

# Study of the $\eta'$ meson in nuclei in the LEPS2/BGOegg experiment

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# $\eta'(958)$ meson

meson	mass [MeV/c <sup>2</sup> ]
$\pi^0$	134.97
$\pi^\pm$	139.57
$K^\pm$	493.68
$K^0, \bar{K}^0$	497.61
$\eta$	547.86
$\eta'$	957.78

Larger mass compared with other pseudo-scalar mesons

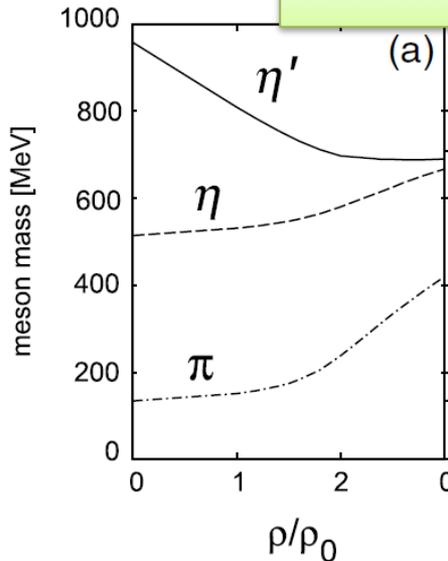
$U_A(1)$  anomaly

$U_A(1)$  anomaly effect is manifest under the breaking of chiral symmetry

D. Jido et al., PRC 85 (2012) 032201(R)

Models with  $U_A(1)$  anomaly term

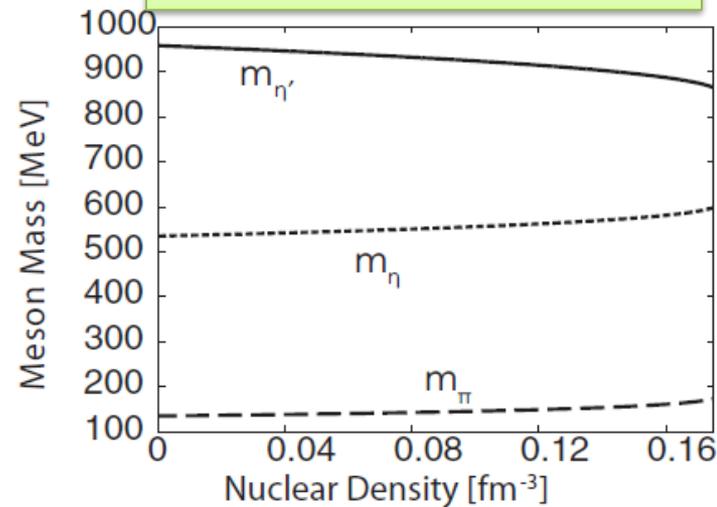
NJL model



$\Delta m(\rho_0) = -150 \text{ MeV}$

H. Nagahiro et al.  
PRC 74 (2006)  
045293

Linear sigma model



$\Delta m(\rho_0) = -80 \text{ MeV}$

S. Sakai and D. Jido  
PRC 88 (2013)  
064906

A large mass reduction is expected

Studies of  $\eta'(958)$  mass in medium in the LEPS2/BGOegg experiment

# LEPS2/BGOegg experiment

- LEPS2 beamline @ SPring-8 in Japan
- 1.3-2.4 GeV  $\gamma$  beam from backward Compton scattering of laser and 8 GeV  $e^-$

## BGOegg experiment

- World's best energy resolution calorimeter  
for 1 GeV  $\gamma$  : 1.4%
- Large polar angle coverage :  $24^\circ < \Theta^{\text{lab}} < 144^\circ$

$$\eta' \rightarrow 2\gamma, \quad \eta \rightarrow 2\gamma \quad \eta' \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \eta \rightarrow 6\gamma$$

- 2014-2016 : Phase-1 N. Tomida *et al.*,  
PRL 124 (2020) 202501

## $\eta'$ -nucleus bound state search

- Direct measurement of  $\eta'$  mass in nuclei
- $\pi^0/\eta/\omega$  production off proton

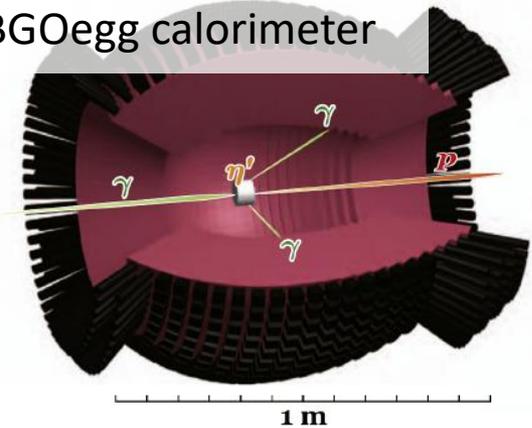
- 2022- : Phase-2

N. Muramatsu *et al.*, PRC 100 (2019) 055202

N. Muramatsu *et al.*, PRC 102 (2020) 025201

T. Ishikawa, *et al.*,  
NIM A 837 (2016) 109

BGOegg calorimeter

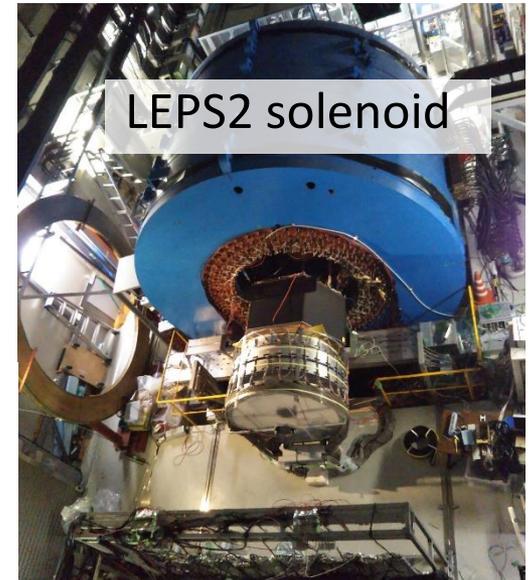


Y. Matsumura,  
PhD thesis (2021)

## LEPS2 solenoid experiment

- Charged particles
- Exotic hadrons
- 2017- construction
- 2021- physics run

LEPS2 solenoid

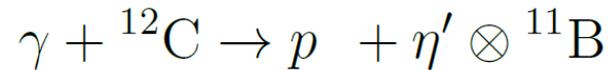
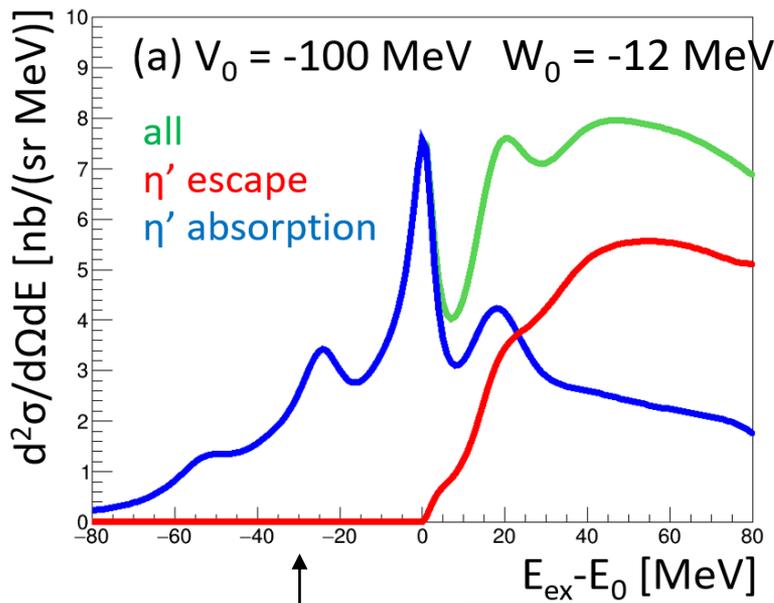


