



# Search for the “ $\bar{K}NN$ ” bound state produced via in-flight $d(K^-, \Lambda p)\pi^-$ reaction

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For the J-PARC E31 collaboration

# Kaonic nuclei “KbarNN”

- Nuclear system with Kbar mesons.
- Based on Strong KbarN (I=0) attraction.

*Excited hyperon  $\Lambda(1405)$  as KbarN quasi-bound state*

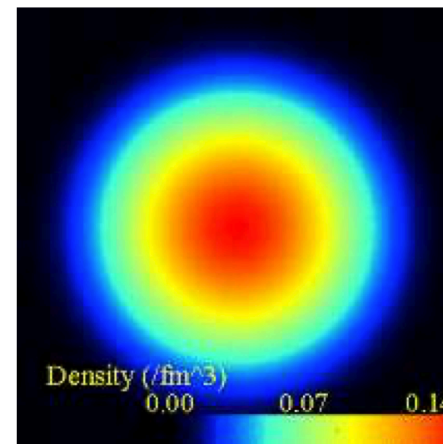
- Kbar meson should bound in a nucleus with large binding energy.
- “KbarNN” is the simplest Kaonic nucleus to investigate.

Expected as

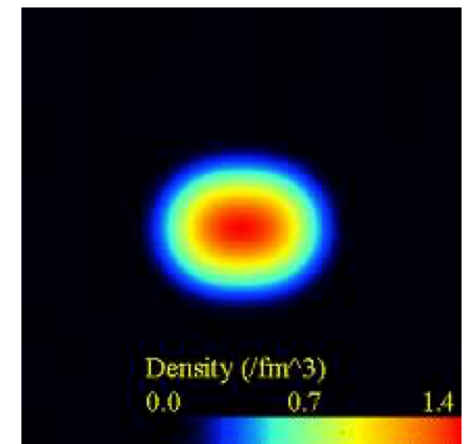
- “Cold and Dense” state.
- Anti-quark in matter.

Good probe for low energy QCD.

*Phys. Lett. B 590 (2004) 51*

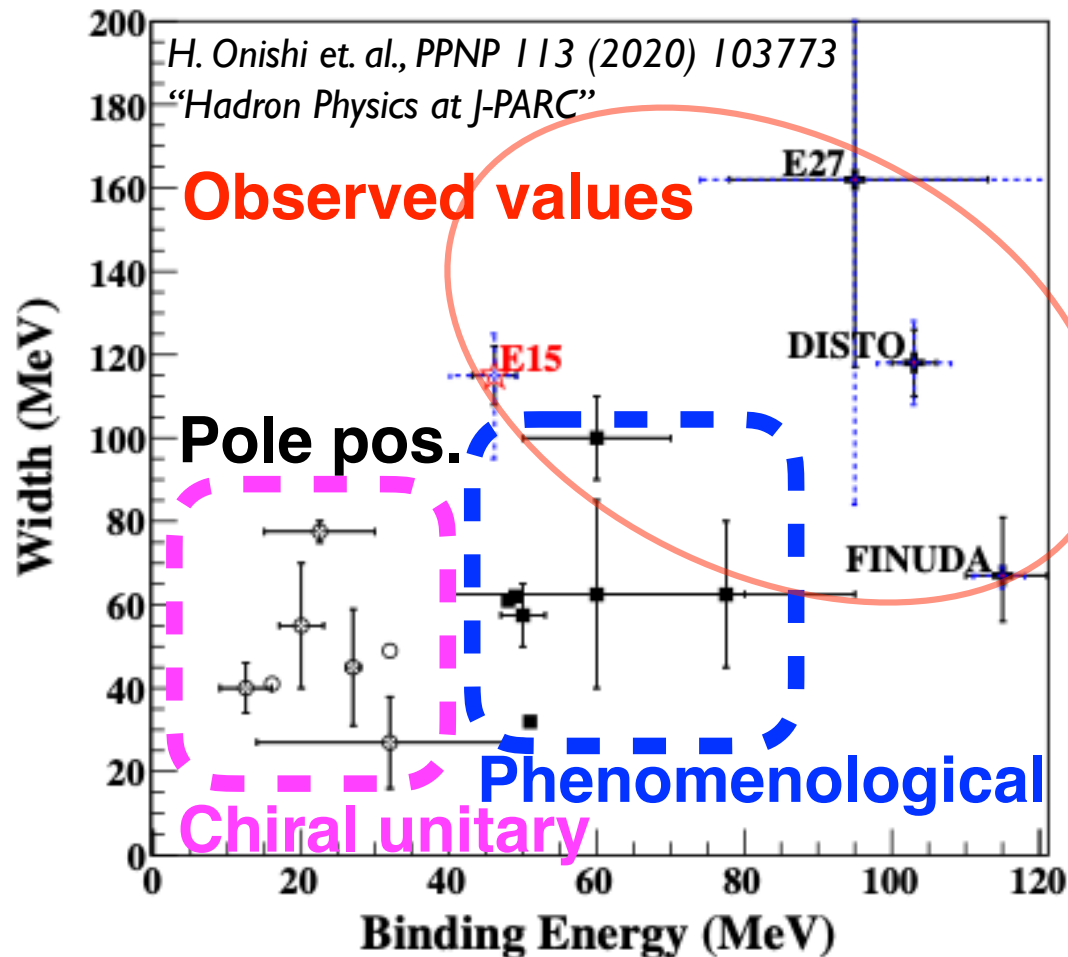


ppn



ppnK

# Theories and experiments on “ $\bar{K}NN$ ”



- E15 at KI.8BR J-PARC



- E27 at KI.8 J-PARC

PTEP(2015)021D01.



Inverse reaction

$dK^- \rightarrow \Lambda p \pi^-$  has been taken at KI.8BR.

- DISTO PRL104(2010)132502

Intermediate  $N^* \rightarrow pK^+$ ?



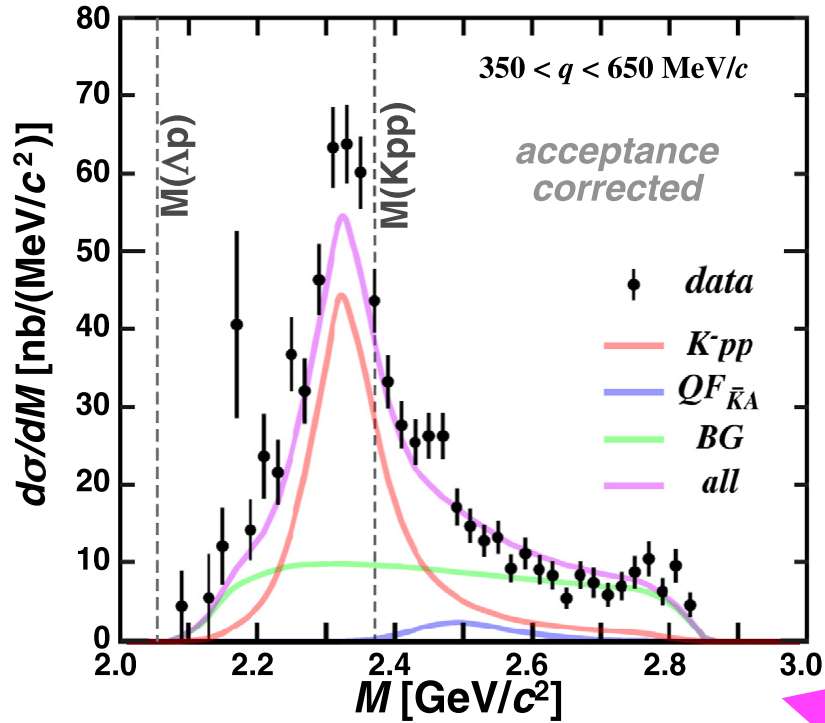
- FINUDA PRL94(2005)212303

Multi-NA processes?



