



Measurements of ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He Production in $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ = 3-3.5 GeV Au+Au Collisions at RHIC

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Outline

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- 3. Physics Results of Hypernuclei (${}^{4}_{\Lambda}H$ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}He$) from 3-3.5 GeV
 - Au+Au Collisions
 - 1) Yields
 - 2) Particle Ratio
 - 3) Transverse momentum distribution
- 4. Summary and Outlook

Motivation





[1] A. Andronic et al., Phys. Lett. <u>B697</u>, 203(2011)
[2] J. Steinheimer et al., Phys. Lett. <u>B714</u>, 85(2012)

- 1. Hyper-nucleus provides opportunity for studying hyperon-nucleon (YN) interactions. Important for understanding inner structure of compact stars
- 2. Measurements of ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He in heavy-ion collisions
 - 1) A=4 mirror hypernuclei $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ \Lambda H(0^+) \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ \Lambda He(0^+) \end{pmatrix}$
 - 2) Existence of the spin-1 excited states $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ \Lambda H(1^+) \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ \Lambda He(1^+) \end{pmatrix}$
 - 3) Provide new insight on hypernuclei production mechanisms and EoS

STAR Detector and BES-II





- BES-II (2018-2021)
 - High statistics Au+Au collisions $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3-54.4$ GeV (10 × statistics compare to BES-I)
 - Fixed target (FXT) collisions extend energy reach down to $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3 \text{ GeV}$
 - Detector upgrades: iTPC, eTOF, EPD

Particle Identification and Topological Selection



- 1. Good particle identification capability based on TPC and TOF;
- 2. The hyper-nuclei reconstruction with KFParticle package based on the Kalman filter method providing a full set of the particle parameters together with their uncertainties;
- 3. Decay topology tremendously helped on particle identification and background suppression

XY. Ju et al. Nucl.Sci.Tech. 34 (2023) 10, 158

Hyper-Nuclei Reconstruction and Acceptance



- KFParticle package used for ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He reconstructions;
- Uncorrelated combinatorial backgrounds: Rotation method (rotate ⁴He for ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H and ³He for ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He);
- Particle rapidity coverage from beam rapidity to mid-rapidity

$^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H p_T Spectra



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$^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He p_T Spectra



- ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He spectra in 0-40% centrality at 3.0, 3.2 and 3.5 GeV;
 - Extrapolate to $p_T = 0$ GeV to obtain dN/dy (Blast Wave function);

$$\frac{1}{2\pi p_T} \frac{d^2 N}{dp_T dy} \propto \int_0^R r dr m_T I_0\left(\frac{p_T \sinh \rho}{T}\right) K_1\left(\frac{m_T \cosh \rho}{T}\right)$$

$^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H and $^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He dN/dy



Data:

- Different trends in the ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H rapidity distribution in central (0-10%) and mid-central (10-40%) collisions;
 - Likely related to the change in the collision geometry, such as spectators playing a larger role in non-central collisions;
- The ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He yields at the mid-rapidity are comparable to that of ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H in 0-40%;

JAM + Coalescence:

• Reproduce the rapidity dependence of dN/dy for ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H qualitatively;

Yasushi Nara et al, PhysRevC.106.044902 (2022) J. Steinheimer et al, Phys.Lett.B. 714. 85-91 (2012)

⁴_{Λ} H and ⁴_{Λ} He |y|<0.5 Yields/(2J+1) vs Energy



Yasushi Nara et al, PhysRevC.106.044902 (2022) J. Steinheimer et al, Phys.Lett.B. 714. 85-91 (2012) Susanne Gläßel et al, Phys. Rev. C 105, 014908 (2022)

Data:

- Yields of ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He are comparable at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3-3.5$ GeV within uncertainties;
- Systematic deviation from exponential dependence of yields/(2J+1) vs mass;
 - Possible explaination: feed-down from excited ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}H^{*}(1^{+})$ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}He^{*}(1^{+})$;

JAM+Coalescence:

- Λ is weighted to the data;
- Different coalescence parameters for ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H(${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He) are needed to describe the data ((Δ R, Δ P): (4.8 fm, 0.24 GeV/c) for ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}$ H and (4.8 fm, 0.38 GeV/c) for ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H(${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He));
 - Could be reflective of the tighter binding of ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He;

