

# Search for the Kaonic Bound State $K^{\text{bar}}NN$ at J-PARC

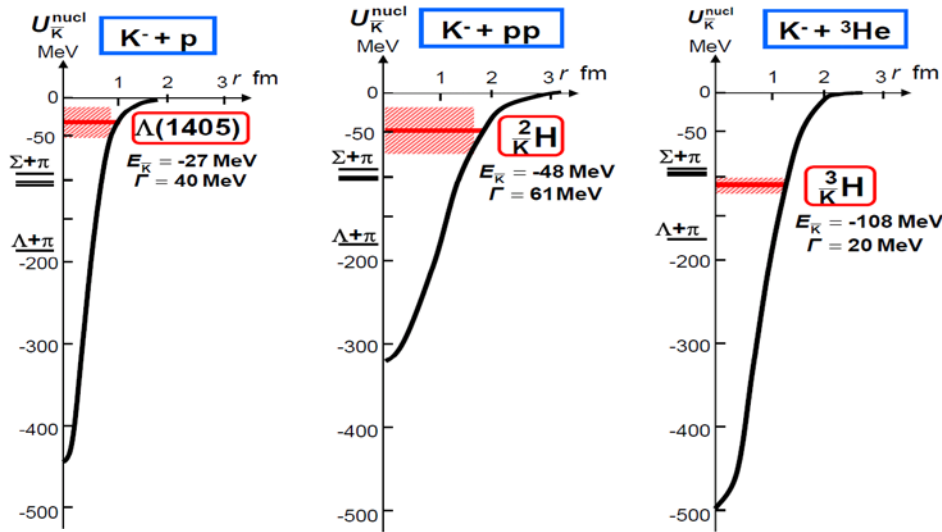
*via  $\Delta p$  and  $\pi\Sigma p$  decay channels*

F. Sakuma, RIKEN 

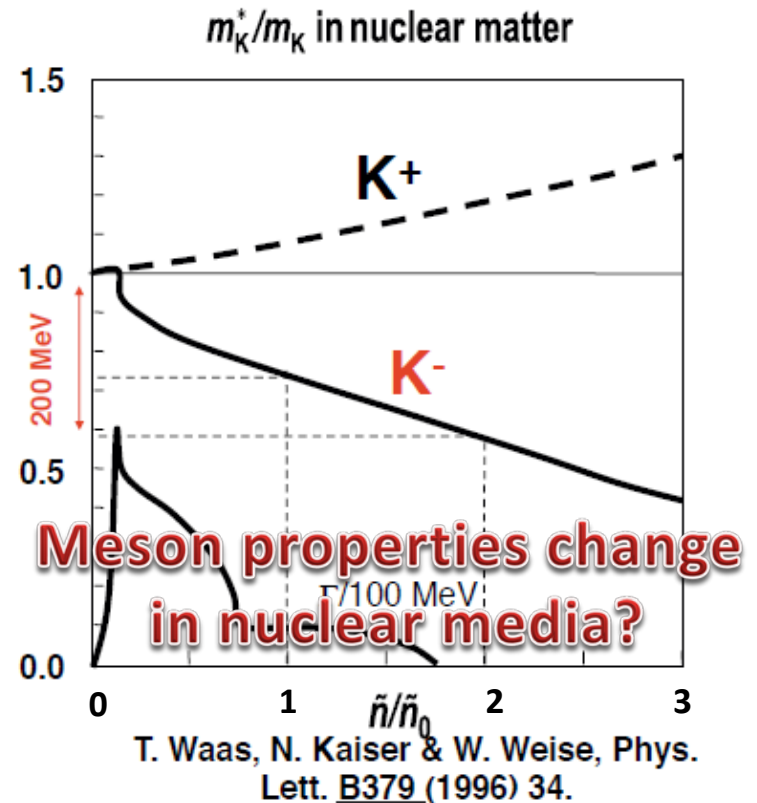
on behalf of the J-PARC E15  
collaboration

# Kaonic Nuclei

- Bound states of nucleus and anti-kaon
- Predicted as a consequence of **attractive  $K^{\text{bar}}N$  interaction in  $l=0$**



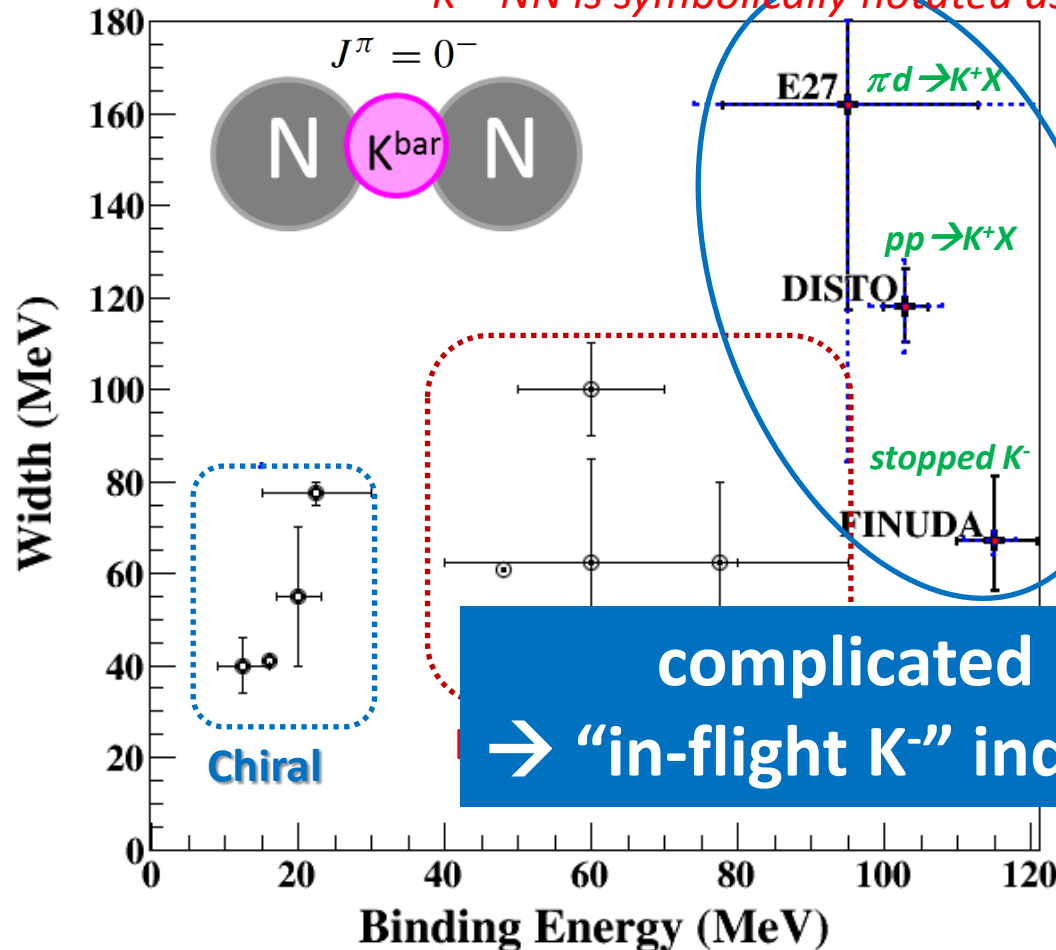
Y.Akaishi & T.Yamazaki, PLB535, 70(2002).



- Will provide new insight on  **$K^{\text{bar}}N$  interaction in media**

# Present Status of $K^{\text{bar}}\text{NN} = \text{“K-pp”}$

$K^{\text{bar}}\text{NN}$  is symbolically notated as “K-pp” in this talk



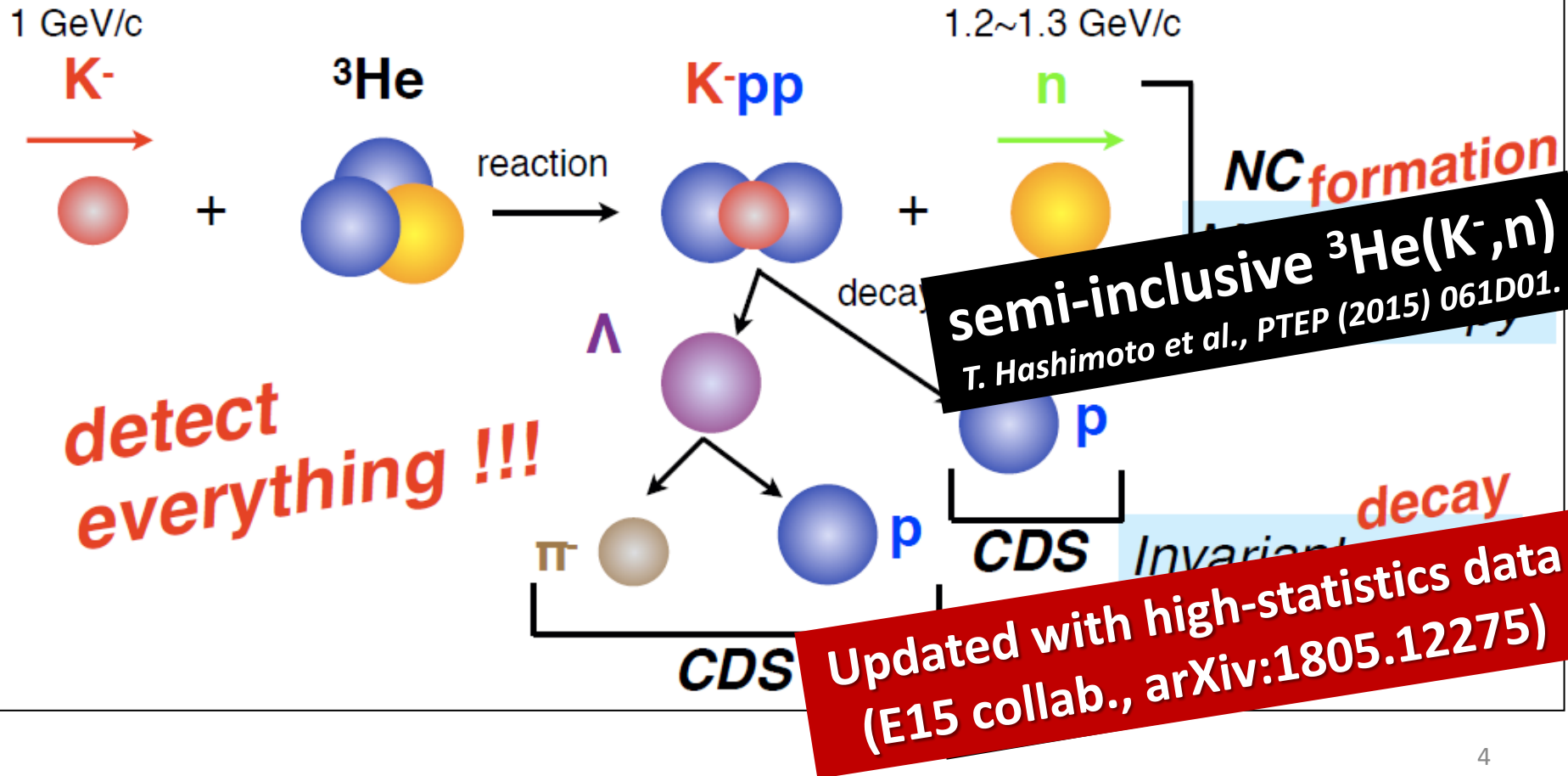
Upper limits were also obtained:

- LEPS@SPring8 [Inclusive  $d(\gamma, K^+\pi^-)X$ ]
- HADES@GSI [Exclusive  $pp \rightarrow p\Lambda K^+$ ]

# J-PARC E15 Experiment

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

😊 2NA processes and  $\Lambda$  decays can be discriminated kinematically



# “ $K^-pp$ ”, a $\bar{K}$ -Meson Nuclear Bound State, Observed in ${}^3\text{He}(K^-, \Lambda p)n$ Reactions

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<sup>18</sup> Tohoku University, Sendai, 982-0826, Japan and

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(J-PARC E15 Collaboration)

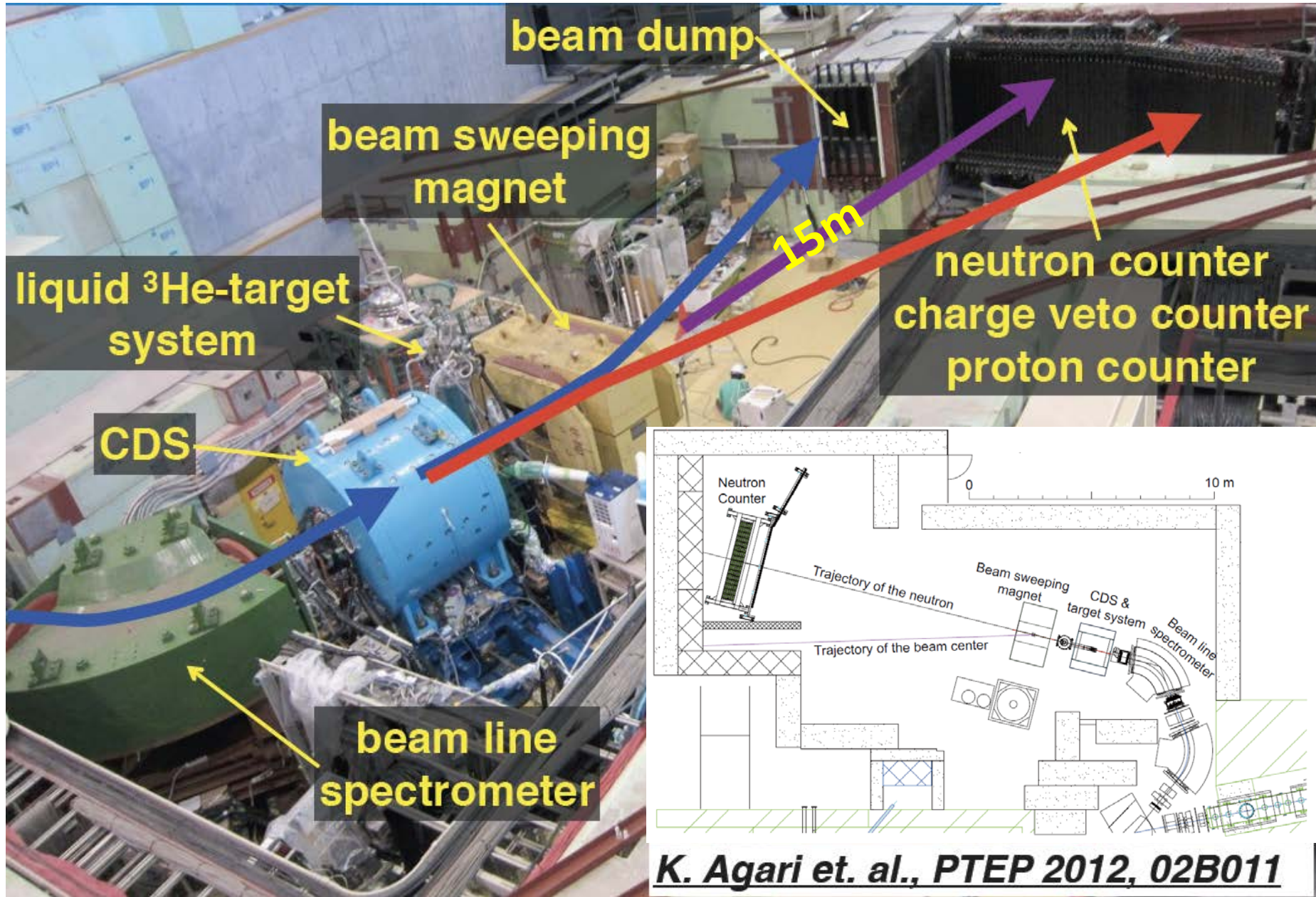
# “ $K^-pp$ ” in ${}^3\text{He}(K^-, \Lambda p)n$

We observed a distinct resonance peak in the  $\Lambda p$  invariant-mass spectrum of  ${}^3\text{He}(K^-, \Lambda p)n$ , well below the mass threshold of  $M(K^-pp)$ . By selecting a relatively large momentum-transfer region  $q = 350 \sim 650$  MeV/c, one can clearly separate the resonance peak from the quasi-free process,  $\bar{K}N \rightarrow \bar{K}N$  followed by the non-resonant absorption by the two spectator-nucleons  $\bar{K}NN \rightarrow \Lambda N$ . We found that the simplest fit to the observed peak gives us a Breit-Wigner pole at  $B_{Kpp} = 47 \pm 3$  (stat.)  $_{-6}^{+3}$  (sys.) MeV having a width  $\Gamma_{Kpp} = 115 \pm 7$  (stat.)  $_{-9}^{+10}$  (sys.) MeV, and the  $S$ -wave Gaussian reaction form-factor parameter  $Q_{Kpp} = 381 \pm 14$  (stat.)  $_{-0}^{+57}$  (sys.) MeV/c, as a new form of the nuclear bound system with strangeness – “ $K^-pp$ ”.

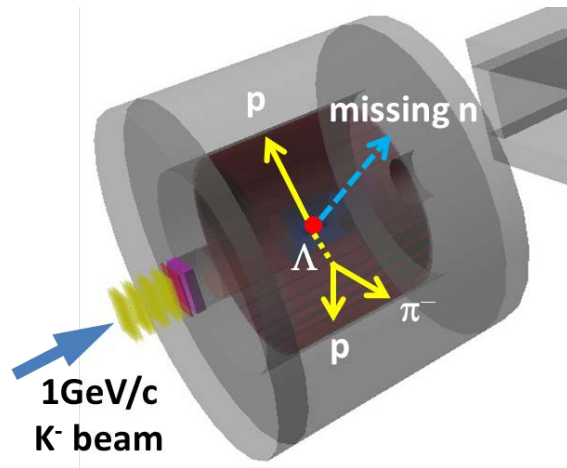
Since the prediction of the  $\pi$ -meson by Yukawa [1], there has been a long-standing question as to whether a mesonic nuclear bound state exists. Mesons are introduced as mediators between nucleons to confine them

in vacuum one needs energy  $m$  to produce them. If a mesonic nuclear bound state exists, it will form a quantum state at an energy  $E_M$  below  $m$  whose binding energy  $B_M = m - E_M$ . Many mesons have been examined

# Experimental Setup @ K1.8BR

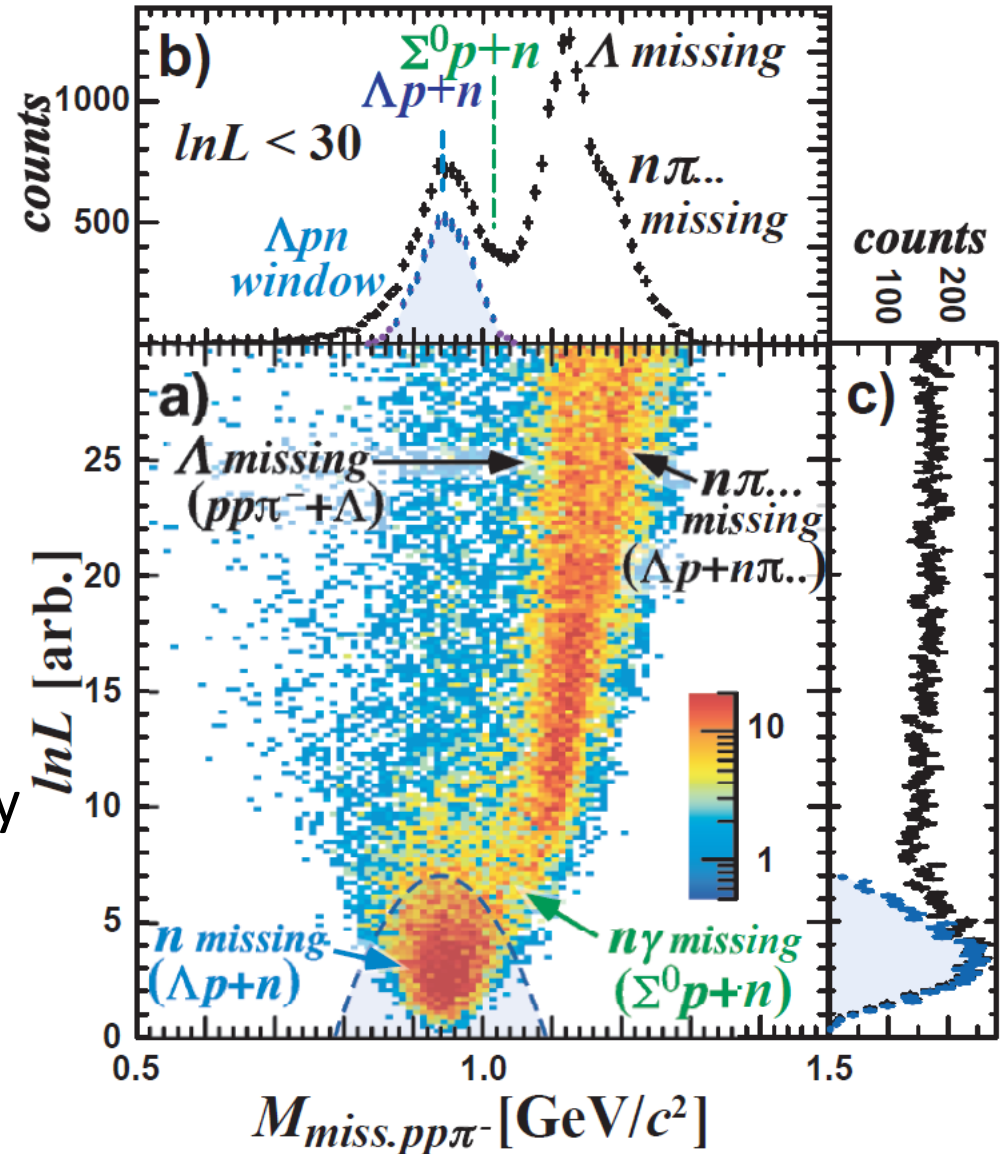


# ${}^3\text{He} + \text{K}^- \rightarrow \Lambda p n$ Selection



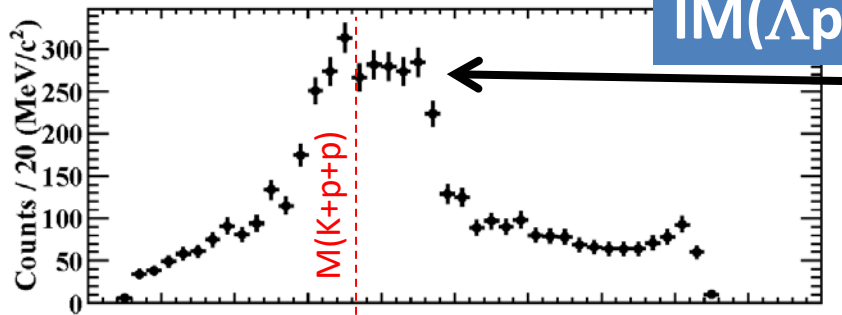
- $\Lambda \rightarrow \pi^- p$  and  $p$  are detected with CDS
  - A missing neutron is identified by missing-mass of  ${}^3\text{He}(\text{K}^-, \Lambda p)n$
- $\Lambda p n_{\text{miss}}$  events are selected by log-likelihood method ( $\ln L$ )
  - distance-of-closest-approach for each vertex
  - kinematical constraint

