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## Ernest O. Lawrence Radiation Laboratory

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Suh Urk Chung, Orin I. Dahl, Janos Kirz, and Donald H. Miller

May 1967

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ABSTRACT

We have analyzed approximately 30 000 four-prong events at  $\pi^-$  beam momenta of 3.2 and 4.2 GeV/c, obtained with the 72-inch hydrogen bubble chamber at the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory. We present all the effective-mass distributions obtainable from the final states  $p\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$ ,  $p\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-\pi^-$ , and  $n\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$ , as well as the cross sections of these final states. In addition, we present the results of our study of the quasi-three-body final states  $N^{*++}(1238)\pi^-\pi^-$ ,  $p\pi^-\rho^0$ ,  $p\pi^-\omega$ , and  $p\pi^-\eta$ . We have given particular emphasis to the production and decay of the  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ , and B enhancements; the  $A_1$  and B enhancements observed in our data are consistent with the interpretations as kinematic enhancements although the possibility exists that what we observe at our energies is an admixture of resonant states and kinematic enhancements. On the other hand, the  $A_2$  enhancement can be interpreted only as a genuine resonant state. From the study of the decay angular correlations in the  $A_2$  region as well as the control regions, we have determined that the lowest possible quantum numbers of the  $A_2$  are  $J^P = 2^+$ .

## I. INTRODUCTION

During the past few years, many people have investigated the multipion final states from  $\pi^-p$  interactions at incident beam momenta ranging from 1.5 to 10 GeV/c.<sup>1</sup> This report consists of an analysis of approximately 30 000 four-prong events leading to multipion production from  $\pi^-p$  interactions at 3.2 and 4.2 GeV/c.

Previous investigations in  $\pi p$  interactions have shown abundant production of resonant states such as the isobars [especially the  $N^*(1238)$ ] and the meson resonances  $\rho$ ,  $\omega$ , and  $\eta$ . More recently, many investigators have observed enhancements in the spectrum of a pion and one of the meson resonances cited above. Thus, the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  enhancements have been observed in the spectrum of  $\pi$  and  $\rho$  (Ref. 2), and the B enhancement in the spectrum of  $\pi$  and  $\omega$  (Ref. 3).

Our main objective in this report is to describe in detail the production and decay mechanisms of these enhancements, as well as the competing channels which contribute to their background. For the  $A_1$  and B enhancements, we show that the competing channels dominate and the enhancements as observed in our data may be interpreted as kinematic effects in the competing channels themselves. On the other hand, the  $A_2$  enhancement is shown to be consistent with the interpretation as a genuine meson resonance. From the study of the internal correlations for the  $A_2$  as well as the control regions, its spin-parity ( $J^P$ ) assignment is shown to be consistent only with  $J^P = 2^+$ .

In Secs. II and III, we discuss briefly the experimental procedures and the results of cross-section measurements. A more detailed account of experimental details is given in Appendix D.

In Sec. IV, we discuss the final-state  $p\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$  in which the  $\rho^0$  and the doubly charged isobar  $N^{*++}$  (1238) is produced copiously. Results concerning the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  enhancements are presented here, while the matrix elements used in their spin and parity analysis are given in Appendix A.

In Sec. V, we discuss the final state  $p\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-\pi^-$ , in which  $\omega$  and  $\eta$  production is observed. Results concerning the B enhancement are presented in this section. Properties of the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot are derived in Appendix B, while in Appendix C the expected angular correlations in the  $B \rightarrow \pi\omega$  decay are given for various spin-parity assignments.

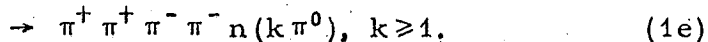
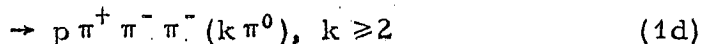
## II. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

This experiment was carried out in the 72-inch hydrogen bubble chamber (at the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory) exposed to a  $\pi^-$  beam from the Bevatron. A total of 37 000 four-prong events were measured and processed through the standard data-reduction system of the Alvarez Group at the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory.<sup>4</sup> The pictures were taken at two distinct beam momenta; the lower momentum was determined to be  $3.21 \pm 0.026$  GeV/c and the higher momentum to be  $4.16 \pm 0.015$  GeV/c.

About 42% of the total sample came from the higher beam-momentum data where all four-prong events were scanned for and measured (the 4.2-GeV/c sample). Of the remaining 58% of the sample, at 3.2 GeV/c beam momentum, about 33% consists of events measured only when an outgoing proton could be identified on the scanning table on the basis of ionization density; we call this the 3.2-GeV/c selected sample. In the remaining 25% of the total sample all four prong events were scanned for and measured; we call this the 3.2-GeV/c normal sample.

We note that the distribution for the selected sample in the four-momentum transfer squared to the proton ( $\Delta_p^2$ ) is more peaked in the lower region than that for the normal sample (see Fig. 1). For this reason, only the 3.2-GeV/c normal and 4.2-GeV/c samples have been used for histograms and scatter plots involving  $\Delta_p^2$  or  $\Delta_{p\pi^\pm}^2$ . Since resonances of interest are produced more often in peripheral collisions than in other types of interactions, the selected sample should be richer in these resonances.

Types of reactions that have been tried are as follows:



For convenience, we shall denote the final states in reactions (1a) through (1e) by  $p3\pi$ ,  $p4\pi$ ,  $n4\pi$ ,  $p3\pi MM$ , and  $4\pi MM$ , respectively, where MM stands for the unobserved neutral system (as well as its effective mass).

For fitted events [reactions (1a), (1b), and (1c)], only those with a confidence level greater than 0.5% were accepted.<sup>5</sup> Events were tried for hypotheses (1d) and (1e) only if they failed to fit reactions (1a), (1b), and (1c). All ambiguous events that could be resolved on the basis of ionization density were looked at by physicists and trained scanners, and the hypotheses inconsistent with the observations were eliminated.

In addition, a small fraction of  $p4\pi$  events (less than 3%) which were ambiguous with  $p3\pi$  events was dropped from the  $p4\pi$  sample; it



was judged from effective-mass plots that 80% of this sample contained  $p3\pi$  events. Moreover, if the measured missing mass for any  $p4\pi$  event was too far removed from the  $\pi^0$  mass and the confidence level was low, that event was dropped from the sample (less than 4%). In a similar fashion, a small fraction (6%) of events was deleted from the  $n4\pi$  sample. A more detailed account of the event separation among different hypotheses, as well as other related topics, is given in Appendix D.

The total number of events used in the analysis for each reaction category is given in Table I. As expected, the 3.2-GeV/c selected sample shows a drastically reduced number of events for the final states with no proton ( $n4\pi$  and  $4\pi MM$ ); the events fitted to these final states represent cases in which the low-momentum  $\pi^+$  track (or steeply dipping track) was misidentified as an outgoing proton during visual examination of ionization.

Table I. Number of events used in the analysis.

Final states	3.2-GeV/c	3.2-GeV/c	4.2-GeV/c	Total
	Normal	Selected		
$p\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$	2 333	3 985	2 986	9 304
$p\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-\pi^-$	2 336	3 772	3 471	9 579
$n\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$	1 114	449	1 803	3 366
$p\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-(k\pi^0), k \geq 2$	665	1 379	1 954	3 998
$n\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-(k\pi^0), k \geq 1$	1 040	165	2 236	3 441
Total	7 488	9 750	12 450	29 688

### III. CROSS-SECTION MEASUREMENTS

Table II shows partial cross sections at the two beam momenta studied (3.2 and 4.2 GeV/c). The cross sections were obtained by normalizing the total number of interactions to the precise measurements of the  $\pi^-p$  total cross sections given by Citron et al.<sup>6</sup>

Table II. Partial cross sections.

Reactions	Cross sections (mb)	
	3.2 GeV/c	4.2 GeV/c
$\pi^-p \rightarrow p\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$	$1.91 \pm 0.08$	$1.92 \pm 0.10$
$\rightarrow p\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-\pi^-$	$1.86 \pm 0.08$	$2.18 \pm 0.11$
$\rightarrow n\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$	$0.89 \pm 0.04$	$1.16 \pm 0.06$
$\rightarrow p\pi^+\pi^-\pi^- (k\pi^0), k \geq 2$	$1.46 \pm 0.07$	$2.75 \pm 0.14$
$\rightarrow n\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-\pi^- (k\pi^0), k \geq 1$		
Total	$6.43 \pm 0.24$	$8.01 \pm 0.39$

In a special cross-section scan, the entire quantity of film used for this experiment was rescanned to find the number of two-prong, four-prong, and strange-particle-production events. For two-prong events, we corrected for the loss of events due to small-angle scatterings.<sup>7</sup> Other corrections were made for scanning efficiency, failing events, and the possible contamination in each channel due to misassigned hypotheses. A more detailed account on cross-section measurements is given in Appendix D.4.

Figure 2 shows partial cross sections reported to date for reactions (1a), (1b), and (1c) at various beam momenta.<sup>8-17</sup> The curves

drawn are freehand fits to the data. According to these curves, the cross sections for  $p3\pi$  and  $p4\pi$  final states reach their maxima in the region of  $\pi^-$  beam momentum from 3.5 to 5.0 GeV/c, whereas the maximum for  $n4\pi$  final states seems to lie above this interval.

#### IV. $p\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$ FINAL STATE

##### A. Effective-Mass Distributions

In this section we present general features of the  $p3\pi$  final state. In Figs. 3 and 4, all the effective-mass distributions are shown separately for 3.2- and 4.2-GeV/c data. The histograms at 3.2 GeV/c (Fig. 3) include both the normal and selected samples. Both these samples exhibit rather similar effective-mass distributions, except for somewhat stronger production of resonances such as  $N^*(1238)$ ,  $A_1$ , and  $A_2$  for the selected sample.

The most striking feature of this final state is that both  $N^{*++}(1238)$  and  $\rho^0$  resonances are copiously produced. The curves in Figs. 3 and 4 were obtained by adding nonresonant phase space (42%), phase space modified by a Breit-Wigner form for  $N^{*++}(1238)$  (34%), and the same for  $\rho^0$  (24%) (Ref. 18). The amount assumed for each resonance is somewhat arbitrary;<sup>19</sup> the curves are meant to show only to what extent gross features of this final state can be explained in terms of phase-space curves modified by the two noninterfering resonances.

The effective mass of the  $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$  system ( $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-}$ ) shows clear deviation from phase space at the mass of the  $A_2$  and a broad enhancement in the region of the  $A_1$  (see Figs. 3g and 4g). The distribution in  $M_{p\pi^-}$  (Figs. 3b and 4b) shows evidence for  $N^{*0}(1238)$ ,  $N^{*0}(1518)$ , and  $N^{*0}(1688)$  productions.

Note that the  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$  distributions (Figs. 3c and 4c) do not show evidence for  $f^0(1253)$ , in contrast to the results from  $\pi^+p$  interactions in this energy range;<sup>20</sup> it has been shown that the  $f^0$  production from  $\pi^+p$  interactions takes place mainly through the channel  $N^{*++}(1238) f^0$ . The equivalent channel for  $\pi^-p$  interactions would be the channel  $N^{*0}(1238) f^0$ , the cross section of which should be only one-ninth that of the reaction  $\pi^+p \rightarrow N^{*++}(1238) f^0$ . In addition,  $f^0$  cannot be produced in conjunction with higher-mass isobars such as  $N^*(1688)$ , since the reactions of this type are below the threshold at our energies.

For the partial cross-section evaluation at 3.2 GeV/c, we use the normal sample alone; the cross section for  $\rho^0$  production is determined to be  $0.48 \pm 0.07$  mb, and for  $N^{*++}$  production, it is  $0.59 \pm 0.07$  mb. At 4.2 GeV/c, we find the cross sections  $0.52 \pm 0.07$  mb and  $0.59 \pm 0.07$  mb for  $\rho^0$  and  $N^{*++}$  productions, respectively.

The respective production cross sections for the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are 140 and 150  $\mu\text{b}$  at 3.2 GeV/c, and 160 and 175  $\mu\text{b}$  at 4.2 GeV/c. The errors in these values are large, because of the proximity of the resonances and the uncertainty in estimating the background. The errors range from 25 to 35%.

In the following sections we discuss in detail the channels  $N^{*++}\pi^-\pi^-$  and  $p\pi^-\rho^0$  in turn.

#### B. Reaction $\pi^-p \rightarrow N^{*++}\pi^-\pi^-$

In order to investigate the production mechanism of the 3-3 isobar, we present in Fig. 5a the Chew-Low plot of four-momentum transfer to the  $p\pi^+$  system ( $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2$ ) against  $M_{p\pi^+}$ . The fact that the isobar is produced predominantly in the region of low  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2$  suggests the one-pion-exchange

process represented in Fig. 6. This feature is emphasized further in Figs. 7 a, b and 8 a, b, where we show the  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2$  distribution in the isobar region (1.12 to 1.32 GeV) and the  $M_{p\pi^+}$  distribution for  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2 < 0.5$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup> at each beam momentum separately.

Before we study the final state  $N^{*++}\pi^-\pi^-$ , we first look for possible contamination in the  $N^{*++}$  sample. As is shown in Sec. IV. C, one of the important channels of the  $p3\pi$  final state is that of double resonance formation,  $N^{*0}(1238)\rho^0$ ,  $N^{*0}(1518)\rho^0$ , and  $N^{*0}(1688)\rho^0$ . Figure 5b is a scatter plot of  $M_{p\pi^-}$  vs  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$  for events in the  $N^{*++}$  region [and with  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2 < 0.5$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>], where we used only the combinations  $M_{p\pi_1^-}$  and  $M_{\pi^+\pi_2^-}$  satisfying the condition  $\Delta_{p\pi_1^-}^2 \leq \Delta_{p\pi_2^-}^2$ . There is clear evidence that the  $N^{*0}\rho^0$  channel is present; the  $N^{*0}(1238)$  channel especially appears to be an important one. The projections onto the  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$  and  $M_{p\pi^-}$  axes shown in Figs. 7 d, e and 8 d, e demonstrate further the presence of  $\rho^0$  and  $N^{*0}$  resonances.

It is rather difficult, however, to estimate quantitatively the amount of  $\rho^0$  formation in the  $N^{*++}$  sample; the distribution of  $M_{\pi^+\pi_2^-}$  with  $\Delta_{p\pi_1^-}^2 > \Delta_{p\pi_2^-}^2$  tends to be peaked below the  $\rho^0$  region, and it is not clear how one should estimate the background. Nevertheless, we believe that there is a fair amount of contamination from the  $N^{*0}\rho^0$  channel. Furthermore, kinematics and decay angles of the  $N^{*++}\pi^-\pi^-$  channel are such that some of the  $N^{*++}$  events "spill over" to  $N^{*0}\rho^0$  final states, especially in the  $N^{*0}(1238)$  region.

With this possible contamination in mind, we next turn to the description of decay correlations at  $\pi^-\pi^-$  and  $N^{*++}$  vertices (see Fig. 6). For this purpose, we define two coordinate systems as follows: In the

$\pi^- \pi^- (p\pi^+)$  rest frame, the  $z$  axis is parallel to the beam (target) momentum and the  $y$  axis is parallel to the normal to the production plane. Polar and azimuthal angles in these systems are denoted by  $\theta(\pi^- \pi^-)$ ,  $\phi(\pi^- \pi^-)$ ,  $\theta(p\pi^+)$ , and  $\phi(p\pi^+)$ , where the symbols in parentheses indicate the rest frames in which they are evaluated. Note that the azimuthal angles thus defined are just the Treiman-Yang angles.

Figure 9 gives the distributions in  $\cos \theta$  and  $\phi$  for events in the  $N^{*++}$  region (and with low  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2$ ) and also the same distributions for those events with the further selection that  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-} (\Delta_{p\pi_1}^2 \leq \Delta_{p\pi_2}^2)$  lie outside the  $\rho^0$  region (0.66 to 0.84 GeV).

We see that the Treiman-Yang angles are relatively isotropic, supporting our belief that the one-pion-exchange mechanism is the dominant one. Note that the distributions in  $\cos \theta (p\pi^+)$  become more symmetric outside the  $\rho^0$  band<sup>21</sup> (see Figs. 9c and 9g) and approach the well-known  $(1 + 3 \cos^2 \theta)$  distribution for the isobar decay. The solid curves in these figures are fitted by the least-squares method to the Legendre polynomials,

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d \cos \theta} = \sum_{l=0}^n a_l P_l(\cos \theta). \quad (2)$$

The coefficients, normalized to the total number of events at each momentum, are:

Momentum (GeV/c)	Coefficients		
	$a_0$	$a_1$	$a_2$
3.2	166. $\pm$ 4.1	105.9 $\pm$ 7.8	111. $\pm$ 9.5
4.2	66.0 $\pm$ 2.6	48.2 $\pm$ 5.0	62.6 $\pm$ 6.0

The behavior of  $\cos \theta(\pi^- \pi^-)$  and  $\phi(\pi^- \pi^-)$  as a function of  $M_{\pi^- \pi^-}$  is shown in Figs. 5c and 5d. Here the distribution in  $\cos \theta(\pi^- \pi^-)$  is relatively isotropic (s-wave) at the low-mass region of  $M_{\pi^- \pi^-}$ ; higher partial waves appear gradually as  $M_{\pi^- \pi^-}$  increases. The distribution in  $\phi(\pi^- \pi^-)$ , on the other hand, remains relatively isotropic throughout the entire range of  $M_{\pi^- \pi^-}$ . The  $\cos \theta(\pi^- \pi^-)$  for four different regions of  $M_{\pi^- \pi^-}$  are shown in Fig. 10 for two beam momenta separately. Results of a least-squares fit to the data are shown in Table III.

The  $M_{\pi^- \pi^-}$  plots for the  $N^{*++}$  region with  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2 < 0.5$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup> are given in Figs. 7c and 8c; we see no evidence of a  $\pi\pi$  resonance ( $I = 2$ ). Several authors<sup>23</sup> have used  $M_{\pi^- \pi^-}$  distributions to calculate the total cross section for the reaction  $\pi^- \pi^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^-$ . However, in view of the contamination in our data from the  $N^{*0} \rho^0$  channel and of the uncertainty in using semiempirical formulas, we do not present our result here at this time; we merely point out that our results are in fair agreement with those obtained by others.

Finally, the  $M_{\pi^- \rho^0}$  distributions (with  $\rho^0$  selected as described above) are shown in Figs. 7f and 8f; there is little evidence that the  $A_2$  production contaminates this channel.

### C. Reaction $\pi^- p \rightarrow p \pi^- \rho^0$

In order to study this reaction, we cut off the  $N^{*++}$  region [ $M_{p\pi^+}$  in the interval 1.12 to 1.32 GeV and  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2 < 1.5$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>] (Ref. 24). This cutoff does not substantially affect the analysis presented here, except for certain angular distributions; these are shown separately for the  $N^{*++}$  region.

Table III. Least-squares fits to the  $\cos \theta$  ( $\pi^+ \pi^-$ ) distribution.<sup>a</sup>

$M_{\pi^+ \pi^-}$ (GeV)	3.2 GeV/c						$\chi^2$	C.L.(%)
	$a_0$	$a_2$	$a_4$	$a_6$	$n^b$			
0.28 - 0.56	$33.55 \pm 1.30$					9	4.54	87.6
0.56 - 0.84	$65.69 \pm 1.81$	$48.17 \pm 4.42$				8	7.08	52.6
0.84 - 1.12	$53.54 \pm 1.63$	$82.47 \pm 4.63$	$36.17 \pm 5.47$			7	1.51	98.2
1.12 - 1.60	$11.67 \pm 0.76$	$26.50 \pm 2.45$	$19.71 \pm 3.28$	$14.77 \pm 2.97$		6	11.28	7.9

$M_{\pi^+ \pi^-}$ (GeV)	4.2 GeV/c						$\chi^2$	C.L.(%)
	$a_0$	$a_2$	$a_4$	$a_6$	$n^b$			
0.28 - 0.56	$10.67 \pm 0.73$					9	10.28	32.7
0.56 - 0.84	$21.66 \pm 1.04$	$11.0 \pm 2.44$				8	2.39	96.6
0.84 - 1.12	$20.07 \pm 1.00$	$32.39 \pm 2.90$	$17.70 \pm 3.18$			7	5.32	62.3
1.12 - 1.60	$12.31 \pm 0.78$	$31.85 \pm 2.67$	$23.26 \pm 3.45$	$9.60 \pm 3.16$		6	4.95	55.1

<sup>a</sup>Fitted to the Legendre polynomial series. See Eq. (2). (Coefficients are normalized to the total number of events.)

<sup>b</sup> means number of degrees of freedom.



It is in this channel that we observe the well-established enhancements--the  $A_2$  meson,<sup>25-34</sup> and the  $A_1$  enhancement,<sup>35</sup> which is not so well understood. Figure 11a shows the Chew-Low plot of  $\Delta_p^2$  vs  $M_{\pi-\rho^0}$ , where we have taken those events with  $M_{\pi+\pi^-}$  in the  $\rho^0$  interval (0.66 to 0.84 GeV); since these enhancements appear to be primarily associated with the low  $\Delta_p^2$ , it appears likely that peripheral processes are responsible for their production (see Fig. 12a). The histogram projected onto the  $M_{\pi-\rho^0}$  axis (Fig. 11b) shows a prominent peak at the  $A_2$  mass and a broad enhancement in the region of the  $A_1$ . Broken lines in Fig. 11b show the distribution of  $M_{\pi-\pi+\pi^-}$  for events with  $M_{\pi+\pi^-}$  outside the  $\rho^0$  interval; there is no evidence that either the  $A_1$  or the  $A_2$  decays directly into a  $3\pi$  channel without the intermediate  $\rho^0$  formation.

According to our data, the mass and width of the  $A_2$  meson are  $1310 \pm 20$  and  $80 \pm 20$  MeV. As for the  $A_1$ , the mass and width of 1090 and 125 MeV are consistent with our data; their precise values are rather difficult to determine, as the  $A_1$  does not appear as a sharp peak. In this connection, note that a recent world compilation by Ferbel<sup>36</sup> of the  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^\pm}$  distribution from  $\pi^\pm p$  interactions shows a similar trend; the  $A_1$  enhancement does not appear as a sharp peak.

In this channel, another important process occurs, namely that of double-resonance formation  $N^{*0}\rho^0$ , as is illustrated in Figs. 11c and 11d. We see from these figures that  $N^{*0}(1238)$ ,  $N^{*0}(1518)$ , and  $N^{*0}(1688)$  are copiously produced. Again, they are produced primarily at low  $\Delta_{p\pi}^2$ , which suggests the one-pion-exchange (OPE) mechanism for the process (see Fig. 12b).

In Figs. 11c and 11d, only one combination of  $p\pi^-$  (or  $\pi^+\pi^-$ ) has been chosen for each event. For single- $\rho^0$  events (only one combination of  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$  in the  $\rho^0$  interval), we naturally choose the combination  $p\pi_2^-$  (or  $\pi^+\pi_1^-$ ) if  $M_{\pi^+\pi_1^-}$  is in the  $\rho^0$  interval. As for the double- $\rho^0$  events (both combinations of  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$  in the  $\rho^0$  interval), the following method has been used to choose the one combination: We first take a somewhat narrower  $\rho^0$  interval (0.70 to 0.80 GeV), and if, for an event,  $M_{\pi^+\pi_1^-}$  falls in the narrower  $\rho^0$  interval and  $M_{\pi^+\pi_2^-}$  in the wider one, the combination  $p\pi_2^-$  (or  $\pi^+\pi_1^-$ ) is chosen. If, however, both combinations of  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$  fall in the narrower  $\rho^0$  interval, we choose that combination of  $p\pi_2^-$  (or  $\pi^+\pi_1^-$ ) for which  $\Delta_{p\pi_2}^2$  is less than  $\Delta_{p\pi_1}^2$  (Ref. 37). This is done in an effort to isolate the peripheral process of Fig. 12b as much as possible.

An additional purpose in devising this method has been to somehow circumvent the effect of interference due to double- $\rho^0$  events so that, for instance, a meaningful comparison can be made between the virtual process at the lower vertex of Fig. 12b and the physical process  $\pi^-p \rightarrow \pi^-p$ . We emphasize, however, that the analysis which follows does not differ appreciably from other methods that can be devised; for instance, one could have simply chosen that combination of  $\pi^+\pi^-$  which is closer to the  $\rho^0$  mass.

#### 1. Differences Between the $A_1$ and $A_2$ Enhancements

A number of authors<sup>38-41</sup> have observed that the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  enhancements have different production mechanisms; the production of the  $A_2$  meson seemed to be consistent with that of a genuine resonant state, whereas the  $A_1$  enhancement seemed to be associated with the

OPE process leading to the final state  $p\pi^-\rho^0$ , which would be clearly inconsistent with the  $A_1$ 's being a resonant state.

We first show the Dalitz plot of  $M_{p\pi}^2$  against  $M_{\pi\rho^0}^2$  in Fig. 13a; this plot illustrates the extent to which the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  interfere with the three neutral isobars. The projections onto the  $M_{p\pi}$  axis for the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  regions separately show that isobars are more prominent in the  $A_1$  than in the  $A_2$  region (see Figs. 13b and 13c). A further difference is seen when  $\Delta_{p\pi}^2$  is plotted against  $M_{\pi\rho^0}$  (Fig. 13d); the  $A_1$  enhancement is concentrated in the region of low  $\Delta_{p\pi}^2$ , while the  $A_2$  clearly is not. In fact, the Dalitz plot for  $\Delta_{p\pi}^2 < 0.55 (\text{GeV}/c)^2$  (Fig. 13e) shows the entire  $A_1$  but almost none of the  $A_2$ , while the same plot for  $\Delta_{p\pi}^2 > 0.55 (\text{GeV}/c)^2$  (Fig. 13f) shows very little evidence for the  $A_1$ . These figures clearly demonstrate that the  $A_1$  enhancement is primarily associated with the channel  $N^{*0}\rho^0$ , which is produced through a peripheral process (presumably an OPE process). For completeness, we show distributions of  $\Delta_p^2$  and  $\Delta_{p\pi}^2$  for the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  regions separately at two different beam momenta (Figs. 14 and 15).

If the  $A_1$  enhancement is produced in association with the channel  $N^{*0}\rho^0$  through an OPE process (see Fig. 12b), the decay angular distribution of  $\rho^0$  with respect to the incident beam direction,  $\cos\theta(\pi^+\pi^-)$ , should show the characteristic  $\cos^2\theta$  distribution, while for the  $A_2$ , this would not necessarily be true.<sup>42</sup> Distributions in  $\cos\theta(\pi^+\pi^-)$  for four different regions of  $M_{\pi\rho^0}$  (below  $A_1$ ,  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ , above  $A_2$  regions) are shown in Fig. 16. We see a strong  $\cos^2\theta$  distribution for the  $A_1$  region but not for the  $A_2$  region. We note that about 50% of events in the  $A_2$  region are estimated to be the background events. If these background

events are subtracted out, we may have a drastically different distribution for the  $A_2$ . The corresponding Treiman-Yang angle for the  $A_1$  region is relatively isotropic, which is consistent with an OPE process. The same distribution for the  $A_2$  shows a significantly anisotropic distribution.

## 2. Interpretation of the $A_1$ as Kinematic Enhancement

Since the  $A_1$  is predominantly associated with the final state  $N^{*0}\rho^0$ , is the  $A_1$  merely a kinematic reflection of this final state and not a resonant state at all? Shen et al.<sup>39</sup> showed that this interpretation was indeed consistent with their  $\pi^\pm p$  data at 3.7 GeV/c; a strong diffractive process at the  $\pi^\pm p$  vertex caused an enhancement near the  $A_1$  mass in the  $M_{\pi^\pm\rho^0}$  distribution, in conformity with a theoretical model proposed by R. Deck<sup>43</sup> and developed further by Maor and O'Halloran.<sup>44</sup> We find that the  $A_1$  in our data can be explained in substantially the same way, although we cannot rule out the possibility that the  $A_1$  resonance is produced on top of the strong background due to the Deck mechanism.

In order to study the angular distributions for the  $N^{*0}\rho^0$  channel, we first make a cut on  $\Delta_{p\pi}^2$  at  $0.55 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$ . This cut has been chosen to reduce the background in the  $N^{*0}\rho^0$  final state and at the same time to hold the  $A_2$  contamination at a minimum. The histogram of  $M_{\pi^-\rho^0}$  for  $\Delta_{p\pi}^2 < 0.55 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$  together with that of  $M_{p\pi^-}$  is shown in Fig. 17; the  $A_2$  peak is seen to be drastically reduced, as was pointed out in Sec. IV.C. 1.

We present in Fig. 18 decay angular correlations at  $\rho^0$  and  $N^{*0}$  vertices for two different beam momenta. Relevant angles are defined

as follows:  $\theta(\pi^+\pi^-)$  and  $\phi(\pi^+\pi^-)$  are polar and azimuthal angles of  $\pi^-$  in a coordinate system defined in the  $\pi^+\pi^-$  rest frame with the  $z$  axis along the incident beam momentum and the  $y$  axis along the normal to the production plane. Similarly,  $\theta(p\pi^-)$  and  $\phi(p\pi^-)$  are polar and azimuthal angles of the outgoing proton in the  $p\pi^-$  rest frame, with the  $z$  axis along the incoming proton direction and the  $y$  axis along the production normal.

Again, the  $\cos^2\theta$  distributions in  $\cos\theta(\pi^+\pi^-)$  are consistent with an OPE process. However, the forward-backward asymmetry seen in the data of Shen et al.<sup>39</sup> does not show up in our data. This is to a large extent caused by the  $N^{*++}$  cutoff (see Fig. 18i); decay angular correlations and reaction kinematics are such that the region near  $\cos\theta(\pi^+\pi^-) \approx +1$  tends to be depleted by the  $N^{*++}$  cut. The distributions in  $\phi(\pi^+\pi^-)$  are consistent with isotropy, if we take into account the effect of the  $N^{*++}$  cut (see Fig. 18j).

For completeness, we have fitted the  $\cos\theta(\pi^+\pi^-)$  distributions (see Figs. 18a and 18e) to the Legendre polynomial series (Eq. 2) by the least-squares method:

Momentum (GeV/c)	Coefficient		
	$a_0$	$a_1$	$a_2$
3.2	$94.0 \pm 3.1$	$-1.50 \pm 5.98$	$85.5 \pm 7.4$
4.2	$46.7 \pm 2.2$	$-0.57 \pm 4.17$	$41.7 \pm 5.4$

The coefficients given above are normalized to the total number of events at each momentum.

As for the angular correlations at the  $p\pi^-$  vertex, the most prominent feature is the strong diffraction peak in the  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-)$  distribution. The corresponding Treiman-Yang angle  $\phi(p\pi^-)$  is uniformly distributed, again consistent with the OPE process. Note that the angular distributions at the  $p\pi^-$  vertex are not affected by the  $N^{*++}$  cutoff (see Figs. 18k and 18l).

In order to demonstrate the relationship between the diffraction region [ $\cos \theta(p\pi^-) \approx +1$ ] in the  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-)$  distribution and the  $A_1$  enhancement, we show in Fig. 19a the  $M_{\pi^- \rho^0}$  plot for only those events with  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-) > 0.8$ ; here the events are confined entirely to the  $A_1$  region with a prominent peak near the  $A_1$  mass. This demonstrates clearly that the events in the diffraction region and those in the  $A_1$  peak come from the same events. Figure 19b shows that if this diffraction region is cutoff, there is no evidence for the  $A_1$  enhancement at all in the resulting  $M_{\pi^- \rho^0}$  distribution.

If we can now show that the diffraction peak we observe in the  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-)$  distribution is inherent in the virtual process  $\pi^- p \rightarrow \pi^- p$  (at the  $p\pi^-$  vertex) and not a reflection of a genuine resonant state  $A_1$ , we will have established that the  $A_1$  is a kinematic enhancement in our data.

For this purpose, we first show how the distributions in  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-)$  and  $\phi(p\pi^-)$  vary as a function of  $M_{p\pi^-}$  (see Fig. 20). We see that most of the diffraction effect comes from high-mass isobar regions. The distribution in  $\phi(p\pi^-)$  is essentially isotropic throughout the entire region of  $M_{p\pi^-}$ .

Figure 21 gives the  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-)$  distributions for five different  $M_{p\pi^-}$  intervals. With increasing  $M_{p\pi^-}$ , the peak at  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-) \approx +1$

becomes more prominent and the slope is approximately exponential, which is characteristic of a diffraction scattering.

We now compare these distributions with the experimentally measured differential cross sections for the  $\pi^-p$  elastic scattering.<sup>45, 46</sup> This comparison is meaningful if we assume that the exchanged pion is sufficiently close to the physical region and that it behaves like a physical pion. With this assumption, the differential cross sections are averaged over each  $M_{p\pi^-}$  interval and the resulting curves are compared with the  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-)$  distributions<sup>47</sup> (see Fig. 21). For Figs. 21a and 21b, the curves are normalized to the total number of events in each figure; for the rest of the figures, the curves are normalized to the number of events in the  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-)$  interval from 0.8 to 1.0.

We see that our experimental distributions are in fair agreement with the curves. Thus it seems plausible to conclude that the peak near  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-) \approx +1$  results from the diffractive scattering at the  $p\pi^-$  vertex and is not a reflection of a resonant state.

Although our data appear to be consistent with the hypothesis that the  $A_1$  is a kinematic enhancement of the type proposed by Deck, this is by no means a conclusive proof. In fact, it is quite possible that a genuine resonant state is present superimposed on a background enhanced by the mechanism of the type described here.

Finally, we comment on other theoretical models proposed for the  $A_1$ . Month has shown that a triangle singularity can yield a three-pion peak at the  $A_1$  mass.<sup>48</sup> According to this model, we expect to see a cluster of events at the low  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$  region in the  $A_1$  Dalitz plot. However, it does not appear that this condition is met for our  $A_1$  events.

The region of low  $M_{\pi^+\pi_1^-}$  would correspond to the region  $\cos\beta \approx +1$  where  $\beta$  is the angle between the  $\pi^+$  and  $\pi_1^-$  in the  $\rho^0(\pi^+\pi_2^-)$  rest frame (see Fig. 27b); we see very little evidence for an enhancement in this region. Another kinematic origin for the  $A_1$  enhancement has been proposed by Chang,<sup>49</sup> who has shown that the effect of Bose symmetrization can lead to the enhancement. However, the test he proposed cannot be applied in our data due to the ill-defined  $A_1$  peak.

### 3. Spin and Parity of the $A_1$ and $A_2$ Enhancements

Before we present the results of our spin-parity analysis, we first comment on other quantum numbers for the  $A_2$ . Many investigators<sup>50</sup> have shown that the isotopic spin for the  $A_2$  is not consistent with  $I = 2$ . Furthermore, the decay modes  $\pi\eta$  or  $K\bar{K}$  for the  $A_2$  would not be consistent with  $I = 2$ . Since the  $\pi\rho$  decay mode implies  $G = -1$ , we conclude that the  $A_2$  meson has the quantum numbers  $I^G = 1^-$ .

We shall apply the spin-parity analysis to the  $A_2$  meson, as well as the  $A_1$  enhancement, assuming the latter is a genuine resonant state. In addition, we shall investigate the production angular correlations for the  $A_1$  and the  $A_2$  in order to infer the possible quantum numbers as well as the production mechanisms.

Previous spin-parity analyses<sup>51</sup> indicate that the likely  $J^P$  assignments for the  $A_2$  are  $1^+$ ,  $2^-$ , or  $2^+$ . The  $K\bar{K}$  decay mode of the  $A_2$ , however, limits the  $J^P$  assignment to  $2^+$ .<sup>52</sup> Previous analyses did not take into account the large background associated with the  $A_2$  peak (see, however, Ref. 34); assuming that the background does not interfere with the  $A_2$ , we have subtracted the background effect by examining the control region.



Our basic approach to  $J^P$  analysis of the  $A_2$  is to compare the distribution in  $\cos \beta$  with that obtained by the theoretical calculation<sup>53</sup> for a given  $J^P$ , where  $\beta$  is the angle between  $\pi^+$  and the "bachelor"  $\pi^-$  (not in  $\rho^0$ ) evaluated in the  $\rho^0$  rest frame. The matrix element assumed for each spin and parity is given in Appendix A.

In order to suppress the  $A_1$  enhancement (and also the channel  $N^{*0}\rho^0$ ), we have eliminated the diffraction region (see Fig. 19a), i. e., those events with  $\Delta_{p\pi}^2 < 0.55 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$  and  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-) > 0.8$ . Furthermore, since the  $A_2$  is produced at low  $\Delta_p^2$ , we limit our analysis to events with  $\Delta_p^2 < 0.65 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$  (see Fig. 23a). We first show what the effect of  $N^{*0}$ 's are in this subsample (Fig. 22). Here  $N^{*0}(1238)$  is strong, with some evidence for  $N^{*0}(1518)$  and  $N^*(1688)$ . In the  $A_2$  region itself, however, these isobars appear to be not so important (the shaded area in Fig. 22).

The distributions in  $\cos \beta$  for the  $A_2$  region as well as for control regions are shown in Figs. 23b through 23d. Note that the distribution in the  $A_2$  region is quite different from those of control regions.

In order to understand the background effect, we use the following method.<sup>54</sup> For a given amount of background, which is assumed to vary from 0 to 100%, we compare the theoretical distribution of a given  $J^P$  with the distribution composed of  $\{n_i'\}$  ( $i = 1, 20$ ), where  $n_i'$  is obtained by

$$n_i' = n_i - \frac{\epsilon N}{N^{(1)} + \alpha N^{(2)}} [n_i^{(1)} + \alpha n_i^{(2)}]. \quad (3)$$

Here  $n_i$  is the number of events in the  $i$ th bin of the  $\cos \beta$  distribution in the  $A_2$  region (Fig. 23c),  $n_i^{(1)}$  is the number of events in the  $i$ th bin for the region below the  $A_2$  and  $n_i^{(2)}$  above it (Figs. 23b and d), and

$N$ ,  $N^{(1)}$ , and  $N^{(2)}$  are total numbers of events in each category. The parameter  $\epsilon$  varies from 0 to 1, corresponding to the amount of background level from 0 to 100%. The parameter  $\alpha$  has been used to vary the relative amount of control regions. We have taken  $\alpha = 1$  for the spin-parity analysis on the  $A_2$ . However, we have also tried other values of  $\alpha$  (see below).

The resulting  $\chi^2$  (19 degrees of freedom) for each  $J^P$  assignment for the  $A_2$  as a function of the amount of background is shown in Fig. 24. We observe that if the background is assumed to be zero, we obtain  $J^P$  assignments of either  $1^+$  ( $l = 0$ ) or  $2^-$  ( $l = 1$ ) for the  $A_2$ . We believe, however, that the amount of background is certainly not less than 40% and probably not more than 70% (see Fig. 23a). Within this region (shown by dashed lines in Fig. 24), we find that there is only one unique  $J^P$  assignment consistent with the data--it is  $2^+$ ! Assuming 50% background, we give in Fig. 25 the  $\cos \beta$  distribution along with theoretical curves for a few  $J^P$  assignments. In Table IV, we list the value of  $\chi^2$  for each  $J^P$  assignment, along with the corresponding confidence level at 50% background.

We have also weighted  $N^{(1)}$  and  $N^{(2)}$  by different amounts ( $\alpha = N^{(1)}/N^{(2)}$ ) so that equal numbers of events contribute to the background; the general structure of  $\chi^2$  did not change appreciably throughout the entire range of background level.

Therefore, with the assumption that the background does not interfere with the  $A_2$  meson, we conclude that its spin and parity are uniquely  $2^+$ , which is consistent with the observation of the  $K\bar{K}$  decay mode.

We apply the same technique to the  $A_1$  enhancement, assuming that it is a genuine resonant state. Again, we take only those events with  $\Delta_p^2 < 0.65 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$  (Fig. 26). We select four regions of  $M_{\pi-\rho^0}$  -- namely, below the  $A_1$ , in the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  regions, and above the  $A_2$  region; the distribution in  $\cos \beta$  is given for each of these regions in Figs. 27(a) through (d).

Table IV. Fits to various  $J^P$  hypotheses for the  $A_2$ .<sup>a</sup>

$J^P$	$\chi^2$ <sup>b</sup>	Confidence level (%)
$\pi\rho$ phase space	44.89	$\approx 0.07$
$1^-$	46.25	$\approx 0.04$
$2^+$	21.56	30.7
$0^-$	316.08	0.0
$1^+$ ( $\ell=0$ )	56.22	0.0
$1^+$ ( $\ell=2$ )	135.04	0.0
$2^-$ ( $\ell=0$ )	56.20	0.0
$2^-$ ( $\ell=3$ )	145.19	0.0

<sup>a</sup>50% background level assumed.

