# Strangeness production in high energy collisions at LHC

Domenico Colella Politecnico di Bari nature physics

Stranger and stranger says ALICE

ELECTRON GASES Spin and charge part ways

QUANTUM SIMULATION Hamiltonian learning

TOPOLOGICAL PHOTONICS Optical Weyl points and Fermi arcs



Chemical freeze-out Relative particle abundances fixed Kinematic freeze-out  $p_T$  momentum distribution fixed

#### Small and large colliding systems QGP QGP Heavy-nuclei Hadronic phase Detection $\tau < 1 \text{ fm/c}$ τ~5 fm/c τ~0 $\tau > 10 \text{ fm/c}$ $\tau > 10 \text{ pm/}c$ А ALICE Credits: project Chemical freeze-out Kinematic freeze-out Relative particle abundances fixed $p_T$ momentum distribution fixed Increasing multiplicity p – Pb Pb - Pb Xe – Xe p – p pp D-P DD <u>Centrality vs multiplicity</u> p-Pb Pb-Pb DD Centrality definition not applicable for pp collisions Systems (of different size) can be compared looking at ⊳ the <u>charge particle multiplicity</u> (initial energy density) Congresso INFN 2021

## Strangeness as signature of QGP

In 1982 Rafelski-Muller suggested the strangeness would have been produced much easier in a Quark Gluon Plasma

- (i) lower threshold (Q)
- (ii) shorter equilibration time



# Study of (multi-)strange hadron production became pivotal signature of the QGP formation

J. Rafelski, B. Müller, Phys. Rev. Lett. 48 (1982) 1066 P. Koch, J. Rafelski, W. Greiner, Phys. Lett. B 123 (1983) 151 P. Koch, B. Müller, J. Rafelski, Phys. Rep. 142 (1986) 167 P. Koch, B. Müller, J. Rafelski, arXiv:1708.08115 (2017)

Experimental observable measured at SPS and RHIC is the strangeness enhancement

$$E = \frac{Yield_{NN} / \langle N_{part} \rangle}{Yield_{pp} / 2}$$

Experimental observations:

- $\blacktriangleright E$  is above unity
- Hierarchy based on the strangeness content
- Decreasing trend with increasing energy (from SPS to RHIC)



STAR [**RHIC**, Au-Au@**200 GeV**] (solid markers) WA97, NA57 [**SPS**, Pb-Pb@**17.2 GeV**] (open markers)

Strangeness enhancement measured at LHC (very large jump in energy)
Observations done at lower energies confirmed



**Strangeness enhancement** through hyperon-to-pion yield ratio for easier colliding system comparison (get rid of  $\langle N_{part} \rangle$  scaling)

Increase of ratio-to-pion vs multiplicity from pp (min. bias) to Pb-Pb



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Ratio-to-pion vs multiplicity in p-Pb bridge from pp to Pb-Pb



**Strangeness enhancement** through hyperon-to-pion yield ratio for easier colliding system comparison (get rid of  $\langle N_{part} \rangle$  scaling)

- Increase of ratio-to-pion vs multiplicity from pp (min. bias) to Pb-Pb
- Ratio-to-pion vs multiplicity in p-Pb bridge from pp to Pb-Pb
- Ratio-to-pion vs multiplicity in pp <u>surprisingly</u> increasing with multiplicity and overlapping with p-Pb measurements



### (1) Is strangeness enhancement a final state effect or is it related to initial colliding system characteristics?

- No colliding energy dependency
- No colliding system dependency
- Hadron chemistry is driven by the multiplicity



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# (1) Is strangeness enhancement a final state effect or is it related to initial colliding system characteristics?



No effective energy dependency

# (2) Is strangeness enhancement related to soft particle production or to hard processes?



### (3) Is strangeness enhancement due to mass difference?

[́⊥] GSI-Heidelberg model 0.6 Ξ,0+Ξ<sup>\*0</sup>)/(Ξ<sup>+</sup>Ξ) T<sub>ch</sub>=156 MeV ALICE, p-Pb, Vs<sub>NN</sub> = 5.02 TeV THERMUS T<sub>ch</sub>=158 MeV ALICE, pp, \s = 7 TeV (INEL) 0.5 ---- p-Pb, DPMJET pp, Pythia8 0.4 Look at the ratio between particles with same strangeness content but different mass 0.3 p – p  $(m_{\Xi^-} = 1321 \, GeV/c^2, m_{\Xi^{*0}} = 1530 \, GeV/c^2)$ No dependency from multiplicity 0.2  $\rightarrow$  Not a mass effect p – Pb ..... 0.1  $10^{3}$ 20 30 10 40 0  $\langle \mathrm{dN}_{\mathrm{ch}} / \mathrm{d\eta}_{\mathrm{lab}} \rangle_{|\eta_{\mathrm{lab}}| \, < \, 0.5}$ 

