



XVIII Polish Workshop on Relativistic Heavy-Ion Collisions Strange and Heavy Flavour Physics

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13-14 Dec 2025

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The Wróblewski factor revisited for proton-proton at $\sqrt{s} \sim 10$ GeV

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ON THE STRANGE QUARK SUPPRESSION FACTOR IN HIGH ENERGY COLLISIONS

The Wróblewski Factor Acta Physica Polonica B 16 (1985) 379

BY A. WRÓBLEWSKI

$$\lambda = \frac{\langle N_{s\bar{s}} \rangle}{(\langle N_{q\bar{q}} \rangle - \langle N_{s\bar{s}} \rangle)}$$

Note the energy scale shifted by two m_p

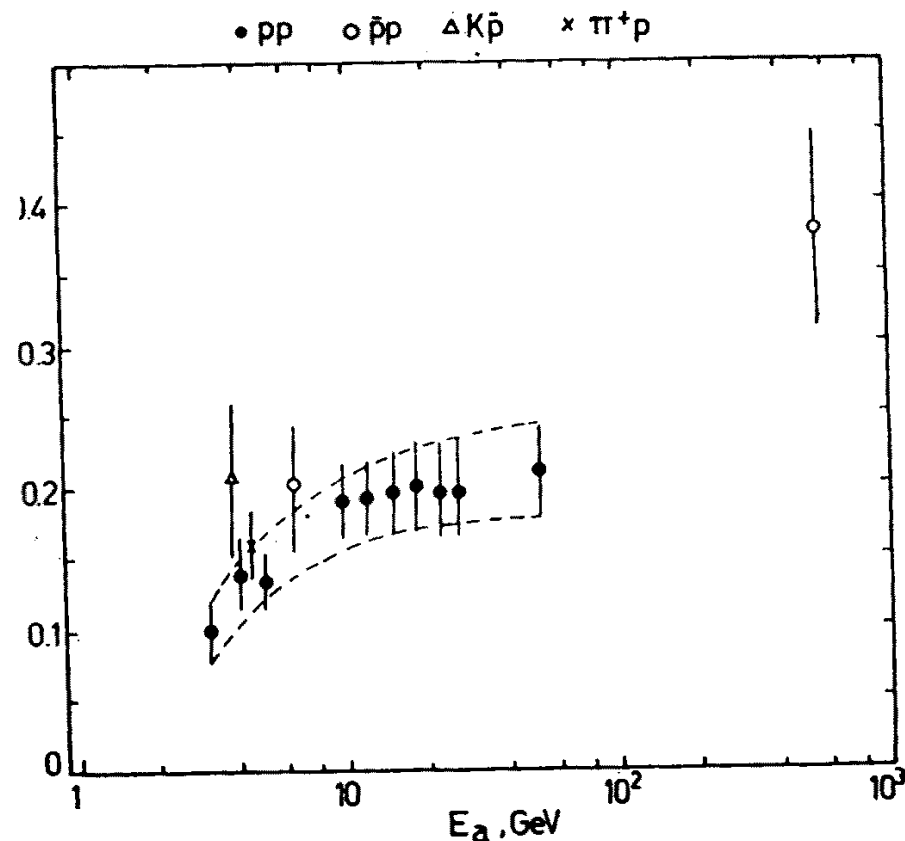
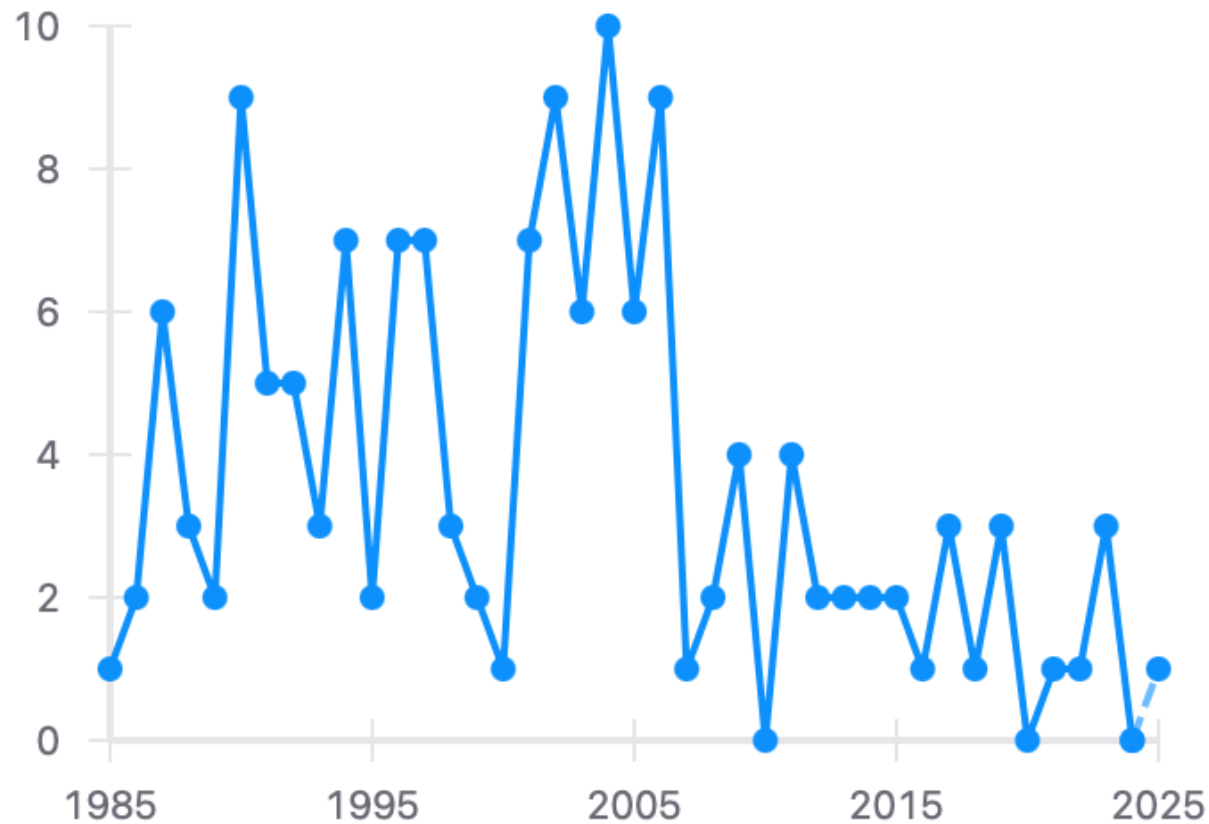


