

## INCLUSIVE PHOTOPRODUCTION OF STRANGE BARYONS AT 20 GeV\*

## SLAC Hybrid Facility Photon Collaboration

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## Abstract

Cross sections are presented for the inclusive photoproduction of  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$ ,  $\Xi^-$ ,  $\bar{\Xi}^-$ ,  $\Sigma^0$ , and  $\Sigma^{*\pm}(1385)$  at 20 GeV. An upper limit to  $\Omega^-$  production is also given. The data come from 284,000 hadronic events photoproduced in the SLAC 1-meter hydrogen bubble chamber hybrid facility exposed to a nearly monochromatic, polarized 20 GeV backscattered photon beam. A comparison of the  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  and  $\Xi^-$  rates per inelastic event to  $\pi^\pm p$  data show that the  $\gamma p$  rates are consistent with being higher than the  $\pi^\pm p$  rates, providing evidence of an  $s\bar{s}$  component of the photon. The pair cross sections for  $K_S^0 K_S^0$ ,  $K_S^0 \Lambda$ ,  $K_S^0 \bar{\Lambda}$ , and  $\Lambda \bar{\Lambda}$  are presented. The  $x_F$  distributions of the  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  and  $\Xi^-$  are compared to a quark-diquark fusion model, giving information on strange baryon photoproduction mechanisms.

## I. Introduction

We report here cross sections and Feynman  $x$  distributions for the inclusive photoproduction on hydrogen of strange baryons at 20 GeV. Cross sections are presented also for pairs of neutral strange particles. Comparison with analogous  $\pi^\pm p$  production of strange baryons and with predictions of a quark-diquark fusion model give information on the production mechanisms of strange baryons. Our experiment is the first to measure inclusive  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$ ,  $\Sigma^*(1385)$  and  $\Xi^-$  photoproduction across the entire range of  $x_F$ . We have previously published<sup>1</sup> results on  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ , and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  photoproduction based on  $\sim 1/3$  of our present statistics.

The paper is organized as follows. We first describe the experiment in section II. Single and pair cross sections are given in section III and compared with available  $\pi^\pm p$  data. In section IV we present the  $x_F$  distributions and compare them with fits to a quark-diquark fusion model. Conclusions are given in section V.

## II. Experimental Procedure

Our data come from SLAC BC72/73, an exposure of the SLAC Hybrid Facility (SHF) (see Figure 1) to a 20 GeV linearly polarized  $\gamma$  beam. The SHF consisted of the 1-m diameter hydrogen bubble chamber, in a 2.6 Tesla magnetic field, cycling at 10-12 Hz, whose flash was triggered on evidence for an hadronic interaction in the hydrogen. This evidence was provided by three planes of proportional wire chambers (PWC) tracking charged particles downstream of the bubble chamber or by a lead-glass-wall (LGW) detecting energetic  $\gamma$  ray showers, electrons and charged hadrons. Two Čerenkov counters between the PWC's and the LGW provided some  $\pi/K/p$  identification (unused in this study). The  $\gamma$  beam was produced by backscattering 4.68 eV laser light from the SLAC 30 GeV electron beam. Selection of  $\gamma$  rays scattered almost directly backwards produced a beam spectrum in the SHF peaked at 20 GeV with FWHM of  $\sim 2$  GeV. The beam flux and spectrum were monitored by a pair spectrometer upstream of the bubble chamber and a lead-lucite beam-stop shower counter downstream. See references 1 and 2 and references therein for further details.

### III. Cross Sections

#### A. Data Sample

The present study is based on measurements of a sample of 284,000 hadronic photo-production events that are selected from a total sample of 2.4 million photographs taken. The film was scanned for hadronic events (and a special search was made for charmed and strange particle decays near the production vertex, using a special high resolution ( $\sim 50 \mu\text{m}$ ) view). The events were measured and processed through geometry and kinematics programs, checked for errors and a summary of information on each event was written onto data summary tapes (DST's). Only those events from the major part of the film sample which was thoroughly analyzed are included in this sample.

Fiducial cuts are made on both the primary vertex and the  $V^0$  vertices' positions in the bubble chamber. The primary vertex must be contained in a cylinder with radius 3 mm and axis along the beam direction and also must be in the region  $-45 < x < 30$  cm, where  $x$  is the coordinate along the beam. (The bubble chamber is from  $-50 < x < 50$  cm along the beam line.) The  $V^0$  fiducial volume was defined to be a cylinder with radius 43 cm and axis at  $x = -2$  cm inside the 50 cm radius bubble chamber.

#### B. $K_S^0$ , $\Lambda$ and $\bar{\Lambda}$ Cross Sections

##### 1. Event Selection

There were  $\sim 45,000$   $V^0$ 's measured in this experiment. The procedure for event selection is similar to that of reference 1. The  $V^0$ 's were fit to the following 4 hypotheses using the kinematic fitting programs SQUAW, GRIND or Rutherford Kinematics.

$$\gamma p \rightarrow (p)e^+e^-$$

$$K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$$

$$\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^-$$

$$\bar{\Lambda} \rightarrow \bar{p}\pi^+$$

As a first step in resolving the ambiguities, the  $\gamma$ 's were removed as follows: The invariant mass of each  $V^0$  when interpreted as an  $e^+e^-$  pair was calculated. The trans-

verse momentum,  $p_t$ , of the  $e^+$  with respect to the  $V^0$  flight path was also computed. If  $M_{e^+e^-} < 30 \text{ MeV}/c^2$  or  $p_t < 10 \text{ MeV}/c$ , the  $V^0$  was called a  $\gamma$  and removed. Monte Carlo studies estimate that less than 1% of  $K_S^0, \Lambda$  or  $\bar{\Lambda}$  were lost by this cut. Note that this calculation was made for all  $V^0$ 's. Thus, many of the  $V^0$ 's with no successful three constraint (3C) fits, ('nofits'), and a few of the unique  $K_S^0, \Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  fits were found to be  $\gamma$ 's. An additional cut on the  $p_t$  of the  $e^-$  removed an insignificant additional number of  $\gamma$ 's and this cut was not used. After the  $\gamma$ 's were removed, there were 21,895  $V^0$ 's left. Of these, 16,885 (77%) fit only one hypothesis. 2,536 (12%)  $V^0$ 's fit more than one hypothesis with  $\chi^2$  probability  $P(\chi^2)$  greater than 0.1%, and 2,474 (11%) fit no hypotheses.

The remaining ambiguities were resolved statistically using the following procedure: (1) A  $K_S^0/\Lambda$  ambiguity was resolved as a  $K_S^0$  if the ( $P(\chi^2)$  of  $K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ ) was greater than 0.70 and ( $P(\chi^2)$  of  $K_S^0 > P(\chi^2)$  of  $\Lambda$ ). Otherwise it was called a  $\Lambda$ . (2) A  $K_S^0/\bar{\Lambda}$  ambiguity was resolved as an  $\bar{\Lambda}$  if ( $P(\chi^2)$  of  $\bar{\Lambda}$ ) was greater than 0.90 and ( $P(\chi^2)$  of  $\bar{\Lambda} > P(\chi^2)$  of  $K_S^0$ ), otherwise it was called a  $K_S^0$ . This somewhat arbitrary procedure was designed to produce the correct numbers of  $K_S^0, \Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  statistically, as revealed, for example, by distributions approximately flat in  $\cos\theta_{\text{cm}}$  as discussed below. The exact values of the  $\chi^2$  cuts are not critical. Table 1 lists the  $V^0$ 's as they are identified to this point.

The 2474 unidentified  $V^0$ 's were analyzed using kinematic fits with fewer than 3 constraints. The origins of these  $V^0$ 's are the following. They may be legitimate  $V^0$ 's associated with the event that do not give 3C fits due to the interaction of the neutral particle in the hydrogen or due to the decay or the interaction in the hydrogen of either of the charged tracks produced in the  $V^0$  decay. They may not be emitted from the primary vertex of the event, i.e., they could come from secondary interactions in the event, window interactions, or other events in the chamber. They could be  $K_L^0$  or other 3 body decays, or they may be badly measured.

The above-mentioned causes for 3C failures were investigated and some of the 2C, 1C and 0C fits were apportioned to  $K_S^0, \Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$ . There were  $767 \pm 39 K_S^0, 536 \pm 38 \Lambda$  and

$36 \pm 13 \bar{\Lambda}$  found. The rest were assumed to be unassociated  $V^0$ 's,  $K_L^0$ , etc. The details of the no-fit analysis are found in reference 2.

Summing the 3C and the resolved no-fit samples, the total (unweighted) number of  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  in the fiducial volume are given in Table 2.

The samples of  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  were checked for possible contamination and biases by checks on the mass,  $\cos \theta_{\text{cm}}$  and lifetimes. The masses of the  $V^0$ 's from the measured track quantities, interpreted as  $\pi^+\pi^-$ ,  $p\pi^-$  and  $\bar{p}\pi^+$  are shown in Figure 2 for all possible combinations and for the final 3C fit samples. The widths are consistent with the experimental resolution. All 3 distributions peak at the correct mass value and show no apparent background or biases.

The angle  $\theta_{\text{cm}}$  is defined as the angle between the direction of the positive decay track in the rest frame of the  $V^0$  and the direction of the  $V^0$  in the lab frame. That is:

$$\cos \theta_{\text{cm}} = \frac{\vec{p}_{\text{cm}}^+ \cdot \vec{p}_{V^0}}{|\vec{p}_{\text{cm}}^+| |\vec{p}_{V^0}|}$$

The  $\cos \theta_{\text{cm}}$  distributions for the 3C  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  passing cuts are shown in Figure 3. These distributions are approximately flat in  $\cos \theta_{\text{cm}}$  as predicted, justifying the values of  $P(\chi^2)$  used to separate the  $V^0$ 's.

The mean lifetimes were determined by a maximum likelihood method and are  $2.686 \pm 0.033$  cm,  $7.78 \pm 0.12$  cm and  $8.43 \pm 0.98$  cm for the  $c\tau$  of the  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  samples respectively, and  $(\tau_\Lambda - \tau_{\bar{\Lambda}})/(\tau_\Lambda + \tau_{\bar{\Lambda}}) = -0.040 \pm 0.063$ . These agree well with the PDG<sup>3</sup> values of  $2.675 \pm 0.007$  cm for  $K_S^0$  and  $7.89 \pm 0.06$  cm for  $\Lambda$  and  $(\tau_\Lambda - \tau_{\bar{\Lambda}})/(\tau_\Lambda + \tau_{\bar{\Lambda}}) = 0.044 \pm 0.085$ .

## 2. $K_S^0$ , $\Lambda$ and $\bar{\Lambda}$ Cross Sections

From the sample of  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  events the inclusive cross sections were calculated. The weighted number of  $V^0$ 's was normalized to the total number of hadronic events in the sample to compute the inclusive cross sections. Corrections were made for the following effects with the average value of the correction in parentheses for  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$ : the relative efficiency for detecting events with  $V^0$  to detecting all hadronic events (0.968, 0.971, 0.969), losses due to the finite length of the bubble chamber fiducial volume

(1.204, 1.167, 1.414), losses in the azimuthal angle of the  $V^0$  decay (1.037, 1.025, 1.08), decay branching ratios of the  $K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ ,  $\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^-$  and  $\bar{\Lambda} \rightarrow \bar{p}\pi^+$  (0.686, 0.642, 0.642). The total hadronic photoproduction cross section,  $115 \pm 2 \mu b$ , was taken from another photoproduction experiment.<sup>4</sup>

The resulting inclusive cross sections for  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  production are presented in Table 2 and are consistent with previously-published cross sections measured in this experiment.<sup>1</sup>

### 3. Comparison to $\gamma p$ and $\pi^\pm p$ Data

Data on inclusive  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  photoproduction are very scarce. Earlier measurements of neutral strange particle photoproduction include a measurement of exclusive final states (e.g.  $K_S^0\Lambda$ ) at 5.8 GeV<sup>5</sup> and a measurement of the total visible strange topology (kinks and  $V^0$ 's visible in the bubble chamber) at 9.3 GeV.<sup>6</sup> Neither of these experiments measured the inclusive production of  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  or  $\bar{\Lambda}$ . Our experiment is the first  $\gamma p$  experiment to measure inclusive  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  production across the entire  $x_F$  range.

A much more recent experiment at higher photon energies done by the CERN  $\Omega$  collaboration has studied inclusive  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  photoproduction in the energy range 25 to 70 GeV.<sup>7</sup> However, the total inclusive  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  cross sections were not measured in the CERN  $\Omega$  experiment because backward  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  ( $x_F < -0.2$ ) were not within the detector acceptance or were removed by the data analysis chain and therefore were lost. This is a very serious problem for the  $\Lambda$  especially, as most of the cross section is at  $x_F < -0.2$ .

Many  $\pi^\pm p$  and  $\pi^\pm d$  experiments have measured inclusive  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  production. A comparison of the number of  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  per inelastic event, as a function of the available energy, may reveal information about the nature of the photon (in particular, the size of the  $s\bar{s}$  component and how this component couples to the final state). This comparison requires some interpretation and assumptions. For the  $\pi^\pm p$  data, the available energy is defined to be  $E_A = \sqrt{s} - m_p - m_\pi$ , whereas in the  $\gamma p$  case we take  $E_A = \sqrt{s} - m_p$ . The definition of the inelastic cross section for the  $\gamma p$  case is not nearly as straightforward as for the  $\pi^\pm p$  case, where the elastic reaction  $\pi^\pm p \rightarrow \pi^\pm p$  is measured and subtracted from the total cross section to give the inelastic cross section. It is believed that the photon

usually couples to a vector meson before interacting hadronically with the proton target. This is the basis of the vector meson dominance model (VDM).<sup>8</sup> This can be taken to mean that the reaction  $\gamma p \rightarrow V p$  may be regarded as an elastic reaction (where  $V =$  a vector meson). Subtraction of this cross section reduces the inelastic cross section used in the calculation. The largest contributions to  $\gamma p \rightarrow V p$  are the vector mesons  $\rho$ ,  $\omega$  and  $\phi$ , with smaller contributions from the  $\rho'(1600)$  and other excited states. The  $\gamma p \rightarrow \rho p$  ‘elastic’ cross section is  $10.8 \pm 1.1 \mu b$ , as measured in this experiment.<sup>9</sup> We subtract only the  $\rho$  contribution to arrive at an inelastic cross section of  $\sigma_{\text{inel}} = 104.2 \mu b$ .

The results are shown in Table 3 and in Figures 4, 5 and 6. The line drawn on each plot is a least-squares fit to all the  $\pi^+ p$  and  $\pi^- p$  data. The  $\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}$  are 72/14, 74/17, 42/13 and 0.524/1 for  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  and  $\Xi^-$ , suggesting that the  $\pi^\pm p$  data are not very consistent ( $\Xi^-$  is discussed below). The  $\gamma p$  points are all above the  $\pi p$  data fit. However, there is a large spread to the  $\pi^\pm p$  data, reflecting the large systematic errors. Naively, we would expect the  $\gamma p$  data to be on the order of 10% higher than the  $\pi p$  data because the photon contains a valence  $s\bar{s}$  component which the  $\pi$  does not have. It is clear from the figures that the  $\gamma p$  data is consistent with a 10% excess. However, because of the spread of the  $\pi^\pm p$  data no solid conclusions can be made. If the  $\rho$  mass were subtracted from  $E_A$  in the photoproduction case or if other vector meson cross sections were subtracted from the inelastic cross sections, the points would lie further above the  $\pi^\pm p$  fit lines.

### C. Other Strange Baryon Cross Sections

#### 1. $\Xi^-$ Selection and Cross Section

The sample of events used to extract the  $\Xi^-$  cross section is the same as that used for the inclusive  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  samples. The  $\Xi^-$  decays to  $\Lambda\pi^- \sim 100\%$  of the time. Requiring both the  $\Lambda$  and the  $\pi^-$  to be visible in the bubble chamber left 594 candidate events with both a neutral  $V^0$  and a charged  $V^-$ . These contained 623  $V^0 V^-$  combinations.

In order to ensure that a sufficient length of the outgoing tracks was seen in the chamber, each vertex,  $V^0$  and  $V^-$ , was required to be at least 11 cm. from the bubble chamber walls. In addition, in order to be sure that the vertices were cleanly separated,



the two vertices were required to be at least 0.2 cm apart and the  $V^-$  at least 0.2 cm apart from the primary vertex. An acceptance weight, which is the product of the  $\Xi^-$  weight and the  $\Lambda$  weight, was applied to each event to correct for these losses.

