



# Strangeness production in antiproton-nucleus annihilation\*

*Alexei Larionov*

*Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Gießen,  
D-35392 Gießen, Germany*

*and National Research Center Kurchatov Institute, RU-123182  
Moscow, Russia*

**In collaboration with: *Theodoros Gaitanos, Horst Lenske,  
and Ulrich Mosel***

*Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Gießen,  
D-35392 Gießen, Germany*

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# Outline

- Motivation
- The Giessen Boltzmann-Uehling-Uhlenbeck transport model: relativistic mean field, collision terms.
- Strange particle production
- Fragment and hyperfragment production
- Summary and outlook

**Based on works:**

A.L., T. Gaitanos, and U. Mosel,  
PRC 85, 024614 (2012)

T. Gaitanos, A.L., H. Lenske, and U. Mosel,  
NPA 881, 240 (2012)

# Motivation

## Experiments on strangeness production in $\bar{p}$ -nucleus reactions:

**BNL (G.T. Condo et al, 1984):**  $\Lambda$  from  $\bar{p}(0\text{-}450 \text{ MeV}/c)^{12}\text{C}, ^{48}\text{Ti}, ^{181}\text{Ta}, ^{208}\text{Pb}$

**LEAR (F. Balestra et al, 1987):**  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  from  $\bar{p}(607 \text{ MeV}/c)^{20}\text{Ne}$

**KEK (K. Miyano et al, 1988):**  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  from  $\bar{p}(4 \text{ GeV}/c)^{181}\text{Ta}$

**ASTERIX@LEAR (J. Riedlberger et al., 1989):**  $\Lambda$  from  $\bar{p}(\text{at rest}) \text{ d}, ^{14}\text{N}$

**MPS@BNL (S. Ahmad et al., 1997):**

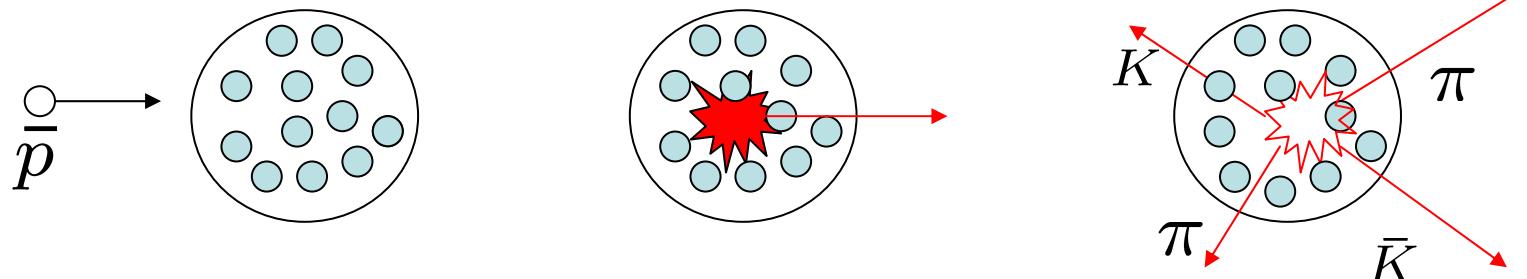
$K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  from  $\bar{p}(5\text{-}9 \text{ GeV}/c)^{12}\text{C}, ^{64}\text{Cu}, ^{208}\text{Pb}$

**Obelix@LEAR (A. Panzarasa et al, 2005, G. Bendiscioli et al, 2009):**

$K^\pm$  from  $\bar{p}(\text{at rest})p, d, ^3\text{He}, ^4\text{He}$

**Exotic scenario (J. Rafelski, 1988): propagating annihilation fireball with baryon number  $B > 0$  due to absorption of nucleons**

$\bar{p}(4 \text{ GeV}/c)^{181}\text{Ta}$



- Large energy deposition  $\sim 2m_N$  in a small volume of nuclear matter.  
Supercooled QGP might be formed if more than one nucleon participate in annihilation.
- Strangeness production in a QGP should be enhanced.

# Obelix @ LEAR: Phase transition to the QGP ?

G. Bendiscioli et al. / Nuclear Physics A 815 (2009) 67–88

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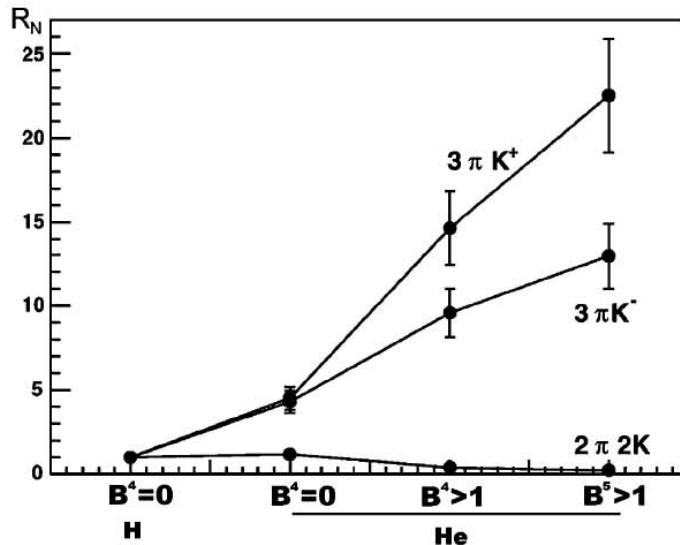
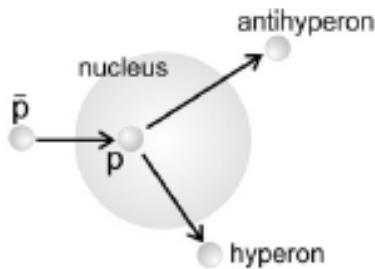


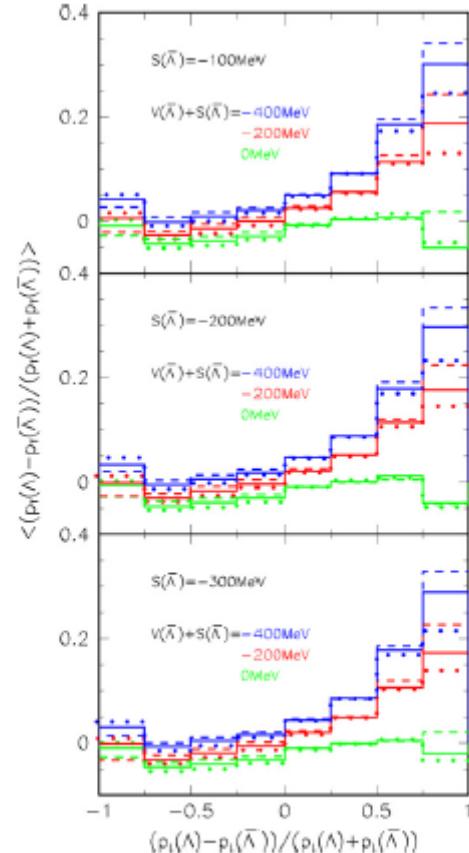
Fig. 1. Charged kaon production for the reactions without neutral mesons with 4 charged mesons (4 prongs) and with 4 charged mesons plus a fast proton (5 prongs):  $3\pi K^+(p)$ ,  $3\pi K^-(p)$  and  $2\pi 2K(p)$ .  $R_N$  = ratio in percentage between He and H yields; the reference value in hydrogen concerns annihilations into four pions without neutrals. The lines join values concerning reactions with different numbers of prongs (four or five) and  $B$  values. The errors are statistical plus systematic [7].

$K^+$  production in 5-prong annihilations on  ${}^4\text{He}$  involving at least two nucleons is enhanced by a factor of 22.



Event-by-event correlations between transverse momentum asymmetries of the hyperon and antihyperon are sensitive to the antihyperon potential.

J. Pochodzalla, PLB 669, 306 (2008)



**Fig. 3.** Average transverse momentum asymmetry as a function of the longitudinal momentum asymmetry for different parameter pairs of the scalar and vector  $\vec{\Lambda}$  potentials. In each panel calculations with 3 different Fermi momenta of 180 MeV/c (dashed lines), 220 MeV/c (solid lines), and 260 MeV/c (dotted lines) are overlaid.

# GiBUU model

The Giessen Boltzmann-Uehling-Uhlenbeck model:

<http://gibuu.physik.uni-giessen.de/GiBUU>

*O. Buss et al, Phys. Rept. 512, 1 (2012)*

The set of coupled relativistic kinetic equations (D. Vasak et al., 1987; H.-Th. Elze et al., 1987; B. Blaettel et al., 1993) for different hadrons ( $j = N, \bar{N}, \Delta, \bar{\Delta}, \pi\dots$ ):

$$(p_0^*)^{-1} [p_\mu^* \partial_x^\mu + (p_\mu^* F_j^{k\mu} + m_j^* (\partial_x^k m_j^*)) \partial_k^{p^*}] f_j(x, p^*) = I_j[\{f\}]$$

$$\mu = 0, 1, 2, 3, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \quad x \equiv (t, \mathbf{r}) .$$

↑  
collision integral

$f_j(x, p^*)$  - distribution function in kinetic phase space  $(\mathbf{r}, p^*)$ ,

$m_j^* = m_N + S_j$  - effective mass,  $S_j = g_{\sigma j} \sigma$  - scalar field,

$p^{*\mu} = p^\mu - V_j^\mu$  - kinetic four-momentum,

$p^{*\mu} p_\mu^* = (m_j^*)^2$  - mass shell condition,

$F_j^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu V_j^\nu - \partial^\nu V_j^\mu$  - field tensor,

$V_j^\mu = g_{\omega j} \omega^\mu + g_{\rho j} \tau^3 \rho^{3\mu} + \frac{e}{2} (B_j + \tau^3) A^\mu$  - vector field.

## Test particle representation:

$$f_j(x, \mathbf{p}^*) = \frac{(2\pi)^3}{g_j n} \sum_{i=1}^{nN_j} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_i(t)) \delta(\mathbf{p}^* - \mathbf{p}_i^*(t)) ,$$

$N_j$  - number of physical particles of the type  $j$  ,

$n \simeq 1000$  - number of test particles per physical particle.

Hamiltonian-like equations of motion for the centroids  $\mathbf{r}_i$  and  $\mathbf{p}_i$  between two-body collisions:

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_i = \frac{\mathbf{p}_i^*}{p_i^{*0}} ,$$

$$\dot{p}_i^{*k} = \frac{p_{i\mu}^*}{p_i^{*0}} F^{k\mu} + \frac{m_j^*}{p_i^{*0}} \partial_x^k m_j^*$$

For the calculation of mean fields:

$$\delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_i) \rightarrow \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3/2} L^3} \exp\{-(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_i)^2 / 2L^2\},$$

$$L \simeq 0.5 \text{ fm}$$

# Meson field equations (mean field approximation):

$$\partial_\nu \partial^\nu \sigma + \frac{\partial U(\sigma)}{\partial \sigma} = - \sum_j g_{\sigma j} \rho_{Sj} ,$$

$$(\partial_\nu \partial^\nu + m_\omega^2) \omega^\mu = \sum_j g_{\omega j} j_{Bj}^\mu ,$$

$$(\partial_\nu \partial^\nu + m_\rho^2) \rho^{3\mu} = \sum_j g_{\rho j} j_{Ij}^\mu ,$$

$$\partial_\nu \partial^\nu A^\mu = 4\pi \sum_j e j_{Qj}^\mu ,$$

where  $\rho_{Sj}(x) = <\bar{\psi}_j \psi_j> = \frac{g_j}{(2\pi)^3} \int \frac{d^3 p^\star}{p^{\star 0}} m_j^\star f_j(x, \mathbf{p}^\star) ,$

$$j_{Aj}^\mu(x) = <\bar{\psi}_j \gamma^\mu O_A \psi_j> = \frac{g_j}{(2\pi)^3} \int \frac{d^3 p^\star}{p^{\star 0}} p^{\star \mu} O_A f_j(x, \mathbf{p}^\star) ,$$

$$O_B = 1, \quad O_I = \tau^3, \quad O_Q = \frac{B_j + \tau^3}{2} ,$$

$g_j$  - spin degeneracy

Technical approximation :  $\partial_\nu \partial^\nu = (\cancel{\partial_t})^2 - \Delta$

## Collision integral:

E.g., for  $N_1 N_2 \rightarrow N_3 N_4$ :

$$I_N = \int \frac{g_2 d^3 p_2^*}{(2\pi)^3} \int d\sigma_{12 \rightarrow 34}^* v_{12}^* (f_3 f_4 \bar{f}_1 \bar{f}_2 - f_1 f_2 \bar{f}_3 \bar{f}_4) ,$$

where  $\bar{f} = 1 - f$

relative velocity of  $N_1$  and  $N_2$

(in-medium) differential cross section

## Collision channels:

Antibaryon-baryon collisions:

$\bar{B}B \rightarrow$  mesons — statistical annihilation model (I.A. Pshenichnov et al., 1992);  
 $\bar{B}B \rightarrow \bar{B}B$  (EL and CEX),  $\bar{N}N \leftrightarrow \bar{N}\Delta(\bar{\Delta}N)$ ,  $\bar{N}N \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda}\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{N}(\Delta)N(\Delta) \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda}\Sigma(\bar{\Sigma}\Lambda)$ ,  
 $\bar{N}(\Delta)N(\Delta) \rightarrow \Xi\Xi$ .

