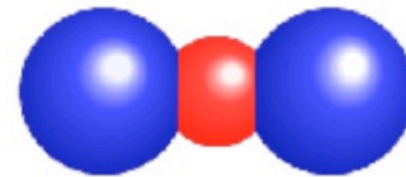
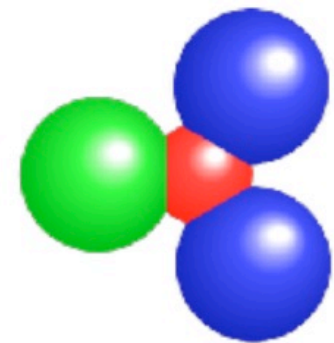


K-pp



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

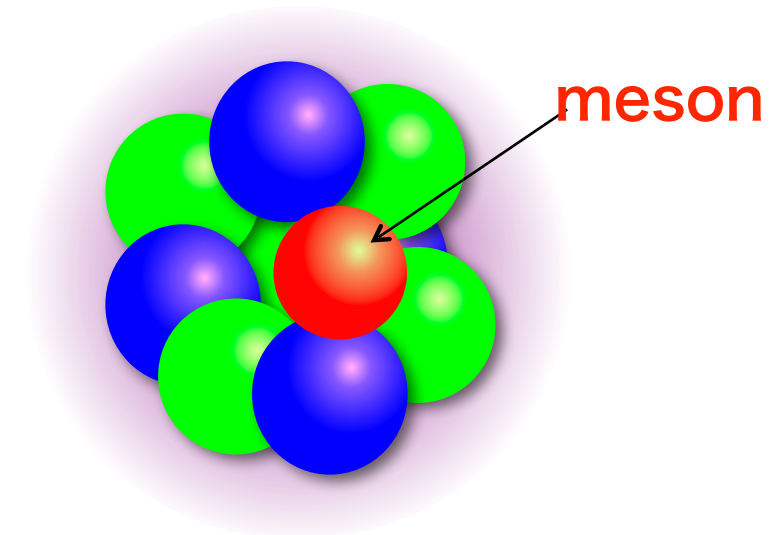
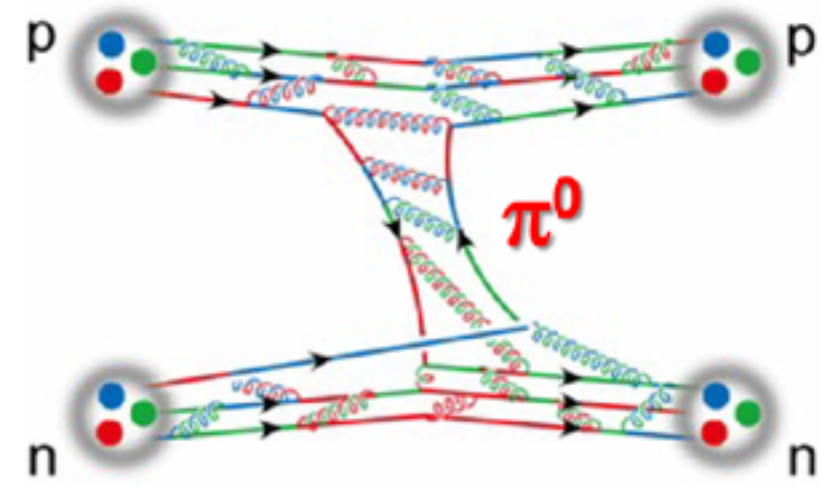
橋本 直 (JAEA ASRC)

for the J-PARC E15/T77/E80 collaboration

Meson in nuclei

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

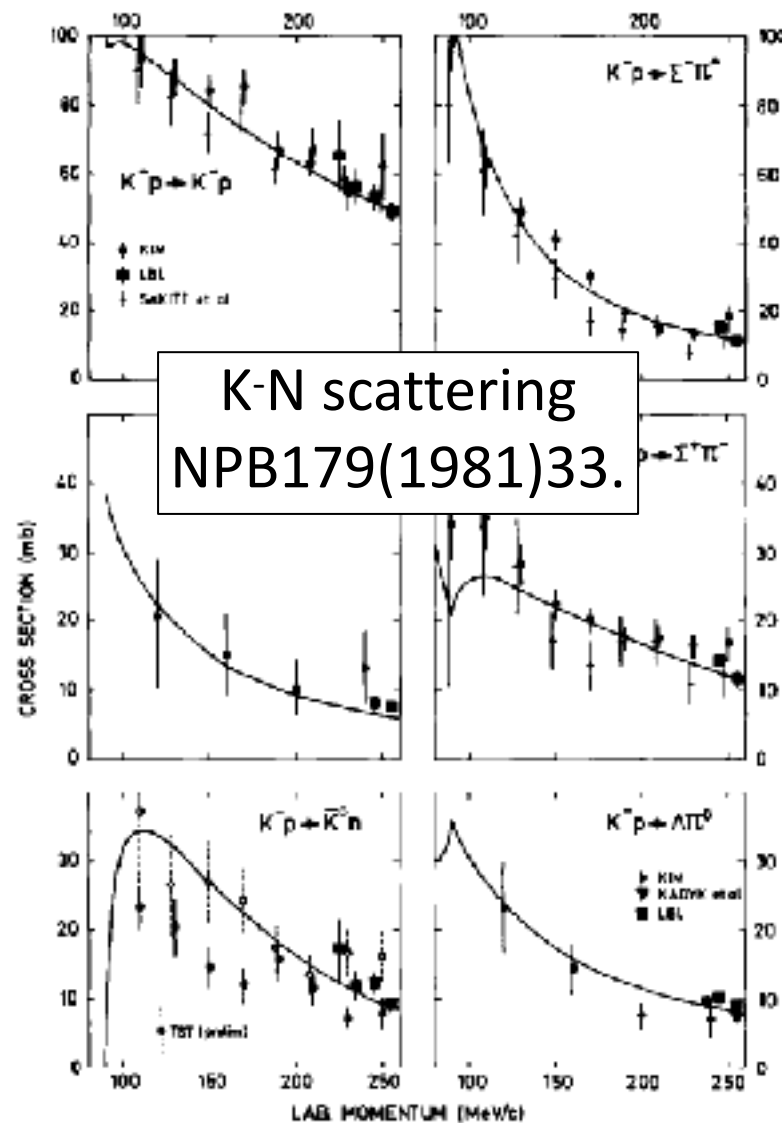
- **In nuclei**, mesons are **virtual** particles and form nuclear potential (Yukawa theorem)
- **In vacuum**, mesons are **real** particles having own intrinsic masses (cf. meson beam)



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

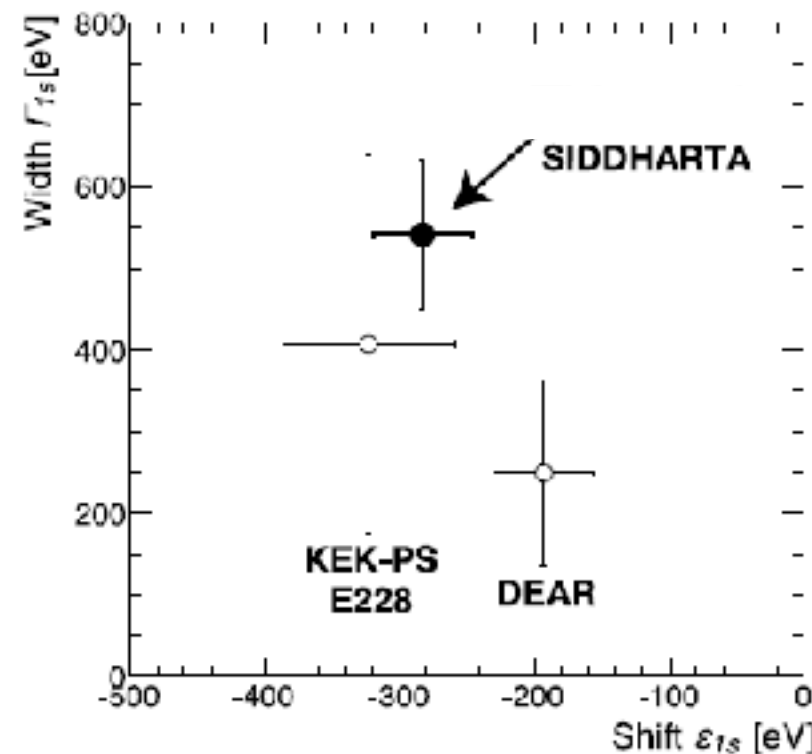
We would like to experimentally establish such exotic nuclei

Kaonic nuclei

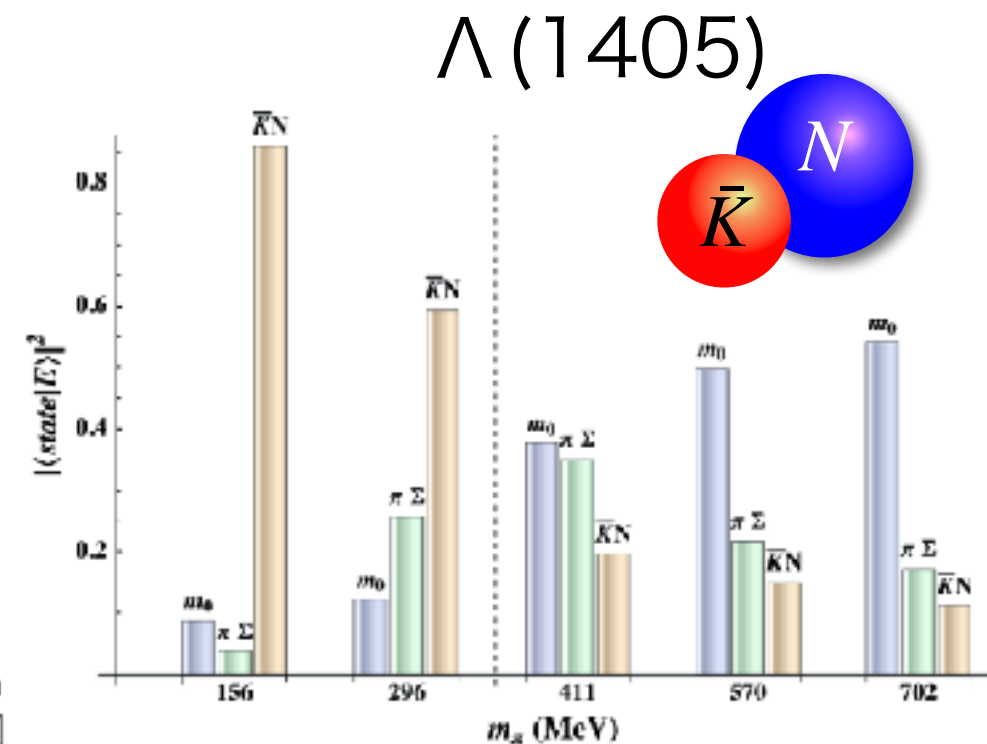


K-N scattering
NPB179(1981)33.

K-p atom
PLB704(2011)113.



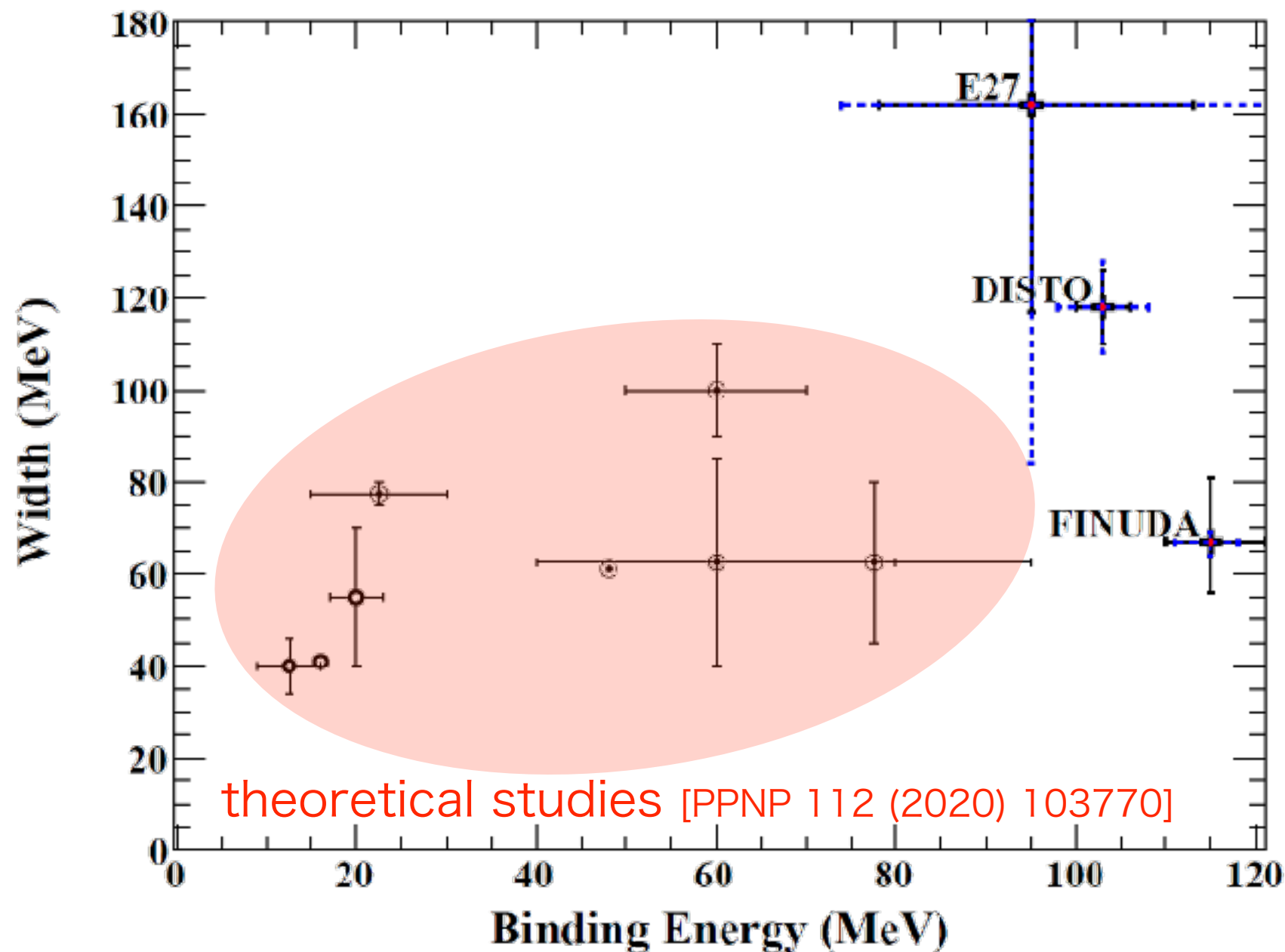
$\bar{K}N$ molecule from Lattice QCD
PRL114(2015)132002.



- 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

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

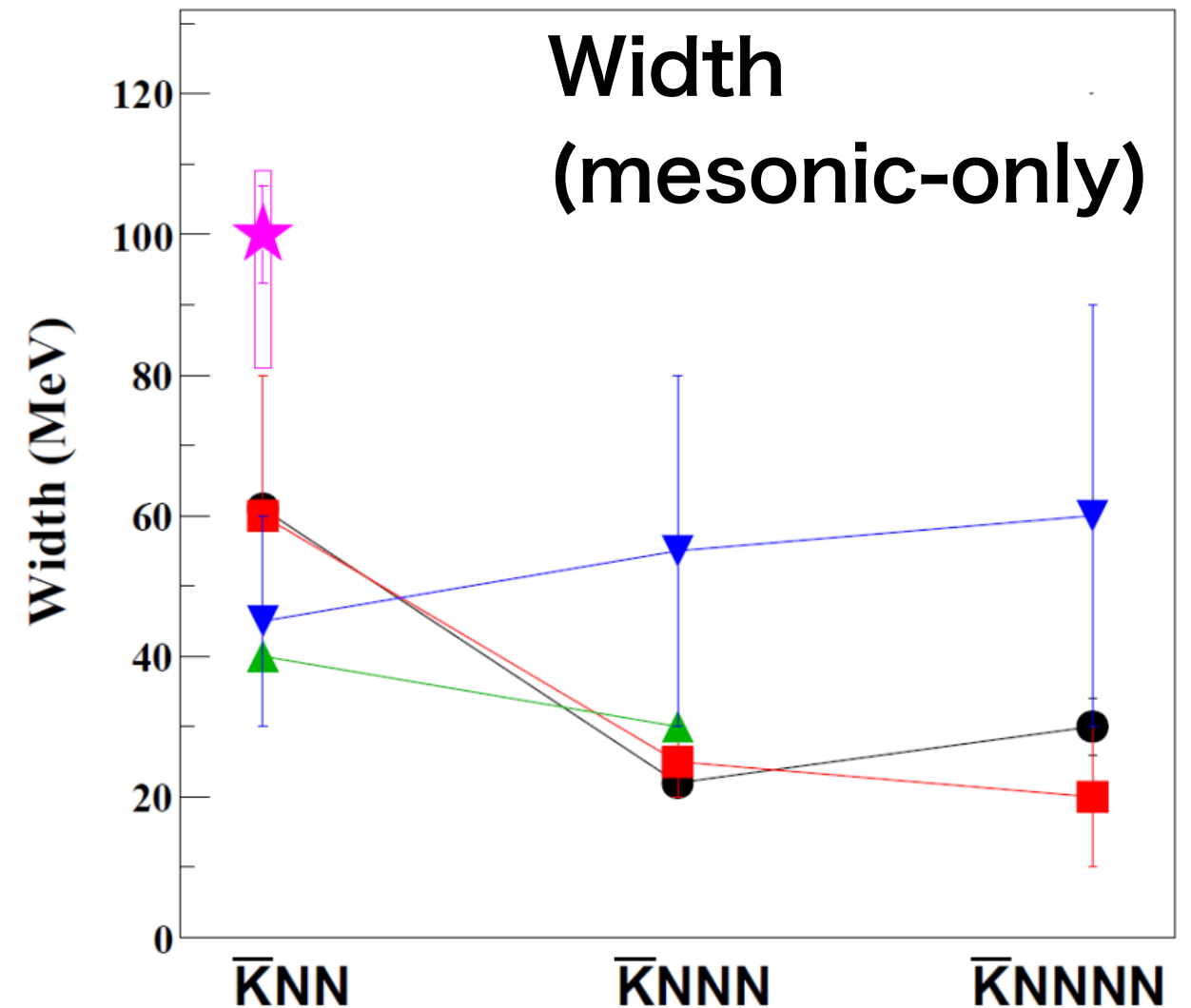
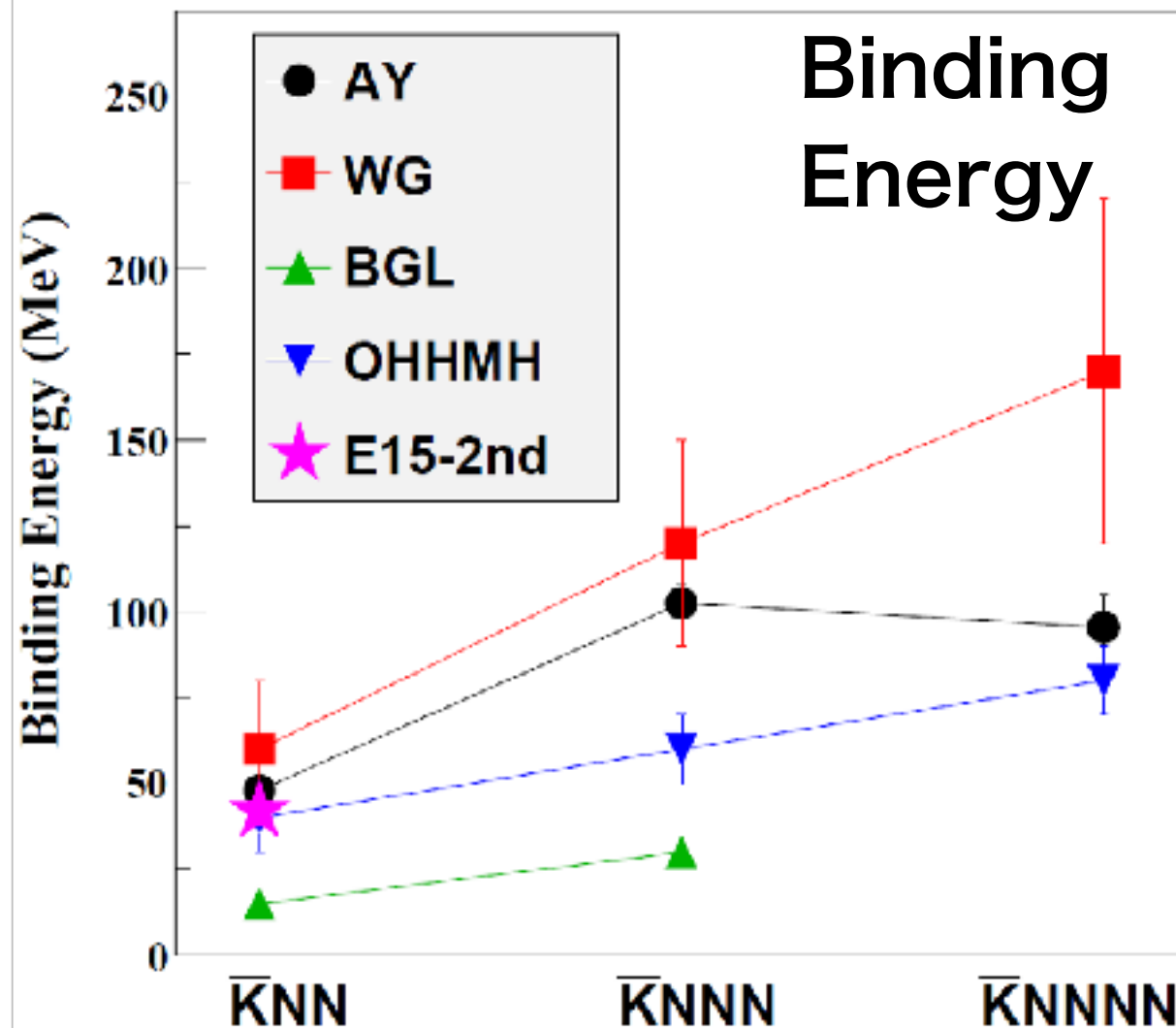
Not a complete list. sorry...

