

# Three-body femtoscopy with ALICE

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*EXOTICO: EXOTic atoms meet nuclear COLLisions for a new frontier  
precision era in low-energy strangeness nuclear physics*

ECT\*, Trento, 21 October 2022

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# Many-body systems with baryons

- Properties of nuclei and hypernuclei cannot be described satisfactorily with two-body forces only.

*L.E. Marcucci et al., Front. Phys. 8:69 (2020), see talk by A. Kievsky @ EXOTICO*

- Many-body scattering requires three-body calculations (e.g. **neutron-deuteron**).

*L. Girlanda et al., PRC 102, 064003 (2020)*

$^3\text{H}$  and  $^4\text{He}$  Binding Energies and  
n-d scattering length

Potential(NN)	$^3\text{H}$ [MeV]	$^4\text{He}$ [MeV]	$^2a_{nd}$ [fm]
AV18	7.624	24.22	1.258
CDBonn	7.998	26.13	
N3LO-Idaho	7.854	25.38	1.100

Potential(NN+NNN)	$^3\text{H}$ [MeV]	$^4\text{He}$ [MeV]	$^2a_{nd}$ [fm]
AV18/UIX	8.479	28.47	0.590
CDBonn/TM	8.474	29.00	
N3LO-Idaho/N2LO	8.474	28.37	0.675
Exp.	8.48	28.30	0.645±0.010

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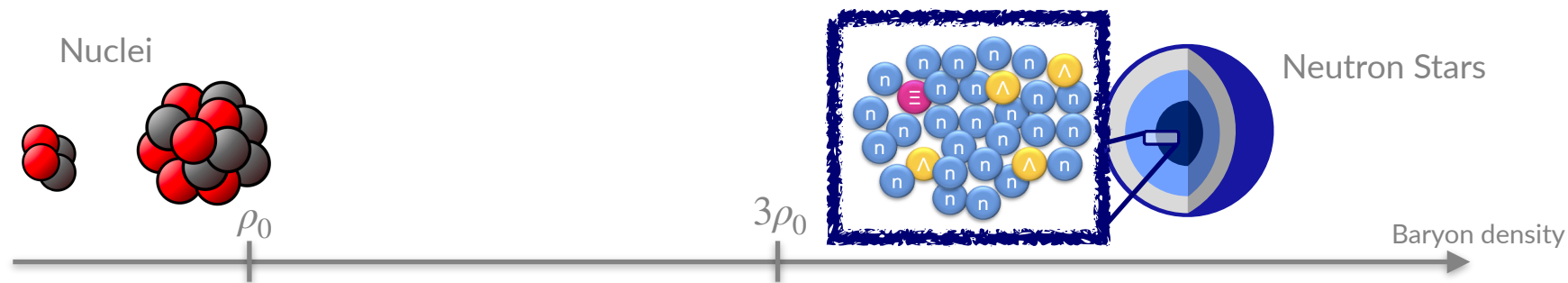
- **N-N-N and N-N- $\Lambda$  interactions:** fundamental ingredients for the Equation of State (EoS) of neutron stars.

*see talk by D. Logoteta @ EXOTICO*

$^3\text{H}$  and  $^4\text{He}$  Binding Energies and n-d scattering length

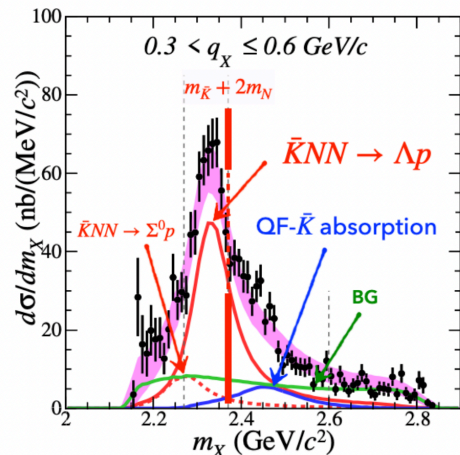
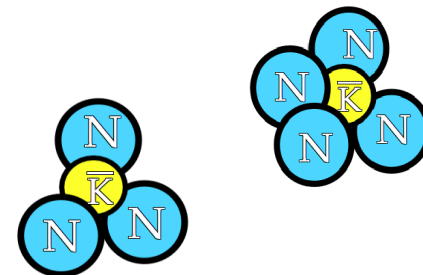
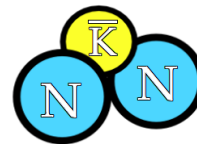
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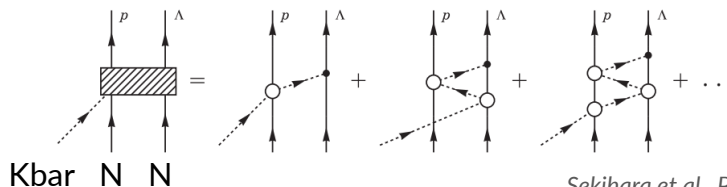


# Many-body systems with mesons

- Strongly attractive  $\bar{K}N$  interaction in  $l = 0$  channel  
 → Exotic bound states of antikaons with nucleons  
*S. Wycech, NPA 450 (1986) 399c; Y. Akaishi, T. Yamazaki, PRC 65 (2002) 044005*
- First positive experimental evidence of the **p-p- $K^-$  bound state**  
 by the E15 Collaboration. *E15 Coll., PLB 789 (2019) 620, Phys.Rev.C 102 (2020) 4, 044002*



## Kaonic bound state formation mechanism



*Sekihara et al., PTEP 2016 no. 12, (2016)*

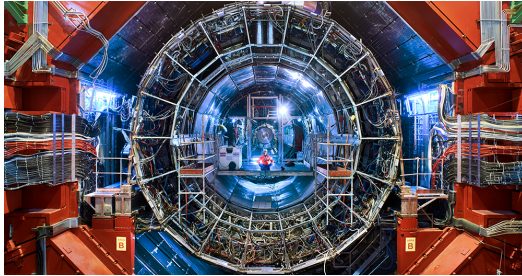
	B. E. (MeV)	Width (MeV)
Exp. (E15)	42	100
Theo. (Sekihara et al.)	16	72

**Next challenge:** explore many-body systems dynamics using femtoscopy!

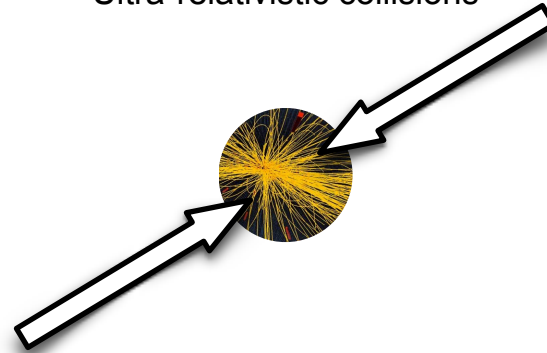
# Three-body femtoscopy

Data set: high-multiplicity pp collisions @  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV

ALICE at the LHC



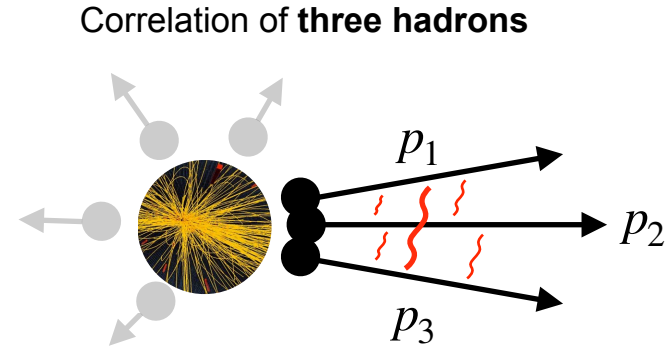
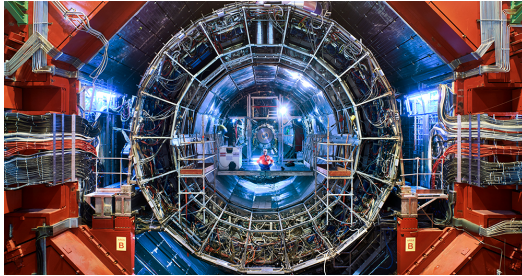
Ultra-relativistic collisions



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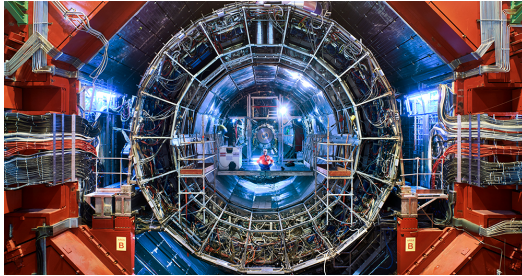
Three-particle correlation function:

$$C(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) = \frac{P(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3)}{P(\mathbf{p}_1) P(\mathbf{p}_2) P(\mathbf{p}_3)}$$

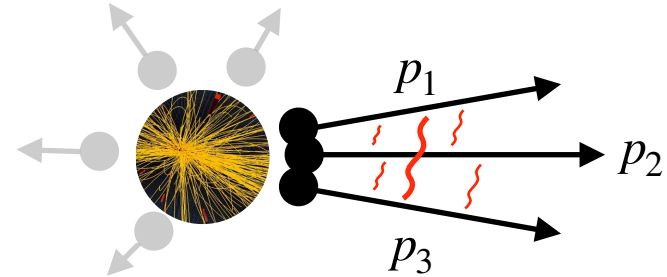
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ALICE at the LHC



Correlation of **three** hadrons



Three-particle correlation function:

$$C(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) = \iiint S_3(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3) \left| \psi_{\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3) \right|^2 d^3x_1 d^3x_2 d^3x_3 = \mathcal{N} \cdot \frac{N_{\text{same}}(Q_3)}{N_{\text{mixed}}(Q_3)}$$

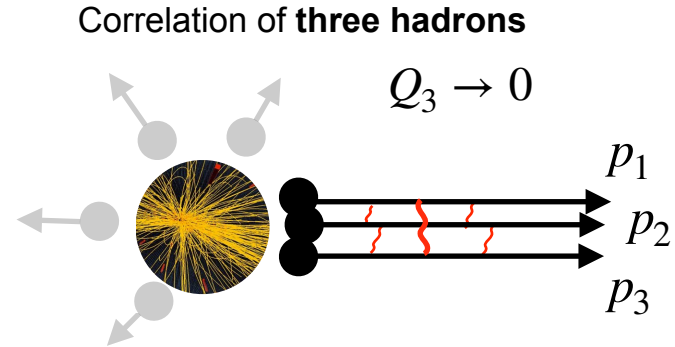
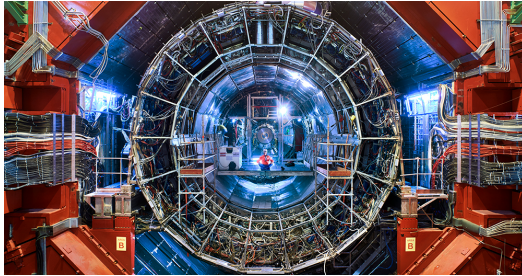
Lorentz-invariant  $Q_3$  is defined as:

$$Q_3 = \sqrt{-q_{12}^2 - q_{23}^2 - q_{31}^2} \quad q_{ij}^\mu = 2 \left( \frac{m_j E_i}{m_i + m_j} - \frac{m_i E_j}{m_i + m_j}, \frac{m_j}{m_i + m_j} \mathbf{p}_i - \frac{m_i}{m_i + m_j} \mathbf{p}_j \right)$$

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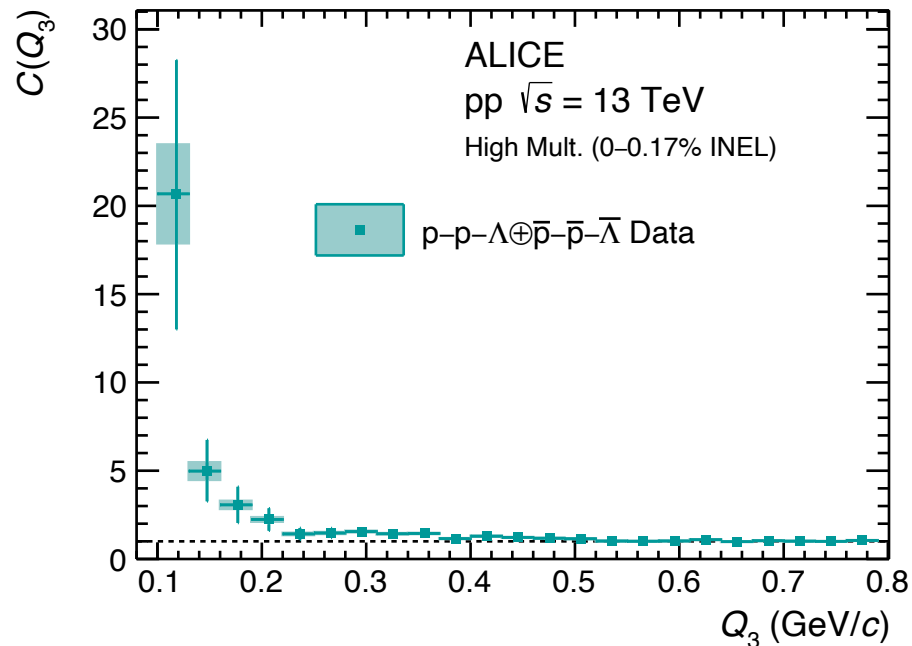
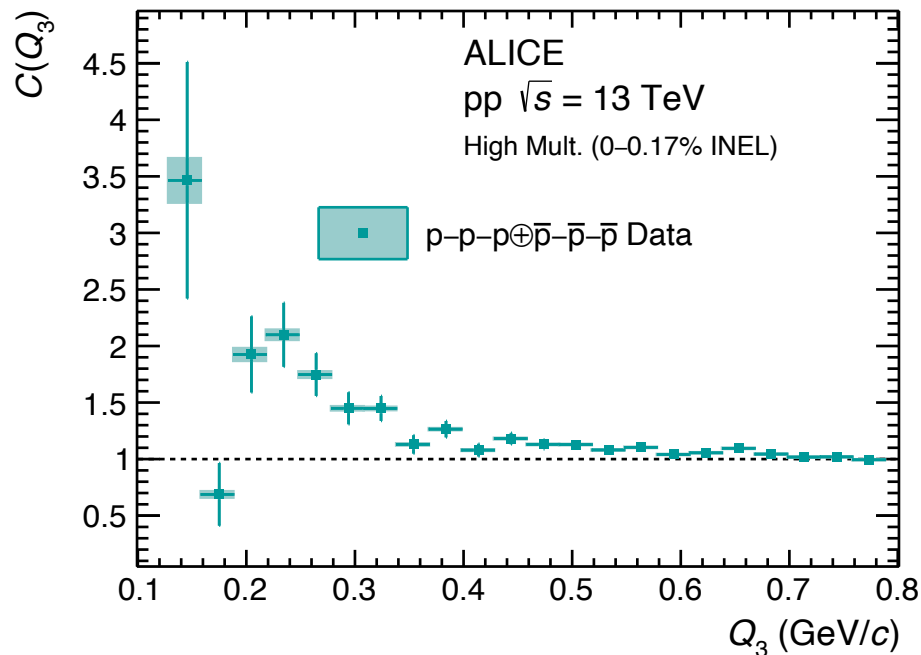
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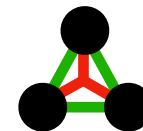
# p-p-p and p-p- $\Lambda$ correlation functions

