International school of nuclear physics Erice, 16–24 September 2012



Strange things happened in cold nuclear matter

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Kaon in-medium properties



of $U_{opt} \sim +30$ MeV at q = 0, $\rho = \rho_0$

 $m^* = E^*(q=0) = m_{vac} + 30 \text{ MeV} \cdot \rho / \rho_0$

K⁺ mass shift vs. density



C.L. Korpa, M.F.M. Lutz Acta Phys. Hung. A22 2005 21.

Linked to antikaon production in HI collisions:

 $N + N \rightarrow N + K + Y$ $\pi + Y \Leftrightarrow \overline{K} + N$

Kaon in-medium potential

FOPI π +A, ANKE p+A



M. Benabderrahmane et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 102 (2009) 182501.

 $U_{opt} = +20\pm5$ MeV extracted from comparison with transport (HSD)

 $K_{S}^{0} \rightarrow \pi^{+}\pi^{-}$ HADES Ar+KCI -0.07< y_{c.m.} <0.07 ×10⁻⁶ ▲K⁰_S (HADES) dM/(dydp_t [(MeV/c)⁻¹] $-IQMD (\alpha = 0.0)$ 30 $-IQMD (\alpha = 0.5)$ $-IQMD (\alpha = 0.7)$ $-IQMD (\alpha = 1.0)$ 20 $-IQMD (\alpha = 1.2)$ - $-IQMD (\alpha = 1.35)$ IQMD ($\alpha = 1.5$) 10 (a) 0 200 400 600 800 0 p, [MeV/c]

G. Agakishiev et al., Phys. Rev. C 82 (2010) 044907.

Transport simulations (IQMD) with $U_{opt} = +39$ MeV fit the data best

HADES measurement: K⁰ in p+⁹³Nb

HADES data sample:

p+⁹³Nb at 3.5 GeV, ~4 billion events.

Objectives:

- 1. Reconstruct K⁰ kinematical distributions.
- 2. Compare with transport models: KN potential on/off, validate KN scattering.
- 4. Compare with the reference measurement: p+p at 3.5 GeV.

Features:

- 1. High acceptance and statistics.
- 2. No Coulomb interaction.

Limitations:

- 1. Rather high kinetic energy.
- 2. No light nuclear target as a reference.



The HADES experiment



High Acceptance Di-Electron Spectrometer Location: GSI, Darmstadt

Fixed-target experiment, SIS18, beam $E_{kin} = 1-3$ GeV/nucl. Full azimuthal coverage, $18^{\circ}-85^{\circ}$ in polar angle

Sub-detectors: MDCs RICH, Time-of-flight (TOF and RPCs) Pre-Shower detector Forward Wall detector at small angles

Analysis procedure

$K^0_S \to \pi^+\pi^-$

- 1. Identify charged pions (via MDC dE/dx).
- 2. Construct pairs.
- 3. Apply primary and secondary vertex cuts.
- 4. Plot invariant mass spectra.
- 5. Extract (differentially) K^0 yields: (pt, y), (p, θ), ...
- 6. Correct for the efficiency and acceptance with help of simulations.



Phase space coverage



We reconstruct K_s^0 — what about \overline{K}^0 contribution? HSD gives $\overline{K}^0/K^0 < 4\%$.

KaoS: p+Au 3.5 GeV K⁻/K⁺ = 2.3%

W. Scheinast et al. Phys.Rev.Lett. 96 (2006) 072301

Differential signal extraction: an example

0.67 < y < 0.77

Fit function: Landau + polynomial (background) and double gaussian (signal)

<u>p+p</u>

K⁰ phase space in pp collisions

EXPGiBUU

GiBUU: O. Buss et al. Phys.Rept. 512 (2012) 1-124

- GiBUU: kaon production via resonance model.
- Normalized to the mid-rapidity bin (one global scaling factor).
- Description is bad.

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B₃(p₃) Y(p₄) K(k)

π, η, ρ

p+p

K⁰ phase space in pp collisions

- Angular anisotropy of kaon production.
- GiBUU: kaon production via resonance model.
- Normalization from (pt,y) analysis.

<u>p+p</u>

K⁰ phase space in pp collisions

- GiBUU: kaon production via **PYTHIA**.
- Normalized to the mid-rapidity bin (one global scaling factor).
- Description is bad.

p+p

K⁰ phase space in pp collisions

EXPGiBUU

GiBUU: kaon production via PYTHIA.

p+p

K⁰ phase space in pp collisions

- GiBUU: kaon production via mixed approach resonance model + PYTHIA.
- Good description of the data.

p+p

K⁰ phase space in pp collisions

- GiBUU: kaon production via mixed approach
 resonance model + PYTHIA.
- Good description of the data.
- Kaon production is fixed in simulations.

p+Nb

pNb: comparison with transport

- Each rapidity bin normalized individually to the area.
- Good description of the shape, but systematic overshoot at low pt → tentative effect of repulsive potential.
- ▶ No KN potential available in simulations.

Rapidity distribution

- Strong shift to the target rapidity, qualitatively reproduced by the GiBUU transport model.
- Sensitivity to the potential?

p+Nb

- KN scattering has a strong effect on the rapidity distribution.
- Almost symmetrical shape for $\sigma_{KN} = 0$.

