# QCD measurements in heavy-ion collisions



Livio Bianchi QCD@LHC 2018 TU Dresden

Livio.Bianchi@cern.ch



### Overview

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#### Introduction

- Why?
- How?

#### **Selected results**

- Hadrochemistry •
- Collectivity ٠
- Hard Probes •

#### Conclusions













### Introduction



etc.

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Study strongly interacting matter under extreme conditions:

- high temperature and/or
- high density

QCD predicts transition from ordinary hadronic matter to deconfined partonic medium (Quark-Gluon-Plasma)

Need large volume of hot and dense matter  $\rightarrow$  Ultra Relativistic Heavy Ion collisions

Many observables to probe different characteristics of the medium. e.g.:

- Soft particles  $p_T$  spectra and anisotropies  $\rightarrow$  collectivity
- Soft particle yields  $\rightarrow$  chemical composition
- Jet quenching, heavy flavours, quarkonia  $\rightarrow$  density and temperature





- Collision system: Pb-Pb, Au-Au, Xe-Xe, Cu-Cu, ..., p-Pb, ..., pp
- $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$  per nucleon pair: ~1-13 TeV for LHC, ~10-200 GeV for RHIC
- Impact parameter *b* ("centrality")
  - N<sub>coll</sub>: binary collisions
  - N<sub>part</sub>: participants
- Reaction plane azimuthal angle



• Initial rate of hard processes above any scale involved (Q >>  $\Lambda_{QCD}$ , T, ...):  $d\sigma^{AA \rightarrow X}$ 



ACCESSIBLE THROUGH p-A COLLISIONS



x

#### Observable considered for hard processes:

$$\boldsymbol{R}_{AA} = \frac{dN/dp_{\mathrm{T}}|_{AA}}{N_{coll} \cdot dN/dp_{\mathrm{T}}|_{pp(pA)}}$$

What we would measure in AA if it was a incoherent superposition of N<sub>coll</sub> pp(pA) interactions

What we actually measure in AA

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### What do we control

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"Small collision systems" (pp, p-A) traditionally used as control-experiments to isolate QGP-like effects in A-A

Recently, several observations point to the onset of similar effects in elementary and A-A collisions

#### **QGP in small systems?**

Very much debated, more on this later...



ACCESSIBLE THROUGH p-A COLLISIONS



T

nuclear mod. of *pdf* 

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What we would measure in AA if it was a incoherent superposition of N<sub>coll</sub> pp(pA) interactions

What we actually measure in AA





### Selected results





#### Measurement of **relative abundances of** produced particle **species**

Light hadrons (composed by *u* and *d*) abundantly produced in elementary collisions, but **strange hadrons suppressed**!

Is this suppression still observed at high energy densities?

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**1982 (Rafelski, Muller): Strangeness enhancement** relative to elementary collisions proposed as smoking gun for **QGP formation**:

- Lower Q-value for  $s\bar{s}$  relative to  $H_sH_{\bar{s}}$  formation
- Faster equilibration in partonic medium

**Statistical Hadronization Model** (SHM): all hadrons formed from excited state following statistical laws. **Strangeness enhancement** can come from:

- Canonical suppression in pp?
- Incomplete equilibration of strangeness?

• ??

#### Strangeness Production in the Quark-Gluon Plasma

Johann Rafelski and Berndt Müller Institut für Theoretische Physik, Johann Wolfgang Goelhe-Universität, D-6000 Frankfurt am Main, Germany (Received 11 January 1982)

Rates are calculated for the processos  $g_{1}^{-s} \neq 3$  and  $i\pi_{1}/d^{-s} \neq 3$  in highly excited quarkgluon plasms. For temperature  $T \geq 160$  MeV the strangeness submalone saturates during the lifetime (~10<sup>-23</sup> see) of the plasma created in high-energy nuclear collisions. The chemical equilibration time for gluons and light quarks is found to be less than 10<sup>-24</sup> sec. PACS numbers 1:2,5,5,H; 2:165,+f

