

# Studies of light mesons at COMPASS

Sebastian Uhl  
On Behalf of the COMPASS Collaboration

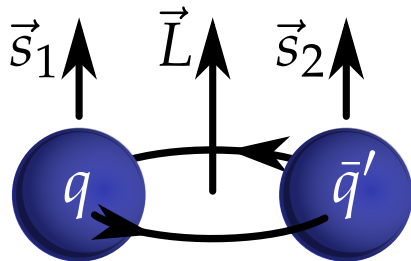


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- Quark spins couple to total intrinsic spin  $S = 0$  (singlet) or 1 (triplet)
- Relative orbital angular momentum  $\vec{L}$  and total spin  $\vec{S}$  couple to meson spin  $\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$
- parity  $P = (-1)^{L+1}$
- charge conjugation  $C = (-1)^{L+S}$
- isospin  $I$
- G-parity  $G = (-1)^{L+S+I}$

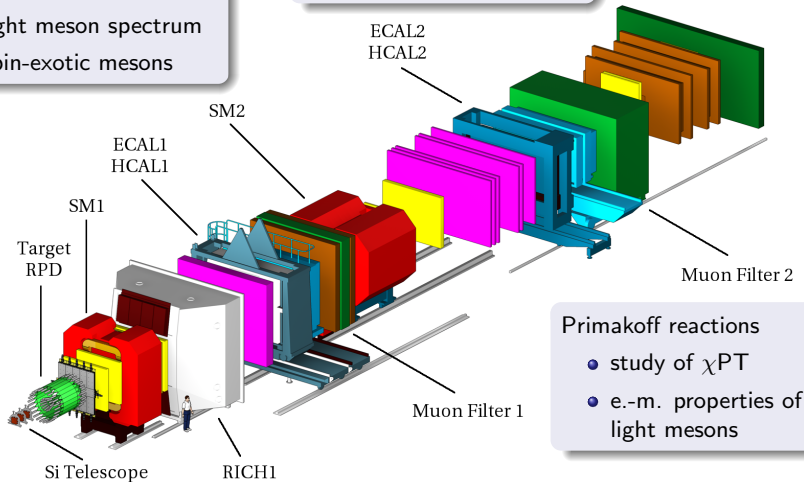


diffractive dissociation

- light meson spectrum
- spin-exotic mesons

central production

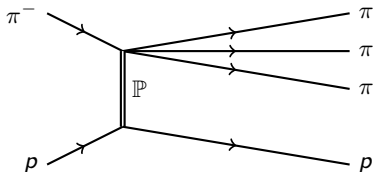
- glue-rich environment
- scalar resonances



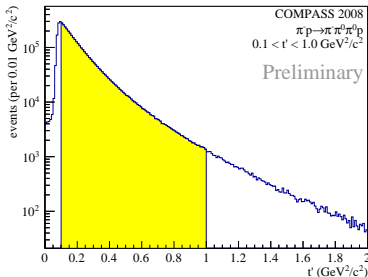
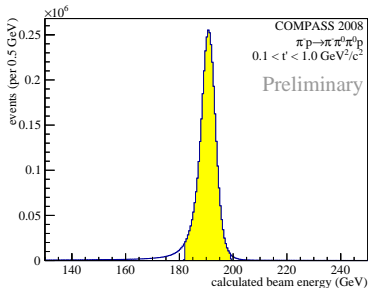
Primakoff reactions

- study of  $\chi$ PT
- e.-m. properties of light mesons

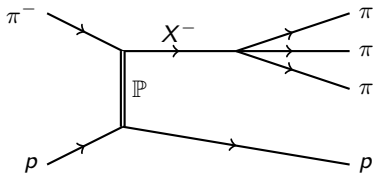
$$\pi^- p \rightarrow (3\pi)^- p$$



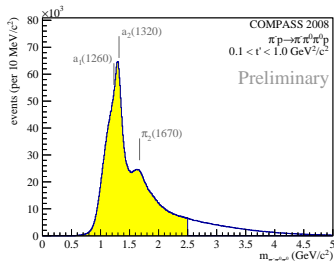
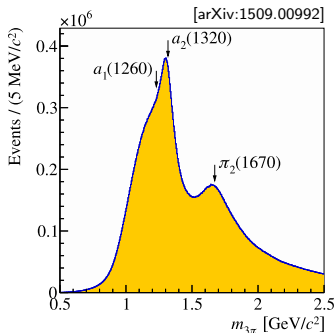
- 190 GeV/c  $\pi^-$  beam on  $\ell\text{H}_2$  target
- exclusive measurement of reaction  $\pi^- p \rightarrow (3\pi)^- p$
- two channels in COMPASS
  - $\pi^- \pi^- \pi^+$
  - $\pi^- \pi^0 \pi^0$
- $t'$  region:  $0.1 < t' < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>



