

# **Hyperon Beta Decay: A (Somewhat Biased) Review**

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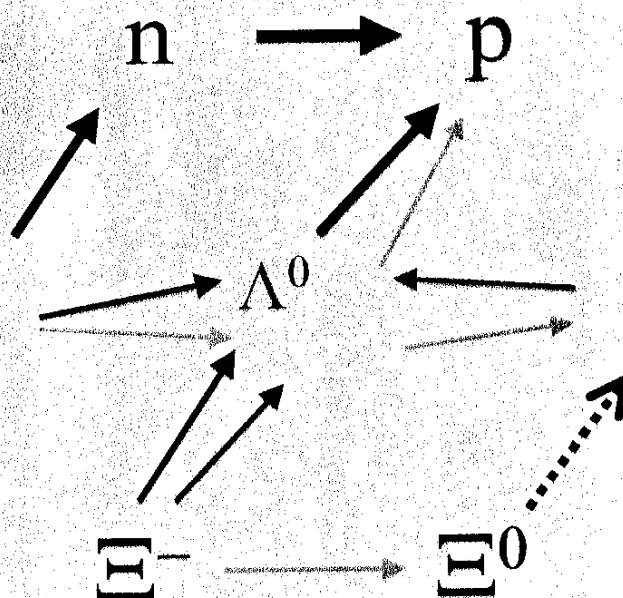
pbar2000 Workshop  
Illinois Institute of Technology

August 3, 2000

# Outline

- **Limitation: Only Allowed Octet Baryon Beta Decays**
- **Phenomenology and Notation**
- **Cabibbo (CKM) Model**
- **1983-84 Review**
- **Selected “New” Results**
- **Data Summary 2000**
  - ▶ **Flavor SU(3) Breaking?**
  - ▶ **Determining  $V_{us}$  and  $V_{ud}$  (the Cabibbo angle)**
  - ▶ **Hints of New Physics?**
- **Summary and Conclusions**

# Allowed Baryon Beta Decays



$$\underline{A} \rightarrow \underline{B} + e^- + \bar{\nu}$$

$$M = \frac{G_\mu}{\sqrt{2}} V_{uj} \langle \underline{B} | J^\alpha | \underline{A} \rangle \ell_\alpha + ??$$

$$\langle \underline{B} | J^\alpha | \underline{A} \rangle =$$

$$\bar{u}(\underline{B}) \left[ \underline{f_1(q^2)} \gamma^\alpha + \frac{f_2(q^2)}{M_A} \sigma^{\alpha\nu} \gamma_\nu + \cancel{\frac{f_3(q^2)}{M_A} q^\alpha} + \right. \\ \left. \left\{ \underline{g_1(q^2)} \gamma^\alpha + \frac{\overset{?}{g_2(q^2)}}{M_A} \sigma^{\alpha\nu} \gamma_\nu + \cancel{\frac{g_3(q^2)}{M_A} q^\alpha} \right\} \gamma_5 \right] u(\underline{A})$$

$g_1/f_1 = +1.267$  for  $n \rightarrow pe^- \bar{\nu}$  is a  
"V - A" Matrix Element.

In  $V_{uj}$ ,  $j = d$  for  $\Delta S = 0$  decays, and  $j = s$  for  $\Delta S = 1$ .

$$V_{ud} = \cos(\theta_C)$$

$$V_{us} \approx \sin(\theta_C)$$



# Observables

$$\delta \equiv \frac{\Delta M}{M} \equiv \frac{M_A - M_B}{M_A}$$

→ "Parity conserving"

$$\textcircled{1} \text{ Rate} = \frac{\text{D.F.}}{\tau} \approx G_\mu^2 |V_{ij}|^2 [1 + 3\chi^2] \frac{|f_1|^2}{(1 + \epsilon_1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \chi = \frac{(g_1 - \frac{2}{3} g_2)}{f_1}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \text{ dev } E_B \leftrightarrow \chi^2$$

$$\textcircled{3} E_e \leftrightarrow \frac{f_2}{f_1} \text{ at } O(\delta)$$

---

→ Parity violating:  $\langle \sigma \cdot p \rangle$

$$\begin{cases} \{L_e, L_\nu, L_B\} \\ \{S_e, S_\nu, S_B\} \end{cases} \begin{cases} \frac{g_1}{f_1} \text{ at } O(1) \\ \frac{g_2}{f_1} \text{ at } O(\delta) \\ \frac{f_2}{f_1} \text{ at } O(\delta) \end{cases}$$

$$1) \frac{K \rightarrow \mu \nu}{\pi \rightarrow \mu \nu} = \frac{K \rightarrow \pi e \nu}{\pi \rightarrow \pi e \nu} \Rightarrow \theta \approx 0.26$$

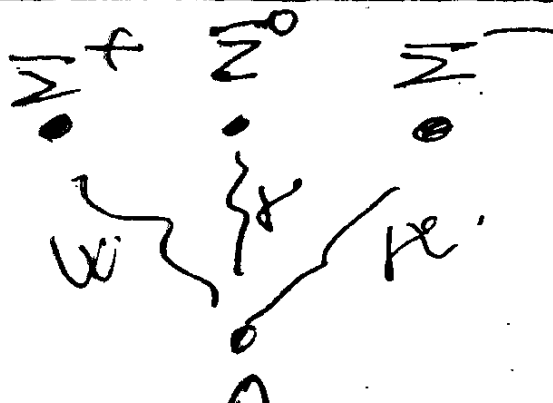
$$[\text{thint. } \theta = 0.2196 \pm 0.0023]$$

$V = 1.25A$   $\swarrow$  2) use as input  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \pi \rightarrow p e^- \bar{\nu} \\ \Sigma^\pm \rightarrow \Lambda e \nu \end{array} \right.$   
 $\approx \frac{g_1}{f_1} = 1.25$  and predict  $\Downarrow$

Table I. Predictions for the leptonic decays of hyperons.

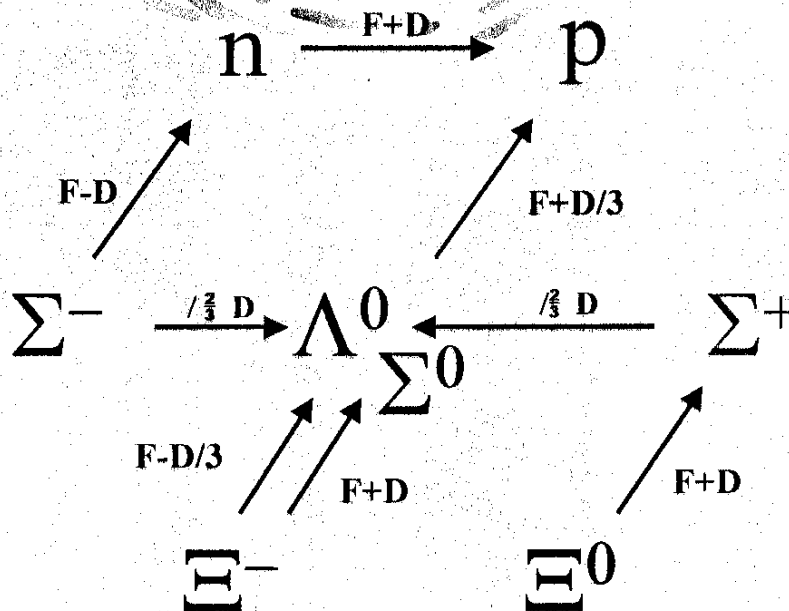
Decay	Branching ratio		Type of interaction
	From reference 2	Present work	
$\Lambda \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}$	1.4 %	$0.75 \times 10^{-3}$	$V - 0.72A$
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \pi + e^- + \bar{\nu}$	5.1 %	$1.9 \times 10^{-3}$	$V + 0.65A$
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda + e^- + \bar{\nu}$	1.4 %	$0.35 \times 10^{-3}$	$V + 0.02A$
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Sigma^0 + e^- + \bar{\nu}$	0.14 %	$0.07 \times 10^{-3}$	$V - 1.25A$
$\Xi^0 \rightarrow \Sigma^+ + e^- + \bar{\nu}$	0.28 %	$0.26 \times 10^{-3}$	$V - 1.25A$

$\frac{g_1}{f_1} < 0$



From Calin bibos hyperon '99 talk: Table I from PRL 10, 531 (1963)

# Beta Decays in the Baryon Octet



# Hyperon Beta Decay: 1983-84 Review

[J.M. Gaillard and G. Sauvage, *Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci.* **34**, 351 (1984).]

