

# Formation of hypernuclei in relativistic ion collisions

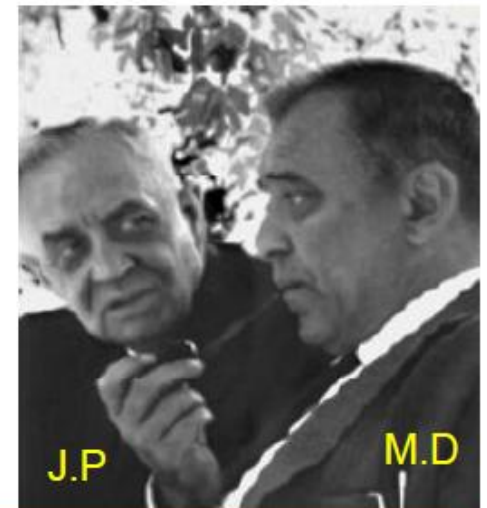
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FIAS Frankfurt am Main (Germany) , and  
Institute for Nuclear Research, RAS, Moscow (Russia)

**5-th International Conference on New Frontiers in Physics**  
**ICNFP2016,**  
**OAC (Kolymbari, Chania), Crete, Greece**  
**July 6-14 , 2016**

# Discovery of a Strange nucleus: Hypernucleus

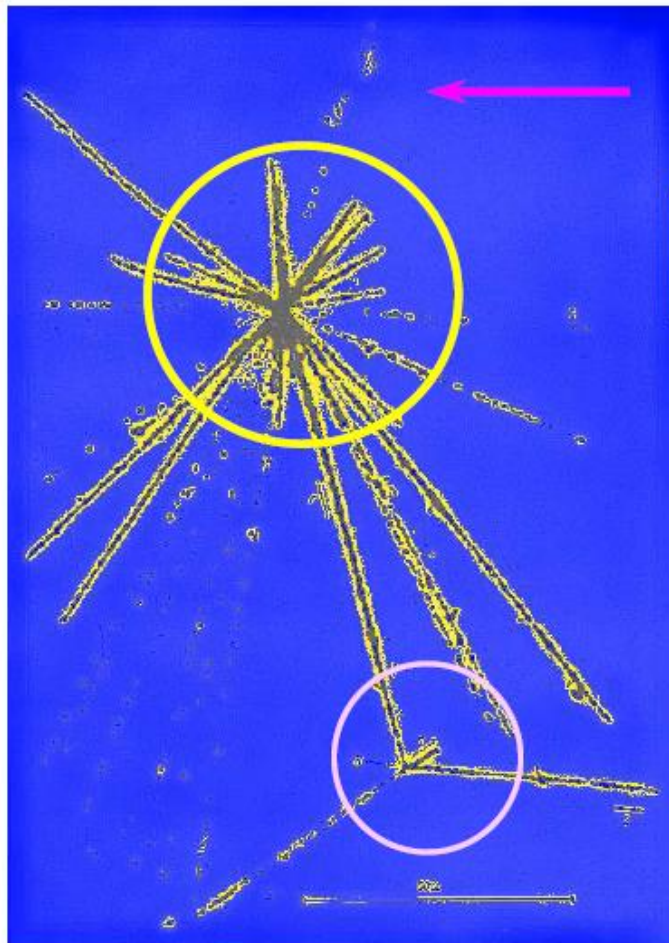
M. Danysz and J. Pniewski, *Philos. Mag.* 44 (1953) 348



J.P

M.D

First-hypernucleus was observed in a stack of photographic emulsions exposed to cosmic rays at about 26 km above the ground.



Incoming high energy proton from cosmic ray

colliding with a nucleus of the emulsion, breaks it in several fragments forming a star. **Multifragmentation !**

All nuclear fragments stop in the emulsion after a short path

From the first star, 21 Tracks  $\Rightarrow 9\alpha + 11\text{H} + 1_{\Lambda}\text{X}$

The fragment  $_{\Lambda}\text{X}$  disintegrates later, makes the bottom star. Time taken  $\sim 10^{-12}$  sec (typical for weak decay)

This particular nuclear fragment, and the others obtained afterwards in similar conditions, were called **hyperfragments or hypernuclei**.

# Hyperons: Baryons with Strangeness

Lambda



$$\Lambda^0 = (uds)$$

$$m(\Lambda^0) = 1115.683 \pm 0.006 \text{ MeV}$$

$$S = -1$$

Sigma



$$\Sigma^0 = (uds)$$

$$m(\Sigma^0) = 1192.642 \pm 0.024 \text{ MeV}$$

$$S = -1$$

Cascade or Xi



$$\Xi^0 = (uss)$$

$$m(\Xi^0) = 1314.86 \pm 0.2 \text{ MeV}$$

$$S = -2$$

Quark	Symbol	charge (e)	Strangeness (S)
Up	(u)	2/3	0
Down	(d)	-1/3	0
<b>Strange</b>	<b>(s)</b>	<b>-1/3</b>	<b>-1</b>
Charm	(c)	2/3	0
Bottom	(b)	-1/3	0
Top	(t)	2/3	0

lifetimes of  $\sim 1 \times 10^{-10} \text{ s}$

with the exception of  $\Sigma^0$

whose lifetime is

shorter than  $1 \times 10^{-19} \text{ s}$



$$\Sigma^- = (dds)$$

$$m(\Sigma^-) = 1197.449 \pm 0.030 \text{ MeV}$$

$$S = -1$$

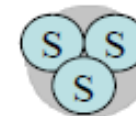


$$\Xi^- = (dss)$$

$$m(\Xi^-) = 1321.71 \pm 0.07 \text{ MeV}$$

$$S = -2$$

Omega



$$\Omega^- = (sss)$$



$$\Sigma^+ = (uus)$$

$$m(\Sigma^+) = 1189.37 \pm 0.07 \text{ MeV}$$

$$S = -1$$

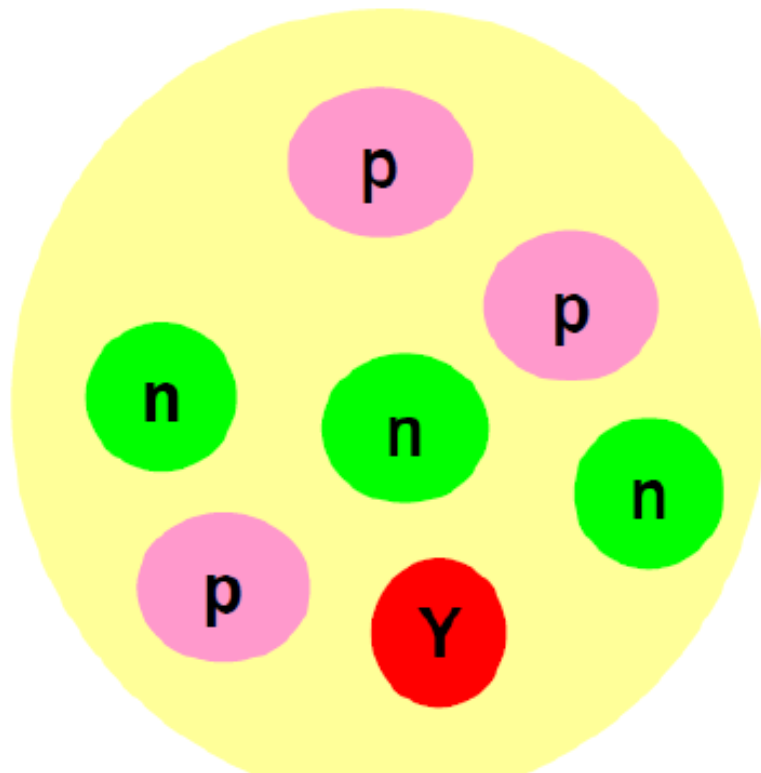
$$m(\Omega^-) = 1672.45 \pm 0.29 \text{ MeV}$$

$$S = -3$$

lifetime of  $\sim 8.2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ s}$

# Hypernucleus: Hyperons Bound in Nuclei

Hypernucleus: consists of nucleons (n, p) + hyperon (Y)



Notation:

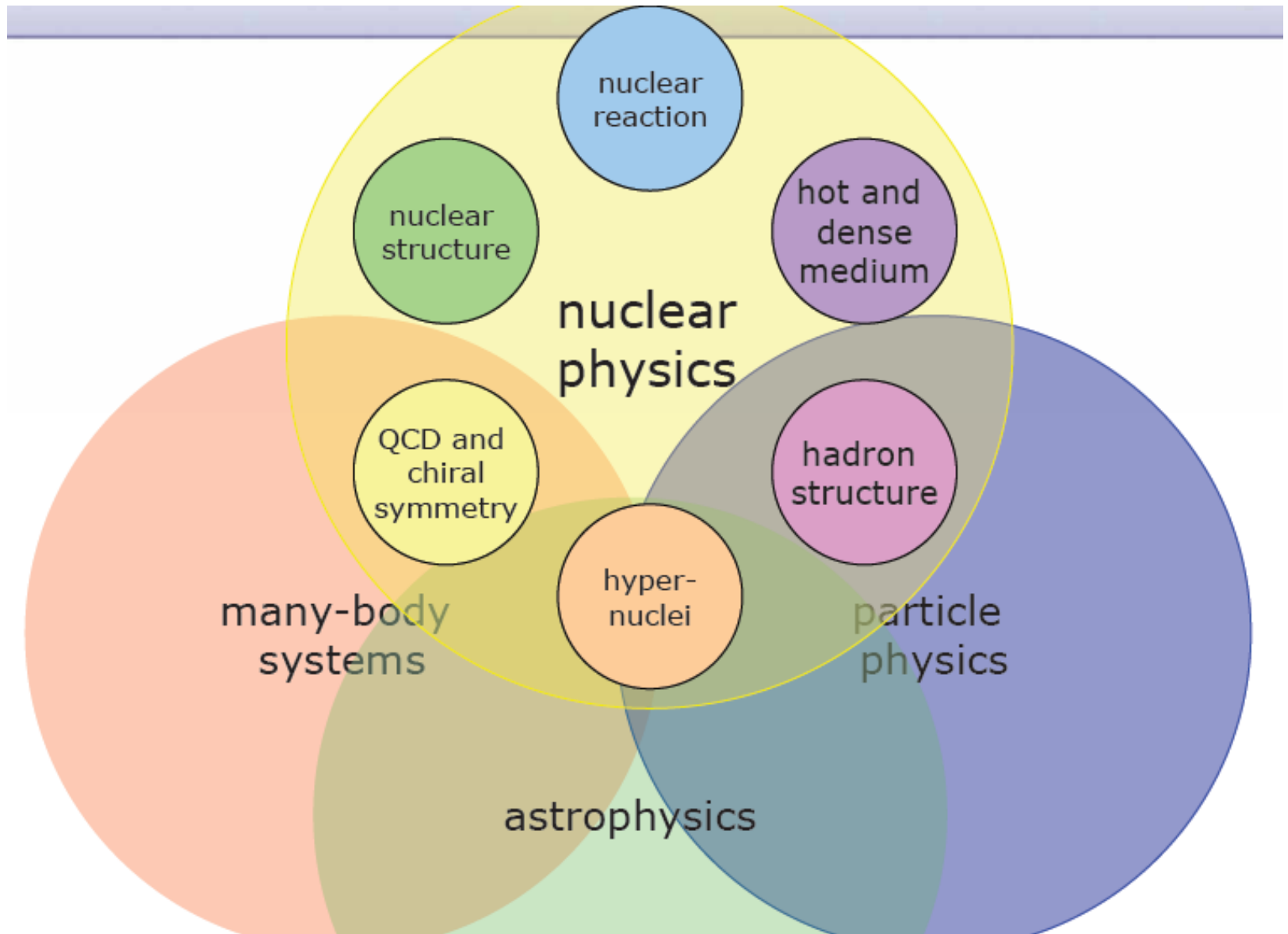
$${}^A_Z\mathbf{Y}$$

$\mathbf{Y}$  = Hyperon

$$Z = Z_p + (N_Y \cdot q_Y)$$

$$A = N_n + N_p + N_Y$$

# Hypernuclei within the research fields





# Why hypernuclei ?

## QCD theory development

Micro-laboratory with protons, neutrons, and hyperons;

YN & YY interaction can be investigated (strangeness sector of hadronic EoS); ...

## Astrophysics

Hyperons are important for cosmology, physics of neutron stars , "strange stars", black holes, ...

## Nuclear physics

Phenomenology: extention of nuclear charts into strangeness, exotic nuclei, limits of nuclear stability

Structure theory -- new degree of freedom for investigating interaction of baryons in nuclei (hyperons - without Pauli blocking)

Reaction theory - new probe for fragmentation of nuclei, phase transitions and EoS in hypermatter and finite hypernuclei

## 5 decades of hyperons in neutron stars

### NEUTRON STAR MODELS

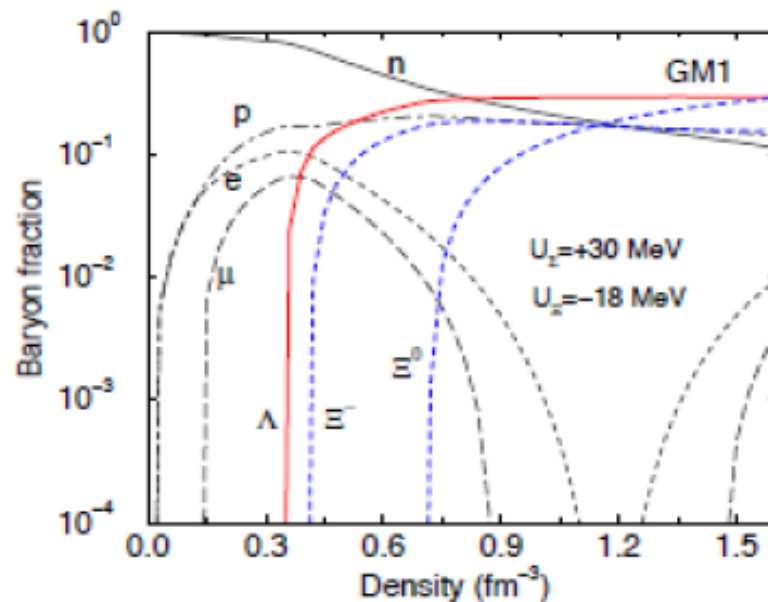
A. G. W. CAMERON

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, Chalk River, Ontario, Canada

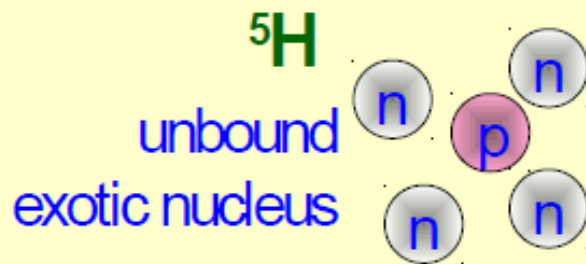
*Received June 17, 1959*

Another reason why the writer has not taken into account complications inherent in using a relativistic equation of state is that no such things as pure neutron stars can be expected to exist. The neutrons must always be contaminated with some protons and sometimes with other kinds of nucleons (hyperons or heavy mesons).

