

# Weak Decay of Hypernuclei: Theory Review and Perspectives

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The 10th International Conference  
on  
Hypernuclear and Strange Particle Physics

## HYP-X @J-PARC

<http://www.conf.kek.jp/hyp2009/>  
September 14 - 18, 2009  
Tokai, Ibaraki, Japan

**Conference Topics**

- Spectroscopy of Hypernuclei
- Weak Decays of Hypernuclei
- $S=2$  Systems
- Strange Mesons in Nuclei
- Baryon-Baryon Interaction
- Elementary Strangeness Production and Exotic Hadrons
- Strangeness in Hadron Structure
- Strangeness in Heavy-Ion Reactions and in Hadronic Matter

## OUTLINE

### ❖ Weak Decay Modes of Hypernuclei

Mesonic vs Non-Mesonic

$S = -1$  and  $S = -2$  Hypernuclei

### ❖ Models for Calculation

Finite Nucleus vs Nuclear Matter in LDA

### ❖ The Ratio $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$

### ❖ Polarized Hypernuclei: The Decay Asymmetry

### ❖ Perspectives

i)  $s$ -shell Hypernuclei and the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  Rule

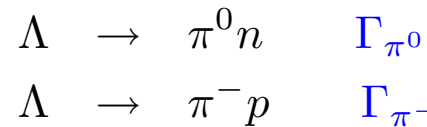
ii) Extraction of  $\Gamma_2 = \Gamma(\Lambda NN \rightarrow nNN)$  from Data

iii) Weak Decay of  $S = -2$  Hypernuclei

### ❖ Conclusions

# WEAK DECAY MODES OF HYPERNUCLEI

## MESONIC



- ❖  $Q_M = m_\Lambda - m_N - m_\pi \simeq 40 \text{ MeV} \implies p_N \simeq 100 \text{ MeV} < k_F^0 \simeq 270 \text{ MeV} \implies$  forbidden, by **Pauli principle**, in normal infinite nuclear matter
- ❖ It occurs in finite nuclei, but **largely suppressed in medium and heavy systems**
  - hyperon momentum distribution allows  $p_N > 100 \text{ MeV}$
  - $\omega(\vec{q}) = \sqrt{\vec{q}^2 + m_\pi^{*2}} < \sqrt{\vec{q}^2 + m_\pi^2} \implies p_N > 100 \text{ MeV}$
  - at the nuclear surface  $k_F(r) < p_N$
- ❖  $\Gamma_M = \Gamma_{\pi^0} + \Gamma_{\pi^-}$  rapidly decreases with  $A$
- ❖  $\Gamma_M$  very sensitive to the in medium **pion self-energy** (significantly enhanced by the attractive  $P$ -wave part)  $\implies$  information on the pion-nucleus optical potential

## NON-MESONIC

One-nucleon induced

$$\Lambda n \rightarrow nn \quad \Gamma_n$$

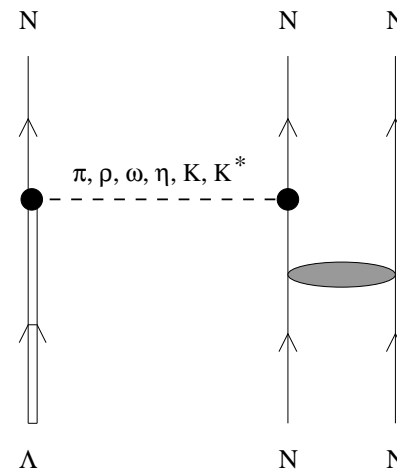
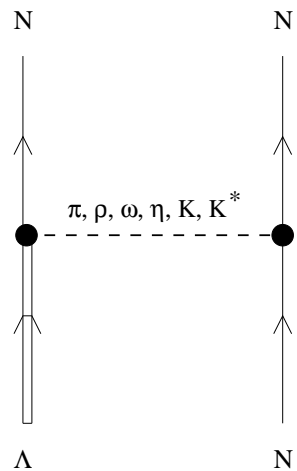
$$\Lambda p \rightarrow np \quad \Gamma_p$$

Two-nucleon induced

$$\Lambda nn \rightarrow nnn \quad \Gamma_{nn}$$

$$\Lambda pp \rightarrow npp \quad \Gamma_{pp}$$

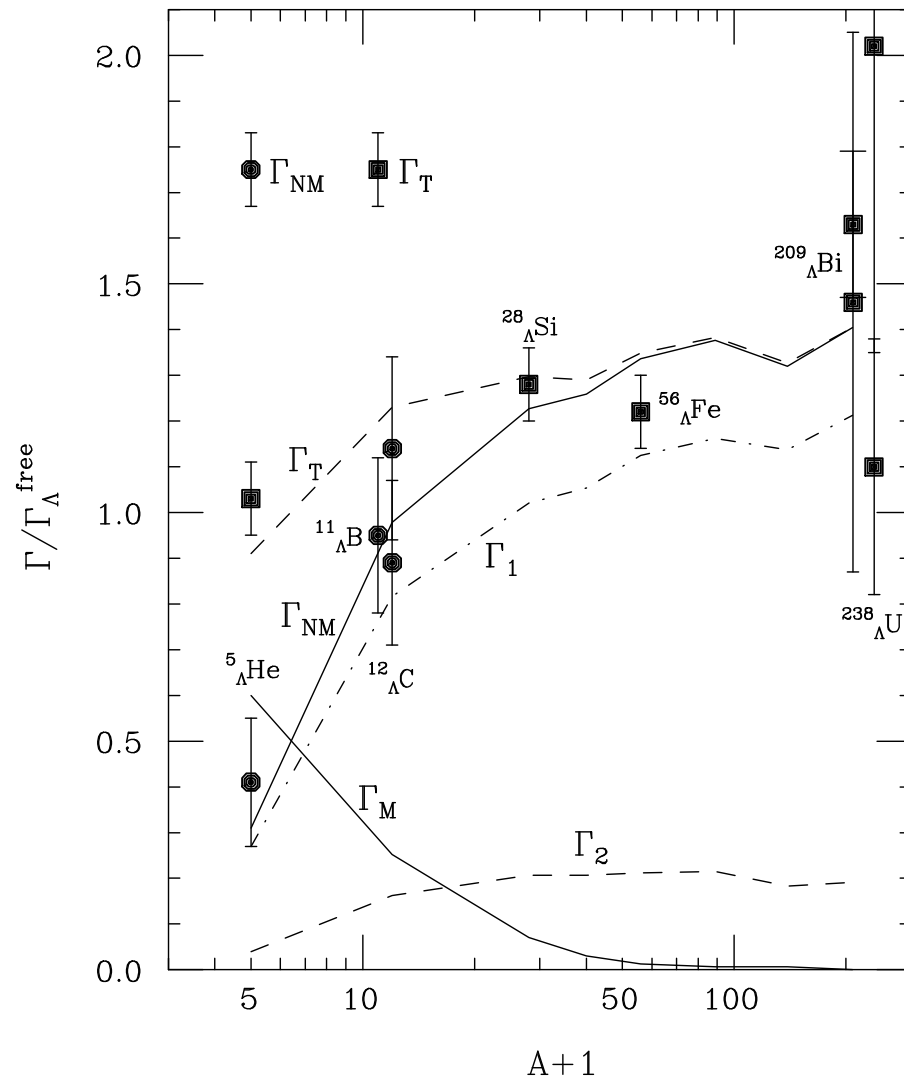
$$\Lambda np \rightarrow nnp \quad \Gamma_{np}$$



$$\Gamma_T = \Gamma_M + \Gamma_{NM}$$

$$\Gamma_{NM} = \Gamma_n + \Gamma_p + \Gamma_{nn} + \Gamma_{pp} + \Gamma_{np}$$

- ❖ Only possible in nuclei: the only practical way to get information on Baryon–Baryon Weak Interactions
- ❖  $Q_{\text{NM}} = m_{\Lambda} - m_N \simeq 176 \text{ MeV} \implies$  large  $p_N$  ( $p_N \simeq 410 \text{ MeV}$  for  $1N$ -induced)
  - overcoming the Pauli blocking  $\implies$  the non-mesonic weak decay dominates over the mesonic one for all but the  $s$ -shell hypernuclei
  - non-mesonic channel mediated by Heavy Mesons ( $\pi + \rho + K + K^* + \omega + \eta + 2\pi + 2\pi/\rho + 2\pi/\sigma + \dots$ ) and/or Quark Exchange
- ❖ Study of  $\Gamma_n \equiv \Gamma(\Lambda n \rightarrow nn)$  and  $\Gamma_p \equiv \Gamma(\Lambda p \rightarrow np)$ : Spin- and Isospin-dependence (validity of the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  rule)
- ❖ Anticorrelation between Mesonic and Non-Mesonic decay modes:  $\Gamma_{\text{T}} = \Gamma_{\text{M}} + \Gamma_{\text{NM}}$  quite stable from light to heavy hypernuclei



[W. M. Alberico and G. G., Phys. Rep. **369**, 1 (2002)]

## OTHER $S = -1$ HYPERNUCLEI?

### ❖ $\Sigma$ -Hypernuclei

Only  ${}^4_{\Sigma}\text{He}$  exist,  $V_{\Sigma}$  repulsive

The rapid  $\Sigma N \rightarrow \Lambda N$  strong reaction prevents the observation of the much slower  $\Sigma N \rightarrow NN$  weak decay

## $S = -2$ HYPERNUCLEI

### ❖ $\Xi$ -Hypernuclei

The  $\Xi N \rightarrow \Lambda\Lambda$  strong conversion prevents the observation of the  $\Xi N \rightarrow \Lambda N$  and  $\Xi N \rightarrow \Sigma N$   $\Delta S = 1$  weak decays

### ❖ $\Lambda\Lambda$ -Hypernuclei

Weak decays:  $\Lambda\Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda n$ ,  $\Lambda\Lambda \rightarrow \Sigma N$ ,  $\Lambda\Lambda \rightarrow nn$

Very difficult to detect:  $\Gamma_{\Lambda\Lambda} \simeq \Gamma_{\Lambda}^{\text{free}} / (25 \div 60)$

Actual possibility of performing *both* theoretical and experimental studies on Baryon-Baryon Weak Interactions  $\iff$   $\Lambda$ -Hypernuclei

# MODELS FOR CALCULATION

## Finite Nucleus: Mesonic Decay

[K. Itonaga, T. Motoba, H. Bando, NPA 489, 683 (1988)]

