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Production and Polarization of Hypernuclei in Heavy-ion Collisions

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Outline

- 1. Production of (anti-)hypertriton in heavy-ion collisions
- 2. Polarization phenomenon in heavy-ion collisions
- 3. Results: (Anti-)Hypertriton polarization and its spin structure
- 4. Results: Effects of baryon spin correlations
- 5. Summary and outlook

1. Production of light (anti-)(hyper-)nuclei



1. The halo hyper-nucleus: (anti-)hypertriton



J. Chen et al., Phys. Rep. 760, 1 (2018);P. Braun-Munzinger and B. Donigus NPA987, 144 (2019) D. N. Liu et al. Phys. Lett. B 855, 138855 (2024)

1. Binding energy and lifetime

ALICE, PRL 131, 102302 (2023)

Y. G. Ma, Nucl. Sci. Tech. 3497 (2023)



J. Chen et al., Phys. Rep. 760, 1 (2018); P. Braun-Munzinger and B. Donigus NPA987, 144 (2019)



1. Spin of (anti-)hypertriton ?

(5)



2. Polarization of hadrons in relativistic heavy-ion collisions

STAR, Nature 548, 62 (2017)
Z. T. Liang and X. N. Wang PRL 94, 102301 (2005)
F. Becattini, F. Piccinini, and J. Rizzo, PRC 77, 024906 (2008)



2. Polarization of hadrons in relativistic heavy-ion collisions



Spin alignment of mesons

$$\frac{dN}{d(\cos\theta^*)} \propto (1 - \rho_{00}) + (3\rho_{00} - 1)\cos^2\theta^*$$

Fluctuation/correlation of strong force field

X. L. Sheng et al., PRL 131, 042304 (2023)

$$G_s^{(y)} \equiv g_{\phi}^2 \Big[3 \langle B_{\phi,y}^2 \rangle + \frac{\langle \mathbf{p}^2 \rangle_{\phi}}{m_s^2} \langle E_{\phi,y}^2 \rangle - \frac{3}{2} \langle B_{\phi,x}^2 + B_{\phi,z}^2 \rangle - \frac{\langle \mathbf{p}^2 \rangle_{\phi}}{2m_s^2} \langle E_{\phi,x}^2 + E_{\phi,z}^2 \rangle \Big]$$

Quark-antiquark spin correlation J. P. Lv et al., arXiv:2402.13721

Meson spectral property

F. Li and S. Liu, arXiv:2206.11890



2. Polarization of light (anti-)(hyper-)nuclei

A. Andronic et al., Phys. Lett. B 697, 203-207 (2011)





FAIR/CBM (2.4-4.9 GeV)
 HIAF/CEE (2.1-4.5 GeV)
 NICA/MPD (4-11 GeV)

A novel tool to study the evolution of stronglyinteracting matter at high-baryon density region



Coalescence model for hypertriton production (without baryon spin correlation)

$$E_{i} \frac{d^{3}N_{i,\pm\frac{1}{2}}}{d\mathbf{p}_{i}^{3}} = \int_{\Sigma^{\mu}} d^{3}\sigma_{\mu}p_{i}^{\mu}w_{i,\pm\frac{1}{2}}(\mathbf{x}_{i},\mathbf{p}_{i})\bar{f}_{i}(\mathbf{x}_{i},\mathbf{p}_{i})$$

$$\hat{p}_{np\Lambda} = \hat{p}_{n} \otimes \hat{p}_{p} \otimes \hat{p}_{\Lambda}$$

$$\hat{p}_{np\Lambda} = \hat{p}_{n} \otimes \hat{p}_{p} \otimes \hat{p}_{\Lambda}$$

$$E \frac{d^{3}N_{3}_{H,\pm\frac{1}{2}}}{d\mathbf{P}^{3}} = E \int \prod_{i=n,p,\Lambda} p_{i}^{\mu} d^{3}\sigma_{\mu} \frac{d^{3}p_{i}}{E_{i}} \bar{f}_{i}(\mathbf{x}_{i},\mathbf{p}_{i})$$

$$\times \left(\frac{2}{3}w_{n,\pm\frac{1}{2}}w_{p,\pm\frac{1}{2}}w_{\Lambda,\pm\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{6}w_{n,\pm\frac{1}{2}}w_{p,\pm\frac{1}{2}}w_{\Lambda,\pm\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{6}w_{n,\pm\frac{1}{2}}w_{n,\pm\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{6}w_{n,\pm\frac{1}{2}}w_{n,\pm\frac{1}{2}}w_{n,\pm\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{6}w_{n,\pm\frac{1}{2}}w_{n,\pm\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{6}w_{n,\pm\frac{1}{2}}w_{n,\pm\frac{1}{2}}w_{n,\pm\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{6}w_{n,$$



