# Prospects for the dense baryonic matter research at



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### NICA (Nuclotron based Ion Colider fAcility)

- the flagship project in HEP of Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR)

#### **Main targets of the NICA project:**

- study of hot and dense baryonic matter
- investigation of nucleon spin structure, polarization phenomena
- development of accelerator facility

for HEP @ JINR providing intensive beams of relativistic ions from p to Au

polarized protons and deuterons with max energy up to

 $\sqrt{S_{NN}} = 11 \text{ GeV } (Au^{79+}) \text{ and } = 27 \text{ GeV } (p)$ 

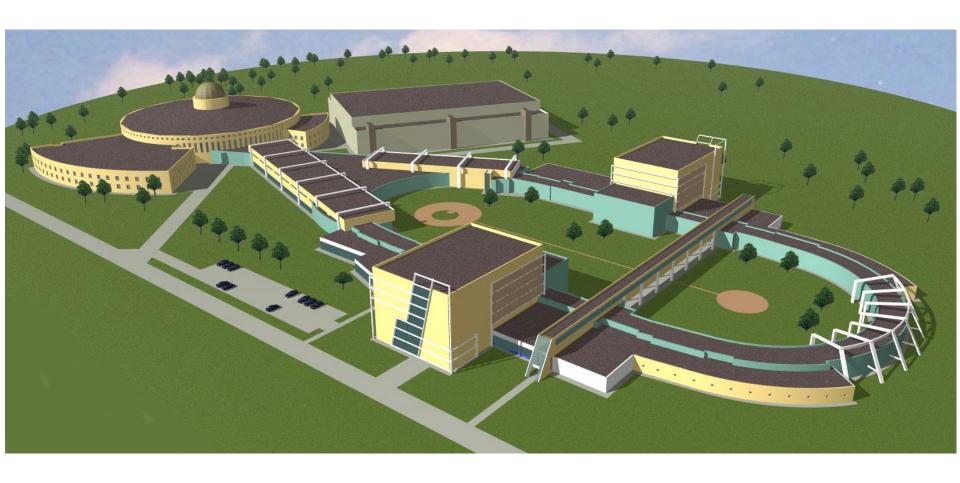
#### Synchrotron Nuclotron is in operation since 1993

it is based on the superconducting fast cycling magnets developed in Dubna



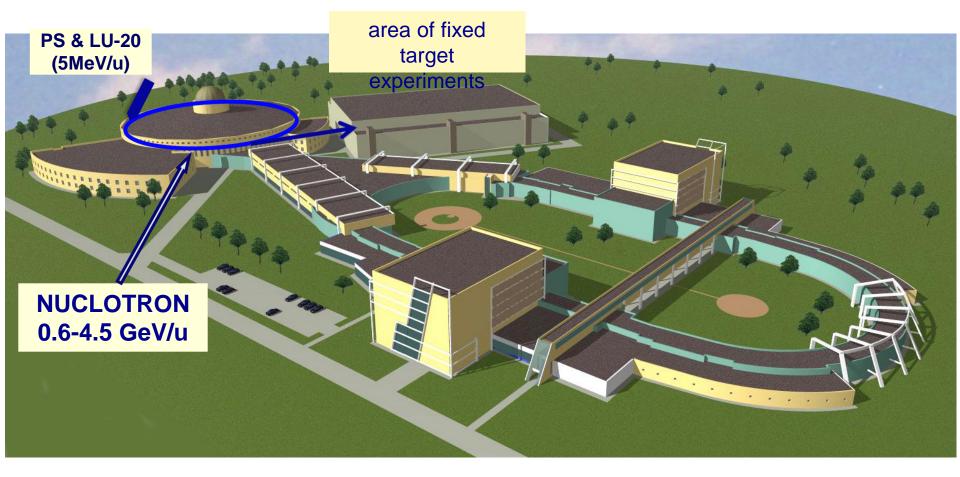
Nuclotron provides accelerated proton and ion beams (up to  $Xe^{42+}$ , A=124) with energies up to 6 AGeV (Z/A = 1/2)





