PrimEx Experiments and the Prospects of Rare η Decays at GlueX

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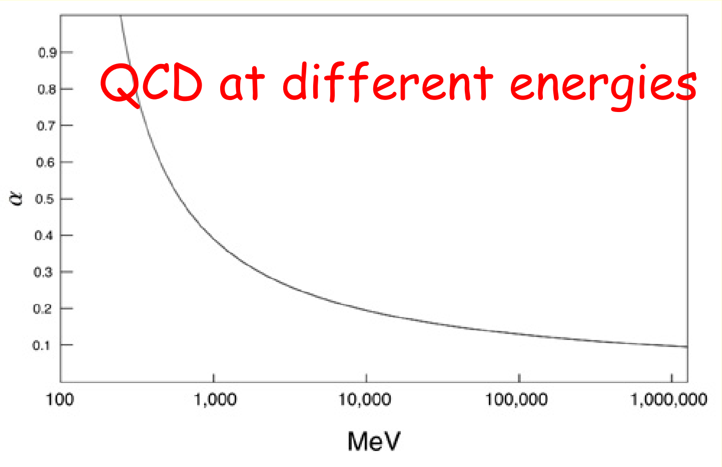
Outline

- Challenges in Physics
- Precision tests of continuous symmetries of confinement QCD via the PrimEx experiments
- Testing discrete symmetries and searching for new physics via the η rare decays
- Summary

Challenges in Physics

- Confinement QCD
  - Lattice QCD
  - Chiral perturbation theory



- New physics beyond the Standard Model (SM)
  - New sources of symmetry violation
  - Dark matter
  - Dark energy

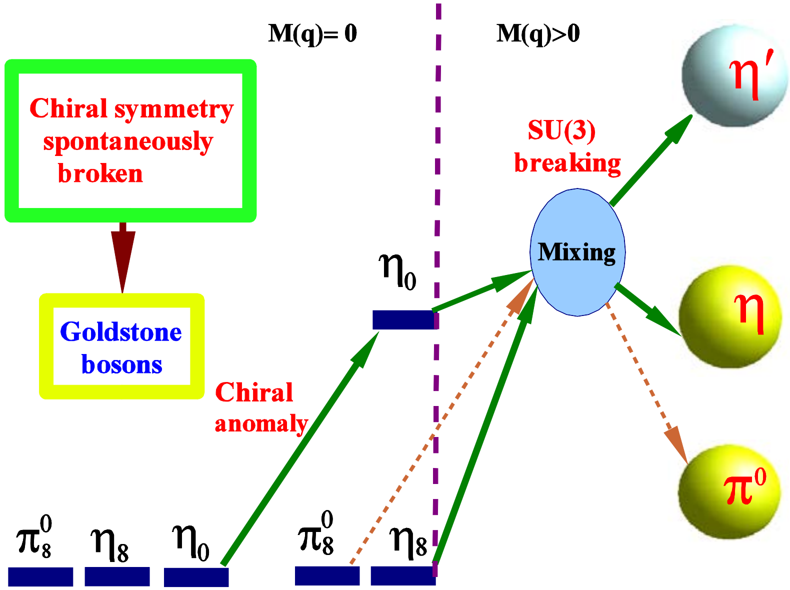
"As far as I see, all a priori statements in physics have their origin in symmetry". By H. Weyl

Continuous QCD Symmetries

- QCD Lagrangian in Chiral limit ($m_q \to 0$) is invariant under:

$$SU_L(3) \times SU_R(3) \times U_A(1) \times U_B(1)$$

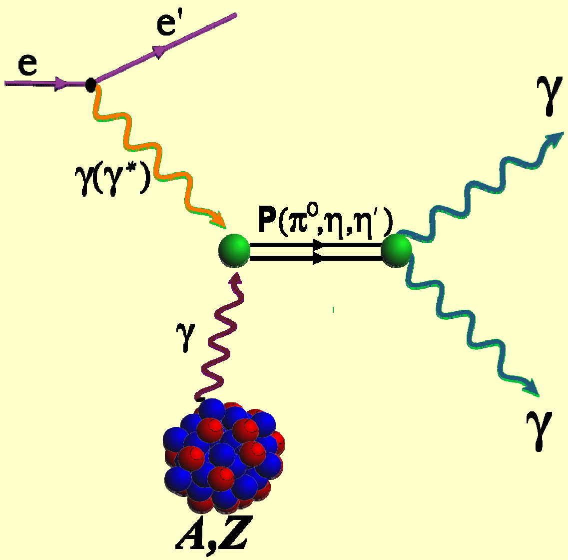
- Chiral symmetry $SU_L(3) \times SU_R(3)$ spontaneously broken:
  - 8 Goldstone Bosons (π,K,η)
- $U_A(1)$ is explicitly broken: (Chiral anomalies)
  - $\Gamma(\pi^0 \to \gamma\gamma)$, $\Gamma(\eta \to \gamma\gamma)$, $\Gamma(\eta' \to \gamma\gamma)$
  - Mass of η_0
- Massive quarks, SU(3) broken:
  - GB are massive
  - Mixing of π^0 η η'



The π^0, η, η' system provides a rich laboratory to study the symmetry structure of QCD at low energies.

Primakoff Program at Jlab 6 & 12 GeV

Precision measurements of electromagnetic properties of π^0, η, η' via Primakoff effect.



a) Two-Photon Decay Widths:

1) $\Gamma(\pi^0 \to \gamma\gamma)$ @ 6 GeV
2) $\Gamma(\eta \to \gamma\gamma)$
3) $\Gamma(\eta' \to \gamma\gamma)$

Input to Physics:

- precision tests of Chiral symmetry and anomalies
- determination of light quark mass ratio
- η-η' mixing angle

b) Transition Form Factors at low Q^2 (0.001-0.5 GeV^2/c^2):

$F(\gamma\gamma^* \to \pi^0)$, $F(\gamma\gamma^* \to \eta)$, $F(\gamma\gamma^* \to \eta')$

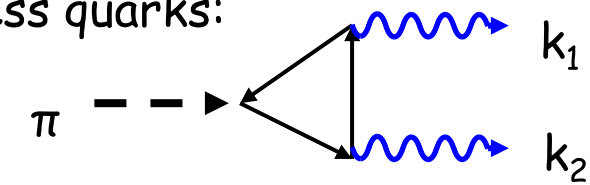
Input to Physics:

- π^0,η and η' electromagnetic interaction radii
- is the η' an approximate Goldstone boson?

$\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ Experiments @ 6 GeV

- ❑ $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ decay proceeds primarily via the chiral anomaly in QCD.
- ❑ The chiral anomaly prediction is exact for massless quarks:

$$\Gamma\left(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\right) = \frac{\alpha^2 N_c^2 m_\pi^3}{576\pi^3 F_\pi^2} = 7.725\ eV$$



- ❑ $\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ is one of the few quantities in confinement region that QCD can calculate precisely to higher orders!

➢ Corrections to the chiral anomaly prediction:

Calculations in NLO ChPT:

❑ $\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ = 8.10eV ± 1.0%
(J. Goity, et al. Phys. Rev. D66:076014, 2002)

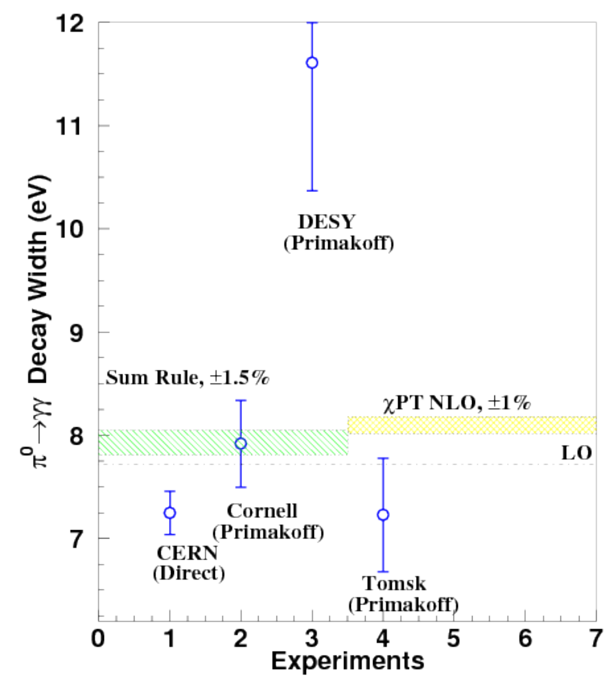
❑ $\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ = 8.06eV ± 1.0%
(B. Ananthanarayan et al. JHEP 05:052, 2002)

Calculations in NNLO SU(2) ChPT:

❑ $\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ = 8.09eV ± 1.3%
(K. Kampf et al. Phys. Rev. D79:076005, 2009)

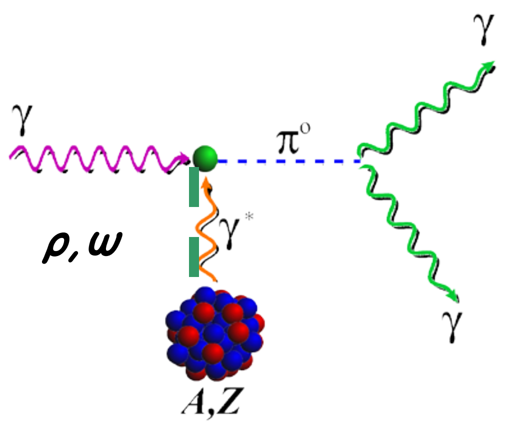
➢ Calculations in QCD sum rule:

❑ $\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ = 7.93eV ± 1.5%
(B.L. Ioffe, et al. Phys. Lett. B647, p. 389, 2007)

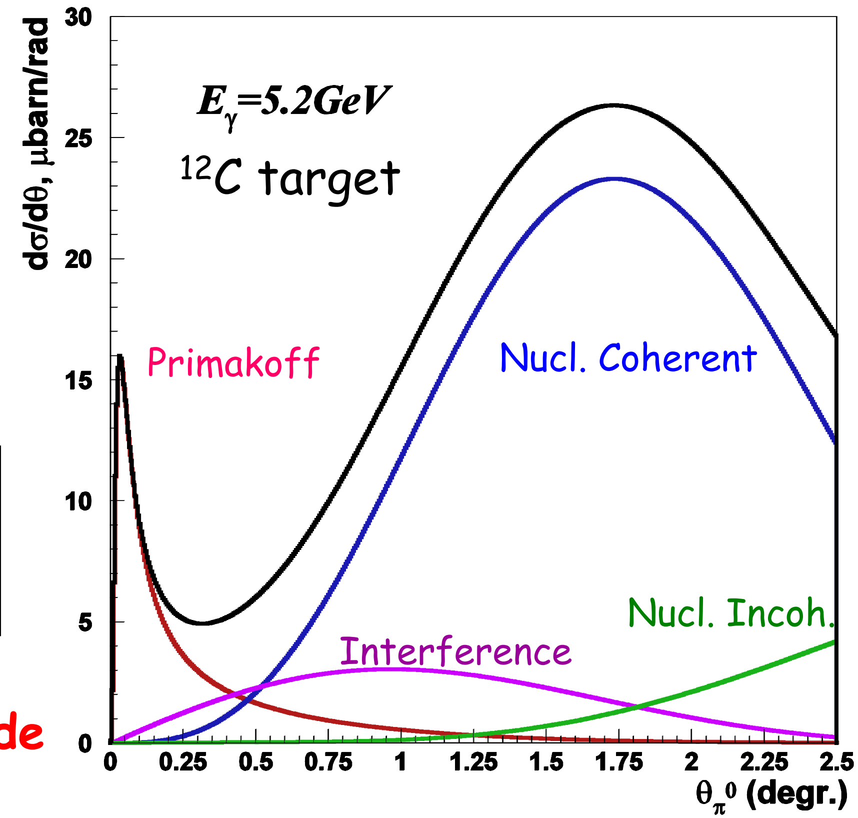


- ❑ Precision measurements of $\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ at the percent level will provide a stringent test of a fundamental prediction of QCD.

