the QCD phase boundary and production of rare, loosely bound objects

- the hadron resonance gas and (u,d,s) hadron production
- loosely bound objects
- coalescence vs thermal production
- outlook

pbm EMMI workshop on

Constraining the QCD Phase Boundary with data from Heavy-Ion Collisions

GSI Feb.12-14, 2018









phenomenology results obtained in collaboration with Anton Andronic, Krzysztof Redlich, and Johanna Stachel

arXiv:1710.09425

hadron production and the QCD phase boundary

part 1: the hadron resonance gas

duality between hadrons and quarks/gluons (I)

Z: full QCD partition function

all thermodynamic quantities derive from QCD partition functions

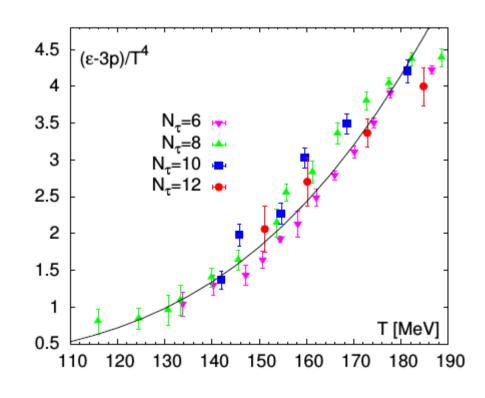
for the pressure we get:

$$\frac{p}{T^4} = \frac{1}{T^3} \frac{\partial \ln Z(V, T, \mu)}{\partial V}$$

comparison of trace anomaly from LQCD Phys.Rev. D90 (2014) 094503 HOTQCD coll.

with hadron resonance gas prediction (solid line)

LQCD: full dynamical quarks with realistic pion mass

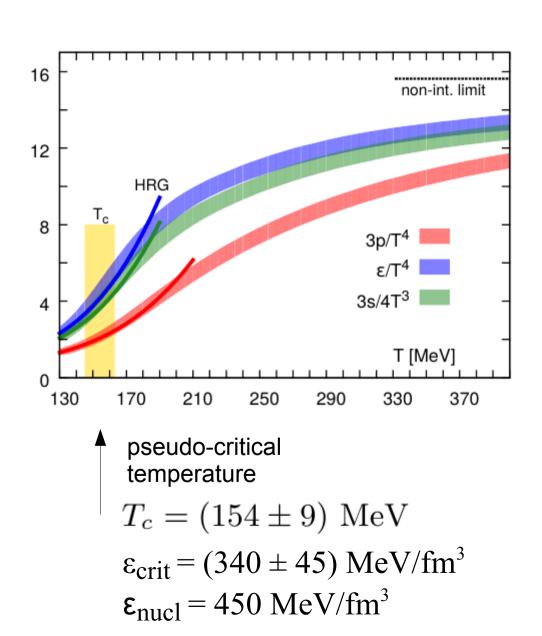


duality between hadrons and quarks/gluons (II)

comparison of equation of state from LQCD Phys.Rev. D90 (2014) 094503 HOTQCD coll.

with hadron resonance gas predictions (colored lines)

essentially the same results also from Wuppertal-Budapest coll. Phys.Lett. B730 (2014) 99-104



duality between hadrons and quarks/gluons (III)

in the dilute limit T < 165 MeV:

$$\ln Z(T, V, \mu) \approx \sum_{i \in mesons} \ln \mathcal{Z}_{M_i}^M(T, V, \mu_Q, \mu_S) + \sum_{i \in baryons} \ln \mathcal{Z}_{M_i}^B(T, V, \mu_b, \mu_Q, \mu_S)$$

where the partition function of the hadron resonance model is expressed in mesonic and baryonic components. The chemical potential μ reflects then the baryonic, charge, and strangeness components $\mu = (\mu_b, \mu_Q, \mu_S)$.