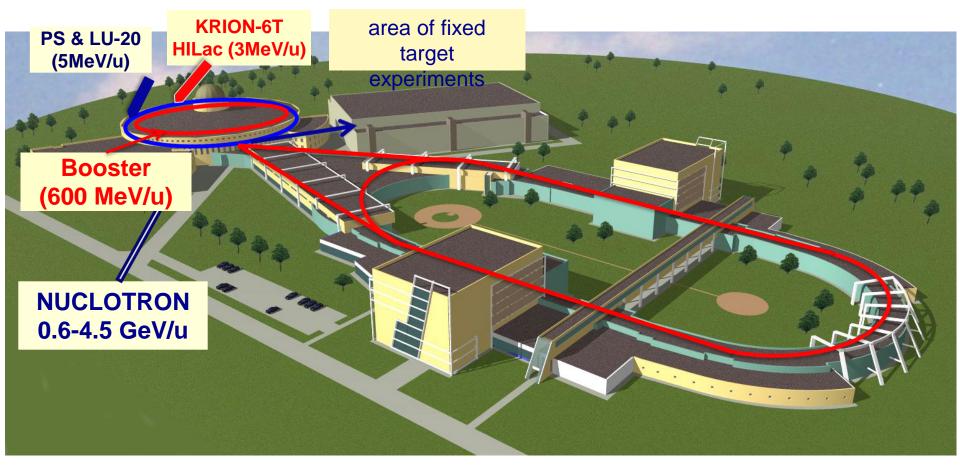
#### existing facility





# existing facility to be constructed

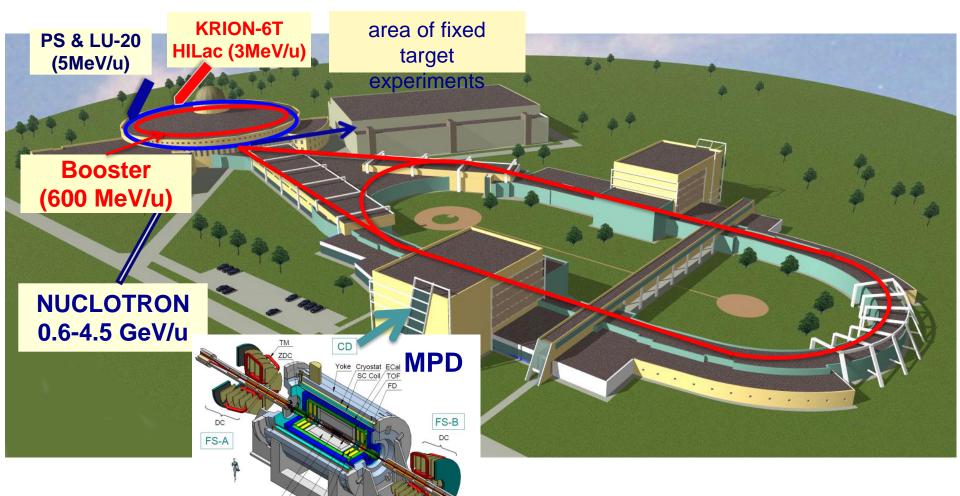




# existing facility



#### to be constructed

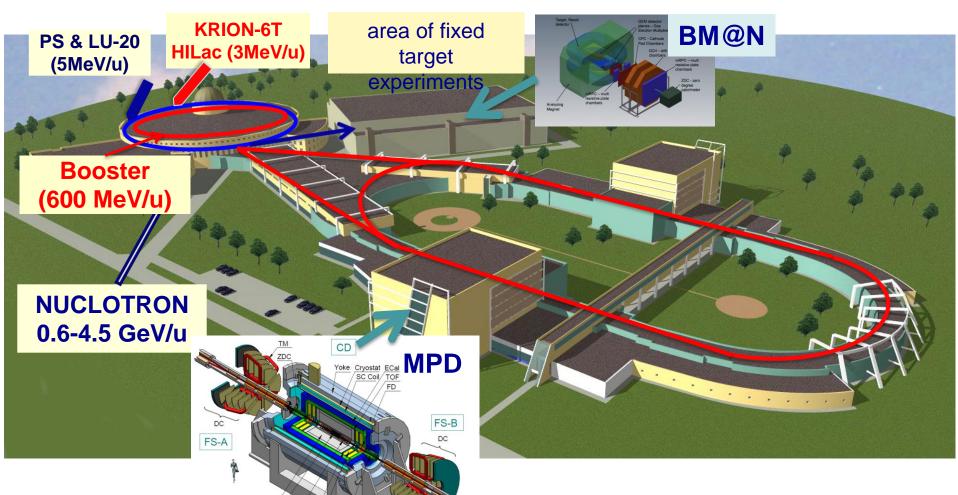


CPC Tracker / ZDC /

#### existing facility



#### to be constructed



CPC Tracker / ZDC /

#### existing facility



#### to be constructed



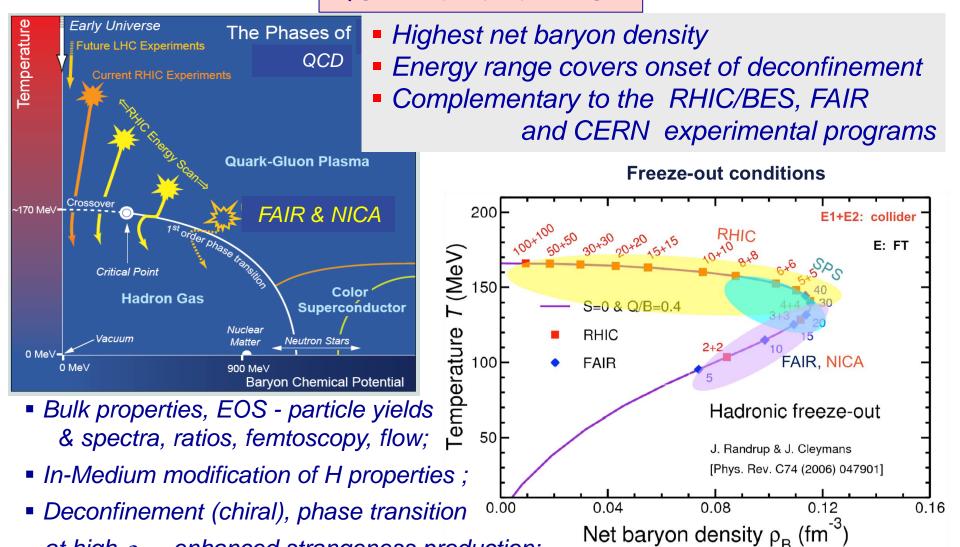
## **NICA** collider major parameters

Ring circumference, m	503.04		
heavy ions			
β, <b>m</b>	0.35		
energy range for <b>Au</b> <sup>79+</sup> : √S <sub>NN</sub> , GeV	4 - 11		
r.m.s. ∆p/p, 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.6		
peak Luminosity for <b>Au<sup>79+</sup></b> , cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	1x10 <sup>27</sup>		
polarized particles			
max. energy for polarized <b>p</b> , Gev	27		
peak Luminosity for <b>p</b> , cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	1x10 <sup>32</sup>		