<sup>b</sup>19 degrees of freedom

Background has been taken into account as follows: Events in Figs. 27(a) and (c) are weighted differently so that equal numbers of events contribute to the background [ $\alpha = N^{(1)}/N^{(2)}$ ]; this particular choice of weight is somewhat arbitrary. However, the results are rather insensitive to any particular choice of weight. For instance, we

could have taken events in the control regions with the same weight ( $\alpha = 1$ ); the results do not change drastically.

Figure 27(e) shows the behavior of  $\chi^2$  for each  $J^P$  as a function of the background level. In the interval between 30 and 60% background,  $J^P$  assignments  $1^+$  ( $\ell=0$ ) or  $2^-$  ( $\ell=1$ ) seem quite consistent with the data. Figure 27(f) shows how the theoretical curve for  $J^P = 1^+$  ( $\ell=0$ ) compares with the experimental distribution at 50% background level. The values of  $\chi^2$  for each  $J^P$  assignment at 50% background level are given in Table V.

Table V. Fits to various  $J^P$  hypotheses for the  $A_1$ .<sup>a</sup>

$J^P$	$\chi^2$ <sup>b</sup>	Confidence level (%)
$\pi\rho$ phase space	29.15	6.3
$1^-$	126.87	0.0
$2^+$	136.85	0.0
$0^-$	62.75	0.0
$1^+$ ( $\ell=0$ )	16.70	61.0
$1^+$ ( $\ell=2$ )	46.76	~ 0.04
$2^-$ ( $\ell=1$ )	15.89	66.4
$2^-$ ( $\ell=3$ )	25.20	15.4

<sup>a</sup>50% background level assumed.

<sup>b</sup>19 degrees of freedom.

We have also examined the production angular correlations for the  $A_1$  and the  $A_2$ . For this purpose, we chose to examine the distribution in  $\cos z$ , where  $z$  is the angle between the normal to the decay plane of  $A$  and the incident  $\pi^-$  momentum evaluated in the  $A$  rest frame.

We present in Appendix A the theoretical distributions in  $\cos z$  for various spin-parity assignments. We observe that for  $J^P = 0^-, 1^-, 2^+$ , and  $1^+$ , the angular distributions are independent of the detailed internal structure of the three-pion system, whereas for  $2^-$ , this is generally not the case.

Figure 28 shows the distributions in  $\cos z$  for the four different regions of  $M_{\pi-\rho^0}$  mentioned earlier. The solid histograms were obtained by taking two points for double- $\rho^0$  events to take into account the interference effect,<sup>55</sup> and the shaded areas were obtained in the same way with events at 4.2 GeV/c alone. To take advantage of the fact that for some values of  $J^P$ , the distribution should be independent of the interference effect, we have taken two points for each event; the resulting histograms are shown as dotted lines in Fig. 28. Note that this particular method makes the resulting histograms symmetric with respect to  $\cos z = 0$ .

In Figure 28 there is an enhancement of events at the region  $\cos z \approx 0$  for all four  $M_{\pi-\rho^0}$  regions. Taking the distributions at face value, we observe that the distribution in the  $A_1$  region is consistent with a  $\sin^2 z$  distribution. If  $J^P$  for the  $A_1$  is assumed to be  $1^+$  and if it is produced via  $\rho^0$ -exchange process, we may infer that  $\rho_{11} \lesssim 0$ , where  $\rho_{mm}$  is the density matrix for the  $A_1$  (see Appendix A).

If the  $A_2$  is produced via the  $\rho^0$ -exchange process and absorptive effects are negligible, the angular distribution is predicted to be (see Eq. A-6, Appendix A)

$$I(z) \approx 1 - 3 \cos^2 z + 4 \cos^4 z, \quad (4)$$

which is peaked in the region  $\cos z \approx \pm 1$ . If the background in the  $A_2$

region is taken into account, our experimental distributions are consistent with (4). However, due to the possible absorptive effects<sup>56</sup> and the background contamination, it is difficult to make strong statements concerning the distribution on  $\cos z$ .

Finally, we observe that the dotted and solid histograms are consistent with each other within statistics. It is amusing to note that if the two histograms were significantly different for the  $A_1$  region, we would have been able to distinguish between the two  $J^P$  assignments  $1^+$  and  $2^-$ . As pointed out earlier, this is because for  $J^P = 2^-$ , the angular distribution depends in general on the interference of double- $\rho^0$  events, whereas it is completely independent of the interference for  $J^P = 1^+$ .

## V. $p\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-\pi^-$ FINAL STATE

### A. Effective-Mass Distributions

We present in Figs. 29 through 32 all the effective-mass plots for 3.2- and 4.2-GeV/c data separately. Again the 3.2-GeV/c data are for both the normal and selected samples. The effective-mass plots for the selected sample alone showed little difference from those of the normal sample. The curves drawn in each of these plots are simple phase-space curves.

The outstanding feature in this final state ( $p\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-\pi^-$ ) is the production of  $\omega$  and  $\eta$  mesons (see Figs. 30a and 32a). Also, there is evidence for  $N^{*++}$  (1238) production. For the production cross section for these resonances at 3.2 GeV/c, we have again used the normal sample alone; the cross sections are determined to be  $230 \pm 30$ ,  $31 \pm 9$ , and  $320 \pm 80$   $\mu\text{b}$  for  $\omega$ ,  $\eta$ , and  $N^{*++}$  productions, respectively.<sup>57</sup> At 4.2 GeV/c, the respective cross sections are  $185 \pm 25$ ,  $21 \pm 7$ , and  $335 \pm 65$   $\mu\text{b}$ .<sup>57</sup>

We show in Fig. 33 the effective-mass distributions for quasi-three-body final states when  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0}$  is limited to the  $\omega$  region (0.76 to 0.80 GeV) or the  $\eta$  region (0.53 to 0.57 GeV). The phase-space curves are those of three-body final states normalized to the total number of combinations in each histogram.

In the  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  plots, we observe the B enhancement near 1220 MeV. Based on the combined data, we have obtained  $1220 \pm 20$  MeV for the mass and  $150 \pm 20$  MeV for the width. Rough estimates for its production cross sections are  $108 \pm 30$   $\mu\text{b}$  at 3.2 GeV/c and  $67 \pm 20$   $\mu\text{b}$  at 4.2 GeV/c. In the  $M_{\pi^-\eta}$  plot at 3.2 GeV/c (Fig. 33c), we observe an enhancement near the  $A_2$  mass, the  $\pi\eta$  decay mode of the  $A_2$  has also been observed in other

experiments.<sup>27,30</sup> However, the width appears to be too broad for the  $A_2$  when compared with that of the  $\pi^- \rho^0$  decay mode. In addition, there is little evidence for the  $A_2$  decay at 4.2 GeV/c (see Fig. 33g), although our statistics are limited at this energy (66 events). We find that its production cross sections are roughly  $12 \pm 7 \mu\text{b}$  at 3.2 GeV/c and  $5 \pm 5 \mu\text{b}$  at 4.2 GeV/c.

Schumann<sup>58</sup> reported an enhancement (mass  $\approx 1.71$  GeV and width  $< 50$  MeV) in the  $M_{p\pi^+\pi^0}$  distribution for  $\pi^- p$  data at 3.9 GeV/c. Our data, however, do not show any evidence for the enhancement (see Figs. 30b and 32b). We note that our sample is 6 times as large as that of Schumann at 3.2 GeV/c, 3 times at 4.2 GeV/c.

In the  $M_{p\pi^-}$  (Figs. 33b, f) there is evidence for the decay of  $N^{*0}$  (1238),  $N^{*0}$  (1518), and  $N^{*0}$  (1688). The situation here appears to be analogous to that of the  $p\pi^- \rho^0$  final state discussed earlier.

We discuss in detail the final states  $p\pi^- \omega$  and  $p\pi^- \eta$  in the following two sections.

#### B. Reaction $\pi^- p \rightarrow p\pi^- \omega$

In this section, we discuss in detail how the peak at 1220 MeV in  $M_{\pi^- \omega}$ , known as the B meson,<sup>59</sup> can be shown to be consistent with the hypothesis of kinematic enhancement. The treatment here is similar to that of our earlier work.<sup>60</sup> This work is based on a larger sample at 3.2 GeV/c, and the total sample is somewhat more refined than the sample on which our earlier work is based.

Throughout this section, we chose the  $\omega$  region to be in the interval 0.76 to 0.80 GeV. Most of our analysis was done on single- $\omega$  events (either neutral pion triplet lies in the  $\omega$  region--but not both). There



are 94 double- $\omega$  events (both neutral pion triplets lie in the  $\omega$  region) in our sample, compared with 1867 single- $\omega$  events. For most of our purposes, the interference effect arising from double- $\omega$  events is considered to be negligible.

Unlike the  $p3\pi$  final state, the  $N^{*++}$  (1238) production is weak in the  $p4\pi$  final states. In particular, its interference with the  $p\pi^-\omega$  final state (and especially the B meson) is negligible for our purposes. To demonstrate this, we show for single- $\omega$  events a scatter plot of  $M_{p\pi^+}$  against  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  with  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup> (Fig. 34a); there is little enhancement in the  $N^{*++}$  region. This is further illustrated in Fig. 34b, a projection onto the  $M_{p\pi^+}$  axis in the B region (1.12 to 1.30 GeV). For completeness, we also show in Fig. 34c the distribution of  $M_{p\pi^0}$  with similar selections. Again, little evidence is seen for the  $N^{*+}$  interference.

Therefore, we do not make any cutoffs to suppress  $N^{*++}$  (1238) (nor  $N^{*+}$ ), as we did for the  $p3\pi$  final state. In what follows, we demand merely that the  $M_{\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-}$  for an event be in the  $\omega$  region.

#### 1. B Enhancement and $N^{*0}$ $\omega$ Final States

The Chew-Low plot of  $\Delta_p^2$  against  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  for single- $\omega$  events shows a cluster of events near the B mass (Fig. 35a). The projected histogram onto the  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  axis (Fig. 35b) further illustrates the presence of the B enhancement.

We note that the B enhancement occurs mainly in the region of the low  $\Delta_p^2$ , which suggests a peripheral mechanism for its production. The exchanged particle could either be  $\pi^0$  or  $\omega$  (see Fig. 37a). The distributions of  $\Delta_p^2$  for all single- $\omega$  events and for events in the B region are shown in Fig. 36. The distributions in the B region show sharp peaks

near  $\Delta_p^2 \approx 0$ --a characteristic of  $\pi$ -exchange processes.<sup>61</sup> This would mean that possible spin-parity assignments for the B are  $J^P = 1^-, 3^-$ , etc.<sup>62</sup> However, the possibility of  $\omega$  exchange cannot be ruled out, in which case there would be no restriction on the  $J^P$  (except  $0^+$ ).

Figure 35c is a Dalitz plot of  $M_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{\pi^-\omega}^2$  for single- $\omega$  events with  $\Delta_p^2 < 0.35$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>.<sup>63</sup> We see that the B enhancement tends to occur in association with nucleon isobars (see also Fig. 40b). In order to further investigate the interference of isobars and the B enhancement, we show in Fig. 38a the Chew-Low plot of  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{p\pi^-}$  for single- $\omega$  events and the projected histogram in Fig. 38b. It is evident that the isobars are produced in this final state with low  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$ , which suggests a peripheral process (see Fig. 37b).

On the other hand, Fig. 38c shows that the B enhancement is produced mainly with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>, which is also the region where most of the isobar events are concentrated, as is clear from Fig. 38a (see also Fig. 40). The extent to which isobars and the B enhancement interfere is further illustrated in Fig. 38d, the Dalitz plot of the  $p\pi^-\omega$  final state with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>. For completeness, we present in Fig. 39 the distributions in  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  for all single- $\omega$  events and also for events with  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  in the B region.

Consequently, if the B enhancement is a genuine resonant state,  $\pi^-p$  interactions at 3 to 4 GeV/c do not provide a suitable final state in which to determine its quantum numbers. Nevertheless, a simple study of the internal correlations for the B decay is given in Sec. V. B.4.

## 2. Interpretation of the B as a Kinematic Enhancement

Since final states  $pB^-$  and  $N^{*0}\omega$  seem to be so closely associated with each other, one is naturally led to ask: Is it possible to interpret the B enhancement as a kinematic consequence of the final state  $N^{*0}\omega$  rather than a resonant state? We shall show in this section that this is indeed the case in our data. However, this kinematic interpretation is meaningful only if the observation of the B is limited to  $\pi^\pm p$  interactions. Recently Baltay et al.<sup>64</sup> reported an enhancement at the B mass in the  $\pi\omega$  system from  $p\bar{p}$  annihilations. It would appear that the B as is observed in our data is perhaps a superposition of a genuine resonant state and a kinematic enhancement.

In extending a suggestion made by Deck,<sup>43</sup> Maor and O'Halloran<sup>44</sup> pointed out that virtual dissociation of the incident pion,  $\pi^\pm \rightarrow \omega + \rho^\pm$ , followed by the strongly asymmetric inelastic process,  $\rho^\pm + p \rightarrow \pi^\pm + p$ , should result in a broad enhancement in the region  $M_{\pi^\pm\omega} \approx 1200$  MeV. In this section, we show that such a model accounts naturally for the essential features of the B enhancement as observed in our data.

To this end, we study in detail the decay correlations of the process  $\pi^- p \rightarrow N^{*0}\omega$ , limiting ourselves to single- $\omega$  events with  $\Delta_{p\pi}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>. We emphasize that this is the region where we observe both the B enhancement and the isobars (see Fig. 40).

Figure 41 shows the angular distributions for the upper and lower vertex of the exchange process (see Fig. 37b). The angles corresponding to this diagram are defined as follows: In the  $\omega$  rest frame,  $\theta(\omega)$  and  $\phi(\omega)$  are, respectively, the polar and azimuthal angles of the normal to the  $\omega$ -decay plane with the z axis along the incident beam and the y axis along

the production normal.<sup>65</sup> In the  $p\pi^-$  rest frame,  $\theta(p\pi^-)$  and  $\phi(p\pi^-)$  are, respectively, the polar and azimuthal angles of the outgoing proton, in a coordinate system with the z axis along the incident proton and the y axis along the production normal.

If the exchanged particle is the  $\rho$ , the Treiman-Yang angles  $\phi(\omega)$  and  $\phi(p\pi^-)$  need not be isotropically distributed; Figures 41b and 41d show that the distributions are indeed not isotropic. The hypothesis of the  $\rho$ -exchange process can be tested for the process  $\pi^- p \rightarrow N^{*0}(1238)\omega$ . Figure 42 shows the same angular distributions for the  $N^{*0}(1238)$  region. The solid curves which provide a reasonable fit to our data are those obtained by Aderholz et al.<sup>66</sup> in their analysis of the reaction  $\pi^+ p \rightarrow N^{*++}(1238)\omega$  at 4.0 BeV/c; the curves are also in good agreement with Svensson's calculations<sup>67</sup> based on the  $\rho$ -exchange model with absorptive corrections. Theoretical calculations are not available for higher-mass isobar regions; however, it seems reasonable that the  $\rho$ -exchange process leading to  $N^{*0}(1238)$  will also produce  $N^{*0}(1518)$  and  $N^{*0}(1688)$ .

The distribution in  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-)$  (Fig. 41c) shows a strong peaking near  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-) \approx +1$ . In order to investigate this peak, we show a scatter plot of  $M_{p\pi^-}$  vs  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-)$  in Fig. 43a. We see that most of the peaking near  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-) \approx +1$  comes from the  $M_{p\pi^-}$  region above  $N^{*0}(1238)$ . The same scatter plot for events in the B region (Fig. 43b) shows that most of the B enhancement is associated with the peak at  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-) \approx +1$ . Conversely, the distribution in  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  shows a striking enhancement at the B mass, when only those events with  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-) > 0.6$  are plotted (the shaded area in Fig. 40a).

For a more detailed analysis, we divide the  $M_{p\pi^-}$  spectrum into five intervals; for each of these intervals, the distribution in  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-)$  is shown in Fig. 44. The shaded regions in this figure were obtained in the following manner: The  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  distributions for events in each  $M_{p\pi^-}$  mass interval were plotted separately for  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-) = 0.6$  to  $0.8$  and  $0.8$  to  $1.0$  (not shown), and the number of B events was estimated; these events are shown as shaded areas in Fig. 44. It is apparent that the B enhancement and the bulk of the asymmetry in  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-)$  result from the same events. Consequently, the nearly flat distribution in  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-)$  in the  $N^{*0}$  (1238) region (Fig. 44a) should not give rise to a strong B enhancement. This is borne out in the  $M_{p\pi^-}$  distribution for events in the B region, which shows a relatively reduced  $N^{*0}$  (1238) peak (see shaded area in Fig. 40b).

It is instructive at this point to compare the  $A_1$  and B enhancements. We have shown that both of them are associated with the peak at  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-) \approx +1$ . For the  $A_1$ , we have compared the  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-)$  distribution with the differential cross section for the elastic  $\pi^-p$  scattering and thus inferred that the  $A_1$  is a consequence of the diffractive  $\pi^-p$  scattering. Unfortunately, the same cannot be done for the B enhancement. The virtual process  $\rho^-p \rightarrow \pi^-p$  in the isobar regions is below the threshold for  $\rho$  production.<sup>68</sup> We have instead taken the following two approaches.

As a first method, we have fitted the  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-)$  distribution in each isobar region with the Legendre polynomial series (Eq. 2) by the least-squares method. The result is shown as solid curves in Figs. 44a, c, and d, and the fitted coefficients  $a_1$  are shown in Table VI. Our data require up to the second-order polynomial for  $N^{*0}$  (1238) region, third

order for  $N^{*0}$  (1518), and fourth order for  $N^{*0}$  (1688); these results are consistent with the spin-parity states known to exist in these regions.<sup>69</sup> In general, one would not expect to get these results if the asymmetry in  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-)$  were entirely the reflection of a genuine resonant state.

Our second method is to compare our data with the virtual process  $\rho N \rightarrow \pi p$  that might occur in a different final state. For this purpose, we investigate the reaction  $\pi^- n \rightarrow p\pi^-\pi^-$  from our deuterium data at 3.2 GeV/c.<sup>70</sup> The  $\Delta_p^2$  and  $M_{p\pi^-}$  distributions in Figs. 45a and 45b show evidence of isobar productions through a peripheral mechanism, which is presumably a  $\rho^0$ -exchange process (see insert in Fig. 45a). The  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-)$  distributions for this reaction are shown in Figs. 45c through g. We see that these distributions are rather similar to those in Fig. 44. Especially, the peak at  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-) \approx +1$  is seen in both reactions, although we do not in general expect identical angular distributions for the two reactions.<sup>71</sup>

Judging from the evidence we have presented, it appears likely that the strongly peaked  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-)$  distribution is intrinsic to the process  $\rho^- p \rightarrow \pi^- p$  and is not a reflection of a resonance in the  $M_{\pi^- \omega}$  spectrum. We therefore conclude that the observed correlations are consistent with the model for the B enhancement, as suggested by Maor and O'Halloran.<sup>44</sup> The low  $\Delta_p^2$  distribution in the B region (noted in the previous section) is accounted for by the strongly peaked  $\cos\theta(p\pi^-)$  distribution resulting from the process  $\rho^- p \rightarrow \pi^- p$ . In particular, the model provides a natural explanation for the strong tendency of the B enhancement in our data to be associated with the isobar production. However, as was the case in the  $A_1$  enhancement, the possibility of a genuine resonant state superimposed on a background due to the  $N^{*0} \omega$  process cannot be ruled out.

Table VI. Least-squares fits to the  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-)$  distribution.<sup>a</sup>

$M_{p\pi^-}$ (GeV)	$a_0$	$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_3$	$a_4$	$n^b$	$\chi^2$	Confidence level (%)
1.12 - 1.32	28.74 ± 1.69	7.17 ± 3.06	6.49 ± 3.94			7	8.61	28.2
1.42 - 1.60	24.23 ± 1.56	25.86 ± 3.18	23.37 ± 3.87	9.70 ± 4.29		6	4.67	58.7
1.60 - 1.80	22.85 ± 1.51	25.10 ± 3.22	30.59 ± 4.26	6.33 ± 4.49	12.01 ± 5.10	5	7.52	18.5

<sup>a</sup>Fitted to the Legendre polynomial series. See Eq. (2). (Coefficients are normalized to the total number of events.)

<sup>b</sup> $n$  is number of degrees of freedom.

### 3. Possible Anomaly of the $\omega$ 's Associated with the B

Since the  $J^P$  of  $\omega$  is  $1^-$ , the decay distribution in the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot should be peaked in the center and vanish on the periphery.<sup>72</sup>

Therefore, by selecting events in the central part of the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot, we should be able to reduce the relative amount of background associated with the  $\omega$  peak. For this purpose, we first define a quantity  $r$  by

$$r = |M|^2 / |M|_{\max}^2, \quad (5)$$

where  $M$  is the matrix element for the  $\omega$  decay. The central region is then defined by the condition  $r > 0.7$ , and the peripheral region by  $r < 0.7$ . The value of  $r$  was chosen so that in the absence of background, equal numbers of  $\omega$  should be contained in the two regions. In Appendix B we give the analytic expression of the contour on the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot for a given value of  $r$ , as well as a brief description of the Dalitz plot.

Recently, Goldhaber et al.<sup>73</sup> reported possible anomalous behavior of  $\omega$  mesons associated with the B enhancement. They observed a clear B enhancement for events in the peripheral region of the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot; within statistics, no enhancement was apparent for the central region. In addition, the Dalitz plot density for  $\omega$ 's associated with the B enhancement differed significantly from theoretical prediction for a meson with  $J^P = 1^-$ .

In order to investigate the possible anomaly of  $\omega$  in our data, we first show in Figs. 46a and b the  $M_{\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-}$  distributions for  $r > 0.7$ , and  $r < 0.7$ ,



respectively. As is expected, we observe a markedly reduced background in the  $\omega$  region for  $r > 0.7$  in Fig. 46a. The number of  $\omega$  events above background in Figs. 46a and b is consistent with each other within statistics, as is expected.

In Figs. 47a and b we give the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot for single- $\omega$  events and for double- $\omega$  events. The peaking in the center of the Dalitz plot is apparent for single- $\omega$  events, but not for double- $\omega$  events. This is because double- $\omega$  events are constrained to lie within the lower left part of the Dalitz plot (see Fig. 47b). For this reason, in what follows we treat single- and double- $\omega$  events separately.

The radial density distributions are given in Figs. 47c and d for single- $\omega$  events inside and outside the B region. The background has been estimated from the  $M_{\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-}$  spectrum plotted separately for each interval of  $r$ . Agreement with the theoretical curve is good in both cases (the confidence levels inside and outside the B regions are 74% and 37%, respectively).

The  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  distribution for single- $\omega$  events for the central ( $r > 0.7$ ) and peripheral ( $r < 0.7$ ) regions of the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot are shown in Figs. 48a and b. Within statistics, the number of B events above background for the central region ( $92 \pm 21$ ) is consistent with the number in the peripheral region ( $83 \pm 22$ ). The  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  distributions for double- $\omega$  events are shown as shaded areas in Fig. 48. Although these distributions are peaked

somewhat below the B peak, it is clear that the inclusion of these double- $\omega$  events tends to favor the peripheral region.<sup>74</sup>

Therefore, we conclude that the  $\omega$  events observed in our data are consistent with a meson with  $J^P = 1^-$  for both inside and outside the B region.

#### 4. Spin-Parity Analysis of the B enhancement

In this section, we briefly discuss a simple spin-parity analysis on the B enhancement, assuming that it is a genuine resonance.<sup>75</sup>

For this purpose, we first introduce an angle  $(\pi - \beta)$  which is defined as the angle between the normal to the  $\omega$ -decay plane and the "bachelor"  $\pi^-$  (not in  $\omega$ ) evaluated in the  $\omega$  rest frame. Theoretical distributions in  $\cos \beta$  for various  $J^P$  assignments are given in Appendix C.

In order to increase the signal-to-background ratio for the B, we take single- $\omega$  events with  $\Delta_p^2 < 0.35 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$ . The  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  spectrum for these events, as well as for those events in the central region of the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot, are shown in Fig. 49a. Figures 49b and c give the distributions in  $\cos \beta$  for both inside and outside the B region.

We see that the distribution in the B region shows approximately a  $\sin^2 \beta$  distribution, but the distribution outside the B region is relatively isotropic. The curve in Fig. 49b is that of  $\sin^2 \beta$  normalized to the number of events above a uniform background assumed to be about 46%.

If we took this result at face value, we would conclude that the likely spin-parity series is  $J^P = 1^-, 2^+$ , etc. However, this result cannot be taken seriously, because, as we have shown, the B region is highly contaminated with the channel  $N^{*0}\omega$ . Furthermore, a  $J^P$  assignment of  $1^-$  would mean that the B should decay into  $\pi\pi$  and  $K\bar{K}$ , and these decay modes have not been observed so far.<sup>62</sup>

C. Reaction  $\pi^- p \rightarrow p \pi^- \eta$ 

As noted earlier, there is evidence of  $\eta$  production in our data (Figs. 30a and 32a). In order to study the mechanism for the  $\eta$  production, we give in Fig. 50a the Chew-Low plot of  $\Delta_p^2$  vs  $M_{\pi^- \eta}$ . We see evidence for  $A_2$  production in the region of low  $\Delta_p^2$ , suggesting a peripheral mechanism for its production (see Fig. 51a). On the other hand, the Chew-Low plot of  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{p\pi^-}$  (Fig. 50c) shows evidence for the  $N^{*0}$  (1238) and  $N^{*0}$  (1688) production, again in the region of low  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$ . This evidence would suggest that the isobars are produced through a peripheral mechanism which is presumably an  $A_2$ -exchange process<sup>76</sup> (see Fig. 51b).

The situation here is analogous to the final states  $p\pi^- \rho^0$  and  $p\pi^- \omega$ ; there seem to be two competing channels leading to the final state  $p\pi^- \eta$ . In order to indicate the extent of  $A_2$  and  $N^{*0}$  interference, we show in Figs. 50b and d the Dalitz plot of  $M_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{\pi^- \eta}^2$  for events with  $\Delta_p^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup> and also for events with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>. However, our sample of  $\eta$  events is not large enough for any detailed analysis.

Figure 52a shows the  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  distribution for  $\eta$  events. The peaking at low  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  attests to the peripheral character of the  $\eta$  production. We show in Fig. 52b the  $M_{p\pi^-}$  spectrum for events with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>. Note that the  $N^{*0}$  (1518) production is relatively low. We recall that the production of this isobar is stronger in the final state  $p\pi^- \rho^0$  and  $p\pi^- \omega$ .

Figure 52c gives the  $M_{\pi^- \eta}$  distribution for events with  $\Delta_p^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>. Although  $A_2$  production is evident, there is little evidence for  $A_1$  production. The same distribution for events with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup> is shown in Fig. 52d; evidence for the  $A_2$  is not so strong.

This is, of course, to be expected, as the selection of events with a cut in  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  would enhance the  $N^{*0}\eta$  channel. However, this does demonstrate that the enhancement we observe in the  $A_2$  region is not related to the final state  $N^{*0}\eta$ .

## VI. $n\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$ FINAL STATE

We present in Figs. 53 through 56 all the effective-mass distributions obtainable from this final state. The curves drawn in each histogram are the phase-space curves normalized to the total number of combinations.

From these figures, we find that no resonance is produced strongly in this channel, except for some evidence for  $N^{*-}$  (1238) production in  $M_{n\pi^-}$  and  $\rho^0$  in  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$ . The cross sections for  $N^{*-}$  and  $\rho^0$  are estimated to be 150 and 65  $\mu\text{b}$ , respectively, at 3.2 GeV/c, and 170 and 70  $\mu\text{b}$  at 4.2 GeV/c. Errors in these values are about 30%.

We have also looked for the  $4\pi$  decay mode of  $f^0$  (Ref. 77); no evidence is seen at 3.2 GeV/c, but there may be some evidence of  $f^0$  at 4.2 GeV/c (see Fig. 56h). Rough estimates on its cross sections are  $0 \pm 20$   $\mu\text{b}$  at 3.2 GeV/c, and  $30 \pm 15$   $\mu\text{b}$  at 4.2 GeV/c.

There is no evidence in our data for the  $4\pi$  decay mode of  $\rho^0$  (see Figs. 54h and 56h). We give 2  $\mu\text{b}$  as the upper limit for the cross section of the process  $\pi^-p \rightarrow n\rho^0$  ( $\rho^0 \rightarrow 2\pi^+2\pi^-$ ) at both 3.2 and 4.2 GeV/c. At 3.2 BeV/c, Jacobs<sup>7</sup> finds that the cross section for  $\pi^-p \rightarrow n\rho^0$  ( $\rho^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ ) is  $1.1 \pm 0.1$  mb. Consequently, the branching ratio  $\rho \rightarrow 2\pi^+2\pi^- / \rho \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$  is smaller than  $2 \times 10^{-3}$ .

VII.  $p\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-MM$  FINAL STATE

In this section, we discuss briefly the final state  $p\pi^+\pi^-\pi^- + MM$ , where  $MM$  stands for the mass of unobserved neutral systems (in this case  $MM \geq 2m_{\pi^0}$ ).

This final state of course cannot be fitted; in particular, it cannot be distinguished from the final state  $4\pi MM$ , except by the ionization density for those events with low-momentum protons. For this reason, we have selected for our analysis only those events with  $\Delta_p^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>.

We examined all the effective-mass plots obtainable from charged particles in the final state, but saw little evidence for resonance production. We show in Fig. 57a the distribution in  $MM$ , the effective mass of the missing neutrals. Here we observe evidence for the neutral decay mode of  $\eta$ . A rough estimate of its cross section is  $6 \pm 3$   $\mu\text{b}$  at 3.2 GeV/c and  $26 \pm 10$   $\mu\text{b}$  at 4.2 GeV/c.<sup>78</sup>

The apparent width of  $\eta$  in the  $MM$  spectrum is roughly  $80 \pm 20$  MeV. The large experimental width reflects the poor resolution inherent in this final state; this is not surprising, however, if we recall that the  $p3\pi MM$  final state cannot be fitted. One may compare this value with the typical resolution of about 15 MeV for  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$  in the  $p3\pi$  final state (4C fit) and with the resolution of about 25 MeV for  $M_{\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-}$  (near the mass of  $\omega$ ) in the  $p4\pi$  final state (1C fit).

Recently, Kienzle et al.<sup>79</sup> reported a negatively charged resonance  $X^-(962)$  with a width of about 15 MeV, produced in a reaction  $\pi^-p \rightarrow pX^-$  at the pion incident momenta ranging from 3.0 to 5.0 GeV/c. The meson was found to decay into the final states  $(\pi^- + \text{neutrals})$  and  $(\pi^+\pi^-\pi^- + \text{neutrals})$ . It was suggested that this may be a charged mode of the  $X^0(960)$  (generally considered to be an isoscalar).<sup>80</sup>

Assuming that their peak indeed represents a decay mode of a charged  $X^0(960)$ , we have looked for its decay into  $\pi^-\pi^0\eta(\eta \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0)$  in our data. Using a cross section of  $4.6 \pm 1.5 \mu\text{b}$  for the above decay chain,<sup>81</sup> we expect to see about  $30 \pm 10$  events in the  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-\text{MM}}$  distribution (see Fig. 57b); but we see no events at all in this region. We thus conclude that we do not have evidence for the  $X^-(962)$  production in our data.

However, if  $X^-(962)$  is an object which has different quantum numbers from  $X^0(960)$ , it can decay into  $\pi^-\eta$ . The distribution in  $M_{\pi^-\eta}$  at 3.2 GeV/c (see Fig. 33c) shows an enhancement near the region of 960 MeV, although the evidence is not striking, due to poor statistics. We quote  $8 \pm 4 \mu\text{b}$  as the cross section for  $X^-(962) \rightarrow \pi^-\eta$  (including the neutral decay mode of  $\eta$ ).

By restricting the MM to the  $\eta$  region (0.5 to 0.6 GeV), we have searched for evidence of  $X^0(960)$  decay. Figure 57c shows the  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\eta}$  distribution in our data; we see little evidence for  $X^0(960)$ . Its cross section is estimated to be about  $2 \pm 2 \mu\text{b}$  at 3.2 GeV/c,  $4 \pm 3 \mu\text{b}$  at 4.2 GeV/c.

We have also searched for the decay mode of the  $A_2$  into  $\pi^\pm\eta$  in the  $M_{\pi^\pm\eta}$  distributions, but saw no evidence for it. In addition, we have looked for the possible decay mode of the  $A_2$  into  $\pi^-X^0(960)$ , but found little evidence for it either.

## VIII. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In all the reactions studied here, we have seen that the peripheral processes are mainly responsible for the production of resonant states. In particular, we have observed that the resonances  $N^{*++}(1238)$  and  $\rho^0$  are produced mainly via peripheral processes in the  $p\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$  final state, and that the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  enhancements are produced peripherally in the  $p\pi^-\rho^0$  channel. In the  $p\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-\pi^-$  final state, we have found that peripheral processes are again responsible for the production of  $\eta$  and  $\omega$  mesons, and that the B enhancement is also produced peripherally in the channel  $p\pi^-\omega$ .

We have found that the regions of the  $A_1$  and B enhancements are strongly contaminated by the channel of the neutral isobar formation. In addition, we have demonstrated that the diffractive scattering at the isobar vertex may explain the  $A_1$  and B enhancements in our data, consistent with the kinematic model proposed by Deck<sup>43</sup> and Maor and O'Halloran.<sup>44</sup> Consequently, if the  $A_1$  and B are genuine resonant states, we may conclude that the  $\pi^-p$  interactions in the energy range 3 to 4 GeV/c do not provide suitable final states in which to study these resonances.

The  $A_2$  enhancement, unlike the  $A_1$ , has been shown to be consistent only with the hypothesis of a genuine resonant state. Assuming a noninterfering background, we have shown that its spin-parity is uniquely assigned to be  $2^+$ . Thus one may conclude that the  $A_2$  is the same particle as that observed in  $K\bar{K}$  effective mass;<sup>52</sup> the branching ratio  $\Gamma(A_2^- \rightarrow K\bar{K})/\Gamma(A_2^- \rightarrow \pi\rho)$  is estimated to be  $(5.4 \pm 2.2)\%$ .<sup>77</sup> We have also seen evidence for the  $\pi\eta$  decay mode of the  $A_2$ .

We have found that the  $n4\pi$  final state is mostly consistent with phase-space predictions, and saw little evidence for resonance production. The final state  $p3\pi MM$  revealed very little interesting information, except for evidence for the neutral decay mode of  $\eta$  in the spectrum of  $MM$ .

We list in Table VII a summary of the cross sections for resonance production.



Table VII. Cross sections for resonance production.

Final states	Cross sections ( $\mu\text{b}$ )	
	3.2 GeV/c	4.2 GeV/c
$N^{*++} \pi^- \pi^-$	$590 \pm 70$	$590 \pm 70$
$p\pi^- \rho^0$ (including $A_{1,2}$ ) ↳ $\pi^+ \pi^-$	$480 \pm 70$	$520 \pm 70$
$p\pi^- \omega$ (including B) ↳ $\pi^+ \pi^0 \pi^-$	$230 \pm 30$	$185 \pm 25$
$p\pi^- \eta$ (including $A_2$ ) ↳ $\pi^+ \pi^0 \pi^-$	$30 \pm 10$	$21 \pm 7$
$pA_1^- \rightarrow p\pi^- \rho^0$ ↳ $\pi^+ \pi^-$	$140 \pm 60$	$160 \pm 60$
$pA_2^- \rightarrow p\pi^- \rho^0$ ↳ $\pi^+ \pi^-$	$150 \pm 50$	$175 \pm 45$
$pA_2^- \rightarrow p\pi^- \eta$ ↳ $\pi^+ \pi^0 \pi^-$	$12 \pm 7$	$5 \pm 5$
$pB^- \rightarrow p\pi^- \omega$ ↳ $\pi^+ \pi^0 \pi^-$	$110 \pm 30$	$67 \pm 20$

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## APPENDICES

A. Angular Distributions for  $A \rightarrow \pi + \rho^0$ 

Here we list explicitly all the matrix elements assumed for the spin-parity analysis on the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ .

A general formalism for describing a three-pion system has been developed by Zemach.<sup>82</sup> Adopting his notation, we write the matrix element for the  $A$  decaying via  $\pi\rho$  intermediate state as

$$M(\pi_1^- \pi_2^- \pi_3^+) = \alpha_1 M_{1,23} - \alpha_2 M_{2,31}, \quad (\text{A-1})$$

where  $M_{k,\ell m}$  is an antisymmetric function in  $\ell m$ , and  $\alpha_k$  is the propagator for  $\rho^0$ . It is given by

$$\alpha_k = \frac{\Gamma_\rho^{1/2}}{(M_{\ell m}^2 - M_\rho^2) + iM_\rho \Gamma_\rho} \quad (\text{with } k\ell m, \text{ cyclic}), \quad (\text{A-2})$$

where  $\Gamma_\rho$  is the width of  $\rho^0$ .

Let  $\underline{P}_1$ ,  $\underline{P}_2$ , and  $\underline{P}_3$  be the momenta of the three pions in the  $3\pi$  center-of-mass system, with their energies denoted by  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$ , and  $E_3$ . Let us further define  $\underline{q}_k \equiv \underline{p}_\ell \times \underline{p}_m$  and  $\underline{t}_k \equiv \underline{p}_\ell - \underline{p}_m$ . In terms of these quantities, the matrix element assumed for each  $J^P$  and orbital angular momentum ( $\ell$ ) is

$J^P$	$M_{1,23}$
$1^-$	$\underline{a}_1$
$2^+$	$\underline{p}_1 \underline{a}_1 + \underline{a}_1 \underline{p}_1$
$0^-$	$E_2 - E_3$
$1^+ (\ell=0)$	$\underline{t}_1$
$1^+ (\ell=2)$	$(\underline{p}_1 \cdot \underline{t}_1) \underline{p}_1 - \frac{1}{3} p_1^2 \underline{t}_1$
$2^- (\ell=1)$	$\frac{1}{2} (\underline{p}_1 \underline{t}_1 + \underline{t}_1 \underline{p}_1) - \frac{1}{3} (\underline{p}_1 \cdot \underline{t}_1) \tilde{\mathbb{I}}$
$2^- (\ell=3)$	$(\underline{p}_1 \cdot \underline{t}_1) \underline{p}_1 \underline{p}_1 - \frac{p_1^2}{5} (\underline{p}_1 \cdot \underline{t}_1) \tilde{\mathbb{I}} - \frac{p_1^2}{5} (\underline{p}_1 \underline{t}_1 + \underline{t}_1 \underline{p}_1)$

(A-3)

where  $\tilde{\mathbb{I}}$  is a unit dyadic.

We emphasize that the above matrix elements are different from those of Diebold<sup>53</sup> for  $1^+$  and  $2^-$ . The quantity  $\underline{t}_1$  used above is evaluated in the  $3\pi$  rest frame, whereas Diebold used  $\underline{t}_1'$ , which is evaluated in the  $\rho^0$  rest frame. In a phenomenological approach, both methods may be considered equally valid.<sup>83</sup> We have tried both methods for our spin-parity analysis; the results obtained did not depend critically on the method used.

Next we present the production correlations predicted for various  $J^P$  assignments. The angle we have chosen for the purpose is  $z$ , which is defined as the angle between the normal to the decay plane of the A and the incident beam. The most general distribution for this angle has been given by Berman and Jacob.<sup>84</sup> Since, in our case, we have two identical particles (two  $\pi^-$ 's), the angular distribution  $I(z)$  is proportional to:

$J^P$	$I(z)$
$1^-$	$\rho_{00} \cos^2 z + \rho_{11} \sin^2 z$
$2^+$	$\frac{3}{4} \rho_{00} \sin^2 2z + \rho_{11} (\cos^2 z + \cos^2 2z) + \rho_{22} (1 + \cos^2 z) \sin^2 z$
$0^-$	const.
$1^+$	$\rho_{00} \sin^2 z + \rho_{11} (1 + \cos^2 z)$
$2^-$	$a[3\rho_{00} \sin^4 z + 4\rho_{11} (1 + \cos^2 z) \sin^2 z + \rho_{22} (\sin^4 z + 8\cos^2 z)]$ $+ b[\rho_{00} (1 - 3\cos^2 z)^2 + 3\rho_{11} \sin^2 2z + 3\rho_{22} \sin^4 z]$ ,

(A-4)

where  $\rho_{mm}$ , is the density matrix element for the A. Constants a and b appearing in  $I(z)$  for  $2^-$  depend in general on the internal structure of the  $3\pi$  system. In writing down the distributions in (A-4), we have also used a symmetry property on  $\rho_{mm}$ ; with the production coordinate system as defined in the text, we obtain, for parity-conserving reactions,<sup>85</sup> the relation

$$\rho_{mm'} = (-)^{m-m'} \rho_{-m-m'} . \quad (A-5)$$

If we assume that the A is produced via the  $\rho^0$ -exchange process and that absorptive effects are negligible, the angular momentum conservation at the meson vertex demands that certain matrix elements be identically zero. With this condition, (A-4) simplifies to.

