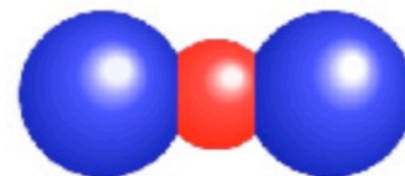
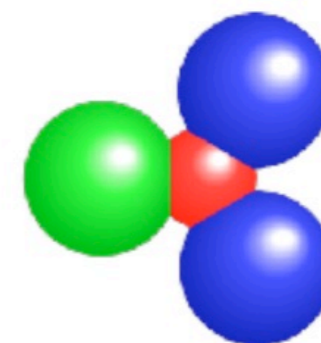


K-pp



K-ppn



J-PARC (K1.8BR) における K中間子原子核研究の状況と展望

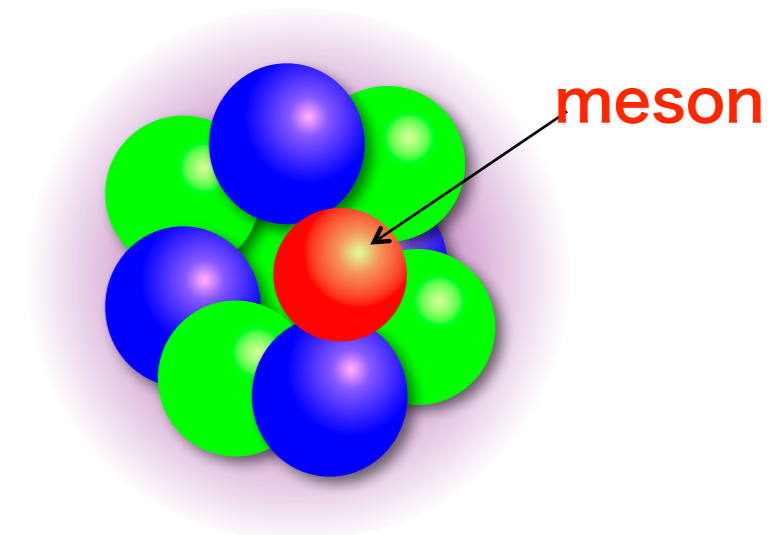
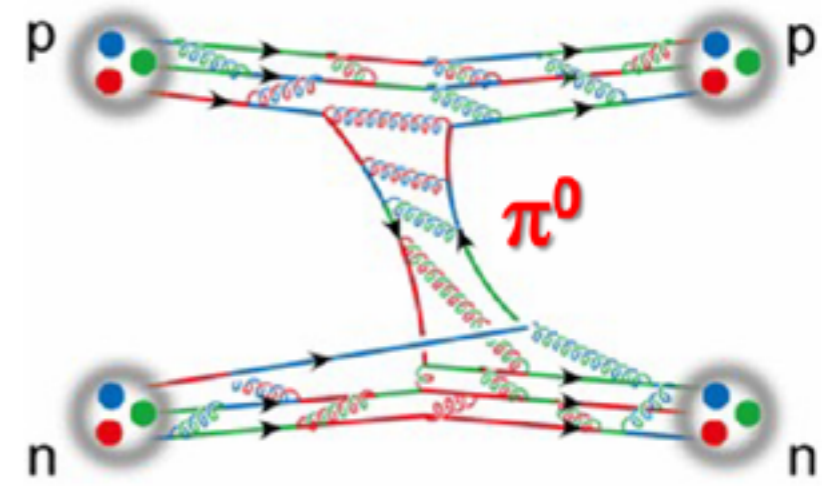
橋本 直 (JAEA ASRC)

for the J-PARC E15/T77/E80 collaboration

Meson in nuclei

meson: quark-antiquark ($\bar{q}q$) pair

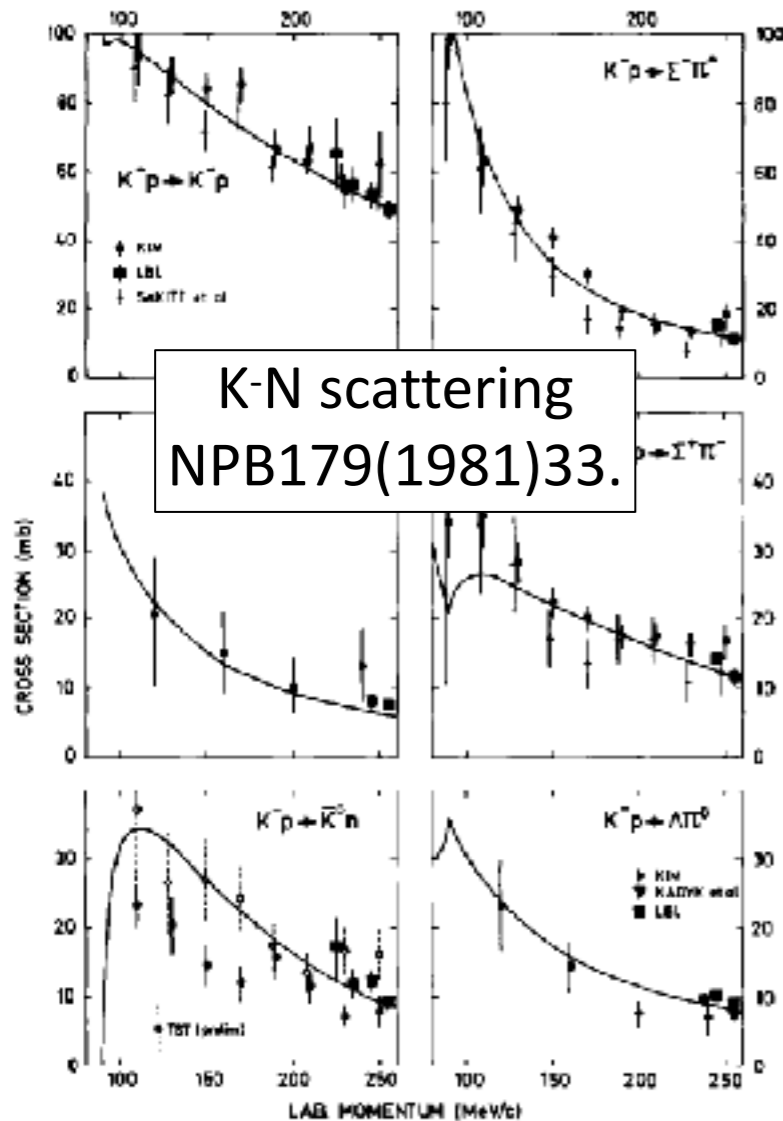
- **In nuclei**, mesons are **virtual** particles and form nuclear potential (Yukawa theorem)
- **In vacuum**, mesons are **real** particles having own intrinsic masses (cf. meson beam)



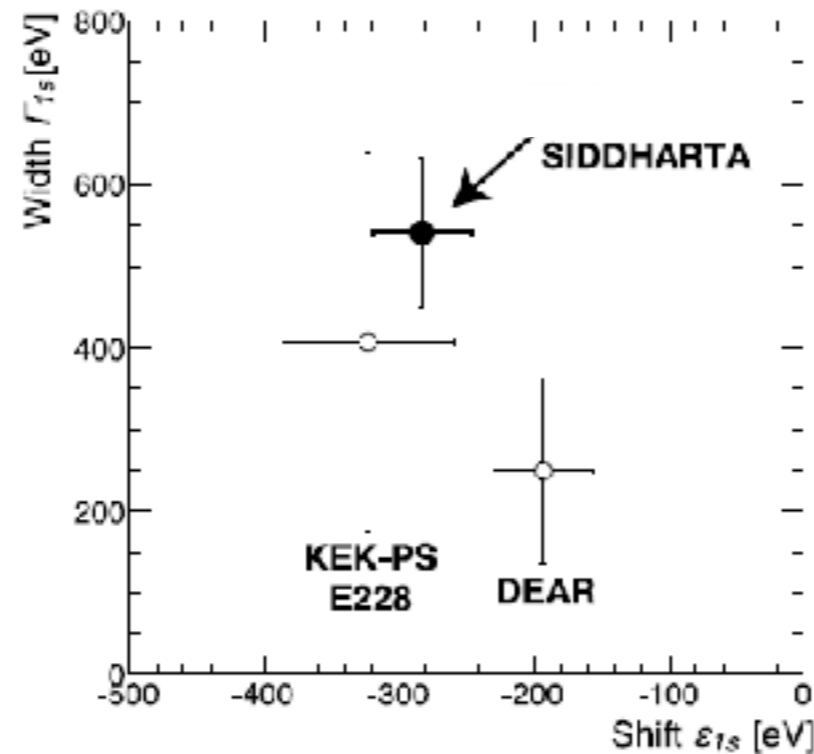
- Can meson be a constituent particle forming nuclei?
- If yes, how do meson and core nucleus change?

We would like to experimentally establish such exotic nuclei

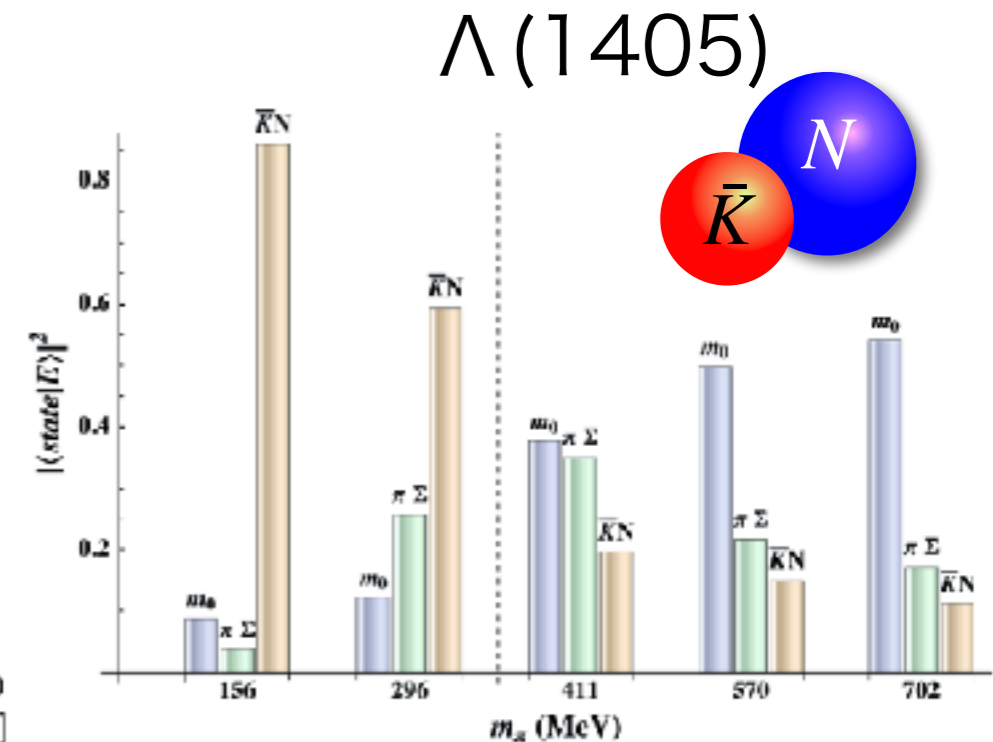
Kaonic nuclei



K-p atom
PLB704(2011)113.



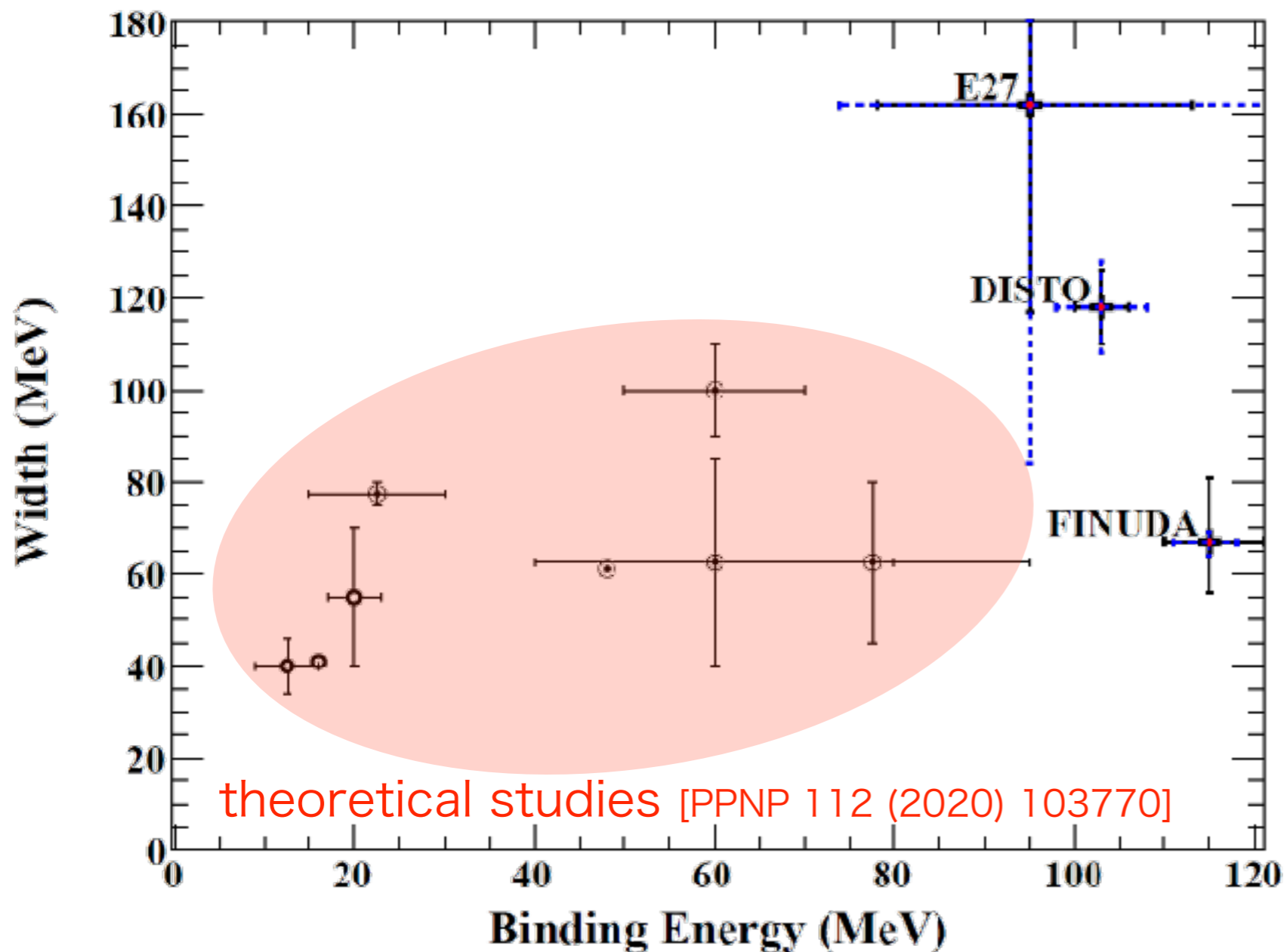
$\bar{K}N$ molecule from Lattice QCD
PRL114(2015)132002.



- Strong attraction in $l=0$ from scattering and X-ray experiments.
- $\Lambda(1405) = \bar{K}N$ molecule picture is now widely accepted

Why not kaonic nucleus with additional nucleons?

The simplest one: $\bar{K}NN(I = 1/2, J^P = 0^-)$



- FINUDA: $(K_{stopped}^-, \Lambda p)$

- DISTO: $pp \rightarrow \Lambda p K^+$

- J-PARC E27: $d(\pi^+, K^+)X$

Null results

- LEPS: $p(\gamma, \pi^- K^+)X$

- HADES: $pp \rightarrow \Lambda p K^+$

- AMADEUS: $C(K_{stopped}^-, \Lambda p)$

- Theoretical calculations agree on the existence of $\bar{K}NN$, but B.E. and Γ depend on the $\bar{K}N$ interaction models.
- No conclusive experimental evidence so far.

