

# Hunting for near threshold (virtual) resonances in Belle and J-PARC

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# Exotic hadrons near thresholds

- It is known that many exotic hadrons somehow appear near thresholds
  - E.g.,  $X(3872) - D^0 D^{*0}$ ,  $\Lambda(1405) - KN$ , ...
- These state can be understood as **molecular states**
  - Especially, when they are bound (Feschbach resonance)
- What happens if the interaction is **NOT** strong enough to make a bound state?
  - **Virtual state**
    - What is the signal for virtual state?

# Near-threshold (re)scattering

- A simple calculation for a 2-body (re)scattering process (virtual intermediate state  $\rightarrow$  final state):

$$f_0 \sim \frac{1}{\frac{1}{kA} - i}, \quad \sigma_0 = \frac{4\pi}{k^2} |f_0|^2, \quad A \rightarrow \text{complex } (a+ib)$$

- Above the threshold:

$$\sigma_0 \propto \frac{1}{(1 + kb)^2 + (ka)^2} \sim 1 - 2kb$$

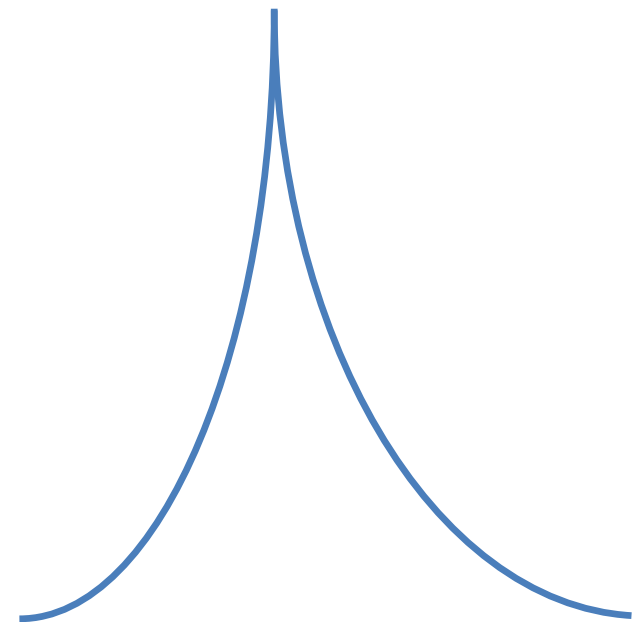
- Below the threshold:

$$\sigma_0 \propto \frac{1}{(1 + |k|a)^2 + (|k|b)^2} \sim 1 - 2|k|a$$

with  $k = i\sqrt{2\mu|E|}$  is pure imaginary.

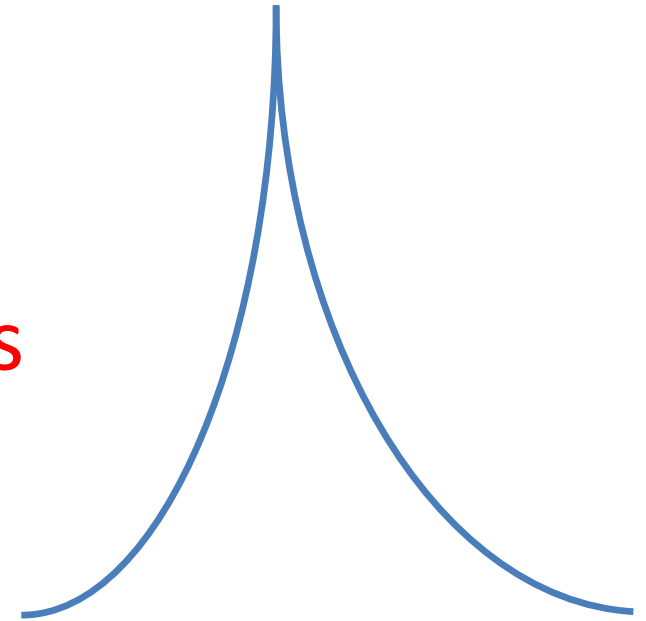
# Threshold cusp

- Let's think a case:  $a > 0$ 
  - Interaction is attractive, but not strong enough to make a bound state
- Pole:  $k \sim -i/A$  is virtual
  - $E < 0$ , but in different Riemann sheet
- Spectrum shape: maximum at the threshold ( $E=0$ )
  - Derivative diverges
  - **Threshold cusp**  
(in the narrow sense)



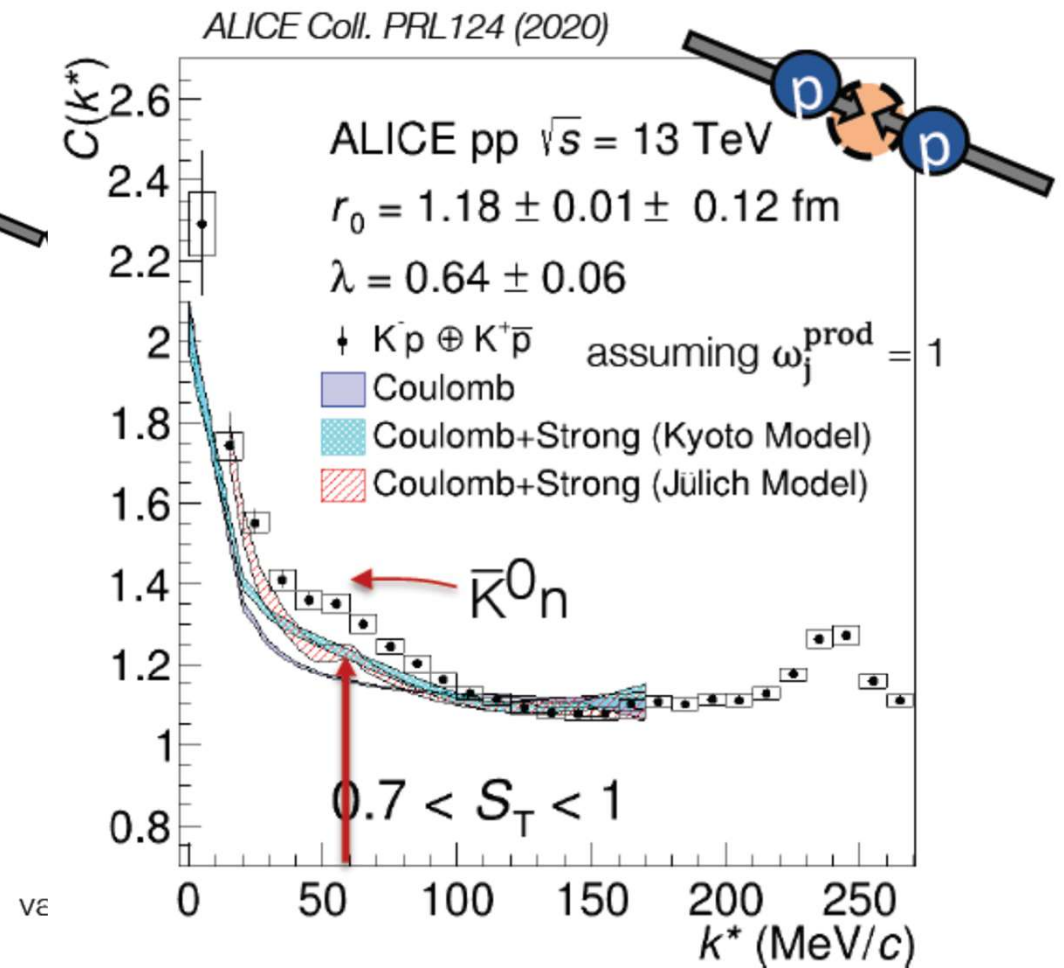
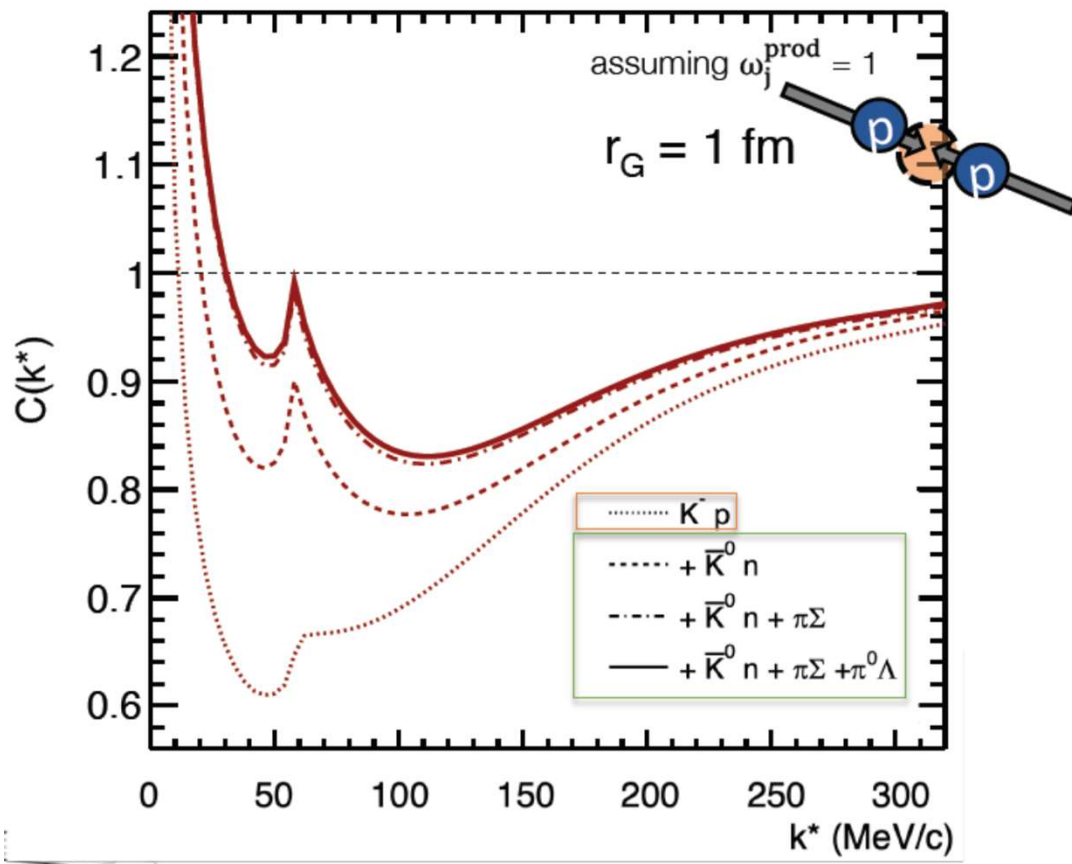
# Threshold cusp

- In principle, can be distinguished from usual peak by the derivative at the peak, but **practically there is experimental resolution.**
  - Very few identified cases
- The statistics is highest at the threshold
- Low energy seen from the threshold
  - Behavior is roughly determined by the complex scattering length of the threshold channel
  - **New method to measure scattering length**



