Report from the Fermilab HyperCP Experiment: Search for CP Violation in Hyperon Decays

C. M. Jenkins
Department of Physics
University of South Alabama
Mobile, AL 36688

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E871 (HyperCP) Collaboration

A. Chan, Y.C. Chen, C. Ho, J.Sheng†, P.-K. Teng,
C. Yu† Z. Yu†
Academia Sinica, Tiawan

W.-S. Choong, G. Gidal, K.-B. Luk*, B. Turko, P. Zyla
University of California and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

M.Crisler, C. James, J. Volk
Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory

J. Felix, G. Lopez, M. Sosa
University of Guanajuato, Mexico

R. A. Burnstein, A.Chakravorty, J. Drapala,
D. M. Kaplan, L.M. Lederman,W. Luebke, D. Rajaram,
H. A. Rubin, C. White, S. White
Illinois Institute of Technology

N. Leros, J.-P. Perroud
University of Lausanne, Switzerland

V. Papavassiliou
New Mexico State University

H. R. Gustafson, M. J. Longo, F. Lopez
University of Michigan

K. Clark, C. M. Jenkins
University of South Alabama

E. C. Dukes*, C. Durandet, M. Huang, K. Nelson
University of Virginia

* co-spokespersons
† Visitors form IHEP, Beijing
Post-Doc
Graduate Student

The HyperCP Experiment took data at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

- The experiment has took data in the 1997 fixed target run at Fermilab.
- Results presented here are PRELIMINARY .
- The HyperCP Experiment's primary Physics goal is to look for CP violation in the decays of Ξ hyperons.

$$\begin{array}{lllll} \Xi^- & \rightarrow & \Lambda\pi^- & \qquad \overline{\Xi}^+ & \rightarrow \quad \overline{\Lambda}\pi^+ \\ \Lambda & \rightarrow & \mathrm{p}\ \pi^- & \overline{\Lambda} & \rightarrow \quad \overline{p}\pi^+ \end{array}$$

- Other Physics to be explored by the HyperCP Experiment include:
  - Search for rare decays:
    - $\mathrm{K}^{\pm} \rightarrow \pi^{\pm}\mu^+\mu^-$.
    - K$-$ $\rightarrow \pi^+\mu^-\mu^-$.
    - $\Xi^{\rightarrow}$ p $\mu^-\mu-$
  - Search for CP violation in $\mathrm{K}^{\pm} \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^{\pm}$ decays.
- All Physics uses a "left-right" trigger for the spectrometer.
  - An event with at least one particle with the beam sign and at least one particle with opposite the beam sign.

Physics of CP Violation in Ξ decays

- The non-leptonic decay of the Ξ hyperon is described in terms of the Lee-Yang variables:

$$\alpha = \frac{2Re(S^*P)}{|S|^2 + |P|^2}$$
$$\beta = \frac{2Im(S^*P)}{|S|^2 + |P|^2}$$
$$\gamma = \frac{|S|^2 - |P|^2}{|S|^2 + |P|^2}$$

- Under CP operation, α and β change signs, γ is unchanged.
- The decay distribution for the daughter spin $\frac{1}{2}$ baryon in the rest frame of the parent hyperon is:

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{4\pi}(1 + \alpha \vec{P}_p \cdot \hat{p}_d)$$

- Where in the rest frame of the parent:
  - $\vec{P}_p$ is the parent hyperon polarization.
  - $\hat{p}_d$ is the daughter baryon momentum direction.
- The daughter baryon is polarized according to:

$$\vec{P}_d = \frac{(\alpha + \vec{P}_p \cdot \hat{p}_d)\hat{p}_d + \beta(\vec{P}_p \times \hat{p}_d) + \gamma(\hat{p}_d \times (\vec{P}_p \times \hat{p}_d))}{(1 + \alpha \vec{P}_p \times \hat{p}_d)}$$

- Where:
  - α, β, γ are the Lee-Yang variables.

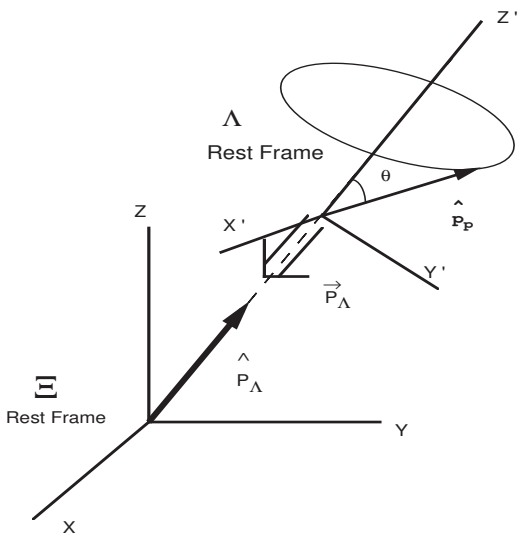
- The HyperCP Experiment uses unpolarized Ξ particles.
  - (Use 0^o production angle for Ξ.)
- As a result the daughter Λ polarization is:

$$\vec{P}_\Lambda = \alpha_\Xi \hat{p}_\Lambda$$

- The polarization of the Λ may be measured by the decay asymmetry:

