Probing the internal structures of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ with their production at the Large Hadron Collider

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The strange dibaryons $p\Omega$ (5S_2) and $\Omega\Omega$ (1S_0) are likely bound, existing either in molecular states like the deuteron or as more exotic compact six-quark states. Here, we investigate the production of these two dibaryons in Pb + Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=2.76$ TeV at the CERN Large Hadron Collider within a covariant coalescence model, which employs a blast-wave-like parametrization for the phase-space configurations of constituent particles at freeze-out. For the molecular states, the $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ are produced via p- Ω and Ω - Ω coalescence, respectively, while for the six-quark states, they are formed through uudsss and ssssss coalescence. We find that the yield ratios $N_{p\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ and $N_{\Omega\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ have a distinct centrality dependence between the molecular and multiquark states, thus offering a promising way for distinguishing the two states. Our results suggest that the measurements of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ production in relativistic heavy-ion collisions can shed light on their internal structures.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Exploring dibaryons is a longstanding theoretical and experimental challenge in hadron and nuclear physics [1,2]. A dibaryon is defined in quantum chromodynamics (QCD) as a six-quark system with baryon number B = 2 [3,4], and the only stable dibaryon observed so far is the deuteron [5]. The H dibaryon, a hypothetical bound state with strangeness S=-2 and comprising *uuddss* quarks with $J^{\pi}=0^{+}$ and I = 0, was first predicted by Jaffe [6] within a bag-model approach. Other interesting candidates for strange dibaryons include the $N\Omega$ (uudsss or uddsss) with $J^{\pi} = 2^{+}$ and I = 1/2, and the $\Omega\Omega$ (ssssss) with $J^{\pi}=0^{+}$ and I=0 [7–9]. Within various quark models, the $N\Omega$ dibaryon has been suggested to be a bound state [10,11] or quasibound state [12]. In addition, the $\Omega\Omega$ dibaryon was predicted to be a bound state by a chiral quark model [13–17], while a weak repulsive Ω - Ω interaction was suggested by other models [10,18]. Recent lattice QCD

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studies using the time-dependent HAL QCD method have shown the $N\Omega(^5S_2)$ potential to be attractive at all distances, producing a quasibound state near unitarity [19–21]. The di-Omega $(\Omega\Omega)$ (1S_0) was also thoroughly examined using lattice QCD data analyzed with the HAL QCD method and the results show that the $\Omega\Omega$ system has an overall attraction and is located near the unitary regime [22]. The $\Omega\Omega$, being the most strange dibaryon with S=-6, is of great interest in QCD [22,23].

Experimentally, high-energy nuclear collisions provide a unique tool to extract information on nucleon-hyperon and hyperon-hyperon interactions via measuring the hadron-pair correlation functions [24–26]. The STAR Collaboration has measured the p- Ω correlation function [27] in Au + Au collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$ GeV and the results suggest a bound state of p- Ω with a binding energy of 27 MeV. The ALICE Collaboration's measurements in p + p collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 13$ TeV indicated that the correlation functions predicted by lattice QCD underestimate the data, warranting further investigations to conclusively ascertain the existence of this bound state [28].

Exploration of the production of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ dibaryons in high-energy nuclear collisions may offer insights into their nature [29–32]. The production of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ dibaryons in high energy heavy-ion collisions has been investigated within the coalescence model by assuming the $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ dibaryons are bound molecular states of p- Ω (5S_2) and Ω - Ω (1S_0), respectively. For the $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ dibaryons, the Pauli exclusion principle does not operate among their valence quarks, and

these dibaryons can in principle be compact six-quark states [3,4,33]. In high-energy heavy-ion collisions, the coalescence production of clusters generally depends on the internal structures of the hadrons [30,31,34–36]. Therefore, it is interesting to probe the internal structure effects on the production of $p\Omega$ (5S_2) and $\Omega\Omega$ (1S_0) in these collisions by treating them as either molecular or six-quark states. This is our main motivation of this work.

In the present study, we compute the production of the $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ exotic states in central Pb + Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=2.76$ TeV using a covariant coalescence model with a blast-wave-like parametrization for the phase-space configurations of constituent particles at freeze-out. Specifically, we calculate the yields of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ through hadron coalescence in the case of molecular states and through quark coalescence for six-quark states. We find a distinct difference in the centrality dependence of the yield ratios (scaled by the corresponding yield of Ω) between the molecular and multiquark states, providing a conceivable tool to differentiate between these two structures.

