# Experimental Aspects of Hyperon-Nucleon interactions





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## Outline

- Why study interactions between hyperons and nucleons?
- What has been done before?
- Thomas Jefferson Laboratory and CLAS
- Current status
- Future studies







## Why Hyperon-Nucleon Interaction?

- The understanding of both nucleon-nucleon (NN) and hyperon-nucleon (YN) potential is necessary in order to have a comprehensive picture of the strong interaction
  - Understand composition of neutron stars
  - Understand hypernuclear structure and hyperon matter
  - Extend NN to a more unified picture of the baryon-baryon interaction









MSP M<sub>G</sub>=2.14 +/- 0.1 M<sub>s</sub> Nat Astron (2019) doi:10.1038/s41550-019-0880-2



- Hyperons are expected to appear in the core of NS at  $\rho$  ~ 2 3  $\rho_0$
- Hyperons soften the EoS → Reduction on maximum NS mass
- Observation of NS with  $M_G>2M_s$  is incompatible with such soft EoS  $\rightarrow$  Hyperon Puzzle



Artist rendition of NS merger





## The Hyperon Puzzle

YN interaction is poorly constrained: Difficulties associated with performing highprecision scattering experiments with hyperon beams

• Large uncertainties in the scattering lengths

$$a(^{1}S_{0}) = -0.7 - -2.6 \text{ fm}$$

 $a({}^{3}S_{1}) = -1.7 - -2.15 \text{ fm}$ 

#### Hyperon Puzzle: Possible solutions

• YY and YN forces

D. Lonardoni, Phys. Rev. Lett. 114, 092301 (2015)
J. Haidenbauer et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 53, 121 (2017)
I. Vidana, Proc. R. Soc. A 474, 20180145 (2018)

• YNN and YYN three body forces

Experimental data are needed to place constraints on the interaction







### 2.20 What is available?

#### Best way to obtain information is through $YN \rightarrow YN$



Plots from PDG 2018

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#### Total of <1300 observed $\Lambda p \rightarrow \Lambda p$

$\Lambda$ source	Detector	$p_{\Lambda}$	$N_{\Lambda p \to \Lambda p}$
$\pi^- p \to \Lambda K^0$	$LH_2 BC$	0.5-1.0	4
$\pi^- p \rightarrow \Lambda K^0$	$LH_2 BC$	0.4 - 1.0	14
$K^-N \to \Lambda \pi$	Propane BC	0.3-1.5	26
$K^-N \to \Lambda \pi$	Freon BC	0.5 - 1.2	86
$K^-A \to \Lambda X$	Heavy Liquid BC	0.15-0.4	11
$K^- p \to \Lambda X$	$LH_2 BC$	0.12-0.4	75
$nA \to \Lambda X$	Propane BC	0.9–4.7	12
$K^- p \to \Lambda X$	$LH_2 BC$	1.0 - 5.0	68
$K^- p \to \Lambda X$	$LH_2 BC$	0.1-0.3	378
$K^- p \to \Lambda X$	$LH_2 BC$	0.1-0.3	224
$K^-$ Pt $\rightarrow \Lambda X$	$LH_2 BC$	0.3-1.5	175
$p$ Pt $\rightarrow \Lambda X$	$LH_2 BC$	1.0 - 17.0	109
$pCu \rightarrow \Lambda X$	LH <sub>2</sub> BC	0.5 - 24.0	71

## Difficulties performing high-precision scattering experiments with short-lived beams





## YN interaction – Complementary approaches

$$\begin{split} K^- + {}^A Z &\to {}^A_\Lambda Z + \pi^- \\ \pi^+ + {}^A Z &\to {}^A_\Lambda Z + K^+ \\ e^- + {}^A Z &\to e^- + {}^A_\Lambda (Z-1) + K^+ \end{split}$$





Hypernuclear studies have uncertainties associated with medium modification as well as many-body effects







# Secondary hyperon beams in exclusive photoproduction



- Two-step process where Hyperon rescatters with secondary nucleon
- Kaon identification allows tagging of hyperon beam
- 4π detector allows full reconstruction of the event
- Hydrogen and deuterium targets

#### Cross sections measurements

Polarization observables

- **Λp** Σ⁻p
- Ad

Λn

Σ⁻p

Λp

Cross section approach benchmarked using pp scattering



# Experimental Facility: CLAS @ Jefferson Lab



#### 6-GeV era: 1995-2012

- C.W. electron beam: 2-ns wide bunch period, 0.2-ps bunch length
- Polarized Source: Pe ~ 86%
- Beam energies up to  $E_0 = 6 \text{ GeV}$
- Beam Current up to 200 μA