# **Physics objectives**

11

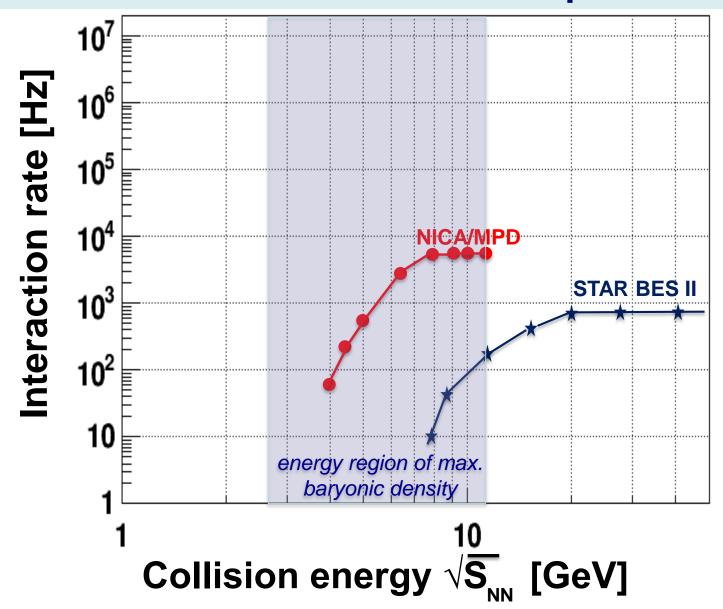
#### **QCD** matter at NICA



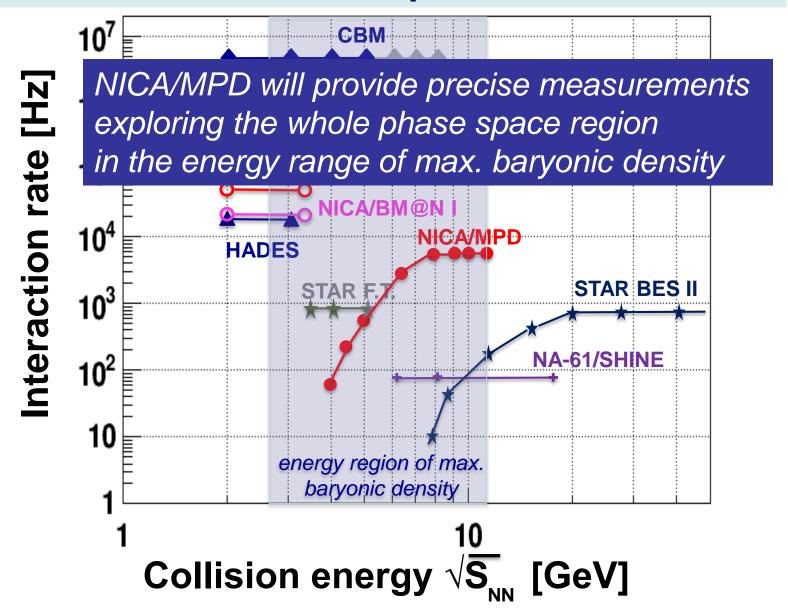
- QCD Critical Point event-by-event fluctuations & correlations;
- Strangeness in nuclear matter hypernuclei
   September 29, 2015
   V.Kekelidze, QM-2015, Kobe

at high  $\rho_{\rm B}$  - enhanced strangeness production;

# Present and future HI collider experiments



# Present and future HI experiments/machines



# **NICA White Paper – International Effort**



Draft v 8.03 January 24, 2013

> SEARCHING for a QCD MIXED PHASE at the NUCLOTRON-BASED ION COLLIDER FACILITY (NICA White Paper)

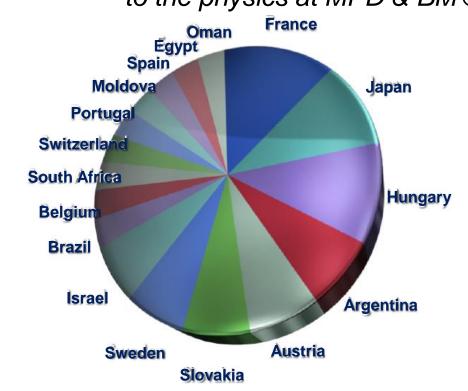


Statistics of White Paper Contributions

**111** *contributions:* 

188 authors from 70 centers in 24 countries

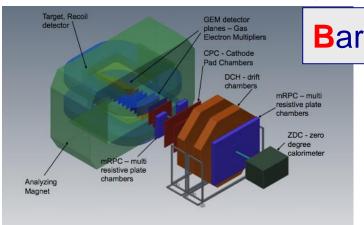
Indicates wide international interest to the physics at MPD & BM@N



September 29, 2015

V.Kekelidze, QM-2015, Kobe

### 3 detectors

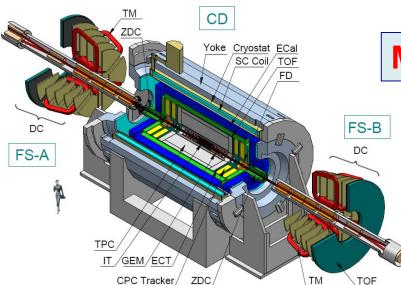


Baryonic Matter at Nuclotron (BM@N)

