Measurement of the $\gamma n(p) \rightarrow K^+ \Sigma^-(p)$ reaction at Jefferson Lab

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Physics Motivation

- Many baryon resonances are predicted studying the channels with π, but very few were established.
- It's important to provide data to investigate the spectrum of baryon (N* and Δ) resonances, with the decay in KY (Y ≡ Λ or Σ).
- Although the branching fractions of most resonances to KY final states are small compared to 3-body modes there are some advantages:
  - More often 2-body final states are easier to analyze than 3-body system states,
  - Couplings of nucleon resonances to KY final states will differ from the πN, ηN and ππN final states.

Goals of this work: study the $\gamma n \rightarrow K^+ \Sigma^-$ channel to

1) ***study the baryon resonances not otherwise revealed,***
2) ***obtain information about couplings of nucleon resonances to KY final states***

Physics Motivation

A comprehensive study of the electromagnetic strangeness production has been undertaken at Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (Jefferson Lab), using the CLAS detector. The related experiments are:

γ p → (g1) Differential Cross Sections for $\gamma p \rightarrow K^+ Y$ for Λ and Σ^0 hyperons *Phys. Rev. C 035202 (2006)*

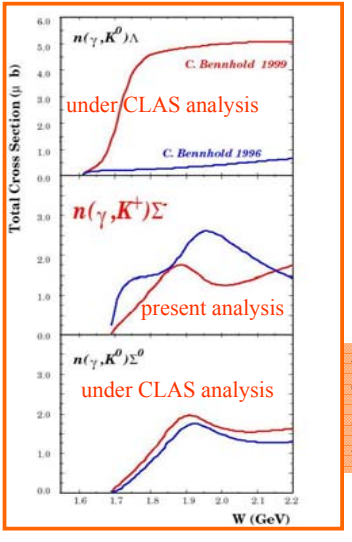
γ p → (g1) First Measurement of Beam-Recoil Observables C_x and C_z in Hyperon Photoproduction, *Phys. Rev. C* ***75****, 035205 (2007)*,

γ d → (g2) Study of $\gamma n \rightarrow K^+ \Sigma^-$ channel (very low statistics), unpublished

γ d → (g10) Study of $\gamma n \rightarrow K^+ \Sigma^-$ reaction channel (present work)