E15 collab., arXiv:1805.12275

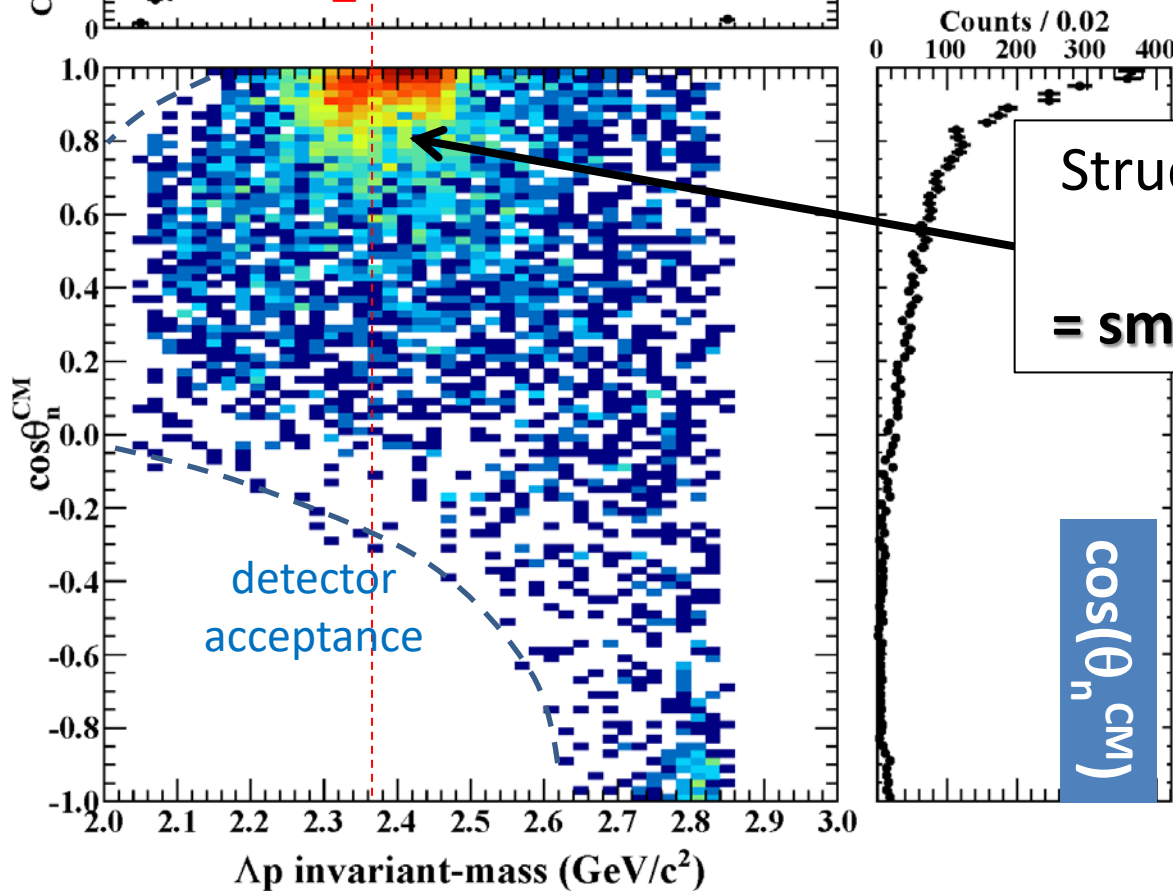


# $IM(\Lambda p)$ vs. $\cos(\theta_n^{CM})$

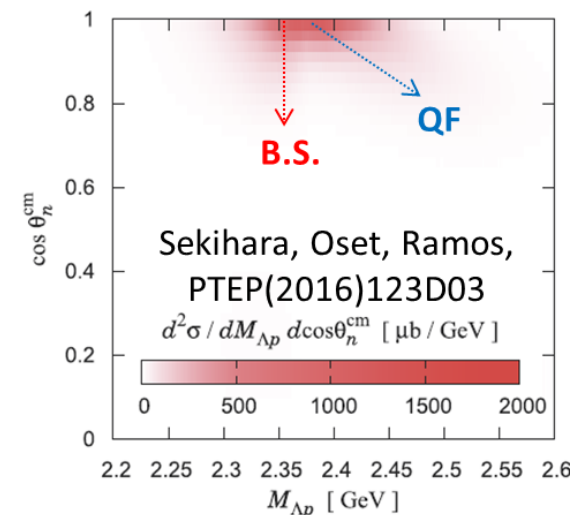
E15 collab., arXiv:1805.12275



Structures around the  $K^-pp$  threshold can be seen  
= **bound-state + quasi-elastic**



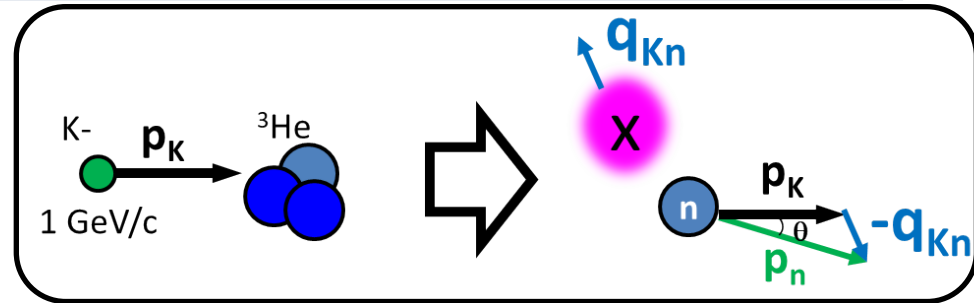
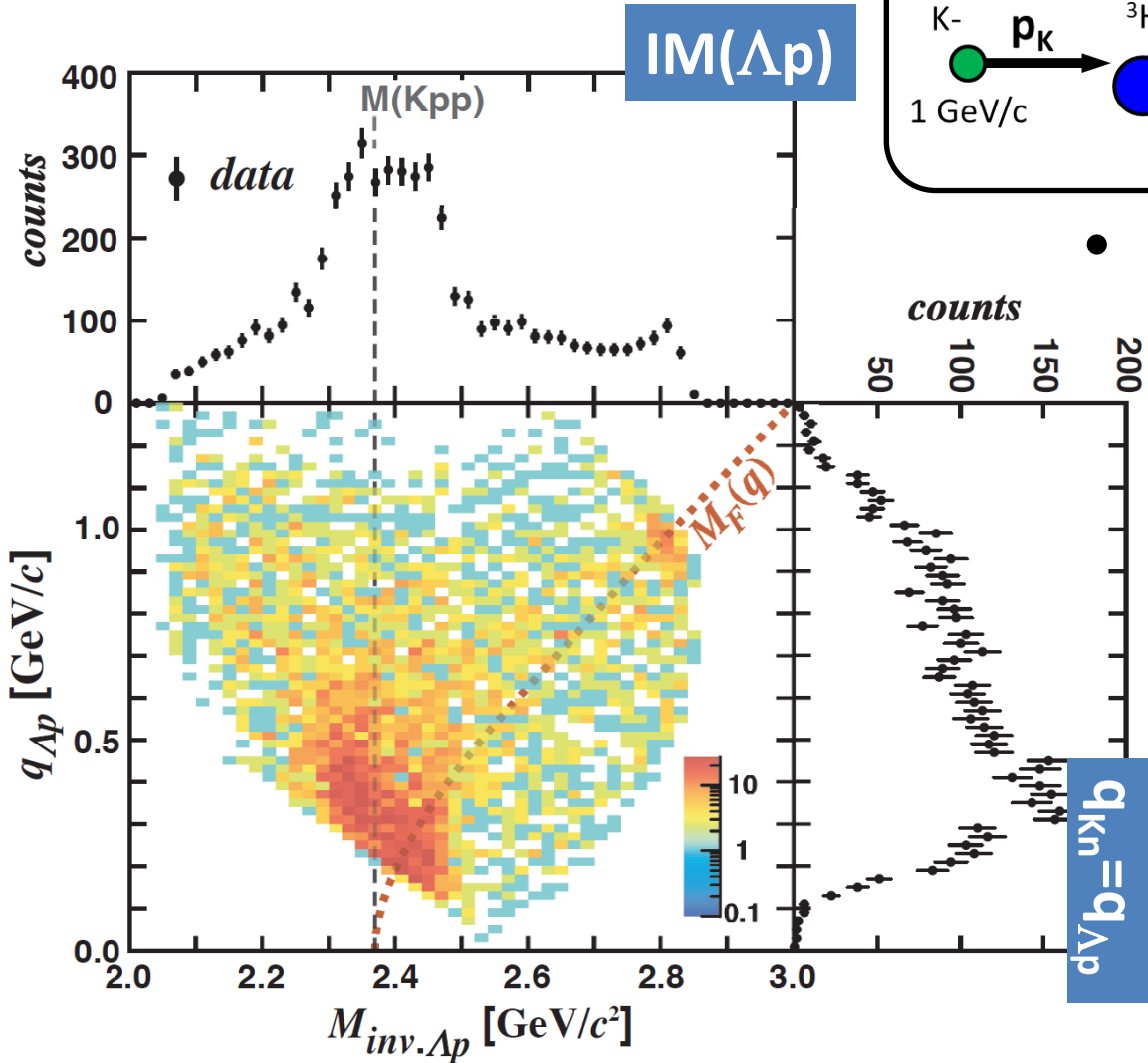
Structures are concentrated in forward-n region  
= **small momentum-transfer**





# IM( $\Delta p$ ) vs. Momentum Transfer $q_{Kn}$

E15 collab., arXiv:1805.12275



- Seems to consist of 3 components

## – Bound state

- centroid NOT depend on  $q_{Kn}$

## – Qasi-elastic $K^-$ abs.

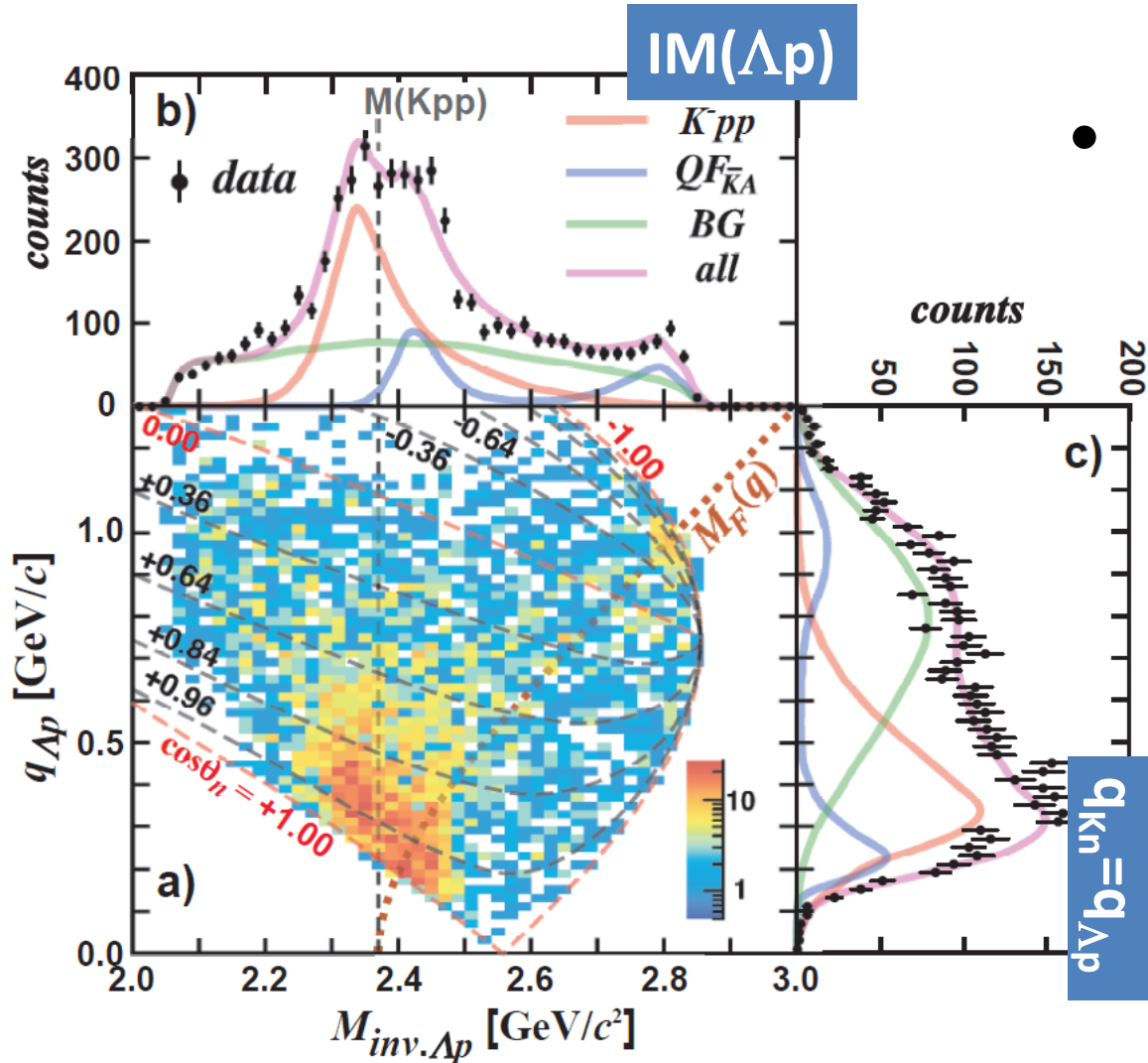
- centroid depends on  $q_{Kn}$

## – Background

- Broad distribution

# IM( $\Lambda p$ ) vs. Momentum Transfer $q_{Kn}$

E15 collab., arXiv:1805.12275



- Fit with 3 components

## – Bound state

- **centroid NOT depend on  $q_{Kn}$**

- BW\*(Gauss form-factor)

$$f_{\{Kpp\}}(M, q) = \frac{A_{Kpp} (\Gamma_{Kpp}/2)^2}{(M - M_{Kpp})^2 + (\Gamma_{Kpp}/2)^2} e^{-\left(\frac{q}{Q_{Kpp}}\right)^2}$$

## – Qasi-elastic K<sup>-</sup> abs.

- **centroid depends on  $q_{Kn}$**

- Followed by  $\Lambda p$  conversion

## – Background

- Broad distribution

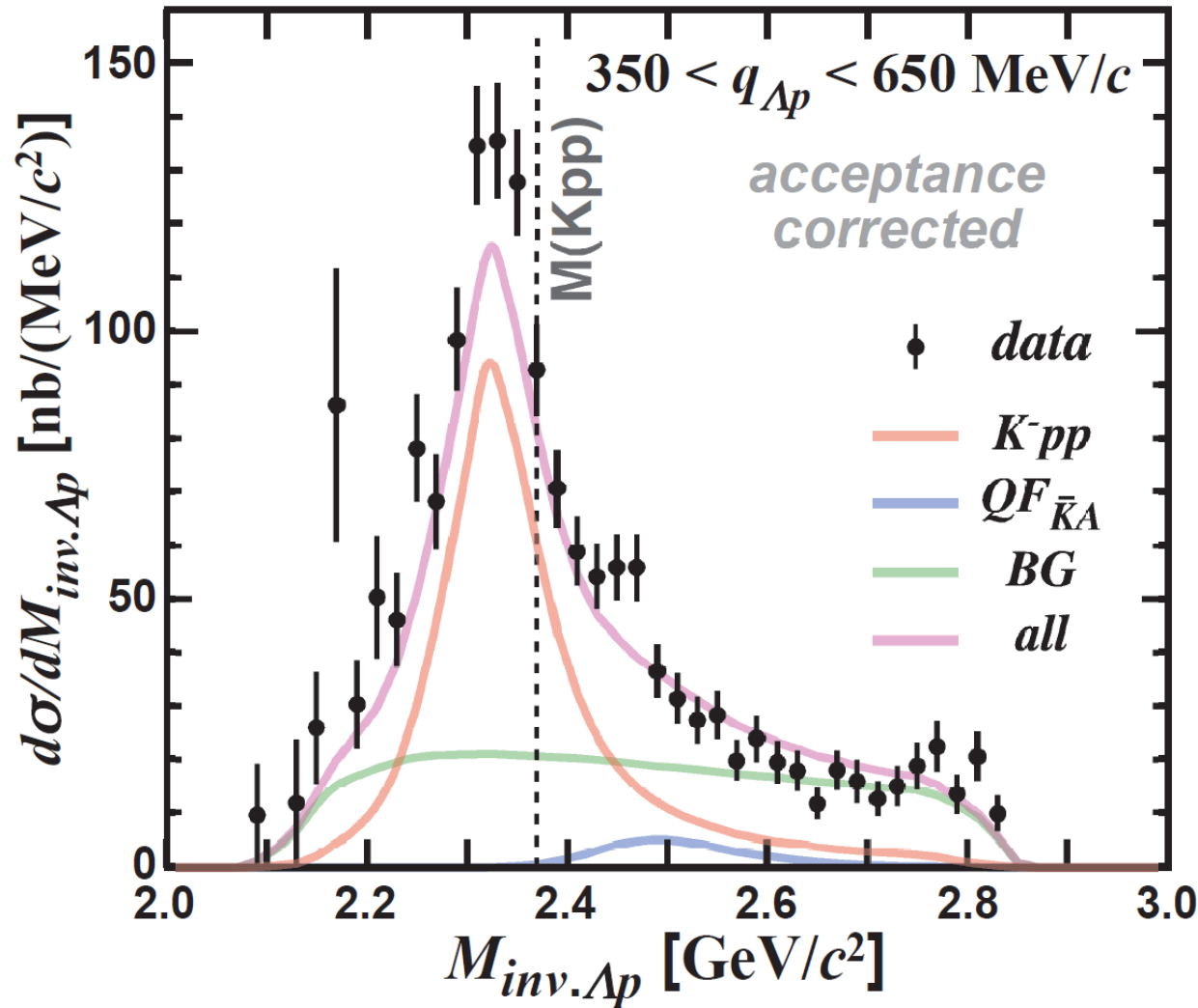
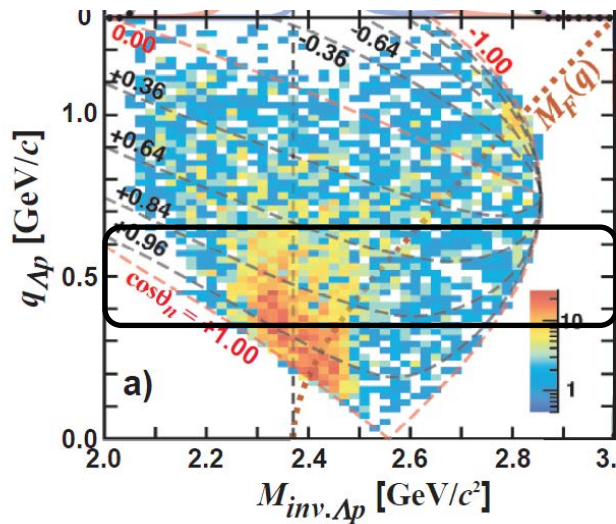
\* We conduct the fitting in each 2D bin

# “K-pp” Bound-State

$$f_{\{Kpp\}}(M, q) = \frac{A_{Kpp} (\Gamma_{Kpp}/2)^2}{(M - M_{Kpp})^2 + (\Gamma_{Kpp}/2)^2} e^{-\left(\frac{q}{Q_{Kpp}}\right)^2}$$

Select  $0.35 < q_{Kn} < 0.65$   
GeV/c

– BS and QF are well separated



# “K<sup>-</sup>pp” Bound-State

$$f_{\{Kpp\}}(M, q) = \frac{A_{Kpp} (\Gamma_{Kpp}/2)^2}{(M - M_{Kpp})^2 + (\Gamma_{Kpp}/2)^2} e^{-\left(\frac{q}{Q_{Kpp}}\right)^2}$$

Fit values  
that reproduce the spectrum:

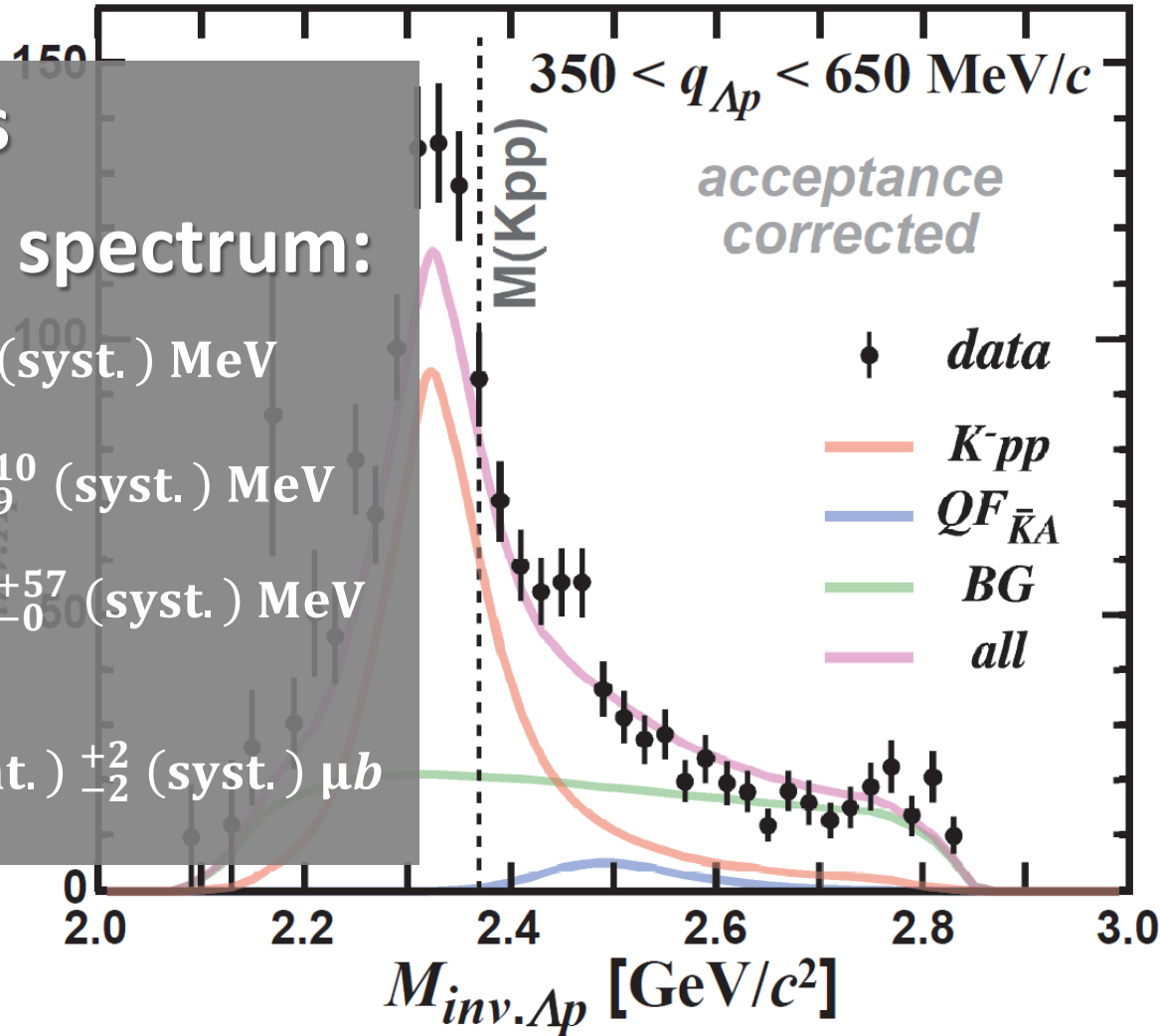
$$B_{\text{“Kpp”}} = 47 \pm 3 \text{ (stat.) } {}^{+3}_{-6} \text{ (syst.) MeV}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{“Kpp”}} = 115 \pm 7 \text{ (stat.) } {}^{+10}_{-9} \text{ (syst.) MeV}$$

$$Q_{\text{“Kpp”}} = 381 \pm 14 \text{ (stat.) } {}^{+57}_{-0} \text{ (syst.) MeV}$$

at below the  $M(K^-pp)$

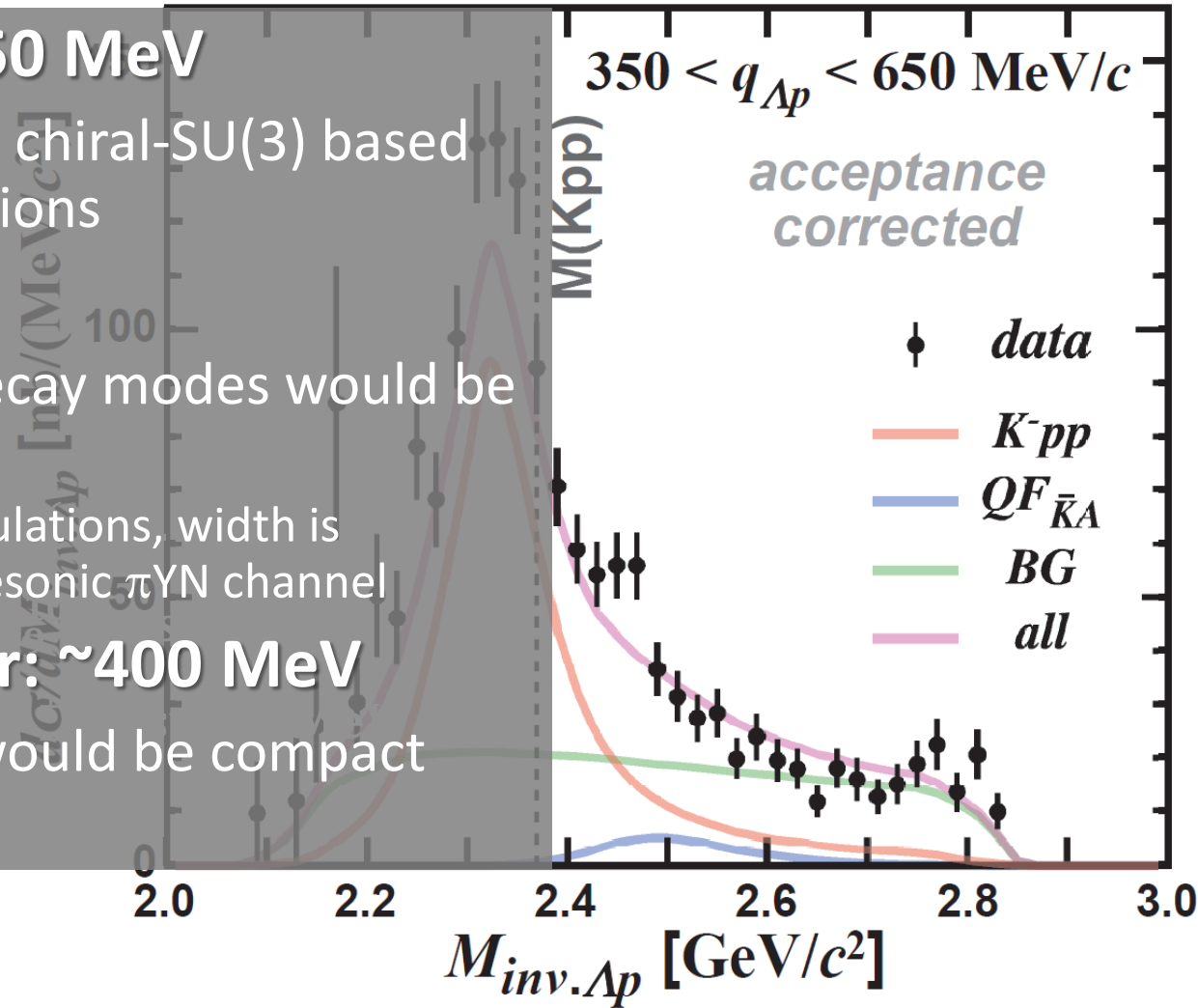
$$\sigma_{\text{“Kpp”}} \cdot Br_{\Lambda p} = 15 \pm 1 \text{ (stat.) } {}^{+2}_{-2} \text{ (syst.) } \mu\text{b}$$



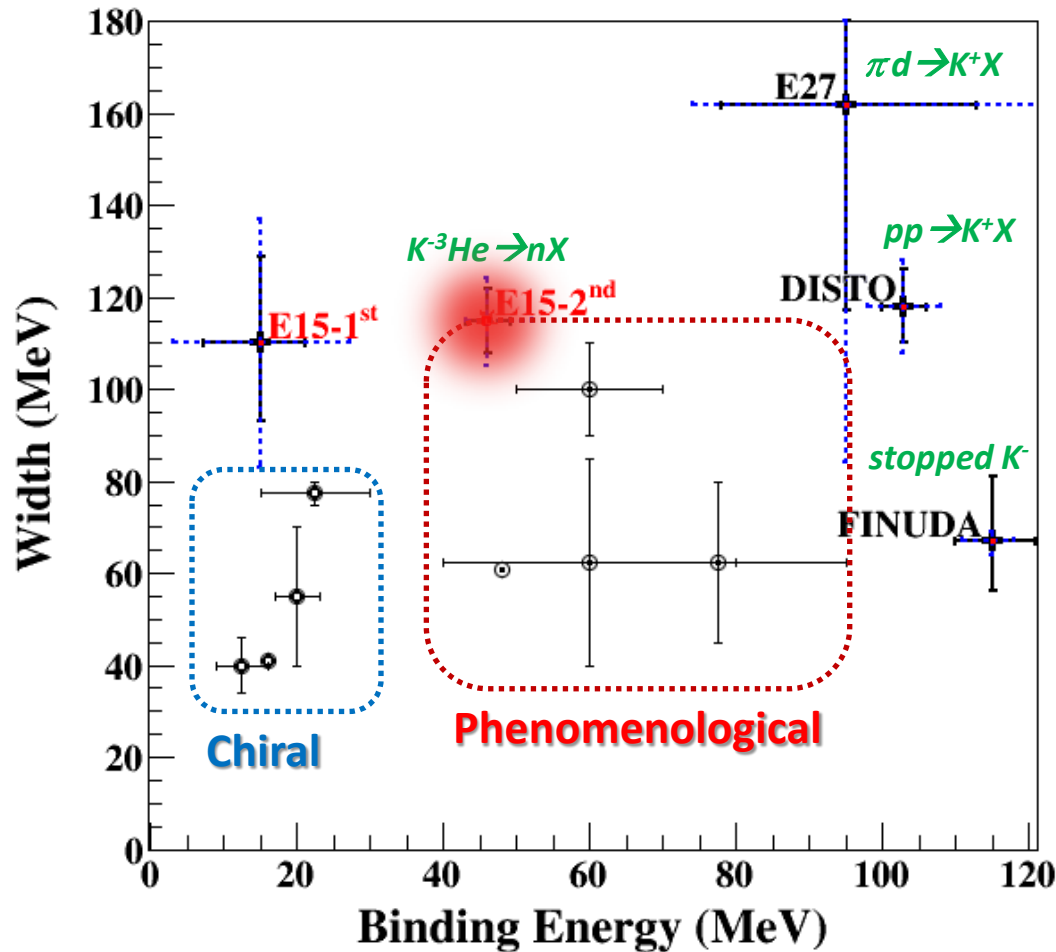
# “K-pp” Bound-State

$$f_{\{Kpp\}}(M, q) = \frac{A_{Kpp} (\Gamma_{Kpp}/2)^2}{(M - M_{Kpp})^2 + (\Gamma_{Kpp}/2)^2} e^{-\left(\frac{q}{Q_{Kpp}}\right)^2}$$

- **Binding energy: ~50 MeV**
  - Much deeper than chiral-SU(3) based theoretical predictions
- **Width: ~100 MeV**
  - Non-mesonic YN decay modes would be dominant
    - in theoretical calculations, width is evaluated with mesonic  $\pi$ YN channel
- **S-wave form factor: ~400 MeV**
  - $K^- + {}^3\text{He}$  reaction would be compact (~0.5 fm)



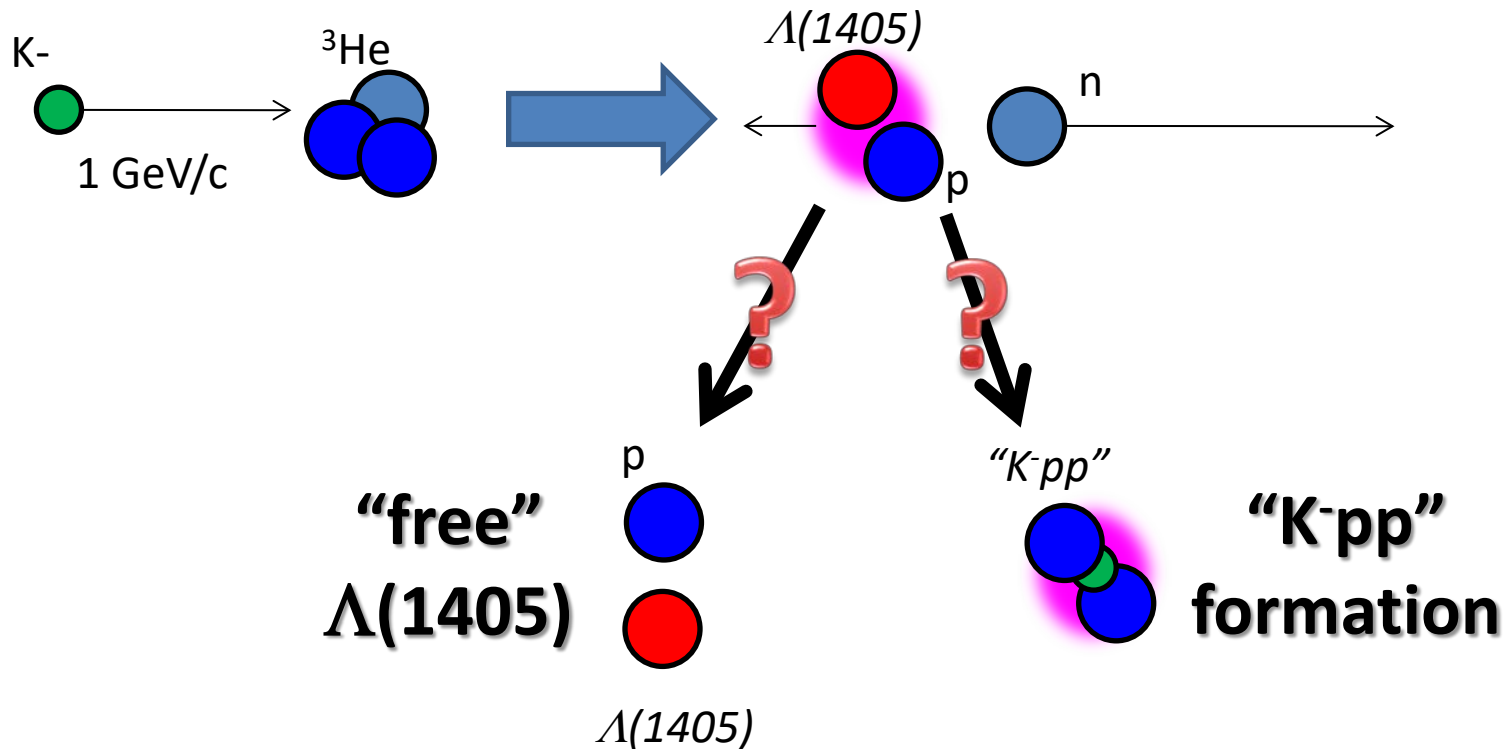
# Present Status of “K<sup>-</sup>pp”



For further understandings:

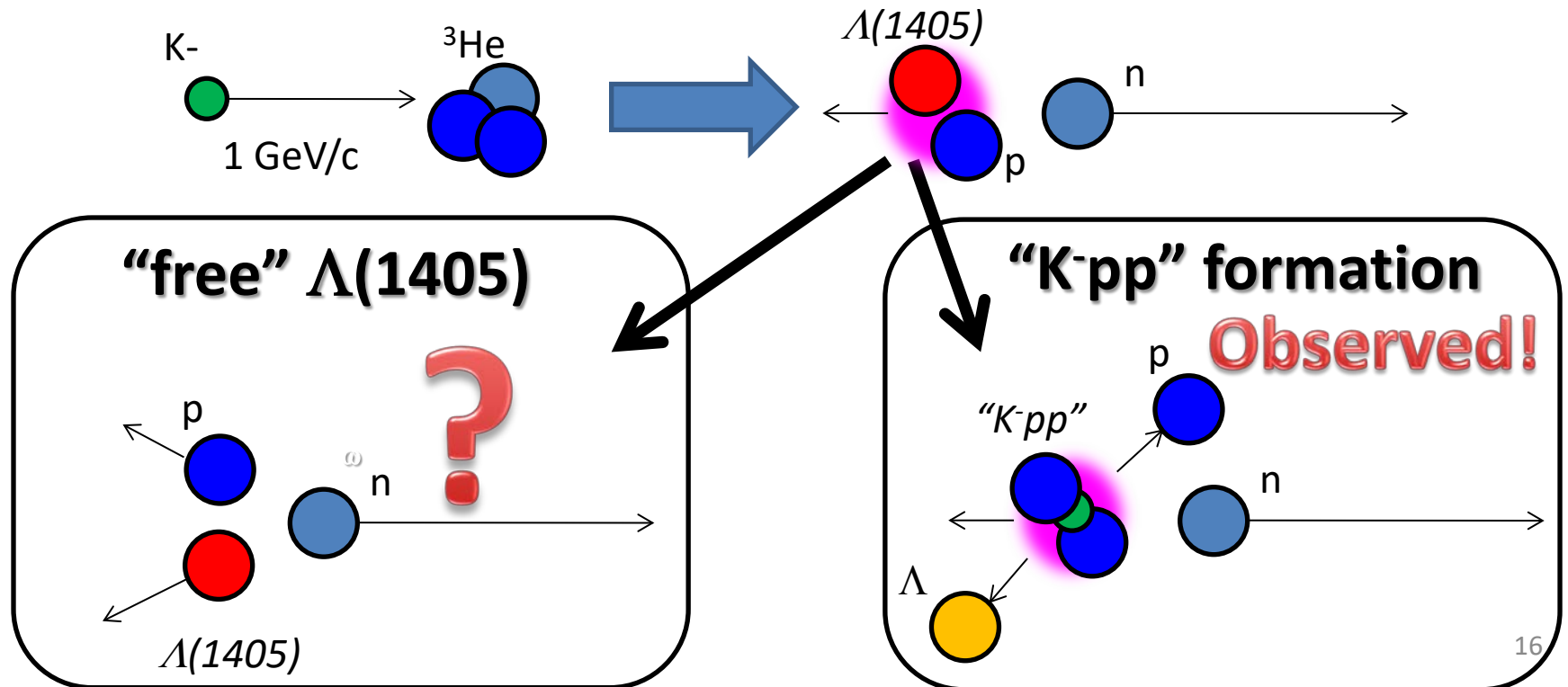
- ✓  $\Lambda(1405)$  production →  $\Lambda^*N$  doorway
- ✓  $\pi\Sigma N$  decay channel → new info. of  $K^{\text{bar}}NN$

# $\Lambda(1405)$ in ${}^3\text{He}(K^-, \pi\Sigma p)n$



# $\Lambda(1405)p$ and “K<sup>-</sup>pp”

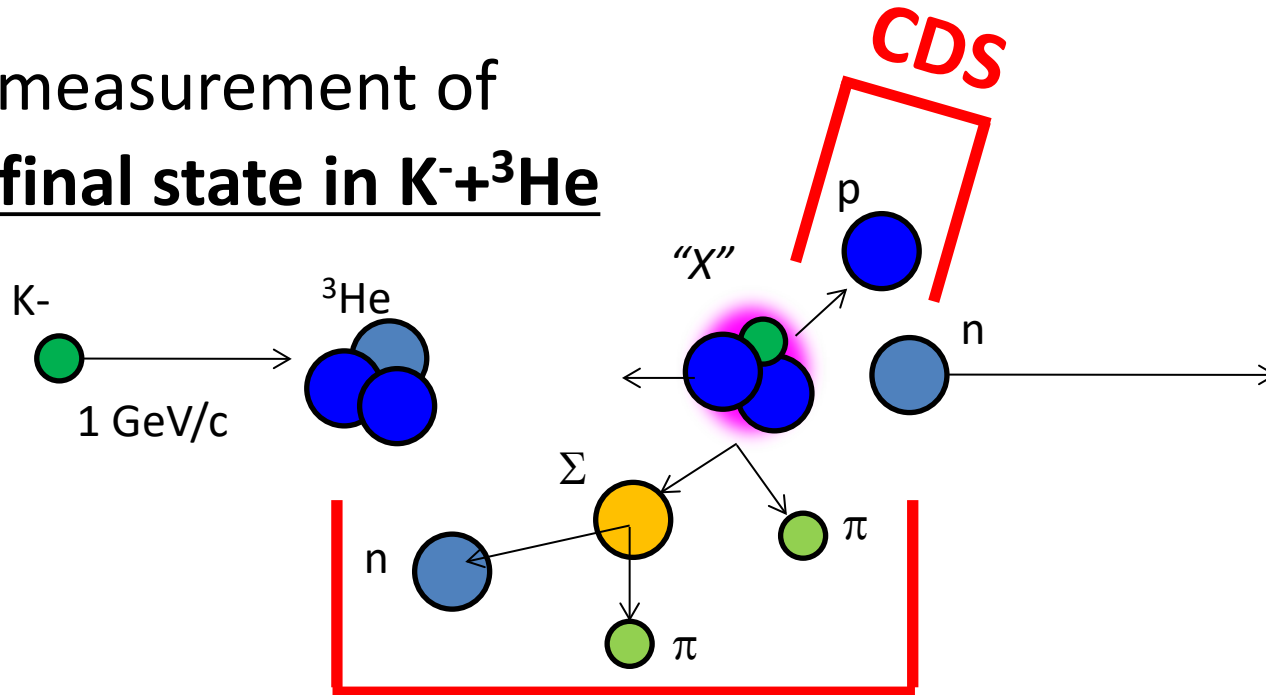
- Theoretically, “K<sup>-</sup>pp” is expected to be produced via  $\Lambda(1405)+p \rightarrow$  “K<sup>-</sup>pp” door-way process
  - comparison between  $\Lambda(1405)p$  and “K<sup>-</sup>pp” production would give us an important information





# $K^- \ ^3\text{He} \rightarrow \pi \Sigma \text{pn} @ \text{E15}$

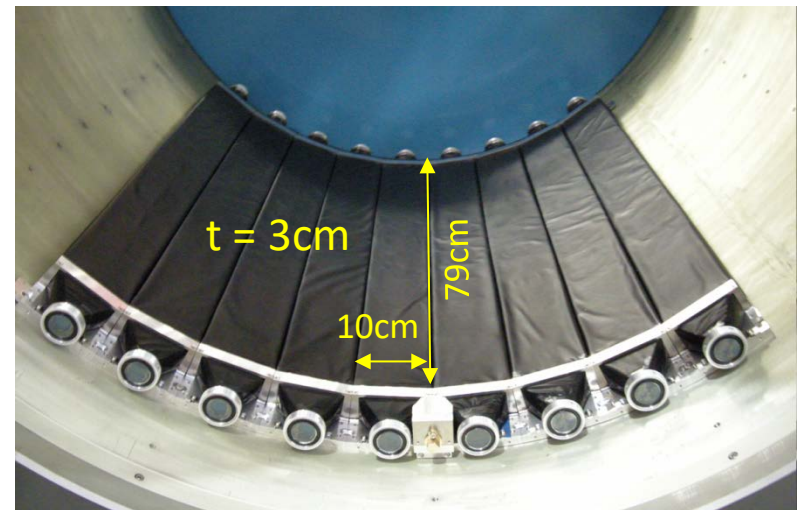
- Exclusive measurement of  $\pi^\pm \Sigma^\mp \text{pn}$  final state in  $K^- + ^3\text{He}$



**CDS**

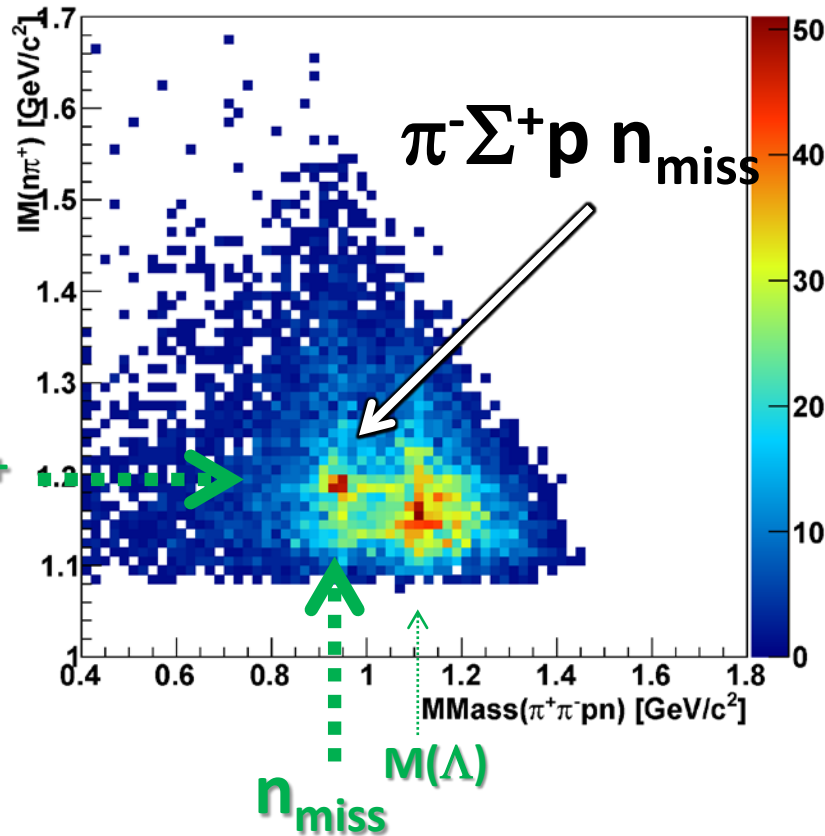
- Experimental challenge of neutron detection with thin scintillation counter ( $t=3\text{cm}$ )