Cross section determination:

- p<sub>\lambda</sub> >0.7 GeV/c
- cos(θ) between -0.6 and 0.9
- Expected 4000 events





Brandon Tsumeo - USC

class





$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \sigma_0 \{ 1 - P_{lin} \Sigma \cos 2\phi + \alpha \cos \theta_x (-P_{lin} O_x \sin 2\phi - P_{circ} C_x) - \alpha \cos \theta_y (-P_y + P_{lin} T \cos 2\phi) - \alpha \cos \theta_z (P_{lin} O_z \sin 2\phi + P_{circ} C_z) \}$$



Beam Polarisation Linearly polarized Circularly polarized

 $\begin{array}{l} \Lambda \text{ Recoil Polarisation} \\ \text{Self-analysing power} \\ \alpha = 0.75 \end{array}$ 



- Existing YN models allow the calculation of single and double polarization observables
- Two YN potentials (NSC97F and NSC89) give the correct hypetrition binding energy
- NSC97F and NSC89 lead to very different predictions of polarisation observables at some kinematics

Determination of scattering lengths Phys. Rev. C **95**, 034001

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#### **FSI Results**







n

.-K<sup>+</sup>

 $p \\ n$ 



Work with theorist to interpret data and better tune free parameters of YN potentials













## Summary and conclusion

- FSI provides access to study YN with unprecedented statistics
- Polarisation observables are key in
  - Identifying YN dominating kinematic regimes
  - Separation between FSI mechanism and reduction in the model dependence interpretation
- Cross section measurements

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Lambda p \to \Lambda p & \Sigma^{-} p \to \Sigma^{-} p \\ \Lambda d \to \Lambda d & \Lambda d \to \Lambda pn & \Lambda d \to \Sigma^{-} pp \end{array}$$

Polarisation measurements

$$egin{array}{cccc} \Lambda n 
ightarrow \Lambda n & \Lambda p 
ightarrow \Lambda p & \Sigma^- p 
ightarrow \Sigma^- p \ \Lambda d 
ightarrow \Lambda d \end{array}$$



Thank you

## Exclusivity of the Reaction

Suppression of Quasi-free

**Reaction Reconstruction** 



## Polarisation observables Σ-p





Results extrapolated to zero missing-momentum agree with QF study (submitted to PLB)

Large dilutions at higher missing momenta due to FSI

Relative dilutions can be attributed to the various FSI contributions

## Preliminary Results

From 1250 events from BC to 10<sup>5</sup> from FSI



## Preliminary Results

- Adequate statistics for extracting observables 2-fold and 3-fold differential
- Goal is to better tune the free parameters of *YN* potentials
- Work with theorists to interpret the data



## Interpretation studies $\gamma d \rightarrow K^+ \Lambda n$

• Single polarization observable ightarrow Smallest statistical uncertainty

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_0 \left[1 - P_{lin}\Sigma\cos 2\phi + \ldots\right]$$

- For the K<sup>+</sup>An final state the azimuthal angle  $\varphi$  is not uniquely defined
  - $\phi_{K}$ ,  $\phi_{\Lambda}$ ,  $\phi_{n}$ ,  $\phi_{\Lambda n}$ ,  $\phi_{Kn}$ ,  $\phi_{\Lambda K}$

Beam-spin asymmetry can be used as a probe to disentangle FSI

## Interpretation studies

## Generated Samples

- Polarised differential cross section
- Unpolarised differential cross section

Phase space









## Interpretation studies

Different reaction mechanisms cause unique combinations of  $\Sigma_K(p_x),\,\Sigma_\Lambda(p_x),$  and  $\Sigma_n(p_x)$ 

- $\frac{\Sigma_{det}}{\Sigma_{QF}} = F\left(\frac{N_{FSI}}{N_T}\right)$  determined from generated data
- Kinematic footprint of each mechanism into lookup tables
- Extract  $\frac{\Sigma_{det}}{\Sigma_{QF}}(p_x)$  from data and determine  $\left(\frac{N_{FSI}}{N_T}\right)$  from comparison with lookup tables

## ML techniques that provides us with kinematic dependence of FSI-to-total ratios of each mechanism

## Polarisation observable provides us with means to study YN reducing model dependent constraints