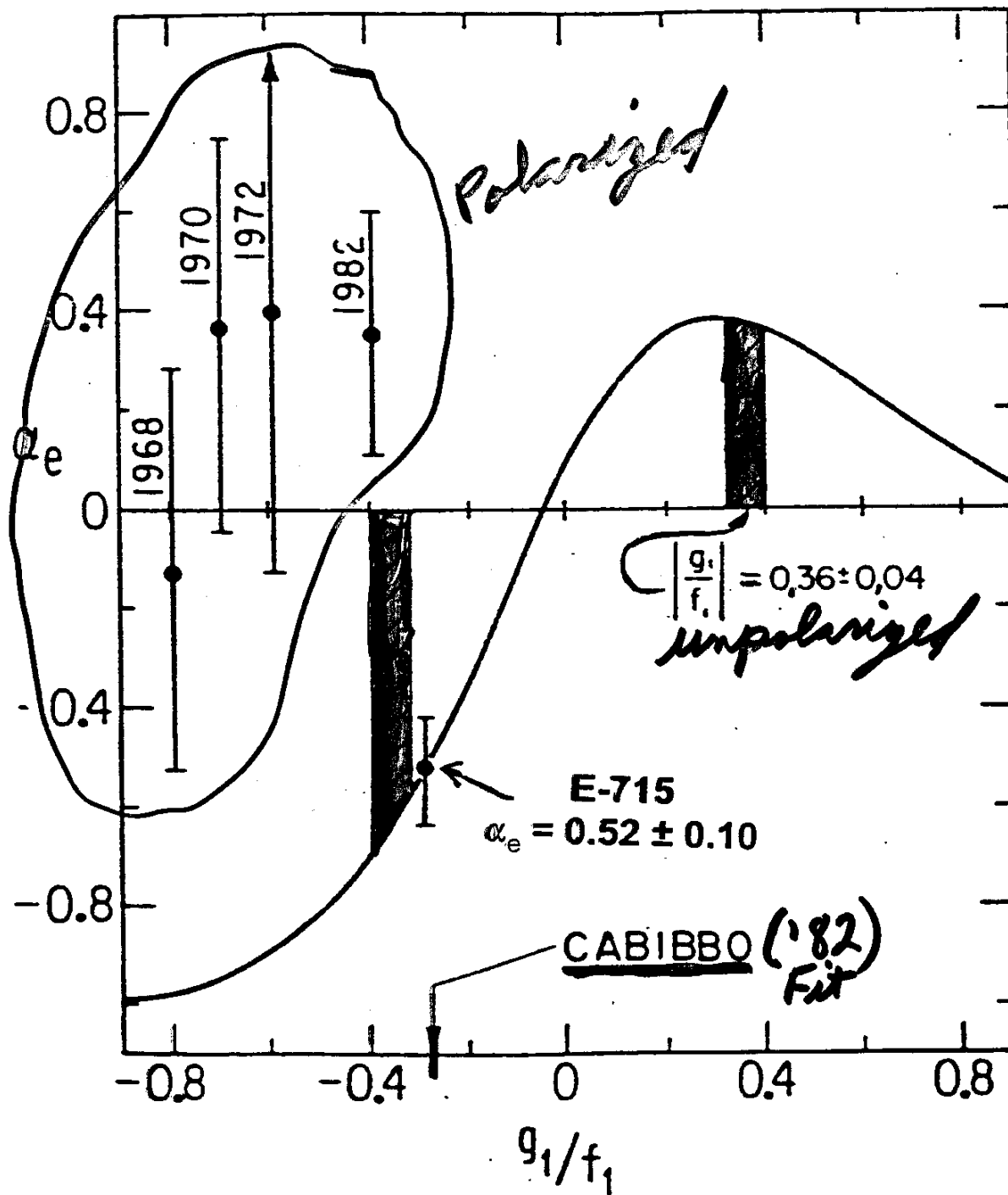
## *50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fermi Theory*

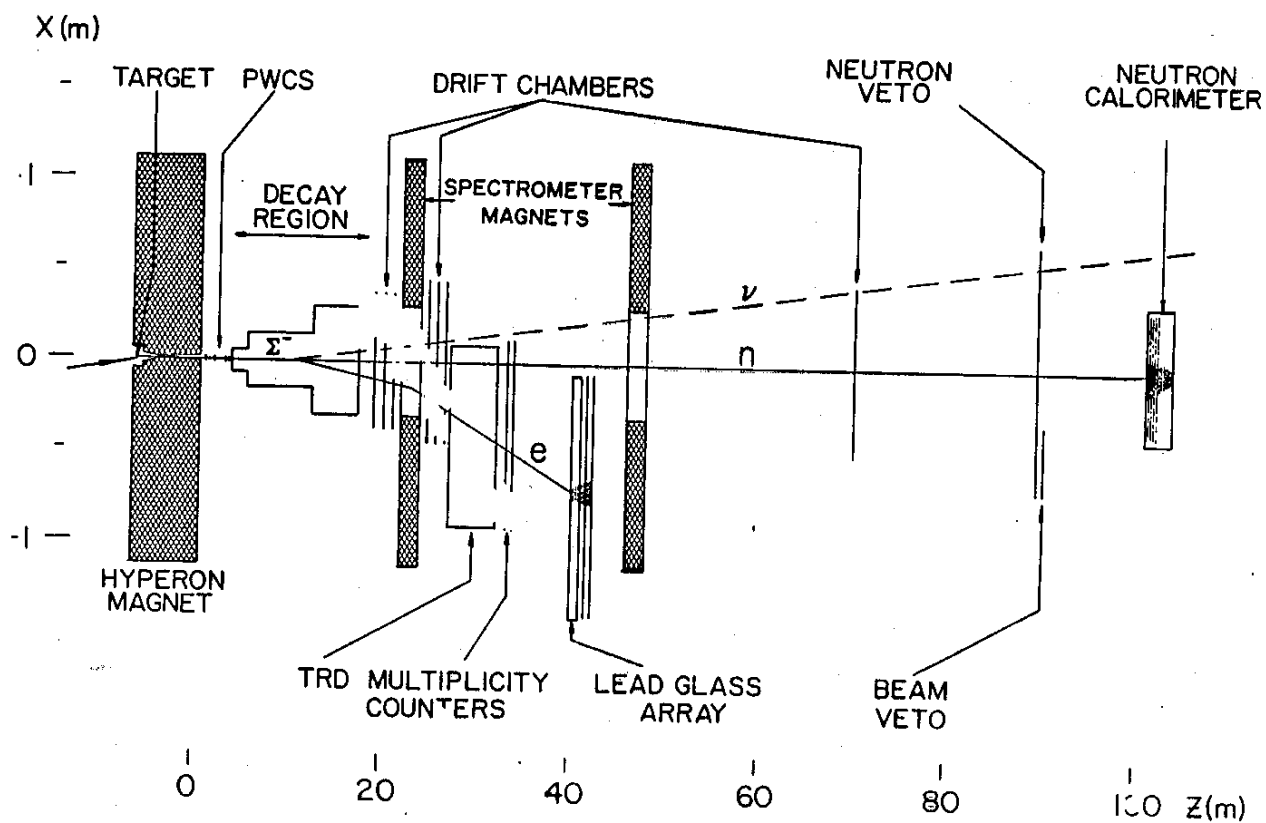
- Included *only* CERN SPS (WA2) hyperon data in fits (+ neutron decay:  $g_1/f_1 = 1.2390 \pm 0.0090$  from lifetime).
- Emphasized need to consistently include radiative corrections and  $q^2$  dependence of  $f_1$  &  $g_1$ .
- Remarkable success in fitting “most recent data.”
 