II. COVARIANT COALESCENCE MODEL

The main feature of the coalescence model [37–39] is that the coalescence probability depends on the details of the phase space configurations of the constituent particles at freeze-out as well as the statistical weight and wave function of the coalesced cluster. At this point, we would like to mention that the details of cluster wave function are of no relevance in the thermal model [40–45] for cluster production. For particle production at midrapidity in central Pb + Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ TeV at the CERN Large Hadron Collider (LHC) considered here, we assume a longitudinal boost-invariant expansion for the constituent particles which are emitted from a freezeout hypersurface Σ^{μ} , and the Lorentz invariant one-particle momentum distribution is then given by

$$E\frac{d^{3}N}{d^{3}p} = \frac{d^{3}N}{p_{T}dp_{T}d\phi_{p}dy} = \int d^{4}xS(x, p),$$
(1)

where p^{μ} is the four-momentum of the emitted particle, ϕ_p is the azimuthal direction of the emitted particle, $p_T = \sqrt{p_x^2 + p_y^2}$ is the transverse momentum and S(x, p) is the emission function which reads

$$S(x, p)d^4x = m_T \cosh(\eta - y) f(x, p) J(\tau) d\tau d\eta r dr d\phi_s.$$
 (2)

In the above expressions, we use longitudinal proper time $\tau = \sqrt{t^2 - z^2}$, space-time rapidity $\eta = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{t-z}{t+z}$, cylindrical coordinates (r, ϕ_s) , rapidity $y = \frac{1}{2} \ln (\frac{E+p_z}{E-p_z})$, transverse momentum (p_T, ϕ_p) , and transverse mass $m_T = \sqrt{m^2 + p_T^2}$. In the relativistic heavy-ion collisions, the statistical distribution function f(x, p) is given by

$$f(x, p) = g(2\pi)^{-3} [\exp(p^{\mu}u_{\mu}/kT)/\xi \pm 1]^{-1}$$
 (3)

with g being spin degeneracy factor, ξ the fugacity, u_{μ} the four-velocity of a fluid element in the fireball, and T the local temperature. The detailed information can be found in Refs. [46,47]. The freeze-out process generally occurs gradually over a period of time, and here we assume the freeze-out

time follows a Gaussian distribution [48]

$$J(\tau) = \frac{1}{\Delta \tau \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\frac{(\tau - \tau_0)^2}{2(\Delta \tau)^2}\right] \tag{4}$$

with a mean value τ_0 and a dispersion $\Delta \tau$. The transverse rapidity distribution of the fluid element in the fireball is parametrized as $\rho = \rho_0 r/R_0$ with ρ_0 being the maximum transverse rapidity and R_0 the transverse radius of the fireball. The phase-space freeze-out configuration of the constituent particles are thus determined by six parameters, i.e., T, ρ_0 , R_0 , τ_0 , $\Delta \tau$, and ξ .

The cluster production probability can be calculated through the overlap of the cluster Wigner function with the constituent particle phase-space distribution at freeze-out. If *M* particles are coalesced into a cluster, the invariant momentum distribution of the cluster can be obtained as

$$E\frac{\mathrm{d}^{3}N_{c}}{\mathrm{d}^{3}P} = Eg_{c} \int \left(\prod_{i=1}^{M} \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3}p_{i}}{E_{i}} \mathrm{d}^{4}x_{i}S(x_{i}, p_{i}) \right)$$

$$\times \rho_{c}^{W}(x_{1}, \dots, x_{M}; p_{1}, \dots, p_{M}) \delta^{3} \left(\mathbf{P} - \sum_{i=1}^{M} \mathbf{p_{i}} \right),$$
(5)

where N_c is the cluster multiplicity, E (**P**) is its energy (momentum), g_c is the coalescence factor [38] which can be expressed as $g_c = \frac{2S+1}{2M3M}$ including the spin and color degrees of freedom in the quark coalescence, but $g_c = \frac{2J+1}{(2j_1+1)(2j_2+1)\cdots(2j_M+1)}$ in the hadron coalescence including the spin degrees of freedom, where j_M is spin of particle, and J is the spin of the cluster. ρ_c^W is the Wigner function and the δ function is adopted to ensure momentum conservation. In this study, the harmonic oscillator wave functions are assumed and the cluster Wigner function is expressed as

