

# Polarized Neutron Production and Measurements of $\Delta\sigma_L$ for $E_n = 11-35$ MeV

Joseph R. Walston

North Carolina State University and  
Triangle Universities Nuclear Laboratory

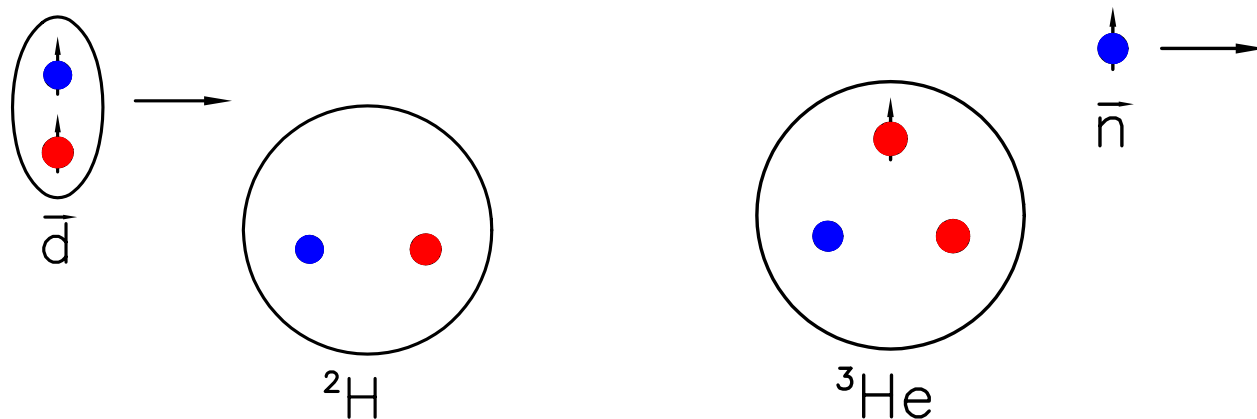
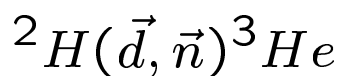
## Outline

- Polarized neutron production
- Measurement of polarization transfer
- $\epsilon_1$  and  $\Delta\sigma_L$
- Polarized proton target
- Summary

## Polarized Neutron Production

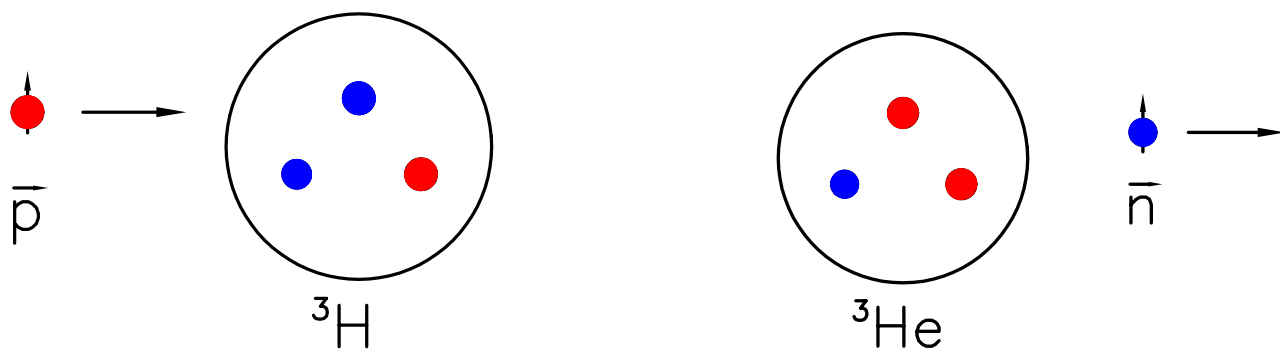
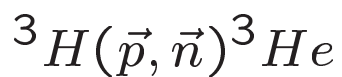
Beams of polarized monoenergetic neutrons

Common Reactions:



Incoming

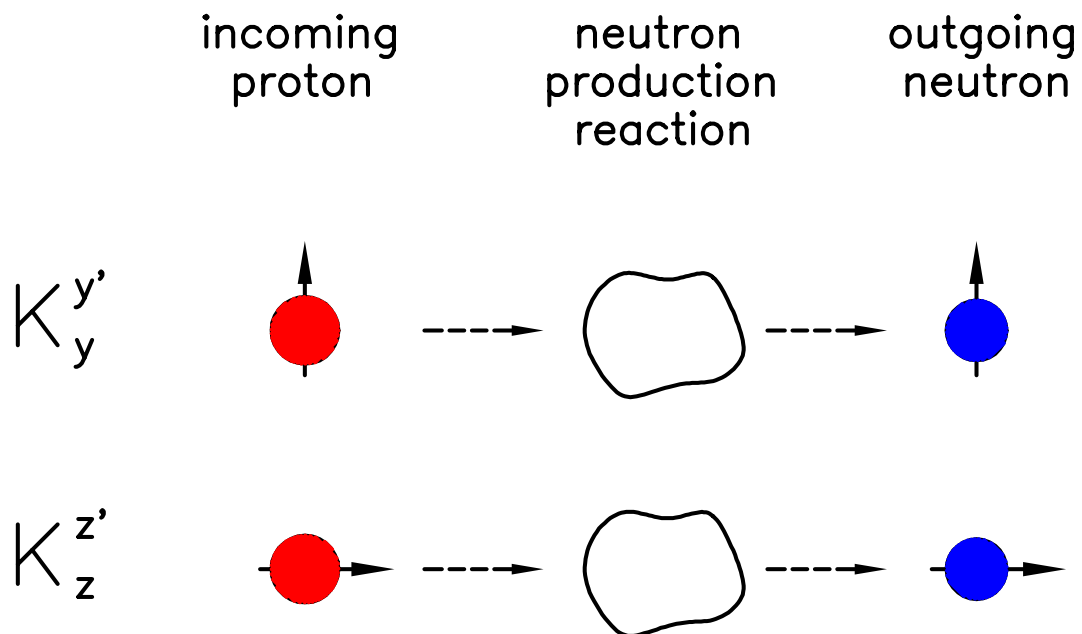
Outgoing



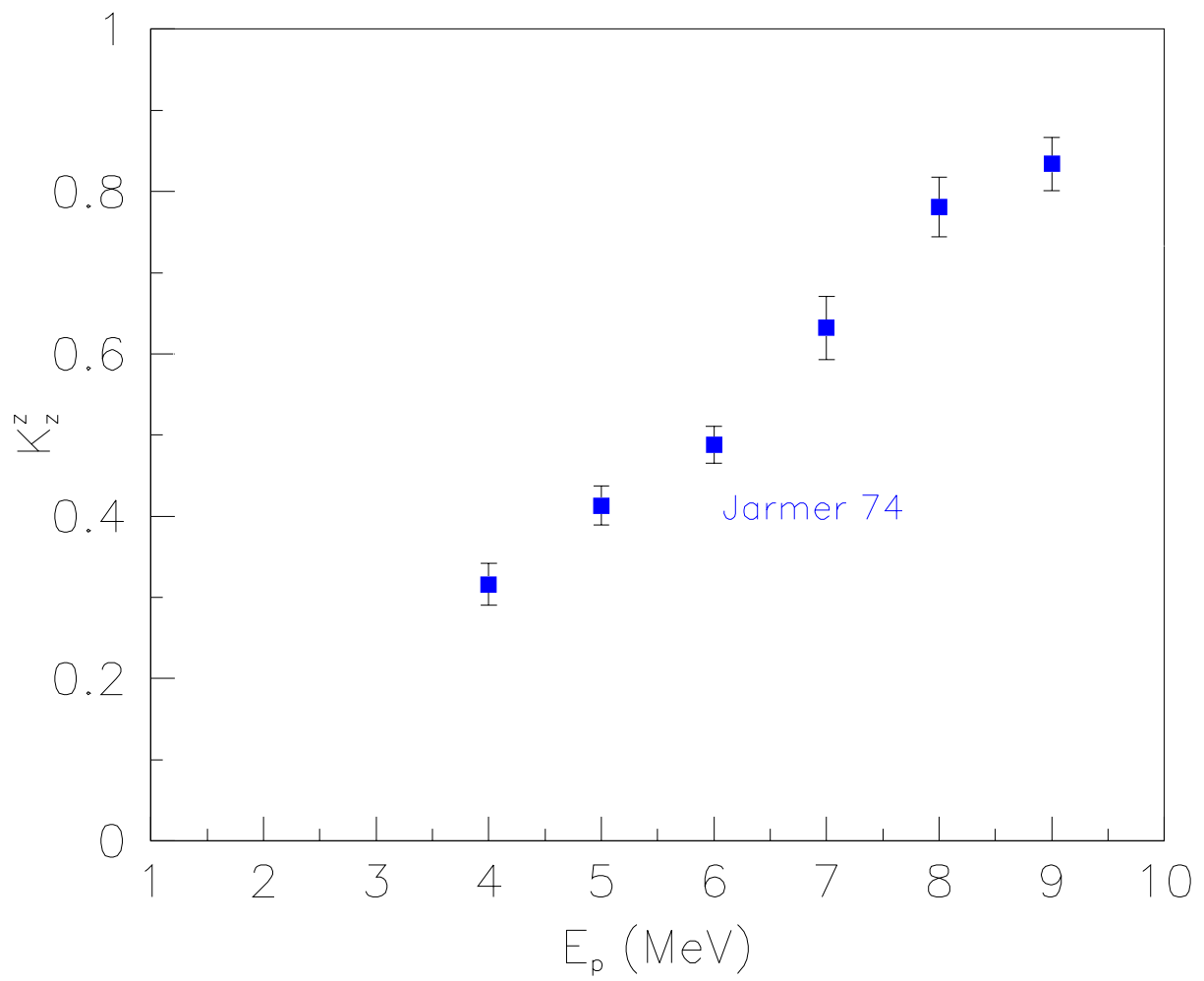
How much of the polarization is transferred from charged particles to neutrons?

