



復旦大學
FUDAN UNIVERSITY

BESIII实验上超子-核子相互作用的研究

严亮
复旦大学

第10届BESIII R值与QCD强子结构研讨会
新疆，乌鲁木齐
2025.07.28

Outline

- Introduction
- Measurement Methods at BESIII
- Experimental Results and Analysis
- Discussion and Outlook
- Summary

Introduction

Hyperon Puzzle:

- Hyperons are predicted to appear in neutron star (NS) cores at baryon density $\rho \sim 2-3\rho_0$.
- Their presence softens the equation of state (EoS), leading to a reduced maximum NS mass.
- Observations of neutron stars with masses $> 2M_\odot$ (e.g., PSR J0348+0432, PSR J1614-2230) contradict this prediction.
- This discrepancy is known as the 'Hyperon Puzzle' — a major challenge in nuclear and astrophysics.

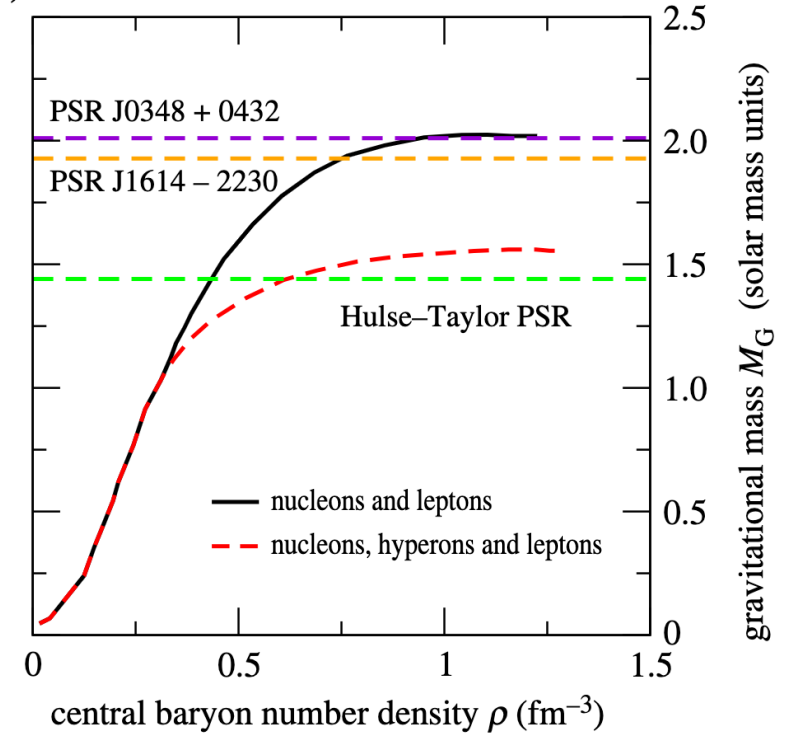
Possible solutions

- YY and YN force
- YNN and YYN three body forces

Experimental data are needed to place constraints on the interaction

YN interaction: Understanding strong interaction, Original of nuclear force, Probe of nuclear structure

I. Vidana, Proc. R. Soc. A 474, 20180145 (2018)



Nat Astron (2019), $M_G = 2.14 \pm 0.1 M_\odot$

Early attempts

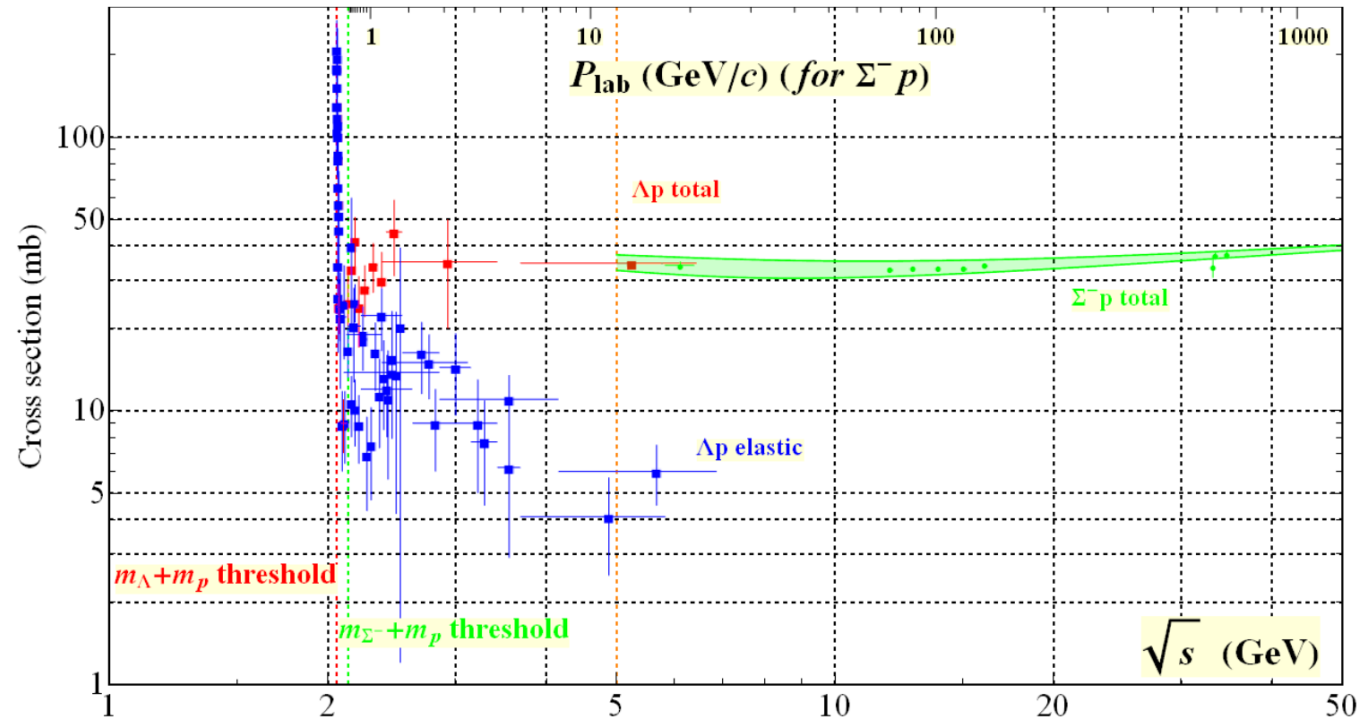


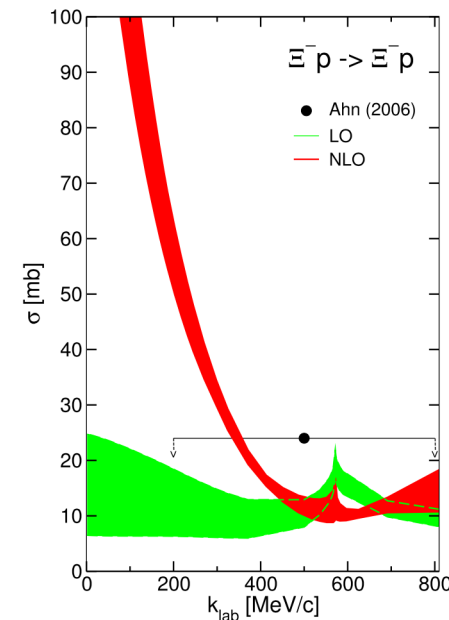
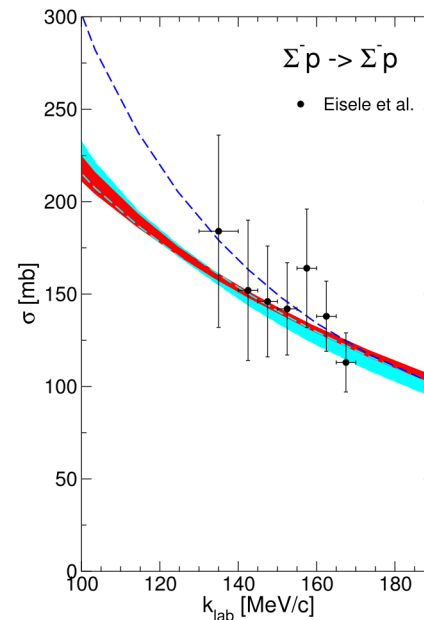
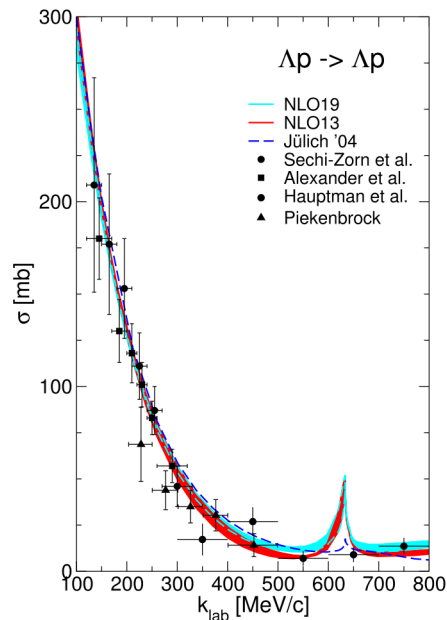
Figure adapted from Particle Data Group (2024)

In the 1960s and 1970s focused on experiments using bubble chambers and provided the current database available for the two-body interaction between hyperons and nucleons, with only about 1300 scattering events observed

