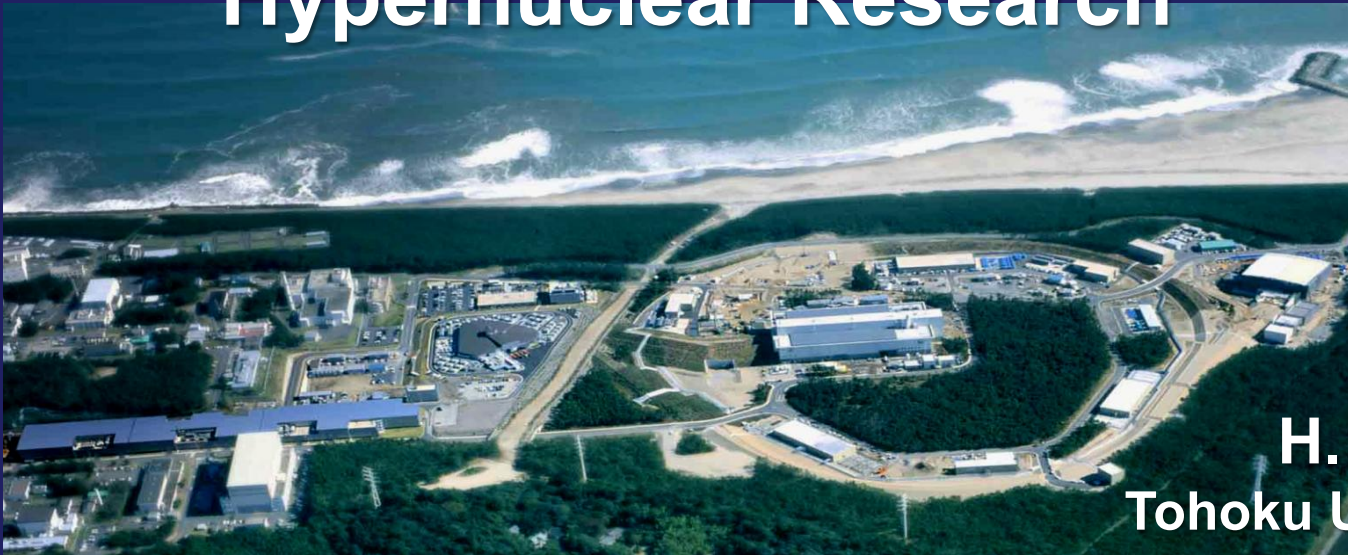


2026. 4. 16

Nuclear Science Symposium@Rome

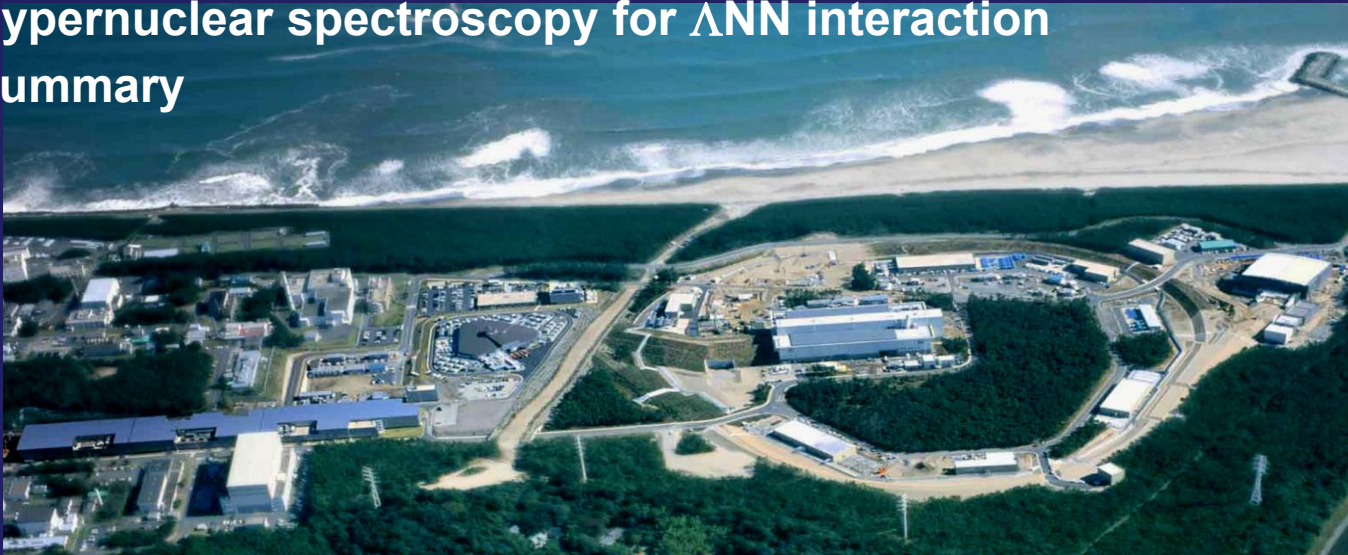
# Recent Progress of Hypernuclear Research



**H. Tamura**  
**Tohoku University**  
**Japan Atomic Energy Agency**

# Contents

1. Introduction
2. Hyperon-nucleon scattering
3. Precise light  $\Lambda$  hypernuclear data
4.  $\Xi$  hypernuclei and  $\Xi N$  interaction
5. Hypernuclear spectroscopy for  $\Lambda NN$  interaction
6. Summary



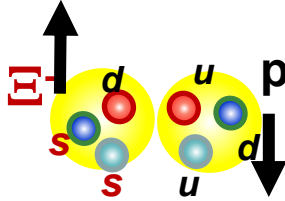
# **1. Introduction:**

**Hypernuclei tell us about nuclear force and  
neutron stars**

# Origin of nuclear force studied with s quarks

## Quark Cluster Model (Oka-Yazaki)

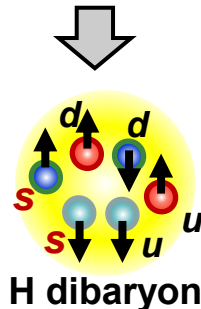
- Pauli effect btw quarks
- Color magnetic interaction



flavor singlet

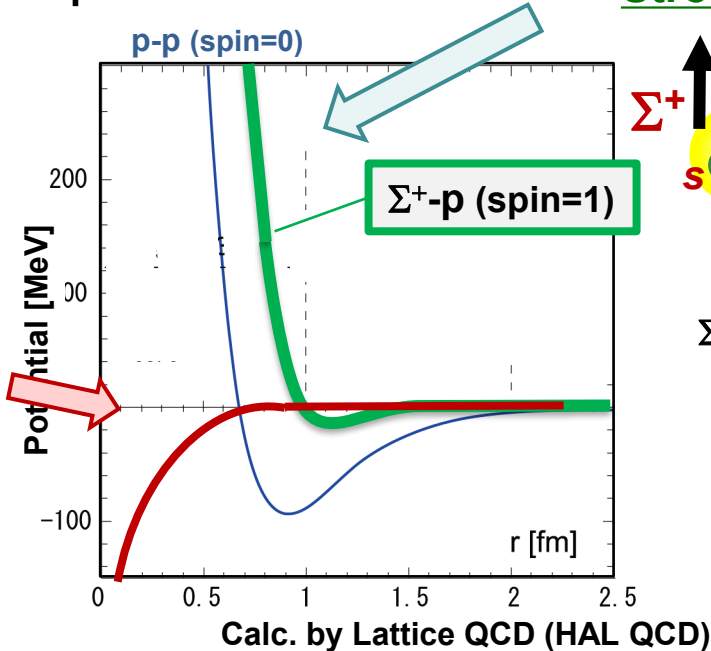
$$-\sqrt{\frac{1}{8}}|\Lambda\Lambda\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{4}{8}}|N\Xi\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{3}{8}}|\Sigma\Sigma\rangle$$

CMI + no Pauli effect btw quarks  
-> Attractive core ?

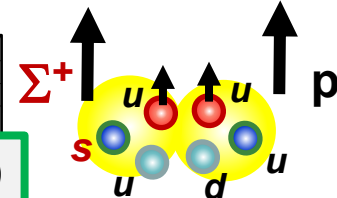


Under study by (K<sup>-</sup>,K<sup>+</sup>ΛΛ) exp.  
(J-PARC E42)

Origin of repulsive core?



Pauli effect btw quarks  
-> Strong repulsive core?



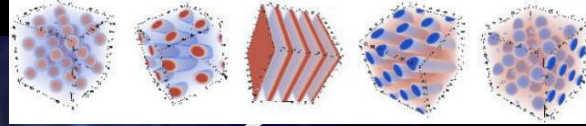
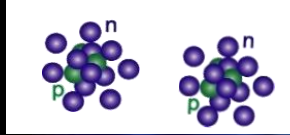
Confirmed by  
Σ p scattering exp.  
(J-PARC E40)

*T. Nanamura et al.,  
PTEP 2022 093D01*

s quark is a key to elucidate the origin of nuclear force

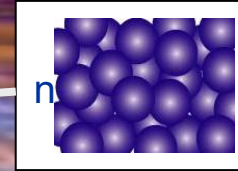
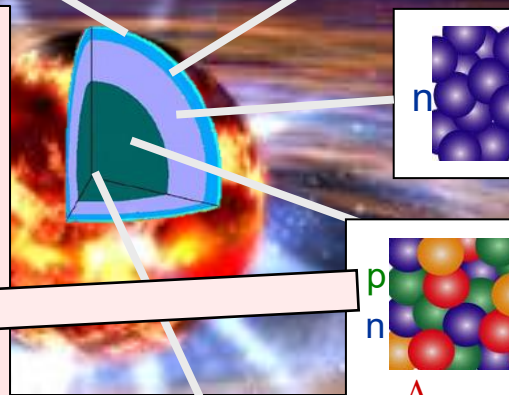
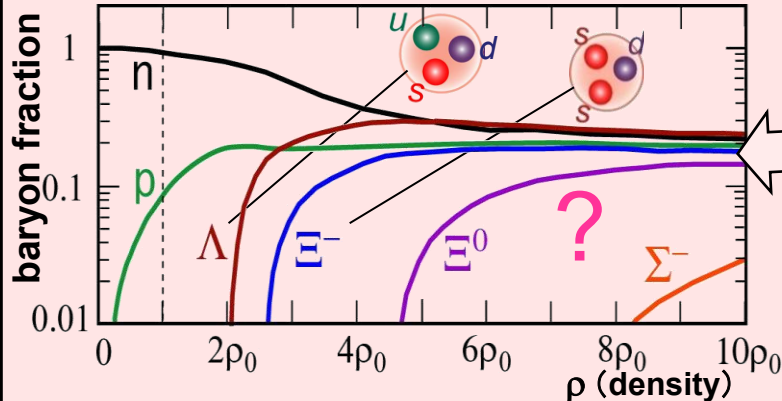
# Hyperons exist in neutron stars?