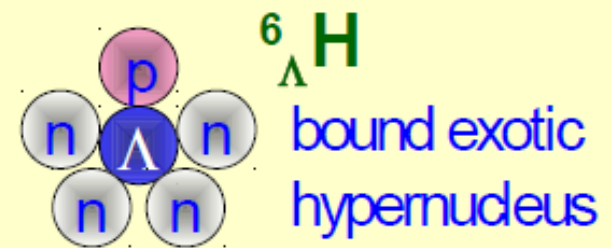
*Alastair G.W. Cameron, Astrophysical Journal, vol. 130, p.884 (1959)*



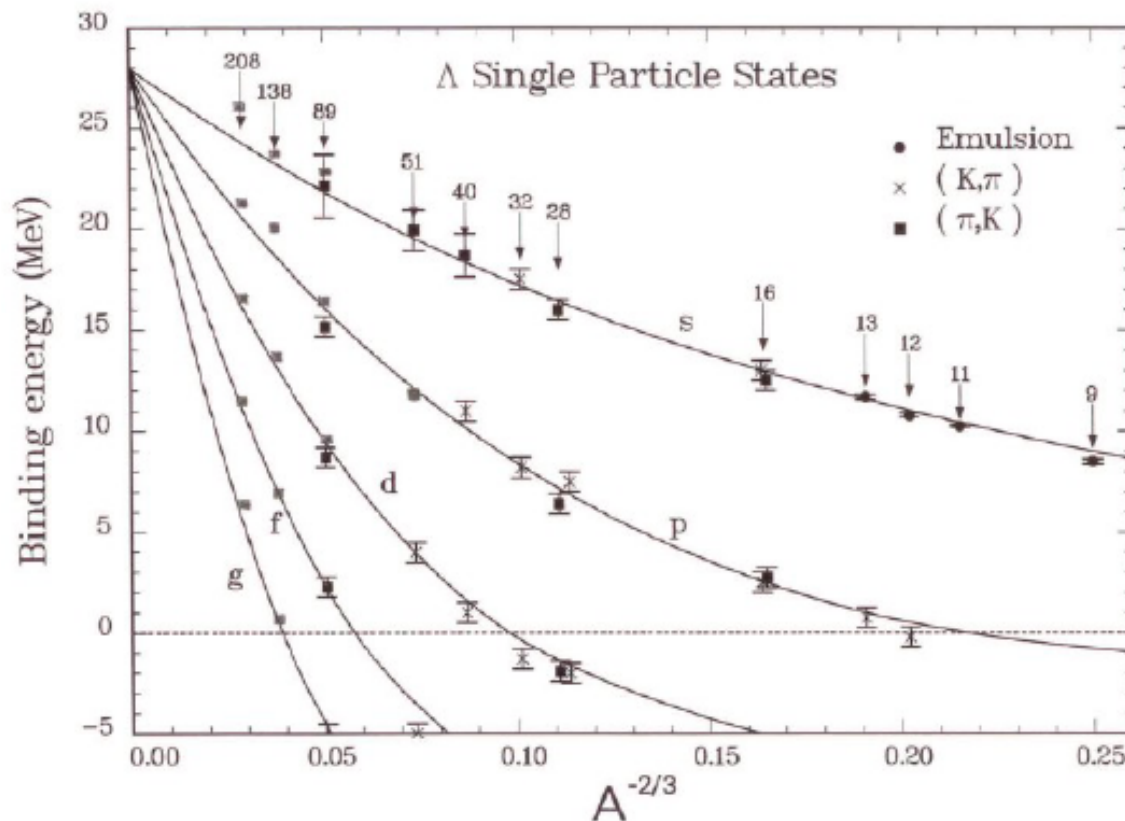
n-rich hypernucleus is a  
doorway to n-star



glue-like  
role of  
 $\Lambda$ -hyperon



insight into halo nuclear structure through hypernuclei



Hyperon can be put deep  
inside - no Pauli blocking

In heavy nuclei effects  
of the additional hyperon  
binding will be larger:

Production of nuclei  
beyond the drip lines

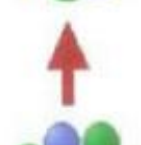


$N_u \sim N_d \sim N_s$



$p, n, \Lambda, \Xi^0, \Xi^-$

↑ higher density



$S = -\infty$

Strangeness in neutron stars ( $\rho > 3 - 4 \rho_0$ )

Strange hadronic matter ( $A \rightarrow \infty$ )

$\Lambda\Lambda, \Xi$  hypernuclei

$S = -2$

$\Lambda, \Sigma$  hypernuclei

$S = -1$

$\Lambda N$  interaction

Proton-rich nuclei

Neutron-rich nuclei

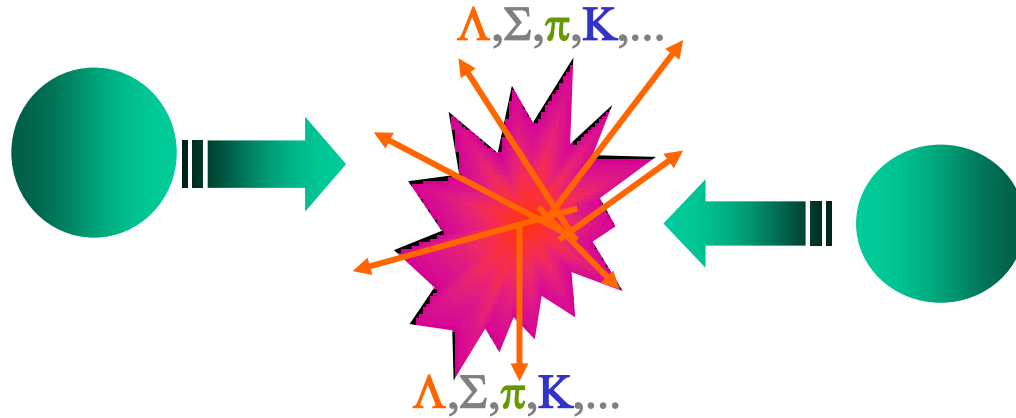
non-strange nuclei

neutron halo

neutron number

3-dimensional nuclear chart

# Relativistic collisions of hadrons and ions



## **Production of hypernuclei in central HI collisions:**

- Production of strange particles and hyperons in hadron collisions,
- Rescattering and coalescence/capture of produced baryons.

# Central collisions of relativistic ions

Production of  ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$  and  ${}^4_{\Lambda}\text{H}$  in central 11.5 GeV/c Au+Pt heavy ion collisions

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 70, 024902 (2004)

(AGS)

$N_{event}$   $13.5 \times 10^9$   ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$

Rapidity 1.6–2.6

coalescence mechanism

$N_{count}$   $1220 \pm 854$

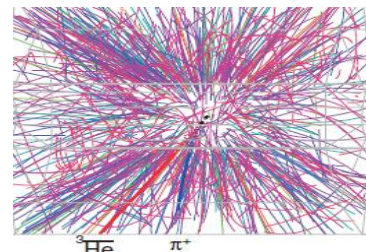
$p_t$  (GeV/c) 0–1.5

STAR collaboration (RHIC):

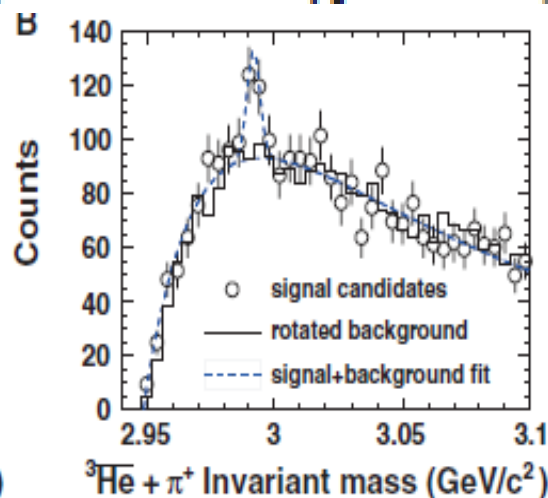
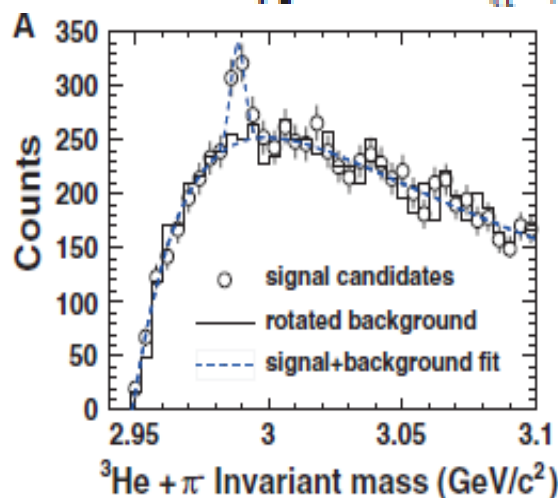
Science, 238 (2010) 58

Au + Au collisions at 200 A GeV

gas-filled cylindrical Time Projection Chamber



$70 \pm 17$  antihypertritons ( ${}^3_{\bar{\Lambda}}\text{H}$ ) and  $157 \pm 30$  hypertritons ( ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ ).



## ALICE's observation for (anti-)hypertriton

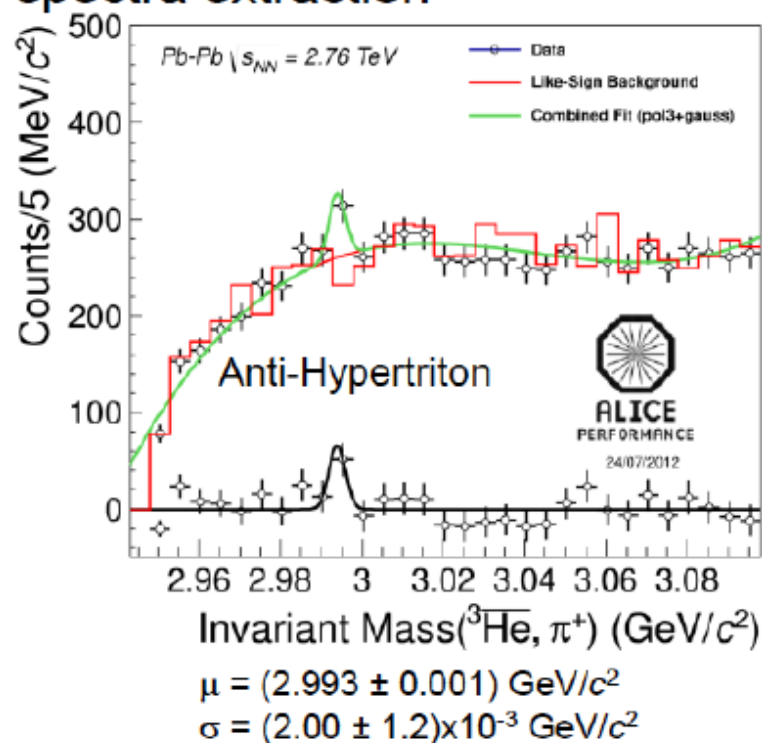
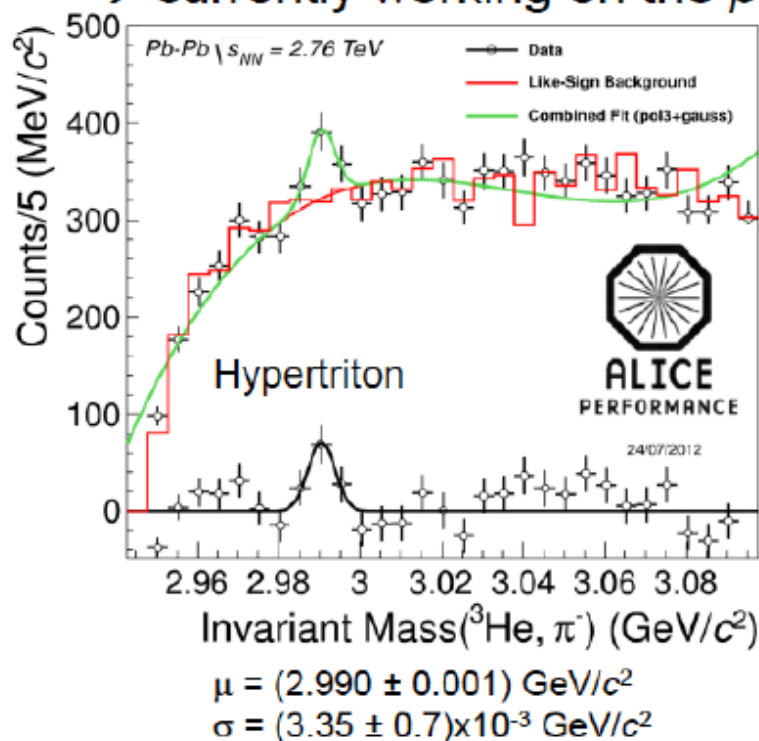


