

# Production of $\Lambda^0$ , $\bar{\Lambda}^0$ , $\Xi^\pm$ , and $\Omega^\pm$ Hyperons in $p\bar{p}$ Collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$ TeV

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We report a set of measurements of inclusive invariant  $p_T$  differential cross sections of  $\Lambda^0$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}^0$ ,  $\Xi^\pm$ , and  $\Omega^\pm$  hyperons reconstructed in the central region with pseudorapidity  $|\eta| < 1$  and  $p_T$  up to 10 GeV/c. Events are collected with a minimum-bias trigger in  $p\bar{p}$  collisions at a center-of-mass energy of 1.96 TeV using the CDF II detector at the Tevatron Collider. As  $p_T$  increases, the slopes of the differential cross sections of the three particles are similar, which could indicate a universality of the particle production in  $p_T$ . The invariant differential cross sections are also presented for different charged-particle multiplicity intervals.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Ever since their discovery in cosmic ray interactions [1], particles containing strange quarks have been extensively studied at particle colliders ( $e^+e^-$  [2],  $ep$  [3],  $p\bar{p}$  [4, 5] and  $p\bar{p}$  [6]). The process by which hadrons in general are produced from interactions is an unsolved problem in the standard model, and a detailed analysis of production properties of particles with different quark flavors and numbers of quarks could pave the way to understanding the process from first principles. The data on strange particle production can also be used to refine phenomenological models and set parameters, such as the strange quark suppression constant in event generators, which have become an integral part of any data analysis. Interest in particles containing strange quarks increased with the introduction of the quark-gluon plasma (QGP). Formation of quark-gluon plasma in a collision could manifest itself as an enhanced production of strange particles such as kaons and hyperons [7]. To isolate QGP sig-

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natures in heavy-ion collision data, understanding the particle production properties from simple nucleon interactions is necessary.

There are ample data on the production of particles with one strange quark, but very little available on particles with two or more [8, 9]. Previous studies of hyperons from colliders such as RHIC [6],  $Spp\bar{S}$  [10], and the Tevatron [5, 11, 12] were limited by low sample statistics and the limited accessible range of hyperon momentum component transverse to the beam direction ( $p_T$ ). In this analysis, we report on a study of the hyperons  $\Lambda^0$  (quark content  $uds$ ),  $\Xi^-$  ( $dss$ ), and  $\Omega^-$  ( $sss$ ) and their corresponding antiparticles ( $\bar{\Lambda}^0$ ,  $\Xi^+$ , and  $\Omega^+$ ). For these hyperons, the inclusive invariant  $p_T$  differential cross sections are measured up to  $p_T$  of 10 GeV/c, based on  $\sim 100$  million minimum-bias events collected with the CDF II detector. The measurements reported here for  $\Xi^\pm$  and  $\Omega^\pm$  are the current best from any hadron collider experiment in terms of statistics and  $p_T$  range.

## II. EVENT SELECTION

The CDF II detector is described in detail elsewhere [13]. The components most relevant to this analysis are those that comprise the tracking system, which is within a uniform axial magnetic field of 1.4T. The inner tracking volume is composed of a system of eight layers of silicon microstrip detectors ranging in radius from 1.5 to 28.0 cm [14] in the pseudorapidity region  $|\eta| < 2$  [15]. The remainder of the tracking volume is occupied by the Central Outer Tracker (COT). The COT is a cylindrical drift chamber containing 96 sense-wire layers grouped in eight alternating superlayers of axial and stereo wires [16]. Its active volume covers 40 to 140 cm in radius and  $|z| < 155$  cm. The transverse-momentum resolution of tracks reconstructed using COT hits is  $\sigma(p_T)/p_T^2 \sim 0.0017/(\text{GeV}/c)$ .

Events for this analysis are collected with a “minimum-bias” (MB) trigger, which selects beam crossings with at least one  $p\bar{p}$  interaction by requiring a timing coincidence for signals in both forward and backward gas Cherenkov counters [17] covering the regions  $3.7 < |\eta| < 4.7$ . The MB trigger is rate-limited to keep the final trigger output at 1 Hz. Primary event vertices are identified by the convergence of reconstructed tracks along the beam axis. Events are accepted that contain a reconstructed vertex in the fiducial region  $|z_{vtx}| \leq 60$  cm centered around the nominal CDF origin ( $z = 0$ ). When an event has more than one vertex, the highest quality vertex, usually the one with the most associated tracks, is selected and it is required that there be no other vertices within  $\pm 5$  cm of this vertex. This selection introduces a bias toward high multiplicity events as the instantaneous luminosity increases. To combine events collected at different average instantaneous luminosities, we determine a per-event weight as a function of the charged-track multiplicity  $N_{ch}$  in order to match the multiplicity distribution of

a data sample where the average number of interactions is less than 0.3 per bunch crossing. For the  $N_{ch}$  calculation, tracks are required to have a high track-fit quality with  $\chi^2$  per degree-of-freedom ( $\chi^2/dof$ ) less than 2.5, and more than five hits in at least two axial and two stereo COT segments. It is further required that tracks satisfy  $|\eta| < 1$ , impact parameter  $d_0$  less than 0.25 cm, the distance along the  $z$ -axis ( $\delta Z_0$ ) between the event vertex and the track position at the point of closest approach to the vertex in the  $r - \phi$  plane be less than 2 cm, and  $p_T > 0.3$  GeV/c. The  $p_T$  selection is to minimize the inefficiency of the track-finding algorithm for low momentum tracks.

