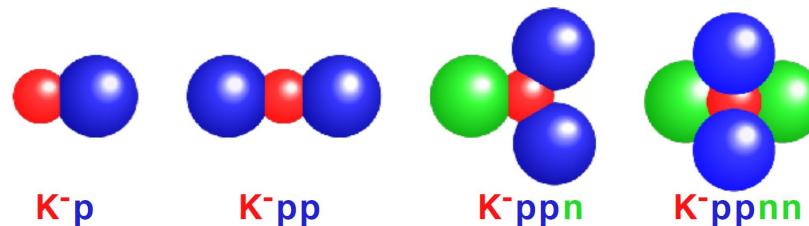


New Kaonic Nuclei Project at J-PARC

– from the $\bar{K}N$ to $\bar{K}NNNN$ systems –



F. Sakuma, RIKEN
on behalf of

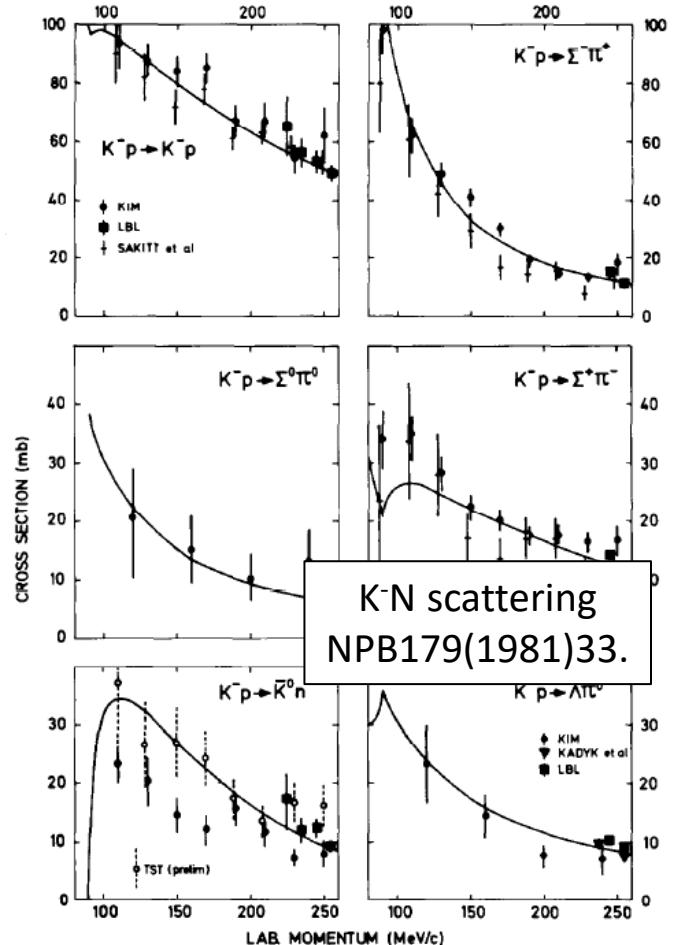


the J-PARC E15/E73/T77/E80/P89 collaboration

Physics Goal

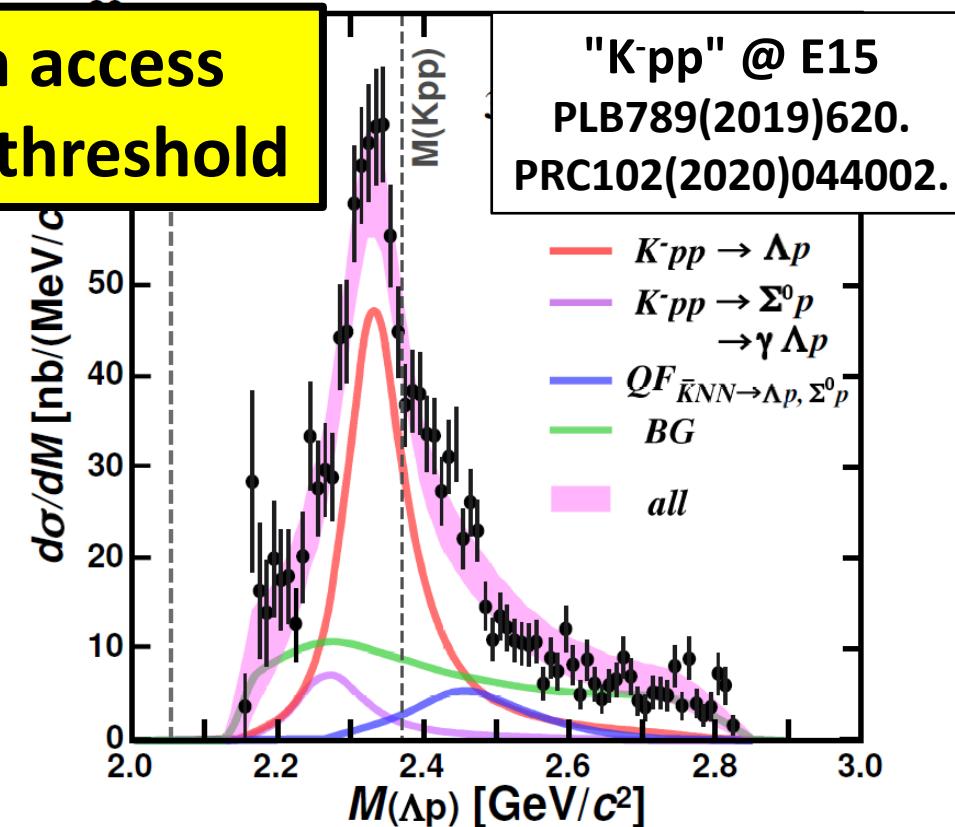
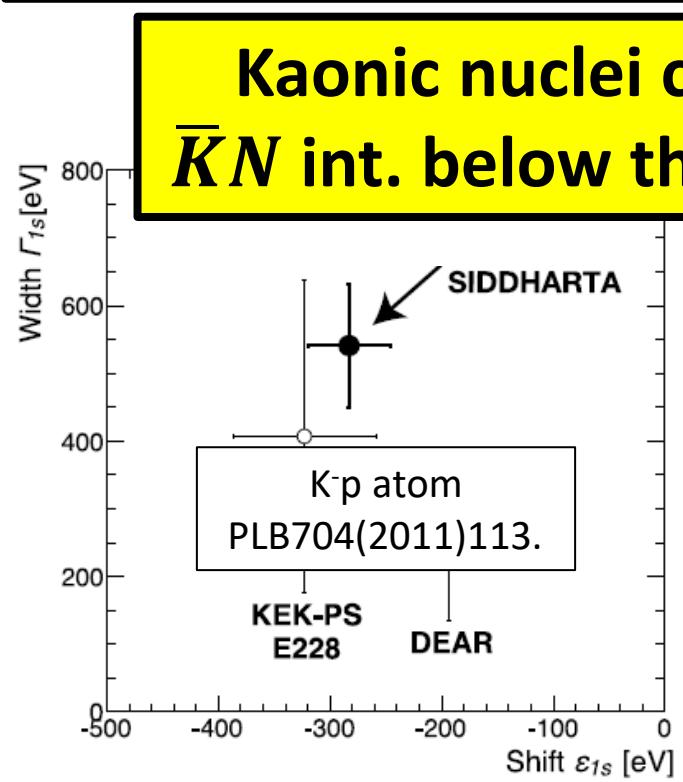
Reveal the meson properties inside nuclei via the $\bar{K}N$ interaction

A powerful probe to understand low energy QCD



Strongly attractive in $I=0$ from extensive measurements

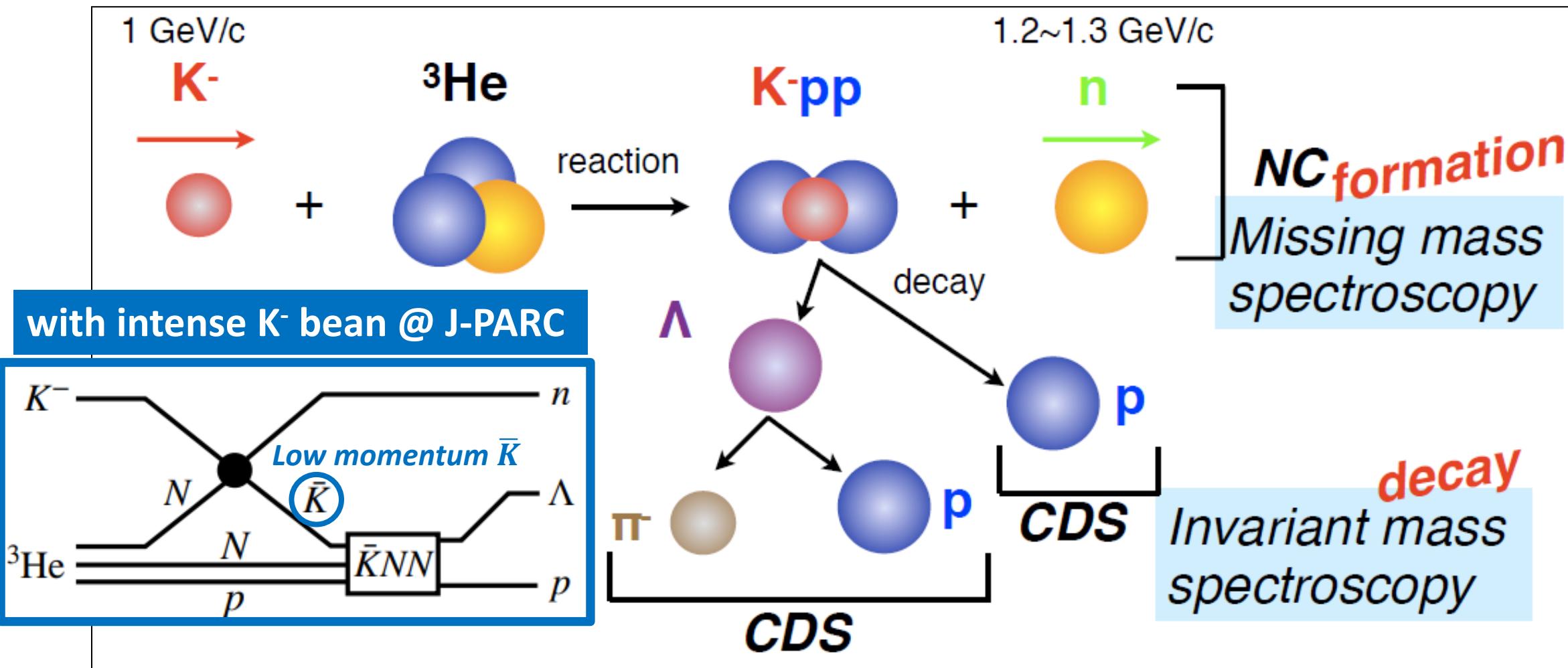
Kaonic nuclei can access
 $\bar{K}N$ int. below the threshold



“K-pp” Search @ J-PARC E15

${}^3\text{He}(in\text{-flight K}^-, n)$ reaction @ 1.0 GeV/c

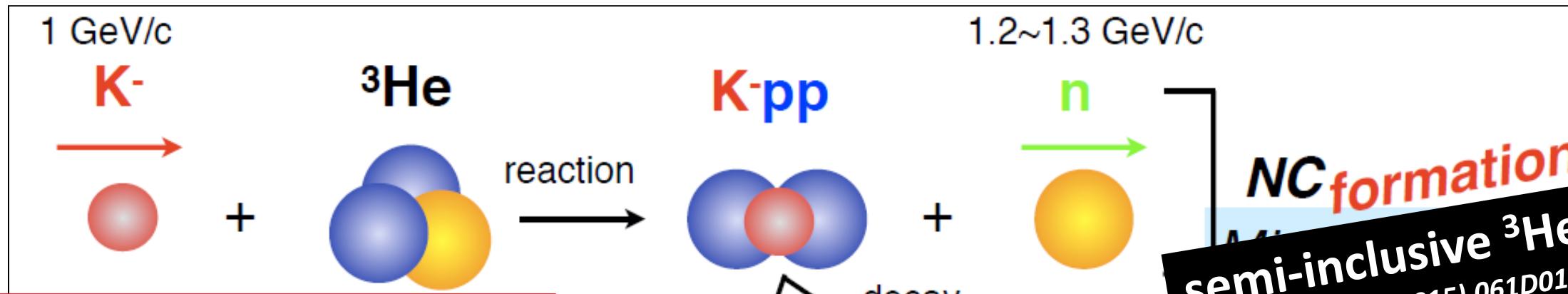
multi-NA and Y decays can be discriminated kinematically



“K-pp” Search @ J-PARC E15

${}^3\text{He}$ (*in-flight K⁻,n*) reaction @ 1.0 GeV/c

😊 multi-NA and Y decays can be discriminated kinematically



1.2~1.3 GeV/c
NC formation
semi-inclusive ${}^3\text{He}(K^-,n)$
PTEP (2015) 061D01.

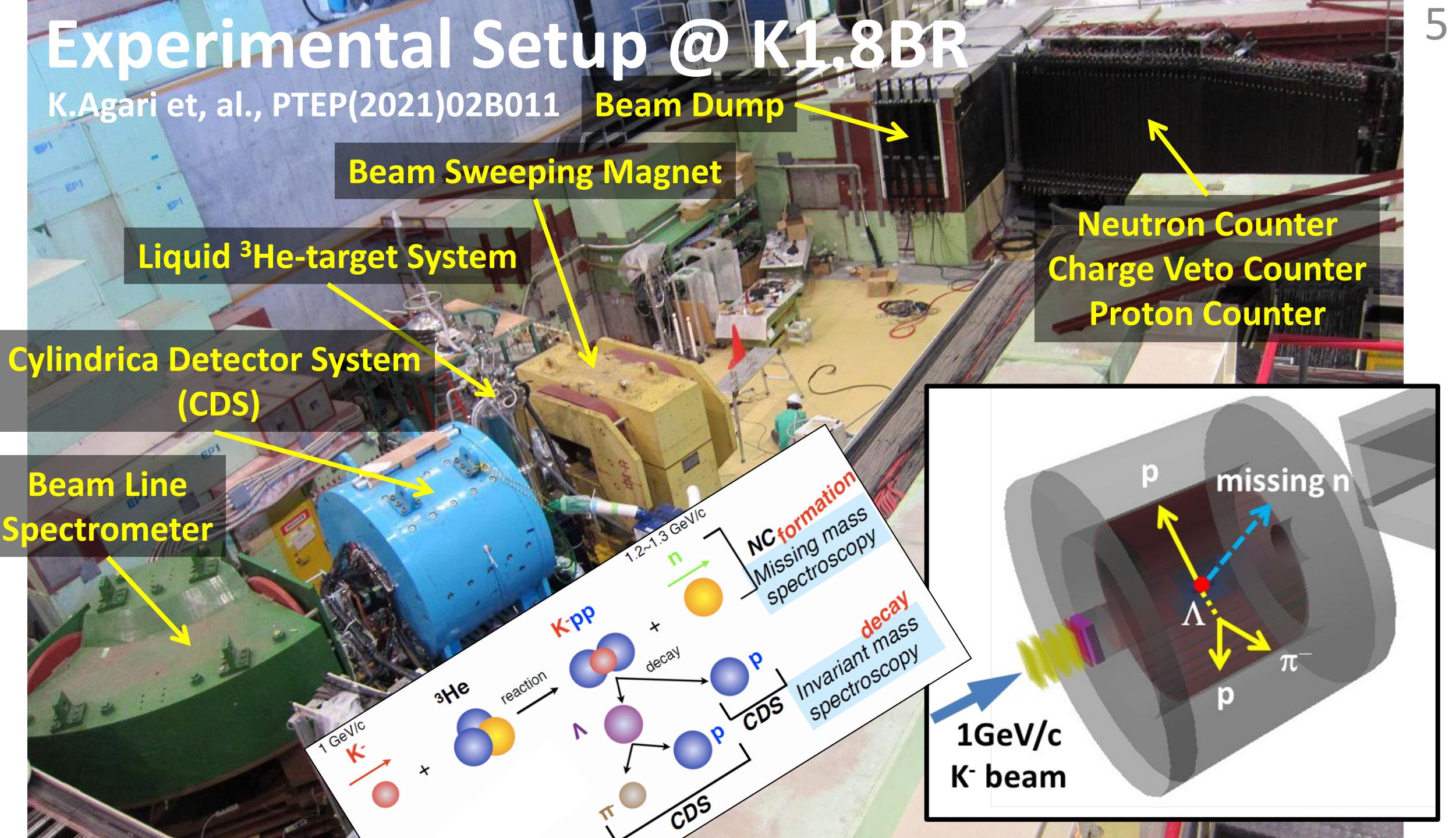
Invariant mass decay
exclusive $(K^-, \Lambda p)n$ missing
PLB789(2019)620., PRC102(2020)044002.

Key points of the experiment

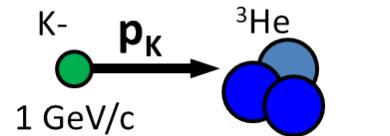
- ① Strongly excite below $M(\bar{K}NN)$ using (K^-,n) reaction
- ② Identify all the final states of the reaction
- ③ Covers a wide range of kinematics

Experimental Setup @ K1.8BR

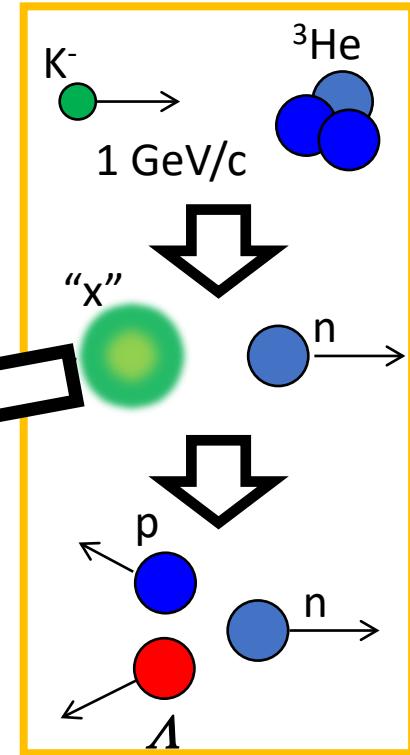
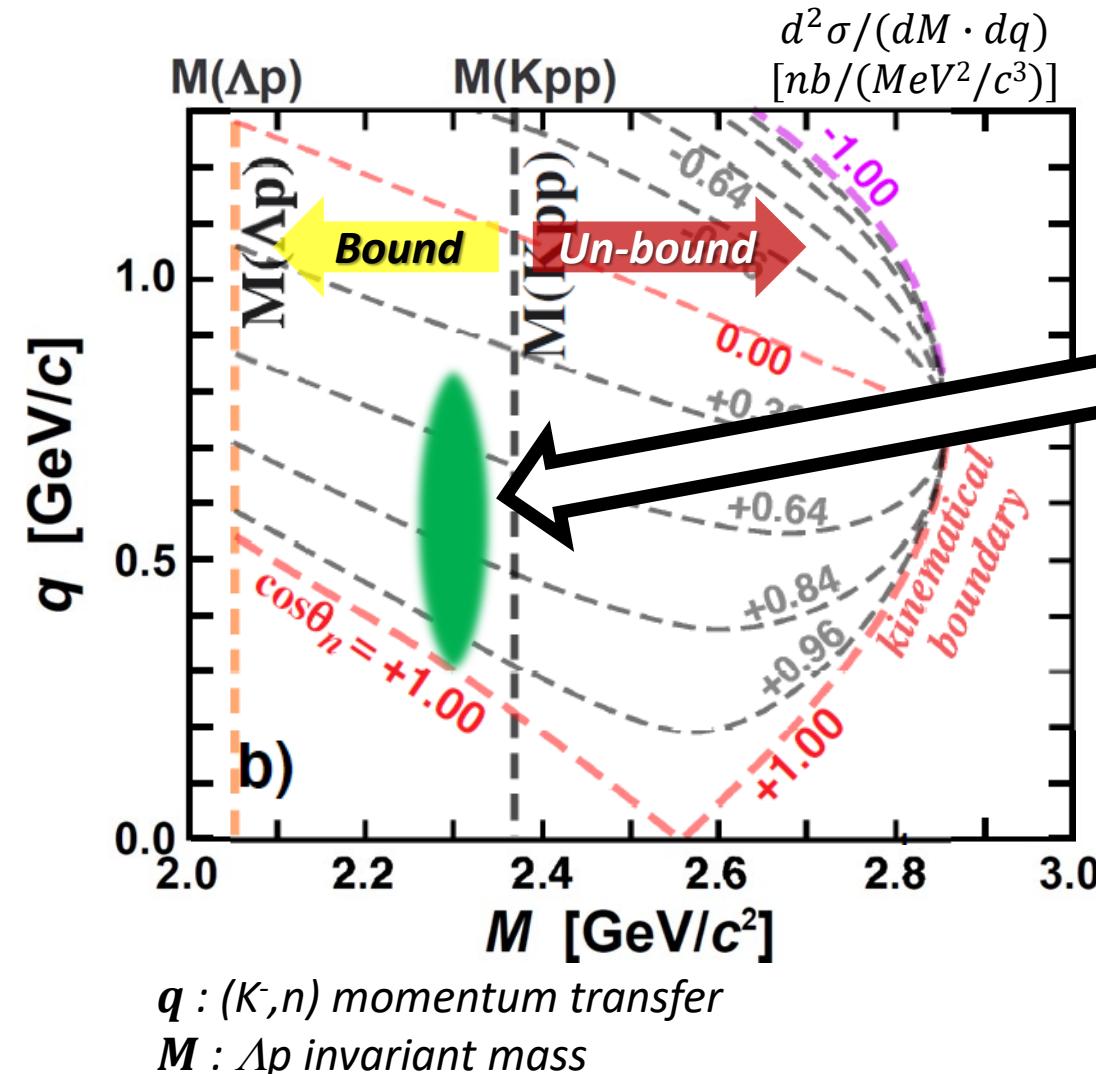
K.Agari et, al., PTEP(2021)02B011