Outer crust  
Neutron-rich  
nuclei

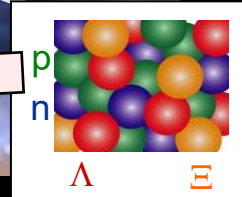


Inner crust  
Pasta nuclei

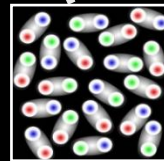
C. Ishizuka et al., J.Phys.G 35 (2008) 085201  
 $U_{\Lambda} = -30 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $U_{\Sigma} = +30 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $U_{\Xi} = -15 \text{ MeV}$   
 assumptions based on experimental suggestions



Outer core  
(Almost pure)  
Neutron Matter



Inner core  
Hyperon Matter  
(Strange Hadronic Matter)



Inner core  
Deconfined Quark Matter ??

Hyperons ( $\Lambda$ ,  $\Xi^-$ ) should appear at  $\rho \sim 2-3 \rho_0 \Rightarrow$  max. mass of NS  $\sim 1.5 \text{ Msun}$

$\Leftrightarrow$  Three NS's with  $\sim 2.0 \text{ Msun}$  were observed : "Hyperon puzzle"

$\Rightarrow$  Density dependence of YN int. (= YNN 3BF) should be clarified.

## **2. Hyperon-nucleon scattering**

# YN interaction

$\Lambda p$ ,  $\Sigma^{\pm} p$  scattering with bubble chambers in (1960s)  
<math>\sim 0.30 \text{ GeV}/c</math>, poor quality,  $\sigma$ , no  $d\sigma/d\Omega$  for  $\Lambda p$

$\Lambda$  hypernuclei (+  $\Sigma$  hypernuclei):  $B_{\gamma}$  + level scheme (1960-)

YN interaction  
Models  
(Nijmegen  
NSC, ESC)

But, YN int. in nuclei is significantly different from YN. Int in free space

## High quality YN scattering experiments

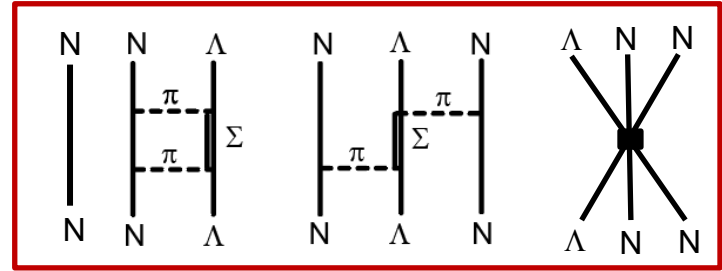
$\Sigma^{\pm} p$  0.44-0.80 GeV/c  $d\sigma/d\Omega$  (J-PARC E40)

$\Lambda p$  0.3-0.65 GeV/c  $d\sigma/d\Omega$  (SPring-8) -> under data taking  
0.4-0.8 GeV/c Pol. $\Lambda$  ->  $d\sigma/d\Omega$ , Analyzing Power, Depolarization (J-PARC E86, future)

## Femtoscscopy

$\Lambda p$  <math>\sim 0.3 \text{ GeV}/c</math> via pp coll. @ $v_s=13 \text{ TeV}$  (ALICE) -> (ALICE Run3)

Hypertriton (loose pn $\Lambda$  system) Precise  $B_{\Lambda}$ ,  $\tau$  data from STAR, ALICE, J-PARC, MAMI,...



# $\Sigma^\pm p$ scattering at J-PARC

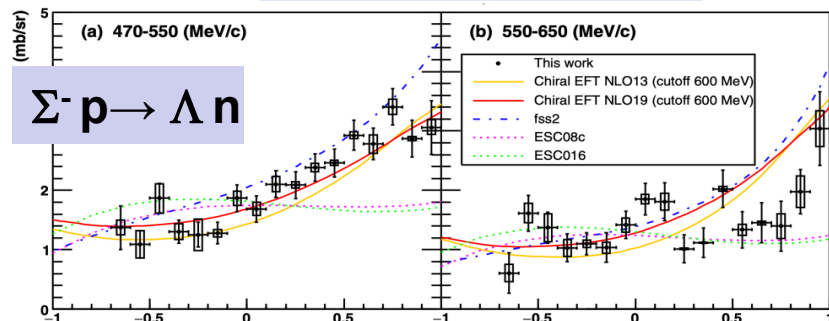
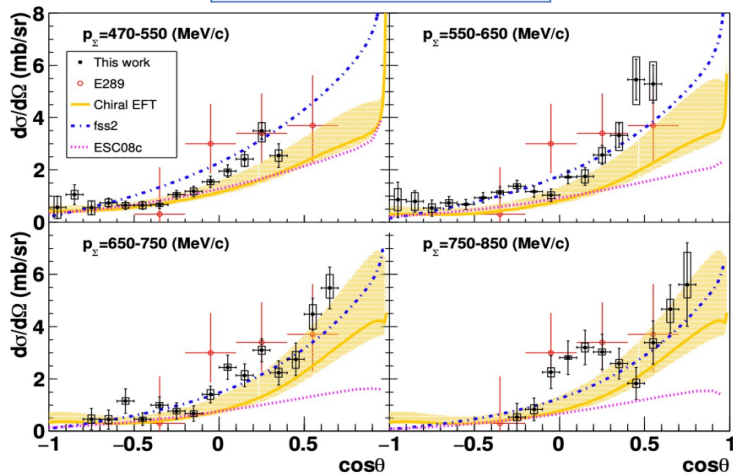
$\Sigma^- p$  elastic

$\Sigma^- p$  elastic scattering

K. Miwa et al., PRC 104, 045204 (2021)

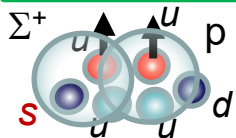
K. Miwa et al., PRL 128, 072501 (2022)

$\Sigma^- p \rightarrow \Lambda n$  inelastic scattering

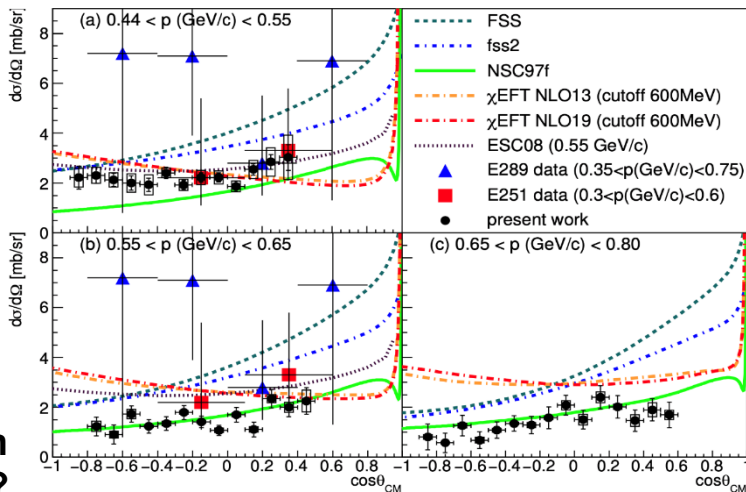


$\Sigma^+ p$  elastic

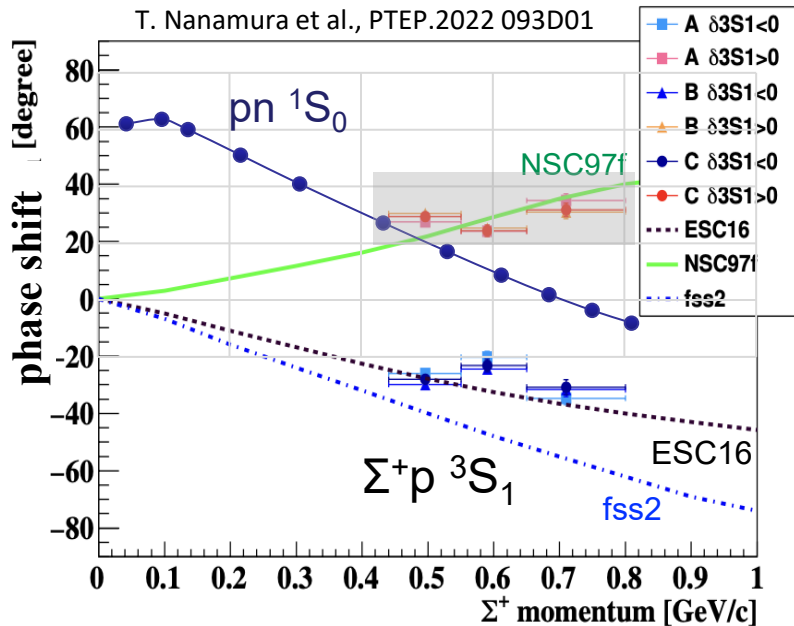
$\Sigma^+ - p$  (spin=1)



Strong repulsion by quark Pauli ??