Fig. 6. The values of the strange quark suppression factor λ calculated from formula (1) as a function of the available energy $E_a = \sqrt{s} - m_{\text{beam}} - m_{\text{target}}$. Included is the UA5 result obtained in Ref. [4] for non single-diffractive events. The hand-drawn dashed lines indicate approximate limits of λ in pp collisions between 12 and 1500 GeV/c

ON THE STRANGE QUARK SUPPRESSION FACTOR IN HIGH ENERGY COLLISIONS

BY A. WRÓBLEWSKI

Citations per year



The Wróblewski Factor

$$\lambda_s = \frac{2(\langle s \rangle + \langle \bar{s} \rangle)}{\langle u \rangle + \langle \bar{u} \rangle + \langle d \rangle + \langle \bar{d} \rangle}$$

R. Stock 2004 J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. **30** S633

F.Beccatini, M.Gaździcki, A.Keranen, J.Manninen, R.Stock
PHYSICAL REVIEW C **69**, 024905 (2004)

H.Oeschler, Acta Phys. Pol. B35 (2004) 1067

V. Friesen, Y. Kalinowsky, V.D. Toneev, Physics of Particles
and Nuclei Letters, 2019, Vol. 16, p. 681

- $\langle N \rangle$ - multiplicity of **newly formed** quarks at chemical freezeout
- *Wróblewski factor around 0.25 for pp, twice as large for AA (R. Stock)*

Peak in K^+/π^+ → peak in λ_S

- HRG fit to Pb+Pb multiplicities of π^+ , K^+ , K^- , Λ , $\bar{\Lambda}$
- **Red arrow** indicates 30A GeV/c
- From F.Beccatini, M.Gaździcki, A.Keranen, J.Manninen, R.Stock PHYSICAL REVIEW C **69**, 024905 (2004)

