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${}^{3}_{\Lambda}$H and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$H directed flow measurements in $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ = 3 GeV Au+Au collisions from STAR

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Outline

1) Motivation

2) STAR Detector System for Fixed-target Runs

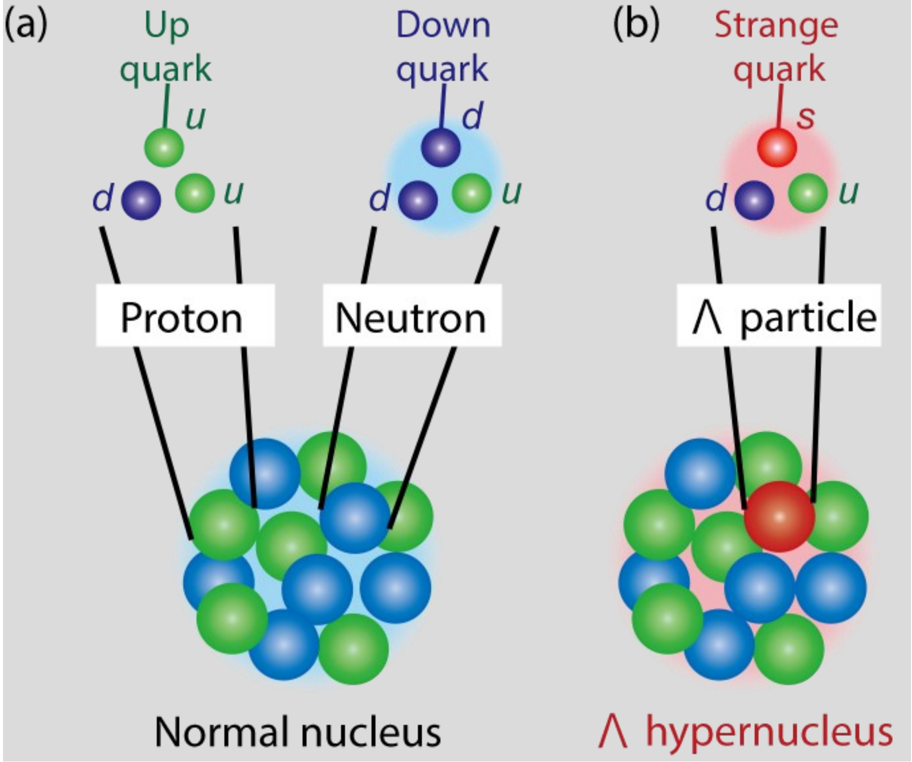
3) ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}$ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}$ Reconstruction

4) Directed flow of ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}$ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}$

5) Summary

1. Hyper-Nuclei and YN interaction

Hyper-nucleus： bound state of the hyperon(s) and nucleons.



Study on hyper-nuclei (i.e. lifetime, binding energy, decay BR.) provides valuable information of hyperon-nucleon (YN) interactions.

Binding energy of Λ Hypernuclei:

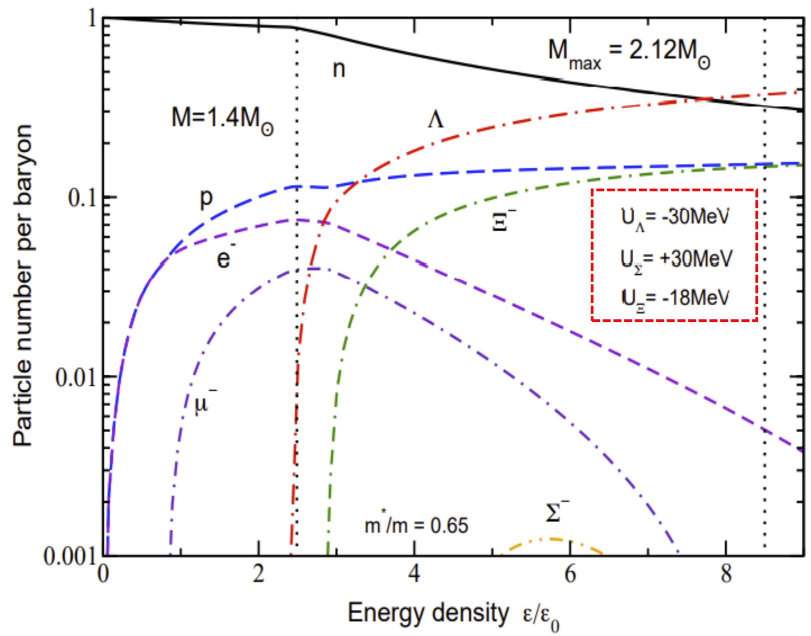
$$B_\Lambda({}^A_\Lambda Z) = M({}^{A-1}Z) + M(\Lambda) - M({}^A_\Lambda Z)$$

Core mass | Free Λ mass | Hyper-nuclei mass

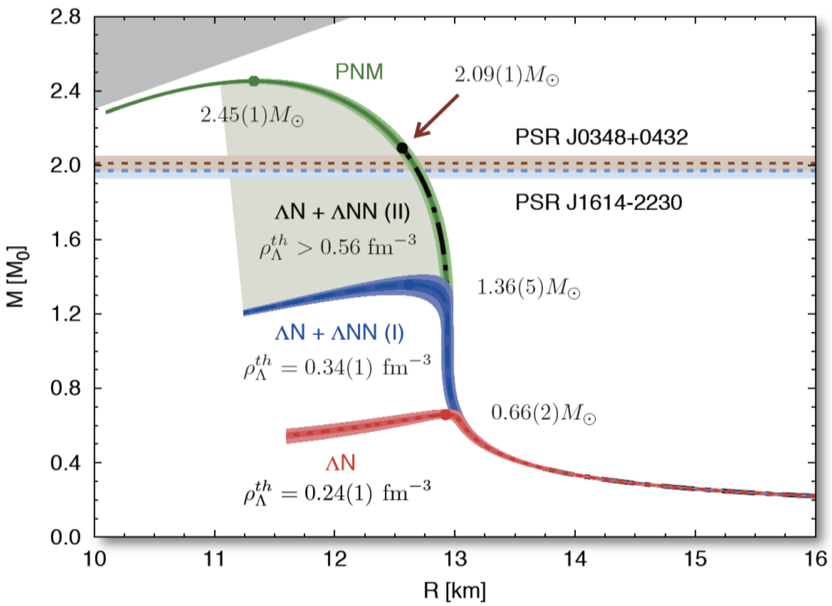
YN-interaction and Neutron Star

"Hyperon puzzle" : the difficulty to reconcile the measured masses of neutron stars (NSs) with the presence of hyperons in their interiors.

