



中国科学院大学
University of Chinese Academy of Sciences

RHIC能量扫描中的超核产生测量

- Focus on the High Baryon Density Region

谢冠男 (XIE Guannan)
中国科学院大学 (UCAS)

2024/11/17



Contents

- Introduction
- STAR Experiment & Beam Energy Scan
- What have been measured on Hypernuclei from STAR
 - Intrinsic Properties :**
 - Lifetime, Branch Ratios & Binding Energy
 - Productions :**
 - Energy dependence and Rapidity dependence Yields/Collectivity
- What's the **future proposals** from worldwide facilities
For Hypernuclei? Hyperon-nucleon?

Experimental Exploring of QCD Matters

Particle production:

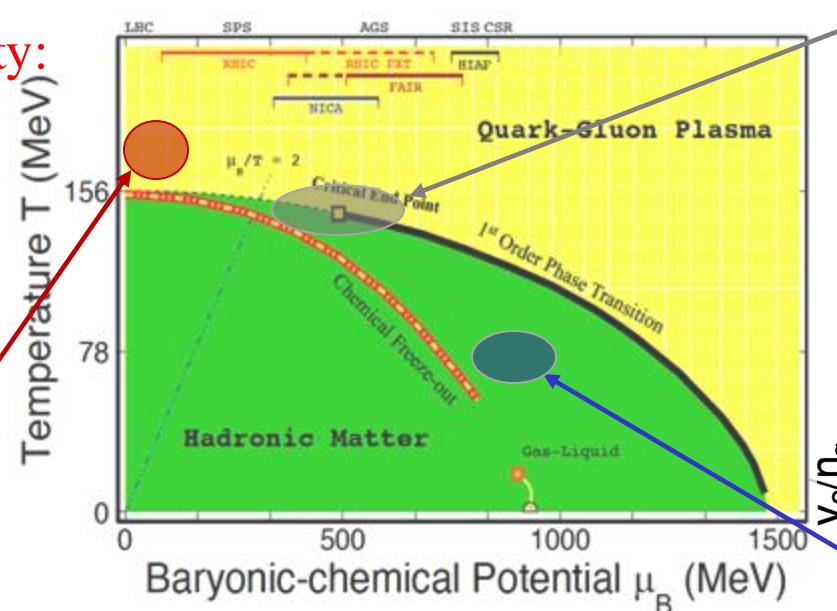
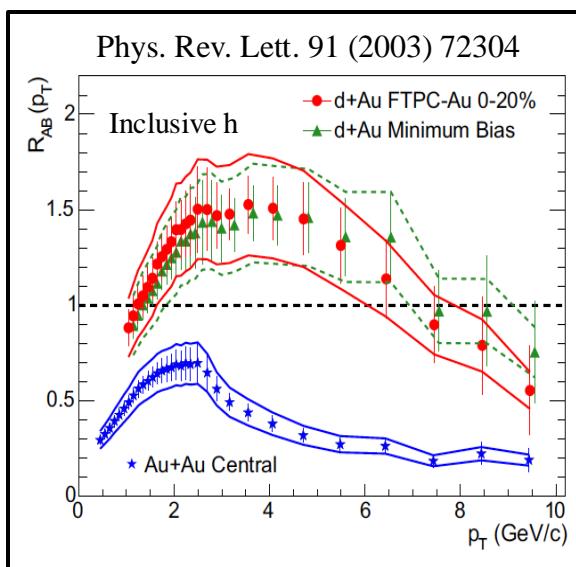
- Understand medium properties and different particle production mechanisms

Collective flow:

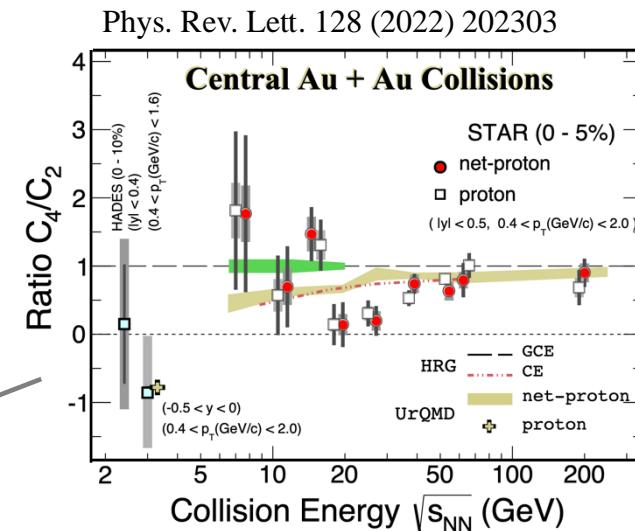
- Study properties of the produced medium, EoS

Correlations and Criticality:

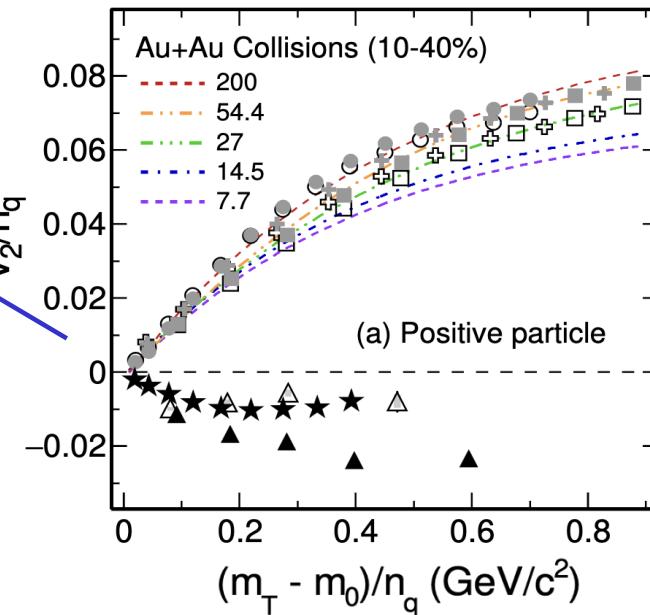
- Critical Point



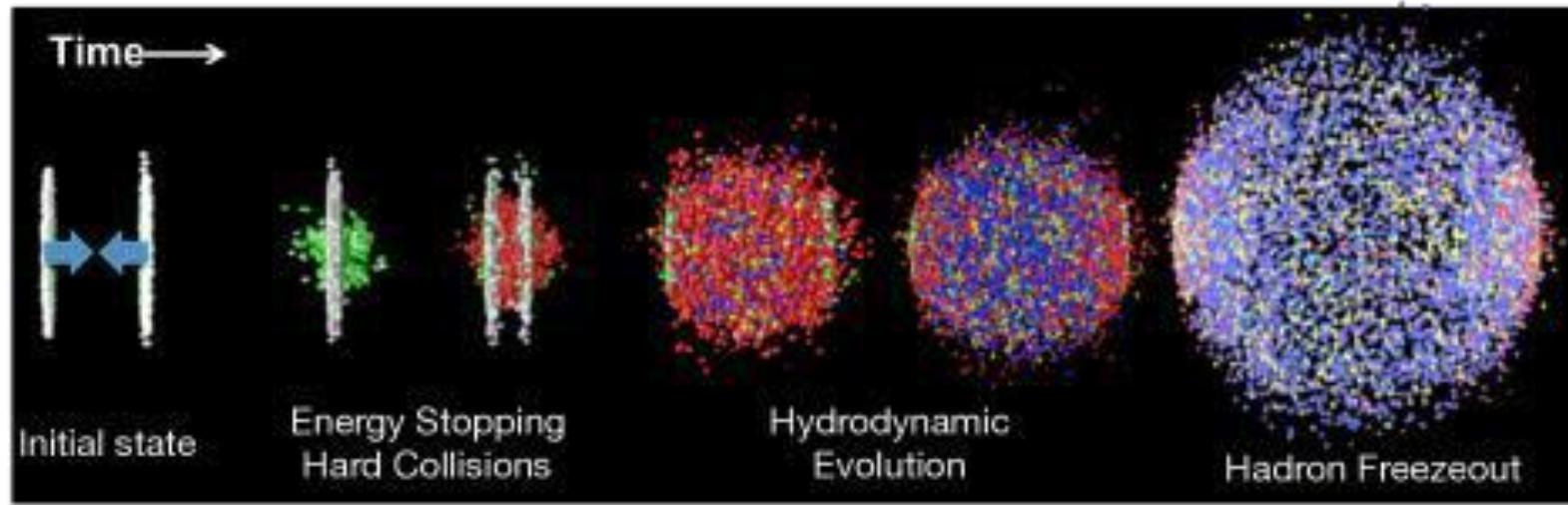
- Jet quenching, Strangeness enhancement, flow NCQ scaling, heavy flavor R_{AA} , etc
- High order Cumulants, light nuclei ratios
- NCQ disappearing, strangeness CE



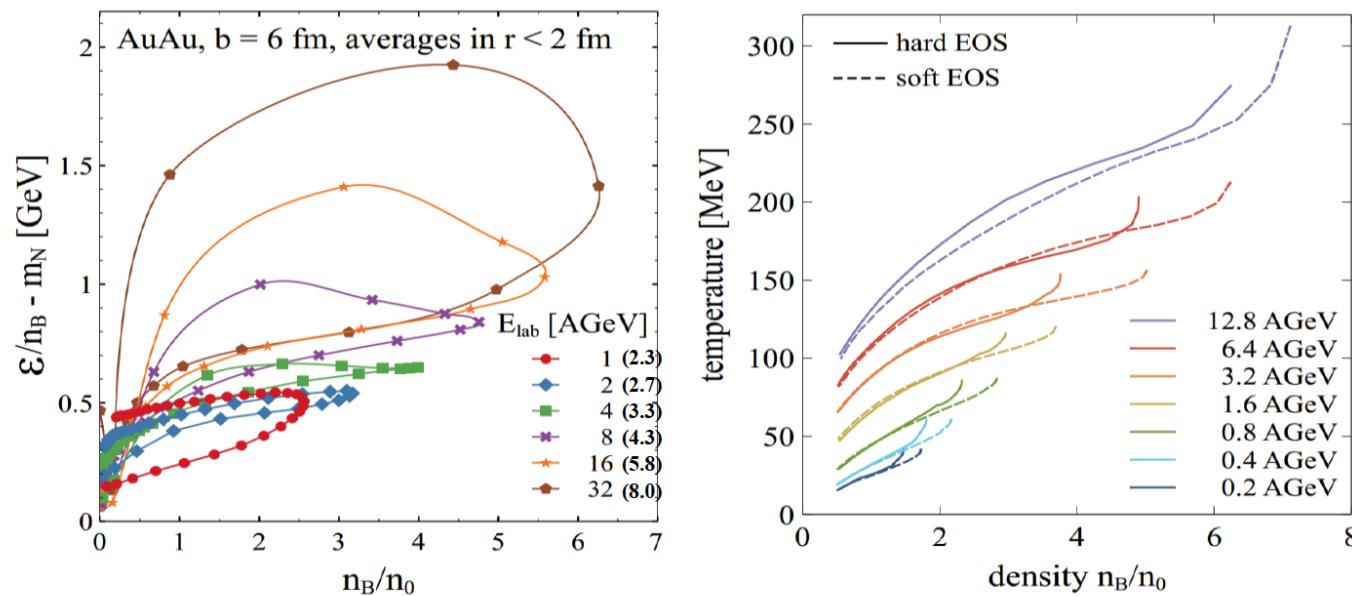
Phys. Lett. B 827 (2022) 137003



HICs @ High Baryon Density Region



Time Evolution of HICs



D.Oliinchenko et. al, arXiv:2208.11996 v2
A. Sorensen et. al, arXiv:2301.13253v2

Hypernuclei (What)

Nuclei are loosely bound objects with binding energies of few MeV

Hypernuclei are nuclei containing at least one hyperon (Λ)

- N/Z + additional dimension on strangeness

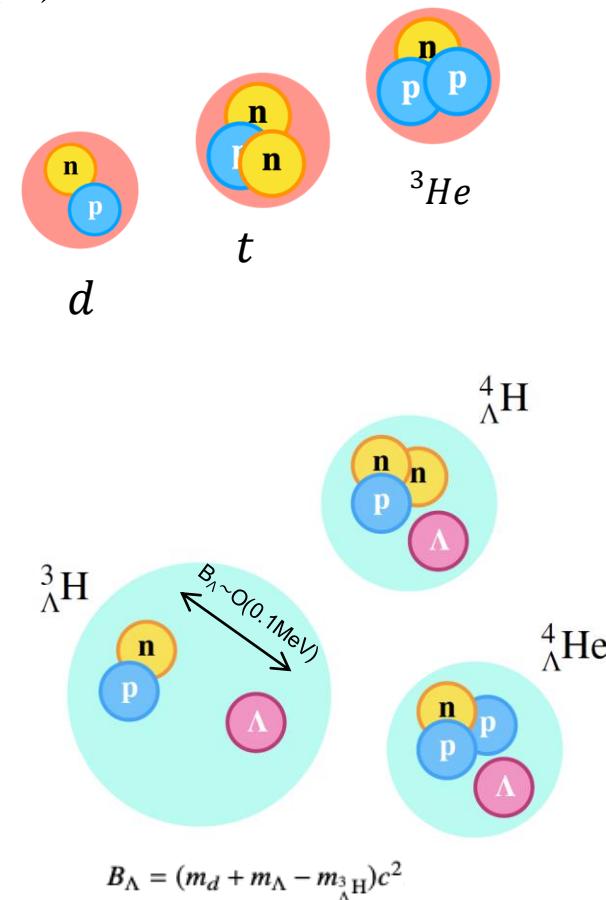
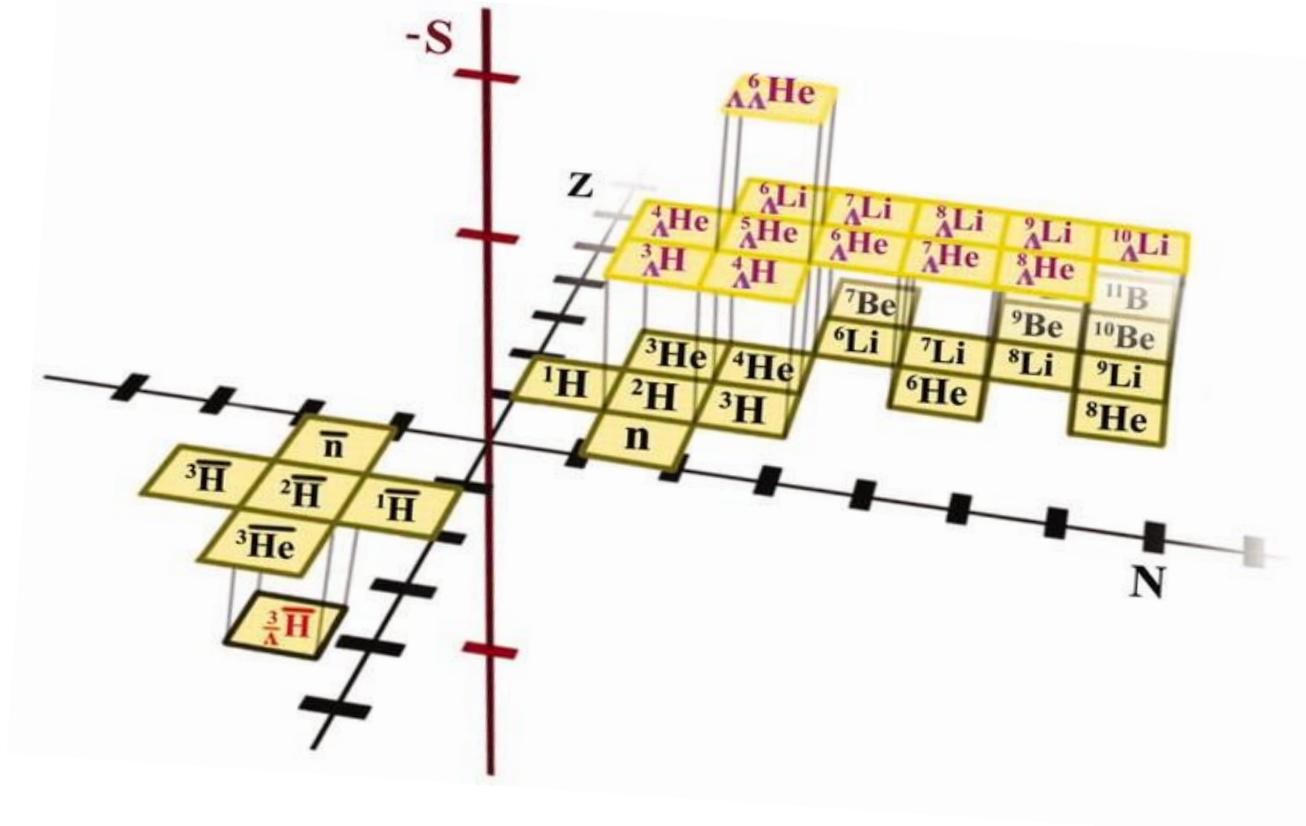


