# Strange tribaryons studied in the ${}^{4}\text{He}(K^{-}_{stopped}, \Lambda N)$ reaction

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# **KEK-PS E549 collaboration**

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#### Introduction - <u>Do deeply bound kaonic nuclear states</u> with narrow widths exist ?

-> No, they don't! They must be shallow and broad

-> Yes, they do.

Prediction 1 : T. Kishimoto (PRL 83 4701 (1999))

BNL-AGS E930 (T. Kishimoto et. al., 2001) with <sup>16</sup>O(in-flight K<sup>-</sup>,n)

-> narrow bound state(s)? (NPA 754 383c (2005))

KEK-PS E548 (T. Kishimoto *et. al.*, 2005) with <sup>16</sup>O/<sup>12</sup>C (in-flight K<sup>-</sup>,N)

-> no narrow sates ! but deep potential (PTP 118 181 (2007), NPA 827 321c (2009))

Prediction 2 : Y. Akaishi and T. Yamazaki (PRC 65 044005 (2002), PLB 535 70 (2002))

KEK-PS E471 (M. Iwasaki et. al., 2002/2003) with <sup>4</sup>He(stopped K<sup>-</sup>,N)

-> observation of "strange tribaryons" (nucl-ex/0310018,PLB **597** 263 (2004)) FINUDA (T. Bressani *et. al.*, 2003/2004/2006) with <sup>6/7</sup>Li/ <sup>12</sup>C(stopped K<sup>-</sup>,Λp/Λd)

-> evidence for deeply bound  $ppK^-/ppnK^-$ state (PRL 94 210323 (2005), PLB 654 80 (2007) ) DISTO (Re-analysis by T. Ymazaki *et. al.* ) with pp->p $\Lambda K^+$  at 2.85 GeV

-> indication of ppK<sup>-</sup> bound state (PRL 104 132502 (2010)) KEK-PS E549/570 (M. Iwasaki *et. al.*/R. S. Hayano *et. al.*, 2005) with <sup>4</sup>He(stopped K<sup>-</sup>,N)

-> no narrow sates ! (PLB 659 107 (2008) , PLB 688 43 (2010) )

Broad states with <sup>4</sup>He(stopped K<sup>-</sup>, AN) ? -> This talk

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Original aim of KEK-E549 - *Inclusive spectroscopy* 

 $\begin{array}{l} (\text{semi-}) \text{Inclusive missing mass spectroscopy} \\ \text{of } (\text{K}_{\text{bar}}\text{NNN})_{Z=0,T=1}: \text{S}^0 \ / \ (\text{K}_{\text{bar}}\text{NNN})_{Z=1,T=0,1}: \text{S}^+ \ \text{via} \\ \text{K}^-_{\text{stopped}} + ^4\text{He} \ -> p + \text{S}^0_{T=1} \ -> \text{M. Sato et. al., PLB 659 107} \\ \ -> \begin{array}{c} n + \text{S}^+_{T=0,1} \\ \text{S}^+_{T=0,1} -> \text{Y}(\pi)\text{NN} \\ \text{Y} \ -> \pi \text{N} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} -> \text{H. Yim et. al.,} \\ \text{PLB 688 43} \end{array}$ 

✓ Very strict upper limits for  $narrow(\Gamma \le 20 \text{ MeV/c}^2)$  states.

✓ Insensitive to broad ( $\Gamma \ge 40 \text{ MeV/c}^2$ ) states. Large upper limits at ~3140 MeV/c<sup>2</sup> for  $\Gamma \ge 40 \text{ MeV/c}^2$ .



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#### Semi-exclusive studies from *non-mesonic final states* Semi-exclusive missing mass spectroscopy via $K_{stopped} + {}^{4}He \rightarrow N + {}^{3}S^{0/+}_{T=0.1}$ *Y:A*->*arXiv:0711.4943* ${}^{3}S^{0/+}_{T=0.1} \rightarrow Y(\pi)NN$ Small statistics, but well resolved final states. Dibaryon? $K_{\text{stopped}} + {}^{4}\text{He} \rightarrow {}^{2}S^{0/+}_{T=1/2,3/2} + N + N$ $^{2}S^{0/+}_{T=1/2.3/2} \rightarrow YN$ Inclusive measurement for Y:Λ->PRC **76** 068202 (2007) $K^{-}_{stopped}$ + <sup>4</sup>He -> <sup>2</sup>S<sup>0</sup><sub>T=1/2</sub>+ d Semi-exclusive measurement for $K_{\text{stopped}}^{-} + {}^{4}\text{He} \rightarrow {}^{2}\text{S}_{T=1/2}^{0} + d$ ${}^{2}S^{0}_{T=1/2} \rightarrow Yn$ $-> {}^{3}S^{+}_{T=0.1} + n$ ${}^{3}S^{+}_{T=0,1} \rightarrow Yd$



# The Goals of this talk

#### Step 1. Does the Two-Nucleon Absorption Process, *K<sup>-</sup> 'NN'(NN) -> YN (NN)*

exist on **A>2** nuclei? How is the dynamical property if it exists??

This is closely related to the kaonic nuclear search, as

- i) it behaves as so far unkown background, and
- ii) non-mesonic decay mode of kaonic nucleus, to which experimental searches are mainly performed, is no more than two(or multi)-nucleon absorption at negative energy - *therefore the decay branching ratio*

is bound by the spin-isospin property at 0-energy.

Step 2. Does the multibaryonic intensity, which is clearly separable from the contribution of multi-nucleon absorption process, exist?