the fixed target experiment at the Nuclotron

Stage I

2017



**MultiPurpose Detector (MPD)** 

at the Collider

Stage I

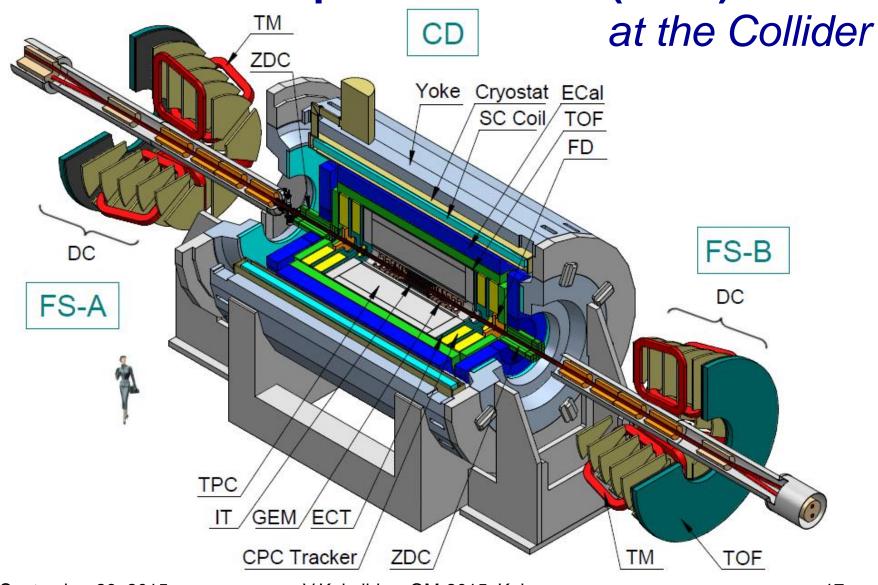
2019

SPD (Spin Physics Detector) at the Collider

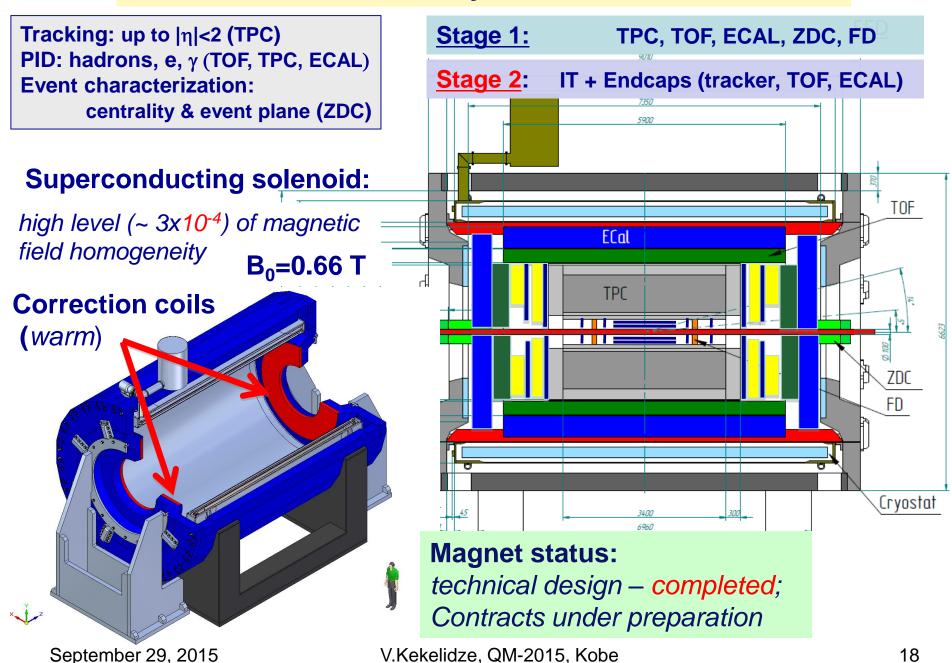
project is under preparation

# **Experiments at NICA:**

# MultiPurpose Detector (MPD)



#### MPD detector for Heavy-Ion Collisions @ NICA

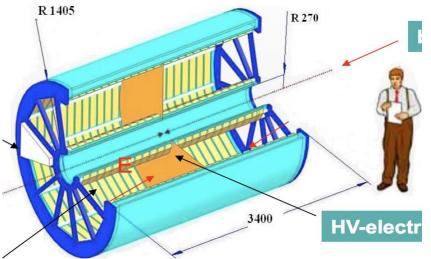


V.Kekelidze, QM-2015, Kobe

#### **TPC-** technical project, preparation for fabrication



Dia. =3000 mm, L = 3400 mm, FEE = 120~000 ch,  $\delta p/p < 2\%$ 



FEC-64 prototype (ALTERA FPGA, ALTRO, PASA chips)



Cylinder C2, preparation for vacuum tests





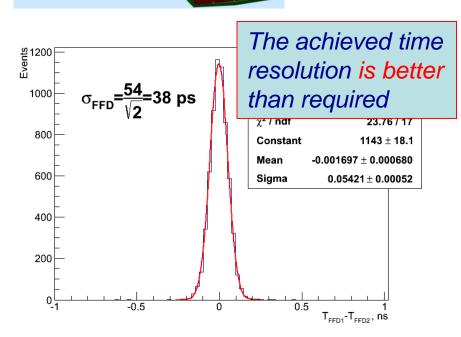
## Time of Flight system (TOF)



#### **Fast Forward Detector (FFD):**

production stage

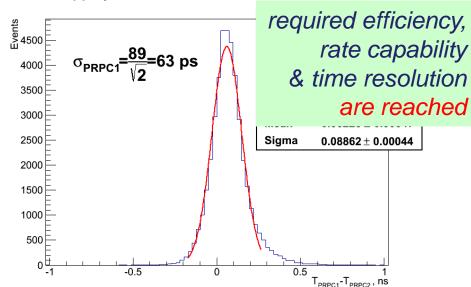
Provides: T0 for TOF,
beam adjustment &
collision L0-trigger



# mRPC – TDR has been prepared, ready for mass production



Zhu Weipinga, Wang Yi, Feng Shengqin, Wang Jingbo, Huang Xinjie, Shi Li, V. Babkin, V. Golovatyuk, M. Rumiantcev, G. Eppley, T. Nussbaum, **NIM A 735, 277–282, 2014** 





# **Calorimetry**



#### **ECAL** – TDR - in preparation

 $L \sim 35$  cm ( $\sim 14 X_0$ ), Pb+Scint. (4x4 cm<sup>2</sup>) read-out: WLS fibers + MAPD

Energy resolution 2.5% / √E



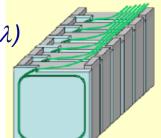


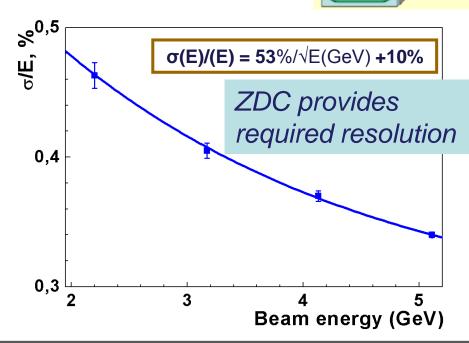
Zero Degree Calorimeter (ZDC):

TDR stage

**ZDC** coverage: 3.2<|η|< 4.8

Pb-scintillator sampling (5 $\lambda$ )
Read-out: fibers +
AvalanchePD





beams at DESY (December'13)

# MPD (I-stage) detector status

**1. Magnet** – survey for producers

**2. Integration** — project in preparation

**3. ECAL** – TDR in preparation

**4. ZDC** – TDR close to completion

**5. TOF** — TDR close to completion

**6. FFD** — TDR close to completion

**7. TPC** – TDR close to completion:

- assembly area preparations
- fabrication of basic elements
- readout chambers production + R&D (alternative)
- ALTRO-based Front-End card prototype