For  $\sqrt{s} > 2.4$  GeV ( $p_{\text{lab}} > 1.9$  GeV/c for  $\bar{N}N$ ) : FRITIOF simulation of inelastic production  $\bar{B}_1B_2 \rightarrow \bar{B}_3B_4 +$  mesons.

Meson-baryon collisions:

$\pi N \leftrightarrow R$ ,  $\pi N \rightarrow K\bar{K}N$ ,  $\pi(\eta, \rho, \omega)N \rightarrow YK$ ,  $\bar{K}N \leftrightarrow Y^*$ ,  $\bar{K}N \rightarrow \bar{K}N$ ,  $\bar{K}N \leftrightarrow Y\pi$ ,  
 $\bar{K}N \leftrightarrow Y^*\pi$ ,  $\bar{K}N \rightarrow \Xi K$ .

For  $\sqrt{s} > 2.2$  GeV : PYTHIA simulation of MB collisions.

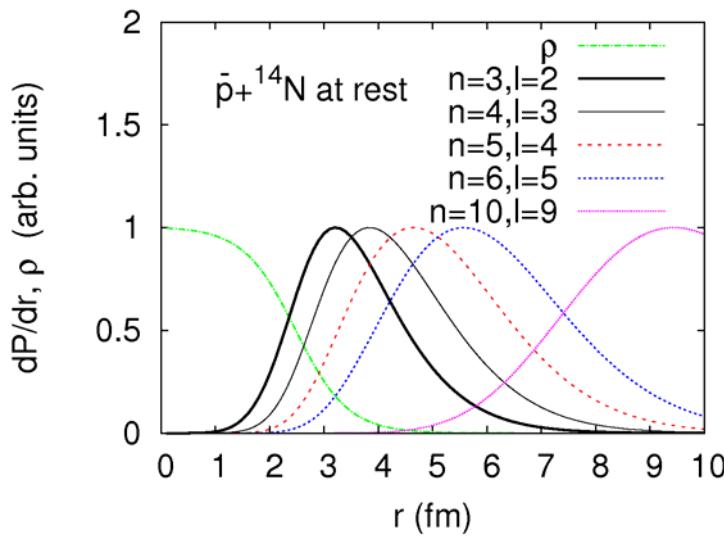
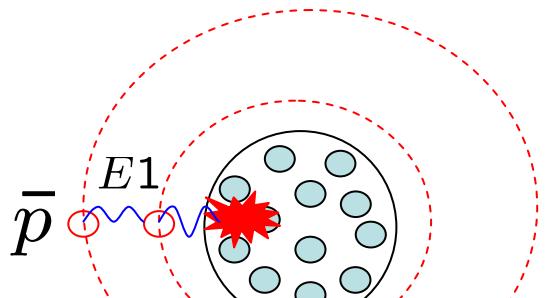
Baryon-baryon collisions:

$BB \rightarrow BB$  (EL and CEX),  $NN \leftrightarrow NN\pi$ ,  $NN \leftrightarrow \Delta\Delta$ ,  $NN \leftrightarrow NR$ ,  
 $N(\Delta, N^*)N(\Delta, N^*) \rightarrow N(\Delta)YK$ ,  $YN \rightarrow YN$ ,  $\Xi N \rightarrow \Lambda\Lambda$ ,  $\Xi N \rightarrow \Lambda\Sigma$ ,  $\Xi N \rightarrow \Xi N$ .

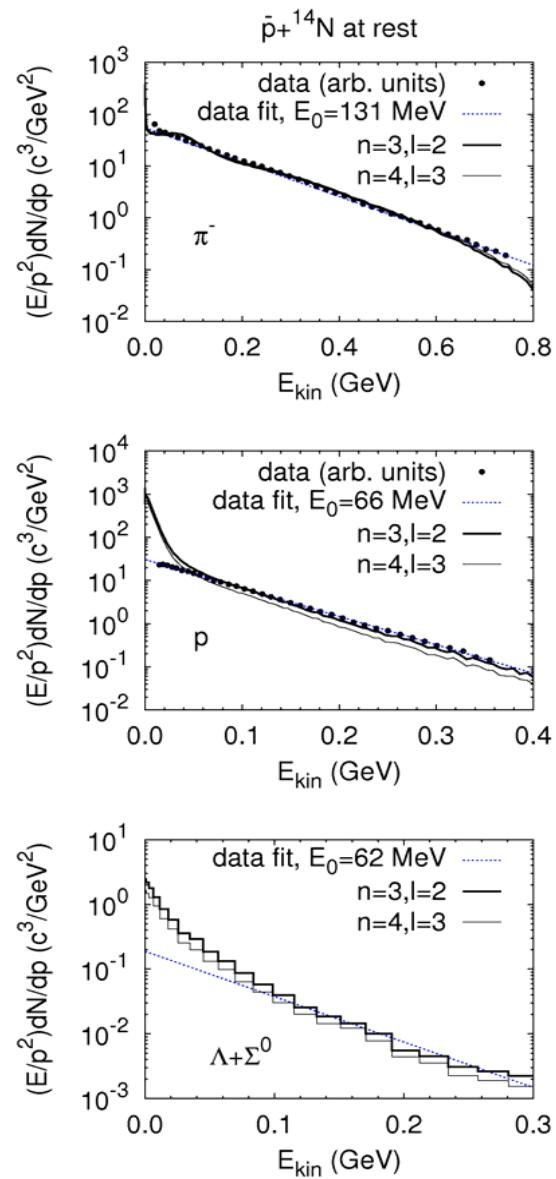
For  $\sqrt{s} > 2.4$  GeV : PYTHIA simulation of inelastic production  
 $B_1B_2 \rightarrow B_3B_4 +$  mesons.

## Strange particle production

# Annihilation at rest:



$$dP = C |R_{nl}|^2 \rho(r) r^2 dr$$



Data: J. Riedlberger et al. (ASTERIX@LEAR), 1989

## Annihilation in-flight:

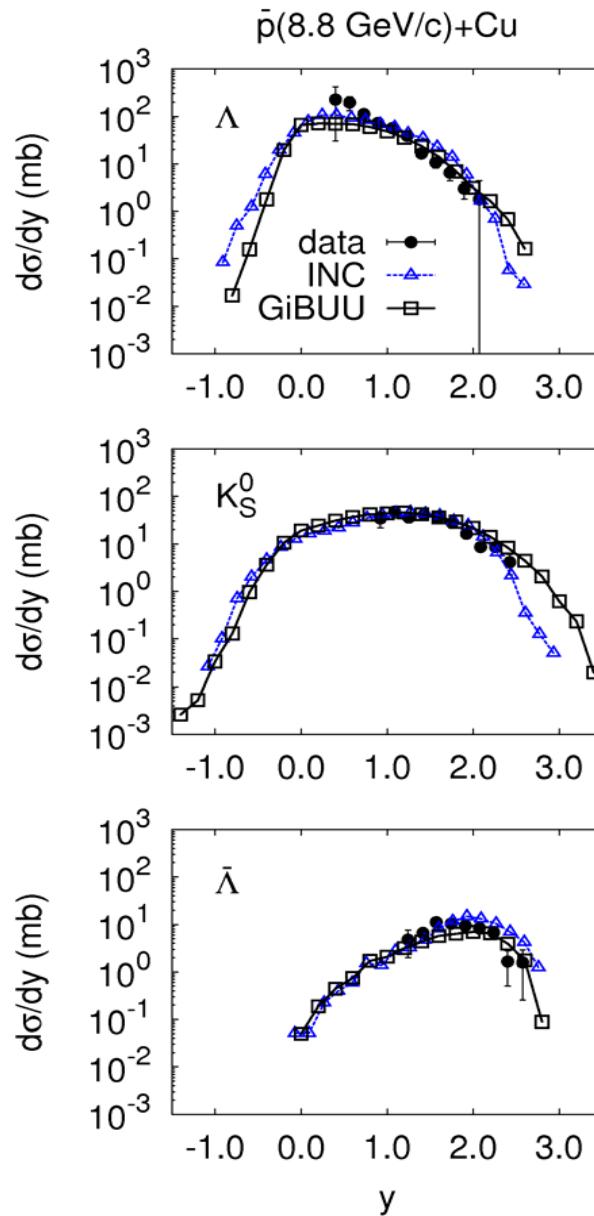
Data and INC calculations:

S. Ahmad et al. (MPS@BNL), 1997.

INC model: D. Strottman & W. Gibbs, 1984; W. Gibbs & J. Kruk, 1990

$$\sigma_{K_S^0} = \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_{K^0} + \sigma_{\bar{K}^0})$$

$\bar{K}, \bar{K}^* + N \sim 60\%,$   
 $\pi, \eta, \rho, \omega + N \sim 30\%$   
of  $Y(Y^*)$  production rate



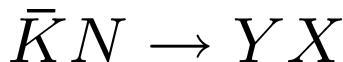
# Systematics:

Data and INC calculations:

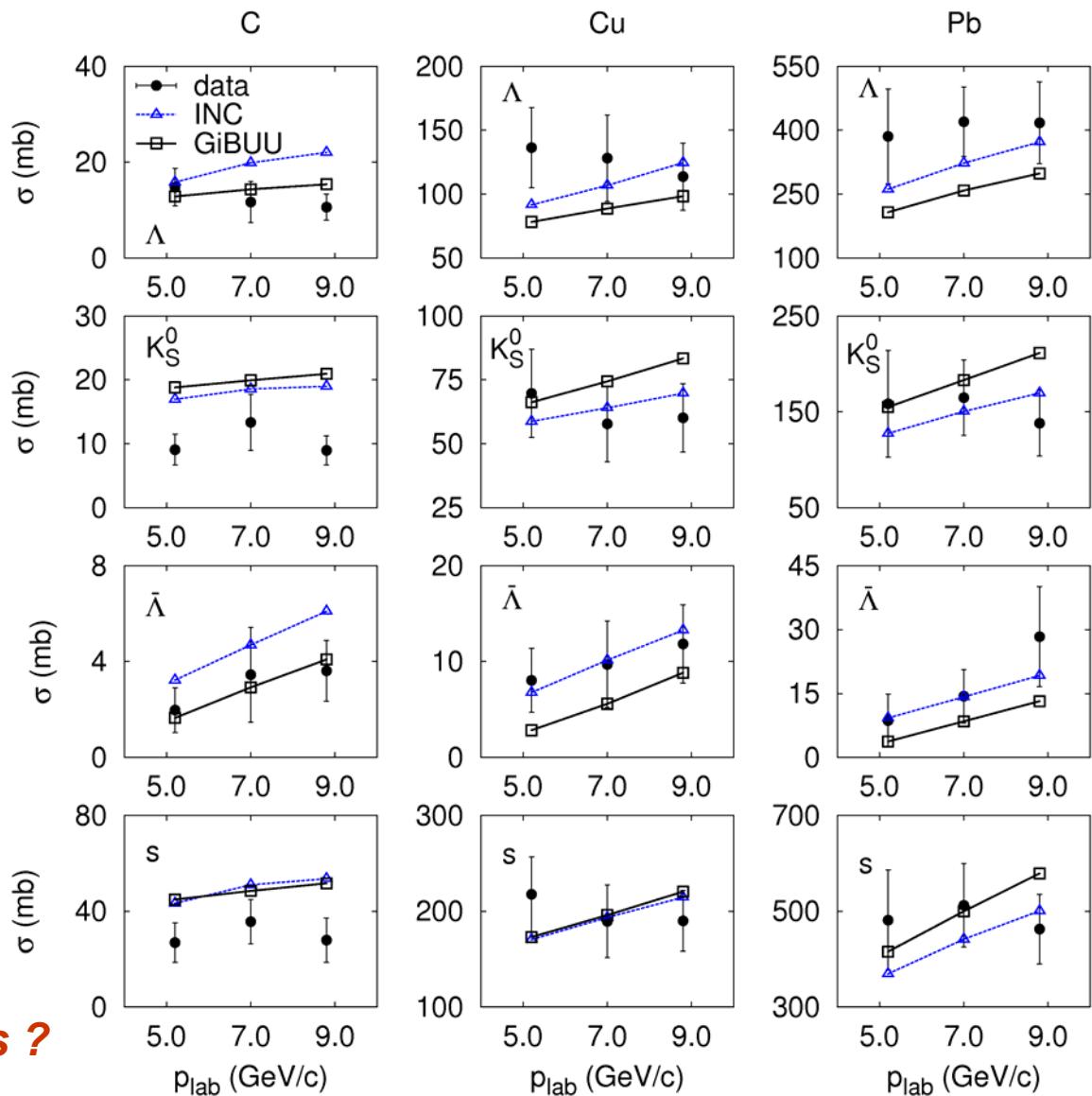
S. Ahmad et al.  
(MPS@BNL), 1997.