“K-pp” Search w/ Momentum Transfer Analysis

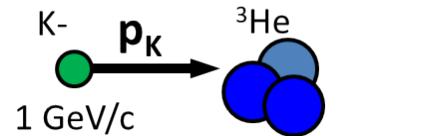


- Momentum transfer analysis using the (K^- , n) reaction
 - $\checkmark M(\Lambda p)$ vs. q
 - \checkmark give a clear information on reaction processes

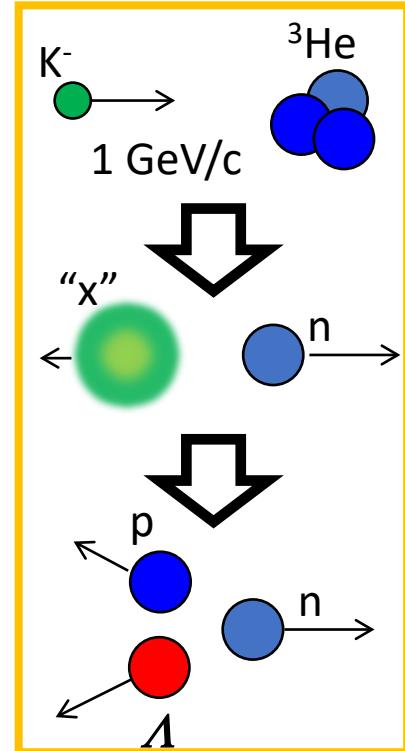
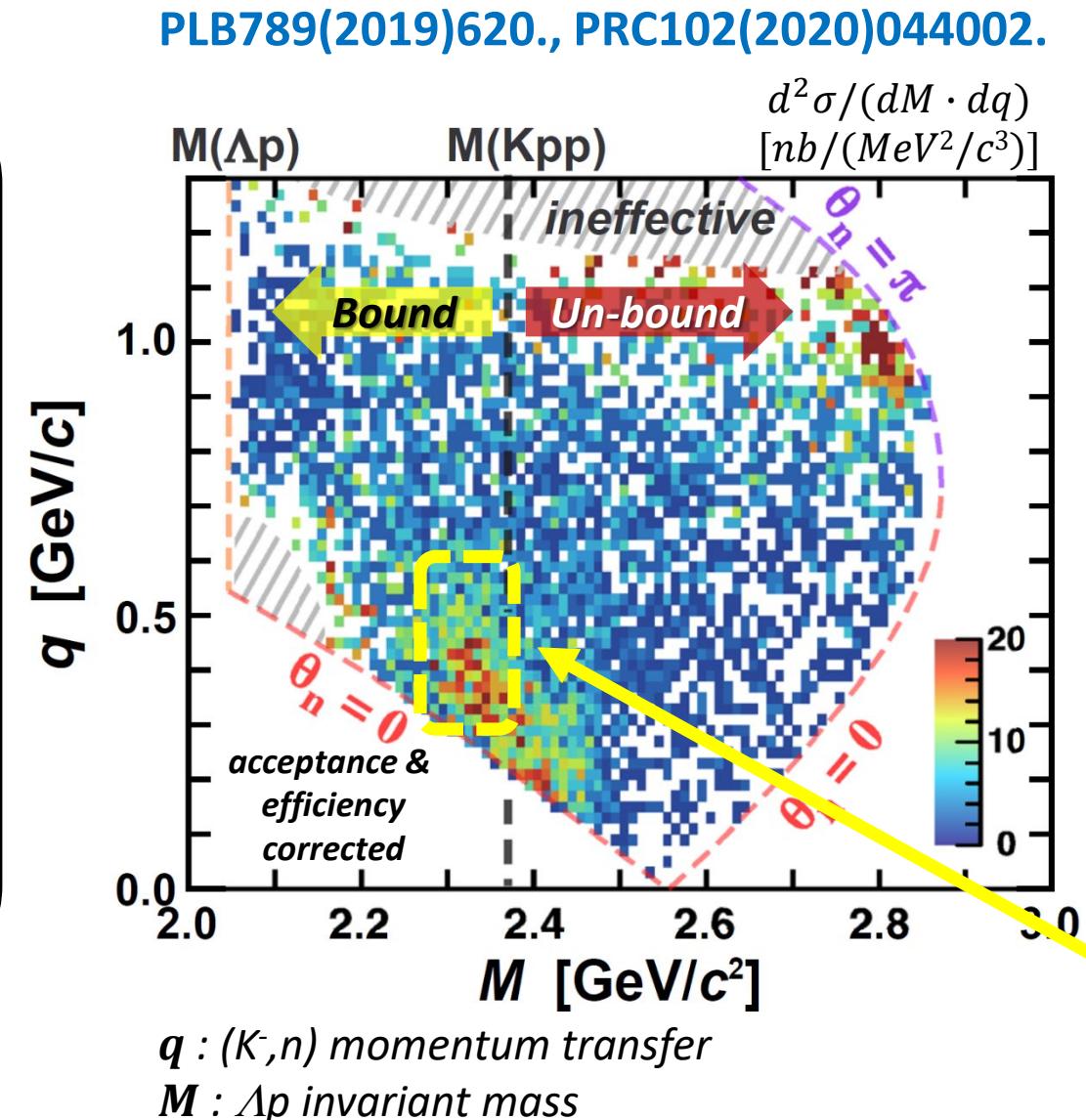


If a **bound state** exists, there is a peak structure **independent of q** below the $M(Kpp)$

“K-pp” Search w/ Momentum Transfer Analysis

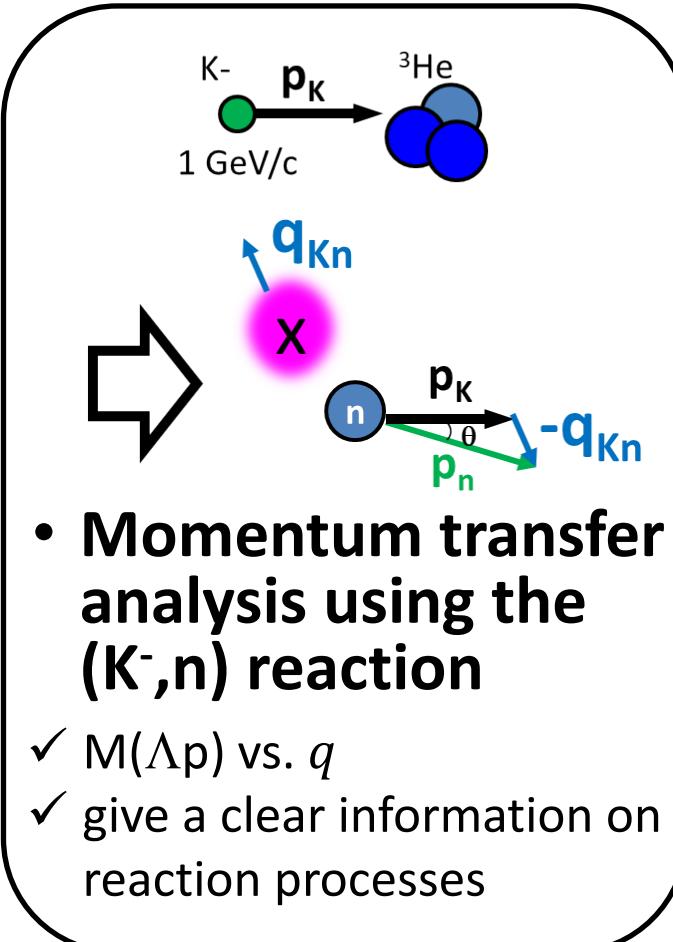


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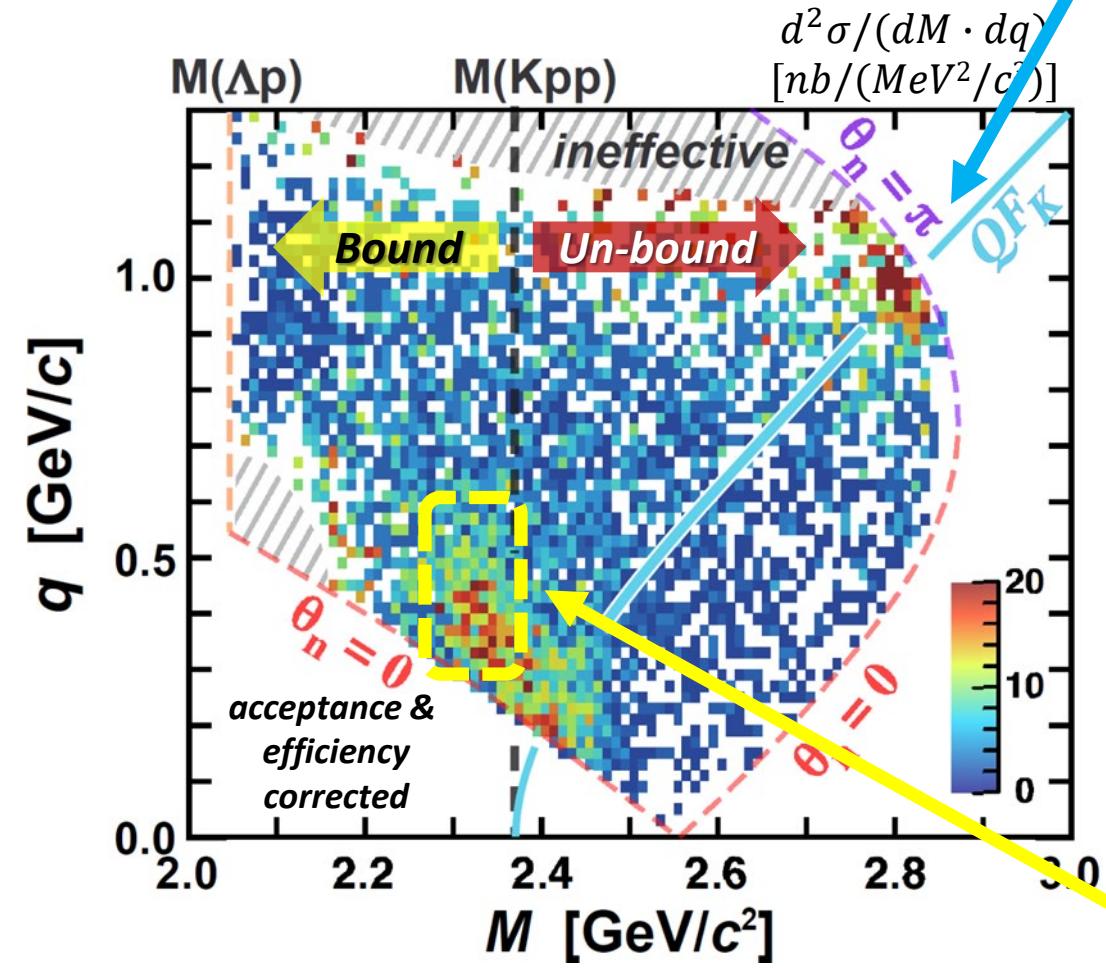


A peak structure independent of $q =$
A bound state exists

“K-pp” Search w/ Momentum Transfer Analysis

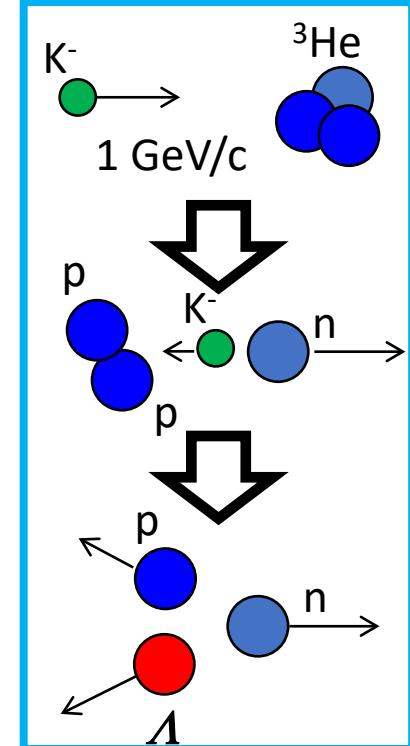


PLB789(2019)620., PRC102(2020)044002.



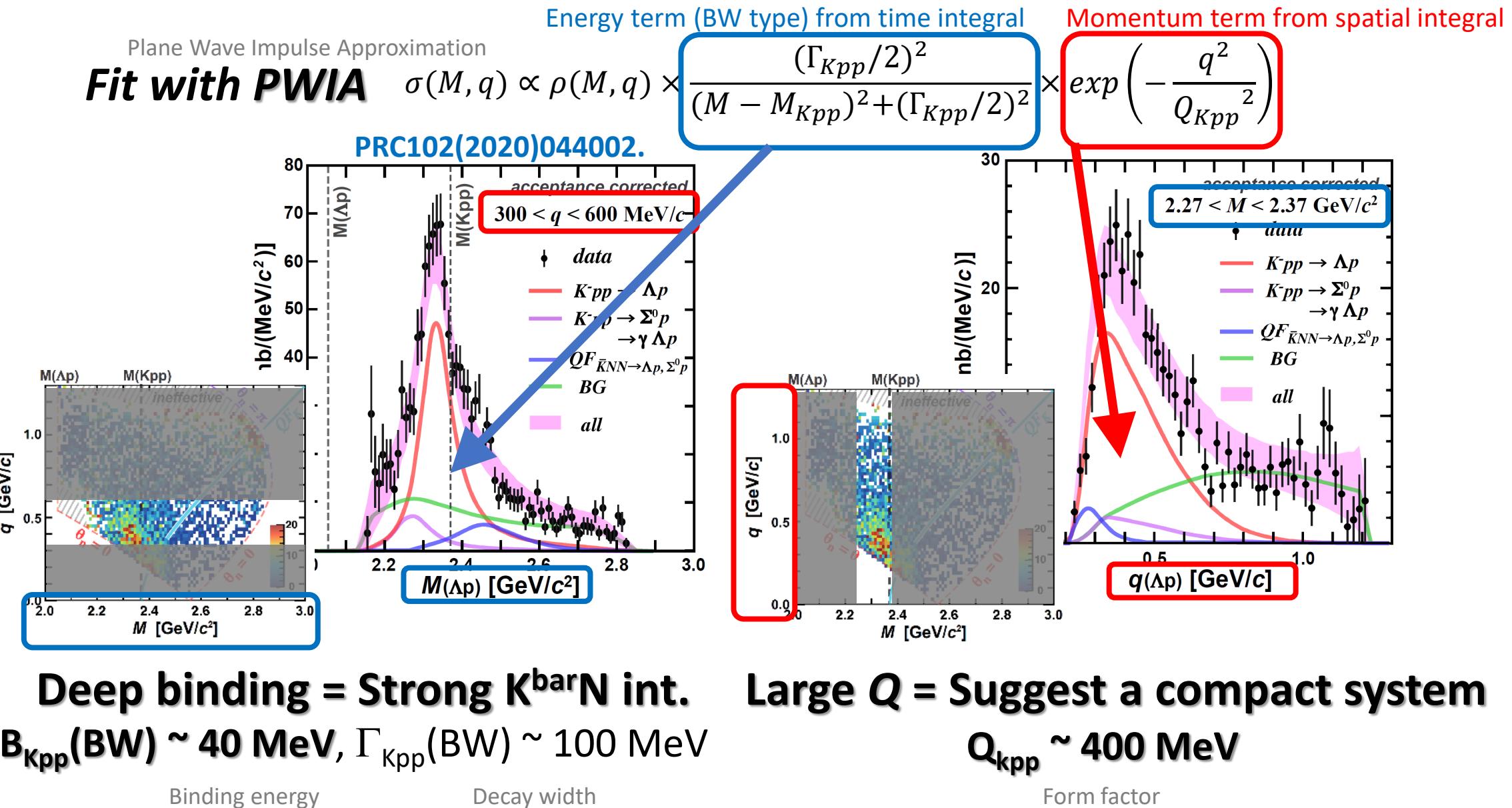
q : (K^-, n) momentum transfer
 M : Λp invariant mass

Quasi-free K^- scattering
(+2NA absorption)



