# decoding the QCD phase structure with relativistic nuclear collisions

- brief introduction the LHC era and relativistic nuclear collisions
- the hadron resonance gas and (u,d,s) hadron production
- Dashen-Ma-Bernstein taken seriously
- experimental determination of the QCD phase boundary
- loosely bound objects
- summary and outlook



pbm

Stern-Gerlach Medal presentation (1)

DPG-Frühjahrstagung München, 17. - 22. März 2019 phenomenology results obtained in collaboration with Anton Andronic, Krzysztof Redlich, and Johanna Stachel arXiv:1710.09425, Nature 561 (2018) 321

most of the new data are from the ALICE collaboration at the CERN LHC

newest results including pion-nucleon phase shifts from arXiv:1808.03102



time line and matter in the early universe

- $\bullet$  inflation up to  $10^{-32}~{\rm s}$
- 10<sup>-32</sup> to 10<sup>-12</sup> s: cosmic matter consists of massless particles and fields quarks, leptons, neutrinos, photons, Z, W<sup>±</sup>, H ??? lots of speculations
- $\bullet~10^{-12}$ s: electroweak phase transition, T<br/>  $\approx 100~{\rm GeV}$
- $10^{-12} 10^{-5}$  s quark-gluon plasma phase particles acquire mass through Higgs mechanism, QGP consists of:  $\overline{q}qg\overline{l}l\gamma ZW^{\pm}H$ , all in equilibrium
- $10^{-5}$  s QCD phase transition, T = 155 MeV
- $\bullet~10^{-5}$ s to 1 s annihilation phase, T(1 s)  $\approx 1~{\rm MeV}$  cosmic matter converts into protons, neutrons, leptons, neutrinos, photons
- $\bullet$  t > 1 s: leptons annihilate and reheat universe, neutrinos decouple, light element production commences

# the Quark-Gluon Plasma formed in nuclear collisions at very high energy



Paul Sorensen and Chun Shen

## **PbPb** collisions at LHC at $\sqrt{s} = 5.02$ A TeV

Run1: 3 data taking campaigns pp, pPb, Pb—Pb > 170 publications

Run2 with 13 TeV pp Pb—Pb run 5 TeV/u p-Pb Run at 5 and 8 TeV > 50 publications

Nov. 2018: PbPb 5 TeV/u

Snapshot taken with the ALICE TPC

central Pb-Pb collisions more than 32000 particles produced per collision

Run: 244918 Time: 2015-11-25 10:36:18 Colliding system: Pb-Pb Collision energy: 5.02 TeV



## inside the TPC field cage, 2004



## particle identification with the ALICE TPC

from 50 MeV to 50 GeV



M. Tanabashi et al. (Particle Data Group), Phys. Rev. D 98, 030001, Fig. 34.15

hadron production and the QCD phase boundary

measure the momenta and identity of all produced particles at all energies and look for signs of equilibration, phase transitions, regularities, etc

## duality between hadrons and quarks/gluons (I)

comparison of equation of state from LQCD Phys.Rev. D90 (2014) 094503 HOTQCD coll.

with hadron resonance gas predictions (colored lines)

essentially the same results also from Wuppertal-Budapest coll. Phys.Lett. B730 (2014) 99-104



## duality between hadrons and quarks/gluons (II)

in the dilute limit T < 165 MeV:

$$\ln Z(T, V, \mu) \approx \sum_{i \in mesons} \ln \mathcal{Z}_{M_i}^M(T, V, \mu_Q, \mu_S) + \sum_{i \in baryons} \ln \mathcal{Z}_{M_i}^B(T, V, \mu_b, \mu_Q, \mu_S)$$

where the partition function of the hadron resonance model is expressed in mesonic and baryonic components. The chemical potential  $\mu$  reflects then the baryonic, charge, and strangeness components  $\mu = (\mu_b, \mu_Q, \mu_S)$ .