$V_{us} = 0.231 \pm 0.003$	$F/D = 0.631$
$F = 0.477 \pm 0.012$	$F+D = 1.233$
$D = 0.756 \pm 0.011$	$F-D = 0.279$
- $V_{us} = 0.2196 \pm 0.0023$  from Ke3 analysis.
- Measurements in polarized hyperon beams desirable.
- Sign of  $g_1/f_1$  in  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow ne^-\bar{\nu}$  is still an open question:  
“the keystone of the Cabibbo theory.”
- Effects of flavor SU(3) breaking “yet to be uncovered.”
- No theoretical ground rules for hunting SU(3) breaking effects.



$$\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e^- \bar{\nu}$$





# KTeV Experiment

**E832**  
 $\varepsilon'/\varepsilon$

**K<sub>S</sub>**  
Rare decays

**E799II**  
Rare decays

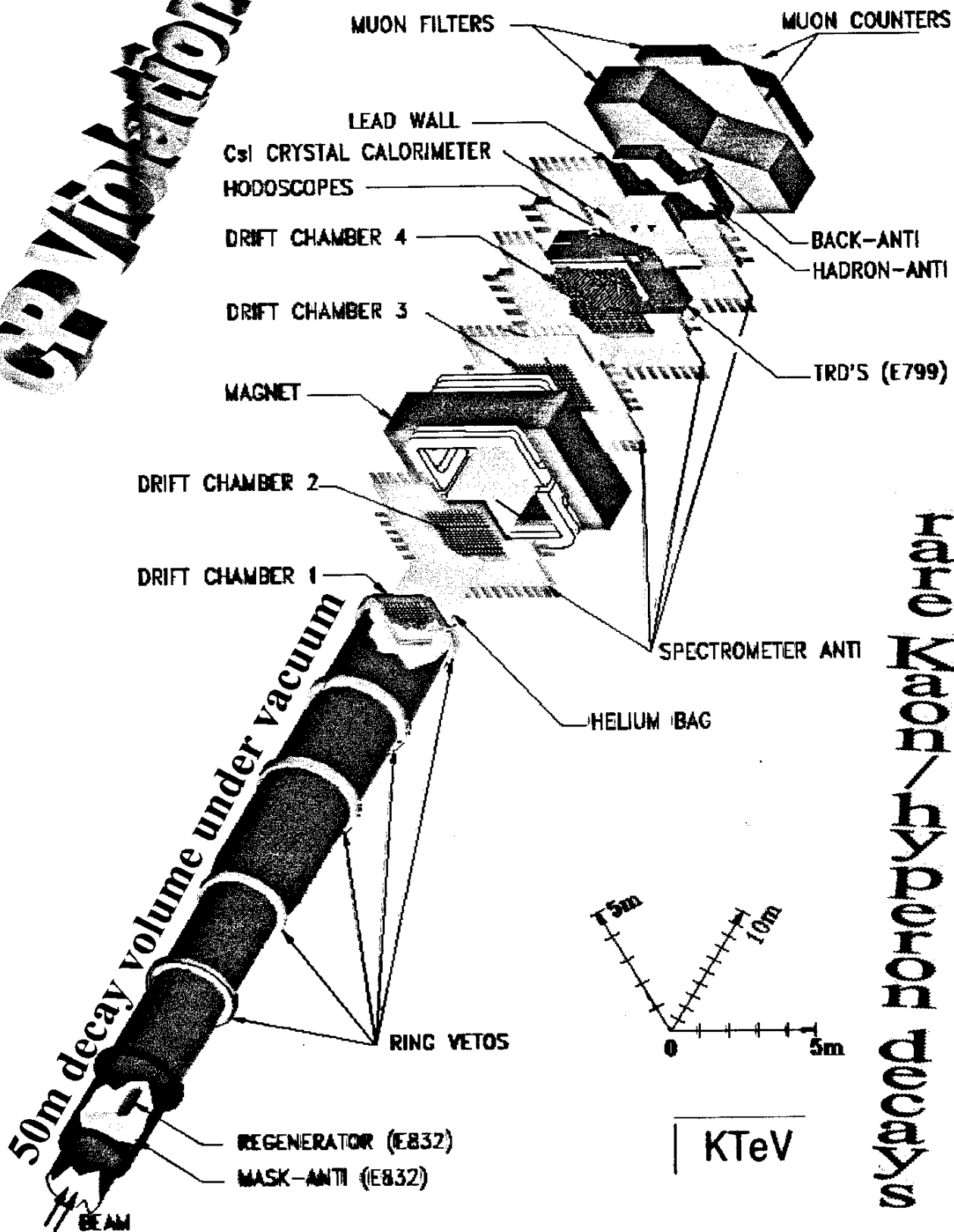
**K<sub>L</sub>**

$\pi^0$

**$\Lambda^0, \Xi^0$**   
Hyperons



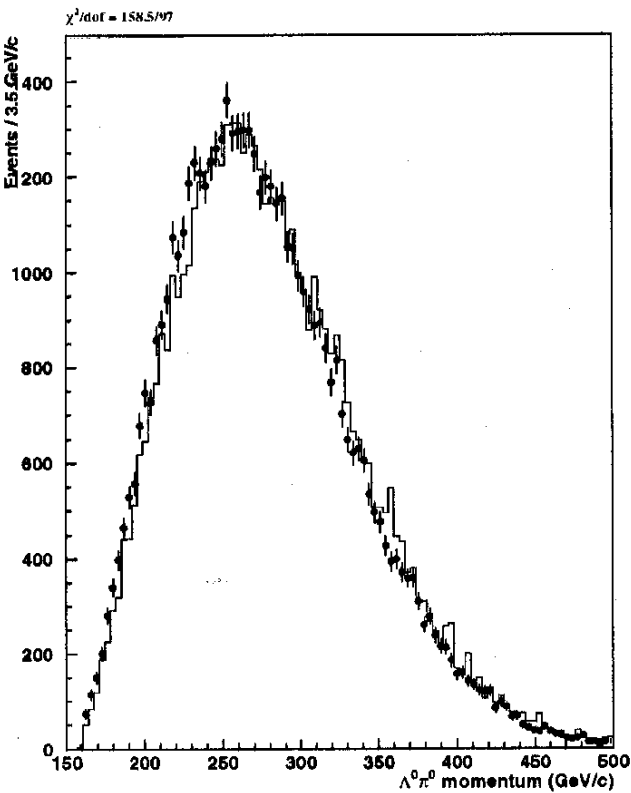
**CP Violation**



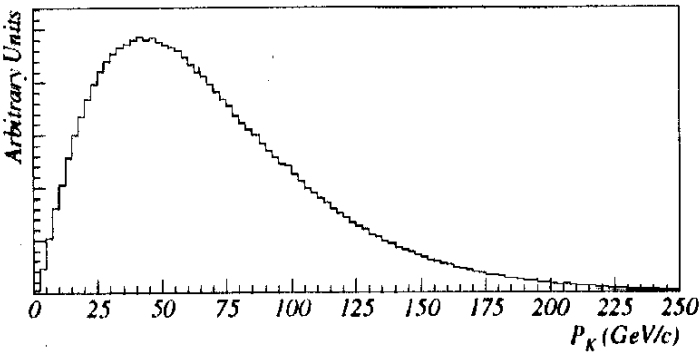
**Search for CP Violation**

Only highest momentum  $\Lambda$ s and  $\Xi^0$ s reach the decay volume.

