72–75] is an N1LO Skyrme pseudopotential. The full Skyrme pseudopotential generally contains spin-independent, spin-orbit, and tensor components (see, e.g., Refs. [80,81,88,90]). In the present work, we only keep the spin-independent component and ignore the last two components since they do not contribute to spin-averaged

quantities, on which we are focusing here. The corresponding Skyrme interaction used in this work is then written as

$$v_{Sk} = V_{\text{N3LO}}^C + V_{\text{NILO}}^{\text{DD}},\tag{1}$$

with the central term

$$V_{\text{N3LO}}^{C} = t_{0}(1 + x_{0}\hat{P}_{\sigma}) + t_{1}^{[2]}(1 + x_{1}^{[2]}\hat{P}_{\sigma})\frac{1}{2}(\hat{k}^{'2} + \hat{k}^{2}) + t_{2}^{[2]}(1 + x_{2}^{[2]}\hat{P}_{\sigma})\hat{k}^{'} \cdot \hat{k} + t_{1}^{[4]}(1 + x_{1}^{[4]}\hat{P}_{\sigma})\left[\frac{1}{4}(\hat{k}^{'2} + \hat{k}^{2})^{2} + (\hat{k}^{'} \cdot \hat{k})^{2}\right]$$

$$+ t_{2}^{[4]}(1 + x_{2}^{[4]}\hat{P}_{\sigma})(\hat{k}^{'} \cdot \hat{k})(\hat{k}^{'2} + \hat{k}^{2}) + t_{1}^{[6]}(1 + x_{1}^{[6]}\hat{P}_{\sigma})(\hat{k}^{'2} + \hat{k}^{2})\left[\frac{1}{2}(\hat{k}^{'2} + \hat{k}^{2})^{2} + 6(\hat{k}^{'} \cdot \hat{k})^{2}\right]$$

$$+ t_{2}^{[6]}(1 + x_{2}^{[6]}\hat{P}_{\sigma})(\hat{k}^{'} \cdot \hat{k})[3(\hat{k}^{'2} + \hat{k}^{2})^{2} + 4(\hat{k}^{'} \cdot \hat{k})^{2}],$$

$$(2)$$

and the density-dependent term

$$V_{\text{N1LO}}^{\text{DD}} = \frac{1}{6}t_3(1 + x_3\hat{P}_{\sigma})\rho^{\alpha}(\vec{R}).$$
 (3)

In the above expressions, \hat{P}_{σ} represents the spin exchange operator defined as $\hat{P}_{\sigma} = \frac{1}{2}(1+\hat{\sigma}_1\hat{\sigma}_2)$, where $\hat{\sigma}_1$ and $\hat{\sigma}_2$ are Pauli matrices acting on first and second state, respectively; the \hat{k}' and \hat{k} are derivative operators acting on left and right, respectively, and they take the conventional form as $-(\hat{\nabla}_1 - \hat{\nabla}_2)/2i$ and $(\hat{\nabla}_1 - \hat{\nabla}_2)/2i$, and $\vec{R} = (\vec{r}_1 + \vec{r}_2)/2$. In addition, an overall factor $\hat{\delta}(\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2)$ should be understood in Eqs. (2) and (3) but omitted here for the sake of clarity. The density-dependent term $V_{\text{NILO}}^{\text{DD}}$ is taken to be exactly the same as in the standard Skyrme interaction (see, e.g., Refs. [74,75]), which is introduced to phenomenologically mimic the effects of many-body interactions. The $t_i^{[n]}$, $x_i^{[n]}$ (n=2,4,6 and i=1,2), t_0 , t_3 , t_0 , t_3 , and t_0 are Skyrme parameters, and the total number of these parameters is 17 for the present effective interaction.

B. Hamiltonian density and single-nucleon potential in one-body transport model

As mentioned earlier, the single-nucleon potential (nuclear mean-field potential) is a basic input in one-body transport model simulations of heavy-ion collisions. During heavy-ion collision process, the nucleons are generally in the state far from equilibrium, and in transport models they are described by the phase-space distribution function (Wigner function) $f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$, with $\tau = 1$ [or n] for neutrons and -1 [or p] for protons. When the collision system approaches to equilibrium, the nucleon distribution function $f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$ becomes the Fermi-Dirac distribution in momentum space. For the single-nucleon potentials $U_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$ used in one-body transport model [40] which is to solve the time evolution of $f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$, we thus need to express $U_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$ in terms of $f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$. Similarly, the Hamiltonian density $\mathcal{H}(\vec{r})$ of the collision system can be also expressed in terms of $f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$, and this is important since we need it to check the energy conservation of the collisions system during the time evolution in the transport model simulations. Moreover, the Hamiltonian density $\mathcal{H}(\vec{r})$ is also a basic input in one-body transport model within certain frameworks, e.g., the lattice Hamiltonian Vlasov method [94].

In the present work, we derive $\mathcal{H}(\vec{r})$ and $U_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$ in the HF approximation with the extended Skyrme interaction, i.e., Eq. (1). The expectation value of the total energy of the

collision system can be obtained as

$$E = \sum_{i} \langle i | \frac{p^{2}}{2m} | i \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \langle ij | v_{Sk} (1 - \hat{P}_{M} \hat{P}_{\sigma} \hat{P}_{\tau}) | ij \rangle$$

$$\equiv \int \mathcal{H}(\vec{r}) d^{3}r, \tag{4}$$

where \hat{P}_M and \hat{P}_{τ} are the Majorana and isospin-exchange operators, respectively. In the present work we focus on the spin-averaged quantities, and omit all the other irrelevant terms in the Hamiltonian density. It should be pointed out that for the spin-dependent quantities, time-odd and other spin-dependent terms can be important [95–101]. For some specific quantities, for example, fusion barrier and cross section, even tensor terms should be taken into consideration [102]. The Hamiltonian density $\mathcal{H}(\vec{r})$ of the collision system with the extended Skyrme interaction used in the present work can be expressed as (detailed derivation can be found in Appendix)

$$\mathcal{H}(\vec{r}) = \mathcal{H}^{\text{kin}}(\vec{r}) + \mathcal{H}^{\text{loc}}(\vec{r}) + \mathcal{H}^{\text{MD}}(\vec{r}) + \mathcal{H}^{\text{grad}}(\vec{r}) + \mathcal{H}^{\text{DD}}(\vec{r}),$$
(5)

where $\mathcal{H}^{\text{kin}}(\vec{r})$, $\mathcal{H}^{\text{loc}}(\vec{r})$, $\mathcal{H}^{\text{MD}}(\vec{r})$, $\mathcal{H}^{\text{grad}}(\vec{r})$, and $\mathcal{H}^{\text{DD}}(\vec{r})$ represent the kinetic, local, momentum-dependent, gradient, and density-dependent terms, respectively. The kinetic term

$$\mathcal{H}^{\text{kin}}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\tau = n, p} \int d^3 p \frac{p^2}{2m_{\tau}} f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p}), \tag{6}$$

and the local term

$$\mathcal{H}^{\text{loc}}(\vec{r}) = \frac{t_0}{4} \left[(2 + x_0)\rho^2 - (2x_0 + 1) \sum_{\tau = n, p} \rho_{\tau}^2 \right], \quad (7)$$

are the same as that from the conventional Skyrme interaction (see, e.g., Refs. [74,75]). The $\rho_{\tau}(\vec{r})$ in the local term is the nucleon density, which is related to $f_{\tau}(\vec{r},\vec{p})$ through $\rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) = \int f_{\tau}(\vec{r},\vec{p})d^3p$ and the total nucleon density $\rho(\vec{r}) = \rho_n(\vec{r}) + \rho_p(\vec{r})$.