$J^P$	$I(z)$
$1^-$	$\sin^2 z$
$2^+$	$\cos^2 z + \cos^2 2z$
$0^-$	const.
$1^+$	$\sin^2 z - \rho_{11}(1 - 3\cos^2 z)$
$2^-$	$a[3\sin^4 z - 2\rho_{11}(1 - 5\cos^2 z)\sin^2 z]$ $+ b[(1 - 3\cos^2 z)^2 - 2\rho_{11}(1 - 12\cos^2 z + 15\cos^4 z)]$ .

(A-6)

### B. $\omega$ Dalitz Plot

We describe briefly the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot and give an expression for the equal-probability contour on this plot. Let the mass of  $\pi^\pm$  be  $\mu$  and that of  $\pi^0$  be  $\mu_0$  ( $\mu \neq \mu_0$ ). In the  $\omega$  rest frame, we denote the momenta of  $\pi^+$ ,  $\pi^0$ , and  $\pi^-$  by  $\underline{p}_+$ ,  $\underline{p}_0$ , and  $\underline{p}_-$ .

We define the decay matrix element squared of the  $\omega$  decay as

$$|\mathcal{M}|^2 = 4|\underline{p}_+ \times \underline{p}_0|^2 = 4p_+^2 p_0^2 - (p_+^2 + p_0^2 - p_-^2)^2. \quad (\text{B-1})$$

The maximum value of  $|\mathcal{M}|^2$  can easily be shown to be

$$|\mathcal{M}|_{\text{max}}^2 = \frac{W}{E_0} (E_0^2 - \mu_0^2)^2. \quad (\text{B-2})$$

Here  $W$  is the effective mass of the  $3\pi$  system (mass of  $\omega$ ), and  $E_0$  is the energy of the  $\pi^0$  at the point where  $|\mathcal{M}|^2$  is at its maximum, which is given by

$$E_0 = \frac{1}{6W} \left\{ W^2 - 4\mu^2 + \mu_0^2 + [(W^2 - 4\mu^2 + \mu_0^2)^2 + 12W^2\mu_0^2]^{1/2} \right\}. \quad (\text{B-3})$$

The energy of the  $\pi^\pm$  at the point  $|\gamma\mathcal{M}|^2 = |\gamma\mathcal{M}|_{\max}^2$  is then simply given by

$$E = \frac{1}{2} (W - E_0) . \quad (\text{B-4})$$

Using these quantities, we define the polar-coordinate variables  $\rho$  and  $\phi$  (both unitless quantities) by

$$T_0 = (E_0 - \mu_0)(\rho \cos \phi + 1) ,$$

$$T_+ = (E_0 - \mu_0) \left[ \rho \cos \left( \phi - \frac{2\pi}{3} \right) + \left( \frac{E - \mu}{E_0 - \mu_0} \right) \right] , \quad (\text{B-5})$$

$$T_- = (E_0 - \mu_0) \left[ \rho \cos \left( \phi + \frac{2\pi}{3} \right) + \left( \frac{E - \mu}{E_0 - \mu_0} \right) \right] ,$$

where  $T_0$ ,  $T_+$ , and  $T_-$  are kinetic energies of the three pions, and  $\rho$  varies from 0 to 1.

We now choose the origin of the polar-coordinate system to be the point where  $|\gamma\mathcal{M}|^2 = |\gamma\mathcal{M}|_{\max}^2$  (see Fig. 58). An arbitrary point P on the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot is then described by the polar-coordinate variables  $[(E_0 - \mu_0)\rho, \phi]$ .

Next we define a function  $f(\rho, \phi)$  by

$$f(\rho, \phi) = \frac{|\gamma\mathcal{M}|^2}{|\gamma\mathcal{M}|_{\max}^2} . \quad (\text{B-6})$$

The contour on the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot of the equal probability for the  $\omega$

decay is then given by

$$f(\rho, \phi) = r, \text{ for } 0 \leq r \leq 1. \quad (\text{B-7})$$

In particular, we note that the boundary of the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot is simply given by

$$f(\rho, \phi) = 0. \quad (\text{B-8})$$

The explicit expression for  $f(\rho, \phi)$  can be derived by substituting (B-5) into (B-1):

$$f(\rho, \phi) = 1 - (a + b \cos^2 \phi) \rho^2 - c \rho^3 \cos 3\phi, \quad (\text{B-9})$$

where

$$a = 3E_0(W^2 - 2WE_0 + \mu_0^2) / W(E_0 + \mu_0)^2,$$

$$b = 4E_0[W(3E_0 - W) + \mu^2 - \mu_0^2] / W(E_0 + \mu_0)^2, \quad (\text{B-10})$$

$$c = 2E_0(E_0 - \mu_0) / (E_0 + \mu_0)^2.$$

If we put  $\mu = \mu_0$ , we have  $E_0 = W/3$ , so that



$$a = -3(W^2 + 3\mu^2)/(W + 3\mu)^2$$

$$b = 0 ; \quad (B-11)$$

$$c = 2W(W - 3\mu)/(W + 3\mu)^2 .$$

With these values, Eq. (B-8) reduces to an expression for the boundary given by Lee.<sup>86</sup>

The expression for the boundary (B-8) is, of course, independent of the  $J^P$  state assumed for the  $3\pi$  system. In particular, it describes the boundary for the  $\eta$  Dalitz plot with  $W$  set equal to the mass of  $\eta$ . Note that (B-8) can also describe the boundary of the Dalitz plot for the  $\pi^+\pi^-\gamma$  decay mode of the  $\eta$  or  $X^0(960)$ , if we put  $\mu_0 = 0$ .

In addition, it will also describe the boundary for the  $\pi^+\pi^-\eta$  decay mode of the  $X^0(960)$ , if we set  $\mu_0$  equal to the mass of  $\eta$  (in this case,  $\rho$  can be larger than 1).

### C. Angular Distributions for $B \rightarrow \pi + \omega$

We describe here the angular distributions for the decay  $B \rightarrow \pi + \omega$ . As defined in Sec. V.B,  $(\pi - \beta)$  is the angle between the normal to the decay plane and the "bachelor" pion (not in  $\omega$ ) as evaluated in the  $\omega$  rest frame. In terms of this angle, the angular distribution  $I(\beta)$  predicted for each  $J^P$  assignment is:

$J^P$	$I(\beta)$	
$1^-, 2^+, \dots$	$\sin^2 \beta$	
$0^-$	$\cos^2 \beta$	
$1^+ (\ell=0)$	$1$	
$1^+ (\ell=2)$	$1 + 3\cos^2 \beta$	(C-1)
$2^- (\ell=1)$	$1 + \frac{1}{3} \cos^2 \beta$	
$2^- (\ell=3)$	$1 + 2\cos^2 \beta$	

As is well known, the above results can be derived by using the tensor representation of angular momenta.<sup>87</sup> It is instructive, however, to derive the above results within the helicity formalism.

In the B rest frame, we denote the density matrix of the B (spin J) by  $\rho_{mm}$ , evaluated in a coordinate system fixed by the production variables. In this coordinate system, the momentum of  $\omega$  is along the direction  $(\theta, \phi)$ . In the  $\omega$  rest frame, the normal to the  $\omega$  decay plane is along the direction  $(\beta, \alpha)$  in a coordinate system with the z axis along the direction of the  $\omega$  momentum.

In terms of the helicity amplitude  $g_\lambda$ , the decay amplitude  $T_m$  for the B is given by<sup>88</sup>

$$T_m \propto \sum_\lambda g_\lambda D_{m\lambda}^{(J)*}(\phi, \theta, -\phi) D_{\lambda 0}^{(1)*}(\alpha, \beta, -\alpha), \quad (C-2)$$

where the magnetic quantum number m refers to the spin states of the B in the production coordinate system and  $D_{mm}^{(J)}$  is the standard rotation matrix element.<sup>89</sup> The decay angular distribution is now given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 I(\theta, \phi; \beta, \alpha) &\propto \sum_{m, m'} T_{m' m} \rho_{mm'} T_m^* \\
 &\propto \sum_{\lambda, \lambda'} \sum_{m, m'} g_\lambda g_{\lambda'}^* \rho_{mm'} D_{m\lambda}^{(J)*}(\phi, \theta, -\phi) D_{m'\lambda'}^{(J)}(\phi, \theta, -\phi) D_{\lambda 0}^{(1)*}(\alpha, \beta, -\alpha) D_{\lambda' 0}^{(1)}(\alpha, \beta, -\alpha) .
 \end{aligned} \tag{C-3}$$

If we integrate  $I(\theta, \phi; \beta, \alpha)$  first over  $\alpha$  and then over  $\phi$  and  $\theta$ , we obtain

$$I(\beta) \propto \sum_{\lambda} |g_\lambda|^2 [a_{\lambda 0}^{(1)}(\beta)]^2 , \tag{C-4}$$

where we have used the condition  $\text{tr } \rho = 1$ . We note that  $I(\beta)$  does not contain  $\rho_{mm'}$ , so that it is independent of the production mechanism of the B.

The helicity amplitude  $g_\lambda$  may be expanded in terms of partial wave amplitudes:<sup>90</sup>

$$g_\lambda = \sum_{\ell} a_\ell (2\ell + 1)^{1/2} (\ell 0 1 \lambda | J \lambda) , \tag{C-5}$$

where  $a_\ell$  is the  $\ell$ -wave amplitude and  $(j_1 m_1 j_2 m_2 | JM)$  are the Clebsch-Gordan coefficients. Using (C-4) and (C-5), we can readily calculate all the distributions in (C-1).<sup>91</sup> For example, for  $2^-$  ( $\ell=3$ ), we merely put all  $a_\ell$ 's to zero except  $a_3$ , so that

$$g_\lambda = \sqrt{7} a_3 (3 0 1 \lambda | 2 \lambda) ,$$

and

$$I(\beta) \propto \sum_{\lambda} (3 0 1 \lambda | 2 \lambda)^2 [a_{\lambda 0}^{(1)}(\beta)]^2 \propto 1 + 2 \cos^2 \beta .$$

## D. Experimental Details

### 1. Beam

Throughout the year 1963 and part of 1964, the 72-inch bubble chamber was exposed to the  $\pi^-$  beam from the Bevatron; the momentum of the  $\pi^-$  beam ranged from 1.6 to 4.2 GeV/c. The beam was originally designed for the  $\pi^-$  beam by George H. Trilling, Gerson Goldhaber, John Kadyk, and Benjamin Shen, and later by Joseph Murray for the separated  $K^-$  beam. The details of the beam are described elsewhere.<sup>92</sup>

For this experiment on four-prong events, we selected the film exposed at the  $\pi^-$  beam momenta of 3.2 and 4.2 GeV/c.

### 2. Scanning and Measuring

For the incident pion momentum at 3.2 GeV/c, approximately 22 000 four-prong events, i. e., events with four outgoing charged tracks were measured. In about 43% of these, which were scanned and measured at the early stage of this experiment, all the four-prong events within the fiducial volume were accepted (the normal sample). For the rest of the pictures, scanners were instructed to "flag" those four-prong events for which one of the positive tracks could be identified as a proton, and only such events were measured and processed (the selected sample).

For the pion incident momentum at 4.2 GeV/c, a total of approximately 15 000 events were measured and all four-prong events within the fiducial volume were used.

A summary of the quantity of film used for this experiment is shown

in Table VIII. In Fig. 59, we show the spectrum of the beam momentum for the three samples.

Table VIII. Summary of measured film.

Sample	<sup>a</sup> Events/ $\mu$ b	Number of events measured	Beam momentum (GeV/c) <sup>b</sup>
3.2 GeV/c, normal	$1.24 \pm 0.04$	9 100	$3.220 \pm 0.035$
3.2 GeV/c, selected	---	12 400	$3.200 \pm 0.020$
4.2 GeV/c	$1.56 \pm 0.08$	15 300	$4.160 \pm 0.015$

<sup>a</sup>Based on the number of events given in Table I. See Sec. D.4.

<sup>b</sup>See Fig. 59 for the spectrum of beam momentum.

All the measurements were done either on the SMP (Scanning and Measuring Projector) or on the Franckenstein.<sup>4</sup> The measured events were then processed through the standard data-reduction system of the Alvarez Group.<sup>4</sup>

After the first measurement, events that were ambiguous and resolvable<sup>93</sup> were looked at by physicists and trained scanners for 3.2 GeV/c normal and 4.2 GeV/c samples. As for the 3.2 GeV/c selected sample, if an event fitted the hypothesis (its confidence level was greater than 0.5%) for which the outgoing proton track is the same as that identified by the scanner, the hypothesis was considered to be the correct one for that event. When the computer and the scanner did not agree on a given hypothesis for an event, it was looked at by trained scanners, provided

the event was resolvable.

If an event failed to fit any hypothesis (its confidence level was smaller than 0.5%) or did not have enough missing mass to be consistent with a missing-mass (MM) hypothesis, it was automatically remeasured. If it again failed to fit any hypothesis (including MM hypotheses), it was looked at on the scanning table by trained scanners, after which the event was either measured again or discarded if there was a reason to do so (e.g., two-prong event with a Dalitz pair, or strange-particle events "faking" four-prong ones). In this way, an event was measured as many as four times. At the end of this series of measurements, there remained only about 2% failing events.

### 3. Separation of Hypotheses

Types of reactions that have been tried are shown in Sec. II in reactions (1a) through (1e).

Note that the reaction (1a) is a four-constraint (4C) fit, while (1b) and (1c) are one-constraint (1C) fits. The reactions (1d) and (1e) are unfittable hypotheses. An event was tried for (1d) and (1e) only if it failed to fit hypotheses (1a), (1b), or (1c).

After the series of measurements described in Sec. D.2, events were distributed among various hypotheses as shown in Table IX. This table shows, for fitted events, the correlation of the best hypothesis with the second-best hypothesis. We see that a great majority of events has a unique assignment to a given hypothesis; ambiguous events amount to less than 10% for all three hypotheses. Also, there is very little

Table IX. Distribution of events among different hypotheses.

Second-best hypotheses	Best hypotheses			Total
	$p\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$	$p\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-\pi^-$	$n\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$	
$p\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$	9 780	338	11	10 129
$p\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-\pi^-$	825	10 950	567	12 342
$n\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-$	15	551	3 612	4 178
Total	10 620	11 839	4 190	26 649

ambiguity (less than 2%) in the identification (by the computer) of the proton track. Of course, this is largely because much of the film was looked at by the scanners, and the proton track was uniquely identified on the basis of ionization density.

In order to investigate the nature of the ambiguous events and further separate the events among different hypotheses, extensive use was made of the confidence level (C.L.) for each hypothesis. Figure 60 shows the distribution of the C.L. for all fitted events.<sup>94</sup> It is relatively flat, as it should be, except at smaller values of the C.L. The character of the distribution remains essentially the same when events with the different hypotheses (1a), (1b), and (1c) are plotted separately. The excess of events at smaller values of the C.L. is presumably caused by factors such as small-angle scattering and bad measurements. In addition, one suspects that it is to a large extent due to the contamination of misassigned hypotheses.

In order to further distinguish the  $p4\pi$  final state from the  $p3\pi$  final state and the  $MM$  final state, we examine the  $M_{\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-}$  distribution, where we observe a sharp peak due to the  $\omega$ -meson production, characteristic of the  $p4\pi$  final state.

Figure 61 shows the effective-mass distribution of the neutral-pion triplet from the  $p4\pi$  final state, when we select only those events that are ambiguous with the  $p3\pi$  final state and whose C. L. is smaller than 5%. There are very few  $\omega$  events in this sample compared with the same distribution of all  $p4\pi$  final states. In addition, the phase space is grossly distorted. Therefore, we conclude that this sample of  $p4\pi$  events is largely composed of  $p3\pi$  events. This is easy to understand; the  $4C$  ( $p3\pi$  final state) is much harder to fit than the  $1C$   $p4\pi$  final state, so if an event had an acceptable C. L. for  $p3\pi$ , it is in reality  $p3\pi$ , even though it may have higher C. L. for  $p4\pi$ . It is estimated that about 80% of this sample is in reality  $p3\pi$  events. So this sample has been deleted altogether from the  $p4\pi$  sample (the deleted sample amounts to less than 3% of the total).

In order to further investigate other possible contaminations in the  $p4\pi$  events, we plot in Fig. 62a the missing mass squared ( $MM^2$ ) for all  $p4\pi$  events calculated from the measured (unfitted) quantities. As is expected, there is a huge peak at the mass (squared) of  $\pi^0$ . Partly on the basis of the shape of this distribution and partly on consideration of the threshold for  $2\pi^0$  production, the  $MM^2$  cut was chosen in the range  $-0.12$  to  $0.1$   $(\text{GeV})^2$ . Figure 62b shows the distribution of the neutral-pion triplet only for those events whose  $MM^2$  is outside the aforementioned cut and whose C. L. is less than 5%; there are hardly any  $\omega$  events



in the sample! We therefore concluded that this sample certainly does not belong to the  $p4\pi$  events, and again we deleted this sample from the  $p4\pi$  events (less than 4% of the total). The sample consisting of events with  $MM^2$  outside the cut and with the C. L. greater than 5% showed some  $\omega$  events, and we decided to keep this sample in the  $p4\pi$  events.

Inasmuch as  $n4\pi$  events (the reaction 1c) are 1C fits, one would expect contamination similar to that in the  $p4\pi$  events. Unfortunately, however, there is no sharp resonance like  $\omega$  in the sample. Nevertheless, we chose a  $MM^2$  cut from 0.52 to 1.20  $(\text{GeV})^2$  in a similar fashion. If an event had a  $MM^2$  outside this range and a C. L. less than 5%, it was dropped from the  $n4\pi$  sample (this amounted to about 6% of the total sample).

The  $p3\pi$  events constitute a rather pure sample, since it consists of events with a 4C fit. Nonetheless, if an event fell outside the  $MM^2$  cut [chosen to be in the range  $-0.02$  to  $+0.02$   $(\text{GeV})^2$ ] and had a C. L. less than 5%, it was dropped from the sample (less than 2% of the total sample). The deleted sample showed very little evidence for  $\rho^0$  production, whereas the total  $p3\pi$  sample showed strong  $\rho^0$  production.

#### 4. Cross Sections

For the purpose of cross-section calculations, we have decided to count, in a special cross-section scan, the number of four-prong interactions along with the total number of all interactions, and then normalize it to the existing precise measurements of the total  $\pi^-p$  cross section taken from counter experiments.<sup>6</sup> For this purpose, every fifth frame of the entire quantity of film at 3.2 and 4.2 GeV/c was scanned.

We note that small-angle elastic scatterings can easily be missed by scanners. This effect, which is a serious one for two-prong final states, has been studied in detail by Jacobs.<sup>7</sup> Using the result of his analysis, we have made a correction to the total number of interactions (from the cross-section scan); this correction amounts to about 8% at 3.2 GeV/c, 7% at 4.2 GeV/c.

In order to obtain any reliable cross sections, one must also correct for the scanning efficiency of the scanners. Based on two separate second scans of 15 rolls (about 3 000 events) of film each, the scanning efficiency was found to be  $(96 \pm 2)\%$  for the first scan.

In addition, for partial-cross-section calculations, we have corrected for the contamination in each category resulting from erroneously assigned hypotheses (see Sec. D.3).

The resulting cross sections, after all these corrections have been made, are shown in Table II for both 3.2 and 4.2 GeV/c. Of course, only the 3.2-GeV/c normal sample was used to calculate the cross sections at that momentum.

We point out here that cross sections were calculated from the data that had no cutoff based on the fiducial-volume criterion. For subsequent analysis in Secs. IV through VIII, however, the rigid fiducial-volume criterion was applied. The events failing to satisfy the criterion (about 11% of the total) showed a poor resolution, based on the width of  $\omega$  from this sample. This is, of course, because these events are largely from the periphery of the bubble chamber and they tend to have short tracks; this results in poor measurements.

We have also applied a cutoff at  $\pm 2^{\circ}$  for the dip angle of the beam evaluated at the interaction vertex, thereby eliminating about 2% of the total events. The number of events shown in Table I is that obtained after these cutoffs were applied.

## FOOTNOTES AND REFERENCES

\*Work done under auspices of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission. Based on Suh Urk Chung's Ph.D. thesis (UCRL-16881, July 1966).

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$\Gamma(\rho^0) = 0.112$  GeV. The phase-space curves on the  $M_{p\pi^+}(M_{\pi^+\pi^-})$  histograms are obtained by including only the effect of  $\rho^0(N^{*++})$  resonance and by normalizing to the events outside the  $N^{*++}$  region, where the  $N^{*++}$  region is chosen to be the interval 1.0 to 1.46 GeV, and the  $\rho^0$  region the interval 0.60 to 0.92 GeV. The phase-space curves on the  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-}$  (or  $M_{\pi^-\rho^0}$ ) histograms are normalized to the portion of the histograms with  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-}$  (or  $M_{\pi^-\rho^0}$ ) above 1.45 GeV.

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Figure Legends

Fig. 1. Distributions in the square of four-momentum transfer to the proton for final states  $p3\pi$ ,  $p4\pi$ , and  $p3\pi MM$ : (a) 3.2-GeV/c normal, and (b) 3.2-GeV/c selected samples.

Fig. 2. Summary of cross sections for multipion production at various  $\pi^-$  beam momenta, taken from the results given in Refs. 8 through 17. The curves drawn are freehand fits to the data.

Fig. 3. (a-g) All effective-mass distributions for the  $p3\pi$  final state at 3.2 GeV/c. (h) The  $M_{\pi^-\pi^-}$  distributions for events at 3.2 GeV/c with  $M_{p\pi^+}$  in the  $N^{*++}$  region (1.12 to 1.32 GeV). (i) The  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-}$  distributions for events at 3.2 GeV/c with  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-}$  in the  $\rho^0$  region (0.66 to 0.84 GeV). The horizontal scales are in GeV, and the vertical scales are for the number of combinations per 40 MeV. In each histogram, the total number of combinations is shown after the heading "TOTAL." The curves represent 42% phase space, 32%  $N^{*++}$  (1238), and 24%  $\rho^0$  except on (a) and (c), where the  $N^{*++}$  and  $\rho^0$  contributions are left out in turn. On (g) and (i) the curves are normalized to the region above 1.45 GeV (see Ref. 18).

Fig. 4. Same effective-mass distributions as in Fig. 3 for the 4.2-GeV/c data.

Fig. 5. Scatter plots relating to the final state  $N^{*++}\pi^-\pi^-$  at 3.2 and 4.2 GeV/c: (a)  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2$  vs  $M_{p\pi^+}$  for all events (see Ref. 22); (b)  $M_{p\pi_1^-}$  vs  $M_{\pi^+\pi_2^-}$  ( $\Delta_{p\pi_1^-}^2 \leq \Delta_{p\pi_2^-}^2$ ); (c)  $M_{\pi^-\pi^-}$  vs  $\cos \theta(\pi^-\pi^-)$ , and (d)  $M_{\pi^-\pi^-}$  vs  $\phi(\pi^-\pi^-)$ . In (b), (c), and (d) we have taken events with  $M_{p\pi^+}$  in the  $N^{*++}$  region 1.12 to 1.32 GeV and with  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2 < 0.5$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>. See



Sec. IV. B for the definition of angles  $\theta(\pi^-\pi^-)$  and  $\phi(\pi^-\pi^-)$ .

Fig. 6. One-pion-exchange diagram for the process  $\pi^-p \rightarrow N^{*++}\pi^-\pi^-$ .

Fig. 7. Various distributions relating to the final state  $N^{*++}\pi^-\pi^-$  at

3.2 GeV/c: (a) Histogram of  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2$  for events (see Ref. 22) with  $M_{p\pi^+}$  in the  $N^{*++}$  region 1.12 to 1.32 GeV. (b) The  $M_{p\pi^+}$  distribution with  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2 < 0.5 (\text{GeV}/c)^2$ . (c, d) The  $M_{\pi_1^-\pi_2^-}$  and  $M_{\pi^+\pi_2^-}$  distributions ( $\Delta_{p\pi_1^-}^2 \leq \Delta_{p\pi_2^-}^2$ ) for events with  $M_{p\pi^+}$  in the interval 1.12 to 1.32 GeV and with  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2 < (\text{GeV}/c)^2$ ; (e, f) the histograms of  $M_{p\pi_1^-}$  and  $M_{\pi^+\pi_1^-\pi_2^-}$  ( $\Delta_{p\pi_1^-}^2 \leq \Delta_{p\pi_2^-}^2$ ) with the further requirement that  $M_{\pi^+\pi_2^-}$  lie in the  $\rho^0$  interval 0.66 to 0.84 GeV.

Fig. 8. Same distributions as in Fig. 7, but for the 4.2-GeV/c data.

Fig. 9. Angular correlations for the OPE process leading to the final state  $N^{*++}\pi^-\pi^-$ : (a-d) angular distributions at the meson and isobar vertices for  $N^{*++}$  events at 3.2 GeV/c [ $1.12 \text{ GeV} \leq M_{p\pi^+} \leq 1.32 \text{ GeV}$  and  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2 < 0.5 (\text{GeV}/c)^2$ ]; (e-h) same angular distributions for events at 4.2 GeV/c. The shaded histograms are for those  $N^{*++}$  events with  $M_{\pi^+\pi_2^-}$  ( $\Delta_{p\pi_1^-}^2 \leq \Delta_{p\pi_2^-}^2$ ) outside the  $\rho^0$  interval 0.66 to 0.84 GeV. The curves drawn in (c) and (g) are least-squares fits to the data. See Sec. IV. B for the definition of the angles used in these figures.

Fig. 10.  $\cos \theta(\pi^-\pi^-)$  distributions as functions of  $M_{\pi^-\pi^-}$  for  $N^{*++}$  events [ $1.12 \text{ GeV} \leq M_{p\pi^+} \leq 1.32 \text{ GeV}$  and  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2 < 0.5 (\text{GeV}/c)^2$ ]: (a-d) events at 3.2 GeV/c; (e-h) events at 4.2 GeV/c. The curves are least-squares fits to the data (see Table III).

Fig. 11. (a) Scatter plot of  $\Delta_p^2$  vs  $M_{\pi^-\rho^0}$ , and (b) the projection onto the  $M_{\pi^-\rho^0}$  axis for  $\rho^0$  events ( $0.66 \text{ GeV} \leq M_{\pi^+\pi^-} \leq 0.84 \text{ GeV}$ ) at both

momenta (see Ref. 22); (c) scatter plot of  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{p\pi^-}$  and (d) projection onto the  $M_{p\pi^-}$  axis for the same events (see Ref. 37). No  $N^{*++}$  events are included in these figures (see Ref. 24).

Fig. 12. (a) The  $\rho^0$ -exchange and (b) the  $\pi^+$ -exchange diagrams for the process  $\pi^-p \rightarrow p\pi^-\rho^0$ .

Fig. 13. Correlations between the  $p\pi^-$  and the  $\pi^-\rho^0$  systems for  $\rho^0$  events at both momenta (see Refs. 22, 24, and 37): (a) Dalitz plot of  $M_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{\pi^-\rho^0}^2$ ; (b, c) the  $M_{p\pi^-}$  spectra in the  $A_1$  region ( $1.0 \text{ GeV} \leq M_{\pi^-\rho^0} \leq 1.20 \text{ GeV}$ ) and in the  $A_2$  region ( $1.20 \text{ GeV} \leq M_{\pi^-\rho^0} \leq 1.42 \text{ GeV}$ ); (d) scatter plot of  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{\pi^-\rho^0}$ ; (e, f) Dalitz plot of  $M_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{\pi^-\rho^0}^2$  with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < \text{and } > 0.55 (\text{GeV}/c)^2$ , respectively.

Fig. 14. The  $\Delta_p^2$  distributions for  $\rho^0$  events (see Refs. 22 and 24): (a) the  $A_1$  region ( $1.0 \text{ GeV} \leq M_{\pi^-\rho^0} \leq 1.20 \text{ GeV}$ ) and (b) the  $A_2$  region ( $1.2 \text{ GeV} \leq M_{\pi^-\rho^0} \leq 1.42 \text{ GeV}$ ) at  $3.2 \text{ GeV}/c$ ; (c, d) the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  regions at  $4.2 \text{ GeV}/c$ .

Fig. 15. The  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  distributions for  $\rho^0$  events (see Refs. 22, 24, and 37): (a) the  $A_1$  region ( $1.0 \text{ GeV} \leq M_{\pi^-\rho^0} \leq 1.2 \text{ GeV}$ ), and (b) the  $A_2$  region ( $1.2 \text{ GeV} \leq M_{\pi^-\rho^0} \leq 1.42 \text{ GeV}$ ) at  $3.2 \text{ GeV}/c$ ; (c, d) the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  regions at  $4.2 \text{ GeV}/c$ .

Fig. 16. (a-d)  $\text{Cos } \theta(\pi^+\pi^-)$  distributions for various  $M_{\pi^-\rho^0}$  intervals, where we have taken the  $\rho^0$  events at both momenta with  $\Delta_p^2 < 0.65 (\text{GeV}/c)^2$  (see Refs. 24 and 37).

Fig. 17. (a) The  $M_{p\pi^-}$  and (b)  $M_{\pi^-\rho^0}$  spectra for  $\rho^0$  events at both momenta with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 \leq 0.55 (\text{GeV}/c)^2$  (see Refs. 24 and 37).

Fig. 18. Angular correlations at the meson and isobar vertices (see Fig. 12 b) for  $\rho^0$  events with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 0.55 (\text{GeV}/c)^2$  (see Refs. 24 and

37): (a-d) 3.2-GeV/c data, (e-h) 4.2-GeV/c data, and (i-l) the  $N^{*++}$  region [ $1.12 \leq M_{p\pi^+} \leq 1.32$  GeV and  $\Delta_{p\pi^+}^2 < 1.5$  (GeV/c) $^2$ ] at both momenta. See Sec. IV. C. 2 for the definition of angles used in these figures. The curves drawn in (a) and (e) are the least-squares fits to the data.

Fig. 19. The  $M_{\pi^-\rho^0}$  distributions for  $\rho^0$  events at both momenta (see Ref. 24); (a) in the diffraction region and (b) outside the diffraction region. The diffraction region contains  $\rho^0$  events with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 0.55$  (GeV/c) $^2$  and  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-) > 0.8$  (see Ref. 37).

Fig. 20. Scatter plots of (a)  $M_{p\pi^-}$  vs  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-)$ , and (b)  $M_{p\pi^-}$  vs  $\phi(p\pi^-)$  for  $\rho^0$  events at both momenta with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 0.55$  (GeV/c) $^2$  (see Refs. 24 and 37).

Fig. 21.  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-)$  distributions for several  $M_{p\pi^-}$  intervals, where we have taken the  $\rho^0$  events at both momenta with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 0.55$  (GeV/c) $^2$  (see Refs. 24 and 37); the horizontal bars represent the number of events normalized to each bin size, and the vertical bars are the errors in these numbers. See Sec. IV. C. 2 for the explanation of the curves in these figures. Due to small statistics in (e), we have indicated only the slope in the diffraction region by a dotted line.

Fig. 22. The  $M_{p\pi^-}$  spectrum for  $\rho^0$  events (outside the diffraction region, see Fig. 19) at both momenta with  $\Delta_p^2 < 0.65$  (GeV/c) $^2$  (see Refs. 24 and 37); the shaded histogram is for events in the  $A_2$  region ( $1.20$  GeV  $\leq M_{\pi^-\rho^0} \leq 1.42$  GeV).

Fig. 23. (a) The  $M_{\pi^-\rho^0}$  spectrum for  $\rho^0$  events (outside the diffraction region, see Fig. 19) at both momenta with  $\Delta_p^2 < 0.65$  (GeV/c) $^2$  (see

Ref. 24). The vertical dashed lines indicate the  $A_2$  region as well as the control regions, and the horizontal dashed lines indicate background levels in the  $A_2$  region. (b, c, d) Distributions in  $\cos \beta$  for the three  $M_{\pi^- \rho^0}$  intervals indicated in (a). See Sec. IV. C. 3 for the definition of the angle  $\beta$ .

Fig. 24. Variations of  $\chi^2$  (19 degrees of freedom) for various  $J^P$  assignments for the  $A_2$  as a function of the background level.

Fig. 25. Comparison of the experimental  $\cos \beta$  distributions in the  $A_2$  region at the 50% background level with the theoretical curves for the  $J^P = 1^-, 2^+, 1^+$  ( $\ell = 0$ ) and  $2^-$  ( $\ell = 1$ ).

Fig. 26. The  $M_{\pi^- \rho^0}$  spectrum for  $\rho^0$  events at both momenta with  $\Delta_p^2 < 0.65$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup> (see Ref. 24). The dashed lines at  $M_{\pi^- \rho^0} = 1.0, 1.20, 1.42, 1.62$  GeV delineate the  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  regions as well as their control regions.

Fig. 27. (a-d) The distributions in  $\cos \beta$  for the four  $M_{\pi^- \rho^0}$  intervals defined in Fig. 26. (e) Variations in  $\chi^2$  (19 degrees of freedom) for various  $J^P$  assignments for the  $A_1$  as a function of the background level. (f) Comparison of the  $\cos \beta$  distribution in the  $A_1$  region at the 50% level with the theoretical curve of  $J^P = 1^+$  ( $\ell = 0$ ). See Sec. IV. C. 3 for the definition of the angle  $\beta$ .

Fig. 28. The distributions in  $\cos z$  for the four  $M_{\pi^- \rho^0}$  intervals defined in Fig. 26. The solid-line histograms correspond to events at 3.2 and 4.2 GeV/c, and the shaded histograms correspond to events at 4.2 GeV/c alone; two points are plotted for the double- $\rho^0$  events and one point for the rest. The dashed-line histograms correspond to events at both momenta with two points plotted for each event. See Sec. IV. C. 3

for the definition of the angle  $z$ .

Fig. 29. Effective-mass distributions obtainable from the  $p4\pi$  final state at 3.2 GeV/c. The horizontal scales are in GeV, and the vertical scales are for the number of combinations per 40 MeV. The total number of combinations for each histogram is shown after the heading "TOTAL." The curves in each histogram are the phase-space curves normalized to the total number of combinations.

Fig. 30. Additional effective-mass distributions from the  $p4\pi$  final state at 3.2 GeV/c. Scales are as on Fig. 29 except in (a) where the vertical scale corresponds to the number of combinations per 20 MeV, and the phase space is normalized to the portion of the histogram for  $M_{\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-}$  above 0.9 GeV.

Fig. 31. Same effective-mass distributions as in Fig. 29 for events at 4.2 GeV/c.

Fig. 32. Same effective-mass distributions as in Fig. 30 for events at 4.2 GeV/c.

Fig. 33. (a, b) The  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  and  $M_{p\pi^-}$  spectra for events at 3.2 GeV/c with the remaining three-pion mass in the  $\omega$  region (0.76-0.80 GeV). (c, d) The  $M_{\pi^-\eta}$  and  $M_{p\pi^-}$  spectra for events at 3.2 GeV/c with the remaining three-pion mass in the  $\eta$  region (0.53 - 0.57 GeV). (e-h) The same effective-mass distributions as in (a) through (d) for events at 4.2 GeV/c.

Fig. 34. (a) Scatter plot of  $M_{p\pi^+}$  vs  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  for single- $\omega$  events at both momenta with  $\Delta_{p\pi}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>. (b) The  $M_{p\pi^+}$  spectrum for  $\omega$  events at both momenta with  $M_{\pi^-\omega}$  in the B interval (1.12 - 1.30 GeV). (c) The  $M_{p\pi^0}$  spectrum for the same events.

Fig. 35. (a) Scatter plot of  $\Delta_p^2$  vs  $M_{\pi-\omega}$  and (b) the  $M_{\pi-\omega}$  projection for single- $\omega$  events at both momenta (see Ref. 22). (c) Dalitz plot of  $M_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{\pi-\omega}^2$  with the further selection  $\Delta_p^2 < 0.35$  (GeV/c) $^2$ .

Fig. 36. The  $\Delta_p^2$  distributions for single- $\omega$  events (see Ref. 22):

(a) 3.2-GeV/c data, and (b) the B region ( $1.12 \leq M_{\pi-\omega} \leq 1.30$  GeV) at 3.2 GeV/c; (c) 4.2-GeV/c data, and (d) the B region at 4.2 GeV/c.

Fig. 37. (a) The  $\pi^-$  (and/or  $\omega$ )-exchange diagram, and (b) the  $\rho$ -exchange diagram for the process  $\pi^- p \rightarrow p \pi^- \omega$ .

Fig. 38. (a) Scatter plot of  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{p\pi^-}$  and (b) the  $M_{p\pi^-}$  projection for single- $\omega$  events at both momenta; (c) scatter plot of  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{\pi-\omega}$  for the same events (see Ref. 22); (d) Dalitz plot of  $M_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{\pi-\omega}^2$  with the further selection  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c) $^2$ .

Fig. 39. Distributions in  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  for single- $\omega$  events (see Ref. 22): (a) 3.2-GeV/c data, and (b) the B region ( $1.12 \text{ GeV} \leq M_{\pi-\omega} \leq 1.30 \text{ GeV}$ ) at 3.2 GeV/c; (c) 4.2 GeV/c data, and (d) the B region at 4.2 GeV/c.

Fig. 40. (a) The  $M_{\pi-\omega}$  spectrum for single- $\omega$  events at both momenta with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c) $^2$ ; the shaded region indicates events with  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-) > 0.6$ . (b) The  $M_{p\pi^-}$  spectrum for the same events; the shaded region indicates events in the B region (1.12 to 1.30 GeV).

Fig. 41. Angular correlations at the meson and isobar vertices for the  $\rho$ -exchange process (see Sec. V. B. 2); single- $\omega$  events at both momenta with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c) $^2$  have been used. The shaded histograms are for events at 4.2 GeV/c alone. The curve in (a) is the best fit to the data obtained by the least-squares method (the fitted coefficients for the polynomial in Eq. 2 are:  $a_0 = 91.70 \pm 3.03$ ,  $a_1 = -0.09 \pm 5.50$ , and

$$a_2 = 24.06 \pm 7.27).$$

Fig. 42. Same angular correlations as in Fig. 41 for events with  $M_{p\pi^-}$  in the  $N^{*0}(1238)$  region. See Sec. V.B.2 for the explanation of the curves.

Fig. 43. (a) Scatter plot of  $M_{p\pi^-}$  vs  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-)$  for single- $\omega$  events at both momenta with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>; (b) the same scatter plot in the B region (1.12 to 1.30 GeV).

Fig. 44. Distributions in  $\cos \theta(p\pi^-)$  for various  $M_{p\pi^-}$  intervals (in GeV). See Sec. V.B.2 for explanations of solid curves and shaded areas. Only single- $\omega$  events at both momenta with  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup> are plotted.

Fig. 45. (a) The  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  distribution (two points per event) for the reaction  $\pi^-n \rightarrow p\pi^-\pi^-$  taken from the deuterium data at 3.2 GeV/c (see footnote 70); (b) the  $M_{p\pi_1^-}$  distribution ( $\Delta_{p\pi_1^-}^2 \leq \Delta_{p\pi_2^-}^2$ ) for events with  $\Delta_{p\pi_1^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>; (c-g) the  $\cos \theta(p\pi_1^-)$  distribution for various  $M_{p\pi_1^-}$  intervals (in GeV).

Fig. 46. The  $M_{\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-}$  spectra for (a) the central ( $r > 0.7$ ), and (b) the peripheral ( $r < 0.7$ ) regions of the  $3\pi$  Dalitz plot. Events at both momenta were used in these figures.

Fig. 47. (a) The  $\omega$  Dalitz plot for single- $\omega$  events at both momenta, and (b) for double- $\omega$  events. (c) Radial-density distributions of  $\omega$  decay (single- $\omega$  events) for the B region (1.12 to 1.30 GeV), and (d) outside the B region. The dashed-line histograms represent the total number of events in each category; the solid histograms correspond to events with background subtracted (see Sec. V.B.3). Curves fitted to the solid-line histograms are those expected for the decay of a

$J^P = 1^-$  meson.

Fig. 48. The  $M_{\pi-\omega}$  spectra for (a) the central ( $r > 0.7$ ) and (b) the peripheral ( $r < 0.7$ ) regions of the single- $\omega$  Dalitz plot (3.2- and 4.2-GeV/c data combined). The shaded areas are for double- $\omega$  events.