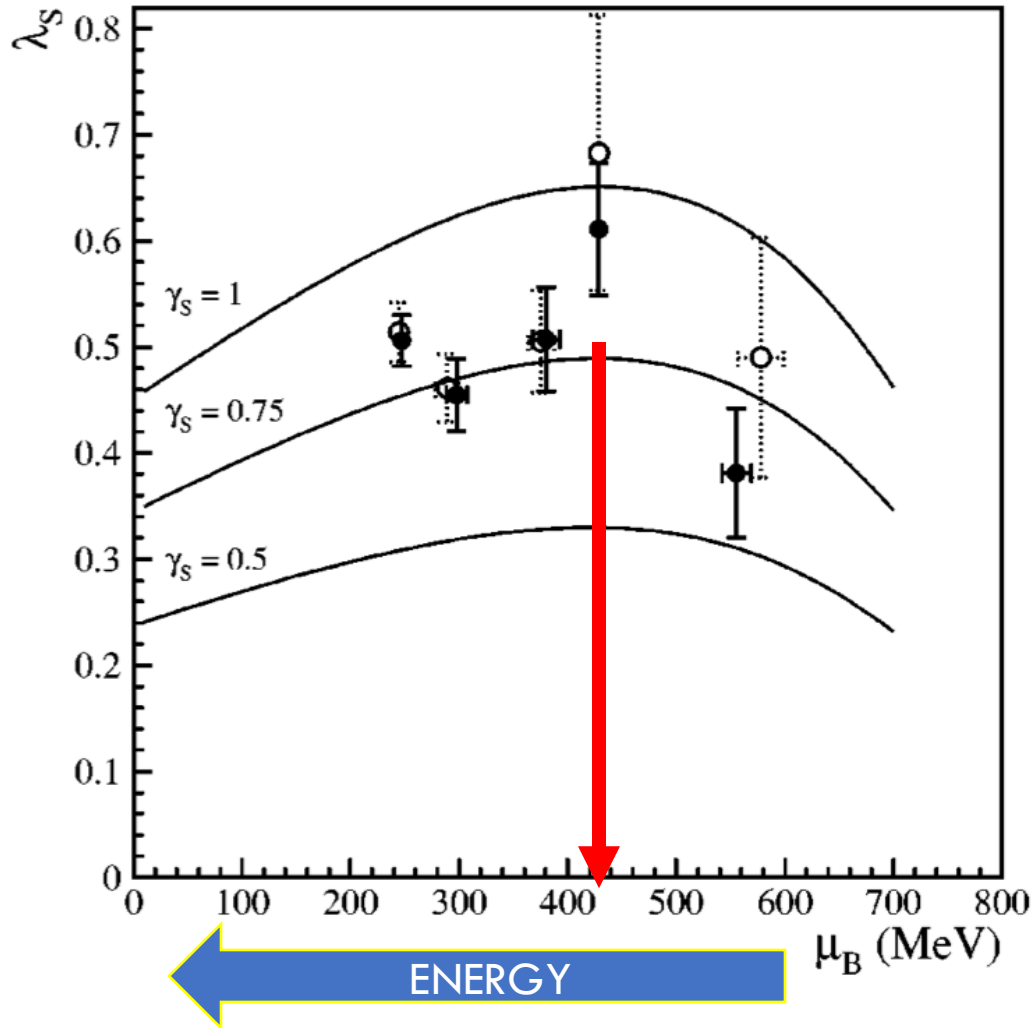