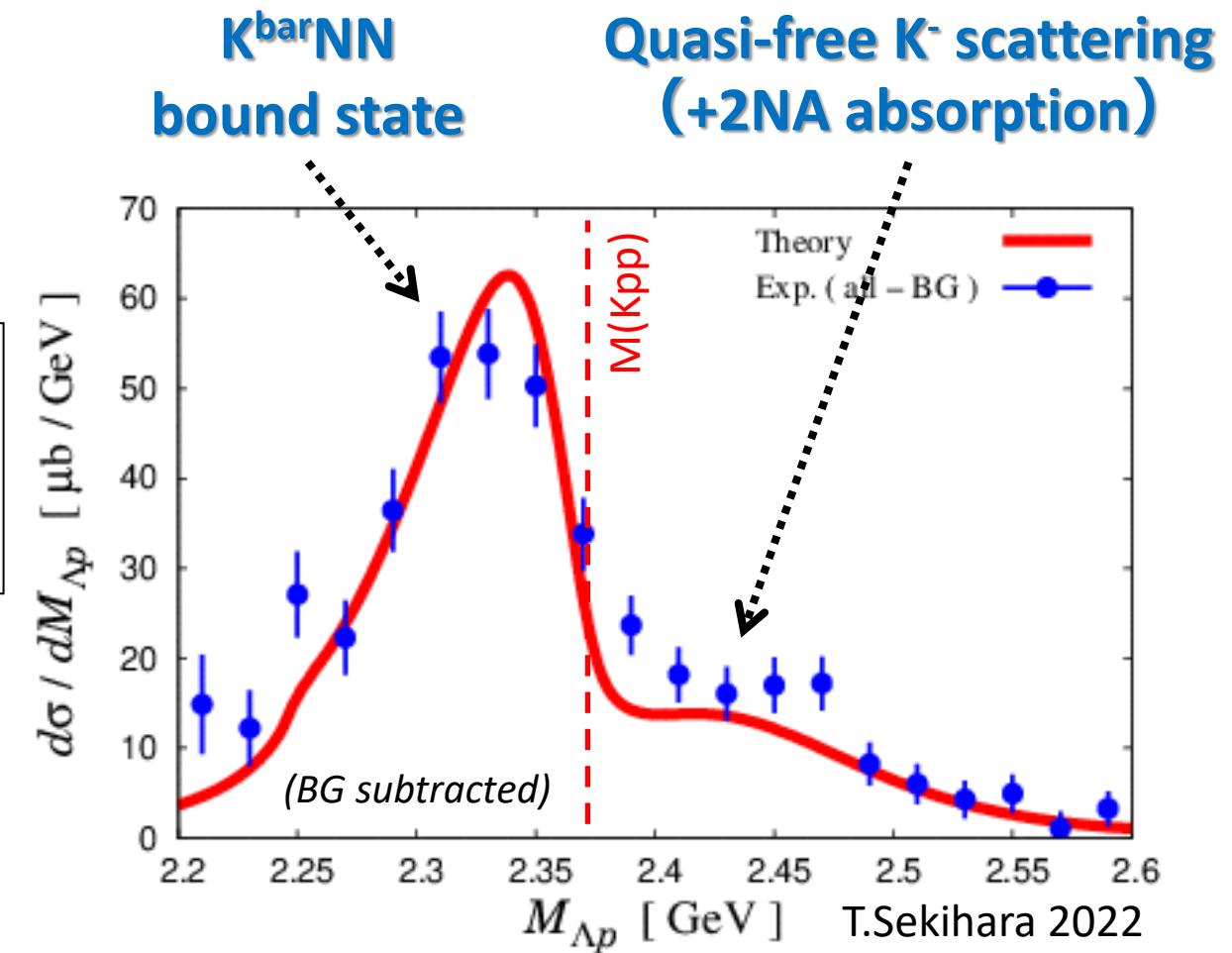
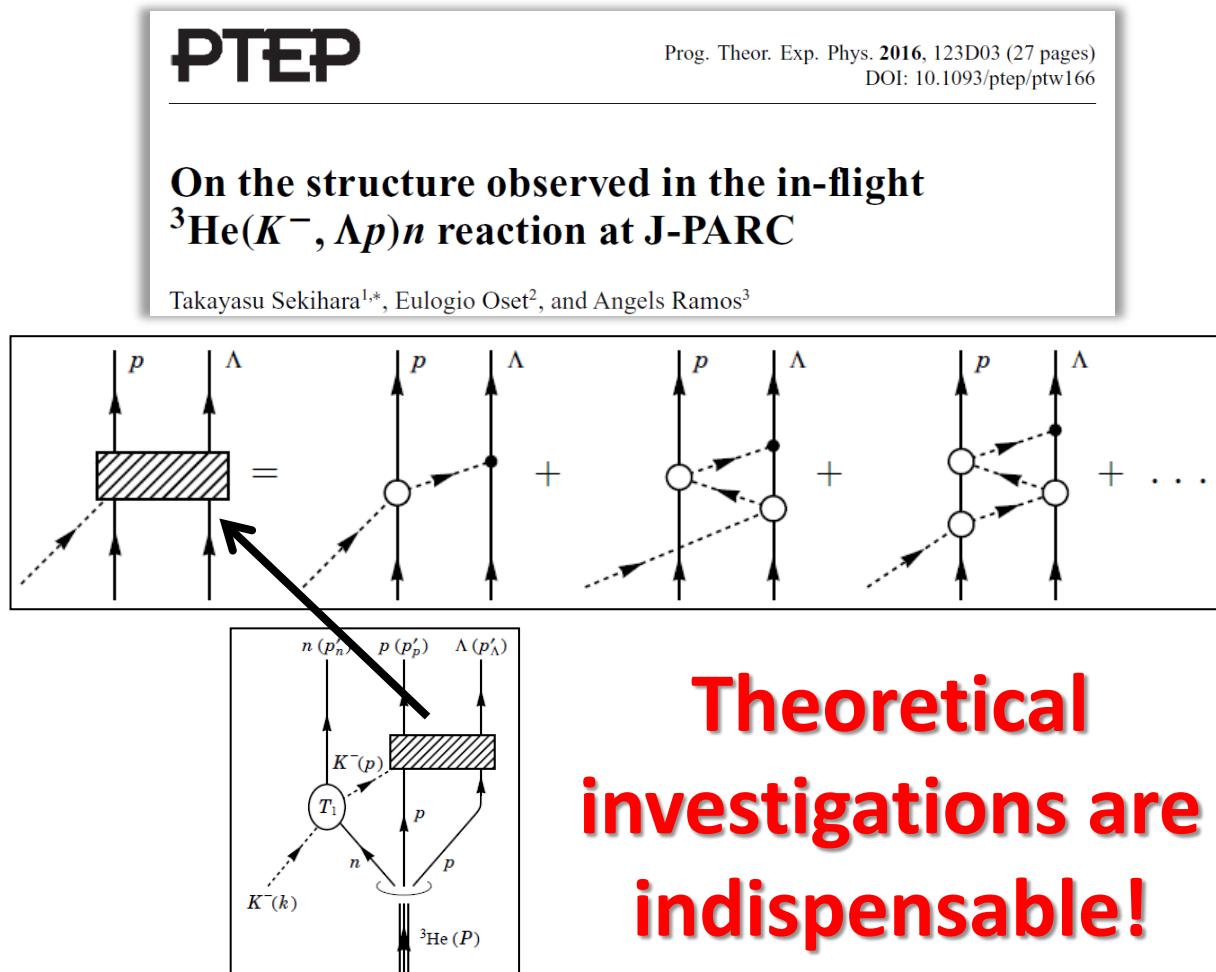
A peak structure
independent of q =
A bound state exists

A PWIA-based Interpretation



A Theoretical Interpretation

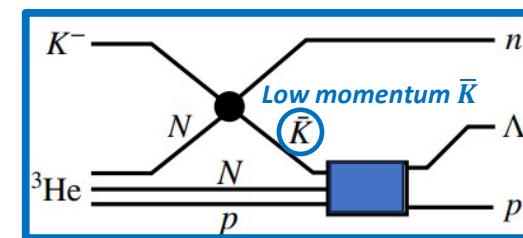
A calculation based on chiral unitary approach
reproduces the data well using the $\bar{K}NN$ bound state



What We Observed at E15 [Discussion]

- ✓ A peak structure below the mass threshold $M(Kpp)$ that does NOT depend on momentum transfer

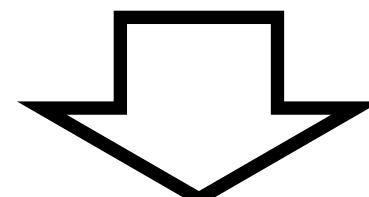
- A bound state exists
- ~ 10 times the binding energy of normal light nuclei
- Generated by large momentum transfer



- ✓ Evidence of quasi-free K^- scattering

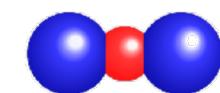
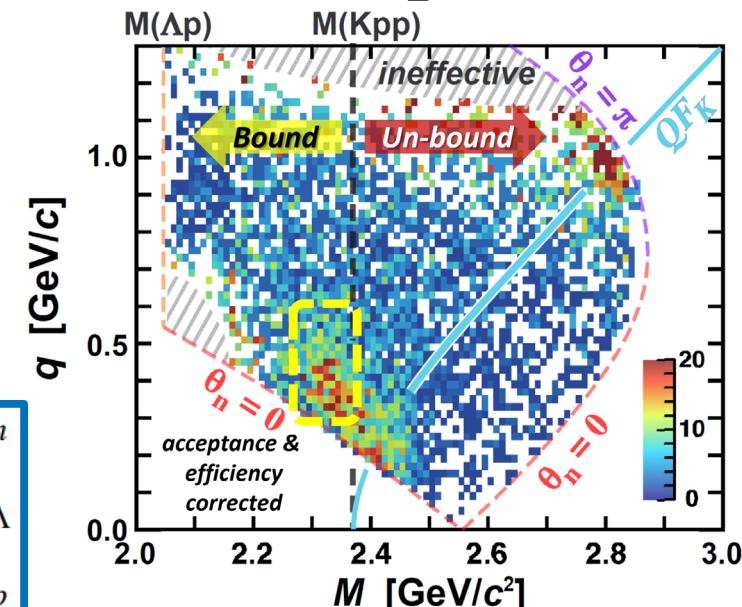
- An intermediate state of \bar{K} exists during the reaction

- ◆ Consistent with a theoretical calculation using “K-pp”



Observed bound state = “K-pp” bound state

→ Suggests possibility of being in a compact system

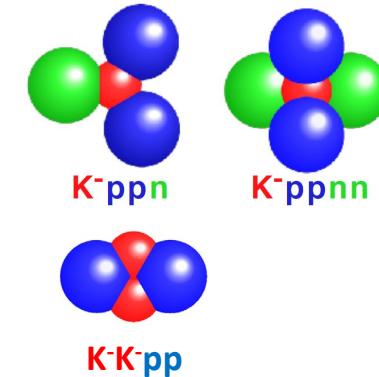
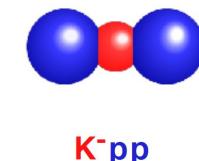
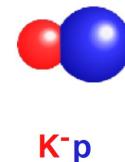


K^-pp

Need Further Investigations

to establish the kaonic nuclei

- **$\Lambda(1405)$ state**
 - $\bar{K}N$ quasi-bound state as considered?
 - Relation between $\bar{K}N$ and $\bar{K}NN$?
- **Further details of the $\bar{K}NN$**
 - Mesonic decay modes?
 - Spin and parity of the “ K^-pp ”?
 - Really compact and dense system?
- **Heavier kaonic nuclei**
 - Mass number dependence?
- **Double kaonic nuclei**
 - Much compact and dense system?



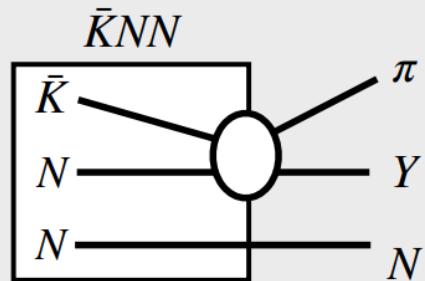
Mesonic Decay Modes of $\bar{K}NN$

- Mesonic decays will give us further information on $\bar{K}NN$

S. Ohnishi, et al.,
Phys. Rev. C 88 (2013) 025204.

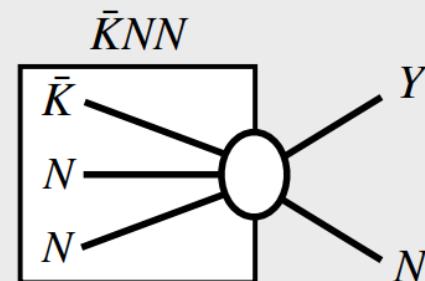
- ✓ internal structure
- ✓ $\bar{K}N$ interaction below the threshold $\Gamma_{YN} \ll \Gamma_{\pi YN}$

Mesonic

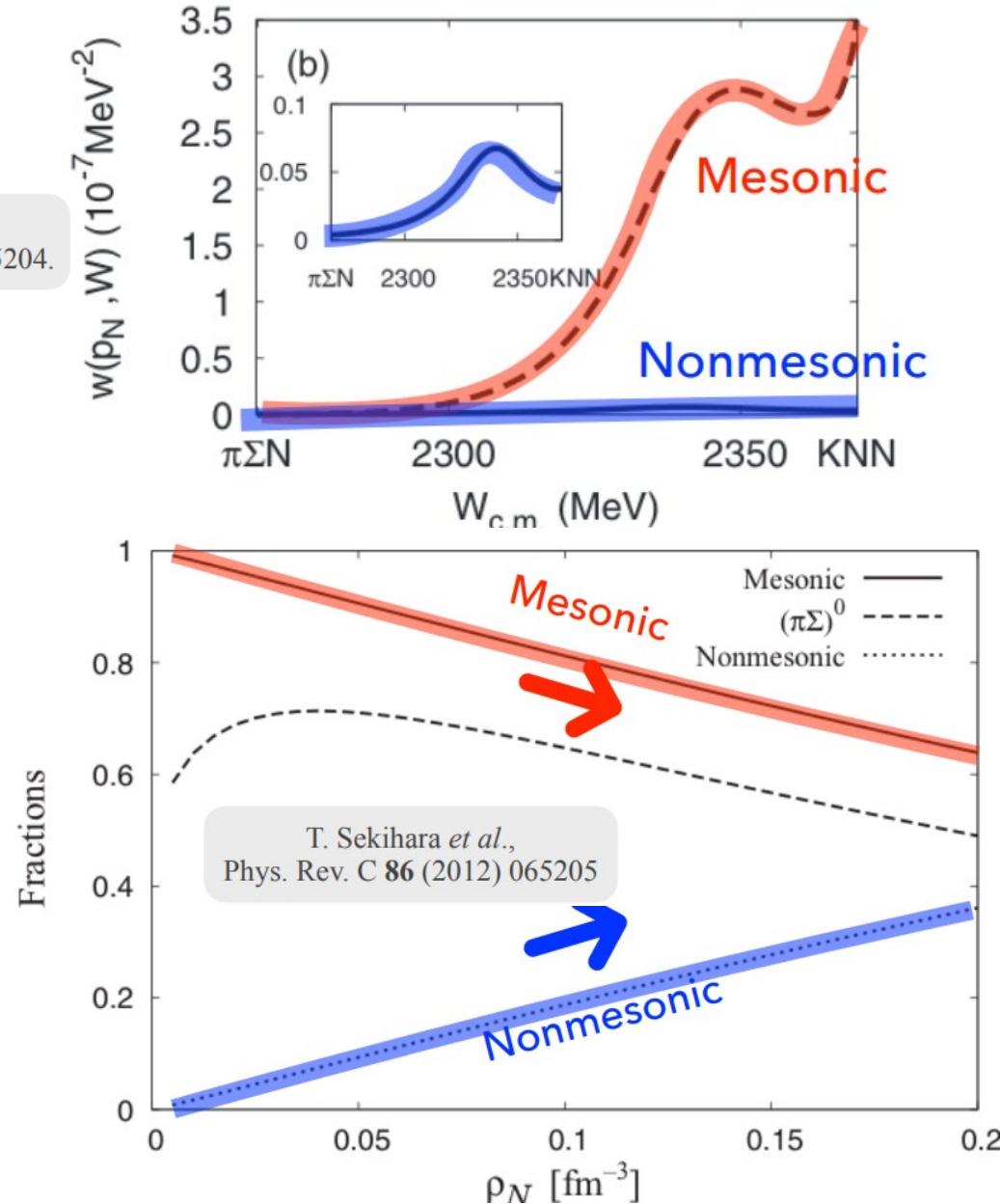


1N absorption

Non-mesonic

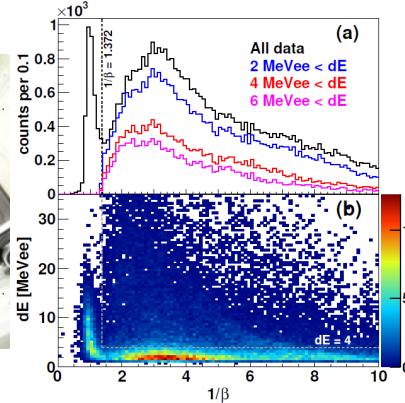


2N absorption

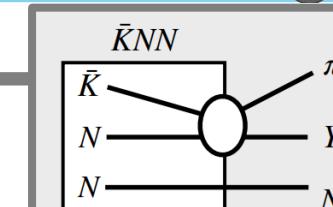
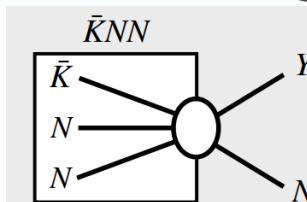
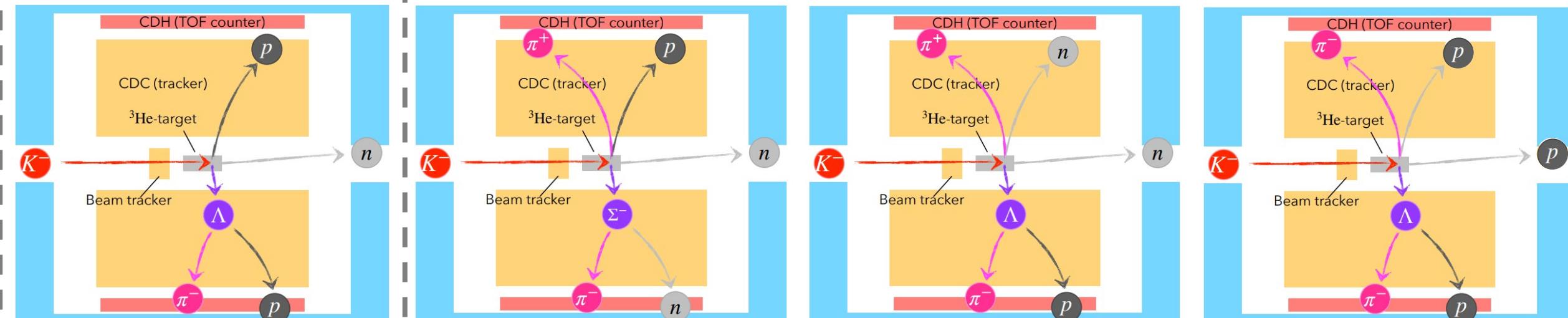


Mesonic Decay Analysis with the E15 Data

- with neutron detection using a thin scintillation counter array (CDH)
 - :(small efficiency (3~9%)
 - :(BG from the inner wall of the magnet

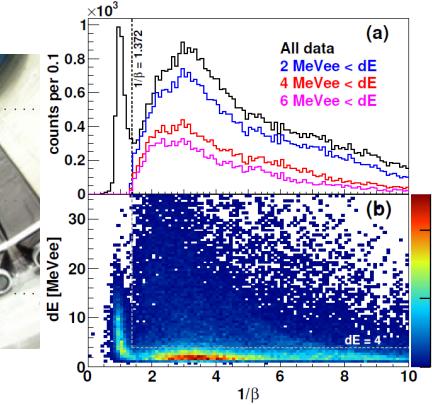


" $K^- pp \rightarrow \Lambda p$ " " $K^- pp \rightarrow \pi^\pm \Sigma^\mp p$ " " $K^- pp \rightarrow \pi^+ \Lambda n$ " " $\bar{K}^0 nn \rightarrow \pi^- \Lambda p$ "