Fig. 49. (a) The  $M_{\pi-\omega}$  spectrum for single- $\omega$  events at both momenta with  $\Delta_p^2 < 0.35$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>; (b) the distributions in  $\cos \beta$  for the B region (in GeV) and (c) outside the B region. The shaded histograms are for events in the central region ( $r > 0.7$ ) of the  $\omega$  Dalitz plot. See Sec. V.B. 4 for explanation of the curve in (b).

Fig. 50. Scatter plots for events at both momenta in the final state  $p\pi-\eta$  ( $0.53 \text{ GeV} \leq M_{\pi+\pi^0\pi^-} \leq 0.57 \text{ GeV}$ ): (a)  $\Delta_p^2$  vs  $M_{\pi-\eta}$  and (c)  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  vs  $M_{p\pi^-}$  (see Ref. 22); Dalitz plots with (b)  $\Delta_p^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup> and (d)  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>.

Fig. 51. (a) The  $\rho^0(\eta?)$ -exchange and (b) the  $A_2$ -exchange diagrams for the process  $\pi^-p \rightarrow p\pi^-\eta$ .

Fig. 52. (a) The  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2$  and (b)  $M_{p\pi^-}$  distributions for  $\eta$  events at both momenta (see Ref. 22). The  $M_{\pi-\eta}$  spectra for  $\eta$  events at both momenta with (c)  $\Delta_p^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup> and (d)  $\Delta_{p\pi^-}^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>. The shaded histograms are for events at 4.2 GeV/c alone.

Fig. 53. Two-body effective-mass distributions from the  $n4\pi$  final state at 3.2 GeV/c. The horizontal scales are in GeV, and the vertical scales are for the number of combinations per 40 MeV. The total number of combinations is given for each histogram after the heading "TOTAL." The phase-space curves drawn in each histogram are normalized to the total number of combinations.

Fig. 54. Three- and four-body effective-mass distributions from the



$n4\pi$  final state at 3.2 GeV/c.

Fig. 55. Same distributions as in Fig. 53 for events at 4.2 GeV/c.

Fig. 56. Same distributions as in Fig. 54 for events at 4.2 GeV/c.

Fig. 57. (a) Distribution in MM for  $p3\pi$ MM events at 3.2 and 4.2 GeV/c with  $\Delta_p^2 < 1.0$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>; (b) distribution in  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\pi^-MM}$  for the same events; (c) distribution in  $M_{\pi^+\pi^-\eta}$  for events with MM in the  $\eta$  region (0.50 to 0.60 GeV). The shaded histograms are for events at 4.2 GeV/c alone.

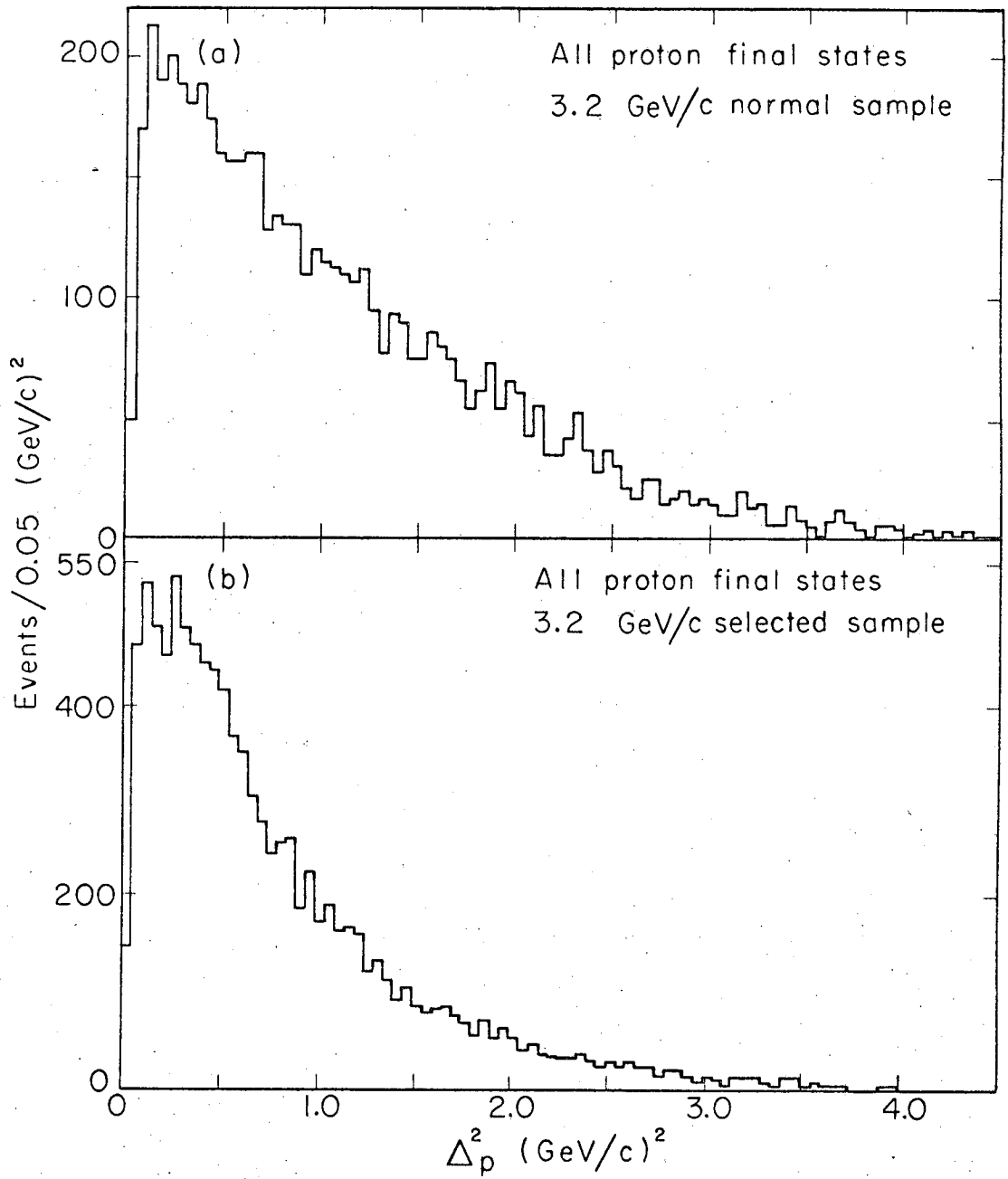
Fig. 58. The  $\omega$  Dalitz plot ( $M_\omega = 0.783$  GeV). The inner contour corresponds to  $r = 0.7$ , and the outer contour (boundary) to  $r = 0$ .

Fig. 59. Beam-momentum spectrum for (a) the 3.2-GeV/c normal, (b) the 3.2-GeV/c selected, and (c) the 4.2-GeV/c sample.

Fig. 60. Distribution in the confidence level for all the fitted events.

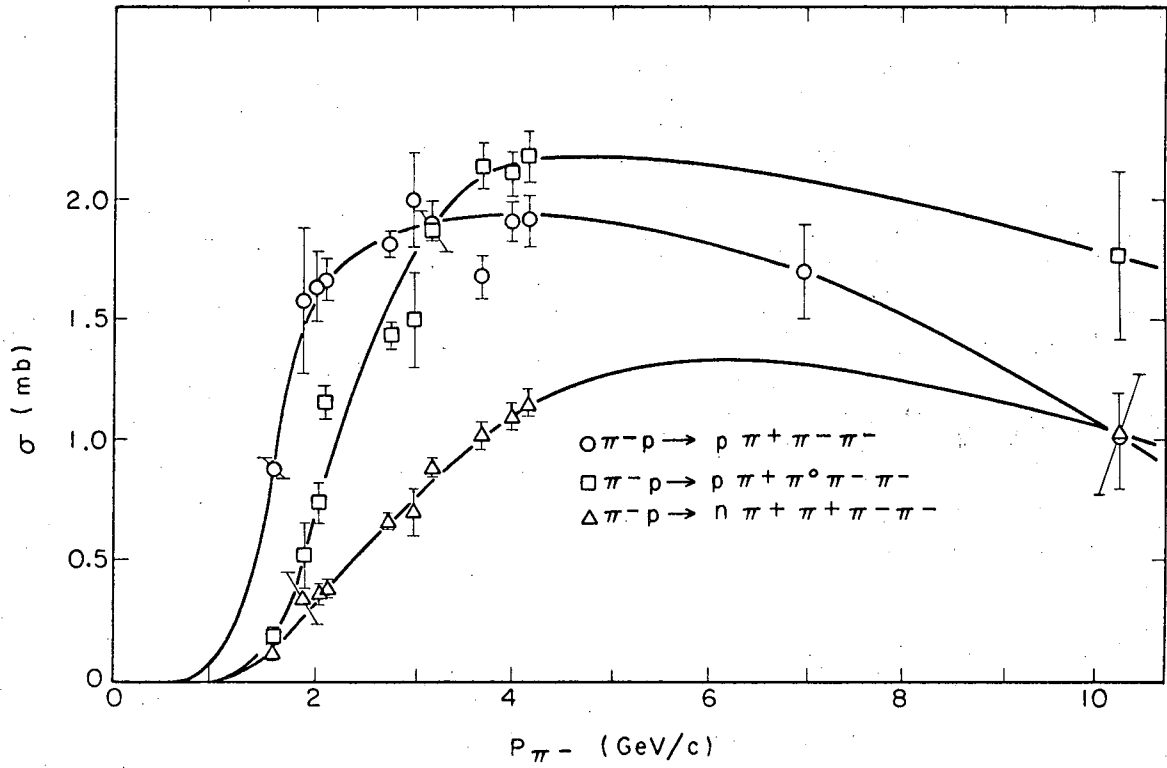
Fig. 61. The  $M_{\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-}$  spectrum for  $p4\pi$  events ambiguous with the  $p3\pi$  hypothesis and with C. L. less than 5%. The phase-space curve is normalized to the total number of combinations.

Fig. 62. (a) Spectrum of the square of the missing mass ( $MM^2$ ) calculated from the measured quantities for all  $p4\pi$  events. (b) The  $M_{\pi^+\pi^0\pi^-}$  spectrum for events outside the  $MM^2$  cut (dotted lines in Fig. a) and with C. L. < 5%.



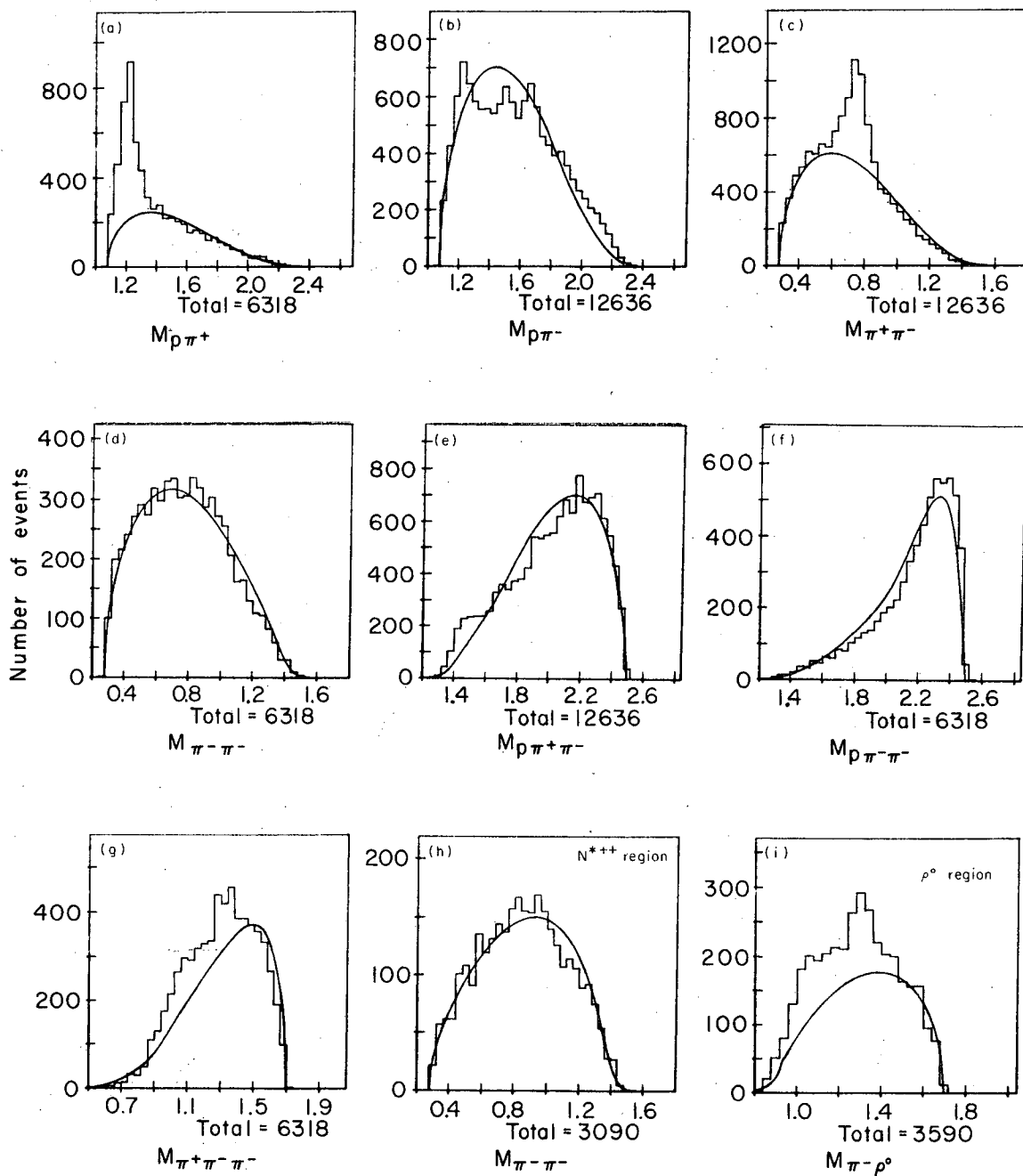
MUB-11676

Fig. 1



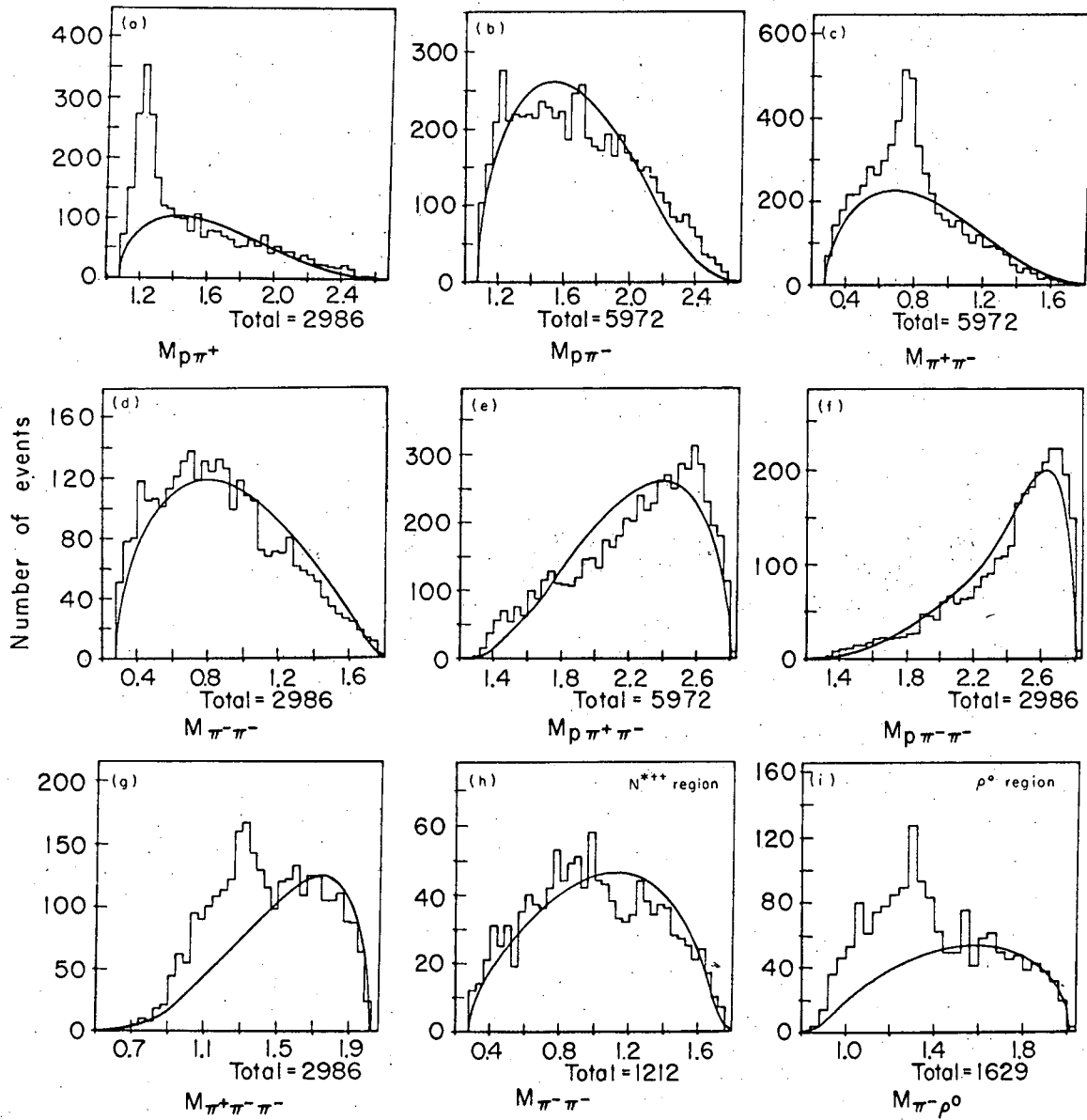
MUB 11673

Fig. 2



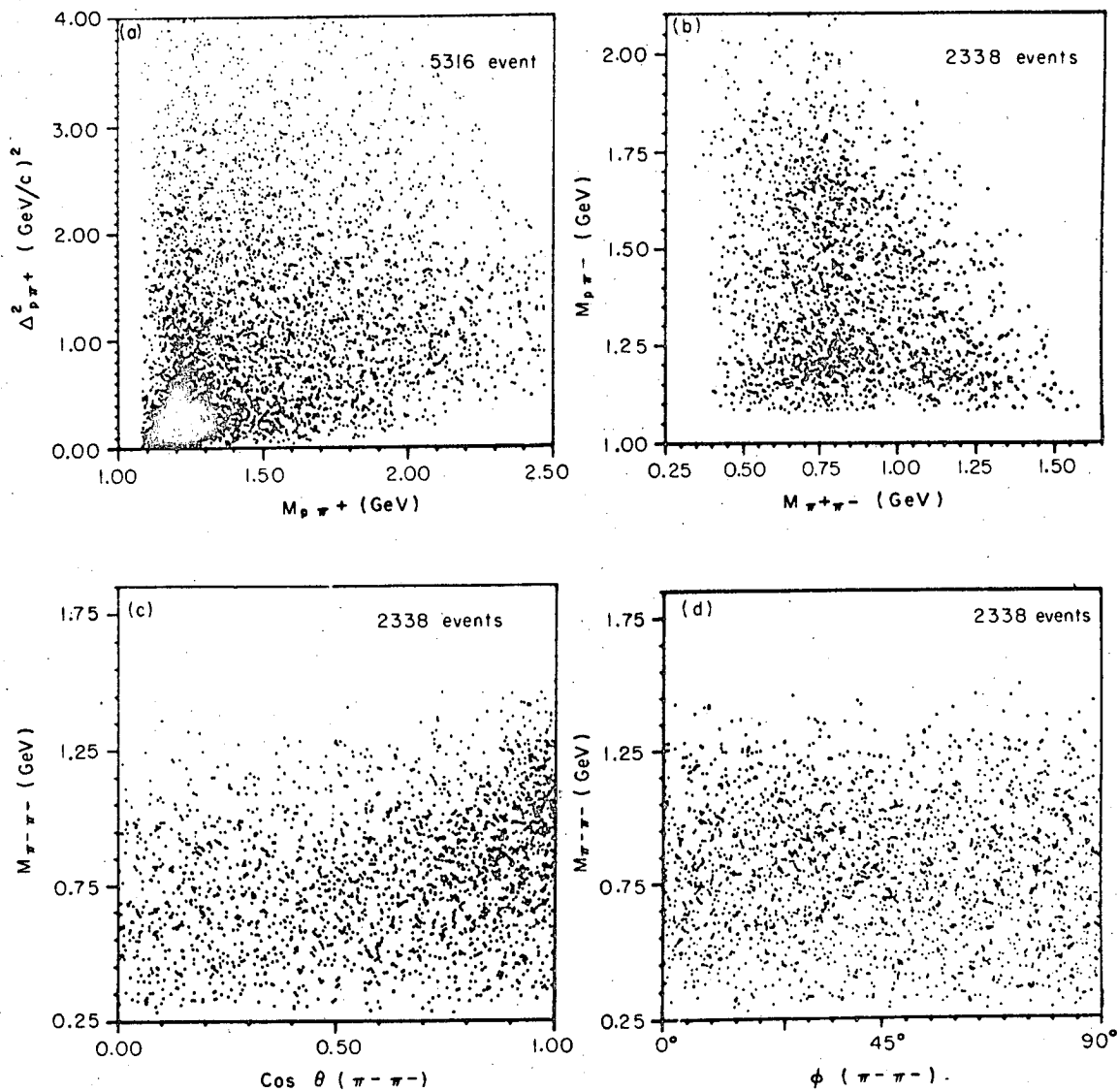
MVB-11704A

Fig. 3



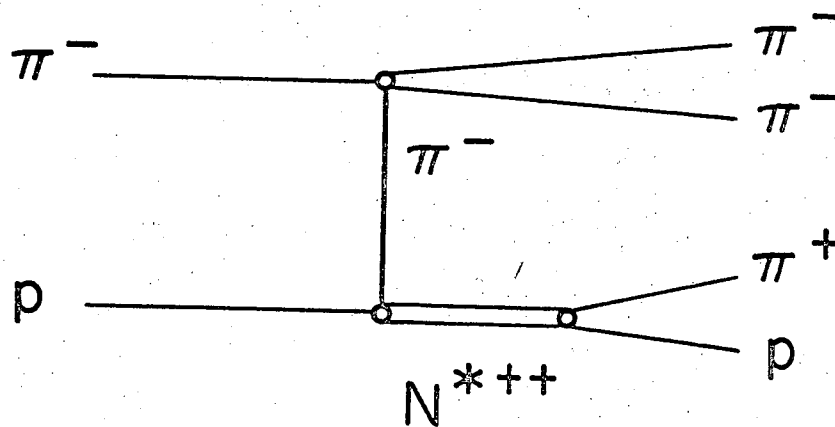
NU-11705 A

Fig. 4



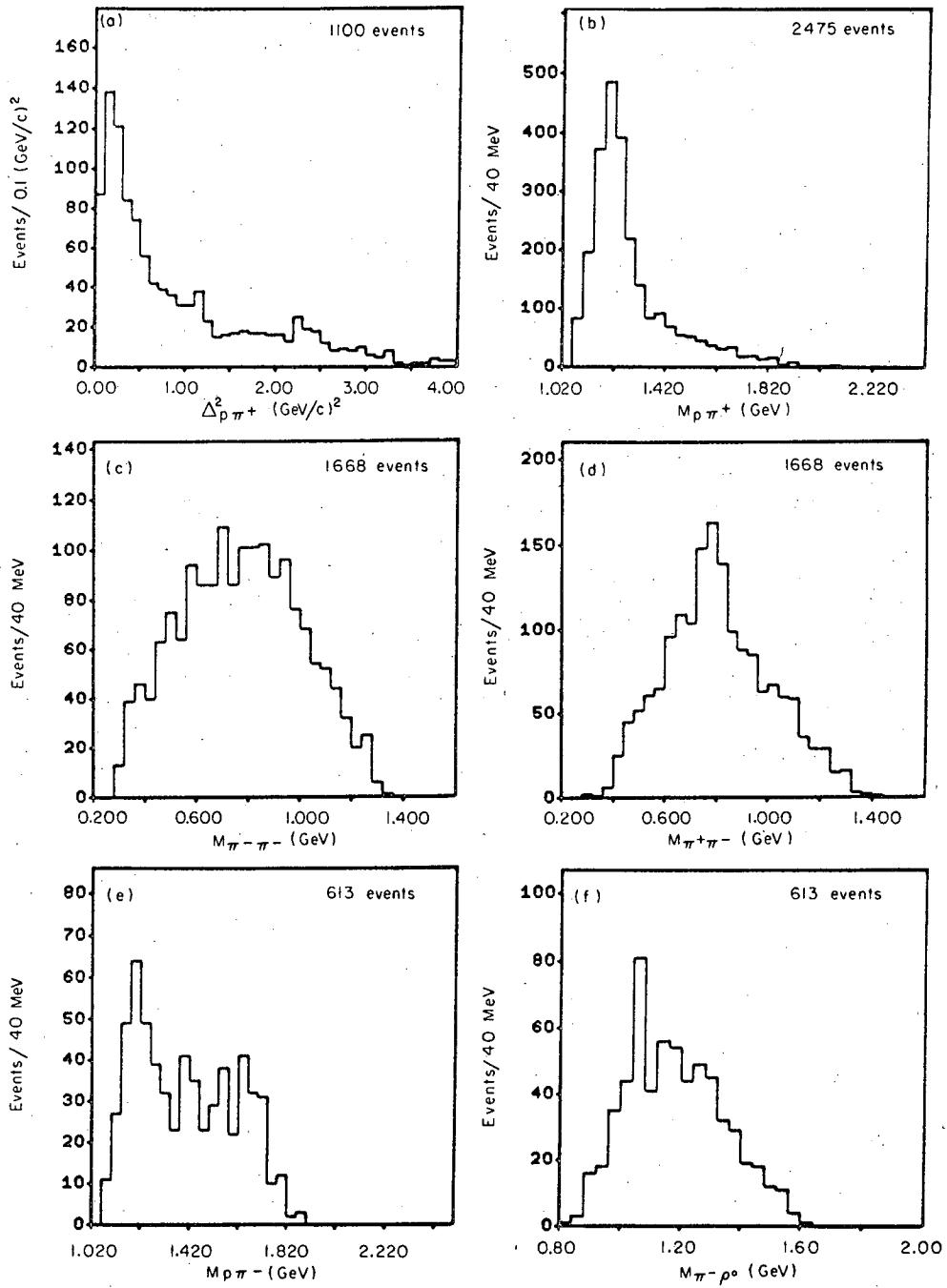
MUB11677

Fig. 5



MUB-11711

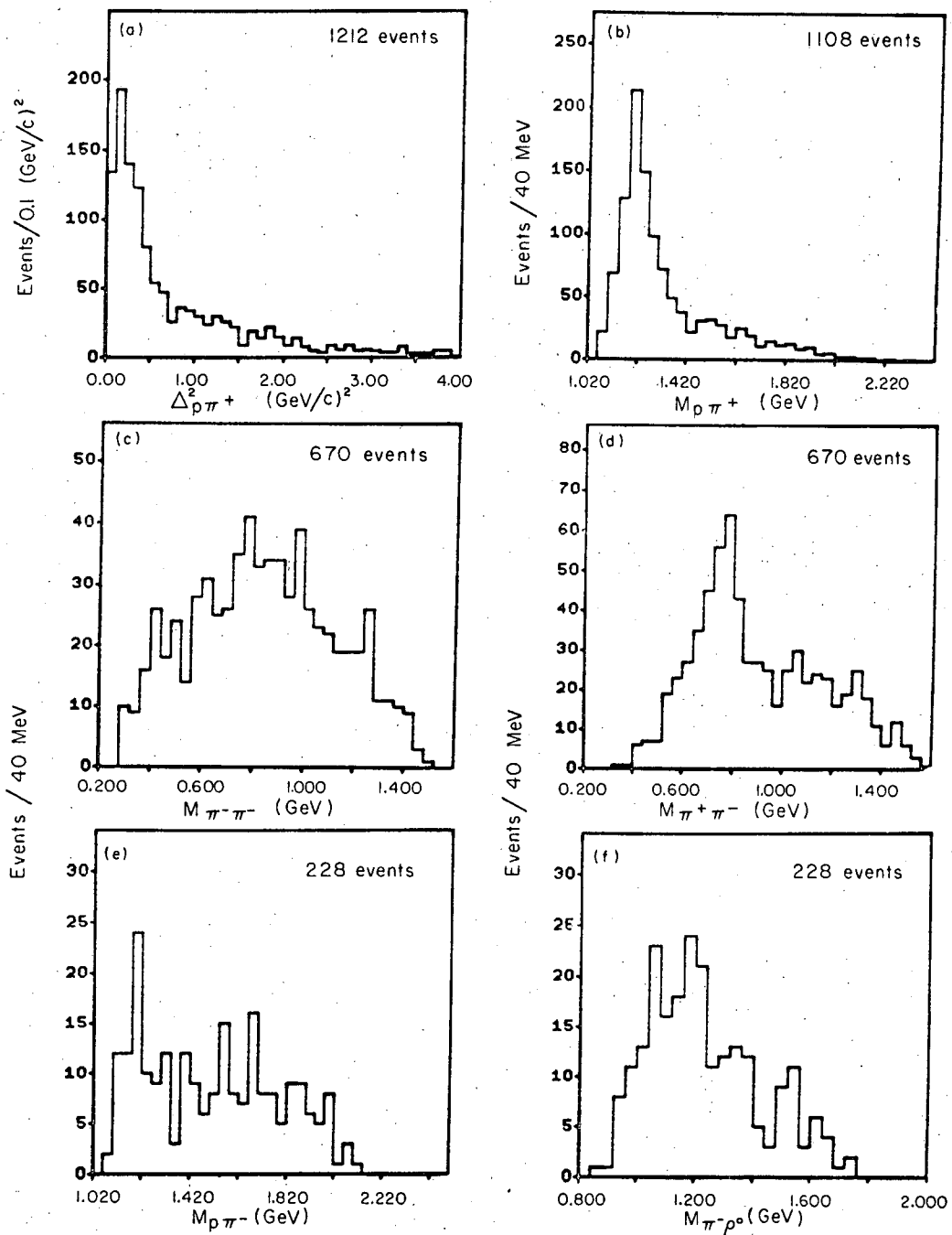
Fig. 6



MUB 11691

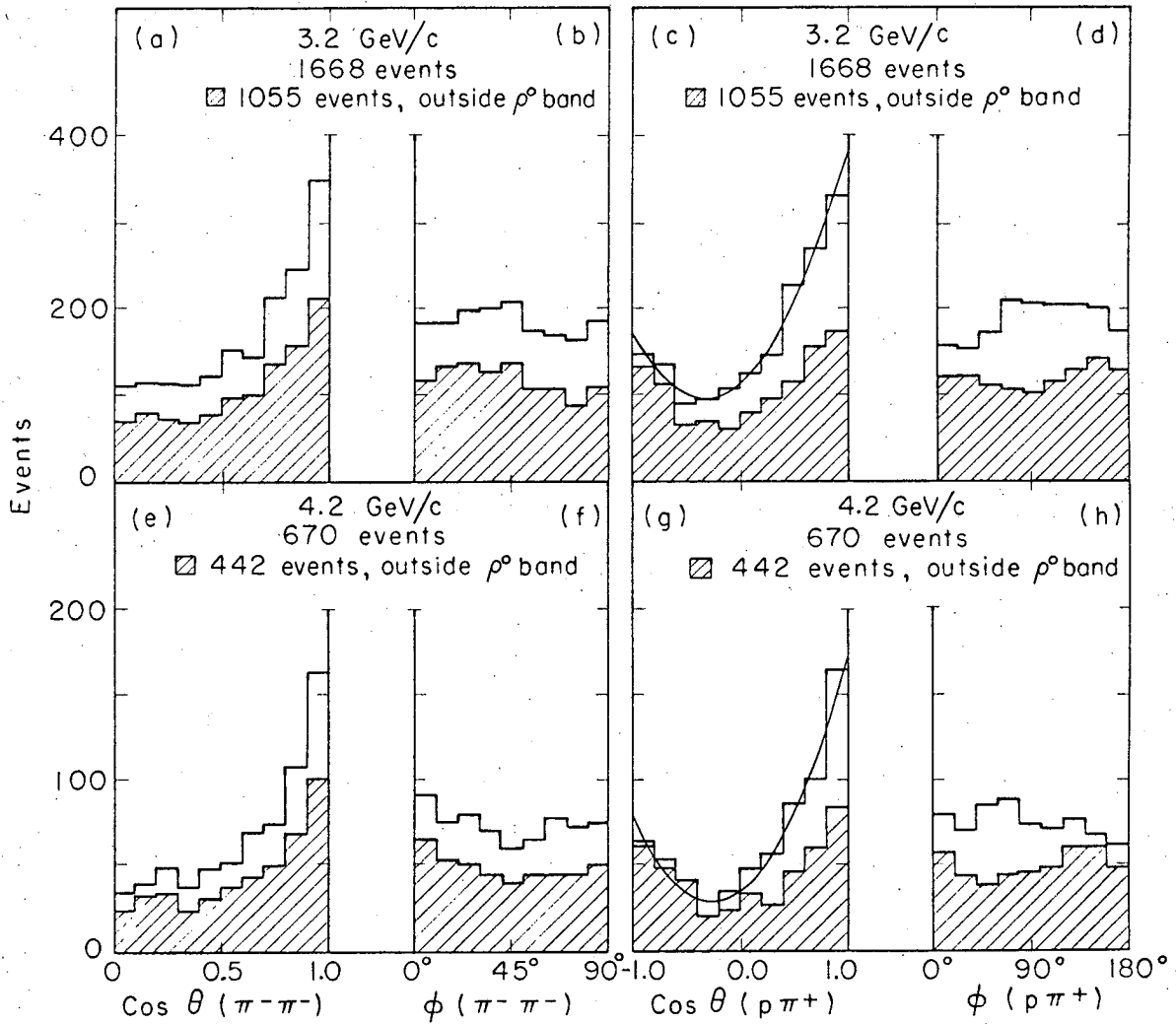
Fig. 7





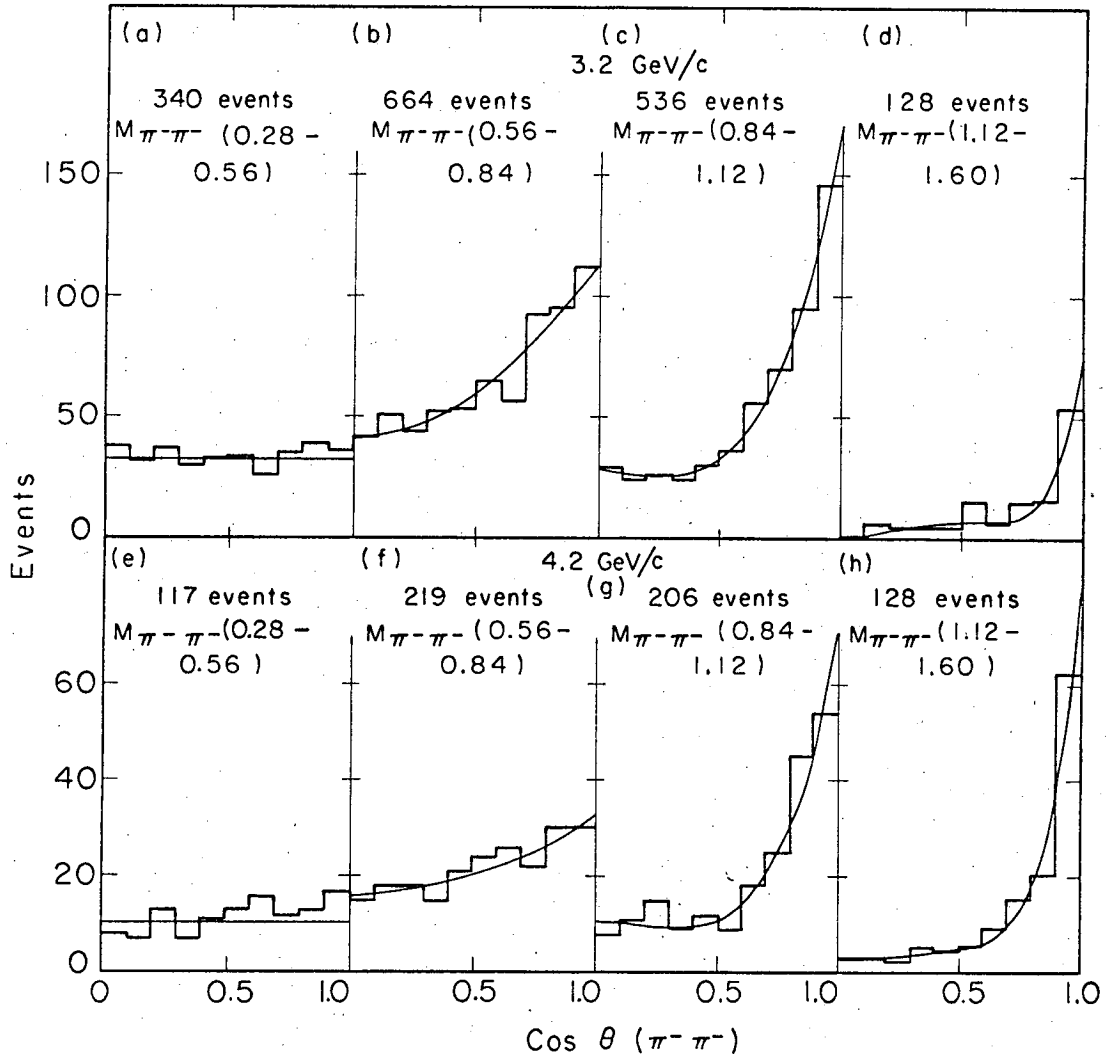
MUB11692

Fig. 8



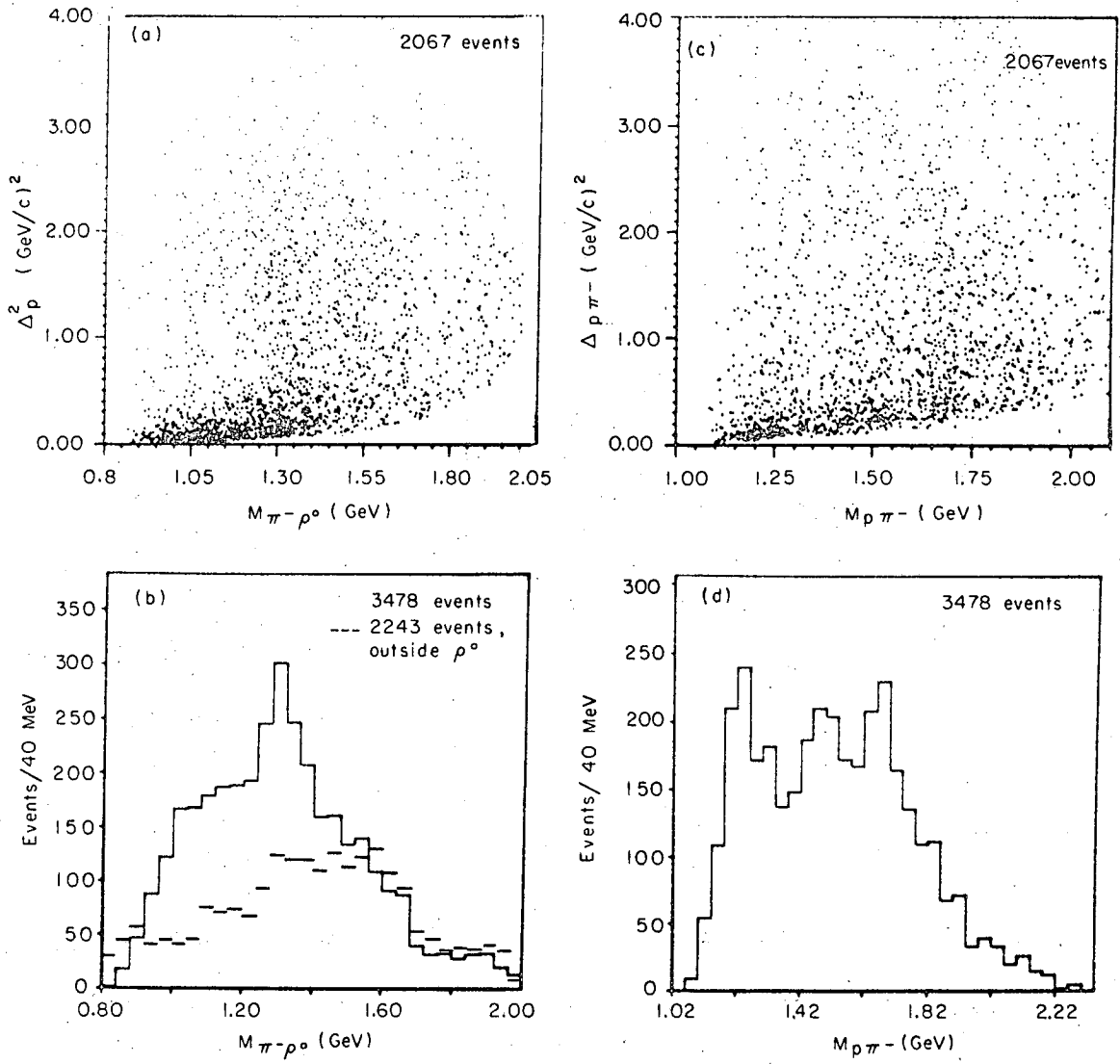
MUB-11688

Fig. 9



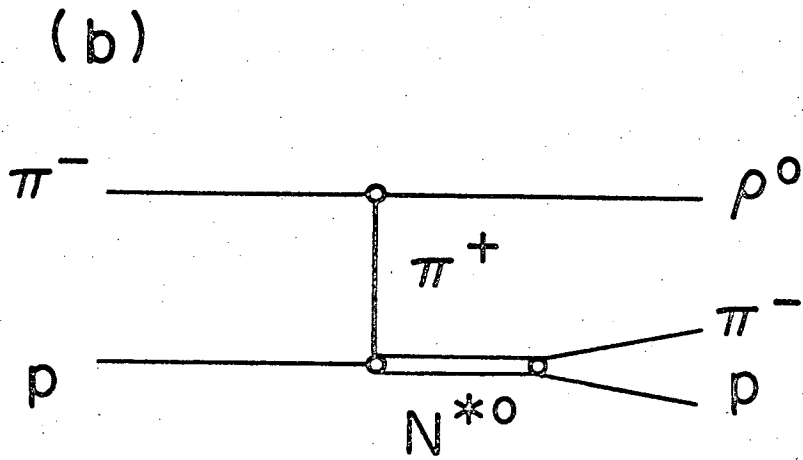
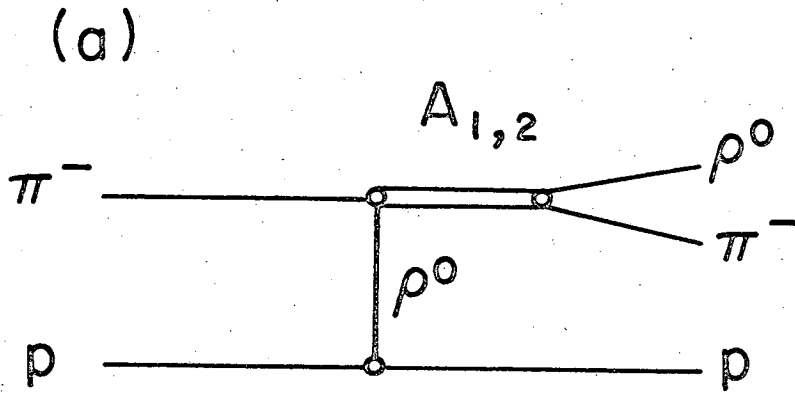
MUB 11687