## III. RESONANCE RECONSTRUCTION

We search for  $\Lambda^0 \rightarrow p\pi^-$  decays using tracks with opposite-sign charge and  $p_T > 0.325$  GeV/c that satisfy the  $\chi^2/dof$  and COT segment requirements. In this paper, any reference to a specific hyperon state implies the antiparticle state as well. For each two-track combination we calculate their intersection coordinate in the  $r - \phi$  plane. Once this intersection point, referred to as the secondary vertex, is found, the  $z$ -coordinate of each track ( $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$ ) is calculated at that point. If the distance  $|Z_1 - Z_2|$  is less than 1.5 cm, the tracks are considered to originate from a  $\Lambda^0$  candidate decay. The pair is traced back to the vertex and we require  $\delta Z_0$  be less than 2 cm, and the  $d_0$  be less than 0.25 cm. To reduce backgrounds further, we require the  $\Lambda^0$  decay length  $L_{\Lambda^0}$ , the distance in the  $r - \phi$  plane between the primary and secondary vertices, to be greater than 2.5 cm and less than 50 cm.

The invariant mass  $M_{p\pi}$  of the two-track system is calculated by attributing the proton mass to the track with the higher  $p_T$ , as preferentially expected by the kinematics of a  $\Lambda^0$  decay. Figure 1 shows the invariant mass for  $\Lambda^0$  candidates with  $|\eta| < 1$ . This distribution is divided into 23  $p_T$  intervals [18] and the number of  $\Lambda^0$  in each  $p_T$  interval is determined by fitting the invariant mass distributions using a Gaussian function with three parameters for the signal and a third-order polynomial for the underlying combinatorial background. The data in the mass range 1.10 – 1.16 GeV/ $c^2$  are fitted. The polynomial fit to the background is subtracted bin-by-bin from the data entries in the  $\Lambda^0$  mass window (1.111 – 1.121 GeV/ $c^2$ ) to obtain the number of  $\Lambda^0$  hyperons. This number is divided by the acceptance to obtain the invariant differential  $p_T$  distribution as described later. With our minimum track  $p_T$  requirement, the  $\Lambda^0$   $p_T$  resolution decreases from  $\sim 0.8\%$  at 1.5 GeV/c to  $\sim 0.6\%$  at 3 GeV/c and slowly increases to  $\sim 1.1\%$  at 10 GeV/c.

The fitting procedure is one source of systematic uncertainty. This uncertainty is estimated by separately varying the mass range of the fit, the functional form for the signal to a double Gaussian, and the background modeling function to a second-order polynomial. The

number of  $\Lambda^0$  is recalculated in all  $p_T$  intervals for each variation. The systematic uncertainty is determined as the sum in quadrature of the fractional change in the number of  $\Lambda^0$  from each modified fit. It decreases from  $\pm 10\%$  at the lowest  $p_T$  (1.2 GeV/c) to less than  $\pm 5\%$  for  $p_T > 1.75$  GeV/c.

The cascade reconstruction decay mode is  $\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \pi^- \rightarrow (p\pi^-)\pi^-$ . The previously reconstructed  $\Lambda^0$  candidates are used, but without the  $d_0$  and  $\delta Z_0$  requirements. We select  $\Lambda^0$  candidates in the  $\Lambda^0$  mass window and calculate the coordinate of the intersection point in the  $r - \phi$  plane between the  $\Lambda^0$  candidate and a third track. The  $z$ -axis coordinates at this point are calculated for the third track ( $Z_3$ ) and the  $\Lambda^0$  candidate ( $Z_4$ ). The three-track system is considered a  $\Xi^-$  candidate decay if the distance  $|Z_3 - Z_4| < 1.5$  cm. We also require  $L_{\Xi^-} > 1$  cm and that of the  $\Lambda^0$  candidate to be between 2.5 and 50 cm. To enhance the selection of  $\Lambda^0$  from  $\Xi^-$  decays, we require the difference between the  $\Xi^-$  and  $\Lambda^0$  decay lengths to be greater than 1 cm. Finally, it is required that the  $d_0$  of the  $\Xi^-$  candidate be less than 0.25 cm and the distance  $\delta Z_0$  along the  $z$ -axis between the  $\Xi^-$  and the primary vertex be less than 2 cm.

The invariant mass  $M_{\Lambda^0\pi}$  is calculated by fixing the mass of the  $\Lambda^0$  candidate to 1.1157 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> [19] and assigning the pion mass to the third track. Figure 1 shows the invariant mass for  $\Xi^-$  candidates with  $|\eta| < 1$  overlaid with the fitted curve.

As for the  $\Lambda^0$  case, the  $\Xi^-$  candidates are divided into 17  $p_T$  intervals and the number of  $\Xi^-$  in each interval is determined by fitting the corresponding  $M_{\Lambda^0\pi}$  invariant mass distribution using a Gaussian function for the signal and a third-order polynomial for the background. The fitted background is then subtracted bin-by-bin from the data entries in the signal region (1.31 to 1.33 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>) to obtain the  $\Xi^-$  yield in every  $p_T$  interval. The systematic uncertainty of the fit procedure is estimated the same way as for the  $\Lambda^0$  and is found to change by no more than  $\pm 5\%$  in all  $p_T$  intervals.