# $\eta'$ -nucleus bound state

$\eta'$ -nucleus optical potential H. Nagahiro, S. Hirenzaki PRL 94 (2005) 232503

- $U(r) = (V_0 + iW_0) \times \rho(r)/\rho_0$
- $V_0 = \Delta m(\rho_0)$  : mass shift at the normal nuclear density
- $W_0 = -\Gamma(\rho_0)/2$  : width at the normal nuclear density

- If  $V_0$  is large and  $W_0$  is small,  $\eta'$  and a nucleus may form a bound state



Excitation energy

$$E_{ex} - E_0 = MM({}^{12}\text{C}(\gamma, p)) - M_{11\text{B}} - M_{\eta'}$$

Our aim

Examine  $\eta'$ -nucleus potential

Search for a bound state

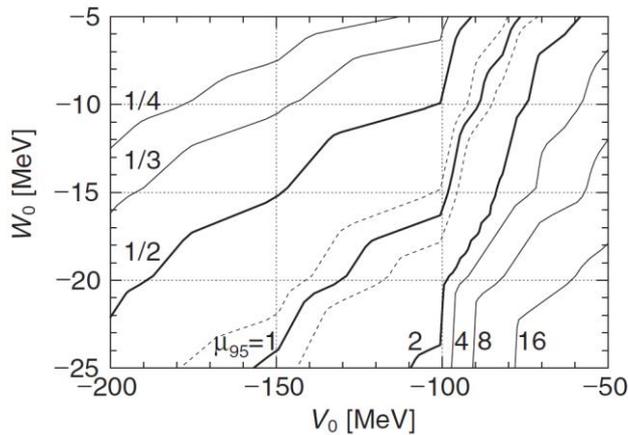
Calculation within Distorted Wave Impulse Approximation (DWIA)

# Past experiments

$\eta$ -PRiME@GSI

$^{12}\text{C}(p,d)X$

Inclusive missing mass spectroscopy



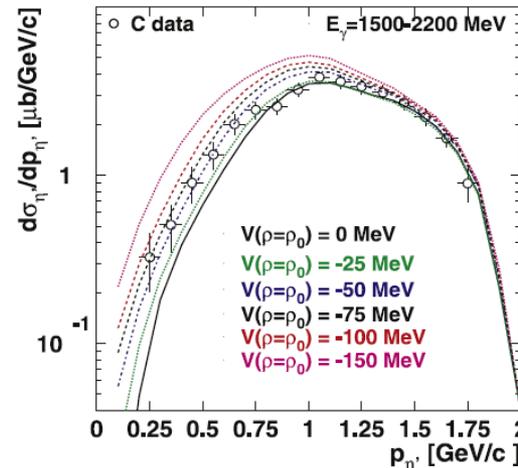
Y.K. Tanaka,  
PRL 117  
(2016)  
202501

Y.K. Tanaka,  
PRC 97  
(2018)  
015202

CBELSA/TAPS

$\eta'$  photoproduction off C, Nb

$\eta'$  escaped from nuclei



M. Nanova et al., PLB  
727 (2013) 417

M. Nanova et al.,  
PRC 94 (2016) 025205

M. Nanova et al.,  
Eur. Phys. J. A 54 (2018) 182

S. Friedrich et al.,  
Eur. Phys. J A 52 (2016) 297

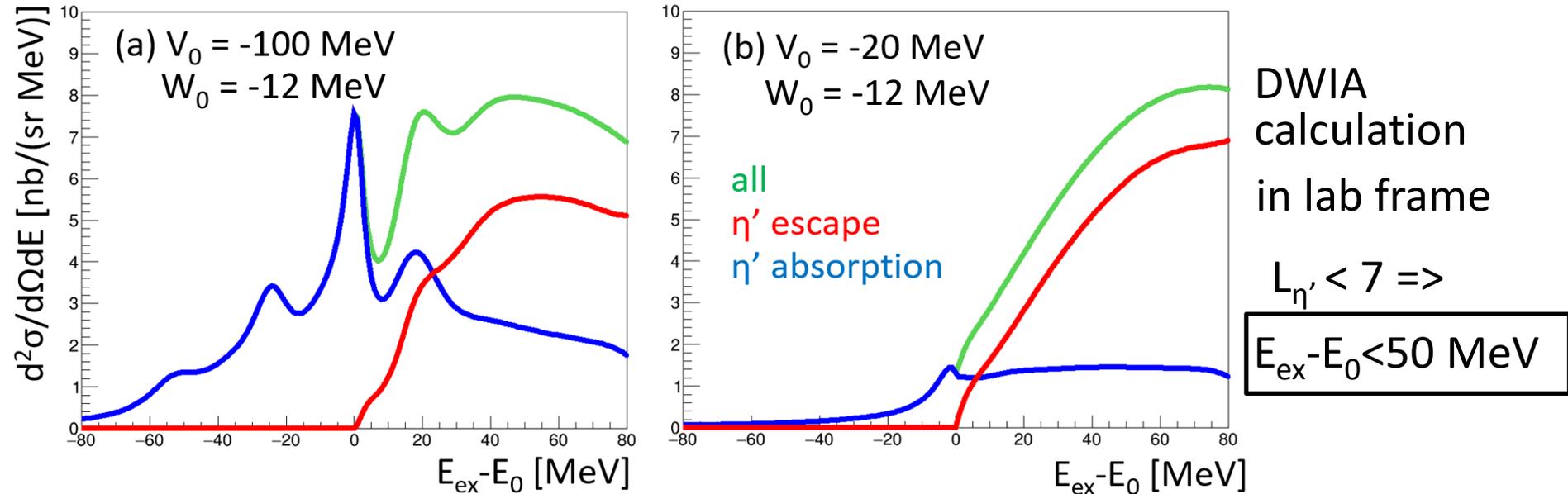
- Large multi meson backgrounds  
→ **No signal peak observed**
- Upper limit on  $V_0$ ,  $W_0$  depending on an unknown **scaling factor** of the DWIA cross section and the elementary cross section

- $V_0 = -(40 \pm 6(\text{stat}) \pm 15(\text{syst}))$  MeV from comparisons with **the collision model**
- $W_0 = -(13 \pm 3(\text{stat}) \pm 3(\text{syst}))$  MeV from **the transparency measurement**

