

中国科学院高能物理研究所
Institute of High Energy Physics



中国科学院
CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Weak decay of Λ in nuclear medium

Qiang Zhao

Institute of High Energy Physics, CAS

**and Theoretical Physics Center for Science
Facilities (TPCSF), CAS**

zhaoq@ihep.ac.cn

In collaboration with J.-M. Richard and Q. Wang, to be submitted

FCPPL-2015, USTC, April 8-12, 2015

Outline

1. Brief introduction to the “heavy hadron” Collaboration

2. Weak decay of Λ in nuclear medium

- Surprising data from experiment
- Lifetime of free Λ
- Lifetime of ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$
- Brief summary

FCPPL Project report for 2014

TH-HEP-PKU-IPNL-LAL-LUPM: HEAVY HADRONS

TH-HEP-PKU-IPNL-LAL-LUPM: HEAVY HADRONS					
Members	French Group			Chinese Group	
	Name	Title	Affiliation (institute)	Name	Title
	<i>Leader</i> Jean-Marc RICHARD	Pr.	IPNL (Lyon)	<i>Leader</i> Qiang ZHAO	Pr.
	Emi KOU	Dr.	LAL (Orsay)	Shi-Lin Zhu	Pr.
	Stephan NARISON	Pr.	LUPM (Montpellier)	Cai-Dian Lu	Pr.
				Han-Qing Zheng	Pr.
				Jian-Xiong Wang	Pr.
				Xue-Qian Li	Pr.
				Fu-Sheng Yu	Ass. Pr.
				Xuan-Gong Wang	Postdoc

Topics in the Heavy Hadron Collaboration

- Activities in **charmonium physics**: “ $\rho\pi$ puzzle”, $\psi(3770)$ non- $D \bar{D}$ decay, etc
- Activities in **exotic hadrons**: XYZ states
- Activities in **B physics**: Time-dependent CP asymmetry, Left-right symmetric model in the light of LHC data
- Activities in **hypernuclear physics**: Neutral hypernuclei ($\Lambda\Lambda nn$), and lifetime of ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$
-

Activities in B physics

F.-S. Yu (Lanzhou Univ.), E. Kou (LAL), C.-D. Lu (IHEP)

- The dilution factor for the TDCP asymmetry in $B^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 K_S \gamma$
LAL-15-75 (to be submitted soon to arXiv)

The time-dependent CP asymmetry in $B \rightarrow \rho K_S \gamma \rightarrow K_S \pi^+ \pi^- \gamma$ has been measured by the Belle and Babar collaborations. The main difficulty to interpret these results comes from the fact that the final $K_S \pi^+ \pi^-$ state can originate not only from ρK_S intermediate state but also from others such as $K^* \pi$, $(K\pi)_0 \pi$ which may possess different CP properties. In this paper, we re-derive the so-called *dilution factor*, \mathcal{D} , which represents the difference between CP violations of the ρK_S intermediated channel and of the total $K_S \pi^+ \pi^-$ channel.

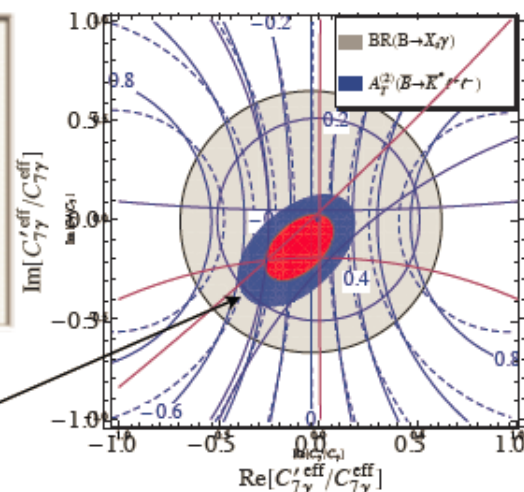
S. Akar, E. Ben-Haim, J. Hebing, E. Kou and F.-S. Yu

- Update of the Left-Right symmetric model in the light of LHC data

In the previous work (joint-PhD thesis of F.-S. Yu), we have investigated the Left-Right Symmetric Model (LRSM), especially the impact on the $b \rightarrow s \gamma$ processes. Since then, ATLAS/CMS have published new results on the right-handed W boson mass and also LHCb, the photon polarization measurement via angular distribution analysis of $B \rightarrow K^* e^+ e^-$. We are now updating our previous results including these new data.