T. Nanamura et al., PTEP.2022 093D01

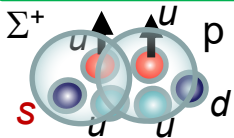


# $\Sigma^\pm p$ scattering at J-PARC

$\Sigma^- p$  elastic

$\Sigma^+ p$  elastic

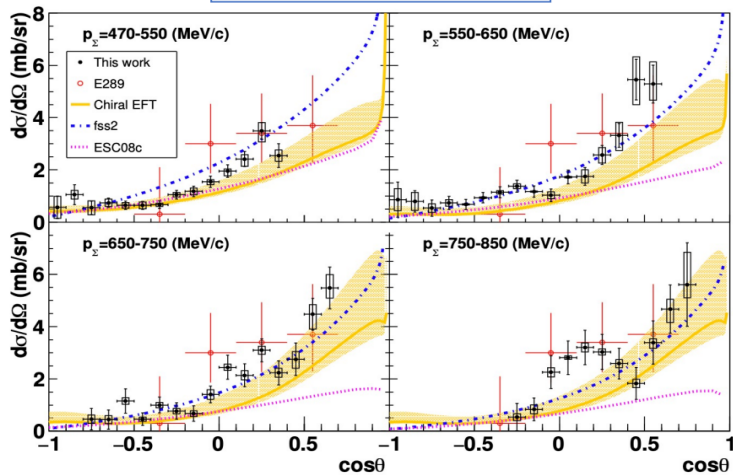
$\Sigma^+ p$  (spin=1)



Strong repulsion by quark Pauli ??

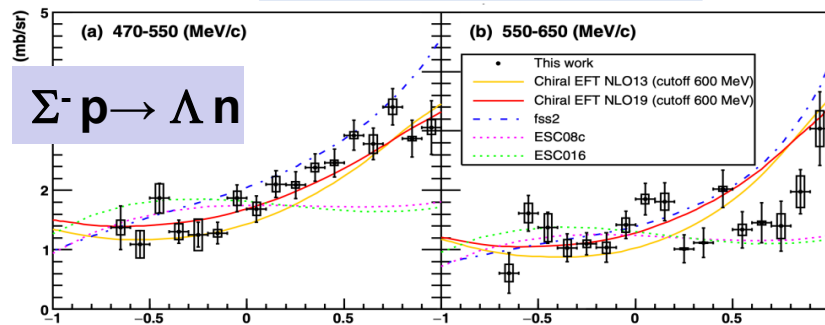
$\Sigma^- p$  elastic scattering

K. Miwa et al., PRC 104, 045204 (2021)

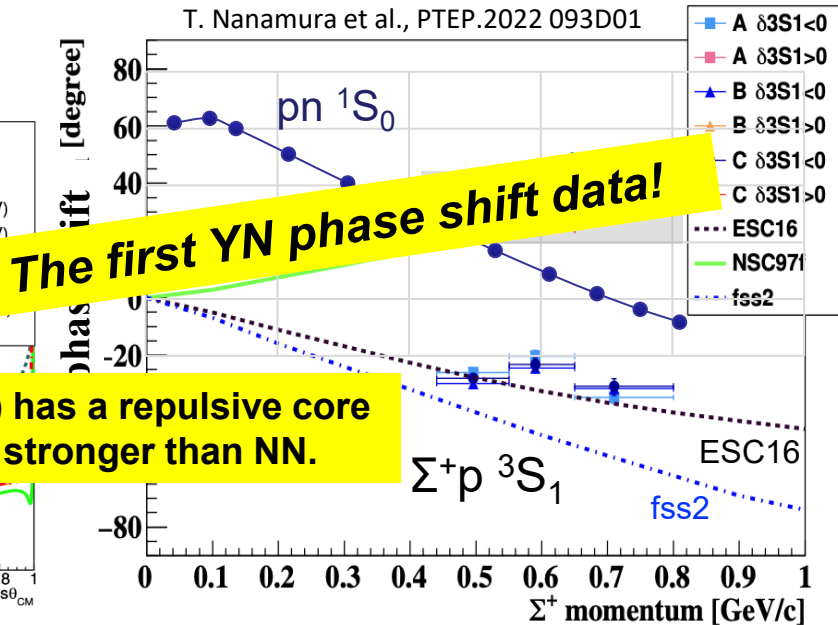


K. Miwa et al., PRL 128, 072501 (2022)

$\Sigma^- p \rightarrow \Lambda n$  inelastic scattering



T. Nanamura et al., PTEP.2022 093D01



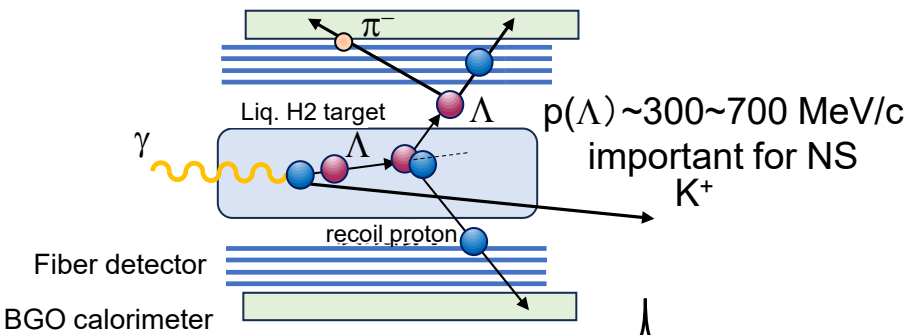
$\Sigma^+ p$  ( $S=1$ ) has a repulsive core much stronger than NN.

# Present and future : $\Lambda p$ scattering

$\gamma$  beams @Spring-8 (running now)

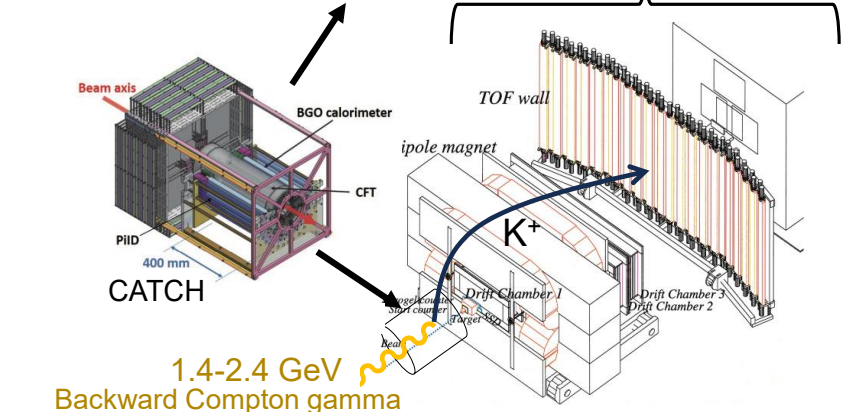
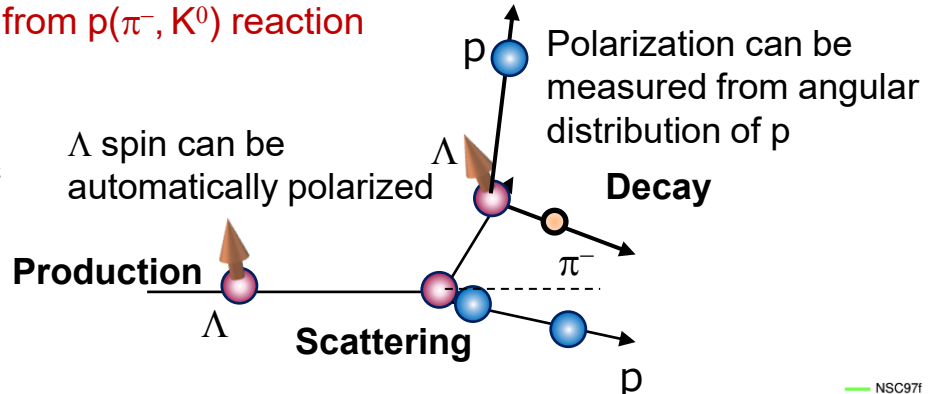
Momentum tagged  $\Lambda$  via  $\gamma p \rightarrow K^+ \Lambda$  reaction

YN scattering detector system (CATCH)

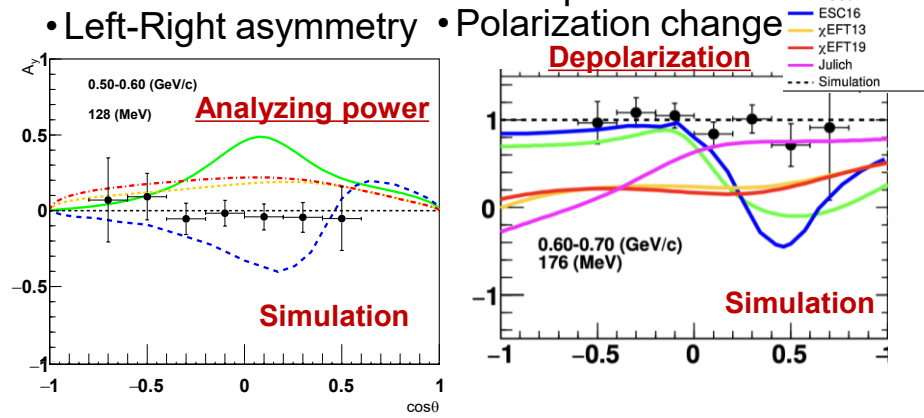


K- beam @ J-PARC HEFex (K1.1 line) (E86)

