



**Faculty  
of Physics**

WARSAW UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



# Matter – antimatter interactions

**Małgorzata Janik**  
**Warsaw University of Technology**

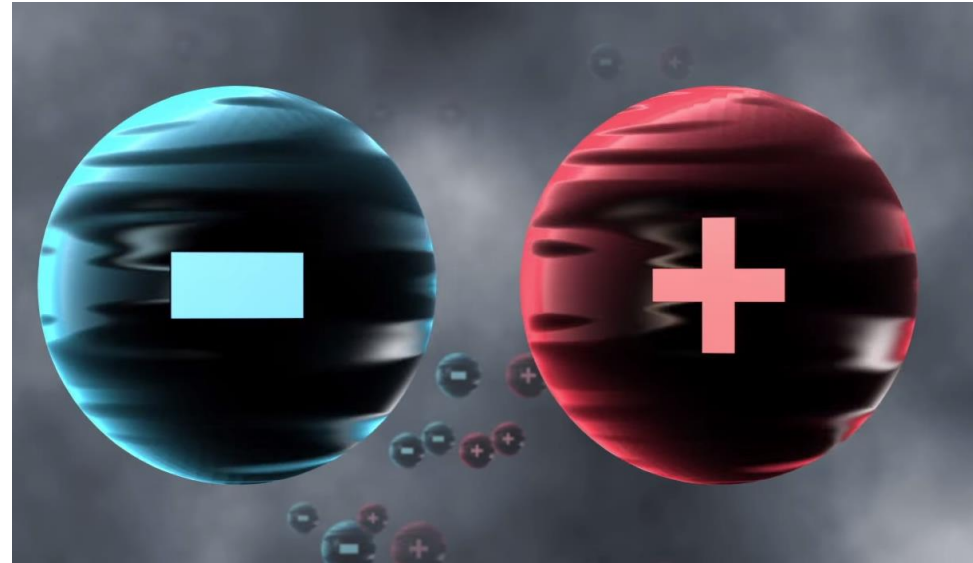
WPCF 6-10/11/2023

# Experimental measurements

How to measure interactions with antimatter & annihilation properties?

## Secondary antiproton beams

- Scattering experiments  
Exotic atoms  
(now: AD and ELENA)



## Collider experiments

- Collider experiments:  
e.g. LHC - (anti)matter factory  
(almost) zero baryochemical potential



# Experimental measurements

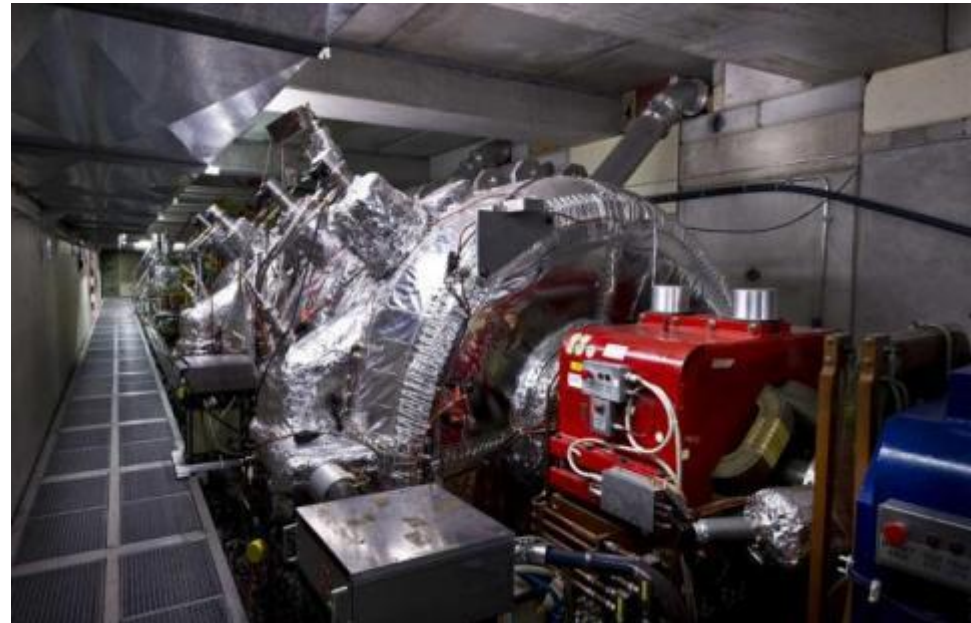
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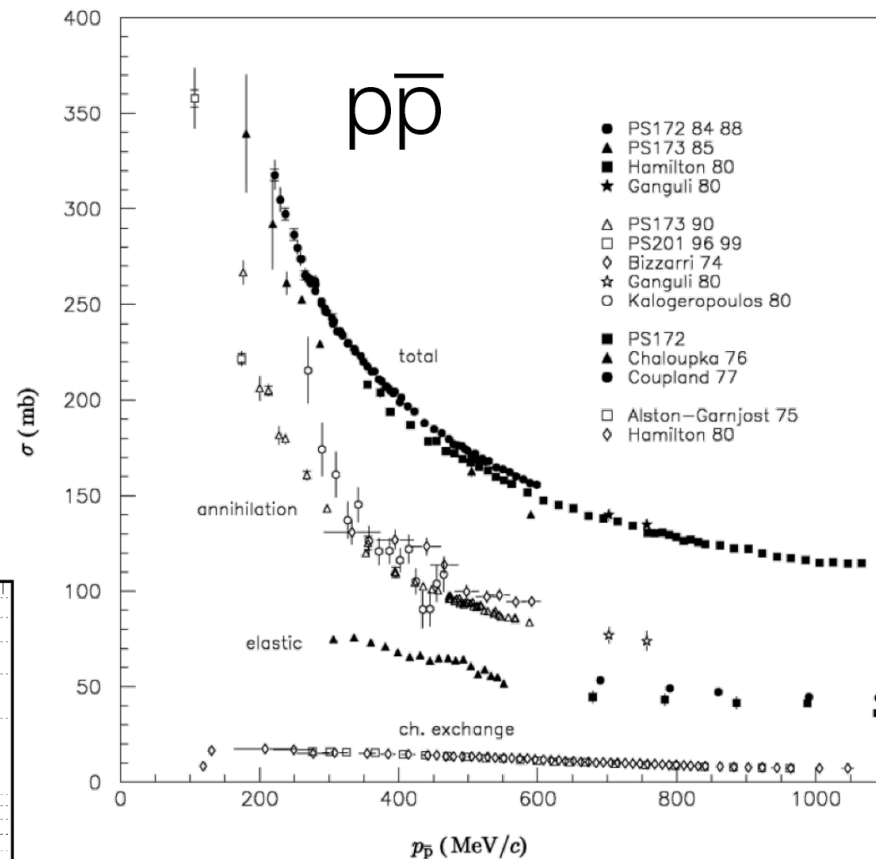
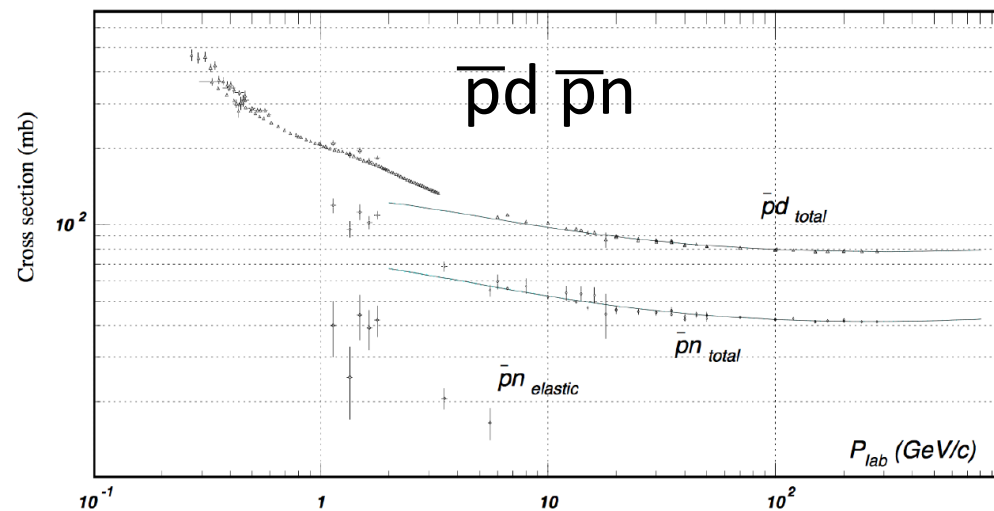
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# Scattering experiments & hadronic atoms

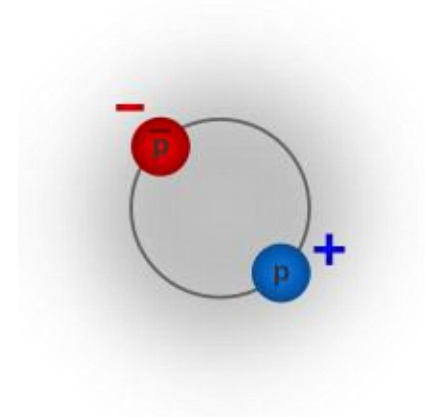
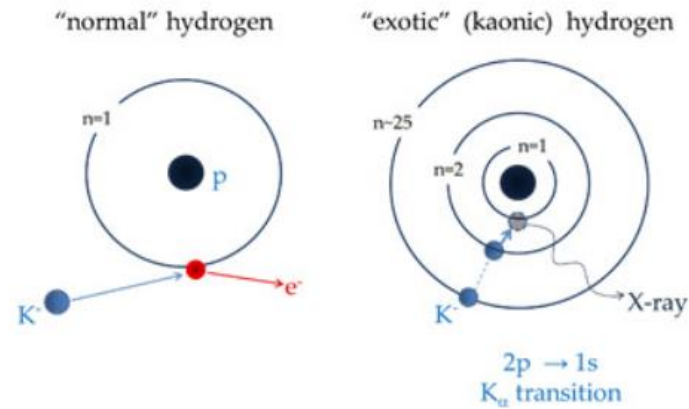
So far, the most precise data on antinucleon-nucleon interaction come from the Low Energy Antiproton Ring (LEAR) of CERN scattering experiments.



# Scattering experiments & hadronic atoms

Hadronic atoms: substitute electron with a hadron in an atom and study such system.

In this domain **protonium** (or antiprotonic hydrogen, denoted by the  $Pn$  symbol) is of a significant importance. It is a Coulomb bound state. One of the remaining open questions is whether protonium in the ground state can be considered a nuclear bound state?



# Scattering experiments & hadronic atoms

Hadronic atoms: substitute  
electron with a hadron in an atom

AD experiments can measure protonium properties in more detail.  
Included in the measurement plans of AEGIS (now in the process of  
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In this domain protonium (or

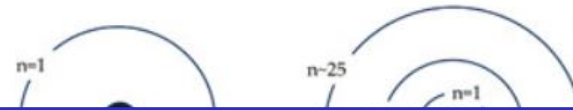
For more information on bound states of matter and antimatter:  
*Precise physics of atomic species utilizing antimatter*

**Tomasz Sowiński**

**8 Nov 2023, 12:00**

the remaining open questions is  
whether protonium in the  
ground state can be considered  
a nuclear bound state?