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{4\pi}(1 + \alpha_\Lambda \vec{P}_\Lambda \cdot \hat{p}_p)$$

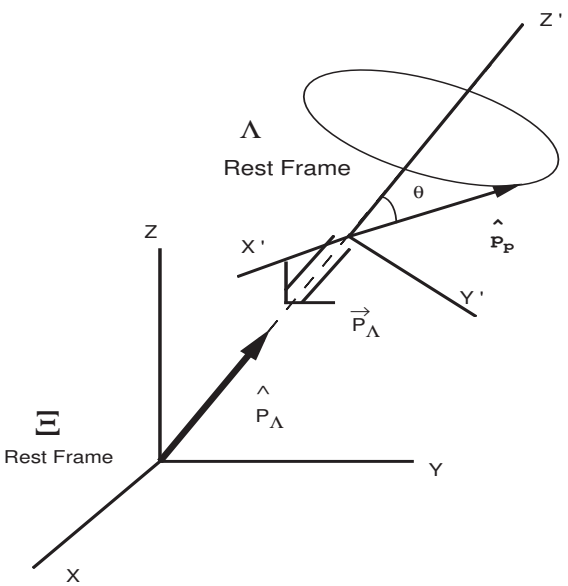
- Where
  - $\hat{p}_p$ is the direction of the proton (anti-proton) in the Λ ($\overline{\Lambda}$) rest frame.
  - Note the polarization of the Λ is : $\vec{P}_\Lambda = \alpha_\Xi \hat{p}_\Lambda$



- The asymmetry in the proton (anti-proton) decay distribution is:
  - (After integrating over the azimuthal angle.)

$$\frac{dP}{d(\cos(\theta)} = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \alpha_\Lambda \alpha_\Xi \cos(\theta))$$

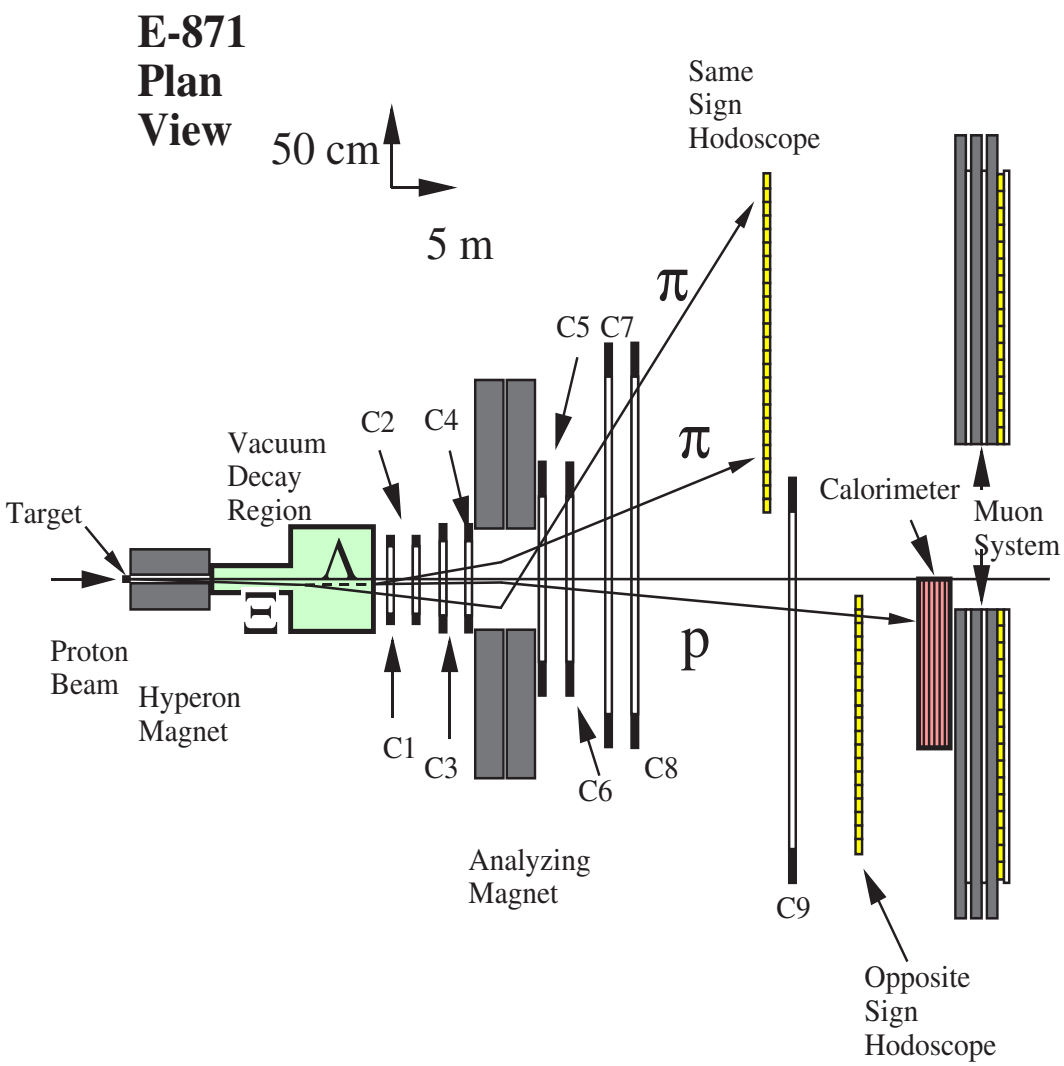
- Note the "Z" axis in the Λ rest frame is defined by the Λ direction in the Ξ rest frame.
- So the "θ" is the polar angle of the proton (or anti-proton) in the Λ rest frame.
- Any differences in the angular distributions of the proton from Ξ^- decays and anti-proton from $\overline{\Xi}^+$ decays is a signature of CP Violation.



