



Simulation and Reconstruction Studies of  $K_L p \rightarrow \Xi^0 K^+$

KLF Collaboration Meeting



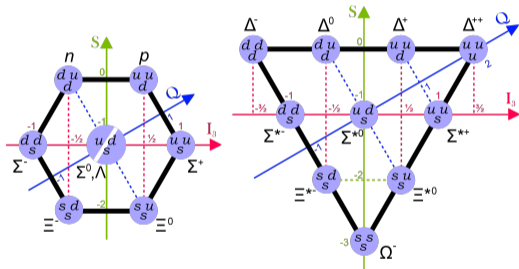
UNIVERSITY  
*of York*

Stuart Fegan  
University of York  
May 6th, 2026





Many more states predicted than observed



	Predicted	Observed
$N^*$	62	21
$\Delta^*$	38	12
$\Lambda^*$	71	14
$\Sigma^*$	66	9
$\Xi^*$	73	6
$\Omega^*$	36	2

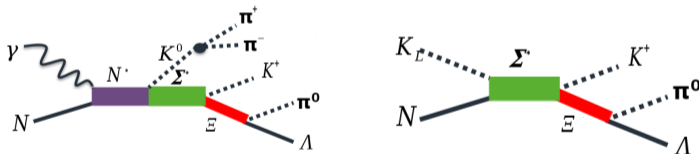
R.G. Edwards et al. Phys Rev D87 (2013) 054506

This difference is even more pronounced in the Hyperons, where there is limited data



## Motivation - Why KLF?

- KLF is expected to bring precision data to address burning questions in strangeness spectroscopy
- Unlike photo- or electroproduction,  $K_{Long}$  beam brings a unit of strangeness
- Especially useful for producing  $S = 2$  particles, such as  $\Xi$

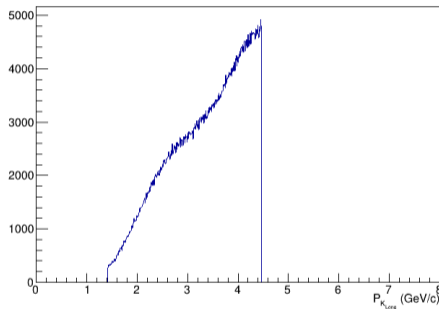


- In this work, looking at  $K_{Long} p \rightarrow K^+ \Xi^0$
- $\Xi^0$  decay to  $\Lambda \pi^0$  with  $\Lambda$  further decaying to  $p \pi^-$  (63.9% BR)
- Final state of  $K^+ p \pi^- \gamma \gamma$



## Generator Information

- KLGenerator\_hddm\_V3<sup>1</sup>
- Covers a comprehensive range of  $K_{Long}$  reaction channels on both proton and neutron
- Tunable  $K_{Long}$  beam parameters
- Can also generate  $\gamma p$  and  $np$  events, use custom beam profiles and apply cross sections



Focus here on a 4M event  $K_L p \rightarrow K^+ \Xi^0$  phase space sample, generated with a  $K_{Long}$  beam between 1 and 4 GeV

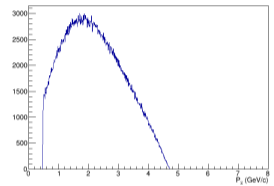
<sup>1</sup>[https://github.com/sdobbs/KLGenerator\\_hddm\\_V3](https://github.com/sdobbs/KLGenerator_hddm_V3) (forked from [https://github.com/nickzachariou/KLGenerator\\_hddm\\_V3](https://github.com/nickzachariou/KLGenerator_hddm_V3))



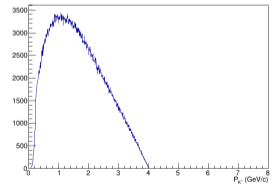
# Reconstruction

- Particle decays and propagation handled by Hall D reconstruction software
- This includes smearing to approximate detector effects, etc.
- Plots shown in the rest of this talk correspond to a *ReactionFilter* using a vertex constrained kinematic fit, with no mass constraint on the reconstructed  $\Xi^0$

### Generated $\Xi$ momentum



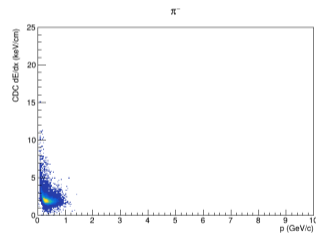
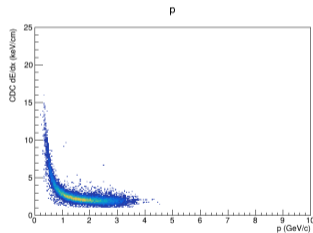
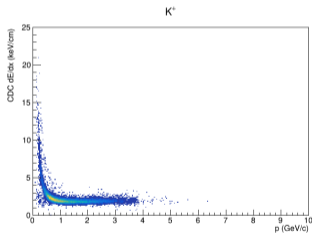
### Generated $K^+$ momentum