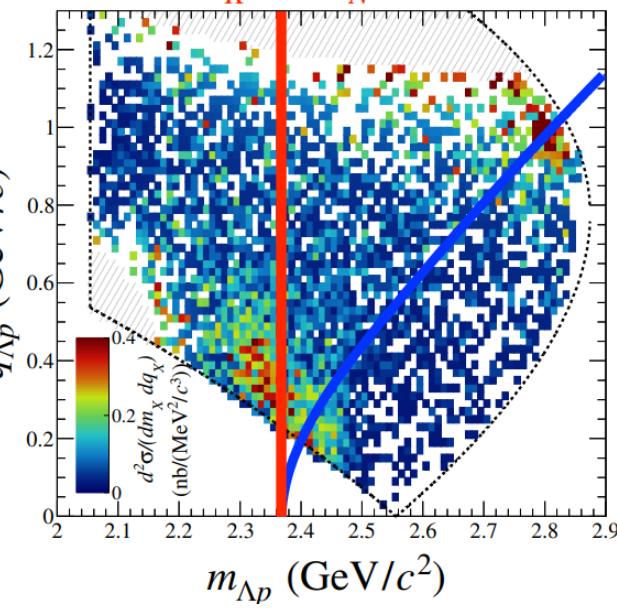
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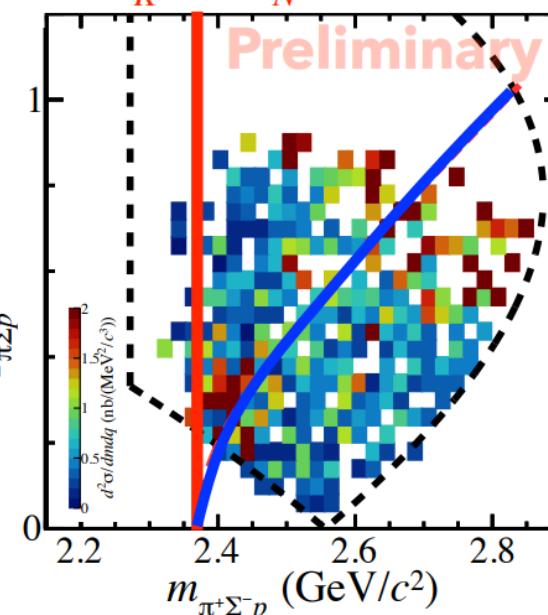
" $K^- pp \rightarrow \Lambda p$

$$m_{\bar{K}} + 2m_N$$



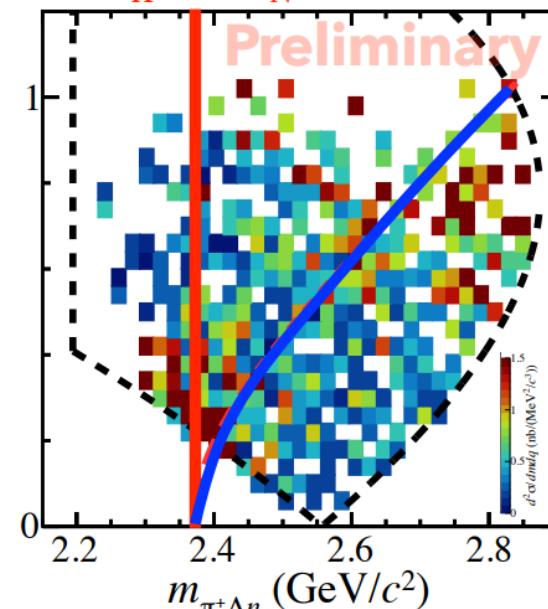
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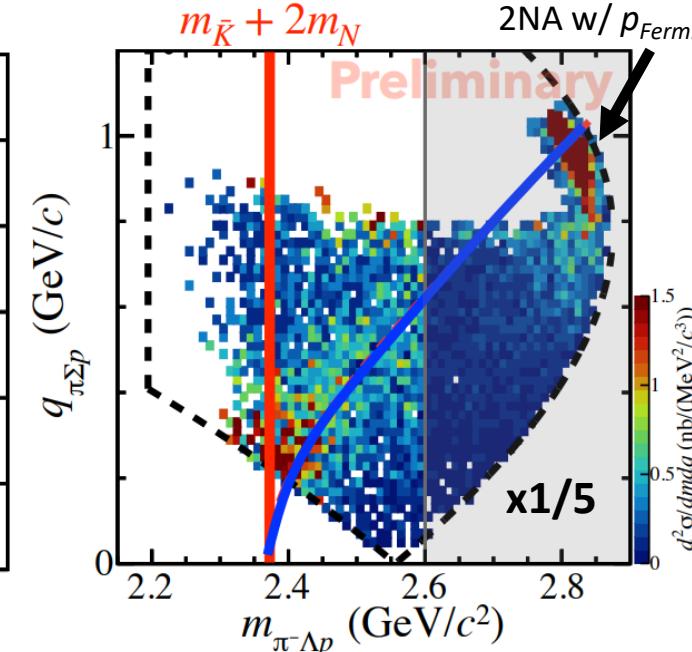
" $K^- pp \rightarrow \pi^+ \Lambda n$

$$m_{\bar{K}} + 2m_N$$



" $\bar{K}^0 nn \rightarrow \pi^- \Lambda p$

$$m_{\bar{K}} + 2m_N$$



Similar but not clear peak below M(KNN) due to the phase space

Mesonic Decay Analysis with the E15 Data

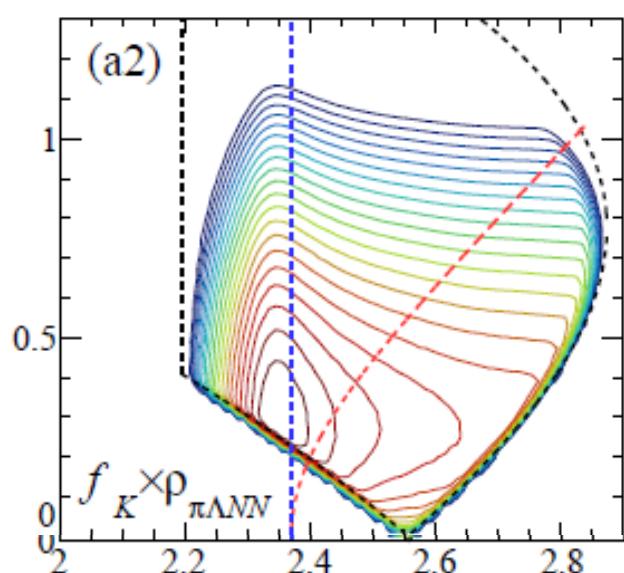
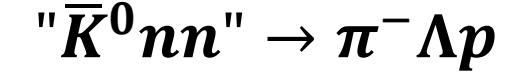
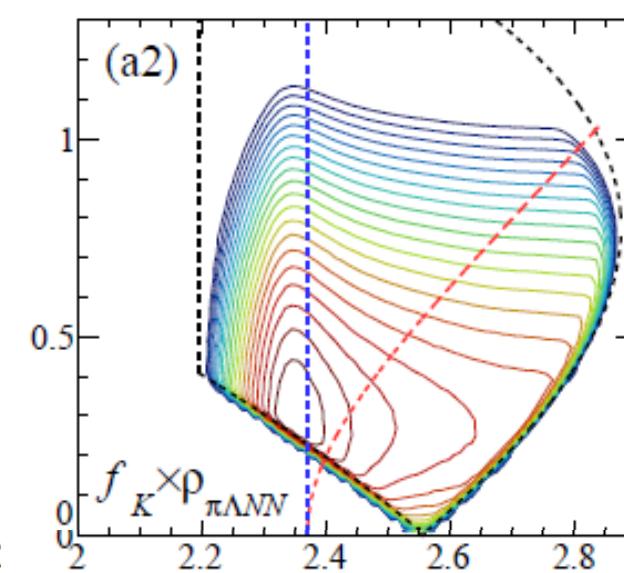
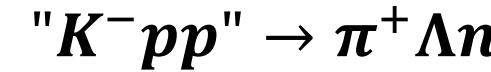
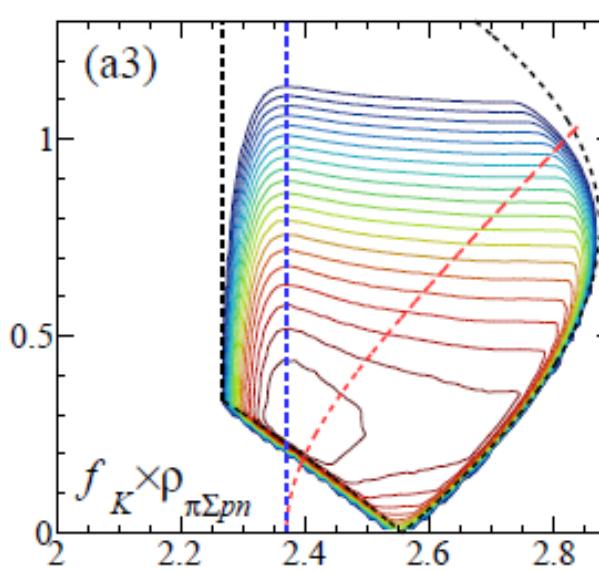
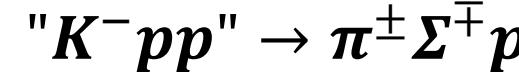
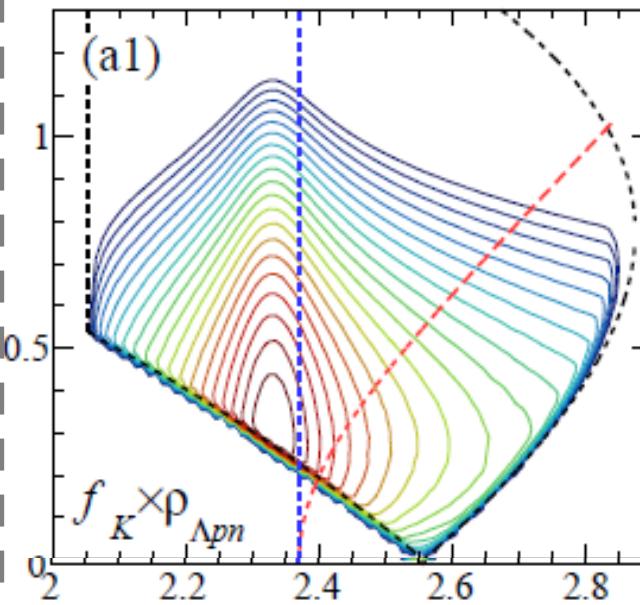
Plane Wave Impulse Approximation
Fit with PWIA

Phase space

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

Energy term (BW type) from time integral

Momentum term from spatial integral



Employ the same model func. for KNN & QF, with each phase space

Mesonic Decay Analysis with the E15 Data

Plane Wave Impulse Approximation
Fit with PWIA

Phase space

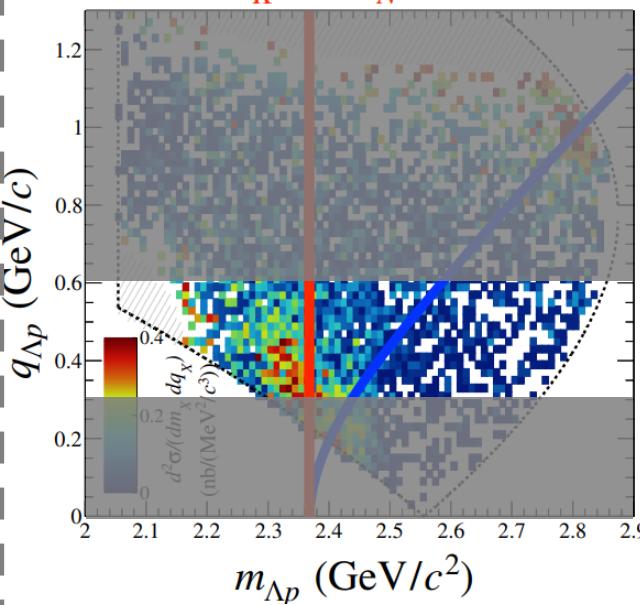
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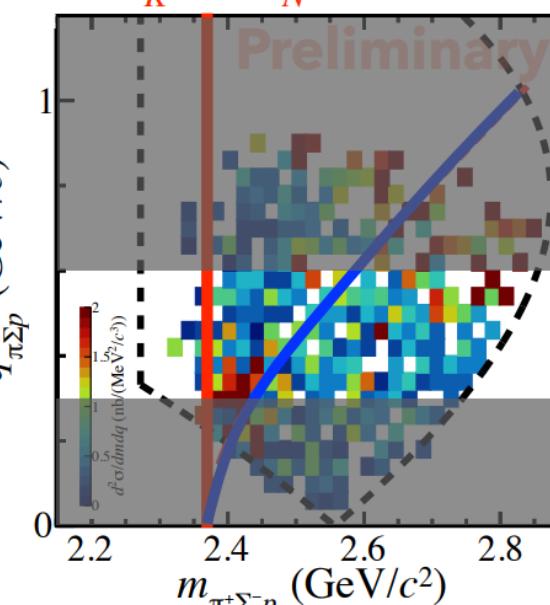
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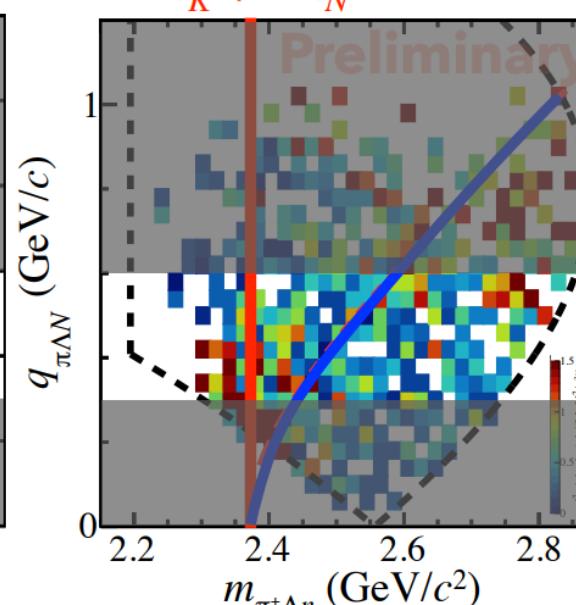
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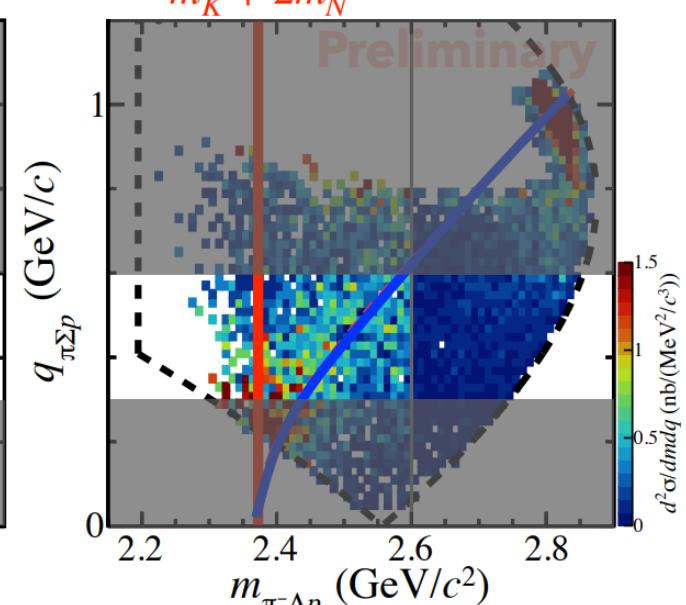
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$$m_{\bar{K}} + 2m_N$$



" $\bar{K}^0 nn$ " $\rightarrow \pi^- \Lambda p$

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Fit the 1D spectra in $0.3 < q < 0.6$ with the same model func.

Mesonic Decay Analysis with the E15 Data

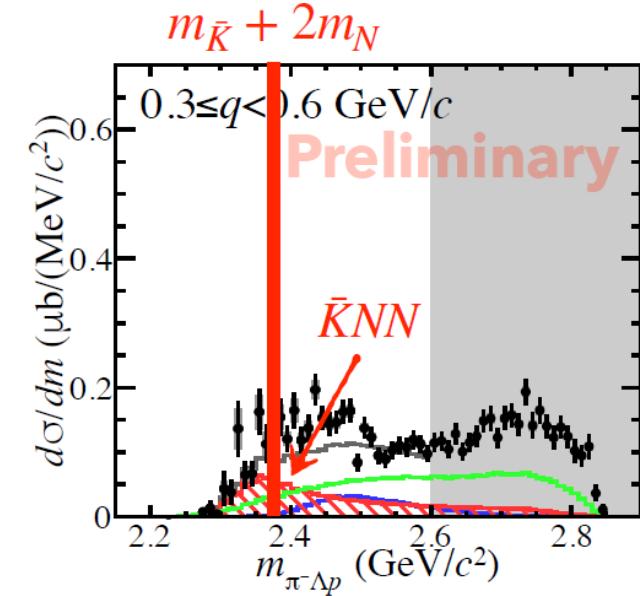
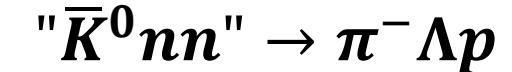
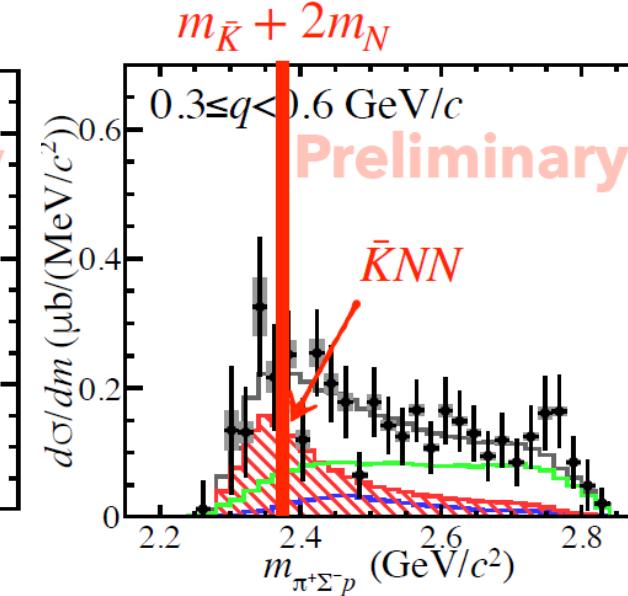
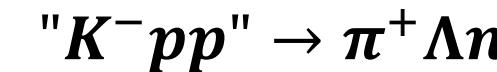
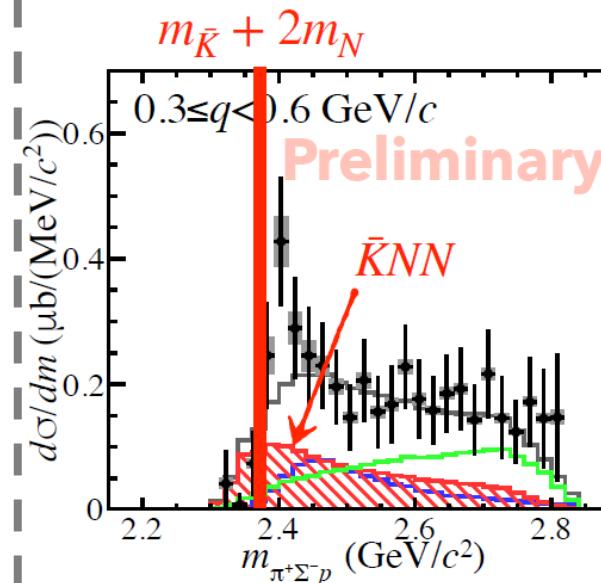
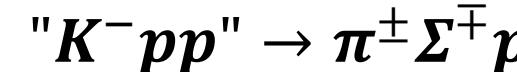
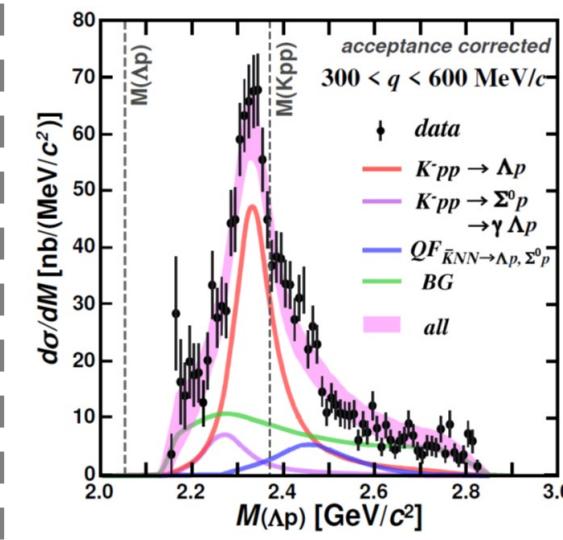
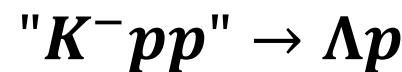
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Momentum term from spatial integral

Energy term (BW type) from time integral



With the model func., the spectra are consistently explained.