Measure spin observables with polarized  $\Lambda$  beam from  $p(\pi^-, K^0)$  reaction



1.4-2.4 GeV Backward Compton gamma

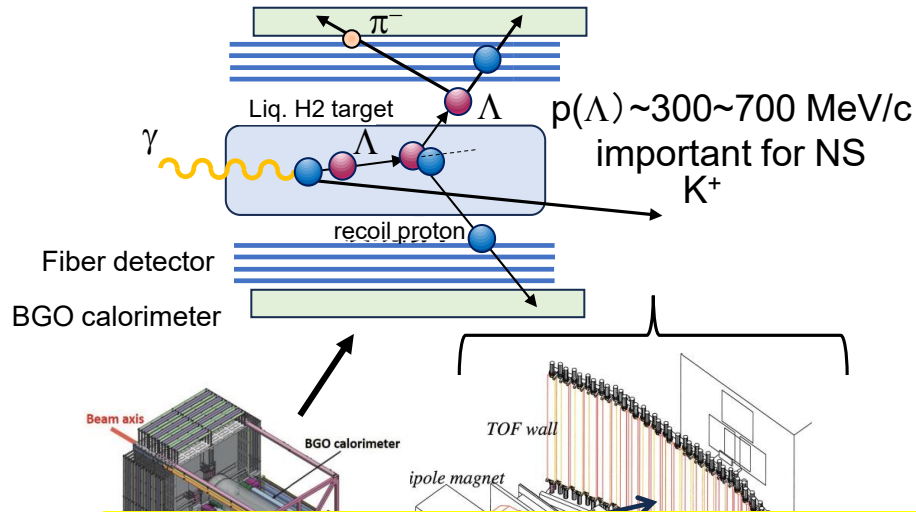


# Present and future : $\Lambda$ p scattering

$\gamma$  beams @Spring-8 (running now)

Momentum tagged  $\Lambda$  via  $\gamma p \rightarrow K^+ \Lambda$  reaction

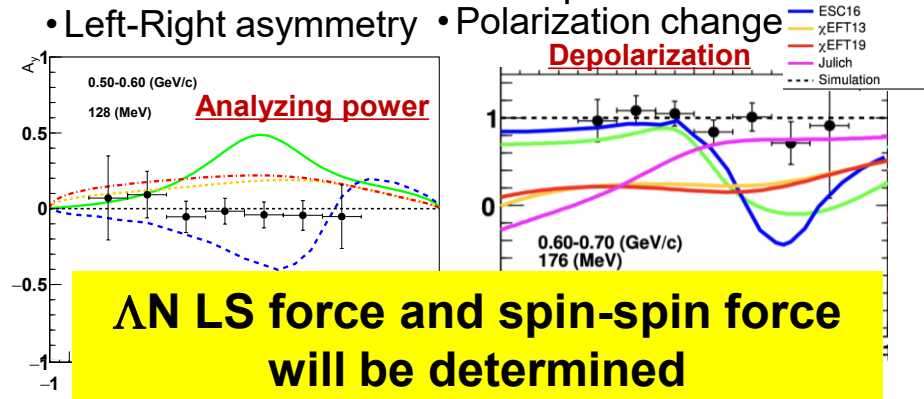
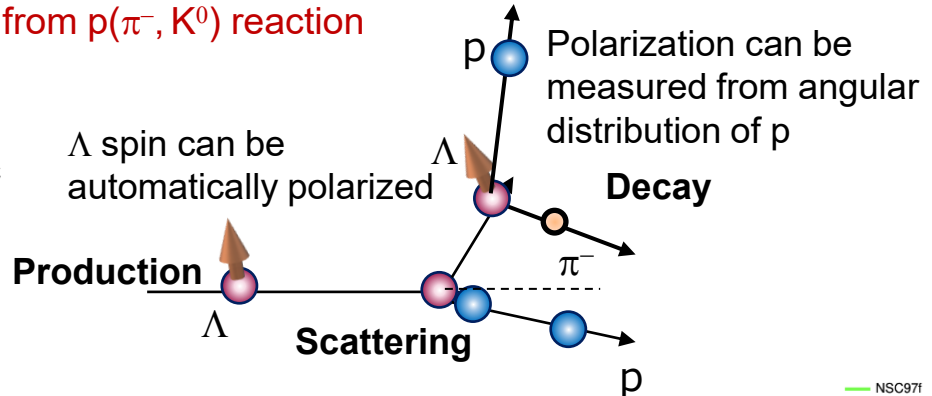
YN scattering detector system (CATCH)



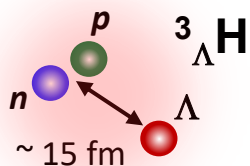
$\Rightarrow \Lambda N$  int. for large  $p(\Lambda)$  and p-wave  
 $\Rightarrow \Lambda NN$  strength can be obtained by comparing with hypernuclear data of  $U_0^\Lambda = -30$  MeV.

K- beam@J-PARC HEFex (K1.1 line) (E86)

Measure spin observables with polarized  $\Lambda$  beam from  $p(\pi^-, K^0)$  reaction



### **3. Precise light $\Lambda$ hypernuclear data (Hypertriton and CSB)**



# The benchmark, Hypertriton ( ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H} = pn\Lambda$ )

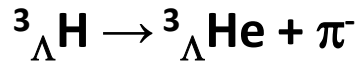
Precise data of few-body systems are particularly important.

New data after 2018

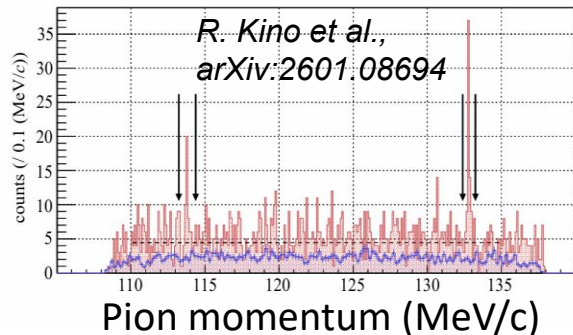
Experiment	Reaction	Method	$\tau ({}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H})$ ps	$B_{\Lambda}({}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H})$ MeV
<b>STAR</b>	HI (Au+Au) $\sqrt{s}=3\text{GeV}$	decay length inv. mass	$221 \pm 15 \pm 19$	$0.41 \pm 0.12 \pm 0.11$
<b>ALICE</b>	HI (Pb+Pb) $\sqrt{s}=5\text{TeV}$	decay length inv. mass	$253 \pm 11 \pm 6$	$0.102 \pm 0.063 \pm 0.067$
<b>HADES</b>	HI (Ag+Ag) $\sqrt{s}=2.55\text{GeV}$	decay length	$256 \pm 22 \pm 36$ (preliminary)	-
<b>WASA-FRS</b>	HI ( ${}^6\text{Li}+{}^{12}\text{C}$ ) 2GeVA	decay length	under analysis	under analysis
<b>J-PARC E73</b>	${}^3_4\text{He}(K^-, \pi^0)$	decay $\pi^-$ timing	Under analysis	-
<b>J-PARC E07</b>	$K^-$ on emulsion	decay $\pi^-$ range	} ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} \pi^-$	$0.23 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.05$
<b>MAMI</b>	${}^7\text{Li}(e, K^+)$	decay $\pi^-$ momentum		-

- We long believed:  
 $B_{\Lambda} \sim 130 \text{ keV}$  (old emulsion)  
 $\Rightarrow$  radius  $\sim (2\mu B_{\Lambda})^{-1/2} \sim 15 \text{ fm}$   
 $\Rightarrow \tau \sim \tau_{\Lambda(\text{free})}$  (263 ps)
- Previous data of  $\tau$ , much shorter than  $\tau_{\Lambda}(\text{free})$ , look inconsistent with the small  $B_{\Lambda}$ .
- Hypertriton's  $B_{\Lambda}$  is an important benchmark for  $\Lambda N$  interaction in free space (but with a little effect of  $\Lambda NN$  3BF).