Mass number dependence

$$\bar{K}NNN \quad I(J^P) = 0(1/2^-)$$

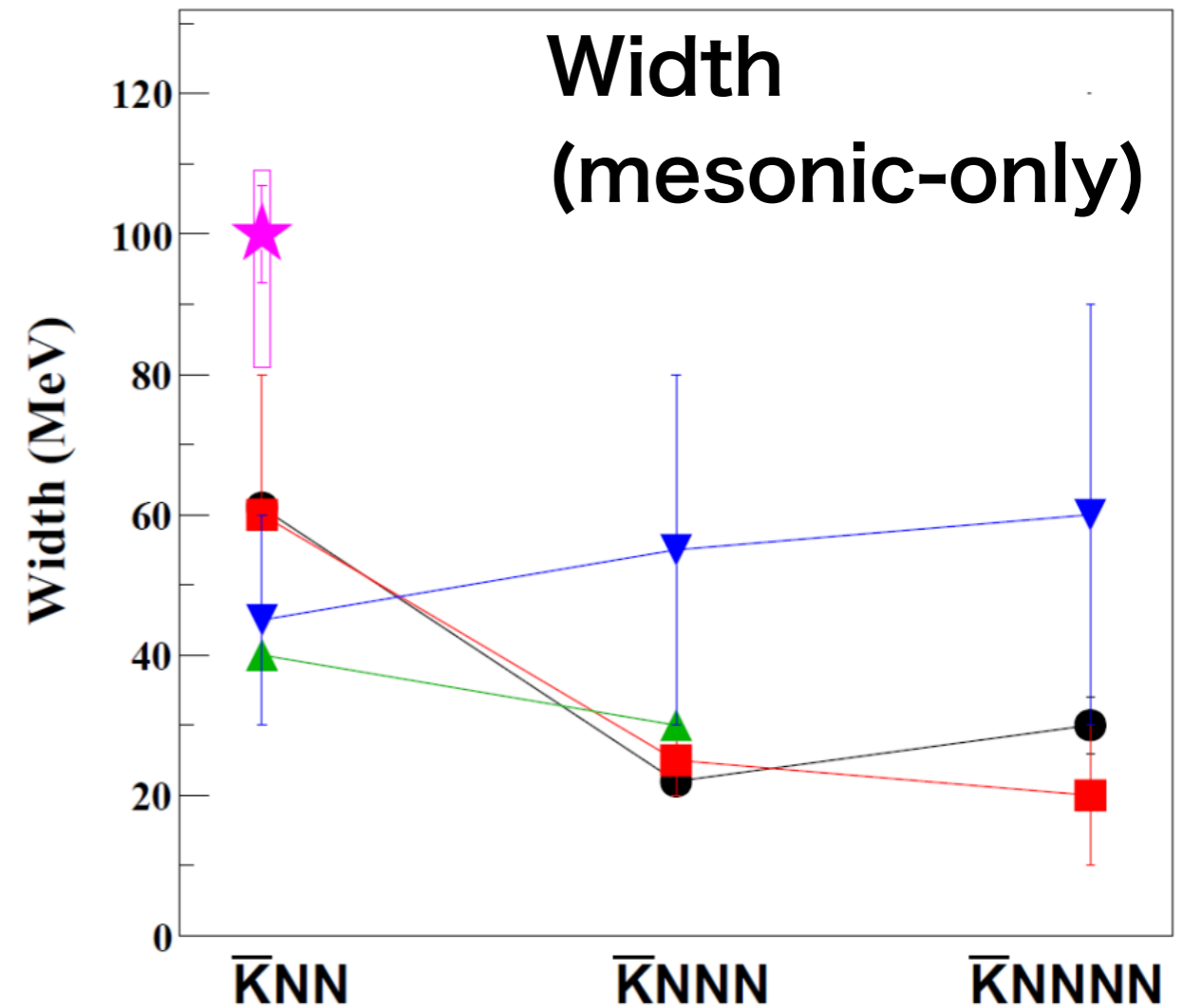
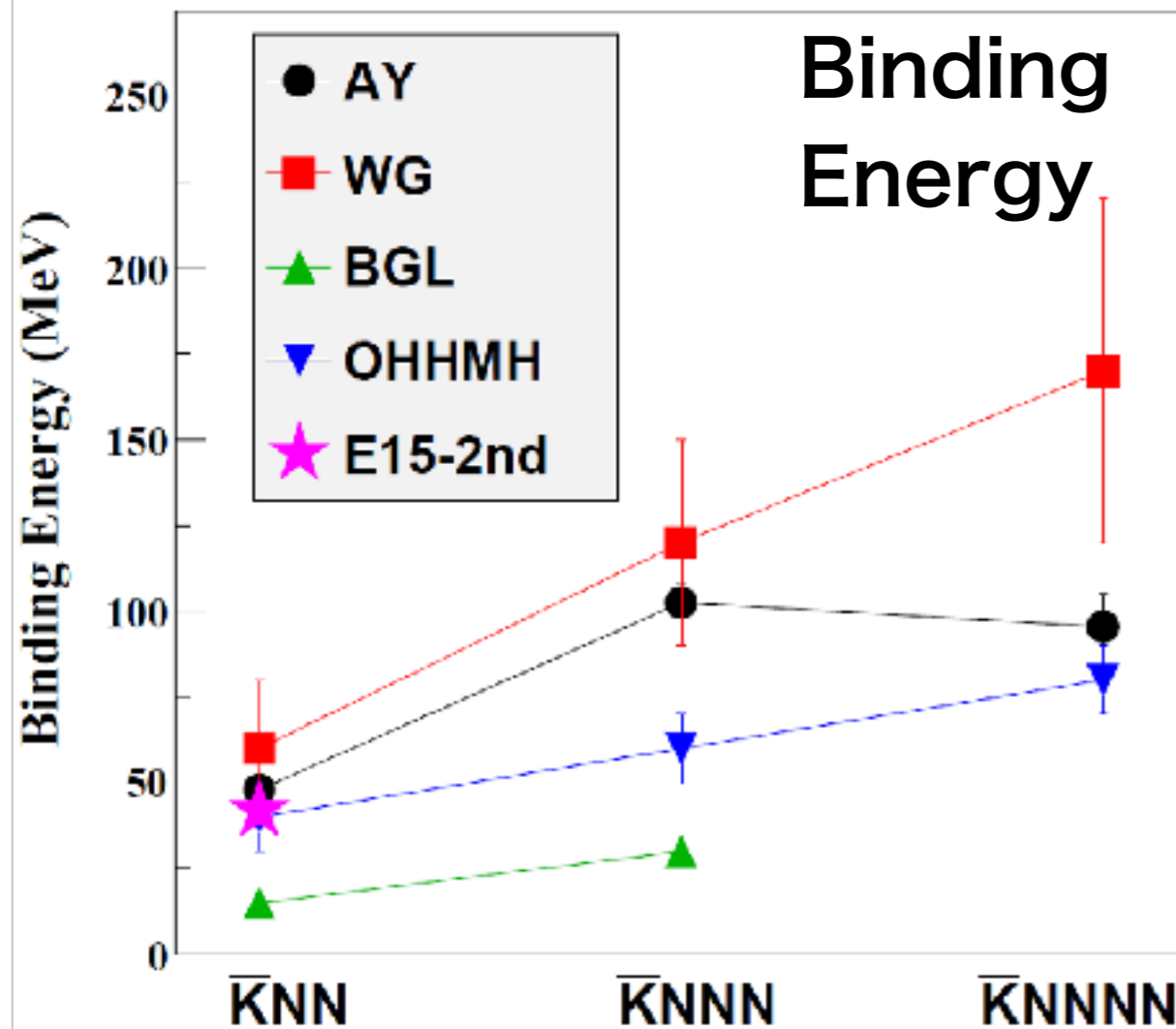
Not a complete list. sorry...

AY: PRC65(2002)044005, PLB535(2002)70.

WG: PRC79(2009)014001.

BGL: PLB712(2012)132.

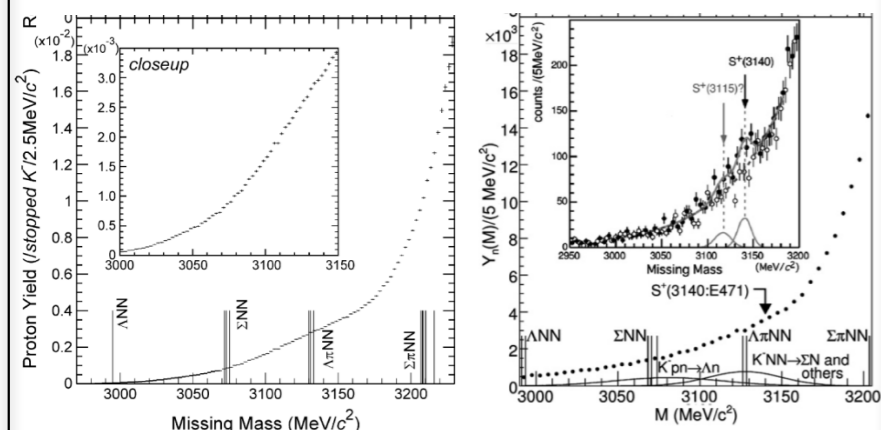
OHHMH: PRC95(2017)065202.



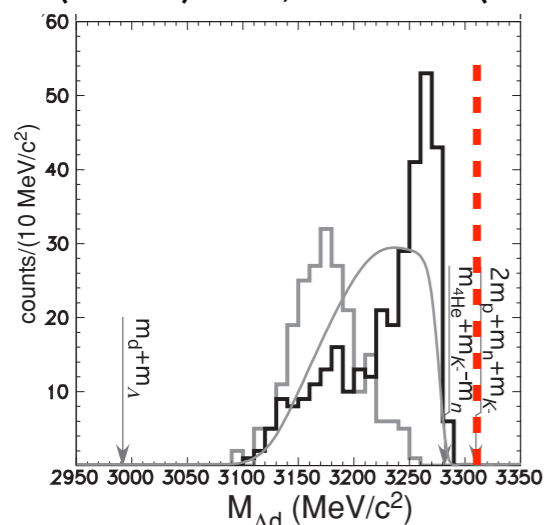
Larger binding than $\bar{K}NN$ and similar width are predicted.

$\bar{K}NNN$: Experimental situation

Stopped K^- on ${}^4\text{He}$
E471/E549@KEK



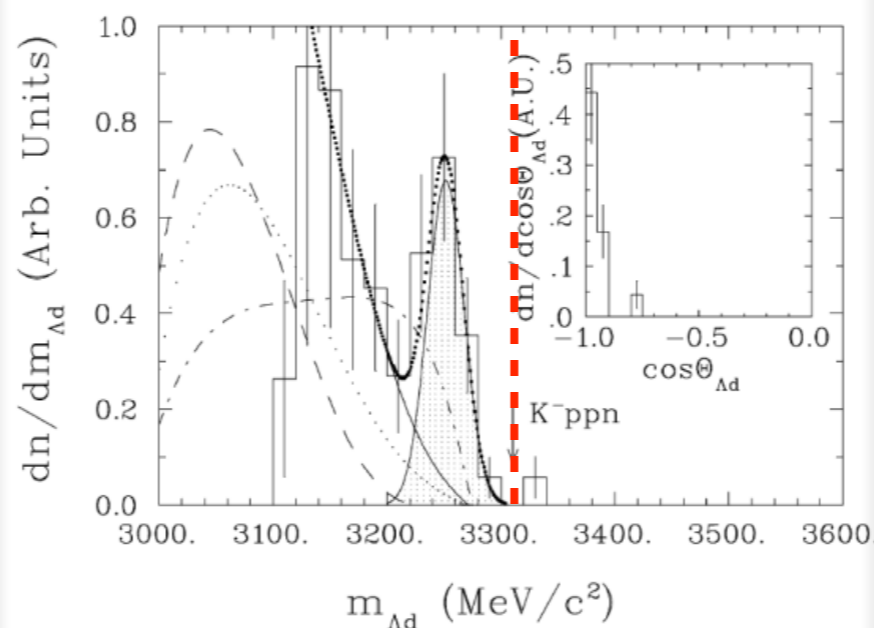
PLB659(2008)107, PLB688(2010)43



PRC76(2007)068202

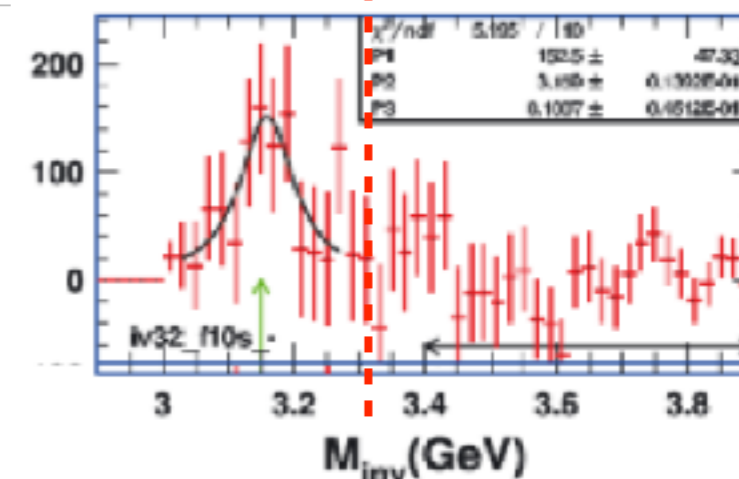
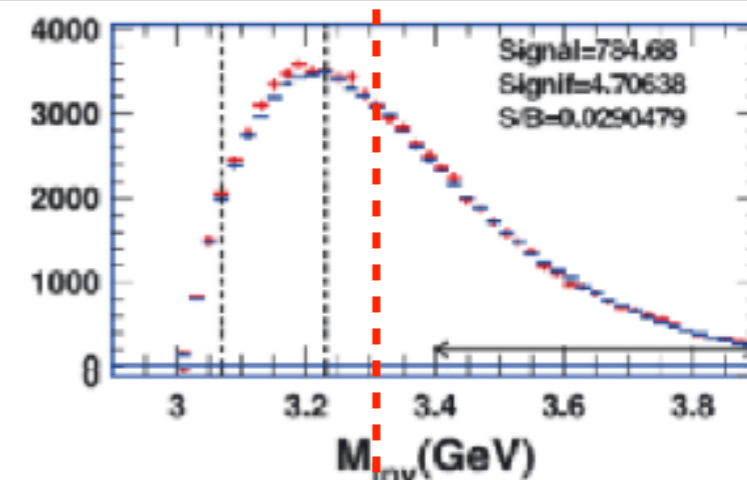
Stopped K^- on Li/C
back-to-back Λ_d

FUNUDA@DAΦNE



PLB654(2007)80

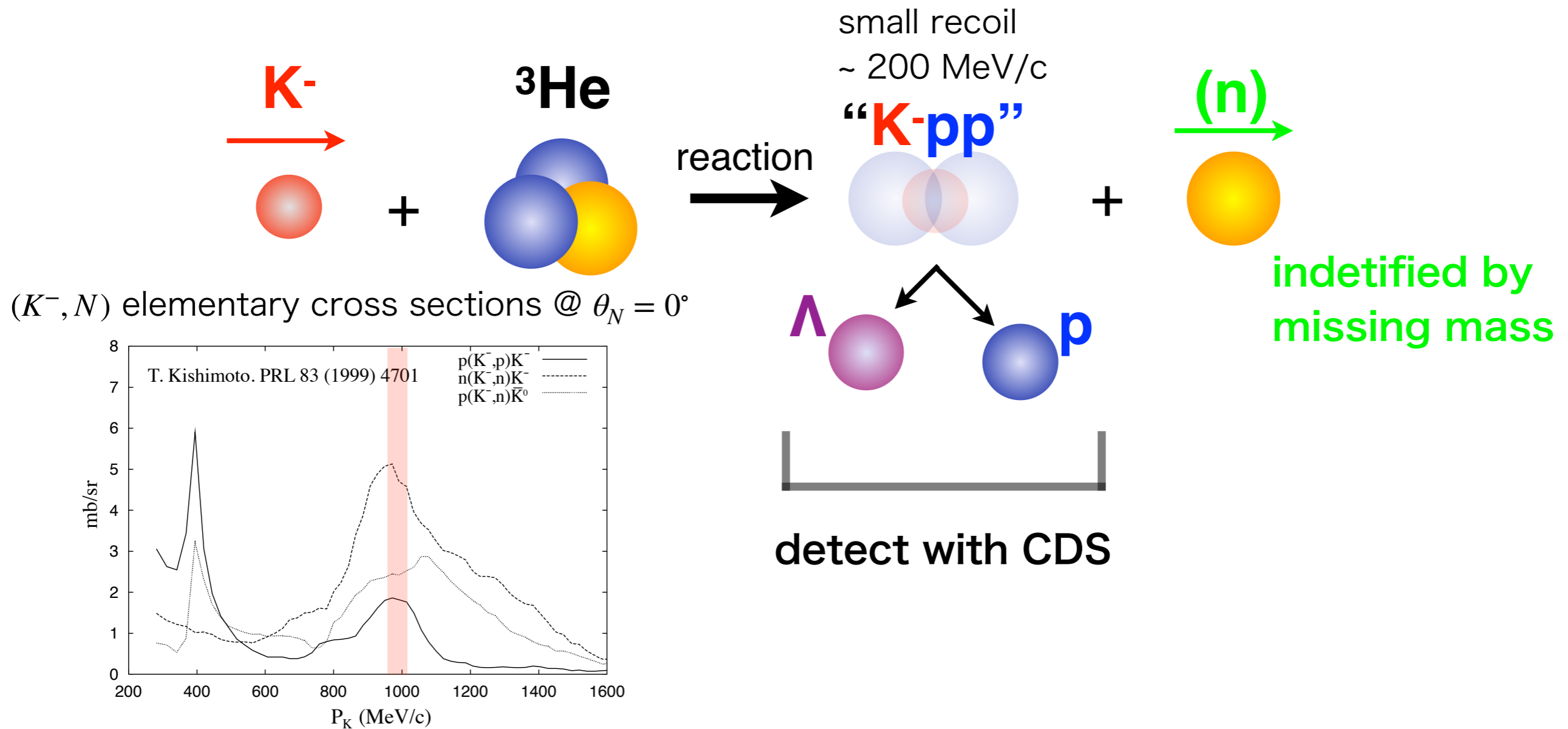
Λ_d in Ni+Ni
FOPI@GSI



EXA05 Proceedings (2005)

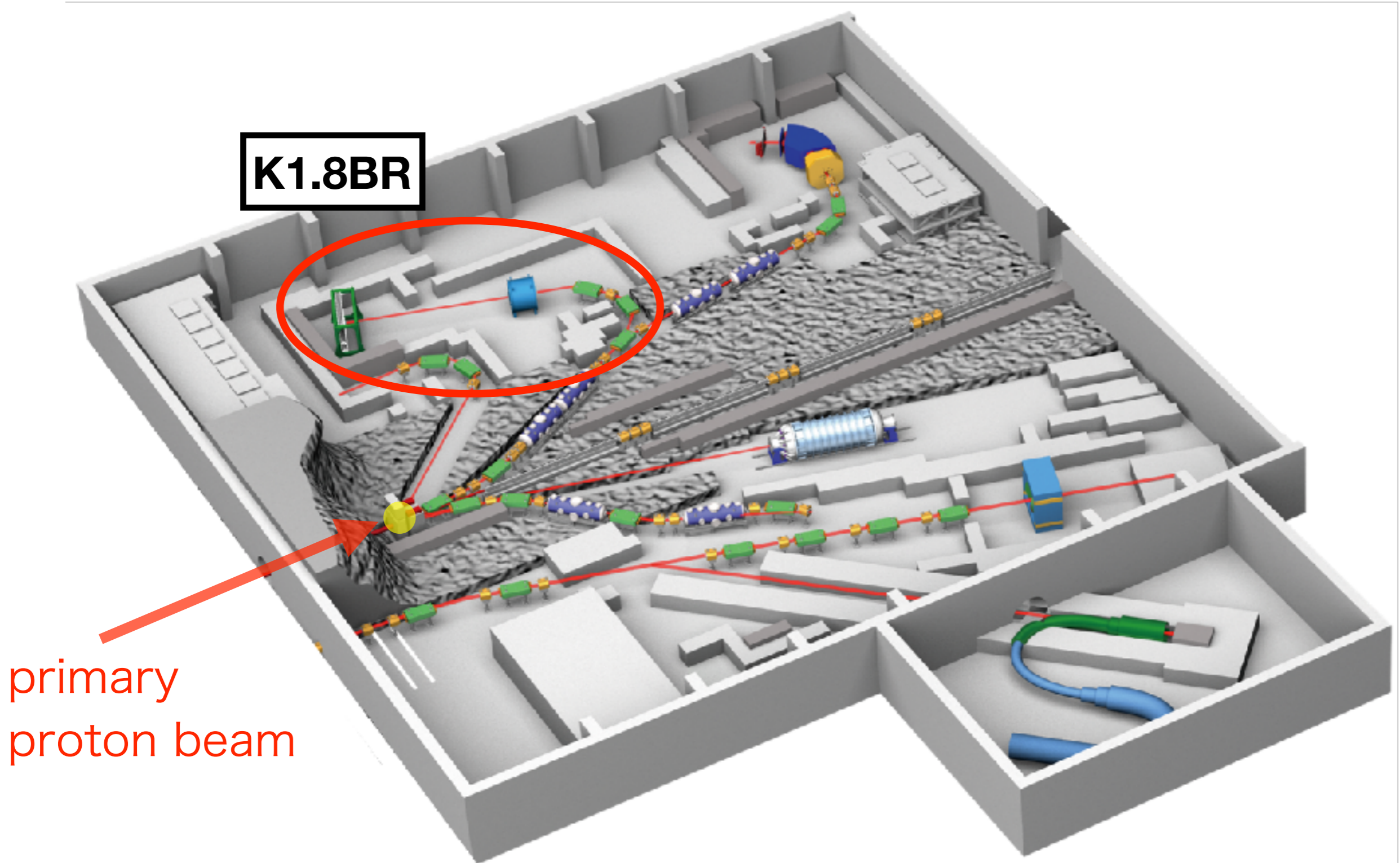
- Some experimental searches in 2000s. No conclusive result.
- multi-N absorptions hide bound-state signals in Stop-K

Our approach: in-flight (K^- , n)



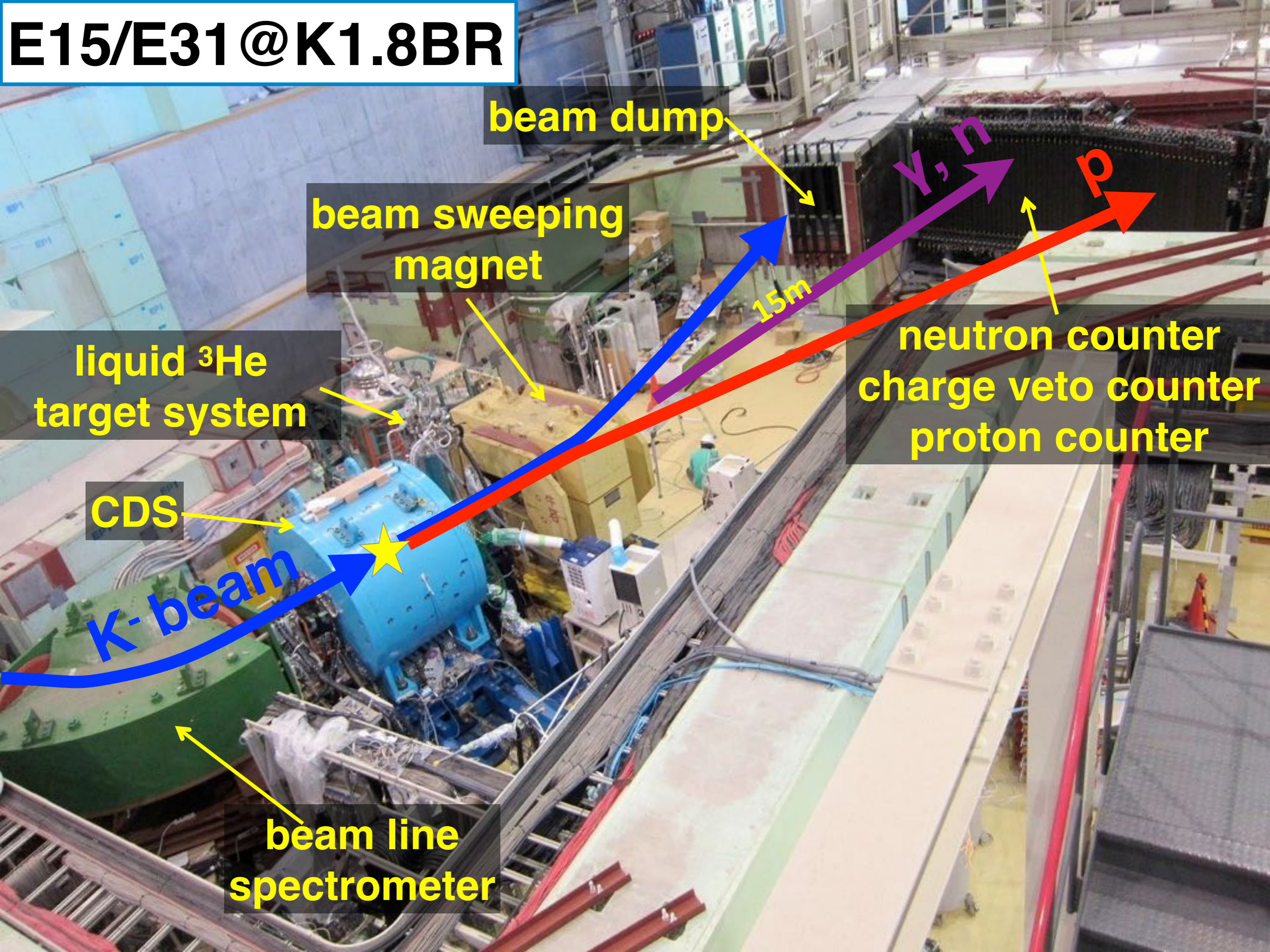
- K^- beam at $1 \text{ GeV}/c$ to maximize elementary (K^- , N) cross sections
- Most of background processes can be kinematically separated.
 - Hyperon decays and multi-nucleon absorption reactions
- Simplest target allow exclusive analysis.