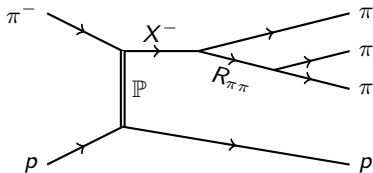
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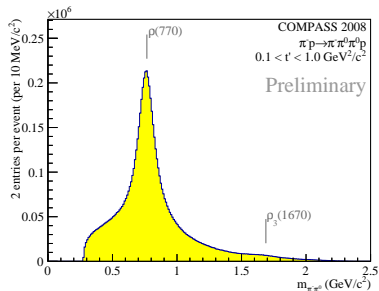
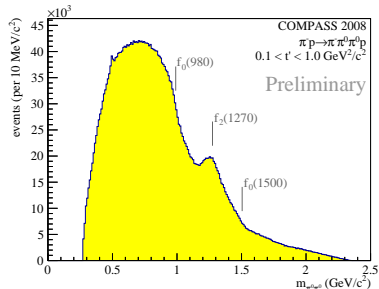
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- $t'$  region:  $0.1 < t' < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>
- huge dataset
  - 50 million  $\pi^- \pi^- \pi^+$  events
  - 3.5 million  $\pi^- \pi^0 \pi^0$  events

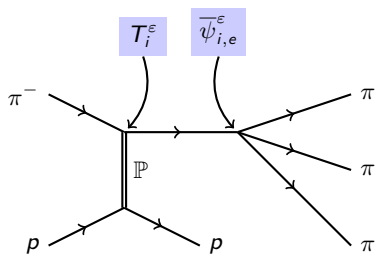


$$\pi^- p \rightarrow (3\pi)^- p$$

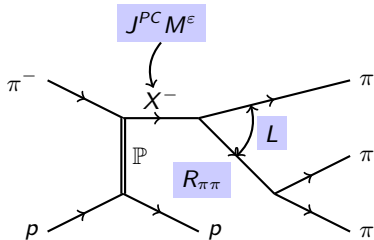


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- exclusive measurement of reaction  $\pi^- p \rightarrow (3\pi)^- p$
- two channels in COMPASS
  - $\pi^- \pi^- \pi^+$
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- partial-wave analysis using isobar model





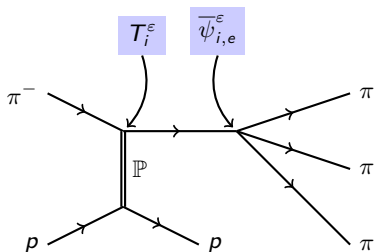
- process can be factorized
  - production  $T_i^\varepsilon$
  - decay  $\bar{\psi}_{i,e}^\varepsilon$



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  - production  $T_i^\varepsilon$
  - decay  $\bar{\psi}_{i,e}^\varepsilon$

- 88 waves
  - 80 with positive reflectivity
  - 7 with negative reflectivity
  - flat wave
- spin  $J$  up to 6
- angular momentum  $L$  between bachelor  $\pi$  and isobar up to 6
- used isobars:
  - with isospin  $I = 0$ :  
 $(\pi\pi)_5$ ,  $f_0(980)$ ,  $f_2(1270)$ ,  $f_0(1500)$
  - with isospin  $I = 1$ :  
 $\rho(770)$ ,  $\rho_3(1690)$
- for  $\pi^- \pi^- \pi^+$  all isobars are  $\pi^- \pi^+$
- for  $\pi^- \pi^0 \pi^0$ :
  - $I = 0$  in  $\pi^0 \pi^0$
  - $I = 1$  in  $\pi^- \pi^0$





- process can be factorized

- production  $T_i^\epsilon$
- decay  $\overline{\psi}_{i,e}^\epsilon$

- two-step approach

- 1 fit in mass and  $t'$  bins

- extract production amplitudes  $T_i^\epsilon$

- 2 fit of mass dependence of spin-density matrix

- extract resonance parameters

- 88 waves

- 80 with positive reflectivity
- 7 with negative reflectivity
- flat wave

- spin  $J$  up to 6

- angular momentum  $L$  between bachelor  $\pi$  and isobar up to 6

- used isobars:

with isospin  $I = 0$ :