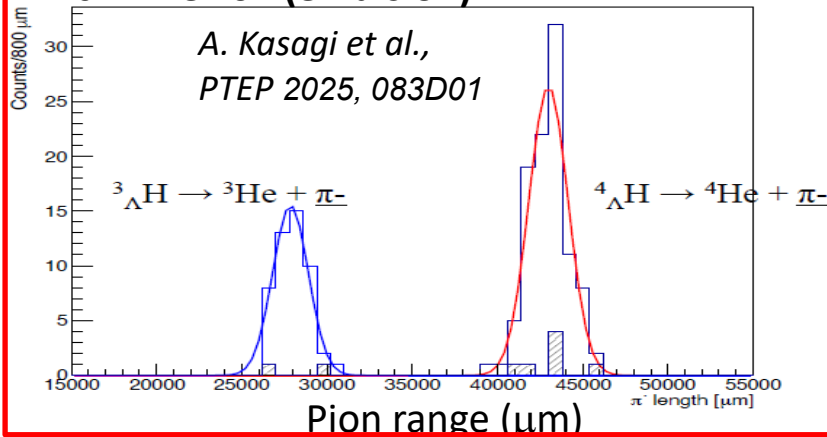
# Status of hypertriton binding energy



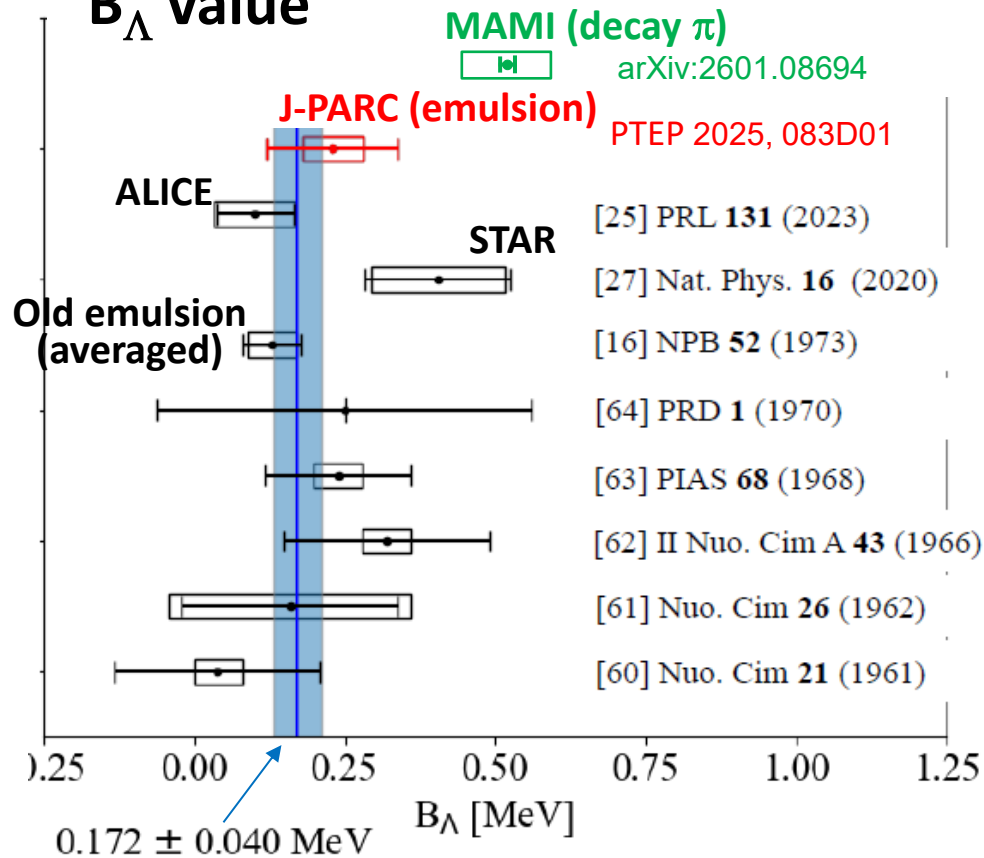
MAMI A1 (decay pion spectroscopy)



J-PARC E07 (emulsion)

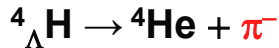
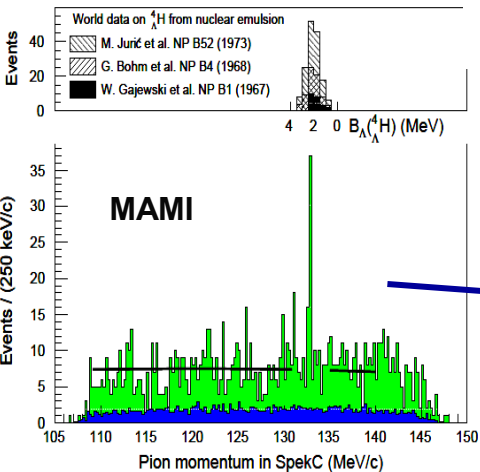


## $B_{\Lambda}$ value

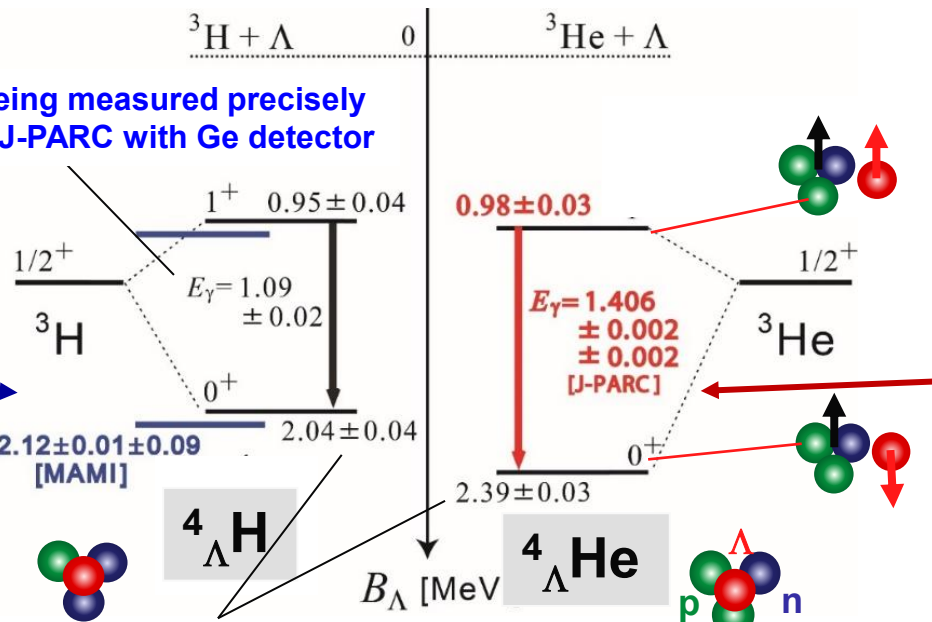


# Charge Symmetry Breaking in A=4 hypernuclei

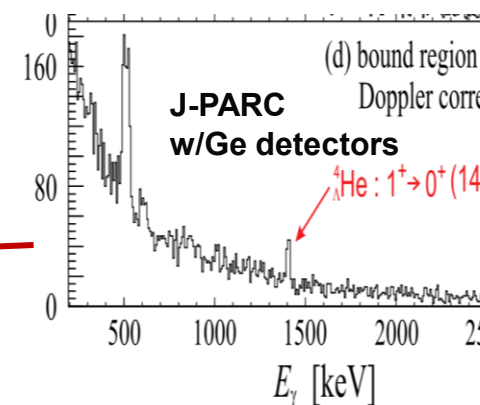
A. Esser et al.,  
PRL 114 (2015) 12501



Being measured precisely  
at J-PARC with Ge detector



T.O. Yamamoto et al.,  
PRL 115 (2015) 222501



Old emulsion data

$B_{\Lambda}({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{He}(0^+)) - B_{\Lambda}({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{H}(0^+)) \sim 300 \text{ keV} \gg B({}^3\text{H}) - B({}^3\text{He}) \sim 70 \text{ keV (w/o EM effect)}$

**A large Charge Symmetry Breaking ( $\Lambda p \neq \Lambda n$ ) is confirmed.  
The CSB effect has a spin dependence.**

Not theoretically understood yet.  
 $\Lambda N - \Sigma N$  coupling could be responsible?

➡ CSB in p-shell hypernuclei can be a key  
=>  $(e, e'K^+) @ \text{Jlab} \leftrightarrow (\pi^+, K^+) @ \text{J-PARC}$

## **4. $\Xi$ hypernuclei and $\Xi N$ interaction**

# $\Xi$ -hypernuclei in emulsion (J-PARC E07)

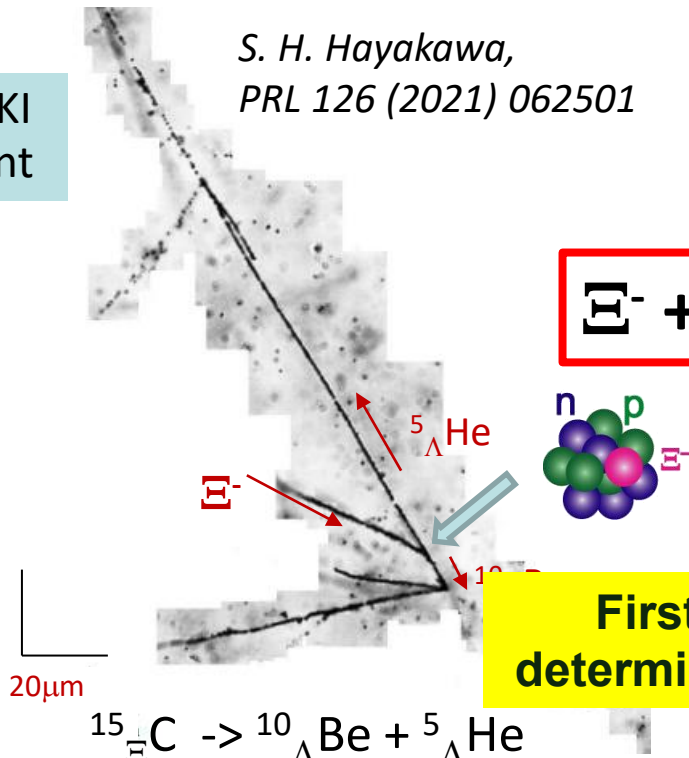
$K^- + \text{“p”} \rightarrow \Xi^- + K^+$ , then  $\Xi^-$  is stopped in emulsion and captured by C, N, O nuclei.