Interactios of ΛN and ΛNN may be important! [Ignazio Bombaci, JPS Conf. Proc. 17, 101002 (2017)]



Jürgen Schaffner-Bielich, 2021

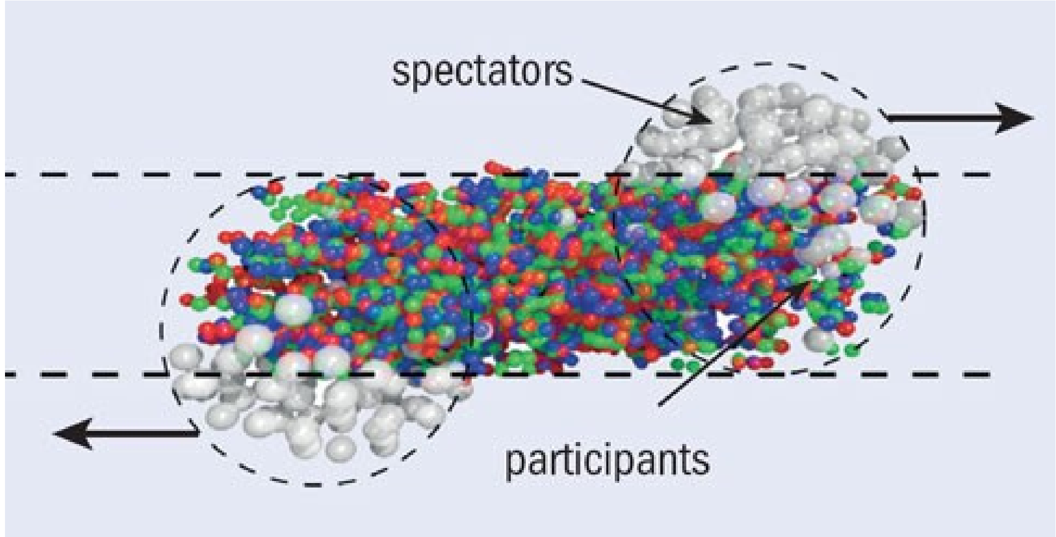


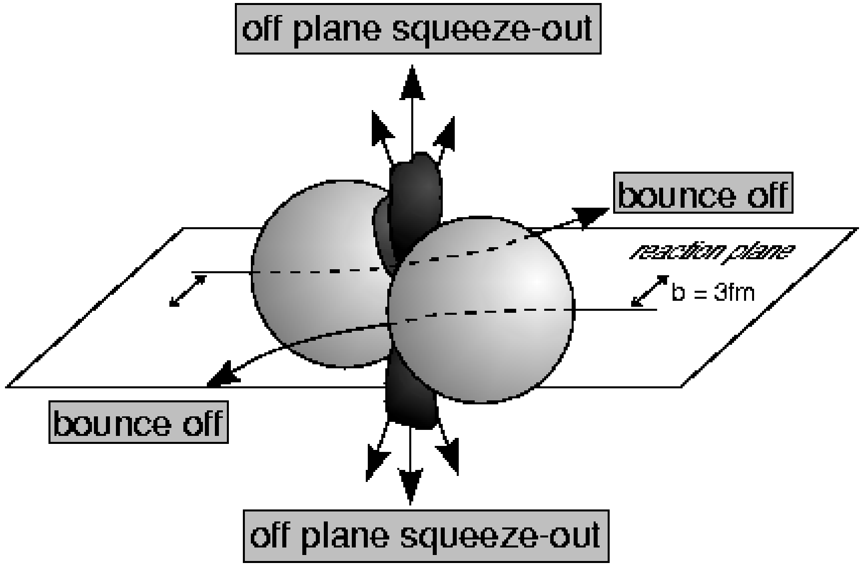
D. Lonardoni et al, PRL 114, 092301 (2015)

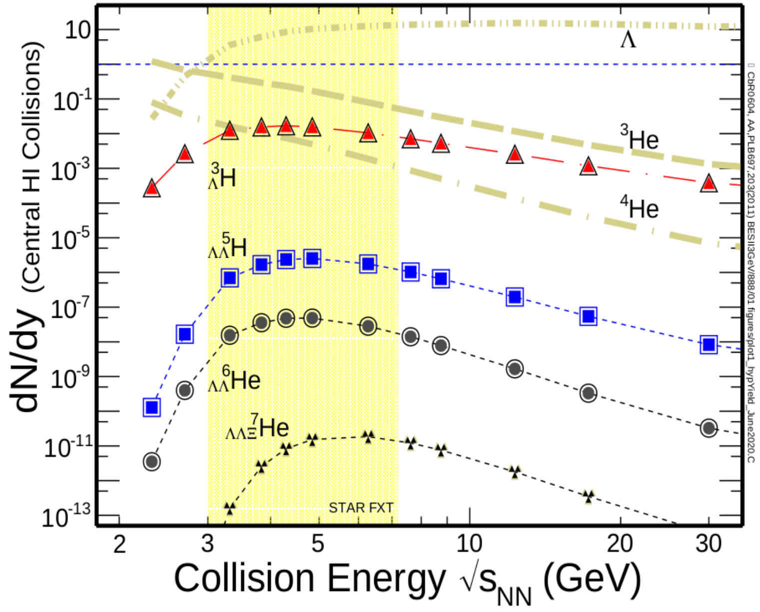
Other "hyperon puzzle" solutions: quark star, dark matter, ...