The momentum-dependent term and gradient term contain the contributions from additional derivative terms in Eq. (2). The momentum-dependent term can be expressed as

$$\mathcal{H}^{\text{MD}}(\vec{r}) = \frac{C^{[2]}}{16\hbar^{2}} \mathcal{H}^{\text{md}[2]}(\vec{r}) + \frac{D^{[2]}}{16\hbar^{2}} \sum_{\tau=n,p} \mathcal{H}^{\text{md}[2]}_{\tau}(\vec{r})$$

$$+ \frac{C^{[4]}}{32\hbar^{4}} \mathcal{H}^{\text{md}[4]}(\vec{r}) + \frac{D^{[4]}}{32\hbar^{4}} \sum_{\tau=n,p} \mathcal{H}^{\text{md}[4]}_{\tau}(\vec{r})$$

$$+ \frac{C^{[6]}}{16\hbar^{6}} \mathcal{H}^{\text{md}[6]}(\vec{r}) + \frac{D^{[6]}}{16\hbar^{6}} \sum_{\tau=n,p} \mathcal{H}^{\text{md}[4]}_{\tau}(\vec{r}), \quad (8)$$

where $\mathcal{H}^{\mathrm{md}[n]}(\vec{r})$ and $\mathcal{H}^{\mathrm{md}[n]}_{\tau}(\vec{r})$ are defined as

$$\mathcal{H}^{\text{md}[n]}(\vec{r}) = \int d^3p d^3p' (\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^n f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}'), \quad (9)$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\tau}^{\text{md}[n]}(\vec{r}) = \int d^3p d^3p' (\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^n f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p}'), \quad (10)$$

with $f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) = f_n(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) + f_p(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$. The gradient term is expressed as

$$\mathcal{H}^{\text{grad}}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{16} E^{[2]} \{ 2\rho(\vec{r}) \nabla^2 \rho(\vec{r}) - 2[\nabla \rho(\vec{r})]^2 \} + \frac{1}{16} F^{[2]} \sum_{\tau=n,p} \{ 2\rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) \nabla^2 \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) - 2[\nabla \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r})]^2 \}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{32} E^{[4]} \{ 2\rho(\vec{r}) \nabla^4 \rho(\vec{r}) - 8\nabla \rho(\vec{r}) \nabla^3 \rho(\vec{r}) + 6[\nabla^2 \rho(\vec{r})]^2 \}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{32} F^{[4]} \sum_{\tau=n,p} \{ 2\rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) \nabla^4 \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) - 8\nabla \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) \nabla^3 \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) + 6[\nabla^2 \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r})]^2 \}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{16} E^{[6]} \{ 2\rho(\vec{r}) \nabla^6 \rho(\vec{r}) - 12\nabla \rho(\vec{r}) \nabla^5 \rho(\vec{r}) + 30\nabla^2 \rho(\vec{r}) \nabla^4 \rho(\vec{r}) - 20[\nabla^3 \rho(\vec{r})]^2 \}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{16} F^{[6]} \sum_{\tau=n,p} \{ 2\rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) \nabla^6 \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) - 12\nabla \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) \nabla^5 \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) + 30\nabla^2 \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) \nabla^4 \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) - 20[\nabla^3 \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r})]^2 \}.$$

$$(11)$$

In above expressions, for convenience, we have recombined the Skyrme parameters related to the derivative terms in Eq. (2), namely $t_1^{[n]}$, $t_2^{[n]}$, $x_1^{[n]}$, and $x_2^{[n]}$, into the parameters $C^{[n]}$, $D^{[n]}$, $E^{[n]}$, and $F^{[n]}$, i.e.,

$$C^{[n]} = t_1^{[n]} (2 + x_1^{[n]}) + t_2^{[n]} (2 + x_2^{[n]}), \tag{12}$$

$$D^{[n]} = -t_1^{[n]} (2x_1^{[n]} + 1) + t_2^{[n]} (2x_2^{[n]} + 1), \tag{13}$$

$$E^{[n]} = \frac{i^n}{2^n} \left[t_1^{[n]} \left(2 + x_1^{[n]} \right) - t_2^{[n]} \left(2 + x_2^{[n]} \right) \right], \tag{14}$$

$$F^{[n]} = -\frac{i^n}{2^n} \left[t_1^{[n]} \left(2x_1^{[n]} + 1 \right) + t_2^{[n]} \left(2x_2^{[n]} + 1 \right) \right]. \tag{15}$$

Among these parameters, $C^{[n]}$'s and $D^{[n]}$'s are for momentum-dependent terms while $E^{[n]}$'s and $F^{[n]}$'s are for gradient terms. The density-dependent term comes from $V^{\rm DD}_{\rm NILO}$, i.e., Eq. (3), and can be expressed as

$$\mathcal{H}^{DD}(\vec{r}) = \frac{t_3}{24} \left[(2 + x_3)\rho^2 - (2x_3 + 1) \sum_{\tau = n, p} \rho_{\tau}^2 \right] \rho^{\alpha}. \quad (16)$$

If we only keep second-order terms, Eqs. (8) and (11) are then reduced to the corresponding momentum-dependent and gradient terms of the Hamiltonian density from the conventional Skyrme interaction [74,75], see, e.g., Ref. [103] for the momentum-dependent term.

Within the framework of Landau Fermi liquid theory, the single-nucleon energy can be calculated by the variation of $\mathcal{H}(\vec{r})$ with respect to $f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$. Since the Hamiltonian density contains density gradient terms, the single-nucleon potential can then be calculated as [104]

$$U_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) = \frac{\delta \mathcal{H}^{\text{pot}}(\vec{r})}{\delta f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p})} + \sum_{n} (-1)^{n} \nabla^{n} \frac{\delta \mathcal{H}^{\text{pot}}(\vec{r})}{\delta [\nabla^{n} \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r})]}, \quad (17)$$

where $\mathcal{H}^{\text{pot}}(\vec{r}) = \mathcal{H}(\vec{r}) - \mathcal{H}^{\text{kin}}(\vec{r})$ is the potential energy density. Substituting Eq. (5) into Eq. (17), we then obtain the single-nucleon potential of the extended Skyrme interaction used in the present work, i.e.,