Mesonic Decay Analysis with the E15 Data

- $\Gamma_{YN} \ll \Gamma_{\pi YN}$: mesonic decay is dominant
- $\Gamma_{\pi\Sigma} \sim \Gamma_{\pi\Lambda N}$: significant contribution of the $I_{KN} = 1$ as well as $I_{KN} = 0$
- $\Gamma_{\pi+\Lambda n} / \Gamma_{\pi-\Lambda p} \sim 2$: if we assume $Br_{K-pp \rightarrow \pi+\Lambda n} = Br_{K0nn \rightarrow \pi-\Lambda p} \rightarrow \sigma_{K-pp} / \sigma_{K0nn} \sim 2$

" $K^- pp$ " $\rightarrow \Lambda p$

$$\sigma_{\bar{K}NN}^{tot} \times Br (\mu b) = \\ 9.3 \pm 0.8^{+1.4}_{-1.0} [\text{all}] \\ 5.5 \pm 0.5^{+0.8}_{-0.6} [\langle M(KNN) \rangle]$$

" $K^- pp$ " $\rightarrow \Sigma^0 p$

$$\sigma_{\bar{K}NN}^{tot} \times Br (\mu b) = \\ 5.3 \pm 0.4^{+0.8}_{-0.6} [\text{all}] \\ 3.1 \pm 0.2^{+0.5}_{-0.4} [\langle M(KNN) \rangle]$$

" $K^- pp$ " $\rightarrow \pi^+ \Sigma^- p$

$$\sigma_{\bar{K}NN}^{tot} \times Br (\mu b) = \\ 38 \pm 3 \pm 3 [\text{all}] \\ 3.2 \pm 0.2 \pm 0.2 [\langle M(KNN) \rangle]$$

" $K^- pp$ " $\rightarrow \pi^- \Sigma^+ p$

$$\sigma_{\bar{K}NN}^{tot} \times Br (\mu b) = \\ 110 \pm 8 \pm 8 [\text{all}] \\ 9.4 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.7 [\langle M(KNN) \rangle]$$

" $K^- pp$ " $\rightarrow \pi^+ \Lambda n$

$$\sigma_{\bar{K}NN}^{tot} \times Br (\mu b) = \\ 62 \pm 11 \pm 9 [\text{all}] \\ 15.5 \pm 2.7 \pm 2.1 [\langle M(KNN) \rangle]$$

" $\bar{K}^0 nn$ " $\rightarrow \pi^- \Lambda p$

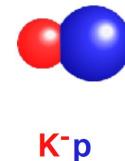
$$\sigma_{\bar{K}NN}^{tot} \times Br (\mu b) = \\ 29 \pm 3 \pm 3 [\text{all}] \\ 7.2 \pm 0.6 \pm 0.7 [\langle M(KNN) \rangle]$$

More precise measurements
and theoretical investigations
are needed

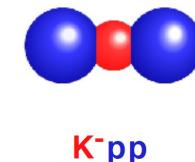
Need Further Investigations

to establish the kaonic nuclei

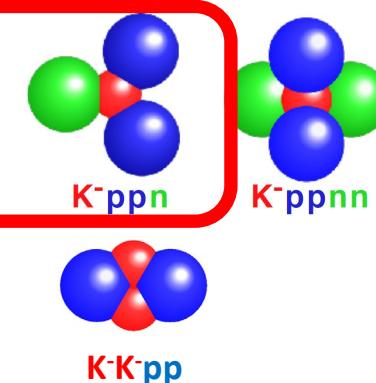
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 - $\bar{K}N$ quasi-bound state as considered?
 - Relation between $\bar{K}N$ and $\bar{K}NN$?



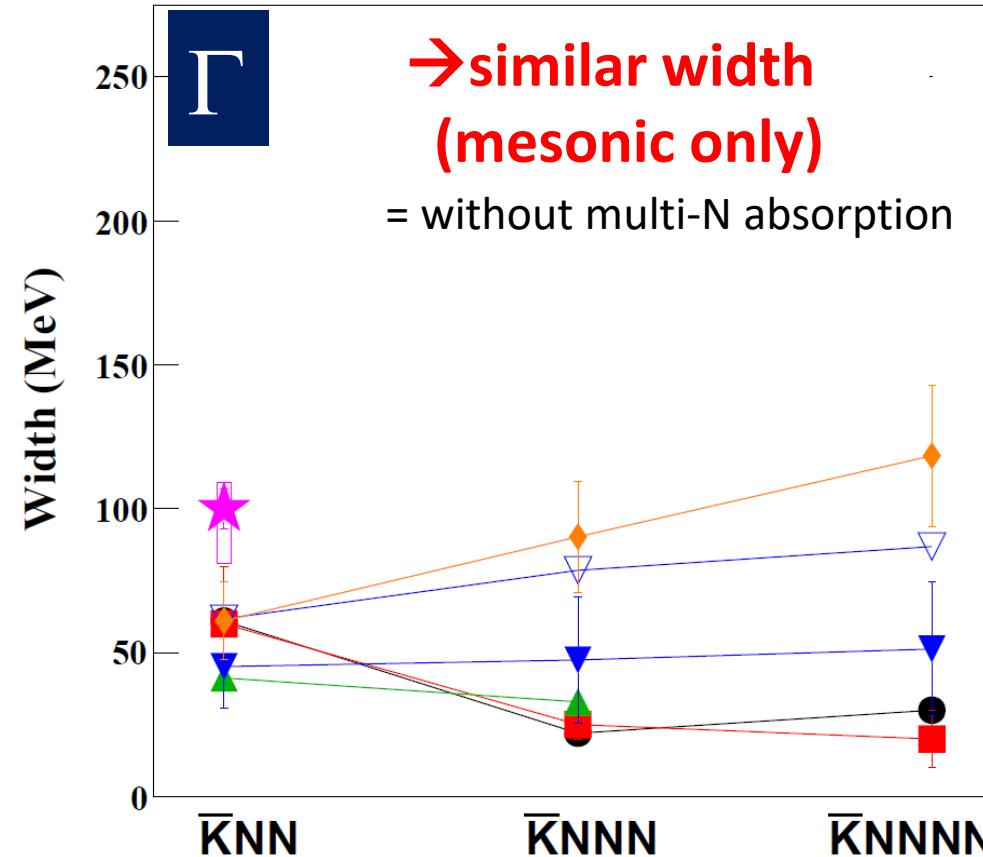
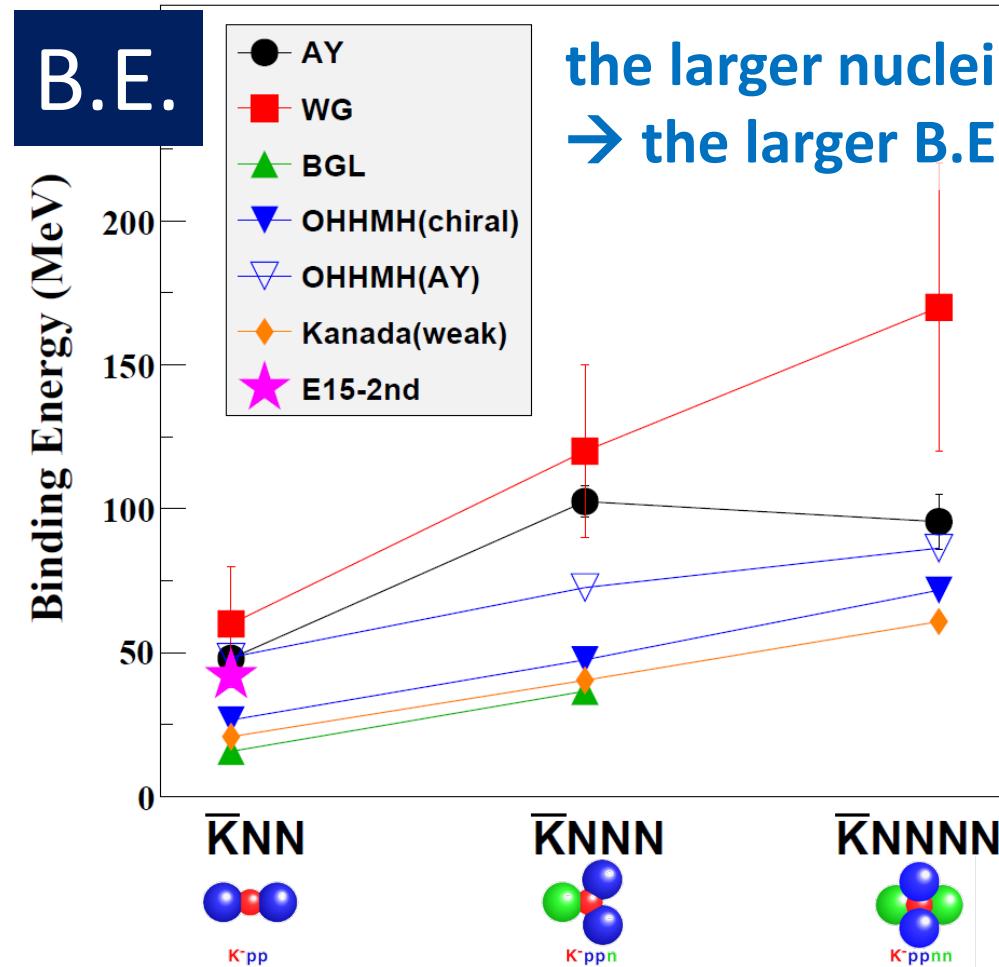
- **Further details of the $\bar{K}NN$**
 - Mesonic decay modes?
 - Spin and parity of the “ $K^- pp$ ”?
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- **Heavier kaonic nuclei**
 - Mass number dependence?
- **Double kaonic nuclei**
 - Much compact and dense system?



Mass Number Dependence of Kaonic Nuclei

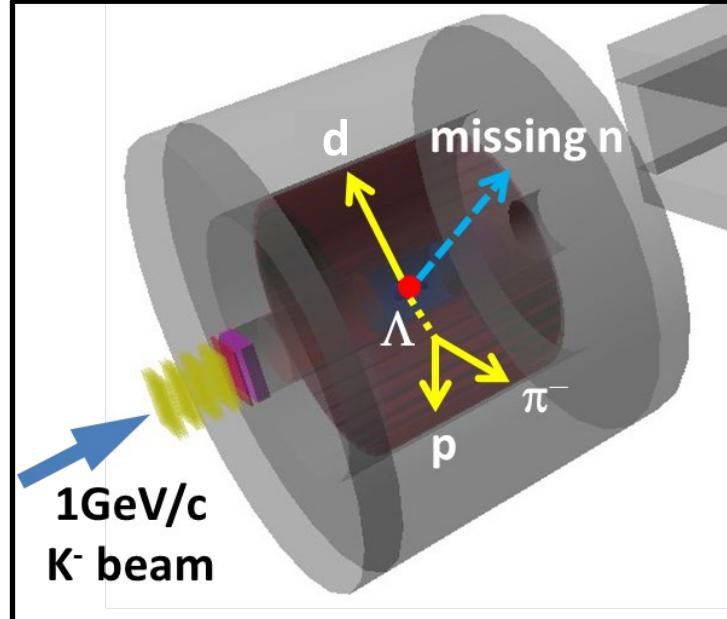
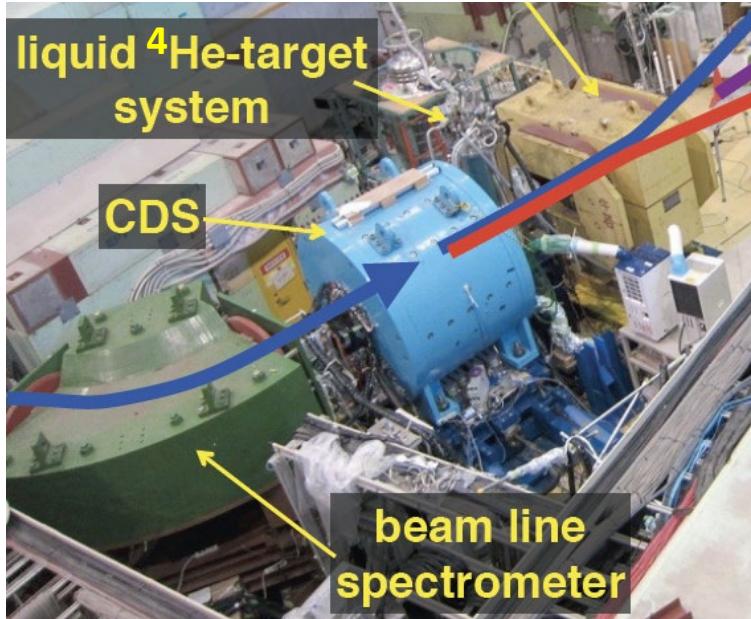


- Systematic measurements will provide more conclusive evidence of the kaonic nuclei

AY: PRC65(2002)044005, PLB535(2002)70.
 WG: PRC79(2009)014001.
 BGL: PLB712(2012)132.
 OHHMH: PRC95(2017)065202.
 Kanada: EPJA57(2021)185.

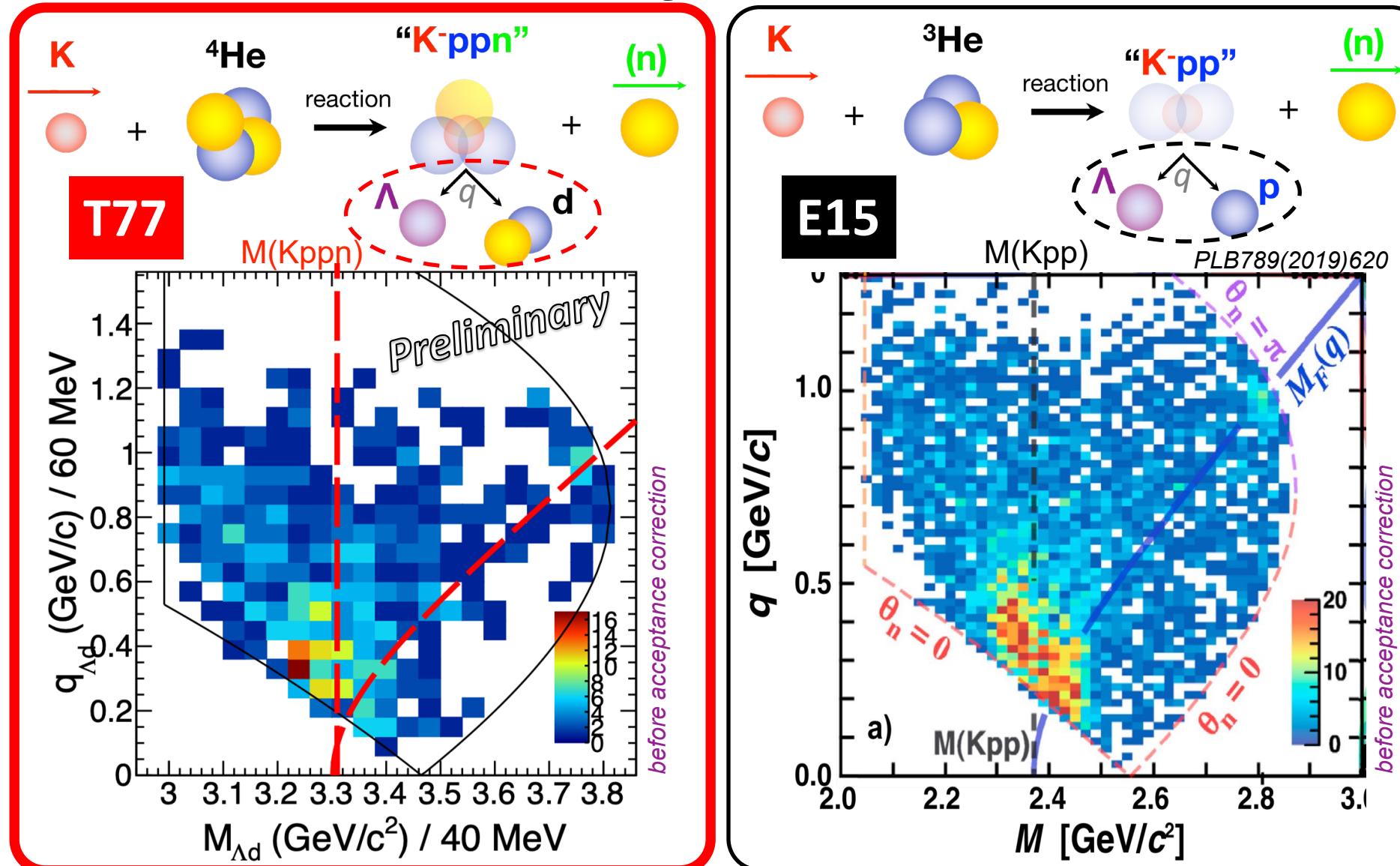
$K^-{}^4He \rightarrow \Lambda dn$ Analysis with the T77 Data

- An analysis of the Λdn final state with $K^-{}^4He$ reaction at $1\text{ GeV}/c$ has been conducted
 - T77: lifetime measurement of ${}^4\Lambda H$ in 2020
- The results will be updated with a part of the E73 controlled data
 - E73: lifetime measurement of ${}^3\Lambda H$ in 2024 (**now in beam time!**)



Experiment	K^- on target
E15 (3He)	$\sim 42 \times 10^9$
T77 (4He)	$\sim 6 \times 10^9$
E73 (4He)	$\sim 6 \times 10^9$

$K^- {}^4He \rightarrow \Lambda dn$ Analysis with the T77 Data



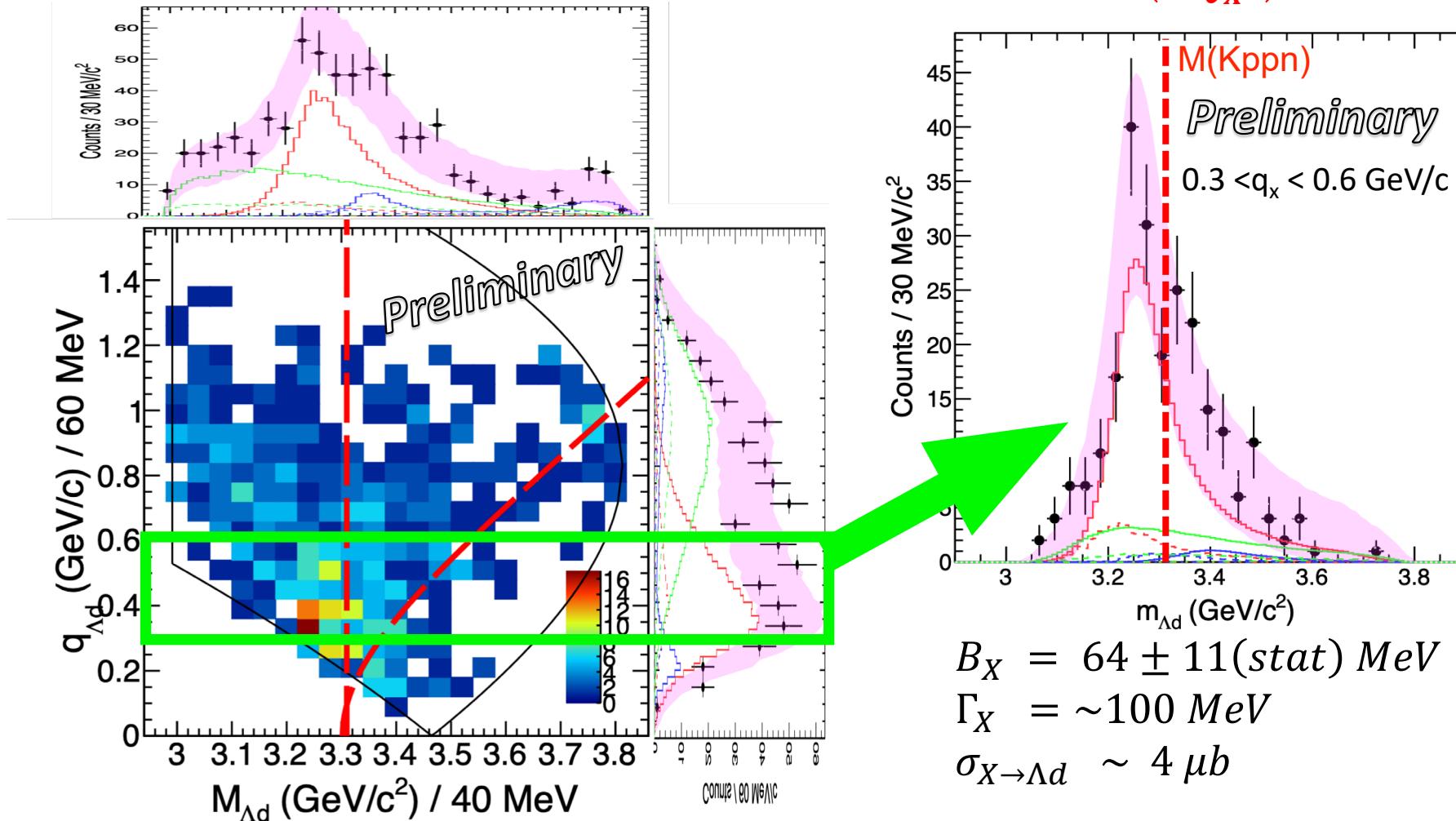
- Two distributions are quite similar
- structure below the threshold (seems q -independent), QF-K, BG

