

# Measurement of $\pi/K$ Production Ratio in Proton Carbon Interactions

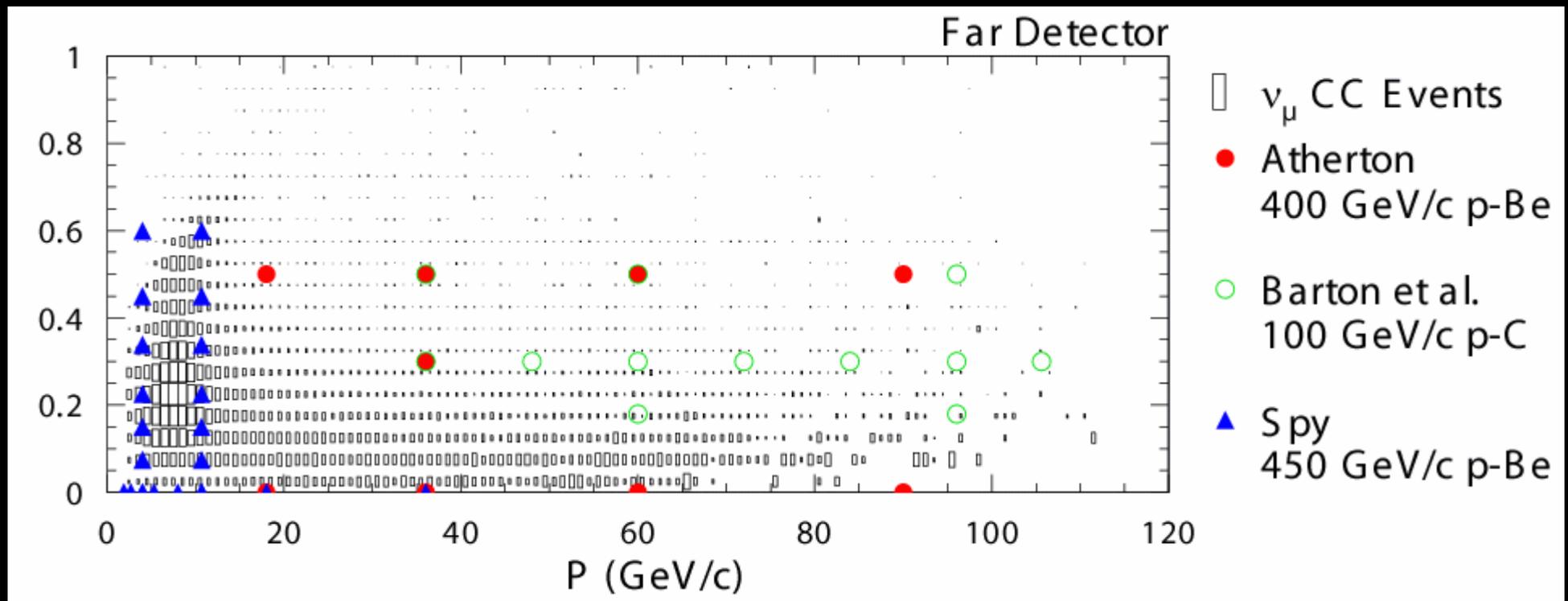
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PhD Thesis Defense  
Harvard University  
May 18, 2007

## Outline

- Introduction
- MIPP Spectrometer
- Event reconstruction
- Detector Calibration
- Analysis

# Why Measure Particle Production?

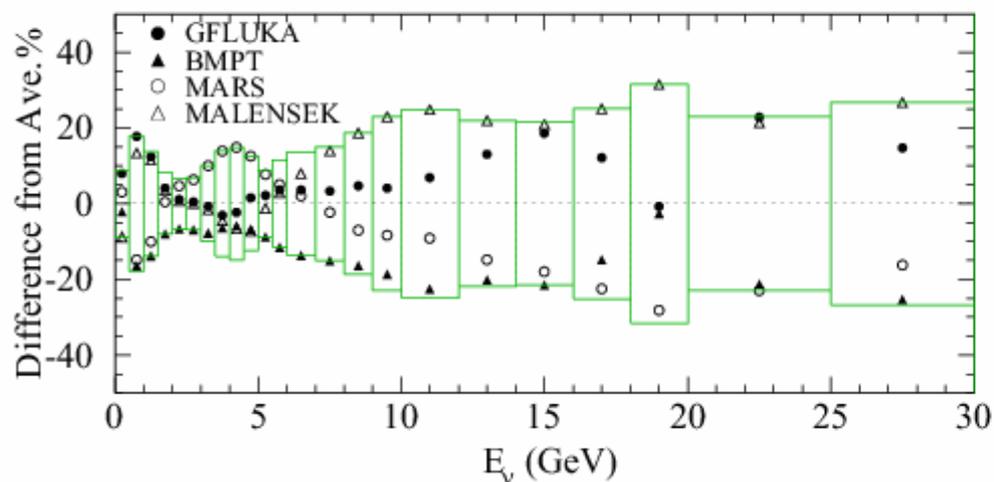
- There is very little data of inclusive particle production
  - Much of it taken with single-arm spectrometers
  - In 2006, NA49 published  $\pi^\pm$  production from pC at 158 GeV/c



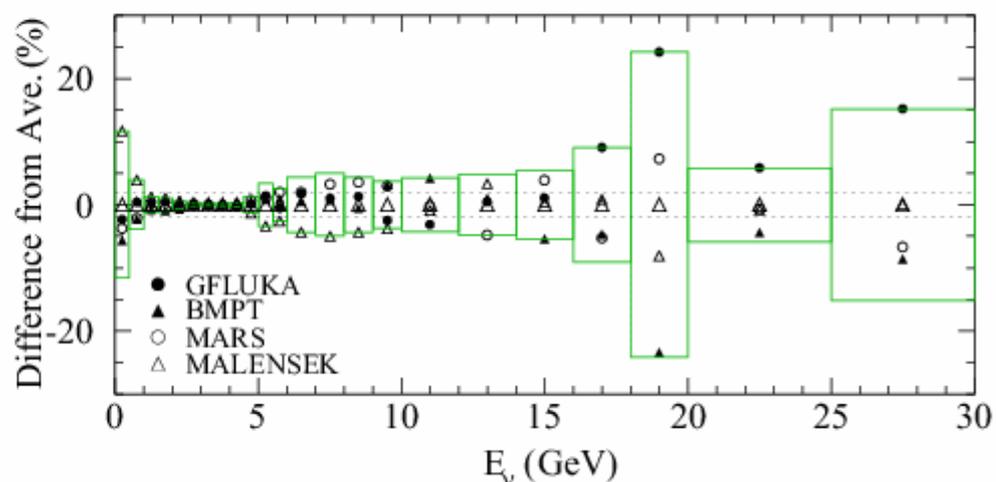
# Modeled MINOS Neutrino Flux

- Predictions from different Monte Carlo models differ by up to 20%
- Differences do not cancel completely in near/far comparison

Absolute Rate

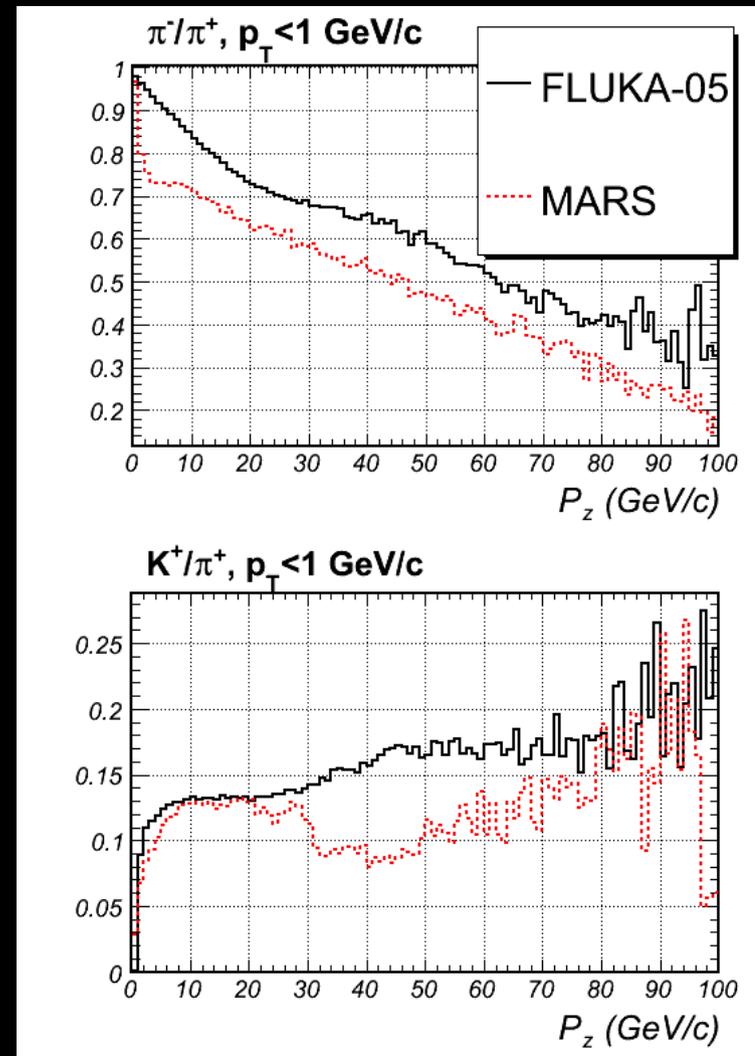


Far to Near Comparison



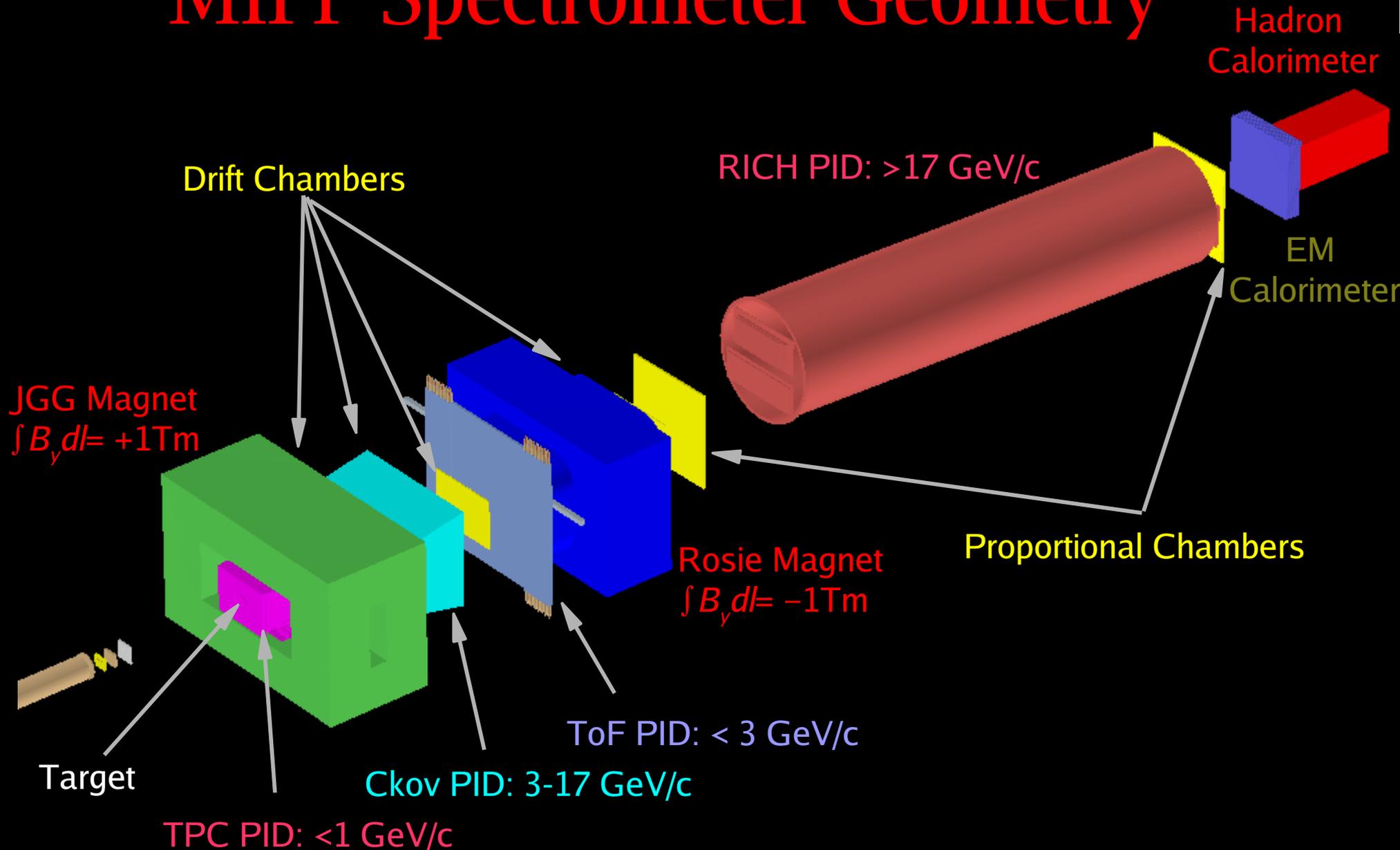
# Predicted Production Ratios

- Predicted production ratios are not much better
- For MINOS, kaons matter as they produce  $\nu_\mu$  and  $\nu_e$



# MIPP Spectrometer

# MIPP Spectrometer Geometry



# Beamline



Beam Cherenkov on a stand in MC7

- 3 wire chambers
  - ◊ Find incoming track
  - ◊ 1 mm wire spacing
- 3 scintillator counters
  - ◊ Form beam trigger
  - ◊ Measure time of flight
- 2 beam Cherenkovs
  - ◊  $\pi/K < 95 \text{ GeV}/c$
  - ◊  $K/p < 120 \text{ GeV}/c$

# Tracking Detectors



TPC on the rails in front of the JGG magnet

- TPC
  - ♦  $120 \times 128$  pads, each  $0.8 \times 1.2$  cm
  - ♦  $\sim 0.5$  cm sampling in  $y$
  - ♦ Multiplicities up to 200
  - ♦ Sits inside the JGG
- 4 drift chambers
  - ♦ 3.1-3.4 mm wire spacing
  - ♦ 1 ns time measurement
- 2 proportional chambers
  - ♦ 3.0 mm wire spacing

# Particle Identification



View at the RICH from the far upstream end of MC7

- Energy loss in the TPC
  - ♦  $<1 \text{ GeV}/c$
- Time of flight wall (TOF)
  - ♦  $<3 \text{ GeV}/c$
- Threshold Cherenkov (Ckov)
  - ♦  $<17 \text{ GeV}/c$
- Ring Imaging Cherenkov (RICH)
  - ♦  $<\sim 100 \text{ GeV}/c$