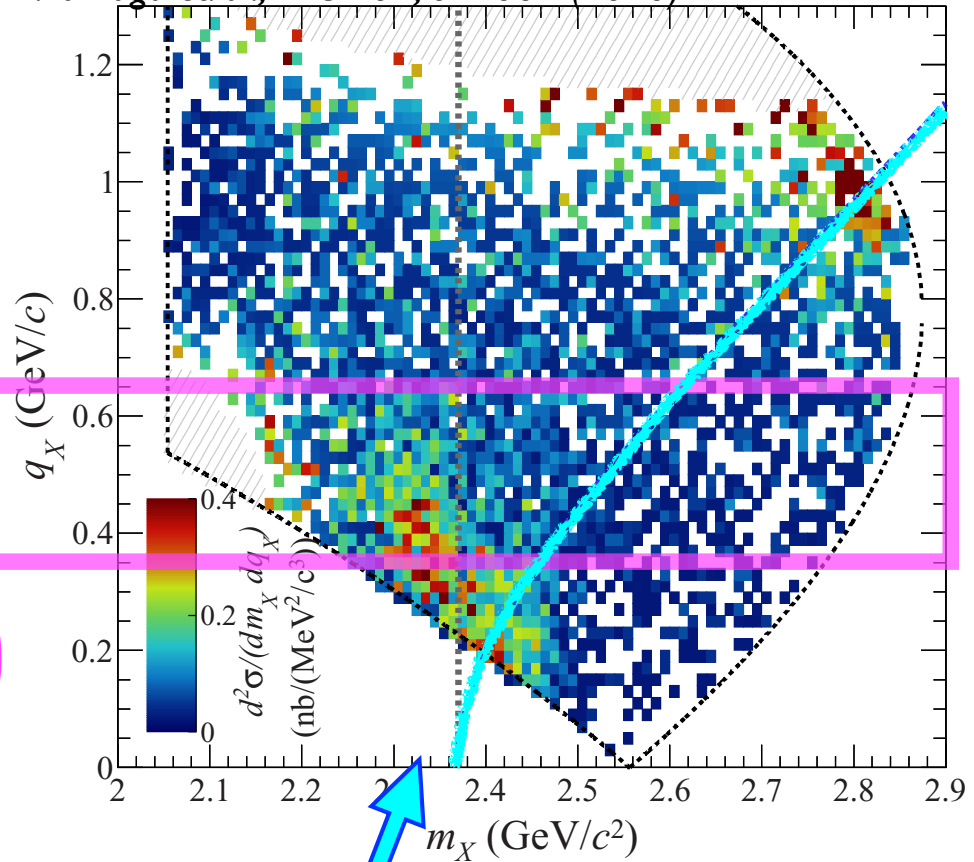
# Result of J-PARC E15

J-PARC E15 exp.  ${}^3\text{He}(K^-, \Lambda p)n$   
 S.Ajimura et. al., PLB 789, 620 (2019)



$0.35 < q_x < 0.65$   
 Projection

J-PARC E15 exp.  ${}^3\text{He}(K^-, \Lambda p)n$   
 T.Yamaga et. al., PRC 102, 044002 (2020)



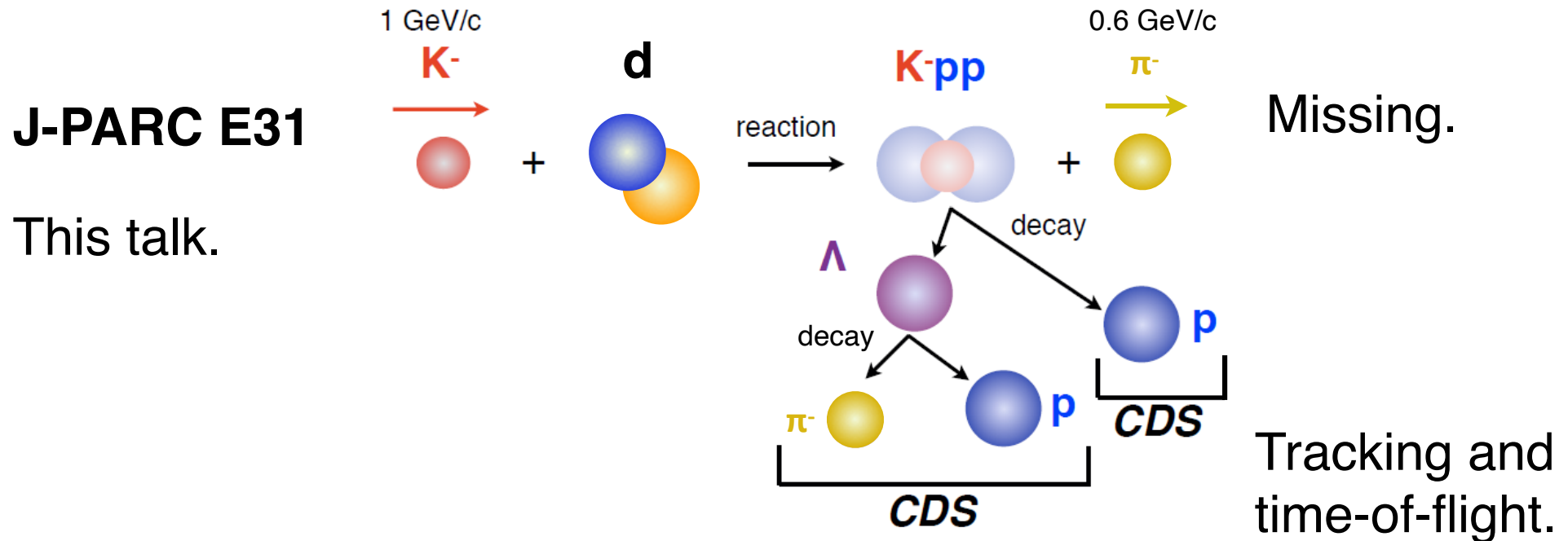
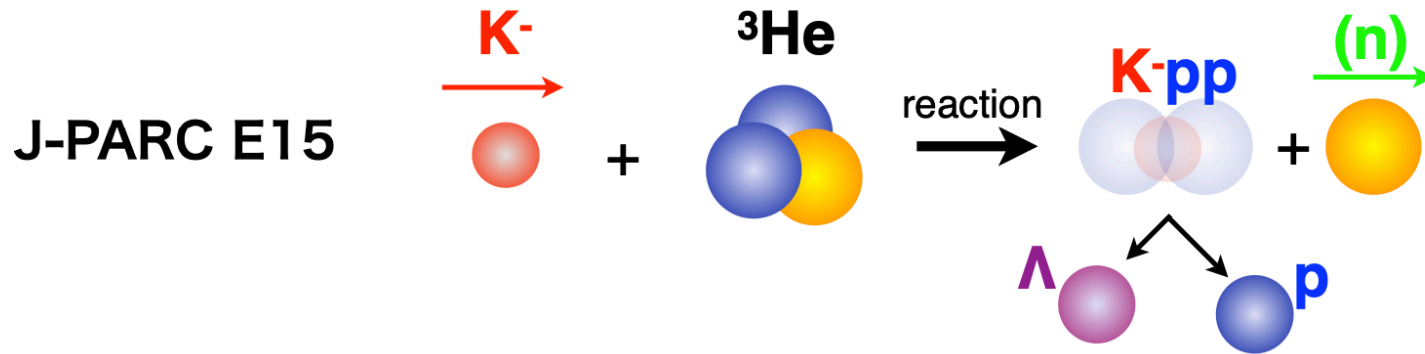
Quasi-free  $KN \rightarrow Kn, KNN \rightarrow \Lambda p$