$\Xi^0$  Momentum Spectrum



$K_L$  Momentum Spectrum



# Physics Motivation For Cascade Beta Decay

$$\Xi^0 \rightarrow \Sigma^+ e^- \bar{\nu} \quad (ssu \rightarrow suu)$$

$$\Xi^0 \rightarrow \Sigma^+ \mu^- \bar{\nu}$$

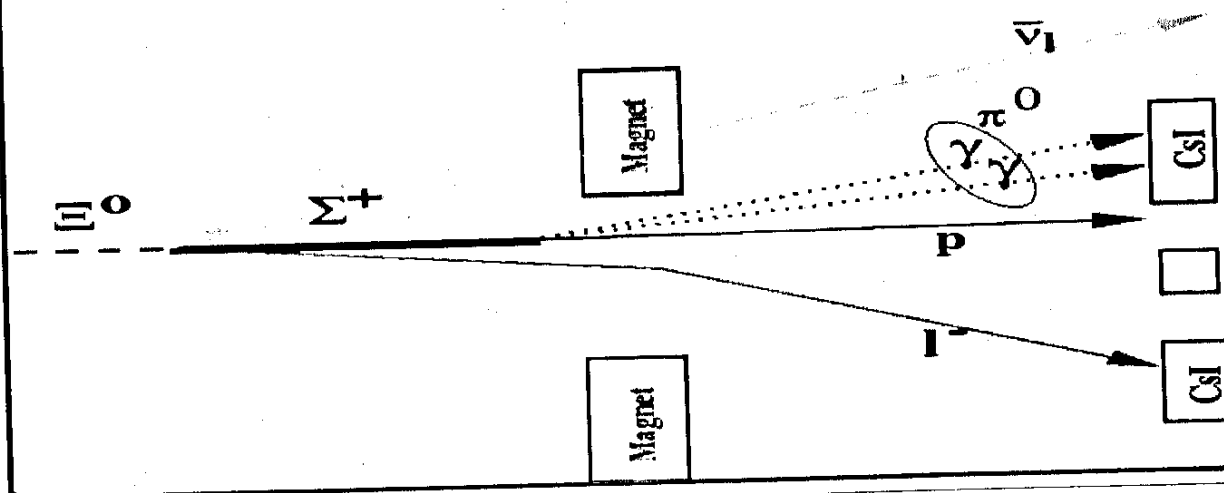
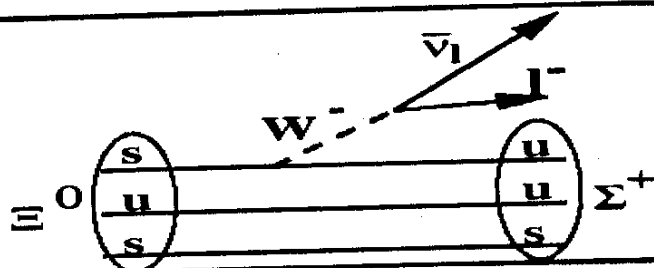
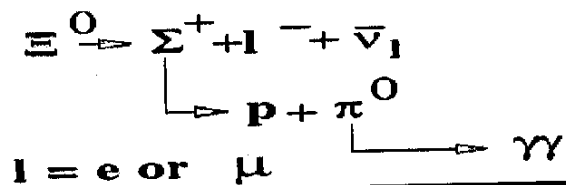
$$\begin{array}{l} \searrow \rho \pi^0 \\ \searrow \gamma \gamma \end{array}$$

- ✓ Never Seen (before KTeV) – Possible Surprise
- ✓ SU(3) copy of  $n \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}_e$  ( $ddu \rightarrow duu$ )  $\left(\frac{g_1}{f_1} = +1.267\right)$
- ✓ Clear Window on SU(3) Symmetry Breaking
- ✓ Clarify  $V_{us}$  Comparison: Kaons vs. Hyperons?
- ✓ ~ 100% “Equivalent Polarization”
- ✓ Comparable Vector & Axial Vector Contributions
- ✓ No Similar Competing Two-Body Decay  $[\Xi^0 \not\rightarrow \Sigma^+ \pi^-]$

# Reconstruction of $\Xi^0 \rightarrow \Sigma^+ e^- \bar{\nu}_e$

• Constrain to the mass of  $\pi^0$

## Cascade Beta Decay



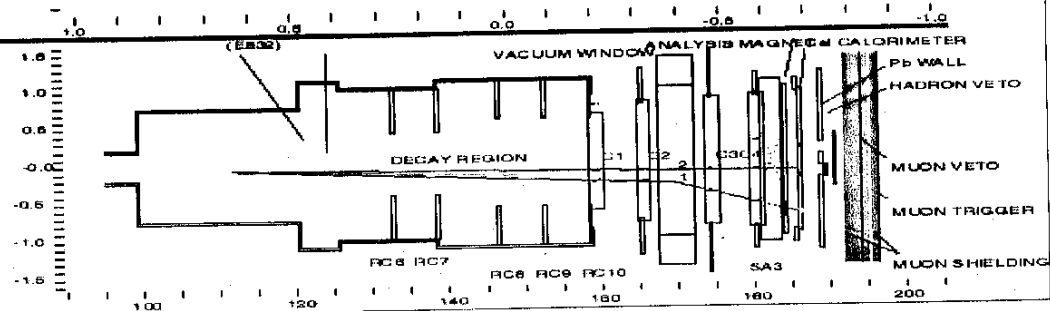
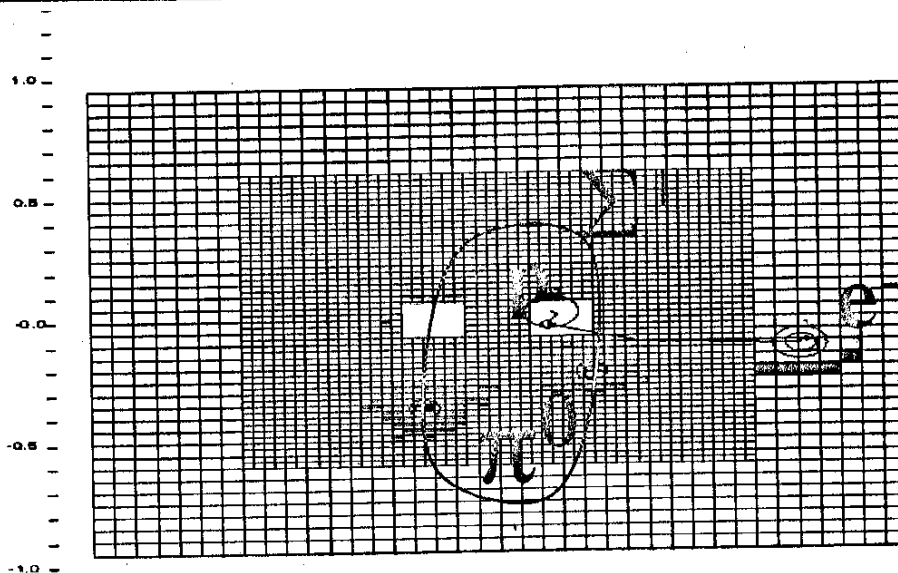
# $E^0 \rightarrow \Sigma^+ e^- \bar{\nu}_e$ Event Display

