

Constraining the antideuteron nuclear inelastic cross section with ALICE

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Antinuclei inelastic cross sections

- Antinuclei inelastic cross sections are very poorly known for $A \ge 2$ • Antideuterons: experimental data at p = 13.3 GeV/c [1] and at p = 25 GeV/c [2] (from 1970s!) • Highly demanded in physics community right now! (Indirect DM searches with antinuclei in space)



Antiprotons

[1] Nuclear Physics B 31(2), 253 (1971) [2] Phys. Lett. B 31 (1970) 230



Antideuterons [1]

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- Highly demanded in physics community right now! (Indirect DM searches with antinuclei in space)



High-energy collisions at LHC produce a lot of antinuclei • Setup a "fixed-target experiment": source (collisions at LHC) + target (ALICE detector material)



^[1] Nuclear Physics B 31(2), 253 (1971) [2] Phys. Lett. B 31 (1970) 230

LHC as an antimatter factory

- At LHC energies, particles and antiparticles are produced in almost equal amounts Protons and deuterons: about ~5% and ~0.005% of all charged particles
 - Penalty factor of ~1000 to produce one additional nucleon (in pp collisions)





LHC as an antimatter factory

- Primordial p / p ratio: **R = 0.984 ± 0.015**





... and ALICE detector material as a target

Material budget at mid-rapidity at the centre of ALICE sector [1]:

- ITS (~8% X₀)
- TPC (~4% X₀)
- TRD (~25% X₀)

Additionally, space frame between TPC and TOF can contribute to ~20-30% X₀

(⁰X/X)

Cumulative material budget

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Our "target" is very non-uniform!

Average <A> and <Z> values of the materials weighted with density:

	<z></z>	<a>
ITS+TPC	8.5	17.4
From IP to TOF	14.8	31.8



[1] Journal of Instrumentation 3, S08002 (2008)



Idea of the analysis

Analyse *raw reconstructed* antideuteron-to-deuteron ratio

- No correction due to detector efficiency or absorption in detector material
- Correct for secondary (anti)deuterons from weak decays or spallations
- Constrain $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{d})$ via comparison with detailed Monte Carlo simulations based on Geant4
 - Vary $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{d})$ in MC simulations, $\sigma_{inel}(d)$ is fixed to the one used in Geant4 (describes well the experimental data)
- (Anti)proton analysis as a benchmark









Particle identification in TPC and TOF

Complementary information from TPC and TOF detectors allows to select high-purity (anti)nuclei TPC: d*E*/d*x* in gas (Ar/CO₂)



[1] PLB 800 (2019) 135043

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Particle identification in TPC and TOF

Complementary information from TPC and TOF detectors allows to select high-purity (anti)nuclei

TPC: d*E*/dx in gas (Ar/CO₂)

TOF measurements: $\beta = v/c$

• $p = \gamma \beta m \rightarrow mass$



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Particle identification in TPC and TOF

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TOF measurements: $\beta = v/c$

- $p = \gamma \beta m \rightarrow mass$
- Extract yields using fits to TOF m^2



[1] PLB 800 (2019) 135043

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p / Z (GeV/*c*)

TOF β



Raw ratio of primary (anti)protons

Raw \overline{p} / p ratio compared to detailed ALICE MC simulations based on Geant4 • Geant4: version 10.4.2, FTFP_INCLXX_EMV physics list

Raw p / p ratio





 Higher loss of antiprotons in detector material as expected

Monte Carlo data: detailed simulation of ALICE detector performance

- Propagation of (anti)particles and interaction with matter with Geant4
- Very good description of raw reconstructed \overline{p} / p ratio

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Vary σ_{inel} (\overline{p}) in simulations until MC ratio is $\pm 1\sigma$ or $\pm 2\sigma$ away from experimental ratio \rightarrow constraints on σ_{inel} (\overline{p})

• $\sigma_{inel}(p)$ is fixed to the Geant4 parameterisations (describe well exp. data on $\sigma_{inel}(p)$)

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Raw p / p ratio





Variations of σ_{inel} (\overline{p}) in MC simulations



Uncertainties on data: stat., syst. and global unc. from primordial ratio

Uncertainties on MC results: variations of $\sigma_{inel}(p)$ and σ_{el}

Results for $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{p})$

 $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{p})$ is estimated on an averaged material element of the ALICE detector Good agreement with Geant4 parameterisations in whole investigated momentum range

Raw p / p ratio







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 $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{p})$ is estimated on an averaged material element of the ALICE detector Good agreement with Geant4 parameterisations in whole investigated momentum range

Raw p / p ratio









Raw ratio of primary (anti)deuterons Raw d / d ratio compared to detailed ALICE MC simulations based on Geant4



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Results for $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{d})$

High p region (TOF analysis): good agreement with Geant4 parameterisations







Results for $\sigma_{inel}(d)$

High p region (TOF analysis): good agreement with Geant4 parameterisations Low p region (ITS-TPC analysis): hint for steeper rise of $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{d})$ than in Geant4! Raw d / d ratio







First experimental information on $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{d})$ at low momentum!