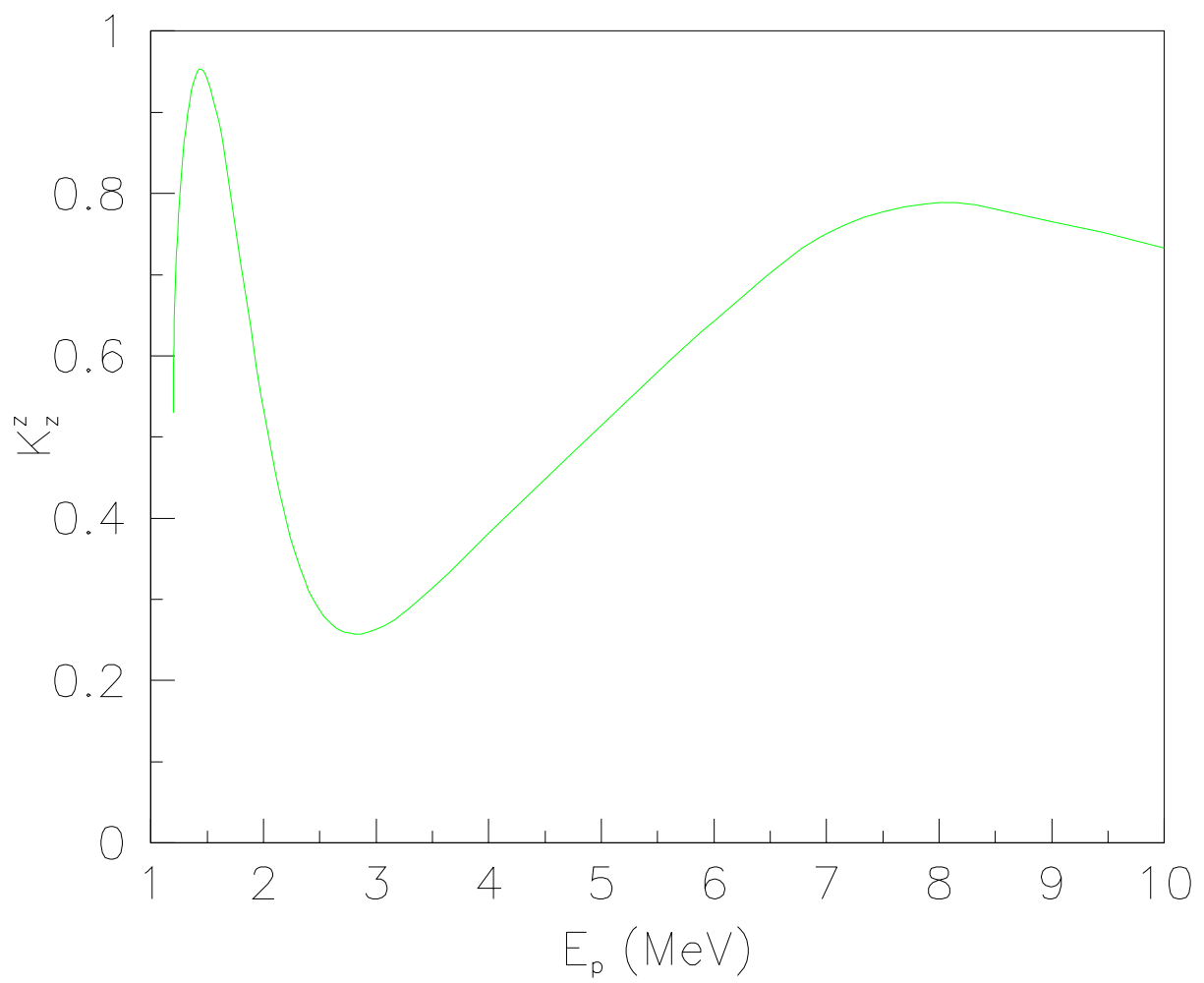
For  $T(\vec{p}, \vec{n})$ : (Q-value of -0.764 MeV)

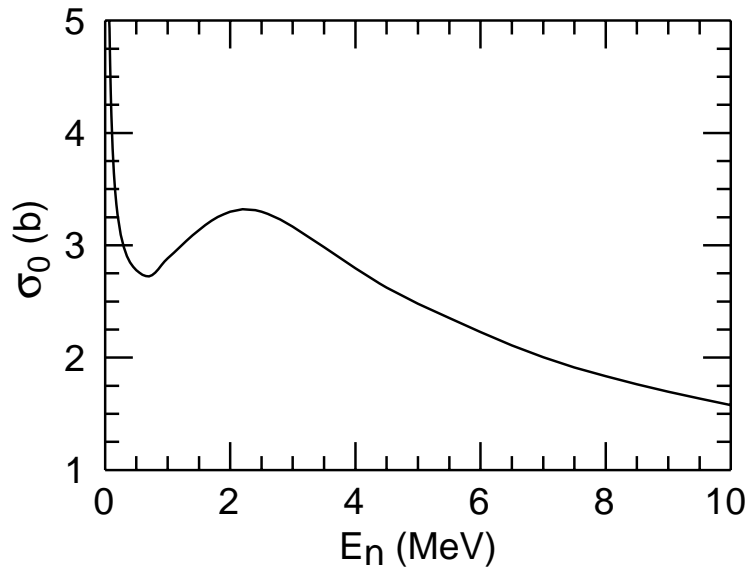
$$P_{n_{j'}} = K_i^{j'} P_{p_i} \quad i, j = x, y, z$$