$$\rho_c^W(x_1, \dots, x_M; p_1, \dots, p_M)$$

$$= \rho^W(q_1, \dots, q_{M-1}, k_1, \dots, k_{M-1})$$

$$= 8^{M-1} \exp \left[-\sum_{i=1}^{M-1} \left(q_i^2 / \sigma_i^2 + \sigma_i^2 k_i^2 \right) \right], \quad (6)$$

where $\mu_{i-1} = \frac{i}{i-1} \frac{m_i \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} m_k}{\sum_{k=1}^{i-1} m_k}$, $(i \geqslant 2)$ is the reduced mass in the center-of-mass frame, $\sigma_i^2 = (\mu_i w)^{-1} (1 \leqslant i \leqslant M-1)$, and w is the harmonic oscillator frequency. The detailed information about the coordinate transformation from $(x_1, \ldots, x_M), (p_1, \ldots, p_M)$ to relative coordinates $(q_1, \ldots, q_{M-1}), (k_1, \ldots, k_{M-1})$ can be found in Ref. [47]. If the masses of constituent particles are equal, we then have $\mu_i = m$. The mean-square radius is given by

$$\langle r_M^2 \rangle = \frac{3}{2Mw} \left[\sum_{i=1}^M \frac{1}{m_i} - \frac{M}{\sum_{i=1}^M m_i} \right].$$
 (7)

The integral (5) can be directly calculated through multidimensional numerical integration by the Monte Carlo method [47,49]. It should be emphasized that since the constituent particles may have different freeze-out time, in the numerical calculation, the particles that freeze out earlier are allowed to

TABLE I. Parameters of the blast-wave-like analytical parametrization for the phase-space configurations at freeze-out for (anti)nucleon (FOPb-p) [47], (anti) Ω (FOPb- Ω) [56] for Pb+Pb central collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ TeV in different centralities.

FOPb-p											
Centrality	T(MeV)	$ ho_0$	$R_0(fm)$	$ au_0(\mathrm{fm}/c)$	Δτ	ξ _H					
0–10 %	95.94	1.28	21.92	17.25	1.0	27.24					
10-20 %	98.77	1.25	18.98	14.93	1.0	20.87					
20-40 %	103.74	1.21	15.36	12.09	1.0	13.42					
40-60 %	108.30	1.12	11.12	8.75	1.0	9.37					
60-80 %	114.42	1.01	7.15	5.62	1.0	6.01					
FOPb- Ω											
Centrality	T(MeV)	$ ho_0$	$R_0(fm)$	$\tau_0(\mathrm{fm}/c)$	Δau	ξ_H					
0–10 %	95.94	1.08	21.92	17.25	1.0	454.40					
10-20 %	98.77	1.10	18.98	14.93	1.0	265.48					
20-40 %	103.74	1.04	15.36	12.09	1.0	123.51					
40-60 %	108.30	0.97	11.12	8.75	1.0	57.25					
60-80 %	114.42	0.95	7.15	5.62	1.0	13.95					

propagate freely until the time when the last particle in the cluster freezes out in order to make the coalescence at equal time [47,50,51].

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

A. Molecular states from hadron coalescence

We first consider the $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ dibaryons as molecular states, and their production in central Pb + Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=2.76$ TeV can be described by $p\text{-}\Omega$ and $\Omega\text{-}\Omega$ coalescence, respectively, in the covariant coalescence model. The freeze-out configurations of nucleons (denoted FOPb-p) and Ω (denoted FOPb- Ω) for central Pb + Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}=2.76$ TeV have been obtained by fitting the experimental spectra [52–55] of protons, Ω , deuterons, and 3 He [46]. The parameter values of FOPb-p and FOPb- Ω are summarized in Table I, and the details can be found in Refs. [47,56,57]. The freeze-out temperature T of nucleons [57] can be extracted from measured charged particle spectra expressed as

$$T = T_0 + T_1 \left[1 + (q - 1) \times \frac{dN_{ch}/d\eta}{M} \right]^{-\frac{1}{q-1}}$$
 (8)

by using the four parameters $T_0 = 80.6 \pm 31.0$ MeV, $T_1 = 83.0 \pm 46.9$ MeV, $q = 3.33 \pm 3.25$, and $M = 67.3 \pm 76.3$ after taking into account the errors. The values of T in different centralities are shown in Table I (FOPb-p). According to Ref. [57], the values of R_0 and τ_0 of nucleons in different centralities can be calculated by using the equal source volume $(2\pi)^{1.5}R^3 = \pi R_0^2\tau_0$ [58] and the fixed ratio $R_0/\tau_0 = 19.7/15.5$, where R_0 and τ_0 are the same as "FOPb-N" in Ref. [56]. The source radius R can be calculated from

