

Scaling and Resonances in Elementary $K^+ \Lambda$ Photoproduction

R. A. Schumacher¹ and M. M. Sargsian²

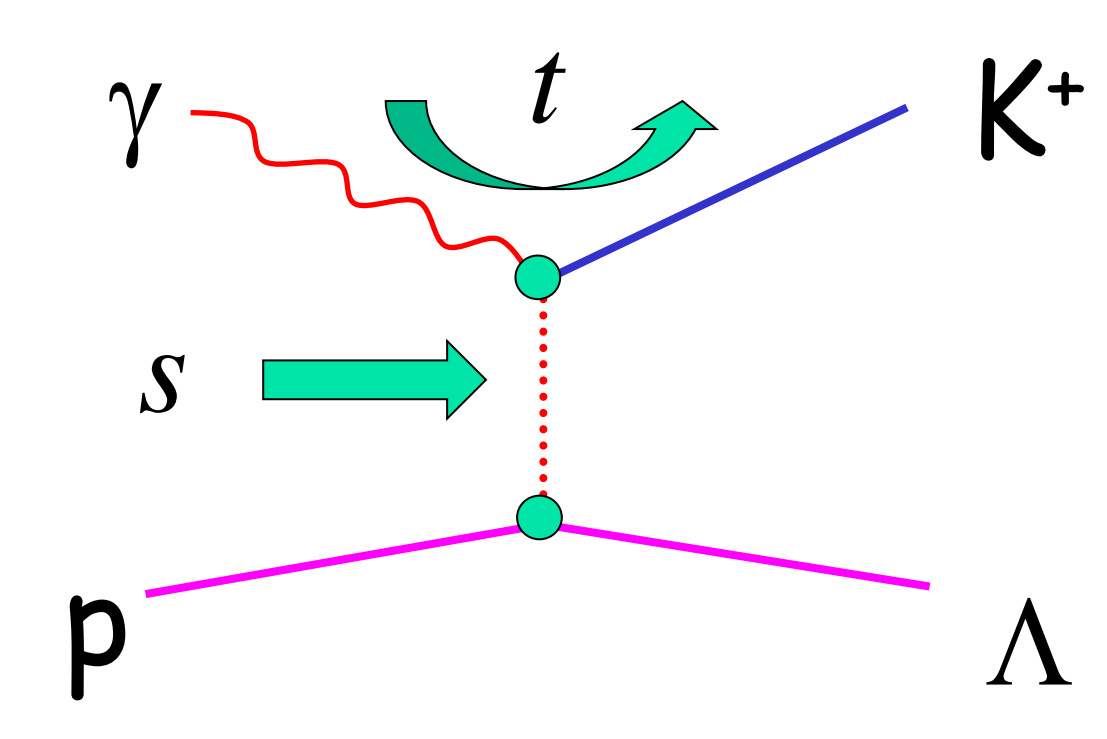
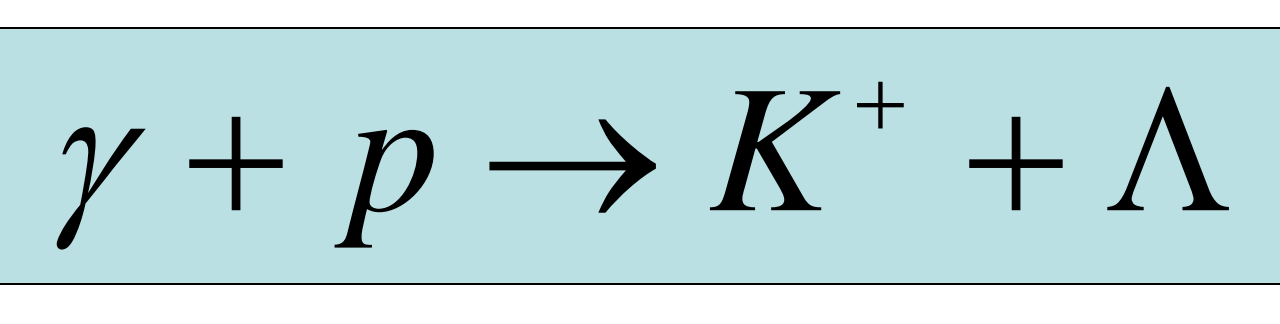
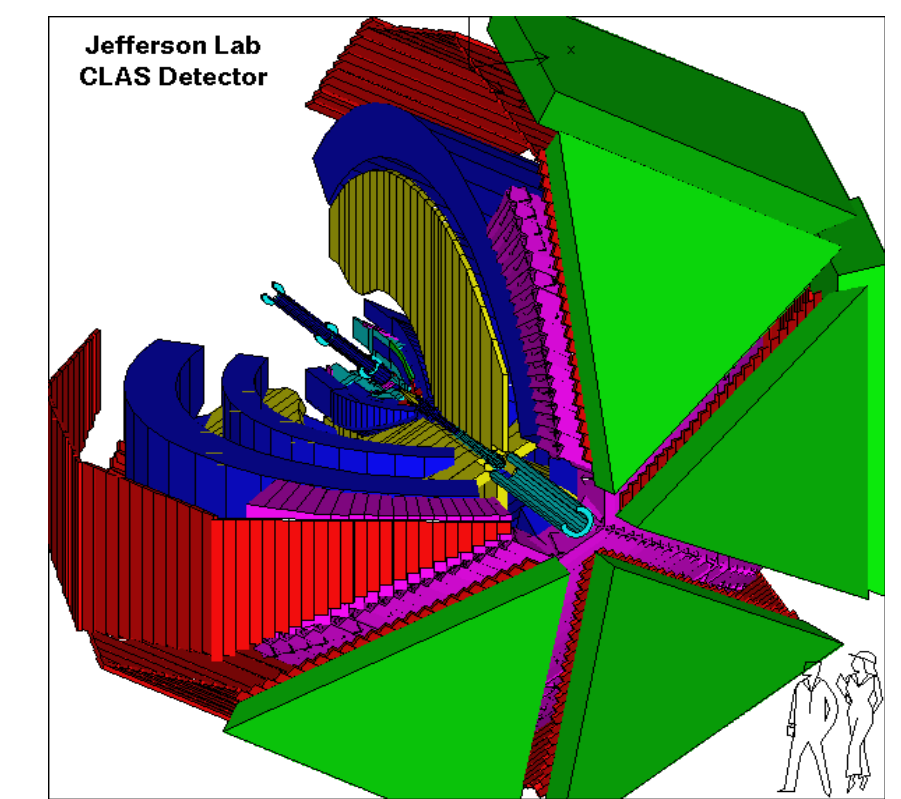
¹Department of Physics, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213, USA