Figure from Science 328 (2010) 58-62

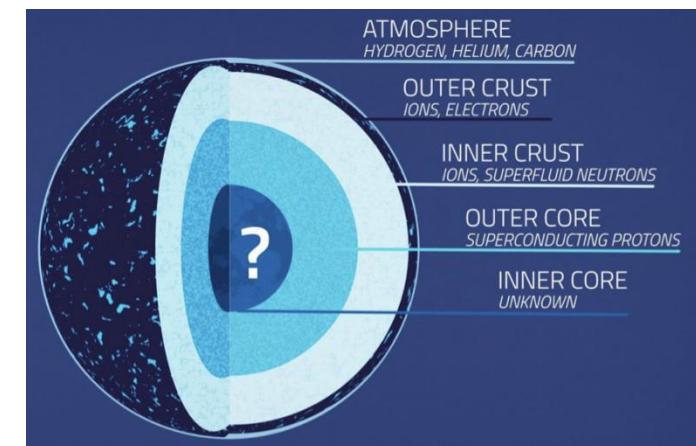
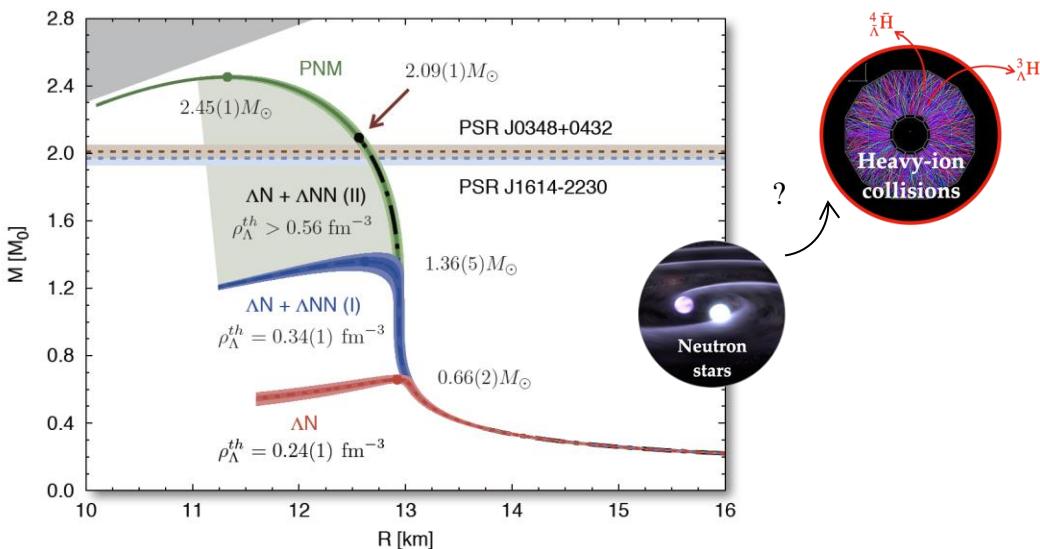
1. What can (hyper)nuclei production in heavy-ion collisions tell us about the QCD phase diagram and the nuclear equation-of-state?

- Sensitive to critical fluctuations and the onset of deconfinement

$$\frac{t \times p}{d^2} \quad \frac{{}^3\Lambda\text{H}}{{}^3\text{He} \times \frac{\Lambda}{p}}$$

Sensitive to neutron density fluctuations
Sensitive to baryon-strangeness correlations

2. What is the role of hyperon-nucleon (Y-N) and hyperon-hyperon (Y-Y) interaction (or even Y-N-N) in the equation-of-state of high baryon density matter



EoS governs the structure of neutron stars.

- Hyperon Puzzle: difficulty to reconcile the measured masses of neutron stars with the presence of hyperons in their interiors

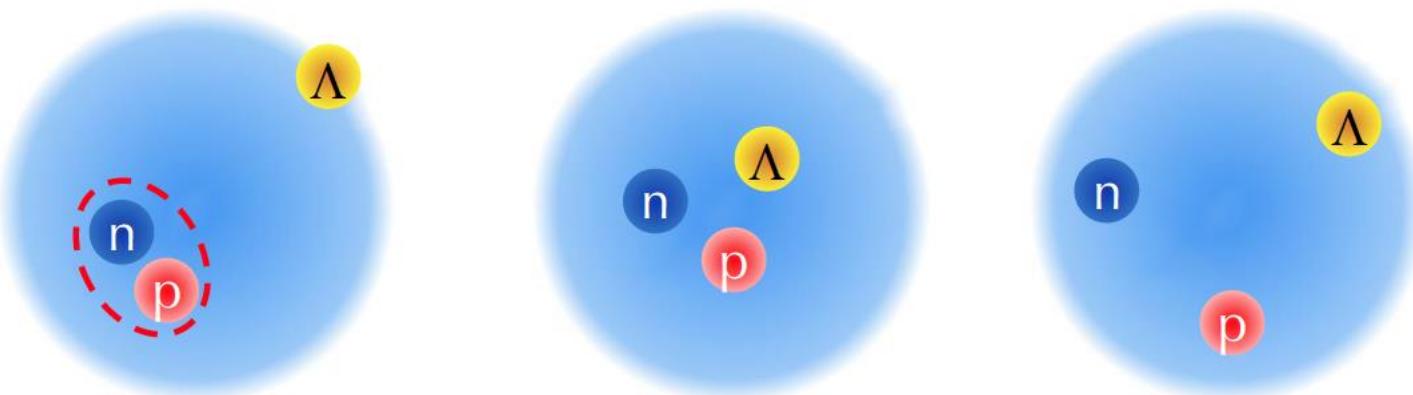
Hypernuclei (How)

1. Intrinsic properties: Internal structure

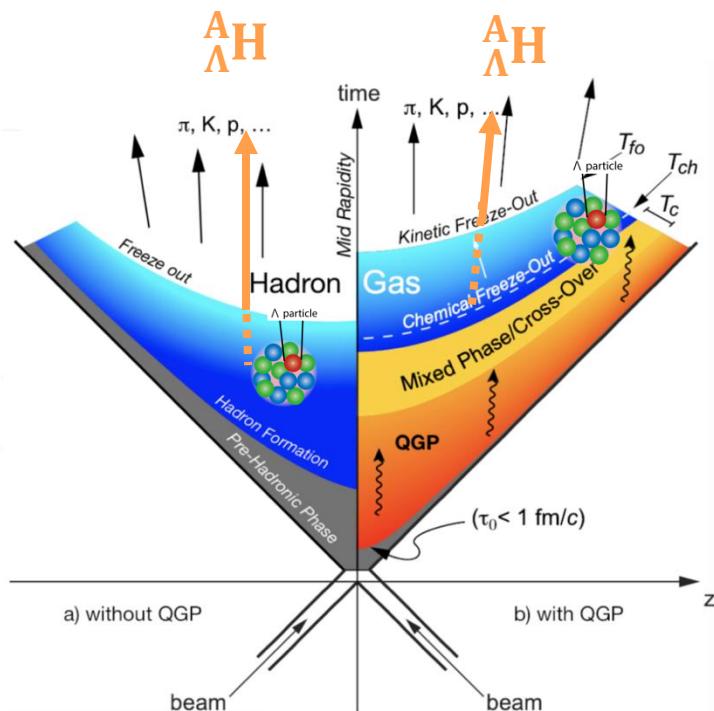
- Lifetime, branching ratio, binding energy, etc.

Understanding hypernuclei structure can provide insights to the **Y-N interaction** and EoS (especially in high baryon density region, to study the **density dependence**)

Fig. from Yifei



Hypernuclei (How)



When are hypernuclei formed?
At freezeout? Or in medium?

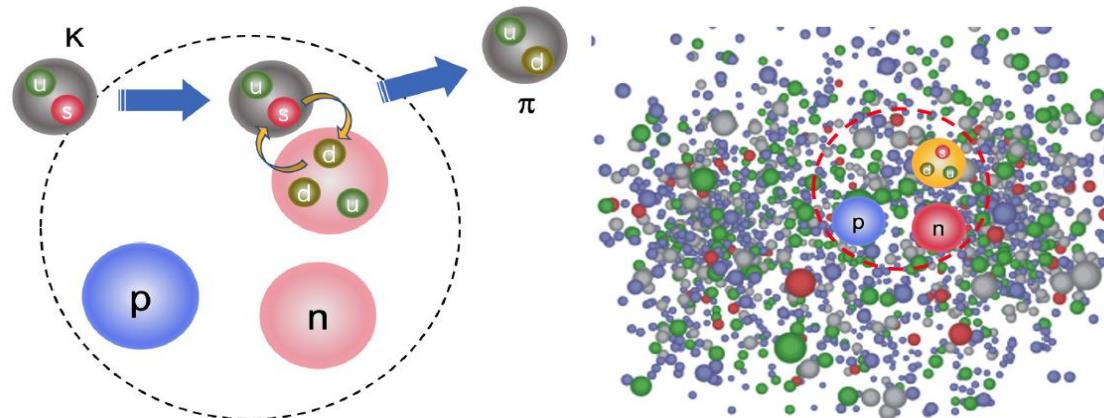


Fig. from Yifei

2. Production mechanism (in heavy-ion collisions)
 - Spectra, Yields, Collectivity etc

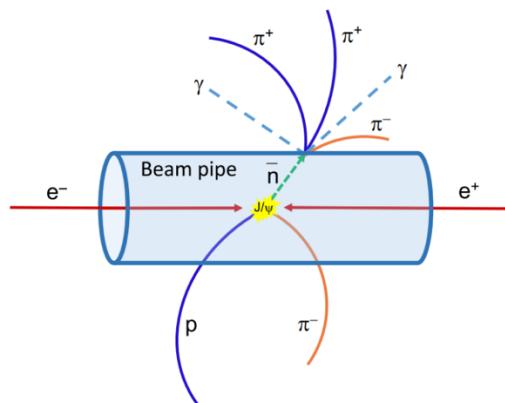
The process of hypernuclei formation in violent heavy-ion collisions is not well understood

Y-N Interactions from Non-HICs

Important, but lack of measurements limited by availability and short-lifetime of hyperon beams

Some new interesting results on hyperon-nucleon scattering at **BESIII**, the idea is simple, using J/ψ decayed hyperons, to interact with the beam pipe (Be)

CLAS/J-PARC
BESIII



Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 012003 (2021)
arXiv: 2209.12601 Chin.Phys.C 48 (2024)
 $\bar{n}p \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0, \pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

10 billion J/ψ

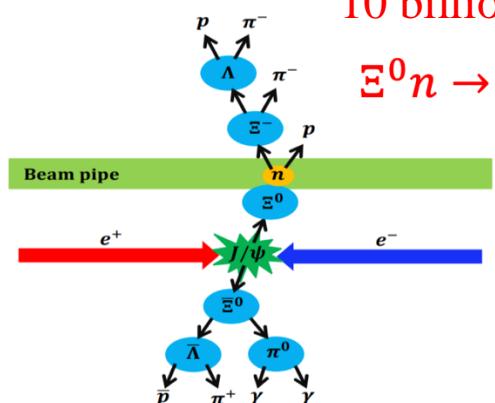
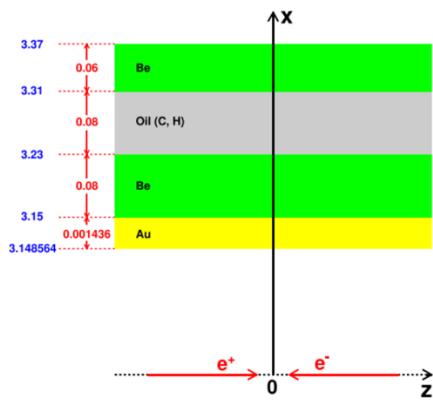
$\Xi^0 n \rightarrow \Xi^- p$

$\Lambda N \rightarrow \Sigma^+ X$

From Jielei @ Huizhou Hyperon workshop

Phys. Rev. Lett. 130, 251902 (2023)
Phys. Rev. C 109, L052201 (2024)
Phys. Rev. Lett. 132 (2024) 23, 231902

$\Lambda p \rightarrow \Lambda p$ and $\bar{\Lambda} p \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda} p$



particle source: hyperon from J/ψ decays
target material: beam pipe
detector: BESIII detector

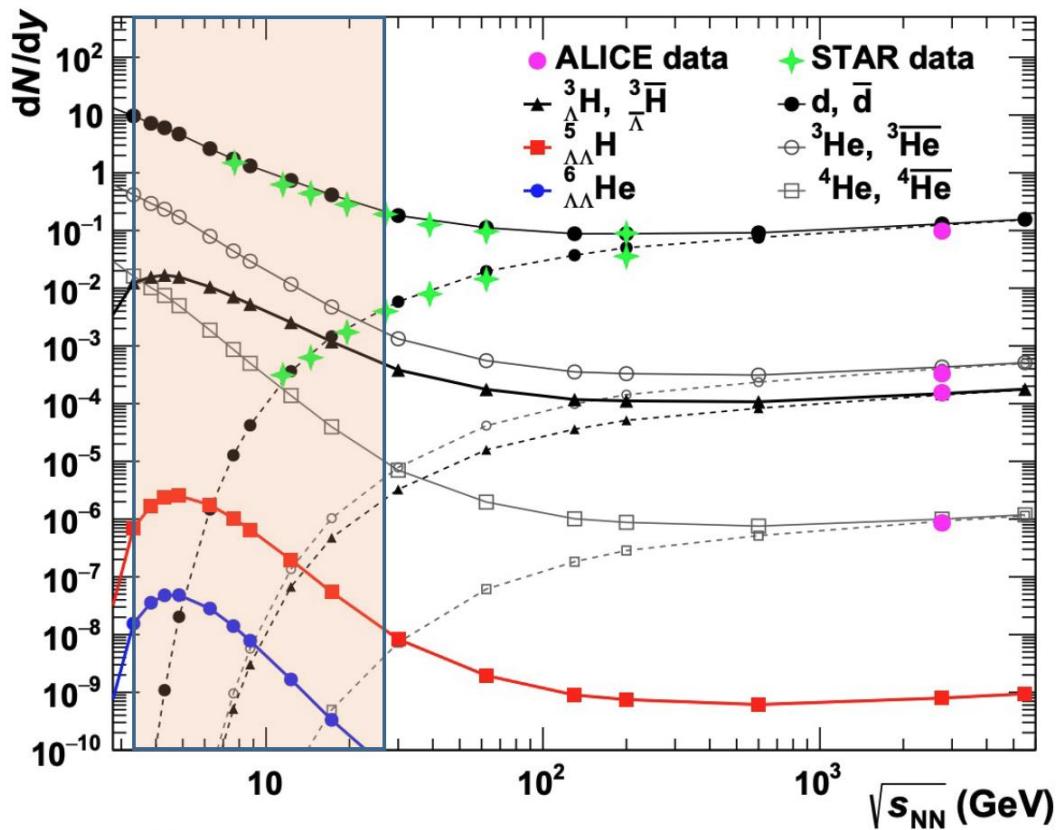
Hyperon/Antihyperon	$\tau (\times 10^{-10}s)$	Decay mode	$\mathcal{B} (\times 10^{-3})$	$P (\text{GeV}/c)$
$\Lambda/\bar{\Lambda}$	2.63	$J/\psi \rightarrow \Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$	1.89	1.074
$\Sigma^+/\bar{\Sigma}^-$	0.80	$J/\psi \rightarrow \Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^-$	1.07	0.992
$\Xi^0/\bar{\Xi}^0$	2.90	$J/\psi \rightarrow \Xi^0\bar{\Xi}^0$	1.17	0.818
$\Xi^-/\bar{\Xi}^+$	1.64	$J/\psi \rightarrow \Xi^-\bar{\Xi}^+$	0.97	0.807
$\Lambda/\bar{\Lambda}$	2.63	$\psi(2S) \rightarrow \Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$	0.38	1.467
$\Sigma^+/\bar{\Sigma}^-$	0.80	$\psi(2S) \rightarrow \Sigma^+\bar{\Sigma}^-$	0.24	1.408
$\Xi^0/\bar{\Xi}^0$	2.90	$\psi(2S) \rightarrow \Xi^0\bar{\Xi}^0$	0.23	1.291
$\Xi^-/\bar{\Xi}^+$	1.64	$\psi(2S) \rightarrow \Xi^-\bar{\Xi}^+$	0.29	1.284
$\Omega^-/\bar{\Omega}^+$	0.82	$\psi(2S) \rightarrow \Omega^-\bar{\Omega}^+$	0.06	0.774

Why Hypernuclei in HIC ? (at High Baryon Density)

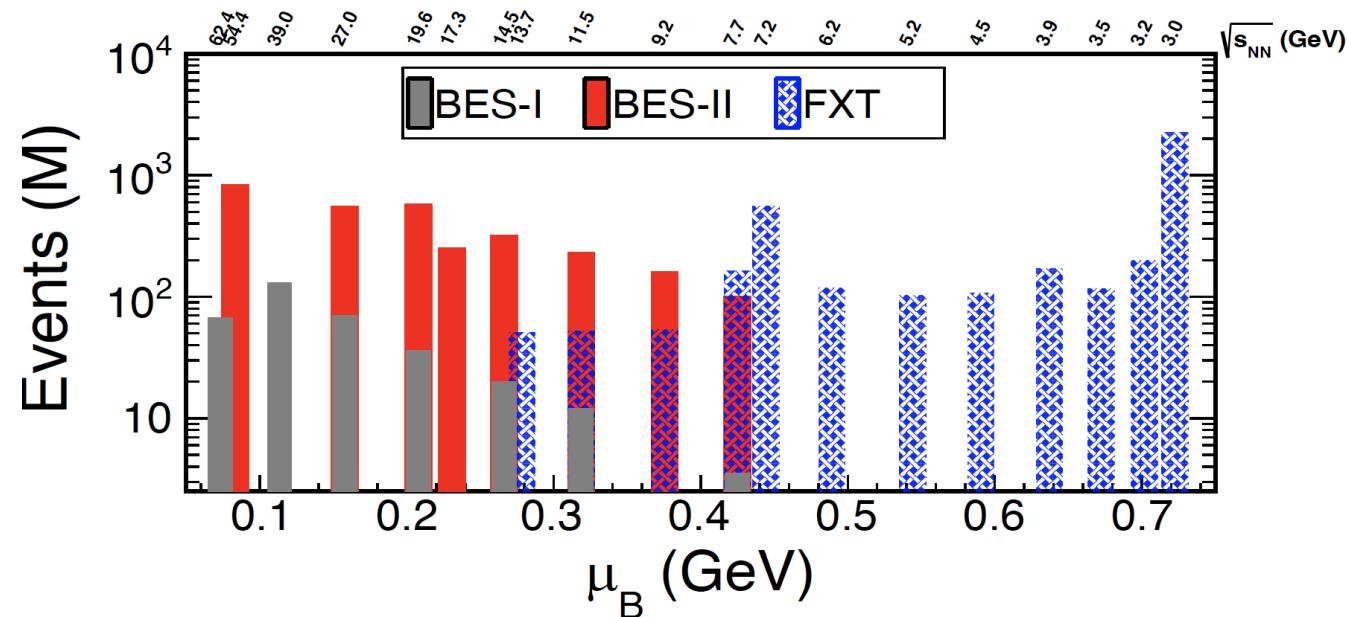
Why heavy-ion collisions (HIC)?