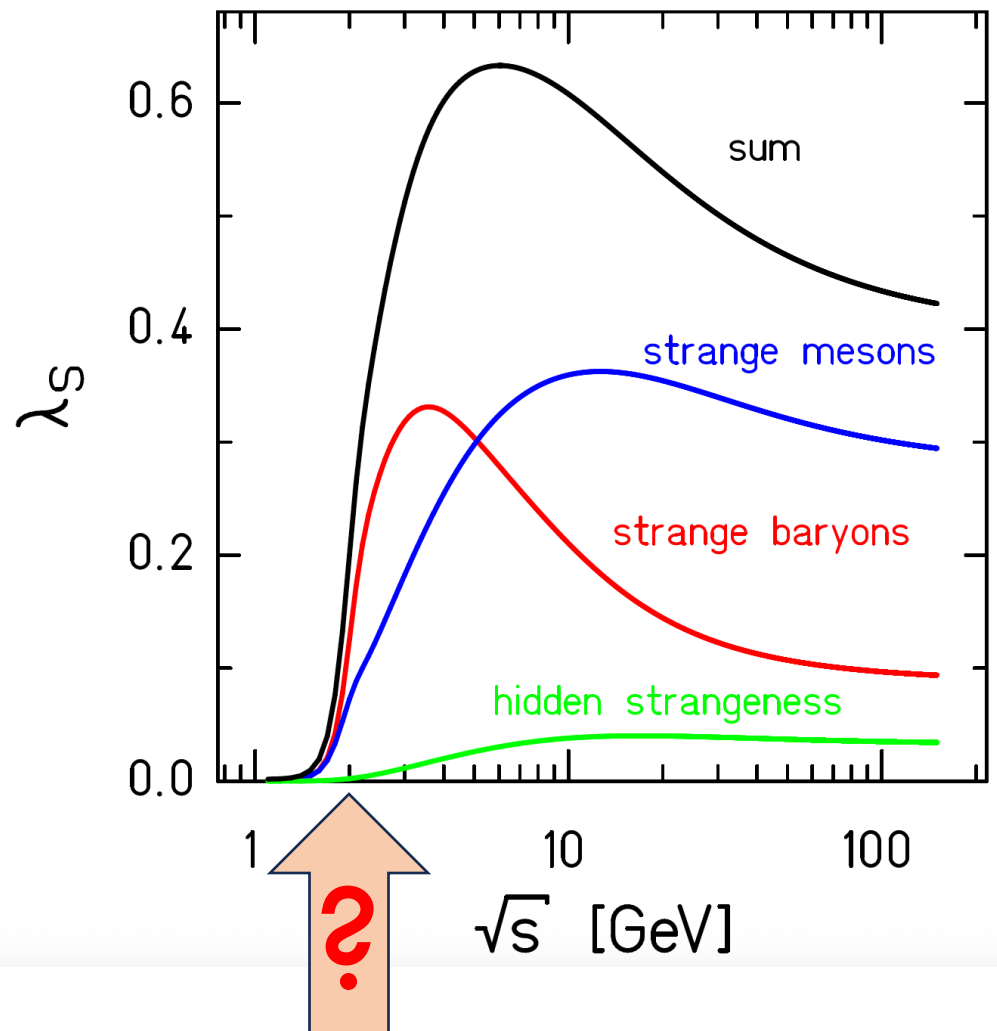


