

Status of the search for kaonic clusters in heavy ion collisions with FOPI

Introduction

strangeness in dense baryonic matter
kaonic cluster production in HI collisions

Experimental details

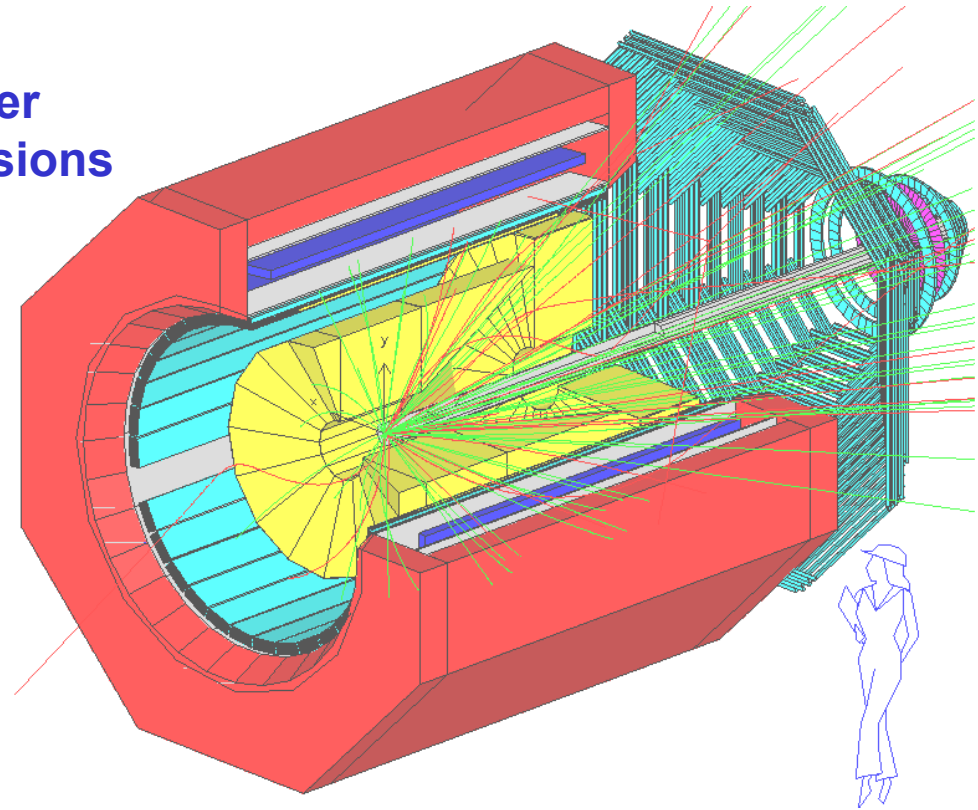
kaon flow
event mixing technique

Correlation Results

$\Lambda + p$ - correlations
 $\Lambda + \pi$ - correlations
($\Lambda + d$ - correlations)

Outlook

Conclusions

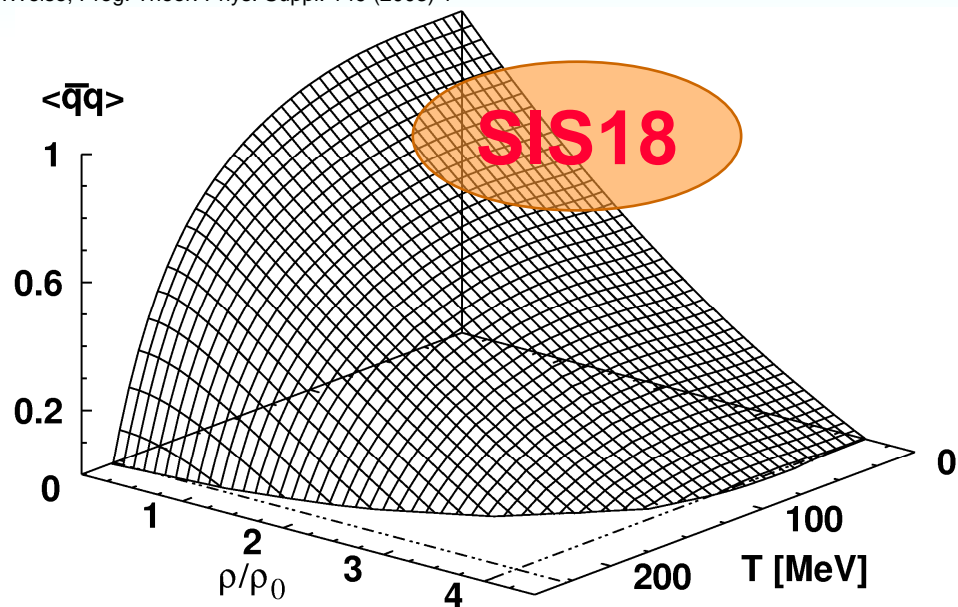


IPNE Bucharest, Romania
CRIP/KFKI Budapest, Hungary
LPC Clermont-Ferrand, France
GSI Darmstadt, Germany
FZ Rossendorf, Germany
Univ. of Warsaw, Poland
IMP Lanzhou, China
SMI, Vienna, Austria

ITEP Moscow, Russia
Kurchatov Institute Moscow, Russia
Korea University, Seoul, Korea
IREs Strasbourg, France
Univ. of Heidelberg, Germany
RBI Zagreb, Croatia
TUM, Munich, Germany

Hadrons in Medium

W.Weise, Prog. Theor. Phys. Suppl. 149 (2003) 1



**Modified properties of hadrons
in dense baryonic matter?**

$M^*(\rho)$ (mass)
 $\Gamma^*(\rho)$ (width)
 $\sigma^*(\rho)$ (cross section)

GOR – relation: $m_\pi^2 f_\pi^2 = - \langle m_q \rangle \langle \bar{q}q \rangle$

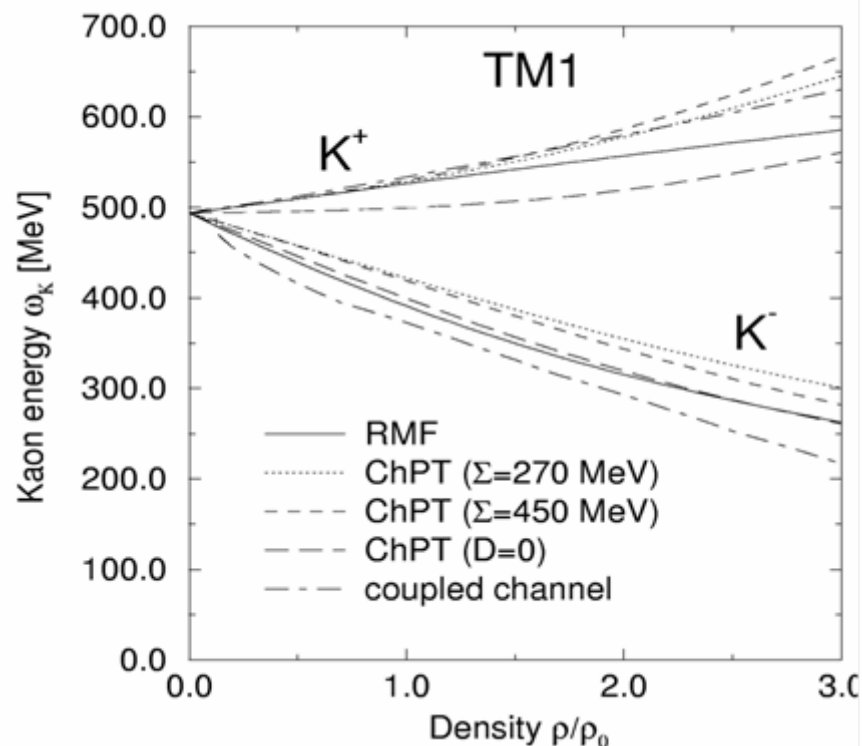
**In-medium effects in finite systems:
'Trivial'**

- Fermi motion
- Pauli blocking
- Collisional broadening

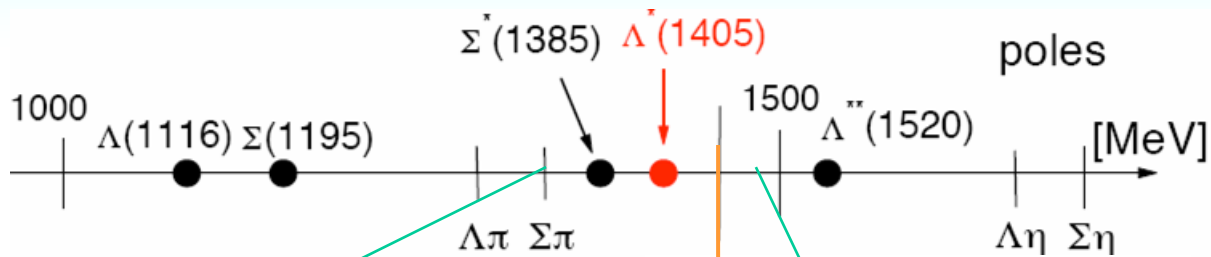
'Non-trivial'

- Partial restoration of chiral symmetry
- Meson – baryon coupling
- Bound states

