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# Hypernuclei at R3B

Alexandre Obertelli, TU Darmstadt

Mini-symposium « hyperons @ FAIR », online

October 25, 2021



Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung



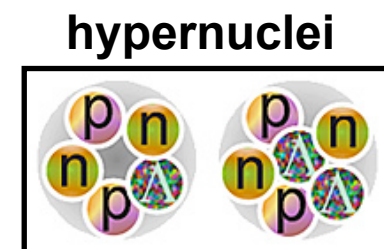
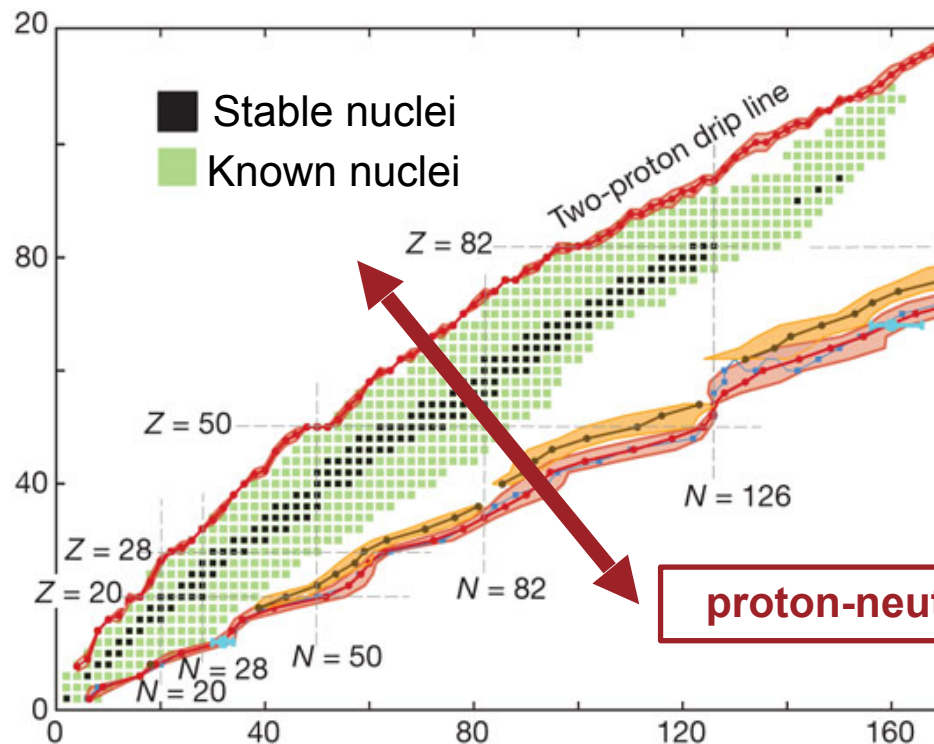
HESSEN



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und Kunst

# Isospin and strangeness degree of freedom

- Proton-neutron asymmetry  $\Rightarrow$  nuclear structure and in-medium forces
- Hypernuclei open the strangeness sector
- In the next years, we aim at investigating weekly-bound hypernuclei at R3B

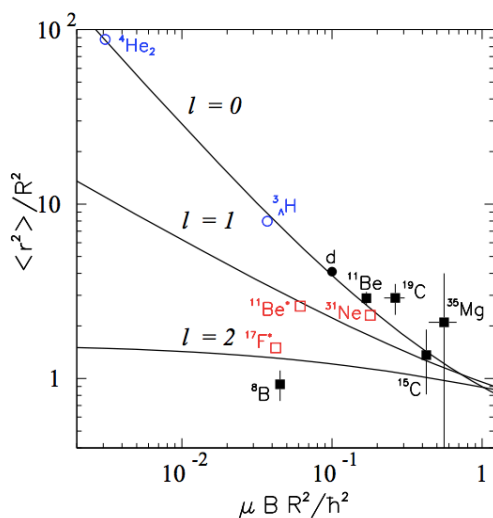


proton-neutron asymmetry

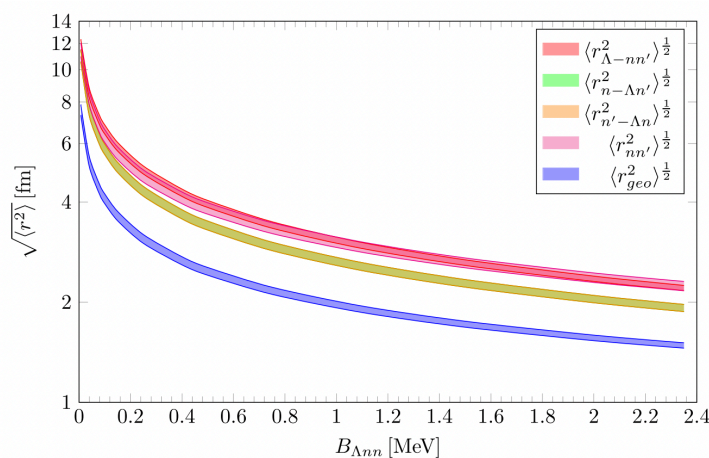
# Hypernuclear halos

- Universality of halos: several loosely bound (hyper)nuclei are candidates
  - $\Lambda - d$  distance in **hypertriton** ( ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ ) predicted at 10.8 fm
- F. Hildenbrand, H.-W. Hammer, PRC 100 (2019)
- ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$  predicted as a two-proton halo

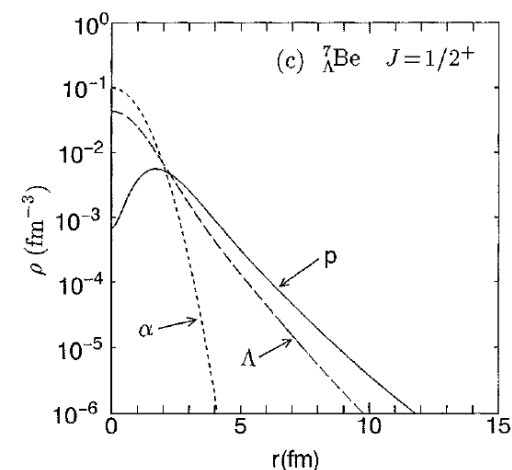
K. Riisager, Phys. Scr. T 152 (2012)



