Characterization of hadronic showers in the Belle II Electromagnetic Calorimeter

Metatesi exam

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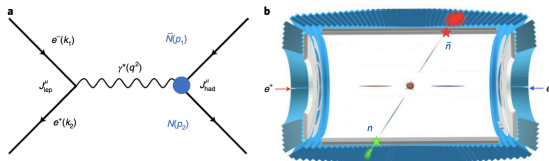Università degli studi di Torino

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Talk Outline

1. **Anti-neutron in physics experiment**

2. **Preliminary study via clean MC sample**

3. **Study of continuum with MC cocktail**

Anti-neutron in HEP experiments

The $\bar{n}$ plays a key role in several physics measurements, such as:

- The neutron e.m. form factor studies in $e^+ + e^- \rightarrow n + \bar{n}$ process [1]

- The decay channels studied at B-factories which involved $\bar{n}$, such as:
  1. The hyperons decay channel:
  $$\bar{\Lambda}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 + \bar{n}, \qquad \bar{\Sigma}^- \rightarrow \pi^- + \bar{n}, \qquad \bar{\Lambda}_c \rightarrow K_s^0 + \pi^0 + \bar{n}$$
  2. Other typical B-factories processes:
  $$e^+ + e^- \rightarrow p + \bar{n} + X^- \quad (X^-: \text{combination of charged pions and kaons})$$

Anti-neutron in astrophysical experiments

$\bar{n}$ also plays a key role in several astro-physics measurements, such as:

- Studying $\bar{n}$ - anti-hyperon potential to improve the understanding of the equation of state of the neutron star [2]

- Investigating dark matter through anti-deuterons ($\bar{D}$) in cosmic rays, produced by dark matter annihilation or decay [3]:
  $A_{d.m.} + B_{d.m.} \rightarrow hadrons\ (n, \bar{n}, p, \bar{p}$ etc... $)$
  $X_{d.m.} \rightarrow$ hadrons $(n, \bar{n}, p, \bar{p}$ etc... $)$

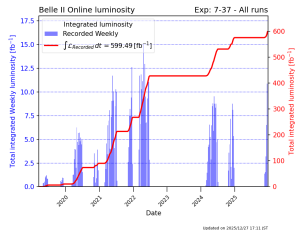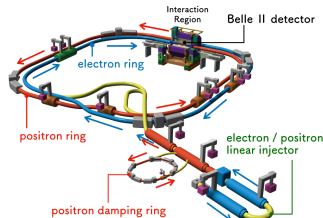- $\bar{D}$ is mainly produced through a coalescence mechanism:
  $$\bar{n} + \bar{p} \rightarrow \bar{D}$$
  Where $\bar{p}$ and $\bar{n}$ are nearby in the phase-space

The Belle II experiment

SuperKEKB is an asymmetric $e^+ e^-$ collider (Tsukuba, Japan)

- 7 GeV electrons beam (HER)
- 4 GeV positrons beam (LER)
- Peak Lumi $\sim 5.1 \times 10^{34} cm^{-2} s^{-1}$ 🏆
- Design Lumi $\sim 8 \times 10^{35} cm^{-2} s^{-1}$
 $\rightarrow$ x40 the Belle's one

It operates mainly around $\Upsilon(4S)$ resonance (~ 10.58 GeV):

- It decays almost exclusively into entangled couple of $B\bar{B} \rightarrow$ B-factory
- Several goals: flavour physics, BSM, B and charm mesons etc...