IBUKI event

*S. H. Hayakawa,  
PRL 126 (2021) 062501*

IRRAWADDY event

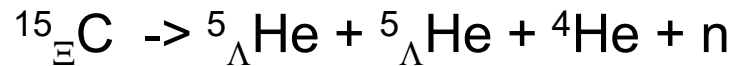
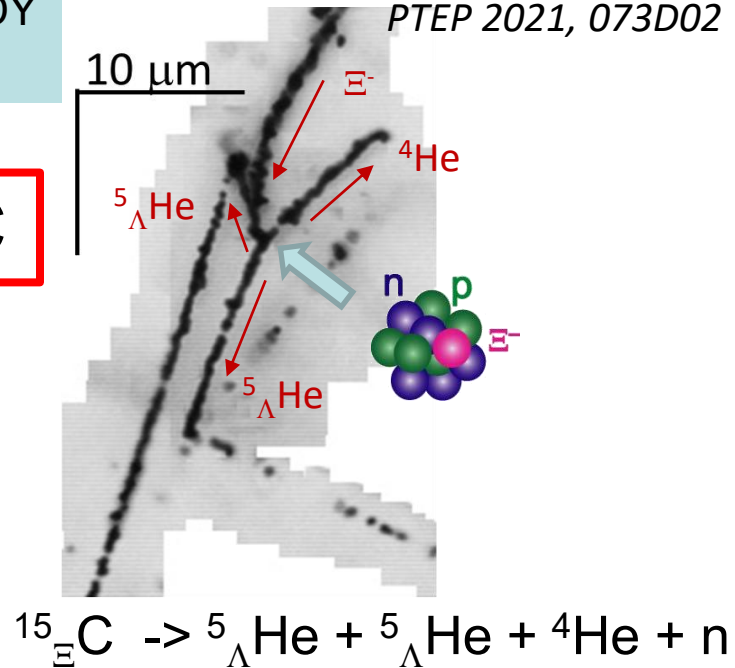
*M. Yoshimoto et al.,  
PTEP 2021, 073D02*



First precise determination of  $B_{\Xi}$



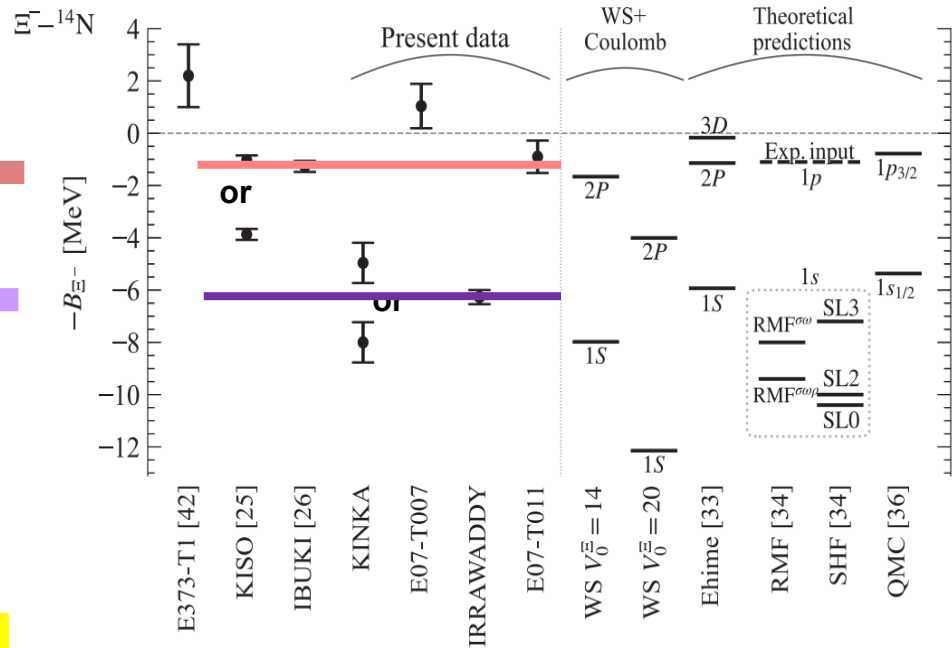
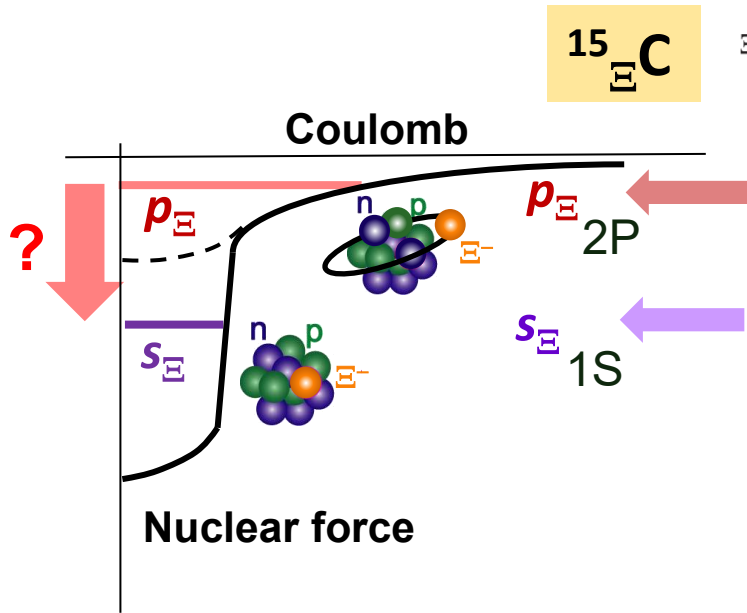
$$B_{\Xi^-} = 1.27 \pm 0.21 \text{ MeV}$$



$$B_{\Xi^-} = 6.27 \pm 0.27 \text{ MeV}$$

# Observation of $p$ - and $s$ -state $\Xi$ hypernuclei (?)

M. Yoshimoto et al., Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2021, 073D02



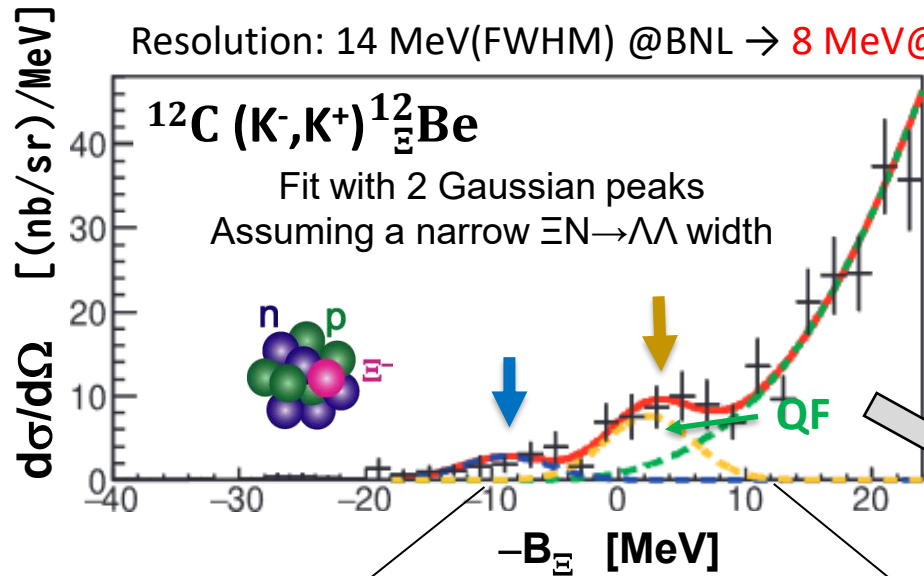
$\Xi N \rightarrow \Lambda\Lambda$  strength very small?

Meson exch.(Nijmegen) int. :  $\Xi$  absorption from 3D, 4%-0.3% from 2P orbits

Lattice (HAL QCD):  $\sim 1/10$  of Nijmegen  $\rightarrow$  2P/3D absorption comparable, but 1S absorption still negligible

# $^{12}\text{C} (\text{K}^-, \text{K}^+) ^{12}_{\Xi}\text{Be}$ missing-mass spectroscopy (J-PARC E05)

Resolution: 14 MeV(FWHM) @BNL  $\rightarrow$  8 MeV@J-PARC E05

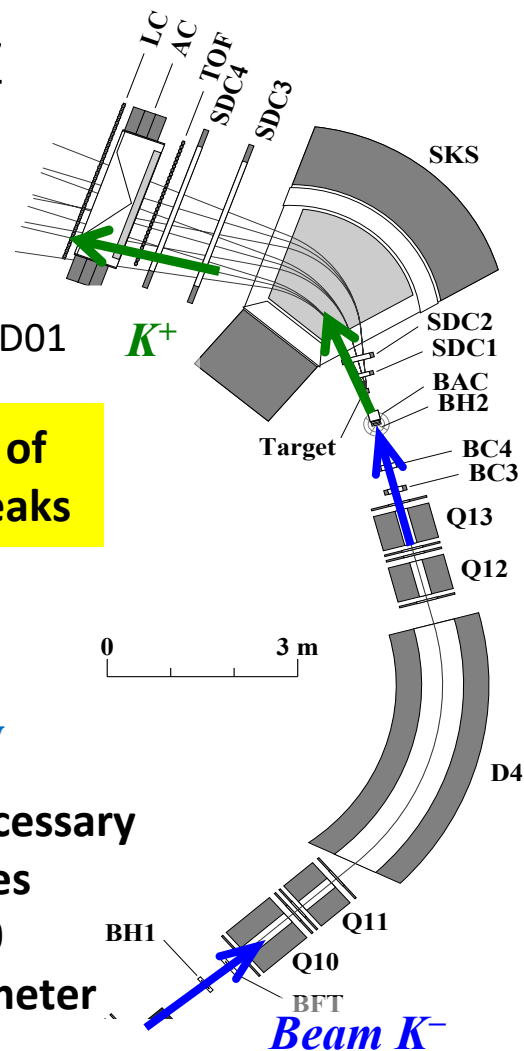


Y. Ichikawa et al.,  
PTEP 2024 (2024) 091D01

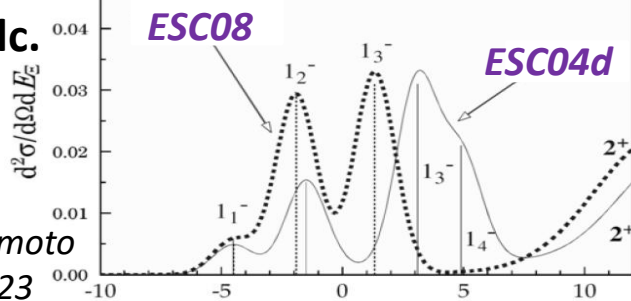
**First observation of  
 $\Xi$ -hypernuclear peaks**