thermal model of particle production and QCD

partition function Z(T,V) contains sum over the full hadronic mass spectrum and is fully calculable in QCD

for each particle i, the statistical operator is:

$$\ln Z_i = \frac{V g_i}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \pm p^2 dp \ln[1 \pm \exp(-(E_i - \mu_i)/T)]$$

particle densities are then calculated according to:

$$n_i = N_i/V = -\frac{T}{V} \frac{\partial \ln Z_i}{\partial \mu} = \frac{g_i}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{p^2 \mathrm{d}p}{\exp[(E_i - \mu_i)/T] \pm 1}$$

from analysis of all available nuclear collision data we now know the energy dependence of the parameters T, mu_b, and V over an energy range from threshold to LHC energy and can confidently extrapolate to even higher energies

in practice, we use the full experimental hadronic mass spectrum from the PDG compilation (vacuum masses) to compute the 'primordial yield'

comparison with measured hadron yields needs evaluation of all strong decays

implementation

$$n_i = N_i/V = -\frac{T}{V} \frac{\partial \ln Z_i}{\partial \mu} = \frac{g_i}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{p^2 dp}{\exp[(E_i - \mu_i)/T] \pm 1}$$

Latest PDG hadron mass spectrum ...quasi-complete up to m=2 GeV; our code: 555 species (including fragments, charm and bottom hadrons) for resonances, the width is considered in calculations

Minimize:
$$\chi^2 = \sum_i \frac{(N_i^{exp} - N_i^{therm})^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

 N_i hadron yield, σ_i experimental uncertainty (stat.+syst.)

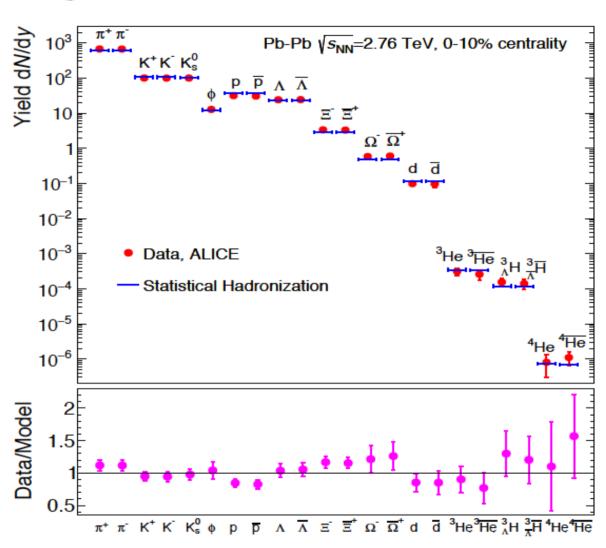
$$\Rightarrow$$
 (T, μ_B, V)

canonical treatment whenever needed (small abundances)

Oct. 2017 update: excellent description of ALICE@LHC data

fit includes loosely bound systems such a deuteron and hypertriton hypertriton is bound-state of (Λ,p,n), Λ separation energy about 130 keV size about 10 fm, the **ultimate halo nucl** produced at T=156 MeV. close to an Efin state

proton discrepancy about 2.8 sigma

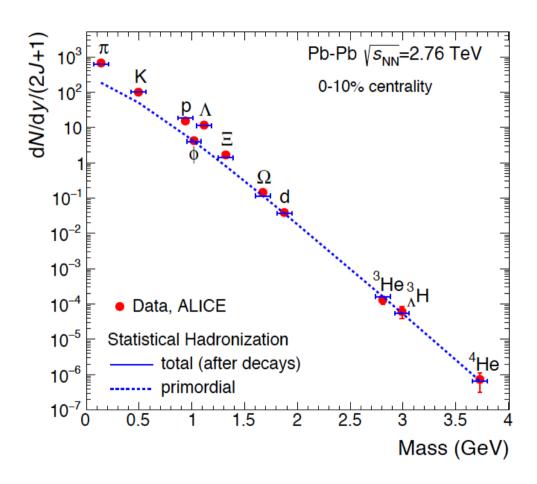


Andronic, pbm, Redlich, Stachel, arXiv:1710.09425

J. Stachel, A. Andronic, P. Braun-Munzinger and K. Redlich, Confronting LHC data with the statistical hadronization model, J.Phys.Conf.Ser.**509** (2014) 012019, arXiv:1311.4662 [nucl-th].