## thermal model of particle production and QCD

partition function Z(T,V) contains sum over the full hadronic mass spectrum and is fully calculable in QCD

for each particle i, the statistical operator is:

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

particle densities are then calculated according to:

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

from analysis of all available nuclear collision data we now know the energy dependence of the parameters T, mu\_b, and V over an energy range from threshold to LHC energy and can confidently extrapolate to even higher energies

in practice, we use the full experimental hadronic mass spectrum from the PDG compilation (vacuum masses) to compute the 'primordial yield'

comparison with measured hadron yields needs evaluation of all strong decays

## Oct. 2017 update: excellent description of ALICE@LHC data



#### Andronic, pbm, Redlich, Stachel, arXiv:1710.09425, Nature 561 (2018) 321

J. Stachel, A. Andronic, P. Braun-Munzinger and K. Redlich, Confronting LHC data with the statistical hadronization model, J.Phys.Conf.Ser.509 (2014) 012019, arXiv:1311.4662 [nucl-th].

the proton anomaly and the Dashen, Ma, Bernstein S-matrix approach

R. Dashen, S. K. Ma, and H. J. Bernstein, Phys. Rev. 187, 345 (1969).

The S-matrix formalism [20–24] is a systematic framework for incorporating interactions into the description of the thermal properties of a dilute medium. In this scheme, two-body interactions are, via the scattering phase shifts, included in the leading term of the S-matrix expansion of the grand canonical potential. The resulting interacting density of states is then folded into an integral over thermodynamic distribution functions, which, in turn, yields the interaction contribution to a particular thermodynamic observable.

thermal yield of an (interacting) resonance with mass M, spin J, and isospin I

need to know derivatives of phase shifts with respect to invariant mass

$$\langle R_{I,J} \rangle = d_J \int_{m_{th}}^{\infty} dM \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2\pi} B_{I,J} (M)$$

$$\times \frac{1}{e^{(\sqrt{p^2 + M^2} - \mu)/T} + 1}, \quad \text{A. And}$$

A. Andronic, pbm, B. Friman, P.M. Lo, K. Redlich, J. Stachel, arXiv:1808.03102, update Jan. 2019

$$B_{I,J}(M) = 2 \frac{d\delta_J^I}{dM}.$$

## pion nucleon phase shifts and thermal weights for N\* and $\Delta$ resonances

GWU/SAID phase shift analysis, 15 partial waves for each isospin channel



## Jan. 2019 update: excellent description of ALICE@LHC data

proton discrepancy of 2.8 sigma is now explained in arXiv:1808.03102 explicit phase shift description of baryon resonance region (Andronic, pbm, Friman, Lo, Redlich, Stachel)

Contributions of three- and higher resonances and inelastic channels are taken into account with normalization with normalization to LQCD susceptibilities





## energy dependence of hadron production described quantitatively



together with known energy dependence of charged hadron production in Pb-Pb collisions we can predict yield of all hadrons at all energies with < 10% accuracy

# no new physics needed to describe K+/pi+ ratio including the 'horn'

# the QGP phase diagram, LQCD, and hadron production data



quantitative agreement of chemical freeze-out parameters with LQCD predictions for baryochemical potential < 300 MeV

### from pp to Pb-Pb collisions: smooth evolution with system size



universal hadronization can be described with few parameters in addition to T and mu<sub>B</sub> transition from canonical to grand-canonical thermodynamics

## The Hypertriton

mass = 2990 MeV, binding energy = 2.3 MeV

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Lambda sep. energy = 0.13 MeV
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molecular structure: (p+n) + Lambda

2-body threshold:  $(p+p+n) + pi = {}^{3}He + pi$ -

rms radius =  $(4 \text{ B.E. } \text{M}_{red})^{-1/2} = 10.3 \text{ fm} =$ rms separation between d and Lambda

in that sense: hypertriton = (p n Lambda) = (d Lambda) is the ultimate halo state

yet production yield is fixed at 156 MeV temperature (about 1000 x Lambda separation energy.)