- produced in copious amounts in HIC
- Potential for high precision measurements
- Big advantages at high μ_B : enhanced yields

- Collider mode : $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7 - 54 \text{ GeV}$
- Fixed-Target mode : $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3.0 - 13.7 \text{ GeV}$

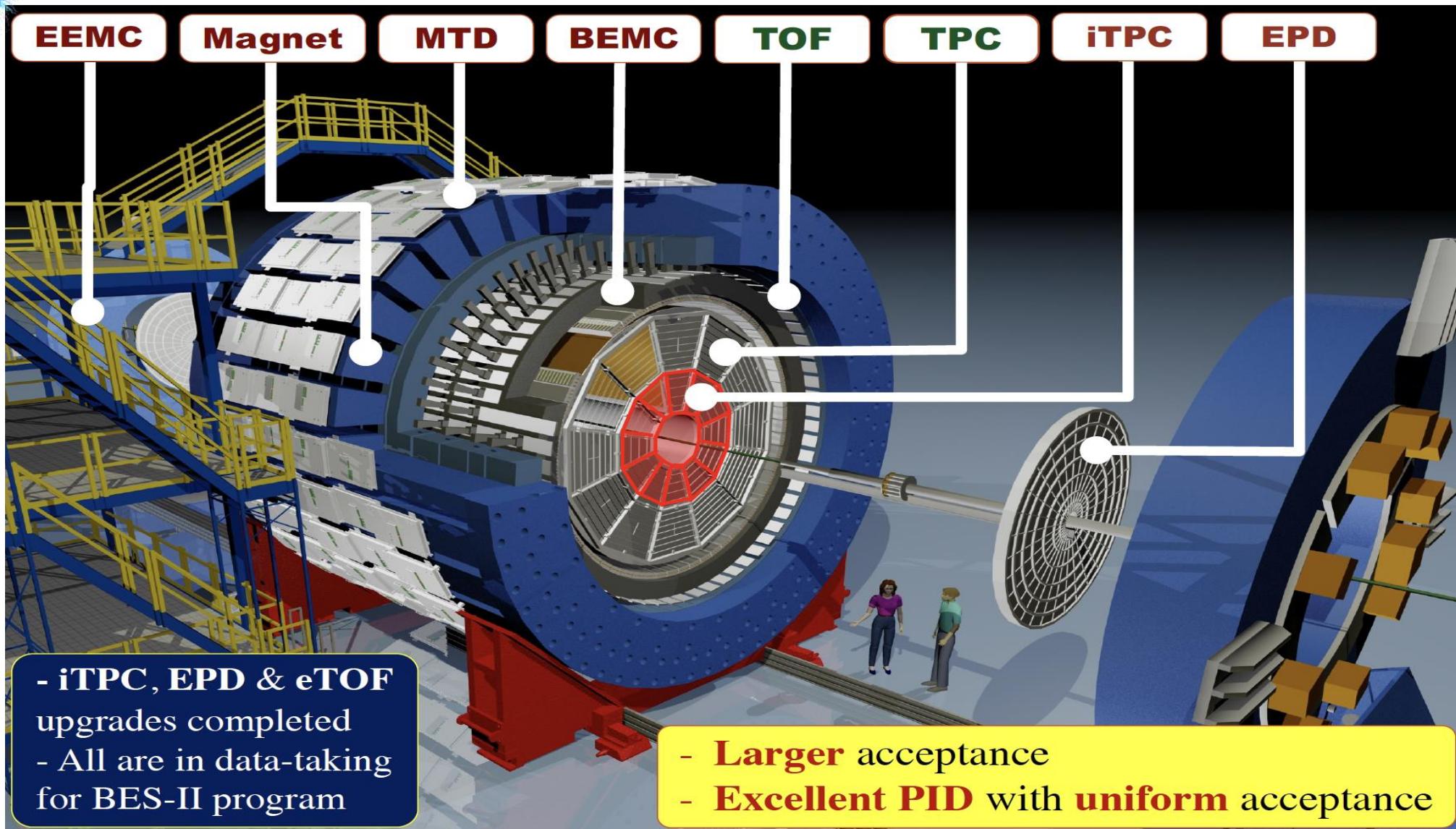


B. Dönigus, EPJA (2020) 56:280



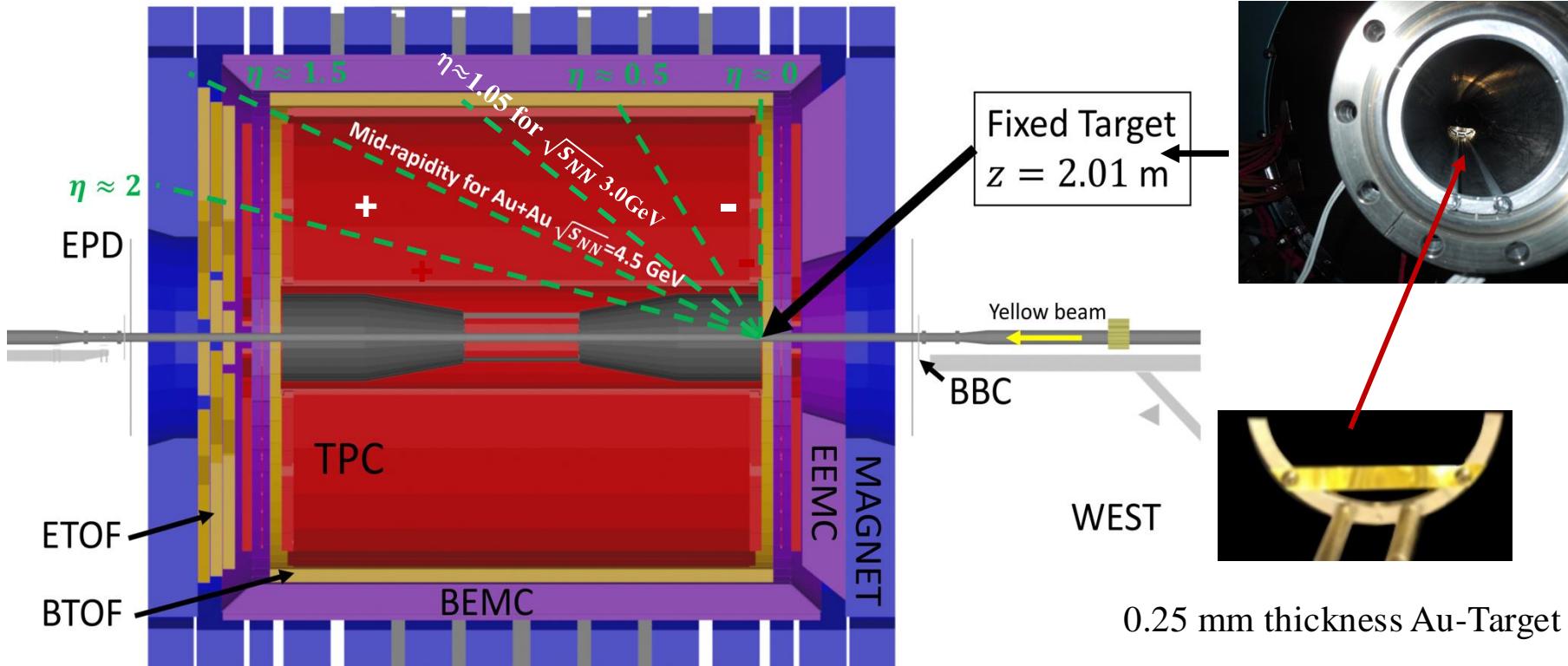
$3 < \sqrt{s_{NN}} < 200 \text{ GeV}; 760 > \mu_B > 25 \text{ MeV};$

STAR Experimental

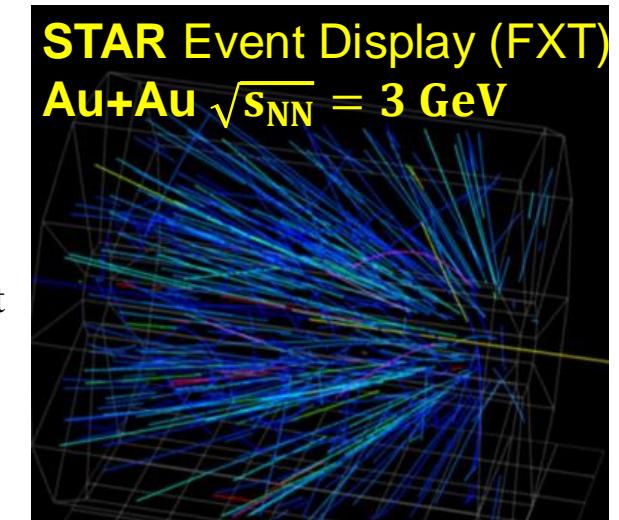




FXT Setup @ STAR



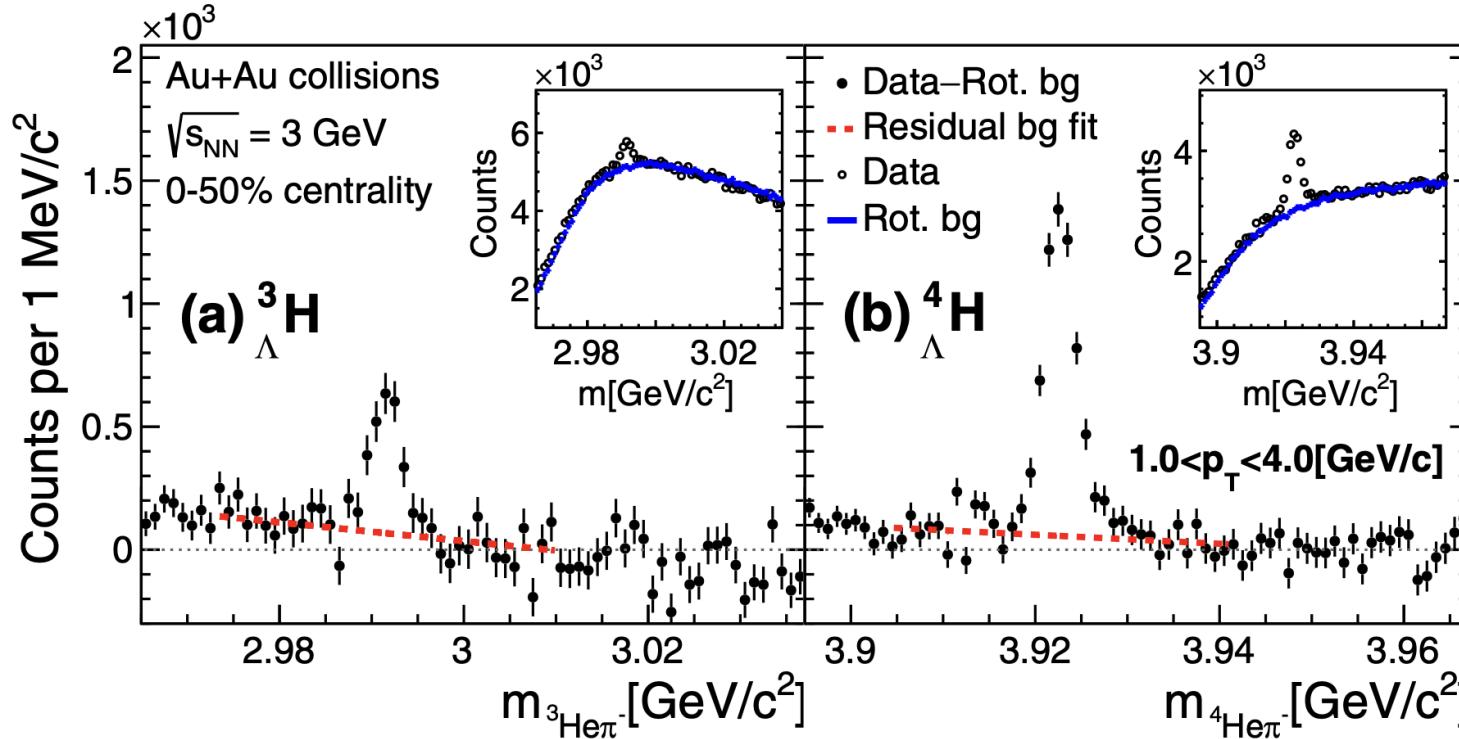
Good mid-rapidity coverage for STAR FXT 3 GeV (and up to 4.5GeV)



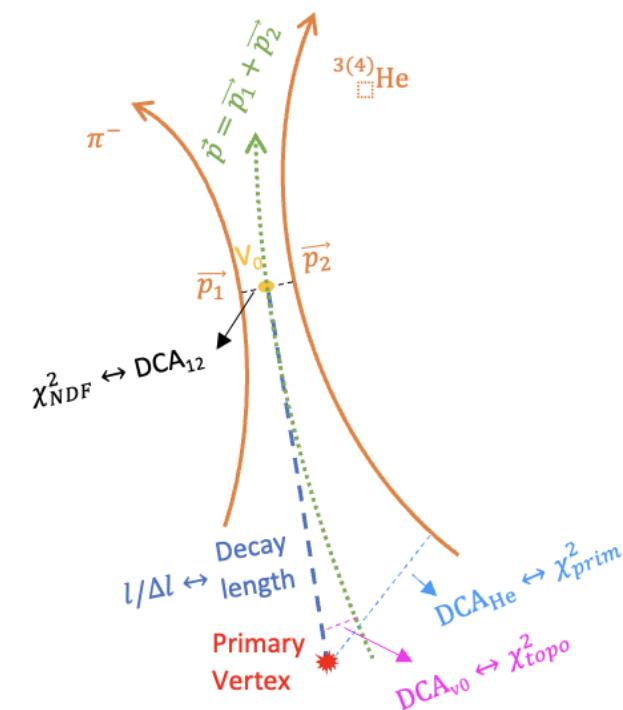
Hypernuclei Reconstruction

Phys. Rev. Lett. 128 (2022) 20, 202301

Two body decay: ${}^3\Lambda H \rightarrow {}^3He \pi^-$; ${}^4\Lambda H \rightarrow {}^4He \pi^-$