"normal" hydrogen      "exotic" (kaonic) hydrogen



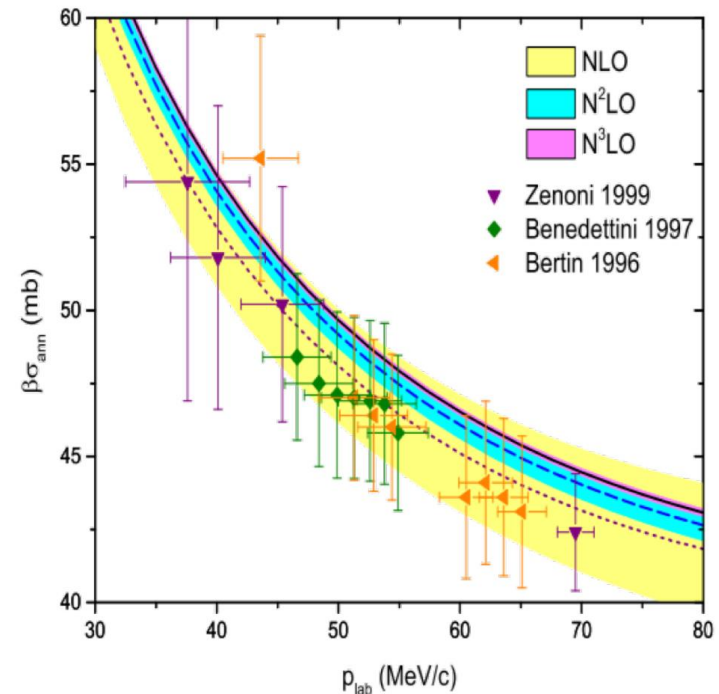
$K_{\alpha}$  transition



# Scattering experiments & hadronic atoms

## Disadvantages:

- Not accessible down to zero momenta
- Large uncertainties
- Limited to few h-h interactions



Johann Haidenbauer  
EXA2017, Vienna, September 10-15, 2017





# Experimental measurements

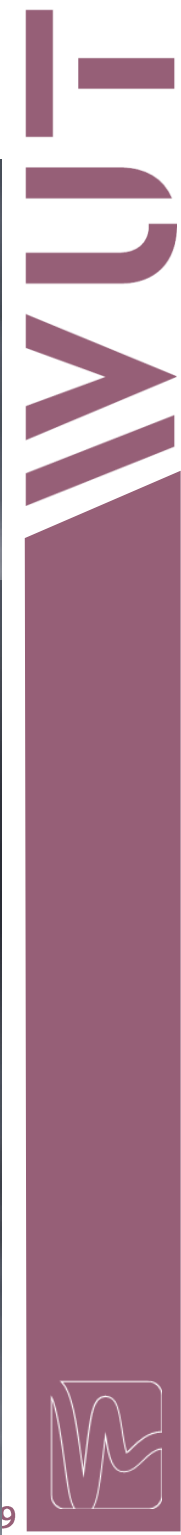
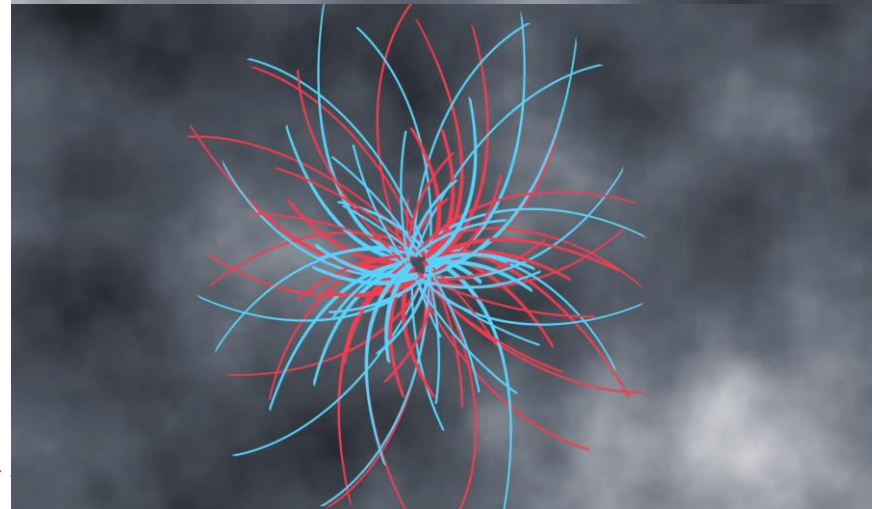
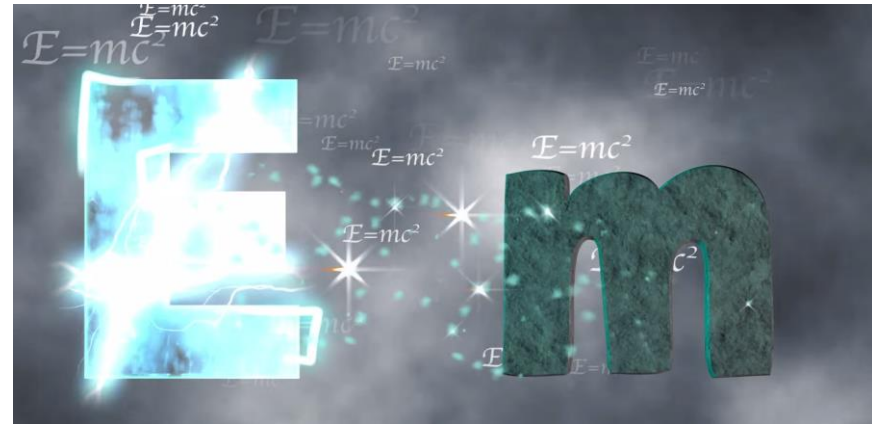
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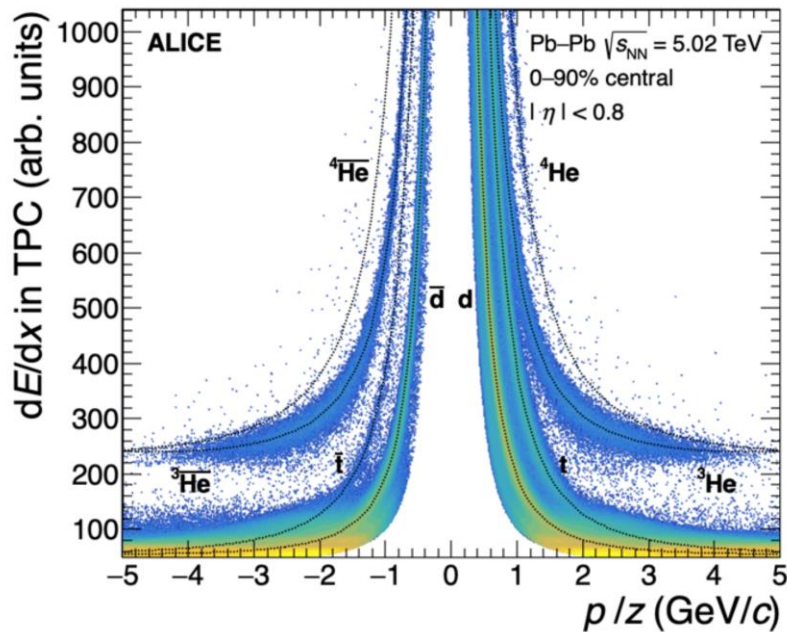
# Light antinuclei absorption in ALICE and Galaxy

LHC – (anti)nuclei factory

Nuclei accessible in Run 2:

d, t,  $^3\text{H}$ ,  $^3\text{He}$ ,  $^4\text{He}$

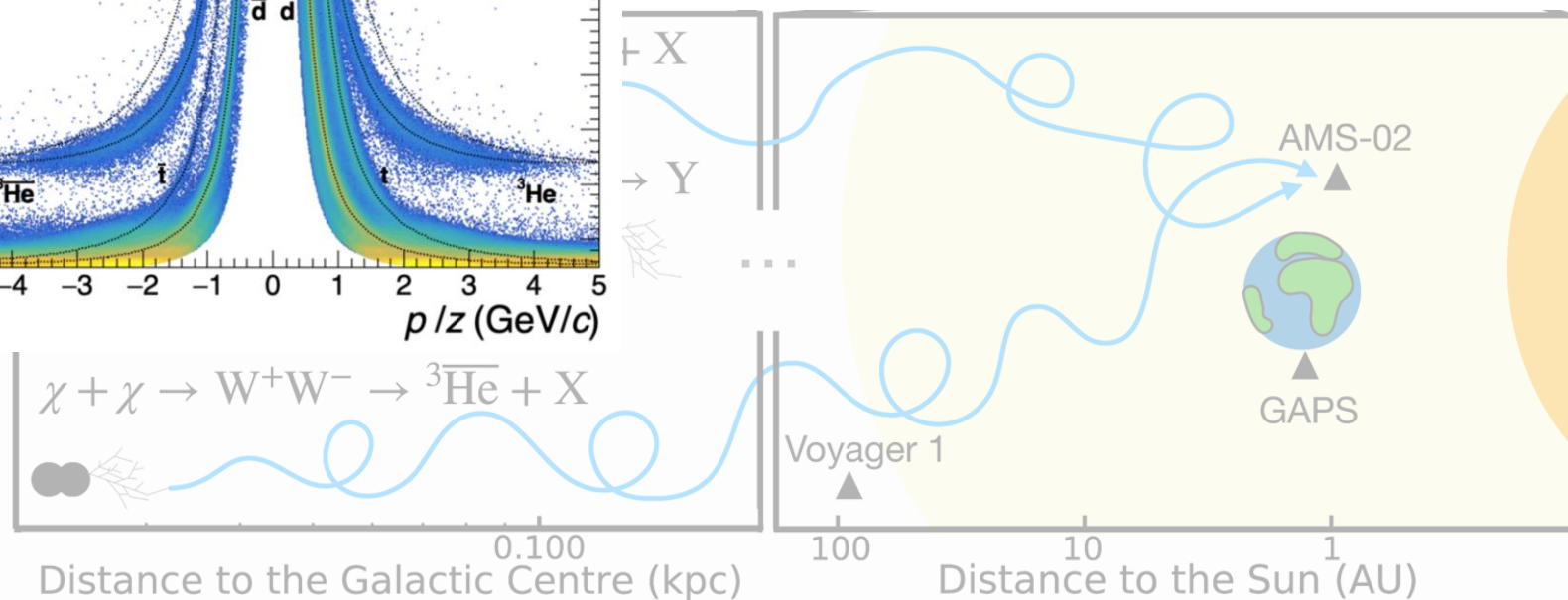
[arxiv.org/2202.01549](https://arxiv.org/2202.01549)



Information about antinuclei has strong impact on dark matter searches in Space, e.g.  $\chi_0\chi_0 \rightarrow \text{anti-d}, \text{anti-}^3\text{He}+X$  (AMS-02, GAPS, BESS)

- $^3\bar{\text{He}}$  can be produced via high-energy cosmic-ray collisions with the interstellar medium or could originate from the annihilation of dark-matter.
- **Antinuclei absorption** in space poorly known.

[Nature Phys. 19 \(2023\) 1, 61-71](#)