**n detection efficiency  $\sim 3\%$**

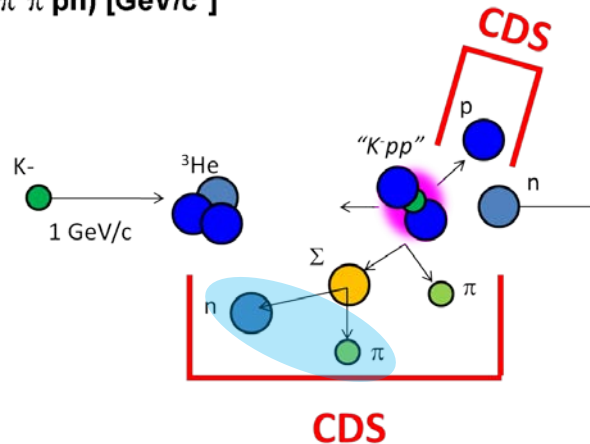
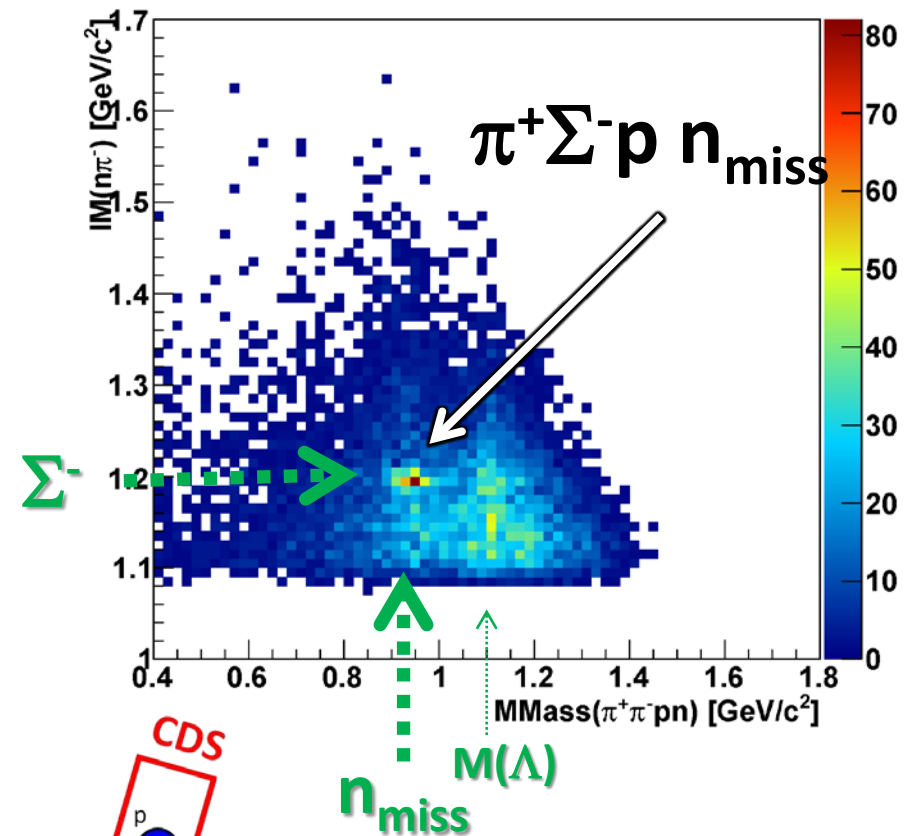


# $\pi\Sigma\rho n$ Events

IM( $n\pi^+$ ) vs MM( $\pi^+\pi^-pn$ )



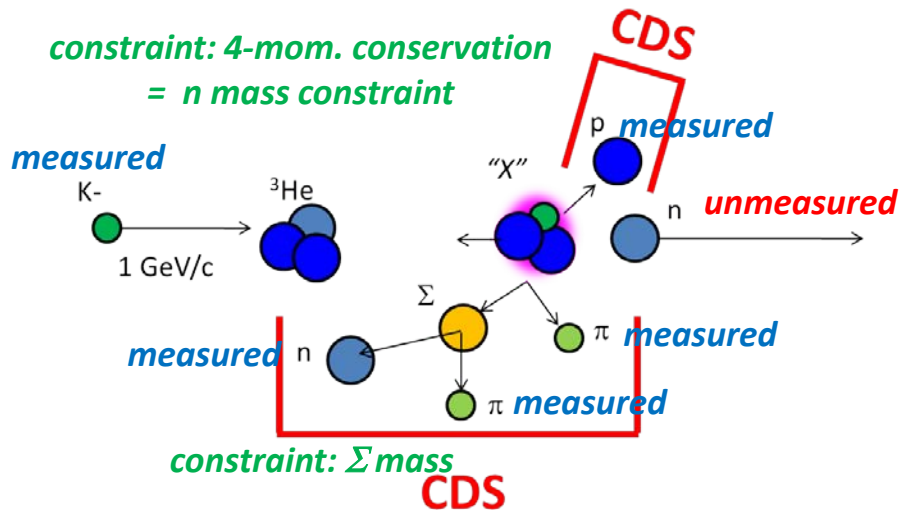
IM( $n\pi^-$ ) vs MM( $\pi^+\pi^-pn$ )



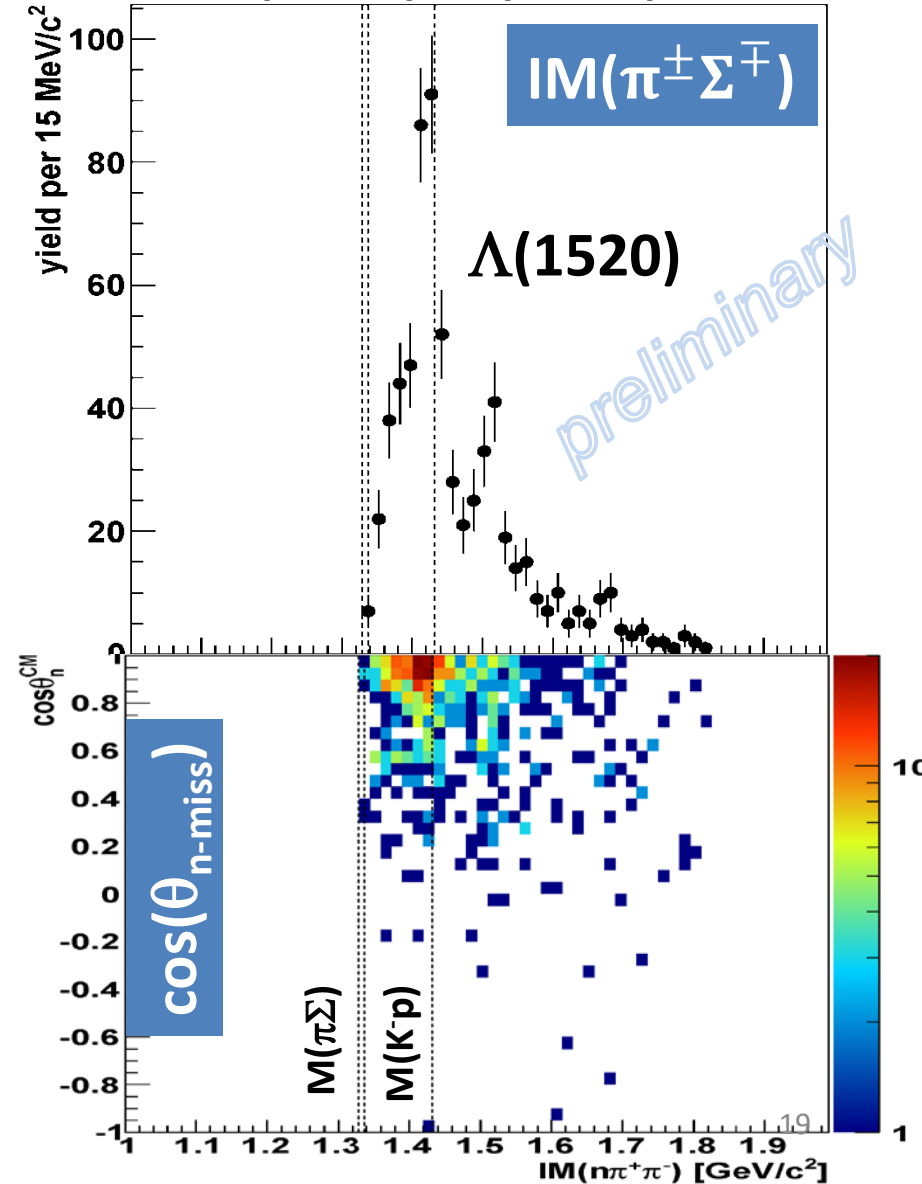
# IM( $\pi\Sigma$ ) vs. $\cos(\theta_n^{\text{CM}})$

- $\pi^\pm \Sigma^\mp$  events are separated using kinematical-fit

- Constraints:
  - $M(\Sigma \rightarrow n\pi)$
  - 4-momentum conservation
- Event selection by  $\chi^2$  probability ( $0.01 < p$ )

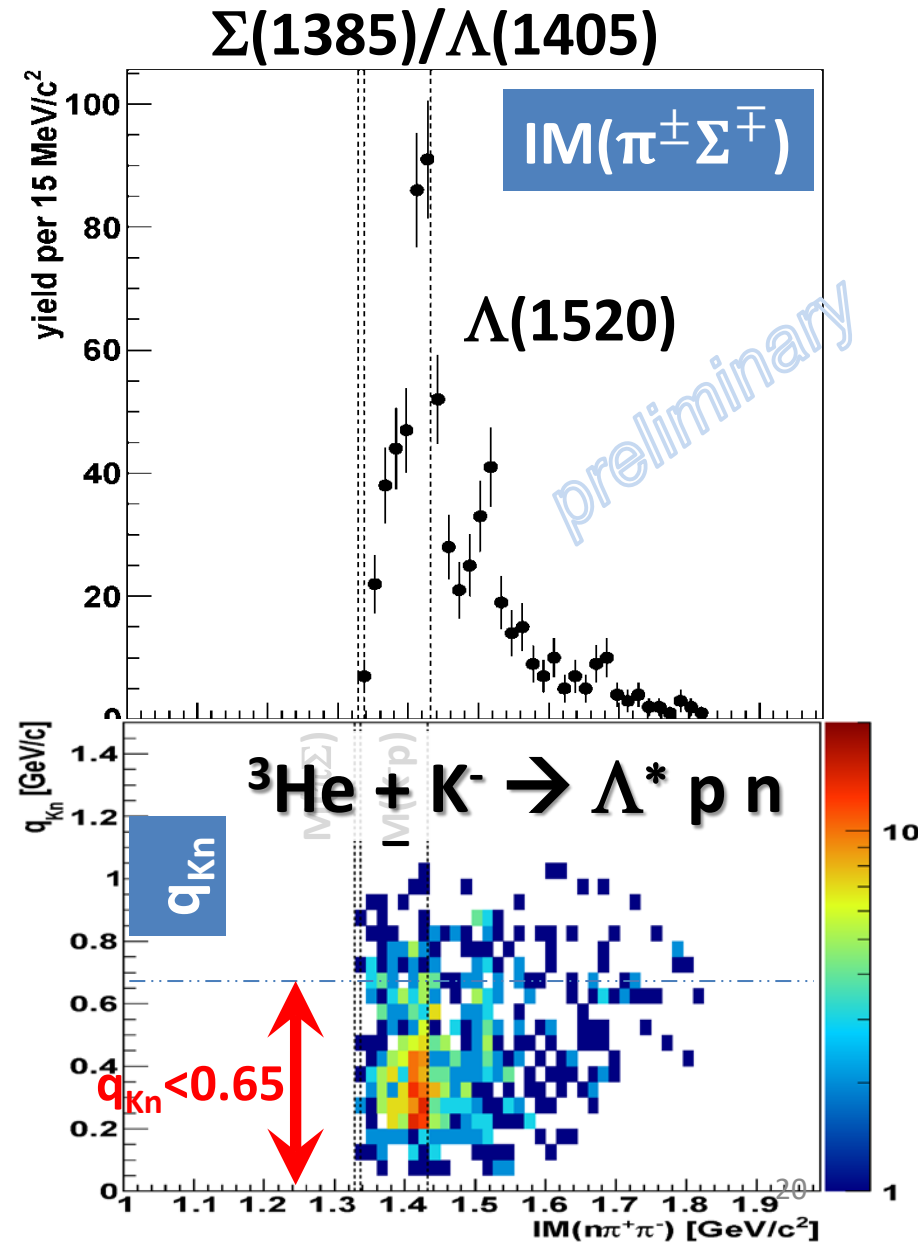
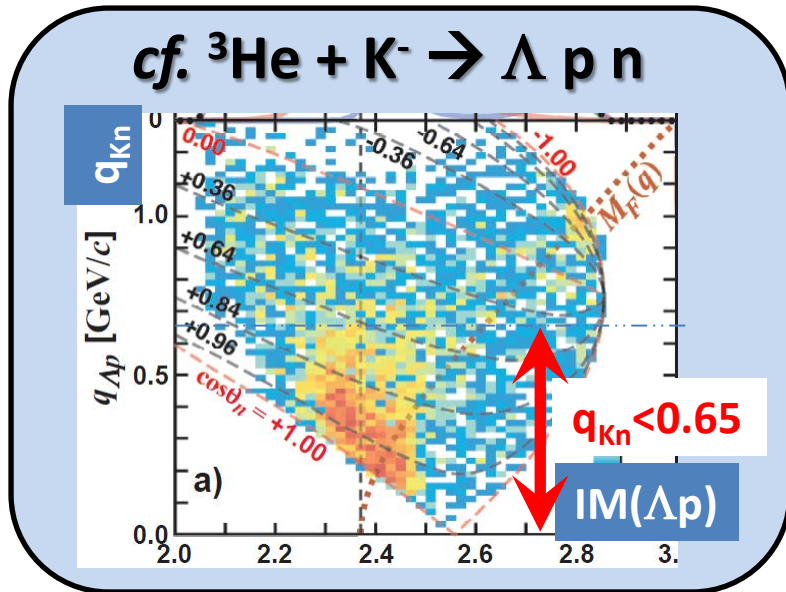


$\Sigma(1385)/\Lambda(1405)$



# IM( $\pi\Sigma$ ) vs. Momentum Transfer $q_{Kn}$

- To compare “K<sup>-</sup>pp” and  $\Lambda^*$  production CS’s, we select  $q_{Kn} < 0.65$  GeV/c region
  - “K<sup>-</sup>pp” and  $\Lambda^*$  signals can be seen in this region



# $\Upsilon^*$ CS ( $q_{K_n} < 0.65$ )

$\Lambda(1405)$

$\sim 130\text{-}140 \mu\text{b}$

Flatté param.:

$m_R \sim 1418 \text{ MeV}/c$

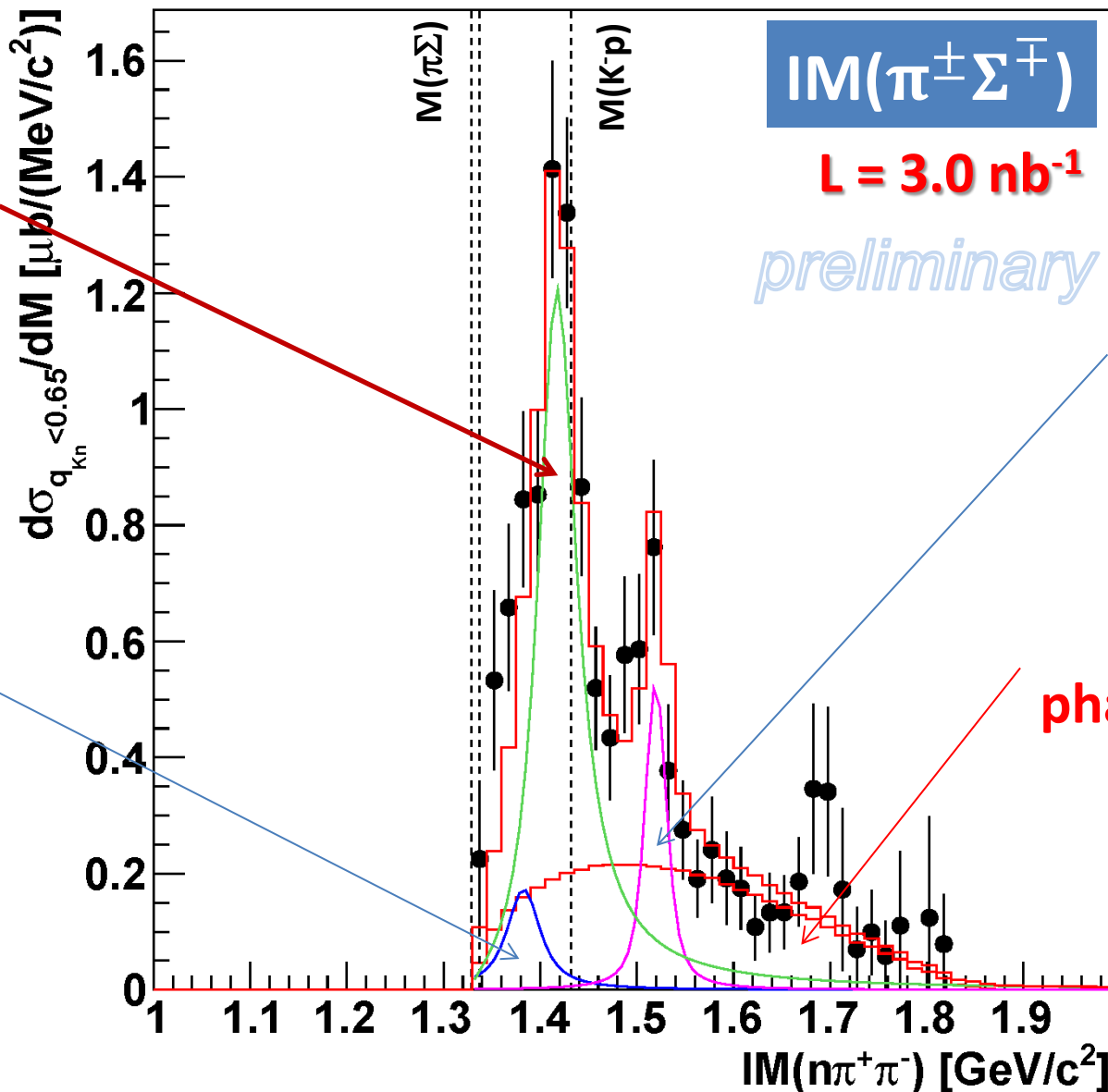
$g_{\pi\Sigma} \sim 1.9\text{E-}1$

$g_{KN} \sim 1.7\text{E-}2$

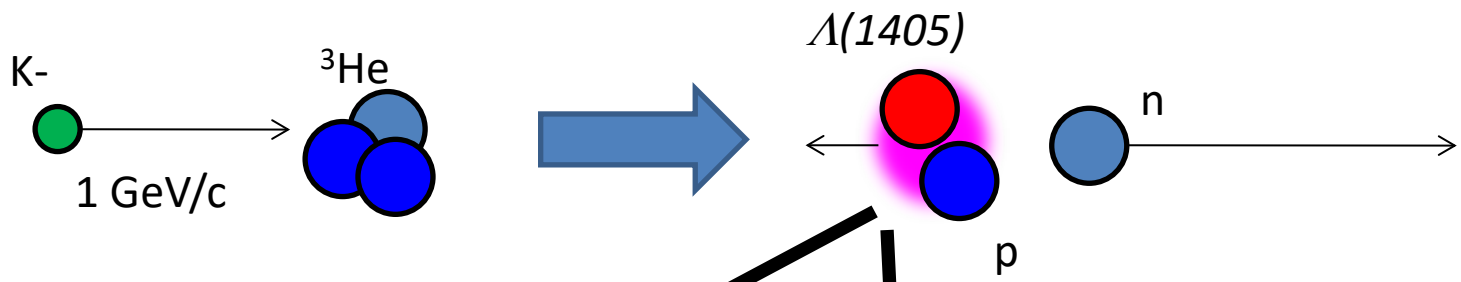
$\Sigma^0(1385)$

$\sim 40\text{-}80 \mu\text{b}$

[evaluated from  
 $\Sigma^+(1385) \rightarrow \pi^+ \Lambda$   
measurement]

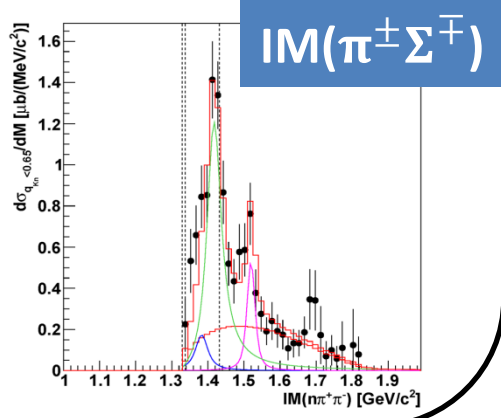
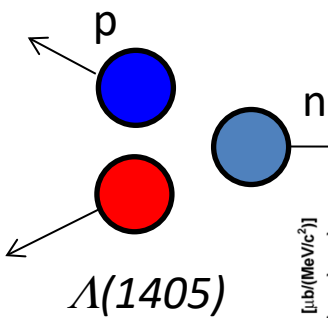


# Production of $\Lambda(1405)p$ and “K-pp”



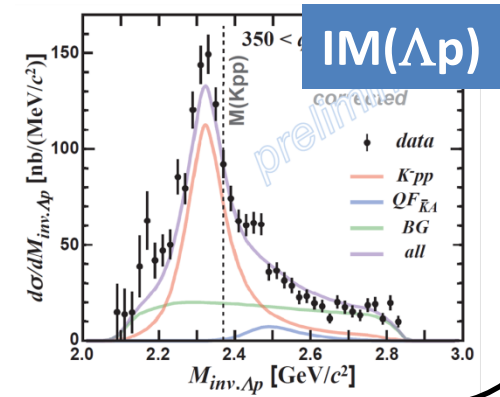
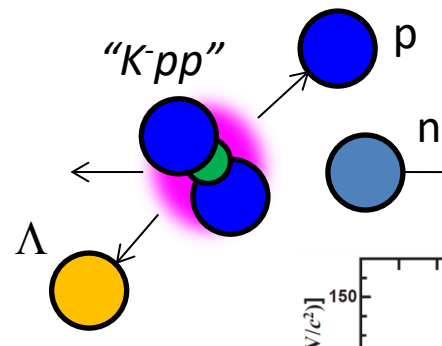
“free”  $\Lambda(1405)$