γ d → (g13) Kaon production on Deuteron using polarized photons

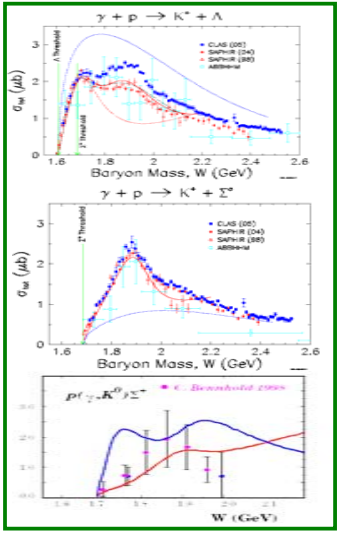
Total cross section γ N → K Y



γ p → K⁺ Σ⁰
γ p → K⁺ Λ
γ p → K⁰ Σ⁺

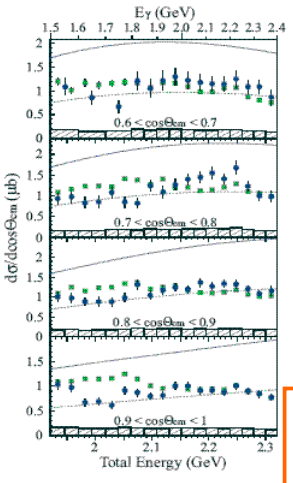
γp data from ABBHHM, SAPHIR and CLAS

there is no Total Cross section data for γn reactions



Differential Cross Sections

$\gamma + n \rightarrow \Sigma^- + K^+$



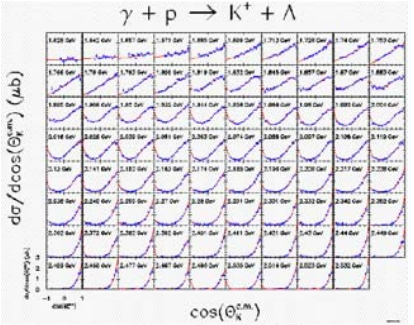
Λ

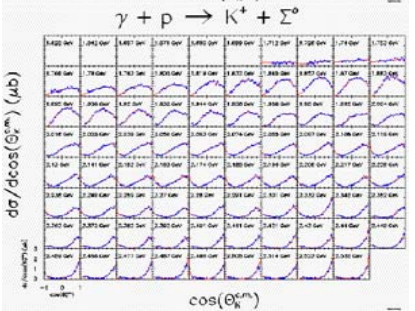
data on γp **(CLAS)**
Eγ = 1.019 – 2.949 GeV
Cos Θ^{CM} = -0.8 – 0.9
there are also SAPHIR and ABBHHM collab. (not shown here)

Σ^-

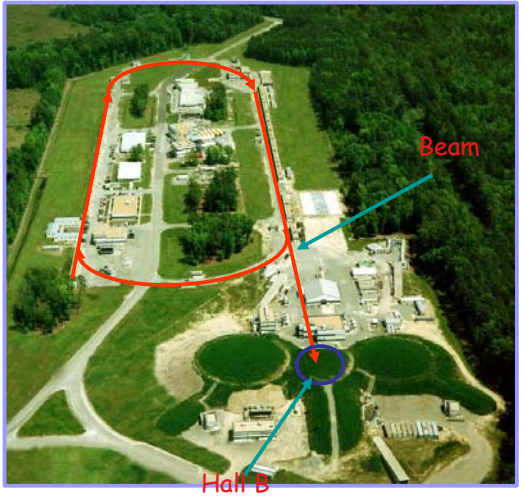
Σ^0

data on **(LEPS)**
Eγ = 1.5 – 2.4 GeV
Cos Θ^{CM} = 0.6 – 1.0
$\gamma n \rightarrow K^+\Sigma^-$ (blue points)
$\gamma p \rightarrow K^+\Sigma^0$ (green squares)





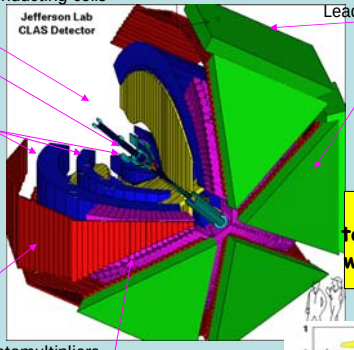
JLab Accelerator CEBAF



Superconducting recirculating electron accelerator

- Continuous Electron Beam
- Energy 0.8-5.7 GeV
- 200μA, polarization 80%
- Simultaneous delivery to 3Halls

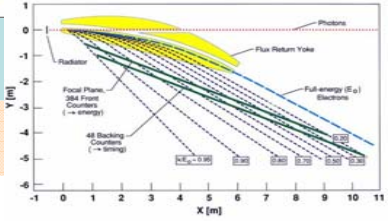
Hall B: Cebaf Large Acceptance Spectrometer + Tagger



Electromagnetic calorimeters
Lead/scintillator, 1296 photomultipliers

- Broad angular coverage (**8° ÷ 140°** in LAB frame)
- Charged particle momentum resolution **~0.5%** forward dir

CLAS is designed to measure exclusive reactions with multi-particle final states



- E_γ = (20% - 95%) E_e
- Tagged photon beam with energy resolution **δk/k ~ 0.1%**

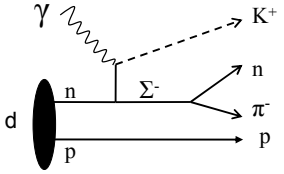
G10 Experiment

Approved experiment for the Pentaquark search on Deuterium

- Data taking - March 13 – May 16, 2004;
- Tagged photons in the energy range from 0.8 GeV to 3.59 GeV;
- Target - 24 cm long liquid deuterium at Z = -25cm;
- Trigger – at least two charged particles in CLAS;
- Magnetic field - 2 settings of Torus magnet – 2250 A (low field) and 3375 A (high field);
- Integrated luminosity ~ 50 pb^{-1} .