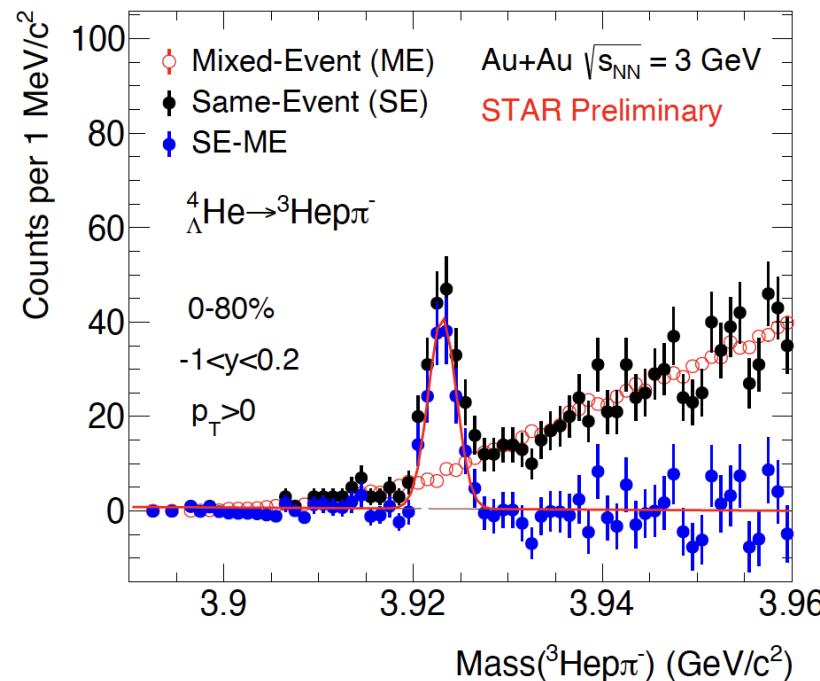
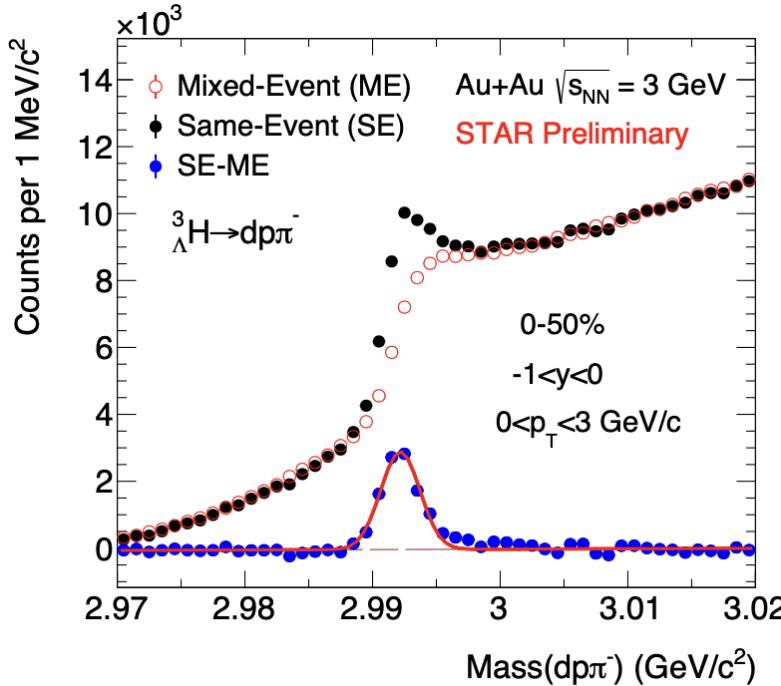
Hypertriton results from
3.0 3.2, 3.5, 3.9, 4.5, 5.2 GeV (FXT)
7.7, 11.5, 14.6 GeV (COL)



Hypernuclei Reconstruction

Y. Ji. C. Hu, X. Li, STAR, sQM 2024

Three body decay: $^3H \rightarrow p d \pi^+$; $^4He \rightarrow ^3He p \pi^+$



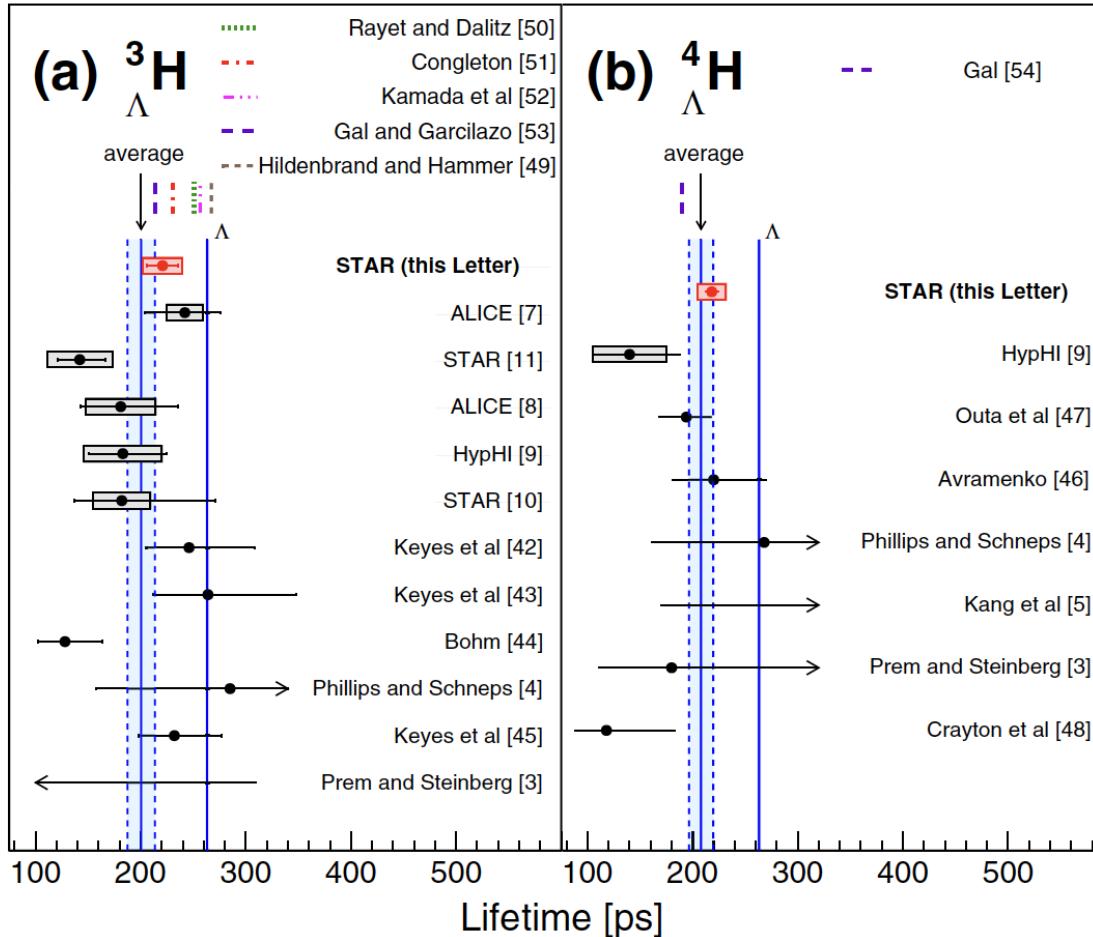
New results from 3.0, 3.2, 3.5
GeV (FXT)



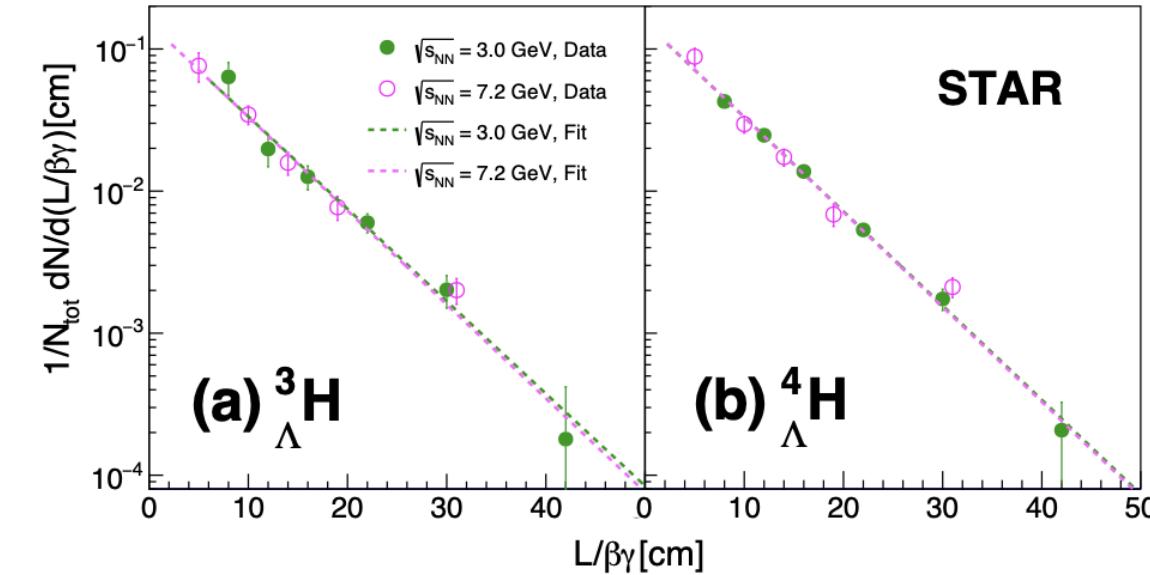
- Measurement of Hypernuclei **Intrinsic Properties:**
 - Lifetime, Branch Ratios & Binding Energy

- Light hypernuclei inner structure serves for our understanding of the YN interaction

Lifetime



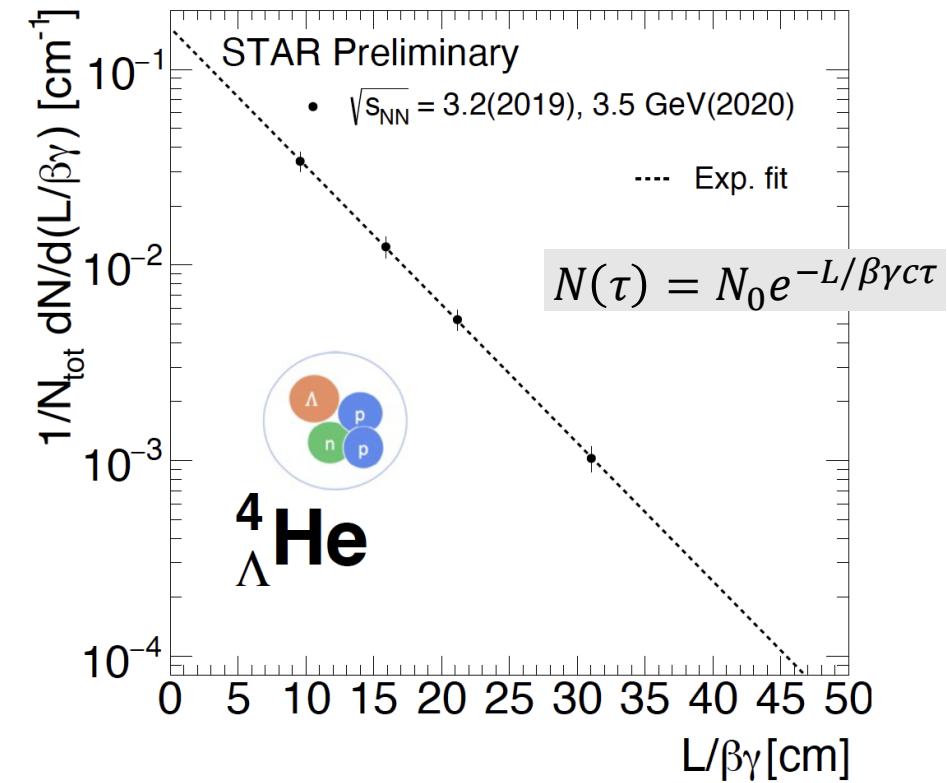
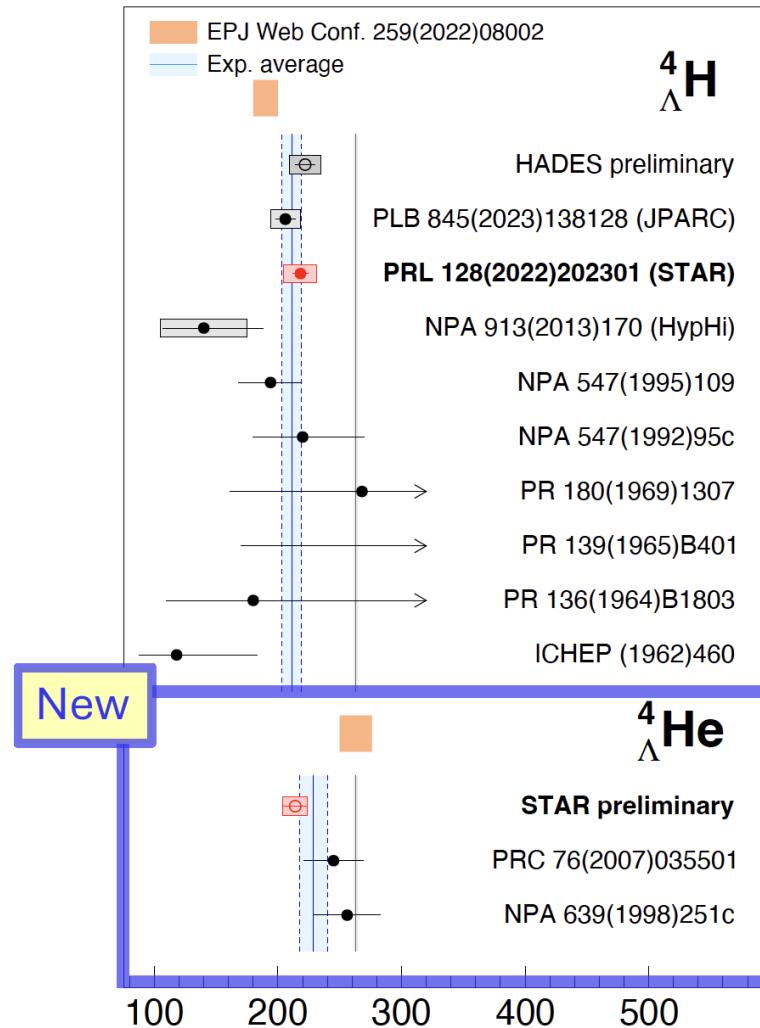
$$N(\tau) = N_0 e^{-L/\beta\gamma c\tau}$$



^3H : Global avg. = $(87 \pm 5)\% \tau(\Lambda)$, $2.8\sigma < \tau(\Lambda)$.

- Calculations with pion FSI consistent with data.

- Light hypernuclei inner structure serves for our understanding of the YN interaction



- Lifetime ratio based on isospin rule. $\frac{\Gamma({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{He} \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + \pi^0)}{\Gamma({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{H} \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + \pi^-)} \approx \frac{1}{2}$
- New data ${}^4_{\Lambda}\text{He}: 214 \pm 10 \pm 10 \text{ ps}$, most precise to date
- Shorter than $\tau(\Lambda)$ by 3σ ; $\tau({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{H})/\tau({}^4_{\Lambda}\text{He}) = 0.92 \pm 0.06$.

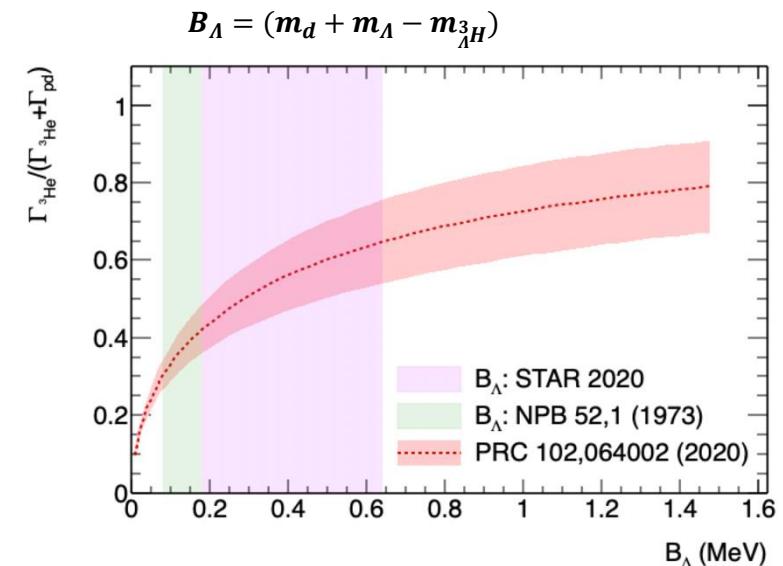
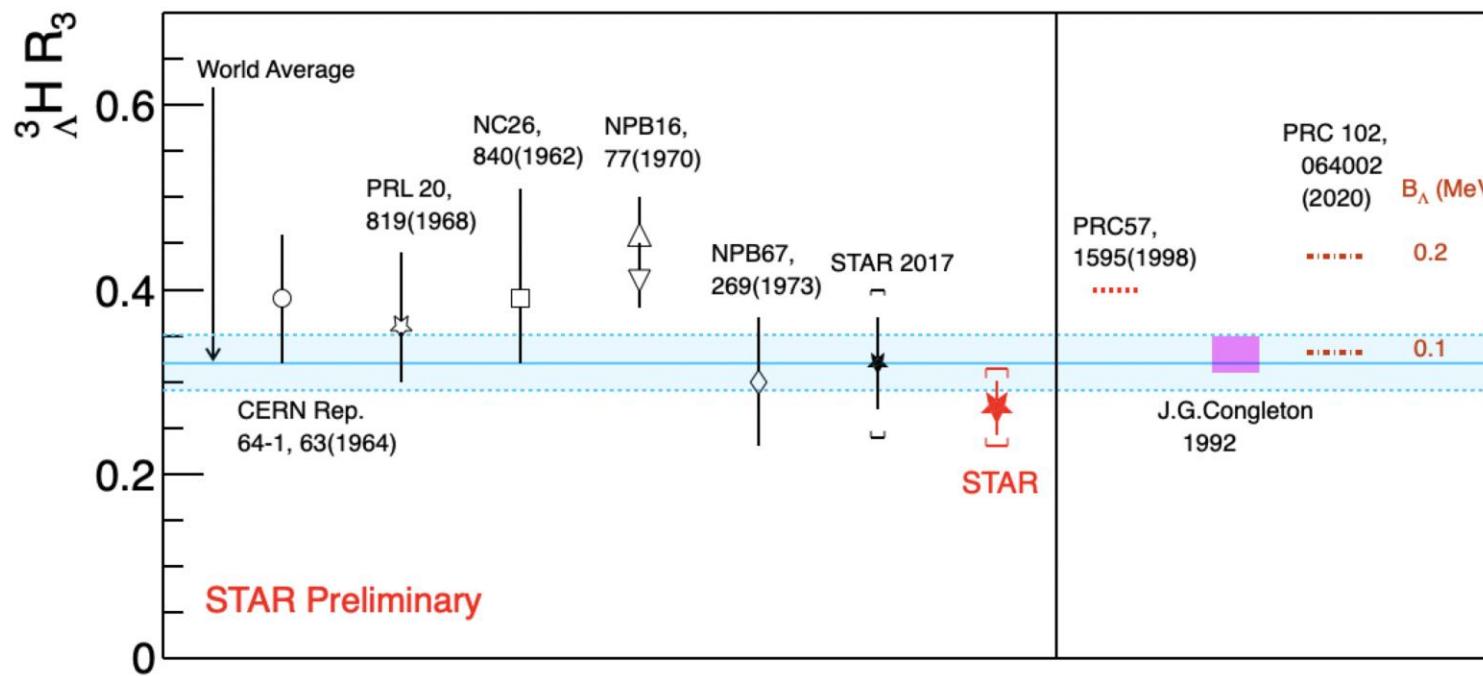
Hypertriton Branching Ratio