### wave function of the hyper-triton – schematic picture

figure by Benjamin Doenigus, August 2017



Wavefunction (red) of the hypertriton assuming a s-wave interaction for the bound state of a  $\Lambda$  and a deuteron. The root mean square value of the radius of this function is  $\sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle} = 10.6$  fm. In blue the corresponding square well potential is shown. In addition, the magenta curve shows a "triton" like object using a similar calculation as the hypertriton, namely a deuteron and an added nucleon, resulting in a much narrower object as the hypertriton.

## J/psi and hyper-triton described with the same flow parameters in the statistical hadronization model



from review: hypernuclei and other loosely bound objects produced in nuclear collisions at the LHC, pbm and Benjamin Doenigus, to appear in Nucl. Phys. A, arXiv:1809.04681

doorway state hypothesis:

all nuclei and hyper-nuclei, penta-quark and X,Y,Z states are formed as virtual, compact multi-quark states at the phase boundary. Then slow time evolution into hadronic representation. Excitation energy about 20 MeV, time evolution about 10 fm/c

Andronic, pbm, Redlich, Stachel, arXiv :1710.09425

#### how can this be tested?

precision measurement of spectra and flow pattern for light nuclei and hyper-nuclei, penta-quark and X,Y,Z states from pp via pPb to Pb-Pb

### a major new opportunity for ALICE Run3/4 and beyond LS4 for X,Y,Z and penta-quark states

also new opportunities for GSI/FAIR and JINR/NICA experiments

#### summary

- statistical hadronization model is an effective tool to understand the phenomenology of hadron production in relativistic nuclear collisions from SIS to LHC energy with predictive power for future facilities
- deeply rooted in duality 'hadrons quarks' near QCD phase boundary
- present precision is mostly limited by incomplete knowledge of hadron mass spectrum and related branching ratios for decays
- measurements from ALICE at the 5% accuracy level show deviations for protons, now quantitatively understood by using experimental pionnucleon phase shifts
- yields of light nuclei and hyper-nuclei successfully predicted
   → maybe produced as quark bags?
- coalescence approach not microscopic enough for loosely bound states

key results: experimental location of QCD phase boundary for  $\mu_b$  < 300 MeV:  $T_c = 156 \pm 3 \text{ MeV}$ new insight into hadronization additional slides

### even hyper-triton flows with same common fluid velocity



#### chemical freeze-out and the chiral crossover line

ALICE point:  $156 \pm 1.5 \pm 3$  (sys) MeV, measured with TPC and Si vertex detector STAR points: measured with TPC only, feeding from weak decays lattice:  $156 \pm 1.5$  MeV



## a note on the chemical freeze-out temperature

## $T_{chem}$ = 156.5 ± 1.5 MeV from fit to all particles

there is an additional uncertainty because of the poorly known hadronic mass spectrum for masses > 2 GeV

for d, 3He, hypertriton and alpha, there is very little feeding from heavier states and none from high mass states in the hadronic mass spectrum, for these particles the temperature  $T_{nuc}$  can be determined 'on the back of an envelope' :

# T<sub>nuc</sub> = 159 ± 5 MeV, independent of hadronic mass spectrum

now loosely bound objects

#### exciting opportunities for the upcoming accelerator facilities NICA, FAIR/CBM, J-Parc



Andronic, pbm, Stachel, Stoecker Phys.Lett. B697 (2011) 203-207

#### implementation

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

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

Minimize: 
$$\chi^2 = \sum_i \frac{(N_i^{exp} - N_i^{therm})^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$
  
 $N_i$  hadron yield,  $\sigma_i$  experimental uncertainty (stat.+syst.)  
 $\Rightarrow (T, \mu_B, V)$ 

canonical treatment whenever needed (small abundances)