The Electromagnetic CaLorimeter

The ECL plays a central role in this thesis

- Array of **CsI(Tl)** crystals (8376 $6x6x30cm^3$ crystals in total)
- It covers barrel and end-caps regions ($12° \leq \theta \leq 155°$)
- Energy resolution of 4% @100 MeV and 1.6% @8 GeV
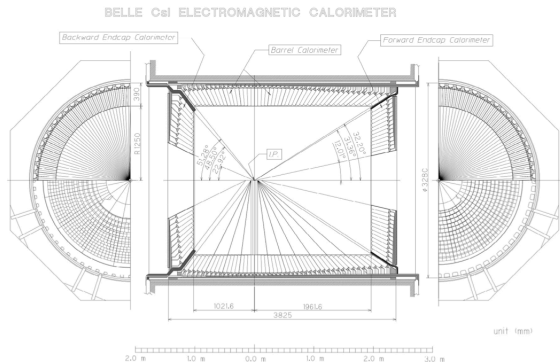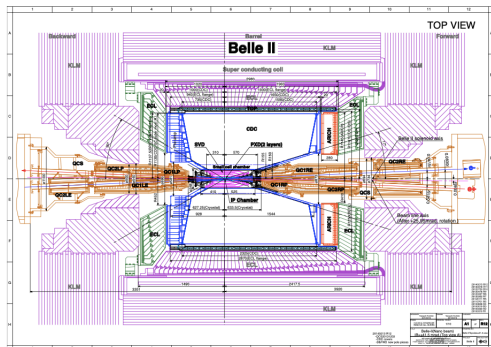
Anti-neutron interactions in physics

The $\bar{n}$ interacts with matter primarily via strong nuclear force

- It can annihilate with nucleons in the material, producing light mesons (mainly pions)
- Hadronic (π^+, π^-) and electromagnetic (π^0) showers are generated within the ECL
- Since annihilation stars are produced, both backward (TOP) and forward (KLM) directions are involved
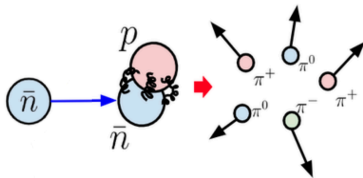
Electromagnetic and hadronic showers

Different processes occur for e.m. (1) and hadronic (2) showers:

1. Brems. and p.p. process (e^+, e^-, γ) and $\pi^0 \to \gamma\gamma$
2. Strong interactions of hadrons with the material ($p, n, pions, kaons$...)

After $\bar{n}$ annihilation, the produced pions can be detected via their showers:

- About the 95% of the hadronic shower is contained within a cylinder of radius λ_{had} ($\sim$ 44.12 cm in CsI(Tl))

- About the 90% of the e.m. shower is contained within a cylinder of radius R_M ($\sim$ 3.6 cm in CsI(Tl))

Gamma shower   Hadronic shower
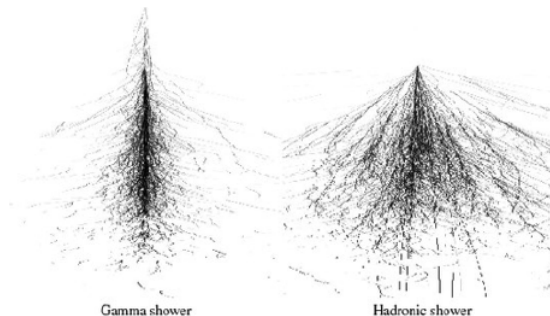
The MANTRA project

Measuring **A**nti-**N**eutron: **T**agging and **R**econstruction **A**lgorithm:

- A general method to measure the $E_{\bar{n}}$ up to 10 GeV, by combining information from:
    1. A detector with high time resolution ($< 100 ps$), like a T.O.F. detector (TOP)
    2. An electromagnetic calorimeter (**ECL**)
    3. A muon system (alternating layers of active material and high-Z absorber) (KLM)
- These features are common in modern general-purpose collider experiments such as **Belle II** and BESIII
- For MANTRA project, only signals from ECL and TOP are taken into account. In this thesis only ECL signals are studied

The MANTRA project

Anti-neutrons do not interact with tracking sub-detector. The measurement of the energy is a two-step process:

1. $\bar{n}$ identification via its induced ECL clusters and how hey correlate to the initial energy

2. Combine the signals from (1) and (2) to reconstruct the $\bar{n}$'s energy, in cases of backscatter or pre-annihilation