FIG. 14. λ_S estimated from the fits A (full dots) and B (hollow dots) as a function of the fitted baryon-chemical potential. Also shown are the theoretical values for a hadron gas along the fitted chemical freeze-out curve shown in Fig. 11, for different values of γ_S .

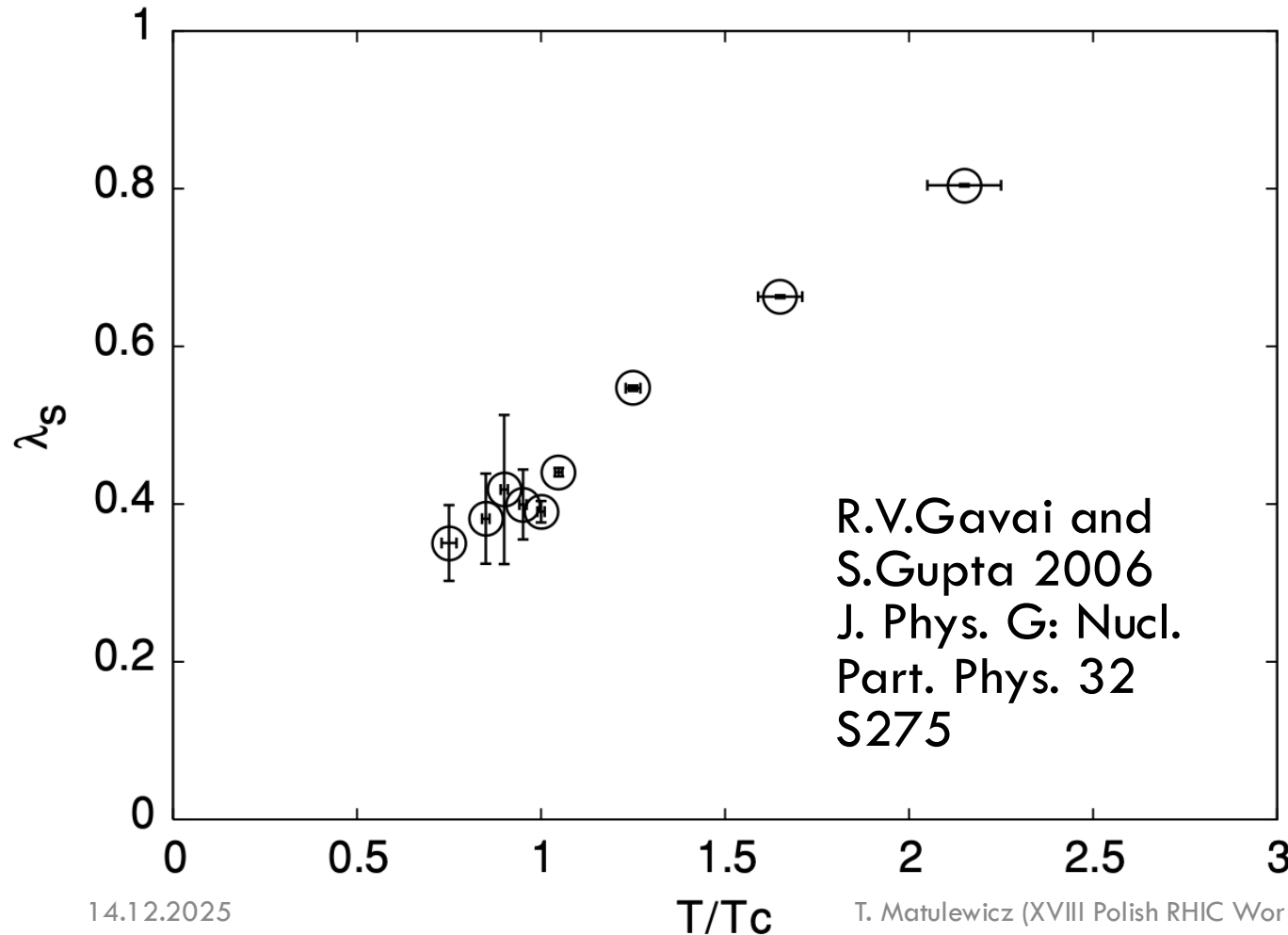
Decomposition of Wróblewski Factor



the freeze-out of an ideal hadron gas

H.Oeschler, J.Cleymans, K.Redlich, S.Wheaton Journal of Physics G: Nuclear and Particle Physics, Volume 32, p. S223

Lattice QCD results on strangeness and quasi-quarks in heavy-ion collisions



„We presented first full (two light dynamical quarks) QCD results for the Wróblewski parameter $\lambda_s(T)$. Near T_C these are found to be in agreement with the RHIC and SPS results. ”

Proton-proton measurements

Momentum (GeV/c)	\sqrt{s} (GeV)	Number of measured multiplicities
40	8.8	11
80	12.3	10 (<i>A</i> missing)
158	17.3	18 (<i>including NA49 results</i>)

HRG (ThermalFist) reproduces the experimental multiplicities with $(4 \pm 17)\%$ precision (Acta Phys. Pol. B54, 12-A1 (2023))

The remaining multiplicities from HRG model (ThermalFist)

V.Vovchenko, H.Stoecker, Computer Physics Communications 244, 295 (2019)

Assumed accuracy of HRG results: 20%.