$$M_F(q) = \sqrt{4m_N^2 + m_K^2 + 4m_N \sqrt{m_K^2 + q^2}}$$

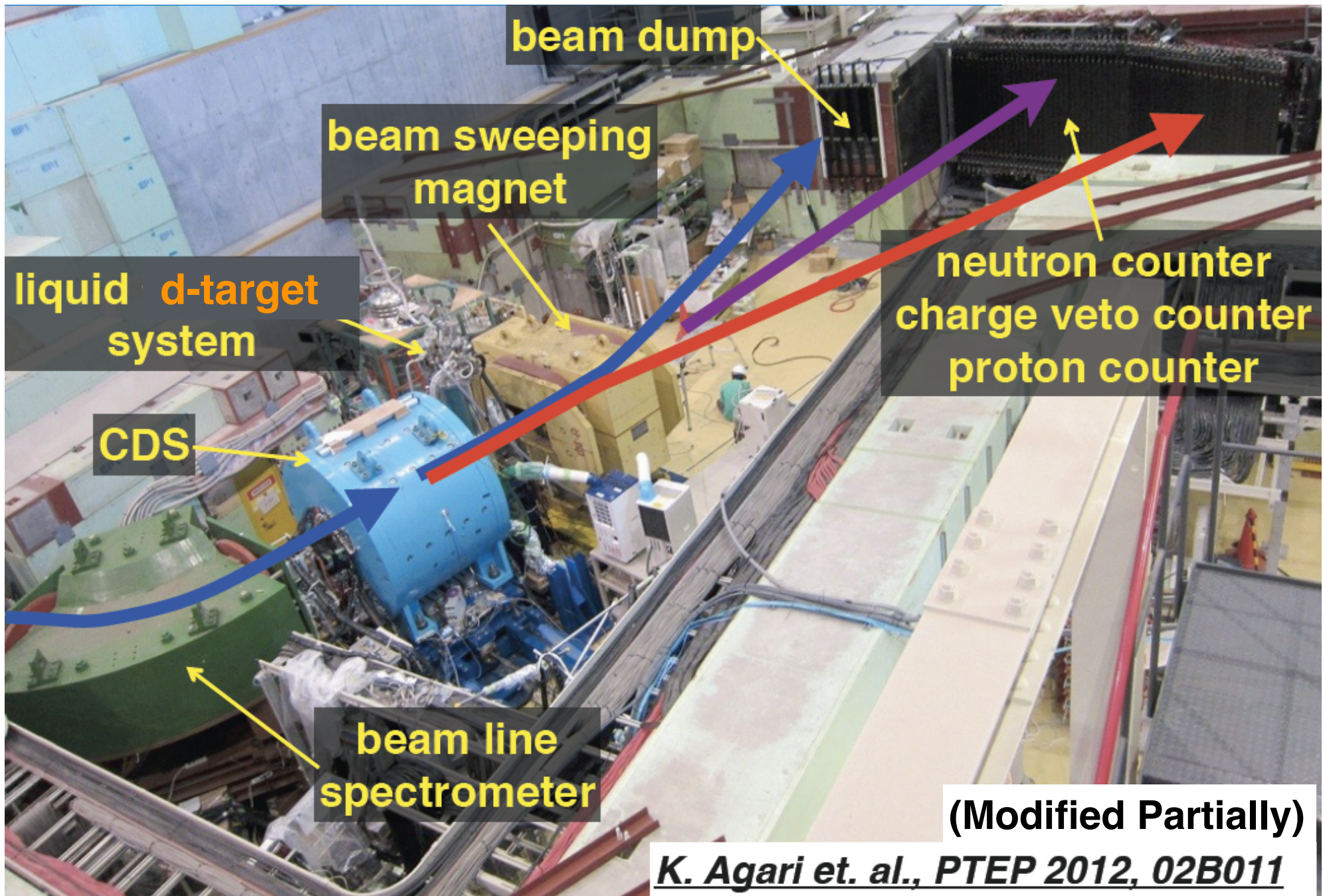
- Momentum transfer  $q$   
 $q(\Lambda p) = p_k - p_n$

**The advantage is the  $q$  dependence to understand background processes.**

# $d(K^-, \Lambda p)\pi^-$ reaction



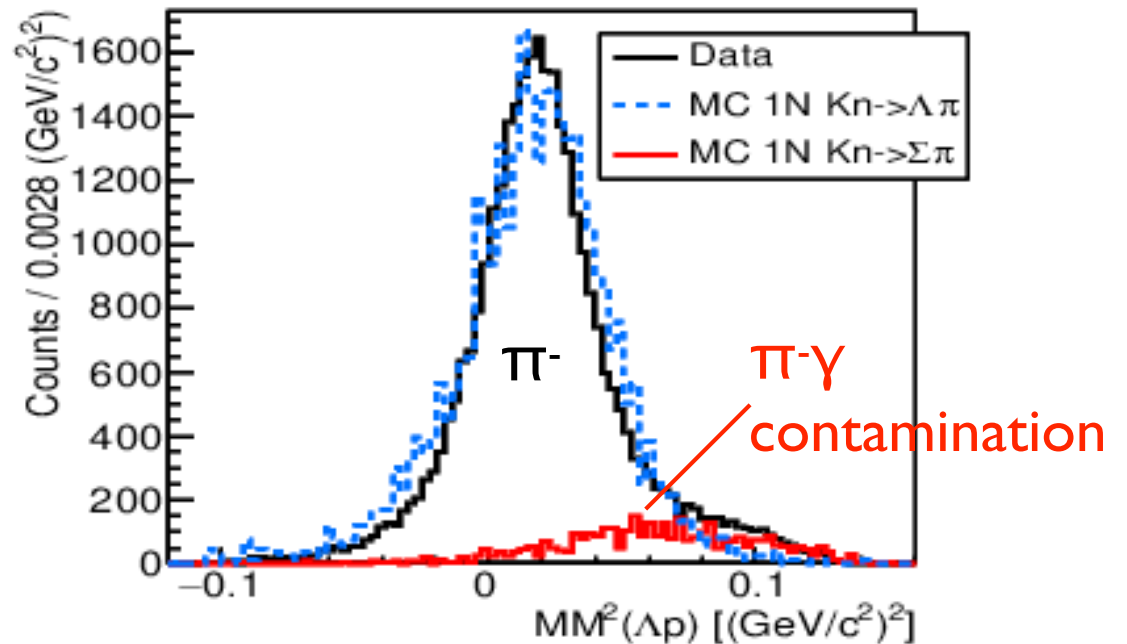
# Experimental Setup at K1.8BR



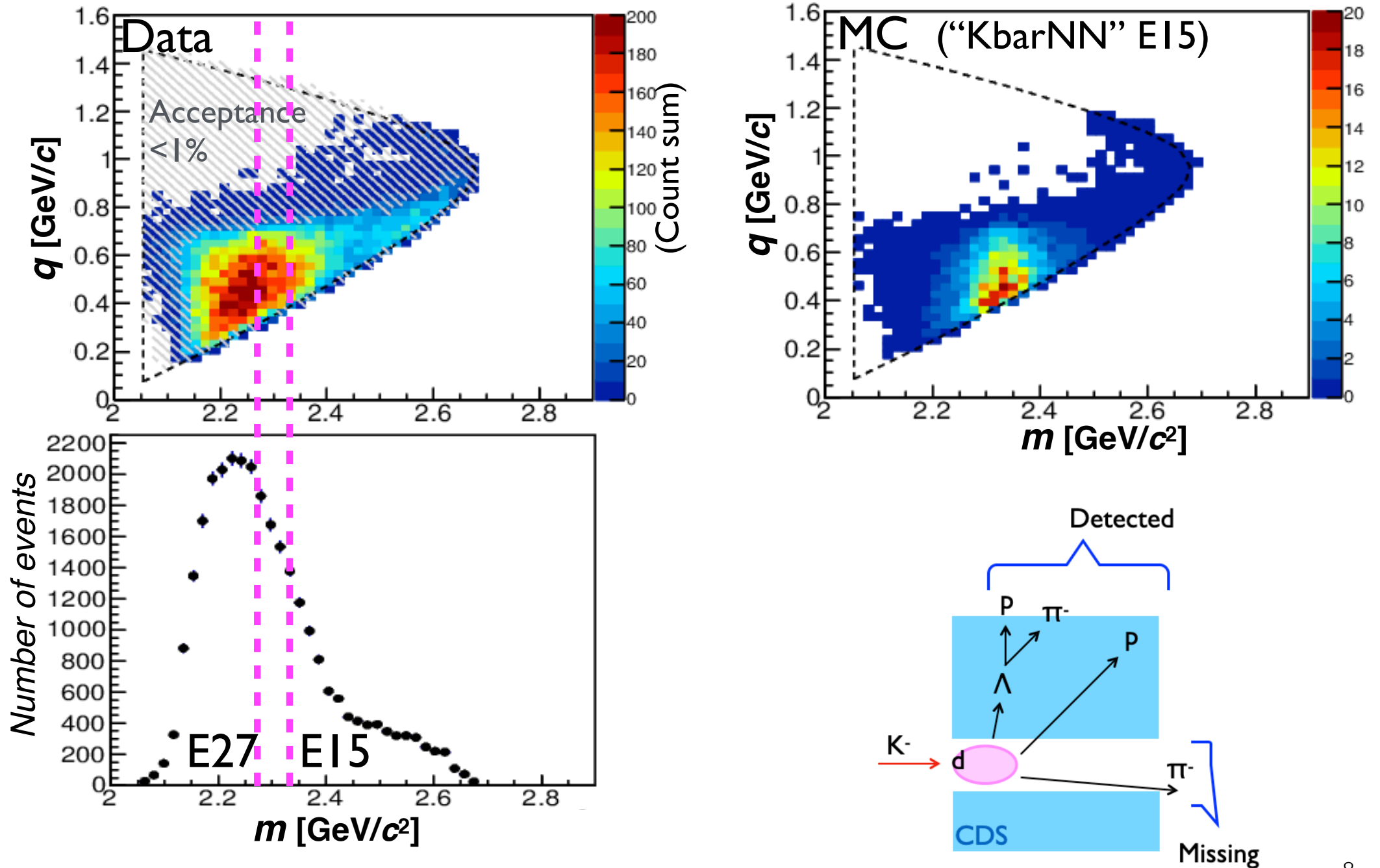
# Event selections

- $p\pi$  event selection in CDS.
- $\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^-$  pairs selection:  
Likelihood method on closest distance approach.
- Missing pion selection:  
 $\chi^2$  method on kinematical refit to conserve energy-momentum.