$\text{B}_{\Xi}$  values  
 $-2.4 \pm 1.3^{+2.8}_{-1.2}$  MeV  
 $8.9 \pm 1.4^{+3.8}_{-3.1}$  MeV

**Better resolution necessary  
to identify states  
 $\rightarrow$  J-PARC E70  
w/ a new spectrometer**

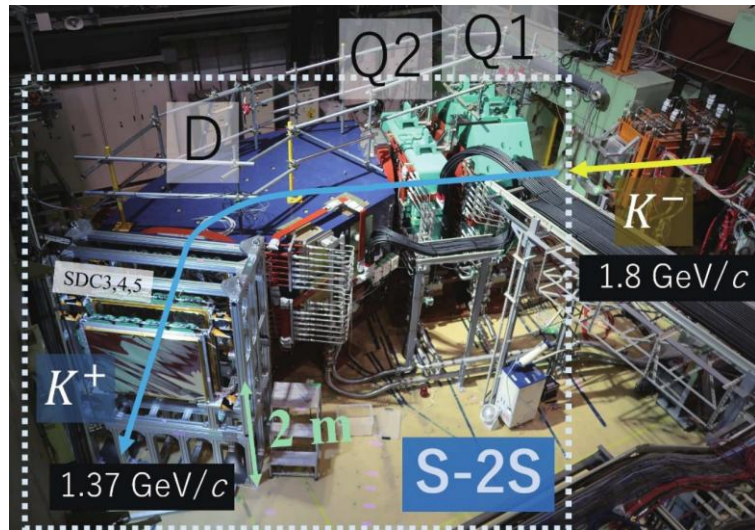


DWIA calc.



T.Motoba, S.Sugimoto  
NPA835 (2019) 223

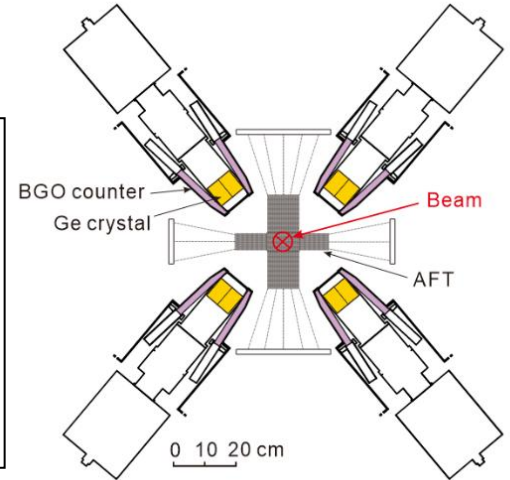
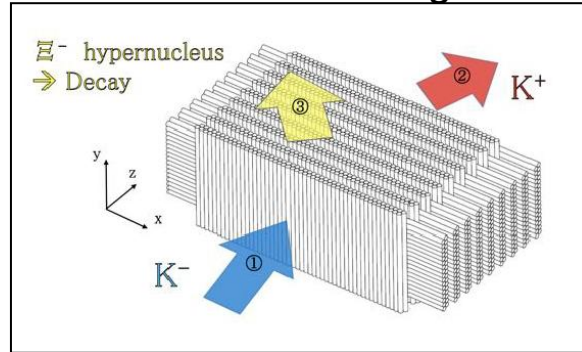
# New experiments have been finished



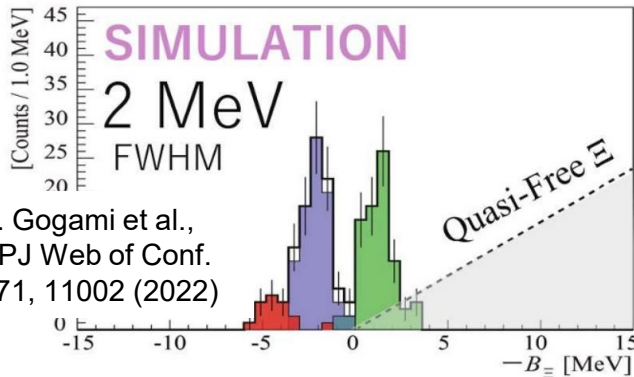
**E70:**  
 $^{12}\text{C}(K^-,K^+)^{12}_{\Xi}\text{Be}$   
w/ a new spectrometer

**E96:**  
 $^{12}\text{C} \Xi$  atomic X-rays

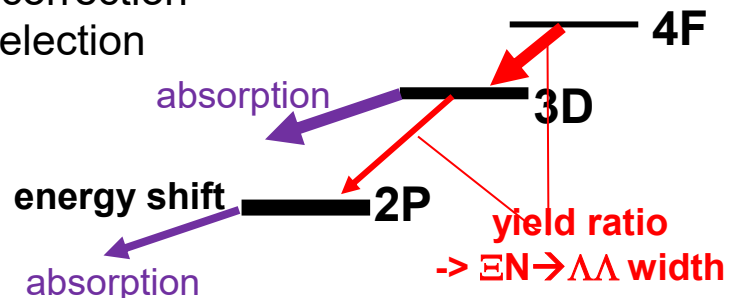
Active Fiber Target



Energy loss correction  
Stopped  $\Xi$  selection

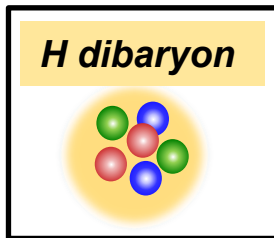


**Data-taking finished.  
Under analysis.**



T. Gogami et al.,  
EPJ Web of Conf.  
271, 11002 (2022)

# Study of H-dibaryon and $\Xi N$ interaction by $(K^-, K^+ \Lambda \Lambda)$ (J-PARC E42, J.K. Ahn et al.)

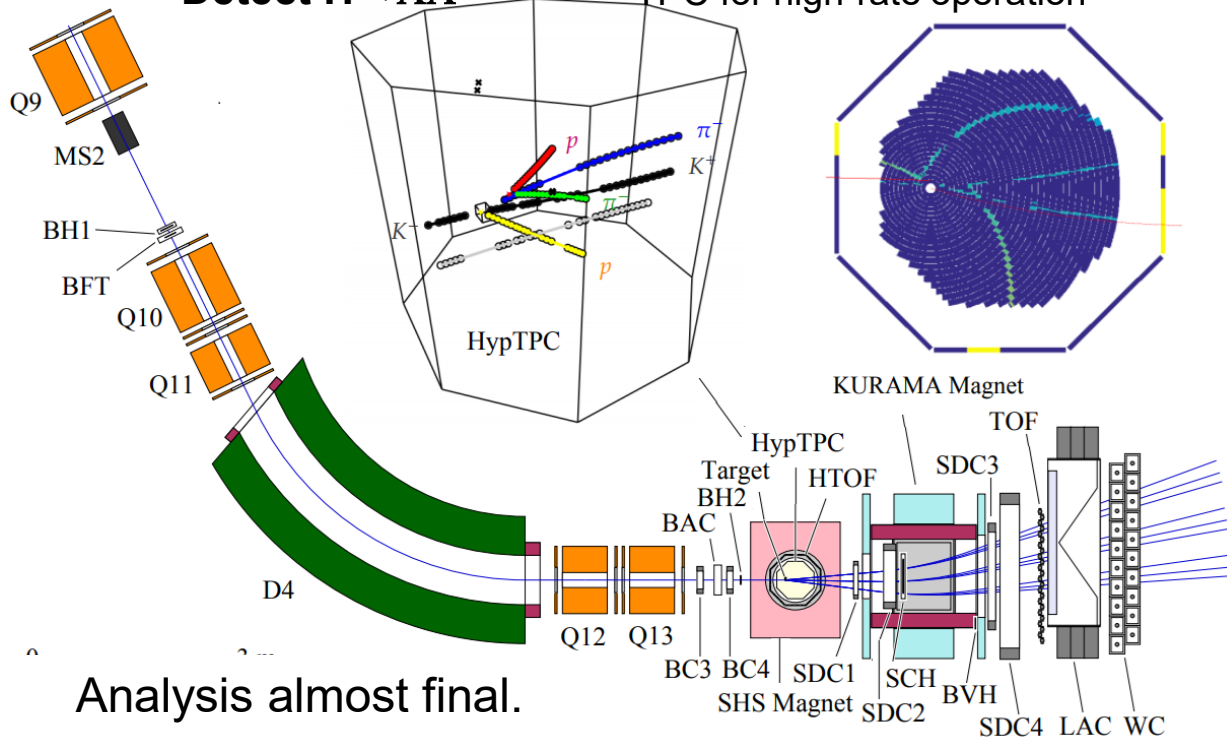


*W.S. Jung et al.,  
PTEP 2025 (2025) 091D01*

Above  $\Lambda\Lambda$  threshold

Detect  $H \rightarrow \Lambda\Lambda$

TPC for high-rate operation



Analysis almost final.