# Hypertriton



Signal of the hypertriton from the 2011 run

→ currently working on the  $p_T$  spectra extraction



**UrQMD**

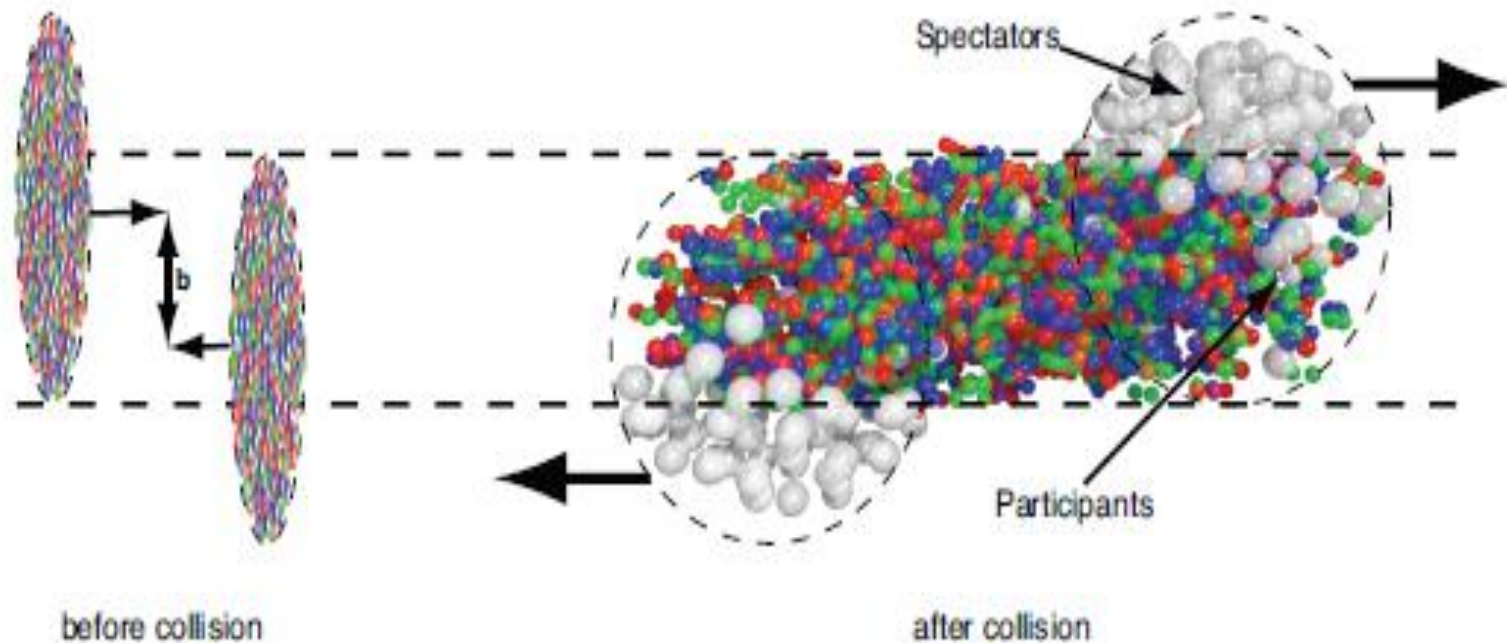
**PHSD**

**DCM**

**GiBUU**

## **Production of hypermatter in peripheral HI and hadron collisions**

- Production of strange particles and hyperons by "participants",
- Secondary production and rescattering of hyperons,
- Coalescence or capture of produced baryons by excited "spectators".



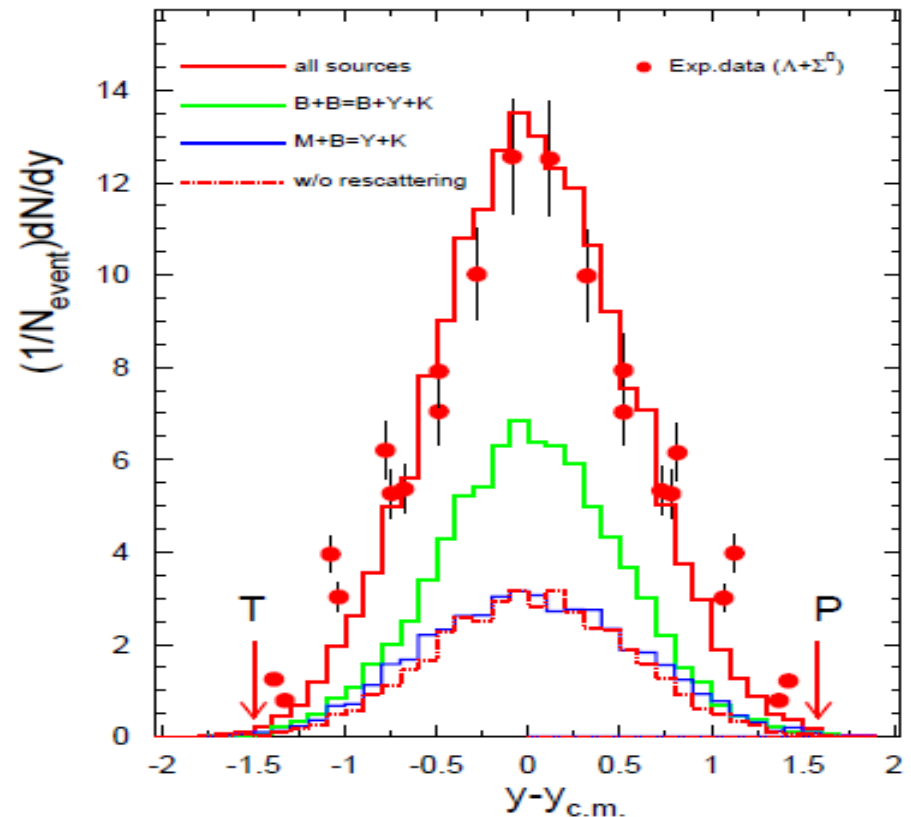
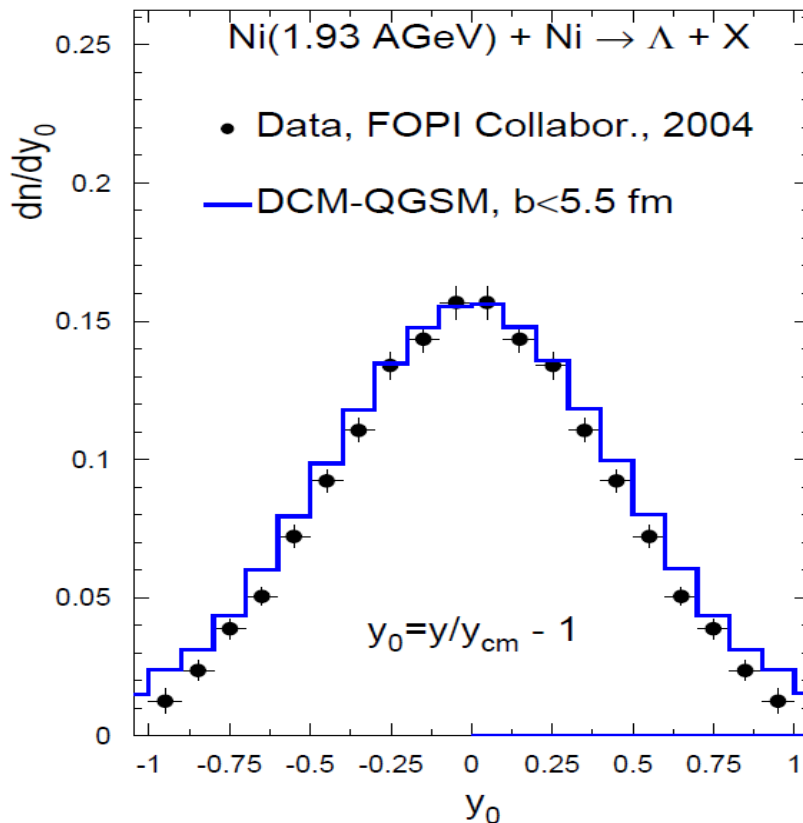


Peripheral collisions. All transport modes predict similar picture:  
Hyperons can be produced at all rapidities, in  
participant and spectator kinematic regions.

Wide rapidity distribution of  
produced  $\Lambda$ !

Calculation: DCM  
PRC84(2011)064904  
Au(11A GeV/c)+Au

S.Albergo et al.,  
E896:  
PRL88(2002)062301



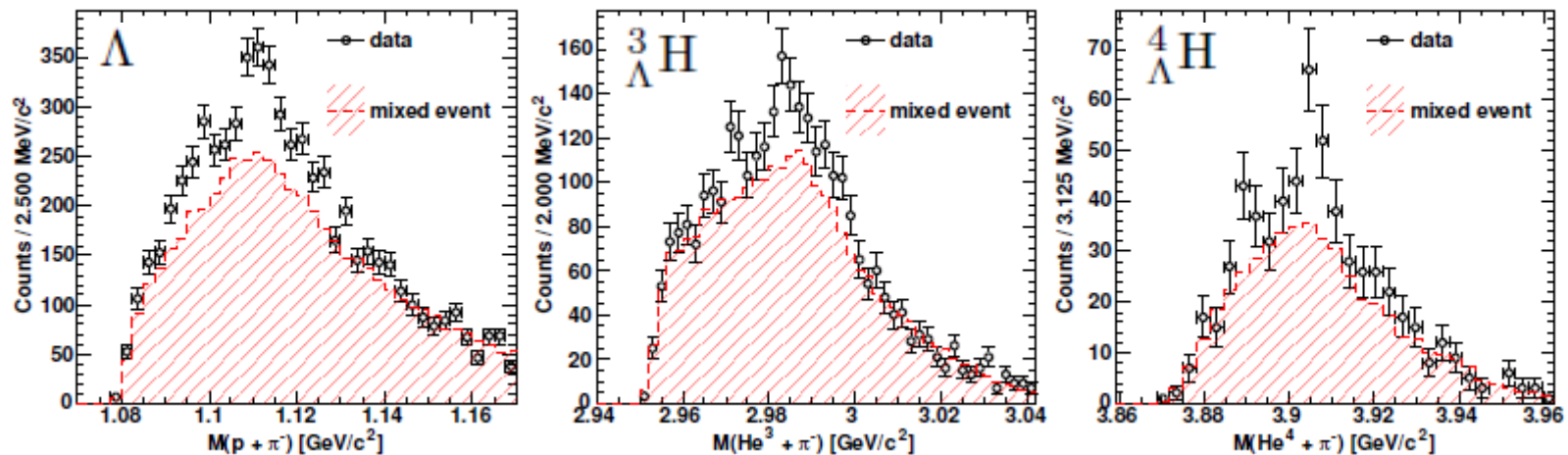
# Production of hypernuclei in peripheral HI collisions: The HypHI project at GSI

T.Saito, (for HypHI),  
NUFRA2011 conference, and  
Nucl. Phys. A881 (2012) 218;  
Nucl. Phys. A913 (2013) 170.

C. Rappold et al.,  
Phys. Rev. C88 (2013) 041001:  
Ann bound state ?

T.R. Saito<sup>a,b,c</sup>, D. Nakajima<sup>a,d</sup>, C. Rappold<sup>a,c,e</sup>, S. Bianchin<sup>a</sup>, O.  
Borodina<sup>a,b</sup>, V. Bozkurt<sup>a,f</sup>, B. Göküzüm<sup>a,f</sup>, M. Kavatsyuk<sup>g</sup>, E. Kim<sup>a,h</sup>, Y.  
Ma<sup>a,b</sup>, F. Maas<sup>a,b,c</sup>, S. Minami<sup>a</sup>, B. Özel-Tashenov<sup>a</sup>, P. Achenbach<sup>b</sup>, S.  
Ajimura<sup>i</sup>, T. Aumann<sup>a</sup>, C. Ayerbe Gayoso<sup>b</sup>, H.C. Bhang<sup>f</sup>, C. Caesar<sup>a</sup>, S.  
Erturk<sup>f</sup>, T. Fukuda<sup>j</sup>, E. Guliev<sup>h</sup>, Y. Hayashi<sup>k</sup>, T. Hiraiwa<sup>k</sup>, J. Hoffmann<sup>a</sup>,  
G. Ickert<sup>a</sup>, Z.S. Ketenci<sup>f</sup>, D. Khanefte<sup>a,b</sup>, M. Kim<sup>h</sup>, S. Kim<sup>h</sup>, K. Koch<sup>a</sup>, N.  
Kurz<sup>a</sup>, A. Le Fevre<sup>a,l</sup>, Y. Mizo<sup>j</sup>, M. Moritsu<sup>k</sup>, T. Nagae<sup>k</sup>, L. Nungesser<sup>b</sup>, A.  
Okamura<sup>k</sup>, W. Ott<sup>a</sup>, J. Pochodzalla<sup>b</sup>, A. Sakaguchi<sup>m</sup>, M. Sako<sup>k</sup>, C.J.  
Schmidt<sup>a</sup>, M. Sekimoto<sup>a</sup>, H. Simon<sup>a</sup>, H. Sugimura<sup>k</sup>, T. Takahashi<sup>n</sup>, G.J.  
Tambave<sup>g</sup>, H. Tamura<sup>o</sup>, W. Trautmann<sup>a</sup>, S. Voltz<sup>a</sup>, N. Yokota<sup>k</sup>, C.J. Yoon<sup>h</sup>,  
K. Yoshida<sup>m</sup>,

Projectile fragmentation:  ${}^6\text{Li}$  beam at 2 A GeV on  ${}^{12}\text{C}$  target



For the first, they have also observed a large correlation of  ${}^2\text{H} + \pi^-$   
i.e., considerable production of  $\Lambda n$  bound states

## $\Lambda$ -hyperon lifetime in very heavy hypernuclei produced in the $p+U$ interaction

The recoil shadow method for the detection of fission fragments has been used to investigate delayed fission of very heavy  $\Lambda$  hypernuclei produced in the  $p$ - $U$  interaction at the projectile energy of 1.5 GeV. From the measured distribution of delayed fission events in the shadow region and the calculated momenta of hypernuclei leaving the target the lifetime of the  $\Lambda$  hyperon in very heavy hypernuclei was determined to be  $\tau = 2.40 \pm 60$  ps. The comparison of the number of delayed fission events with that of the prompt events leads to an estimation of the cross section for the production of  $\Lambda$  hypernuclei in  $p+U$  collisions at 1.5 GeV of  $\sigma_{Hv} = 150_{-80}^{+150} \mu\text{b}$ . [S0556-2813(97)04506-8]