Primakoff Method



$$\frac{d\sigma_{\text{Pr}}}{d\Omega} = \Gamma_{\gamma\gamma} \frac{8\alpha Z^2}{m_\pi^3} \frac{\beta^3 E^4}{Q^4} \left|F_{e.m.}(Q)\right|^2 \sin^2\theta_\pi$$



Challenge: Extract the Primakoff amplitude

Requirement:

- **Photon flux**
- **Beam energy**
- **π^0 production Angular resolution**

Features of Primakoff cross section:

- Peaked at very small forward angle:

$$\langle\theta_{\text{Pr}}\rangle_{peak} \propto \frac{m^2}{2E^2}$$

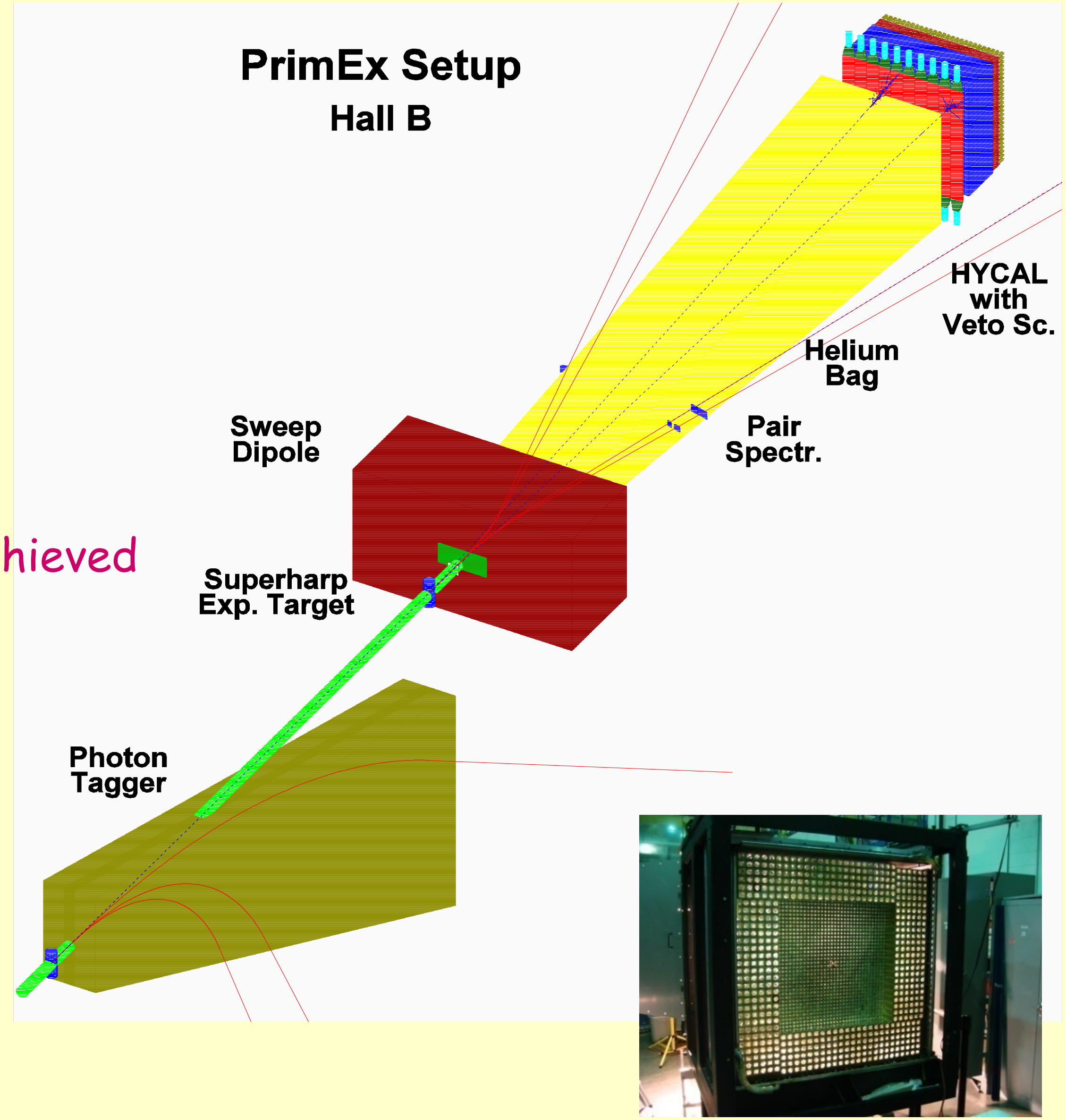
- Beam energy sensitive:

$$\left\langle\frac{d\sigma_{\text{Pr}}}{d\Omega}\right\rangle_{peak} \propto E^4, \int d\sigma_{\text{Pr}} \propto Z^2 \log(E)$$

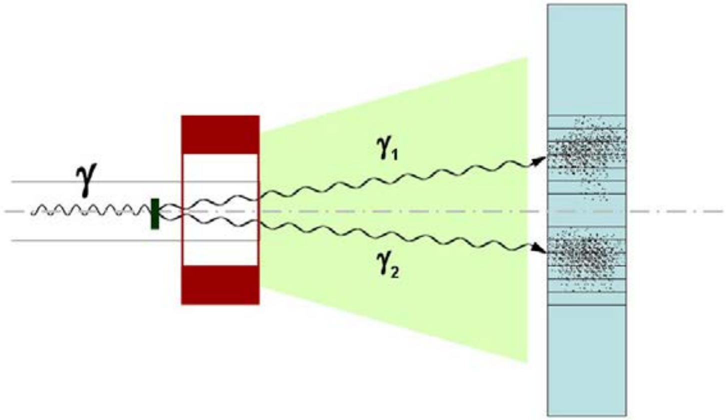
- Coherent process

PrimEx Experimental Setup

- JLab Hall B high resolution, high intensity photon tagging facility
- New pair spectrometer for photon flux control at high beam intensities
  ➡ 1% accuracy has been achieved
- New high resolution hybrid multi-channel calorimeter (HyCal)

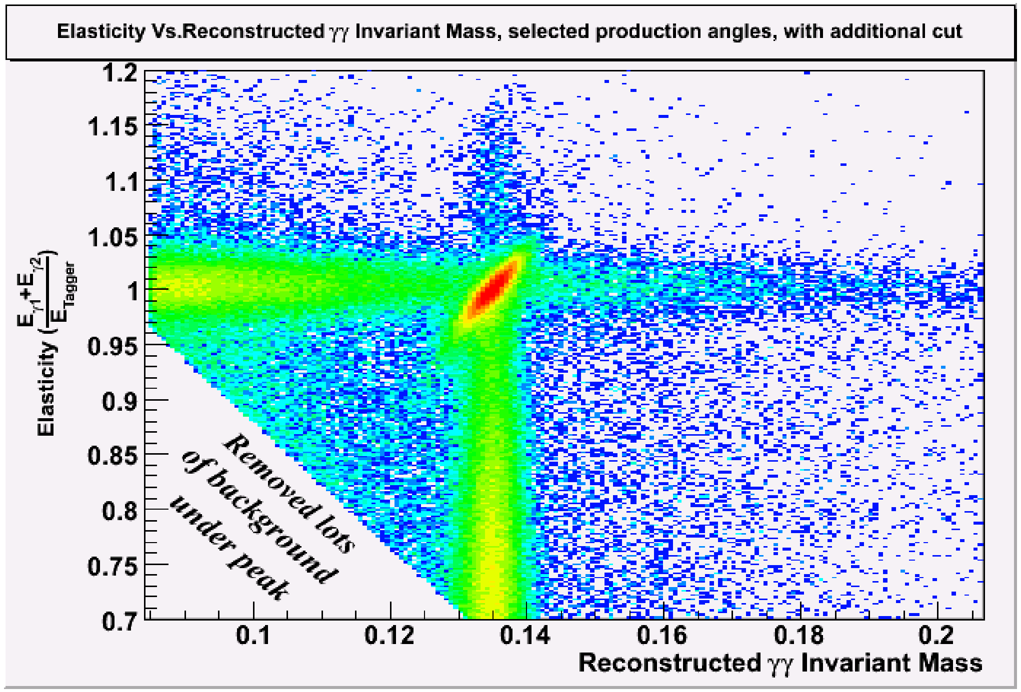


π^0 Event selection



We measure:

- incident photon energy: E_γ and time
- energies of decay photons: E_{γ_1}, E_{γ_2} and time
- X,Y positions of decay photons

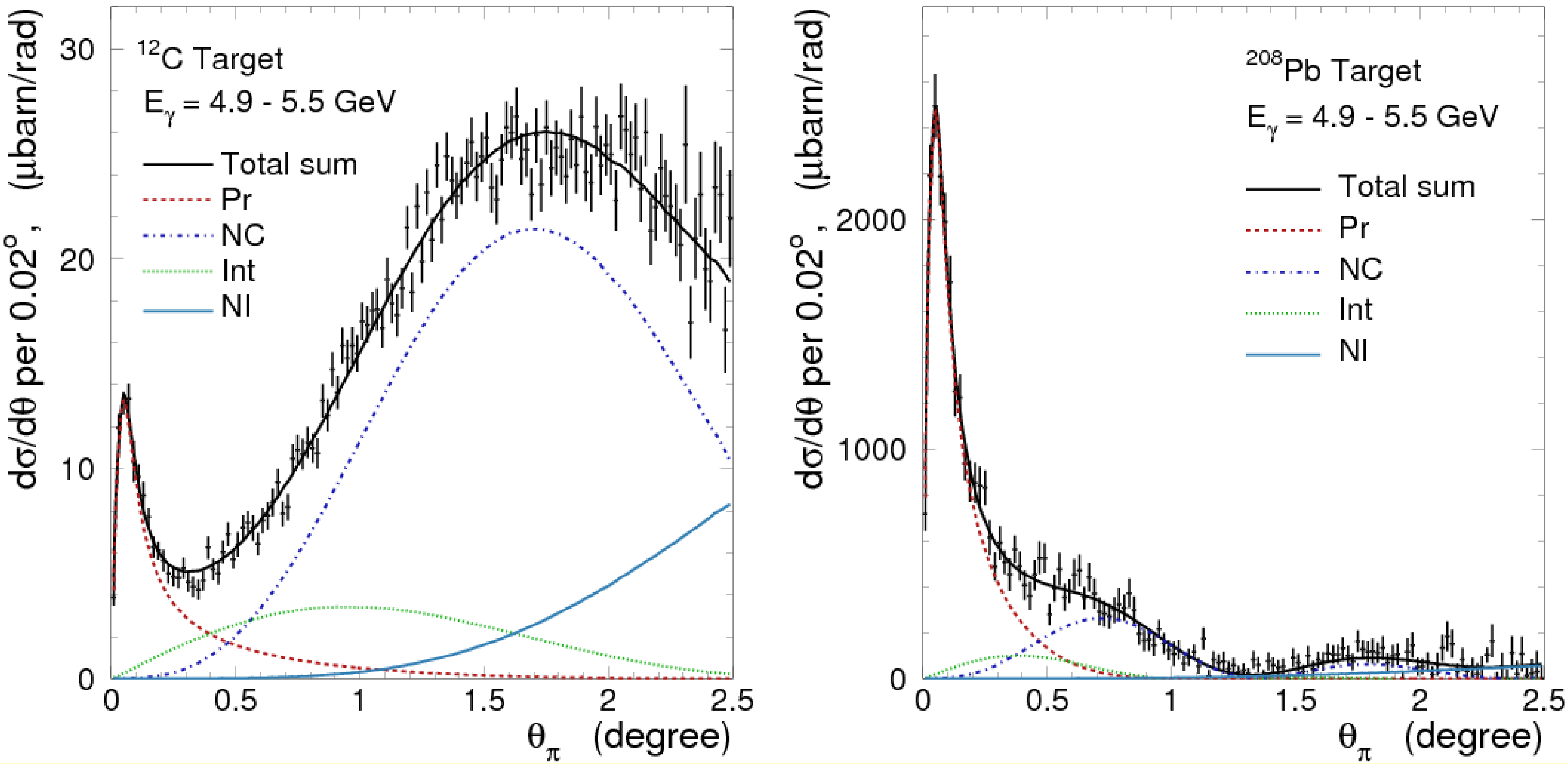


Kinematical constraints:

- Conservation of energy;
- Conservation of momentum;
- $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ invariant mass