- The combined asymmetry parameters for the Ξ and Λ will be determined from the angular distributions.
- A CP asymmetry may be constructed:

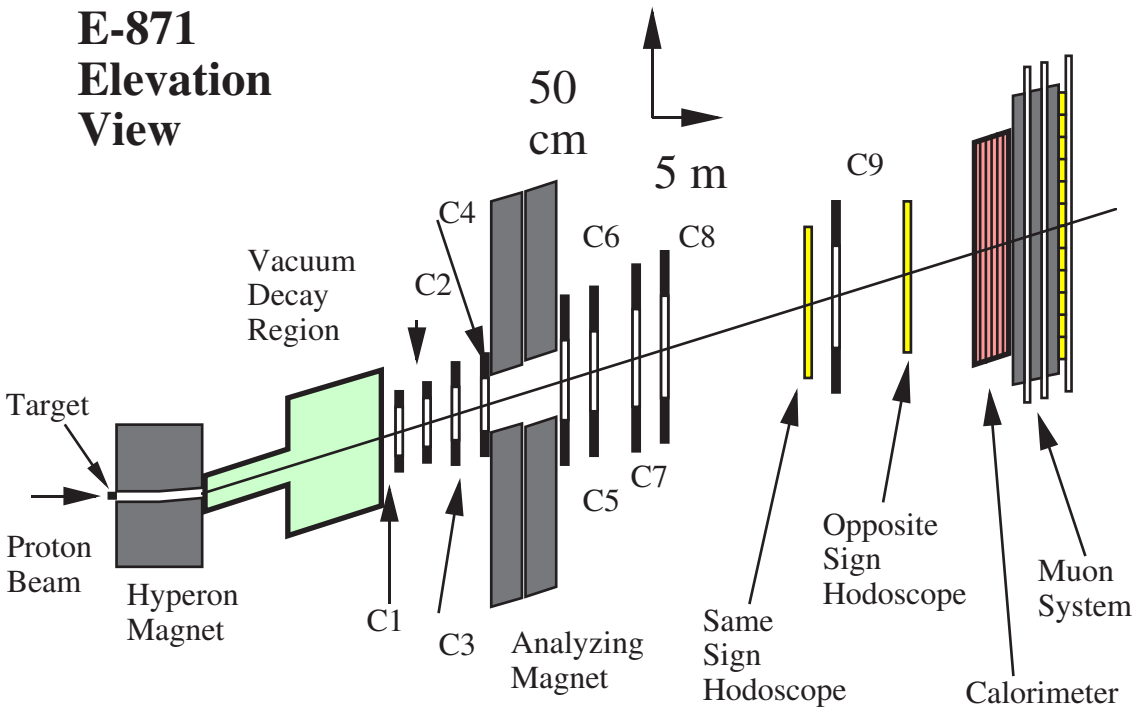
$$\mathcal{A} = \frac{\alpha_\Lambda \alpha_\Xi - \alpha_{\overline{\Lambda}} \alpha_{\overline{\Xi}}}{\alpha_\Lambda \alpha_\Xi + \alpha_{\overline{\Lambda}} \alpha_{\overline{\Xi}}}$$

- The HyperCP experiment collected 67×10^9 triggers to tape.
- This data should contain roughly 1.1×10^9 Ξ^- reconstructible decays and 4.5×10^8 $\overline{\Xi}^+$ reconstructible decays.
- This results in a overall sensitivity of 1.7×10^{-4} for the CP asymmetry $\mathcal{A}$.
- Theoretical predictions using the Standard Model predict a value for the CP asymmetry $\mathcal{A}$ of -0.7×10^{-4} to -8.8×10^{-4}.
  - Using other non-standard models will widen this range or even exclude CP violation in Ξ decays.