# MIPP Data Set

Target	Number of triggers, x 10 <sup>6</sup>									
	<i>Momentum (GeV/c)</i>									
	5	20	35	40	55	60	65	85	120	<i>Total</i>
Empty		0.1	0.14			0.52			0.25	1.01
K Mass2				5.48	0.5	7.39	0.96			14.33
Empty LH1		0.3				0.61		0.31		7.08
LH	0.21	1.94				1.98		1.73		
Be			0.1			0.56			1.08	1.75
C						0.21				1.33
C 2%		0.39				0.26			0.47	
NuMI									1.78	1.78
Al			0.1							0.1
Bi			0.52			1.26			1.05	2.83
U						1.18				1.18
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>2.73</b>	<b>0.86</b>	<b>5.48</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>13.97</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>2.04</b>	<b>4.63</b>	<b>31.38</b>

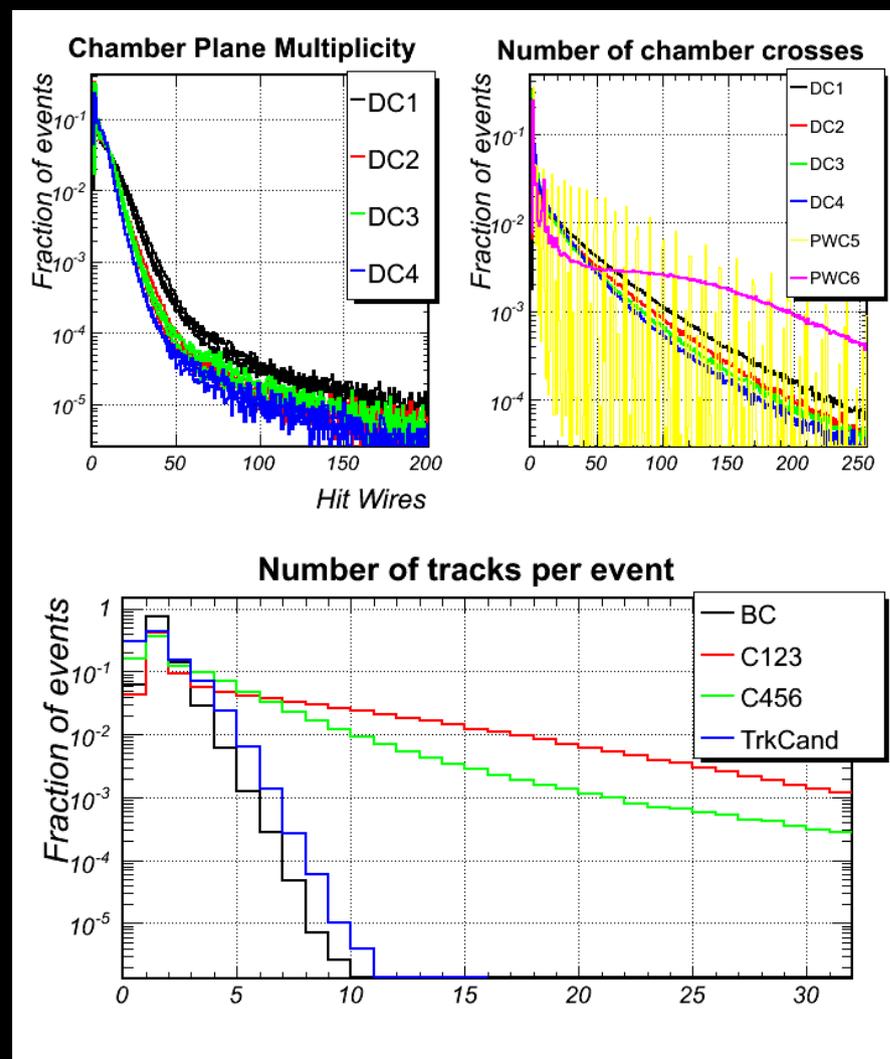
# Event Reconstruction

# Event Reconstruction Overview

- Find tracks using wire chamber hits
  - BC123, DC123, DC4+PWC56, and C1-6
- TPC track reconstruction
- Global tracks (TPC+chambers)
- Form and fit vertices
- Identify tracks
  - Incident particle identification using beam Cherenkovs
  - TPC  $dE/dx$ , TOF time, Chkov light, RICH rings
- Find calorimeter showers

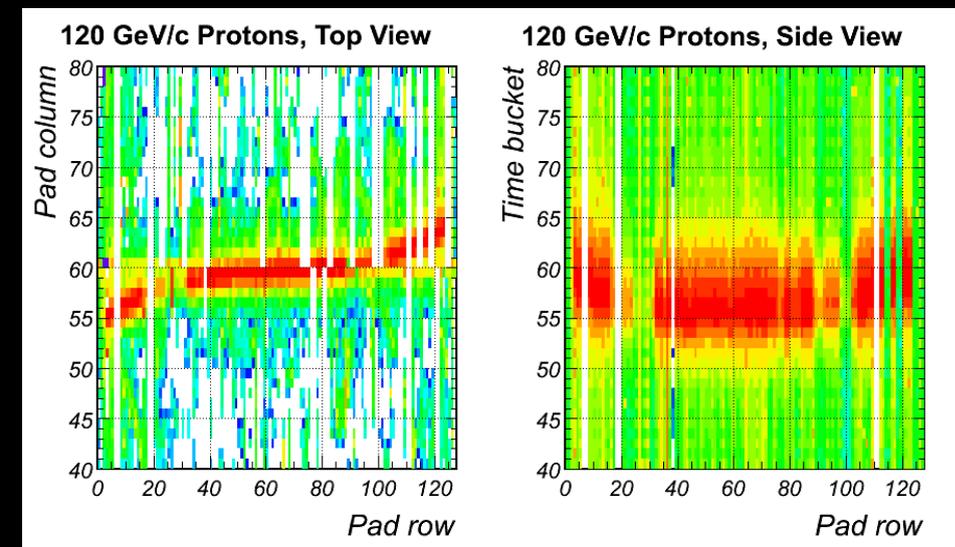
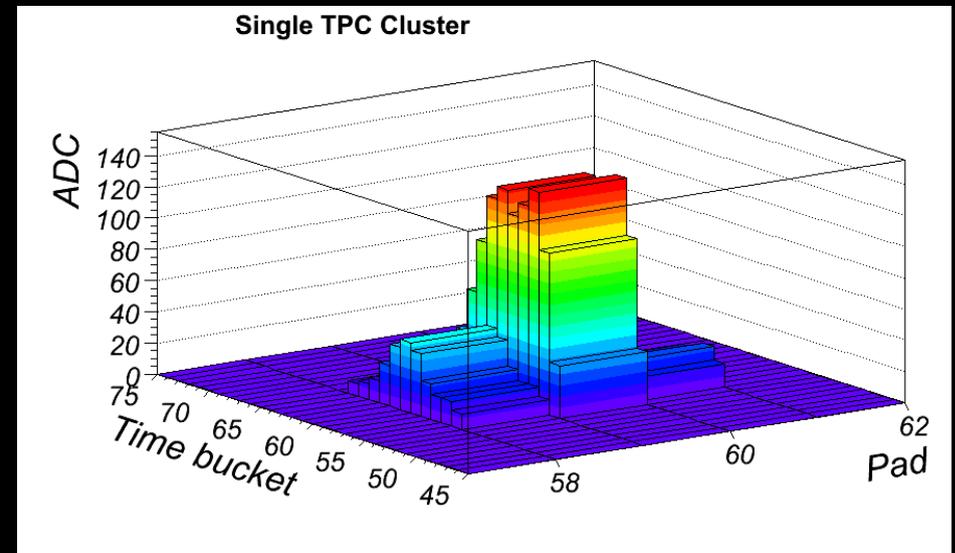
# Chamber Tracks

- Wire chamber track segments are found by going through “interesting” combinations of hits
  - Wires → wire clusters
  - Clusters → wire crosses
  - Crosses → track segments
  - Segments → track candidates
- Allows basic tracking without the TPC



# TPC Hits

- TPC voxels are clustered into hits
  - Fit 1D time distributions to Gamma function
  - Compute  $x$  by fitting a Gaussian or weighted mean
- A quick look at raw TPC data shows that distortions to hit position are large



# TPC Distortion Corrections

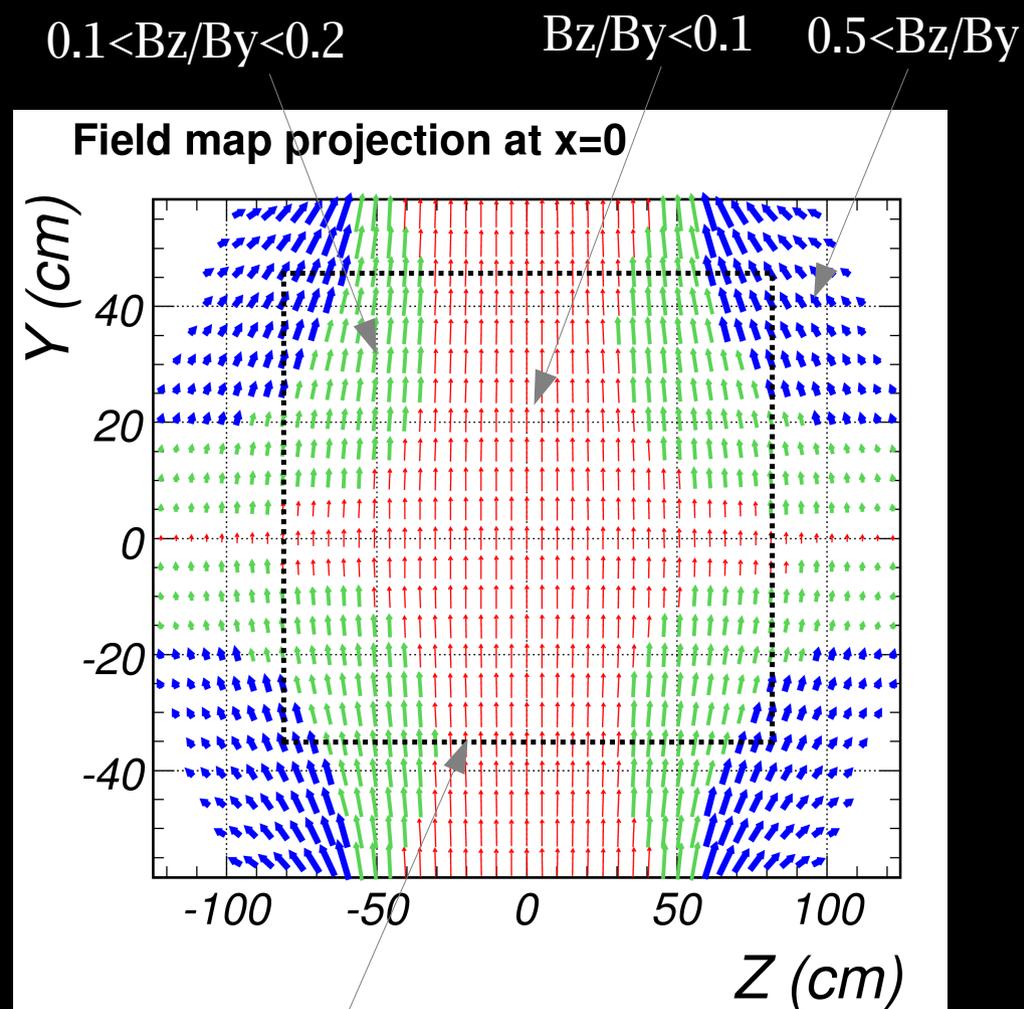
- Distortions result from electron drift in non-uniform magnetic field
- Simplest linear model

$$m \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = e\vec{E} + e\vec{v} \times \vec{B} - \frac{1}{\tau} \vec{v}$$

has a solution

$$\vec{v} = \frac{v_0}{1 + \omega^2 \tau^2} \left[ \vec{E} + \omega \tau \hat{E} \times \hat{B} + \omega^2 \tau^2 (\hat{E} \cdot \hat{B}) \hat{B} \right]$$

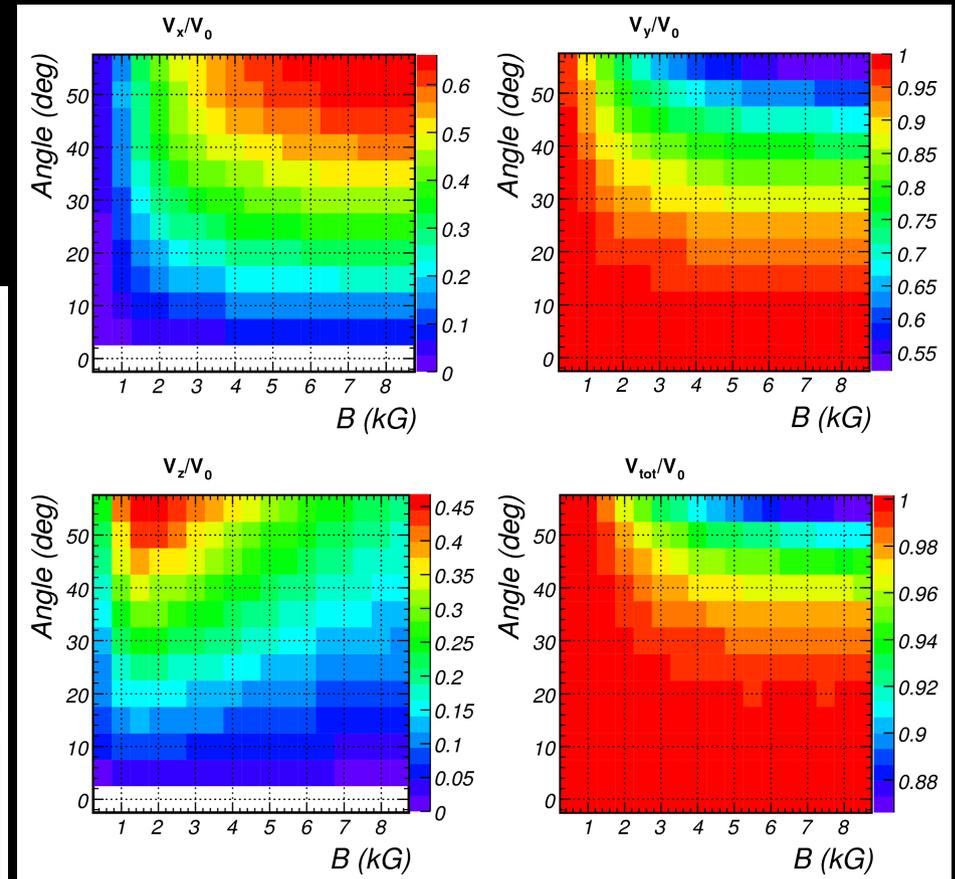
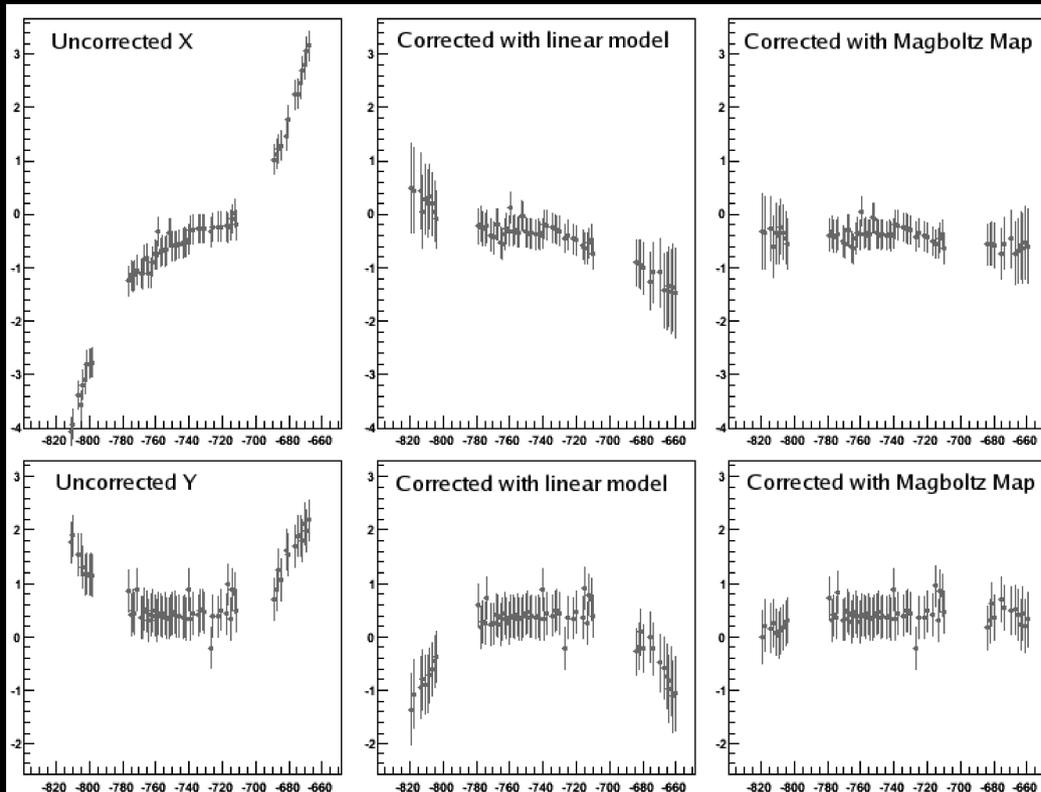
- Does not work well