[J. Nieves, E. Oset and C. Garcia-Recio, NPA 554, 509 (1993)]

$$\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda\pi N}^W = iGm_\pi^2 \bar{\psi}_N (A + B\gamma_5) \vec{\tau} \cdot \vec{\phi}_\pi \psi_\Lambda$$

$$\Gamma_{\pi^0(\pi^-)} = c_{\pi^0(\pi^-)} (Gm_\pi^2)^2 \sum_{N>F} \int \frac{d\vec{q}}{(2\pi)^3 2\omega(\vec{q})} 2\pi \delta[E_\Lambda - \omega(\vec{q}) - E_N] \\ \times \left\{ A^2 \left| \int d\vec{r} \phi_\Lambda(\vec{r}) \phi_\pi(\vec{q}, \vec{r}) \phi_N^*(\vec{r}) \right|^2 + \frac{B^2}{4m_N^2} \left| \int d\vec{r} \phi_\Lambda(\vec{r}) \vec{\nabla} \phi_\pi(\vec{q}, \vec{r}) \phi_N^*(\vec{r}) \right|^2 \right\}$$

- ❖ **Shell Model**  $\Lambda$  and nucleon wave functions,  $\phi_\Lambda$  and  $\phi_N$
- ❖ Pion wave function,  $\phi_\pi$ , solution of the Klein–Gordon equation with proper **pion–nucleus optical potential**  $V_{\text{opt}}$ :

$$\left\{ \vec{\nabla}^2 - m_\pi^2 - 2\omega V_{\text{opt}}(\vec{r}) + [\omega - V_C(\vec{r})]^2 \right\} \phi_\pi(\vec{q}, \vec{r}) = 0$$



## Finite Nucleus: Non-Mesonic Decay

[J. F. Dubach, G. B. Feldman and B. R. Holstein, Ann. Phys. 249, 146 (1996)]

[A. Parreno, A. Ramos and C. Bennhold, PRC 56, 339 (1997)]

[C. Barbero, D. Horvat, F. Krmpotic, T.T.S. Kuo, Z. Narancic, D. Tadic, PRC66, 055209 (2002)]

Shell Model Nuclear ( $\Psi_R$ ) and Hypernuclear ( $\Psi_H$ ) wave functions used to compute:

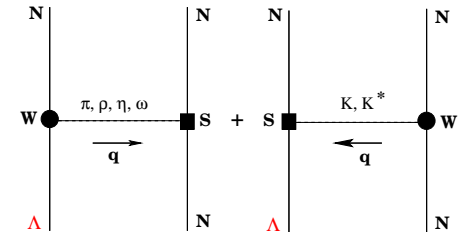
$$\Gamma_{n(p)} = \int \frac{d\vec{p}_1}{(2\pi)^3} \int \frac{d\vec{p}_2}{(2\pi)^3} 2\pi \delta(m_H - E_R - E_1 - E_2) \overline{\sum} |\mathcal{M}_{n(p)}(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2)|^2$$

$$\mathcal{M}_N(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2) \equiv \langle \Psi_R; n(\vec{p}_1)N(\vec{p}_2) | \hat{T}_{\Lambda N \rightarrow nN} | \Psi_H \rangle$$

❖ Weak-Coupling scheme:  $\mathcal{M}_N \implies \langle nN | V_{ME} | \Lambda N \rangle$

❖  $V_{ME}$ : Meson-Exchange  $\Lambda N \rightarrow nN$  transition potential

- OME: Mesons of the Pseudoscalar ( $\pi, \eta, K$ ) and Vector ( $\rho, \omega, K^*$ ) Octets
- TPE: uncorrelated ( $2\pi$ ) and correlated ( $2\pi/\sigma$ )



## Finite Nucleus: Quarks

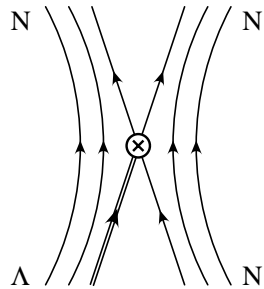
**Hybrid Model:** long range interactions  $\implies$  hadronic degrees of freedom (OPE)

short range interactions  $\implies$  6-quark cluster model

[C.-Y. Cheung, D. P. Heddle and L. S. Kisslinger, PRC 27, 335 (1983)]

[D. P. Heddle and L. S. Kisslinger, PRC 33, 608 (1986)]

**Direct Quark Model** combined with OME ( $\pi + K + \sigma$ )



[T. Inoue, M. Oka, T. Motoba and K. Itonaga, NPA 633, 312 (1998)]

[K. Sasaki, T. Inoue and M. Oka, 669, 331 (2000); NPA 678, 455(E) (2000)]

- ❖ Baryon–baryon short range repulsion from quark exchange between baryons (quark antisymmetrization)
- ❖ Naturally includes both  $\Delta I = 1/2$  and  $\Delta I = 3/2$  contributions
- ❖ Main uncertainty from the parameterization of the effective 4-quark weak Hamiltonian

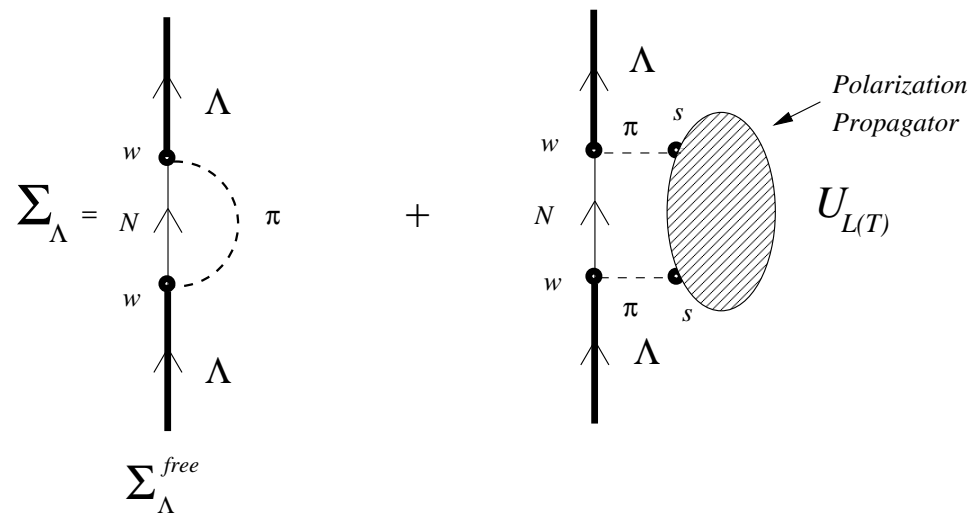
## Nuclear Matter in LDA

[E. Oset, L.L. Salcedo, NPA 443, 704 (1985)]

- ❖ Many-Body technique for nuclear matter calculations, extended to finite nuclei via the LDA
- ❖ Unified picture of Mesonic and Non-Mesonic decay channels, equivalent to the finite nucleus approach

### Nuclear Matter

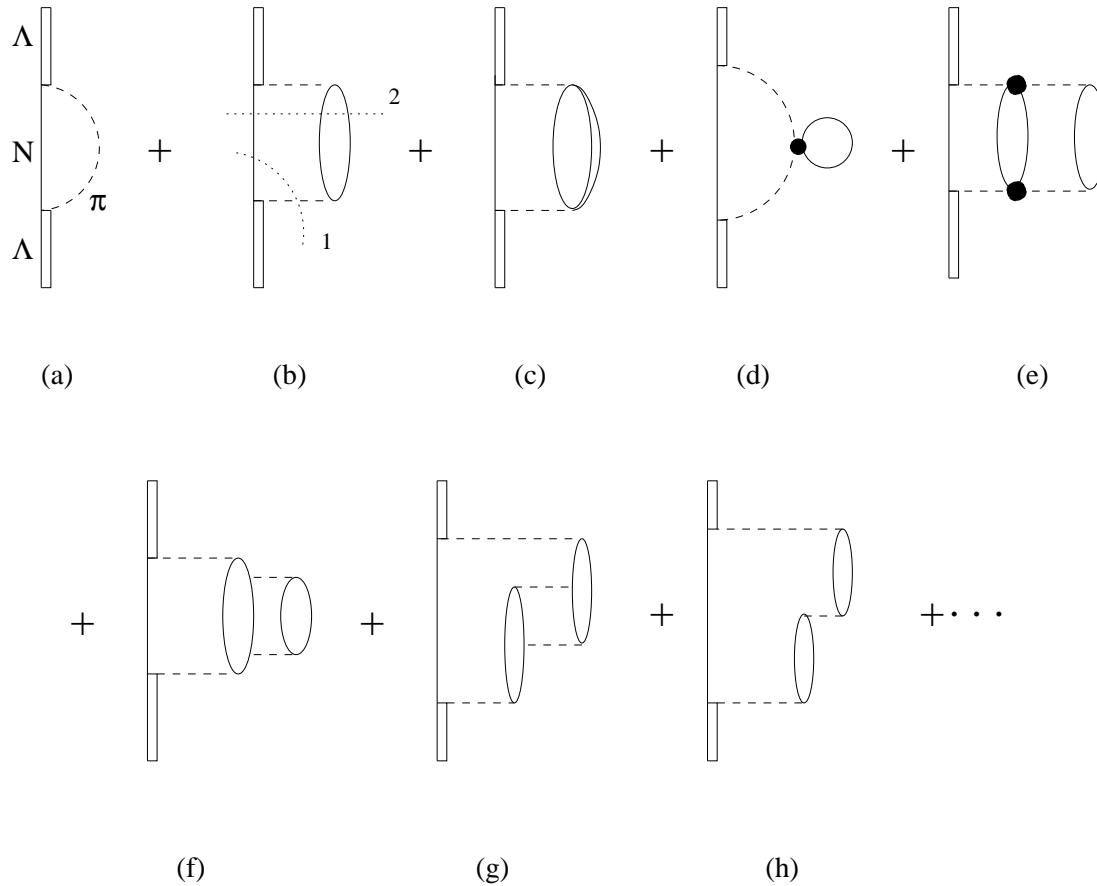
$$\Gamma_\Lambda = -2 \text{Im} \Sigma_\Lambda$$



$$\Sigma_\Lambda(k) = 3i(Gm_\pi^2)^2 \int \frac{d^4q}{(2\pi)^4} \left( A^2 + \frac{B^2}{4m_N^2} \vec{q}^2 \right) F_\pi^2(q) G_N(k-q) G_\pi(q)$$

$$G_N(p) = \frac{\theta(|\vec{p}| - k_F)}{p_0 - E_N(\vec{p}) - V_N + i\epsilon} + \frac{\theta(k_F - |\vec{p}|)}{p_0 - E_N(\vec{p}) - V_N - i\epsilon}$$

$$G_\pi(q) = \frac{1}{q_0^2 - \vec{q}^2 - m_\pi^2 - \Sigma_\pi^*(q)}$$



## LDA

Local Fermi Sea of nucleons:

$$k_F(\vec{r}) = \left\{ \frac{3}{2} \pi^2 \rho(\vec{r}) \right\}^{1/3}$$

$$\Gamma_\Lambda(\vec{k}) = \int d\vec{r} |\psi_\Lambda(\vec{r})|^2 \Gamma_\Lambda[\vec{k}, \rho(\vec{r})]$$

$$\Gamma_\Lambda = \int d\vec{k} |\tilde{\psi}_\Lambda(\vec{k})|^2 \Gamma_\Lambda(\vec{k})$$