A. D. Popolo et al, Phys. Dark Universe 28, 100484 (2020);

Hyper-nuclei Productions in Heavy Ion Collisions (HICs)



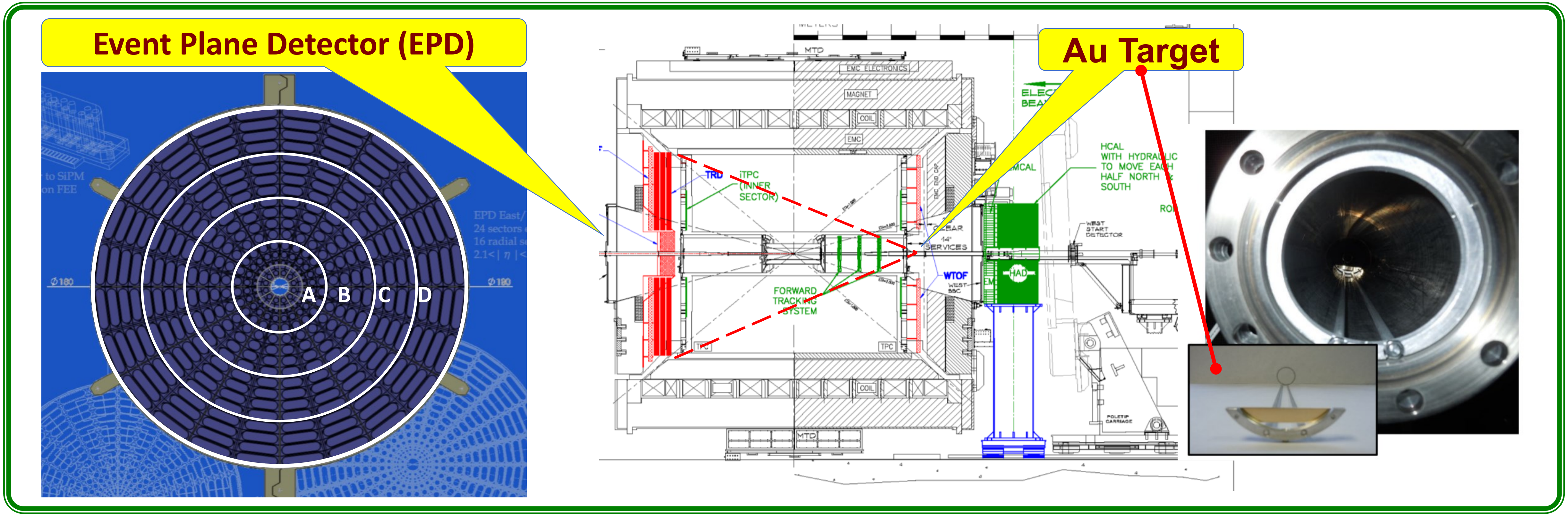




A. Andronic et al., Phys. Lett. **B697**, 203(2011) ; J. Steinheimer et al., Phys. Lett. **B714**, 85(2012)

Collective motion of baryonic matter is driven by the pressure gradient. Flow of hyper-nuclei may shed light on YN-interaction in condensed nuclear matter.

2. Fixed Target Setup at STAR

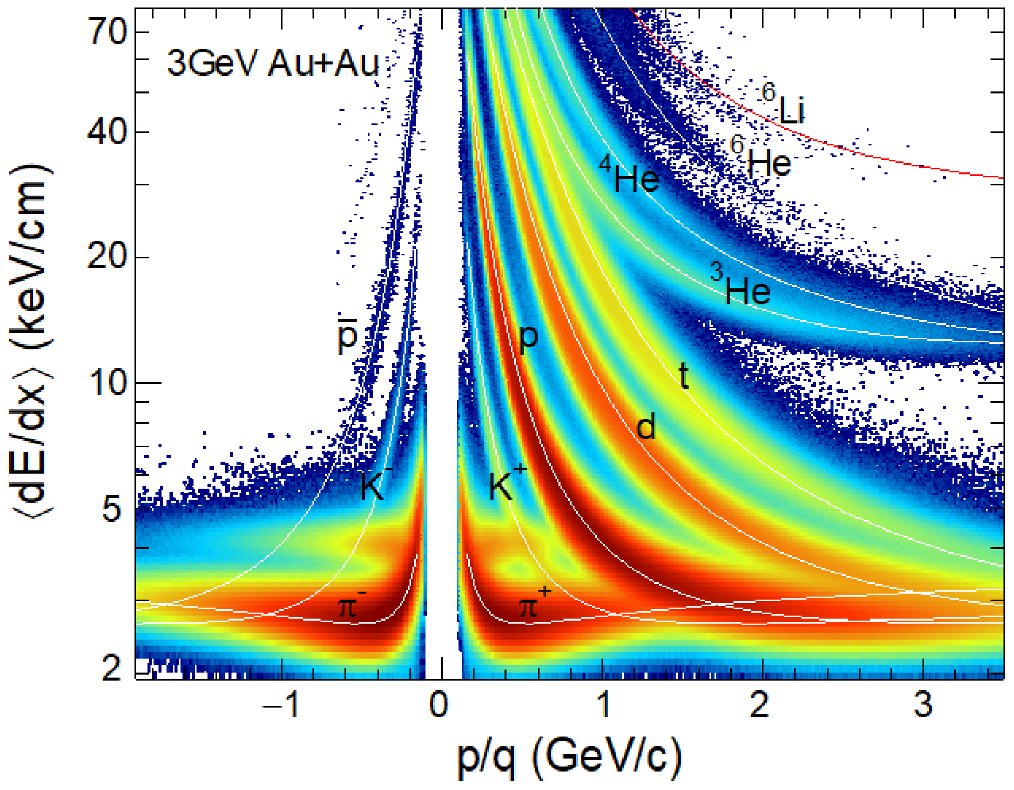


RHIC Beam Energy BES-II in 2018-2021:

➢ Fixed Target Run extends collision energy down to : $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 3 - 7.7$ GeV corresponding to baryon chemical potential: $750 \geq \mu_B \geq 420$ MeV

Charged Hadron PID and ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}H$ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}H$ Reconstruction

STAR TPC Particle Identification



2018 STAR FXT 3 GeV data set;

260M minimum biased events

1) PID of p, d, t, ^{3}He, ^{4}He, π^{-} is made based on the dE/dx vs p/q distribution;

2) Hyper-nuclei reconstruction channels:

${}^{3}_{\Lambda}H \to {}^{3}He + \pi^{-}$ 2-body

${}^{3}_{\Lambda}H \to p + d + \pi^{-}$ 3-body

${}^{4}_{\Lambda}H \to {}^{4}He + \pi^{-}$ 2-body

KFParticle: Reconstruction of Short-lived Particles

Concept and features:

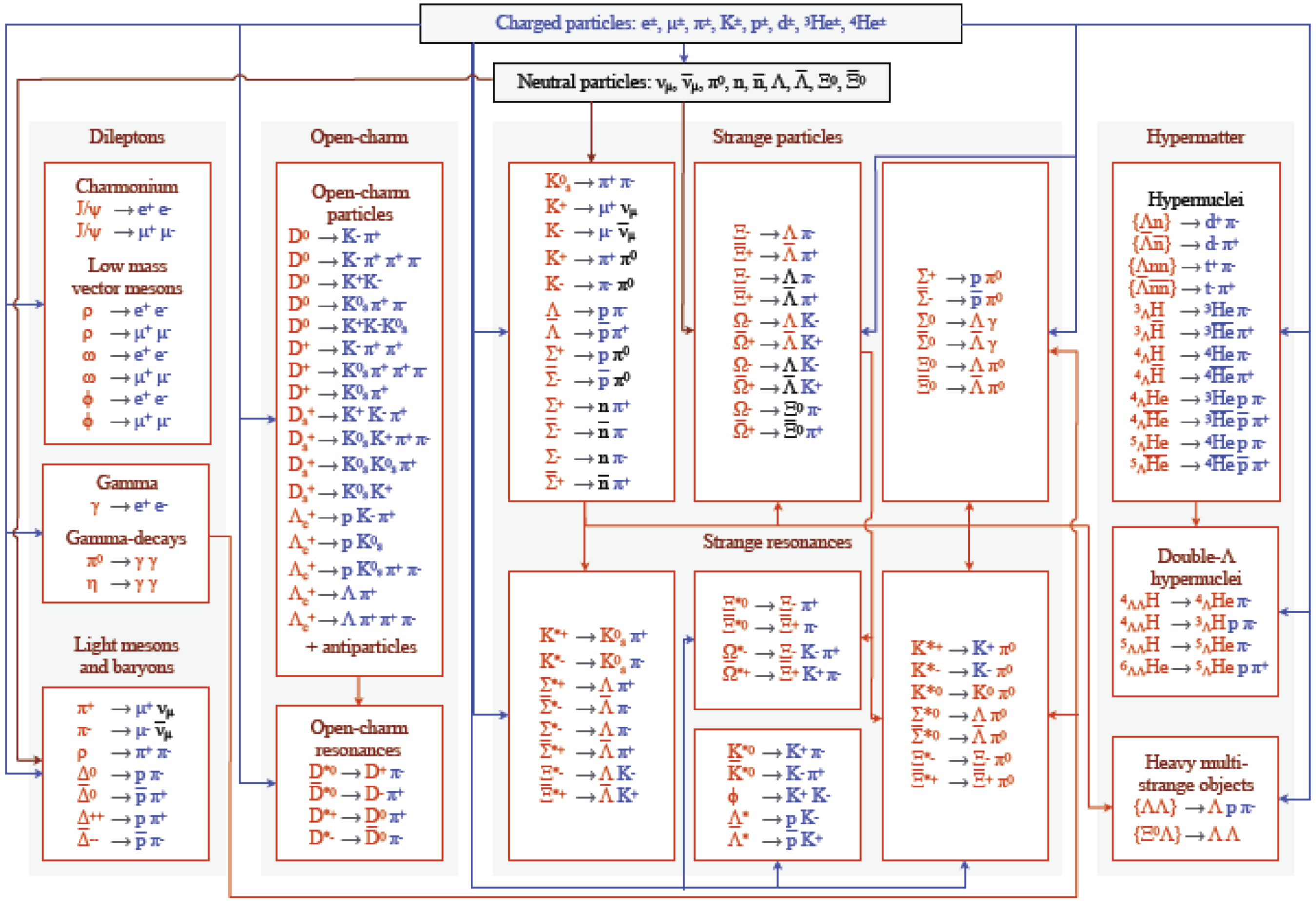
- Based on Kalman Filter (KF)
- Tracking and detector performance contained in Covariance matrix
- Geometry independent and Vectorized
- Natural and simple interface
- Large particle reconstruction database

$$\mathbf{r} = \{\, x, y, z, p_x, p_y, p_z, E \,\}$$

State vector

$$\mathbf{C} = \langle \mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}^T \rangle = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_x^2 & C_{xy} & C_{xz} & C_{xp_x} & C_{xp_y} & C_{xp_z} & C_{xE} \\ C_{xy} & \sigma_y^2 & C_{yz} & C_{yp_x} & C_{yp_y} & C_{yp_z} & C_{yE} \\ C_{xz} & C_{yz} & \sigma_z^2 & C_{zp_x} & C_{zp_y} & C_{zp_z} & C_{zE} \\ C_{xp_x} & C_{yp_x} & C_{zp_x} & \sigma_{p_x}^2 & C_{p_xp_y} & C_{p_xp_z} & C_{p_xE} \\ C_{xp_y} & C_{yp_y} & C_{zp_y} & C_{p_xp_y} & \sigma_{p_y}^2 & C_{p_yp_z} & C_{p_yE} \\ C_{xp_z} & C_{yp_z} & C_{zp_z} & C_{p_xp_z} & C_{p_yp_z} & \sigma_{p_z}^2 & C_{p_yE} \\ C_{xE} & C_{yE} & C_{zE} & C_{p_xE} & C_{p_yE} & C_{p_zE} & \sigma_E^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Covariance matrix



