

# Improved coalescence model based on the Wigner function formalism

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<sup>1</sup>Technical University Munich

<sup>2</sup> INFN Torino

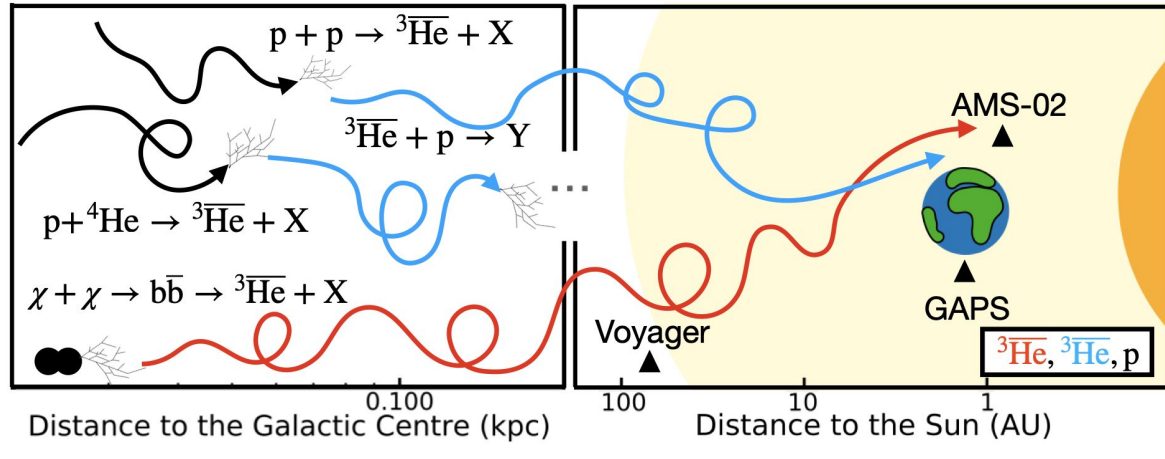
<sup>3</sup> INFN and University Bologna



Cosmic**AntiNuclei**

# Cosmic Rays

## Antinuclei in cosmic rays

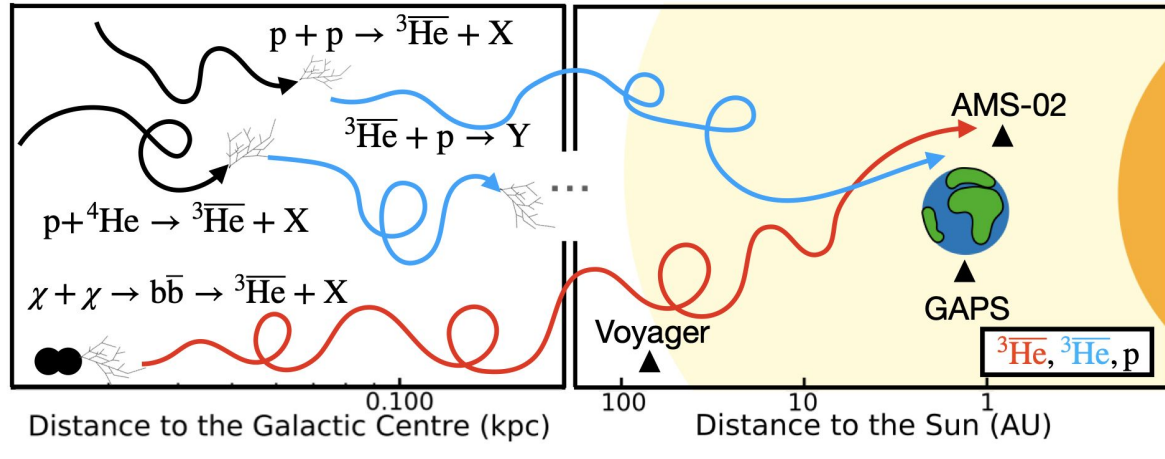


### Antinuclei production:

- pp, p–A and (few) A–A reactions between primary **cosmic rays** and the interstellar medium
- **dark-matter** annihilation processes

# Cosmic Rays

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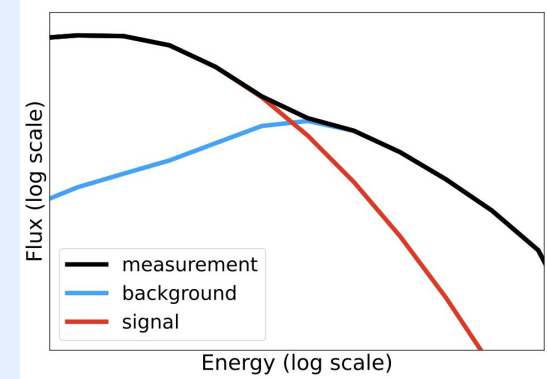


### Antinuclei production:

- pp, p-A and (few) A-A reactions between primary **cosmic rays** and the interstellar medium
- **dark-matter** annihilation processes

- To correctly interpret any future measurement of antinuclear fluxes (only antip measured so far)
- Need to determine exact **primary** and **secondary** fluxes → precise knowledge of antinuclei production, propagation and annihilation is needed
- High Signal/Noise ratio ( $\sim 10^2$ - $10^4$ ) at low  $E_{\text{kin}}$  expected by models

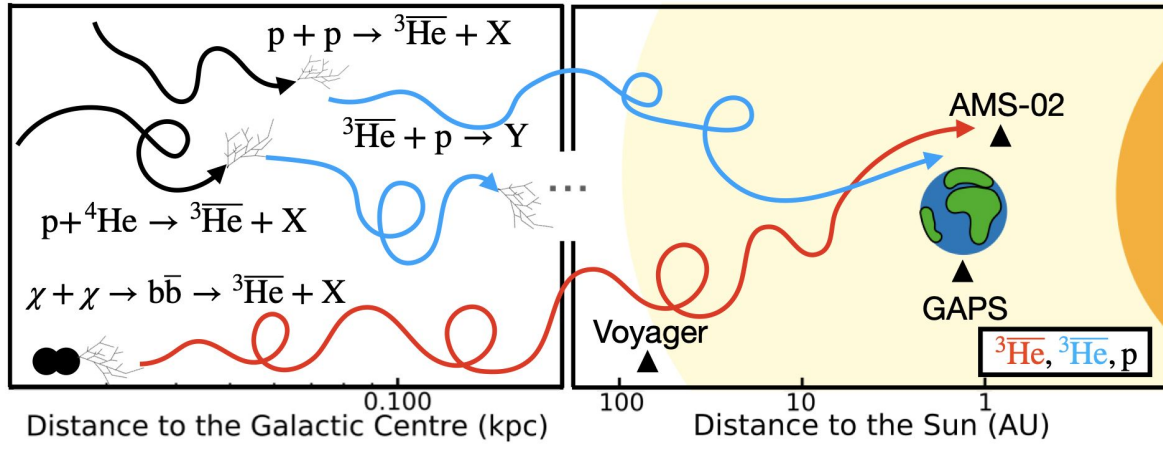
antinuclei cosmic ray flux



ALICE Collab., Nature Phys. (2022)

# Cosmic Rays

## Antinuclei in cosmic rays

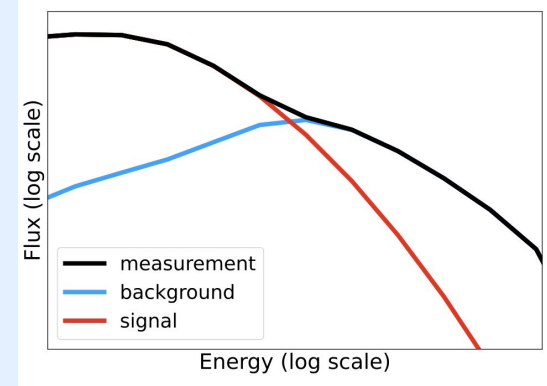


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- High Sig models **See talk by L. Serksnyte today 15:30!** low  $E_{kin}$  expected by

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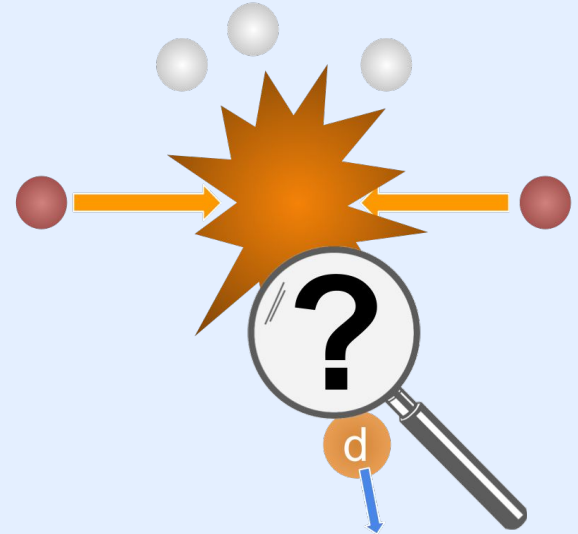


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# Modelling (anti)nuclei production

## Overview of production models

(Anti)nuclear production described by two models:



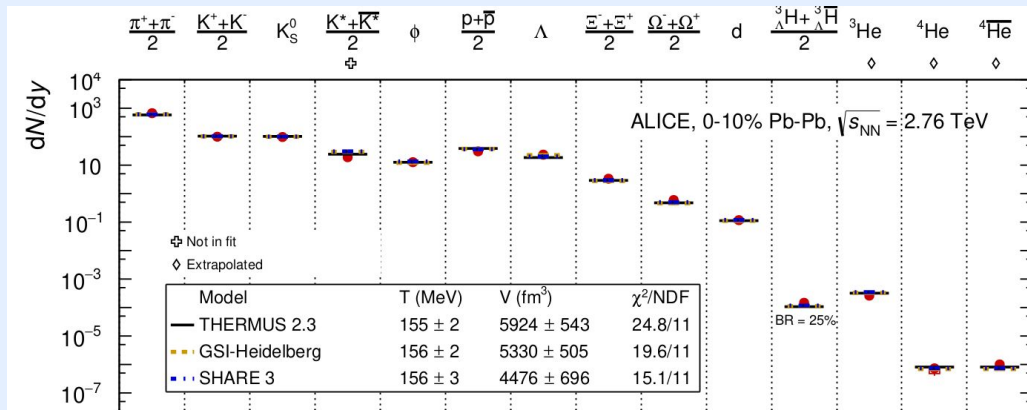
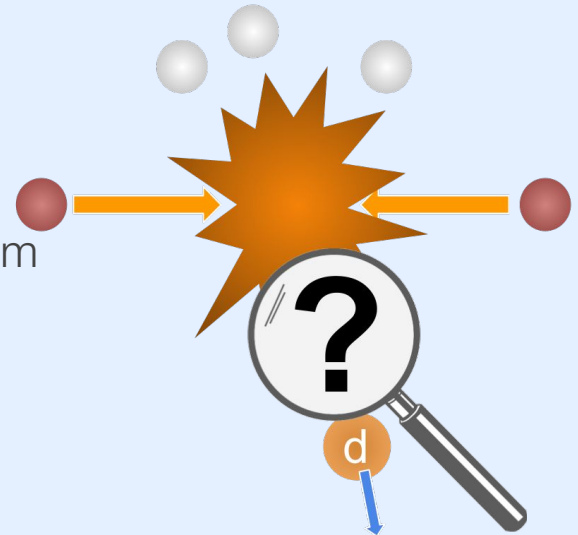
# Modelling (anti)nuclei production