### ❖ Phenomenological Approach to the $2N$ -induced channel

[W.M. Alberico, A. De Pace, M. Ericson and A. Molinari, PLB 256, 134 (1991)]

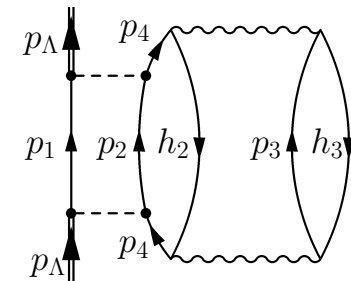
\* [A. Ramos, E. Oset and L. L. Salcedo, PRC50, 2314 (1994)]

Data on pion absorption in nuclei

\* Phase space argument for the  $2p2h$  configurations

$\Lambda np \rightarrow nnp$

\*  $\Gamma_2/\Gamma_{NM} = 0.16$



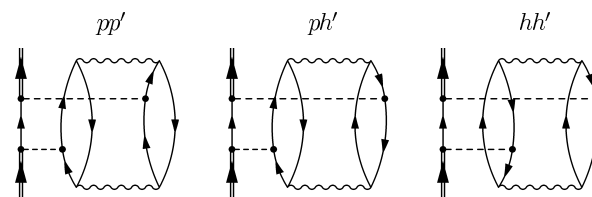
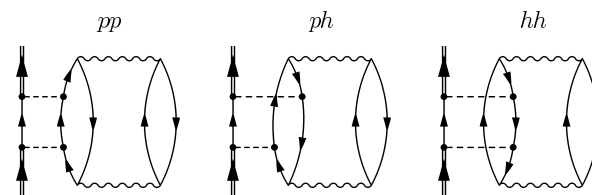
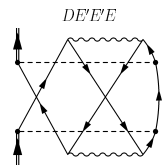
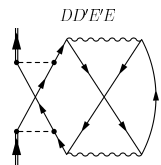
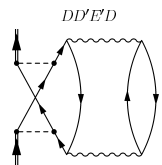
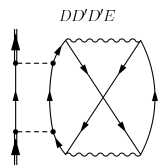
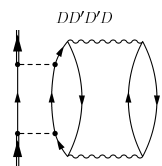
❖ Microscopic Approach to the  $2N$ -induced channel

All isospin channels included:  $\Gamma_2 = \Gamma_{nn} + \Gamma_{np} + \Gamma_{pp}$

$$\Gamma_2/\Gamma_{\text{NM}} = 0.29, \quad \Gamma_{np} : \Gamma_{pp} : \Gamma_{nn} = 0.83 : 0.12 : 0.04$$

[E. Bauer and F. Krmpotic, NPA 739, 109 (2004)]

[E. Bauer, NPA 818, 174 (2009)]

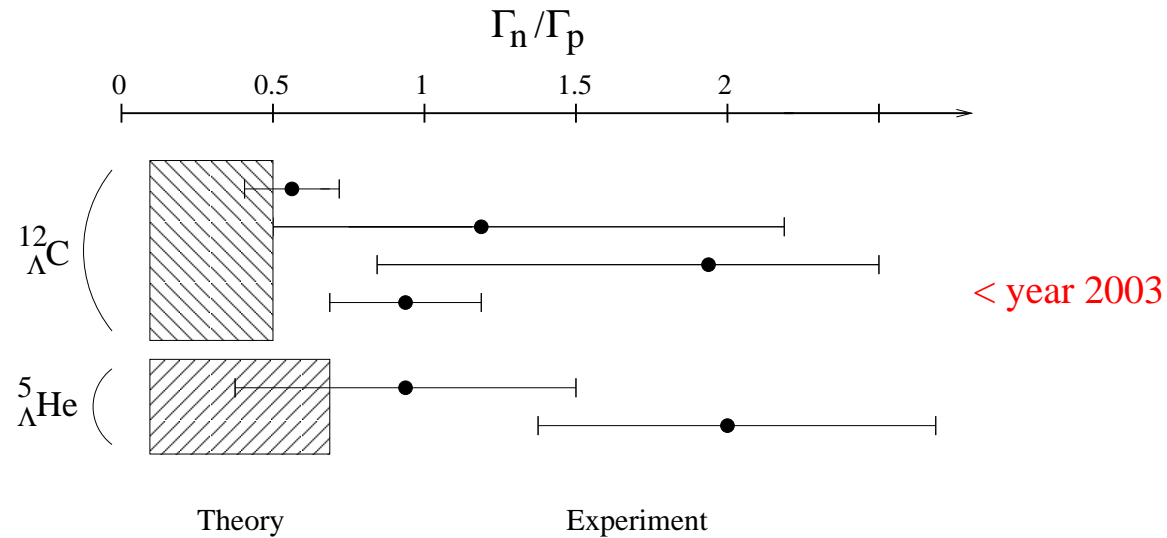


Pauli Exchange terms

[E. Bauer and G. G., NPA 828, 29 (2009)]

# THE RATIO $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$

For many years, a sound theoretical explanation of the large experimental values of  $\frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_p} \equiv \frac{\Gamma(\Lambda n \rightarrow nn)}{\Gamma(\Lambda p \rightarrow np)}$  has been missing



Theory strongly underestimated Experiment!

[W. M. Alberico and G. G., Phys. Rep. 369, 1 (2002)]  
 [E. Oset and A. Ramos, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 41, 191 (1998)]

## Experiment

❖ Large uncertainties in the extraction of  $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$  from “old” data (< year 2002)

– only Single-Proton Spectra measured

– very indirect determination of the decay rates, probable overestimation of

$$\frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_p} = \frac{\Gamma_T - \Gamma_M - \Gamma_2 - \Gamma_p}{\Gamma_p} \Leftarrow \Gamma_p \text{ underestimated, } \Gamma_2 \text{ neglected}$$

$$(\Gamma_2 = 0, \Gamma_p = 0.8[\Gamma_p]^{\text{th}} : \Gamma_n/\Gamma_p = 1 \iff [\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p]^{\text{th}} = 0.3)$$

❖ KEK-E462/E508: simultaneous measurement of Single-Proton and Single-Neutron Spectra (year 2003) [1]

– improved (but model-dependent) determination of  $\frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_p}$  from  $\frac{N_n}{N_p}$  ratio

❖ KEK-E462/E508: Nucleon-Nucleon Coincidence Spectra (years 2003–2006) [2]

– more direct (but model-dependent) determination of  $\frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_p}$  from  $\frac{N_{nn}}{N_{np}}$  ratio

❖ First data from FINUDA@DAΦNE [3], experiments planned at J-PARC and HypHI@GSI

[1] S. Okada et al., PLB 597, 249 (2004)

KEK experiments: [Plenary Talk by Outa]

[2] B. H. Kang et al., PRL 96, 062301 (2006); M. J. Kim et al., PLB 641, 28 (2006)

[3] M. Agnello et al., NPA 804, 151 (2008)

FINUDA experiments: [Plenary Talk by Botta]



## Theory

- ❖ The One-Pion-Exchange (OPE) model predicts very small ratios:

$$\left[ \frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_p} \right]^{\text{OPE}} (\text{}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}, \text{}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}) = 0.1 \div 0.2$$

$[\Delta I = 1/2 \text{ rule} + \text{strong tensor component } \Lambda N(^3S_1) \rightarrow nN(^3D_1) \text{ requiring } I_{nN} = 0 \iff N = p]$

- ❖ but reproduces the observed total non-mesonic rates  $\Gamma_{\text{NM}} = \Gamma_n + \Gamma_p (+\Gamma_2)$

Other Interaction Mechanisms beyond the OPE should then be responsible for the overestimation of  $\Gamma_p$  and the underestimation of  $\Gamma_n$

- ❖ Heavier Mesons ( $\rho, K, K^*, \omega, \eta, 2\pi, 2\pi/\rho, 2\pi/\sigma$ ) [Parreño et al., Itonaga et al., Jido et al., Krmpotic et al.]
- ❖ Direct Quark Mechanism [Oka et al.]
- ❖ Two-Nucleon Induced Mechanism [Alberico et al., Ramos et al., Bauer et al.]
- ❖ Nucleon Final State Interactions [Ramos et al., Garbarino et al.]

Improvement from **Heavy Meson Exchange** (especially Kaons) [1] and **Direct Quark** contributions [2]

$$\left[ \frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_p} \right]^{\text{TH}} = 0.3 \div 0.7$$

- [1] D. Jido, E. Oset and J. E. Palomar, NPA 694, 525 (2001);  
 A. Parreño and A. Ramos, PRC 65, 015204 (2002);  
 K. Itonaga, T. Ueda and T. Motoba, PRC 65, 034617 (2002).

- [2] K. Sasaki, T. Inoue and M. Oka, NPA 669, 331 (2000); 678 455E (2000).

The determination of  $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$  from  $N_{nn}/N_{np}$  Data required Theoretical Analyses [3]:

❖ **Two-Nucleon Induced Decays**

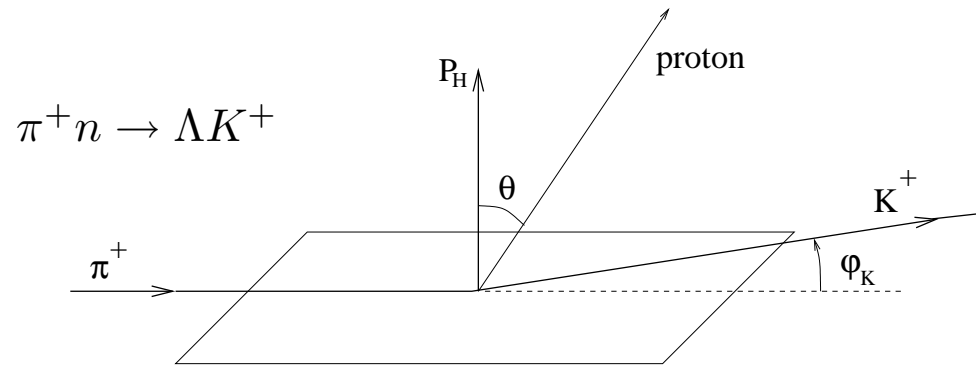
❖ **Nucleon FSI** (INC)

$$\left[ \frac{N_{nn}}{N_{np}} \right]^{\text{KEK}} \simeq 0.5 \pm 0.1 \implies \left[ \frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_p} \right]^{\text{“EXP”}} = (0.3 \div 0.4) \pm 0.1$$

**convincing evidence for a SOLUTION OF THE PUZZLE**

- [3] G. G., A. Parreño, A. Ramos, PRL 91, 112501 (2003); PRC 69, 054603 (2004);  
 C. Chumillas, G. G., A. Parreño, A. Ramos, NPA 804, 162 (2008) [Talk by Bauer]

# POLARIZED HYPERNUCLEI: THE DECAY ASYMMETRY



❖ Weak Decay Proton Intensity from  $\vec{\Lambda}p \rightarrow np$ :  $I(\theta) = I_0 [1 + p_\Lambda a_\Lambda \cos \theta]$