To reconstruct  $\Omega^-$  decays we follow the same procedure as for the  $\Xi^-$  and apply the same selection criteria except that the third track is assigned the kaon mass. The search decay mode is  $\Omega^- \rightarrow \Lambda^0 K^- \rightarrow (p\pi^-)K^-$ . Because of the larger background, the procedure to extract the  $\Omega^-$  signal yield is slightly different from that in the previous cases. Track pairs with  $M_{p\pi^-}$  in the mass ranges 1.095 – 1.105 and 1.127 – 1.137 GeV/c<sup>2</sup> are combined with the third track to obtain the invariant mass distribution of the combinatorial background. This distribution is subtracted from the  $M_{\Lambda^0 K^-}$  distribution after normalizing to the number of events in the mass window  $1.69 < M_{\Lambda^0 K^-} < 1.74$  GeV/c<sup>2</sup>. The background subtracted  $M_{\Lambda^0 K^-}$  invariant mass distribution is shown in Figure 1.

The distribution is divided into 10  $p_T$  intervals, and we use the method described above to extract the  $\Omega^-$  signal from the corresponding invariant mass distributions in each  $p_T$  interval within the mass window 1.66 to 1.68 GeV/c<sup>2</sup>.

GeV/c<sup>2</sup>. The systematic uncertainty due to the fitting procedure is also calculated in a similar manner as  $\Xi^-$ , with the exception of using a double Gaussian variation because of low  $\Omega^-$  statistics. The overall uncertainties are about  $\pm 10\%$  for all  $p_T$  intervals. The  $p_T$  resolution of  $\Xi^-$  and  $\Omega^-$  as a function of  $p_T$  is similar to  $\Lambda^0$ .

#### IV. ACCEPTANCE CALCULATION AND SYSTEMATIC UNCERTAINTIES

The geometric and kinematic acceptance is estimated with Monte Carlo (MC) simulations. The MC data of a resonance state are generated with fixed  $p_T$  corresponding to 14 points [18] ranging from 0.75 to 10 GeV/c and flat in rapidity  $|y| < 2$ . A generated resonance is combined with either one or four non-diffractive inelastic MB events generated with the PYTHIA [20] generator. Although the average number of interactions in our data sample is a little less than two, the default acceptance is calculated from the MC sample with four MB events and the difference of the acceptance values between the two samples is one of our systematics. This is because PYTHIA underestimates the average event multiplicity and based on a study with tracks from  $K_S^0$  decay, the sample with four MB events reproduces the low  $p_T$  tracking efficiency in data well within the systematic uncertainty.

The detector response to particles produced in the simulation is modeled with the CDF II detector simulation that in turn is based on the GEANT-3 MC program [21]. Simulated events are processed and selected with the same analysis code used for the data. The acceptance is defined as the ratio of the number of reconstructed resonances with the input  $p_T$  over the generated number, including the branching ratio. Acceptance values are calculated separately for the particles and their corresponding antiparticles and the average of the two is used as the default value, since the acceptances for the two states are similar. Figure 2 shows the acceptance for the three particles including the branching ratio.

The acceptance values obtained for the 14  $p_T$  points are fitted with a fourth order polynomial function and the fitted curve is used to correct the numbers of each hyperon state in the data as a function of  $p_T$ . The modeling of the MB events overlapping with the examined resonance and the selection criteria applied contribute as a systematic uncertainty to the acceptance calculation. The contribution from the former has already been mentioned. Acceptance uncertainties due to the selection criteria are studied by changing the selection values of the variables used to reconstruct the resonances. The variables examined are  $p_T$ ,  $|Z_1 - Z_2|$ ,  $|Z_3 - Z_4|$ ,  $\delta Z_0$ ,  $d_0$  and the decay lengths. For each variable other than  $p_T$ , two values around the default value are typically chosen. One value is such that it has little effect on the signal, and the other reduces the signal by  $\sim 20$  to  $30\%$ . The default minimum  $p_T$  selection value is 0.325 GeV/c, and it is changed to 0.3 GeV/c and to 0.35 GeV/c.

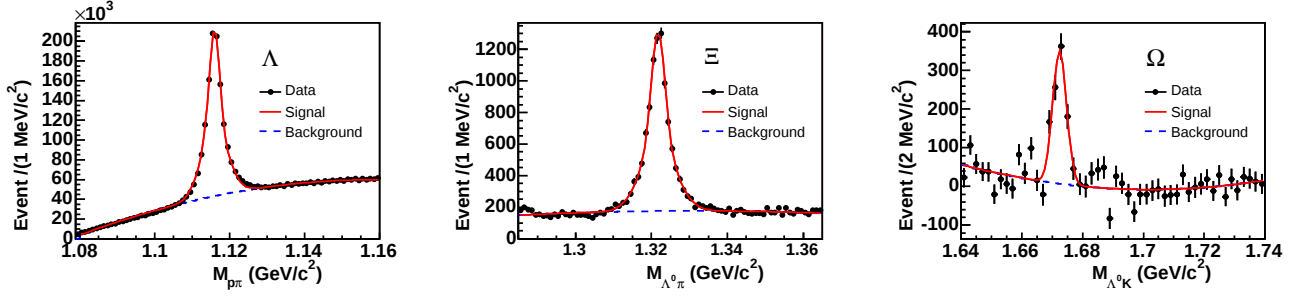


FIG. 1: Reconstructed invariant mass distributions for  $M_{p\pi}$  (left),  $M_{\Lambda^0\pi}$  (center), and  $M_{\Lambda^0 K}$  (right). The background has been subtracted from the  $M_{\Lambda^0 K}$  distribution. The solid lines are fitted curves, a third-degree polynomial for the background and either a double ( $M_{p\pi}$  and  $M_{\Lambda^0\pi}$ ) or single ( $M_{\Lambda^0 K}$ ) Gaussian function to model the peak. The widths reflect the tracking resolution and are consistent with the widths from MC simulation.

