# Production of light (hyper-)nuclei using UrQMD

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# (Hyper-)Nuclei in HIC

- Different models provide a good description of nuclei production in heavy ion collisions.
- This is true over a wide range of beam energies.
- Despite the fact that nuclei are only weakly bound compared to the excitation energy of the systems created.
- Is there more to learn and use nuclei production than 'it works'?



# (Hyper-)Nuclei in HIC

- Theoretical predictions need realistic distributions for hadrons as input.
- We use UrQMD in cascade, potential and hybrid version to generate event-wise distributions of baryons at last scattering.
- Note that this means we use mostly free baryons as input for the coalescence!
- Using UrQMD in potential modes introduces additional correlations at FO!



Non-equilibrium initial conditions via UrQMD

Hydrodynamic evolution OR transport calculation

Freeze-out via hadronic cascade (UrQMD)

Nobody is doing that, solving the full QM problem dynamically!

# Phase-Space Coalescence (a practical implementation)

- Take transport model of choice and calculate phase space distributions of (free) baryons.
- A cluster AB is formed whenever the correct combination of baryons occupies a certain phase space volume defined by  $\rho_{AB}$

$$dN/d\vec{P} = g \int f_A(\vec{x}_1, \vec{p}_1) f_B(\vec{x}_2, \vec{p}_2) \rho_{AB}(\Delta \vec{x}, \Delta \vec{p}) \delta(\vec{P} - \vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2) d^3x_1 \ d^3x_2 \ d^3p_1 \ d^3p_2$$

#### Phase-Space Coalescence

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## Phase-Space Coalescence

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#### Some discussion

- The density  $\rho_{AB}$  is often interpreted as wavefunction of the nucleus (only positive probability).
- In practice  $f_A$  and  $f_B$  are evaluated before nuclei could form and for **free** nucleons, just as scatterings cease.
- So strictly speaking there is no deuteron wave function.
- Problematic especially for large nuclei.
- This leaves some room for the implementation and interpretation of  $\rho_{AB}$  as probability density that a set of nucleons may form a cluster.

# Phase-Space Coalescence in UrQMD

#### Numerical procedure: 'Box-coalescence'

1 Look in the two-particle-rest-frame of each possible two-nucleon pair with the correct isospin combination, i.e. pn for the deuteron. If their relative distance  $\Delta r = |\vec{r}_{n_1} - \vec{r}_{n_2}| < \Delta r_{max,nn}$  and momentum distance  $\Delta p = |\vec{p}_{n_1} - \vec{p}_{n_2}| < \Delta p_{max,nn}$ , a two nucleon state is potentially formed with the combined momenta  $\vec{p}_{nn} = \vec{p}_{n_1} + \vec{p}_{n_2}$  at position  $\vec{r}_{nn} = (\vec{r}_{n_1} + \vec{r}_{n_2})/2$ .

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- 2 As second step we boost into the local rest-frame of this two nucleon state and any other possible third nucleon and repeat this procedure.

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O Larger clusters are checked first and a nucleus is formed with the probability given by the spin-isospin-coupling.

	deuteron	$^{3}H$ or $^{3}He$	$^{4}He$	$^{3}_{\Lambda}H$
spin-isospin	3/8	1/12	1/96	1/12
$\Delta r_{max}$ [fm]	4.0	3.5	3.5	9.5
$\Delta p_{max}$ [GeV]	0.25	0.32	0.41	0.15

Table: Probabilities and parameters used in the UrQMD phase-space coalescence for the cascade mode.

S. Sombun, K. Tomuang, A. Limphirat, P. Hillmann, C. Herold, JS, Y. Yan and M. Bleicher, Phys. Rev. C 99 (2019) no.1, 014901

# Stable hadron multiplicities

- Overall good description of baryon multiplicities over wide range of energies.
- Too much proton stopping at intermediate energies.
- Cascade model gives too much strangeness at low beam energies and to little at high energies.
- Hybrid models include GC strangeness production.



# Light nuclei multiplicities

- Deuteron, triton and <sup>3</sup>He are well reproduced.
- Differences between triton and <sup>3</sup>He at low beam energies due to isospin asymmetry.
- Slightly too much stopping at intermediate energies. Fitting the parameters here leads to problems!
- ALICE: Deuteron well described, <sup>3</sup>He seems underestimated.



1. Centrality dependence and annihilation at the LHC

First predicted qualitatively in S. Sombun, JS, C. Herold, A. Limphirat, Y. Yan and M. Bleicher, J. Phys. G 45 (2018) no.2, 025101



- Both results within uncertainty.
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- Same systematic observed for larger nuclei.
- And the canonical effect is stronger.



### The Helium fit

- ${}^{4}He$  is fitted using AGS data from the E864 Experiment, Phys. Rev. C 61, 090864 (2000).
- Here  ${\cal A}=3$  also looks a bit on the low side.



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- And the canonical effect is stronger.
- Biggest effect in Helium.



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- And the canonical effect is stronger.
- Biggest effect in Helium.
- Penalty factor (or mass dependent suppression) as function of system size may give some insight on the interplay between annihilation and canonical effects.



# Light nuclei multiplicities - refit with EoS

 Refitting the parameters at 3 AGeV, including a realistic EoS leads to more <sup>3</sup>He!