Given the present knowledge about the interactions between constituents (quarks and gluons), it appears almost unavoidable that, at sufficiently high energy density caused by compression and/ or excitation, the individual hadrons dissolve in a new phase consisting of almost-free quarks and gluons.<sup>1</sup> This quark-gluon plasma is a highly excited state of hadronic matter that occupies a volume large as compared with all characteristic length scales. Within this volume individual color charges exist and propagate in the same manner as they do niside elementary particles as described, e.g., within the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) bag model.<sup>3</sup>

It is generally agreed that the best way to create a quark-gluon plasma in the laboratory is with collisions of heavy nuclei at sufficiently high energy. We investigate the abundance of strangeness as function of the lifetime and excitation of the plasma state. This investigation was motivated by the observation that significant changes in relative and absolute abundance of strange particles, such as  $X_n^2$  could serve as a probe for quarkgluon plasma formation. Another interesting signature may be the possible creation of exotic multistrange hadrons.<sup>4</sup> After identifying the strangeness-producing mechanisms we compute the relevant rates as functions of the energy density ("temperature") of the plasma state and compare them with those for light  $\alpha$  and q quarks. In lowest order in perturbative QCD s5-quark pairs can be created by annihilation of light quarkantiquark pairs [Fig. 1(a)] and in collisions of two gluons [Fig. 1(b)]. The averaged total cross sections for these processes were calculated by

FIG. 1. Lowest-order QCD diagrams for  $s\overline{s}$  production: (a)  $q\overline{q} \rightarrow s\overline{s}$ , (b)  $gg \rightarrow s\overline{s}$ .

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More in general: is the relative rate of soft particles production affected by the presence of a QGP in the earlier stage?

Control experiment: soft particles production in QCD vacuum (pp?)





### Strangeness enhancement: experimental evidence

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ALI-PUB-78347

Strangeness production enhanced in heavy-ion collisions wrt smaller collision systems. Enhancement larger for particles with higher strangeness content...

...but less important at higher energy...!?!?

First observed at SPS (NA57, J.Phys.G37:045105,2010) ...

...then confirmed at RHIC (STAR, Phys. Rev. Lett. 108, 072301) ...

...and at the LHC (Phys. Lett. B 728 (2014) 216–227)



### Strangeness enhancement: experimental evidence

Phys. Lett. B 728 (2014) 216-227 Yield /  $\langle N_{part} \rangle$  relative to pp/p-Be Yield / 〈N<sub>part</sub>〉 relative to pp/p-Be Hyperon-to-pion ratio Pb-Pb at \s<sub>NN</sub> = 2.76 TeV (b) (C)  $\Xi/\pi$ (a)  $\Delta \Omega + \overline{\Omega}^+$ ф О Ξ Ξ ■ Ξ<sup>+</sup> ΦΦ  $\Omega/\pi$ pp at 200 GeV 10-4 Pb at 2.76 TeV NA57 Pb-Pb, p-Pb at 17.2 GeV NA57 Pb-Pb, p-Pb at 17.2 GeV np at 7 Te STAR Au-Au, pp at 200 GeV STAR Au-Au at 200 GeV STAR Au-Au at 200 GeV 10<sup>2</sup> 10 10<sup>2</sup> 10<sup>2</sup> 10 10  $\langle N_{\rm part} \rangle$  $\langle N_{\rm part} \rangle$  $\langle N_{\rm part} \rangle$ 

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#### ...of course!

Because strangeness production in small systems depends on energy!

When considering ratio to pions, for high N<sub>part</sub> strangeness production rate is constant...

...and higher than in small collision systems



### Strangeness enhancement: experimental evidence

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#### When considering ratio to pions, for high N<sub>part</sub> strangeness production rate is constant...

## ...and higher than in small collision systems

## Is there an evolution of this ratio in small systems?

#### Difficult to plot against N<sub>part</sub>. What if we use multiplicity?

### ...of course!

Because strangeness production in small systems depends on energy! Is this really a dependence on energy itself?