INC model: D. Strottman & W. Gibbs, 1984;  
W. Gibbs & J. Kruk, 1990

→ not enough  $\bar{K}$  absorption:



*In-medium effects or inaccuracies in elementary cross sections ?*



$$\sigma_s = \frac{1}{2}(4\sigma_{K_S^0} + \sigma_\Lambda + \sigma_{\Sigma^0} + \sigma_{\bar{\Lambda}} + \sigma_{\bar{\Sigma}^0})$$

# Rapidity spectra of strange particles.

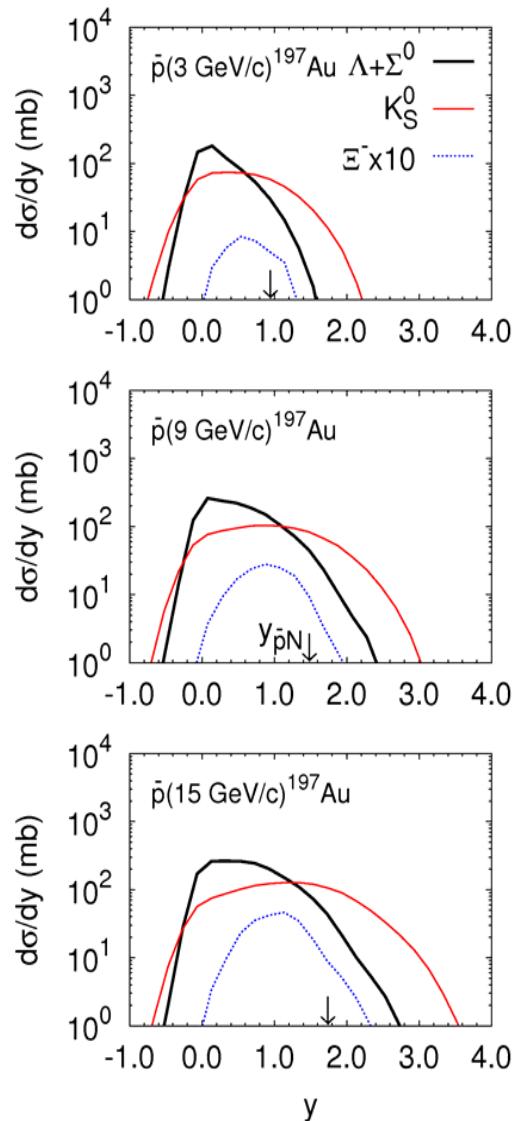
$\Lambda$  spectra always peak at  $y \approx 0$  due to exothermic reactions



Spectra for  $\Xi^-$  are shifted to forward rapidities due to endothermic reactions  $\bar{K}N \rightarrow \Xi K$

$$(p_{\text{lab}}^{\text{thr}} = 1.048 \text{ GeV/c}, y_{\bar{K}N}^{\text{thr}} = 0.55)$$

*In the QGP fireball scenario (J. Rafelski, 1988) the rapidity spectra of all strange particles would be peaked at the same rapidity.*



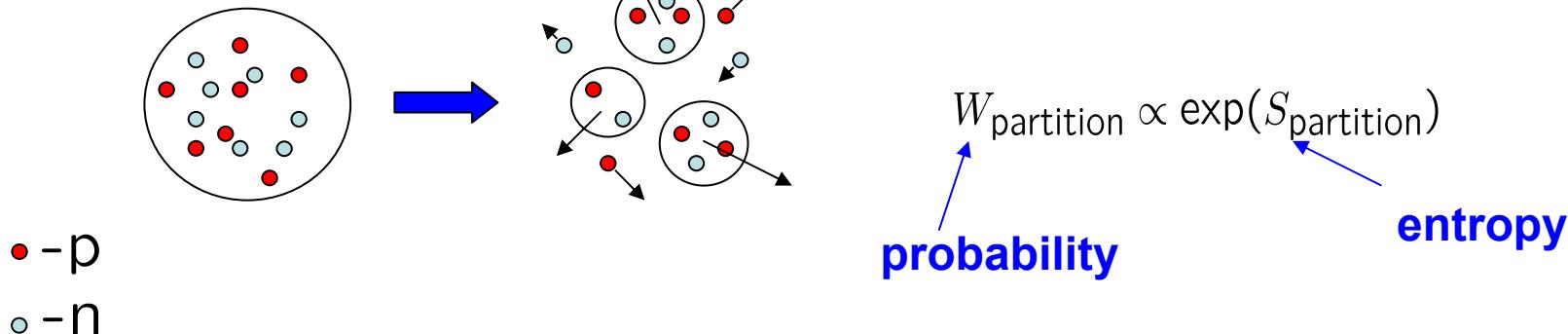
## Fragment and hyperfragment production

# Statistical multifragmentation model (SMM)

(J. Bondorf, A.S. Botvina, A.S. Iljinov, I.N. Mishustin, K. Sneppen, 1995)

Equilibrated source:

A, Z, E\*

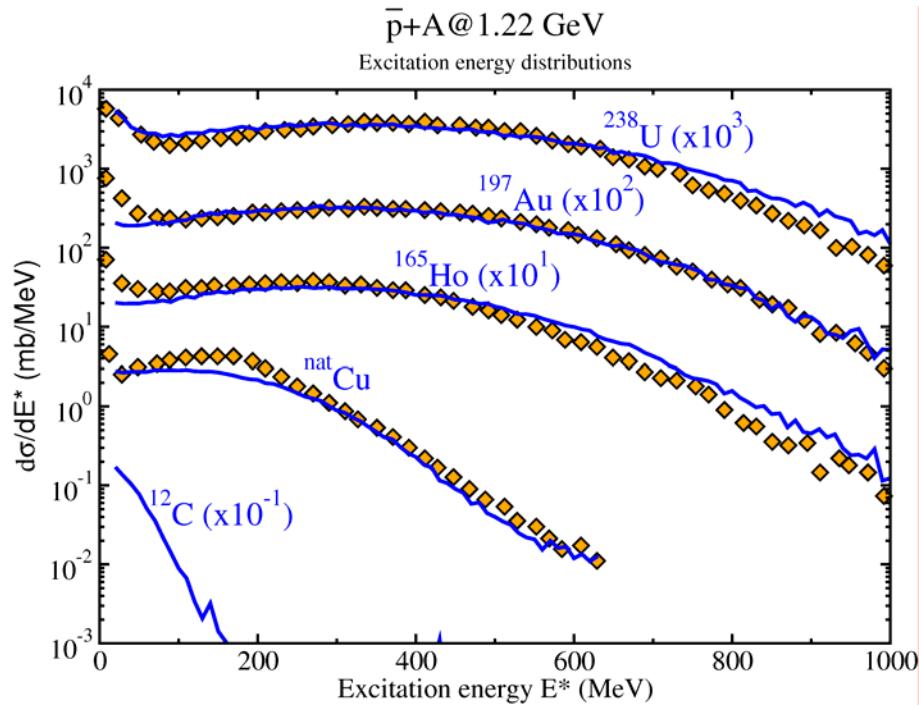


## Hybrid GiBUU+SMM

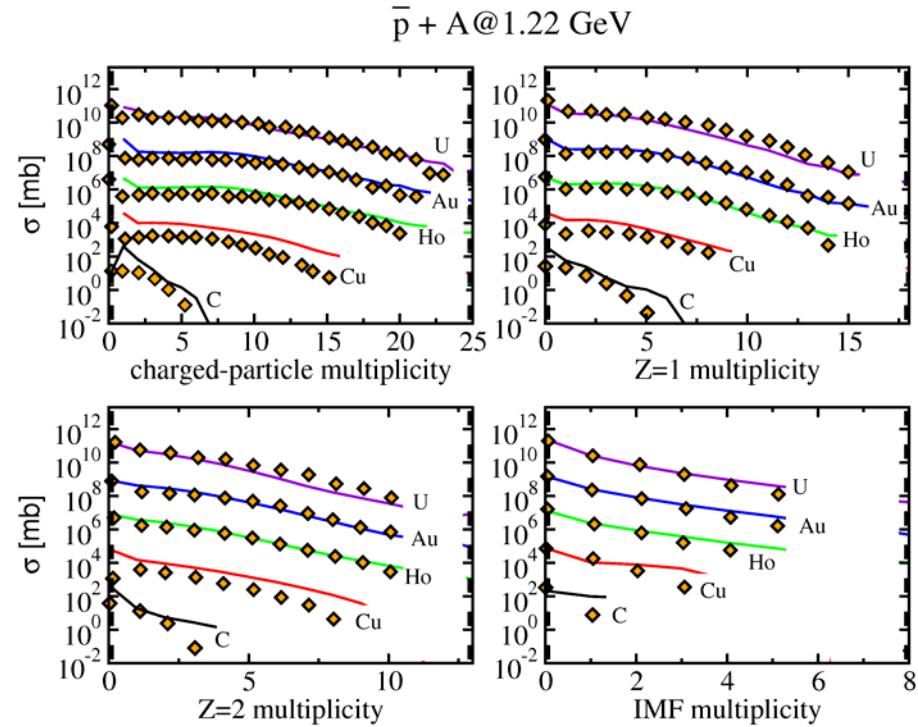
- Non-Equilibrium dynamics within BUU until source(s) approaches stable configuration and local equilibration at  $t=t_f$
- Determination of A, Z and E\* of a source at time  $t=t_f$
- Apply SMM

# Fragment production

Source excitation energy distributions:



Fragment multiplicity distributions:



Data (LEAR): [B. Lott et al, PRC 63, 034616 \(2001\)](#)

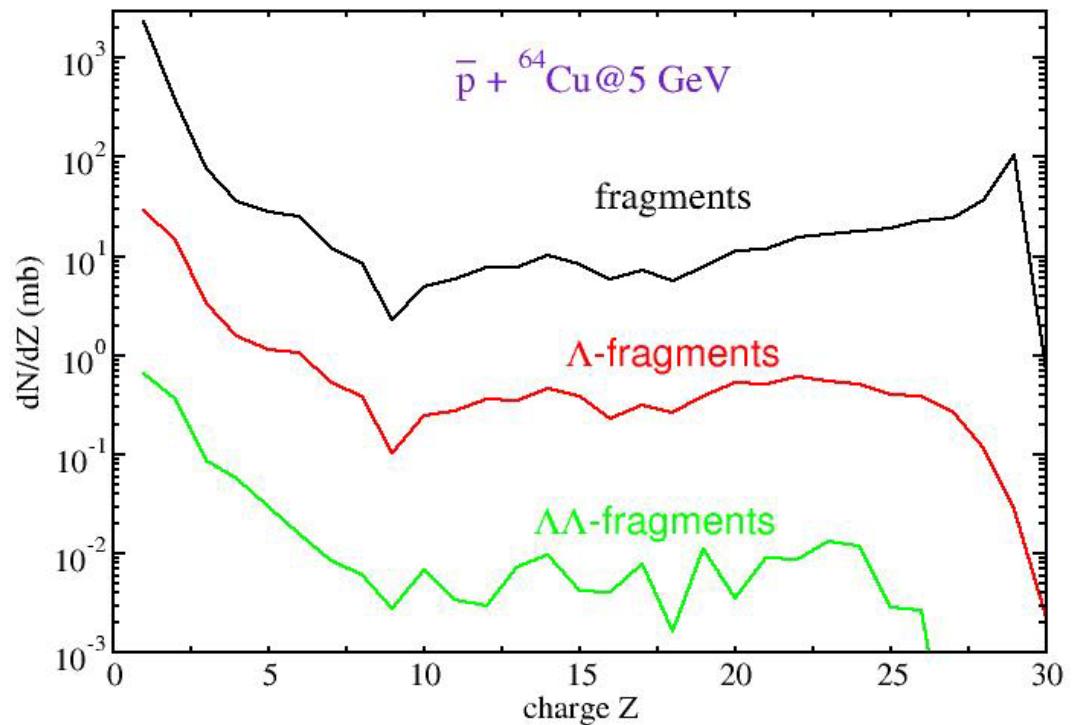
GiBUU+SMM calculations: [T. Gaitanos, A.L., H. Lenske](#)