$K^-{}^4He \rightarrow \Lambda d n$ Analysis with the T77 Data

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

Breit-Wigner wtih Gaus. form factor (PWIA), QF-K $^-$, and Broad BG

$$\sigma(M, q) \propto \rho(M, q) \times \frac{(\Gamma_X/2)^2}{(M - M_X)^2 + (\Gamma_X/2)^2} \times \exp\left(-\frac{q^2}{Q_X^2}\right)$$



$$B_X = 64 \pm 11(\text{stat}) \text{ MeV}$$

$$\Gamma_X = \sim 100 \text{ MeV}$$

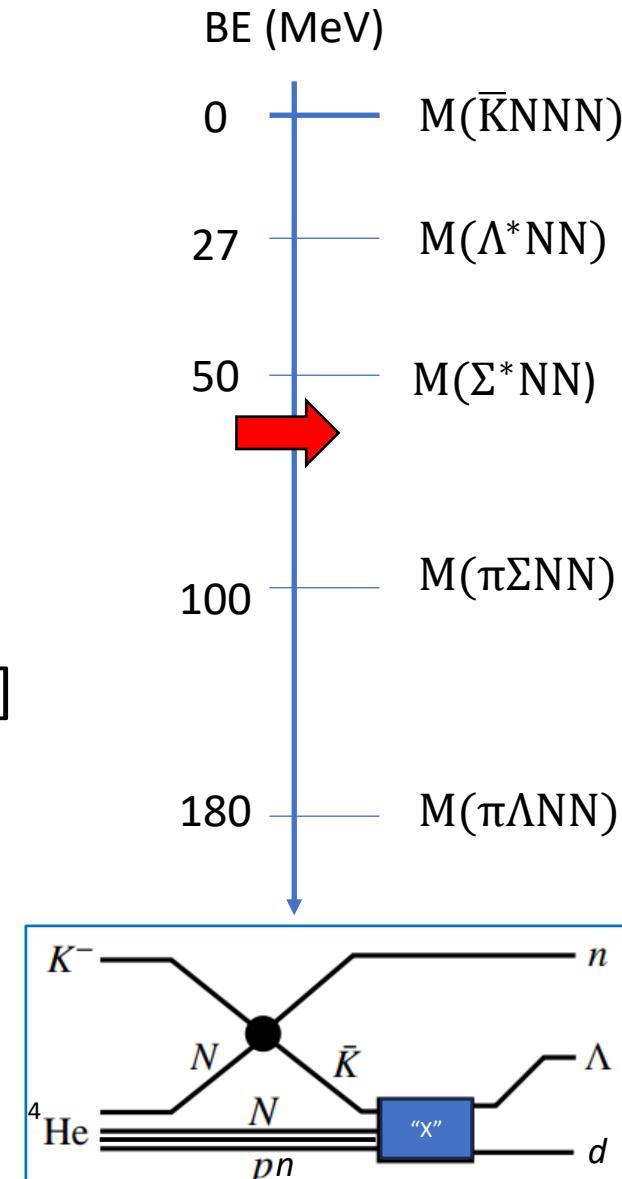
$$\sigma_{X \rightarrow \Lambda d} \sim 4 \mu b$$

$K^- {}^4He \rightarrow \Lambda dn$ Analysis with the T77 Data

What is the observed structure? [Discussion]

1. “X” $\rightarrow \Lambda d$ decay mode is unique evidence of $I_{\text{''}X\text{''}} = 0$
 - $I(J^P) : \Lambda = 0(1/2^+), d = 0(1^+), K^- = 1/2(0^-), {}^3He = 1/2(1/2^+), {}^4He = 0(0^+)$

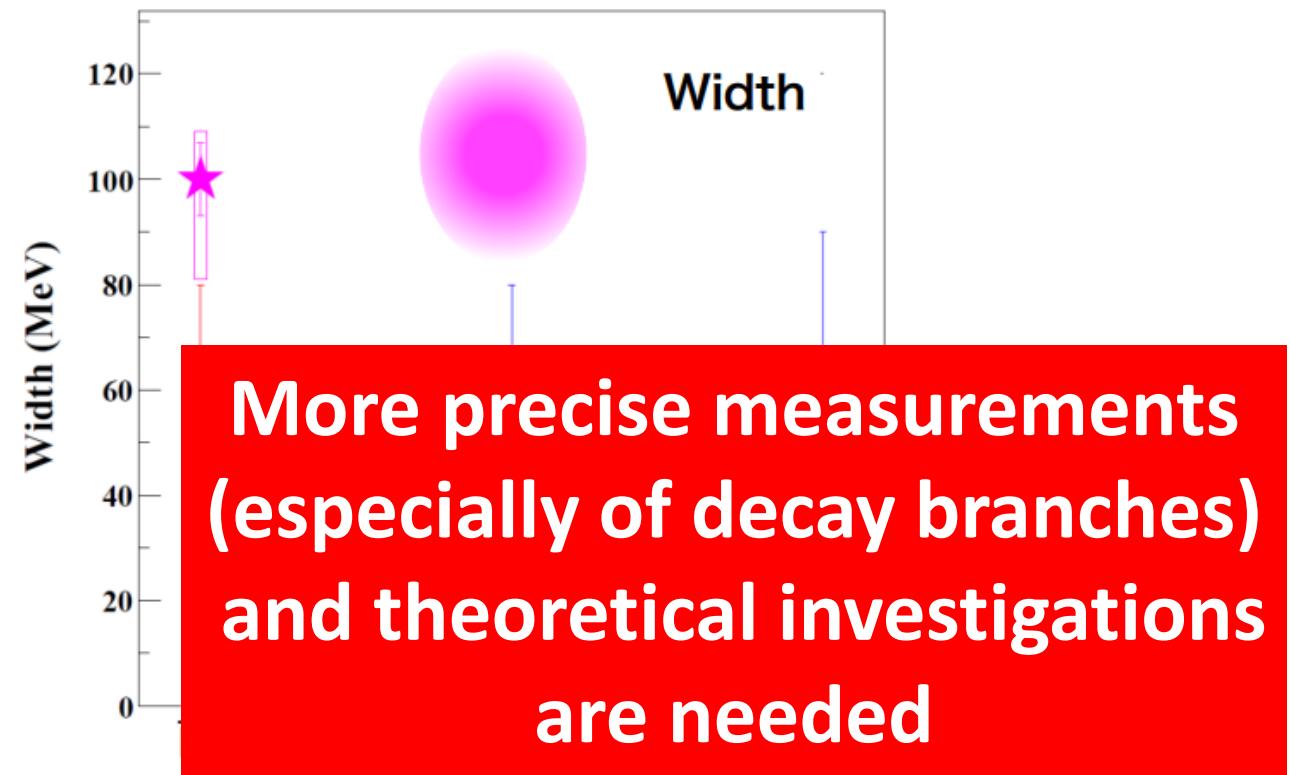
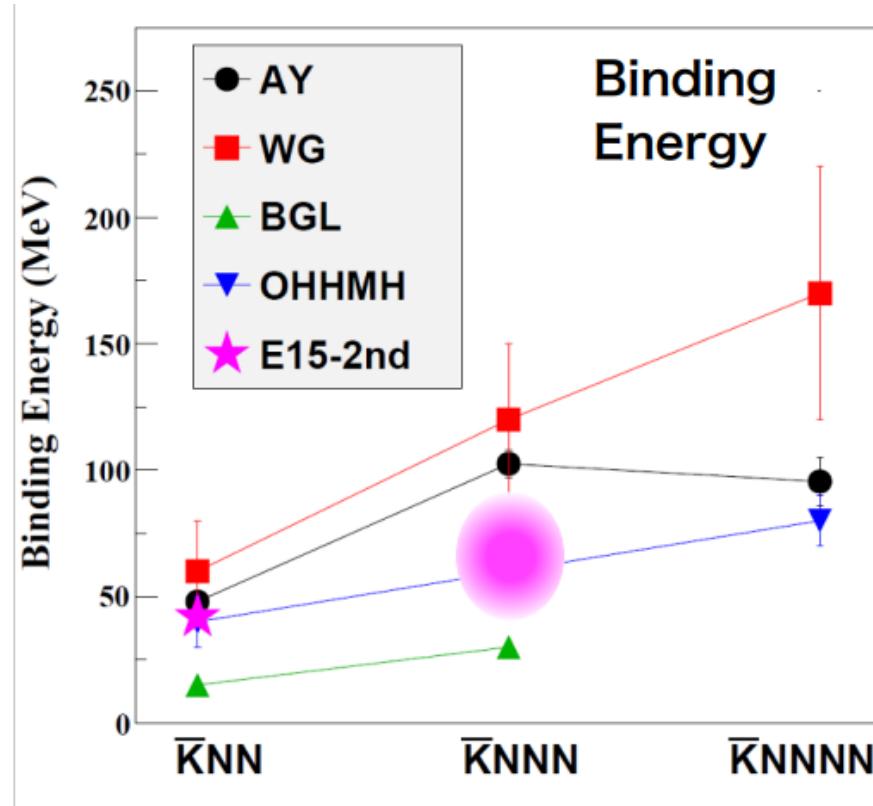
2. “X” = “K-ppn” with $J_{\text{''}X\text{''}} = 1/2$ would be likely, considering the isospin and spin combination in S-wave interaction
 - $J_{\text{''}X\text{''}} = 1/2$: 4He initial state is $I(J) = 0(0)$ and low-momentum intermediate \bar{K} would react with remaining NNN [$I(J) = 1/2(1/2)$] in S-wave
 - **Exclusion of $\Upsilon^*(I=1)\text{NN}$:** probability of “X” $\rightarrow \Lambda d$ decay would be suppressed because spin/isospin flip is needed to reconfigure NN [$I(J) = 1(0)$] into deuteron [$I(J) = 0(1)$]
 - Λpn decay would be dominant



$K^-{}^4He \rightarrow \Lambda dn$ Analysis with the T77 Data

What is the observed structure? [Discussion]

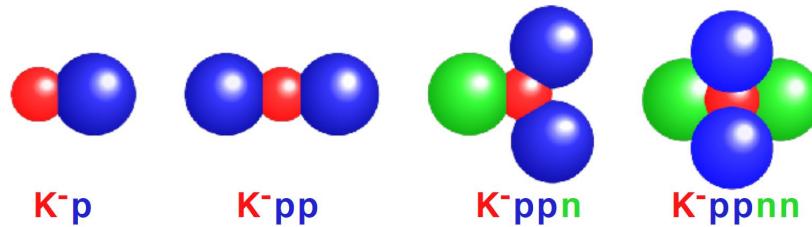
If “X” is “ K^-ppn ”



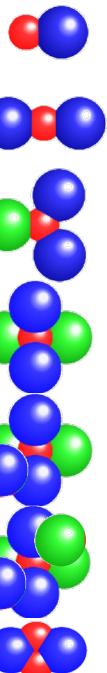
- The binding energy is compatible with some theoretical predictions
- The width is larger than theoretical predictions

New Kaonic Nuclei Project at J-PARC

– from the $\bar{K}N$ to $\bar{K}NNNN$ systems –



Strategy

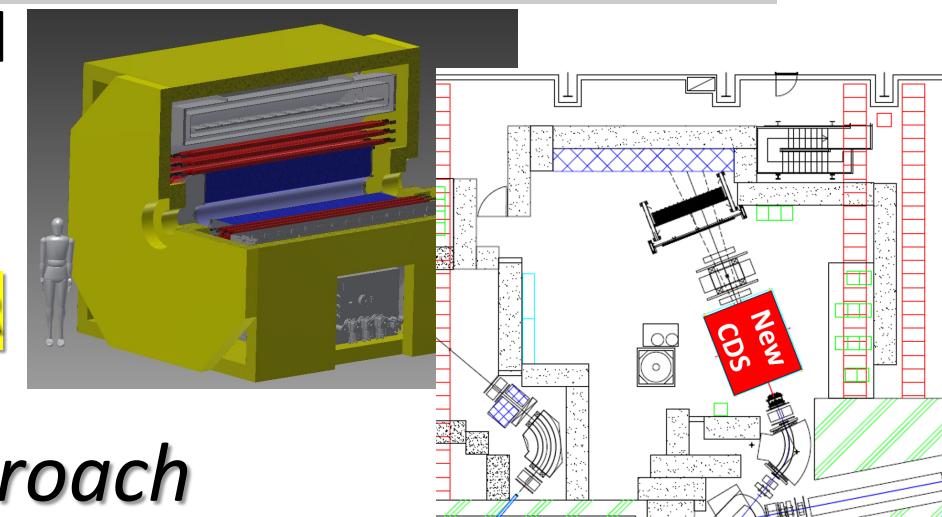


	Reaction	Decays	Key	Experiment	
$\bar{K}N$	$d(K^-, n)$	$\pi^{\pm 0}\Sigma^{\mp 0}$	n/γ identification	Future	
$\bar{K}NN$	${}^3He(K^-, N)$	$\Lambda p/\Lambda n$	polarimeter	P89	
$\bar{K}NNN$	${}^4He(K^-, N)$	$\Lambda d/\Lambda pn$	large acceptance	E80	← A first step
$\bar{K}NNNN$	${}^6Li(K^-, d)$	$\Lambda t/\Lambda dn$	many body decay	Future	
$\bar{K}NNNNN$	${}^6Li(K^-, N)$	$\Lambda\alpha/\Lambda dd/\Lambda dpn$	many body decay	Future	
$\bar{K}NNNNNN$	${}^7Li(K^-, N)$	$\Lambda\alpha n/\Lambda dd n$	many body decay	Future	
$\bar{K}\bar{K}NN$	$\bar{p} + {}^3He$	$\Lambda\Lambda$	\bar{p} beam yield	Future (LoI)	

- To realize the systematic measurements, we need

a large acceptance spectrometer ← new CDS

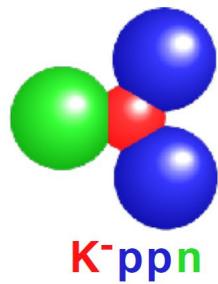
- detect/identify all particles to specify the reaction



high-intensity kaon beam ← improved K1.8BR

- more K^- yield than the existing beamline

*We take a **step-by-step** approach*



$\bar{K}NNN$ @ E80

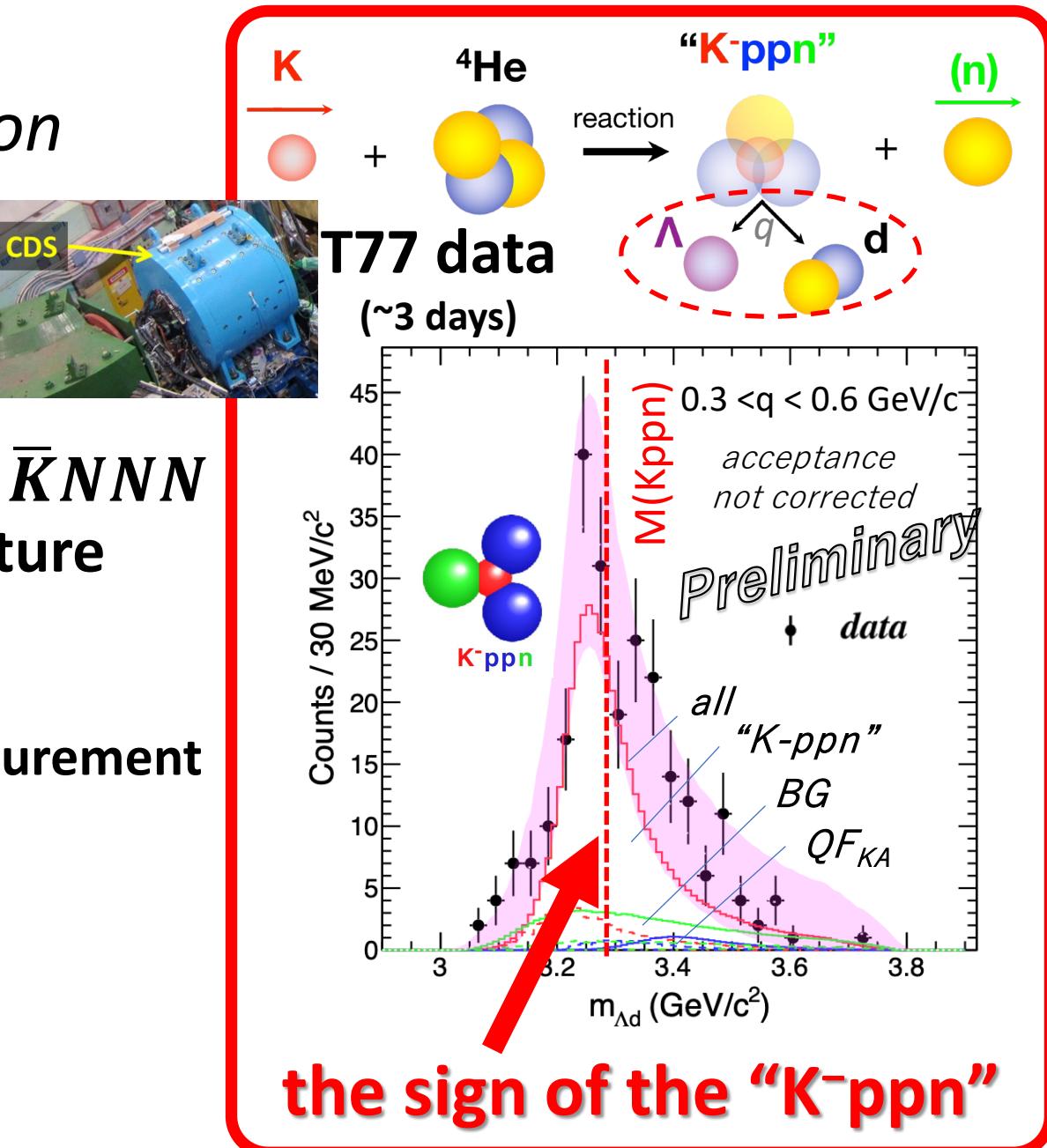
via ${}^4\text{He}(1 \text{ GeV}/c K^-, n)$ reaction

- ① Establish the existence of $\bar{K}NNN$
 - “K-ppn” $\rightarrow \Lambda d$ 2-body decay