Strangeness enhancement in small collision systems (pp and p-Pb)

The larger the content in strangeness of the hadron, the steeper the increase is:

Strangeness production saturates at high multiplicity



No matter what the system/energy is! Tell me the multiplicity of the event and I'll tell you how many strange hadrons will be produced





Adding different colliding systems the outcome remains the same

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#### SHM – data fit with few free parameters:

- **T** : the temperature of the source at chemical freeze-out
- V : the volume of the source
- $\mu_B$  : baryochemical potential (0 at LHC)
- $\mu_s$  : under-equilibration scale for strangeness

#### in some flavours of the model

#### "good" description of yields over 9 orders of magnitude

Discrepancies and extension of the SHM to smaller collision systems are under study





Resonances must be treated differently, if interested check backup!





- **PYTHIA** (Lund string model):
  - Linear confinement potential at large distances  $\rightarrow$  strings with tension  $\kappa = 1$  GeV/fm

 $10^{-1}$ 

ratio to  $\pi^{+}$ 

- Hadrons come from string breaking. s/u fit on data
- At high energies need MPI to describe multiplicity...
- ...and re-connection of colour strings to describe <p\_> VS multiplicity
- **Recently intruduced:** 
  - Colour **ropes**: packing of strings increase  $\kappa$
  - Shoving: flow-like push due to colour
- **DIPSY** (Dipole evolution in Impact Parameter Space and rapidity)
  - Proton/Nucleus structure built-up dynamically from dipole splitting
  - Evolution of initial state and collision followed in impact parameter space. Naturally treats saturation and MPI
  - Strings which overlap in impact parameter space form **ropes**



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**CAVEAT: ropes favor baryons wrt** mesons. No flavour preference!



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#### **EPOS**:

- Hard scattering: parton "ladders" + CGC-inspired saturation scale
- At time  $\tau_0$  (before hadronization) strings divided into fluid (CORE) and escaping (CORONA) according to momenta and local density
  - **CORONA**: strings can hadronize as in the Lund approach
  - CORE: from time  $\tau_0$  evolves as a viscous <u>hydrodynamic</u> system. Hadronization happens statistically at a common T<sub>H</sub>
- After hadronization hadron-hadron rescattering can be considered, making use of an afterburner (e.g. UrQMD)



Good job with version 3 of the generator! Hints to the need of hydro in pp collisions..

CAVEAT: parameters governing the core-only part are 6 ( $\tau_0$ ,  $\rho_0$ ,  $\varepsilon_{FO}$ ,  $y_{rad}$ ,  $f_{ecc}$ ,  $\gamma_s$ ), to be tuned on data!!



### Selected results





At large energy density QCD matter expected to behave like a fluid  $\rightarrow$  hydrodynamical model.

According to the hydro picture, the strongly interacting medium is expected to develop:

- **Radial flow** (important in central collisions):
  - Common expansion velocity of partons
  - Translates into  $p_{T}$  spectra modification
  - Baryon/meson anomaly



 $p_{T}$  spectrum gets harder as the collision gets more central

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Common  $\beta \rightarrow$  larger *p*boost to higher-mass particles (p=m $\gamma\beta$ )



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- **Radial flow** (important in central collisions):
  - Common expansion velocity of partons
  - Translates into  $p_{T}$  spectra modification
  - Baryon/meson anomaly
- Anisotropic flow (important in semi-peripheral collisions):
  - Initial spatial anisotropy translates into final momentum anisotropy (pressure gradients)
  - Measured through angular anisotropies in the momentum distribution  $(v_n) = \langle \cos[n(\phi \Psi_n)] \rangle$

$$E\frac{d^3N}{dp^3} \approx \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d^2N}{p_T dp_T d\eta} \left[ 1 + 2\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \cos[n(\phi - \Psi_n)] \right]$$



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### Spectra modification: baryon/meson ratio (HI)

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Increase at intermediate  $p_T$  in all centrality classes observed by STAR in Au-Au collisions:

different positions of the peak at different centralities?