$p_\Lambda$  =  $\Lambda$  Polarization

$a_\Lambda$  = Intrinsic  $\Lambda$  Asymmetry Parameter

$a_\Lambda \iff$  Interference among PC and PV  $\vec{\Lambda}p \rightarrow np$  channels

$\implies$  information on strengths and relative phases of the decay amplitudes

	${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$	${}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$
Sasaki et al. (2002) $\pi + K + \text{DQ}$	-0.68	
Parreño et al. (2002) OME = $\pi + \rho + K + K^* + \omega + \eta$	-0.68	-0.73
Barbero et al. (2005) OME = $\pi + \rho + K + K^* + \omega + \eta$	-0.54	-0.53
Alberico et al. (2005) OME + FSI	-0.46	-0.37
Chumillas et al. (2007) OME + $2\pi$ + $2\pi/\sigma$ + FSI	+0.028	-0.126
Itonaga et al. (2007) $\pi + K + \omega + 2\pi/\rho + 2\pi/\sigma + \rho\pi/a_1 + \sigma\pi/a_1$	+0.083	+0.045
KEK-E508		$-0.16 \pm 0.28^{+0.18}_{-0.00}$
KEK-E462	$+0.07 \pm 0.08^{+0.08}_{-0.00}$	

⇒ Importance of the Scalar-Isoscalar channel in Asymmetry calculations

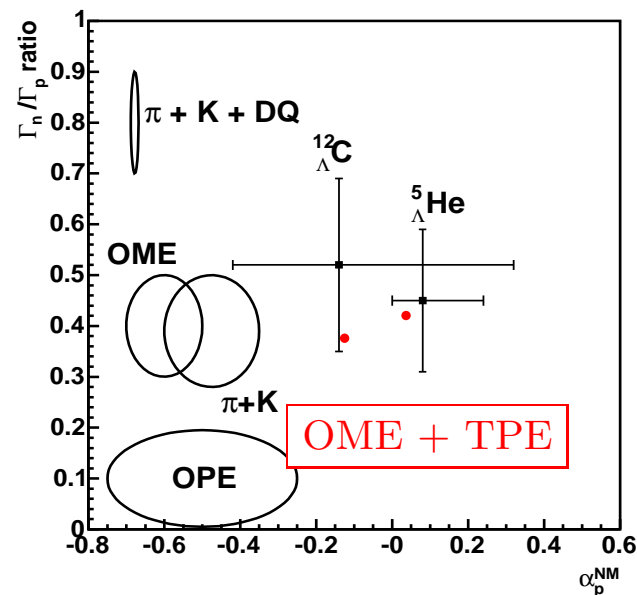
OME + TPE: Agreement also with the Decay Rate data for *both*  ${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$  and  ${}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$ !

An Effective Field Theory approach ( $\pi + K$  + Leading-Order Contact Interactions) predicted a dominance of Spin- and Isospin-Independent contact terms

[A. Parreño, C. Bennhold and B.R. Holstein, PRC70, 051601 (2004)]

# PERSPECTIVES

- Recent Experimental and Theoretical developments have brought to a solution of the long-standing puzzles on  $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$  and the Decay Asymmetry



OME + TPE reproduces all data (no exotic mechanisms and  $\Delta I = 3/2$  contributions)

- However, improvements in Experiment and Theory are necessary to achieve a detailed understanding of the Non-Mesonic Weak Decay reaction mechanisms
  - Obtain an accurate determination of Partial Decay Rates and Asymmetries
  - Still model-dependent results in OME and DQ calculations (unknown weak meson-baryon-baryon couplings, validity of  $\Delta I = 1/2$  rule)

### i) $s$ -shell Hypernuclei and the $\Delta I = 1/2$ Rule

- ❖ Block-Dalitz Phenomenological Model  $\implies$  Spin-Isospin structure of  $\Lambda N \rightarrow nN$
- ❖ Introducing the rates  $R_{NJ}$  for the spin-singlet ( $R_{n0}, R_{p0}$ ) and spin-triplet ( $R_{n1}, R_{p1}$ ) elementary  $\Lambda N \rightarrow nN$  interactions:

$$\Gamma_{\text{NM}}({}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}) = (3R_{n0} + R_{n1} + 3R_{p0} + R_{p1}) \frac{\rho_2}{8}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{NM}}({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{H}) = (R_{n0} + 3R_{n1} + 2R_{p0}) \frac{\rho_3}{6}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{NM}}({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{He}) = (2R_{n0} + R_{p0} + 3R_{p1}) \frac{\rho_3}{6}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{NM}}({}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}) = (R_{n0} + 3R_{n1} + R_{p0} + 3R_{p1}) \frac{\rho_4}{8}$$

- ❖ Relations which test the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  Rule

$$\frac{\Gamma_n({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{He})}{\Gamma_p({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{H})} = \frac{\frac{\Gamma_n({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{H})}{\Gamma_p({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{H})} \frac{\Gamma_n({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{He})}{\Gamma_p({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{He})}}{\frac{\Gamma_n({}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He})}{\Gamma_p({}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He})}} = \frac{R_{n0}}{R_{p0}} \iff \Delta I = 1/2 \text{ Rule: } \frac{R_{n1}}{R_{p1}} \leq \frac{R_{n0}}{R_{p0}} = 2$$

❖  $\Gamma_{\text{NM}}({}_\Lambda^5\text{He}) = 0.411 \pm 0.024$      $\frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_p}({}_\Lambda^5\text{He}) = 0.3 \pm 0.1$  (KEK):

$\Delta I = 1/2$  rule

Experiment

$\Gamma_{\text{NM}}({}_\Lambda^4\text{He}) = 0.25^{+0.04}_{-0.01} \iff 0.177 \pm 0.028$  (BNL–E788)

$\Gamma_{\text{NM}}({}_\Lambda^4\text{H}) = 0.08^{+0.03}_{-0.02} \iff 0.17 \pm 0.11$  (KEK)

$\implies$  violation of the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  rule? Too early to conclude!

❖ E22@J–PARC: precise measurement of  $\Gamma_n$  and  $\Gamma_p$  for  ${}_\Lambda^4\text{H}$  and  ${}_\Lambda^4\text{He}$

[Poster by Ajimura]

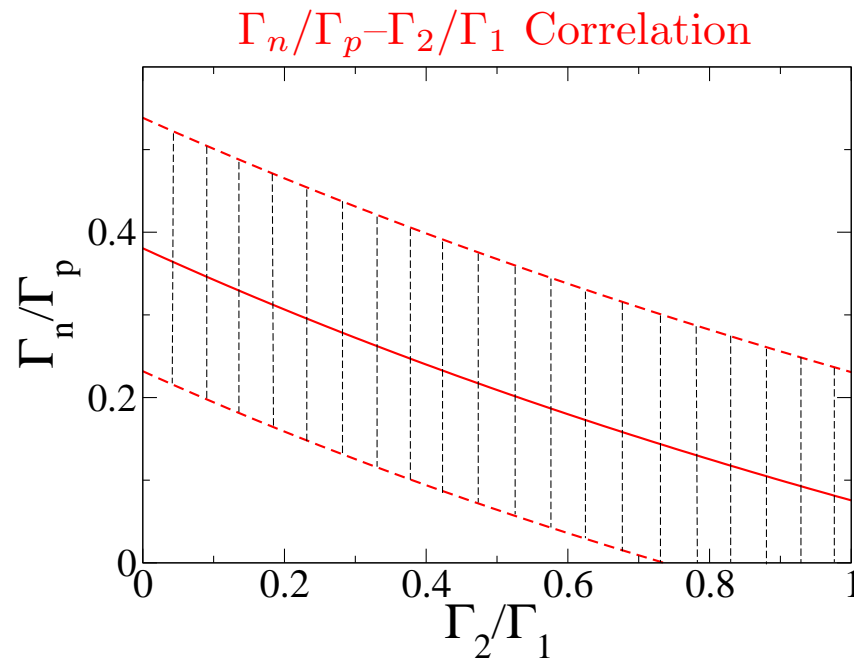
❖ Also important: demonstration of the reliability of Block–Dalitz Model

## ii) Extraction of $\Gamma_2 = \Gamma(\Lambda NN \rightarrow nNN)$ from Data

Theoretical analysis of KEK Coincidence Data only establishes a correlation property between  $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$  and  $\Gamma_2/\Gamma_1$

[G. G., A. Parreño, A. Ramos, PRL 91, 112501 (2003); PRC 69, 054603 (2004)]

$$\text{KEK-E462 } {}_{\Lambda}^{12}\text{C}: \frac{N_{nn}}{N_{np}} = 0.4 \pm 0.1 \quad (T_N > 30 \text{ MeV}, \cos \theta_{NN} \leq -0.8)$$





❖ Theory for  ${}_{\Lambda}^{12}\text{C}$ :

$$\Gamma_2/\Gamma_{\text{NM}} = 0.16 \quad \Gamma_2 = \Gamma_{np}$$

[A. Ramos, E. Oset, and L.L. Salcedo, PRC50, 2314 (1994)]

$$\Gamma_2/\Gamma_{\text{NM}} = 0.29 \quad \Gamma_{np} : \Gamma_{pp} : \Gamma_{nn} = 0.83 : 0.12 : 0.04$$

[E. Bauer and G. G., NPA 828, 29 (2009)]

❖ KEK  ${}_{\Lambda}^{12}\text{C}$  Data + simplistic Assumptions:  $\Gamma_2/\Gamma_{\text{NM}} \simeq 0.4$

[H. Bhang et al., EPJA 33, 259 (2007)]

❖ BNL-E788  ${}_{\Lambda}^4\text{He}$  Data:  $\Gamma_2/\Gamma_{\text{NM}} \leq 0.24$  (95% CL)

[J. D. Parker et al., PRC 76, 035501 (2007)]

❖ FINUDA  $s$ - and  $p$ -shell Data:  $\Gamma_2/\Gamma_{\text{NM}} = 0.27 \pm 0.06$

[Plenary Talk by Botta]

❖ E18@J-PARC: determination of  $\Gamma_n$ ,  $\Gamma_p$  and  $\Gamma_2$  for  ${}_{\Lambda}^{12}\text{C}$  with a 10% error level via Double- and Triple-Nucleon Coincidence

[Talk by Kim Mijung]

