



Strange baryon femtoscopy in ALICE

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On behalf of the ALICE Collaboration



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> Orsay, 17 October 2022 *raffaele.del-grande@tum.de

Residual strong interaction among hadrons



 $\mathcal{L}_{EFT}[\pi, N, \ldots; m_{\pi}, m_N, \ldots, C_i]$

Effective Field Theories (EFT)

- hadrons as degrees of freedom
- low-energy coefficients
 constrained by data



 $\mathcal{L}_{QCD}[q,\overline{q},A;m_q,\alpha_s]$

Lattice QCD

 Understanding of the interaction starting from quarks and gluons

Residual strong interaction from lattice



Experimental data for two-body interactions



Experimental data for two-body interactions



Investigating hadronic interactions at LHC



Investigating hadronic interactions at LHC



Femtoscopy technique



Femtoscopy technique



<u>The first step is "traditional" femtoscopy:</u> known interaction \rightarrow determine source size

- p-p interaction: Argonne v18 potential
- crosscheck with $p-\Lambda$ (χ EFT)

$$C(k^*) = \int S(r) \left| \psi(\vec{k}^*, \vec{r}) \right|^2 d^3r$$

Source model



ALICE Coll. PLB 811 (2020)

Source model



|S|=2 sector: $p-\Xi^{-}$ interaction and first test of LQCD

Lattice QCD potentials from HAL QCD collaboration available

Local potentials for the nucleon-

 Ξ interactions



HAL QCD Coll. NPA 998 (2020)

|S|=2 sector: $p-\Xi^{-}$ interaction and first test of LQCD



Observation of a strong attractive interaction beyond Coulomb in agreement with lattice predictions

$|S|=3: p-\Omega^{-}$ correlation function in pp at 13 TeV

ALICE Coll. Nature 588 232-238 (2020)



- Enhancement above Coulomb

 → Observation of the strong interaction
- Attraction in ⁵S₂ results in the prediction of a bound state (Binding Energy = 1.54 MeV)
- Missing potential of the ${}^{3}S_{1}$ channel \rightarrow Test of two cases:
 - Inelastic channels dominated by absorption
 - Neglecting inelastic channels
- Data more precise than lattice calculations
- So far, no indication of a bound state

$|S|=3: \Lambda - \Xi^{-}$ interaction with femtoscopy

ALICE Coll. arXiv:2204.10258, Accepted by PLB



- Unknown contribution from coupled channels in Lattice QCD calculations
 - \rightarrow Coupling $\Lambda \Xi \Sigma \Xi$ sizable in
 - HAL QCD calculation
 - \rightarrow No sensitivity yet

("No coupling" 0.64 n σ VS "Coupling" 1.43 n σ)

- No N Ω cusp visible
 - \rightarrow Hint to negligible NQ-A Ξ coupling

Impact on the Equation of State of neutron stars

Neutron stars

Dimensions R ~ 10 - 15 km M ~ 1.5 - 2.2 M_o

Outer Crust Ions, electron gas, Neutrons

Inner Core Neutrons? Protons? Hyperons? Kaon condensate? Quark Matter?



Neutron stars are very dense, compact objects

What is the Equation of State? What are the constituents to consider? How do they interact?



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Hyperon appearance in neutron stars?



- Hyperons might appear in neutron stars since it is energetically favourable
- But the resulting equation of state might be too soft to explain heavy neutron stars

Hyperon appearance in neutron stars?



- Hyperons might appear in neutron stars since it is energetically favourable
- But the resulting equation of state might be too soft to explain heavy neutron stars
- Possible solution: repulsive three-body interaction

$|S| = 1: p-\Lambda$ interaction

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(dm) Low statistics and not available at low Scattering data xEFT NLO13 **(b)** momenta $\Lambda p \rightarrow \Lambda p$ 20 xEFT NLO19 Sechi-Zorn et al. Jülich 04 ΛN - ΣN coupled system \rightarrow two-body Alexander et al. Hauptman et al. NSC97f coupling to ΣN is not (yet) measured Piekenbrock 200 Uncertainties ~ 30% at Repulsive U_A (MeV) low momenta ΣN coupling strength relevant for EoS - Strongly affects the behaviour of Λ xEFT NLO19 -20 at finite density 100 Implications for ΛNN interactions Attractive -40 NLO19 predicts weak coupling NA-N Σ - Attractive Λ interaction in neutron 1.0 1.5 2.0 PNM k_⊏ (1/fm) matter 45 135 220 310 385 k* (MeV/c) J.Haidenbauer, N.Kaiser et al. NPA 915 24 (2013)