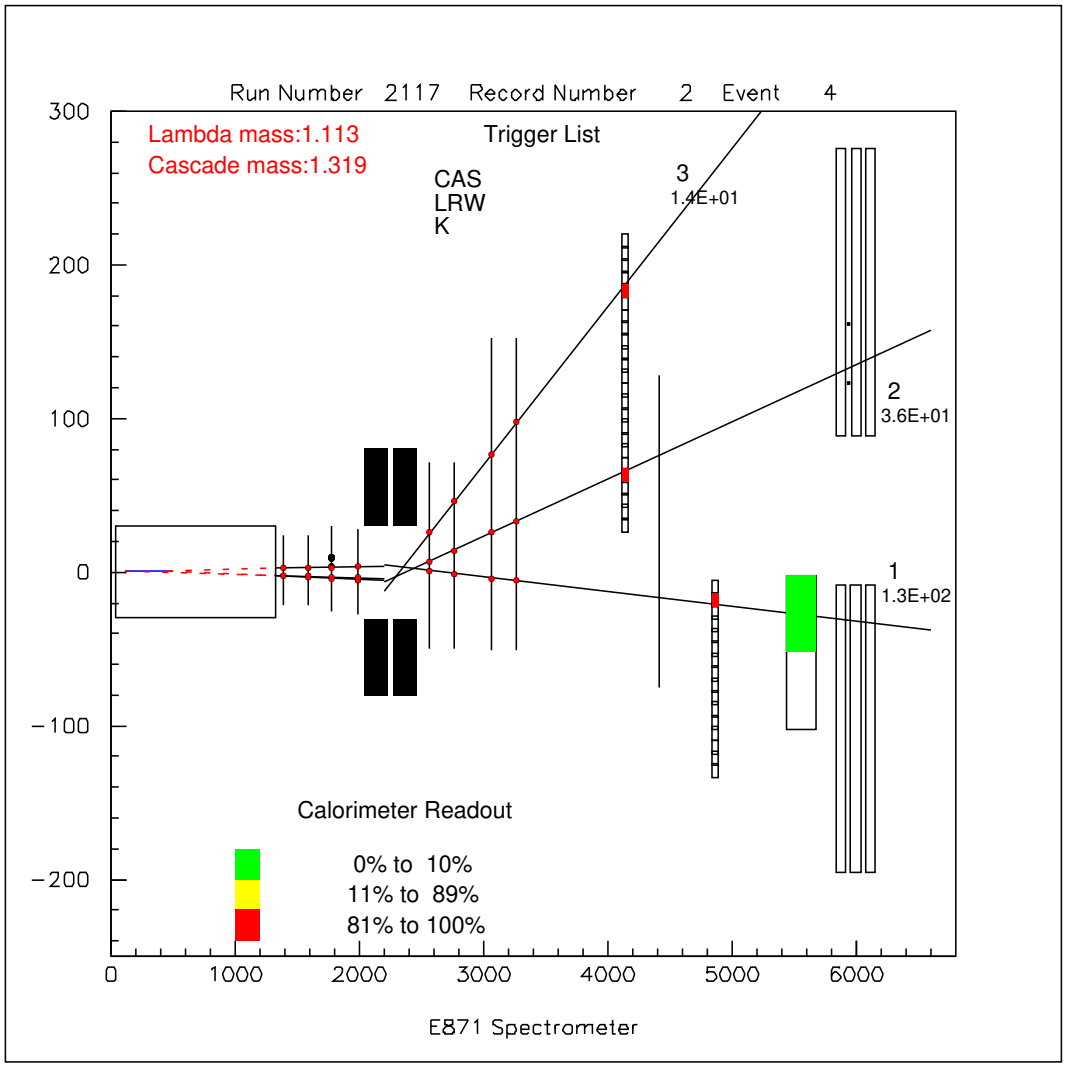


- HyperCP spectrometer: Plan View.
- 800 GeV/c primary proton beam hits target.
- 150 GeV/c secondaries exit the Hyperon magnet.
  - Negative mode secondary beam contains Ξ^-.
  - Positive mode secondary beam contains $\overline{\Xi}^+$.
- Four PWC's upstream an analysis magnet, Four PWC's downstream.