$(\pi\pi)_S$ ,  $f_0(980)$ ,  $f_2(1270)$ ,  $f_0(1500)$

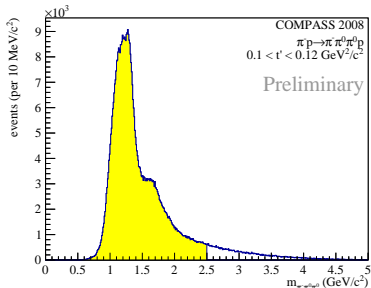
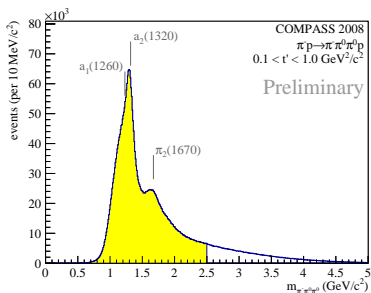
with isospin  $I = 1$ :

$\rho(770)$ ,  $\rho_3(1690)$

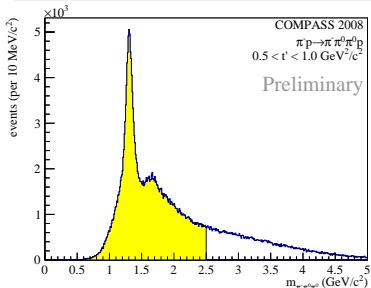
- for  $\pi^-\pi^-\pi^+$  all isobars are  $\pi^-\pi^+$

- for  $\pi^-\pi^0\pi^0$ :

- $I = 0$  in  $\pi^0\pi^0$
- $I = 1$  in  $\pi^-\pi^0$



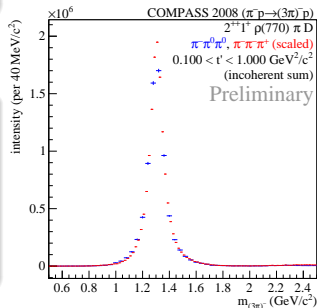
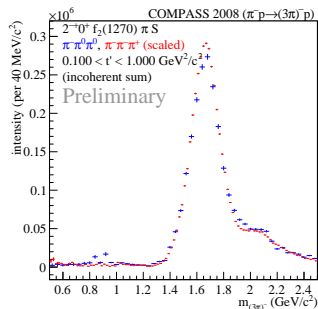
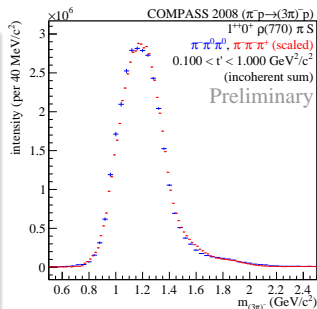
- mass spectrum depends on  $t'$
- at low- $t'$  ( $0.1 < t' < 0.2 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$ )
  - $a_1$  (1260) dominates low-mass region
  - $a_2$  (1320) hardly visible
- at high- $t'$  ( $0.5 < t' < 1.0 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$ )
  - $a_1$  (1260) visible only as a shoulder
  - $a_2$  (1320) dominant
- no changes above  $\pi_2$  (1670) region
- binning of data also in  $t'$ 
  - 11 bins for  $\pi^- \pi^- \pi^+$
  - 8 bins for  $\pi^- \pi^0 \pi^0$



# Partial-Wave Decomposition: Major Waves

## major waves

- $1^{++}0^+ \rho(770) \pi S$
- $2^{-+}0^+ f_2(1270) \pi S$
- $2^{++}1^+ \rho(770) \pi D$