arXiv:2206.03344

arXiv:2206.03344

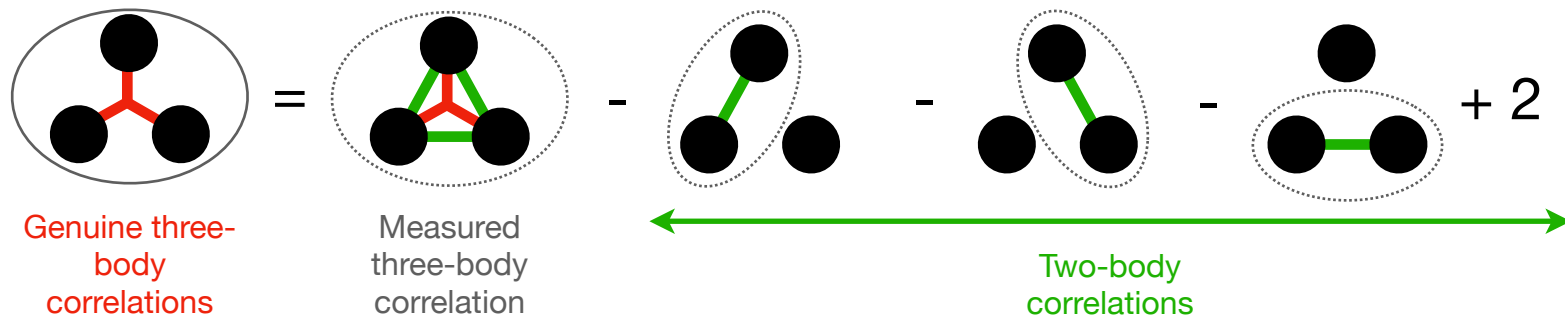


**Correlation functions include two- and three-particle correlations**



# Cumulants in femtoscopy

The total three-particle correlations can be expressed as a sum of genuine three-body correlation and the lower-order contribution employing Kubo's cumulants [1]:



In terms of correlation functions:

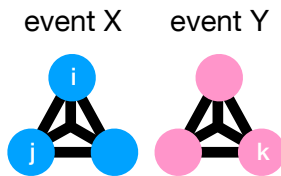
$$c_3(Q_3) = C(Q_3) - C_{12}(Q_3) - C_{23}(Q_3) - C_{31}(Q_3) + 2$$

How to estimate lower-order contributions?

[1] J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. 17, pp. 1100-1120 (1962)

## Data-driven method

- Use event mixing
- Two particles from the same event and one particle from another:

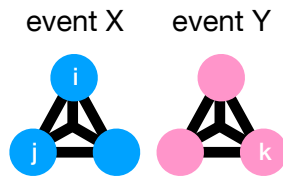


$$C_{ij} \left( \left[ \mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j \right], \mathbf{p}_k \right) = \frac{N_2 \left( \mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j \right) N_1 \left( \mathbf{p}_k \right)}{N_1 \left( \mathbf{p}_i \right) N_1 \left( \mathbf{p}_j \right) N_1 \left( \mathbf{p}_k \right)}$$

- Calculate Lorentz-invariant scalar  $Q_3$  for every triplet  $\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{p}_k$  to obtain  $C_{ij}(Q_3)$

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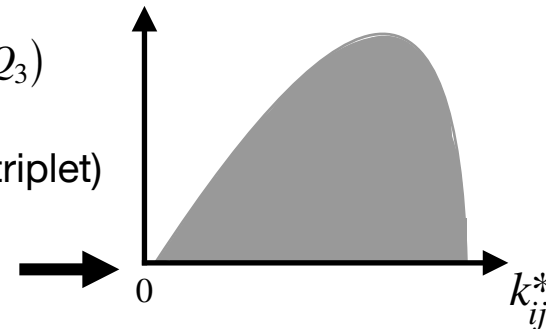
## Projector method

- Use two-particle measured or theoretical correlation function  $C([\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j])$
- Perform kinematic transformation:

$$C_2 \left( k_{ij}^* \right) \rightarrow C_{ij} \left( Q_3 \right)$$

$$k_{ij}^* \text{ (pair)} \rightarrow Q_3 \text{ (triplet)}$$

For one  $Q_3$  value

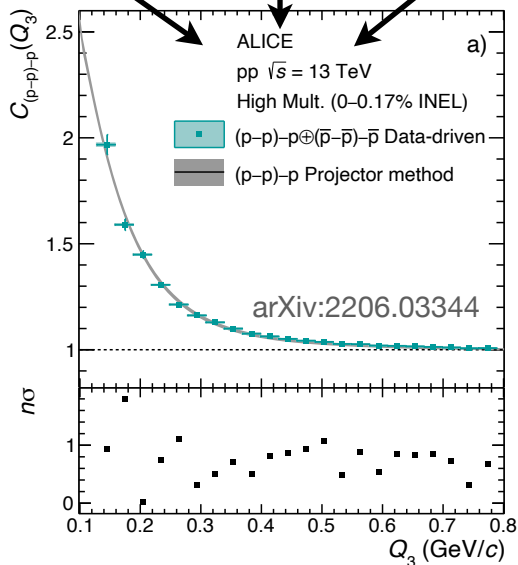
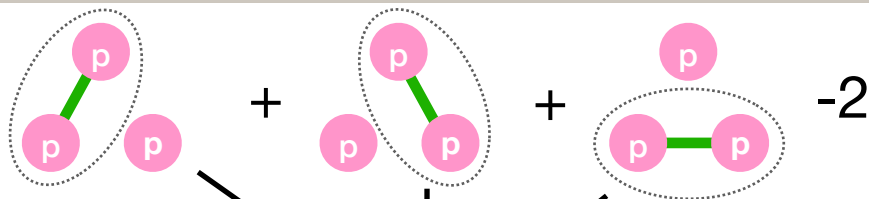


- To obtain the correlation function:

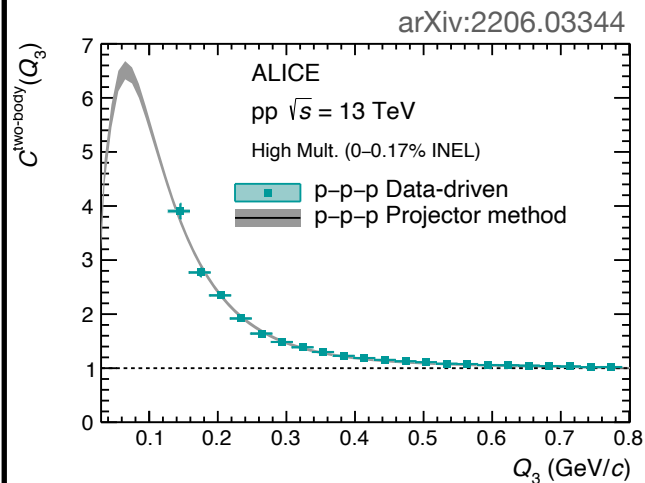
$$C_{ij}(Q_3) = \int C(k_{ij}^*) W_{ij}(k_{ij}^*, Q_3) dk_{ij}^*$$

R.D.G., L. Šerkšnytė et al. EPJC 82 (2022) 244

# Lower-order contributions : p-p-p



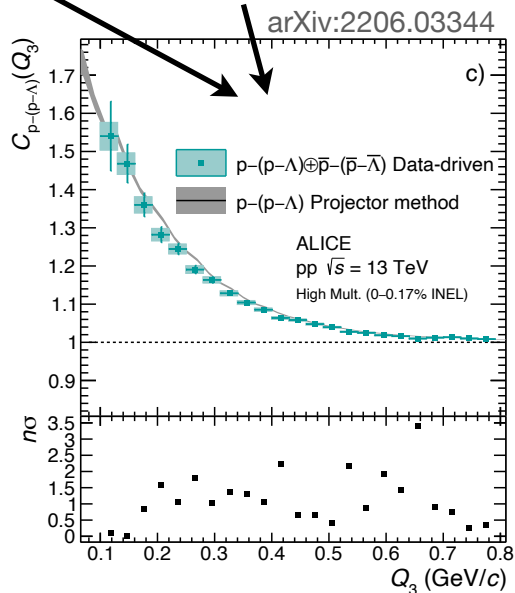
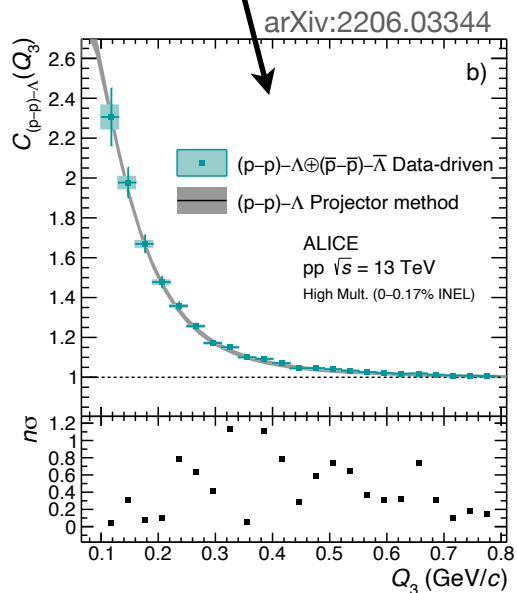
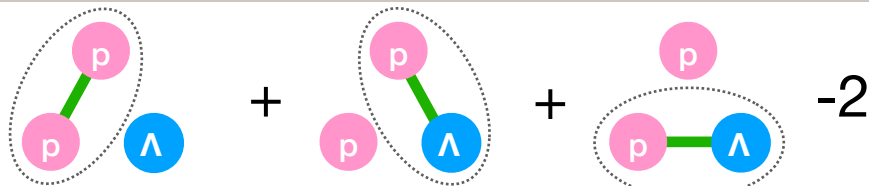
## Total lower-order contributions



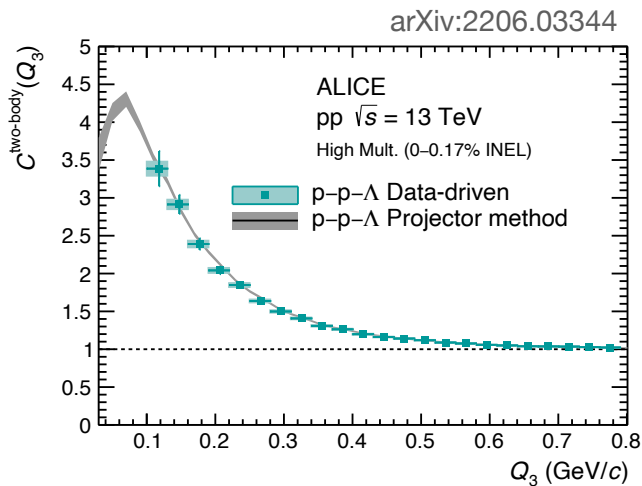
Already measured p-p [1] correlation function used for projection.

[1] PLB 805 (2020) 135419

# Lower-order contributions : p-p- $\Lambda$



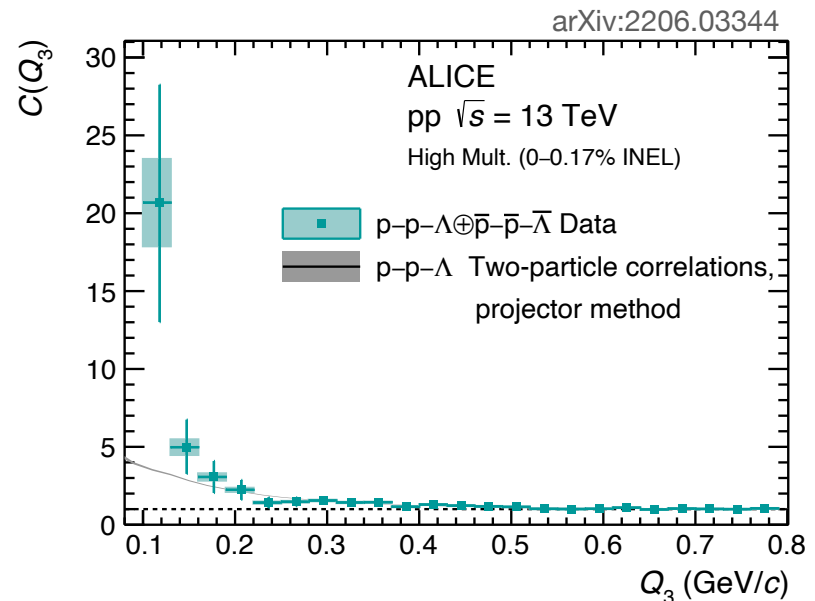
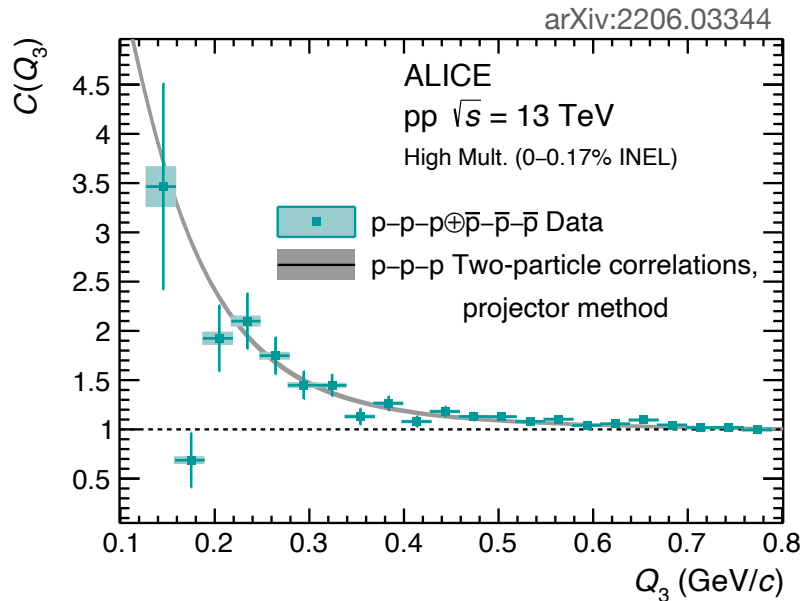
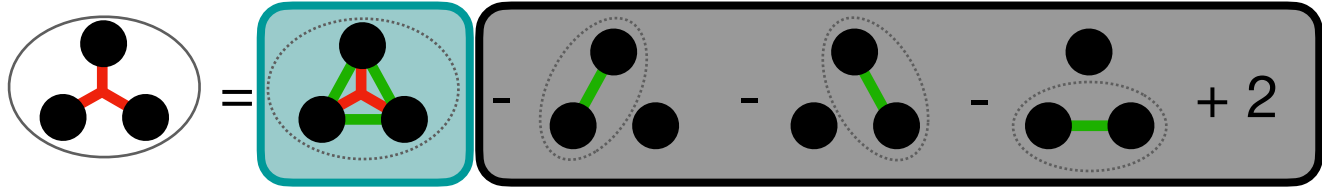
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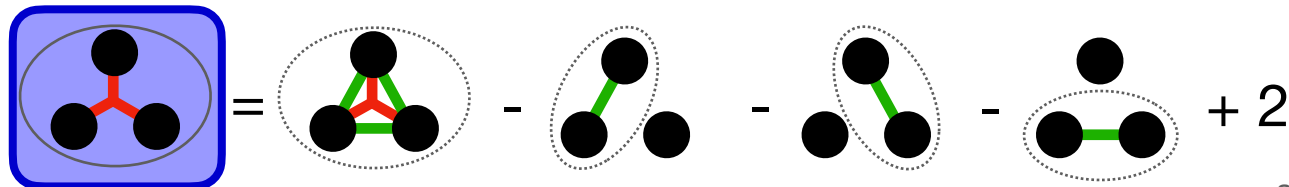
Already measured p-p [1] and p- $\Lambda$  [2] correlation functions used for projection.