## Overview of production models

(Anti)nuclear production described by two models:

### Statistical hadronization (SHM)

- Particle yields (including nuclei) described by filling the available phase-space after the collision
- Works very well with a common temperature of the medium ( $T \sim 155$  MeV)
- No dynamical description of nuclei formation



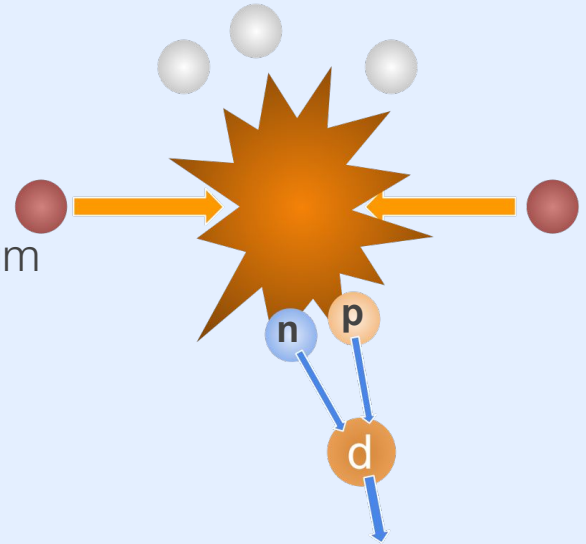
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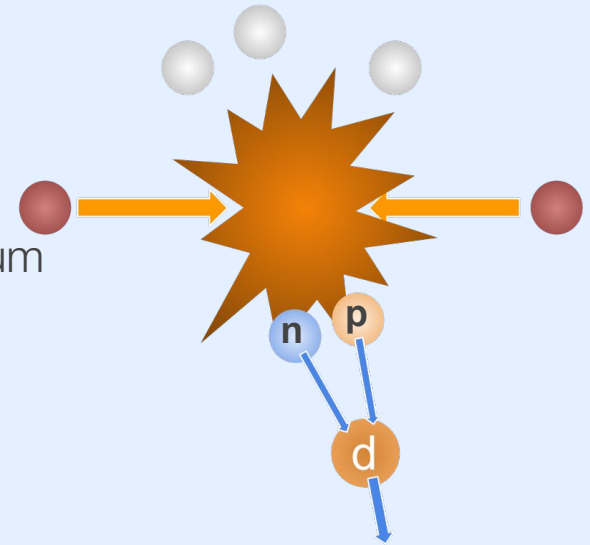
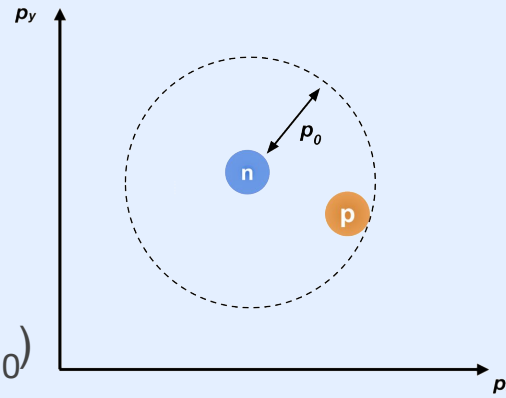
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### Coalescence model

- Nucleons bind after chemical freeze-out if they are close in phase-space
- Common implementation:  
**Spherical Approximation** ( $\Delta p < p_0$ )



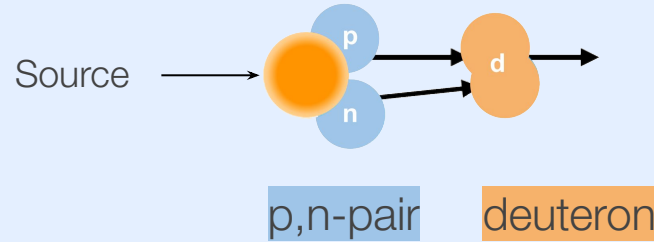
Butler et al., Phys. Rev. 129 (1963) 836



# The coalescence model

## Wigner function formalism

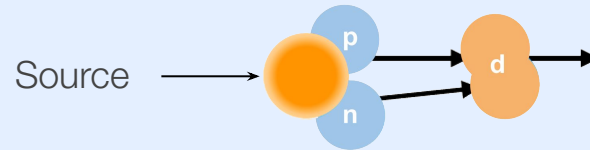
What do we need for coalescence?



# The coalescence model

## Wigner function formalism

What do we need for coalescence?



Quantum mechanics:

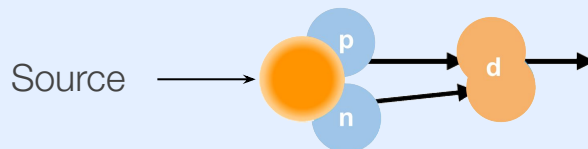
$$d^3N/dP^3 = \text{Tr}(\rho_d \rho_{\text{Nucl}})$$

The diagram shows two boxes: a blue box labeled "p,n-pair" and an orange box labeled "deuteron". Arrows from these boxes cross and point to the terms  $\rho_d$  and  $\rho_{\text{Nucl}}$  in the equation above. The  $\rho_d$  term is highlighted with an orange background, and the  $\rho_{\text{Nucl}}$  term is highlighted with a blue background.

# The coalescence model

## Wigner function formalism

What do we need for coalescence?



$$q = (p_p - p_n)/2$$
$$r = r_p - r_n$$

p,n-pair      deuteron

Quantum mechanics:

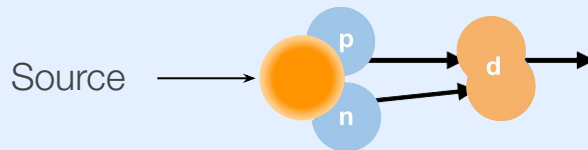
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$$d^3N/dP^3 = \int d^3q \int d^3r_p \int d^3r_n \text{Deuteron Density} \text{Nucleon Density}$$

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$$d^3N/dP^3 = S \int d^3q \int d^3r_p \int d^3r_n W(q,r) W_{pn}(p_p, p_n, r_p, r_n) / (2\pi)^6$$

Spin-Isospin statistics factor  
(=3/8 for deuterons)

Wigner function of deuteron

Wigner function of p-n state

Two-nucleon Wigner function

$$W_{np}(\vec{P}/2 + \vec{q}, \vec{P}/2 - \vec{q}, r_n, r_p) = H_{np}(\vec{r}_n, \vec{r}_p) G_{np}(\vec{P}/2 + \vec{q}, \vec{P}/2 - \vec{q})$$

- $G_{np}$  is the momentum distribution of nucleons
- $H_{np}$  is the spatial distribution of nucleons. Assuming a Gaussian source

$$H_{np}(\vec{r}_n, \vec{r}_p) = h(\vec{r}_n)h(\vec{r}_p) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^3} \exp\left(-\frac{\vec{r}_n^2 + \vec{r}_p^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

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Some simple calculation later

$$\frac{d^3 N_d}{dP_d^3} = \frac{3\zeta}{(2\pi)^6} \int d^3 q e^{-q^2 d^2} G_{np}(\vec{P}_d/2 + \vec{q}, \vec{P}_d/2 - \vec{q})$$

Nucleon momentum phase-space

with

deuteron size (3.2 fm)

$$\zeta \equiv \left(\frac{d^2}{d^2 + 4\sigma^2}\right)^{3/2}$$

Two-particle emitting source size

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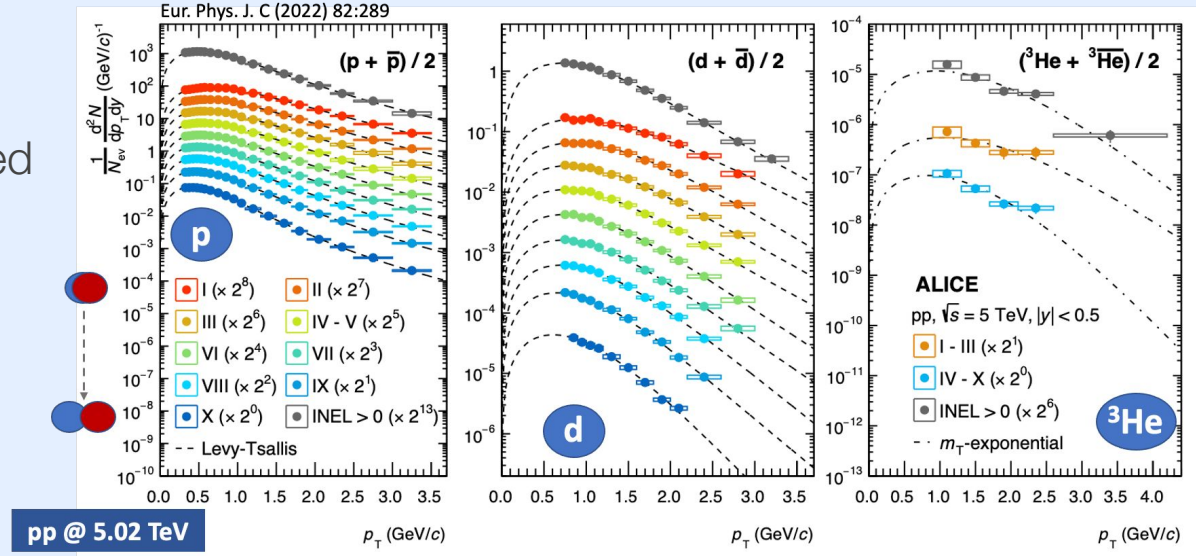
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Constrained from data!