[and U. Mosel, NPA 881, 240 \(2012\)](#)

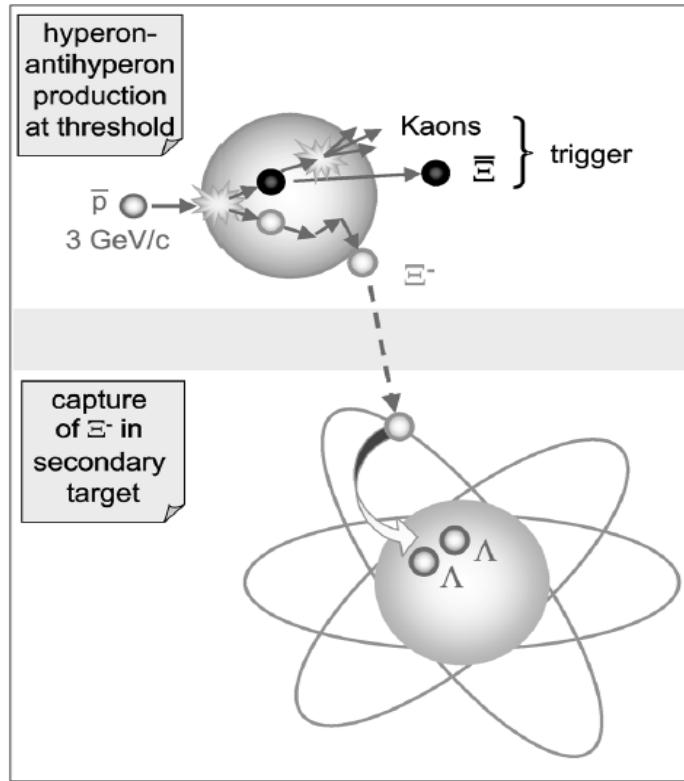
# Hyperfragment production

Hybrid **GiBUU+SMM** calculation: usual fragments – by SMM,  
hyperfragments – by  $\Lambda$ -fragment coalescence in momentum space.

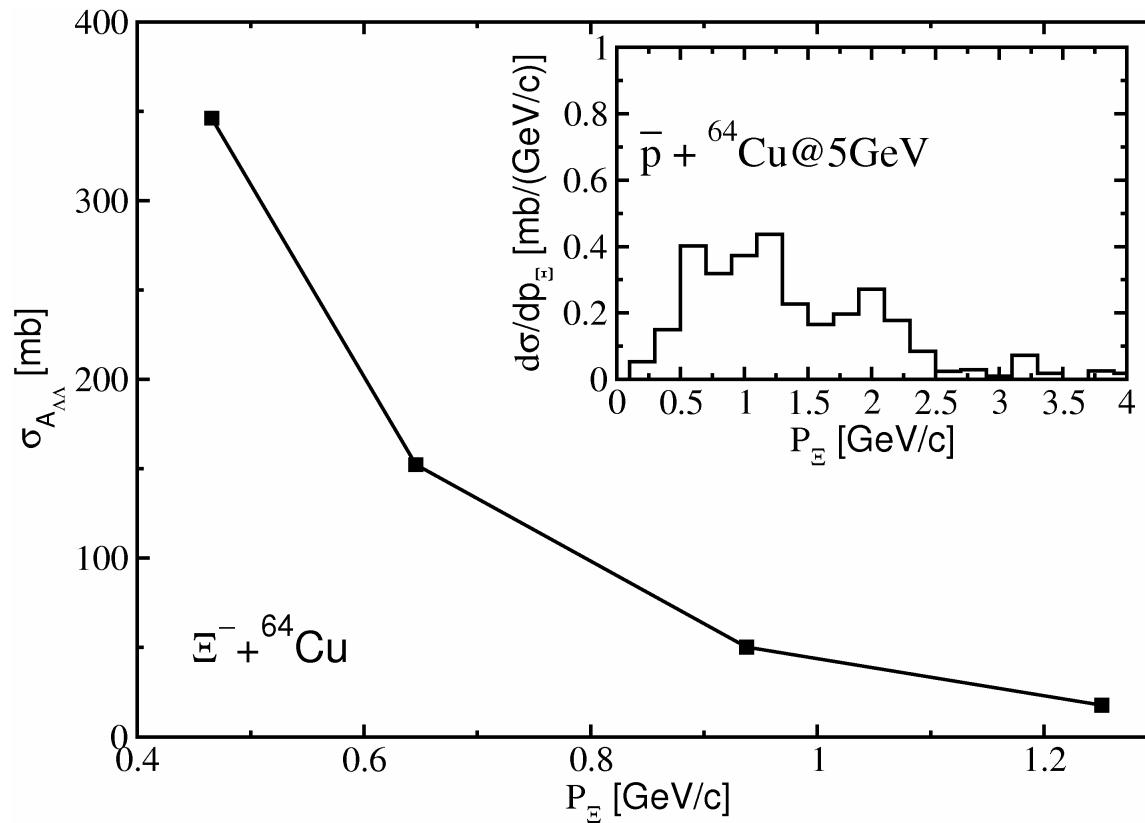
Charge distributions



# PANDA@ FAIR: Double $\Lambda$ hypernucleus production



## $\Lambda\Lambda$ hyperfragment production with a secondary target (PANDA):



***Low-momentum (< 0.5 GeV/c)  $\Xi^-$ 's are the best suited for double  $\Lambda$  production.***

## Summary

- GiBUU works rather well. However: tendency to underestimate  $\Lambda$ -yields and overestimate  $K_s$ -yields. The data on charged strange  $\Sigma^\pm$ ,  $K^\pm$  particle production cross sections needed.
- Peak positions of  $\Lambda$  and  $\Xi^-$  rapidity spectra strongly differ in pure hadronic transport: test for a QGP scenario.
- Big cross section of double  $\Lambda$  hypernuclei production by in-flight interaction of slow  $\Xi^-$  with a secondary target.

## Outlook:

**Several new interesting applications of transport models to antiproton-nucleus interactions:**

- J/ $\psi$  production and propagation (work in progress)
- antibaryon potentials study, strongly bound antiproton-nucleus states
- annihilation at rest: signatures of QGP formation in Obelix data

A quantum approach: talk by **Stefanie Lourenco**  
on Monday, B4, 16:50 on meson production in  $\bar{N}N$   
annihilation on nuclei

*Thank you for your attention !*

# Backup

Hyperon and kaon couplings – from a constituent quark model and G-parity (for antiparticles):

$$\begin{aligned} g_{\omega Y} = -g_{\omega \bar{Y}} &= \frac{2}{3} g_{\omega N}, & g_{\sigma Y} = g_{\sigma \bar{Y}} &= \frac{2}{3} g_{\sigma N}, \\ g_{\omega \Xi} = -g_{\omega \bar{\Xi}} &= \frac{1}{3} g_{\omega N}, & g_{\sigma \Xi} = g_{\sigma \bar{\Xi}} &= \frac{1}{3} g_{\sigma N}, \\ g_{\omega K} = -g_{\omega \bar{K}} &= \frac{1}{3} g_{\omega N}, & g_{\sigma K} = g_{\sigma \bar{K}} &= \frac{1}{3} g_{\sigma N} \end{aligned}$$

(J. Schaffner, I.N. Mishustin, 1996; G.E. Brown, M. Rho, 1996)

Schrödinger equivalent potentials (in MeV) at normal nuclear density:

$j$	$N$	$\Lambda$	$\Sigma$	$\Xi$	$K$	$\bar{N}$	$\bar{\Lambda}$	$\bar{\Sigma}$	$\bar{\Xi}$	$\bar{K}$
$U_j$	-46	-38	-39	-22	-18	-150	-449	-449	-227	-224

$$U_j = S_j + V_j^0 + \frac{S_j^2 - (V_j^0)^2}{2m_j},$$

$$S_N = -380 \text{ MeV}, \quad V_N^0 = 308 \text{ MeV}$$

## Statistical annihilation model

E.S. Golubeva, A.S. Iljinov, B.V. Krippa, I.A. Pshenichnov,  
NPA 537, 393 (1992);  
I.A. Pshenichnov, Doctoral thesis, INR, Moscow, 1998;  
+ some improvements for strangeness production  
in the present work

$\bar{N}N \rightarrow$  up to 6 mesons,  $\pi, \eta, \omega, \rho, K, \bar{K}, K^*, \bar{K}^*$

Probability:

$$W_n(\sqrt{s}, I_1, \dots, I_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n) = w_n(\sqrt{s}, I_1, \dots, I_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n) \\ \times a_\pi^{n_\pi} a_\eta^{n_\eta} a_\omega^{n_\omega} a_\rho^{n_\rho} a_K^{n_K + n_{\bar{K}}} a_{K^*}^{n_{K^*} + n_{\bar{K}^*}},$$

$I_1, \dots, I_n$  – isospins of produced mesons,

$Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  – hypercharges,

$a_\pi, a_\eta, \dots$  – SU(3) symmetry breaking constants.

$$w_n(\sqrt{s}; I_1, \dots, I_n; Y_1, \dots, Y_n) = V_n(\sqrt{s}) s_n \mathcal{M}_n(\sqrt{s}) \prod_{i=1}^n 2m_i \\ \times \sum_{(p,q)} K_{(p,q)}^2(I, I_3, Y) \mathcal{U}_n(p, q; I_1, \dots, I_n; Y_1, \dots, Y_n) .$$

