



# Measurement of the mass difference and the binding energy of the hypertriton and antihypertriton

The STAR Collaboration\*

According to the CPT theorem, which states that the combined operation of charge conjugation, parity transformation and time reversal must be conserved, particles and their antiparticles should have the same mass and lifetime but opposite charge and magnetic moment. Here, we test CPT symmetry in a nucleus containing a strange quark, more specifically in the hypertriton. This hypernucleus is the lightest one yet discovered and consists of a proton, a neutron and a  $\Lambda$  hyperon. With data recorded by the STAR detector<sup>1-3</sup> at the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider, we measure the  $\Lambda$  hyperon binding energy  $B_{\lambda}$  for the hypertriton, and find that it differs from the widely used value4 and from predictions5-8, where the hypertriton is treated as a weakly bound system. Our results place stringent constraints on the hyperon-nucleon interaction 9,10 and have implications for understanding neutron star interiors, where strange matter may be present<sup>11</sup>. A precise comparison of the masses of the hypertriton and the antihypertriton allows us to test CPT symmetry in a nucleus with strangeness, and we observe no deviation from the expected exact symmetry.

The CPT theorem holds that all processes must exactly conserve the combined operation of C (charge conjugation, which interchanges a particle with its antiparticle), P (parity, which reverses the direction of all spatial axes) and T (time reversal). No CPT violation has ever been observed <sup>12,13</sup>. Qualitatively different tests of CPT symmetry are a continuing priority for fundamental physics, as are revisitations of past tests with improved accuracy. Although CPT invariance has been verified to a precision of 10<sup>-19</sup> in the strange quark sector for kaons<sup>12</sup>, we present here a test of CPT symmetry in a nucleus (multi-baryon cluster) having strangeness content. Similar to recent CPT tests<sup>14–16</sup> on parameters of the Standard-Model Extension<sup>17,18</sup>, the mass difference between hypertriton and antihypertriton is directly constructed from the Lorentz invariant product of the four momenta of their weak-decay daughters.

Hypernuclei are natural hyperon–baryon correlation systems and provide direct access to the hyperon–nucleon (YN) interaction through measurements of the binding energy  $B_{\Lambda}$  in a hypernucleus<sup>19</sup>. However, in a half-century of research, the creation of the hypertriton and precise measurement of its properties have proven difficult, in contrast to heavier hypernuclei produced via a kaon beam incident on a nuclear target. Early measurements of the hypertriton  $B_{\Lambda}$  are consistent with zero and span a wide range characterized by a full-width at half-maximum (FWHM) of 2.1 MeV (ref. <sup>20</sup>). Modern facilities now permit an improved understanding of the YN interaction via improved measurements of hyperon binding in hypernuclei and through new hypertriton lifetime measurements<sup>21,22</sup>. Progress in understanding the YN interaction and the

equation of state (EOS) of hypernuclear matter has implications for understanding neutron star properties. Inclusion of hyperons in the cores of neutron stars softens the equation of state and thus reduces the stellar masses  $^{11,23}$ . In model calculations, the maximum mass of the neutron star depends on the assumed  $\Lambda NN$  interaction, which is directly related to the  $\Lambda$  binding energy in hypernuclei  $^{23,24}$ . A precise binding energy measurement of this simplest hypernucleus together with other light hypernuclei will also help us understand the fewbody system and the strong interaction involving hyperons  $^{25}$ .

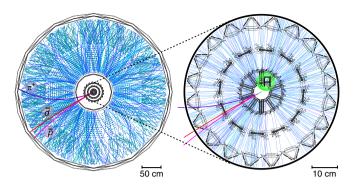
Nuclear collisions at ultrarelativistic energies, such as those studied at the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC), create a hot and dense phase of matter containing approximately equal numbers of quarks and antiquarks. In this phase, called the quark-gluon plasma (QGP), quarks are free to move throughout the volume of the nuclear collision region. The QGP persists for only a few times  $10^{-23}$  s, then cools and transitions into a lower-temperature phase composed of mesons, baryons and antibaryons, including the occasional antinucleus or antihypernucleus<sup>10,26</sup>. Thus, these collisions offer an ideal laboratory to explore fundamental physics involving nuclei, hypernuclei and their antimatter partners.