ALI-PUB-532052



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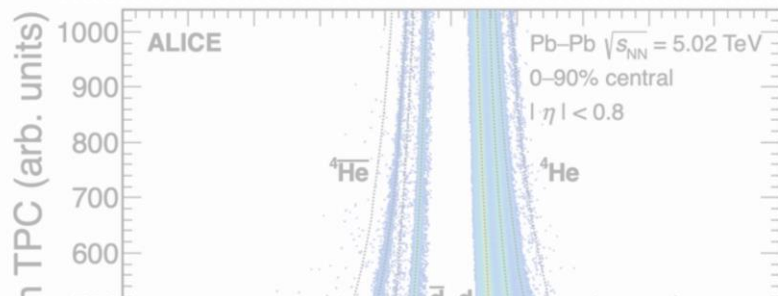
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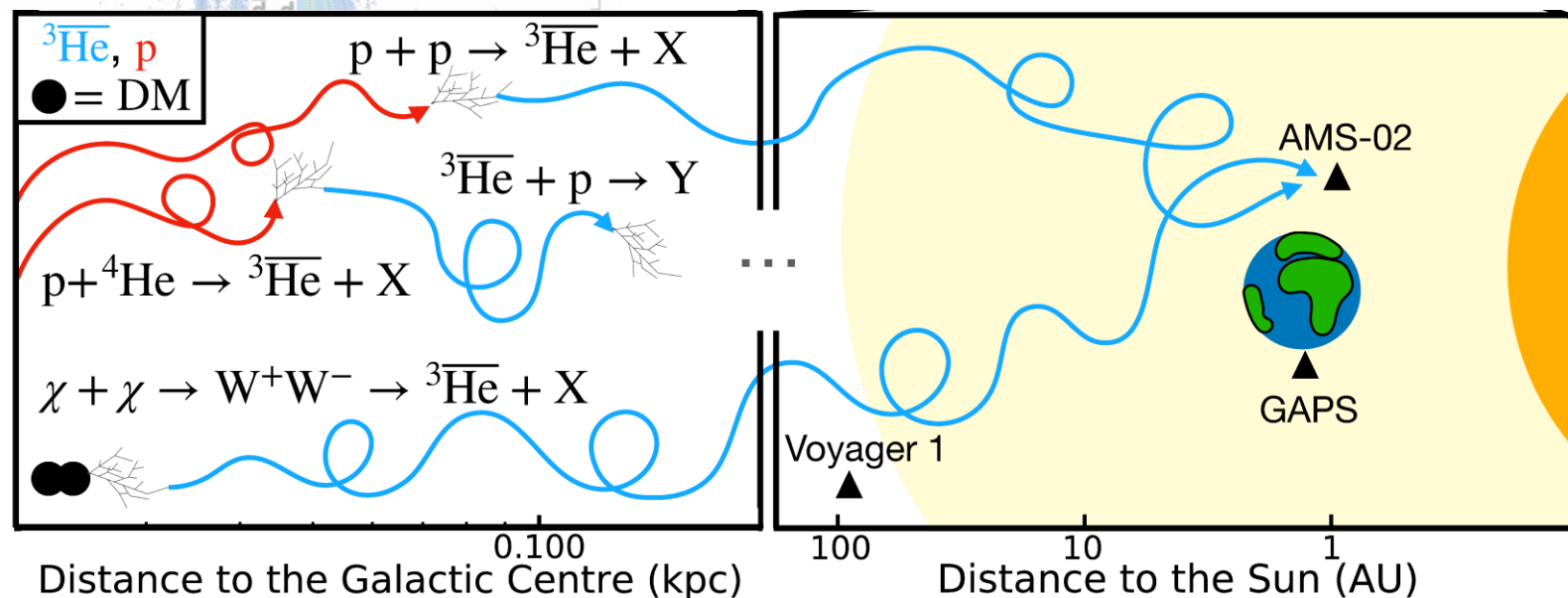
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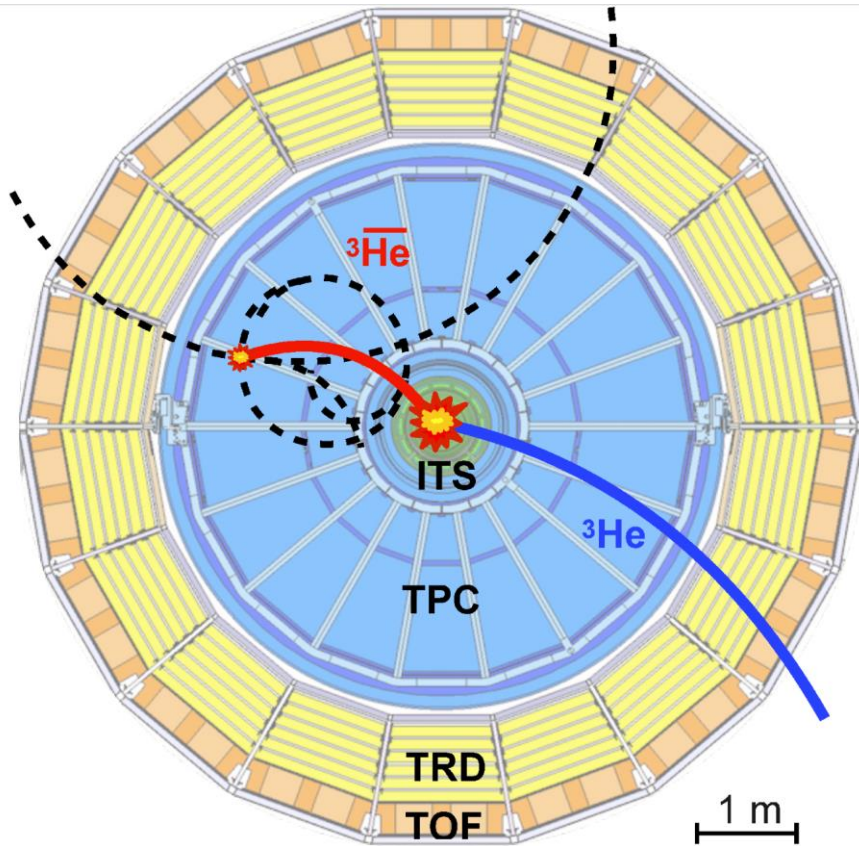


ALI-PUB-532052



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Nature Phys. 19 (2023) 1, 61-71



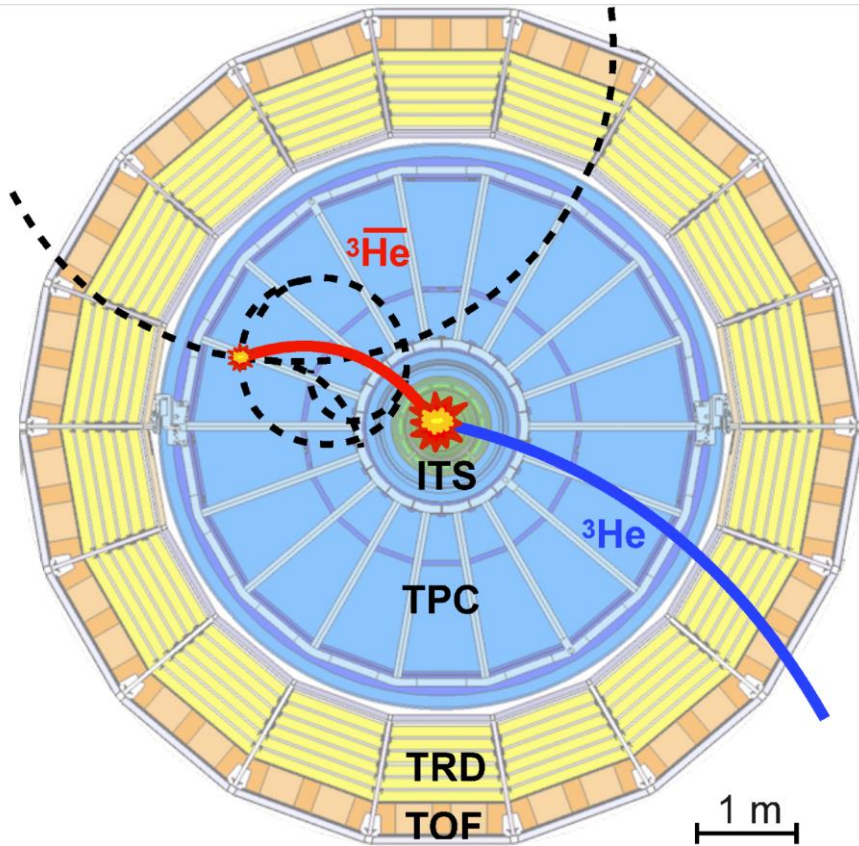
- Novel technique to use detector as an antiparticle absorber
- First experimental measurement of  $\sigma_{\text{inel}}({}^3\overline{\text{He}})$



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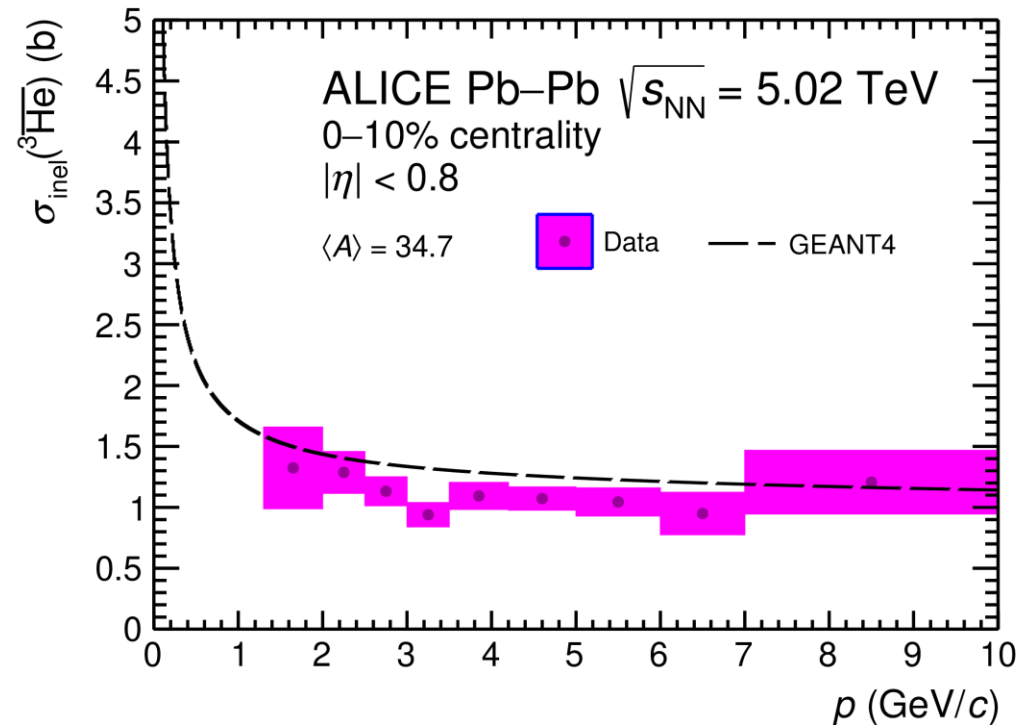


[Nature Phys. 19 \(2023\) 1, 61-71](#)



ALI-PUB-532040

- Novel technique to use detector as an antiparticle absorber
- First experimental measurement of  $\sigma_{\text{inel}}(^3\bar{\text{He}})$



