Enhanced production of multistrange hadrons in high-multiplicity pp collisions

Aafael Derradi de Souza (on behalf of the ALICE Collaboration)

IFGW – UNICAMP – Brazil







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Outline



- Introduction and Motivation
- The ALICE Experiment
- Strange Hadron Measurements
- Results
- Summary

→ Strangeness enhancement

- The enhanced production of strangeness relative to u and d quarks was one of the first proposed signatures of QGP formation
 - Thermal strangeness equilibration in a QGP regime can be achieved due to gluon fusion processes





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→ Strangeness canonical suppression (in a *hadronic* equilibrium thermal model)

- In small systems, multi-strange baryons should be highly suppressed
 - Conservation laws must be implemented locally Canonical Formulation
 - The canonical conservation of quantum numbers severely reduces the phase space available for particle production

S. Hamieh, K. Redlich, A. Tounsi, Phys. Lett. B 486 (2000) 61 A. Tounsi, K. Redlich, arXiv:hep-ph/0111159











→ Strangeness enhancement in A-A







ALI-DER-80680





ALI-DER-80680

Possible explanation: the enhancement in A-A actually comes from a suppression in pp, which is more important for lower energies

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Can we further explore the transition between pp and A-A collisions?



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- Hyperon-to-pion ratio as a function of the average charged multiplicity density $\langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle$ at midrapidity $(|\eta| < 0.5)$
- p-Pb results: (PLB 758 (2016) 389-401)
 - Consistent with *pp* at low multiplicities and with
 Pb-Pb at high multiplicities



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➔ Dedicated experiment to study QGP properties



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\rightarrow Particle Identification: π , K and p





ITS (|η|<0.9)

- 6 Layers of silicon detectors
- Trigger, tracking, vertex, PID (d*E*/d*x*)





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ALI-PUB-92283

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- Multi-gap resistive plate chambers

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➔ Multiplicity Selection





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V0 [V0A (2.8<η<5.1) & V0C (-3.7<η<-1.7)]

- Forward arrays of scintillators
- Trigger, beam gas rejection
- <u>Multiplicity estimator</u> <---

Forward Multiplicity Estimator

- Event selection based on total charge deposited in the VOA and VOC detectors ("VOM")
- (dN_{ch}/dη) estimated as the average number of primary charged tracks in |η| < 0.5

Strange Hadron Measurements





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Transverse momentum spectra

- VOM Multiplicity Classes:
 - → 10 multiplicity classes

$$\begin{cases} I \to \langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle \approx 3.5 \times \langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle^{\text{INEL}>0} \\ \vdots \\ X \to \langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle \approx 0.4 \times \langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle^{\text{INEL}>0} \\ & \left(\langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle^{\text{INEL}>0} \approx 6.0 \right) \end{cases}$$





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- Extrapolation to low-p_T for computing integrated yields
 - → Lévy-Tsallis fit to data (dashed lines in the plot)





Ratios of Integrated Yields



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 Consistent pattern observed between pp, p-Pb and Pb-Pb

> At fixed final state multiplicity, identical particle chemistry is observed independent of the system geometry



Ratios of Integrated Yields



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- Significant enhancement of strange to non-strange hadron production in pp



Ratios of Integrated Yields



- Consistent pattern observed between pp,
 p-Pb and Pb-Pb
- Significant enhancement of strange to non-strange hadron production in pp
- *MC models* fail to describe the data
 - PYTHIA8 (Color Reconnection) completely misses the behavior of the data (independent of switching ON or OFF CR mechanism)
 - DIPSY (Color Ropes) cannot simultaneously reproduce the observed enhancement for all four strange hadrons (overpredicts the protons – see next slide →)
 - EPOS LHC (Core-corona approach) only qualitatively describes the trend



Strangeness Enhancement





• The enhancement is strangeness rather than mass related

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Strangeness Enhancement







Hadrochemistry (in)dependence with \sqrt{s}



\rightarrow Preliminary results from pp collisions at 13 TeV



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 - Observed enhancement of massive hadrons is due to *strangeness* and not due to *mass*
 - QCD inspired MC generators fail to describe the observed enhancement of strange hadrons
 - Color Reconnection (PYTHIA)? Color Ropes (DIPSY)? Collective Radial Expansion (EPOS)?



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 - − Ridge at $\Delta \phi$ =0 → collective flow of an expanding QGP?
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- Is the QGP formed in collisions of small systems?
 - The study of hadrochemistry across different colliding system is a powerful tool to investigate the thermal properties of QCD matter
 - We can't remove the question mark yet, but we have added another piece in puzzle





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Backup

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➔ Forward Multiplicity Estimator

Why is this important?

- Using mid-rapidity multiplicity estimators may introduce self-correlation biases, in particular towards charged particles
- For instance, it can be verified in simulations that the integrated yield ratio of charged to neutral kaons deviates from unity when selecting with mid-rapidity estimators





VOM Multiplicity Classes



- pp at 7 TeV vs multiplicity

Fractions of the *INEL>0* cross-section:

$π$, K^0_S , Λ, Ξ			Ω		
V0M Class	$rac{\pmb{\sigma}}{\pmb{\sigma}_{\text{INEL}>0}}$	$\left< rac{\mathrm{d} N_{\mathrm{ch}}}{\mathrm{d} \eta} \right>$	V0M Class	$\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{\text{INEL}>0}}$	$\left< \frac{\mathrm{d}N_{\mathrm{ch}}}{\mathrm{d}\eta} \right>$
I	0-0.95%	21.3±0.6	1+11	0.0-4.7%	17.5±0.5
П	0.95-4.7%	16.5±0.5			
Ш	4.7-9.5%	13.5±0.4	III+IV	4.7-14%	12.5±0.4
IV	9.5-14%	11.5±0.3			
V	14-19%	10.1±0.3	V+VI	14-28%	8.99±0.27
VI	19-28%	8.45±0.25			
VII	28-38%	6.72±0.21	VII+VIII	28-48%	6.06±0.19
VIII	38-48%	5.40±0.17			
IX	48-68%	3.90±0.14	IX+X	48-100%	2.89±0.14
x	68-100%	2.26±0.12			

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Developments in microscopic modeling

ALICE

Multi-Parton Interactions (MPI) and Color Reconnection (CR) mechanisms:



- a) In a hard gluon-gluon subcollision, the outgoing gluons will be color-connected to the projectile and target remnants. Initial state radiation may give extra gluon kinks, which are ordered in rapidity
- b) A second hard scattering would naively be expected to give two new strings connected to the remnants
- c) In the fits to data, the gluons are color reconnected, so that the total string length becomes as short as possible