Yuanjing @ 3.0GeV

- Stronger constraints on absolute B.R. and hypertriton internal structure models
- Model comparison show data favors small B_A , weakly bounded state of 3H

$$R_3 = \frac{B.R.(^3H \rightarrow ^3He \pi^-)}{B.R.(^3H \rightarrow p d \pi^-) + B.R.(^3H \rightarrow ^3He \pi^-)}$$

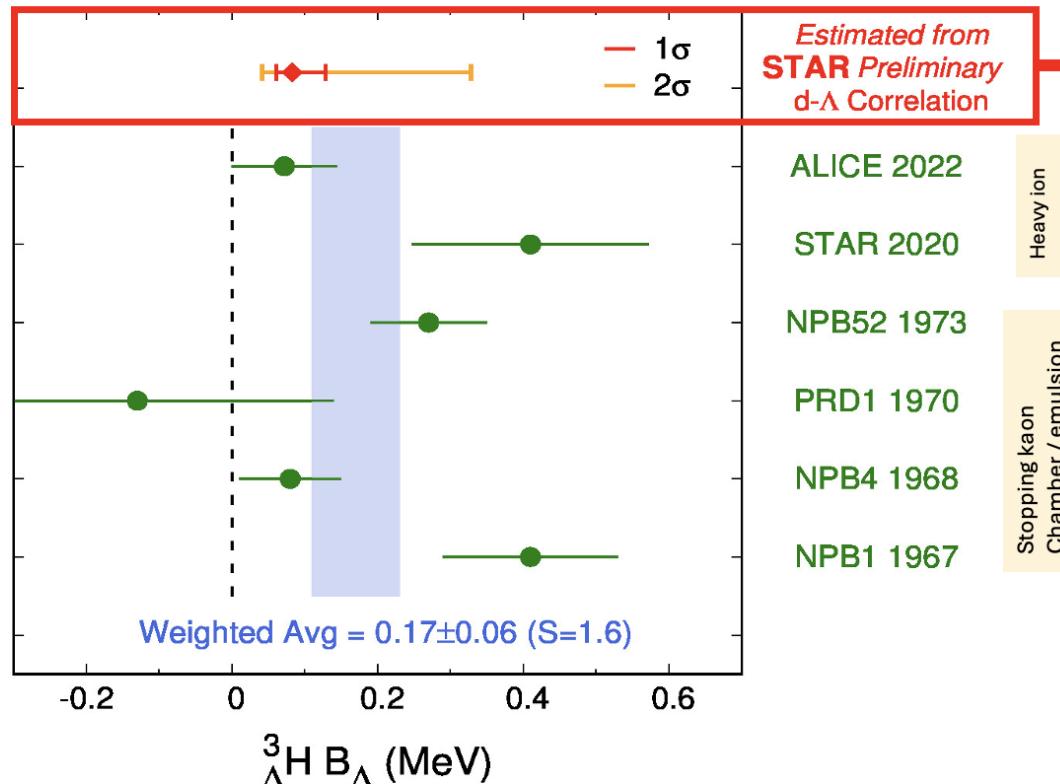
STAR: $R_3 = 0.272 \pm 0.030 \pm 0.042$



${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ Separation Energy (B_{Λ})

Yu Hu @ 3.0GeV

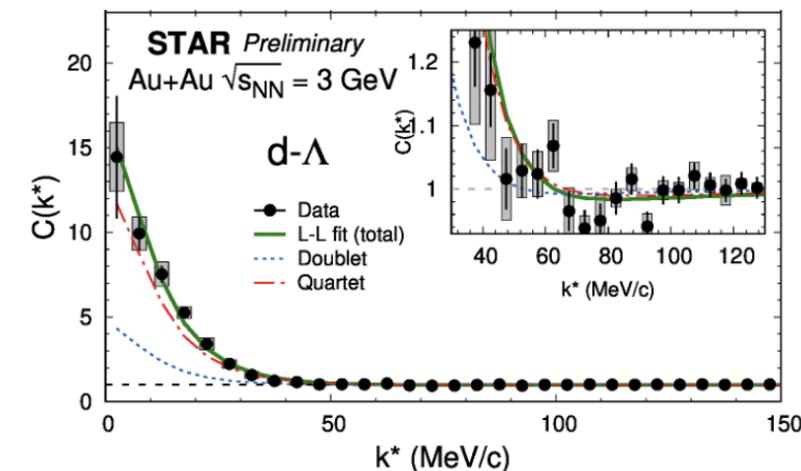
- Λ separation energy (B_{Λ}): ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H} B_{\Lambda} = M(d) + M(\Lambda) - M({}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H})$
- Benchmark of Y-N interaction strength



- Invariant mass method

- Femtoscopy method

$$\frac{1}{-f_0} = \gamma - \frac{1}{2} d_0 \gamma^2, B_{\Lambda} = \frac{\gamma^2}{2 \mu_d \mu_{\Lambda}}$$



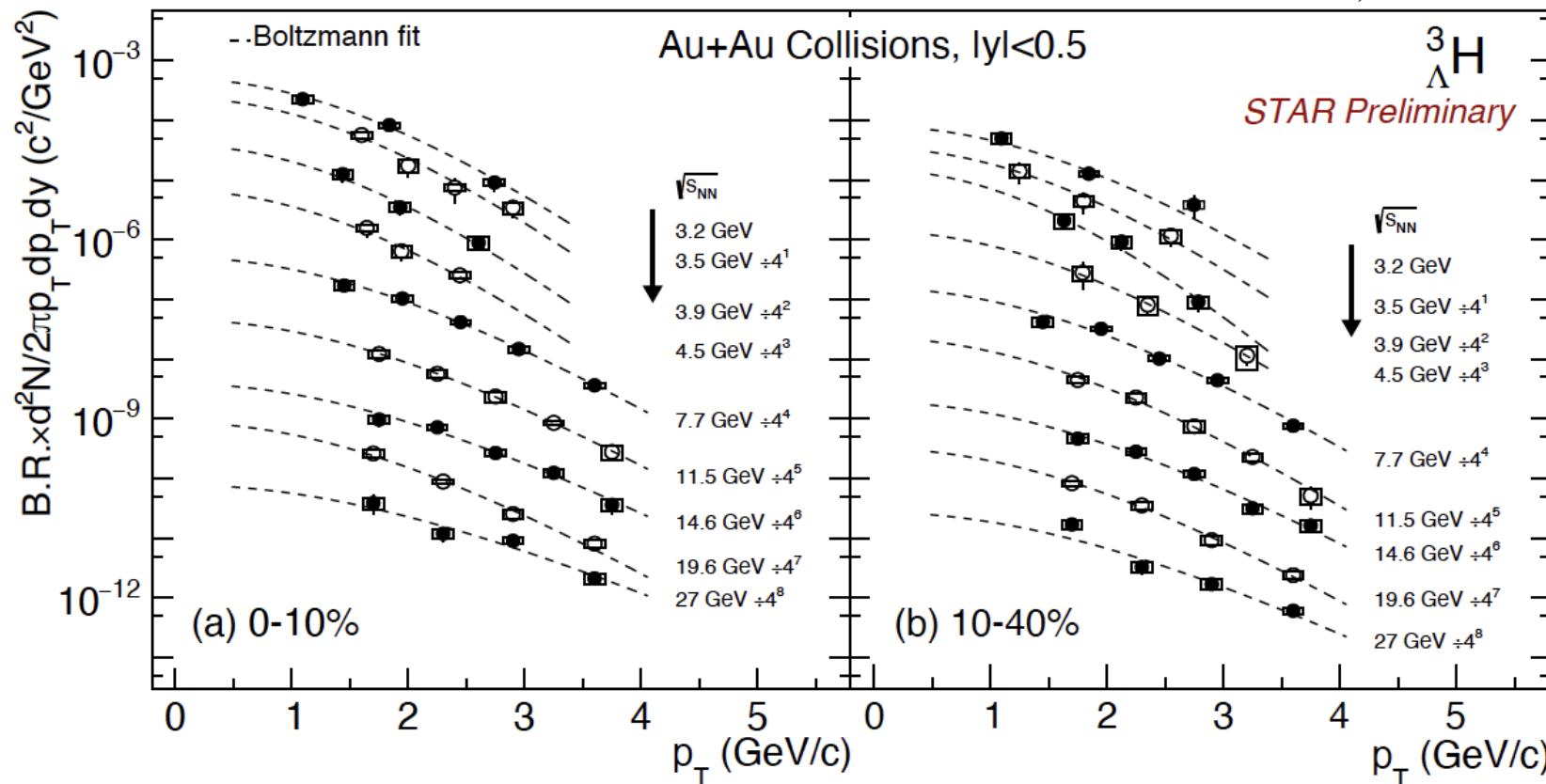
- ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ is a very loosely bound state.



- Measurement of Hypernuclei **Production**
 - Energy Dependence of Hypernuclei Production

A=3 Hypernuclei from BES-II Energies

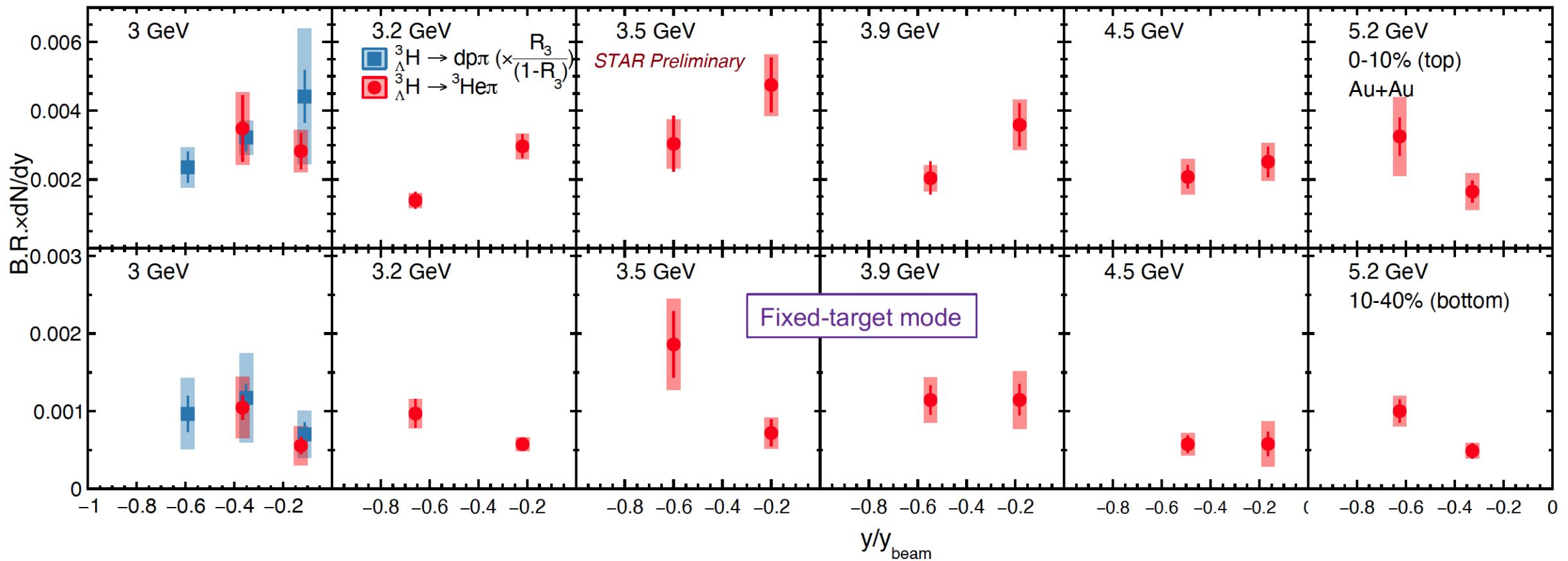
*Phys. Rev. Lett. 128 (2022) 20, 202301 @ 3 GeV
 New Λ^3H results @ 3.2, 3.5, 3.9, 4.5, 5.2 (FXT)
 @ 7.7, 11.5 14.6 GeV (Coll.) from sQM2024*



Utilizing datasets collected by STAR BES,

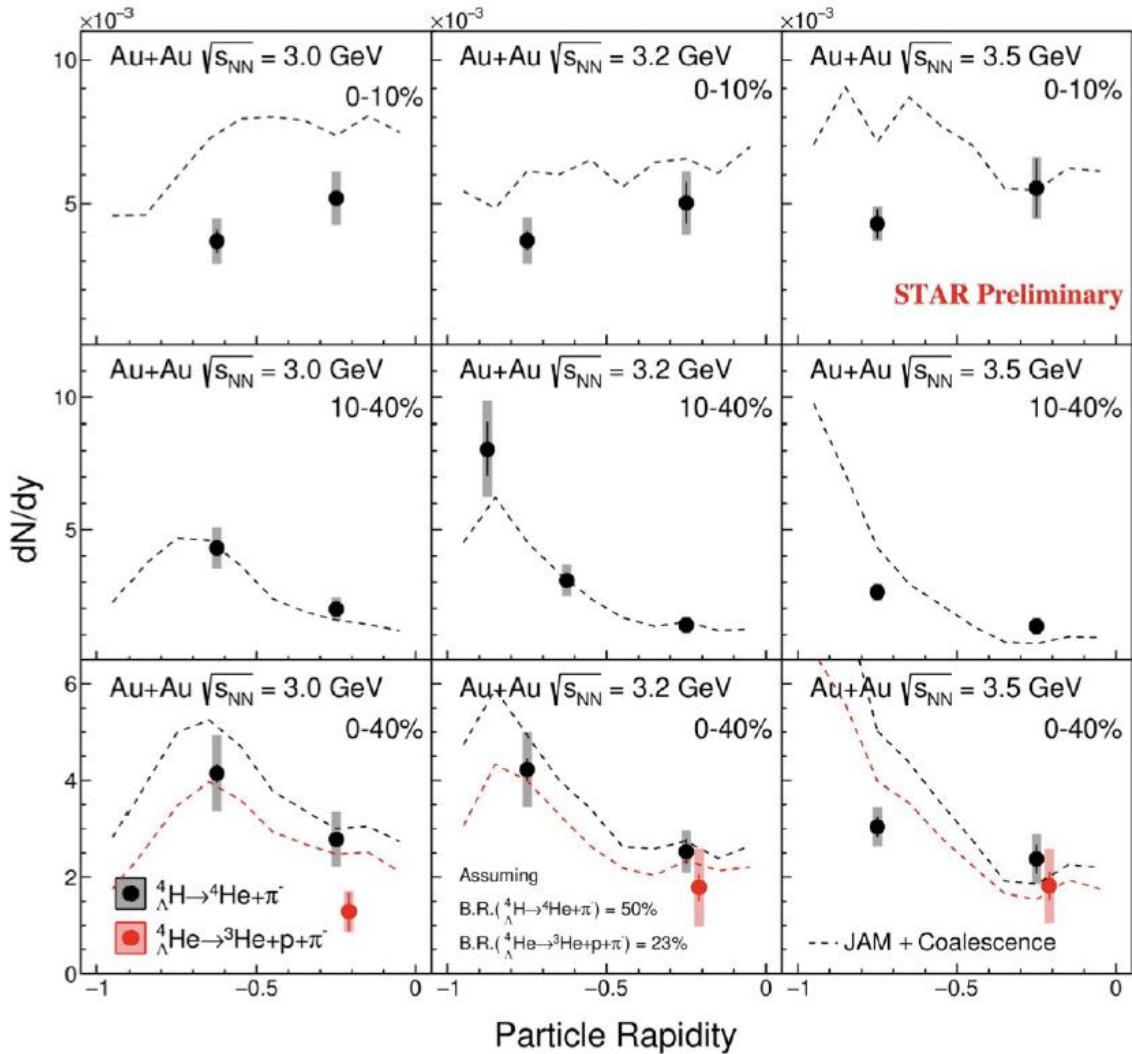
- Λ^3H p_T spectra, dN/dy are measured at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3-27$ GeV in Au+Au collisions.

