Strangeness fluctuations as hadronization dynamics tests

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## Our understanding of the heavy ion collision: Theorist view



# Our understanding of heavy ion collisions:Experimentalist view



## Our understanding of heavy ion collisions: A problem



#### Briefly

**How long** is hadronization? The hadron gas phase?

What is the hadron gas's phase effect on signals of previeus dynamics? Early contribution of viscosity (quenching of flow gradients) as important as late one ( $\Pi_{\mu\nu}$  in Cooper-Frye formula as important as anisotropy of flow, so can not ignore late hadronic stage even for  $v_2$ 

**Is there** a way to minimize them?



The "traditional view": lengthy hadronization, substantial hadron gas phase, changing momentum spectra and some chemical abundances before freezeout.



Why? Short-lived resonances do not fit! Need hadronic phase to bring it out of equilibrium

WHy? "Blast-wave" thermal freezeout temperature is lower than chemical freezeout temperature





Why?  $\rho \rightarrow \mu \mu$  broadened, seems to be related to mass shift in a hadron gas

### Or is it?



"broadening" actually looks more like a continuum





Baran, Florkowski and Broniowski... Chemical and thermal freezeout can be close if resonances properly included



Or is it? Coalescence seems to imply hadronization period brief and straight-forward



Or is it? HBT  $R_o/R_s$  could imply short decoupling time! (Baran et al s model fits well, "dynamical hydrodynamics" with low freezeout temperature typically fails)



Or is it? Worse fit of resonances wrt stable particles <u>both</u> in big and small systems!

What we need: An observable fixed at "chemical freezeout", and another fixed at thermal freezeout to compare!

**Fluctuations of ratios** are fixed at chemical freezeout

**Resonances** are fixed at thermal freezeout

**but both** are related to each other in a quantitative <u>calculable</u> way

Abundance of resonances

**Detected** by invariant mass reconstruction

**Decay hadronically**, so decay produces reinteract

# Typical reinteraction capable of destroying resonances and creating new ones



#### Molecular dynamics: In the long run destruction dominates



- If hadronic lifetime short, destruction more likely.
- If lifetime long , re-equilibration temperature is lower



**Resonances correlate** their decay products

**Correlation** fixed at chemical freeze-out

Hadronic elastic reinteractions might <u>destroy</u> observable resonance signal, but will <u>maintain</u> multiplicity correlation



So system with resonances@chemical freeze-out will have lower fluctuation than expectation without resonances, <u>even if</u> resonances <u>undetectable</u>

# What is a "good" fluctuation observable...

#### Volume fluctuations

These are difficoult to undestand in a model-independent way. Geometrical fluctuations provide initial stage, but not clear how they evolve (in viscous hydrodynamics this evolution can be non-trivial). So we eliminate them by considering fluctuations of ratios,  $\sigma_{N_1/N_2}^2$ . in the thermodynamic limit, volume fluctuation cancels out event-by-event

To see this, implement the thermodynamic limit at the level of particle distributions

$$F_1(N_1) = \int g(V) f_1\left(\frac{N_1}{V}\right) dV$$

$$F_2(N_2) = \int g(V) f_2\left(\frac{N_2}{V}\right) dV$$

where  $f_{1,2}$  depend on thermodynamics and g(V) on geometry, dynamics .

Now, the fluctuation of a ratio is

$$F\left(R = \frac{N_1}{N_2}\right) = \int F_1(N_1)F_2(N_2)\delta\left(\frac{N_1}{N_2} - R\right) = \int F_1(RN_2)F_2(N_2)dN_2$$

Expanding, we get

$$F(R) = \int \int \int g(V_1)g(V_2)f_1\left(\frac{RN_2}{V_1}\right) f_2\left(\frac{N_2}{V_2}\right) \underbrace{\delta(V_1 - V_2)}_{V_1 = V_2 = V \text{ for SHM}} dV_1 dV_2 dN_2$$

folding

$$F(R) = \int g(V)^2 dV \int f_1\left(\frac{RN_2}{V}\right) f_2\left(\frac{N_2}{V}\right) dN_2$$

and substituting  $\alpha = V N_2$  ...

$$F(R) = \underbrace{\int g(V)^2 V dV}_{Independent of R} \int f_1(\alpha R) f_2(\alpha) d\alpha$$

hence,  $\mathcal{N} = \int g(V)^2 V dV$  appears equally in <u>all</u> cumulants, and quantities such as  $\sigma_{N_1/N_2}$  are strictly independent of it.

Physically , scaling  $\sigma_{N_1/N_2}$  is a good signature of statistical hadronization in the thermodynamic limit!

$$\sigma_{N_1/N_2} \simeq \frac{\left\langle (\Delta N_1)^2 \right\rangle}{\left\langle N_1 \right\rangle^2} + \frac{\left\langle (\Delta N_2)^2 \right\rangle}{\left\langle N_2 \right\rangle^2} - \frac{2 \left\langle \Delta N_1 \Delta N_2 \right\rangle}{\left\langle N_1 \right\rangle \left\langle N_2 \right\rangle}$$

The fluctuation term  $\sim \langle N \rangle^{-1}$  if  $\langle N_{1,2} \rangle \sim$  Poissonian

**The correlation term**  $\sim \langle N^*_{\rightarrow N_1 N_2} \rangle$  Grand-canonically

A test for the statistical model applying within a single event is: To what extent are multiplicity and fluctuations described by the same parameters?

## A different problem... Acceptance effects

- Particle (mis)identification
- Limited rapidity and momentum resolution
- Cuts (necessary to eliminate jets)

In fluctuations, these can be a lot more non-trivial than in averages. But should also appear in mixed events!

