Summary talk: Nuclear Physics Our Hypernuclear Studies with Machine Learning

Take R. Saito

Chief Scientist

High Energy Nuclear Physics Laboratory, Pioneering Research Institute (PRI), RIKEN, Japan

Group leader HypHI Group, FRS/NUSTAR department, **GSI Helmholtz Center for Heavy Ion Research**, Germany

Professor

Graduate School of Science and Engineering, Saitama University, Japan



The second "European AI for Fundamental Physics Conference" (EuCAIFCon), Cagliari 16th – 20th June, 2025

Building block of the matter



Interactions among particles

- Strong interaction
- Weak interaction

Hierarchy of the matter Evolution of the very early universe

Quarks and sub-atomic nuclei







There are many identical quarks

Nuclear physics with AI

Experimental Data Analysis

Track Reconstruction

AI, especially Graph Neural Networks (GNN) and Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) for reconstructing particle tracks in detectors such as TPCs and silicon trackers.

Noise Reduction & Event Classification Extracting meaningful signals from large datasets by

removing noise and classifying relevant events.

Theoretical Modeling of Nuclear Structure and Reactions

Finding the best parameters

ML techniques, including Bayesian optimization, for fiting parameters in energy density functionals (e.g., Skyrme, Gogny) based on experimental nuclear properties.

• Prediction of Properties of Exotic Nuclei

To predict properties (mass, half-life, radii) of neutronrich or superheavy nuclei that are difficult to measure experimentally.

Nuclear Astrophysics and Equation of State (EoS) Studies

EoS Prediction for Neutron Stars

Integrate data from nuclear experiments and astrophysical observations (e.g., gravitational waves, Xray spectra) to explore the EoS of dense nuclear matter.

Automated Experiment Design and Data Pipelines

Inverse Experimental Design

Al can suggest optimal experimental conditions, such as beam species, energy, and target material.

Multivariate Visualization

Al aids in reducing dimensionality and visualizing physical patterns in large.

Accelerator and Beam Optimization

- Beam Stabilization and Tuning
- Real-Time Anomaly Detection

Quarks and sub-atomic nuclei







There are many identical quarks

Quarks and sub-atomic nuclei



Mass (MeV)

Neutron stars and dense nuclear matter













Quarks and sub-atomic nuclei



Mass (MeV)

History of hypernuclear Experiments before HI (only a major part)



1985 - 2005

Kaon and pion beams at AGS/BNL and PS/KEK





From 21st century Kaon beams at J-PARC and electron beams at JLab





FINUDA



Chart of ordinary nuclei



Chart of single-strangeness hypernuclei







Lighter hypernuclei: Data with emulsions and bubble chambers from 60-70's

Heavier hypernuclei: Counter experiment with meson and electron beams

proton number

strangeness

neutron number

Advantage

- Precise spectroscopy
 - Structure in detail
- Clean experiment

Difficulties

- Limited isospin
- Small momentum transfer to separate hypernuclei
- Difficulties on decay studies
- Only up to double-strangeness

Hypernuclear spectroscopy with heavy ion beams

Hypernuclear spectroscoy with <u>H</u>eavy <u>I</u>on Beam

HypHI project, started in 2005

GSI and FAIR in Germany





100 meters

The HypHI Phase 0 at GSI in Germany (2006-2012)



Two outcomes (mysteries) by HypHI

Signals indicating nn Λ bound state

All theoretical calculations are negative

- E. Hiyama et al., Phys. Rev. C89 (2014) 061302(R)
- A. Gal et al., Phys. Lett. B736 (2014) 93
- H. Garcilazo et al., Phys. Rev. C89 (2014) 057001
 and much more publication