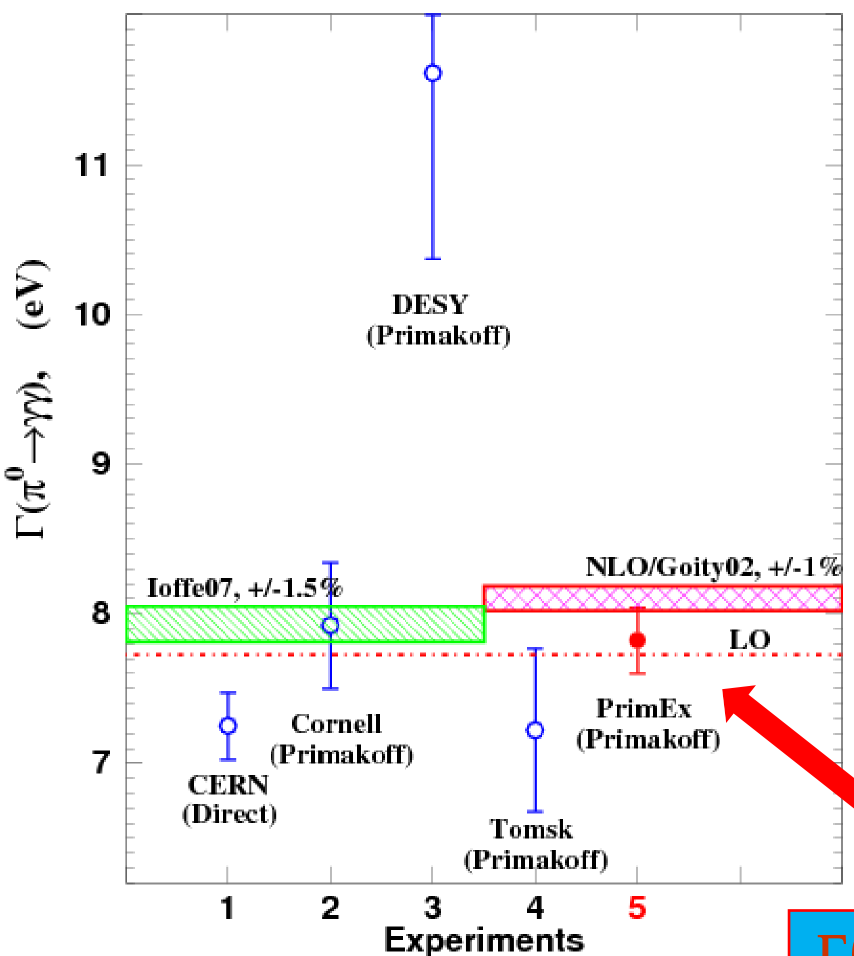
Fit Differential Cross Sections to Extract $\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$
PrimEx-I (2004)

Theoretical angular distributions smeared with experimental resolutions are fit to the data on two nuclear targets:

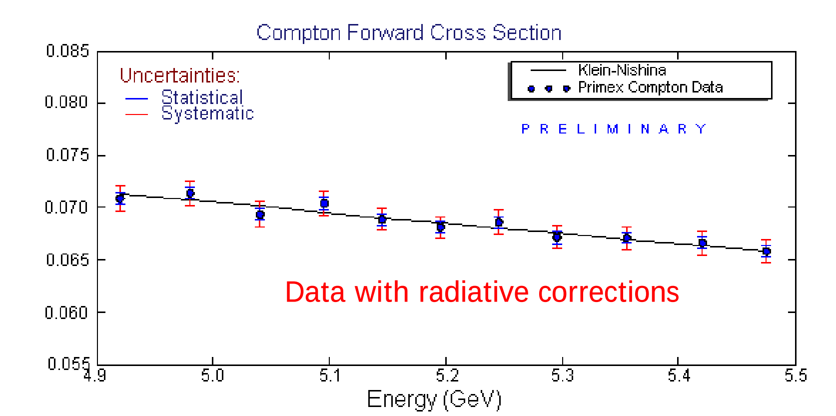


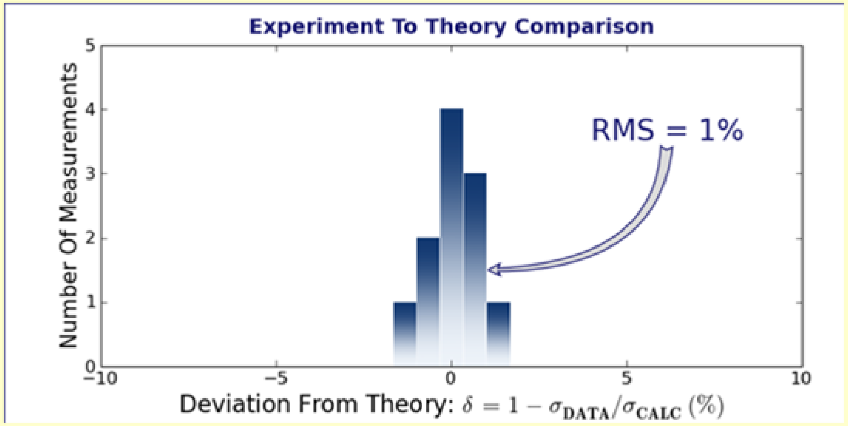
PrimEx-I Result

PRL 106, 162303 (2011)



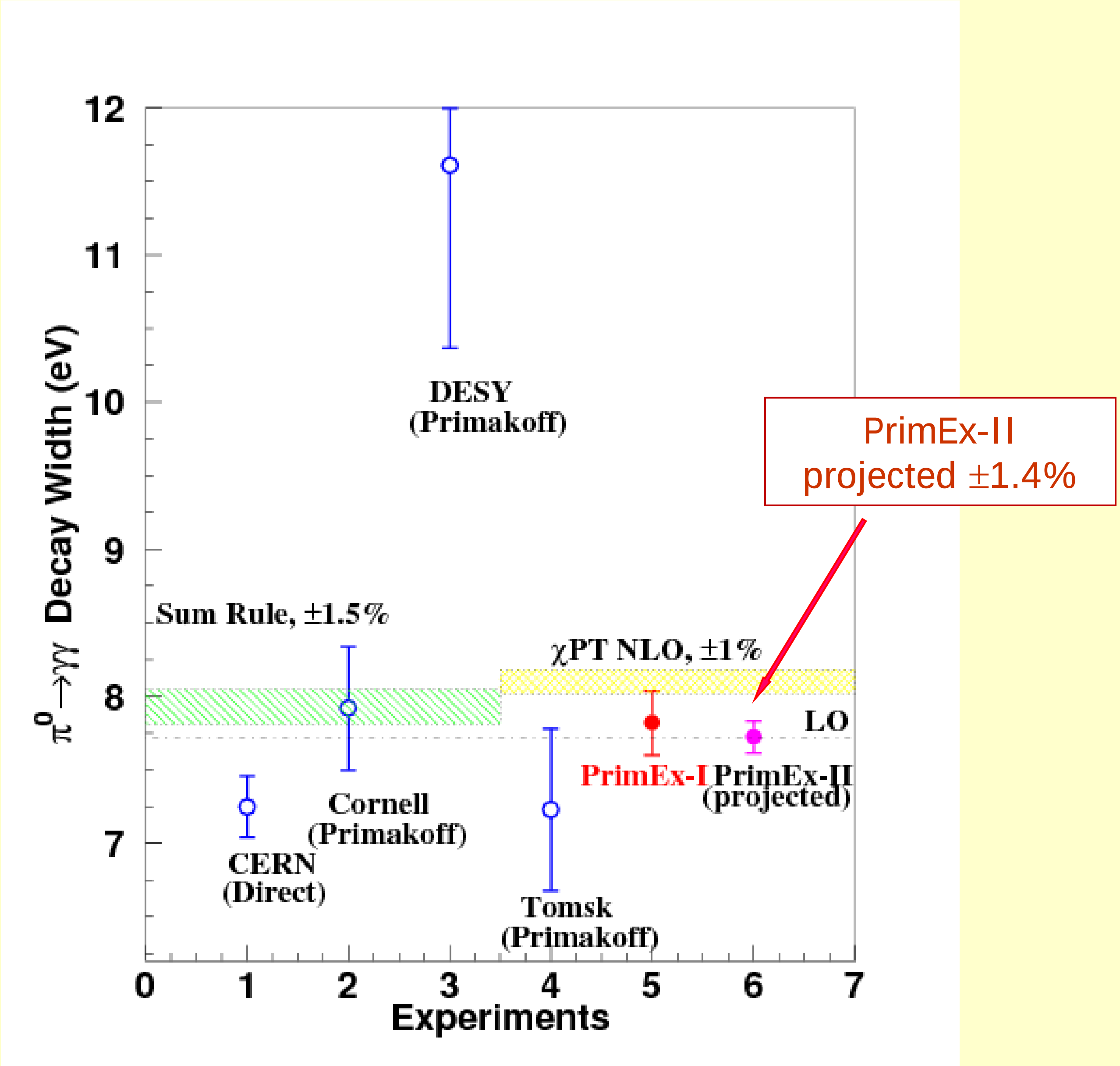
Systematical uncertainty verification:
Compton Cross Section Measurement





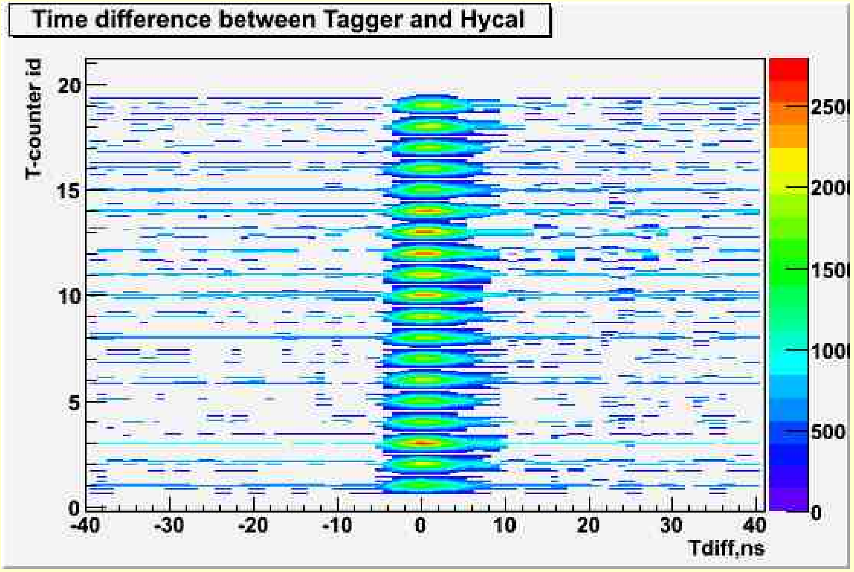
$\Gamma(\pi^0\to\gamma\gamma)$ = 7.82±0.14(stat)±0.17(syst) eV
2.8% total uncertainty

Goal for PrimEx-II (2010)