E. Kou, C.-D. Lu and F.-S. Yu

Preliminary result on the new constraints from recent result by LHCb

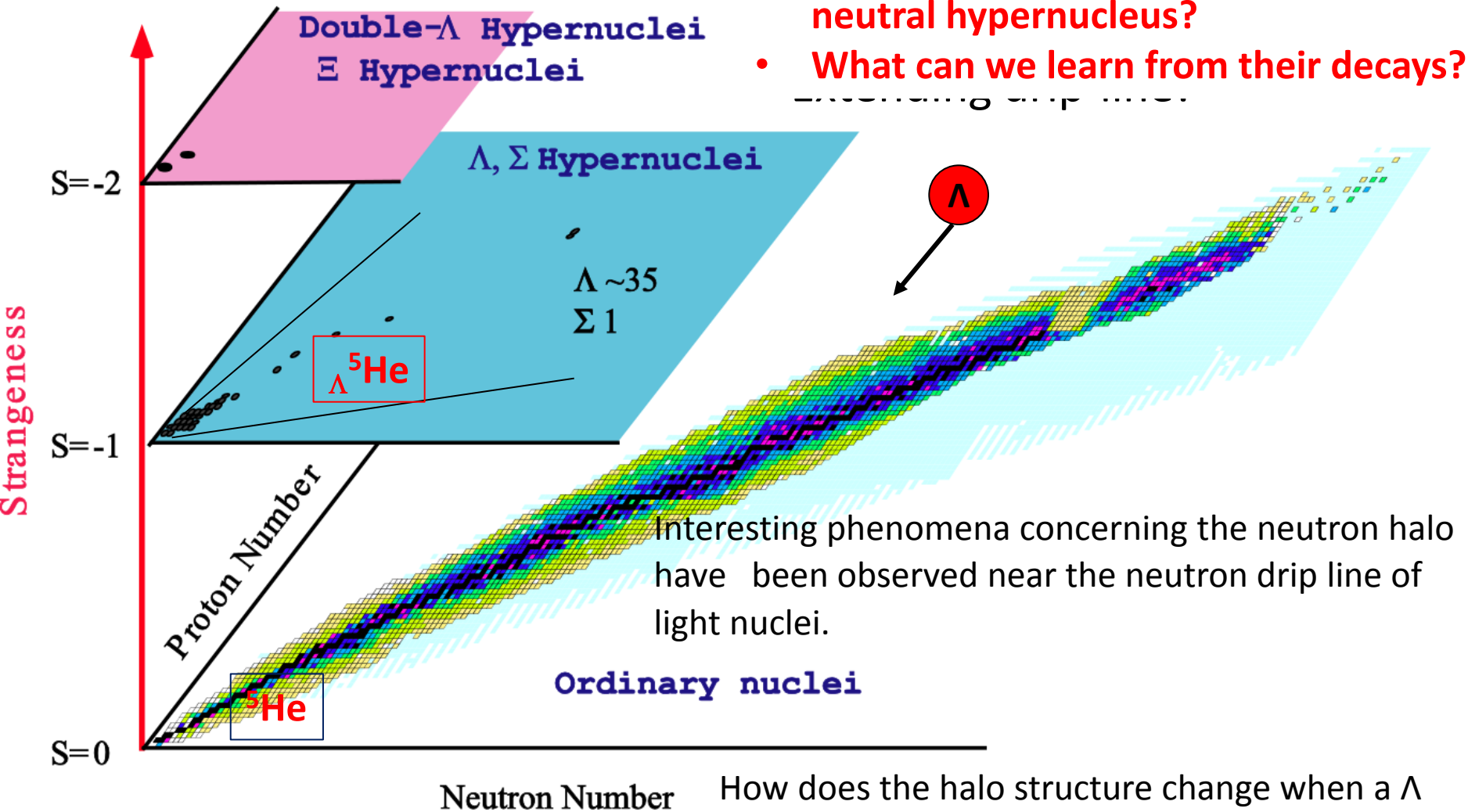


2. Weak decay of Λ in nuclear medium

Nuclear chart with strangeness

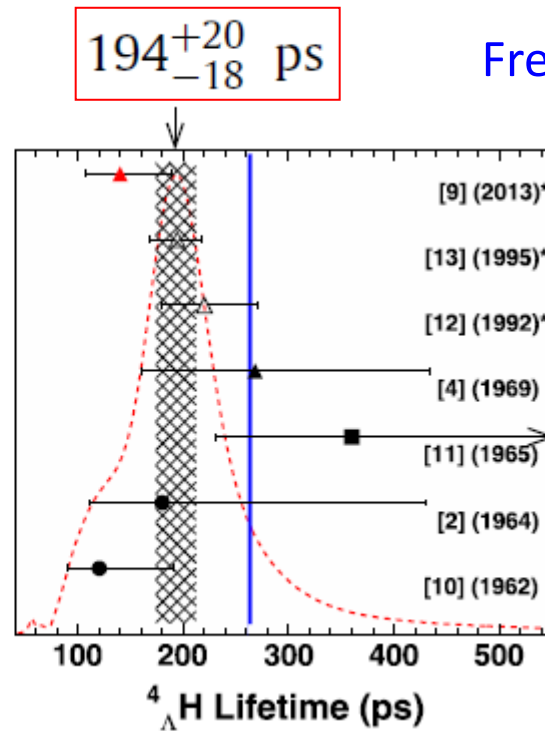
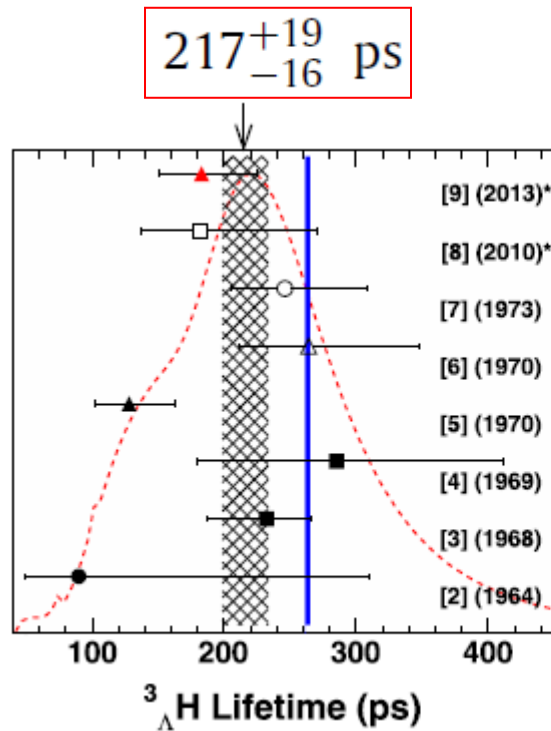
Multi-strangeness system
such as Neutron star

- What's the role played by the Λ -N interaction in the formation of neutral hypernucleus?
- What can we learn from their decays?



How does the halo structure change when a Λ particle is injected into an unstable nucleus?

Lifetime measurement of $\Lambda^3\text{H}$ and $\Lambda^4\text{H}$



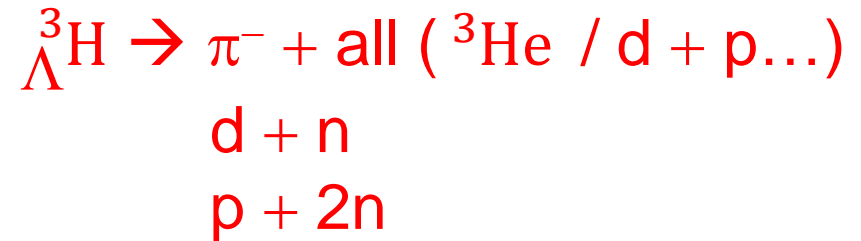
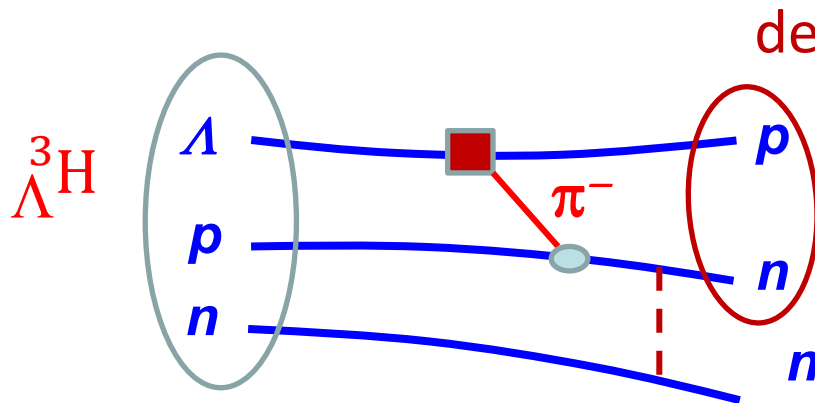
Free Λ : (263.2 ± 2.0) ps

◆ The lifetimes of both $\Lambda^3\text{H}$ and $\Lambda^4\text{H}$ are shorter than that of the free Λ !

