

Search for η -mesic helium with WASA-at-COSY

Magdalena Skurzok

for WASA-at-COSY Collaboration

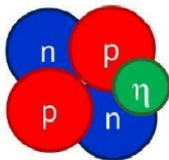
STRANEX, Trento, Italy
21th - 27th October 2019



Introduction – η -mesic nuclei

η -mesic nucleus

${}^4\text{He}-\eta$



strong interaction

$$m_{\text{bound}} = m_{{}^4\text{He}} + m_{\eta} - B_s$$

meson



$u\bar{u}, d\bar{d}, s\bar{s}$

$$m_{\eta} = 547.86 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\Gamma = 1.31 \text{ keV}$$

$$t = 10^{-18} \text{ s}$$

$$|\text{Re}(a_{\eta N})| > \text{Im}(a_{\eta N})$$

attraction > absorption

Introduction – η -mesic nuclei

Attractive and strong interaction between η and nucleon

R. Bhalariao, L. C. Liu, Phys. Lett. B54, 685 (1985)



Possible existence of η -mesic bound states postulated for atomic nuclei with $A > 12$

Q. Haider, L. C. Liu, Phys. Lett. B172, 257 (1986)

Recent theoretical studies of hadronic- and photoproduction of η meson support the existence of light η -mesic nuclei like $(^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ $(^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$

$$B_s \in (1, 40) \text{ MeV}, \Gamma \in (1, 45) \text{ MeV}$$

$$dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}p\pi^-: \sigma=4.5 \text{ nb} \mid pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow Xp\pi^-: \sigma=80 \text{ nb}$$

J.-J. Xie et al., Eur. Phys. J. A55 no.1, 6 (2019)

J.-J. Xie et al., Phys. Rev. C95, 015202 (2017)

N. Ikeno et al., Eur. Phys. J. A53 no. 10, 194 (2017)

A. Gal, B. Bazak, E. Friedman, Acta Phys. Pol. B48, 1781 (2017)

V. Metag, M. Nanova, E. Paryev, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 97, 199 (2017)

N. G. Kelkar, Eur. Phys. J. A52 no.10, 309 (2016)

N. Barnea, E. Friedman, A. Gal, Phys. Lett B747, 345 (2015); Nucl. Phys. A 968 (2017)

S. Wycech, W. Krzemien, Acta. Phys. Polon B45, 745 (2014)

E. Friedman, A. Gal, J. Mares, Phys. Lett B725, 334 (2013)

C. Wilkin, Acta. Phys. Pol. B45, 603 (2014)

P. C. Bruns, A. Cieply, arXiv:1903.103; || M. Skurzok, S. Hirenzaki et al., arXiv:1908.03429

Status of the search for η -mesic Helium at WASA

$(^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$

- **2008:** $dd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}p\pi^-$

reaction

P. Adlarson et al., Phys. Rev. C87, 035204 (2013)

- **2010:** $dd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}n\pi^0$ and $dd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}p\pi^-$ reactions

P. Adlarson et al., Nucl. Phys. A 959, 102-115 (2017)

M. Skurzok, P. Moskal, et al., Phys. Lett. B782, 6-12 (2018)



η meson absorption and excitation of one of the nucleons to an N^* resonance, which subsequently decays into an $N - \pi$ pair

$(^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$

- **2014:**

- $pd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}2\gamma(^3\text{He}6\gamma)$

reactions

O. Rundel, PhD Thesis (2018),
arxiv:1905.04544

decay of the η - meson while it is still "orbiting" around a nucleus

- $pd \rightarrow ppp\pi^-(ppn\pi^0, dp\pi^0)$

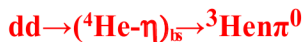
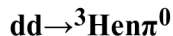
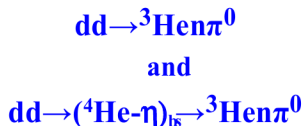
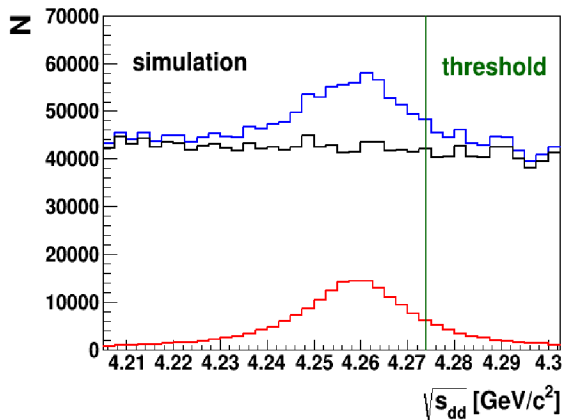
reactions

A. Khreptak, Analysis in progress

Talk

η meson absorption and excitation of one of the nucleons to an N^* resonance, which subsequently decays into an $N - \pi$ pair

Experimental method



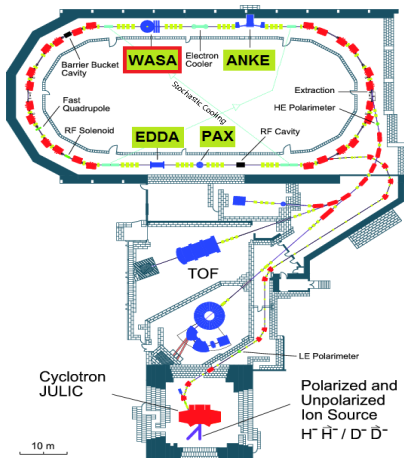
Excitation function

$({}^4\text{He} - \eta)_{\text{bound}}$ existence manifested by resonant-like structure below η production threshold

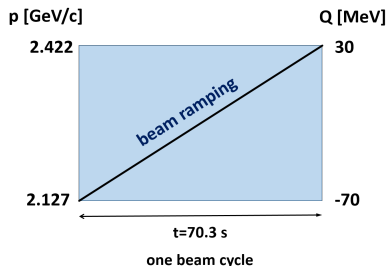
Search for $(^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ with WASA-at-COSY

Exp. 186.1 & 186.2, FZ Jülich,
Germany, 2008 and 2010

P. Moskal, W. Krzemien, J. Smyrski,
COSY proposal No. 186.1 & 186.2



- **Measurement** with the **deuteron** beam momentum ramped and with the **deuteron** pellet target

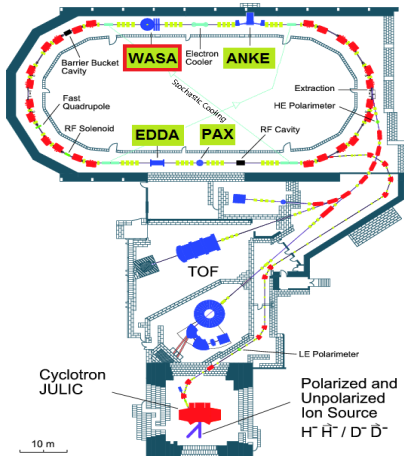


- **Data** were effectively taken with high acceptance (58%)