Wróblewski Factor for proton-proton

Momentum (GeV/c)	\sqrt{s} (GeV)	Wróblewski Factor λ
40	8.8	0.113 ± 0.007
80	12.3	0.131 ± 0.008
158	17.3	0.146 ± 0.008

S=0 mesons (π, η, ρ, ϕ) |S|=1 mesons (K, K(892))

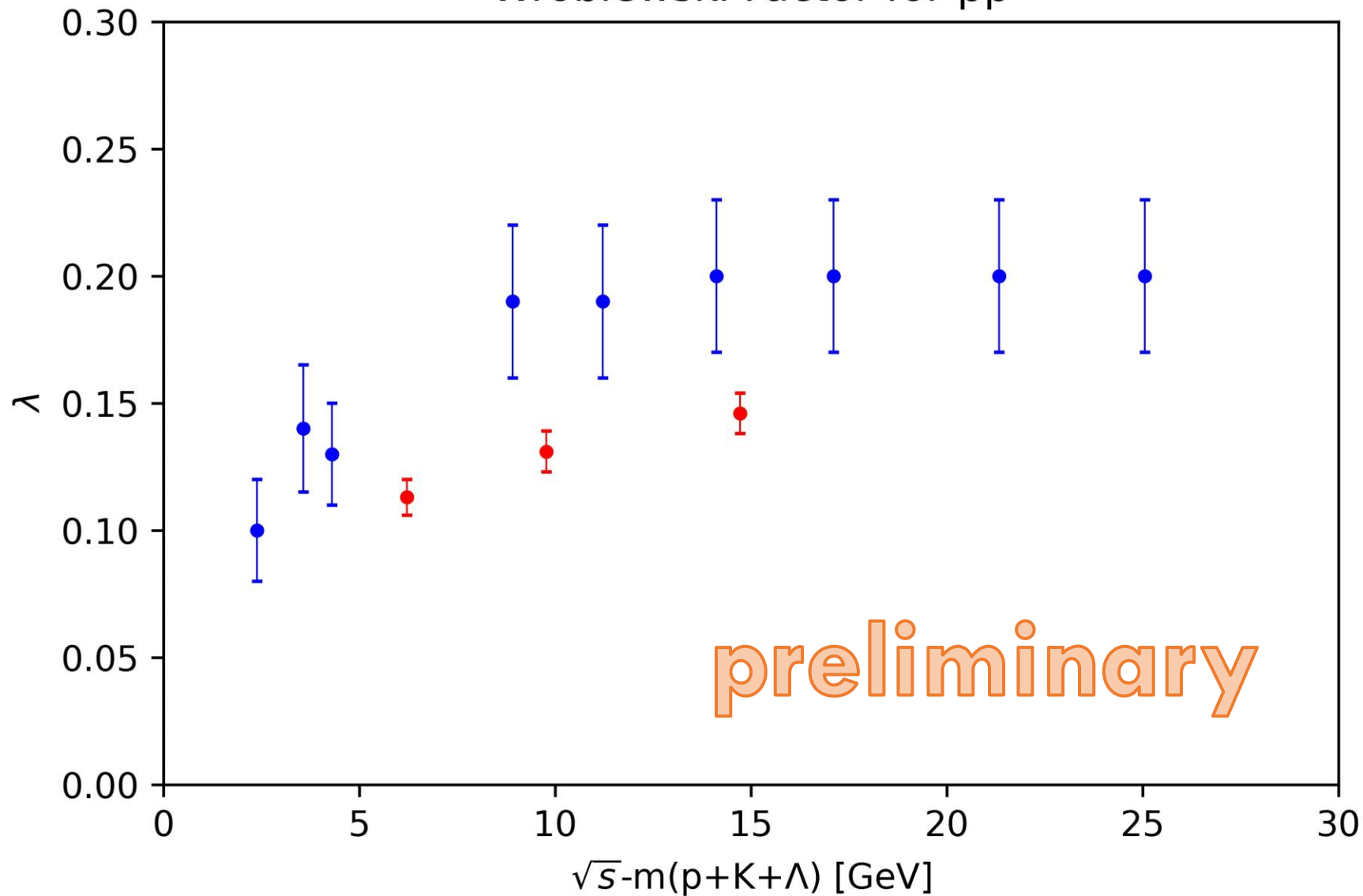
S=0 baryons (p,n,d) |S|>0 baryons ($\Lambda, \Lambda(1520), \Xi, \Xi(1530), \Omega$)

and antiparticles

Example from Wróblewski paper: $\lambda=0.19 \pm 0.03$ @100 GeV/c

Precision improved by factor 3 (only!)