   - If π^0 ($\sim 5\%$): energy is all contained in the calorimeter, the shower is fully reconstructed
   - If $\pi^{\pm}$ ($\sim 95\%$): their products may escape the crystals
     $\rightarrow$ the goal is to complement the calorimeter information with that from the adjacent detectors

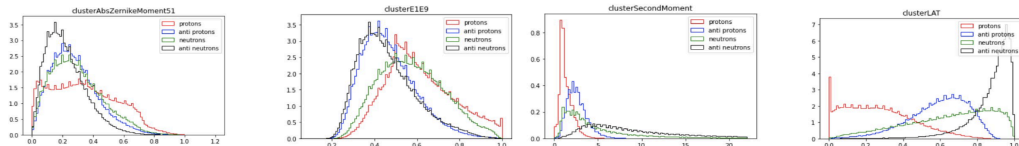# Preliminary concept

Several channels can be selected to look at $\bar{n}$ annihilation, such as:

- $e^+ + e^- \to X \to p + \bar{n} + \pi^-$ (Mine)
- $\bar{\Lambda}_c \to K_s^0 + \pi^0 + \bar{n}$
- $\Lambda(\to p + \pi^-) + \bar{\Lambda}(\to \bar{n} + \pi^0)$

Several variables can be used to distinguish their clusters, such as:

- clusterZernikeMoment, clusterSecondMoment, clusterLAT etc...

The distributions for ECL variables for $\bar{p}$ and $\bar{n}$ do not in agree [4] $\to$ $\bar{p}$ cannot be used as proxy for $\bar{n}$

Analysis outline

1. Preliminary study of a clean selected channel via generators
   (a) Recoil identification from the three-body system $p + \gamma_{ISR} + \pi^-$
   (b) Study of the kinematic recoil variables (momentum, angles, energy, etc...)
   (c) Study of the effect of 1C kinematic fit over the $p + \gamma_{ISR} + \pi^-$ recoil mass
   (d) Study of ECL clusters

2. Study of MC cocktail events sample:
   (a) Recoil identification from the three-body system $p + \gamma_{ISR} + \pi^-$

3. Study of real data events sample:
   (a) Recoil identification from the three-body system $p + \gamma_{ISR} + \pi^-$
   (b) Constraint with 1C kinematic fit over the $p + \gamma_{ISR} + \pi^-$ recoil mass
   (c) Examine Data/MC agreement in ECL cluster shapes from $\bar{n}$ channel

Analysis outline (1)

- The analyzed channel is:

$$e^+ + e^- + \gamma_{ISR} \to p + \bar{n} + \pi^- \text{ (Phokhara+evt\_gen generator)}$$

The reconstructed particles are (cuts and selections in backup):

(a) $vpho \to p + \gamma_{ISR} + \pi^-$, where $vpho$ is a fake particle, mimicking the recoil system

(b) $\bar{n}$ candidate list used to compare its variables with those of the recoil

| rowNo	decay tree	decay final state	iDcyTr	nEtr	nCEtr
1	$vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p$	0	35291	35291
2	$e^+ e^- \to vpho \gamma^I, vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^I$	2	22971	58262
3	$e^+ e^- \to vpho \gamma^I, vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^I$	1	18735	76997
4	$vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F$	3	10005	87002
5	$e^+ e^- \to vpho \gamma^I, vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^I \gamma^F$	6	5274	92276
6	$e^+ e^- \to vpho \gamma^I, vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^I \gamma^F$	4	4621	96897
7	$vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F$	7	1503	98400
8	$e^+ e^- \to vpho \gamma^I \gamma^I, vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^I \gamma^I \gamma^F$	8	700	99100
9	$e^+ e^- \to vpho \gamma^I, vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^I \gamma^F \gamma^F$	5	597	99697
10	$vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	9	167	99864
11	$e^+ e^- \to vpho \gamma^I, vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^I \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	12	63	99927
12	$e^+ e^- \to vpho \gamma^I \gamma^I, vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^I \gamma^I \gamma^F \gamma^F$	10	61	99988
13	$e^+ e^- \to vpho \gamma^I, vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^I \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	11	4	99992
14	$e^+ e^- \to vpho \gamma^I, vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^I \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	15	4	99996
15	$vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	14	2	99998
16	$vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	13	1	99999
17	$e^+ e^- \to vpho \gamma^I, vpho \to \pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	$\pi^- \bar{n} p \gamma^I \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F \gamma^F$	16	1	100000