# Light (anti)nuclei measured in ALICE

## Transverse momentum spectra

- Comprehensive measurements of light (anti)nuclei have been carried out in ALICE, from pp...
- From (anti)deuterons to (anti)<sup>3</sup>He

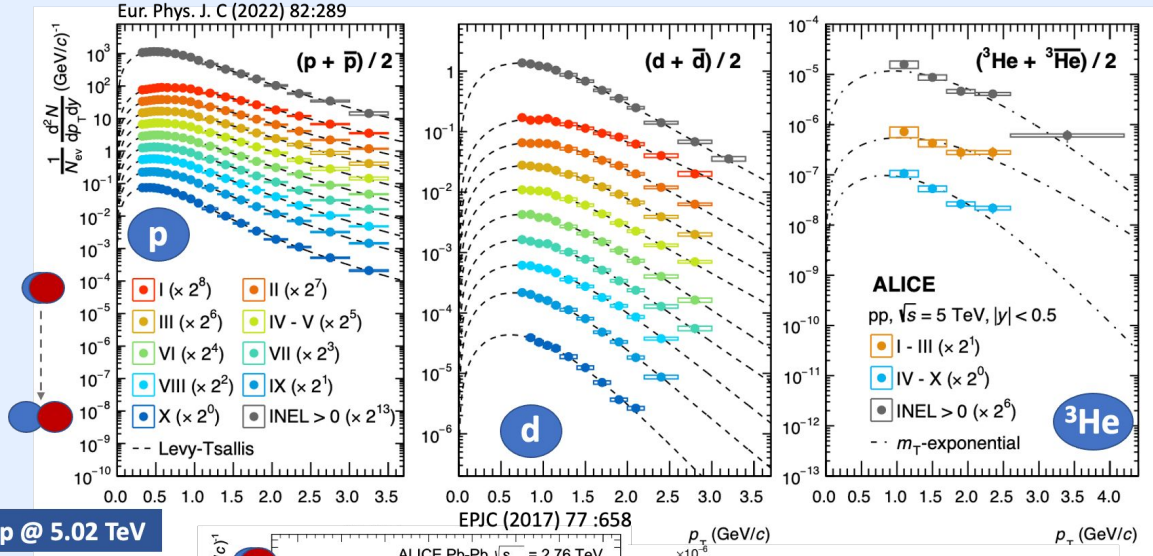




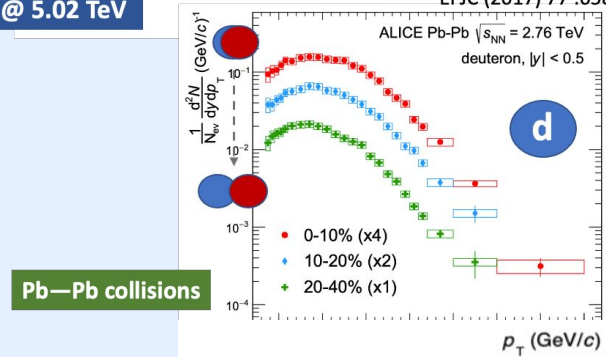
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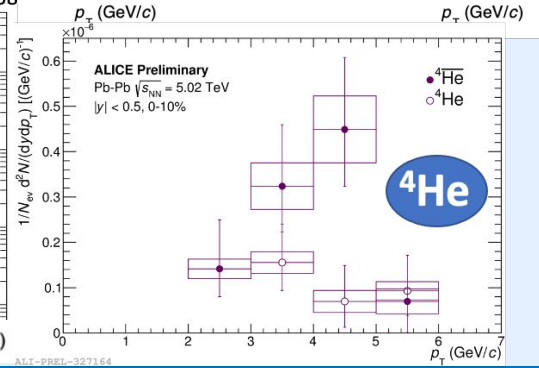
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pp @ 5.02 TeV



Pb–Pb collisions

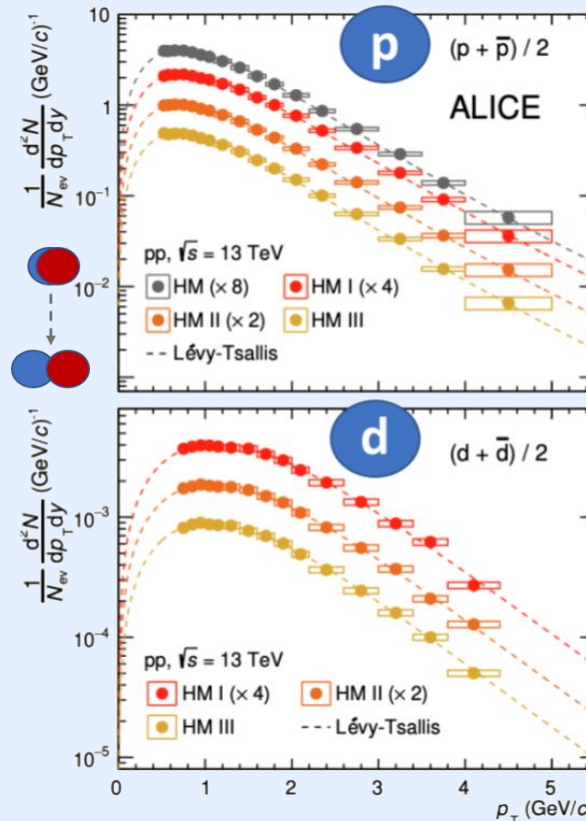


ALICE-PREL-327164

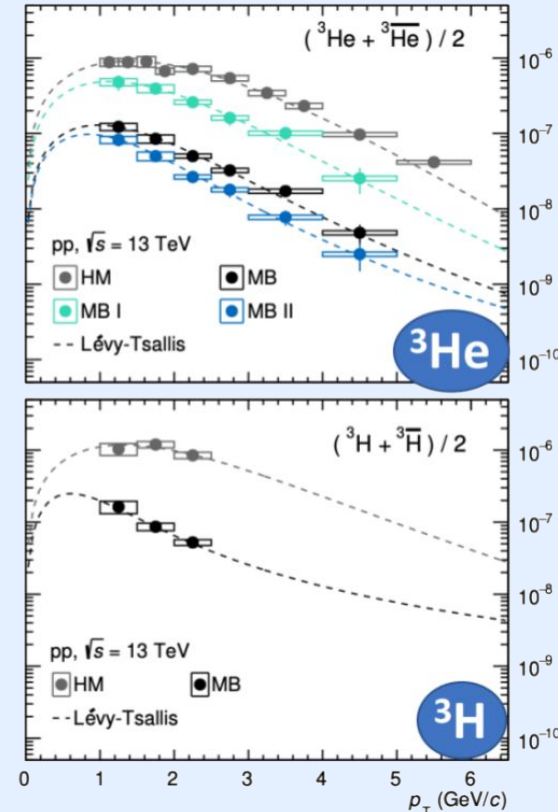
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- From (anti)deuterons to (anti)<sup>3</sup>He and (anti)<sup>4</sup>He
- **High multiplicity (HM)** class in **pp collisions at 13 TeV** (→ 0-0.17% centrality class)
- In HM class both production spectra and emitting source size measurements available



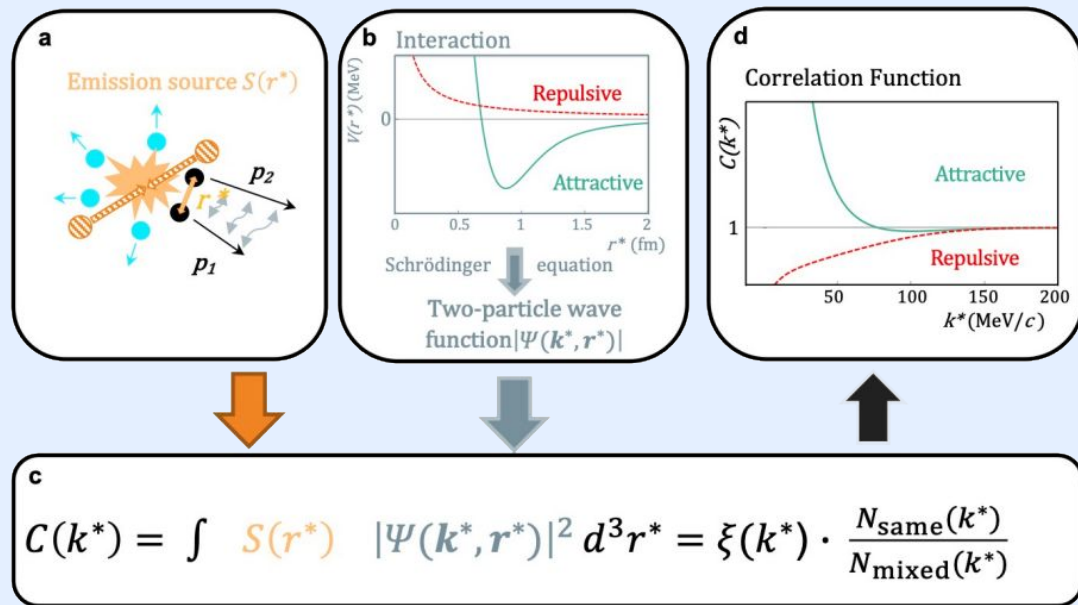
HM pp @ 13 TeV



# Emission source size measured in ALICE

## Femtoscropy

- ALICE is pioneering the study of the strong interaction using femtoscopic correlations
- Momentum correlations can be employed to explore two-particle dynamics
- The correlation function depends on two ingredients:
  - Emission source function
  - Two-particle wave function (quantum statistics + Coulomb + strong interaction)