Run Number: 8387  
 Spill Number: 118  
 Event Number: 14718928  
 Trigger Mask: 200  
 All Slices

Track and Cluster Info  
 HCC cluster count: 3  
 ID Xcal Ycal P or E  
 T 1: -0.7063 -0.1142 -9.67  
 C 1: -0.7092 -0.1137 9.50  
 T 2: -0.1249 0.0260 +164.98  
 C 2: -0.2179 -0.2197 19.41  
 C 3: 0.1739 -0.3658 25.03

Vertex: 2 tracks  
 X Y Z  
 -0.0710 -0.0160 111.673  
 Mass=0.6285 (assuming pions)  
 Chisq=1.30 Pt2v=0.019142

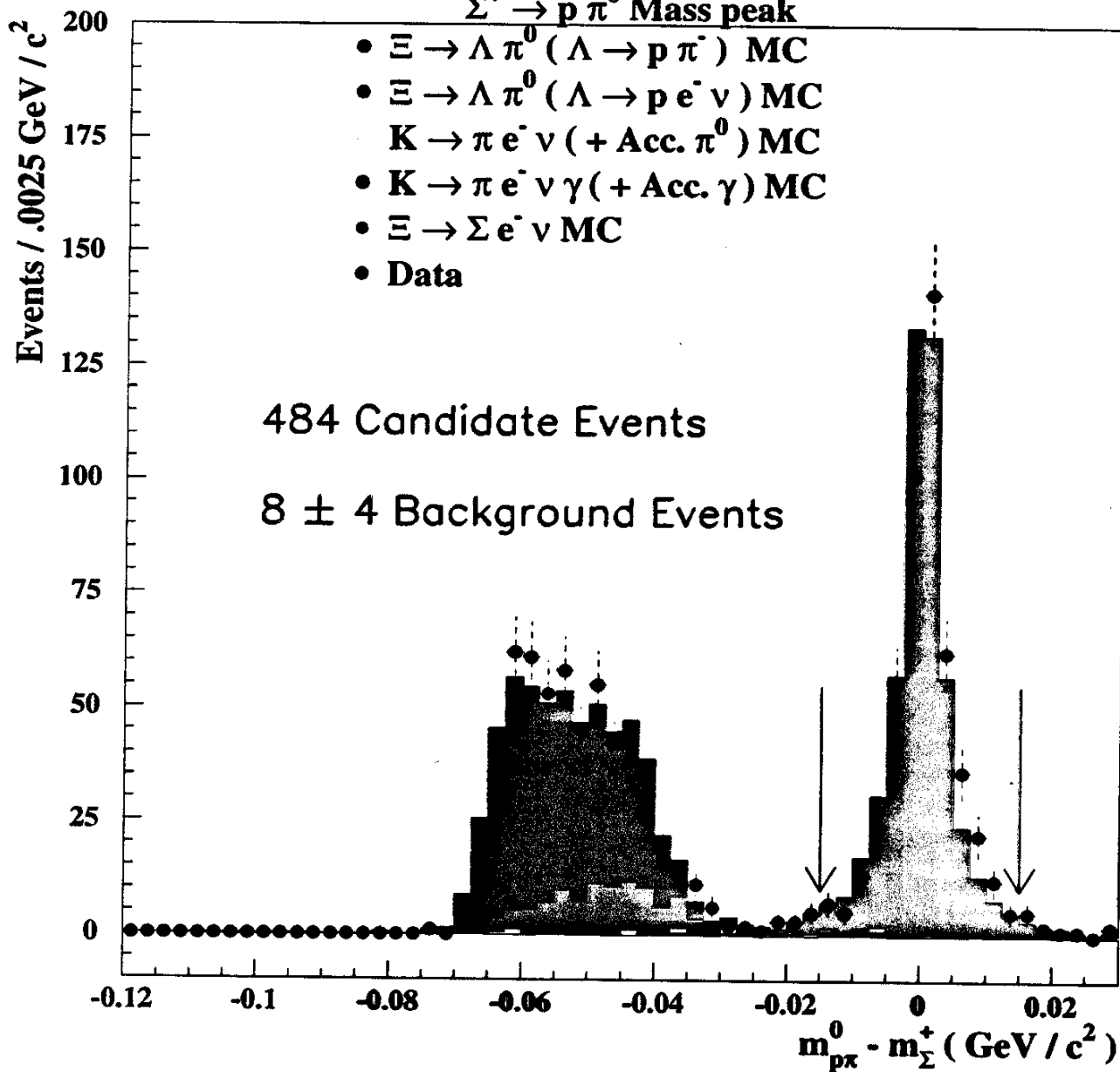
- - Cluster
- - Track
- - 10.00 GeV
- - 1.00 GeV
- - 0.10 GeV
- - 0.01 GeV