The unfitted mass for the 3 outgoing charged tracks of the  $V^0 V^-$  interpreted as  $(p\pi^-)\pi^-$  is shown in Figure 7. The  $\Xi^-$  peak is obvious at 1.321 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> on top of a small background.

In order to remove events with poorly measured decay products, cuts of  $\Delta p/p < 0.5$ ,  $\Delta\phi < 0.05$  radians, and  $\Delta\lambda < 0.05$  radians were imposed on the momentum, azimuth and dip uncertainties of the decay products of the  $V^-$  and  $V^0$  (interpreted as  $\pi^-$ ,  $p$ , and  $\pi^-$  respectively). This removed 23  $V^- V^0$  combinations. A correction was made for this small loss.

Two more cuts were made to reduce the background. First the  $V^0$  interpreted as a  $p\pi^-$  was required to have an invariant mass within  $3\sigma$  of the  $\Lambda$  mass (1.115 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>). Second, the  $V^0$  was required to point to the decay of the  $V^-$  as follows: The  $V^0$  momentum  $\vec{p}$  was required to be almost collinear with the vector  $\vec{V}$ , connecting the  $V^-$  production vertex to the  $V^0$  decay vertex. The angle between the two vectors,  $\cos\theta = \vec{p} \cdot \vec{V} / |\vec{p}| |\vec{V}|$  is shown in Figure 8(a) for the  $V^- V^0$  combinations that have passed the  $\Lambda$   $3\sigma$  cut. Obviously, some events contain  $V^-$  and  $V^0$  vertices which are unrelated. A value of  $\cos\theta > 0.95$  was therefore required for the  $V^- V^0$  to be kept as a  $\Xi^-$ . The  $(p\pi^-)\pi^-$  mass combinations after the 2 cuts is shown in Figure 8(b). The events with  $\cos\theta < 0.95$  have no  $M_{(p\pi^-)\pi^-}$  peak in the  $\Xi^-$  range. The final  $\Xi^-$  sample is taken as those events whose invariant masses are  $1.296 < M_{(p\pi^-)\pi^-} < 1.346$  GeV/c<sup>2</sup>. There are 73 combinations in this sample. No event has more than one  $V^- V^0$  combination that falls in this mass range and passes all three cuts.

A check is made that the three cuts give a number of  $\Xi^-$ 's (73) that is consistent with the (signal-background) in the original sample of 546 combinations before cuts (Fig. 7). Taking the 2 sidebands (where the sidebands are the regions  $1.246 < M_{(p\pi^-)\pi^-} < 1.296$  and  $1.346 < M_{(p\pi^-)\pi^-} < 1.396$ ) as representative of the background, yields  $44/2 = 22$

background events expected in the mass region 1.296 to 1.346 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>. There are 96 entries in this mass region. That leaves 96 - 22 = 74 real  $\Xi^-$  expected. This is consistent with the number (73) that the cuts retain, suggesting that no  $\Xi^-$  are lost by the cuts.

The identity of the 73  $\Xi^-$  events was checked by plotting the planarity, the  $\cos\theta_{\text{cm}}$  distribution, the  $p_t$  distribution and the lifetime of the sample. All of these distributions show consistency with the known characteristics of the  $\Xi^-$ .<sup>2</sup>

The cross section for inclusive  $\Xi^-$  production is computed by correcting the raw number of events (73) for geometric losses (average weight 1.94), relative trigger efficiency of  $\Xi^-$  topology events to all hadronic events (0.954), the scanning efficiency for  $\Xi^-$  topology events compared to all hadronic events (1.14) and the branching ratio for  $\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda\pi^-$  (1.00) and  $\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^-$  (0.642). Normalizing the events to the full hadronic sample, the inclusive cross section is  $\sigma(\gamma p \rightarrow \Xi^- X) = 117 \pm 17$  nb.

As in the  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  cases, the inclusive photoproduction cross section of the  $\Xi^-$  has not been measured previously over the full  $x_F$  range. The CERN  $\Omega$  photoproduction experiment has published a value for  $\sigma(\gamma p \rightarrow \Xi^- X)$  for the limited  $x_F$  region  $x_F > -0.3$  of  $28 \pm 9$  nb.<sup>10</sup> This can be compared to the value of  $94 \pm 13$  nb found in this experiment in the same  $x_F$  region ( $x_F > -0.3$ ). These numbers are clearly inconsistent, especially in view of the probable increase in  $\Xi^-$  cross section with energy. The  $\Xi^-$  are measured with completely different techniques in the two experiments. In our experiment, the  $\Xi^-$  decays are observed directly and there is very little background. The CERN  $\Omega$  experiment fits the  $\Lambda\pi^-$  mass distribution, which has very large background in the  $\Xi^-$  region.

We compare our  $\Xi^-$  data with  $\pi^\pm p$  data. The ratio of  $\sigma(\Xi^-)/\sigma(\text{inelastic})$  for various beam energies is listed in Table 4 and shown in Figure 9. Again, the  $\gamma p$  value is higher than the fit to the  $\pi^\pm p$  data, but there are only 3  $\pi^\pm p$  experiments to compare to, and these are all very low statistics experiments, making detailed comparisons difficult.

## 2. $\bar{\Xi}^-$ Cross Section

The  $\bar{\Xi}^-$  was searched for in the  $V^0V^+$  topology events. Cuts very similar to those used in the  $\Xi^-$  search were made and a sample of  $9 \pm 4$  events was found. Figure 10 shows

the unfitted mass of the  $V^0V^-$  combinations interpreted as  $(p\pi^+)\pi^+$  before and after the cuts are made. A  $\bar{E}^-$  signal is clear. Correcting for geometric losses, trigger and scan efficiencies, and branching ratios, gives  $\sigma(\gamma p \rightarrow \bar{E}^- X) = 10 \pm 4$  nb.

### 3. $\Sigma^0$ Cross Section

The  $\Sigma^0$  decays to  $\Lambda\gamma \sim 100\%$  of the time. Therefore, a search for the  $\Sigma^0$  was made by using events with more than one  $V^0$  in the fiducial volume (i.e., it was demanded that both the  $\Lambda$  and the  $\gamma$  be seen in the bubble chamber). There were 1530 candidate  $\Lambda\gamma$  combinations in this sample. Some of the labs collaborating on this experiment did not have the ability to process events with  $\geq 3$   $V^0$ . In those cases, 2  $V^0$  were measured and included on the DST. We have corrected for the resulting losses of  $\Sigma^0$  as described below.

The  $\Lambda$ 's were identified by using 3C fits, and ambiguities between  $\Lambda/K_S^0$  and  $\Lambda/\gamma$  were resolved in the same way as in the  $V^0$  analysis. For each event, the  $\Lambda$  was paired with all other  $V^0$ 's in the chamber that were consistent with being  $\gamma$ 's. The definition of a  $\gamma$  is also the same here as in the  $V^0$  analysis. There were 468 remaining  $\Lambda\gamma$  combinations. For each combination, the invariant mass of the  $(p\pi^-)\gamma$  was formed. Figure 11 shows the unweighted mass distribution. A peak is seen at the  $\Sigma^0$  mass (1192 MeV/c<sup>2</sup>).

To calculate a cross section, the  $\Lambda$  is weighted for various losses as in section B above and the  $\gamma$  is weighted by the inverse of its conversion probability, determined by using energy-dependent cross sections for pair production in hydrogen<sup>11,12</sup>. The weights are fairly large (average 73.6 for the  $\Lambda\gamma$  mass range 1180-1200 MeV/c<sup>2</sup>), reflecting the low probability for  $\gamma$  conversions in hydrogen. The weighted mass distribution is shown in Figure 12. Comparison of Figures 11 and 12 confirms that the average weight does not depend greatly on the  $\Lambda\gamma$  mass.

To compute a cross section, the  $\Sigma^0$  lost due to the 2  $V^0$  restriction for certain labs must be corrected for. The two largest classes of losses arise from the reactions  $\gamma p \rightarrow \Sigma^0 K_S^0 X$  and  $\gamma p \rightarrow \Sigma^0 \pi^0 X$ . In the first case the  $\Lambda$  (from the  $\Sigma^0$ ) and the  $K_S^0$  would be measured but the converted  $\gamma$  neglected. To estimate the maximum size of this loss it will be assumed that the number of visible  $\Lambda K_S^0$  pairs divided by the total number of visible  $\Lambda$  is

approximately equal to the visible  $\Sigma^0 K_S^0$  pairs divided by the visible  $\Sigma^0$ , i.e.,

$$\frac{\#K_S^0 \Lambda}{\#\Lambda} = \frac{\#\Sigma^0 K_S^0}{\#\Sigma^0}$$

If we assume that all of the visible  $\Sigma^0 K_S^0$  are lost by these labs then there are  $(815 \pm 29)/(7315 \pm 93) = 11.1 \pm 0.4\%$   $\Sigma^0$  lost. The second source of loss,  $\Sigma^0 \pi^0$ , is a bit harder to estimate. We will assume that each event has on the average 1  $\pi^0$ . Folding in the probability of conversion, and assuming that there is a 50% chance of measuring the wrong  $\gamma$ , the probability of losing the  $\Sigma^0$  is  $P = 1/2 \times P(\gamma) = 1.1\%$ . Summing the two corrections yields  $12.2 \pm 0.4\%$  lost. The cross section for the  $\Sigma^0$  from the complete labs is  $1.79 \pm 0.74 \mu\text{b}$ . The corrected cross section for the other labs is  $1.56 \pm 0.56 \mu\text{b}$ . They agree within errors and can be combined to yield  $1.65 \pm 0.44 \mu\text{b}$ .

#### 4. $\Omega^-$ Upper Limit

The  $\Omega^-$  was searched for in the  $\Lambda K^-$  decay channel. Because this topology is the same as the  $\Xi^-$  decay topology ( $V^- V^0$ ), similar cuts can be used here as were used to isolate  $\Xi^-$  candidates. The  $(p\pi^-)K^-$  invariant mass plot for all  $V^0 V^-$  combinations is shown in Figure 13. No  $\Omega^-$  signal is seen. After the  $\Lambda$ -mass cut and the  $\Lambda$ -pointing cuts are made (the same cuts as for the  $\Xi^-$  sample) the  $(p\pi^-)K^-$  invariant mass plot is given by the shaded portion of Figure 13. A broad peak is seen at the  $\Omega^-$  mass ( $1672 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ ), but the reflection of the  $\Xi^-$  into the  $\Omega^-$  mass range when the  $\pi^-$  is misassigned the  $K^-$  mass must be considered.

In order to estimate the number of  $\Omega^-$ 's that are ambiguous with  $\Xi^-$ , the mass of each candidate interpreted as  $(p\pi^-)\pi^-$  is plotted in Figure 14 vs its mass interpreted as  $(p\pi^-)K^-$ . The regions between the solid lines represent the  $\Omega^-$  region ( $1.650 < M_{(p\pi^-)K^-} < 1.700 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ ) and the  $\Xi^-$  region ( $1.300 < M_{(p\pi^-)\pi^-} < 1.350 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ ). A very clear  $\Xi^-$  is seen. There are 3 events in the  $\Omega^-$  region that fall outside of the  $\Xi^-$  region. To estimate the number of  $\Omega^-$  decays that might be in the  $\Xi^-$  region,  $\Omega^-$  events were generated by a Monte Carlo program and the  $K^-$  was assigned the  $\pi^-$  mass to mimic  $\Xi^-$  decays. From the scatter plot of  $(p\pi^-)K^-$  vs.  $(p\pi^-)\pi^-$  mass the ratio of

$\Omega^-$  outside the  $\Xi^-$  region to the number inside was found to be 6.6. From the 3 events that are outside the  $\Xi^-$  region, we estimate that  $3/6.6 = 0.5$  events in the  $\Xi^-$  region are  $\Omega^-$ , assuming that all 3 outside the region are  $\Omega^-$ . If there are no more than 3.5 events in the  $\Omega^-$  mass range, then there are no more than 7.3 events at the 90% confidence level, or  $\sigma(\gamma p \rightarrow \Omega^- X) < 17.1$  nb (90% C.L.). The weights, scanning efficiency and triggering efficiency are all taken to be the same as those used for the  $\Xi^-$  cross section calculation. The B.R. of  $\Omega^- \rightarrow \Lambda K^-$  of 0.686 is used.

### 5. $\Sigma^{*\pm}(1385)$ Cross Sections

The  $\Sigma^*(1385)$  was searched for in the  $\Lambda\pi^\pm$  decay channels. All unique and resolved  $\Lambda$ 's are used in the search for the  $\Sigma^*(1385)$ . Each of the  $\Lambda$ 's is paired with every charged track originating at the primary vertex and not decaying in the chamber. Figures 15 and 16 show the weighted  $\Lambda\pi^+$  and  $\Lambda\pi^-$  mass distributions. The events are weighted for the  $\Lambda$  geometric acceptance, etc, as for the  $\Lambda$  inclusive events. A clear  $\Sigma^*(1385)$  signal is seen in each channel. Each mass distribution is fit to a Gaussian plus background. The Gaussian is fixed with its center at the  $\Sigma^*(1385)$  mass (1382 MeV for  $\Sigma^{*+}$  and 1387 MeV for  $\Sigma^{*-}$ ) with a width of 30 MeV/c<sup>2</sup>. The background shape is parameterized as  $a(M - M_{\text{th}})^b e^{-cM}$ , where  $M_{\text{th}} = M_\Lambda + M_\pi$  is the threshold invariant mass of the  $\Lambda\pi$ . The fits give  $(208 \pm 19)$   $\Sigma^{*+}$  and  $(109 \pm 15)$   $\Sigma^{*-}$  unweighted events. The fits are shown in Figures 15 and 16 as solid lines. The dotted lines show the fitted background shape under the signal.

Correcting for trigger acceptance and losses of  $\Lambda$ 's and for the branching ratios of  $\Sigma^* \rightarrow \Lambda\pi$  ( $0.88 \pm 0.02$ ) and  $\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^-$  (0.642), gives the cross sections tabulated in Table 2. The  $\Sigma^*(1385)$  cross sections agree very well with the results of a previous analysis of this experiment<sup>1</sup>.

### D. Pair Cross Sections

The cross sections for  $\gamma p \rightarrow K_S^0 K_S^0 X$ ,  $\gamma p \rightarrow K_S^0 \Lambda X$ ,  $\gamma p \rightarrow K_S^0 \bar{\Lambda} X$  and  $\gamma p \rightarrow \Lambda \bar{\Lambda} X$  were measured using  $V^0$ 's restricted to the clean kinematic ranges in  $\cos \theta_{\text{cm}}$  (defined in sections IV.A below). The pair cross sections were corrected for losses, scan and trigger efficiencies, and the branching ratios as discussed above for single particle inclusive cross sections. Table

2 gives the results. An indication of the efficiency of these cuts for separating ambiguous decays into  $K_S^0$  and  $\Lambda$  is that there are only 4 events interpreted as  $\Lambda\Lambda$  compared to 366 interpreted as  $K_S^0\Lambda$ .

Some observations can be made about the pair cross sections. The  $K_S^0 K_S^0$  pair production and the  $K_S^0 \Lambda$  associated cross sections are of comparable size.  $\Lambda$ 's are produced with  $K_S^0$  much more often than with  $\bar{\Lambda}$ . The  $\Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$  cross section is small compared to the pair or associated cross sections and is 2.2% of the total inclusive  $\Lambda$  cross section. In contrast, about 1/3 of the  $\bar{\Lambda}$  inclusive cross section can be accounted for by  $\Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$  production, whereas only  $\sim 6\%$  of the  $\bar{\Lambda}$  are produced via  $K_S^0 \bar{\Lambda}$  associated production.

#### IV. Feynman $x$ Distributions and Comparisons to a Quark-Diquark Fusion Model

##### A. $x_F$ Distributions

The  $x_F$  distributions are computed using a limited subsample of the  $V^0$ 's. To provide a clean sample of  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  the distributions were computed with  $V^0$ 's in the following  $\cos \theta_{\text{cm}}$  regions.