## Light nuclei and fluctuations

- The double ratio t · p/(d<sup>2</sup>) is thought to be sensitive to spatial baryon fluctuations at freeze-out.
   K. J. Sun, L. W. Chen, C. M. Ko, J. Pu and Z. Xu, Phys. Lett. B 781 (2018), 499-504
- Can be studies by coalescence in UrQMD as function of wime in a scenario where we have density clumping (or isomers).
- Scaled variance and skewness of baryon number in coordinate space show clear signal.



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- Scaled variance and skewness of baryon number in coordinate space show clear signal.
- Small enhancement in time dependence when fluctuations are strong. (finite size effects and finite range properly taken into account)
- We see only a very small final enhancement in the scenario with a phase transition.



# Moving on to hypernuclei

- Data on hypertriton multiplicities is scarce.
- We fixed the parameters, in cascade UrQMD, mainly from previous calculations.
   J. Steinheimer, K. Gudima, A. Botvina, I. Mishustin, M. Bleicher and H. Stöcker. Phys. Lett. B 714 (2012), 85-91
- Strangeness at very low energies is overestimated (potential effects)
- Strangeness at intermediate energies is underestimated (the horn)
- Similar to the  ${}^{3}\text{He},\,{}^{3}_{\Lambda}\text{H}$  seems underestimated compared to ALICE data.

T. Reichert, JS, V. Vovchenko, B. Dönigus and M. Bleicher, Phys. Rev. C 107 (2023) no.1, 014912



# Multiplicities for multistrange objects

- Using the same parameters as for hypertriton we can predict multihypernuclear objects.
- Most are unlikely to be bound?
- Note: shown is sum over all possible isospin combinations.
- Results consistent with previous estimates.

J. Steinheimer, K. Gudima, A. Botvina, I. Mishustin, M. Bleicher and H. Stöcker, Phys. Lett. B **714** (2012), 85-91



# A special ratio

- A special ratio which was thought to be sensitive on baryon-strangeness correlations: S<sub>3</sub>
- Here, the thermal model shows similar behavior.
- Small increase at higher beam energies.
- Unfortunately error bars are large and only few data are available.



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- Unfortunately error bars are large and only few data are available.
- Dependence on 'size' of hypernucleus observed.



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# Refitting the parameters with potentials

- Running with potentials reduces the strangeness yield due to less compression.
- Refitting the parameters to 3AGeV data give very good results.
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- Refitting the parameters to 3AGeV data give very good results.
- Very different from thermal model
- Predictions for HADES data: Strong system size dependence below threshold.



#### Let's switch to system size dependence

- Can the system size dependence be used to measure a difference in Δr:
  9.5 fm vs. 4.3 fm
- The centrality behavior was explained by the relation of source size and system size:
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- Our approach: Both are taken into account.



# Changing the source size for the hypertriton

- We can change the source size Δr for the <sup>3</sup><sub>Δ</sub>H to be the same as for <sup>3</sup>He.
- Adjusting  $\Delta p$  to get a similar value for central collisions.
- Centrality dependence is changed as expected.

Parameters	<sup>3</sup> He	$^{3}_{\Lambda}H$	$^{3}_{\Lambda}H$
$\Delta r_{max}$ [fm]	4.3	9.5	4.3
$\Delta p_{max}$ [GeV]	0.35	0.135	0.25

T. Reichert, JS, V. Vovchenko, B. Dönigus and M. Bleicher, Phys. Rev. C 107 (2023) no.1, 014912



## The double ratios for different system sizes

• Similar behavior is observed for the double ratios.



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- Similar behavior is observed for the double ratios.
- Different source size gives different behavior.



# The double ratios for different system sizes

- Similar behavior is observed for the double ratios.
- Different source size gives different behavior.
- Note that in p+p also canonical effects are naturally included.



### System sizes in other experiments - future HADES data

- Different sized systems have been studied at the same beam energy with the HADES detector
- A comparison of AuAu vs. AgAg may also reveal a system size dependence of  $S_{\rm 3}$
- Changing the parameters from cascade to potential mode does change the absolute value of S<sub>3</sub> but not the qualitative behavior.



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 Using a pion beam it is straight forward to create a hyperon inside the target nucleus.





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- Using a pion beam it is straight forward to create a hyperon inside the target nucleus.
- The absorption or fragmentation of the nucleus then leads to the formation of hyperclusters of various sizes.

A. Kittiratpattana, T. Reichert, N. Buyukcizmeci, A. Botvina, A. Limphirat, C. Herold, J. Steinheimer and M. Bleicher, [arXiv:2305.09208 [nucl-th]].



## System sizes in other experiments - Pion Beam

- Using a pion beam it is straight forward to create a hyperon inside the target nucleus.
- The absorption or fragmentation of the nucleus then leads to the formation of hyperclusters of various sizes.
- Scaling S<sub>3</sub>, due to the significantly different penalty factor, shows the same system size dependence as ALICE data!

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- Coalescence can be used ot successfully describe the production of hypernuclei in various systems.
- The parameters need to be fixed at some reference system, a exact relation to the wave function should not be assumed.
- Comparing UrQMD simulations with or without potentials changes the correlations at freeze out and thus necessitates a change of parameters.
- The system size dependence of hypertriton production can tell us about its size at freeze out and can be studied in various systems.