- **100k events** were generated, **17525** candidates have been reconstructed
  $\to$ reconstruction efficiency:

$$\epsilon = \frac{n° \text{ of reconstructed candidates}}{n° \text{ of generated events}} \sim 18\%$$

The recoil mass (1a)
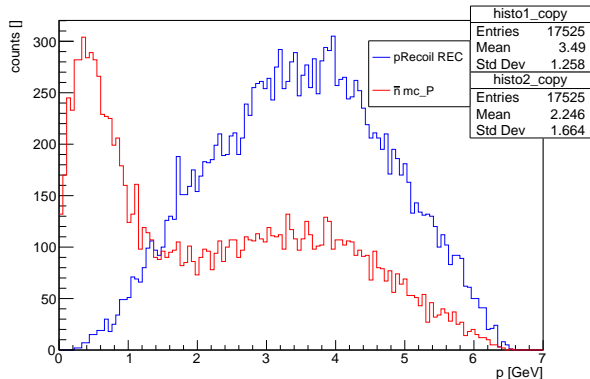
- The recoil three body system is well reconstructed as shown in the recoil mass distribution, where a peak emerges above the $\bar{n}$ mass.

  $\rightarrow$ reconstructed $\bar{n}$ variables can be compared with the reconstructed recoil variables (p, θ, ϕ)
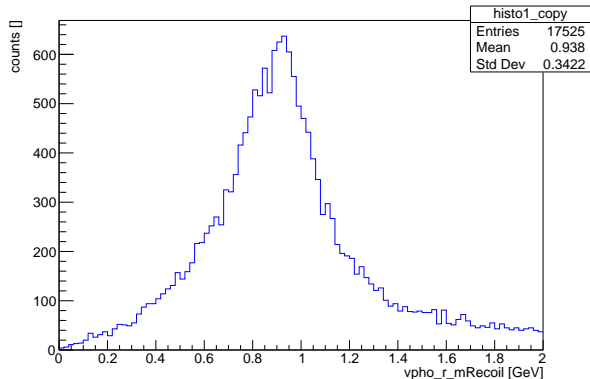
The recoil and the $\bar{n}$ momentum (1b)

- The reconstructed $\bar{n}$ candidate list shows a discrepancy with the recoil momentum $\rightarrow$ several γ's are mis-identified as $\bar{n}$ in reconstruction

- MC selection $\bar{n}_{mcPDG} = -2112$ is applied in order to directly compare the recoil kinematic variables with the $\bar{n}$ from MC truth (next slide)

histo1_copy	
Entries	17525
Mean	3.49
Std Dev	1.258

histo2_copy	
Entries	17525
Mean	2.246
Std Dev	1.664

The recoil and the $\bar{n}$ momentum (1b)

- Among the 17525 reconstructed candidates, 6905 correspond to real $\bar{n}$.
  - (a) 100000 generated events
  - (b) 17525 reconstructed events ($\sim 18\%$)
  - (c) 6905 real $\bar{n}$ in candidates list ($\sim 7\%$)
- For a (*LUMI*) real data, t(*TOTevents*) are expected
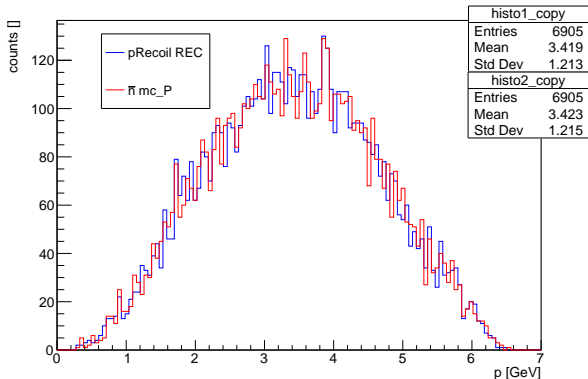
$\bar{n}$ vs recoil vector correlation (1b)