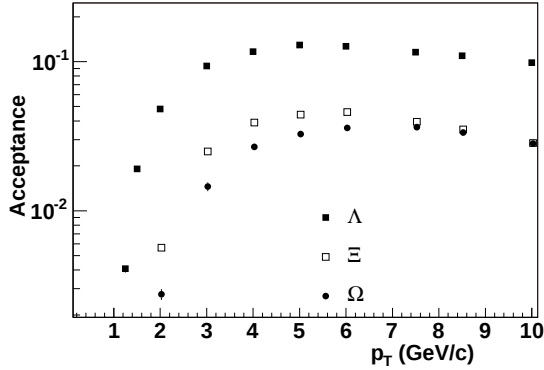


FIG. 2: Acceptances for the three particles,  $\Lambda^0$ , and  $\Xi^-$  and  $\Omega^-$ . The values include the branching ratio to our final states and are averaged acceptances of particles and corresponding antiparticles.

For each considered variation, a new acceptance curve and the number of resonances as a function of  $p_T$  are obtained, and the percentage change between the new  $p_T$  distribution and the one with the default selection requirements is taken as the uncertainty in the acceptance for the specific  $p_T$  interval. The square root of the quadratic sum of the uncertainties from each variation is taken as the total conservative uncertainty on the acceptance in a given  $p_T$  bin. The systematic uncertainty associated with the  $\Omega^-$  hyperon acceptance is derived from the  $\Xi^-$  uncertainty estimate since the reconstruction follows the same criteria. This acceptance uncertainty is added quadratically to the systematic uncertainty due to the fitting procedure, described earlier, to give the total systematic uncertainty.

For the  $\Lambda^0$  case, the acceptance uncertainty decreases from about 25% at  $p_T \sim 1$  GeV/c to 10% at  $p_T \sim 2$  GeV/c and then rises again slowly to 15% for  $p_T > 7$  GeV/c. The corresponding acceptance uncertainty for the  $\Xi^-$  ( $\Omega^-$ ) case decreases from about 15% (20%) at  $p_T \sim 2$  GeV/c to 10% (15%) for  $p_T > 4$  GeV/c.

## V. INVARIANT DIFFERENTIAL CROSS SECTION

The inclusive invariant  $p_T$  differential cross section for each hyperon resonance is calculated as  $Ed^3\sigma/dp^3 = (\sigma_{mb}/N_{event})d^3N/Ap_T dp_T dy d\phi = (\sigma_{mb}/2\pi N_{event})\Delta N/Ap_T \Delta p_T \Delta y$  where  $\sigma_{mb}$  is our MB trigger cross section,  $N_{event}$  is the number of weighted events,  $\Delta N$  is the number of hyperons observed in each  $p_T$  interval ( $\Delta p_T$ ) after background subtraction,  $A$  is the acceptance in the specific  $p_T$  interval, and  $\Delta y$  is the rapidity range used in the acceptance calculation (-2 to 2).

Figure 3 shows the results for the  $p_T$  differential cross section for the three hyperon resonances. The uncertainties shown for each data point include the statistical and all systematic uncertainties described above, except the one associated with  $\sigma_{mb}$  [22]. The cross sections are listed in Table I. The  $p_T$  values are the weighted averages within the  $p_T$  intervals calculated according to the cross section as a function of  $p_T$ , which is obtained from the fit parameters described below.

The  $p_T$  differential cross section is modeled by a power law function,  $A(p_0)^n/(p_T + p_0)^n$ , for  $p_T > 2$  GeV/c. In order to compare with the previous CDF  $K_S^0$  result [5, 24],  $p_0$  is fixed at 1.3 GeV/c, and the results are shown in Table II. The data  $p_T \sim < 2$  GeV/c cannot be described well by the power law function even if  $p_0$  is allowed to float. For this region, the data are better described by an exponential function,  $Be^{b \cdot p_T}$ . The results of this fit are shown in Table III, and the slope  $b$  of  $\Lambda$  is consistent with previous measurements [11, 12]. The  $b$  values depend on the range of the fit but are about two, which corresponds to an average  $p_T$  of 1 GeV/c under the assumption that the fit can be extrapolated down to  $p_T = 0$  GeV/c.