Why surprising?

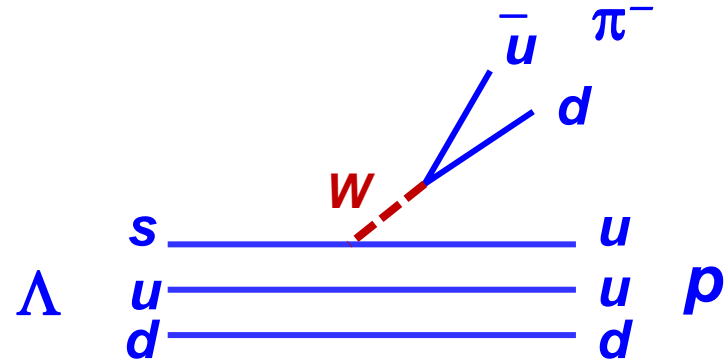
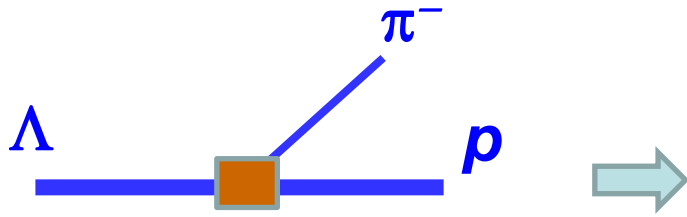
- Since the ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ system is weakly bound its non-mesonic weak decay is expected to be small. Hence, one would expect that the lifetime of ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ is more or less the same as the free Λ .
- In comparison, the non-mesonic weak decay mode for ${}^4_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ can enhance the decay width and make the lifetime of ${}^4_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ much shorter than the free one.

Non-mesonic weak decay

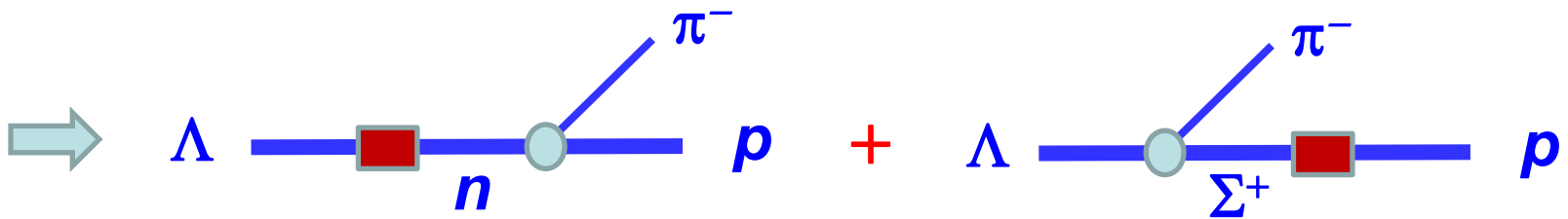
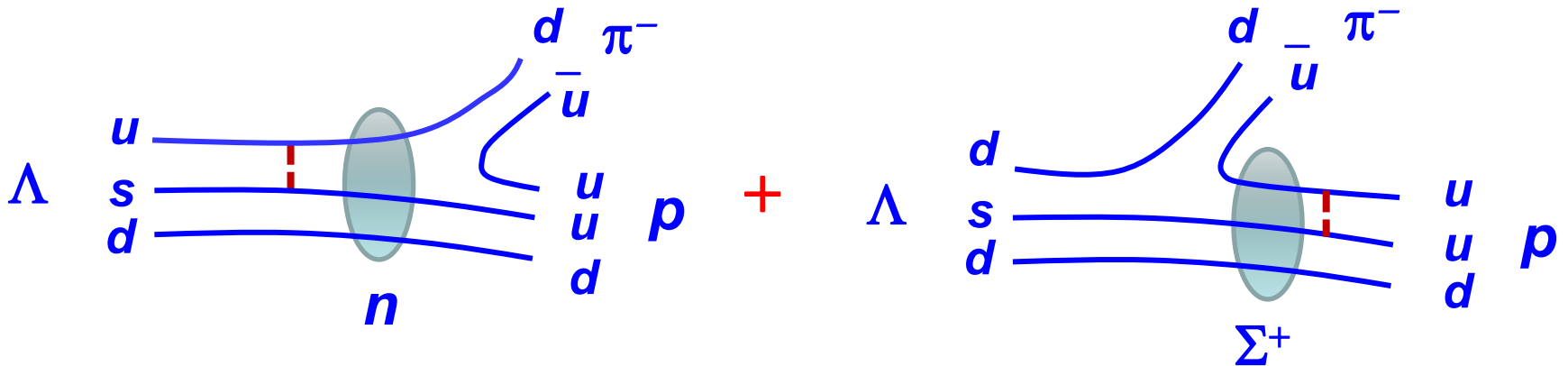


The Λ weak decay

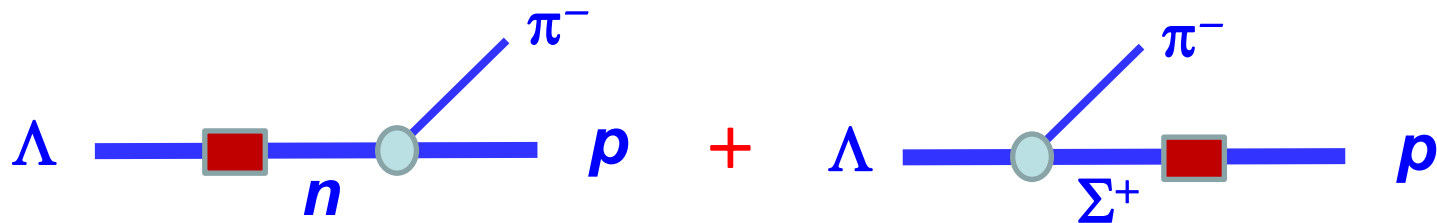
I) Direct pion emission



II) Pole contribution via baryon internal conversion



In the quark model the transition amplitude can be expressed as:



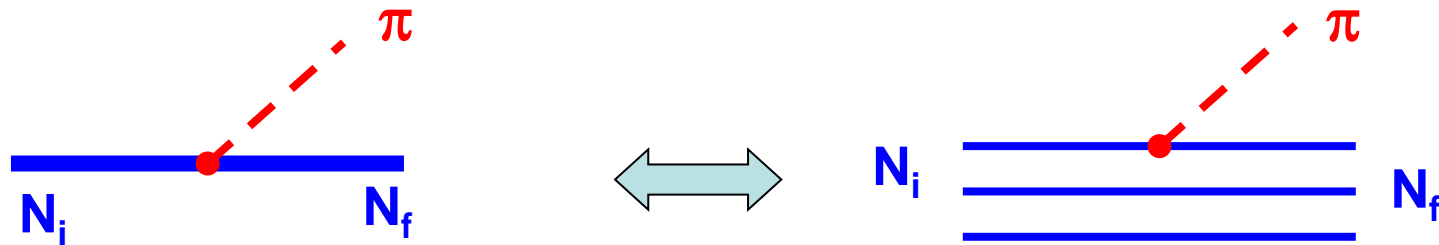
$$\mathcal{M} = \langle p | H_\pi | n \rangle \frac{i}{\not{p} - m_n} \langle n | H_w | \Lambda \rangle + \langle p | H_w | \Sigma^+ \rangle \frac{i}{\not{p} - m_\Sigma} \langle \Sigma^+ | H_\pi | \Lambda \rangle$$

$$H_w = H_w^{PC} + H_w^{PV} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} H_w^{PC} = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \int d\mathbf{x} [j_\mu^{(-)}(\mathbf{x}) j^{(+)\mu}(\mathbf{x}) + j_{5\mu}^{(-)}(\mathbf{x}) j_5^{(+)\mu}(\mathbf{x})] \\ H_w^{PV} = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \int d\mathbf{x} [j_\mu^{(-)}(\mathbf{x}) j_5^{(+)\mu}(\mathbf{x}) + j_{5\mu}^{(-)}(\mathbf{x}) j^{(+)\mu}(\mathbf{x})] \end{array} \right.$$

$$\langle B_f | H_w^{PC} | B_i \rangle = 6 \langle B_f(1, 2, 3) | H_w^{PC}(1, 2) | B_i(1, 2, 3) \rangle$$

$$H_w^{PC}(1, 2) = \delta(\mathbf{P}_f - \mathbf{P}_i) \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \cos \theta_C \sin \theta_C \langle \tilde{B}_f(1, 2, 3) | \tau_1^{(-)} v_2^{(+)} (1 - \sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2) \delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) | \tilde{B}_i(1, 2, 3) \rangle$$

Explicit calculation of the strong and weak transition matrix elements in the quark model:



$$H_\pi = \frac{1}{f_\pi} \sum_j \bar{\psi}_j \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 \partial^\mu \phi_\pi \hat{I}_j^\pi \psi_j$$

The non-relativistic expansion gives

$$H_\pi = \frac{1}{f_\pi} \sum_j \left[\frac{q_0}{E_f + M_f} \sigma_j \cdot \mathbf{P}_f + \frac{q_0}{E_i + M_i} \sigma_j \cdot \mathbf{P}_i - \sigma_j \cdot \mathbf{q} + \frac{q_0}{2\mu_q} \sigma_j \cdot \mathbf{p}_j \right] \hat{I}_j^\pi e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_j}$$

Goldberger-Treiman relation:

$$g_{\pi B_i B_f} = \frac{g_A \bar{M}}{f_\pi} \quad g_A \equiv \frac{\langle B_f | \sum_j \hat{I}_j^\pi \sigma_j | B_i \rangle}{\langle B_f | \sigma_{tot} | B_i \rangle}$$

The transition amplitude becomes:

$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{1}{f_\pi} e^{-q^2/6\alpha_h^2} \sqrt{2M_i(M_f + E_f)} \left(1 + \frac{q_0}{E_f + M_f} + \frac{q_0}{3\mu_q} \right) |q| \left(\frac{\alpha_h}{\sqrt{\pi}} \right)^3 6G_F \cos \theta_C \sin \theta_C$$

$$\times \left[C_W(\Lambda \rightarrow n) \frac{2M_n}{M_\Lambda^2 - M_n^2} g_A(np\pi^-) + g_A(\Lambda\Sigma^+\pi^-) \frac{2M_\Sigma}{M_p^2 - M_\Sigma^2} C_W(\Sigma^+ \rightarrow p) \right],$$



$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{M_n}{f_\pi} e^{-q^2/6\alpha_h^2} \sqrt{2M_i(M_f + E_f)} \left(1 + \frac{q_0}{E_f + M_f} + \frac{q_0}{3\mu_q} \right) |q| \left(\frac{\alpha_h}{\sqrt{\pi}} \right)^3 2\sqrt{6}G_F \cos \theta_C \sin \theta_C$$

$$\times \left[-\frac{5}{6} \frac{1}{M_\Lambda^2 - M_n^2} + \xi \frac{1}{M_\Sigma^2 - M_p^2} \right],$$

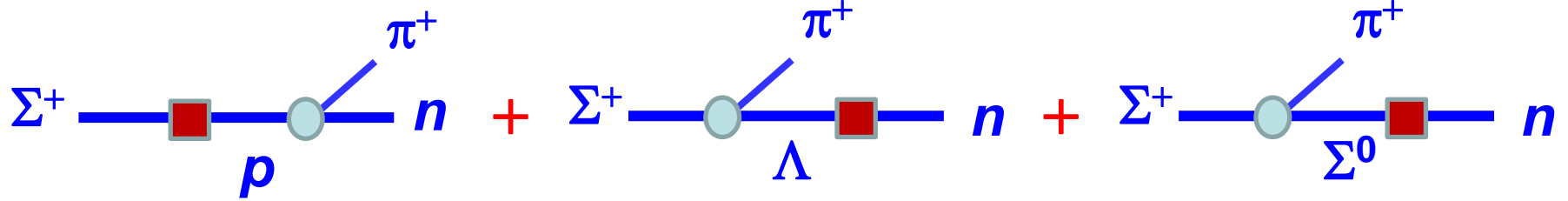
$\xi \simeq M_\Sigma/M_n$ indicates the SU(3) flavor symmetry breaking.