in-medium kaon energy



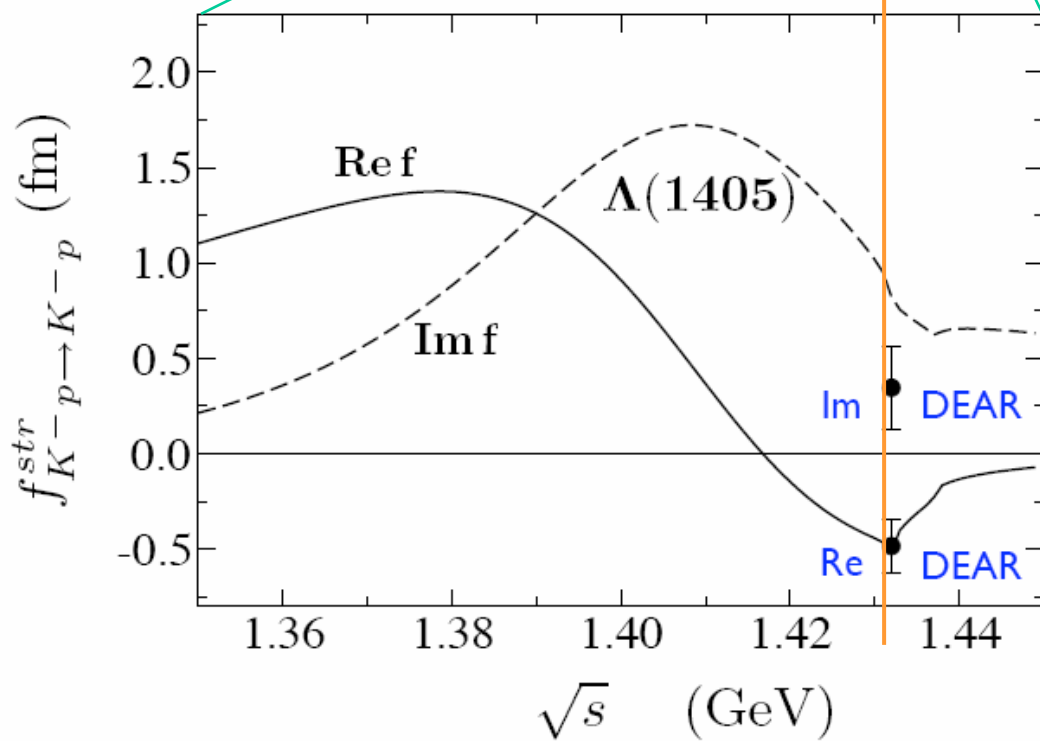
$\bar{K}N$ – interaction



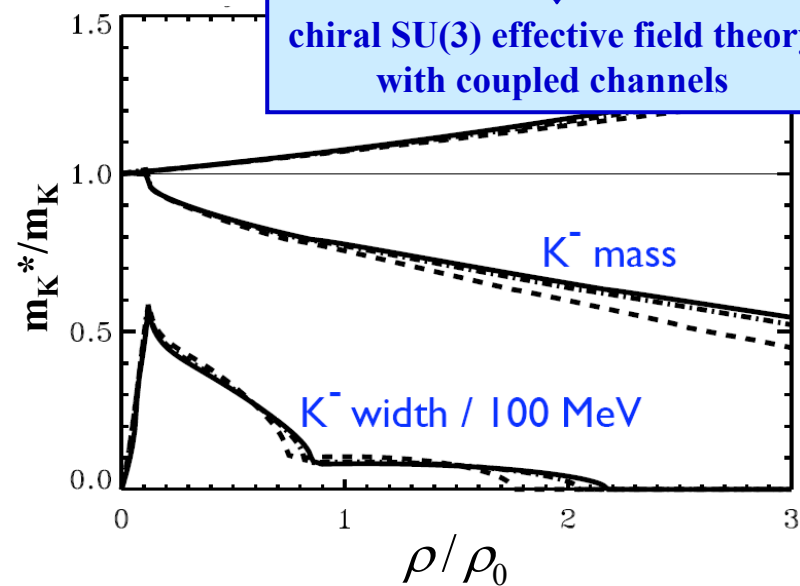
$$\sqrt{s} = \omega + m_N$$

↑
 \bar{K} - energy

Scattering amplitude f



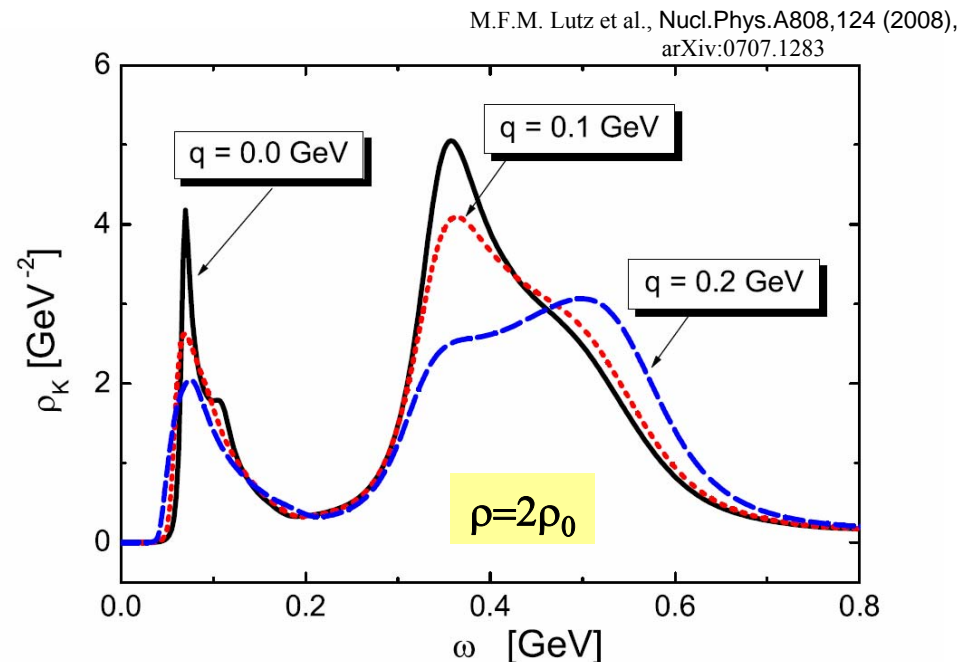
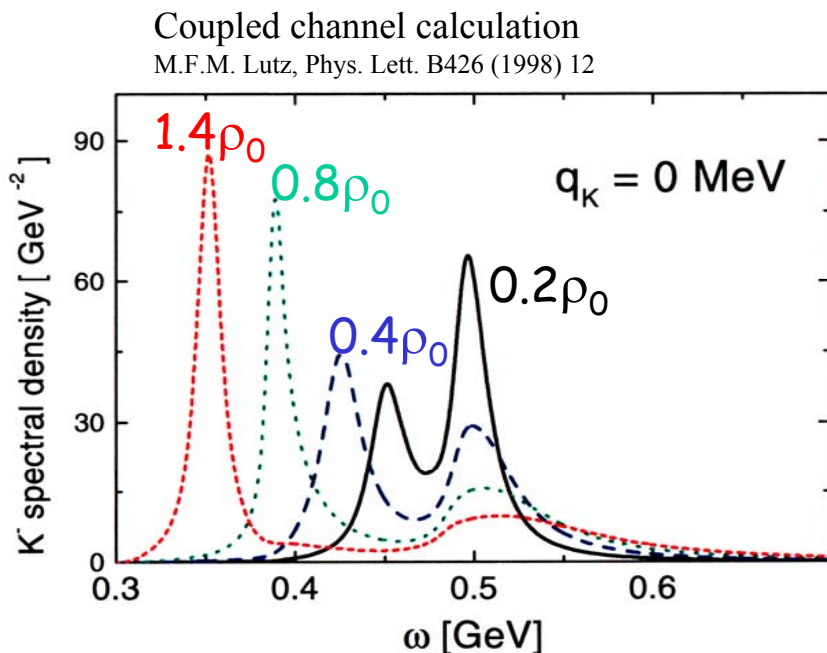
due to presence of resonances
 ↓
 non - perturbative problem
 ↓
 chiral SU(3) effective field theory
 with coupled channels



Summary: $\bar{K}N$ – interaction is attractive at finite densities, but strength (depth of potential) is unclear

Kaons in hadronic matter

spectral function of antikaons in dense matter



$$\omega_{K^\pm}(p, \rho) = \underbrace{\left(m^{*2} + p^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}}_{\text{effective mass}} = \underbrace{U + \left(m_K^2 + p^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}}_{\text{Kaon potential}}$$

~~Production:~~

~~$P \sim \exp(-m^*/T)$~~

~~→ K-yields~~

Propagation:

$F = -\nabla U$

→ K-flow

Bound states:

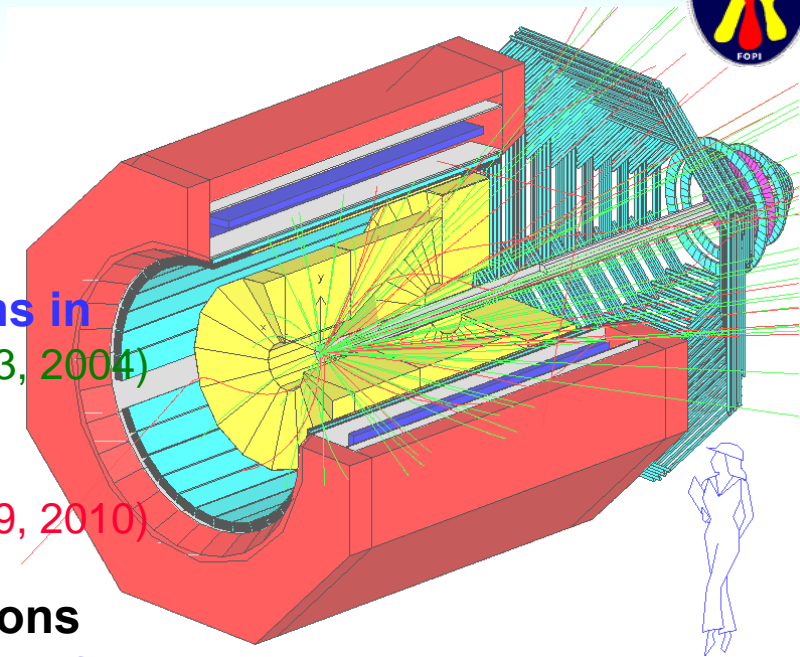
$B = \sum_i m_i - \sum_i m_i^*$

→ Search for $\Lambda + X$ states

Reference data from elementary reactions

K^0 , Λ production and phase space distributions in
 $\pi^- + C, Al, Cu, Sn, Pb$ @ 1.15 GeV/c, (S273, 2004)

K^0 , K^+ , K^- , ϕ , Λ production in
 $\pi^- + LH_2, C, Pb$ @ 1.7 GeV/c, (S339, 2010)



Systematics of strangeness data from heavy-ion reactions

K^0 , K^+ , K^- , ϕ , K^* , Λ , $\Sigma^*(1385)$ production and kaon flow
 Search for kaonic bound states

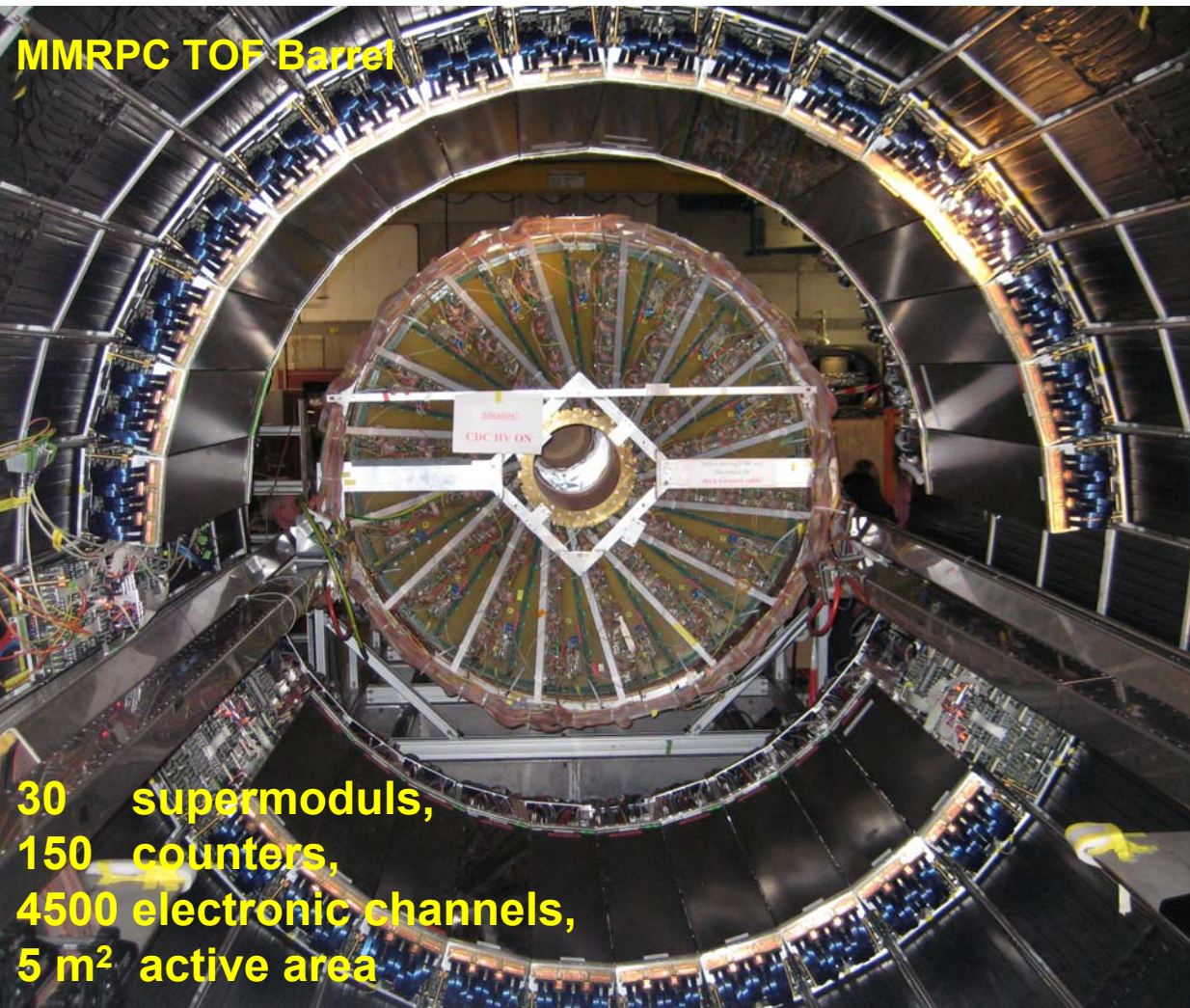
System	beam energy	events	(proposal, year)
Ni + Ni	1.93 AGeV,	100M	(S261, 2003)
Al + Al	1.91 AGeV,	200M	(S297, 2005)
Ni + Ni	1.91 AGeV,	80M	(S325, 2008)
Ni + Pb	1.91 AGeV,	100M	(S338, 2009)
Ru+ Ru	1.7 AGeV,	210M	(S338, 2009)

Search for exotica in elementary reaction

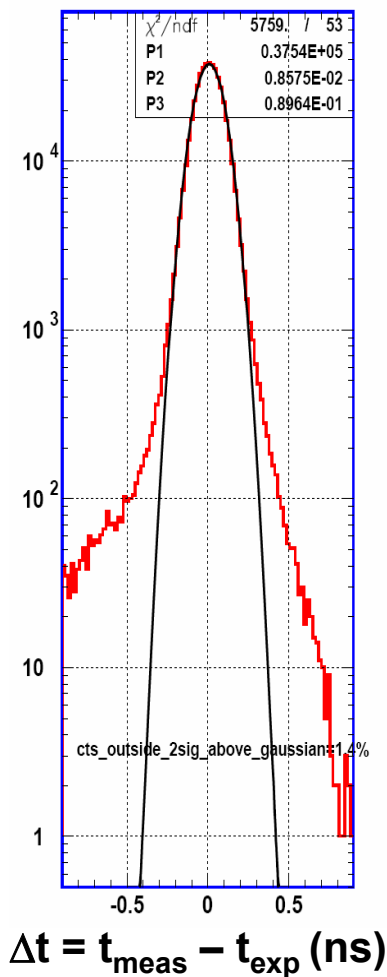
existence of ppK^- - bound state

$p + p$ 3 GeV, 80M (S349, 2009)

FOPI III (2008 – 2010) with improved PID



Time resolution from
fast pion tracks ($p_{\text{lab}} > 0.5 \text{ GeV}/c$)