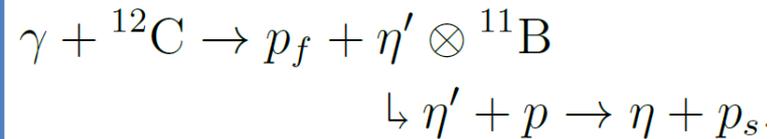
# Present experiment

Missing mass spectroscopy of  $^{12}\text{C}(\gamma, p)\text{X}$

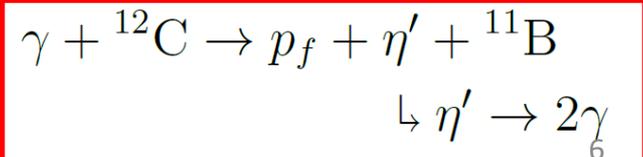
Tag decay products from  $\eta'$  in nucleus to reduce BG



- $\eta'$  absorption : Search for bound states  
 $\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N$  large branch expected (>40%)

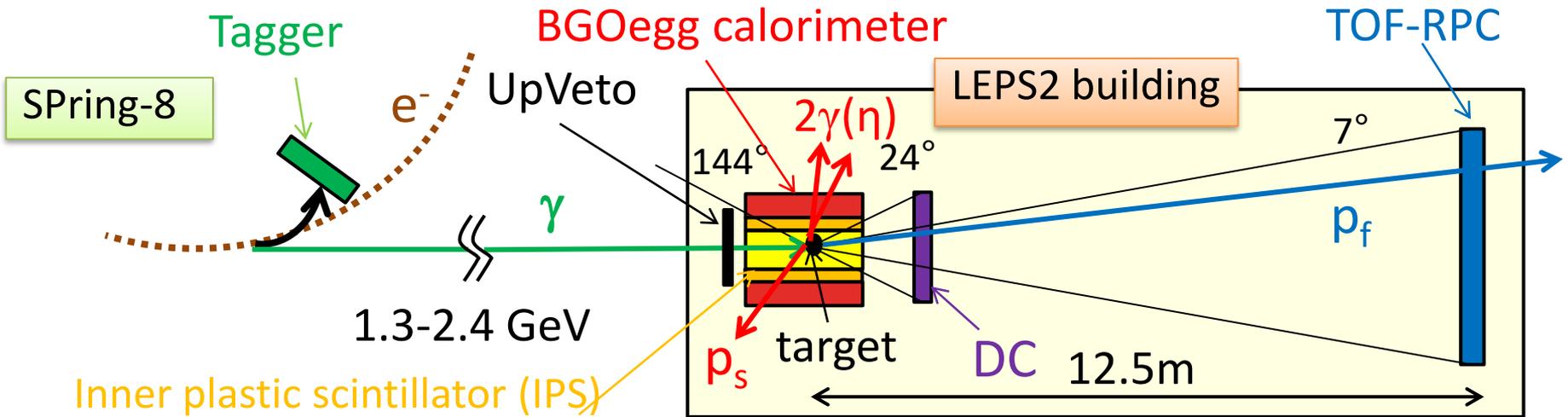


- $\eta'$  escape  $\Rightarrow$  Evaluate production rate of  $\eta'$   
(Normalization of the DWIA calculation)

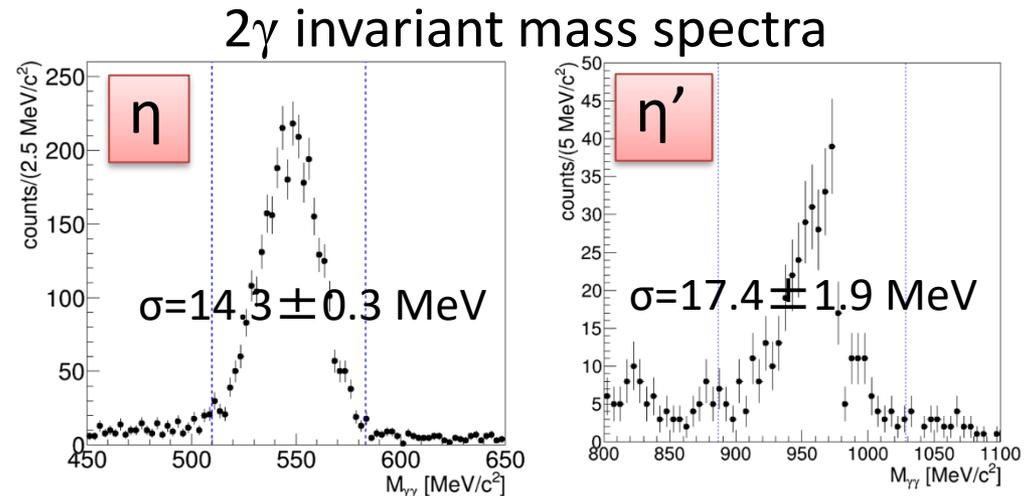


# Experimental set up

- LEPS2 beam line @ SPring-8
- 2015/Apr-Jul



- Trigger : Tagger  $\times$  BGOegg 2 crystal hits  
=> Simultaneous measurements of  $(\eta+p_s)$  and  $\eta'$  tag modes
- Missing mass spectroscopy of  $^{12}\text{C}(\gamma, p_f)$  : Tagger, TOF-RPC
- Decay products  $(\eta+p_s)$ ,  $\eta'$  : BGOegg, IPS