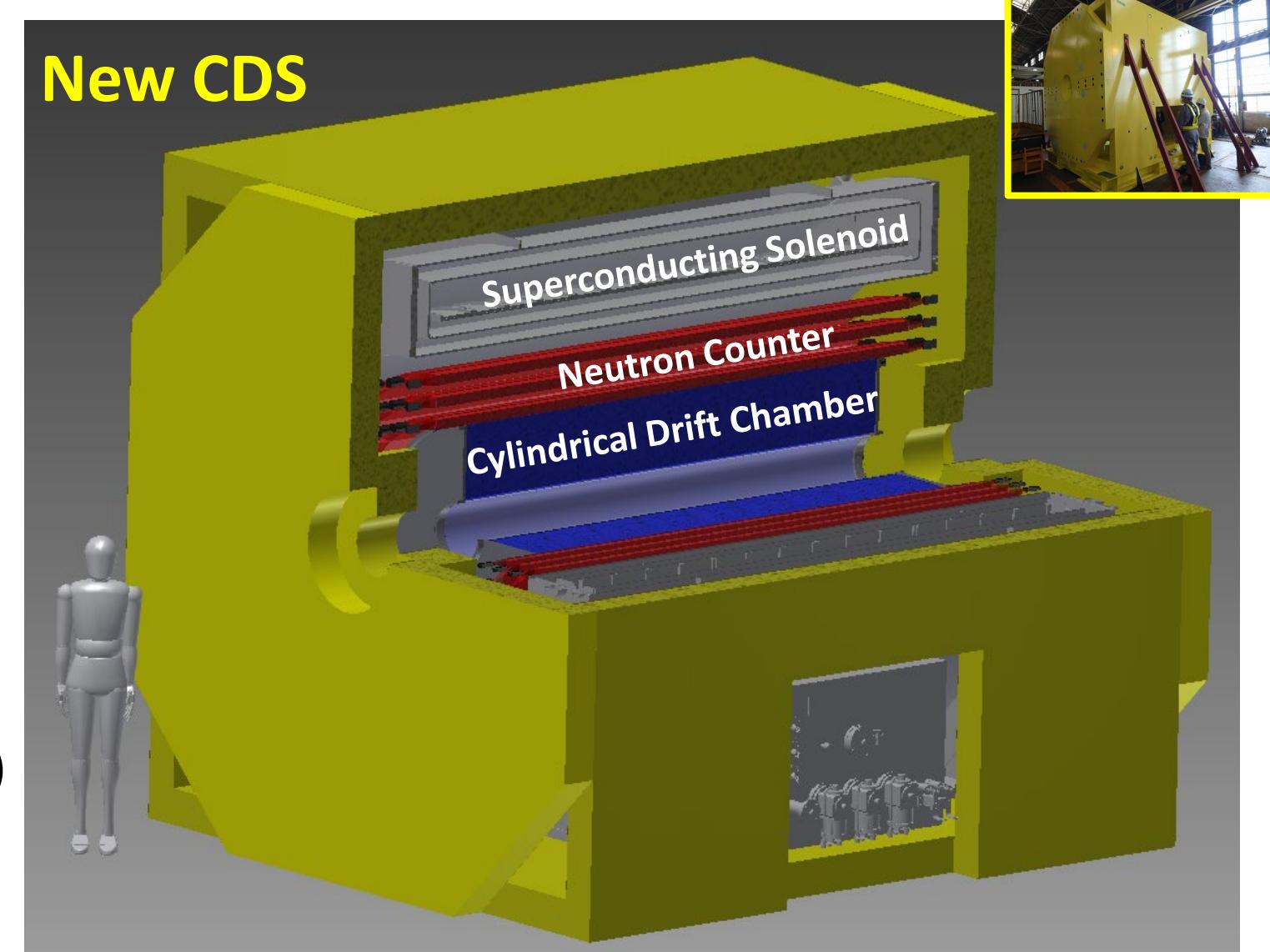
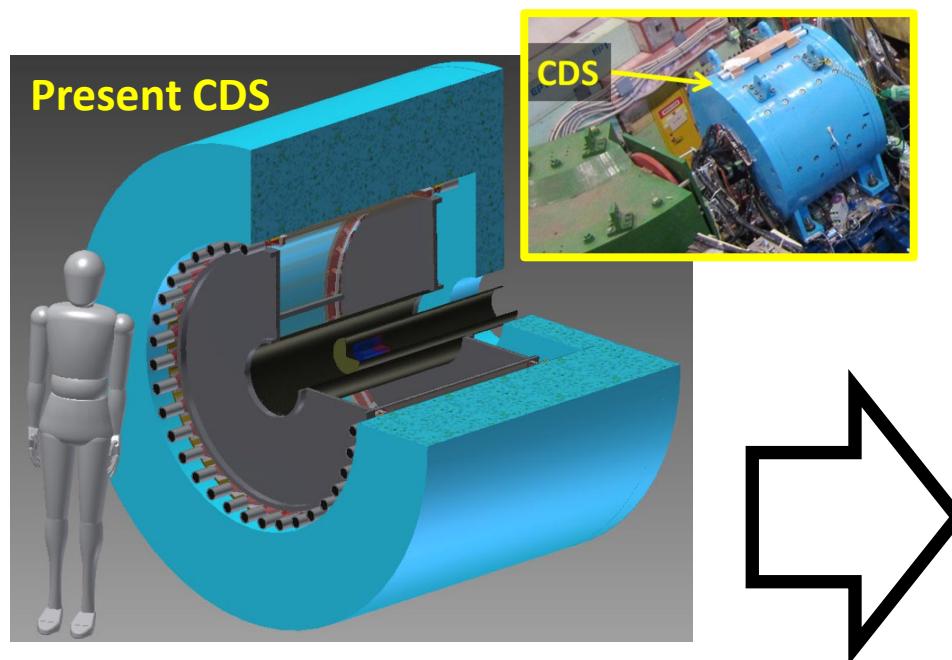
- ② Study the multi-particle decay mode of $\bar{K}NNN$ toward understanding its internal structure
 - “K-ppn” $\rightarrow \Lambda pn$ 3-body decay

- Feasibility study of spin-spin correlation measurement for P89
 - e.g., installing a prototype module of a polarimeter

Beam intensity	90kW
Beam time	1+1+3 weeks



New Cylindrical Detector System (CDS)



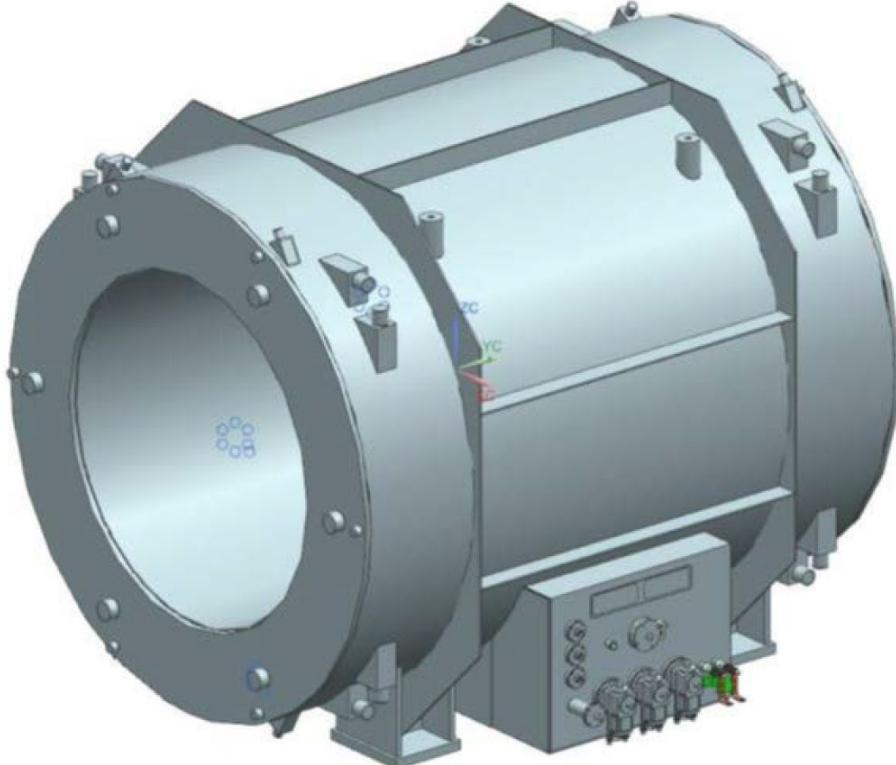
- ✓ Solid angle: x1.6 (59% → 93%)
- ✓ Neutron eff.: x8 (3% → 15% x 1.6)

Superconducting Solenoid Magnet

- Same design as “the detector solenoid magnet” for COMET-I

**being constructed in cooperation with
the J-PARC Cryogenics Section**

- 3.3m x 3.3m x 3.9m, ~108t in total
- Max. field of 1.0T @ center
 - 189A – 10V
- NbTi/Cu SC wire, 98km in total
- **Conduction-cooling with GM*3**
- Semi-active quench-back system
- **Will be completed in FY2024**

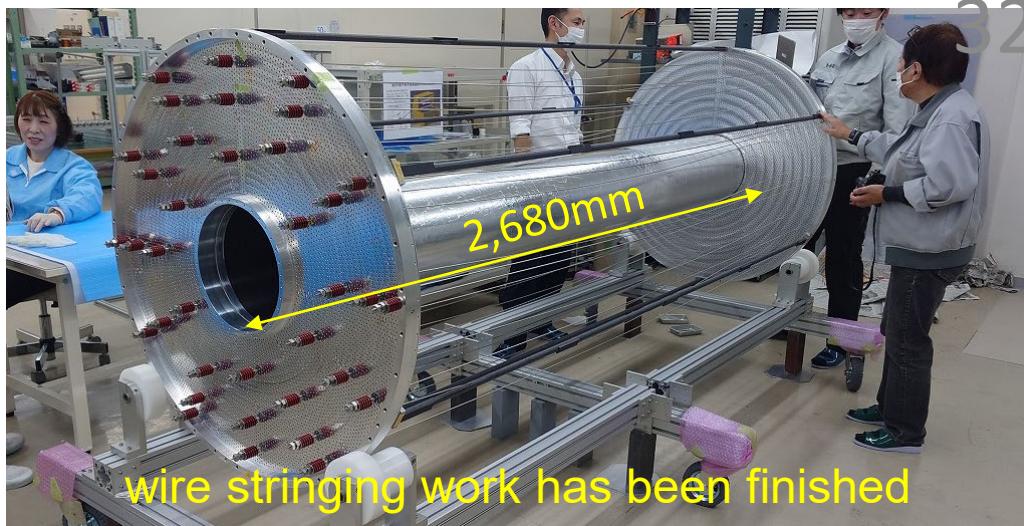


SHI RDE-418D4

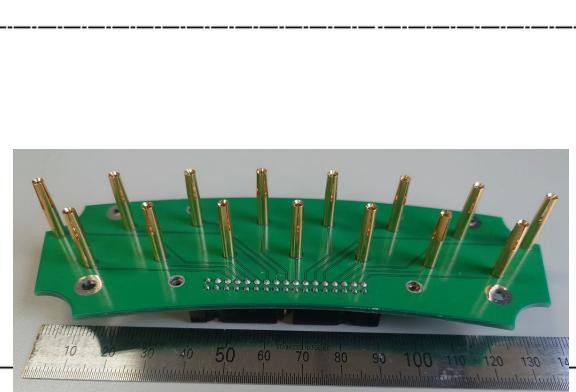
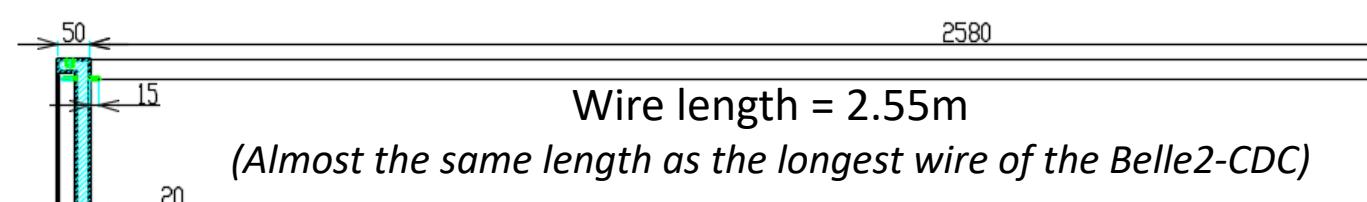
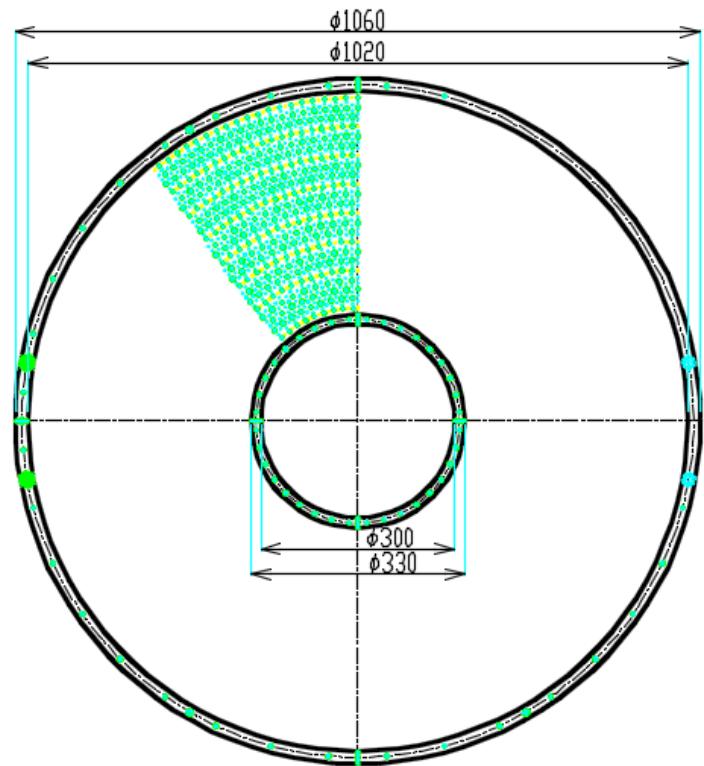


Cylindrical Drift Chamber

- The same design of the present end-cap
 - New CDC is 3 times the length of the existing CDC



Will be completed next month, and commissioning starts



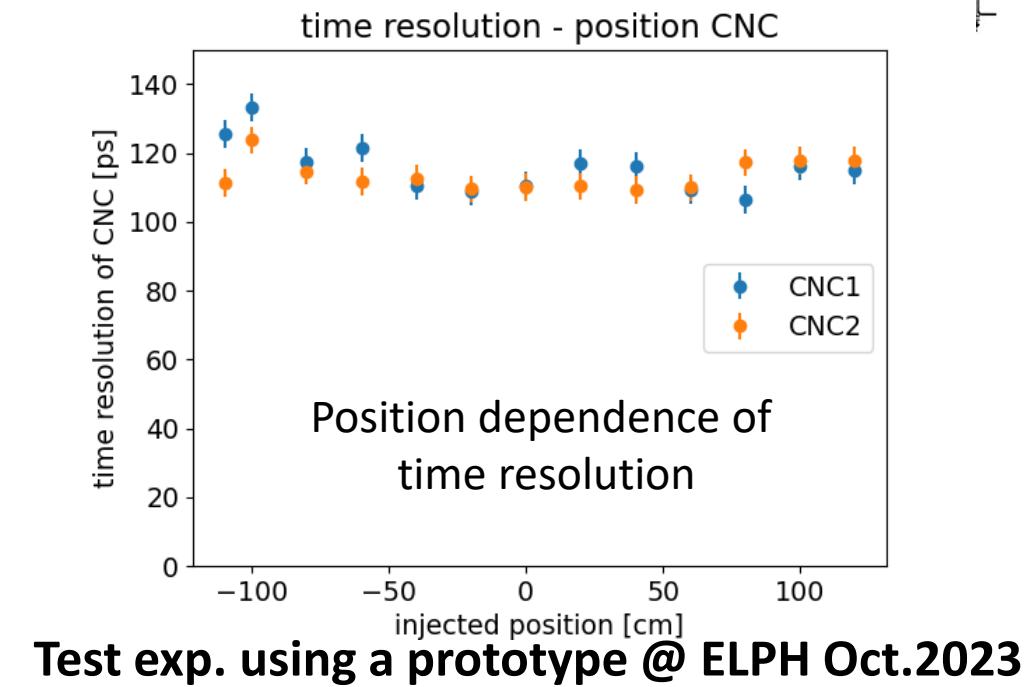
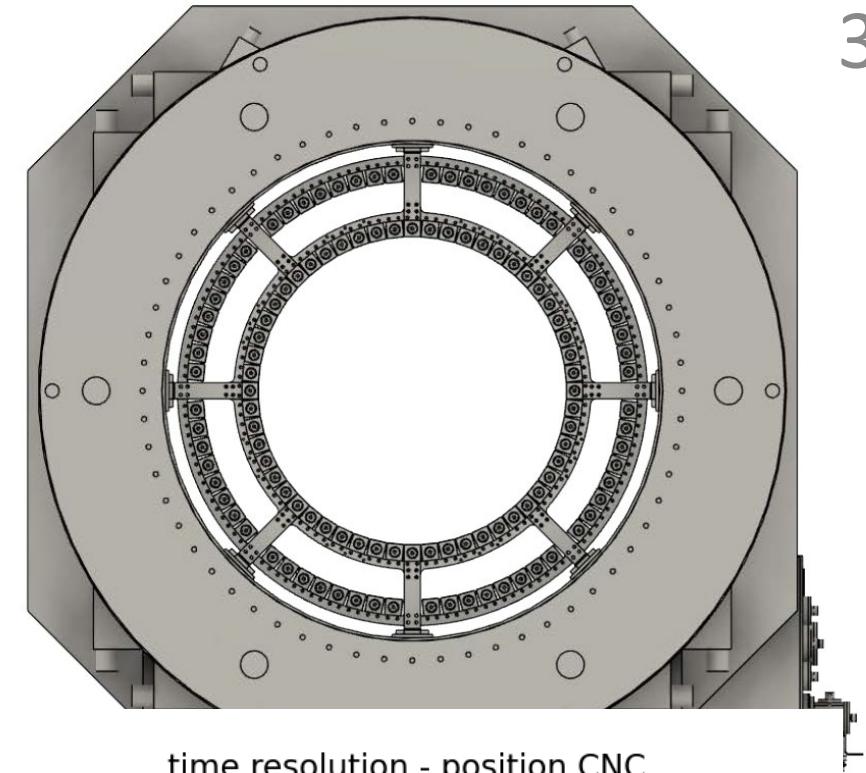
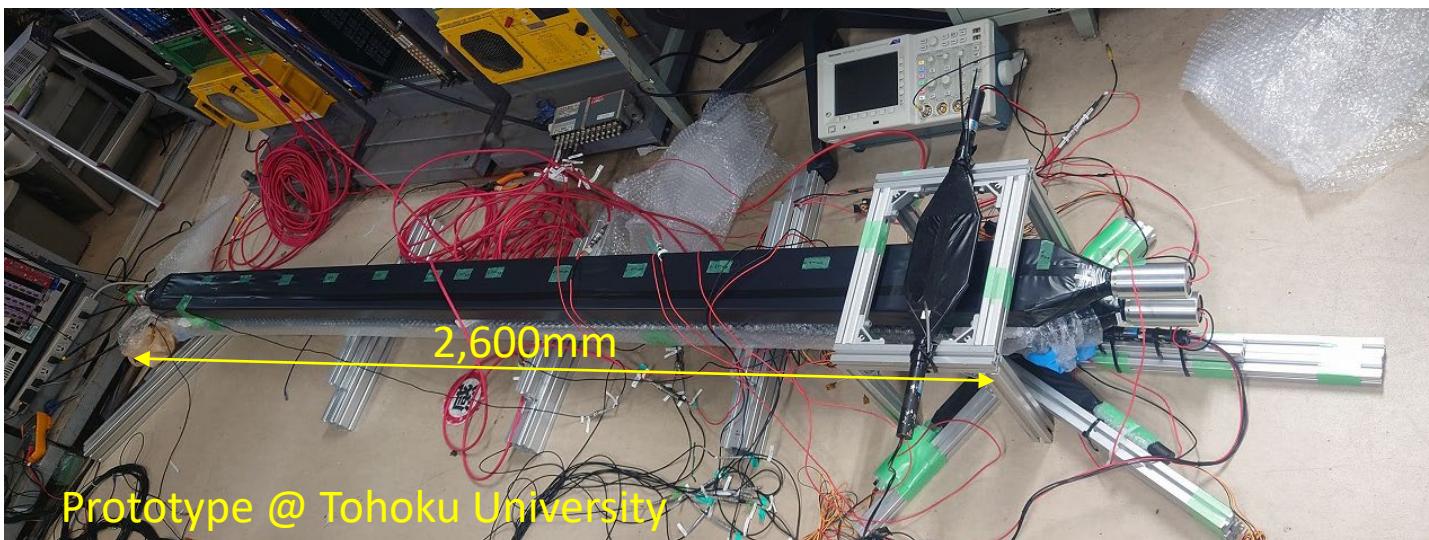
Signal board