ALI-PUB-532048

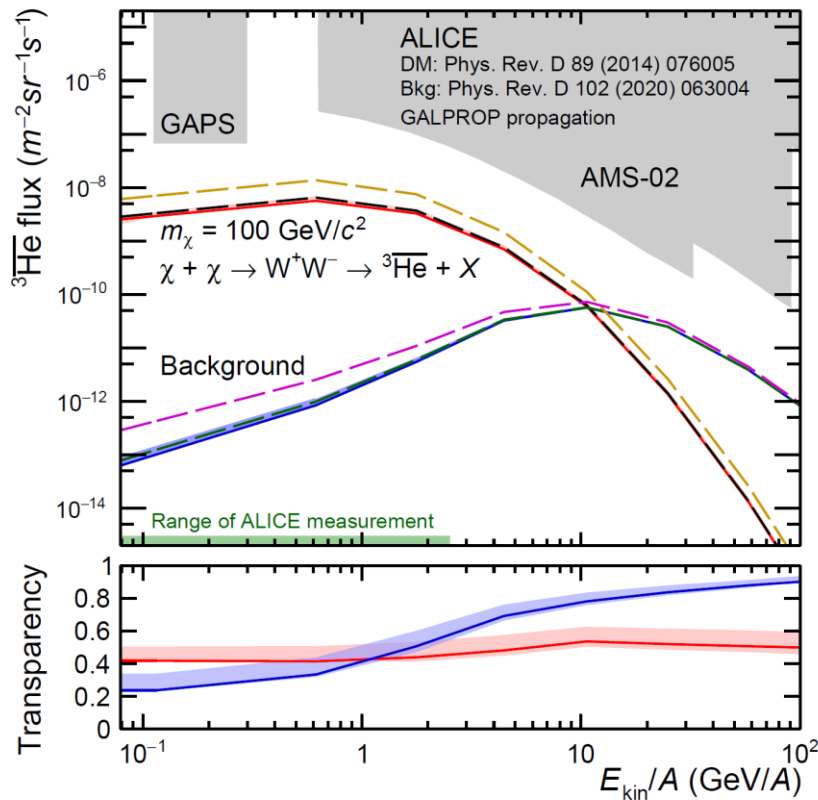




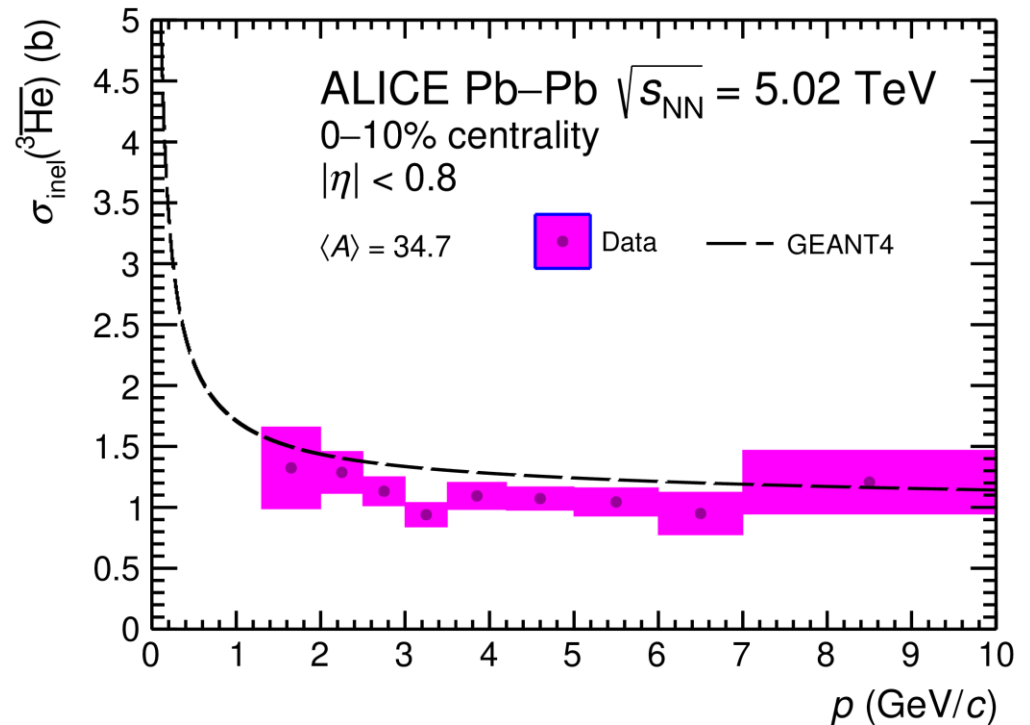
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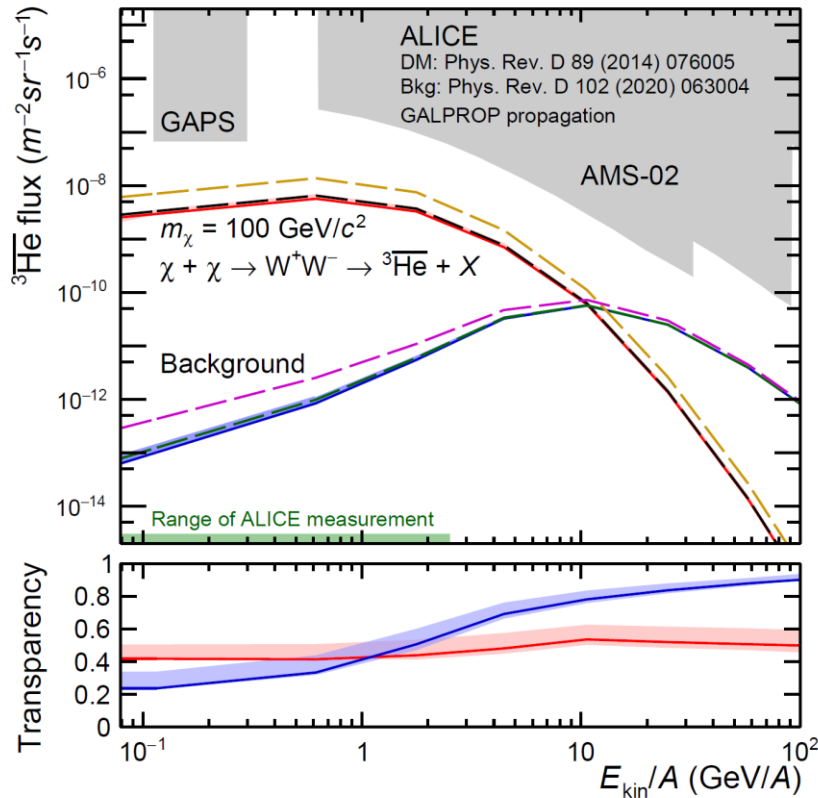
ALI-PUB-532048



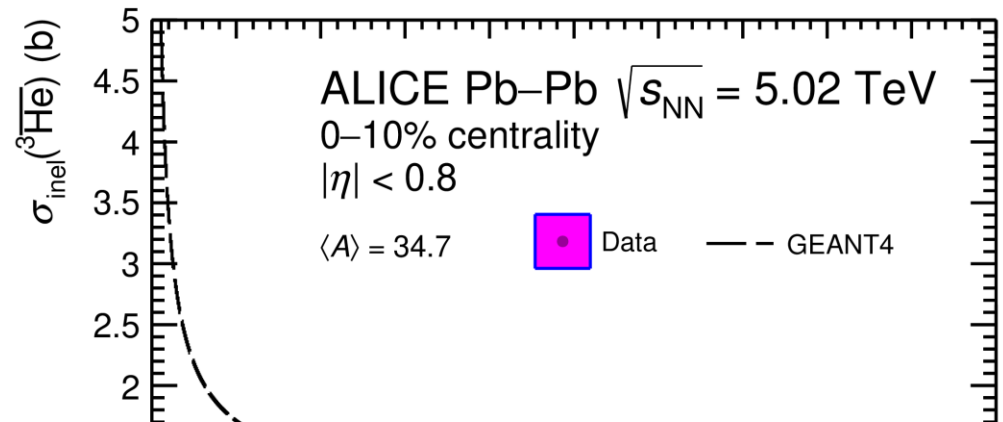
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Nature Phys. 19 (2023) 1, 61-71



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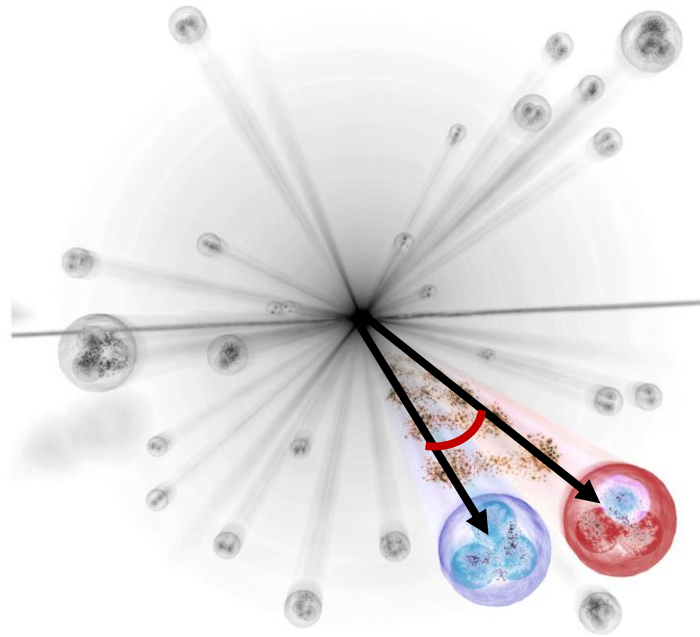


- measured  $\sigma_{\text{inel}}({}^3\overline{\text{He}})$  was employed to carry out the propagation of  ${}^3\overline{\text{He}}$  using GALPROP
  - can be used by for any dark-matter or cosmic-ray interaction modelling
- ${}^3\overline{\text{He}}$  nuclei can travel distances of several kpc in our galaxy without being absorbed
  - excellent probe for new physics that awaits discovery





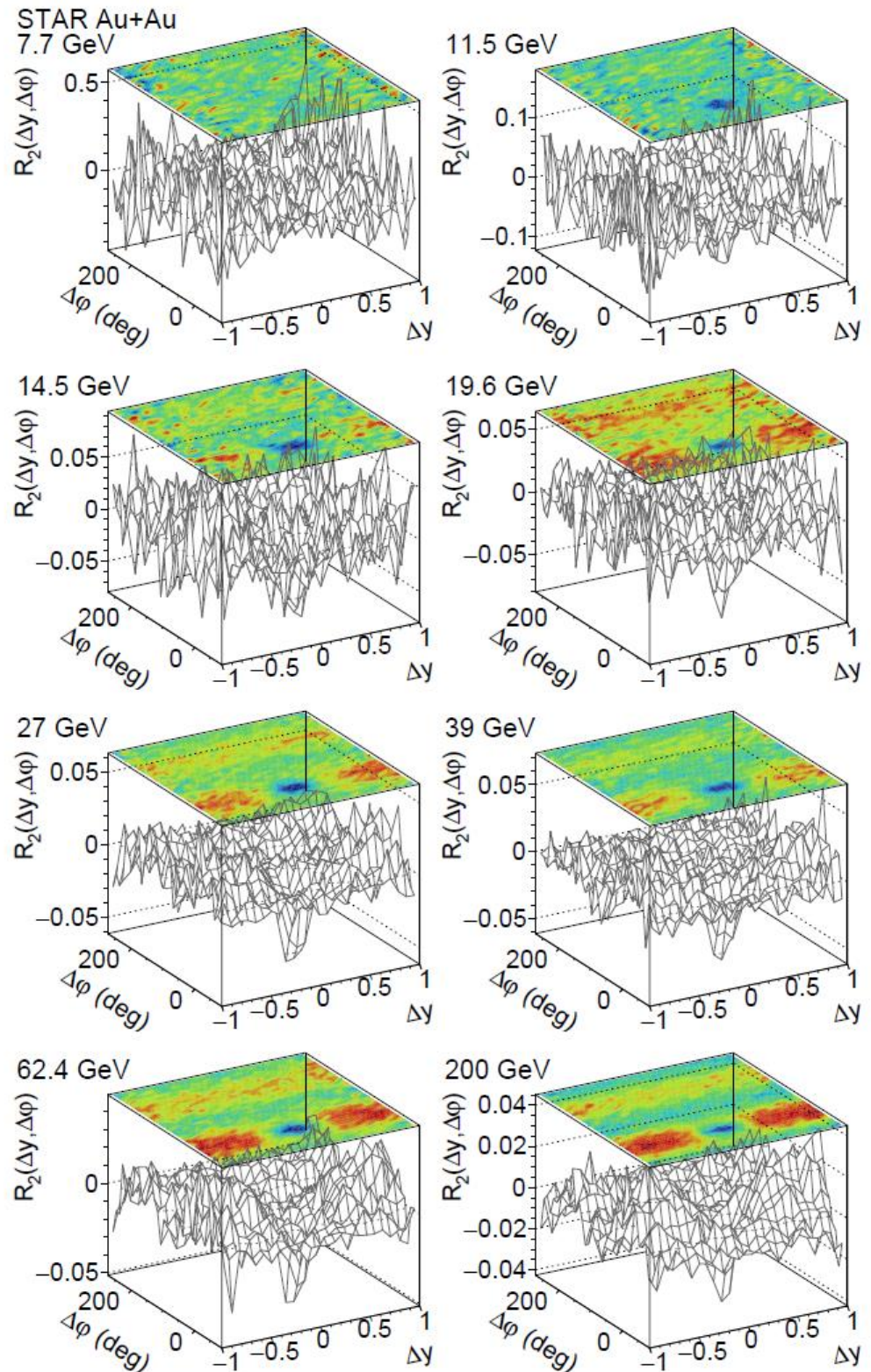
# Annihilation in correlations?