- preproduction stage

# **MPD I stage**

# feasibility study

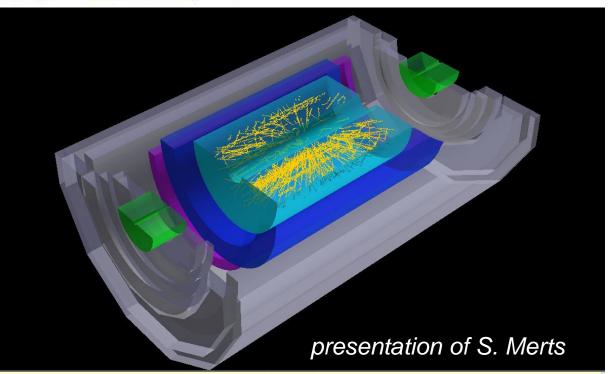
# **MPD** simulation framework



- ✓ Software repositories
- ✓ Software tests
- √ Forum
- ✓ Information, etc.

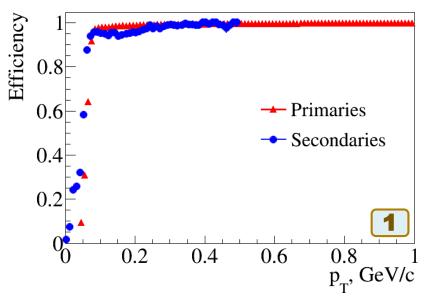
#### **Event generators**

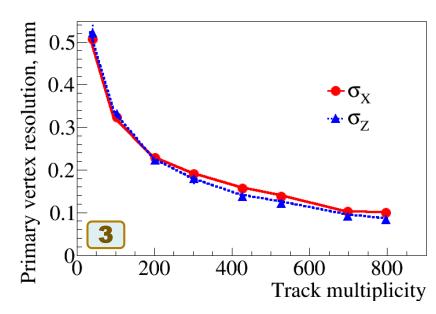
- **✓** *UrQMD 2.3*
- ✓ LA QGSM
- ✓ SHIELD on fly
- **✓** PHSD
- ✓ UrQMD 3.4
- √ 3FD + particlization



- inherits basic properties from FairRoot (developed at GSI), C++ classes;
- extended set of event generators for heavy ion collisions;
- detector composition and geometry; particle propagation by GEANT3/4;
- advanced detector response functions, realistic tracking and PID included.

# MPD tracking performance:





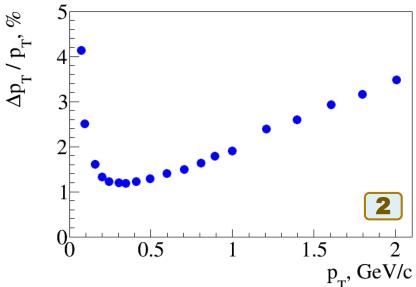


Fig.1: Track reconstruction efficiency: low acceptance down to 100 MeV/c;

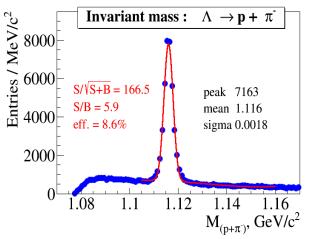
# Fig.2: Momentum resolution: $\Delta p/p < 2\%$ @ $p_T < 1.5$ GeV/c

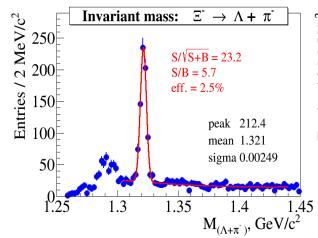
Fig.3: Primary vertex resolution:  $\sigma_x \& \sigma_z < 0.15 \text{ mm in central collisions}$  (track multiplicity in TPC > 500)

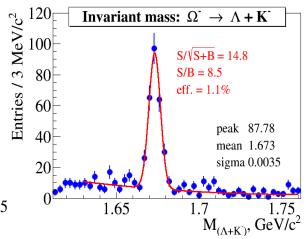
# **MPD** performance: hyperons

Production of multi-strange hyperons to study the properties of the strongly interacting system and signal for QGP

- Central Au+Au @ 9A GeV (UrQMD), TPC+TOF barrel
- Realistic tracking and PID, secondary vertex reconstruction







#### Yields for 10 weeks of running

Particle	Λ	$ar{\Lambda}$	Ξ-	壹+	Ω-	$\bar{\Omega}^+$
Expected yield	$5.8 \cdot 10^9$	$7.3 \cdot 10^7$	$2.9 \cdot 10^7$	$1.6 \cdot 10^6$	$1.4 \cdot 10^{6}$	$2.9 \cdot 10^5$

# MPD performance: hyperon flow

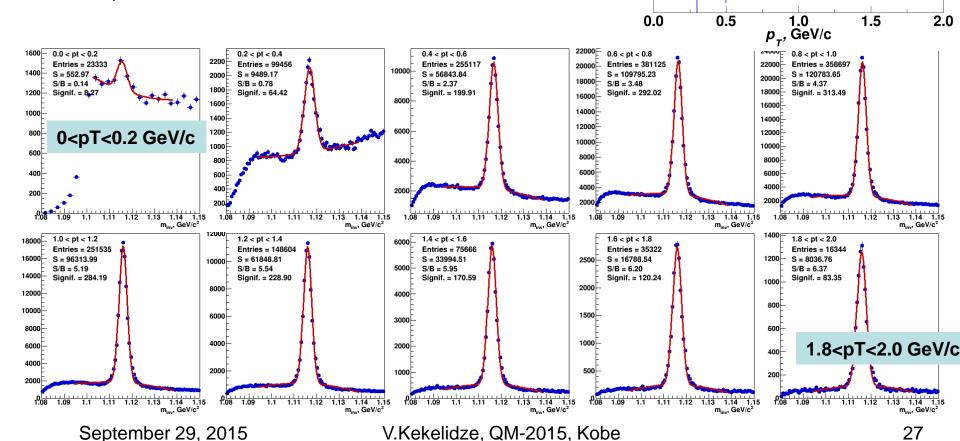
 $\Lambda + \Lambda$ 

0.10

0.05

Momentum anisotropy (elliptic flow) originates from initial spatial anisotropy. V2 depends on matter properties and EOS