Short lifetime of ³_A**H** C. Rappold et al., Nucl. Phys. A 913 (2013) 170

• HypHI Phase 0: 183⁺⁴²-32 ps

Stimulated other **big** experiments





The world situation of three-body hypernuclei



STAR Collaboration, PRL 128 (2022) 202301

On Ann ³_λH Binding energy B_Λ(³_ΛH) : 0.13 ± 0.05 MeV G. Bohm et al., NPB 4 (1968) 511 M. Juric et al., NPB 52 (1973) 1 STAR (2020)

$0.41 \pm 0.12 \pm 0.11$ MeV

STAR Collaboration, Nat. Phys. **16** (2020) 409

ALICE

0.102 ± 0.063 ± 0.067 MeV

Phys. Rev. Lett. 131, 102302 (2023)



HypHI., PRC 88 (2013) 041001



FIG. 5. The enlarged mass spectrum around the Λnn threshold. Two additional Gaussians were fitted together with the known contributions (the accidentals, the Λ quasifree, the free Λ , and the ³He contamination). The one at the threshold is for the small peak, while the broad one is for the additional strength above the predicted quasifree distribution.

JLab E12-17-003., PRC 105 (2022) L051001

The world situation of three-body hypernuclei







Photos by Jan Hosan and GSI/FAIR

GSI REPORT 2023-1

GSI-FAIR SCIENTIFIC REPORT 2022

An overview of the 2022 achievements in science and technology







Graph Neural Network (GNN) for WASA

Track Finding



- Multi particles in HI reaction
- Combinatorial background

Graph





Track Finding with Graph Neural Network (GNN)

- Node : Data point
- Edge : Connection

Eur. Phys. J. A	(2023) 59:103	
https://doi.org/10.	1140/epja/s10050-023-01016-5	

THE EUROPEAN PHYSICAL JOURNAL A

Special Article - New Tools and Techniques

Development of machine learning analyses with graph neural network for the WASA-FRS experiment

H. Ekawa^{1,a}, W. Dou^{1,2}, Y. Gao^{1,3,4}, Y. He^{1,5}, A. Kasagi^{1,6}, E. Liu^{1,3,4}, A. Muneem^{1,7}, M. Nakagawa¹, C. Rappold⁸, N. Saito¹, T. R. Saito^{1,9,5}, M. Taki¹⁰, Y. K. Tanaka¹, H. Wang¹, J. Yoshida^{1,11}

light Energy Nuclear Physics Laboratory, Cluster for Pioneering Research, RIKEN, Wako, Japan
 2 Department of Physics, Salama Libreri, Salama, Japan
 Justinet of Modern Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Lanzhou, China
 4. University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Barjing, China
 4. School of Nuclear Science and Technology, Lanzhou University, Lanzhou, China
 4. Conduct School of Regimetring, Sciences, Beijing, China
 7. School of Ruginetering, Sciences, Beijing, China
 7. School of Ruginetering, Sciences, Beijing, China
 7. School of Ruginetering, Sciences, Barjing, China
 7. School of Ruginetering, Sciences, Barjing, China
 7. School of Ruginetering, Sciences, Ghalama Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology, Topi, Pakistan
 7. School of Ruginetering, Sciences, Ghalama Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology, Topi, Pakistan
 7. School of Ruginetering, Sciences, Rahaya University, Takyo, Japan
 40. Openationed Topix, Tobia, School of Artificial Intelligence and Science, Rahaya University, Takyo, Japan

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Abstract The WASA-FRS experiment aims to reveal the nature of light A hypernuclei with heavy-ion beams. The lifetimes of hypernuclei are measured precisely from their decay lengths and kinematics. To reconstruct a π^- track emitted from hypernuclear decay, track finding is an important issue. In this study, a machine learning analysis method with a graph neural network (GNN), which is a powerful tool for deducing the connection between data nodes, was developed to obtain track associations from numerous combinations of hit information provided in detectors based on a Monte Carlo simulation. An efficiency of 98% was achieved for tracking mmesons using the developed GNN model. The GNN model can also estimate the charge and momentum of the particles of interest. More than 99.9% of the negative charged particles were correctly identified with a momentum accuracy of 63%