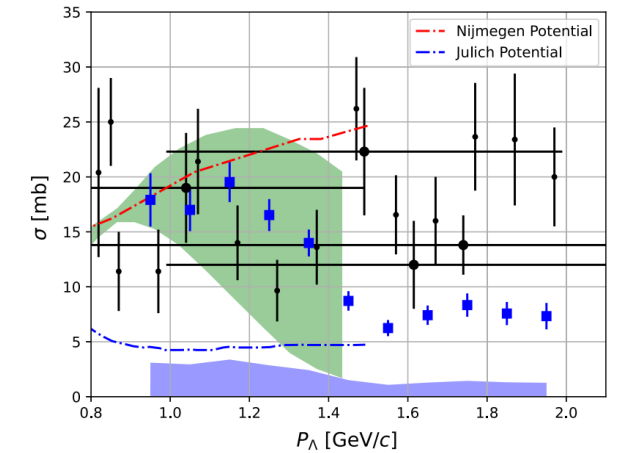
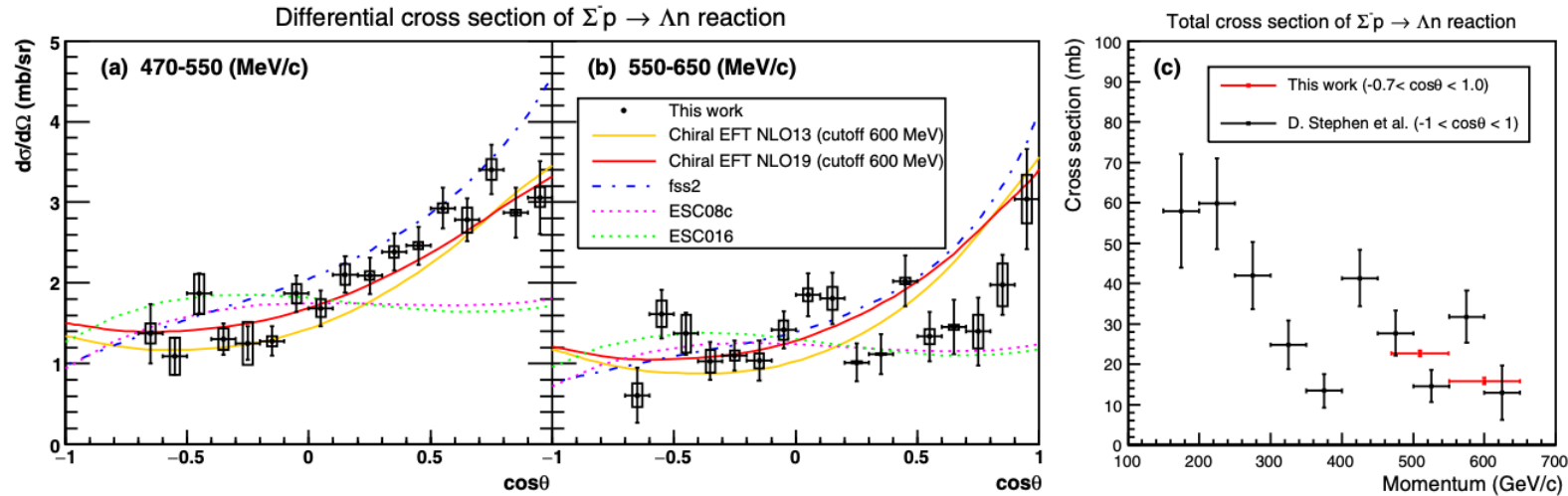
Difficulties performing high-precision scattering experiments with short-lived beams

Theoretical Studies of YN and YY interactions

- Meson-Exchange Models : Nijmegen, Bonn-Jülich
- Quark models: Beijing-Tübingen Collaboration, Kyoto-Niigata SU(6)
- Lattice QCD: NPLQCD, HAL QCD Collaboration
- Chiral Effective Field Theory: LO, NLO, N²LO, relativistic ChEFT

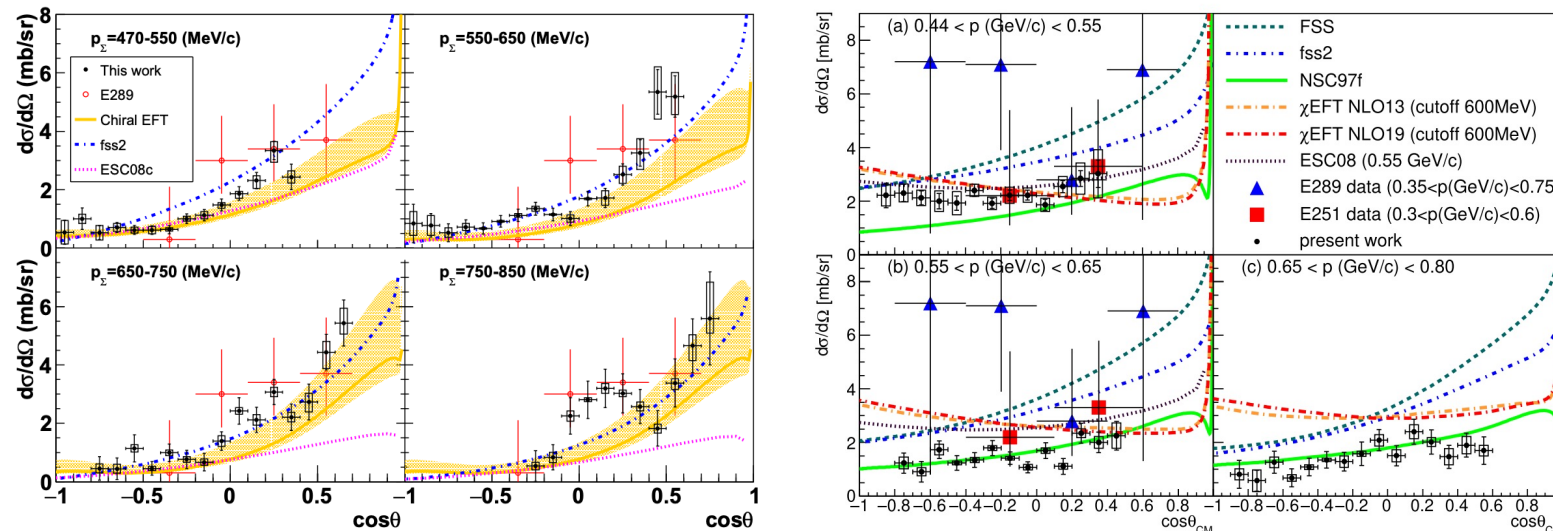


Recent experimental progress on ΣN interaction



CLAS Collaboration
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 127, 272303 (2021)

New ΛN and ΣN scattering data:
Recent experiments have reported updated measurements, including the first more extensive differential cross-section data for $\Sigma^+ p$ and $\Sigma^- p$ scattering away from threshold energies.



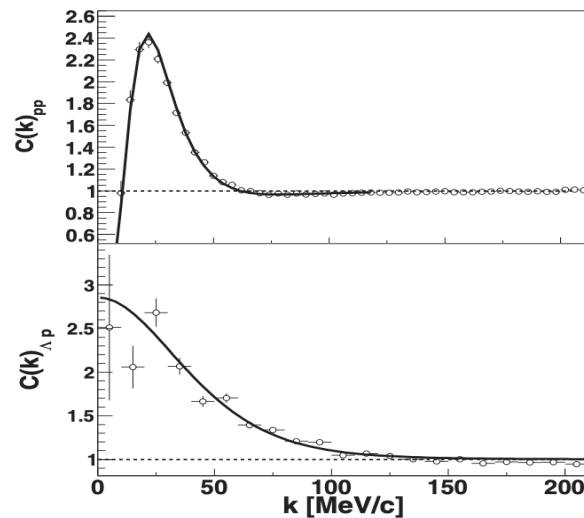
J-RARC E40 Collaboration

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 104, 045204 (2021), PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 128, 072501 (2022),

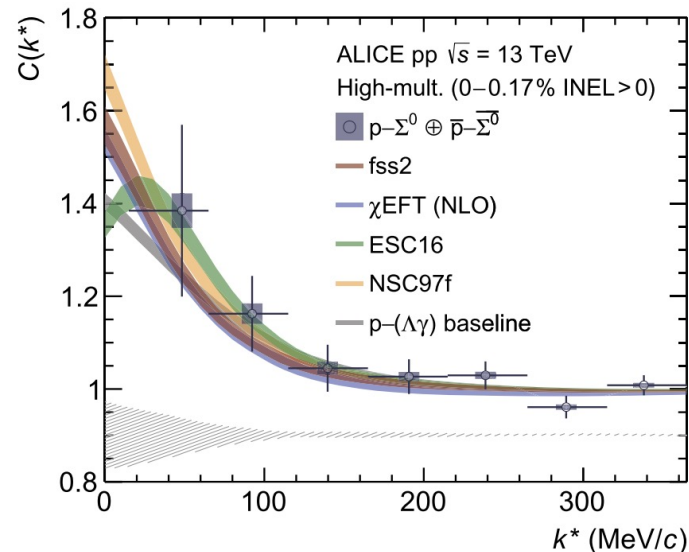
PTEP 2022, 093D01 (2022)

Non-scattering Experiments related to Λ N interaction

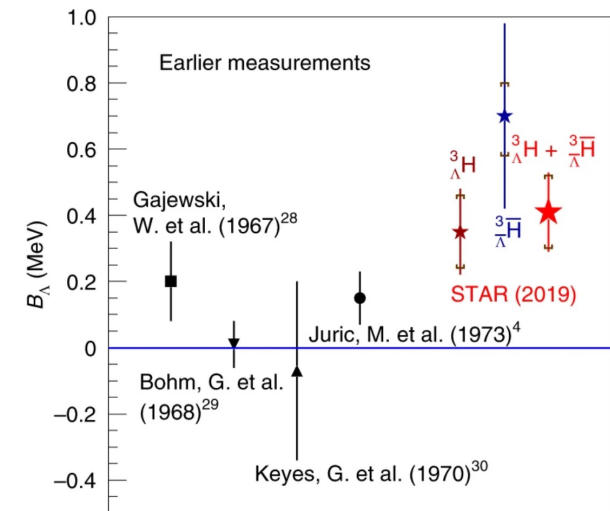
- **Momentum correlation studies:** Two-particle momentum correlation functions involving strange baryons have been measured in heavy-ion and high-energy proton-proton collisions, providing access to Λ N interactions at very low relative momenta. (ALICE, STAR, HADES)
- **Improved binding energy measurements:** Ongoing efforts aim to achieve more precise determinations of the binding energies of light Λ hypernuclei, offering valuable input for theoretical models. (ALICE STAR)