Search for $(^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ with WASA-at-COSY

Exp. 186.3, FZ Jülich, Germany
2014

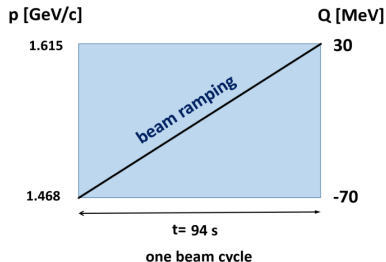
P. Moskal, W. Krzemien, M. Skurzok,
COSY proposal No. 186.3



$$pd \rightarrow ppp\pi^- (ppn\pi^0, dp\pi^0)$$

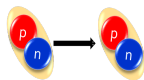
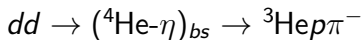
$$pd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}2\gamma (^3\text{He}6\gamma)$$

- **Measurement** with the **proton** beam momentum ramped and with the **deuteron** pellet target

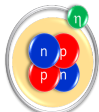


- **Data** were effectively taken with high acceptance

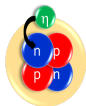
Kinematical mechanism of the reaction (via N^*)



DEUTERON
FUSION



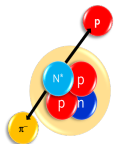
CREATION OF
 η -MESIC NUCLEUS



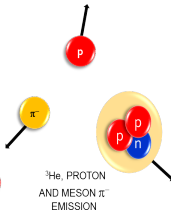
ABSORPTION OF η MESON BY
ONE OF NUCLEON INSIDE THE
HELIUM



NUCLEON EXCITATION INSIDE
THE NUCLEUS –
 N^* RESONANCE FORMATION



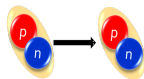
RESONANCE DECAY
INTO PION AND
PROTON INSIDE
NUCLEUS



${}^3\text{He}$, PROTON
AND MESON π^-
EMISSION

Kinematical mechanism of the reaction (via N^*)

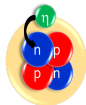
$$dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{bs} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}n\pi^0$$



DEUTERON
FUSION



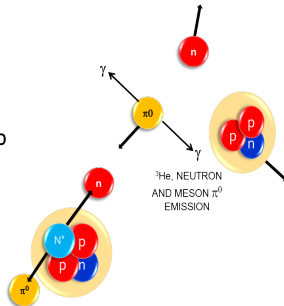
CREATION OF
 η -MESIC NUCLEUS



ABSORPTION OF η MESON BY
ONE OF NUCLEON INSIDE THE
HELIUM



NUCLEON EXCITATION INSIDE
THE NUCLEUS –
 N^* RESONANCE FORMATION

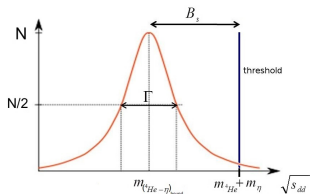


RESONANCE DECAY
INTO PION AND
PROTON INSIDE
NUCLEUS

^3He , NEUTRON
AND MESON π^0
EMISSION

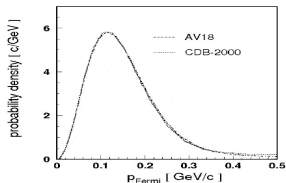
Simulation of $(^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ production and decay

Breit-Wigner distribution



$$N(\sqrt{s_{dd}}) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\Gamma^2/4}{(\sqrt{s_{dd}} - m_{(^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}})^2 + \Gamma^2/4}$$

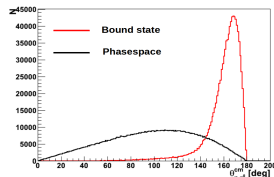
Spectator Model



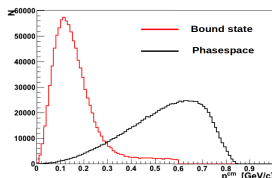
$$|\mathbb{P}_{^3\text{He}}|^2 = m_{^3\text{He}}^2$$

$$\eta + N \Rightarrow N^*(1535) \Rightarrow N + \pi = \begin{cases} p + \pi^- \\ n + \pi^0 \end{cases}$$

- relative $N-\pi$ angle in the CM:
 $\theta_{cm}^{N,\pi} \sim 180^\circ$

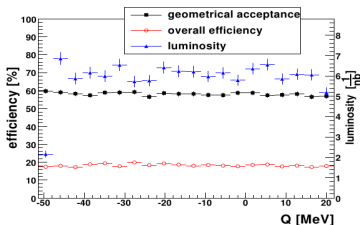


- low ^3He momentum in the CM

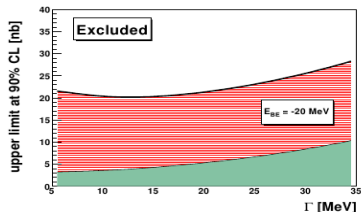
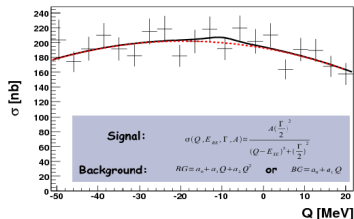


Experiment-May 2008

- **Channel:** $dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}p\pi^-$ (norm: $dd \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}n$)
- **Measurement:** beam momentum ramped from **2.185 GeV/c** to **2.400 GeV/c** $\Rightarrow$ the range of excess energy $Q \in (-51, 22) \text{ MeV}$
- **Luminosity:** $L = 118 \frac{1}{\text{nb}}$
- **Acceptance:** $A = 53\%$



Excitation function



P. Adlarson et al., Phys. Rev. C **87** (2013), 035204
 W. Krzemien, Ph. D Thesis, Jagiellonian University (2012)

RESULT: $\sigma_{dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}p\pi^-} < 27 \text{ nb}$

- **Channels:** $dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}p\pi^-$

$$dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}n\pi^0$$

(norm: $dd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}n$ and $dd \rightarrow ppn_{\text{sp}}n_{\text{sp}}$)

- **Measurement:** beam momentum ramped from **2.127GeV/c** to **2.422GeV/c** $\Rightarrow$ the range of excess energy **$Q \in (-70, 30)\text{MeV}$**