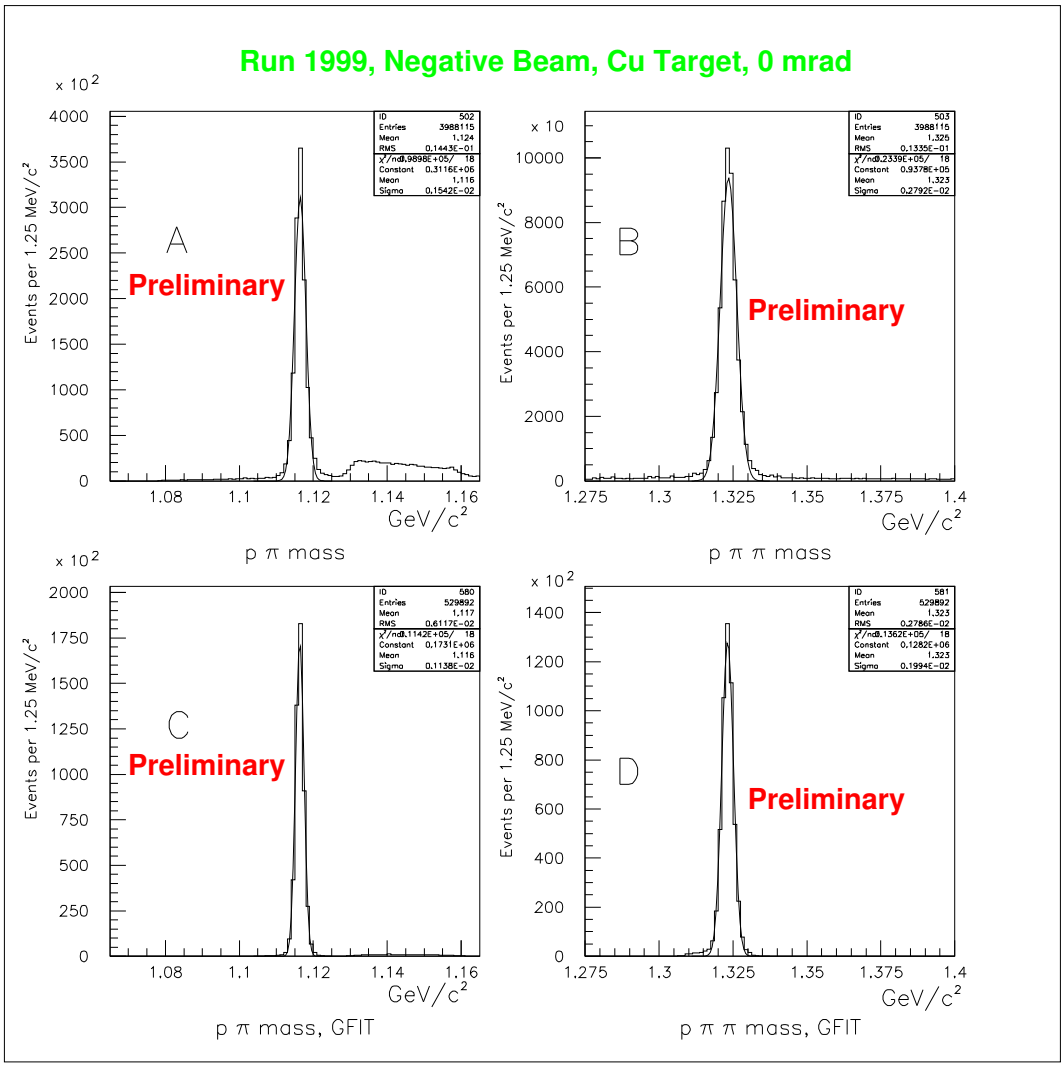
- Two trigger hodoscopes to form "left-right" trigger.
- Calorimeter used for halo muon rejection.
- Muon identification down stream used for rare decay trigger.



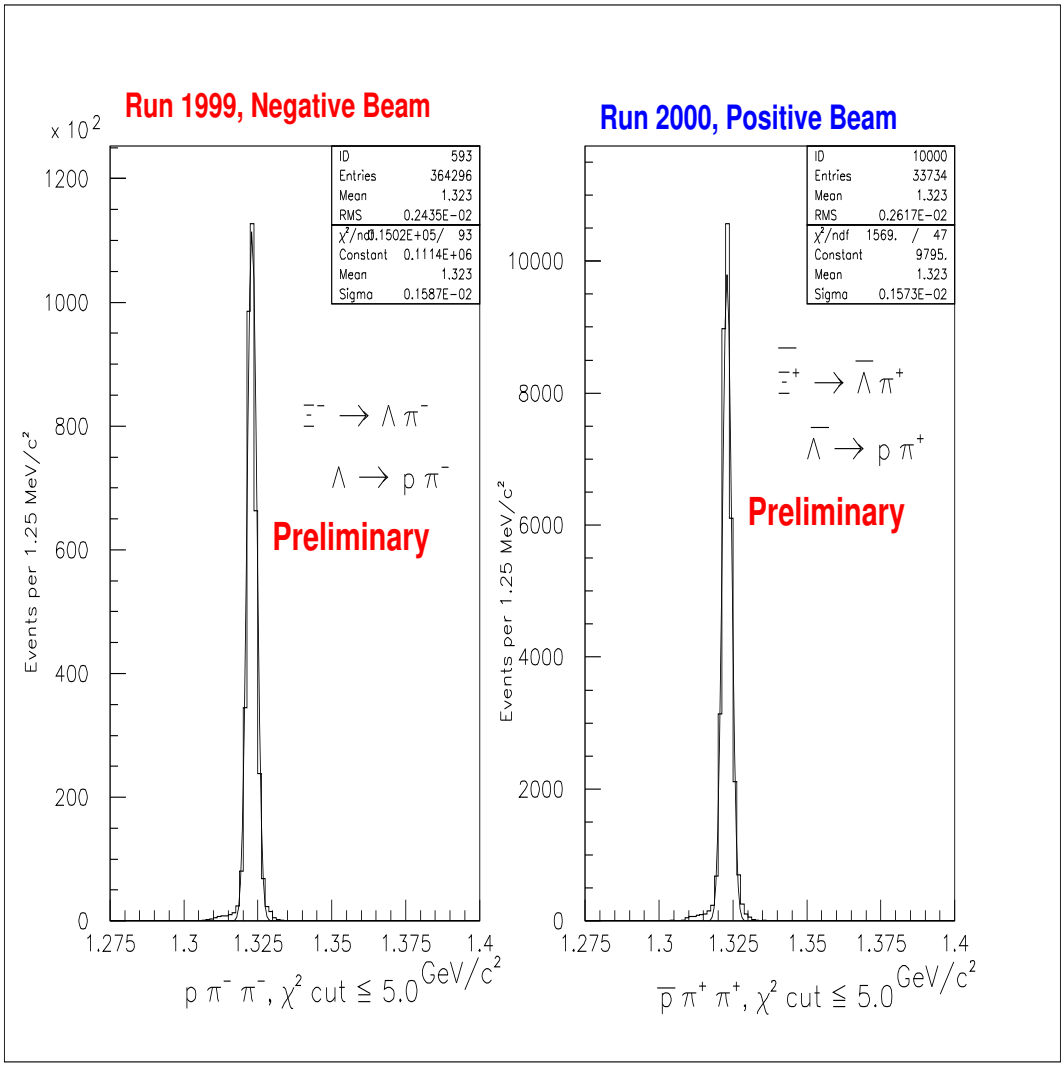
- HyperCP spectrometer: Elevation View.
- The secondaries are bent vertically.