$$V_n(\sqrt{s}) = (2m_N V_0 / \sqrt{s})^{n-1}$$

$V_0 \simeq 20 \text{ GeV}^{-3}$  — interaction volume

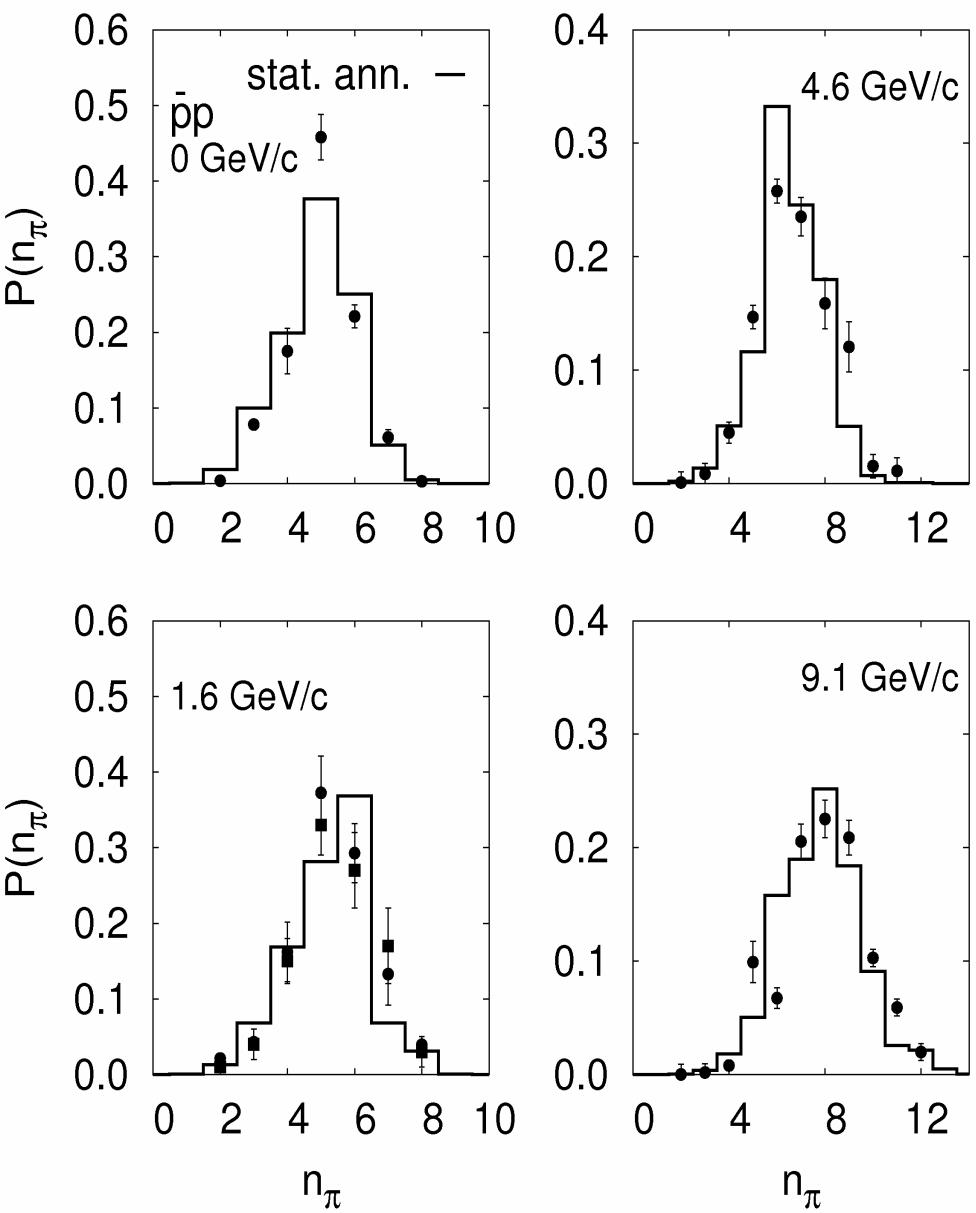
$s_n$  — spin factor,  $m_N$  — nucleon mass

$\mathcal{M}_n(\sqrt{s})$  --- Lorentz invariant phase space volume

$K_{(p,q)}^2(I, I_3, Y)$  --- decomposition coefficients of initial state of  $\bar{N}N$  system ( $I = 0, 1$ ;  $I_3 = 0, \pm 1$ ;  $Y = 0$ ) into a sum of irreducible representations  $(p,q)$  of the SU(3) group

$\mathcal{U}_n(p, q; I_1, \dots, I_n; Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$  --- isoscalar factor

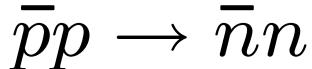
# Pion multiplicity distributions from $\bar{p}p$ annihilation



# $\bar{p}p$ cross sections

Elastic:  $\bar{p}p \rightarrow \bar{p}p$

Charge exchange:



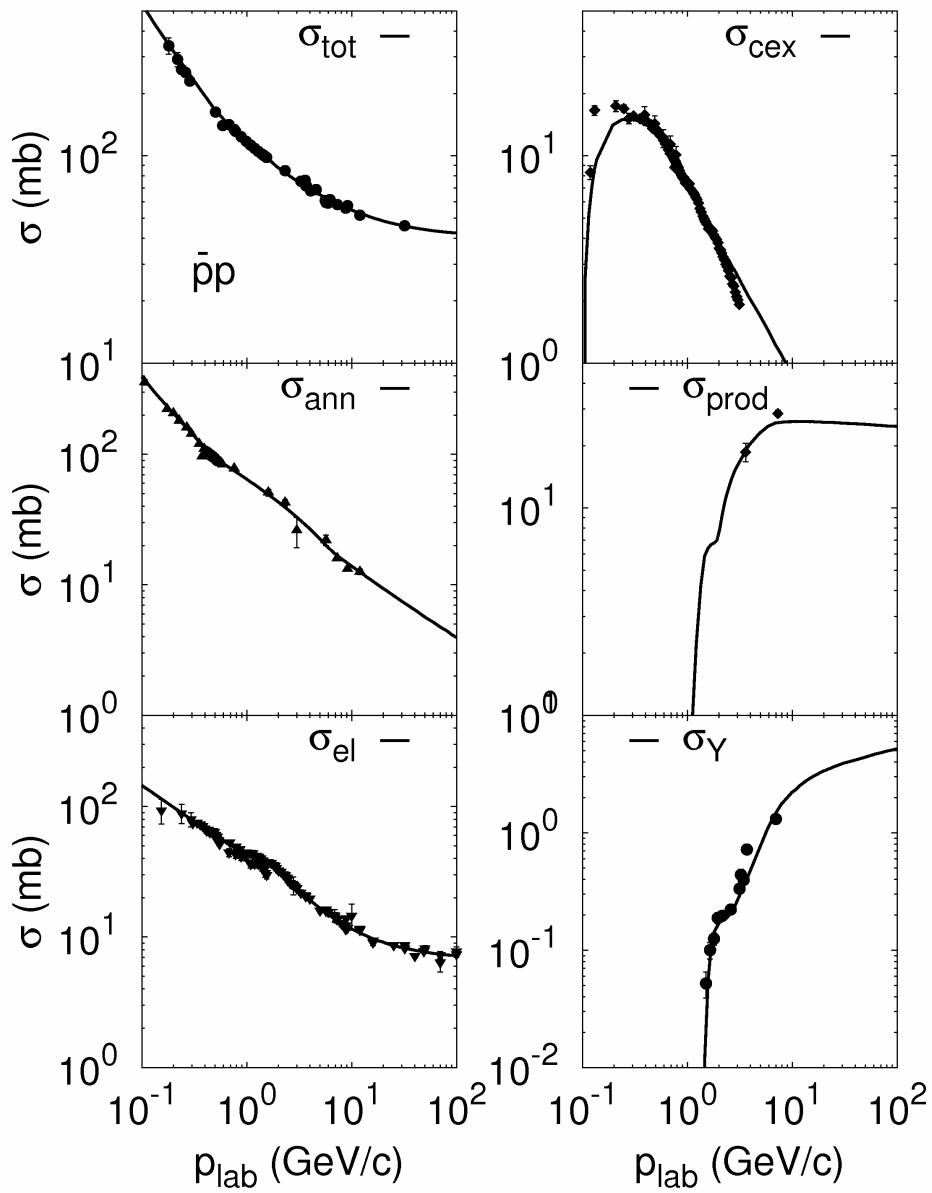
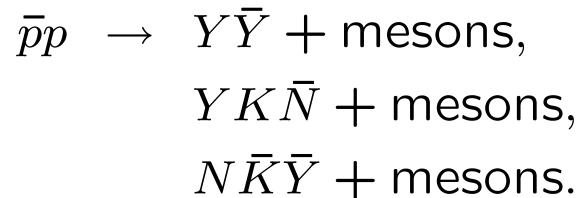
Annihilation:



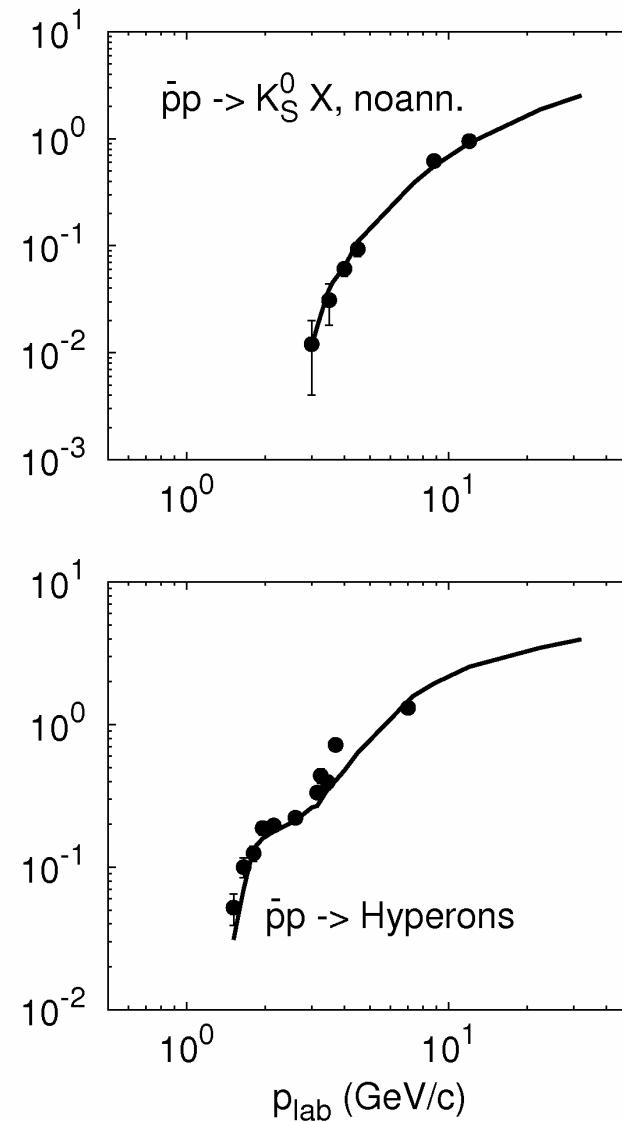
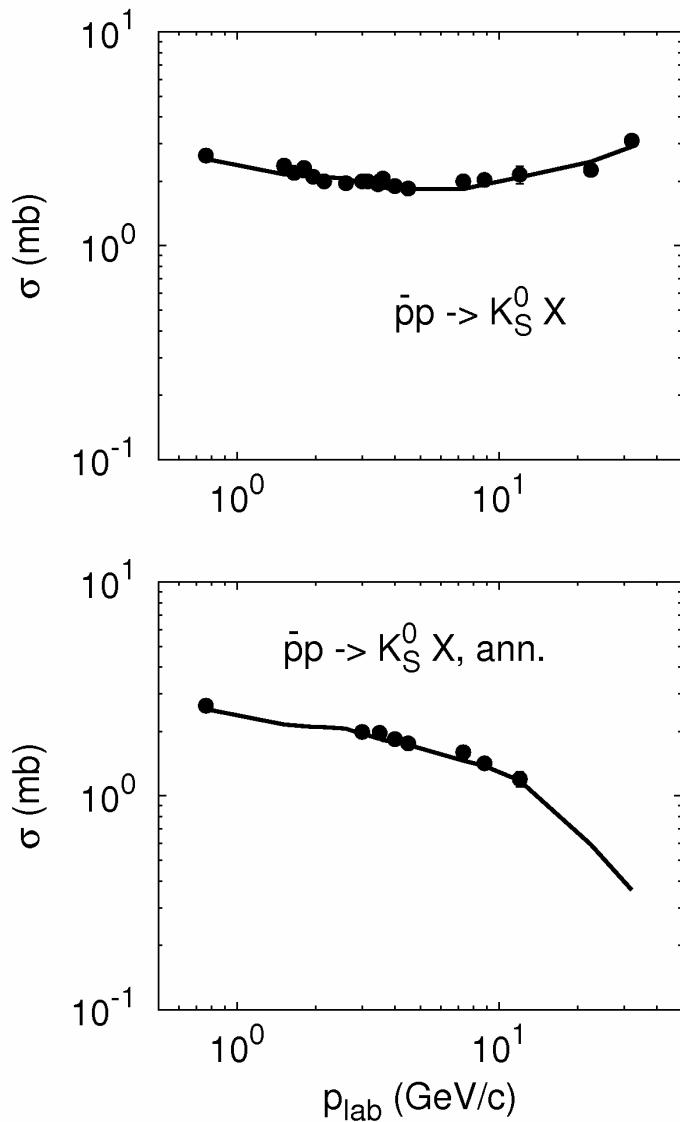
Production:



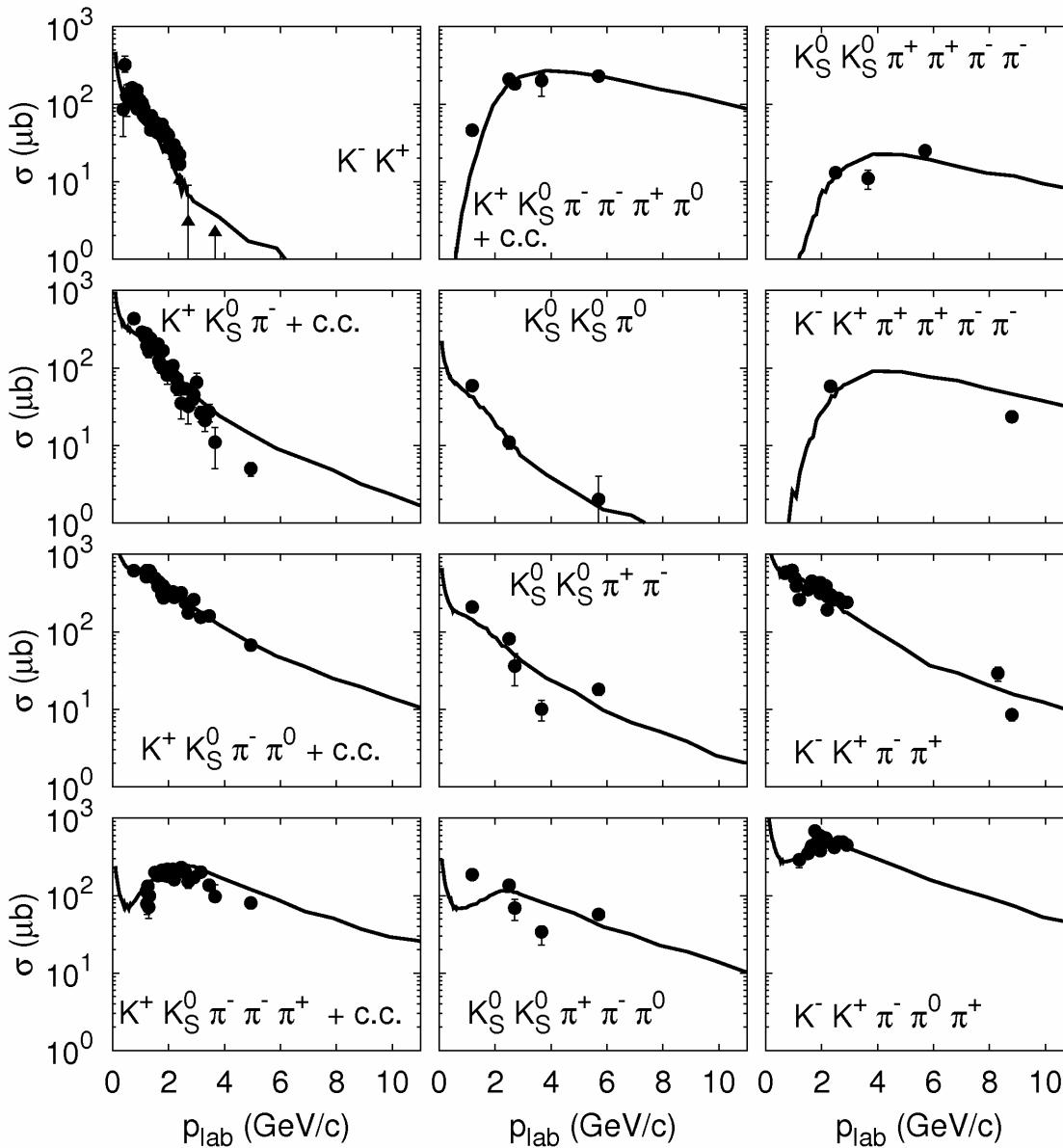
Hyperon production:



# Strangeness production in $\bar{p}p$ collisions



# Some exclusive $\bar{p}p$ annihilation channels to $K\bar{K}$

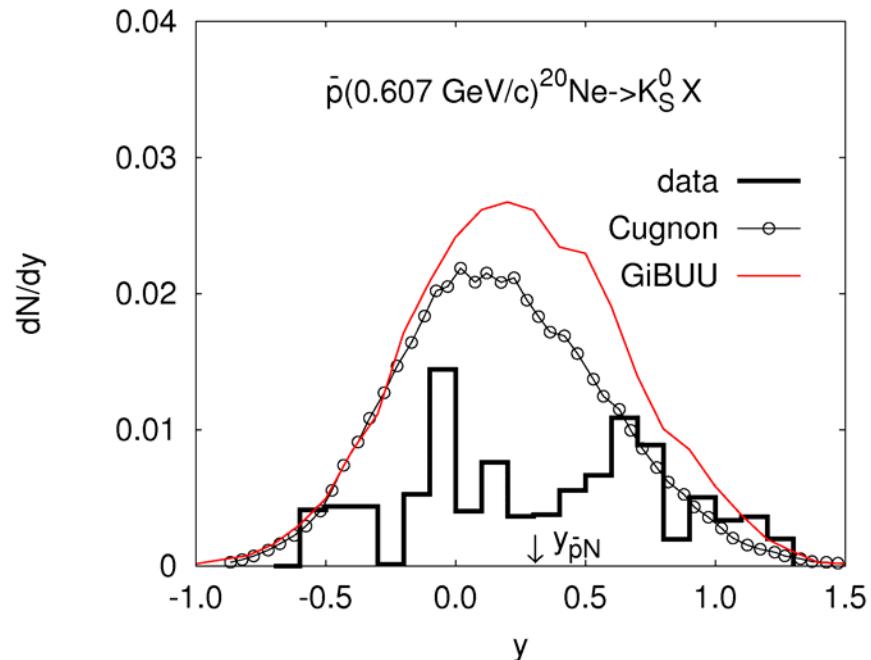
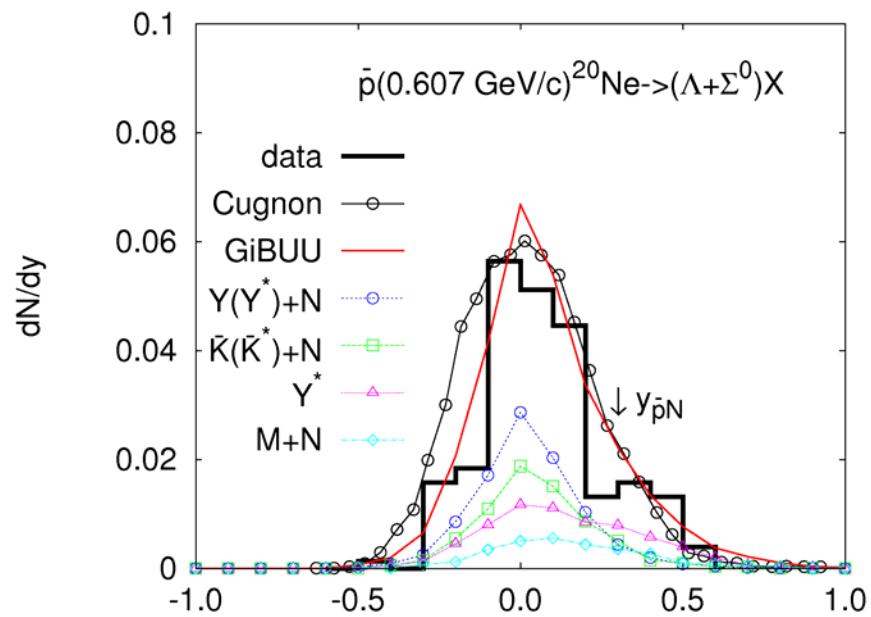


Rapidity distributions of  $\Lambda$  and  $K_S^0$  from  $\bar{p}(607 \text{ MeV}/c)^{20}\text{Ne}$ .

Data (LEAR): F. Balestra et al.,  
PLB 194, 192 (1987).

Intranuclear Cascade (INC)  
Model calculations from  
J. Cugnon et al.,  
PRC 41, 1701 (1990).

Hyperons are mostly produced  
in  $\bar{K}(\bar{K}^*)N$  collisions. **Hyperon  
rescattering with flavour/charge  
exchange very important**  
(e.g.  $\Sigma^+ n \rightarrow \Lambda p$  ).



# Rapidity distributions of $\Lambda$ and $K_S^0$ from $\bar{p}(4 \text{ GeV}/c)^{181}\text{Ta}$ with partial contributions from different reaction channels

$B \equiv N, \Delta, N^* \dots$

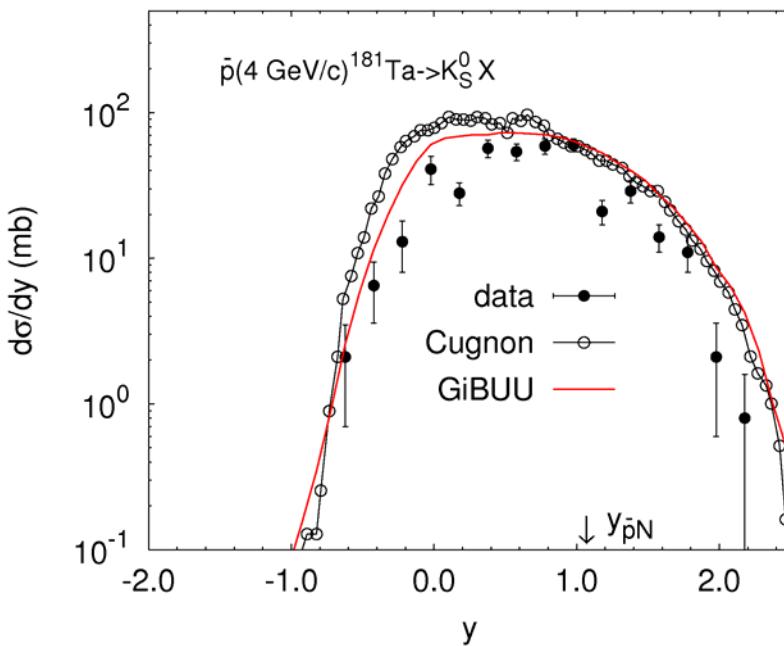
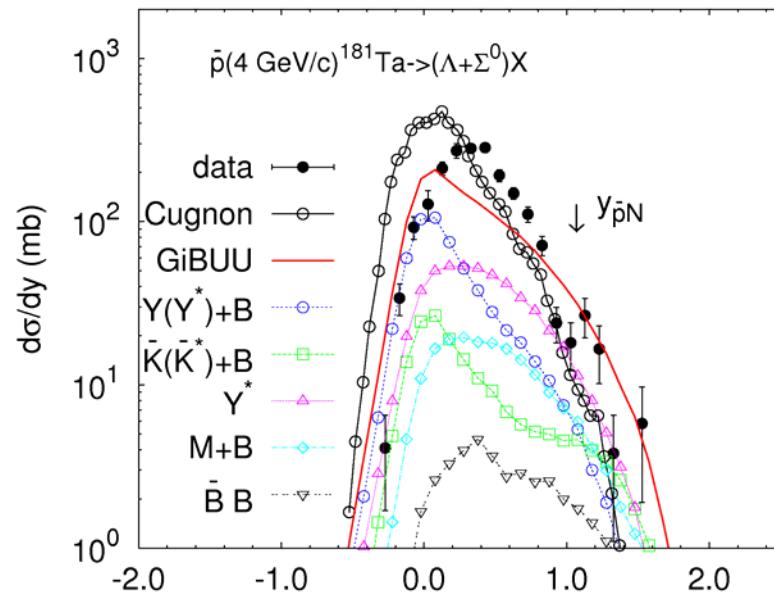
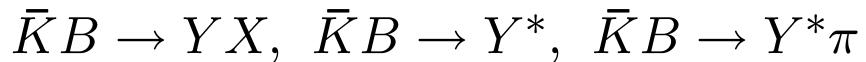
- nonstrange baryons,

$M \equiv \pi, \eta, \rho, \sigma, \omega, \eta'$

- nonstrange mesons

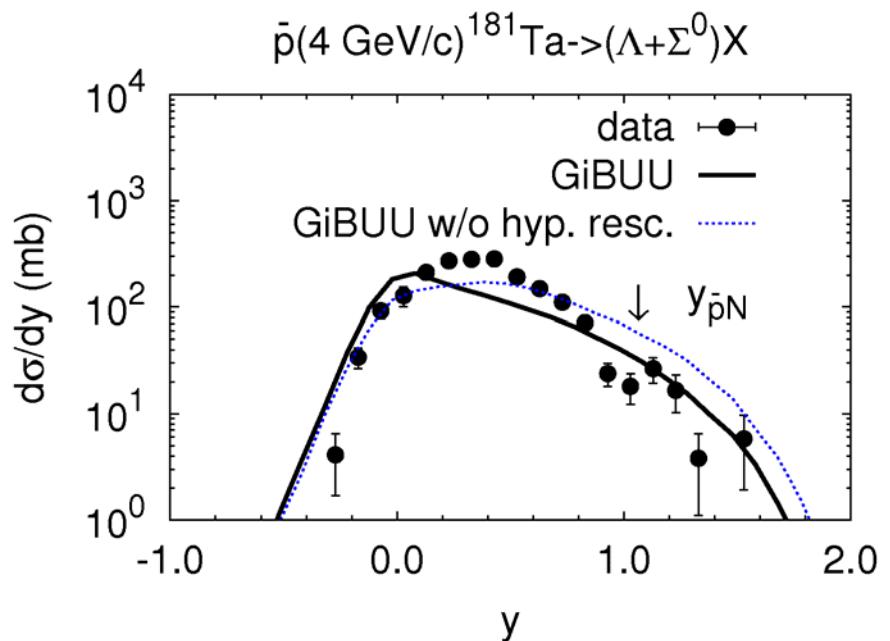
Data (KEK): [K. Miyano et al., PRC 38, 2788 \(1988\)](#).