[1] PLB 805 (2020) 135419; [2] arXiv:2104.04427

# p-p- $\Lambda$ and p-p-p correlation functions



# p-p-p cumulant



**Negative cumulant for p-p-p**

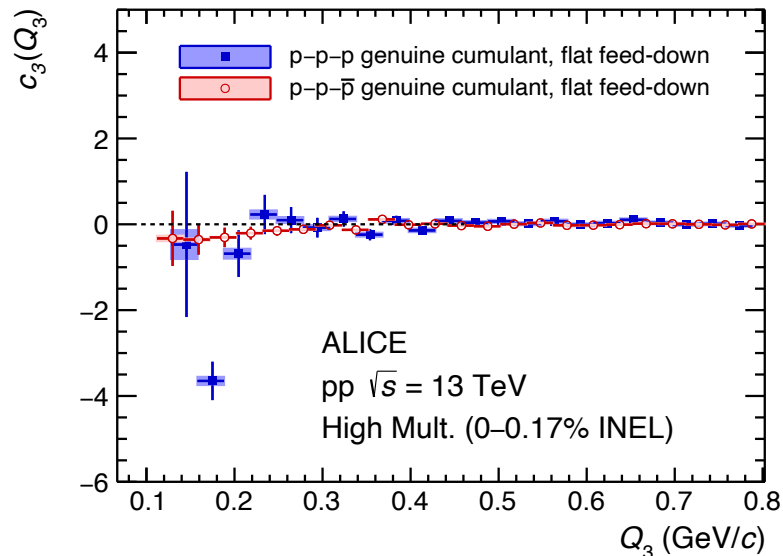
**Possible forces at play:**

- Pauli blocking at the three-particle level
- three-body strong interaction

**Statistical significance:**

$n_\sigma = 6.7$  for  $Q_3 < 0.4$  GeV/c

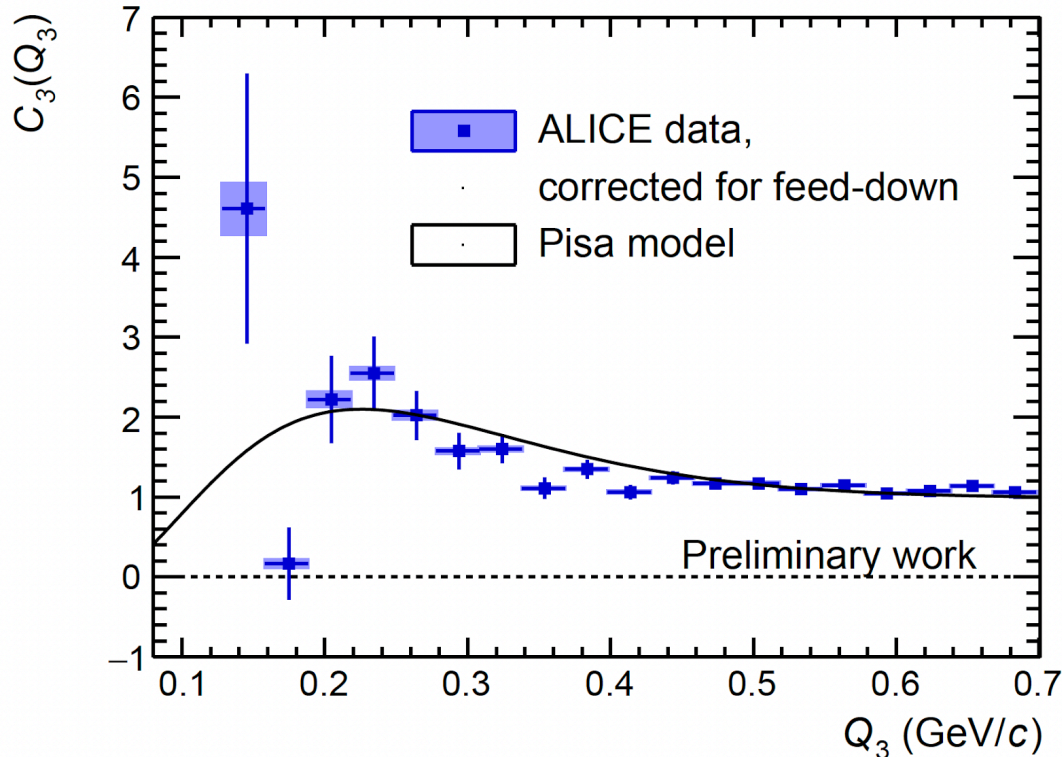
arXiv:2206.03344



Test with mixed-charge particles, cumulant negligible.



# p-p-p correlation function



Comparison with the theory

$$C_{ppp}(Q) = \int \rho^5 d\rho d\Omega S_{\rho_0}(\rho) |\Psi_{ppp}|^2$$

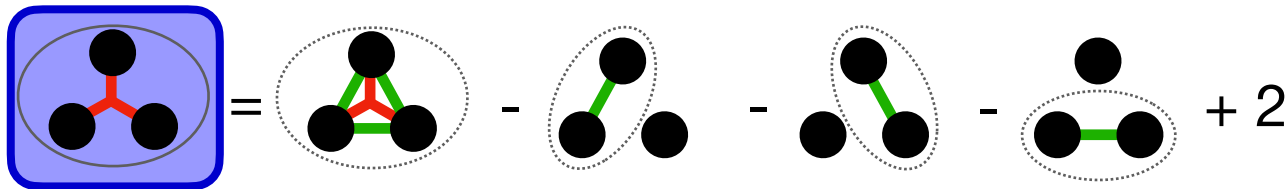
Wave function calculated using the Hyperspherical Harmonics (HH) method (see A. Kievsky talk)

The source function is

$$S_{\rho_0}(\rho) = \frac{1}{\pi^3 \rho_0^6} e^{-(\rho/\rho_0)^2}$$

Preliminary study with  $\rho_0 = 2$  fm

# p-p- $\Lambda$ cumulant



## Positive cumulant for p-p- $\Lambda$

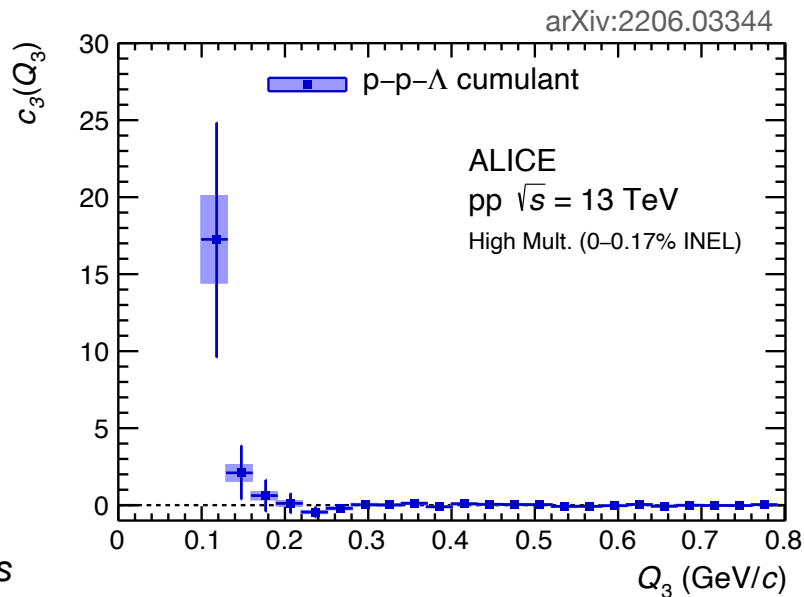
- Only two identical and charged particles
  - ✓ Main expected contribution from three-body strong interaction
- Relevant measurement for equation of state of neutron stars.

## Statistical significance:

$n_\sigma = 0.8$  for  $Q_3 < 0.4$  GeV/c

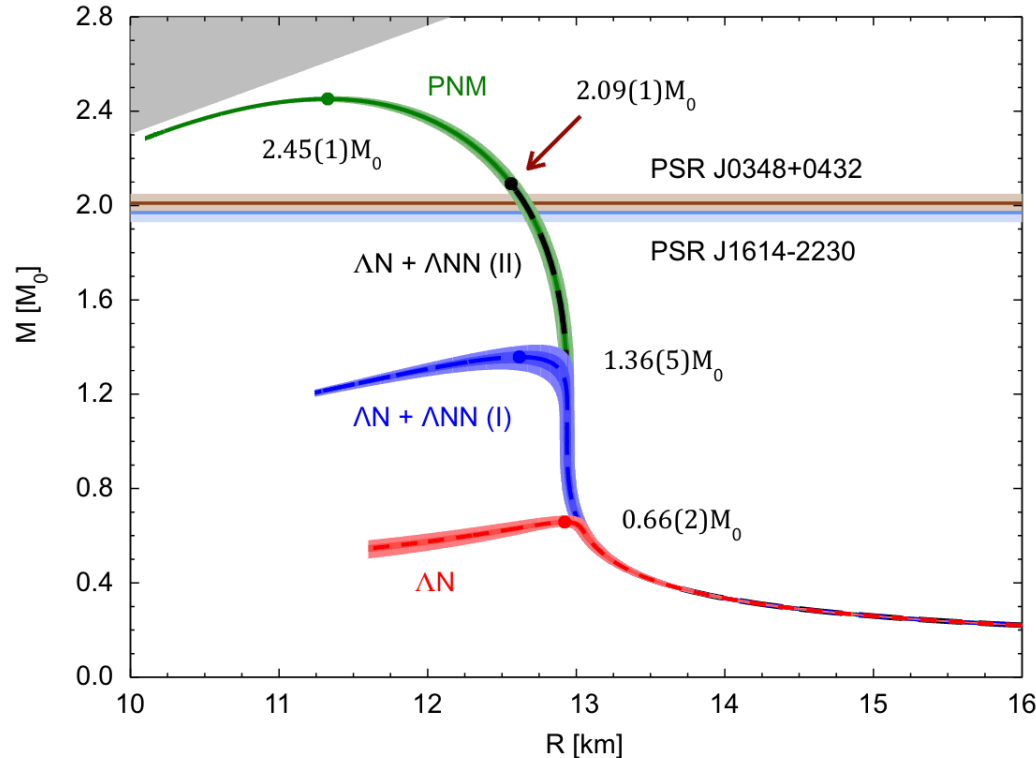
**Conclusion:** no significant deviation from null hypothesis.

*In upcoming Run 3, two orders of magnitude gain in statistics expected!*



# Equation of State of neutron stars

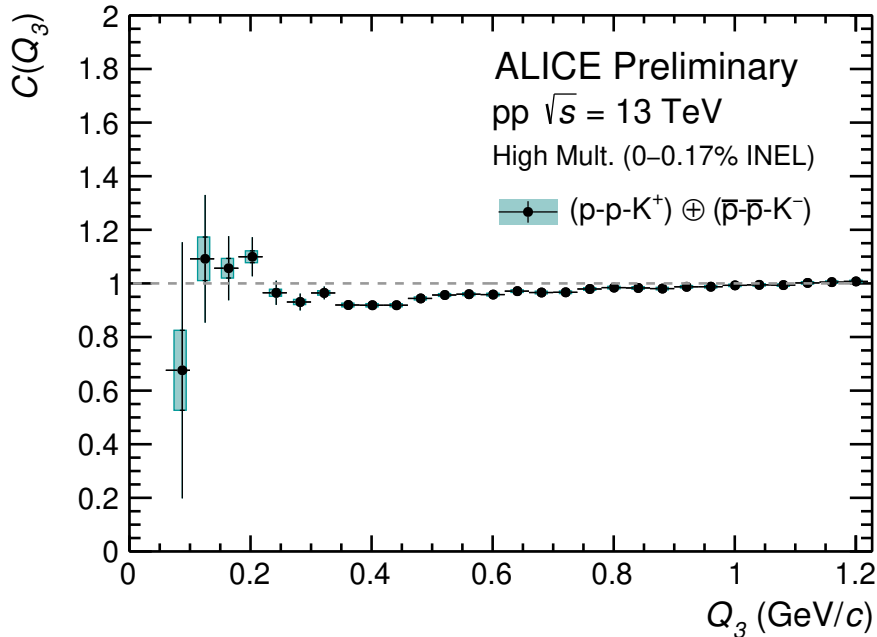
Adapted from D. Lonardoni et al., PRL 114, 092301 (2015)



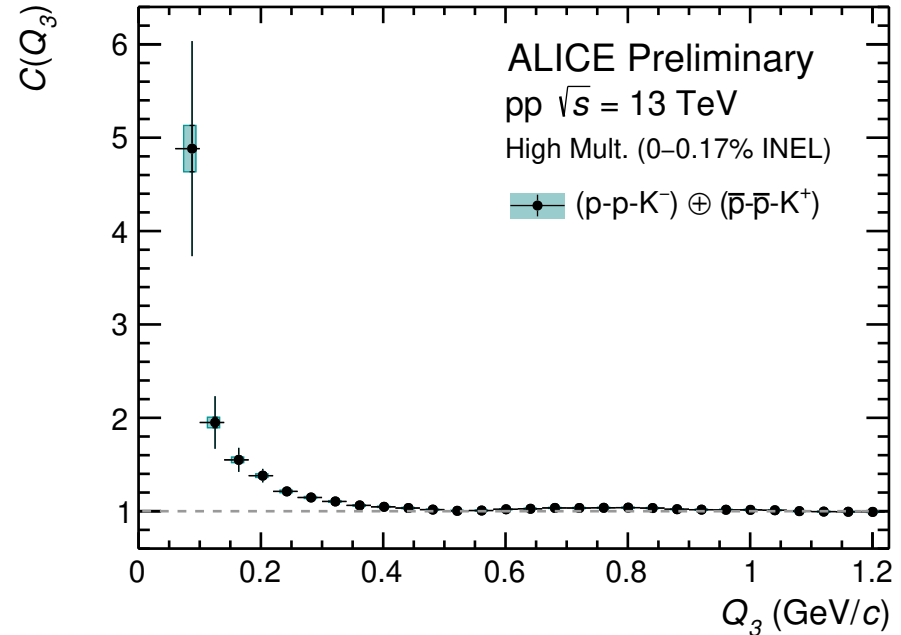
- Hyperons might appear in neutron stars since it is energetically favourable
- But the resulting equation of state might be too soft to explain heavy neutron stars
- Possible solution: repulsive three-body interaction