$$\begin{split} U_{\tau}(\vec{r},\vec{p}) &= \frac{1}{2} t_0 [(2+x_0)\rho(\vec{r}) - (2x_0+1)\rho_{\tau}(\vec{r})] + \frac{\alpha}{24} t_3 \Bigg[(2+x_3)\rho(\vec{r})^2 - (2x_3+1) \sum_{\tau=n,p} \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r})^2 \Bigg] \rho(\vec{r})^{\alpha-1} \\ &+ \frac{1}{12} t_3 [(2+x_3)\rho(\vec{r}) - (2x_3+1)\rho_{\tau}(\vec{r})] \rho(\vec{r})^{\alpha} + \frac{1}{8\hbar^2} C^{[2]} U^{\mathrm{md}[2]}(\vec{r},\vec{p}) + \frac{1}{8\hbar^2} D^{[2]} U_{\tau}^{\mathrm{md}[2]}(\vec{r},\vec{p}) \\ &+ \frac{1}{16\hbar^2} C^{[4]} U^{\mathrm{md}[4]}(\vec{r},\vec{p}) + \frac{1}{16\hbar^2} D^{[4]} U_{\tau}^{\mathrm{md}[4]}(\vec{r},\vec{p}) + \frac{1}{8\hbar^2} C^{[6]} U^{\mathrm{md}[6]}(\vec{r},\vec{p}) + \frac{1}{8\hbar^2} D^{[6]} U_{\tau}^{\mathrm{md}[6]}(\vec{r},\vec{p}) \\ &+ \frac{1}{8} E^{[2]} \nabla^2 \rho(\vec{r}) + \frac{1}{8} F^{[2]} \nabla^2 \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) + \frac{1}{16} E^{[4]} \nabla^4 \rho(\vec{r}) + \frac{1}{16} F^{[4]} \nabla^4 \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) + \frac{1}{8} E^{[6]} \nabla^6 \rho(\vec{r}) + \frac{1}{8} F^{[6]} \nabla^6 \rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}), \end{split}$$
(18)

where the momentum-dependent terms $U^{\mathrm{md}[n]}(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$ and $U_{\tau}^{\mathrm{md}[n]}(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$ are expressed as

$$U^{\text{md}[n]}(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) = \int d^3 p' (\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^n f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}'), \qquad (19)$$

$$U_{\tau}^{\text{md}[n]}(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) = \int d^3 p' (\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^n f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p}').$$
 (20)

Based on the above analyses, one can see that the Hamiltonian density $\mathcal{H}(\vec{r})$ and the single-nucleon potential $U_{\tau}(\vec{r},\vec{p})$ are explicitly dependent on $f_{\tau}(\vec{r},\vec{p})$ as well as the local densities and their derivatives. It should be mentioned that the momentum-dependent part of nuclear mean-field potential could have various origins, e.g., the finite-range exchange term in the nucleon-nucleon interaction, the intrinsic momentum dependence, and nucleon short-range correlations. In the Skyrme-Hartree-Fock (SHF) approach, all these different contributions are combined effectively into the momentum-dependent terms of Eq. (18), corresponding to the HF approximation of the derivative terms of the Skyrme interaction.

C. Equation of state of cold nuclear matter

For static infinite cold nuclear matter at zero temperature, $f_{\tau}(\vec{r},\vec{p})$ becomes a theta function, i.e., $f_{\tau}(\vec{r},\vec{p}) = \frac{2}{(2\pi\hbar)^3}\theta(p_{\tau}^F - |\vec{p}|)$ with $p_{\tau}^F = \hbar(3\pi^2\rho_{\tau})^{1/3}$ being the Fermi momentum of nucleons with isospin τ in asymmetric nuclear matter, and the gradient terms in Eq. (5) vanishes. In this case, the Hamiltonian density can be expressed analytically as a function of nucleon density ρ and isospin asymmetry $\delta = (\rho_n - \rho_p)/\rho$. For the extend Skyrme interaction in Eq. (1), the nuclear matter energy density is obtained

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho,\delta) = \frac{3}{5} \frac{\hbar^2 a^2}{2m} \rho^{5/3} F_{5/3}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{8} t_0^{[0]} \left[2 \left(x_0^{[0]} + 2 \right) - \left(2 x_0^{[0]} + 1 \right) F_2 \right] \rho^2$$

$$+ \frac{1}{48} t_3^{[0]} \left[2 \left(x_3^{[0]} + 2 \right) - \left(2 x_3^{[0]} + 1 \right) F_2 \right] \rho^{(\alpha+2)}$$

$$+ \frac{9a^2}{64} \left[\frac{8}{15} C^{[2]} F_{5/3} + \frac{4}{15} D^{[2]} F_{8/3} \right] \rho^{8/3}$$

$$+ \frac{9a^4}{128} C^{[4]} \left(\frac{68}{105} F_{7/3} + \frac{4}{15} \delta G_{7/3} + \frac{4}{15} H_{5/3} \right) \rho^{10/3}$$

$$+ \frac{9a^4}{128} \frac{16}{35} D^{[4]} F_{10/3} \rho^{10/3}$$

$$+ \frac{9a^6}{64} C^{[6]} \left(\frac{148}{135} F_3 + \frac{4}{5} \delta G_3 + \frac{4}{5} H_{5/3} F_{2/3} \right) \rho^4$$

$$+ \frac{9a^6}{64} \frac{128}{135} D^{[6]} F_4 \rho^4, \tag{21}$$

where $a = (\frac{3\pi^2}{2})^{1/3}$, m is nucleon rest mass in vacuum, and F_x , G_x , and H_x are defined as

$$F_x = [(1 + \delta)^x + (1 - \delta)^x]/2,$$

$$G_x = [(1 + \delta)^x - (1 - \delta)^x]/2,$$

$$H_x = [(1 + \delta)(1 - \delta)]^x.$$

The EOS of cold nuclear matter can be calculated through dividing its Hamiltonian density by ρ , i.e., $E(\rho, \delta) = \mathcal{E}(\rho, \delta)/\rho$, and it can be expanded in the isospin asymmetry δ

$$E(\rho, \delta) = E_0(\rho) + E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)\delta^2 + E_{\text{sym},4}(\rho)\delta^4 + \mathcal{O}(\delta^6),$$
(22)

where $E_0(\rho)$ is the EOS of symmetric nuclear matter, and the symmetry energy $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$ and the fourth-order symmetry energy $E_{\text{sym},4}(\rho)$ are expressed as

$$E_{\text{sym}}(\rho) = \frac{1}{2!} \frac{\partial^2 E(\rho, \delta)}{\partial \delta^2} \bigg|_{\delta=0}, \tag{23}$$

$$E_{\text{sym,4}}(\rho) = \frac{1}{4!} \frac{\partial^4 E(\rho, \delta)}{\partial \delta^4} \bigg|_{\delta=0}.$$
 (24)

Conventionally, some characteristic parameters defined at saturation density ρ_0 are introduced to describe the EOS of asymmetric nuclear matter. Commonly used are the binding energy per nucleon in symmetric nuclear matter $E_0(\rho_0)$ and the incompressibility coefficient K_0 , the symmetry energy magnitude $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_0)$, and its density slope parameter L. In particular, K_0 and L are conventionally defined as

$$K_0 = 9\rho_0^2 \frac{d^2 E_0(\rho)}{d\rho^2} \bigg|_{\rho = \rho_0}, \quad L = 3\rho_0 \frac{dE_{\text{sym}}(\rho)}{d\rho} \bigg|_{\rho = \rho_0}.$$
 (25)

In order to describe the suprasaturation density behaviors of asymmetric nuclear matter, we usually introduce two higherorder characteristic parameters, i.e., the density skewness coefficient J_0 of symmetric nuclear matter and the density curvature parameter K_{sym} of the symmetry energy. They are defined as [105]

$$J_0 = 27\rho_0^3 \frac{d^3 E_0(\rho)}{d\rho^3} \bigg|_{\rho = \rho_0}, \quad K_{\text{sym}} = 9\rho_0^2 \frac{dE_{\text{sym}}^2(\rho)}{d\rho^2} \bigg|_{\rho = \rho_0}.$$
(26)