Boundary of the TPC drift cage

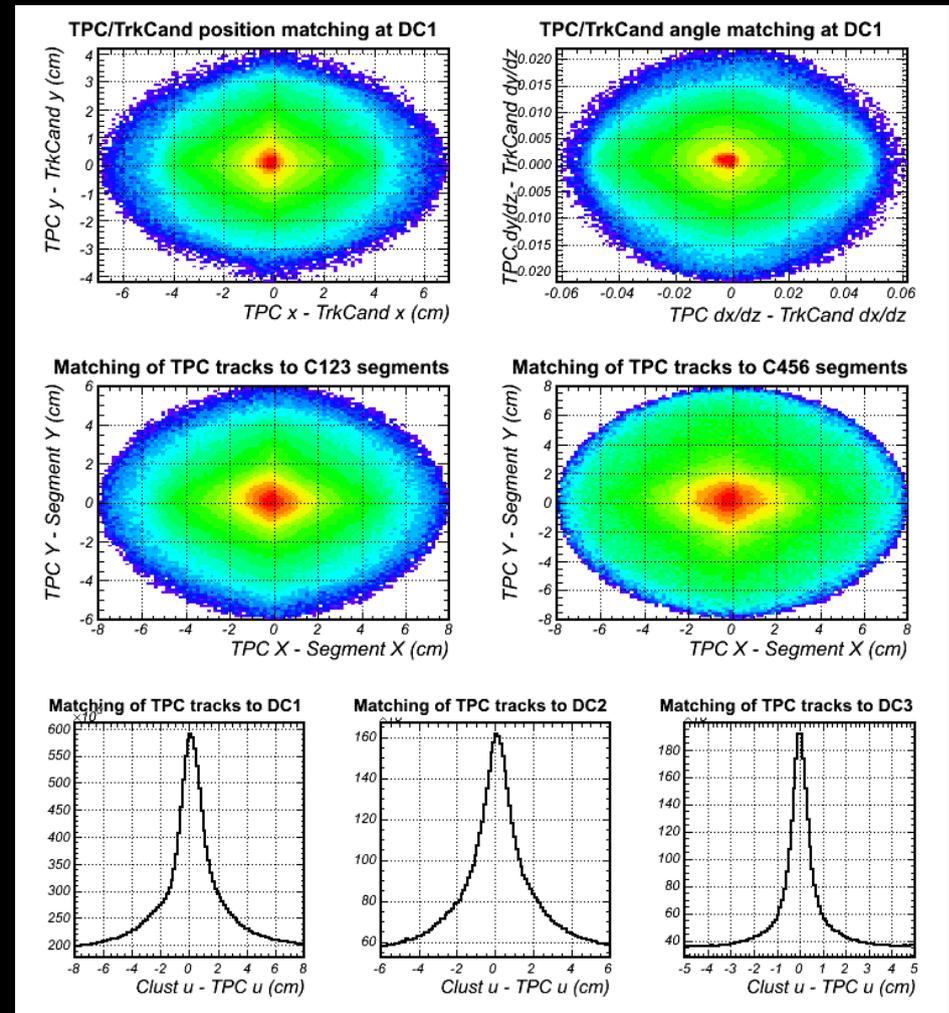
# Distortion Corrections (cont.)

- We use Magboltz MC program to simulate electron drift given E and B vectors



# Tracks Reconstruction

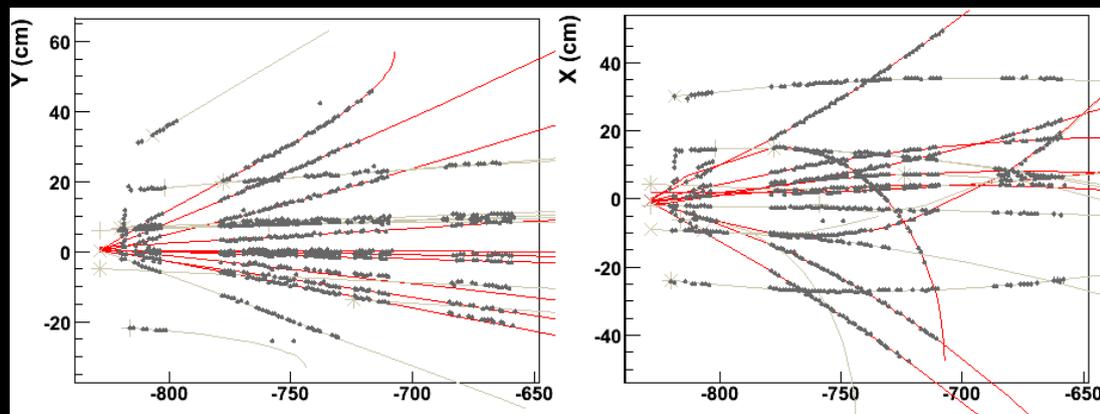
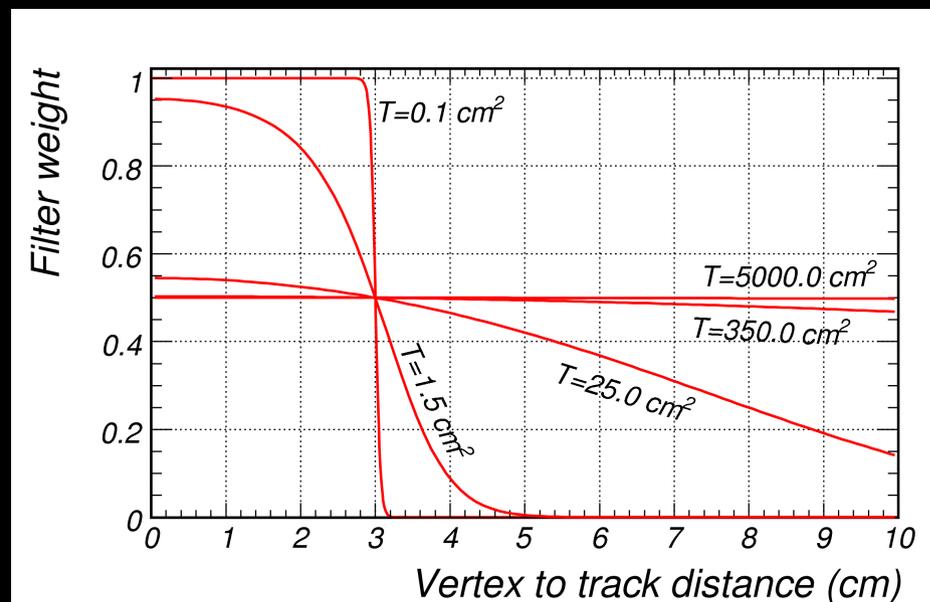
- Start TPC tracks with nearest neighbor hits on adjacent padrows
- Fit to helix and continue to include good hits
- Refit the track using magnetic field map
- Connect TPC tracks to chamber candidates, segments, or wire clusters



# Vertex Finding

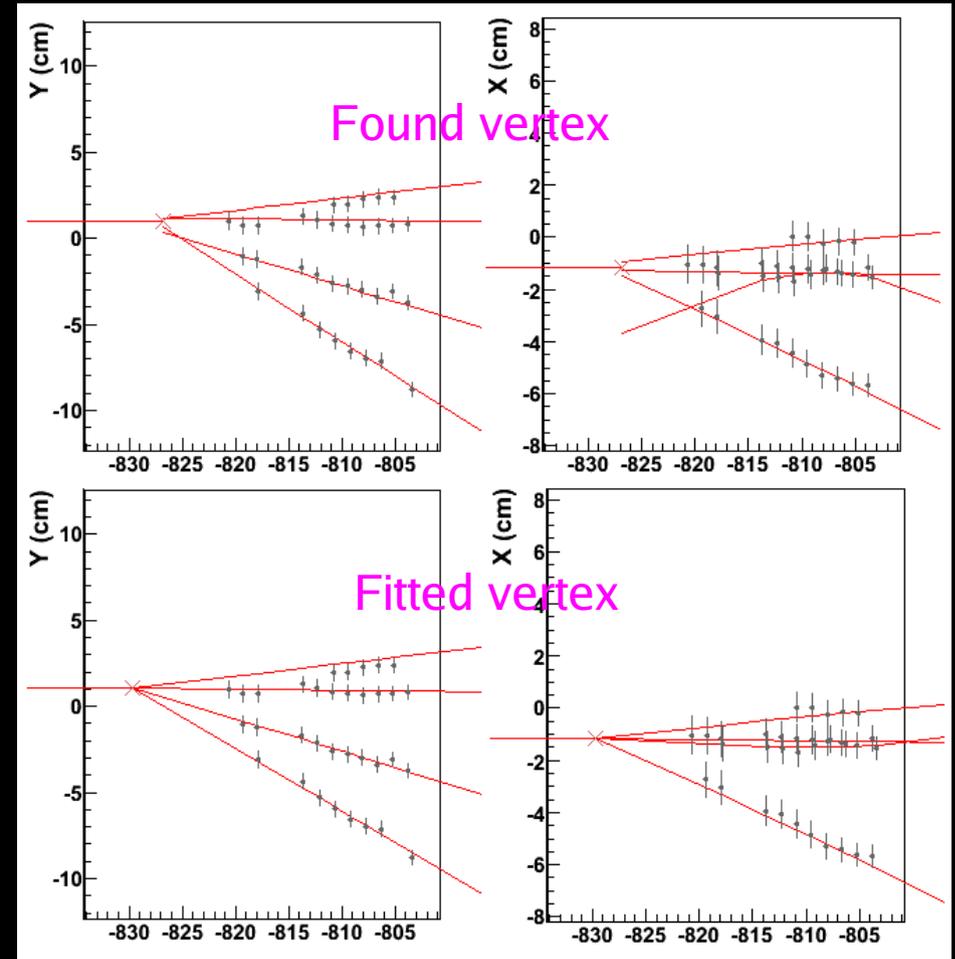
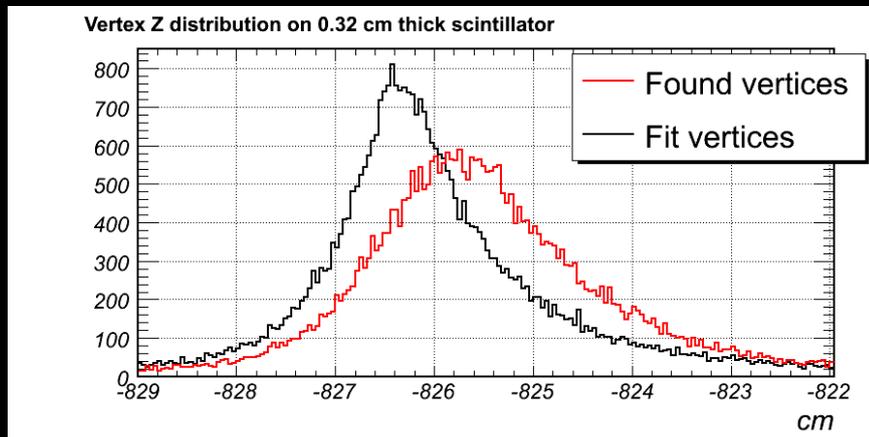
- Deterministic annealing filter used to find vertices
- Minimize sum of distance squared to available tracks
  - Track weight is set to
- Start with large  $T_{DAF}$  and reduce it slowly to 0 to “freeze out” noise

$$w = \left[ 1 + \exp \left( \frac{D_{trk}^2 - D_c^2}{2T_{DAF}} \right) \right]^{-1}$$