- **Luminosity:** $L=1200 \frac{1}{\text{nb}}$

- **Acceptance:** $A=53\%$

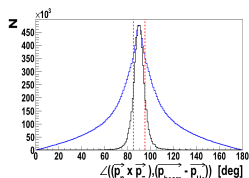
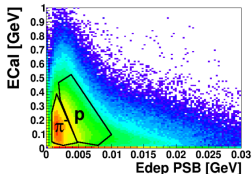
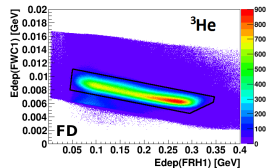
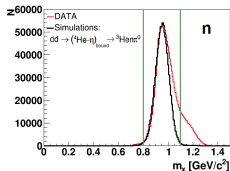
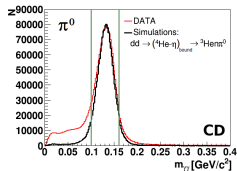
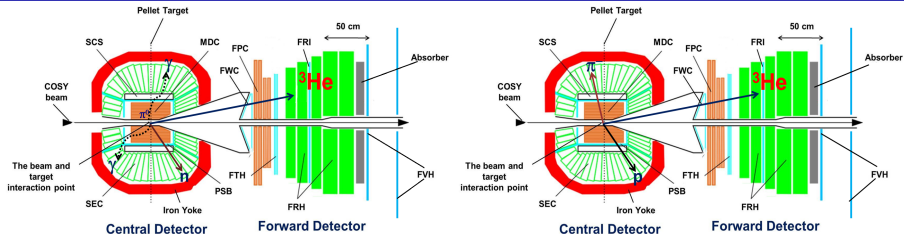


about 10 times higher statistics than in 2008

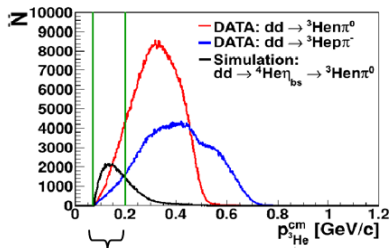
ANALYSIS:

- Particles identification
- Selection bound state region
- Determination of excitation functions
- Determination the upper limit of the total cross section

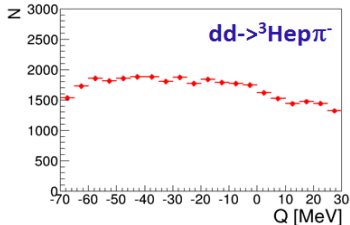
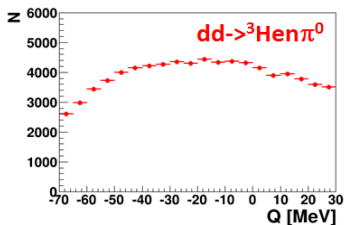
Search for $(^4\text{He}\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ in $dd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}N\pi$ reaction | PID



Search for $(^4\text{He}\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ | Selection criterium

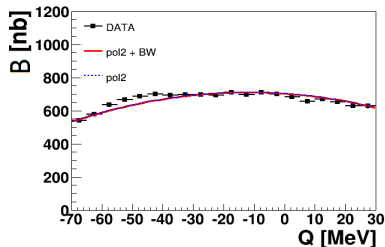


region rich in signal

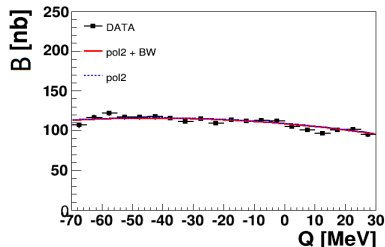


Determination of the upper limit of the total cross section for $dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}N\pi$ processes at CL=90%

$$dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}n\pi^0$$



$$dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}p\pi^-$$



simultaneous fit with $\frac{A \cdot \Gamma^2/4}{(Q-B_s)^2 + \Gamma^2/4} + BQ^2 + CQ + D$
 Breit-Wigner (signal) + pol2 (background)

taking into account the **isospin relation** between the both of the considered channels:

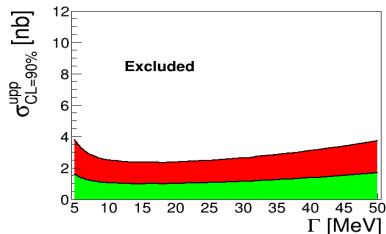
$$P(N^* \rightarrow p\pi^-) = 2P(N^* \rightarrow n\pi^0)$$

B_s, Γ - fixed parameters | A, B, C, D - free parameters || $\sigma_{\text{CL}=90\%}^{\text{upp}} = k \cdot \sigma_A$, $k=1.64$ (for CL=90%)

Determination of the upper limit of the total cross section for $dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}p\pi^-$ process at CL=90%

$$\sigma_{\text{CL}=90\%}^{\text{upp}} \text{ for } dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}n\pi^0$$

⇓

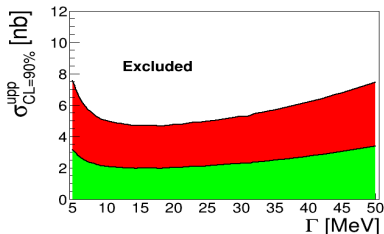


RESULT:

$$\sigma_{dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}n\pi^0} < 3.5 \text{ nb}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{CL}=90\%}^{\text{upp}} \text{ for } dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}p\pi^-$$

⇓



RESULT:

$$\sigma_{dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}p\pi^-} < 7 \text{ nb}$$

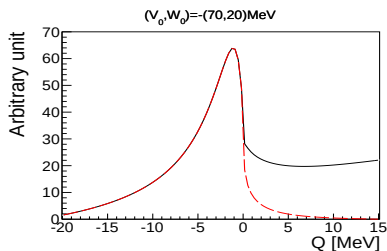
$$2008: \sigma < 27 \text{ nb}$$

More details in: [P. Adlarson et al., Nucl. Phys. A 959, 102-115 \(2017\)](#)

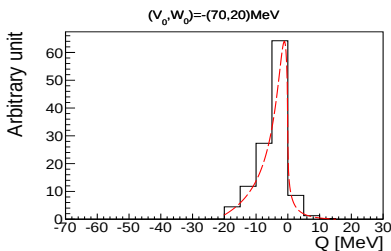
Comparison with N. Ikeno et al. model prediction

N. Ikeno, H. Nagahiro, D. Jido, S. Hirenzaki, Eur. Phys. J. A 53, 194 (2017)

- total cross sections for the $dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}N\pi$ reaction determined based on phenomenological calculations
- the model reproduced the data on the $dd \rightarrow ^4\text{He} \eta$ reaction quite well
- $\sigma = \sigma_{\text{conv}} + \sigma_{\text{esc}}$
- σ_{conv} - determined for different parameters V_0 and W_0 of a spherical η - ^4He optical potential $V(r) = (V_0 + iW_0) \frac{\rho_\alpha(r)}{\rho_\alpha(0)}$ (the total cross section in the subthreshold excess energy region where the η meson is absorbed by the nucleus)
- normalization in the sense that the escape part reproduces the measured cross sections for the $dd \rightarrow ^4\text{He}\eta$ process