H. Ohm et al., PRC 55 (1997) 3062

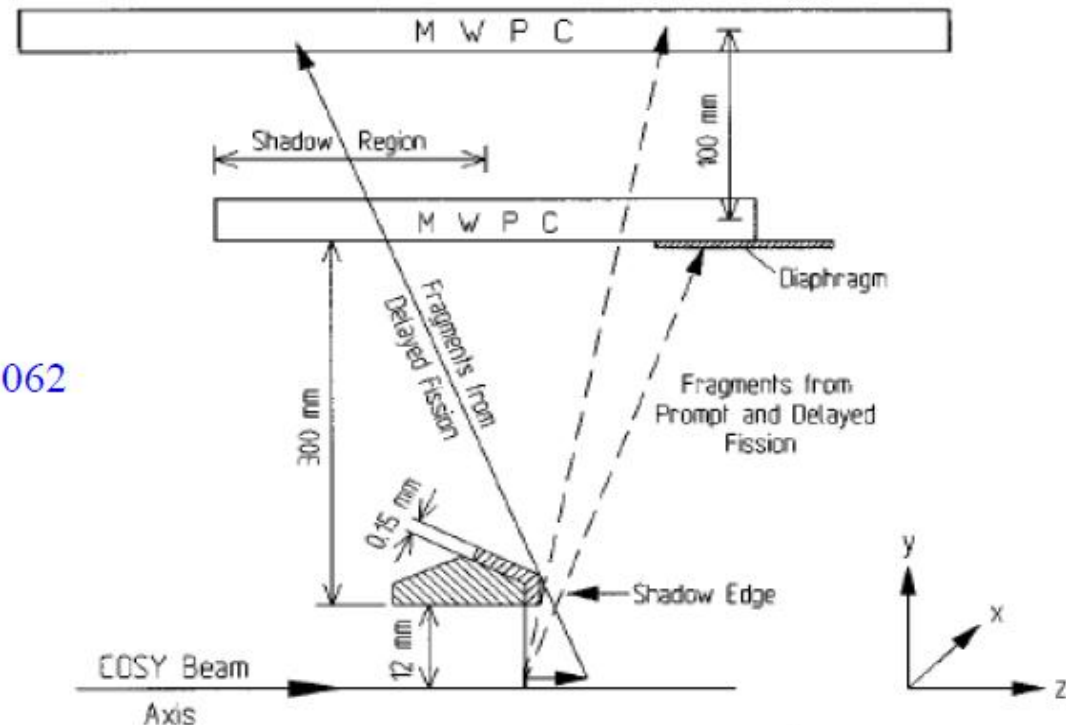


FIG. 1. Schematic presentation of the experimental setup. The thickness of the target holder is enhanced in the drawing to show the details. The real distances are given.

# Theoretical descriptions of strangeness production within transport codes

*old models : INC, QMD, BUU* e.g., Z.Rudy, W.Cassing et al., *Z. Phys. A*351(1995)217

*GiBUU model: (+SMM)* Th.Gaitanos, H.Lenske, U.Mosel, et al. ...  
... *Phys.Lett. B*663(2008)197, *Phys.Lett. B*675(2009)297

*DCM /INC+QGSM (+SMM)* JINR version : K.K.Gudima, V.D.Toneev et al.,  
*Nucl. Phys.A*400(1983)173, ... *Phys. Rev. C*84 (2011) 064904

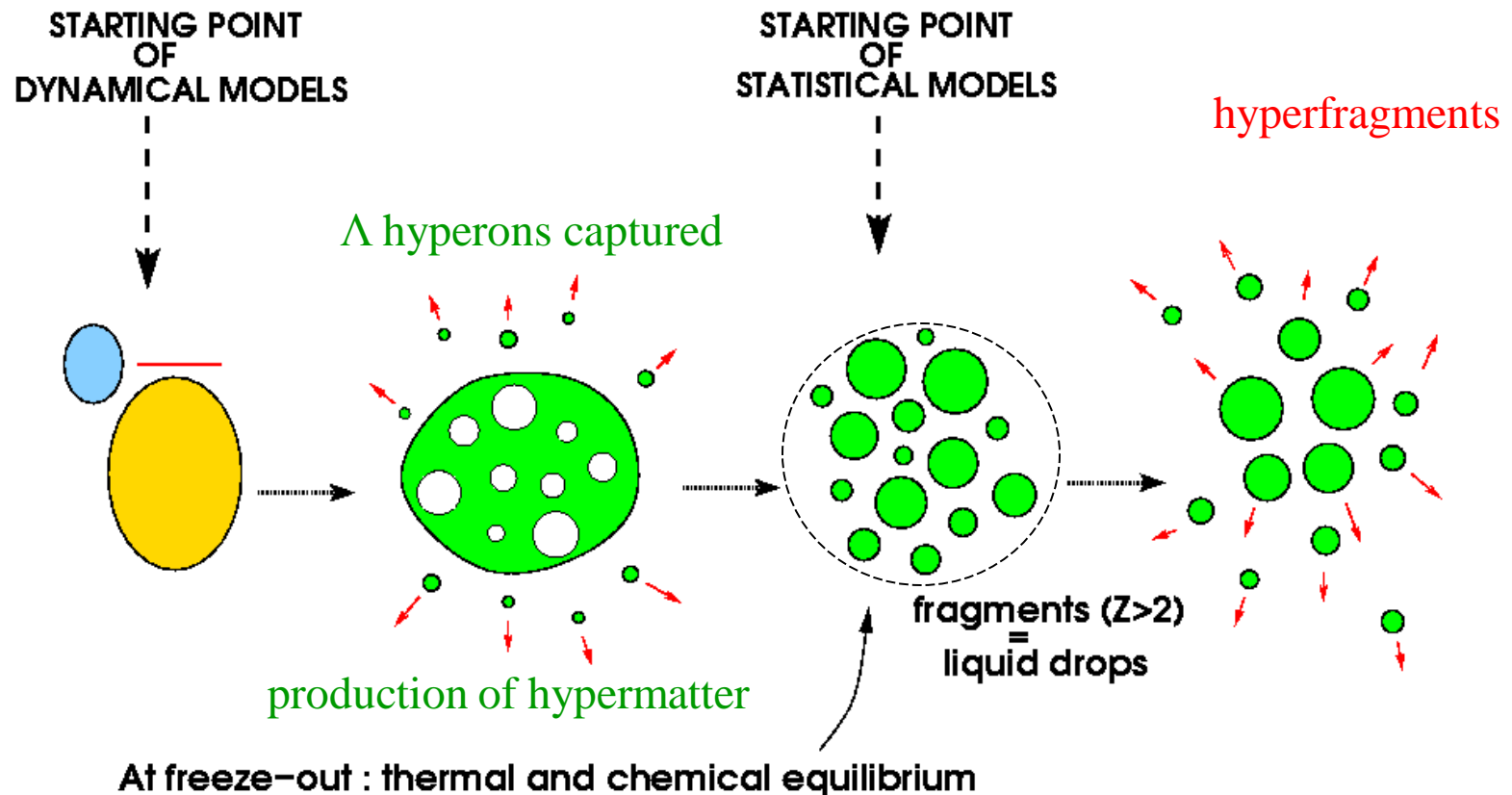
*PHSD model* E. Bratkovskaya, W. Cassing ... *Phys. Rev. C*78 (2008) 034919

*UrQMD approach:* S.A. Bass et al., *Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys.* 41 (1998) 255.  
(Frankfurt Uni) Bleicher et al., *J. Phys. G*25(1999)1859, ... J. Steinheimer ...

Main channels for production of strangeness in individual hadron-nucleon collisions:  $BB \rightarrow BYK$ ,  $B\pi \rightarrow YK$ , ... (like  $p+n \rightarrow n+\Lambda+K^+$ , and secondary meson interactions, like  $\pi+p \rightarrow \Lambda+K^+$ ). Rescattering of hyperons is important for their capture by spectators. Capture of  $\Lambda$  takes place in the nuclear potential well (approximately 2/3 of the nucleon potential).

**Generalization of the statistical de-excitation model for nuclei with Lambda hyperons**

**In these reactions we expect analogy with  
multifragmentation in intermediate and high energy nuclear reactions  
+ nuclear matter with strangeness**

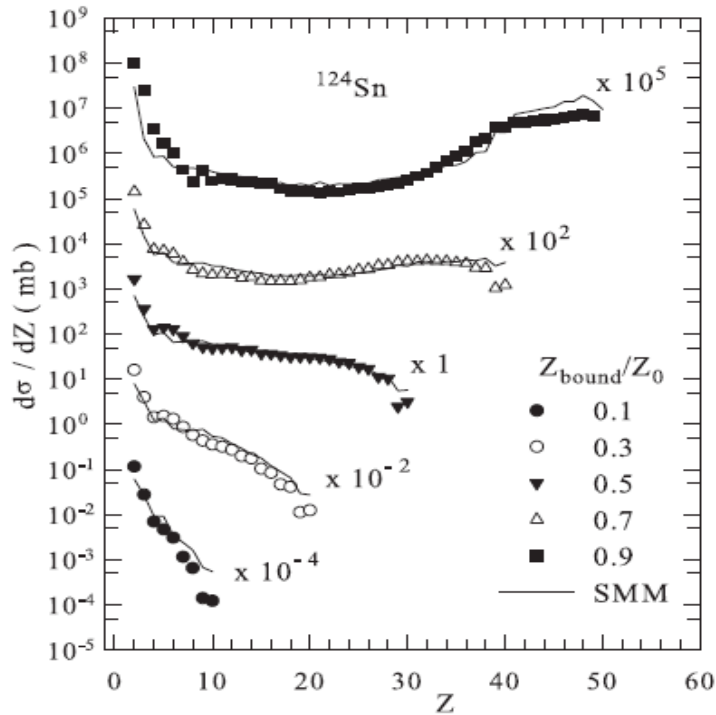




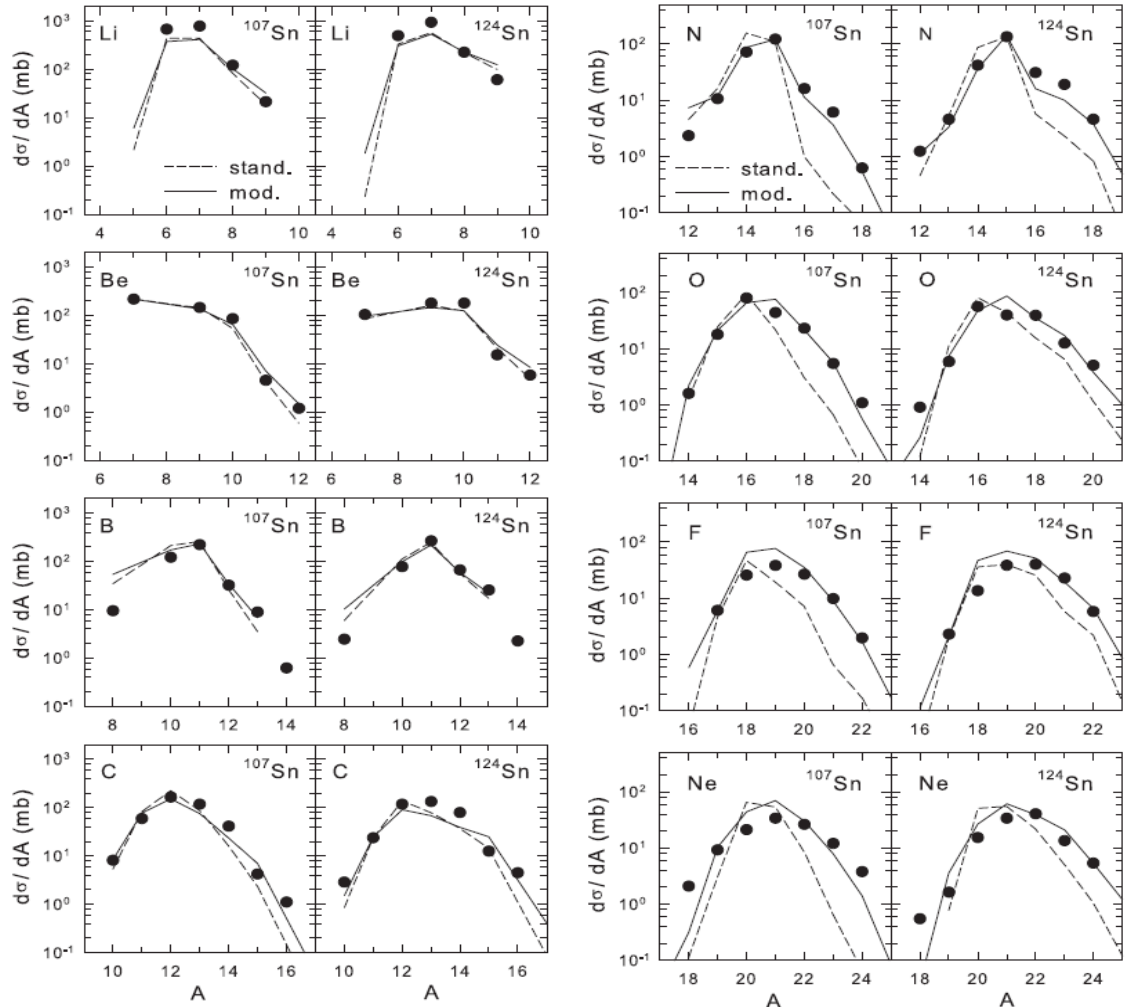
Isospin-dependent multifragmentation of relativistic projectiles

**$^{124,107}\text{Sn}$ ,  $^{124}\text{La}$  (600 A MeV) +  $\text{Sn} \rightarrow$  projectile (multi-)fragmentation**

Very good description is obtained within Statistical Multifragmentation Model, including fragment charge yields, isotope yields, various fragment correlations.



Statistical (chemical) equilibrium is established at break-up of hot projectile residues ! In the case of strangeness admixture we expect it too !