Antinuclei inelastic cross sections in Geant4 [1]

Cross sections of antinuclei (\overline{p} , \overline{d} , \overline{t} , $\overline{\alpha}$) interactions with A are first calculated in the Glauber approximation Direct Glauber calculations in Geant4 in a run-time mode are too heavy \rightarrow parametrise Glauber calculations with [2, 3] :

$$\sigma_{hA}^{in} = \pi R_A^2 \ln \left[1 + \frac{A \sigma_{hN}^{tot}}{\pi R_A^2} \right], \qquad \sigma_{BA}^{in} = \pi \left(R_B^2 + R_A^2 \right) \ln \left[1 + \frac{B A \sigma_{hN}^{tot}}{\pi \left(R_B^2 + R_A^2 \right)} \right]$$

These equations are then used as a determination of R_A (having calculated σ_{hA} and σ_{BA} with Glauber)

For inelastic cross-section:

 $\bar{p}A R_A = 1.31 A^{0.2}$

$$\bar{d}A R_A = 1.38A^{0.2}$$

$$\bar{t}A R_A = 1.34A^{0.2}$$

$$\bar{\alpha}A R_A = 1.30A^{0.2}$$

- Phys. Lett. B705, 235 (2011) [1]
- Eur. Phys. J. C 62 (2009) 399 [2]
- Nucl. Instrum. Methods B 267 (2009) 2460



$$^{22} + 0.90/A^{1/3}$$
 (fm),

 $^{21} + 1.55/A^{1/3}$ (fm),

 $^{21} + 1.51/A^{1/3}$ (fm),

 $^{21} + 1.05/A^{1/3}$ (fm).

Antinuclei inelastic cross sections in Geant4 [1]

Good description of Glauber calculations with parameterisations The parameterisations are used in Geant4 in 100 MeV/c < p/A < 1000 GeV/c momentum range



New ALICE results: steeper rise of inelastic c.s. at very low momentum!

[1] Phys. Lett. B705, 235 (2011)



Preliminary results for (anti)³He Raw ³He / ³He ratio compared to detailed ALICE MC simulations based on Geant4





Preliminary results for $\sigma_{inel}(^{3}He)$ High *p* region (TOF analysis): in agreement with Geant4





Preliminary results for $\sigma_{inel}(^{3}He)$ High *p* region (TOF analysis): in agreement with Geant4 Low p region (ITS-TPC analysis): much steeper rise of $\sigma_{inel}({}^{3}He)$ than in Geant4!





Preliminary results for $\sigma_{inel}(^{3}He)$ High *p* region (TOF analysis): in agreement with Geant4 Low p region (ITS-TPC analysis): much steeper rise of $\sigma_{inel}({}^{3}He)$ than in Geant4!

First experimental data on $\sigma_{inel}({}^{\overline{3}}He)$ ever!





Summary and outlook

ALICE Experiment at CERN LHC as a tool to study antinuclei absorption in detector material

- Analysis of raw reconstructed antinuclei/nuclei ratios
- Constrain $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{d})$ via comparison with Geant4-based simulations
- Benchmark on $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{p})$ in good agreement with existing data
- First experimental information on $\sigma_{inel}(\bar{d})$ (and $\sigma_{inel}(^{3}He)$) at low p!

Stronger rise at very low momentum than predicted by Geant4!

• Adjust the antinuclei inelastic c.s. in Geant4 at very low p?

Work in progress towards further results

- Understand the origin of steep rise at low momentum
- Analyse more data with higher statistics for (anti)³He
- Try to extend the analysis to (anti)⁴He





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Back-up slides

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Indirect Dark Matter searches

- Low-energy cosmic-ray antinuclei (d, ³He, ⁴He) unique probe for indirect Dark Matter searches Low background from secondary production is expected
- Vital to determine primary and secondary antinuclei fluxes as precise as possible!





A long way to the detectors **Interstellar Medium** Heliosphere





Basic ingredients for antinuclei flux calculation:

- Propagation: common for all (anti)particles
- Annihilation in interstellar medium, Earth's atmosphere, ...
- Production of antinuclei in pp, $p\overline{p}$, p-He, \overline{p} -He...