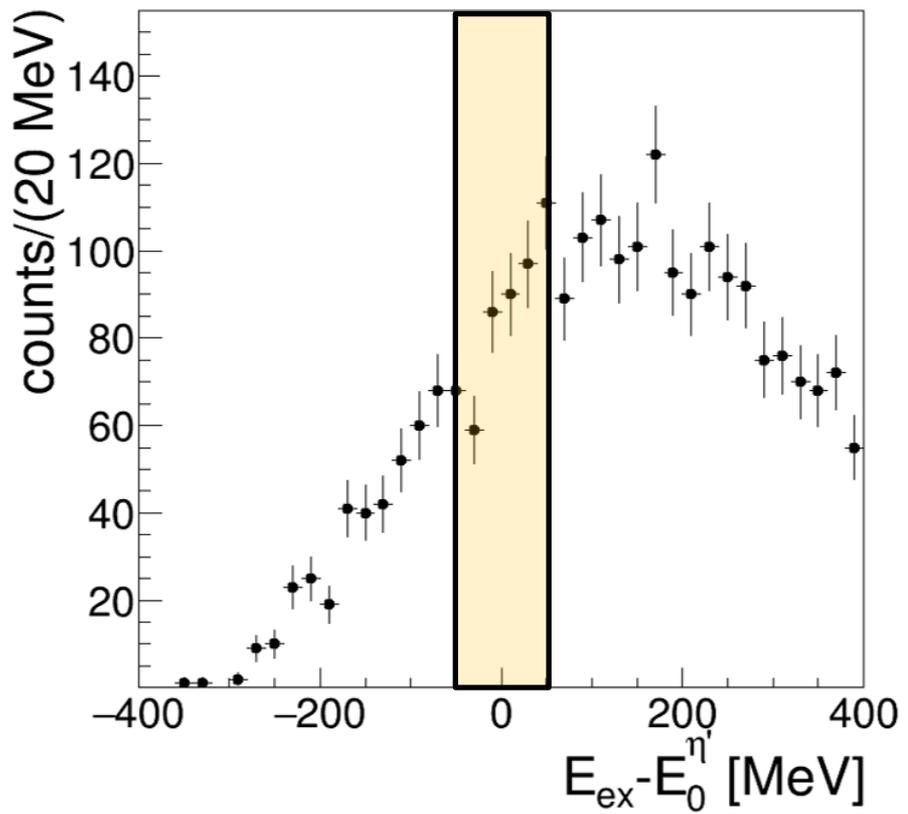


# Excitation energy distribution

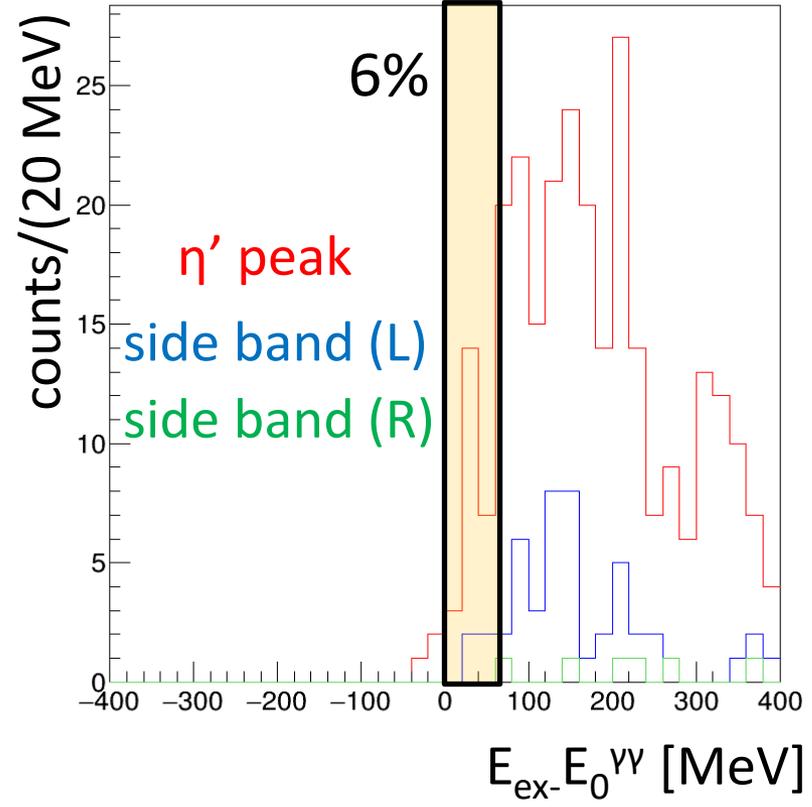
$$E_{\text{ex}} - E_0 = MM(^{12}\text{C}(\gamma, p)) - M_{11\text{B}} - M_{\eta'}$$

$\gamma + ^{12}\text{C} \rightarrow p_f + (\eta + p_s) + X$   
(bound state search)

$\gamma + ^{12}\text{C} \rightarrow p_f + \eta' + X$   
( $\eta'$  yield)



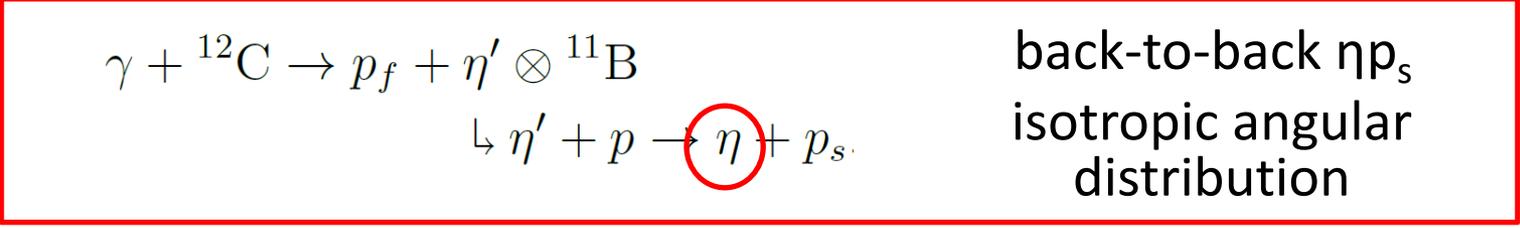
No signal enhancement  
Need to suppress ( $\eta + p_s$ ) BG



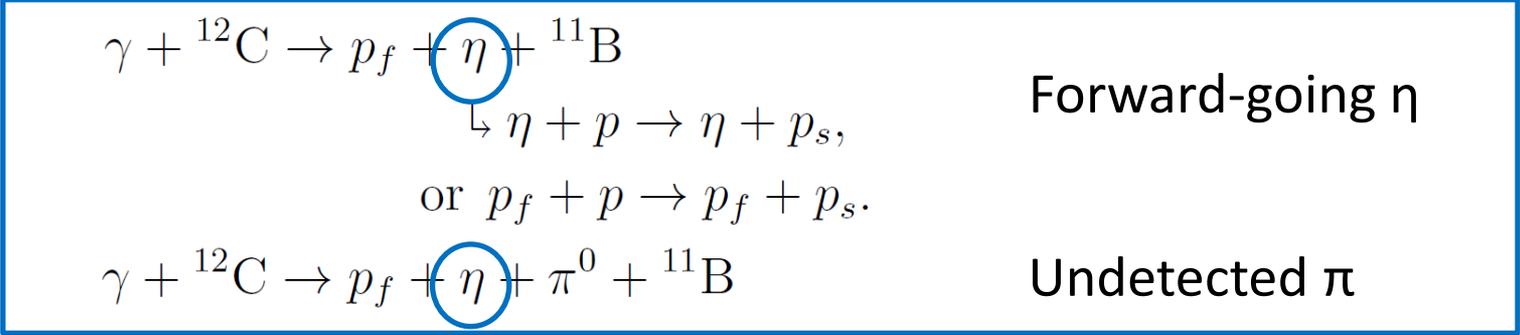
Rising from  $\eta'$  threshold  
Few events in  $0 < E_{\text{ex}} - E_0 < 50$  MeV

# $(\eta+p_s)$ : background suppression

signal  
secondary  $\eta$



BG  
primary  $\eta$



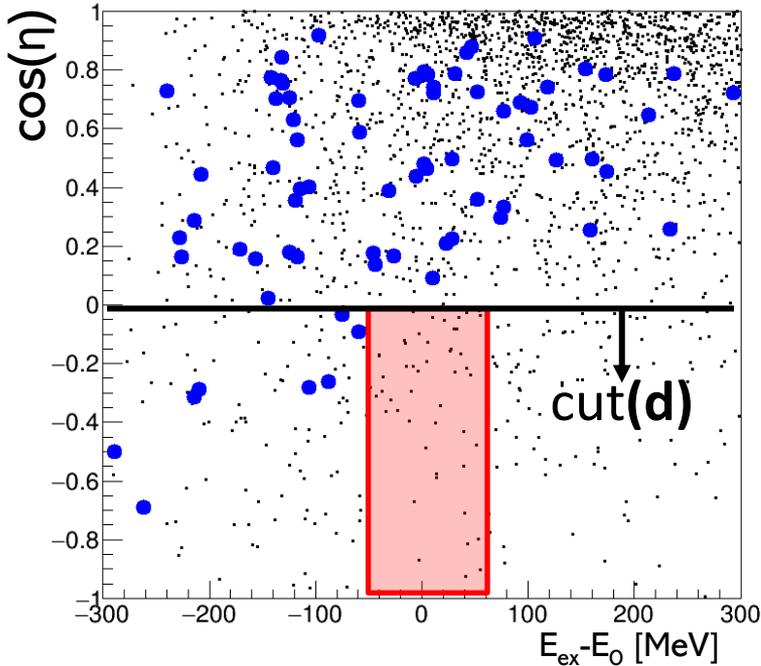
Kinematical cut determined by blind analysis