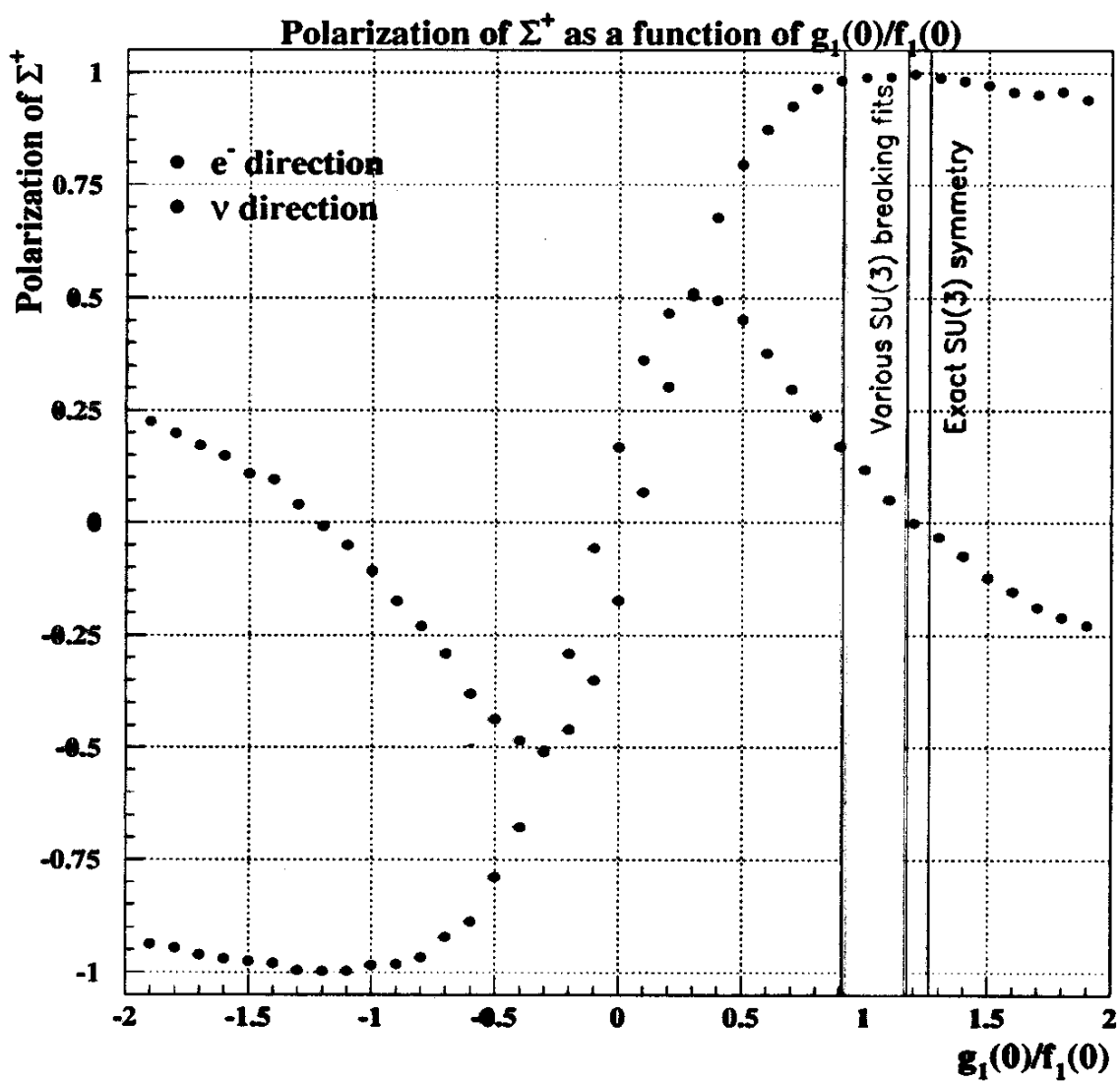


$$\chi^2 = 43.4 / 38$$

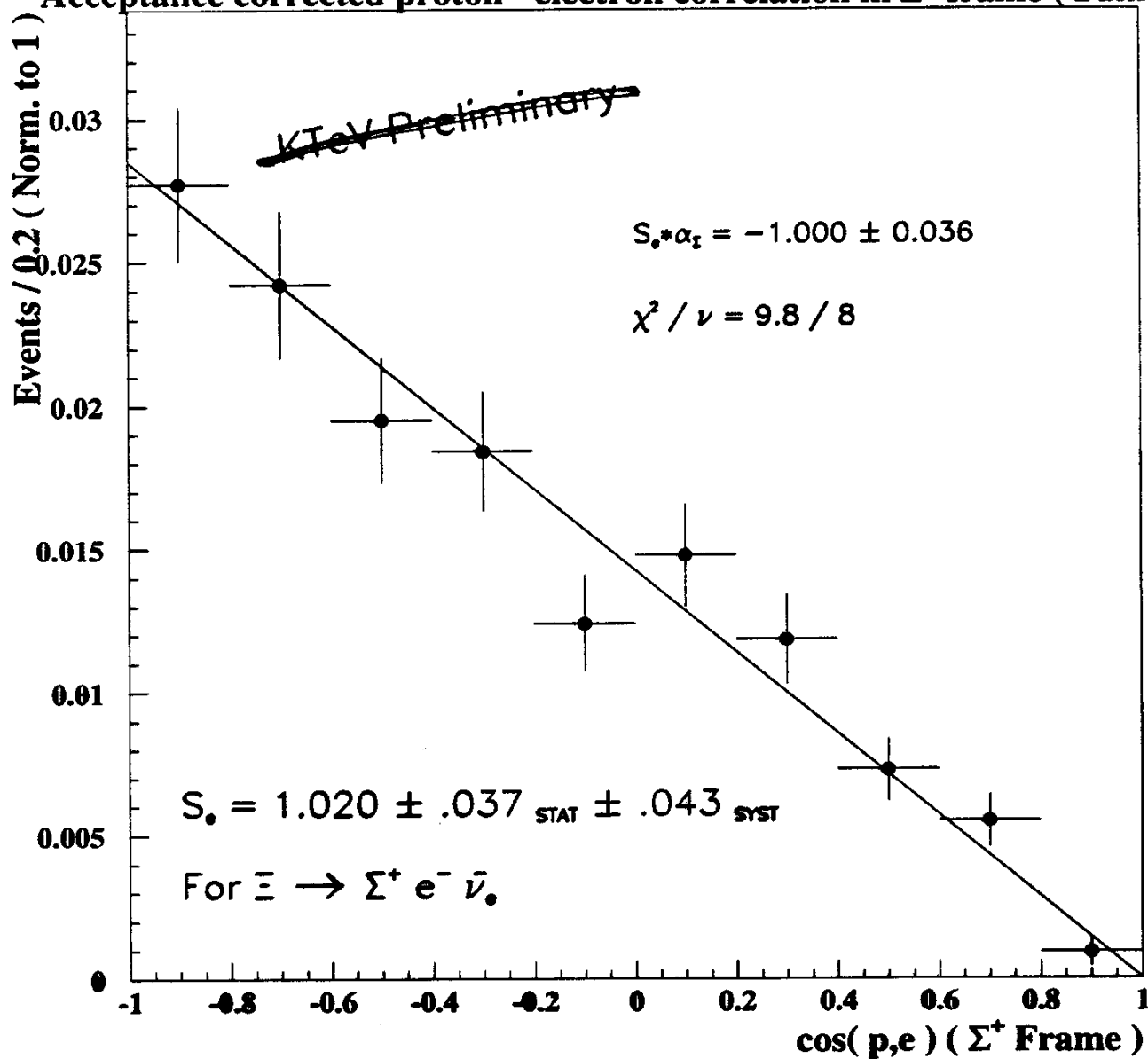
### $\Sigma^+ \rightarrow p \pi^0$ Mass peak

- $\Xi \rightarrow \Lambda \pi^0 (\Lambda \rightarrow p \pi^-)$  MC
- $\Xi \rightarrow \Lambda \pi^0 (\Lambda \rightarrow p e^- \nu)$  MC
- $K \rightarrow \pi e^- \nu (+ \text{Acc. } \pi^0)$  MC
- $K \rightarrow \pi e^- \nu \gamma (+ \text{Acc. } \gamma)$  MC
- $\Xi \rightarrow \Sigma e^- \nu$  MC
- Data