HADES Collaboration
PHYSICAL REVIEW C 94, 025201 (2016)

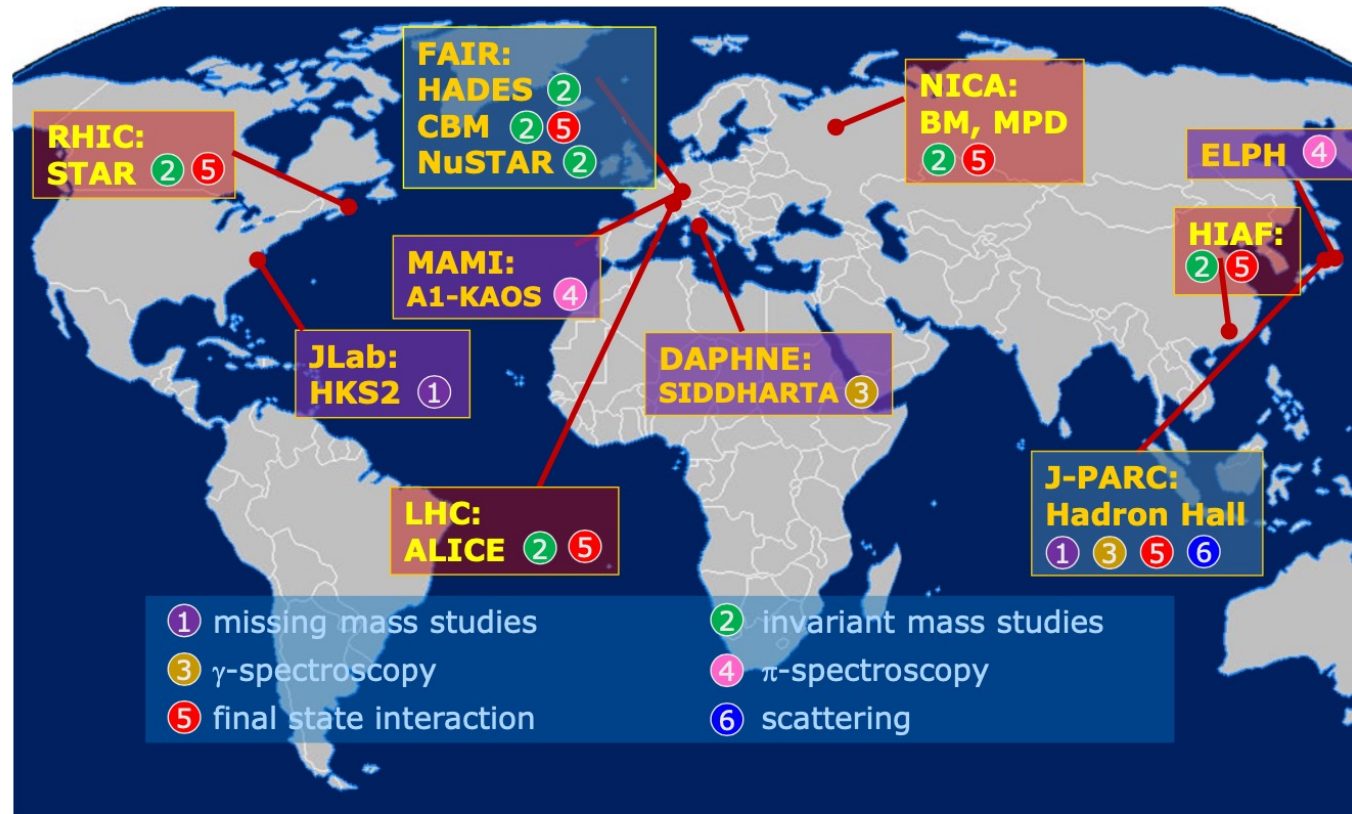


ALICE Collaboration
PHYSICS LETTERS B 805, 135419 (2020)



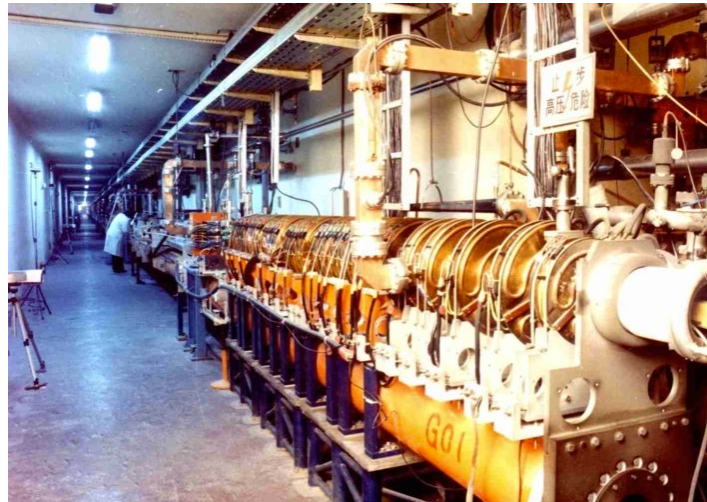
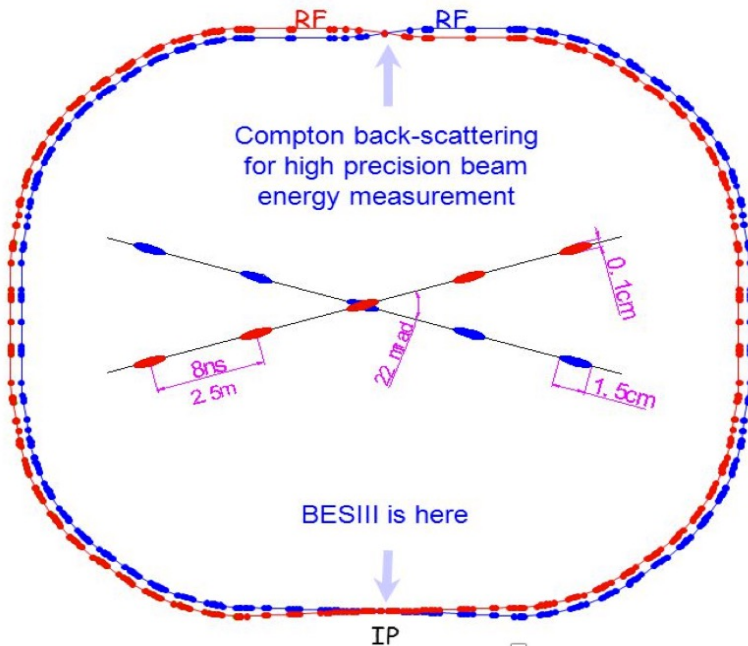
STAR Collaboration
NATURE PHYSICS 16, 409-412 (2020)

Facilities for strangeness nuclear physics



J. H. Chen, L. S. Geng, E. Hiyama, Z. W. Liu and J. Pochodzalla
arXiv:2506.00864 [nucl-th]

BEPCII storage rings: a τ -charm factory



Update of BEPC (started 2004, first collisions July 2008)

Beam energy 0.92 - 2.475 GeV

Optimum energy 1.89 GeV

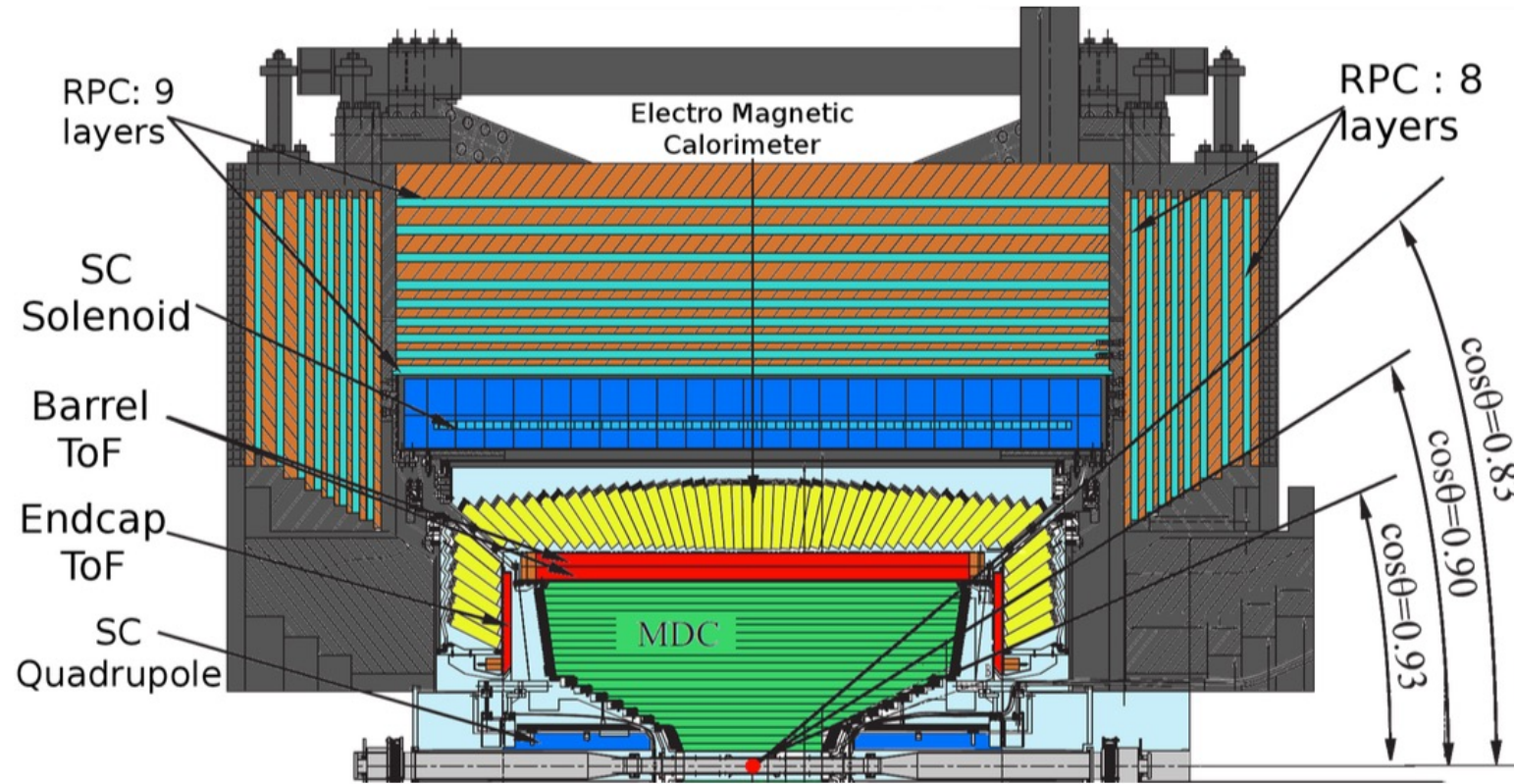
Single beam current 0.91 A

Crossing angle 11mrad

Design luminosity $1 \times 10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

