

Lecture 3

Particle production and the statistical hadronization model

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Outline

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- The context
- Measurement of hadron yields (central collisions)
- The statistical (thermal) model and the thermal fits
- Thermal fits and the QCD phase diagram
- "Small systems" (pp, p-Pb collisions)
- The heavy quarks (=charm)

Further (compact) reading: A.Andronic et al., Nature 561 (2018) 321 (and ref.therein)

Lattice QCD predicts a phase transition ($\mu_B=0$)

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Borsanyi et al., PLB 370 (2014) 99, A. Bazavov et al., PLB 795 (2019) 15

 T_c =156.5 \pm 1.5 MeV, $\varepsilon_c \simeq$ 0.4 GeV/fm³, or 2.5 $\varepsilon_{nuclear}$ crossover ideal-gas limit not reached at very large temperatures (GeV range explored)

Lattice QCD: EoS

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Moreland, Soltz, PRC 93 (2016) 044913

parametrization s95p-v1 (used for some time) needs to be abandoned Lattice QCD quite precise $(\varepsilon - 3P)/T^4$ the trace anomaly ...or interaction measure

Lattice QCD: EoS

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Ding, Karsch, Mukherjee, arXiv:1504.05274

$$c_s^2 = \frac{\mathrm{d}P}{\mathrm{d}\varepsilon} = \frac{\mathrm{d}P}{\mathrm{d}T} / \frac{\mathrm{d}\varepsilon}{\mathrm{d}T} = \frac{s}{C_V}, \quad C_V \,\mathrm{specific \,heat}$$

HRG = Hadron Resonance Gas (this lecture)

From theory to experiment: QGP in the lab

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SMASH animation

- 1. initial collisions ($t \leq t_{coll} = 2R/\gamma_{cm}c$)
- 2. thermalization: equilibrium is established ($t_{eq} \lesssim 1 \; {
 m fm}/c$)
- 3. expansion and cooling (t_{QGP} < 10-15 fm/c)
- 4. hadronization
- 5. chemical freeze-out: inelastic collisions cease (close to the phase boundary?); yields (and distribution over species) are frozen

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6. kinetic freeze-out: elastic collisions cease; spectra and correlations are frozen $(t_{had} = 3-5 \text{ fm}/c)$

we measure 5. and 6. and want to determine properties at stages 2,3,4 ...only possible via models ("run the movie backwards")

We now try to characterize 5. via an analysis of hadron abundances ... are they in equilibrium? connection to hadronization?

Nucleus-nucleus collisions at the LHC

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a picture of a central collision (about 3200 primary tracks in $|\eta| < 0.9$); "Camera": Time Projection Chamber, 5 m length, 5 m diam.; 500 mil. pixels; we take a few 100 pictures per second (and are preparing to take 50000)

Spectra

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measuring spectra we observe strong collective flow ($\beta \simeq 0.6$), leading to marked mass dependence:

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 $p=m\beta\gamma$

NB: the decays (feed-down) complication

hydrodynamic models reproduce the data

 $T_0 \simeq$ 500 MeV, expansion ($\Delta t \sim$ 10 fm/c)

from now on we will integrate on p_T

AA, IJMPA 29 (2014) 1430047



- lots of particles, mostly newly created ($m = E/c^2$)
- a great variety of species:
- π^{\pm} ($u\bar{d}$, $d\bar{u}$), m=140 MeV K^{\pm} ($u\bar{s}$, $\bar{u}s$), m=494 MeV p (uud), m=938 MeV Λ (uds), m=1116 MeV also: $\Xi(dss)$, $\Omega(sss)$...
- mass hierarchy in production (u, d quarks: remnants from the incoming nuclei)

A.Andronic, arXiv:1407.5003

...natural to think of the thermal (statistical) model $(e^{-m/T})$

also known as: statistical / hadron resonance gas / statistical hadronization model (HRG / SHM)

... is in a way the simplest model

("All models are wrong, but some are useful", George Box)

The analysis of hadron yields within the thermal model provides a "snapshot" of a nucleus-nucleus collision at chemical freeze-out (the earliest in the collision timeline we can look with hadronic observables)