# Acceptance corrected proton - electron correlation in $\Sigma^+$ frame ( Summer )





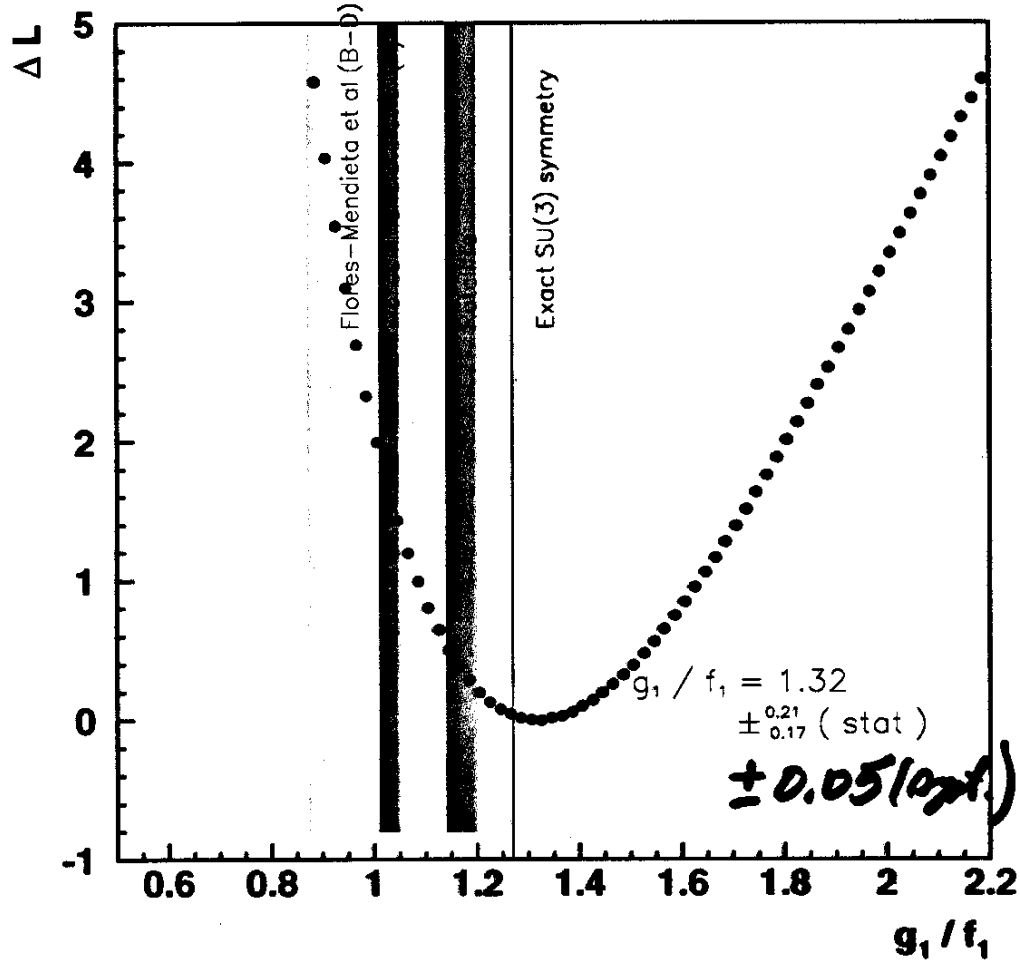
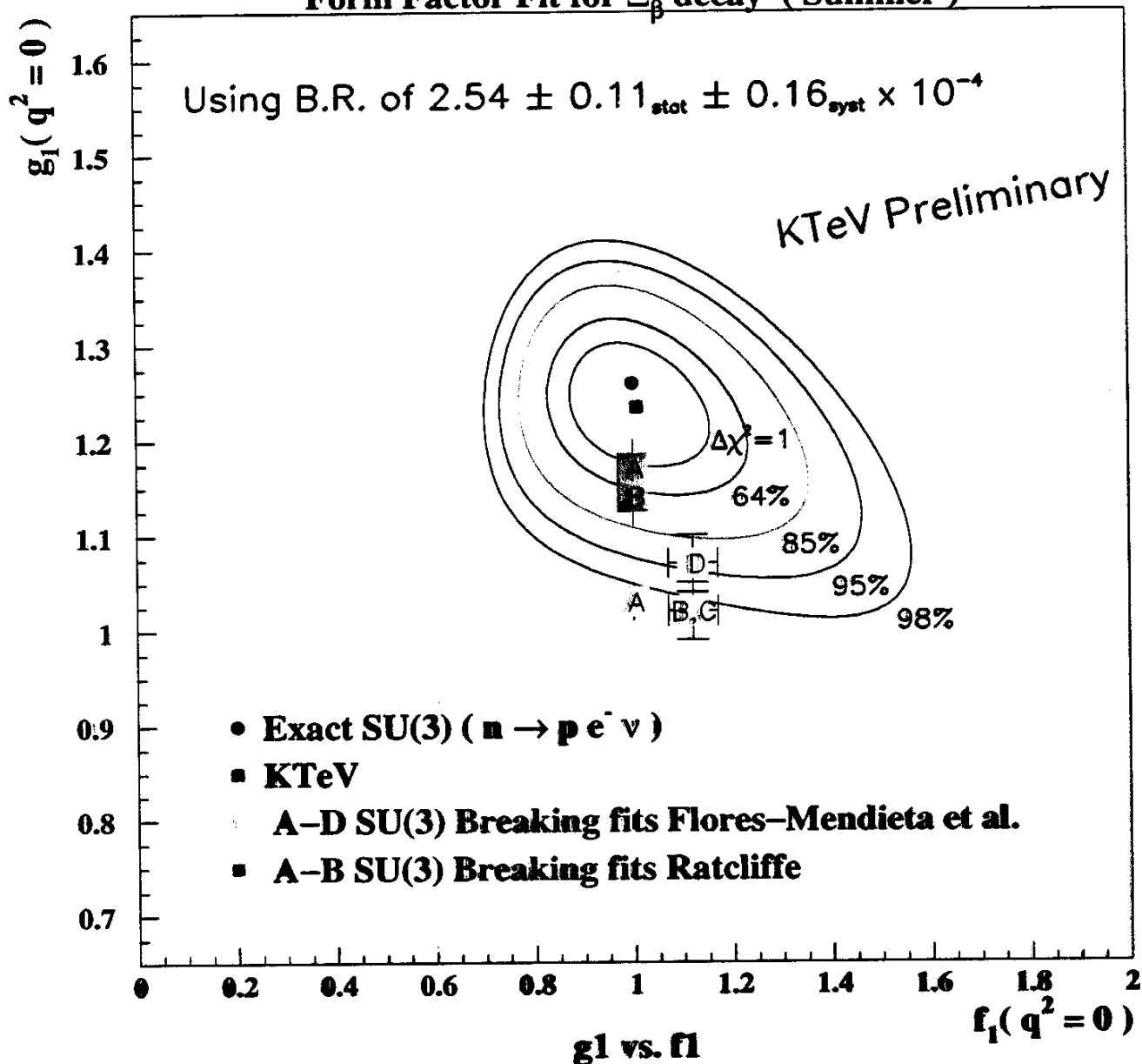


Figure 53. Maximum Likelihood fit to  $g_1/f_1$  corrected for background.

#### 9.4.1 Correcting for Background

Our best background estimate with this selection criteria is  $7.4 \pm 3.7$  events ( about  $2 \pm 1\%$  of the signal ), the background being almost entirely due to  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^+ e^- \bar{\nu}_e$  and  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^+ e^- \bar{\nu}_e \gamma$  decays. We estimate the effect of this background by adding MC background events to MC signal events and observing the change in the measured value of  $g_1/f_1$  in the MC samples. We used 30 'data sized'  $\Xi^0 \rightarrow \Sigma^+ e^- \bar{\nu}_e$  Monte Carlo samples

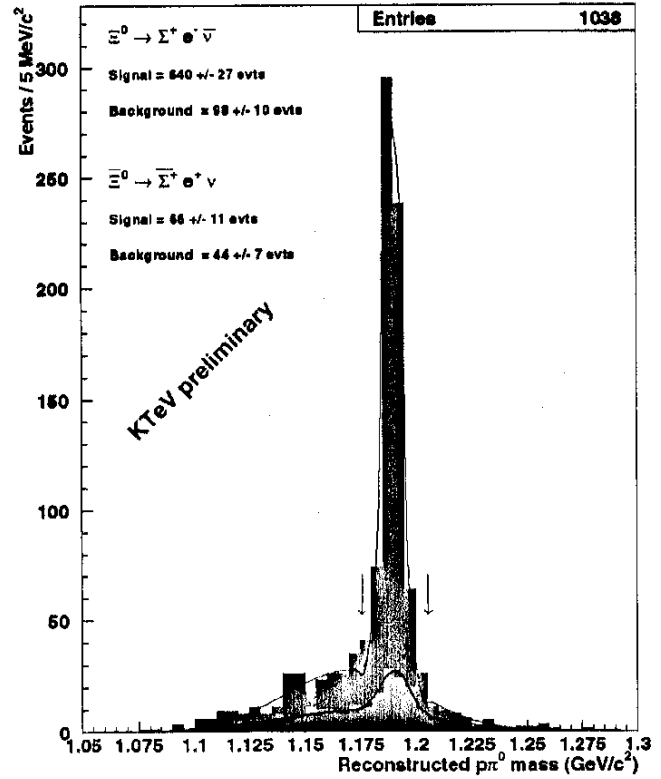
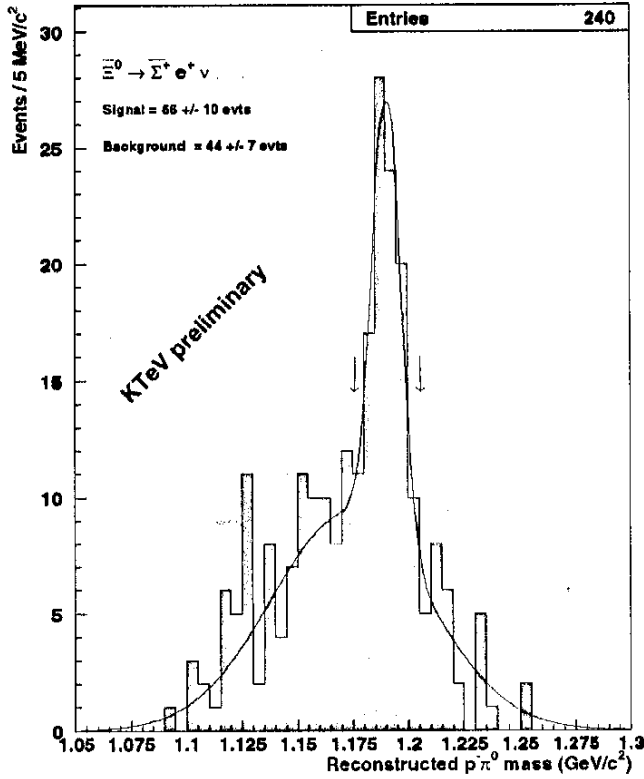
### Form Factor Fit for $\Xi_b$ decay (Summer)