J-PARC K1.8BR



- Relatively short beamline suitable for low-momentum K- beam

E15/E31 @ K1.8BR



beam dump

beam sweeping magnet

liquid ³He target system

neutron counter
charge veto counter
proton counter

CDS

K-beam

beam line spectrometer

15m

γ, n

p

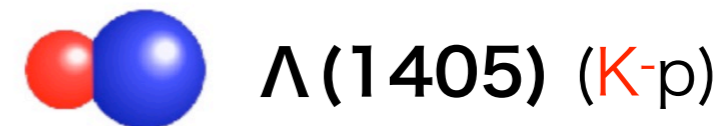
Experiments @ J-PARC K1.8BR

- E15: $\bar{K}NN$ search



- 1st data taking in 2013: [forward-neutron PTEP \(2015\) 061D01](#), [\$\Lambda p\$ PTEP \(2016\) 051D01](#).
- 2nd data taking in 2015 focusing on Λp : [PLB 789 \(2019\) 620](#), [PRC 102 \(2020\) 044002](#).

- E31: $\Lambda(1405)$ spectroscopy via $d(K^-, n)$



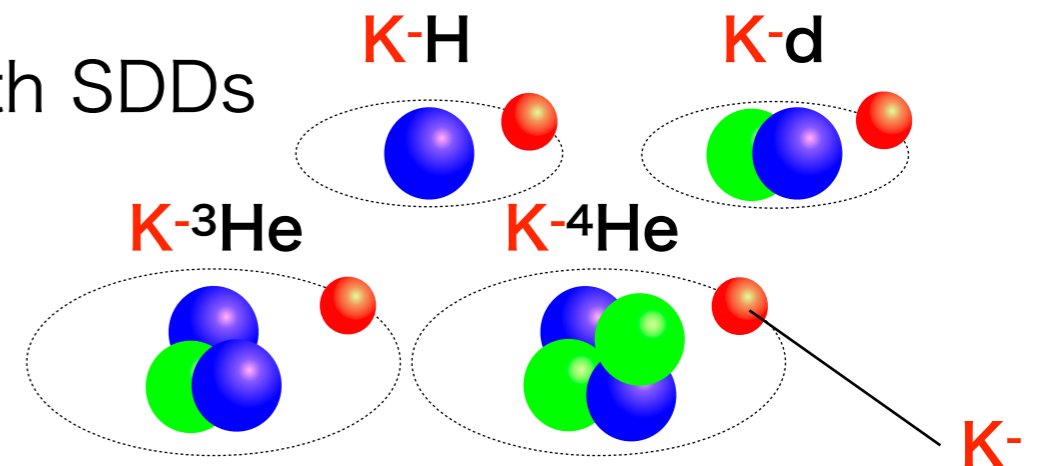
- data taking in 2018: [arXiv:2209.08254](#)

- E57: Kaonic hydrogen/deuterium 1s with SDDs

- test experiment in 2019

- E62: Kaonic helium-3/4 2p with TES

- data taking in 2018: [PRL 128, 112503 \(2022\)](#).

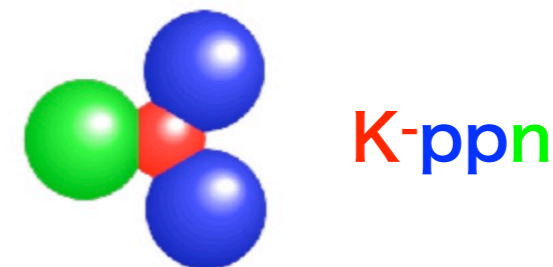


- E73/T77: lifetime measurement of light hypernuclei

- test data in 2020(**⁴He**), 2021(³He)

- E80: $\bar{K}NNN$ study

- P89: $\bar{K}NN$ spin-parity



$$I(J^P) = 1/2(0^-), I_Z = + 1/2$$

$\bar{K}NN$ in ${}^3\text{He}(K^-, \Lambda p)n$

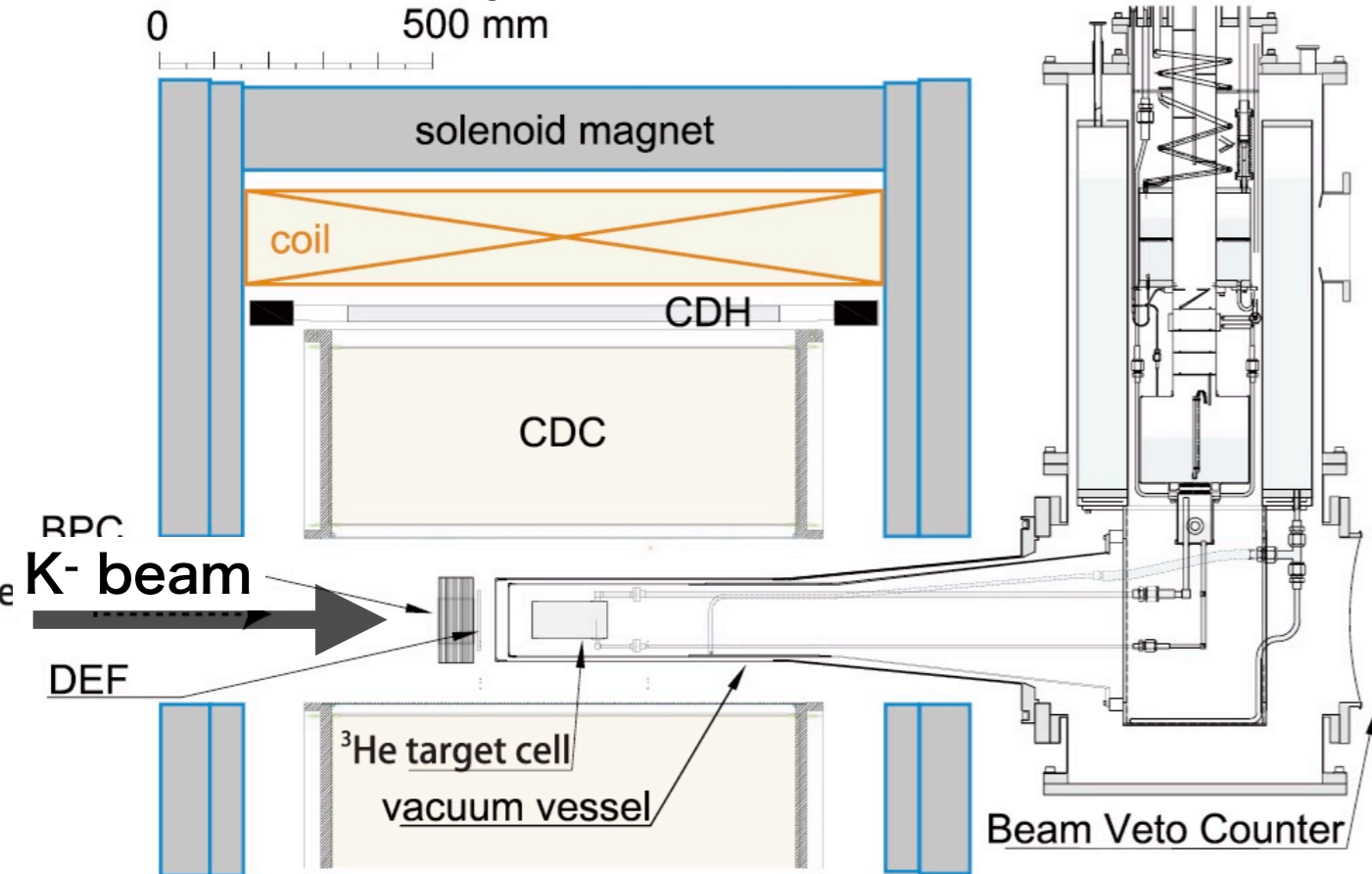
PHYSICAL REVIEW C **102**, 044002 (2020)

Observation of a $\bar{K}NN$ bound state in the ${}^3\text{He}(K^-, \Lambda p)n$ reaction

T. Yamaga,^{1,*} S. Ajimura,² H. Asano,¹ G. Beer,³ H. Bhang,⁴ M. Bragadireanu,⁵ P. Buehler,⁶ L. Busso,^{7,8} M. Cargnelli,⁶ S. Choi,⁴ C. Curceanu,⁹ S. Enomoto,¹⁴ H. Fujioka,¹⁵ Y. Fujiwara,¹² T. Fukuda,¹³ C. Guaraldo,⁹ T. Hashimoto,²⁰ R. S. Hayano,¹² T. Hiraiwa,² M. Iio,¹⁴ M. Iliescu,⁹ K. Inoue,² Y. Ishiguro,¹¹ T. Ishikawa,¹² S. Ishimoto,¹⁴ K. Itahashi,¹ M. Iwai,¹⁴ M. Iwasaki,^{1,†} K. Kanno,¹² K. Kato,¹¹ Y. Kato,¹ S. Kawasaki,¹⁰ P. Kienle,^{16,‡} H. Kou,¹⁵ Y. Ma,¹ J. Marton,⁶ Y. Matsuda,¹⁷ Y. Mizoi,¹³ O. Morra,⁷ T. Nagae,¹¹ H. Noumi,^{2,14} H. Ohnishi,²² S. Okada,²³ H. Outa,¹ K. Piscicchia,^{24,9} Y. Sada,²² A. Sakaguchi,¹⁰ F. Sakuma,¹ M. Sato,¹⁴ A. Scordo,⁹ M. Sekimoto,¹⁴ H. Shi,⁶ K. Shirotori,² D. Sirghi,^{9,5} F. Sirghi,^{9,5} S. Suzuki,¹⁴ T. Suzuki,¹² K. Tanida,²⁰ H. Tatsuno,²¹ M. Tokuda,¹⁵ D. Tomono,² A. Toyoda,¹⁴ K. Tsukada,¹⁸ O. Vazquez Doce,^{9,16} E. Widmann,⁶ T. Yamazaki,^{12,1} H. Yim,¹⁹ Q. Zhang,¹ and J. Zmeskal⁶
(J-PARC E15 Collaboration)

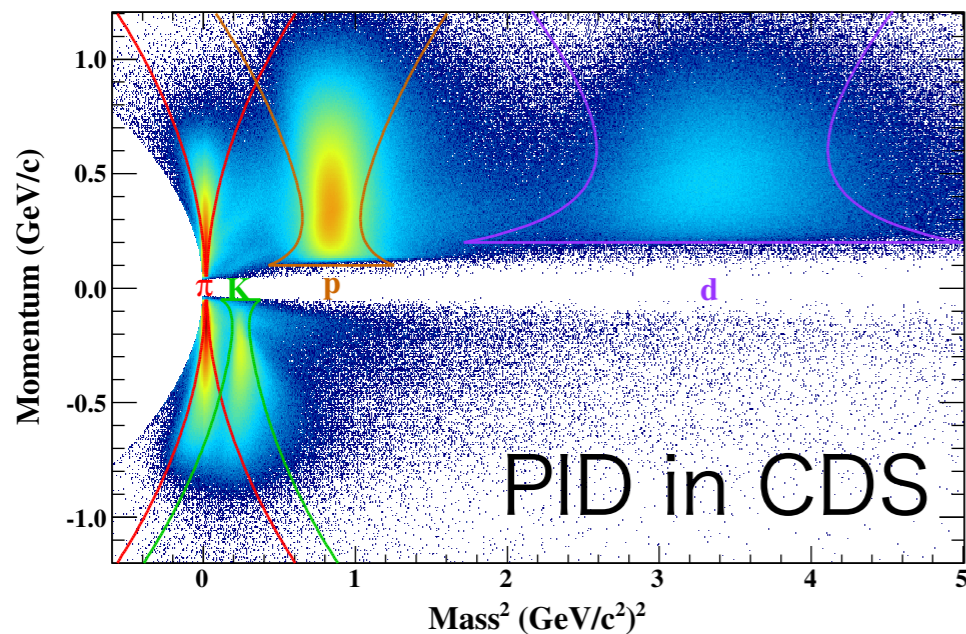
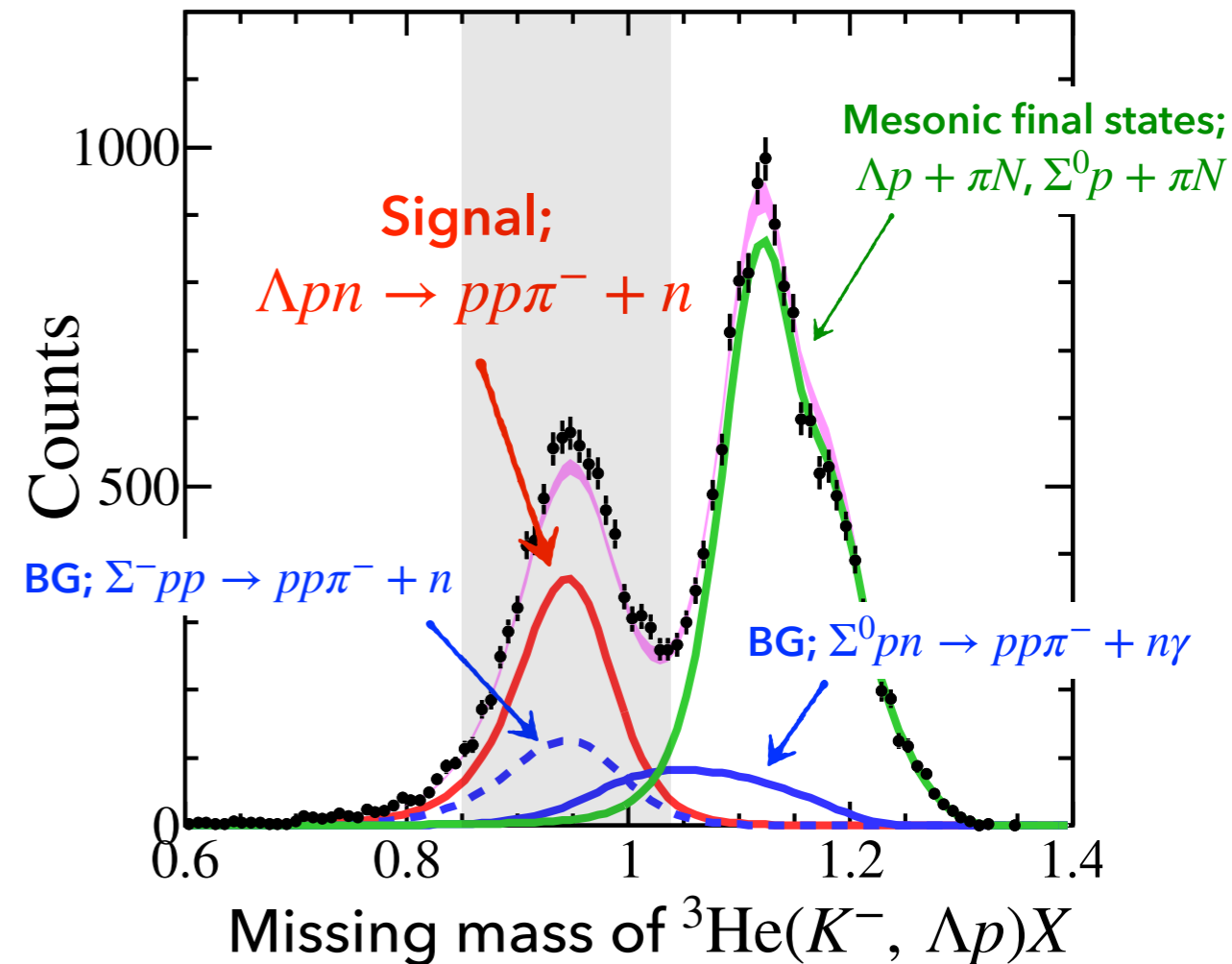
Λpn event selection