- (a) Opening angle  $\cos(\eta p_s) < -0.9$  => signal : back-to-back  $\eta p_s$
  - (b) |Missing energy| < 150 MeV => signal : no additional particle  
missing energy =  $E_\gamma + m_{12\text{C}} - E_\eta - E_{ps} - E_{pf} - m_{11\text{B}}$
  - (c) Polar angle  $\cos(p_s) < 0.5$
  - (d) Polar angle  $\cos(\eta) < 0$
- } => signal : Isotropic distribution  
BG : concentrate in forward



BG : Reduced to 0.4%    Signal : Preserve 23%

# $\eta'$ -nucleus search result

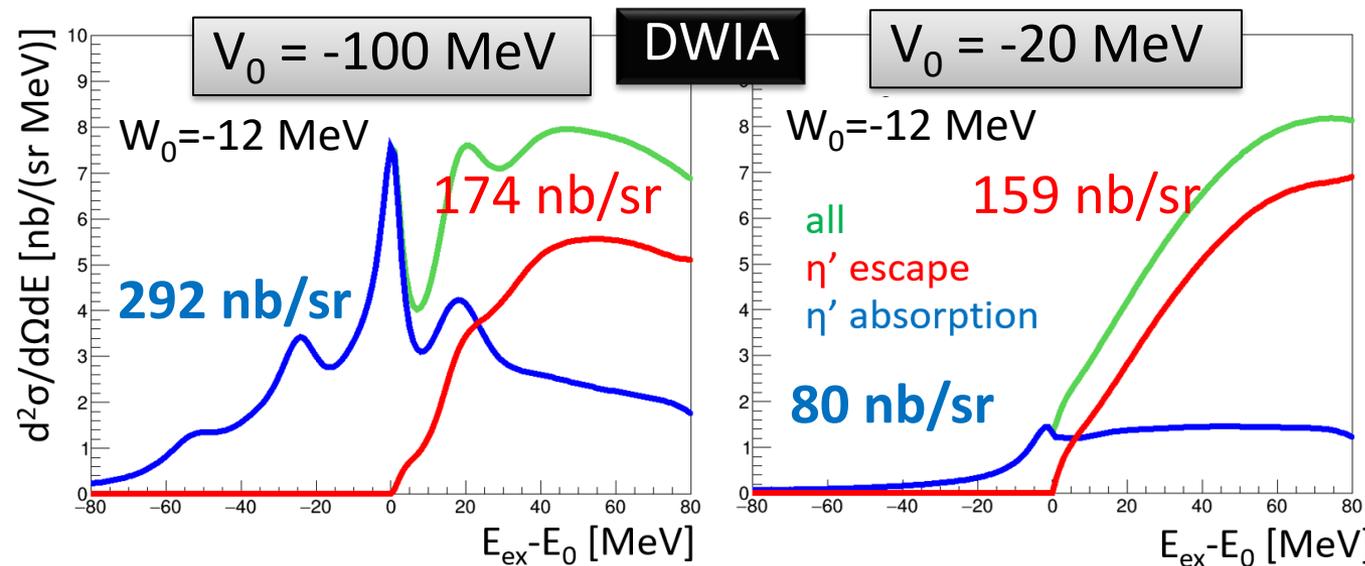


- no  $\eta+p_s$  kinematical cut
- $\eta+p_s$  cut (a)-(c)

No  $(\eta+p_s)$  signals from  $\eta'$  bound state in  $-50 < E_{ex} - E_0 < 50$  MeV

Upper limit: **2.2 nb/sr** @  $\cos(\eta p_s) < -0.9$   
( $E_\gamma = 1.3-2.4$  GeV average)

=> Compare with the DWIA calculation to discuss  $\eta'$ -nucleus potential



=> Small  $V_0$  ?  
Small  $\eta' N \rightarrow \eta N$  branch ?  
Small  $\eta'$  production rate ?

$\eta'$  escape :  
 **$60.2 \pm 15.4$  (stat)  $\pm 4.1$  (syst) nb/sr**  
( $0 < E_{ex} - E_0 < 50$  MeV)

# Theoretical ( $\eta+p_s$ ) cross section

Decomposition

$$\overline{\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega_{pf}}\right)}_{theory}^{\eta+p_s} = F \times \overline{\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega_{pf}}\right)}_{theory}^{\eta'abs} \times Br_{\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N} \times P_{srv}^{\eta p_s}$$

$V_0$	Normalization factor	total $\eta'$ absorption cross section (DWIA)	$\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N$ branch	Probability that $\eta p_s$ is emitted in $\cos(\eta p_s) < -0.9$
-100 MeV	$0.35 \pm 0.09$	292.2 nb/sr	unknown	12.1%
-20 MeV	$0.38 \pm 0.10$	79.7 nb/sr		

- 1 nucleon absorption ( $\eta'N \rightarrow MB$ )  $\geq$  multi nucleon absorption ( $\eta'NN \rightarrow NN$ )

H. Nagahiro *et al.*, PLB 709 (2012) 87

- $\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N$  :  $\sim 80\%$  of 1N abs

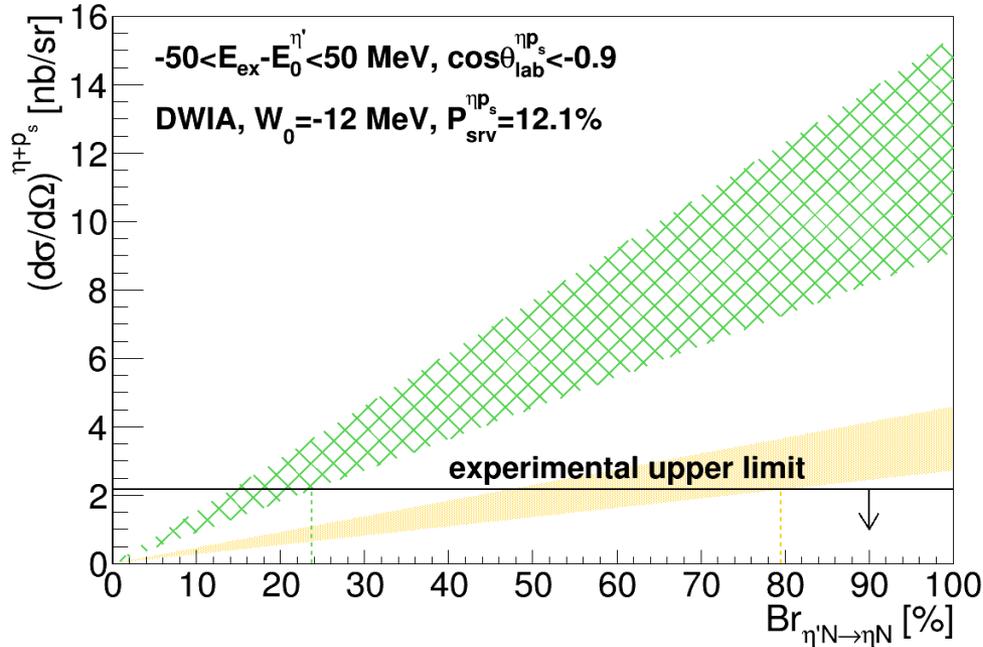
E. Oset and A. Ramos PLB 704 (2011) 334

$\Rightarrow$  Expect  $Br_{\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N} \geq 50\% \times 80\% = 40\%$