# Theory vs actual

Borrowed slides of  
Prof. Mantovani Sarti on Thursday



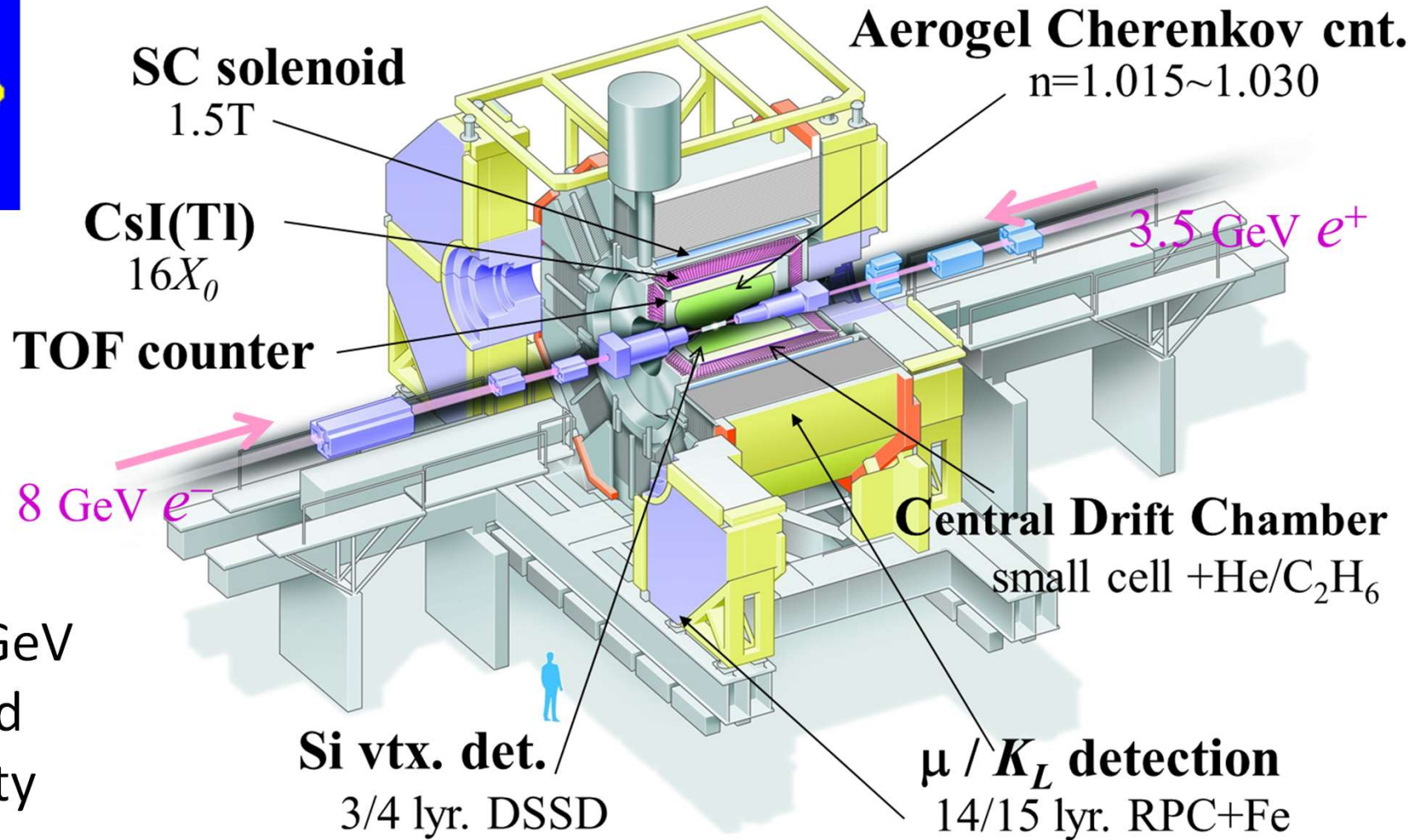
# Topics of the day

- I. Threshold cusps observed in Belle experiment
  - $\Lambda_c \rightarrow pK^- \pi^+$  (@  $\Lambda\eta$  threshold)
  - $\Lambda_c \rightarrow \Lambda\pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$  (@  $\bar{K}N$  threshold)
- II. J-PARC E72: Search for new exotic narrow  $\Lambda^*$  near the  $\Lambda\eta$  threshold
- III. J-PARC E90(+ $\alpha$ ):  $\Sigma N$  scattering length via cusp spectroscopy (& beyond)
- IV. Summary

# I. Threshold cusps observed in Belle experiment



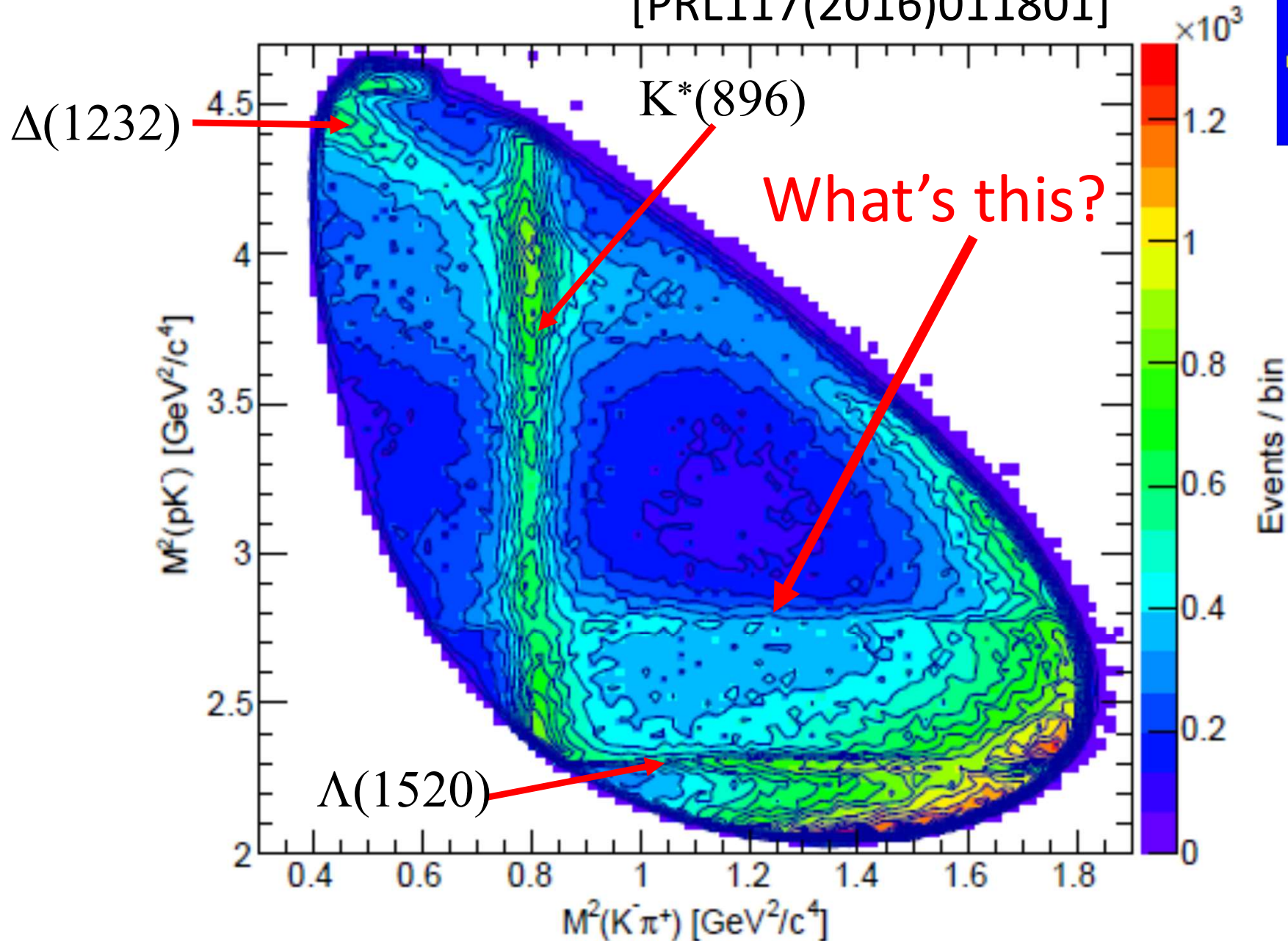
# Belle experiment



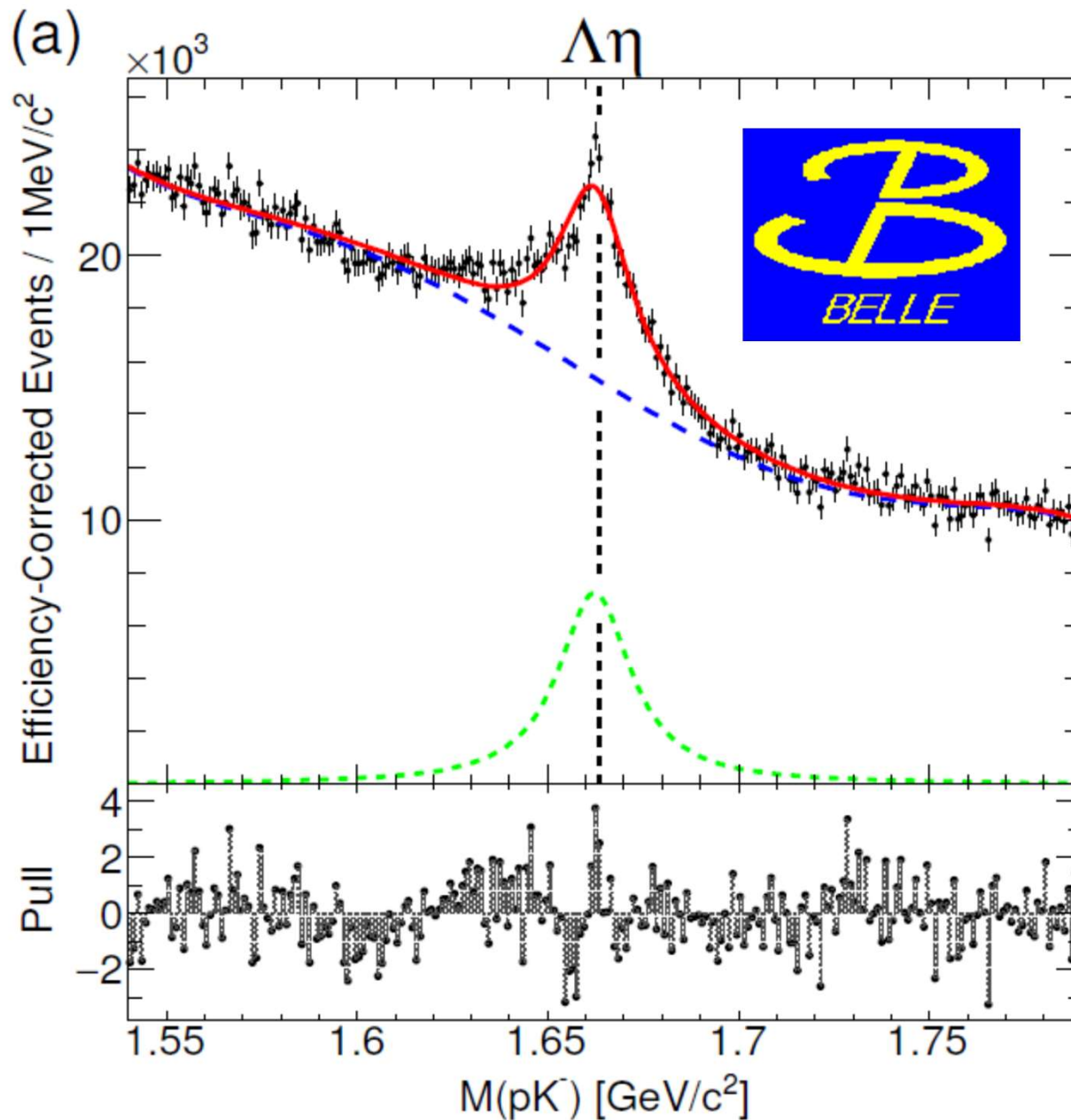
- $\sqrt{s} \sim 10.6 \text{ GeV}$
- Integrated Luminosity  $\sim 1 \text{ ab}^{-1}$
- Almost  $4\pi$ , good momentum resolution ( $\Delta p/p \sim 0.1\%$ ), EM calorimeter, PID & Si Vertex detector
- Finished  $\sim 10$  years ago, still producing  $\sim 20$  papers/year