### Spectra modification: baryon/meson ratio (HI)

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Increase at intermediate  $p_T$  in all centrality classes observed by STAR in Au-Au collisions:

different positions of the peak at different centralities?

Confirmed at the LHC, with peak position situated at slightly higher  $p_{\rm T}$ 

Evolution can be described by hydro models at  $low-p_T$ 

At high  $p_T$  the ratio is ~0.2 (as in pp from STAR) at all centralities.

Is there an evolution in pp?

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Same pattern in the Λ/K<sup>0</sup><sub>S</sub> measured in small systems, with different magnitude... ...but... MIND THE MULTIPLICITY SPAN!

In order to make proper comparison, one can select  $p_{\rm T}$  ranges and look at multiplicity dependence

Clear continuity among different systems! Is the underlying mechanism the same here? Need to compare  $p_T$  spectra to hydro  $\downarrow$ 



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#### Blast wave: simplified hydro model:

- Assumes common particle expansion with  $\beta_{T}$  and  $T_{kin}$
- If assumption ok: fit (e.g.)  $\pi$ ,K,p  $\rightarrow$  predict  $p_T$  shape of other particles
- Assumption ~ok for all collision systems
- pp and p-Pb: similar  $T_{kin}$ - $\beta_T$  progression
- Considering corresponding multiplicity: less "violent" expansion in Pb-Pb, but  $T_{kin}$  common for all systems







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Soft particles  $p_{T}$ spectra in HI support the radial flow hydro picture. Same mechanism at play in high-multiplicity pp collisions?







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 $v_n ≠ 0$  observed at RHIC and LHC: means that in semi-central collisions the  $p_T$  distribution of particles is anisotropic wrt the event plane...

does this mean we have flow?



$$E \frac{d^3 N}{dp^3} \approx \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d^2 N}{p_T dp_T d\eta} \left[ 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} v_n \cos[n(\phi - \Psi_n)] \right]$$



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Hydrodynamic models reproduce  $v_n$  in all centralities by means of an "almost" perfect fluid:  $\eta/s=0.2$ 

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J. E. Bernhard at al., Phys. Rev. C 94, 024907 (2016)



9 parameters: bayesian fit to yields, mean- $p_T$  and  $v_2$ ,  $v_3$ ,  $v_4$ . Posterior distributions and correlations estimated



. Very mild η/s dependence on temperature

nples

Posterior

10

 $10^{0}$ 



 
 GeVI n
 Open n<

w fm

1.0 0.0 0.15

 $\eta/s \min$ 

 $\eta/s$  slope<sup>1</sup>

 $\zeta/s$  norm  $T_{sw}$  [GeV]

H 01

norm



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 $v_2 \neq 0$  observed in all collision systems

NOTE: contribution of non-flow not easy to estimate in pp (and p-Pb)

...but does this make sense at all? Can hydro develop in so small systems?

Naïve expectation: need "large enough" and "live long enough" medium to reach thermal equilibrium and apply hydro (several interactions needed)

•  $R > \lambda$ 

 $>\lambda/v$ 

MEAN FREE PATH





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Too restrictive: hydro can be applied far from thermalization!

W. Li, arXiv: 1704.03576





First theoretical calculations involving hydro expansion of a single fluid in all collisional systems start appearing.

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### Selected results



Jets are a self-generated probes of the medium:

- High- $p_{T}$  partons produced in the early stages of the collisions ( $\tau << 1$ fm)
- Loose energy in the medium through:
  - elastic scattering
  - Induced gluon radiation (dominant at high- $p_{T}$ )
- Simple prediction (dead-cone effect):  $\Delta E_g > \Delta E_{light-quark} > \Delta E_{heavy-quark}$



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BDMPS approach (example): describes parton shower in the medium (similarly to DGLAP in the vacuum)

$$\Delta E_{rad} \sim \alpha_S \ C_R \ \hat{q} \ L^2$$

With transport parameter:

$$\hat{q} = rac{\langle p_T^2 
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Nucl. Phys. B 484 (1997) 265

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### $\gamma$ +jet & Z+jet

Studies with triggering boson and back-to-back jet give direct access to energy loss

Clear imbalance:  $\Delta E O(10 \text{GeV})$  for high- $p_T$  jets



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D-mesons  $R_{AA}$  shows large suppression (comparable to the one of charged hadrons)

Hint for higher R<sub>AA</sub> in case of strange Dhadrons. Coming from strangeness enhancement in Pb-Pb?