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J.Haidenbauer, U. Meißner EPJA 56 (2020)

$|S| = 1: p-\Lambda$ interaction



$|S| = 1: p-\Lambda$ interaction



ALICE Coll. PLB 833 137272 (2022)

An example of Equation of State for neutron stars

Correlation = two-body interaction



p-p-p and $p-p-\Lambda$ correlation functions

Three-body interaction models can be tested using three-particle correlation functions



p-p-p and $p-p-\Lambda$ correlation functions



Genuine three-particle correlations isolated using the Kubo's cumulant expansion method: R. Kubo, J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. 177 (1962)



p-p-p cumulant



 $c_3(Q_3)$

2

0

-2

-4

 \rightarrow n_a = 6.7 for Q₃ < 0.4 GeV/c

 \rightarrow Evidence of a genuine three-body effect in the p-p-p

+2

Possible interpretations

- \rightarrow Pauli blocking at the three-particle level
- \rightarrow Long-range Coulomb interaction effects
- \rightarrow Three-body strong interaction

Test with mixed charge particles, cumulant negligible

p-p-p correlation function

Next step: use the full fledged three-body calculations to test the theoretical models



p-p-∧ cumulant



Summary



THANKS

<u>The first step is "traditional" femtoscopy:</u> known interaction \rightarrow determine source size

- p-p interaction: Argonne v18 potential
- crosscheck with p-Λ (χEFT)

Determine gaussian "core" radius

- As a function of pair $\langle m_{T} \rangle$
- Common to all hadron-hadron pairs

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Effect of strong short-lived resonances

Adds exponential tail to the source profile

 \rightarrow Angular distributions from EPOS

 \rightarrow Production fraction from SHM

	Primordial	Resonances lifetime
р	35.8%	1.65 fm
٨	35.6 %	4.69 fm







Gaussian source with resonances



Small particle-emitting sources



ALICE Coll. PLB 811 (2020)

Lower order contributions evaluation

Data-driven approach

Using the **same** and **mixed events** distributions:

 $C([\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2], \mathbf{p}_3) = \frac{N_2(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2) \ N_1(\mathbf{p}_3)}{N_1(\mathbf{p}_1) \ N_1(\mathbf{p}_2) \ N_1(\mathbf{p}_3)}$

The hyper-momentum Q_3 is calculated from the measured single particle momenta

 $(\boldsymbol{p}_1, \boldsymbol{p}_2, \boldsymbol{p}_3) \ \rightarrow \ \boldsymbol{Q}_3$

Projector method

[R. Del Grande, L. Serksnyte et al, to appear on the ArXiv (2021)]

Using the **two-body correlation function** of the pair (1,2).

A kinematic transformation from

$$k^*_{12}$$
 (pair) $\rightarrow Q_3$ (triplet)
 $C(k^*_{12}) \rightarrow C(Q_3)$

is performed.

For the pair i-j we have

$$C_{3}^{ij}(Q_{3}) = \int C_{2}(k_{ij}^{*}) W_{ij}(k_{ij}^{*}, Q_{3}) dk_{ij}^{*}$$

two-body projector

two-body correlation function









Kubo's Cumulant expansion method



Three-body cumulant (to be extracted)

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$p-p-\Lambda$: two-body CF projected onto Q_3



p-p-p: two-body CF projected onto Q_3



Kubo's cumulant expansion method

- X_i denotes the general i-th stochastic variable
- The most general decomposition of 2-particle correlation is:

$$\langle X_1 X_2 \rangle = \langle X_1 \rangle \langle X_2 \rangle + \langle X_1 X_2 \rangle_c$$