# p-p-K<sup>+</sup> and p-p-K<sup>-</sup> correlation functions

## p-p-K<sup>+</sup>



## p-p-K<sup>-</sup>

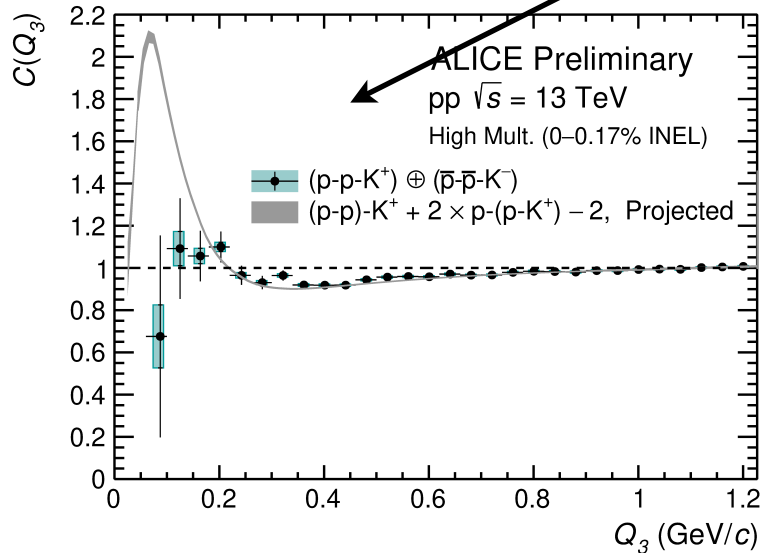
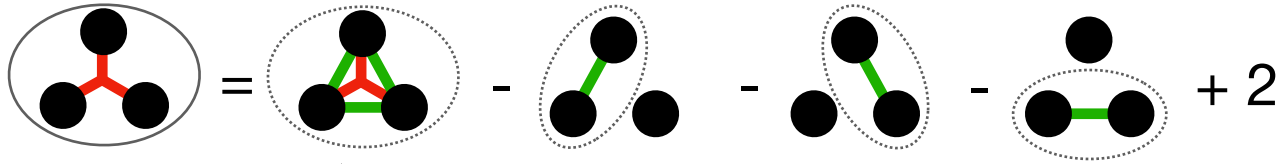


ALI-PREL-513143

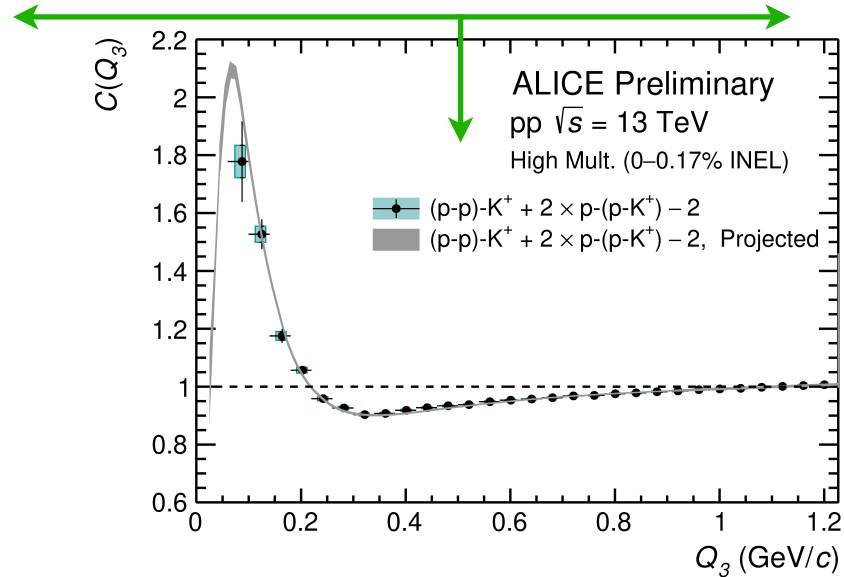
ALI-PREL-513597

**Correlation functions include two- and three-particle correlations**

# p-p-K<sup>+</sup> correlation function

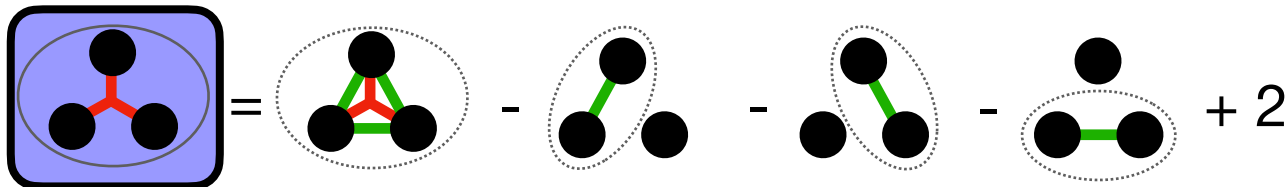


ALI-PREL-513509



ALI-PREL-513503

# p-p-K<sup>+</sup> cumulant

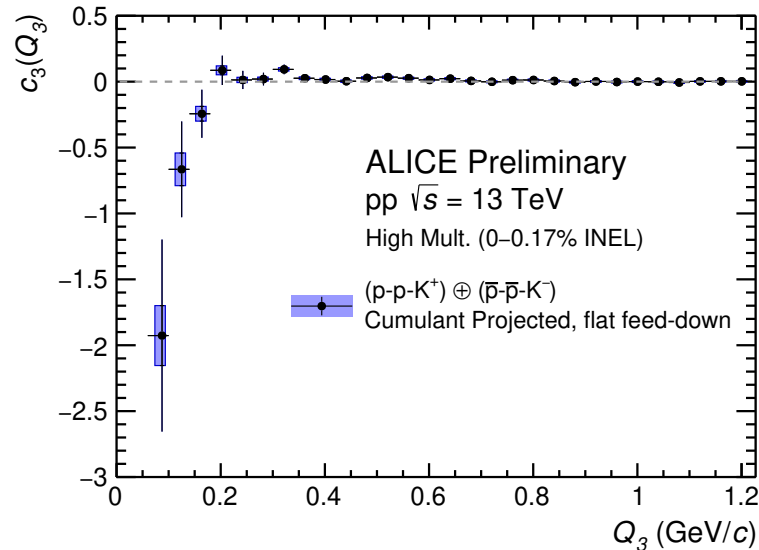


Negative cumulant for p-p-K<sup>+</sup>

Statistical significance:

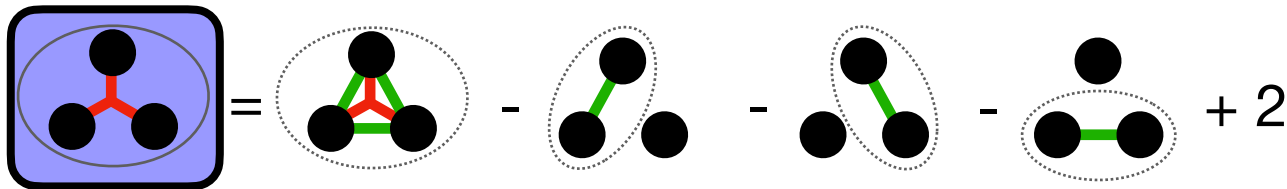
$n_\sigma = 2.3$  for  $Q_3 < 0.4$  GeV/c

**Conclusion:** the measured cumulant is compatible with zero within the uncertainties.



ALI-PREL-513592

# p-p-K<sup>-</sup> cumulant



Zero cumulant for p-p-K<sup>-</sup>

Statistical significance:

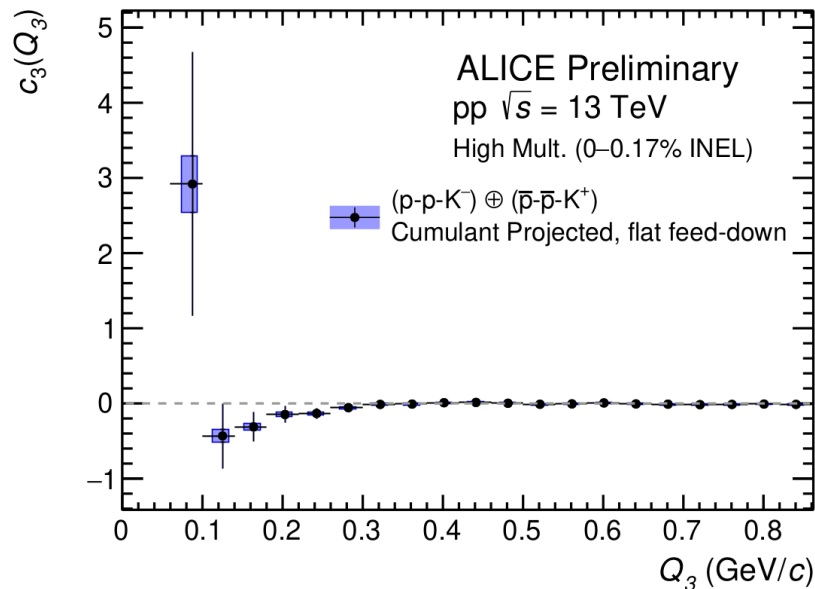
$n_\sigma = 1.5$  for  $Q_3 < 0.4$  GeV/c



**Conclusion:** the measured cumulant is compatible with zero within the uncertainties.

p-p-K<sup>-</sup> system shows only two-body interactions.

✓ No evidence of genuine three-body effects and bound state formation



From Prof. Hyodo:

$\bar{K}N$  potentials and their applications

## Relation to correlation functions?

### 3-body equation and correlation functions

Genuine three-body correlations (cumulant)
Measured triplets
Lower-order correlations

**R. Del Grande, ALICE collaboration**

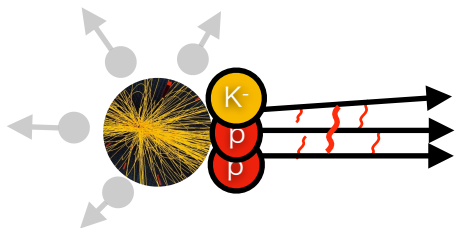
**“Genuine three-body correlation”**

- multiple rescattering of 2-body interaction?
- 3-body force (act only in 3-body system)?

17



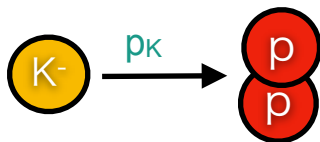
# p-p-K- cumulant



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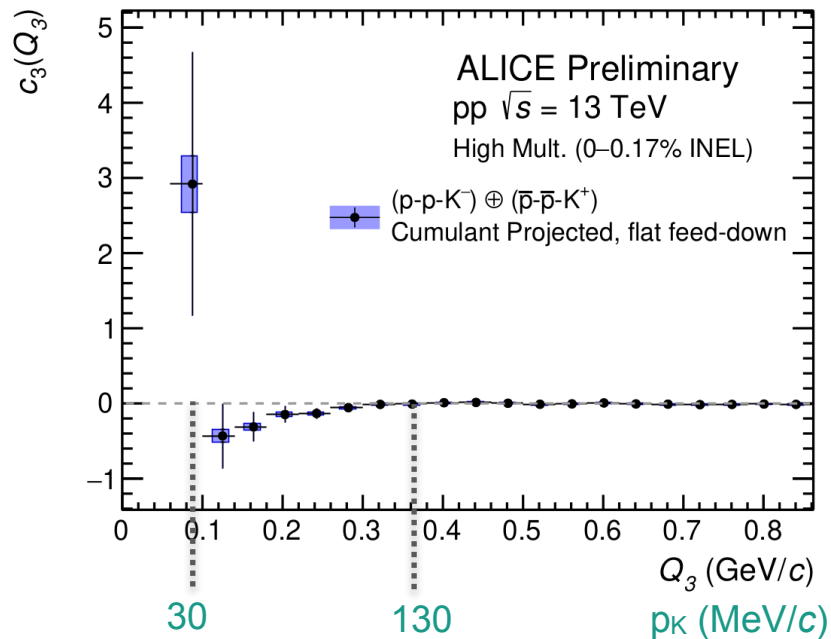
Comparison with K- interaction studies in nuclei:  
kaon momentum evaluated in the p-p rest frame



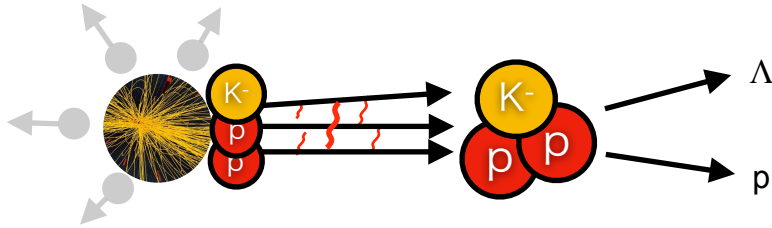
$$k_{pp} < 180 \text{ MeV}/c$$

Compatible with  
Fermi momentum of  
nucleons in nuclei

K- momentum in the  
range (30-130) MeV/c

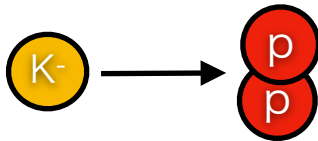


# p-p-K- cumulant

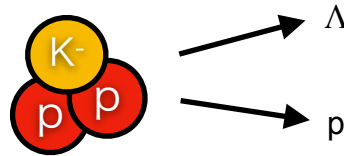


Which is the  $Q_3$  of the p-p-K- triplets?

If we believe in the measurement by E15, the bound state is compact ( $R \sim 0.6$  fm) and the transfer momentum by the  $K^-$  on the two rest protons is  $q_x \sim 0.3$  GeV/c.