$$R = \frac{(3N_n)^{1/3}}{[4C_1(mT)^{3/2}]^{1/3}},\tag{9}$$

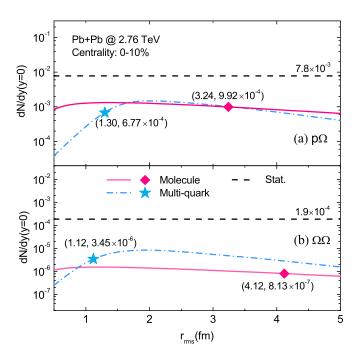


FIG. 1. The yields of $p\Omega$ (top) and $\Omega\Omega$ (bottom) versus root-mean-square radii through hadron coalescence and quark coalescence by using the parameters of Table I and II in centrality 0–10%. The black dashed lines are results from the statistical model [2].

where N_n is the neutron number which is the same as the proton number [59] in collisions at the LHC energies, the factor $C_1 = 4.0 \times 10^{-3}$ is obtained from the yield ratio d/p [57]. The R_0 and τ_0 in different centralities are shown in Table I (FOPb-p). With the values R_0 , τ_0 and the temperature T, the other parameters can be obtained by fitting the p spectra [59] in the corresponding centrality and shown in Table I (FOPb-p). Similar to "FOPb-p", the T, R_0 , and τ_0 of FOPb- Ω have same values with FOPb-p, then the other parameters of FOPb- Ω can be obtained by fitting the Ω spectra [55] in the corresponding centrality and shown in Table I (FOPb- Ω).

The cluster yield also depends on the cluster size [56,60,61], we thus calculate the yields of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ as a function of their root-mean-square radii ($r_{\rm rms}$). Figure 1 shows the p_T -integrated yield in the midrapidity region ($-0.5 \le y \le 0.5$) versus $r_{\rm rms}$ in the range of 0.5–5 fm through hadron coalescence (solid lines) in central collision parameters. For

TABLE II. Parameters of the blast-wave-like analytical parametrization for the phase-space configurations at freeze-out for light quarks (FOPb-Q) [46] for Pb+Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ =2.76 TeV in different centralities.

Centrality	T(MeV)	$ ho_0$	$R_0(fm)$	$\tau_0(\text{fm}/c)$	Δau	ξ_u	ξ_s
0–10 %	154	1.08	13.6	11.0	1.3	1.02	0.89
10-20 %	154	1.08	12.0	9.7	1.3	1.02	0.89
20-40 %	154	1.08	9.9	8.0	1.3	1.02	0.89
40-60 %	157	1.03	7.3	5.94	1.3	1.02	0.89
60-80 %	160	0.95	4.8	3.9	1.3	1.13	0.85

FOPb-p and FOPb- Ω in centrality 0–10 %, the yield (dN/dy) of $p\Omega$ ranges from 6.41 \times 10⁻⁴ to 1.32 \times 10⁻³, and the yield of $\Omega\Omega$ ranges from 6.25 \times 10⁻⁷ to 1.56 \times 10⁻⁶.

In lattice QCD calculations, the binding energy of $N\Omega$ $(B_{N\Omega})$ is 1.54 MeV and 2.46 MeV with and without taking into account the Coulomb attraction [19], and the corresponding root mean square distance is $\sqrt{\langle r_M^2 \rangle} = 3.77$ fm and $\sqrt{\langle r_M^2 \rangle} = 3.24$ fm. The binding energy of $\Omega\Omega$ is $B_{\Omega\Omega} = 1.6$ MeV or $B_{\Omega\Omega} = 0.7$ MeV with/without Coulomb attraction [22] and the corresponding root mean square distance is about $\sqrt{\langle r_M^2 \rangle} = 3.28$ fm and $\sqrt{\langle r_M^2 \rangle} = 4.12$ fm. So we assume the binding energy of $p\Omega$ is 2.46 MeV, the binding energy of $\Omega\Omega$ is 0.7 MeV. The corresponding $r_{\rm rms}$ of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ are 3.24 fm and 4.12 fm [31] which are shown by diamonds in the solid lines in Fig. 1. The yields of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ are 9.92 × 10^{-4} at $r_{\rm rms} = 3.24$ fm and 8.13×10^{-7} at $r_{\rm rms} = 4.12$ fm, respectively.