The bottom plot in Figure 3 shows the ratio of the  $p_T$  differential cross sections for  $\Xi^-$  and  $\Lambda^0$ , and  $\Omega^-$  and  $\Lambda^0$ . For the ratio plots,  $\Lambda^0$  cross sections are recalculated at the  $\Xi^-$  and  $\Omega^-$   $p_T$  values. In the  $\Xi^-/\Lambda^0$  ratio there is a rise at low  $p_T$ , and the ratio reaches a plateau at  $p_T > 4$  GeV/c. It should be noted that the  $\Lambda^0$  cross section also

TABLE I: The values of inclusive invariant  $p_T$  differential cross sections ( $Ed^3\sigma/dp^3$ ) in Figure 3. The uncertainties include both statistical and systematic uncertainties.

| $p_T$ (GeV/c) | $\Lambda^0$ (mb/GeV $^2c^3$ )                 | $p_T$ (GeV/c) | $\Xi^\pm$ (mb/GeV $^2c^3$ )                   | $p_T$ (GeV/c) | $\Omega^\pm$ (mb/GeV $^2c^3$ )                |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1.24          | $4.15 \times 10^{-1} \pm 1.07 \times 10^{-1}$ | 2.11          | $4.96 \times 10^{-3} \pm 1.25 \times 10^{-3}$ | 1.96          | $1.19 \times 10^{-3} \pm 2.92 \times 10^{-4}$ |
| 1.34          | $2.55 \times 10^{-1} \pm 6.36 \times 10^{-2}$ | 2.36          | $2.76 \times 10^{-3} \pm 6.41 \times 10^{-4}$ | 2.46          | $2.88 \times 10^{-4} \pm 5.68 \times 10^{-5}$ |
| 1.44          | $1.95 \times 10^{-1} \pm 4.69 \times 10^{-2}$ | 2.61          | $1.64 \times 10^{-3} \pm 3.32 \times 10^{-4}$ | 2.96          | $9.89 \times 10^{-5} \pm 1.85 \times 10^{-5}$ |
| 1.54          | $1.72 \times 10^{-1} \pm 3.97 \times 10^{-2}$ | 2.86          | $1.03 \times 10^{-3} \pm 1.89 \times 10^{-4}$ | 3.43          | $7.54 \times 10^{-5} \pm 1.34 \times 10^{-5}$ |
| 1.69          | $1.11 \times 10^{-1} \pm 2.44 \times 10^{-2}$ | 3.11          | $7.26 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.12 \times 10^{-4}$ | 3.91          | $2.07 \times 10^{-5} \pm 4.37 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| 1.89          | $6.54 \times 10^{-2} \pm 1.33 \times 10^{-2}$ | 3.36          | $4.46 \times 10^{-4} \pm 6.94 \times 10^{-5}$ | 4.47          | $6.77 \times 10^{-6} \pm 2.10 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| 2.09          | $4.03 \times 10^{-2} \pm 7.67 \times 10^{-3}$ | 3.61          | $2.96 \times 10^{-4} \pm 4.65 \times 10^{-5}$ | 4.97          | $9.41 \times 10^{-6} \pm 2.33 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| 2.29          | $2.54 \times 10^{-2} \pm 4.52 \times 10^{-3}$ | 3.86          | $2.10 \times 10^{-4} \pm 3.34 \times 10^{-5}$ | 5.63          | $1.87 \times 10^{-6} \pm 6.51 \times 10^{-7}$ |
| 2.49          | $1.63 \times 10^{-2} \pm 2.73 \times 10^{-3}$ | 4.11          | $1.30 \times 10^{-4} \pm 2.13 \times 10^{-5}$ | 6.84          | $5.21 \times 10^{-7} \pm 2.14 \times 10^{-7}$ |
| 2.69          | $1.06 \times 10^{-2} \pm 1.67 \times 10^{-3}$ | 4.36          | $7.66 \times 10^{-5} \pm 1.28 \times 10^{-5}$ | 8.78          | $1.32 \times 10^{-7} \pm 9.71 \times 10^{-8}$ |
| 2.89          | $6.96 \times 10^{-3} \pm 1.04 \times 10^{-3}$ | 4.61          | $6.55 \times 10^{-5} \pm 1.10 \times 10^{-5}$ |               |                                               |
| 3.13          | $4.26 \times 10^{-3} \pm 6.09 \times 10^{-4}$ | 4.97          | $3.52 \times 10^{-5} \pm 5.78 \times 10^{-6}$ |               |                                               |
| 3.43          | $2.30 \times 10^{-3} \pm 3.16 \times 10^{-4}$ | 5.47          | $1.81 \times 10^{-5} \pm 3.20 \times 10^{-6}$ |               |                                               |
| 3.78          | $1.20 \times 10^{-3} \pm 1.62 \times 10^{-4}$ | 5.98          | $8.71 \times 10^{-6} \pm 1.94 \times 10^{-6}$ |               |                                               |
| 4.22          | $5.42 \times 10^{-4} \pm 7.44 \times 10^{-5}$ | 6.67          | $3.53 \times 10^{-6} \pm 8.94 \times 10^{-7}$ |               |                                               |
| 4.72          | $2.42 \times 10^{-4} \pm 3.63 \times 10^{-5}$ | 7.68          | $9.02 \times 10^{-7} \pm 2.77 \times 10^{-7}$ |               |                                               |
| 5.22          | $1.20 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.37 \times 10^{-5}$ | 8.95          | $5.09 \times 10^{-7} \pm 2.09 \times 10^{-7}$ |               |                                               |
| 5.72          | $6.21 \times 10^{-5} \pm 7.68 \times 10^{-6}$ |               |                                               |               |                                               |
| 6.23          | $3.38 \times 10^{-5} \pm 4.76 \times 10^{-6}$ |               |                                               |               |                                               |
| 6.73          | $1.76 \times 10^{-5} \pm 3.03 \times 10^{-6}$ |               |                                               |               |                                               |
| 7.43          | $8.87 \times 10^{-6} \pm 1.46 \times 10^{-6}$ |               |                                               |               |                                               |
| 8.44          | $4.10 \times 10^{-6} \pm 8.29 \times 10^{-7}$ |               |                                               |               |                                               |
| 9.44          | $1.42 \times 10^{-6} \pm 4.21 \times 10^{-7}$ |               |                                               |               |                                               |