D. Single-nucleon potential in cold nuclear matter

Similarly as in the case of the Hamiltonian density, for static infinite cold nuclear matter at zero temperature, the single-nucleon potential can be expressed analytically as a function of the magnitude of nucleon momentum $p = |\vec{p}|$, the nucleon density ρ , and isospin asymmetry δ , i.e.,

$$U_{\tau}(p,\rho,\delta) = \frac{1}{4} t_0 [2(x_0+2) - (2x_0+1)(1+\tau\delta)]\rho + \frac{1}{24} t_3 \left[(\alpha+2)(x_3+2) - (2x_3+1) \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} F_2 + 1 + \tau\delta \right) \right] \rho^{\alpha+1}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{4} C^{[2]} \left[\frac{1}{3} \frac{k_F^3}{\pi^2} \left(\frac{p}{\hbar} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{5} \frac{k_F^5}{\pi^2} F_{5/3} \right] + \frac{1}{8} D^{[2]} \left[\frac{1}{3} \frac{k_F^3}{\pi^2} \left(\frac{p}{\hbar} \right)^2 (1+\tau\delta) + \frac{1}{5} \frac{k_F^5}{\pi^2} (1+\tau\delta)^{5/3} \right]$$

$$\begin{split} &+\frac{1}{8}C^{[4]}\left[\frac{1}{3}\frac{k_F^3}{\pi^2}\left(\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)^4 + \frac{2}{3}\frac{k_F^5}{\pi^2}\left(\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)^2F_{5/3} + \frac{1}{7}\frac{k_F^7}{\pi^2}F_{7/3}\right] \\ &+\frac{1}{16}D^{[4]}\left[\frac{1}{3}\frac{k_F^3}{\pi^2}\left(\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)^4(1+\tau\delta) + \frac{2}{3}\frac{k_F^5}{\pi^2}\left(\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)^2(1+\tau\delta)^{5/3} + \frac{1}{7}\frac{k_F^7}{\pi^2}(1+\tau\delta)^{7/3}\right] \\ &+\frac{1}{4}C^{[6]}\left[\frac{1}{3}\frac{k_F^3}{\pi^2}\left(\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)^6 + \frac{7}{5}\frac{k_F^5}{\pi^2}\left(\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)^4F_{5/3} + \frac{k_F^7}{\pi^2}\left(\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)^2F_{7/3} + \frac{1}{9}\frac{k_F^9}{\pi^2}F_3\right] \\ &+\frac{1}{8}D^{[6]}\left[\frac{1}{3}\frac{k_F^3}{\pi^2}\left(\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)^6(1+\tau\delta) + \frac{7}{5}\frac{k_F^5}{\pi^2}\left(\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)^4(1+\tau\delta)^{5/3} + \frac{k_F^7}{\pi^2}\left(\frac{p}{\hbar}\right)^2(1+\tau\delta)^{7/3} + \frac{1}{9}\frac{k_F^9}{\pi^2}(1+\tau\delta)^3\right], \quad (27) \end{split}$$

where $k_F = (3\pi^2 \rho/2)^{1/3}$ is the Fermi momentum of symmetric nuclear matter and τ equals 1 for neutrons and -1 for protons.

The symmetry potential $U_{\text{sym,i}}(p,\rho)$ is usually introduced to describe the isospin dependence of single-nucleon potential in asymmetric nuclear matter and it is defined as

$$U_{\text{sym},i}(p,\rho) \equiv \frac{1}{i!} \frac{\partial^{i} U_{n}(p,\rho,\delta)}{\partial \delta^{i}} \bigg|_{\delta=0}$$

$$= \frac{(-1)^{i}}{i!} \frac{\partial^{i} U_{p}(p,\rho,\delta)}{\partial \delta^{i}} \bigg|_{\delta=0}. \tag{28}$$

Then the single-nucleon potential in asymmetric nuclear matter can be expressed as a Taylor expansion with respect to δ , i.e.,

$$U_{\tau}(p,\rho,\delta) = U_0(p,\rho) + \sum_{i=1,2,\dots} \frac{1}{i!} U_{\text{sym},i}(p,\rho) (\tau \delta)^i, \quad (29)$$

where $U_0(p,\rho)$ is the single-nucleon potential in cold symmetric nuclear matter. Neglecting higher-order terms in Eq. (29), and only keeping $U_0(p,\rho)$ and $U_{\text{sym},1}(p,\rho)$ leads to the well-known Lane potential [106], which has been adopted extensively to approximate the isospin-dependent single-particle potential $U_{\tau}(p,\rho,\delta)$. For the extended Skyrme interaction in Eq. (1), the (first-order) symmetry potential can be expressed as

$$\begin{split} U_{\text{sym},1}(p,\rho) &= -\frac{1}{4} t_0 (2x_0 + 1) \rho - \frac{1}{24} t_3 (2x_3 + 1) \rho^{\alpha+1} \\ &+ \frac{D^{[2]}}{8} \left[\frac{1}{3} \frac{k_F^3}{\pi^2} \left(\frac{p}{\hbar} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{3} \frac{k_F^5}{\pi^2} \right] \\ &+ \frac{D^{[4]}}{16} \left[\frac{1}{3} \frac{k_F^3}{\pi^2} \left(\frac{p}{\hbar} \right)^4 + \frac{10}{9} \frac{k_F^5}{\pi^2} \left(\frac{p}{\hbar} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{3} \frac{k_F^7}{\pi^2} \right] \\ &+ \frac{D^{[6]}}{8} \left[\frac{1}{3} \frac{k_F^3}{\pi^2} \left(\frac{p}{\hbar} \right)^6 + \frac{7}{3} \frac{k_F^5}{\pi^2} \left(\frac{p}{\hbar} \right)^4 \right. \\ &+ \frac{7}{3} \frac{k_F^7}{\pi^2} \left(\frac{p}{\hbar} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{3} \frac{k_F^9}{\pi^2} \right]. \end{split} \tag{30}$$

From the single-nucleon potential, one can calculate the nucleon effective mass in asymmetric nuclear matter, i.e.,

$$m_{\tau}^* = m \left[1 + \frac{m}{p} \frac{dU_{\tau}(p, \rho, \delta)}{dp} \bigg|_{p=p^F} \right]^{-1}.$$
 (31)

In addition, the isoscalar effective mass m_s^* and the isovector effective mass m_v^* have been extensively used in nuclear physics. The m_s^* is the nucleon effective mass in symmetric nuclear matter, and m_v^* can be obtained through (see, e.g., Ref. [15] and references therein)

$$\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_{\tau}^*} = \frac{2\rho_{\tau}}{\rho} \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_s^*} + \left(1 - \frac{2\rho_{\tau}}{\rho}\right) \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_v^*}.$$
 (32)

The m_s^* and m_v^* at saturation density ρ_0 are denoted as $m_{s,0}^*$ and $m_{v,0}^*$, respectively.