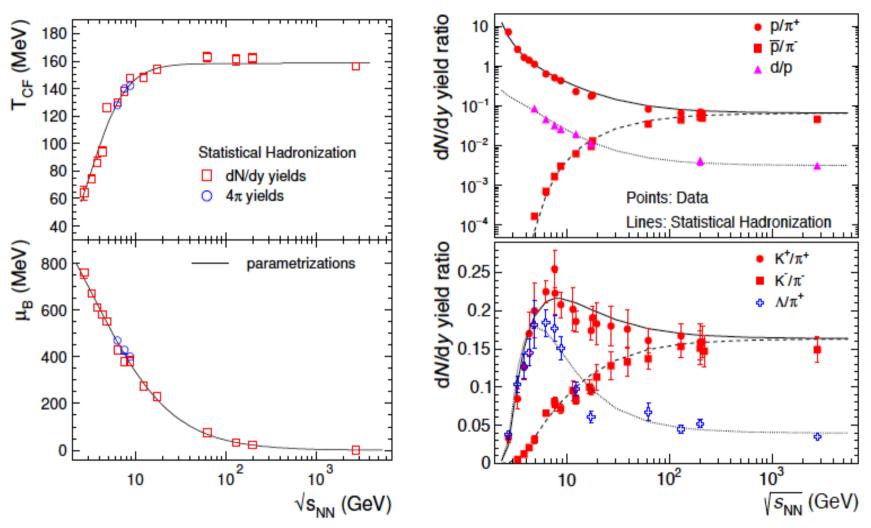
excellent agreement over 9 orders of magnitude

agreement over 9 orders of magnitude with QCD statistical operator prediction



yield of light nuclei predicted in: pbm, J. Stachel, J.Phys. G28 (2002) 1971-1976, J.Phys. G21 (1995) L17-L20

energy dependence of hadron production described quantitatively



together with known energy dependence of charged hadron production in Pb-Pb collisions we can predict yield of all hadrons at all energies with < 10% accuracy

no new physics needed to describe K+/pi+ ratio including the 'horn'

a note on the chemical freeze-out temperature

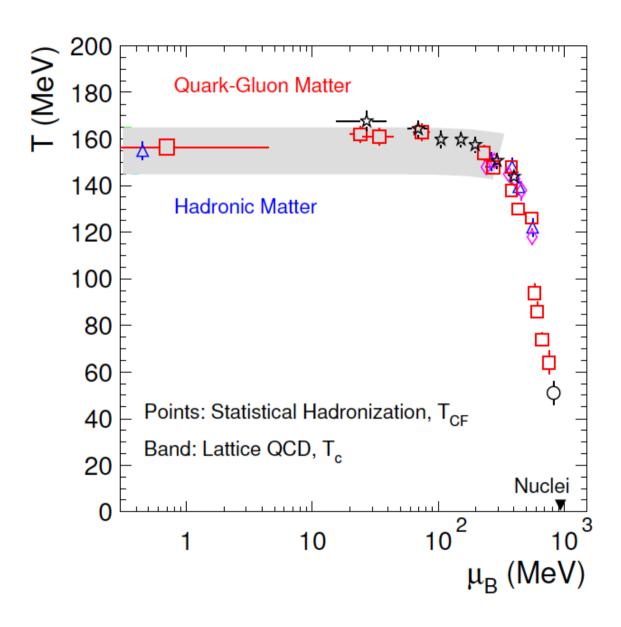
 $T_{chem} = 156.5 \pm 1.5 \text{ MeV from fit to all particles}$

there is an additional uncertainty because of the poorly known hadronic mass spectrum for masses > 2 GeV

for d, 3He, hypertriton and alpha, there is very little feeding from heavier states and none from high mass states in the hadronic mass spectrum, for these particles the temperature T_{nuc} can be determined 'on the back of an envelope':