²Department of Physics, Florida International University, Miami, Florida 33199, USA

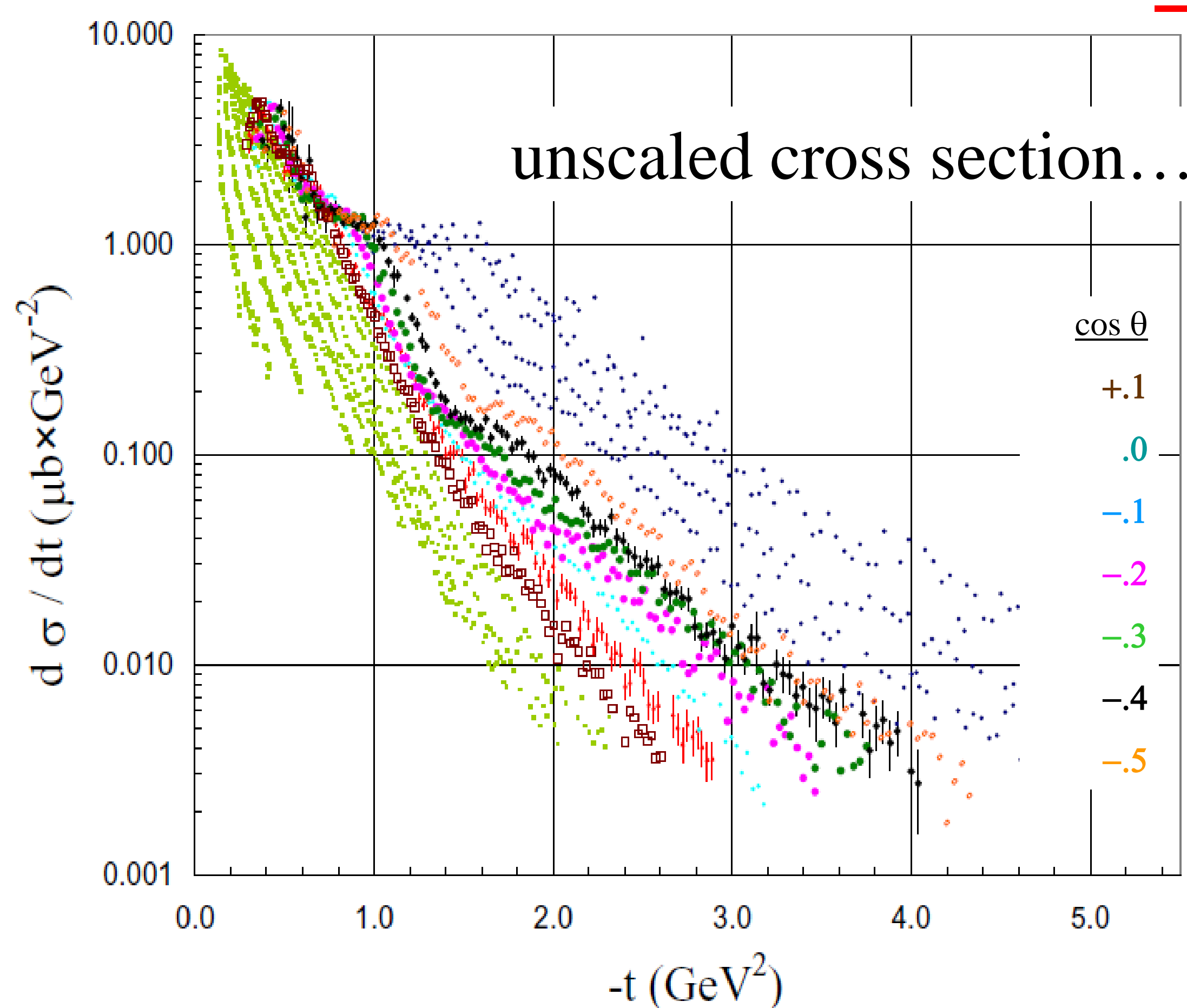
(Received 10 December 2010; published 28 February 2011)