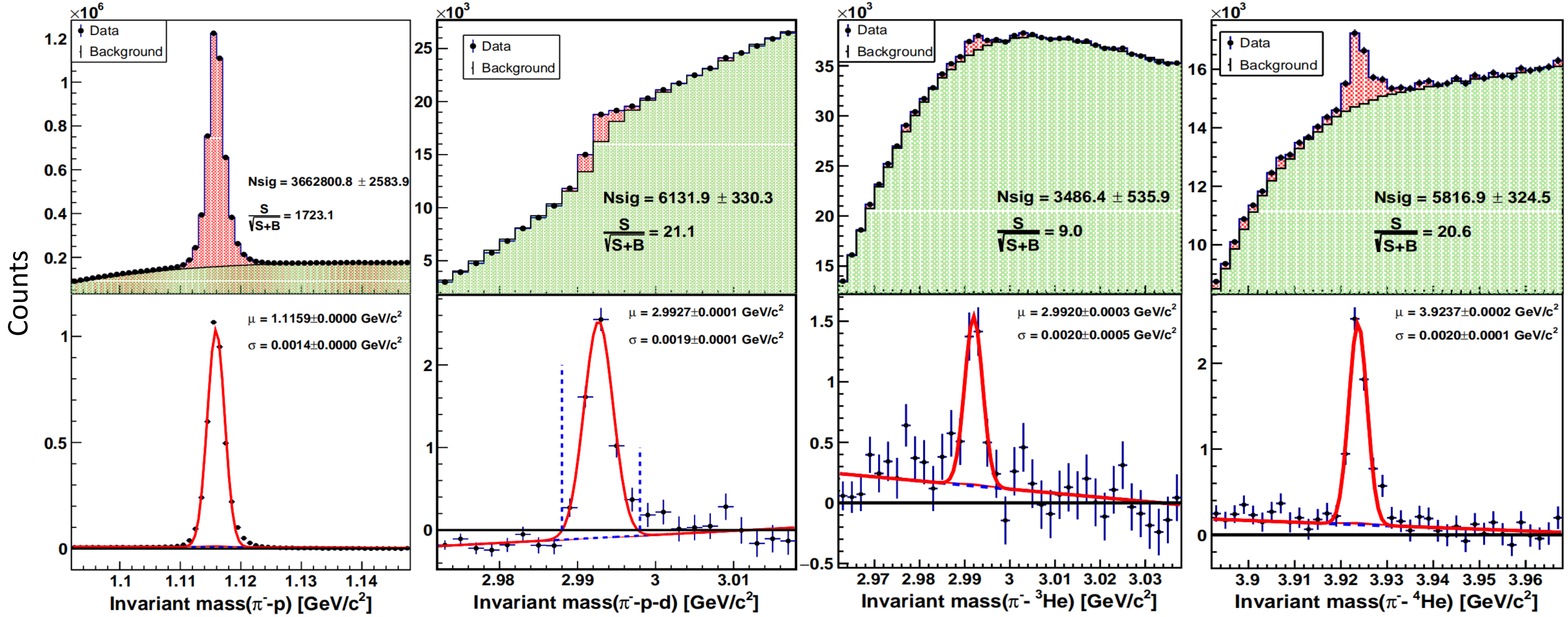
S. Gorbunov and I. Kisel, CBM-SOFT-note-2007-003, 7 May 2007

M. Zyzak, Dissertation thesis, Goethe University of Frankfurt, 2016, http://publikationen.ub.uni-frankfurt.de/frontdoor/index/index/docId/41428

KFParticle package has been adopted by CBM, ALICE, sPHENIX and **STAR** experiments

3. Λ, ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}$H and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$H Reconstruction

Λ-> p + π^- | ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}$H -> p + d + π^- | ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}$H -> ^{3}He + π^- | ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$H -> ^{4}He + π^-

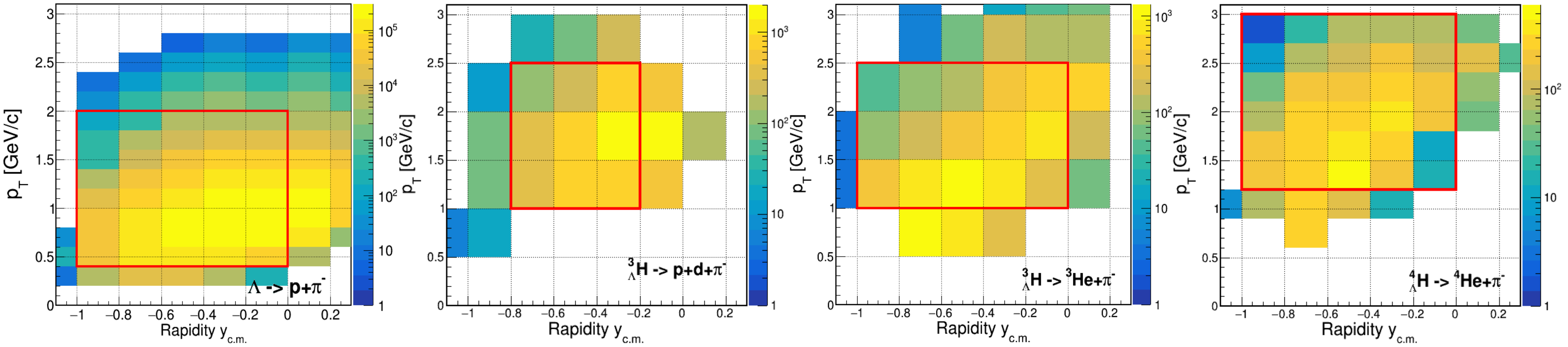


- KFParticle package used for Λ, ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}$H and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}$H reconstructions