(12)

K. J. Sun et al., arXiv:2405. 12015(2024)



$$\hat{\beta}_{\Lambda}^{3}H(\frac{3}{2}^{+}) \qquad \hat{\rho}_{\Lambda}^{3}H \approx \text{diag} \left[\frac{(1+\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda})^{3}}{4(1+\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda}^{2})}, \frac{(1-\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda})(1+\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda})^{2}}{4(1+\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda}^{2})}, \qquad T(_{\Lambda}^{3}H \to \pi^{-} + {}^{3}\text{He}) \\ \frac{(1-\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda})^{2}(1+\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda})}{4(1+\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda}^{2})}, \frac{(1-\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda})^{3}}{4(1+\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda}^{2})} \right] \qquad = \frac{FT_{p}}{\sqrt{6\pi}} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\phi^{*}}\sin\theta^{*} & 0 \\ -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}\cos\theta^{*} & \frac{e^{i\phi^{*}}\sin\theta^{*}}{\sqrt{3}} \\ -\frac{e^{-i\phi^{*}}\sin\theta^{*}}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}\cos\theta^{*} \\ 0 & -e^{-i\phi^{*}}\sin\theta^{*} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{dN}{d\cos\theta^*} = \frac{1}{2} \left[1 + \left(\hat{\rho}_{\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2}} + \hat{\rho}_{-\frac{1}{2},-\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{2} \right) (3\cos^2\theta^* - 1) \right] \qquad \hat{\rho}_{\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2}} + \hat{\rho}_{-\frac{1}{2},-\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{2} \approx -\frac{\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda}^2}{1 + \mathcal{P}_{\Lambda}^2} \approx -\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda}^2$$



$\int J^P$	structure	decay mode	$\frac{dN}{d\cos\theta^*}$
$\left \frac{1}{2}^+\right $	$\Lambda(\frac{1}{2}^+) - np(1^+)$	$^{3}_{\Lambda}\text{H} \rightarrow \pi^{-} + ^{3}\text{He}$	$\frac{1}{2}(1-\frac{1}{2.58}\alpha_{\Lambda}\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda}\cos\theta^{*})$
$\left \frac{1}{2}\right $	$\Lambda(\frac{1}{2}^+) - np(0^+)$	$^{3}_{\Lambda}\text{H} \rightarrow \pi^{-} + ^{3}\text{He}$	$\frac{1}{2}(1+\alpha_{\Lambda}\mathcal{P}_{\Lambda}\cos\theta^{*})$
$\left[\frac{3}{2}^+\right]$	$\Lambda(\frac{1}{2}^+) - np(1^+)$	$^{3}_{\Lambda}\text{H} \rightarrow \pi^{-} + ^{3}\text{He}$	$\frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \mathcal{P}_{\Lambda}^2 (3\cos^2\theta^* - 1) \right)$
$\left[\frac{1}{2}\right]^{-}$	$\bar{\Lambda}(\frac{1}{2}^{-}) - \overline{np}(1^{-})$	${}^3_{\overline{\Lambda}}\overline{\mathrm{H}} ightarrow \pi^+ + {}^3\overline{\mathrm{He}}$	$\frac{1}{2}(1-\frac{1}{2.58}\alpha_{\bar{\Lambda}}\mathcal{P}_{\bar{\Lambda}}\cos\theta^*)$
$\left[\frac{1}{2}\right]^{-}$	$\bar{\Lambda}(\frac{1}{2}^{-}) - \overline{np}(0^{-})$	${}^3_{\overline{\Lambda}}\overline{\mathrm{H}} ightarrow \pi^+ + {}^3\overline{\mathrm{He}}$	$\frac{1}{2}(1+lpha_{ar{\Lambda}}\mathcal{P}_{ar{\Lambda}}\cos\theta^*)$
$\left[\frac{3}{2}\right]^{-}$	$\bar{\Lambda}(\frac{1}{2}^{-}) - \overline{np}(1^{-})$	${}^3_{\overline{\Lambda}}\overline{\mathrm{H}} \to \pi^+ + {}^3\overline{\mathrm{He}}$	$\frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \mathcal{P}_{\bar{\Lambda}}^2 (3\cos^2\theta^* - 1) \right)$

(13)

The measurement of hypertriton polarization provides a novel method to uniquely determine its internal spin structure