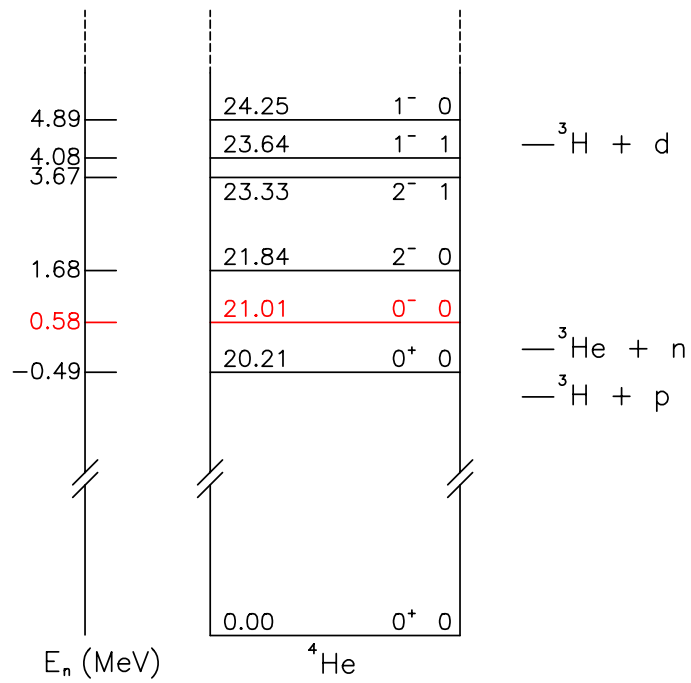
# $K_z^z$ for $T(\vec{p}, \vec{n})$ reaction







$n$ - ${}^3\text{He}$  total cross section.

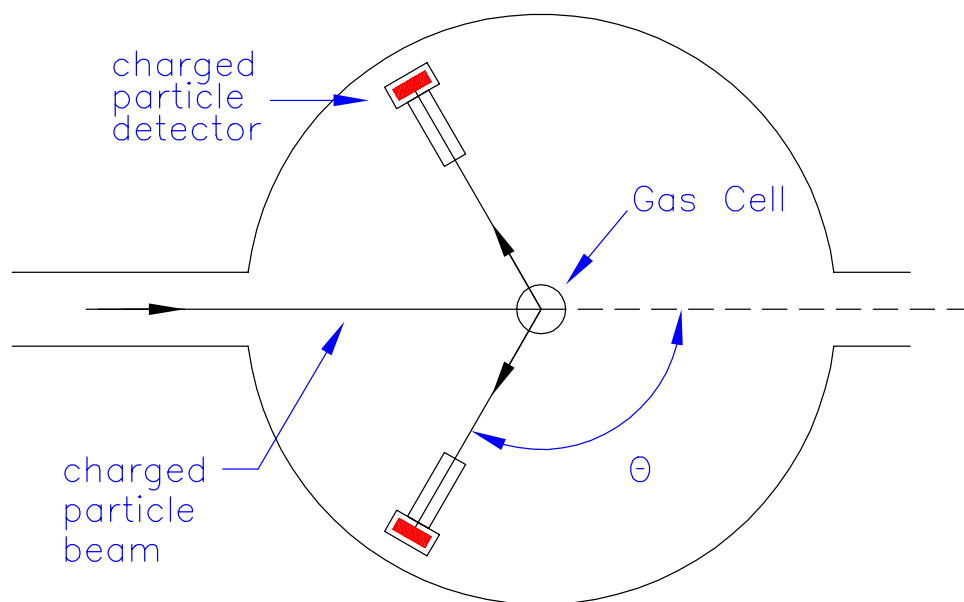


${}^4\text{He}$  level diagram.

## Measurement of $K_z^z$

Proton Polarization Measurement:

- Lamb-shift spin filter polarimeter on source
- Proton elastic scattering polarimeter



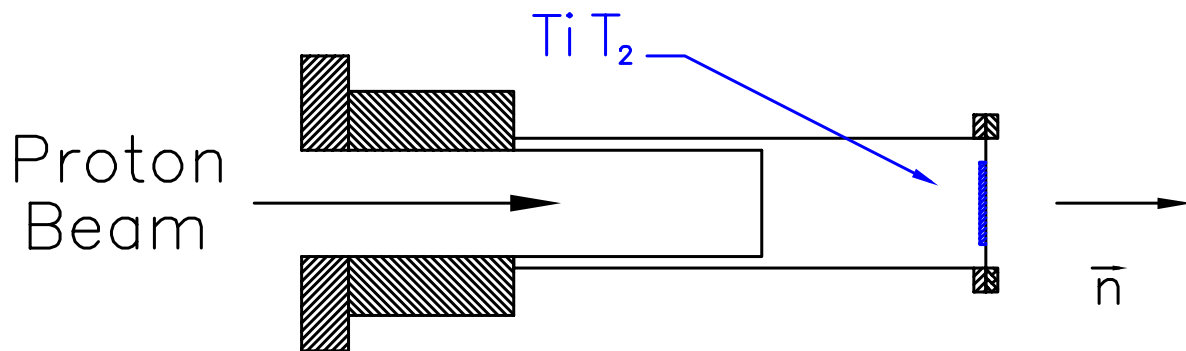
Gas cell filled with  $^4\text{He}$  for  $\vec{p}$ 's and  $^3\text{He}$  for  $\vec{d}$ 's.