- $\Xi p \rightarrow \Xi^0 n$ ,  $\Lambda\Lambda$  cross sections were derived from  $\Xi^-$  escape rate and  $\Lambda\Lambda$  yield.

- $\sigma(\Xi p \rightarrow \Lambda\Lambda) \sim 1.1$  mb much smaller than meson exch. model predictions.  
 $\Gamma_{\Xi} \lesssim 0.7$  MeV  $\rightarrow$  narrow  $\Xi$  hypernuclear states

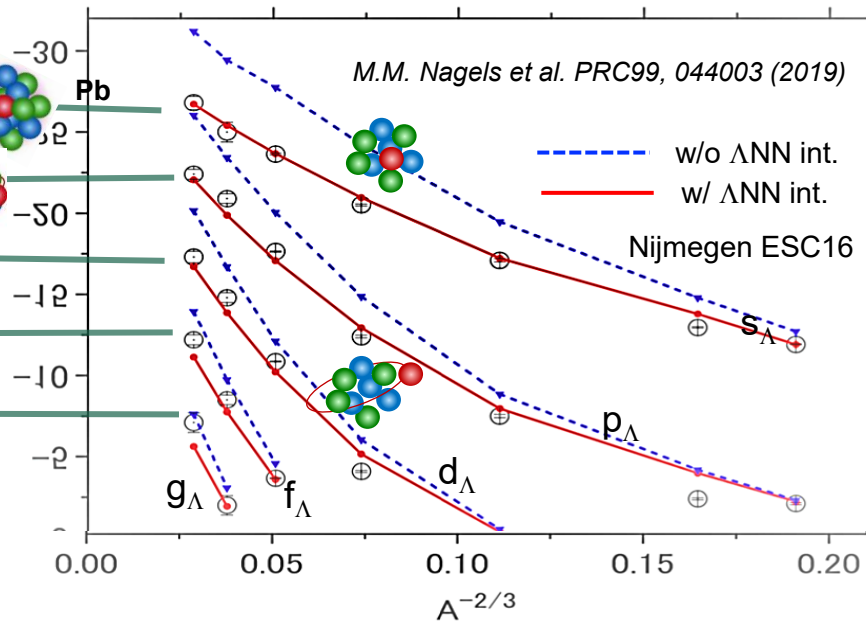
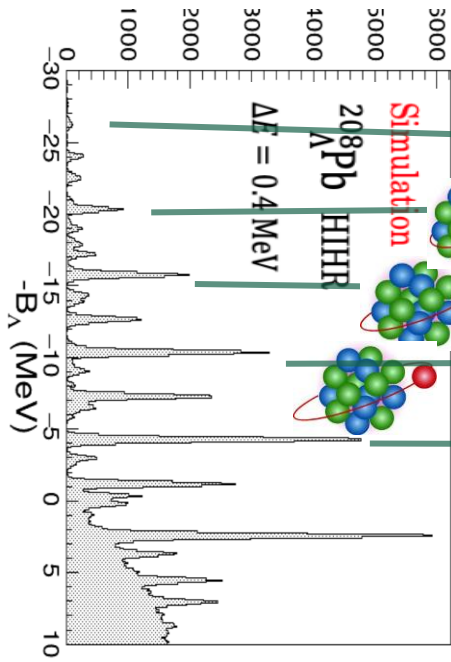
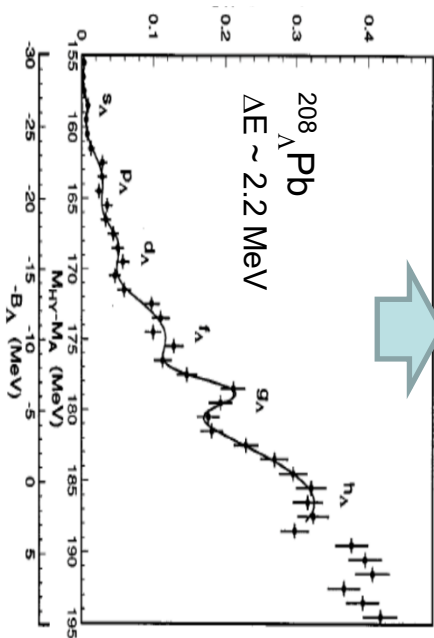
- $\Lambda\Lambda$  invariant mass spectrum for H dibaryon search will be published soon.

## **5. Hypernuclear spectroscopy for $\Lambda$ NN interaction**

# How can we extract YNN 3-body force effect ?

Single particle energies of  $\Lambda$  in hypernuclei => **sensitive to  $\Lambda N$  density dep. (=  $\Lambda NN$  3BF)**

- $\Lambda$  is distinguishable from nucleons. No Pauli from nucleons.
- We know the local density where the  $\Lambda$  is located.
- Different mass numbers, orbitals -> probe different densities



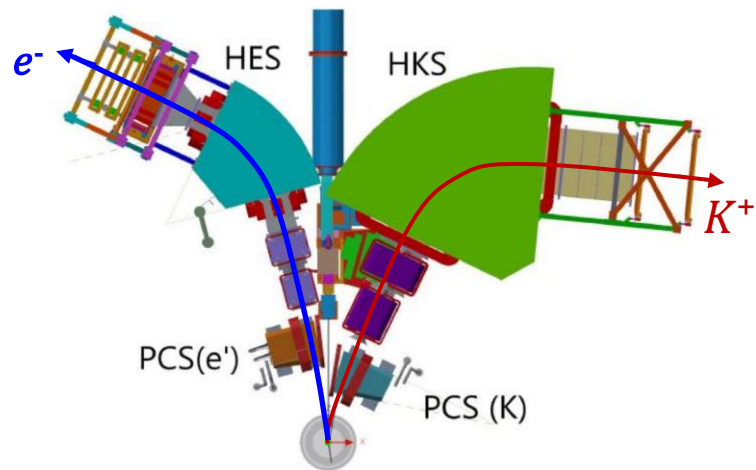
# Experimental Plans

## JLab @Hall C

E12-15-008:  $^{40,48}\text{Ca}(e, e'K^+) ^{40,48}\text{K}$

E12-18-013:  $^{208}\text{Pb}(e, e'K^+) ^{208}\text{Ti}$

**T=1  $\Delta$ NN force  $\Rightarrow$   $\Delta$ nn force in NS**



## J-PARC @HIHR line

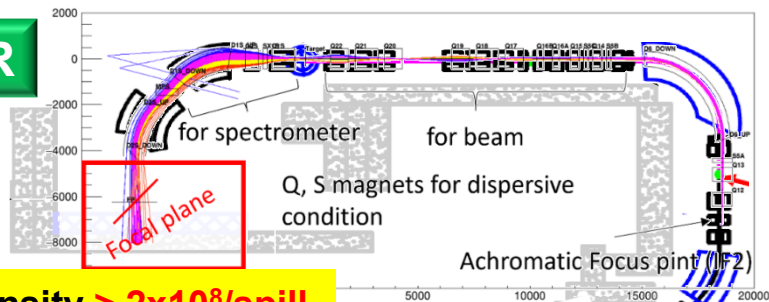
at the **extended Hadron Facility**

P84:  $(\pi^+, K^+) \dots ^{12}\text{C}, ^{28}\text{Si}, ^{40}\text{Ca},$   
 $^{51}\text{V}, ^{89}\text{Y}, ^{139}\text{La}, ^{208}\text{Pb}$

$\Delta M < 400$  keV (FWHM)

Together with  $\Delta$ N scattering exp. (E86 @K1.1), those  $B_\Lambda$  values give info. on  $\Delta$ NN strength.

**HIHR**

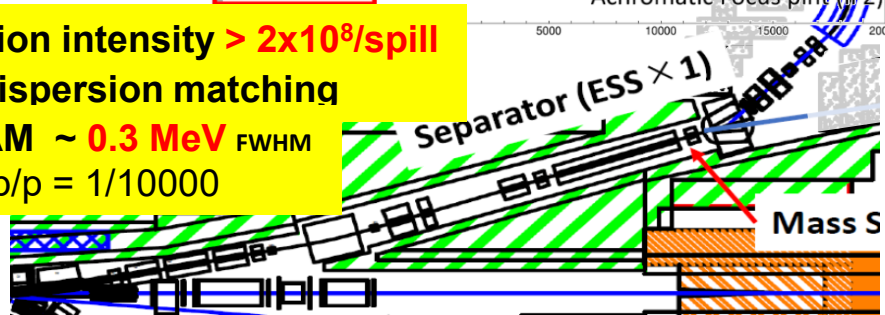


**Pion intensity  $> 2 \times 10^8$ /spill**

**Dispersion matching**

$\Delta M \sim 0.3$  MeV FWHM

$\Delta p/p = 1/10000$



## 6. Summary

1. In order to elucidate the nuclear force and to solve the hyperon puzzle in NS, we need YN/YY interactions, both in free space and in nuclear matter, and extract information on YNN 3BF.
2. Recent high-quality  $\Sigma^\pm p$  scattering data at J-PARC are being used to improve the interaction models. High-quality  $\Lambda p$  scattering experiments are following.
3. Light hypernuclear data,  ${}^3_\Lambda\text{H}$  binding energy/lifetime and Charge Symmetry Breaking in  ${}^4_\Lambda\text{H}/{}^4_\Lambda\text{He}$ , have been collected.
4.  $\Xi$  hypernuclear data in emulsion and  $(K^-, K^+)$  spectroscopy indicate an attractive  $\Xi$ -nucleus potential with a narrow  $\Xi N-\Lambda\Lambda$  width.
5. To investigate  $\Lambda NN$  interaction, precise  $\Lambda$  hypernuclear spectroscopy exp's are planned at Jlab and at the extended J-PARC Hadron Facility.