- By definition, the 2nd term on the right is the 2-particle cumulant
- Cumulants cannot be measured directly, however:

$$\langle X_1 X_2 \rangle_c = \langle X_1 X_2 \rangle - \langle X_1 \rangle \langle X_2 \rangle$$

Kubo's cumulant expansion method

• The most general decomposition of 3-particle correlation is:

$$\begin{array}{lll} X_{1}X_{2}X_{3}\rangle & = & \langle X_{1}\rangle \langle X_{2}\rangle \langle X_{3}\rangle \\ & + & \langle X_{1}X_{2}\rangle_{c} \langle X_{3}\rangle + \langle X_{1}X_{3}\rangle_{c} \langle X_{2}\rangle + \langle X_{2}X_{3}\rangle_{c} \langle X_{1}\rangle \\ & + & \langle X_{1}X_{2}X_{3}\rangle_{c} \end{array}$$

- Using the 2-particle cumulant: $\langle X_1 X_2 \rangle_c = \langle X_1 X_2 \rangle \langle X_1 \rangle \langle X_2 \rangle$
- Working recursively from higher to lower orders, we have 3-particle cumulant expressed in terms of the measured 3-, 2-, and 1-particle averages:

$$\begin{split} \langle X_1 X_2 X_3 \rangle_c &= \langle X_1 X_2 X_3 \rangle \\ &- \langle X_1 X_2 \rangle \langle X_3 \rangle - \langle X_1 X_3 \rangle \langle X_2 \rangle - \langle X_2 X_3 \rangle \langle X_1 \rangle \\ &+ 2 \langle X_1 \rangle \langle X_2 \rangle \langle X_3 \rangle \end{split}$$

Projection onto Q_3

• The projection onto Q₃ is performed as follows

$$C_3(Q_3) = \iiint_{(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) \in \mathcal{D}} C_3(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) \mathcal{N} d^3 \mathbf{p}_1 d^3 \mathbf{p}_2 d^3 \mathbf{p}_3$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \{ (\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) \in \mathcal{S} \mid Q_3 = \text{constant} \}$$

density of states in the phase space (uniform)

• In the case of two-body correlations, the projections turns to be

 $C_{3}(Q_{3}) = \int_{0}^{\sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\alpha\gamma-\beta^{2}}}} Q_{3}^{\frac{\gamma}{\text{function}}} \left[\frac{16(\alpha\gamma-\beta^{2})^{3/2}k_{1}^{2}}{\pi Q_{3}^{4}\gamma^{2}} \sqrt{\gamma Q_{3}^{2} - (\alpha\gamma-\beta^{2})k_{1}^{2}} \right] dk_{1}$

where α , β and γ are constants depending on the particles mass.

λ parameters

The measured correlation function includes also misidentified particles and and feed-down particles coming from decays of resonances. Total **measured** function thus is:

$$C(XYZ) = \sum_{i,j,k} \lambda_{i,j,k}(XYZ)C_{i,j,k}(XYZ) = \lambda_{X_0,Y_0,Z_0}(XYZ)C_{X_0,Y_0,Z_0}(XYZ) + \sum_{ijk!=X_0Y_0Z_0} \lambda_{i,j,k}(XYZ)C_{i,j,k}(XYZ)$$
Correctly identified primary particles

• The cumulant is calculated with the measured correlation functions not accounting for the λ parameters.

$$\lambda_{i,j,k}(XYZ) = \mathscr{P}(X_i)f(X_i)\mathscr{P}(Y_j)f(Y_j)\mathscr{P}(Z_k)f(Z_k)$$

.



 The genuine three body interaction for the feed-down and misidentified particle contributions is currently not known.

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λ parameters

- The λ parameters requires purity and the secondary fraction evaluation.
- The average Λ purity is 95.57% and for protons the purity is 98.34%.
- The fractions of secondaries are estimated using Monte Carlo simulations.

Some of the contributions with highest lambda parameters:

р-р-р	61.8%
p-p-p∧ <mark>x3</mark>	19.6%
p-p-pΣ∗ <mark>x3</mark>	8.5%
р-рл-рл х3	0.69%
p-p _Λ -p _Σ + <mark>x3</mark>	0.3 %
ρ-ρΣ+-ρΣ+ <mark>x3</mark>	0.13%

-0