PRD 58-094028 (1998)

☒ PR D 59-014038 (1999)

# Anti-Cascade Beta Decay



# Octet Baryon Beta Decay Data Summary 2000

Decay Process	Lifetime (sec)	Branching Fraction	Rate ( $\mu\text{sec}^{-1}$ )	$g_1/f_1$
$n \rightarrow pe^- \bar{\nu}$	886.7 (1.9)*	1	1.1278(24) E-9	1.2670(35) <sup>‡</sup>
$\Lambda \rightarrow pe^- \bar{\nu}$	2.632 (20) E-10 <sup>§</sup>	0.832(14) E-3	3.161(58)	0.718 (15)
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow ne^- \bar{\nu}$	1.479 (11) E-10 <sup>†</sup>	1.017(34) E-3	6.88(24)	-0.340 (17)
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e^- \bar{\nu}$	1.479 (11) E-10 <sup>†</sup>	0.0573(27) E-3	0.387(18)	$f_1/g_1 =$ 0.01(10)**
$\Sigma^+ \rightarrow \Lambda e^+ \nu$	0.8018 (26) E-10	0.020(5) E-3	0.250(63)	
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e^- \bar{\nu}$	1.639 (15) E-10	0.563(31) E-3	3.44(19)	0.25(5)
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Sigma^0 e^- \bar{\nu}$	1.639 (15) E-10	0.087(17) E-3	0.53(10)	
$\Xi^0 \rightarrow \Sigma^+ e^- \bar{\nu}$	2.900 (90) E-10	0.254(19) E-3	0.876(71)	1.32 (+.22/- .18)

\*S = 1.2

‡S = 1.9

§S = 1.6

†S = 1.3

\*\*S = 1.5

# Octet Baryon Beta Decay

## “Analysis” 2000

Decay Process	Calculated		Measured	
	Rate ( $\mu\text{sec}^{-1}$ )	$g_1/f_1$	Rate ( $\mu\text{sec}^{-1}$ )	$g_1/f_1$
$n \rightarrow p e^- \bar{\nu}$	—	<i>input</i> F + D	1.2278(24) E-9	1.2670(35)
$\Lambda \rightarrow p e^- \bar{\nu}$	3.173(32) [3.106(78)]	0.731(6) F + $\frac{1}{3}$ D	3.161(58)	0.718 (15)
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e^- \bar{\nu}$	6.42(17) [6.42(17)]	<i>input</i> F - D	6.88(24)	-0.340 (17)
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e^- \bar{\nu}$	0.343(9)	0.656(7)* $\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$ D	0.387(18)	$f_1/g_1 =$ 0.01(10)**
$\Sigma^+ \rightarrow \Lambda e^+ \nu$	0.202(5)	0.656(7)* $\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$ D	0.250(63)	
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e^- \bar{\nu}$	2.84(4) [3.03(19)]	0.196(12) F - $\frac{1}{3}$ D	3.44(19)	0.250(50)
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Sigma^0 e^- \bar{\nu}$	0.361(2)	1.2670(35) F + D	0.53(10)	
$\Xi^0 \rightarrow \Sigma^+ e^- \bar{\nu}$	0.909(41)	1.2670(35) F + D	0.876(71)	1.32 (+0.22/-0.18)

\* $f_1 = 0$  &  $g_1$  tabulated

# $\Lambda\beta$ Physics Motivation

$\sim 55,000$  unpolarized decays

+

Standard Model  
Concepts



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$$A_\nu = 0.974 \pm 0.004$$

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$\sim 1,700$  polarized decays

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$$A_\nu = 0.821 \pm 0.060$$

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35,000 Events with 40% pol.

$$A_\nu = ?? \pm 0.02$$

$$V_{us}(K_{\ell 3}) = V_{us}(B_{\ell 3}) ?$$

$$|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 = 1 ?$$

Note:  $|V_{ub}|^2 \sim 10^{-5}$

Source	$V_{us}$ Value	Unitarity $V_{ud}^U = (1 -  V_{us} ^2)^{1/2}$
$K_{e3}$	0.2196(23)	0.9756(5)
$K_{e3}$ and $K_{\mu 3}$	0.2188(16)	0.9758(3.5)
$B_{e3}^0 (\Delta f_1 = 0)$	0.2258(27)	0.9742(6)
$B_{e3}^0 (\Delta f_1 > 0)$	0.2176(26)	0.9760(5)
$B_{e3}^0 (1/N_c \Delta f_1 > 0)$	0.2194(23)	0.9756(5)
		Measured $V_{ud}$
Nuclear ft Values	—	0.9740(5) (10)
New Neutron Decay	—	0.9728(12)
PDG 2000 Average	—	0.9735(8)

# Conclusions 2000

- Results for the “last” hyperon beta decay:  $\Xi^0 \rightarrow \Sigma^+ e^- \bar{\nu}$ .
- Sign of  $g_1/f_1$  in  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e^- \bar{\nu}$  conclusively established.
- Consistent data for  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e^- \bar{\nu}$  and  $\Lambda \rightarrow p e^- \bar{\nu}$ .
- New  $V_{ud}$  value from  $n \rightarrow p e^- \bar{\nu}$ .
- No flavor SU(3) breaking seen in  $g_1/f_1$  measurements.
 

$F+D = 1.2670 \pm 0.0035$	$F = 0.4635 \pm 0.0087$
$F-D = -0.3400 \pm 0.0170$	$D = 0.8035 \pm 0.0087$
	$F/D = 0.569$
- $V_{us} = 0.2196 \pm 0.0023$  from Ke3 analysis unchanged.
- Measurements with polarized hyperons are still desirable.
  - ▶ Neutrino asymmetry ( $\alpha_\nu$ ) in  $\Lambda \rightarrow p e^- \bar{\nu}$ .
  - ▶ Charge Symmetry in  $\Sigma^\pm \rightarrow \Lambda e^\pm \nu$  (Cabibbo).
  - ▶ More precise  $\Xi^0 \rightarrow \Sigma^+ e^- \bar{\nu}$  for SU(3) breaking.
  - ▶ More precise  $\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e^- \bar{\nu}$  and  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e^- \bar{\nu}$ .
- Bread and butter: verify/improve lifetimes and masses.
- More precise  $V_{us}$  from  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e^- \bar{\nu}$  and  $\Lambda \rightarrow p e^- \bar{\nu}$ ?

*EXP. Conclusions.*



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*Emphasized need to consistently include radiative corrections and  $q^2$  dependance of  $f_1$  &  $g_1$ .*

- Remarkable success in fitting "most recent data."

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$$F/D = 0.631$$

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