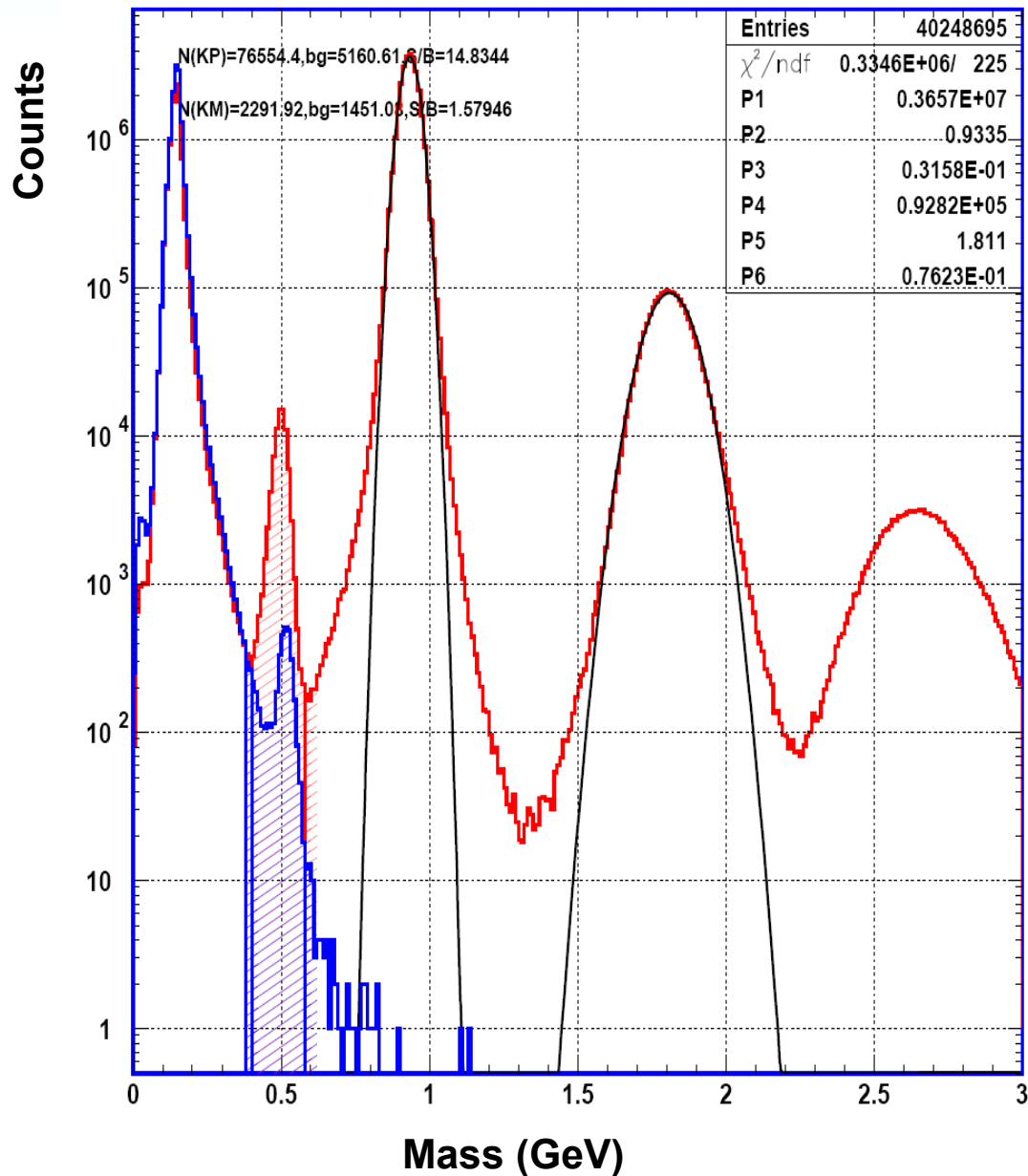


Performance:

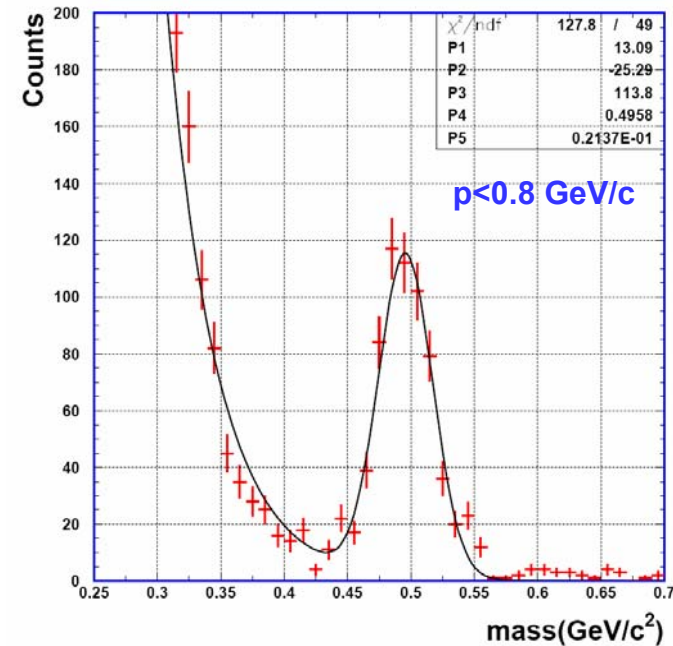
$\sigma_{\text{system}} \sim 90 \text{ ps}$

$\sigma_{\text{RPC}} \sim 65 \text{ ps}$

PID with FOPI III



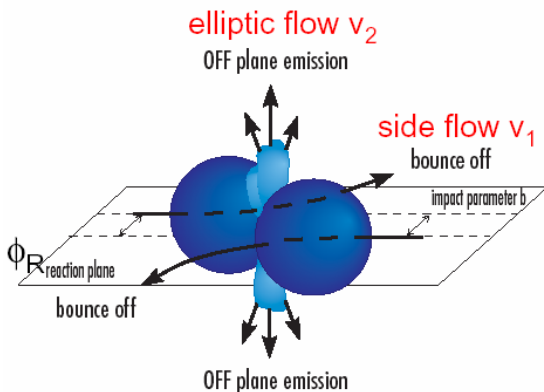
**K⁻ - PID:
S/B > 10**



**Significant improvement of
Signal-over-Background (S/B) ratio.**

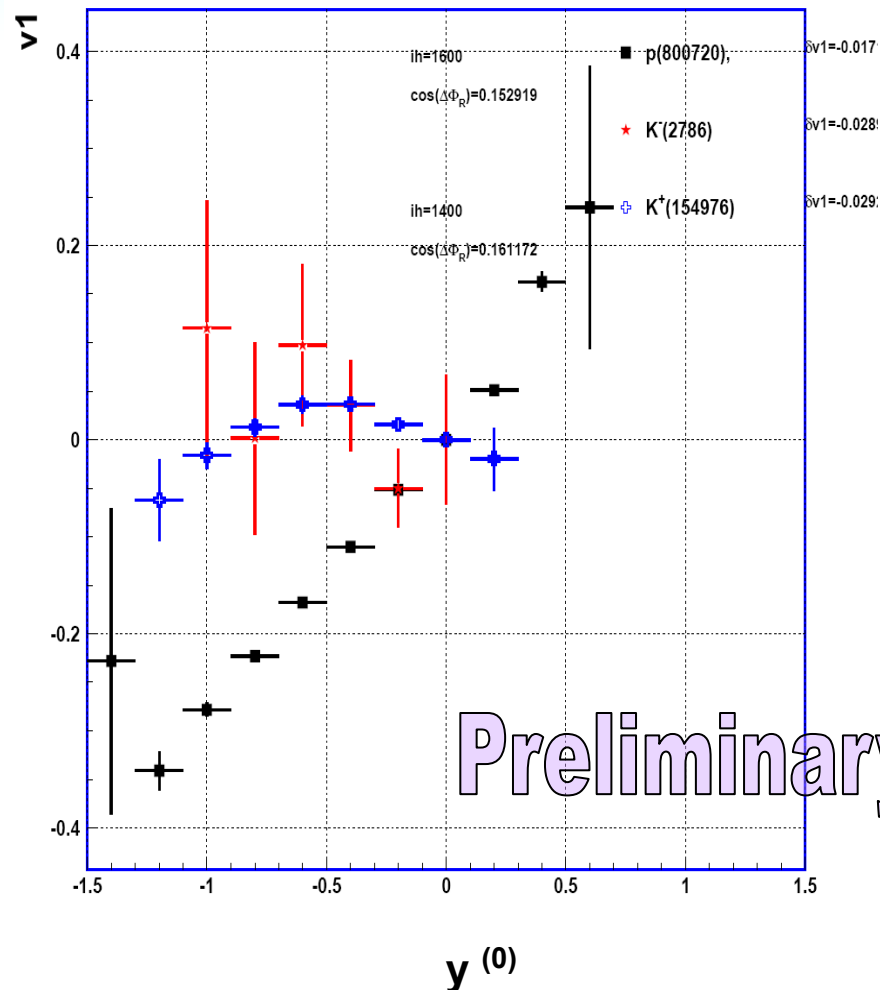
Extension of Phase-space with TOF - PID

Kaon – flow measurements

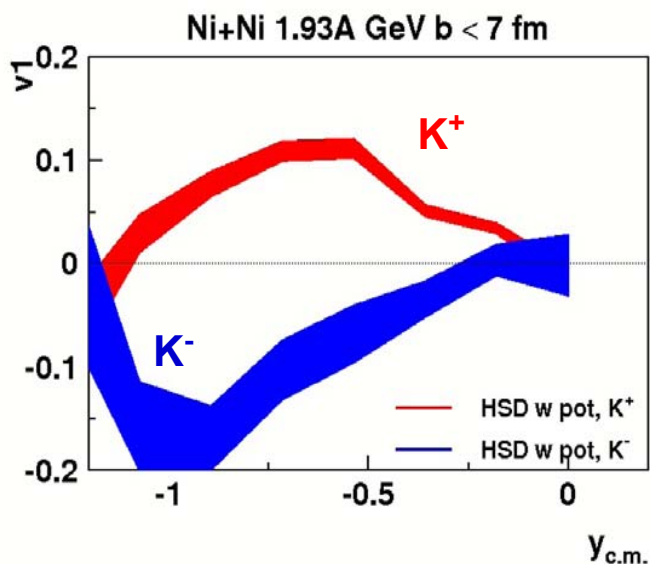


directed flow:

Ni+Ni @ 1.91 AGeV
(2008 data)
 $\sigma_{\text{trig}}/\sigma_{\text{reac}}=40\%$



Theoretical expectation (HSD)



For K⁻ no consistent description yet by transport models.
HSD – E. Bratkovskaya et al. (Frankfurt, Giessen)
IQMD – C. Hartnack et al. (Nantes)

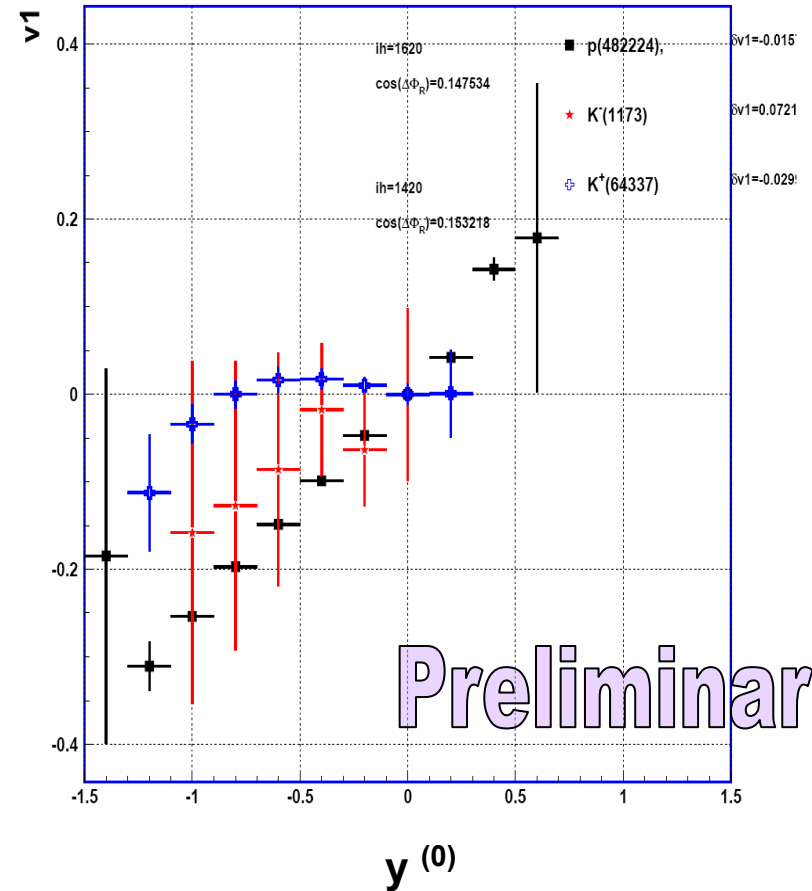
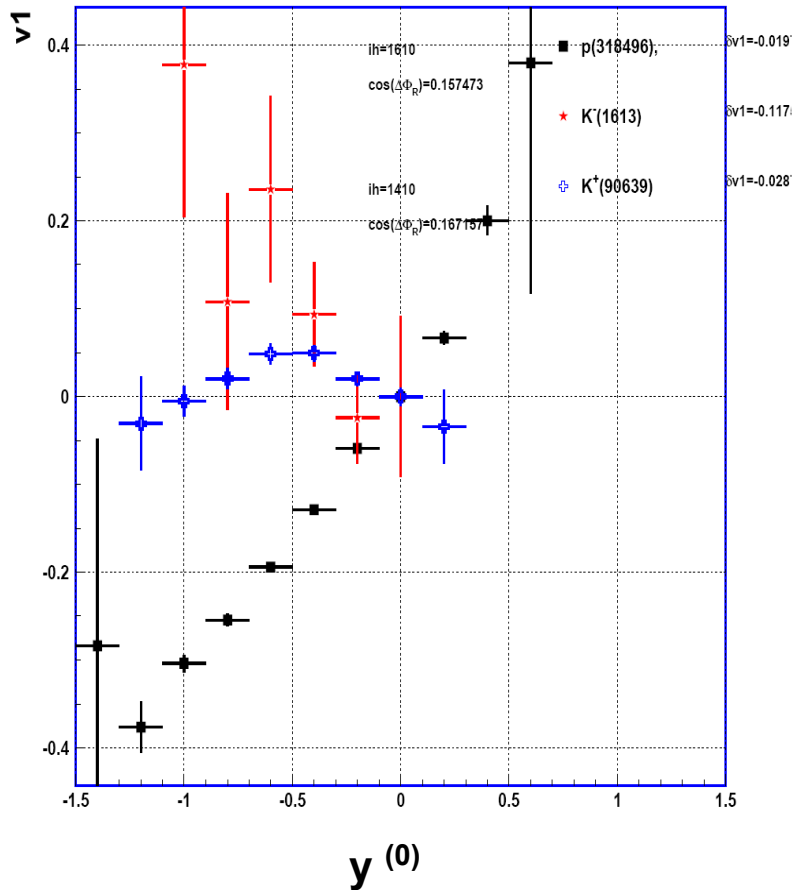
Centrality dependence of Kaon flow