PANic11 @ MIT

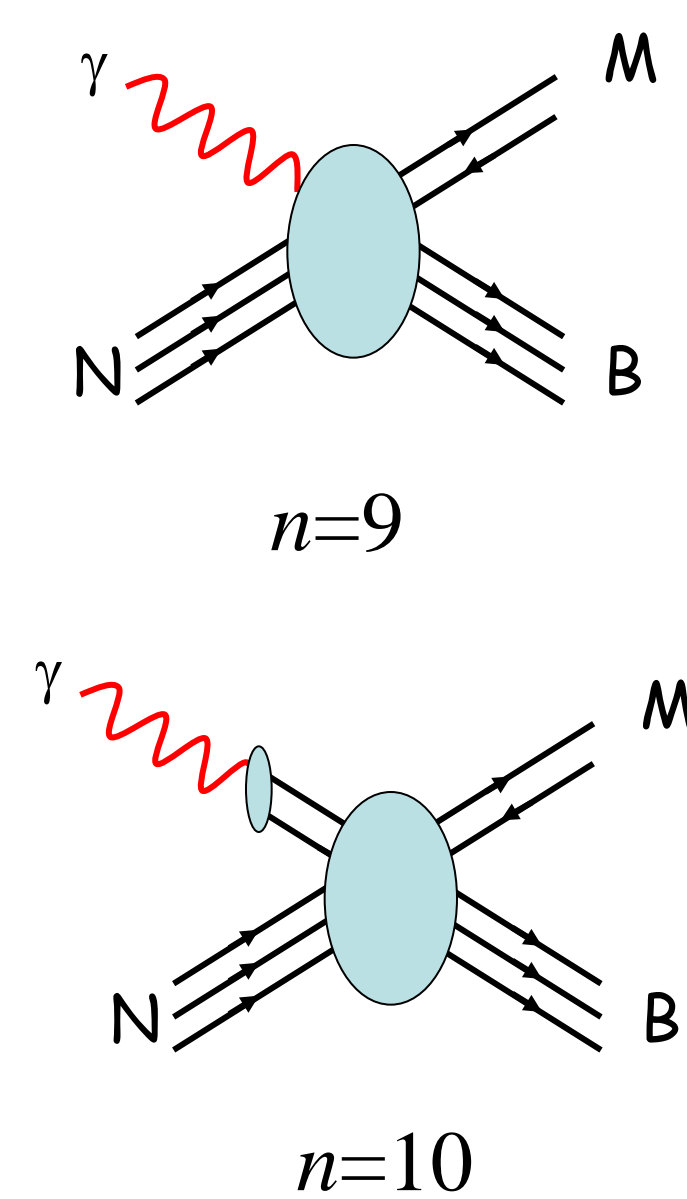
Recent cross-section data for the reaction $\gamma + p \rightarrow K^+ + \Lambda$ are examined for evidence of scaling in both the low- t Regge domain and in the high- \sqrt{s} and $-t$ domain where constituent counting may apply. It is shown that the reaction does scale in both regimes. At large center-of-mass angles, s^{-7} scaling appears to hold at essentially all $-t$ but with angle-dependent oscillations. The scaled data show particularly strong evidence for s -channel resonances for $-t$ below 2 GeV² and for W below about 2.3 GeV. The dominant contributions are consistent with an N^*S_{11} resonance at 1690 MeV, a P_{13} resonance at 1920 MeV, and a D_{13} resonance at 2100 MeV, which interfere to give the observed strong angular dependence.



