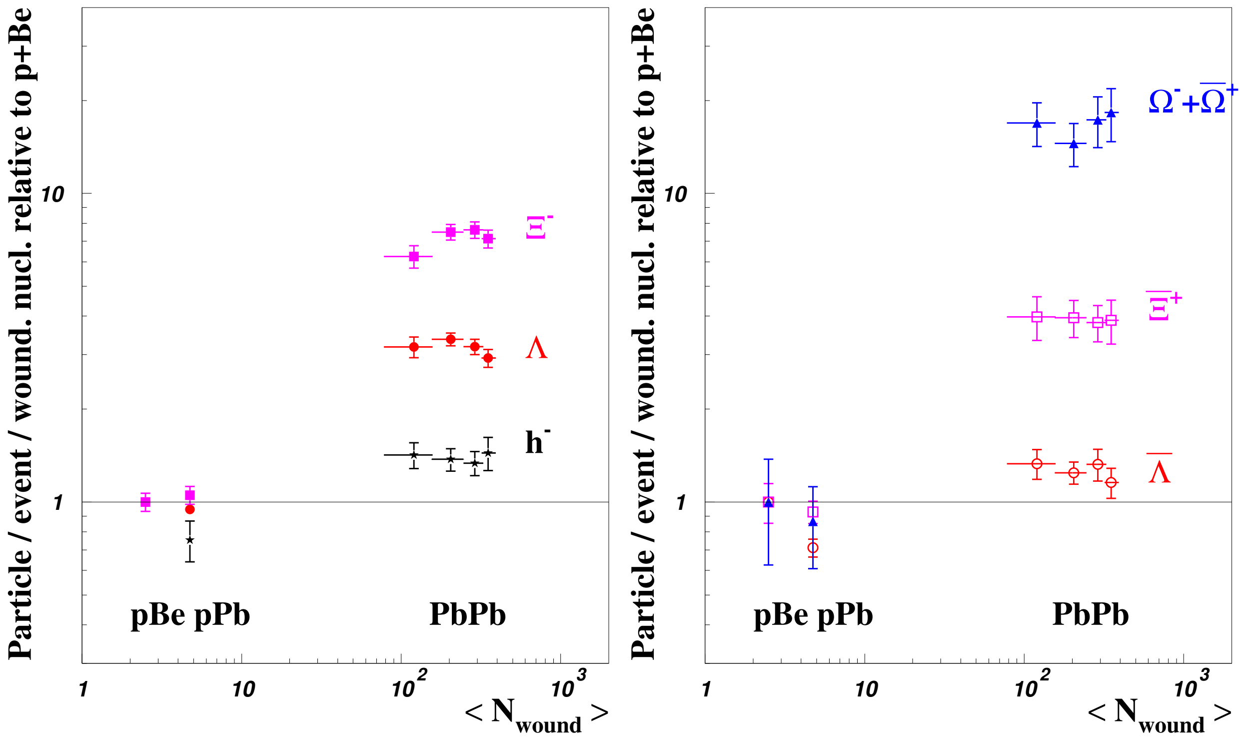
enhancement of hyperon production at midrapidity (WA97)

compare yield/wounded nucleon in PbPb to pBe reaction



- enhancement increases with number of strange valence quarks
- saturation of enhancement above $\sim$ 100 participants
- stronger for hyperons (consequence of nonzero μ_B)
- reaches factor $\sim$ 20 for Ω

hadronic models cannot reproduce enhancements, strangeness equilibration too slow in the rescattering phase