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

WG: PRC79(2009)014001.

BGL: PLB712(2012)132.

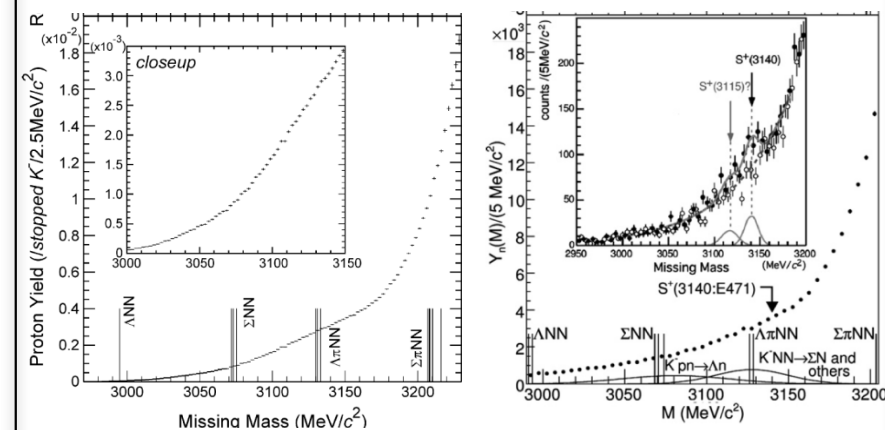
OHMH: PRC95(2017)065202.



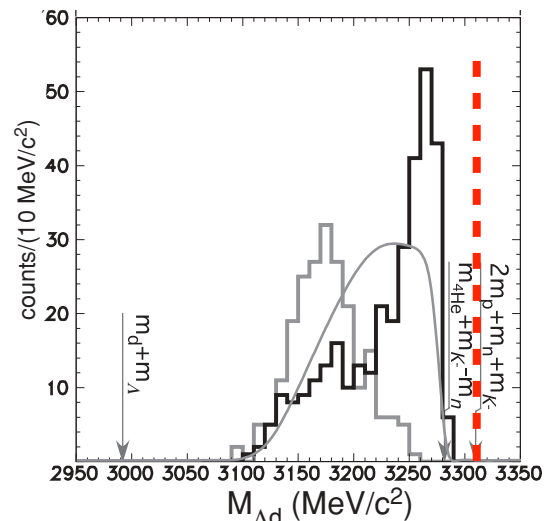
Larger binding than $\bar{K}NN$ and similar width are predicted.

$\bar{K}NNN$: Experimental situation

Stopped K⁻ on ⁴He E471/E549@KEK



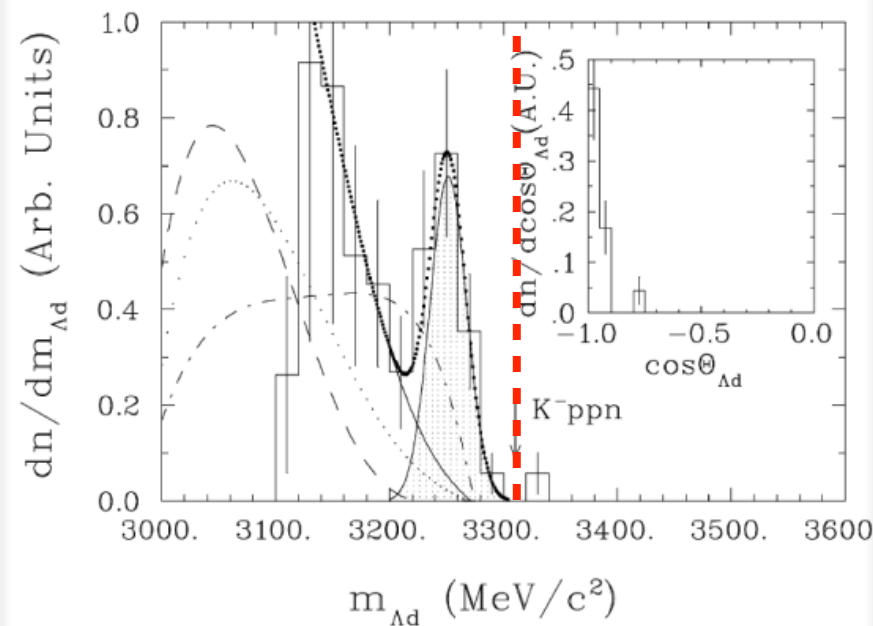
PLB659(2008)107, PLB688(2010)43



PRC76(2007)068202

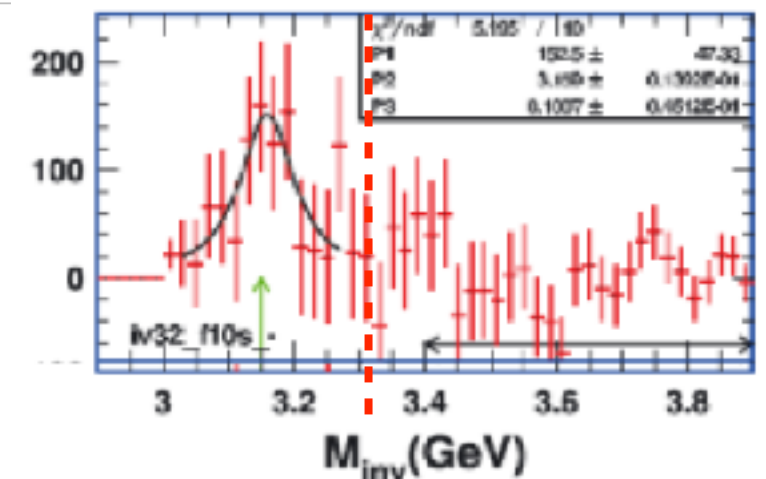
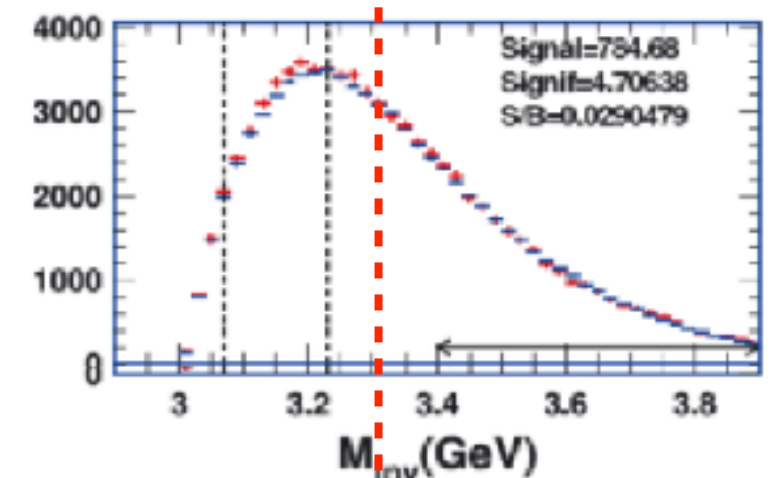
Stopped K⁻ on Li/C back-to-back Λd FUNUDA@DAΦNE

FUNUDA@DAΦNE



PLB654(2007)80

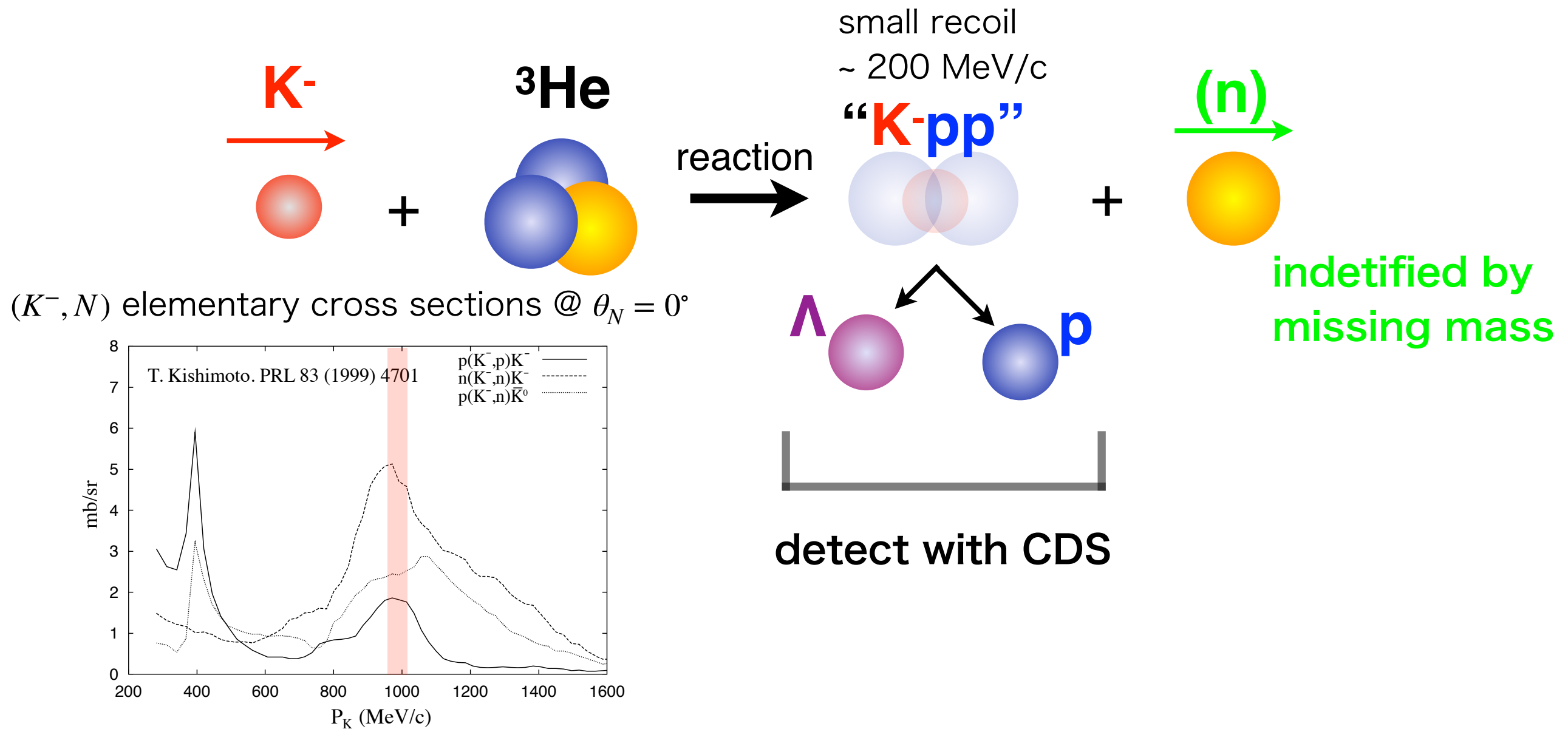
Λd in Ni+Ni FOPI@GSI



EXA05 Proceedings (2005)

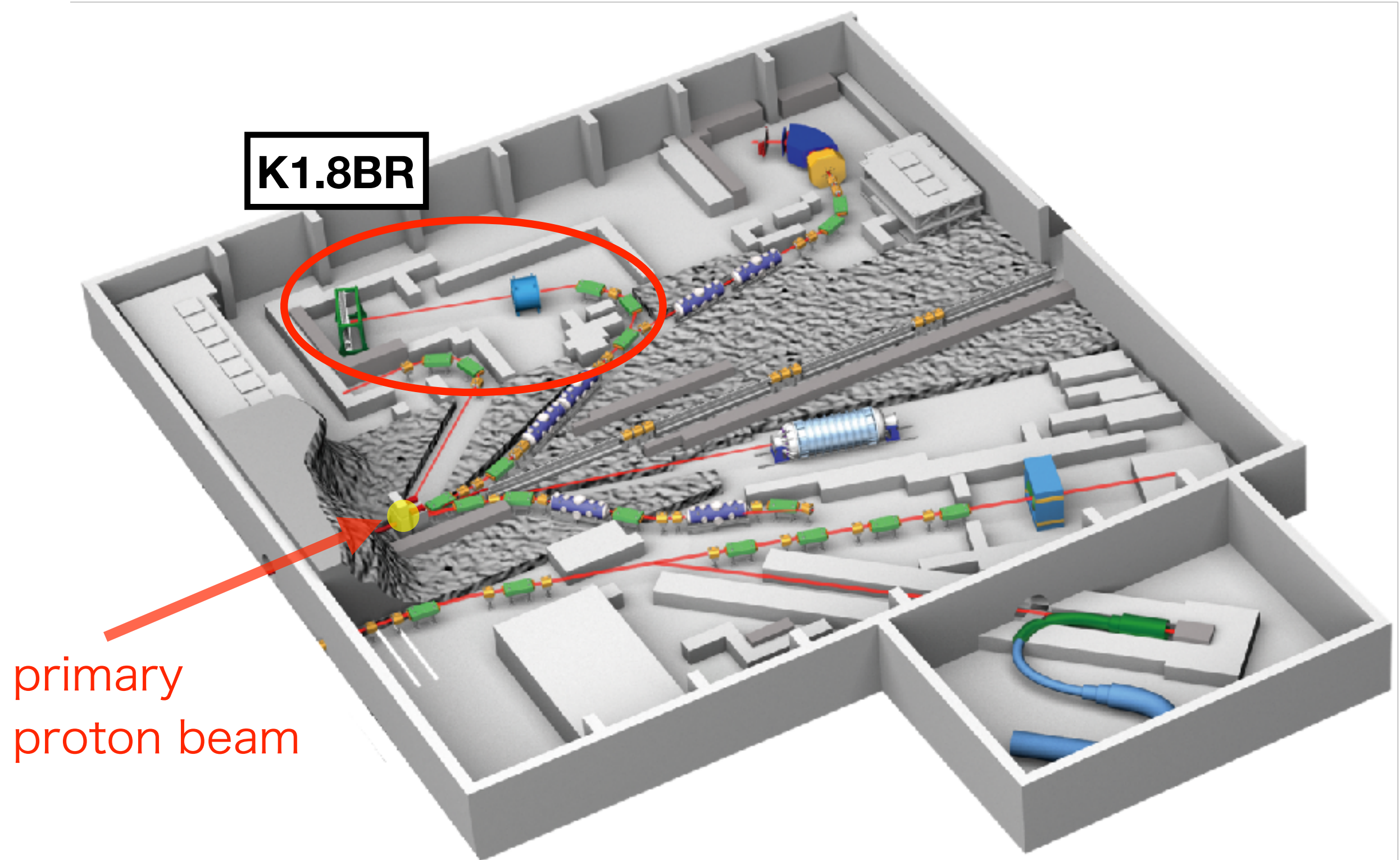
- Some experimental searches in 2000s. No conclusive result.
- multi-N absorptions hide bound-state signals in Stop-K

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



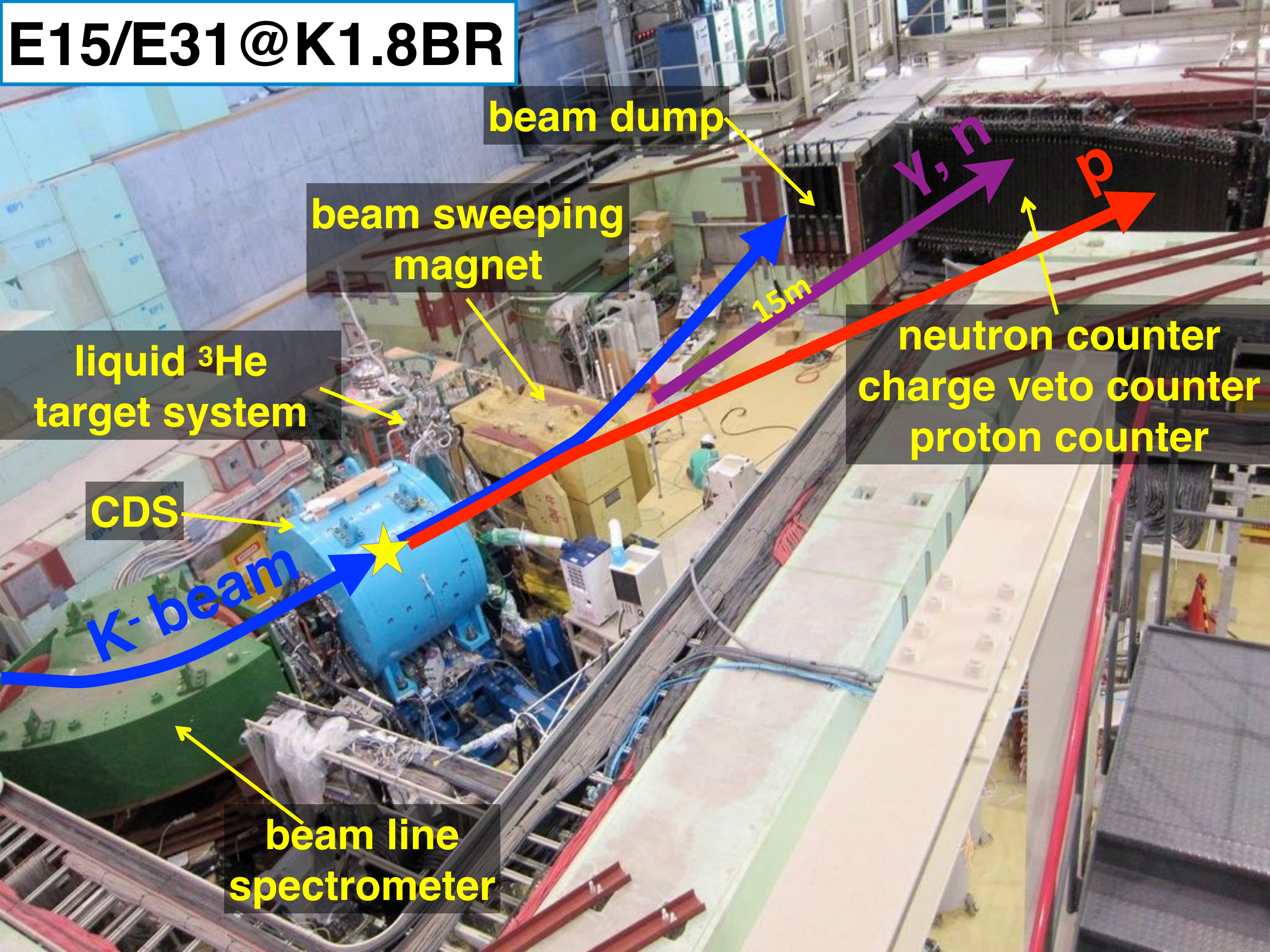
- K^- beam at $1 \text{ GeV}/c$ to maximize elementary (K^- , N) cross sections
- Most of background processes can be kinematically separated.
 - Hyperon decays and multi-nucleon absorption reactions
- Simplest target allow exclusive analysis.