# Annihilation in correlations

- Angular correlations of proton-antiproton pairs in Au-Au at 7.7 – 200 GeV
- Anticorrelation (dip) in unlike-sign proton pairs on the near side in  $\Delta\phi$  and at short range in  $\Delta y$

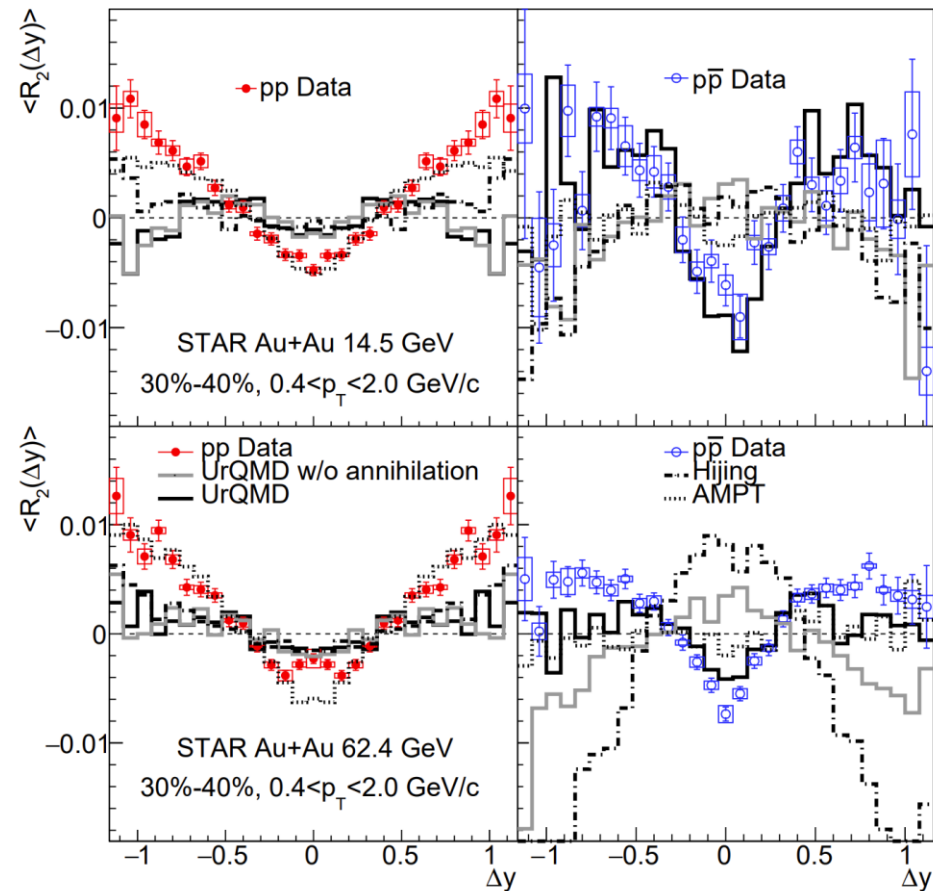
STAR, Phys. Rev. C 101, 014916 (2020)



# Annihilation in correlations

- Correlation functions were compared to several MC models, including UrQMD with and without annihilation
- The pp correlations from UrQMD with annihilation reproduce the data, while w/o it no longer reproduce the data near  $\Delta y \sim 0$
- The anticorrelation in unlike-sign proton pairs on the near side in  $\Delta\phi$  and at short range in  $\Delta y$ : annihilation effect

STAR, Phys. Rev. C 101, 014916 (2020)

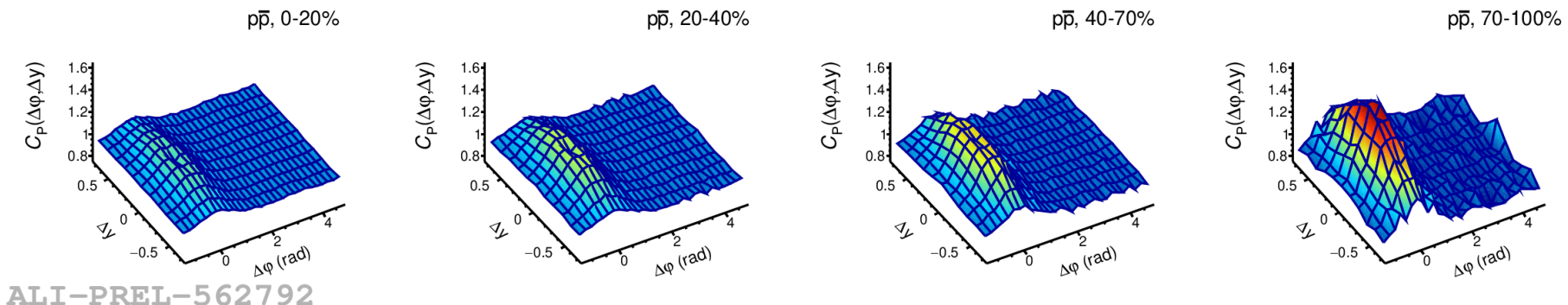


# Not only heavy-ion effect

## Baryon-antibaryon from ALICE in p-Pb

D. Ruggiano Thu 10:30

ALICE Preliminary, p-Pb  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$  TeV



ALI-PREL-562792

- Baryon-antibaryon correlations show dip in the  $(0,0)$  of the angular correlations distributions for all studied multiplicity classes

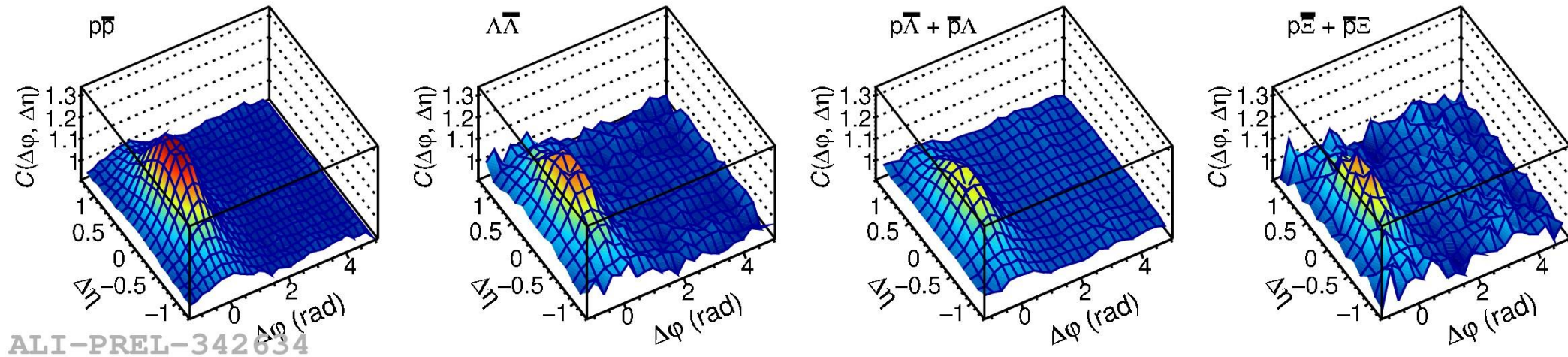




# High-multiplicity pp

## Baryon-antibaryon from ALICE

ALICE Preliminary, High-Mult. (0-0.072% INEL) pp  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV



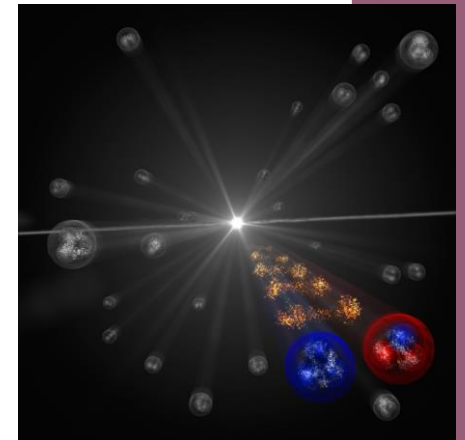
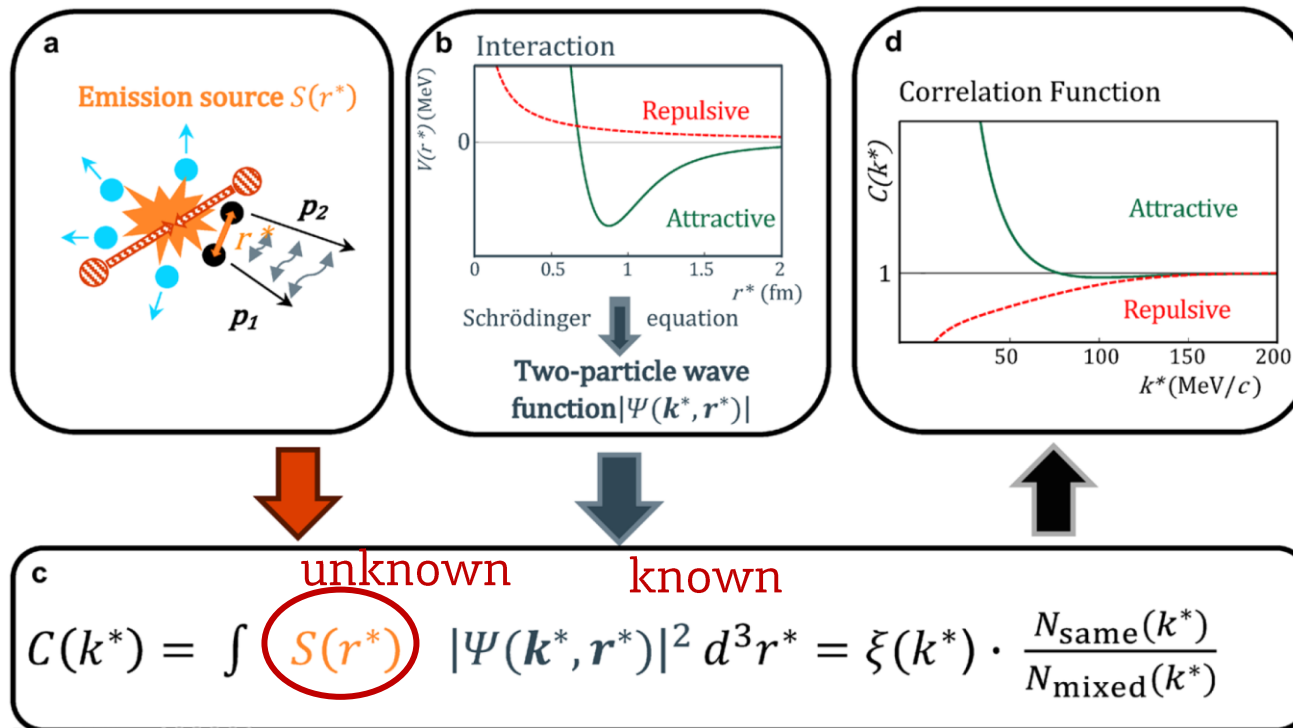
ALI-PREL-342634

- All studied baryon-antibaryon pairs show dip in the  $(0,0)$  of the angular correlations distributions
- Annihilation of baryon-antibaryon pairs is significant for all systems (A-A, p-A, pp)



# Femtoscopic measurement

**Femtoscopic correlation function** carry information about the particle source  $S(r^*)$  from which pairs emerge, as well as the interaction potential via the two-particle wave function  $\psi(k^*, r^*)$ .