Analysis procedure

- Studied channel $\gamma n \rightarrow K^+ \Sigma^-$
- Energy range (Eγ): from threshold to 3.59 GeV;
- θ_K^{lab} range: from 10 to 140 degrees;

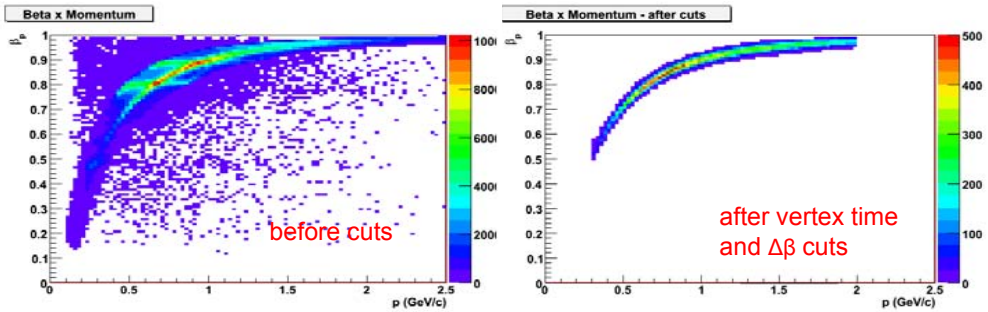


Exclusive measurement:
- ***detection of $K^+ \pi^-$ and n***
- ***proton as a missing particle.***

The key points:
- The correct identification of K+
- The correct identification of neutron

K^+ identification

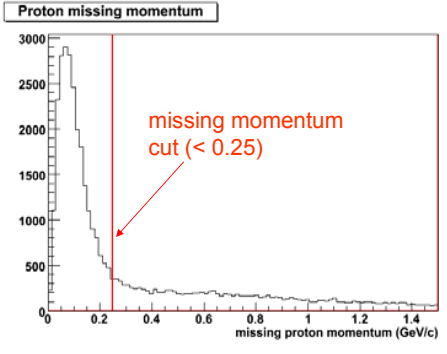
- Kaon identification cuts:
  - vertex time cut ($\gamma_{time} - K^+_{time}$);
  - $\Delta\beta$ cut = $\beta_{TOF} - \beta_P$, where β_{TOF} is calculated from time-of-flight detectors and β_P is computed from momentum, $p/\sqrt{(p^2+m_K^2)}$;
  - Kaon momentum cut ($p_k \geq 0.5$ GeV/c).

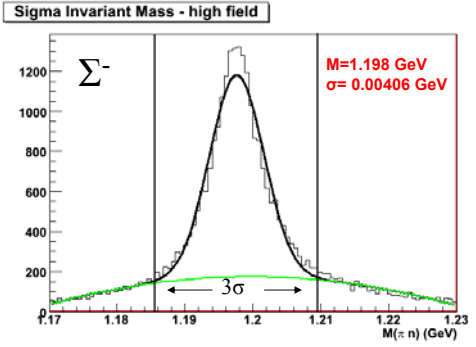


Σ^- identification

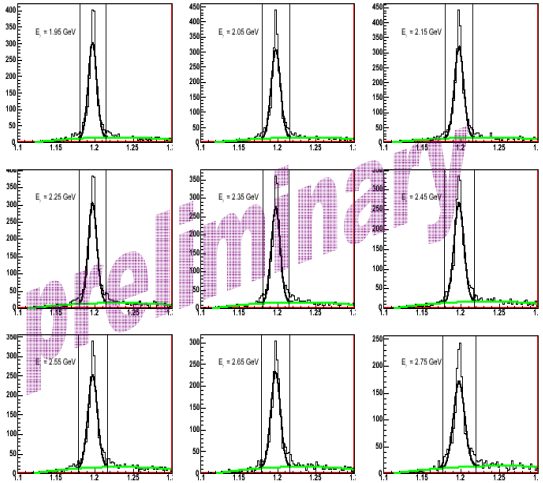
- the missing particle is identified as MM($K^+ \pi^-$ n) in $\gamma d \rightarrow K^+ \pi^- n X$.
- a cut on the missing particle momentum is then applied (p < 0.25 GeV/c)

- after Kaon selection and missing momentum cut, the Σ^- is identified as M($\pi^- n$) in $\gamma d \rightarrow K^+ \pi^- n X$