F. Hildenbrand, H.-W. Hammer, PRC 100 (2019)

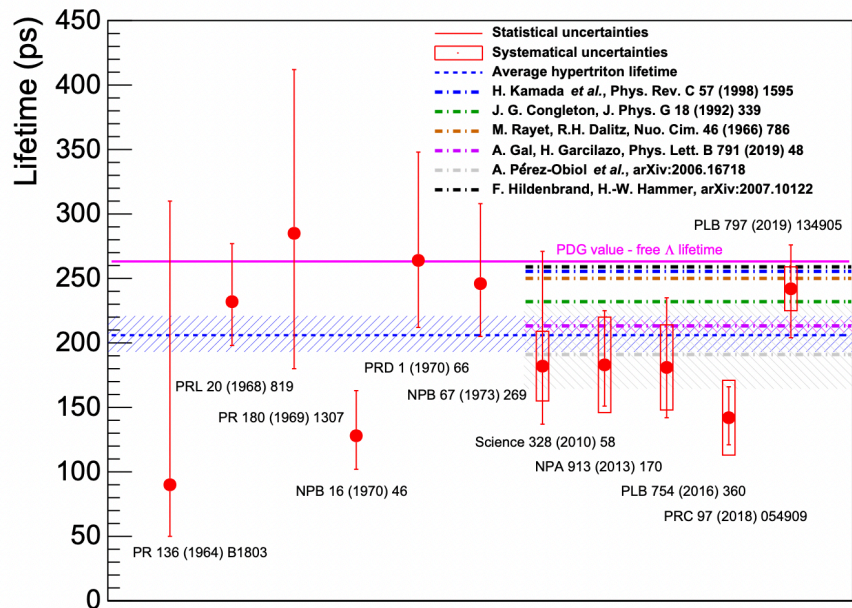
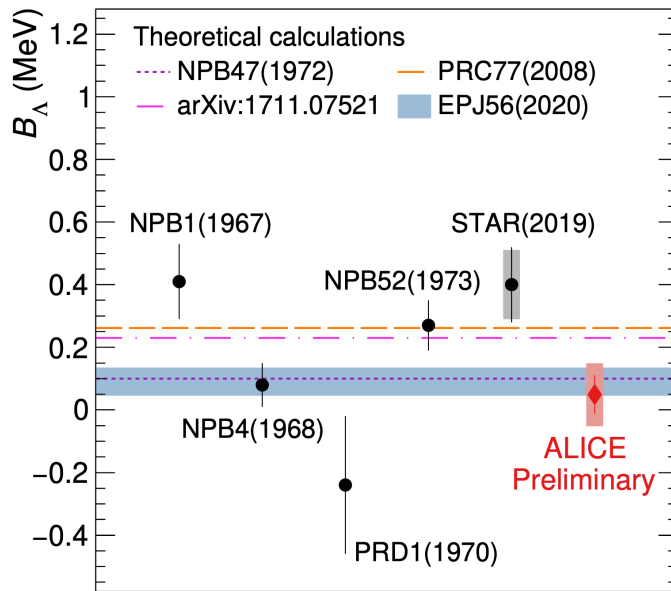


E. Hiyama et al., PRC 53 (1996)



# The hypertriton puzzle in a nutshell

- Low binding energy (average 2020: 130(50) keV, STAR 2020: 410(120) keV)
- Large spatial extension predicted (*unmeasured*)
- Inconsistency between several lifetime analyses (STAR, HyPHIO, ALICE), see presentation by T. Saito

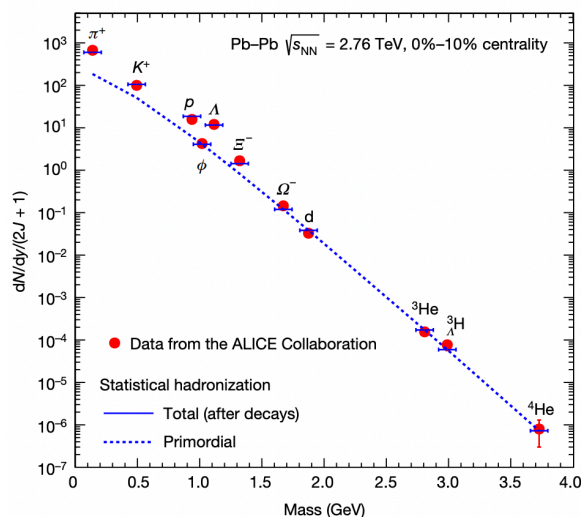
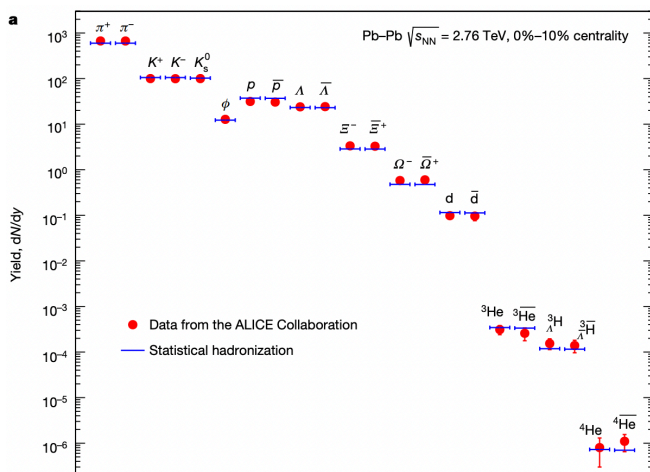