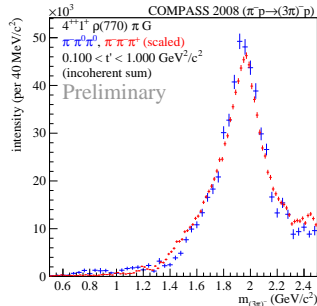
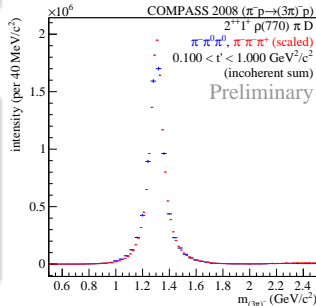
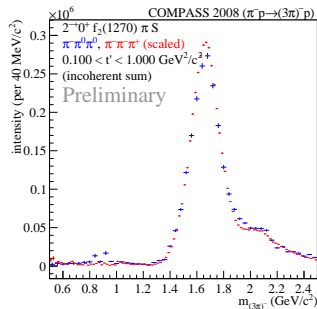
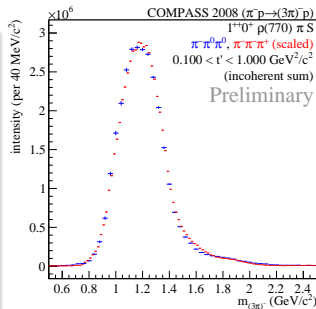


- $\pi^- \pi^0 \pi^0$
- $\pi^- \pi^- \pi^+$  (scaled)
- scaled for each plot
- good agreement between channels

# Partial-Wave Decomposition: Major Waves

## $\rho$ isobar

- $1^{++}0^+ \rho(770) \pi S$
- $2^{-+}0^+ f_2(1270) \pi S$
- $2^{++}1^+ \rho(770) \pi D$
- $4^{++}1^+ \rho(770) \pi G$
- stable fits also for waves with
  - higher spins
  - smaller intensities

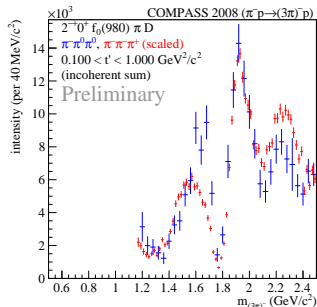
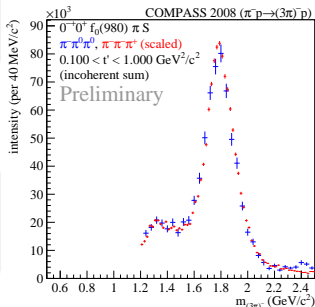


- $\pi^- \pi^0 \pi^0$
- $\pi^- \pi^- \pi^+$  (scaled)
- scaled for each plot
- good agreement between channels

## $f_0(980)$ isobar

- $0^{-+}0^{+} f_0(980) \pi S$
- $2^{-+}0^{+} f_0(980) \pi D$
- stable fits also for non- $\rho$  isobars

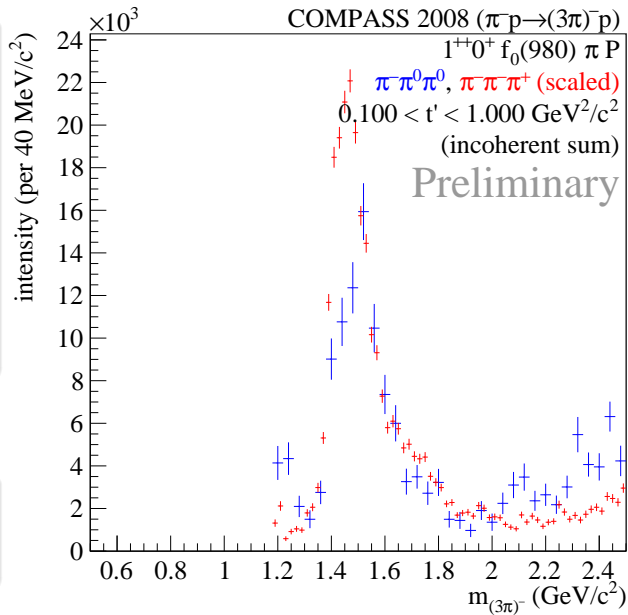
- $\pi^{-} \pi^0 \pi^0$
- $\pi^{-} \pi^{-} \pi^{+}$  (scaled)
- scaled for each plot