- Including both  $\eta'p \rightarrow \eta p$ ,  $\eta'n \rightarrow \eta n$
- Evaluated using QMD
- Consistent with experimental data

# Comparison

$(\eta+p_s)$  cross section



DWIA  $V_0 = -100$  MeV

DWIA  $V_0 = -20$  MeV

Indicate

Small  $\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N$  branch  
 or/and  
 Small  $V_0$



Expectation :  $Br_{\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N} > 40\%$

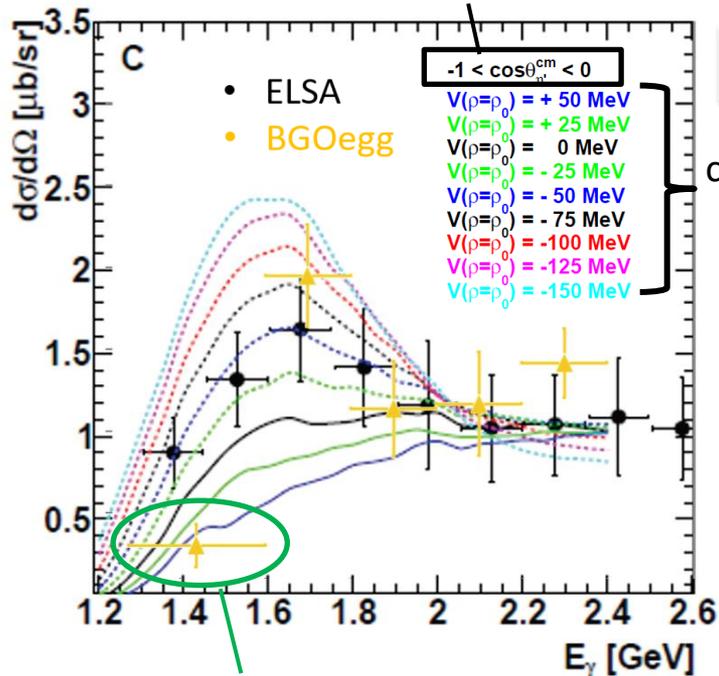
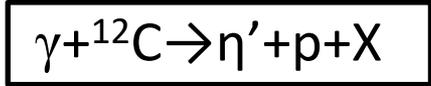


NJL model :  $V_0 = -150$  MeV  
 Linear sigma model =  $-80$  MeV

Consistent with the CBELSA measurement  
 $(V_0 = -(40 \pm 6(\text{stat}) \pm 15(\text{syst}))$  MeV )

# $\eta'$ escape process

$\cos\Theta_{\eta'}^{\text{cm}}$ : defined assuming a proton target (at rest)



We cannot define  $\cos\Theta_{\eta'}^{\text{cm}}$ , below production threshold (1.447 GeV)

## CBELSA

( $\Theta_p \sim 2 \sim 11^\circ$  in lab) M. Nanova et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 54 (2018) 182

collision model

- Evaluated  $\eta'$ -nucleus potential from the comparison with the collision model calculation

⇒ Peak height around 1.7 GeV is important ?

- No momentum measurement of the proton, all excitation energy is included

## BGOegg

( $\Theta_p \sim 0.9 \sim 6.8^\circ$  in lab)

- Same cut conditions as CBELSA's data ( $E_{\eta'} < 500$  MeV,  $\cos\Theta_{\eta'}^{\text{cm}} < 0$ )
- Consistent cross sections except below the threshold where definition of  $\cos\Theta_{\eta'}^{\text{cm}}$  is ambiguous

We can separate  $E_\gamma$  spectrum in different  $E_{\text{ex}} - E_0$  region



BGOegg

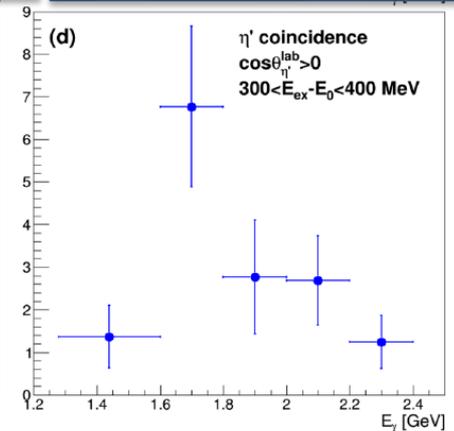
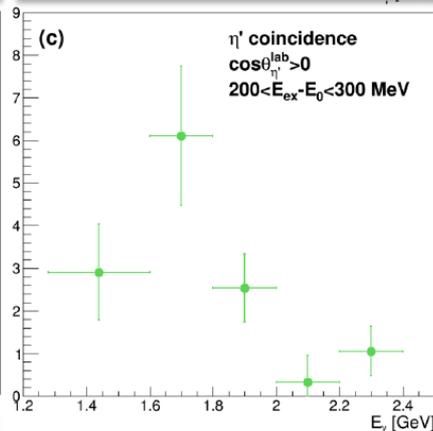
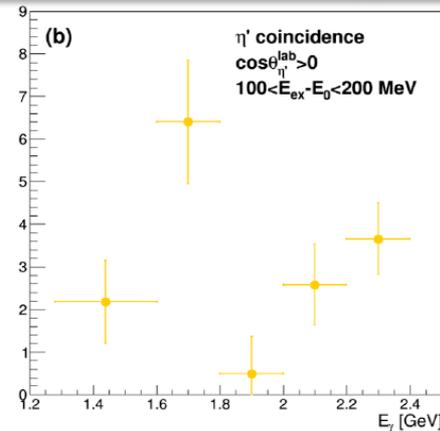
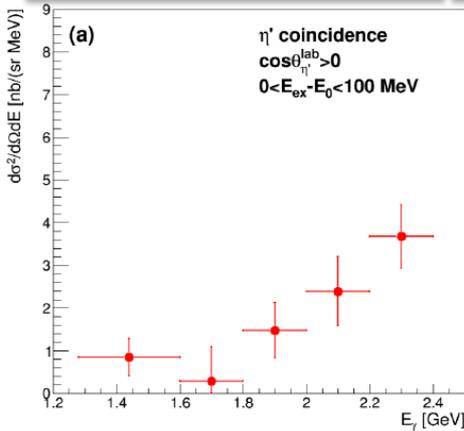
$E_\gamma$  distribution in different  $E_{\text{ex}}-E_0$  region