### iii) Weak Decay of $S = -2$ Hypernuclei

- ❖  $\Xi$  and  $\Lambda\Lambda$  Hypernuclei
- ❖  $\Xi^- p \rightarrow \Lambda\Lambda$  strong conversion produces  $\Lambda\Lambda$  hypernuclei
- ❖ Hyperon-Induced Non-Mesonic Weak Decay
  - $\Lambda\Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda n$     $\Lambda\Lambda \rightarrow \Sigma^0 n$     $\Lambda\Lambda \rightarrow \Sigma^- p$  ( $\Delta S = 1$ )
  - $\Lambda\Lambda \rightarrow nn$  ( $\Delta S = 2$ )
  - $\Gamma_{\Delta S=1}({}^6_{\Lambda\Lambda}\text{He})/\Gamma_{\Lambda} = 0.017$  [1], 0.026 [2], 0.040 [3]
    - [1] K. Sasaki, T. Inoue and M. Oka, NPA 726, 349 (2003)
    - [2] K. Itonaga, T. Ueda and T. Motoba, NPA 691, 197c (2001)
    - [3] A. Parreño, A. Ramos and C. Bennhold, PRC 65,015205 (2002)
- ❖ KEK-E373: NAGARA event [H. Takahashi et al., PRL 87, 212502 (2001)]
  - Production of  ${}^6_{\Lambda\Lambda}\text{He}$  ( $\Lambda\Lambda$  interaction is weakly attractive)
  - Recent observation of a Weak Decay to  $\Sigma^- p$  ( $BR^{\text{exp}} \simeq 0.01$ )
    - [T. Watanabe et al., EPJA 33, 265 (2007)]
    - $\Lambda\Lambda \rightarrow \Sigma^- p$  (but  $BR^{\text{th}} \simeq 0.001$ )
    - $H(uuddss) \rightarrow \Sigma^- p$  ( $BR^{\text{th}} \simeq 0.01$ )
      - [J.F. Donoghue, E. Golowich and B.R. Holstein, PRD 34, 3434 (1986)]
    - $\Lambda\Lambda \rightarrow H \rightarrow \Sigma^- p$  ?
- ❖ New investigations: E07@J-PARC, PANDA@FAIR [Plenary Talk by Gianotti]

## CONCLUSIONS

- ❖ Reasonable agreement obtained between Experiment and Theory on Decay Rates ( $\Gamma_{\text{NM}}$  and  $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$ ) and Asymmetries:

The Scalar–Isoscalar mechanism is essential in Asymmetry calculations

$$\Gamma_{\text{NM}}({}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He})/\Gamma_{\Lambda} \sim 0.4 \quad \Gamma_{\text{NM}}({}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C})/\Gamma_{\Lambda} \sim 0.9 \quad (\text{good agreement Exp} - \text{Th})$$

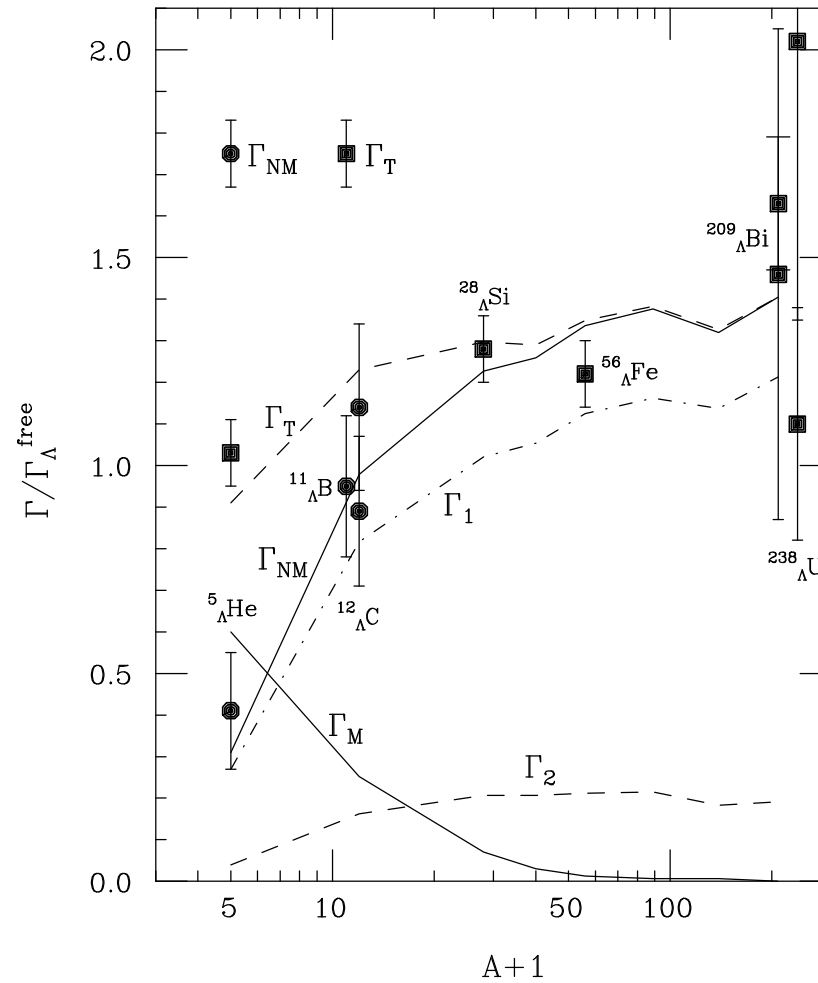
$$\frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_p}({}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}) \sim \frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_p}({}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}) \sim 0.3 \div 0.5 \quad (\text{data error bars, model dependencies})$$

$$a_{\Lambda}({}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}) \sim 0 \div 0.2 \quad a_{\Lambda}({}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}) \sim -0.1 \div +0.3 \quad (\text{data error bars, model dependencies})$$

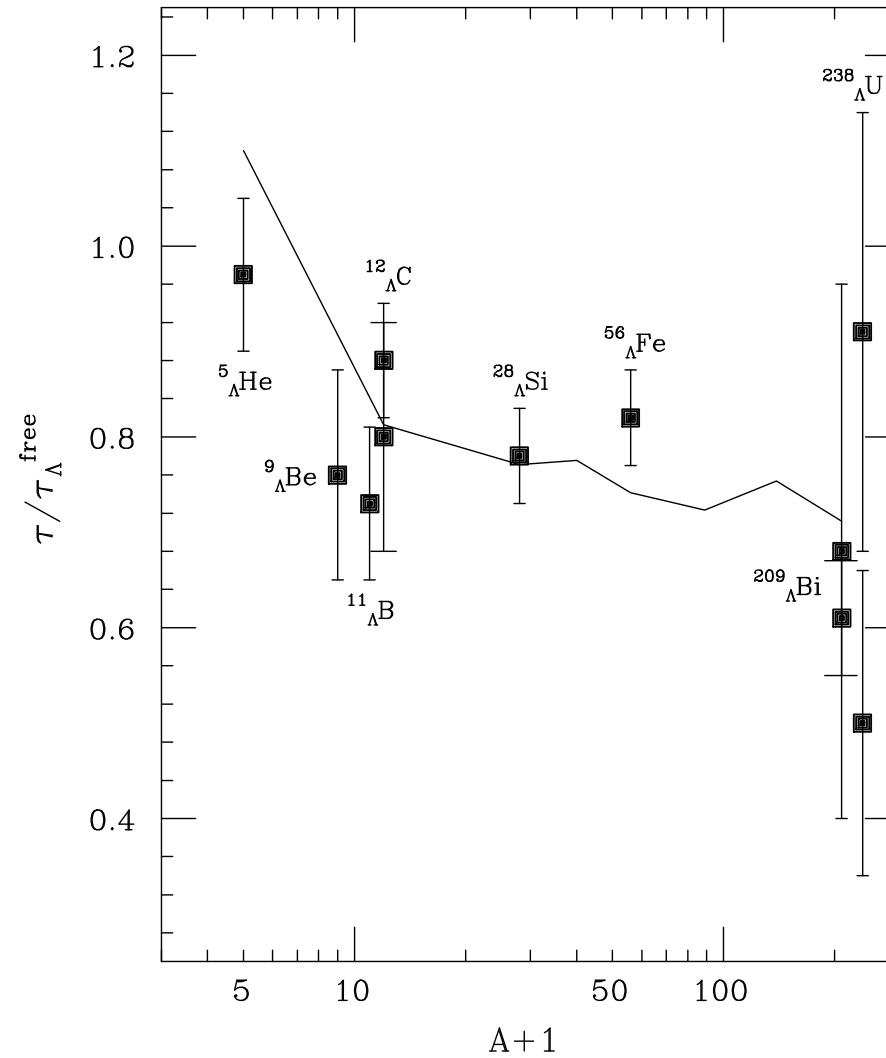
- ❖ Improved models and measurements essential to achieve a detailed understanding of the reaction mechanisms for the Non–Mesonic Weak Decay
  - $s$ -shell Hypernuclei and the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  rule
  - Extraction of  $\Gamma_2 = \Gamma(\Lambda NN \rightarrow nNN)$  from Data
  - Weak Decay of  $S = -2$  Hypernuclei
- ❖ Still a lot of work to do: various theoretical groups and experiments (E07, E18 and E22@J–PARC, FINUDA@DAPHNE, HypHI@GSI, PANDA@FAIR)

ADDITIONAL SLIDES

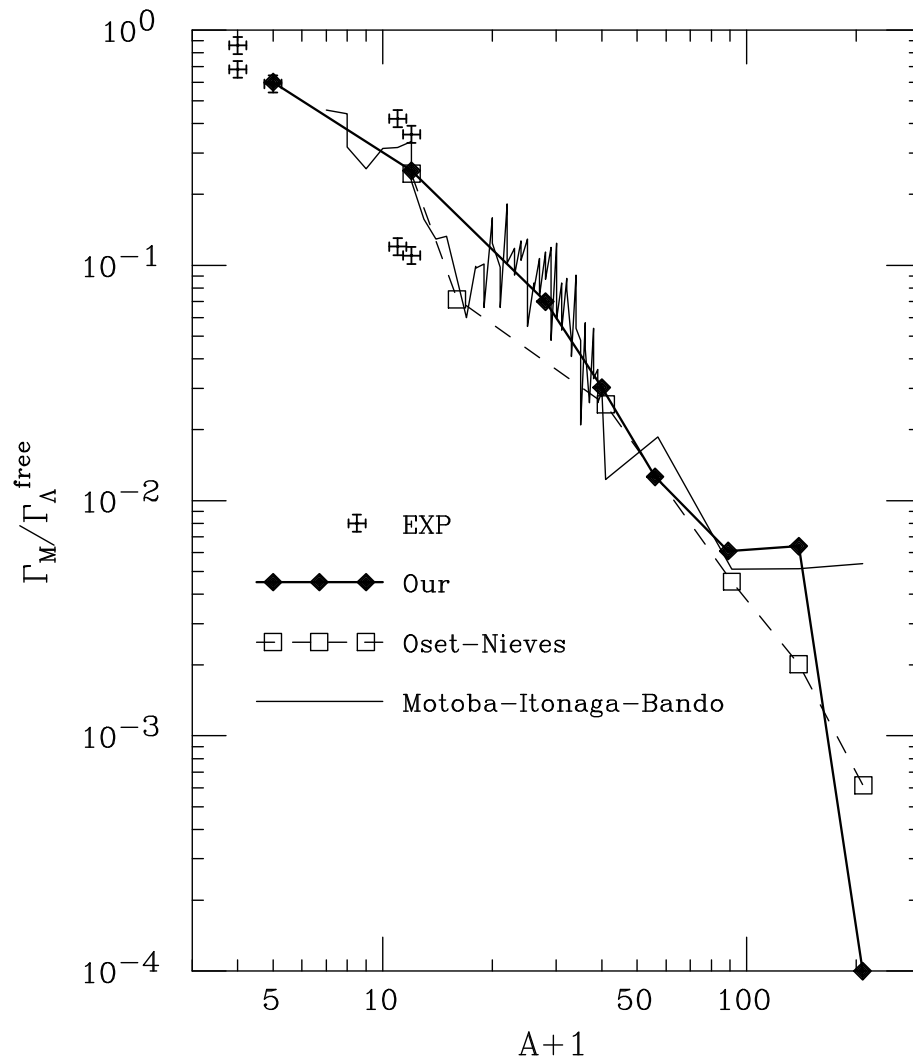
## RESULTS



[W. M. Alberico and G. G., Phys. Rep. **369**, 1 (2002)]