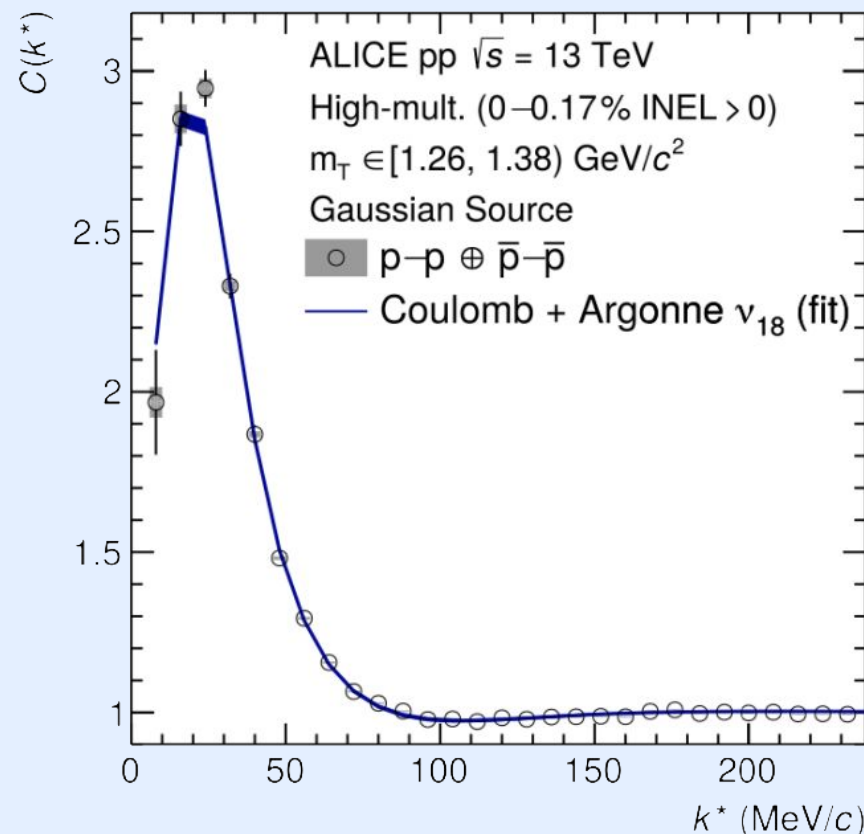
If we measure  $C(k^*)$  and use a known interaction (e.g. nucleon-nucleon) we can study the emission source

# Emission source size measured in ALICE

## Femtoscopy



- Good description of the **interaction** with Fermi-Dirac statistics, Coulomb and strong interaction (using  $v_{18}$ )
- Only free parameter: the **source size**

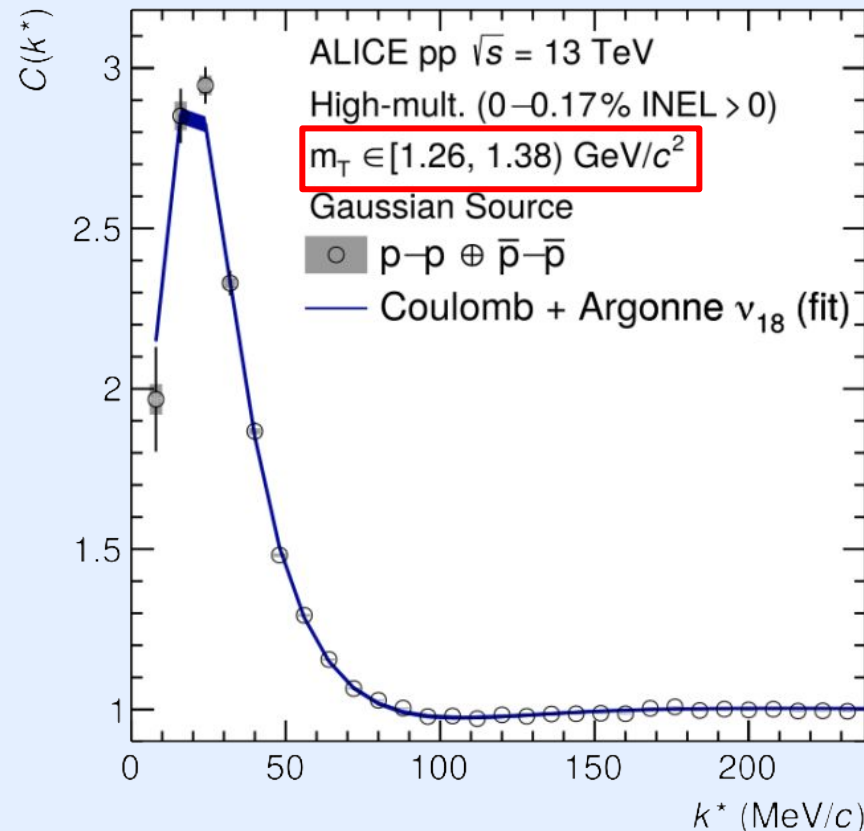


# Emission source size measured in ALICE

## Femtoscopy



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- When done as a function of  $m_T$

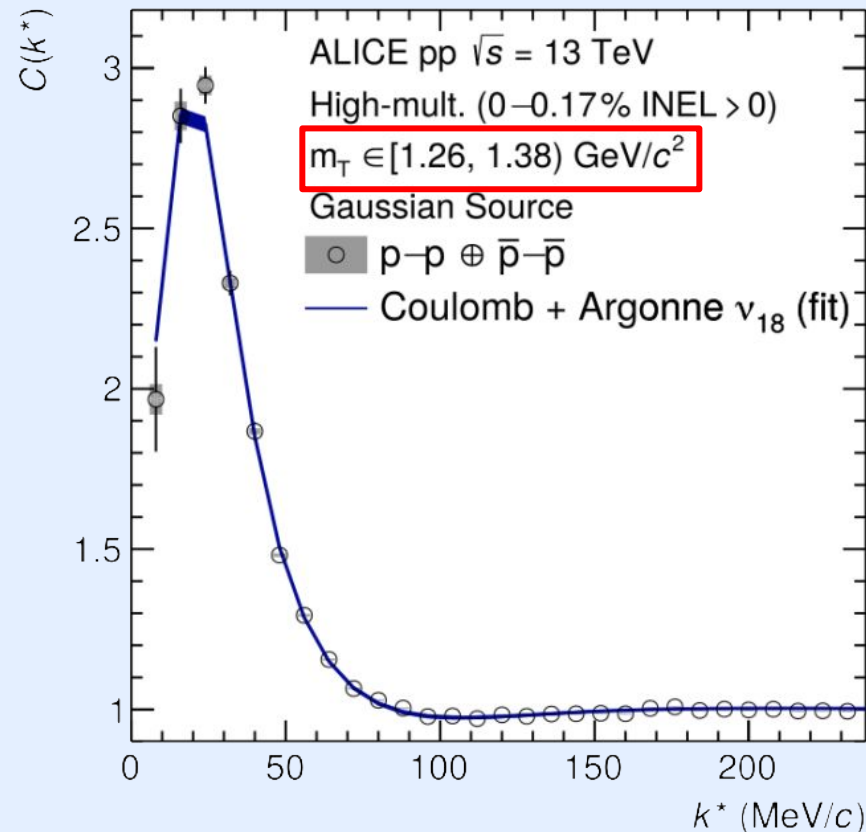
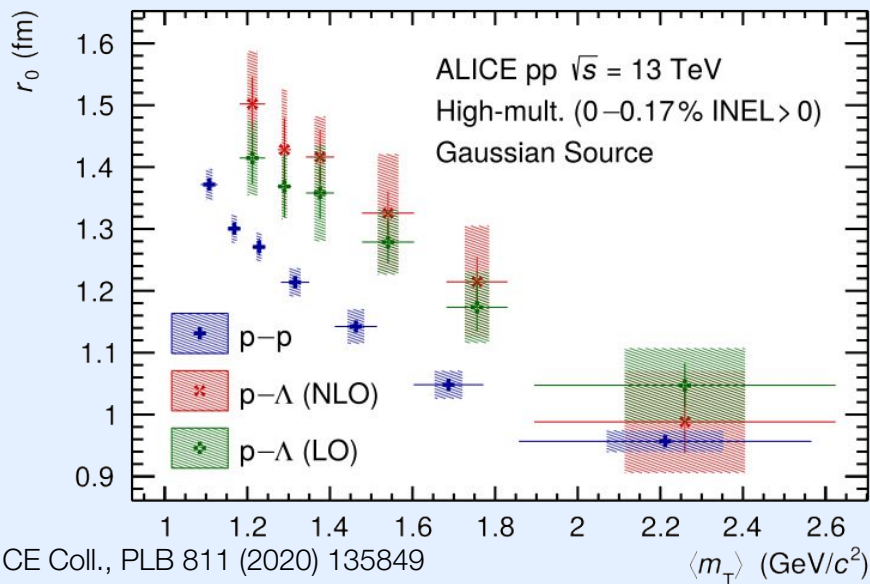


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# The coalescence model

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$$\zeta \equiv \left(\frac{d^2}{d^2 + 4\sigma^2}\right)^{3/2}$$

Constrained from data!

# The coalescence model

Wigner function formalism, tuned to ALICE measurements

Let's remember:

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$$\zeta \equiv \left( \frac{d^2}{d^2 + 4\sigma^2} \right)^{3/2}$$

Constrained from data!