K. Agari et. al., PTEP 2012, 02B011



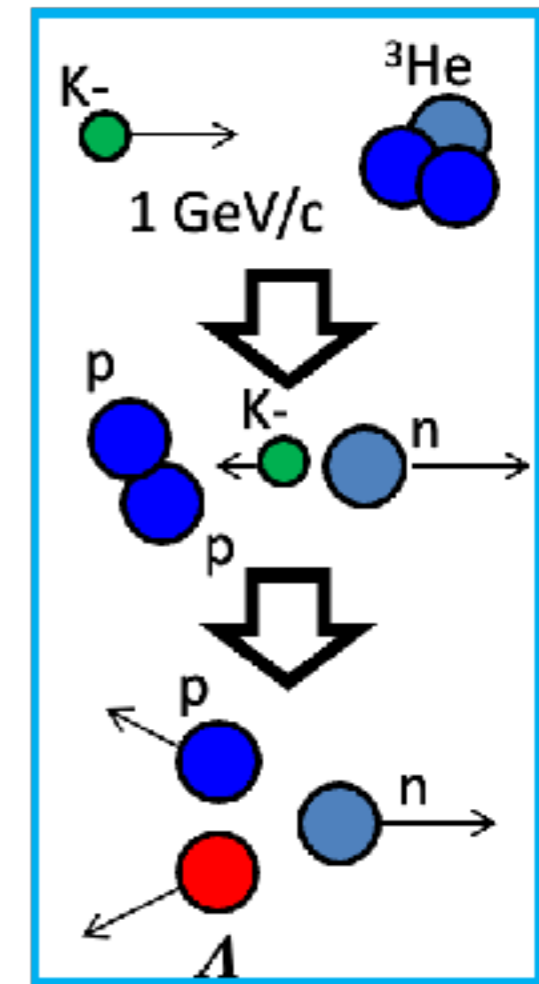
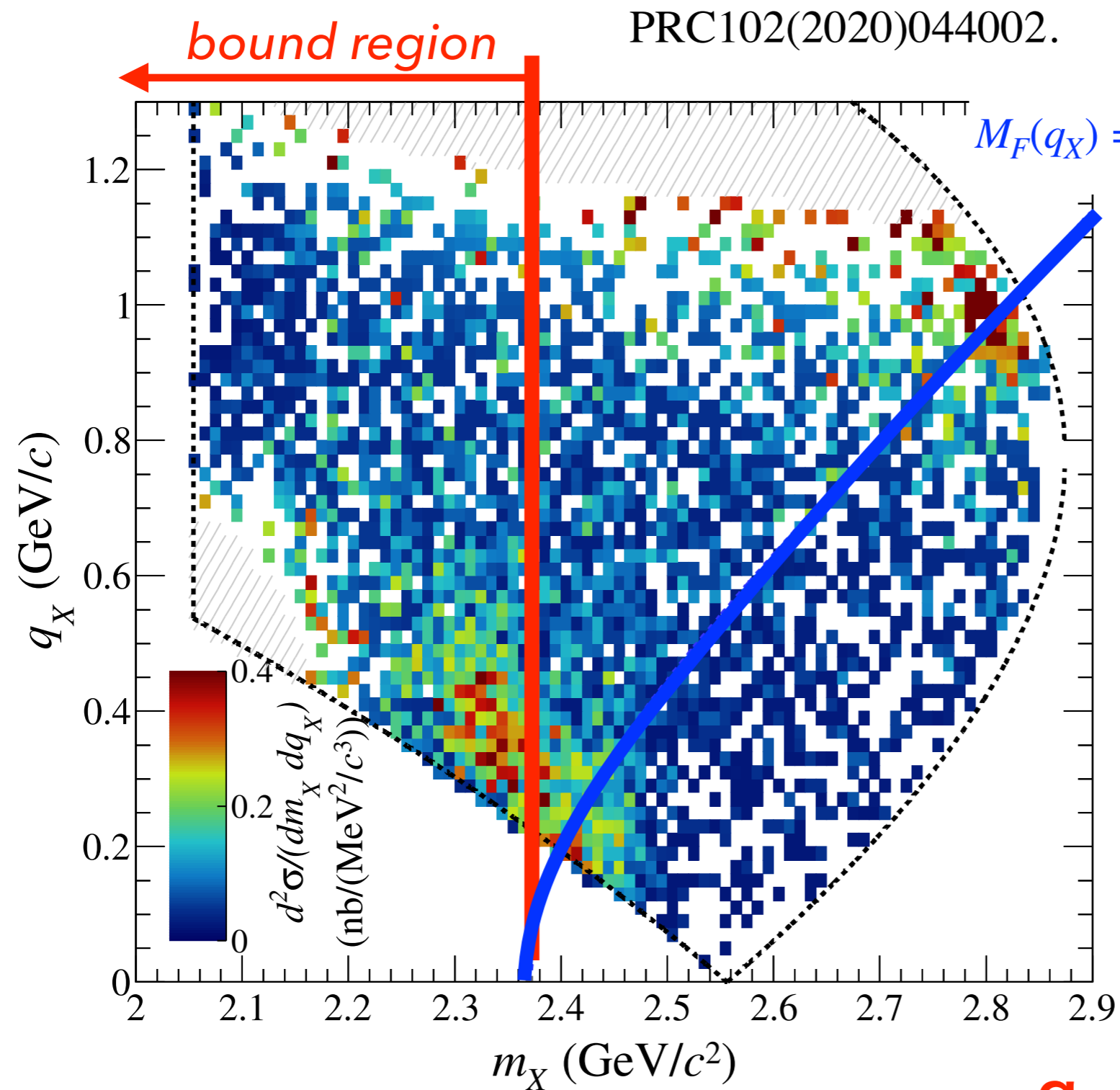
15-layer CDC and TOF hodoscopes

missing neutron selection



- Λpn events are selected with ~80% purity.
- ~20% $\Sigma^0 pn / \Sigma^- pp$ contamination

Obtained spectrum in J-PARC E15



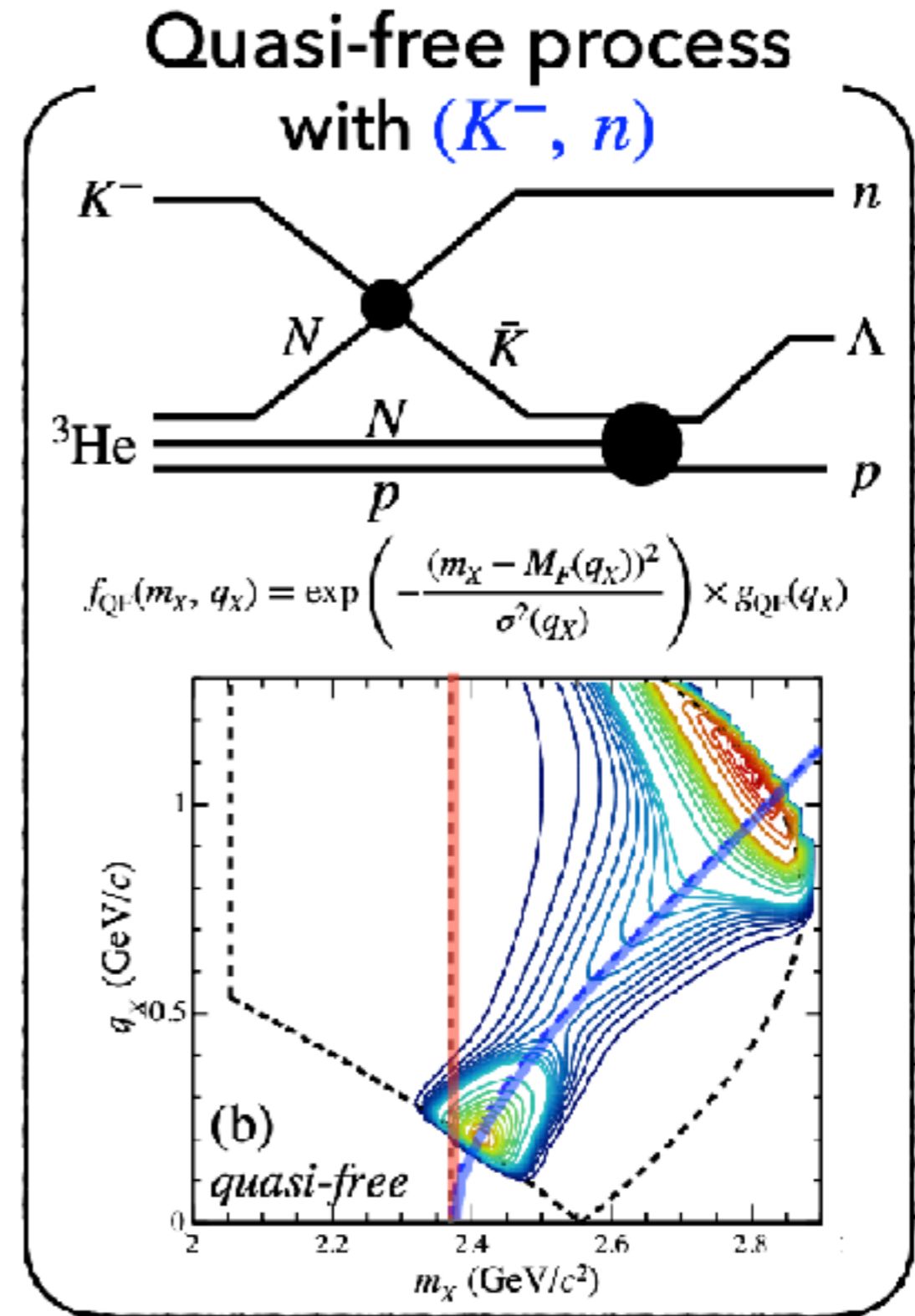
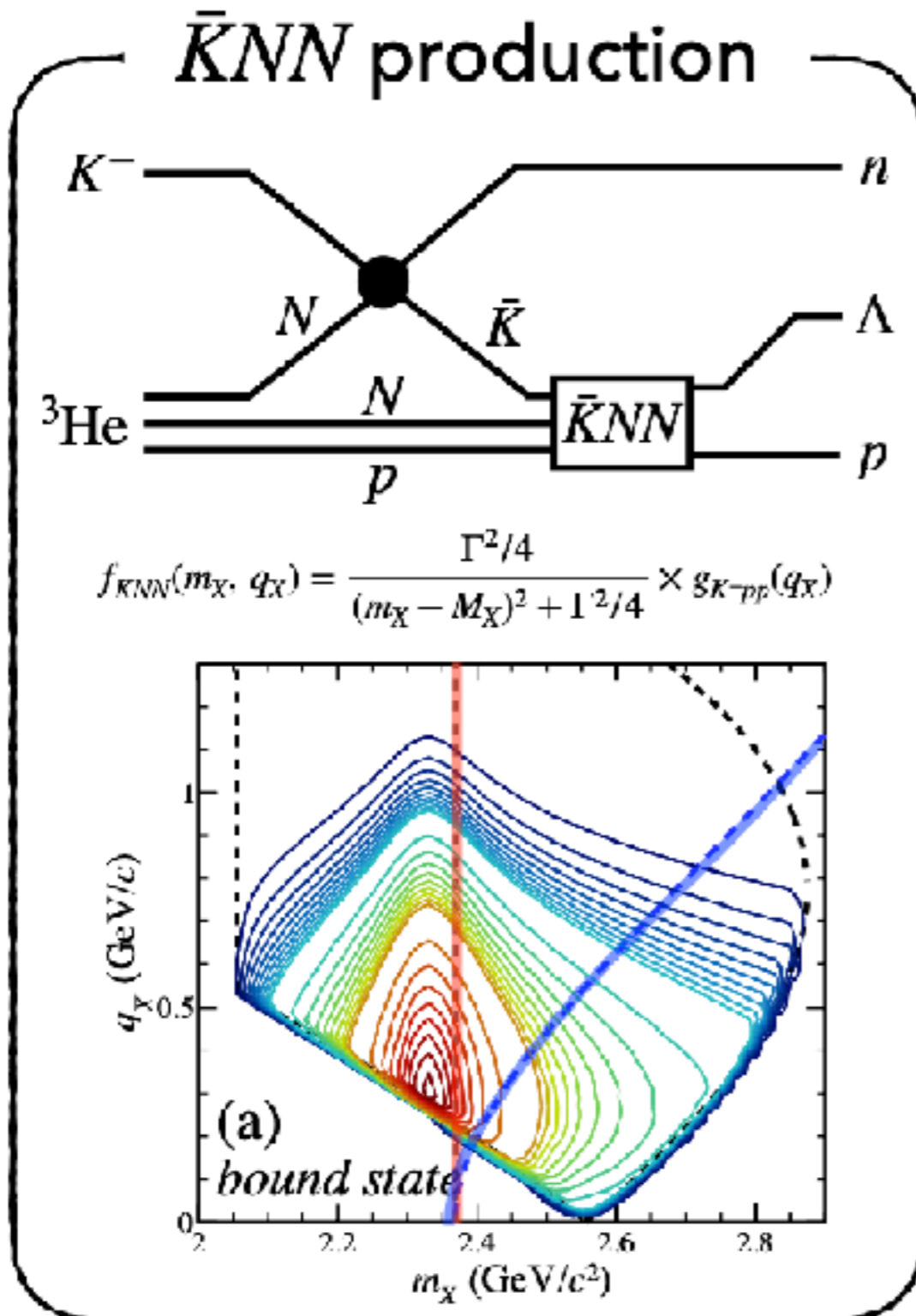
“quasi-free” process

m_x : Λp invariant mass

q_x : momentum transfer to Λp system

**q_x -indep. component
below the threshold**

Model functions



+ Broad component

2D Fit for the “ $\bar{K}NN$ ” state

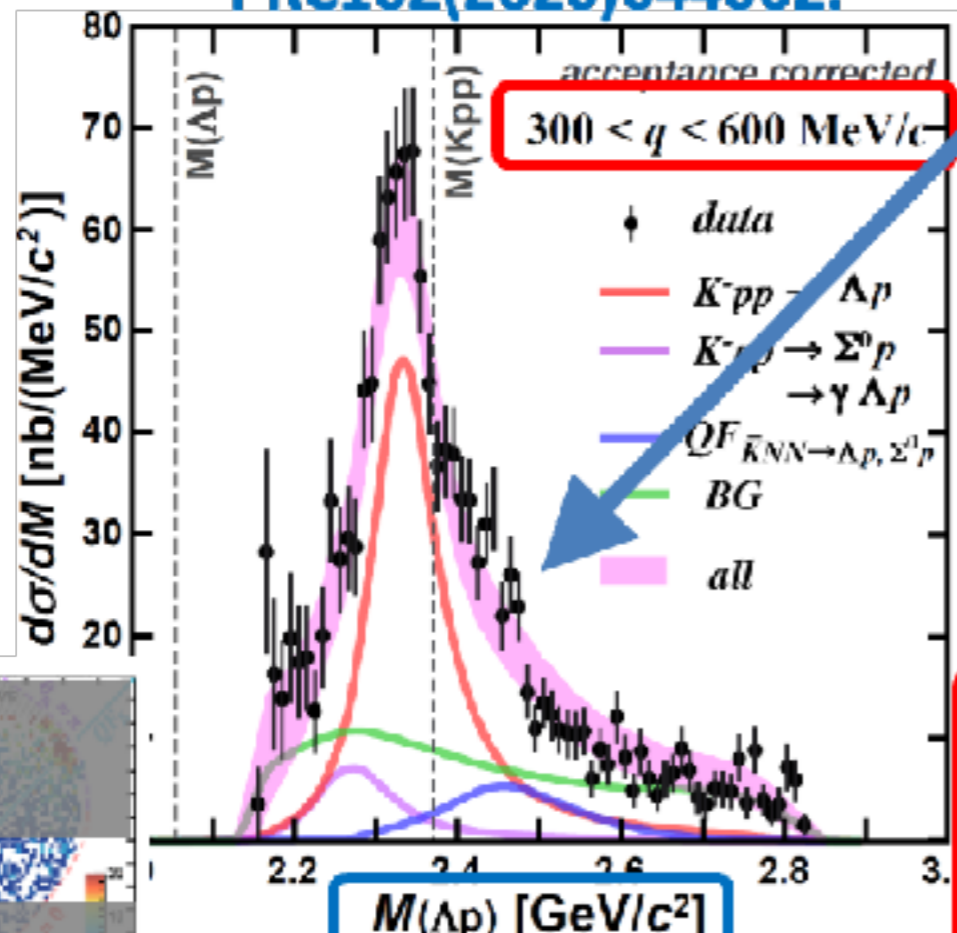
$0.3 < q_x < 0.6$ GeV/c: Signals are well separated from other process

Fit with PWIA

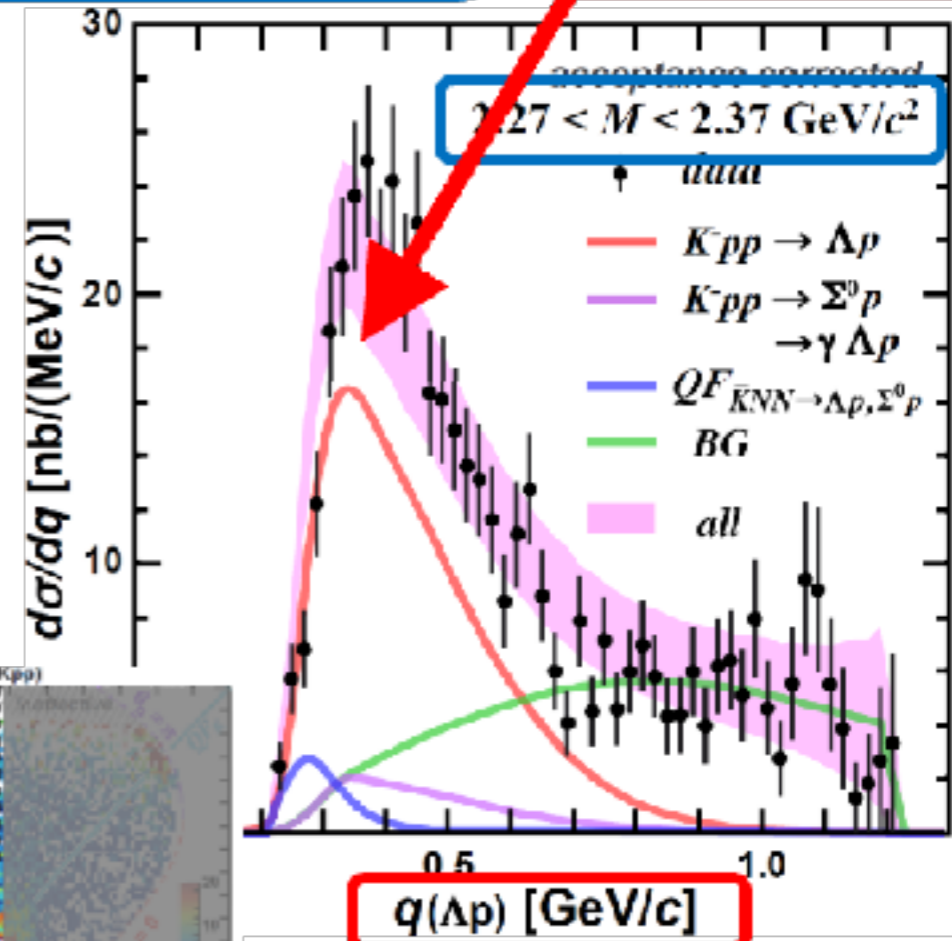
phase space
 $\sigma(M, q) \propto \rho(M, q) \times$

$$\frac{(\Gamma_{Kpp}/2)^2}{(M - M_{Kpp})^2 + (\Gamma_{Kpp}/2)^2} \times \exp\left(-\frac{q^2}{Q_{Kpp}^2}\right)$$

PRC102(2020)044002.