### Measurement

1 × 10<sup>8</sup> stopped K<sup>-</sup> E549 June 2005 E570-1 October 2005 1 × 10<sup>8</sup> stopped K<sup>-</sup> E570-2 December 2005  $4 \times 10^7$  stopped K $d/\Lambda$ YNN/YdN exclusive data, as well as inclusive data of d/N. Momentum decision by track detection+TOF method for  $\pi/p/n$ 

-> remarkable momentum resolutions and PID for p/n/d

#### $\Lambda N$ correlations (1)



#### $\Lambda N$ correlations (2)



#### AN correlations (3)



#### MM(N) VS IM(YN) plots



A<sub>p/n</sub> (Two-Nucleon-Absorption) produces continuum BG as expected at tribaryon mass~3070 MeV/c<sup>2</sup>

 $\Box B_{p/n}$  peaks at tribaryon mass~3140 MeV/c<sup>2</sup> (B.E. 170 MeV), dibaryon mass ? ->  $\Sigma^0$  contribution must be checked.

#### Normalized $\Lambda p$ spectra



Summary of Observed Properties of a<sub>p</sub>/a<sub>n</sub> :2-nucleon- absorption (2NA)

 $\begin{array}{l} K^{-} `pp'_{|=1,S=0} -> \Lambda p (a_{p} \sim 0.9\%/K^{-}_{stopped}) \\ K^{-} `pn'_{|=1,S=0/I=0,S=1} -> \Lambda n (a_{n} \sim 3\%/K^{-}_{stopped}) \\ \hline \both exist on ^{4}He (the first observation on `NN'_{I=1,S=0}) . \end{array}$ 

#### Consequences

1. Significantly small branch on  $\Lambda p(I=0,S=1 \text{ dominance})$ .

2. only ~30% of known  $\Lambda(\Sigma^0)(pnn)(11.7 + 2.4)\%$  (PRD 1 1267 (1970)) final states!

3.  $K^{-}d(=[pn]_{I=0,S=1}) > \Lambda n \sim 0.4\%$  at  $E_{Kbar}=0$  (PRD 1 1883 (1970)) and 0.9%/3% ~ 30% reaction rate of  $K^{-}[NN]_{I=1,S=0} > \Lambda N$  leads  $K^{-}[pp]_{I=1,S=0} > \Lambda p \sim 0.12\%$  at  $E_{Kbar}=0$ 

->  $K[pp]_{I=1,S=0}$ ->  $\Lambda p$  is unlikely for any  $E_{kbar}$  >  $Y\pi N$  decay threshold

Summary of Observed Properties of b<sub>p</sub>/b<sub>n</sub> : *Multi-baryon candidates* 

Intense(~70% of <u>ANNN final states</u>) so far unknown non-mesonic components exist on <u>both</u> <u>Ap/An</u>.

✓  $b_p$  cannot be explained by the elastic re-scattering ✓  $b_n^{effect}$  d be partly explained by that.

-> b<sub>p</sub> is extremely peculiar.

The strength, which is likely to be the tribaryon signals, peaks at ~3140 MeV/c<sup>2</sup> (B.E. 170 MeV)
 Dibaryon (M~2230 MeV/c<sup>2</sup>) interpretation is unlikely, except for unpredicted K<sup>-</sup>[pn]<sub>I=0,S=1</sub>

#### **Three- and Four-Nucleon Absorption**

The existence of three- and four-nucleon absorption processes of K<sup>-</sup> were also established in KEK E549...



Three- and four-nucleon absorption processes do exist, but too rare to account for intense "B" components.

#### $\Lambda$ N+n semi-exclusive analysis 1 – separation of $\Sigma^0$ and $\Lambda$ final states



✓ By detecting an additional neutron in coincidence with back-to-back  $\Lambda N$ , we can separate  $\Lambda NNN/\Lambda\gamma NNN/\Lambda\pi NNN$  final states. □~30% of Bp component is now found to be occupied by  $\Sigma^0$ pnn events. □Study of  $\Sigma^0$ pnn events allows us more unambiguous search of multibaryon intensity (we can forget the possibility of  $\Sigma\Lambda$  conversion).

# ΛN+n semi-exclusive analysis 2 – observation of multibaryon strength



Green :Σ<sup>0</sup>NNN Red :ΛNNN

 $\Box No 2NA strength is seen for \Sigma^{0}p events !!$ 

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□Peak of tribaryon mass spectrum by ∑<sup>0</sup>p final state is shifted from expectation of 2NA process by ~40 MeV/c<sup>2</sup> !! □All conventional

explanations are unlikely to account for the peak at 3170 MeV/c<sup>2</sup> !!

Observation of  $\Sigma^0$ nn decay mode of  ${}^3S^0$  tribaryon.

# Conclusions

- 1. The spin-isospin dependence of 2NA process of negative kaon has been observed for the first time.
- 2. The 2NA process accounts for **only** ~30% of non-mesonic  $\Lambda$  branch.
- 3. A large fraction of the remaining  $\sim$ 70% (7 $\sim$ 9%/K<sup>-</sup><sub>stopped</sub>) does not allow any interpretation **except for multibaryon formation**.
- 4. The  $K^{-}[pp]_{I=1,S=0}$  hypothesis of  $\Lambda p$  spectrum (FINUDA interpretation) is, however, **unlikely** from observed spin-isospin property of the 2NA process at 0-energy.
- 5. The  $\Lambda p$  spectrum suggests  ${}^{3}S_{T=1}^{0}$ , while the  $\Lambda n$  suggests  ${}^{3}S_{T=0/1}^{+}$ . The  $\Lambda n$  spectrum would be interpreted as an unpredicted dibaryon  $K[pn]_{I=0,S=1}$ .
- 6. **Observed** tribaryon mass is ~3140 MeV/c<sup>2</sup> ( $\Sigma^0$  and  $\Lambda$  modes overlap). The dependence of the peak position on the decay mode was now observed.