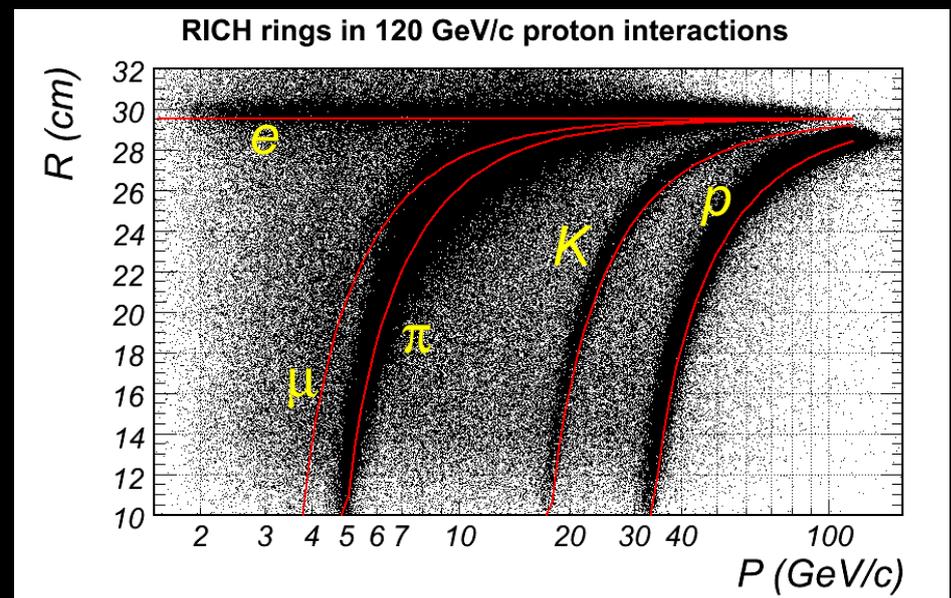
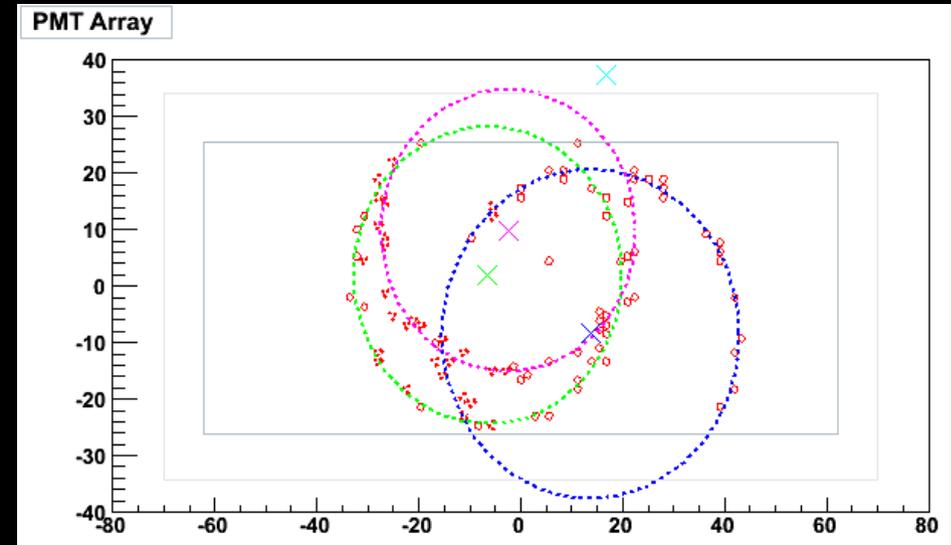
# Vertex Constrained Fit

- Problem is linearized for all track parameters and vertex  $(x,y)$ 
  - Scan Z to find the answer
- Improves reconstructed vertex Z resolution from 2.1 cm to 1.3 cm FWHM



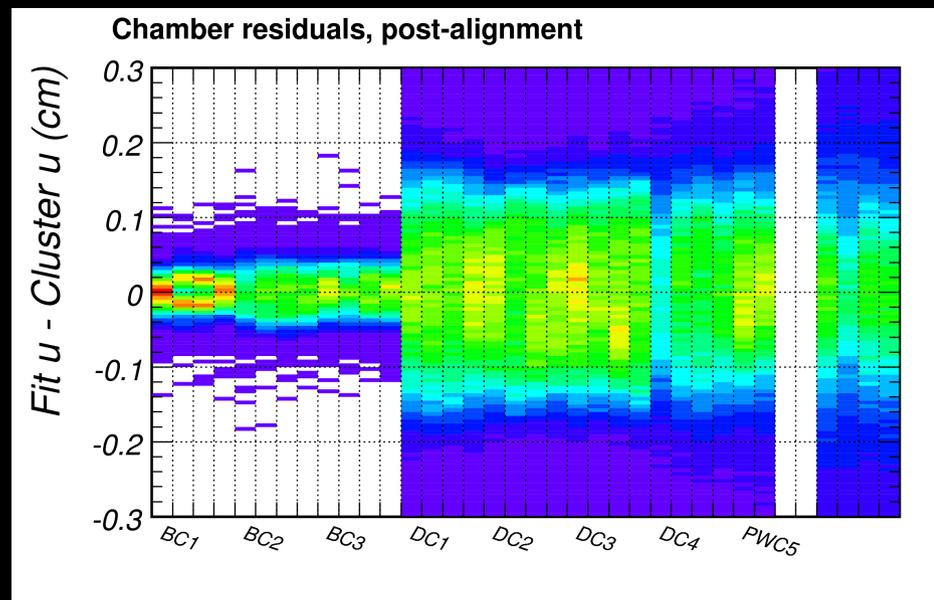
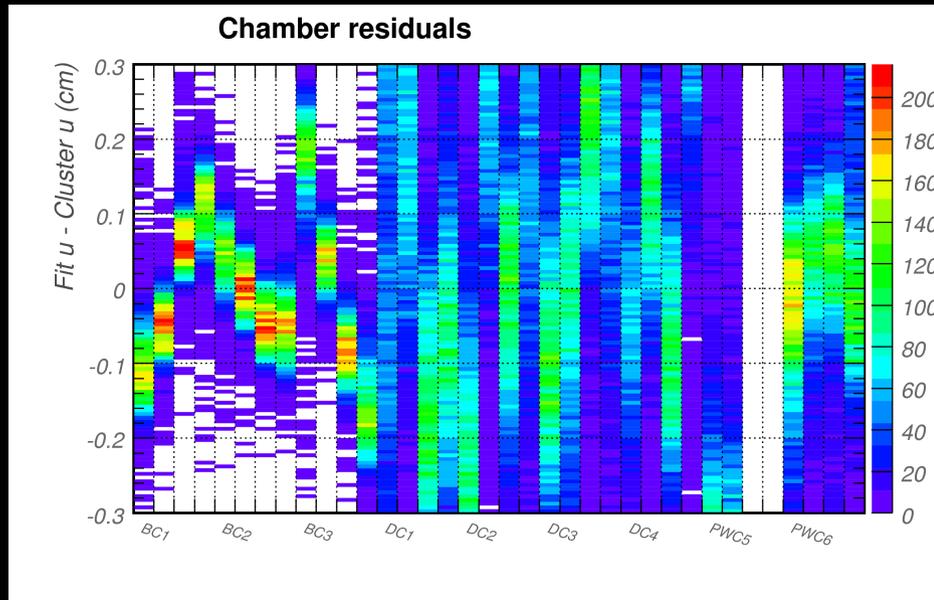
# RICH Ring Fits

- Select tracks which
  - ♦ Go through CO<sub>2</sub> gas
  - ♦ Have projected center within 35cm of PMT array
- Fit for ring radius
  - ♦ Use DAF to reject noise
  - ♦ Share hits among rings: hit weight is proportional to the number of hits with similar distance from ring center



# Calibration

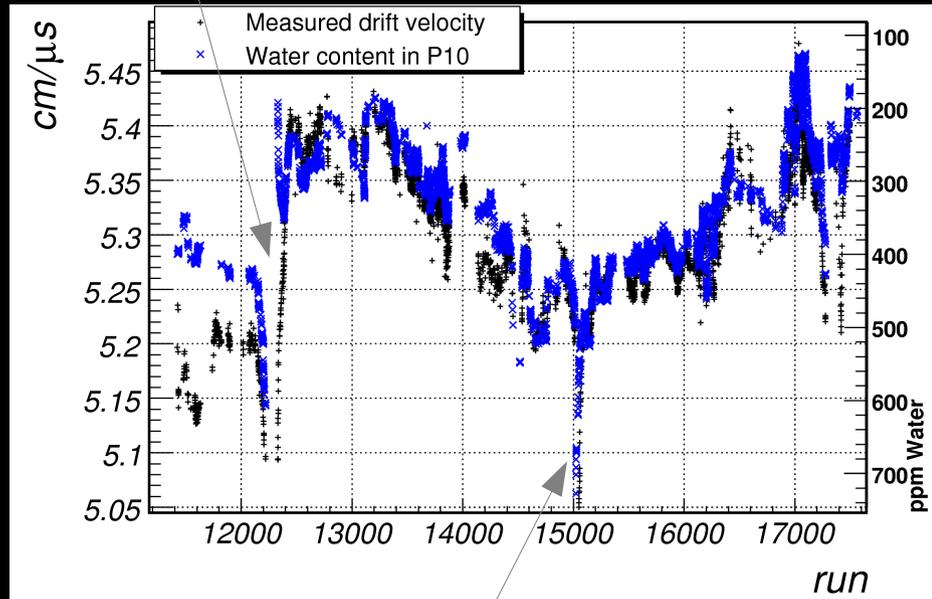
# Chamber Alignment



- Wire chamber alignment was possible with reconstructed chamber tracks
  - Found errors in geometry description
  - Corrected magnetic field maps
- Current uncertainty in alignment 2-20% of wire spacing (30-600 micron)

# TPC Drift Velocity

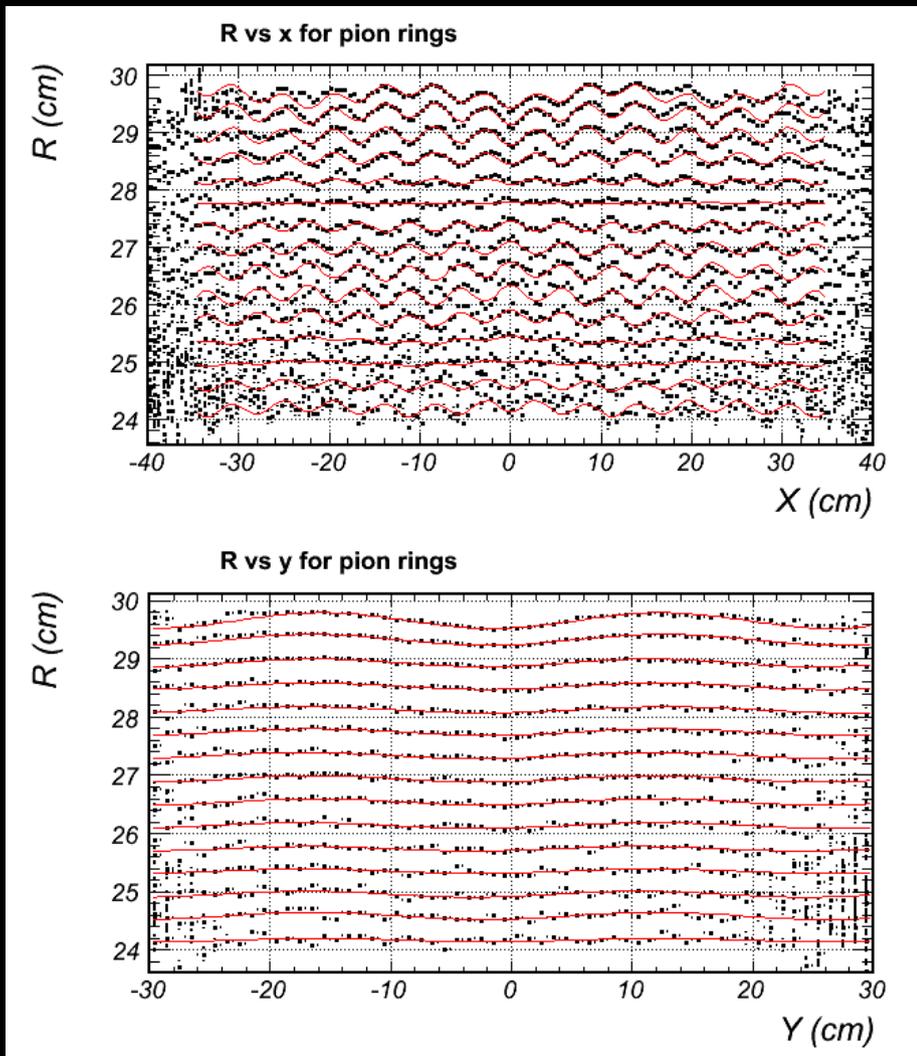
Double the flow of gas



Operator error: shut off  
exhaust valve prevented  
proper gas flow

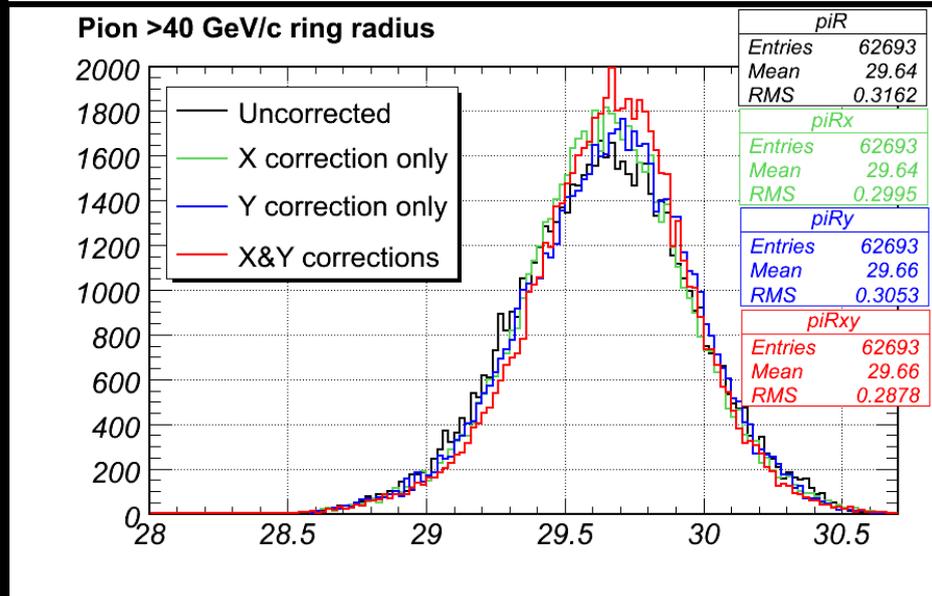
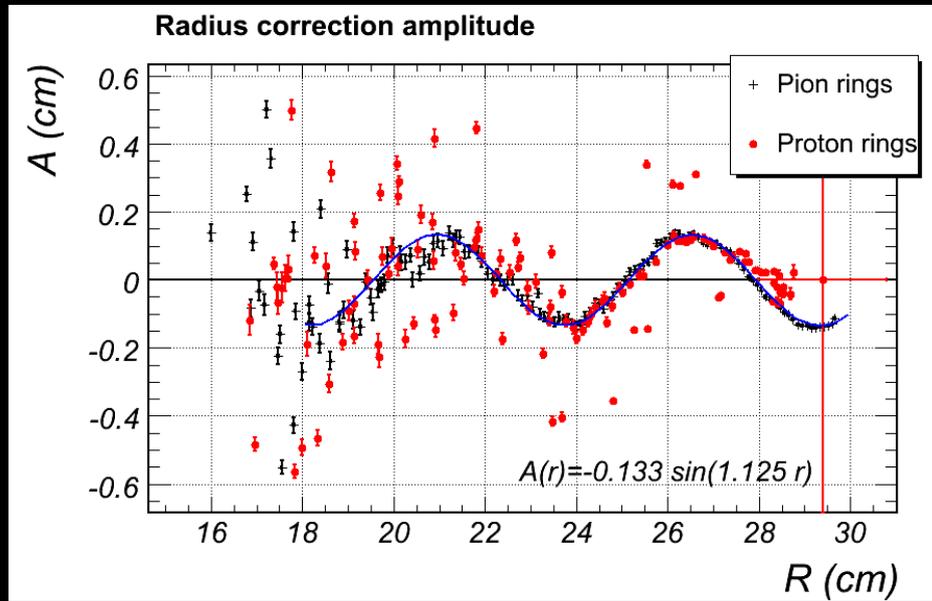
- Drift velocity in the TPC is a strong function of water and oxygen contamination
  - Effects of temperature and atmospheric pressure are much smaller
- We use the center of the TPC volume to measure drift velocity
  - Minimize effect from distortions due to JGG field