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

CDS

K-beam

beam line
spectrometer

15m

ν, n
p
neutron counter
charge veto counter
proton counter

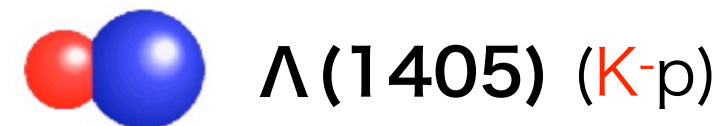
Experiments @ J-PARC K1.8BR

- 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 $d(K^-, n)$



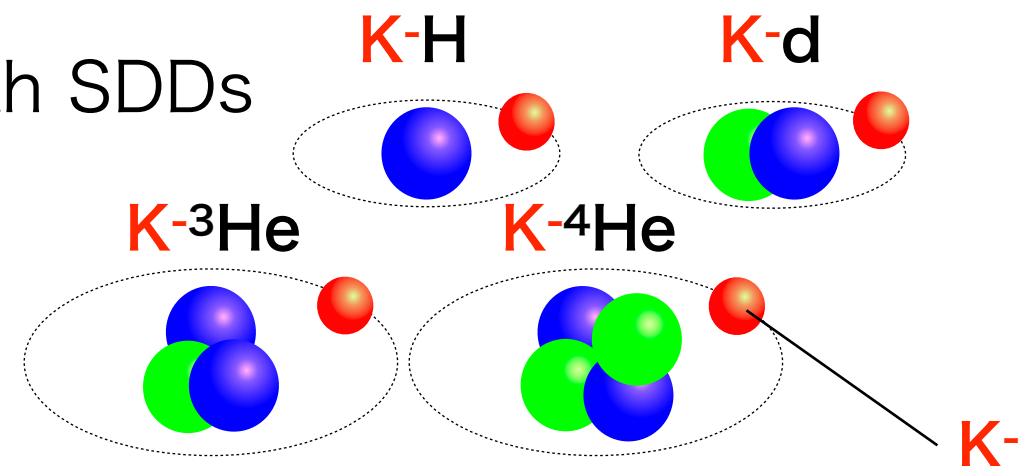
- data taking in 2018: [arXiv:2209.08254](#)

- 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 \(2022\)](#).

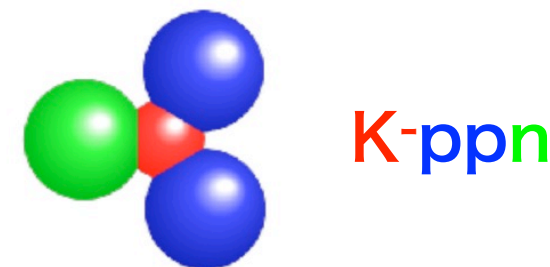


- E73/T77: lifetime measurement of light hypernuclei

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

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

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



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

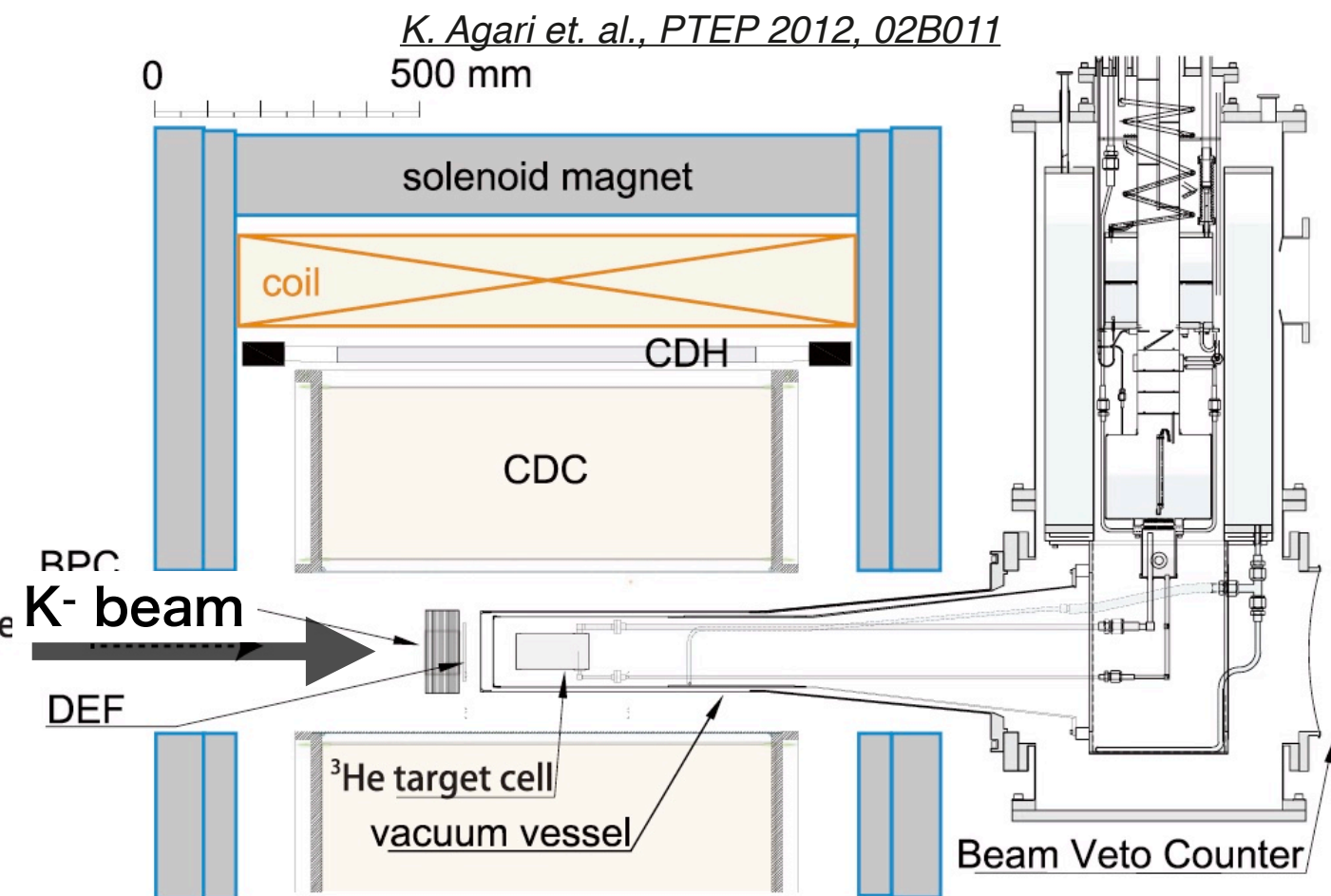
$\bar{K}NN$ in ${}^3\text{He}(K^-, \Lambda p)n$

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

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

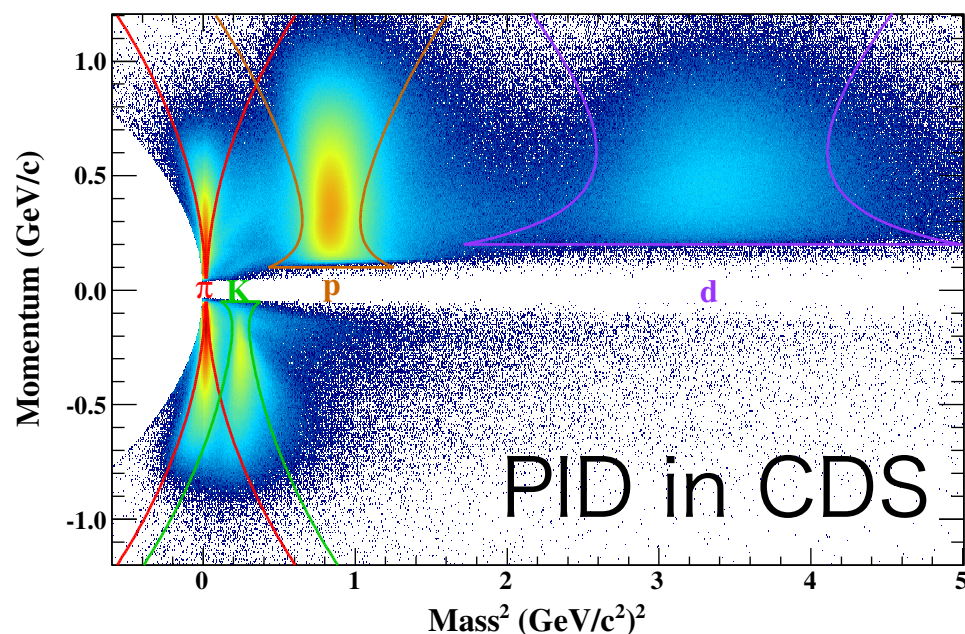
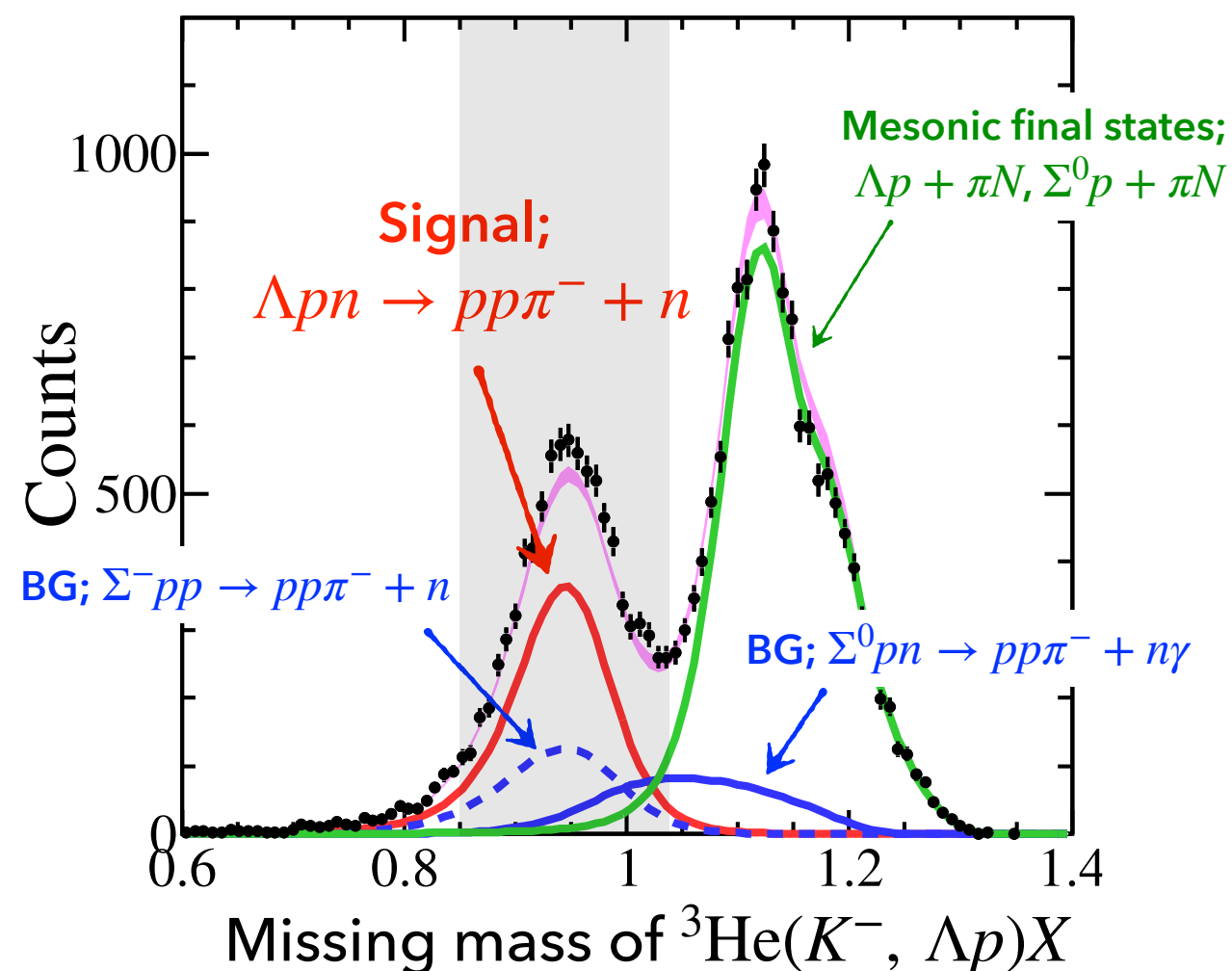
T. Yamaga,^{1,*} S. Ajimura,² H. Asano,¹ G. Beer,³ H. Bhang,⁴ M. Bragadireanu,⁵ P. Buehler,⁶ L. Busso,^{7,8} M. Cargnelli,⁶
 S. Choi,⁴ C. Curceanu,⁹ S. Enomoto,¹⁴ H. Fujioka,¹⁵ Y. Fujiwara,¹² T. Fukuda,¹³ C. Guaraldo,⁹ T. Hashimoto,²⁰
 R. S. Hayano,¹² T. Hiraiwa,² M. Iio,¹⁴ M. Iliescu,⁹ K. Inoue,² Y. 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. Ota,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



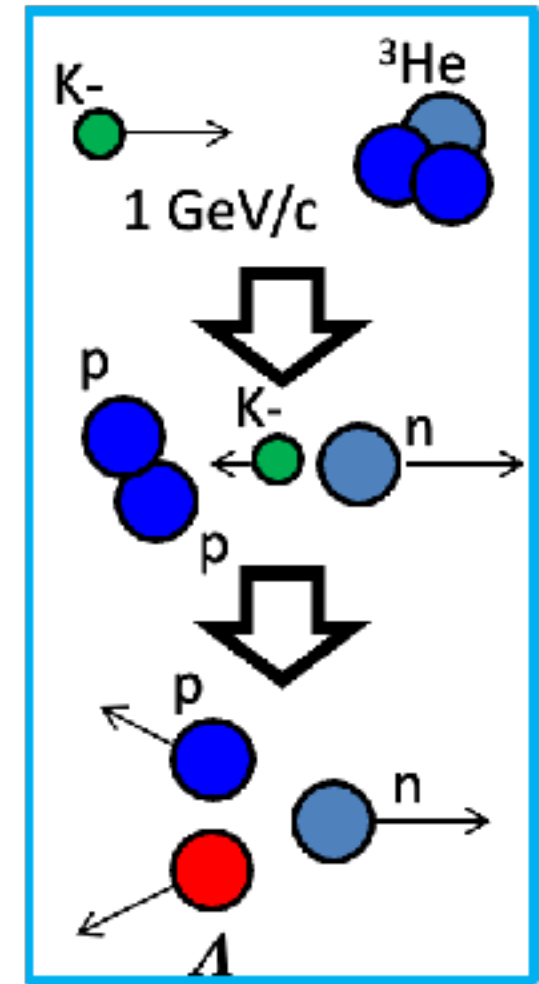
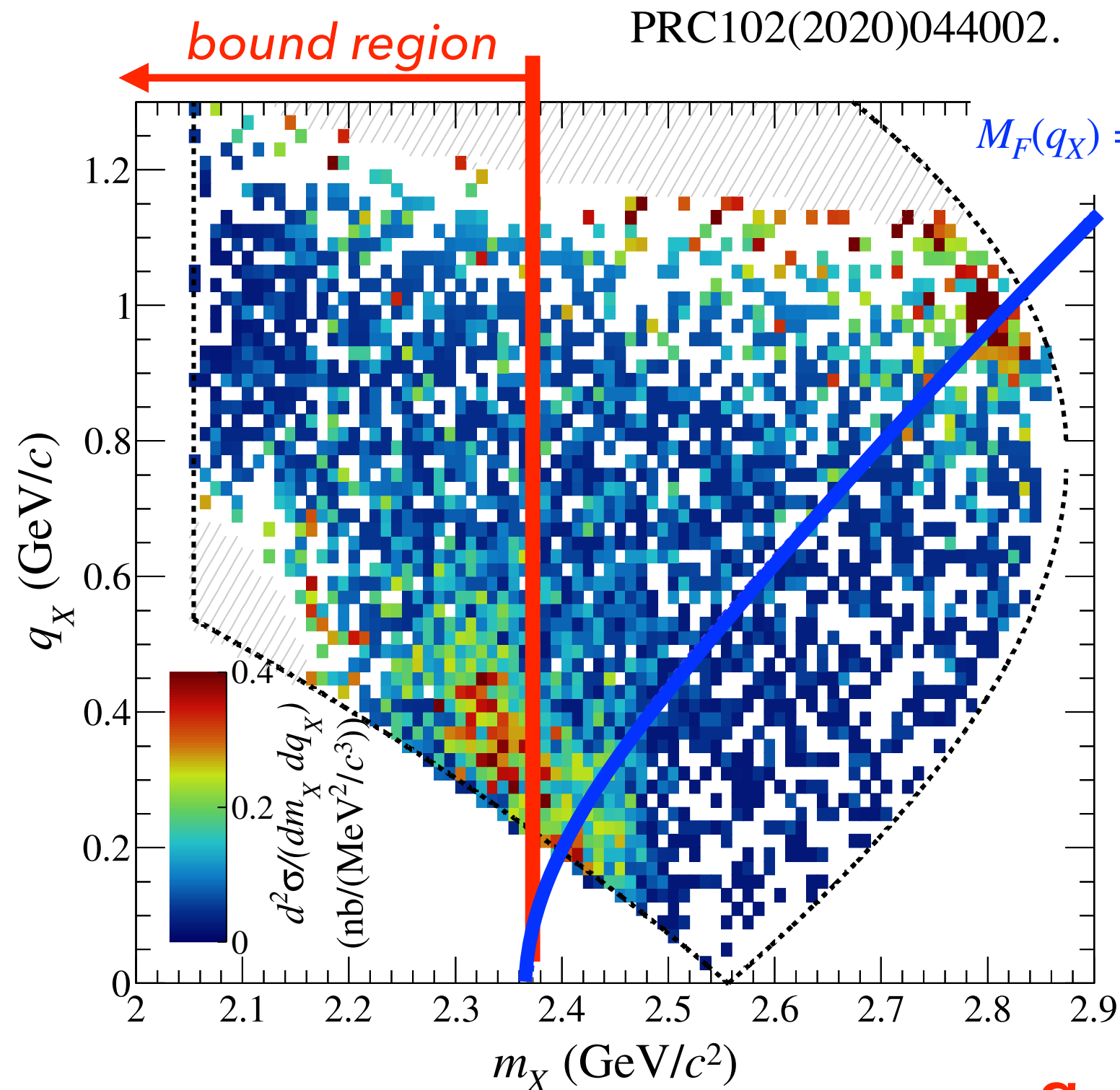
15-layer CDC and TOF hodoscopes

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

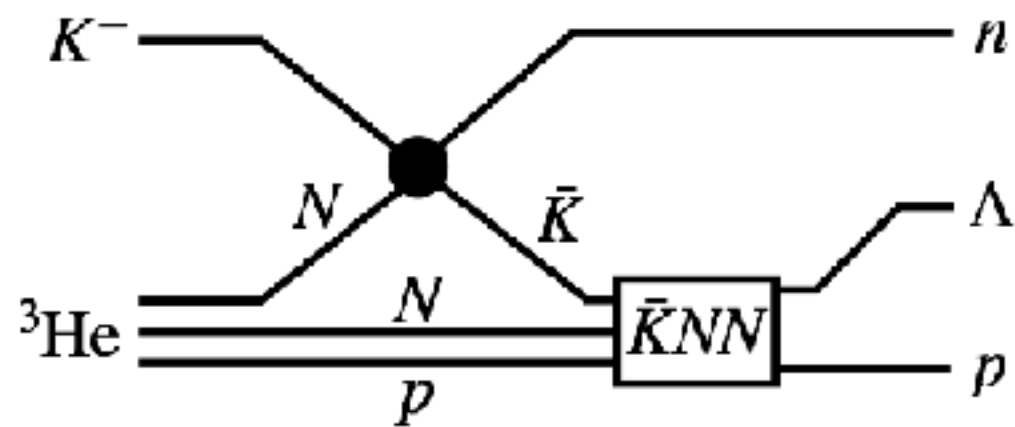
m_X : Λp invariant mass

q_X : momentum transfer to Λp system

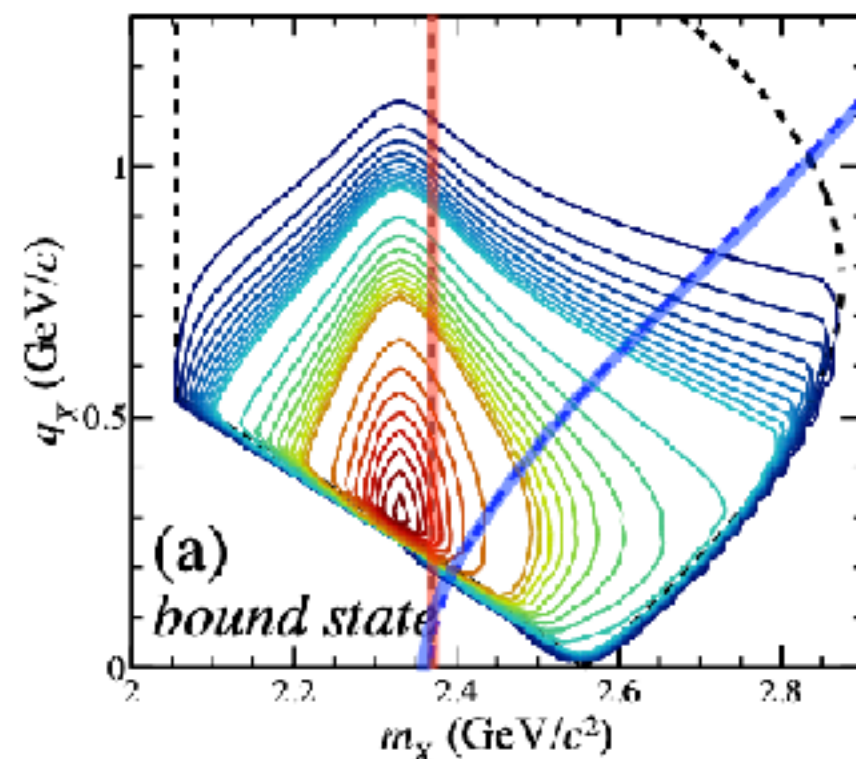
**q_X -indep. component
below the threshold**