Particle	Range
$K_S^0$	$-0.8 < \cos(\theta_{\text{cm}}) < 0.8$
$\Lambda$	$-1.0 < \cos(\theta_{\text{cm}}) < 0.1$
$\bar{\Lambda}$	$-0.1 < \cos(\theta_{\text{cm}}) < 1.0$

This choice of regions reduces the maximum possible background from misidentified ambiguous events to 0.3%, 1.1% and 8.9% for the  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  samples, respectively. The  $\Xi^-$  distribution was computed with a cut of  $\cos \theta_{\text{cm}} < 0.8$ . This was necessary because of possible losses in the  $\cos \theta_{\text{cm}} > 0.8$  region, where the  $\Xi^-$  kink angle is smallest.

The invariant Feynman  $x$  distributions,

$$F_1(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma_T} \frac{2E}{\pi\sqrt{s}} \frac{d\sigma}{dx}$$

are plotted in Figure 17. Here,  $x_F = 2p_L^{\text{cm}}/\sqrt{s}$ ,  $E$  is the energy of the  $V^0$  in the overall  $\gamma p$  center of mass,  $\sigma_T$  is the total photoproduction cross section and  $s$  is the invariant mass squared of the  $\gamma p$  system = 37.5 GeV<sup>2</sup>.

Note that  $x_F$  is calculated using a  $\sqrt{s}$  that assumes a beam energy of 19.5 GeV. The beam energy spread contributes an error of  $\pm 5\%$  to the  $x_F$  so defined.

The distributions in Figure 17 show the following characteristics. The  $K_S^0$  is centrally peaked. The  $\Lambda$  distribution is peaked strongly in the backward direction ( $x_F < 0$ ), which is expected if the  $\Lambda$  carries on average 2/3 of the target proton's ( $x_F = -1$ ) quarks. The  $\bar{\Lambda}$  is centrally peaked. This is also expected because the three valence quarks in the  $\bar{\Lambda}$  are anti-quarks and hence cannot come from the valence quarks of the proton. The  $\Xi^-$ , having one quark in common with the proton, is expected to peak at  $x_F \sim -1/3$ , which it does.

## B. The Quark-Diquark Fusion Model

The  $x_F$  distributions of strange baryon production can be modelled by a quark-diquark fusion mechanism.<sup>13</sup> In this model the strange baryon,  $S_b$ , produced in the reaction  $\gamma p \rightarrow S_b + X$ , is the product of the 'fusion' of a quark from one initial state particle and a diquark from the other initial state particle (Figure 18). This fusion model is analogous to the Drell-Yan production of di-lepton pairs in hadron-hadron scattering.

### 1. Assumptions

The assumptions of the model are the following:

1. The valence quark flavors of the produced baryon consist of the quark flavors of the quark and diquark involved in the fusion.
2. Quarks can be valence or sea quarks.
3. Diquarks are composed of 2 valence quarks 'valence diquark' or a valence and a sea quark 'sea diquark'. Diquarks containing only sea quarks are assumed not to contribute to the fusion process.
4. Anti-quarks can be valence or sea anti-quarks.
5. Anti-diquarks consist of one valence anti-quark and one sea anti-quark 'sea anti-diquark'.

The subject of quark structure functions within the photon has been treated by many authors.<sup>14,15,16</sup> The photon can be considered to consist of a point-like part (which can be calculated in QCD) and a hadron-like part, which can be computed using the vector-meson

dominance model (VDM).

It will be assumed that only the VDM piece contributes to the quark structure functions in this experiment. This is a reasonable assumption in light of the success that VDM gives in explaining many of the other facets of photoproduction with real photons.<sup>8</sup> This gives the following form of the structure function:

$$F_\gamma(x) = \sum_i \left( \frac{4\pi\alpha}{\gamma_i^2} \right) F_i(x)$$

where  $x$  is the momentum fraction of a particular parton in the photon (or vector meson), and the summation is over the vector mesons coupling to the photon.

In evaluating the  $F_i(x)$  we assume only the  $\rho$ ,  $\omega$  and  $\phi$  vector mesons contribute significantly. The  $\rho$  and  $\omega$  meson structure functions are both considered to be an average over  $\pi^+$  and  $\pi^-$  structure functions:

$$F_\rho(x) = \frac{4\pi\alpha}{\gamma_\rho^2} \frac{1}{2} [F_{\pi^+}(x) + F_{\pi^-}(x)]$$

$$F_\omega(x) = \frac{4\pi\alpha}{\gamma_\omega^2} \frac{1}{2} [F_{\pi^+}(x) + F_{\pi^-}(x)]$$

The  $\phi$  is considered to be  $s\bar{s}$  as far as valence quark content is concerned, but the shape of the structure functions is that of the  $\pi$  structure functions. These are reasonable assumptions because the  $\phi$  has  $q\bar{q}$  structure and the quark-counting rules, from which many of the structure function shapes are derived, predict shapes based on the number of valence constituents, independent of flavor.

The  $\pi$  structure function is assumed to consist of both valence and sea terms. The shapes, as given by Donnachie<sup>13</sup>, are given in Table 5.

Theoretically, the charge couplings of the quarks in the vector mesons to the photon are in the ratio  $4\pi/\gamma_\rho^2 : 4\pi/\gamma_\omega^2 : 4\pi/\gamma_\phi^2 = 9 : 1 : 2$ . Measurements of these couplings have been made in photoproduction and in colliding beam experiments. The extraction of the couplings from photoproduction data requires making some assumptions about the real to imaginary parts ratio of the  $\gamma p \rightarrow V p$  cross sections and the values of  $\sigma(V p)$ , where  $V =$  a vector meson. Depending on the set of assumptions used, the ratios vary (See Table 11



of Reference 17) from 9:0.7:0.5 to 9:1.14:2.15. The colliding beam experiments measure the widths of the vector mesons and extract the coupling constants directly. These yield a  $\rho : \omega : \phi$  ratio of  $9 : 1.04 \pm 0.18 : 1.41 \pm 0.24$ .<sup>17</sup>

In this analysis, we take  $\gamma_\rho^2/4\pi = 2.39 \pm 0.02$ , a value determined in a recent high statistics photoproduction experiment at energies near ours.<sup>18</sup> This value agrees with earlier results.<sup>17</sup> We fix the  $\rho : \omega : \phi$  ratio at  $9 : 1 : 2$ . The effect of a different ratio will be shown when the fits are discussed.

The structure functions of the proton are also given by Donnachie<sup>13</sup> and are listed in Table 6.

Starting from the Drell-Yan formula for dilepton production in hadron-hadron collisions, the following formula can be derived<sup>2</sup> for the  $x_F$  distribution of inclusive baryon photoproduction:

$$\frac{1}{\sigma_T} \frac{2E}{\pi\sqrt{s}} \frac{d\sigma}{dx_F} = \frac{1}{\sigma_T \pi} \frac{4\pi^2}{3M^2} \frac{g^2}{4\pi} \left\{ F_\gamma^q(x_1) F_p^{qq}(x_2) + F_\gamma^{qq}(x_1) F_p^q(x_2) \right\}$$

where

$g^2/4\pi =$  an unknown fusion coupling constant

$\sigma_T =$  The total hadronic photoproduction cross section

$M^2 =$  Mass squared of the strange baryon produced

and the structure functions are defined in terms of  $\pi$  and proton structure functions, where:

$$F_\pi^q(x) = V_\pi^q(x) + S_\pi^q(x)$$

$$F_p^q(x) = V_p^q(x) + S_p^q(x)$$

$$F_\pi^{qq}(x) = S_\pi^{qq}(x)$$

$$F_p^{qq}(x) = V_p^{qq}(x) + S_p^{qq}(x)$$

Here the  $V$ 's are the valence quark or diquark structure functions and the  $S$ 's are the sea quark or diquark structure functions.

## C. Fits to Data

### 1. $\Lambda$ Fits

The  $\Lambda$  consists of valence ( $uds$ ) quarks and can be formed by quark-diquark combinations of the forms  $u(ds)$ ,  $d(us)$  and  $s(ud)$ . Consider first the  $u(ds)$  form. As one example, the  $u$  quark can be a valence  $u$  from the proton. In such a case the  $(ds)$  diquark must be a sea diquark from the photon. Thus the form is  $s_{\pi}^{qq} S_{\pi}^{qq}(x_1) V_p^q(x_2)$ , where  $s_{\pi}^{qq}$  is an unknown coefficient of the diquark structure function. The other combinations can be found in a similar way. The numerical coefficients are determined by adding up all the possible ways to form ( $uds$ ) combinations.

The Feynman  $x$  distribution for the  $\Lambda$ , with all of its numerical factors, is:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\sigma_T} \frac{2E}{\pi\sqrt{s}} \frac{d\sigma}{dx_F} = & \frac{1}{\sigma_T} \frac{4\pi\alpha}{3M^2} \frac{g^2}{4\pi} \left\{ \left( \frac{\gamma_{\rho}^2}{4\pi} \right)^{-1} + \left( \frac{\gamma_{\omega}^2}{4\pi} \right)^{-1} \right\} \left\{ v_p^{qq} S_{\pi}^q(x_1) V_p^{qq}(x_2) \right. \\ & + 3/2 s_{\pi}^{qq} S_{\pi}^{qq}(x_1) V_p^q(x_2) + 2 s_{\pi}^{qq} S_{\pi}^{qq}(x_1) S_p^q(x_2) \\ & \left. + s_p^{qq} V_{\pi}^q(x_1) S_p^{qq}(x_2) + 4 s_p^{qq} S_{\pi}^q(x_1) S_p^{qq}(x_2) \right\} \\ & + \frac{1}{\sigma_T} \frac{4\pi\alpha}{3M^2} \frac{g^2}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\gamma_{\phi}^2}{4\pi} \right)^{-1} \left\{ v_p^{qq} S_{\pi}^q(x_1) V_p^{qq}(x_2) + 3 s_{\pi}^{qq} S_{\pi}^{qq}(x_1) V_p^q(x_2) \right. \\ & + 2 s_{\pi}^{qq} S_{\pi}^{qq}(x_1) S_p^q(x_2) + 2 s_p^{qq} V_{\pi}^q(x_1) S_p^{qq}(x_2) \\ & \left. + 4 s_p^{qq} S_{\pi}^q(x_1) S_p^{qq}(x_2) + v_p^{qq} V_{\pi}^q(x_1) V_p^{qq}(x_2) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

A  $\chi^2$  fit was made to the  $\Lambda$  data with the resultant coefficients listed in Table 7(a).

It is interesting to note that there are two types of terms in the formula that involve the coefficient  $s_{\pi}^{qq}$ , those with  $S_{\pi}^{qq} S_p^q$  and those with  $S_{\pi}^{qq} V_p^q$ . The distribution was also fitted assuming that these are independent coefficients. The fit gave a first term of  $(g^2/4\pi) s_{\pi}^{qq} = 0.232 \pm 0.017$  while the second was  $(g^2/4\pi) s_{\pi}^{qq} = 0.238 \pm 0.066$ . These two numbers agree well, as predicted by the model.

The result of the fit is plotted in Figure 19. The 5 curves show the contributions from the 4 different shapes that contribute plus the sum of the 4. We note that in the formula above more than one curve can correspond to a single coefficient. For example, the second

and third terms,  $3/2s_{\pi}^{qq}S_{\pi}^{qq}(x_1)V_p^q(x_2)$  and  $2s_{\pi}^{qq}S_{\pi}^{qq}(x_1)S_p^q(x_2)$ , have the same coefficient  $s_{\pi}^{qq}$  but have completely different shapes (long dash and short dash, respectively on Figure 19). The fit is very good across the entire  $x_F$  range, with the possible exception of the high  $x_F$  points.

A possible explanation of the discrepancy of the fit from the data in the high  $x_F$  range lies in the production and decay of resonances, which have been ignored up to this point. For example, the  $\Sigma^0$  decays to  $\Lambda$  and  $\gamma$  and the  $\Sigma^*(1385)$  decays to  $\Lambda$  and  $\pi$ . In both of these cases, the  $\Lambda$  is slightly slower in the lab (has lower absolute  $x_F$ ) than the parent  $\Sigma$ . This will lead to a slight softening of the  $x_F$  distribution. This model predicts a  $\Sigma^0$   $x_F$  shape that is identical to the  $\Lambda$   $x_F$  shape for primary  $\Lambda$  and  $\Sigma^0$  due to the identical quark content of the two baryons. Within the limited statistics, the  $\Sigma^0$  and  $\Lambda$   $x_F$  distributions agree (not shown).

## 2. $\bar{\Lambda}$ Fits

The  $\bar{\Lambda}$  has three valence anti-quarks. The proton cannot contribute an anti-diquark in this model. Therefore, the photon is the source of the sea anti-diquark and the anti-quark arises from the sea of the proton. The predicted distribution is:

$$\frac{1}{\sigma_T} \frac{2E}{\pi\sqrt{s}} \frac{d\sigma}{dx_F} = \frac{1}{\sigma_T} \frac{4\pi\alpha}{3M^2} \frac{g^2}{4\pi} \left\{ \left( \frac{\gamma_{\rho}^2}{4\pi} \right)^{-1} + \left( \frac{\gamma_{\omega}^2}{4\pi} \right)^{-1} + \left( \frac{\gamma_{\phi}^2}{4\pi} \right)^{-1} \right\} \{2s_{\pi}^{qq}S_{\pi}^{qq}(x_1)S_p^q(x_2)\}$$

A  $\chi^2$  fit was made to the  $\bar{\Lambda}$  data, yielding  $(g^2/4\pi)s_{\pi}^{qq} = 0.329 \pm 0.020$  for a  $\chi^2$ / d.o.f. of 47/12. The fitted distribution plotted in Figure 20 follows the general characteristics of the data but is significantly higher at large  $x_F$ .

## 3. $\Xi^-$ Fits

The form of the invariant Feynman  $x$  distribution is :

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{\sigma_T} \frac{2E}{\pi\sqrt{s}} \frac{d\sigma}{dx_F} &= \frac{1}{\sigma_T} \frac{4\pi\alpha}{3M^2} \frac{g^2}{4\pi} \left\{ \left( \frac{\gamma_\rho^2}{4\pi} \right)^{-1} + \left( \frac{\gamma_\omega^2}{4\pi} \right)^{-1} \right\} \\
&\times \left\{ (1/2) s_\pi^{qq} S_\pi^{qq}(x_1) S_p^q(x_2) + s_p^{qq} S_\pi^q(x_1) S_p^{qq}(x_2) \right\} \\
&+ \frac{1}{\sigma_T} \frac{4\pi\alpha}{3M^2} \frac{g^2}{4\pi} \left( \frac{\gamma_\phi^2}{4\pi} \right)^{-1} \left\{ 2s_\pi^{qq} S_\pi^{qq}(x_1) S_p^q(x_2) + s_p^{qq} S_\pi^q(x_1) S_p^{qq}(x_2) \right. \\
&\left. + s_p^{qq} V_\pi^q(x_1) S_p^{qq}(x_2) + s_\pi^{qq} S_\pi^{qq}(x_1) V_p^q(x_2) \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

A  $\chi^2$  fit was made to the  $\Xi^-$  data yielding the coefficients listed in Table 7(a) and shown in Figure 21. The  $\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}$  is 14/9. This fit adequately describes the entire  $x_F$  range.

#### 4. Discussion of the Quark-Diquark Fusion Model Fit Results

Several observations can be made about the results of the fits of the quark-diquark fusion model to  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  and  $\Xi^-$  production. First, the model describes reasonably well the  $x_F$  shapes of  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  and  $\Xi^-$  as well as the relative cross section magnitudes of the three particles. It does so with a consistent set of parameters and with structure functions identical to those used for describing  $\pi^\pm p$  and  $pp(\bar{p}p)$  strange baryon production.<sup>13</sup>

The  $\Lambda$  cross section is by far the largest of the three, dominated by the  $v_p^{qq}$  terms corresponding to a valence ( $ud$ ) diquark from the proton and a valence or sea  $s$  quark from the photon. The  $x_F$  distribution of the  $\Lambda$  peaks in the backward direction, reflecting the strongly negative  $x_F$  shape of the proton ( $ud$ ) valence diquark. The shapes of the primary  $\Sigma^0$  and  $\Lambda$  (i.e. those that are not decay products of higher mass states) should be the same in the model. The data show the  $\Lambda$  and  $\Sigma^0$  shapes to be compatible.