B. Dönig, EPJA 56 (2020)

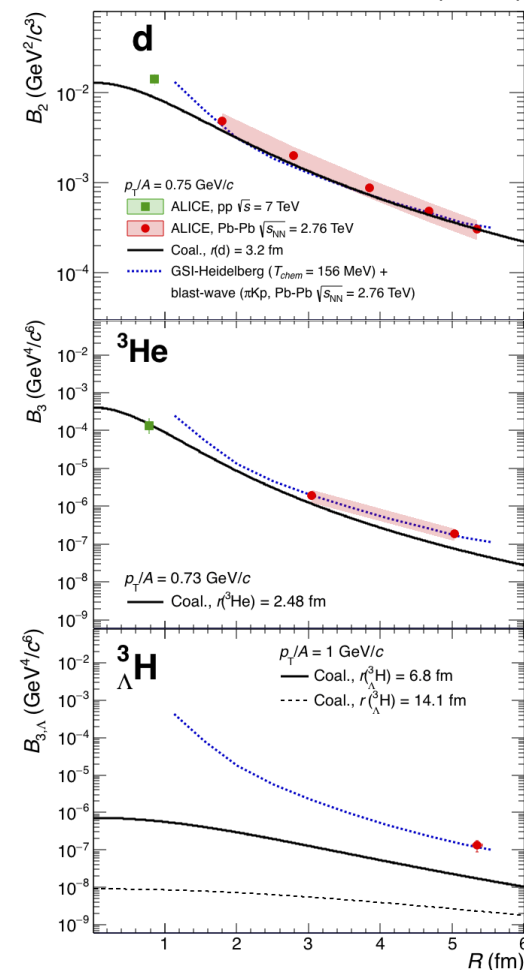


# ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ : cluster formation in relativistic HI collisions

A. Andronic et al., Nature 561 (2018)



F. Bellini et al., PRC 99 (2019)

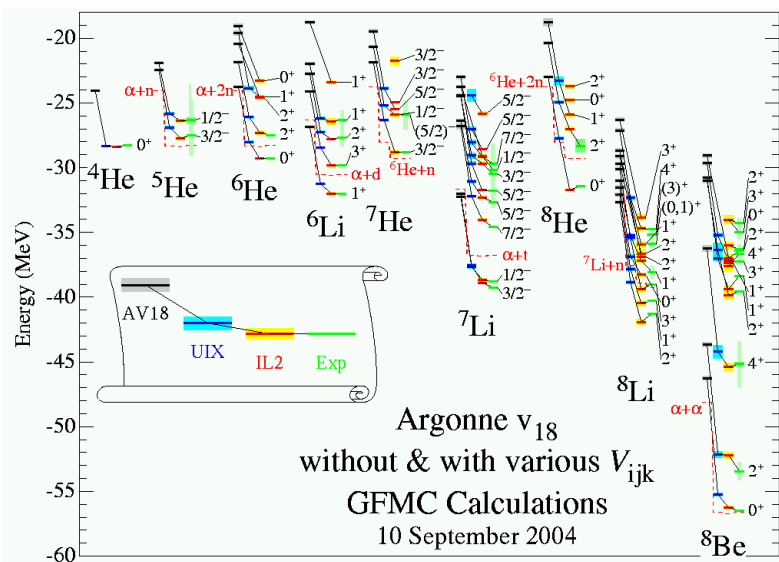
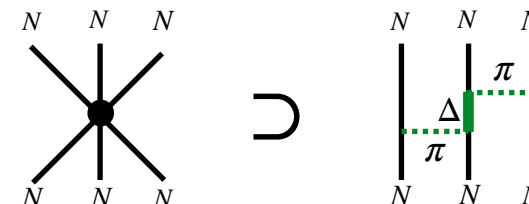


- Statistical hadronization or coalescence?
- ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$  has the **potential to rule out coalescence models** for cluster (nuclei) production in HI collisions  
F. Bellini et al., PRC 103 (2021), ALICE-PUBLIC-2020-005
- **Size of  ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$**  is central for coalescence predictions

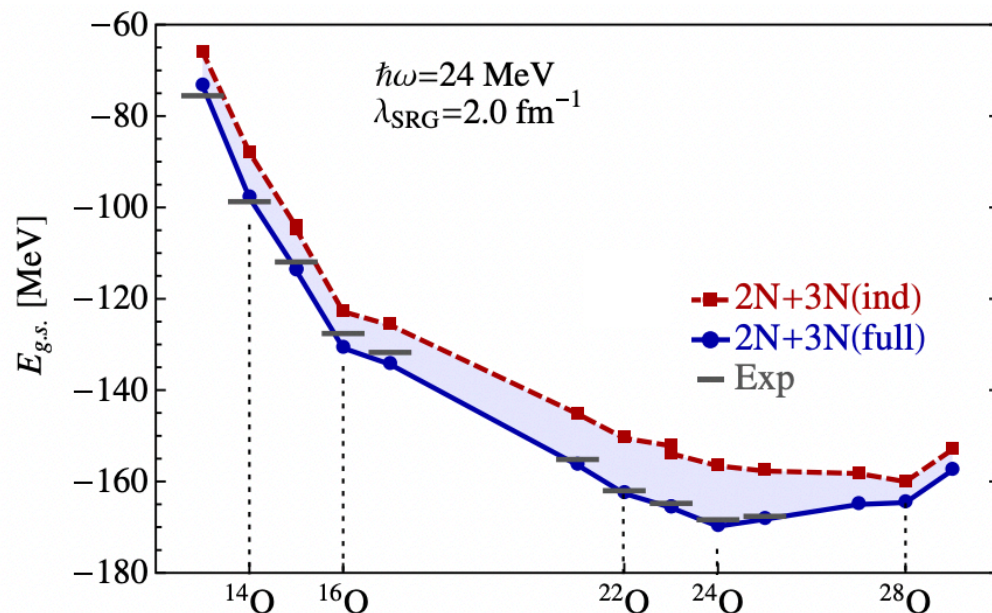
# Three-body forces and nuclear structure

## Nuclei

(first nucleonic excited state: +300 MeV)



R.B. Wiringa and S.C. Pieper, PRL 89 (2004)



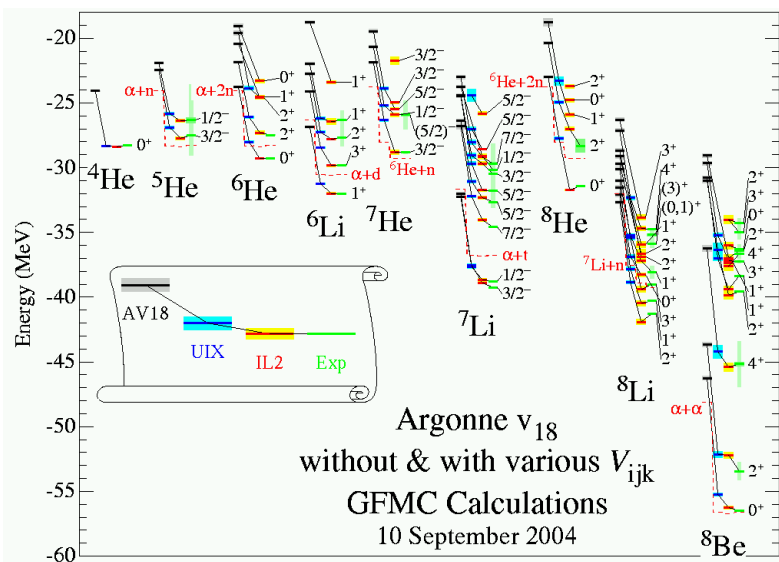
A. Cipollone, C. Barbieri, P. Navratil, PRL 111 (2013)



# Ab initio description of light (hyper)nuclei

## Nuclei

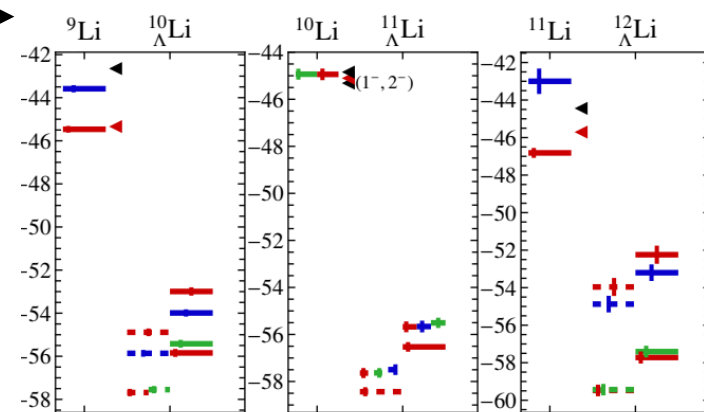
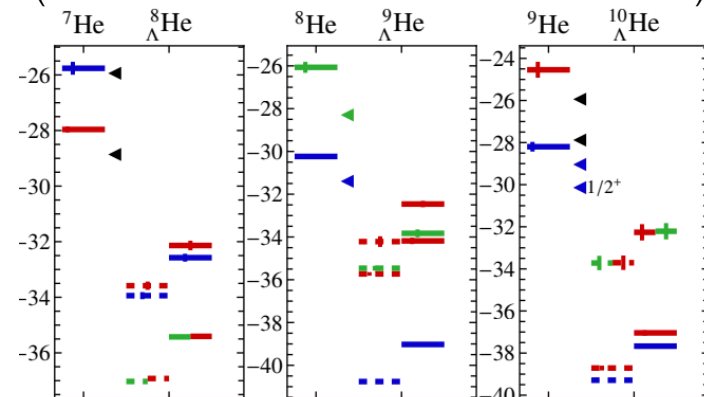
(first nucleonic excited state: +300 MeV)