Square of  $\Lambda p$  missing mass after applying all the event selections



# $\Lambda p$ distribution





# Event distribution of $\Lambda p\pi^-$ final state

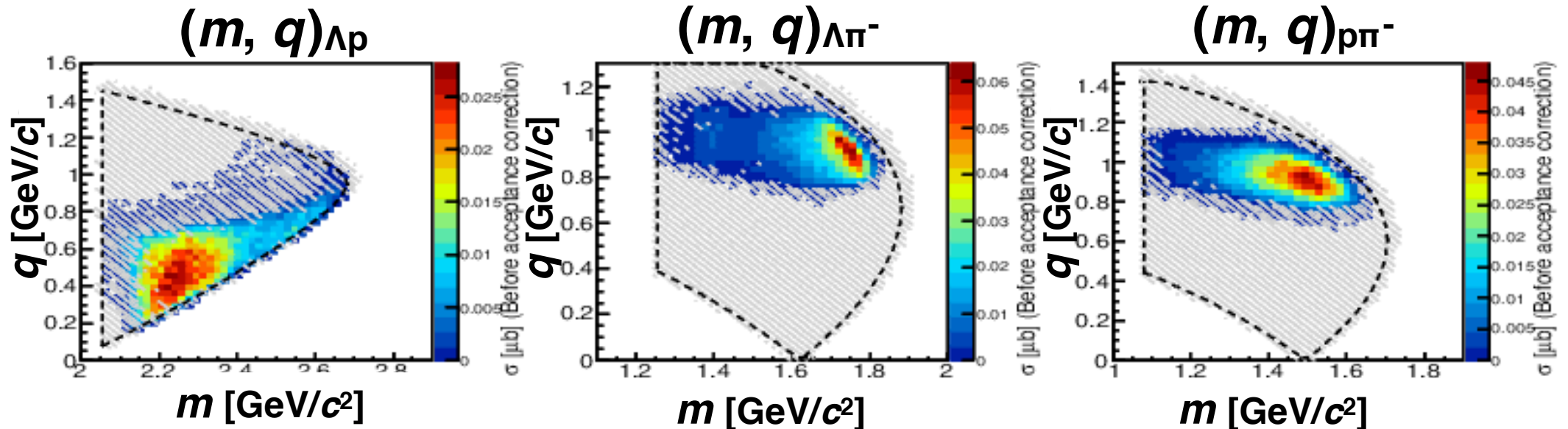
kinematical Degree-of-Freedom = 5

9 (3 on-shell particles) - 4 (energy-momentum conservation and  $\phi$  symmetry)

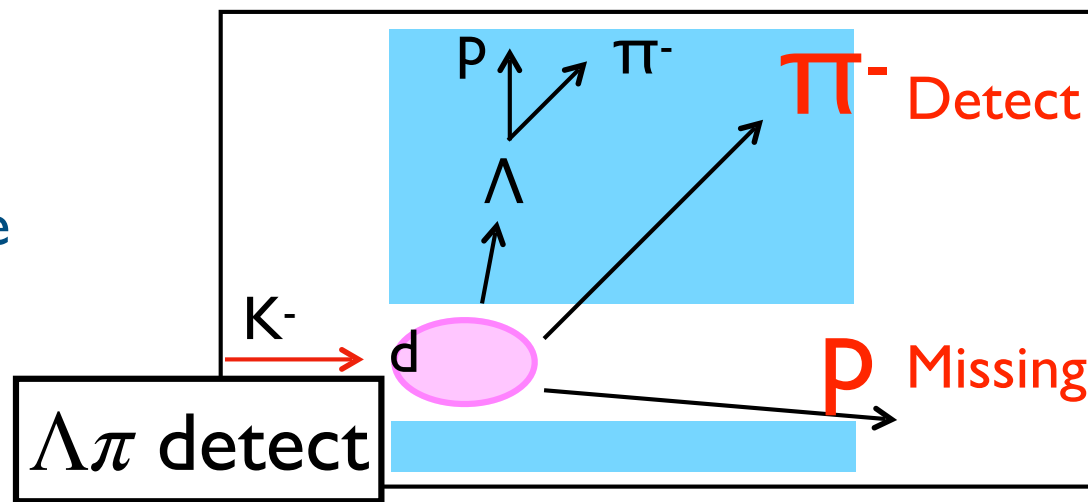
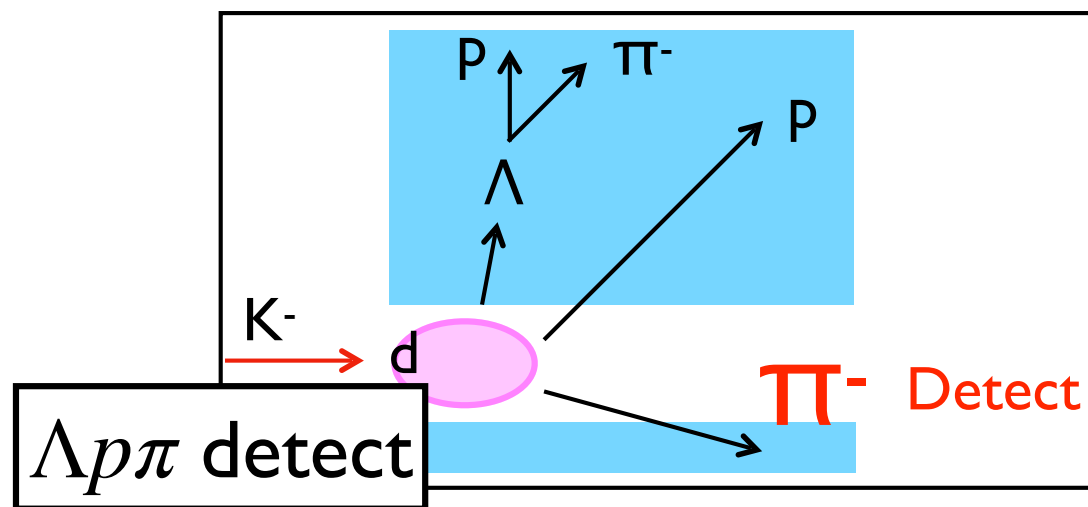
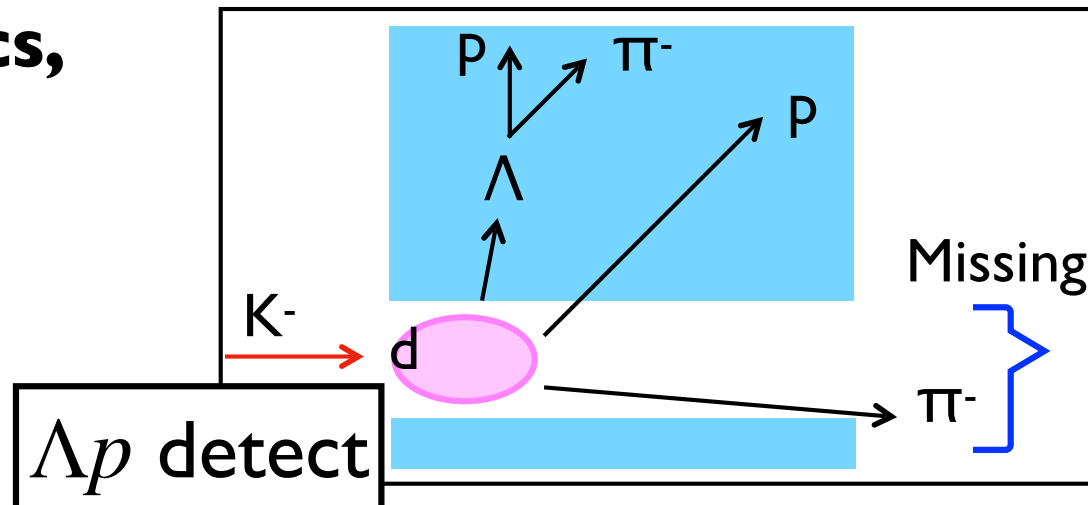
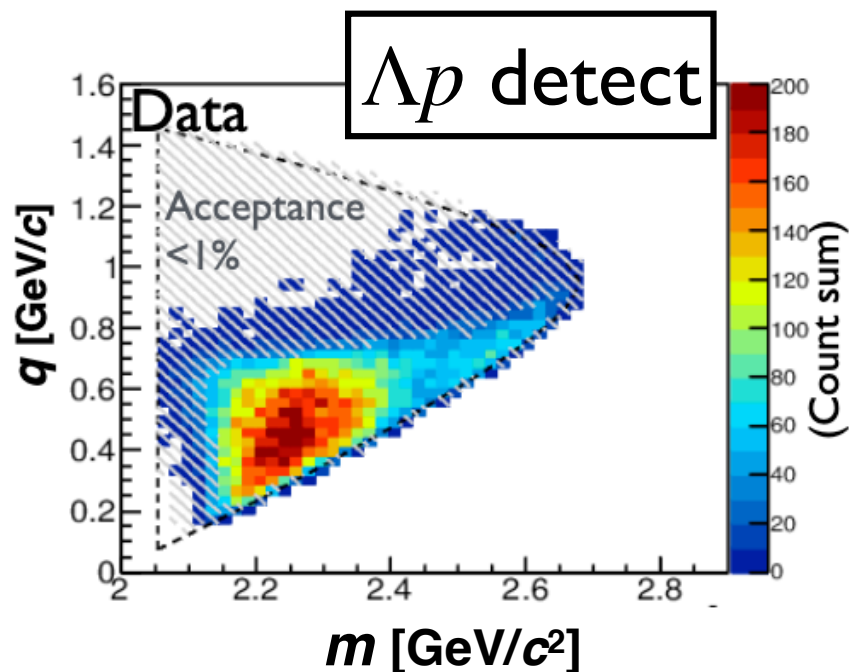
**3  $(m, q)$ -plots** are **more than sufficient** to identify the event kinematics