PHQMD:

• Describes Λ , ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He, but overestimates ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}$ H;

$^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H and $^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He Yield Ratio

Yasushi Nara et al, PhysRevC.106.044902 (2022) J. Steinheimer et al, Phys.Lett.B. 714. 85-91 (2012)

Thermal-Fist: T. Reichert et al, PRC 107, 014912 (2023)



- The ratio of ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H/ Λ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He/ Λ vs energy have similar trend from 3.0 GeV to 3.5 GeV
 - Well described with JAM + Coalescence calculations, overestimated by Thermal-Fist;
- The ratio of ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He/ ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H is consistent with thermal predictions, and JAM+coalescence calculations;

Mean Transverse Momentum (p_T)



Data:

- The (p_T) of ⁴_AH shows a monotonically decreasing trend from middle to target rapidity;
- The $\langle p_T \rangle$ of ${}^4_{\Lambda}$ He is similar to ${}^4_{\Lambda}$ H;

JAM+Coalescence:

• Could describe the rapidity dependence of $\langle p_T \rangle$ for ${}^4_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^4_{\Lambda}$ He qualitatively;

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(p_T**)/A vs Energy**



Data:

- From 3.0 GeV to 3.5 GeV, hint of increasing trend in (p_T)/A vs energy for Λ;
- The $\langle p_T \rangle$ /A of ${}^4_{\Lambda}$ He, ${}^4_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^3_{\Lambda}$ H are similar;
 - Follow the mass hierarchy;

JAM+Coalescence:

- Qualitatively reproduces the energy dependence;
- Overestimates $\langle p_T \rangle$ of ${}^3_{\Lambda}H$;

10.1103/PhysRevC.105.014911 (2022) 10.1016/j.physletb.2012.06.069 (2012)

Mean p_T Slope vs Energy

Yasushi Nara et al, PhysRevC.106.044902 (2022) J. Steinheimer et al, Phys.Lett.B. 714. 85-91 (2012) Susanne Gläßel et al, Phys. Rev. C 105, 014908 (2022)



- Data: $\langle p_T \rangle$ vs mass follow the linear mass scaling up to 3.5 GeV:
 - Consistent with coalescence as the dominant process for hypernuclei production at mid-rapidity;
- JAM + Coalescence and PHQMD: reproduce the mass dependence of $\langle p_T \rangle$ qualitatively;

Summary and Outlook

Summary:

- 1. Measurement of ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He dN/dy in Au+Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3-3.5$ GeV
 - 1) Rapidity and centrality dependences of ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H production are qualitatively reproduced by JAM+Coalescence;
 - 2) The yields of $(\Lambda, {}^{3}_{\Lambda}H, {}^{4}_{\Lambda}H, {}^{4}_{\Lambda}He)$ do not follow an exponential scaling with mass when divided by spin degeneracy, suggesting significant contributions from feed-down of excited A=4 hypernuclei;
 - 3) The ratio of ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H/ Λ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He/ Λ are well described with JAM + Coalescence calculations, overestimated by Thermal-Fist;
- 2. Measurement of ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$ He mean transverse momentum $\langle p_{T} \rangle$
 - 1) A trend of monotonically decreasing $\langle p_T \rangle$ of ${}^4_{\Lambda}$ H observed from middle to target rapidity in 0-10%, 10-40% and 0-40%;
 - Linear mass scaling observed in (p_T) vs mass up to 3.5 GeV, well described by JAM + Coalescence afterburner and PHQMD calculations qualitatively;
 - Consistent with coalescence as the dominant process for hypernuclei production at mid-rapidity;

Outlook:

1. Heavier hypernuclei (e.g. ${}_{\Lambda}^{5}$ He, ${}_{\Lambda}^{6}$ H) may be accessible using Run 21 3 GeV data which allows a comprehensive study of the mass dependence of hypernuclei production;

Thank you very much for your attention!



Particle Acceptance

Particle rapidity coverage from beam rapidity to mid-rapidity



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