In this Letter, we present two measurements from gold-gold collisions at a centre-of-mass energy per nucleon pair of  $\sqrt{s_{\rm NN}} = 200\,{\rm GeV}$ : the relative mass difference between  ${}^3_{\Lambda}{\rm H}$  (the hypertriton) and  ${}^3_{\Lambda}\overline{\rm H}$  (the antihypertriton) and the  $\Lambda$  hyperon binding energy for  ${}^3_{\Lambda}{\rm H}$  and  ${}^3_{\Lambda}\overline{\rm H}$ . The  $\Lambda$  binding energy of  ${}^3_{\Lambda}{\rm H}$  is defined as

 $B_{\Lambda} = (m_d + m_{\Lambda} - m_{_{\Lambda}}^3 H)c^2$ , where  $m_d$ ,  $m_{_{\Lambda}}$  and  $m_{_{\Lambda}}^3 H$  are, respectively, the deuteron mass taken from the Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CODATA)<sup>27</sup>, the Λ hyperon mass published by the Particle Data Group (PDG)<sup>12</sup> and the  ${}_{\Lambda}^{3}H$  mass reported in this Letter, and c is the speed of light. The main detectors used in this analysis are the Solenoidal Tracker at RHIC (STAR) Time Projection Chamber (TPC)<sup>1</sup> and the Heavy Flavor Tracker (HFT)<sup>2</sup> for highprecision tracking, and the TPC and Time of Flight detector (TOF)<sup>3</sup> for charged particle identification. The TPC and HFT are immersed in a solenoidal magnetic field of 0.5 T parallel to the beam direction, and are used for charged particle tracking in three dimensions. The HFT includes three subsystems: Pixel (PXL), which consists of two cylindrical layers at radii 2.8 and 8 cm from the beam, the Intermediate Silicon Tracker (IST) at a radius of 14cm and the Silicon Strip Detector (SSD) at a radius of 22 cm. The spatial resolution of the HFT<sup>2</sup> is better than 30 µm for tracks with a momentum of 1 GeV/c. The mean energy loss per unit track length ( $\langle dE/dx \rangle$ ) in the TPC gas and the speed  $(\beta)$  determined from TOF measurements are used to identify particles. The  $\langle dE/dx \rangle$  resolution<sup>1</sup> is 7.5% and the TOF timing resolution<sup>3</sup> is 95 ps.

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**Fig. 1** | A typical  $\frac{3}{\Lambda}\overline{H}$  3-body decay in the detectors. The left side shows a less magnified view of the STAR detector with the beam axis normal to the page, including a projected view of the large number of tracks detected by the TPC in a typical gold–gold collision. The right side shows a magnified view of the four cylindrical layers of the HFT located at the centre of the TPC. The bold red, pink and violet curves represent the trajectories of the  $\overline{d}$ ,  $\overline{p}$  and  $\pi^+$  decay daughters, respectively. The reconstructed decay daughters can be traced back to the decay vertex, where the  $\frac{3}{\Lambda}\overline{H}$  decays after flying a distance on the order of centimetres, as shown by the dashed green curve starting at the centre of the HFT.

The hypernucleus  ${}^3_{\Lambda}{\rm H}$  is reconstructed through its mesonic decay channels  ${}^3_{\Lambda}{\rm H} {\to} {}^3{\rm He} + \pi^-$  (2-body decay) and  ${}^3_{\Lambda}{\rm H} {\to} d + p + \pi^-$  (3-body decay). Figure 1 depicts a typical event in which a  ${}^3_{\Lambda}{\rm H}$  candidate decays to  $\bar{d} + \bar{p} + \pi^+$  in the STAR HFT and TPC. The  ${}^3_{\Lambda}{\rm H}$  candidate is produced at the primary vertex of a gold–gold collision and remains in flight for a distance on the order of centimetres, as