### **D- and B-mesons**



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B hadrons less suppressed than D hadrons at ~10 GeV/c, as expected by dead-cone effect.

All  $R_{AA}$  merging at higher  $p_{T}$ 



### **D- and B-mesons**

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All  $R_{AA}$  merging at higher  $p_T$ 

First results from CMS on B<sub>s</sub> production and (mild) hints for larger R<sub>AA</sub> wrt B<sup>+</sup>



### Quarkonia

the original idea: quarkonium production suppressed via color screening in the QGP

T.Matsui and H.Satz, Phys.Lett.B178 (1986) 416

 $T/T_{c} 1/\langle r \rangle [fm^{-1}]$   $2 - \gamma(15)$   $\chi_{b}(1P)$   $J/\psi(15) \gamma'(25)$   $T_{c} \chi_{b}'(2P) \gamma''(35)$   $\chi_{c}'(1P) \psi'(25)$ 

#### sequential melting

differences in quarkonium binding energies lead to a sequential melting with increasing temperature

#### • (re)combination

enhanced quarkonium production via (re)combination during QGP phase or at hadronization

Central AA	SPS	RHIC	LHC	LHC
collisions	20 GeV	200 GeV	2.76TeV	5.02TeV
N <sub>ccbar</sub> /event	~0.2	~10	~85	~115

P. Braun-Muzinger, J. Stachel, PLB 490(2000) 196 R. Thews et al, Phys.Rev.C63:054905(2001)









Progressive suppression of  $\Upsilon(1S)$ ,  $\Upsilon(1S)$  and  $\Upsilon(3S)$ Compliant with Debye screening picture  ${\sf N}_{\sf part}$  dependence very well reproduced by models which include a fluid with  $\eta/s{=}^2/_{4\pi}$ 





#### Less suppression at LHC than at RHIC for the J/ $\psi$

Difference located at low- $p_{T}$ , where regeneration is expected to play an important role

#### At high $p_{T}$ : similar suppression at RHIC and LHC

(Re)generated J/ $\psi$  come from the combination of random c-c<sub>bar</sub> from the bulk. Does charm take part to collective motion in the bulk?

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D-mesons are composed by charm and light quarks. Can it be that  $v_2$  of D comes from collective motion of light quarks?

 $J/\psi v_2$  significantly different from 0! ...and this is solely charm!

v<sub>2</sub> of D-mesons significantly different from 0 in semi-central Pb-Pb collisions at the LHC.

Magnitude compatible with the one of pions!

Does this mean that charm flows with the bulk?



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### Hard probes: going "smaller"

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14 16 18 20 p<sub>⊤</sub> (GeV/c)

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#### No evidence of jet quenching in p-Pb collisions at the LHC High- $p_{T}$ hadrons do also not show any suppression

 $\Box$ 

...but multiplicity in 0-20% p-Pb is higher than in all cases discussed in the previous slide...!

...should we conclude that multiplicity is NOT the driving quantity for "hard" observables?

ALICE, Phys. Rev. C 94 (2016) 054908



 $J/\psi$  not suppressed in p-Pb collisions

...but ratio  $\psi(2S)/J/\psi$  significantly lower than 1 at large N<sub>coll</sub>!!

Makes sense in the "sequential suppression scenario":  $\psi(2S)$  should dissociate at lower T





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...but then, why Υ(2S) is suppressed in p-Pb and even pp high-multiplicity events?