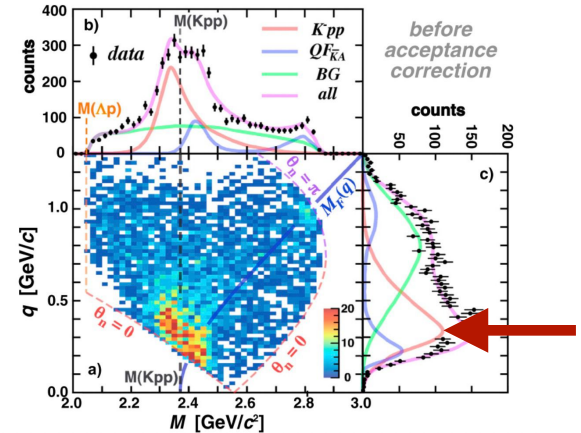
Transfer momentum  
 $q_x = p_K \sim 0.3$  GeV/c



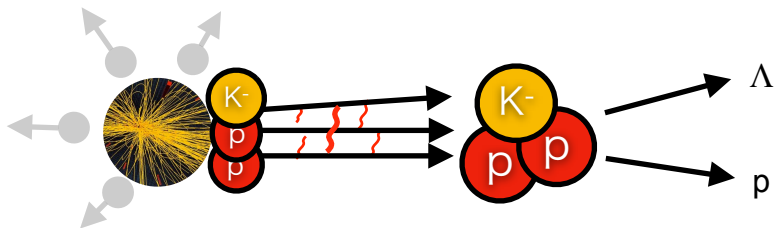
$Q_3$  is Lorentz-invariant  $\rightarrow$  we can choose the rest frame of the two-protons

$$Q_3 = \sqrt{-q_{12}^2 - q_{23}^2 - q_{31}^2}$$

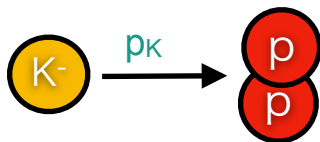
$$q_{ij}^\mu = 2 \left( \frac{m_j E_i}{m_i + m_j} - \frac{m_i E_j}{m_i + m_j}, \frac{m_j}{m_i + m_j} \mathbf{p}_i - \frac{m_i}{m_i + m_j} \mathbf{p}_j \right)$$



# p-p-K- cumulant



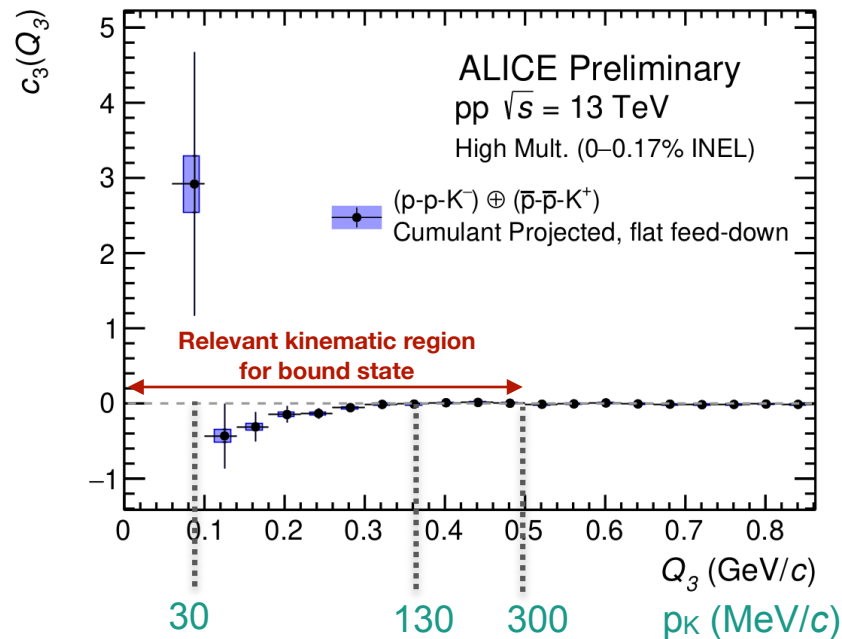
Comparison with K<sup>-</sup> interaction studies in nuclei:  
kaon momentum evaluated in the p-p rest frame



$$k_{pp} < 180 \text{ MeV}/c$$

Compatible with  
Fermi momentum of  
nucleons in nuclei

K<sup>-</sup> momentum in the  
range (30-130) MeV/c



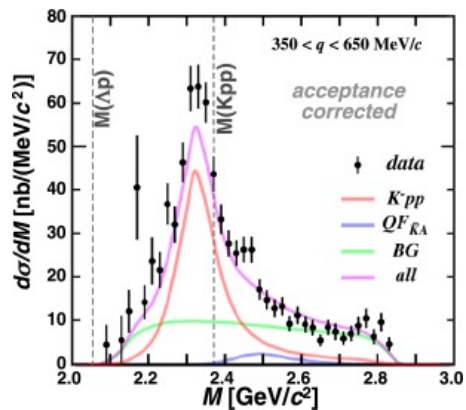
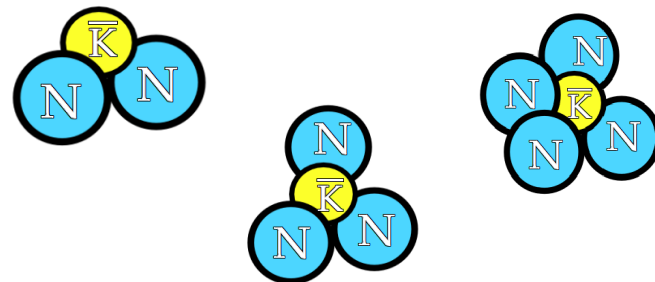
Femtoscscopy technique applied in pp collisions at the LHC to study many-body systems dynamics:

- Genuine three-body effects isolated for the first time using the Kubo's rule.
  - **p-p-p**: negative cumulant with a significance of  $6.7 \sigma$ 
    - > first comparison of the correlation function with theoretical calculations
  - **p-p- $\Lambda$** : no significant deviation from 0 in Run 2 data.
  - **p-p- $K^+$**  and **p-p- $K^-$** : cumulants compatible with 0, no evidence of a genuine three-body effects and bound state
- More precision studies within reach with the large data samples collected in Run 3 & 4.

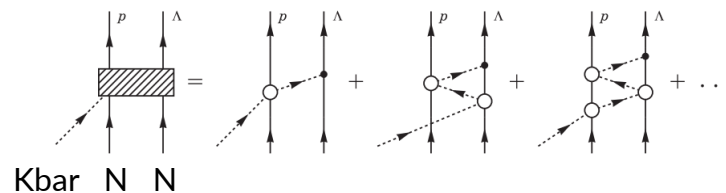
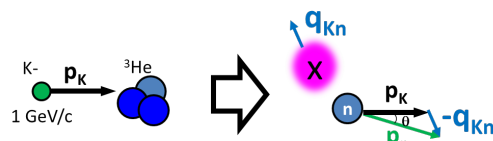
**Thank You**

# Many-body systems with mesons

- Strongly attractive  $\bar{K}N$  interaction in  $I = 0$  channel  
 → Exotic bound states of antikaons with nucleons  
*S. Wycech, NPA 450 (1986) 399c; Y. Akaishi, T. Yamazaki, PRC 65 (2002) 044005*
- First positive experimental evidence of the  $p$ - $p$ - $K^-$  bound state by the E15 Collaboration. *E15 Coll., PLB 789 (2019) 620*



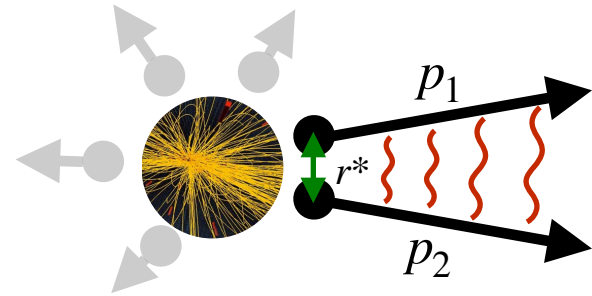
## Kaonic bound state formation mechanism



*Sekihara et al., PTEP 2016 no. 12, (2016)*

	B. E. (MeV)	Width (MeV)
Exp. (E15)	42	100
Theo.	16	72

**Next challenge:** explore many-body systems dynamics using femtoscopy!

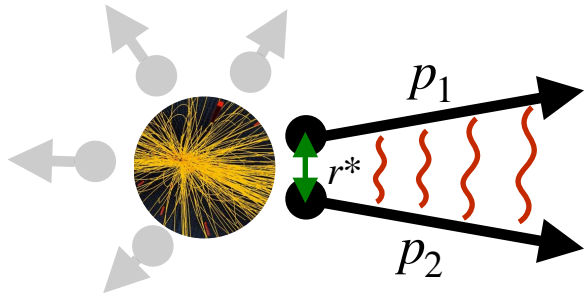


Emission source  $S(r^*)$

Two-particle correlation function:

$$C(k^*) = \mathcal{N} \frac{N_{\text{same}}(k^*)}{N_{\text{mixed}}(k^*)} = \int S(r^*) |\psi(\mathbf{k}^*, \mathbf{r}^*)|^2 \mathbf{d}^3 r^*$$

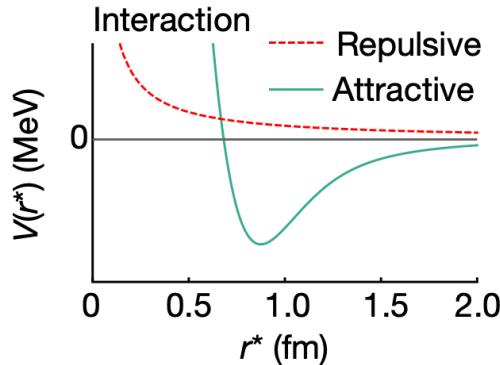
# Two-body femtoscopy



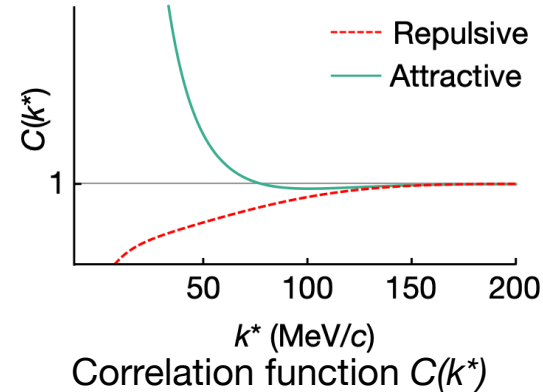
Emission source  $S(r^*)$

Two-particle correlation function:

$$C(k^*) = \mathcal{N} \frac{N_{\text{same}}(k^*)}{N_{\text{mixed}}(k^*)} = \int S(r^*) |\psi(\mathbf{k}^*, \mathbf{r}^*)|^2 d^3r^*$$



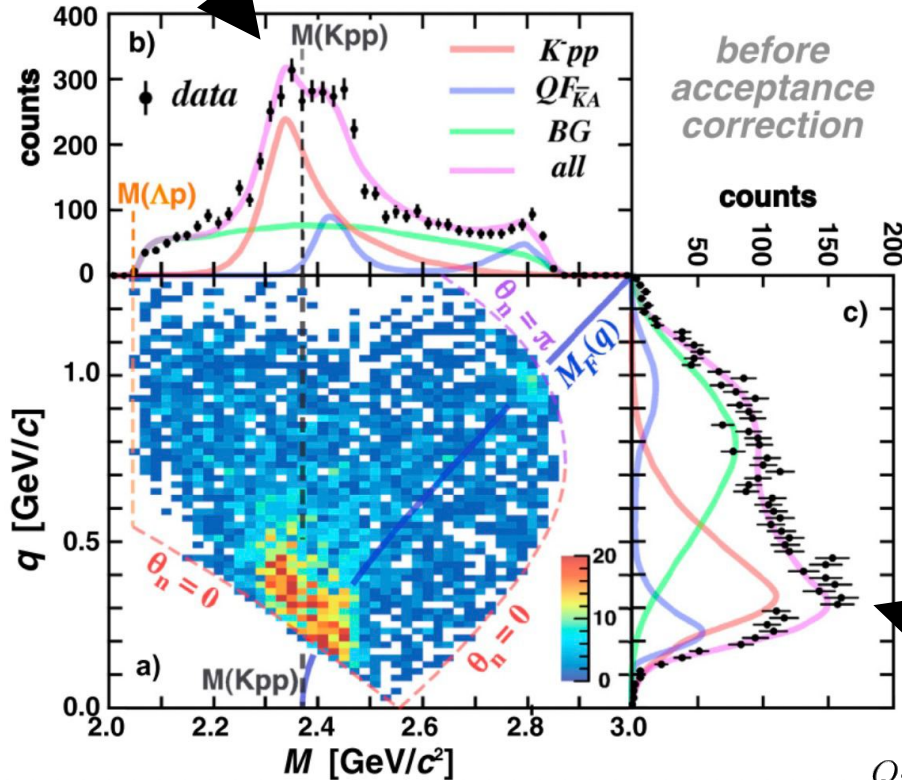
Schrödinger equation  
Two-particle wave function  
 $|\psi(\mathbf{k}^*, \mathbf{r}^*)|$





# Kaonic bound state measured by E15

E15 Coll., PLB 789 (2019) 620



The E15 collaboration measured the bound state via the following decay:



The  $\Lambda p$  momentum distribution has a peak at

$$q = p_\Lambda + p_p \approx 0.35 \text{ GeV}/c$$

Using the momentum conservation:

$$p_{K^-} + p_p + p_p \approx 0.35 \text{ GeV}/c$$

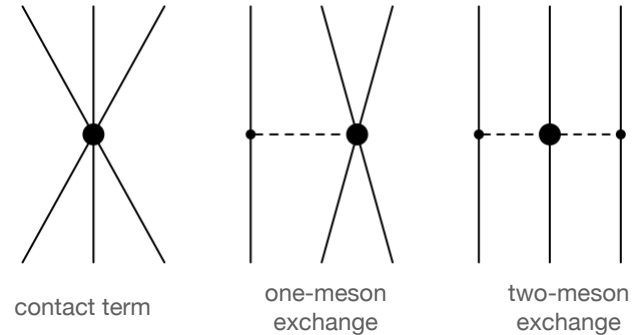
The protons are at-rest  $\rightarrow p_K \approx 0.35 \text{ GeV}/c$

In terms of  $Q_3$  we have

$$Q_3 = 2\sqrt{k_{pK}^2 + k_{pK}^2 + k_{pp}^2} = 2\sqrt{2} k_{pK} = 4/3\sqrt{2} p_K < 0.5 \text{ GeV}/c$$

- Properties of nuclei and hypernuclei cannot be described satisfactorily with two-body forces only.  
*L.E. Marcucci et al., Front. Phys. 8:69 (2020)*
- **N-N-N and N-N- $\Lambda$  interactions:** fundamental ingredients for the Equation of State (EoS) of neutron stars.  
*D. Lonardonì et al., PRL 114, 092301 (2015)*
- Many-body scatterings (e.g. **proton-deuteron**) and formation mechanisms of light nuclei. *L. Girlanda et al., PRC 102, 064003 (2020)*