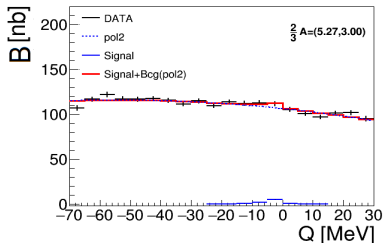
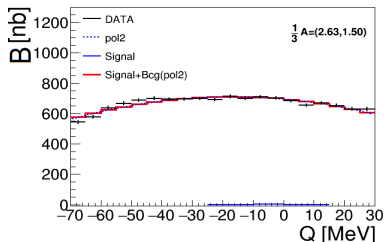


σ —
 σ_{conv} - - -



σ_{conv} spectrum convoluted with
the experimental resolution functions

Comparison with N. Ikeno et al. model prediction



$$\sigma_{n\pi^0}(Q) = \frac{1}{3}A \cdot \text{Theory}(Q) + B_1 Q^2 + C_1 Q + D_1$$

$$\sigma_{p\pi^-}(Q) = \frac{2}{3}A \cdot \text{Theory}(Q) + B_2 Q^2 + C_2 Q + D_2$$

isospin relation between the both of the considered channels

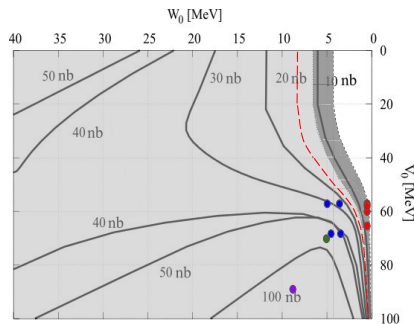
$\text{Theory}(Q)$ - theoretical function after binning with the amplitude normalized to unity
 $B_{1,2}Q^2 + C_{1,2}Q + D_{1,2}$ - polynomial of the second order

Fit performed for theoretical spectra obtained for different optical potential parameters (V_0, W_0)

Comparison with N. Ikeno et al. model prediction

results obtained for different
optical potential parameters
(V_0, W_0)

V_0	W_0	A (fit) [nb]	$\sigma_{upp}^{CL=90\%}$ [nb]
-30	-5	-5.0 ± 3.9	6.5
-30	-20	-2.2 ± 3.5	5.8
-30	-40	0.2 ± 3.8	6.3
-50	-5	0.1 ± 3.8	6.3
-50	-20	3.3 ± 4.1	6.8
-50	-40	6.0 ± 4.2	6.9
-70	-5	6.4 ± 4.5	7.4
-70	-20	7.9 ± 4.5	7.4
-70	-40	7.5 ± 3.7	6.1
-100	-5	6.3 ± 4.5	7.4
-100	-20	6.9 ± 3.9	6.4
-100	-40	5.3 ± 3.1	5.2

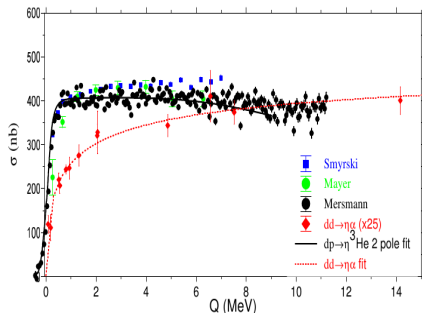


Contour plot of the theoretically determined conversion cross section in $V_0 - W_0$ plane.

The allowed parameter space ($|V_0| < \sim 60$ MeV and $|W_0| < \sim 7$ MeV) excludes most optical model predictions of η - ^4He nuclei except for some loosely bound narrow states.

More details in: **M. Skurzok, P. Moskal, et al., Phys. Lett. B708, 6-12 (2018)**

Search for $(^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ with WASA-at-COSY



Measurement: $p_{\text{beam}} : 1.468\text{--}1.615\text{ GeV}/c$,
 $Q \in (-70, 30)\text{ MeV}$

Channels:

• **Via the resonance decay N^* :**

- 1) $pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ppp\pi^-$
- 2) $pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ppn\pi^0$
- 3) $pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow dp\pi^0$

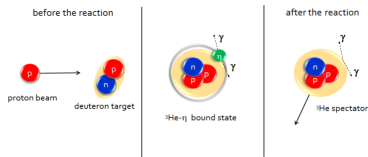
Aleksander Khreptak $\rightarrow$ Talk

• **Absorption of orbiting η**

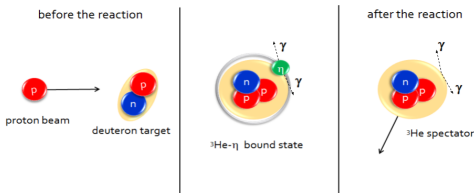
- 4) $pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He } 2\gamma$
- 5) $pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He } 6\gamma$

$$\sigma_{pd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}-\eta} \approx 25\sigma_{dd \rightarrow ^4\text{He}-\eta}$$

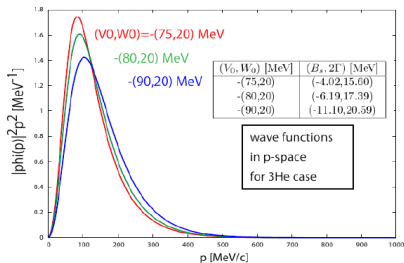
About 2 weeks of measurement
 $(L \approx 2500 \frac{1}{\text{nb}})$



Simulation of $(^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ production and decay



- ^3He is spectator $|\mathbb{P}_{^3\text{He}}|^2 = m_{^3\text{He}}^2$
- Fermi momentum distribution of the η meson in $^3\text{He}-\eta$ bound system



- bound η decays to 2γ or $3\pi^0$

Structure of hypothetical $^3\text{He}-\eta$ bound state can be described as a solution of Klein-Gordon equation:

$$\left[-\vec{\nabla}^2 + \mu^2 + 2\mu U_{\text{opt}}(r) \right] \psi(\vec{r}) = E_{\text{KG}}^2 \psi(\vec{r})$$

where: E_{KG} - Klein -Gordon energy, μ - $^3\text{He}-\eta$ reduced mass,

optical potential:

$$U_{\text{opt}}(r) = (V_0 + iW_0) \frac{\rho(r)}{\rho_0}$$

where: $\rho(r)$ - density distr. for ^3He , ρ_0 - normal nuclear density

KG equation solved for several sets of (V_0, W_0)

$$\Downarrow$$

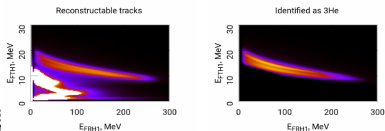
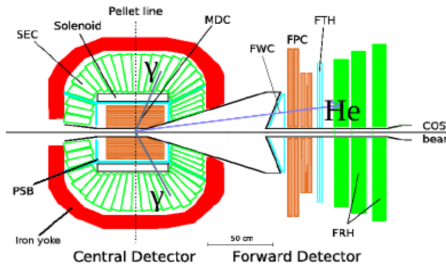
$$E_{\text{KG}}, \psi(\vec{r})$$