### Conclusions



#### **Entering the era of quantitative characterization of the QGP:**

- Chemical composition of the fireball is found to be at the saturation level, as predicted by Thermal Models
- Evidence for radial and anisotropic flow developing in the hydro expansion of the fireball  $\to \eta/s \approx 0.2$
- Jet quenching observed and extensively studied at the LHC, with first estimate of transport parameter  $\rightarrow \hat{q} \approx 2 \text{ GeV}^2/\text{fm}$
- Expectation  $\Delta E_{light-quark} > \Delta E_{heavy-quark}$  varified @LHC
- Bottomonium thermometer of the medium finally exploited  $\rightarrow \eta/s \approx 2/4\pi$  (in agreement with v<sub>2</sub> estimate)

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#### **Entering the era of quantitative characterization of the QGP:**

- Chemical composition of the fireball is found to be at the saturation level, as predicted by Thermal Models
- Evidence for radial and anisotropic flow developing in the hydro expansion of the fireball  $\to \eta/s \approx 0.2$
- Jet quenching observed and extensively studied at the LHC, with first estimate of transport parameter  $\rightarrow \hat{q} \approx 2 \text{ GeV}^2/\text{fm}$
- Expectation  $\Delta E_{light-quark} > \Delta E_{heavy-quark}$  varified @LHC
- Bottomonium thermometer of the medium finally exploited  $\rightarrow \eta/s \approx 2/4\pi$  (in agreement with v<sub>2</sub> estimate)

#### <u>"small systems" path the way to a deeper (microscopic)</u> <u>understanding of QGP phenomena :</u>

- Final state multiplicity drives light flavours observables across systems and energies.
- Strangeness enhancement in pp collisions. In highest multiplicity, hadrochemistry  $\approx$  to the one in the QGP
- $v_2 \neq 0$  in pp and p-Pb collisions at the LHC.
- No parton energy loss observed in pp and p-A
- Intriguing (and unclear) results on quarkonium suppression in p-A (and pp!) collisions





### The resonances' story (I)

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Resonances are powerful tools to probe the hadronic phase after chemical freeze-out



### The resonances' story (II)

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Resonances are powerful tools to probe the hadronic phase after chemical freeze-out

### Lifetime [fm/c] : $\rho$ [1.3] < K\* [4.2] < $\Lambda$ \* [12.6] < $\Xi^{0*}$ [21.7] < $\phi$ [46.2]









R (fm)

10<sup>3</sup> dN<sub>π</sub>/dy

Livio Bianchi

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Fix yield's ratio to saturation limit. Check the evolution when decreasing the volume (multiplicity)

> Qualitatively the thermal fit describes K, $\Lambda$ , $\Xi$ , $\Omega$

#### Notable exception is the $\phi$ !

Slightly decreasing protons Hint for hadronic re-scattering? Need to evaluate degree of correlation on systematics across multiplicity!



If interested in re-scattering in the hadronic phase, more in the backup!

### The Lund string model: basics

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- Linear confinement potential for large distances (confirmed by lattice QCD). For short distances perturbation theory holds
- Confined colour fields described as strings with tension  $\kappa = 1 \text{ GeV/fm}$
- Breaking of strings (tunneling) give hadrons

 $P \propto e^{-\frac{\pi m_T^2}{\kappa}} = e^{-\frac{\pi m_q^2}{\kappa}} \cdot e^{-\frac{\pi p_{Tq}^2}{\kappa}}$ 

 Flavour of hadrons determined by the Gaussian mass suppression term (which mass to put? If current → less ssuppression than observed. If constituent → too much ssuppression. s/u empirical number to be tuned on data)



- In hadronic collisions multiple strings needed to describe multiplicity distribution (MPI)
- In the LC Lund model each string hadronizes separately with respect to the others
- The multiplicity increases, but not the  $\langle p_T \rangle$  nor the relative flavor abundancies!
  - Multiple strings are close in space-time. Dynamical interaction not implemented in this model, but colour re-arrangement can happen: Colour Reconnection (CR)
  - Takes place after parton shower and takes into account all SU(3) permitted configurations. Selection parameter: minimum total string length
  - After re-arrangement of strings, hadronization takes place
  - Correctly takes into account colour re-arrangement in remnant

Christiansen & Skands, arXiv:1505.01681 (2015)





### PYTHIA: effect of CR





CR mimics features that we traditionally attribute to collective flow, but something more is needed. Tuning?