# Peak structure in $\Lambda_c \rightarrow pK^- \pi^+$

[PRL117(2016)011801]



# Fit to Breit-Wigner

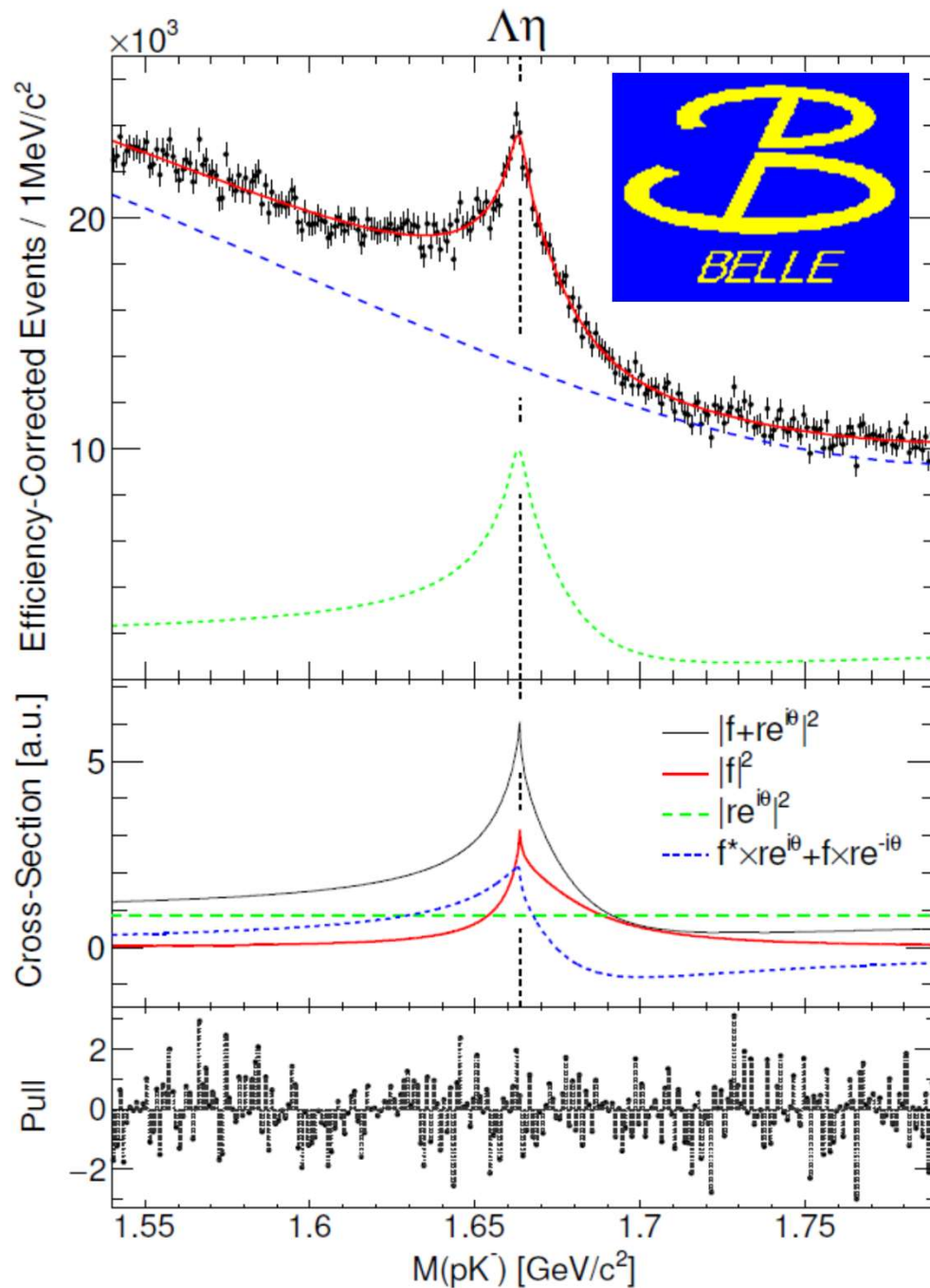


- BW fit is not very good especially near the peak.

- Best  $\chi^2/\text{DOF}$ : 308/243

[PRD108.L031104  
(2023)]

# Fit to Flatte



$$\frac{dN}{dm} \propto |f(m) + re^{i\theta}|^2$$

$f(m)$ : non-relativistic Flatte

$$\frac{1}{m - m_f + \frac{i}{2} (\Gamma' + \bar{g}_{\Delta\eta} k)}$$

- Improved near the peak
- **Best  $\chi^2/\text{DOF}$ : 257/243**  
 – Better than BW by  $7\sigma$

# Threshold cusp

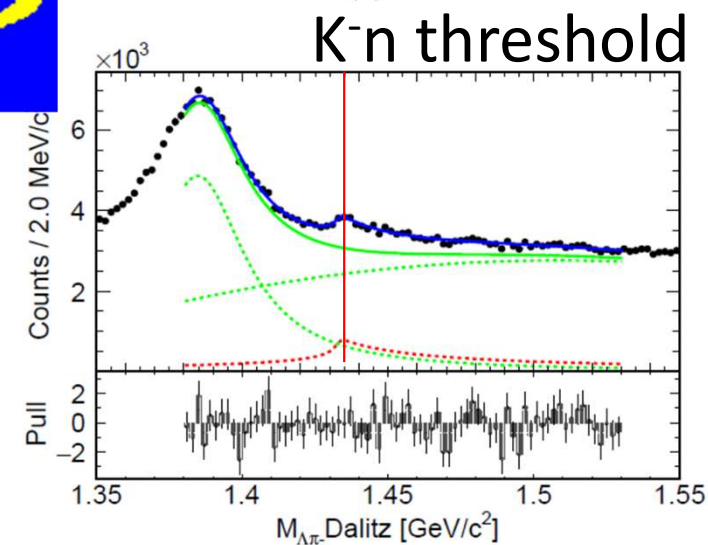
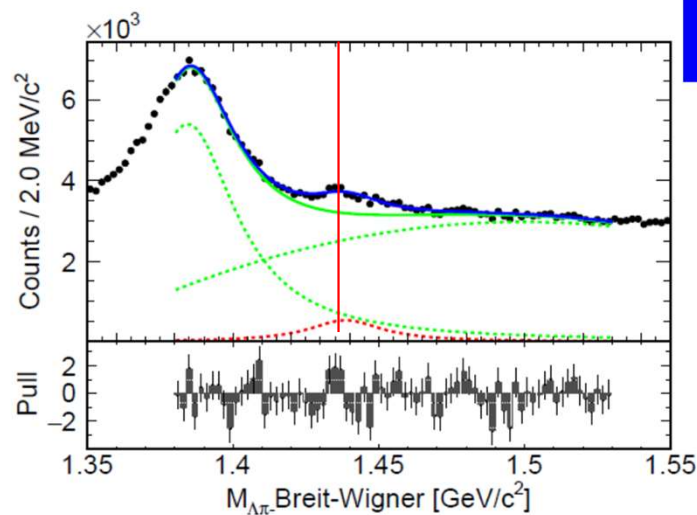
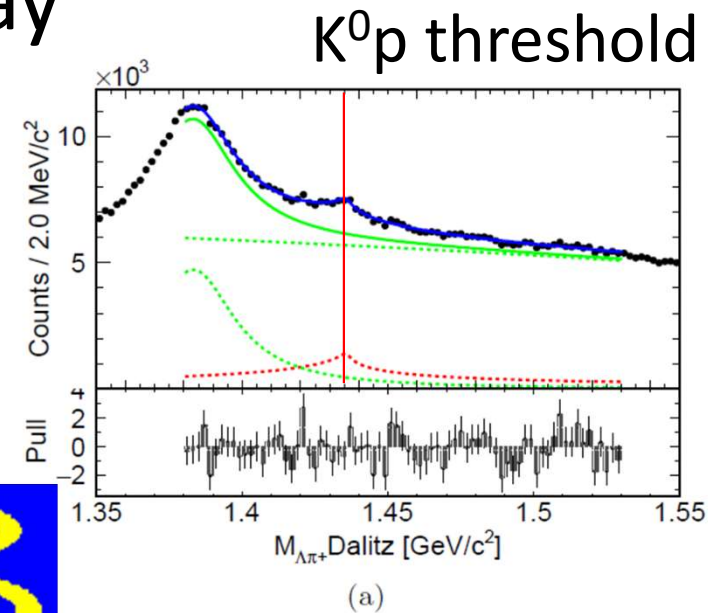
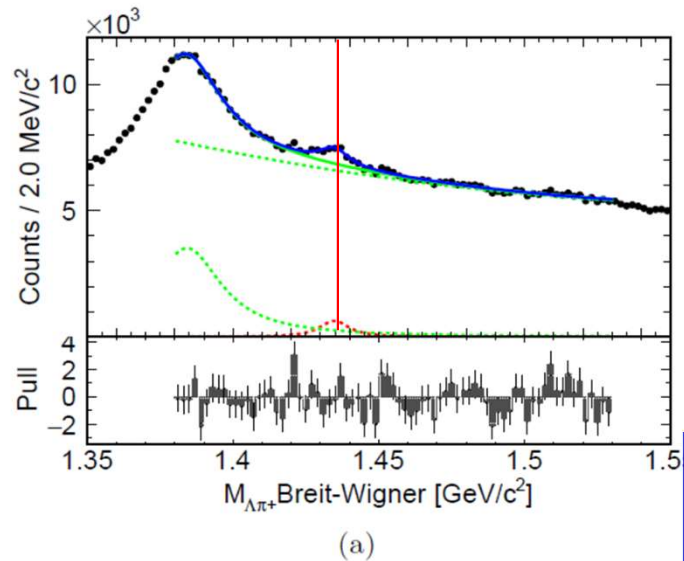
- The fit explains the peak as a threshold cusp with nearby  $\Lambda(1670)$ 
  - **First identification of a threshold cusp from the spectrum shape**
- Obtained  $\Lambda(1670)$  parameters are consistent with those measured in  $\Lambda_c \rightarrow \Lambda\eta\pi^+$  [PRD103 (2021) 052005]