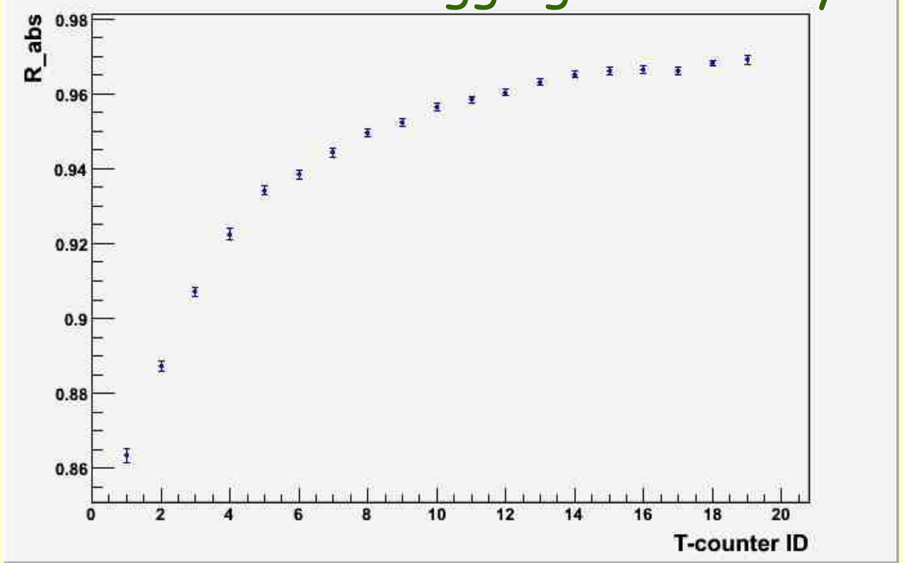


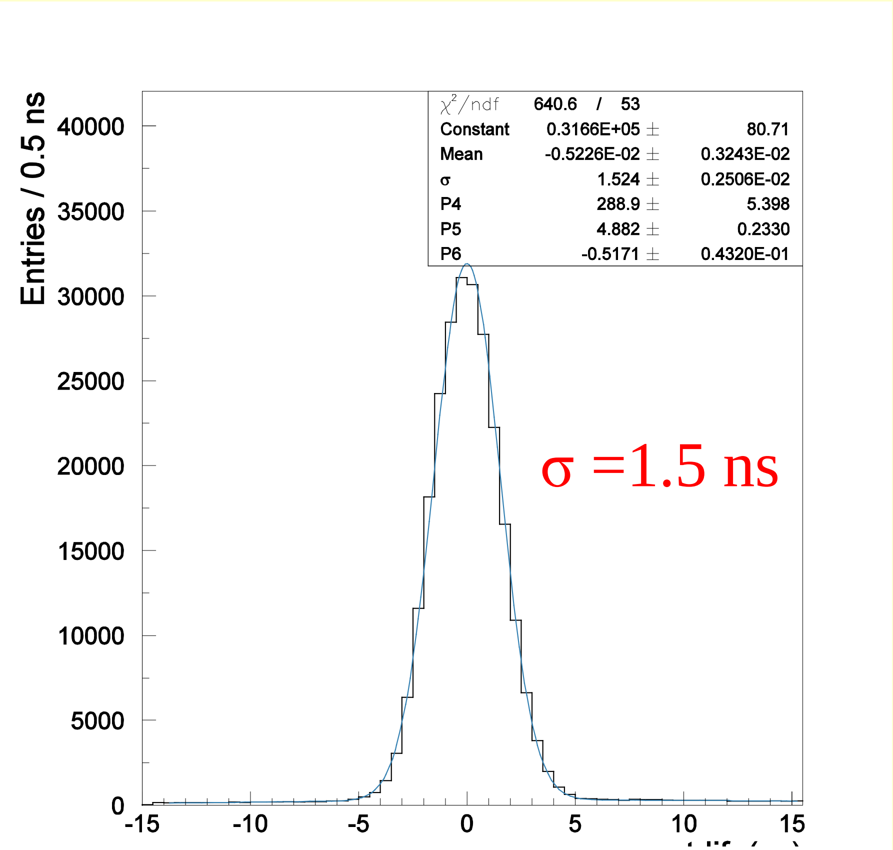
PrimEx-II Data Analysis in Progress

Tagger timing calibration



Absolute tagging efficiency

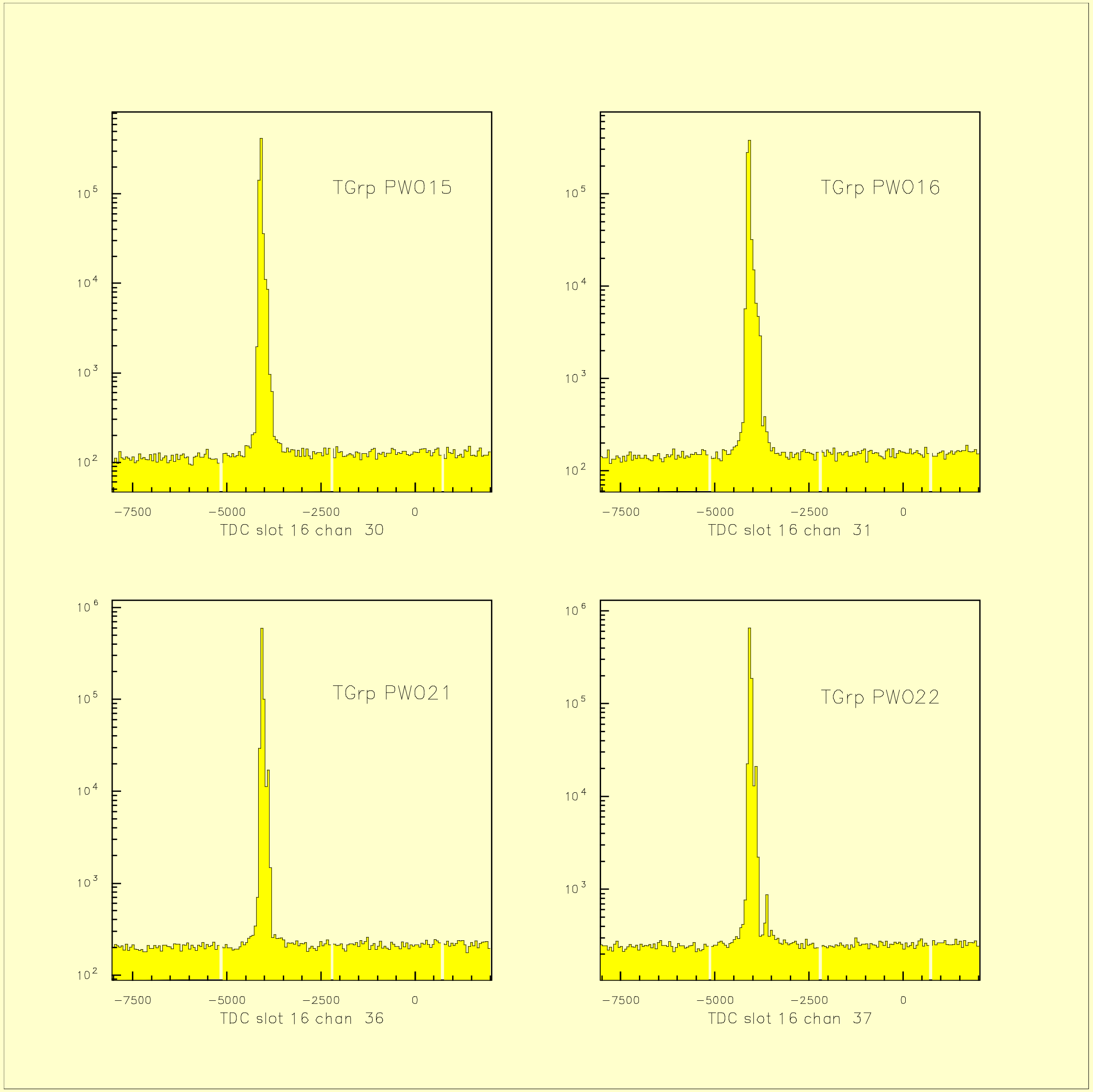




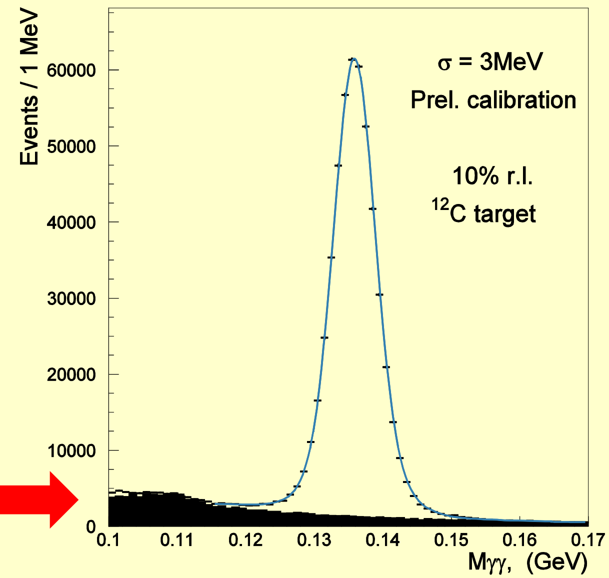
Tagger-HYCAL coincident time

PrimEx-II Data Analysis Continue…

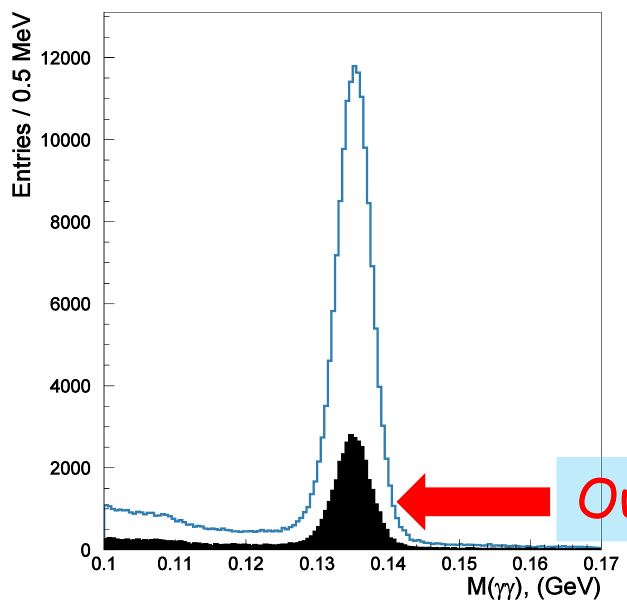
HyCal TDC spectrum



Background study in π^0 reconstruction

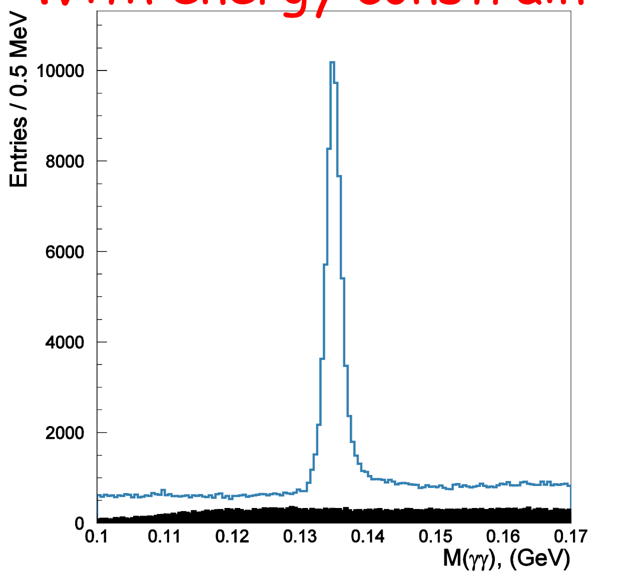


Empty target



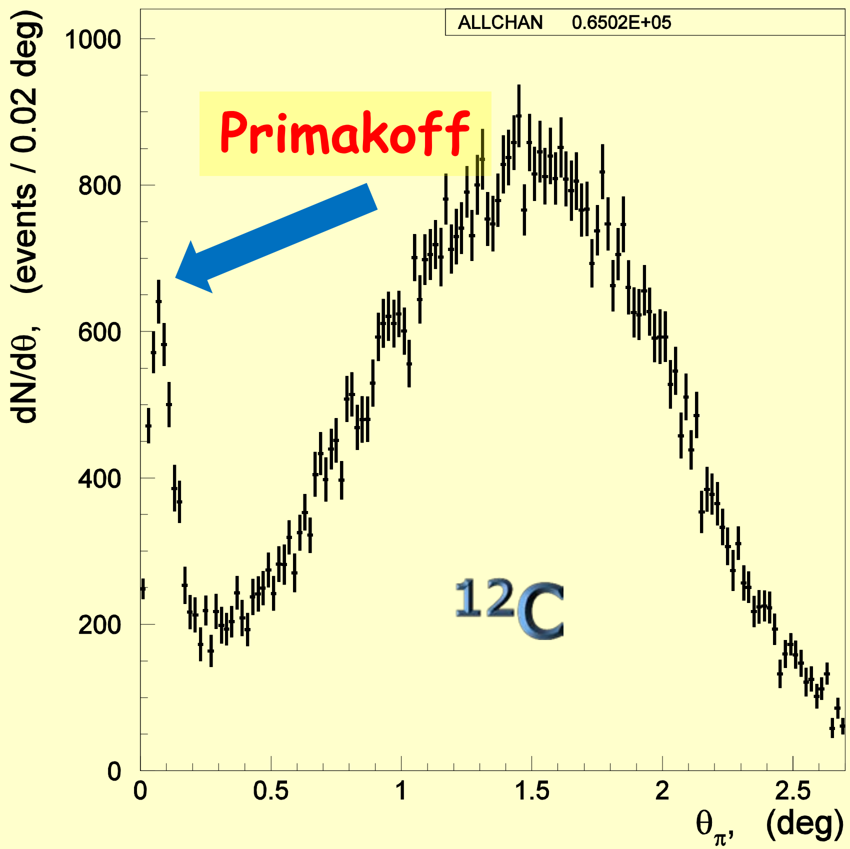
Out of time events

With energy constrain

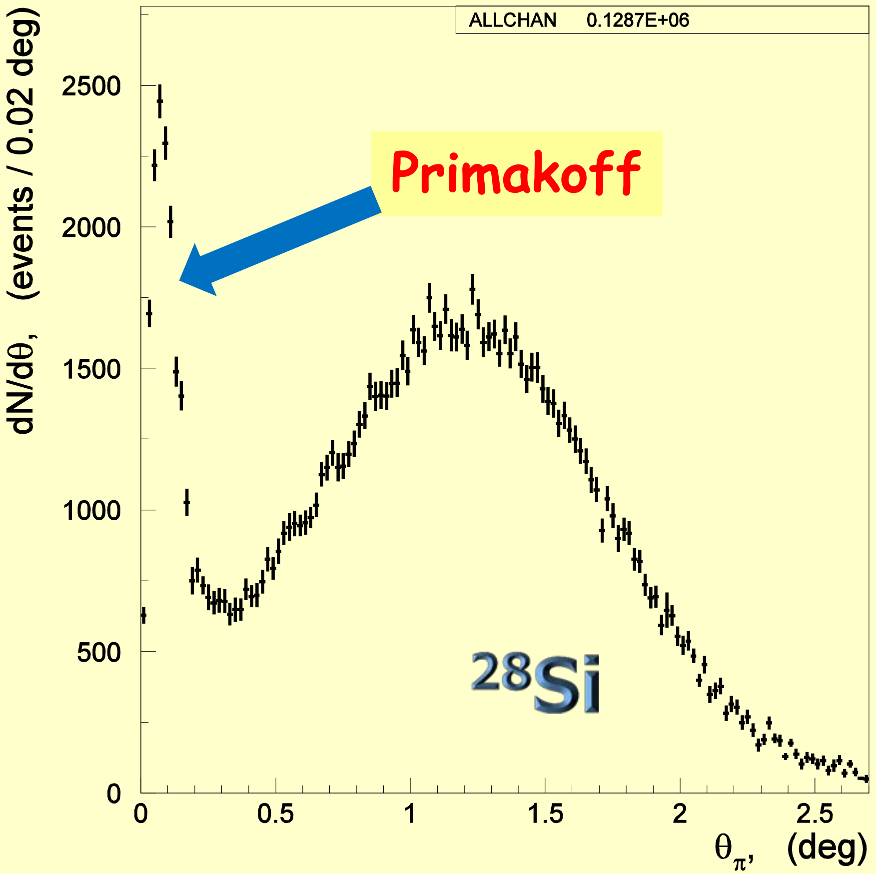


PrimEx-II Experimental Yield (preliminary)

(Eγ = 4.4-5.3 GeV)



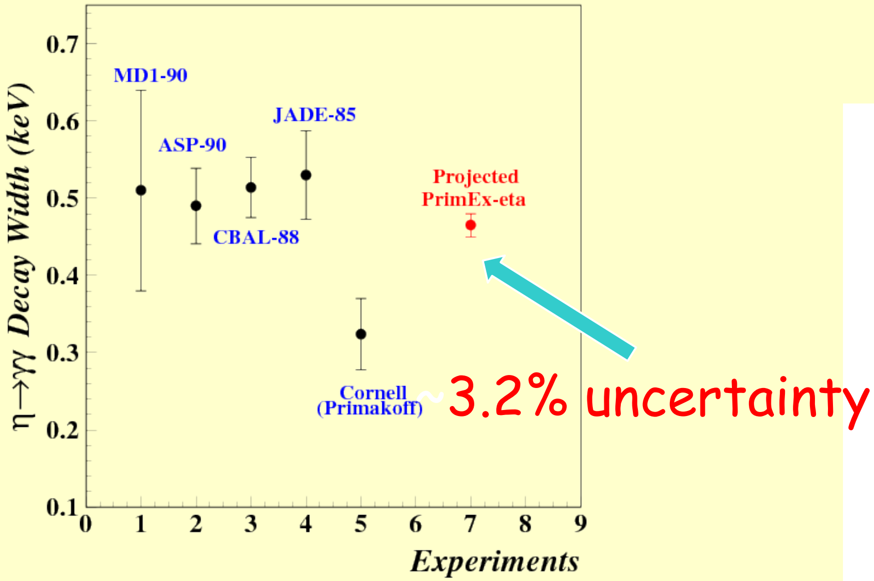
~8K Primakoff events



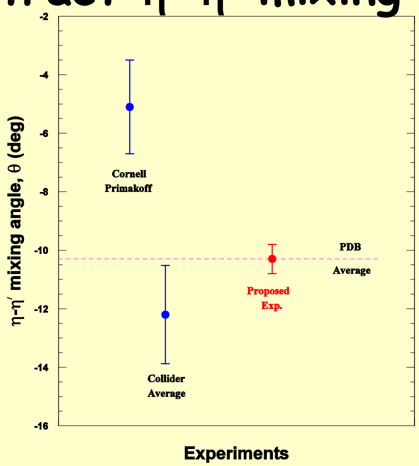
~20K Primakoff events