#### (4) Is strangeness enhancement related a baryon-meson effect?

Look at the ratio between baryon and meson having the same strangeness content ▶ No dependency from multiplicity

 $\rightarrow$  Not a baryon-to-meson effect



# (5) Is strangeness enhancement hierarchy actually due to strangeness content?

Look at the double ratio  $(h/\pi)/(h/\pi)_{INEL}^{pp}$ 

- → Hierarchy with strangeness content confirmed
- $\rightarrow$  proton (S = 0) consistent with unity up to highest  $\langle dN_{ch}/d\eta \rangle$



Initial concept of strangeness enhancement as signature of QGP evolved and a lot of characteristics have been measured

- No dependency from initial colliding system, energy and effective energy
- Hadrochemistry driven by multiplicity
- Property of the bulk ( $p_T < 3 GeV/c$ ) of particles
- Due to strangeness content of the particles (not a mass or baryon-meson effect)

Strangeness enhancement is another collective phenomenon (usually related to the properties of the QGP) observed in small colliding systems high multiplicity events





### **Statistical Hadronisation Model**

- Hadrons emitted from a source in thermal equilibrium
- Key parameter: chemical freeze-out temperature T<sub>ch</sub>
- In large systems: grand canonical approach
- In small systems: canonical approach
- Multiplicity dependency explained with removal of canonical suppression



### Statistical Hadronisation Model

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Large system

- Very good agreement for yields over a wide range of dN/dy, catching also nuclei yield
- Small system
  - Qualitative good agreement for K,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Xi$  and  $\Omega$
  - Significant deviation for the  $\phi$

A (fm)

dN\_{\_{\_{\_{\_{\_{\_}}}}}}^{10^3}



#### Microscopic models from pp collisions

- Traditional soft-QCD models based on Multiple Parton Interactions (MPI), e.g. PYTHIA, are not able to reproduce the observed trends
  - Breaks concept of universality and factorization of fragmentation [JHEP01(2017)140]
- MPI based models that embed also effects from densely packed strings (DIPSY) or core-corona hadronization mechanisms (EPOS) reproduce qualitatively the observed increasing trends for strange particle
  - Further tuning needed to reproduce all ratios simultaneously





## **Baryon anomaly**

Interplay between hydrodynamics and recombination

#### In central Pb-Pb collisions

- p/ $\pi$ ,  $\Lambda$  /K<sup>0</sup> enhancement at intermediate p<sub>T</sub>
- Hydro models: effect consistent with a flow boost pushing particles from low to high p<sub>T</sub> (describes only the rise < 2 GeV/c)</li>
- $\circ$  Recombination reproduces the effect at intermediate  $p_T$  but overestimates towards lower  $p_T$
- EPOS (with flow) gives good description
- $\triangleright \mathsf{p}/\phi$  independent of  $\mathsf{p}_{\mathsf{T}} \to \mathsf{Similar}$  mass drives similar

#### spectral shape

•Can be explained by models with recombination







- Similar pattern observed also in smaller systems
- Clear continuity among different systems

 $\rightarrow$  Points toward one common driving mechanism in all systems



## **Future strangeness tracking**

Open question for the future: is the trend with multiplicity going to saturate at the thermal limit as observed in Pb-Pb collisions or is it going to keep growing?





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### **Nuclear Modification Factor in pPb collisions**



### Canonical statistical model with incomplete chemical equilibration



Recent developments ( $\gamma_S$  canonical statistical model) include:

- Multiplicity-dependent  $T_{Ch}$
- Incomplete chemical equilibration described by a multiplicity-dependent strangeness saturation parameter γ<sub>S</sub>
- Sood description of the available data except for  $p/\pi$  ratio ( $2\sigma$  at all multiplicities)



- · Low energies, strangeness production is rare, local strangeness conservation may be required
- ~5σ deviation from zero (GCE) for 0-10% central collisions. Data favors the CE with r<sub>c</sub>~ 3.2 fm
- Transport models with high mass resonance can reasonably describe data at low energies