R.B. Wiringa and S.C. Pieper, PRL 89 (2004)

## Hypernuclei

(first excited state of Lambda: +70 MeV)

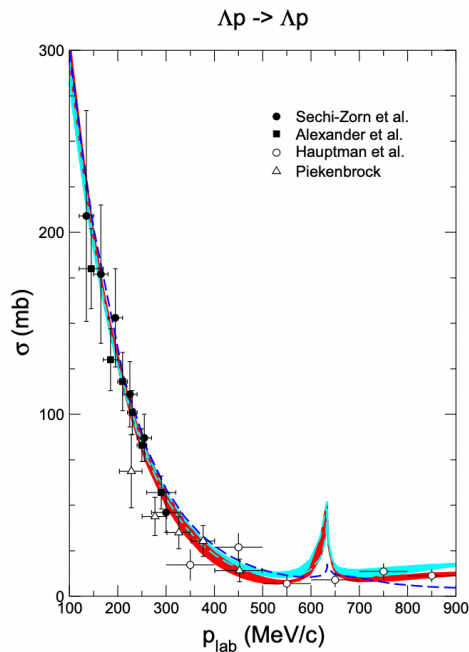


◀ experiment    ...  $\Lambda_{YN} = 600$  MeV    —  $\Lambda_{YN} = 700$  MeV

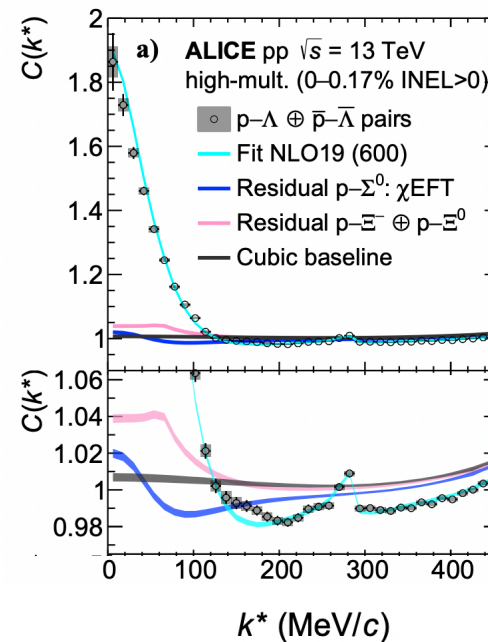
R. Wirth, R. Roth, PLB 779 (2018)

# YN and YNN forces

- Direct  $\Lambda - p$  scattering : 27 data points only
- Femtoscopy and  $pp$  collisions : new laboratory for YN and YY interactions
- Hypernuclei data necessary to pin-down in-medium and many-body forces



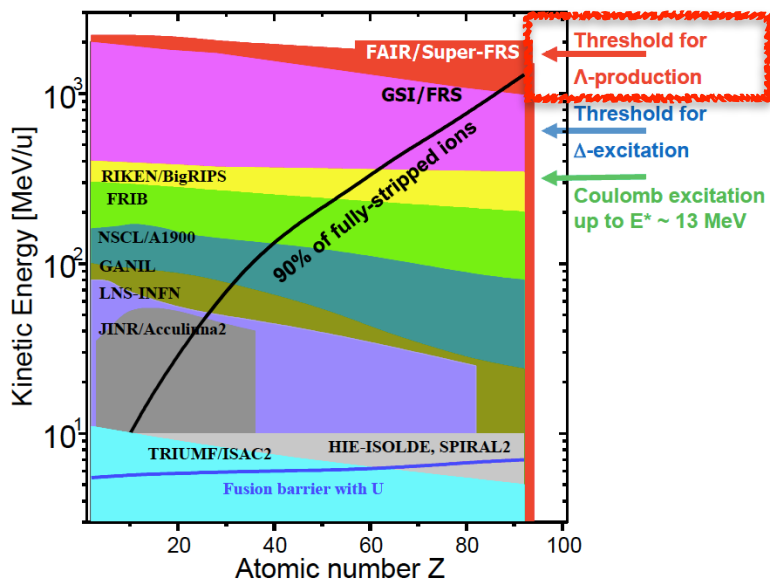
J. Haidenbauer, U.-G. Meißner, A. Nogga,  
EPJA 56 (2020) and references therein



ALICE collaboration, arXiv:2104.04427  
ALICE collaboration, Nature 588 (2020)

# Multi-GeV/n ions : opportunities at FAIR

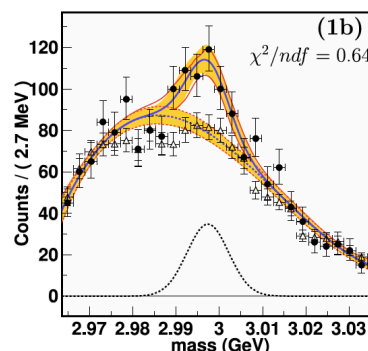
- Heavy-ion collisions at FAIR energies competitive to produce hypernuclei (HyPHIO)
- Strangeness production threshold requires  $> 1.6$  GeV/nucleon



## Proof of concept experiment **HypHI0** (Spokesperson: T. Saito, GSI)

Heavy-ion collisions:  ${}^7\text{Li} + {}^{12}\text{C}$  at 2 GeV/nucleon

- 1) Strangeness production ( $\sigma \sim 1 \mu\text{b}^*$ )
- 2) Decay of Hyp-N (weak mesonic decays)



Invariant mass spectrum of  ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$   
from decay products  ${}^3\text{He}$  and  $\pi^-$

C. Rappold *et al.*, NPA 913 (2013)

\* **Ex. model predictions:** A. S. Botvina *et al.*, PRC 95 (2017); Y. Sun, A. S. Botvina *et al.*, PRC 98 (2018);  
See also recent reference: A. S. Botvina *et al.*, PRC 103 (2021)