Outcomes from Γ(η→γγ) Experiment @ 12 GeV

1. Resolve long standing discrepancy between collider and Primakoff measurements:



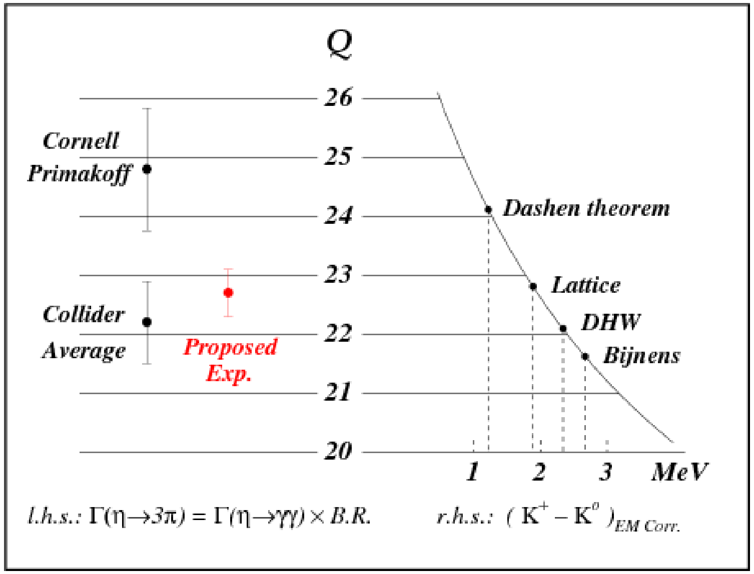
2. Extract η-η' mixing angle:



3. Determine Light quark mass ratio:

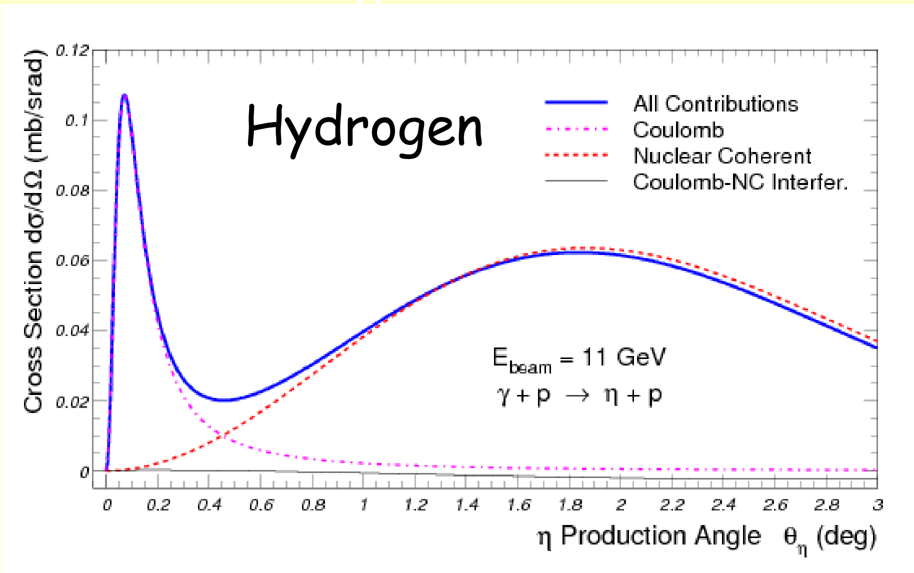
$$Q^2 = \frac{m_s^2 - \hat{m}^2}{m_d^2 - m_u^2}, \qquad \text{where } \hat{m} = \frac{1}{2}(m_u + m_d)$$

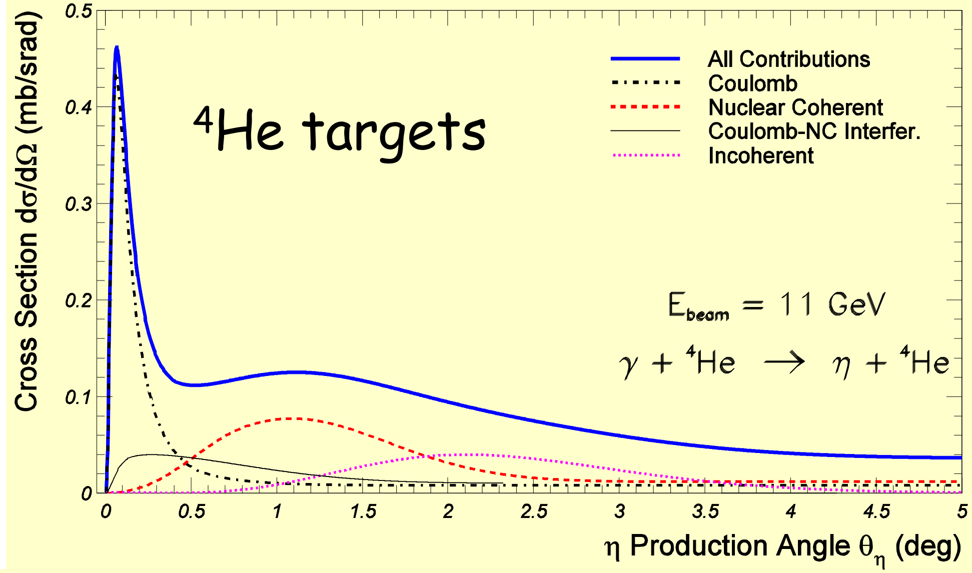
$\Gamma(\eta\to 3\pi) \propto |A|^2 \propto Q^{-4}$



H. Leutwyler Phys. Lett., B378, 313 (1996)

Challenges in the η→γγ Primakoff experiment





Compared to π^0:

- η mass is a factor of 4 larger than π^0 and has a smaller cross section

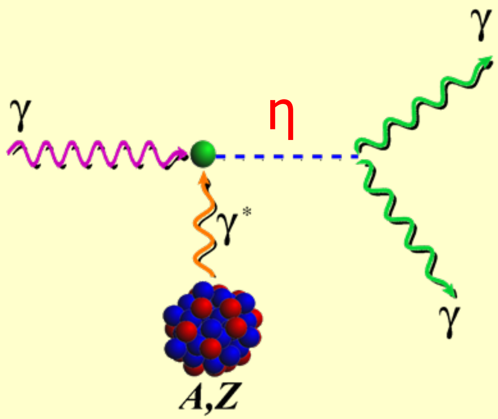
$$\left(\frac{d\sigma_{\mathrm{Pr}}}{d\Omega}\right)_{\mathrm{peak}} \propto \frac{E^4}{m^3}$$