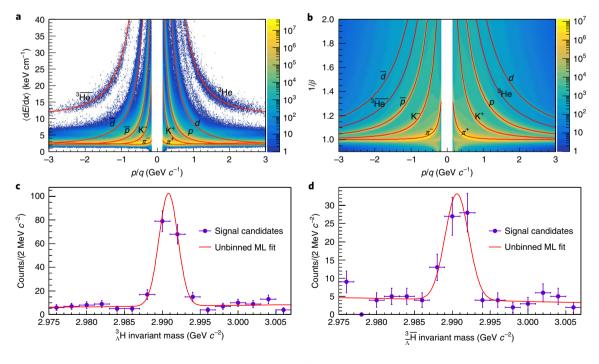
shown by the dashed green curve starting at the centre of the righthand side of the figure, before decaying as depicted by the bold coloured curves.

Comparisons of the measured  $\langle dE/dx \rangle$  and  $\beta$  values for each track with their expected values under different mass hypotheses allow decay daughters to be identified. Figure 2a presents  $\langle dE/dx \rangle$  versus rigidity  $\langle p/q \rangle$ , where p is the momentum and q is the electric charge in units of the elementary charge e), while Fig. 2b shows  $1/\beta$  versus rigidity. It can be seen that the decay daughter species for  $^3_\Lambda H$  and  $^3_\Lambda \overline{H}$  are cleanly identified over a wide rigidity range. The helical trajectories of the decay daughter particles can be followed back in time to each secondary decay vertex and used to reconstruct the decay topology of the parent hypernucleus or antihypernucleus. The effects of energy loss (ranging from ~0.2% for  $\pi^\pm$  to ~3% for  $^3$ He) and TPC field distortion on the measured momenta of the decay daughters are corrected for by data-driven calibration using the world-average  $\Lambda$  mass compiled by the PDG<sup>12</sup>. Due to the high-precision tracking and particle identification capabilities of the

STAR experiment, the invariant mass  $(\sqrt{(\sum E_i)^2 - (\sum \mathbf{p}_i)^2})$ , where

 $E_i$  is the energy and  $\mathbf{p}_i$  is the momentum of the ith decay daughter) of each parent is reconstructed with a low level of background, as shown in Fig. 2c,d. The background originates from combinatorial contamination and particle misidentification. The significance  $S/\sqrt{S+B}$ , where S is signal counts and B is background counts in the invariant mass window 2.986 –2.996 GeV/ $c^2$ , is 11.4 for  $\frac{3}{\Lambda}$ H and 6.4 for  $\frac{3}{\Lambda}$ H. The signal counts from 2-body/3-body decay channels are ~121/35 for  $\frac{3}{\Lambda}$ H and 36/21 for  $\frac{3}{\Lambda}$ H, respectively. The  $\frac{3}{\Lambda}$ H signal-to-background ratio is close to a factor of 23 better than an earlier measurement from the same experiment using only the TPC<sup>22</sup>.

The hypernucleus and antihypernucleus invariant mass distributions reconstructed through 2-body and 3-body decays are each



**Fig. 2 | Particle identification and the invariant mass distributions for**  $\frac{3}{\Lambda}$ **H and**  $\frac{3}{\Lambda}$ **H reconstruction. a,b**,  $\langle \text{d}E/\text{d}x \rangle$  (mean energy loss per unit track length in the gas of the TPC) versus p/q (where p is the momentum and q is the electric charge in units of the elementary charge e) (**a**) and  $1/\beta$  (where  $\beta$  is the speed of a particle in units of the speed of light) versus p/q (**b**).  $\langle \text{d}E/\text{d}x \rangle$  is measured by the TPC and  $1/\beta$  is measured by the TOF detector in conjunction with the TPC. In both cases, the coloured bands show the measured data for each species of charged particle, while the red curves show the expected values. Charged particles are identified by comparing the observed  $\langle \text{d}E/\text{d}x \rangle$  and  $1/\beta$  with the expected values. **c.d**, Utilizing both 2-body and 3-body decay channels, the invariant mass distributions of  $\frac{3}{\Lambda}$ H (**c**) and  $\frac{3}{\Lambda}$ H (**d**) are shown. The error bars represent statistical uncertainties (s.d.). The red curves represent a fit with a Gaussian function plus a linear background, using the unbinned maximum likelihood (ML) method.