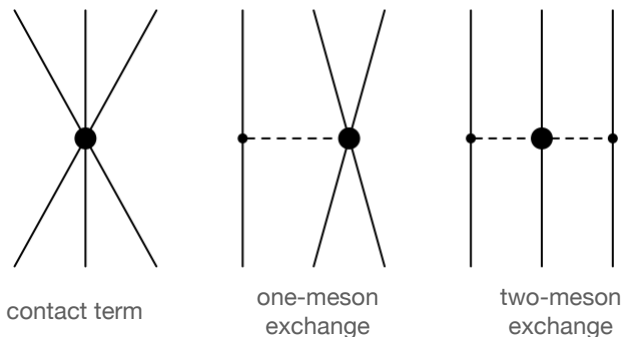
## Three-body interaction diagrams in $\chi$ EFTs



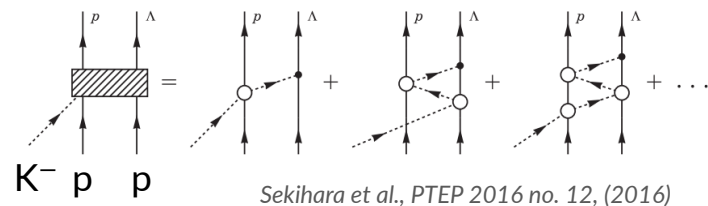
# Many-body systems

- Properties of nuclei and hypernuclei cannot be described satisfactorily with two-body forces only. *L.E. Marcucci et al., Front. Phys. 8:69 (2020)*
- **N-N-N and N-N- $\Lambda$  interactions:** fundamental ingredients for the Equation of State (EoS) of neutron stars. *D. Lonardoni et al., PRL 114, 092301 (2015)*
- Many-body scatterings (e.g. **proton-deuteron**) and formation mechanisms of light nuclei. *L. Girlanda et al., PRC 102, 064003 (2020)*
- $\bar{K}NN$ : exotic bound states of antikaons with nucleons predicted twenty years ago due to the strongly attractive  $\bar{K}N$  interaction in  $I = 0$  channel. *S. Wycech, NPA 450 (1986) 399c; Y. Akaishi, T. Yamazaki, PRC 65 (2002) 044005*
- First positive experimental evidence of the **p-p- $K^-$  bound state** by the E15 Collaboration. *E15 Coll., PLB 789 (2019) 620*

## Three-body interaction diagrams in $\chi$ EFTs



## Kaonic bound state formation mechanism



**Next experimental challenge:** genuine three-body interaction measurements

# Source determination



→ Femtoscopy used in the “traditional” way:  
known interaction → source determination

→ Determined using:

- p-p interaction: **Argonne v18**
- crosscheck using p- $\Lambda$  ( $\chi$ EFT **LO** and **NLO**)

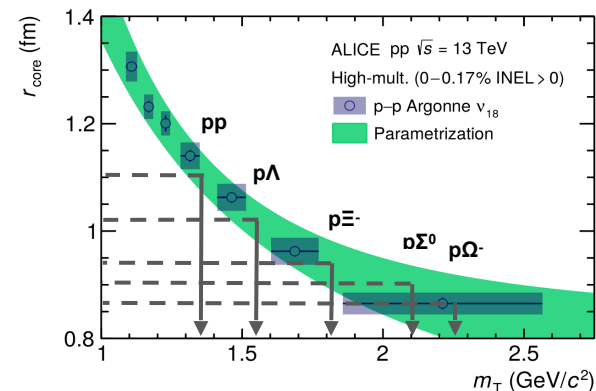
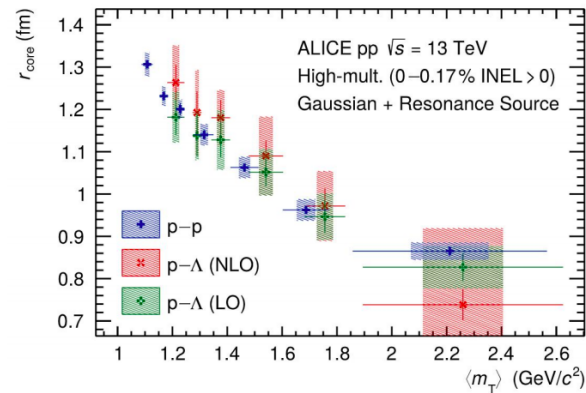
→ Exponential tail is included to account for the effect due to the short lived strongly-decaying resonances

$$S(r) = \frac{1}{(4\pi r_{\text{core}}^2)^{3/2}} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{4r_{\text{core}}^2}\right) \otimes \frac{1}{s} \exp\left(-\frac{r}{s}\right)$$

Gaussian source profile
Exponential tail  
(for the resonances)

→ Common universal core source for baryons

→ Fix the source at  $\langle m_T \rangle$  of the hadron-hadron pair under study



ALICE Coll. Physics Lett. B, 811 (2020) 135849

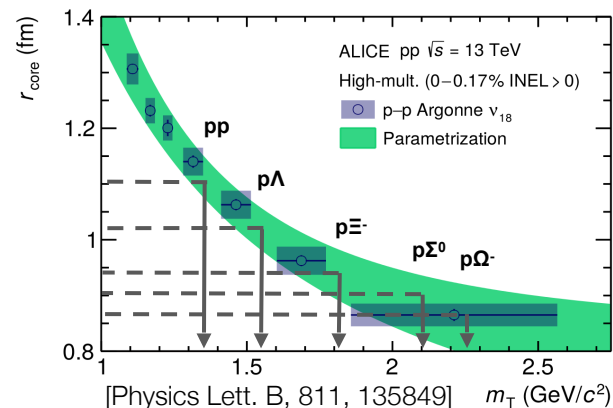
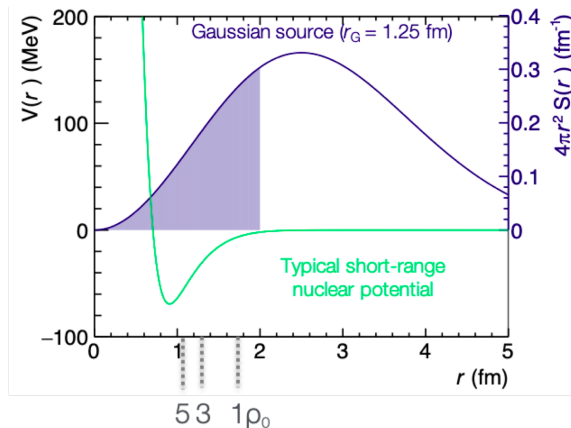
# Two-body femtoscopy

$$S(r) = (4\pi r_{\text{core}}^2)^{-3/2} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{4r_{\text{core}}^2}\right) \otimes \frac{1}{s} \exp\left(-\frac{r}{s}\right), \quad s = \beta \gamma \tau_{\text{res}} = \frac{P_{\text{res}}}{M_{\text{res}}} \tau_{\text{res}}$$

Gaussian source profile

Exponential tail added to account for the effect due to strong short-lived resonances

Small particle-emitting source created in pp and p-Pb collisions at the LHC.



$$C(k^*) = \mathcal{N} \cdot \frac{N_{\text{same}}(k^*)}{N_{\text{mixed}}(k^*)} = \int S(r) \left| \psi(k^*, r) \right|^2 d^3r$$

Emission source Two-particle wave function

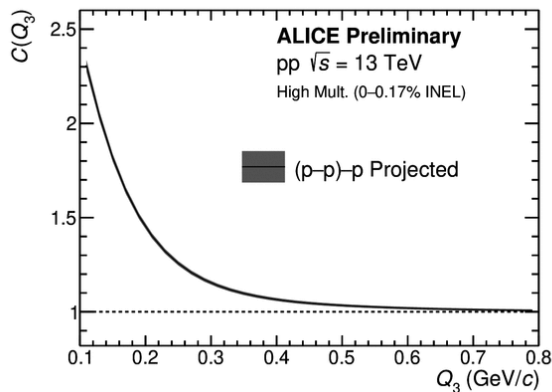
# Projector method

$$C_3^{ij}(Q_3) = \int C_2(k_{ij}^*) W_{ij}(k_{ij}^*, Q_3) dk_{ij}^*$$

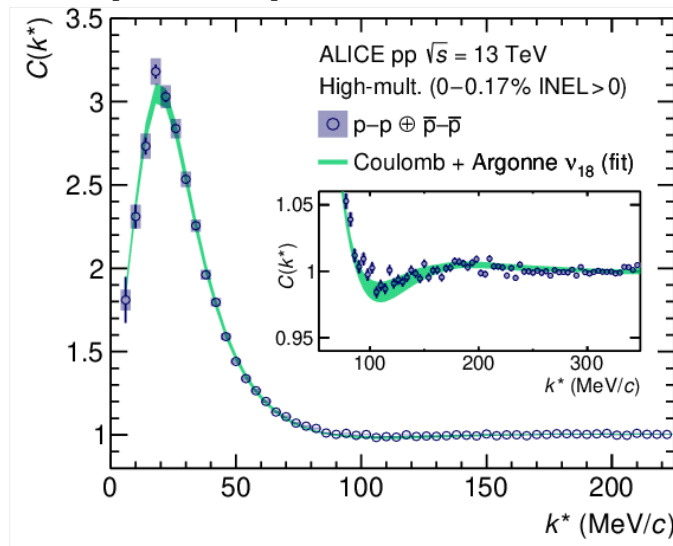
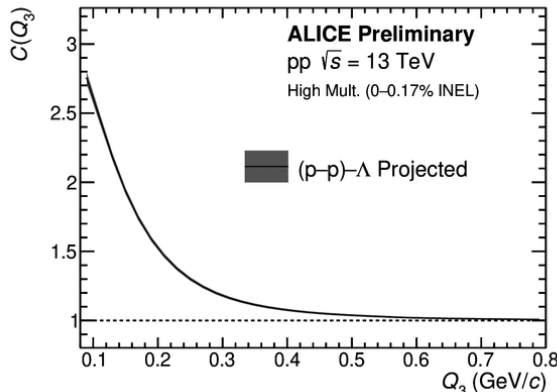
Outputs:

Input:  
proton-proton

(proton-proton)-proton



(proton-proton)-Λ



[ALICE Collaboration / Physics Letters B 805 (2020) 135419]

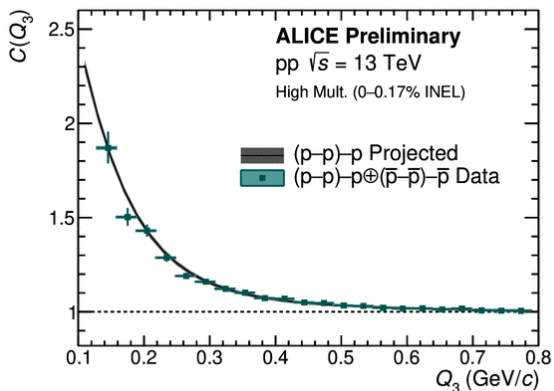
# Projector method

$$C_3^{ij}(Q_3) = \int C_2(k_{ij}^*) W_{ij}(k_{ij}^*, Q_3) dk_{ij}^*$$

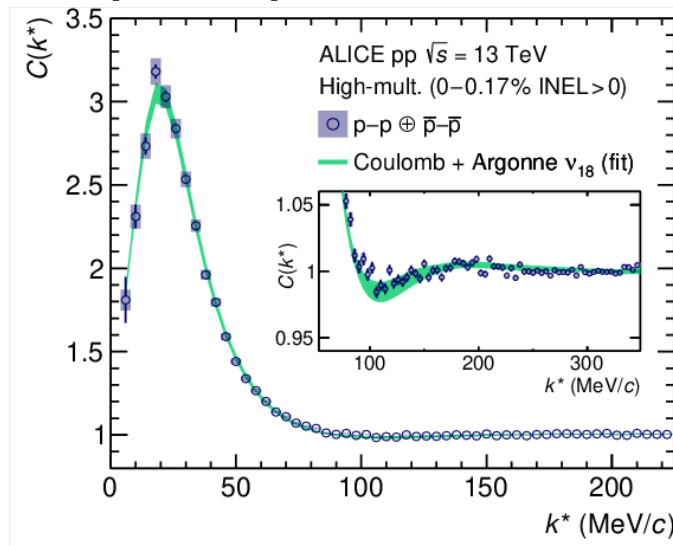
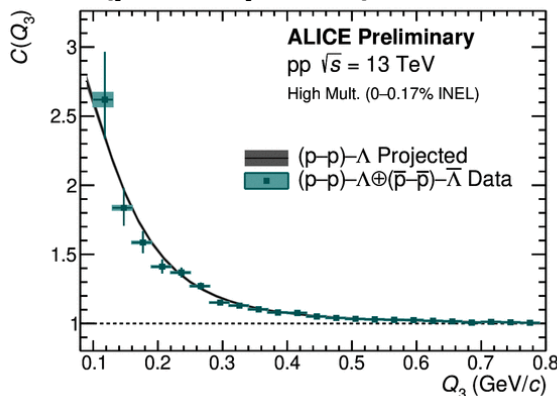
Outputs:

Input:  
proton-proton

(proton-proton)-proton



(proton-proton)-Λ



Data-driven approach VS Projector method

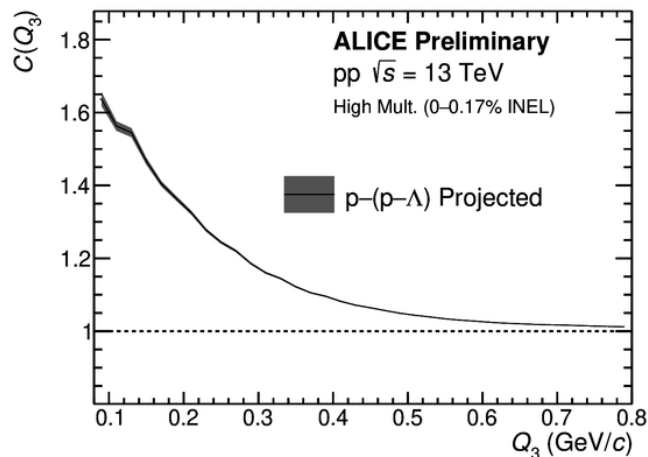
[ALICE Collaboration / Physics Letters B 805 (2020) 135419]

# Projector method

$$C_3^{ij}(Q_3) = \int C_2(k_{ij}^*) W_{ij}(k_{ij}^*, Q_3) dk_{ij}^*$$

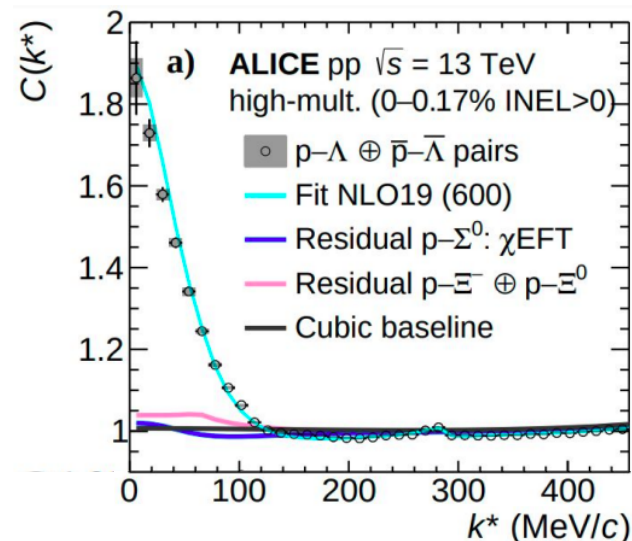
**Outputs:**

(proton- $\Lambda$ )-proton



ALI-PREL-487154

**Input:**  
proton- $\Lambda$



[ALICE Collaboration / arXiv:2104.04427]