➔ We can specify reaction dynamics by these 3 plots

$m$  : invariant mass of a pair       $q$  : momentum transfer to the pair



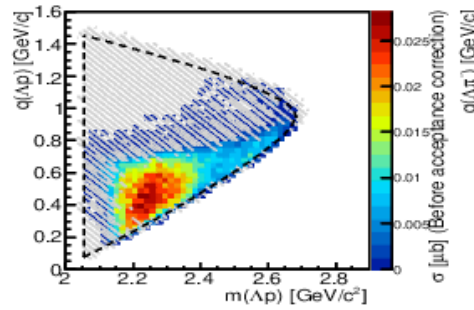
**To know reaction dynamics, we need to expand the acceptance on (m, q).**



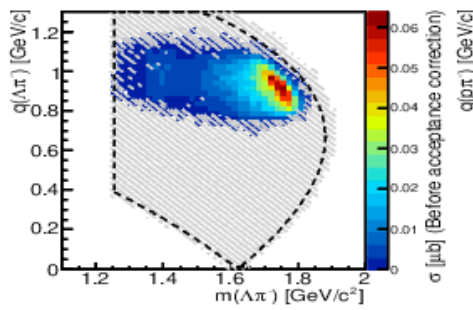
When we require  $\Lambda$  detection, there are three possible event geometries to identify  $\Lambda p \pi^-$  final state.

$\Lambda p$  detect

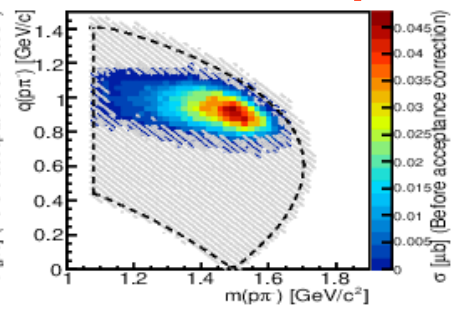
$(m, q)_{\Lambda p}$



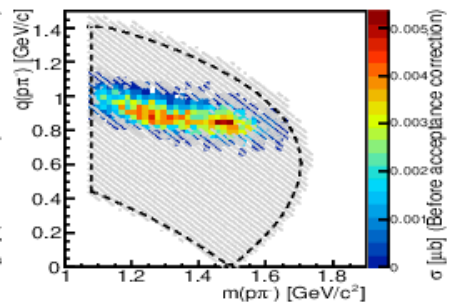
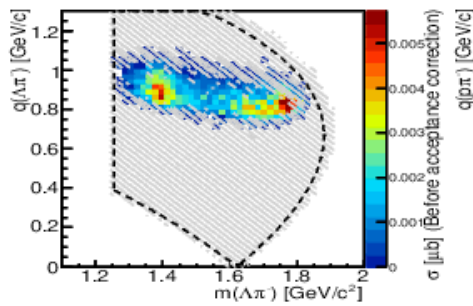
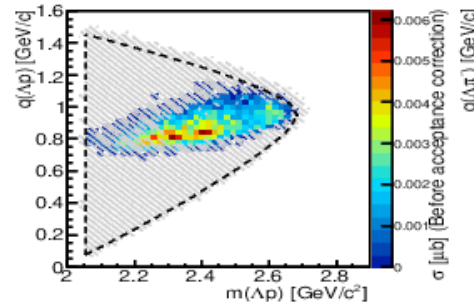
$(m, q)_{\Lambda \pi}$



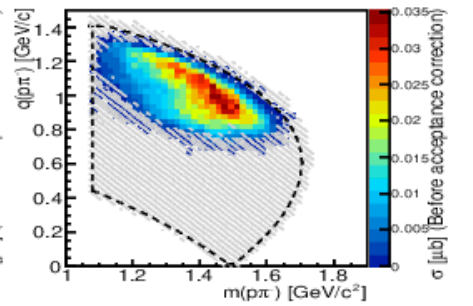
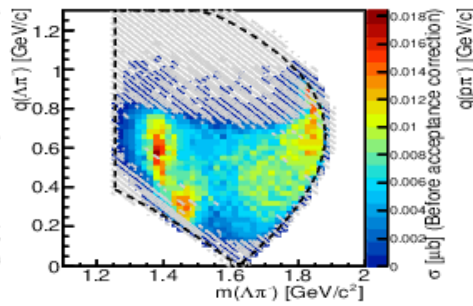
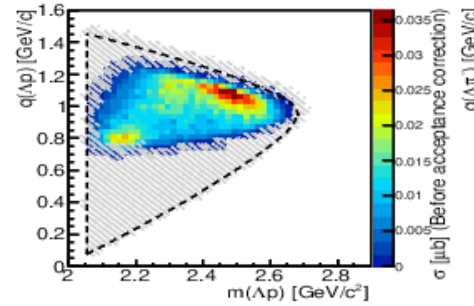
$(m, q)_{p\pi}$



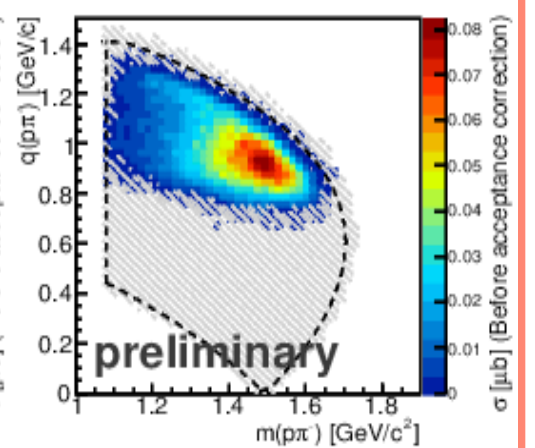
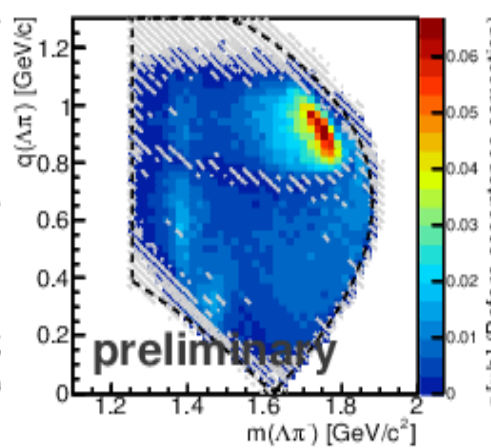
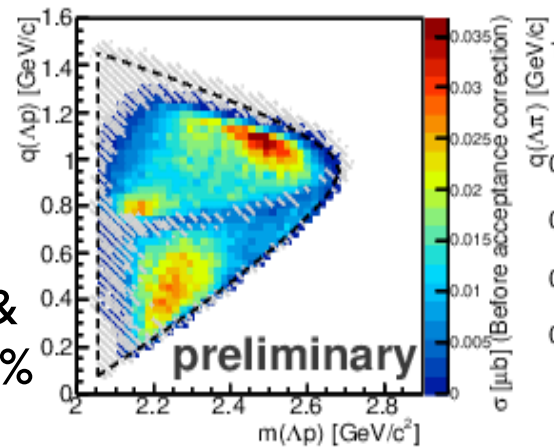
$\Lambda p\pi$  detect