Precise nuclear inelastic cross sections are needed to reduce uncertainties from nuclear physics!



Near-Earth Environment



Uncertainty on \overline{p}/p ratio for AMS-02 [1]





Modelling of cosmic rays propagation



- https://galprop.stanford.edu [1]
- http://www.th.physik.uni-bonn.de/nilles/people/kappl [2]
- [3]

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Antideuteron diffusion equation

$$\nabla(-K\nabla N_{\overline{d}} + V_c N_{\overline{d}}) + \partial_T (b_{\text{tot}} N_{\overline{d}})$$

Propagation term

Common for all (anti-)particle species

Annihilation term

• Annihilation of anti-deuterons (interstellar medium, Earth's atmosphere...)

Source term

• Production of anti-deuterons in collisions of pp, $p\overline{p}$, p-He, \overline{p} -He...

Anti-deuteron inelastic cross-section with ALICE | I. Vorobyev | QM 2019 Wuhan | 06.11.2019 23

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Consistency of results between pp and pPb data

Are raw \overline{p}/p and \overline{d}/d ratios compatible in different collision systems? Yes, modulo the change of primary antimatter/matter ratio, so analysis is robust!





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[1] Phys. Rev. C 97, 024615 (2018)



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GEANT3/4 cross-sections for (anti)deuterons





GEANT3/4 cross-sections for (anti)³He



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GEANT3 inelastic cross-sections

Empirical parameterisation based on Moiseev' formula [1]:

$$\sigma_R = \left(Z_P \sigma_{pA}^{3/2} + N_P \sigma_{nA}^{3/2} \right)^{2/3} K(A_T)$$
$$K(A_T) = C_0 \log(A_T + 2)^{-C_1}$$

 $\sigma_{pA} = 45 A_T^{0.7} (1 + 0.016 \sin(5))$

$$5.3 - 2.63 \ln A_T)) (1 - 0.62e^{-5E} \sin(1.58E^{-0.28}))$$

$$\sigma_{nA} = 43.2A_T^{0.719}$$

$$\sigma_{\bar{p}A} = (a_0 + a_1 Z_T + a_2 Z_T^2) A_T^{2/3}$$

$$5, a_1 = 0.1 - 0.18E^{-1.2} \text{ and } a_2 = 0.0012E^{-1.5}$$

$$\sigma_{\bar{n}A} = (51 + 16E^{-0.4}) A_T^{2/3}$$

$$5.3 - 2.63 \ln A_T)) (1 - 0.62e^{-5E} \sin(1.58E^{-0.28}))$$

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$$6, a_1 = 0.1 - 0.18E^{-1.2} \text{ and } a_2 = 0.0012E^{-1.5}$$

$$\sigma_{\bar{n}A} = (51 + 16E^{-0.4}) A_T^{2/3}$$

where $a_0 = 48.2 + 19(E - 0.02)^{-0.55}$

[1] A. A. Moiseev, J. F. Ormes, Astroparticle Physics, 6(34):379-386, 1997



Geant4: Glauber calculations vs data

Lines are Glauber calculations, points are various exp. data [1]



[1] Phys. Lett. B705, 235 (2011)



Parameterisations used in GEANT4

Direct Glauber calculations in GEANT4 in a run-time mode are too heavy \rightarrow parametrise Glauber calculations with [1] :

$$\sigma_{hA}^{tot} = 2\pi R_A^2 \ln\left[1 + \frac{A\sigma_{hN}^{tot}}{2\pi R_A^2}\right] \qquad \sigma_{BA}^{tot} = 2\pi \left(R_B^2 + R_A^2\right) \ln\left[1 + \frac{BA\sigma_{NN}^{tot}}{2\pi \left(R_B^2 + R_A^2\right)}\right] \\ \sigma_{hA}^{in} = \pi R_A^2 \ln\left[1 + \frac{A\sigma_{hN}^{tot}}{\pi R_A^2}\right], \qquad \sigma_{BA}^{in} = \pi \left(R_B^2 + R_A^2\right) \ln\left[1 + \frac{BA\sigma_{hN}^{tot}}{\pi \left(R_B^2 + R_A^2\right)}\right],$$

R_A cannot be directly connected with known values due to some simplifications Use equations as a determination of R_A having calculated σ_{hA} and σ_{BA} with Glauber