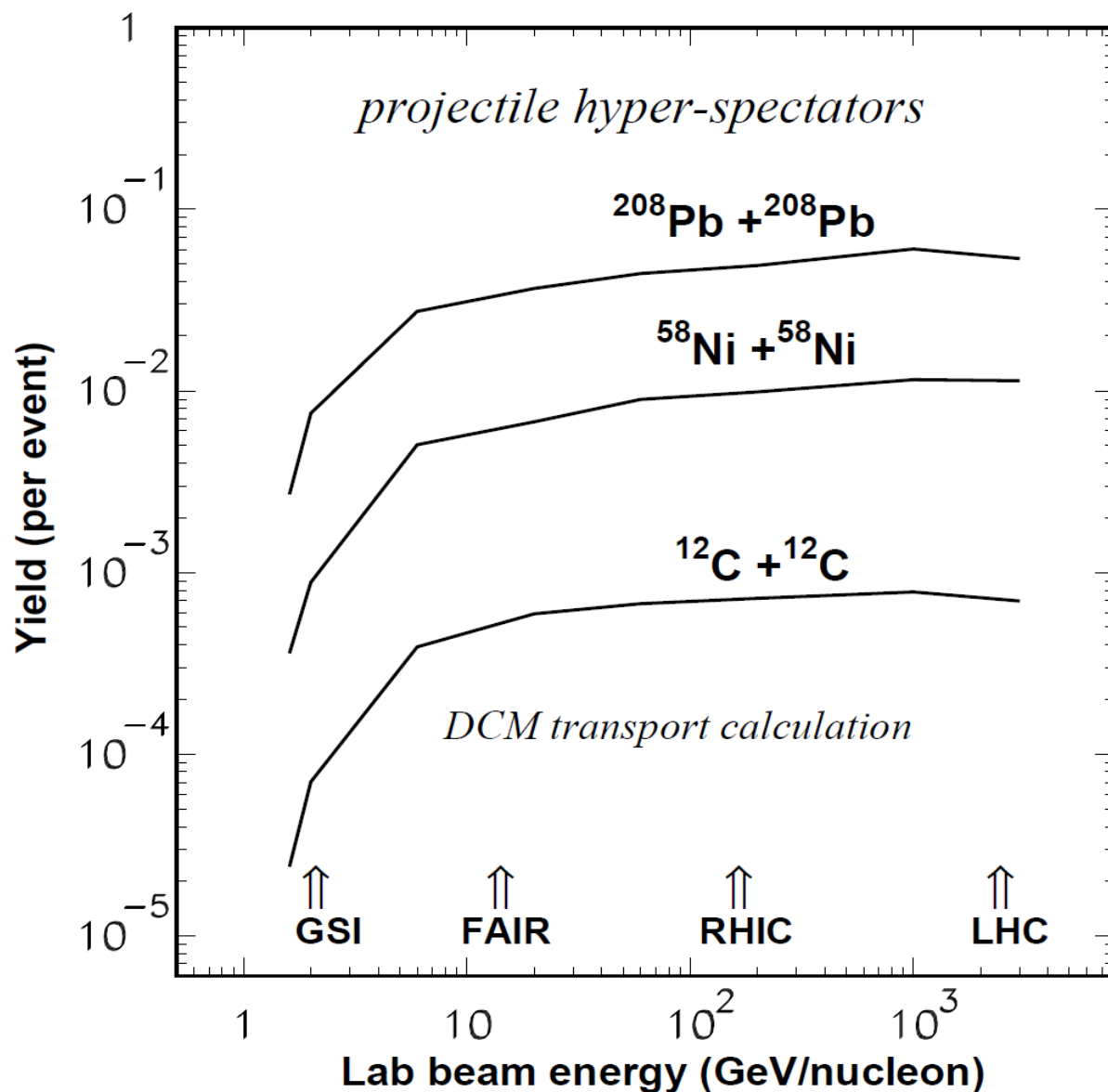
# Yield of hypernuclei in peripheral collisions

A.S.Botvina, K.K.Gudima, J.Pochodzalla (PRC88, 054605, 2013)

Threshold behavior with saturation at high energies  
(for single hypernuclei)

Yield is integrated over  
all impact parameters.

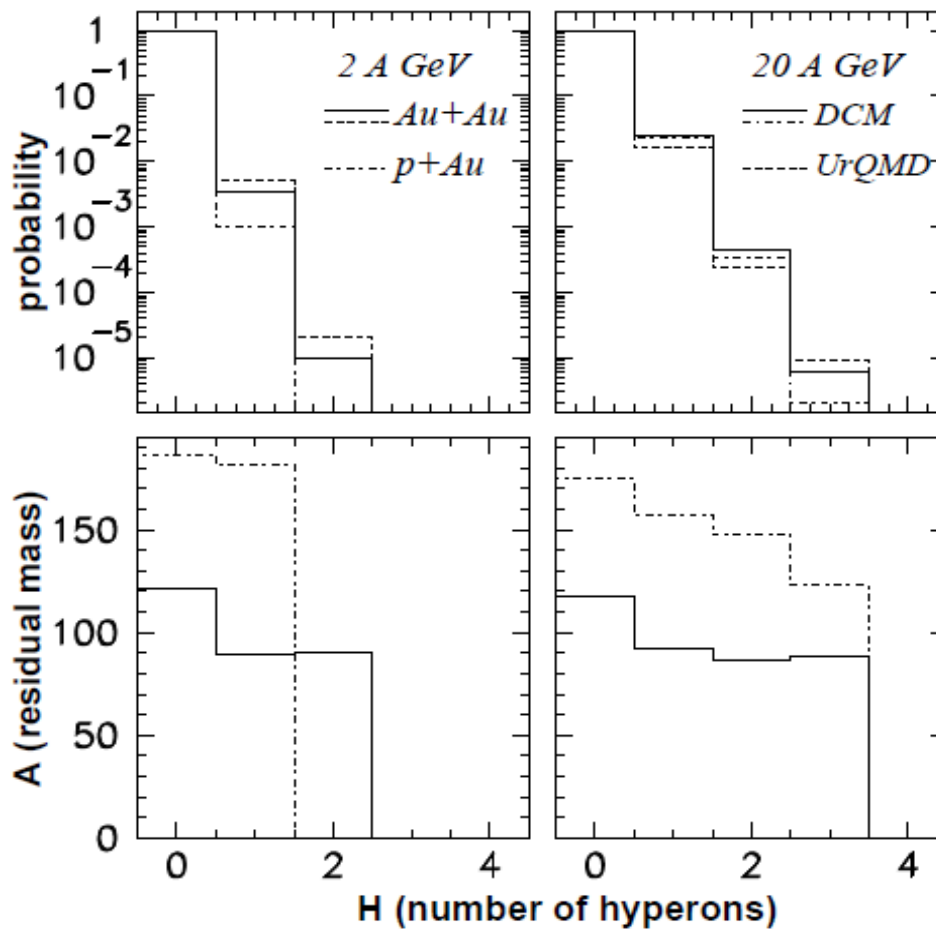
Reactions can be studied  
at GSI/FAIR and JINR/  
NICA facilities as well as  
on operating RHIC and  
LHC (fixed target experiments).



## Capture of many hyperons in HI is a natural process

projectile residuals produced after non-equilibrium stage

total yield of residuals with single hyperons  $\sim 1\%$  , with double ones  $\sim 0.01\%$ ,  
at 2 GeV per nucleon, and considerably more at 20 GeV per nucleon



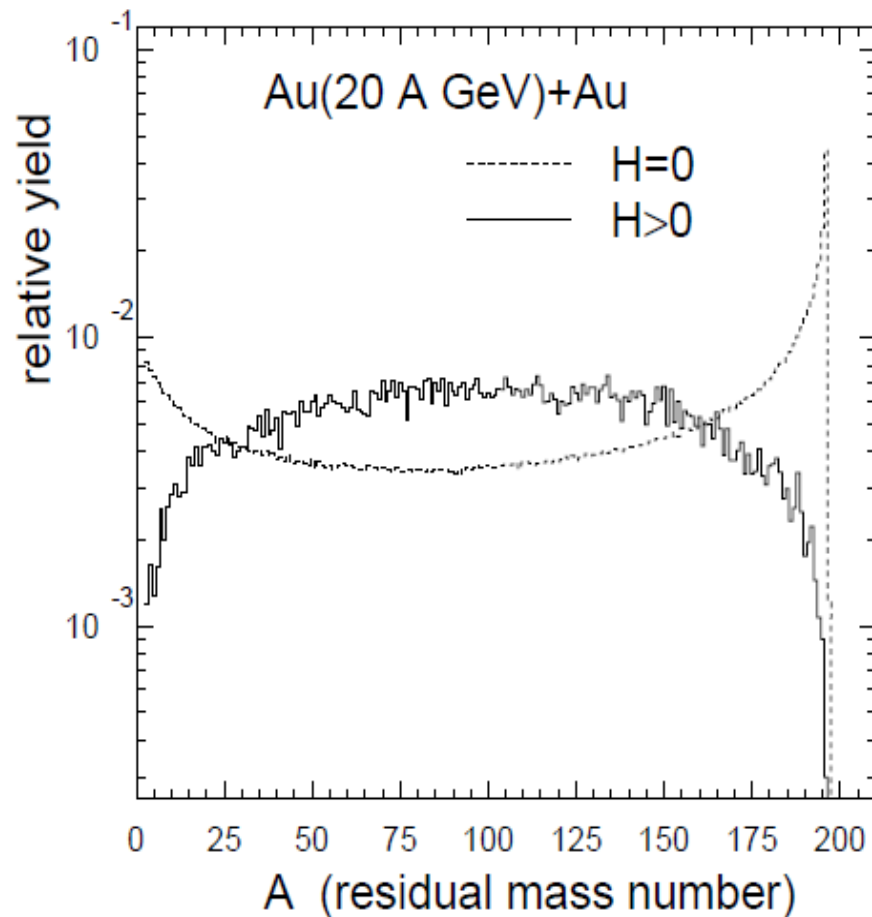
Integrated over all impact  
parameters

Formation of multi-strange  
nuclear systems ( $H > 2$ )  
is possible!

The disintegration of  
such systems can lead  
to production of  
exotic hypernuclei.

## Masses of projectile residuals produced after DCM

different hyper-residuals (with large cross-section) can be formed (from studies of conventional matter: expected temperatures - up to 5-8 MeV)



6b : H=0

200mb: H>0

# Momentum distribution of Lambda captured in the spectators

(Connection of the potential capture and the coalescence)

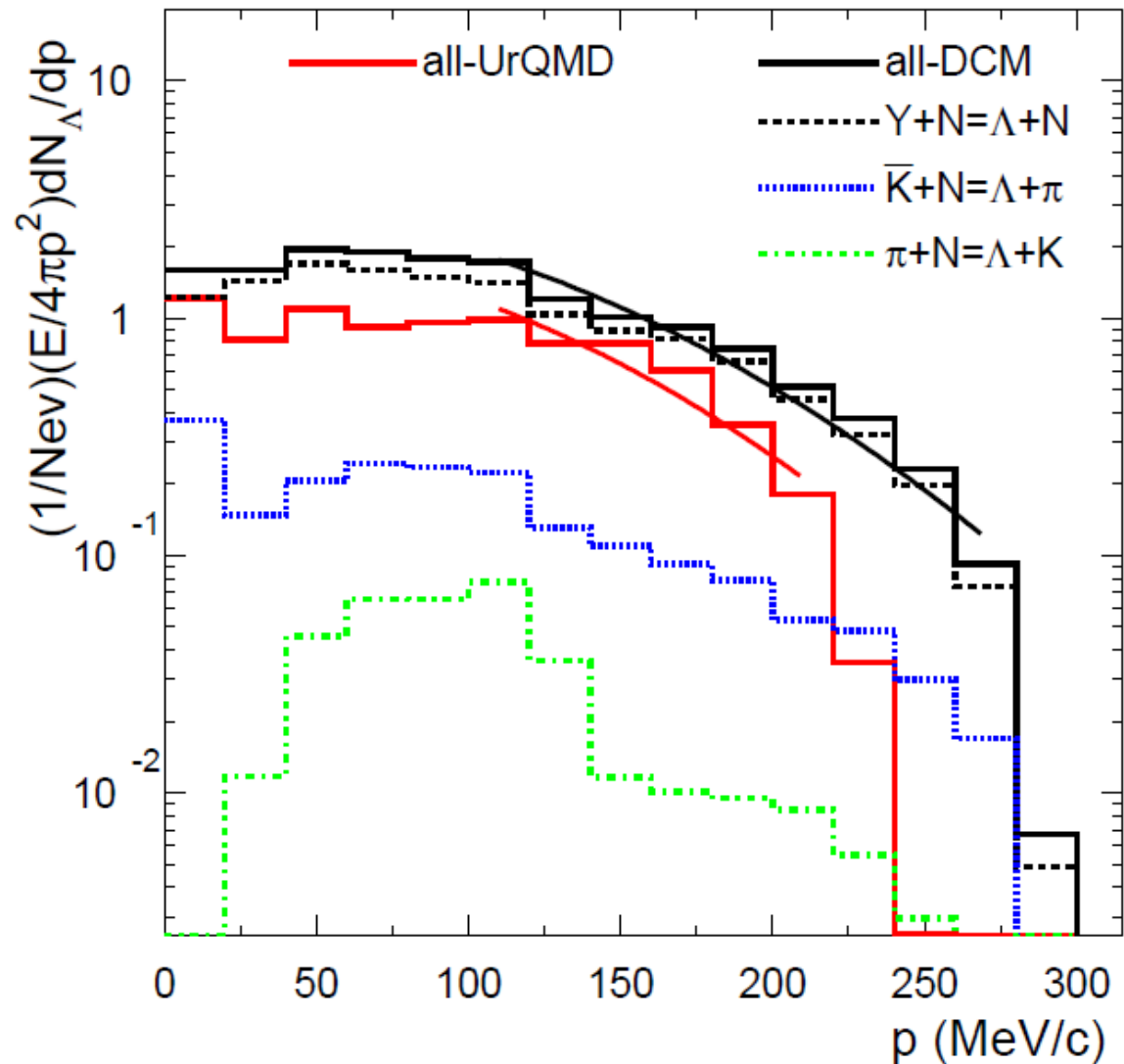
Coalescence of baryons

momenta:

$$|\mathbf{P}_i - \mathbf{P}_0| \leq P_c$$

coordinates:

$$|\mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{X}_0| \leq X_c$$





## **Coalescence of Baryons (CB) Model :**

### **Development of the coalescence for formation of clusters of all sizes**

- 1) Relative velocities between baryons and clusters are considered,  
if  $(|\mathbf{V}_b - \mathbf{V}_A|) < V_c$  the particle b is included in the A-cluster.
- 2) Step by step numerical approximation.
- 3) In addition, coordinates of baryons and clusters are considered,  
if  $|\mathbf{X}_b - \mathbf{X}_A| < R * A^{1/3}$  the particle b may be included in A-cluster.
- 4) Spectators' nucleons are always included in the residues.