# Corrections to RICH Ring Radius



- In March 2004, RICH PMTs caught on fire
- Repaired detector has every fourth column empty
- Result is aliasing of fitted RICH ring radii
  - Fitted radius is a function of true  $(x, y, R)$
  - Corrections are up to 1.3mm

# Corrections to RICH Rings (cont.)

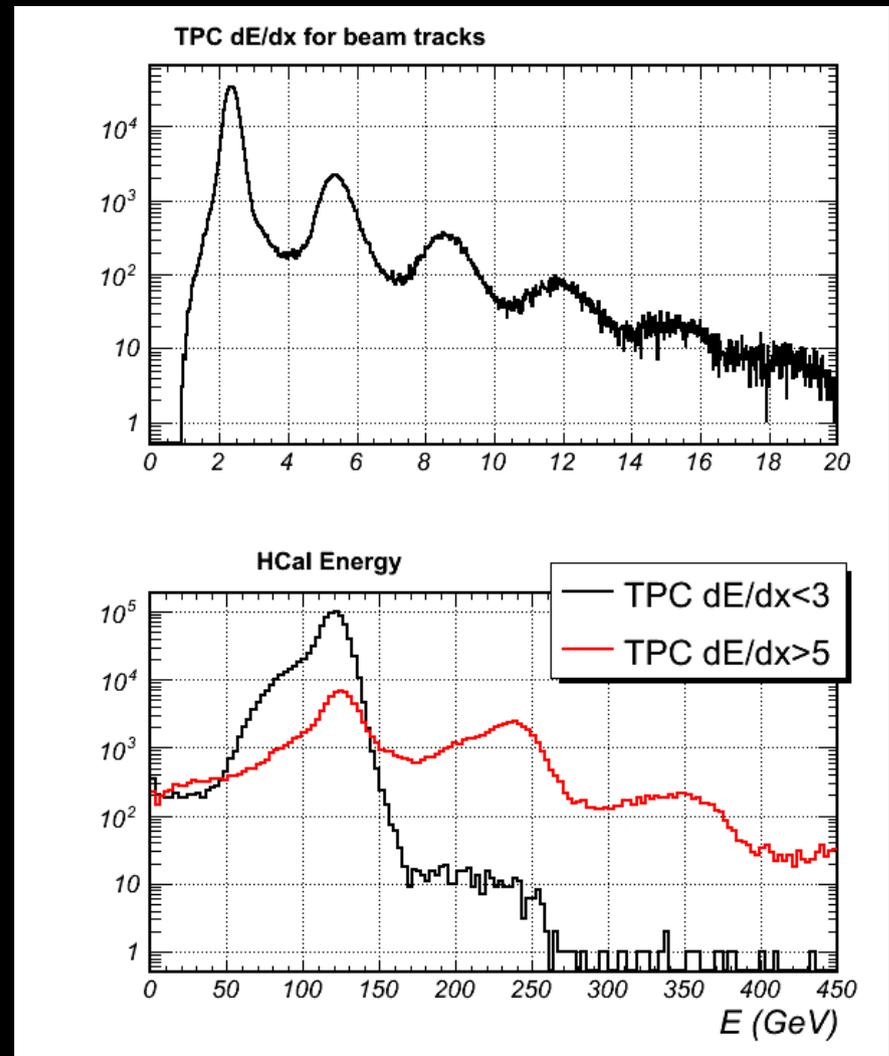


- Scan ring radius selecting pions within a small range momenta
  - Scan proton rings for sanity check
- Dominant ripples in X are well described by
 
$$A(x, R) = A_0 \sin(2\pi r/D_4) \cos(2\pi x/D_4)$$
- Seen in Monte Carlo
- Correction makes peaks 10% narrower

# Production Ratios Analysis

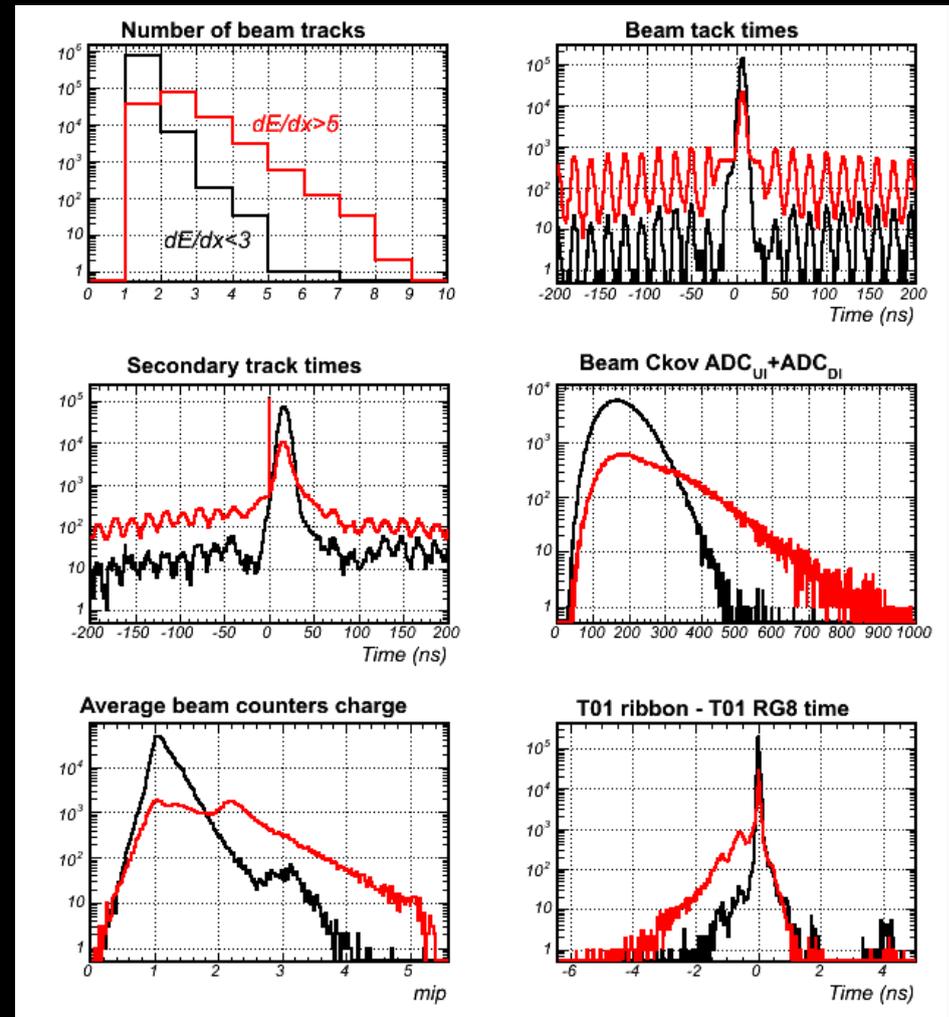
# Pileup Removal

- Pileup is two or more incident protons in the same event
- Needs to be removed
  - Not modeled in MC
  - Can interfere with vertex finding and fitting
- Do as much as possible with beamline detectors
- TPC  $dE/dx$  in single-proton events identifies pileup



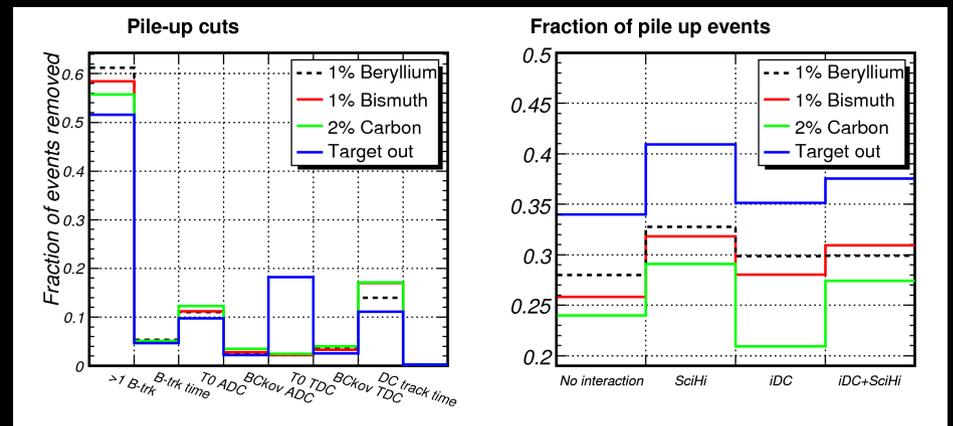
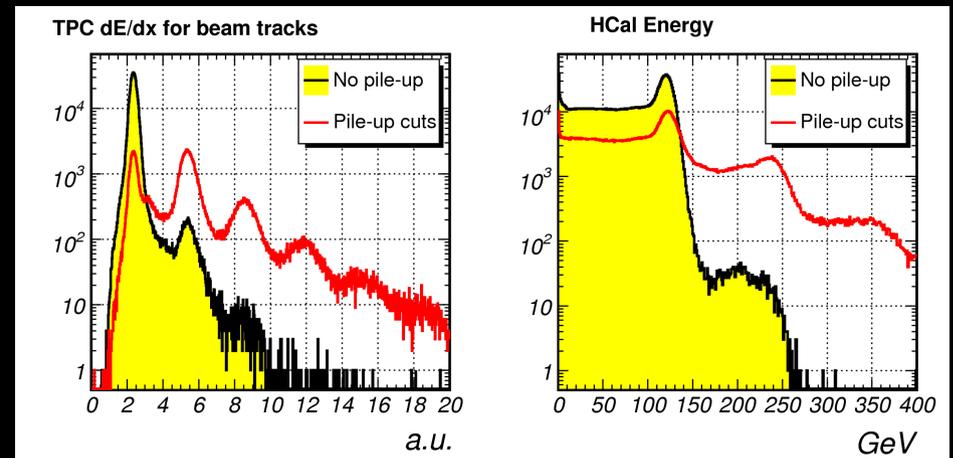
# Pileup (cont.)

- A number of variables are used to reject pileup events
  - ◆ Number of beam tracks
  - ◆ Time of beam track
  - ◆ Time of secondary tracks
  - ◆ Total charge in beam Cherenkov PMTs
  - ◆ Total charge in scintillator beam counters
  - ◆ Time differences of beam counters

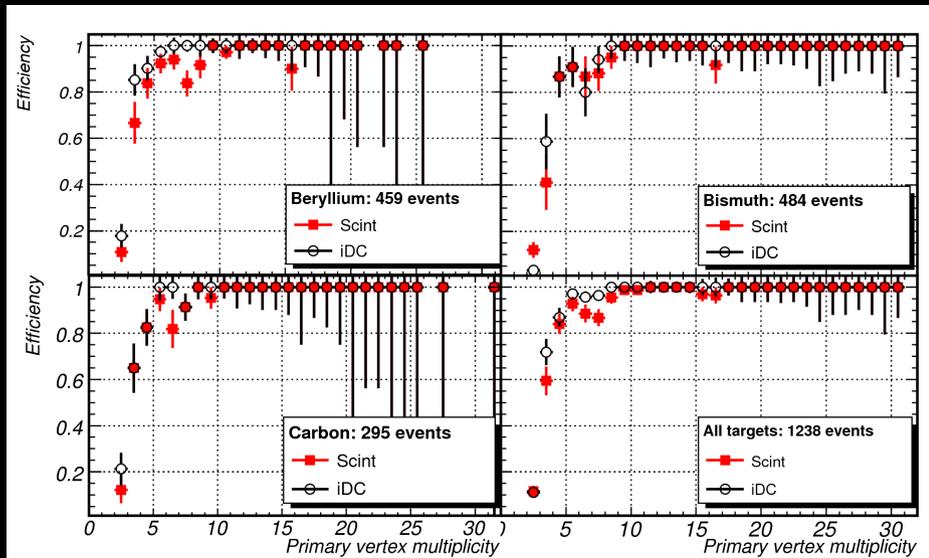


# Pileup (cont.)

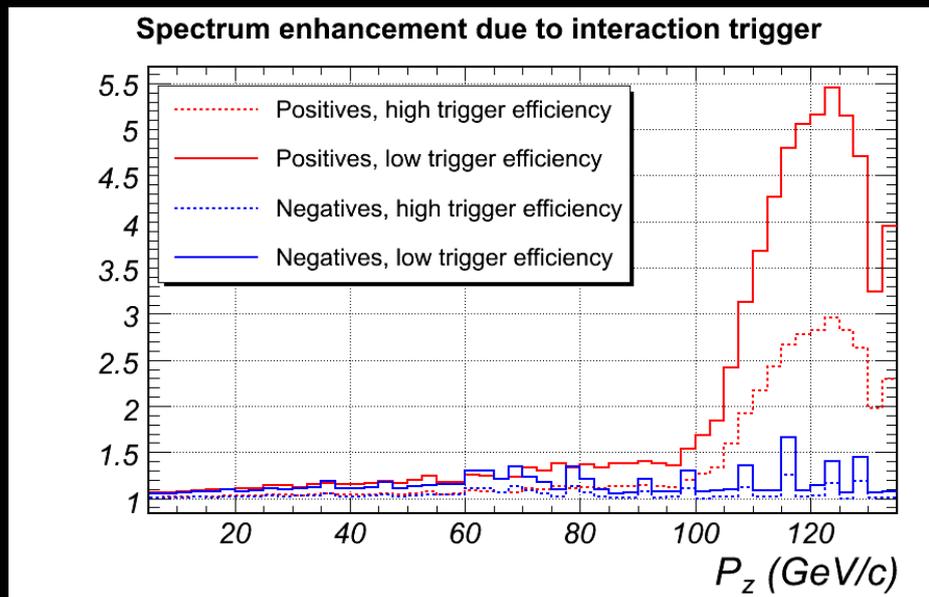
- When all the cuts are made
  - ♦ 20-40% of events are rejected
  - ♦ ~1% of pileup events remain in the sample