stand it for the middle- and long-range interactions based on a variety of nuclear experiments. To reveal the unknown features of the nuclear force, such as short-range interaction, considering a more detailed structure inside the baryons is essential. All baryons consist of three quarks, and nucleons such as neutrons and protons consist of up and down quarks. By introducing other types of quarks into ordinary nuclear systems, one can study the nuclear force in a more general picture. In particular, because the mass of the strange quark is close to that of the up and down quarks, interactions among these three quarks are described under flavoured-SU(3) symmetry. Therefore, a hyperon, which is a type of baryon that contains strange quark(s), plays an important role in investigating baryon-baryon interactions. As the lifetime of hyperon is short (~10⁻¹⁰ s), using them as projectiles or targets is difficult. Therefore, hyperon-nucleon interactions have been studied via hypernuclei, which contain at least

H. Ekawa et al., Eur. Phys. J. A (2023) **59**, 103 DOI : 10.1140/epja/s10050-023-01016-5

David Calonge, "Track Inference of the Ion-optics of WASA-FRS based on machine learning models", Poster session B

Jie Zhou et al., AI Open 1 (2020) 57-81

The world situation of three-body hypernuclei





Our challenges on Hypernuclei

with <u>image analyses</u> and <u>machine learning</u>

Nuclear Emulsion:

Charged particle tracker with the best spatial resolution

(easy to be < 1 µm, 11 nm at best)

20µm

By microscopes

grain

J-PARC E07 experiment

J-PARC E07 experiment K⁻ Beam (180cm above the floor) al at as as Emulsion module Target Beam Ξ Experimental apparatus 2016-2017 tracking detector J-PARC, Ibaraki, Japan **Emulsion module**

Results from J-PARC E07 (Hybrid method)

H. Ekawa et al., Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2019, 021D02

Results from J-PARC E07 (Hybrid method)

Data size:

- 10⁷ images per emulsion (100 T Byte)
 10¹⁰ images per 1000 emulsions (100 P Byte)
 Number of background tracks:
 Beam tracks: 10⁴/mm²
- •Nuclear fragmentations: 10³/mm²

Current equipments/techniques with visual inspections

560 years

100µm

Data size:

- 10⁷ images per emulsion (100 T Byte)
 10¹⁰ images per 1000 emulsions (100 P Byte)
 Number of background tracks:
 Beam tracks: 10⁴/mm²
- •Nuclear fragmentations: 10³/mm²

Current equipments/techniques with visual inspections

560 years

3 vears

liced image

Millions of single-strangeness hypernuclei 1000 double strangeness hypernuclei (formerly only 5)

Machine Learning

Setup for analyzing emulsions at the High Energy Nuclear Physics Laboratory in RIKEN

- Hypernuclear physics
- Neutron imaging

Technical staffs working for emulsion & microscopes

Current members

Former members

Currently 7 microscope stages running

Challenges for Machine Learning Development
MOST IMPORTANT:

• Quantity and quality of training data
Ideas : 2018
Implementations: 2020-2021

However,

No existing data for hypertriton with emulsions for training

Our approaches: Producing training data with

- Monte Carlo simulations
- Image transfer techniques

Production of training data

Monte Carlo simulations and GAN(Generative Adversarial Networks)

Production of training data

Monte Carlo simulations and GAN(Generative Adversarial Networks)

Binarized tracks from MC simulations + background from the real data

Produced training data

GAN: pix2pix Edges to Photo

Binarized (like for simulations)

Real emulsion image

Ayumi Kasagi. Ph.D. thesis (2023) A.Kasagi et.al, Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A1056, (2023) 168663

Detection of hypertriton events

With Mask R-CNN model

Detection of each object

rson

At large object density

car 0.920

car 0.860 car 0.931

Training of Mask R-CNN with Simulated image

	Trained model	Dotoctod
F		

50 µm

Purity	= No. detected/No. total = Truth Positive/No. candidates		
	Efficiency [%]	Purity [%]	
Vertex picker	~40%	~1%	
Mask R-CNN	~80%	~20%	

 \rightarrow 2nd step done

A.Kasagi et.al, Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 1056, (2023) 168663.