 T_{nuc} = 159 ± 5 MeV, independent of hadronic mass spectrum

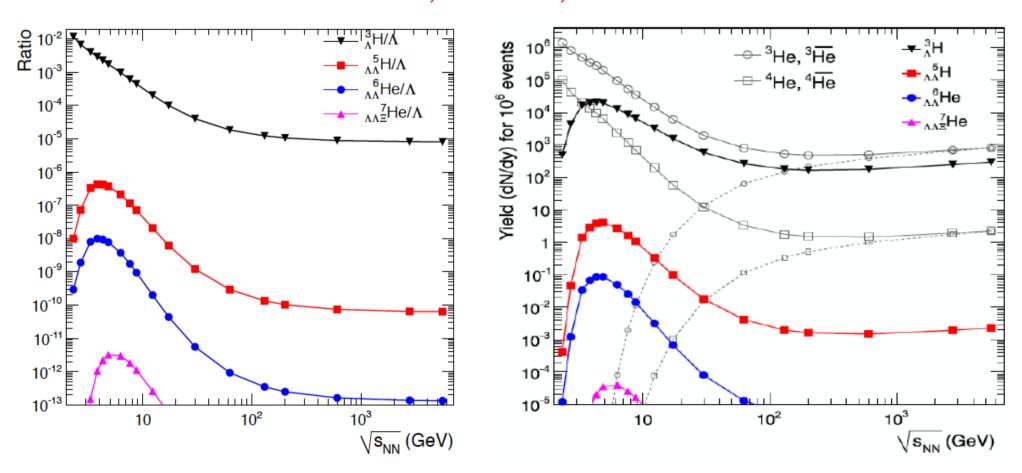
the QGP phase diagram, LQCD, and hadron production data



quantitative agreement of chemical freeze-out parameters with LQCD predictions for baryochemical potential < 300 MeV

now loosely bound objects

exciting opportunities for the upcoming accelerator facilities NICA, FAIR/CBM, J-Parc



Andronic, pbm, Stachel, Stoecker Phys.Lett. B697 (2011) 203-207

The Hypertriton

mass = 2990 MeV, binding energy = 2.3 MeV

Lambda sep. energy = 0.13 MeV

molecular structure: (p+n) + Lambda

2-body threshold: $(p+p+n) + pi = {}^{3}He + pi$

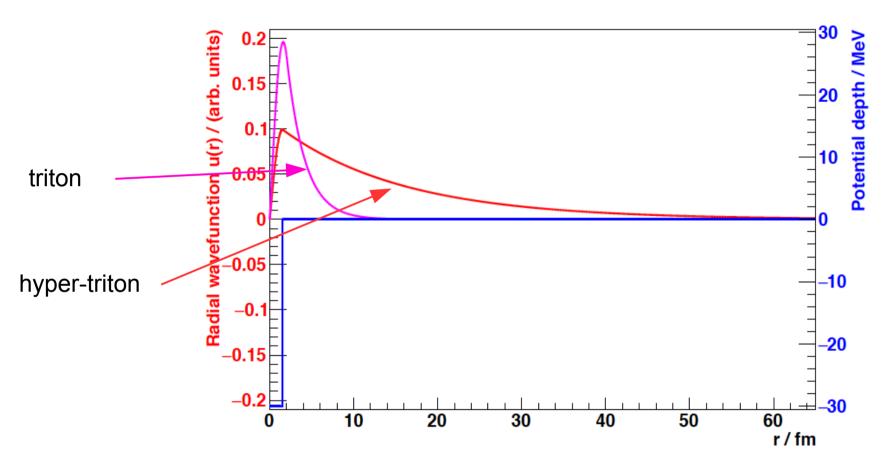
rms radius = $(4 \text{ B.E. M}_{red})^{-1/2} = 10.3 \text{ fm} =$ rms separation between d and Lambda

in that sense: hypertriton = (p n Lambda) = (d Lambda) is the ultimate halo state

yet production yield is fixed at 156 MeV temperature (about 1000 x separation energy.)

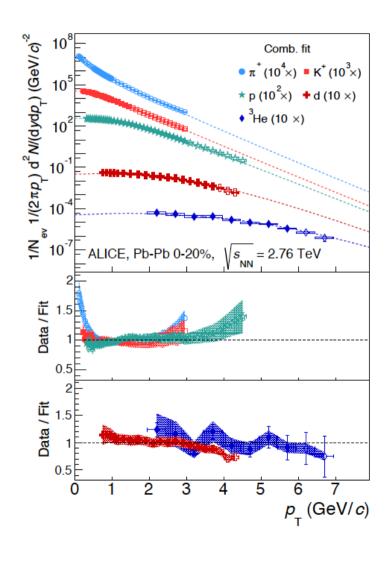
wave function of the hyper-triton – schematic picture