III. FITTING STRATEGY AND NEW SKYRME INTERACTIONS

In the present work, the parameters of the extended Skyrme interaction in Eq. (1) are determined by optimizing the weighted sum of squared errors for various well-known properties of cold nuclear matter. Since our main motivation is to develop new extended Skyrme interactions that can be applied in the future into both one-body transport model for heavy-ion collisions (with beam energy up to about 1 GeV/nucleon) and mean-field calculations for finite nuclei, the extended Skyrme interactions obtained in the present work are required to describe reasonably the well-known empirical momentum dependence of single-particle potential $U_0(p, \rho_0)$ in symmetric nuclear matter at saturation density with nucleon momentum up to 1.5 GeV/c (approximately corresponding to nucleon kinetic energy of 1 GeV). Thus the real part of nucleon optical potential (Schrödinger equivalent potential) obtained by Hama et al. [78,79] from Dirac phenomenology of the nucleon-nucleus scattering data is used in the optimization. Furthermore, the new extended Skyrme interactions are also required to give a prediction on the momentum dependence of the first-order symmetry potential $U_{\text{sym},1}(p,\rho)$ at (and below) saturation density, consistent with that from microscopic calculations, for example, the Brueckner-Hartree-Fock (BHF) calculation [107] and relativistic impulse approximation [108,109] (still for nucleon momentum up to 1.5 GeV/c). Since there are actually no practical errors for the above two properties, we choose 3.16 MeV and 5 MeV as the error bars for $U_0(p, \rho_0)$ and $U_{\text{sym},1}(p, \rho)$, respectively, in the optimization procedure.

In addition, considering the large uncertainty of the suprasaturation density behaviors of the symmetry energy, three different extended Skyrme interactions with soft, moderate, and hard high-density behaviors of the symmetry

TABLE I. Parameters of the three new extended Skyrme interactions, namely SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h. Here the recombination of Skyrme parameters defined in Eqs. (12) and (13) are used.

| | SP6s | SP6m | SP6h |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| $t_0 (\text{MeV fm}^3)$ | -1814.64 | -1956.75 | -1675.52 |
| x_0 | 0.5400 | 0.2306 | -0.0902 |
| t_3 (MeV fm ^{3+3α}) | 10796.2 | 11402.9 | 9873.1 |
| x_3 | 0.8257 | 0.1996 | -0.4990 |
| α | 0.2923 | 0.2523 | 0.3168 |
| $C^{[2]}$ (MeV fm ⁵) | 597.877 | 637.195 | 677.884 |
| $D^{[2]}$ (MeV fm ⁵) | -446.695 | -524.373 | -601.990 |
| $C^{[4]}$ (MeV fm ⁷) | -26.2027 | -28.5209 | -31.2026 |
| $D^{[4]} (\text{MeV fm}^7)$ | 23.2525 | 27.6873 | 32.4607 |
| $C^{[6]}$ (MeV fm ⁹) | 0.0903 | 0.1000 | 0.1121 |
| $D^{[6]}$ (MeV fm ⁹) | -0.0896 | -0.1080 | -0.1292 |

energy are constructed by adding constraints $E_{\rm sym}(\rho_{\rm h}) = 0.0 \pm 1.0$ MeV, 40.0 ± 1.0 MeV, and 80.0 ± 1.0 MeV, respectively, with $\rho_{\rm h} = 0.5$ fm⁻³ in the optimization.

Apart from $U_0(p, \rho_0)$, $U_{\text{sym},1}(p, \rho)$, and $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_h)$ mentioned above, the following constraints are also included in the optimization: (i) the pressure of symmetric nuclear matter in the density region of 0.3 fm⁻³ to 0.7 fm⁻³ should be consistent with the constraints obtained by analyzing the flow data in HICs [2]; (ii) the EOS of pure neutron matter at subsaturation density should be consistent with the obtained constraints from electric dipole polarizability in ²⁰⁸Pb [26]; (iii) the characteristic parameters for symmetric nuclear matter, ρ_0 , E_0 , and K_0 , are taken to be 0.16 ± 0.01 fm⁻³, -16 ± 1.0 MeV, and 240 ± 30 MeV, respectively; and (iv) we choose an empirical value of 32.5 ± 3.2 MeV as the constraint of $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_0)$ in the optimization.

Since the density gradient terms in the EOS and single-nucleon potential vanish in nuclear matter, the coefficients $E^{[n]}$ and $F^{[n]}$ are irrelevant in the present fitting with optimization, and the number of the constrained parameters is thus reduced from 17 to 11. To determine the six gradient coefficients $E^{[n]}$ and $F^{[n]}$ (n=2,4,6), one can fit the properties of finite nuclei, which is beyond the scope of the present work and will be pursued in future. In Table I, we list the values of the 11 Skyrme parameters for the obtained three extended Skyrme interaction parameter sets, namely SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h, with s, m, and h representing "soft," "moderate," and "hard," respectively, for the suprasaturation behaviors of the symmetry energy.

IV. PROPERTIES OF COLD NUCLEAR MATTER WITH THE NEW EXTENDED SKYRME INTERACTIONS

A. Equation of state

For the three new extended Skyrme parameter sets SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h, the properties of cold nuclear matter can be calculated from the expressions shown in Sec. II, and the results on some macroscopic characteristic quantities of asymmetric nuclear matter are shown in Table II. It is seen from Table II that the new extended Skyrme interactions SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h give quite reasonable predictions on the

TABLE II. Macroscopic characteristic parameters of asymmetric nuclear matter with SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h. Note: $\rho_{\rm sc}=0.11/0.16\rho_0$ and $\rho_{\rm h}=0.5~{\rm fm}^{-3}$.

| | SP6s | SP6m | SP6h |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| $\rho_0 (\text{fm}^{-3})$ | 0.1614 | 0.1630 | 0.1647 |
| E_0 (MeV) | -16.04 | -15.94 | -15.61 |
| K_0 (MeV) | 240.9 | 233.4 | 240.8 |
| J_0 (MeV) | -375.99 | -384.16 | -358.15 |
| $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_{\text{sc}}) (\text{MeV})$ | 25.43 | 25.83 | 25.98 |
| $L(\rho_{\rm sc})$ (MeV) | 32.47 | 46.75 | 62.19 |
| $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_0)$ (MeV) | 28.84 | 31.93 | 34.97 |
| $L(\rho_0)$ (MeV) | 18.20 | 49.10 | 82.17 |
| K_{sym} (MeV) | -242.69 | -157.98 | -70.46 |
| $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho_{\text{h}}) (\text{MeV})$ | 0.03 | 41.317 | 79.82 |
| $m_{s,0}^*/m$ | 0.759 | 0.758 | 0.755 |
| $m_{v,0}^*/m$ | 0.678 | 0.663 | 0.648 |

macroscopic characteristic parameters of asymmetric nuclear matter. In particular, we include in Table II the $E_{\rm sym}(\rho_{\rm sc})$ and $L(\rho_{\rm sc})$ at $\rho_{\rm sc}=0.11/0.16\rho_0$, which roughly corresponds to the average density of the heavy nuclei. The $E_{\rm sym}(\rho_{\rm sc})$ and $L(\rho_{\rm sc})$ are strongly correlated with the isovector properties of finite nuclei and commonly used to characterize the subsaturation properties of nuclear matter symmetry energy [23–26].