Scaling Using Constituent-Counting



M. E. McCracken *et al.* (CLAS), Phys. Rev. C **81**, 025201 (2010)



Constituent counting rule for exclusive scattering

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt} = f \left(\frac{t}{s} \right) s^{2-n}$$

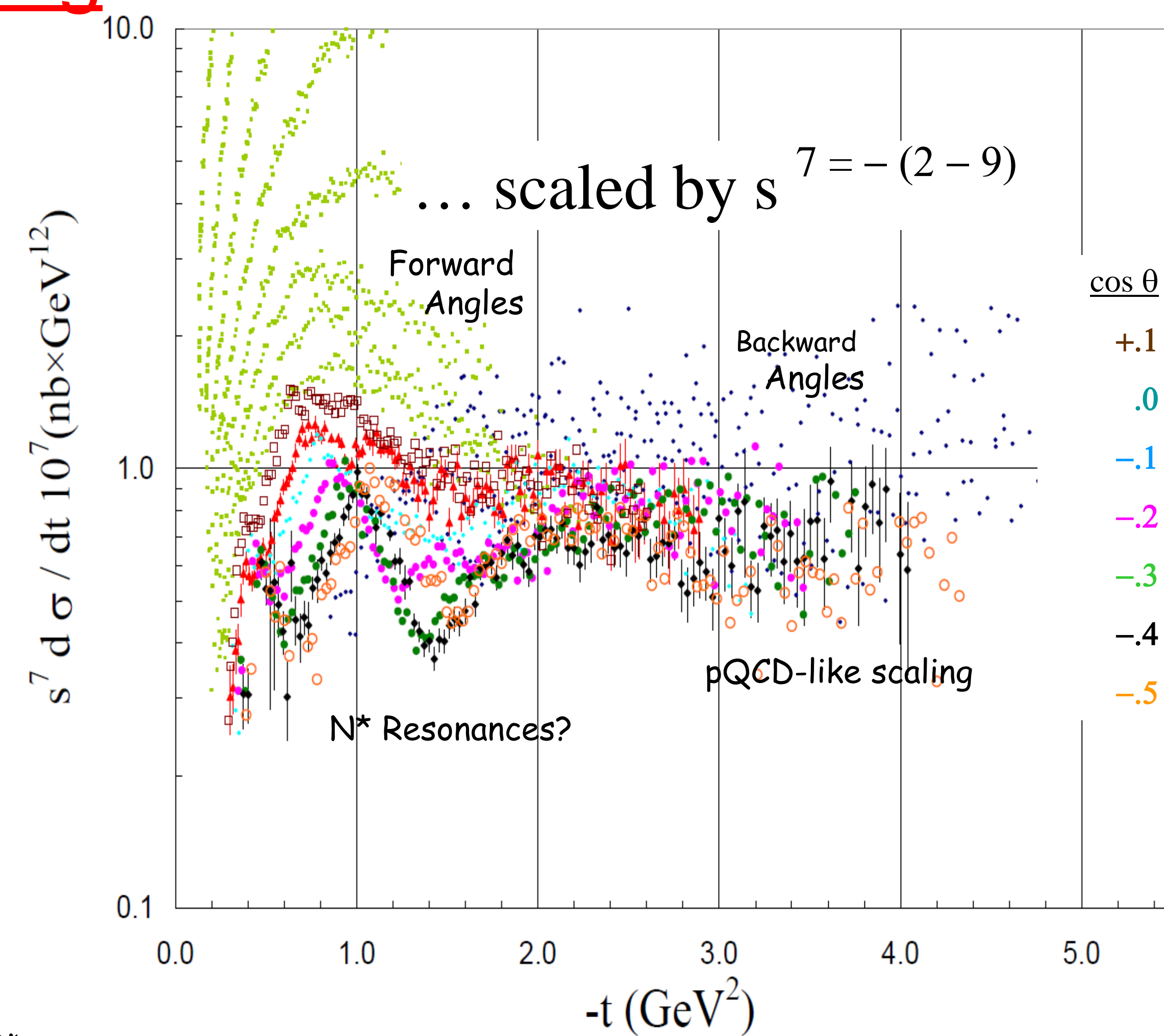
"Valid" for $s \rightarrow \infty$ and t/s fixed
 $t/s \sim \cos(\theta_{cm})$ as $s \rightarrow \infty$

n = number of point-like constituents

Follows from perturbative QCD (and some other models)