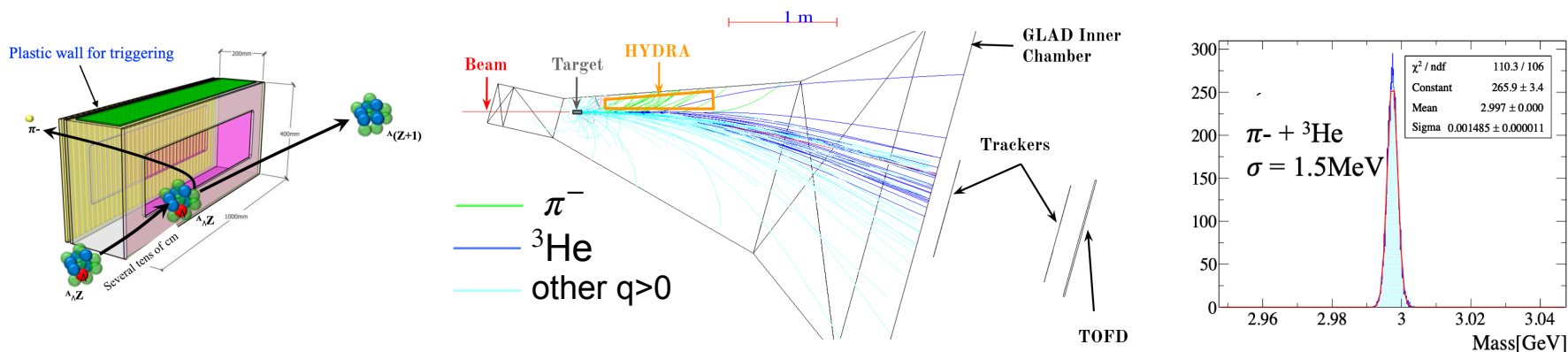


# HYDRA at R3B

- **Concept: high-resolution invariant-mass with high efficiency**

- off-beam 1-meter long TPC inside GLAD magnet (2 T)
- selective trigger
- large detection efficiency for pionic decays (55 %)
- minimum straggling, high position resolution ( $< 200 \mu\text{m}$ )
- high vertex position resolution ( $< 5 \text{ mm}$ )

- **Objectives:**  $> 10^6$  pps, and invariant mass resolution  $< 2 \text{ MeV}$  ( $\sigma$ )



Courtesy S. Velardita, TU Darmstadt

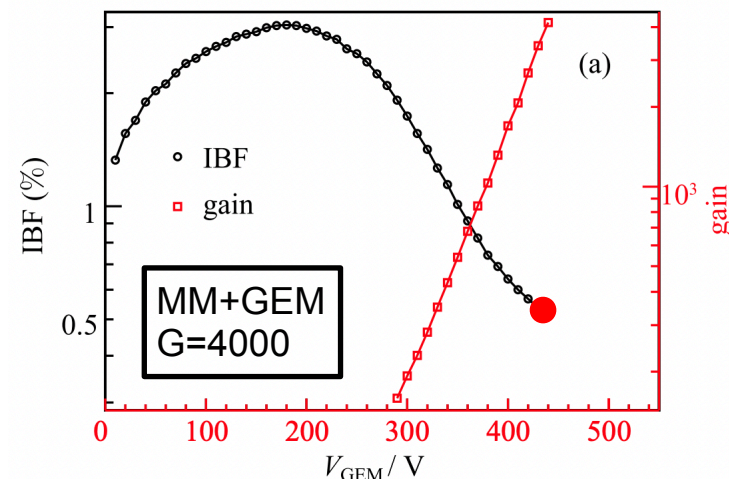
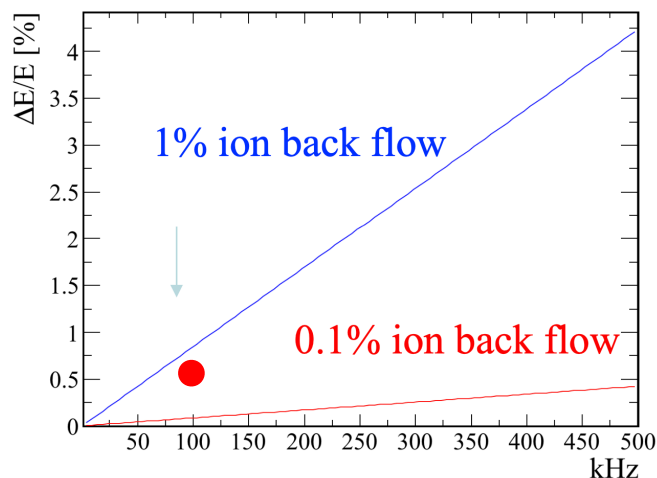


# Beam-rate limitations

- **few  $10^4$  Hz trigger rate limit**
  - Beam of  $10^6$  pps: < 1 % of events from pion - ion coincidences
  - Continuous TPC readout (VMM3 FEE)
- **Space charge distortion** of drift field  $\Delta E/E < 0.5 \%$ 
  - < 100 kHz tracks in TPC
  - Ion back flow reduced to IBF < 0.5% by combined Micromegas + GEM
  - Additional software drift corrections possible

$$\rho = \frac{nG\varepsilon Te}{V}$$

G: gain of the amplification  
 $\varepsilon$ : ion backflow fraction  
 V: volume of the TPC



Courtesy Y. L. Sun, TU Darmstadt

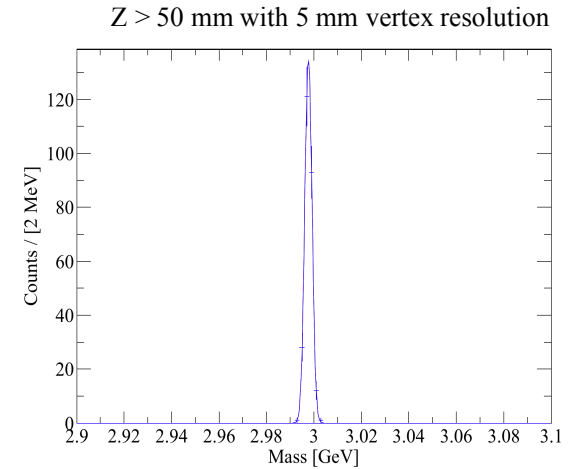
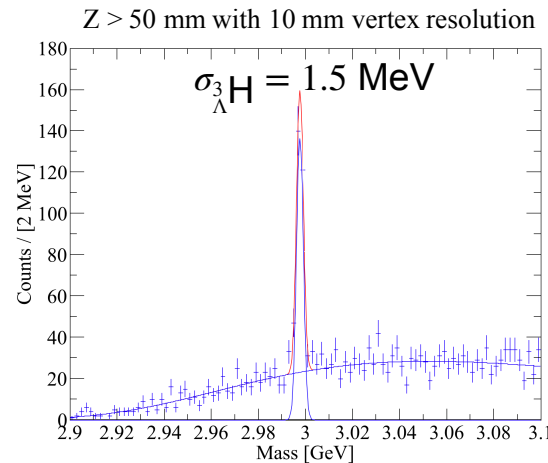
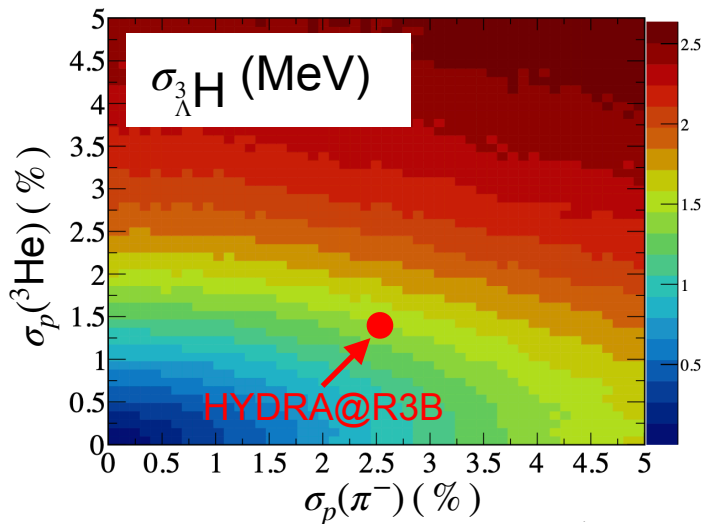
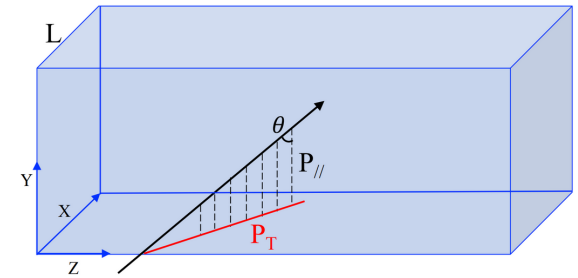
Y.-L. Zhang et al, CPC 41 (2017)