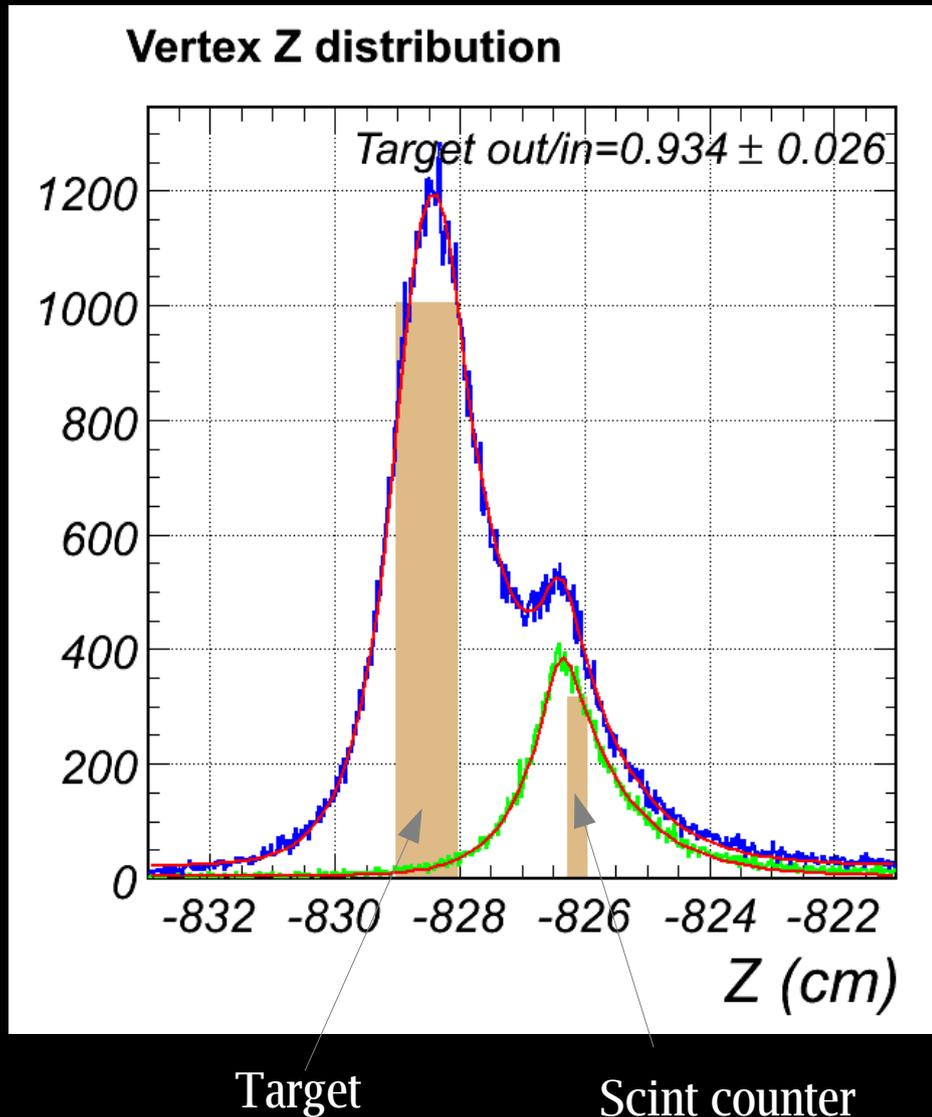
# Interaction Trigger Efficiency



- Interaction trigger efficiency is measured from minimum bias trigger
  - Statistics is quite low
- Uncertainty in spectrum enhancement up to 30% for particles of interest
  - Small systematic error on the ratios

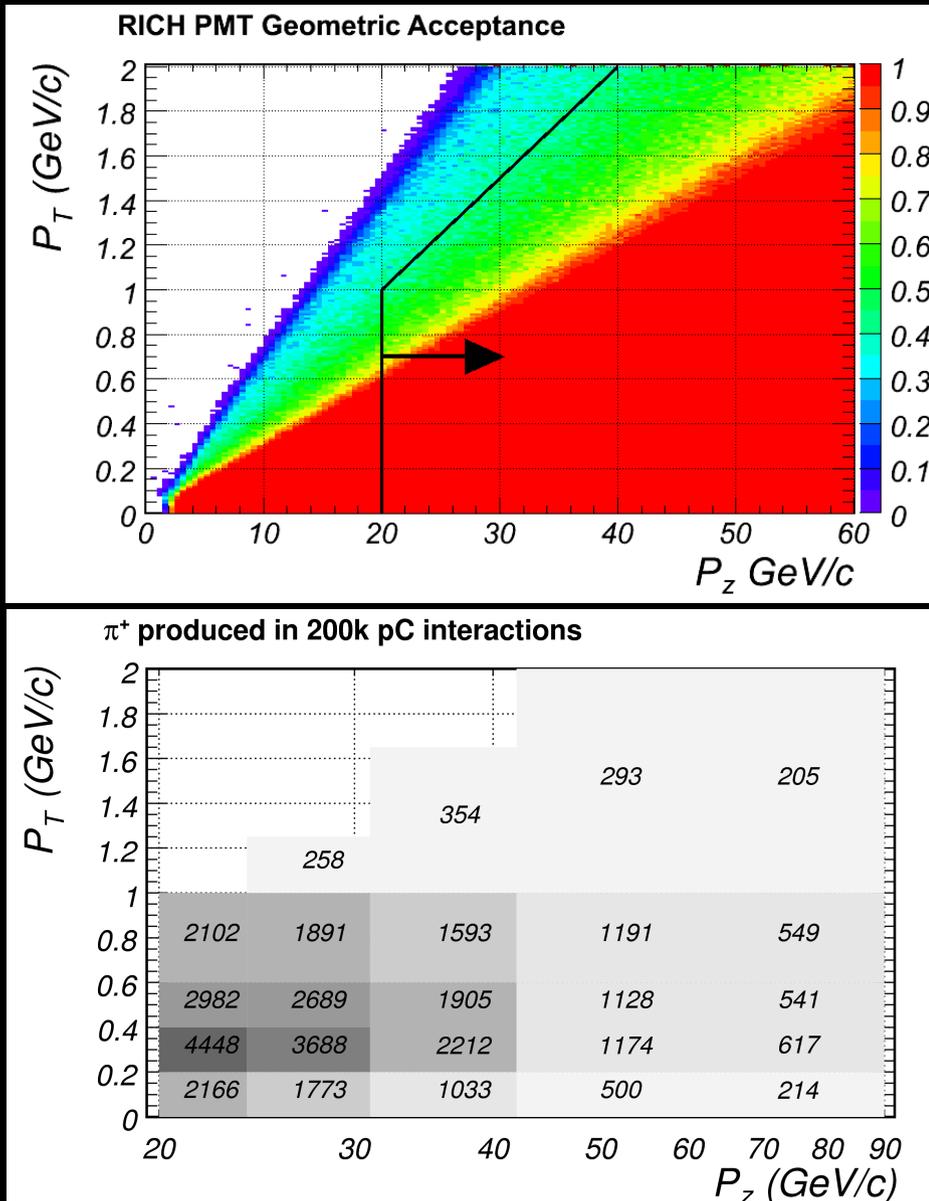


# Empty Target Subtraction



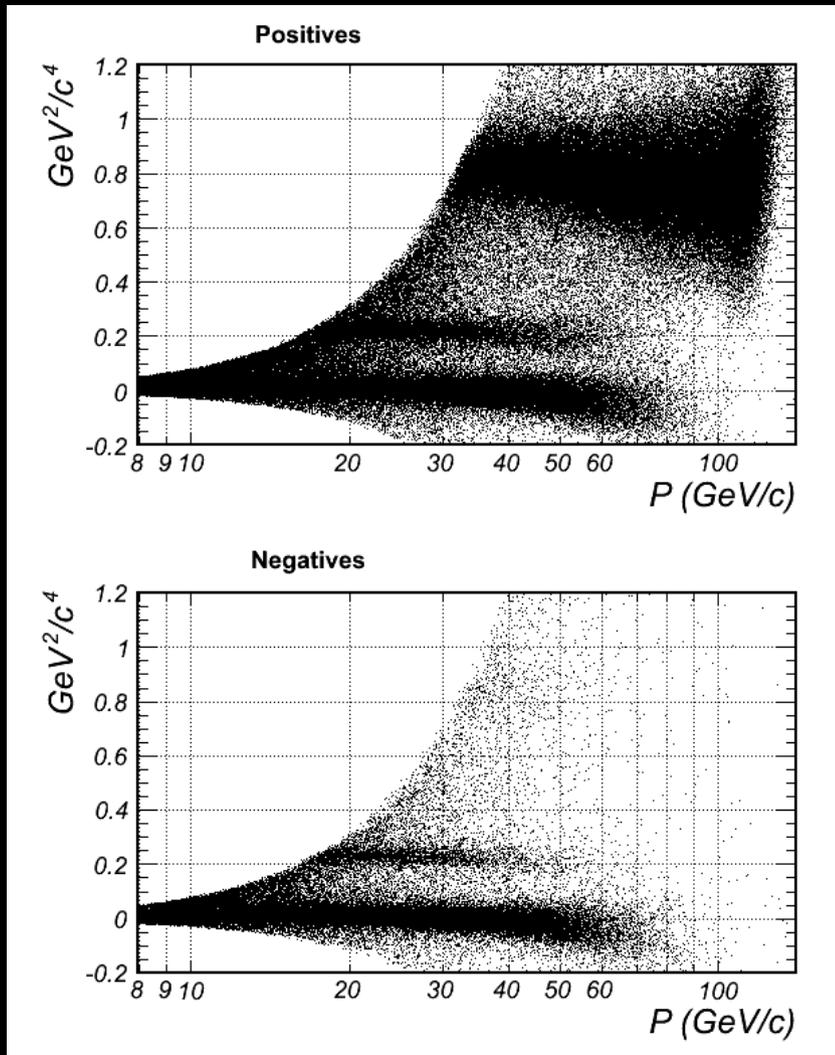
- Given our vertex z resolution, we have to subtract target out data
- Distribution in z is modeled well by Gaussian with exponential tails
- Fit target-out spectrum
- Fit target-in spectrum by holding the shape of Scint counter constant

# Data Binning



- Factors on bin selections
  - Geometric acceptance of RICH PMTs
  - RICH kaon threshold
  - Statistics
- 20 GeV/c is sufficiently above 17 GeV/c threshold
- Make rectangular ( $p_z, p_T$ ) bins avoiding regions with <50% acceptance
- Use FLUKA06  $\pi^+$  flux to set bin sizes

# Particle ID Variable

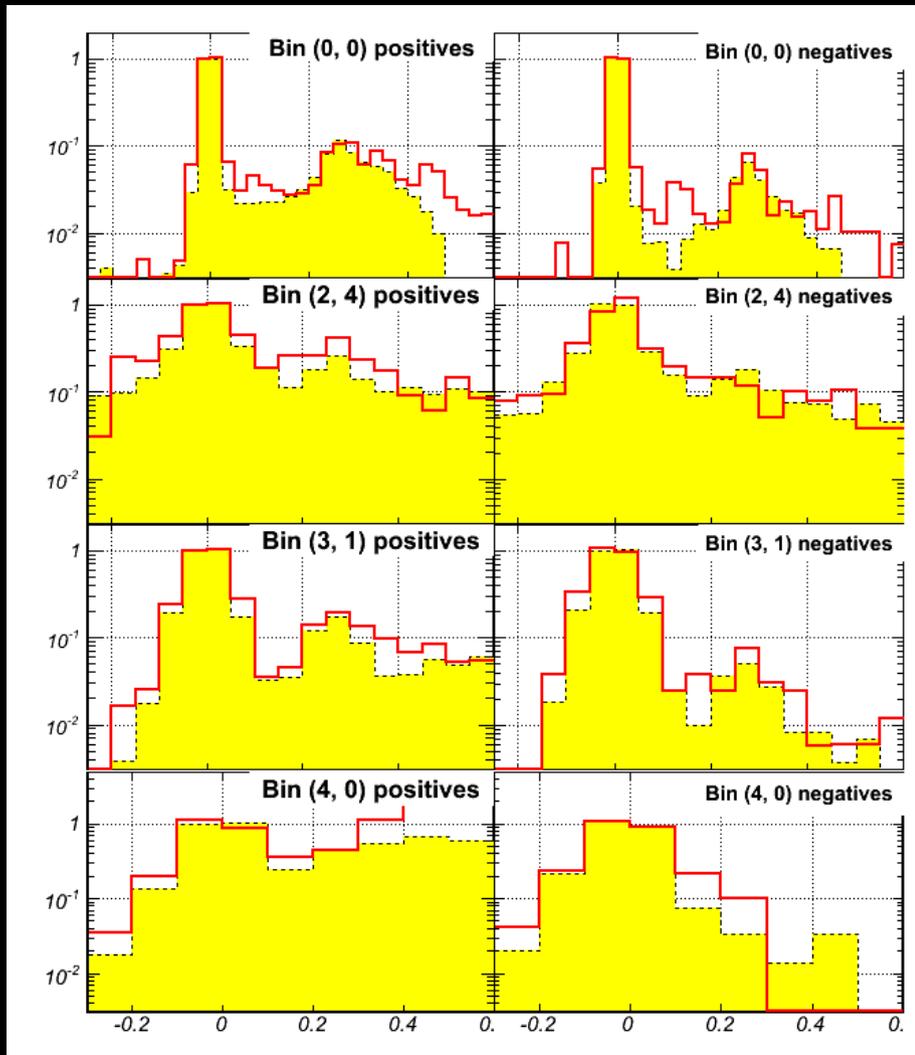


- Measured mass squared depends on particle  $p_z$  and  $p_T$ 
  - Not observed in MC
- Define particle ID variable
  - $0 \equiv p$ ,  $1 \equiv \pi$ , puts  $K=0.265$
- Stretch and shift  $m^2$  distributions in each  $(p_z, p_T)$  bin in data and MC

# Need For Background Modeling

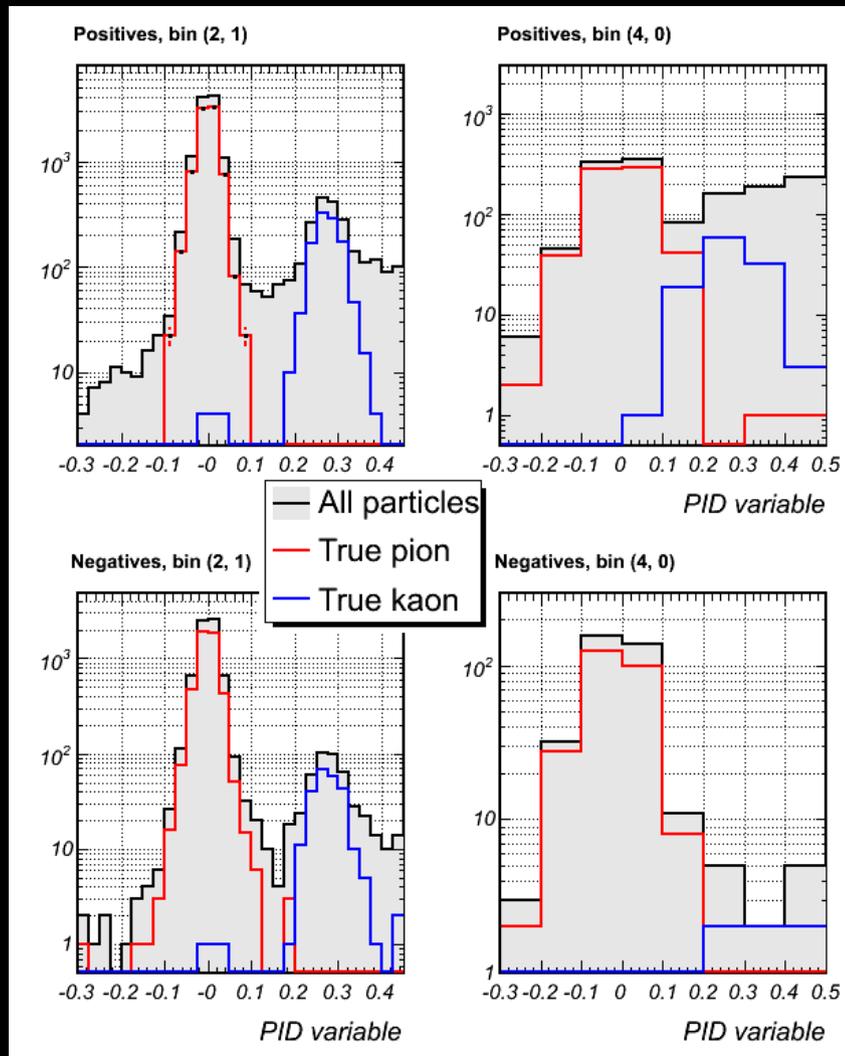
- Important effects
  - ♦ Interactions in the spectrometer
    - ~10% of particles interact before the RICH
    - ~10% more interact if they do not pass through the RICH window
  - ♦ Decay in flight
    - 10% of 20 GeV/c kaons decay before the RICH
  - ♦ Large angle multiple scattering
    - >100 GeV/c protons can be reconstructed with  $p < 70$  GeV/c
- Depend on
  - ♦ FLUKA-06 for proton carbon interactions
  - ♦ GEANT 3.21 for particle transport