Fig. 10



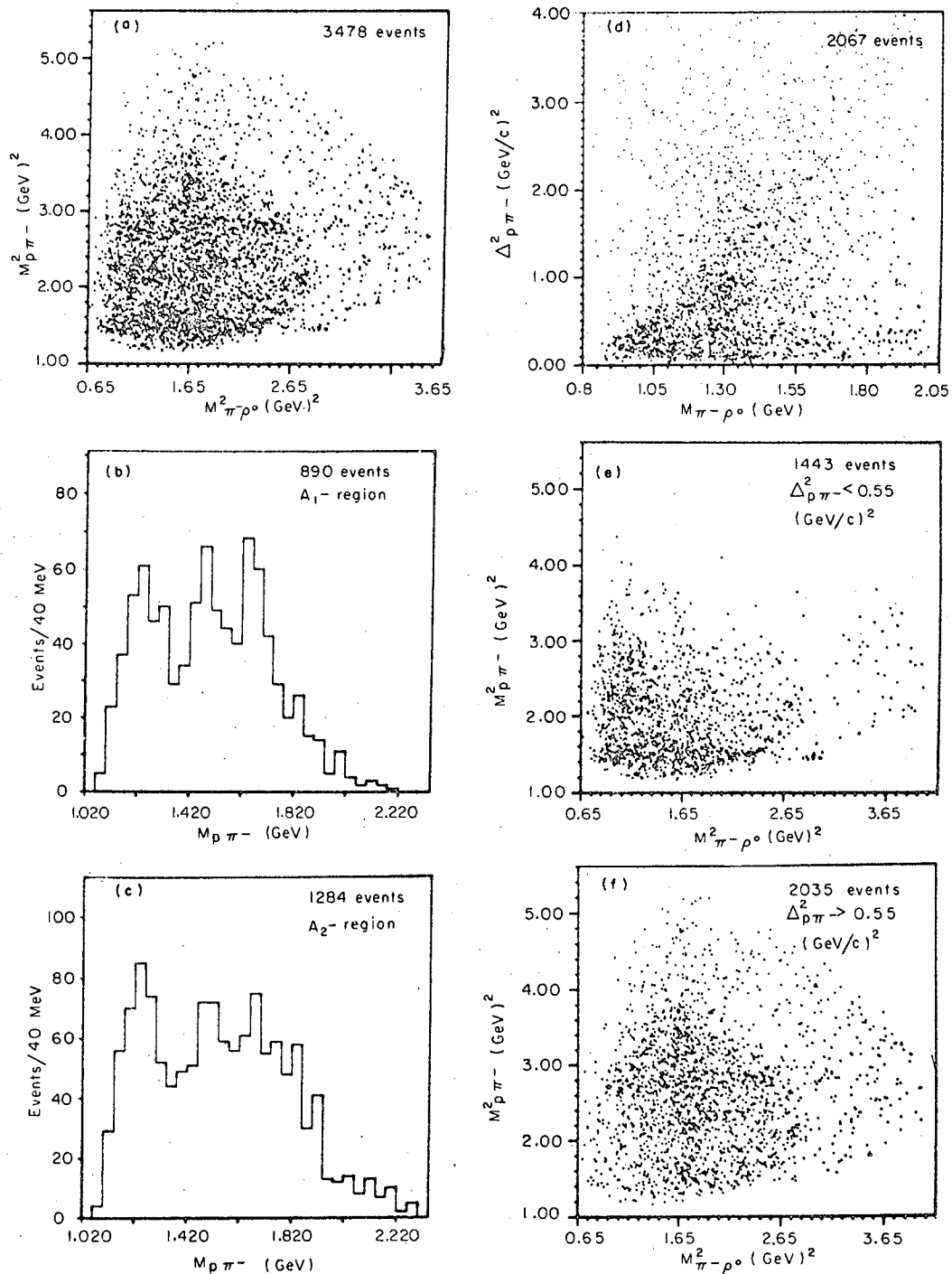
MUB-11709

Fig. 11



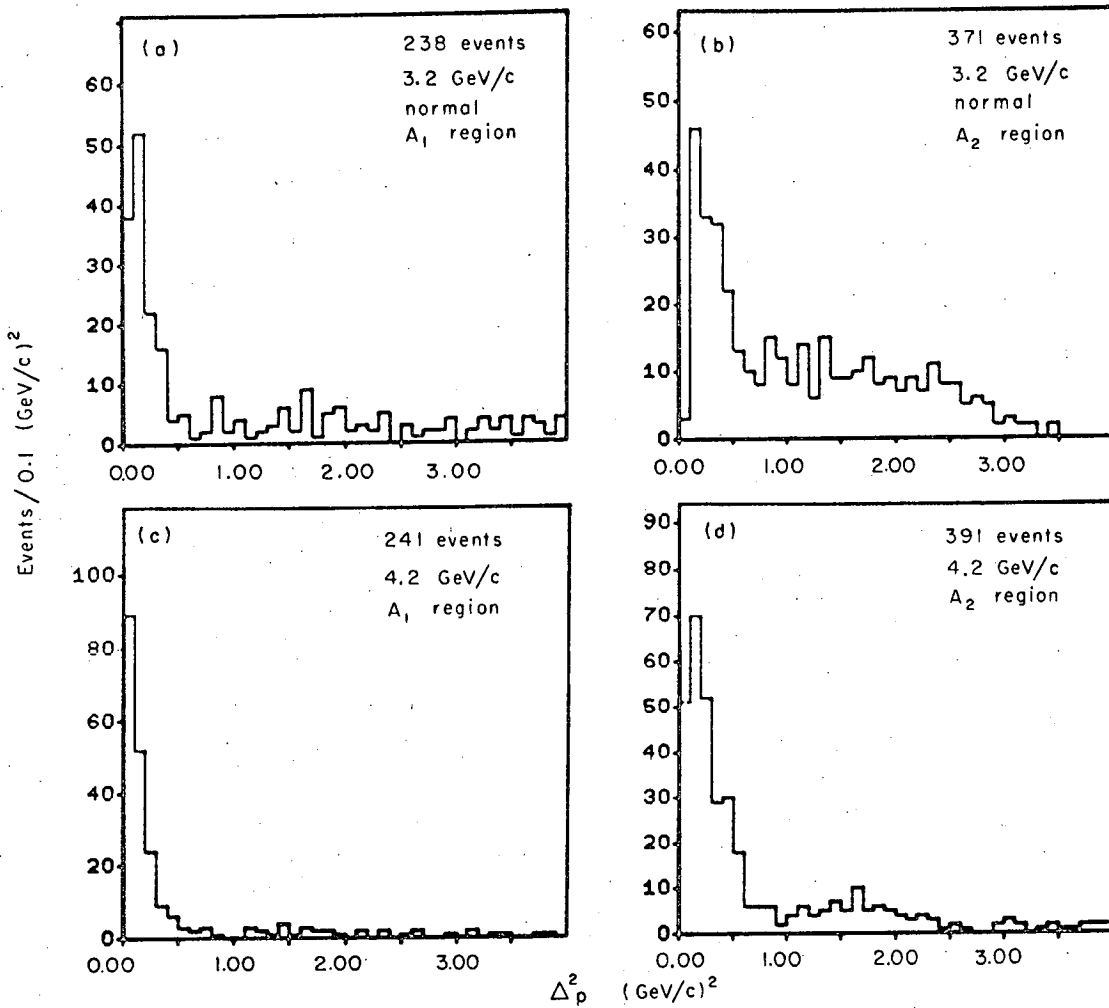
MUB 11714

Fig. 12



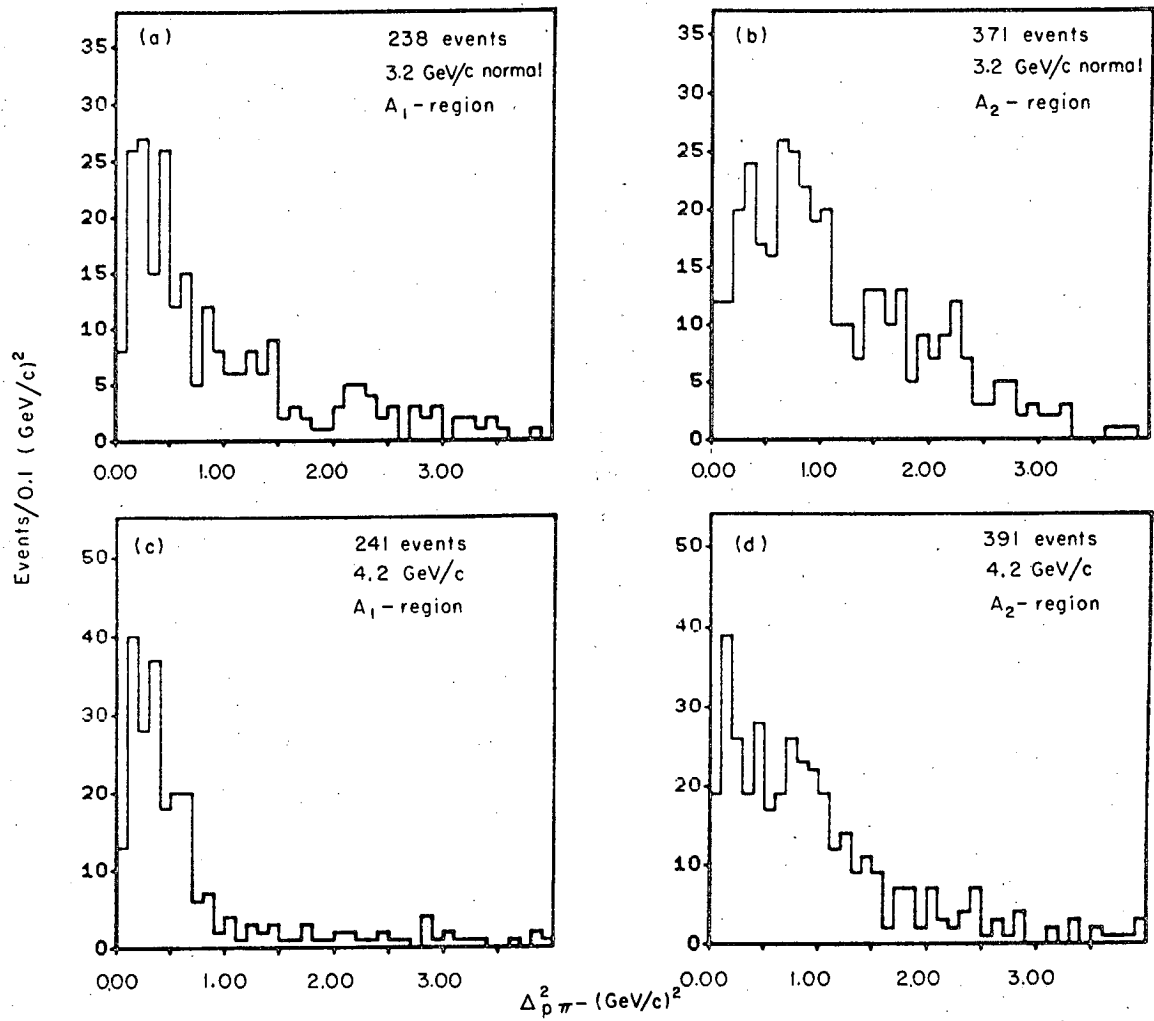
MUB 11710

Fig. 13



MUB11690

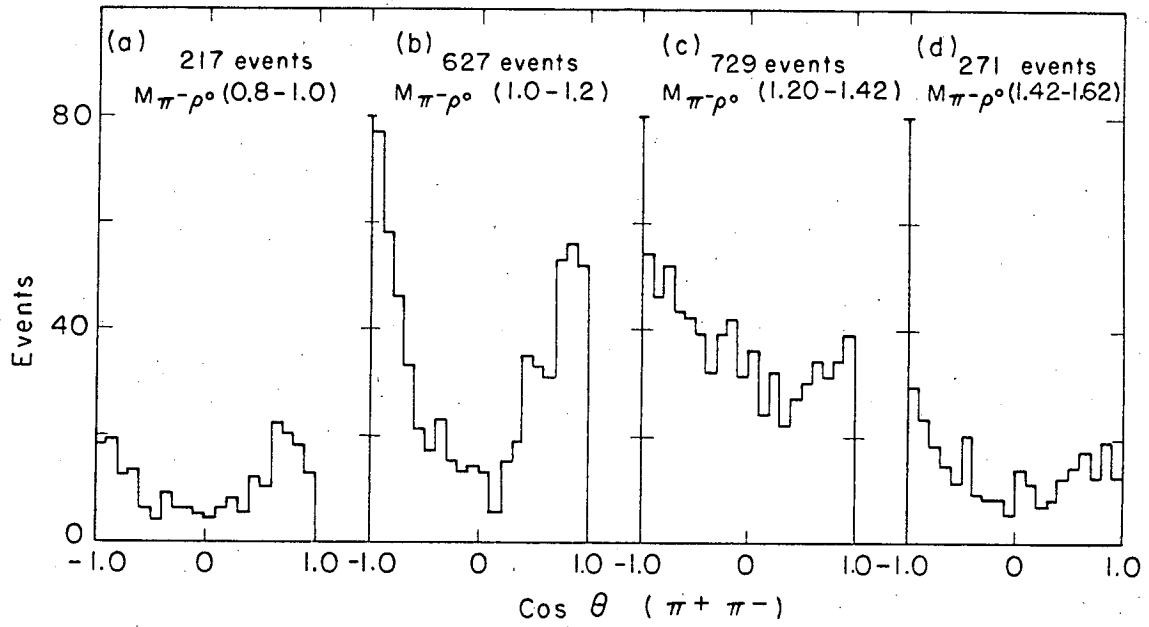
Fig. 14



MUB-11694

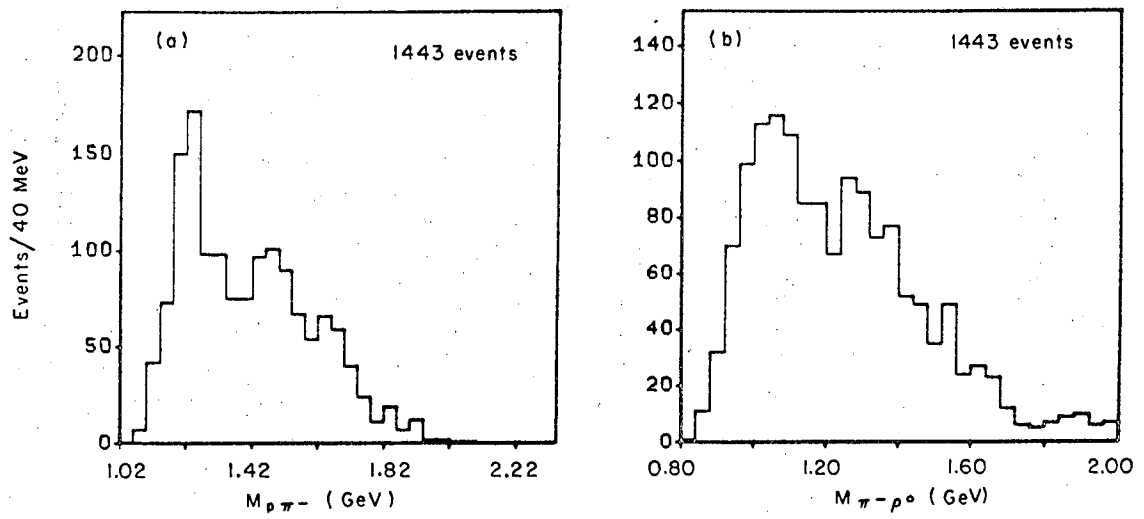
Fig. 15





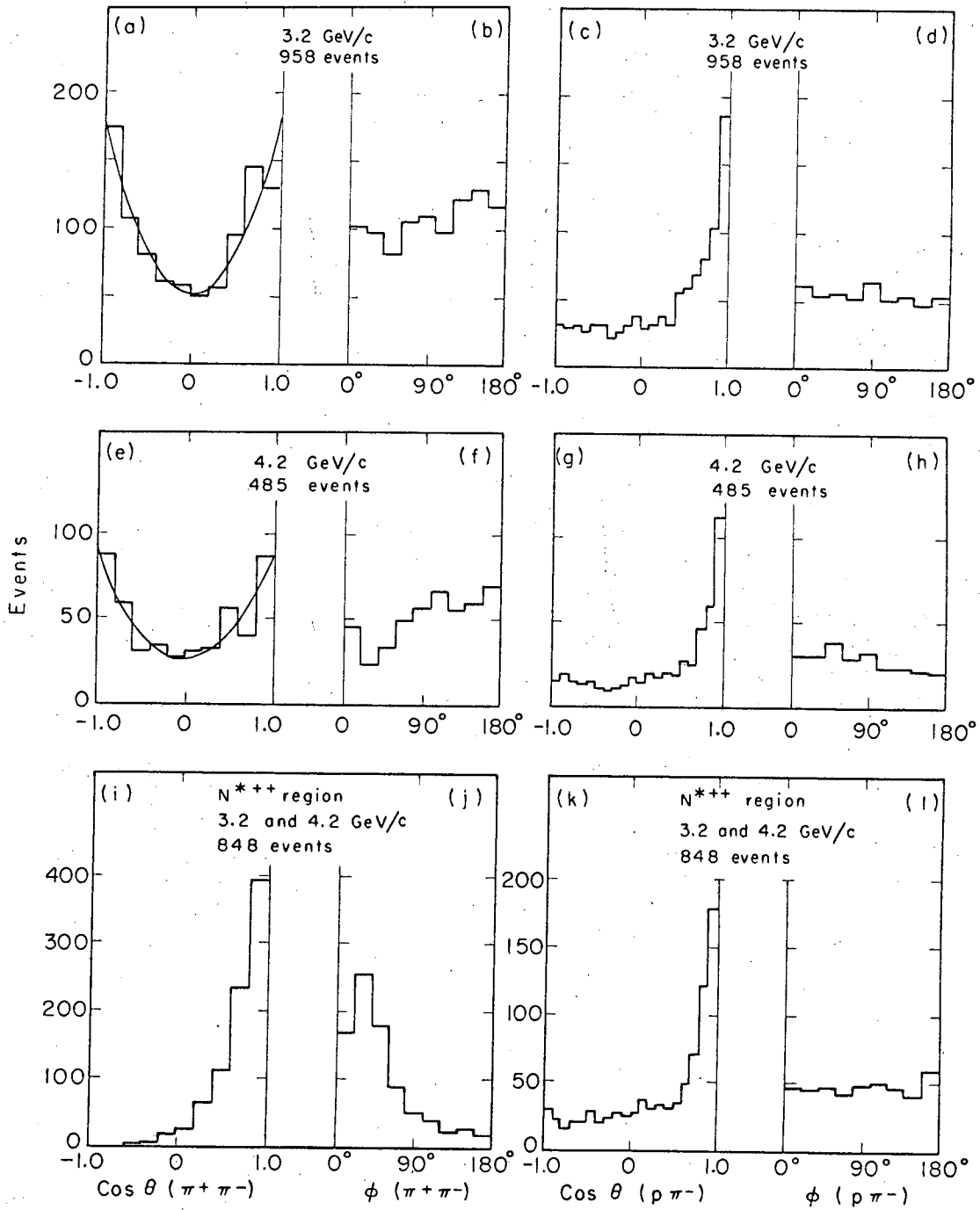
MUB 11671

Fig. 16



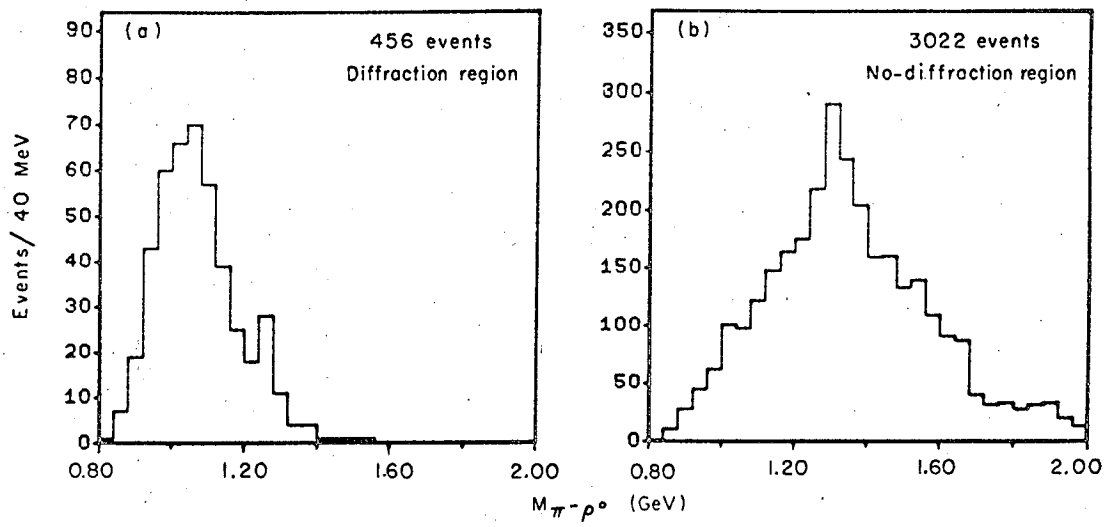
MUB 11665

Fig. 17



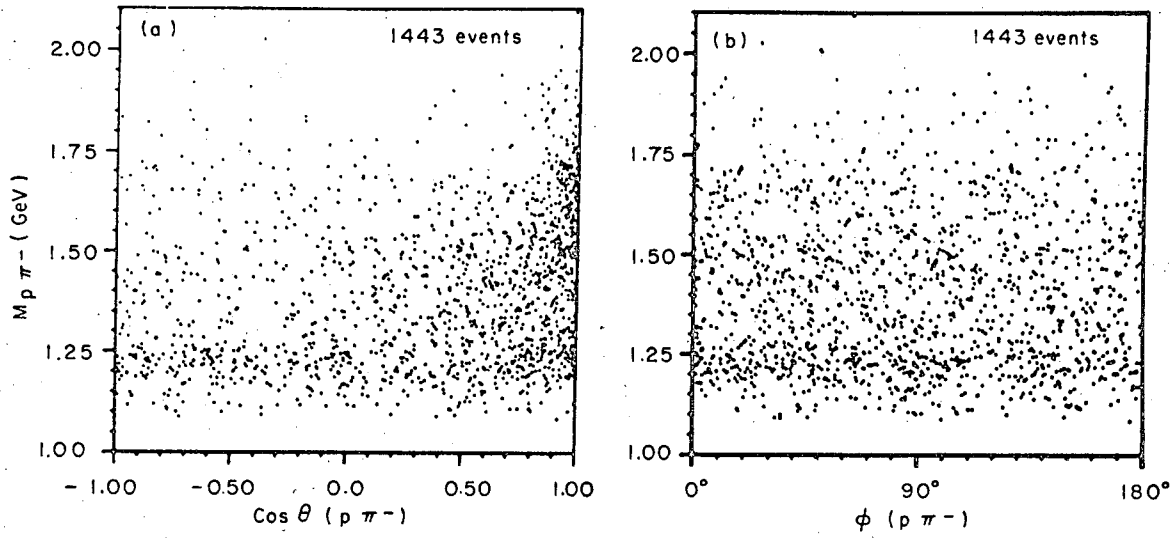
MUB 11684

Fig. 18



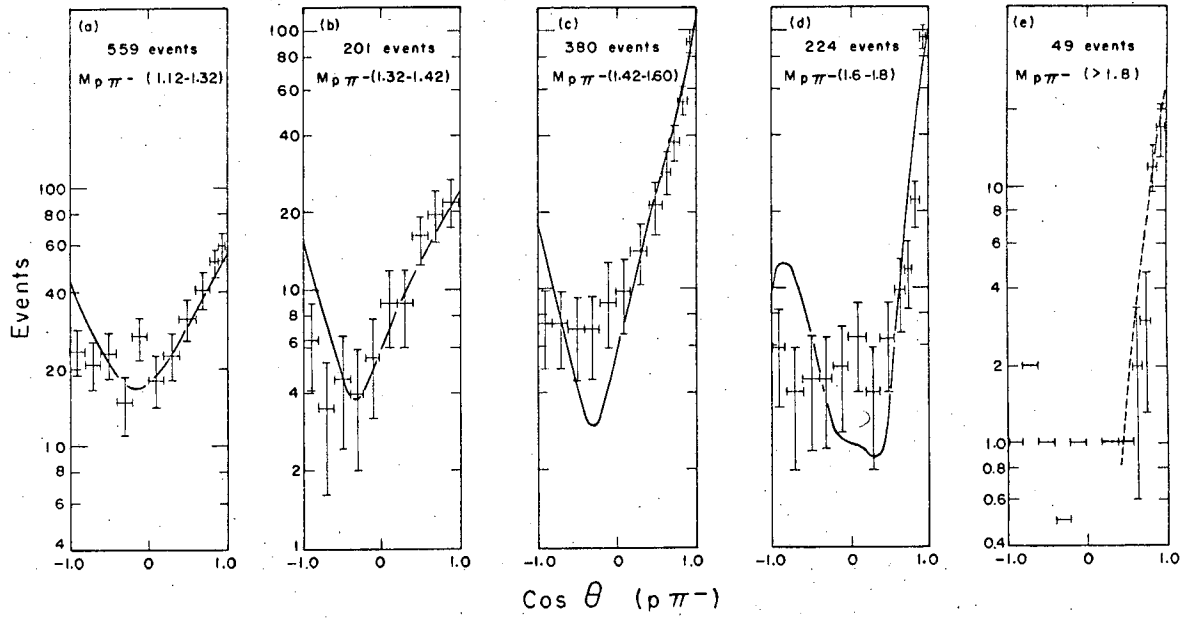
MUB-11661

Fig. 19



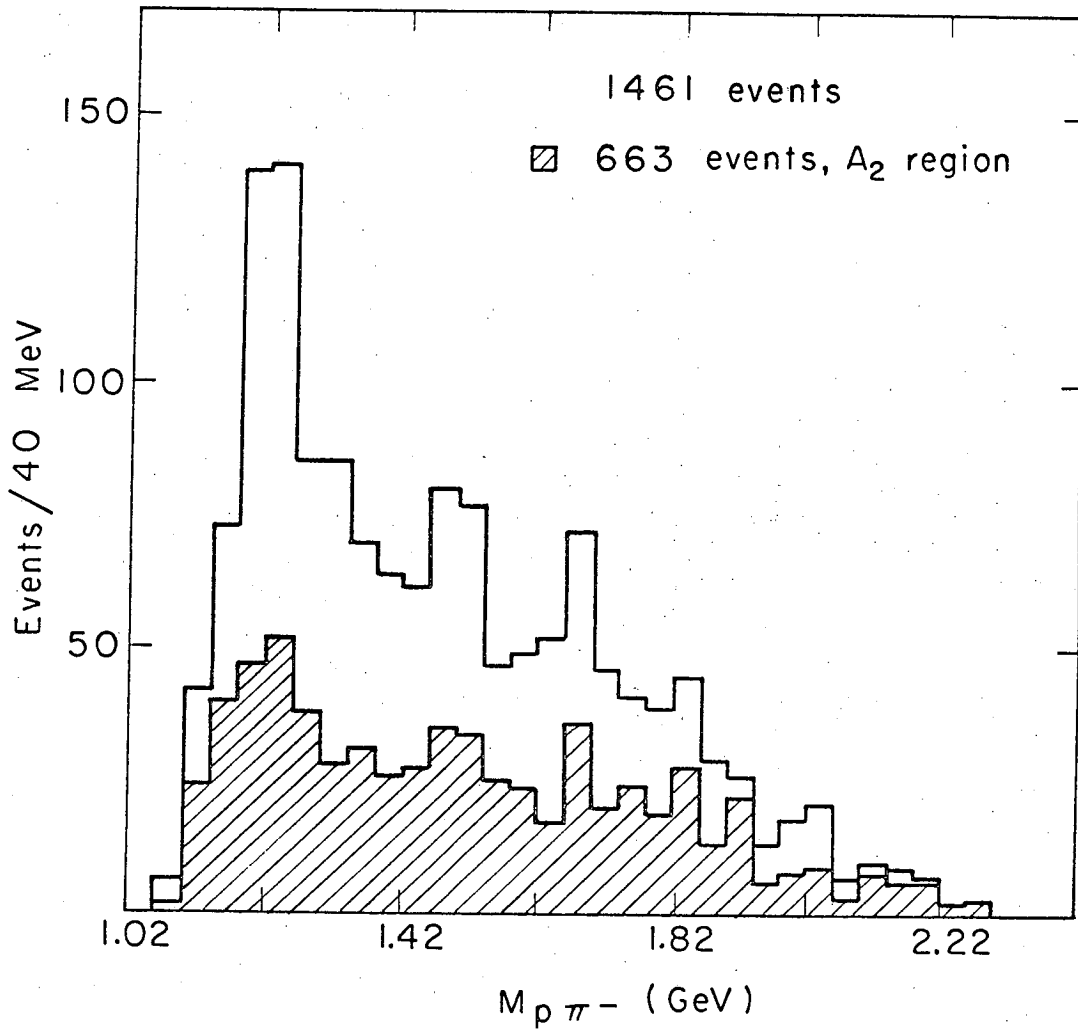
MUB 11666

Fig. 20



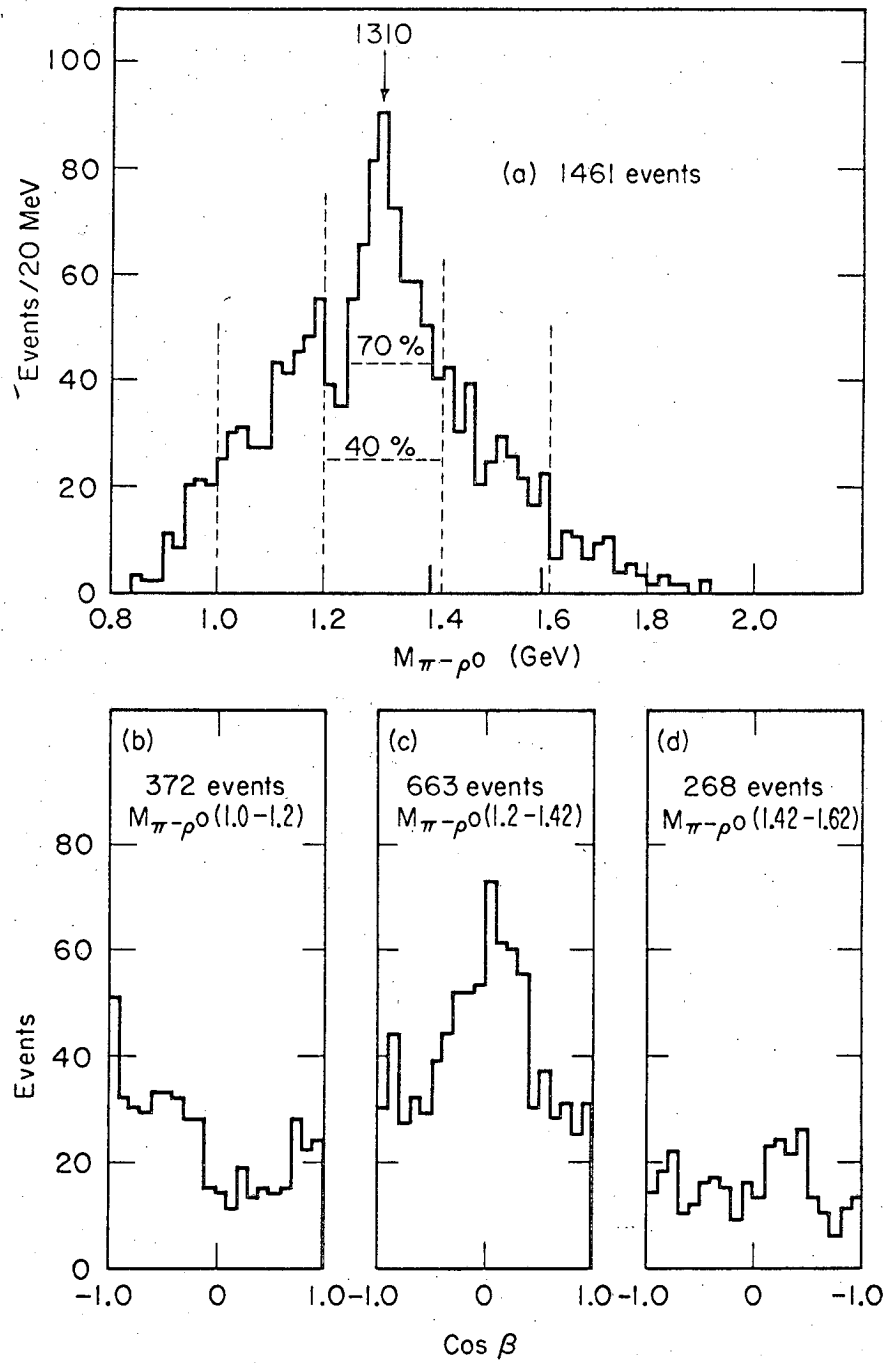
MUB11660

Fig. 21



MUB 11657

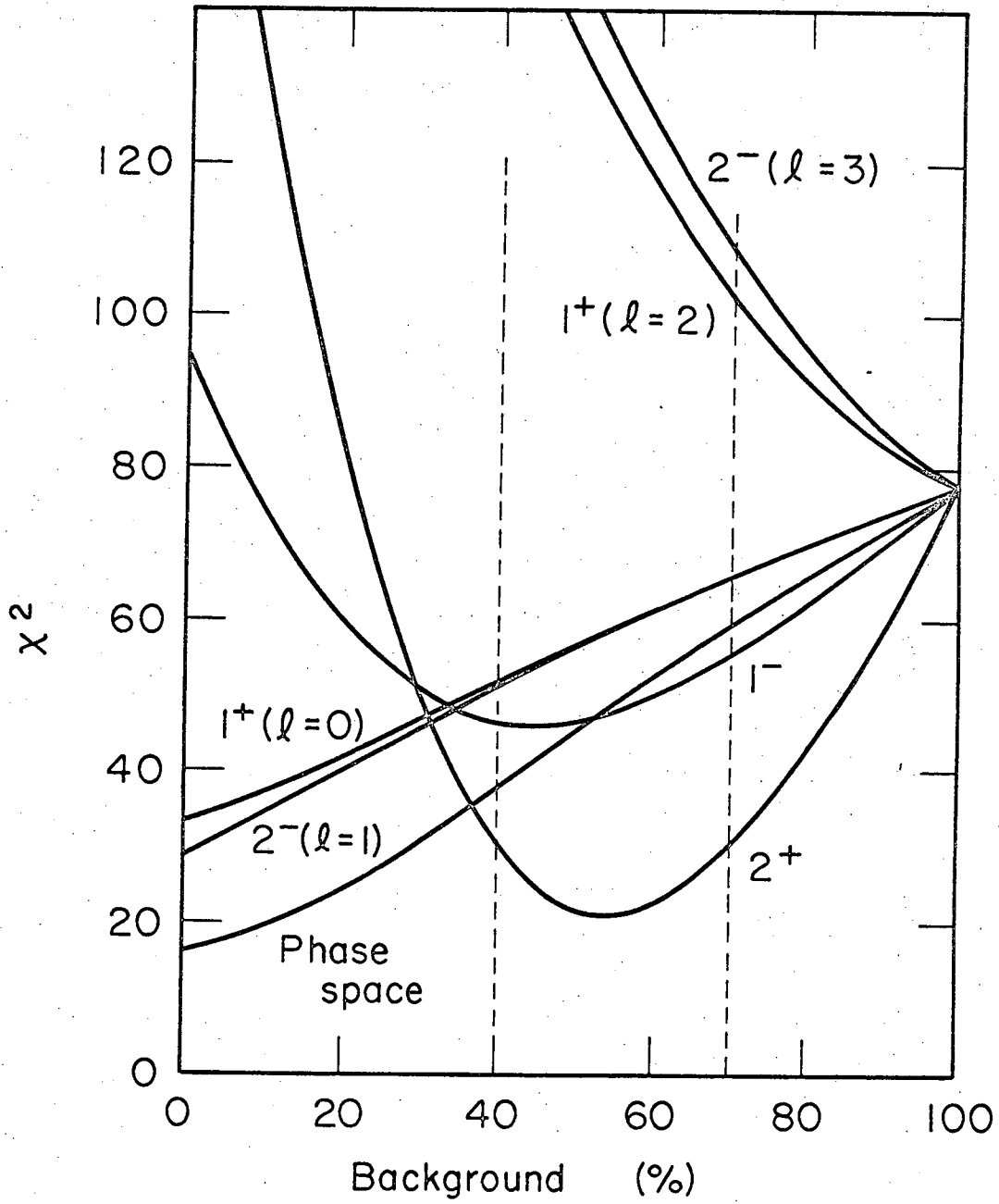
Fig. 22



MUB-11032

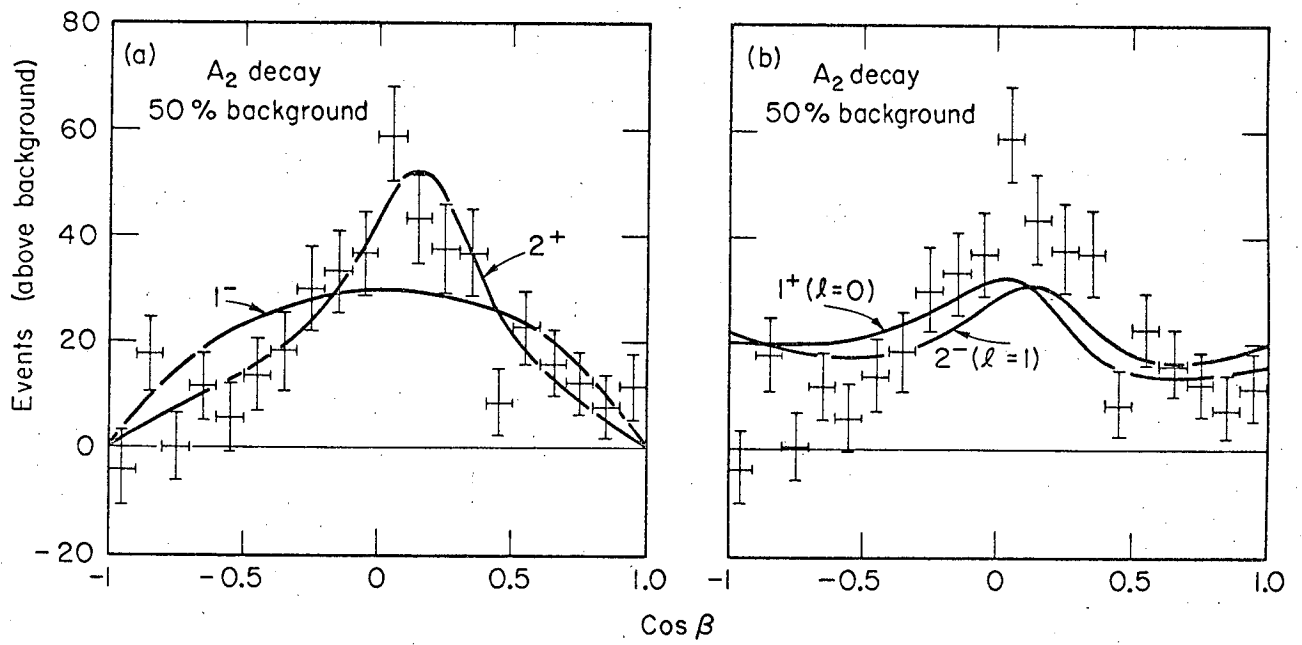
Fig. 23





MUB-11030

Fig. 24.