figure by Benjamin Doenigus, August 2017

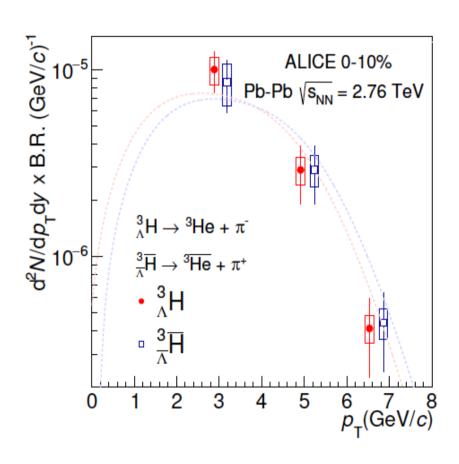


Wavefunction (red) of the hypertriton assuming a s-wave interaction for the bound state of a Λ and a deuteron. The root mean square value of the radius of this function is $\sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle} = 10.6$ fm. In blue the corresponding square well potential is shown. In addition, the magenta curve shows a "triton" like object using a similar calculation as the hypertriton, namely a deuteron and an added nucleon, resulting in a much narrower object as the hypertriton.

light nuclei flow with same fluid velocity as pions, kaons, and protons



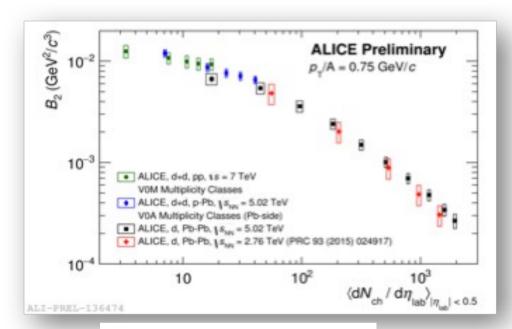
even hyper-triton flows with same common fluid velocity



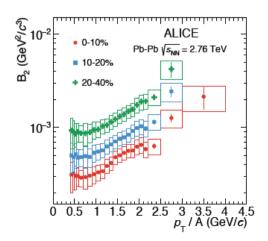
is coalescence approach an alternative?

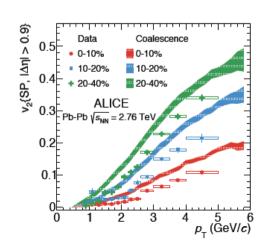
$$E_i \frac{\mathrm{d}^3 N_i}{\mathrm{d} p_i^3} = B_A \left(E_p \frac{\mathrm{d}^3 N_p}{\mathrm{d} p_p^3} \right)^A \qquad B_A = \left(\frac{4\pi}{3} p_0^3 \right)^{A-1} \frac{M}{m^A}$$

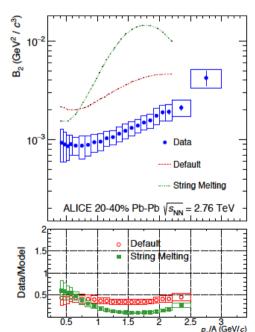
centrality and p_T dependence of coalescence parameter not understood and not well reproduced by models such as AMPT