The contributions of  $s_\pi^{qq}$  to  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  and  $\Xi^-$  are similar in magnitude as predicted by the model. The values are listed in Table 7(a). However, the coefficient is  $\sim 30\%$  larger for  $\bar{\Lambda}$  than for  $\Lambda$  and for  $\Xi^-$  it is about 25% smaller. It is possible that the  $\gamma$  couples directly to  $\Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$  or to  $s\bar{s}$  for some fraction of the produced  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$ . This part of the production is not explained by the quark-diquark fusion model. Since we are forcing the model to fit all  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  production, this causes the  $\bar{\Lambda}$  coefficient to be larger than the  $\Lambda$  coefficient. (The

effect is relatively much larger for  $\bar{\Lambda}$  than  $\Lambda$  because the  $\Lambda$  cross section is much larger than the  $\bar{\Lambda}$  cross section.) The heavier  $s$  quark mass may account for the suppression of  $\Xi^-$  production relative to  $\Lambda$ .

The result of fitting the data with a different value of the ratio, 9:1:1.4 (rather than 9:1:2), is given in Table 7(b). The  $\Xi^- s_{\pi}^{qq}$  value changes the most, increasing by 30%, while the  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda} s_{\pi}^{qq}$  increase less. Thus, part of the departure from equality of the  $s_{\pi}^{qq}$  coefficients may be attributable to the not-well-known  $\rho : \omega : \phi$  ratio.

It is also found that no contribution of the  $s_p^{qq}$  term is needed to fit the  $\Lambda$  or  $\Xi^-$  distribution, i.e., no contribution from the sea diquark of the proton is needed to fit the  $x_F$  distributions.

The  $\phi$  component of the photon is needed to give good fits to the  $x_F$  distributions. In particular, the  $\Xi^-$  fit without the  $\phi$  contribution is very poor. Figure 22 shows the result of the fit to the  $\Xi^-$  without any  $\phi$  contribution. The  $\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}$  increases from 14/9 in the case when the  $\phi$  is used to 107/9 when it is not. For the  $\Lambda$  and  $\bar{\Lambda}$  the  $\phi$  contribution is relatively smaller, but again the fits are improved by its inclusion.

## V. Conclusions

The cross sections for inclusive  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$ ,  $\Xi^-$ ,  $\bar{\Xi}^-$ ,  $\Sigma^0$ , and  $\Sigma^{*\pm}(1385)$  and an upper limit to  $\Omega^-$  photoproduction at 20 GeV have been measured and are listed in Table 2. The  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  and  $\Xi^-$  rates per inelastic event were compared with  $\pi^{\pm}p$  rates and show evidence of an excess which may be due to the  $s\bar{s}$  component of the photon.

The pair cross sections were measured and are listed in Table 2. The  $K_S^0 K_S^0$  pair and  $K_S^0 \Lambda$  associated cross sections are approximately equal. Only a small fraction of  $\Lambda$  production is with  $\bar{\Lambda}$  whereas  $\sim 1/3$  of  $\bar{\Lambda}$  production is with  $\Lambda$ .

The  $x_F$  distributions of the  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  and  $\Xi^-$  were presented and compared to the predictions of a quark-diquark fusion model. The model fits the three distributions well with consistent values of the free parameters  $(g^2/4\pi)s_{\pi}^{qq}$  etc. The dominant term in  $\Lambda$  production has the coefficient  $(g^2/4\pi)v_p^{qq}$  and measures the contribution from the valence diquark in the proton. A smaller contribution arises from the term with coefficient  $(g^2/4\pi)s_{\pi}^{qq}$ , which

measures the sea diquark contribution from the photon. The sea diquark contributions from the proton are consistent with zero. It is found that the  $\phi$  (or  $s\bar{s}$ ) component of the photon is needed to fit the  $x_F$  distributions well. Without such a piece, the  $\chi^2$  increases in all cases, with a large increase for the  $\Xi^-$  fit.

### Acknowledgments

We are grateful for the efforts of the SLAC bubble-chamber crew and of the film-scanning and measuring personnel at the participating institutions. We also wish to thank T. Fieguth, R. Gearhart and J. Murray for setting up the beam lines that made this experiment possible.

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Table 1  
Identification of  $V^0$ 's after separation with 3C fits

Unidentified	2,474
$\gamma$	20,674
$K_S^0$ unique	11,418
$\Lambda$ unique	5,216
$\bar{\Lambda}$ unique	251
$K_S^0 / \Lambda$ ambiguous	1,975
$K_S^0 / \bar{\Lambda}$ ambiguous	559
$\Lambda / \bar{\Lambda}$ ambiguous	2
Total	42,569
$K_S^0 / \Lambda$ resolved as $K_S^0$	412
$K_S^0 / \bar{\Lambda}$ resolved as $K_S^0$	471
$K_S^0 / \Lambda$ resolved as $\Lambda$	1,563
$K_S^0 / \bar{\Lambda}$ resolved as $\bar{\Lambda}$	88

Table 2

Cross sections presented in this paper.  
The errors include statistical and systematic errors.  
The cross sections include strange baryons  
produced indirectly, e.g.  $\Lambda$  from the decay of  $\Sigma^0$

Particle	Unweighted Number	$\sigma(\mu b)$
$K_S^0$	$13068 \pm 121$	$9.663 \pm 0.272$
$\Lambda$	$7315 \pm 93$	$5.603 \pm 0.180$
$\bar{\Lambda}$	$375 \pm 23$	$0.389 \pm 0.036$
$\Xi^-$	$73 \pm 9$	$0.117 \pm 0.017$
$\bar{\Xi}^-$	$9 \pm 4$	$0.010 \pm 0.004$
$\Sigma^0$	$29 \pm 8$	$1.65 \pm 0.44$
$\Sigma^{*+}(1385)$	$208 \pm 19$	$0.63 \pm 0.06$
$\Sigma^{*-}(1385)$	$109 \pm 15$	$0.33 \pm 0.05$
$\Omega^-$	$< 7.3$ at 90% C.L.	$< 0.017$ at 90% C.L.
$K_S^0 K_S^0$	$467 \pm 22$	$0.973 \pm 0.040$
$K_S^0 \Lambda$	$366 \pm 19$	$1.125 \pm 0.059$
$K_S^0 \bar{\Lambda}$	$6 \pm 2$	$0.023 \pm 0.009$
$\Lambda \bar{\Lambda}$	$11 \pm 3$	$0.126 \pm 0.038$
$\Lambda \Lambda$	$4 \pm 2$	$0.028 \pm 0.014$

Table 3  
Number of  $V^0$  per inelastic event for various  
 $\pi^+p$ ,  $\pi^-p$  experiments and this experiment

Beam	Beam Energy GeV	$E_A$ GeV	$\sigma_{K_S^0}/\sigma_{\text{inel.}}$	$\sigma_{\Lambda}/\sigma_{\text{inel.}}$	$\sigma_{\bar{\Lambda}}/\sigma_{\text{inel.}}$	Reference
$\pi^+$	5	2.13	–	$0.026 \pm 0.002$	–	19
$\pi^+$	16	4.48	$0.077 \pm 0.004$	$0.044 \pm 0.003$	$0.0027 \pm 0.0004$	20
$\pi^+$	18.5	4.89	$0.058 \pm 0.004$	$0.037 \pm 0.003$	$0.0022 \pm 0.0002$	21
$\pi^+$	32	6.73	$0.105 \pm 0.007$	$0.051 \pm 0.005$	$0.0072 \pm 0.0018$	22
$\pi^+$	100	12.7	$0.205 \pm 0.020$	$0.055 \pm 0.010$	$0.0075 \pm 0.0040$	23
$\pi^+$	147	16.6	$0.200 \pm 0.015$	$0.090 \pm 0.010$	$0.0349 \pm 0.0050$	24
$\pi^-$	1.23	0.722	–	$0.011 \pm 0.003$	–	25
$\pi^-$	6	2.41	$0.043 \pm 0.003$	$0.041 \pm 0.003$	–	26
$\pi^-$	11.4	3.64	$0.092 \pm 0.020$	$0.035 \pm 0.012$	–	27
$\pi^-$	15	4.31	$0.091 \pm 0.004$	$0.059 \pm 0.003$	$0.0023 \pm 0.0003$	28
$\pi^-$	16	4.48	$0.071 \pm 0.004$	$0.042 \pm 0.003$	$0.0019 \pm 0.0002$	29
$\pi^-$	18.5	4.89	$0.075 \pm 0.005$	$0.044 \pm 0.004$	$0.0029 \pm 0.0003$	21
$\pi^-$	40	7.64	–	$0.069 \pm 0.014$	$0.0066 \pm 0.0014$	30
$\pi^-$	100	12.7	$0.143 \pm 0.005$	$0.075 \pm 0.004$	$0.0186 \pm 0.0029$	31
$\pi^-$	147	16.6	$0.175 \pm 0.018$	$0.079 \pm 0.010$	$0.0181 \pm 0.0062$	32
$\pi^-$	200	18.3	$0.178 \pm 0.012$	$0.073 \pm 0.006$	$0.0205 \pm 0.0029$	31
$\pi^-$	205	18.6	$0.173 \pm 0.029$	$0.081 \pm 0.016$	$0.0281 \pm 0.0109$	33
$\pi^-$	250	20.6	$0.189 \pm 0.032$	$0.070 \pm 0.009$	$0.0195 \pm 0.0043$	34
$\pi^-$	360	24.9	$0.210 \pm 0.011$	$0.075 \pm 0.010$	$0.0222 \pm 0.0033$	31
$\gamma$	19.5	5.18	$0.093 \pm 0.003$	$0.054 \pm 0.002$	$0.0037 \pm 0.0003$	

Table 4  
Number of  $\Xi^-$  per inelastic event for various  
 $\pi^-p$  experiments and this experiment

Beam	Beam Energy GeV	$E_A$ GeV	$\sigma_{\Xi^-}/\sigma_{\text{inel.}} (\times 10^{-3})$	Reference
$\pi^-$	4.00	1.82	$0.216 \pm 0.172$	35
$\pi^-$	16.0	4.48	$0.821 \pm 0.127$	36
$\pi^-$	25.0	5.84	$0.945 \pm 0.189$	37
$\gamma$	19.5	5.18	$1.123 \pm 0.165$	

Table 5  
Structure Functions of the Pion

Pion Valence Quark	$V_{\pi}^q(x) = 0.64x(1-x)$	$x \geq 0.5$
	$V_{\pi}^q(x) = 0.32x^{\frac{1}{2}}(1-x)^{\frac{1}{2}}$	$x \leq 0.5$
Pion Sea Quark(anti-quark)	$S_{\pi}^q(x) = 0.19(1-x)^5$	
Pion Sea Diquark(anti-diquark)	$S_{\pi}^{qq}(x) = (1-x)^3$	

Table 6  
Structure Functions of the Proton

Proton Valence quark	$V_p^q(x) = 2.66x(1-x)^3$	$x \geq 0.25$
	$V_p^q(x) = 0.86x^{\frac{1}{2}}(1-x)^{\frac{3}{2}}$	$x \leq 0.25$
Proton Valence Diquark	$V_p^{qq}(x) = x^2(1-x)$	
Proton Sea Diquark	$S_p^{qq}(x) = (1-x)^5$	
Proton Sea Quark(anti-quark)	$S_p^q(x) = 0.20(1-x)^7$	

Table 7(a)  
Results of the fits to  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  and  $\Xi^-$   $x_F$  distributions  
using 9 : 1 : 2 as the  $\rho : \omega : \phi$  ratio

	$\Lambda$	$\bar{\Lambda}$	$\Xi^-$
$(g^2/4\pi)v_p^{qq}$	$8.74 \pm 0.21$	-	-
$(g^2/4\pi)s_{\pi}^{qq}$	$0.244 \pm 0.009$	$0.329 \pm 0.020$	$0.187 \pm 0.012$
$(g^2/4\pi)s_p^{qq}$	0.0	0.0	0.0
$\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}$	21/14	47/12	14/9

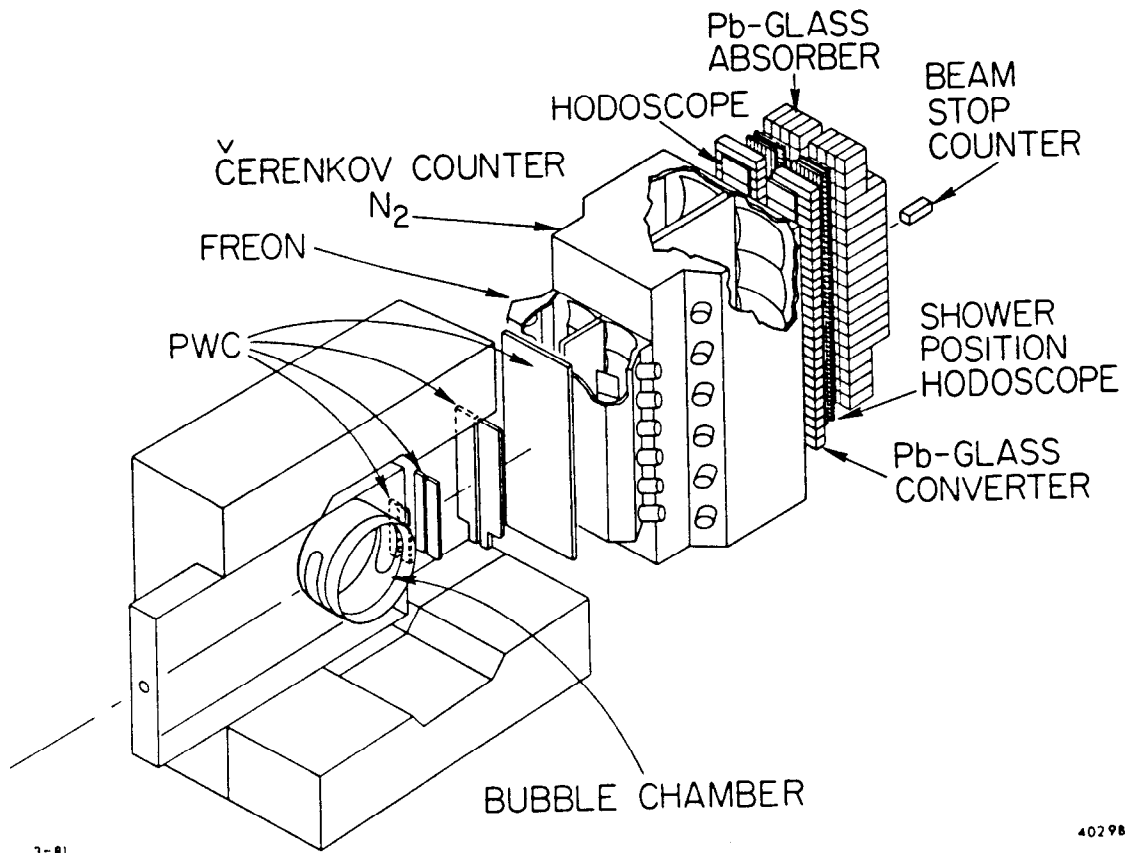
Table 7(b)  
Results of the fits to  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  and  $\Xi^-$  data  
using 9 : 1 : 1.4 as the  $\rho : \omega : \phi$  ratio

	$\Lambda$	$\bar{\Lambda}$	$\Xi^-$
$(g^2/4\pi)v_p^{qq}$	$9.35 \pm 0.30$	-	-
$(g^2/4\pi)s_{\pi}^{qq}$	$0.269 \pm 0.012$	$0.347 \pm 0.023$	$0.241 \pm 0.040$
$(g^2/4\pi)s_p^{qq}$	0.0	0.0	0.0
$\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}$	21/14	47/12	16/9

## Figure Captions

1. The SLAC Hybrid Facility showing the bubble chamber and the downstream detectors.
2. Invariant mass combinations of  $V^0$ 's. (a)  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$  of all  $V^0$ 's; (b)  $M_{p\pi^-}$  of all  $V^0$ 's; (c)  $M_{\bar{p}\pi^+}$  of all  $V^0$ 's; (d)  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$  of 3C  $K_S^0$ ; (e)  $M_{p\pi^-}$  of 3C  $\Lambda$ ; (f)  $M_{\bar{p}\pi^+}$  of 3C  $\bar{\Lambda}$ . The shaded portions on (d),(e), and (f) are from the resolved 3C  $V^0$ 's.
3.  $\cos \theta_{\text{cm}}$  distributions for 3C unique plus resolved (a)  $K_S^0$ ; (b)  $\Lambda$ ; (c)  $\bar{\Lambda}$ . The shaded portions are the resolved 3C  $V^0$  contributions.
4. Number of  $K_S^0$  per inelastic event as a function of the available energy. The straight line is a fit to the  $\pi^+p$  and  $\pi^-p$  data.
5. Number of  $\Lambda$  per inelastic event as a function of the available energy. The straight line is a fit to the  $\pi^+p$  and  $\pi^-p$  data.
6. Number of  $\bar{\Lambda}$  per inelastic event as a function of the available energy. The straight line is a fit to the  $\pi^+p$  and  $\pi^-p$  data.
7. Unfitted mass of outgoing charged decay products interpreted as  $(p\pi^-)\pi^-$  of all  $V^-V^0$  combinations.
8. (a)  $\cos \theta$  distribution of  $\Xi^-$  candidates, where  $\theta$  is the angle between the  $V^0$  momentum and the  $V^-V^0$  connector. The cut is at  $\cos \theta = 0.95$ . (b) Invariant mass of  $(p\pi^-)\pi^-$  combinations after the  $3\sigma$   $\Lambda$  mass cut and the  $\cos \theta$  cut. The arrows show the region kept for further analysis.
9. Number of  $\Xi^-$  per inelastic event as a function of available energy. The straight line is a fit to the  $\pi^-p$  data.
10. Unfitted mass of outgoing charged decay products interpreted as  $(\bar{p}\pi^+)\pi^+$  of  $V^+V^0$  combinations. The shaded portion is the events left after the cuts are made.
11. Unweighted mass distribution of the  $\Lambda\gamma$  combinations.
12. Weighted mass distribution of the  $\Lambda\gamma$  combinations.
13. Invariant mass distribution of  $V^-V^0$  combinations interpreted as  $\Lambda K^-$ . The arrow shows the  $\Omega^-$  mass position. The shaded portion is the events remaining after the cuts are made (see text).