Shown in Fig. 1 is the density dependence of the pressure of symmetric nuclear matter $P_{\text{SNM}}(\rho)$, the EOS of pure neutron matter $E_{\text{PNM}}(\rho)$, as well as the symmetry energy $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$ with SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h. Also included in Fig. 1 are the constraints on the $P_{\text{SNM}}(\rho)$ in the density region from $2\rho_0$ to $4.6\rho_0$ obtained from analyzing the flow data in relativistic heavy-ion collisions [2], the $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$ at subsaturation densities obtained from transport model analyses of midperipheral heavy-ion collisions of Sn isotopes [31] and from the SHF analyses of isobaric analog states with or without the combination of neutron skin data [110], as well as the constraints on $E_{\text{PNM}}(\rho)$ and $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$ at subsaturation densities recently extracted from the analyses of the electric dipole polarizability $\alpha_{\rm D}$ in ²⁰⁸Pb [26]. The result of $E_{\rm PNM}(\rho)$ at subsaturation density calculated in the framework of chiral effective field theory using N3LO potential [111] is also displayed in Fig. 1(b) for comparison.

It should be mentioned that due to the limitation of the density functional form used in the present work, if one wants to give a correct single-particle behaviors, it is difficult for the parameter set with stiff suprasaturation symmetry energy, namely SP6h, to give enough soft subsaturation symmetry energy and thus shows small discrepancy compared to the constraint from electric dipole polarizability $\alpha_{\rm D}$ in $^{208}{\rm Pb}$ in Fig. 1(b) and Fig. 1(c). However, this small discrepancy will not affect the study of suprasaturation behavior of the symmetry energy.

To see more clearly the high-density behaviors of the symmetry energy from the three new extended Skyrme interactions, we show in Fig. 2 the same as in Fig. 1(c) but extended to the high-density region. One can see from Fig. 2 that the symmetry energy from these three new extended Skyrme interactions exhibit quite different suprasaturation behaviors,

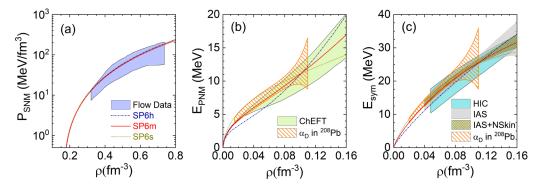


FIG. 1. Nuclear matter properties with SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h, namely the density dependence of (a) the pressure of symmetric nuclear matter $P_{\text{SNM}}(\rho)$ and (b) the EOS of pure neutron matter $E_{\text{PNM}}(\rho)$ and (c) symmetry energy $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$. Also displayed are various constraints on $P_{\text{SNM}}(\rho)$, $E_{\text{PNM}}(\rho)$, and $E_{\text{sym}}(\rho)$ obtained in previous studies. See text for details.

which allows us to extract information on the suprasaturation density behaviors of the symmetry energy by transport model simulations of heavy-ion collision at intermediate and high energies, e.g., with beam energy up to about 1 GeV/nucleon, where the maximum baryon density of about $3\rho_0$ can be reached [82].

B. Single-nucleon potential

One important improvement of the present extended Skyrme interactions is about the momentum/energy dependence of the single-nucleon potential in nuclear matter. Shown in Fig. 3 is the single-nucleon potential $U_0(p,\rho)$ in cold symmetric nuclear matter at $\rho=\rho_0$, $0.5\rho_0$, and $2\rho_0$, as a function of nucleon kinetic energy $\epsilon-m=\sqrt{p^2+m^2}+U_0(p,\rho)-m$ with SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h. Also included in Fig. 3(a) is the real part of nucleon optical potential (Schrodinger equivalent potential) in symmetric nuclear matter at saturation density ρ_0 obtained by Hama *et al.* [78,79] from Dirac phenomenology of the nucleon-nucleus scattering data. In addition, for comparison, we also include in Fig. 3(a) the corresponding results from three conventional Skyrme interactions SLy4 [75], SKM* [112], and MSL1 [23], as well as

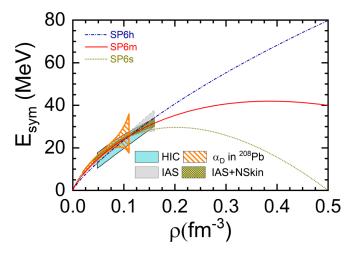


FIG. 2. Same as Fig. 1(c) but extended to suprasaturation density.

the existing N3LO Skyrme pseudopotentials, namely VLyB33 and VLyB63 [90] and LYVA1 [91].

From Fig. 3(a), one can see that at nuclear saturation density, the new extended Skyrme interactions SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h give a nice description on the empirical nucleon optical potential obtained by Hama et al. [78,79] for nucleon kinetic energy up to 1 GeV. Previous studies on the N3LO Skyrme pseudopotential did not take the single-nucleon potential into consideration, and thus the single-particle potential from the existing N3LO Skyrme pseudopotentials VLyB63, VLyB33 [90], and LYVA1 [91] show a large discrepancy compared to the empirical nucleon optical potential, especially at nucleon kinetic energies above about 200 MeV. For the three conventional Skyrme interactions SLy4 [75], SKM* [112], and MSL1 [23], due to their simple parabolic momentum dependence of the single-particle potential, they can only give rise to a reasonable single-nucleon potential at lower energies region (less than about 300 MeV). In addition, it is seen that SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h predict very similar single-nucleon potential in symmetric nuclear matter at $\rho = 0.5 \rho_0$ and $\rho = 2 \rho_0$, as shown in Figs. 3(b) and 3(c), which means their isospin independent (isoscalar) single-particle behaviors are similar

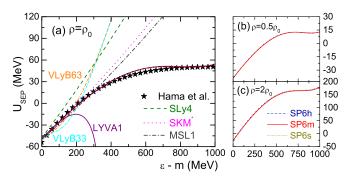


FIG. 3. The predicted single-nucleon potentials in cold symmetric nuclear matter as a function of nucleon kinetic energy with SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h. The result from three conventional Skyrme interactions, and three N3LO Skyrme pseudopotentials obtained in the previous literature, as well as the nucleon optical potential (Schrodinger equivalent potential) in symmetric nuclear matter at saturation density ρ_0 obtained by Hama $et\ al.\ [78,79]$, are also included for comparison. See the text for details.

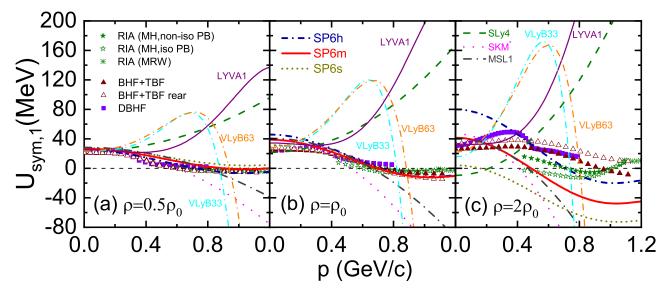


FIG. 4. The predicted first-order symmetry potential as a function of nucleon momentum with SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h. The corresponding results from three conventional Skyrme interactions and three existing N3LO Skyrme pseudopotentials, as well as microscopic results from relativistic impulse approximation and BHF method are also included for comparison.

in the relevant density regions interested in the present work. Such an improvement for the extended Skyrme interactions SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h obtained in this work allows us to simulate heavy-ion collisions in one-body transport models for incident energy up to about 1 GeV/nucleon based on the Skyrme interaction. It should be pointed out that the empirical nucleon optical potential obtained by Hama et al. [78,79] exhibits a clear saturation behavior at higher nucleon kinetic energies (i.e., above about 800 MeV), as shown in Fig. 3(a). Since the momentum dependence of the extended Skyrme interactions in the present work follows polynomial behavior, these interactions may give unsaturated high-energy mean-field potential and thus are only suitable for describing nuclear mean-field potentials in the energy region of less than about 1 GeV. For the higher-energy region, careful treatments are necessary in dealing with the real part of nucleon optical potential, because in the realistic heavy-ion collisions, the nucleon energy could be higher than the beam energy due to nucleon-nucleon collisions and Fermi motion.