→ M. Skurzok, S. Hirenzaki,
arxiv:1908.03429, accepted in NPA

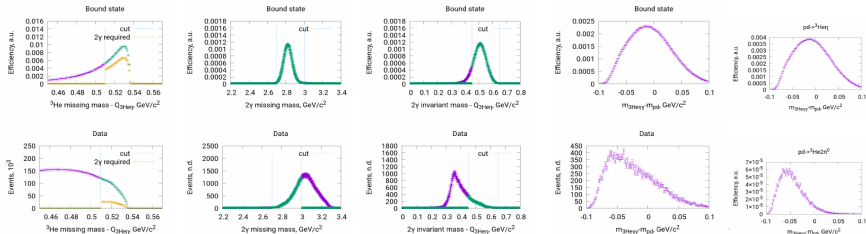
Search for $(^3\text{He}\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ | Selection criteria

$$pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}2\gamma$$

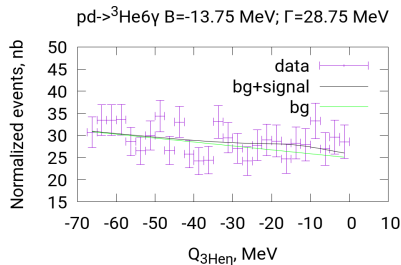
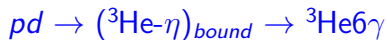
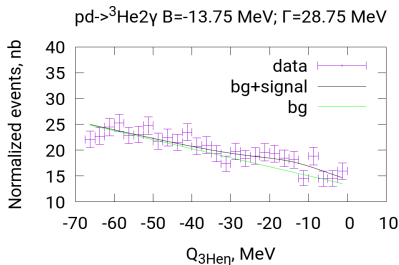
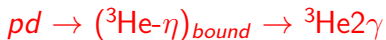
Require ^3He track in Forward Detector



and two γ tracks in Central Detector



Determination of the upper limit of the total cross section for $pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}2\gamma(6\gamma)$ processes at CL=90%



simultaneous fit with $P_{\eta\text{decay}} \frac{A \cdot \Gamma^2/4}{(Q-B_s)^2 + \Gamma^2/4} + BQ + C$
 Breit-Wigner (signal) + pol2 (background)

where $P_{\eta\text{decay}}$ are branching ratios for η decays:

$$P_{\eta \rightarrow 2\gamma} = 0.3941, \quad P_{\eta \rightarrow 3\pi^0} = 0.3268$$

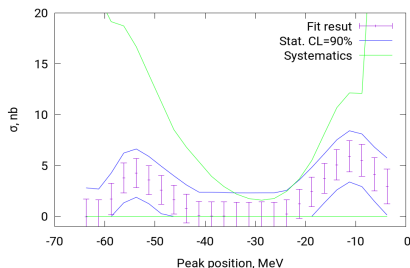
B_s, Γ - fixed parameters | A, B, C - free parameters || $\sigma_{CL=90\%}^{upp} = A + k \cdot \sigma_A, k=1.64$ (for CL=90%)

Determination of the upper limit of the total cross section for $pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}2\gamma(6\gamma)$ process at CL=90%

$\sigma_{\text{CL}=90\%}^{\text{upp}}$ for
 $pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}2\gamma(6\gamma)$



Width = 28.75 MeV



RESULT:

$$\sigma_{pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}2\gamma(6\gamma)} < 15 \text{ nb}$$

PRELIMINARY

slight indication of the signal from the bound state for $\Gamma > 20 \text{ MeV}$ and $B_s \in (015) \text{ MeV}$



However, the observed indication is within the range of the systematic error



we cannot make a definite conclusion here on possible bound state formation

Previous result: COSY-11

$$\sigma_{pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}\pi^0} < 70 \text{ nb}$$

J. Smyrski et al., Nucl. Phys. A 790 (2007) 438

More details in: **O. Rundel, PhD Thesis (2018), arxiv:1905.04544**

Summary of the search for η -mesic Helium at WASA

$(^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$

- **2008:** $dd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}p\pi^-$ reaction

$$\sigma_{dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}p\pi^-} < 27 \text{ nb}$$

- **2010:** $dd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}n\pi^0$ and $dd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}p\pi^-$ reactions

$$\sigma_{dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}p\pi^-} < 7 \text{ nb}$$

$$\sigma_{dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}n\pi^0} < 3.5 \text{ nb}$$

$(^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$

- **2014:** $pd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}2\gamma$ and $pd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}6\gamma$ reactions

$$\sigma_{dp \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}2\gamma(6\gamma)} < 15 \text{ nb}$$

PRELIMINARY

- **2014:** $pd \rightarrow ppp\pi^- (ppn\pi^0, dp\pi^0)$ reactions

A. Khreptak,
Analysis in progress

Talk

Summary and Conclusions

- Search for η -mesic helium was carried out using the ramped beam technique.
- No bound state signal visible in 2008 data (upper limit of the total cross section for the bound state production determined)
- 2010 measurement doesn't show a narrow signal of η -mesic nuclei in $dd \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}n\pi^0$ and $dd \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}p\pi^-$ channels
- 2014 measurement doesn't show a narrow signal of η -mesic nuclei in $pd \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}2\gamma$ and $pd \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}6\gamma$ channels
- The upper limits for $dd \rightarrow ({}^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}p\pi^-$ and $dd \rightarrow ({}^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}n\pi^0$ reaction in order of **few nb**!
- The upper limits for $pd \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}2\gamma(6\gamma)$ reactions **< 15 nb**!
- Analysis in progress for $pd \rightarrow ppp\pi^-(ppn\pi^0, dp\pi^0)$ channels