Explicit cancellation between the pole terms.

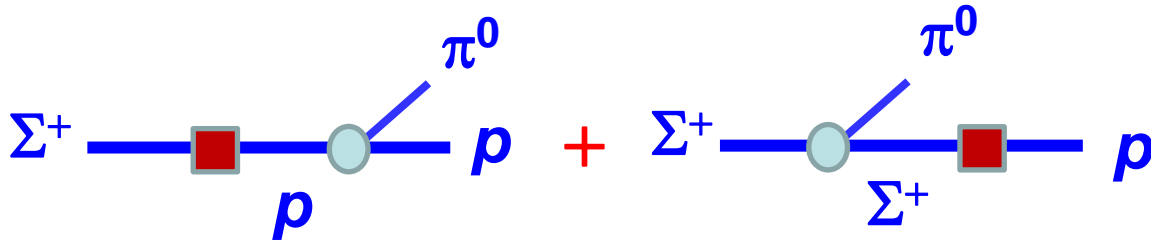
ξ is determined by the free Λ decay and will be fixed.

All involve cancellations among the pole terms

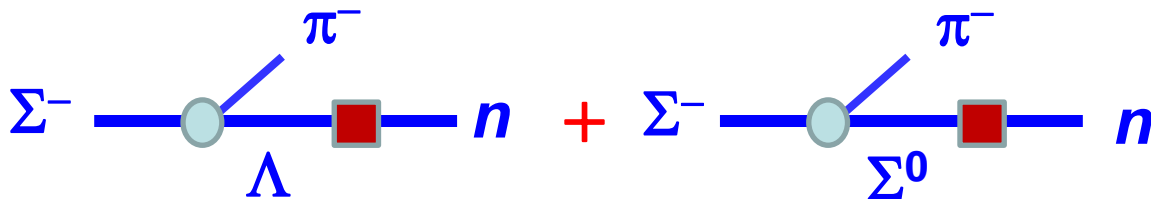
I) $\Sigma^+ \rightarrow n \pi^+$



II) $\Sigma^+ \rightarrow p \pi^0$



III) $\Sigma^- \rightarrow n \pi^-$



Process	g_A
$p \rightarrow n \pi^+$	$\frac{5}{2}$
$n \rightarrow p \pi^-$	$\frac{5}{2}$
$n \rightarrow n \pi^0$	$\frac{5}{2}$
$\Lambda \rightarrow \Sigma^+ \pi^-$	$\frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}$
$\Lambda \rightarrow \Sigma^0 \pi^0$	$-\frac{\sqrt{6}}{2}$
$\Sigma^+ \rightarrow \Lambda \pi^+$	$-\frac{\sqrt{6}}{2}$
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda \pi^-$	$-\frac{\sqrt{6}}{2}$
$\Sigma^+ \rightarrow \Sigma^0 \pi^+$	$\frac{4\sqrt{6}}{3\sqrt{2}}$

$$C_W(A \rightarrow B) \equiv \langle B | \hat{O}_W | A \rangle$$

$$\hat{O}_W \equiv \tau_1^{(-)} v_2^{(+)} (1 - \sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2)$$

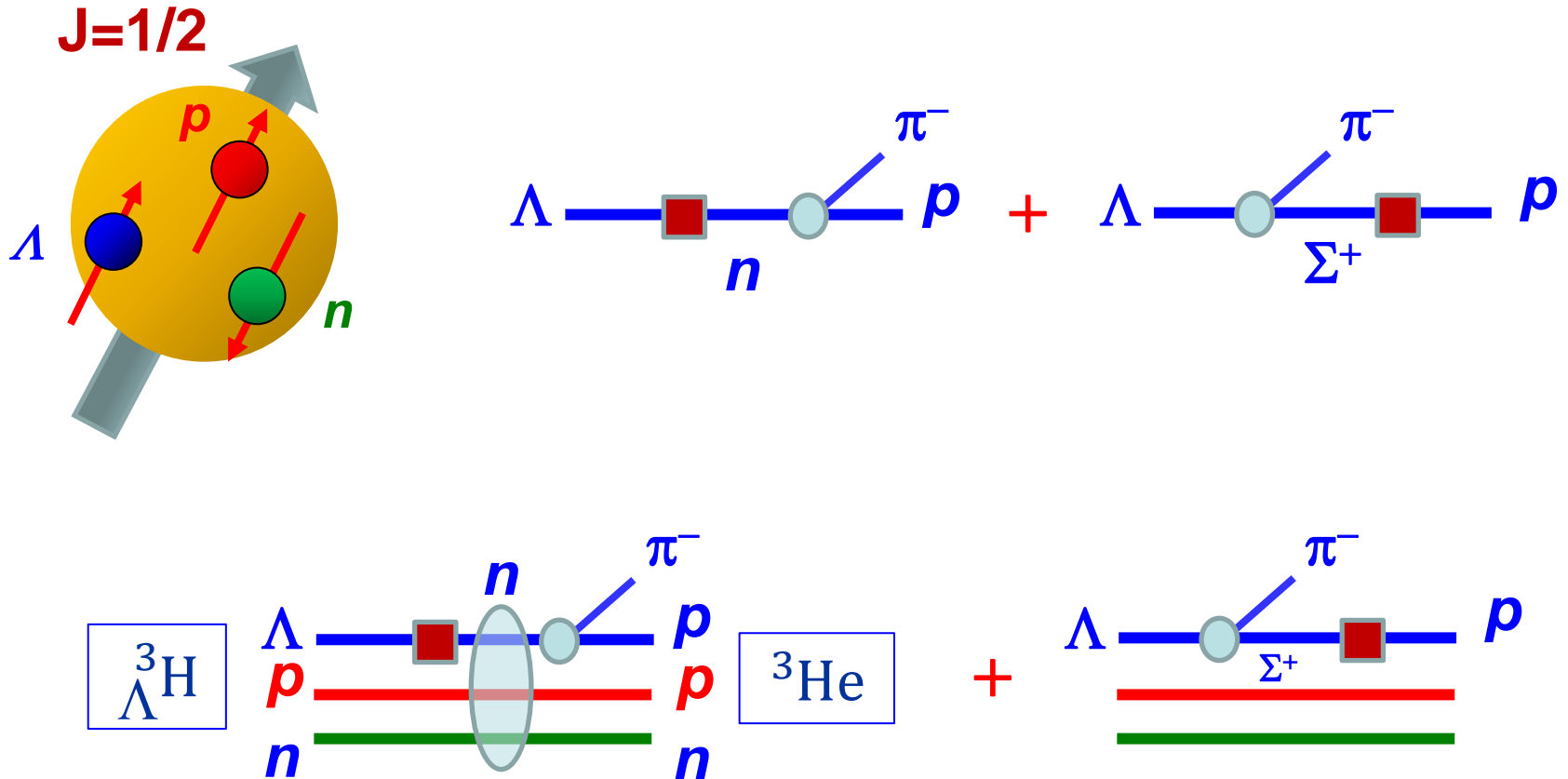
$\langle n \hat{O}_W \Lambda \rangle$	$\langle p \hat{O}_W \Sigma^+ \rangle$	$\langle n \hat{O}_W \Sigma^0 \rangle$
$-\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}$	$+1$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