Model functions

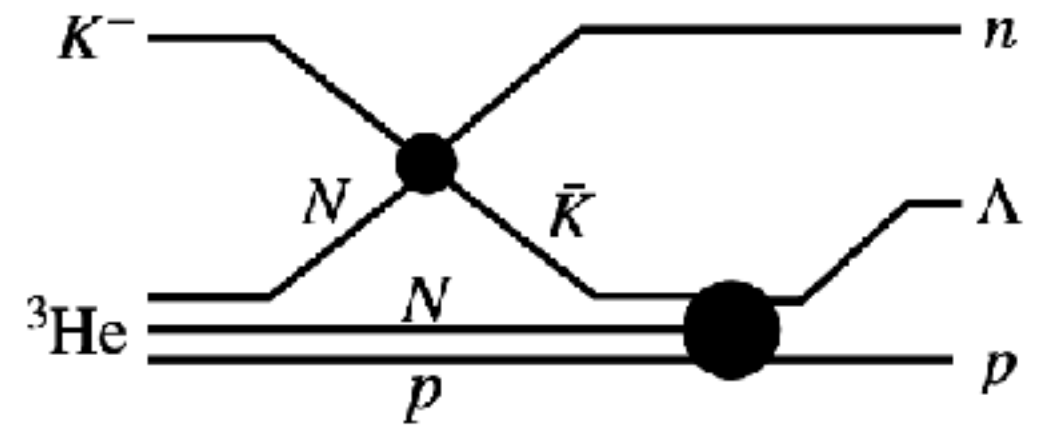
$\bar{K}NN$ production



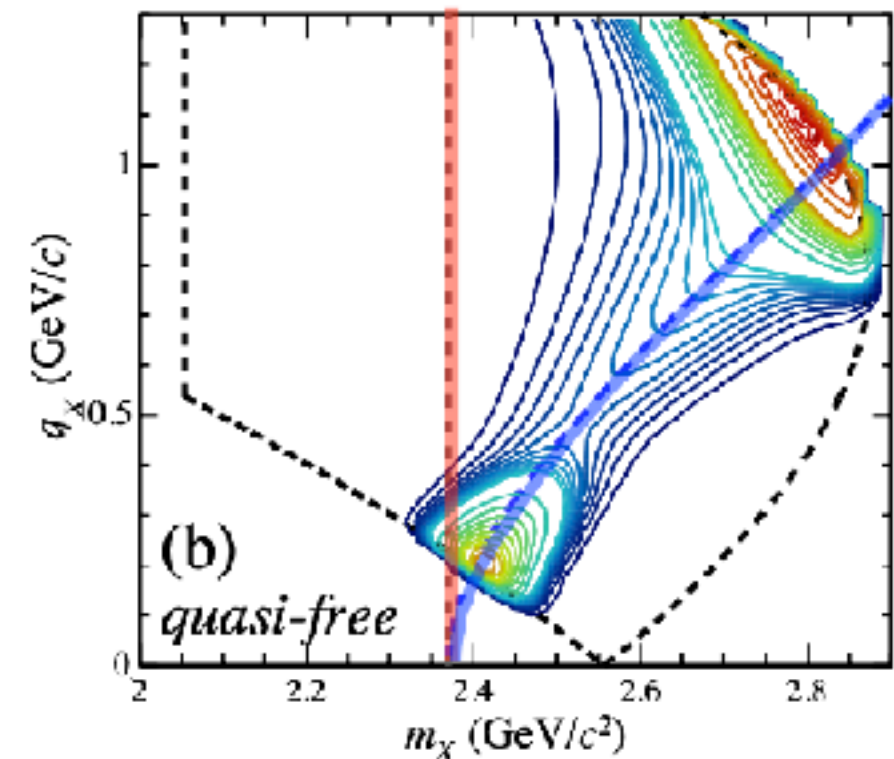
$$f_{KNN}(m_X, q_X) = \frac{\Gamma^2/4}{(m_X - M_X)^2 + \Gamma^2/4} \times g_{K^-pp}(q_X)$$



Quasi-free process with (K^-, n)



$$f_{QF}(m_X, q_X) = \exp\left(-\frac{(m_X - M_F(q_X))^2}{\sigma^2(q_X)}\right) \times g_{QF}(q_X)$$



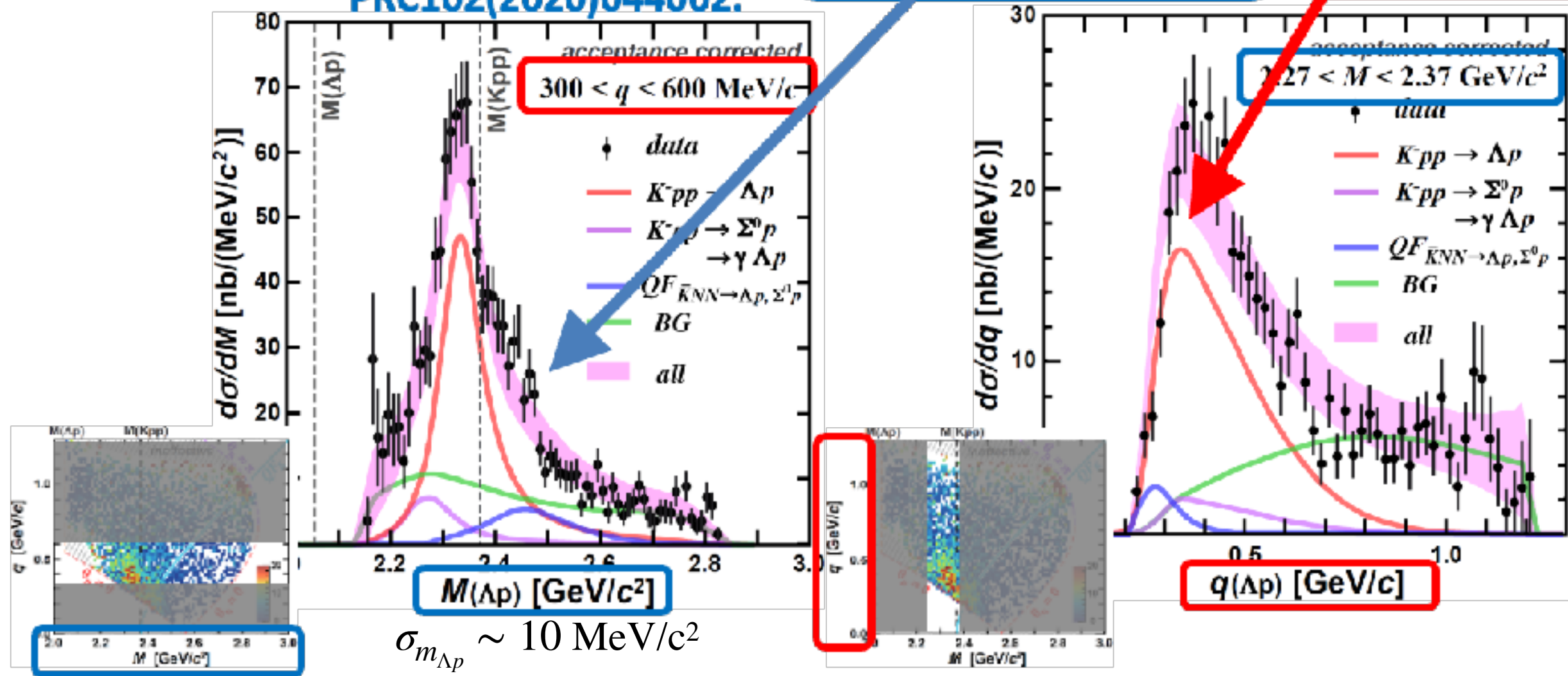
+ Broad component

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 $\sigma(M, q) \propto \rho(M, q) \times$ phase space
 $\frac{(\Gamma_{Kpp}/2)^2}{(M - M_{Kpp})^2 + (\Gamma_{Kpp}/2)^2}$ Breit Wigner
 $\times \exp\left(-\frac{q^2}{Q_{Kpp}^2}\right)$
form factor

PRC102(2020)044002.



$B_{Kpp} \sim 40$ MeV, $\Gamma_{Kpp} \sim 100$ MeV
 $\rightarrow$ large binding energy

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

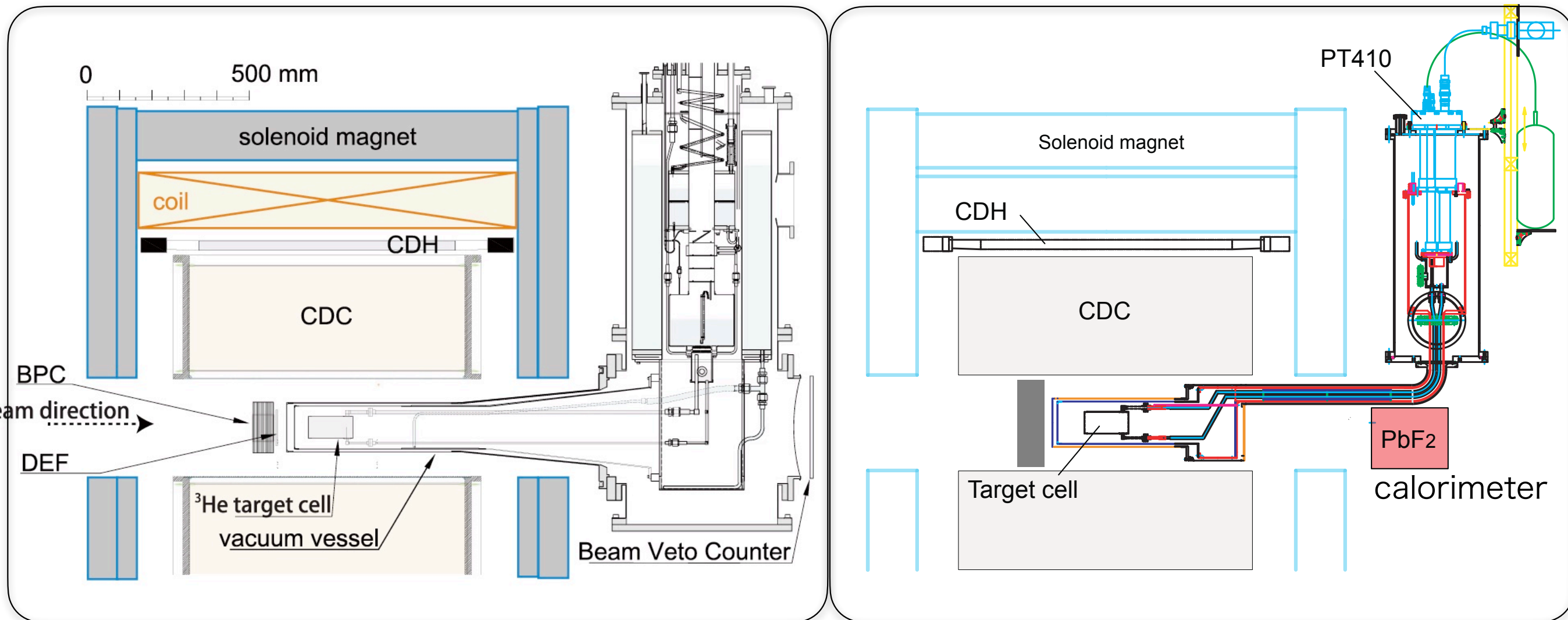
We already have small dataset with ^4He target

J-PARC E15@2015

42G K $^-$ on ^3He

J-PARC T77@2020

6G K $^-$ on ^4He **only 3 days!**

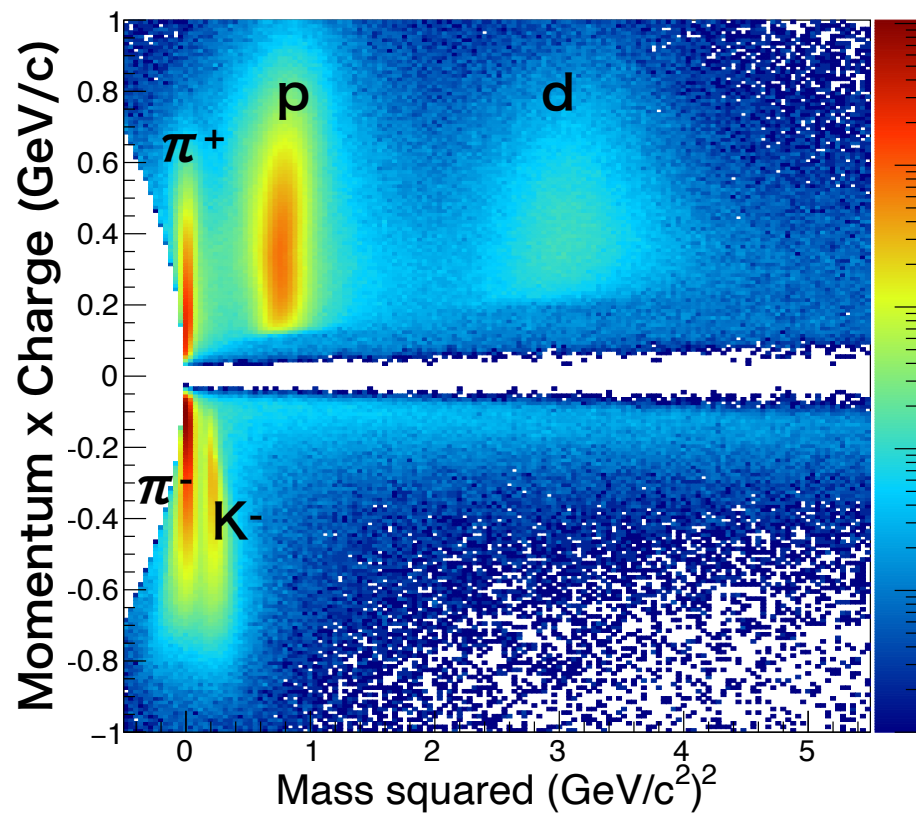


- The same cylindrical detector system + forward calorimeter in T77 for $^4\text{He}(K^-, \pi^0)_\Lambda \text{H}$ lifetime measurements of hypernuclei