[W. M. Alberico and G. G., Phys. Rep. **369**, 1 (2002)]



[W. M. Alberico and G. G., Phys. Rep. **369**, 1 (2002)]

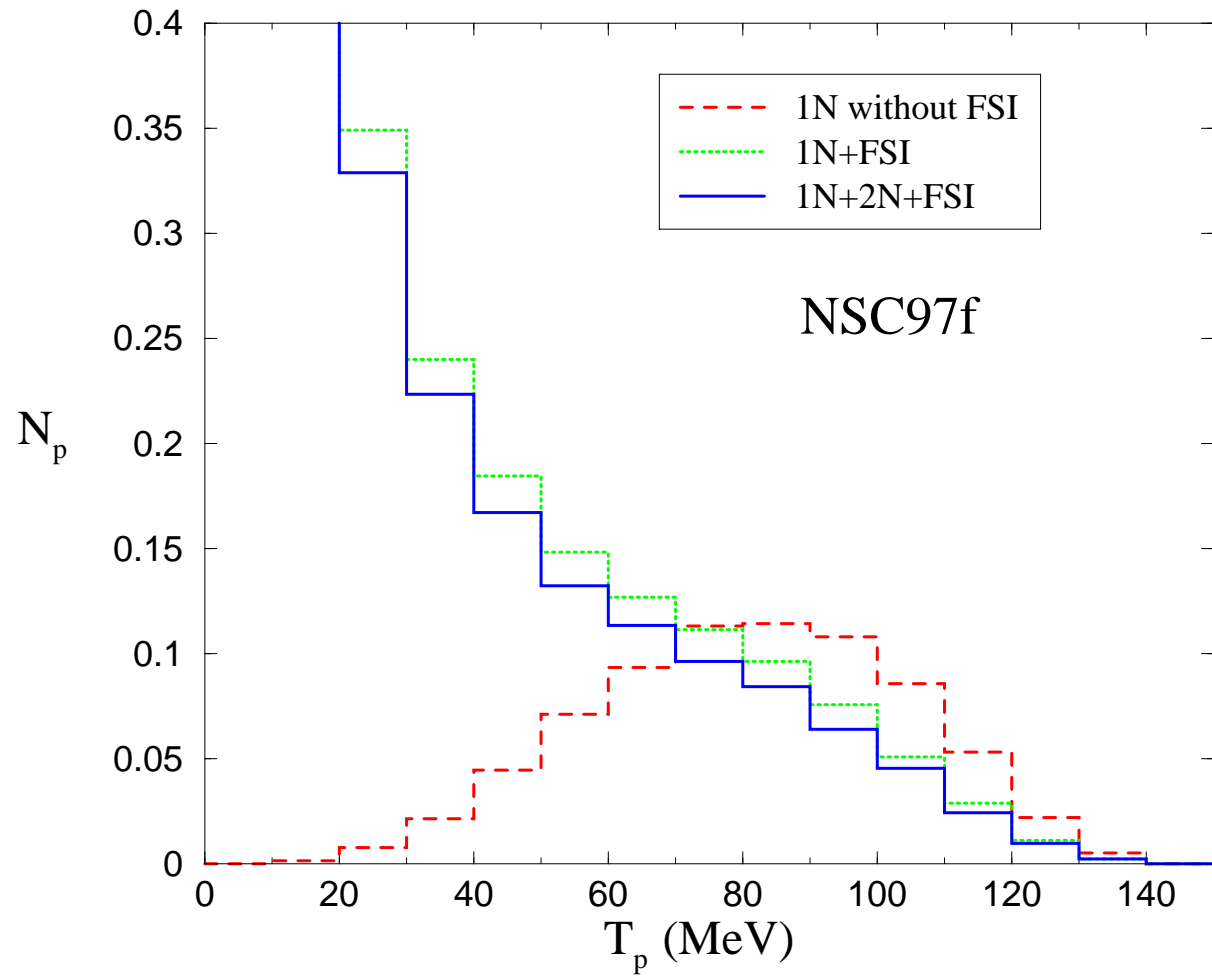


Figure 1: **Single-proton** kinetic energy spectra per NMWD of  $^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$ .



${}_{\Lambda}^{12}\text{C} - 1\text{N}+2\text{N}$  induced

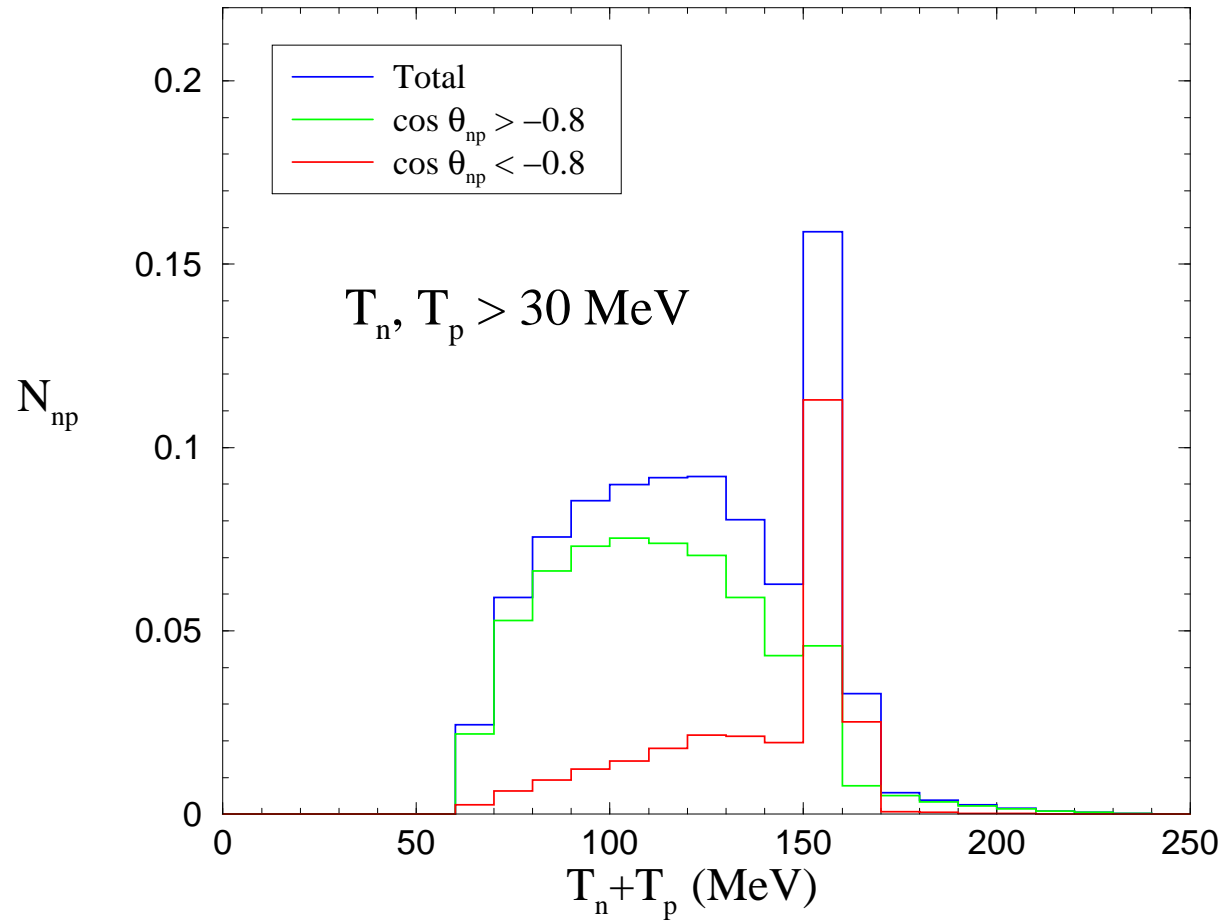


Figure 2: Kinetic energy correlations of  $np$  pairs emitted per NMWD of  ${}_{\Lambda}^{12}\text{C}$