- Min. bias Au+Au @ 11A GeV (UrQMD), TPC+TOF barrel
- Realistic tracking & PID, secondary vertex reconstruction
- Event plane from TPC tracks



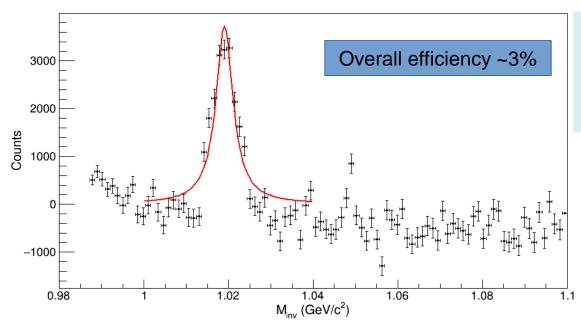
# MPD performance: $\phi$ (1020)

#### **Motivation:**

- \* The lightest bound state of hidden strangeness
- \* Low cross-section in nuclear matter and early freeze-out

#### Data set and analysis

- Central Au+Au collisions, at  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 11$  GeV (UrQMD)
- Channel of decay:  $\phi \rightarrow K^+K^-$ , realistic tracking and PID (TOF + dE/dx)



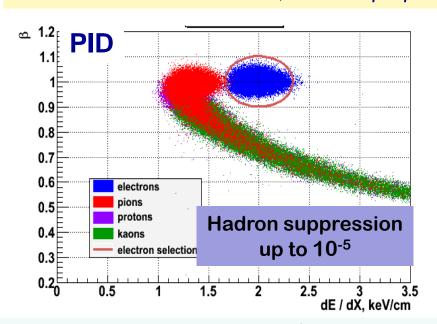
#### Measured values:

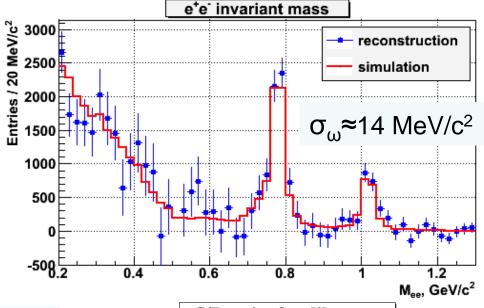
Width =  $4.96 \pm 0.25$  (MeV/c<sup>2</sup>)  $M_{inv} = 1019.03 \pm 0.12$  (MeV/c<sup>2</sup>) close to ones generated (PDG)

#### **MPD** performance for dileptons



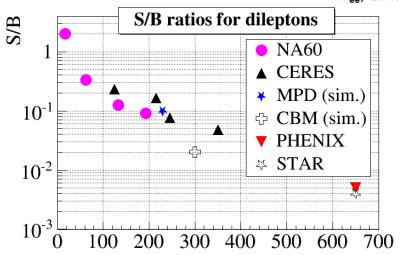
Good probes to indicate medium modifications of spectral functions due to chiral symmetry restoration in A+A collisions; effect is proportional to baryon density

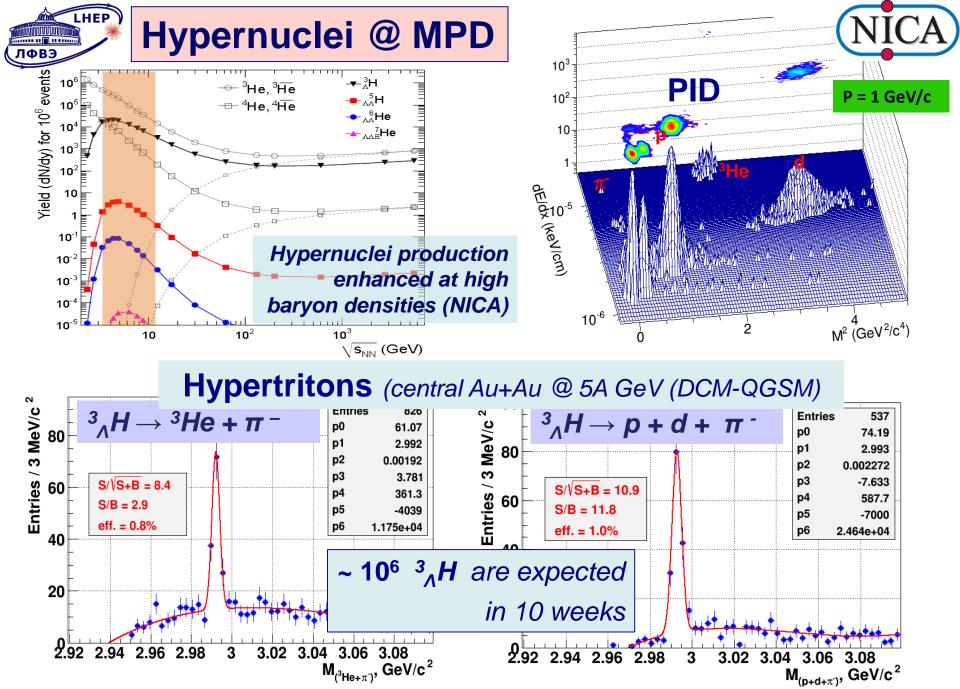




Yields, central Au+Au st  $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$  = 8.8 GeV/u