## Neutron Production

Polarized proton beam from ion source

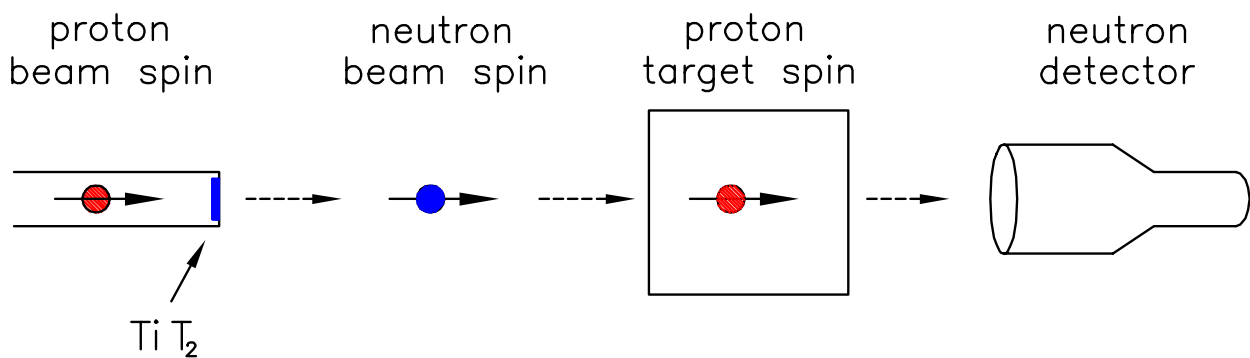
Beam accelerated in Van de Graaff

Neutron production reaction with tritiated titanium located on beamstop



# Neutron Polarimeter

Neutron polarimeter - Polarized proton target



$$P_n = \frac{2\epsilon}{P_t x \Delta\sigma_L}$$

$\Delta\sigma_L \rightarrow 2 - 5 \text{ b}$  where  $\Delta\sigma_L = \sigma(\vec{\rightarrow}) - \sigma(\overleftarrow{\leftarrow})$

$\epsilon \rightarrow$  measured neutron asymmetry

$P_t x =$  target polarization times thickness

## Neutron Asymmetry Measurement

$$\text{Neutron flux asymmetry} = \frac{N_+ - N_-}{N_+ + N_-}$$

Nominal values at  $E_n = 500\text{keV}$ :

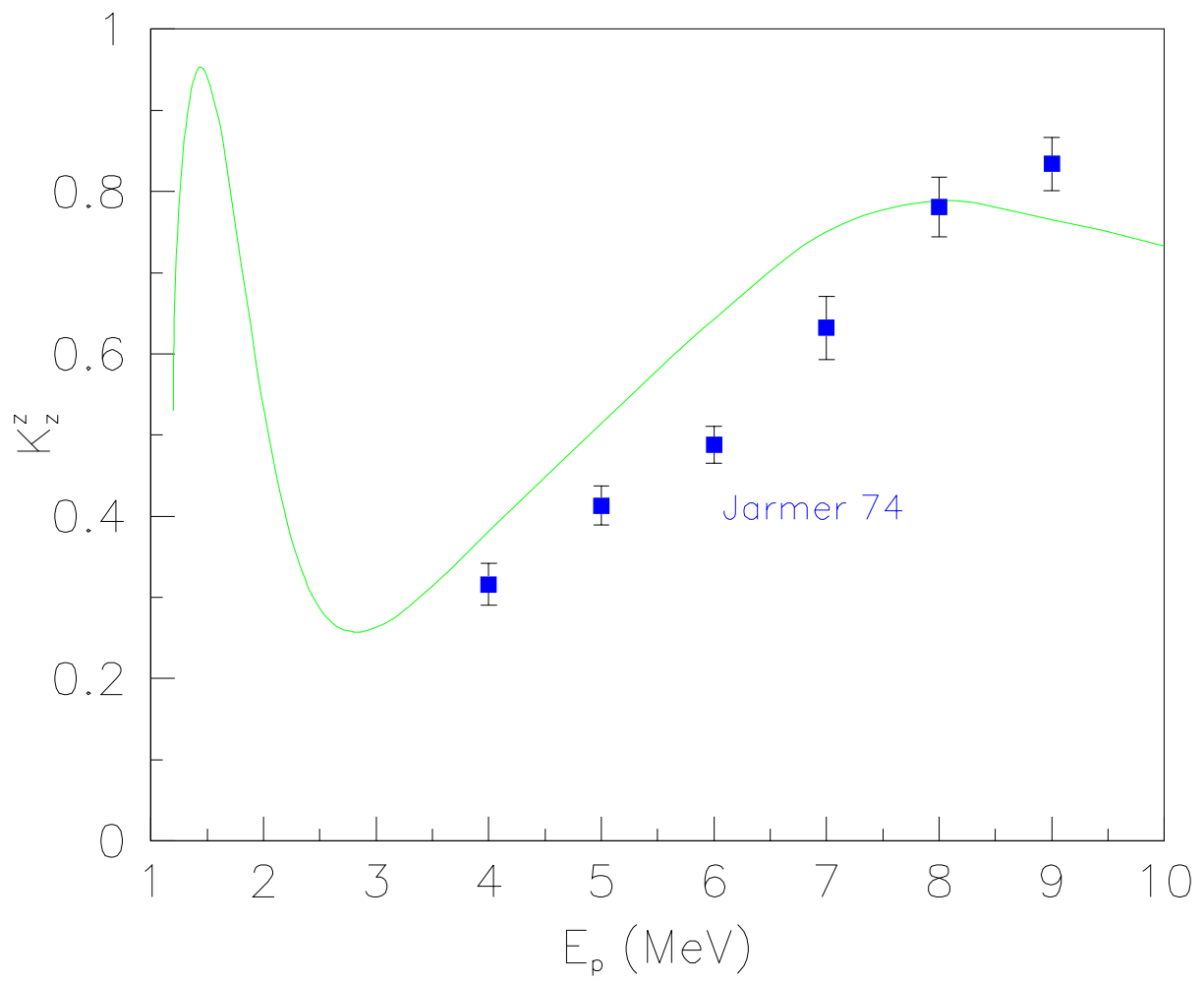
- $P_{tx} \approx 0.04 \text{ b}^{-1}$
- $\Delta\sigma_L \approx 5 \text{ b}$
- From  $K_z^z$  plot  $P_n \approx 0.5$