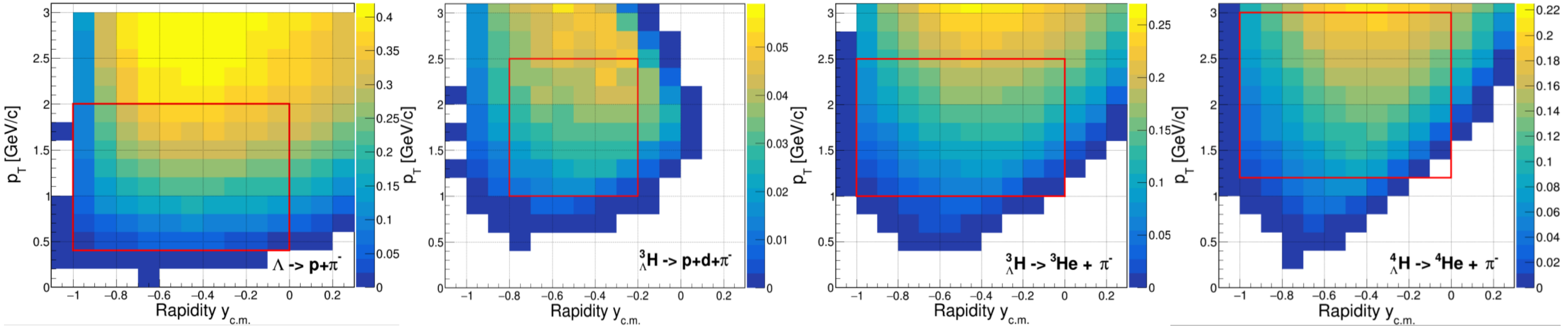
Λ, ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}H$ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}H$ Phase Space and Efficiency

Phase space

Red box: phase space region used for flow analysis



Acceptance and Efficiency



4. Collective Flow with Event Plane Method

$$\frac{d^2N}{p_T dp_T d\varphi} = \frac{1}{2\pi}\frac{dN}{p_T dp_T}\left\{1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2v_n(p_T)\cos[n(\varphi - \Psi_R)]\right\}$$

$- v_1$ Directed flow; $- v_2$ Elliptic flow ...

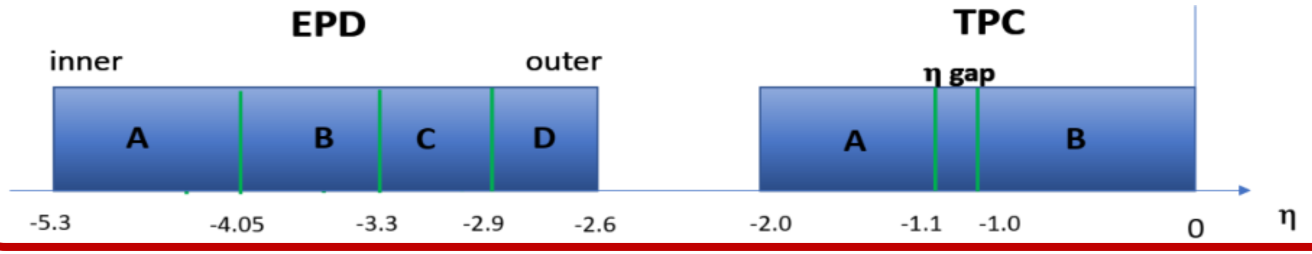
1) Fixed Target $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ = 3 GeV Au+Au collisions
   $y_{target} \approx -1.045$
2) Charged tracks measured by TPC used for centrality definition

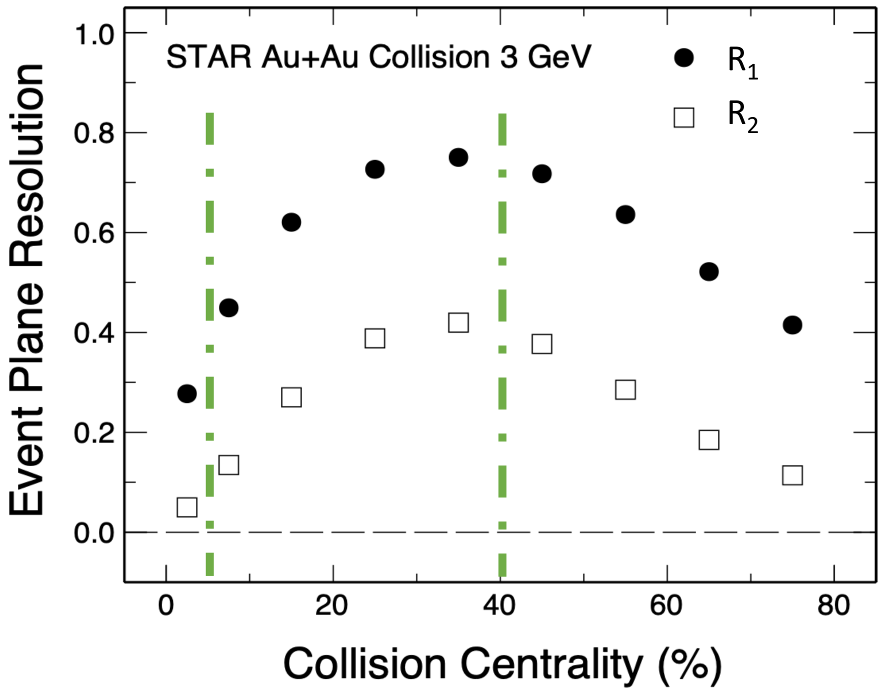
- 1st order event plane angle measured by Event Plane Detector(EPD)
- Event-plane resolution determination:

$$R_1 = \langle\cos(\Psi_1 - \Psi_r)\rangle = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2\sqrt{2}}\chi_1 \exp(-\frac{\chi_1^2}{4})[I_0(\frac{\chi_1^2}{4}) + I_1(\frac{\chi_1^2}{4})]$$

$$R_2 = \langle\cos(2(\Psi_1 - \Psi_r))\rangle = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2\sqrt{2}}\chi_1 \exp(-\frac{\chi_1^2}{4})[I_{\frac{1}{2}}(\frac{\chi_1^2}{4}) + I_{\frac{3}{2}}(\frac{\chi_1^2}{4})]$$