$\Lambda \pi$  detect



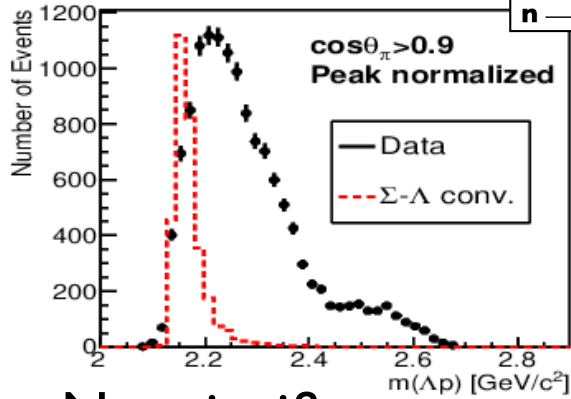
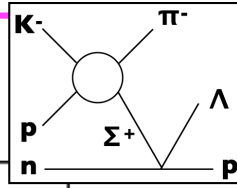
Sum



Shaded Systematical & statistical Error > 30 %

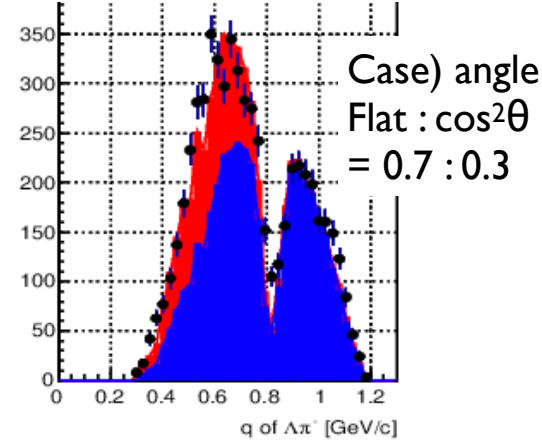
# Knowledge from reaction dynamics (m, q)

## $\Sigma$ - $\Lambda$ conversion



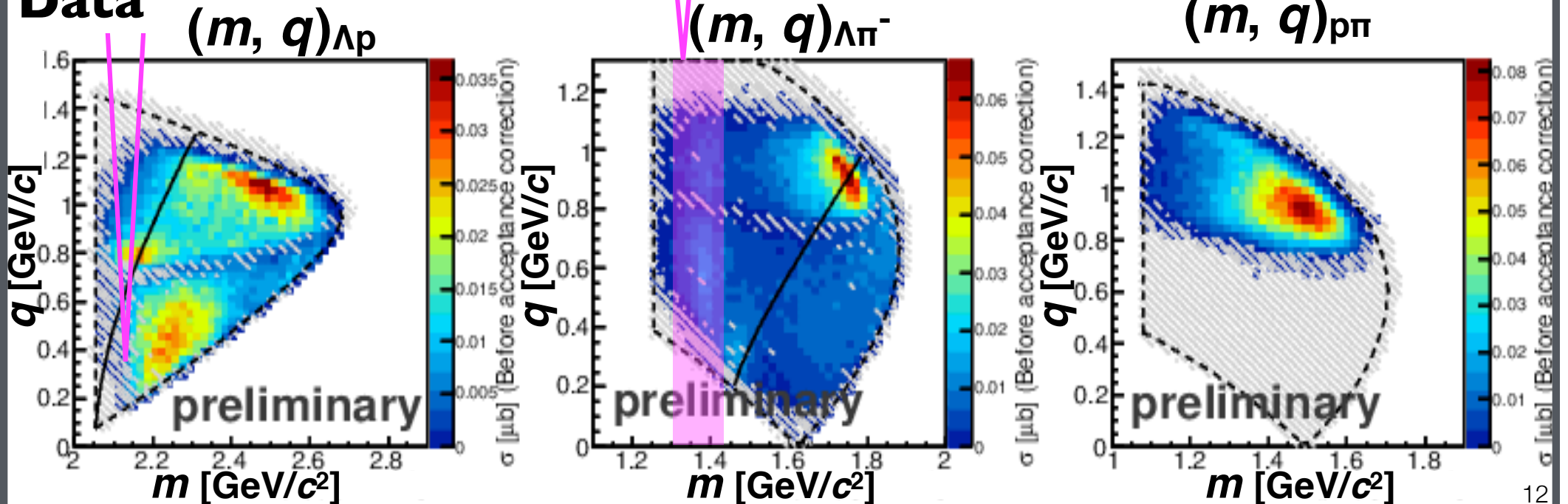
• Not significant.

## $K^- d \rightarrow \Sigma(1385)p$



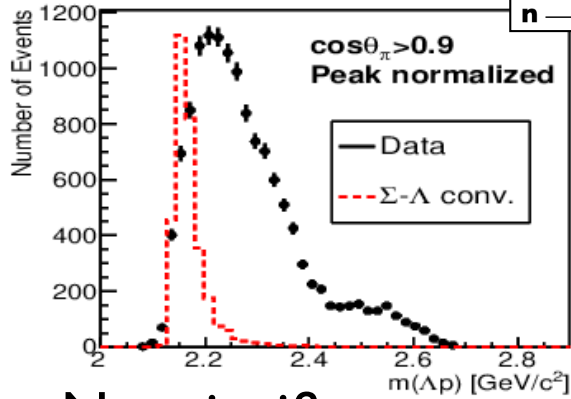
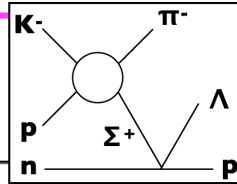
• Clearly identified.

## Data



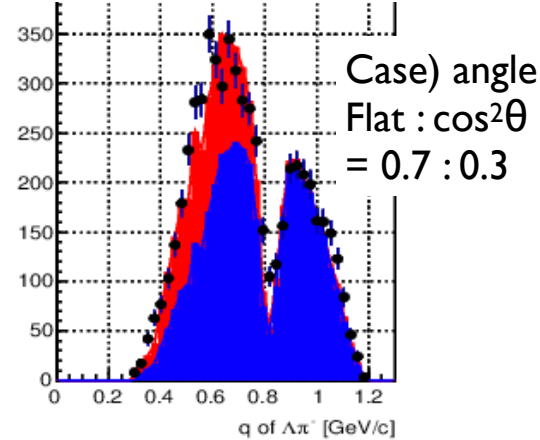
# Knowledge from reaction dynamics (m, q)

## $\Sigma$ - $\Lambda$ conversion



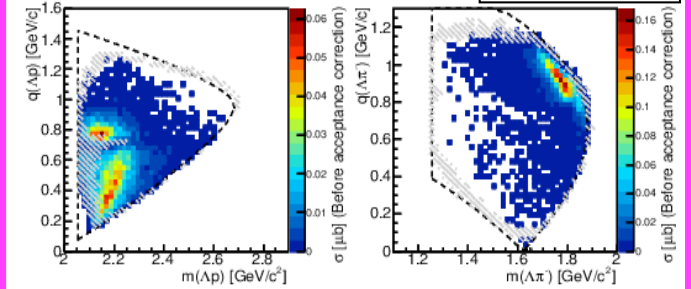
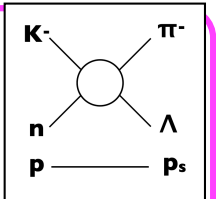
- Not significant.

## $K^- d \rightarrow \Sigma(1385)p$



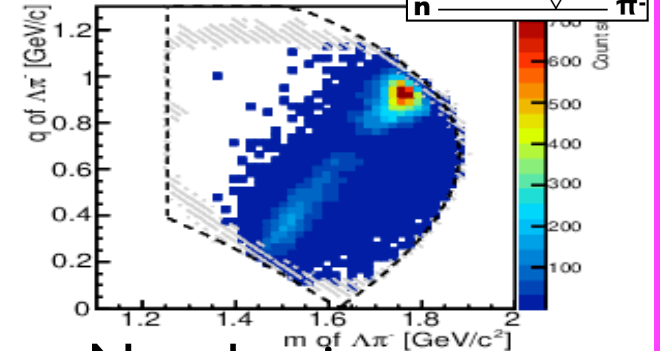
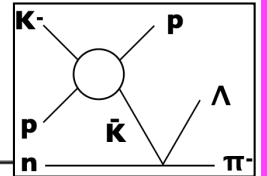
- Clearly identified.