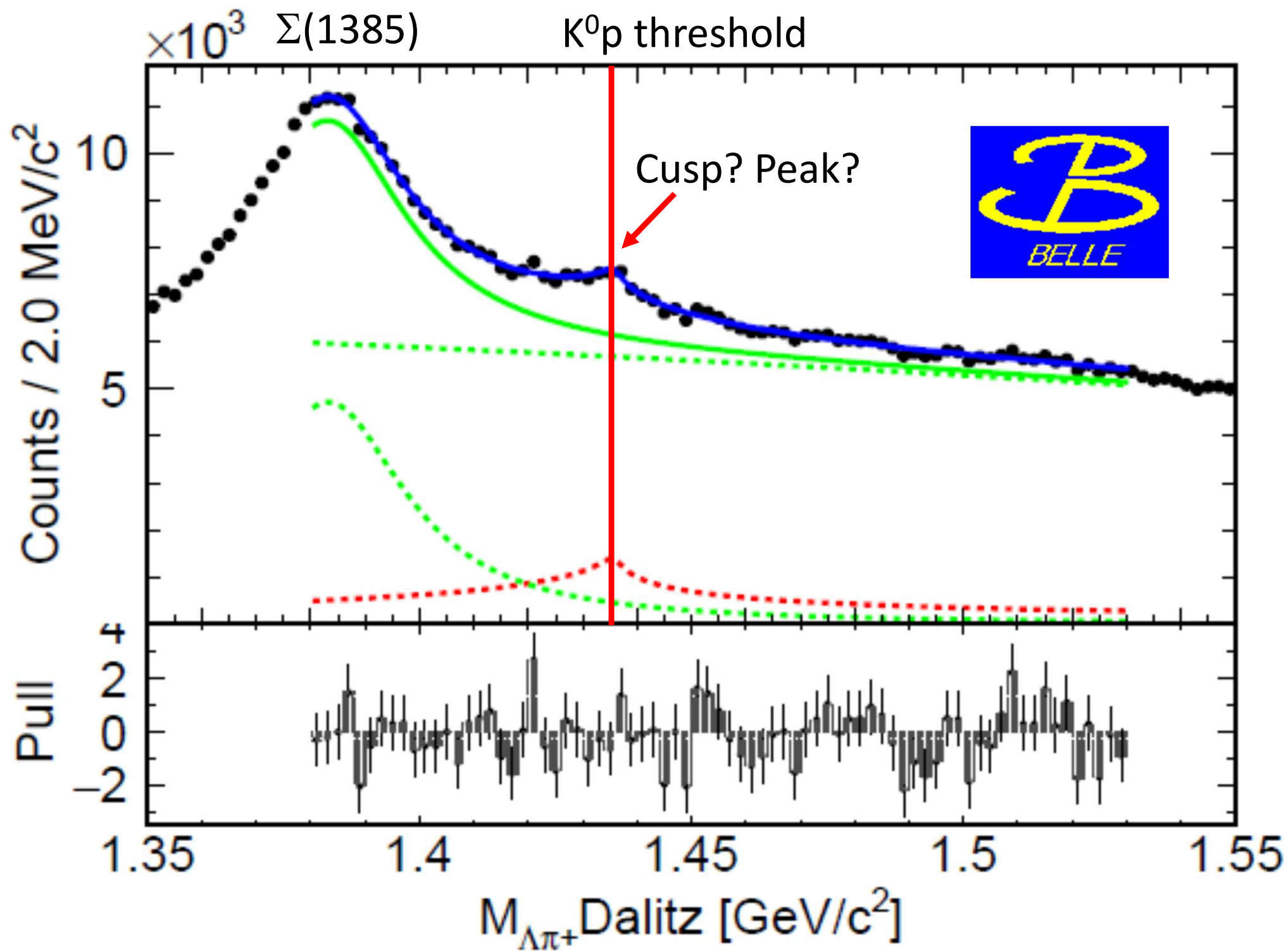
	Present result	$\Lambda\eta\pi^+$ mode
Mass (MeV/c <sup>2</sup> )	1674.4	1674.3 $\pm$ 0.8 $\pm$ 4.9
Width (MeV)	50.3 $\pm$ 2.9 $^{+4.2}_{-4.0}$	36.1 $\pm$ 2.4 $\pm$ 4.8

- $\Lambda(1670)$  is usually considered as a 3-quark state, but may be a **virtual molecular state**

# Peak at $\bar{K}N$ threshold in $\Lambda_c \rightarrow \Lambda\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-$

- Cusp candidates are observed in  $\Lambda\pi^\pm$  invariant mass spectra, from  $\Lambda_c$  decay





# Two fitting models

## 1. Standard Breit-Wigner

$$f_{BW} = \frac{\Gamma/2}{(E - E_{BW})^2 + \Gamma^2/4},$$

## 2. Dalitz model (cusp) [Czech. J. Phys. B32, 1021 (1982)]

For  $\bar{K}N(I = 1)$  scattering length  $A=a+ib$  and decay momentum  $k/\kappa(=|k|$  below the threshold)

$$f_D = \frac{4\pi b}{(1 + kb)^2 + (ka)^2}, E > m_{\bar{K}N}$$

$$= \frac{4\pi b}{(1 + \kappa a)^2 + (\kappa b)^2}, E < m_{\bar{K}N},$$

neglecting decay form factor



# Fitting results

## 1. Breit-Wigner

Mode	$E_{BW}$ [MeV/ $c^2$ ]	$\Gamma$ [MeV/ $c^2$ ]	$\chi^2$ / NDF
$\Lambda\pi^+$	$1434.3 \pm 0.6$	$11.5 \pm 2.8$	74.4/68
$\Lambda\pi^-$	$1438.5 \pm 0.9$	$33.0 \pm 7.5$	92.3/68

## 2. Dalitz model (cusp)

Mode	$a$ [fm]	$b$ [fm]	$\chi^2$ / NDF
$\Lambda\pi^+$	$0.48 \pm 0.32$	$1.22 \pm 0.83$	68.9/68
$\Lambda\pi^-$	$1.24 \pm 0.57$	$0.18 \pm 0.13$	78.1/68

Dalitz model gives slightly better  $\chi^2$ , but the difference is not significant.

# Results & discussions

## 1. Breit-Wigner

$$\text{Mass } +: 1434.3 \pm 0.6^{+0.9}_{-0.0} \text{ MeV}/c^2$$

$$\text{---}: 1438.5 \pm 0.9^{+0.2}_{-2.5} \text{ MeV}/c^2$$

$$\text{Width } +: 11.5 \pm 2.8^{+0.1}_{-5.3} \text{ MeV}$$

$$\text{---}: 33.0 \pm 7.5^{+0.1}_{-23.6} \text{ MeV}$$

- Significance 7.5(6.2) $\sigma$
- This interpretation implies the existence of an exotic state,  $\Sigma(1435)$ .

# Results & discussions

2. Dalitz (cusp) – scattering length  $A=a+ib$

$$a \text{ } K^0p : 0.48 \pm 0.32^{+0.38}_{-0.01} \text{ fm}$$

$$K^-n : 1.24 \pm 0.57^{+1.56}_{-0.16} \text{ fm}$$

$$b \text{ } K^0p : 1.22 \pm 0.83^{+2.54}_{-0.18} \text{ fm}$$

$$K^-n : 0.18 \pm 0.13^{+0.00}_{-0.20} \text{ fm}$$

- Many theories predict a cusp here.

[e.g., Y. Ikeda et al., NPA881.98(2012)]

– Due to attraction between  $\bar{K}$  and N in the  $l=1$  channel

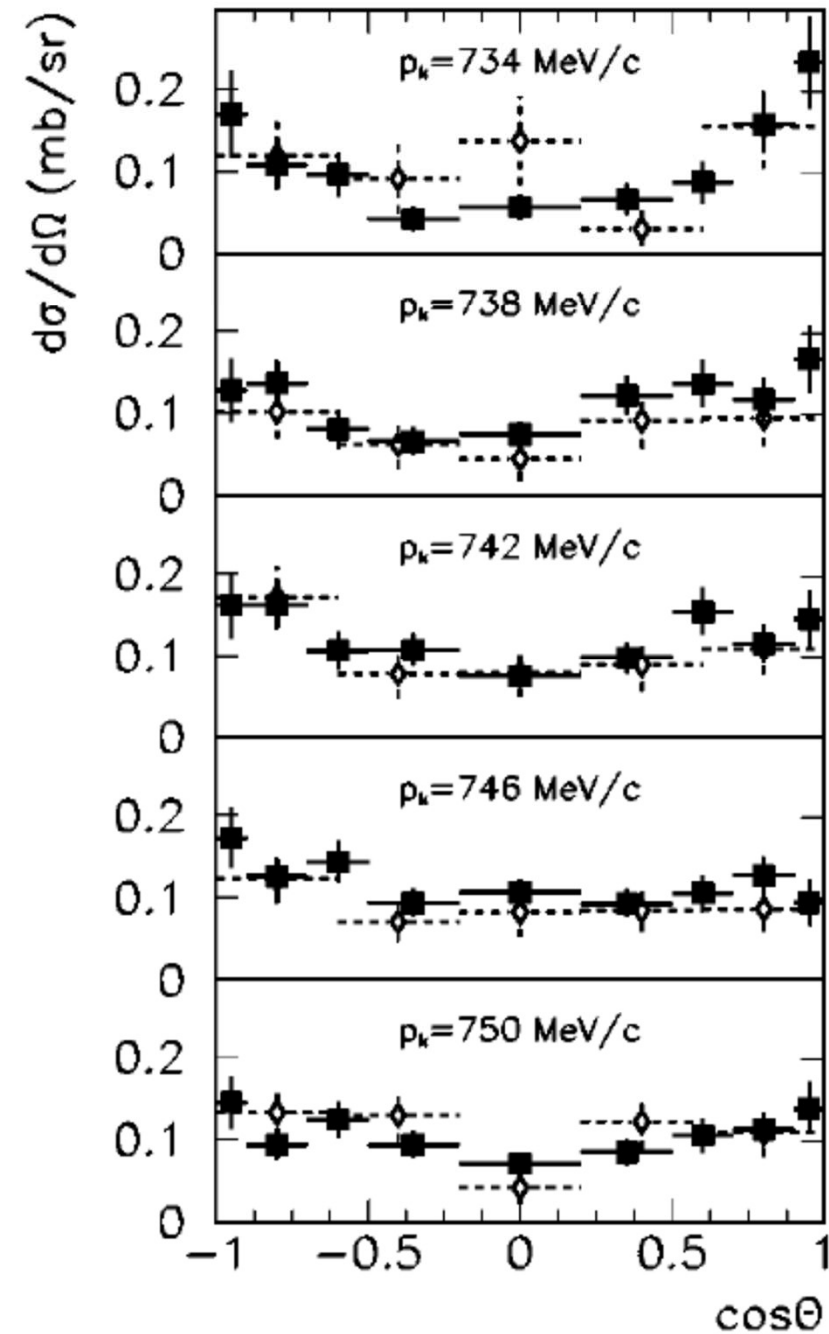
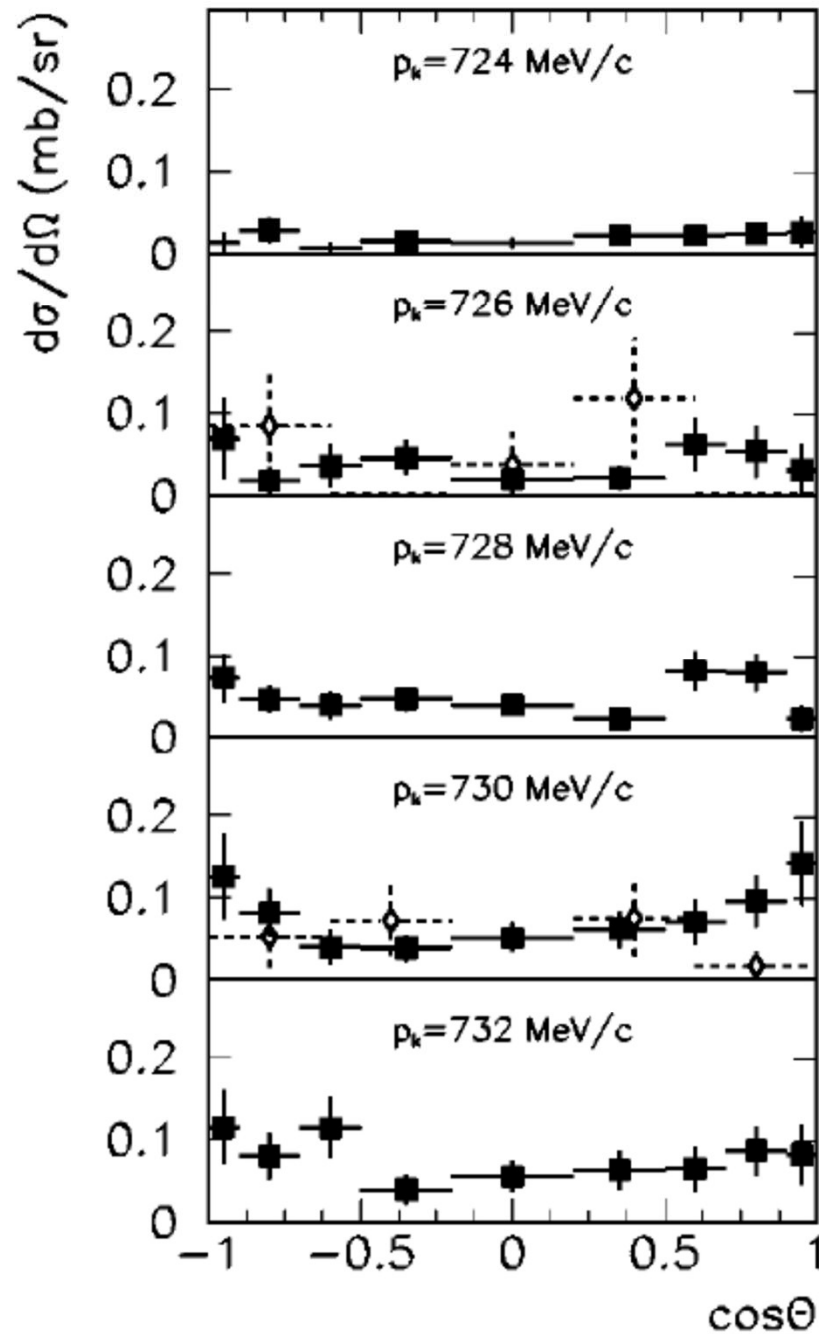
- Obtained center values for a are larger than most theories (e.g.,  $a(K^-n)=0.3\sim 0.6$  fm for [\*]), but with large uncertainties. (Also, form factor is ignored.)