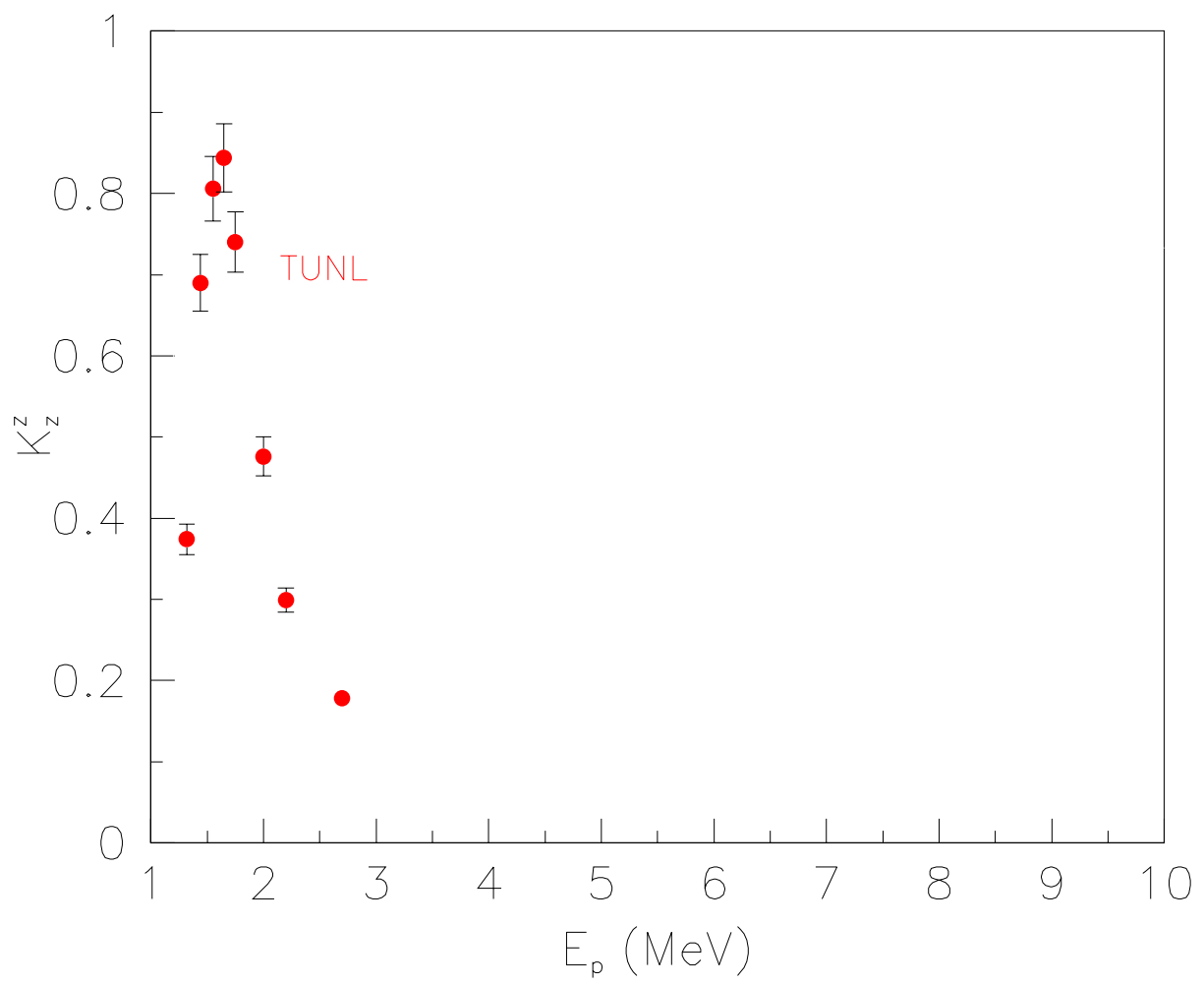
We expect a neutron asymmetry  $\epsilon \approx 0.05$

With count rate of 1 kHz, each energy to 1% in  $\approx 70$  minutes.