- Good correlation is observed at the generator level in both the momentum and θ distributions

- The reconstructed $\bar{n}$ momentum in the ECL is not a reliable variable, since no high correlation is observed (annihilation and energy loss)
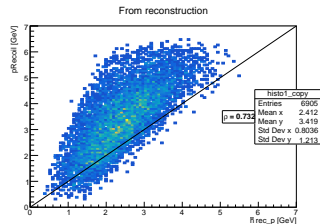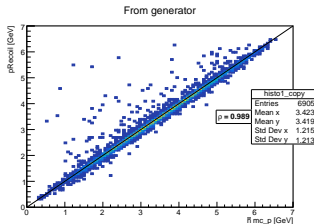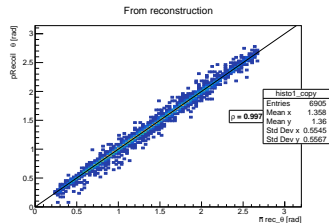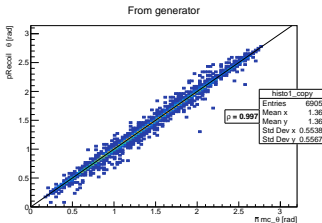
$\bar{n}$ vs recoil vector residuals (1b)

- Good correlation is observed at the generator level in both the momentum and θ distributions

- The reconstructed $\bar{n}$ momentum in the ECL is not a reliable variable, since no high correlation is observed (annihilation and energy loss)
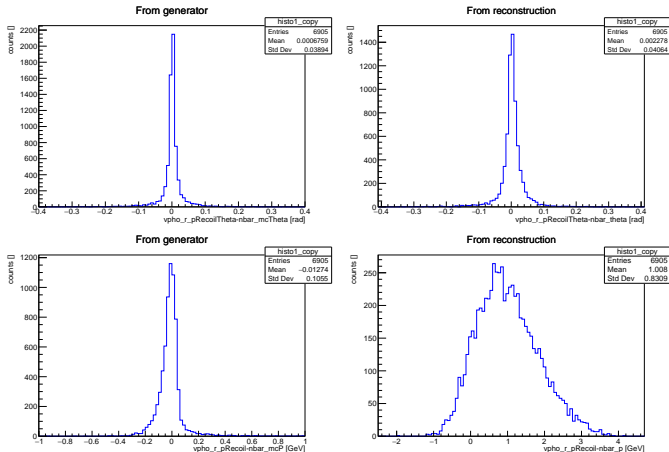
KInematic Fit over the recoil mass (1c)

A 1C kinematic fit can possibly be used to add a constraint and improve the agreement in p and θ

- Highest amount of reconstructed candidates ($\sim 24\%$) and of real $\bar{n}$ ($\sim 9\%$)
- No significant differences can be seen in θ_{recoil} vs MC $\theta_{\bar{n}}$
- A slightly improvement can be observed in in p_{recoil} vs MC $p_{\bar{n}}$
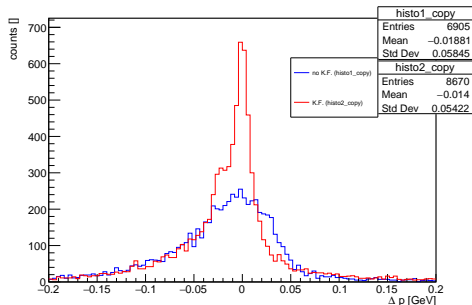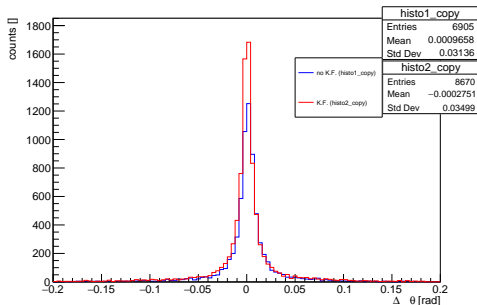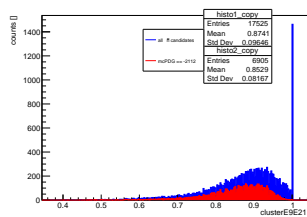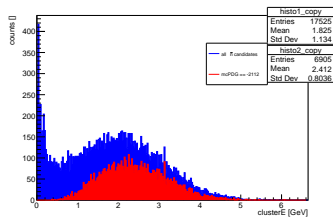
$\bar{n}$ ECL cluster variables (1d)