${}_{\Lambda}^{12}\text{C} - 1\text{N}+2\text{N}$  induced

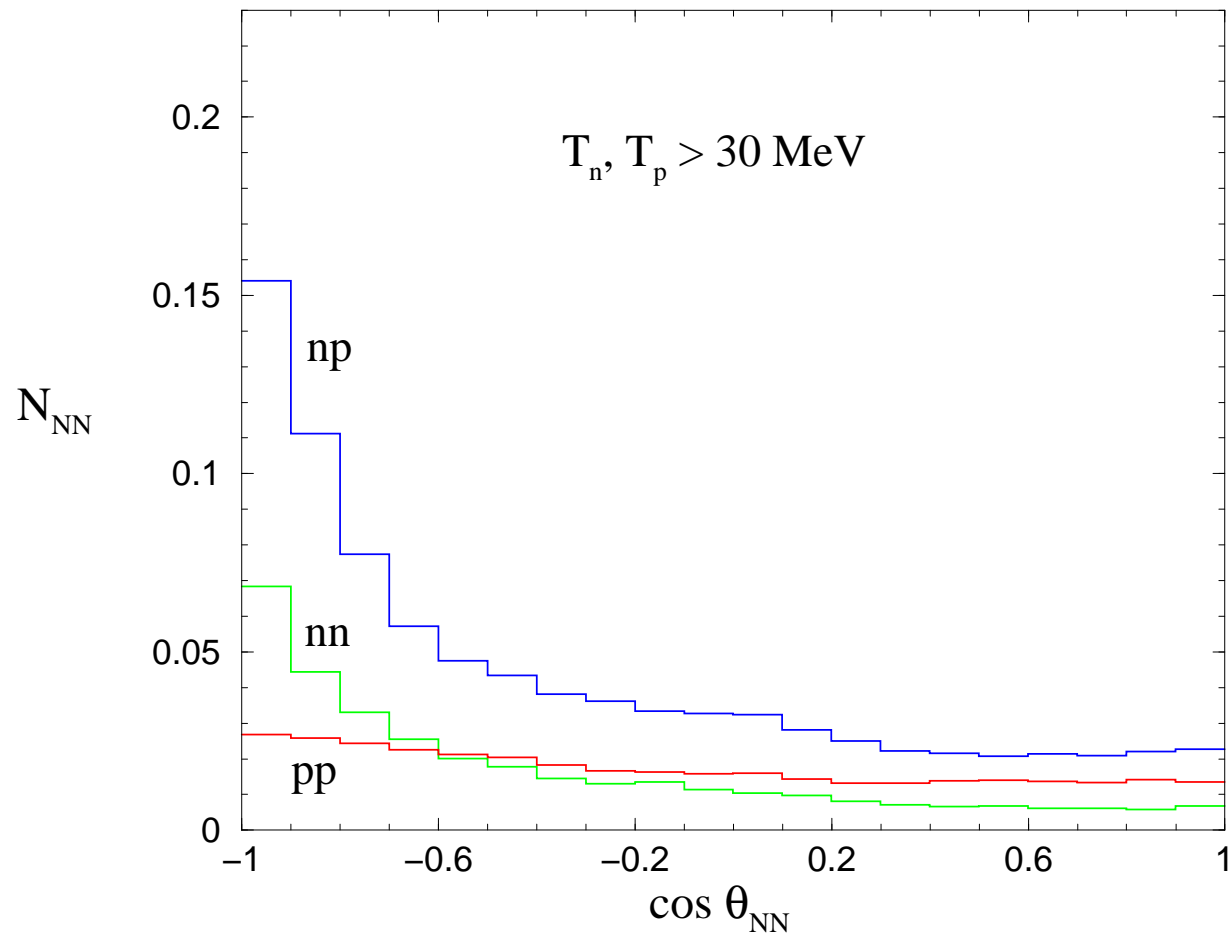


Figure 3: Angular distribution of  $nn$ ,  $np$  and  $pp$  pairs emitted per NMWD of  ${}_{\Lambda}^{12}\text{C}$

$$\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$$

Number of primary  $nn$  and  $np$  pairs:

$$N_{nn}^{\text{wd}} \propto \Gamma_n \quad N_{np}^{\text{wd}} \propto \Gamma_p$$

Denoting with  $N_{nn}$  and  $N_{np}$  the number of nucleons emitted by the nucleus:

$$\frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_p} \equiv \frac{\Gamma(\Lambda n \rightarrow nn)}{\Gamma(\Lambda p \rightarrow np)} \equiv \frac{N_{nn}^{\text{wd}}}{N_{np}^{\text{wd}}} \neq \frac{N_{nn}}{N_{np}} = R_2(\Gamma_2, \text{FSI})$$

Table 1:  $N_{nn}/N_{np}$  for  ${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$  and  ${}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$  ( $\cos \theta_{NN} \leq -0.8$  and  $T_N^{\text{th}} = 30$  MeV)

	${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$		${}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$	
	$N_{nn}/N_{np}$	$\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$	$N_{nn}/N_{np}$	$\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$
OPE	0.25	0.09	0.24	0.08
OME	0.51	0.34	0.39	0.29
KEK-E462	$0.45 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.03$			
KEK-E508			$0.40 \pm 0.10$	

Data from B. H. Kang et al., PRL 96, 062301 (2006); M. J. Kim et al., PLB 641, 28 (2006); H. Ota, NPA 754, 157c (2005)

## A weak-decay-model independent analysis of $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$

❖ Total number of  $NN$  pairs emitted per NMWD:

$$N_{nn} = \frac{N_{nn}^{1Bn} \Gamma_n + N_{nn}^{1Bp} \Gamma_p + N_{nn}^{2B} \Gamma_2}{\Gamma_n + \Gamma_p + \Gamma_2}$$

$$N_{np} = \frac{N_{np}^{1Bn} \Gamma_n + N_{np}^{1Bp} \Gamma_p + N_{np}^{2B} \Gamma_2}{\Gamma_n + \Gamma_p + \Gamma_2}$$

which define the six **weak-decay-model independent quantities**:  $N_{nn}^{1Bn}$  (the number of  $nn$  pairs emitted per neutron-induced NMWD), etc.

❖ From a measurement of  $N_{nn}/N_{np}$  and appropriate values for  $\Gamma_2/\Gamma_1$ :

$$\frac{\Gamma_n}{\Gamma_p} = \frac{N_{nn}^{1Bp} + N_{nn}^{2B} \frac{\Gamma_2}{\Gamma_1} - \left( N_{np}^{1Bp} + N_{np}^{2B} \frac{\Gamma_2}{\Gamma_1} \right) \frac{N_{nn}}{N_{np}}}{\left( N_{np}^{1Bn} + N_{np}^{2B} \frac{\Gamma_2}{\Gamma_1} \right) \frac{N_{nn}}{N_{np}} - N_{nn}^{1Bn} - N_{nn}^{2B} \frac{\Gamma_2}{\Gamma_1}}$$

❖ From **KEK data** we obtained:

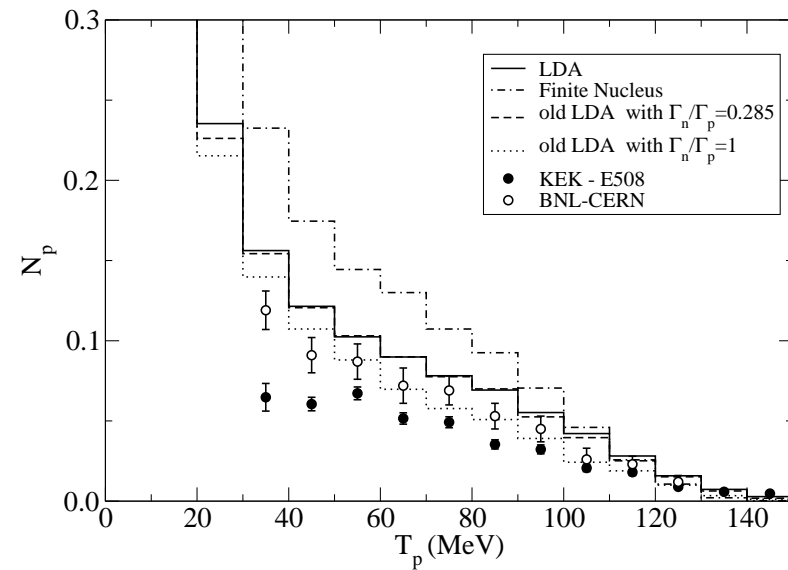
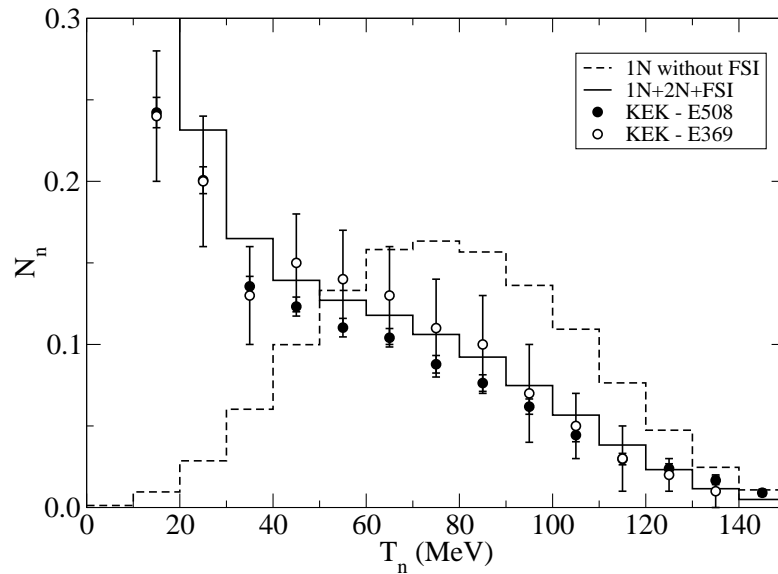
${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$	$\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p = 0.26 \pm 0.11$	$\Gamma_2 = 0.20 \Gamma_1$	$(\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p = 0.39 \pm 0.11$	$\Gamma_2 = 0)$
${}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$	$\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p = 0.29 \pm 0.14$	$\Gamma_2 = 0.25 \Gamma_1$	$(\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p = 0.38 \pm 0.14$	$\Gamma_2 = 0)$

## Exp–Th disagreement on Proton Spectra

Agreement for Neutrons

${}_{\Lambda}^{12}\text{C}$

Disagreement for Protons



❖ BNL–E788: Neutron and Proton Spectra for  ${}_{\Lambda}^4\text{He}$

[J. D. Parker et al., PRC 76, 035501 (2007)]

❖ FINUDA: Proton Spectra for  ${}_{\Lambda}^5\text{He}$  to  ${}_{\Lambda}^{16}\text{O}$ :

peaking structure at  $\simeq 80$  MeV

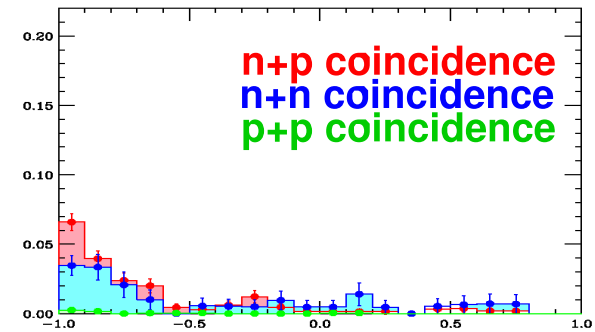
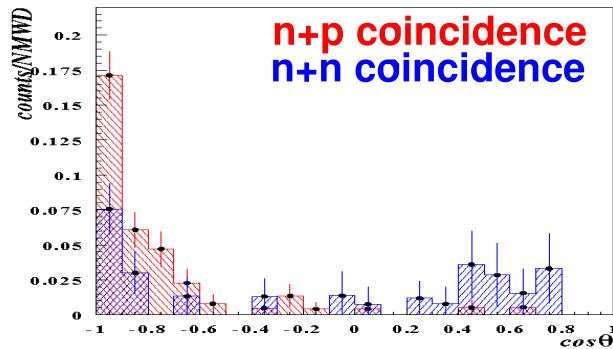
[M. Agnello et al., NPA 804, 151 (2008)]

# Comparison with theoretical calc. for angular correlation

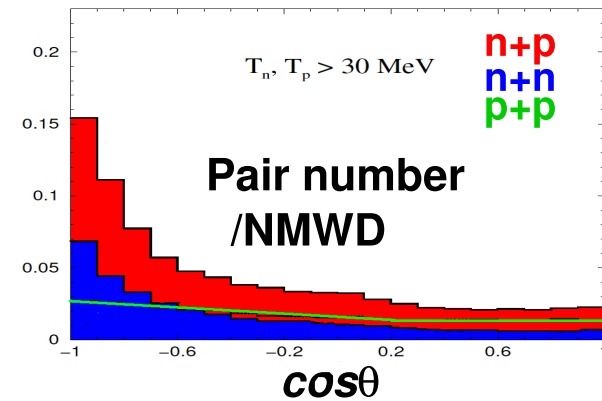
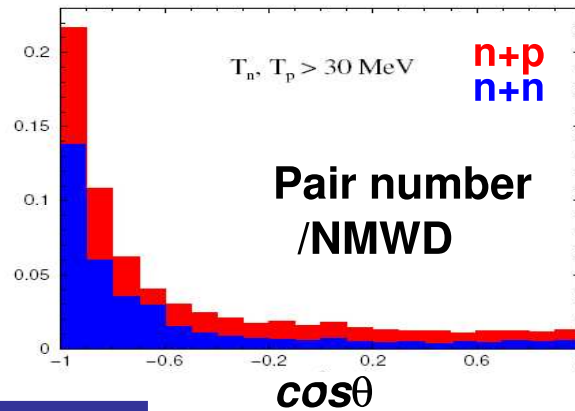
$^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$  (E462)

$^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$  (E508)

experimental  
data



theoretical  
calc.