Some general features:

- i) The Λ and Σ hadronic weak decays involve **significant cancellations** among the pole terms which is determined by the SU(3) flavor symmetry.
- ii) However, the cancellations are sensitive to the SU(3) flavor symmetry breaking, which means a coherent study of the free Λ and Σ hadronic weak decay is necessary.
- iii) Information about the short-distance behavior of the wavefunction is also crucial, but only contributes to the overall factor.

The dominance of pole contributions in the Λ and Σ hadronic weak decays has important consequence for the lifetime of light hyper-nuclei.

Hadronic weak decay of $\Lambda^3\text{H}$



- Pauli principle will forbid the intermediate (nn) to stay in the same state, which will make these two pole terms different in hyper-nucleus decays.

The presence of **Pauli principle** will affect the relative strength between the pole terms.

$$\mathcal{M} = \langle p | H_\pi | n \rangle \frac{i\beta}{\not{p} - m_n} \langle n | H_w | \Lambda \rangle + \langle p | H_w | \Sigma^+ \rangle \frac{i}{\not{p} - m_\Sigma} \langle \Sigma^+ | H_\pi | \Lambda \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{1}{f_\pi} e^{-q^2/6\alpha_h^2} \sqrt{2M_i(M_f + E_f)} \left(1 + \frac{q_0}{E_f + M_f} + \frac{q_0}{3\mu_q} \right) |q| \left(\frac{\alpha_h}{\sqrt{\pi}} \right)^3 6G_F \cos \theta_C \sin \theta_C$$

$$\times \left[\beta C_W(\Lambda \rightarrow n) \frac{2M_n}{M_\Lambda^2 - M_n^2} g_A(np\pi^-) + g_A(\Lambda\Sigma^+\pi^-) \frac{2M_\Sigma}{M_p^2 - M_\Sigma^2} C_W(\Sigma^+ \rightarrow p) \right],$$

where $\beta = \begin{cases} 1.0 & \text{No Pauli blocking} \\ 0.5 & \text{Fully Pauli blocked} \end{cases}$

The Pauli blocking leads to significant change of the cancellation pattern and strongly increase the transition amplitude.

Wavefunctions for the light nuclei, -- anti-symmetrized in the isospin space

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} |{}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}\rangle \equiv \phi_{\Lambda}^{\rho} \chi_{\frac{1}{2}}^{\lambda} \psi^s(\mathbf{R}, \rho, \lambda) \\ |{}^3\text{H}\rangle \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\phi_{3\text{H}}^{\rho} \chi_{\frac{1}{2}}^{\lambda} - \phi_{3\text{H}}^{\lambda} \chi_{\frac{1}{2}}^{\rho}] \psi^s(\mathbf{R}, \rho, \lambda) \\ |{}^3\text{He}\rangle \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\phi_{3\text{He}}^{\rho} \chi_{\frac{1}{2}}^{\lambda} - \phi_{3\text{He}}^{\lambda} \chi_{\frac{1}{2}}^{\rho}] \psi^s(\mathbf{R}, \rho, \lambda) \end{array} \right.$$

The spin and isospin wavefunctions are:

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \chi^s(S_z = \frac{3}{2}) = \uparrow\uparrow\uparrow \\ \chi^{\rho}(S_z = \frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow - \downarrow\uparrow\uparrow) \\ \chi^{\lambda}(S_z = \frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(2\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow - \downarrow\uparrow\uparrow - \uparrow\downarrow\uparrow) \end{array} \right. \left[\begin{array}{l} \phi_{\Lambda}^{\rho} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(pn - np)\Lambda , \\ \phi_{3\text{H}}^{\rho} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(pn - np)n , \\ \phi_{3\text{H}}^{\lambda} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(-2nnp + pnn + npn) , \\ \phi_{3\text{He}}^{\rho} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(pn - np)p , \\ \phi_{3\text{He}}^{\lambda} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(-2ppn + pnp + npp) . \end{array} \right.$$

The spatial integral is model dependent, while the spin-isospin wavefunctions are better defined.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{M} &= \langle {}^3\text{He} | H_\pi^{(3)} | {}^3\text{H} \rangle \langle {}^3\text{H} | \frac{i}{\not{p}_{\Lambda}^{3\text{H}} - M_{3\text{H}}} H_w^{(3)} | {}^3\text{H} \rangle \\
 &+ \langle {}^3\text{He} | H_w^{(3)} \frac{i}{\not{p} - m_\Sigma} | p, n, \Sigma^+ \rangle \langle p, n, \Sigma^+ | H_\pi^{(3)} | {}^3\text{H} \rangle, \\
 &\simeq i \langle {}^3\text{He} | H_\pi^{(3)} | {}^3\text{H} \rangle \frac{2M_{3\text{H}}}{M_{\Lambda}^2 - M_{3\text{H}}^2} \langle {}^3\text{H} | H_w^{(3)} | {}^3\text{H} \rangle \\
 &+ i \langle {}^3\text{He} | H_w^{(3)} | p, n, \Sigma^+ \rangle \frac{2m_\Sigma}{m_p^2 - m_\Sigma^2} \langle p, n, \Sigma^+ | H_\pi^{(3)} | {}^3\text{H} \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

**Intermediate
 ${}^3\text{H}$ saturation**

Brief summary

- The presence of Pauli blocking plays a unique role in light hypernucleus weak decays and can explain the fastened lifetime of ${}^3_{\Lambda}H$.
- More analysis is needed to test this mechanism, e.g. in measurement of the lifetime of sigma hypernuclei.