## $\bar{K} N \rightarrow \Lambda \pi^-$ One nucleon



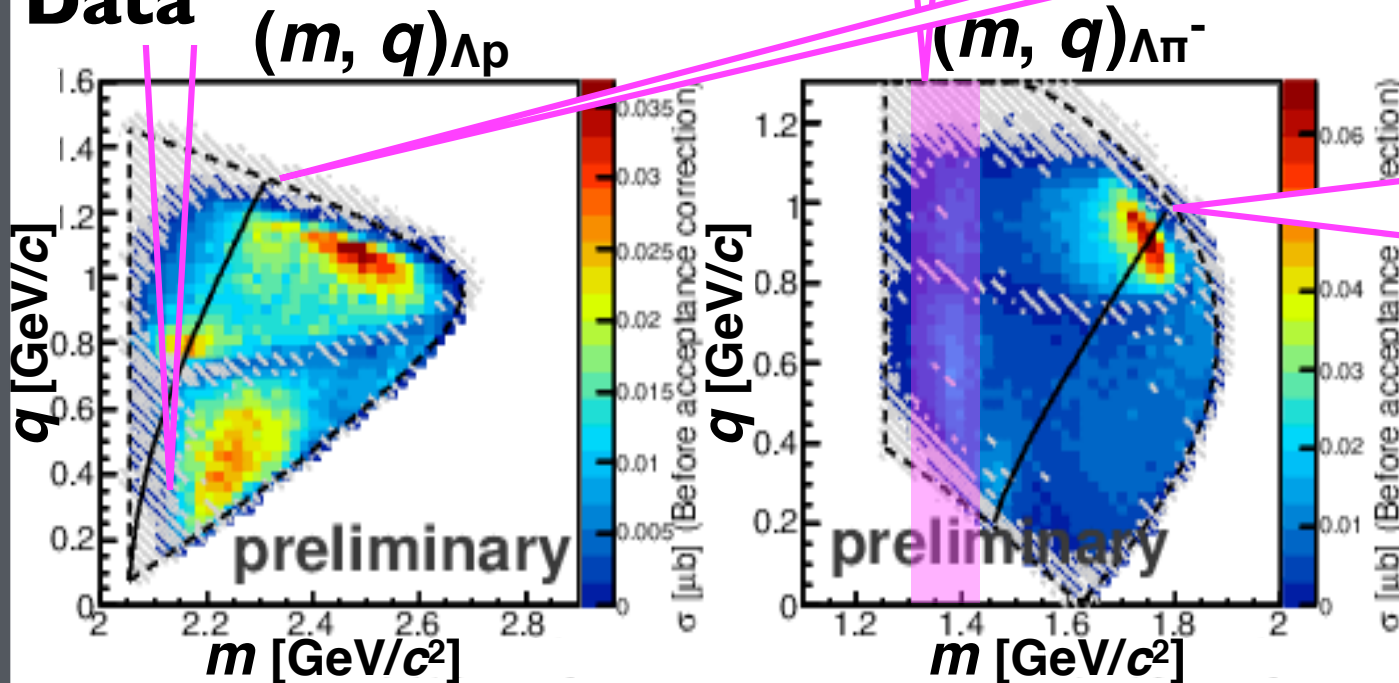
- Seems dominant.

## Two step

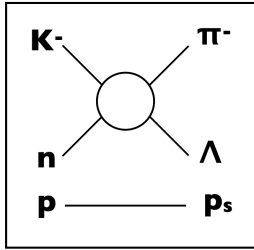


- Not dominant.
- Not just angle of elementary processes.

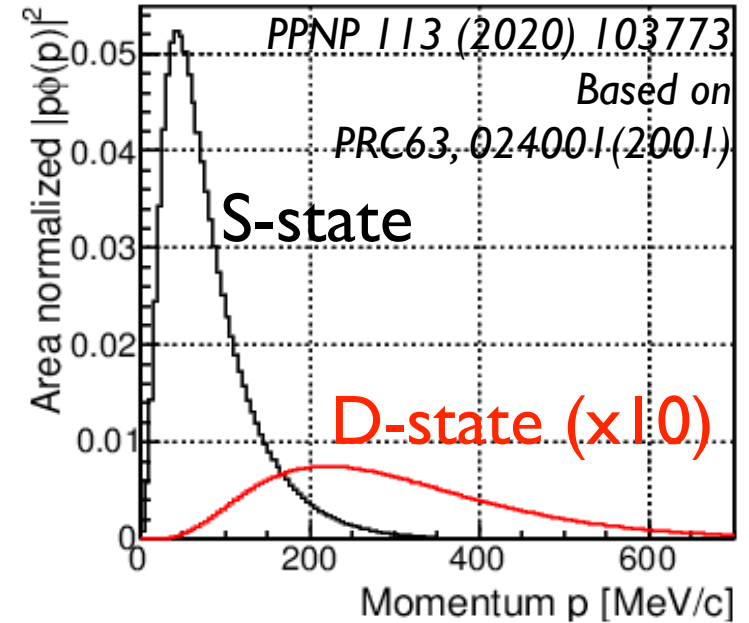
## Data



# One nucleon reaction: $K^- n \rightarrow \Lambda \pi^-$ (1/2)

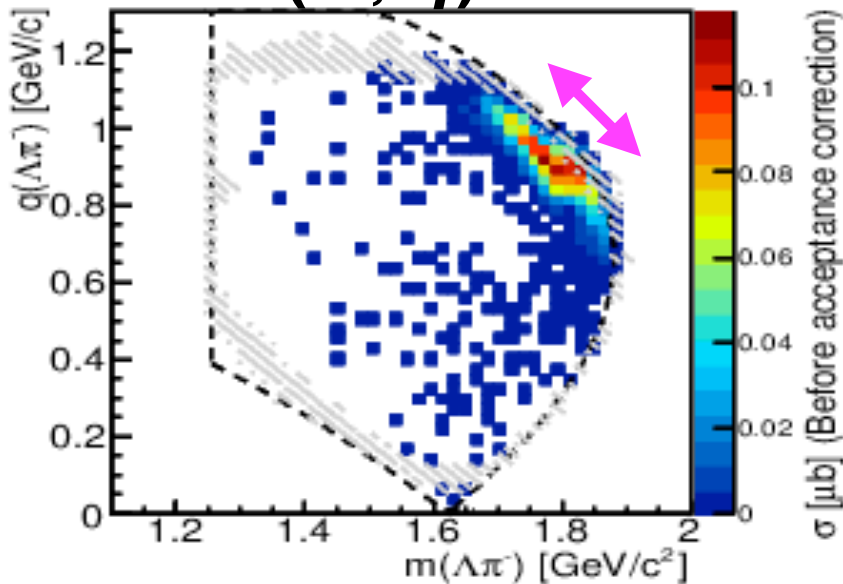


- Spectator-proton w/ large  $\mathbf{p}$  fires trigger. Tail component of Fermi-motion affect the distribution.