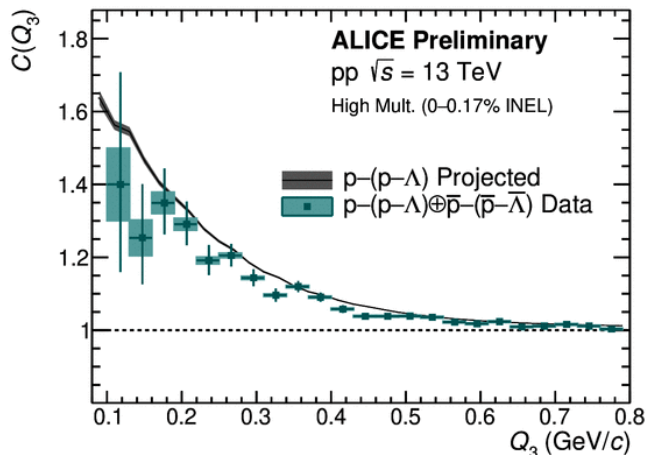


# Projector method

$$C_3^{ij}(Q_3) = \int C_2(k_{ij}^*) W_{ij}(k_{ij}^*, Q_3) dk_{ij}^*$$

**Outputs:**

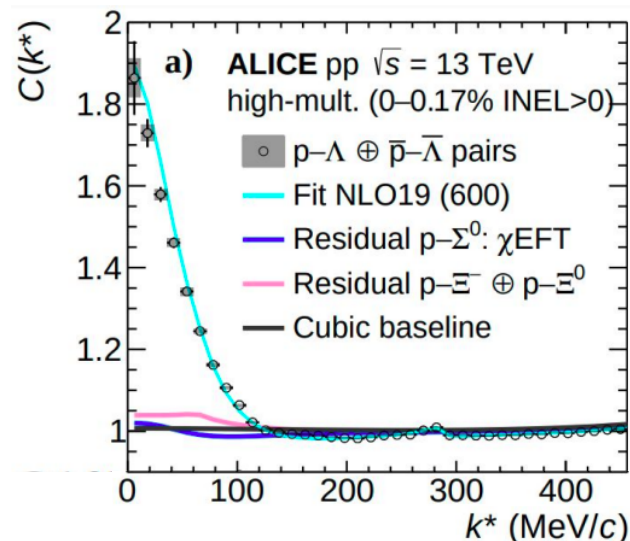
**(proton- $\Lambda$ )-proton**



ALI-PREL-487144

**Data-driven approach** VS Projector method

**Input:**  
**proton- $\Lambda$**



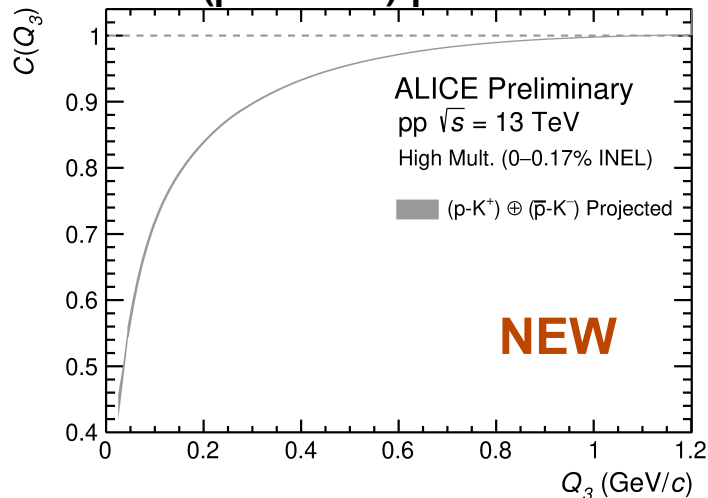
[ALICE Collaboration / arXiv:2104.04427]

# Projector method

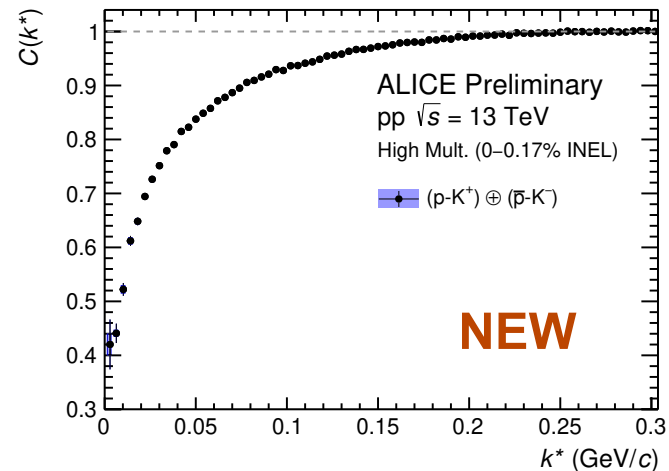
$$C_3^{ij}(Q_3) = \int C_2(k_{ij}^*) W_{ij}(k_{ij}^*, Q_3) dk_{ij}^*$$

**Output:**  
(proton-K<sup>+</sup>)-proton

**Input:**  
proton-K<sup>+</sup>



ALI-PREL-513138



ALI-PREL-512896

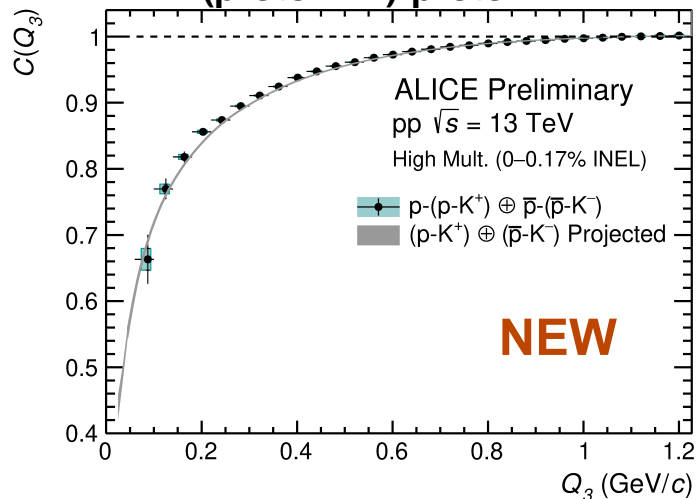
# Projector method

$$C_3^{ij}(Q_3) = \int C_2(k_{ij}^*) W_{ij}(k_{ij}^*, Q_3) dk_{ij}^*$$

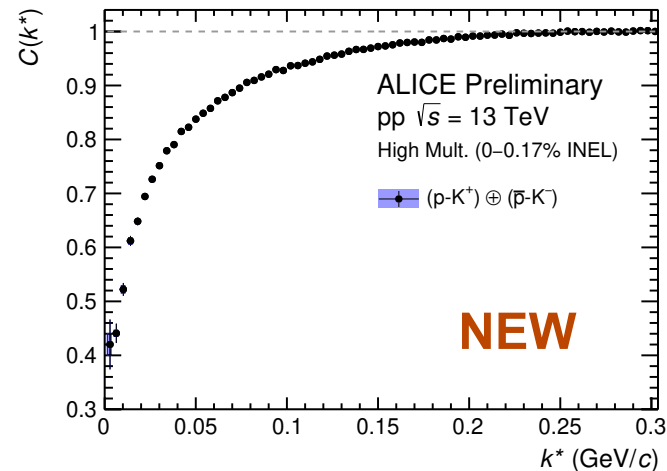
**Output:**

**(proton-K<sup>+</sup>)-proton**

**Input:**  
**proton-K<sup>+</sup>**



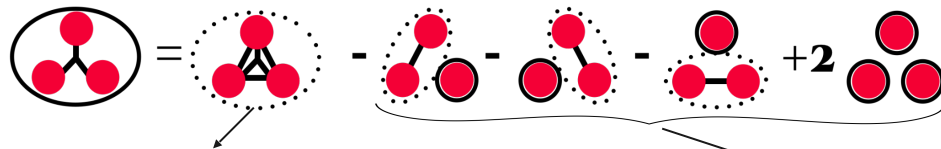
ALI-PREL-513304



ALI-PREL-512896

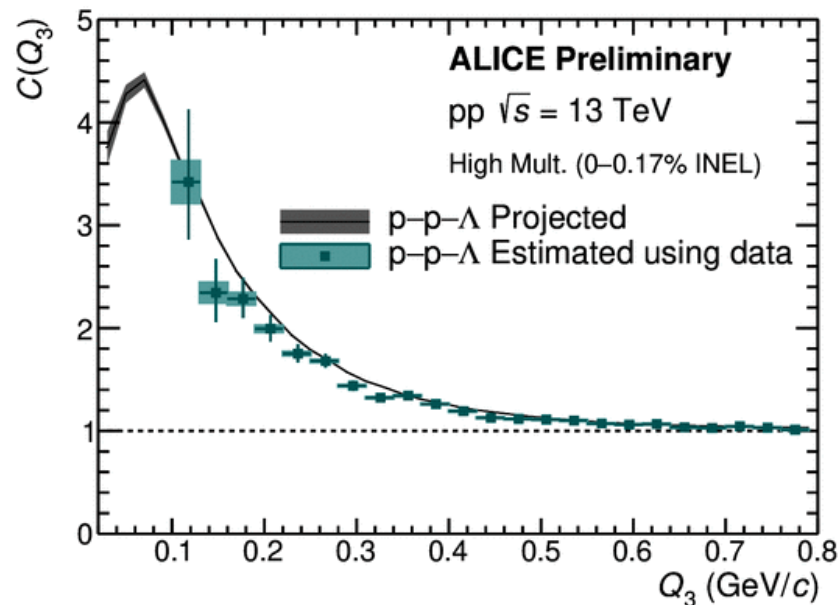
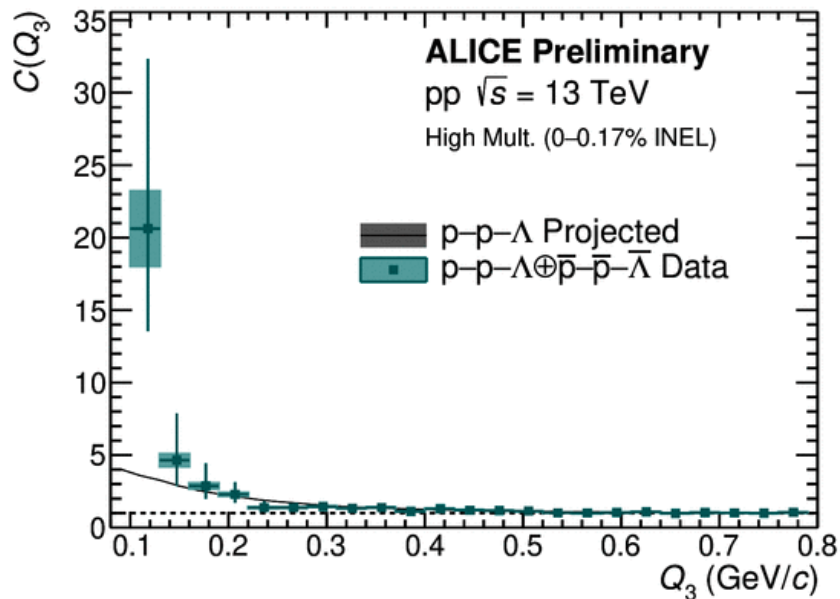
**Data-driven approach** VS Projector method

# p-p- $\Lambda$ Correlation Function

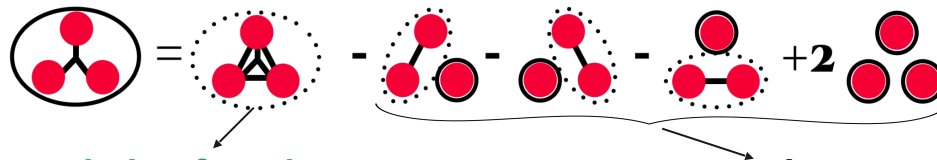


p-p- $\Lambda$  correlation function

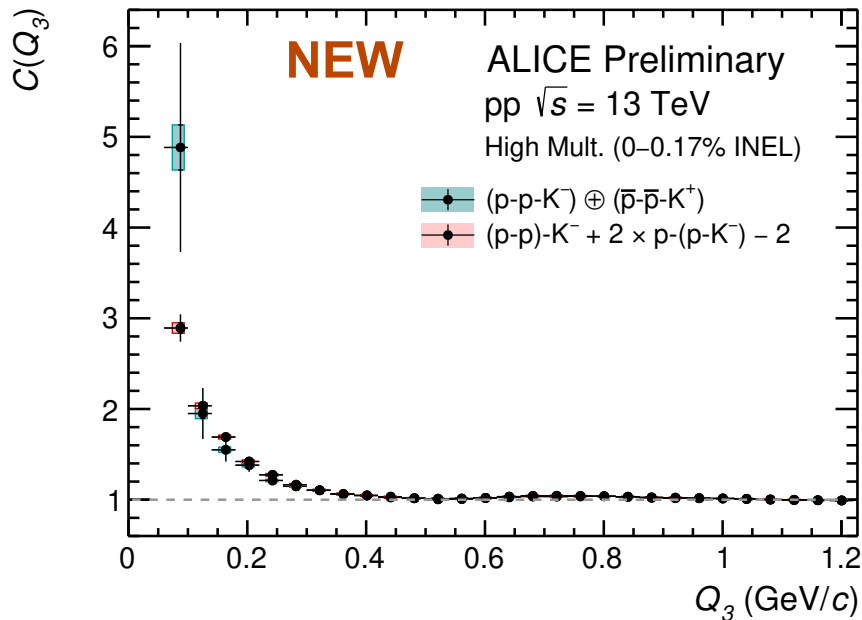
Lower-order correlations



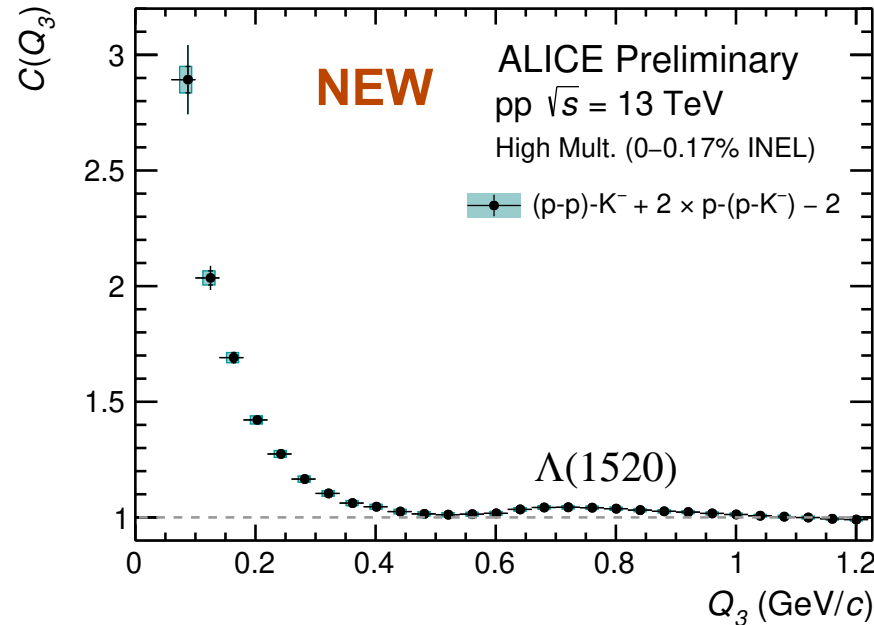
# p-p-K- Correlation Function



p-p-K- correlation function



Lower-order correlations



# $\lambda$ parameters



The measured correlation function includes also misidentified particles and and feed-down particles coming from decays of resonances. Total **measured** function thus is:

$$C(XYZ) = \sum_{i,j,k} \lambda_{i,j,k}(XYZ) C_{i,j,k}(XYZ) = \underbrace{\lambda_{X_0,Y_0,Z_0}(XYZ) C_{X_0,Y_0,Z_0}(XYZ)}_{\text{Correctly identified primary particles}} + \sum_{ijk \neq X_0 Y_0 Z_0} \lambda_{i,j,k}(XYZ) C_{i,j,k}(XYZ)$$