***Thanks for your
attention!***

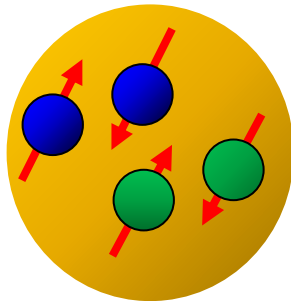
- How to organize the $(\Lambda\Lambda nn)$ system?

$$T = {}_{\Lambda\Lambda}^4n = (\Lambda\Lambda nn)$$

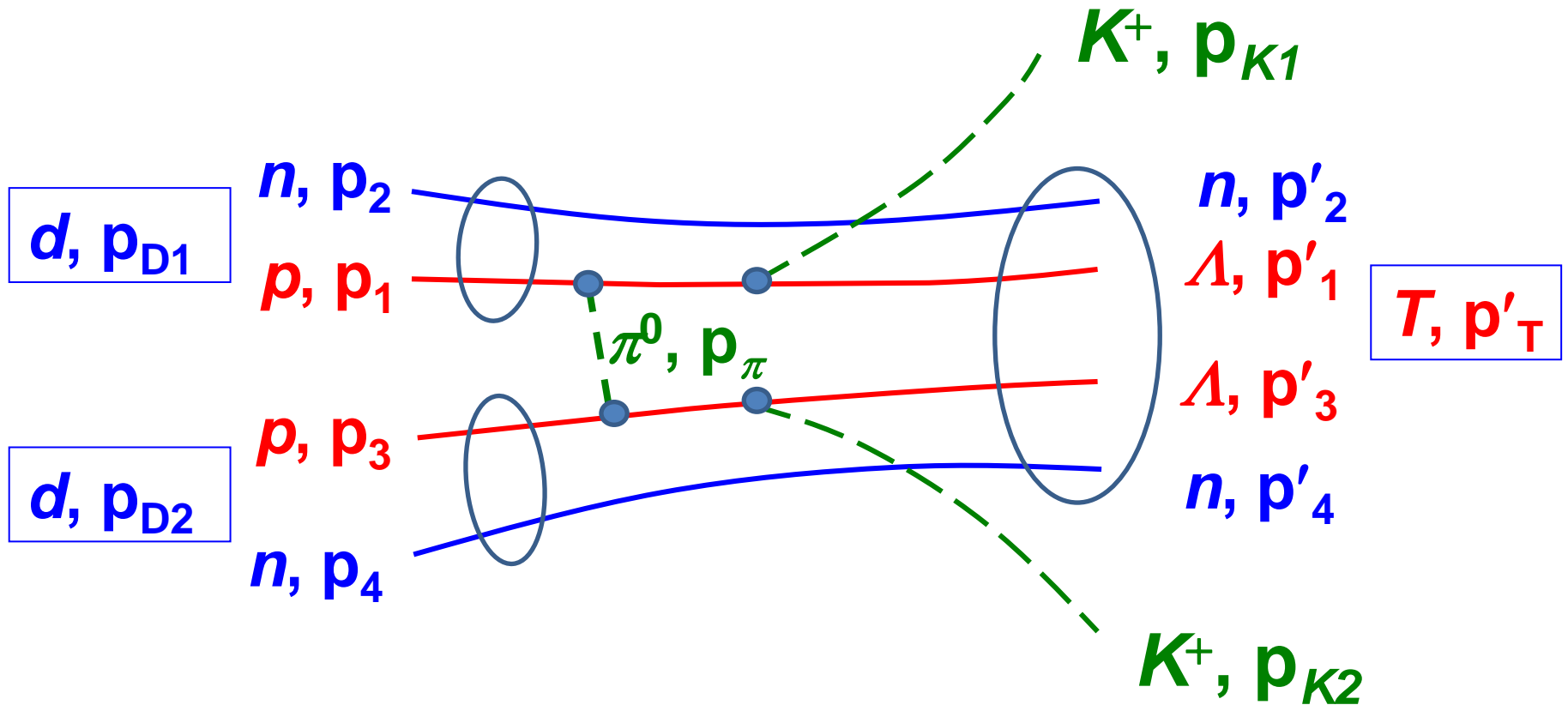
$$S=0, I=1, L=0$$

No Pauli blocking

Groundstate: $J^P=0^+$



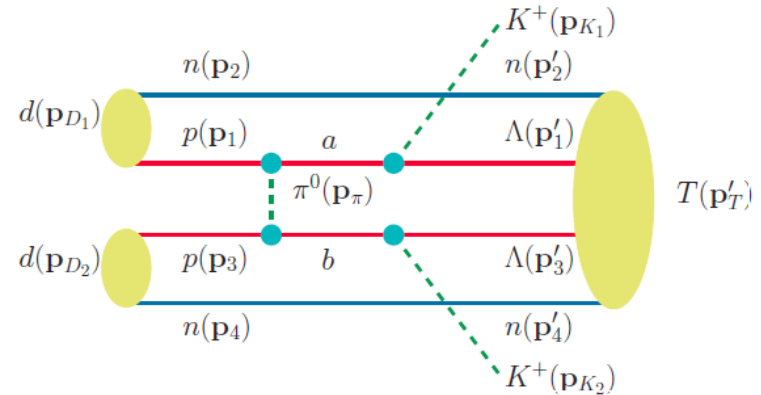
Production mechanism for $(\Lambda\Lambda nn)$ in deuteron-deuteron collision



- The two K^+ production is via the elementary process, $pp \rightarrow \Lambda\Lambda K^+ K^+$.
- The intermediate $S_{11}(1535)$ excitations is sizeable near threshold.