## ReactionFilter Outputs

- dE/dX vs momentum of charged particles
- $K^+$  (left), proton (middle),  $\pi^-$  (right)

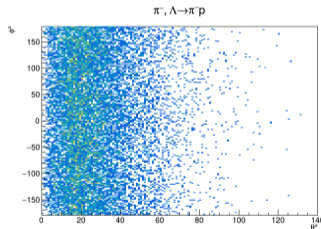
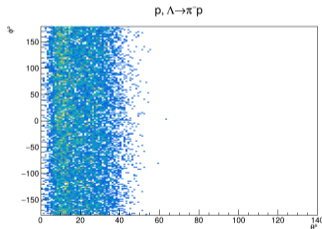
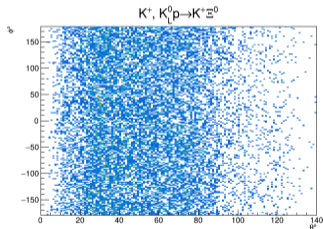






# ReactionFilter Outputs

- Reconstructed particle distributions,  $\theta$  vs  $\phi$  for  $K^+$  (left), proton (middle),  $\pi^-$  (right)

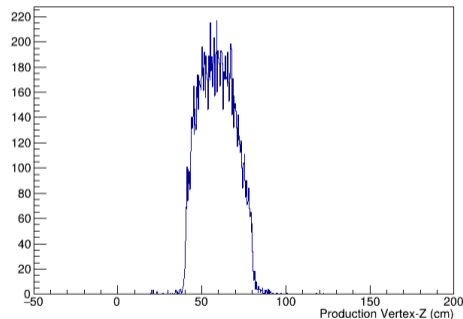
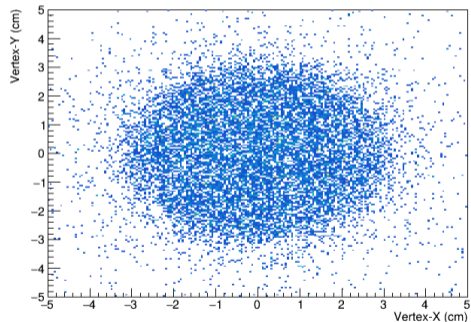




# Vertex Reconstruction

Reconstructed X-Y and Z vertex distributions, from the final state  $K^+$

Production Vertex





## Event Selection

Apply some event selection cuts (exclusive topology)

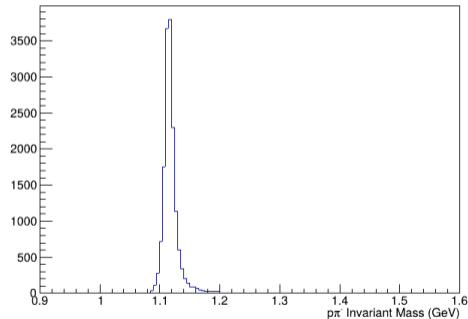
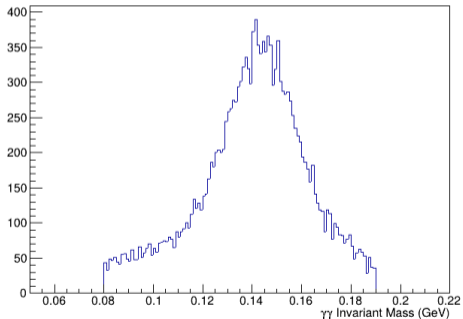
- Missing mass cut,  $-0.03 < M_X < 0.02$
- Reconstructed pion mass cut,  $0.10 < M_{\gamma\gamma} < 0.17$
- Reconstructed  $\Lambda$  mass cut,  $1.10 < M_{p\pi^-} < 1.15$