14. Invariant mass of  $V^-V^0$  combinations interpreted as  $\Lambda\pi^-$  vs as  $\Lambda K^-$ . The regions between the solid lines represent the  $\Omega^-$  mass region (vertical) and the  $\Xi^-$  mass region (horizontal).
15. Weighted mass distribution of  $\Lambda\pi^+$  combinations. The solid curve is the overall fit (signal + background). The dashed line is the background shape as described in the text.
16. Weighted mass distribution of  $\Lambda\pi^-$  combinations. The solid curve is the overall fit (signal + background). The dashed line is the background shape as described in the text.
17.  $F_1(x_F) = \frac{1}{\sigma_T} \frac{2E}{\pi\sqrt{s}} \frac{d\sigma}{dx_F}$  distribution of inclusive  $K_S^0$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  and  $\Xi^-$ .
18. Quark-diquark fusion in photoproduction. (a) Contribution from a quark from the photon (vector meson) and a diquark from the proton. (b) Contribution from a diquark from the photon (vector meson) and a quark from the proton.
19. Fit of the quark-diquark fusion model to the  $\Lambda$  inclusive distribution. The curves show the contributions from: Dotted,  $S_\pi^q V_p^{qq}$ ; Long dash,  $S_\pi^{qq} V_p^q$ ; Short dash,  $S_\pi^{qq} S_p^q$ ; Dot-dash,  $V_\pi^q V_p^{qq}$ ; and Solid, sum of the four.
20. Fit of the quark-diquark fusion model to the  $\bar{\Lambda}$  inclusive distribution. Only terms of the form  $S_\pi^{qq} S_p^q$  contribute.
21. Fit of the quark-diquark fusion model to the  $\Xi^-$  inclusive distribution. The curves show the contributions from: Long dash,  $S_\pi^{qq} V_p^q$ ; Short dash,  $S_\pi^{qq} S_p^q$ ; and solid, sum of the two.
22. Fit of the quark-diquark fusion model to the  $\Xi^-$  distribution when no  $\phi$  contribution is allowed in the fit.