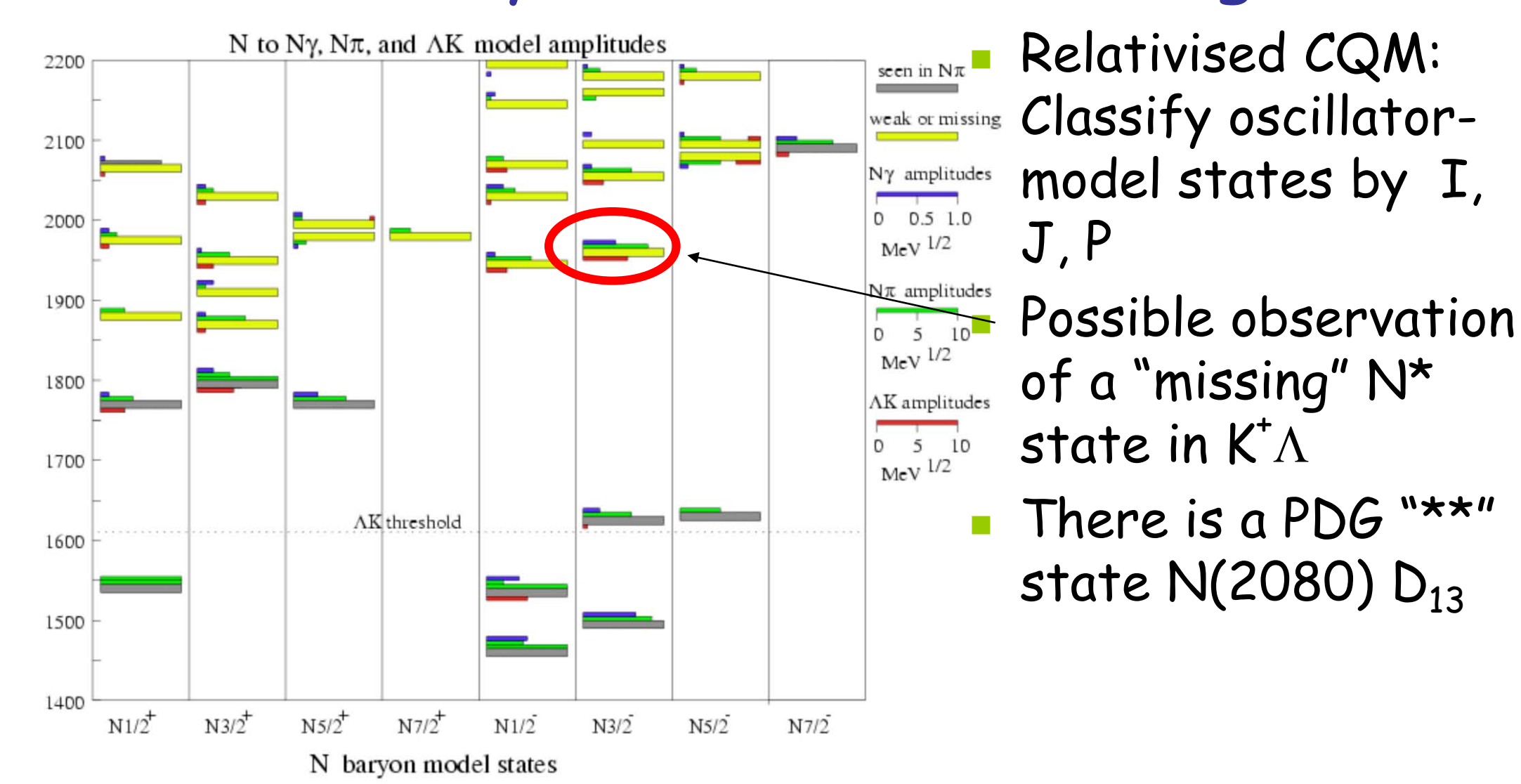
Analysis finds: $n-2 = 7.1 \pm 0.1$

pQCD-like constituent scaling is **confirmed** for hyperon photoproduction.