**$\sim 130\mu\text{b}$**



“K-pp” →  $\Lambda p$

**$\sim 20\mu\text{b}$**



**Large CS of  $\Lambda^*$  compared to “K-pp” formation**

**“K<sup>-</sup>pp” in <sup>3</sup>He(K<sup>-</sup>, πΣp)n**

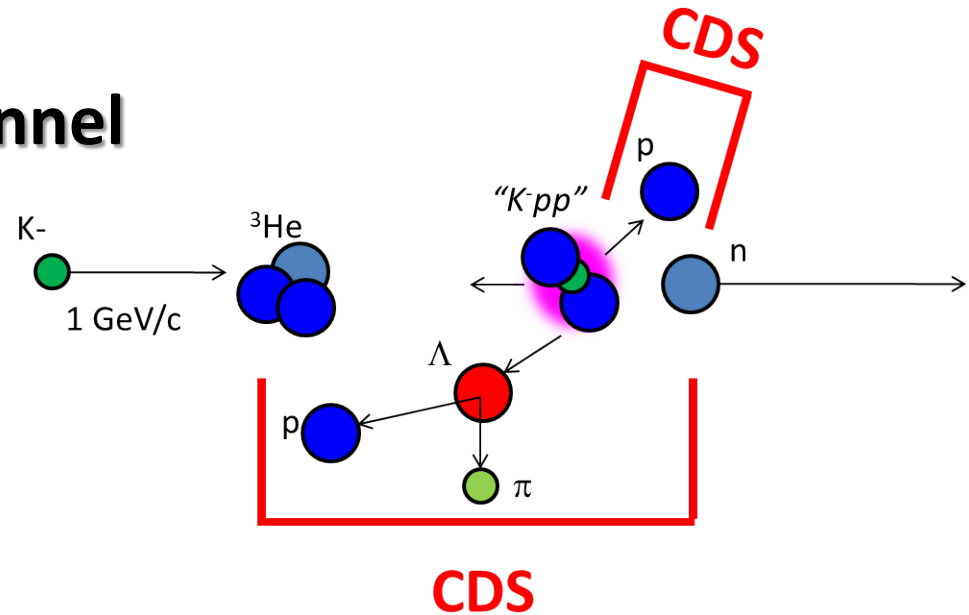
*Search for “K<sup>-</sup>pp” → πΣN decay channel*

# Two Decay Mode of “K<sup>-</sup>pp”

## 1. “K<sup>-</sup>pp” search via $\Lambda p$ channel

→ Non-mesonic channel

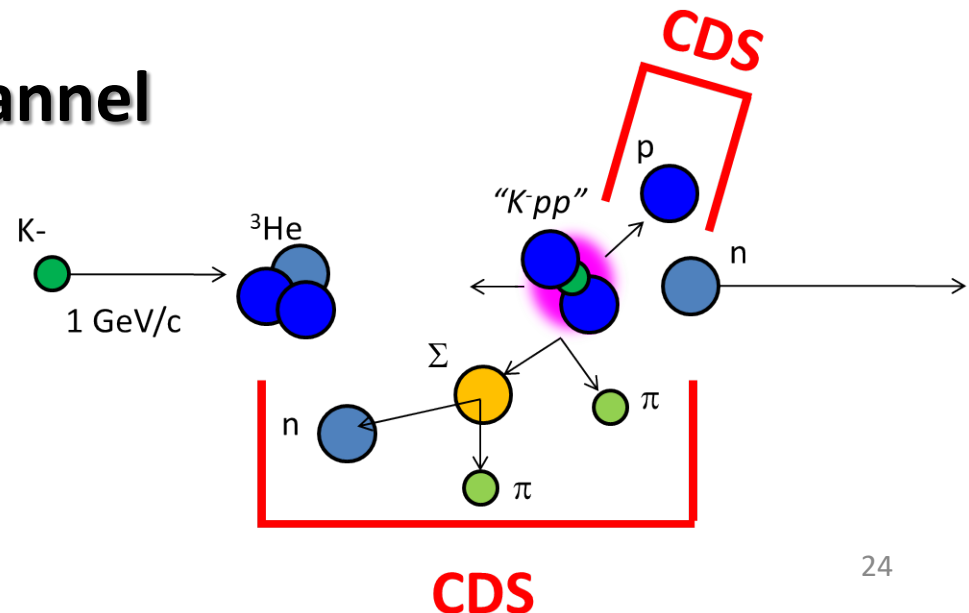
FINUDA/DISTO/E27/E15...



## 2. “K<sup>-</sup>pp” search via $\pi\Sigma p$ channel

→ Mesonic channel

NO measurement so far

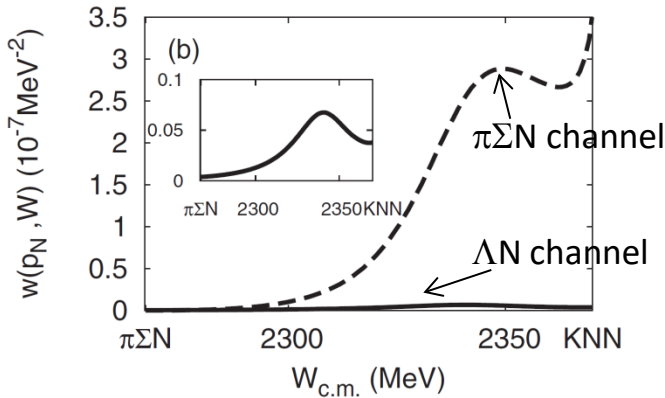




# Two Decay Mode of “K<sup>-</sup>pp”

kaon absorption probability  
of  $\Lambda^* N \rightarrow \pi \Sigma N / \Lambda N$

S. Ohnishi et al., PRC88(2013)025204

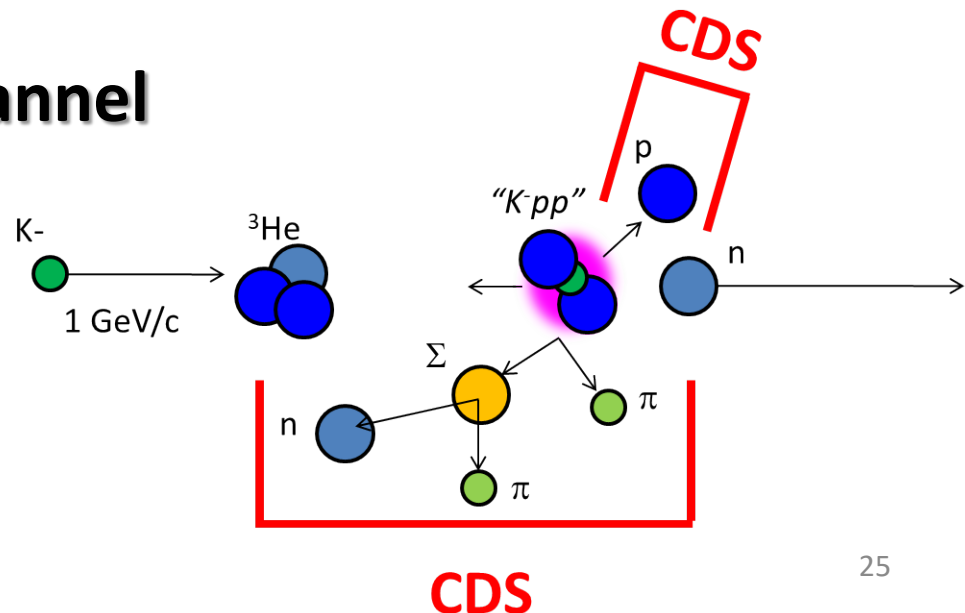


Theoretically,  
 $\pi \Sigma N$  decay is expected to be  
the dominant channel

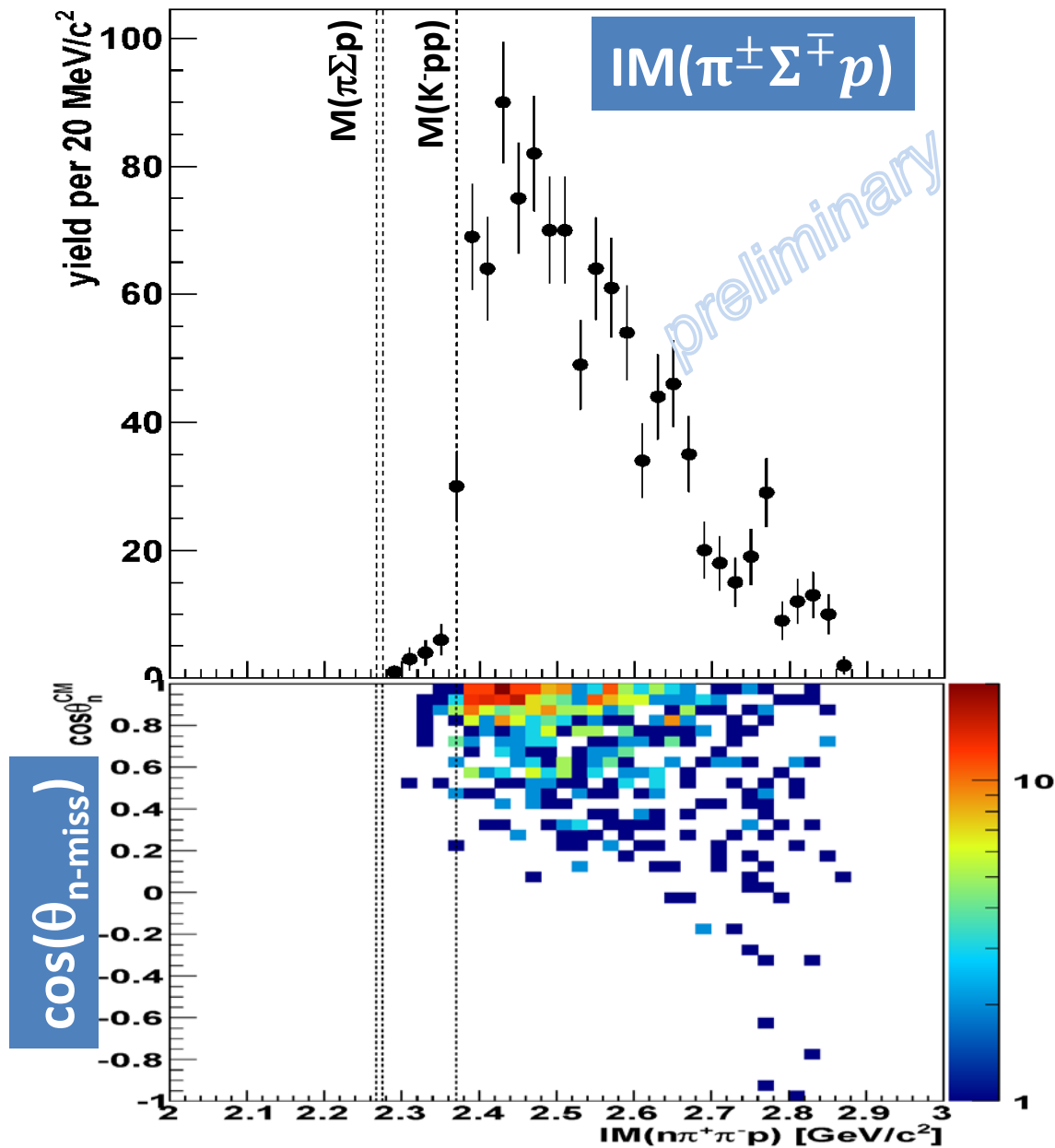
## 2. “K<sup>-</sup>pp” search via $\pi \Sigma p$ channel

→ Mesonic channel

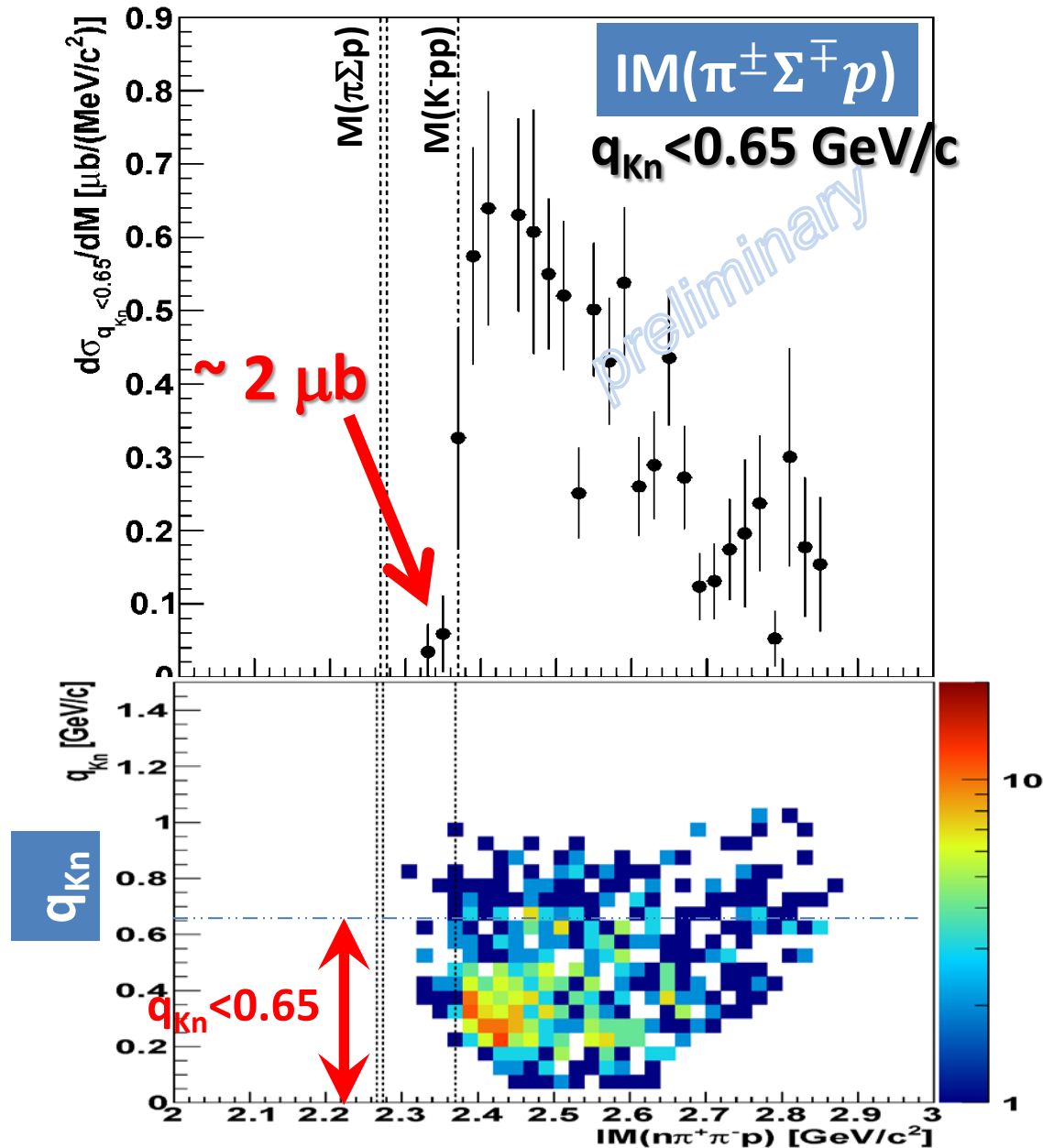
**NO measurement so far**

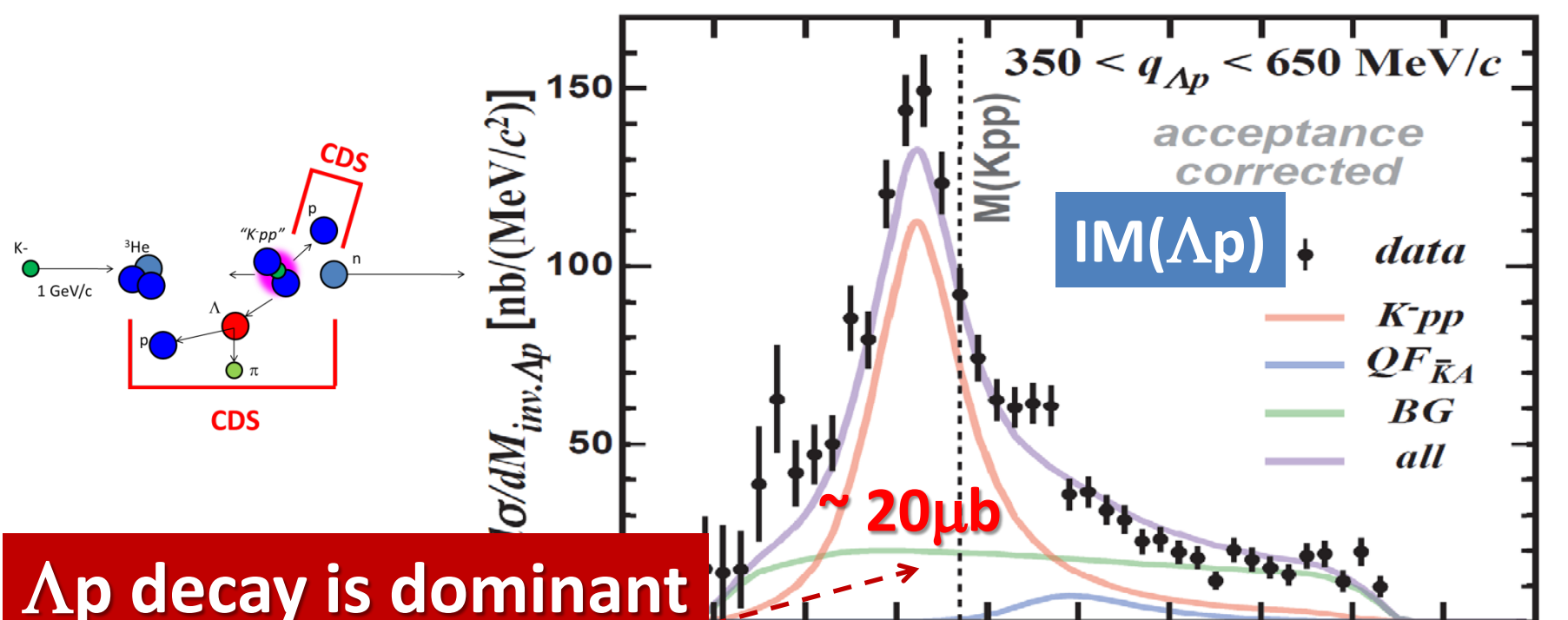


# $IM(\pi\Sigma p)$ vs. $\cos(\theta_n^{CM})$



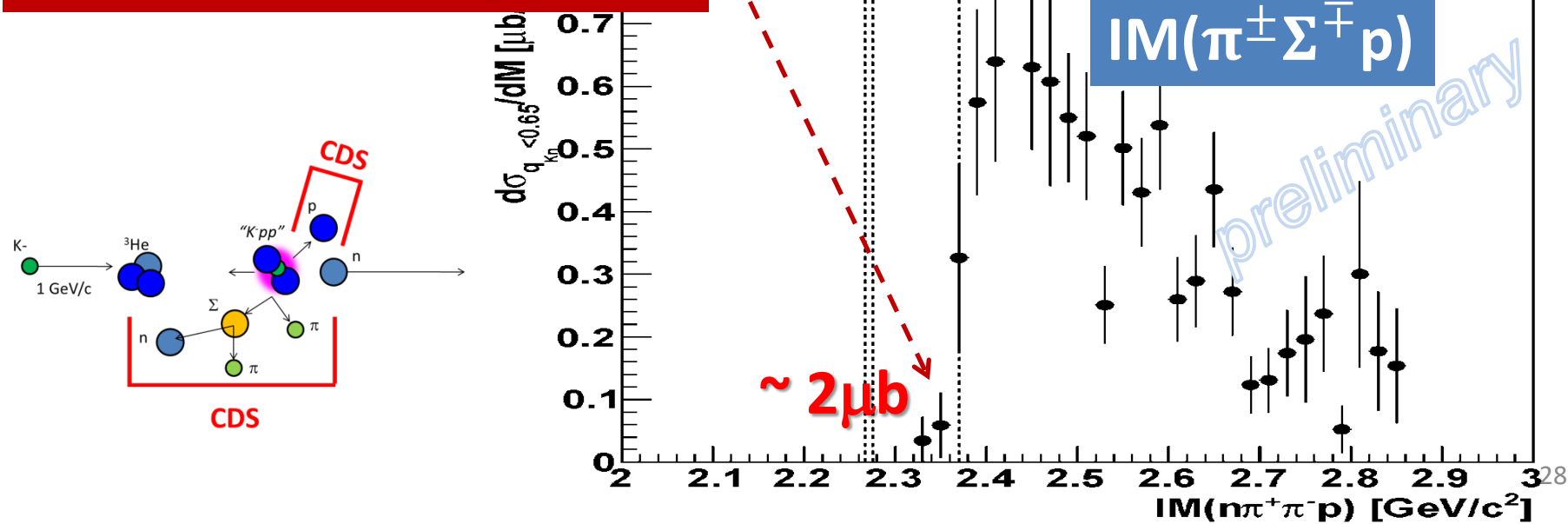
# IM( $\pi\Sigma p$ ) vs. Momentum Transfer $q_{Kn}$