Ni + Ni at 1.91 AGeV
(2008 data)

peripheral

central



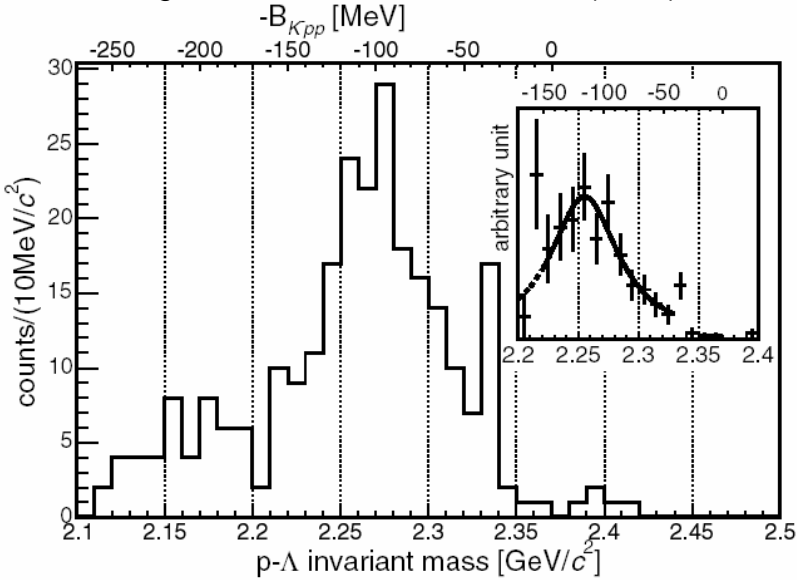
Preliminary

**Very strong centrality dependence of directed sideflow of K^- ,
 K^- - interaction not properly modeled yet within transport models.**

Evidence for $(ppK^-)_{\text{bound}}$

FINUDA @ DaΦne

M. Agnello et al., PRL 94, 212303 (2005)



$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \Phi \rightarrow K^+K^-$$

$$K^- + \Lambda \rightarrow (ppK^-) + X \rightarrow \Lambda + p + X$$

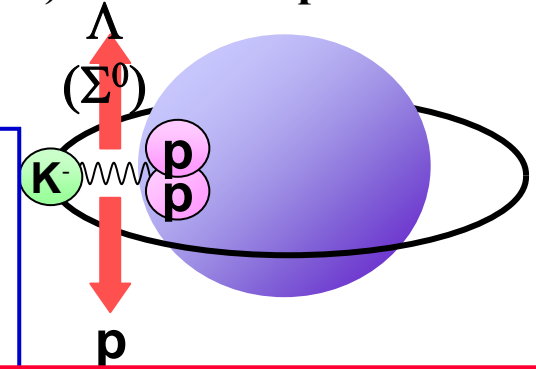
Production probability:

P·BR = 0.1% per stopped K⁻

Peak parameter:

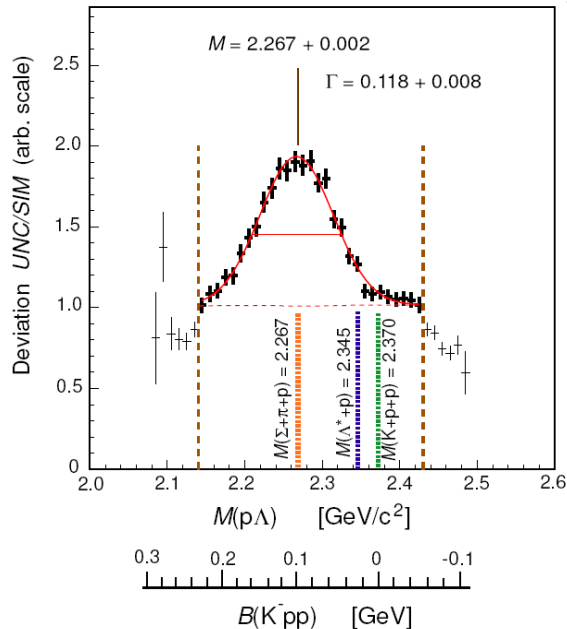
$$M = 2.255 \pm 0.009 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\Gamma = 67^{+14+2}_{-11-3} \text{ MeV}$$



**Controversial interpretation:
2N absorption + rescattering**

V.K. Magas, E. Oset, et al., nucl-th/0601013



Reanalysis of old DISTO data:

T. Yamazaki, et al., Exa2008, Vienna, Sep. 2008, arXiv:0810.5182 (nucl-ex)

$$p + p \rightarrow K^+ + X \rightarrow K^+ + \Lambda + p \text{ at } 2.85\text{GeV}$$

Production probability:

$$X / \Lambda = 0.1$$

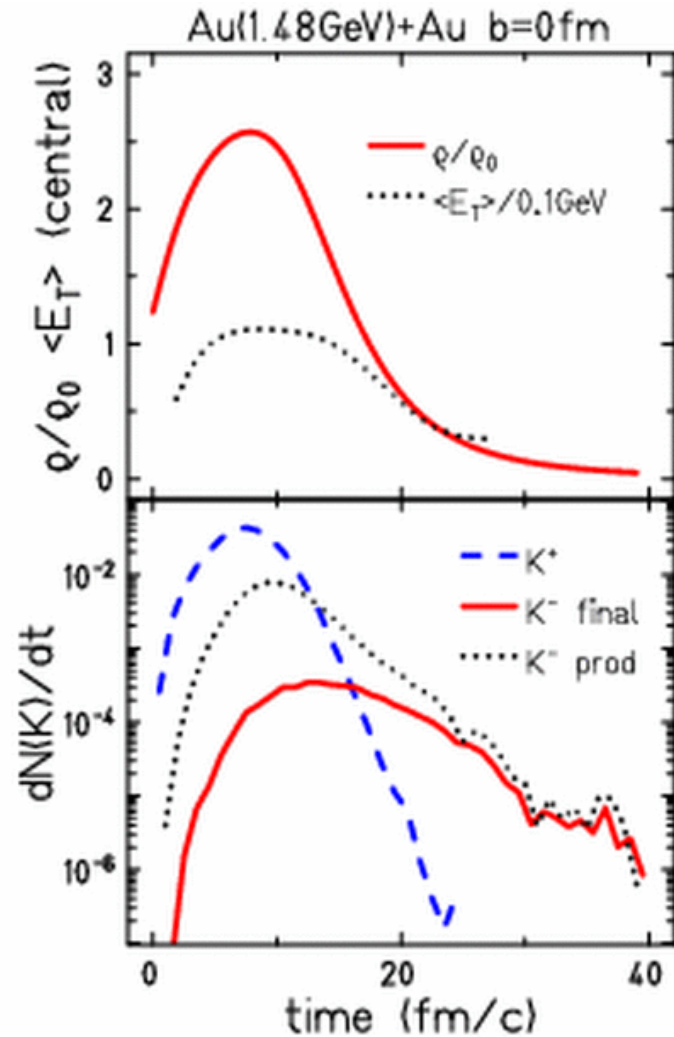
Peak parameter:

$$M = 2.265 \pm 0.002 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\Gamma = 118 \pm 0.008 \text{ MeV}$$

Antikaon Cluster Production in HI collisions

IQMD, C.Hartnack, Nantes



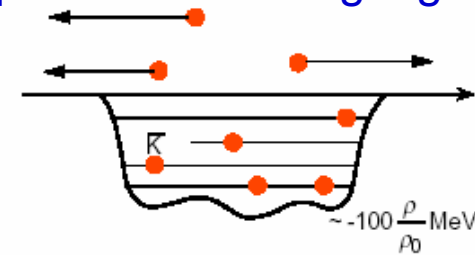
Central density in HI collisions
from transport model calculations:

$$\rho_{\text{max}} = 2-3 \cdot \rho_0$$

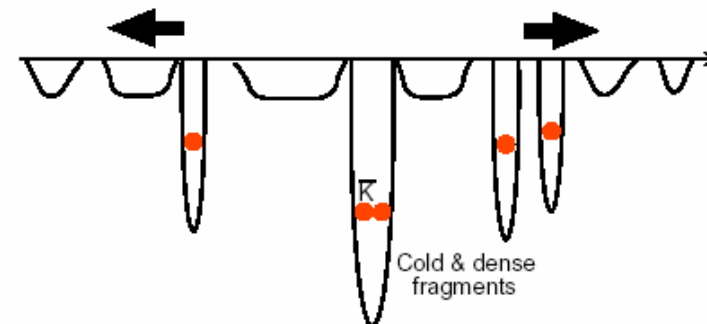
Possible mechanism for cluster formation:

T.Yamazaki et al., NPA738,168 (2004)

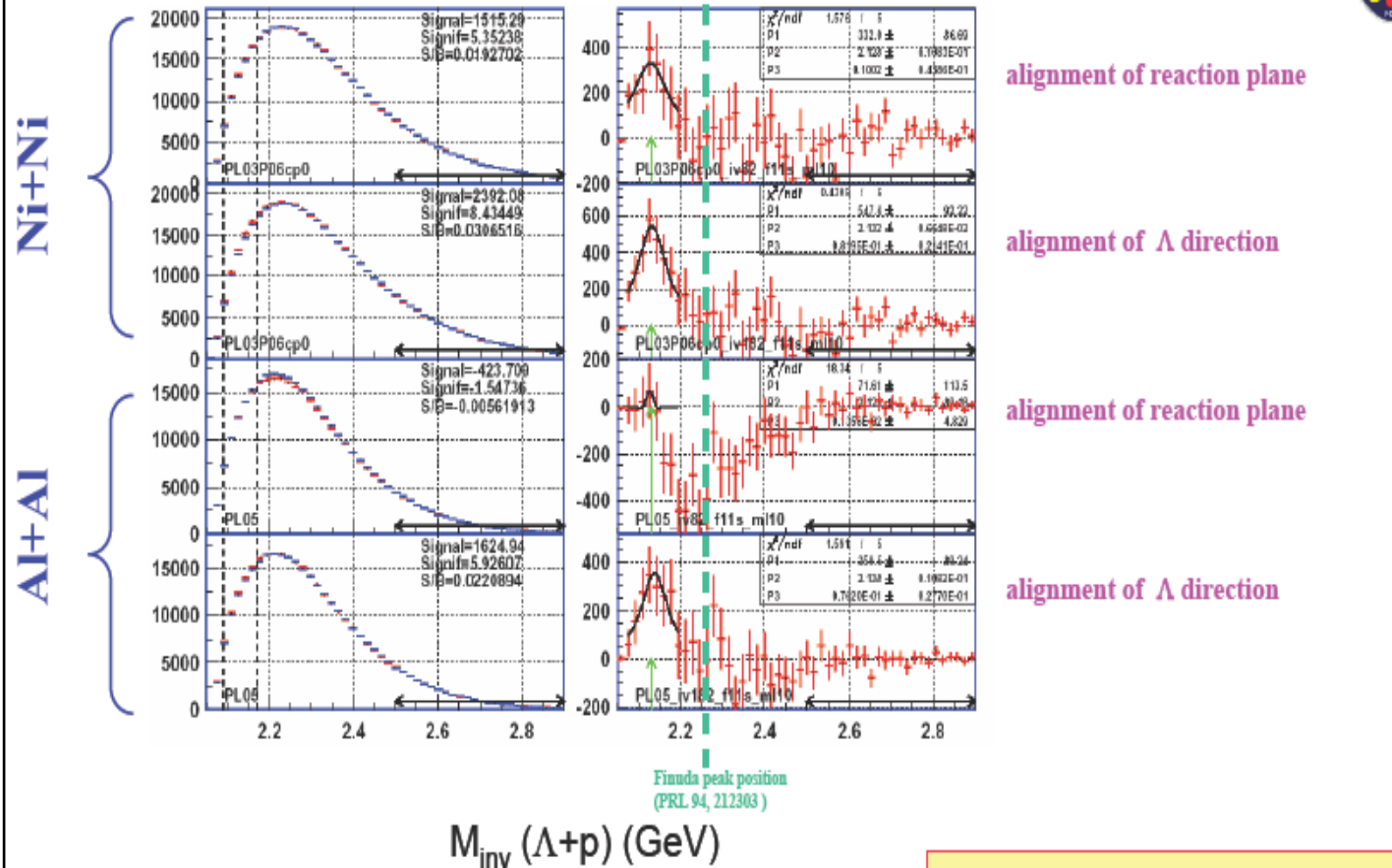
1) Kaon production during high density phase



2) capture of K^- in deep trapping centers



Dibaryons: Ni (2003) – Al (2005) comparison



Literature:

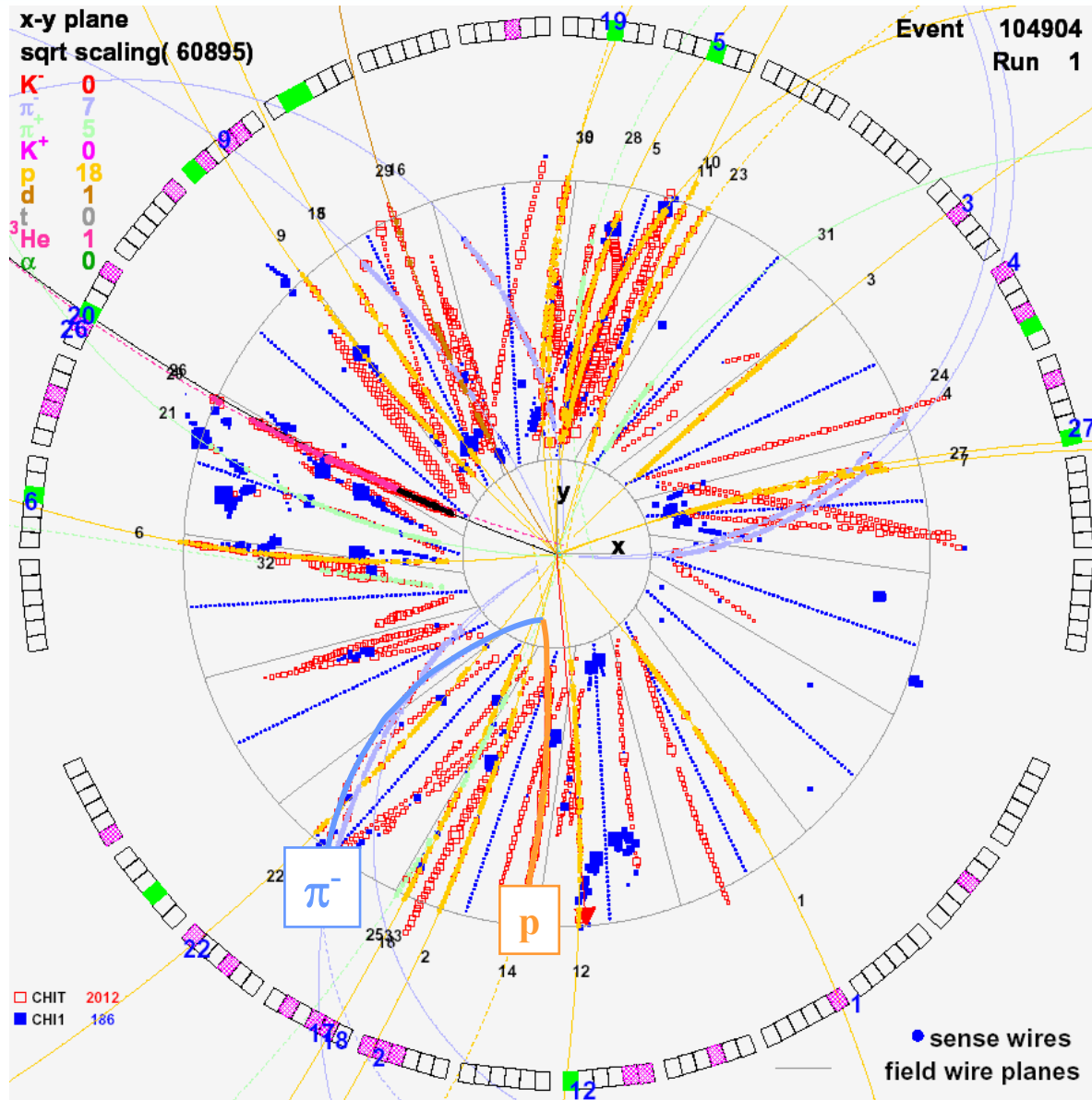
Strange Dibaryon H_1^+ , $M=2.13$ GeV, $\Gamma=17$ MeV
 C.Pigot et al. (Rome-Saclay-Vanderbilt Collaboration), NPB 249 (1985) 172
 Λp resonance in $K D \rightarrow \pi p \Lambda$ at rest,
 $M_1=2.128$ GeV, $\Gamma_1=7$ MeV and $M_2=2.138$ GeV, $\Gamma_2=9.1$ MeV
 Tai Ho Tan, PRL 23, 101 (1969)

Peak position: 2.13 ± 0.02 GeV
 Reflection of other resonances?
 Work in progress ...

Detection / Reconstruction Method

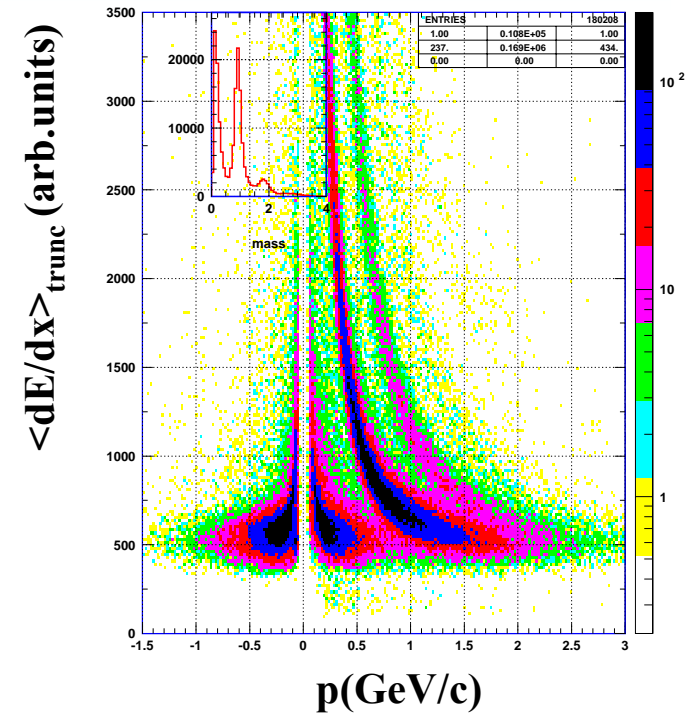


Ni+Ni @ 1.93 AGeV



NiNi95,Run7920

2002/09/15 21.5



Analyze $\Lambda - X$ correlations
 $X = \pi, p, d, t, h, \dots$

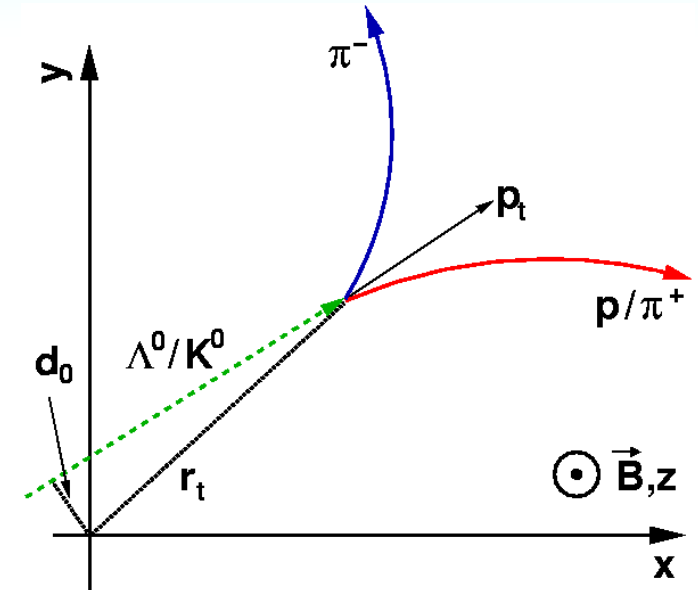
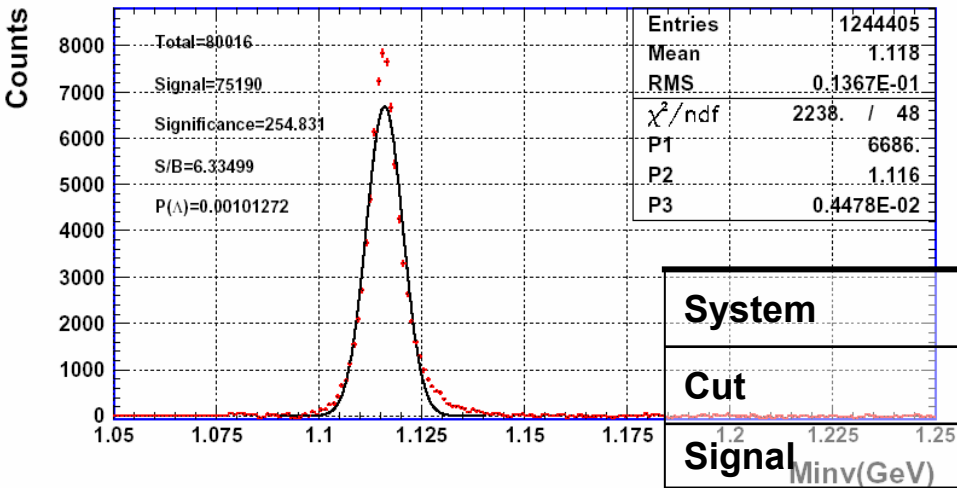
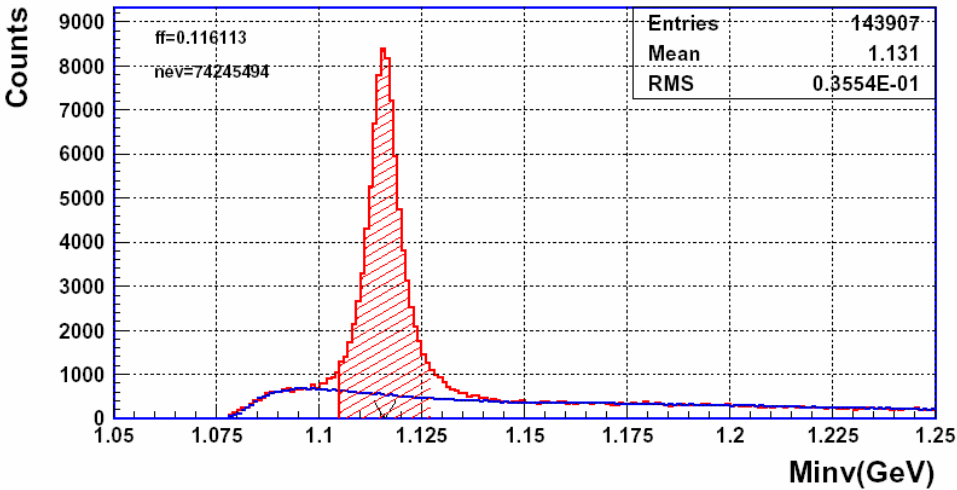
X originating from primary vertex

Λ from off-vertex $p-\pi^-$ pairs

Λ – reconstruction



Ni+Ni @ 1.93 AGeV (2003)



Signal-over-background depends on selection cuts

System	Ni+Ni		Al+Al		p+CH ₂		p+CD ₂	
	“p”	“s”	“p”	“s”	“p”	“s”	“p”	“s”
Signal	136k	75k	207k	109k	8760	4420	2390	1275
S/B	1.6	6.0	2.7	8.9	6.0	17.6	4.6	15.5
Signal scaling	2	1	1.9	1	2.0	1	1.9	1
Background scaling	8	1	6.3	1	5.8	1	6.3	1

Reconstruction of short lived resonances in HI collisions

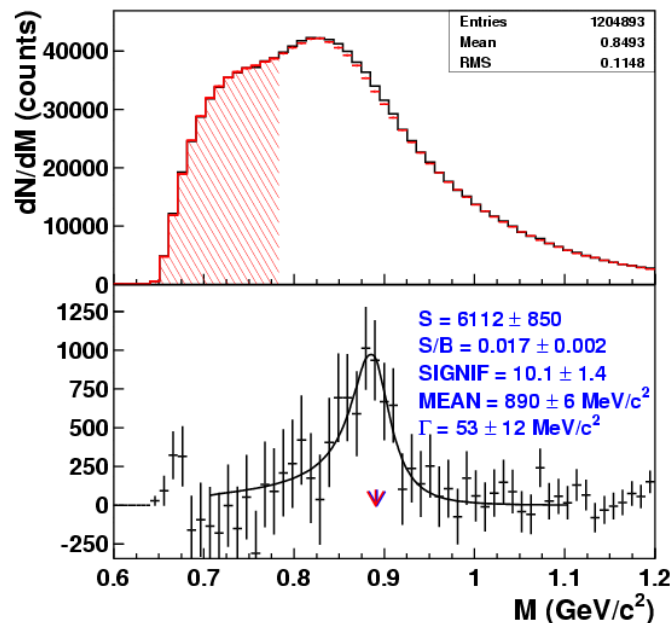
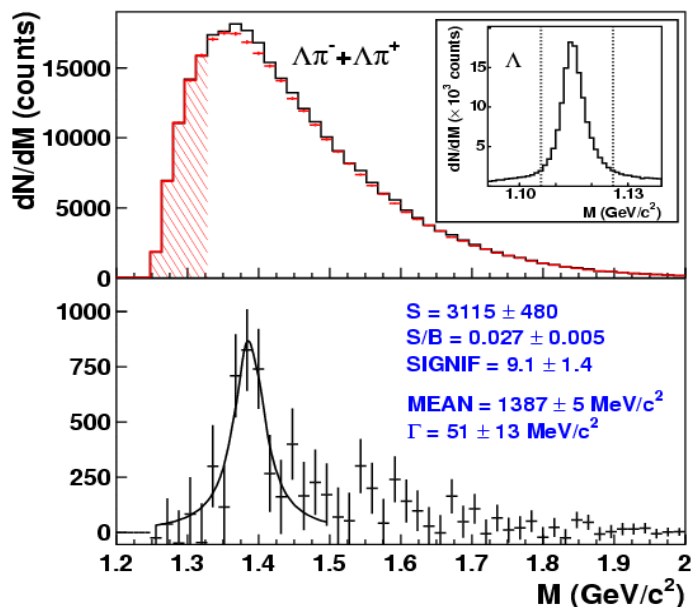