B. Six-quark states from quark coalescence

We now model $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ as compact six-quark states, where $p\Omega$ is a *uddsss* bound state, and $\Omega\Omega$ is a *ssssss* bound state. Their yields are calculated using the quark coalescence model. By fitting the measured spectra of p(udd)and $\Omega^{-}(sss)$, as detailed in our previous work [46], we obtain phase-space distributions of u, d, s quarks and their antipartners at freeze-out. We assume u and d quarks have a mass of 300 MeV, while the s-quark mass is 500 MeV. The freeze-out parameters are listed in Table II (FOPb-Q). For instance, in the 0–10 % centrality, T = 154 MeV, $\rho_0 = 1.08$, $R_0 = 13.6$ fm, $\tau_0 = 11.0 \text{ fm/}c, \ \Delta \tau_0 = 1.3 \text{ fm/}c, \ \xi_u = 1.02, \text{ and } \xi_s = 0.89$ are the temperature, transverse flow rapidity, transverse radius, mean longitudinal proper freeze-out time, proper time dispersion, and fugacities for u and s quarks, respectively (refer to Ref. [46] for more details). Using the quark freeze-out configuration FOPb-Q, we calculate the yields of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ through six-quark coalescence.

The $r_{\rm rms}$ dependence of the yields of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ in 0–10 % centrality are depicted as dash dot lines in Fig. 1. For quark coalescence, the yield of $p\Omega$ varies from 3.89×10^{-5} to 1.54×10^{-3} , and for $\Omega\Omega$, from 2.49×10^{-7} to 8.80×10^{-6} . We assume the harmonic oscillator frequencies for $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ are $\omega_s=78$ MeV [46]. Consequently, the calculated $r_{\rm rms}$ values for $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ are 1.30 fm and 1.12 fm, respectively, indicated by stars in Fig. 1, with corresponding yields of 6.77×10^{-4} and 3.45×10^{-6} .

In Fig. 1, for $p\Omega$, it is seen that its estimated yield from hadron coalescence is 1.46 times of that from quark coalescence. For smaller $r_{\rm rms}$, the yield from hadron coalescence is about one order larger than that from quark coalescence. This is attributed to the significant contribution from strong decays to the proton number, thereby enhancing $p\Omega$ yields through p- Ω coalescence. While results from ExHIC collaboration also account for the effect of resonance decay, the yield of the molecular state is significantly enhanced but does not exceed that of the multiquark state [2,31]. For $\Omega\Omega$, the strong decays rarely contribute and the predicted yields by quark coalescence are higher than those from hadron coalescence at $r_{\rm rms} > 0.87$ fm. This is consistent with results from

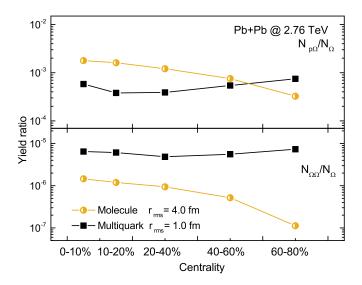


FIG. 2. The yields ratio of $N_{p\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ (top) and $N_{\Omega\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ (bottom) versus centrality. The yields of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ are calculated through hadron coalescence and quark coalescence by using the parameters of Tables I and II with the fixed root-mean-square radii. The yields of Ω comes form experiment data [52–55].

ExHIC collaboration [2,31]. In the results from both ExHIC collaboration and the present study, the yields of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ are larger in the statistical model than the coalescence model. Since the yields of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ in central heavy-ion collisions depends on not only their internal structure being molecular states or compact multiquark states but also the implementation of coalescence model, deciphering their structure from merely their yields in central heavy-ion collisions is challenging.

Figure 2 shows the centrality dependence of yield ratios $N_{p\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ (top) and $N_{\Omega\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ (bottom) with fixed $r_{\rm rms}=1.0$ fm for quark coalescence and $r_{\rm rms} = 4.0$ fm for hadron coalescence. In Fig. 2(a), the yellow circles represent the $p\Omega$ yield ratio from hadron coalescence to Ω from experimental data [55], showing a rapid decrease from central to peripheral collisions. The black squares show the yield ratio of $p\Omega$ from six-quark coalescence to Ω from experimental data, with a mild change from central to peripheral collisions. Figure 2(b) displays the $N_{\Omega\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ ratio, indicating a rapid drop from central to peripheral collisions in hadron coalescence but only a mild change in the multiquark coalescence. These different centrality dependencies provide a promising tool for distinguishing molecular and multiquark states. Figure 3 displays the yield ratios of $N_{p\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ (top) and $N_{\Omega\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ (bottom) with the estimated root-mean-square radii, i.e., $r_{\rm rms} = 1.3$ fm for multiquark coalescence of $p\Omega$ ($r_{\rm rms}=1.12$ fm for $\Omega\Omega$), and $r_{\rm rms} = 3.24$ fm for hadron coalescence of $p\Omega$ ($r_{\rm rms} = 4.12$ fm for $\Omega\Omega$). It is seen that the $N_{p\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ and $N_{\Omega\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ drops rapidly in hadron coalescence but remains same trend in multiquark coalescence as the centrality increasing. So the obviously different centrality dependence of the yield ratio for $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ is a unique way to distinguish whether a structure is molecular or multiquark state. The difference in yield ratio