# Data – Monte Carlo Comparison



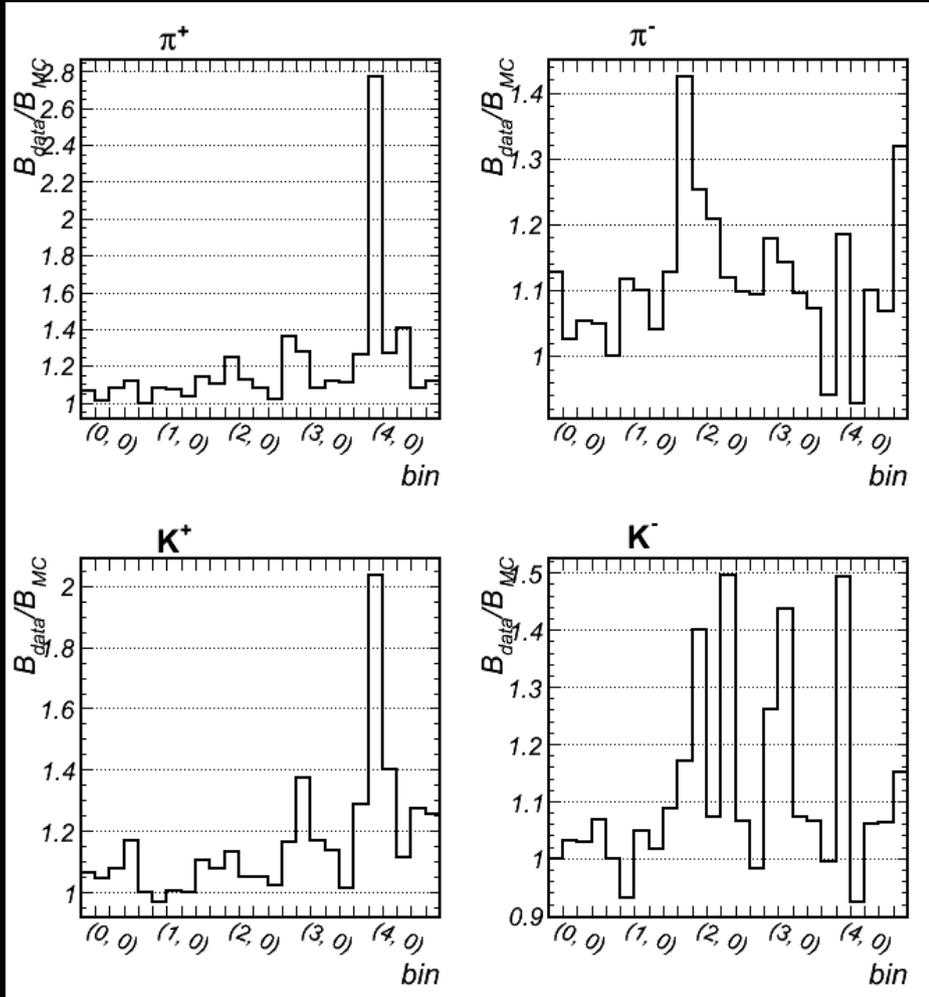
- Data and MC particle ID variable distributions agree reasonably well
- More background in data
- Data peaks are wider
- High momentum positive bins are affected differently in data and MC

# True Particle Occupancy



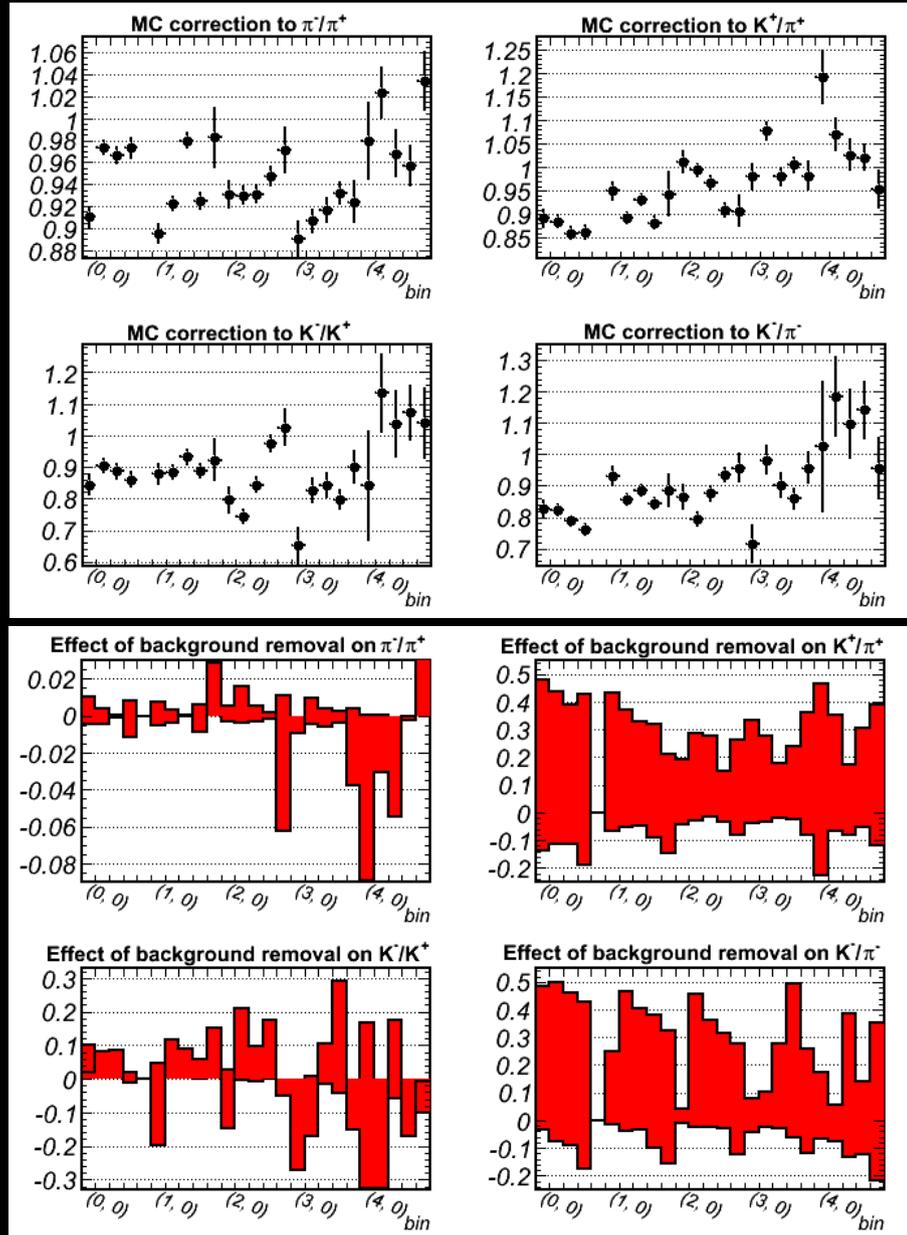
- Define occupancy  $o$  as the fraction of true pion/kaon with fit momentum within  $4\sigma$  of true momentum
  - Ratio of red/blue histogram and shaded histogram
- At lower momenta, the peaks are well separated
- At higher momenta we depend on FLUKA+GEANT

# Data vs MC Background



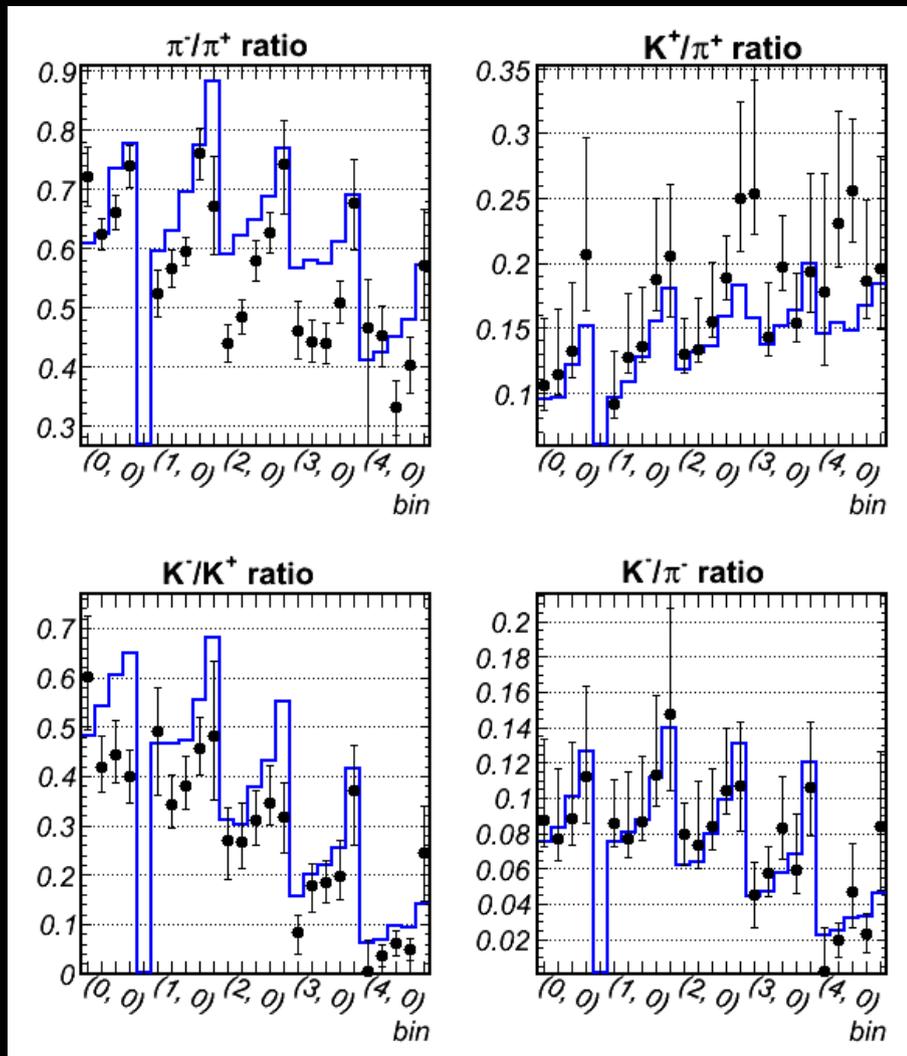
- To compare data/MC, compute the ratio of data and MC background
- Average of the ratio over all bins is 1.1
- Compute systematic error due to background removal by scaling (1- $\sigma$ ) up and down by at least 1.1 or by the ratio from the data/MC background comparison

# Monte Carlo Corrections and Error



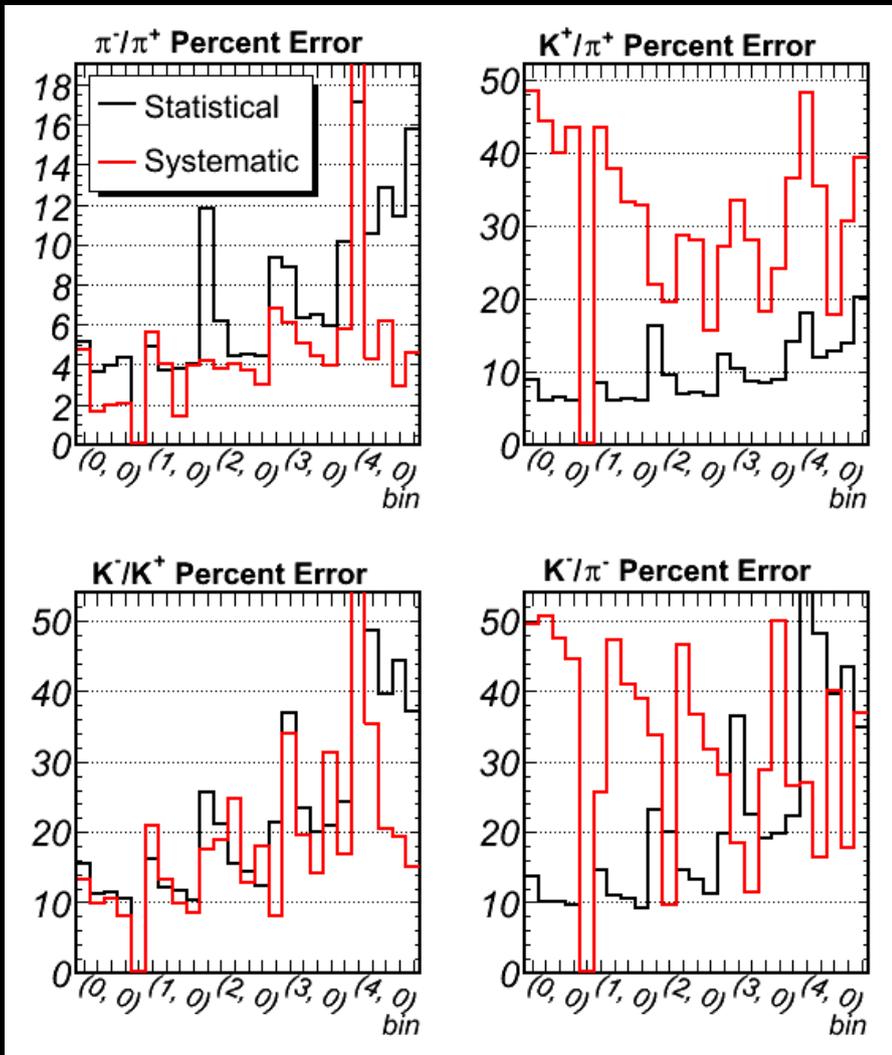
- Assume 50% error on MC correction
  - Corrections are motivated by physics, but are not very well understood yet
- Error on background modeling measured with data
- Errors are asymmetric where background is large