A=3 Hypernuclei Yields vs. Rapidity



First measurements on rapidity dependence of hypernuclei yields in HIC, consist b/w 2 body and 3 body.
Different trends in rapidity in 10-40% centrality regions. -> Fragmentation contribution

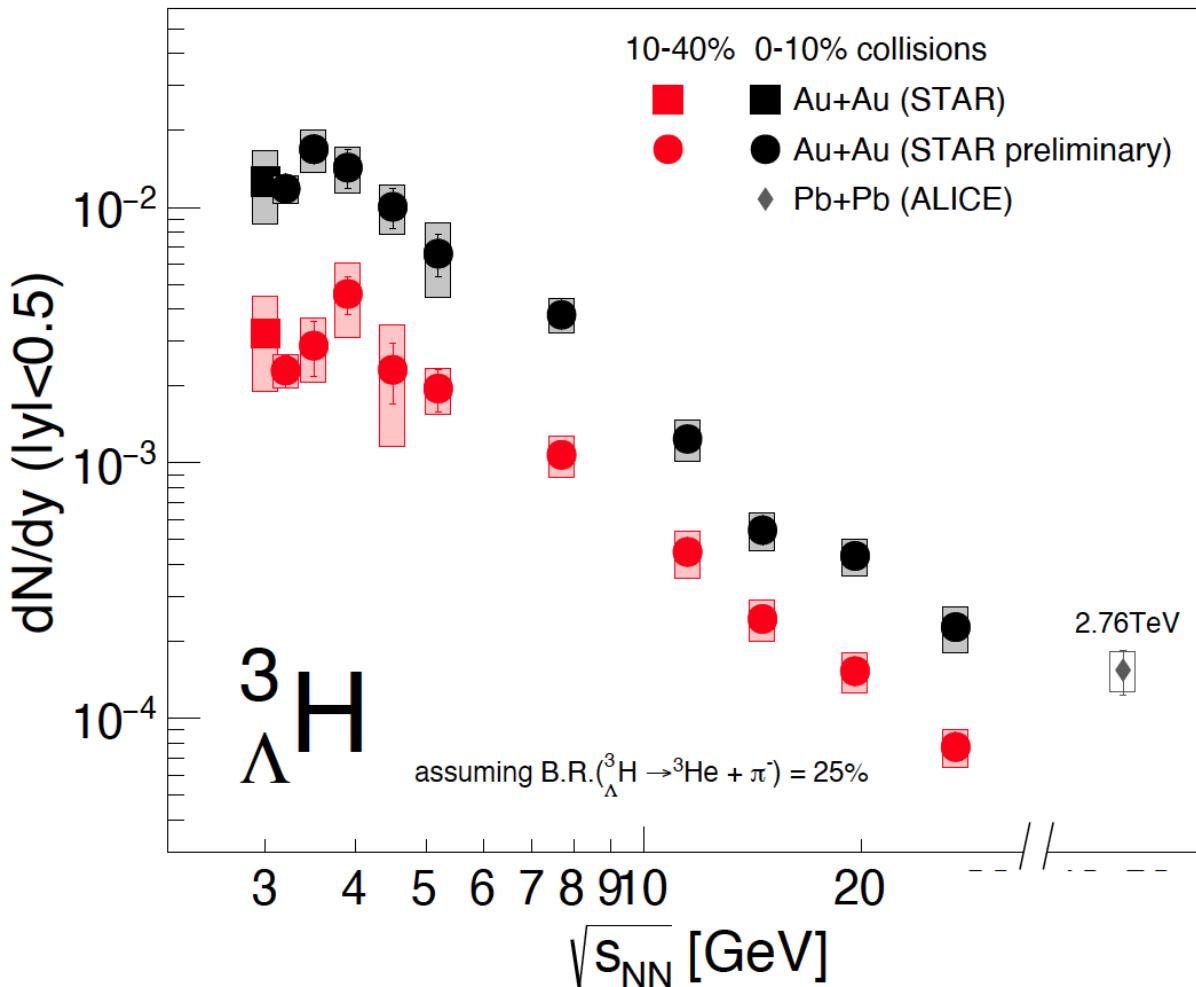
A=4 Hypernuclei from BES-II Energies



New ${}^4\Lambda(e)$ results @ 3.0, 3.2, 3.5, (FXT) from sQM2024

- ${}^4\Lambda(e)$ p_T spectra, dN/dy are measured at $\sqrt{(s_{NN})} = 3-3.5$ GeV in Au+Au collisions.

Hypernuclei Yield vs. $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$



First energy dependence of $^3\Lambda H$ hypernuclei production yields in high baryon region

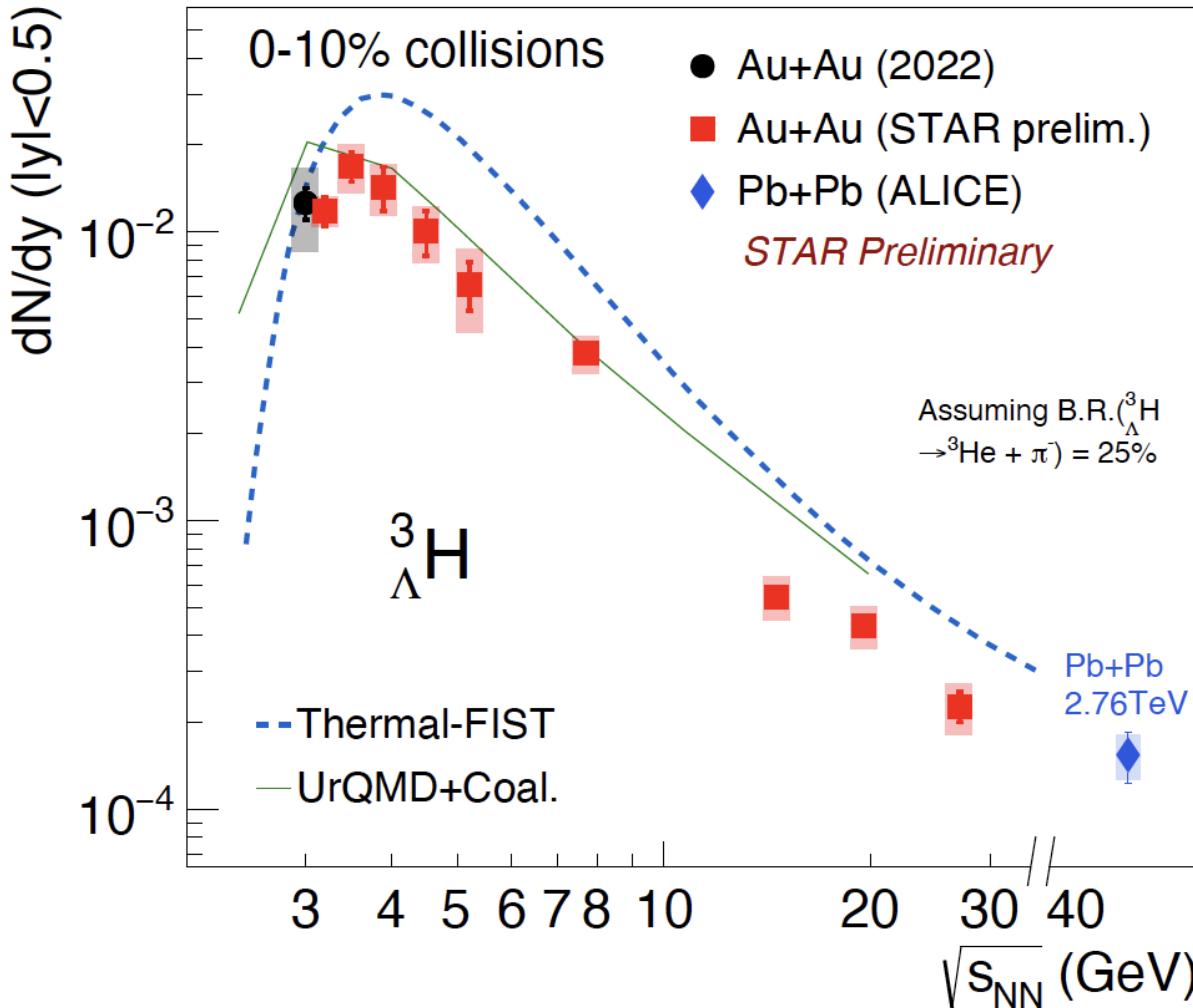
$^3\Lambda H$ yields peak at $\sqrt(s_{NN}) = 3-4$ GeV then decrease toward higher energy

- Increasing baryon density at lower energies ↑
 - Stronger strangeness canonical suppression at low energies ↓

Low Energies 3-4GeV optimal range search for $\Lambda\Lambda$ -hypernuclei

Pb+Pb: ALICE, PLB 754, 360 (2016)
STAR at 3 GeV: PRL 128, 202301 (2022)

Hypernuclei Yield vs. $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$



Thermal model

Hadron chemical freeze-out T_{ch} and μ_B .

UrQMD + Coal.

Instant coalescence after hadron kinetic freeze-out.

Coalescence condition:

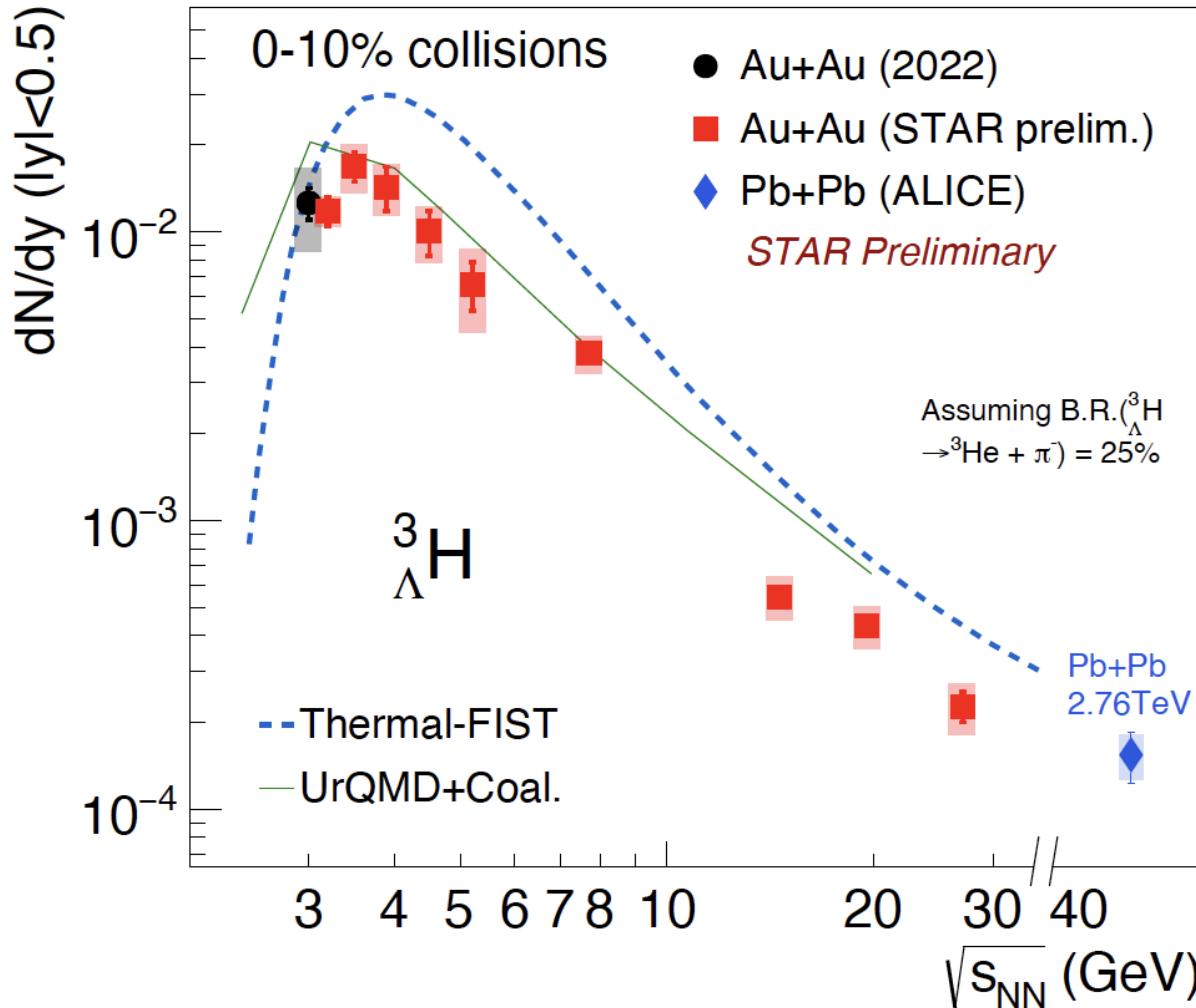
- $|\vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2| < \Delta P, |\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2| < \Delta R$
- or Wigner Coalescence

Provide first constraints for hypernuclei production models in the high-baryon-density region

Thermal (GSI): A. Andronic et al. PLB 697,203-207 (2011)

Thermal-FIST, Coal. (UrQMD): T. Reichert et al. PRC 107 (2023) 1, 014912

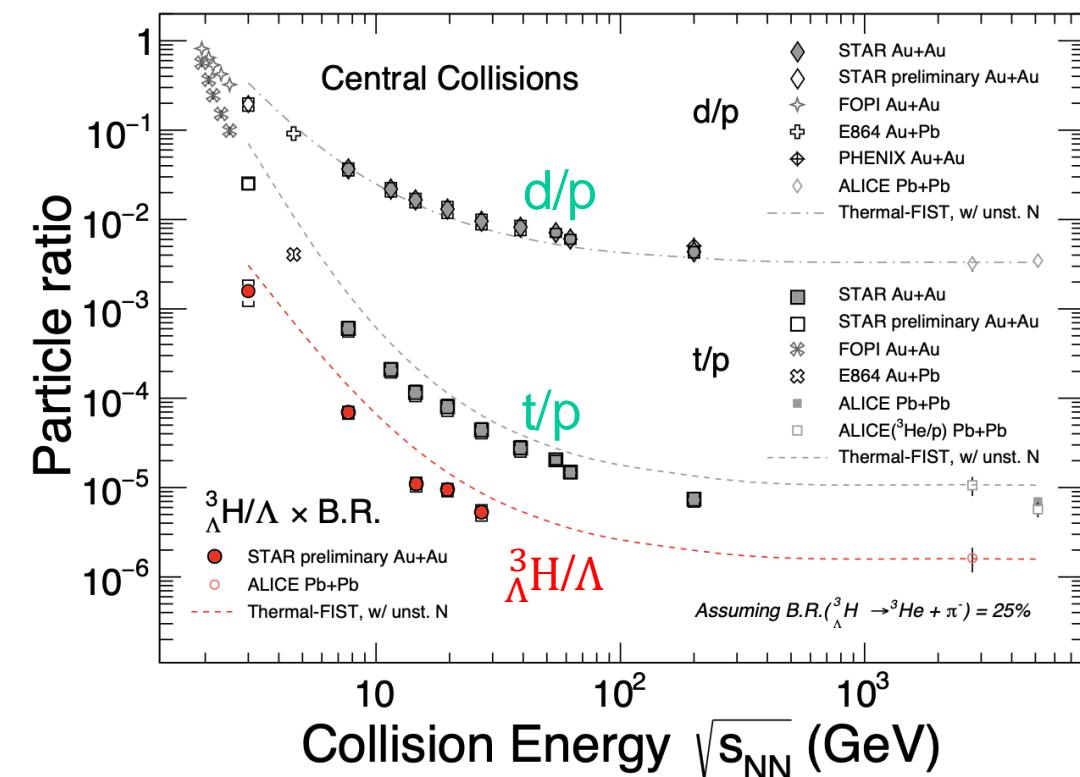
Hypernuclei Yield vs. $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$



Thermal model

Hadron chemical freeze-out T_{ch} and μ_B .