1-81

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FIGURE 1

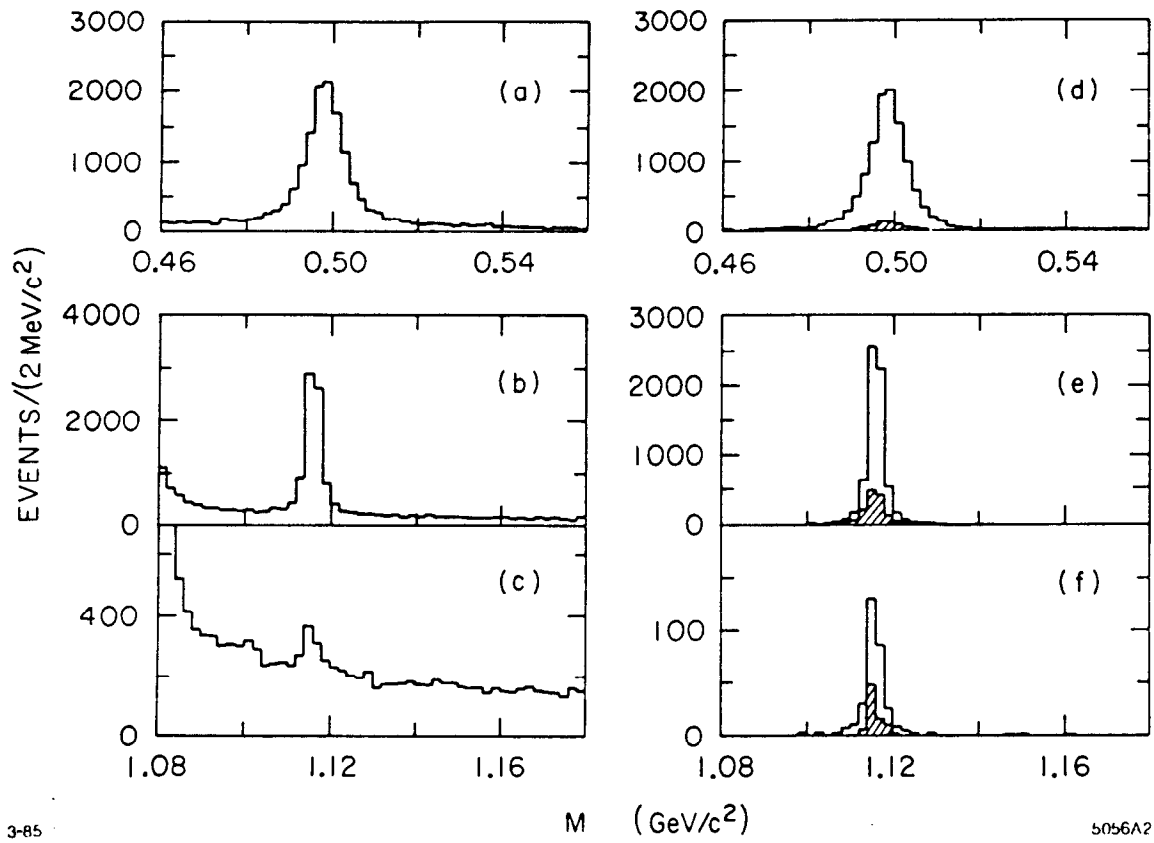


FIGURE 2

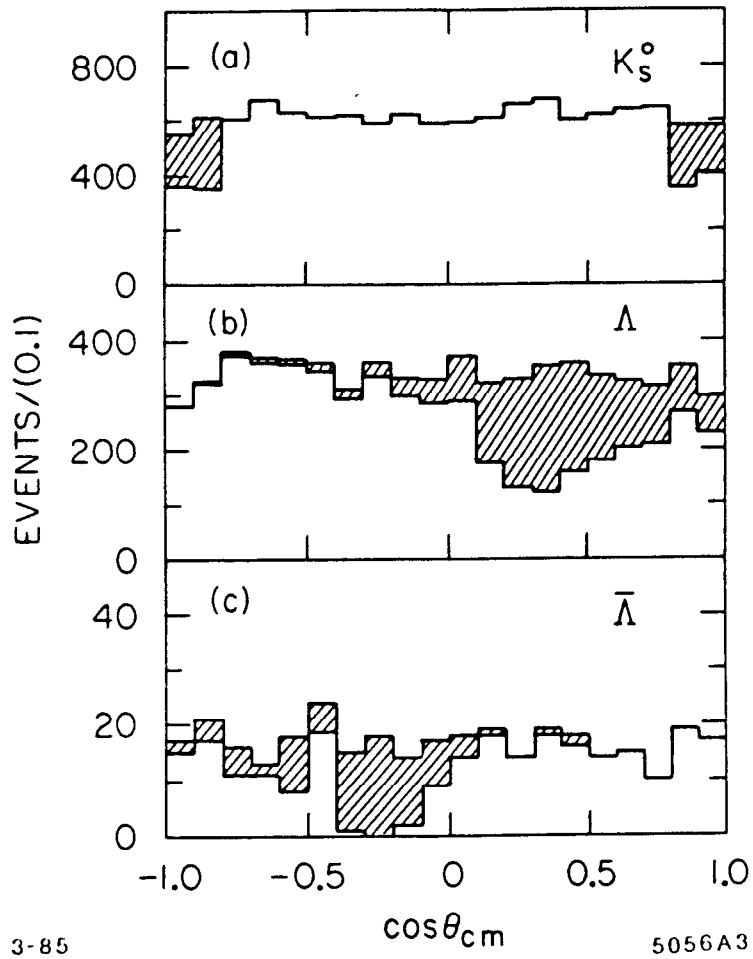


FIGURE 3



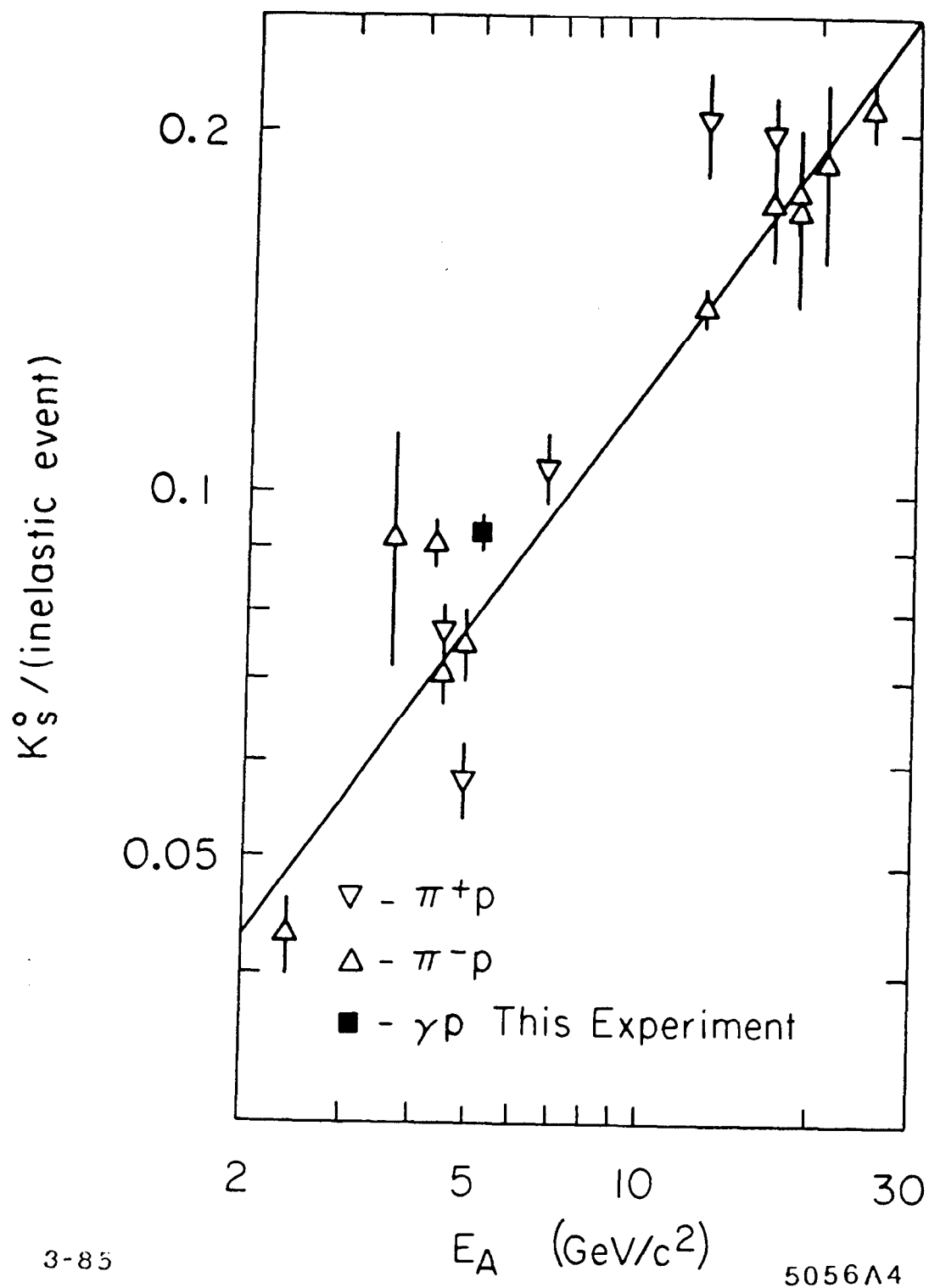


FIGURE 4

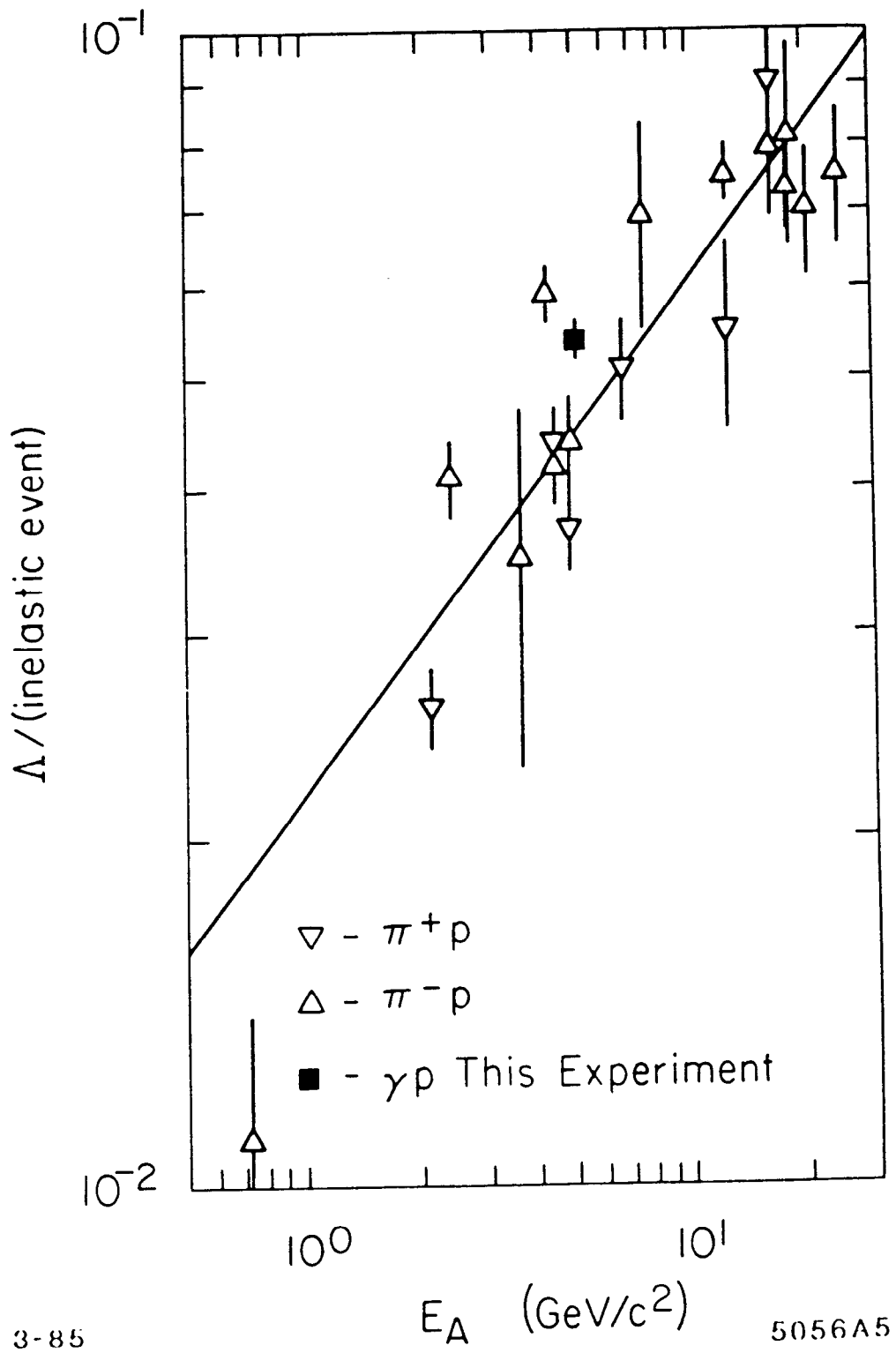


FIGURE 5

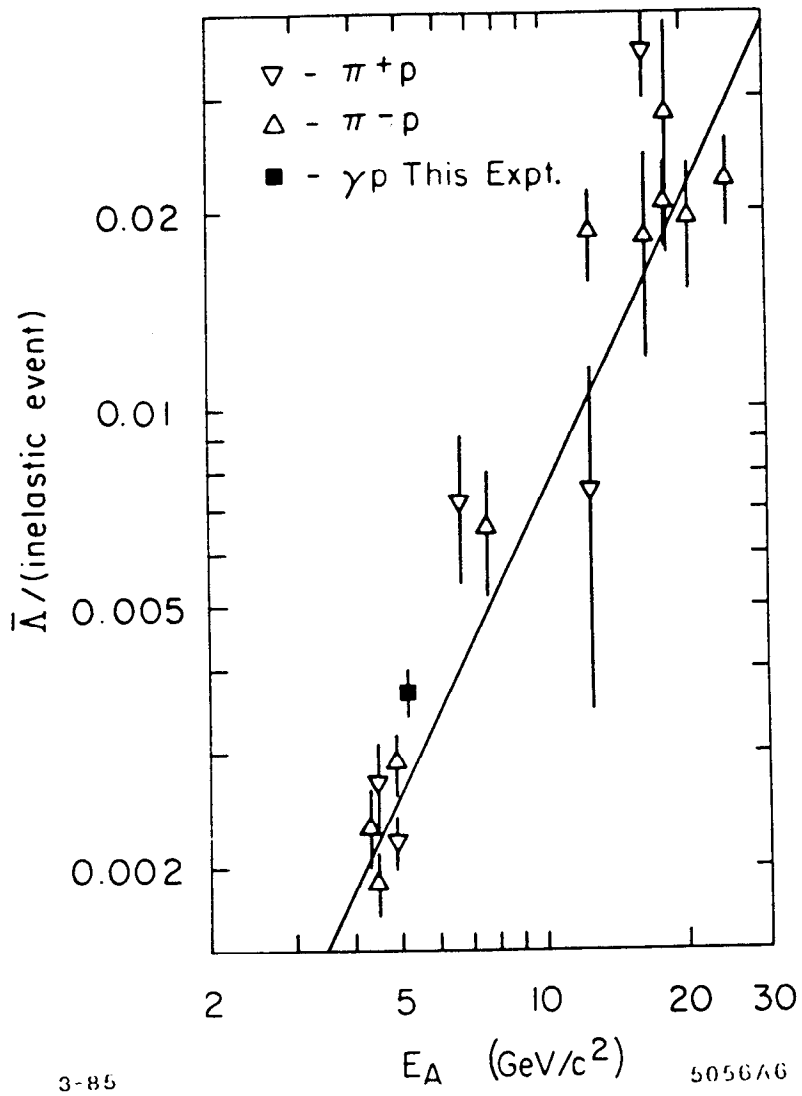
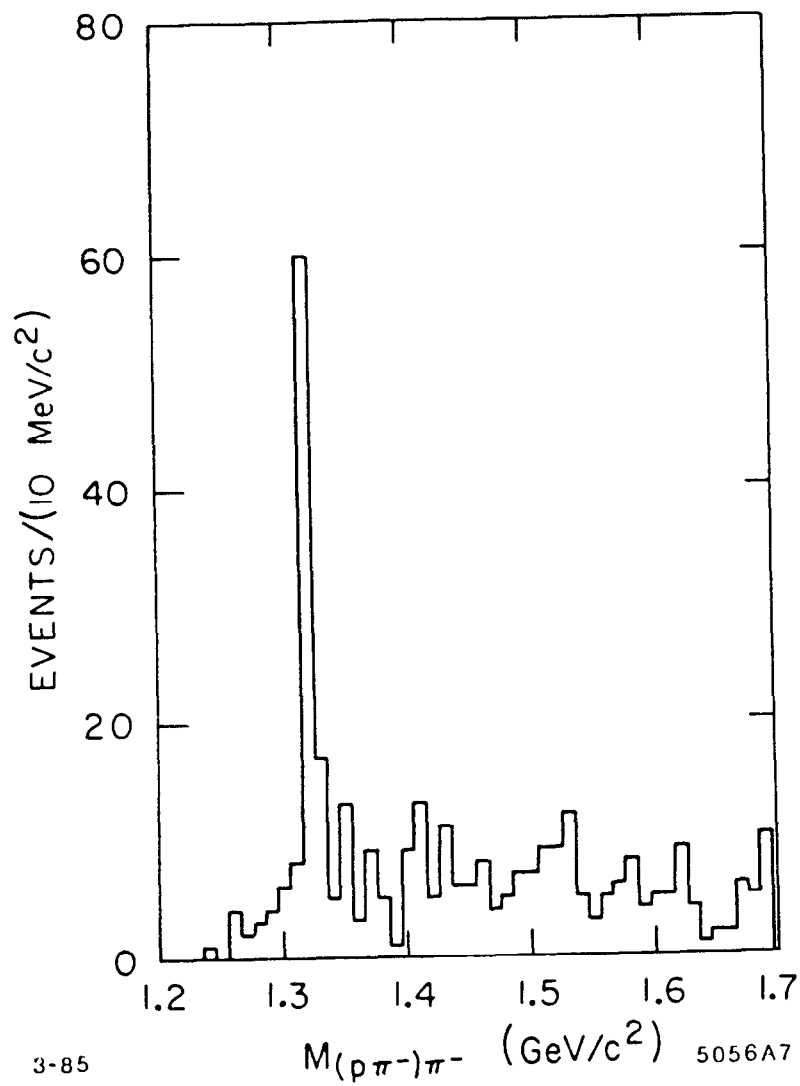


FIGURE 6



3-85

$M(p\pi^-\pi^-)$  ( $\text{GeV}/c^2$ ) 5056A7

FIGURE 7

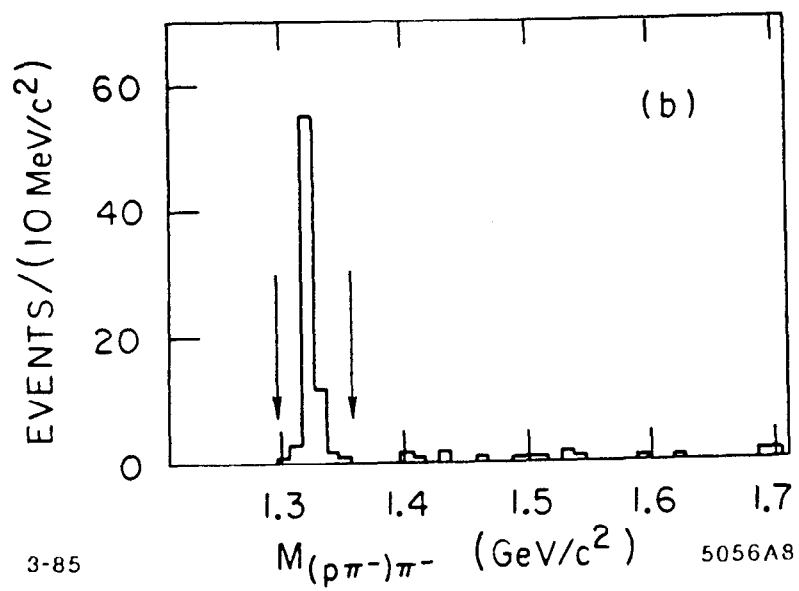
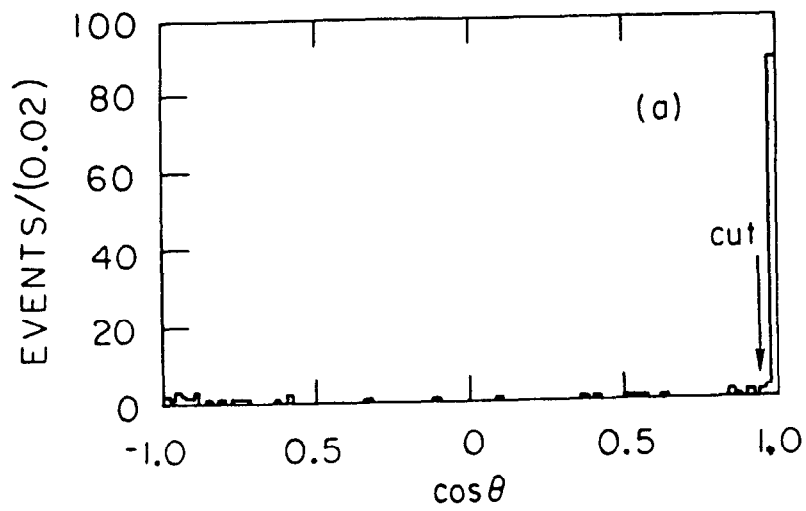


FIGURE 8

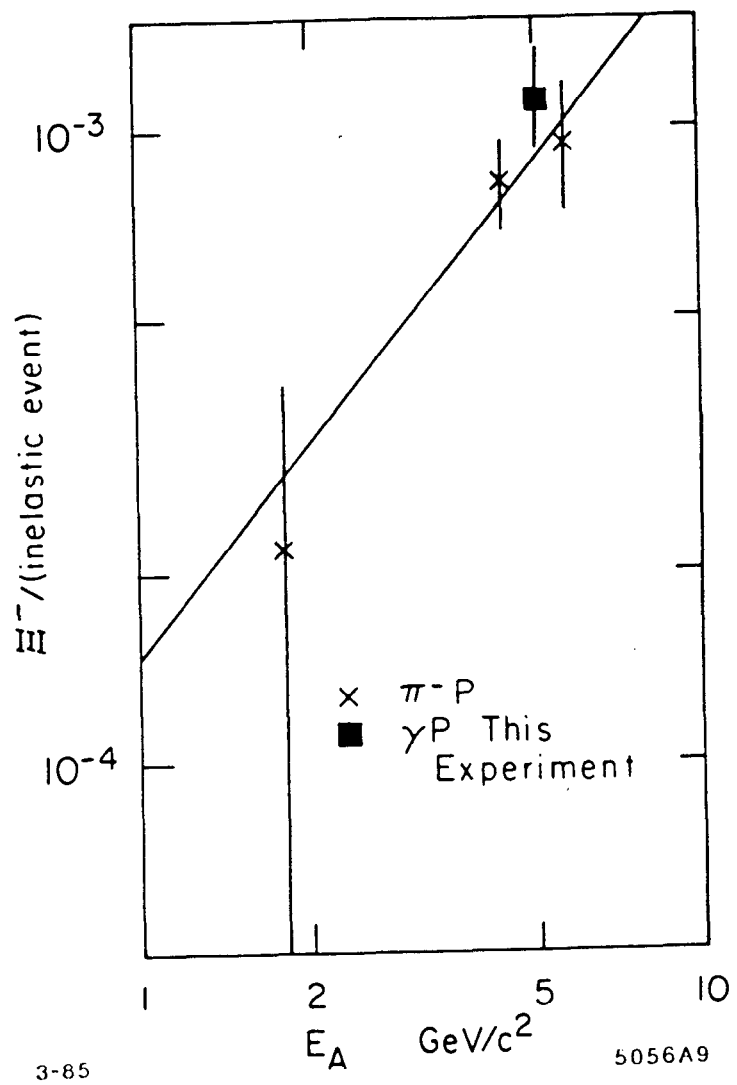


FIGURE 9

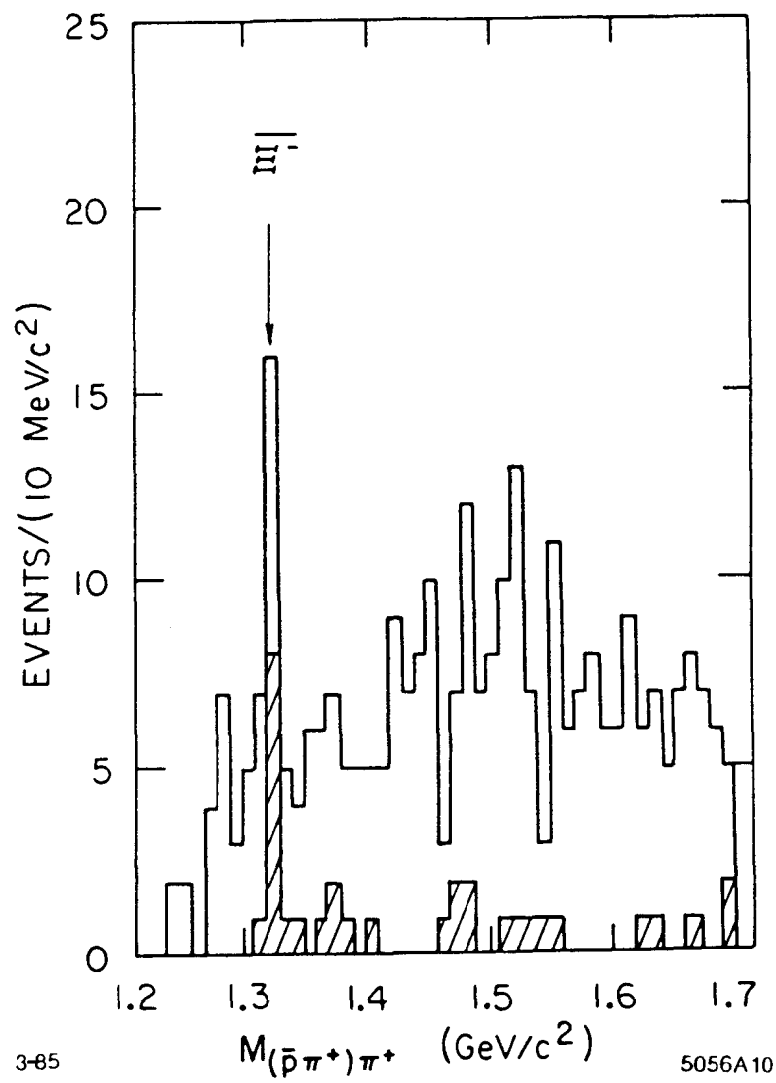
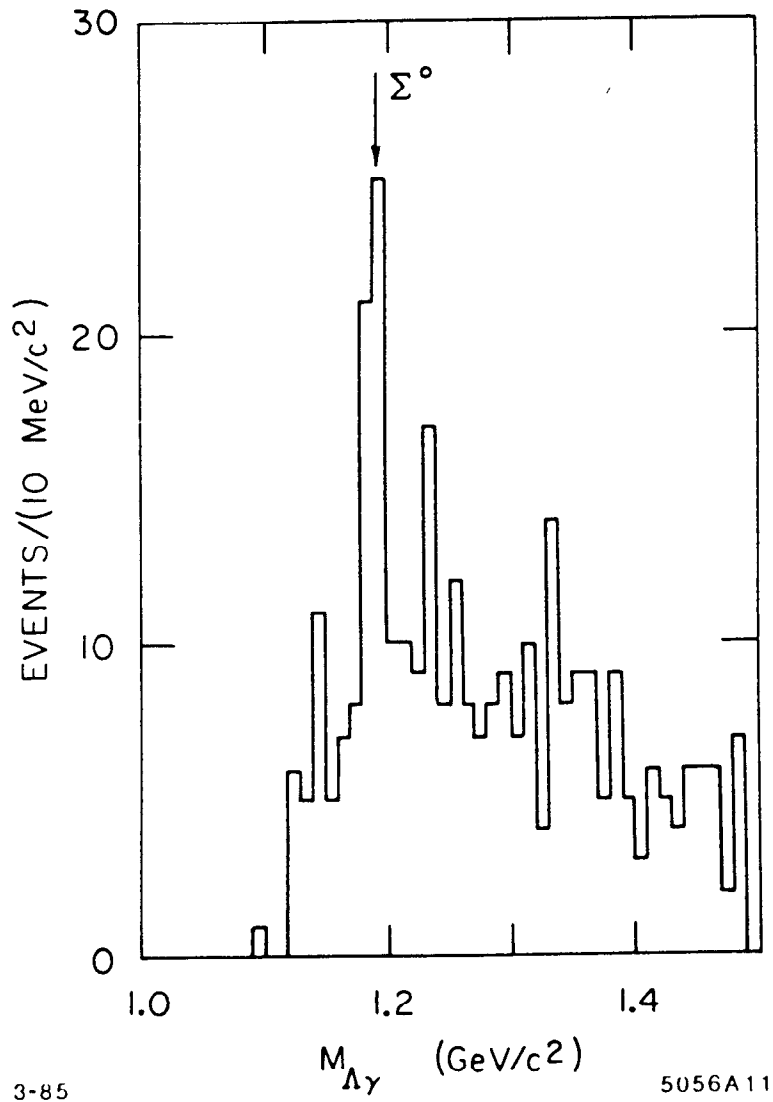