# Measurement vs FLUKA-06



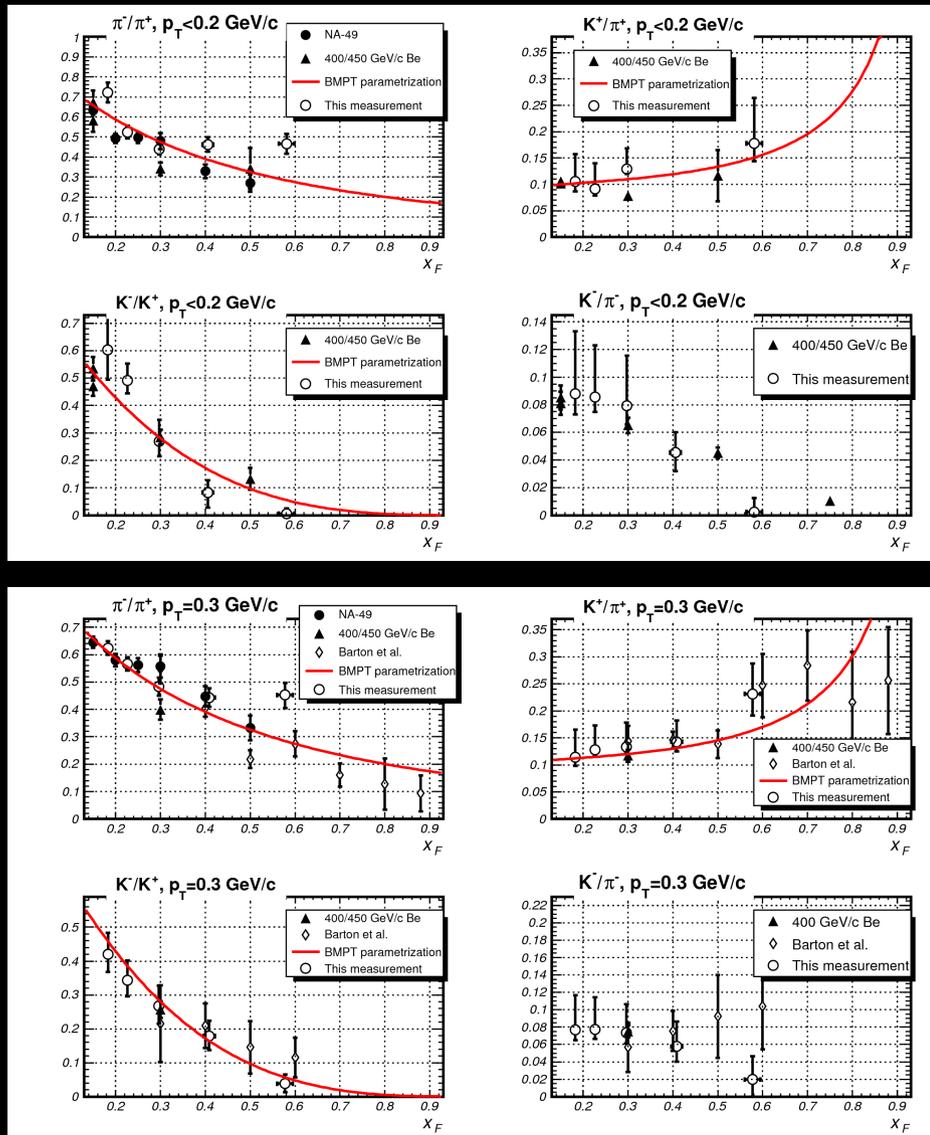
- The measurement agrees with FLUKA in  $\pi^-/K^-$  ratios quite well
- Predicted  $\pi^-/\pi^+$  and  $K^-/K^+$  ratios are different by up to 50%

# Sources of Error



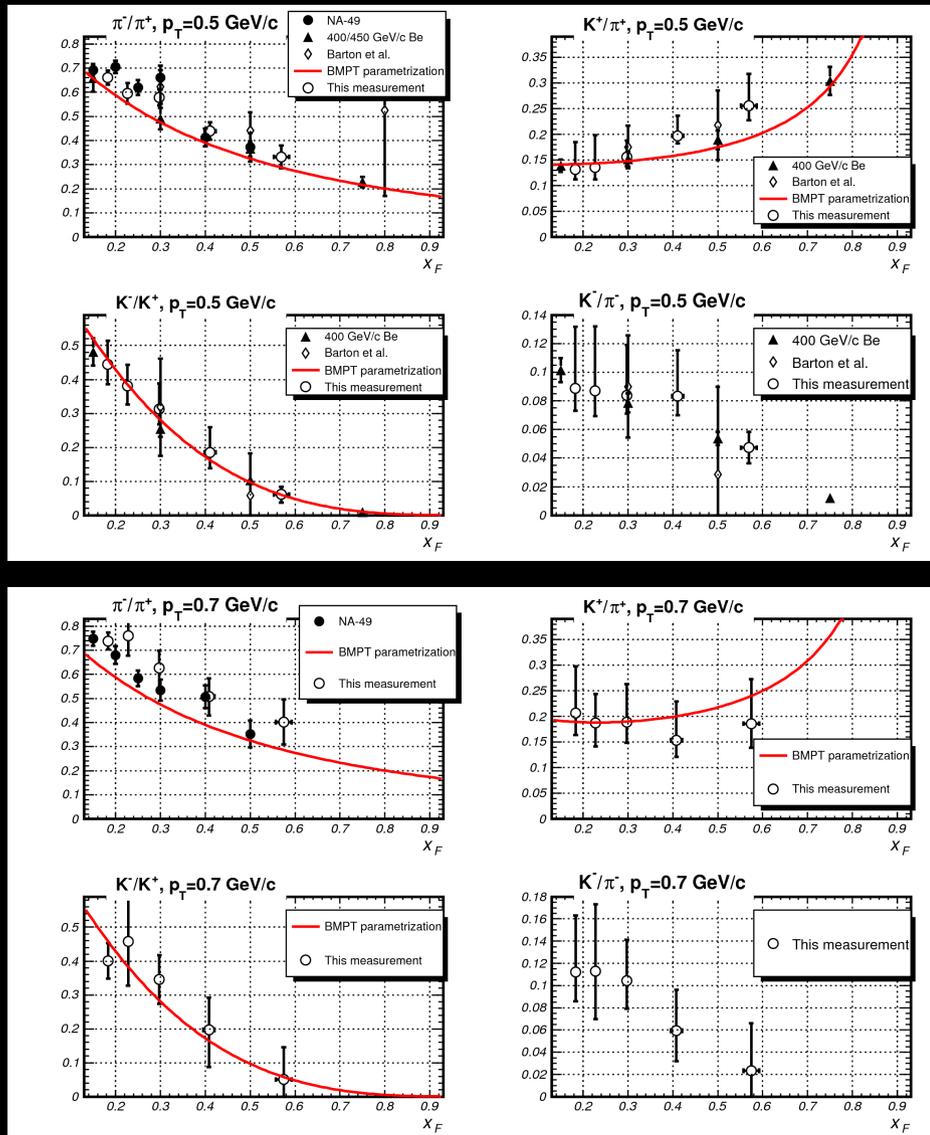
- Statistical errors on  $\pi^-/\pi^+$  ratios are already at or below systematic
  - Need better understanding of background in high  $p_z$  bins
- Errors on  $\pi/K$  ratios are dominated by understanding of background
  - Can be reduced with better tuned Monte Carlo

# Comparison to Existing Data



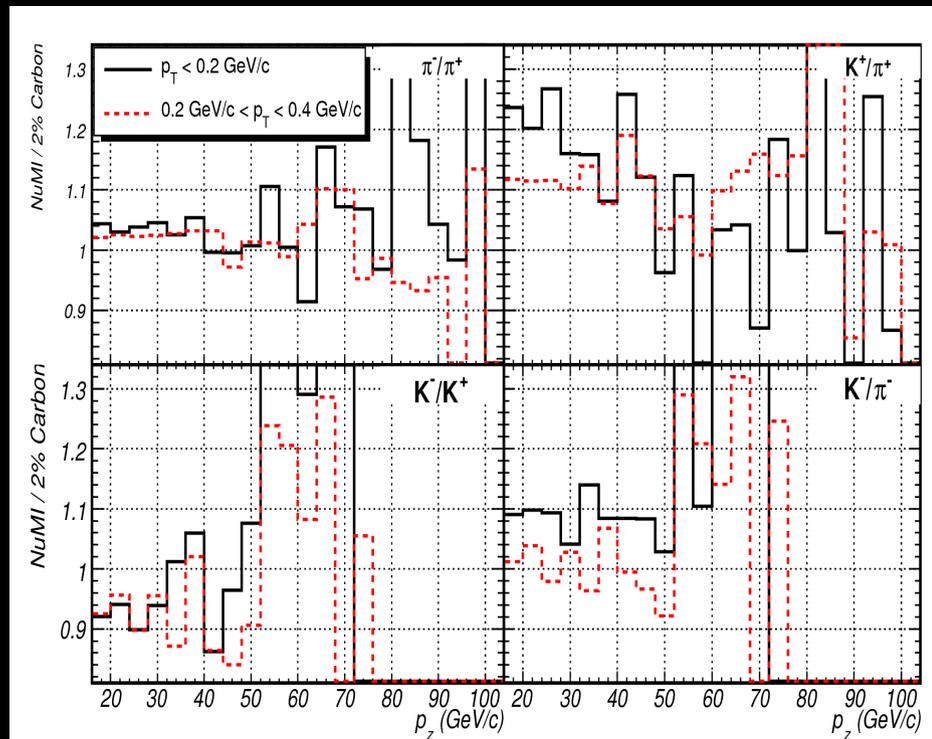
- Agreement between this and previous measurements is good
- Exception is  $p_z > 60$  GeV/c and  $p_T < 0.4$  GeV/c
- Apparent deficiency of  $\pi^+$
- Need very good understanding of
  - Scattered protons
  - Interactions of protons in the spectrometer

# Comparison to Existing Data (cont.)



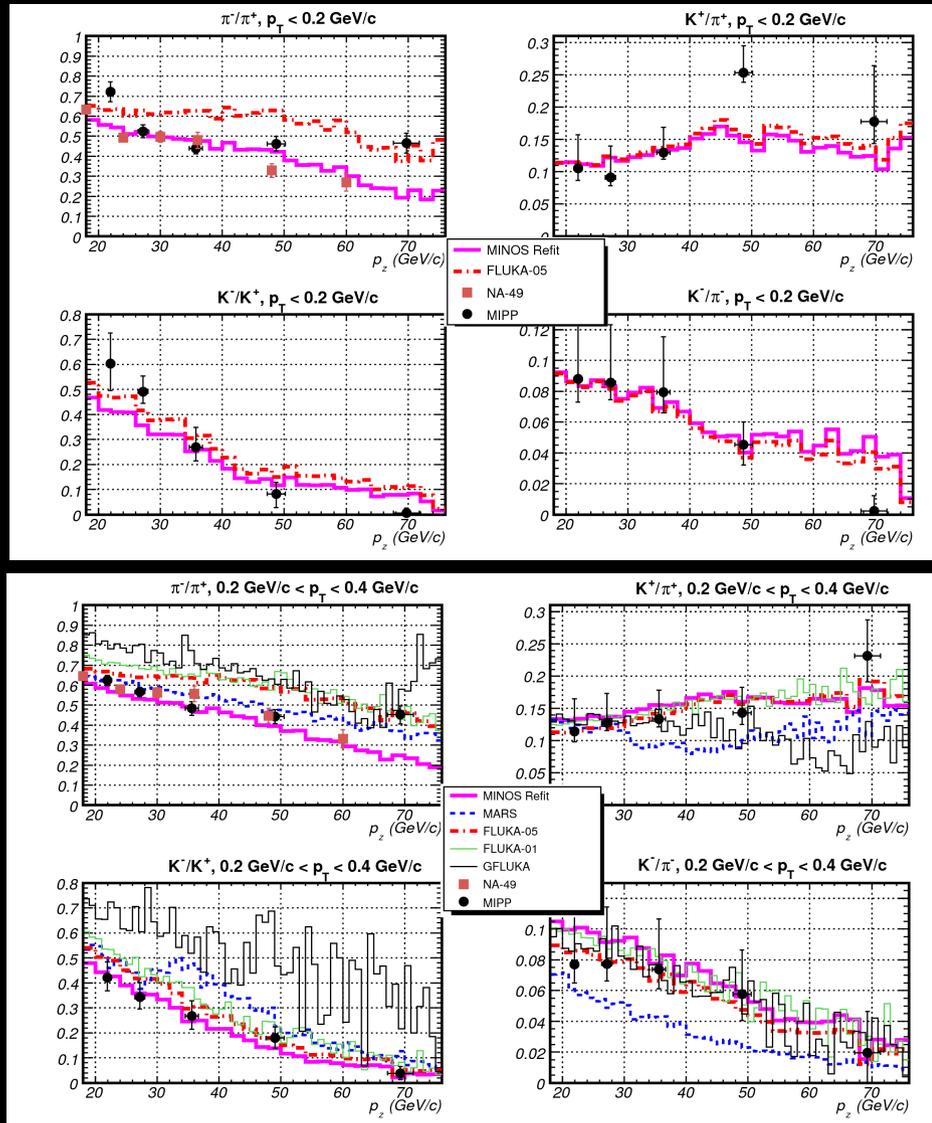
- At higher  $p_T$ 
  - There is no kaon data to compare to!
  - The proton problem is not there for  $p_z > 60 \text{ GeV/c}$
- $p_T$ -independent BMPT parametrization of  $\pi^-/\pi^+$  is not correct

# Comparison with NuMI Target Ratios



- At high momenta production is dominated by primary interactions, so comparison of ratios from NuMI target is valid
- MINOS beam systematics group fits  $\pi/K$  production spectrum
  - Target position wrt horns changes hadron  $p_z$
  - Horn currents change hadron  $p_T$

# Comparison to Fitted MINOS Ratios



- Prior to this measurement, MINOS found that their fits favor NA49  $\pi^-/\pi^+$  ratio over FLUKA-05
- Good agreement is found between MINOS fits and this measurement
- Higher statistics NuMI target data set is being analyzed

# Summary

- The first physics analysis using MIPP data is presented
- The measurement agrees with the existing data and covers hereto unexplored ( $p_z$ ,  $p_T$ ) space of kaon production
- Good cross check of fit results from MINOS beam systematics group
  - NuMI target analysis will further help the group
- Better tuned Monte Carlo simulation and understanding of background are needed to reduce systematic error below statistical

# Backup Slides

# Cross Section Measurement

- Double-differential cross sections are the goal. To do that, we need
  - Better understanding of interaction trigger efficiency
  - Measurement of track finding efficiency
  - Particle ID for all ranges of momenta