  - NPA772: GCE + I<sub>0</sub>/I<sub>S</sub> + V<sub>C</sub>=1500 fm<sup>3</sup> describes data well at > 5 GeV, but underestimate our measurement at 3 GeV. Canonical suppression is important at low energies



pp 7 TeV: Nat. Phys. 13 (2017) 535-539 p-Pb 5 TeV: PLB 728 (2014) 25-38, PLB 758 (2016) 389-401 Au-Au 200 GeV: PRL 98 (2007) 62301 Cu-Cu 200 GeV: PRL 108, 072301

### PYTHIA model The Lund string model

- Linear confinement potential for large distances (confirmed by lattice QCD). For short distances perturbation theory holds
- Confined colour fields described as strings with tension

 $\kappa = 1 \, GeV/fm$ 

Breaking strings (tunnelling) give hadrons

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

Flavour of hadrons determined by Gaussian mass suppression term.

Which mass to put?

- $\circ$  current mass  $\rightarrow$  less suppression than observed
- $\circ$  constituent mass  $\rightarrow$  too much suppression
- $\circ s/u$  empirical number to be tuned on data





Fisher & Sjostrand arXiv:1610.09818 (2017)

### PYTHIA model The Lund string model

- In hadronic collisions multiple strings are needed to describe multiplicity distribution (MPI)
- In the LC Lund model each string is hadronizing separately with respect to the others
- $\blacktriangleright$  The multiplicity increases, but not the  $\langle p_T\rangle$  nor the relative flavour abundances





- Multiple strings are close in space-time. Dynamical interaction is not implemented in this model, but color rearrangement can happen: Color 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 the strings, hadronization takes place
- Correctly take into account the colour re-arrangement in the remnant

Christiansen & Skands arXiv:1505.01681 (2015)

#### **DIPSY** model

- 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
- The model follows the evolution of colour strings during the whole parton shower



- Stack of colour strings close in the IP-y space can form colour singlets or multiplets (ROPES) according to the summing rules of SU(3)
- ▶ Hadronizing a rope means fragmenting string-by-string with an effective string tension  $\kappa > \kappa_0 \rightarrow$  Higher tension means more baryons and more flavour different from (u, d)
- Before hadronizing a string swing mechanism further allow colour rearrangement (in analogy with colour reconnection)

#### **EPOS**

- 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 \u03c6<sub>0</sub> (well before hadronization) strings are divided into: fluid (CORE) and escaping (CORONA) according to their momenta density of the string segments:
  - **CORONA**: strings can hadronize as in Lund approach
  - **CORE**: from the time  $\tau_0$  evolves as a viscous hydrodynamic
    - system that hadronize statistically at a common  $T_H$
- After hadronization hadron-hadron rescattering can be considered, making use of an afterburner (like UrQMD)



New measurements by the ALICE collaboration show that the way charm quarks form hadrons in proton-proton collisions differs significantly from expectations based on electron collider measurements.



Hadronisation of charm quarks into mesons  $(D_0, D^+, D_S)$  or baryons  $(\Lambda_C, \Xi_C, ...)$  occurs on a long space-time scale and was considered to be universal - that is, independent of the species of the colliding particles - until the recent findings by the ALICE collaboration.

The charm quarks were found to form baryons almost 40% of the time, which is four times more often than what was expected based on measurements previously made at colliders with electron beams (e+e- and ep in the figure below).

These measurements show that the process of colour-charge confinement and hadron formation is still a poorly understood aspect of the strong interaction.

https://home.cern/news/news/physics/alice-finds-charm-hadronisation-differs-lhc

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Measurements of  $\Xi$ -hadron angular correlations in pp collisions used to constrain formation mechanism in event generators and investigate multiplicity dependence

# $\rightarrow$ challenge the Lund string fragmentation for strangeness (favours junction model)

 $\rightarrow$  investigate the conservation of quantum numbers

 $\rightarrow$  extend to  $\phi$ -hadron having in mind that  $\phi/\pi$  is not described by CSHM?



New measurement of  $v_2$  of  $\phi$  in U-U might suggest relevance of coalescence mechanism



Having similar mass as the proton, the  $\phi$  meson can be used to investigate the interplay of flow and recombination / fragmentation.