Λ dn event selection

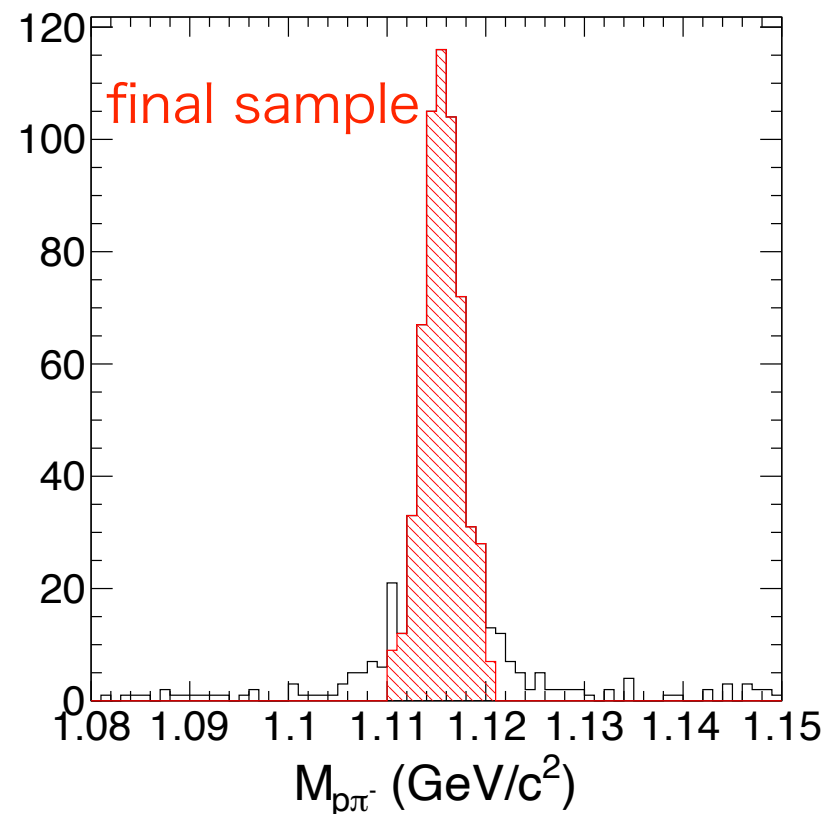
deuteron ID

CDC track curvature &
CDH time of flight



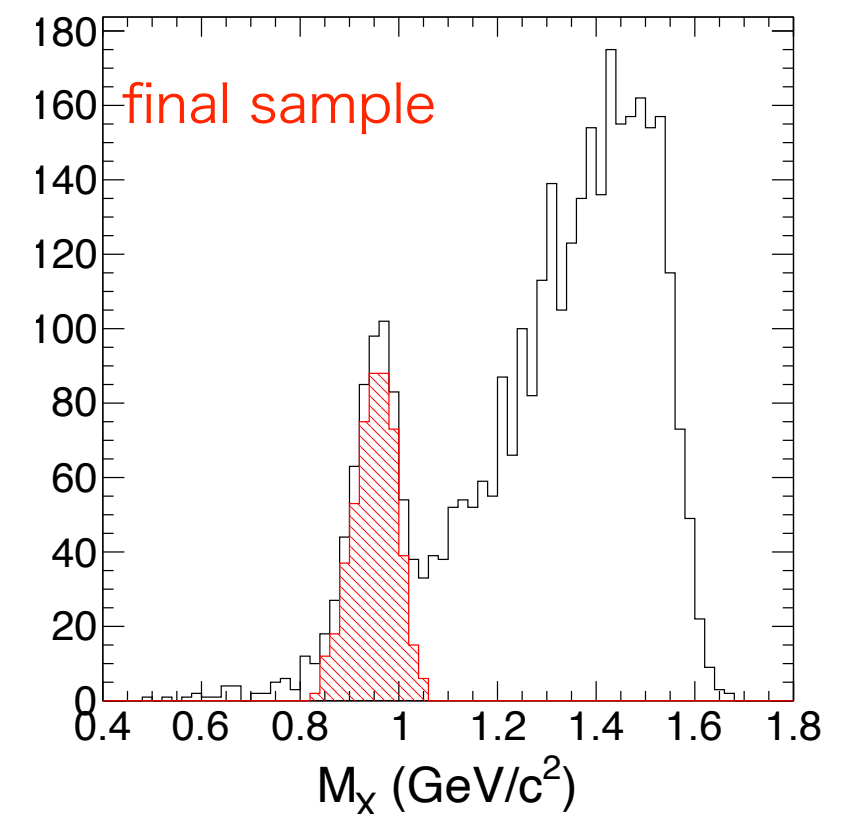
Λ reconstruction

w/ vertex consistency cut
w/ pipd missing mass cut



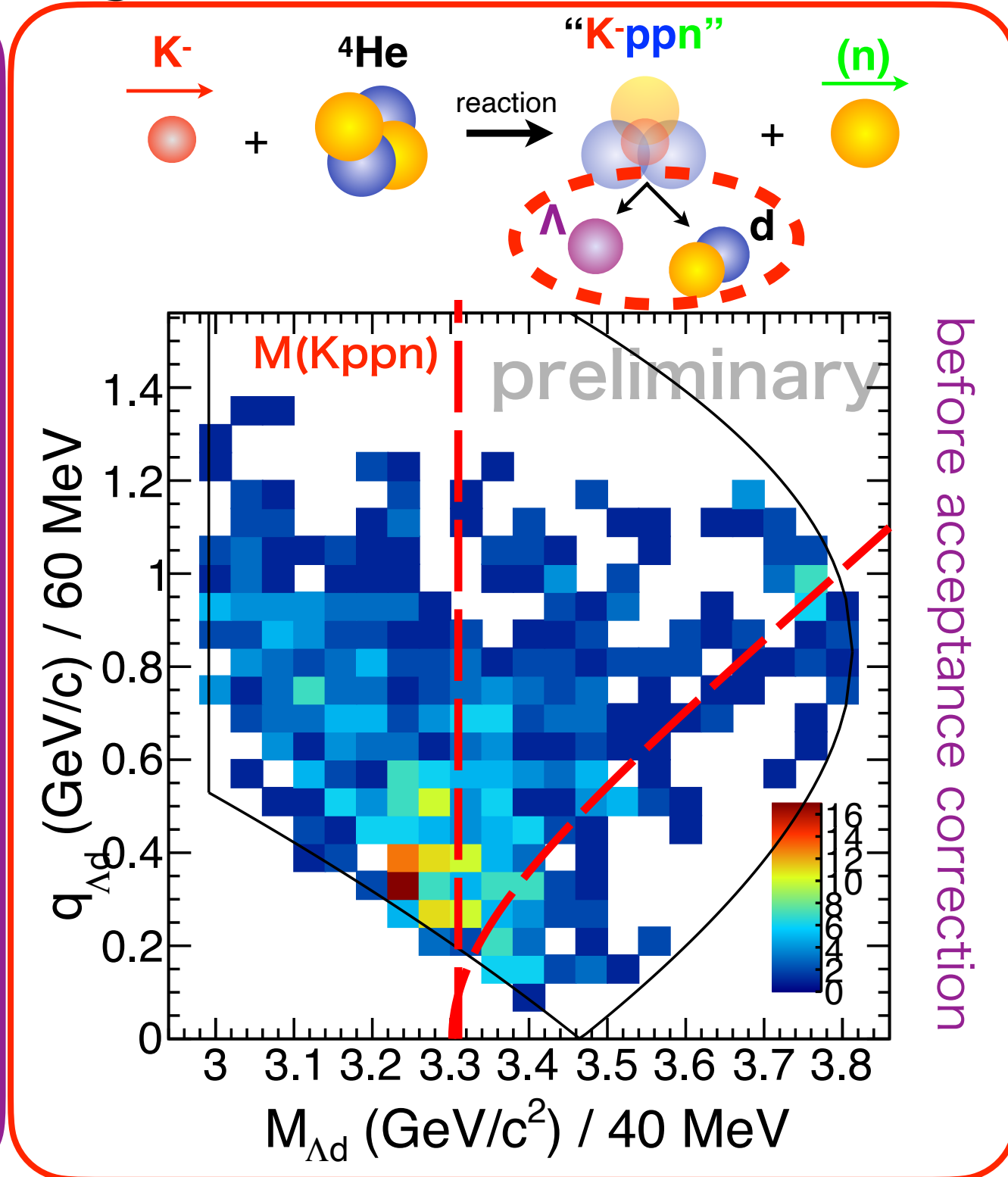
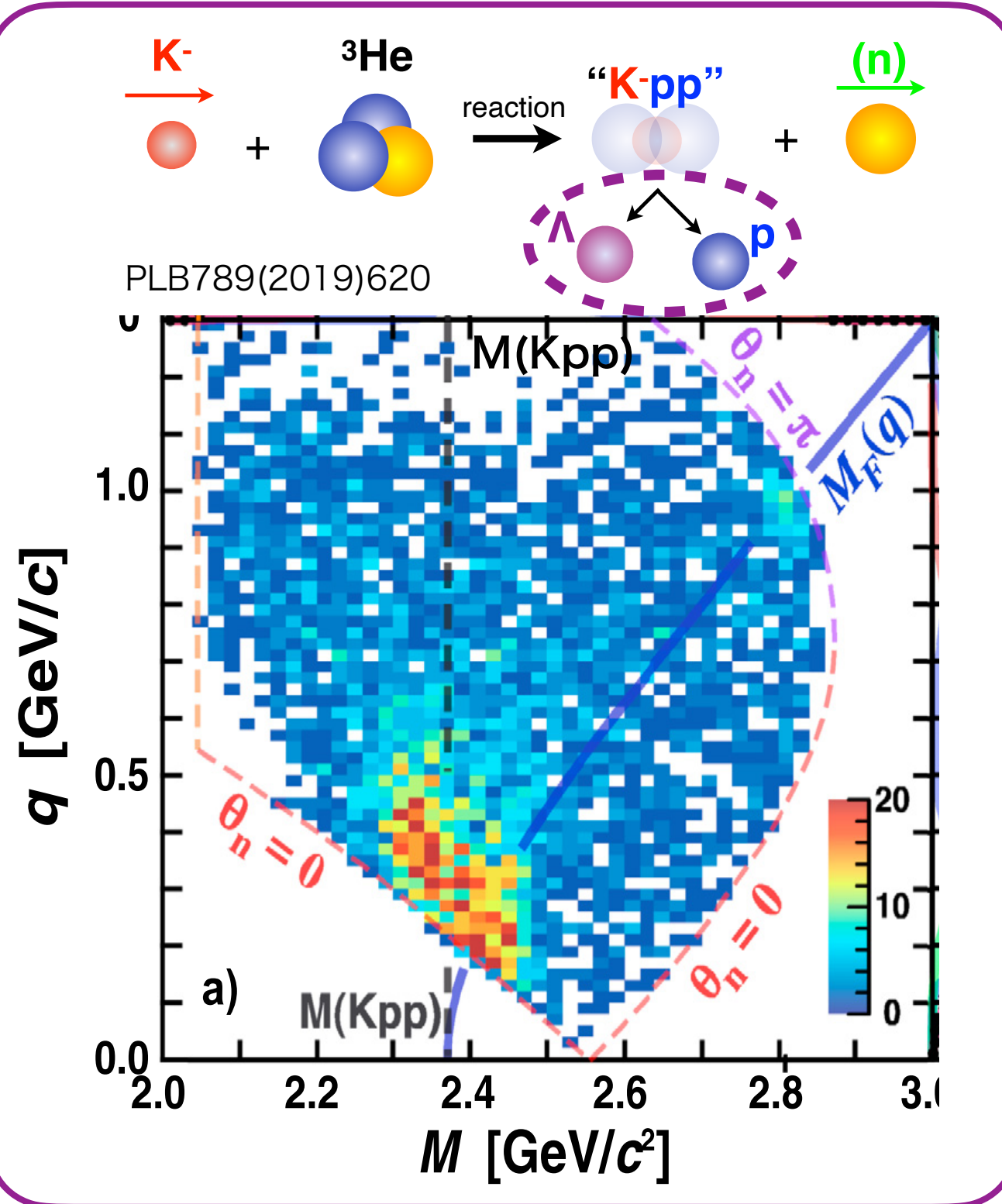
Missing neutron ID

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

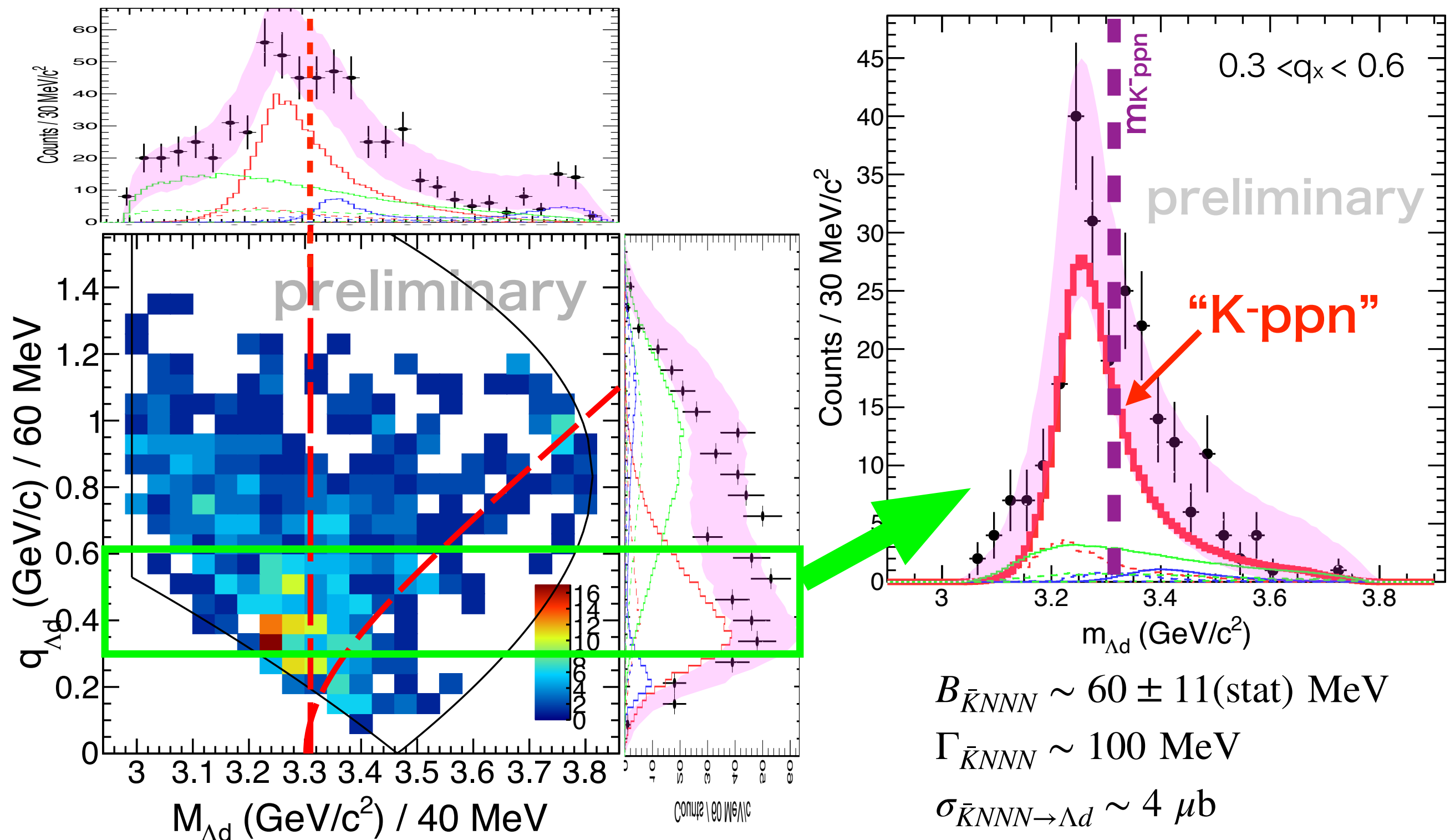


- Two distributions are quite similar
- structure below the threshold, QF- K^- , and broad background

$\bar{K}NNN$: Preliminary result

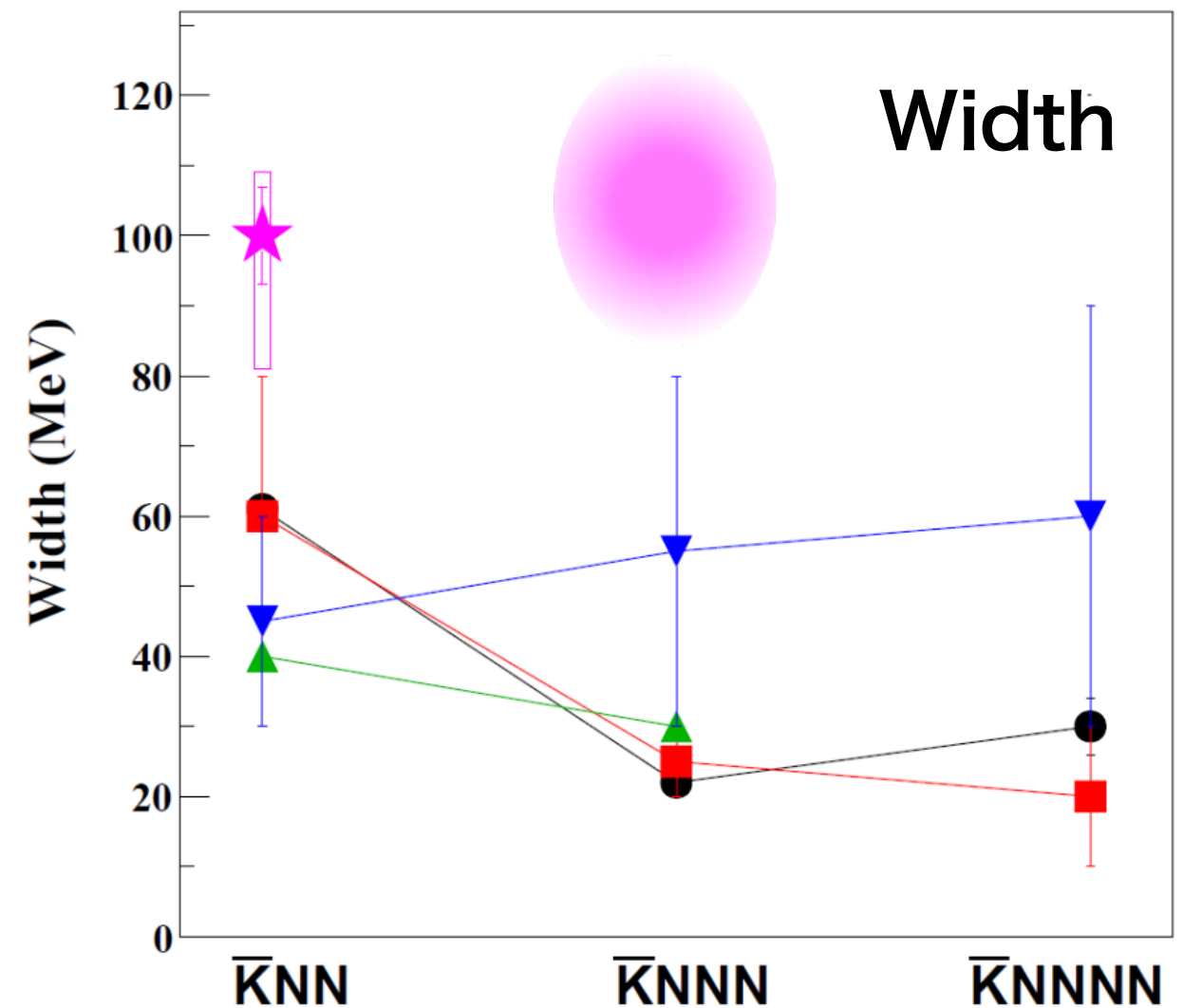
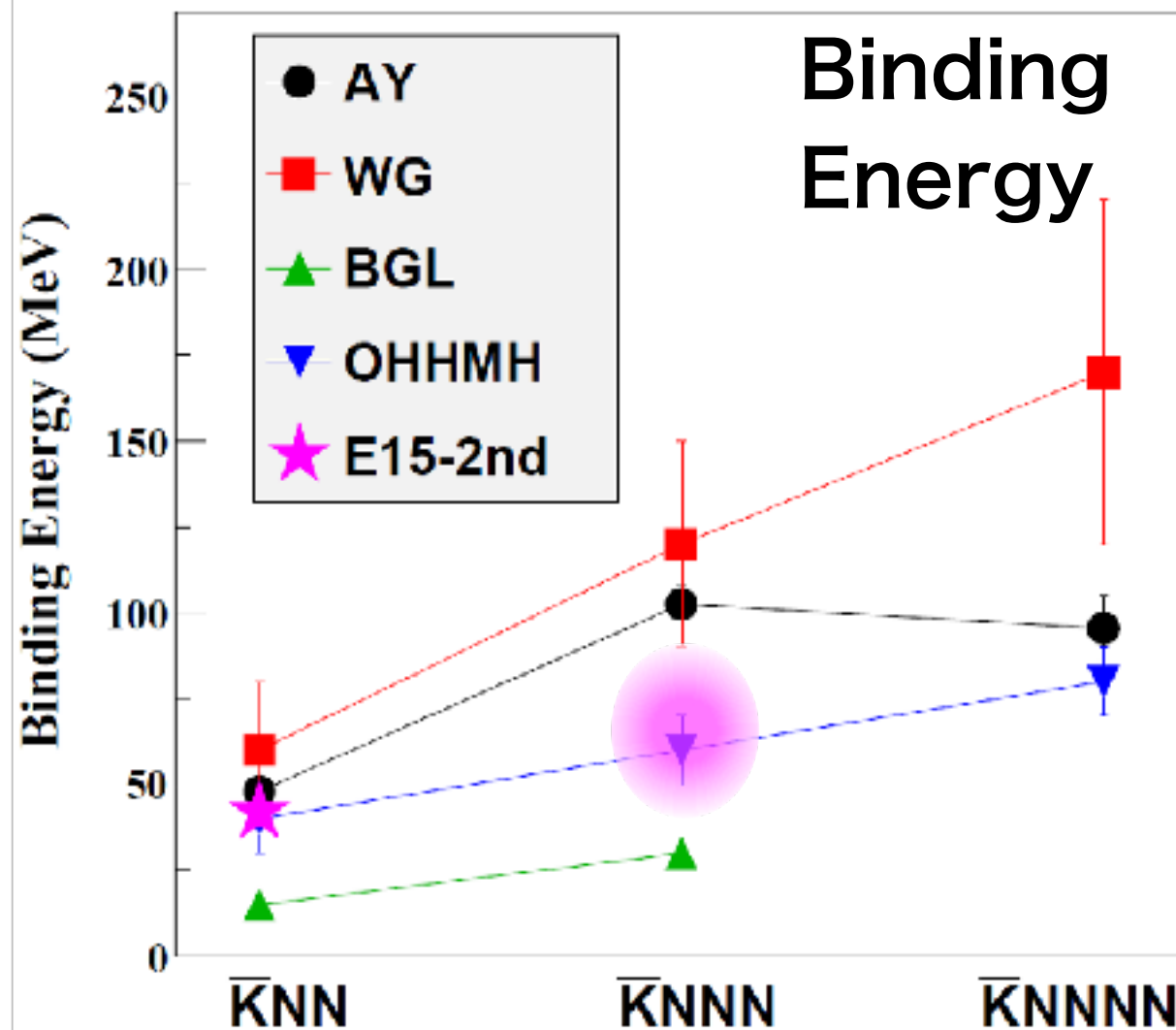
2D fit on the (M,q) space with similar shapes to E15:

“ $\bar{K}NNN$ ” Breit-Wigner with Gaus. form factor, Broad BG and QF-K-



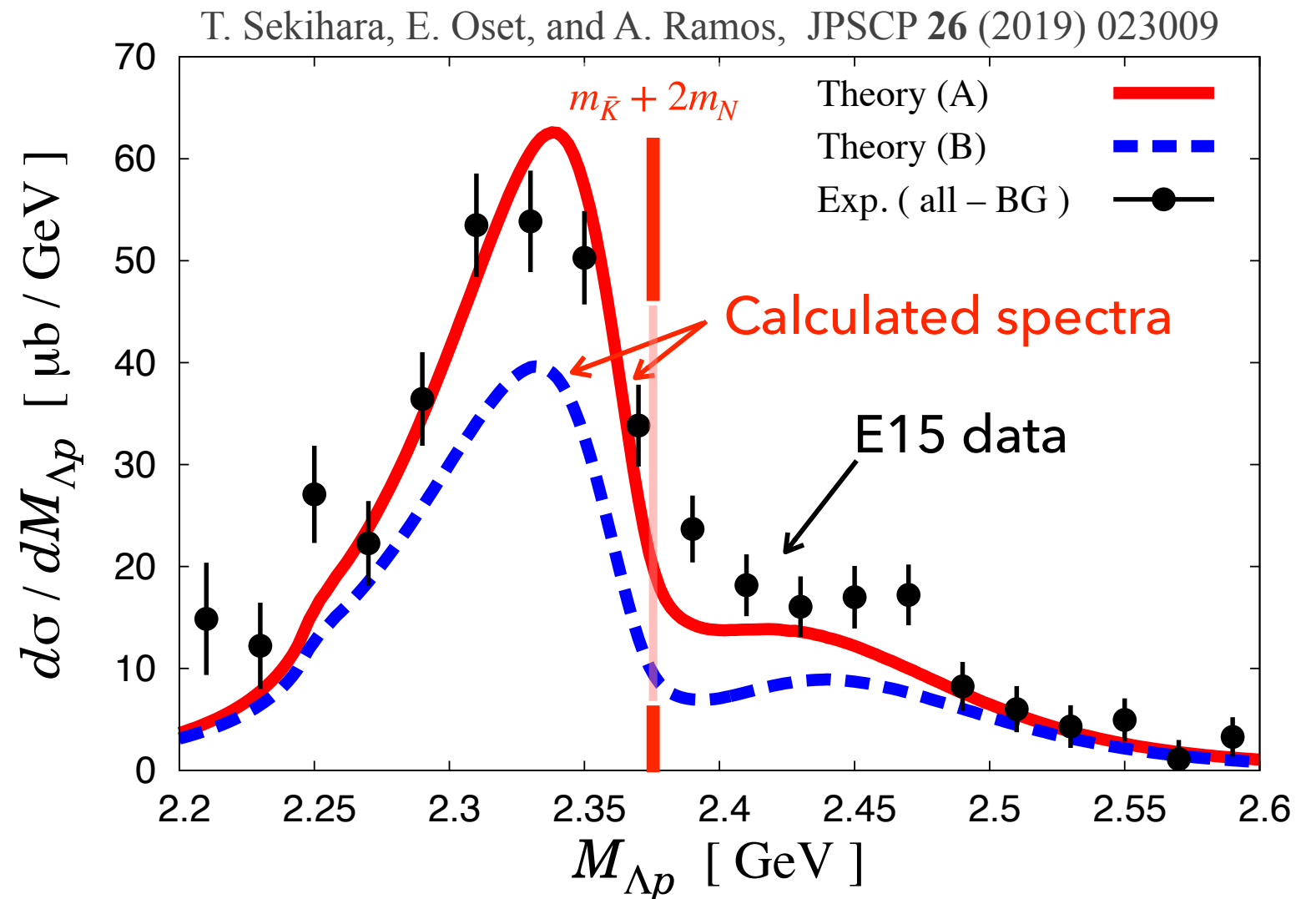
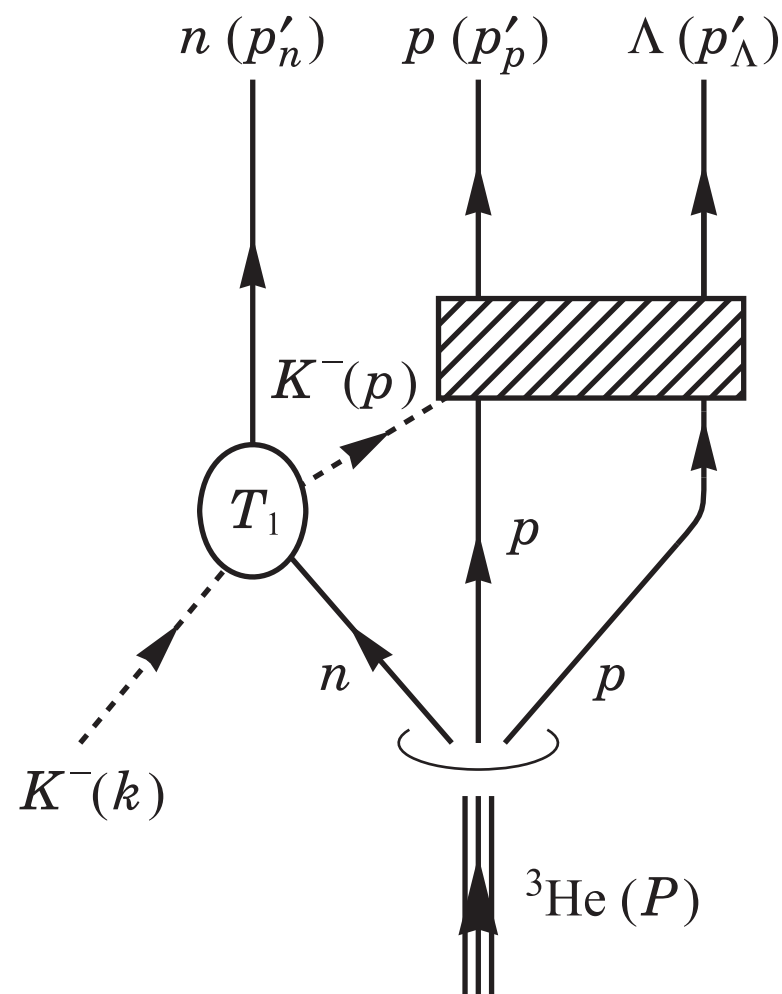
Preliminary result

 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.

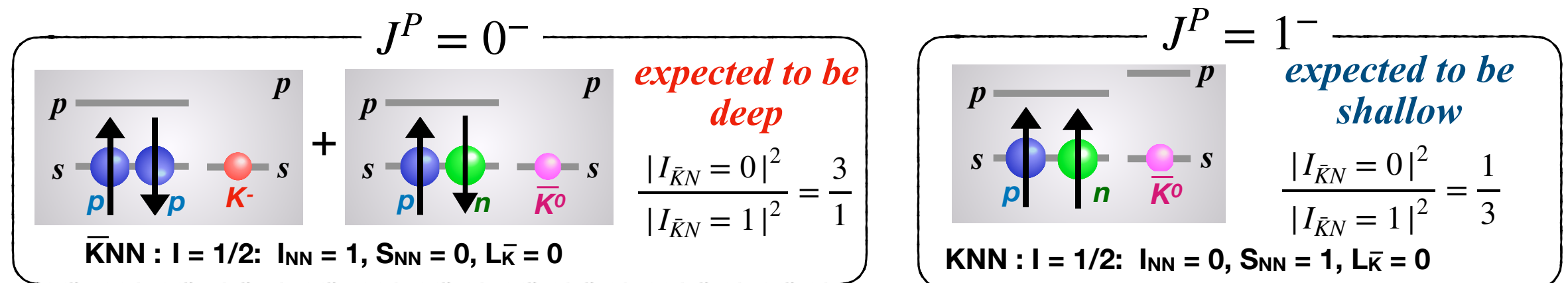


- Good agreement in the mass spectrum.
(although it failed to explain experimental q spectrum)
- Detailed comparison with theoretical spectrum is important

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)



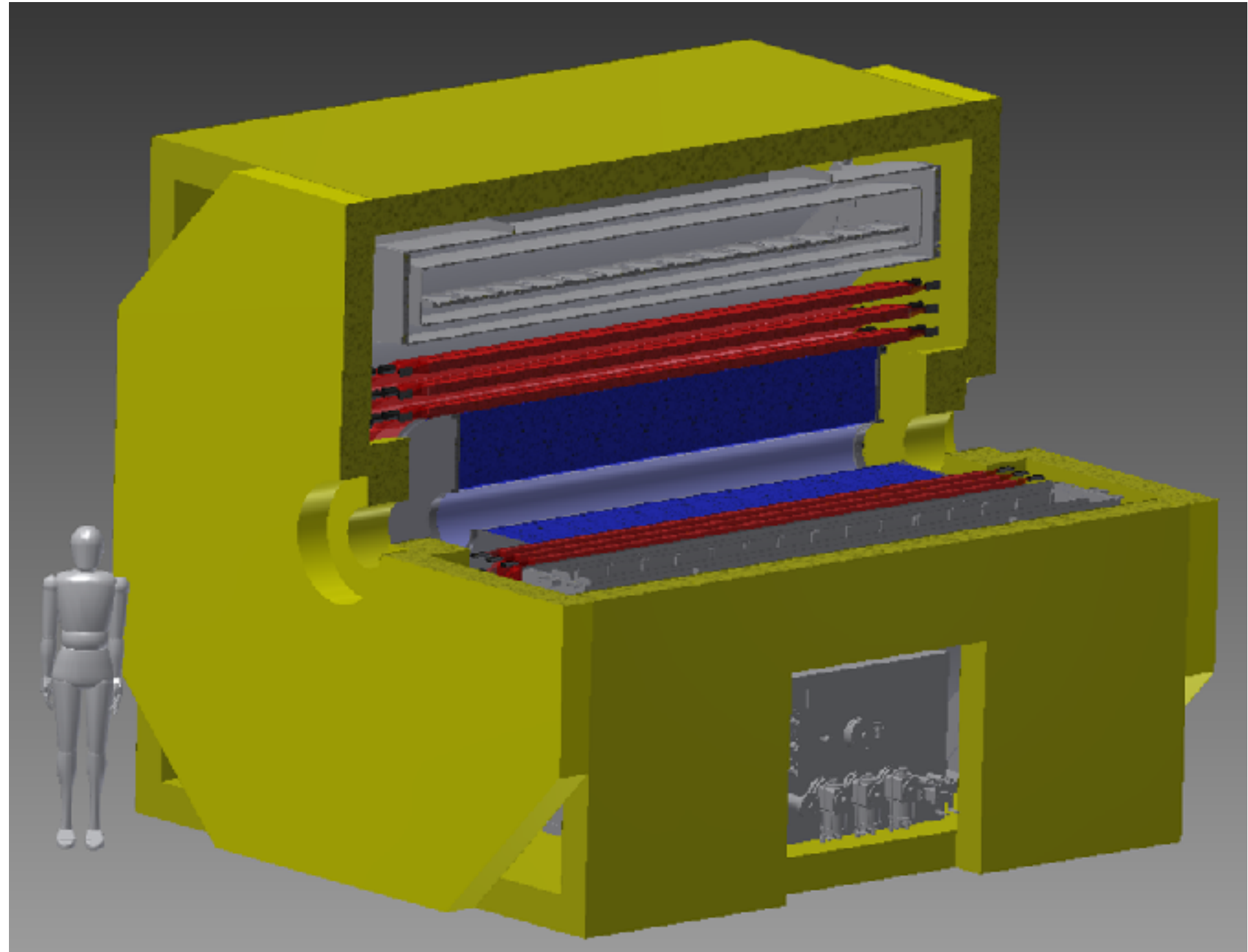
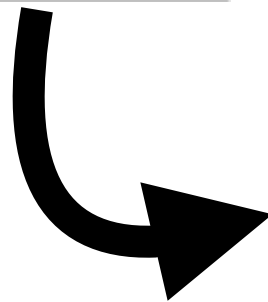
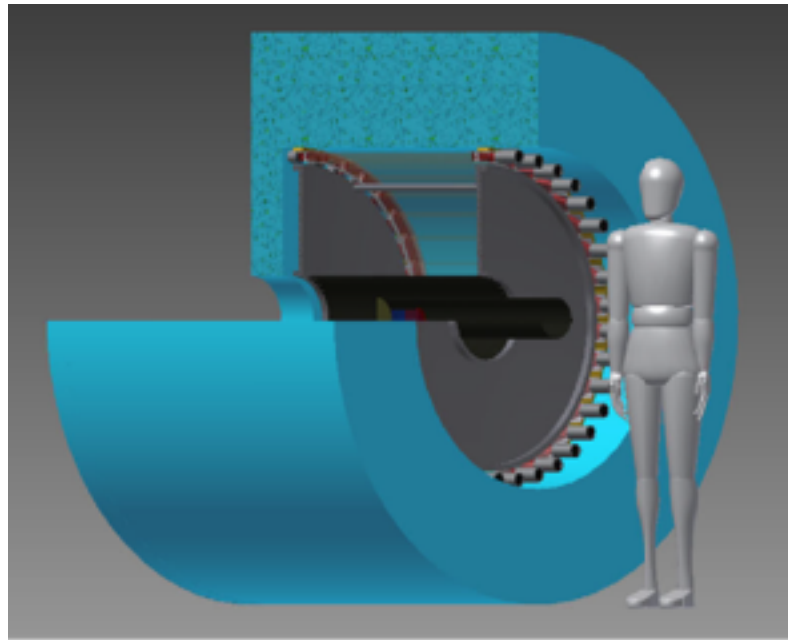
or $\Sigma^*N [I(J^P) = 1/2(2^+)]$

- Confirm $\bar{K}NNN [I(J^P) = 0(1/2^-)]$ and study its property (J-PARC E80)
 - $\Lambda p n$ 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