- Production mechanism for ($\Lambda\Lambda$ nn)

$$d + d \rightarrow K^+ + K^+ + T.$$



$$\int \Psi_{(\Lambda\Lambda nn)}^* (\vec{p}'_1, \vec{p}'_2, \vec{p}'_3, \vec{p}'_4; \vec{P}_C) \Psi_{K_1}^* (\vec{p}_{K_1}) \Psi^* (\vec{p}_{K_2}) \hat{O}_{\text{tran}} (\vec{p}'_1, \vec{p}'_3, \vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_3, \vec{p}_{K_1}, \vec{p}_{K_2})$$

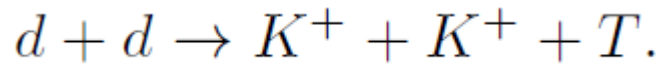
$$\times \Psi_{D_1} (\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2; \vec{P}_{D_1}) \Psi_{D_2} (\vec{p}_3, \vec{p}_4; \vec{P}_{D_2}) \delta(\vec{P}_C + \vec{p}_{K_1} + \vec{p}_{K_2} - \vec{P}_{D_1} - \vec{P}_{D_2})$$

$$\times \delta(\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2 - \vec{P}_{D_1}) \delta(\vec{p}_3 + \vec{p}_4 - \vec{P}_{D_2}) \delta(\vec{p}'_1 + \vec{p}'_2 + \vec{p}'_3 + \vec{p}'_4 - \vec{P}_C)$$

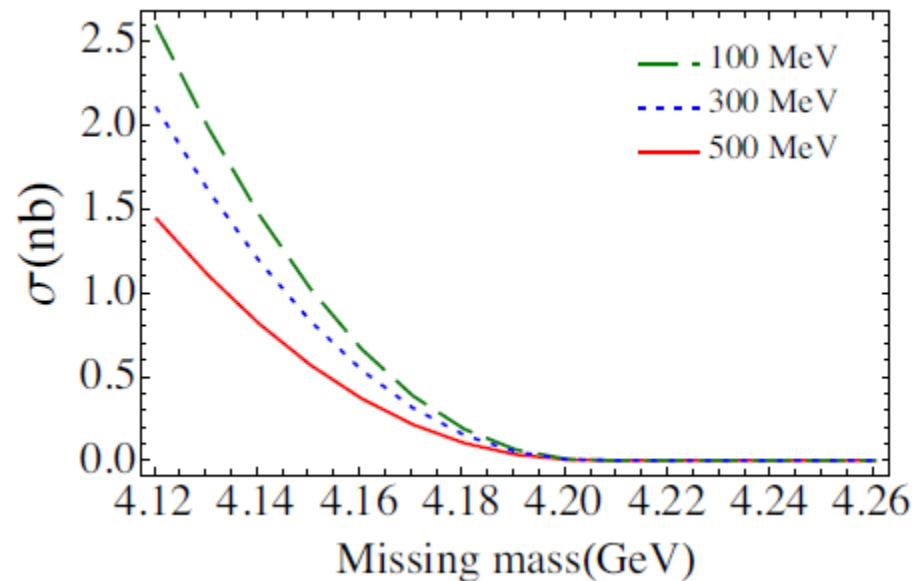
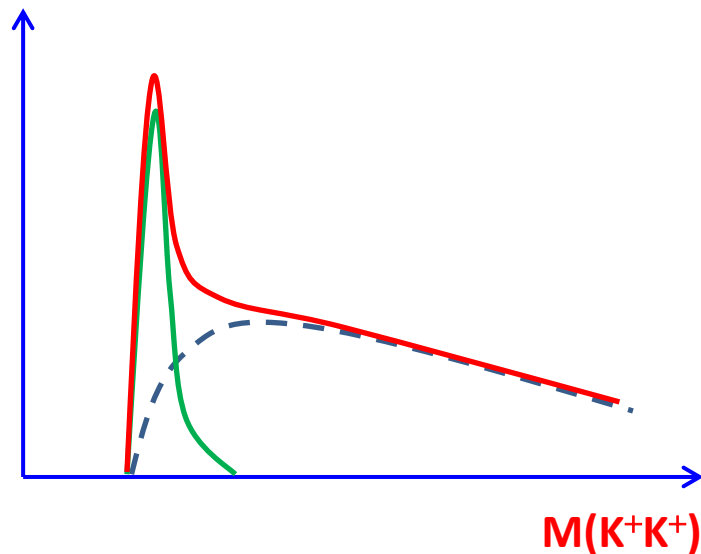
$$\times \delta(\vec{p}_2 - \vec{p}'_2) \delta(\vec{p}_4 - \vec{p}'_4) d\vec{p}_1 d\vec{p}_2 d\vec{p}_3 d\vec{p}_4 d\vec{p}'_1 d\vec{p}'_2 d\vec{p}'_3 d\vec{p}'_4 \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Energy conservation} \\ \text{is implied} \end{array} \right)$$

Assumption: The S-wave nuclear wavefunctions are dominant.

- Missing mass spectrum for ($\Lambda\Lambda$ nn)

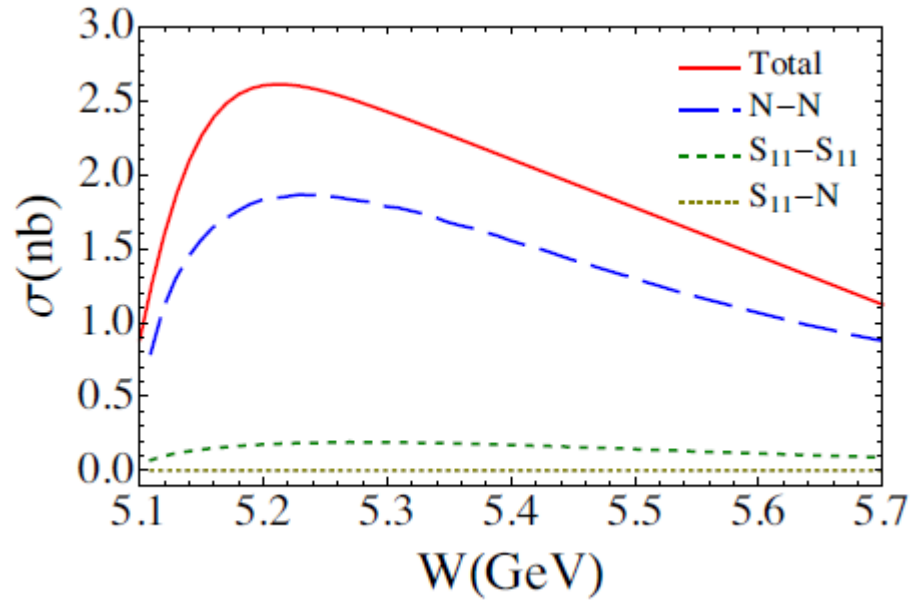


Recoil mass spectrum of K^+K^+



By tagging the two K^+ in the final state, the production of the ($\Lambda\Lambda$ nn) will suffer nearly **no background** at all. The signal will peak at the mass of the ($\Lambda\Lambda$ nn).

- Total cross section for ($\Lambda\Lambda nn$)



The interference between the double nucleon Born term and double $S_{11}(1535)$ excitation plays a significant role.