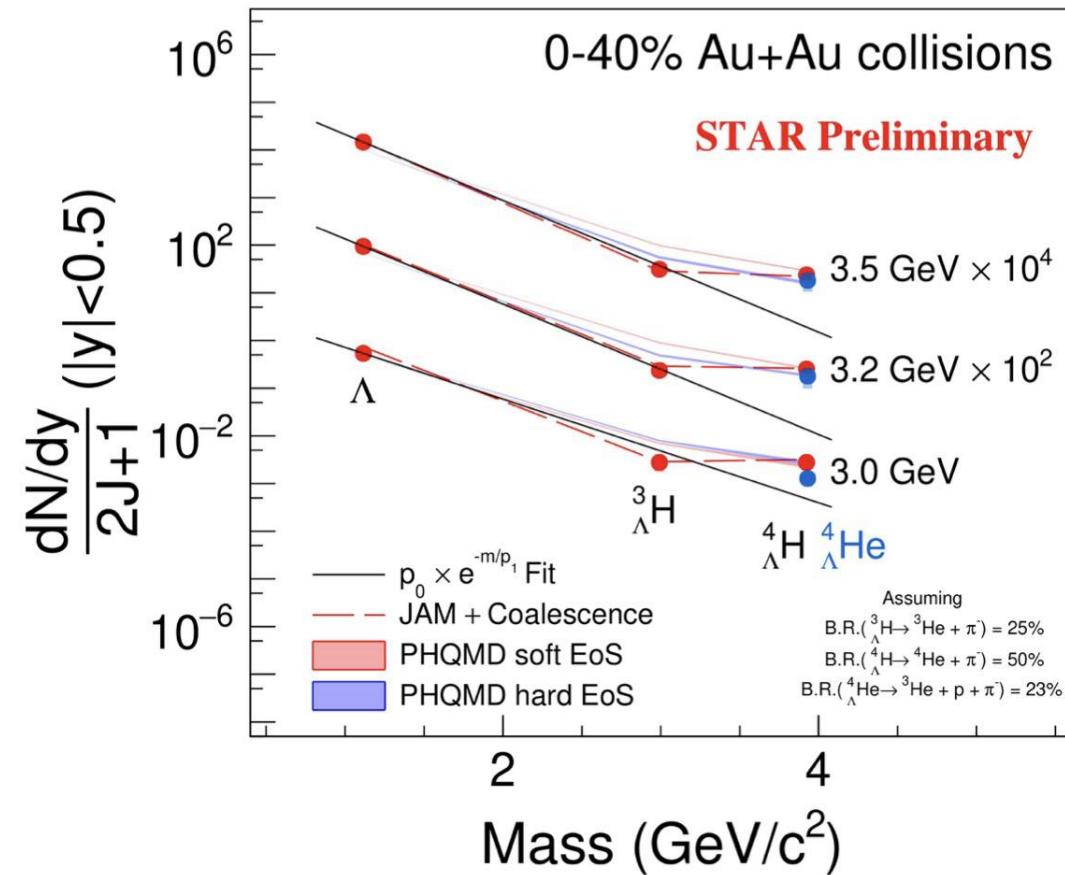
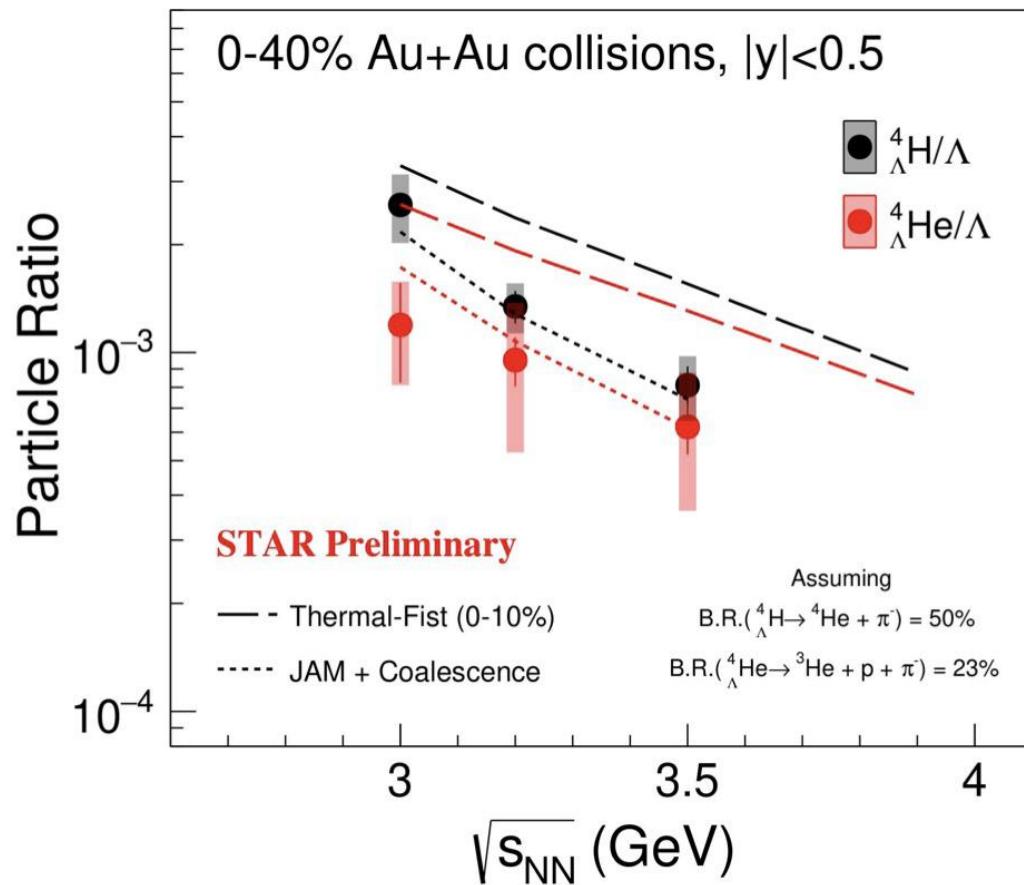
Both hypertriton and triton yields are not fixed at chemical freeze-out (disfavor thermal)



Thermal (GSI): A. Andronic et al. PLB 697,203-207 (2011)

Thermal-FIST, Coal. (UrQMD): T. Reichert et al. PRC 107 (2023) 1, 014912

A=4 Hypernuclei Yield Ratios



- Thermal model also over-predict A=4 hypernuclei yields while JAM+coal. describes the data.
- Enhanced ${}^4_{\Lambda}H$ production indicates a significant excited state feed-down contributions for A=4 hypernuclei.
 ${}^4H^*(J^+ = 1) \rightarrow {}^4H^*(J^+ = 0) + \gamma$

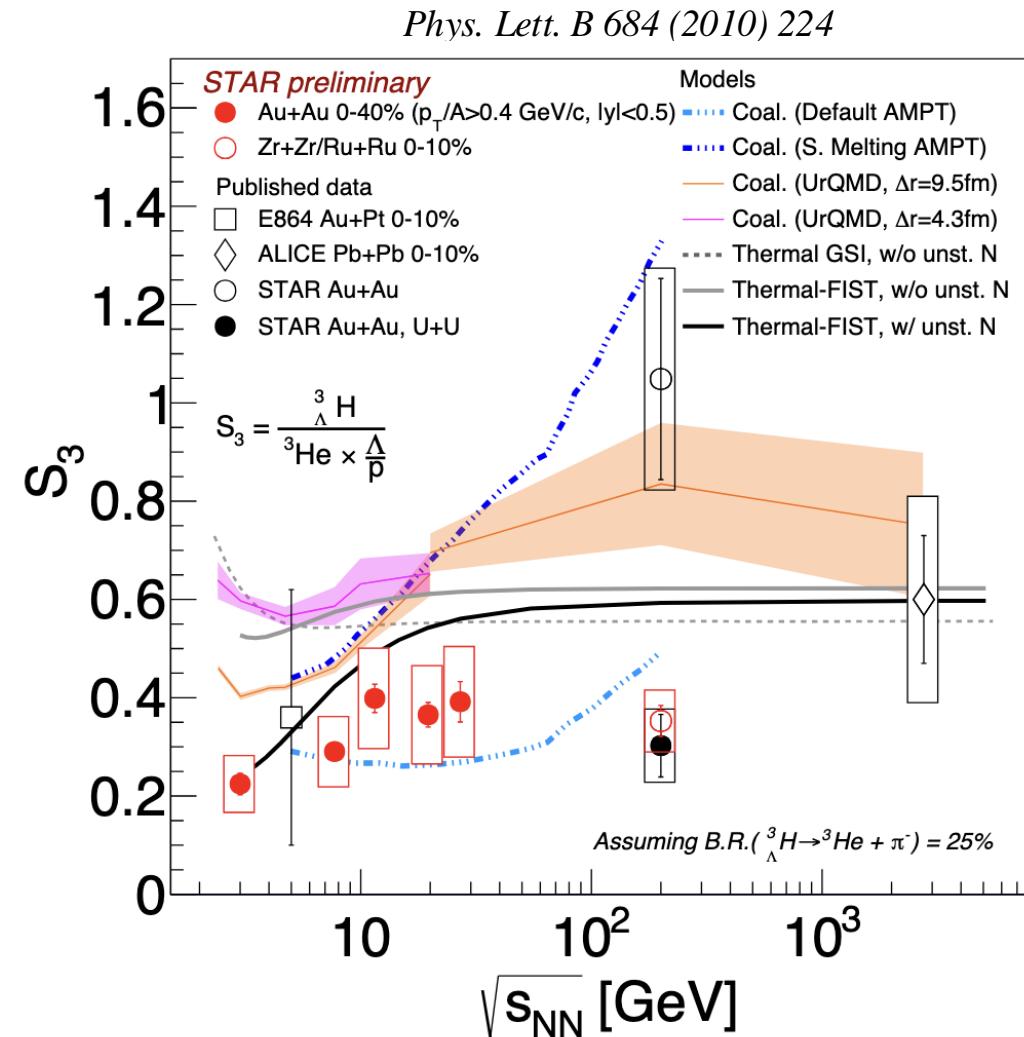
Strangeness Population Factor S_3 vs. $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$

Increasing trend of S_3 originally proposed as a signature of onset of deconfinement

$$S_3 = \frac{\Lambda H}{^3He \times \frac{\Lambda}{p}} : \text{removes the absolute difference of } \Lambda/B \text{ yields versus beam energy.}$$

- Data shows a hint of an increasing trend
- Coalescence + transport also suggest increasing trend – the energy dependence is sensitive to the source size, ΛH suppression due to large size
- Thermal-FIST also suggest increasing trend : unstable nuclei breakup ${}^4Li \rightarrow {}^3He p$

Phys. Rev. C 107 (2023) 1, 014912
Phys. Lett. B 809 (2020) 135746

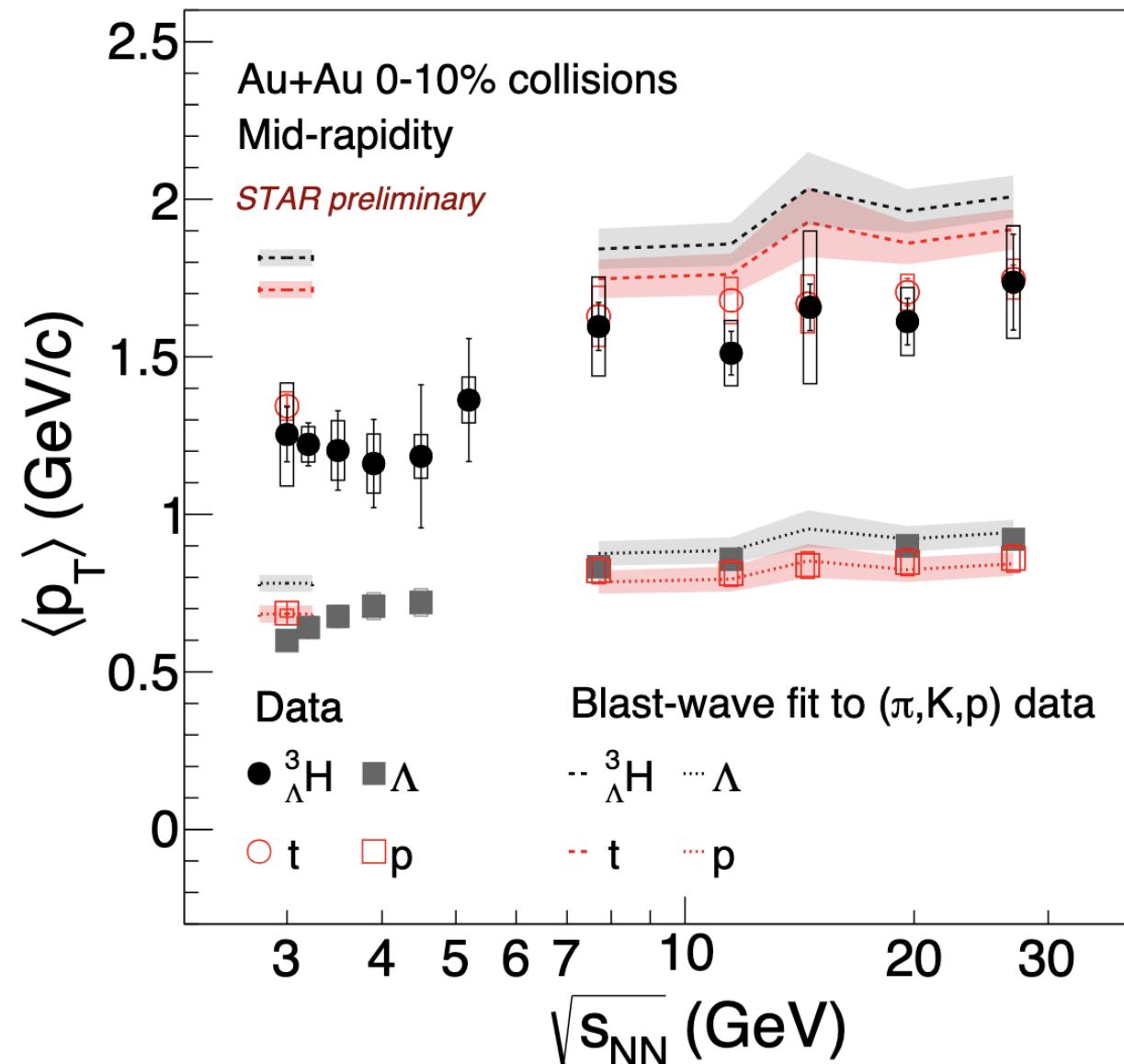


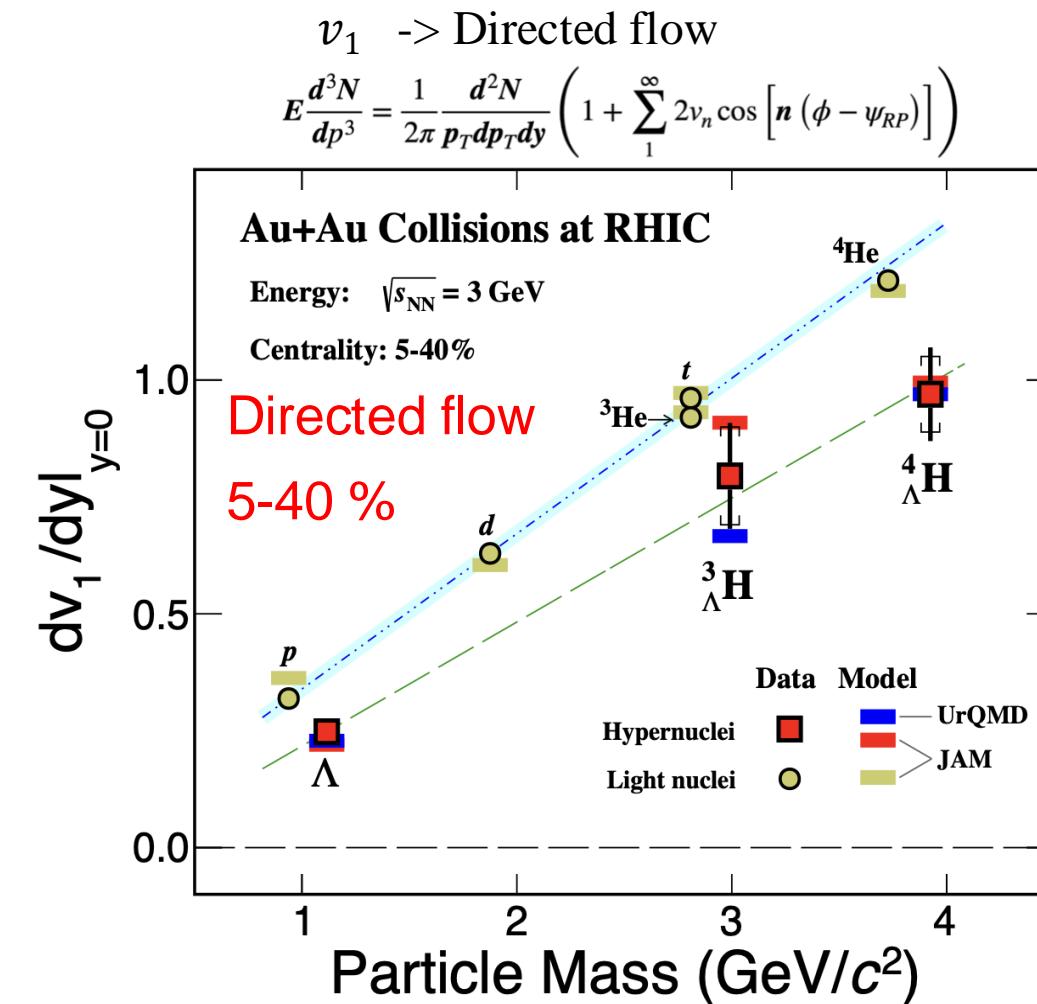
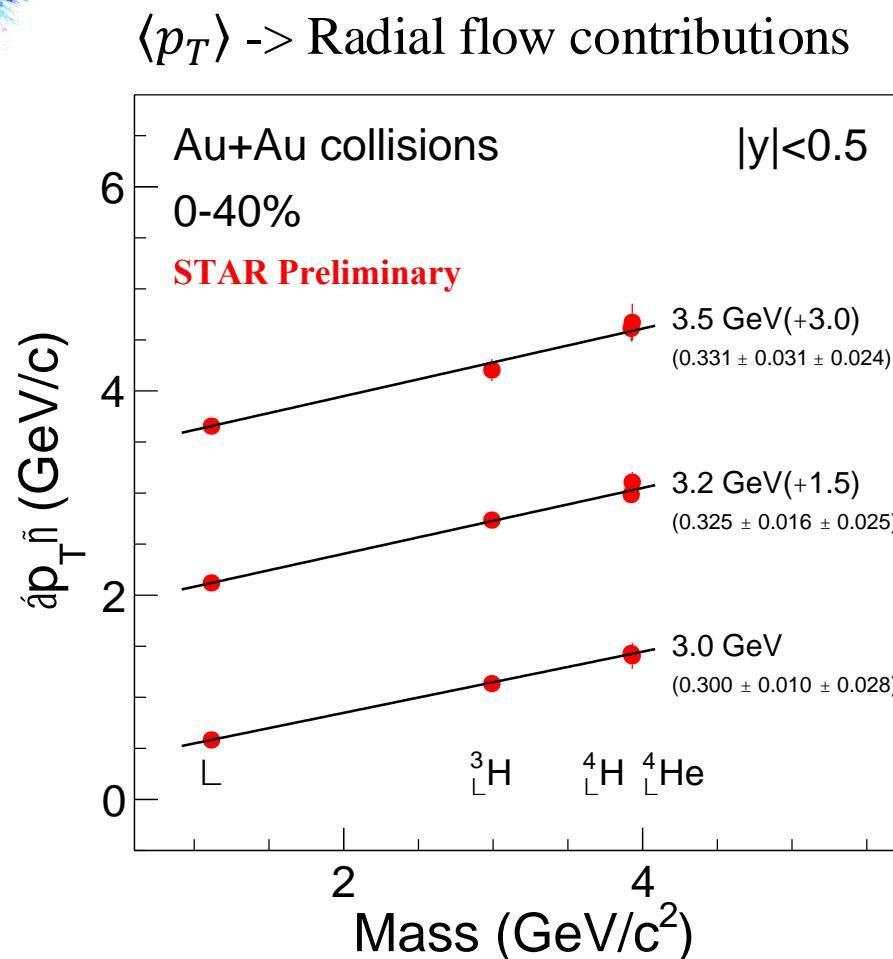
Provide constraints for hypernuclei production models in the high-baryon-density region