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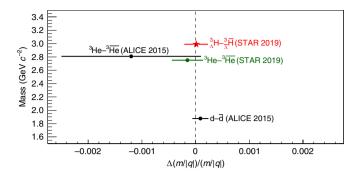


Fig. 3 | Measurements of the relative mass-to-charge ratio differences between nuclei and antinuclei. The current measurement of the relative mass difference  $\Delta m/m$  between  $\frac{3}{\Lambda} H$  and  $\frac{3}{\Lambda} \overline{H}$  constrained by the existing experimental limits for decay daughters is shown by the red star marker. The green point is the new  $^3He$  result after applying the constraint provided by the present  $^3_\Lambda H$  result. The differences between d and  $\bar{d}$  and between  $^3He$  and  $^3He$  measured by the ALICE Collaboration are also shown. The two  $^3He$ - $^3He$  points are staggered vertically for visibility. The dashed vertical line at zero is the expectation from CPT invariance. The horizontal error bars represent the sum in quadrature of statistical and systematic uncertainties.

fitted with a Gaussian function plus a straight line, using the unbinned maximum likelihood method. Mass parameters are extracted from the peaks of the invariant mass distributions. The final results are the average of the masses from 2-body and 3-body decays weighted by the reciprocal of the squared statistical uncertainties. The main systematic uncertainty arises from imperfections in the energy loss and field distortion corrections applied to the tracking of decay daughters, estimated to be 0.11 MeV  $c^{-2}$  (37 ppm). Other sources of systematic uncertainty, including those from event selection, track quality cuts, decay topology cuts and fit procedure, are negligible. Accordingly, the measured masses are

$$m_{\rm H}^3 = 2,990.95 \pm 0.13(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.11(\text{syst.}) \text{ MeV } c^{-2}$$

$$m_{\frac{3}{\Lambda}\overline{\text{H}}} = 2,990.60 \pm 0.28(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.11(\text{syst.}) \text{ MeV } c^{-2}$$

The average mass (weighted by the reciprocal of squared statistical uncertainties) for  ${}^3_\Lambda H$  and  ${}^3_{\bar\Lambda} \overline{H}$  combined is

$$m = 2,990.89 \pm 0.12(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.11(\text{syst.}) \text{ MeV } c^{-2}$$
 (1)

By taking into account the current best limits for the mass differences of  ${}^{3}\text{He}$  and d reported by the ALICE Collaboration  ${}^{13}$ , the mass differences between  ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}\text{H}$  and  ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}\overline{\text{H}}$  are  $-2.9\pm2.5(\text{stat.})\pm2.8(\text{sy st.})$  MeV  $c^{-2}$  and  $0.13\pm0.63(\text{stat.})\pm0.31(\text{syst.})$  MeV  $c^{-2}$  for 2-body and 3-body decay channels, respectively. The relative mass difference  $\Delta m/m$  of 2-body and 3-body decay combined is (see Methods for details)

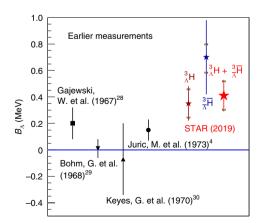
$$\frac{\Delta m}{m} = \frac{m_{\frac{3}{\Lambda}H} - m_{\frac{3}{\Lambda}H}}{m} = (0.1 \pm 2.0(\text{stat.}) \pm 1.0(\text{syst.})) \times 10^{-4}$$
 (2)