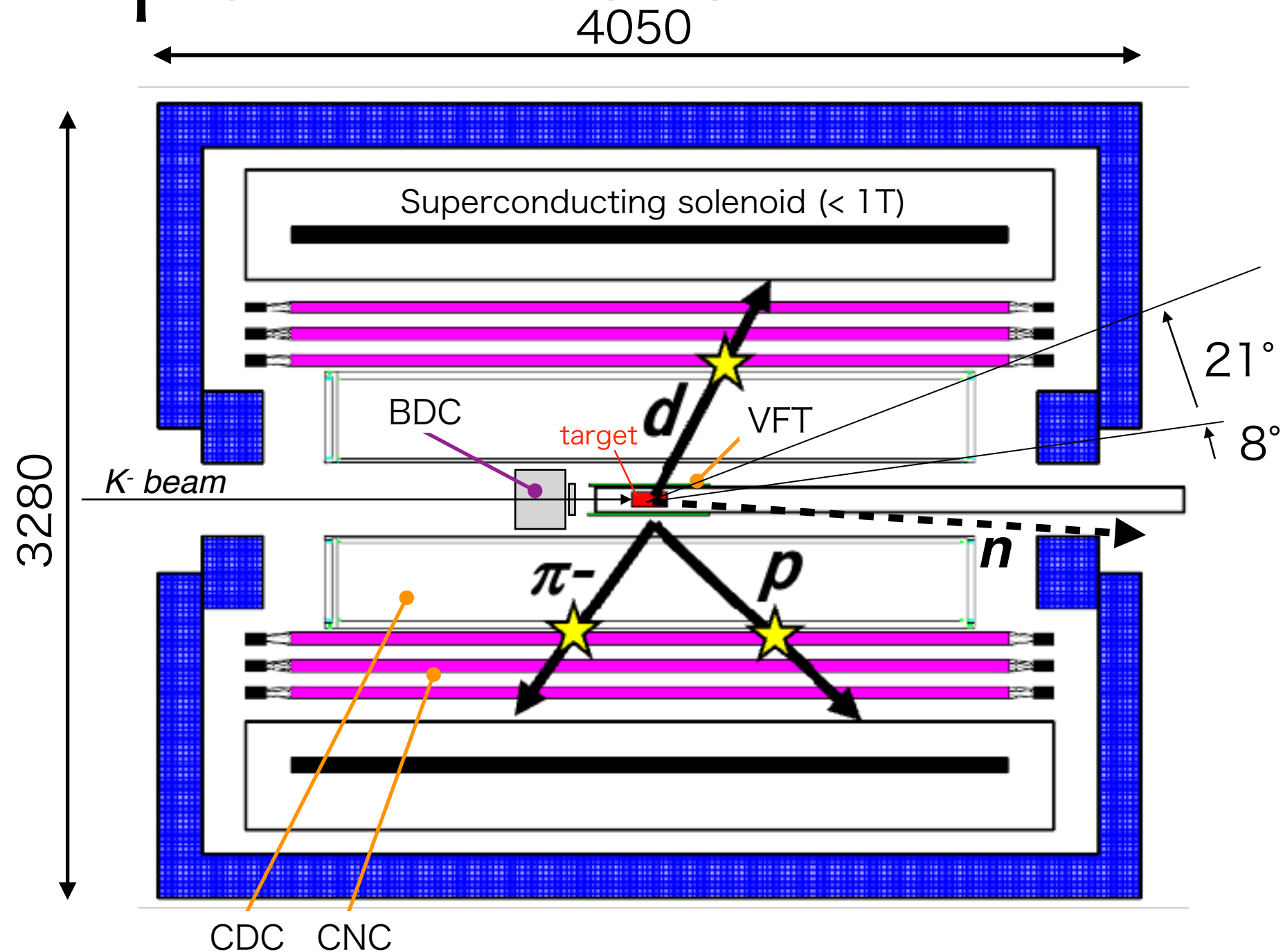
new CDS

E15 CDS



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

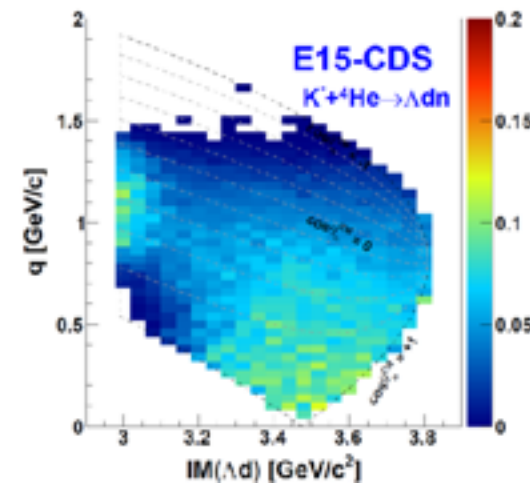
New spectrometer



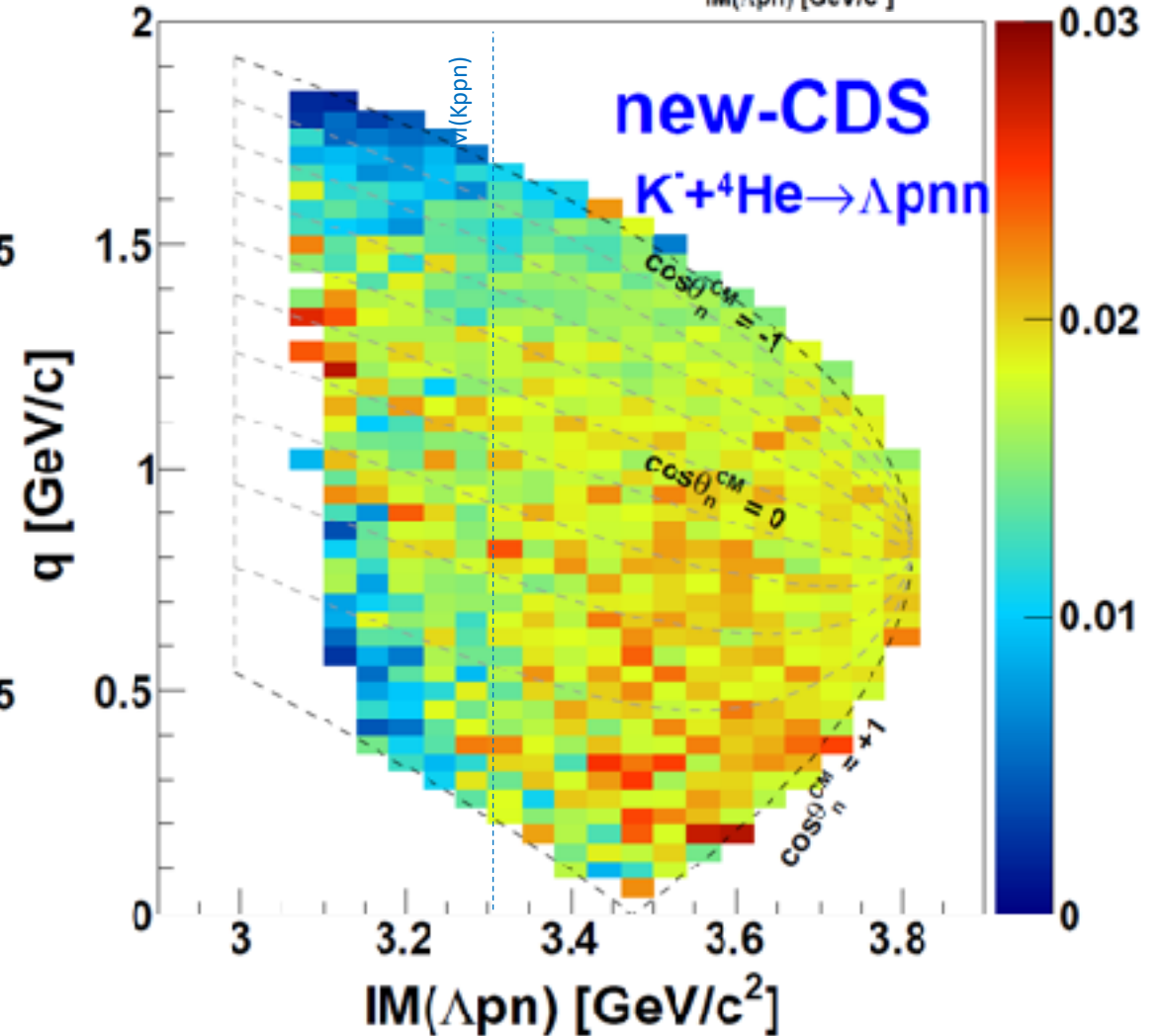
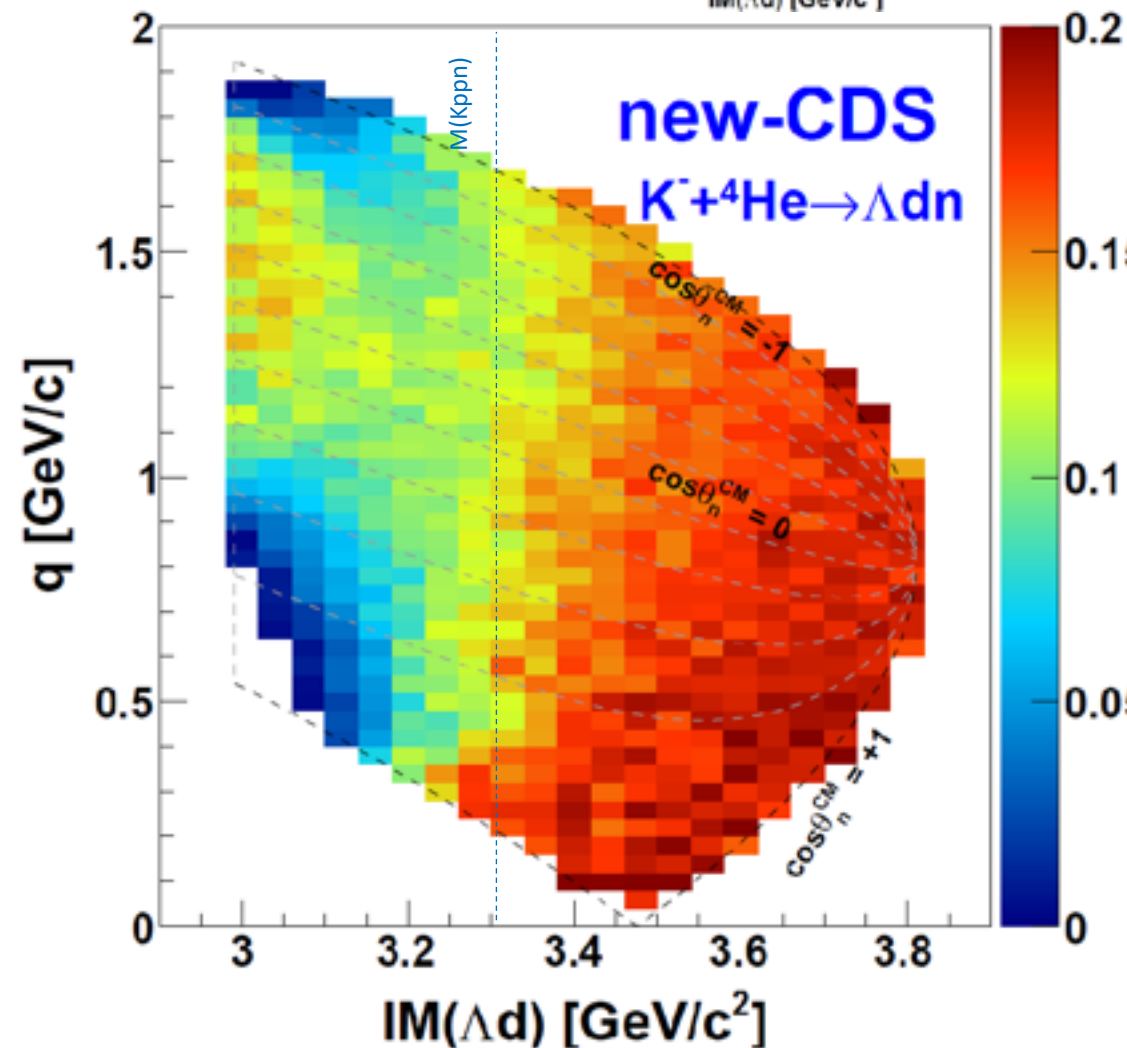
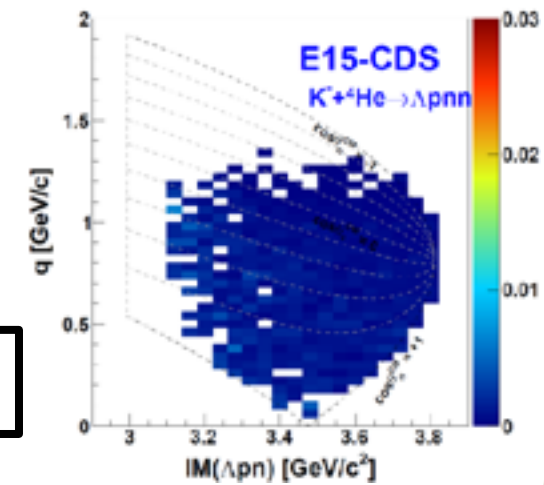
- x3 longer CDC: **solid angle 59%→93%**
- 3-layer barrel NC (CNC): **neutron efficiency 3%→15%**
 - polalimeter trackers between CNCs in future
- VFT to improve z-vertex & momentum resolution

Acceptance

Λd in CDS



Λpn in CDS



- large kinematical-region coverage & better acceptance

Expected yields

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

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

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

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

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

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-)

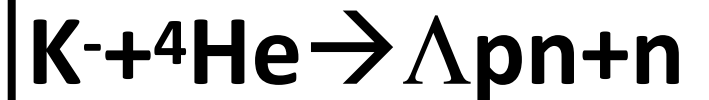
	$\Lambda d / \Lambda pn$
$\sigma(K\text{-ppn}) \cdot \text{Br}$	5 μb
$N(K\text{- on target})$	100 G x ~20
$N(\text{target})$	2.56×10^{23}
$\epsilon(\text{DAQ})$	0.92
$\epsilon(\text{trigger})$	0.98
$\epsilon(\text{beam})$	0.72
$\Omega(\text{CDC})$	0.23 / 0.059 x ~2
$\epsilon(\text{CDC})$	0.6 / 0.3
$N(K\text{-ppn})$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

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

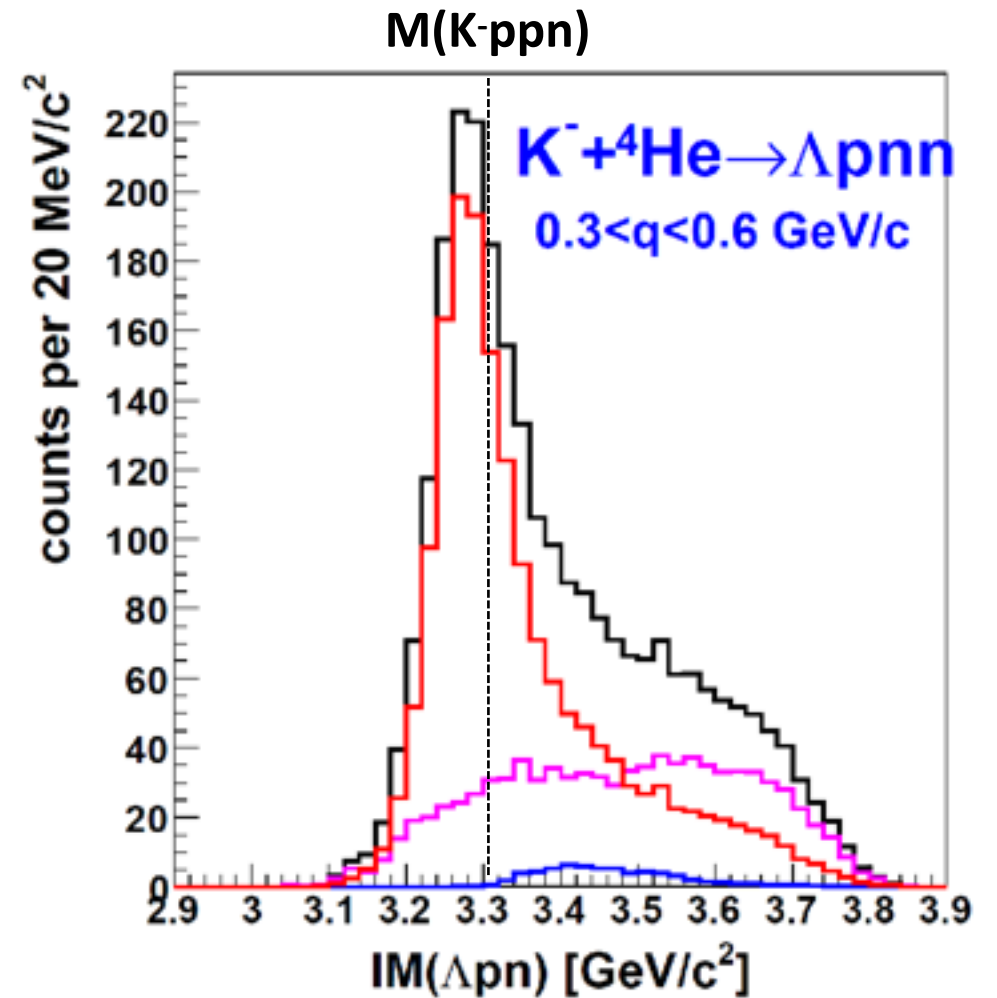
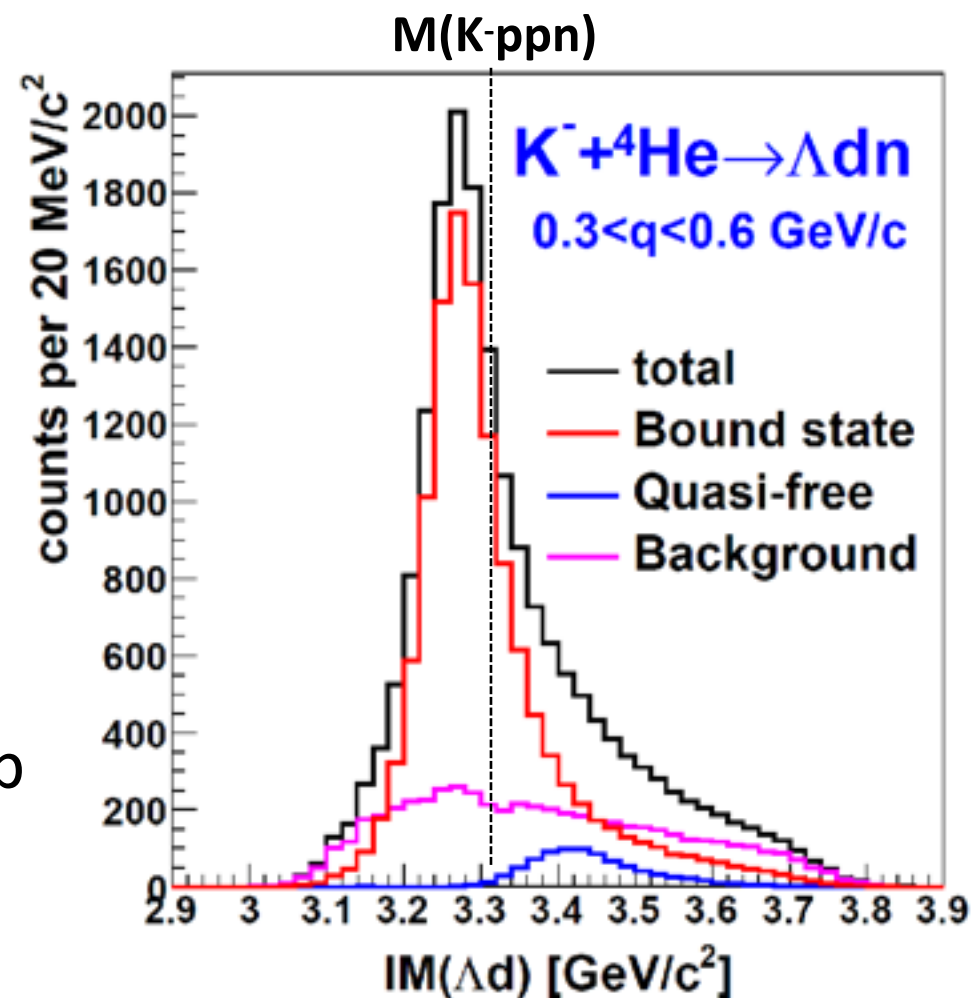
✓ Similar number of Λpn events to Λp in E15

Expected spectra

@ 3 weeks, 90kW



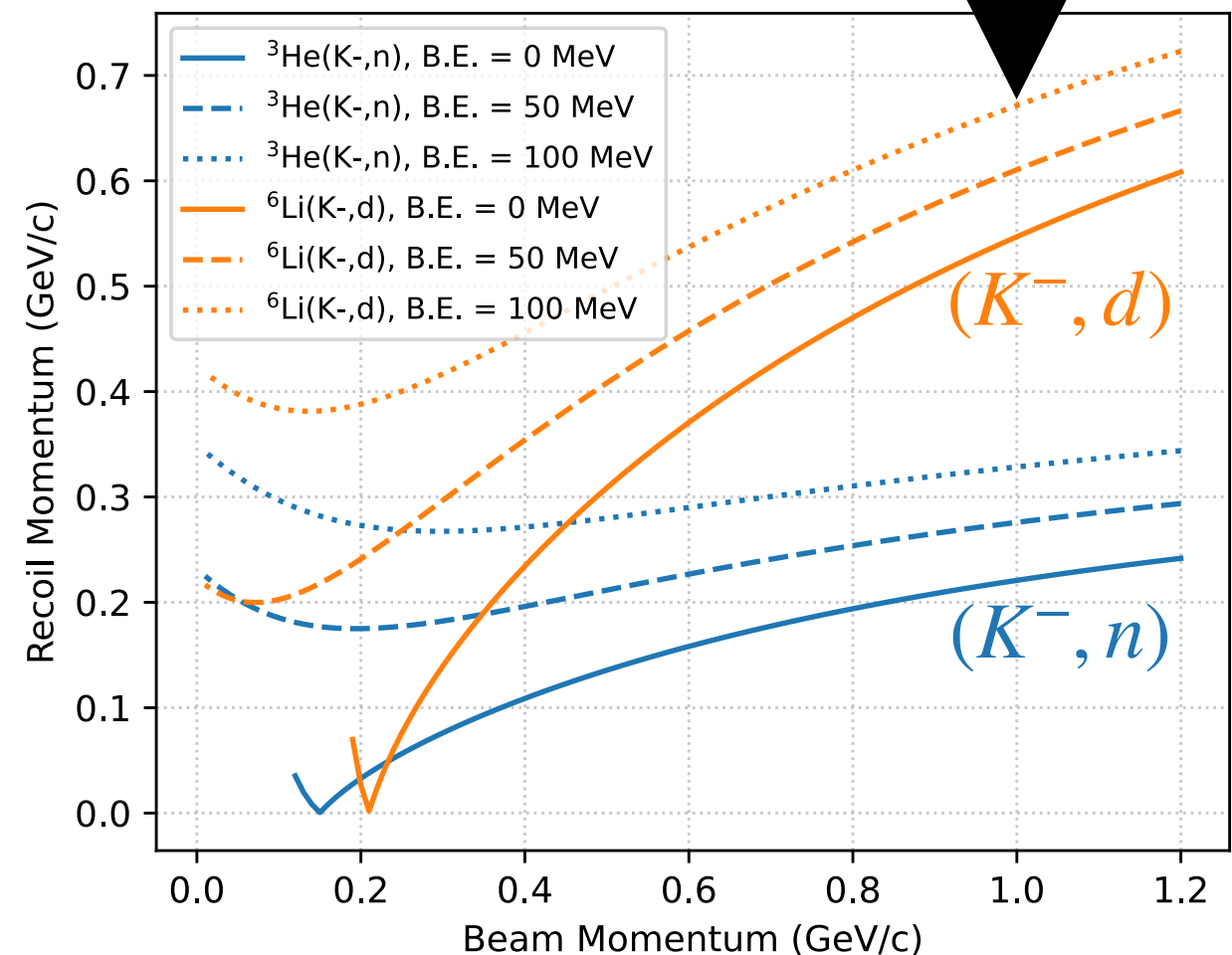
$B_{Kppn} \sim 40 \text{ MeV}$
 $\Gamma_{Kppn} \sim 100 \text{ MeV}$
 $Q_{Kppn} \sim 400 \text{ MeV}/c$
 $\sigma(Kppn) * Br \sim 5 \mu b$
 $\sigma(QF) \sim 5 \mu b$
 $\sigma(BG) \sim 10 \mu b$



✓ Clear peak would be observed for both modes

Heavier systems

Knuc1	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- $\alpha \alpha$ "	${}^9\text{Be}(K^-, n)$	?