- The term  $3\zeta e^{-q^2 d^2}$  can be interpreted as a coalescence probability depending on the relative momentum  $q$  and the source size  $\sigma$
- More in general:

$$p(\sigma, q) = \int d^3 r_p d^3 r_n h(r_n) h(r_p) W(q, r)$$

- This allows us to calculate the coalescence probability for arbitrary Wigner functions

⇒ Probe different hypotheses for the deuteron wave function

$$W(\vec{q}, \vec{r}) = \int d^3 \zeta \Psi(\vec{r} + \vec{\zeta}/2) \Psi^*(\vec{r} - \vec{\zeta}/2) e^{i\vec{q}\vec{\zeta}}$$



# State of the art coalescence predictions

Wigner function formalism  $\rightarrow$  wave functions

There are multiple models for the deuteron wave function

- Simplistic:

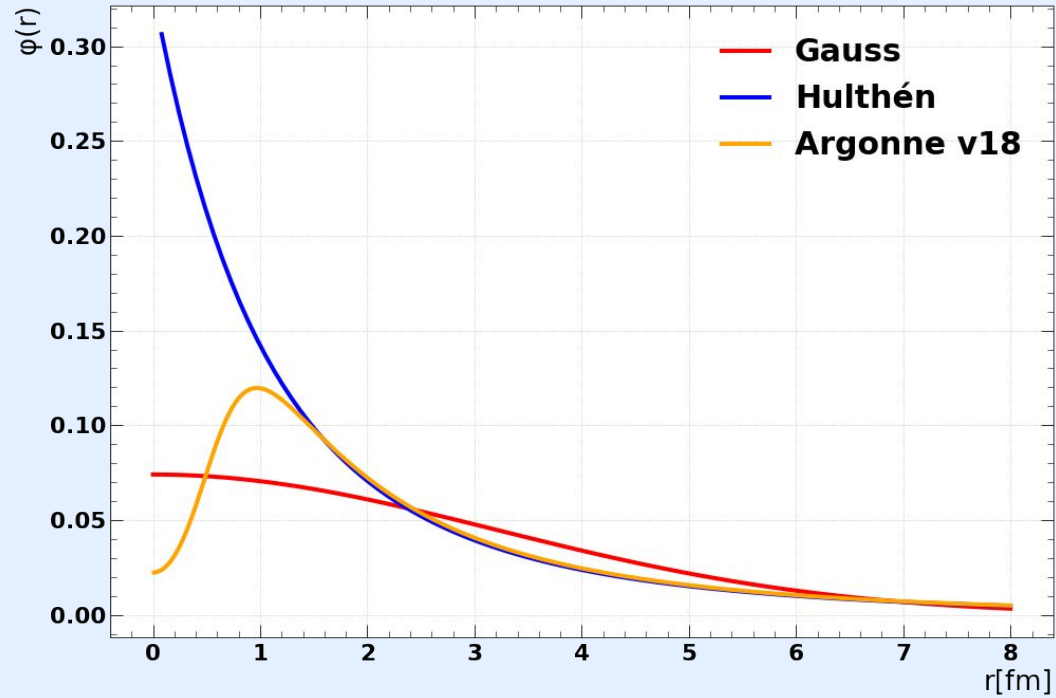
**Single Gaussian**

- From *pion field theory* (Yukawa-like potential) ('50s)\*:

**Hulthén**

- From pn scattering measurements\*\*:

**Argonne  $v_{18}$**



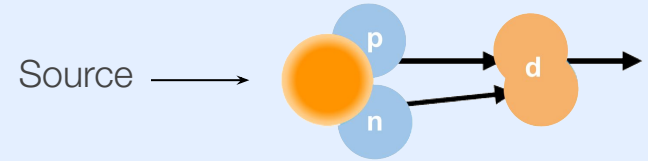
\*  Scheibl et al., PRC 59 (1999) 1585-1602

\*\*  Wiringa et al., PRC 51 (1995) 38-51

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Wigner function formalism tuned to ALICE measurements

- Event-by-event coalescence afterburner with Wigner function formalism
- EPOS 3/Pythia 8.3 as event generator



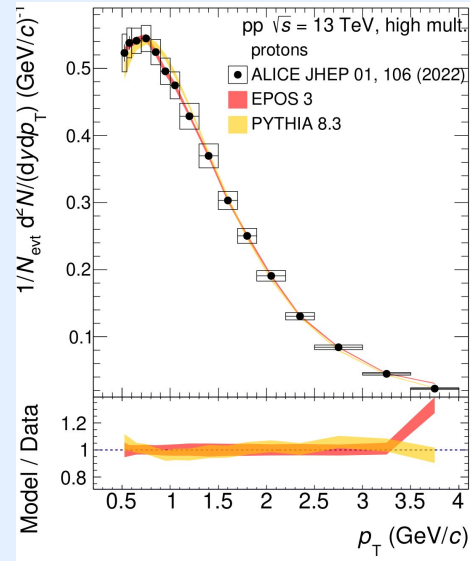
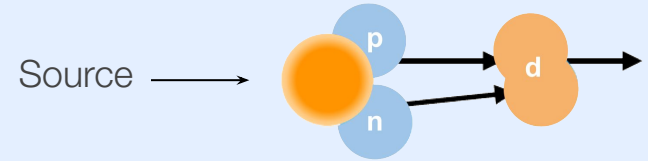
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## Ingredients

- Protons (and neutrons) are tuned to p measurements from ALICE



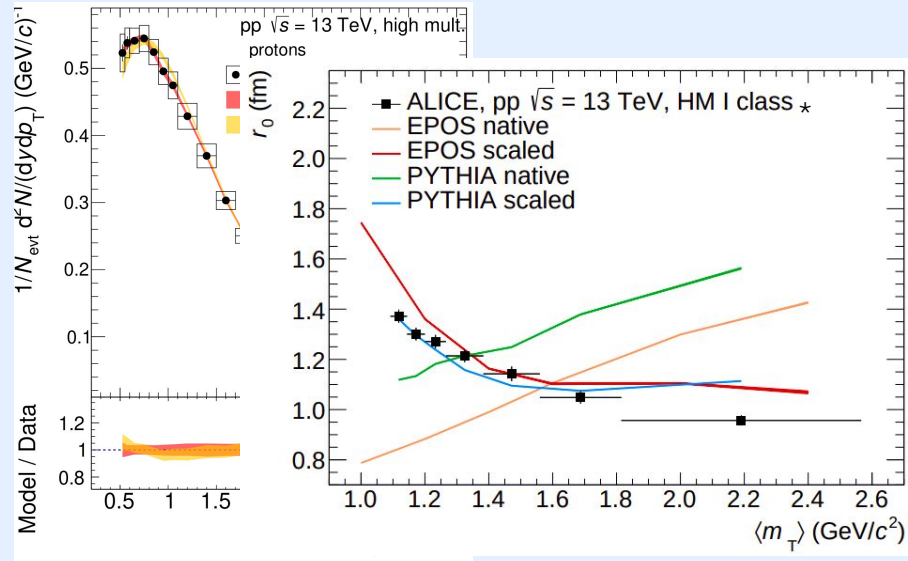
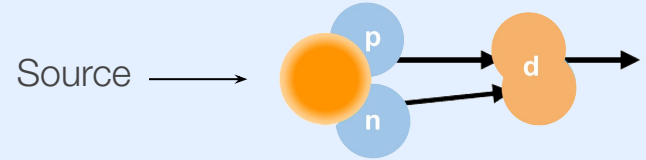
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- Protons (and neutrons) are tuned to p measurements from ALICE
- Improved source model
  - source size
  - resonance cocktail
- charged-particle multiplicity ( $35.8 \pm 0.5$ )



\* ALICE Coll., PLB 811(2020) 135849

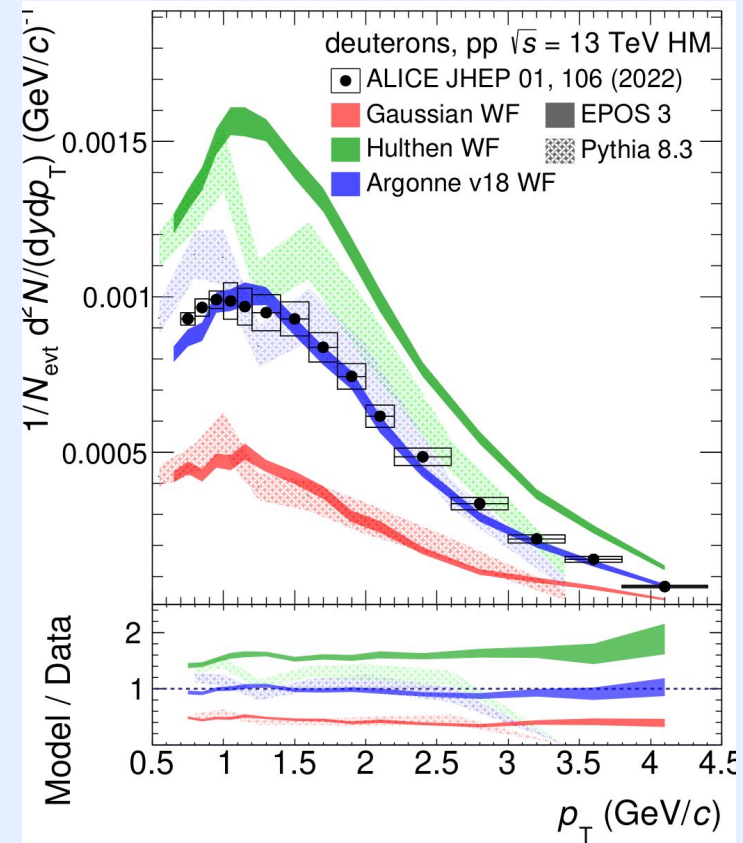
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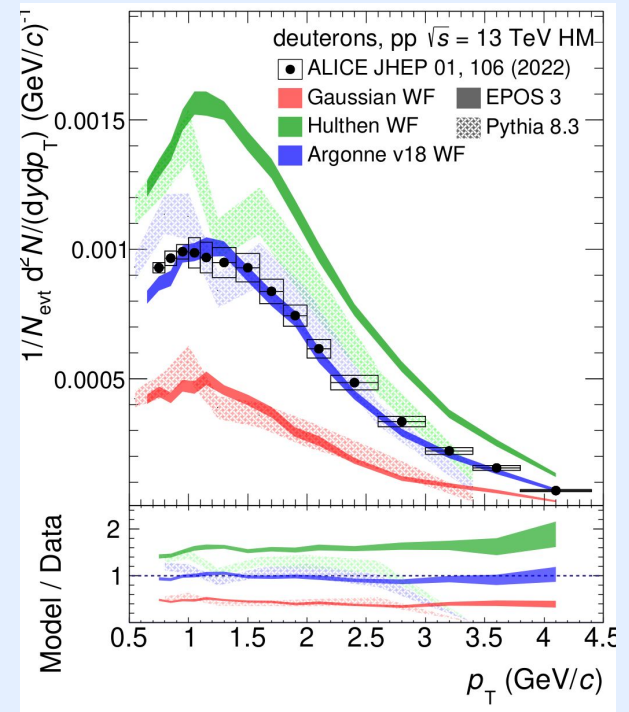
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- Improved source model
  - source size
  - resonance cocktail
- charged-particle multiplicity ( $35.8 \pm 0.5$ )
- Argonne WF shows the best agreement with measurements

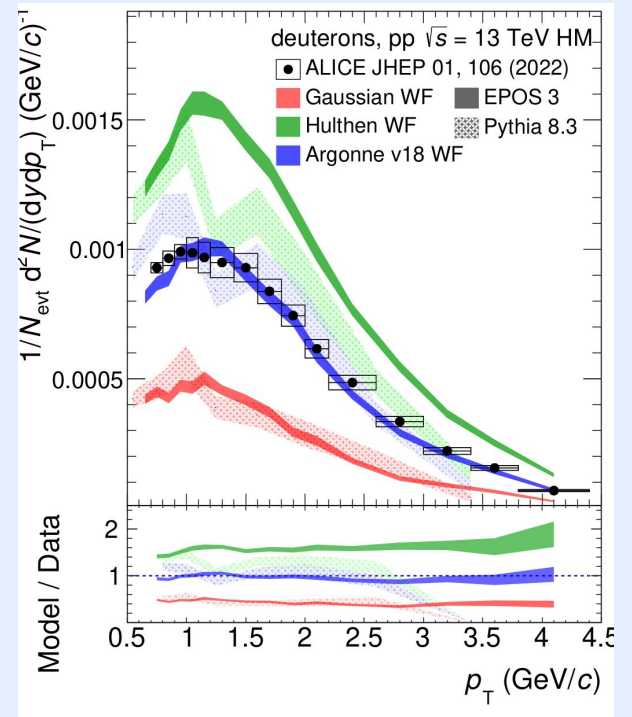


- Novel approach for coalescence based on Wigner function formalism is developed
- Deuteron production in high multiplicity pp collisions  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV
- *If* we have control of the underlying physics
  - emission source size
  - (anti)nucleon momentum distributions
  - resonance cocktail
  - charged-particle multiplicity
  - realistic nucleus wavefunction
- Model successfully reproduces data with no free-parameters!