# Reaction Reconstruction

Left:  $\pi^0$  reconstruction from two photon invariant mass

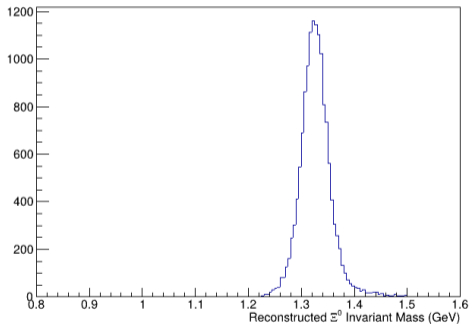
Right:  $\Lambda^0$  reconstruction from proton  $\pi^-$  invariant mass





# $\Xi^0$ Reconstruction

$\Xi^0$  reconstructed from proton,  $\pi^-$  and  $\pi^0$

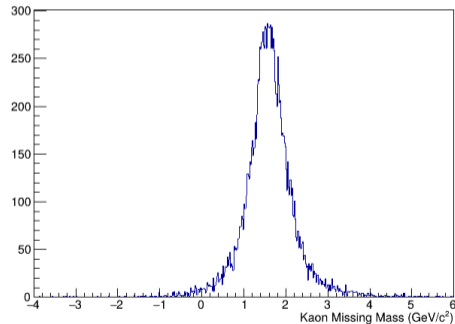
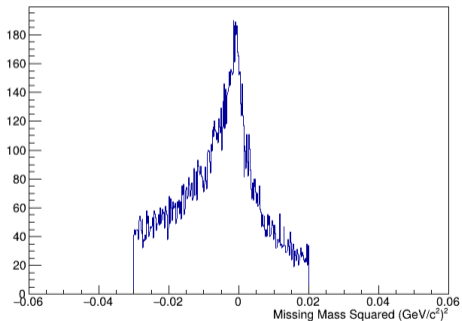




# Missing Masses

Left: Missing mass squared of all final state particles

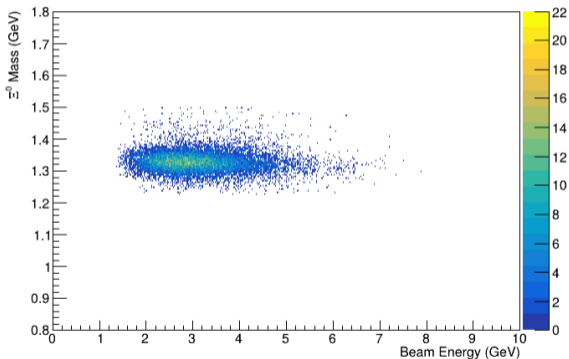
Right: Missing mass of final state  $K^+$





# $\Xi^0$ Reconstruction

$\Xi^0$  reconstruction, after all cuts, shown against reconstructed beam energy





## Physics Observables

## Basic Cross Section Formula

$$\sigma = \frac{Y_{\Xi^0}}{A \cdot \rho_T \cdot l} \quad (1)$$

Where the acceptance  $A = \frac{MC_{Rec}}{MC_{Gen}}$

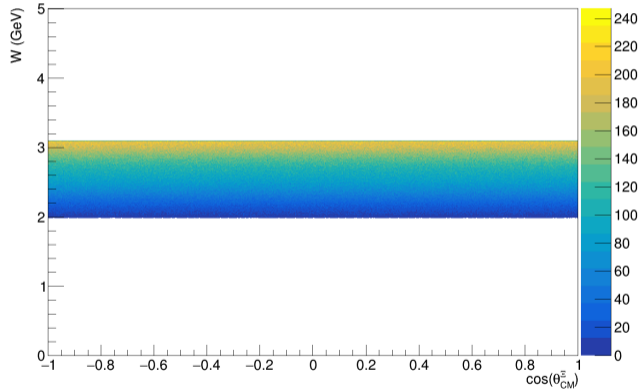
The polarisation,  $P$ , can be related to the angular distribution of the decay  $\pi^0$  in the rest frame of the  $\Xi^0$  as follows

$$I(\cos\theta_Y^{\pi^0}) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \alpha P_Y \cos\theta_Y^{\pi^0}) \quad (2)$$

$\alpha$  is the self-analysing power of the hyperon, for  $\Xi$ , this has the value -0.349