# Pion detection and invariant-mass resolution

- Targeting an invariant-mass resolution of 1.5 MeV ( $\sigma$ ) with low background

$$\left(\frac{\sigma_p}{p}\right)^2 = \left(\sqrt{\frac{720}{N+4}} \frac{\sigma_{xp} \sin \theta}{0.3 B L^2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{0.2}{\beta B \sqrt{L} X_0} \left[1 + 0.038 \ln\left(\frac{L}{X_0}\right)\right]\right)^2 + (\cot \theta \sigma_\theta)^2$$

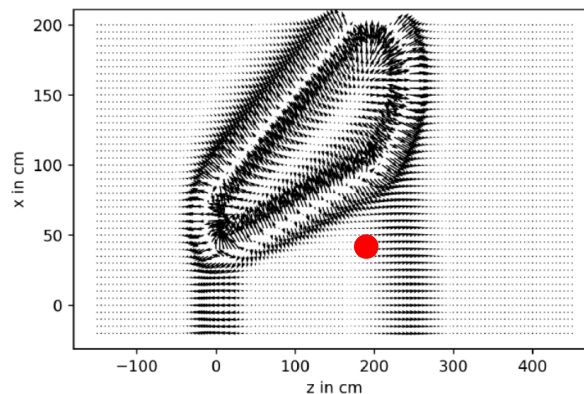
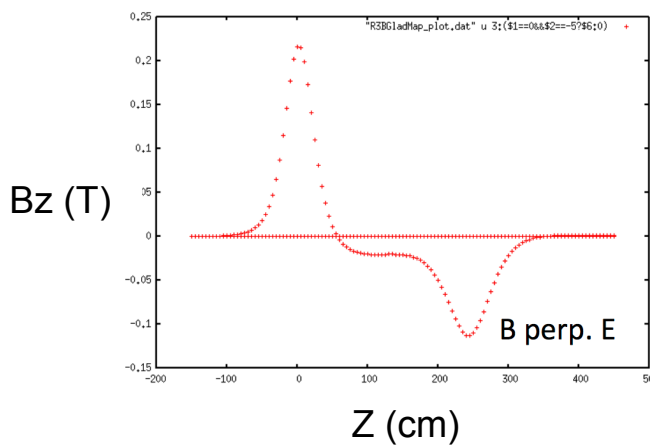
Multiple scattering



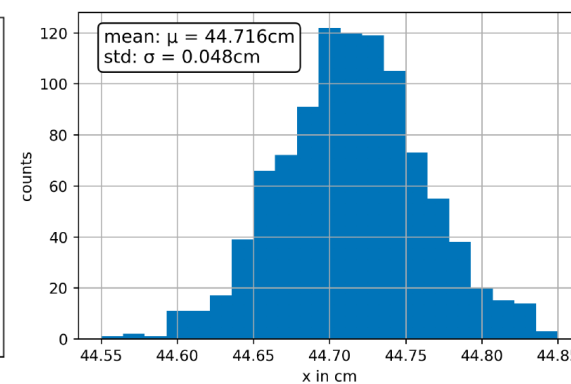
Simulations: Y. Sun and S. Velardita, TUDa

# Tracking in non-homogenous B field

- Non vertical magnetic field components in B field of GLAD
- ExB drift: millimeter displacement compared to vertical drift
- Laser-induced reference tracks to benchmark B-field mapping



Electrons (Garfield simulation) drifting 100 mm lead to an offset < 3 mm compared to the vertical projection



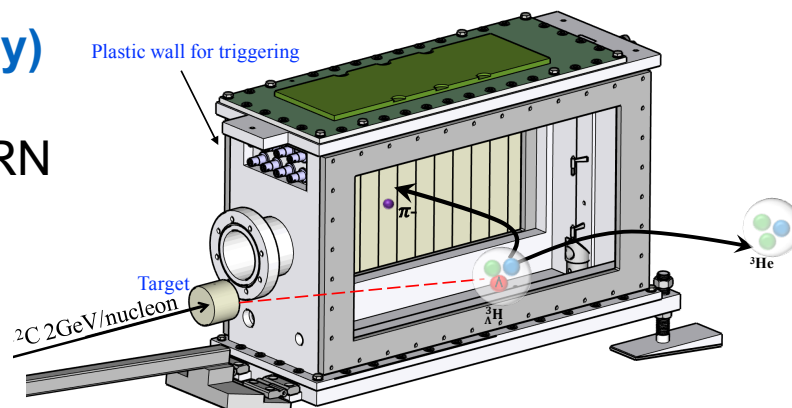
at point (45, 10, 190)

Courtesy D. Wassmer, TU Darmstadt

# The HYDRA prototype

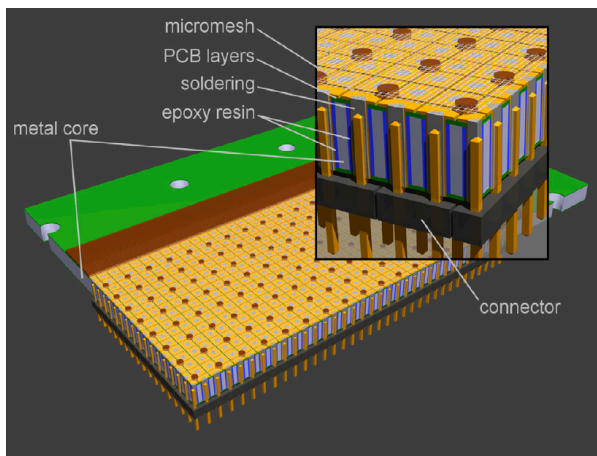
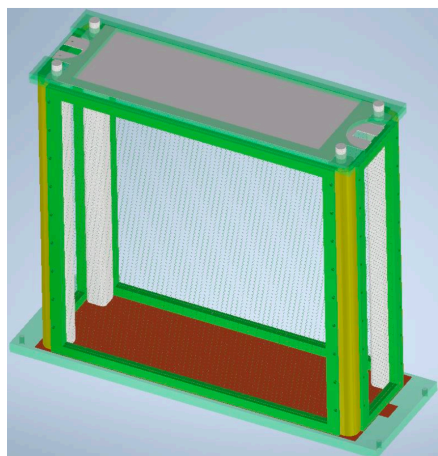
## 1/3 HYDRA prototype (7% detection efficiency)