[Braun-Munzinger and Stachel, PLB 490 (2000) 196] [Andronic, Braun-Munzinger and Stachel, NPA 789 (2007) 334]

- Charm quarks are produced in initial hard scatterings  $(m_{c\bar{c}} \gg T_c)$  and production can be described by pQCD  $(m_{c\bar{c}} \gg \Lambda_{QCD})$
- Charm quarks survive and thermalise in the QGP
- ► Full screening before T<sub>CF</sub>
- Charmonium is formed at phase boundary (together with other hadrons)
- Thermal model input  $(T_{CF}, \mu_b \rightarrow n_X^{th})$

$$N_{c\bar{c}}^{\text{dir}} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}g_c V\left(\sum_i n_{D_i}^{\text{th}} + n_{\Lambda_i}^{\text{th}} + \cdots\right)}_{\text{Open charm}} + \underbrace{g_c^2 V\left(\sum_i n_{\psi_i}^{\text{th}} + n_{\chi_i}^{\text{th}} + \cdots\right)}_{\text{Charmonia}}$$

- Canonical correction is applied to n<sup>th</sup><sub>oc</sub>
- Outcome  $N_{J/\psi}, N_D, \dots$

#### **HRG in the S-MATRIX APPROACH**

Pressure of an interacting, a+b  $\Leftrightarrow$  a+b, hadron gas in an equilibrium

$$P(T) \approx P_a^{id} + P_b^{id} + \frac{P_{ab}^{int}}{P_a}$$

The leading order interactions, determined by the two-body scattering phase shift, which is equivalent to the second virial coefficient

$$P^{\text{int}} = \sum_{I,j} \int_{m_{th}}^{\infty} dM \; B_j^I(M) P^{id}(T,M)$$
$$\bigvee_{j}^{M} B_j^I(M) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{d}{dM} \delta_j^I(M)$$

R. Dashen, S. K. Ma and H. J. Bernstein, Phys. Rev. 187, 345 (1969)
R.Venugopalan, and M. Prakash, Nucl. Phys. A 546 (1992) 718.
W. Weinhold,, and B. Friman, Phys. Lett. B 433, 236 (1998).
Pok Man Lo, Eur. Phys.J. C77 (2017) no.8, 533

Effective weight function

Scattering phase shift

Interactions driven by narrow resonance of mass M<sub>R</sub>

$$\frac{B(M)}{\delta} = \delta(M^2 - M_R^2) \implies P^{\text{int}} = P^{id}(T, M_R) \implies HRG$$

• For non-resonance interactions or for broad resonances the HRG is too crude approximation and  $P^{int}(T)$  should be linked to the phase shifts

#### considering all pion-nucleon phase shifts with isospin 1/2 and 3/2



#### Phenomenological consequences: proton production yields



points a way to explain 'proton puzzle', new description to appear soon

#### is coalescence approach an alternative?

$$E_{i} \frac{d^{3} N_{i}}{d p_{i}^{3}} = B_{A} \left( E_{p} \frac{d^{3} N_{p}}{d p_{p}^{3}} \right)^{A} \qquad B_{A} = \left( \frac{4\pi}{3} p_{0}^{3} \right)^{A-1} \frac{M}{m^{A}}$$

centrality and p\_T dependence of coalescence parameter not understood and not well reproduced by models such as AMPT