Shown in Fig. 4 is the momentum dependence of the first-order symmetry potential $U_{\text{sym},1}(p,\rho)$ in cold nuclear matter at $\rho=0.5\rho_0$, ρ_0 , and $2\rho_0$, respectively, with SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h. Also included for comparison are the corresponding results from several microscopic calculations, namely, the nonrelativistic BHF theory with and without rearrangement contribution from the three-body force [113], the relativistic Dirac-BHF theory [107], and the relativistic impulse approximation [108,109] using the empirical nucleon-nucleon scattering amplitude determined in Refs. [114,115] with isospin-dependent and isospin-independent Pauli blocking corrections. The corresponding results from three conventional Skyrme interactions SLy4 [75], SKM* [112], and MSL1 [23], as well as three existing N3LO Skyrme pseudopotentials, VLyB33, VLyB63 [90], and LYVA1 [91], are also included.

It is seen from Fig. 4 that due to the limitation of the parabolic momentum dependence, the results from three

conventional Skyrme interactions SLy4, SKM*, and MSL1 are not satisfactory, especially at high momenta. The results with previous N3LO Skyrme pseudopotentials, VLyB33, VLyB63, and LYVA1, are inconsistent with microscopic calculations as well. Furthermore, at $\rho=0.5\rho_0$ and $\rho=\rho_0$, the new extended Skyrme interactions SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h predict quite similar $U_{\text{sym},1}(p,\rho)$, and they are in good agreement with the results of microscopic calculations. At suprasaturation density of $\rho=2\rho_0$, the predictions on $U_{\text{sym},1}(p,\rho)$ from various theoretical approaches display large discrepancy.

Based on the results shown in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, we conclude that the new extended Skyrme interactions SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h exhibit quite similar single-particle behaviors in asymmetric nuclear matter, except the isospin-dependent (isovector) properties in the high-density region, where the microscopic calculations also show large uncertainties, as shown in Fig. 4(c). Such differences on the isovector properties of SP6s, SP6m, and SP6h at suprasaturation densities are actually related to their different suprasaturation behaviors of the symmetry energy depicted in Fig. 2 via the Hugenholtz-Van Hove theorem [116–118].

V. SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

Based on an extended Skyrme interaction with extra derivative terms corresponding to the N3LO Skyrme pseudopotential, we have derived the expressions of Hamiltonian density and single-nucleon potentials for one-body transport models of heavy-ion collisions within the framework of HF approximation. We have also obtained three parameter sets of the extended N3LO Skyrme interaction by fitting the empirical properties of cold asymmetric nuclear matter and the single-nucleon optical potential up to energy of 1 GeV) while giving soft, moderate, and stiff suprasaturation density behaviors of the symmetry energy, respectively. Using these extended N3LO Skyrme interactions in one-body transport

models to analyze the experimental data in heavy-ion collisions induced by neutron-rich nuclei at intermediate and high energies may help to extract information on the suprasaturation density behavior of nuclear matter EOS, especially the symmetry energy.

The extended N3LO Skyrme interactions can be useful in the study of both finite nuclei and heavy-ion collisions. It is interesting to check whether the same Skyrme interaction can give similar result for nuclear giant resonances within the SHF with random-phase approximation and the BUU equation and whether there exist Skyrme interactions that are able to simultaneously describe the experimental observables of both finite nuclei and heavy-ion

collision. Such studies are in progress and will be reported elsewhere.

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APPENDIX: HAMILTONIAN DENSITY WITH EXTENDED SKYRME INTERACTION IN ONE-BODY TRANSPORT MODEL OF HEAVY-ION COLLISIONS

In this Appendix, we show some details about the derivation of Hamiltonian density, i.e., Eq. (5), with the extended Skyrme interaction in Eq. (1).

In quantum mechanics, the Wigner function $f(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$ is defined as the Fourier transform of the density matrix and can be thought as the quantum analogy of classical phase-space distribution function in the Boltzmann equation. In coordinate and momentum configurations, $f(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$ can be expressed, respectively, as

$$f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^3} \int \exp\left(-i\frac{\vec{p}}{\hbar} \cdot \vec{s}\right) \rho(\vec{r} + \vec{s}/2, \vec{r} - \vec{s}/2) d^3s, \tag{A1}$$

$$f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^3} \int \exp\left(i\frac{\vec{q}}{\hbar} \cdot \vec{r}\right) g(\vec{p} + \vec{q}/2, \vec{p} - \vec{q}/2) d^3q, \tag{A2}$$

where $\rho(\vec{r}+\vec{s}/2,\vec{r}-\vec{s}/2)$ and $g(\vec{p}+\vec{q}/2,\vec{p}-\vec{q}/2)$ are the density matrix in coordinate and momentum representations, respectively, and they can be obtained in HF approximation as the matrix elements of one-body density operator $\hat{\rho} = \sum_i |\phi_i\rangle\langle\phi_i|$. Specifically, we have

$$\rho(\vec{r} + \vec{s}/2, \vec{r} - \vec{s}/2) = \langle \vec{r} + \vec{s}/2 | \hat{\rho} | \vec{r} - \vec{s}/2 \rangle = \sum_{i} \phi_{i}^{*}(\vec{r} + \vec{s}/2) \phi_{i}(\vec{r} - \vec{s}/2), \tag{A3}$$

in coordinate space and

$$g(\vec{p} + \vec{q}/2, \vec{p} - \vec{q}/2) = \langle \vec{p} + \vec{q}/2 | \hat{\rho} | \vec{p} - \vec{q}/2 \rangle = \sum_{i} \phi_{i}^{*}(\vec{p} + \vec{q}/2) \phi_{i}(\vec{p} - \vec{q}/2), \tag{A4}$$

in momentum space, with $\phi_i(\vec{r})$ and $\phi_i(\vec{p})$ being the wave functions in coordinate and momentum configuration, respectively. Here for simplicity we ignore the spin index s and isospin index τ . It can be easily restored by considering the summation of specific state $|\phi_i\rangle$ with given s and τ .