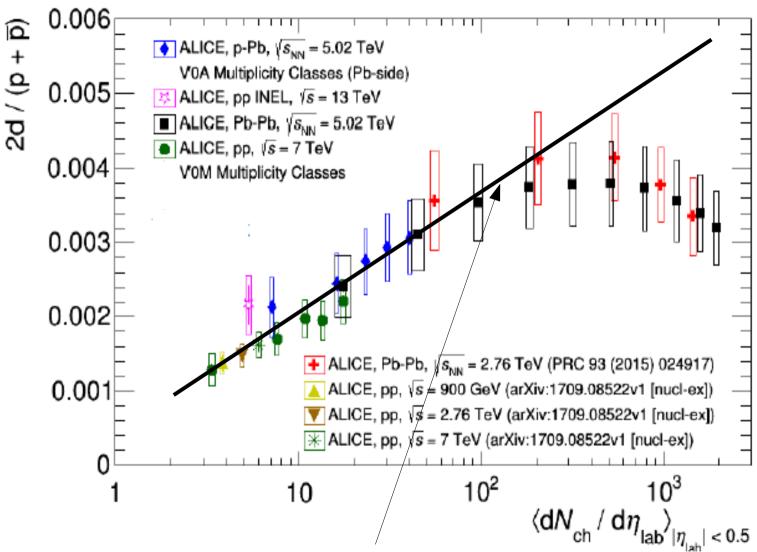
ALICE: arXiv:1707.07304







deuteron/proton ratio vs charged-particle multiplicity



d/p ratio not consistent with 'coalescence' expectations where ratio is expected to increase with volume of the fireball see, e.g., S. Mrowczynski, arXiv:1607.02267

coalescence approach, general considerations for loosely bound states

- production yields of loosely bound states is entirely determined by mass, quantum numbers and fireball temperature.
- hyper-triton and 3He have very different wave functions but essentially equal production yields.
- energy conservation needs to be taken into account when forming objects with baryon number A from A baryons
- coalescence of off-shell nucleons does not help as density must be << nuclear matter density, see below
- delicate balance between formation and destruction; maximum momentum transfer onto hyper-triton before it breaks up: Δ Q_{max} < 20 MeV/c, typical pion momentum p_pi = 250 MeV/c, typical hadronic momentum tranfer > 100 MeV/c.
- hyper-triton interaction cross section with pions or nucleons at thermal freeze-out is of order $\sigma > 70 \text{ fm}^2$. For the majority of hyper-tritons to survive, the mfp λ has to exceed 15 fm \rightarrow density of fireball at formation of hyper-triton $n < 1/(\lambda \sigma) = 0.001/\text{fm}^3$. Completely inconsistent with formation at kinetic freeze-out, where $n \approx 0.05/\text{fm}^3$.
- description of centrality dependence of spectra and d/p ratio not consistent with coalescence predictions.

is large size of light nuclei and hypernuclei an issue for statistical hadronization model?

note: in thermal approach, the only scale is temperature T at LHC energy and below, T < 160 MeV

at such a scale, momentum transfer q=T, form factors of hadrons are sampled at $q^2 = T^2$

this implies that sizes of hadrons < 2 fm cannot be resolved

since
$$G(q) \sim 1 - q^2 R^2 / 6$$

and since all (rms) radii for nuclei with A = 2, 3, and 4 are smaller than 2 fm, the correction due to the finite size of nuclei will not exceed 35%

the actual change from this on thermal model results should be much less as only the relative change between normal hadrons and light nuclei matters, the overall change only leads to a volume correction, so the correction for nuclei is estimated to be less than 25%

but hyper-triton has much larger radius > 5 fm? measured yield of hyper-triton and 3He is well compatible with thermal prediction, even though wave function is very different – any wave function correction must be small

the agreement of the baryon number 3 states is also big problem for coalescence model

see also the detailed analysis by Francesca Bellini and Alexander Kalweit, ALICE Physics Week, Frascati, Feb. 6-8, 2018 and by Benjamin Doenigus and Nicole Loeher, talk at this meeting

How can 'thermal production near the phase boundary' i.e. at $T \sim 155$ MeV be reconciled with binding energies < 5 MeV and large break-up cross sections?

a possible way out

Quark Model Spectroscopy

Why does the quark model work so well?

Why do M and B body plans dominate?

Why don't multibaryons make one big bag?

Frank Wilczek, QM2014 introductory talk

see also the recent review:

Marek Karliner, Jonathan L. Rosner, Tomasz Skwarnicki, arXiv:1711.10626

doorway state hypothesis:

all nuclei and hyper-nuclei are formed as virtual, compact multi-quark states at the phase boundary. Then slow time evolution into hadronic representation. Excitation energy about 20 MeV, time evolution about 10 fm/c

Andronic, pbm, Redlich, Stachel, arXiv:1710.09425

How can this be tested?

precision measurement of spectra and flow pattern for light nuclei and hyper-nuclei from pp via pPb to Pb-Pb

a major new opportunity for ALICE Run3 and for CBM/NICA/JPARC/NA61