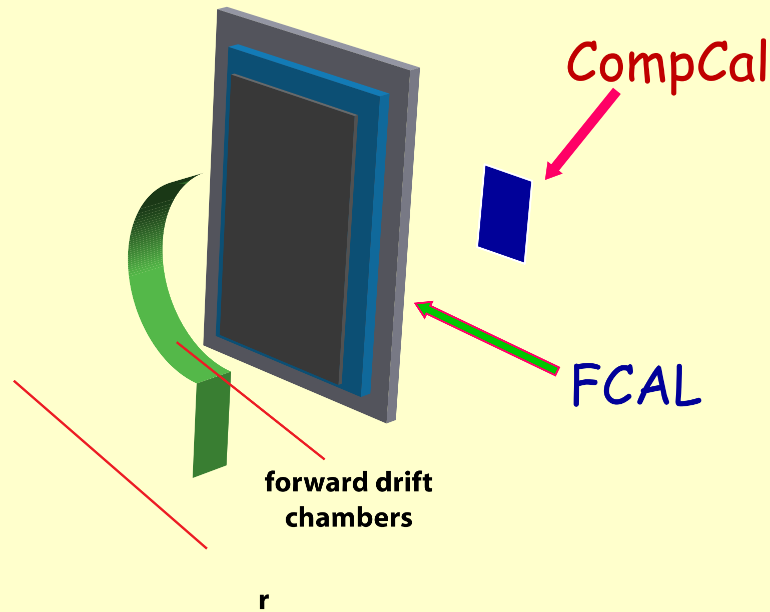
- larger overlap between Primakoff and hadronic processes;

$$\langle\theta_{\mathrm{Pr}}\rangle_{peak} \propto \frac{m^2}{2E^2} \qquad \theta_{NC} \propto \frac{2}{E \bullet A^{1/3}}$$

- larger momentum transfer (coherency, form factors, FSI,…)

Measurement of Γ(η→γγ) in Hall D at 12 GeV

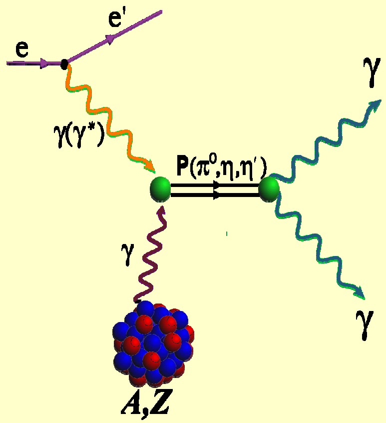




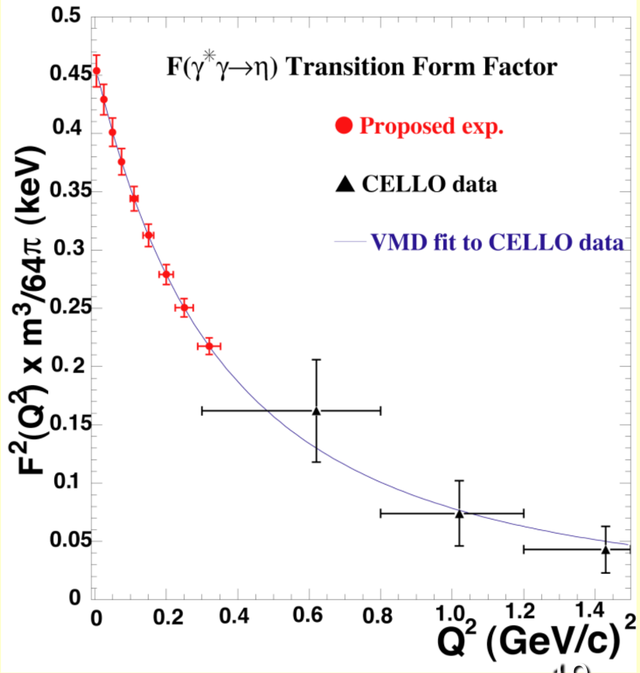
- Incoherent tagged photon beam (~10.5-11.5 GeV)
- Pair spectrometer and a TAC detector for the photon flux control
- 30 cm liquid Hydrogen and ^{4}He targets (~3.6% r.l.)
- Forward Calorimeter (FCAL) for $\eta \to \gamma\gamma$ decay photons
- CompCal and FCAL to measure well-known Compton scattering for control of overall systematic uncertainties.
- Solenoid detectors and forward tracking detectors (for background rejection)

18

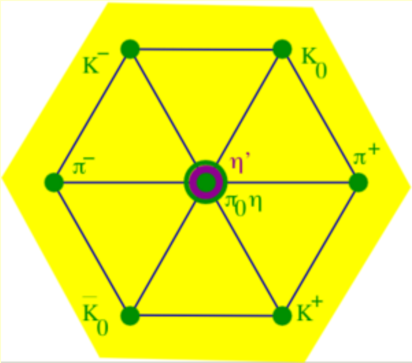
Transition Form Factors F(γγ*→p)
(at Low Q^2)



- Direct measurement of slopes
  - Interaction radii: $F_{\gamma\gamma^*P}(Q^2) \approx 1 - 1/6 \cdot \langle r^2 \rangle_P Q^2$
  - ChPT for large N_c predicts relation between the three slopes. Extraction of $O(p^6)$ low-energy constant in the chiral Lagrangian
- Input for light-by-light scattering for muon (g-2) calculation
- Test of future lattice calculations



Why η is an unique probe for New physics ?



- The most massive member in the octet of pseudoscalar Goldstone mesons (547.9 MeV/c^2)
  - ➡ Many open decay channels
  - ➡ Sensitive to QCD symmetry breakings

- Due to the symmetries in the strong and EM interactions, the η decay width Γ_η =1.3KeV is extremely narrow (relative to Γ_ρ=149MeV)
  - ➡ The lowest orders of η decays are filtered out in the strong and EM interactions, enhancing the contributions from higher orders by a factor of ~100,000.

- Eigenstate of P, C, CP, and G: $I^G J^{PC} = 0^+ 0^{-+}$
  - ➡ Study violations of discrete symmetries

- The η decays are flavor-conserving reactions which are effectively free of SM backgrounds for new physics search.

η decays is a unique probe to test SM and to search for new physics beyond SM: (1) test higher order χPTh and future lattice QCD predictions; (2) new sources of fundamental symmetry violations; (3) light dark matter.

η Neutral Rare Decay Channels

Mode	Branching Ratio (PDG)	Physics Highlight
$\pi^0\ 2\gamma$	$(2.7 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-4}$	χPTh @ O(p^6), Lattice QCD
$2\pi^0$	$<3.5 \times 10^{-4}$	CP, P
3γ	$<1.6 \times 10^{-5}$	C
$\pi^0\ \gamma$	$<9 \times 10^{-5}$	C, L, gauge inv.
4γ	$<2.8 \times 10^{-4}$	Suppressed ($<10^{-11}$)
$\pi^0\ \pi^0\ \gamma$	$<5 \times 10^{-4}$	C
$\pi^0\ \pi^0\ \pi^0\ \gamma$	$<6 \times 10^{-5}$	C
$4\pi^0$	$<6.9 \times 10^{-7}$	CP, P

Status of $\eta \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0$

theoretical predictions:

	$BR(\eta \rightarrow \pi\pi)$
CKM (SM)	$\leq 2 \times 10^{-27}$ (G_F^2, cancellation) C.Jarlskog, E.Shabalin, PS T 99 (02) 23
θ (QCD)	$\leq 3 \times 10^{-17}$ (d_n) C.Jarlskog, E.Shabalin, PR D 52 (95) 6327
extended Higgs	$\leq 1.2 \times 10^{-15}$ C.Jarlskog, E.Shabalin, PR D 52 (95) 6327
general	$\leq 3.5 \times 10^{-14}$ (d_n) M.Gorchtein, hep-ph 0803.2906

experimental limits:

$BR(\eta \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0) \leq 3.5 \times 10^{-4}$

GAMS-4π, PAN 70 (07) 693

Detection at any level would be signature of P and PC violations from new sources!

Strong CP Problem

- A term in QCD Lagrangian violates P, T, CP. It only manifests in flavor-conserving phenomena.

$$L_\theta = \theta_{QCD} \frac{g_s^2}{32\pi^2} G \cdot \tilde{G}$$

- When including electro-weak interaction in SM, the QCD vacuum angle becomes: $\bar{\theta} = \theta_{\mathrm{QCD}} + \arg\det(\mathrm{M}^{\mathrm{U}}\mathrm{M}^{\mathrm{D}})$

- Current experimental constraint on $\bar{\theta}$ came from neutron EDM

theoretical estimations: $d_n \sim (4 \cdot 10^{-17} \div 2 \cdot 10^{-15})\bar{\theta}\ e \cdot \mathrm{cm}$

experimental limit: $d_n \leq 2.9 \times 10^{-26}\ e \cdot \mathrm{cm}$ → $\bar{\theta} \sim 10^{-10\pm1}$

- Such constraint is sensitive to the tree level and loop term cancellation (K. Ottnad, et al., Phys.Lett.,B687, 42 (2010)):

$$d_n^{tree} = (2.9 \pm 1.1) \times 10^{-16}\bar{\theta}\ e \cdot \mathrm{cm} \qquad d_n^{loop} = -3.0^{+1.1}_{-0.8} \times 10^{-16}\bar{\theta}\ e \cdot \mathrm{cm}$$

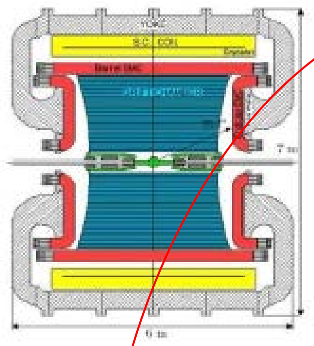
- $\eta \to 2\pi^0$ may shed light on the Strong CP problem:

$2Br(\eta \to 2\pi^0) \sim 180\bar{\theta}^2$ If $\bar{\theta} \sim 10^{-4}$, then $Br(\eta \to 2\pi^0) \sim 10^{-6}$