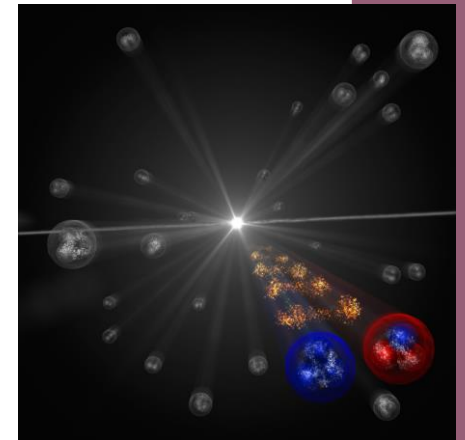
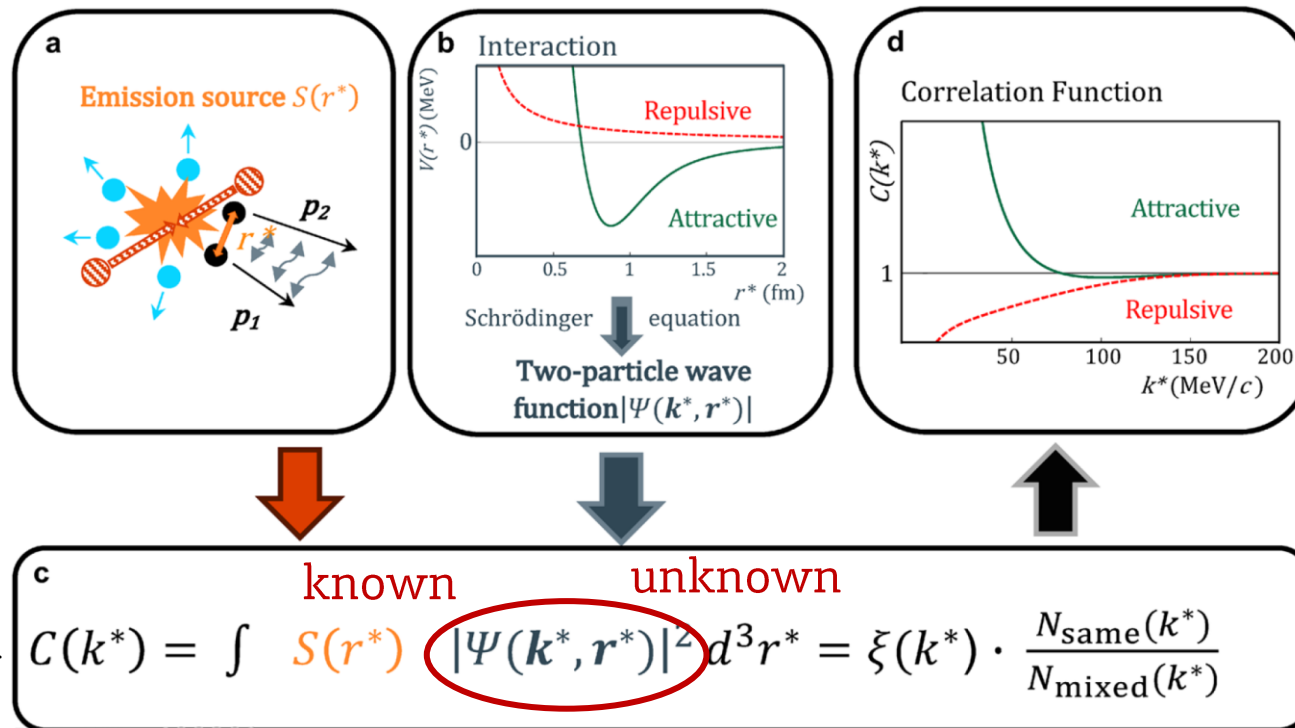
If the interaction is well known we can study the source  $S(r^*)$  by measuring correlation function  $C(k^*)$





# Femtoscscopy measurement

**Femtoscopic correlation function** carry information about the particle source  $S(r^*)$  from which pairs emerge, as well as the interaction potential via the two-particle wave function  $\psi(k^*, r^*)$ .



- We constrain the source  $S(r^*)$  from pairs where interaction is known
- We can use femtoscopy to measure the interactions  $\psi$  between other particle species



# Measurement of the interaction

in heavy-ion collisions

$$C(q) = \int S(r) |\Psi(q, r)|^2 d^4 r \quad q = 2 \cdot k^* = p_1 - p_2$$

measured correlation      emission function (source size/shape)      pair wave function (includes cross section)

pair wave function  $\longrightarrow \Psi = \exp(-ik^* r) + f \frac{\exp(ik^* r)}{r}$  s-wave scattering approximation

scattering amplitude  $\longrightarrow f^{-1}(k^*) = \frac{1}{f_0} + \frac{1}{2} d_0 k^{*2} - ik^*$  effective range approximation

- If only Strong FSI is present:

Lednický equation

$$C(k^*) = 1 + \sum_s \rho_s \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{f^s(k^*)}{R} \right|^2 \left( 1 - \frac{d_0^s}{2\sqrt{\pi} R} \right) + \frac{2 \Re f^s(k^*)}{\sqrt{\pi} R} F_1(2k^* R) - \frac{\Im f^s(k^*)}{R} F_2(2k^* R) \right]$$

Sov. J. Nucl. Phys., 35, 770 (1982)

where  $\rho_s$  are the spin fractions

- The correlation function is characterized by three parameters:

- radius  $R$ , scattering length  $f_0$ , and effective radius  $d_0$
- cross section  $\sigma$  (at low  $k^*$ ) is simply:  $\sigma = 4\pi |f|^2$



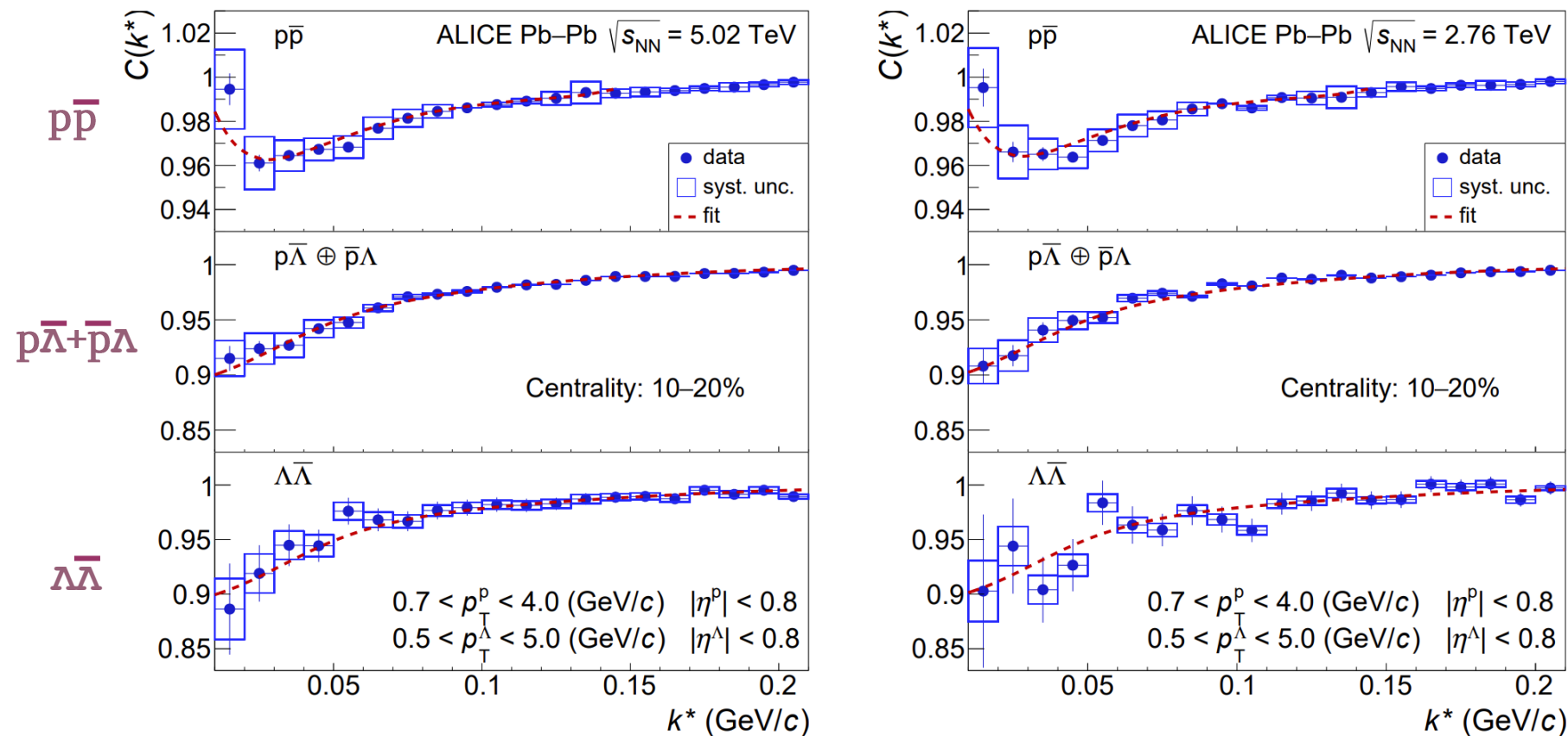
# Baryon-antibaryon correlations

ALICE Collaboration measured baryon-antibaryon in Pb-Pb collisions

- Correlation functions measured for two collision energies
- $\Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$  correlations measured for the first time **PLB 802 (2020) 135223**
- Wide negative correlation (annihilation) seen for all pairs

Pb-Pb @ 5.02 TeV

Pb-Pb @ 2.76 TeV



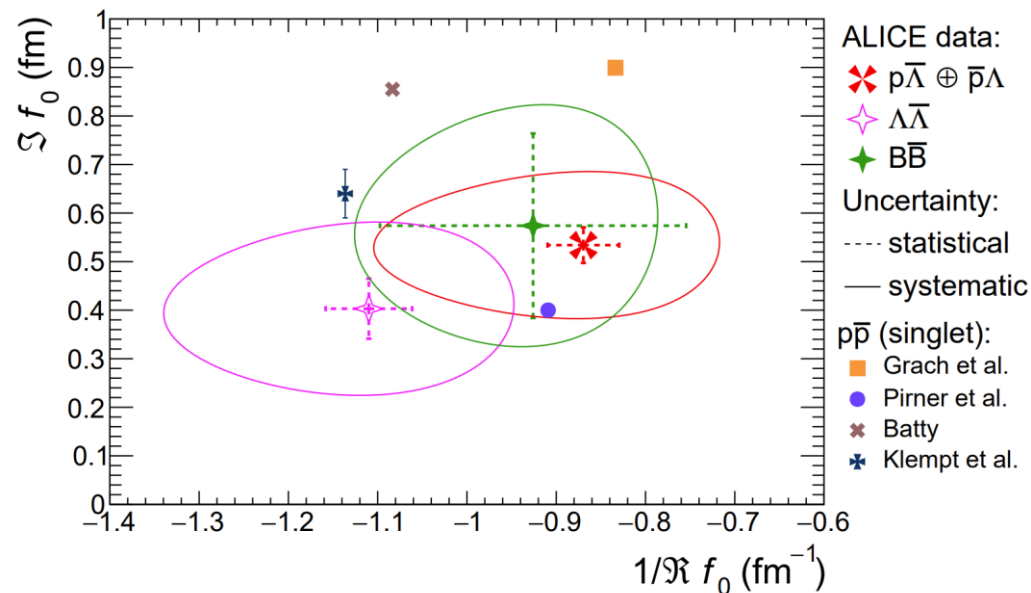
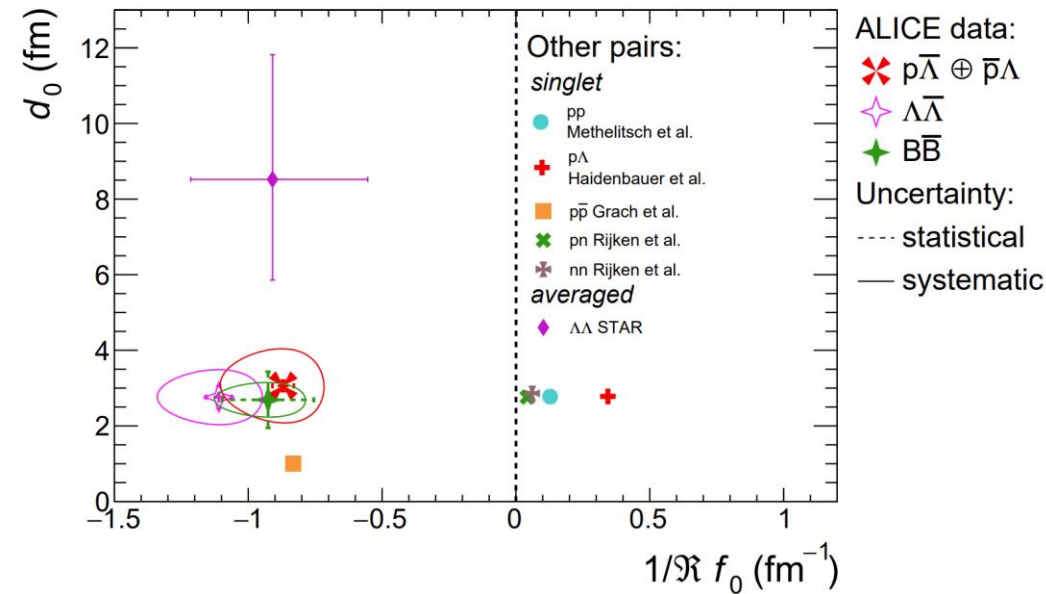
See also: STAR Collab. Phys. Rev. C, vol. 74, p. 064906, 2006.