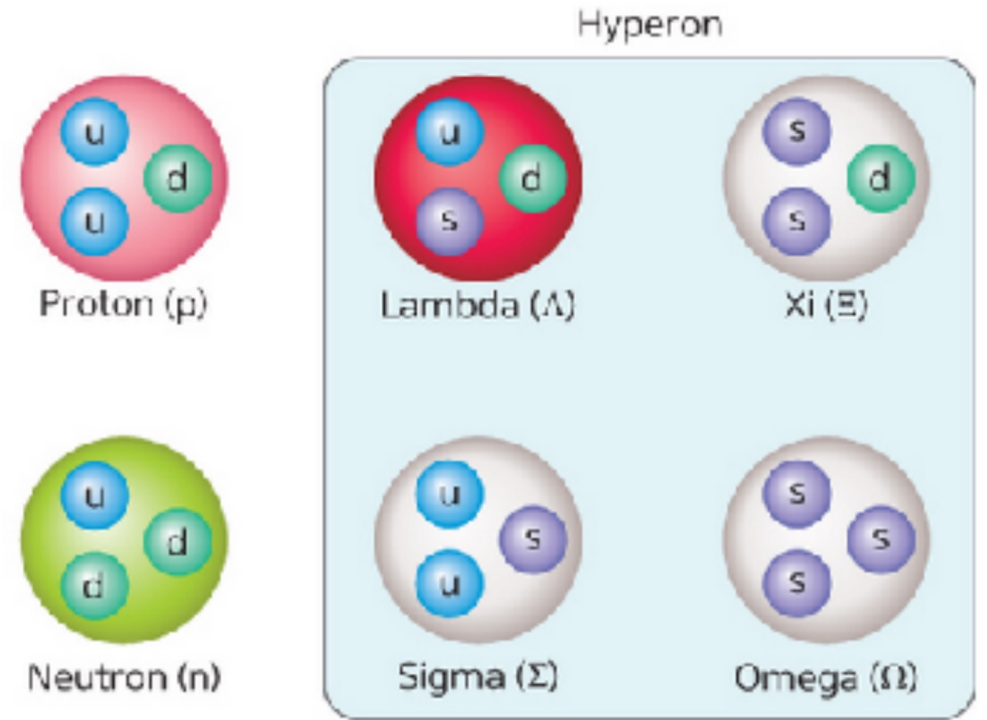
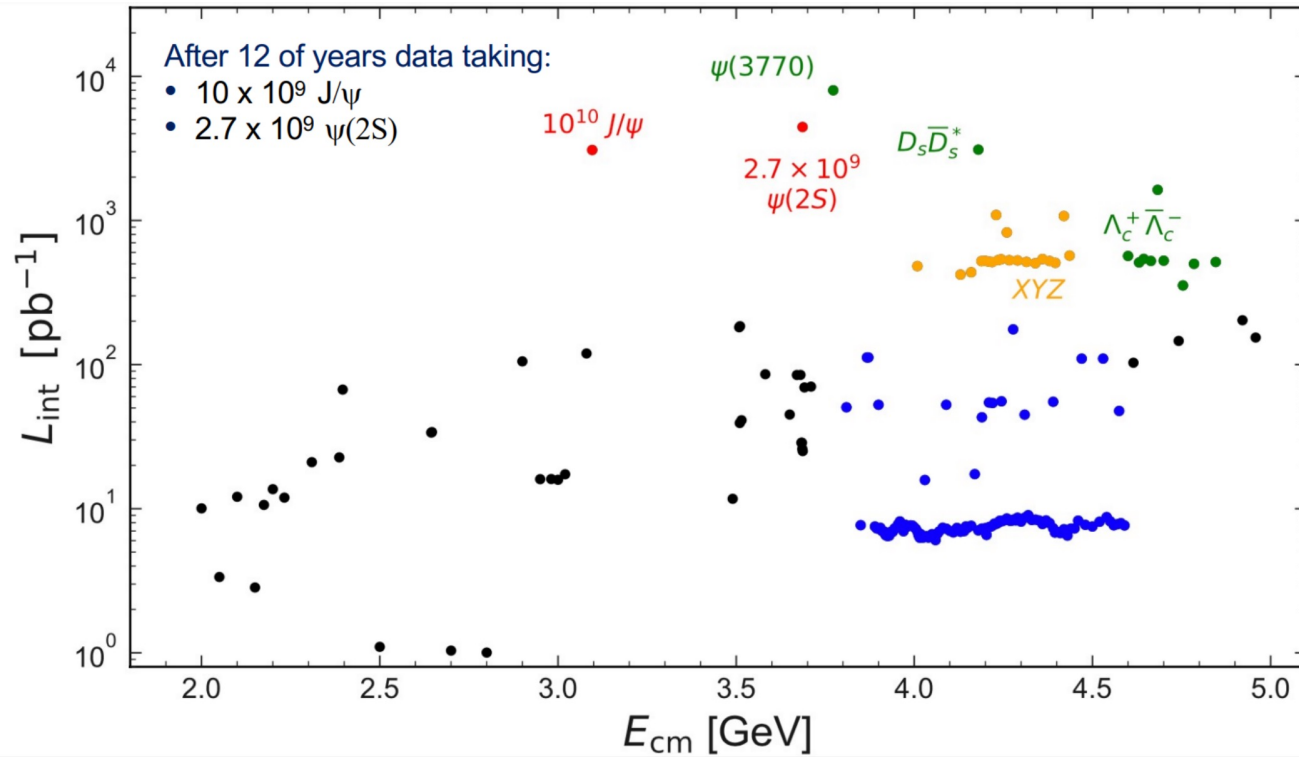
Achieved $1 \times 10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

BESIII detectors



- Main Drift Chamber (MDC)
 - $\sigma(p)/p = 0.5\%$
 - $\sigma_{dE/dx} = 5.0\%$
- Time-of-flight (TOF)
 - $\sigma(t) = 68\text{ps}$ (barrel)
 - $\sigma(t) = 65\text{ps}$ (endcap)
- Electro Magnetic Calorimeter (EMC)
 - $\sigma(E)/E = 2.5\%$
 - $\sigma_{z,\phi}(E) = 0.5 - 0.7 \text{ cm}$
- RPC MUON Detector
 - $\sigma(xy) < 2 \text{ cm}$

Hyperon pairs at BESIII

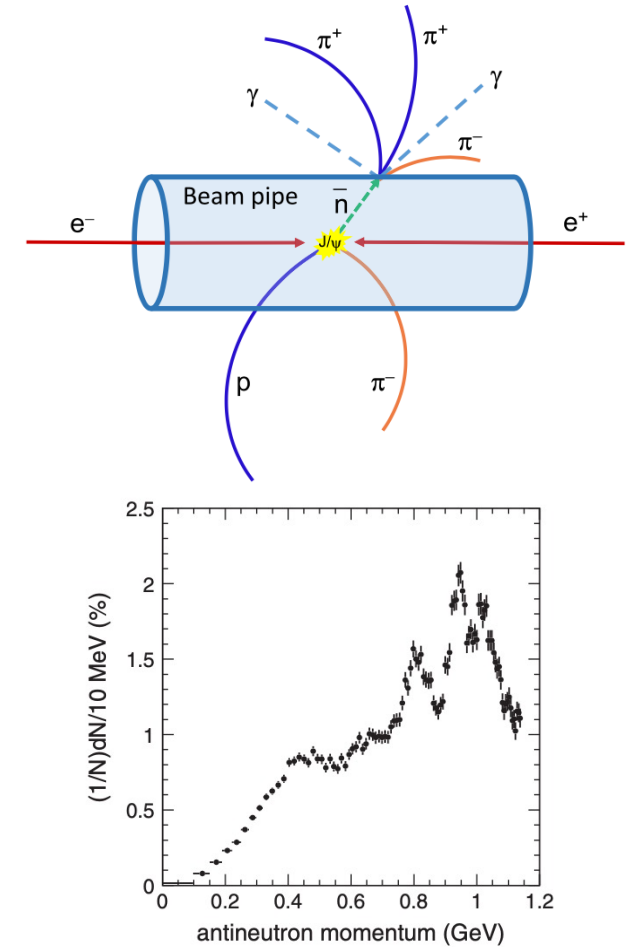


Decay	$\mathcal{B} (10^{-5})$	Events at BESIII
$J/\psi \rightarrow \Lambda \bar{\Lambda}$	189 ± 9	18.9×10^6
$J/\psi \rightarrow \Sigma^+ \bar{\Sigma}^-$	150 ± 24	15.0×10^6
$J/\psi \rightarrow \Xi \bar{\Xi}$	97 ± 8	9.7×10^6
$\psi(2S) \rightarrow \Sigma \bar{\Sigma}$	23.2 ± 1.2	116×10^3
$\psi(2S) \rightarrow \Omega \bar{\Omega}$	5.66 ± 0.30	28×10^3

How to study hyperon-nucleon interaction at BESIII

A new frontier: Cornucopia of Antineutrons and Hyperons from a Super J/ψ Factory (by C. Z. Yuan and M. Karliner)