 $\rightarrow$  Still an open point on whether recombination or flow determine the spectral shape at intermediate  $p_{\rm T}$ 



## Light flavour particle production in ALICE

ALICE is designed to study the physics of strongly interacting matter under extreme temperature and energy densities to investigate the properties of the **quark-gluon plasma** 

LHC Run1 and Run2 data taking					
Colliding System	Year(s)	√S <sub>NN</sub> (TeV)			
рр	2009-2013 2015, 2017 2015-2018	0.9, 2.76, 7, 8 5.02 13			
p-Pb	2013 2016	5.02 5.02, 8.16			
Xe-Xe	2017	5,44			
Pb-Pb	2010-2011 2015-2018	2.76 5.02			

Published and Preliminary results available for most light-flavour and strange hadron species in all the colliding systems provided by LHC:  $\pi$ , K<sup>±</sup>, p, K<sup>\*0</sup>,  $\phi$ ,  $\Xi^{*0}$ ,  $\Sigma^{*\pm}$ , K<sup>0</sup>,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Xi$ ,  $\Omega$ , d, t, <sup>3</sup>He, <sup>3</sup><sub>A</sub>H.

## The ALICE detector in LHC Run 1 and Run 2

Multi-purpose detector at the LHC with unique particle identification capabilities and tracking down to very low momenta



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Multi-purpose detector at the LHC with unique particle identification capabilities and tracking down to very low momenta



#### <u>Central Barrel Detectors (|n| < 1)</u>

Inner Tracking System (ITS) »Tracking, Vertexing, Triggering, Low momentum PID (dE/dx) Time-Projection Chamber (TPC) »Tracking, PID (dE/dx) Time-of-flight detector (TOF) »PID (time-of-flight) High Momentum PID (HMPID) »PID (Cherenkov) VZERO »Triggering, Event multiplicity determination



#### Small and large system definition

- » Commonly referred to the colliding system size (ee < pp < p-A < A-A)
- » In the following referred to the created medium size
  - ✓ Defined in terms of charge particle multiplicity
  - ✓ Correspondence to the previous true only on average
  - ✓ Multiplicity estimator used to categorise event according to its multiplicity (best if unbiased from particle under study)

## **③** Resonances suppression



Nuclei just before collision

 »Resonances are powerful tools to probe the hadronic phase after chemical freeze-out
»Final resonance yields depend on:

- ✓ Chemical freeze-out temperature
- ✓ Lifetime of hadronic phase
- ✓ Resonance lifetimes
- ✓ Scattering cross-section of decay products

## **③** Resonances suppression

» Suppression of K<sup>0\*</sup> in high multiplicity events

- $\checkmark$  K<sup>0\*</sup>/K reduction from low to high multiplicity
- ✓ Central Pb-Pb values below thermal model prediction
- ✓ Re-scattering of decay products in hadronic medium
- ✓ Hint of K<sup>0\*</sup> suppression in high-multiplicity pp and p-Pb
- »Similar suppression of  $\rho^0$  and  $\Lambda(1520)$
- »No  $\phi$  suppression: lives longer, decay outside fireball
- »Possible weak suppression of  $\Xi^{*0}$  w.r.t. pp collisions
- »No measurement of  $\Sigma^{\pm}/\Lambda$  in Pb-Pb yet, but STAR point
- »Ratios do not depend on energy (RHIC  $\rightarrow$  LHC) or collision system (same for p-Pb and Xe-Xe)
- »Trends qualitatively described by EPOS ✓Includes scattering effects modelled with UrQMD

Eur. Phys. J. C (2012) 72:2183 Eur. Phys. J. C (2015) 75:1 Eur. Phys. J. C (2016) 76:245 Eur. Phys. J. C (2017) 77:389 Physical Review C 91, 024609 (2015) Physical Review C 95, 064606 (2017) Physical Review C 99, 024905 (2019) Physical Review C 93, 014911 (2016)



ALICE	ALICE Preliminary	STAR
● pp √ <i>s</i> = 2.76 TeV	◊ pp √s = 7 TeV	★ pp <b>√</b> s = 200 GeV
♦ pp <b>√</b> <i>s</i> = 7 TeV	o p-Pb <b>√</b> <i>s</i> <sub>NN</sub> = 5.02 TeV	☆ Au-Au √ <i>s</i> <sub>NN</sub> = 200 GeV
× p-Pb √ <i>s</i> <sub>№</sub> = 5.02 TeV	□ Pb-Pb <b>√</b> <i>s</i> <sub>NN</sub> = 5.02 TeV	- EPOS3
■ Pb-Pb √ <i>S</i> <sub>NN</sub> = 2.76 TeV	ۍ Xe-Xe √ <i>s</i> <sub>ℕℕ</sub> = 5.44 TeV	EPOS3 (UrQMD OFF)

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## **(5)** Light nuclei production