$\sigma_{m_{\Delta p}} \sim 10$ MeV/c²

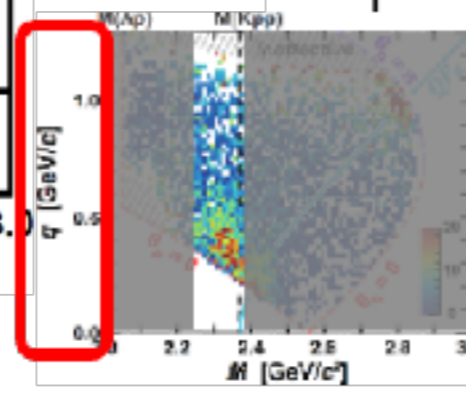
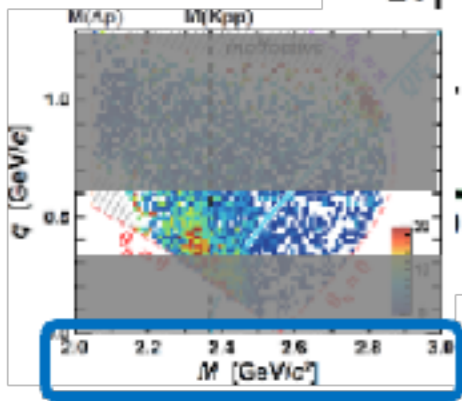


$Q_{kpp} \sim 400$ MeV (c.f. $Q_{QF} \sim 200$ MeV)

$B_{Kpp} \sim 40$ MeV, $\Gamma_{Kpp} \sim 100$ MeV

→ large binding energy

→ wide momentum transfer



$I(J^P) = 0(1/2^-)$
 $\bar{K}NNN$ in ${}^4\text{He}(K^-, \Lambda d)n$

Helium-4 data with the E15 setup as a test experiment in 2020

J-PARC E15 vs T77 @ K1.8BR

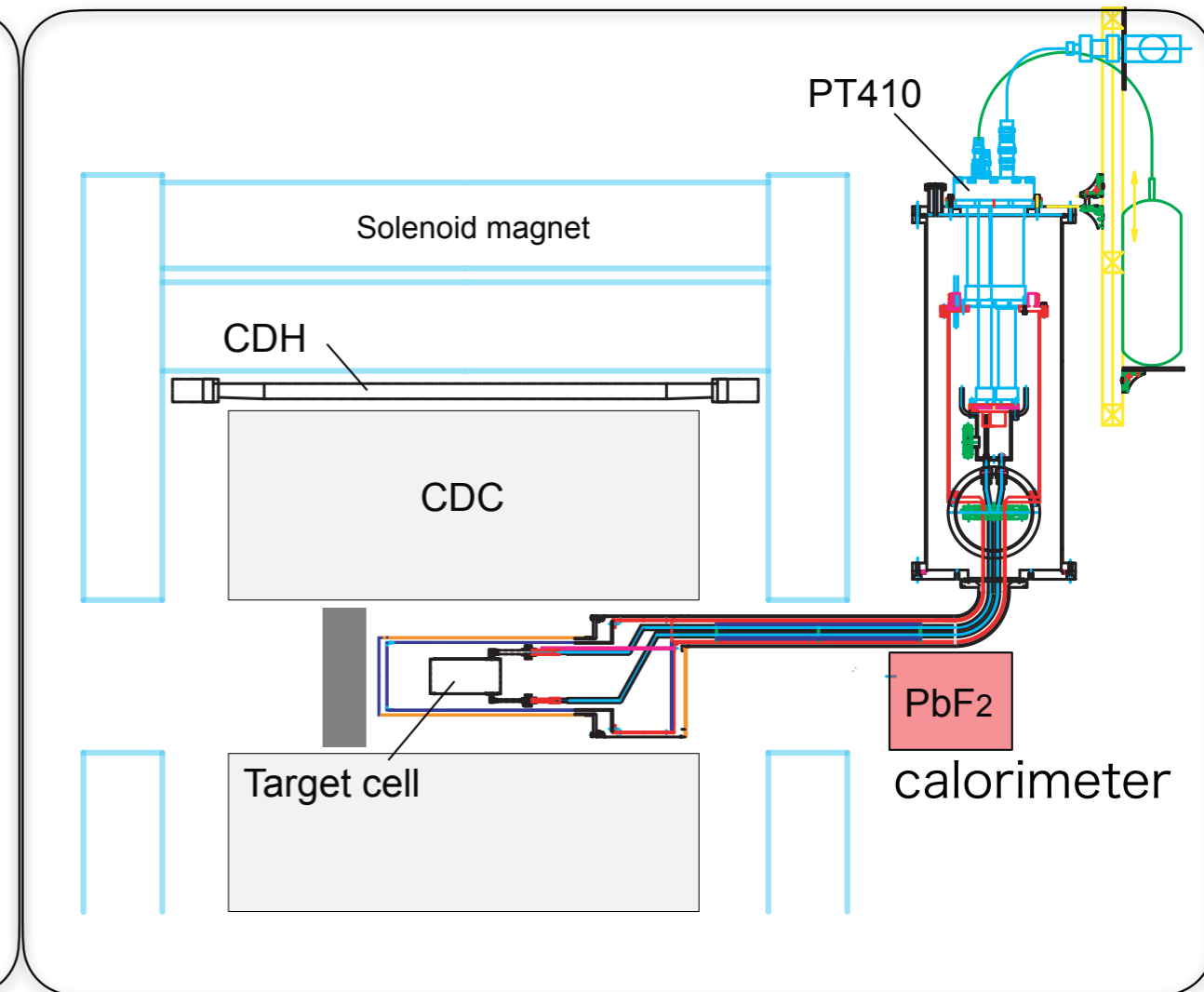
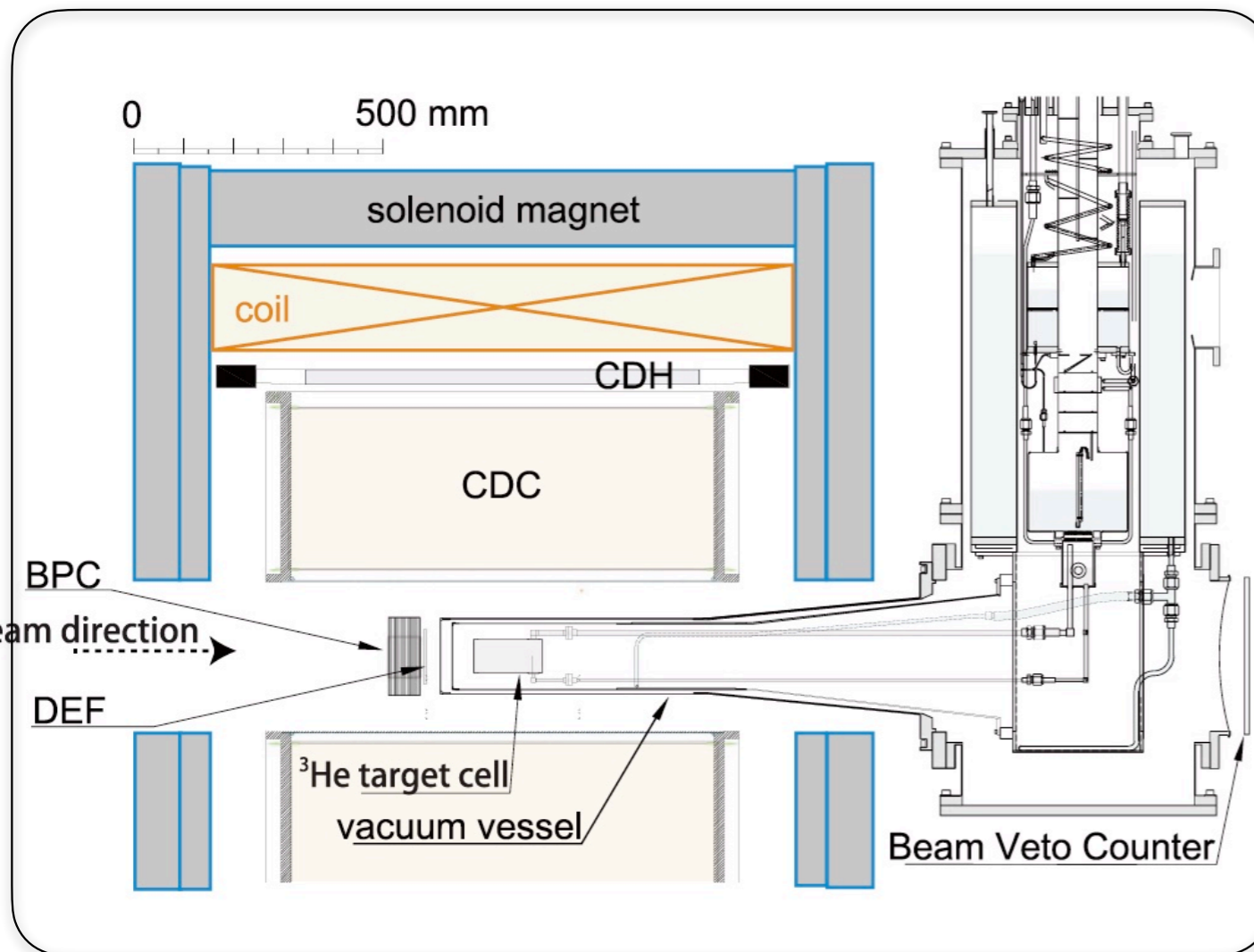
We already have small dataset with ^4He target

J-PARC E15@2015

42G K⁻ on ^3He

J-PARC T77@2020

6G K⁻ on ^4He **only 3 days!**

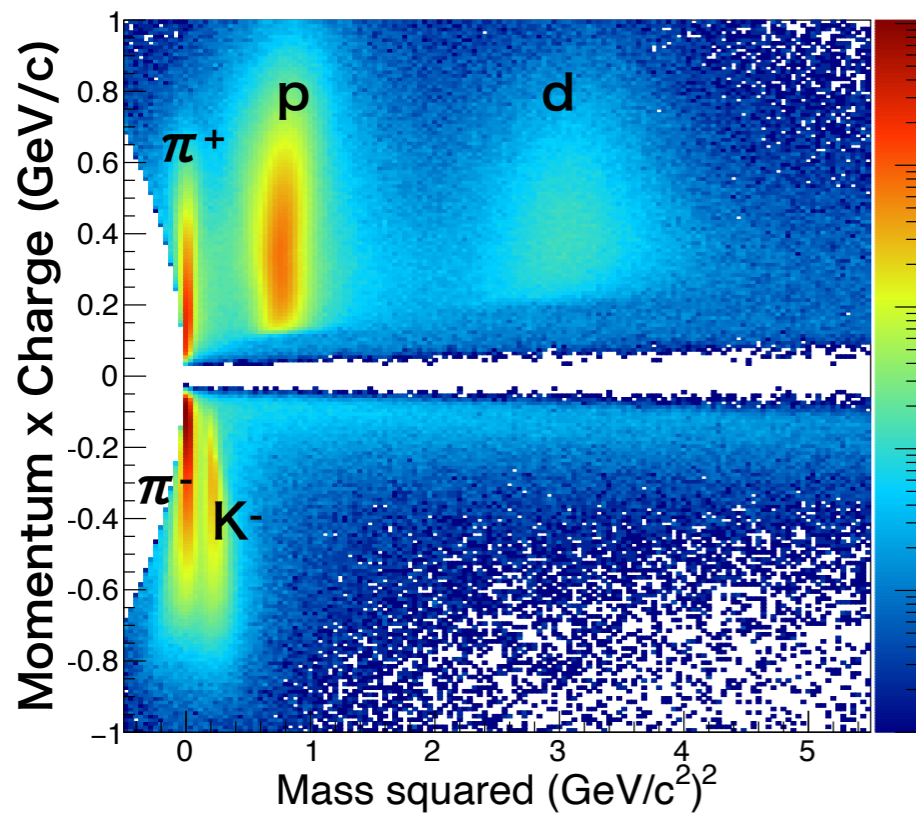


- The same cylindrical detector system + forward calorimeter in T77 for lifetime measurements of hypernuclei $^4\text{He}(K^-, \pi^0)_\Lambda^4\text{H}$