- Key idea : Use J/ψ decays at a high-luminosity e^+e^- collider as copious, clean sources of antineutron and hyperons (Λ Σ Ξ Ω)
- Advantages: High yield, well-known kinematics, in-situ targets, low background levels

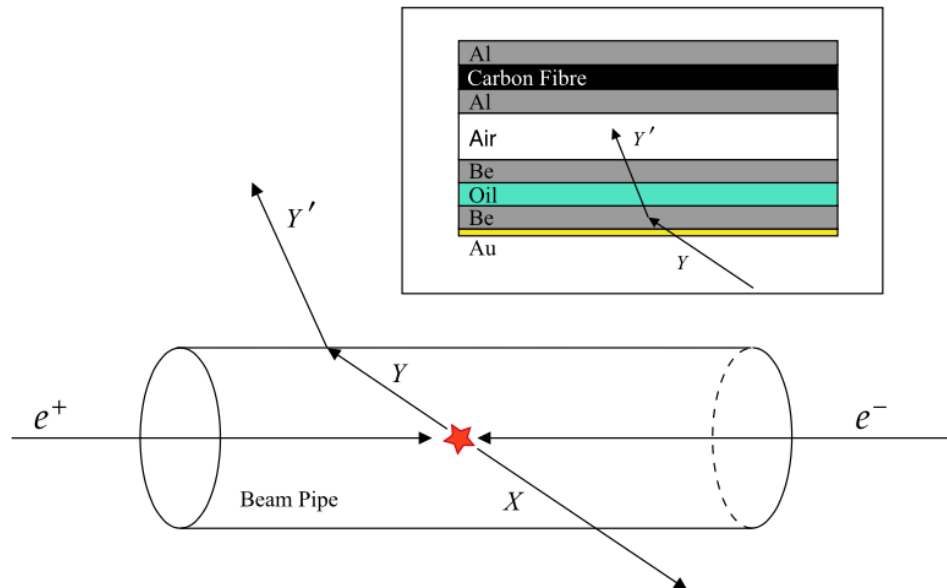


Physical Review Letters 127, 012003 (2021)

Study hyperon-nucleon interaction at BESIII

Prospects to study hyperon-nucleon interaction at BESIII (by J. P. Dai, H. B. Li, H. Miao and J. Y. Zhang)

- Investigate Y-N interactions using hyperons produced at BESIII
- The “double tag” technique to reconstruct the initial and final states



“Single-tag”: Momentum and direction of hyperon Y inferred from reconstructing associated particle X

$$RM_X = \sqrt{|p_{e^+e^-} - p_X|^2}$$

Chinese Physics C 48, 073003 (2024)

Study hyperon-nucleon interaction at BESIII

“Double tag” : Hyperon Y' from Y -N scattering is reconstructed via its decay products.

$$N_{\text{DT}} = \mathcal{L}_Y \cdot \sigma(YA \rightarrow Y'A') \cdot \mathcal{B}(Y') \cdot \epsilon_{\text{sig}}$$

The “effective luminosity” (\mathcal{L}_Y) : account for the properties of the target and the behavior of the incident hyperon beam.

$$\mathcal{L}_Y = N_{\text{ST}} \cdot \frac{N_A \cdot \rho_T \cdot l}{M}$$

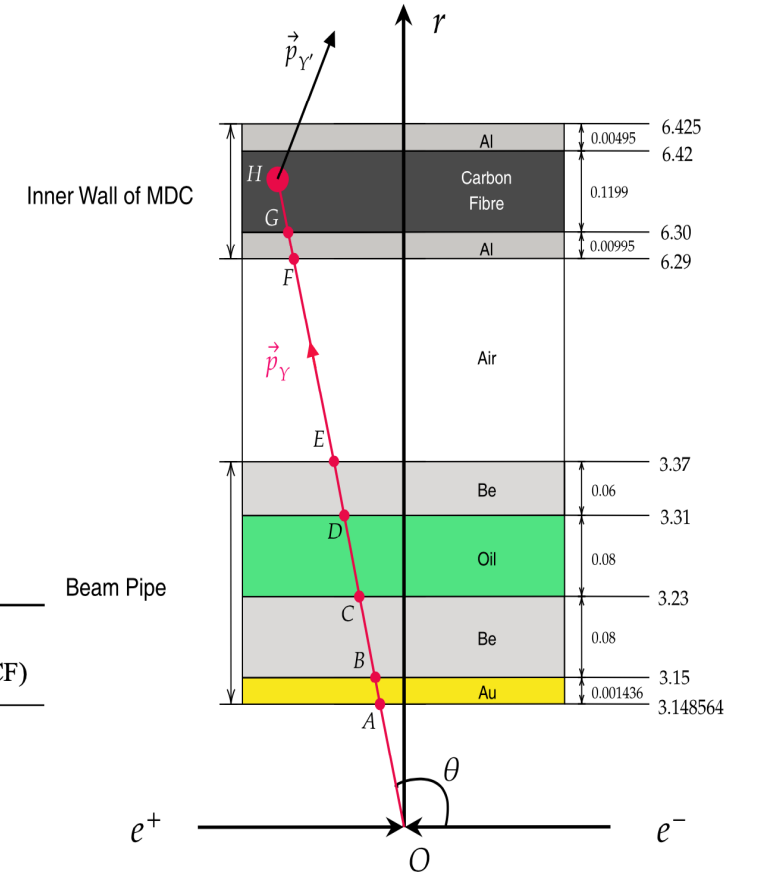
Study hyperon-nucleon interaction at BESIII

The target comprises several layers, the total value \mathcal{L}_Y of is sum of the contribution of each layer.

$$\mathcal{L}_Y = \sum_j \mathcal{L}_Y^j = N_{ST} \cdot N_A \cdot \sum_j \frac{\rho_T^j \cdot l^j}{M^j} \cdot \mathcal{R}_\sigma^j$$

$$l^j = \frac{\sum_i^{N_{ST}^{MC}} l_{ij}}{N_{ST}^{MC}}$$

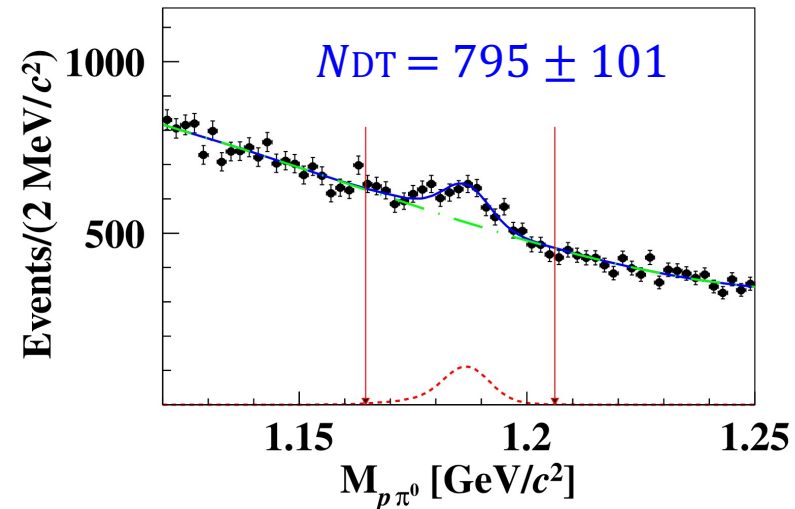
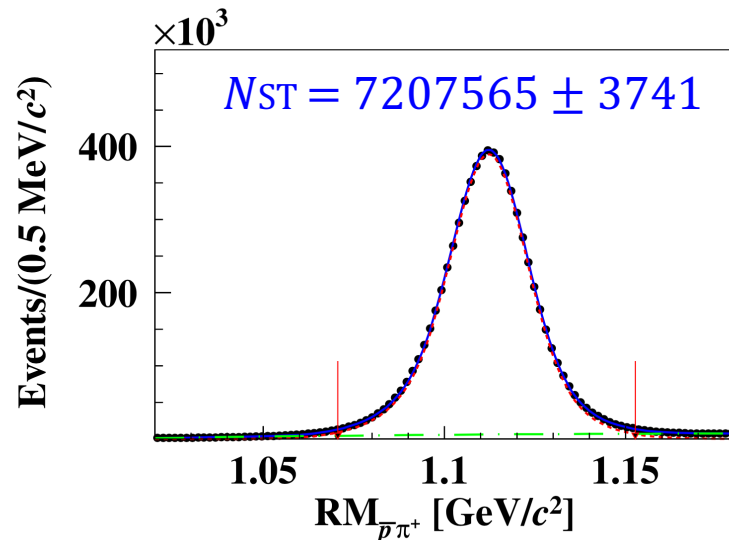
Hyperon	$c\tau/\text{cm}$	decay mode	$\mathcal{B}_{\text{decay}}$ [62] ($\times 10^{-3}$)	P_{max} (MeV/c)	n_{BP}^Y ($\times 10^5$ for BESIII or $\times 10^8$ for STCF)	\mathcal{B}_{tag} (%)	$\mathcal{L}_Y/N_{ST} (10^{21} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2})$	Estimated signal yield ($\times 10^3$ for STCF)
Λ	7.89	$J/\psi \rightarrow \Lambda \bar{\Lambda}$	1.89 ± 0.09	1074	26	64	23.59	5290
Σ^+	2.40	$J/\psi \rightarrow \Sigma^+ \bar{\Sigma}^-$	1.07 ± 0.04	992	4	52	4.83	537
Ξ^0	8.71	$J/\psi \rightarrow \Xi^0 \bar{\Xi}^0$	1.17 ± 0.04	818	7	64	15.81	2368
Ξ^-	4.91	$J/\psi \rightarrow \Xi^- \bar{\Xi}^+$	0.97 ± 0.08	807	3	64	7.44	924
Ω^-	2.46	$\psi(3686) \rightarrow \Omega^- \bar{\Omega}^+$	0.056 ± 0.003	774	0.05	43	2.61	3



Experimental results (I) $\Lambda + {}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow \Sigma^+ X$

First measurement of ΛN inelastic scattering at e^+e^- collider

Reaction chain: $J/\psi \rightarrow \Lambda \bar{\Lambda}$, $\bar{\Lambda} \rightarrow \bar{p} \pi^+$, $\Lambda + N(\text{nucleus}) \rightarrow \Sigma^+ + X(\text{anything})$,
 $\Sigma^+ \rightarrow p \pi^0$, $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$.



