Report on E452

The hyperon-nucleon scattering experiment E452 has been started at the K2 beam line.

The E452 is one among a series of hyperon scattering experiments which have been carried on at the K2 beam line. The present experiment aims at studies of spin dependent hyperon–nucleon interactions with use of the polarized hyperons produced through the (π , K) reactions in an active target of scintillating track detector. Particular interest is to determine the spin-orbit strength of the Σ ⁺P interaction from measurements of right-left asymmetries of the polarized- Σ ⁺ scattering.

For this experiment a new-type track detector named SCITIC (SCIntillating Track Image Camera: Fig.1) was developed so as to take pictorial data of hyperon scattering with a fast trigger signal from the beam- and kaon-spectrometers. Typical examples of the pictures are shown in Fig. 2 which were selected by trigger signals indicating (π, K) reactions. Those are pictures of (a) Λ^0 production, (b) Σ^+ production and (c) Σ^+ scattering.

A preliminary run has been carried out to test the performance of the new detector and a fast pictorial-data acquisition system, in combination with the existing spectrometers. Pion beams of 1.6GeV/c were used on a liquid-scintillator active target. The kaon spectrometer was set to cover kaon angles from 20 to 40° to select Σ^+ with large polarization. Pictures of up to 60,000 events were accumulated, out of which about 500events are expected to be the Σ^+ hyperon scattering events. Analyses of the data are going on to test new algorithm such as a computer-assisted picture scanning.

Having been convinced with the SCITIC application for the hyperon-scattering experiments a new lens system with a larger scale was designed and being constructed for the next run in the fall of 2001.

Charged Particle Scintillator