TABLE II: The results of power law function fits to the inclusive invariant  $p_T$  differential cross sections described in the text and shown in Figure 3 for  $p_T > 2$  GeV/c. The parameter  $p_0$  is fixed to 1.3 GeV/c in all fits. The values for all charge and  $K_S^0$  at  $\sqrt{s} = 1.8$  TeV. The uncertainties shown do not include the MB cross section uncertainty [22]. The last line of the table gives the  $\chi^2$  per degree-of-freedom of the fit to data.

| Parameter (units)     | All charged [25] | $K_S^0$ [24]  | $\Lambda^0$     | $\Xi^\pm$       | $\Omega^\pm$    |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| $A$ (mb/GeV $^2c^3$ ) | $450 \pm 10$     | $45 \pm 9$    | $210 \pm 25$    | $14.9 \pm 2.5$  | $1.50 \pm 0.75$ |
| $p_0$ (GeV/c)         | 1.3              | 1.3           | 1.3             | 1.3             | 1.3             |
| $n$                   | $8.28 \pm 0.02$  | $7.7 \pm 0.2$ | $8.81 \pm 0.08$ | $8.26 \pm 0.12$ | $8.06 \pm 0.34$ |
| $\chi^2/dof$          | 103/65           | 8.1/11        | 5.7/15          | 15.8/15         | 10.5/7          |

includes  $\Lambda^0$  production from the decay of other hyperon states ( $\Sigma^0 \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \gamma$ ,  $\Xi^\pm$ ,  $\Xi^0$  and  $\Xi^-$ ). Due to the short  $\Sigma^0$  lifetime,  $\Lambda^0$  from  $\Sigma^0$  decays cannot be separated from direct  $\Lambda^0$  production. Simulations of cascade decays indicate that  $\sim 50\%$  of  $\Lambda^0$  from  $\Xi$  decays will satisfy our  $\Lambda^0$  selection criteria, with the fraction of  $\Lambda^0$  fairly independent of  $\Xi$   $p_T$ . The ratio plots in Figure 3 are fitted to a constant, and the value  $0.17 \pm 0.01$  is obtained for  $\Xi^-/\Lambda^0$  and  $0.025 \pm 0.002$  for  $\Omega^-/\Lambda^0$ .

The ratio and  $p_T$  plots in Figure 3 clearly show that the cross sections depend on the number of strange quarks. However, the plots in Figure 3,  $n$  values in Table II including  $K_S^0$  [24] and all charged particles [25] indicate that the  $p_T$  slopes are similar in the high  $p_T$  region. This could be an indication of a universality in particle production as  $p_T$  increases [26]. This is in contrast to the low  $p_T$  region where the slope exhibits a strong particle

type dependence [27].

Figure 4 shows the  $p_T$  differential cross sections for two charged-particle multiplicity regions,  $N_{ch} < 10$  and  $N_{ch} > 24$ .  $N_{ch} = 24$  (10) corresponds to  $dN/d\eta \sim 16(7)$ , corrected for the track reconstruction efficiency and unreconstructed tracks with  $p_T < 0.3$  GeV/c [25]. Due to the low  $\Omega^-$  sample statistics, distributions are only shown for  $\Lambda^0$  and  $\Xi^-$ . We observe a correlation between high  $p_T$  particles and high multiplicity events. This is a general characteristic independent of the particle types. Table IV lists the cross section values in Figure 4.

## VI. SUMMARY

The production properties of  $\Lambda^0$ ,  $\Xi^-$ , and  $\Omega^-$  hyperons reconstructed from minimum-bias events at  $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$  TeV are studied. The inclusive invariant  $p_T$  differential

TABLE III: The results of exponential function fits to the inclusive invariant  $p_T$  differential cross sections shown in Figure 3 for the  $p_T$  ranges given in the second row. The uncertainties shown do not include the MB cross section uncertainty [22]. The last line of the table gives the  $\chi^2$  per degree-of-freedom of the fit to data.

| Parameter (units)     | $\Lambda^0$     | $\Lambda^0$     | $\Xi^\pm$       | $\Omega^\pm$      |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| $p_T$ range (GeV/c)   | [1.2, 2.5]      | [1.2, 4]        | [1.5, 4]        | [2, 4]            |
| $B$ (mb/GeV $^2c^3$ ) | $4.68 \pm 1.04$ | $3.16 \pm 0.35$ | $0.16 \pm 0.04$ | $0.024 \pm 0.011$ |
| $b$ (GeV $^{-1}c$ )   | $2.30 \pm 0.12$ | $2.10 \pm 0.04$ | $1.75 \pm 0.08$ | $1.80 \pm 0.19$   |
| $\chi^2/dof$          | 1.0/7           | 7.2/12          | 4.0/8           | 6.3/3             |

TABLE IV: The values of inclusive invariant  $p_T$  differential cross sections ( $Ed^3\sigma/dp^3$ ) in Figure 4 for two multiplicity ranges. The uncertainties include both statistical and systematic uncertainties.