A. Kiesel, H. Zbroszczyk, M. Szymański, Phys. Rev. C, vol. 89, p. 054916, May 2014.



# Baryon-antibaryon correlations

PLB 802 (2020) 135223



## Conclusions from fitting:

- Interaction parameters are measurable
- Scattering parameters for all baryon-antibaryon pairs are similar to each other
- Significant positive imaginary part of scattering length – presence of a non-elastic channel – annihilation
- We observe a negative real part of scattering length → repulsive strong interaction or creation of a bound state (existence of baryon-antibaryon bound states?)

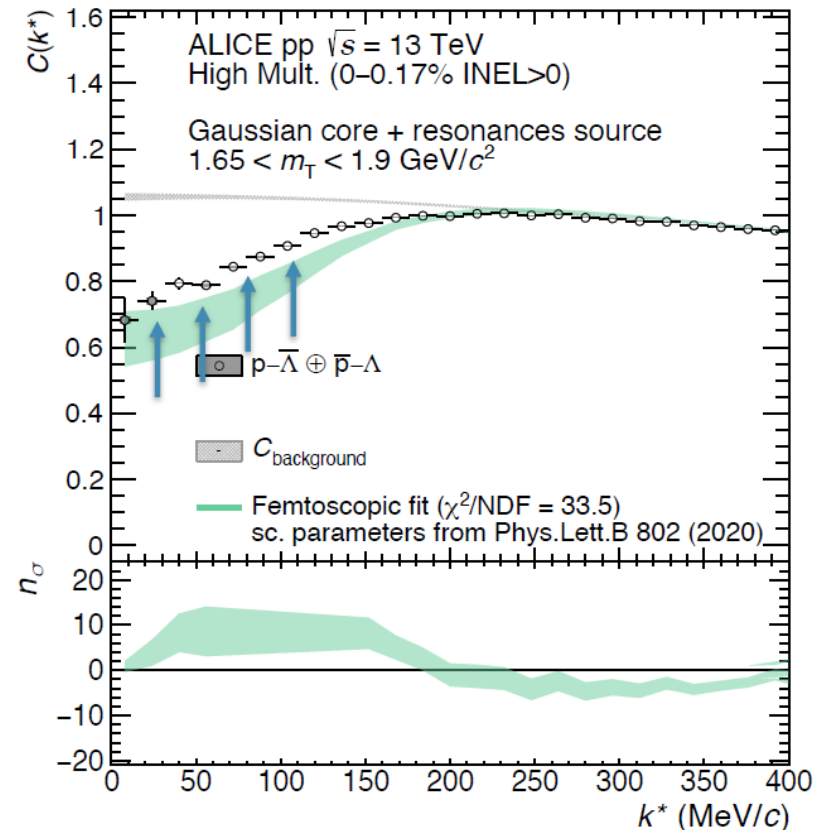
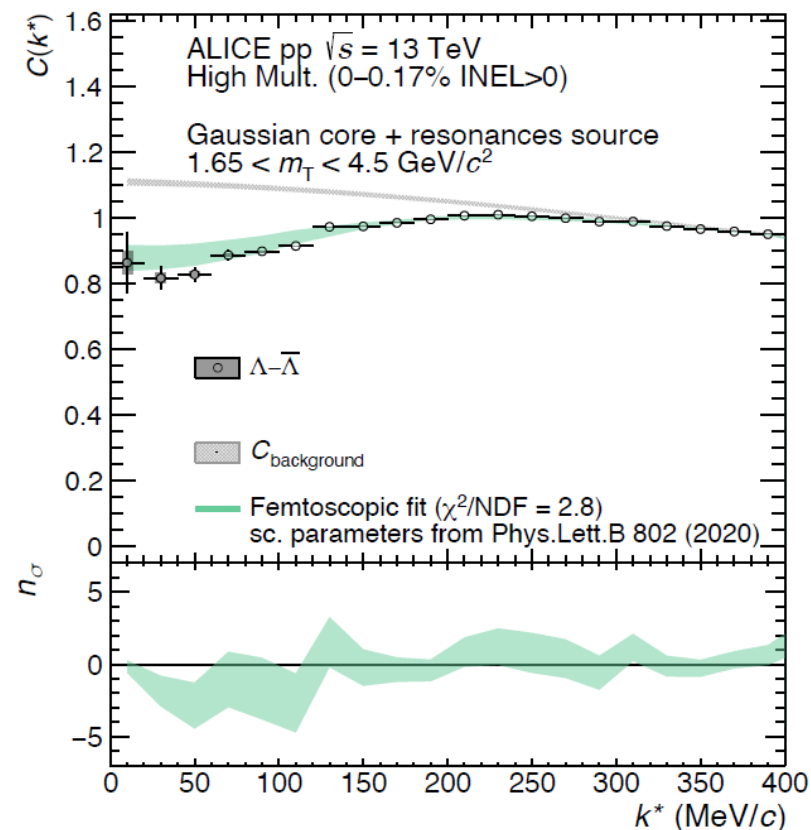


# Baryon-antibaryon in pp

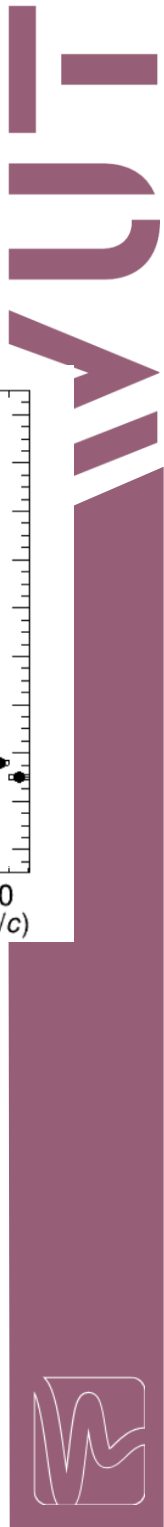
The analysis was repeated by ALICE in high-multiplicity pp collisions, and compared assuming the scattering parameters obtained in Pb-Pb:

- nice agreement with  $\Lambda-\bar{\Lambda}$  data
- underestimate of  $p-\bar{\Lambda}$  data

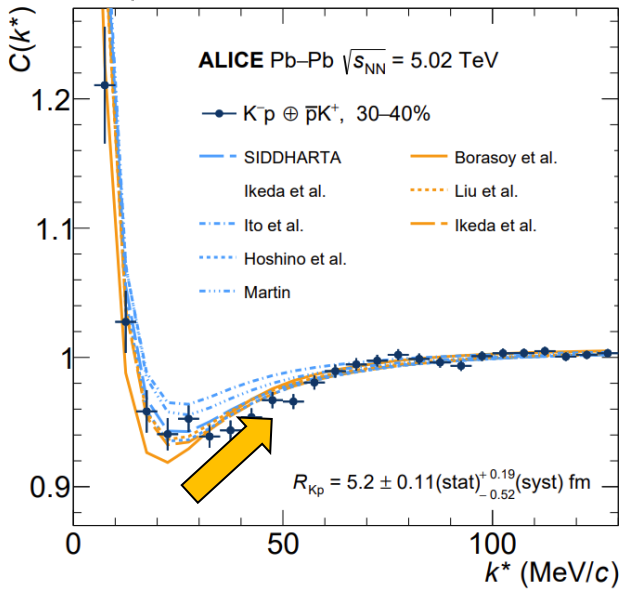
PLB 829 (2022) 137060



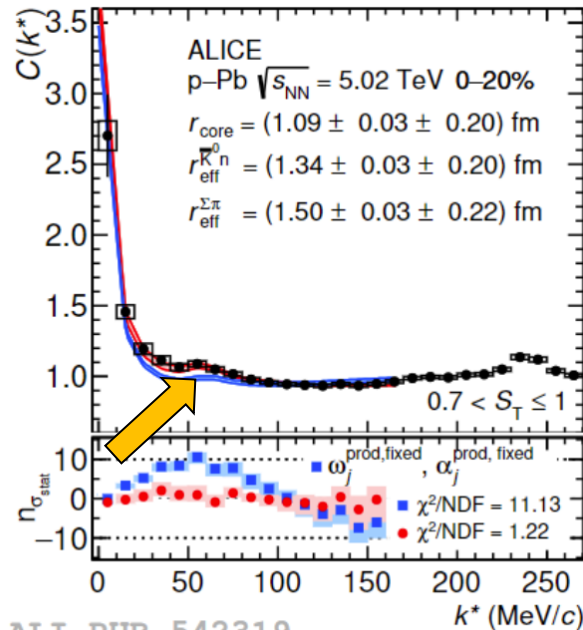
# Appearance of coupled channels



Phys. Lett. B 822 (2021) 136708

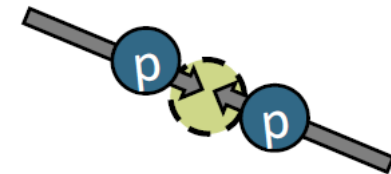
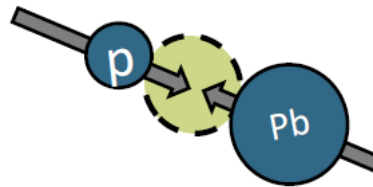
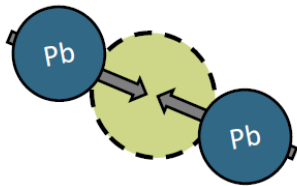
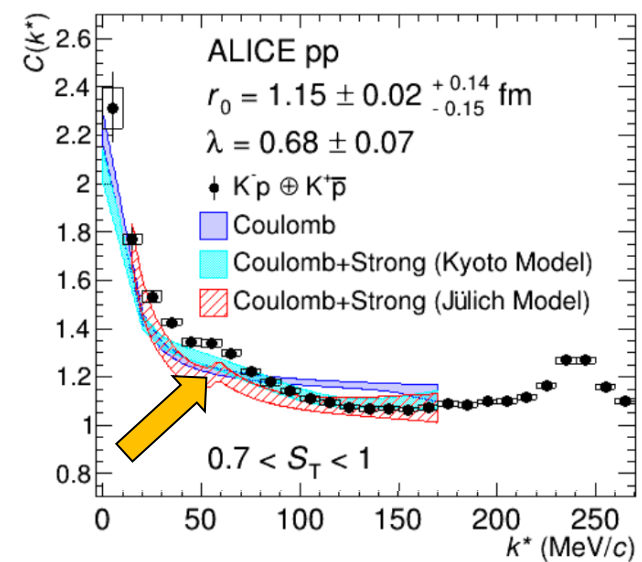


Eur. Phys. J. C 83 (2023) 340



ALI-PUB-542319

PRL 124, 092301 (2020)



- Appearance of coupled channel in  $K^-p$  correlation function at  $k^* \sim 60$  MeV/c as the source decreases
- Pb-Pb data well described by Lednicky single channel





# Annihilation channels

$$C_i(k^*) = \int d^3r^* S(r^*) |\psi_i(k^*, r^*)|^2 + \sum_{j \neq i}^N \omega_j \int d^3r^* S(r^*) |\psi_j(k^*, r^*)|^2$$