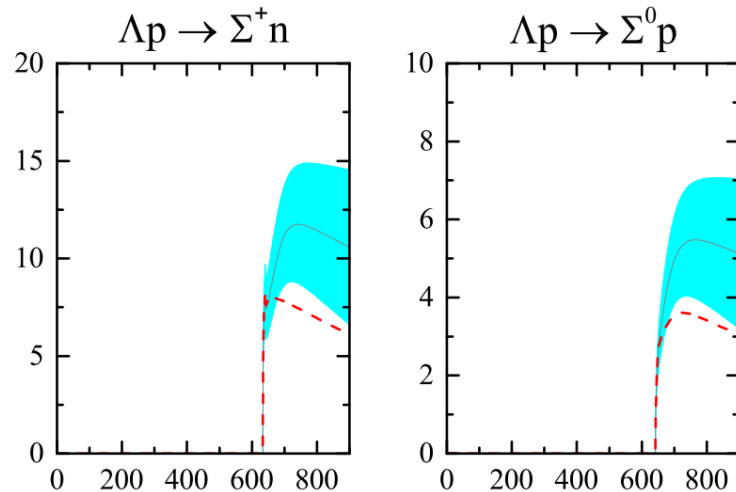
Experimental results (I) $\Lambda + {}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow \Sigma^+ X$

The measured cross section of the reaction process $\Lambda + {}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow \Sigma^+ X$ is

$$\sigma(\Lambda + {}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow \Sigma^+ X) = 37.3 \pm 4.7_{\text{stat}} \pm 3.5_{\text{sys}} \text{ mb at } P_\Lambda \approx 1.074 \text{ GeV}/c.$$

This work represents the first attempt to investigate Λ -nucleus interaction at an e+e- collider.

If taking the effective number of reaction protons in ${}^9\text{Be}$ nucleus as 1.93, the cross section of $\Lambda p \rightarrow \Sigma^+ X$ for single proton is determined to be $\sigma(\Lambda p \rightarrow \Sigma^+ X) = (19.3 \pm 2.4_{\text{stat}} \pm 1.8_{\text{sys}}) \text{ mb}.$



Test of the hyperon-nucleon interaction within leading order covariant chiral effective field theory: higher energies to 900 MeV/c

J. Song, Z. W. Liu, K. W. Li and L. S. Geng
PRC 105, 035203 (2022)

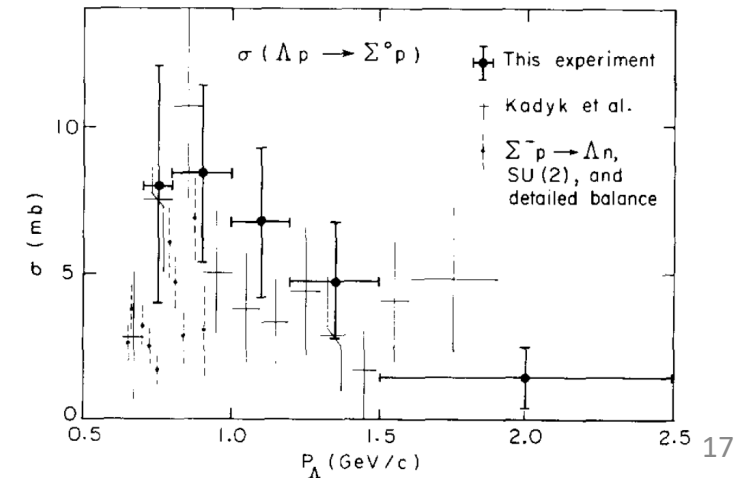
$$\sigma(\text{Be}) = \frac{N_{\text{DT}}}{\epsilon_{\text{sig}} \mathcal{L}_\Lambda} \frac{1}{\mathcal{B}(\Sigma^+ \rightarrow p\pi^0)}$$

TABLE I. Inputs used to calculate the cross section of $\Lambda + {}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow \Sigma^+ + X$.

Parameter	Value
N_{DT}	795 ± 101
ϵ_{sig}	24.32%
\mathcal{L}_Λ	$(17.00 \pm 0.01) \times 10^{28} \text{ cm}^{-2}$
$\mathcal{B}(\Sigma^+ \rightarrow p\pi^0)$	$(51.57 \pm 0.30)\%$

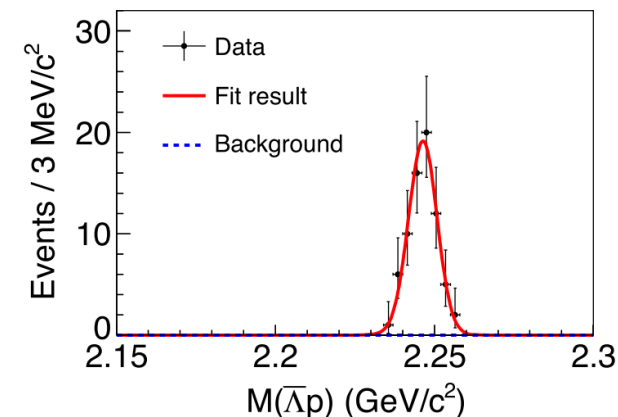
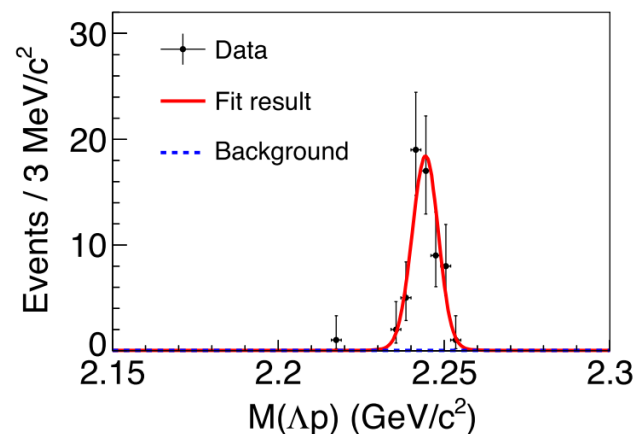
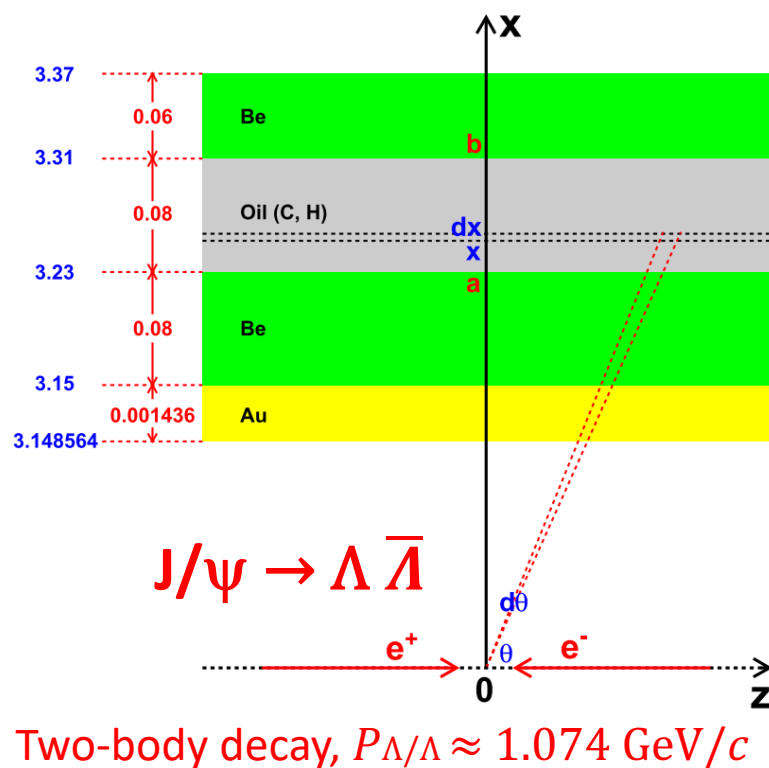
Nucl. Phys. B **27**, 13 (1971).

Nucl. Phys. B **125**, 29 (1977).



Experimental results (II) $\Lambda p \rightarrow \Lambda p$, $\bar{\Lambda} p \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda} p$

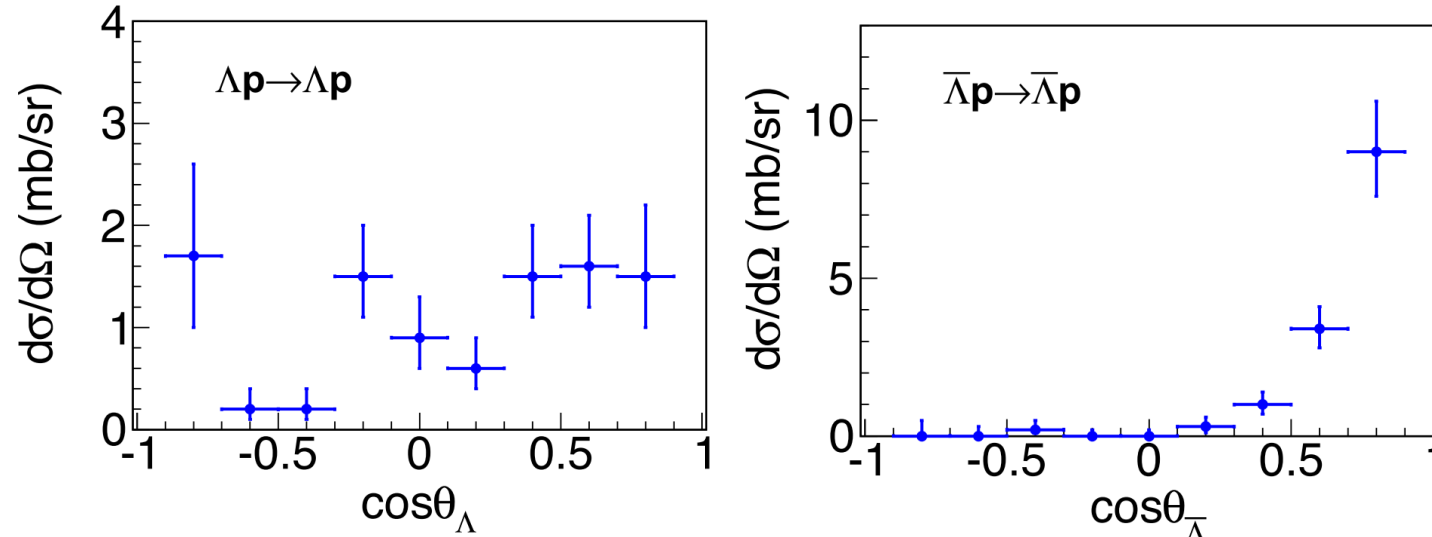
Using the similar method, the ^1H of the cooling oil in the beam pipe, the interaction between (anti)hyperon and proton can be directly extracted.