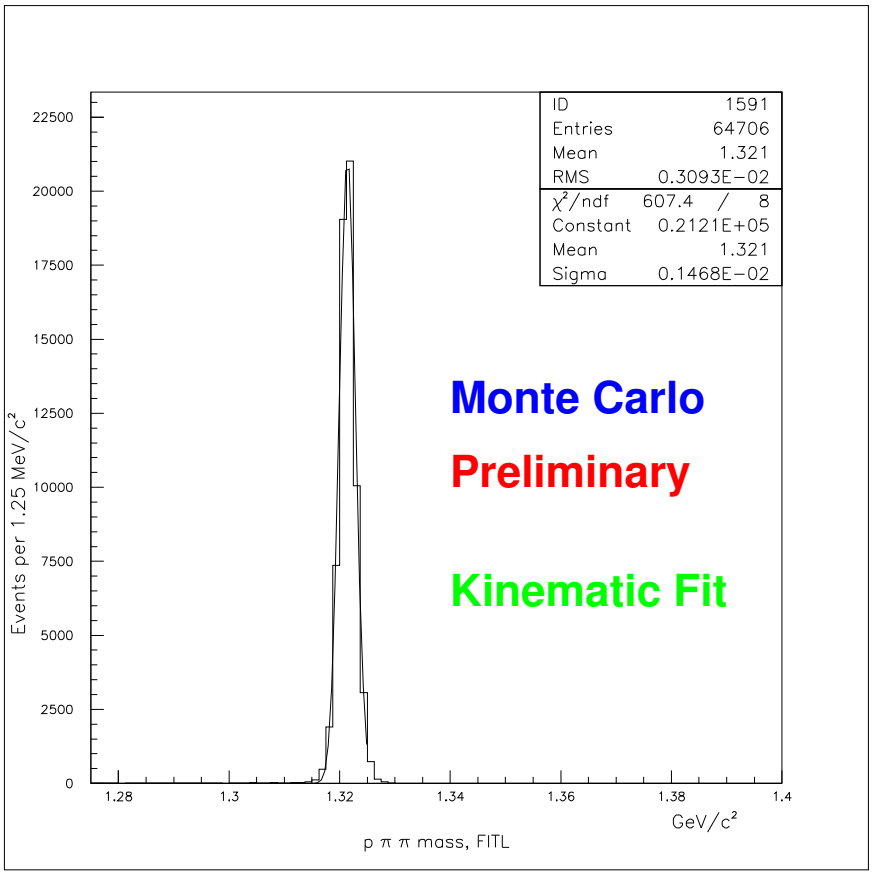
- Event display of a typical Ξ event.
- Tracking is used to draw tracks.
- Hits used by tracking are colored "red".
- Track number and total momentum are calculated.
- Hits in the trigger hodoscope are colored red.
- Calorimeter has percent dynamic range color coded.
- Ξ and Λ mass are calculated.