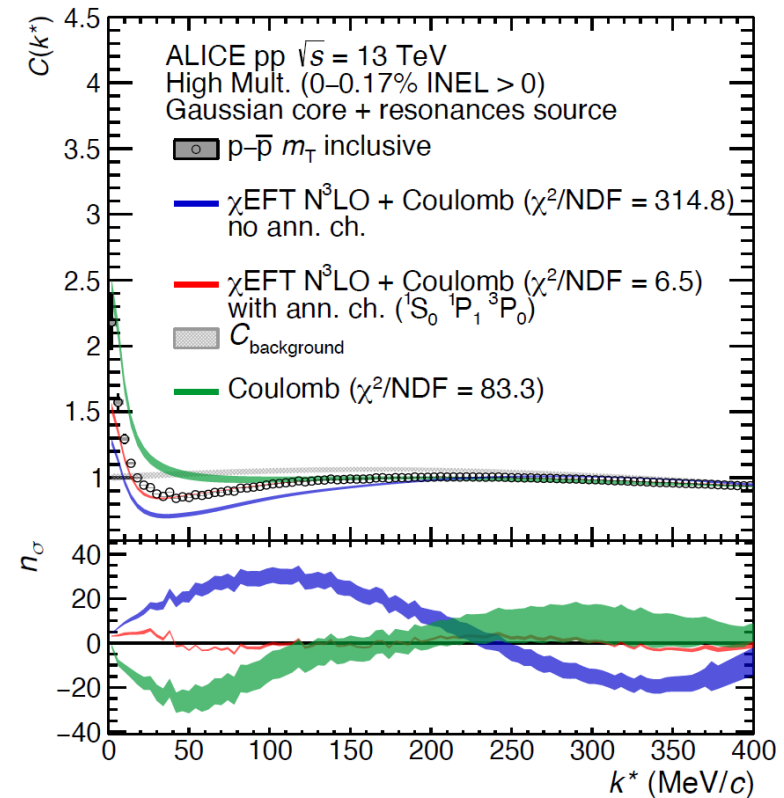
Correlation functions fitted with:  
 $\chi$ EFT calculations with no explicit CC terms  
do not reproduce the data at low  $k^*$

Approximate inclusion of annihilation channels ( $X \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ ):

- using the Migdal-Watson approximation
- inclusion results in better agreement with the data

*J. Haidenbauer et al. JHEP 1707 (2017)*  
*D. Mihailov et al. Eur.Phys.J.C 78 (2018) 5, 394*  
*Haidenbauer et al., PRD 92 (2015) 5, 054032*

PLB 829 (2022) 137060



# Annihilation channels

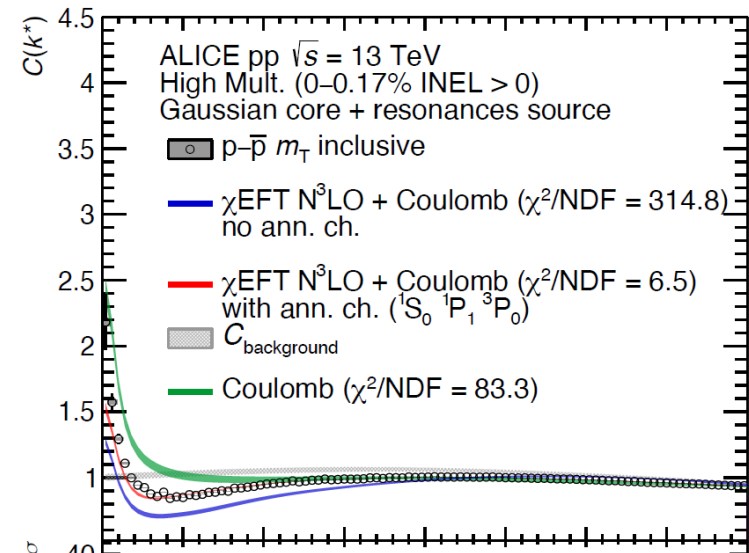
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PLB 829 (2022) 137060



## Conclusions:

- Large presence of annihilation channels feeding to  $p\bar{p}$
- Large contribution of these channels is observed also for  $p\bar{\Lambda}$ , while a negligible amount is present for  $\Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$
- The correlation function shows a large sensitivity to inelastic contributions as the source size decreases
  - Measurements of the same pair in different colliding systems can provide additional constraints on the elastic and inelastic interaction

# Summary

- The nature of the strong interaction between particles is a fundamental problem in various areas of nuclear physics and astrophysics
  - detailed knowledge of the effective interaction among hadrons is still an open issue
- Tools to address:
  - Scattering experiments, hadronic atoms
  - Probing annihilation cross-sections with detector as a target
  - Annihilation in angular correlations
  - Femtoscopy as a tool to study matter-antimatter interactions

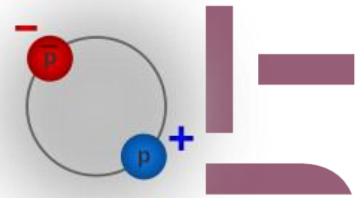




THANK YOU!

Backup

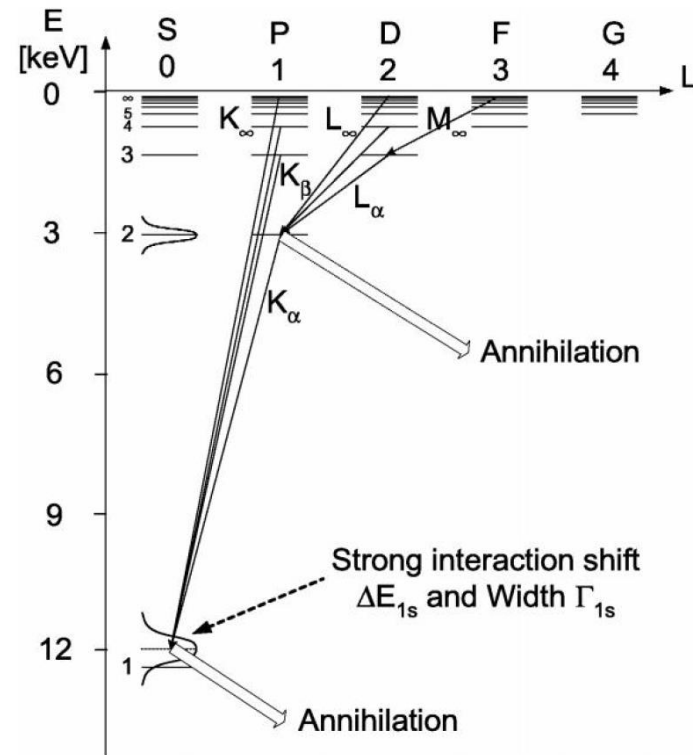
# Scattering experiments & hadronic atoms



So far, the most precise data on antinucleon-nucleon interaction come from the Low Energy Antiproton Ring (LEAR) of CERN scattering experiments.

In this domain protonium (or antiprotonic hydrogen, denoted by the  $Pn$  symbol) is of a significant importance. It is a Coulomb bound state. One of the remaining open questions is whether protonium in the ground state can be considered

Its properties can be studied by measuring the X-ray emission spectrum from the excited states to the ground state.

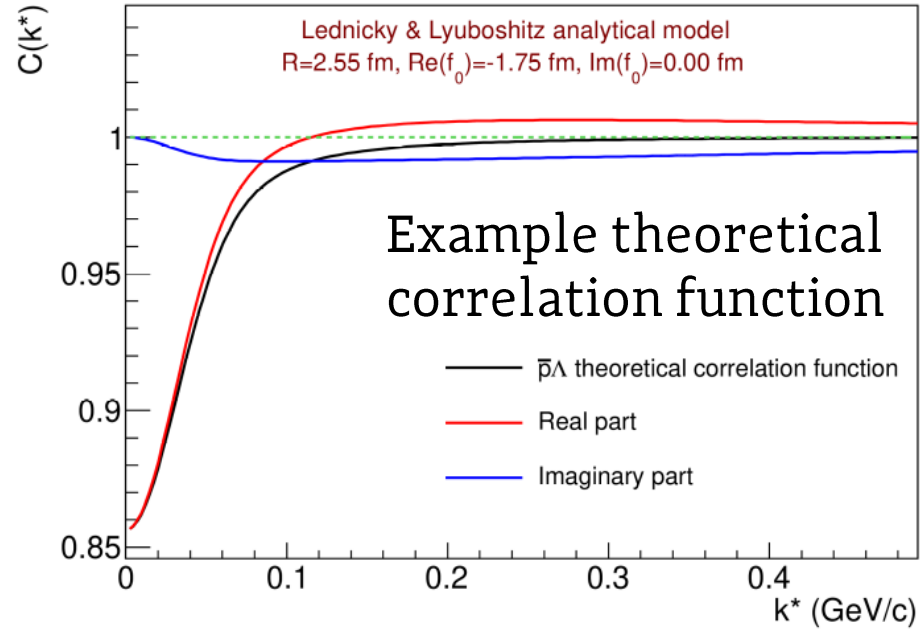
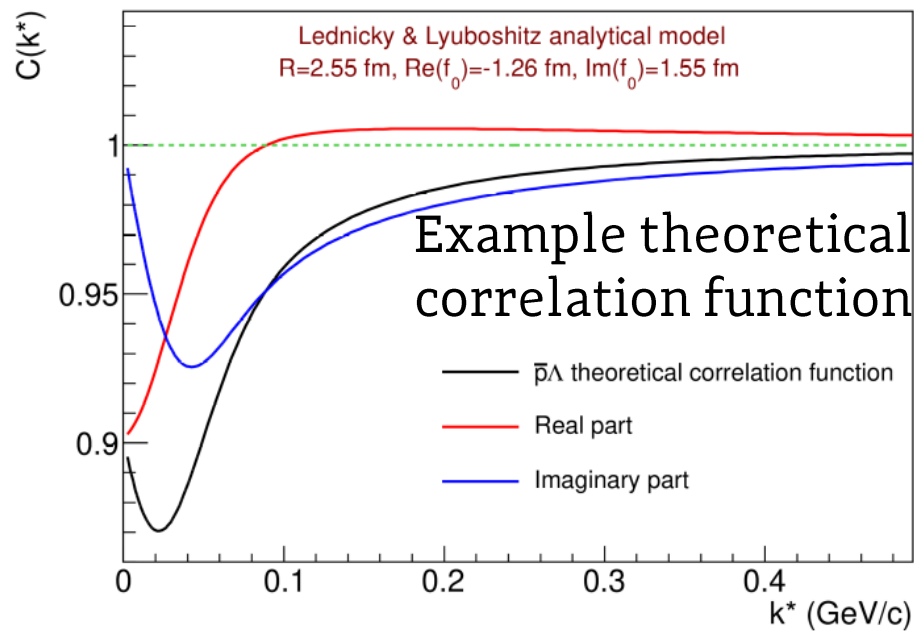
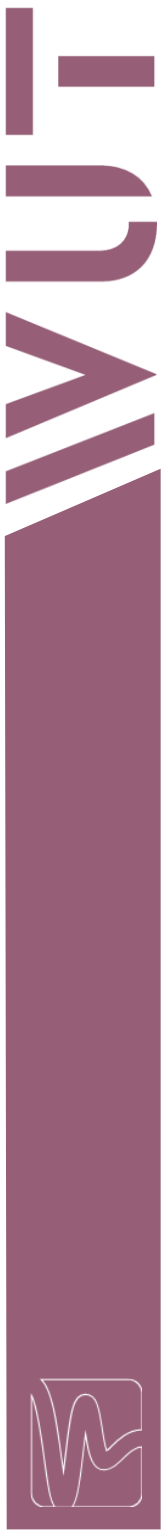


AD experiments can measure protonium properties in more detail. Included in the measurement plans of AEGIS (now in the process of studying positronium, see [<https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.08760>])





# Baryon-antibaryon correlations



- Real and imaginary part of scattering length have **distinctively different contributions**
- Contribution from  $\text{Re}(f_0)$  is either positive or negative but **very narrow** (up to 100 MeV/c) in  $k^*$
- The  $\text{Im}(f_0)$  accounts for baryon-antibaryon annihilation and produces a **wide** (hundreds of MeV) **negative correlation**



# Antimatter

- In 1928, British physicist Paul Dirac wrote down an equation that combined quantum theory and special relativity to describe the behavior of an electron moving at a relativistic speed.
- Discovery of the positron by Anderson in 1932 while studying showers of cosmic particles in a cloud chamber.
- The Bevatron (LBNL) discovers the antiproton in 1955.
- Antiproton cross-sections measured in 1955 showed that the annihilation part is much larger than the elastic one for low antiproton momenta.