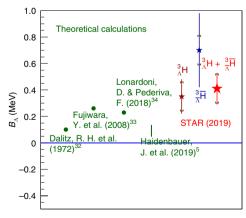
If we assume CPT symmetry is true for the decay daughters, the relative mass difference between  ${}^3_\Lambda H$  and  ${}^3_\Lambda \overline{H}$  would be  $\Delta m/m = (1.1\pm 1.0({\rm stat.})\pm 0.5({\rm syst.}))\times 10^{-4}$ . In addition, by taking the difference between the masses measured in the 2-body and 3-body decay channels of  ${}^3_\Lambda H$  in conjunction with the deuteron masses reported by ALICE<sup>13</sup>, we can place a new constraint on the relative mass difference between  ${}^3He$  and  ${}^3\overline{He}$ , namely  $\Delta m_{{}^3He}/m_{{}^3He}=(-1.5\pm 2.6({\rm stat.})\pm 1.2({\rm syst.}))\times 10^{-4}$  (see Methods for details). These results are displayed in Fig. 3 along with the relative mass-to-charge ratio differences between d and d and between d and d and between the ALICE Collaboration d and between the assemble of the precision is an order of magnitude improved over the early data with same mass number of magnitude improved over the early data with same mass number. The current measurement extends the validation of CPT invariance to a nucleus containing a strange quark.

The  $\Lambda$  binding energy,  $B_{\Lambda}$ , for  ${}_{\Lambda}^{\Lambda}H$  and  ${}_{\bar{\Lambda}}^{\bar{\Lambda}}\bar{H}$  is calculated using the mass measurement shown in equation (1). We obtain

$$B_{\Lambda} = 0.41 \pm 0.12 \text{(stat.)} \pm 0.11 \text{(syst.)} \text{ MeV}$$
 (3)

This binding energy is presented in Fig. 4 (left panel) along with earlier measurements<sup>4,28-30</sup> from nuclear emulsion and helium bubble chamber experiments. The current STAR result differs from zero with a statistical significance of  $3.4\sigma$ , and the central value of the current STAR measurement is larger than the commonly used measurement from 1973<sup>4</sup>. It has been pointed out in ref. <sup>20</sup> that for measurements of  $B_{\Lambda}$  for p-shell hypernuclei, there exists a discrepancy





**Fig. 4 | Measured**  $\Lambda$  binding energy in the hypertriton compared to earlier results and theoretical calculations. The black points and their error bars (which are the reported statistical uncertainties) represent  $B_{\Lambda}$  (see text for exact definition) for  ${}^3_{\Lambda}$ H based on earlier data<sup>4,28-30</sup>. The current STAR measurement plotted here is based on a combination of  ${}^3_{\Lambda}$ H and  ${}^3_{\Lambda}$ H assuming CPT invariance. Error bars show statistical uncertainties (s.d.) and caps show systematic errors. The green solid circles and green vertical line in the right panel represent theoretical calculations of  $B_{\Lambda}$  values<sup>5,32-34</sup>. The horizontal blue lines in both panels indicate a reference energy corresponding to zero binding of the  $\Lambda$  hyperon.

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in the range of 0.4 to 0.8 MeV between emulsion data and other modern measurements. Whether the effect would be similar in s-shell hypernuclei such as the hypertriton is unclear, but such a discrepancy is much larger than the systematic uncertainty of 0.04 MeV assigned to emulsion measurements<sup>31</sup>. Until this discrepancy is well understood, an average of the current measurement with early results cannot be reliably carried out.

Theoretical calculations of  $B_{\Lambda}$  for  ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}H$  are also available (right, Fig. 4). For example, Dalitz reported the calculation of  $B_{\Lambda} = 0.10 \,\text{MeV}$ in 1972<sup>32</sup>. In recent calculations,  $B_{\Lambda} = 0.262 \,\text{MeV}$  was obtained through SU(6) quark model baryon-baryon interactions<sup>33</sup>, and  $B_{\Lambda}$  was calculated to be 0.23 MeV using an auxiliary field diffusion Monte Carlo (AFDMC) method<sup>34</sup>. A span of values ranging from 0.046 MeV to 0.135 MeV was obtained by SU(3) chiral effective field theory5. The divergence of results among different calculations emphasizes the need for a precise determination of  $B_{\Lambda}$  from experiment. In ref. 35 a model based on effective field theory is used to extract a scattering length of  $13.80^{+3.75}_{-2.03}$  fm from the earlier average value of  $0.13 \pm 0.05$ (stat.) MeV. When applied to our value of  $0.41 \pm 0.12$ (stat.) MeV it yields a significantly smaller value of  $7.90^{+1.71}_{-0.93}$  fm. The larger  $B_{\Lambda}$  and shorter effective scattering length suggest a stronger YN interaction between the  $\Lambda$  and the relatively low-density nuclear core of the  ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}$ H (ref.  ${}^{36}$ ). This, in certain models, requires SU(3) symmetry breaking and a more repulsive YN interaction at high density, consistent with implications from the range of masses observed for neutron stars<sup>5</sup>.