$0 < E_{\text{ex}} - E_0 < 100$  MeV

$100 < E_{\text{ex}} - E_0 < 200$  MeV

$200 < E_{\text{ex}} - E_0 < 300$  MeV

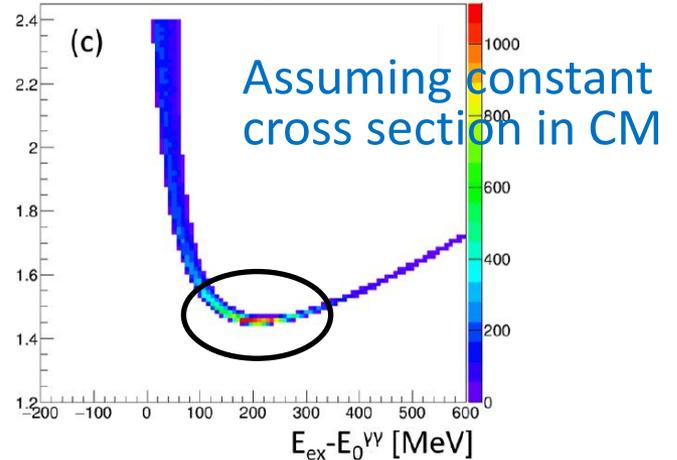
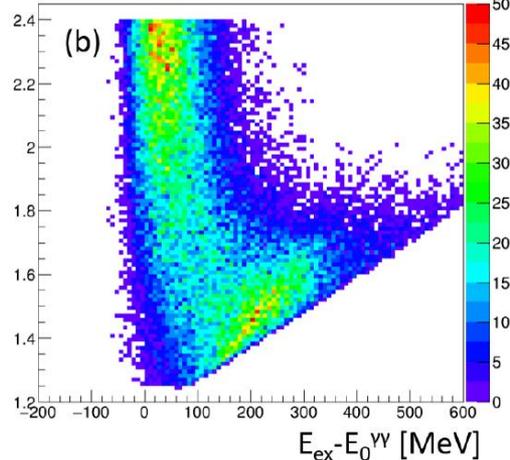
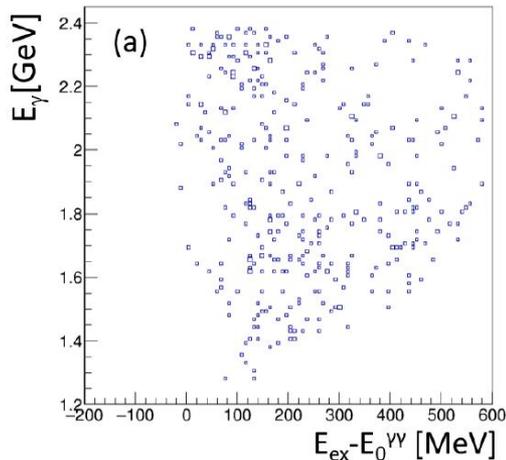
$300 < E_{\text{ex}} - E_0 < 400$  MeV



Data

MC with Fermi motion

MC with a proton target



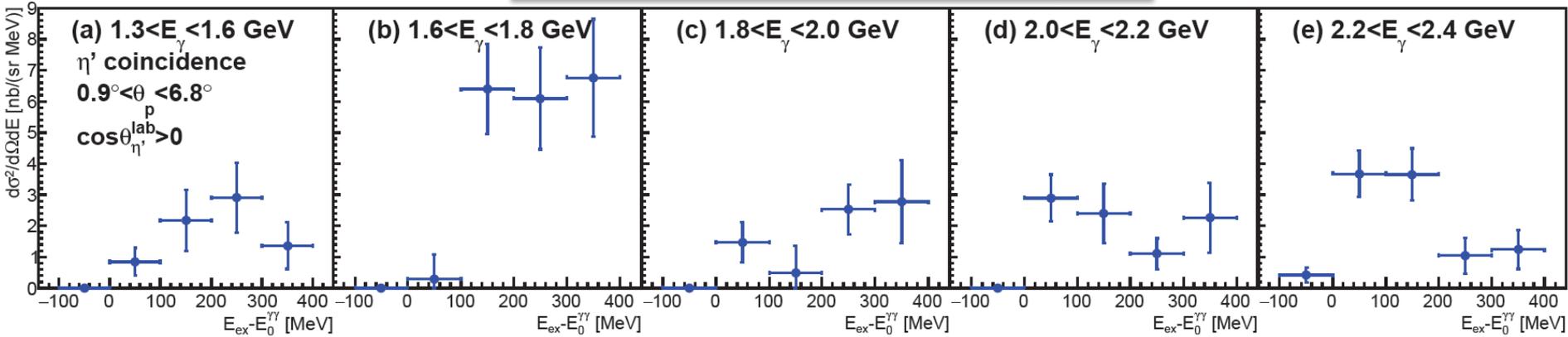
Peak comes from Large CM  $\rightarrow$  Lab factor @ threshold

Collision model calculations in different  $E_{\text{ex}}-E_0$  regions are desired