Λ dn event selection

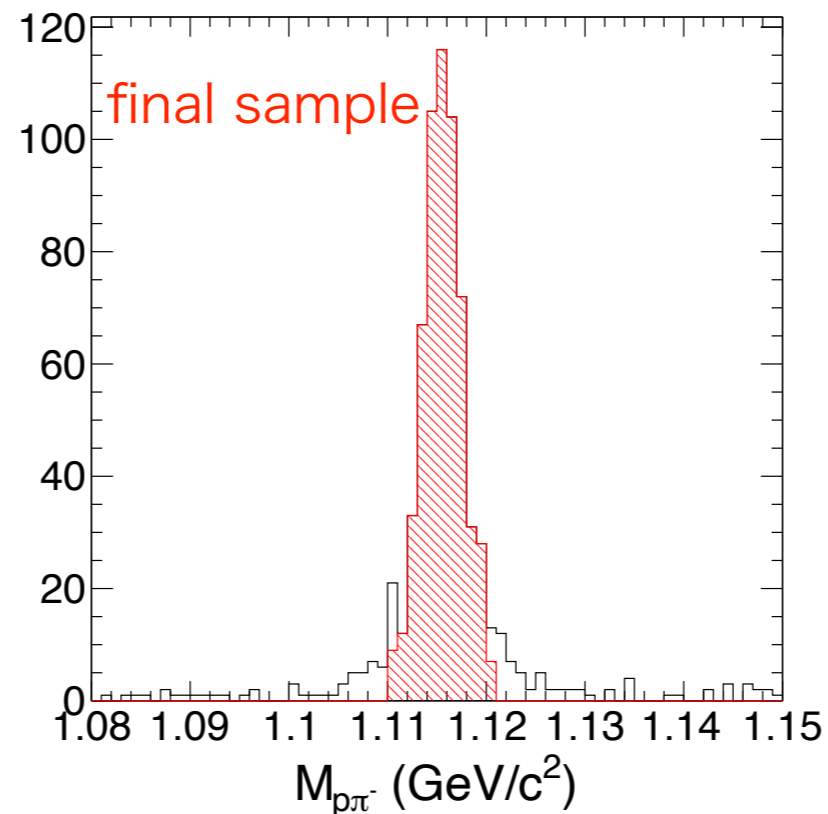
deuteron ID

CDC track curvature &
CDH time of flight



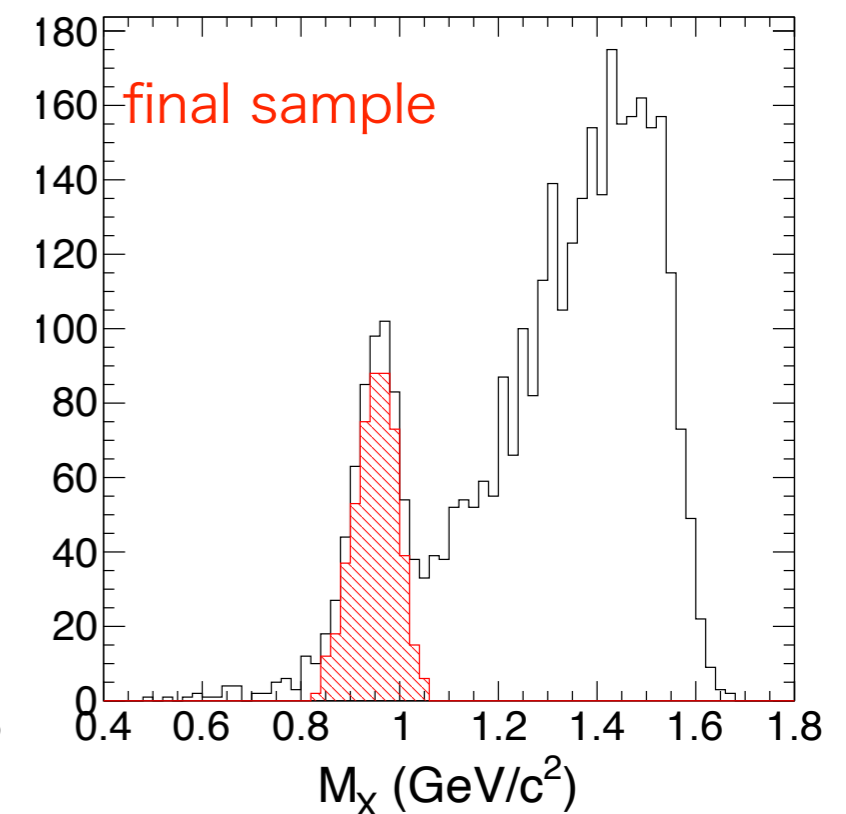
Λ reconstruction

w/ vertex consistency cut
w/ pipd missing mass cut



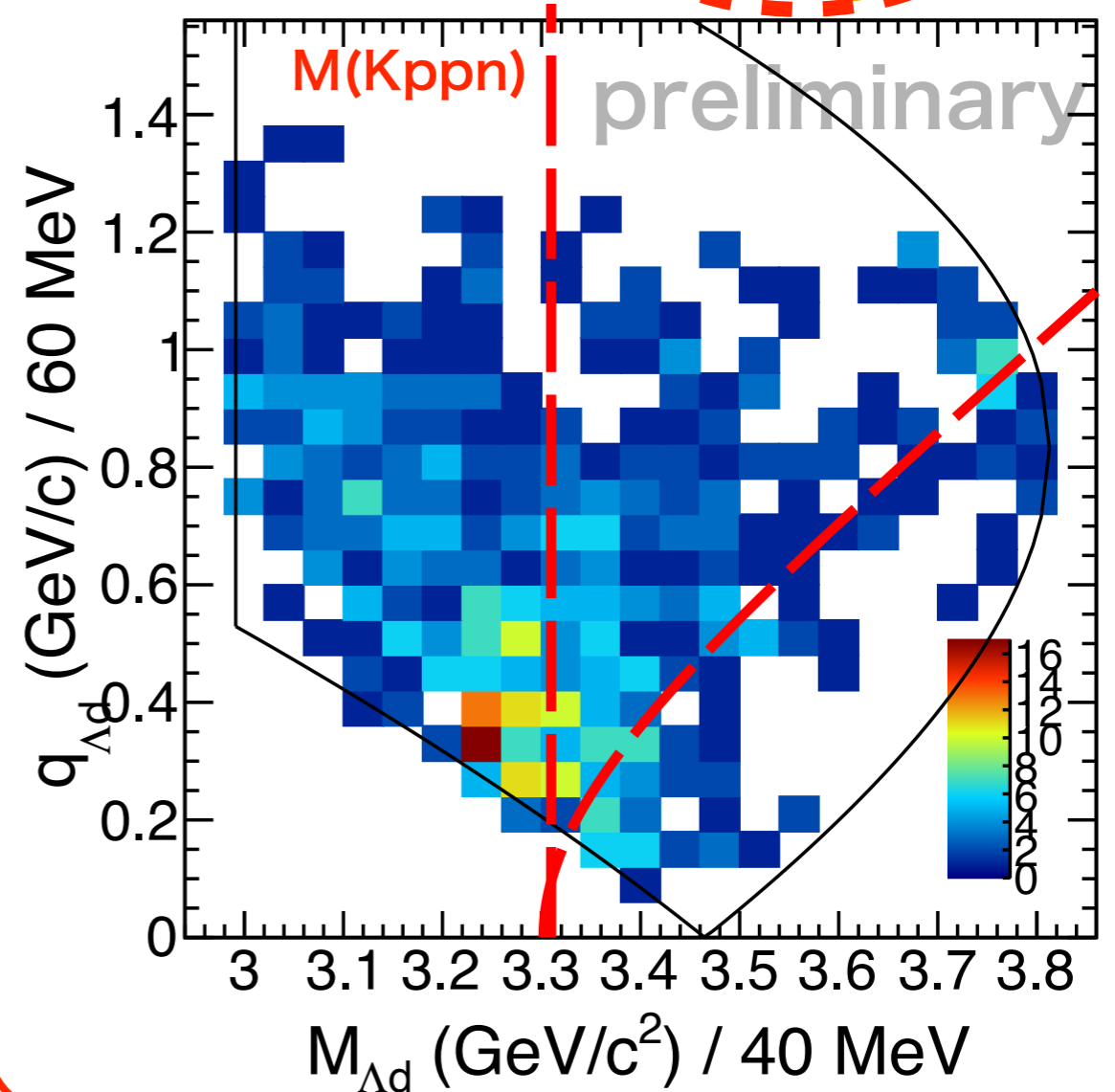
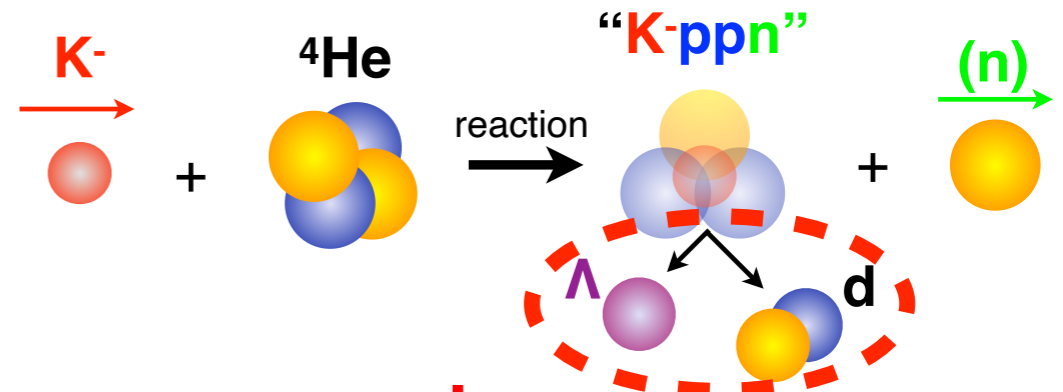
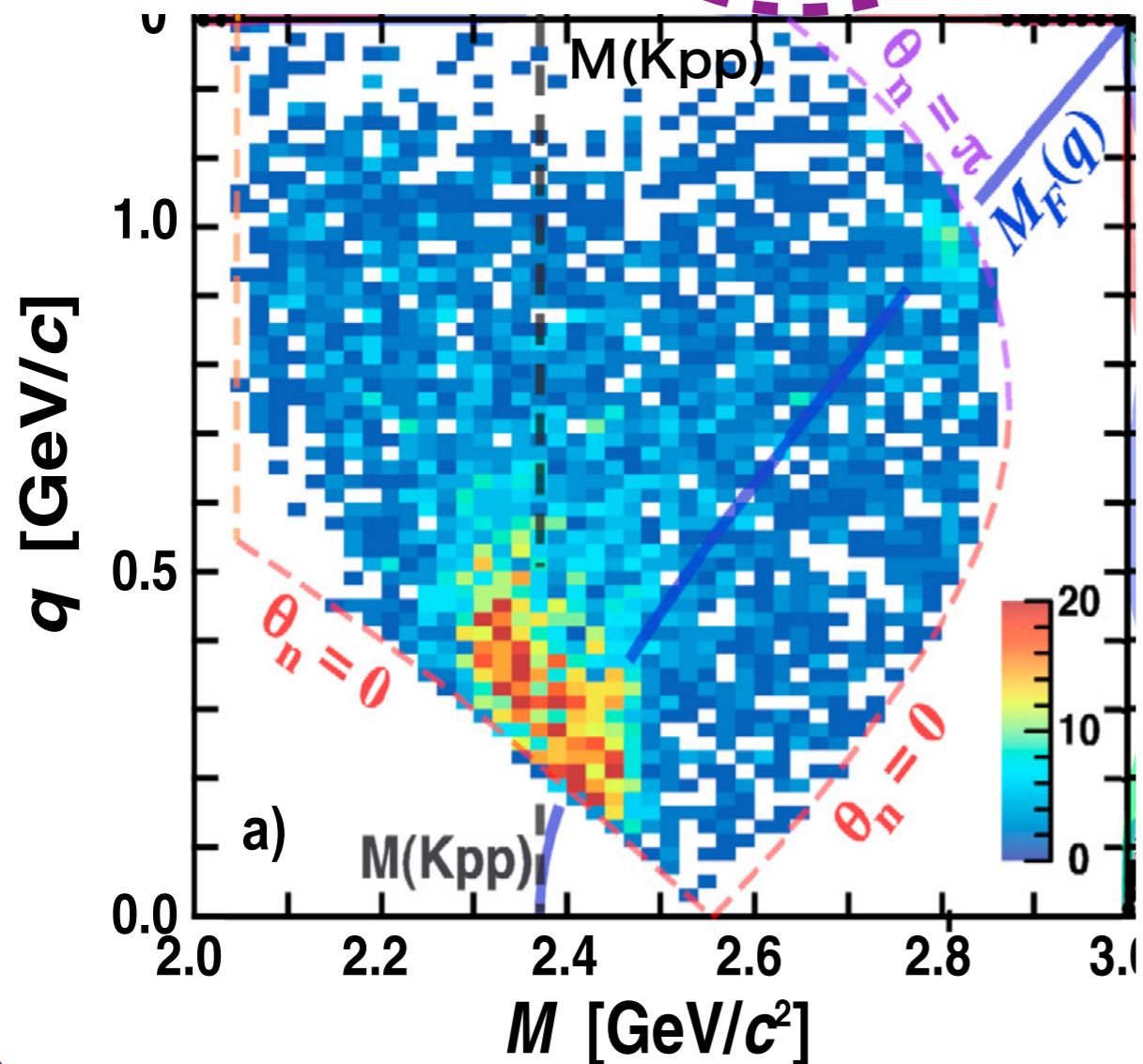
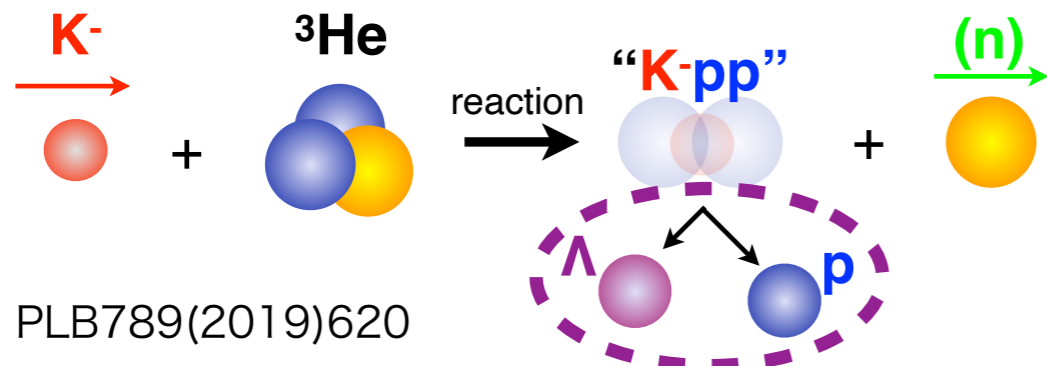
Missing neutron ID

w/ vertex consistency cut
w/ lambda mass cut



- Λ dn final states are identified with a good purity by considering kinematical & topological consistencies
- ~20% contamination from Σ^0 dn / Σ^- dp

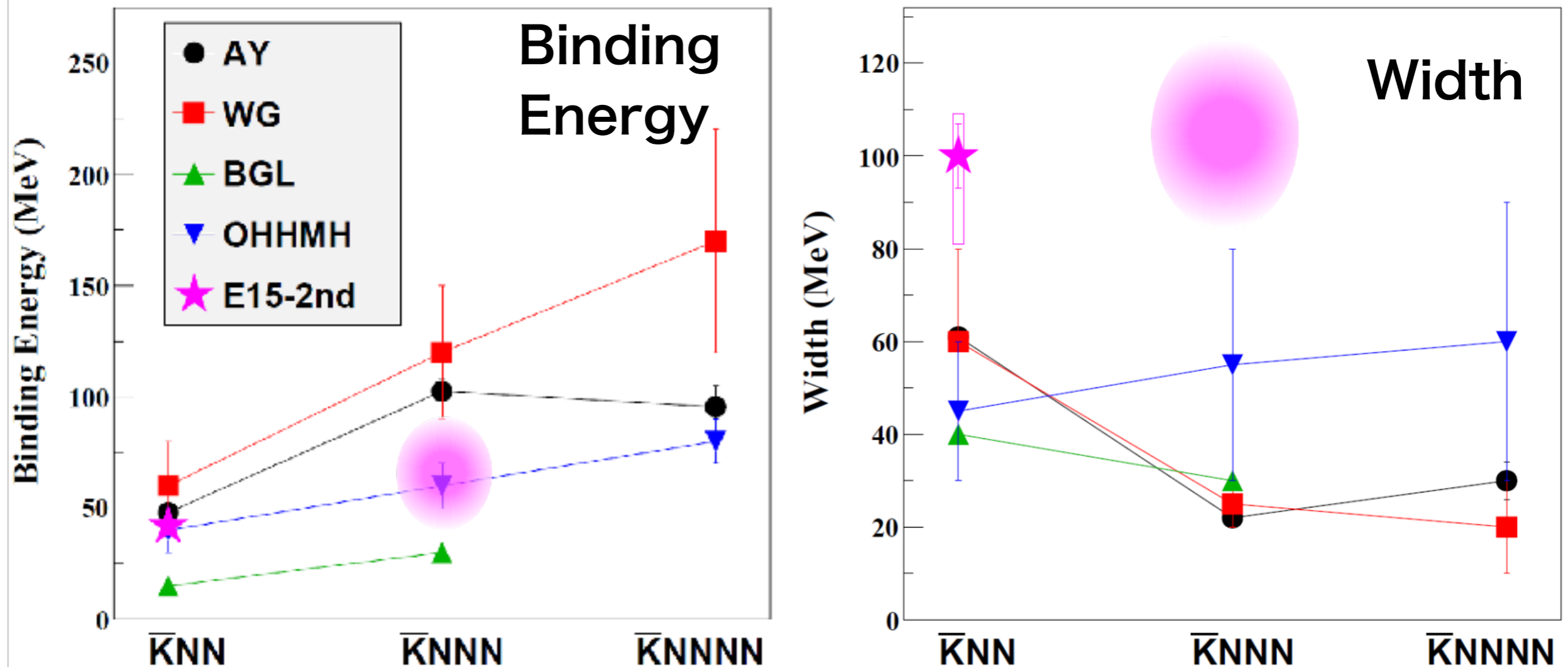
$\bar{K}NNN$: Preliminary result



- Two distributions are quite similar
- structure below the threshold, QF- K^- , and broad background

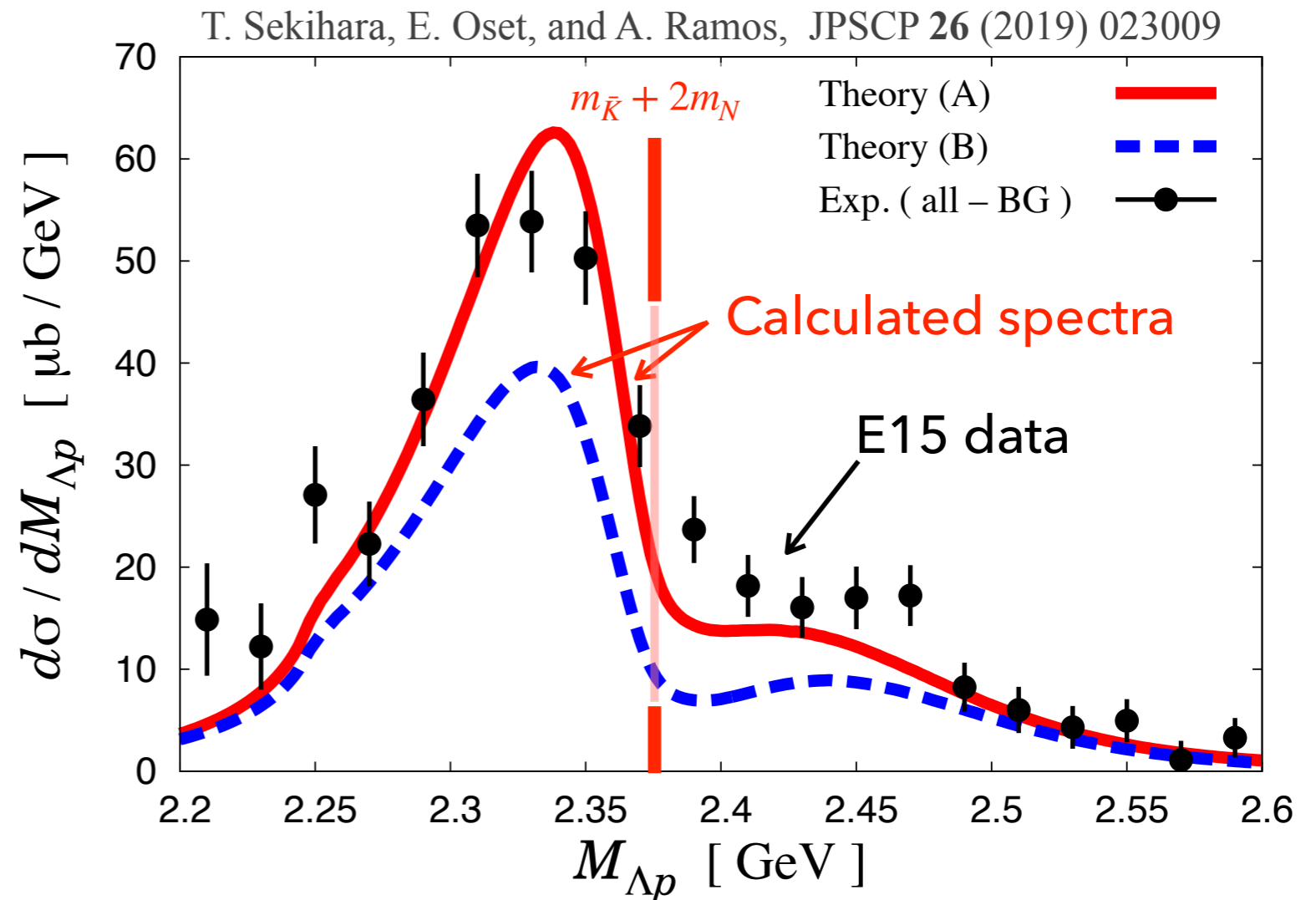
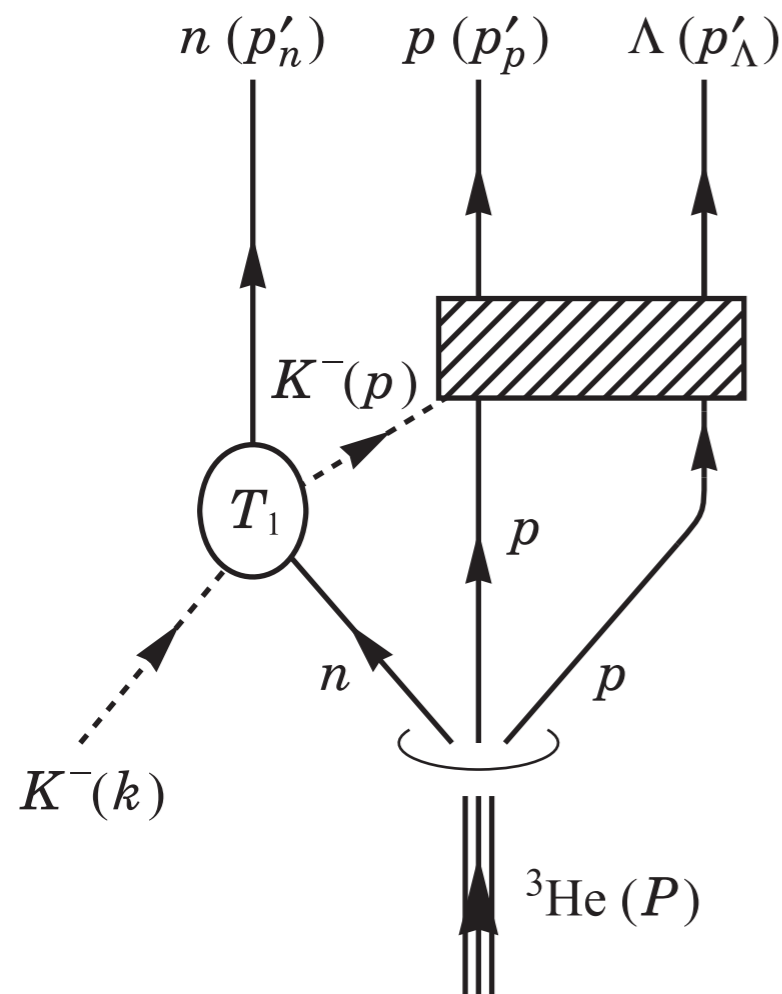
Preliminary result

 T77 preliminary



- The binding energy is compatible with theoretical predictions
- “ $\bar{K}NNN$ ” system might have larger binding than “ $\bar{K}NN$ ”, although we expect a large systematic error 10~20 MeV.
- Experimental width is larger than theoretical predictions.

Comparison with Sekihara calc.

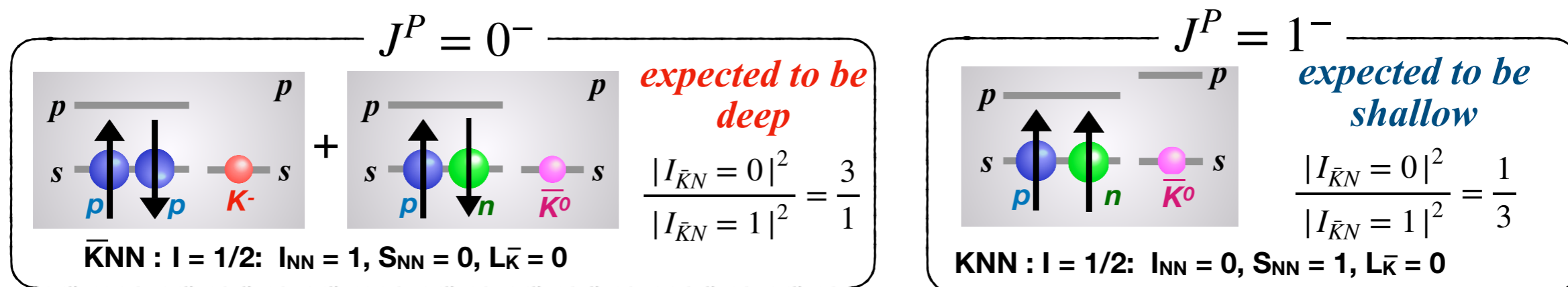


- Good agreement in the mass spectrum.
(although it failed to explain experimental q spectrum)
- Detailed comparison with theoretical spectrum is important

What's next?

Now we know how to produce “kaonic nuclei” !