For inelastic cross-section: For total cross-section:

$$\bar{p}A R_A = 1.34A^{0.23} + 1.35/A^{1/3}$$
 (fm), $\bar{p}A R_A = 1.31A^{0.22} + 0.90/A^{1/3}$ (fm),

$$\bar{d}A R_A = 1.46A^{0.21} + 1.45/A^{1/3}$$
 (fm), $\bar{d}A R_A = 1.38A^{0.21} + 1.55/A^{1/3}$ (fm),

$$\bar{t}A R_A = 1.40A^{0.21} + 1.63/A^{1/3}$$
 (fm), $\bar{t}A R_A = 1.34A^{0.21} + 1.51/A^{1/3}$ (fm),

$$\bar{\alpha}AR_A = 1.35A^{0.21} + 1.10/A^{1/3}$$
 (fm). $\bar{\alpha}AR_A = 1.30A^{0.21} + 1.05/A^{1/3}$ (fm).

[1] V.M. Grichine, Eur. Phys. J. C 62 (2009) 399, Nucl. Instrum. Methods B 267 (2009) 2460



Uncertainty due to σ_{inel} (proton)

How precise σ_{inel} (proton) is described by Geant4?

- Check available experimental data (Be,B,C,O,Al,Fe,Cu,Ge,Sn,Pb)
- Vary Geant4 parametrisation, calculate χ^2 for all data points
- Minimum χ^2 and $\pm 1\sigma$: 0.9925 +0.0375 -0.0325



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Fe,Cu,Ge,Sn,Pb) data points

Uncertainty due to σ_{inel} (deuteron)

How precise σ_{inel} (deuteron) is described by Geant4?

- Check available experimental data (Be, C, O,Si, Sn, Pb)
- Vary Geant4 parametrisation, calculate χ^2 for all data points
- Minimum χ^2 and $\pm 1\sigma$: 1.0175 $^{+0.0625}$ –0.0475



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t4? Sn, Pb) data points

Uncertainty due to σ_{inel} (³He)

How precise σ_{inel} (³He) is described by Geant4?

- Check available experimental data [1]
- Vary Geant4 parametrisation, calculate χ^2 for all data points
- Minimum χ^2 and $\pm 1\sigma$: **1.058** + 0.031 0.031



[1] Nuclear Physics A 696 (2001) 3–30





Deuterons from spallation processes





Simple Geant4-based model

- Standalone Geant4 simulation to investigate ratios in more details • (Anti-)proton and (anti-)deuteron source + a target made of ALICE detector materials • Loss of (anti-)particles due to inelastic processes in detector material • low *p*: beam pipe, ITS, TPC (<Z> = 8.5, <A> = 17.4) • high *p*: beam pipe, ITS, TPC, TRD, SF (<Z> = 14.8, <A> = 31.8)

- Loss of (anti-)particles due to scattering effects in ITS, TPC and TRD material
 - Multiple coulomb and hadron elastic scattering

Detailed ALICE simulation





Simple Geant4 setup



Simple Geant4-based model

- Standalone Geant4 simulation to investigate ratios in more details • (Anti-)proton and (anti-)deuteron source + a target made of ALICE detector materials • Loss of (anti-)particles due to inelastic processes in detector material • low p: beam pipe, ITS, TPC ($\langle Z \rangle = 8.5, \langle A \rangle = 17.4$) • high p: beam pipe, ITS, TPC, TRD, SF ($\langle Z \rangle = 14.8, \langle A \rangle = 31.8$)

- Loss of (anti-)particles due to scattering effects in ITS, TPC and TRD material
 - Multiple coulomb and hadron elastic scattering







Variations of σ_{el} with simple Geant4 model

Vary each σ_{el} by ±20% in all combinations and check the final ratio

- σ_{el} contributes to scattering effects in ITS, TPC and TRD material
- Only a minor effect on the ratio ($\leq 1\%$ for \overline{p} / p , $\leq 2\%$ for \overline{d} / d)

For final results: cross-check the variations with full ALICE MC simulations







Variations of σ_{inel} with simple Geant4 model

Ratios are sensitive to the variations of $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{p})$ and $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{d})$ Re-scale $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{p})$ and $\sigma_{inel}(\overline{d})$ to be $\pm 1\sigma/\pm 2\sigma$ away from experimentally measured ratio $1\sigma =$ uncertainties added in quadrature:

- Stat. and syst. uncertainties of the data
- Uncertainty from primordial ratio (1.5% for \overline{p}/p , 3% for \overline{d}/d)
- Unc. from variations of $\sigma_{inel}(p)$ and $\sigma_{inel}(d)$ within precision of Geant4 parameterisations
- Uncertainty from variations of elastic cross-sections



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% for d/d) precision of Geant4 parameterisations ons