BGOegg

$E_{\text{ex}} - E_0$  distributions of different  $E_\gamma$

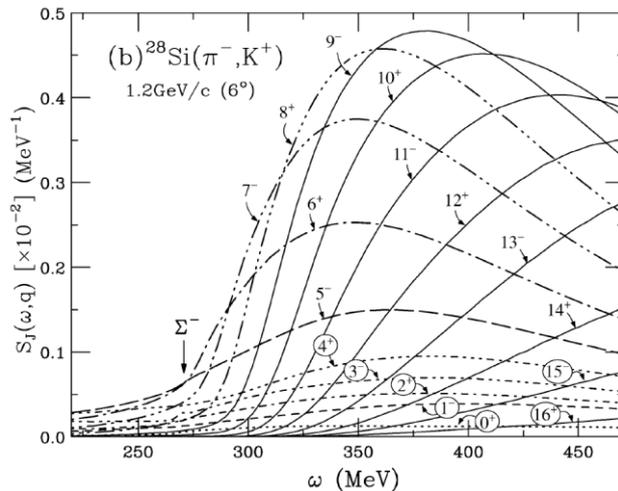


Can be compared with DWIA calculations with large  $\eta'$  orbit  $L_{\eta'}$

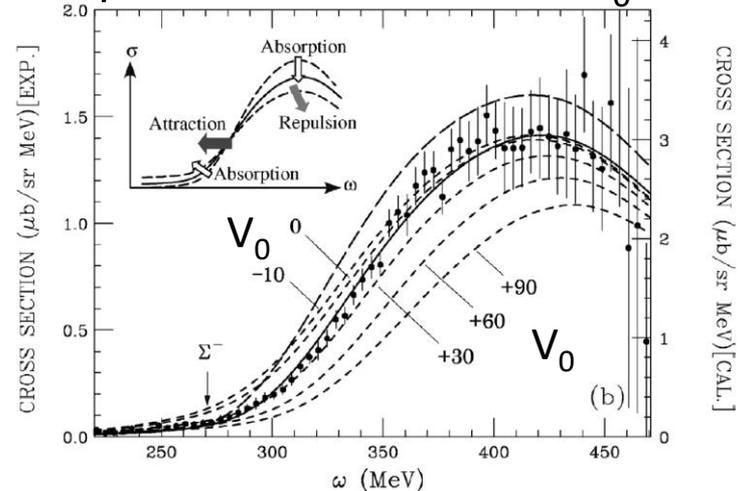
cf)  $\Sigma$ -nucleus potential

T. Harada and Y. Hirabayashi, Nucl. Phys. A 759 (2005) 143

Calculation up to  $L = 16$



Comparison with different  $V_0$  cases



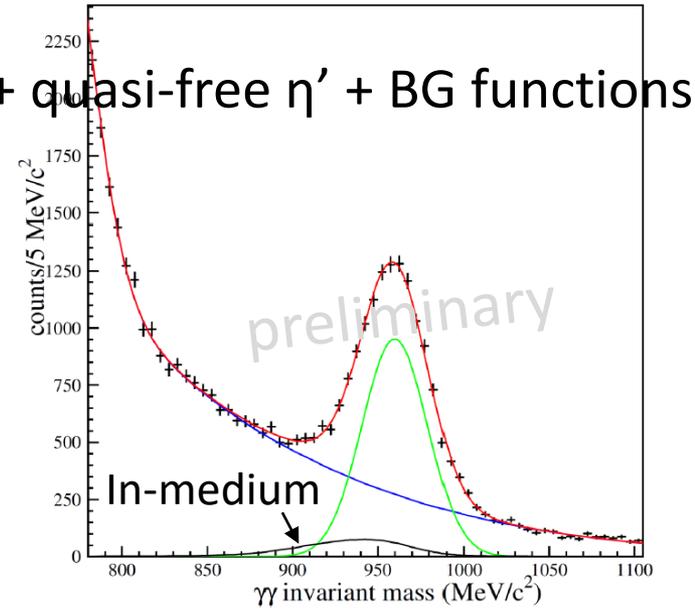
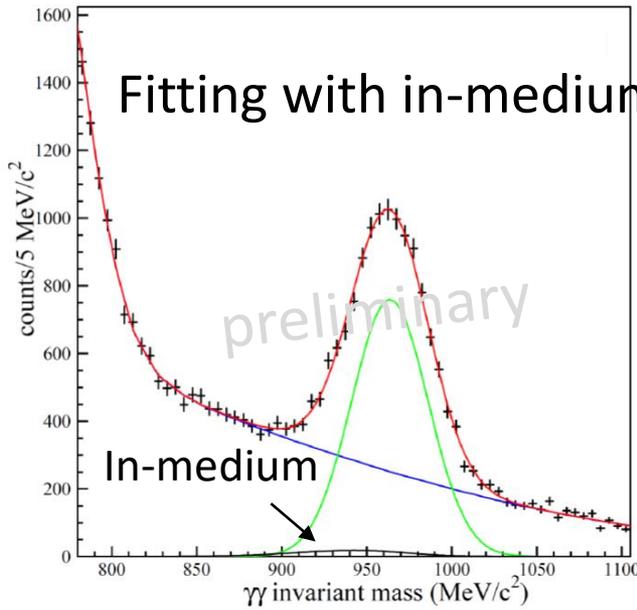
# Direct measurement of $\eta'$ mass spectrum

- $\gamma + {}^{12}\text{C} \rightarrow \eta' + X, \eta' \rightarrow 2\gamma$  (2.2%)

$2\gamma$  invariant mass spectra (2015 data)

$p_{\eta'} > 1000 \text{ MeV}/c$

$p_{\eta'} < 1000 \text{ MeV}/c$



$\chi^2$  difference test

signal significance  $0.9\sigma$

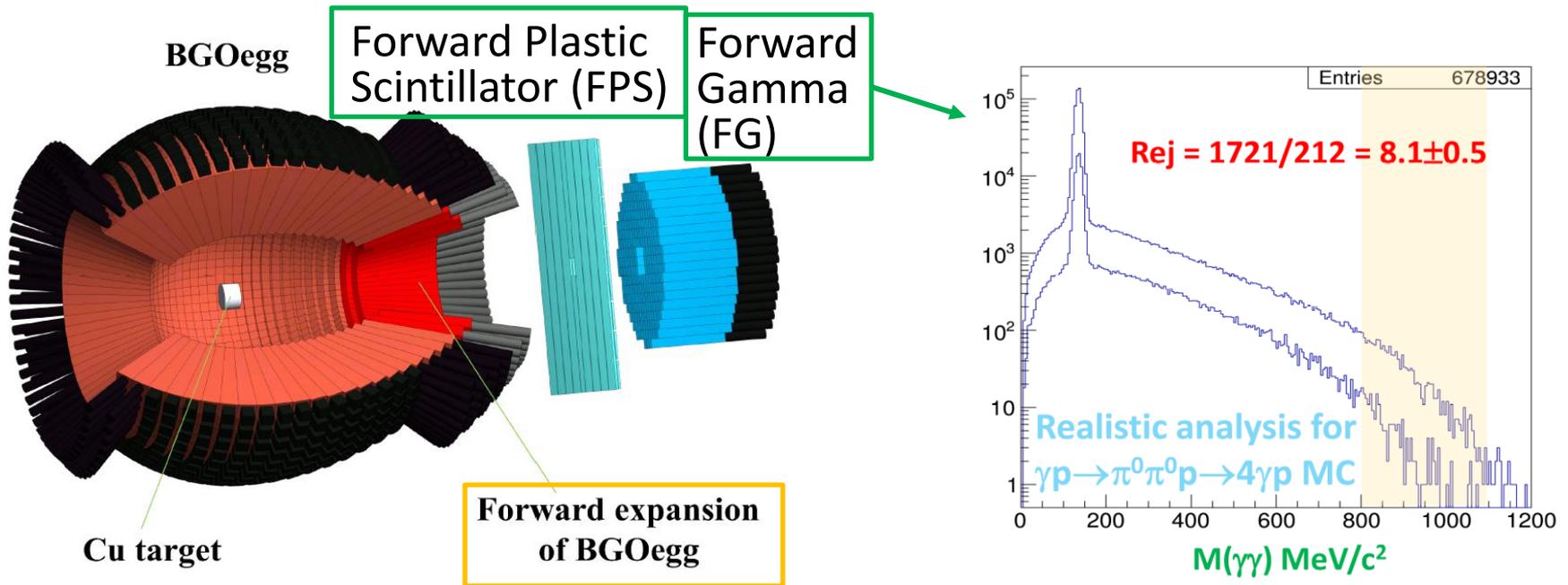
signal significance  $3.7\sigma$

## Next step

- Analysis of 2016 data  $\rightarrow$  Increase statistics x2
- Phase-II experiment with reduced BG

# Phase-II experiment

- Additional calorimeter in the forward hole of the BGOegg
  1. FPS, FG : BG  $\times$  1/8
  2. Expansion of BGOegg : BG  $\times$  1/40
- Change the target : C(20 mm)  $\rightarrow$  Cu(7 mm)  
 $R_{\text{nucleus}} \times 1.8$ , # of nucleons  $\times 1.8$ ,  $\sigma(M_{\gamma\gamma}) \times 0.6$



- 2022 : Installation of readout system of FPS and FG
- 2023 : Data taking
- 2024 : Forward expansion of BGOegg

# Summary

Study of  $\eta'$  in medium in the LEPS2/BGOegg experiment

Phase-I (2014-2016)

1.  $\eta'$ -nucleus bound state search

- First simultaneous measurement of decay products ( $\eta$ -p)
- No signal events after kinematical selection
- Indicate small  $V_0$  or small  $\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N$  branch
- Measurement of escaping  $\eta'$  is also interesting

2. Direct measurement of  $\eta'$  mass in nuclei

- Indication of in-medium modification

Phase-II (2022-)

- Additional calorimeters in the forward hole of the BGOegg
- Direct measurement of  $\eta'$  mass with small background level