- Determine spin-parity of the observed $\bar{K}NN$ state (J-PARC P89)
 - Spin-spin correlation between Λp : need **polarimeters**
 - Comparison with the isospin partner (Λn)



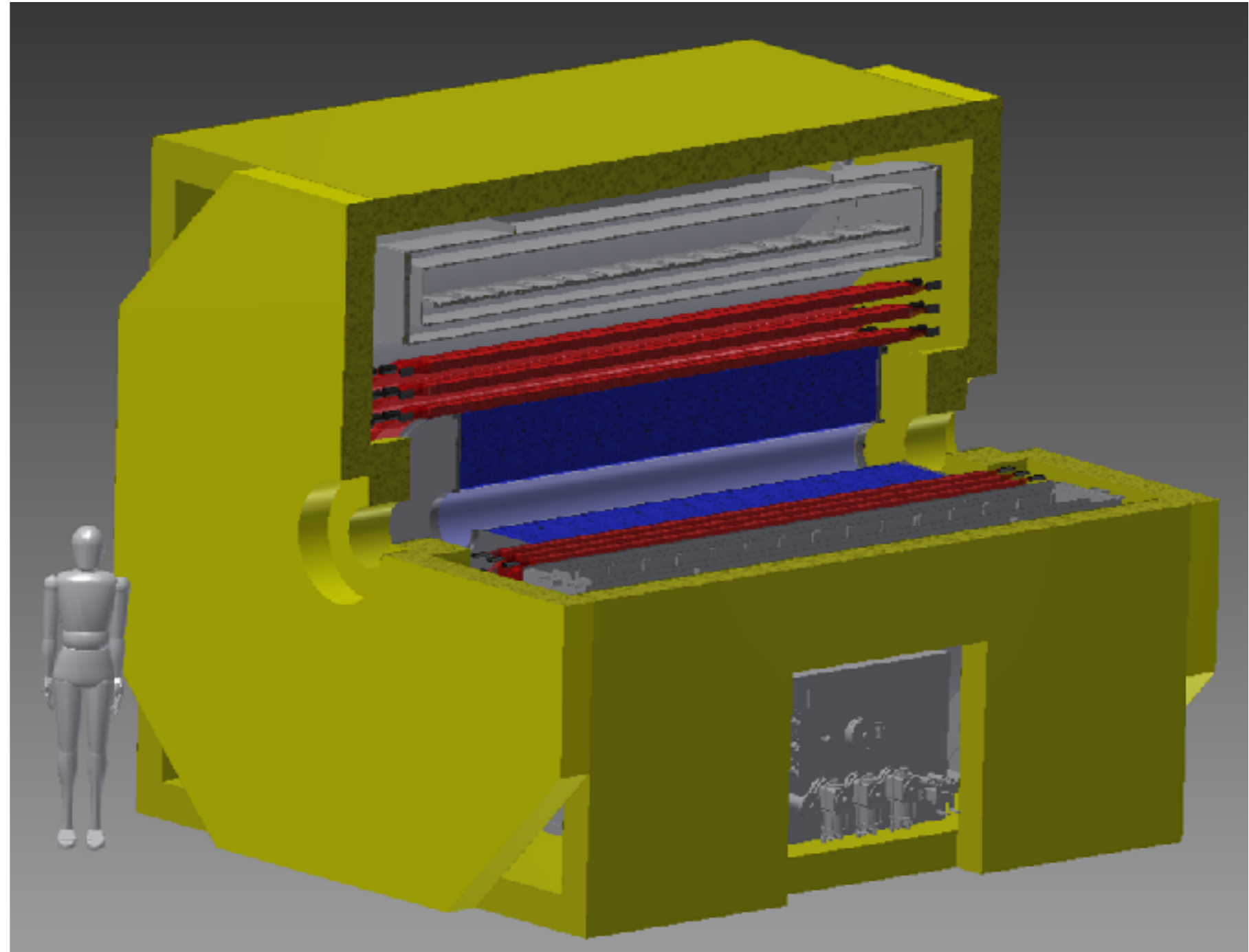
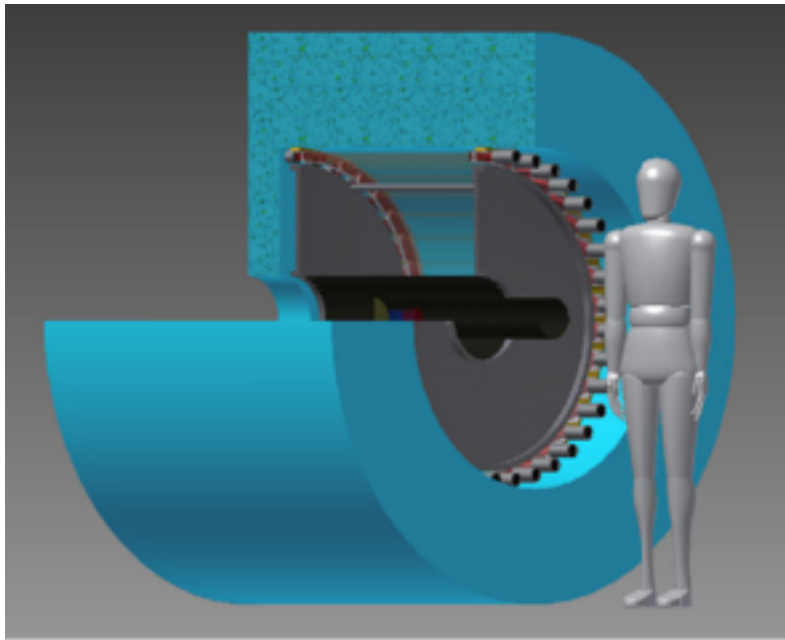
*or Σ^*N [$I(J^P) = 1/2(2^+)$]*

- Confirm $\bar{K}NNN$ [$I(J^P) = 0(1/2^-)$] and study its property (J-PARC E80)
 - Λpn in addition to the Λd decay mode
 - $\Sigma^{*-}pp$ [$I(J^P) = 0(3/2^+)$] possibility should be considered
- Heavier kaonic nuclei, double kaonic nuclei, ...

J-PARC E80 with a new spectrometer

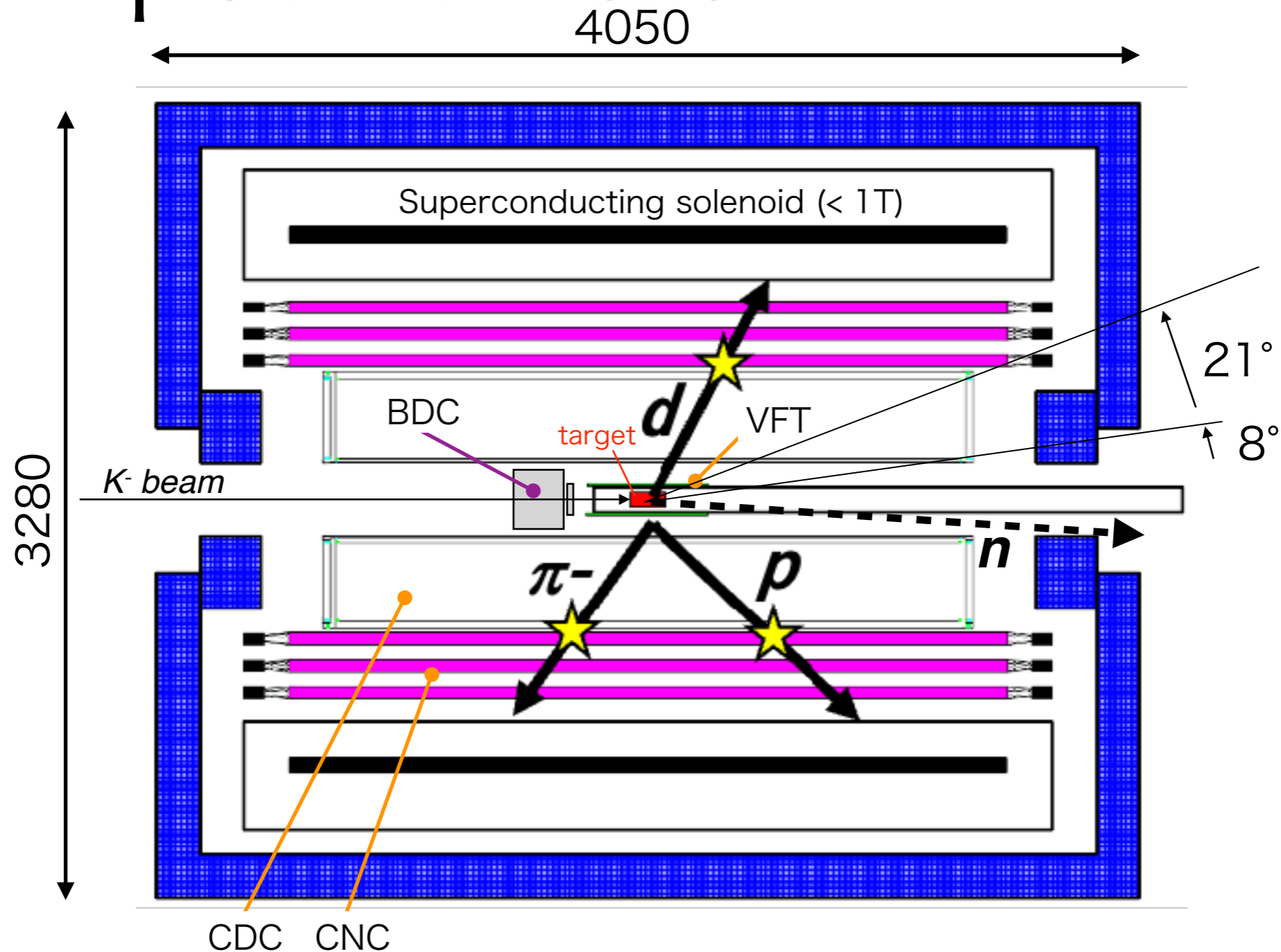
new CDS

E15 CDS



- About 10 times volume
- We got a large budget, 特別推進 (P.I.: M. Iwasaki, JFY2022—JFY2026)

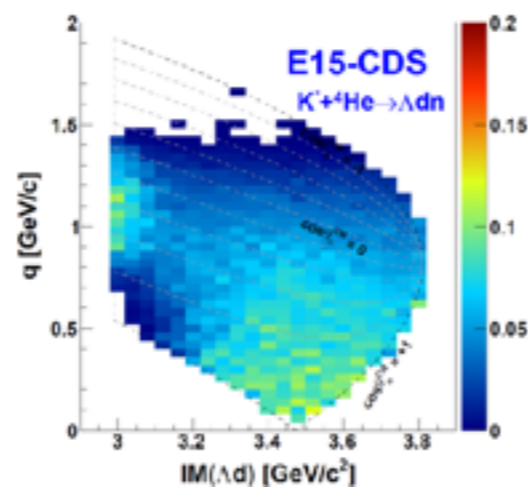
New spectrometer



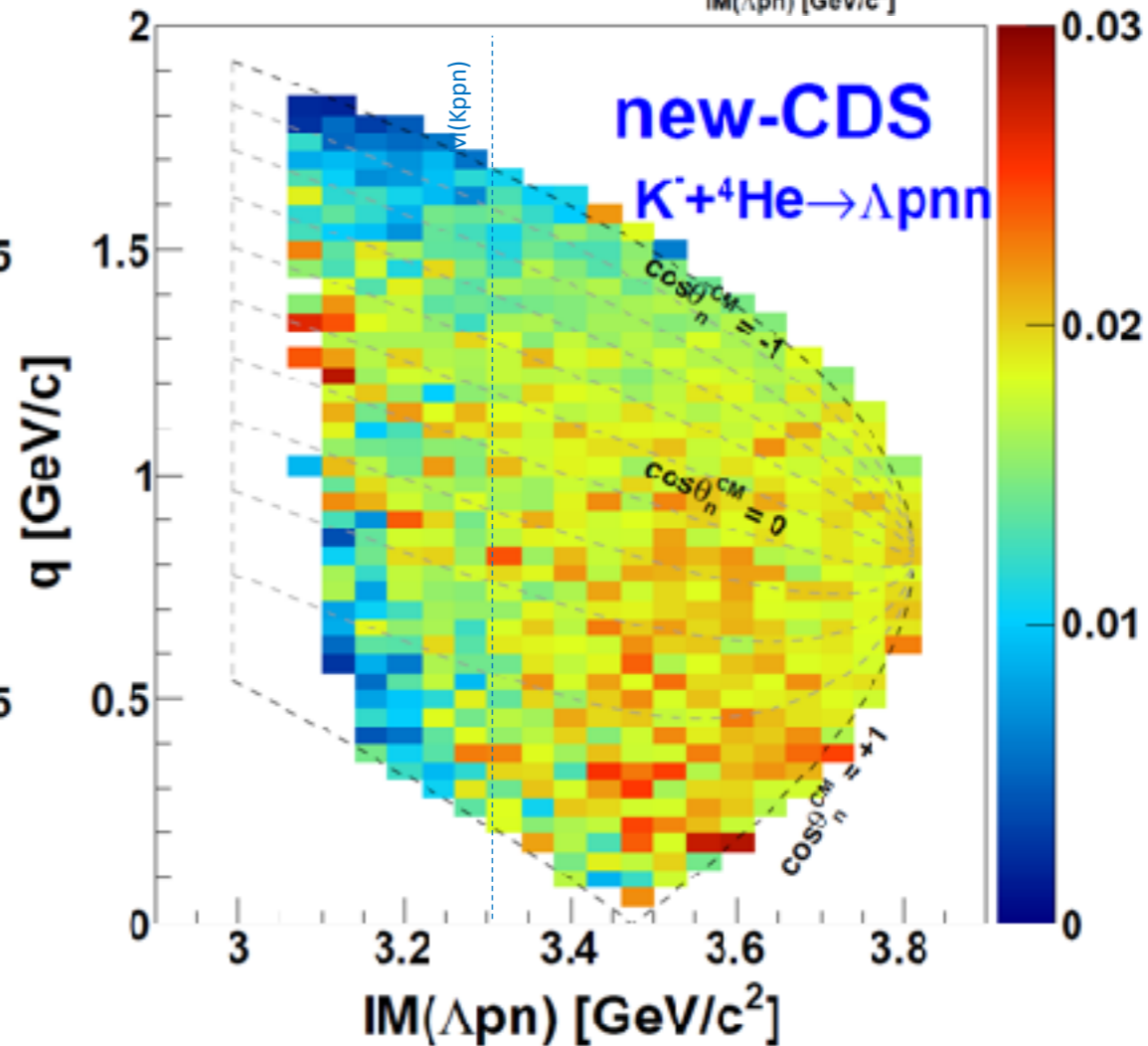
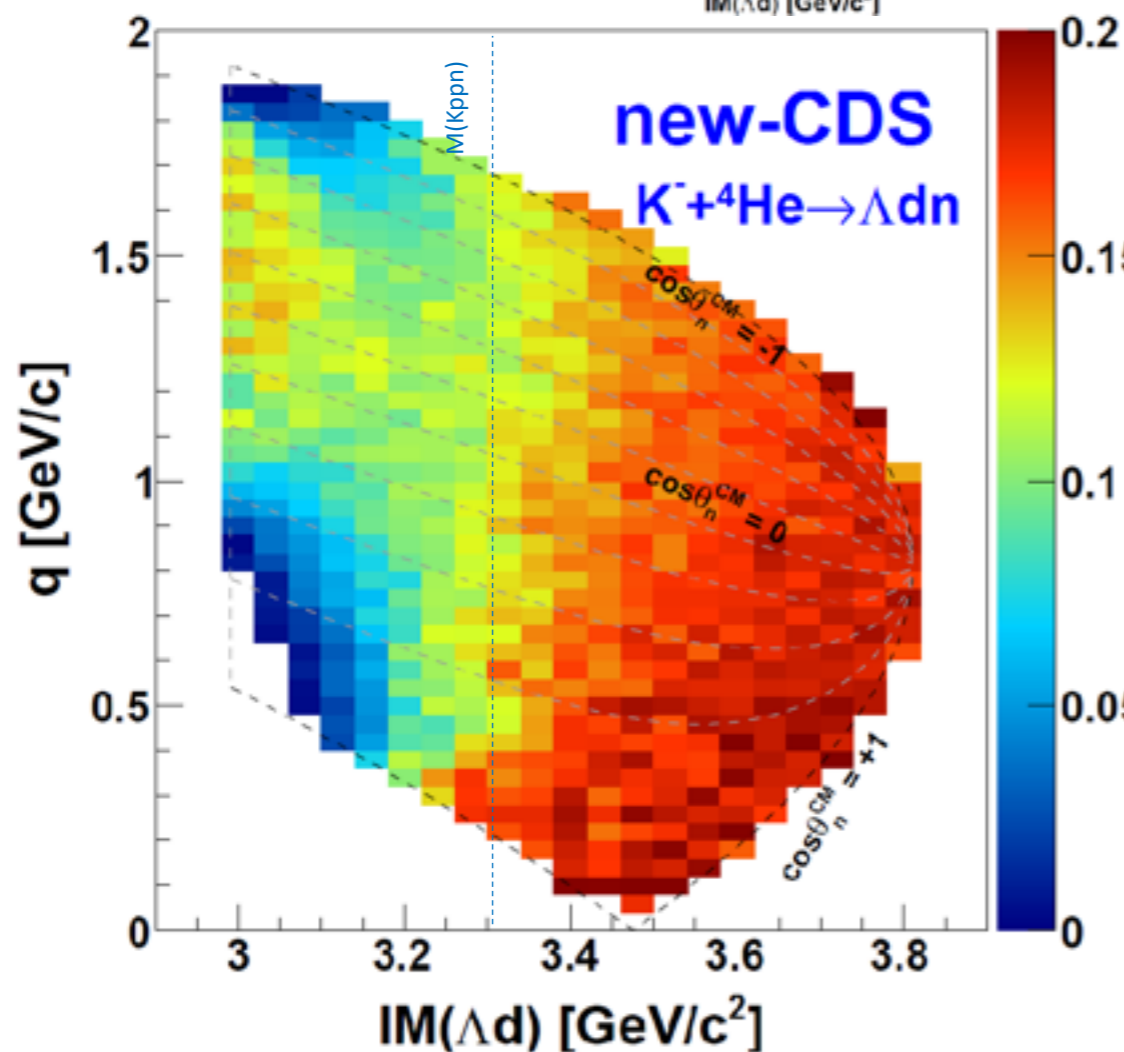
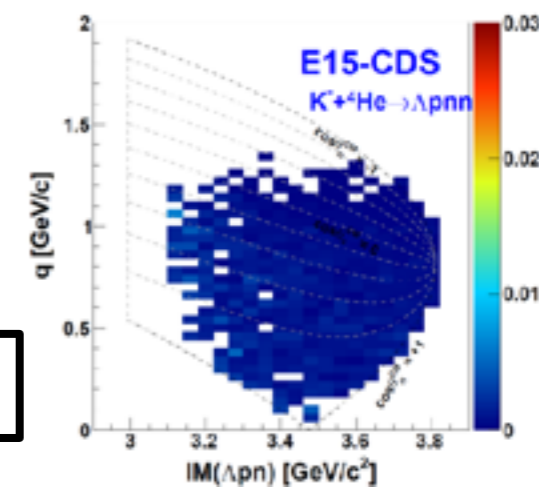
- x3 longer CDC: **solid angle 59%→93%**
- 3-layer barrel NC (CNC): **neutron efficiency 3%→15%**
 - polalimeter trackers between CNCs in future
- VFT to improve z-vertex & momentum resolution

Acceptance

Λd in CDS



Λpn in CDS



- large kinematical-region coverage & better acceptance

Expected yields

$$N = \sigma \times N_{beam} \times N_{target} \times \epsilon,$$

$$\epsilon = \epsilon_{DAQ} \times \epsilon_{trigger} \times \epsilon_{beam} \times \epsilon_{fiducial} \times \Omega_{CDC} \times \epsilon_{CDC},$$

- $N_{beam} = 100 \text{ G K- on target}$
 - MR beam power of **90 kW**
 - **3 weeks** data taking (90% up-time)

$$\sigma(K^-ppn) \cdot Br(\Lambda d) \sim 5 \mu b$$

$$\sigma(K^-ppn) \cdot Br(\Lambda pn) \sim 5 \mu b$$

from the T77 preliminary result and an assumption

- $N(K\text{-ppn} \rightarrow \Lambda d) \sim 1.2 \times 10^4$
- $N(K\text{-ppn} \rightarrow \Lambda pn) \sim 1.5 \times 10^3$
 - c.f. 1.7×10^3 “K-pp” $\rightarrow \Lambda p$ accumulated in E15-2nd (40 G K-)

	$\Lambda d / \Lambda pn$
$\sigma(K\text{-ppn}) \cdot Br$	5 μb
$N(K\text{- on target})$	100 G x ~20
$N(\text{target})$	2.56×10^{23}
$\epsilon(\text{DAQ})$	0.92
$\epsilon(\text{trigger})$	0.98
$\epsilon(\text{beam})$	0.72
$\Omega(\text{CDC})$	0.23 / 0.059 x ~2
$\epsilon(\text{CDC})$	0.6 / 0.3
$N(K\text{-ppn})$	12 k / 1.5 k