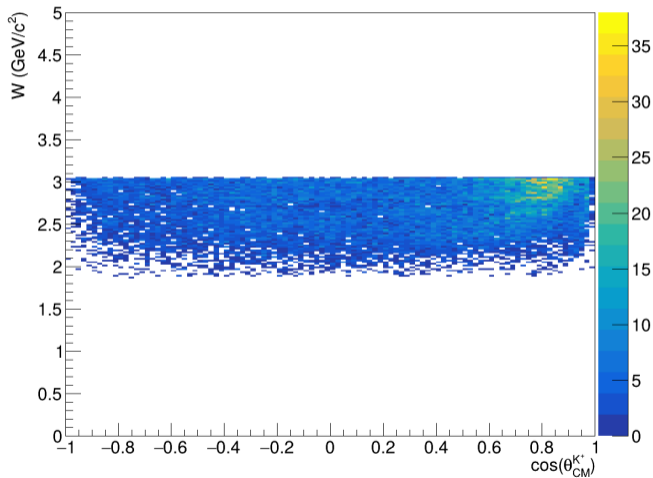


# Generated Phasespace



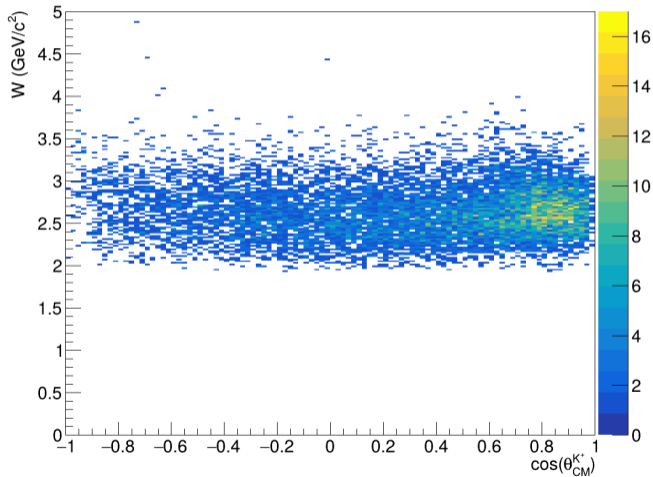


# Thrown $W$ vs $\cos(\theta)$





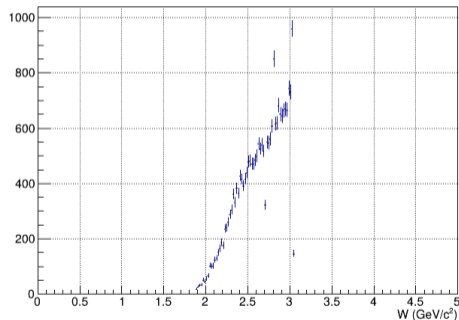
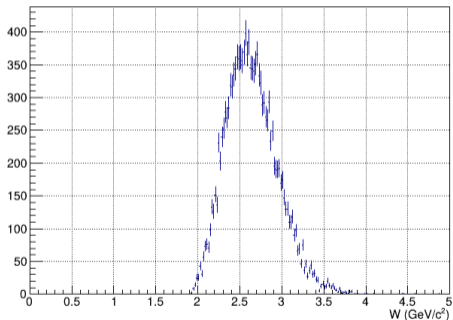
# Measured $W$ vs $\cos(\theta)$





# Centre of Mass Energy, $W$

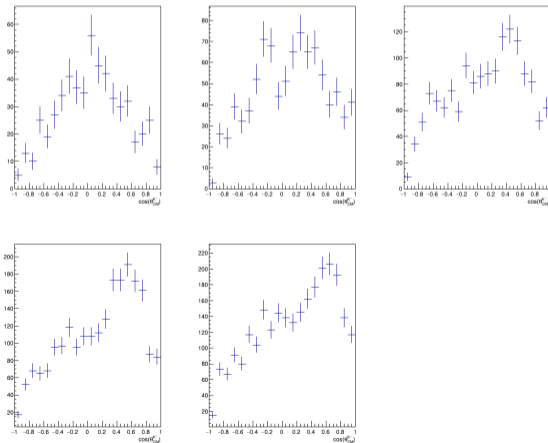
$W$  measured (left) and thrown (right)





# Centre of Mass Angle Distributions, $\cos(\theta_{CM}^{\Xi})$

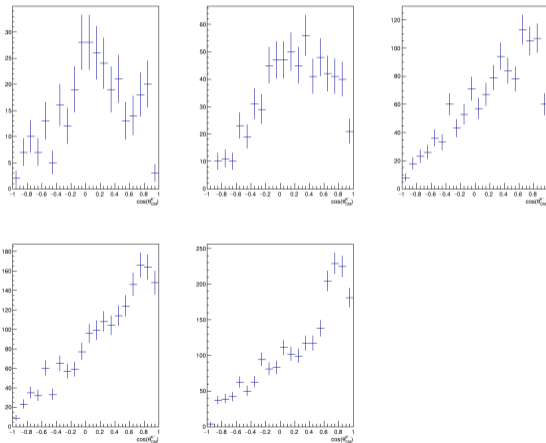
$\Xi$  centre of mass angle for 200 MeV bins in W (Thrown events)