Test hypothesis of hadron abundancies in equilibrium

...but the devil is in the details ...one needs:

- a complete hadron spectrum (all species of hadrons, see Particle Data Book)
- canonical approach at low energies (and smaller systems)
- to understand the data well (control fractions from weak decays)

microcanonical: describes an isolated system (E, V, T)

canonical and grand canonical: suppose a heat reservoir (temperature T) the system (our collection of hadrons) exchange energy with that

canonical: no particles are exchanged (N, V, T)

grand canonical: the system exchanges particles ($\langle N \rangle$, V, T) chemical potentials, or fugacities, are introduced to ensure conservation, on average, of particle numbers

here use *grand canonical* (supplemented when needed with correction for canonical)

grand canonical partition function for specie (hadron) i:

$$\ln Z_{i} = \frac{Vg_{i}}{2\pi^{2}} \int_{0}^{\infty} \pm p^{2} \mathrm{d}p \ln[1 \pm \exp(-(E_{i} - \mu_{i})/T)]$$

 $g_i = (2J_i + 1)$ spin degeneracy factor; T temperature; $E_i = \sqrt{p^2 + m_i^2}$ total energy; (+) for fermions (–) for bosons $\mu_i = \mu_B B_i + \mu_{I_3} I_{3i} + \mu_S S_i + \mu_C C_i$ chemical potentials

 μ ensure conservation (on average) of quantum numbers, fixed by "initial conditions"

i) isospin: $V_{cons} \sum_{i} n_i I_{3i} = I_3^{tot}$, with $V_{cons} = N_B^{tot} / \sum_{i} n_i B_i$ I_3^{tot} , N_B^{tot} isospin and baryon number of the system (=0 at high energies) ii) strangeness: $\sum_{i} n_i S_i = 0$ iii) charm: $\sum_{i} n_i C_i = 0$.

<u>General</u> ($\epsilon = +1$ for bosons, $\epsilon = -1$ for fermions; particle index *i* omitted):

$$N = -T\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \mu} = \frac{gV}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{p^2 \mathrm{d}p}{\exp[(E-\mu)/T] \pm 1}$$

$$N = \frac{g}{2\pi^2} TV m^2 \epsilon \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon^k}{k} e^{\frac{\mu}{T}k} K_2\left(\frac{m}{T}k\right)$$

<u>Classical statistics:</u>

$$N = \frac{g}{2\pi^2} T V m^2 e^{\frac{\mu}{T}} K_2\left(\frac{m}{T}\right) = g V e^{\frac{\mu}{T}} \left(\frac{mT}{2\pi}\right)^{3/2} e^{-\frac{m}{T}} \left(1 + \frac{15T}{8m} + O(T^2/m^2)\right)$$

$$K_2(x) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2x}} e^{-x} \left(1 + \frac{15}{8x} + O(1/x^2) \right)$$

...embodies low-energy QCD ...*vacuum masses*

well-known for m < 2 GeV; many confirmed states above 2 GeV, still incomplete



for high m, BR not well known, but can be reasonably guessed

T found to be robust in fits with spectrum truncated above 1.8 $\rm GeV$

 σ [$f_0(500)$] meson proposed recently to be discarded (reduction of π densities by 3-4%)

Giacosa, Begun, Broniowski, arXiv:1603.07687

 $\rho(m) = c \cdot m^{-a} \exp(m/T_H)$ $T_H \simeq 180 \text{ MeV (max } T \text{ for hadrons)}$

Hadron mass spectrum and Hagedorn's bootstrap model

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exponential form of mass spectrum (for large m): $\rho(m) = c \cdot m^{-a} \exp(m/T_H)$ in the statistical bootstrap model: Hagedorn, Lect.Notes Phys 221 (1985) 53) "fireballs (hadrons) consist of fireballs, which consist of fireballs, which..." consider Boltzmann statistics, non-relativistic approximation $\ln Z_i(T,V) = \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \int e^{-\sqrt{p^2 + m^2}/T} d^3p \simeq V \left(\frac{T}{2\pi}\right)^{2/3} m_i^{2/3} e^{-m_i/T}$ $\ln Z = \sum_{i} \ln Z_{i} = V \left(\frac{T}{2\pi}\right)^{2/3} \sum_{i} m_{i}^{2/3} e^{-m_{i}/T} \text{ (sum over all hadrons)}$ $\ln Z = V \left(\frac{T}{2\pi}\right)^{2/3} \int_0^\infty \rho(m) m^{3/2} e^{-m/T} \mathrm{d}m$ $\varepsilon(T_H) = \frac{T^2}{V} \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial T}(T_H) \sim \frac{3T_H}{2} (m^{5/2-a})|_0^\infty + (m^{7/2-a})|_0^\infty + \text{finite}$ diverge at T_H for a < 7/2