ASD preamplifier board



Neutron Counter

- scintillator array: 2 layers, 12cm thickness
- ELJEN EJ-200: (T)60mm, (W)60mm, (L)3,000mm
- 1.5-inch FM-PMT [H8409(R7761)]
& MPPC array [S13361-6050AE-04]
- Neutron detection efficiency of 12~36%
- **Design work is on going**
- **Will be fabricated in FY2024**



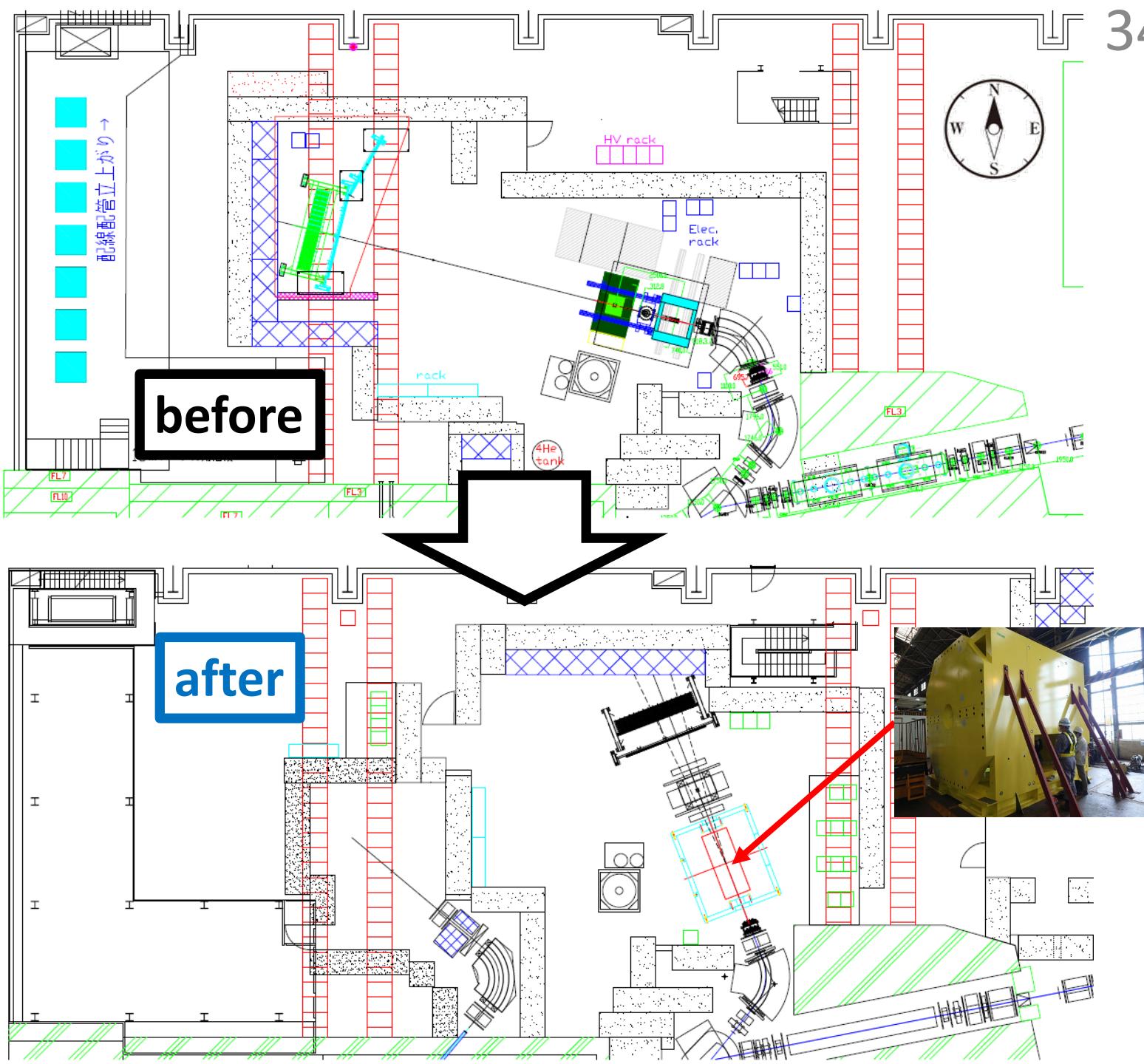
K1.8BR Upgrade

- We have proposed a new configuration of the beam line

➤ K- yield is expected to increase by **~ 1.4 times**
@ 1.0 GeV/c with $\pi/K \sim 2$

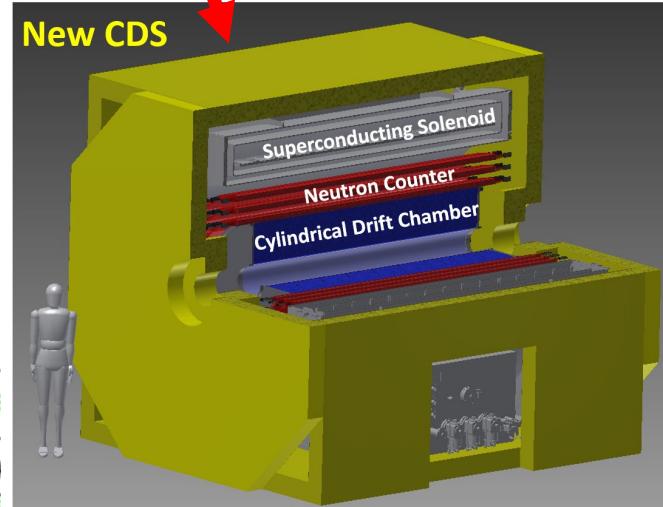
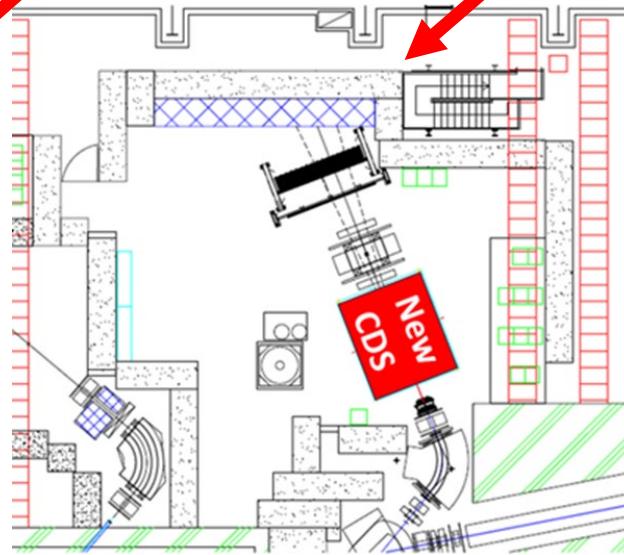
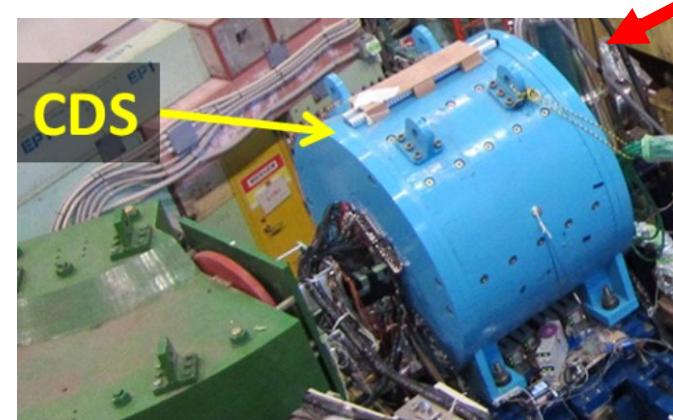
Shorten the beamline (~2.5m) by removing the final D5 magnet

Relative beam-line length (beam yield)	D5	D4
Present CDS	0 (x1)	-3.7m (x1.6)
New CDS	+1.2m (x0.9)	-2.5m (x1.4)



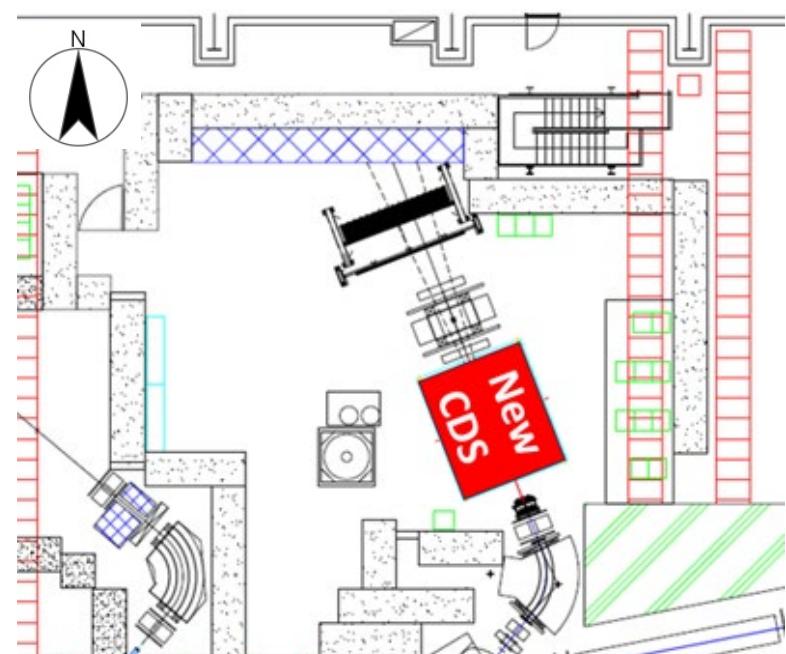
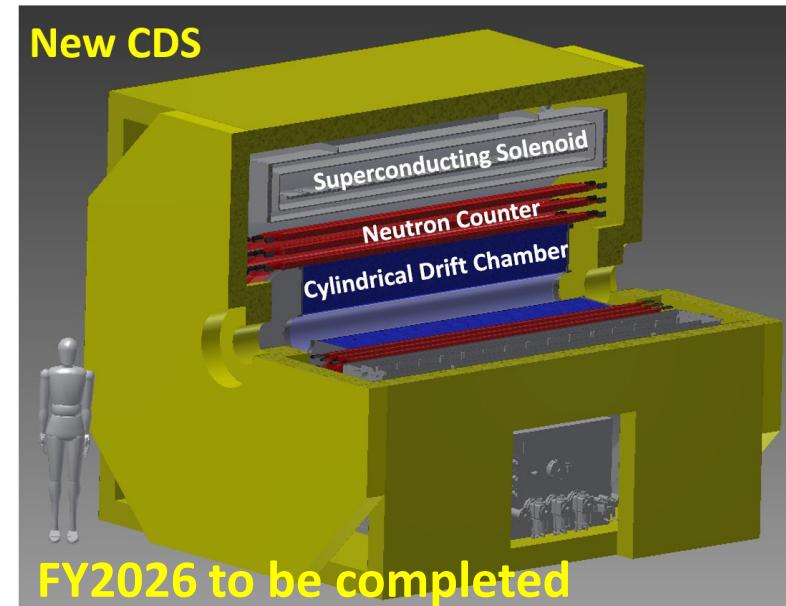
Schedule

	FY2022				FY2023				FY2024				FY2025				FY2026				FY2027													
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4										
SC Solenoid Magnet	Design	Purchase (SC Wire)	Construction				Stored at KEK				Installation				Integration, Test & Commissioning				Commissioning w/ Beam	Physics Run	Analysis & Publication													
CDC	Design				Construction				Test & Commissioning																									
NC	Design & R&D								Purchase (Scinti.)	Asse mbly	Test & Commissioning																							
K1.8BR Beam Line	E73(CDS) → E72(HypTPC) Experiments												Upgrade	E80 Experiment																				



Summary

- We observed the “K⁻pp” bound state in ${}^3\text{He}(\text{K}^-, \Lambda p)n$
 - ✓ PLB789(2019)620., PRC102(2020)044002.
- We also obtained hints of mesonic decays of “K-pp”
 - ✓ arXiv:2404.01773 [nucl-ex]
- We observed the sign of the “K⁻ppn” in ${}^4\text{He}(\text{K}^-, \Lambda d)n$
 - ✓ will be published soon with twice statistics
- New project has started from E80, “K⁻ppn”, aiming at the systematic study of the kaonic nuclei
 - Constructing a large solenoid spectrometer
 - Modify the K1.8BR to improve kaon yield



Hope to modify around FY2025

J-PARC E80 Collaboration

K. Itahashi, M. Iwasaki, T. Hashimoto, Y. Ma, R. Murayama, T. Nanamura,
F. Sakuma*

RIKEN, Saitama, 351-0198, Japan



Tokyo Tech



We're looking for

new collaborators!

T. Nagae

H. Fujioka

Department of Physics, Kyoto University, Kyoto, 606-8502, Japan

S. Okada

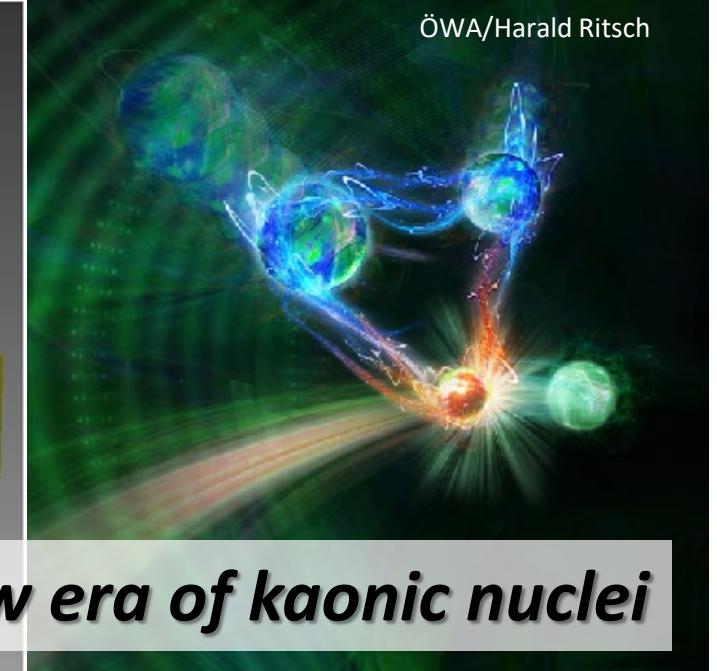
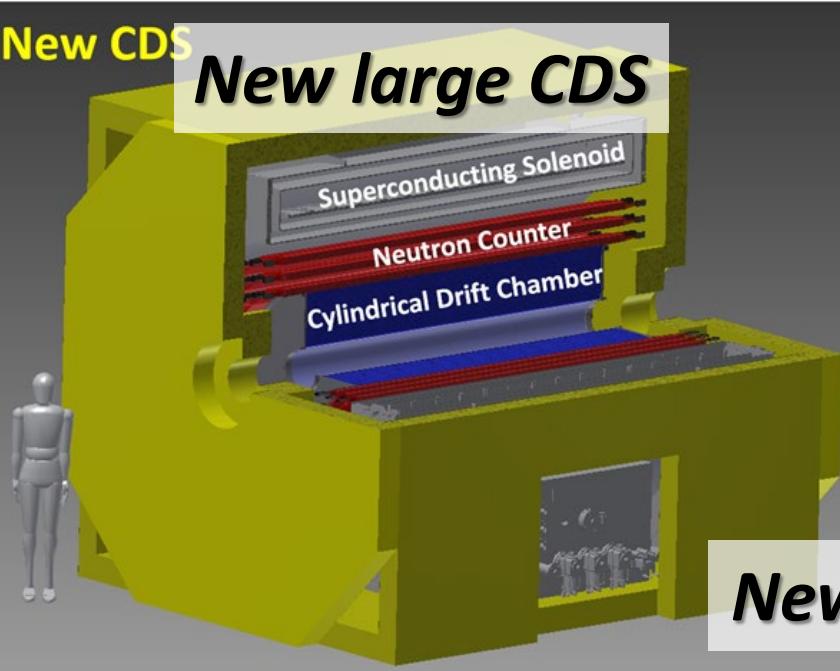
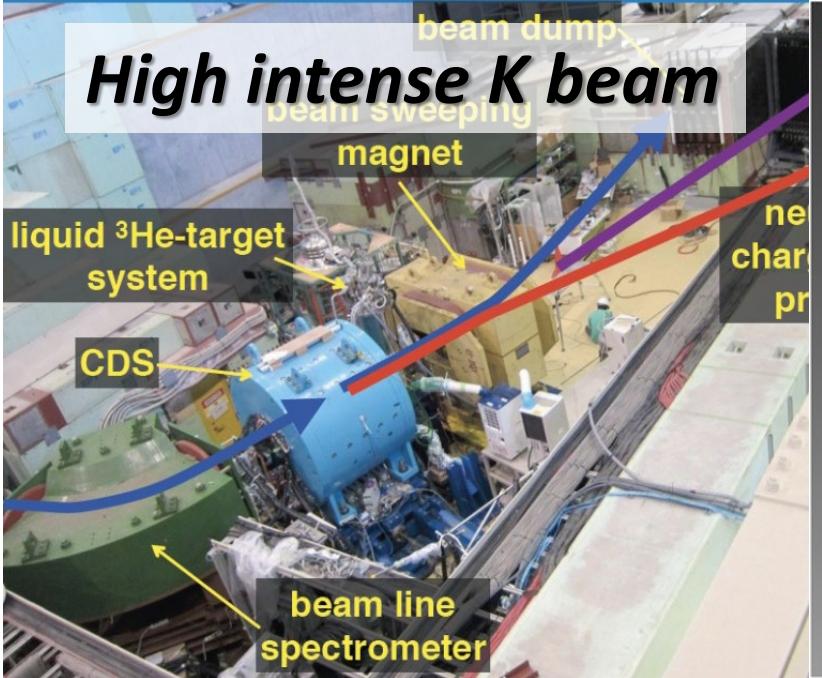
Chubu University, Aichi, 487-0027, Japan

M. Bazzi, A. Clozza, C. Curceanu, C. Guaraldo, M. Iliescu, S. Manti, A. Scordo,
F. Sgaramella, D. Sirghi, F. Sirghi

Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati dell' INFN, I-00044 Frascati, Italy

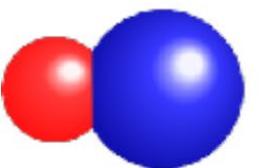
P. Buehler, E. Widmann, J. Zmeskal

Stefan-Meyer-Institut für subatomare Physik, A-1090 Vienna, Austria

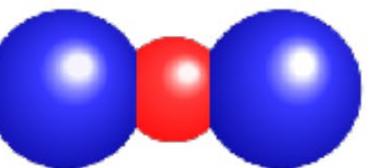


Thank you for your attention!

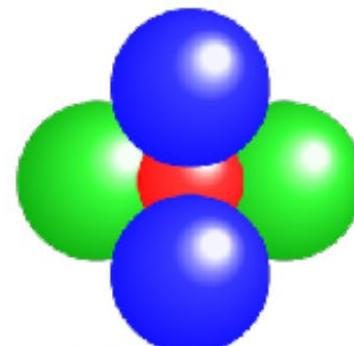
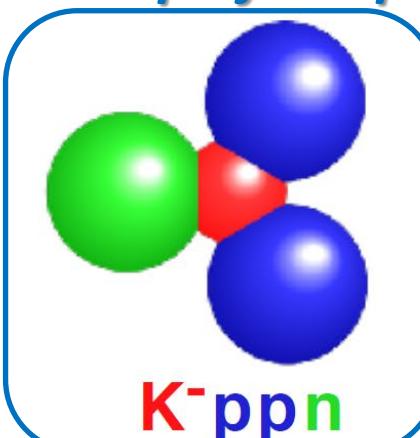
A first step of the project



K^-p



K^-pp



via in-flight ${}^4\text{He}(\text{K}^-, \text{N})$