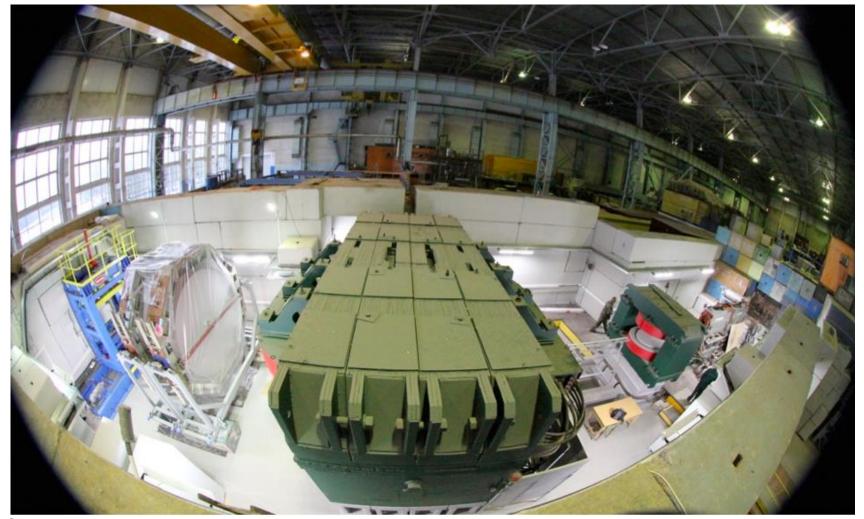
magan	Yields		Viold/1 w	
meson	4π	y=0	Yield/1 w	
ρ	31	17	7 · 10 <sup>4</sup>	
ω	20	11	7 · 10 <sup>4</sup>	
φ	2.6	1.2	1.7 · 10 <sup>4</sup>	





# Experiments at NICA: Baryonic Matter at Nuclotron (BM@N)

at the Nuclotron extracted beams



#### **Nuclotron Beams**

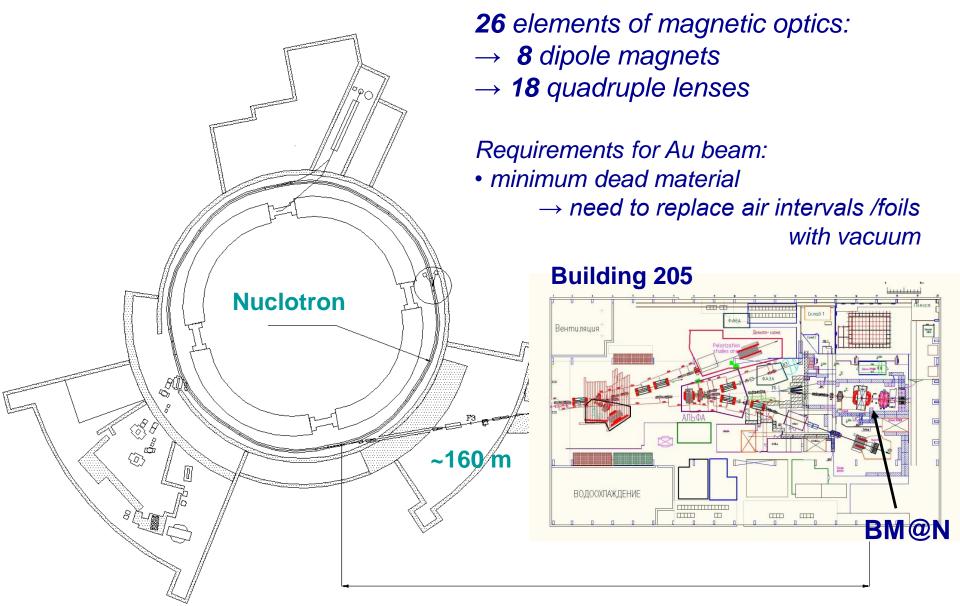
Parameter	Project (2017)		
Magnetic field, T	2.0 (Bρ = 42.8 T·m)		
Field ramp, T/s	1.0		
Repetition period, s	5.0		
	Energy, GeV/u	lons/ cycle	
Light ions ⇒ d	7.0	5·10 <sup>10</sup>	
Heavy ions	With KRION-6T & Booster		
<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>18</sup> +	5.9	2·10 <sup>10</sup>	
<sup>56</sup> Fe <sup>26+</sup>	6.4	1·10 <sup>10</sup>	
<sup>124</sup> <b>Xe</b> <sup>48/42+</sup>	5.0	2·10 <sup>9</sup>	
<sup>197</sup> <b>Au</b> <sup>79+</sup>	5.5	2·10 <sup>9</sup>	
Polarized beams	With SPI		
р↑	12.9	1·10 <sup>10</sup> *)	
d↑	6.6	1·10 <sup>10</sup>	

\*) With the Siberian snake



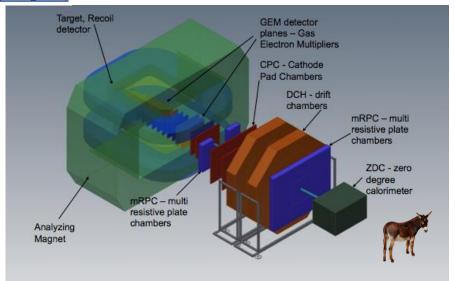
# **Nuclotron to BM@N beam line**







#### BM@N (Baryonic Matter at Nuclotron): the 1st stage



#### **Expression of interest from scientists:**

IN, SINP MSU, IHEP + S-Ptr Univ. (RF); GSI, Frankfurt U., Gissen U. (Germany):

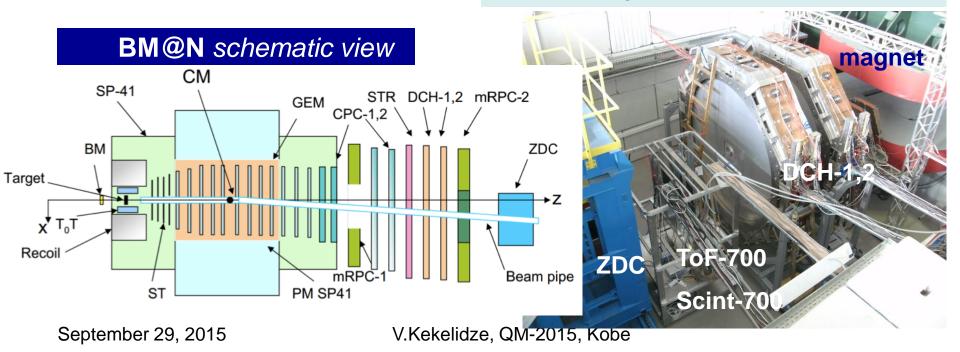
+ CBM-MPD IT-Consortium,

#### **Physics:**

- ✓ hyperon production
- ✓ hadron femtoscopy
- ✓ in-medium effects for strange

& vector mesons

✓ electromagnetic probes (optional)