| $p_T$ (GeV/c) | $\Lambda^0$ (mb/GeV $^2c^3$ )                 |                                               | $p_T$ (GeV/c) | $\Xi^\pm$ (mb/GeV $^2c^3$ )                   |                                               |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
|               | $N_{ch} < 10$                                 | $N_{ch} > 24$                                 |               | $N_{ch} < 10$                                 | $N_{ch} > 24$                                 |
| 1.24          | $1.35 \times 10^{-1} \pm 3.30 \times 10^{-2}$ | $2.79 \times 10^{-2} \pm 7.43 \times 10^{-3}$ | 2.11          | $1.69 \times 10^{-3} \pm 3.29 \times 10^{-4}$ | $4.41 \times 10^{-4} \pm 8.65 \times 10^{-5}$ |
| 1.34          | $8.93 \times 10^{-2} \pm 2.10 \times 10^{-2}$ | $1.84 \times 10^{-2} \pm 4.51 \times 10^{-3}$ | 2.36          | $1.07 \times 10^{-3} \pm 1.87 \times 10^{-4}$ | $2.58 \times 10^{-4} \pm 4.60 \times 10^{-5}$ |
| 1.44          | $6.93 \times 10^{-2} \pm 1.57 \times 10^{-2}$ | $1.33 \times 10^{-2} \pm 3.14 \times 10^{-3}$ | 2.61          | $5.61 \times 10^{-4} \pm 8.91 \times 10^{-5}$ | $1.86 \times 10^{-4} \pm 2.90 \times 10^{-5}$ |
| 1.54          | $5.88 \times 10^{-2} \pm 1.30 \times 10^{-2}$ | $1.40 \times 10^{-2} \pm 3.17 \times 10^{-3}$ | 2.86          | $3.62 \times 10^{-4} \pm 5.75 \times 10^{-5}$ | $1.23 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.96 \times 10^{-5}$ |
| 1.69          | $3.91 \times 10^{-2} \pm 8.28 \times 10^{-3}$ | $1.02 \times 10^{-2} \pm 2.18 \times 10^{-3}$ | 3.11          | $2.68 \times 10^{-4} \pm 4.27 \times 10^{-5}$ | $1.03 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.61 \times 10^{-5}$ |
| 1.90          | $2.34 \times 10^{-2} \pm 4.72 \times 10^{-3}$ | $6.64 \times 10^{-3} \pm 1.35 \times 10^{-3}$ | 3.36          | $1.56 \times 10^{-4} \pm 2.62 \times 10^{-5}$ | $6.07 \times 10^{-5} \pm 9.90 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| 2.09          | $1.44 \times 10^{-2} \pm 2.77 \times 10^{-3}$ | $4.53 \times 10^{-3} \pm 8.82 \times 10^{-4}$ | 3.61          | $1.03 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.84 \times 10^{-5}$ | $4.33 \times 10^{-5} \pm 7.23 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| 2.29          | $8.95 \times 10^{-3} \pm 1.66 \times 10^{-3}$ | $3.10 \times 10^{-3} \pm 5.83 \times 10^{-4}$ | 3.86          | $7.52 \times 10^{-5} \pm 1.37 \times 10^{-5}$ | $3.06 \times 10^{-5} \pm 5.42 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| 2.50          | $5.59 \times 10^{-3} \pm 1.01 \times 10^{-3}$ | $2.12 \times 10^{-3} \pm 3.87 \times 10^{-4}$ | 4.12          | $5.07 \times 10^{-5} \pm 1.05 \times 10^{-5}$ | $1.87 \times 10^{-5} \pm 3.61 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| 2.69          | $3.64 \times 10^{-3} \pm 6.38 \times 10^{-4}$ | $1.46 \times 10^{-3} \pm 2.60 \times 10^{-4}$ | 4.42          | $1.90 \times 10^{-5} \pm 5.18 \times 10^{-6}$ | $1.21 \times 10^{-5} \pm 2.53 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| 2.90          | $2.39 \times 10^{-3} \pm 4.11 \times 10^{-4}$ | $9.85 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.73 \times 10^{-4}$ | 4.79          | $1.72 \times 10^{-5} \pm 3.79 \times 10^{-6}$ | $7.48 \times 10^{-6} \pm 1.68 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| 3.13          | $1.43 \times 10^{-3} \pm 2.41 \times 10^{-4}$ | $6.35 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.09 \times 10^{-4}$ | 5.33          | $8.59 \times 10^{-6} \pm 1.81 \times 10^{-6}$ | $3.74 \times 10^{-6} \pm 7.71 \times 10^{-7}$ |
| 3.44          | $8.06 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.34 \times 10^{-4}$ | $3.61 \times 10^{-4} \pm 6.19 \times 10^{-5}$ | 6.87          | $8.22 \times 10^{-7} \pm 3.80 \times 10^{-7}$ | $3.61 \times 10^{-7} \pm 9.16 \times 10^{-8}$ |
| 3.79          | $4.09 \times 10^{-4} \pm 6.81 \times 10^{-5}$ | $2.03 \times 10^{-4} \pm 3.48 \times 10^{-5}$ |               |                                               |                                               |
| 4.22          | $1.74 \times 10^{-4} \pm 2.96 \times 10^{-5}$ | $1.02 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.78 \times 10^{-5}$ |               |                                               |                                               |
| 4.72          | $7.44 \times 10^{-5} \pm 1.34 \times 10^{-5}$ | $4.80 \times 10^{-5} \pm 9.02 \times 10^{-6}$ |               |                                               |                                               |
| 5.22          | $3.74 \times 10^{-5} \pm 6.88 \times 10^{-6}$ | $2.47 \times 10^{-5} \pm 5.04 \times 10^{-6}$ |               |                                               |                                               |
| 5.72          | $1.93 \times 10^{-5} \pm 3.90 \times 10^{-6}$ | $1.27 \times 10^{-5} \pm 2.90 \times 10^{-6}$ |               |                                               |                                               |
| 6.42          | $6.81 \times 10^{-6} \pm 1.52 \times 10^{-6}$ | $5.36 \times 10^{-6} \pm 1.28 \times 10^{-6}$ |               |                                               |                                               |
| 8.00          | $1.44 \times 10^{-6} \pm 3.69 \times 10^{-7}$ | $1.11 \times 10^{-6} \pm 3.37 \times 10^{-7}$ |               |                                               |                                               |