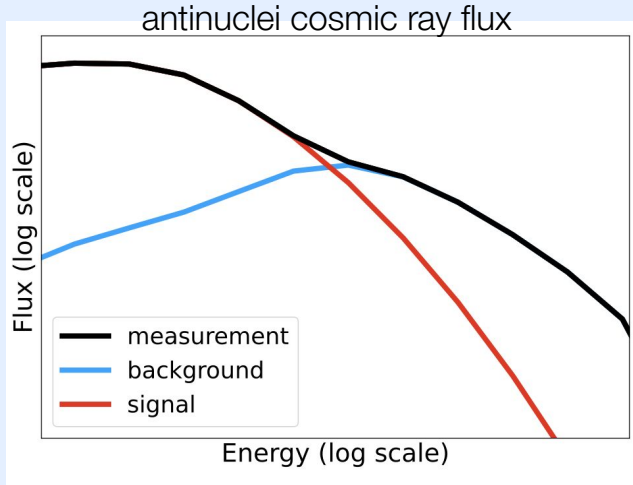
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- Model with **no free-parameters!**

**Thank you for your attention!**  
**Let's have a great workshop!**

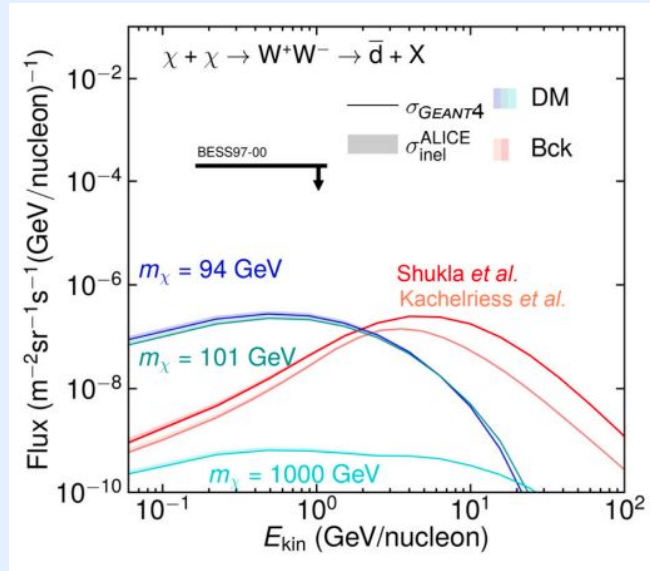


# Backup slides

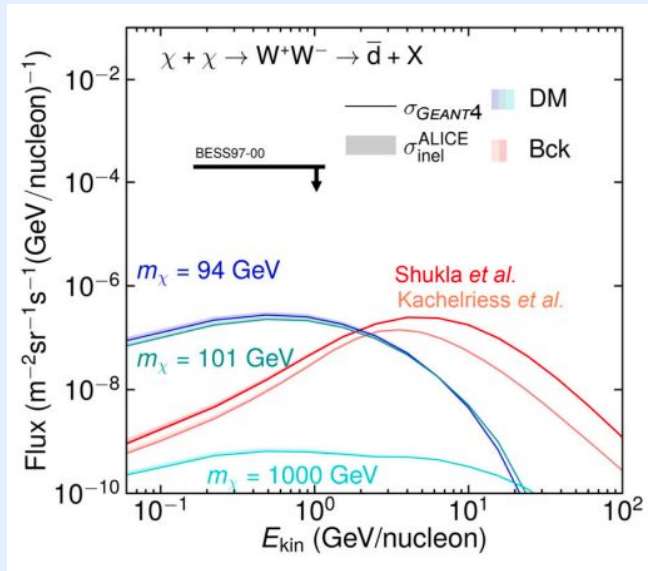




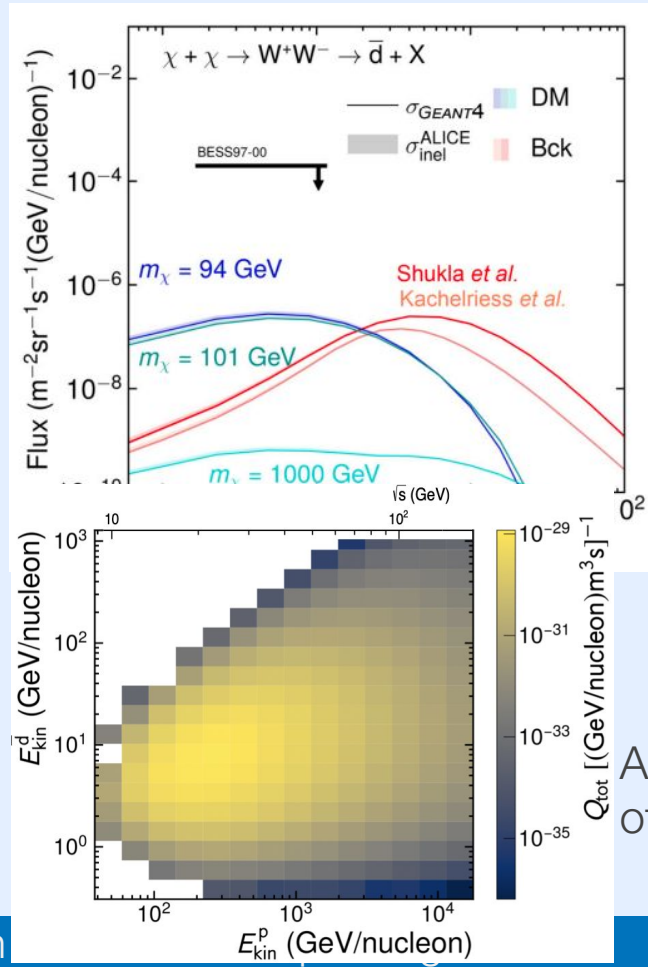
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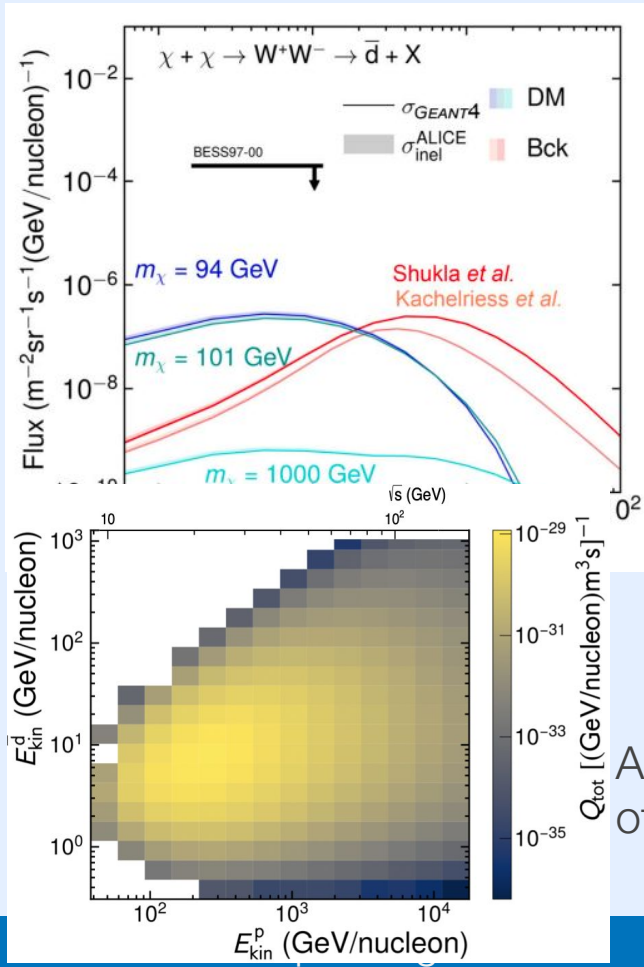


- Modelling antinuclei production is an essential backbone to interpret any future measurement of cosmic ray antinuclear fluxes
- Antideuteron production predominantly from collisions of protons of  $E_{kin} \sim 200-500$  GeV ( $\sqrt{s} \sim 19-30$  GeV for p-H)