Measurement is well within our means and quick enough for several energies.

# $K_z^z$ for $T(\vec{p}, \vec{n})$





## Polarized Proton Target

- Propandiol doped with EHBA-CrIV
- $^3\text{He}$  evaporation refrigerator ( $\sim 500$  mK)
- 2.5 Tesla magnetic field
- Dynamic nuclear polarization with microwaves
- Continuously measure polarization with NMR

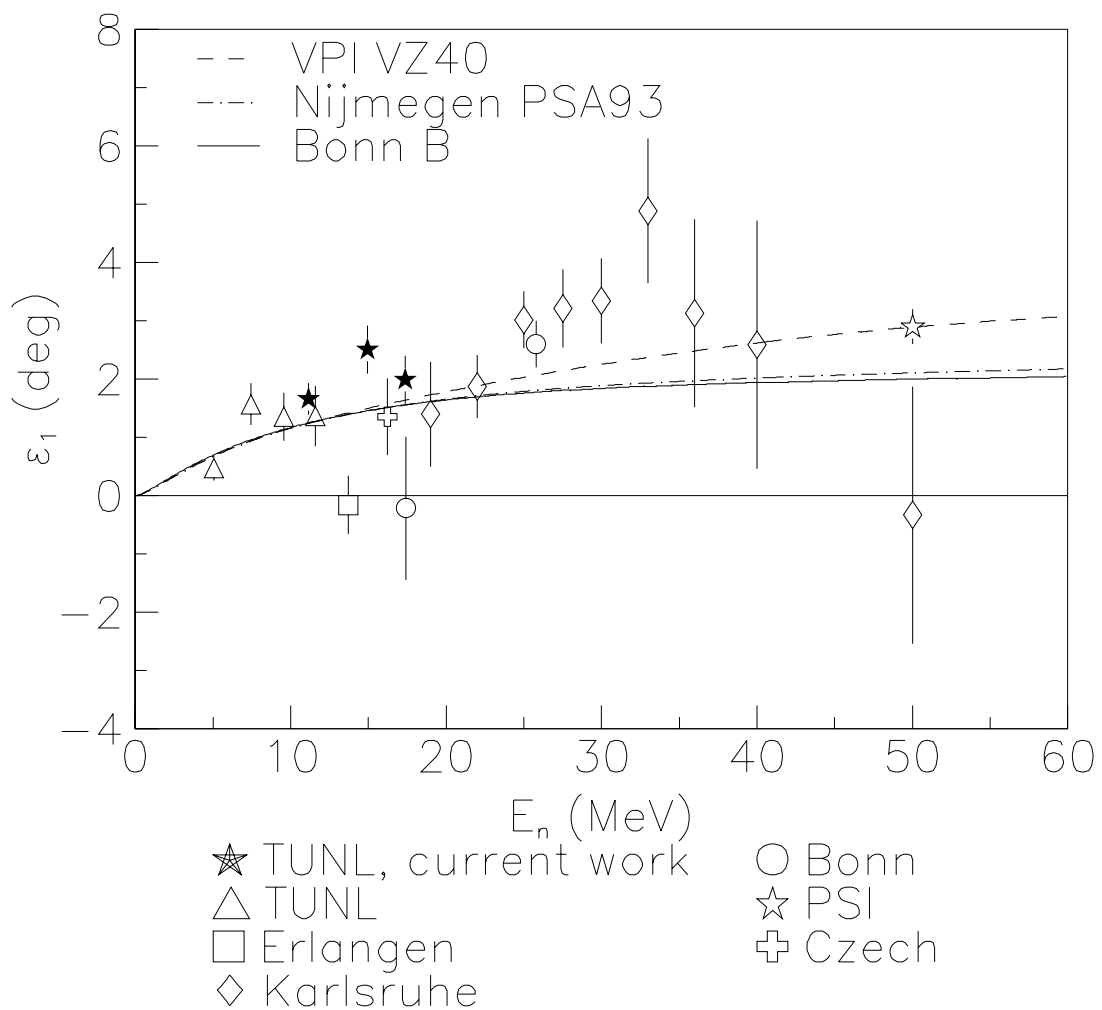
Polarization calibrated at thermal equilibrium

at 1 K TE polarization is 1/4%

at 1/2 K TE polarization is 1/2%

The phase shift parameter  $\epsilon_1$  characterizes the tensor force

The tensor force causes  ${}^3S_1$  and  ${}^3D_1$  mixing.



Low energy (1-20 MeV)  $n-p$  scattering can be described by three phase shifts:  $\delta(^1S_0)$ ,  $\delta(^3S_1)$ , and the mixing angle  $\epsilon_1$ .