MUB-11031

Fig. 25

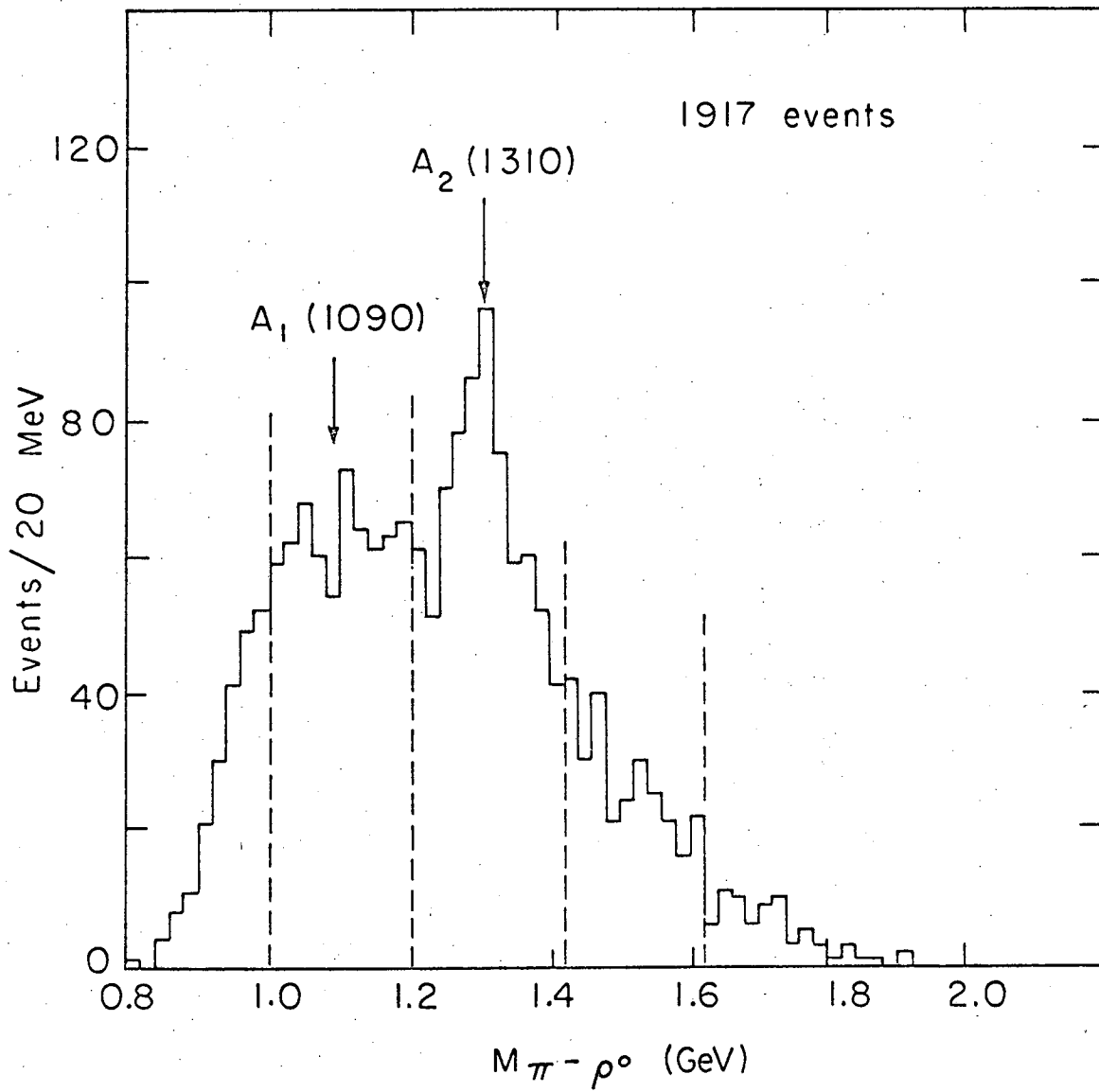
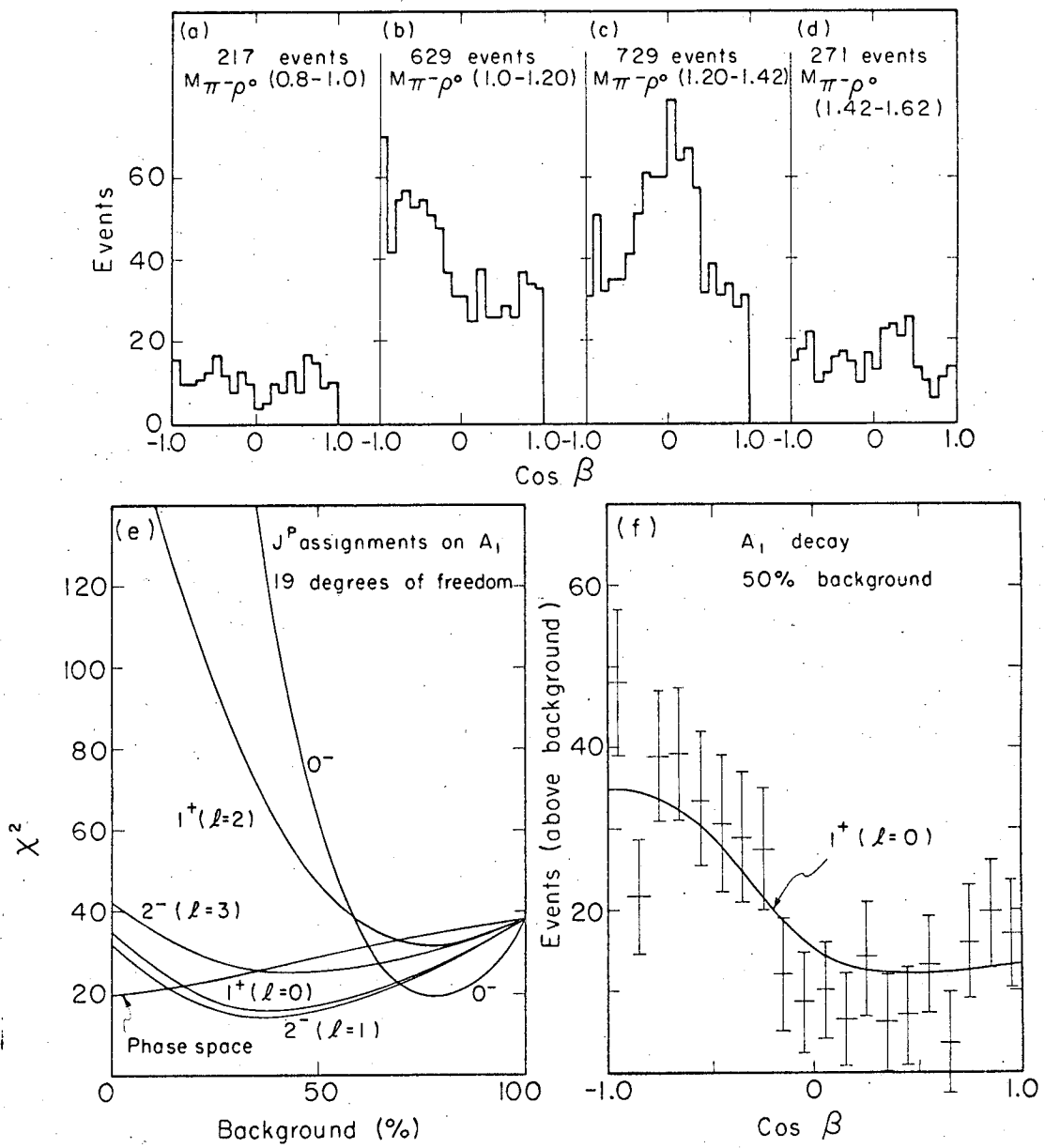


Fig. 26

MUB 11658



MUB-11686

Fig. 27

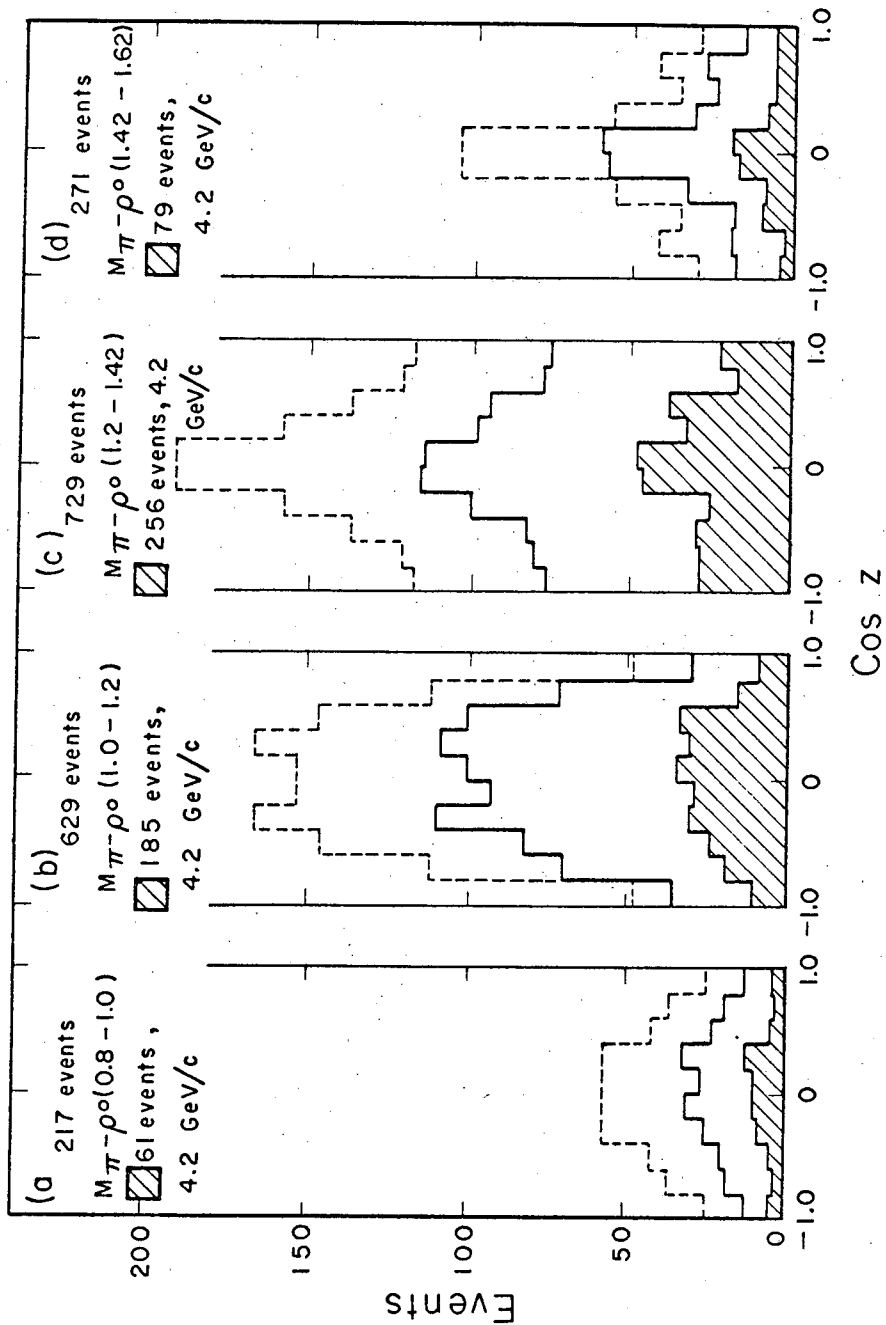


Fig. 28

MUB 11659A

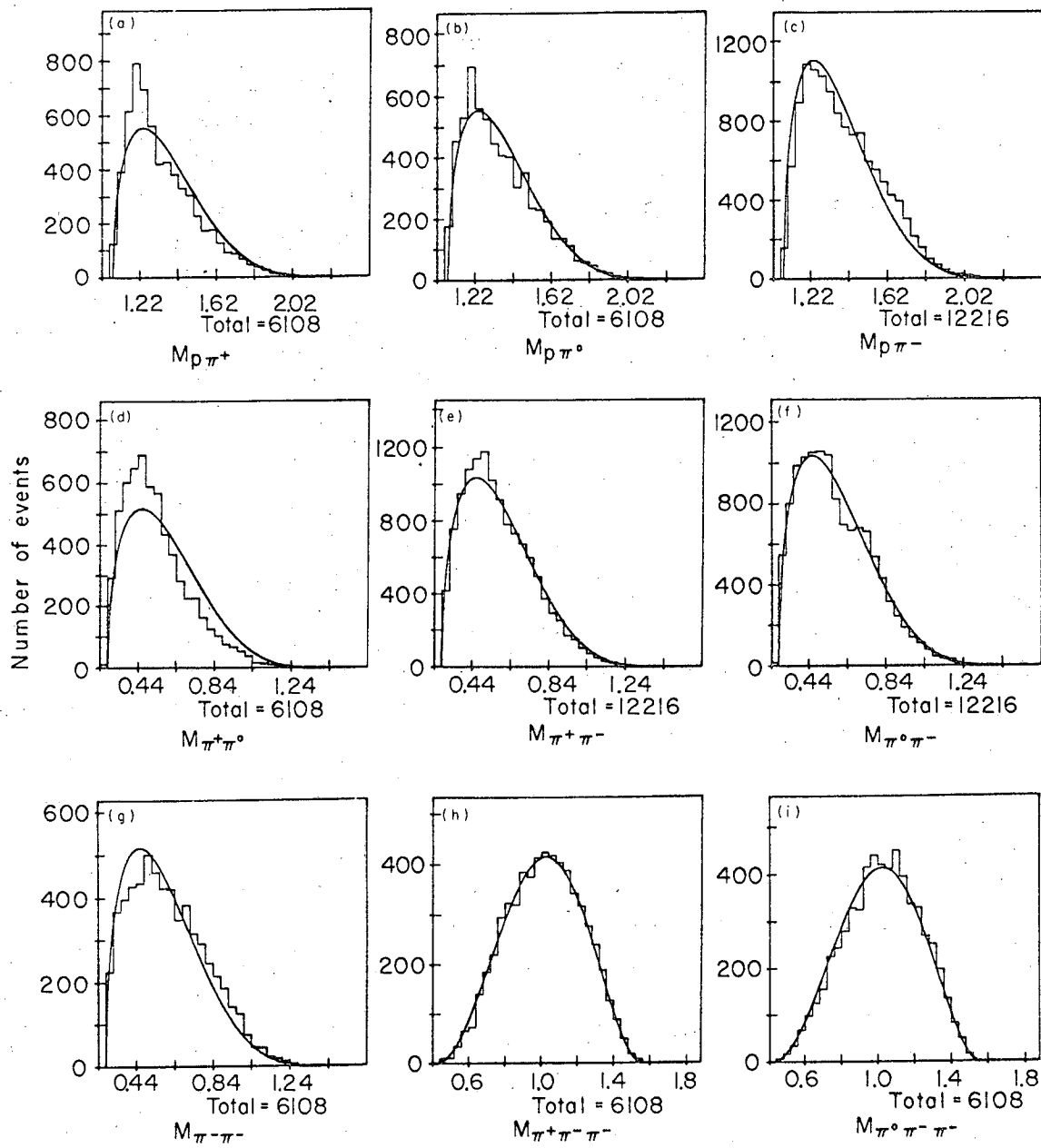


Fig. 29

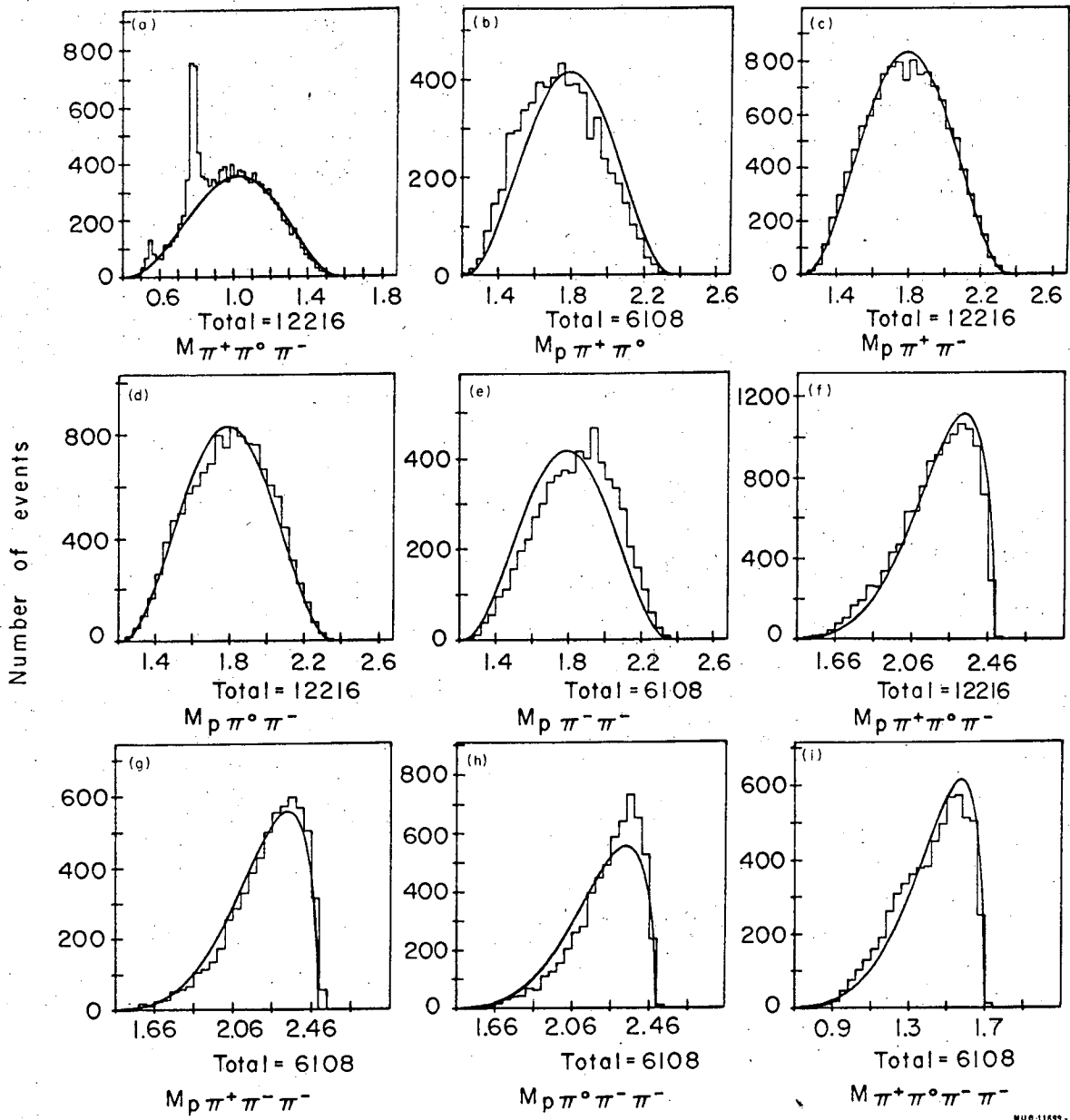
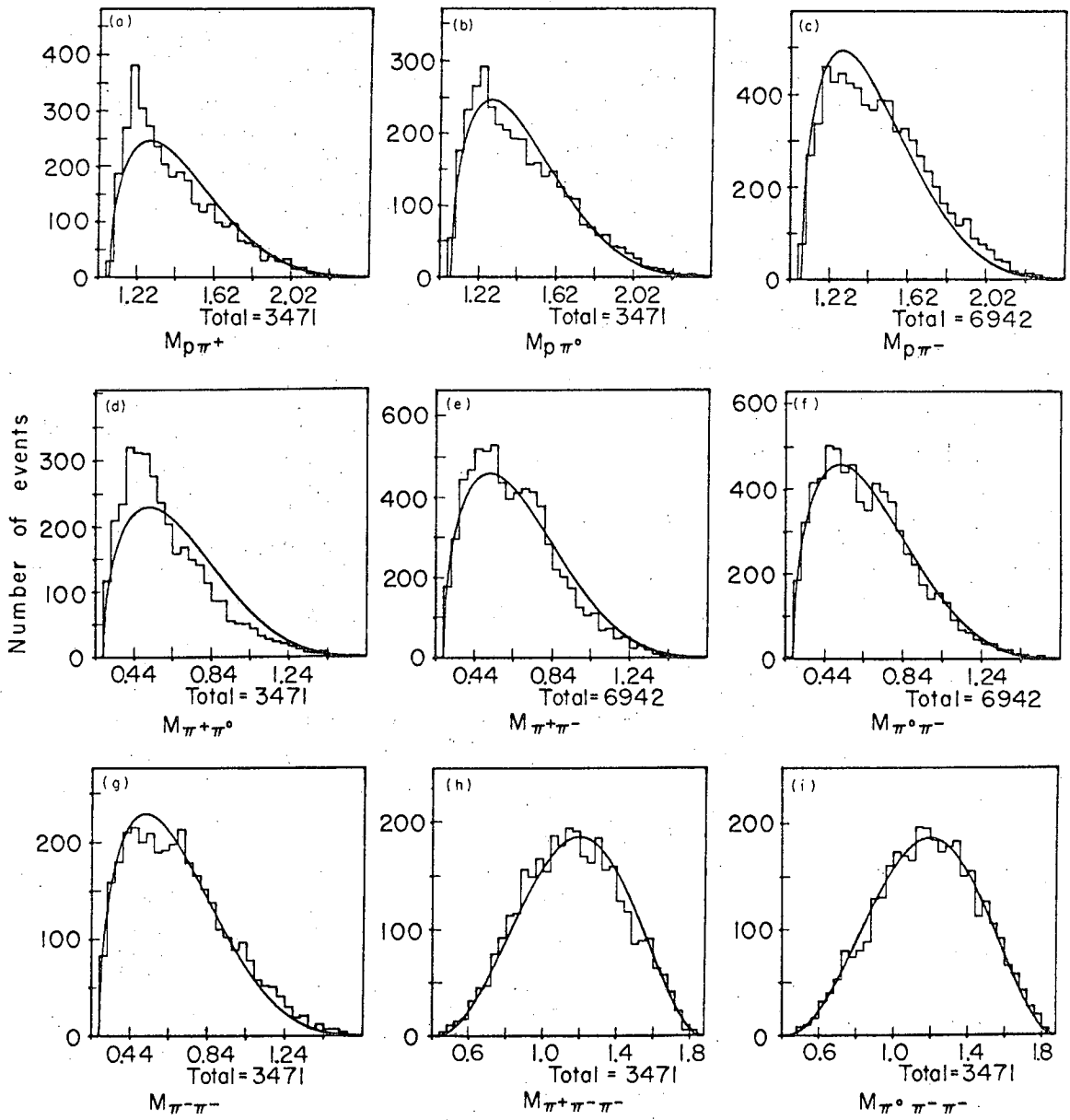


Fig. 30



MOE 11707A

Fig. 31



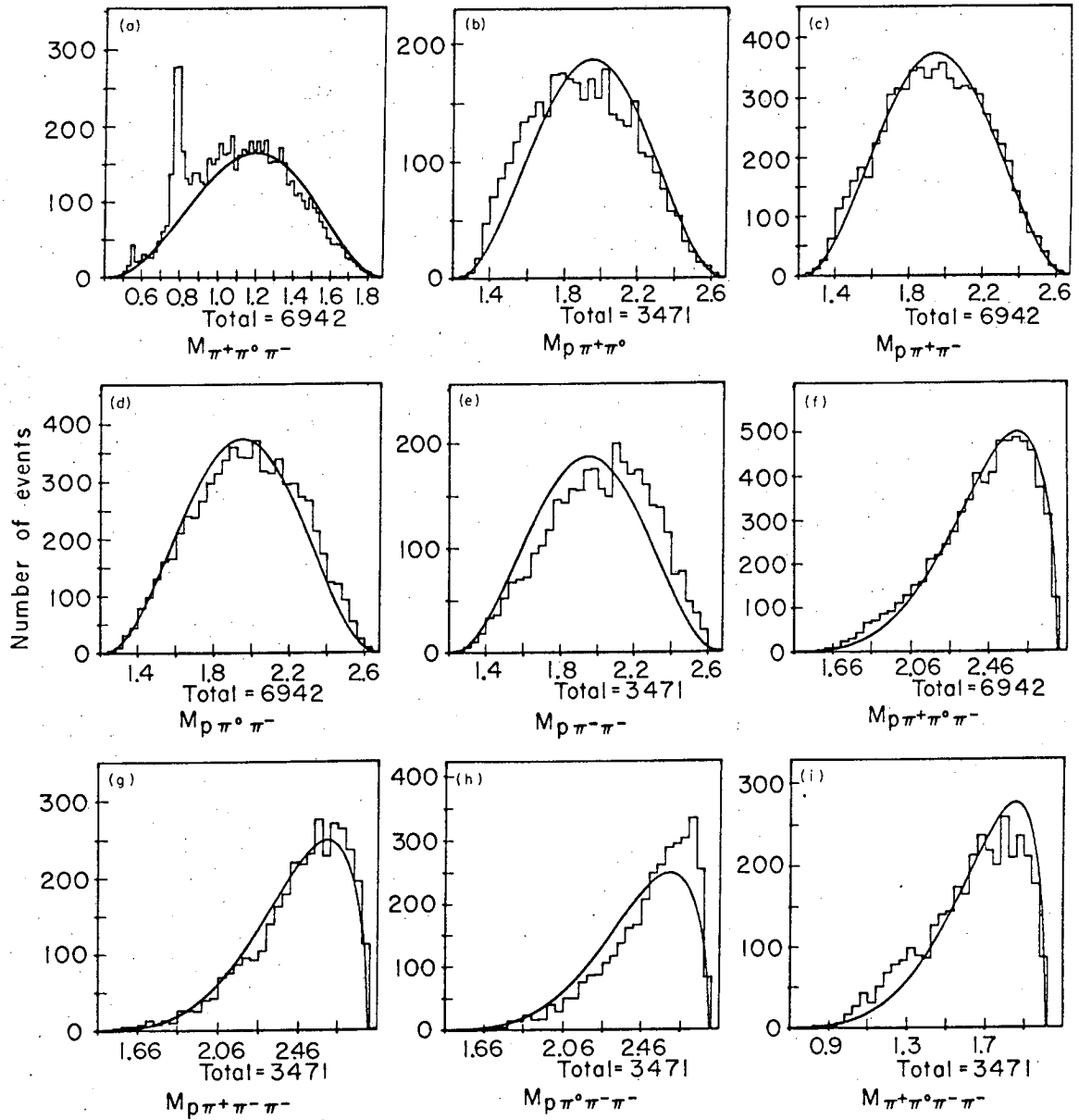


Fig. 32

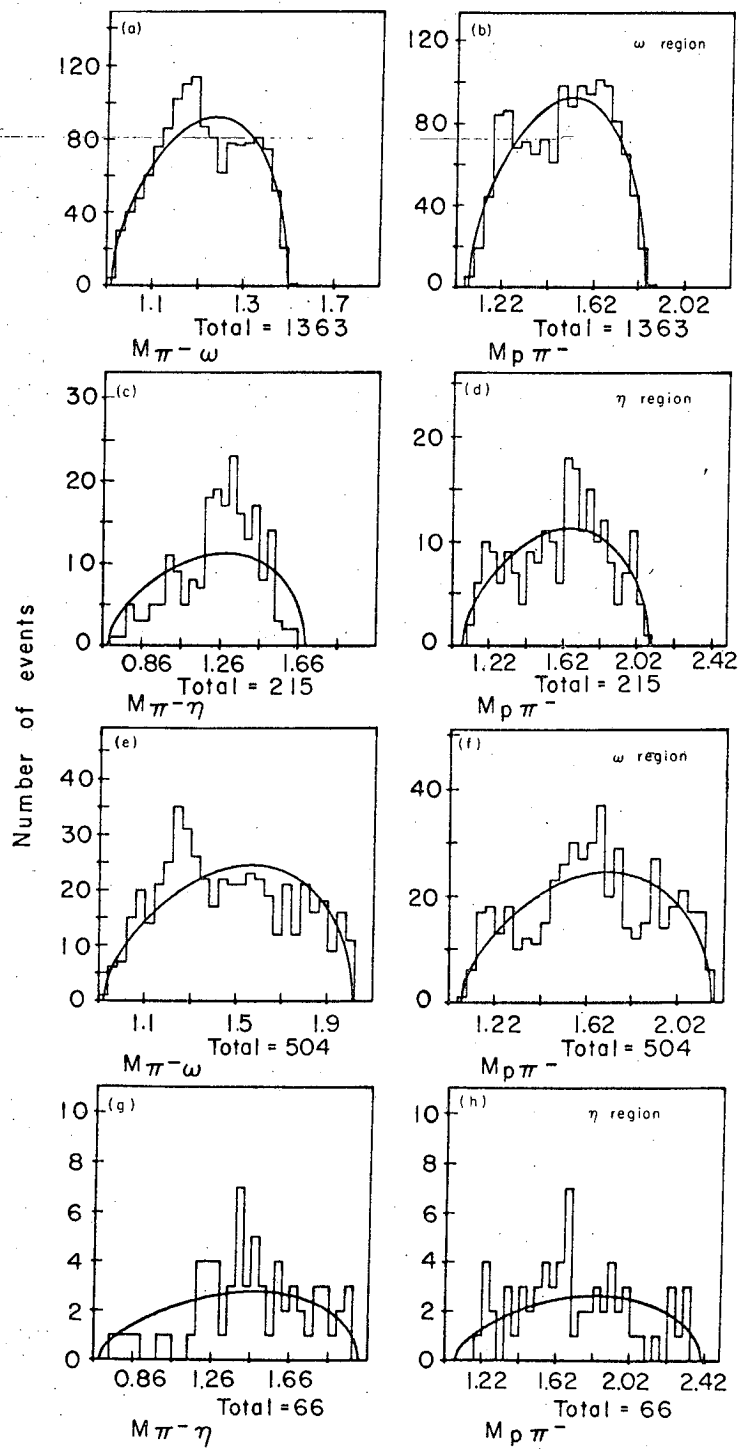
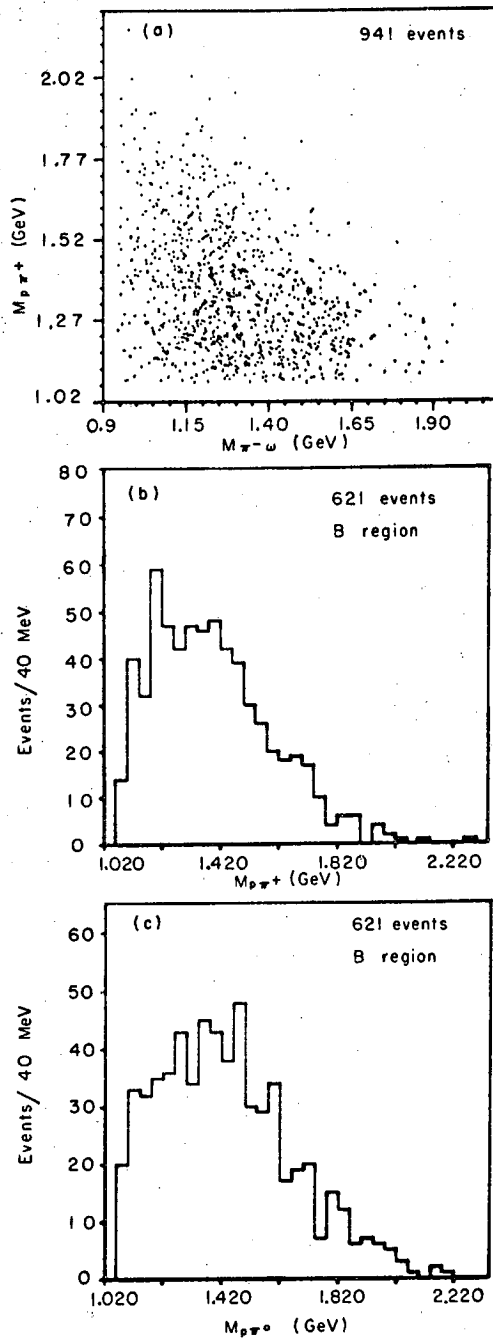
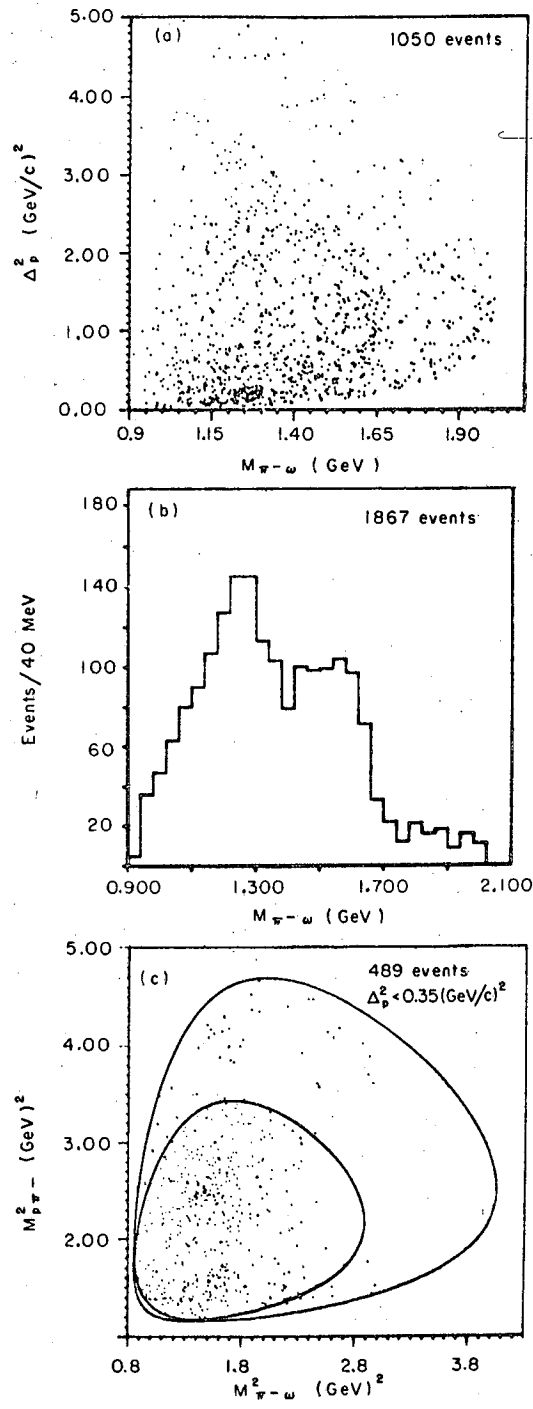


Fig. 33



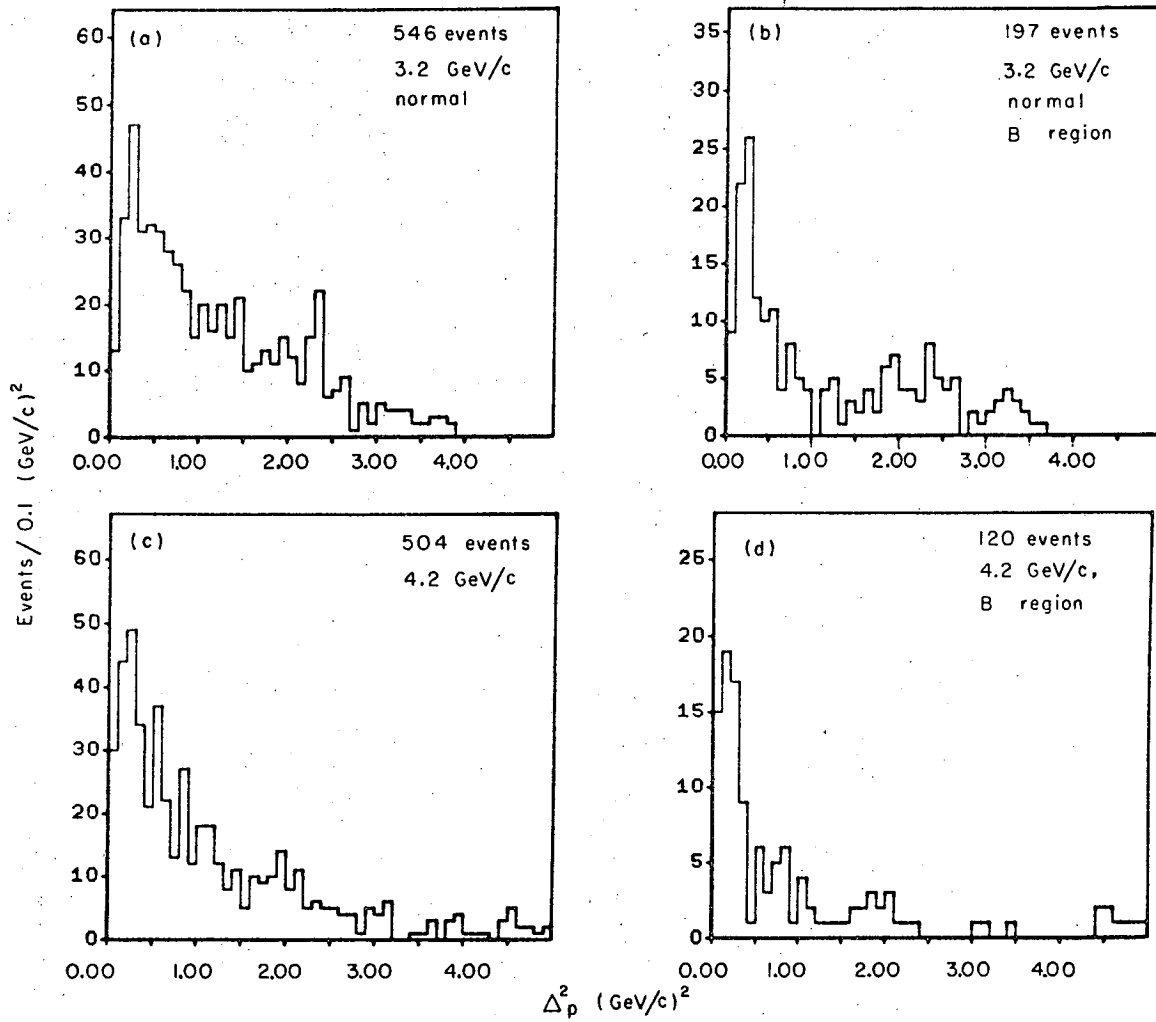
MUB 11697

Fig. 34



MUB-11696 A

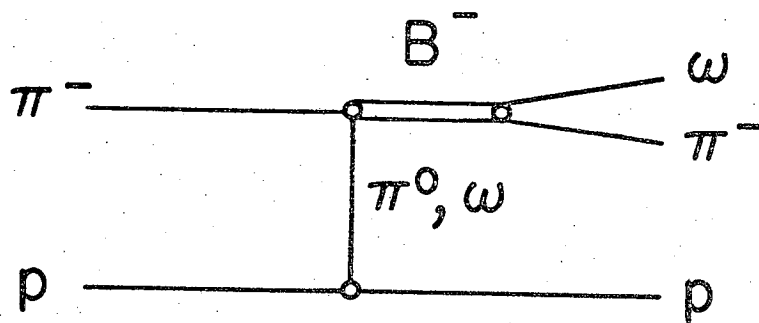
Fig. 35



MUB 11695

Fig. 36

(a)