### **Combination of transport UrQMD and HSD models with CB:**

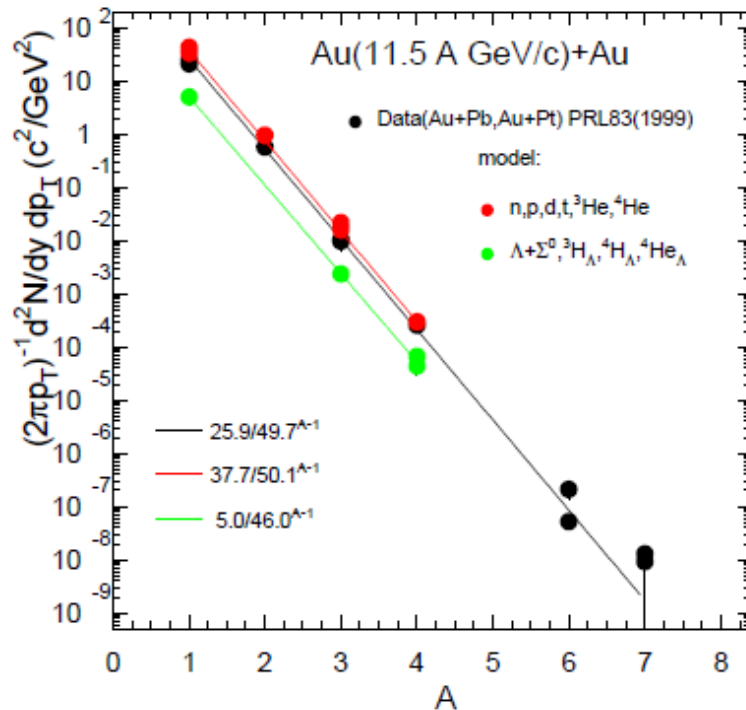
Investigation of fragments/hyperfragments at all rapidities !  
(connection between central and peripheral zones)

## Production of light nuclei in central collisions : Au+Au

DCM and UrQMD calculations - J.Steinheimer et al., Phys. Lett. B**714**, 85 (2012)

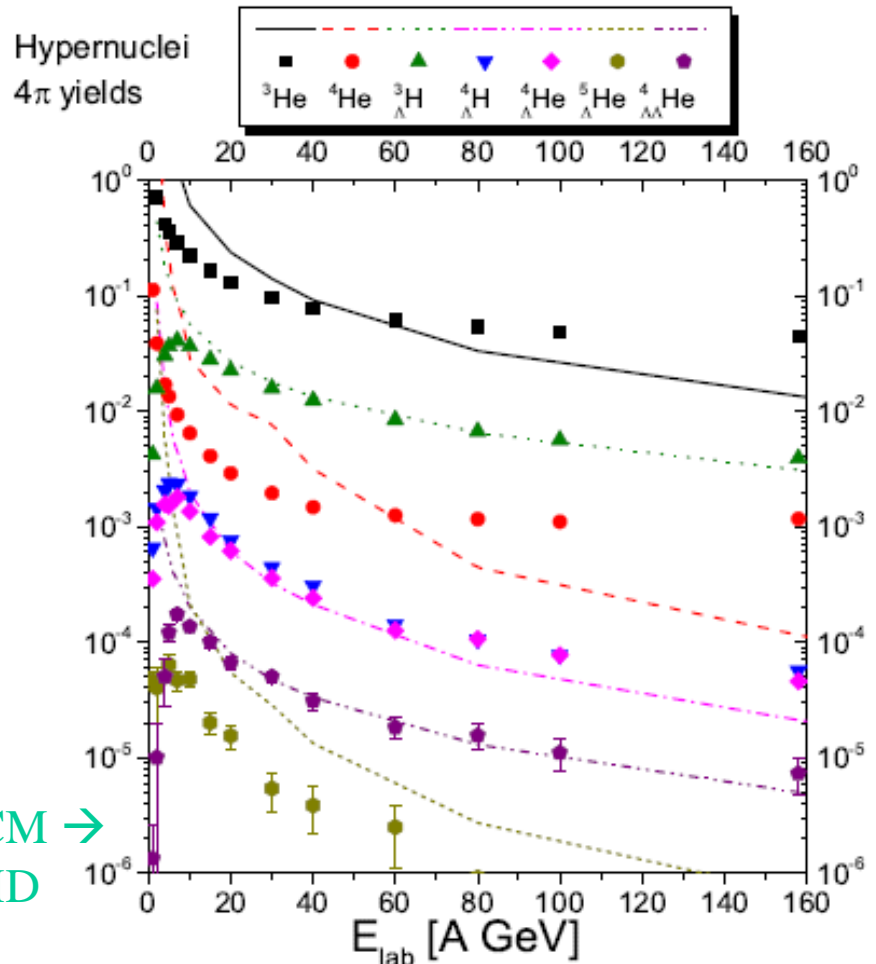
## DCM versus experiment : coalescence mechanism

Also predictions for hybrid approach :  
UrQMD + thermal hydrodynamics

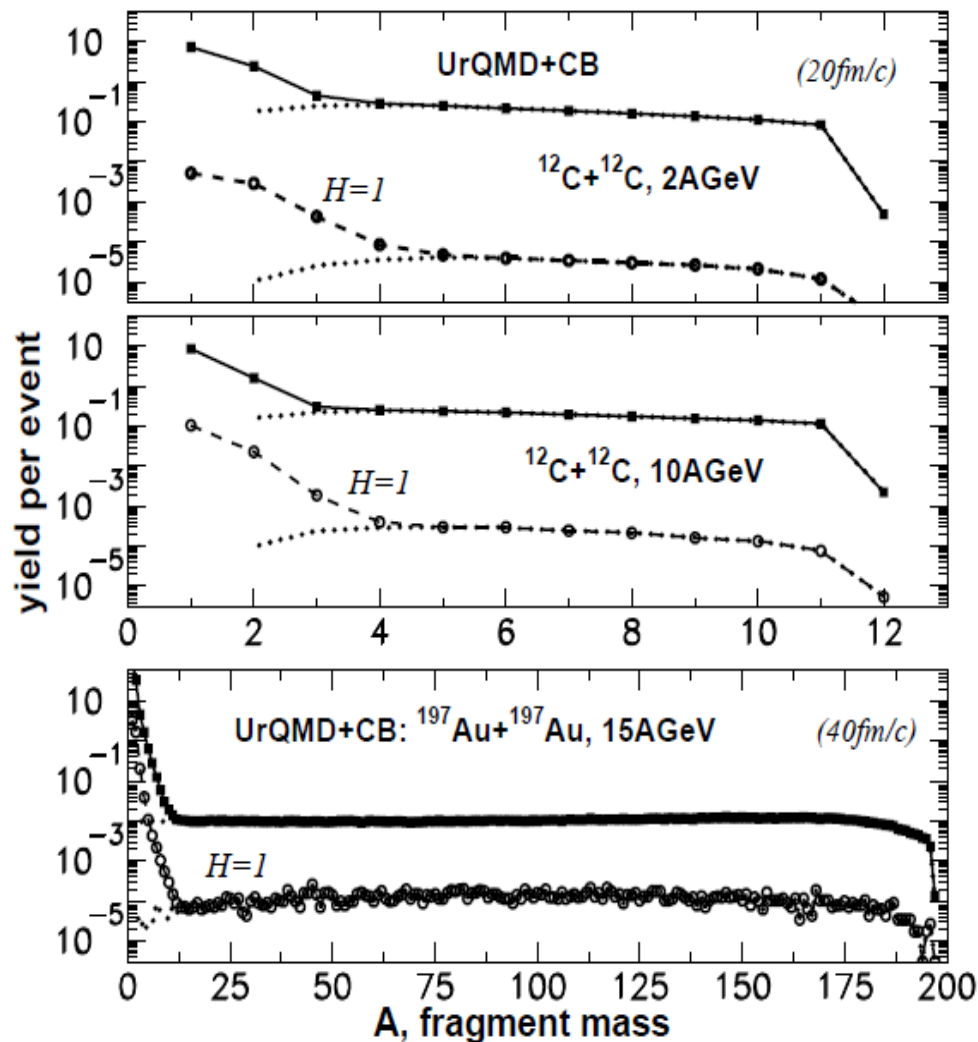
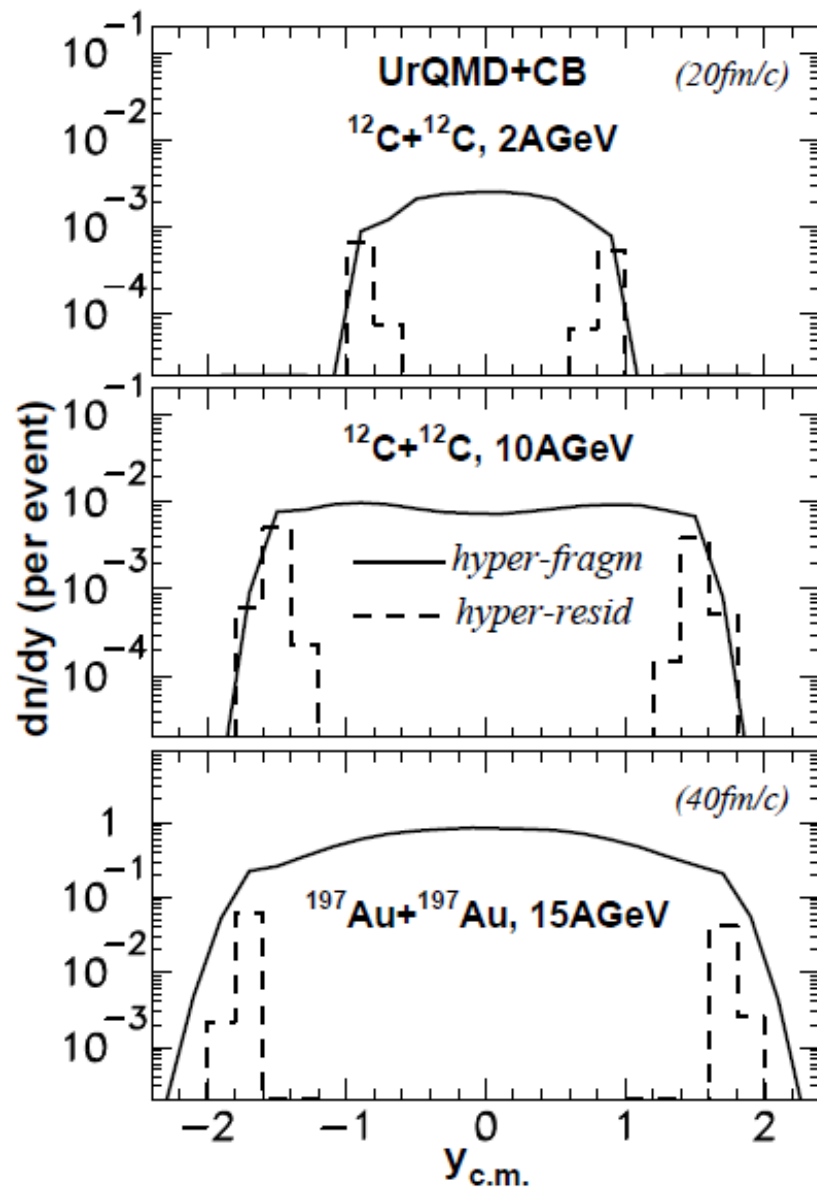


It is not possible to produce big nuclei !