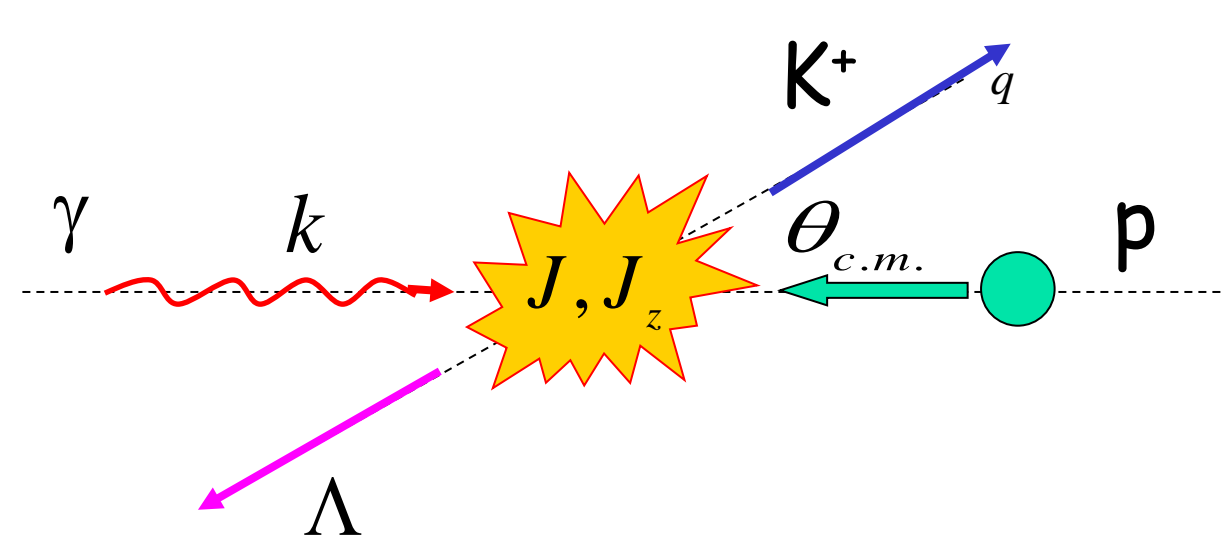
Nucleon Resonance Signatures

N^* Baryons: Seen & "Missing"



S. Capstick and W. Roberts, Phys. Rev. D **58**, (1998).

Physics Model



Example: $J=3/2$ resonance formed in $J_z=+1/2$ substate, decaying to P-wave

$$\Psi_{L=1} \left(J=\frac{3}{2}, J_z=\frac{1}{2} \right) = \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} Y_{1,1} \alpha_{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} Y_{1,0} \alpha_{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}} \right\} BW_{1/2}(m)$$

Similar expressions for

$$\Psi_P \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \right), \Psi_D \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \right), \Psi_D \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right), \Psi_S \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

- Quantize along beam axis
- $\alpha_{\frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{2}}$ nucleon spinors
- Y_{LM} spherical harmonic of final state

$$BW_{J_z}(m) = \frac{\sqrt{mm_0} \Gamma_{J_z, \gamma p \rightarrow N^*} \Gamma_{N^* \rightarrow K\Lambda}(q)}{m^2 - m_0^2 - im_0 \Gamma_{tot}(q)}$$

$$\Gamma_{tot}(q) = \Gamma_{N^* \rightarrow K\Lambda}(q) + \Gamma_S(q)$$

$$\Gamma_{N^* \rightarrow K\Lambda}(q) = \Gamma_0 \left(\frac{q}{q_0} \right)^{2L+1} \quad (L \in 0, 1, 2)$$

$$\Gamma_S(q) = \Gamma_{s_0} \left(\frac{q}{q_s} \right)^7$$

- Each resonance represented as a relativistic Breit-Wigner
- Phenomenological damping of high-mass tail to achieve s^{-7} scaling