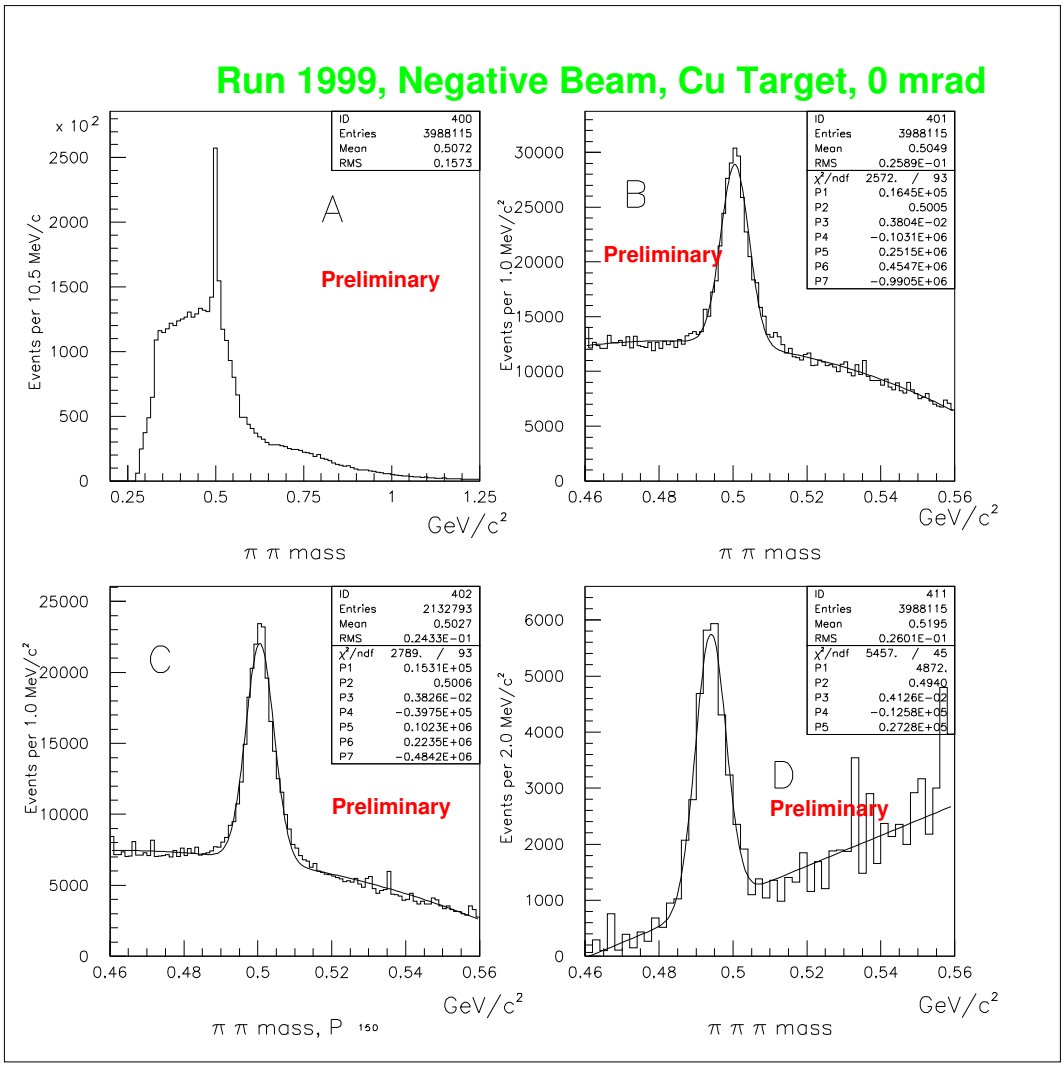
- Figure A is the invariant mass of Same-sign and Opposite-sign tracks.
  - Same-sign are tracks with same sign as secondary beam.
  - Pick pairs of tracks with distance of closest approach.
- Figure B is the invariant mass of two Same-sign and one Opposite-sign tracks.
- Figure C is the invariant mass for Same-sign and Opposite-sign tracks out of the Geometric Fit.
  - Geometric Fit fits to the geometry of a "kink" and neutral "vee".
- Figure D is the three track combination out of the Geometric fit.



- Ξ^- and $\overline{\Xi}^+$ using the Kinematic Fit.
- Kinematic fit requires the neutral "vee" vertex to:
  - Have the mass of the Λ.
  - Momentum to be conserved in the Λ rest frame.
- These plots also have a χ^2 cut of 5.0.