In the following, we take the $t_1^{[2]}$ term in Eq. (2) as a detailed example. The Hamiltonian density can be calculated through Eq. (4), and the contribution from the $t_1^{[2]}$ term is

$$V_1^{[2]} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \langle ij | t_1^{[2]} \left(1 + x_1^{[2]} \hat{P}_{\sigma} \right) \frac{1}{2} (\vec{k}'^2 \hat{\delta}(\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2) + \hat{\delta}(\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2) \vec{k}^2) (1 - \hat{P}_{\sigma} \hat{P}_{\tau} \hat{P}_M) | ij \rangle. \tag{A5}$$

The parity of this term is positive and thus the Majorana operator \hat{P}_M can be replaced by $\hat{1}$ ($\hat{P}_M = -\hat{1}$ for negative-parity terms). Assuming that there is no isospin mixing of the HF states, the effect of isospin exchange operator \hat{P}_{τ} is just to introduce a Kronecker delta function $\delta_{\tau_i\tau_j}$ with τ_i represents the isospin of the *i*th state. We assume the collision system is spin saturate since we only focus on the spin-averaged quantities. For a spin saturation system, the spin exchange operator \hat{P}_{σ} is simply replaced by a factor of $\frac{1}{2}$. Therefore, $V_1^{(2)}$ can be reduced to

$$V_{1}^{[2]} = \frac{1}{2} t_{1}^{[2]} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} x_{1}^{[2]} \right) \sum_{i,j} \langle ij | \frac{1}{2} (\hat{\vec{k}}'^{2} \hat{\delta}(\vec{r}_{1} - \vec{r}_{2}) + \hat{\delta}(\vec{r}_{1} - \vec{r}_{2}) \hat{\vec{k}}^{2}) | ij \rangle$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} t_{1}^{[2]} \left(x_{1}^{[2]} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \delta_{\tau_{i}\tau_{j}} \sum_{i,j} \langle ij | \frac{1}{2} (\hat{\vec{k}}'^{2} \hat{\delta}(\vec{r}_{1} - \vec{r}_{2}) + \hat{\delta}(\vec{r}_{1} - \vec{r}_{2}) \hat{\vec{k}}^{2}) | ij \rangle. \tag{A6}$$

The calculation of the sum of the bracket is quite straightforward. It is very convenient if we treat the derivative operator ∇ in \hat{k}' and \hat{k} as the momentum operator acting on the momentum eigenstate, and the isospin symmetric part (similar for the asymmetric part) can be calculated as

$$\begin{split} v_{1}^{[2]} &\equiv \text{sum}_{i,j} \langle ij | \frac{1}{2} (\hat{k}'^{2} \hat{\delta}(\vec{r}_{1} - \vec{r}_{2}) + \hat{\delta}(\vec{r}_{1} - \vec{r}_{2}) \hat{k}^{2}) | ij \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{4\hbar^{2}} \sum_{i,j} \int d^{3}r \int d^{3}p_{1} d^{3}p_{2} d^{3}p_{3} d^{3}p_{4} \frac{1}{2} [(\vec{p}_{1} - \vec{p}_{2})^{2} + (\vec{p}_{3} - \vec{p}_{4})^{2}] \exp \left[-\frac{i(\vec{p}_{1} + \vec{p}_{2} - \vec{p}_{3} - \vec{p}_{4}) \cdot \vec{r}}{\hbar} \right] \\ &\times \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^{6}} \phi_{i}^{*}(\vec{p}_{1}) \phi_{j}^{*}(\vec{p}_{2}) \phi_{i}(\vec{p}_{3}) \phi_{j}(\vec{p}_{4}) \\ &= \frac{1}{4\hbar^{2}} \int d^{3}r \int d^{3}p d^{3}p' d^{3}q d^{3}q' \left[(\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^{2} + \left(\frac{\vec{q} - \vec{q}'}{2} \right)^{2} \right] \exp \left(\frac{i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{r}}{\hbar} \right) \exp \left(\frac{i\vec{q}' \cdot \vec{r}}{\hbar} \right) \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^{6}} g_{\vec{p} + \vec{q}/2, \vec{p} - \vec{q}/2} \cdot g_{\vec{p}' + \vec{q}'/2, \vec{p}' - \vec{q}'/2}. \end{split} \tag{A7}$$

To obtain the second line in the above equation we have inserted several unit operators (i.e., four in coordinate space $\int dr |r\rangle\langle r|$ and six in momentum space $\int dp |p\rangle\langle p|$), and in the last line we have changed the integral variables to $\vec{p} = \frac{\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_3}{2}$, $\vec{p}' = \frac{\vec{p}_2 + \vec{p}_4}{2}$, $\vec{q} = \vec{p}_3 - \vec{p}_1$, and $\vec{q}' = \vec{p}_4 - \vec{p}_2$. We have also replaced, as defined in Eq. (A4), $\sum_i \phi_i^*(\vec{p}_1)\phi_i(\vec{p}_3)$ and $\sum_i \phi_i^*(\vec{p}_2)\phi_i(\vec{p}_4)$ by $g_{\vec{p}+\vec{q}'/2,\vec{p}-\vec{q}'/2}$ respectively.

The integration of the $(\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^2$ term in Eq. (A7) can be reduced, through the definition of Wigner function in Eq. (A2), to

$$\frac{1}{4\hbar^2} \int d^3r \int d^3p d^3p' (\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^2 f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}'), \tag{A8}$$

while the integration of the $(\frac{\vec{q}-\vec{q}'}{2})^2$ term in Eq. (A7) is recognized as the derivatives of density $\rho(\vec{r})$ through the relation

$$\nabla^{n} \rho(\vec{r}) = \nabla^{n} \int f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) d^{3} p = \nabla^{n} \int d^{3} p \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^{3}} \int \exp\left(i\frac{\vec{q}}{\hbar} \cdot \vec{r}\right) g_{\vec{p}+\vec{q}/2, \vec{p}-\vec{q}/2} d^{3} q$$

$$= \int d^{3} p d^{3} q \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^{3}} \left(i\frac{\vec{q}}{\hbar}\right)^{n} \exp\left(i\frac{\vec{q}}{\hbar} \cdot \vec{r}\right) g_{\vec{p}+\vec{q}/2, \vec{p}-\vec{q}/2}.$$
(A9)

In general, derivative terms $\nabla^n \rho(\vec{r})$ will contribute to the Hamiltonian density and the single-nucleon potential and affect the motion of the nucleons underneath the mean-field potentials, and thus they cannot be omitted in one-body transport models.

Finally, for the $t_1^{[2]}$ term in Eq. (2), one can obtain its contribution to the Hamiltonian density as

$$V_{1}^{[2]} = \frac{1}{16\hbar^{2}} t_{1}^{[2]} (2 + x_{1}^{[2]}) \int d^{3}p d^{3}p'(\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^{2} f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}')$$

$$- \frac{1}{16\hbar^{2}} t_{1}^{[2]} (2x_{1}^{[2]} + 1) \sum_{\tau=n,p} \int d^{3}p d^{3}p'(\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^{2} f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p}) f_{\tau}(\vec{r}, \vec{p}') - \frac{1}{64} t_{1}^{[2]} (2 + x_{1}^{[2]}) \{2\rho(\vec{r})\nabla^{2}\rho(\vec{r}) - 2[\nabla\rho(\vec{r})]^{2}\}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{64} t_{1}^{[2]} (2x_{1}^{[2]} + 1) \sum_{\tau=n,p} \{2\rho_{\tau}(\vec{r})\nabla^{2}\rho_{\tau}(\vec{r}) - 2[\nabla\rho_{\tau}(\vec{r})]^{2}\}. \tag{A10}$$

The contributions to the Hamiltonian density from other terms in Eqs. (2) and (3) can be derived similarly. After changing the Skyrme parameters $t_1^{[n]}$, $t_2^{[n]}$, $x_1^{[n]}$, and $x_2^{[n]}$ to the parameters in Eqs. (12)–(15), one can then obtain the Hamiltonian density [Eq. (5)] of the system with the extended Skyrme interaction as well as the relevant expressions in Eqs. (6)–(11) and Eq. (16).

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