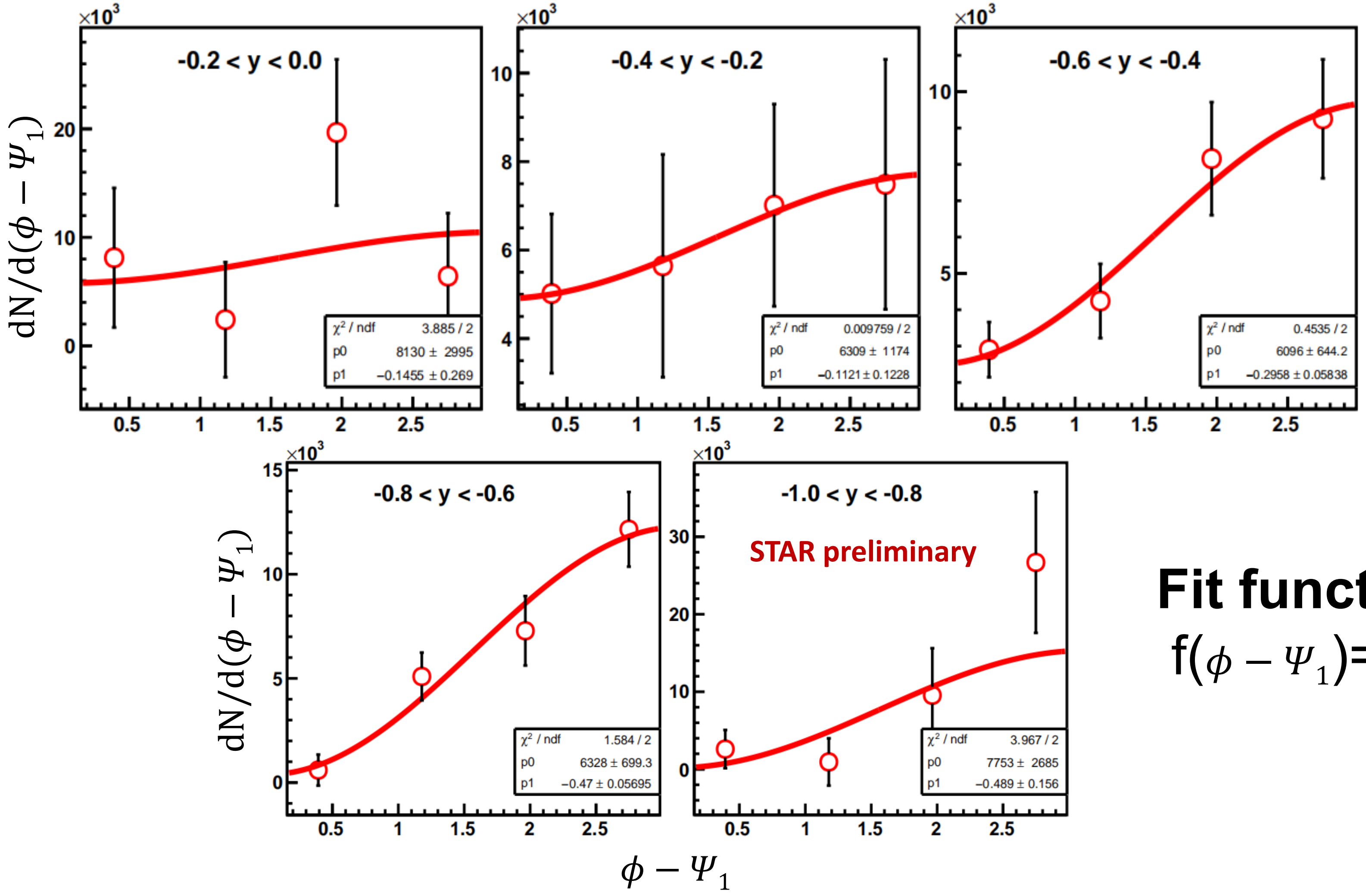
- The event plane resolution is in the range of 40 – 75% for the mid-centrality 5-40% 3 GeV Au+Au collisions