The center-of-mass energies for the incident $\Lambda/\bar{\Lambda}$ and a static p are all 2.243 GeV/c² within a range of 0.005 GeV/c².

Physical Review Letters 132, 231902 (2024)

Experimental results (II) $\Lambda p \rightarrow \Lambda p$, $\bar{\Lambda} p \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda} p$



The total elastic cross sections integrated over the full angular region are determined to be

$$\sigma(\Lambda p \rightarrow \Lambda p) = 14.2 \pm 1.8_{\text{stat}} \pm 1.3_{\text{sys}} \text{ mb}$$

$$\sigma(\bar{\Lambda} p \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda} p) = 27.4 \pm 3.2_{\text{stat}} \pm 2.5_{\text{sys}} \text{ mb}$$

X. Y. Wang, Y. Gao and X. Liu
Physics Letters B 862, 139321 (2025)

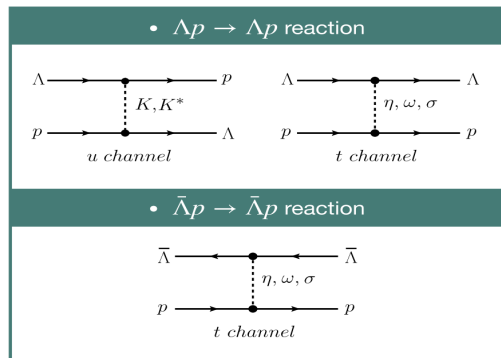
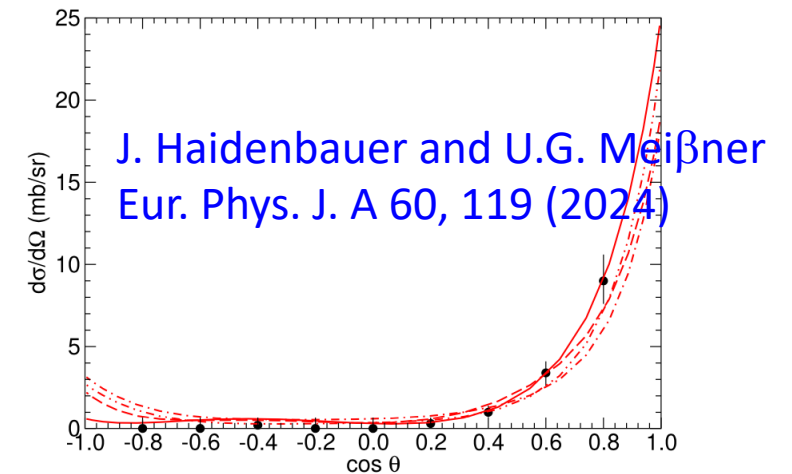
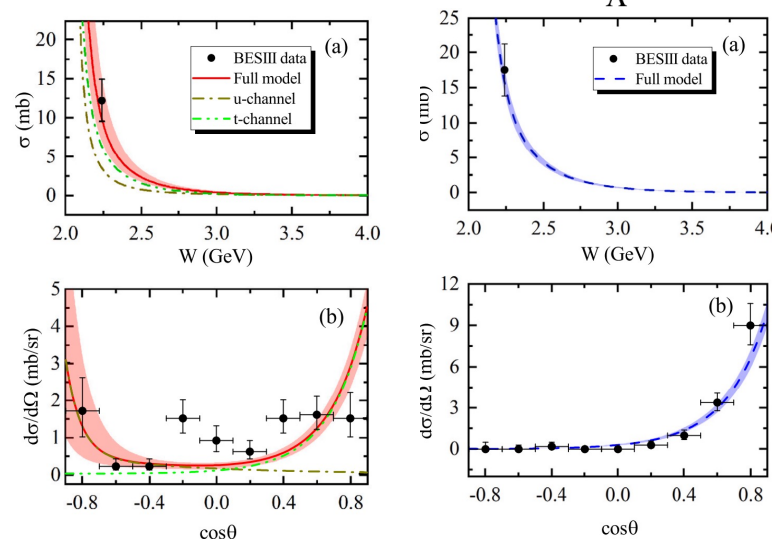


Fig. 1. Feynman diagrams for the $\Lambda p \rightarrow \Lambda p$ and $\bar{\Lambda} p \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda} p$ reactions.



The properties of the $p\bar{\Lambda}$ and $\Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$ interactions can be expected to be very similar

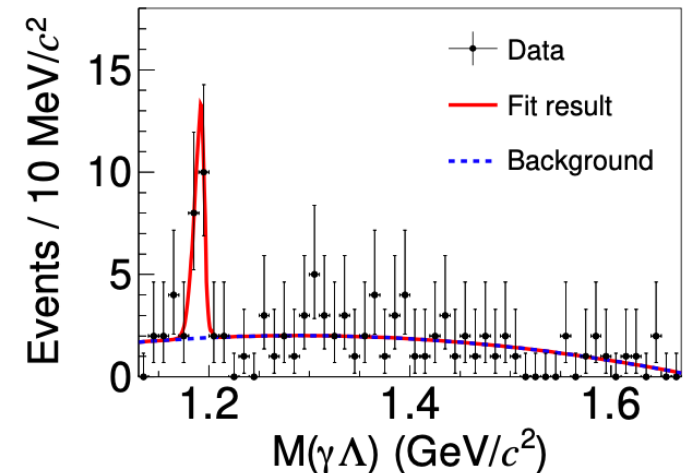
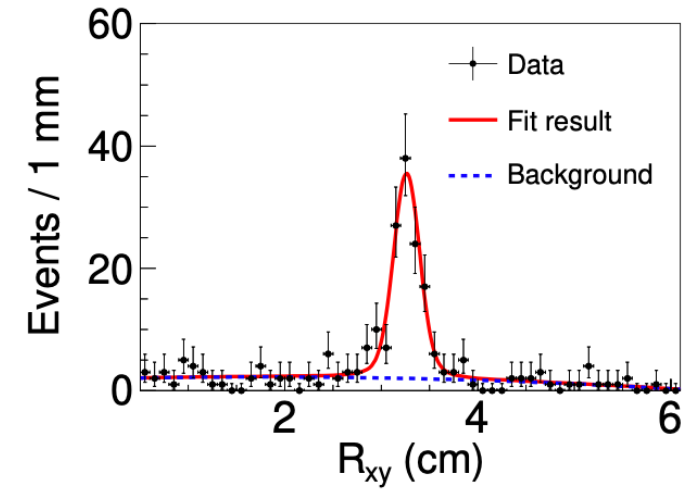
This discrepancy arises because the u -channel contribution is forbidden

Experimental results (III) $\Sigma^+ n \rightarrow \Lambda p$ $\Sigma^+ n \rightarrow \Sigma^0 p$

Σ^+ source: $J/\psi \rightarrow \Sigma^+ \bar{\Sigma}^-$, with
Momentum = 0.992 GeV/c

With the vertex fit of Λp , the total
number of Λp and $\Lambda p \gamma$ events are
 $N_{\text{total}} = 126.2 \pm 13.4$.

By fitting the invariant mass of $\gamma \Lambda$,
we could separate two signal events.



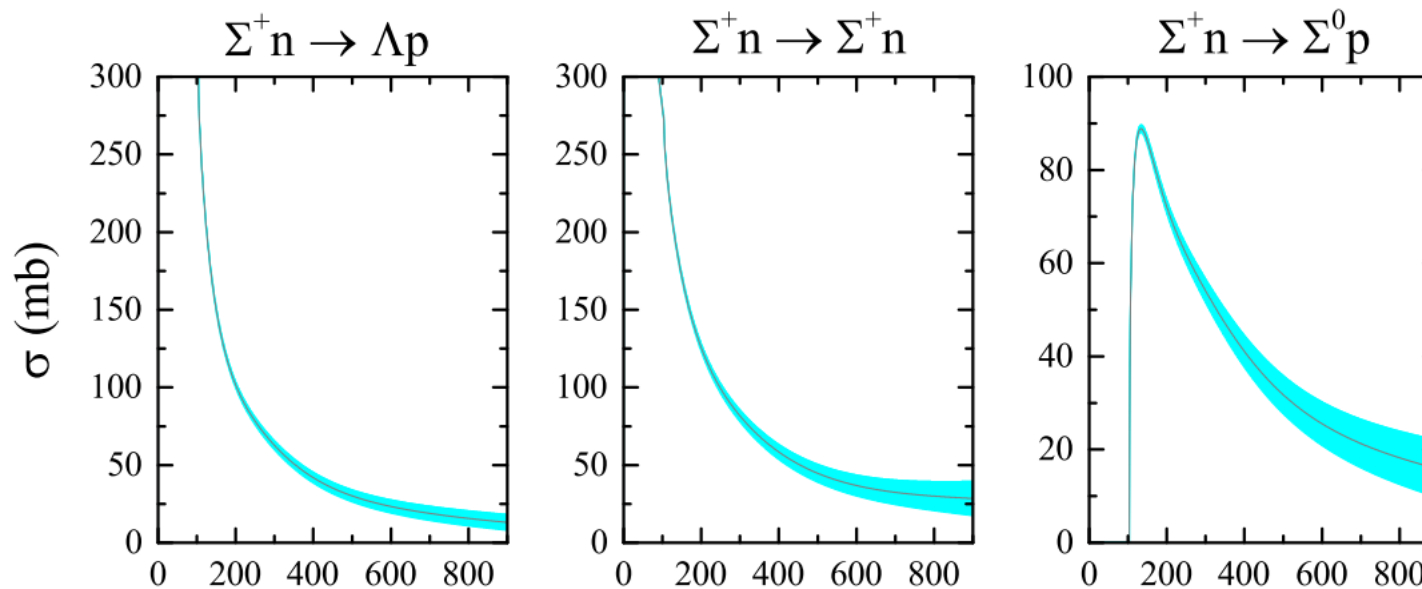
Experimental results (III) $\Sigma^+n \rightarrow \Lambda p$ $\Sigma^+n \rightarrow \Sigma^0 p$