FIGURE 10

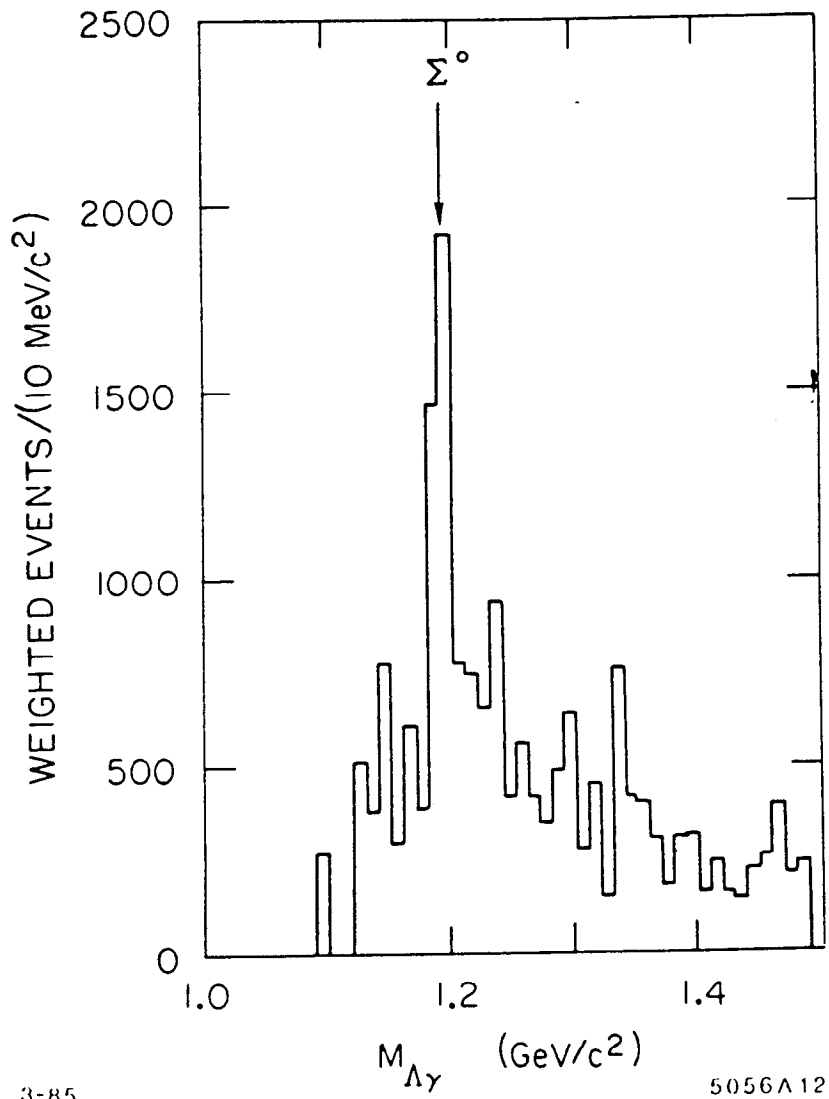


3-85

5056A11

FIGURE 11

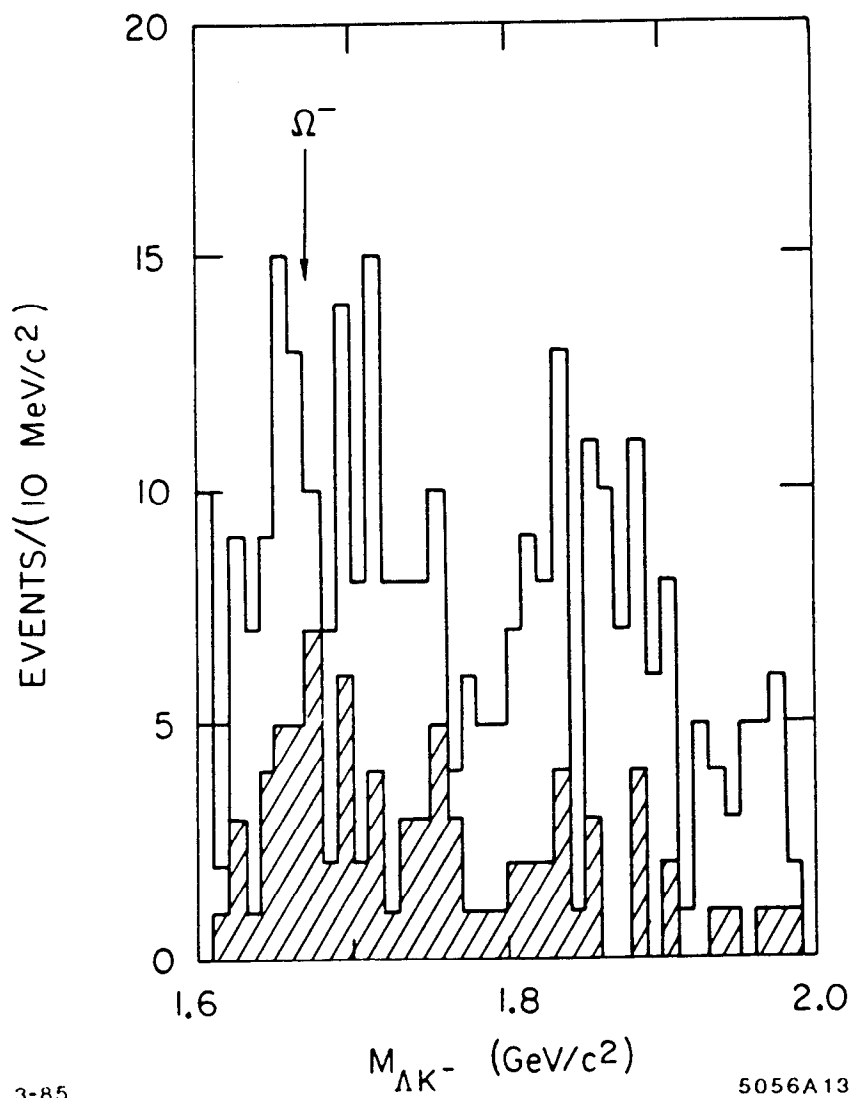




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5056A12

FIGURE 12



3-85

5056A13

FIGURE 13

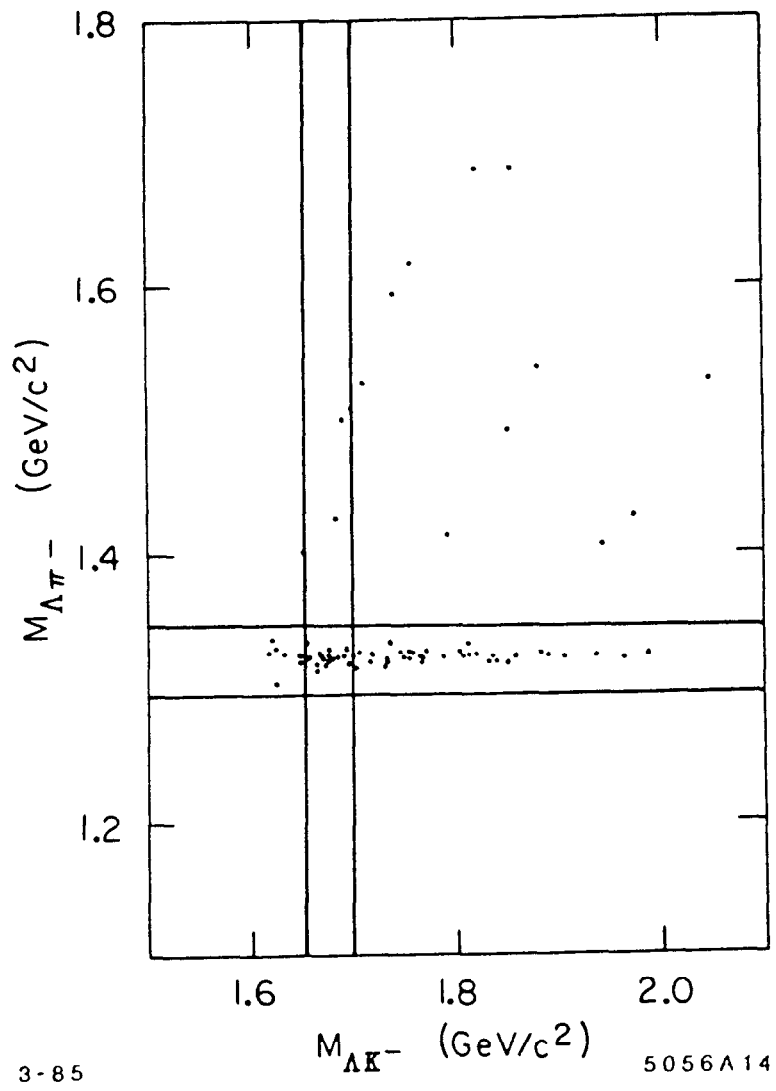


FIGURE 14

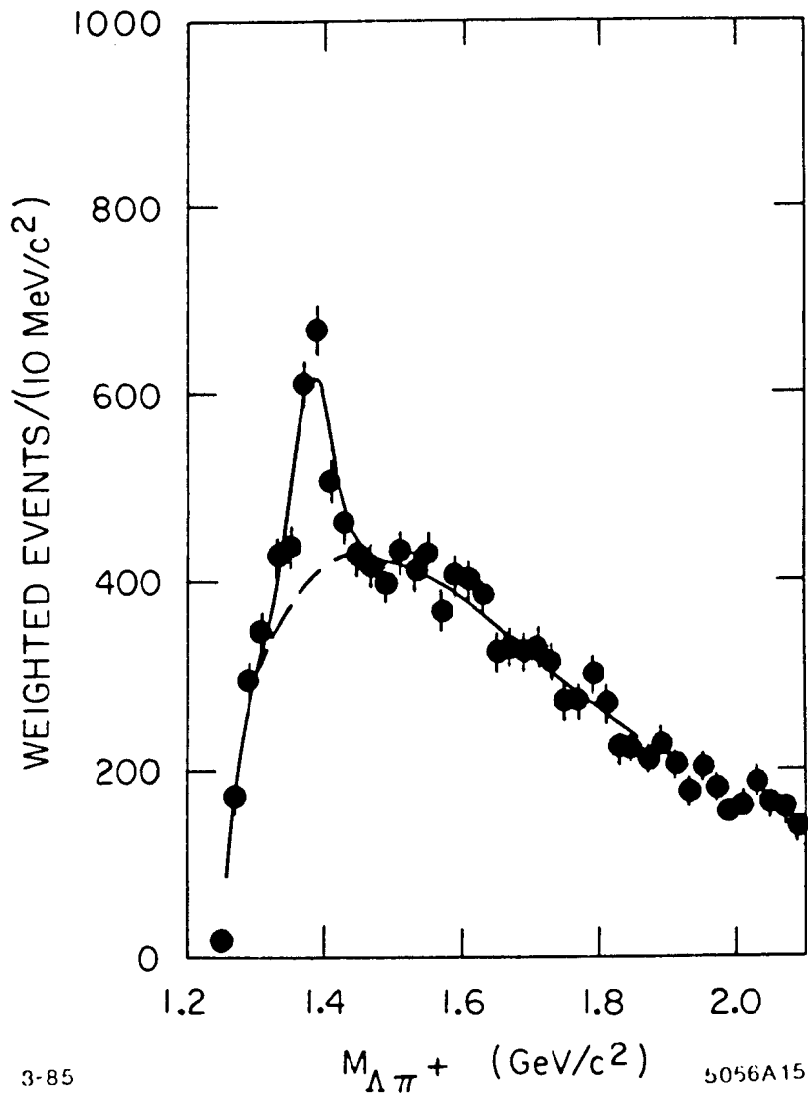
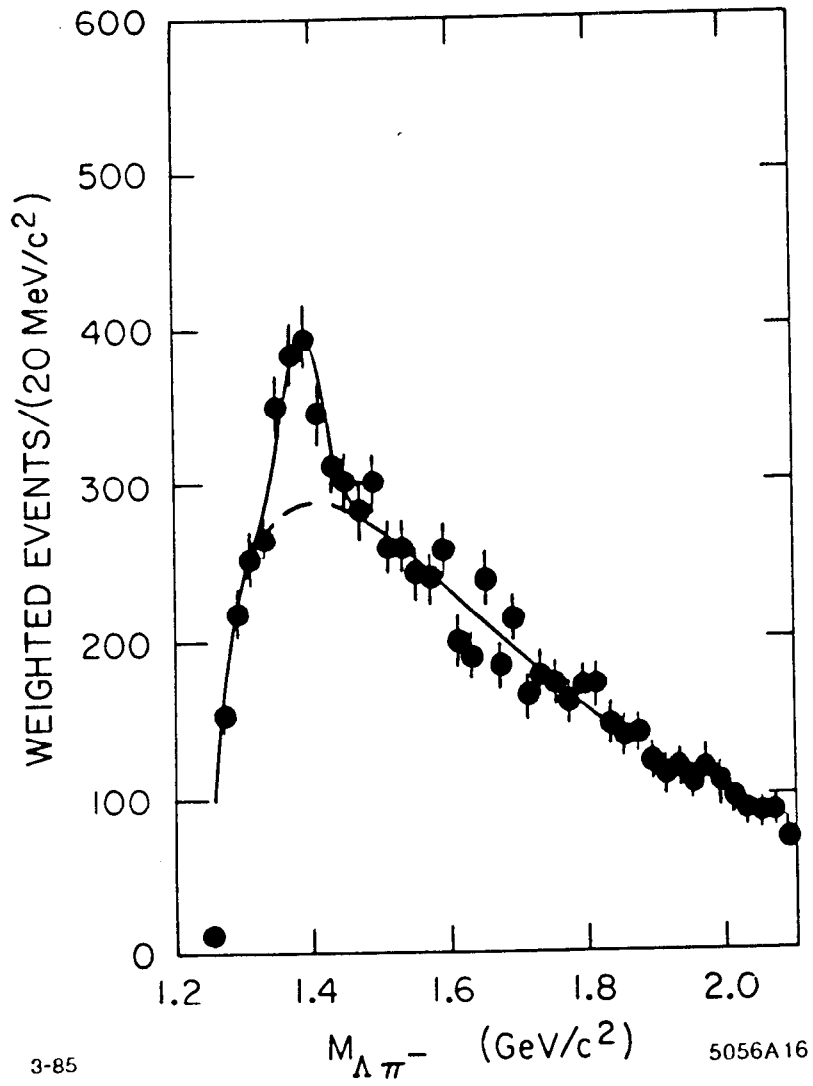