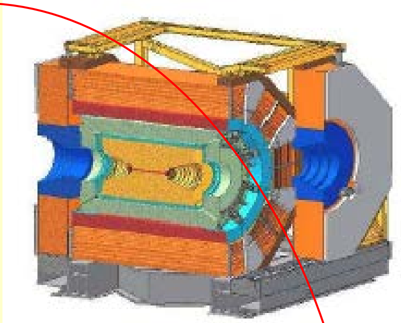
World Competition in Rare η Decays

e⁺e⁻ Collider

KLOE-2 at DAφNE



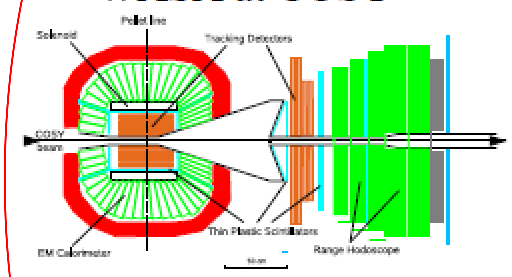
BESIII at BEPCII



Low energy η-facilities

Fixed-target

WASA at COSY

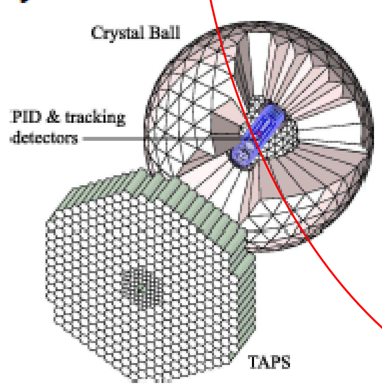


hadroproduction

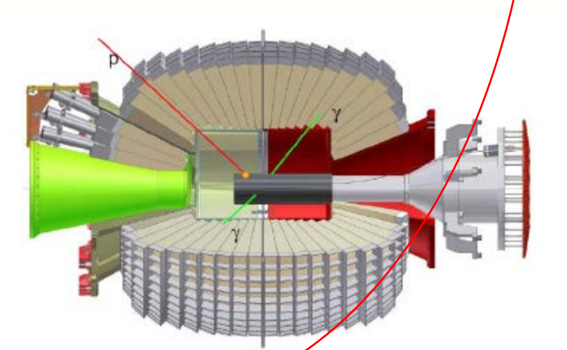
High energy η-facility

photoproduction

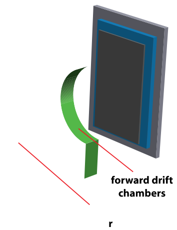
Crystall Ball at MAMI



CBELSA/TAPS at ELSA

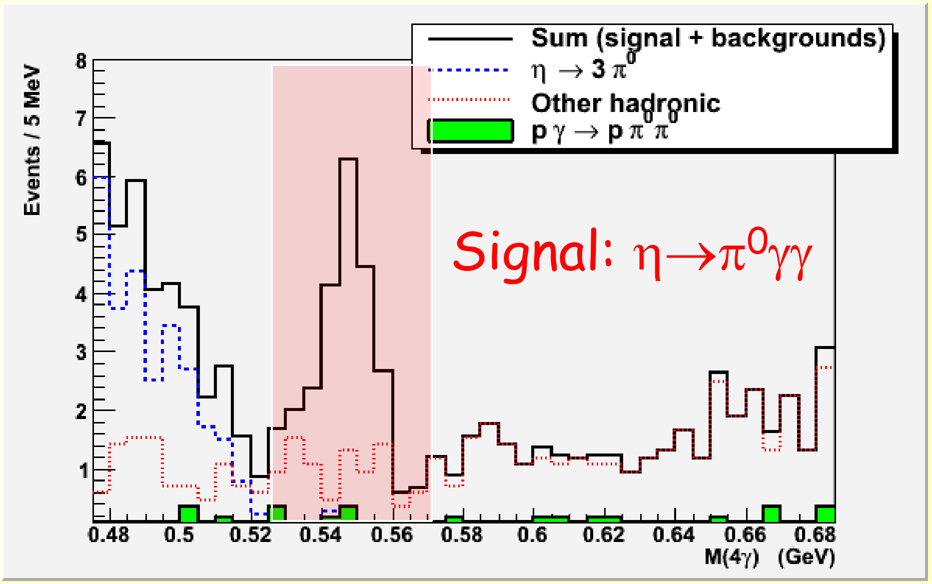


JEF at Jlab



Filter Background with η Energy Boost

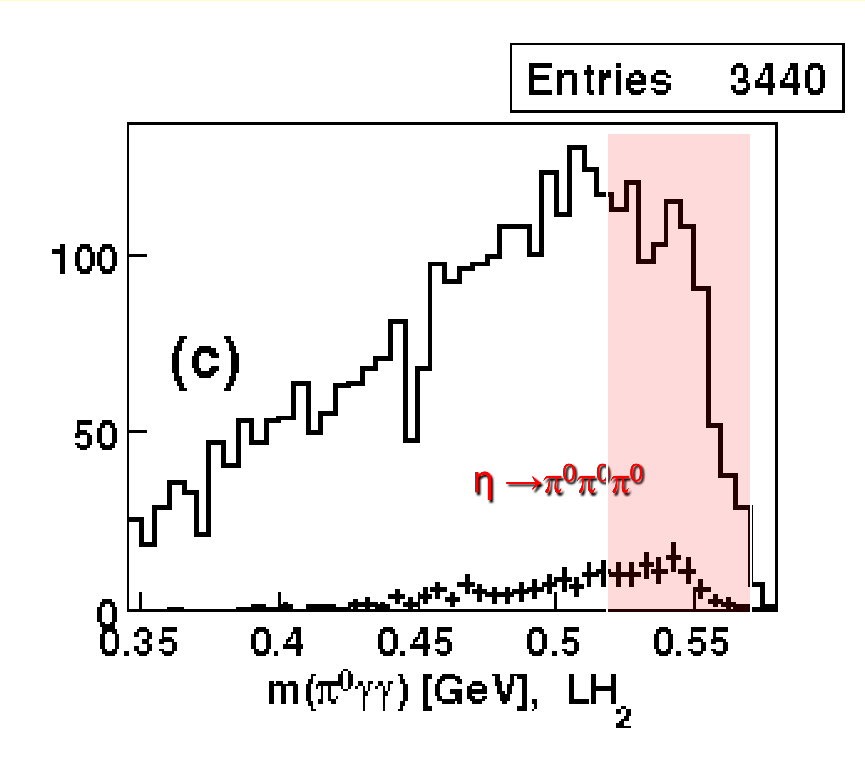
Jlab: high energy η production (E_γ = 9-11.7 GeV)



Note:

- Statistics is normalized to 1 beam day.
- BG will be further reduced by requiring only one pair of γ's to have the π^0 invariant mass.

Other competitors (CB, KLOE, BES-III, WASA, CBELSA/TAPS) : low energy η production



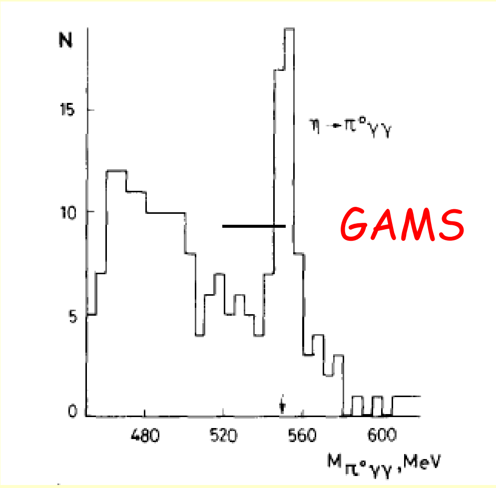
S. Prakhov *et al.* *Phy.Rev.,C78,015206 (2008)*

Advantages of JLab

- **High energy tagged photon beam** to reduce the background from $\eta \to 3\pi^0$
  - Lower relative threshold for γ-ray detection
  - Improved missing energy resolution
- **Recoil proton detection** to reduce non-coplanar backgrounds like non-resonant $\gamma p \to \pi^0\pi^0 p$
- **High resolution, high granularity $PbWO_4$ Calorimeter**
  - improved invariant mass, energy and position resolutions
  - fewer overlapping showers, thus reducing background from $\eta \to 3\pi^0$
  - Fast decay time (~20ns) and Flash ADCs → reduced pile-up
- **High statistics** to provide a precision measurement of Dalitz plot

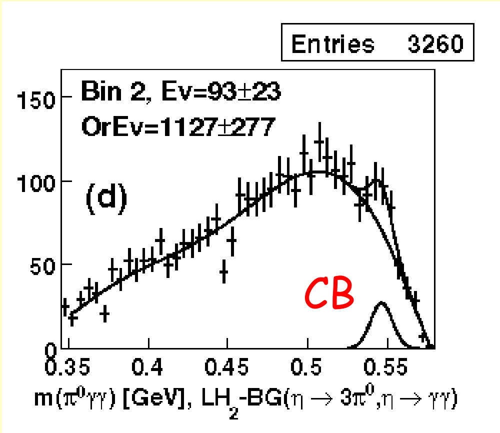
High energy η-production

$E_\pi = 30$ GeV/c



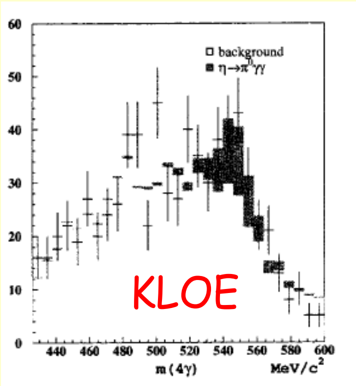
Low energy η-production

$E_\pi = 720$ MeV/c

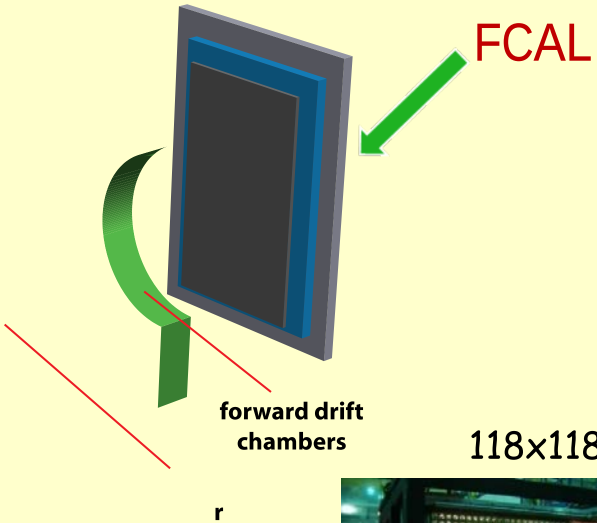


ϕ production $\sqrt{s} = 1020$ MeV

$\phi \to \gamma\eta$



Proposed JEF Experiment in Hall D



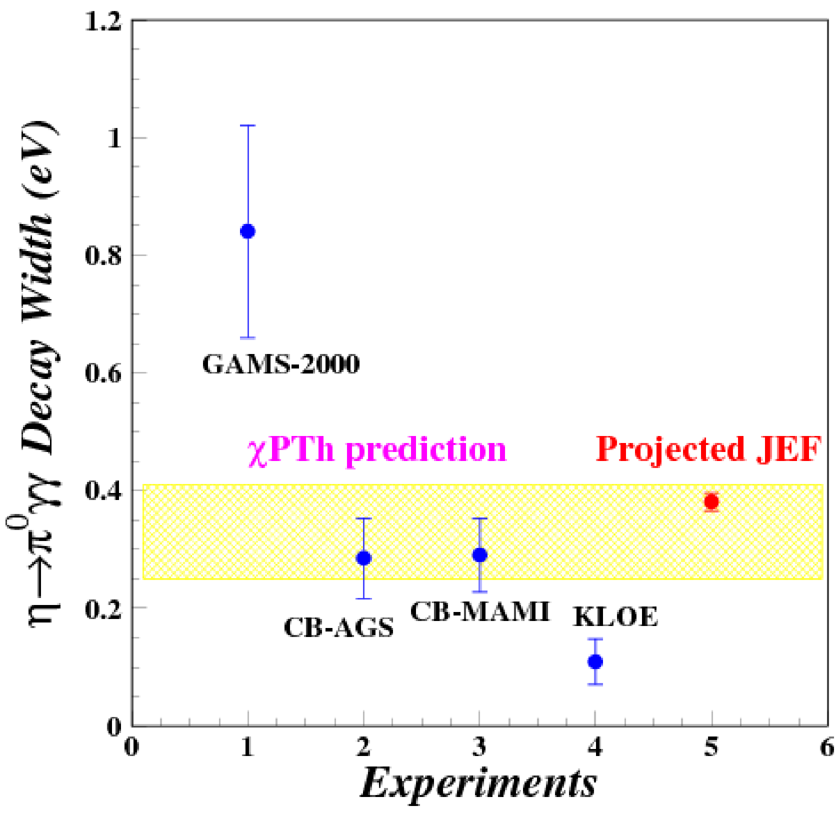
118x118 cm²

Simultaneously measure the $\eta \to \pi^0 \gamma\gamma$, $\eta \to \pi^0 \pi^0$, $\eta \to 3\gamma$

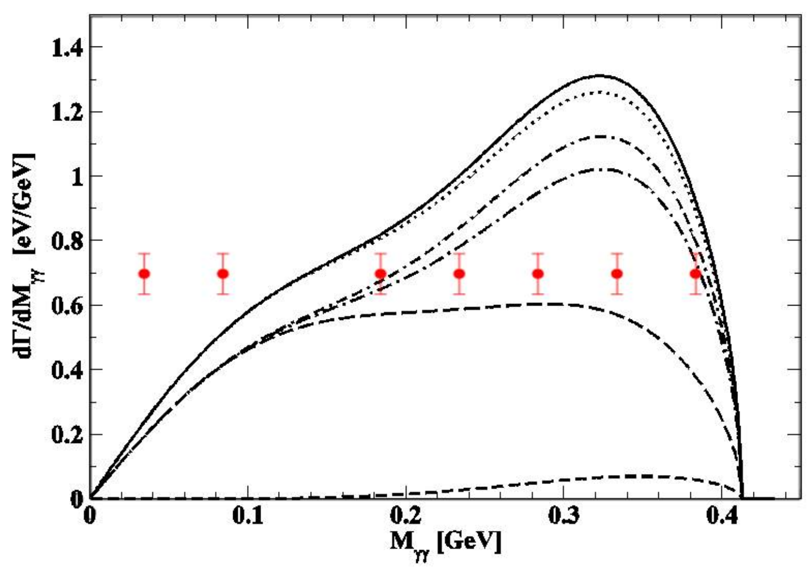
- η produced on LH_2 target with **9-11.7 GeV tagged photon beam:** $\gamma + p \to \eta + p$
- Further reduce $\gamma p \to \pi^0 \pi^0 p$ and other background by **detecting recoil p's** with GlueX detector
- Upgraded Forward Calorimeter with **$PbWO_4$** (**FCAL-II**) to detect multi-photons from the η decays