$\delta(^1S_0)$ ,  $\delta(^3S_1)$ , and  $\epsilon_1$  can be determined from the observables  $\sigma_{tot}$ ,  $\Delta\sigma_T$ , and  $\Delta\sigma_L$ .

$$\Delta\sigma_T = \sigma(\uparrow\downarrow) - \sigma(\uparrow\uparrow)$$

$$\Delta\sigma_L = \sigma(\overrightarrow{\leftarrow}) - \sigma(\overleftarrow{\leftarrow})$$

$$\sigma_{tot} \simeq \frac{\pi}{2k^2} \{ \sin^2[\delta(^1S_0)] + 3 \sin^2[\delta(^3S_1)] \}$$

$$\Delta\sigma_T \simeq \frac{2\pi}{k^2} \{ \sin^2[\delta(^1S_0)] - \cos[2\epsilon_1] \sin^2[\delta(^3S_1)] - \sqrt{2} \sin[2\epsilon_1] \sin[\delta(^3S_1)] \}$$

$$\Delta\sigma_L \simeq \frac{2\pi}{k^2} \{ \sin^2[\delta(^1S_0)] - \cos[2\epsilon_1] \sin^2[\delta(^3S_1)] + 2\sqrt{2} \sin[2\epsilon_1] \sin[\delta(^3S_1)] \}$$

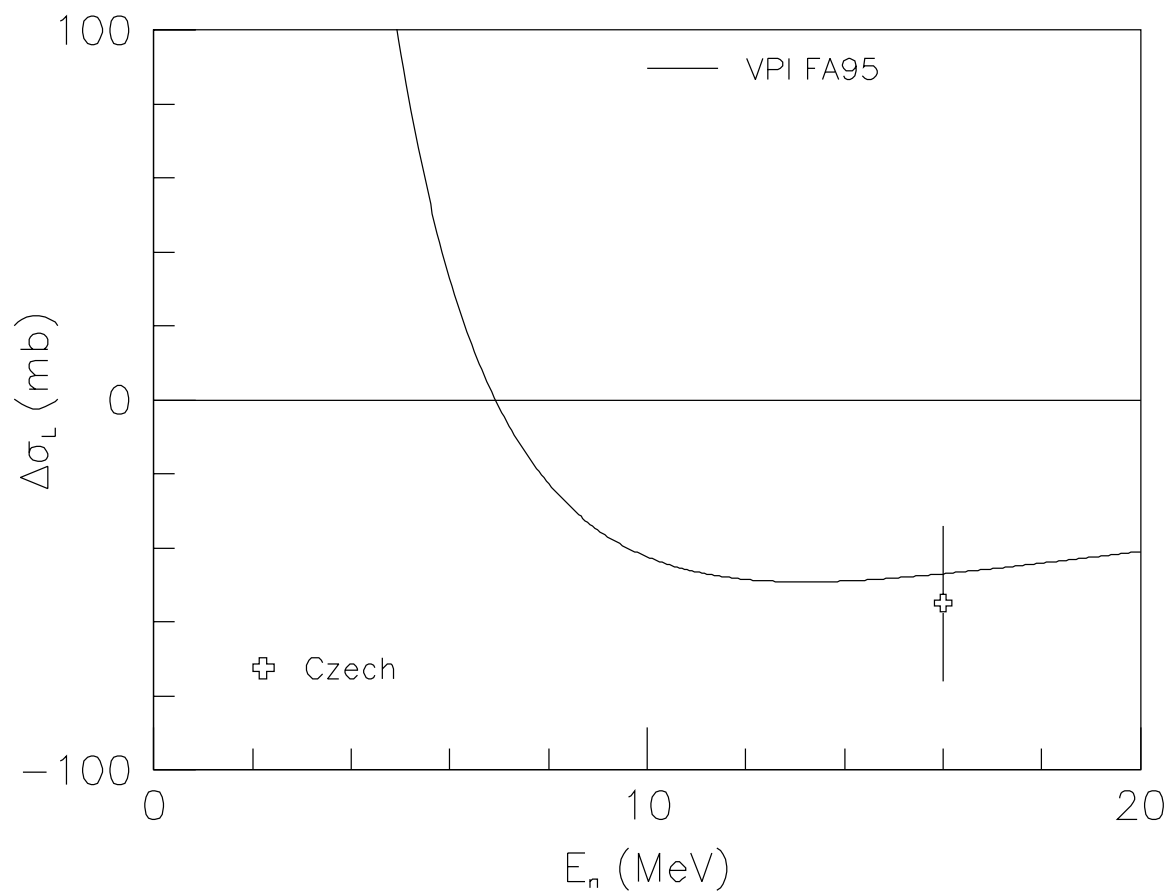
Measuring  $\Delta\sigma_{T,L}$  requires a polarized beam and polarized target.

$$\Delta\sigma_T = \frac{2\epsilon_T}{P_n P_t x} \qquad \Delta\sigma_L = \frac{2\epsilon_L}{P_n P_t x}$$

where

- $P_n$  is the beam polarization.
- $P_t$  is the target polarization.
- $x$  is the target thickness.
- $\epsilon_{T,L}$  is the transmission asymmetry.

$$\epsilon = \frac{N_+ - N_-}{N_+ + N_-}$$



## Summary

- Measurement of  $K_z^z$
- Description of  $\epsilon_1$  and  $\Delta\sigma_L$
- Description of polarized proton target

## Future Work

- $\Delta\sigma_L$  measurements  $E_n = 11-35$  MeV
- Extract  $\epsilon_1$  from  $\Delta\sigma_T$  and  $\Delta\sigma_L$
- Investigate n-d interaction