Cluster variables can be studied to distinguish $\bar{n}$ from other neutral particles:

- **clusterE**, **clusterE1E9** and **clusterE9E21**
  ($E_{min} = 20$ GeV)
- **clusterAbsZernikeMoment51**: $|Z_{51}|$
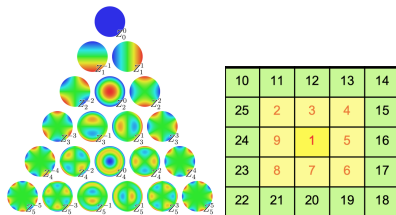
- **clusterLAT**: lateral energy distribution, defined as: $S = \dfrac{\sum\limits_{i=2}^{n} \omega_i E_i r_i^2}{\omega_0 E_0 r_0^2 + \omega_1 E_1 r_1^2 + \sum\limits_{i=2}^{n} \omega_i E_i r_i^2}$

- **clusterSecondMoment**: second moment S, defined as: $S = \dfrac{\sum\limits_{i=0}^{n} \omega_i E_i r_i^2}{\sum\limits_{i=0}^{n} \omega_i E_i}$
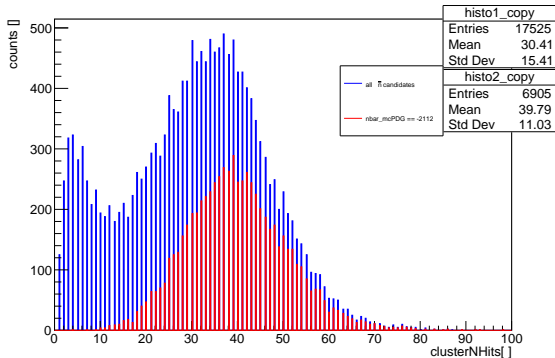
$\bar{n}$ ECL cluster variables (1d)
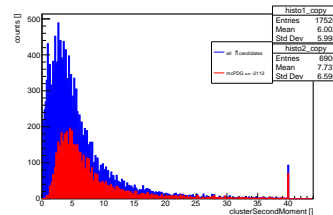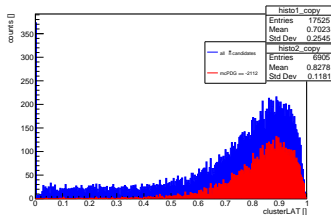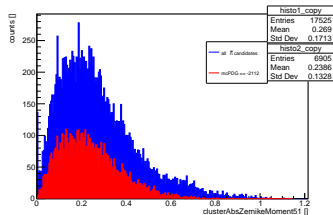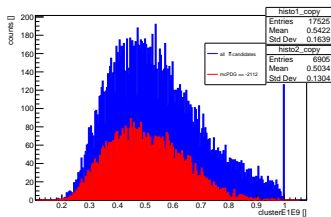
$\bar{n}$ ECL cluster variables (1d)