## $f_0(980)$ isobar

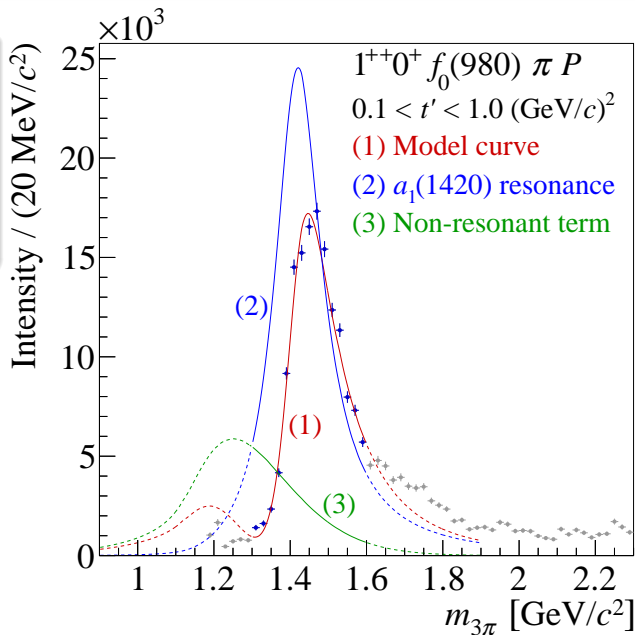
- $0^{-+}0^{+} f_0(980) \pi S$
- $2^{-+}0^{+} f_0(980) \pi D$
- $1^{++}0^{+} f_0(980) \pi P$
- stable fits also for non- $\rho$  isobars
- **first observation of a signal in  $1^{++}0^{+} f_0(980) \pi P$  around  $1.4 \text{ GeV}/c^2$**

- $\pi^{-}\pi^0\pi^0$
- $\pi^{-}\pi^{-}\pi^{+}$  (scaled)
- scaled for each plot



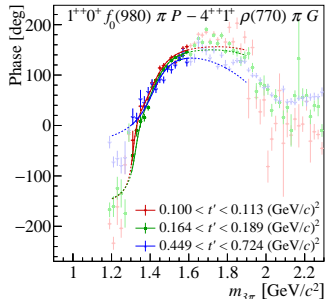
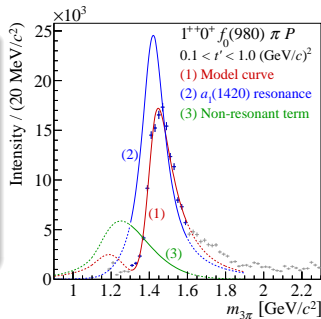
$a_1(1420)$ 

- shape consistent with Breit-Wigner
- mass:  
 $1414^{+15}_{-13} \text{ MeV}/c^2$
- width:  
 $153^{+8}_{-23} \text{ MeV}/c^2$



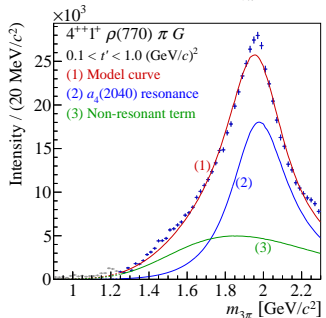
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## Resonance Model

- uses three waves in all  $t'$  bins
- describes  $a_2(1320)$ ,  $a_4(2040)$  and  $a_1(1420)$
- non-resonant contribution in each wave
- also describes the phases between waves
- extension to more partial waves in progress





## Still unclear

- $J^{PC} = 1^{++}$  ground state is  $a_1(1260)$ 
  - Mass:  $1230 \pm 40 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
  - Width: 250 to  $400 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
- No quark-model states expected at  $1.4 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ 
  - First excited  $1^{++}$  state expected to be heavier and wider

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- Isospin partner of narrow  $f_1(1420)$ ?
- $a_1(1420)$  has peculiar decay mode
  - Only seen in  $f_0(980) \pi$  decay
  - $f_0(980)$  has large  $s\bar{s}$  content
  - Some models explain  $f_0(980)$  as tetra-quark state
- $a_1(1420)$  lies suspiciously close to  $K\bar{K}^*$  threshold

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## Genuine resonance

- Two-quark-tetraquark mixed state [Wang, arXiv:1401.1134]
- Tetraquark with mixed flavor symmetry [Chen *et al.*, PRD 91 (2015) 094022]

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Effect in  $a_1(1260)$  production

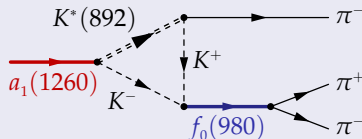
- Two-channel unitarized Deck amplitude + direct  $a_1(1260)$  production  
[Basdevant and Berger, PRL **114** (2015) 192001 and arXiv:1501.04643]

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Effect in  $a_1(1260)$  decay