Garbarino's  
calc.

assuming  $G_n/G_p = 0.46$  (for  $^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ ),  $0.34$  (for  $^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$ )  
considered 2N-induced(  $\square$  20%), FSI  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 91 (2003) 112501

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## Asymmetry: OME + Nucleon FSI

[W. M. Alberico, G.G., A. Parreño and A. Ramos, PRL 94, 082501 (2005)]

$$\text{OME} = \pi + \rho + K + K^* + \eta + \omega$$

$$I(\theta) = I_0 [1 + p_\Lambda a_\Lambda \cos \theta] \quad I^M(\theta) = I_0^M [1 + p_\Lambda a_\Lambda^M \cos \theta]$$

	${}^5_\Lambda\text{He}$	${}^{11}_\Lambda\text{B}$	${}^{12}_\Lambda\text{C}$
$a_\Lambda$	-0.68	-0.81	-0.73
$a_\Lambda^M (T_p \geq 30 \text{ MeV})$	-0.46	-0.39	-0.37
$a_\Lambda^M (T_p \geq 50 \text{ MeV})$	-0.52	-0.55	-0.51
$a_\Lambda^M (T_p \geq 70 \text{ MeV})$	-0.55	-0.70	-0.65
KEK-E462	$0.07 \pm 0.08^{+0.08}_{-0.00}$		
KEK-E508	$-0.16 \pm 0.28^{+0.18}_{-0.00}$		

Data from [T. Maruta et al., EPJA 33, 255 (2007)]

❖ Effective Field Theory:  $\pi + K$  + Leading-Order Contact Interactions

[A. Parreño, C. Bennhold and B. R. Holstein, PRC 70, 051601 (2004)]

- LOCI coefficients fixed to reproduce experimental  $\Gamma_{\text{NM}}$  and  $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$  for  ${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ ,  ${}^{11}_{\Lambda}\text{B}$  and  ${}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$  and  $a_{\Lambda}({}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He})$
- Predicted a dominating Central, Spin- and Isospin-Independent contact term

❖  $\pi + K + \sigma$  + Direct Quark

[K. Sasaki, M. Izaki, M. Oka, PRC 71, 035502 (2005)]

- Decay data for  $s$ -shell hypernuclei fitted to obtain the weak couplings of the Scalar-Isoscalar  $\sigma$ -meson,  $\mathcal{H}_{\Lambda\sigma N}^{\text{W}} = g_{\text{W}}\bar{\psi}_N(A_{\sigma} + B_{\sigma}\gamma_5)\phi_{\sigma}\psi_{\Lambda}$
- All  ${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$  decay observables reasonably reproduced. No calculation for  ${}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$

❖ OME +  $\sigma$ , OME =  $\pi + \rho + K + K^* + \eta + \omega$

[C. Barbero and A. Mariano, PRC 73, 024309 (2006)]

- Unknown  $\sigma$  couplings fixed to reproduce measured  $\Gamma_{\text{NM}}({}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He})$  and  $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p({}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He})$
- Improved overall agreement with experiment for  ${}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$  and  ${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$  but data for  $a_{\Lambda}({}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He})$  could not be reproduced

❖  $\Rightarrow$  Importance of the Scalar-Isoscalar channel in Asymmetry calculations



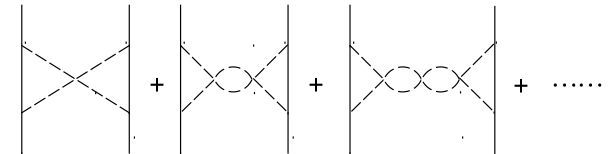
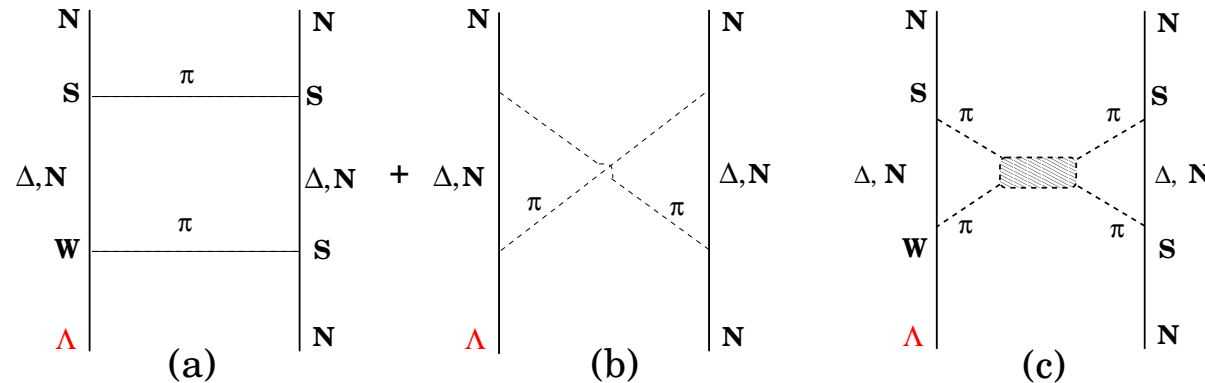
## One-Meson-Exchange + Two-Pion-Exchange

[C. Chumillas, G. G, A. Parreño and A. Ramos, PLB 657, 180 (2007)]

❖ **Uncorrelated ( $2\pi$ ) and Correlated ( $2\pi/\sigma$ ) Two-Pion-Exchange (TPE)**

[D. Jido, E. Oset and J.E. Palomar, NPA 694, 525 (2001)]

❖  $2\pi/\sigma$  motivated by **Chiral Unitary Theory**



❖  $2\pi$ : dominated by the **isoscalar channel**

❖  $2\pi/\sigma$  reproduces  $\pi\pi$  scattering data in the scalar sector

❖ **No Free Parameter**: couplings determined from chiral meson-meson and meson-baryon Lagrangians

Model	$\Gamma_{\text{NM}} = \Gamma_n + \Gamma_p$	${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$	$a_{\Lambda}$
OME	0.379	0.474	-0.590
OME+TPE	0.388	0.415	+0.041
OME+TPE+FSI			+0.028
KEK-E462	$0.424 \pm 0.024$	$0.40 \pm 0.11$ (1N) $0.27 \pm 0.11$ (1N + 2N)	$+0.07 \pm 0.08^{+0.08}_{-0.00}$

Model	$\Gamma_{\text{NM}} = \Gamma_n + \Gamma_p$	${}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$ $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$	$a_{\Lambda}$
OME	0.667	0.357	-0.698
OME+TPE	0.722	0.366	-0.207
OME+TPE+FSI			-0.126
KEK-E508	$0.940 \pm 0.035$	$0.38 \pm 0.14$ (1N) $0.29 \pm 0.14$ (1N + 2N)	$-0.16 \pm 0.28^{+0.18}_{-0.00}$
KEK-E307	$0.828 \pm 0.087$		

❖ Moderate change of the Decay Rates, huge influence on the Asymmetries!

❖ Agreement with *both* Asymmetry and Decay Rate data for *both*  ${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$  and  ${}^{12}_{\Lambda}\text{C}$ !

${}^5_{\Lambda}\text{He}$	OME	OME + TPE		OME	OME + TPE
$A : {}^1S_0 \rightarrow {}^1S_0$	-0.1044	+0.0835	$AE$	-0.2854	+0.2112
$B : {}^1S_0 \rightarrow {}^3P_0$	+0.0057	+0.0057	$BC$	+0.0027	-0.0033
$C : {}^3S_1 \rightarrow {}^3S_1$	-0.1399	+0.1480	$BD$	-0.0029	-0.0027
$D : {}^3S_1 \rightarrow {}^3D_1$	-0.1814	-0.1814	$CF$	-0.0856	+0.0405
$E : {}^3S_1 \rightarrow {}^1P_1$	+0.3833	+0.3833	$DF$	-0.2186	-0.2046
$F : {}^3S_1 \rightarrow {}^3P_1$	+0.2234	+0.2234			
$\Gamma_p = \sum_{\alpha=A\dots F}  \alpha ^2$	0.257	0.275	$a_{\Lambda}$	-0.590	+0.041

❖ Spectroscopic notation:  $\Lambda p ({}^{2S+1}L_J) \rightarrow np ({}^{2S'+1}L'_J)$

❖ OME  $\rightarrow$  OME + TPE:

- Drastic change of the Scalar–Isoscalar amplitudes  $A$  and  $C$
- $AE$  interference changes sign and cancels the  $DF$  contribution

## Perspectives: “Exotic” Hypernuclei

### ❖ Neutron- and Proton-Rich ( ${}^6_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ , ${}^9_{\Lambda}\text{He}$ ; ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$ , ${}^8_{\Lambda}\text{C}$ )

- $\Gamma_n/\Gamma_p$  for extreme  $N/Z$
- Effects of (low-density) Neutron and Proton Halos on NMWD
- Present and Future searches:

**KEK** and **FINUDA**: formation probability studies (upper limits)

**HypHI@GSI**: in-flight decays, no surrounding target ( $T_N^{\text{th}} \rightarrow 0$ )

**J-PARC**: E10

**Nuclotron@JINR** (Dubna): relativistic hypernuclei

### ❖ Medium and Heavy: $A > 11$ (saturation property of $\Gamma_{\text{NM}}$ )

- **KEK**: saturation at  $\Gamma_{\text{NM}}({}^{28}_{\Lambda}\text{Si} - {}^{56}_{\Lambda}\text{Fe}) \simeq 1.2$ , in agreement with Theory
- **COSY-13@Juelich**:  $p + A$ ,  $A = \text{Au, Bi and U}$  targets, measurement of fragments from fission induced by NMWD, no direct identification of hypernuclear formation  
 $\Gamma_{\text{NM}}(A \simeq 180 - 225) = 1.81 \pm 0.14$
- **CEBAF@JLAB**: proposal for high-precision measurement of lifetime of heavy hypernuclei?