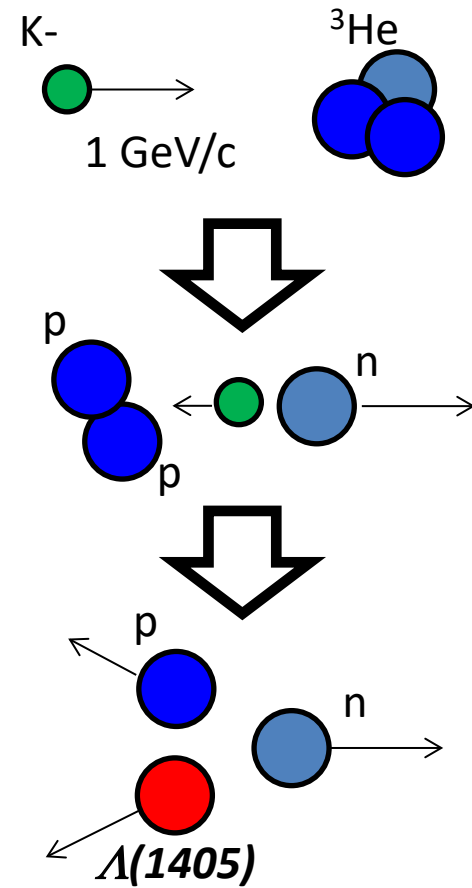
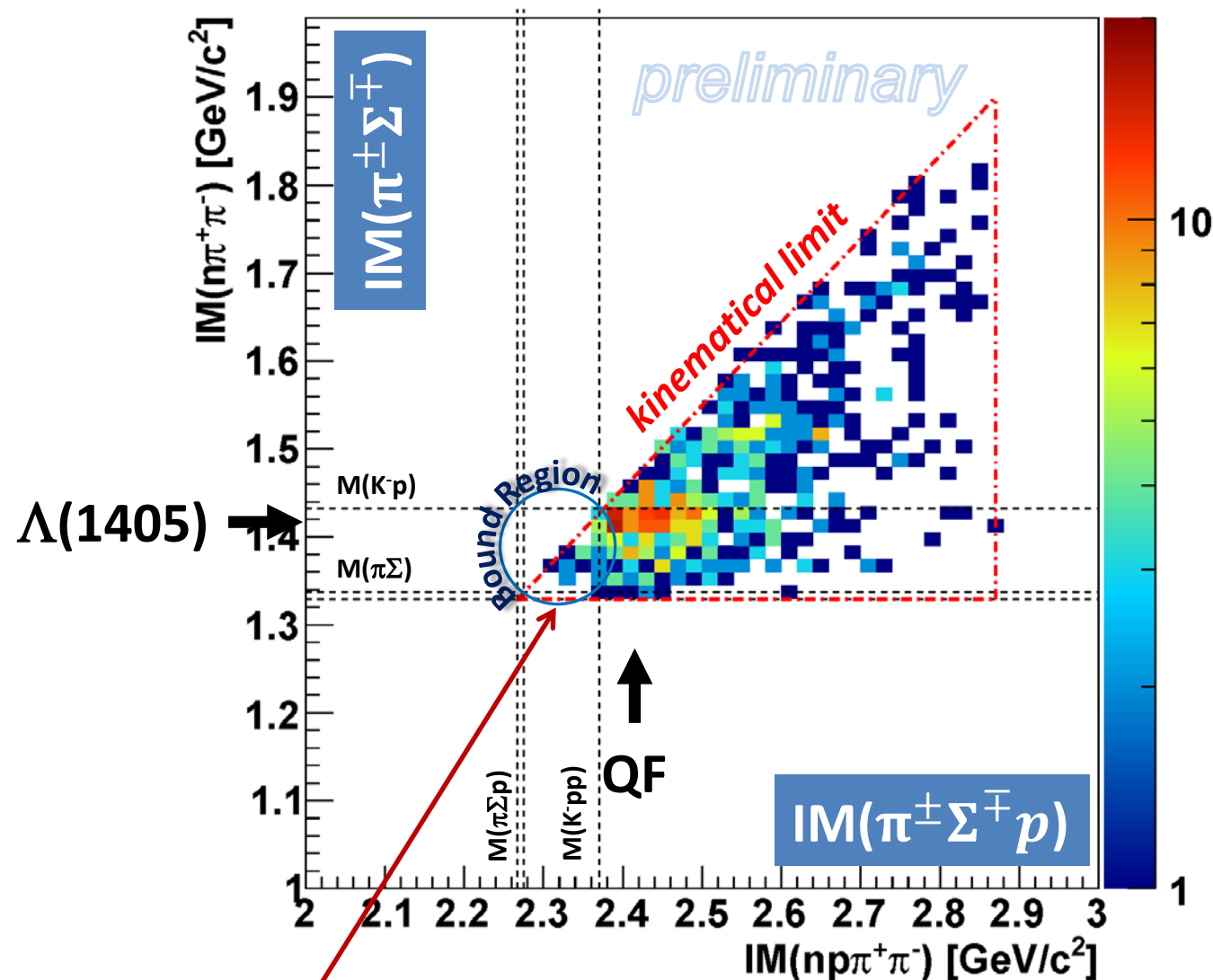


**$\Lambda p$  decay is dominant below  $M(K^-pp)$**

**below  $M(K^-pp)$**



# IM( $\pi^\pm \Sigma^\mp$ ) vs. IM( $\pi^\pm \Sigma^\mp p$ )



Small phase-space of "K<sup>-</sup>pp"  $\rightarrow$   $\pi\Sigma N$

# Conclusions

- We have observed a resonance peak below the  $K^-pp$  threshold in  ${}^3\text{He}(K^-, \Lambda p)n$ , “ $K^-pp$ ”

- Binding energy:  $\sim 50$  MeV
- Width:  $\sim 100$  MeV
- S-wave form factor:  $\sim 400$  MeV

← E15 collab., arXiv:1805.12275

- $\Lambda(1405)$  was clearly observed in  $\pi^\pm \Sigma^\mp p$   $n_{\text{miss}}$  final state

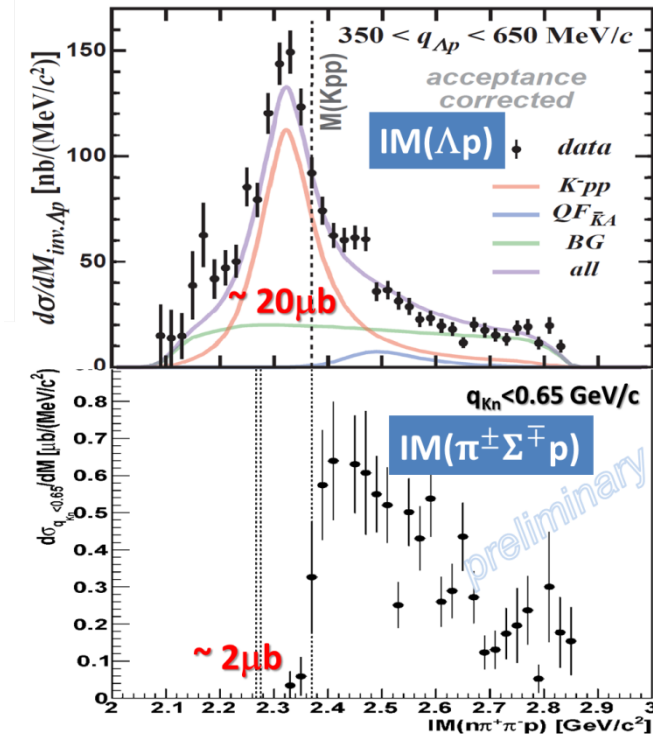
- Large CS of  $\Lambda^*$  compared to “ $K^-pp$ ” formation

← need theoretical feedbacks

- Weak structure below the  $K^-pp$  threshold is seen in  $\text{IM}(\pi^\pm \Sigma^\mp p)$

- Non-meonic YN decay modes would be dominant

← need further investigation of “ $K^-pp$ ” →  $\pi\Sigma N$



# What we have to do next
























- **More quantitative studies of the “K<sup>-</sup>pp”**
  - J<sup>P</sup>
    - Angular distributions are consistent with a J<sup>P</sup>=0<sup>-</sup> assumption in current statistics
  - πΣp decay mode
    - Due to phase-space, or, detector acceptance(?)
- **Series of the kaonic nuclei searches:**
  - “K<sup>-</sup>ppn” via [K<sup>-</sup> + <sup>4</sup>He], “K<sup>-</sup>ppnn/K<sup>-</sup>ppppn” via [K<sup>-</sup> + <sup>6</sup>Li], etc.
  - “K<sup>-</sup>K<sup>-</sup>pp” via [p<sup>bar</sup> + <sup>3</sup>He annihilation]

**We need a 4π detector system  
with γ/n sensitive detectors**

# Thank You!

## J-PARC E15 Collaboration

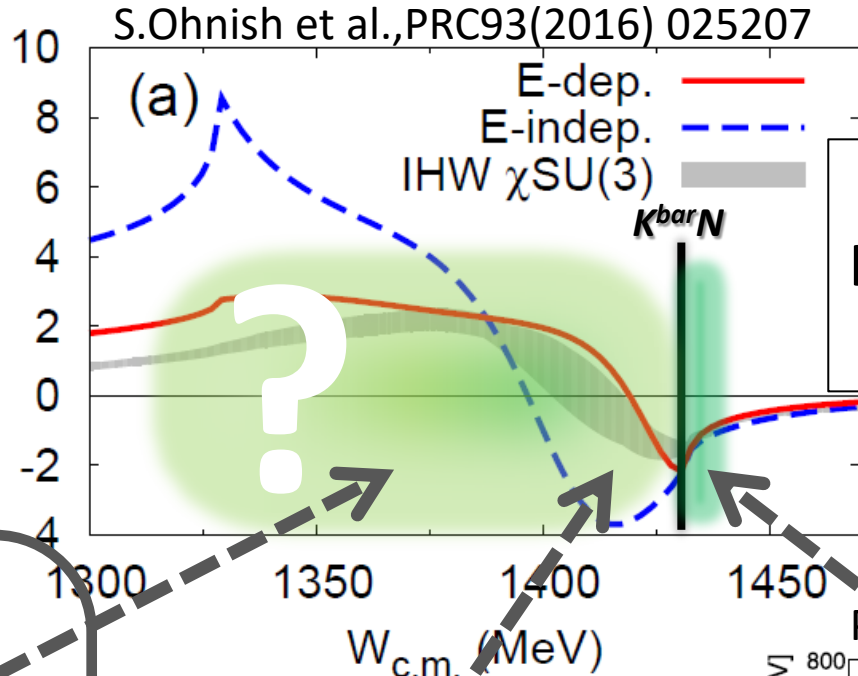
S. Ajimura<sup>a</sup>, H. Asano<sup>n</sup>, G. Beer<sup>b</sup>, C. Berucci<sup>f</sup>, H. Bhang<sup>c</sup>, M. Bragadireanu<sup>e</sup>, P. Buehler<sup>f</sup>, L. Busso<sup>g,h</sup>, M. Cargnelli<sup>f</sup>, S. Choi<sup>c</sup>, C. Curceanu<sup>d</sup>, S. Enomoto<sup>o</sup>, H. Fujioka<sup>m</sup>, Y. Fujiwara<sup>k</sup>, T. Fukuda<sup>l</sup>, C. Guaraldo<sup>d</sup>, T. Hashimoto<sup>u</sup>, R. S. Hayano<sup>k</sup>, T. Hiraiwa<sup>a</sup>, M. Iio<sup>o</sup>, M. Iliescu<sup>d</sup>, K. Inoue<sup>a</sup>, Y. Ishiguro<sup>j</sup>, T. Ishikawa<sup>k</sup>, S. Ishimoto<sup>o</sup>, K. Itahashi<sup>n</sup>, M. Iwai<sup>o</sup>, M. Iwasaki<sup>m,n\*</sup>, K. Kanno<sup>k</sup>, K. Kato<sup>j</sup>, Y. Kato<sup>n</sup>, S. Kawasaki<sup>i</sup>, P. Kienle<sup>+p</sup>, H. Kou<sup>m</sup>, Y. Ma<sup>n</sup>, J. Marton<sup>f</sup>, Y. Matsuda<sup>q</sup>, Y. Mizoi<sup>l</sup>, O. Morra<sup>g</sup>, T. Nagae<sup>j,s</sup>, H. Noumi<sup>a</sup>, H. Ohnishi<sup>w</sup>, S. Okada<sup>n</sup>, H. Outa<sup>n</sup>, K. Piscicchia<sup>d</sup>, Y. Sada<sup>a</sup>, A. Sakaguchi<sup>i</sup>, F. Sakuma<sup>n</sup>, M. Sato<sup>o</sup>, A. Scordo<sup>d</sup>, M. Sekimoto<sup>o</sup>, H. Shi<sup>d</sup>, K. Shirotori<sup>a</sup>, D. Sirghi<sup>d,e</sup>, F. Sirghi<sup>d,e</sup>, K. Suzuki<sup>f</sup>, S. Suzuki<sup>o</sup>, T. Suzuki<sup>k</sup>, K. Tanida<sup>u</sup>, H. Tatsuno<sup>v</sup>, M. Tokuda<sup>m</sup>, D. Tomono<sup>a</sup>, A. Toyoda<sup>o</sup>, K. Tsukada<sup>r</sup>, O. Vazquez Doce<sup>d,p</sup>, E. Widmann<sup>f</sup>, T. Yamaga<sup>n</sup>, T. Yamazaki<sup>k,n</sup>, H. Yim<sup>t</sup>, Q. Zhang<sup>n</sup>, and J. Zmeskal<sup>f</sup>

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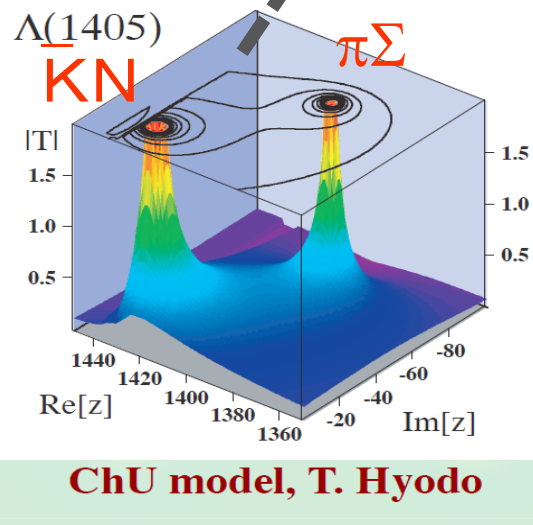
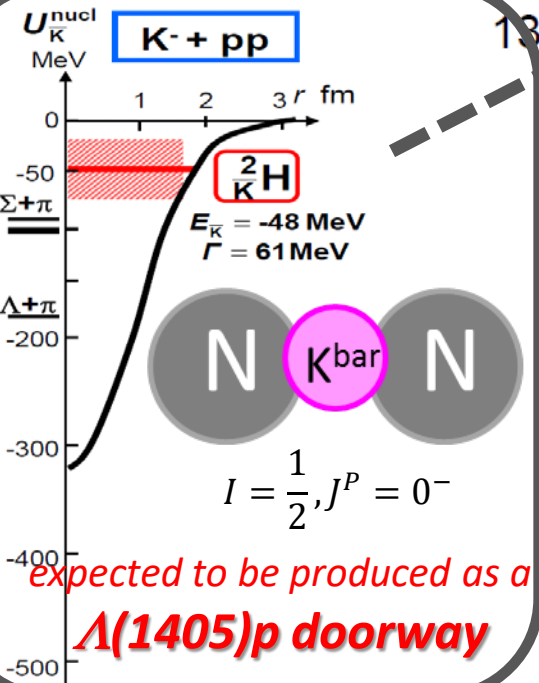
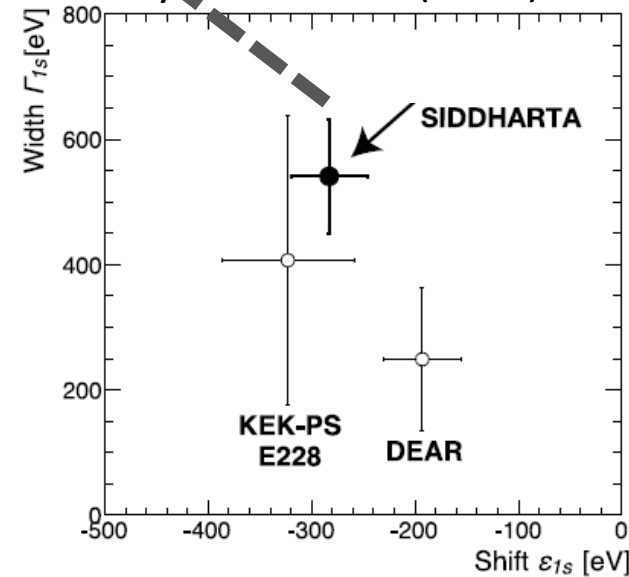
# Spare

# $K^{\text{bar}}N$ interaction - A good probe for low-energy QCD



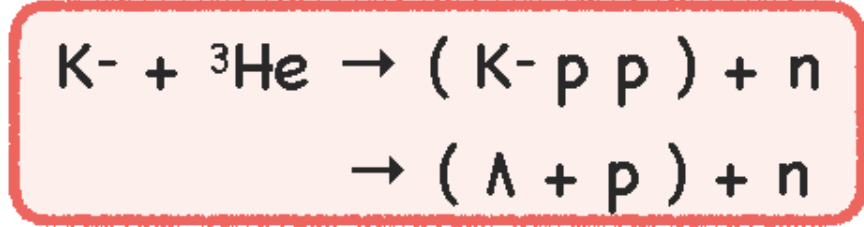
Calculation on  $K^{\text{bar}}N$  amplitude in  $I = 0$

M. Bazzi et al., (SIDDHARTA Coll.), Phys. Lett. B704(2011)113

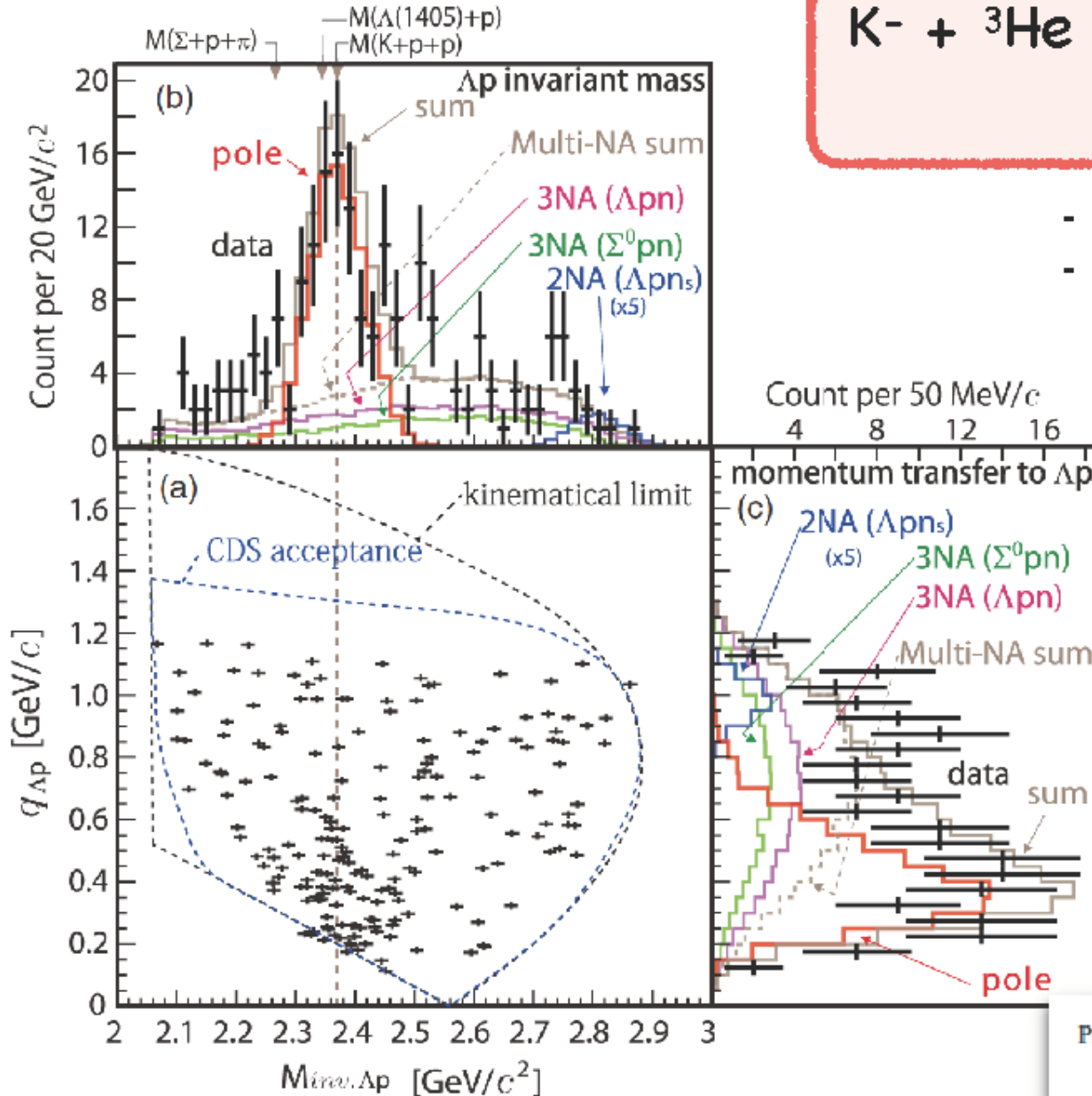


# Forward $n_{\text{mis.}} + \Lambda p$ @ E15<sup>1st</sup>

Resolution  $\sigma \sim 10 \text{ MeV}/c^2$  @ threshold



- s-wave Breit-Wigner pole
- w/ Gaussian form-factor



$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dM dq} \propto \rho_3(\Lambda pn) \times \frac{(\Gamma_X/2)^2}{(M - M_X)^2 + (\Gamma_X/2)^2} \times \left| \exp\left(-\frac{q^2}{2Q_X^2}\right) \right|^2$$

$$B_X \sim 15 \text{ MeV}$$

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

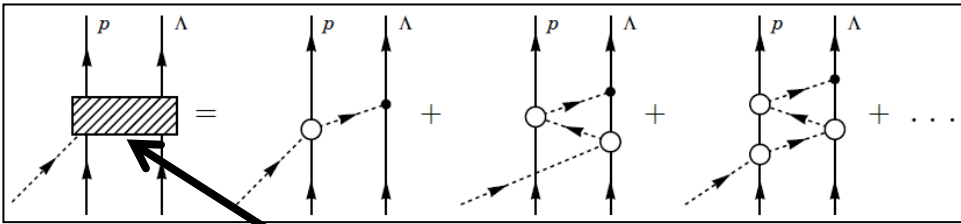
$$Q_X \sim 400 \text{ MeV}$$

**Compact state?**

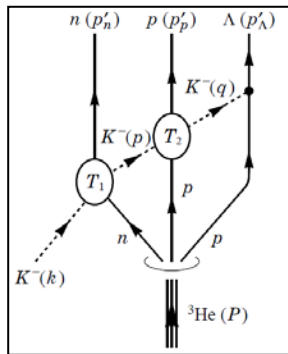
# A Theoretical Interpretation of E15

Sekihara, Oset, Ramos, arXiv:1607.02058

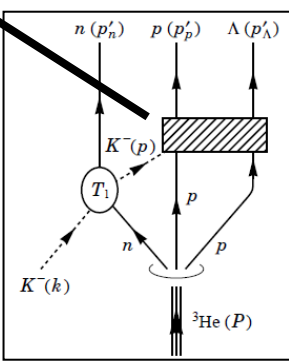
## Chiral unitary approach



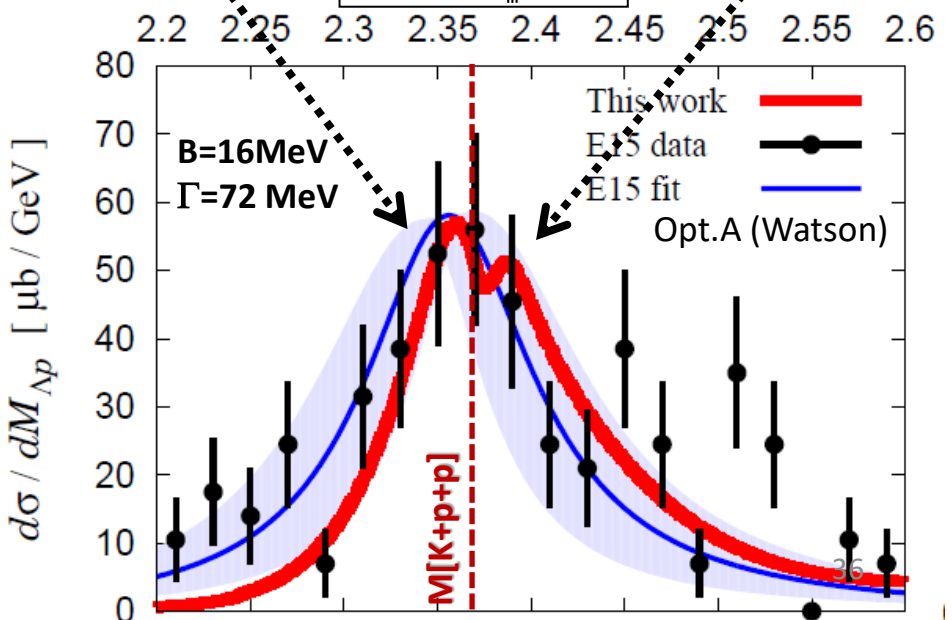
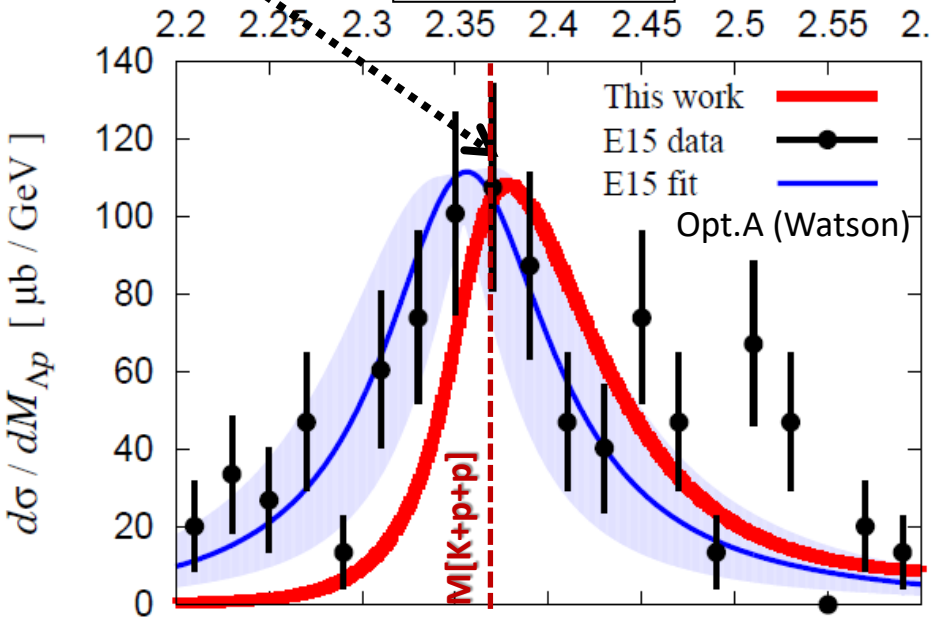
Uncorrelated  $\Lambda(1405)p$  state