II. J-PARC E72:  
Search for new  
narrow exotic  $\Lambda^*$   
near the  $\Lambda\eta$  threshold

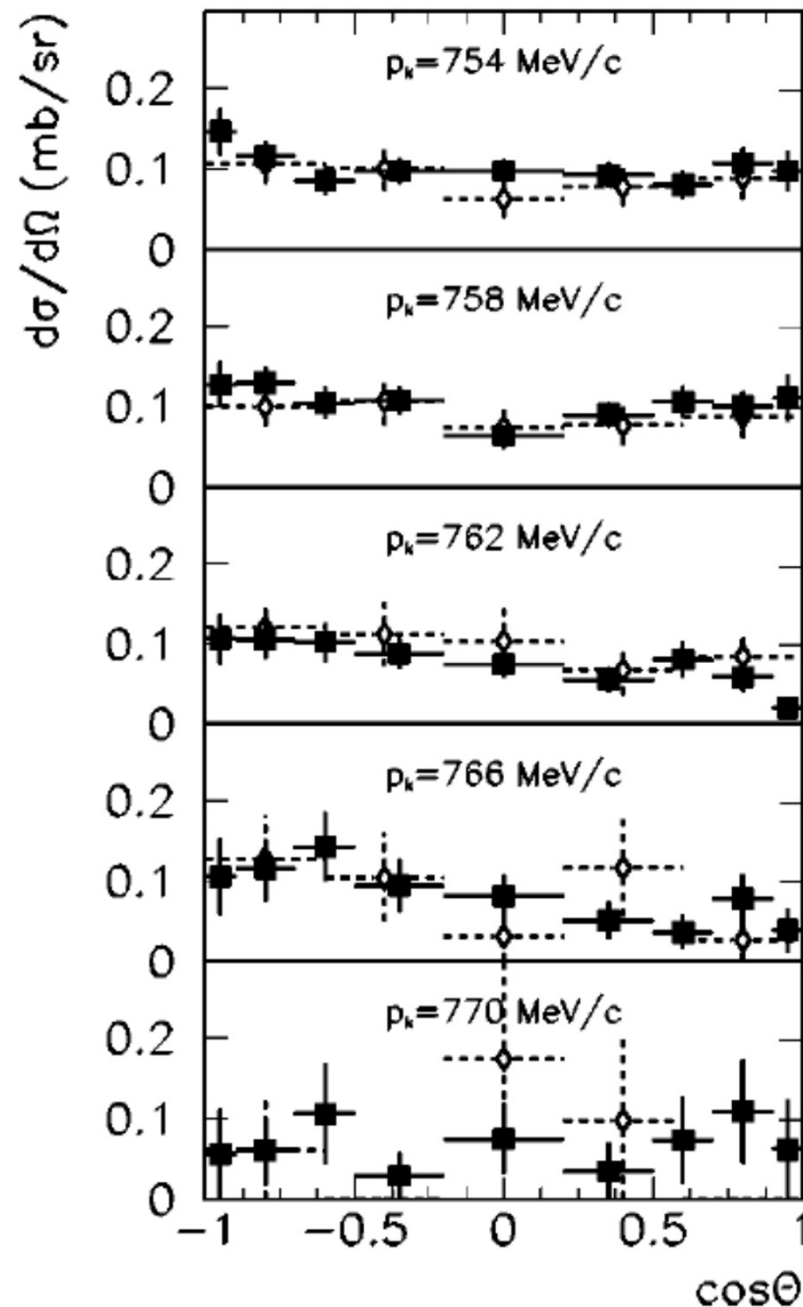
# A new $\Lambda$ resonance around 1670 MeV?

- 2 independent theory groups claim there is **a new narrow  $\Lambda^*$  resonance** around 1670 MeV with  **$J=3/2$** 
  - Kamano et al. [PRC90.065204, PRC92.025205]  
 $J^P=3/2^+$  ( $P_{03}$ ),  $M=1671+2-8$  MeV,  $\Gamma=10+22-4$  MeV
  - Liu & Xie [PRC85.038201, PRC86.055202]  
 $J^P=3/2^-$  ( $D_{03}$ ),  $M=1668.5 \pm 0.5$  MeV,  $\Gamma=1.5 \pm 0.5$  MeV
- The reason is the same
  - From  **$K^-p \rightarrow \Lambda \eta$**  measurement near the threshold by Crystal Ball collaboration at BNL [PRC64.055205]
  - **Model independent**

# Differential cross sections (1)



# Differential cross sections (2)



- Flat near the threshold
  - Expected for  $J=1/2$  (S-wave)
- Concave-up around  $p_K=734$  MeV/c ( $v_s=1669$  MeV)
- Flat again for  $p_K > 750$  MeV/c ( $v_s=1677$  MeV)
- Concave shape requires  $J=3/2$  amplitude  
 → reason for a narrow resonance; model independent

# What can it be?

- The experimental data suggest the existence of a new  $\Lambda^*$  resonance with spin  $3/2$  ( $P_{03}$  or  $D_{03}$ ),  $\Lambda(1665)$ :

Q: What is the nature of  $\Lambda(1665)$ , if it really exists?

A: We have few ideas at the moment, aside from that it must be exotic, and thus very interesting.

- It is near the  $\Lambda\eta$  threshold, but threshold cusp is unlikely.
  - Visible cusp appears only in S wave
- A molecular state in P or D? Then, where is the S state?
  - Cf.  $X(3872)$  &  $\Lambda(1405)$  are in S wave.

→ **It may be a new type of exotic state!**

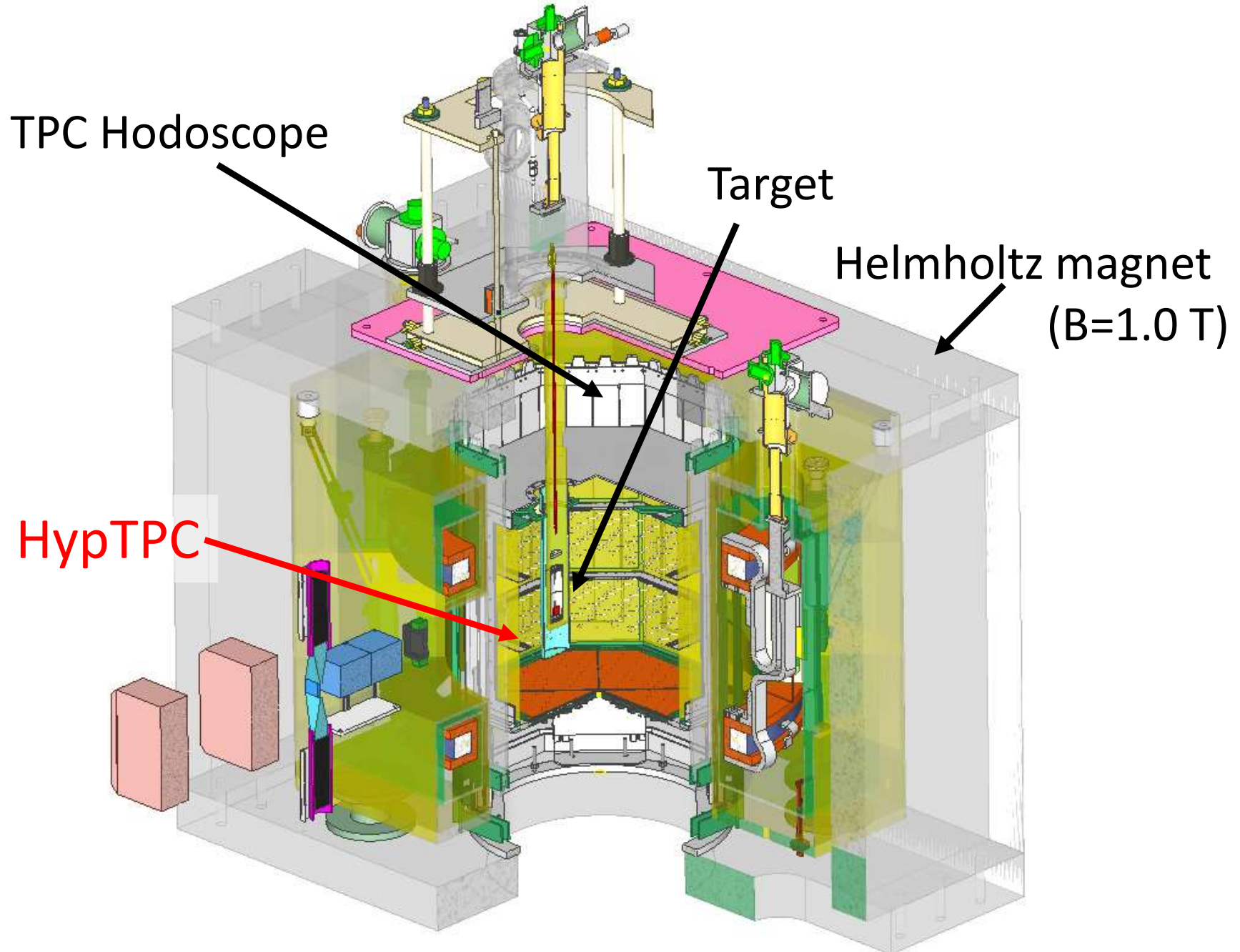
- Mixture of a molecular state and a 3-quark state???
- $udss\bar{s}$  pentaquark???