Free KN scattering

is known rather well:

In-medium KN scattering

Free KN amplitudes underestimate the K⁺-nucleus reaction c.s. by ~15%

E. Friedman, A. Gal. Phys. Rept. 452 (2007) 89.

Number of mechanisms proposed to explain the difference:

- Swelling of nucleons in nuclear matter.
 P.B. Siegel et al. Phys. Rev. C 31 (1985) 2184.
- Modification of exchanged vector mesons.
 G.E. Brown et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 60 (1988) 2723.
- Meson exchange-current contribution.
 M.F. Jiang et al. Phys. Rev. C. 46 (1992) 6.
- ▶ In-medium formation of the Θ^+ pentaquark: KNN → Θ^+ N.
 - A. Gal, E. Friedman. Phys. Rev. Lett. 94 (2005) 072301.L. Tolos et al. Phys. Lett. B 632 (2006) 219.

Is there a way to disentangle between possible modification of the KN scattering and potential effects?

KN scattering: effect on pt distributions in pNb

Spectra in each rapidity bin are normalized to the same area.
 Shape of pt-spectra is not sensitive to the KN scattering.

Comparison with KaoS results

Experiment	Colliding system	Number of participants (minimum bias)	Total cross section at 3.5 GeV, mb
KaoS (K+)	p + ¹⁹⁷ Au	3.1	1616
	p + ¹² C	2.1	243.4
HADES (K ⁰)	p + ⁹³ Nb	2.4	848
	p + p	2	43.3

Number of participants estimated with a nuclear overlap model <u>http://www-linux.gsi.de/~misko/overlap/</u> <u>interface.html</u>

Phys.Rev.Lett. 96 (2006) 072301.

KaoS data provided by W. Scheinast

Total cross sections for pAu and pC from R.K. Tripathi et al. NIM B 117 (1996) 347.

$$R_{pA}(p) = \frac{d\sigma_{pA}/dp}{d\sigma_{pp}/dp} \cdot \frac{N_{part}^{pp}}{N_{part}^{pA}} \cdot \frac{\sigma_{tot}^{pp}}{\sigma_{tot}^{pA}}$$

analogous scaling used for comparison between two nuclear targets, e.g. pAu/pC

R_{pA}: HADES vs KaoS (K⁰ vs K⁺) at 3.5 GeV

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R_{pA}: HADES vs KaoS (K⁰ vs K⁺) at 3.5 GeV

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More strange things going on in pNb

raw signals

Summary

- 1. Analysis of K⁰ emission pattern in p+p and p+⁹³Nb reactions at 3.5 GeV.
- 2. Comparison with the GiBUU transport model.
- 3. Comparison with the KaoS data (p+Au, p+C) in terms of R_{pA} .

dN/dy — KN scattering.

Outlook:

extract quantitative information on the potential and in-medium KN scattering with help of transport models \Rightarrow input for the heavy-ion data interpretation

HADES Collaboration

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Backup

Primary vertex cuts

Topological observables

Pion selection with MDC dE/dx cuts

Corrected pt spectra: Boltzmann fits

Acceptance and efficiency correction

Note:

 $d(p_t)^2 dy \sim invariant phase space volume.$ Correction only in the region of non-zero acceptance. Eff. and acc. corrected pt spectra

KaoS R_{pA}

All plots on this slide: KaoS K⁺ data, pAu/pC. θ is the lab. polar angle.

K⁰ production in pn/pp (GiBUU simulations)

- ▶ R_{pA}(pNb/pp) roughly follows np/pp ratio.
- Influence of the KN scattering.

Kaon production within the resonance model

K. Tsushima et al., PRC59 (1999) 369

Resonance (J^P)	Width (MeV)	Decay channel	Branching ratio	Adopted value
$N(1650)(\frac{1}{2})$	150	$N\pi$	0.60 - 0.80	0.700
-		$N\eta$	0.03 - 0.10	0.065
		$\Delta \pi$	0.03 - 0.07	0.050
		ΛK	0.03 - 0.11	0.070
$N(1710)(\frac{1}{2}^+)$	100	$N\pi$	0.10 - 0.20	0.150
-		$N\eta$	0.20 - 0.40	0.300
		$N\rho$	0.05 - 0.25	0.150
		$\Delta \pi$	0.10 - 0.25	0.175
		ΛK	0.05 - 0.25	0.150
		ΣK	0.02 - 0.10	0.060
$N(1720)(\frac{3}{2}^+)$	150	$N\pi$	0.10 - 0.20	0.150
_		$N\eta$	0.02 - 0.06	0.040
		$N\rho$	0.70 - 0.85	0.775
		$\Delta \pi$	0.05 - 0.15	0.100
		ΛK	0.03 - 0.10	0.065
		ΣK	0.02 - 0.05	0.035
$\Delta(1920)(\frac{3}{2}^+)$	200	$N\pi$	0.05 - 0.20	0.125
		ΣK	0.01 - 0.03	0.020

$$\sigma(B_1B_2 \to B_3YK) = a\,\left(\frac{s}{s_0}-1\right)^b\,\left(\frac{s_0}{s}\right)^c,$$

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Kaon production anisotropy

 $pp \to p K^0 \Sigma^+$

M. Abdel-Bary et al. Eur.Phys.J. A48 (2012) 37.

Kaon angular distributions in pNb