Thank you for attention

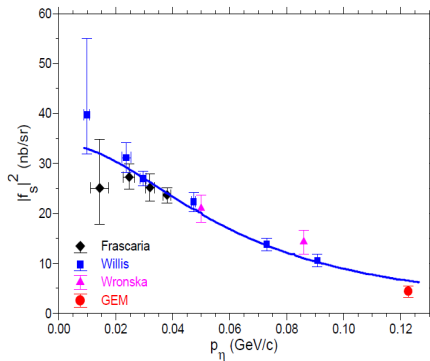
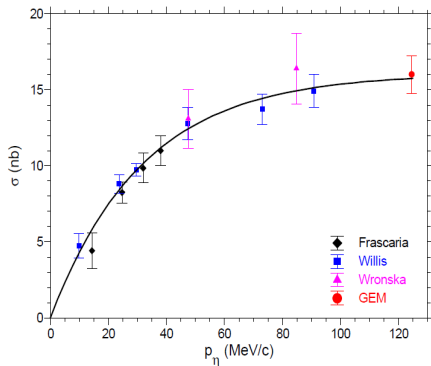


Exp. indications of the existence of the $^4\text{He}-\eta$ bound state

total cross section

$dd \rightarrow ^4\text{He}-\eta$

$$|f_s|^2 = \frac{p_d}{p_\eta} \frac{\sigma}{4\pi}$$



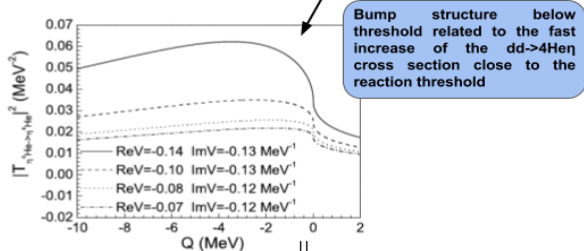
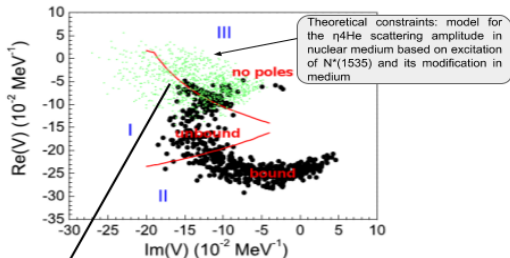
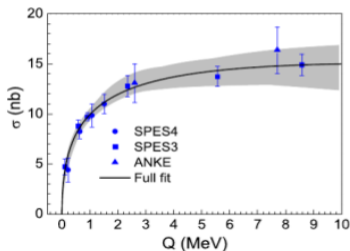
R. Frascaria et al., Phys. Rev. C50, 573 (1994)

N. Willis et al., Phys. Lett. B406, 14 (1997)

A. Wronska et al., Eur. Phys. J. A26, 421428 (2005)

A. Budzanowski et al., Nucl. Phys. A821, 193 (2009)

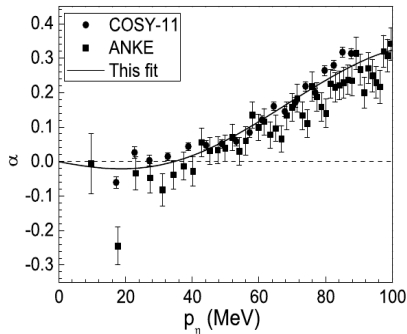
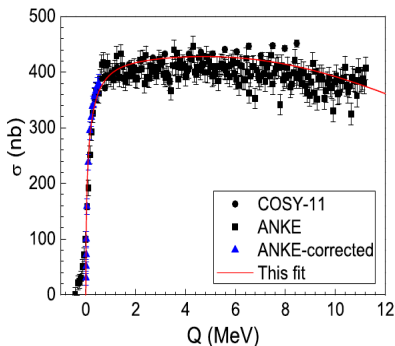
Exp. indications of the existence of the $^4\text{He}-\eta$ bound state



J.-J. Xie et al., Eur. Phys. J. A55 no.1, 6 (2019)

Exp. indications of the existence of the $^3\text{He}-\eta$ bound state

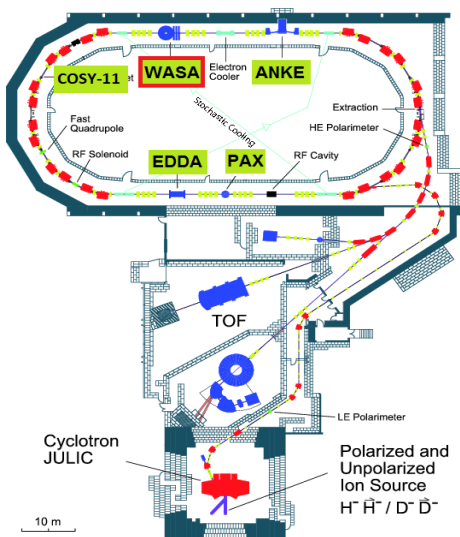
total cross section $pd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}-\eta$ $\frac{d\sigma(\theta_\eta)}{d\Omega} = \frac{\sigma_{tot}}{4\pi} (1 - \alpha \cos\theta_\eta)$



J.-J. Xie, et al., Phys. Rev. C 95, 015202 (2017)

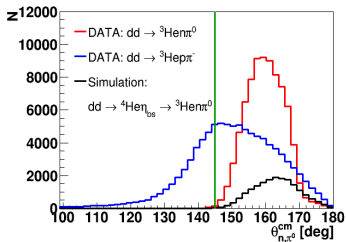
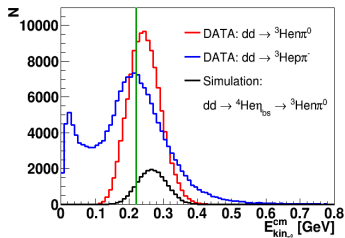
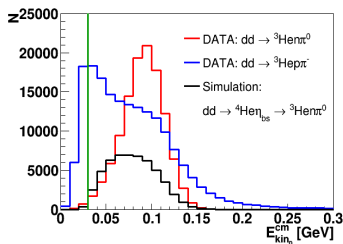
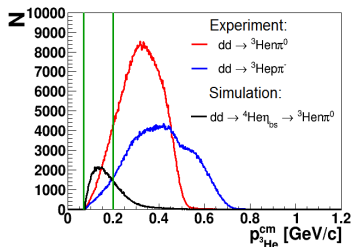
"weakly bound $^3\text{He}-\eta$ state with **binding energy** of the order of **0.3 MeV** and a **width** of the order of **3 MeV**", $a_{\eta^3\text{He}} = [(2.23 \pm 1.29) - i(4.89 \pm 0.57)] \text{ fm}$

COoler SYnchrotron COSY



- 184 m circumference cooler synchrotron
- Polarized and unpolarized proton and deuteron beam
- Momentum range 0.3 - 3.7 GeV/c
- Stochastic and electron cooling
- 10^{11} particles in ring - luminosities $10^{31} - 10^{32} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- Ramped beam (search for η -mesic nuclei)