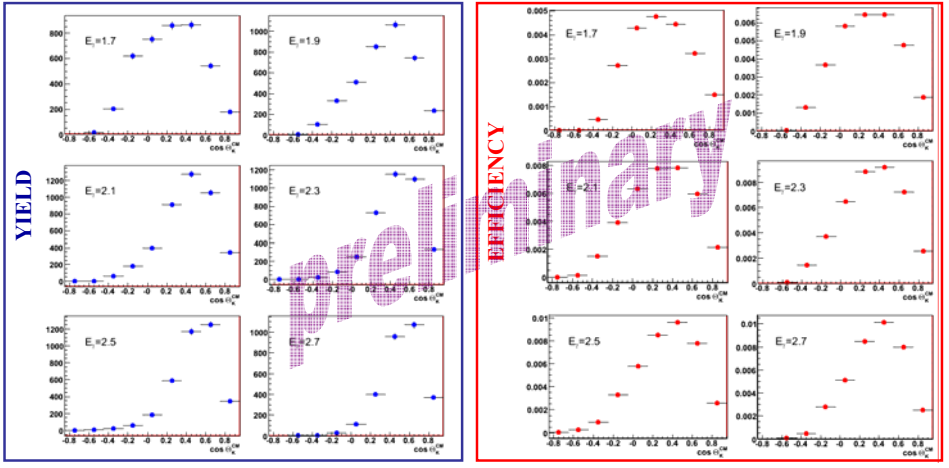
Background subtraction



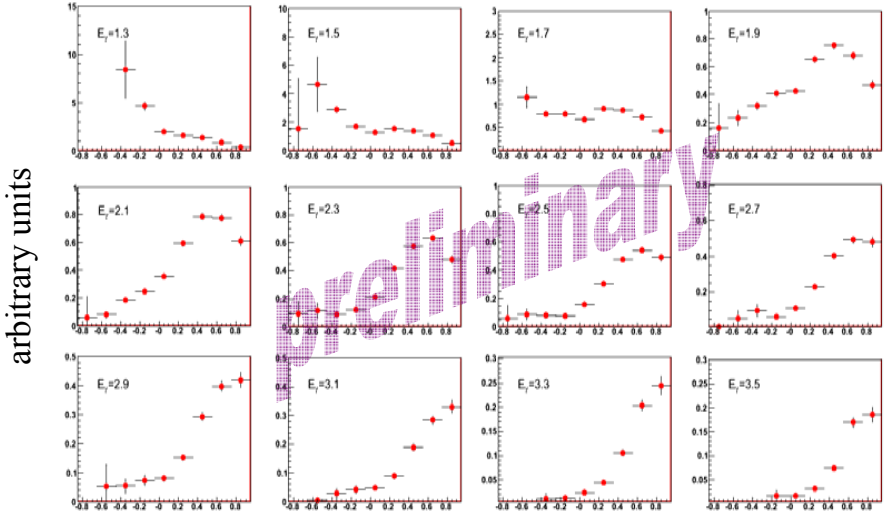
- the background subtraction was done fitting the Σ^- invariant mass distributions, in 100 MeV Eγ bins, with a Gaussian (black curves) + second order polynomial (green curves).
The Gaussian fits the peak and the polynomial fits the background.
The horizontal lines are the 3σ cuts on the Gaussian fit.
The real Σ^- events are defined as the number of events within 3σ cut and above the polynomial fit.

Yield and Efficiency calculation

- after background subtraction, the yield is extracted. Monte Carlo simulation was used to calculate the efficiency.
- the binning for the following results are: 200 MeV in Eγ and 0.2 Cos θ^{CM}



Normalized Yield



Summary

- It is very important to investigate baryon resonances which decay into KY in the final state in order to study the lack of the predicted resonances;
- There are almost no experimental data on neutrons;
- The study of $\gamma n \rightarrow K^{+} \Sigma^{-}$ reaction channel using the CLAS G10 data will give a set of results in gamma-neutron interactions in a wide Eγ range from 1.1 to 3.6 GeV and angular range from 10 to 140 deg. in laboratory frame;
- The preliminary results have shown that the studied channel can be well identified;
- The yield corrected by the efficiency was extracted.

Next steps

- ❑ change the binning to 100 MeV in Eγ and 0.1 in Cos θ^{CM}
- ❑ show the results in W bins
- ❑ calculate the cross section
- ❑ estimate systematic errors