- under completion
- field cage and amplification stages built at CERN
- laser and in-beam validation in Q1/2022
- continuous readout in operation in Q3/2022
- Full system ready from beginning of 2023



double wire-plane field cage

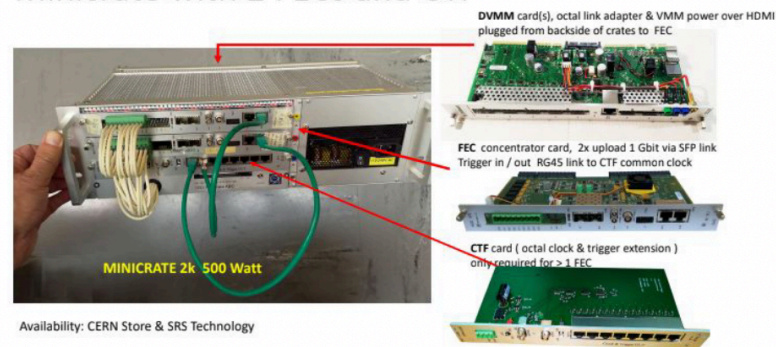
metal-core Micromegas pad plane  
J. Giovinazzo et al., NIMA 892 (2018)



Courtesy L. Ji, TU Darmstadt

## VMM3 chips and SRS readout

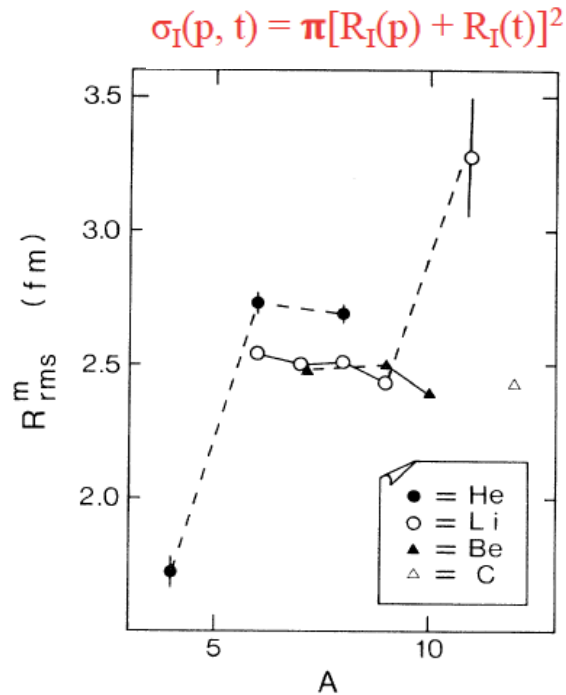
### Minicrate with 2 FECs and CTF



# Proposal to NEXT G-PAC : size of ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$ and ${}^6_{\Lambda}\text{He}$

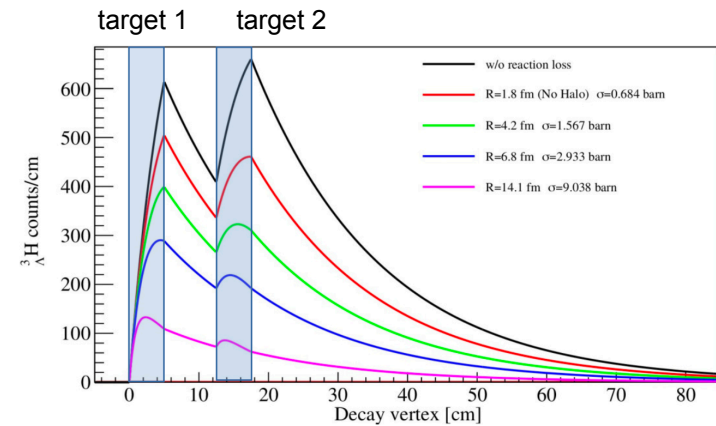
## Method

- production target and **secondary** target inside GLAD
- Two unknowns (interaction and production cross sections) = two measurements



I. Tanihata et al., PLB 160 (1985)

I. Tanihata et al., PRL 55 (1985)



Matter radius (fm)	Measured statistics	
	${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$	${}^6_{\Lambda}\text{He}$
$R = 1.25 \times A^{1/3}$	1438(37)	950(30)
$R + 1.0$	1105(33)	714(26)
4.2	683(26)	—
6.8	243(15)	—
14.1	3(1)	—

HYDRA Lol, A. Obertelli, Y. L. Sun et al., G-PAC 2020

# The HYDRA team at R3B and collaborators



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## HYDRA core team:

T. Aumann, M. Duer (YI group leader), L. Ji (PhD), A. Obertelli, D. Rossi, Y. L. Sun (PD), S. Velardita (PhD) + **open postdoc position TU Darmstadt, Germany**  
D. Körper, H. Simon *GSI/FAIR, Germany*  
H. Alvarez-Pol, Y. Ayyad, J. L. Rodriguez *Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, Spain*  
L. Fabbietti, R. Gernhäuser *TU Munich, Germany*  
S. Ota *Center for Nuclear Studies (CNS), University of Tokyo, Japan*

## Collaborators:

T. Galatyuk, T. Kröll, H. Scheit, S. Zacarias (PhD) *TU Darmstadt, Germany*  
J. Stroth *University of Frankfurt, Germany*  
J. Benlliure, D. Cortina-Gil *Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, Spain*  
T. R. Saito *RIKEN, Japan; Lanzhou University, China; GSI, Germany*  
C. Rappold, O. Tengblad *Instituto de Estructura de la Materia, CSIC, Spain*  
A. Corsi, E. C. Pollacco *CEA, France*

## Theory support:

H.-W. Hammer, R. Roth *IKP, TU Darmstadt, Germany*  
R. Wirth *FRIB, USA*  
M. Bleicher, A. Botvina, H. Elfner *J.W. Goethe Universität, Frankfurt am Mainz, Germany*