Search for $(^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ | Selection criteria



DATA: $dd \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\pi^-$

DATA: $dd \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\pi^0 \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\pi\gamma$

Signal: $dd \rightarrow (^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\pi^0$

Determination of the total cross section for $dd \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}n\pi^0$ reaction

Cross section

$$\sigma(Q) = \frac{N(Q)}{L(Q)\epsilon(Q)}$$

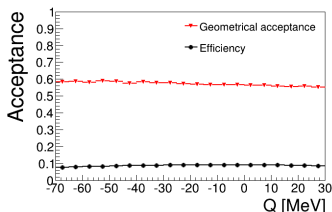
N - number of experimental events

L - integrated luminosity

ϵ - full detection efficiency

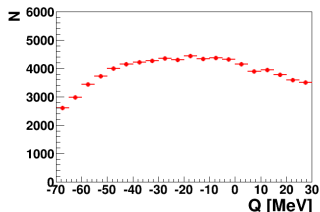
Efficiency

$dd \rightarrow ({}^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}n\pi^0$



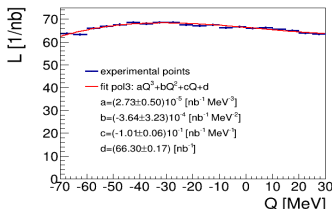
from simulations: $\epsilon = \frac{N_{\text{acc}}}{N_{\text{gen}}}$

Excitation function



Integrated luminosity

$dd \rightarrow ppn_{sp}n_{sp}$



$dd \rightarrow ppn_{sp}n_{sp}$: $L = (1329 \pm 2_{\text{stat}} \pm 108_{\text{syst}} \pm 64_{\text{norm}}) \text{nb}^{-1}$

$dd \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}n$: $L = (1102 \pm 2_{\text{stat}} \pm 28_{\text{syst}} \pm 107_{\text{norm}}) \text{nb}^{-1}$

Determination of the total cross section for $dd \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}p\pi^-$ reaction

Cross section

$$\sigma(Q) = \frac{N(Q)}{L(Q)\epsilon(Q)}$$

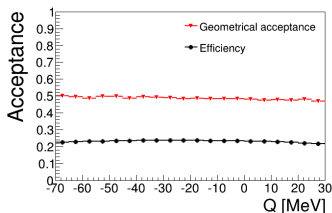
N - number of experimental events

L - integrated luminosity

ϵ - full detection efficiency

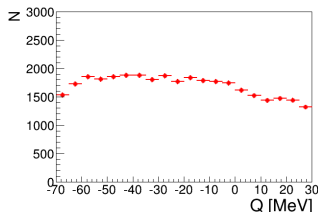
Efficiency

$dd \rightarrow ({}^4\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}n\pi^0$



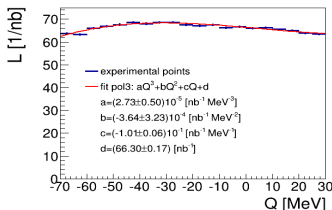
from simulations: $\epsilon = \frac{N_{\text{acc}}}{N_{\text{gen}}}$

Excitation function



Integrated luminosity

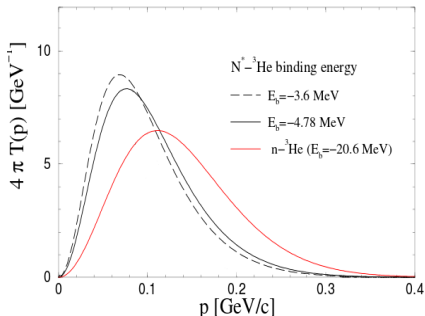
$dd \rightarrow ppn_{sp}n_{sp}$



$dd \rightarrow ppn_{sp}n_{sp}$: $L = (1329 \pm 2_{\text{stat}} \pm 108_{\text{syst}} \pm 64_{\text{norm}}) \text{nb}^{-1}$

$dd \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}n$: $L = (1102 \pm 2_{\text{stat}} \pm 28_{\text{syst}} \pm 107_{\text{norm}}) \text{nb}^{-1}$

Main contribution: assumption that N^* resonance has a momentum distribution identical to the distribution of nucleons inside He



N^* - ^3He momentum distribution determined by prof. Neelima G. Kelkar

The elementary $NN^* \rightarrow NN^*$ interaction was constructed within a π plus η meson exchange model and the N^* -nucleus potential was then obtained by folding the elementary NN^* interaction with a nuclear density. A couple of possible bound states of the N^* - ^3He system, depending on the choice of the πNN^* and ηNN^* coupling constants were predicted.

Details:

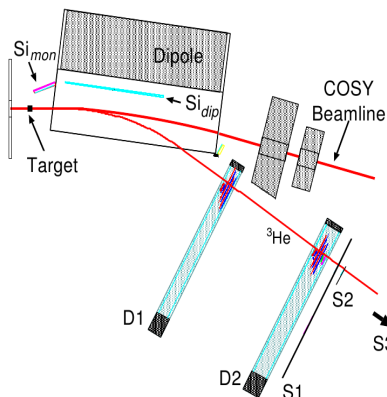
N. G. Kelkar, Eur. Phys. J. A 52 (2016) 309.

N. G. Kelkar, D. Bedoya Ferro, P. Moskal, Acta Phys. Pol. B 47 (2016) 299.

Search for $(^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ with COSY-11

Exp. 142, FZ Jülich, Germany, 2005

P. Moskal, W. Krzemien, J. Smyrski,
COSY proposal No. 142 (2004)

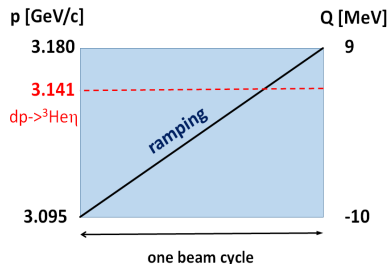


$$dp \rightarrow {}^3\text{He}\pi^0 \mid dp \rightarrow ppp\pi^-$$

• Measurement

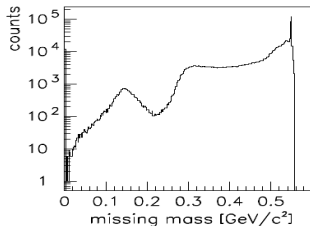
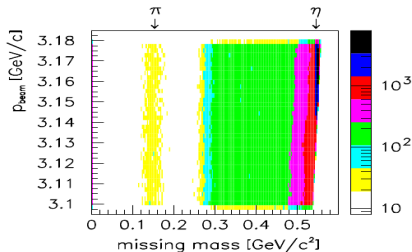
-with the deuteron beam momentum varied continuously within each cycle from **3.095 - 3.180 GeV/c** crossing ${}^3\text{He}\eta$ kinematic threshold at $p_{\text{beam}} = 3.141 \text{ GeV/c}$