Energy Dependence of ${}^3\Lambda H \langle p_T \rangle$

- Similar $\langle p_T \rangle$ for ${}^3\Lambda H$ and t
- Blast-wave fit using measured kinetic freeze-out parameters from light hadrons (π , K, p) overestimates both ${}^3\Lambda H$ and t
- 3H and t might do not follow the same collective expansion as light hadrons
- Different trend for $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3\text{-}4.5 \text{ GeV}$ and $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 7.7\text{-}27 \text{ GeV}$

Suggest different expansion dynamics or medium properties?





- Hypernuclei $\langle p_T \rangle$ (and v_1) show linear mass scaling from 3 to 3.5 GeV in mid-rapidity.
 - Consistent with coalescence formation picture.



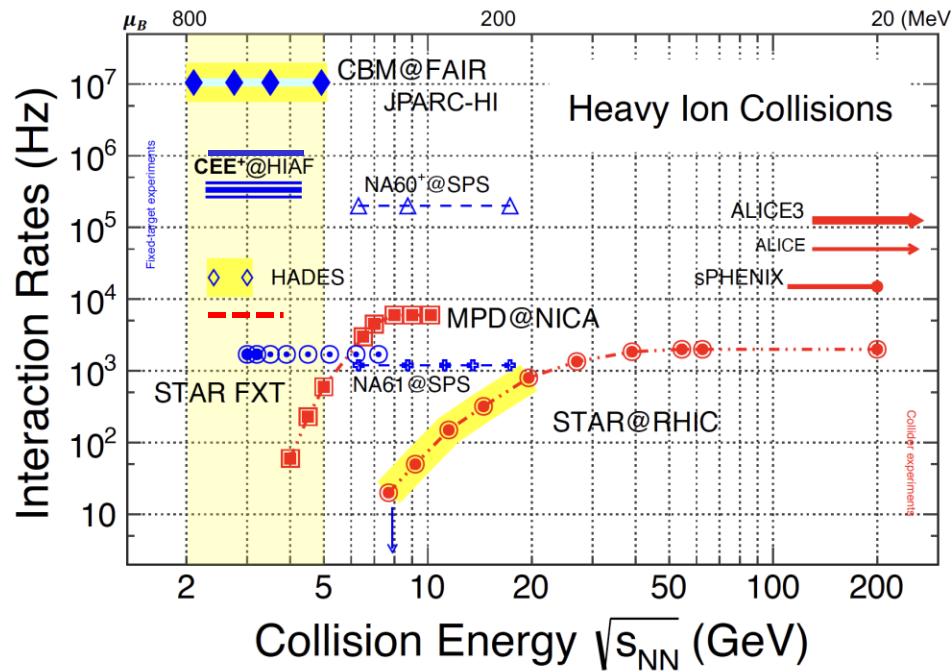
Summary

- HyperNuclei Measurements @ STAR

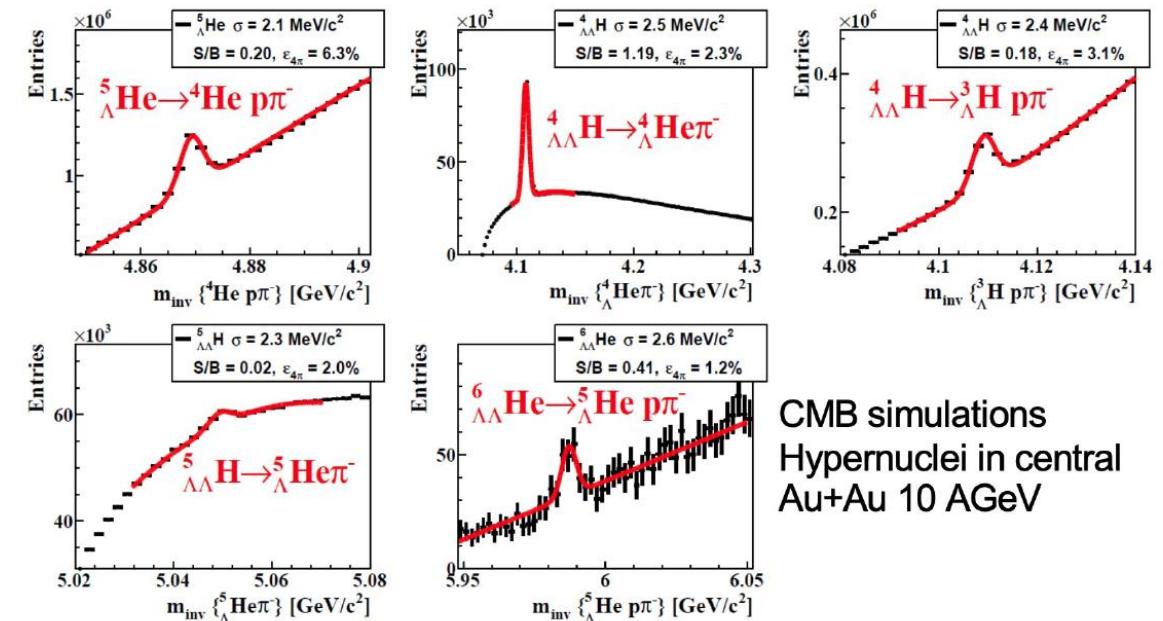
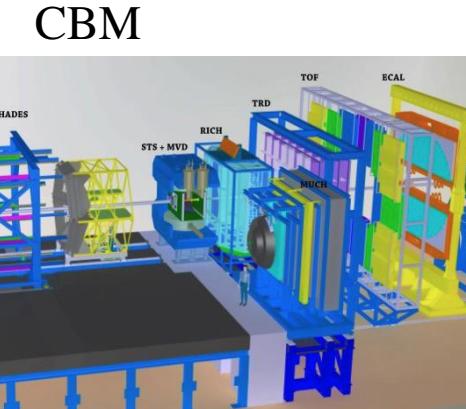
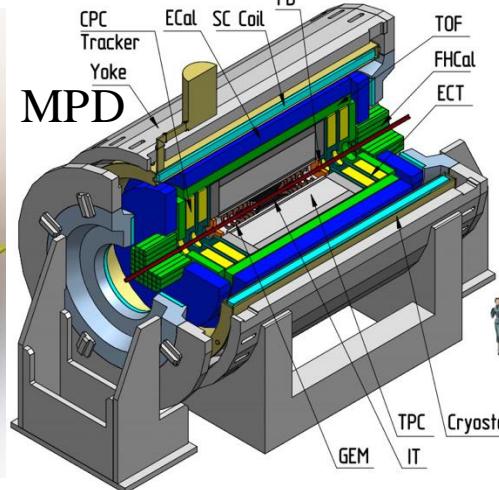
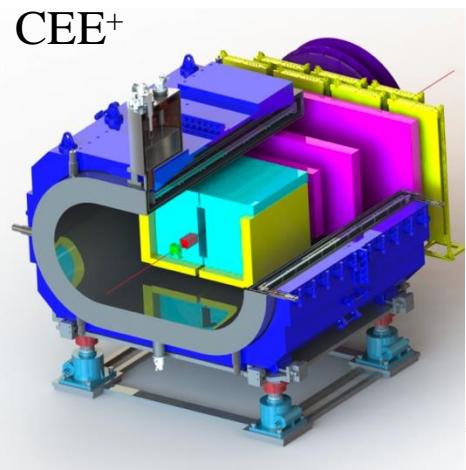
- ✓ Intrinsic Properties:
-- Lifetime, Branch Ratios & Binding Energy
 - ✓ Productions and Collectivity:
-- Energy Dependence

- ✓ Enhanced hypernuclei production at low energies allow precision measurement
- ✓ STAR data support coalescence mechanism of hypernuclei formation at mid-rapidity
- ✓ Thermal model over-predict A=3 (and A=4) hypernuclei yields

Outlook and Future Facilities

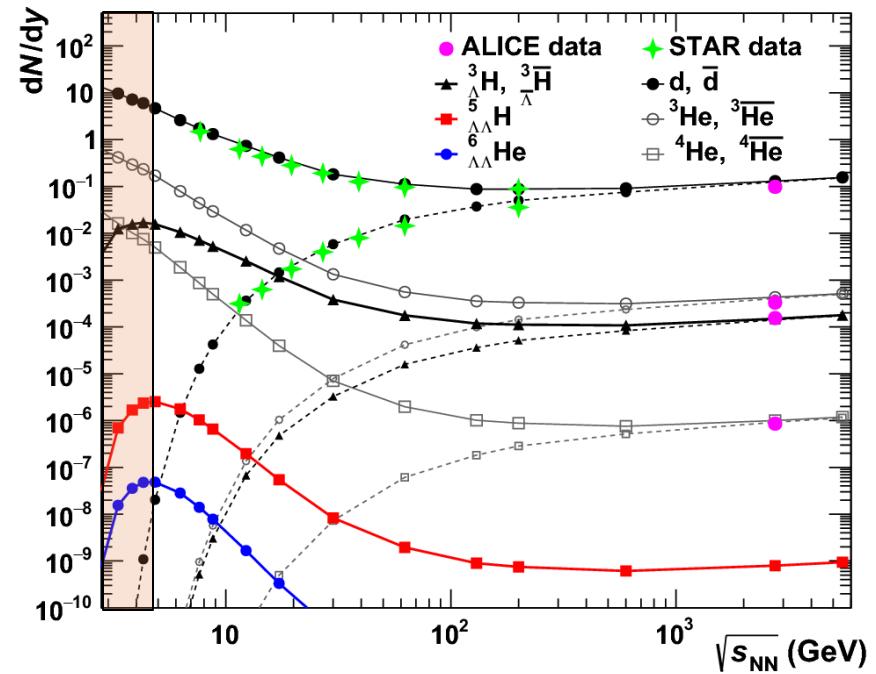
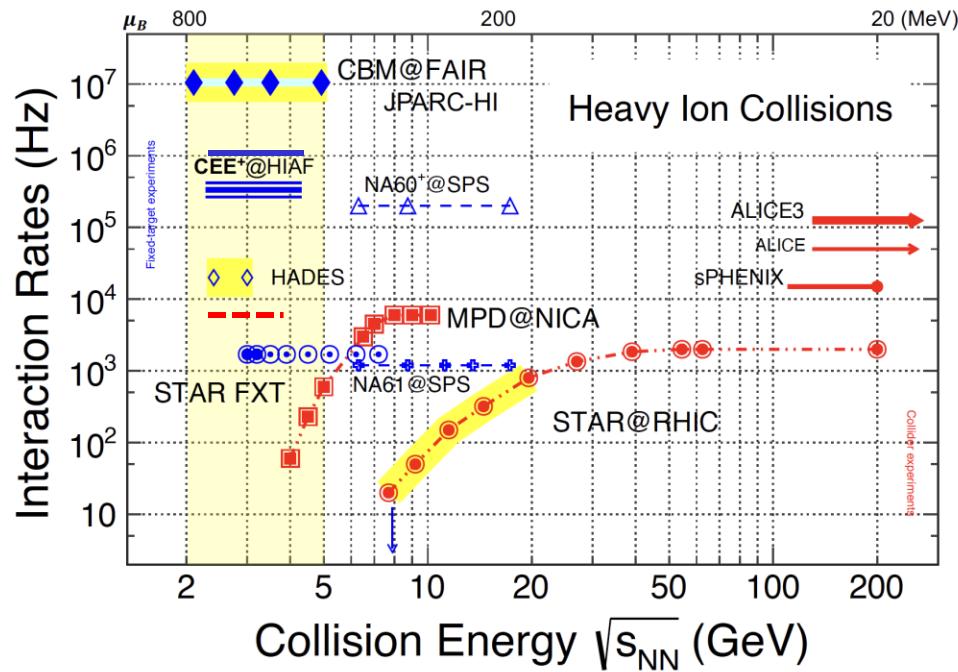


NICA/MPD 4-11 GeV, 2.4-3.5 GeV FXT
 FAIR/CBM 2-5 GeV
 HIAF/CEE/CEE+ 2.2-4.5 GeV



CMB simulations
 Hypernuclei in central
 Au+Au 10 AGeV

Perspectives



HIAF/CHNS 2.2-4.5 GeV: Biggest advantage & opportunity at this high baryon density region

- Precise measurements on the production/collectivity of $A=3,4,5,6$ hypernuclei (Λ, Σ, Ξ)
- (Double) Λ hypernuclei (YY): $\Lambda\Lambda\text{H} \rightarrow \Lambda\Lambda\text{He}\pi, \Lambda\Lambda\text{H} \rightarrow \Lambda\Lambda\text{He}\pi, A=6$ hypernuclei etc
- Direct correlation measurement: $p - \Lambda, d(t, He) - \Lambda, \Lambda - \Lambda, p - \Xi$ correlations.
- Precise measurements on the intrinsic properties
- Mirrored Particles with isospin dependence
- Hypernuclei Polarizations
- etc



中国科学院大学
University of Chinese Academy of Sciences

Thanks for Attention!





STAR Beam Energy Scan

Au+Au Collisions at RHIC											
Collider Runs						Fixed-Target Runs					
	$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	#Events	μ_B	y_{beam}	run		$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (GeV)	#Events	μ_B	y_{beam}	run
1	200	380M	25MeV	5.3	r10, 19	1	13.7(100)	50M	280MeV	-2.69	r 21
2	62.4	46M	75MeV		r10	2	11.5(70)	50M	320MeV	-2.51	r 21
3	54.4	1200M	85MeV		r17	3	9.2(44.5)	50M	370MeV	-2.28	r 21
4	39	86M	112MeV		r10	4	7.7(31.2)	260M	420MeV	-2.1	r 18,19,20
5	27	585M	156MeV	3.36	r11, 18	5	7.2(26.5)	470M	440MeV	-2.02	r 18,20
6	19.6	595M	206MeV	3.1	r11, 19	6	6.2(19.5)	120M	490MeV	-1.87	r 20
7	17.3	256M	230MeV		r 21	7	5.2(13.5)	100M	540MeV	-1.68	r 20
8	14.6	340M	262MeV		r14, 19	8	4.5(9.8)	110M	590MeV	-1.52	r 20
9	11.5	57M	316MeV		r10, 20	9	3.9(7.3)	120M	633MeV	-1.37	r 20
10	9.2	160M	372MeV		r10, 20	10	3.5(5.75)	120M	670MeV	-1.2	r 20
11	7.7	104M	420MeV		r 21	11	3.2(4.59)	200M	699MeV	-1.13	r 19
						12	3.0(3.85)	260+ 2000M	760MeV	-1.05	r 18,20

Most Precise data to map the QCD phase diagram, $3 < \sqrt{s_{NN}} < 200 \text{ GeV}; 760 > \mu_B > 25 \text{ MeV};$