 T_H maximal temperature of hadronic systems; beyond: QGP (Cabibbo, Parisi)

(almost all) hadrons are subject to strong and electromagnetic decays



$$\Delta \to p(n) + \pi$$
, $\rho \to \pi + \pi$
 $\Sigma^0 \to \Lambda + \gamma$

weak decays can be treated as well ...to account for the exact experimental situation

contribution of resonances is significant (and particle-dependent)

(plot for $\mu_B=0$)

$$n_{i} = N_{i}/V = -\frac{T}{V}\frac{\partial \ln Z_{i}}{\partial \mu} = \frac{g_{i}}{2\pi^{2}}\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{p^{2}dp}{\exp[(E_{i} - \mu_{i})/T] \pm 1}$$
$$n_{i} = \frac{g_{i}}{2\pi^{2}}\frac{1}{N_{BW}}\int_{M_{thr}}^{\infty} dm \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\Gamma_{i}^{2}}{(m - m_{i})^{2} + \Gamma_{i}^{2}/4} \cdot \frac{p^{2}dp}{\exp[(E_{i}^{m} - \mu_{i})/T] \pm 1}$$

 M_{thr} threshold mass for the decay channel.

Example: for $\Delta^{++} \rightarrow p + \pi^+$, M_{thr} =1.068 GeV ($m_{\Delta^{++}}$ =1.232 GeV)

Important mainly at "low" temperatures ($T \leq 150 \text{ MeV}$)

Hadron densities

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"hadron gas": a dense system (also nuclear matter is rather a liquid than a gas) (the usual case is $R_{baryon} = R_{meson} = 0.3$ fm ...hard-sphere repulsion) Air at NTP: intermolecule distance \simeq 50 \times molecule size

Canonical correction ("canonical suppression")

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needed whenever the abundance of hadrons with a given quantum number is very small ...so that one needs to enforce exact quantum-number conservation in AA collisions; *Example: strangeness at low energies*



relevant for small volumes (peripheral AA, pp, p–Pb collisions), $V_c \sim dN_{ch}/dy$

...a non-thermal fit parameter, to check possible non-thermal production of strangeness

for a hadron carrying "absolute" strangeness $s = |S - \bar{S}|$: $n_i \to n_i \gamma_s^s$ Examples: K^{\pm} ($u\bar{s}$, $\bar{u}s$): $n_K \gamma_s$, Λ (uds): $n_\Lambda \gamma_s$, $\Xi(dss)$: $n_\Xi \gamma_s^2$, $\Omega(sss)$: $n_\Omega \gamma_s^3$, $\phi(s\bar{s})$: $n_\phi \gamma_s^2$

in principle, usage of γ_s is to be avoided if one tests the basic thermal model

even as some models employ it ($\Rightarrow \gamma_s = 0.6 - 0.8$), all agree that it is not needed at RHIC, LHC energies (for central collisions)

here (central AA collisions) we fix $\gamma_s=1$

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

Latest PDG hadron mass spectrum ...quasi-complete up to m=2 GeV; <u>our code</u>: 555 species (including fragments, charm and bottom hadrons) for resonances, the width is considered in calculations canonical treatment whenever needed (small abundances)