## Online content

Any methods, additional references, Nature Research reporting summaries, source data, extended data, supplementary information, acknowledgements, peer review information; details of author contributions and competing interests; and statements of data and code availability are available at <a href="https://doi.org/10.1038/s41567-020-0799-7">https://doi.org/10.1038/s41567-020-0799-7</a>.

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## Methods

In this section, we provide more details on how a possible CPT violation of  ${}^{3}\text{He}$  and d would impact the present measurement of mass difference between  ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}\text{H}$  and  ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}\overline{\text{H}}$ . The reconstruction of  ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}\text{H}$  mass from its 2-body decay kinematics is

$$m^{2} = (E_{\pi^{-}} + E_{^{3}\text{He}})^{2} - (\mathbf{p}_{\pi^{-}} + \mathbf{p}_{^{3}\text{He}})^{2}$$
(4)

and from its 3-body decay kinematics is

$$m^{2} = (E_{\pi^{-}} + E_{p} + E_{d})^{2} - (\mathbf{p}_{\pi^{-}} + \mathbf{p}_{p} + \mathbf{p}_{d})^{2}$$
 (5)

where  $E_{\pi^-}$ ,  $E_p$ ,  $E_d$  and  $E_{^3{\rm He}}$  are the total energies of decay daughters of  $^3_\Lambda{\rm H}$ , and  ${\bf p}_{\pi^-}$ ,  ${\bf p}_p$ ,  ${\bf p}_d$  and  ${\bf p}_{^3{\rm He}}$  are the momentum vectors of decay daughters of  $^3_\Lambda{\rm H}$ .

If we assume a possible CPT violation among the  ${}^{3}\text{He}$  and d daughters and that neither decay process produces or reduces any CPT asymmetry, the measured mass difference between  ${}^{3}_{h}\text{H}$  and  ${}^{3}_{\bar{h}}$  H depends on the CPT violations in  ${}^{3}_{h}\text{H}$ ,  ${}^{3}\text{He}$  and d:

$$\Delta m^{2-\text{body}} = \Delta m_{_{\Lambda}\text{H}}^{_{3}} - \Delta m_{_{1}\text{He}} \left( 1 + \sqrt{\frac{m_{\pi}^{2} + \mathbf{p}_{_{3}^{+}}^{2}}{m_{_{3}\text{He}}^{_{3}} + \mathbf{p}_{_{3}\text{He}}^{_{2}}}} \right) \frac{m_{_{1}\text{He}}}{m} \approx \Delta m_{_{\Lambda}\text{H}}^{_{3}} - 1.01 \Delta m_{_{1}\text{He}}$$

$$\Delta m^{3-\text{body}} = \Delta m_{^3\text{H}} - \Delta m_d \left( 1 + \sqrt{\frac{m_{x^-}^2 + \mathbf{p}_{z^+}^2}{m_d^2 + \mathbf{p}_d^2}} + \sqrt{\frac{m_p^2 + \mathbf{p}_p^2}{m_d^2 + \mathbf{p}_d^2}} \right) \frac{m_d}{m}$$

$$\approx \Delta m_{^3\text{H}} - 1.00\Delta m_d$$
(7)