- $\bar{n}$ clusters mainly involved 15 or more crystals

- Several photons are mis-identified as $\bar{n}$ during reconstruction (backup)$\rightarrow$ further selection can be studied such as:
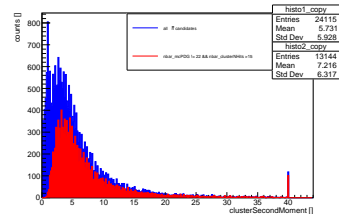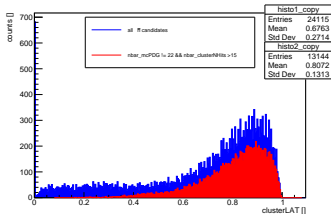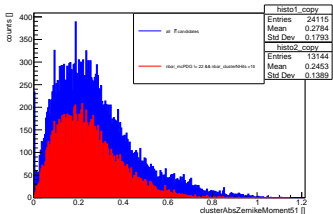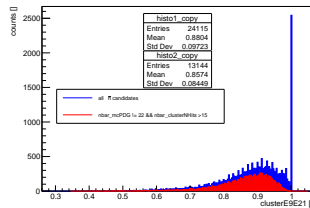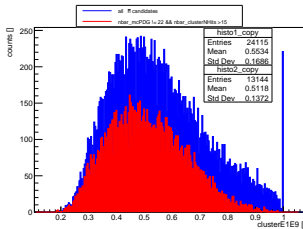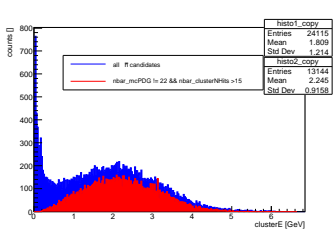
$$\bar{n}\_mcPDG \neq 22$$
$$\&\&$$
$$\bar{n}\_clusterNHits > 15$$

$\bar{n}$ ECL cluster variables (1d)

Summary (1)

- Channel $e^+ + e^- + \gamma_{ISR} \to X \to p + \bar{n} + \pi^-$ has been studied
- The recoil three body system($p + \pi^- + \gamma_{ISR}$) is correctly reconstructed from the secondary background, ISR/FSR photons
- The $\bar{n}$ kinematic is properly described by the three body system p, π^-, γ recoil vector
- Reconstructed $\bar{n}$ variables are mainly affected by mis-identified photons, which can be partially cleaned by cluster size cuts (*clusterNHits*)
- 1C kinematic fit can be possibly adopted during MC/Data comparison, in order to reduce the uncertainty on the recoil momentum

Analysis outline (2)

- Study of uubar continuum using the following MC cocktail sample:

$$/belle/collection/MC/MC16rd\_proc16\_chunk1\_uubar\_4S\_v1$$

- 2300 jobs have been submitted to the grid, with the following online cuts:
  1. $p\_mcPDG == 2212$ and $pi\_mcPDG == -211$ and 0 GeV $<$ mRecoil < 2 GeV
  2. The best candidate is selected with RankByLowest method on α (backup)
  3. To obtain a cleaner channel, only the p and π^- are used to build the recoil vector (ISR neglected for the moment)

- Analysis outline:
  (a) Identify the signal peak near the $\bar{n}$ mass ($\sim 0.939 GeV$) adding offline cuts
  (b) Study the previous variables in the zoomed region
  (c) (3) Compare it with data (Data/MC agreement)

Analysis outline

Analysis of a $\Lambda \to p + \pi^-$ ($\bar{\Lambda} \to \bar{p} + \pi^+$) sample shows that [5]:
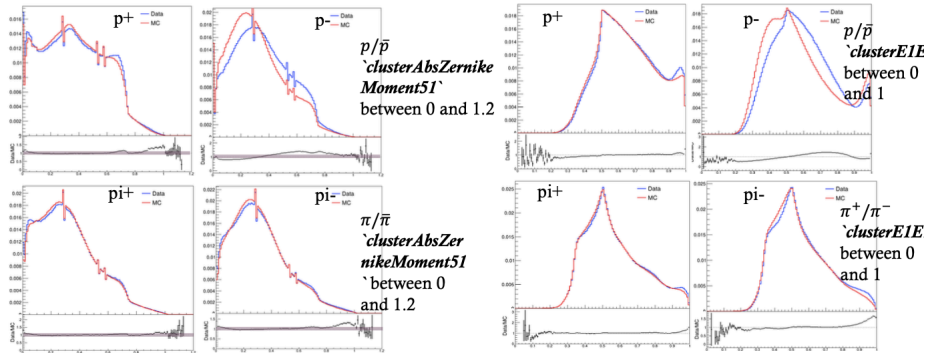
Poor Data/MC agreement in $\bar{p} \to$ will it be the same for $\bar{n}$?