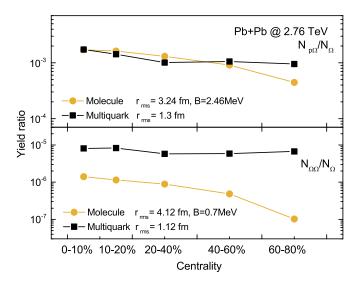


FIG. 3. Same with Fig. 2 but in the predicted root-mean-square radii.

between molecular and multiquark state increases with the greater difference in root-mean-square radii.

Although final-state scattering effects on the yields of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ are absent if they are molecular states because they are produced after the kinetic freeze out of relativistic heavyion collisions, they may not be negligible in the scenario that they are multiquark states produced at the chemical freeze-out temperature, i.e., the beginning of the hadronic evolution. For example, hadronic effects on the yield of $D_{sJ}(2317)$ and X(3875) as a multiquark states produced at the chemical freeze out of relativistic heavy-ion collisions have been studied in Refs. [34–36,62]. Although the hadronic final state interactions of multistrange hadrons are generally thought to be weak [63], it will be interesting to investigate quantitatively this effects on the production of $\Omega\Omega$ and $p\Omega$, which requires detailed information about the interactions between the hadronic medium and these exotic states and is, however, currently unavailable.

IV. CONCLUSION

In the present study, we have analyzed the production of $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ in central Pb + Pb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ = 2.76 TeV, employing a covariant coalescence model with blast-wave-like parametrization for constituent particle phase-

space configurations at freeze-out. We have considered two scenarios: $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ as either molecular or compact six-quark states. For the former, the phase-space configurations of constituent particles are determined from light nuclei and hypernuclei spectra; for the latter, they are determined from experimental data on hadrons such as p, Λ , ϕ , Ξ , Ω^- .

Our results indicate that in 0–10 % centrality, $p\Omega$ yields range from 6.41×10^{-4} to 1.32×10^{-3} in the hadron coalescence and 3.89×10^{-5} to 1.54×10^{-3} in the quark coalescence with $r_{\rm rms}$ spanning 0.5 to 5.0 fm. $\Omega\Omega$ yields vary from 6.25×10^{-7} to 1.56×10^{-6} in the hadron coalescence and 2.49×10^{-7} to 8.80×10^{-6} in the quark coalescence. The STAR Collaboration's measurement of 4 He yields (8.6 \times 10^{-9} [64]) in $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$ GeV central Au + Au collisions suggests the feasibility of experimentally measuring $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ yields. Estimated root-mean-square radii for $p\Omega$ are 3.24 fm (hadron coalescence) and 1.30 fm (multiquark coalescence) with yields of 9.92×10^{-4} and 6.77×10^{-4} , respectively. For $\Omega\Omega$, these radii are 4.12 fm (hadron coalescence) and 1.12 fm (multiquark coalescence) with yields of 8.13×10^{-7} and 3.45×10^{-6} . Hadron coalescence predicts $p\Omega$ yields 1.46 times higher than multiquark coalescence, and $\Omega\Omega$ yields in quark coalescence are 4.24 times those from hadron coalescence.

The $p\Omega$ and $\Omega\Omega$ yields in different centralities have been calculated by using the corresponding collision parameters. The yield ratios of $N_{p\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ and $N_{\Omega\Omega}/N_{\Omega}$ going from central to peripheral collisions decrease for the hadron coalescence but changes mildly for the multiquark coalescence. This distinct centrality dependence of yield ratios for molecular and multiquark states offers a promising way for distinguishing these two states. Our results thus suggest that measurements on the production of $p\Omega$ and $p\Omega$ in relativistic heavy-ion collisions can shed light on their internal structures and advance our understanding of the nature of the strong interaction.

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