where  $\Delta m_{^3\mathrm{He}}=m_{^3\mathrm{He}}-m_{^5\overline{\mathrm{He}}}$  and  $\Delta m_d=m_d-m_{\bar d}$  are the hypothesized mass symmetry violations for  $^3\mathrm{He}$  and d. The mass difference of  $\pi^\pm$  presented in PDG12 is negligible at the precision reported in this Letter.  $\mathbf{p}_{\pi^+},\mathbf{p}_{\bar{p}},\mathbf{p}_{\bar{d}}$  and  $\mathbf{p}_{^5\overline{\mathrm{He}}}$  are the momentums of  $\pi^+,\bar{p},\bar{d}$  and  $^3\overline{\mathrm{He}}$  when  $^3_{\bar{\Lambda}}\overline{\mathrm{H}}$  decays and taken from experiment data. We have separated the mass measurements in 2-body and 3-body decays:  $\Delta m^{2\text{-body}}=0.56\pm0.37(\mathrm{stat.})\pm0.16(\mathrm{syst.})$  MeV  $c^{-2}$  and  $\Delta m^{3\text{-body}}=-0.04\pm0.62(\mathrm{stat.})\pm0.16(\mathrm{syst.})$  MeV  $c^{-2}$ 

According to equations (6) and (7), the limits of mass differences on  ${}^{3}$ He and d from the ALICE Collaboration  ${}^{13}$  in conjunction with our measurements provide the mass differences:

$$\Delta m_{\rm H}^3 = -2.9 \pm 2.5 ({\rm stat.}) \pm 2.8 ({\rm syst.}) \text{ MeV } c^{-2}$$

$$\Delta m_{^3 \text{H}} = 0.13 \pm 0.63 \text{(stat.)} \pm 0.31 \text{(syst.)} \text{ MeV } c^{-2}$$

for 2-body and 3-body decay channels, respectively. The 2-body and 3-body weighted mass difference (weighted by the reciprocal of the squared sum in quadrature of statistical and systematic uncertainties) is

$$\Delta m_{_{\Lambda}}^{3} = 0.03 \pm 0.62 \text{(stat.)} \pm 0.31 \text{(syst.)} \text{ MeV } c^{-2}$$

Accordingly, the relative mass difference between  $^3_\Lambda H$  and  $^3_{\bar{\Lambda}} \overline{H}$  is

$$\frac{\Delta m}{m} = \frac{m_{{}_{\Lambda}}^{3}H - m_{{}_{\bar{\Lambda}}}^{3}H}{m} = [0.1 \pm 2.0(\text{stat.}) \pm 1.0(\text{syst.})] \times 10^{-4}$$

where m is from equation (1).

According to equations (6) and (7), any measured difference between 2-body and 3-body decays  $\left(\Delta m^{3-\mathrm{body}} - \Delta m^{2-\mathrm{body}}\right)$  is due to the CPT violations in the daughter sectors:

$$\Delta m_{^{3}\text{He}} = 0.99 \left(\Delta m^{3-\text{body}} - \Delta m^{2-\text{body}}\right) + 0.99 \Delta m_d \tag{8}$$

These present measurements in conjunction with the deuteron reported by ALICE<sup>13</sup> place a new constraint on the mass difference between <sup>3</sup>He and <sup>3</sup>He, namely  $\Delta m_{^3\text{He}} = -0.43 \pm 0.72 (\text{stat.}) \pm 0.34 (\text{syst.})$  MeV  $c^{-2}$  and  $\Delta m_{^3\text{He}}/m_{^3\text{He}} = (-1.5 \pm 2.6 (\text{stat.}) \pm 1.2 (\text{syst.})) \times 10^{-4}$ .

# Data availability

All raw data for this study were collected by the STAR detector at Brookhaven National Laboratory. Data tables for the results reported in this Letter are publicly available on the STARwebsite (https://drupal.star.bnl.gov/STAR/publications/precisemeasurement-mass-difference-and-binding-energy-hypertriton-and-antihypertrito-0) or from the corresponding authors upon reasonable request.

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#### Author contributions

All authors made important contributions to this publication, in one or more of the areas of detector hardware and software, operation of the experiment, acquisition of data and data analysis. All STAR collaborations who are authors reviewed and approved the submitted manuscript.

#### Competing interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

# Additional information

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