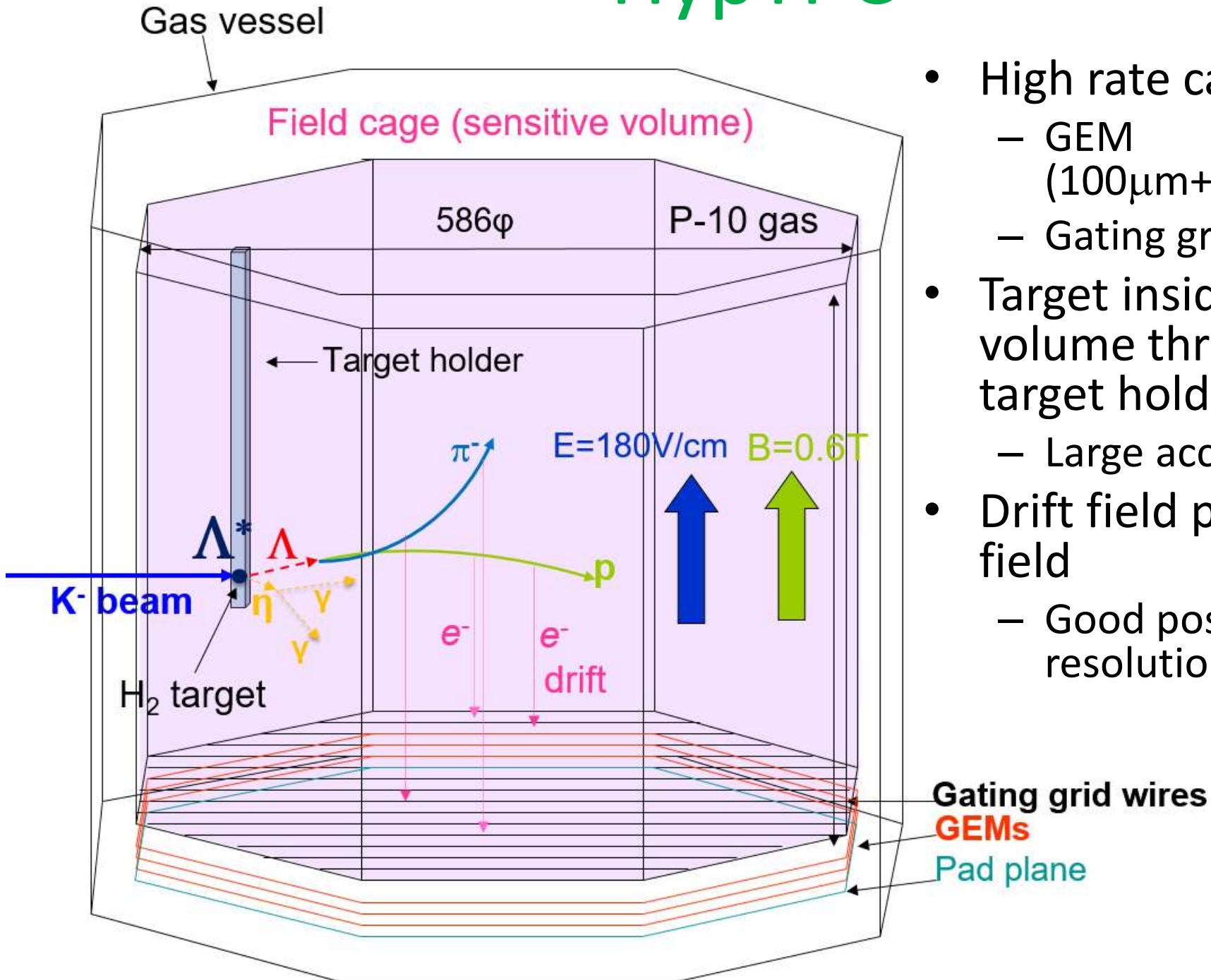
# J-PARC E72

- Repeat the  $Kp \rightarrow \Lambda\eta$  experiment again with a large acceptance detector, i.e., TPC (HypTPC)
  - Confirm angular distribution & the new resonance
  - Determine parity by  $\Lambda$  polarization measurement
- Principle
  - K beam momentum: 720-770 MeV/c
  - Momentum resolution: 1 MeV/c or better
    - Can identify narrow resonance of  $\Gamma=1.5$  MeV
  - Detect  $\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^-$ , identify  $\eta$  by missing mass
- Test run in this spring.  
Physics run expected in 2025.

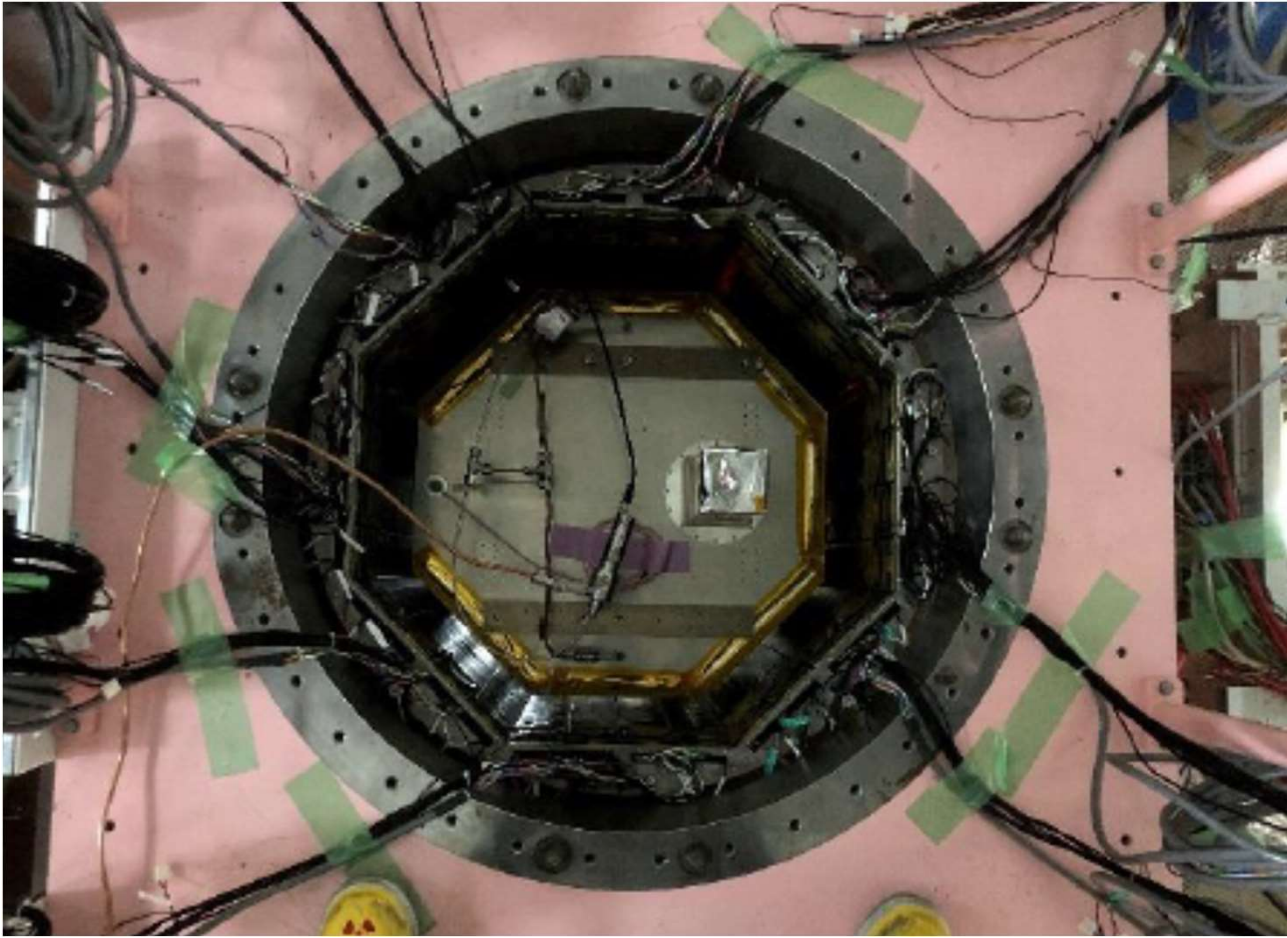
# Hyperon Spectrometer



# HypTPC



- High rate capability
  - GEM  
( $100\mu\text{m}+50\mu\text{m}+50\mu\text{m}$ )
  - Gating grid
- Target inside the drift volume through the target holder
  - Large acceptance
- Drift field parallel to B-field
  - Good position resolution

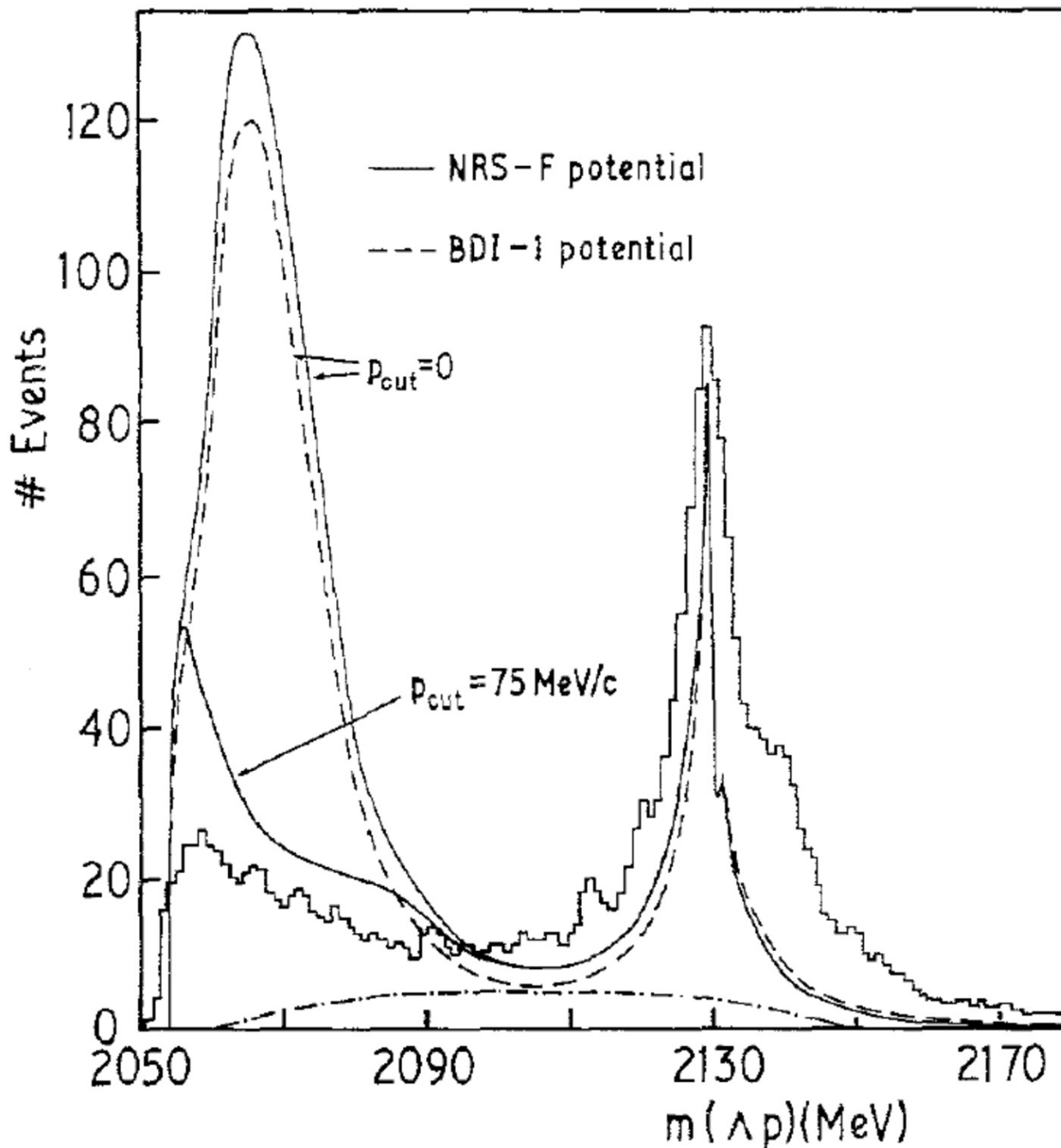


# Byproduct – threshold behavior

- We can take data not only on  $K^-p \rightarrow \Lambda\eta$ , but most other reaction channels such as  $K^-p \rightarrow K^-p$  (elastic),  $K^0_S n$ ,  $\Sigma\pi$ ,  $\Lambda\pi^0$ , etc.
  - Study threshold behavior
  - The same excellent mass resolution (0.5 MeV)
- Determine pole position for  $\Lambda(1670)$  and  $\Lambda\eta$  scattering length