- The cumulant is calculated with the measured correlation functions not accounting for the  $\lambda$  parameters.

$$\lambda_{i,j,k}(XYZ) = \mathcal{P}(X_i) f(X_i) \mathcal{P}(Y_j) f(Y_j) \mathcal{P}(Z_k) f(Z_k)$$

Extracted from measurement

What we are interested in

Feed-down and misidentified particle contribution

$$\underbrace{c(XYZ)}_{\text{Extracted from measurement}} = \sum_{i,j,k} \lambda_{i,j,k}(XYZ) c(X_i Y_j Z_k) = \underbrace{\lambda_{X_0 Y_0 Z_0}(XYZ) c(X_0 Y_0 Z_0)}_{\text{What we are interested in}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i,j,k \neq (X_0 Y_0 Z_0)} \lambda_{i,j,k}(XYZ) c(X_i Y_j Z_k)}_{\text{Feed-down and misidentified particle contribution}}$$

- The genuine three body interaction for the feed-down and misidentified particle contributions is currently not known.

# $\lambda$ parameters

- The  $\lambda$  parameters requires purity and the secondary fraction evaluation.
- The average  $\Lambda$  purity is 95.57% and for protons the purity is 98.34%.
- The fractions of secondaries are estimated using Monte Carlo simulations.

Some of the contributions with highest lambda parameters:

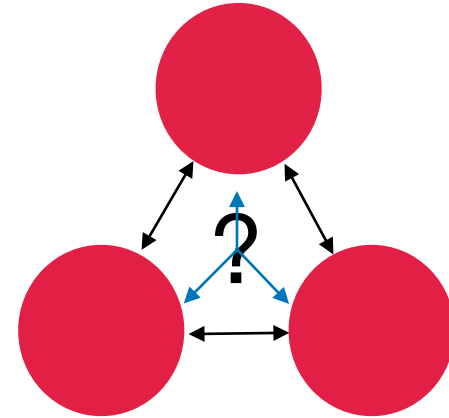
p-p-p	61.8%
p-p-p $\Lambda$ x3	19.6%
p-p-p $\Sigma^+$ x3	8.5%
p-p $\Lambda$ -p $\Lambda$ x3	0.69%
p-p $\Lambda$ -p $\Sigma^+$ x3	0.3 %
p-p $\Sigma^+$ -p $\Sigma^+$ x3	0.13%

p-p- $\Lambda$	40.5%
p-p- $\Lambda\Sigma^0$	13.5%
p-p- $\Lambda\Sigma^0$	7.56%
p-p- $\Lambda\Sigma^-$	7.56%
p-p $\Lambda$ - $\Lambda$ x2	8.56%
p-p $\Sigma^+$ - $\Lambda$ x2	3.7%

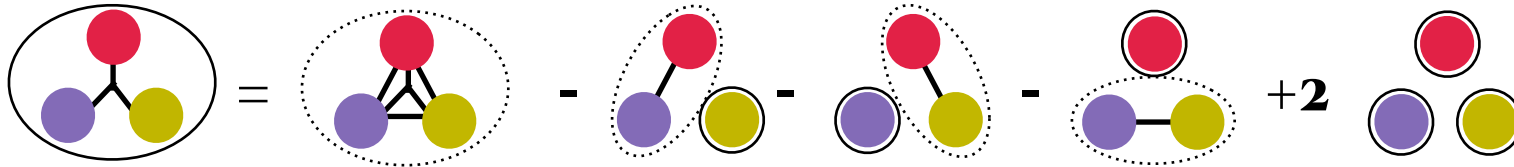
## Accessing genuine three-body interaction

Measured correlation function includes:

- pairwise particle interactions,
- genuine three-particle interaction.



Use Kubo's cumulant expansion method [1] to extract the genuine three-body interaction.



$$c_3(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) = \frac{[N_3(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) - N_2(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2) N_1(\mathbf{p}_3) - N_2(\mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) N_1(\mathbf{p}_1) - N_2(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_3) N_1(\mathbf{p}_2) + 2 N_1(\mathbf{p}_1) N_1(\mathbf{p}_2) N_1(\mathbf{p}_3)]}{N_1(\mathbf{p}_1) N_1(\mathbf{p}_2) N_1(\mathbf{p}_3)}$$

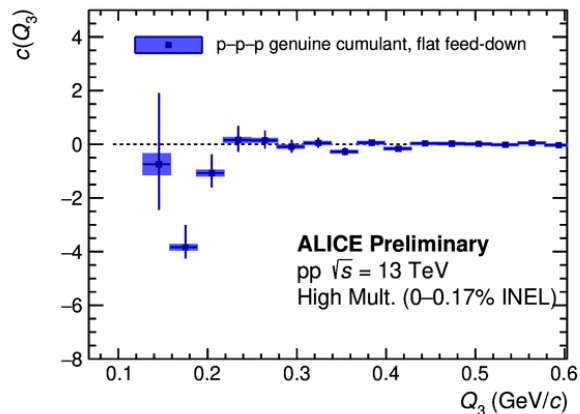
$$c_3(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) = C([\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3]) - C([\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2], \mathbf{p}_3) - C(\mathbf{p}_1, [\mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3]) - C([\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_3], \mathbf{p}_2) + 2$$

[1] J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. 17, pp. 1100–1120 (1962)

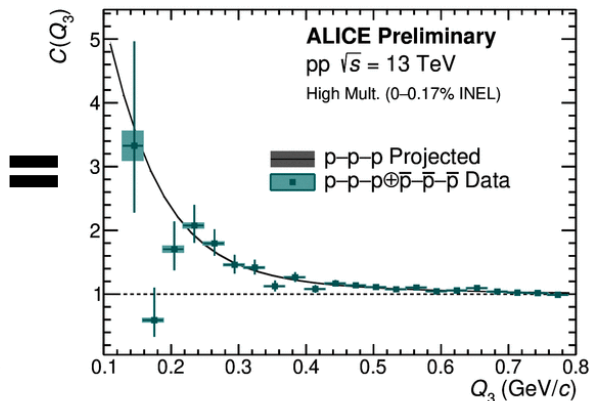


## Accessing genuine three-body interaction

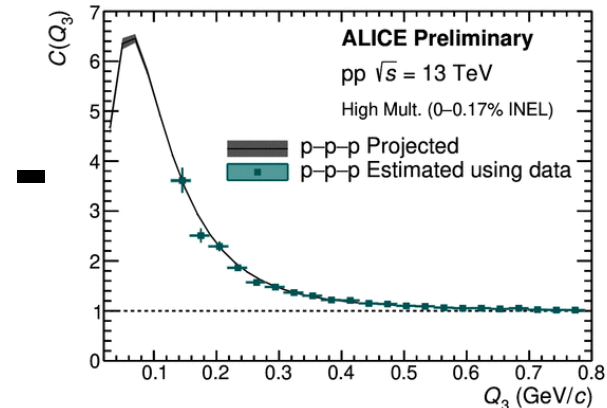
ppp results: cumulant, three-body correlation function, two-body correlation projected on  $Q_3$



ALI-PREL-487203



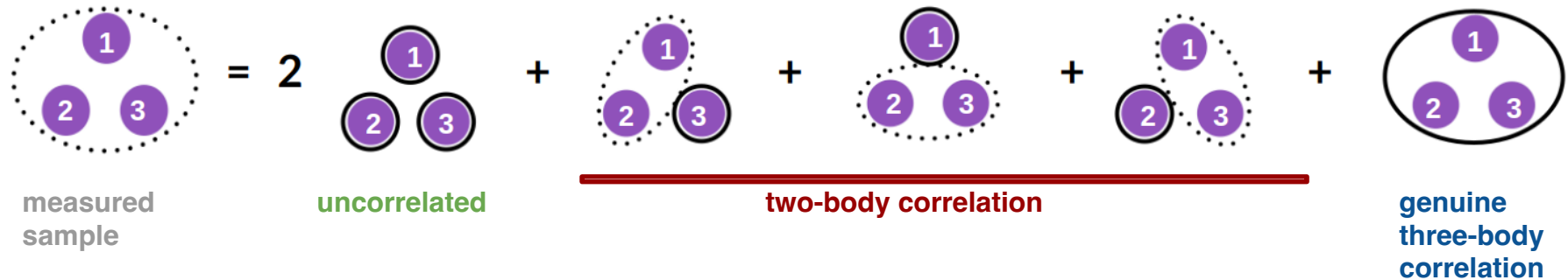
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# Kubo's cumulant expansion method

The measured triplet sample can be decomposed in the following sub-samples



In terms of the correlation functions

$$C_3(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) = C_3([\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2], \mathbf{p}_3) + C_3(\mathbf{p}_1, [\mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3]) + C_3(\mathbf{p}_2, [\mathbf{p}_3, \mathbf{p}_1]) + \mathbf{c}_3([\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3]) - 2$$

The pairs in the square brackets are correlated, the particle outside is not correlated.



# Two-body correlation in the three-body systems

Each term  $C_3([\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j], \mathbf{p}_k)$  can be evaluated using two-body correlation functions.

$$C_3(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) = \int_{V_1} \int_{V_2} \int_{V_3} \overset{\text{three-body source}}{S_3(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3)} \underbrace{|\psi_{\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3)|^2}_{\text{wave function of the system}} d^3\mathbf{x}_1 d^3\mathbf{x}_2 d^3\mathbf{x}_3$$

solution of the Schrödinger equation

$$\mathcal{H} = \left[ \frac{\mathbf{p}_1^2}{2m_1} + \frac{\mathbf{p}_2^2}{2m_2} + V_2(\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2) \right] + \frac{\mathbf{p}_3^2}{2m_3}$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_{CM} + \mathcal{H}_1 + \mathcal{H}_2 = \frac{\mathbf{P}^2}{2M} + \left[ \frac{\mathbf{k}_1^2}{2\mu_1} + V(\mathbf{r}_1) \right] + \frac{\mathbf{k}_2^2}{2\mu_2}$$

The three hamiltonian operators commute, plane waves are assumed as solutions for the Schrödinger equations with  $\mathcal{H}_{CM}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_2$

Jacobi coordinates

$$\mathbf{r}_i = \mathbf{x}_{i+1} - \frac{\sum_{j=1}^i m_j \mathbf{x}_j}{\sum_{j=1}^i m_j}$$

Conjugate momenta

$$\mathbf{k}_i = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^i m_j}{\sum_{j=1}^{i+1} m_j} \mathbf{p}_{i+1} - \frac{m_{i+1}}{\sum_{j=1}^{i+1} m_j} \sum_{j=1}^i \mathbf{p}_j$$

# Two-body correlation in the three-body systems

Each term  $C_3([\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j], \mathbf{p}_k)$  can be evaluated using two-body correlation functions.

$$C_3(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2) = \int_{V_{\mathbf{r}_1}} S_3(\mathbf{r}_1) |\psi_{\mathbf{k}_1}(\mathbf{r}_1)|^2 d^3 \mathbf{r}_1$$

| solution of the Schrödinger equation for the hamiltonian  $H_1$

$$H_1 = \frac{\mathbf{k}_1^2}{2 \mu_1} + V(\mathbf{r}_1)$$

The Koonin-Pratt formula for the two-body correlation function is obtained.

$$C_3(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2) = C_2(\mathbf{k}_1)$$

We can use the **experimental** or the **theoretical** two-body correlation functions to evaluate the lower order contributions in the three-body correlation functions

# Projection on Q3

- The projection onto  $Q_3$  is performed as follows

$$C_3(Q_3) = \iiint_{(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) \in \mathcal{D}} C_3(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) \mathcal{N} d^3 \mathbf{p}_1 d^3 \mathbf{p}_2 d^3 \mathbf{p}_3$$

$$\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) \in \mathcal{S} \mid Q_3 = \text{constant}\}$$

density of states in the phase space  
(uniform)

- In the case of two-body correlations, the projections turns to be

$$C_3(Q_3) = \int_0^{Q_3 \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\alpha\gamma - \beta^2}}} C_2(k_1) \left[ \frac{16(\alpha\gamma - \beta^2)^{3/2} k_1^2}{\pi Q_3^4 \gamma^2} \sqrt{\gamma Q_3^2 - (\alpha\gamma - \beta^2) k_1^2} \right] dk_1$$

two-body correlation function      projector  $W(k_1, Q_3)$  ----> phase space density at  $Q_3 = \text{constant}$

where  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are constants depending on the particles mass.

# Projection on $Q_3$

If we project onto  $Q_3$  all the two-body contributions

$$C_3(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) = C_3([\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2], \mathbf{p}_3) + C_3(\mathbf{p}_1, [\mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3]) + C_3(\mathbf{p}_2, [\mathbf{p}_3, \mathbf{p}_1]) - 2$$

we have

$$C_3(Q_3) = C_3^{12}(Q_3) + C_3^{23}(Q_3) + C_3^{31}(Q_3) - 2$$

where

$$C_3^{ij}(Q_3) = \int C_2(k_1^{ij}) W^{ij}(k_1^{ij}, Q_3) dk_1^{ij}$$