ALICE: arXiv:1707.07304







# coalescence approach, general considerations for loosely bound states

- production yields of loosely bound states is entirely determined by mass, quantum numbers and fireball temperature.
- hyper-triton and 3He have very different wave functions but essentially equal production yields.
- energy conservation needs to be taken into account when forming objects with baryon number A from A baryons
- coalescence of off-shell nucleons does not help as density must be << nuclear matter density, see below
- delicate balance between formation and destruction; maximum momentum transfer onto hyper-triton before it breaks up: Δ Q<sub>max</sub> < 20 MeV/c, typical pion momentum p\_pi = 250 MeV/c, typical hadronic momentum tranfer > 100 MeV/c.
- hyper-triton interaction cross section with pions or nucleons at thermal freeze-out is of order  $\sigma > 70 \text{ fm}^2$ . For the majority of hyper-tritons to survive, the mfp  $\lambda$  has to exceed 15 fm  $\rightarrow$  density of fireball at formation of hyper-triton  $n < 1/(\lambda \sigma) = 0.001/\text{fm}^3$ . Inconsistent with formation at kinetic freeze-out, where  $n \approx 0.05/\text{fm}^3$ .

# is large size of light nuclei and hypernuclei an issue for statistical hadronization model?

note: in thermal approach, the only scale is temperature T at LHC energy and below, T < 160 MeV

at such a scale, momentum transfer q=T, form factors of hadrons are sampled at  $q^2 = T^2$ 

this implies that sizes of hadrons < 2 fm cannot be resolved

since 
$$G(q) \sim 1 - q^2 R^2/6$$

and since all (rms) radii for nuclei with A = 2, 3, and 4 are smaller than 2 fm, the correction due to the finite size of nuclei will not exceed 35%

the actual change from this on thermal model results should be much less as only the relative change between normal hadrons and light nuclei matters, the overall change only leads to a volume correction, so the correction for nuclei is estimated to be less than 25%

but hyper-triton has much larger radius > 5 fm? measured yield of hyper-triton and 3He is well compatible with thermal prediction, even though wave function is very different – any wave function correction must be small

the agreement of the baryon number 3 states is also big problem for coalescence model

see also the detailed analysis by Francesca Bellini and Alexander Kalweit, arXiv:1807.05894, Benjamin Doenigus and Nicole Loeher, GSI-EMMI meeting, Feb. 2018

How can 'thermal production near the phase boundary' i.e. at T ~ 155 MeV be reconciled with binding energies < 5 MeV and large break-up cross sections?

a possible way out

#### Hadron resonance gas and interactions



for T < 165 MeV, the details of the interactions don't matter and the 'low density approximation' is a good assumption

# Quark Model Spectroscopy

Why does the quark model work so well? Why do M and B body plans dominate? Why don't multibaryons make one big bag?

Frank Wilczek, QM2014 introductory talk

see also the recent review: Marek Karliner, Jonathan L. Rosner, Tomasz Skwarnicki, arXiv:1711.10626

#### thermal production yields of exotic states in central Pb-Pb collisions at 5 TeV/u

# Andronic, pbm, Koehler, Redlich, Stachel preprint in preparation



## example: X(3872)



### transverse momentum spectrum for X(3872) in the statistical hadronization model Pb-Pb collisions at 5 TeV/u



## light nuclei flow with same fluid velocity as pions, kaons, and protons



## outlook

ALICE is currently upgraded:

GEM based read-out chambers for the TPC new inner tracker with ultra-thin Si layers continuous read of (all) subdetectors

#### increase of data rates by factor 100

focus on rare objects, exotic quarkonia, low mass lepton pairs and low p\_t photons to address a number of fundamental questions and issues such as:

- are there colorless bound states in a deconfined medium?
- are complex, light nuclei and exotic charmonia (X,Y,Z) produced as compact multi-quark bags?
- can fluctuation measurements shed light on critical behavior near the phase boundary?

deciphering QCD in the strongly coupled regime

## duality between hadrons and quarks/gluons (I)

#### Z: full QCD partition function

all thermodynamic quantities derive from QCD partition functions

for the pressure we get:

$$\frac{p}{T^4} \equiv \frac{1}{VT^3} \ln Z(V, T, \mu)$$

comparison of trace anomaly from LQCD Phys.Rev. D90 (2014) 094503 HOTQCD coll.

with hadron resonance gas prediction (solid line)

LQCD: full dynamical quarks with realistic pion mass