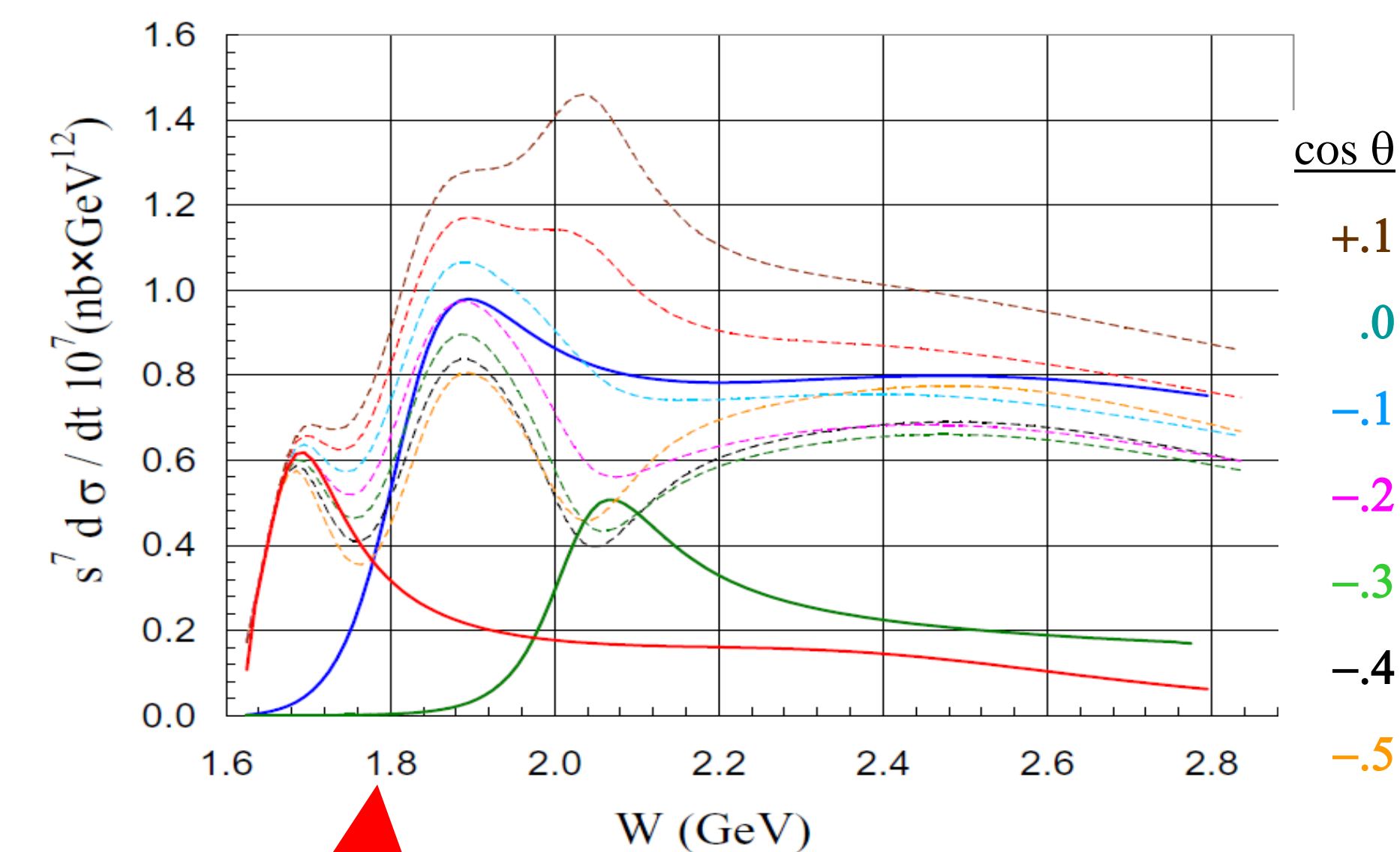
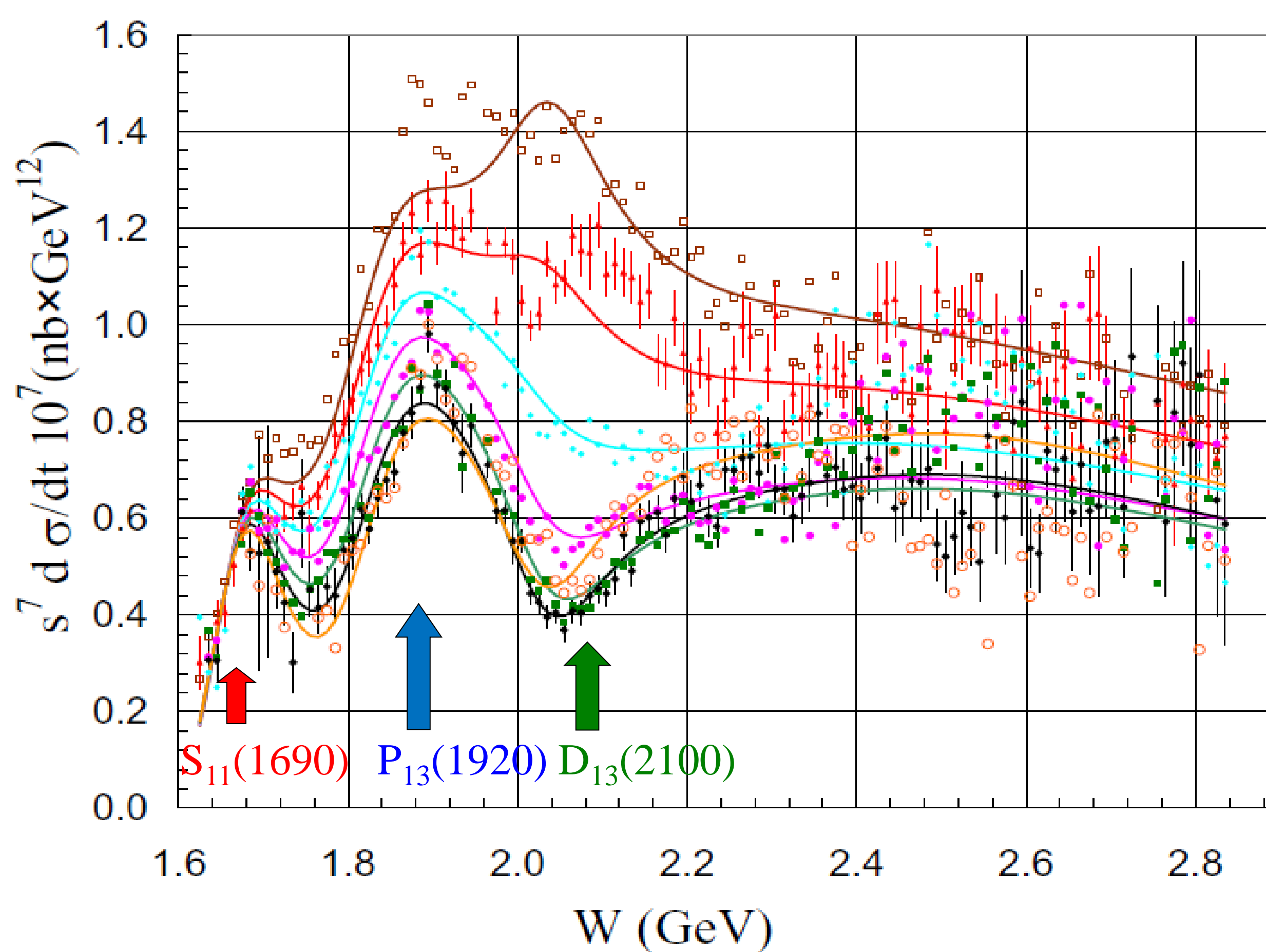
- Compute coherent total amplitude
- Scale cross section
- Fit to optimize observed angular distributions
- Use S, P, and D wave decay distributions