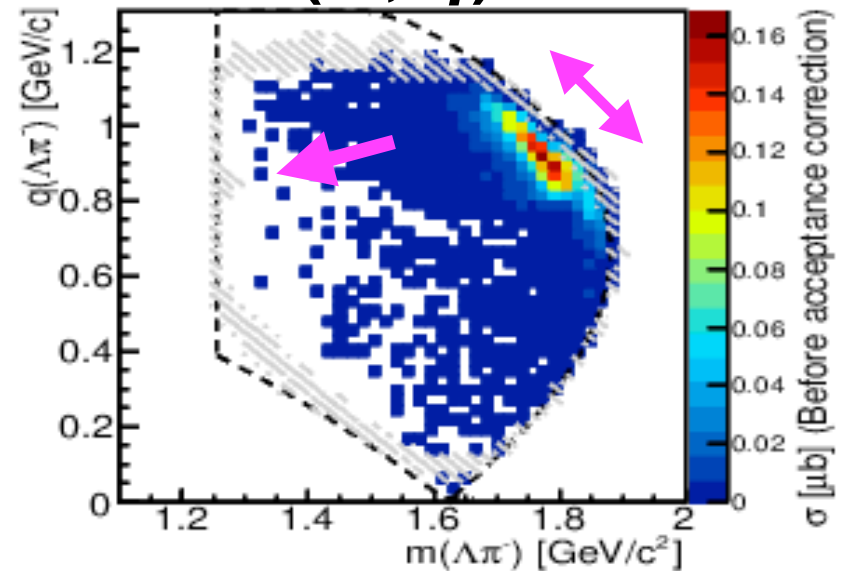
Effect of large Fermi-momentum tail on  $\Lambda\pi$  distribution  
 MC w/  $\bullet$  D-state

$(m, q)_{\Lambda\pi}$



MC w/ D-state

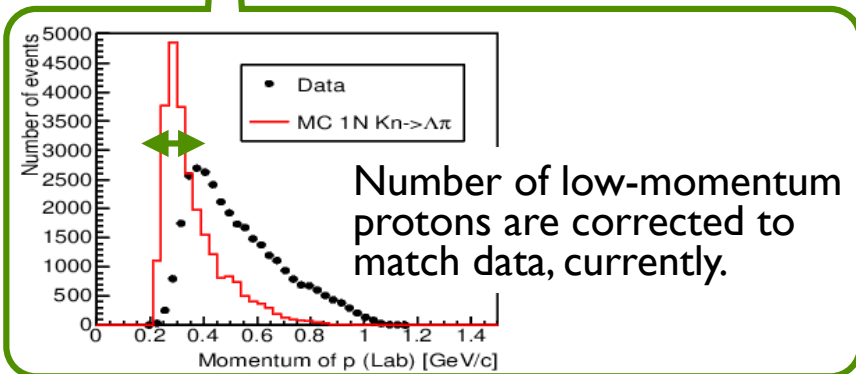
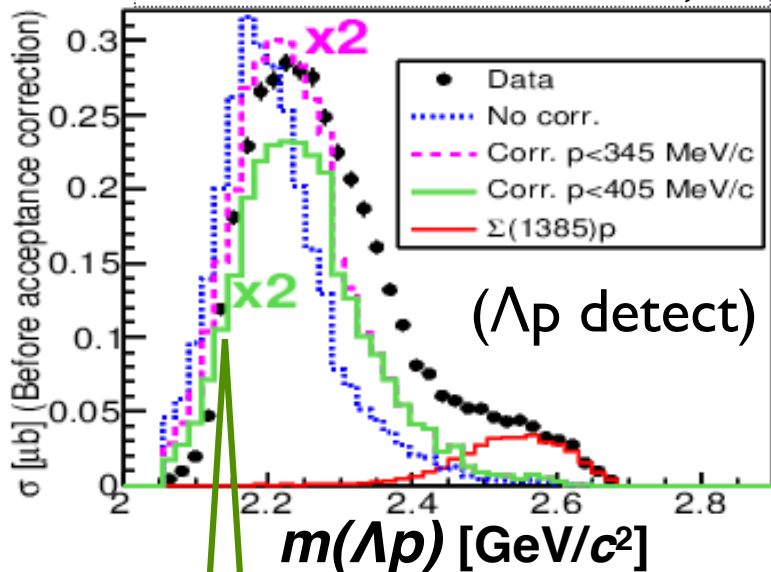
$(m, q)_{\Lambda\pi}$



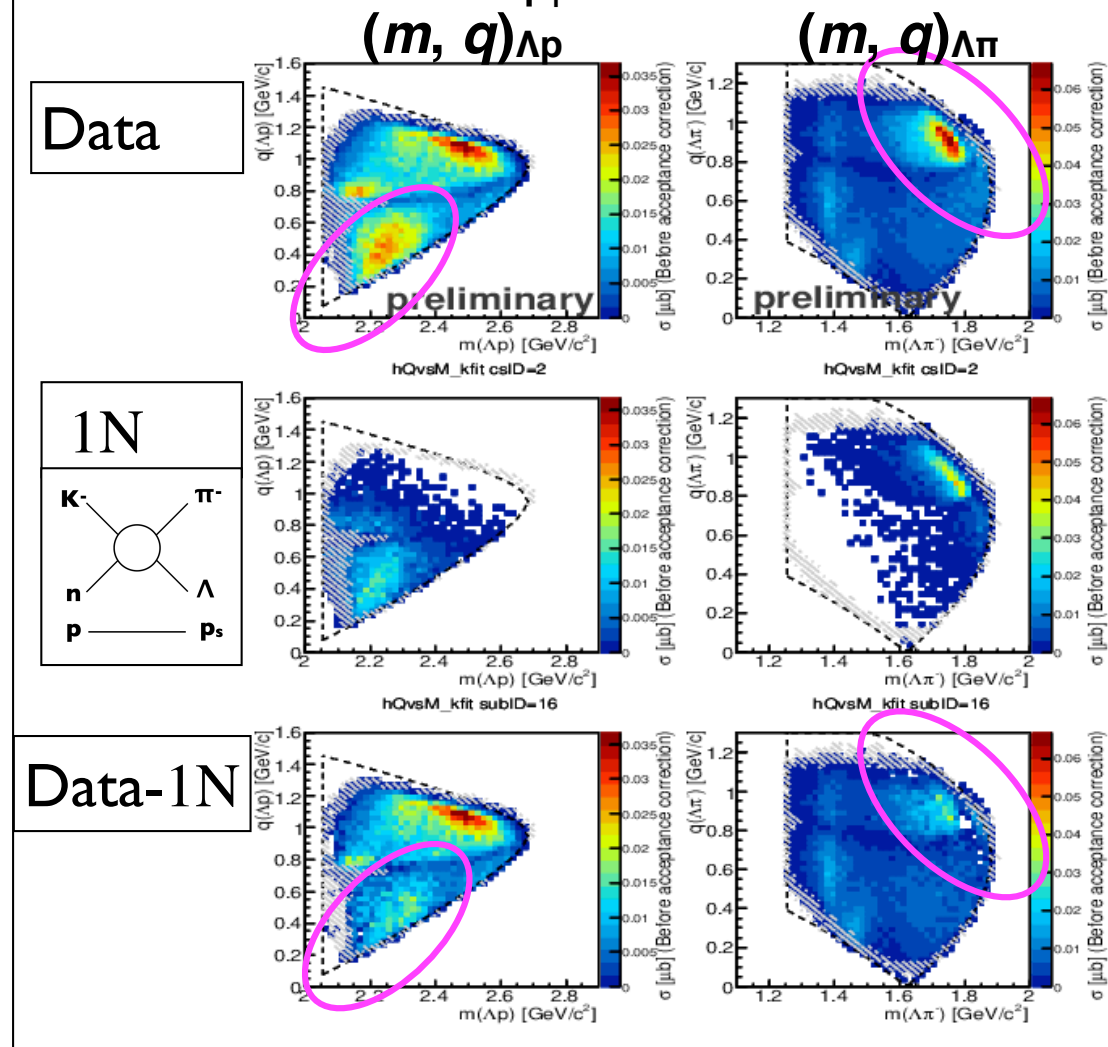
# One nucleon reaction: $K^- n \rightarrow \Lambda \pi^-$ (2/2)

## IM of “ $\bar{K}NN$ ” region

- MC Cross-section:  $(4.8 \pm 0.34) \mu\text{b}$
- NPB129,253



Subtraction 1N corr.  $p_p < 345 \text{ MeV}/c$



- W/ Correction of spectator-proton momentum, data of interested region is mostly explained w/ 1N reaction.
- Difference of proton momentum is under investigation.

# Summary

- E3I collaboration is investigating “KbarNN” bound state using  $d(K^-, \Lambda p)\pi^-$  reaction with the confirmation of all the kinematical freedoms.
- Reaction dynamics are determined by the momentum transfer and invariant mass of  $\Lambda p$ ,  $\Lambda\pi^-$  and  $p\pi^-$  systems. The reaction processes, one nucleon reaction  $Kn \rightarrow \Lambda\pi^-$ , two nucleon reaction  $Kp \rightarrow Kp$ ,  $Kn \rightarrow \Lambda\pi^-$ , none-mesonic  $Y^*$  production  $Kd \rightarrow \Sigma(1385)p$ , are clearly identified.
- “KbarNN” interested region is mostly explained with one nucleon reaction  $Kn \rightarrow \Lambda\pi^-$  including large momentum Fermi-motion tail and correction of spectator-proton momentum distribution. Difference of proton momentum is under investigation.