Beam-energy dependence of the production of light nuclei in Au + Au collision

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We have used the nucleon coalescence model to study light-nuclei production in the most central Au + Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7$, 11.5, 19.6, 27, 39, 62.4, and 200 GeV [1]. The input phase-space distributions of protons and neutrons at kinetic freeze-out for the coalescence calculations are generated from the iEBE-MUSIC hybrid model [2] using three-dimensional dynamical initial conditions and a crossover equation of state. These comprehensive simulations can nicely reproduce the measured p_T spectra of pions, kaons, and (anti-)protons in Au + Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7 - 200$ GeV. We have found that the coalescence model calculations can reproduce the measured p_T spectra and dN/dy of (anti-)deuterons and (anti-)tritons and the particle ratio t/p within 10% of accuracy. However, the deviations between the calculated and measured particle ratios of d/p, d/\bar{p} , and t/d increase to 15%, 20%, and 10%, respectively. Although the coalescence model reasonably describes the p_T spectra and yields of light nuclei at various collision energies, the predicted coalescence parameters of (anti-)deuterons and tritons, $B_2(d)$, $B_2(\bar{d})$, and $\sqrt{B_3(t)}$ decrease monotonically with increasing collision energy (left window of Fig.1),

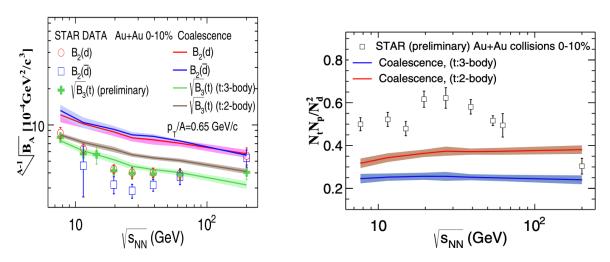


Fig. 1. Collision energy dependence of the coalescence parameters $B_2(d)$, $B_2(\overline{d})$, and $\sqrt{B_3(t)}$ at $p_T/A = 0.65$ GeV (left window) and the yield ratio $NtNp/N_d^2$ in 0-10% Au + Au collisions, calculated by the coalescence model. Data are taken from Refs. [3,4].

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