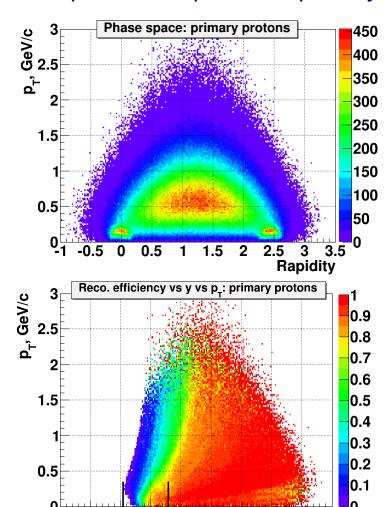




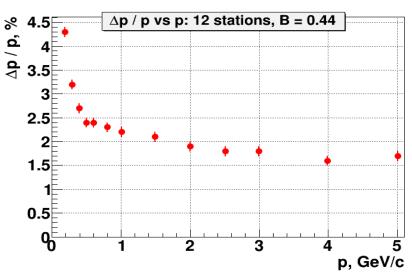
# **GEM** tracker (12 planes)

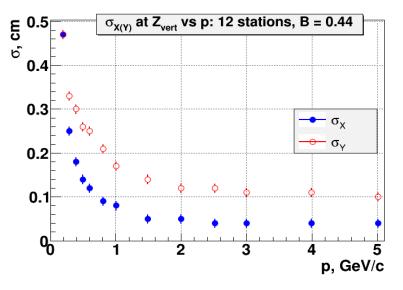


#### Phase space / acceptance to primary p



#### Momentum and vertex resolutions





0.5

90 degree

2.5

45 degree

**Rapidity** 



# **GEM** tracker: $\Lambda^0$ , $\Xi^-$ , ${}^3H_{\Lambda}$ reconstruction



12 planes of GEM tracker

 $E_{kin}$  = 4.5A GeV, 2 × 10<sup>6</sup> events; UrQMD & DCM-QGSM, Au+Au, 120 Invariant mass:  $\Lambda \rightarrow p + \pi$ Entries / 2 MeV/c<sup>2</sup> Invariant mass:  $\Xi \rightarrow \Lambda + \pi$ Entries / 2 MeV/c<sup>2</sup> 4000 100 S/B = 3.63000  $S/\sqrt{S+B} = 14.0$ 80 S/B = 3.9Peak 3221.9  $S/\sqrt{S+B} = 83.5$ Mean 1.115 Eff. = 0.8%2000 60 Eff. = 8.9%Sigma 0.0023 Peak 77.53 40 Mean 1.321 1000 Sigma 0.0027 20 1.12 1.1 1.14  $M_{(p+\pi^{\prime})}$ ,  $GeV/c^2$ 1.24 1.26  $M_{(\Lambda+\pi)}$ ,  $GeV/c^2$ Invariant mass:  ${}^{3}_{\wedge}H \rightarrow {}^{3}He + \pi^{-}$ 500  $\rm Entries / 2~MeV/c^2$  $\Xi^{-}\rightarrow \Pi^{-}+\Lambda^{0}\rightarrow p\Pi^{-}$  $^3$ He  $\pi$ - $^{3}H$ 400  $\odot \vec{\mathbf{B}}$ Peak 271.8 S/B = 1.6300 Mean 2.991  $S/\sqrt{S+B}=22.4$ Sigma 0.0025 Eff.=1.0% 200 100

2.95

2.9

3.05

 $M_{(^3He+\pi^{\cdot})}$ ,  $GeV/c^2$ 

3

 $\pi - (K-)$ 



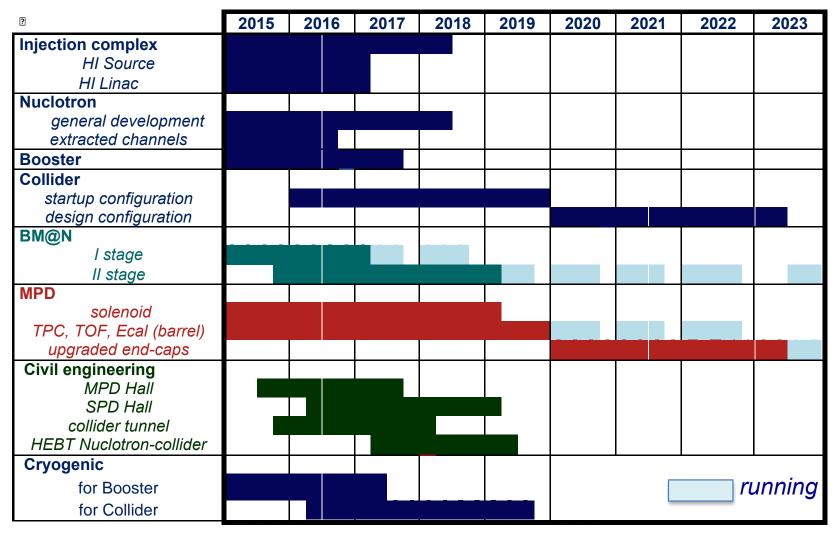


# **BM@N** milestones

<ul> <li>ZDC complete configuration</li> </ul>	2016
• DAQ complete config.	end <b>2017</b>
• GEM 8 planes	end <b>2017</b>
TOF complete config.	end <b>2017</b>
• GEM 12 planes	end <b>2018</b>
• ST 4 planes	2019
• technical runs with d, C, Li	2015 - 2017
<ul> <li>physics run BM@N (I stage) with p, Xe</li> </ul>	<i>Nov</i> <b>2017</b>
<ul> <li>physics run BM@N (II stage) with Au</li> </ul>	Feb <b>2019</b>



#### **NICA** schedule





#### **International cooperation**





# **Concluding remarks**



- NICA complex has a potential for competitive research in the fields of dense baryonic matter
- The construction of both detectors BM@N & MPD is progressing
- The international collaboration around the NICA is growing
- New partners are invited to join the BM@N & MPD