Hypertriton search with Mask R-CNN

Two body decay of ³^AH Training dataset (Simulated images) Mask Image Simulated image ³He $^{3}\Lambda H$ ³He ³∧H π^{-} Training π^{-} model $50 \mu m$ 50 µm Real image Detected! Trained model

Discovery of the first hypertriton event in E07 emulsions

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Perspective | Published: 14 September 2021

New directions in hypernuclear physics

Takehiko R. Saito ⊠, Wenbou Dou, Vasyl Drozd, Hiroyuki Ekawa, Samuel Escrig, Yan He, Nasser Kalantar-Nayestanaki, Ayumi Kasagi, Myroslav Kavatsyuk, Enqiang Liu, Yue Ma, Shizu Minami, Abdul Muneem, Manami Nakagawa, Kazuma Nakazawa, Christophe Rappold, Nami Saito, Christoph Scheidenberger, Masato Taki, Yoshiki K. Tanaka, Junya Yoshida, Masahiro Yoshimoto, He Wang & Xiaohong Zhou

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TRS et al., Nature Reviews Physics, 803-813 (2021) Cover of December 2021 issue

Dearder RCL-state (im. 17 www.state.com/strepter

nature reviews physics

Guaranteeing the determination of the hypertriton binding energy SOON Precision: 28 keV E. Liu et al., EPJ A57 (2021) 327

Towards the hypertriton binding energy

- Calibration of the nuclear emulsion (density/shrinkage) for each event
- Increasing statistics (so far only 0.6 % of the entire data)

		Identified	Calibrated
	${}^{3}{}_{\Lambda}H$	49	49
and a start	⁴ _A H	101 (163 detected)	101 (138 detected)

Problems on π^-

MAMI: $P_{\pi} = 132.851 \pm 0.011$ (stat.) ± 0.101 (syst.) MeV/c

Nucl. Phys. A 954, 149 (2016)

We confirmed that the Range-Energy Relation for energetic π is not correct Known Range-Energy Relation is different because the difference of emulsion compositions

May affect emulsion results at KEK (E373) and J-PARC (E07)

A. Kasagi et al., under review arXiv:2504.01601

Binding energy of ${}^3_{\Lambda}$ H and ${}^4_{\Lambda}$ H

MAMI C: 2.12 ± 0.01 (stat.) ± 0.09 (sys.) MeV

0.6 % of the entire data

A. Kasagi et al., under review arXiv:2504.01601

 ³ΛΗ Binding energy B∧(³∧H) : 0.13 ± 0.05 MeV G. Bohm et al., NPB 4 (1968) 511 M. Juric et al., NPB 52 (1973) 1
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 ALICE
 0.102 ± 0.063 ± 0.067 MeV Phys. Rev. Lett. 131, 102302 (2023)

A. Kasagi et al., under review arXiv:2504.01601

$^{6}_{\Lambda\Lambda}$ He (the Nagara event)

Results in the NAGARA paper https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.87.212502 https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevC.88.014003

 ${}^{12}C + \Xi^- \rightarrow {}^{6}_{\Lambda\Lambda}He + {}^{4}He + t$ $\hookrightarrow {}^{5}_{\Lambda}He + p + \pi^-.$

VertexA(Production) $\Delta B_{\Lambda\Lambda} - B_{\Xi} = 0.69 \pm 0.20 \text{ MeV}$ VertexB(Decay) $\Delta B_{\Lambda\Lambda} = 0.6 \pm 0.6 \text{ MeV}$