# Centre of Mass Angle Distributions, $\cos(\theta_{CM}^{\Xi})$

$\Xi$  centre of mass angle for 200 MeV bins in W (Measured events)

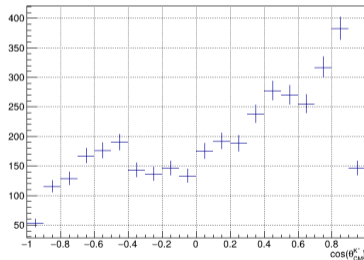
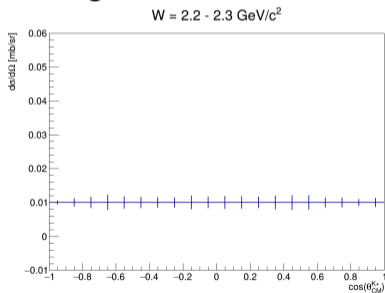




# Cross Section Estimates

Estimated differential cross section uncertainty

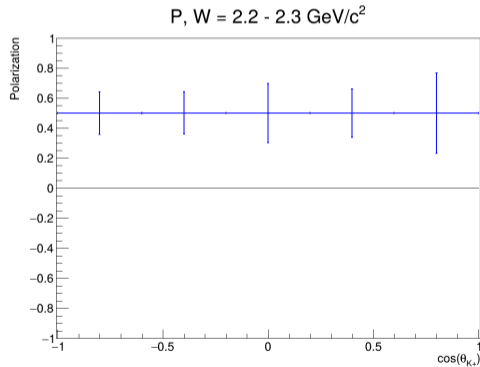
Phase space estimate on left, event yields from simple cross section model in event generator on right





# Polarisation

## Estimated $\Xi$ Polarisation uncertainty





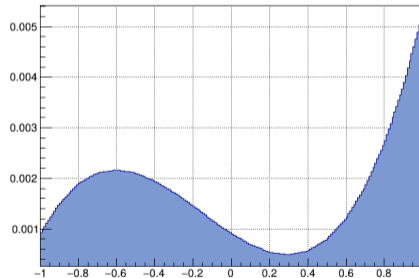
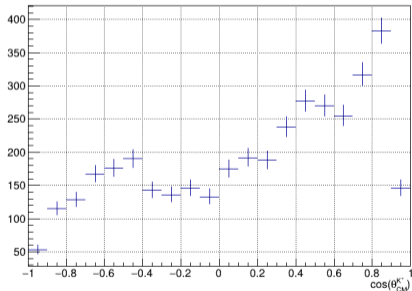
## Summary

- $\Xi^0$  production at KLF will bring precision data to strangeness spectroscopy
- Decay modes and quantum numbers of various  $\Xi$  states have been under-explored for decades, hampering our understanding in the strangeness sector
- Exclusive phase space study underpins this talk, but additional studies underway to evaluate magnetic field settings, impact of inclusive channels, and incorporation of new models into generator
- KLF MCwrapper supporting efficient production of the multiple simulation configurations needed



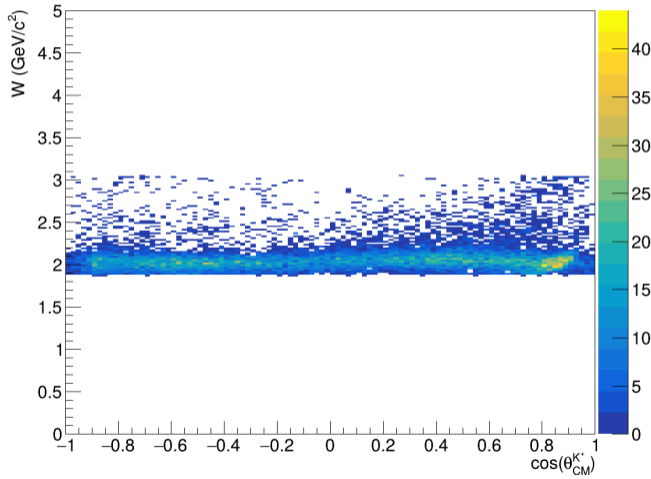
# (backup) Cross Section Estimates

Event yields show signs of reproducing overall input shape (NB Acceptance not accounted for here!)





# (backup) Thrown W vs $\cos(\theta)$





# (backup) Measured $W$ vs $\cos(\theta)$