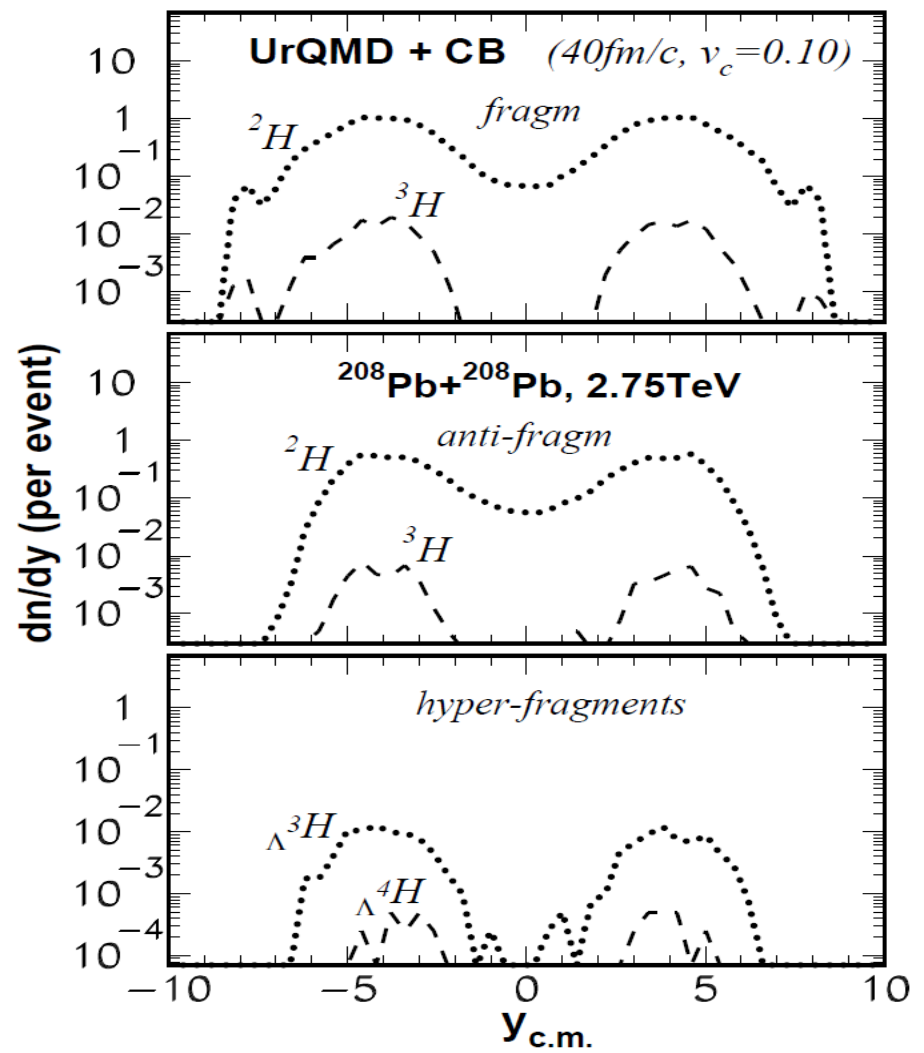
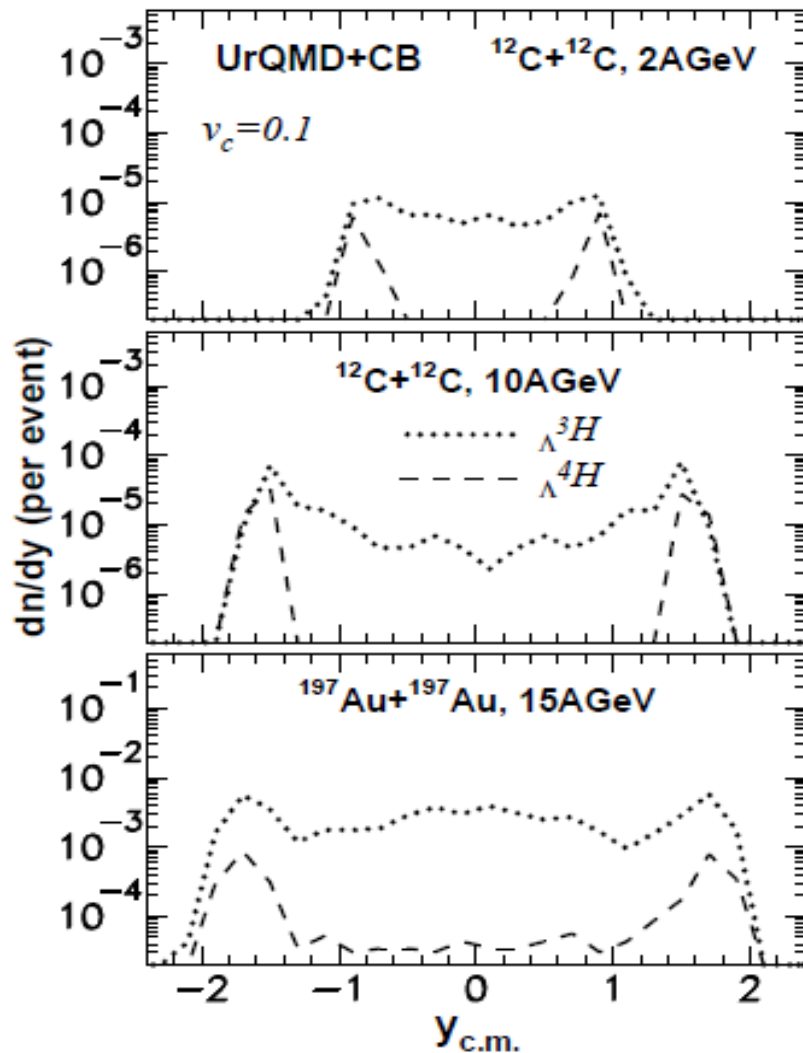
Symbols - DCM →  
Lines - UrQMD 10



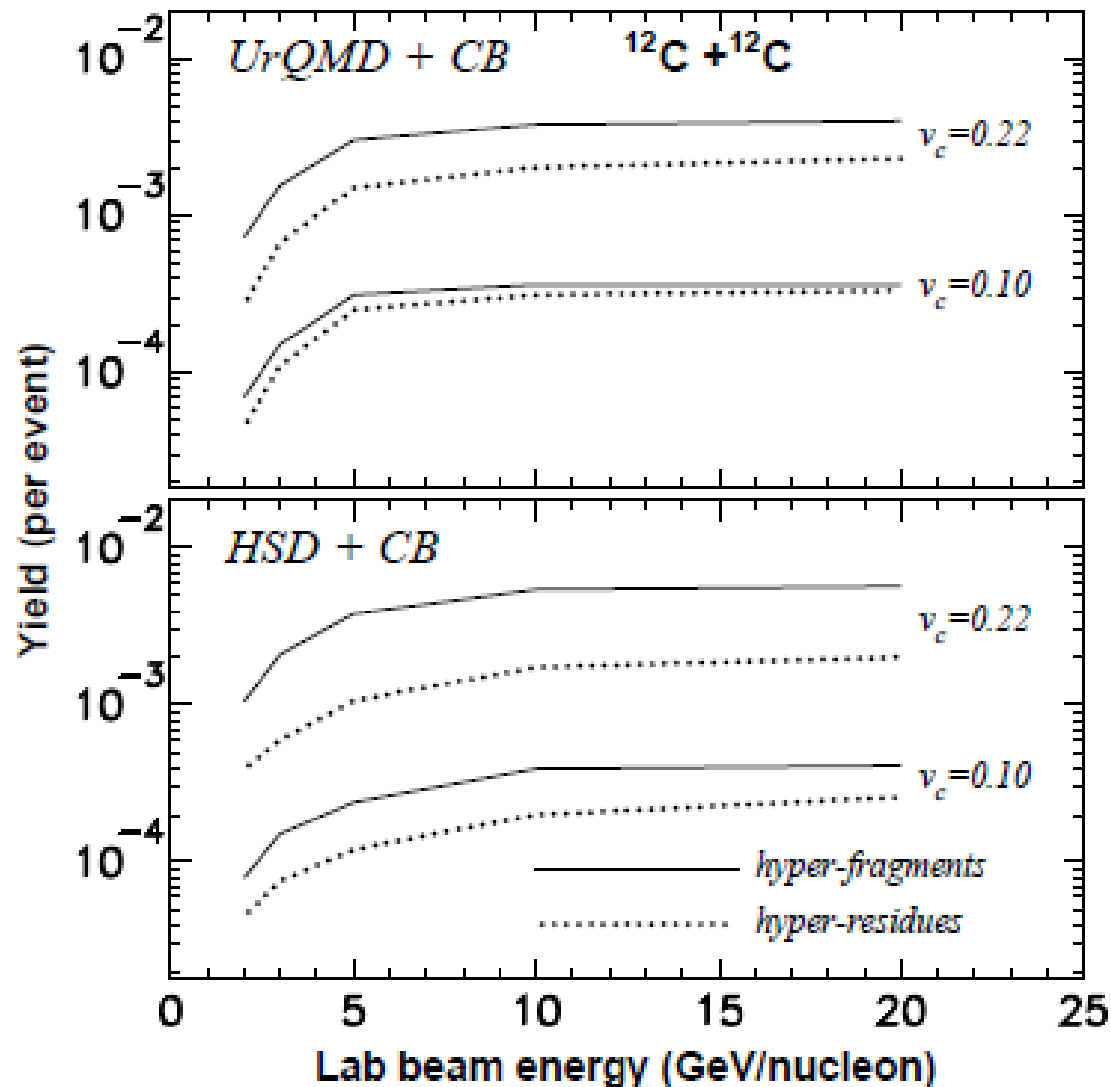
normal fragments, hyper-fragments, hyper-residues



Because of the secondary interactions the maximum of the fragments production is shifted from the midrapidity. Secondary products have relatively low kinetic energies, therefore, they can produce clusters with higher probability (even for light fragments/hyper-fragments).



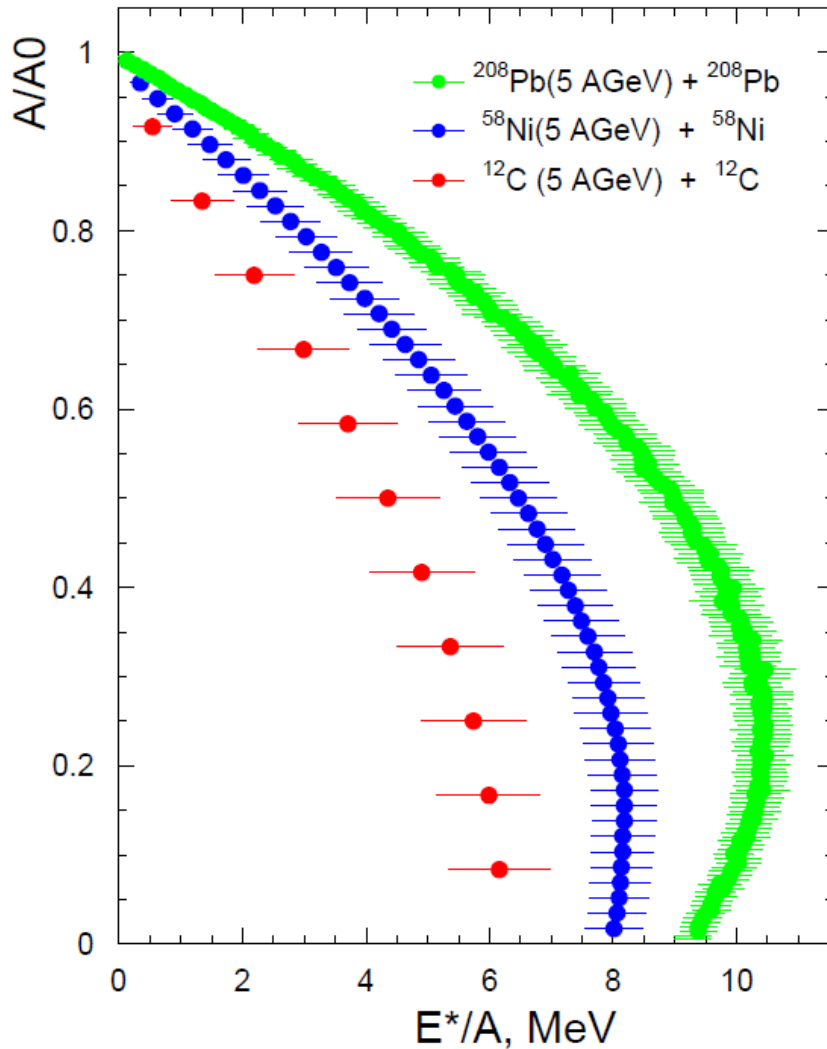
Transport models are consistent (UrQMD, HSD)





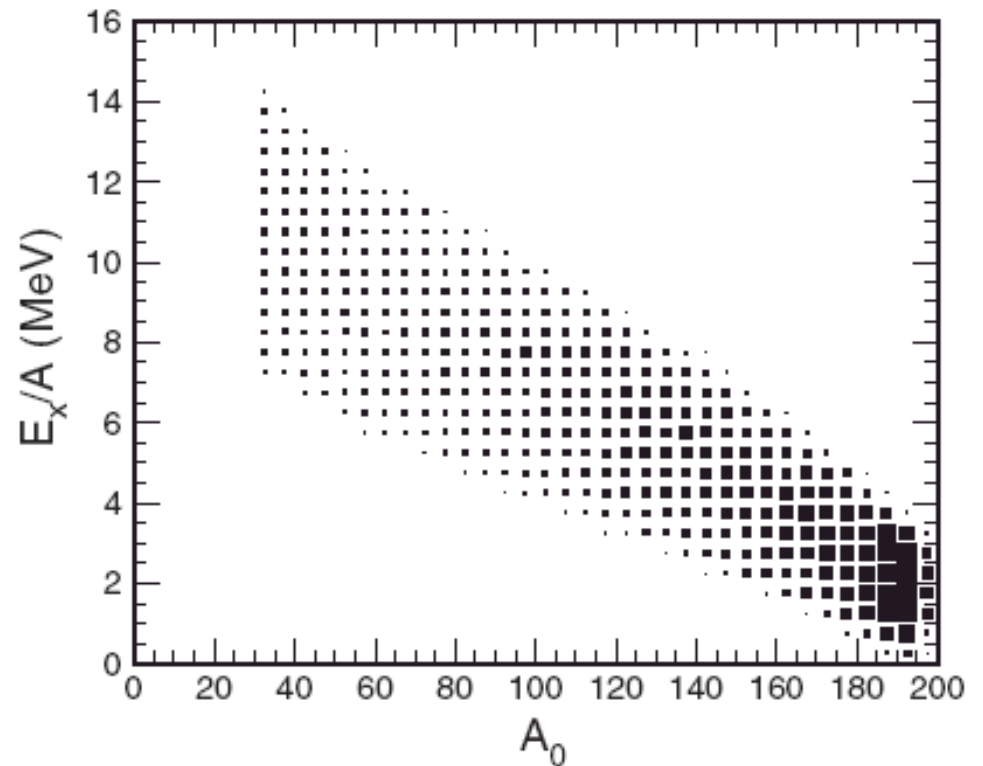
# Excitation energies of the residual nuclei

DCM



ALADIN analysis: Au+Au  
at 1 A GeV data (GSI)

H.Xi et al.,  
Z.Phys. A359(1997)397



## De-excitation of hot light hypernuclear systems

A.Sanchez-Lorente, A.S.Botvina, J.Pochodzalla, Phys. Lett. B697 (2011)222

For light primary fragments (with  $A \leq 16$ ) even a relatively small excitation energy may be comparable with their total binding energy. In this case we assume that the principal mechanism of de-excitation is the explosive decay of the excited nucleus into several smaller clusters (the secondary break-up). To describe this process we use the famous Fermi model [105]. It is analogous to the above-described statistical model, but all final-state fragments are assumed to be in their ground or low excited states. In this case the statistical weight of the channel containing  $n$  particles with masses  $m_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) in volume  $V_f$  may be calculated in microcanonical approximation:

$$\Delta \Gamma_f^{\text{mic}} \propto \frac{S}{G} \left( \frac{V_f}{(2\pi\hbar)^3} \right)^{n-1} \left( \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n m_i}{m_0} \right)^{3/2} \frac{(2\pi)^{(3/2)(n-1)}}{\Gamma(\frac{3}{2}(n-1))} (E_{\text{kin}} - U_f^C)^{(3/2)n-5/2}, \quad (58)$$