(b)

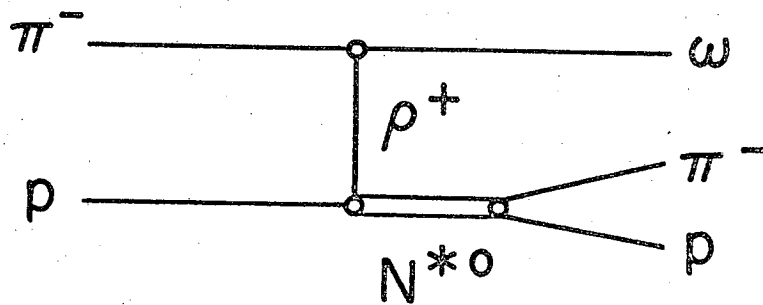
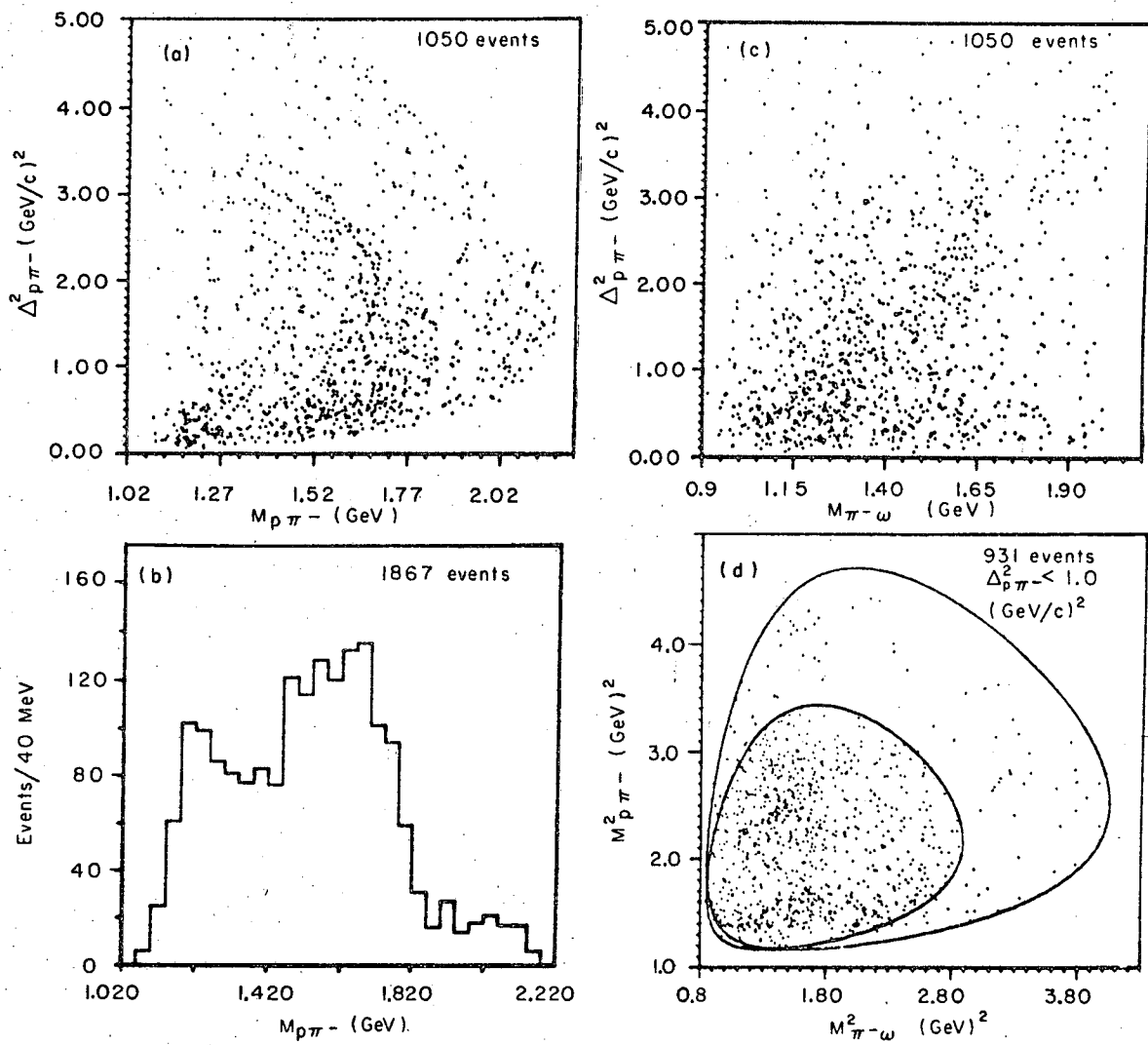


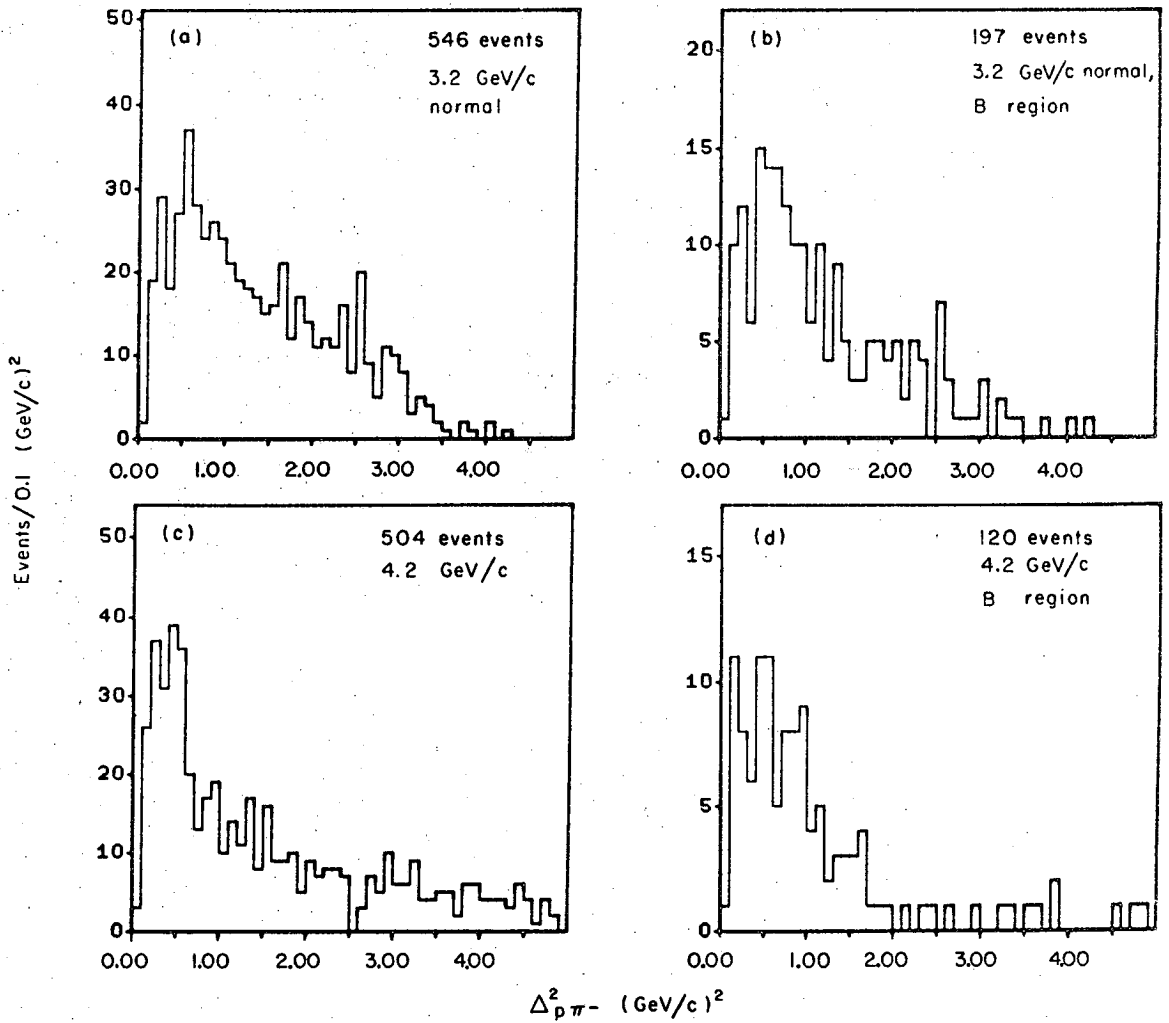
Fig. 37

MUB-11713



MUB11679

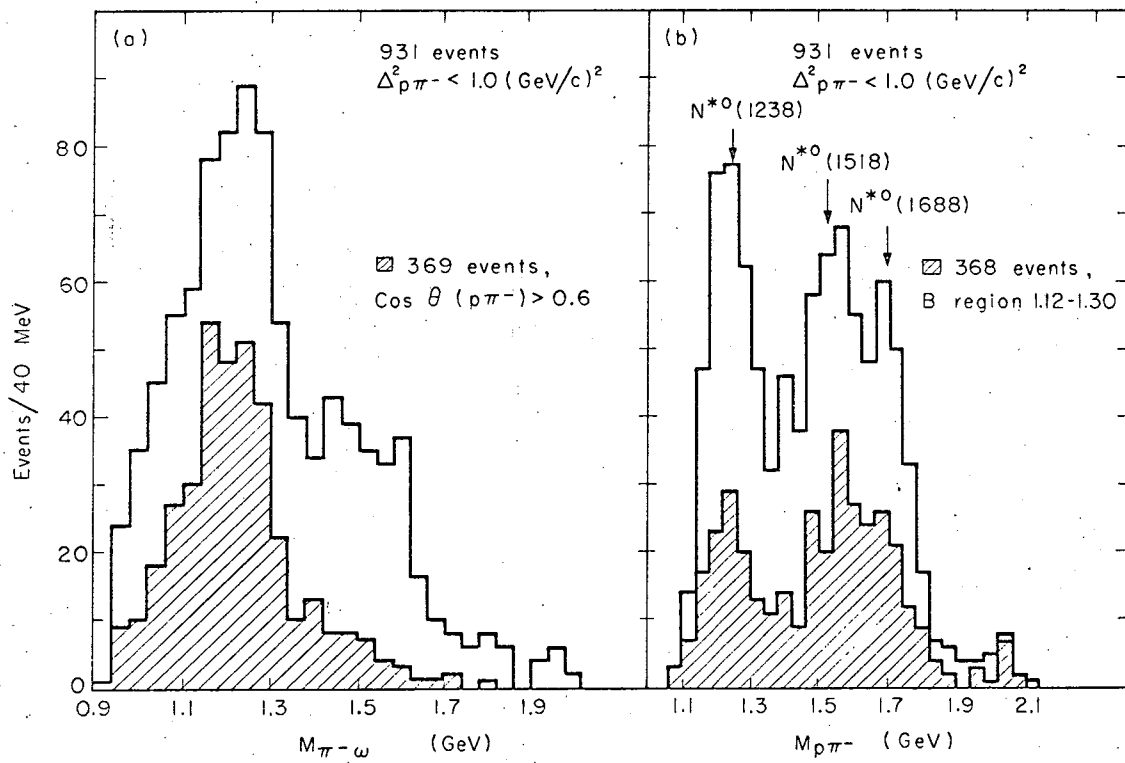
Fig. 38



MUB 11693

Fig. 39





MUB 11689

Fig. 40

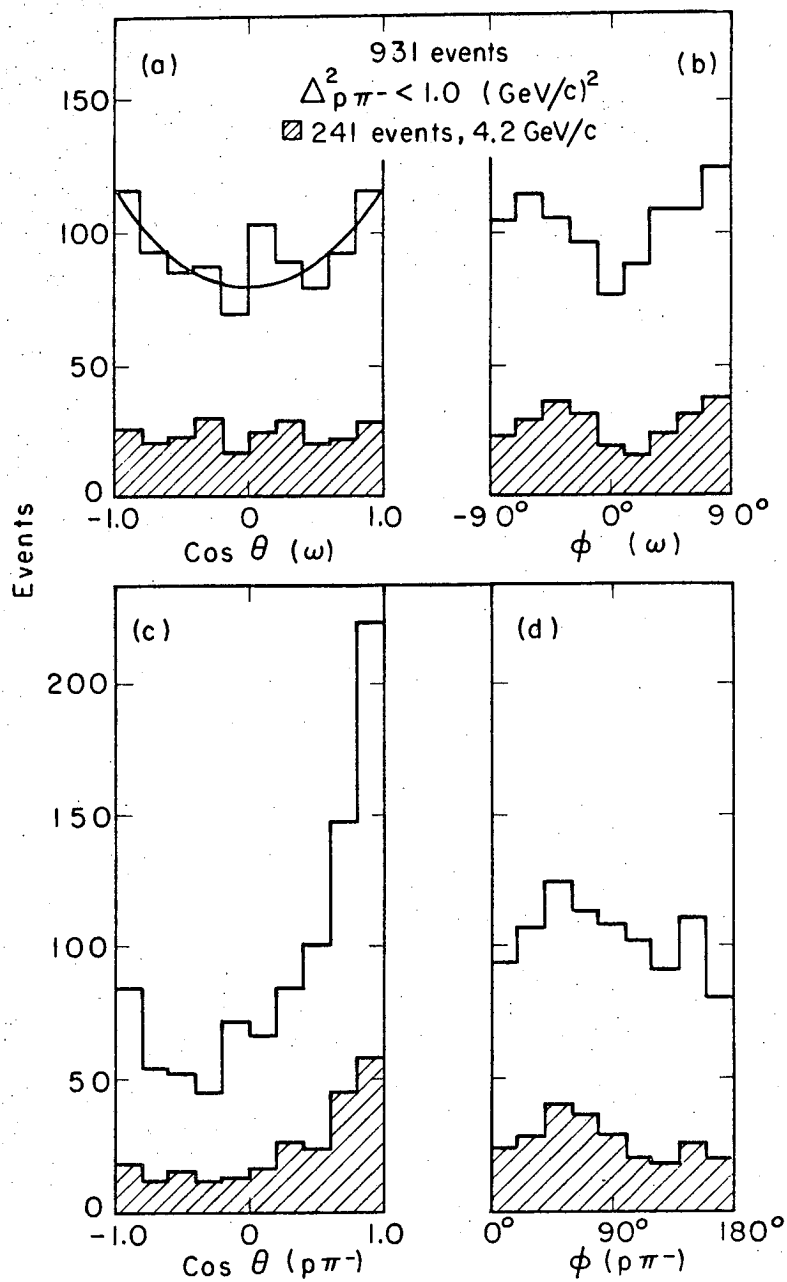


Fig. 41

MUB-11667

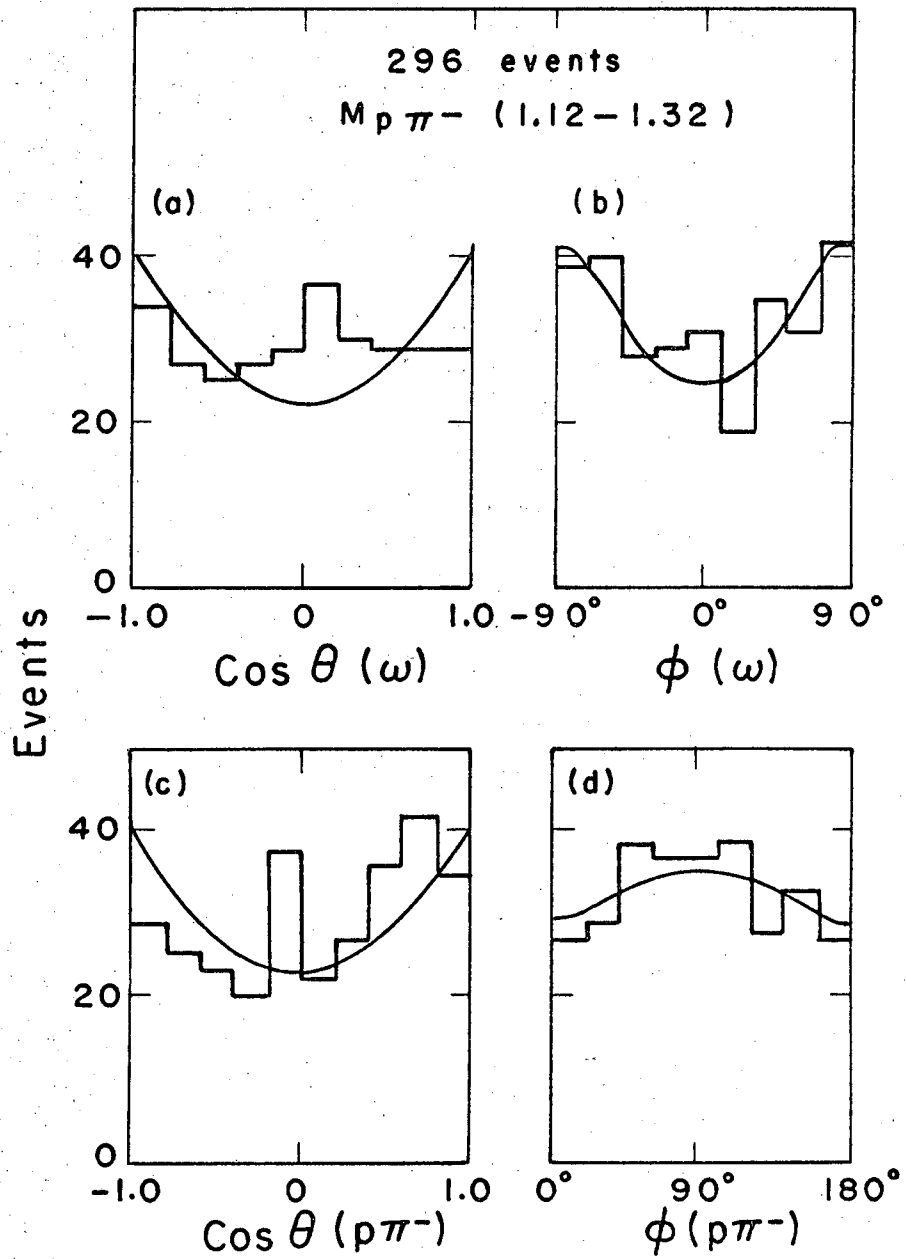


Fig. 42

MUB 11656

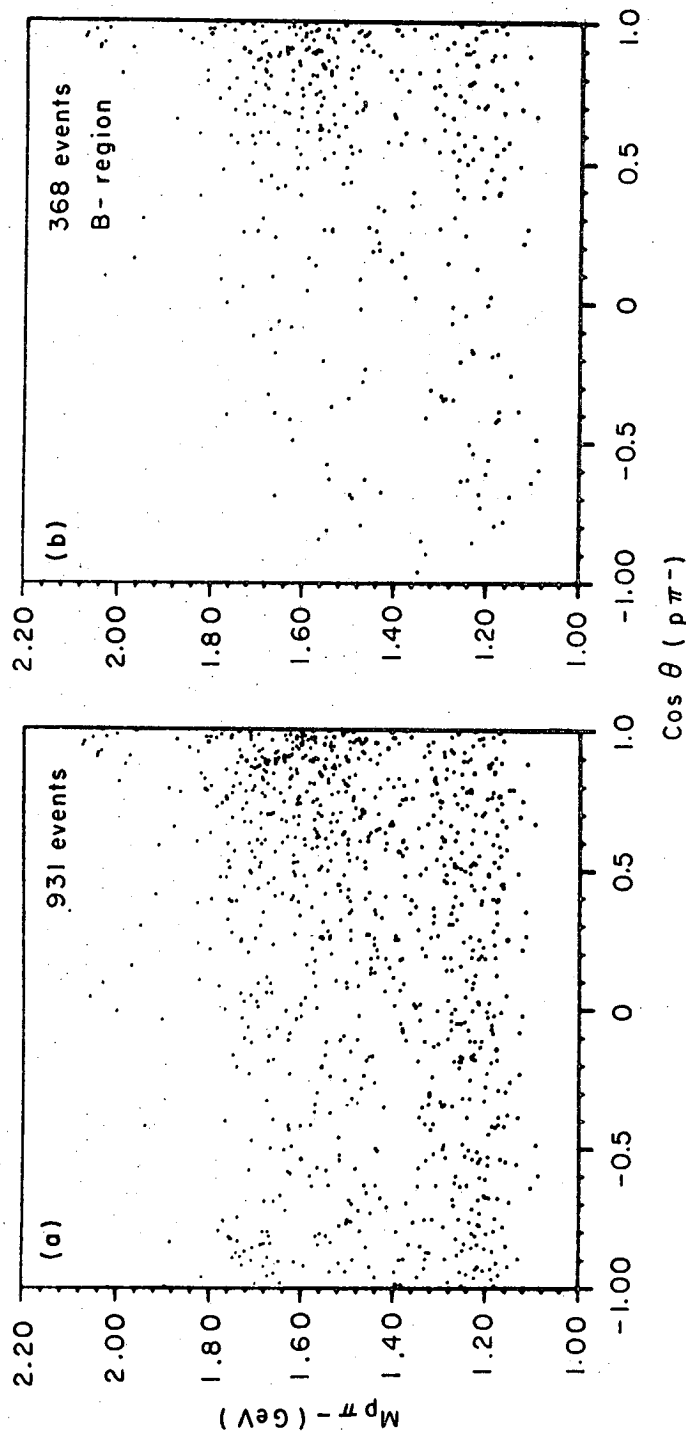
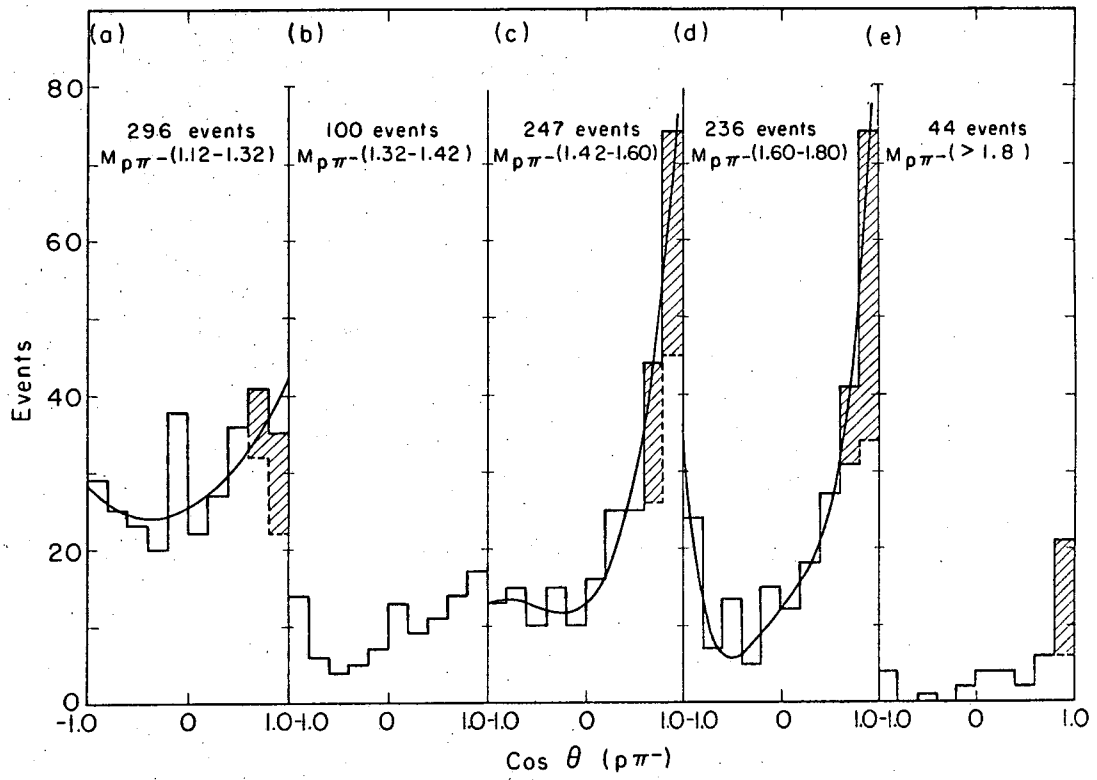


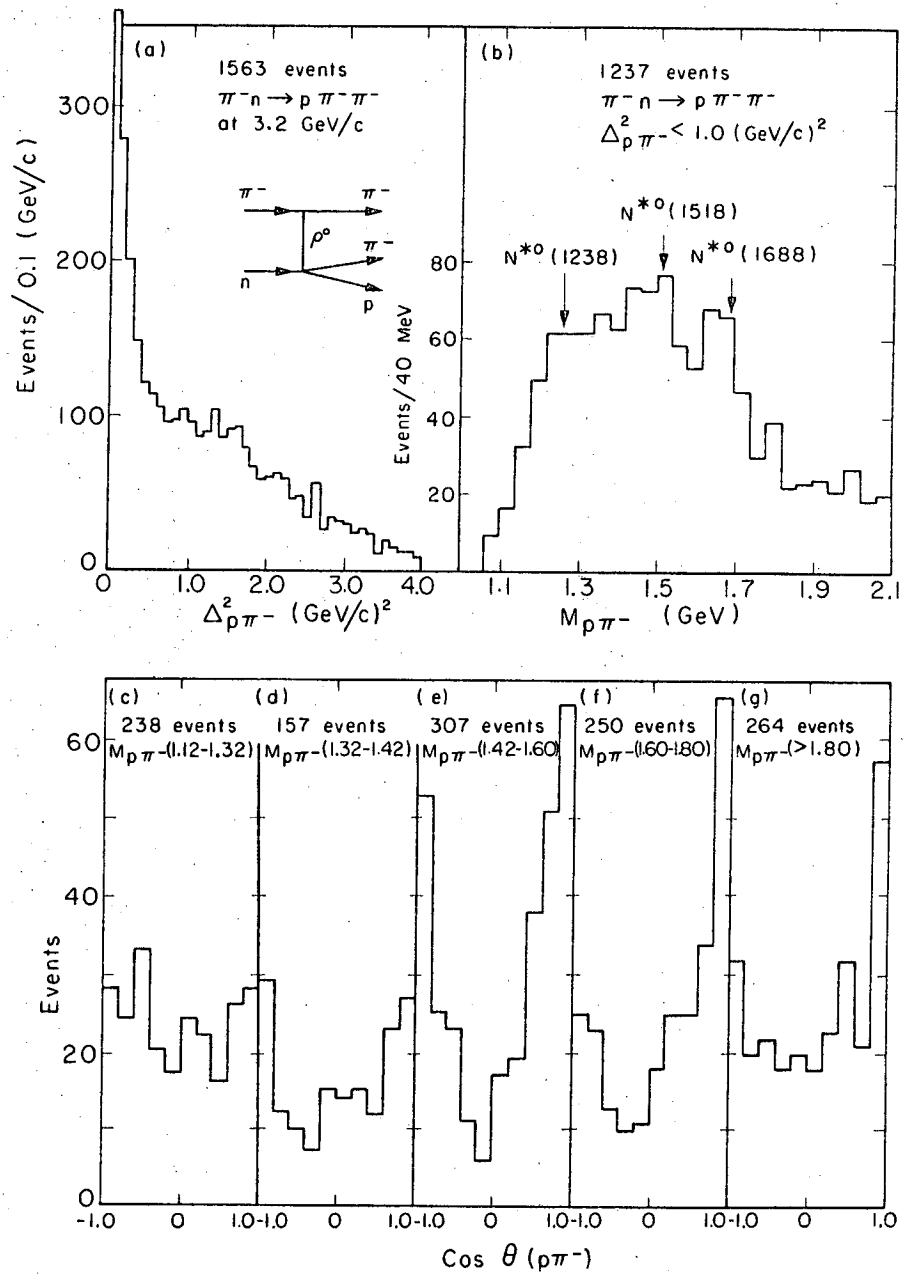
Fig. 43

MUB 11663



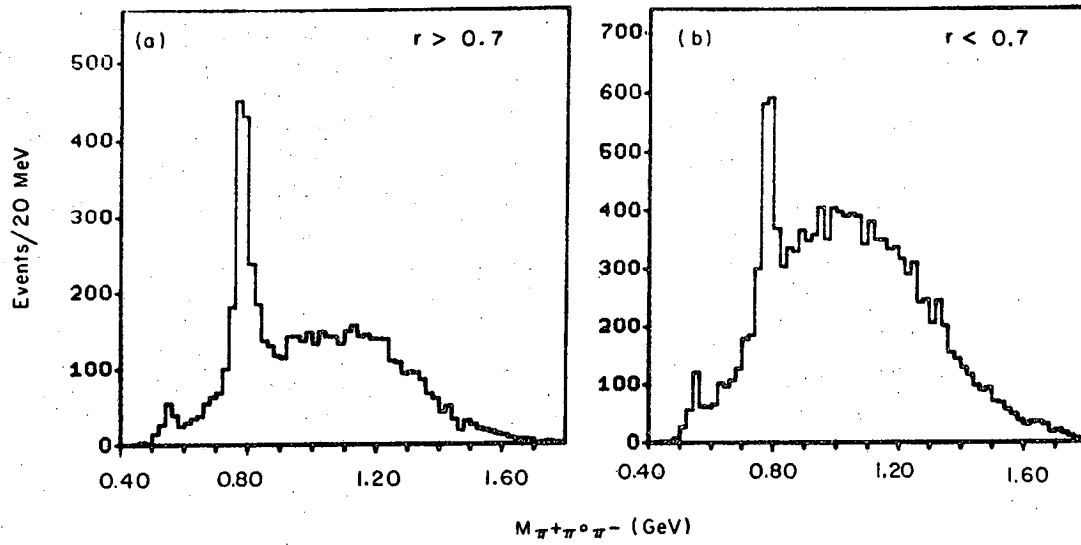
MUB 11662

Fig. 44



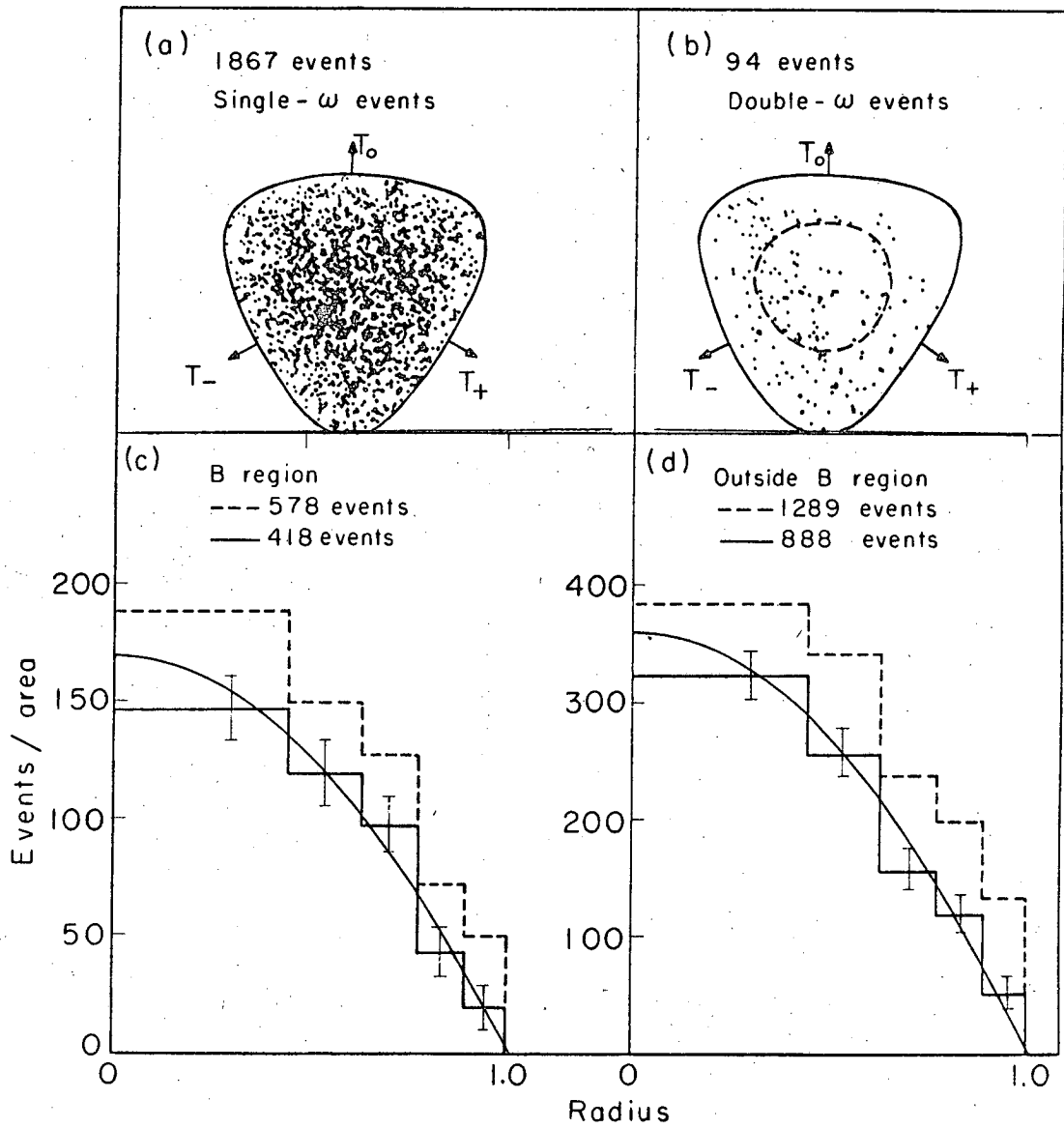
MUB 11678

Fig. 45



MUB 11664

Fig. 46



MUB 11681

Fig. 47



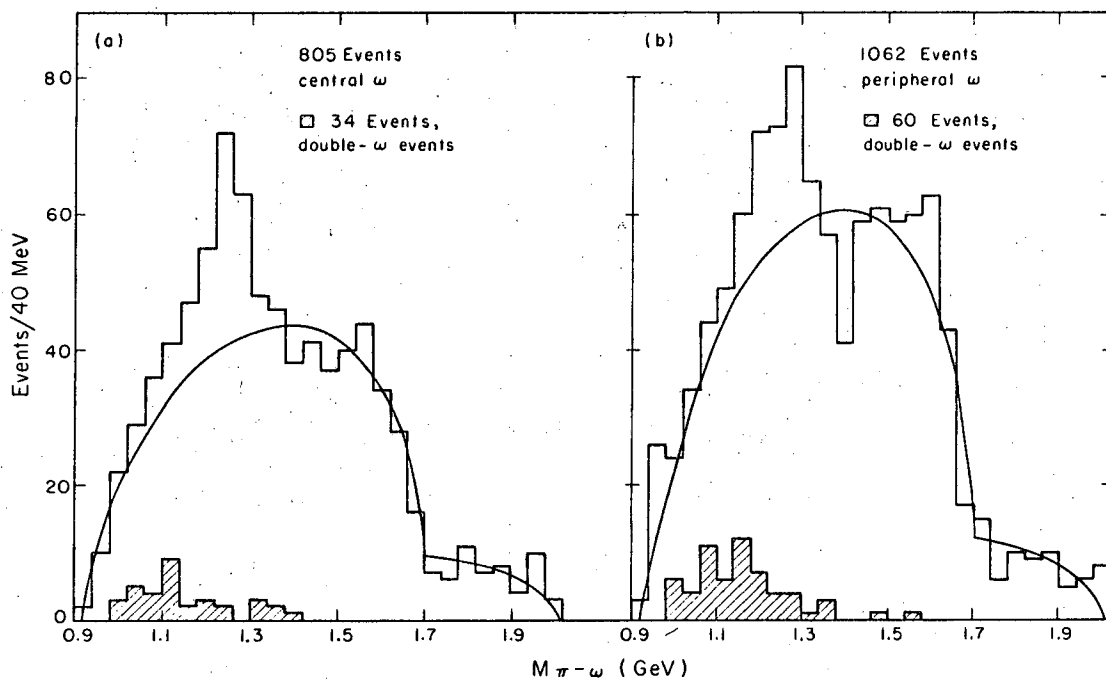
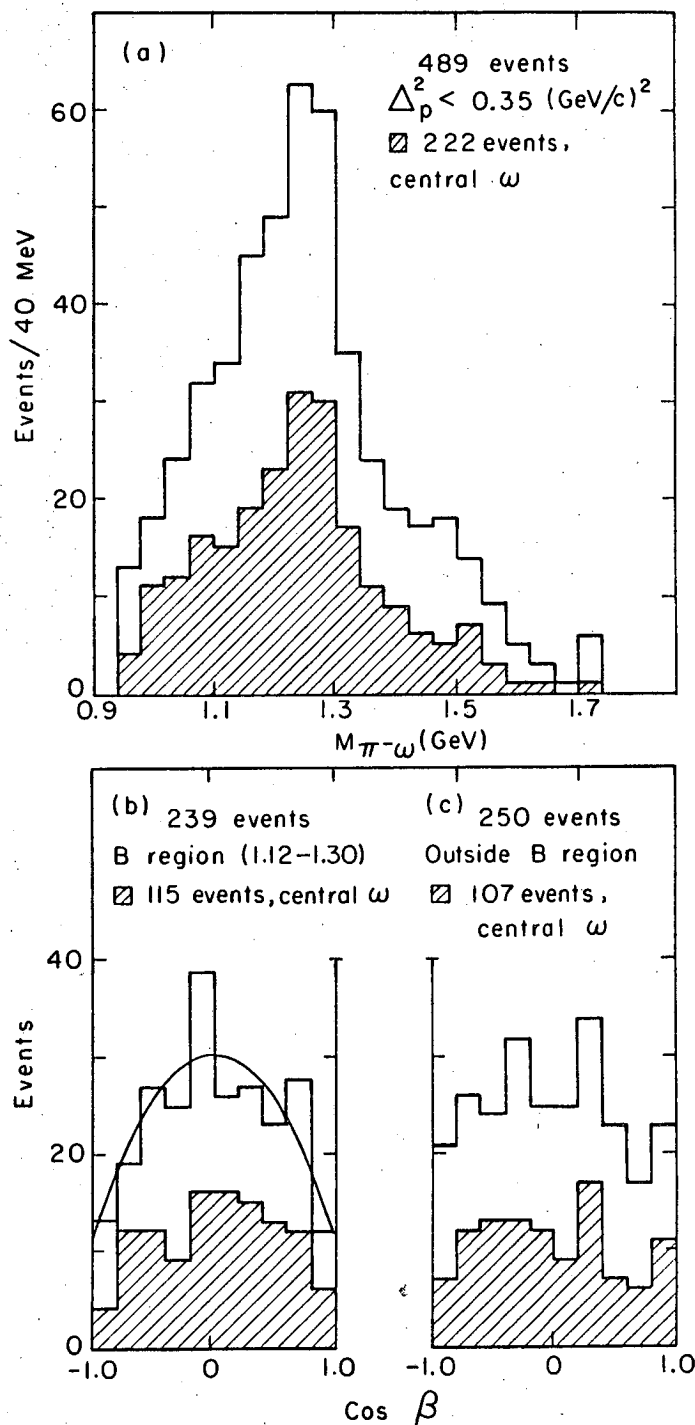
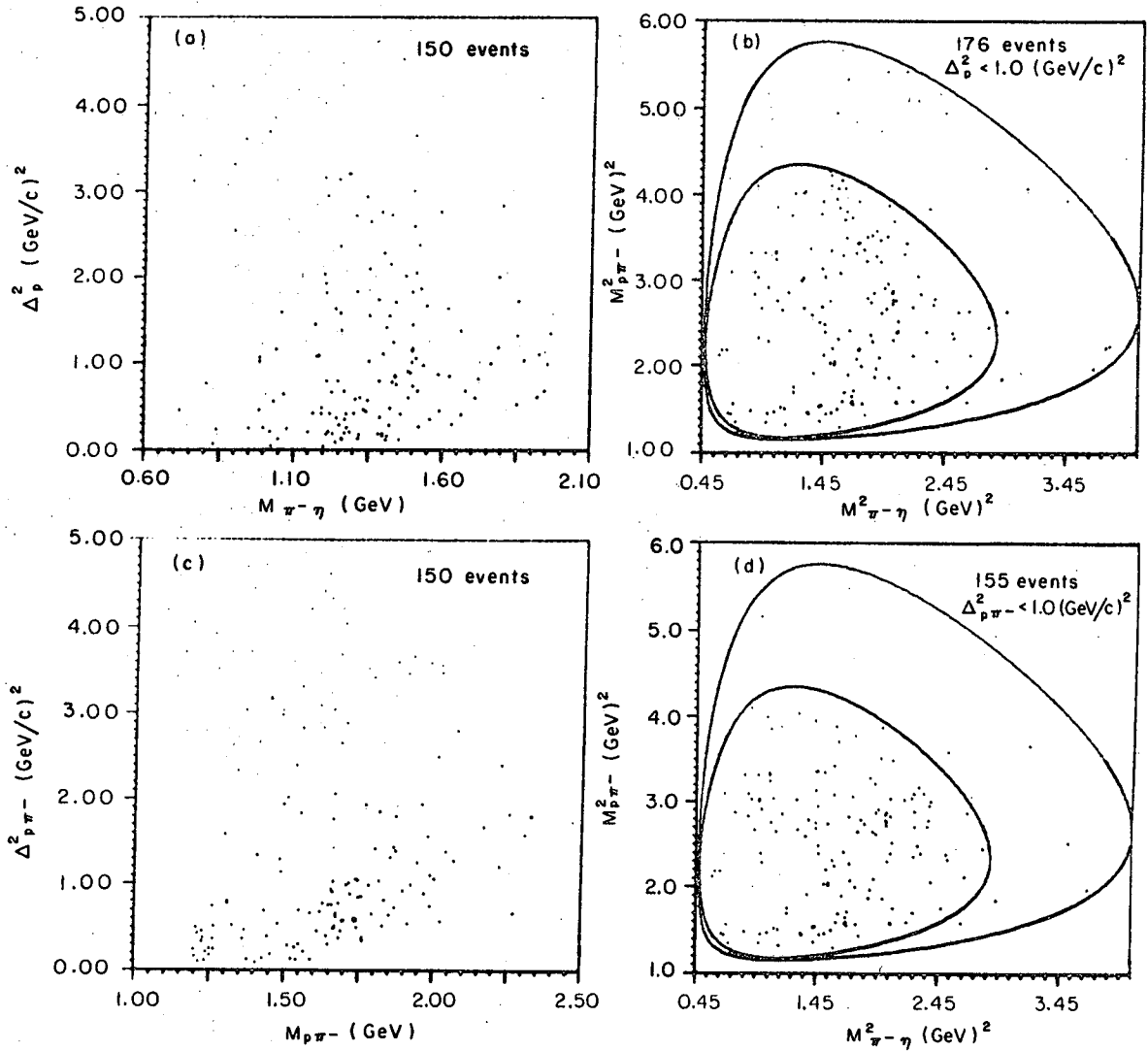