$\Sigma^*(1385)$ subthreshold production,
X. Lopez et al. (FOPI), PRC 76, 052203(R) (2007)

$\Sigma^* \rightarrow \Lambda + \pi \quad (88 \pm 2\%)$
 $\rightarrow \mathbf{p} + \pi^- + \pi$
 $\Gamma = 39.4 \text{ MeV}$
 $c\tau = 5 \text{ fm}$
 $E_{NN}^{\text{thr}} = 2.33 \text{ GeV}$

$K^* \rightarrow K + \pi \quad (88 \pm 2\%)$
 $\Gamma = 50.7 \text{ MeV}$
 $c\tau = 4 \text{ fm}$
 $E_{NN}^{\text{thr}} = 2.75 \text{ GeV}$

Exp. Conditions:
 Al+Al at 1.92 AGeV,
 21 d running (Aug 2005)
 $5 \cdot 10^8$ recorded events
 10 TByte raw data



$$P_{\text{det}} \approx 10^{-5}$$

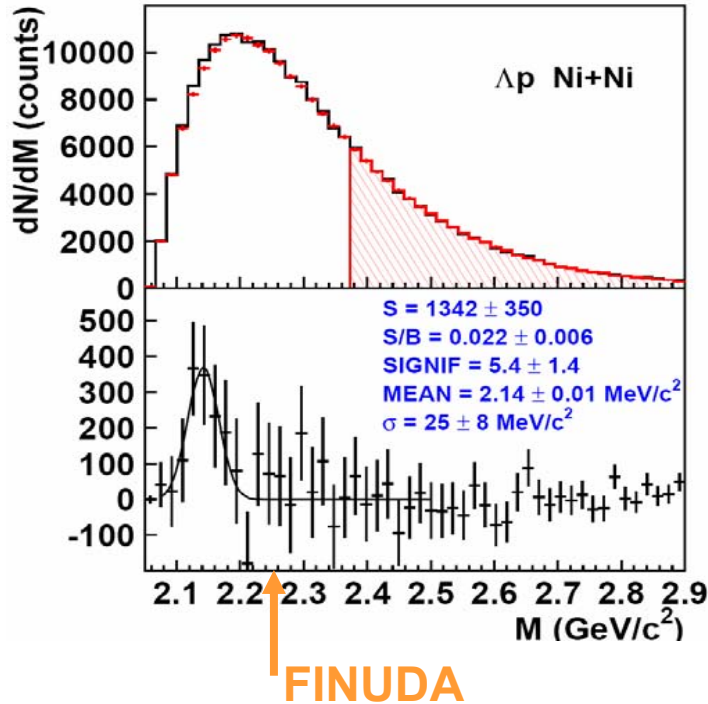
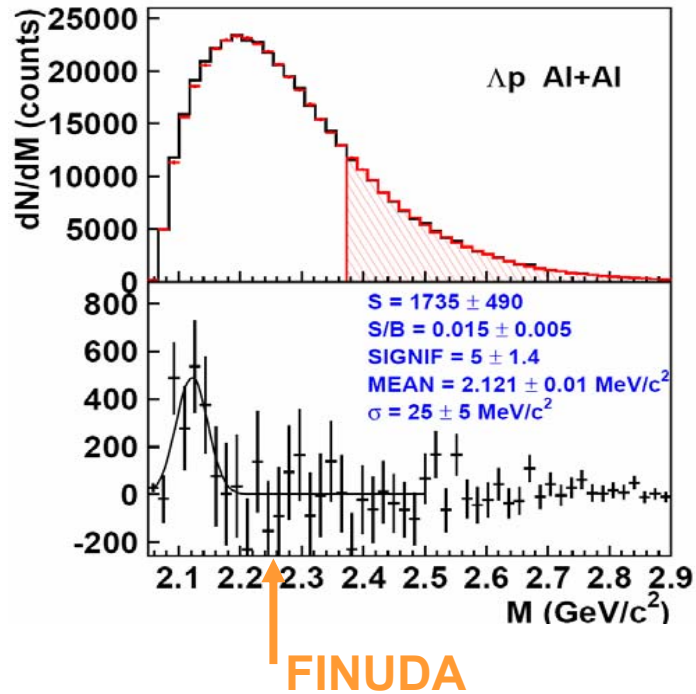
FOPIs reconstruction method and background construction by event mixing works for wide resonances.

Masses and widths of Σ^* and K^* consistent with PDG values.

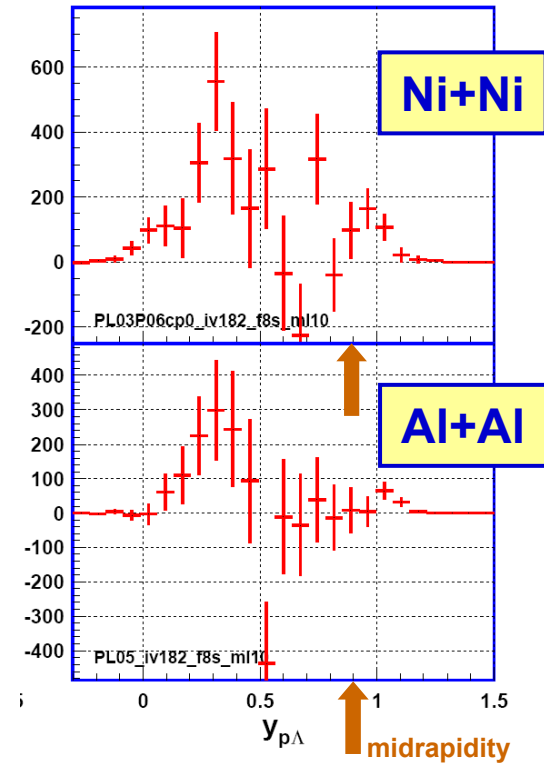
Search for ppK^- (2003/2005 data)



Δp – invariant mass



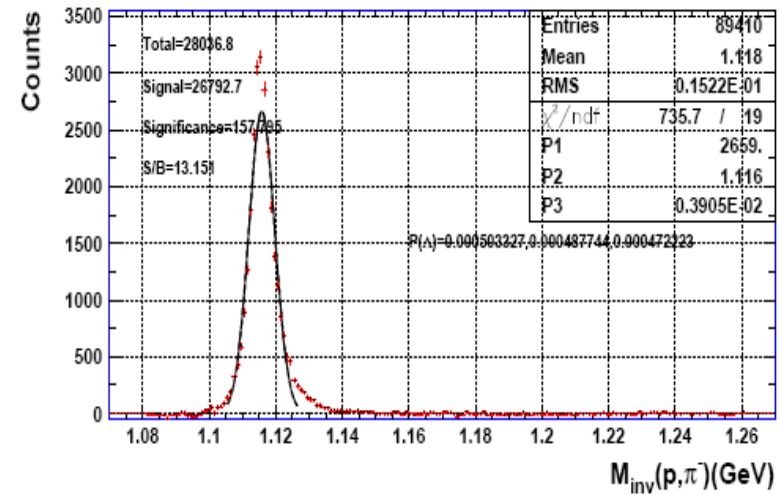
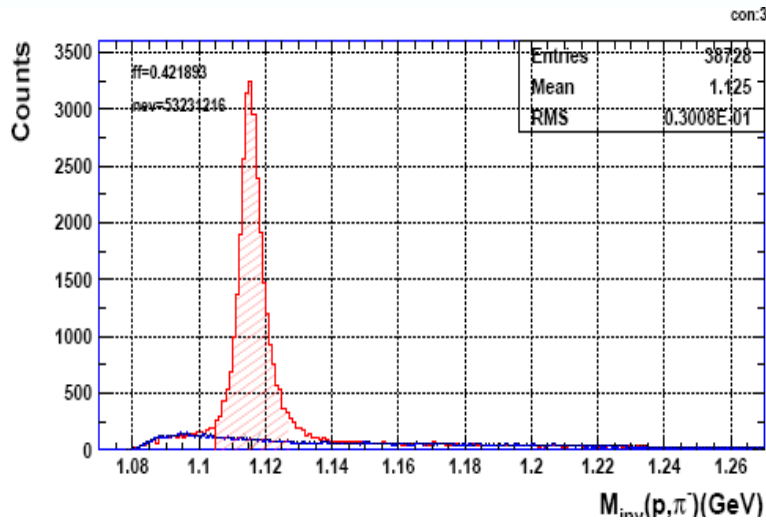
Rapidity distribution



Excess observed in Ni+Ni and Al+Al with statistical significance of ~ 5 in 2 independent analysis.

Yield located in spectator/fireball interface region $y < 0.65$ (like non-strange clusters).

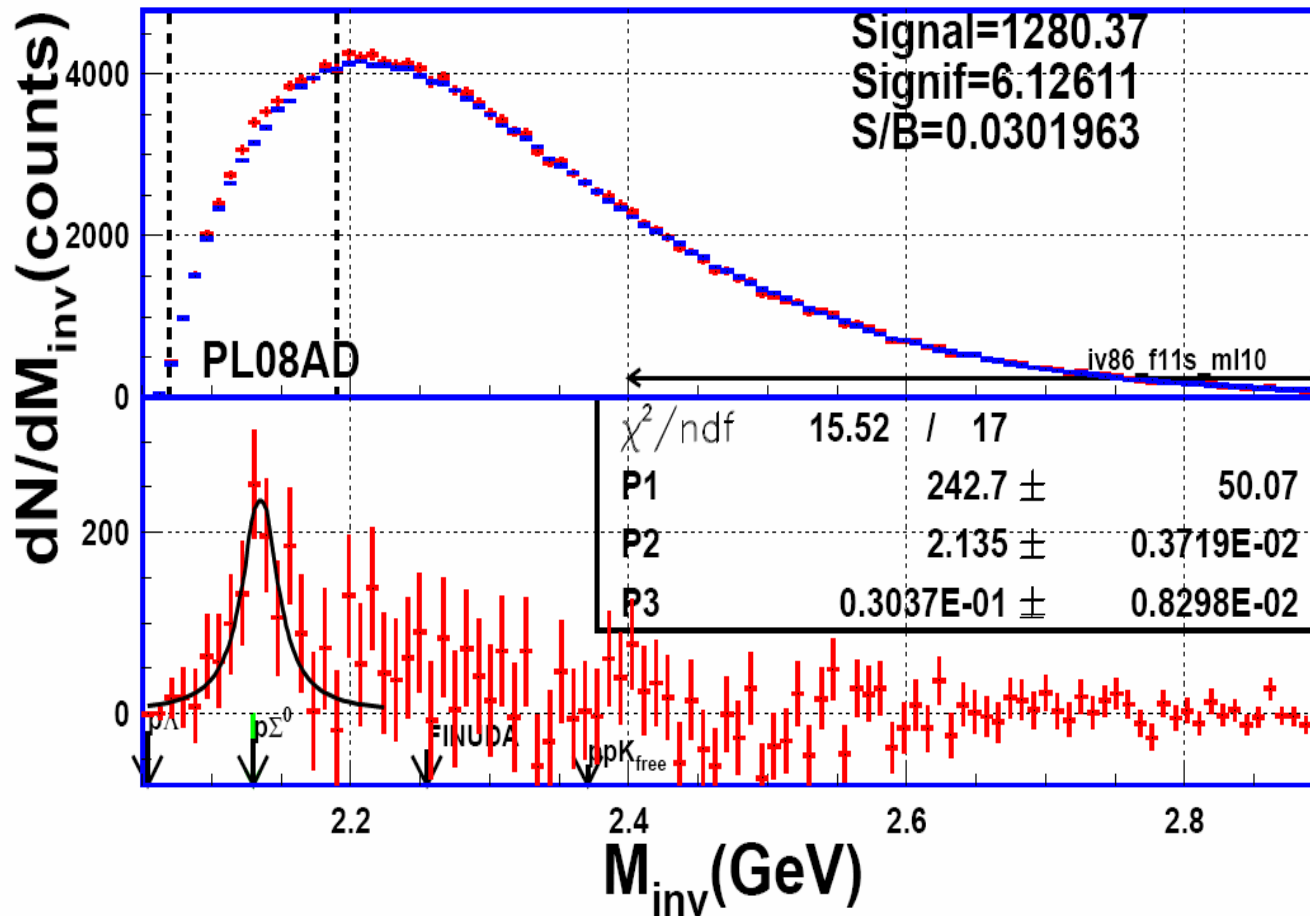
New data S325/S325e (2007/2008)



System	Ni+Ni (2003)		Al+Al(2005)		Ni+Ni (2007)		Ni+Ni(2008)	
	“p”	“s”	“p”	“s”	“p”	“s”	“p”	“s”
Signal	136k	75k	207k	109k	20k	10k	54k	27k
S/B	1.6	6.0	2.7	8.9	2.4	8.7	3.4	12.2
Signal scaling	2.0	1	1.9	1	2.0	1	2.0	1
Background scaling	6.8	1	6.3	1	7.2	1	7.2	1

2007/2008 data triggered with less stringent centrality requirement

Δp – invariant mass (2008 data)

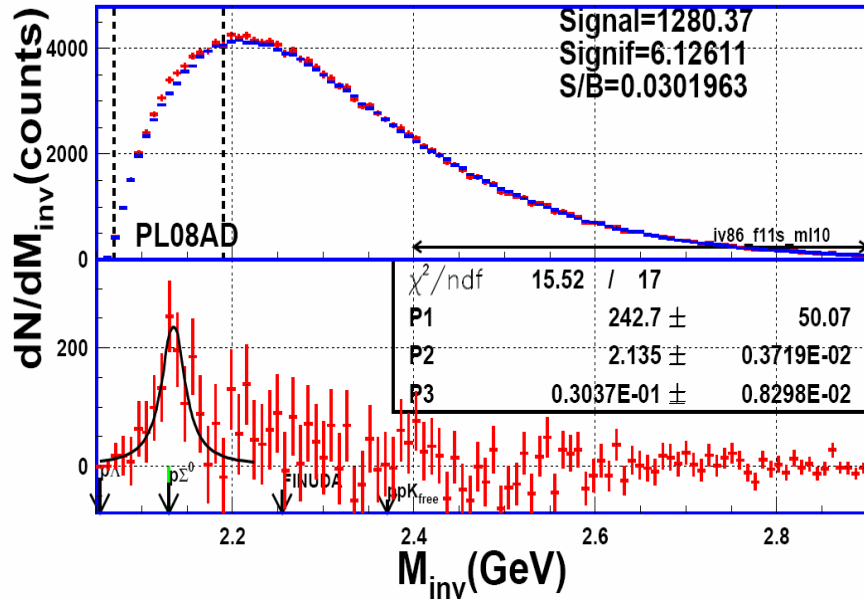


Peak present in 2008 data with same cuts as for 2003/2005 data,
S/B larger than in 2003 data,
Additional strength in the mass range $2.2 < M_{inv} < 2.3$ GeV possible.