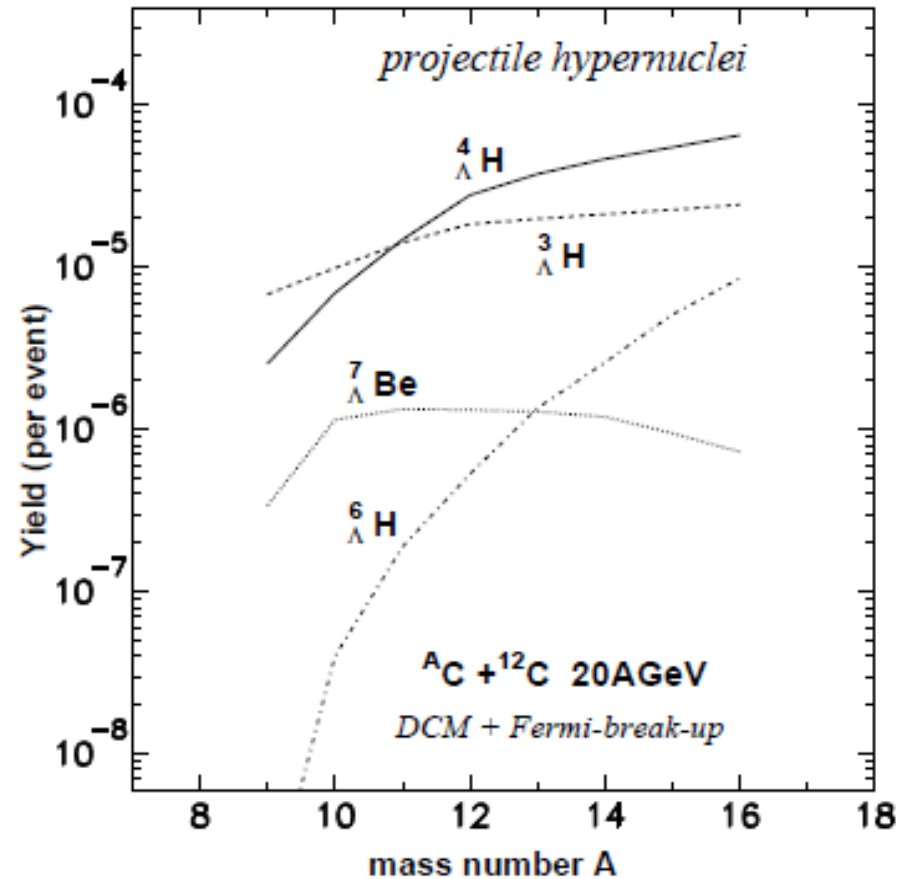
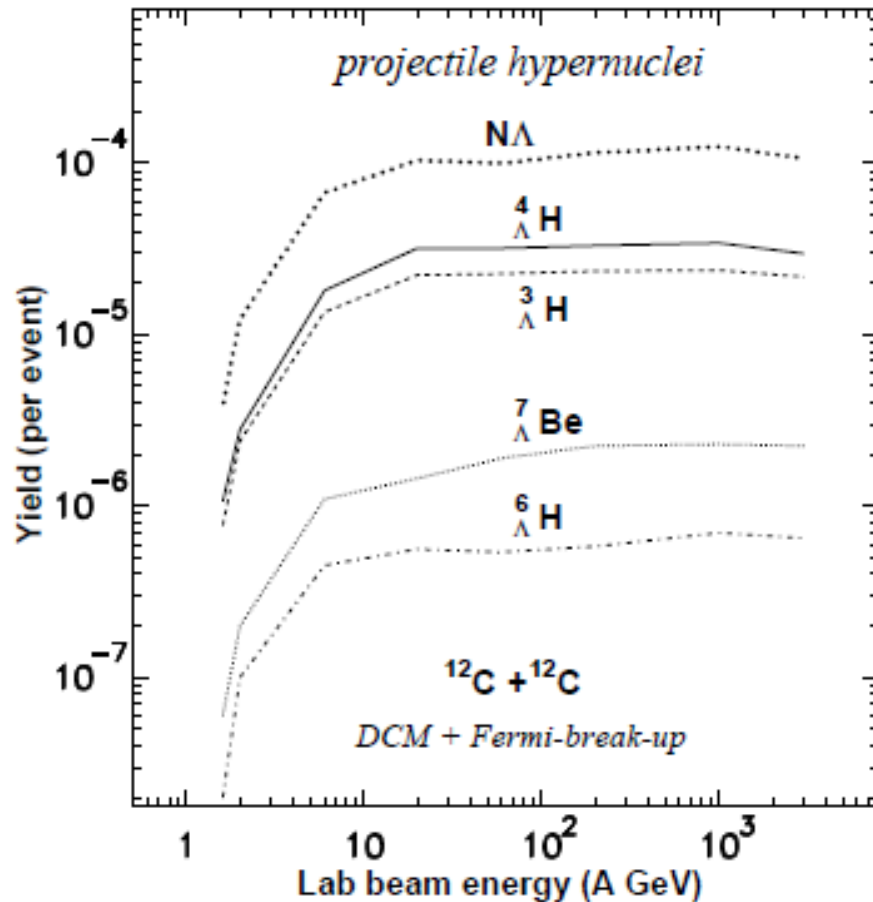
where  $m_0 = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i$  is the mass of the decaying nucleus,  $S = \prod_{i=1}^n (2s_i + 1)$  is the spin degeneracy factor ( $s_i$  is the  $i$ th particle spin),  $G = \prod_{j=1}^k n_j!$  is the particle identity factor ( $n_j$  is the number of particles of kind  $j$ ).  $E_{\text{kin}}$  is the total kinetic energy of particles at infinity which is related to the prefragment excitation energy  $E_{AZ}^*$  as

$$E_{\text{kin}} = E_{AZ}^* + m_0 c^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n m_i c^2. \quad (59)$$

$U_f^C$  is the Coulomb interaction energy between cold secondary fragments given by Eq. (49),  $U_f^C$  and  $V_f$  are attributed now to the secondary break-up configuration.

Generalization of the Fermi-break-up model: new decay channels with hypernuclei were included ; masses and spins of hypernuclei and their excited states were taken from available experimental data and theoretical calculations

## Production of light hypernuclei in relativistic ion collisions



One can use exotic neutron-rich and neutron-poor projectiles, which are not possible to use as targets in traditional hyper-nuclear experiments, because of their short lifetime. Comparing yields of hypernuclei from various sources we can get info about their binding energies and properties of hyper-matter.

# Experiments on hypernuclei at GSI/FAIR (current and future)

## Peripheral collisions relativistic light and heavy ions

**HypHI collaboration (in past)**

-- **Super-FRS (normal and proton-rich hypernuclei)**

-- **R3B (neutron-rich hypernuclei)**

## Semi-peripheral and central collisions

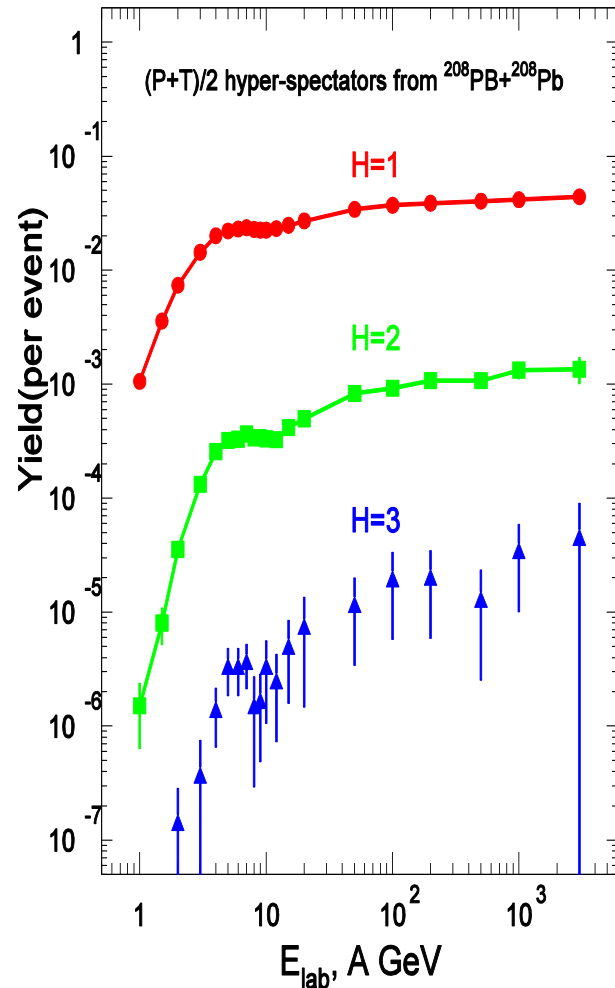
**FOPI collaboration (in past)**

-- **CBM collaboration**

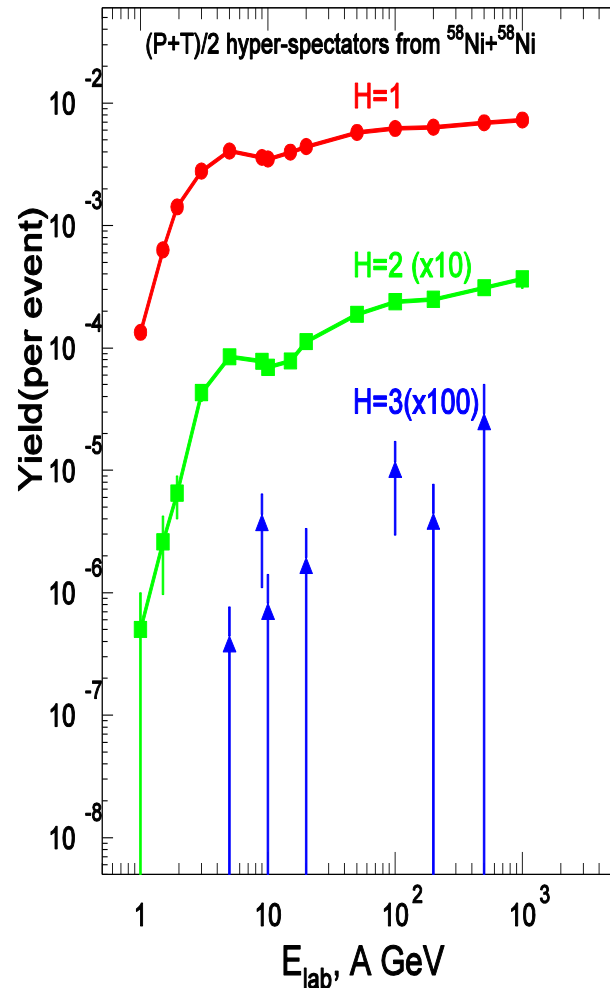
Sub-threshold region ( $<1.6$  A GeV) is important for future FRS experiments with projectile-like hypernuclei

**Preliminary DCM predictions:**

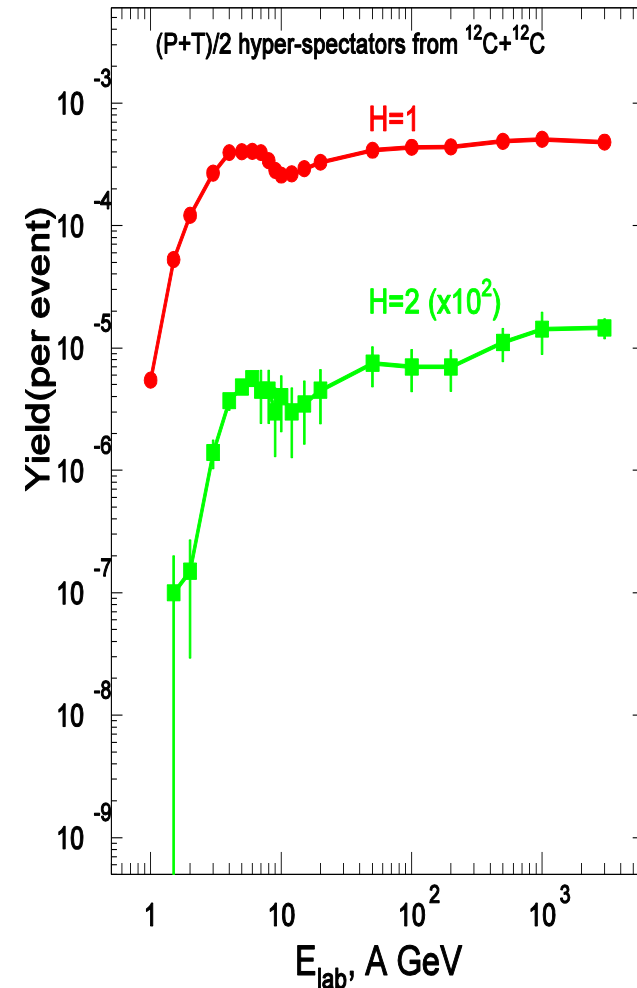
**Heavy nuclei**



**Medium nuclei**



**Light nuclei**



# Conclusions

**Collisions of relativistic ions and hadrons with nuclei are promising reactions for novel research of hypernuclei, anti-nuclei, and exotic nuclei. These processes are theoretically confirmed with various models.**

**Mechanisms of formation of hypernuclei in peripheral reactions: Strange baryons ( $\Lambda$ ,  $\Sigma$ ,  $\Xi$ , ...) produced in particle collisions can be transported to the spectator residues and captured in nuclear matter. Another mechanism is the coalescence of baryons leading to light clusters, including anti-matter, will be effective at all rapidities. These exotic systems are presumably excited and after their decay novel hypernuclei of all sizes (and isospin), including exotic weakly-bound states, multi-strange nuclei, anti-nuclei can be produced.**

**Advantages over other reactions: in the spectator matter there is no limit on sizes and isotope content of produced exotic nuclei; probability of their formation may be high; a large strangeness can be deposited in nuclei.**

**Correlations (unbound states) and lifetimes can be naturally studied.**

**EOS of hypermatter at subnuclear density can be investigated.**