# III. J-PARC E90: $\Sigma$ N scattering length via cusp spectroscopy (& beyond)

# $\Sigma N$ cusp



- Seen in  $K^-(\text{stopped})+d \rightarrow \Lambda p \pi^-$  and many others
- Maybe the cleanest cusp ever seen, but not confirmed.
  - Because the resolution is not enough

# What should we do?

- Try even higher resolution
  - 0.4 MeV ( $\sigma$ ) would be enough to see the cusp shape
- Tagging of the final state is necessary
  - Must be  $\Lambda N$  to derive  $\Sigma N(I=1/2)$  scattering length
  - $\Sigma N(I=3/2)$  contaminate if not tagged
- J-PARC E90
  - 0.4 MeV resolution with  $d(K^-, p)$  reaction at  $p_K \sim 1.4$  GeV/c thanks to the high resolution of S-2S spectrometer.
  - Tagging of decay particles by the Hyperon Spectrometer
    - $4\pi$  acceptance

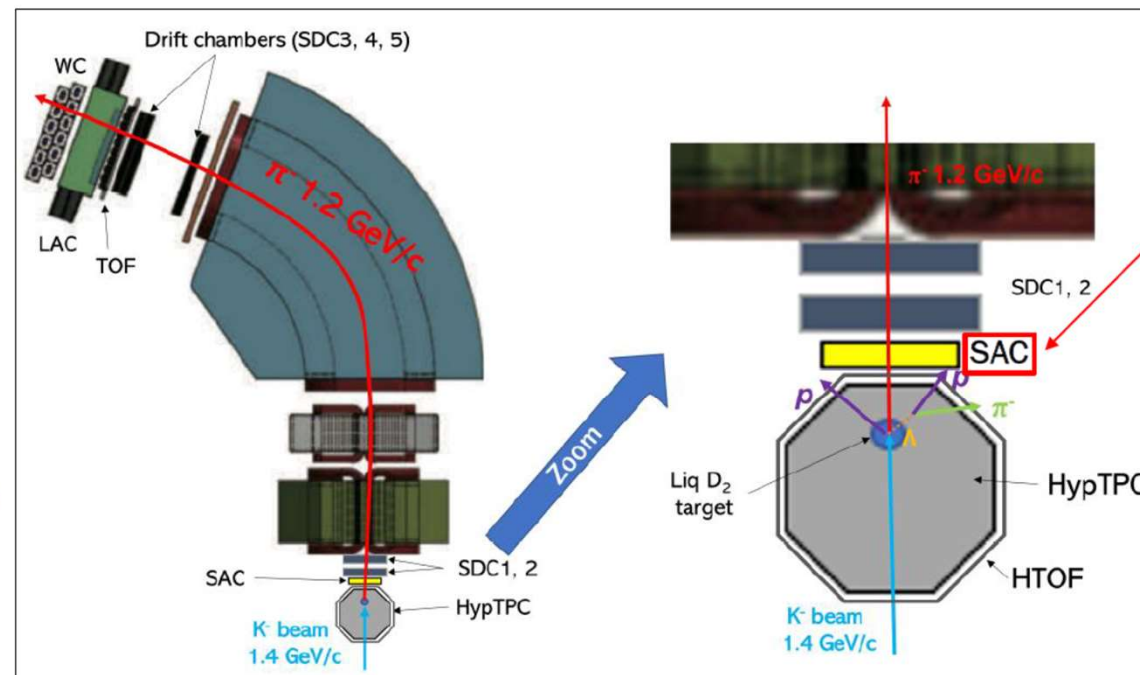


# E90 setup

## SET UP

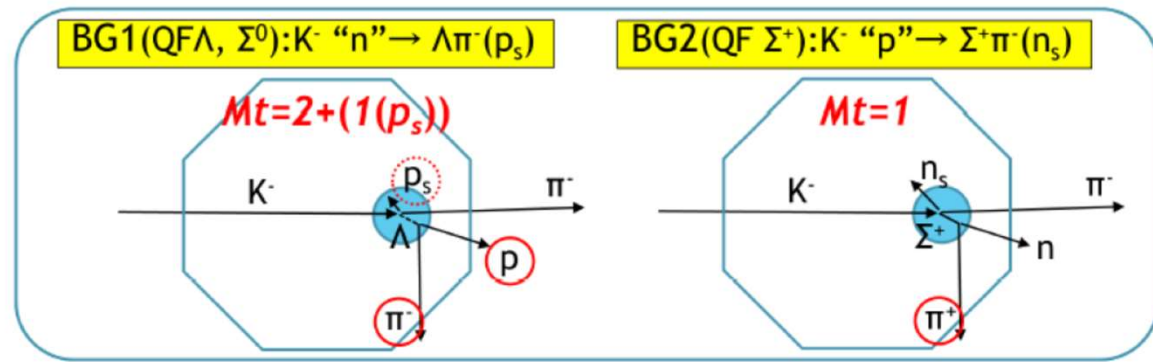
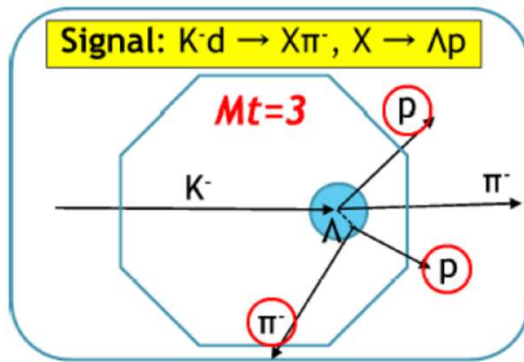
- Reaction:  $K^-d \rightarrow \Lambda p \pi^-$  at 1.4 GeV/c
- S-2S(developed for E70):  $\pi^-$  measurements  $\rightarrow$  measurement of missing mass spectrum
  - Good mass resolution:  $\Delta M \sim 0.4 \text{ MeV } (\sigma)$ ,  $(\Delta p/p(K18))=3.3 \times 10^{-4}(\text{FWHM})$ ,  $\Delta p/p(\text{S-2S})=6.0 \times 10^{-4}(\text{FWHM})$
- HypTPC(developed for E42): Final state ( $\Lambda p$ ) restriction and background suppression

Momentum transfer  
 $\sim 200 \text{ MeV}/c$



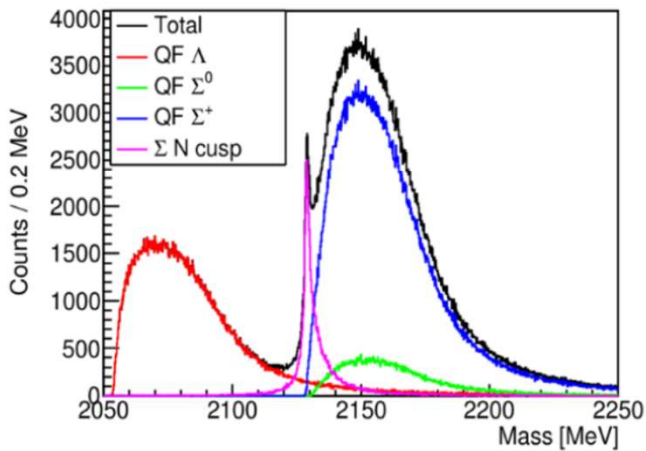
*New detector*

# QF BACKGROUND SUPPRESSION BY HYPTPC



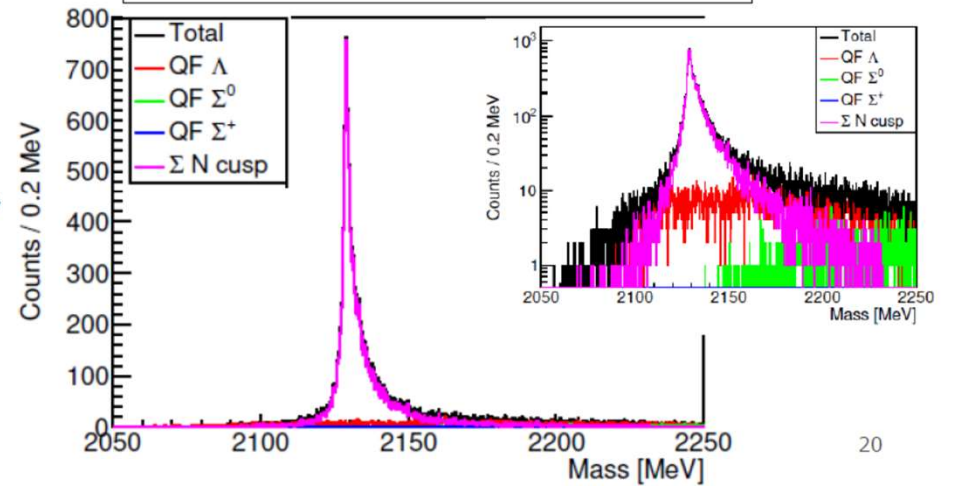
Simulated inclusive spectrum  $d(K^-, \pi^-)$

Expected spectrum for the 15 days beam time

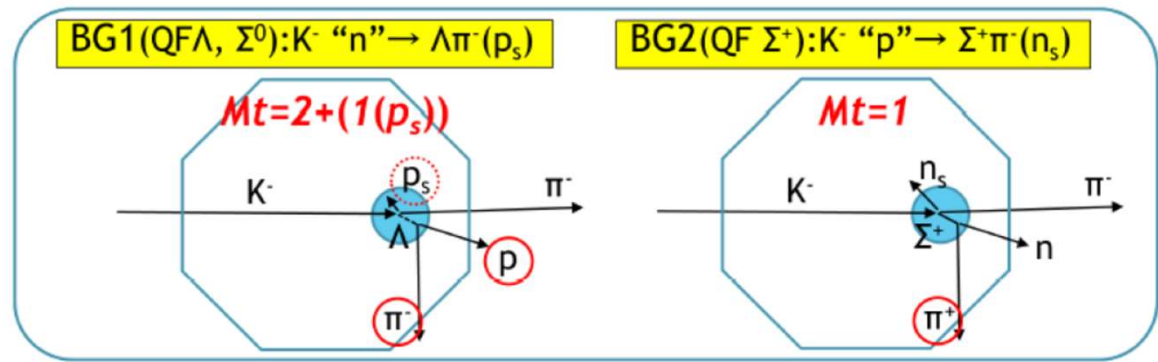
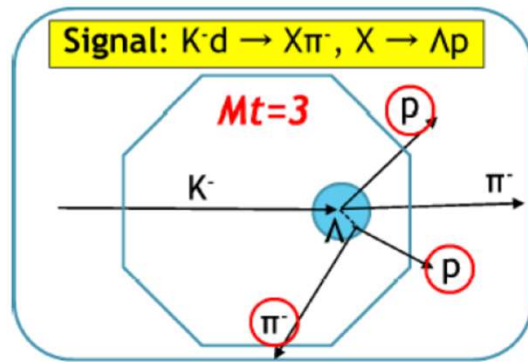