 $\alpha_{^{3}_{\Lambda}H} \approx -\frac{1}{2.58}\alpha_{\Lambda}$



4. Effects of baryon spin correlation



$$\begin{split} \hat{\rho}_{np\Lambda} &= \hat{\rho}_n \otimes \hat{\rho}_p \otimes \hat{\rho}_\Lambda + \frac{1}{2^2} (c_{np}^{\alpha\beta} \hat{\sigma}_{n,\alpha} \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{p,\beta} \otimes \hat{\rho}_\Lambda \\ &+ c_{p\Lambda}^{\alpha\beta} \hat{\sigma}_{p,\alpha} \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{\Lambda,\beta} \otimes \hat{\rho}_n + c_{n\Lambda}^{\alpha\beta} \hat{\sigma}_{n,\alpha} \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{\Lambda,\beta} \otimes \hat{\rho}_p) \\ &+ \frac{1}{2^3} c_{np\Lambda}^{\alpha\beta\gamma} \hat{\sigma}_{n,\alpha} \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{p,\beta} \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{\Lambda,\gamma}, \\ \mathcal{P}_{3}_{\Lambda H} &\approx \frac{\frac{2}{3} \langle \mathcal{P}_n \rangle + \frac{2}{3} \langle \mathcal{P}_p \rangle - \frac{1}{3} \langle \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle - \langle \mathcal{P}_n \mathcal{P}_p \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle + C_-}{1 - \frac{2}{3} (\langle (\mathcal{P}_n + \mathcal{P}_p) \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle) + \frac{1}{3} \langle \mathcal{P}_n \mathcal{P}_p \rangle + C_+} \\ C_- &= -\frac{1}{4} (\langle c_{np}^{zz} \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle + \langle c_{p\Lambda}^{zz} \mathcal{P}_n \rangle + \langle c_{n\Lambda}^{zz} \mathcal{P}_p \rangle) - \frac{1}{4} \langle c_{np\Lambda}^{zzz} \rangle, \\ C_+ &= \frac{1}{12} (\langle c_{np}^{zz} \rangle - 2 \langle c_{p\Lambda}^{zz} \rangle). \end{split}$$
'genuine' correlation terms

Induced correlations

We can express the polarization of a particle as $\mathcal{P} = \langle \mathcal{P} \rangle + \delta \mathcal{P}$ with $\delta \mathcal{P}$ denoting its space and momentum dependent fluctuations, which leads to the relations $\langle \mathcal{P}_n \mathcal{P}_p \rangle = \langle \mathcal{P}_n \rangle \langle \mathcal{P}_p \rangle + \langle \delta \mathcal{P}_n \delta \mathcal{P}_p \rangle$ and $\langle \mathcal{P}_n \mathcal{P}_p \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle = \langle \mathcal{P}_n \rangle \langle \mathcal{P}_p \rangle \langle \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle + \langle \mathcal{P}_n \mathcal{P}_n \rangle \langle \mathcal{P}_n \rangle \langle$

 $\langle \delta \mathcal{P}_n \delta \mathcal{P}_p \rangle \langle \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle + \langle \delta \mathcal{P}_n \delta \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle \langle \mathcal{P}_p \rangle + \langle \delta \mathcal{P}_p \delta \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle \langle \mathcal{P}_n \rangle + \langle \delta \mathcal{P}_n \delta \mathcal{P}_p \delta \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle$. Assuming again $\langle \mathcal{P}_n \rangle \approx \langle \mathcal{P}_p \rangle \approx \langle \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle$ and neglecting the three-body correlation, we then have

$$\mathcal{P}_{_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}} \approx (1 - \langle \delta \mathcal{P}_n \delta \mathcal{P}_p \rangle - \langle \delta \mathcal{P}_p \delta \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle - \langle \delta \mathcal{P}_n \delta \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle) \langle \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \rangle$$

This result suggests that it is possible to extract the information on the spin-spin correlations among nucleons and Λ hyperons from the measurement of hypertriton polarization in heavy-ion collisions, although it is non-trivial in practice.

Summary and outlook

- 1. (Anti-)hypertriton is globally polarized in non-central heavy-ion collisions.
- 2. (Anti-)hypertriton polarization and its decay pattern provide a novel method to uniquely determine the spin structure of its wavefunction.