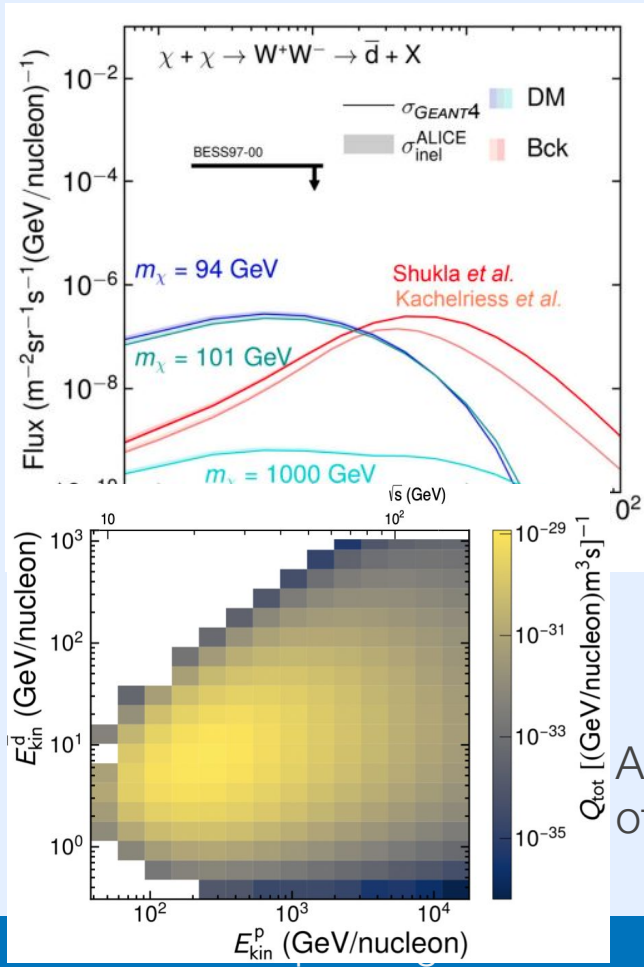
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- Antideuteron production predominantly from collisions of protons of  $E_{\text{kin}} \sim 200\text{-}500$  GeV ( $\sqrt{s} \sim 19\text{-}30$  GeV for p-H)

Antideuteron source function as a function of kinetic energy of the incoming proton and produced antideuteron



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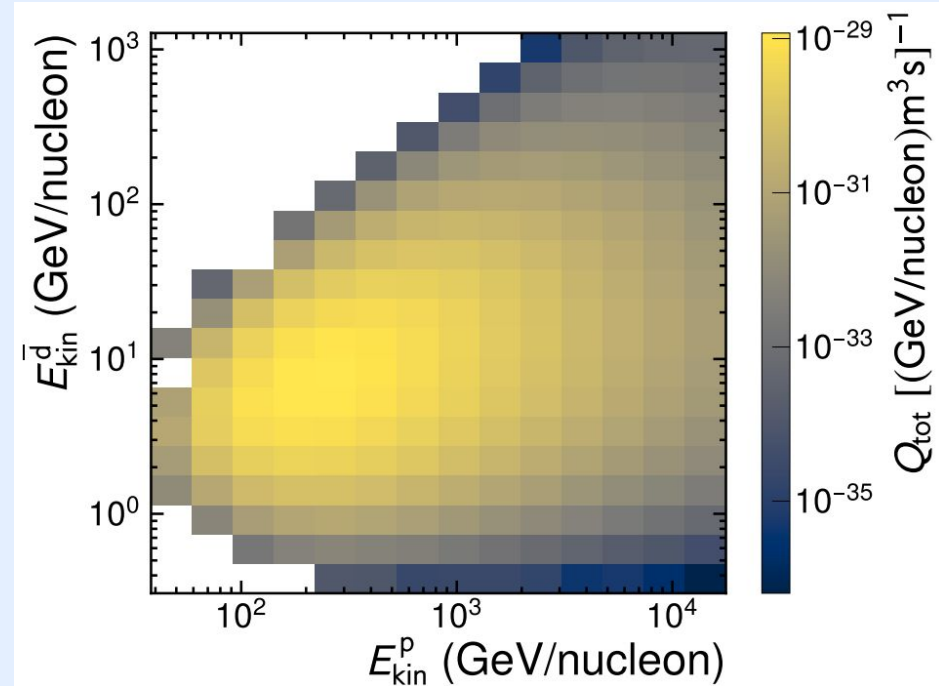
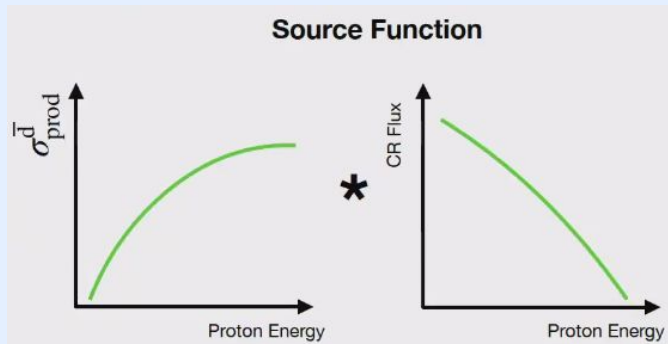


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- Modelling production of antideuterons for HM pp collisions at 13 TeV is only the first piece of a much more complicated puzzle
- Extrapolation in the energy range of interest
- More experimental data at lower energies needed!

Antideuteron source function as a function of kinetic energy of the incoming proton and produced antideuteron

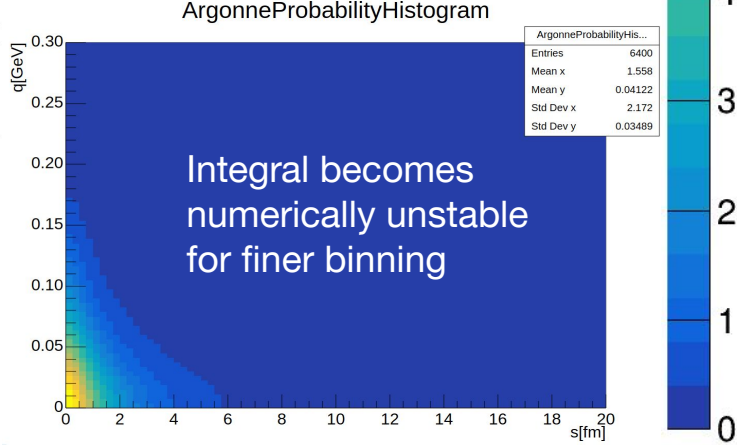
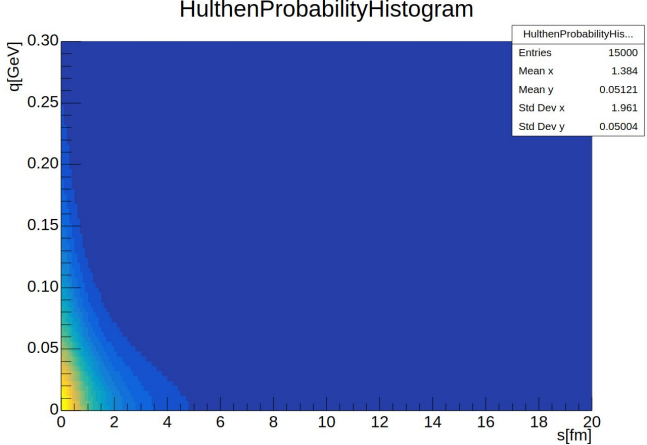
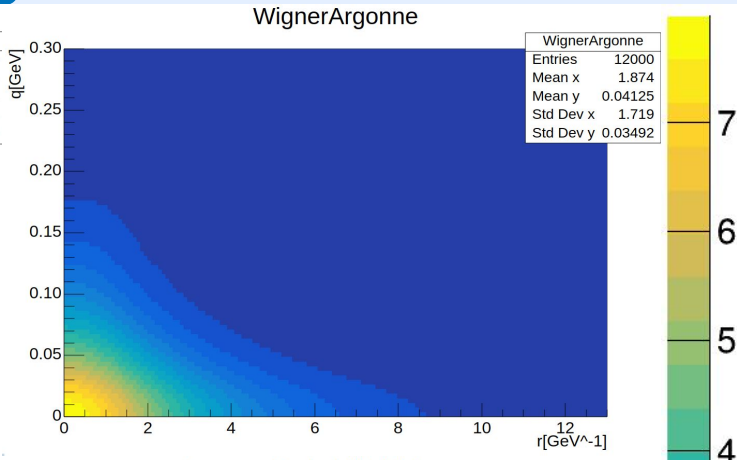
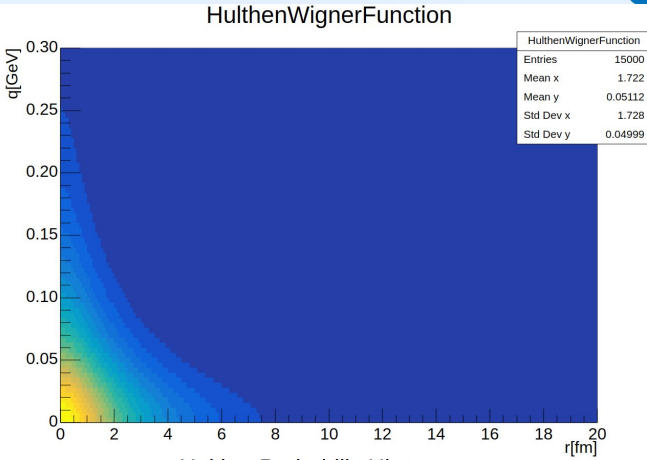
## Production energy of antinuclei