**Multiplicity = 3**

**Multiplicity = 3 without  $(K^-, \pi^-)$**

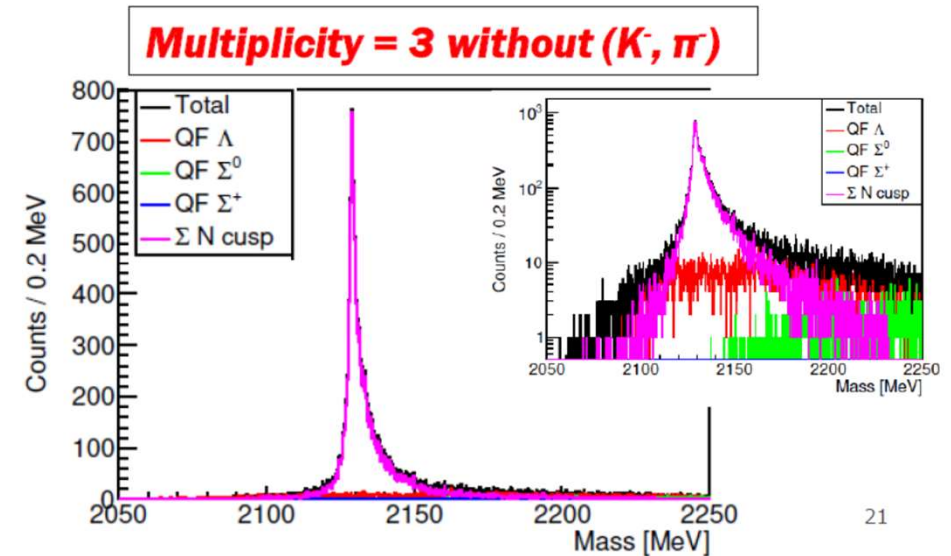
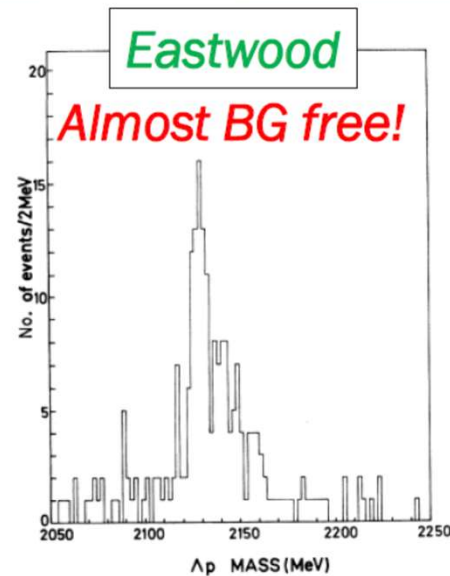


## QF BACKGROUND SUPPRESSION BY HYPTPC



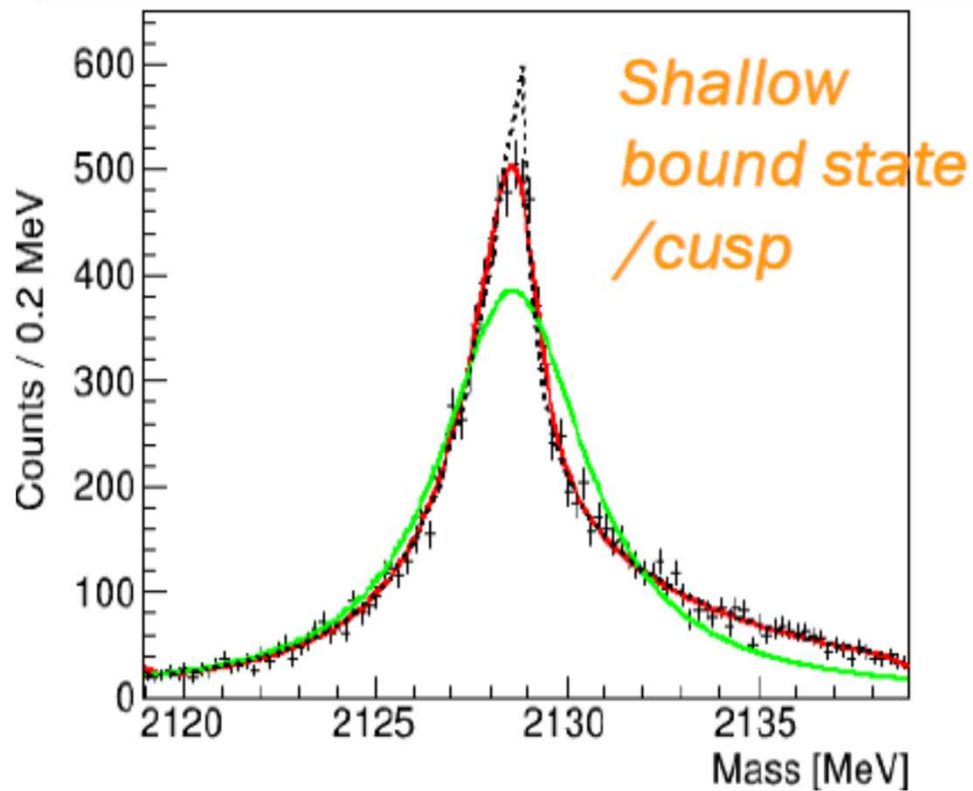
$K^- d \rightarrow \Lambda p \pi^-$   
@1.45 and 1.65 GeV/c  
(Bubble chamber)

$\cos\theta_{CM} > 0.9$   
 $p_{\text{proton}} > 150 \text{ MeV}/c$

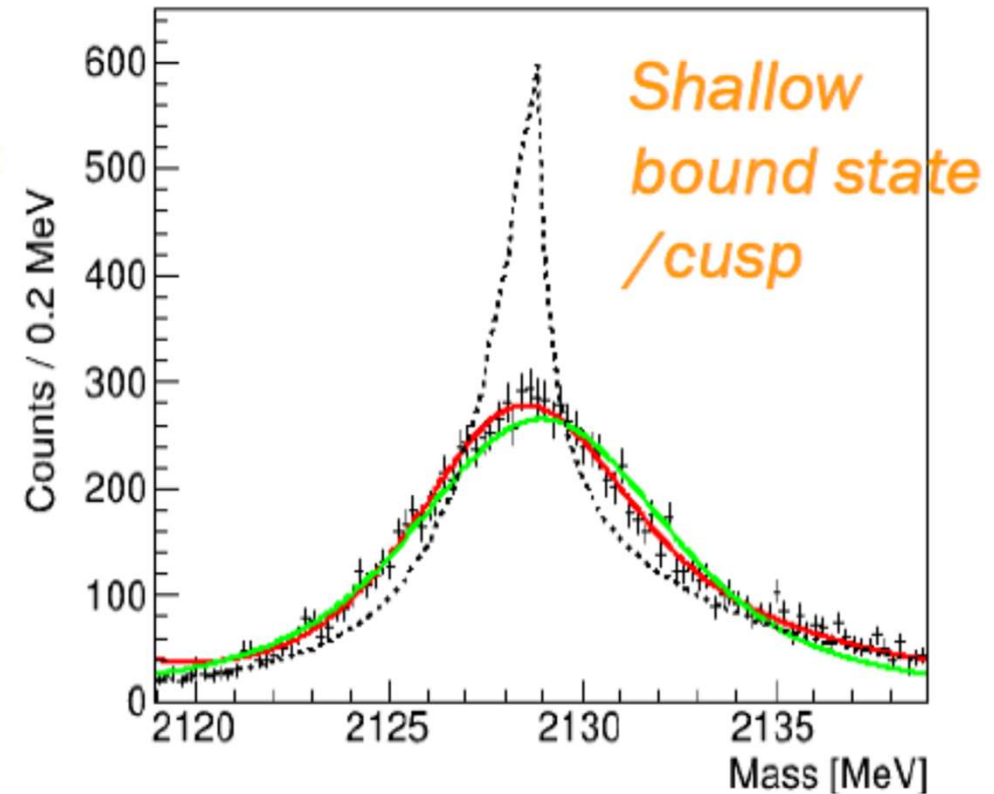


# Importance of resolution

$\sigma = 0.4$  MeV



$\sigma = 2$  MeV



Identification possible with  $\sigma = 0.4$  MeV, but not with 2 MeV

+ $\alpha$ :

A new experiment to study  
 $\bar{K}N(I = 1)$  interaction via  
cusp spectroscopy

# $\bar{K}N(I = 1)$ scattering length

- Important, related to
  - Kaonic nuclei
  - Kaon condensation in neutron stars
- Dedicated experiments with a measurement of kaonic deuterium atom X rays.
  - J-PARC E57
  - Siddharta-2 at DAΦNE
- A new, independent measurement possible using threshold cusp.

# $\Lambda\pi - \bar{K}N(I = 1)$ cusp at J-PARC?

- We already saw a hint in  $\Lambda_c$  decay@Belle



- very poor S/N
- Also unknown production mechanism

- Direct reaction is preferred

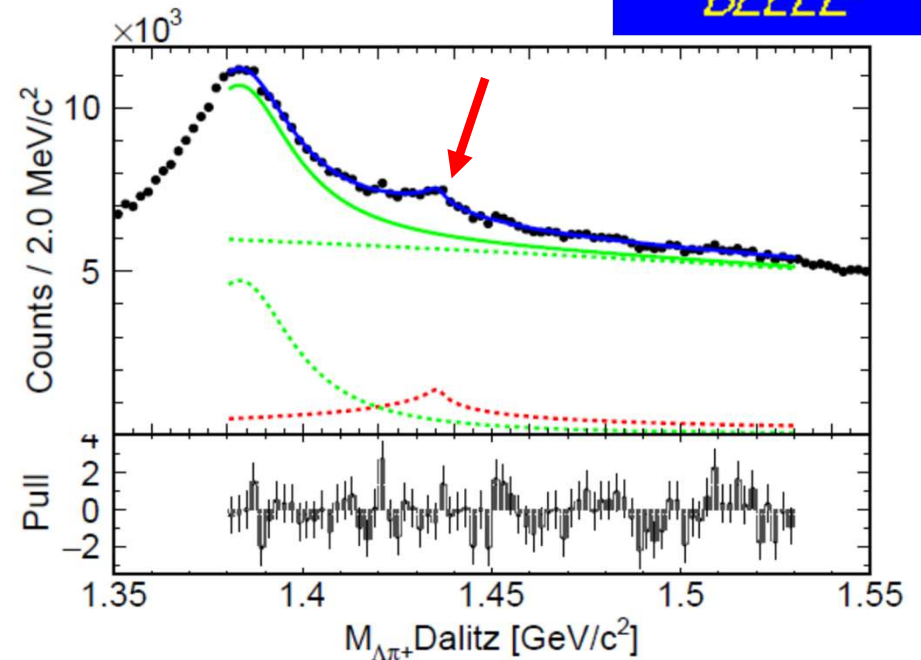
- Two possibilities with  $\Lambda\pi^\pm$  in the final state

1.  $p(K^-, \pi^\pm)\Lambda\pi^\mp$

2.  $d(K^-, p)\Lambda\pi^-$

- reaction 2: small momentum transfer & controlled reaction mechanism – the same mechanism as

J-PARC E31 [PLB837(2023)137637]



# Summary

- Virtual state
  - Cusp: sharp peak-like structure at threshold
- In Belle
  - $\Lambda\eta$  cusp is identified in  $\Lambda_c \rightarrow pK^-\pi^+$
  - Another candidate found in  $\Lambda\pi$  at the  $\bar{K}N$  threshold
- J-PARC E72: Search for an exotic  $\Lambda(1665)$  and more data on  $\Lambda\eta$  cusp
  - scattering length
- E90:  $\Lambda N$ - $\Sigma N$  cusp study for  $\Sigma N$  scattering length
  - Can be applied to  $\bar{K}N(l=1)$  case
  - Even more: any thresholds such as  $\Lambda K$ ,  $\Sigma K$ ,  $N\eta^{(\prime)}$ ,  $\Lambda\eta'$ , ...