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{B}_{\Lambda\Lambda} &= 6.79 \pm 0.91 \mathsf{B}_{\Xi^{-}} (\pm 0.16) \; \mathsf{MeV} \\ \Delta \mathsf{B}_{\Lambda\Lambda} &= 0.55 \pm 0.91 \mathsf{B}_{\Xi^{-}} (\pm 0.17) \; \mathsf{MeV} \end{array}$

 $B_{\Lambda\Lambda} = 6.91 \pm 0.16 \text{ MeV}$ $\Delta B_{\Lambda\Lambda} = 0.67 \pm 0.17 \text{ MeV}$ (Assumption: $B_{\Xi} = 0.13 \text{ MeV} (3D)$)

Results from J-PARC E07 (Hybrid method)

Only 33 candidates No unique identification for double- Λ hyp.

Searching for double-strangeness hypernuclei

Yan He (LZU/RIKEN) Ph.D. thesis

- Analyzed 0.2% of the entire data, more than 10 candidates found.
- Searching for double-strangeness hypernuclei with newly developed machine-learning method is in progress. \geq

Our discovery

 $B_{\Lambda\Lambda} = 25.57 \pm 1.18(\mathrm{stat.}) \pm 0.07(\mathrm{syst.})\mathrm{MeV}$ $\Delta B_{\Lambda\Lambda} = 2.83 \pm 1.18(\mathrm{stat.}) \pm 0.14(\mathrm{syst.})\mathrm{MeV}$

¹³_{AA}B:

Uniquely identified

2nd case in the history

Yan He, et al., under review arXiv:2505.05802

Hypernuclear scattering

⁴_AH scattering

³_AH scattering

New proposal at KLF/JLab

Neutral-K beams behind the Glue-X setup Hypernuclear station behind the Glue-X

- No beam tracks in the emulsion
 - We can leave emulsions, no movement
 - Main background: high energy gamma-rays

With K⁻ beams like in the J-PARC E07 exp. With K⁰ beams In the proposed project

- Intensity: 0.7 X 10⁴ anti-K⁰ /s
 - Two years from 2027: 200 days per year (a total of 400 days)
 - 2.3 times more than J-PARC E07 (2.3 k double-strangeness hypernuclei) with HIGH QUALITY DATA

FNTD (Al₂O₃:C,Mg)

- Used for neutron imaging
- Recyclable

New pro

Hypernuclear

- No beam tra
 - We can l

• Main ba(With K⁻ beams like in the J-PA

- Intensity: 0.
 - Two year
 - <u>2.3 time</u> hypernu

The Hypernuclear station at KLF (Technical Note)

M. Bashkanov^{*} Department of Physics, University of York, Heslington, York, Y010 5DD, UK

> T.R. Saito[†] High Energy Nuclear Physics Laboratory, RIKEN, Japan (Dated: August 19, 2024)

D (Al₂O₃:C,Mg) sed for neutron laging cyclable

We are inviting physicists with AI expertise and students to work together for

- Hypernuclear physics with image analyses and AI
- Hypernuclear physics with heavy ion beams at FAIR in Germany and HAIF in China
- Very precise neutron imaging, with image reconstruction by AI
 - ✓ 3D semiconductors and power semiconductors
 - ✓ Lives related to space biology
 - ✓ Lithium metal batteries
 - ✓ Hydrogen/deuterium concentration in nano-structure metals (related to cold fusion)
- Cosmic-rays and radiation measurements on the moon by using solid-state tracking detectors

Take R. Saito takehiko.saito@riken.jp

Spare slides

New training data (Geant4 simulation + GAN)

Segmentation task to detect hit infomation

Segmentation task to detect hit infomation

Raw data: 200 MB

Segmentation: 1MB

Kasagi, Nakazawa, Rappold, Shimizu, Yokota, to be published

Reconstruction of track

Gabor filter & Connected Components

3D track reconstruction

Z 150 300 X Y

Image -> meta information of tracks:
 Reconstruction of dizzy track & vertex:
 Data size will be negligible
 Ongoing

Kasagi, Nakazawa, Rappold, Shimizu, Yokota, to be published