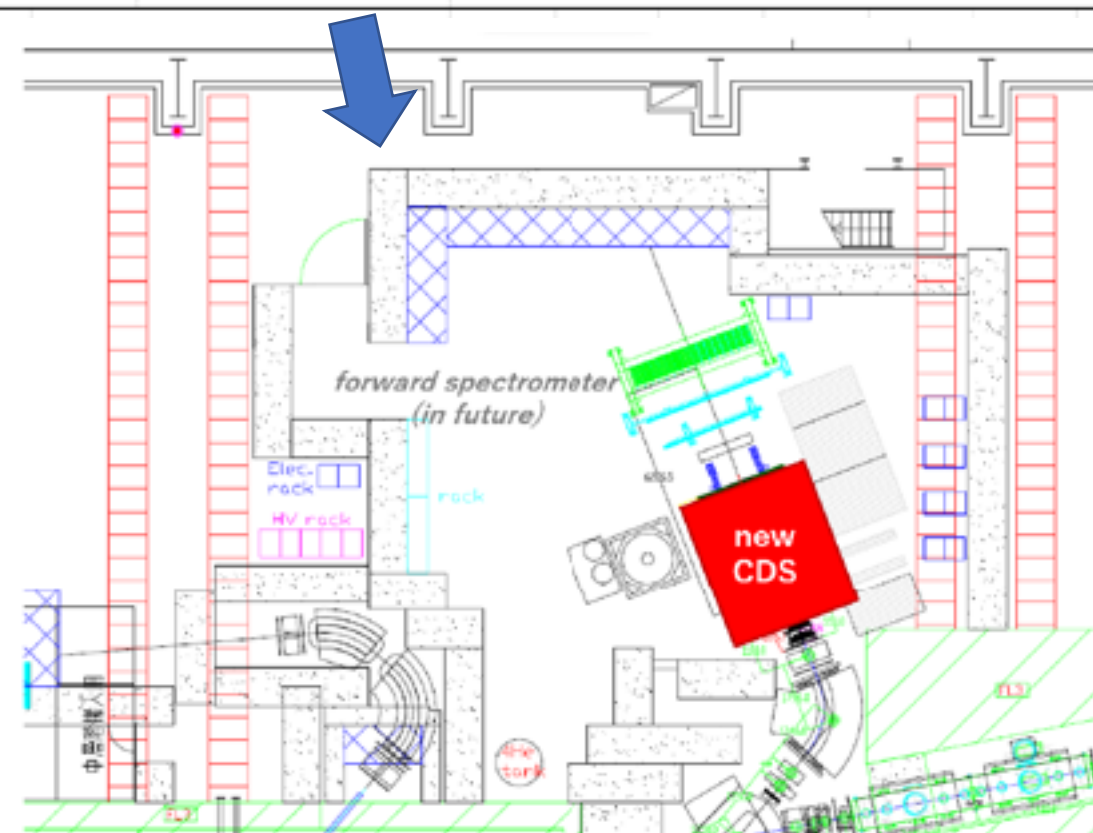
- Deuteron knock-out reaction has a larger momentum transfer
 - $\rightarrow$ We would like test in E80: ${}^6\text{Li}(K^-, d)$ "K- α ", ${}^4\text{He}(K^-, d)$ " $K^0 \bar{n} n n$ "
- Larger decay particle (like α) can not be detected by the CDS.
many-particle decay modes are also difficult to reconstruct.
 - 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 & Pblcation		
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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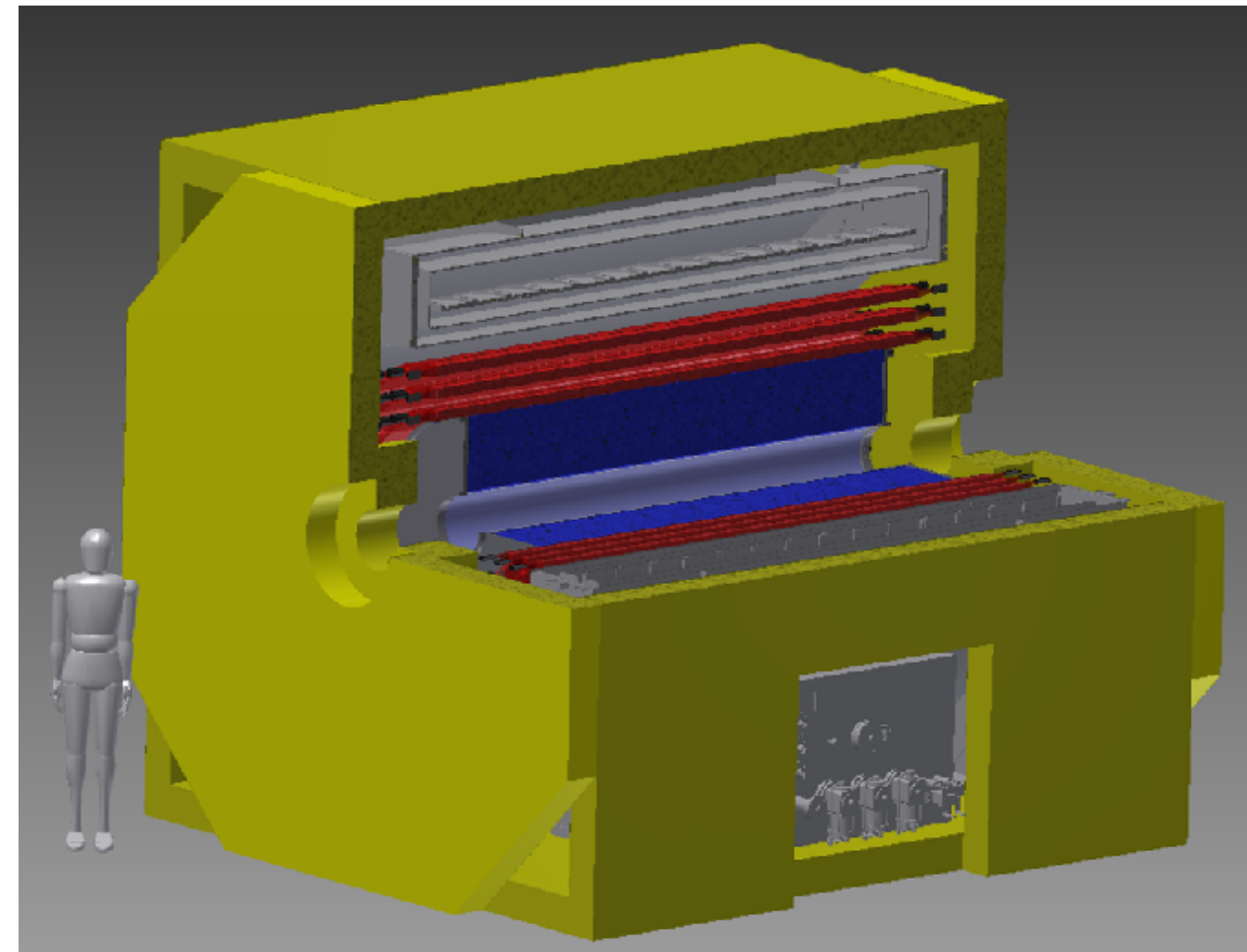
M. Bazzi, A. Clozza, C. Curceanu, C. Guaraldo, M. Iliescu, M. Miliucci, A. Scordo,
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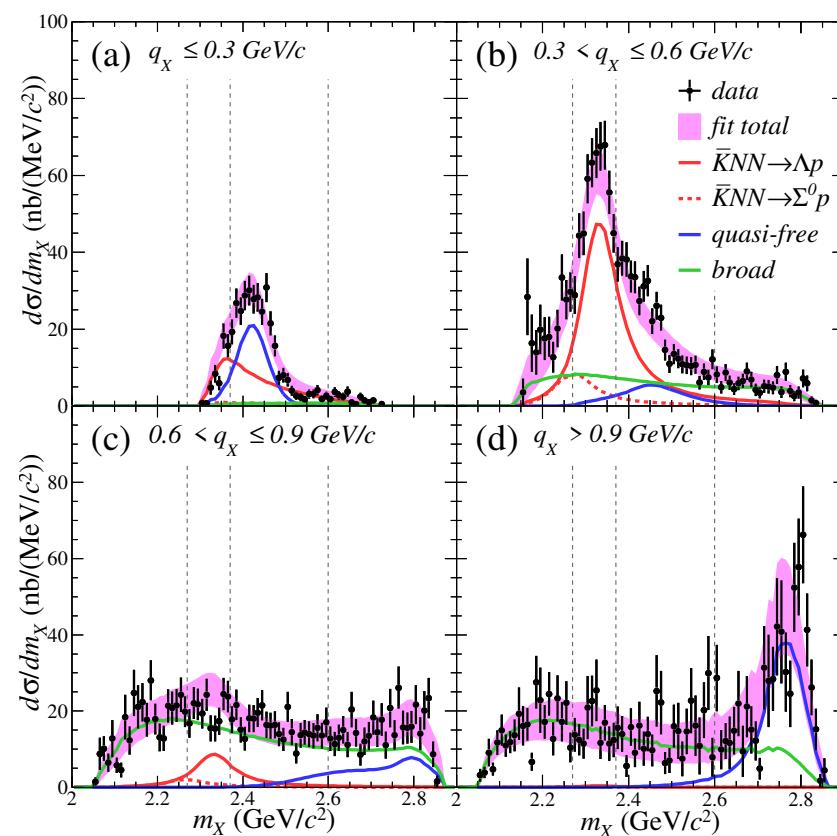
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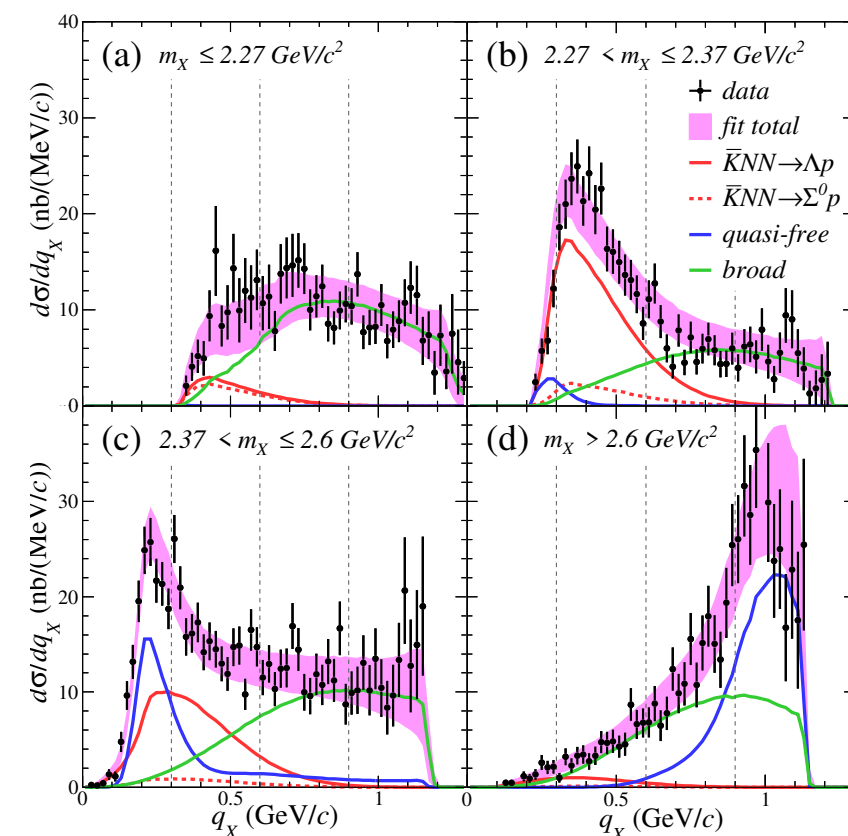
- We welcome new collaborators !
- Now 1 postdoc position is open at JAEA (deadline: Dec. 23)

Fit result

Λp invariant-mass

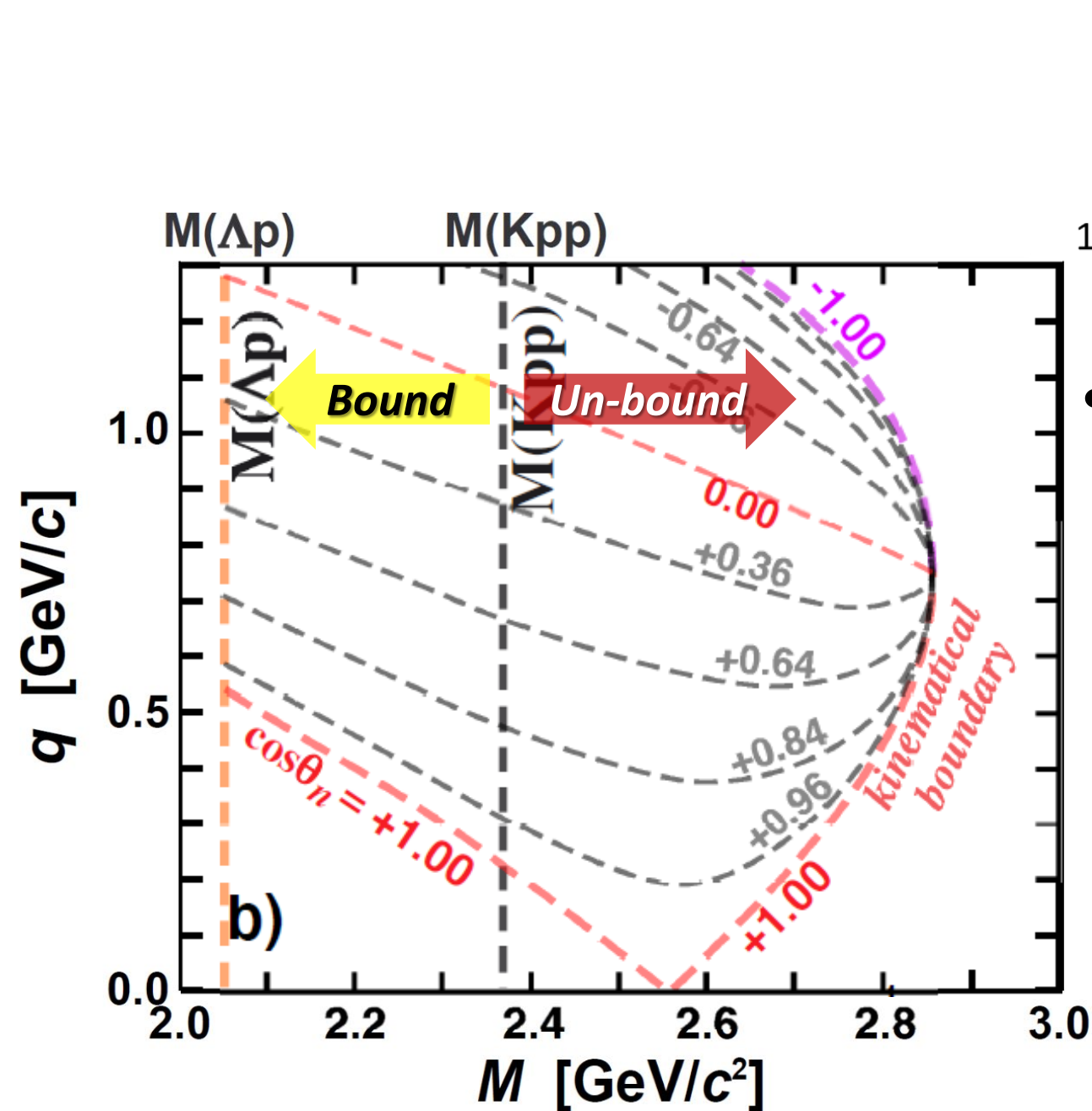


Momentum transfer to Λp



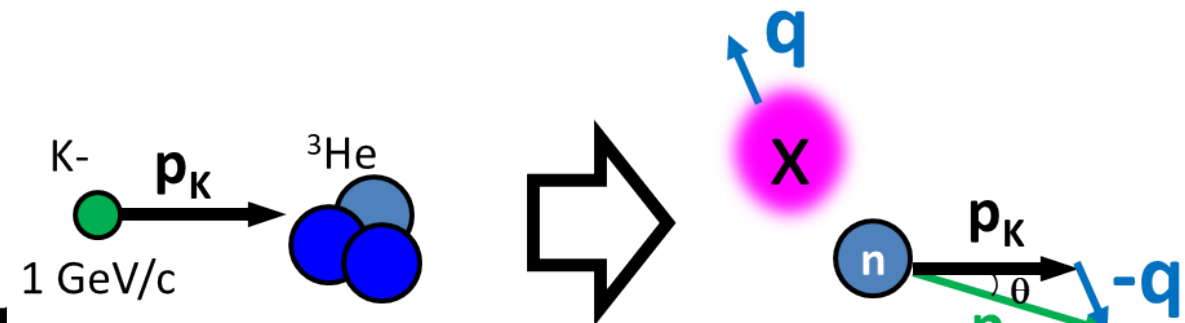
➔ The whole 2D distribution is well reproduced.

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



q : momentum transfer of (K^-, n)

M : invariant mass of Λp



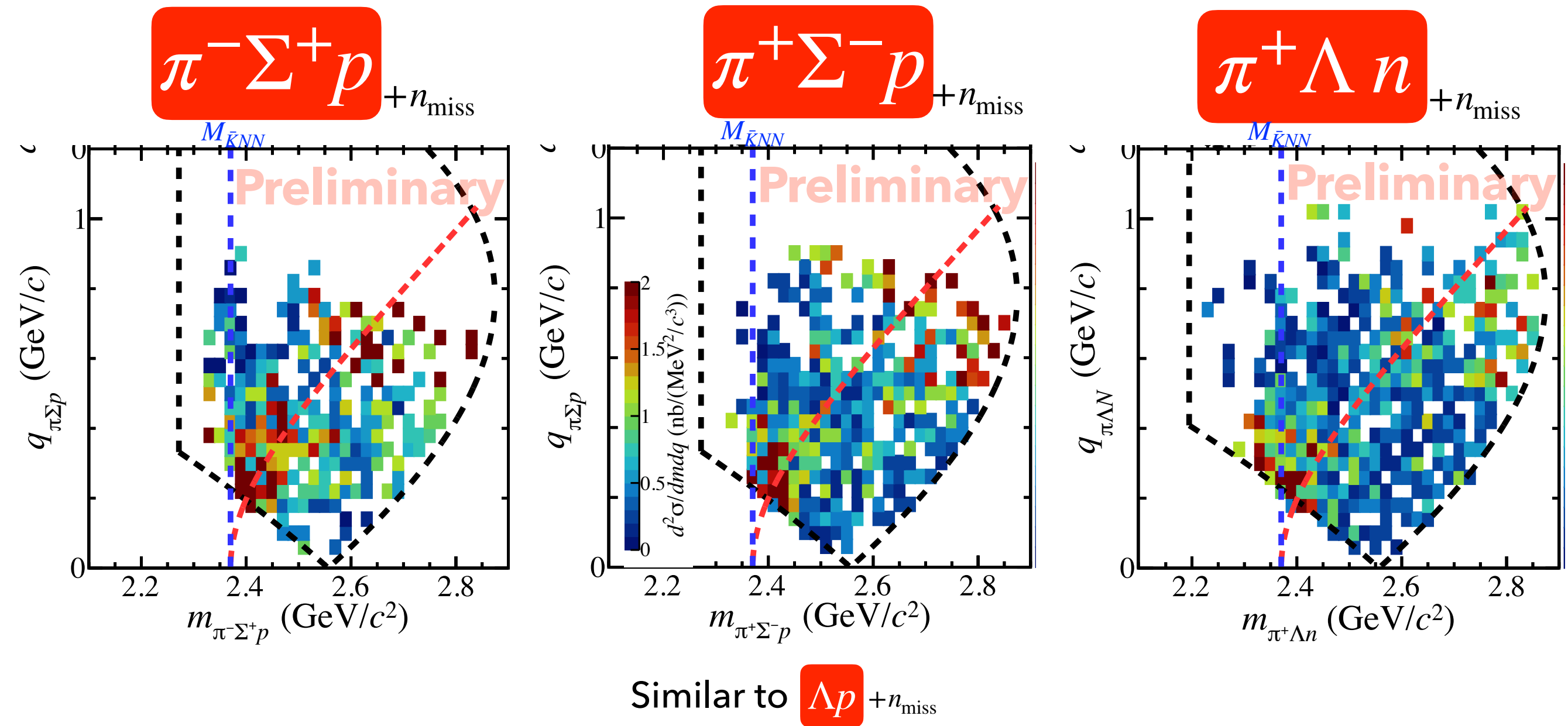
• Momentum transfer analysis using the (K^-, n) reaction

✓ $M(\Lambda p)$ vs. q

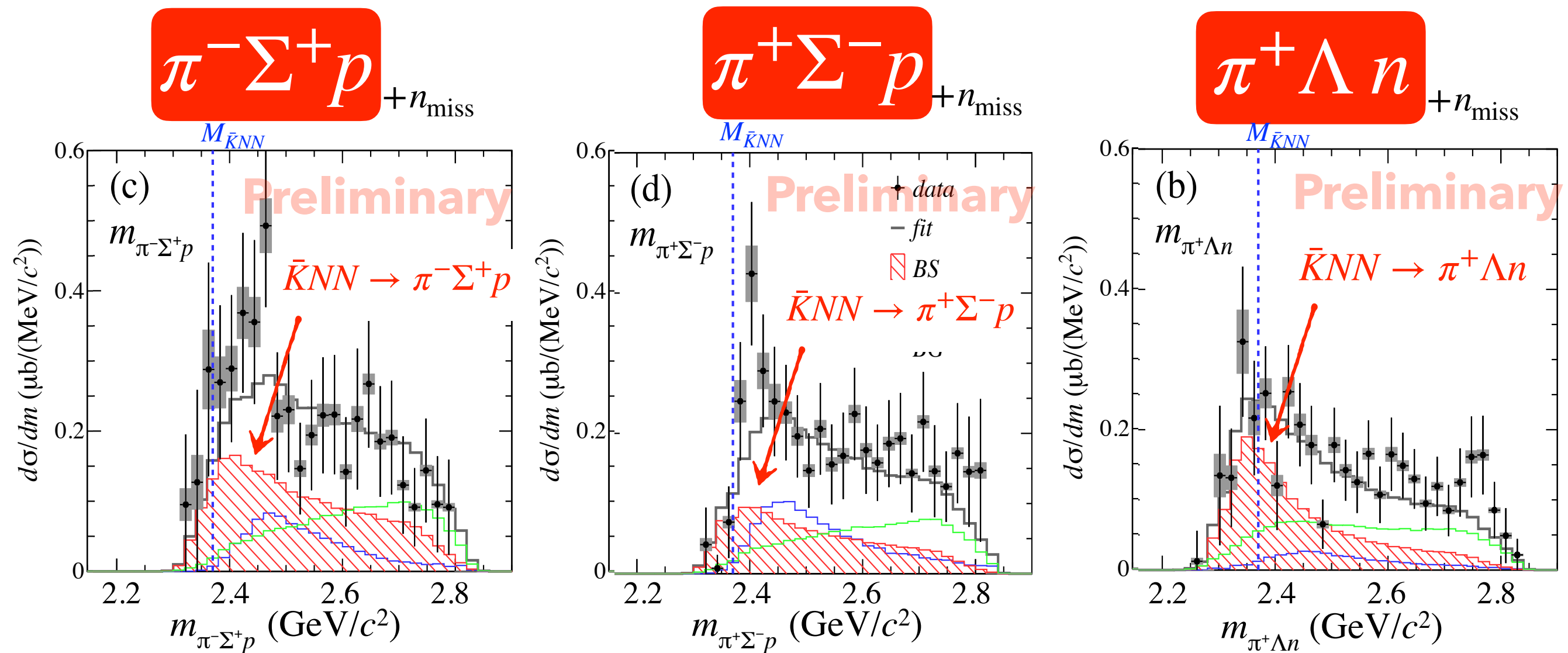
✓ give a clear information on reaction processes

$$\begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{m_K^2 + p_K^2} \\ p_K \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} M_{3\text{He}} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{M^2 + q^2} \\ q \cos \theta \\ q \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{m_n^2 + p_K^2 - 2p_K q \cos \theta + q^2} \\ p_K - q \cos \theta \\ -q \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$$



→ The reaction could be understood as $\bar{K}NN$ production & quasi-free process



$$\Gamma_{\text{non-mesonic}} \ll \Gamma_{\text{mesonic}}$$

Γ_{mesonic} would be $\mathcal{O}(10)$ times larger than $\Gamma_{\text{non-mesonic}}$.

Forward neutron semi-inclusive spectrum