Total amplitude:

$$|A(m, \cos \theta_{c.m.})|^2 = \left| \psi_S \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) + \psi_P \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \right) + \psi_P \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) + \psi_D \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) + \psi_D \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \right) \right|^2$$

Scaled cross section to fit:

$$s^7 \frac{d\sigma}{dt} = s^7 \frac{(\hbar c)^2}{64\pi} \frac{1}{s} \frac{1}{k^2} |A(m, \cos \theta_{c.m.})|^2$$



Model curves drawn with underlying resonant contributions
Best fit to scaled cross section data

Model Results

$$\begin{cases} \Gamma_{s_0} = 0.50 \text{ GeV} \\ q_s = 0.77 \text{ GeV}/c \end{cases}$$

Resonance & Decay	m_0 (GeV)	Γ_0 (MeV)	$\sqrt{\Gamma_{1/2, \gamma p \rightarrow N^*}}$ (GeV) ^{1/2} Phase	$\sqrt{\Gamma_{3/2, \gamma p \rightarrow N^*}}$ (GeV) ^{1/2} Phase
S_{11}	1690 ± 10	80 ± 20	1.83 ± .10 (-142 ± 5)°	
P_{13}	1920 ± 10	440 ± 100	1.93 ± .10	1.67 ± .07
D_{13}	2100 ± 20	200 ± 50	0.61 ± .10 (45 ± 5)°	1.19 ± .10 (45 ± 5)°

Conclusions

High statistics recent data from CLAS at Jefferson Lab allowed two physics processes to be investigated:

- Scaling of the cross section $d\sigma/dt$ as s^{-7} is seen clearly for the first time in hyperon photoproduction. This phenomenon follows from "constituent counting" in QCD.
- For W less than ~ 2.4 GeV, excitation of nucleon resonances is seen. We find evidence for a "new" resonance at 2100 MeV that is consistent with quantum numbers $I=1/2, J=3/2$, and decay to $K^+ \Lambda$ via $L = 2$. This resonance has been described as a "missing" quark model state; we may have pinpointed this predicted state in the hyperon photoproduction channel.