Wróblewski Factor for pp



Note the energy scale is shifted by the threshold energy equal to the sum of masses of:

1. proton
2. K^+
3. Λ

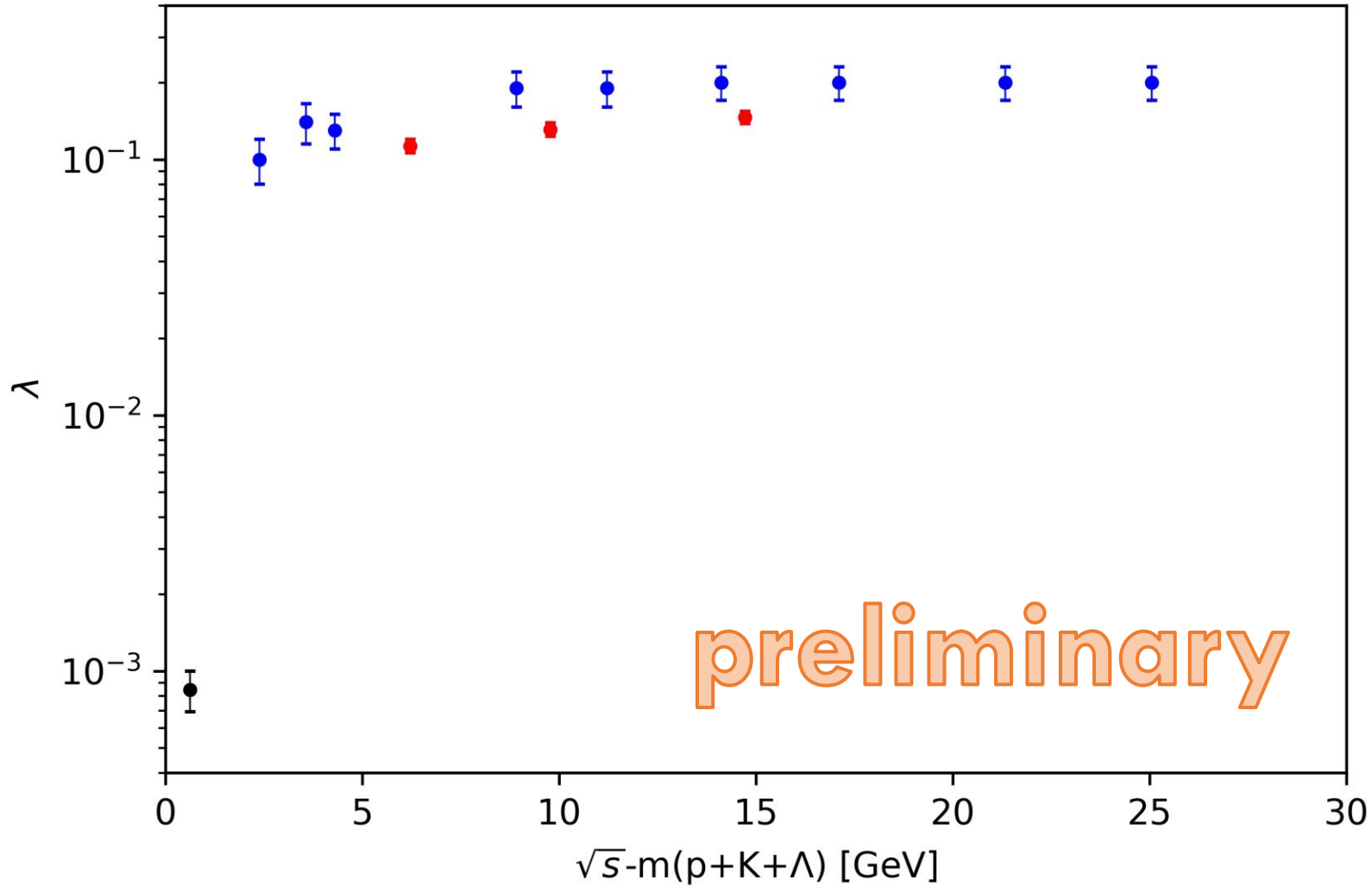
In the process $pp \rightarrow pK^+\Lambda$ nothing but the $s\bar{s}$ pair is created.