✓ ~ 40 times more Λd events than existing data in T77

✓ Similar number of Λpn events to Λp in E15

Expected spectra

@ 3 weeks, 90kW



$$B_{Kppn} \sim 40 \text{ MeV}$$

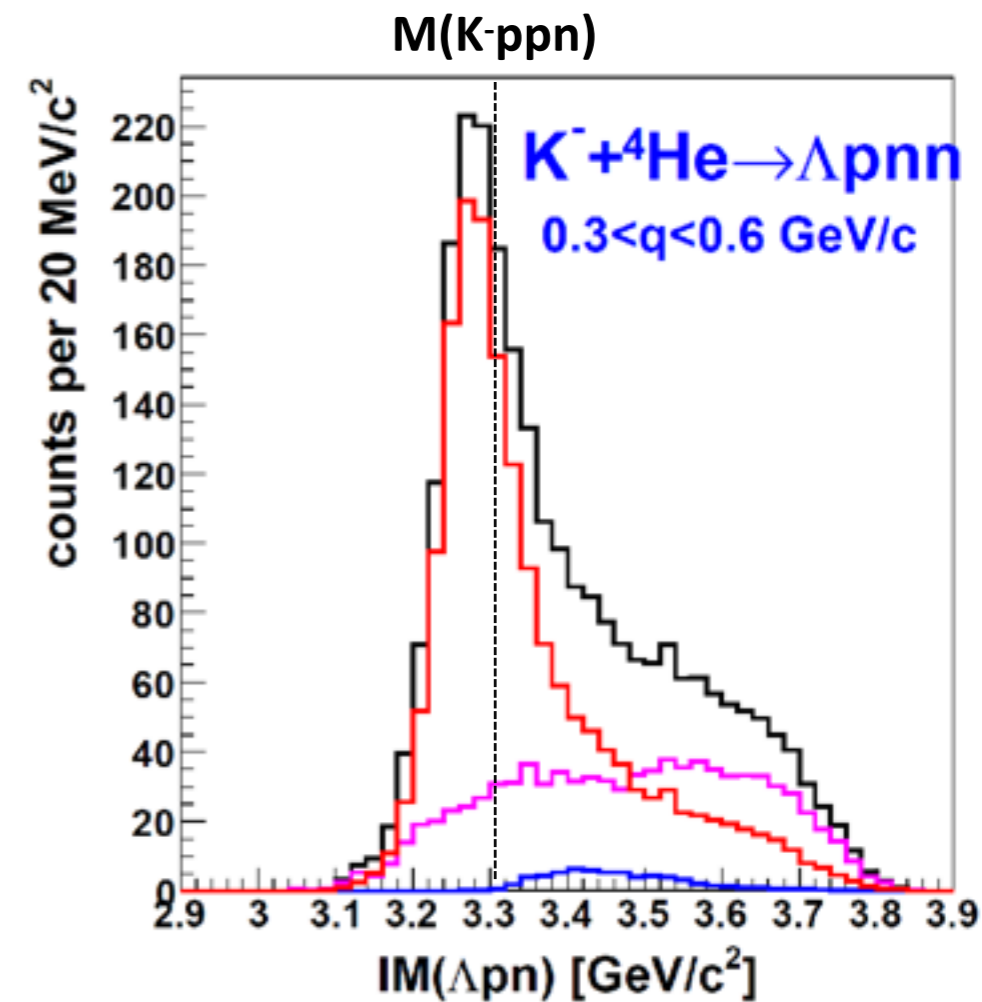
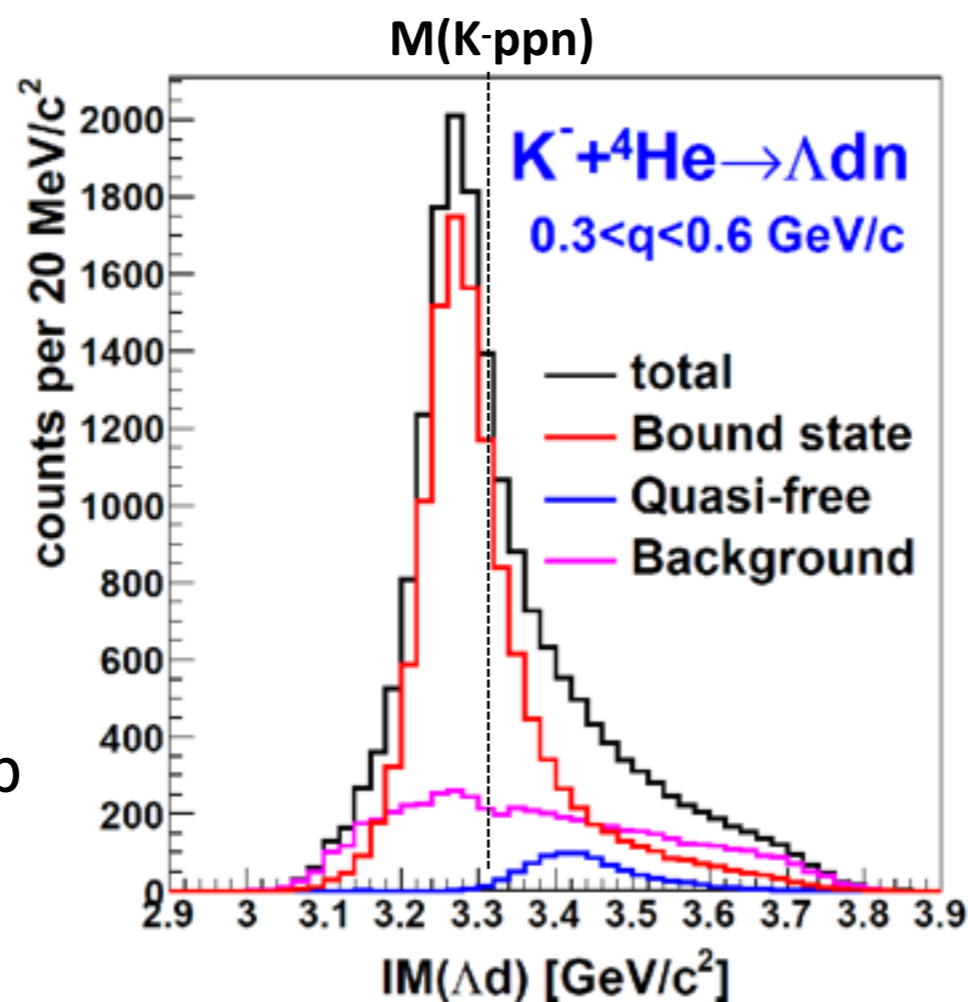
$$\Gamma_{Kppn} \sim 100 \text{ MeV}$$

$$Q_{kppn} \sim 400 \text{ MeV}/c$$

$$\sigma(Kppn) * Br \sim 5 \mu\text{b}$$

$$\sigma(QF) \sim 5 \mu\text{b}$$

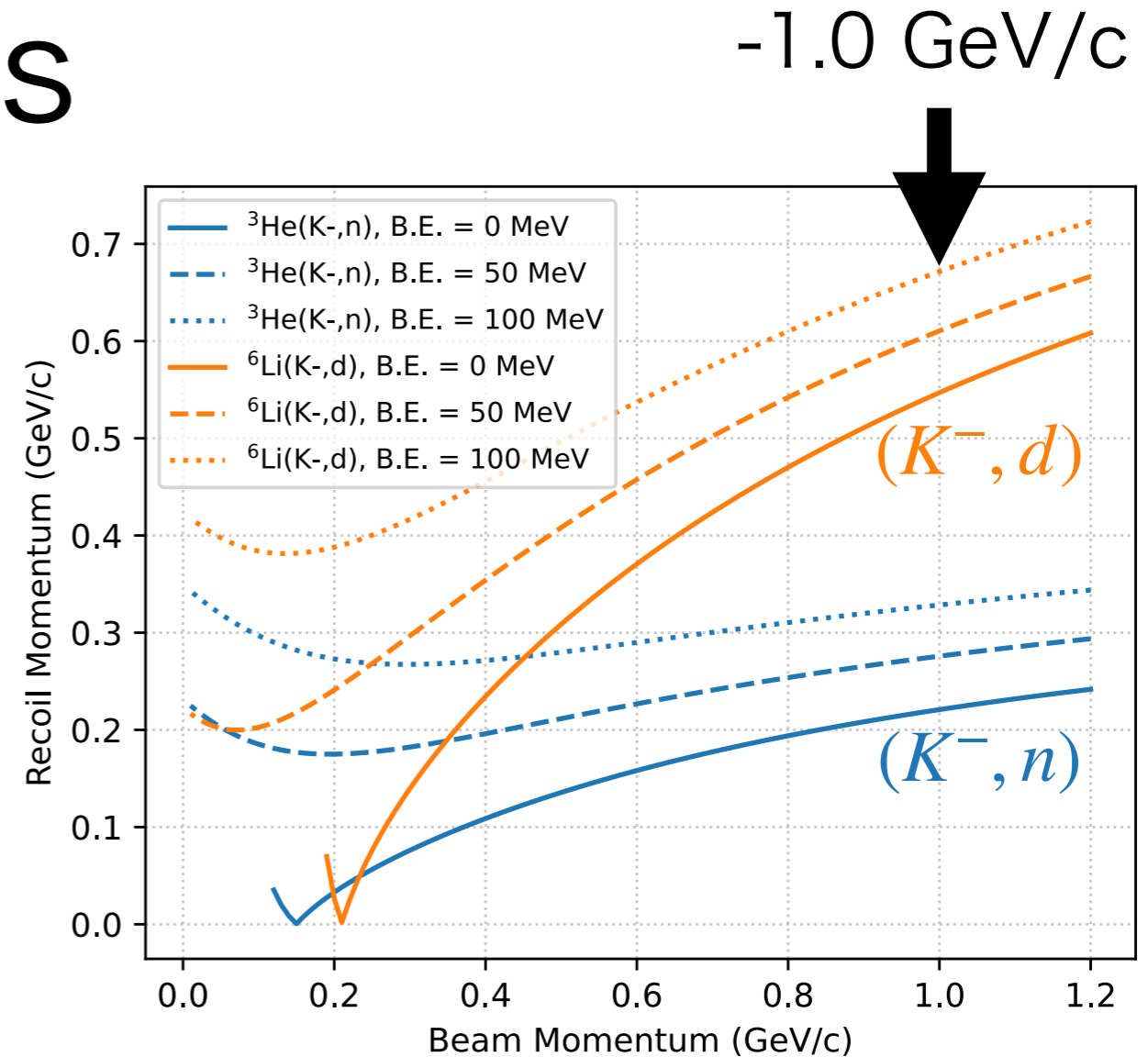
$$\sigma(BG) \sim 10 \mu\text{b}$$



✓ Clear peak would be observed for both modes

Heavier systems

Knucl	reaction	decay
"K- α "	${}^6\text{Li}(K^-, d)$	$\Lambda t/\Lambda dn/\Lambda pnn\dots$
"K- ${}^6\text{Li}$ "	${}^7\text{Li}(K^-, n)$	$\Lambda \alpha n\dots$ etc?
"K- $\alpha\alpha$ "	${}^9\text{Be}(K^-, n)$?



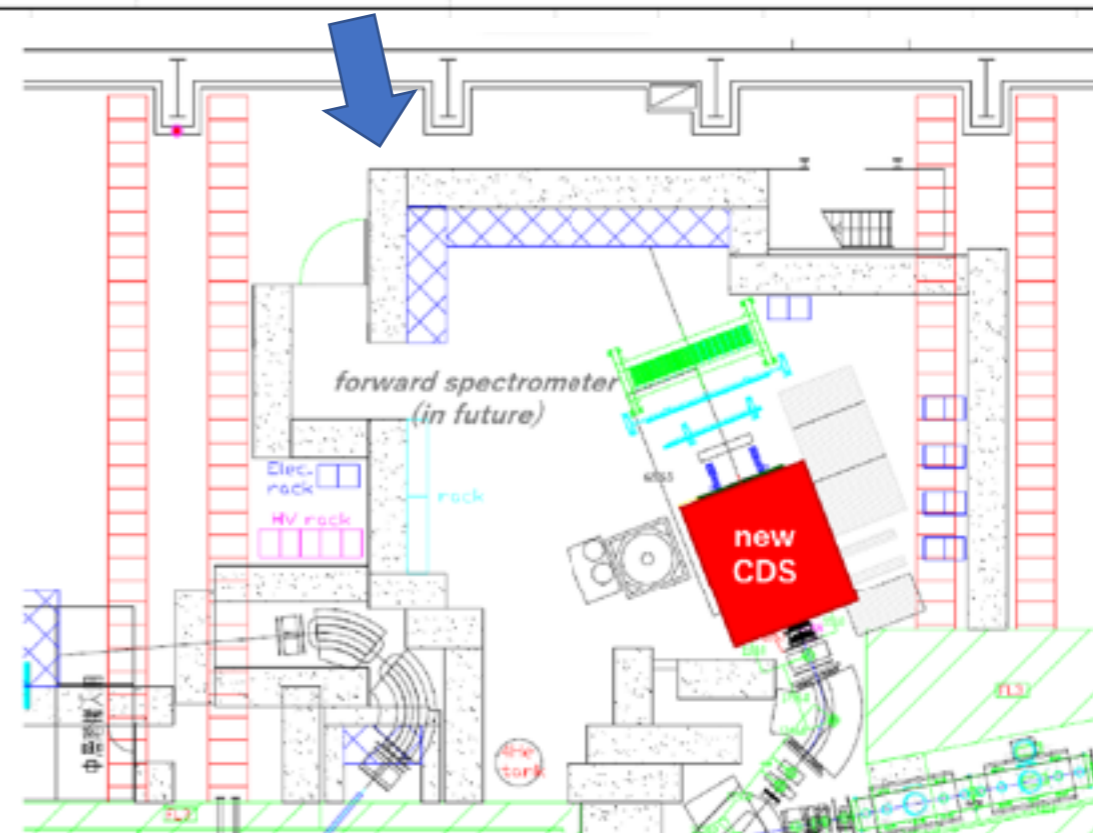
- Deuteron knock-out reaction has a larger momentum transfer
 - \rightarrow We would like test in E80: ${}^6\text{Li}(K^-,d)$ "K- α ", ${}^4\text{He}(K^-,d)$ " $K^0\text{bar}nn$ "
- Larger decay particle (like α) can not be detected by the CDS. many-particle decay modes are also difficult to reconstruct.
 - Forward knocked-out particle spectroscopy at relatively large angle would be an alternative way

Schedule

	FY2022				FY2023				FY2024				FY2025				2026~
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
SC Solenoid	Design		Purchase (SC Wire)		Construction				Installation & Test				Integration	Commissioning	Physics Run	Analysis & Publication	
NC	Design		Purchase (Scinti.)		Assembly				Test & Commissioning								
CDC	Design				Construction				Test & Commissioning								
K1.8BR Beam Line	E73(CDC) → E72(HypTPC) Experiments								Upgrade				E80 Experiment				

Aiming to complete detector construction in 4 years.

- Superconducting solenoid magnet
- CDC (cylindrical drift chamber)
- CNC (cylindrical neutron counter)
- K1.8BR area modification



- We plan to be ready by the end of JFY2025

Summary

- Anti-kaon could be a unique probe for hadron physics.
We are performing systematic experiments at J-PARC K1.8BR.
- $\bar{K}NN$ signals were observed in ${}^3\text{He}(\text{K}^-, \Lambda \text{p})\text{n}$ channel in J-PARC E15.
- Similar structure found in ${}^4\text{He}(\text{K}^-, \Lambda \text{d})\text{n}$ events as a by-product of J-PARC T77 would include signals of $\bar{K}NNN$.
- More systematic study from JFY2026 with a new spectrometer
 - $\bar{K}NNN$ confirmation (J-PARC E80)
 - $\bar{K}NN$ spin-parity (J-PARC P89)

Kaonic nuclear state is getting more solid

J-PARC E80/P89 collaboration



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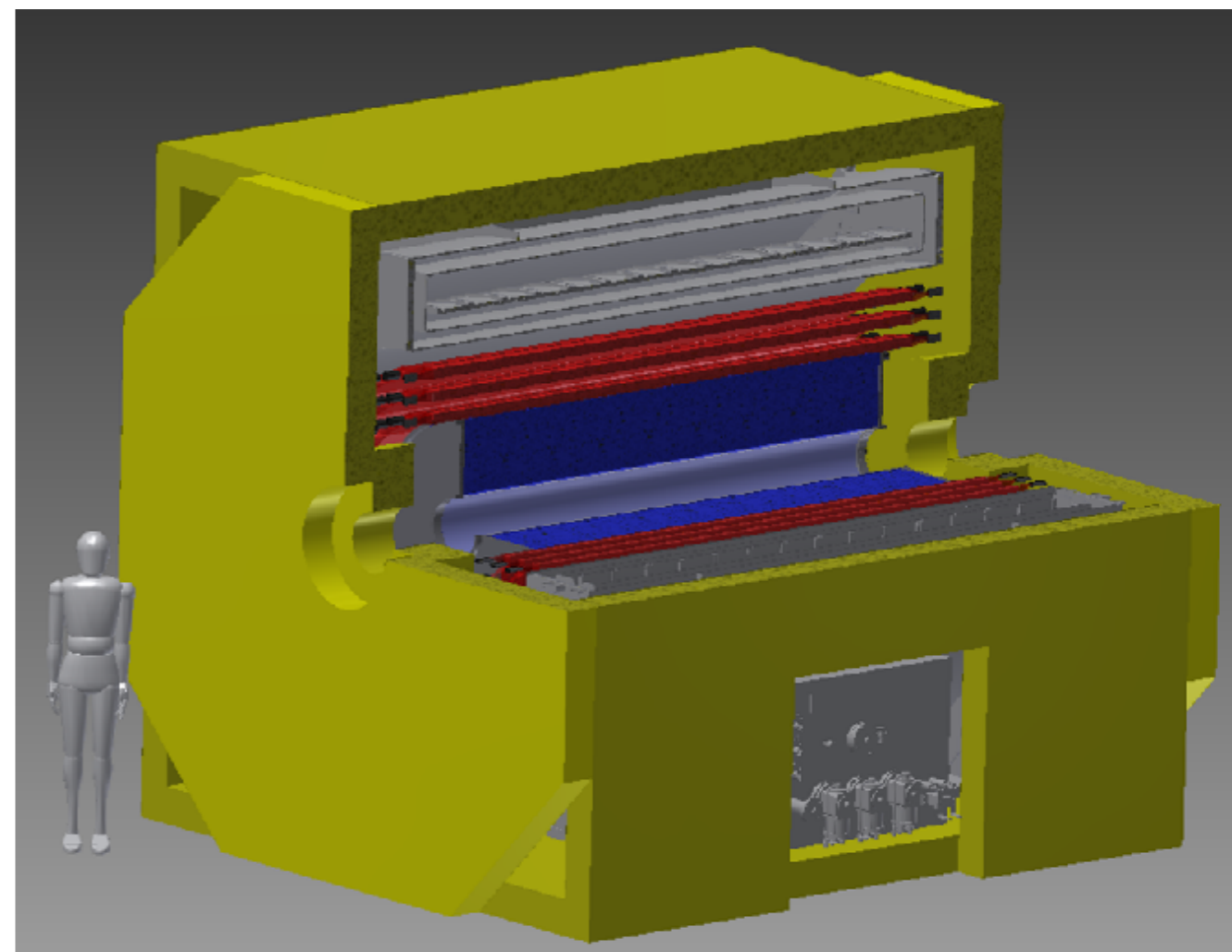
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- We welcome new collaborators !
- Now 1 postdoc position is open at JAEA (deadline: Dec. 23)