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Minimize: } \chi^2 = \sum_i \frac{(N_i^{exp} - N_i^{therm})^2}{\sigma_i^2} \\ N_i \text{ hadron yield, } \sigma_i \text{ experimental uncertainty (stat.+syst.)} \\ \Rightarrow (T, \mu_B, V) & \underline{\dots tests \ chemical \ freeze-out} \ (\text{chemical equilibrium}) \end{array}$$



matter and antimatter produced in equal amounts

$$T_{CF} = 156.6 \pm 1.7 \text{ MeV}$$

 $\mu_B = 0.7 \pm 3.8 \text{ MeV}$
 $V_{\Delta y=1} = 4175 \pm 380 \text{ fm}^3$

$$\chi^2/N_{df} = 16.7/19$$

remarkably, loosely-bound objects (d, ${}^3_{\Lambda}H$) are also well described



3-4 MeV upper bound of systematic uncertainty due to hadron spectrum

hadron eigenvolumes ...to mimick interactions (beyond low-density, Dashen-Ma)

 $R_{meson} = 0.3, R_{baryon} = 0.3$ fm is generally considered to be a reasonable case point-like hadrons lead to same T, but volume larger by 20-25%

an extreme case, $R_{meson} = 0, R_{baryon} = 0.3$ fm leads to $T = 161.0 \pm 2.0$ MeV, $\mu_B = 0$ fixed, $V = 3470 \pm 280$ fm³

<u>NB</u>: in this case, the result is rather sensitive on the set of hadrons in the fit for instance, using hadrons up to Ω , cannot constrain T (unphysically large) Vovchenko, Stöcker (et al.), JPG 44 (2017) 055103, arXiv:1606.06350

...and anything else can be imagined, see (R dependent on mass & strangeness) Alba, Vovchenko, Gorenstein, Stöcker, NPA 974 (2018) 22, etc.

T-dependent Breit-Wigner resonance widths: Vovchenko, Gorenstein, Stöcker, prc 98 (2018) 034906

... for now only at the LHC

non-strange baryon sector treated in S-matrix formalism (πN scattering phase shifts, *including non-resonant contributions*) PLB 792 (2019) 304

solved the so-called "proton puzzle" (too many protons in the statistical model) for T=156 MeV, proton yield decreased by 17% compared to point-like recently tackled: strange baryon sector, Cleymans et al., PRC 103 (2021) 014904

NB: presence of resonances implies interaction (this is why moderate R = 0.3 fm is a reasonable choice)

Energy dependence of T, μ_B (central collisions)



thermal fits exhibit a limiting temperature:

 $T_{lim} = 158.4 \pm 1.4 \text{ MeV}$

$$T_{CF} = T_{lim} \frac{1}{1 + \exp(2.60 - \ln(\sqrt{s_{NN}}(\text{GeV}))/0.45)}$$

$$\mu_B[\text{MeV}] = \frac{1307.5}{1+0.288\sqrt{s_{NN}(\text{GeV})}}$$

NPA 772 (2006) 167, PLB 673 (2009) 142

 μ_B is a measure of the net-baryon density, or matter-antimatter asymmetry

determined by the "stopping" of the colliding nuclei

The grand (albeit partial) view



Data:

AGS: E895, E864, E866, E917, E877 SPS: NA49, NA44 RHIC: STAR, BRAHMS LHC: ALICE

NB: no contribution from weak decays

"structures" described by SHM (determined by strangeness conservation)

Something that doesn't work so well ?

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... are copiously produced at RHIC FT (and FAIR) energies





at LHC, remarkable "coincidence" with Lattice QCD results

at LHC ($\mu_B \simeq 0$): purely-produced (anti)matter ($m = E/c^2$), as in the Early Universe

 $\mu_B > 0$: more matter, from "remnants" of the colliding nuclei

 $\mu_B \gtrsim 400$ MeV: the critical point awaiting discovery (at FAIR?)

 μ_B is a measure of the net-baryon density, or matterantimatter asymmetry

The proton at low resolution ... in collisions at the LHC

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The proton at high resolution ... in collisions at the LHC

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Strangeness production - from small to large systems

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ALICE, Nature Physics 13 (2017) 535

(big geometric) fireball in Pb–Pb reached with violent pp and p–Pb collisions

canonical to grand-canonical strangeness production regime

Vislavicius, Kalweit, arXiv:1610.03001

is the same mechanism at work in small systems (at large multiplicities)?

string hadronization models do not describe data well

...new ideas are being put forward C.Bierlich et al, arXiv:2205.11170 (rope hadronization; no QGP)