The cross-sections of these two reactions are measured to be

$$\sigma(\Sigma^+ + {}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow \Lambda + p + {}^8\text{Be}) = (45.2 \pm 12.1_{\text{stat}} \pm 7.2_{\text{sys}}) \text{ mb} \text{ and } \sigma(\Sigma^+ + {}^9\text{Be} \rightarrow \Sigma^0 + p + {}^8\text{Be}) = (29.8 \pm 9.7_{\text{stat}} \pm 6.9_{\text{sys}}) \text{ mb}$$

Assuming the effective number of reaction neutrons in a beryllium nucleus to be approximately 3, the cross-sections of $\Sigma^+n \rightarrow \Lambda p$ and $\Sigma^+n \rightarrow \Sigma^0 p$ for a single neutron are determined to be

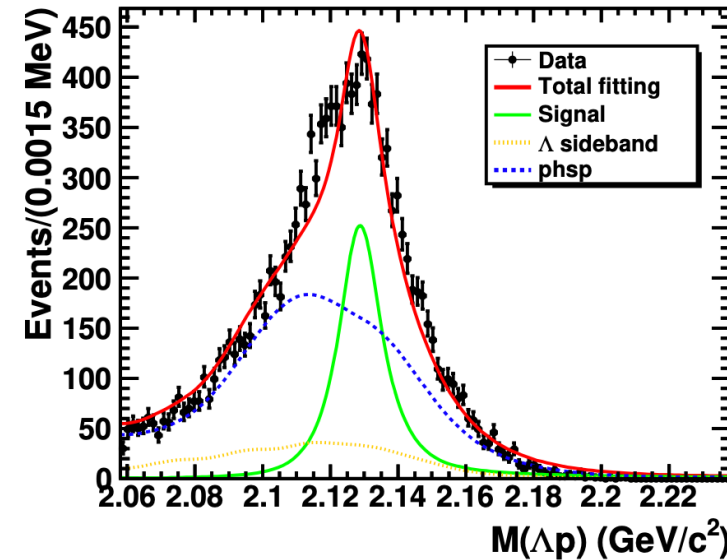
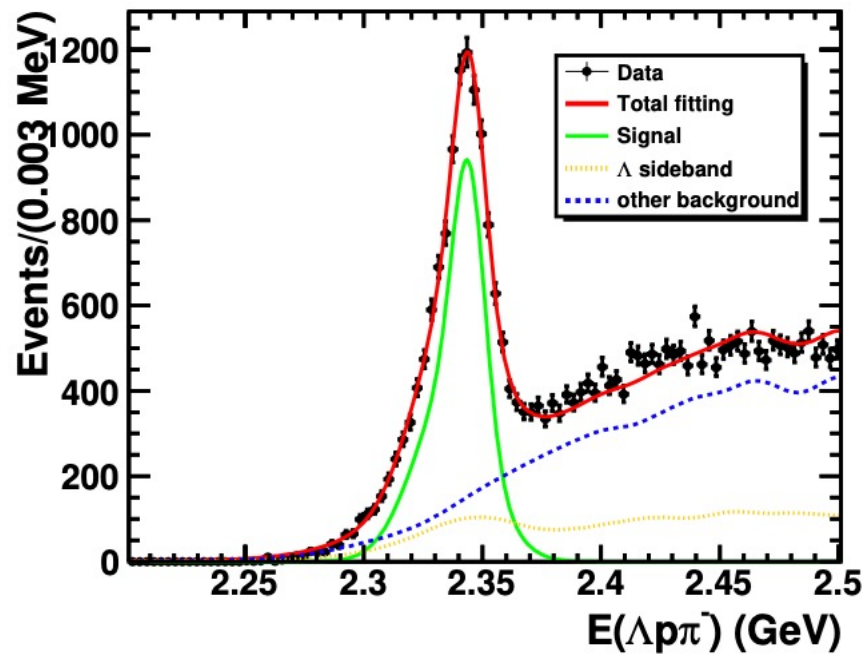
$$\sigma(\Sigma^+n \rightarrow \Lambda p) = (15.1 \pm 4.0_{\text{stat}} \pm 2.4_{\text{sys}}) \text{ mb} \text{ and } \sigma(\Sigma^+n \rightarrow \Sigma^0 p) = (9.9 \pm 3.2_{\text{stat}} \pm 2.3_{\text{sys}}) \text{ mb}$$



J. Song, Z. W. Liu, K. W. Li and L. S. Geng
PRC 105, 035203 (2022)

Study Λ -Proton invariant mass (in progress)

$$K^- + d \rightarrow \Lambda p \pi^-$$



N_{sig}	Mass (MeV/c^2)	Width (MeV)
3392 ± 152	2125.8 ± 0.4	8.3 ± 0.6

Blow the Σn threshold ($2128.9 \text{ MeV}/c^2$)
binding energy 3 MeV, Σn bound state?

Discussion and Outlook

Ongoing reserches on YN scattering at BESIII

$$\diamond \Lambda p \rightarrow \Sigma^0 p, \bar{\Lambda} p \rightarrow \bar{\Sigma}^0 p$$

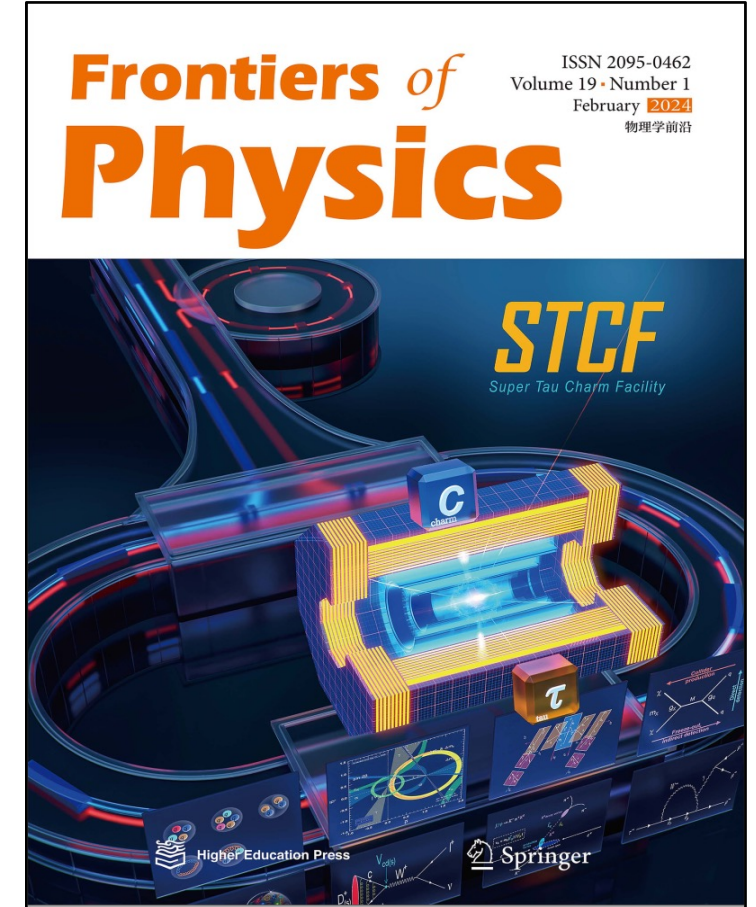
$$\diamond \Xi^0 n \rightarrow \Lambda \Lambda, \Xi^- p \rightarrow \Lambda \Lambda$$

$$\diamond \Sigma^+ p \rightarrow \Sigma^+ p, \bar{\Sigma}^- p \rightarrow \bar{\Sigma}^- p$$

$$\diamond \Xi^- p \rightarrow \Xi^- p, \bar{\Xi}^+ p \rightarrow \bar{\Xi}^+ p$$

The upcoming STCF collider, with a peak luminosity 100 times that of BEPCII and improved energy resolution (down to 20–80 keV), will enable the production of 10^{12} – 10^{13} J/ ψ per year—yielding 10^6 – 10^7 scattering events annually.

- The differential cross section with the momentum
- Relationship between cross section and the incident hyperon polarization
- The study of polarization of the produced hyperons



M. Achasov, et al., STCF conceptual design report
Front. Phys. 19(1), 14701 (2024)

Summary

- BESIII provides a unique platform to study YN interactions through clean and abundant hyperon production in e^+e^- collisions, especially leveraging the quantum-entangled hyperon pairs from J/ψ decays.
- Our recent studies at BESIII include the **first measurement of $\Lambda+^9\text{Be} \rightarrow \Sigma^+X$** , providing the first insight into Λ -nucleus scattering at an e^+e^- collider, and new constraints on $\Sigma^+n \rightarrow \Lambda p$ and $\Sigma^+n \rightarrow \Sigma^0 p$ cross-sections.
- The future **STCF** collider, with unprecedented luminosity and precision, will dramatically enhance the event yield, enabling high-statistics studies of YN and Y-A interactions.

THANK YOU