Backup

Parity-violating weak decay:

 $T(^{3}_{\Lambda}\text{H} \rightarrow \pi^{-} + ^{3}\text{He})$

$$T(\Lambda \to \pi^- + p) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \begin{pmatrix} T_s + T_p \cos \theta_p^* & T_p \sin \theta_p^* e^{i\phi_p^*} \\ T_p \sin \theta_p^* e^{-i\phi_p^*} & T_s - T_p \cos \theta_p^* \end{pmatrix}$$

The normalized angular distribution of the ³He in the decay ${}^3_{\Lambda}H \rightarrow \pi^- + {}^3$ He is given by

$$\frac{dN}{d\cos\theta^*} = \operatorname{Tr}[T^+\hat{\rho}T] = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \alpha_{^{3}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}}\mathcal{P}_{^{3}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}}\cos\theta^*), \qquad (7)$$

 $= \frac{F}{6\sqrt{\pi}} \begin{pmatrix} 3T_s - T_p \cos \theta^* & -T_p \sin \theta^* e^{i\phi^*} \\ -T_p \sin \theta^* e^{-i\phi^*} & 3T_s + T_p \cos \theta^* \end{pmatrix}$ in terms of the hypertriton decay parameter $\alpha_{3_{A}H} \approx -\frac{1}{3T_s^2 + \frac{1}{3}T_p^2} \alpha_A \approx -\frac{1}{2.58} \alpha_A$. The angular distribution of ³He in the decay ${}_{A}^{3}H \to \pi^- + {}^{3}$ He can thus be further expressed as

$$\frac{dN}{d\cos\theta^*} \approx \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2.58} \alpha_{\Lambda} \mathcal{P}_{\Lambda} \cos\theta^*\right). \tag{8}$$

Compared to the angular distribution of the proton in the Λ decay, which has the form

Sign flip !

$$\frac{dN}{d\cos\theta_p^*} = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \alpha_\Lambda \mathcal{P}_\Lambda \cos\theta_p^*), \qquad (9)$$

the ³He in $^{3}_{\Lambda}$ H decay has an opposite sign in its angular dependence.







(sudden approximation) $N_{A} = Tr(\hat{\rho}_{s}\hat{\rho}_{A})$ $= g_{c} \int d\Gamma \rho_{s}(\{x_{i}, p_{i}\}) \times W_{A} (\{x_{i}, p_{i}\})$

Wigner function of light cluster

Overlap between source distribution function and Wigner function of light nuclei



5. Little Bang Nucleosynthesis

Big-bang nucleosynthesis is responsible for the formation of light nuclei in our Universe. $t \sim 100 \text{ s}, kT < 1 \text{ MeV}$

K. A. Olive et al., Phys. Rept. 333, 389–407 (2000); «The First Three Minutes» S. Weinberg



Synthesis of antimatter nuclei in little bangs of
relativistic heavy-ion collisions $t \sim 10^{-22} s, kT \sim 100 \text{ MeV}$



J. Chen et al., Phys. Rep. 760, 1 (2018); P. Braun-Munzinger and B. Donigus NPA987, 144 (2019)

5. Final-state coalescence



- 3-body coalescence

-2-body coalescence - SHM, Vc = dV/dy

 \cdots SHM, Vc = 3dV/dy

 10^{3}

 $\left<\mathrm{d}\mathrm{N_{ch}}\!\!\left/\mathrm{d}\eta\right>_{\left|\eta
ight|<0.5}$

 10^{2}

5. Statistical hadronization

Andronic, Braun-Munzinger, Redlich, Stachel, Nature 561, 321 (2018)



5. Relativistic kinetic equation

K. J. Sun, R. Wang, C. M. Ko, Y. G. Ma, C. Shen, Nat. Commun. 15, 1074 (2024) Data from STAR, PRL 130, 202301 (2023)



Strong hadronic re-scattering effects

Relativistic kinetic equation for $\pi NN \leftrightarrow \pi d$ $\frac{\partial f_d}{\partial t} + \frac{\mathbf{P}}{E_d} \cdot \frac{\partial f_d}{\partial \mathbf{R}} = -\mathcal{K}^> f_d + \mathcal{K}^< (1 + f_d)$

with collision integral:

$$\mathsf{R.H.S.} = \frac{1}{2g_d E_d} \int \prod_{i=1'}^{3'} \frac{\mathrm{d}^3 \mathbf{p}_i}{(2\pi)^3 2E_i} \frac{\mathrm{d}^3 \mathbf{p}_\pi}{(2\pi)^3 2E_\pi} \frac{E_d \mathrm{d}^3 \mathbf{r}}{m_d}$$

$$\times 2m_d W_d(\tilde{\mathbf{r}}, \tilde{\mathbf{p}}) (\overline{|\mathcal{M}_{\pi^+ n \to \pi^+ n}|^2} + n \leftrightarrow p)$$

$$\times \left[-\left(\prod_{i=1'}^{3'} (1 \pm f_i)\right) g_\pi f_\pi g_d f_d + \frac{3}{4} \left(\prod_{i=1'}^{3'} g_i f_i\right) \times (1 + f_\pi) (1 + f_d) \right] \times (2\pi)^4 \delta^4 (p_{\mathrm{in}} - p_{\mathrm{out}})$$

Nonlocal collision integral to take into account the effects of finite nuclei sizes. W_d denotes deuteron Wigner function.