Particle production - from small to large systems

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Up to now we only considered hadrons built with *up*, *down*, *strange* quarks ...these are light, masses from a few MeV (u, d) to ~90 MeV (s)

What about heavier ones? ...for instance *charm*, which weights about 1.2 GeV Produced in pairs $(c\bar{c})$ in initial hard collisions, $t \sim 1/(2m_c) \leq 0.1$ fm/cPreserve their identity throughout the evolution of the fireball ...ideal messengers of the early stage (Lecture 1, Y.J. Lee)

- To what extent do charm (and beauty) quarks thermalize in QGP?
- Is charm-hadron formation at the QCD phase boundary a possibility?

pQCD production, "throw in":
$$N_{c\bar{c}} = 13.8 \rightarrow g_c = 31.5; N_{J/\psi} \sim g_c^2$$



 π , K^{\pm} , K^0 from charm included in the thermal fit (0.7%, 2.9%, 3.1% for T=156.5 MeV)

PLB 797 (2019) 134836

The Statistical Hadronization Model for charm (SHMc)

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full thermalization of c quarks in QGP, hadronization at chemical freeze-out



 $d\sigma_{c\bar{c}}/dy$ via normalization to D^0 in Pb–Pb 0-10%, ALICE, arXiv:2110.09420 $dN/dy = 6.82 \pm 1.03$ (and assuming hadronization fractions in data as in SHMc)

The power of the model: predicting the full suite of charmed hadrons



Summary

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• abundance of hadrons with light quarks consistent with chemical equilibration

- there is a variety of approaches ... *a personal bias: the "minimal model"* a minimal set of parameters, means a well-constrained model
- the thermal model provides a simple way to access the QCD phase boundary *...at high energies* (at low energies canonical suppression needs more care)
 ...but is it more than a 1st order description (of loosely-bound objects)?
 ...and what fundamental point does it make about hadronization?
 (as a dynamical process, understanding still missing)
- more insights from higher moments (B, S conservation)
 - ... HRG: baseline against which critical fluctuations may be discovered
- Event the much heavier charm quarks appear to thermalize in bulk in QGP ...leading to charm-hadron production (largely) at the QGP phase boundary

Supplementary material

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Matching HRG and Lattice QCD

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a subject of quite some debate

hadrons are not necessarily pointparticles

an "excluded-volume" (hard sphere repulsion) is often employed

AA et al., PLB 718 (2012) 80





describes LQCD χ_2 (susceptibilities) of conserved charges



Cleymans et al., PRC 103 (2021) 014904 $V_c > V_A (= V_{\Delta y=1})$

• Thermal model calculation (grand canonical) $T, \mu_B: \rightarrow n_X^{th}$

•
$$N_{c\bar{c}}^{dir} = \frac{1}{2}g_c V(\sum_i n_{D_i}^{th} + n_{\Lambda_i}^{th}) + g_c^2 V(\sum_i n_{\psi_i}^{th} + n_{\chi_i}^{th})$$

• $N_{c\bar{c}} << 1 \rightarrow \underline{\text{Canonical}}$ (J.Cleymans, K.Redlich, E.Suhonen, Z. Phys. C51 (1991) 137):

$$N_{c\bar{c}}^{dir} = \frac{1}{2}g_c N_{oc}^{th} \frac{I_1(g_c N_{oc}^{th})}{I_0(g_c N_{oc}^{th})} + g_c^2 N_{c\bar{c}}^{th} \longrightarrow g_c \text{ (charm fugacity)}$$

Outcome: $N_D = g_c V n_D^{th} I_1 / I_0$ $N_{J/\psi} = g_c^2 V n_{J/\psi}^{th}$ Inputs: T, μ_B , $V_{\Delta y=1} (= (dN_{ch}^{exp}/dy)/n_{ch}^{th})$, $N_{c\bar{c}}^{dir}$ (exp. or pQCD)

Assumed minimal volume for QGP: V_{QGP}^{min} =200 fm³

SHMb: the beauty zoo (0-10%)

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Blue: Υ data (CMS, ALICE): calc. based on R_{AA} and pp (would be nice to include in publications dN/dy)