Thank you for your attention

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Applied selections and cuts on clean MC sample

(a) *protonID* > 0.9 and *dr* < 1 and
    abs(dz) < 3 and *pionID* > 0.1 (From
    IP?)

(b) *p_mcPDG* $== 2212$ and
    pi_mcPDG $== -211$ and
    gamma_mcPDG $== 22$

(c) Rec. $\bar{n}$ in theta ECL Acceptance and
    From ECL

(d) *mRecoil* $> 0GeV$ and *mRecoil* $< 2GeV$

(e) $\alpha < 0.35$ rad (~ 20 deg), where α is the
    3D angle between the recoil vector
    and the closest reconstructed $\bar{n}$
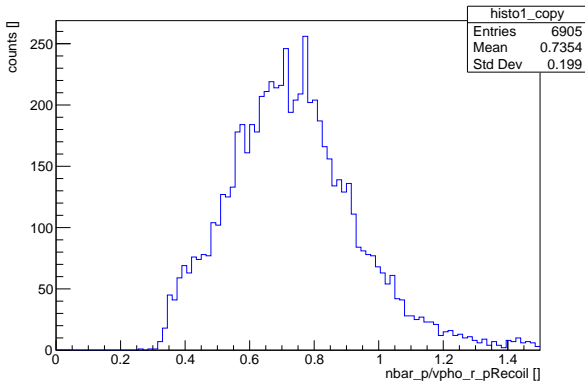   candidate (rankByLowest)
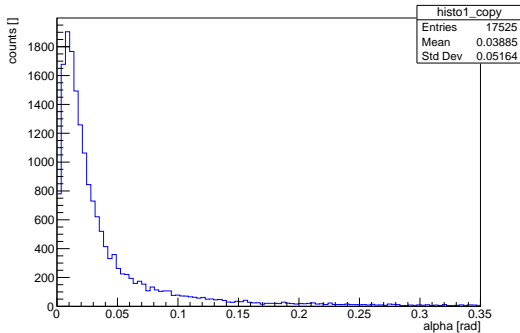
$\bar{n}$ mcPDG I

γ's are mis-identified as $\bar{n}$ in reconstruction:
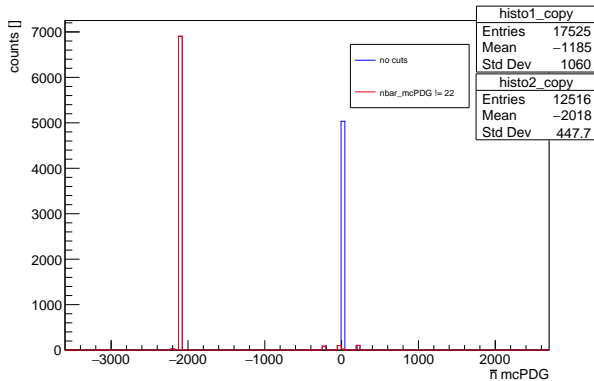
$p_{\bar{n}}$/pRecoil I
$\bar{n}$ is underrated in the most of cases (annihilation process + loss of energy)

References I

[1] M. Ablikim et al. In: *Nature Physics* 17 (2021).

[2] G.F. Burgio et al. In: *Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys.* 10389 (2021), p. 120.

[3] F. Donato, N. Fornengo, and P. Salati. In: *Phys. Rev. D* 62 (2000), p. 043003.

[4] Sanjeeda Das. In: *Belle II Italy May* (2025).

[5] Shanette De La Motte. In: *Belle II Italy December* (2025).