Strange Dibaryon



Λp – invariant mass (2008 data)



R.Siebert et al., NPA 567,819 (1984) - SPES4/SATURNE II

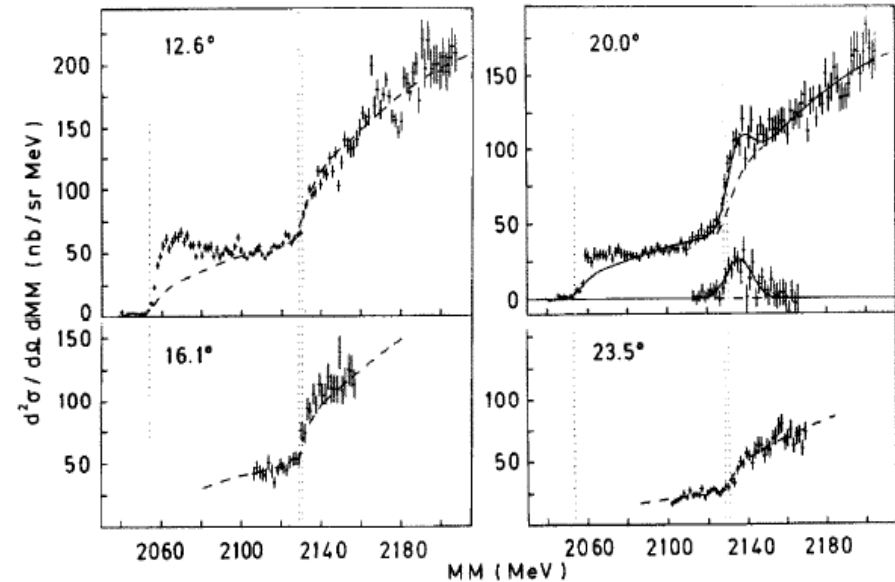


Fig. 6. Inclusive missing mass spectra for $pp \rightarrow K^+X$ at 2.7 GeV incident energy. The kaon laboratory scattering angles are 12.6° , 16.1° , 20.0° and 23.5° . The bins are 1.5 MeV wide. The resolutions (FWHM) are approximately 3 MeV (12.6°), 4 MeV (16.1°), 3.5 MeV (20.0°) and 5 MeV (23.5°). The dashed lines show the 3-body phase-space to which a fitted gaussian distribution centered at 2136 MeV was added at 20.0° . This peak is also shown separately.

Peak position consistent with p+p scattering data: $M=2.315 \pm 0.004\text{GeV}$

Suggested interpretation: D_t ($q_4 \times q_2$ structure)

A.T.M. Aerts and C.B. Dover, Phys. Lett. B146, 95 (1984)

Object also seen in $K^- + d \rightarrow \Lambda p \pi^-$ (O. Braun et al., NPB 124,45 (1977))

Interpretation: ΣN – bound state H(2129)

Transport model calculations including Cusp in K^+ - production ongoing

Yield –ratio $(\Lambda p)/\Lambda=0.024$ consistent with thermal model prediction: 0.018 (x3)

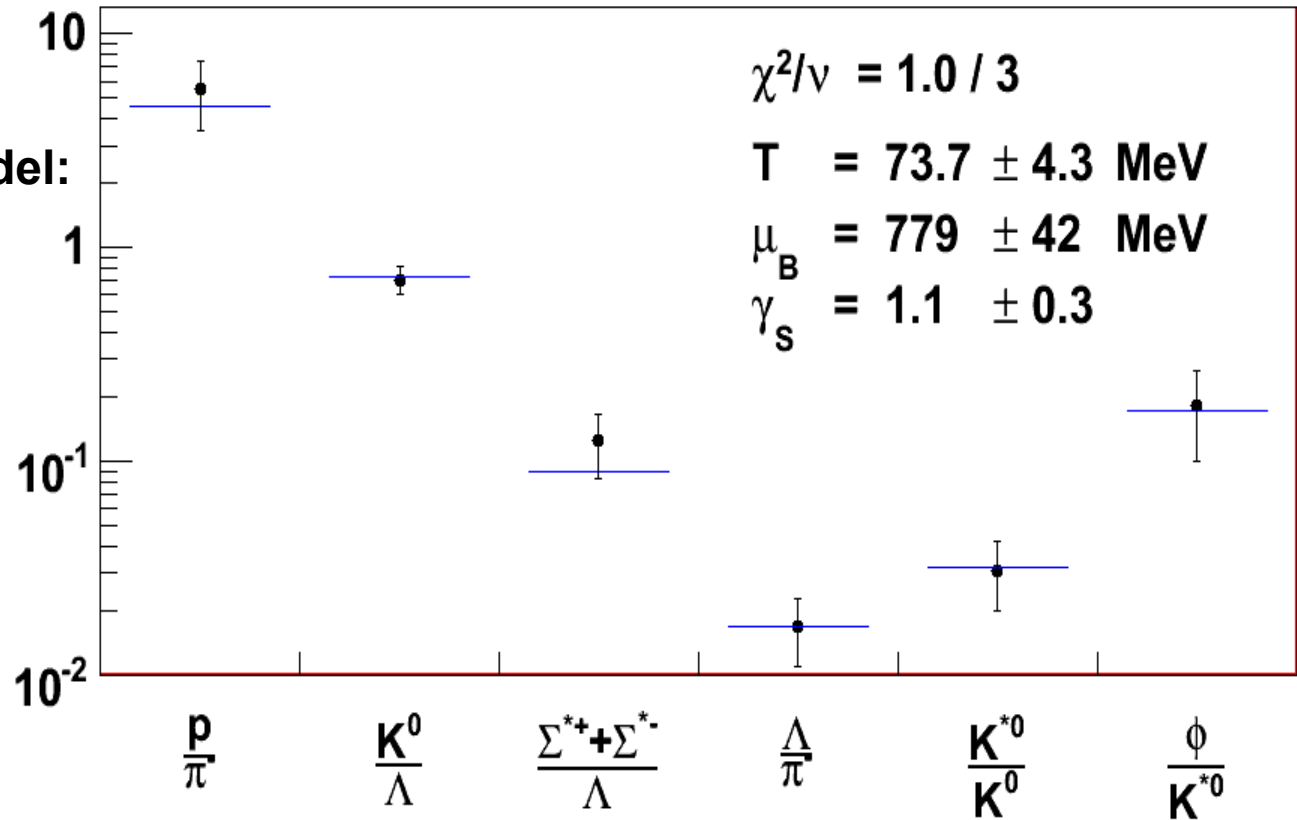
Particle yields at freeze-out

6 independent ratios with 5 strange particles:
 p , π^- , K^0 , $(\Lambda+\Sigma^0)$, $K^{*0}(892)$ and $\Sigma^{*\pm}(1385)$, ϕ
in Al+Al @ 1.9 AGeV

Preliminary

Comparison to statistical model:

- canonical ensemble ($\gamma_s = 1$)
- fit to 5 ratios
- Φ/K^{*0} is a prediction



Calc.: K. Piasecki (THERMUS)

Thermal equilibrium model works surprisingly well for Al+Al with $\gamma_s=1$!

Strange Cluster search in HI - collisions

since 2003: $ppnK^-$??

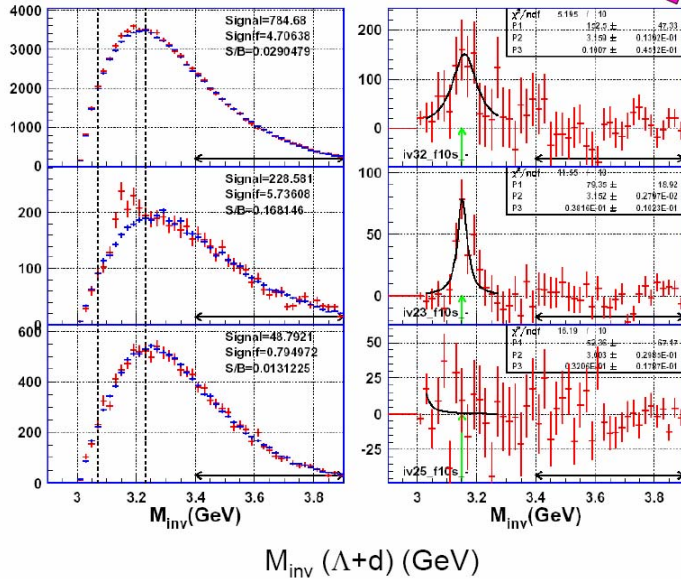
Λ d - Correlation Signal



Preliminary

Subevents rotated
Vertex shifted
Lambda Cut "s"

Possible decay channel:
 $ppnK^- \rightarrow \Lambda + d$



Cuts:

MIN	
D03MAX	
PT3M	
PT3MAX	
S dxy3max	
MBLOW	1.7
MBHIGH	
DML	
DPH3MIN	30
YDLMAX	0.65
PTDLMIN	
PTDLMAX	
CCNT	<10
BMBMIN	
E10	

Data

Signal-MC

Background-MC

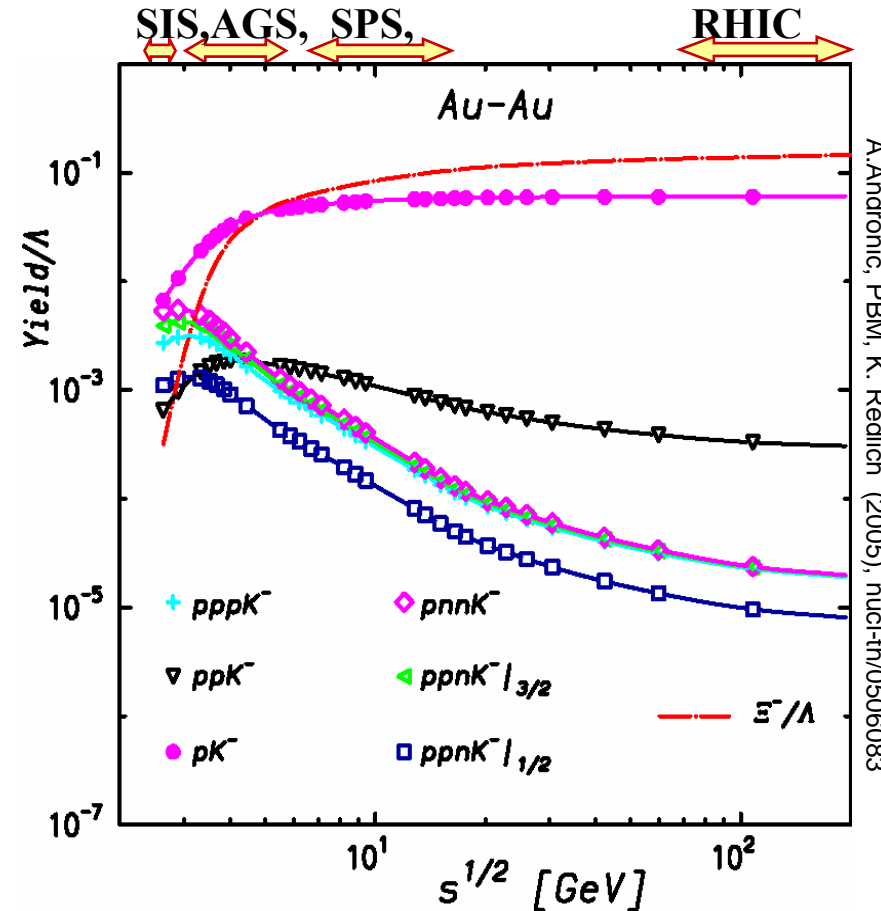
Systematics ?