- Antideuteron source function as a function of kinetic energy of the incoming proton and produced antideuteron
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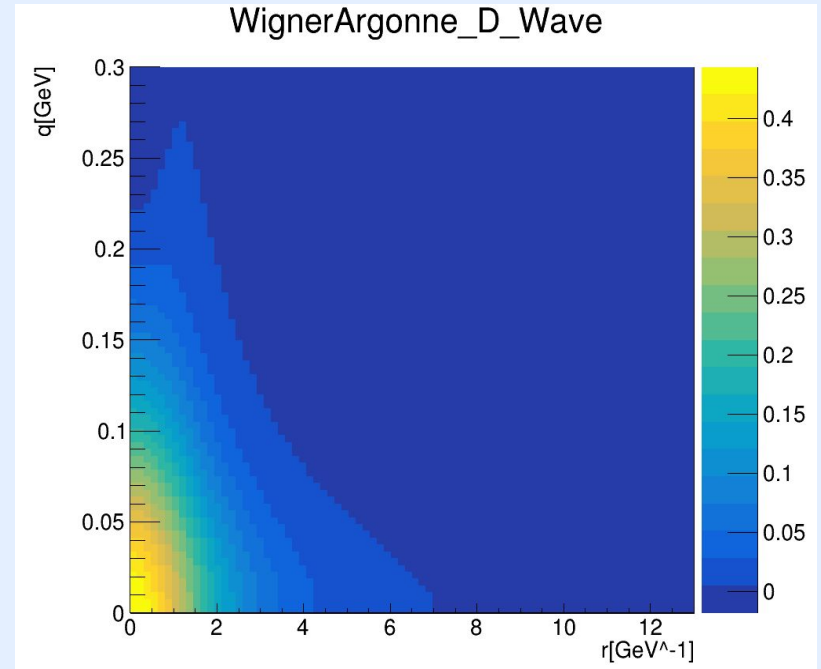
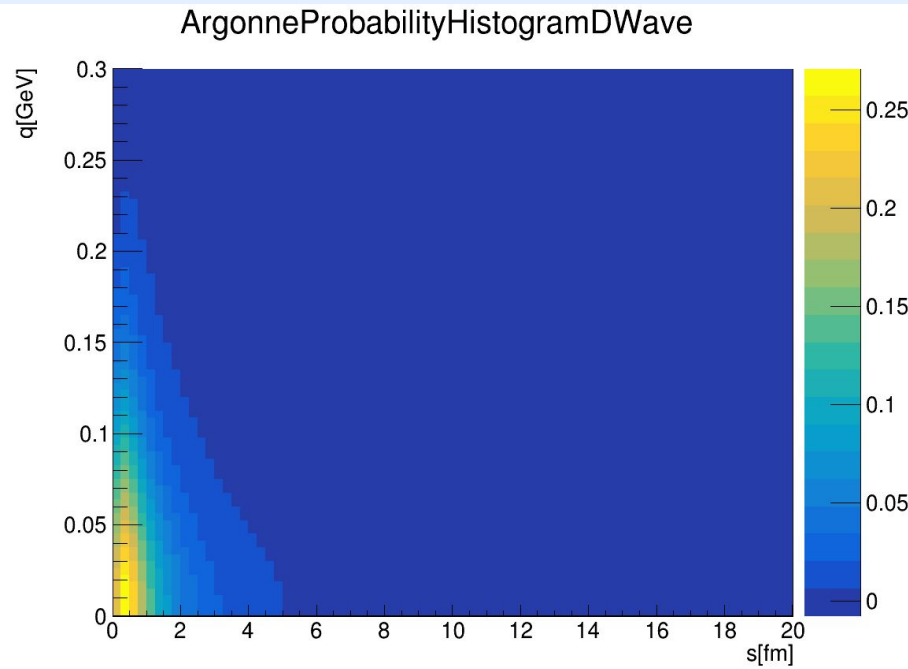
Šerkšnytė, et al. PHYSICAL REVIEW D 105, 083021 (2022)

# New Wigner functions/Probabilities





# Argonne D-State probability



D-State probability is 6%

# Overview of (anti)nuclei data

## (anti)nuclei measurements

- No measurement of antideuterons in the energy region (~19-30 GeV) relevant for astrophysics
- Most measurements are very old (~60s and 70s)
- NA61's energy (17.3 GeV) would be a perfect candidate to study antinuclei for astrophysics

We need precise measurements at the energies of interest to constrain (anti)nuclei production!

Experiment or Laboratory	Collision	$p_{\text{lab}}$ (GeV/c)	$\sqrt{s}$ (GeV)
CERN	p + p	19	6.15
CERN	p + p	24	6.8
Serpukhov	p + p	70	11.5
	p + Be		
CERN-SPS	p + Be	200	19.4
	p + Al		
Fermilab	p + Be	300	23.8
CERN-ISR	p + p	1497.8	53
CERN-ALICE	p + p	$4.3 \times 10^5$	900
CERN-ALICE	p + p	$2.6 \times 10^7$	7000

■ No antideuteron data!

# Modelling (anti)nuclei production

## $B_A$ predictions

- Important observable in accelerator measurements:  $B_A$

$$B_A(p_T^p) = E_A \frac{d^3 N_A}{dp_A^3} \bigg/ \left( E_p \frac{d^3 N_p}{dp_p^3} \right)^A$$

- Theoretical prediction [1]

$$B_2(\vec{p}) \approx \frac{3}{2m} \int d^3 q D(\vec{q}) e^{-R^2(p_T) q^2} \text{later!}$$

Emission source size

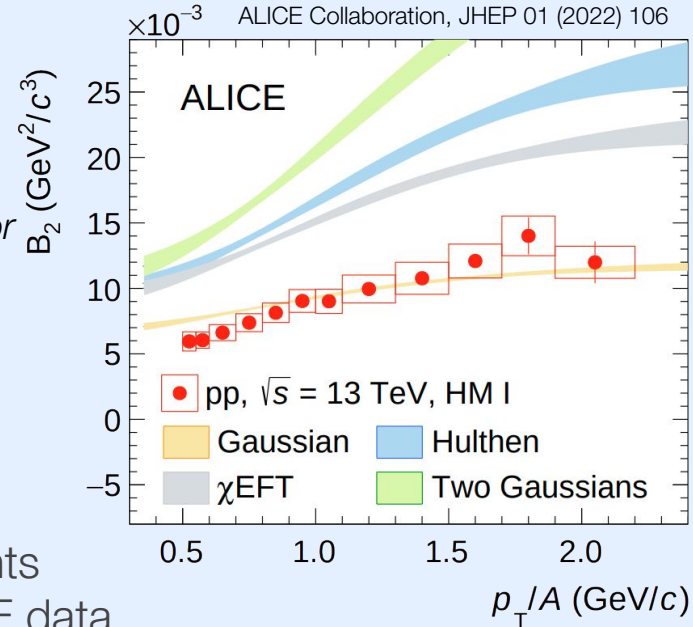
\* keep it in mind for

Deuteron wave function

$$D(\vec{q}) = \int d^3 r |\phi_d(\vec{r})|^2 e^{-i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{r}}$$

Testing different wave functions:

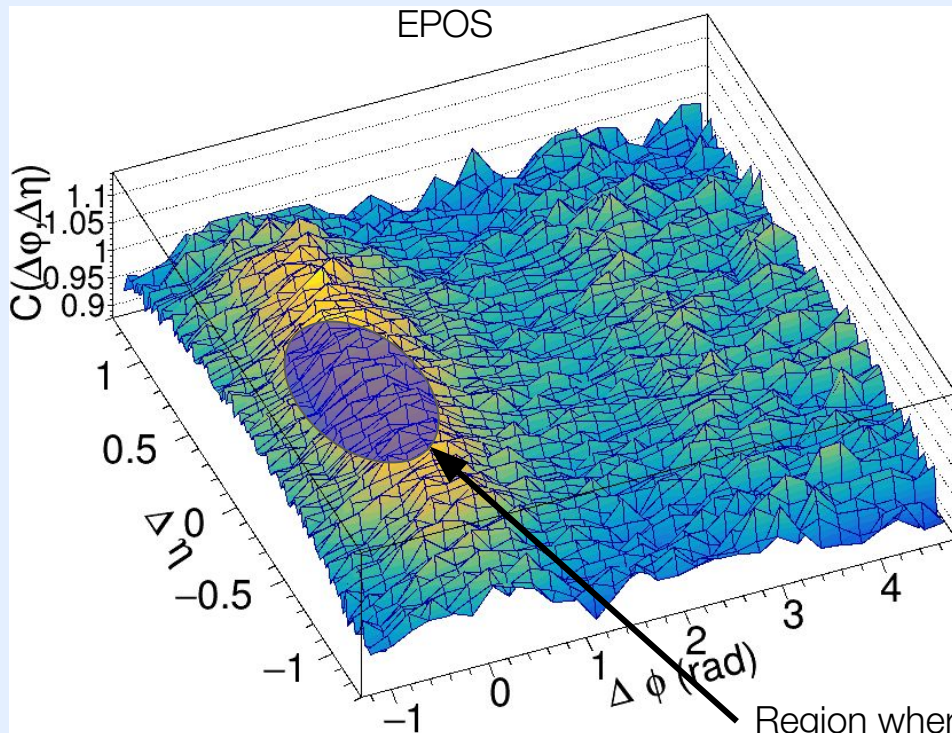
- **Hulthén:** Favoured by low energy scattering experiments
- **Gaussian:** Best description of currently available ALICE data
- **Two Gaussians:** Approximates Hulthén, easy to use in calculations
- **$\chi$ EFT:** Favoured by modern nuclear interaction experiments (e.g. Femtoscopy)



[1] Blum, Takimoto, PRC 99 (2019) 044913

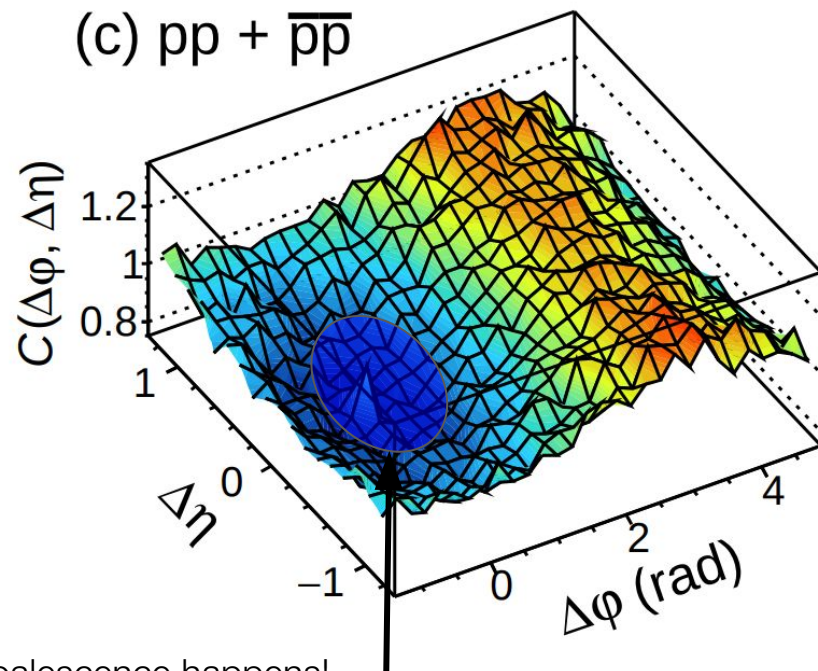
# Correlations comparison

## $\Delta\eta$ - $\Delta\phi$ Correlation function



ALICE (*Eur.Phys.J.C* 77 (2017) 8, 569)

(c)  $pp + \bar{p}\bar{p}$



Region where coalescence happens!

## Scheme

Propagation scheme:

- We obtain a scaling factor as a function of  $m_T$  from the source size measurement
- We move the primordials out radially until we reach the scaled distance
- This distance ( $\tilde{x}$ ) is the same for both primordials of the pair