$\bar{K}NN$  bound-state



quasi-elastic kaon scattering



# $K^{\text{bar}}$ NN or NOT? --- Other Possibilities

## A structure near $K^{\text{bar}}$ NN threshold

- $\Lambda(1405)N$  bound state
  - loosely-bound system,  $l=1/2$ ,  $J^\pi=0^-$
  - various decay modes,  $\Lambda N/\Sigma N/\pi\Sigma N$

T. Uchino et al., NPA868(2011)53.

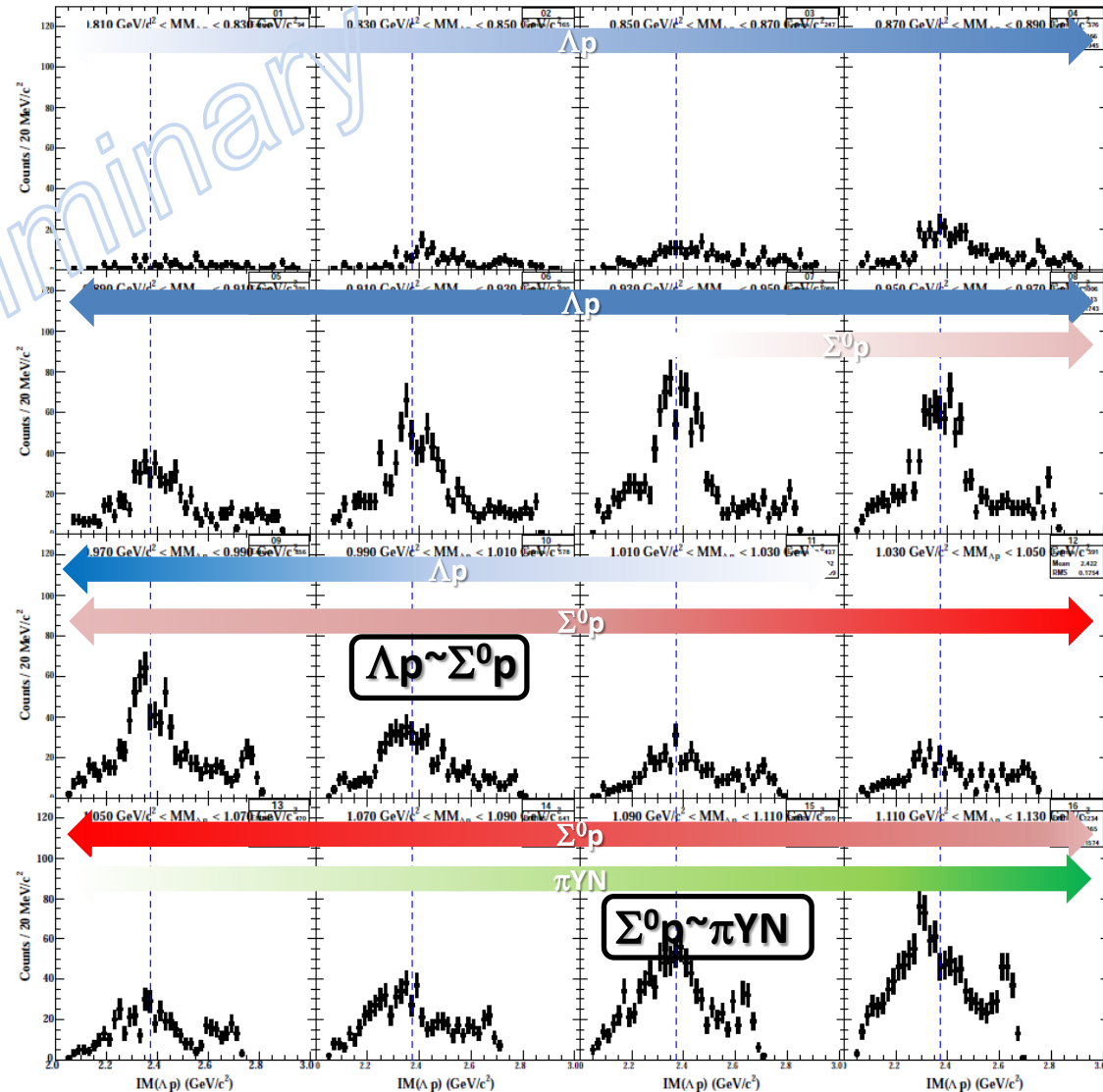
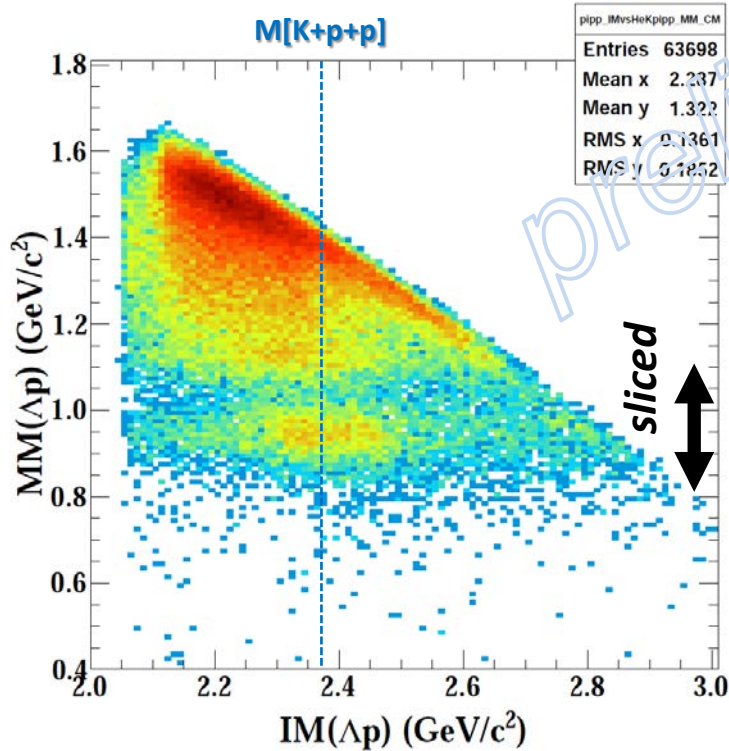
## A structure near $\pi\Sigma N$ threshold

- $\pi\Lambda N$ - $\pi\Sigma N$  dibaryon
  - structure near  $\pi\Sigma N$  threshold
  - $l=3/2$ ,  $J^\pi=2^+$   $\rightarrow$  no  $\Lambda p$  decay ( $l=1/2$ )?
- Double-pole  $K^{\text{bar}}$ NN
  - loosely-bound  $K^{\text{bar}}$ NN, &
  - broad resonance near the  $\pi\Sigma N$  threshold  $\rightarrow$   $\pi\Sigma N$  decay
- Partial restoration of Chiral symmetry
  - enhancement of the  $K^{\text{bar}}$ N interaction in dense nuclei

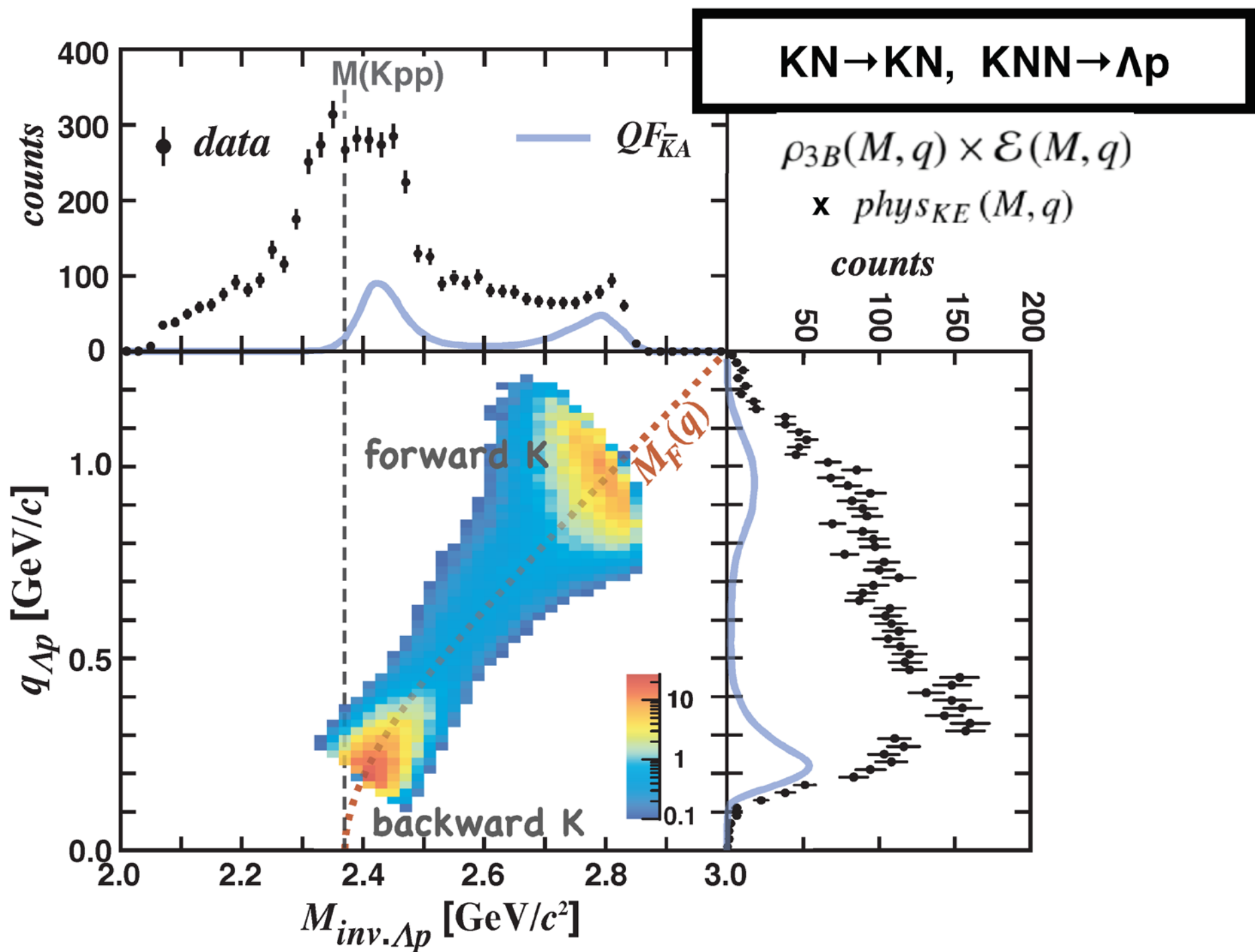
H. Garcilazo, A. Gal, NPA897(2013)167.

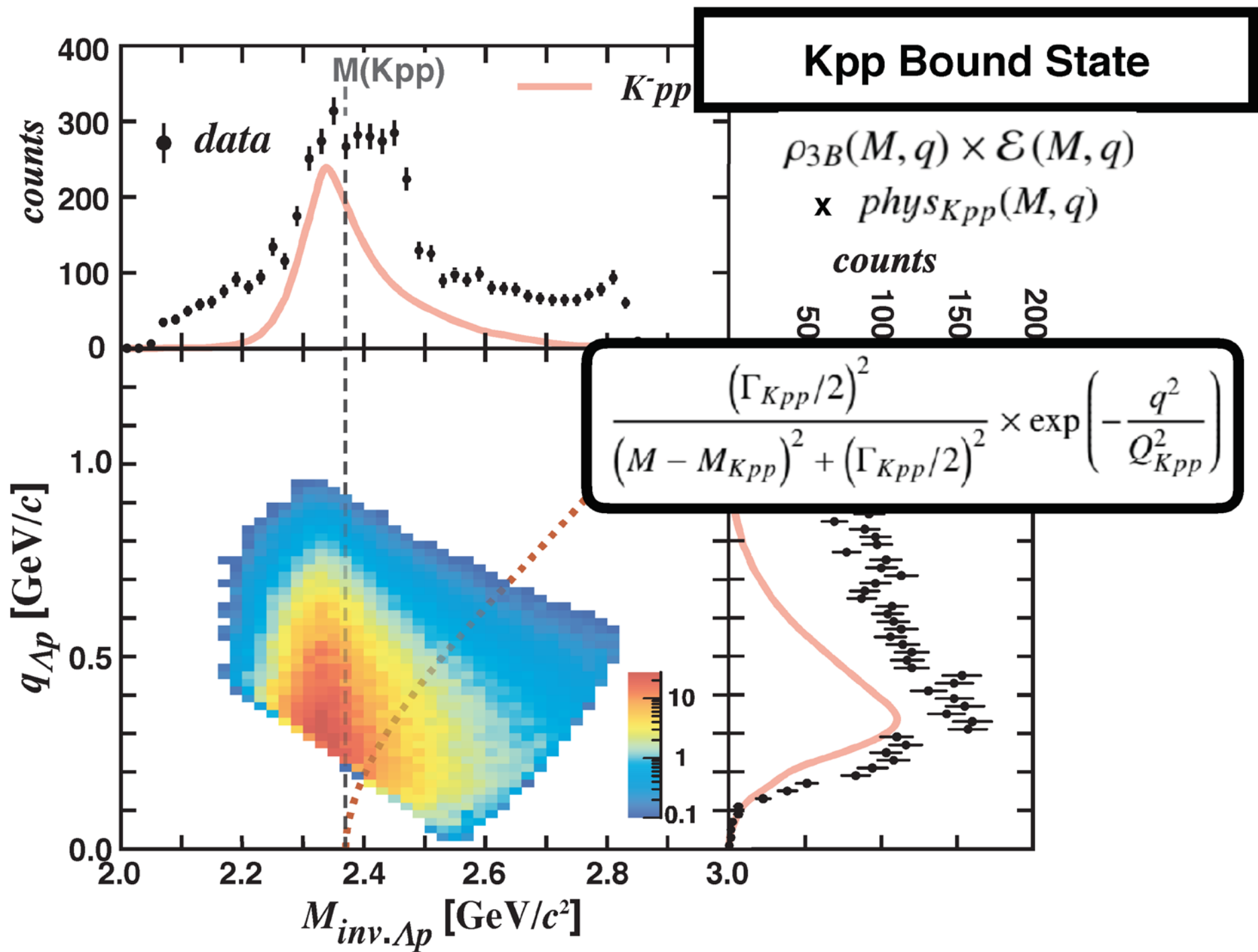
A. Dote, T. Inoue, T. Myo, PTEP (2015) 043D02.

# ${}^3\text{He}(K^-, \Lambda p)n$ : Decay Channel

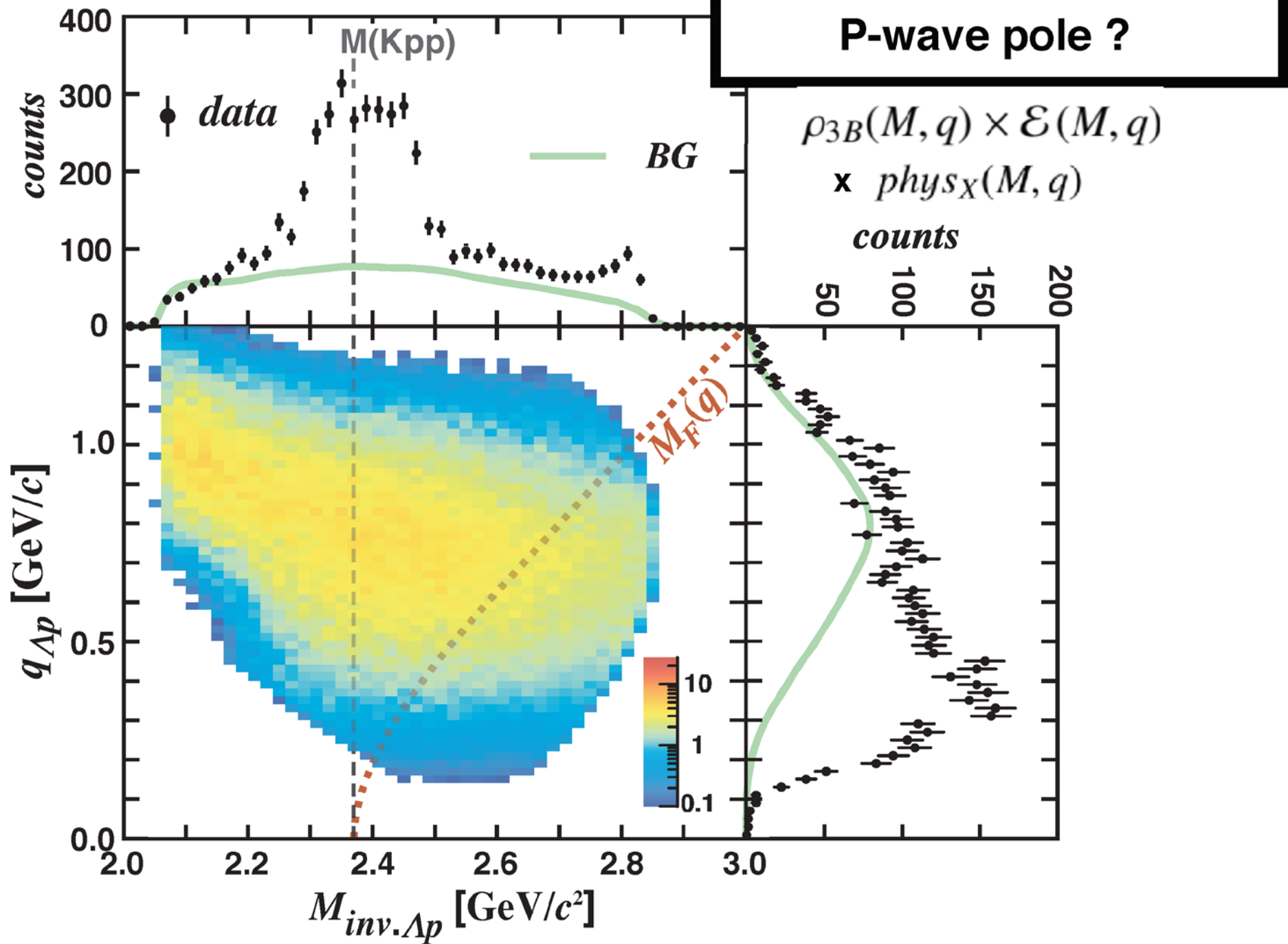


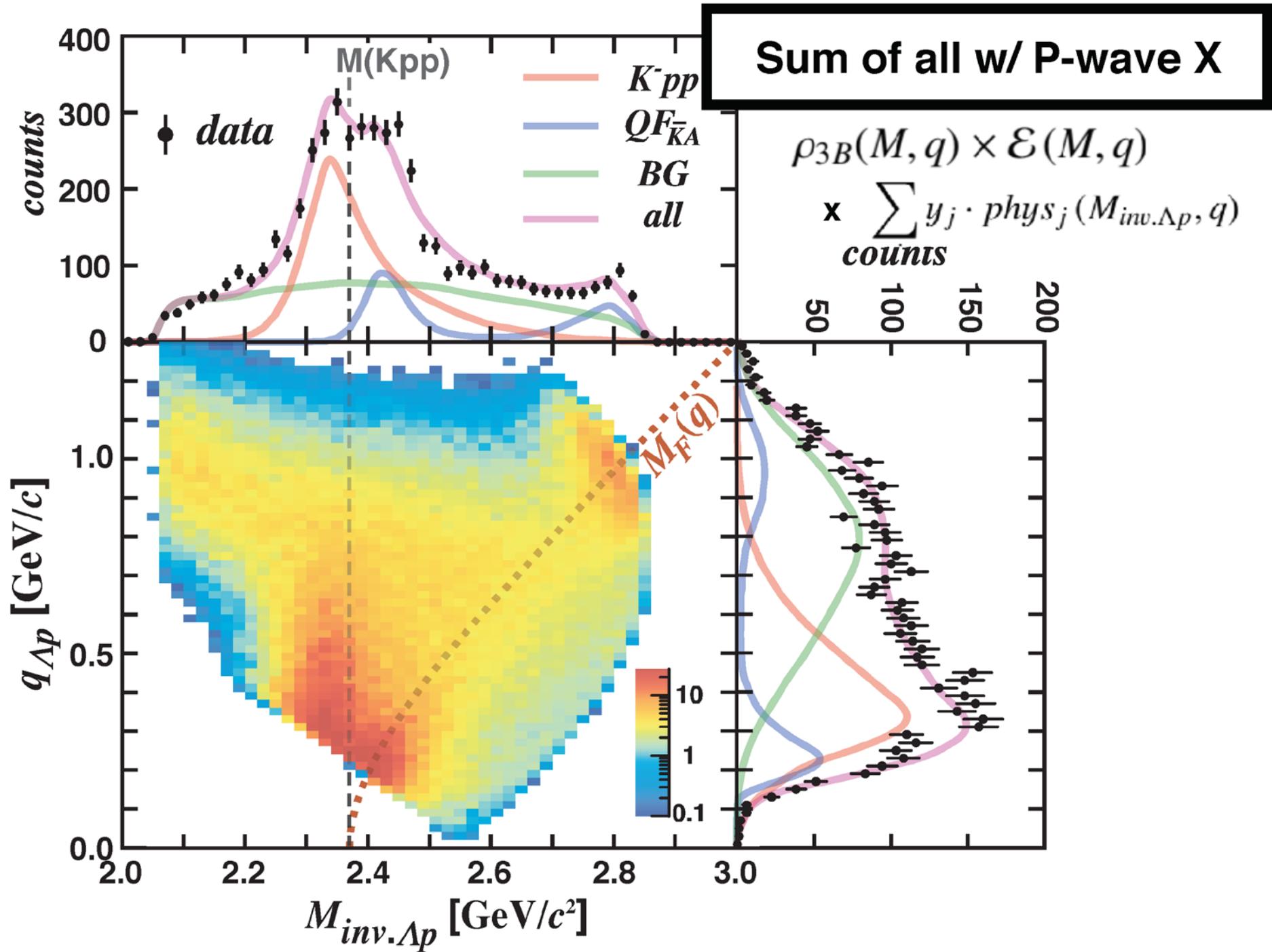
$\Gamma(\Lambda p) > \Gamma(\Sigma^0 p)$  !?