- 3 main parameters tuned on data:  $c_{time}$  ( $\langle p_T \rangle$ ),  $c_j$  ( $\Lambda/K_S^0$ ) and  $p_T^{ref}$  ( $dN_{ch}/d\eta$ ).
- The presence of junctions increases baryon production at intermediate  $p_{T}$ , but not sufficient to reproduce data
- $\Lambda/K_S^0$  shape (magnitude is tuned!) reproduces data up to 3 GeV/ $c \rightarrow$  problem in spectra common to baryons and mesons?



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### The DIPSY model: basics & ropes

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- Partonic model in impact parameter space and rapidity (Dipole evolution in Impact Parameter Space and rapiditY)
- Mueller dipole model (LL-BFKL)
- Proton/Nucleus structure built up dynamically from dipole splittings
- Builds-up initial state + collision in impact parameter space. Naturally treats saturation and MPI

0.4 0.2 0.1 0.1 -0.1 -0.1 -0.2 -0.3 -1.0-2.0 -1.5-0.50.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 V 0.8 0.6 0.4 0.2 [m] 0 -\_ 0.2 م -0.4 -0.6 -0.8 **Transverse size of strings** 10 the one visualized here!!

To the question "Which are the strings that can interact?" the DIPSY model answers following the evolution of colour strings during the whole parton shower

#### How do strings interact?

Stack of colour strings close in the IP-y space:

can form colour singlets or multiplets according to the summing rules of SU(3) Singlets correspond to simple re-arrangement of single strings, Multiplets correspond to **ROPES**.

Hadronizing a rope means fragmenting stringby-string with an effective string tension  $\kappa > \kappa_0$ 

As we know from previous works, higher string tension  $\Rightarrow$  more baryons and more flavours $\neq$ (u,d)

Before hadronizing a string a "swing" mechanism further allow colour rearrangements (in analogy with colour re-connection)

Bierlich & Christiansen, arXiv:1507.02091

Flensburg et al. arXiv:1103.4321

### EPOS: the melting pot



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- Hard scattering treated with the addition of several DGLAP parton "ladders" (pomerons) + a CGC-inspired saturation scale
- Parton ladders are then considered as relativistic strings, conveniently treated in a string fragmentation approach (a-la Lund)
- At time  $\tau_0$  (well before hadronization) strings are divided into: fluid (CORE) and escaping (CORONA) according to their momenta and density of the string segments
  - **CORONA**: strings can hadronize as in the Lund approach
  - **CORE**: from the time  $\tau_0$  evolves as a viscous <u>hydrodynamic</u> system. Hadronization happens statistically at a common  $T_H$
- After hadronization hadron-hadron rescattering can be considered, making use of an afterburner (e.g. UrQMD)

**<u>NOTE</u>**: parameters governing the core-only part are 6  $(\tau_0, \rho_0, \varepsilon_{FO}, \gamma_{rad}, f_{ecc}, \gamma_s)$ , to be tuned on data!!

#### Werner, PRL 98, 152301 (2007)

### EPOS: effects of Core-Corona (I)

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- (p<sub>T</sub>) increases only when introducing a flowing core
- Radial flow of the core also dominates the intermediate region of the p<sub>T</sub> spectrum
- High p<sub>T</sub> is dominated by escaping fragmenting strings



**NOTE**: the exact onset of the effect depends on tuning ( $p_T$  cut-off for escaping strings)







Observed trends of relative particle yields **reproduced** thanks to **interplay** between **core** and **corona** (+ UrQMD)

#### **TAKE HOME**

Spectra + yields described in EPOS through evolution with multiplicity of relative importance of CORE and CORONA

**<u>NOTE</u>**: Does this imply QGP in small systems? NO! May or may not be.

- Relative importance of CORE/CORONA in the yields for long and short living resonances is strikingly different
- Mild  $\Phi$  enhancement with multiplicity observed in EPOS