$M > M(\text{KEK}) = 3.14 \text{ GeV}$

$\Gamma \gg \Gamma(\text{KEK}) < 20 \text{ MeV}$

EXA05, Vienna, February 05

N.Herrmann, Uni-HD



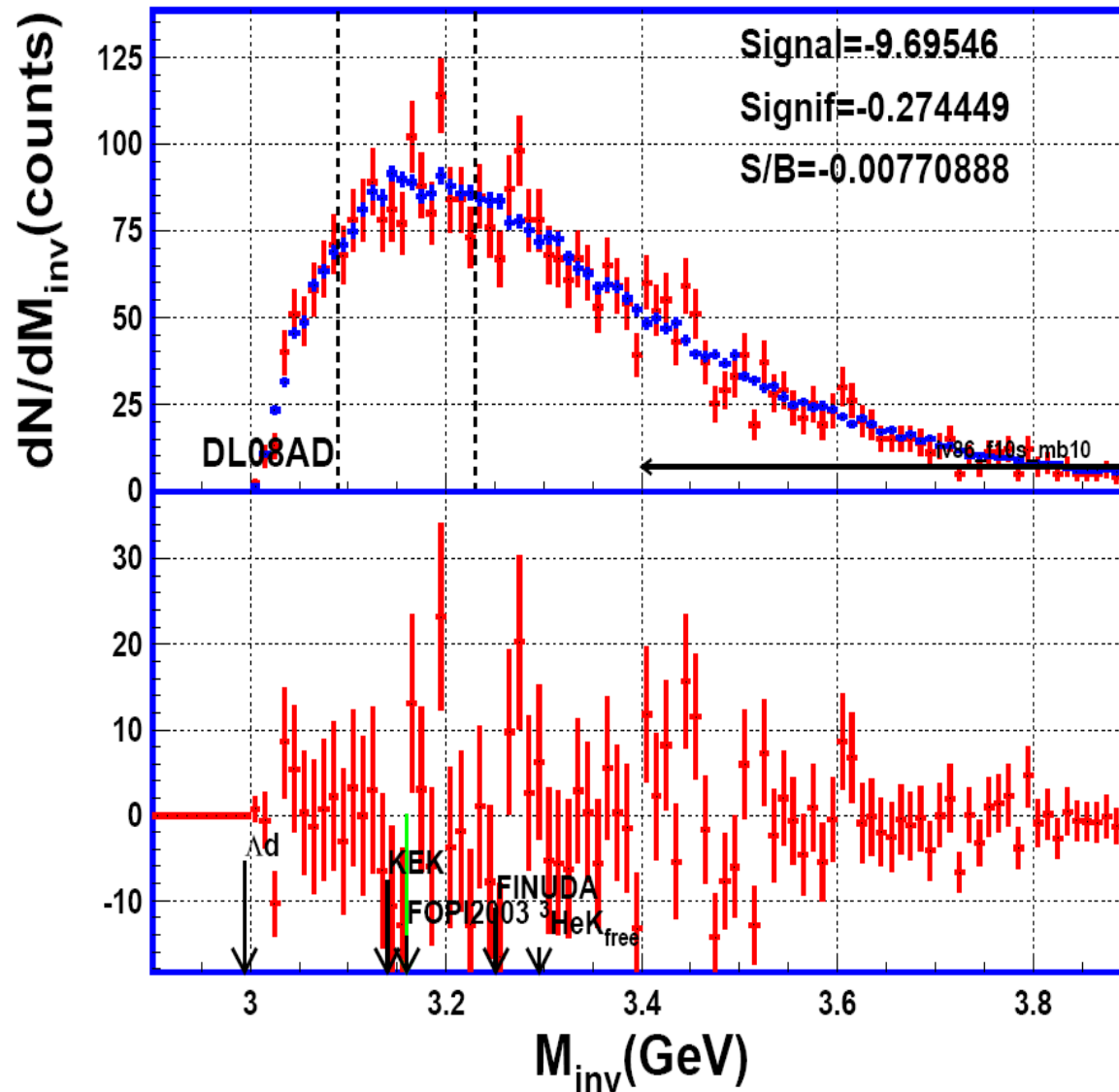
A.Andronic, PBM, K. Redlich (2005), nucl-th/0506083

Yield of single strange clusters per Λ predicted to peak at lowest beam energies

Abundance larger than Ξ - baryon

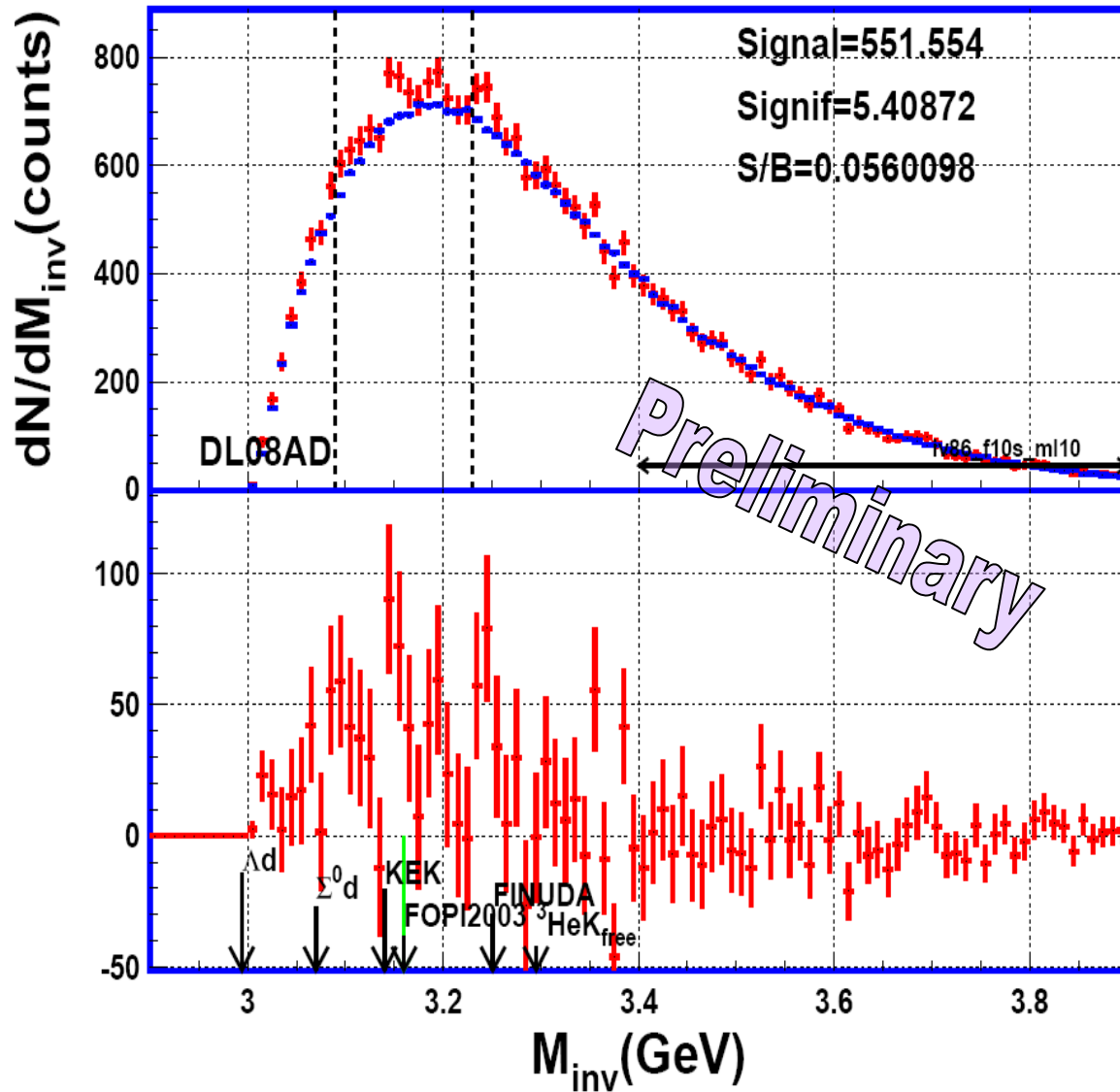
More data are needed ...

Δd – correlation (2008 – data)



Sideband analysis: $10 \text{ MeV} < |M_{\Delta}^{rec} - m_{\Delta}^{PDG}| < 20 \text{ MeV}$ - no enhancement observed.

Δd – correlation (2008 – data)



**Current status of analysis:
(using same selection cuts
And procedures as in 2003)**

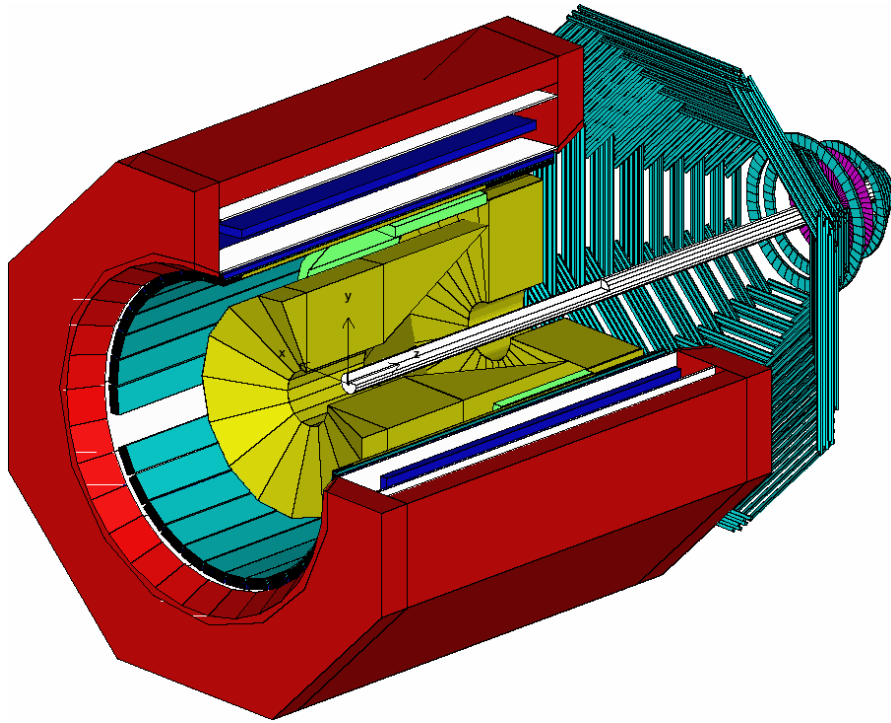
**Excess statistically consistent
with 2003 – data.**

**Statistics not enough to resolve
narrow structures.**

**Slightly more data available
(~factor 4,
although different reactions:
Ni+Pb, Ru+Ru)**

**Significantly more data needed
→ new experiment**

Strange baryon program with FOPI @ GSI



IPNE Bucharest, Romania
CRIP/KFKI Budapest, Hungary
LPC Clermont-Ferrand, France
GSI Darmstadt, Germany
FZ Rossendorf, Germany
Univ. of Warsaw, Poland
IMP Lanzhou, China
TUM, Munich, Germany
+ P. Kienle (TUM), T.Yamazaki(RIKEN)

ITEP Moscow, Russia
Kurchatov Institute Moscow, Russia
Korea University, Seoul, Korea
IREs Strasbourg, France
Univ. of Heidelberg, Germany
RBI Zagreb, Croatia
SMI Vienna, Austria

Objectives:

Strangeness in

HI collision

pion induced reactions

proton-proton collisions

Further talks:

L. Fabbietti: Wed. afternoon

O. Hartmann: Fri. morning

A. Andronic, R. Averbeck, Z. Basrak, N. Bastid, M.L. Benabderramane, P. Bühler, R. Caplar, M. Cargnelli, M. Ciobanu, P. Crochet, I. Deppner, P. Dupieux, M. Dzelalija, L. Fabbietti, F. Fu, **P. Gasik**, O. Hartmann, N. Herrmann, K.D. Hildenbrand, B. Hong, **T.I. Kang**, J. Keskeneti, **Y.J. Kim**, M. Kis, M. Kirejczyk, P. Koczon, M. Korolija, R. Kotte, A. Lebedev, K.S. Lee, **Y. Leifels**, P.-A. Loizeau, **X. Lopez**, J. Marton, M. Merschmeyer, D. Moisa, R. Muenzer, M. Petrovici, **K. Piasecki**, F. Rami, V. Ramillien, A. Reischl, W. Reisdorf, M.S. Ryu, A. Schüttauf, Z. Seres, B. Sikora, K.S. Sim, V. Simion, K. Siwek-Wilczynska, K. Suzuki, Z. Tymiński, K. Wisniewski, Z. Xiao, H.S. Xu, J.T. Yang, I. Yushmanov, A. Zhilin, Y. Zhang, J. Zmeskal

Summary / Conclusion

Strangeness production close to threshold is still not understood.

New RPC TOF barrel operational with $\sigma_{t,\text{system}} \sim 90$ ps.

New data from FOPI at SIS18

- Short lived strange resonances: ϕ , $K^*(892)$, $\Sigma^*(1395)$
chemical equilibrium in Al + Al @ 1.9 AGeV ?
- Flow of charged kaons
strong centrality dependence of K^- - sideflow
- Some indications for strange dibaryon production ($H1^+$, D_t)
first observation of strange dibaryon in HI – collisions

Search for multi-baryonic strange clusters ($ppnK^-$, $pppK^-$) ongoing.

Serious theoretical effort necessary to interpret available and coming data.

Strange hadrons, especially strange multi-baryonic clusters, are an exiting possibility towards the properties of cold dense baryonic matter and non-perturbative QCD.

Strangeness physics from 2-10 AGeV must be continued/ revisited with high statistics!
=> FOPI(?)/HADES@SIS18/GSI => HADES/CBM @ SIS100/FAIR