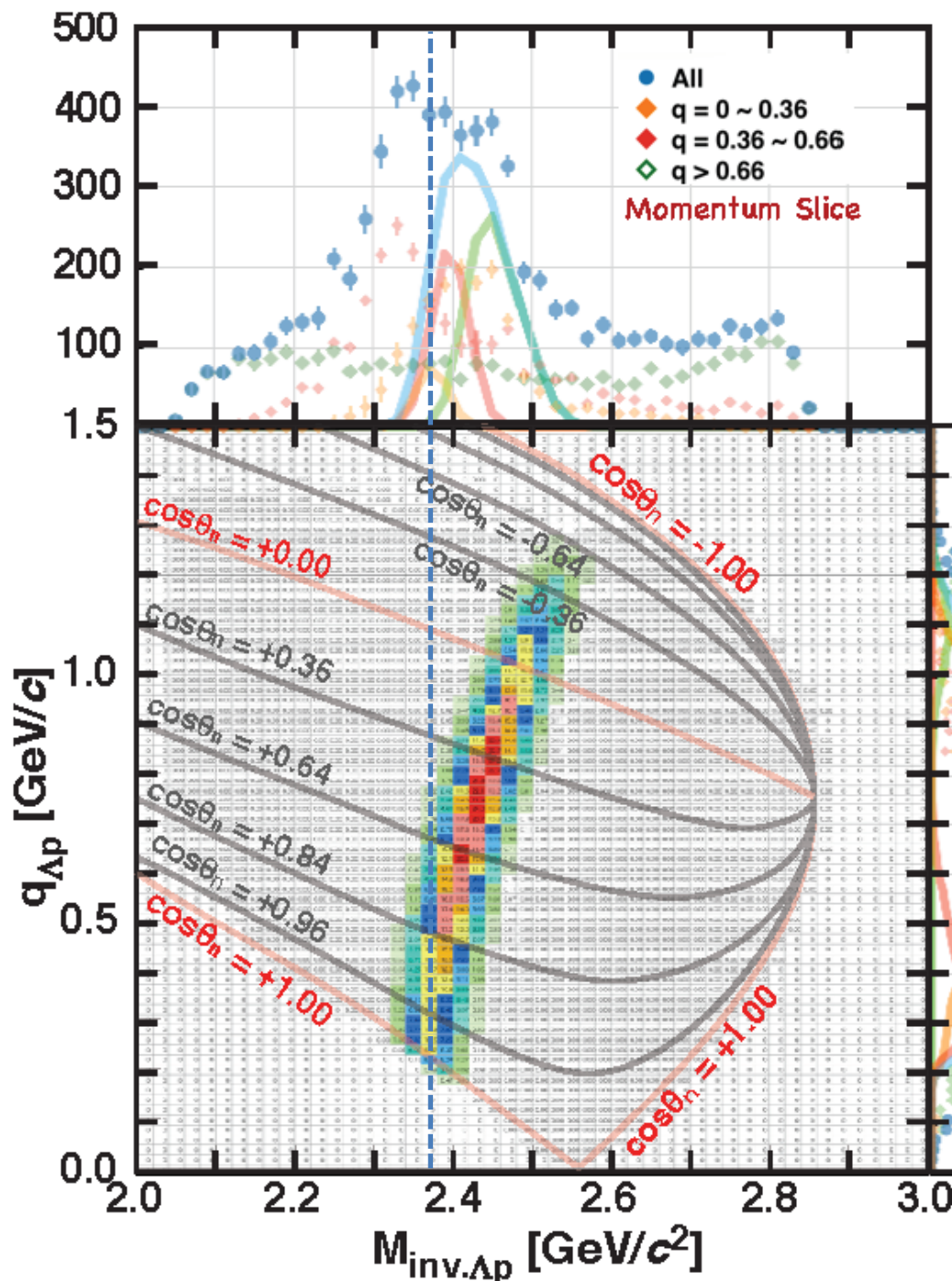






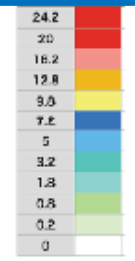
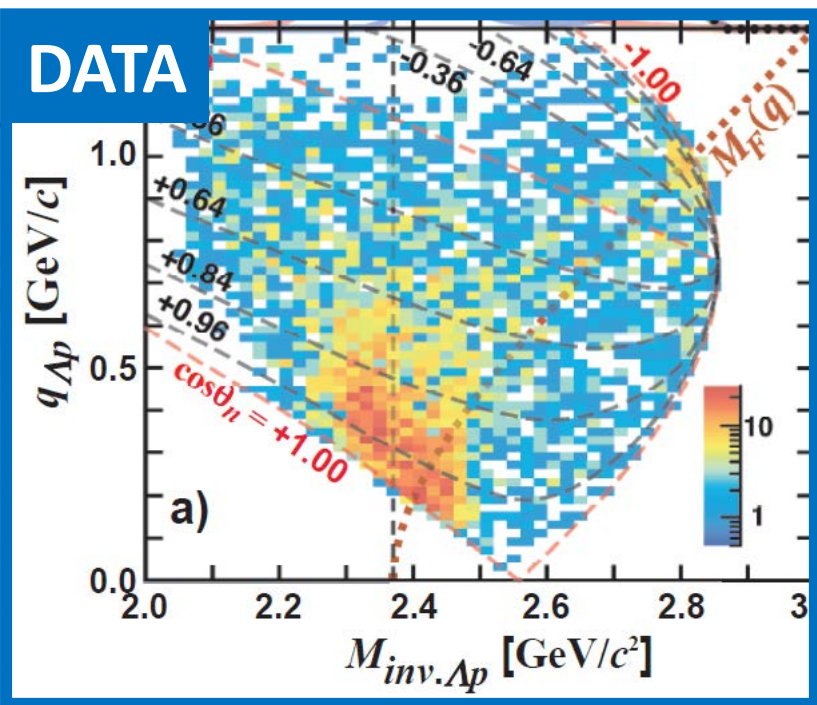






## 2NA: On-shell $\Lambda^*$

$K-pn \rightarrow \Lambda^* n, \Lambda^* p \rightarrow \Lambda p$   
 S-wave

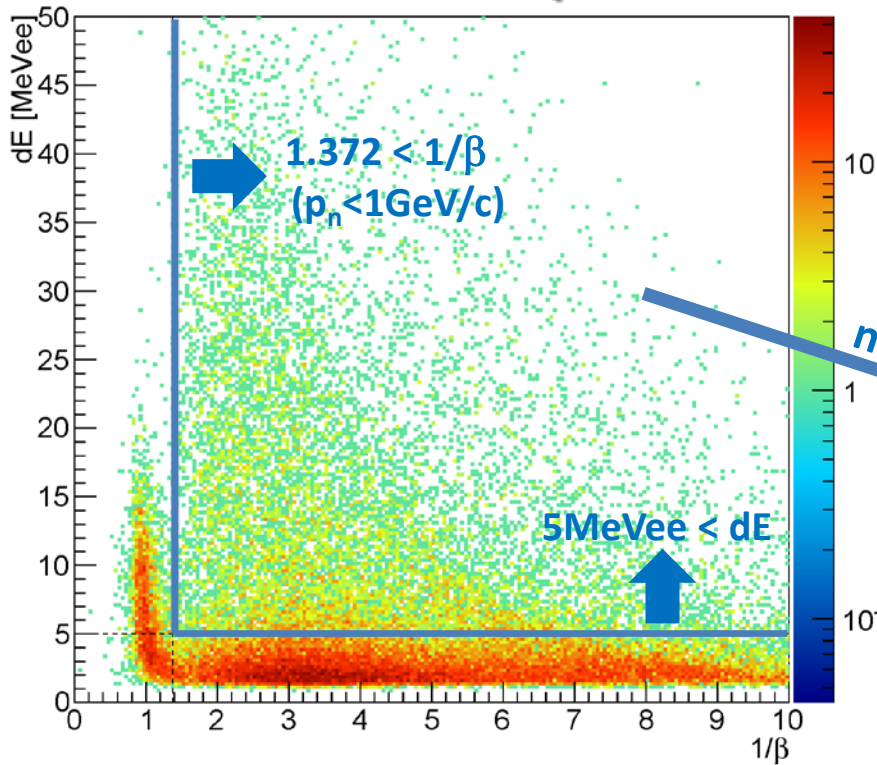


$M_{\Lambda^*} = 1420 \text{ MeV}/c^2$

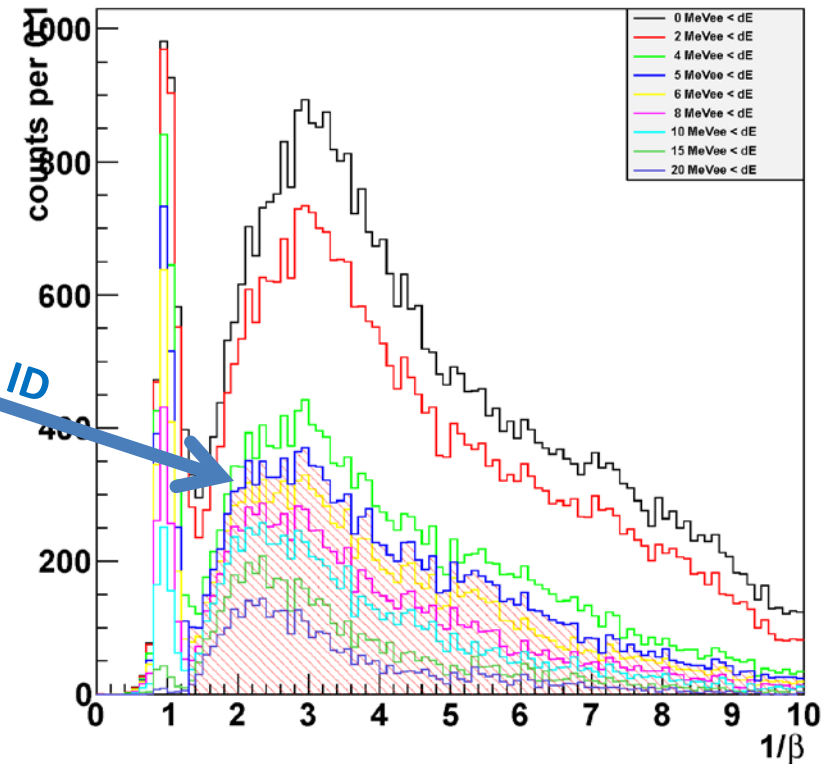
# Neutron ID with CDS

- $\pi^+\pi^-\pi$  events (3 tracks) in CDS with 4 CDH hits are selected
- a CDH hit with CDC-veto (outer-layer) is applied to identify the “neutral hit”

## dE vs. $1/\beta$



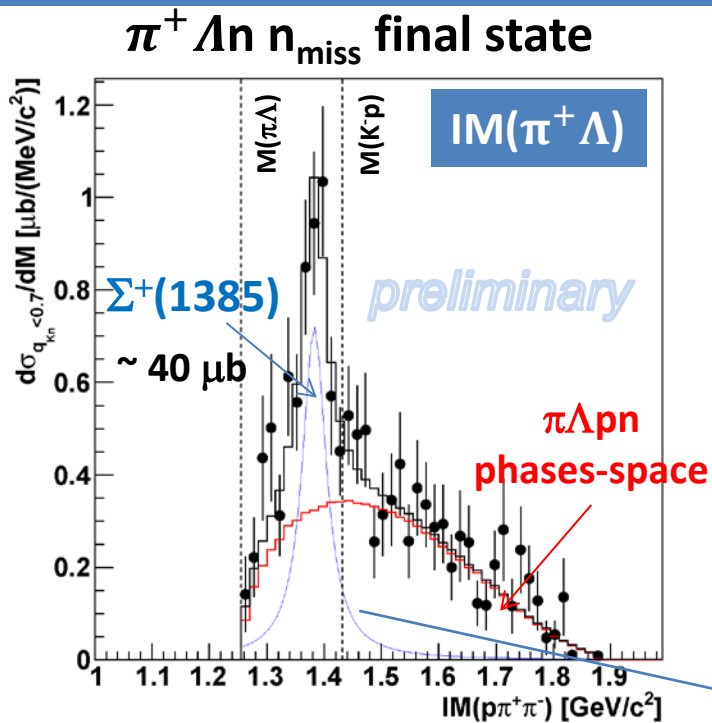
## dE-cut dependence



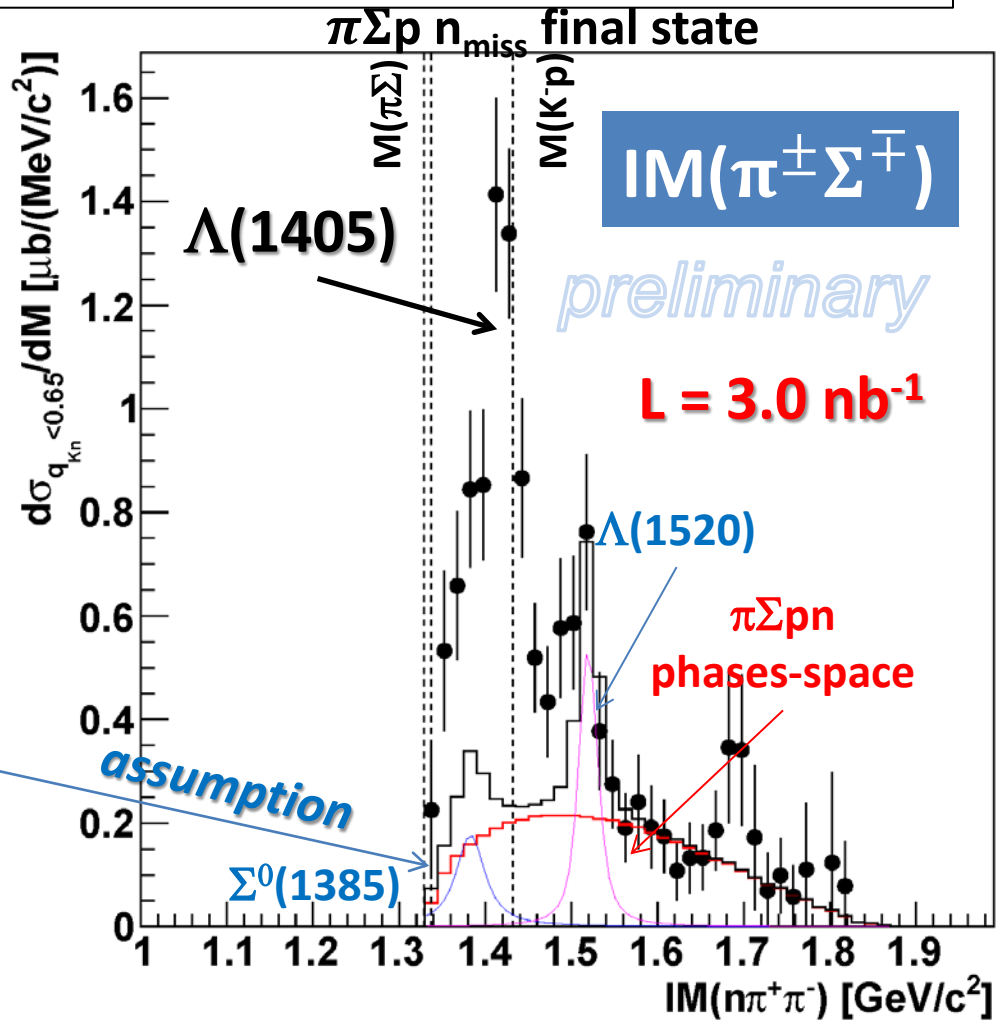
**Neutron can be identified with CDS**



# $\Upsilon^* \text{CS} (q_{Kn} < 0.65)$



we assume  $\Sigma^0(1385)$  CS at  $1.0 \text{ GeV}/c$  to be:  
 $\sigma(\Sigma^0) \sim 1-2 * \sigma(\Sigma^+)$

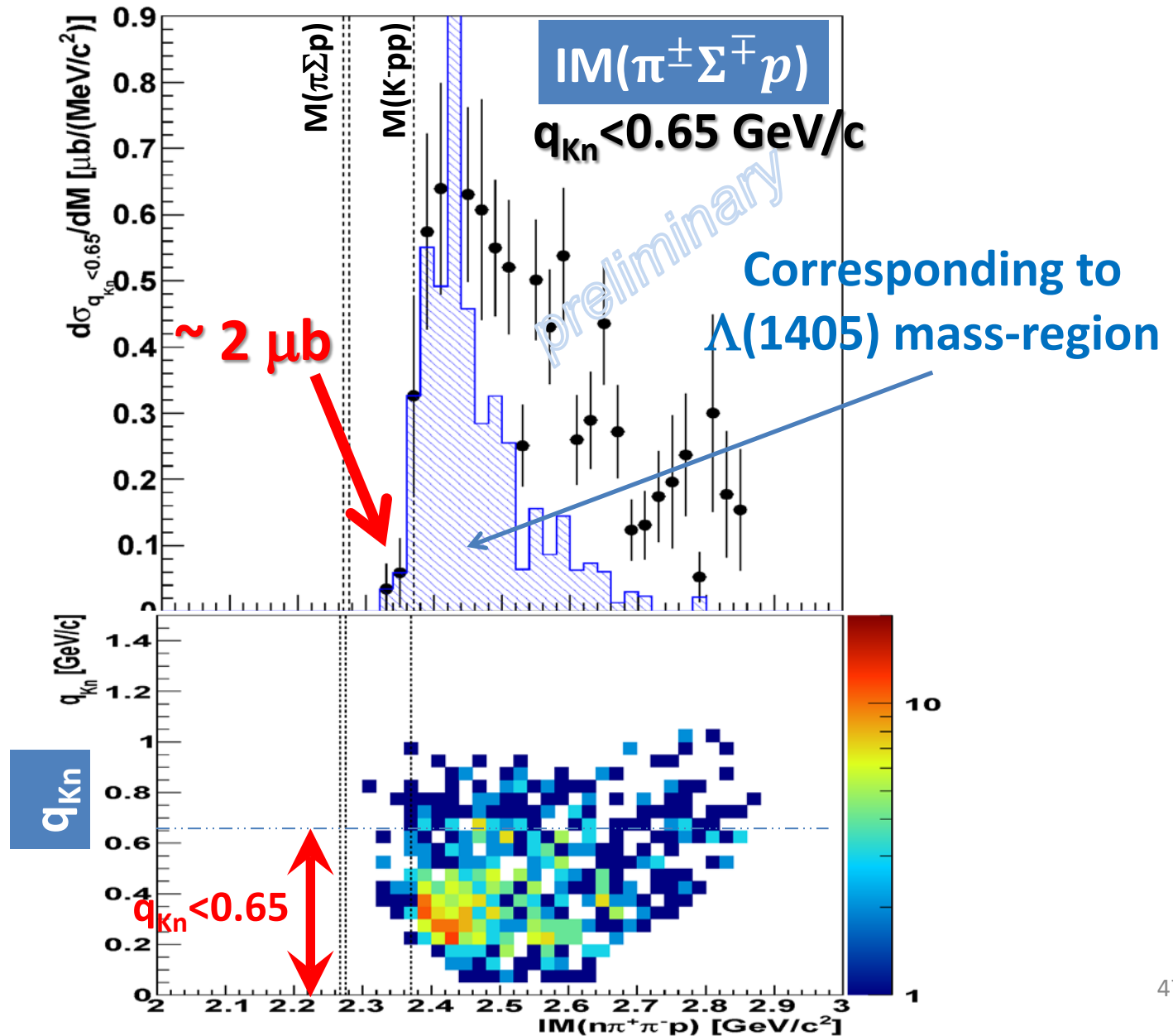


$K^- + {}^3\text{He} \rightarrow \Sigma^0(1385) + p + n: \sim 40-80 \mu\text{b}$  (assumption)

$K^- + {}^3\text{He} \rightarrow \Lambda(1405) + p + n: \sim 130 \mu\text{b}$

$K^- + {}^3\text{He} \rightarrow \Lambda(1520) + p + n: \sim 70 \mu\text{b}$

# IM( $\pi\Sigma p$ ) vs. Momentum Transfer $q_{Kn}$



# Detector Acceptance: $\Lambda p$ vs. $\pi\Sigma p$

- Detector acceptance is different between  $\Lambda p$  and  $\pi\Sigma p$

– At  $\cos\theta_n \sim 1$ :

- $\Lambda p$ : flat acceptance
- $\pi\Sigma p$ : limited acceptance below the threshold