FIGURE 15



3-85

5056A16

FIGURE 16

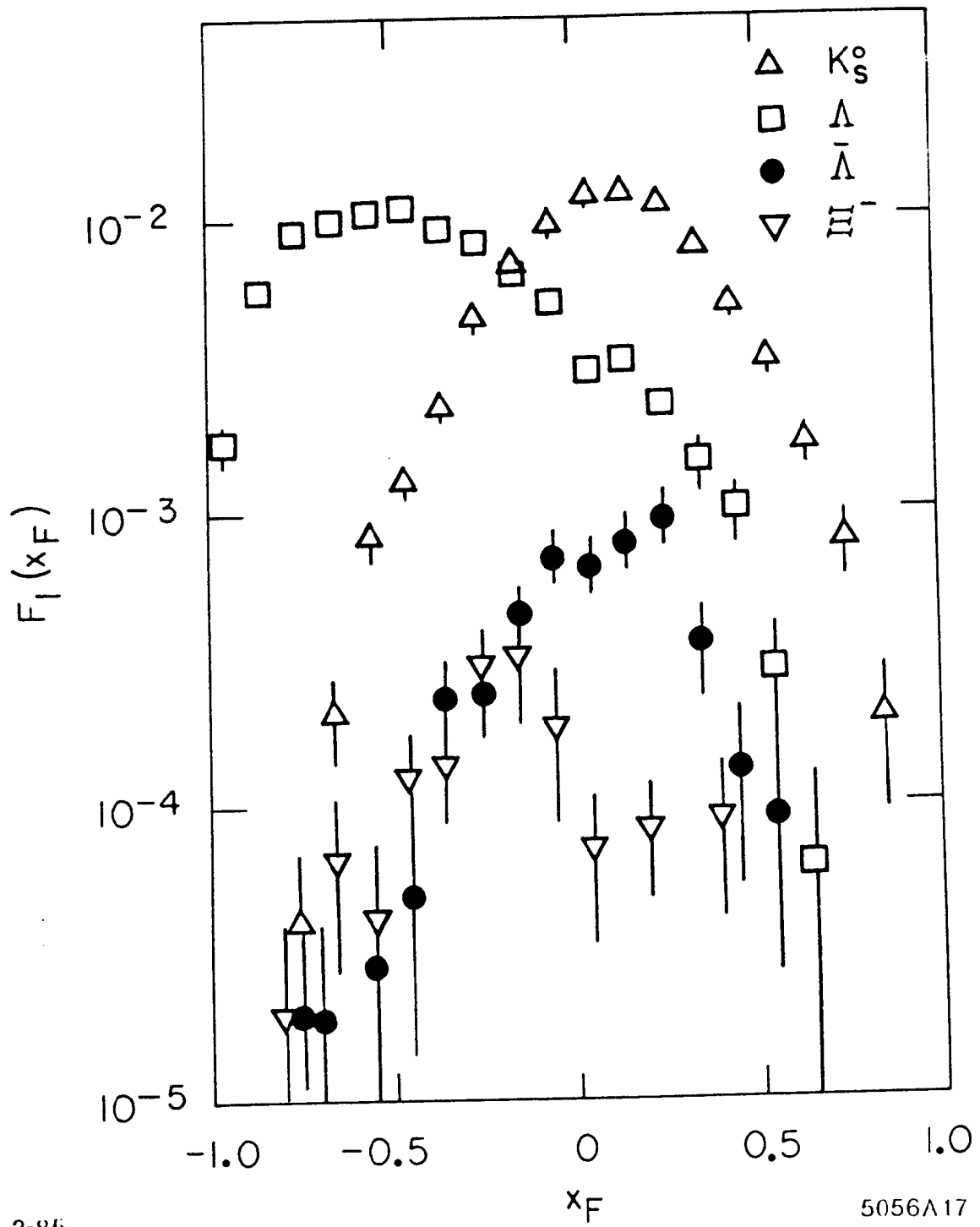


FIGURE 17

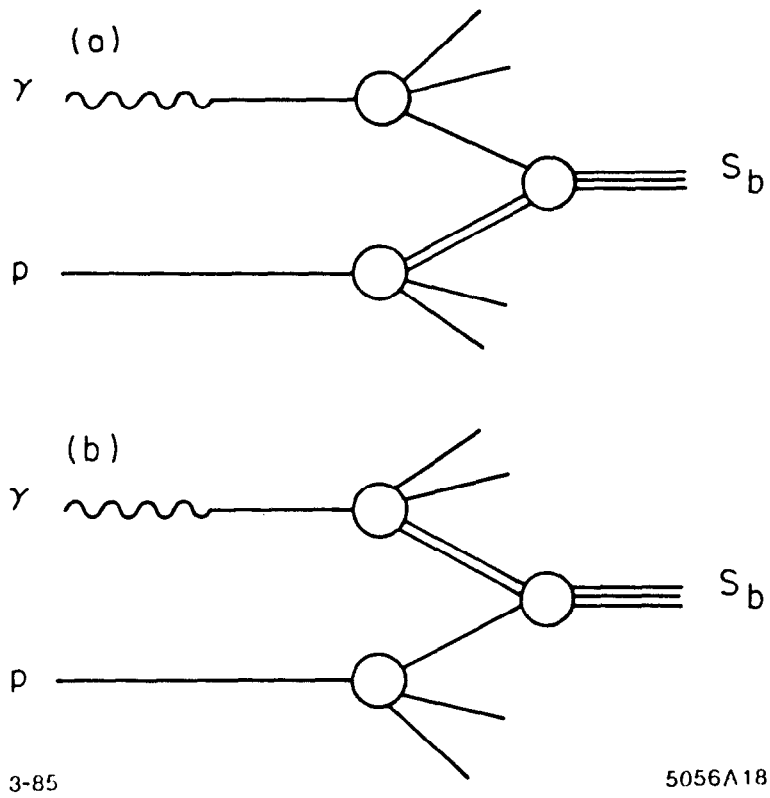


FIGURE 18

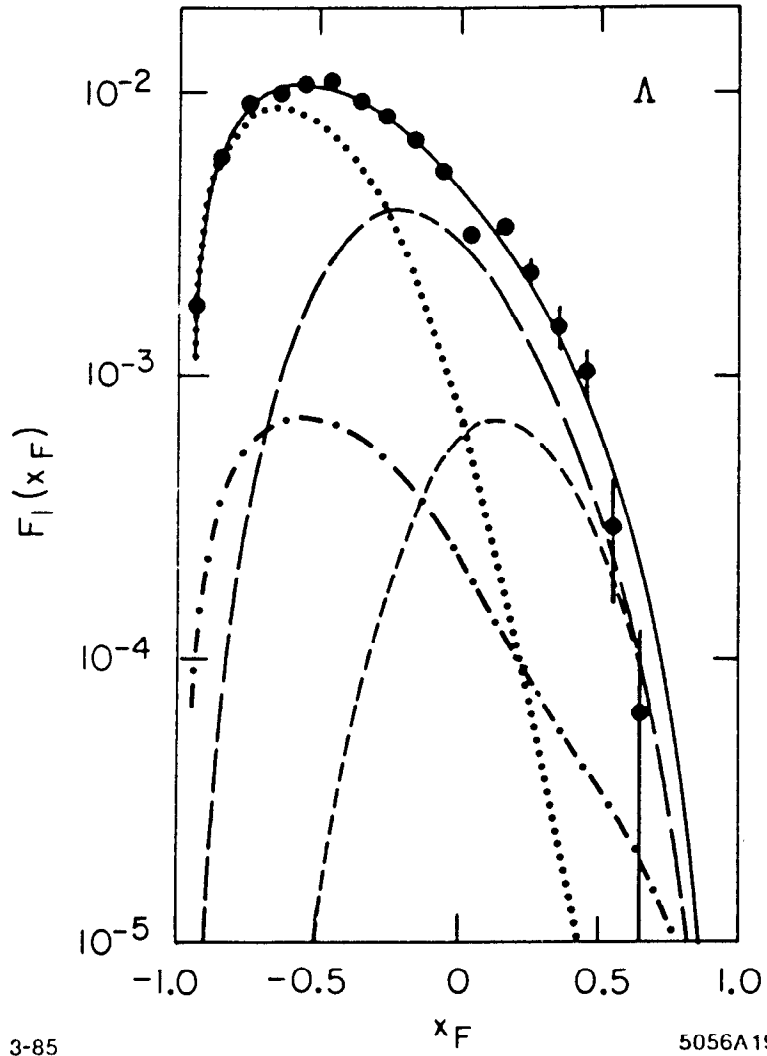


FIGURE 19



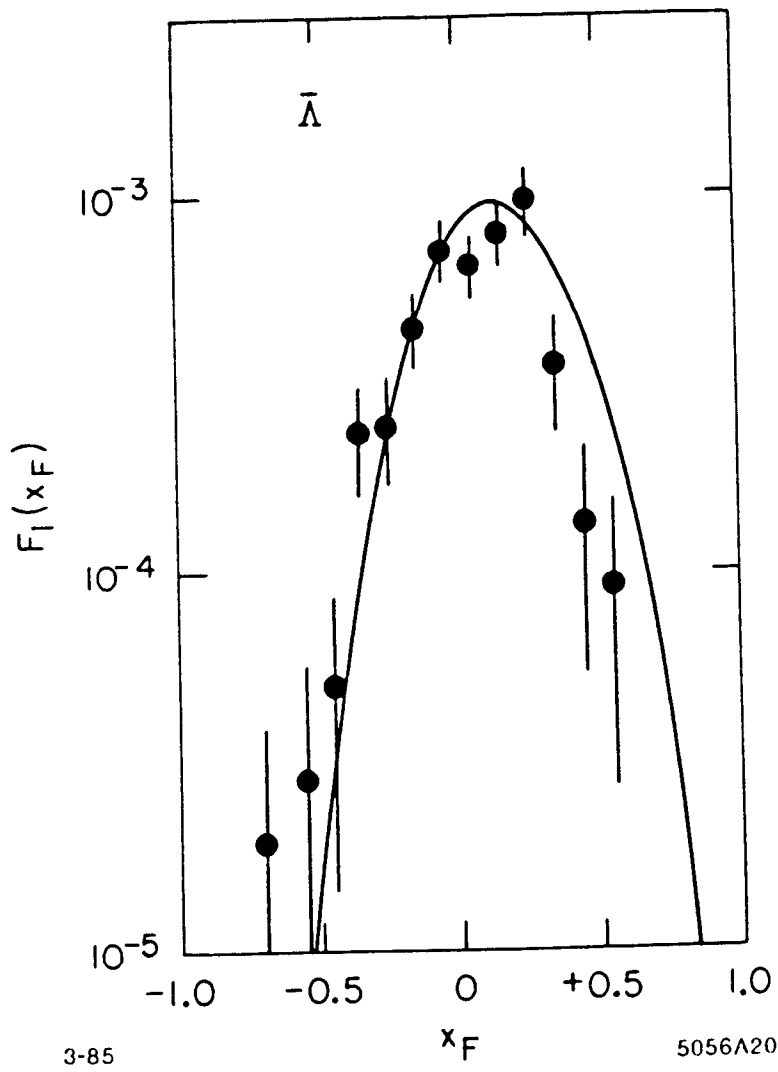


FIGURE 20

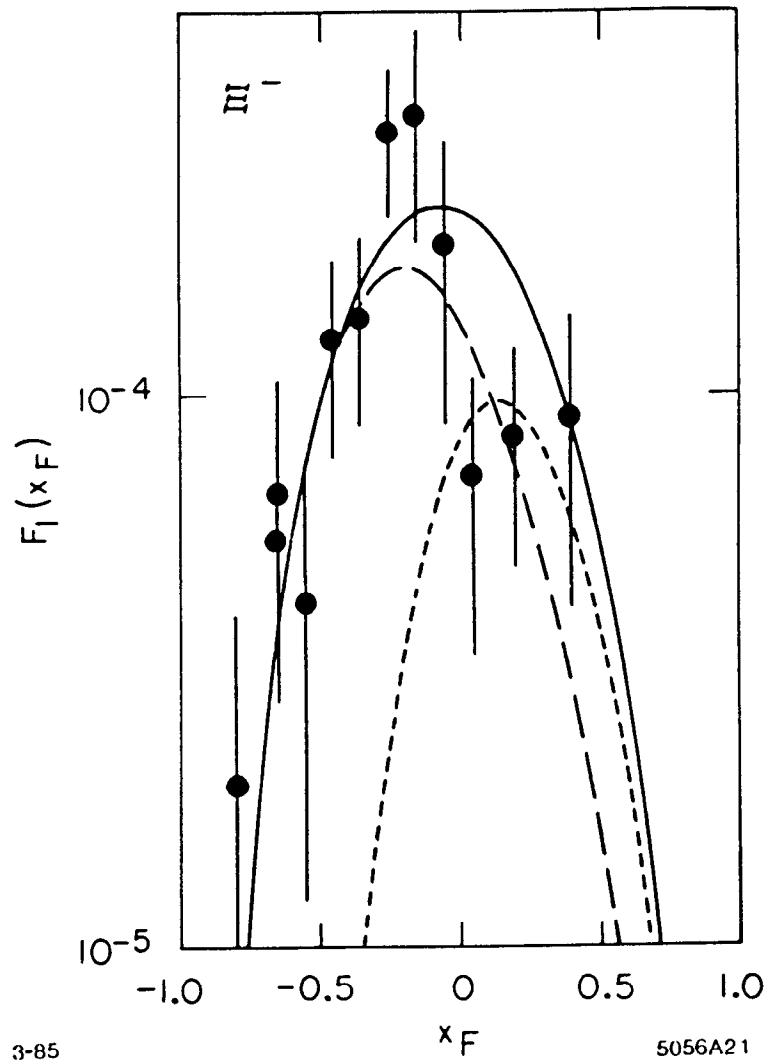


FIGURE 21

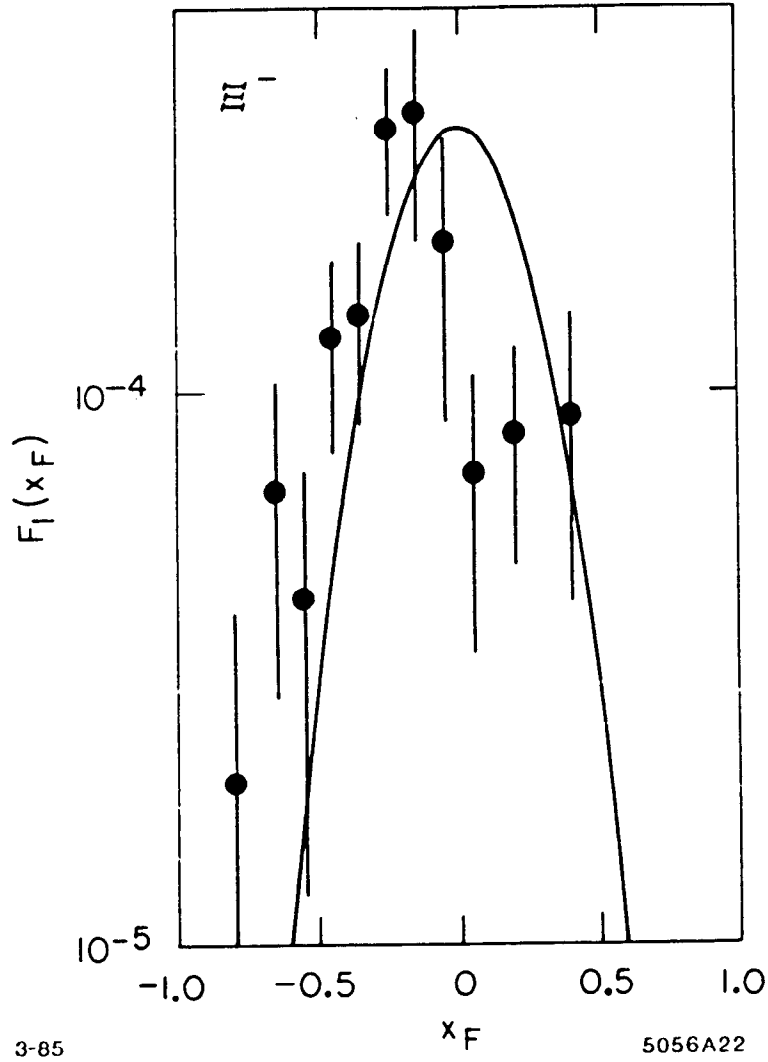


FIGURE 22