-with the proton cluster target

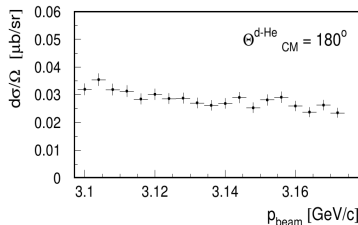


Search for $(^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ with COSY-11

$$dp \rightarrow ^3\text{He}\pi^0$$



- Luminosity determined using dp elastic scattering
- Excitation function

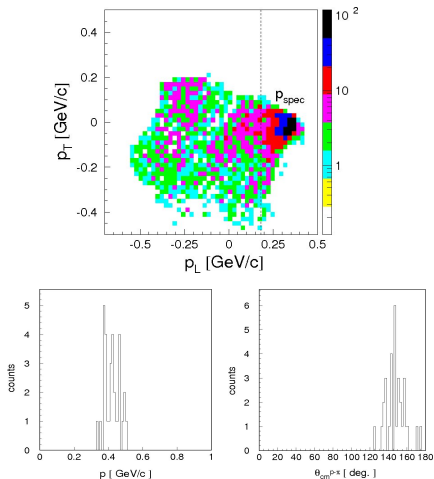


J. Smyrski et al., Nucl. Phys. A790, 438 (2007)

RESULT: $\sigma_{dp \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He}\pi^0} < 70 \text{ nb}$

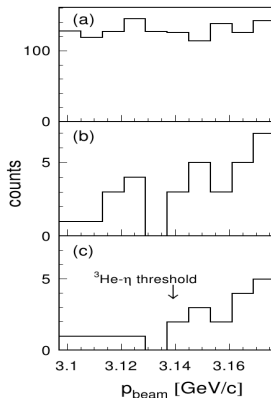
Search for $(^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ with COSY-11

$$dp \rightarrow ppp\pi^-$$



W. Krzemien et al., Int. J. Mod. Phys. A24, 576 (2009)

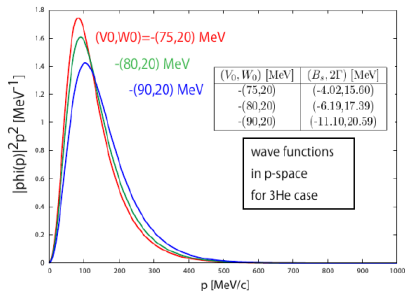
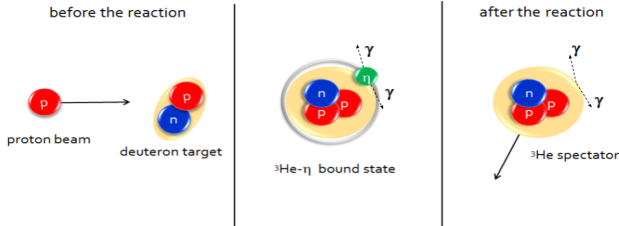
Excitation function



P. Moskal, J. Smyrski, Acta Phys. Polon. B41, 2281 (2010)

RESULT: $\sigma_{dp \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ppp\pi^-} < 270 \text{ nb}$

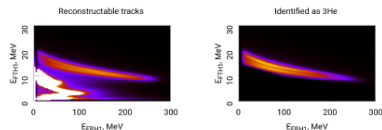
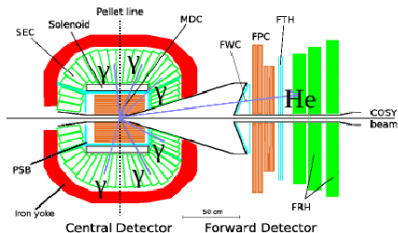
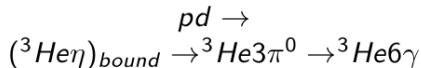
Analysis of $pd \rightarrow (^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow ^3\text{He} 2\gamma$ process



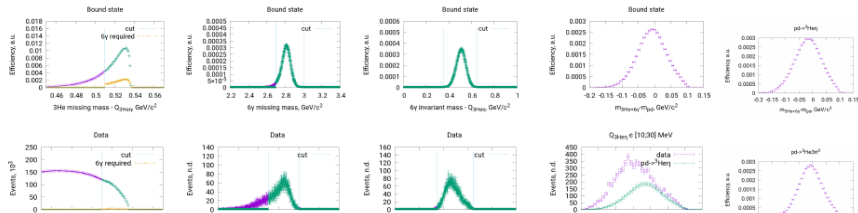
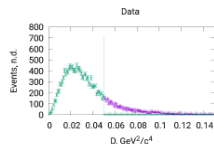
- ^3He spectator
- $P_{^3\text{He}} : p_{^3\text{He}} = \sqrt{m_{^3\text{He}}^2 + p_{\text{fermi}}^2}$, distributed isotropically
- $P_{\eta_{\text{bound}}} = P_p + P_d - P_{^3\text{He}} \Rightarrow m_{\eta_{\text{bound}}} = |P_{\eta_{\text{bound}}}|$

S. Hirenzaki, H. Nagahiro, Private communication (2016)

Search for $(^3\text{He}\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ | Selection criteria

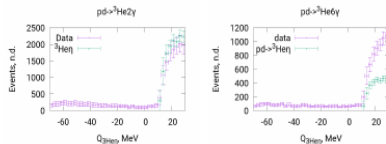


$$D = \sum_{i=1}^3 (m_{\gamma(2i-1)\gamma_{2i}} - m_{\pi^0})^2$$



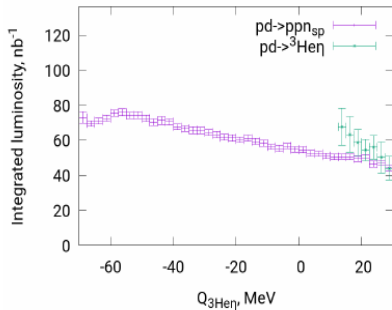
Search for $(^3\text{He}-\eta)_{\text{bound}}$ | Selection criteria

Events count



$$\sigma(Q_{3\text{He}\eta}) = \frac{N(Q_{3\text{He}\eta})}{L(Q_{3\text{He}\eta})\epsilon(Q_{3\text{He}\eta})}$$

$N(Q_{3\text{He}\eta})$ - events count
 $L(Q_{3\text{He}\eta})$ - integrated luminosity
 $\epsilon(Q_{3\text{He}\eta})$ - registration efficiency



Normalized