cross sections are well modeled by a power law function above 2 GeV/c  $p_T$ . With fixed  $p_0$ , the fit parameter  $n$  decreases from  $8.81 \pm 0.08$  ( $\Lambda^0$ ) to  $8.06 \pm 0.34$  ( $\Omega^-$ ). The low  $p_T$  regions are modeled by an exponential function. The exponential slope,  $b$ , decreases by  $\sim 15\%$  from  $\Lambda^0$  to  $\Omega^-$ . The cross section ratios  $\Xi^-/\Lambda^0$  and  $\Omega^-/\Lambda^0$  are presented as a function of  $p_T$ . Although the ratios exhibit a strong dependence on the number of strange quarks, the  $n$  values of the hyperons,  $K_S^0$  and all charged particles are within  $\sim 10\%$  of each other. This could be an evidence that these particles are produced similarly in  $p_T$  as  $p_T$  increases regardless of the number of quarks and quark flavors in particles. We also find the hyperon inclusive invariant  $p_T$  distributions fall off faster with  $p_T$  for low multiplicity events than for high multiplicity events.

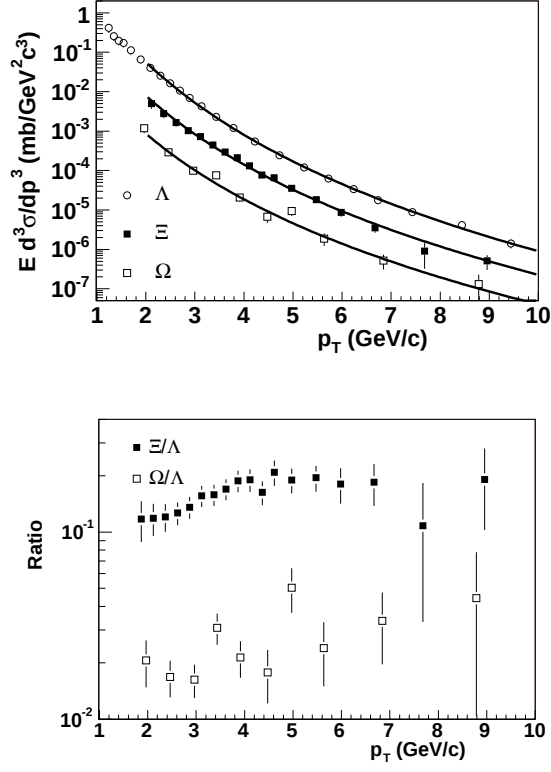


FIG. 3: The inclusive invariant  $p_T$  differential cross section distributions for  $\Lambda^0$ ,  $\Xi^-$ , and  $\Omega^-$  within  $|\eta| < 1$  (top). The solid curves are from fits to a power law function, with the fitted parameters given in Table II. The ratios of  $\Xi^-/\Lambda^0$  and  $\Omega^-/\Lambda^0$  as a function of  $p_T$  (bottom).

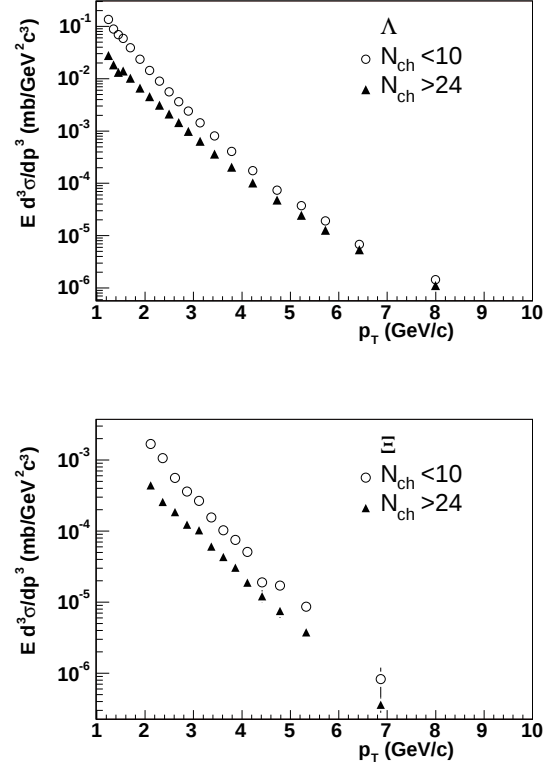


FIG. 4: Inclusive  $p_T$  distributions for two charged-particle multiplicity regions,  $N_{ch} < 10$  and  $N_{ch} > 24$ . Distributions for  $\Lambda^0$  are shown on the top while distributions for  $\Xi^-$  are shown on the bottom.

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