»Light (anti-)nuclei significantly produced at the LHC in pp, p-Pb and Pb-Pb collisions
»The production mechanisms in high-energy physics still not completely understood
✓ Low binding energy (E<sub>B</sub> ~ 1 MeV) w.r.t. the kinetic freeze-out temperature (T<sub>fo</sub> ~ 100 MeV)

»Two classes of models are available:

- ✓ The statistical-thermal model
  - Predicted yield dN/dy ∝exp(-m/T<sub>ch</sub>) strongly dependent on T<sub>ch</sub> for nuclei given large m
  - Yield well predicted for d, <sup>3</sup>He and <sup>3</sup><sub>A</sub>H

#### ✓ The coalescence model

- Nucleons that are close in phase-space at the freeze-out can form a nucleus via coalescence
- Main parameter is B<sub>A</sub>, related to the probability to form a nucleus :



- A is the mass number of the nucleus -  $p_p = p_A/A$ 



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## **(5)** Light nuclei production



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## **(5)** Light nuclei production

- »Deuteron/proton ratio does not show discontinuity between different colliding systems and different energies
  - ✓ Unique production mechanism depending only on the system size
  - ✓ Two different regimes (or three)
    - A. **increasing**: thermal model  $\rightarrow$  canonical suppression, coalescence  $\rightarrow$  small phase space
    - B. **flat**: no dependence multiplicity, in agreement withe thermal model and coalescence

C. **suppression (?)**: too large uncertainties for a conclusion »Similar smooth transition vs multiplicity and regimes observed also for  ${}^{3}\text{He} \rightarrow \text{More}$  data needed to cover the multiplicity gap



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## LHC Run3/4 program and ALICE Upgrade strategy

4 key objectives identified by HL/HE-LHC working group 5 for high-density QCD at LHC after LS2

- 1. Characterising the microscopic long-wavelength QGP properties with unprecedented precision
- 2. Accessing the microscopic parton dynamics underlying QGP properties
- 3. Developing a unified picture of partial production from small (pp) to larger (p-A and A-A) systems
- Probing parton densities in nuclei in a broad (x, Q2) kinematic range and searching for possible onset of parton saturation

#### Proposed run schedule for Run 3/4

System	√s, √sNN	Lint	Note
Pb-Pb	5.5 TeV	13 nb <sup>-1</sup>	3 nb <sup>-1</sup> low B-field
p-Pb	8.8 TeV	1.2 pb <sup>-1</sup>	
pp	14 TeV	200 pb-1	High-multiplicity triggered
	8.8 TeV	3 pb-1	
	5.5 TeV	6 pb-1	
0-0	7 TeV	500 µb-1	pilot run
p-0	9.9 TeV	200 µb-1	



#### ALICE Upgrade strategy

- » New silicon trackers: ITS (mid-rapidity), MFT (forward rapidity)
- » New TPC read-out chambers (GEMs) and electronics
- » New Fast Interaction Trigger (FIT)
- » New Read-out of other detectors (TOF, TRD, Muon arm, ZDC,...)
- » Upgrade of Online and Offline systems (O<sup>2</sup> project)



## **Centrality/Multiplicity determination**

- » The centrality/multiplicity classes requires the following steps:
  - ✓ the V0 amplitude distribution is fitted with Glauber MC
  - ✓ absolute scale is defined, through the definition of anchor point, as the amplitude of the V0 equivalent to 90% of hadronic cross-section
  - ✓ data are divided into several percentiles selecting on signal amplitude measured in the V0

#### » V0 amplitude distribution

multiplicity determination

✓ Pb—Pb and pp: sum of amplitudes in the two V0 scintillators, V0-A&V0-C ("V0M")

✓ **p--Pb:** amplitude by V0-A (placed on the outgoing Pb side) »  $(dN_{ch}/dh)$  is measured in |h| < 0.5 to avoid "auto-biases" in



The VO detector is composed of a pair of forward scintillator hodoscopes placed at 2.8 <  $\eta$  < 5.1(VD-A) and -3.7 <  $\eta$  < -1.7 (VO-C)

<mark>⟨</mark> dN <sub>ch</sub> /dη⟩					
Centrality/Multiplicity class (Pb—Pb/p—Pb/pp)	Colliding system				
	Pb—Pb (√s <sub>NN</sub> = 2.76 TeV)	p—Pb (√s <sub>№</sub> = 5.02 TeV)	pp (√s = 7 TeV)		
0-5%/0-5%/0-0.95%	1601±60	45±1	21.3±0.6		
70-80%/60-80%/48-68%	35±2	9.8±0.2	3.90±0.1 4		