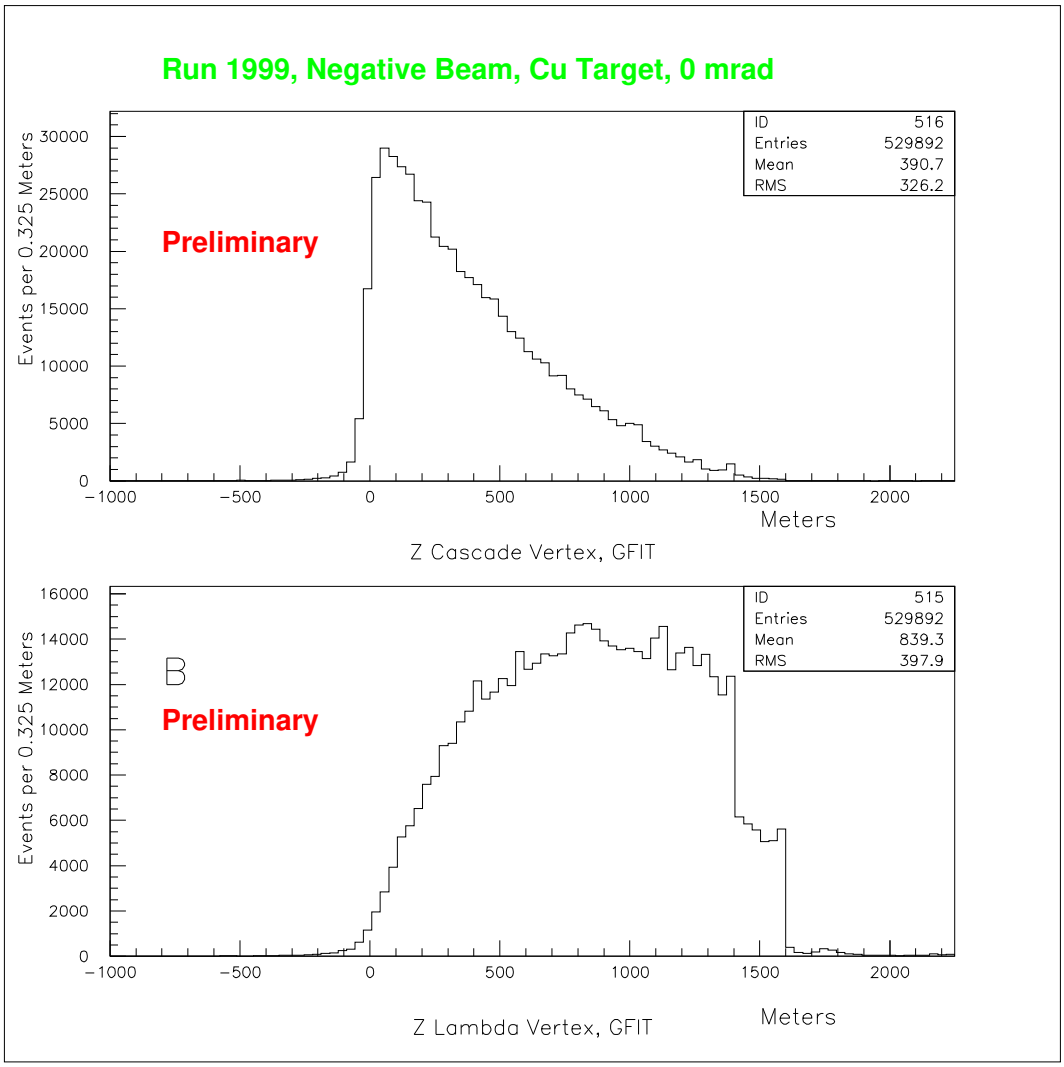
- Monte Carlo of Ξ mass resolution.
- Ξ events are generated and are traced through the hyperon magnets.
- Ξ's are allowed to decay via $\Xi \rightarrow \Lambda\pi \rightarrow p\pi\pi$ mode.
- Events that satisfy the trigger are reconstructed with the same tracking, geometric and kinematic fitting programs as the data.
- This plot contains the invariant mass distribution as calculated from the kinematic fit.
- The resolution is 1.47 MeV/c^2 from the Monte Carlo
- The resolution from real data is about 1.6 MeV/c^2.



- K_{short}'s are produced at the collimator exit.
- Use Same-sign and Opposite-sign track pair that have distance of closest approach.
- Figure A

Conclusions

- The HyperCP experiment has collected the largest Ξ^- and $\overline{\Xi}^+$ sample in the world.
  - The experiment recently concluded its first round of data collection at Fermilab (September 1997).
  - The experiment collected 67×10^9 triggers.
  - 1.1×10^9 reconstructible Ξ^-
  - 4.5×10^8 reconstructible $\overline{\Xi}^+$
  - The HyperCP experiment anticipates a sensitivity of the CP violating asymmetry $\mathcal{A}$ of 1.7×10^{-4}.
  - The experiment should have:
    * 2.2×10^7 reconstrutible Ω^-.
    * 9.0×10^6 reconstrutible $\overline{\Omega}^+$.
- The experiment is in the early analysis stage.
- The experiment anticipates analyzing approximately 10% of its data by January 1998.
- The HyperCP experiment is also applying for more beam time in the next fixed target run at Fermilab in 1998.



- Figure A: The Ξ vertex distribution.
- Figure B: The Λ vertex distribution.

CP Violation in the K^o System

- K^o and $\overline{K}^o$ are produced via the strong interaction.
- They decay via the weak interaction.
  - The weak (decay) states are not eigenvectors of the strong (production) states.
  - Results in quantum mechanical mixing.
- Assume that weak interaction is symmetric under CP.
- Expect two CP eigenstates:

$$\begin{array}{ll} |K_1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|K^o\rangle + |\overline{K}^0\rangle) & \text{CP even} \\ |K_2\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|K^o\rangle - |\overline{K}^0\rangle) & \text{CP odd} \end{array}$$

- These are CP eigenstates, and decay in to CP eigenstates

$$\begin{array}{lll} CP|K_1\rangle = +1|K_1\rangle & |K_1\rangle \to 2\pi & \text{CP even} \\ CP|K_2\rangle = -1|K_2\rangle & |K_2\rangle \to 3\pi & \text{CP odd} \end{array}$$

- As a result, one expects to see only two types of decays:

Decay	Lifetime	
$k_{short} \to \pi^+\pi^-$	$\tau \to 0.892 \times 10^{-10}$ sec	CP even
$k_{long} \to \pi^+\pi^-\pi^o$	$\tau \to 5.17 \times 10^{-10}$ sec	CP odd

- In 1964 it was discovered that the long lived $|K_2\rangle$ state could decay into the 2π state!
  - The asymmetry is on the order of 3×10^{-3}.
  - The K^o system is the only system that CP violation has been observed in.

- CP violation in the K^o system has also been observed in the asymmetry in the decay rates of:

$$K_{long} \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \pi^- \;\; K_{long} \rightarrow e^- \overline{\nu_e} \pi^+$$