Low energy supplement

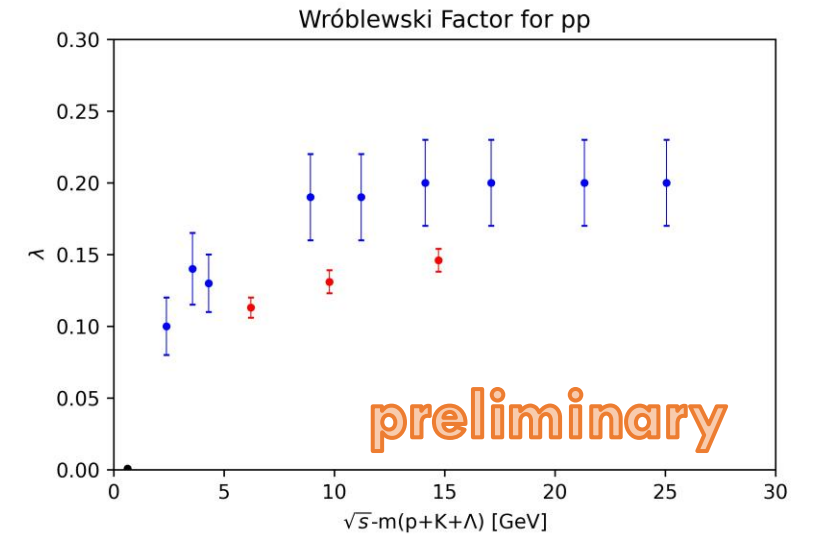
- HADES Collaboration (SIS18@GSI) measured pp at $T_{\text{KIN}}=3.5$ GeV
- Cross section for $pp \rightarrow pK^+\Lambda = 38\mu\text{b}$ (Physics Letters B 742 (2015) 242)
- Cross section for $pp \rightarrow NN\pi, pp \rightarrow NN\pi\pi \dots \approx 30\text{mb}$ (PDG)
- Average multiplicity of (charged) π $\langle M_\pi \rangle = 1.5 \pm 0.2$
(R.J. Piserchio and R.M. Kalbach, Il Nuovo Cimento XXVI, 729 (1962)
„PROTON-PROTON COLLISIONS AT 3.5 GeV”)
- Wróblewski Factor

$$\lambda = \frac{38\mu\text{b}}{30\text{mb}} \times \frac{2}{2 \times 1.5} = (8.4 \pm 1.5)10^{-4}$$

Wróblewski Factor for pp

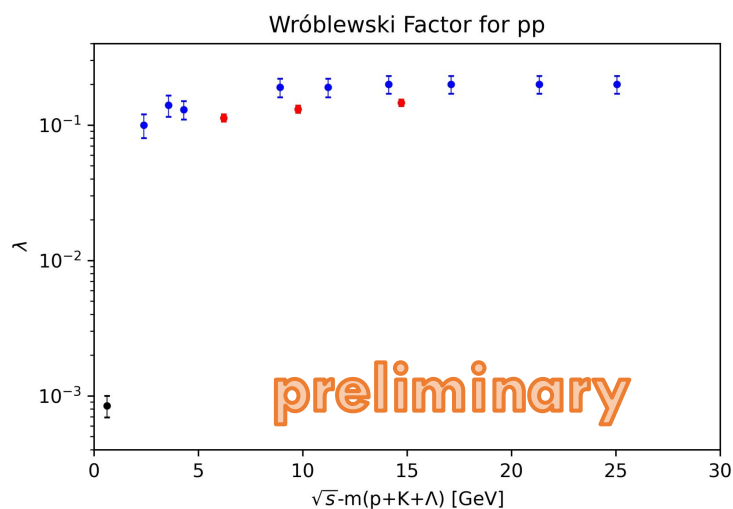


including HADES
measurement (black) just
above threshold



CONCLUSIONS

- Wróblewski Factor λ obtained for pp
- NA61 /SHINE energy range ($8 \text{ GeV} < \sqrt{s} < 17 \text{ GeV}$)
results (~ 0.15) similar to the evaluation by Wróblewski (1985)
- HADES energy ($E_{\text{KIN}}=3.5 \text{ GeV}$, $\sqrt{s} = 3.17 \text{ GeV}$)
 $\lambda \approx 10^{-3}$, as very close to the threshold energy



14.12.2025

T. Matulewicz (XVIII Polish RHIC Workshop)



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