Angular Distributions of Hyper-nuclei

${}^{4}_{\Lambda}H$ p_T: (1.2, 3.0) GeV/c; y: (-1.0, 0.0); Centrality: 5-40%

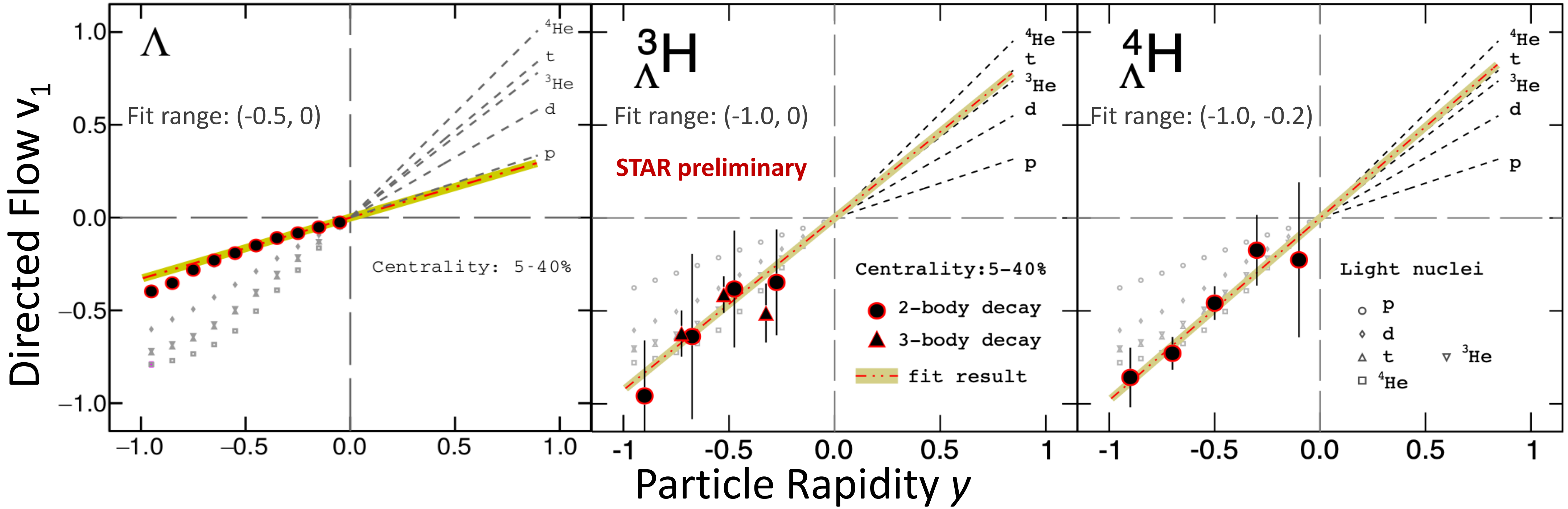


Fit function:

$f(\phi - \Psi_1) = p_0 * (1 + v_1 * 2. * \cos(\phi - \Psi_1))$

Directed Flow v_1 vs. Rapidity

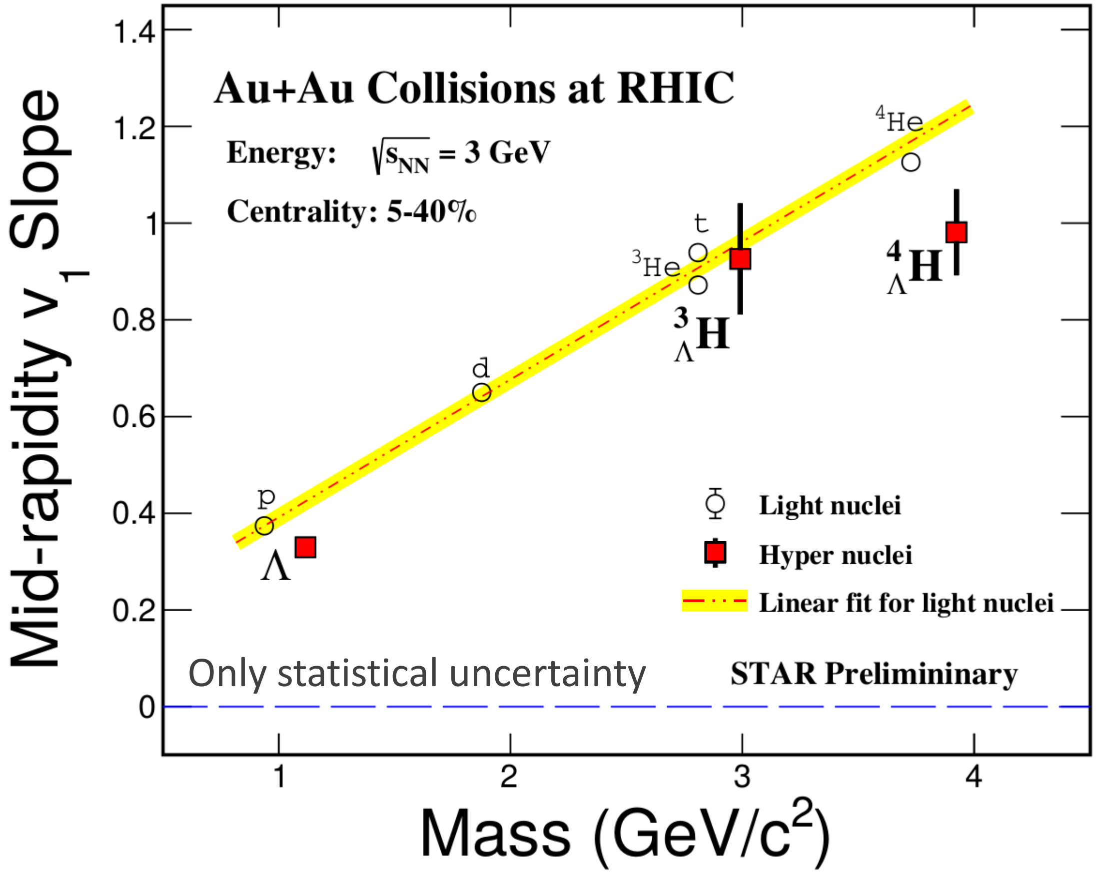
$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ = 3 GeV Au+Au Collisions at RHIC



1) **First observation** of hyper-nuclei collectivity v_1 in high-energy nuclear collisions, EP resolution and efficiency corrections applied.
2) Like the cases for light nuclei, hyper-nuclei v_1 seems to follow the mass number scaling within uncertainties →

Coalescence is a dominant process for mid-rapidity hyper-nuclei formation in the collisions

Λ, ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}H$ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}H$ v_1-Slope vs. Particle Mass



1) Within statistical uncertainties, the slopes of v_1 for hyper-nuclei ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}H$ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}H$ seem following a mass number scaling in the 5-40% 3 GeV Au+Au collisions.

→ **Coalescence is a dominant process for hyper-nuclei formation in the collisions**

→ **Theoritical inputs for collective flow of hyper-nuclei are needed**

5. Summary

1) Light hyper-nuclei ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}$ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}$ are reconstructed from 3 GeV Au+Au collisions at RHIC; Largest ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}$ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}$ data samples collected.
2) First measurements of ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}$ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}$ directed flow (v_1) from 5 – 40% centrality. Analysis of the systematic uncertainties is underway.
3) dv_1/dy slopes of hyper-nuclei ${}^{3}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}$ and ${}^{4}_{\Lambda}\mathrm{H}$ seem to follow a mass number scaling. This result implies that *coalescence* is a dominant process for hyper-nuclei formation in such collisions.
4) Theoretical inputs for collective flow of hyper-nuclei in HICs are needed.

Thank you very much for your attention!

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