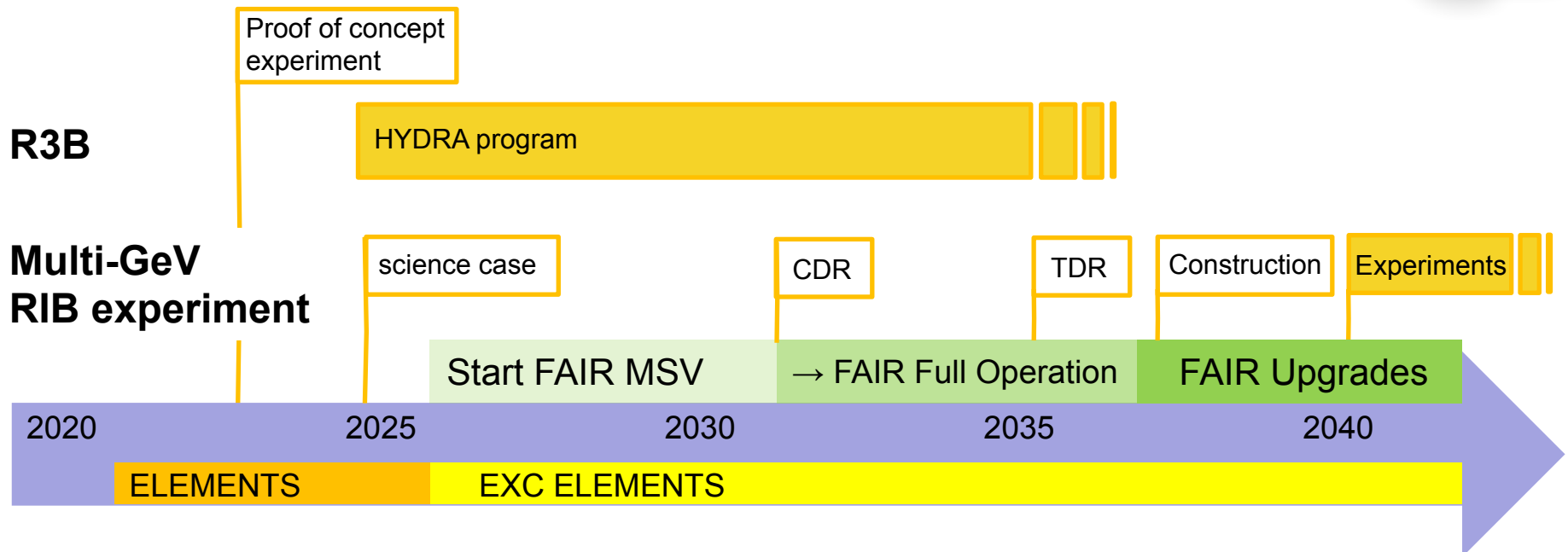
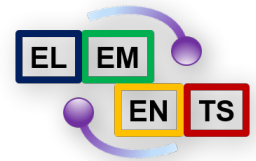
# Summary

- **HYDRA** @ R3B: high-resolution tracker (TPC) for hypernuclei invariant mass
- HYDRA prototype under construction (ready 2023 with continuous readout)
- First proposal to determine the **size of  ${}^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$  and  ${}^6_{\Lambda}\text{He}$**  at G-PAC (2022)
- Study of the **two-proton halo candidate  ${}^7_{\Lambda}\text{Be}$**
- **binding energies along C,O isotopic chains**
- Concept and design program towards a multi-GeV RI facility for FAIR upgrades (horizon 2040)



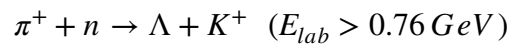
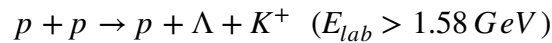
# Beyond FAIR phase 0: Multi-GeV RIB at FAIR

- **Multi-GeV Radioactive Isotope Beams** at FAIR
- A future world-unique fixed-target experiment at HESR rooted into GSI expertise
- Opens up the nuclear chart for hypernuclei studies and other new opportunities
- Key project for coming Excellent Cluster proposal (2024) covering 2025-2039
- First steps in the ELEMENTS initiative between Frankfurt, Gießen, GSI, TUDa



# Production of hypernuclei from HI collisions at few GeV / nucleon

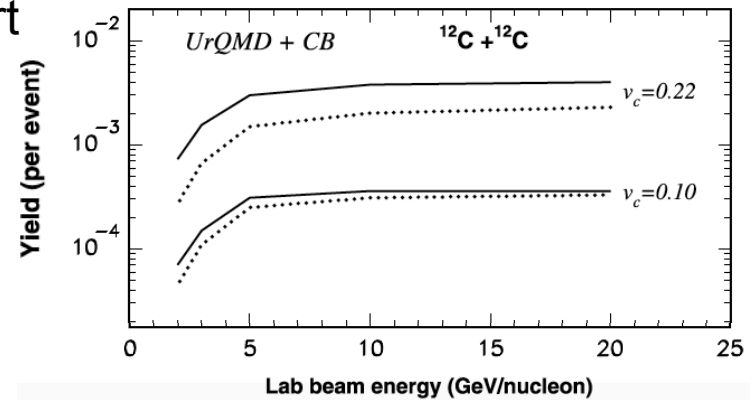
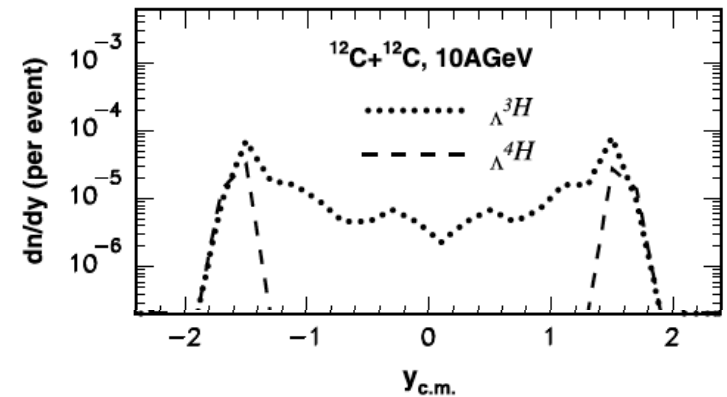
- Strangeness production in heavy-ion collisions:



- **Hypernuclei production from HI collisions**

- Evolution of hadrons in space-time from transport
- Adsorption of  $\Lambda$  (coalescence or potential criteria)
- De-excitation
- Saturation from 5-10 A GeV

A. S. Botvina et al., PLB 742 (2015)



# Production of hypernuclei from HI collisions at few GeV / nucleon (S-FRS, R3B energies)

*Expt with  $^{12}\text{C}$  target*, DUBNA: S. Avramenko et al., NPA 547 (1992), HyPHI: C. Rappold et al., NPA 913 (2013)

Beam	Energy (GeV/nucleon)		$^3_{\Lambda}\text{H}$	$^4_{\Lambda}\text{H}$
$^3\text{He}$	5.14	(I)	0.63	...
		(II)	0.05	...
		(III)	< 0.01	...
		Dubna [16]	$0.05^{+0.05}_{-0.02}$	...
$^4\text{He}$	3.7	(I)	< 0.01	0.19
		(II)	0.24	0.12
		(III)	0.04	< 0.01
		Dubna [16]	< 0.1	$0.4^{+0.4}_{-0.2}$
$^6\text{Li}$	3.7	(I)	1.15	0.27
		(II)	0.29	2.31
		(III)	0.84	0.33
		Dubna [16]	$0.2^{+0.3}_{-0.15}$	$0.3^{+0.3}_{-0.15}$
$^7\text{Li}$	3.0	(I)	0.94	0.35
		(II)	0.17	2.44
		(III)	0.88	0.64
		Dubna [16]	...	...
$^6\text{Li}$	2.0	(I)	0.2	0.02
		(II)	0.03	0.43
		(III)	0.13	0.04
		HypHI [45]	$3.9 \pm 1.4$	$3.1 \pm 1.0$

$\sigma(\mu\text{b})$

**Model:** A. S. Botvina *et al.*, PRC 95 (2017), **Calculations:** Y. Sun, A. S. Botvina *et al.*, PRC 98 (2018)  
See also recent reference: A. S. Botvina *et al.*, PRC 103 (2021)

# Hypertriton binding energy