Fig. 48



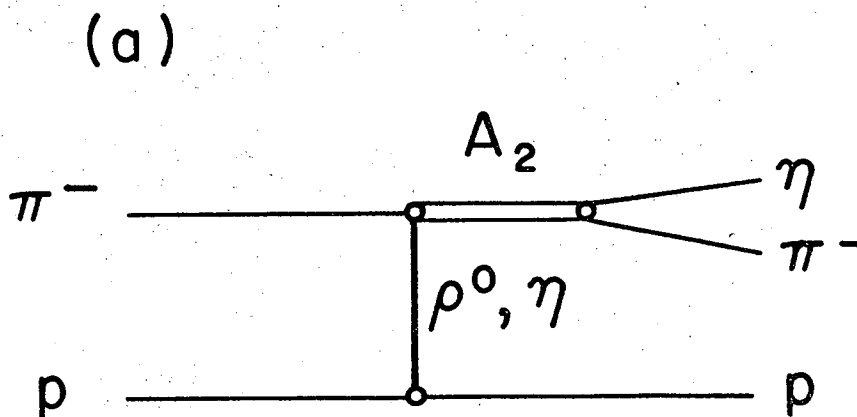
MUB11668

Fig. 49

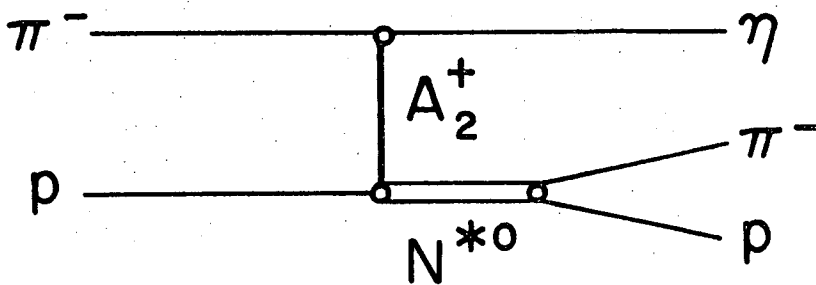


MUB 11680

Fig. 50

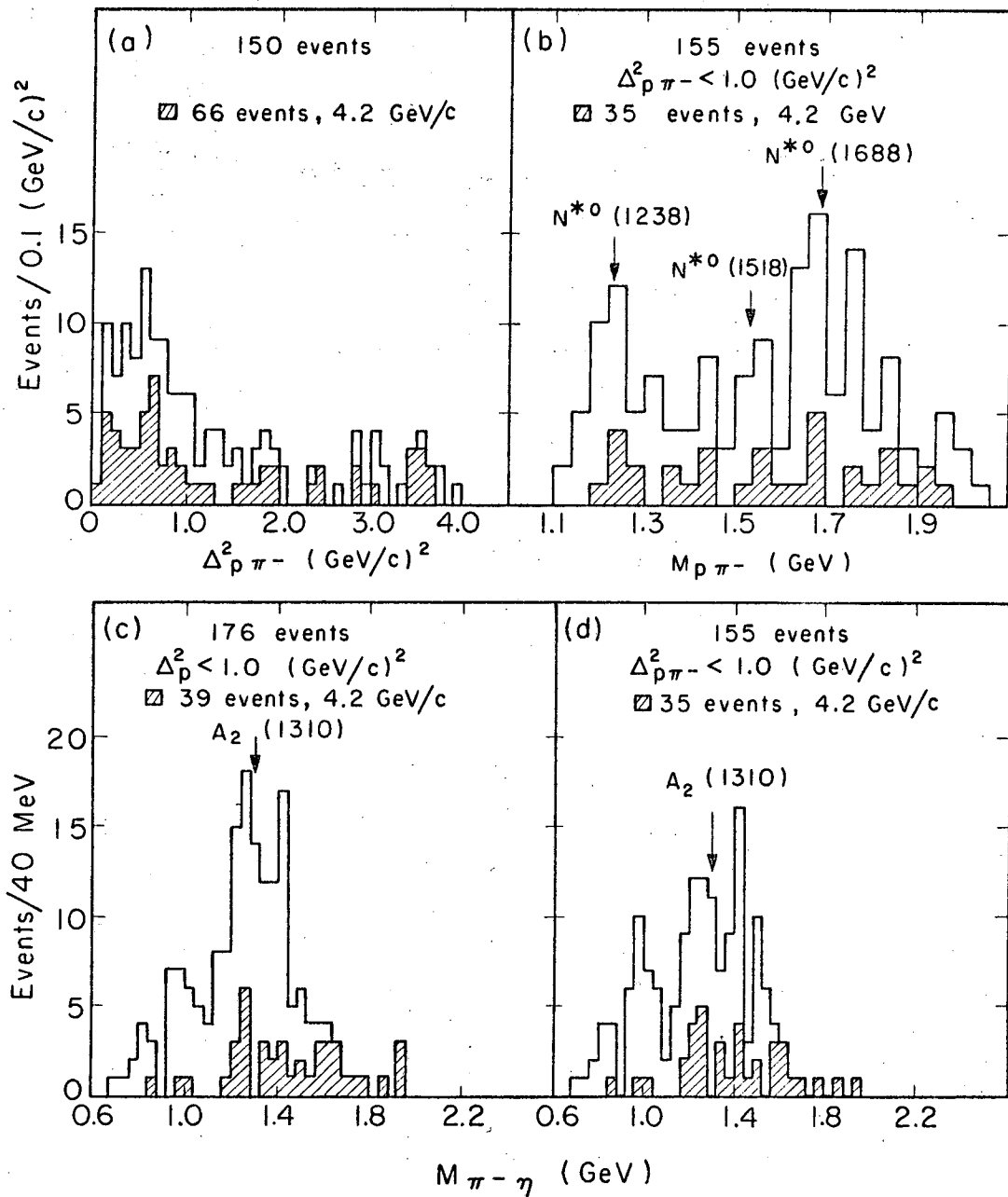


(b)



MUB-11712

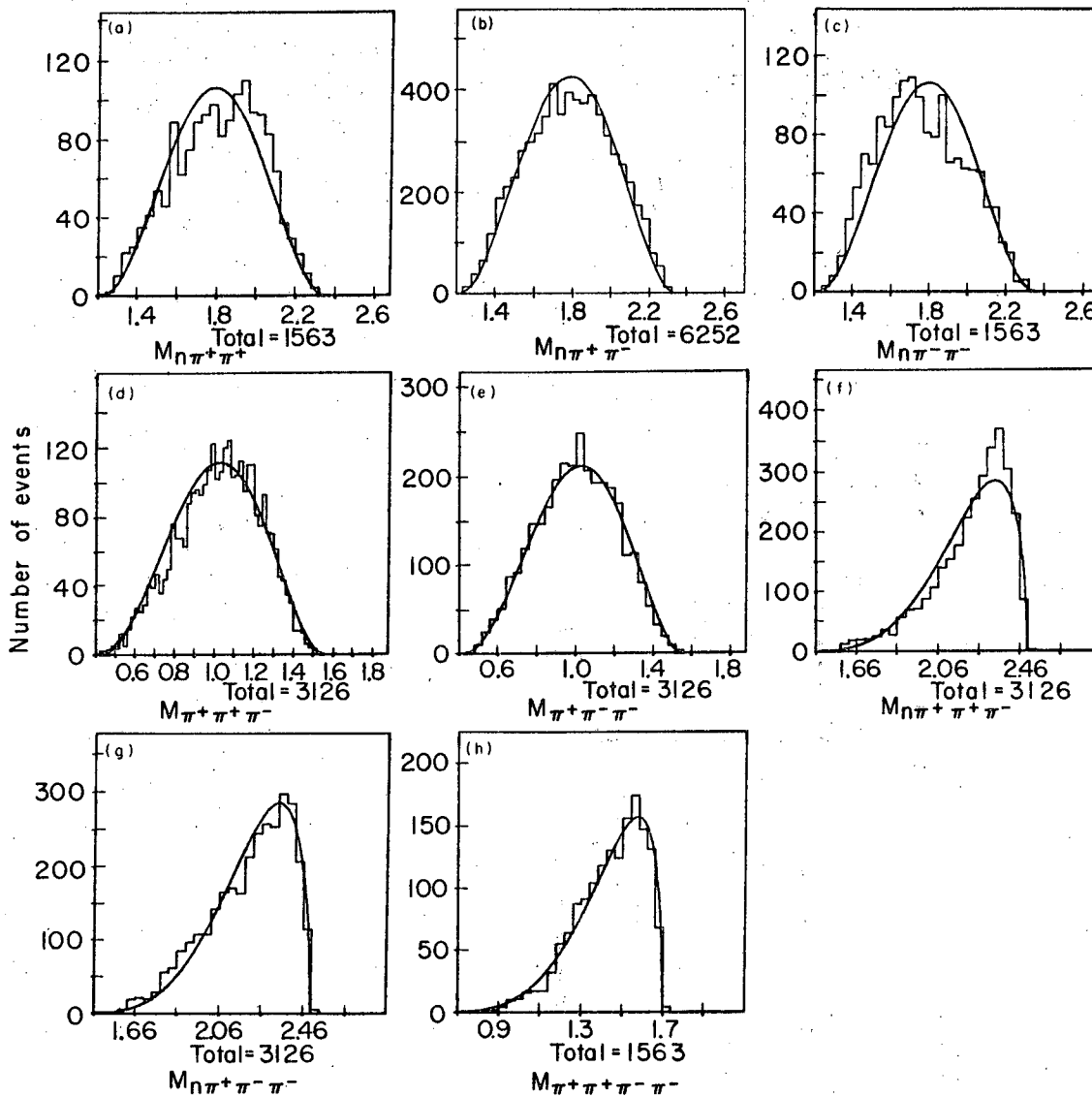
Fig. 51



MUB11698

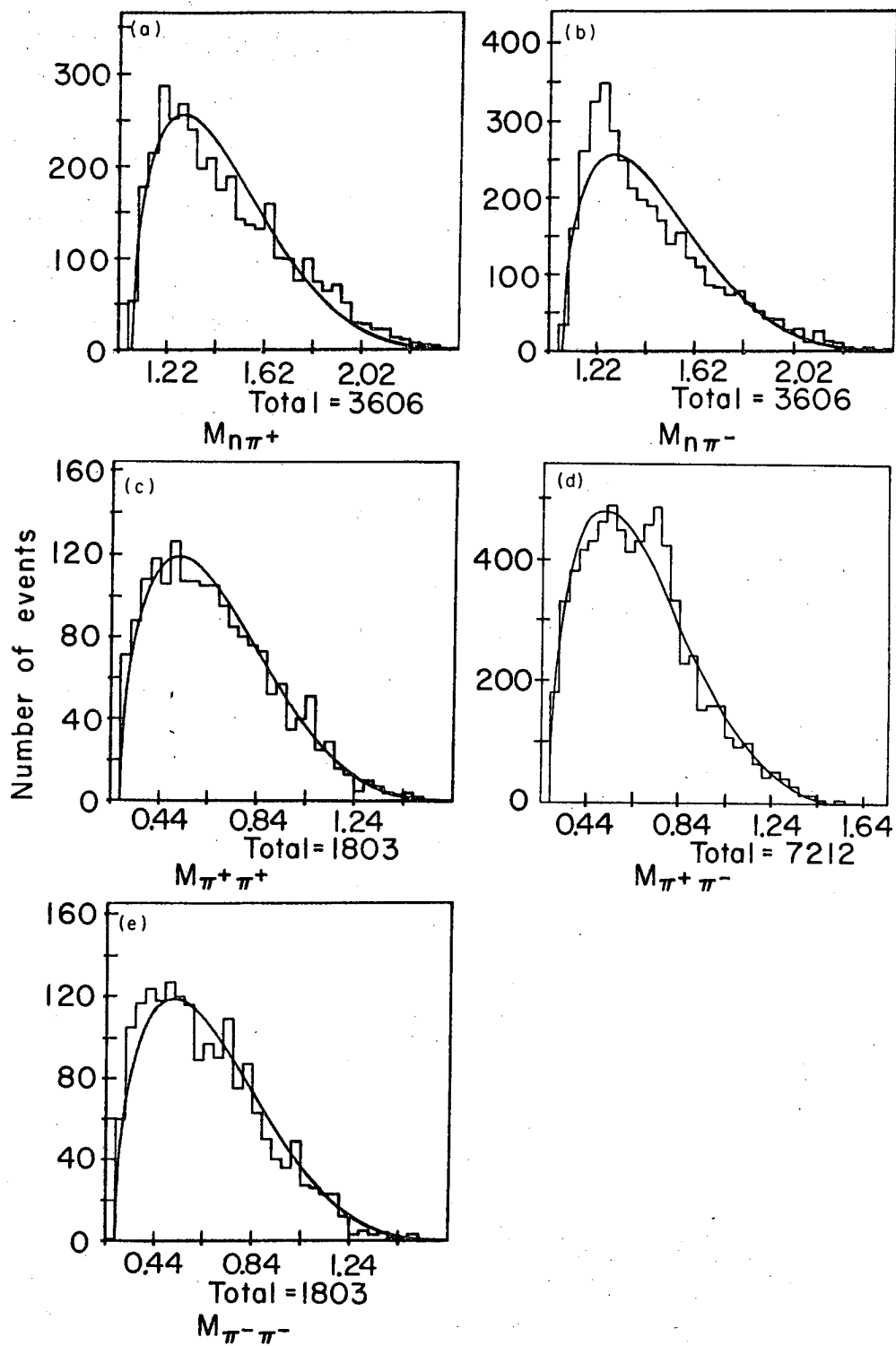
Fig. 52





NUCL 11701 A

Fig. 54



MUB 11682A

Fig. 55



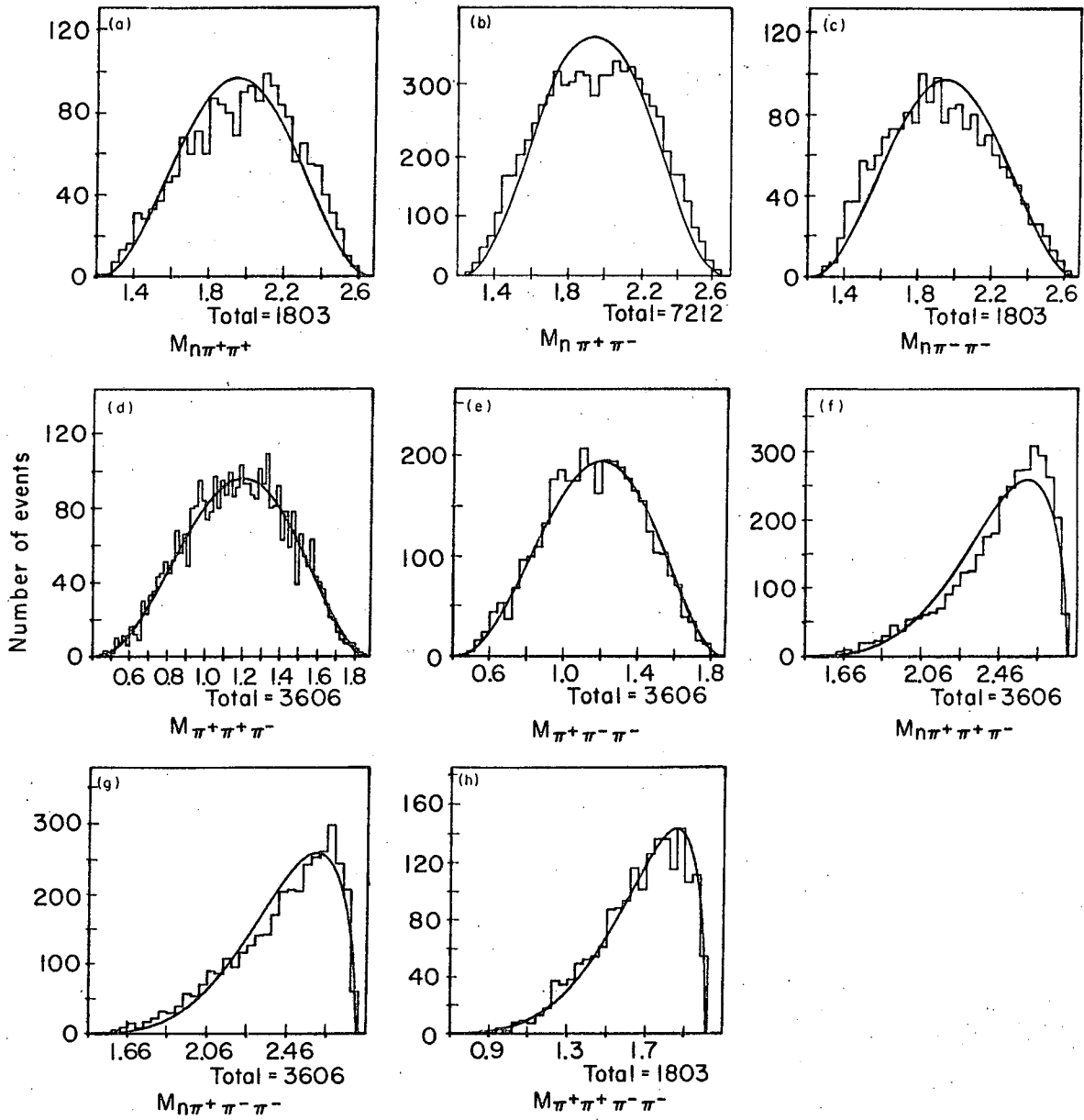
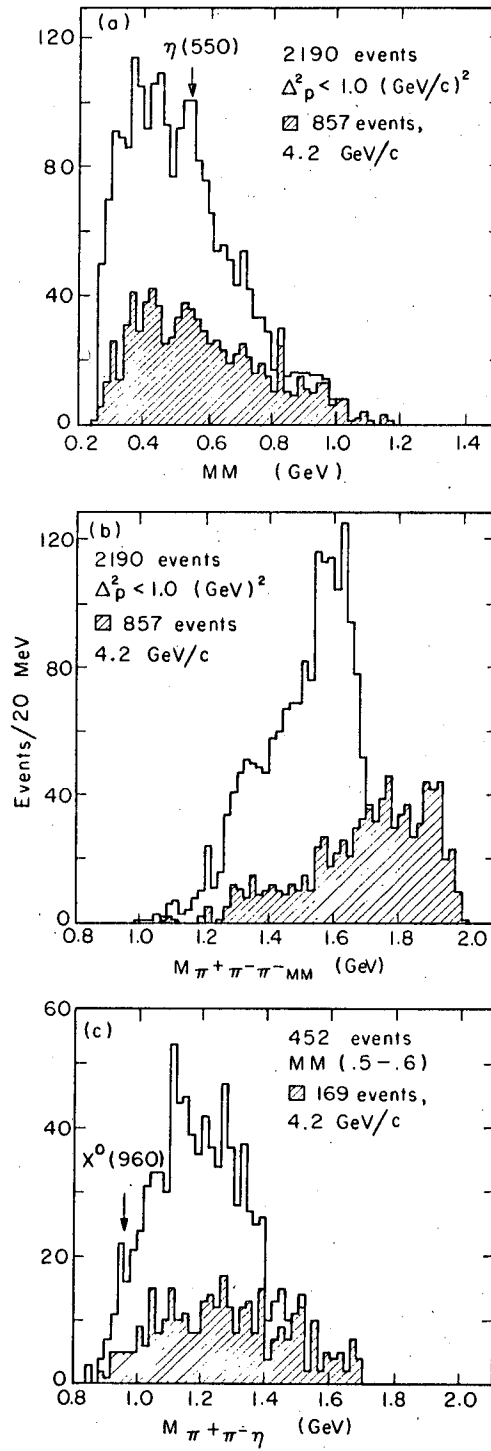
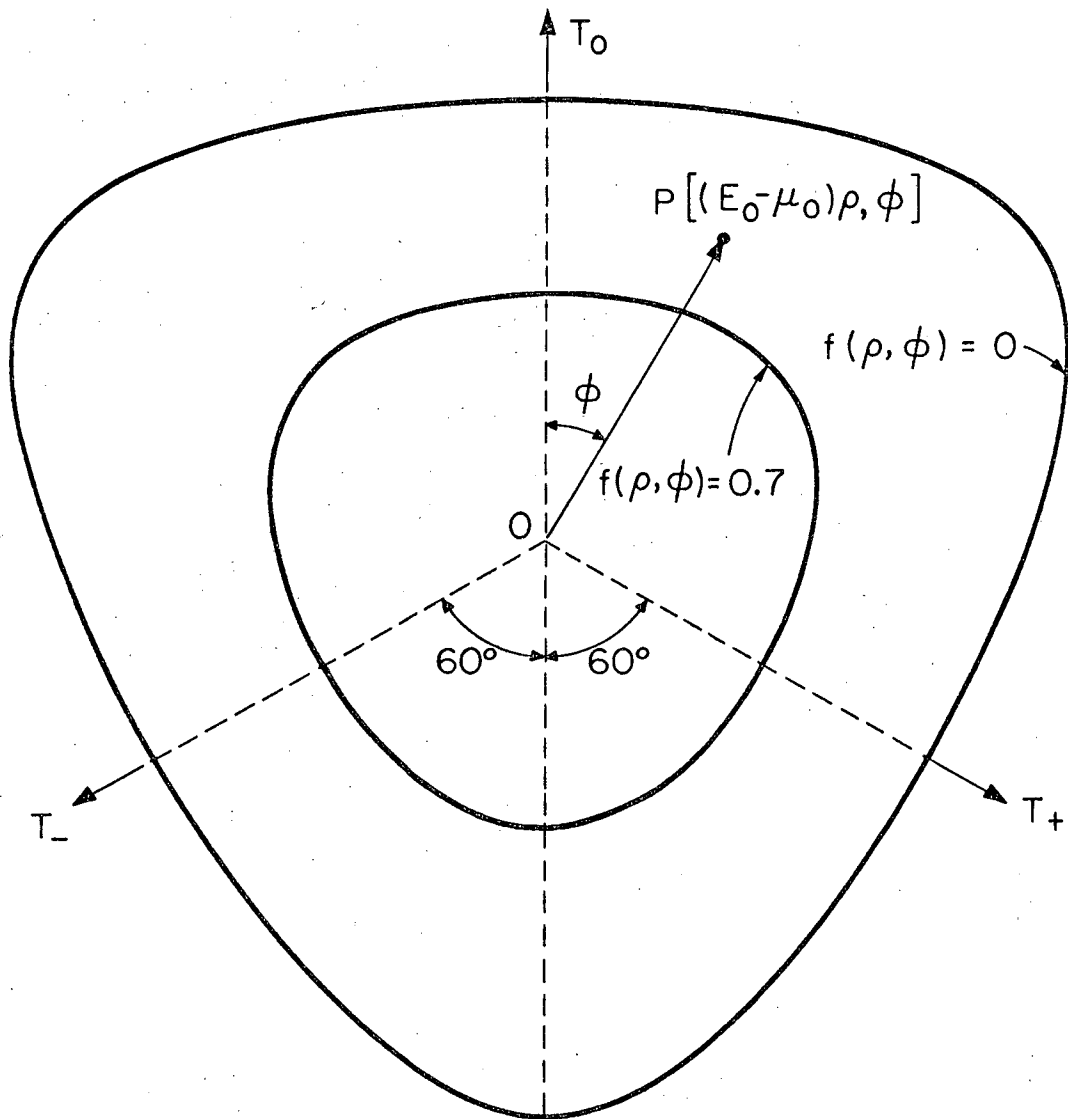


Fig. 56



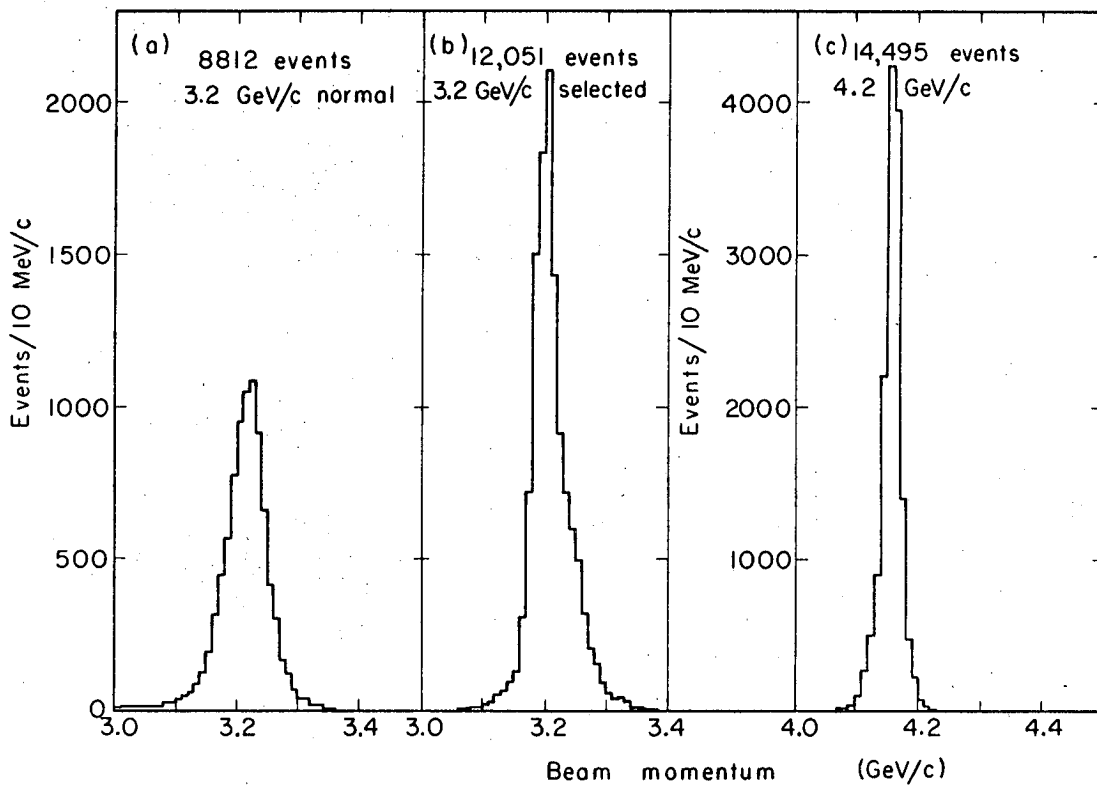
MUB 41700

Fig. 57



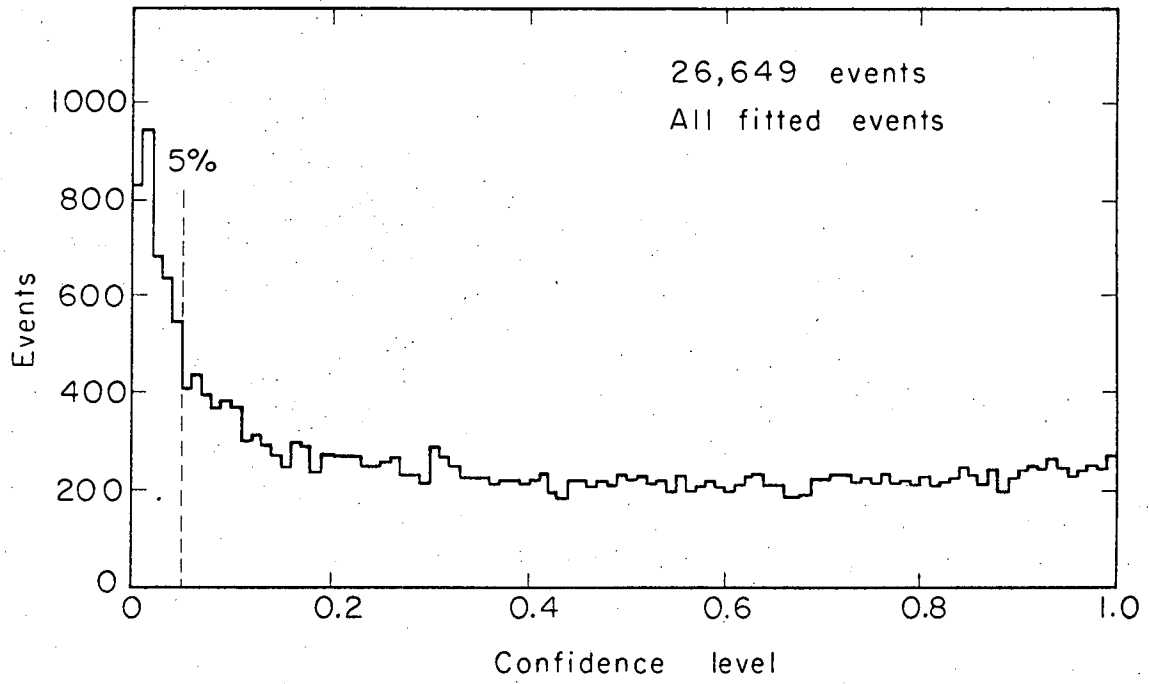
MUB-11669

Fig. 58



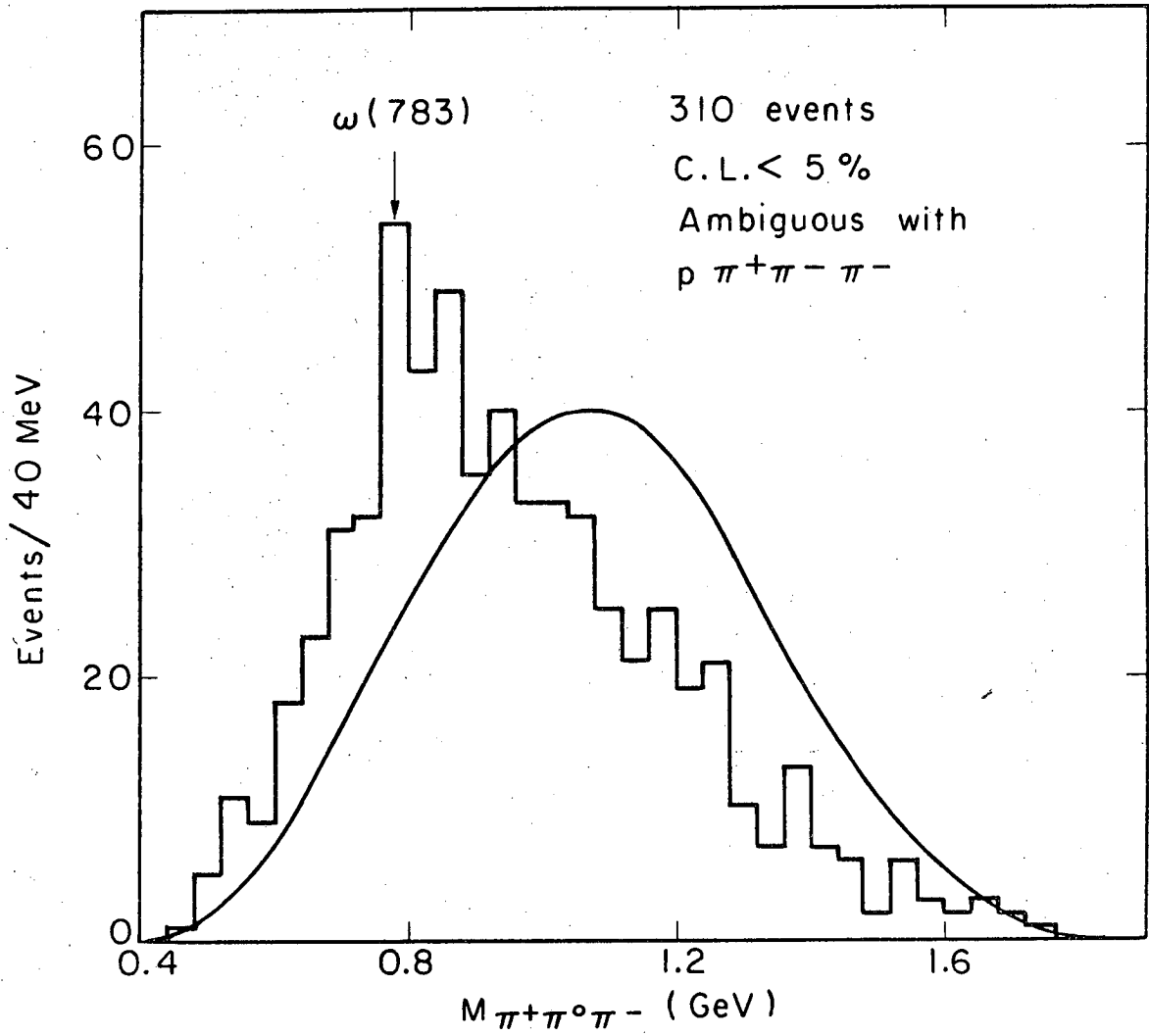
MUB 11685 A

Fig. 59



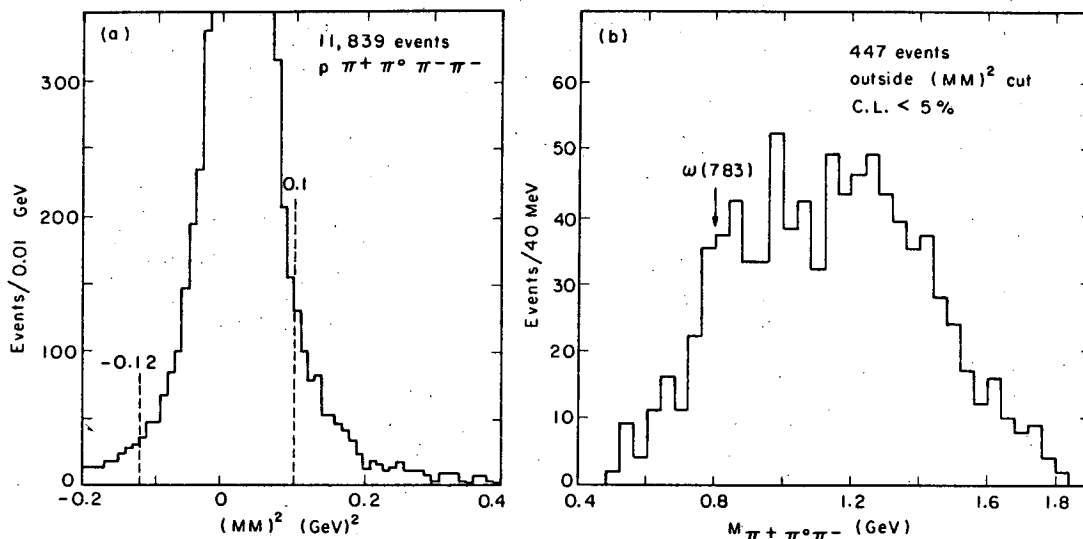
MUB11672

Fig. 60



MUB 11674

Fig. 61



MUB 11675

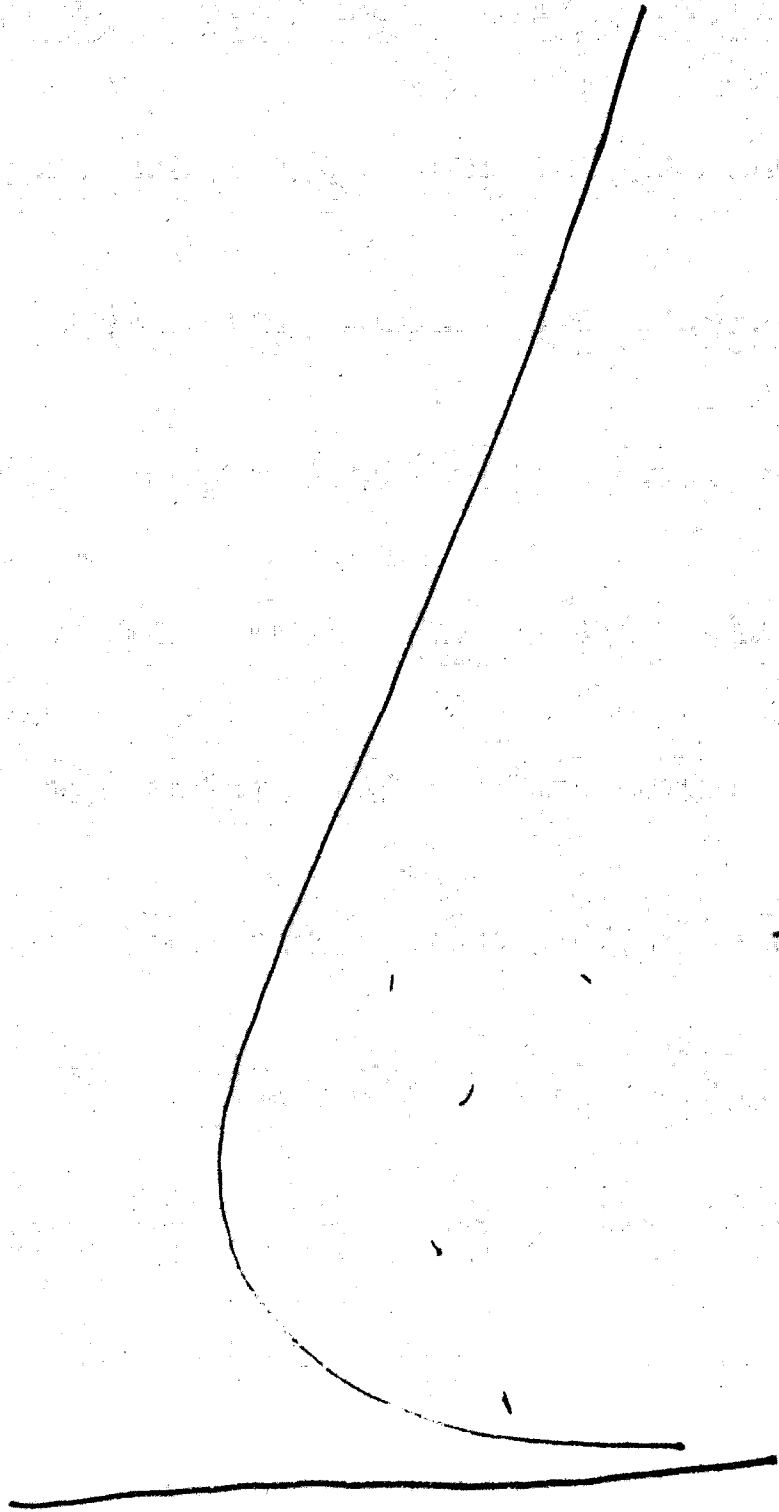
Fig. 62

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