4. Effects of baryon spin correlation

T. Liang, Chirality 2023

$$\begin{vmatrix} \rho_{00}^{V} - \frac{1}{3} \end{vmatrix} \gg P_{\Lambda}^{2} \sim P_{q}^{2} \\
\rho_{00}^{V} - \frac{1}{3} \sim \langle P_{q} P_{\overline{q}} \rangle \end{bmatrix}$$
The STAR data show that: $\langle P_{q} P_{\overline{q}} \rangle \neq \langle P_{q} \rangle \langle P_{\overline{q}} \rangle \quad \langle P_{q} P_{\overline{q}} \rangle \gg \langle P_{q} \rangle \langle P_{\overline{q}} \rangle$
By studying P_{u} , we study the average of quark polarization P_{q} :

By studying P_H , we study the average of quark polarization P_q ; by studying ρ_{00}^V , we study the correlation between P_q and $P_{\overline{q}}$.

How to separate long range or local correlations

$$C_{NN}^{H_i\overline{H}_j} \equiv \frac{N_{H_i\overline{H}_j}^{\uparrow\uparrow} + N_{H_i\overline{H}_j}^{\downarrow\downarrow} - N_{H_i\overline{H}_j}^{\uparrow\downarrow} - N_{H_i\overline{H}_j}^{\downarrow\uparrow}}{N_{H_i\overline{H}_j}^{\uparrow\uparrow} + N_{H_i\overline{H}_j}^{\downarrow\downarrow} + N_{H_i\overline{H}_j}^{\uparrow\downarrow} + N_{H_i\overline{H}_j}^{\downarrow\uparrow}}$$

sensitive to the long range correlation

They should be sensitive to the local correlations.

 $\rho_{1-1}^{V} = \frac{P_{qz}P_{\bar{q}z} - P_{qx}P_{\bar{q}x} + i(P_{qx}P_{\bar{q}y} + P_{qy}P_{\bar{q}x})}{3 + \vec{P}_{q} \cdot \vec{P}_{\bar{q}}}$

 $\rho_{10}^{V} = \frac{P_{qz}(1+P_{\bar{q}y}) + (1+P_{qy})P_{\bar{q}z} - iP_{qx}(1+P_{\bar{q}y}) - i(1+P_{qy})P_{\bar{q}x}}{\sqrt{2}(3+\vec{P}_{q}\cdot\vec{P}_{\bar{q}})}$

 $\rho_{0-1}^{V} = \frac{P_{qz}(1 - P_{\bar{q}y}) + (1 - P_{qy})P_{\bar{q}z} - iP_{qx}(1 - P_{\bar{q}y}) - i(1 - P_{qy})P_{\bar{q}x}}{\sqrt{2}(3 + \vec{P}_{a} \cdot \vec{P}_{\bar{a}})}$

Global quark spin correlations in relativistic heavy ion collisions

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$$\rho_{\mathrm{np}}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \rho_{\mathrm{n}}(\mathbf{x}_1)\rho_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathbf{x}_2) + C_2(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2)$$

 $\rho_{nnp}(\mathbf{x_1}, \mathbf{x_2}, \mathbf{x_3}) \approx \rho_n(\mathbf{x_1})\rho_n(\mathbf{x_2})\rho_p(\mathbf{x_3})$ $+ C_2(\mathbf{x_1}, \mathbf{x_2})\rho_p(\mathbf{x_3}) + C_2(\mathbf{x_2}, \mathbf{x_3})\rho_n(\mathbf{x_1})$ $+ C_2(\mathbf{x_3}, \mathbf{x_1})\rho_n(\mathbf{x_2}) + C_3(\mathbf{x_1}, \mathbf{x_2}, \mathbf{x_3})$

$$\frac{N_{\rm t}N_{\rm p}}{N_{\rm d}^2} \approx \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \left[1 + \Delta\rho_n + \frac{\lambda}{\sigma} G\left(\frac{\xi}{\sigma}\right) \right]$$

K. J. Sun, L. W. Chen, C. M. Ko, and Z. Xu, Phys. Lett. B 774, 103 (2017); K. J. Sun, C. M. Ko, and F. Li, PLB 816, 136258 (2021); (15)