~70-80% of the  $Y(Y^*)$  production rate is due to antikaon absorption



## Hyperon rapidity distribution:

Data (KEK): K. Miyano et al.,  
PRC 38, 2788 (1988).

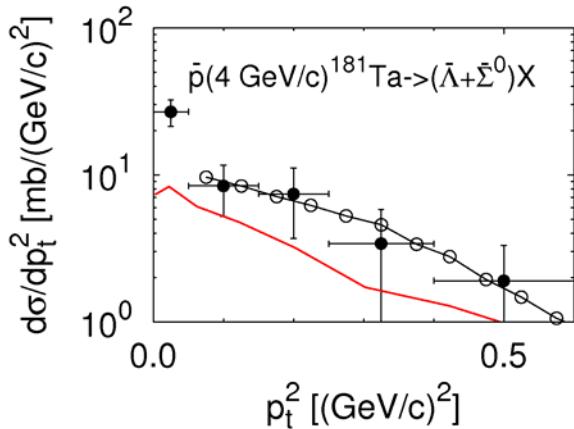
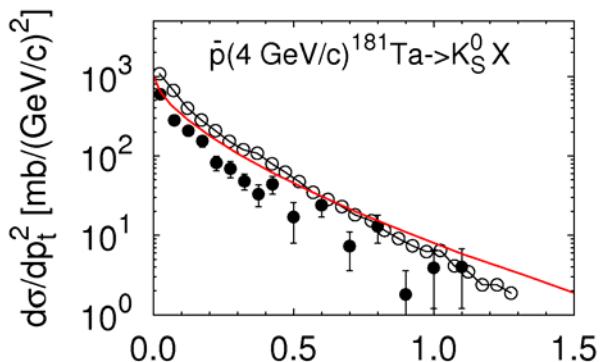
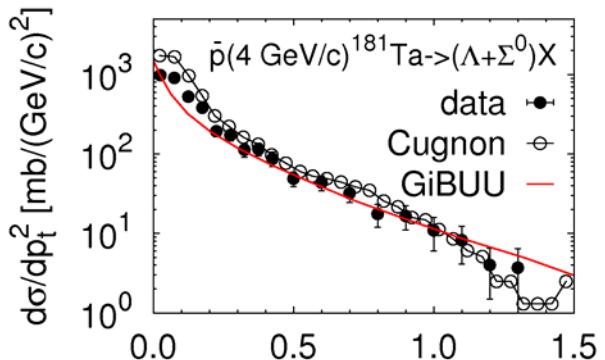


→ *Sensitivity to the hyperon-nucleon scattering cross sections*

# Transverse momentum distributions of $\Lambda$ , $K_S$ , and $\bar{\Lambda}$ from $\bar{p}(4 \text{ GeV}/c)^{181}\text{Ta}$

Data (KEK): K. Miyano et al.,  
PRC 38, 2788 (1988).

INC calculations from  
J. Cugnon et al.,  
PRC 41, 1701 (1990).



## $\Xi$ inclusive momentum spectrum with partial contributions

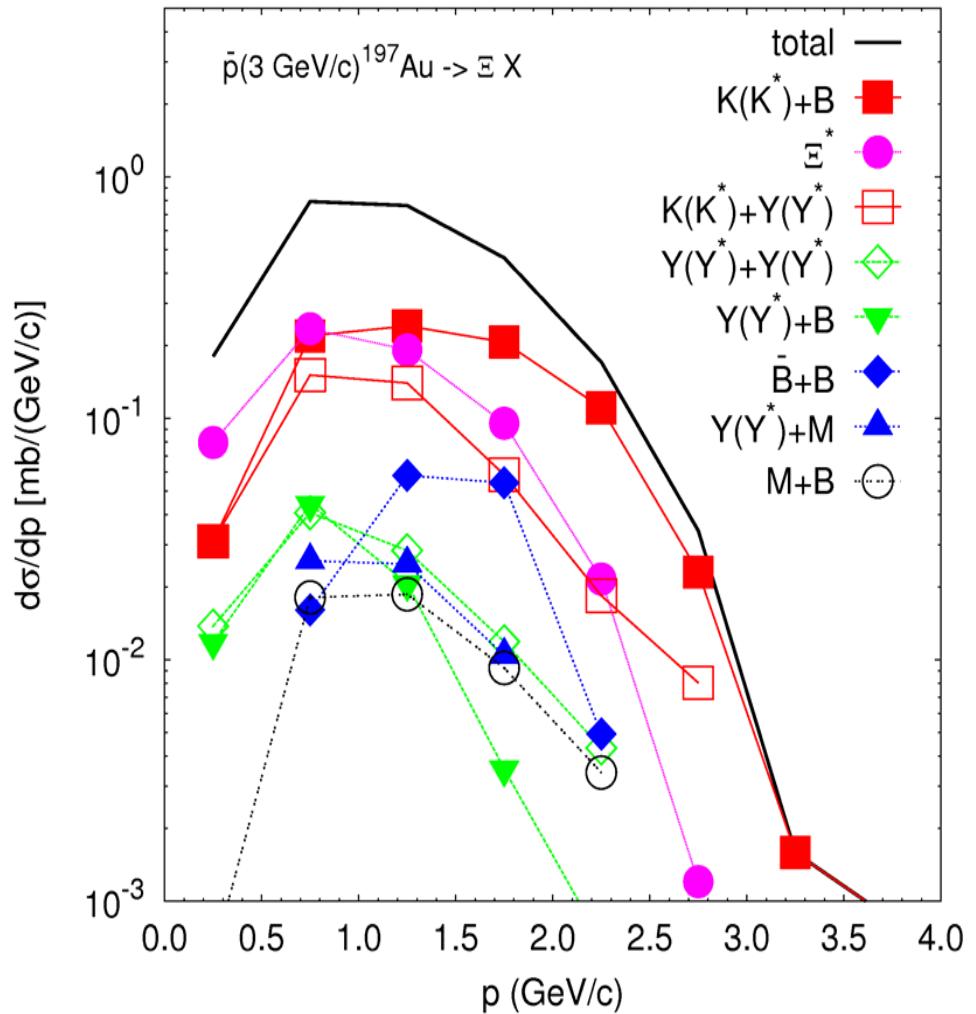
Partial contributions to the  
 $\Xi$  production rate:

$$K(K^*)B \rightarrow \Xi X \sim 35\%$$

$$\Xi^* \rightarrow \Xi\pi \sim 26\%$$

$$K(K^*)Y(Y^*) \rightarrow \Xi X \sim 17\%$$

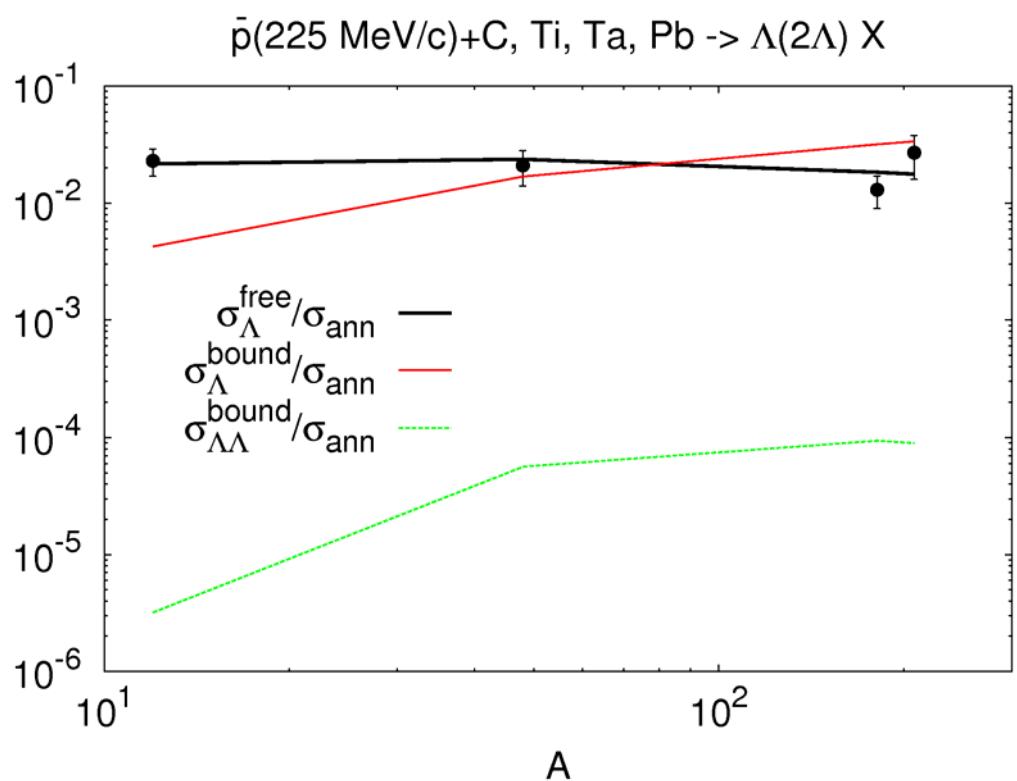
$$\bar{B}B \rightarrow \Xi X \sim 6\%$$



$\Lambda$  production from  
 $\bar{p}(0 - 450 \text{ MeV/c})^{12}\text{C}$ ,  
 $^{48}\text{Ti}$ ,  $^{181}\text{Ta}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$

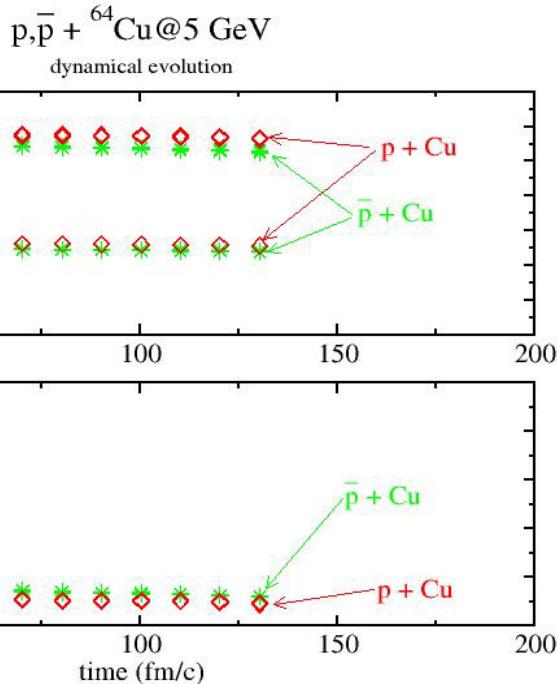
Data (BNL): G.T. Condo et al,  
PRC 29, 1531 (1984)

## Without SMM

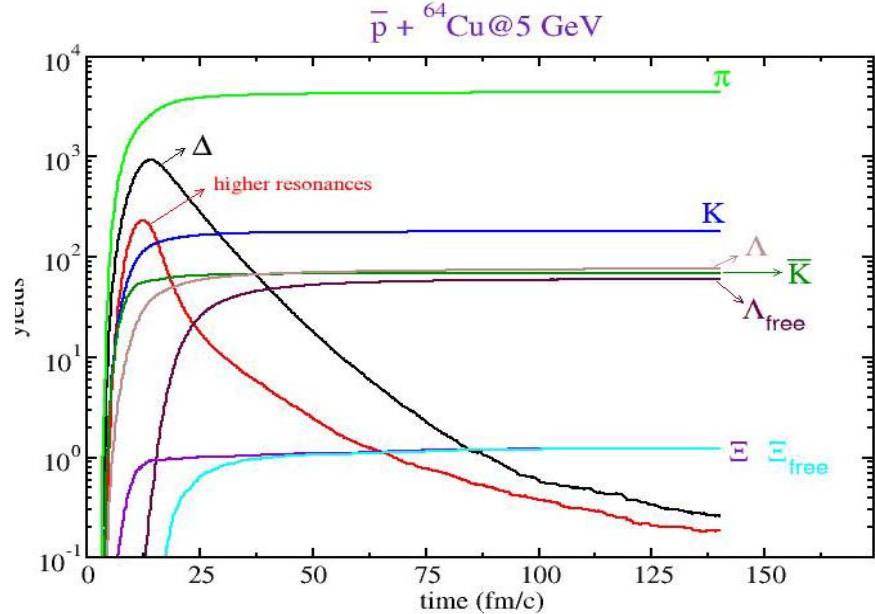


Good agreement with data on the yields of free  $\Lambda$ 's.  
Single (double)  $\Lambda$  hypernucleus formation probability reaches  
~3% (0.01%) for  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ .

## Source parameters



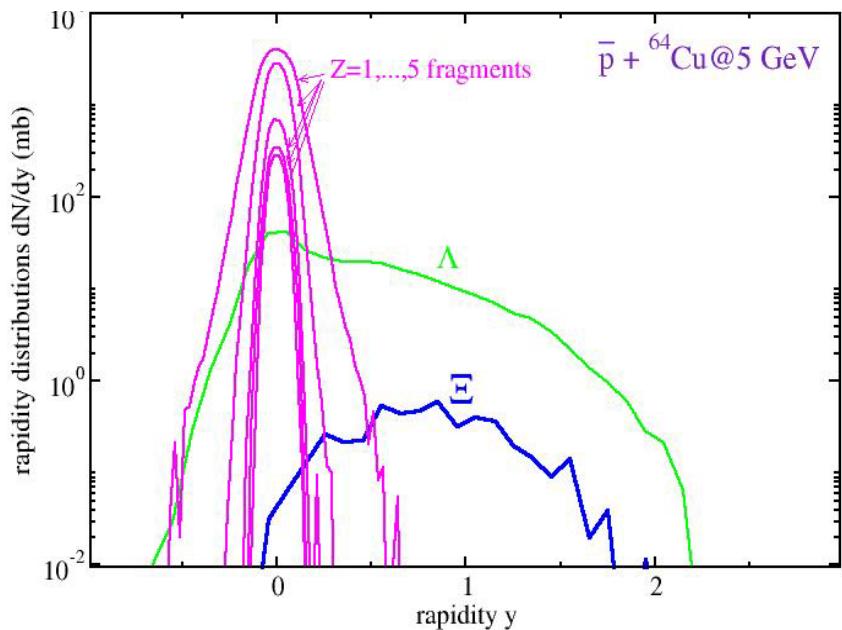
## Particle production



## Rapidity spectra

**Fragment and  $\Lambda$  spectra overlap at  $y \approx 0$ . Coalescence possible.**

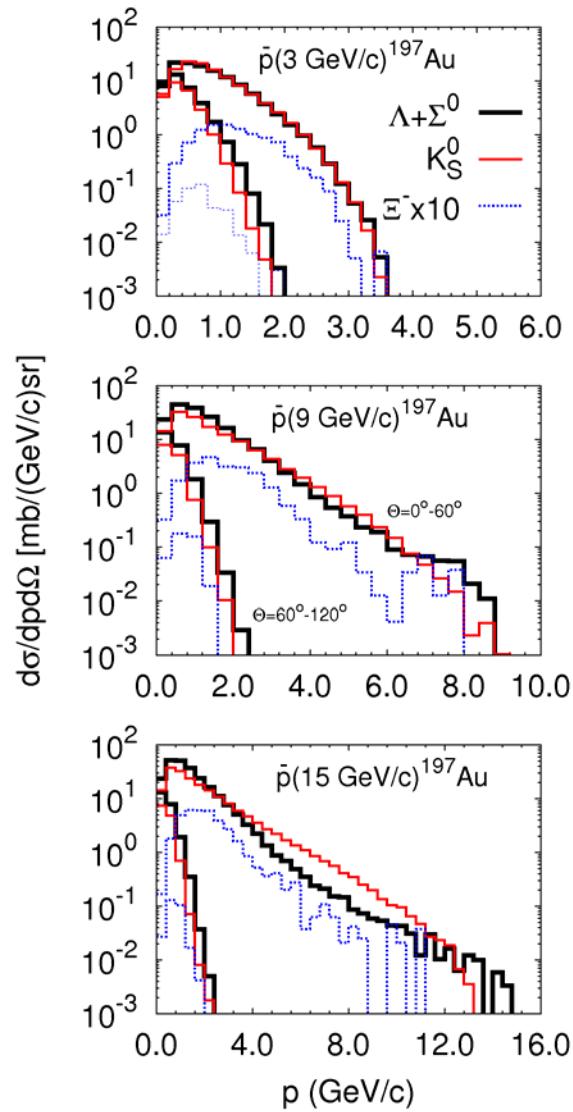
T. Gaitanos, A.L., H. Lenske, and U. Mosel,  
NPA 881, 240 (2012)



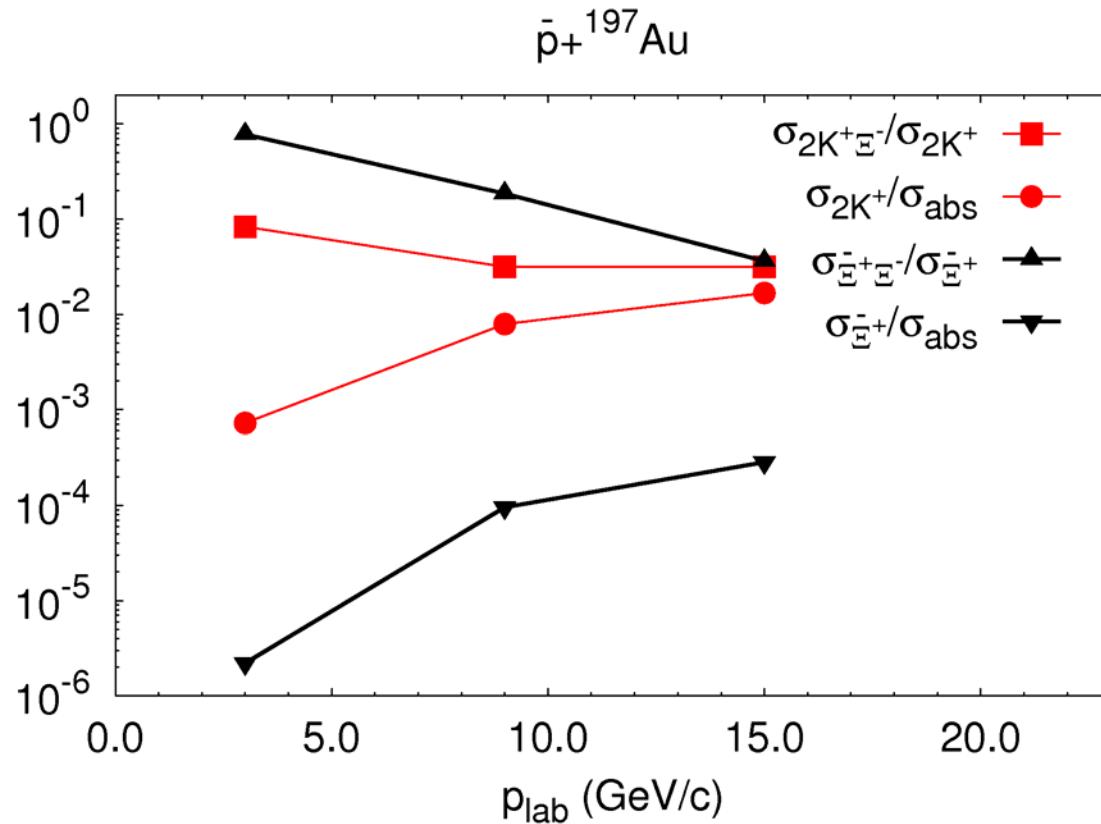
## Momentum spectra of produced strange particles.

Similar behaviour at large momenta for all particles.

$\Xi^-$  spectra are suppressed at low momenta.



## Triggering $\Xi^-$ :

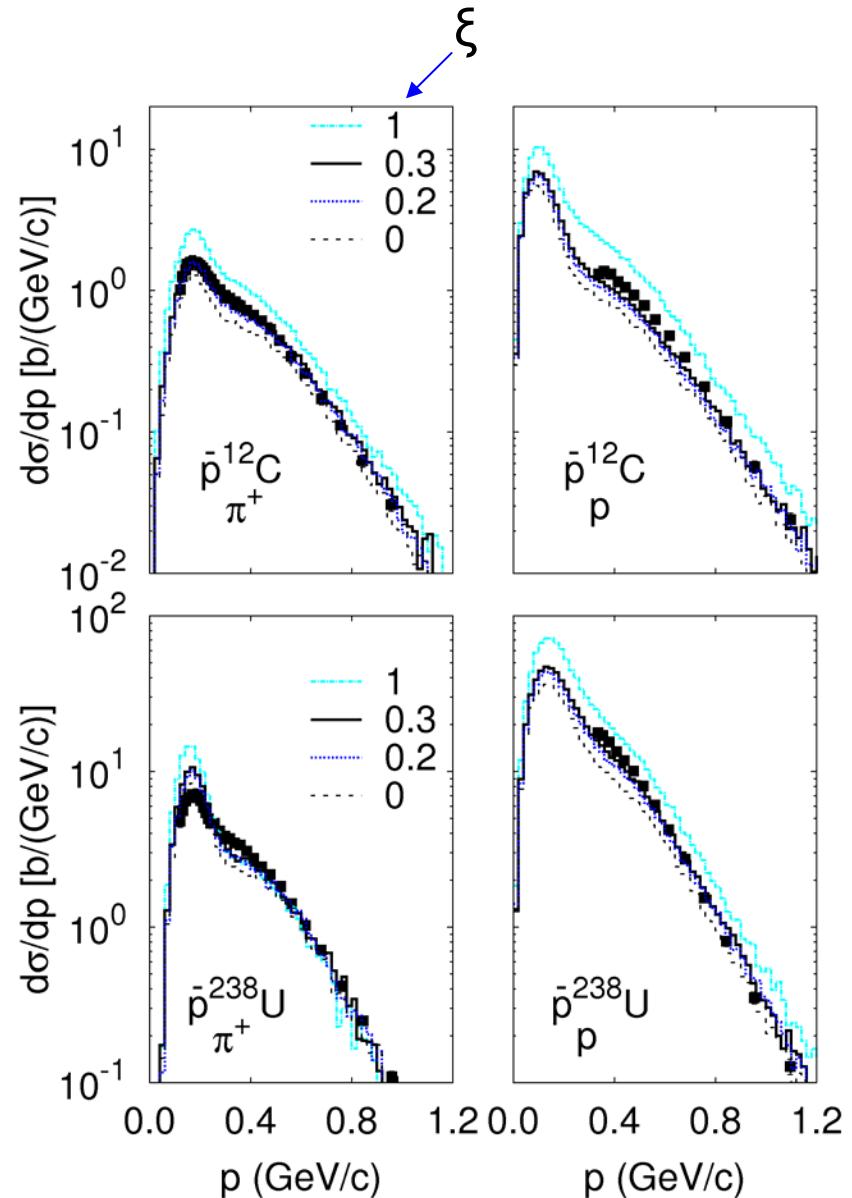


*Large background due to  $\pi, \eta, \rho, \omega + N \rightarrow YK$ .  
 $\Xi^+$ -trigger is much more selective near threshold  
 $(p_{\text{lab}}^{\text{thr}} = 2.6 \text{ GeV/c for } \bar{p}p \rightarrow \Xi^-\Xi^+)$  than  $2K^+$ -trigger.*

Momentum spectra of protons  
and pions for  $p_{\text{lab}}=608$  MeV/c.

Data (LEAR): P.L. McGaughey  
et al., PRL 56, 2156 (1986).

A weak sensitivity to the  $\bar{p}$   
mean field: best agreement for  
 $\xi \approx 0.3$ , or  $\text{Re}(V_{\text{opt}}) = -(220 \pm 70)$  MeV



Rapidity spectra of protons  
and pions for  $p_{\text{lab}} = 608 \text{ MeV}/c$ .

Data (LEAR): [P.L. McGaughey et al., PRL 56, 2156 \(1986\)](#).