27

Projected JEF Measurement on $\eta \rightarrow \pi^0 2\gamma$

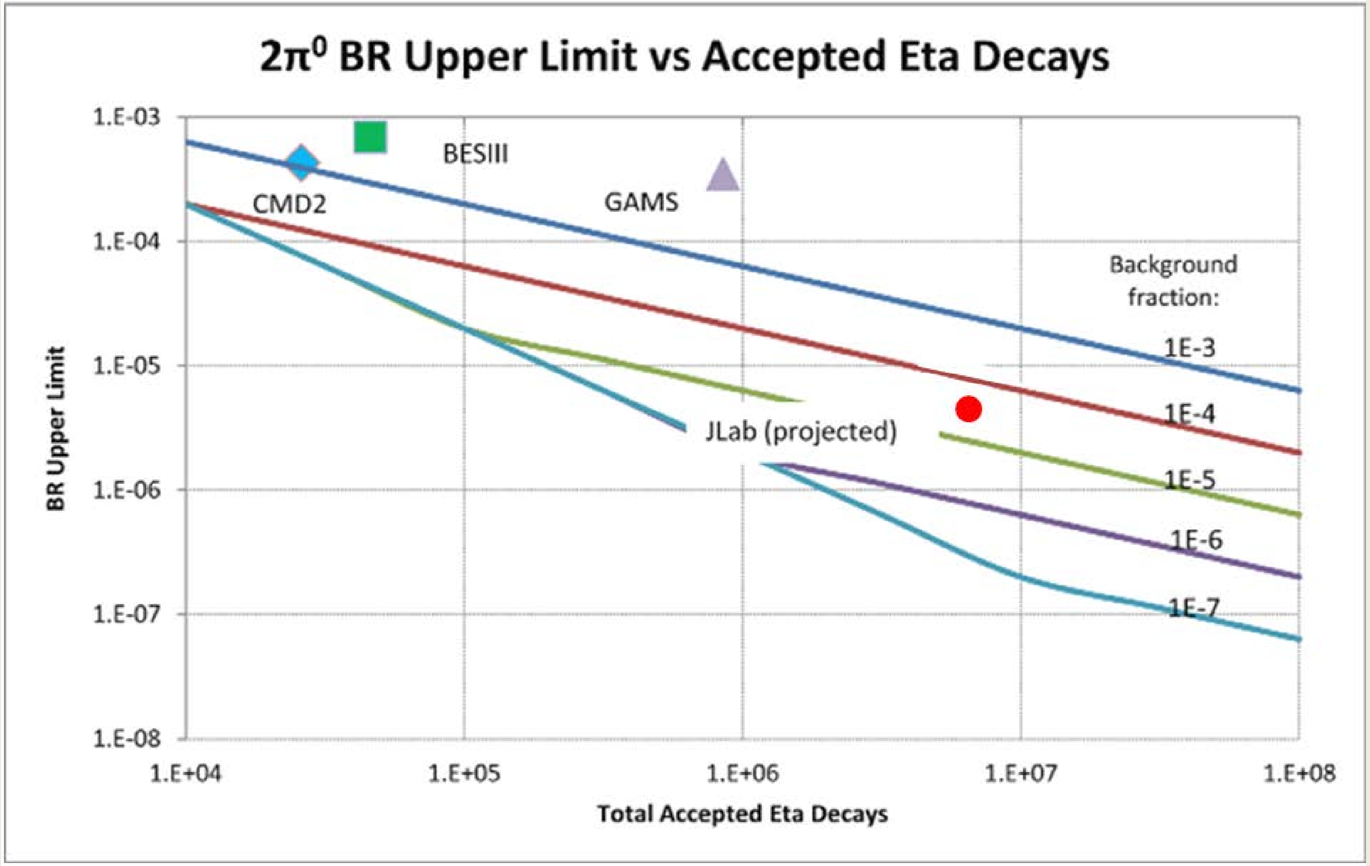


E. Oset., Phys. Rev., D77, 073001 (2008)



100 days of beam time

Improvement on SM Forbidden Channels

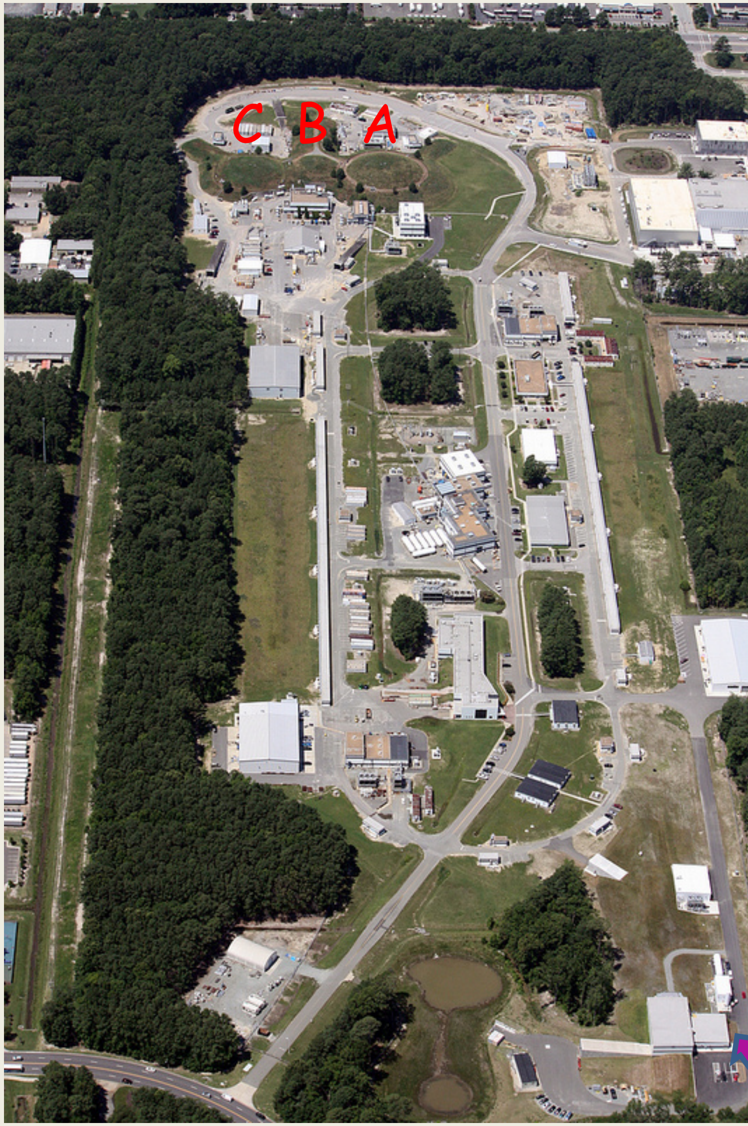


The upper limit for the branching ratio at ~90% CL is estimated by:

$$\text{BR upper limit} \approx 2\sqrt{\frac{f_{bkg}}{N_\eta \bullet \varepsilon_{accep}}}$$

Improve the upper limits on the SM forbidden neutral decay channels up to two orders of magnitude !

GlueX under construction



Tagger magnet installation

Hall D

Summary

- Testing the symmetries of SM will help us understanding fundamental issues in physics: confinement QCD and new physics beyond Standard Model.
- The PrimEx experiments will provide precision tests of continuous symmetries in confinement QCD by a study of electromagnetic properties of π^0, η and η' via the Primakoff effect.
- Measurements of various η rare decays with GlueX will be sensitive probes for testing the discrete symmetries of SM and searching for the evidences of new physics beyond: (1) test higher order χPTh and future lattice QCD predictions; (2) tighten the constrains on new sources of C, P and CP symmetry violations; (3) investigate the dark photon.
- Jlab offers great opportunities for precision experiments.

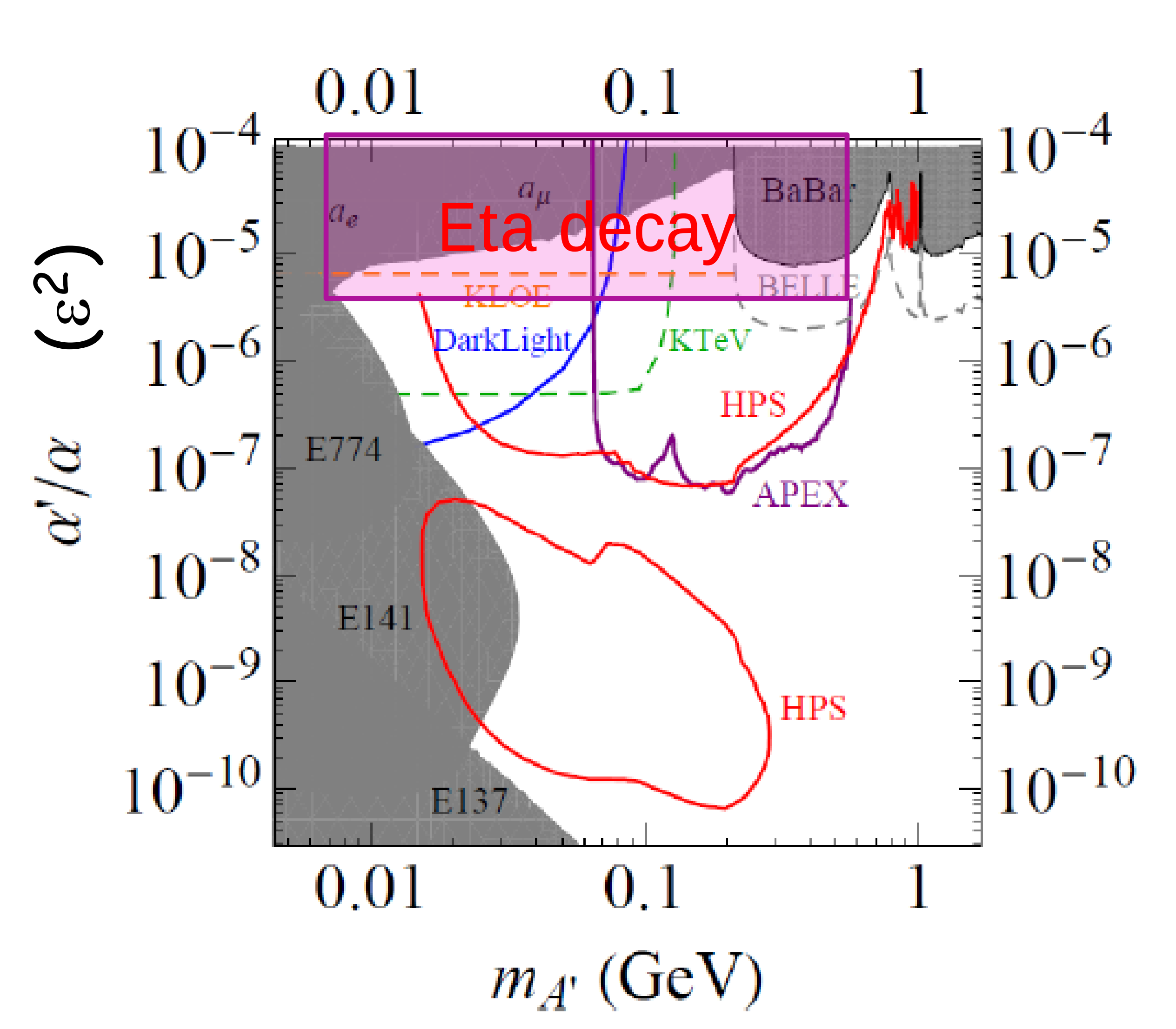
This project is supported by NSF

The End

Thanks you!

Search for Dark Photon in η Decay

M.Reece, L.T.Wang, JHEP 07 (2009) 051



$$\eta \rightarrow \gamma U$$
$$\downarrow$$
$$U \rightarrow e^+ e^-$$