 $\sigma_{mix}$ : What is it? (Pruneau, Gavin, Voloshin, PRC66:044904, 2002)

What it <u>should be</u>: A mixed event observable which should have <u>no</u> correlations <u>if</u> obtained from a sample of data from a perfect detector.

Why?We make the (good, not perfect) assumption that

$$\sigma^2 = \sigma^2_{physics} + \sigma^2_{acceptance}$$

$$\sigma_{mix}^{2} = \underbrace{\sigma_{trivial}^{2}}_{=\langle N_{1}\rangle^{-1} + \langle N_{2}\rangle^{-1}} + \sigma_{acceptance}^{2}$$

Therefore, concentrating on

$$\sigma_{dyn}^2 = \sigma^2 - \sigma_{mix}^2$$

should eliminate acceptance effects.

#### Problem I:

In a narrow acceptance detector, resonance kinematics introduces a correlation into  $\sigma^2_{acceptance}$  absent from  $\sigma^2_{mix}$ .

Partial solution: Vary acceptance <u>until</u> large enough that  $N_1 \sigma_{N_1/N_2}^{dyn}$  constant

Δ



#### Problem II



<u>Residual</u> correlations left in  $\sigma_{mix}$ : If  $\langle N_{ch} \rangle$  in mixed events experimentally determined, multiplicity correlations of real events remain in  $\sigma_{mix}$  (An event with greater multiplicity also has more  $N_1$  and  $N_2$ . Good scaling of  $\sigma_{K/\pi}$  probably means effect is <u>small</u>, but it is <u>there</u> (M.Hauer,2010)

Possible Solution : Normalize mixed events by separate averages of  $\langle N_{mixed} \rangle = \langle \pi \rangle + \langle K \rangle + \langle p \rangle$ , to ensure no multiplicity correlations.



- Resonances reconstructed by invariant mass reconstruction carry information of all evolution up to last phase.
- Multiplicity fluctuations carry information of chemical freezeout phase

#### Experimentally, resonances do not fit the simplest thermal model



Different chemistry?  $T \sim 140 + \gamma_q > 1$  Rescattering? all of the above?

In hadronic transport, rescattering usually dominates over regeneration (easy to understand, expected to be true up to detailed balance limit, since gas is cooling), reduces  $K^*/K^-$  by a factor of  $\sim 2$ 



NBModels exist where such non-equilibrium hadronic phase expected to be suppressed. Eg, if freeze-out proceeds by bulk viscosity driven "cavitation" (GT+I.Mishustin+B.Tomasik,K.Rajagopal+N.Tripuraneni)

Two ways of definining  $K^*$  abundance

From fluctuations  $\sigma_{dyn}^{K^+/\pi^-}$  correlated by  $K^*$ ,  $\sigma_{dyn}^{K^-/\pi^-}$  not correlated by anything! Therefore,

$$\underbrace{\frac{3}{4}}_{CG \ coefficient} \pi^{-} \left( \sigma_{dyn}^{K^{+}/\pi^{-}} - \sigma_{dyn}^{K^{-}/\pi^{-}} \right) \simeq 0.95 \frac{3}{8} \frac{dN_{ch}}{dy} \left( \sigma_{dyn}^{K^{+}/\pi^{-}} - \sigma_{dyn}^{K^{-}/\pi^{-}} \right)$$

sensitive to  $K^*/K^-$  at chemical freeze-out (S.Jeon,V.Koch, PRL83, 5435 (1999))

**Directly**  $K^*/K^-$  can be measured by invariant mass reconstruction. This only sees "last"  $K^*$ , at <u>thermal freeze-out</u>

Comparing the two  $\rightarrow \underline{effect}$  of hadronic rescattering





Problem: Lots of resonances, complicated decay trees

- $K, \pi$  correlated only by  $K^*$  (other states <u>much</u> heavier)
- $p,\pi$  correlated by  $\Lambda$  and  $\Delta$
- $\Lambda, K$  correlated by  $\Lambda(1520)$  and  $\Lambda, \Sigma(1600)$
- $\Lambda,\pi$  correlated by  $\Xi$  and  $\Sigma^*$
- $\Xi, \pi$  correlated by  $\Xi^*$  and  $\Sigma^*(1690)$

Imposing a primary vertex cut takes out weak decays , but as not enough. Only  $K, \pi$  have "clean" light resonance! In addition, for many ratios, impossible to define corresponding fluctuation observable (eg  $ho^0/\pi, \Sigma^*/\Lambda$ )





We can still say something with large sample of resonances, fluctuations

Fluctuations fit, resonances dont Hadronic reinteraction phase long, changes particle abundance. Direction of error allows us to distinguish between rescattering (under-prediction) and regeneration (over-prediction)

Both resonances and fluctuations fit Not much reinteraction!

Resonances fit, fluctuations dont Model is wrong!

NB: This way, the "Hagedorn thermalization model" (Noronha-Hostler, et al, PRL.100:252301,2008) could also be falsified, since Hagedorn tree  $\leftrightarrow$  Lots of resonance correlations)

#### Conclusions

- Fluctuation of particle ratios <u>optimal</u> for <u>falsifying</u> and <u>constraining</u> timescale between equilibration and freezeout, both in experiment and in models.
- A comparison of  $K^*$  abundance measured directly and  $\sigma_{K^+/\pi^-}^{dyn} \sigma_{K^-/\pi^-}^{dyn}$ consistent with <u>no evidence for</u> hadronic rescattering Short reinteracting phase, or balance with regeneration?

more fluctuation results, eg  $\sigma_{p/\pi^-}^{dyn}$ ,  $\sigma_{\Lambda/\pi^-}^{dyn}$  essential for confirming these results. Stay tuned!