- Singularity in triangle diagram [Mikhasenko *et al.*, PRD **91** (2015) 094015; Aceti *et al.*, arXiv:1606.06893]



COMPASS is a precision experiment to study light mesons

- unchallenged dataset for  $\pi^- \pi^- \pi^+$
- charged and neutral particles with the same experimental setup

partial-wave analysis is a versatile tool for spectroscopy

- various channels under study
- $t'$ -resolved analysis
  - better separation of resonant and non-resonant contributions
  - first resonance-model fit in 11  $t'$  bins
- new state  $a_1(1420)$ 
  - observed in intensity and phase motion with respect to reference waves
  - $M_{a_1(1420)} = 1414_{-13}^{+15} \text{ MeV}/c^2$ ,  $\Gamma_{a_1(1420)} = 153_{-23}^{+8} \text{ MeV}/c^2$



# Backup

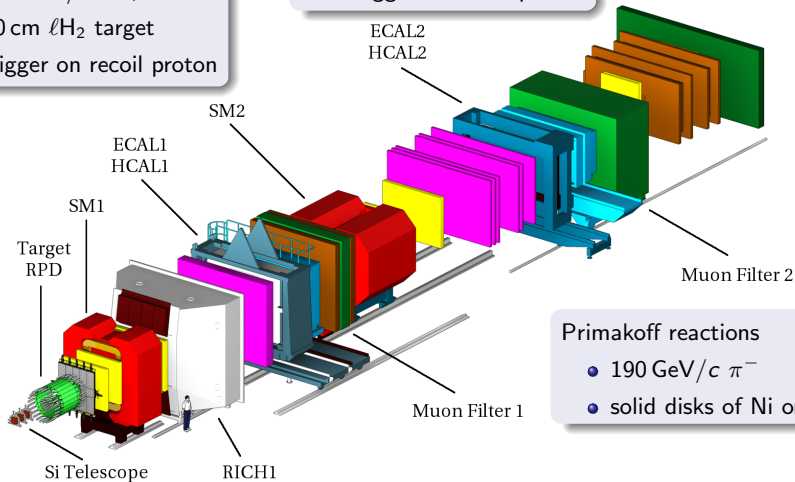


## diffractive dissociation

- 190 GeV/c  $\pi^-$ ,  $K^-$
- 40 cm  $\ell\text{H}_2$  target
- trigger on recoil proton

## central production

- 190 GeV/c  $p$
- 40 cm  $\ell\text{H}_2$  target
- trigger on recoil proton



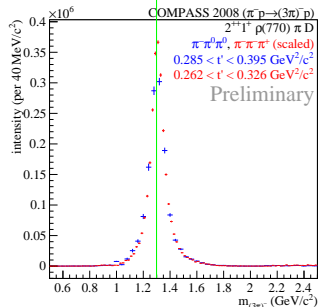
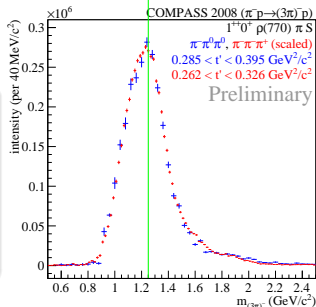
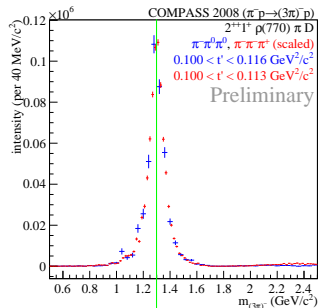
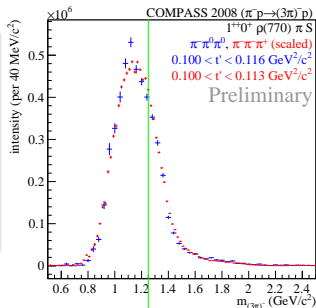
## Primakoff reactions

- 190 GeV/c  $\pi^-$
- solid disks of Ni or Pb

# Partial-Wave Decomposition

## different $t'$ bins

- $1^{++}0^+ \rho(770) \pi S$
- $2^{++}1^+ \rho(770) \pi D$
- position of peak in  $1^{++}0^+$  changes
- $a_2$  not affected



- $\pi^- \pi^0 \pi^0$
- $\pi^- \pi^- \pi^+$  (scaled)
- scaled for each plot
- good agreement between channels