

JLab Hypernuclear Collaboration Meeting 2022

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# $\eta'$ production (E12-17-003)

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## ◆ Introduction

- What's the  $\eta'$  meson?
- $\eta'$ -production off a nucleon / off nuclei
- Electroproduction of the  $\eta'$  meson in the JLab hypernuclear experiment

## ◆ Experiment – E12-17-003 (2018)

## ◆ Analysis Status

- Event selection by the  $Z_{\text{vertex}}$  and coincidence time distributions
- Missing mass spectrum of the  $p(e,e'p)X$  reaction
- Cross section (Preliminary)

## ◆ Summary and Future Prospect

## ◆ What's the $\eta'$ meson?



A member of the pseudoscalar meson nonet

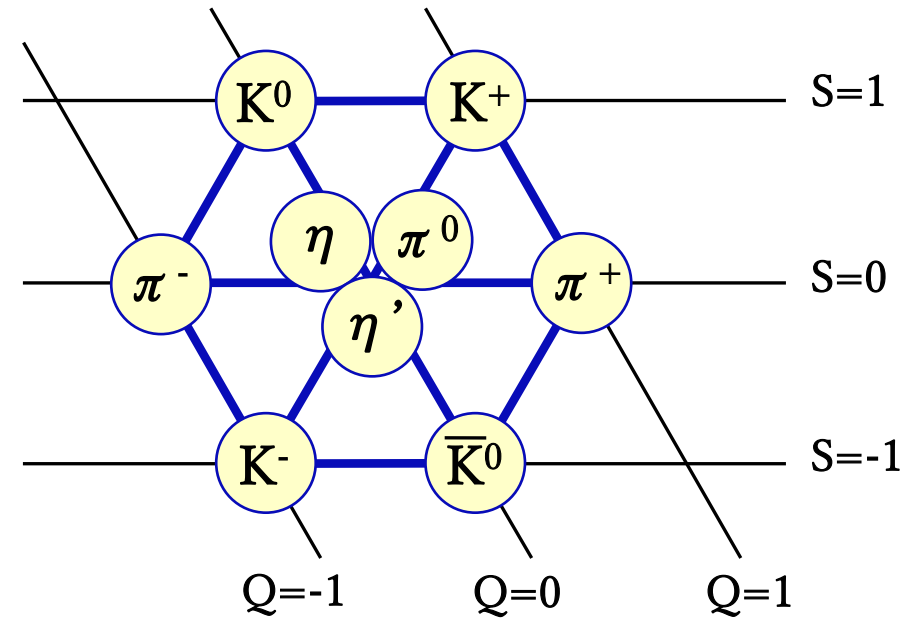
Mass: 958 MeV/c<sup>2</sup> Strangeness: 0 Isospin: 0

The  $q\bar{q}$  composition in  $SU_f(3)$ :  $3 \otimes \bar{3} = 8 \oplus 1$

$$\pi^0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (u\bar{u} - d\bar{d}) \quad : \quad I = 1, I_3 = 0$$

$$\eta_8 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (u\bar{u} + d\bar{d} - 2s\bar{s}) \approx \eta \quad : \quad I = 0$$

$$\eta_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (u\bar{u} + d\bar{d} + s\bar{s}) \approx \eta' \quad : \quad I = 0$$



It has much larger mass by  $U_A(1)$  anomaly in QCD.

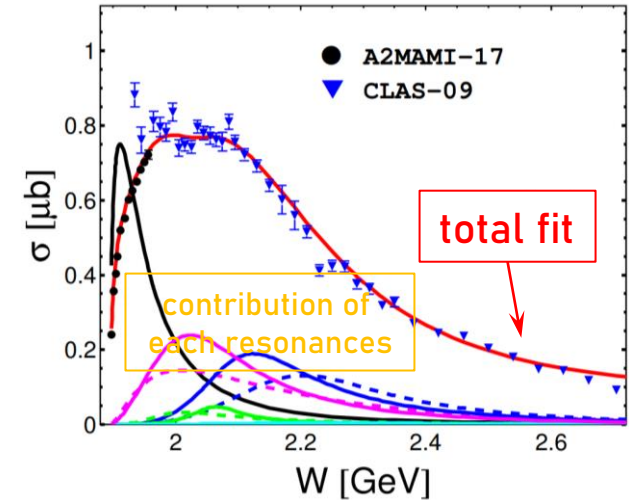
## ◆ $\eta'$ -production off a nucleon ( $A=1$ )

- Couples to the nucleon resonances only with isospin  $I = 1/2$
- Photoproduction data ( $Q^2 = 0$ ) : CLAS, A2MAMI, CBELSA/TAPS
- Theories to fit and reproduce the photo-pro. data (EtaMAID, etc.)
- Scarce electroproduction data ( $Q^2 > 0$ ): accessible (in backward angle) as a by-product in the hypernuclear spectroscopy.

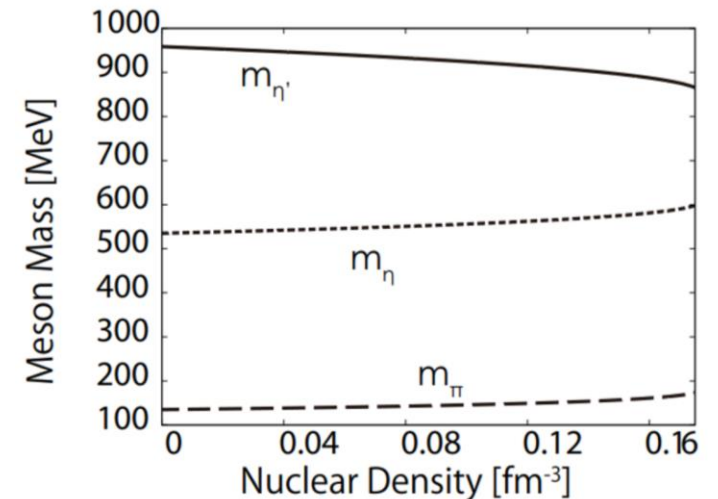
## ◆ off nuclei ( $A \geq 2$ )

- Mass reduction in the nuclear density ( $-40 \text{ MeV}/c^2 \sim -150 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ , model dependent) due to partial restoration of the chiral symmetry
- Strong attractive interaction between  $\eta'$  and nuclei (??)
- Searching for the  $\eta'$  mesic nuclei at GSI and SPring-8

L. Tiator et.al., Eur.Phys.. A 54 (2018), 210.

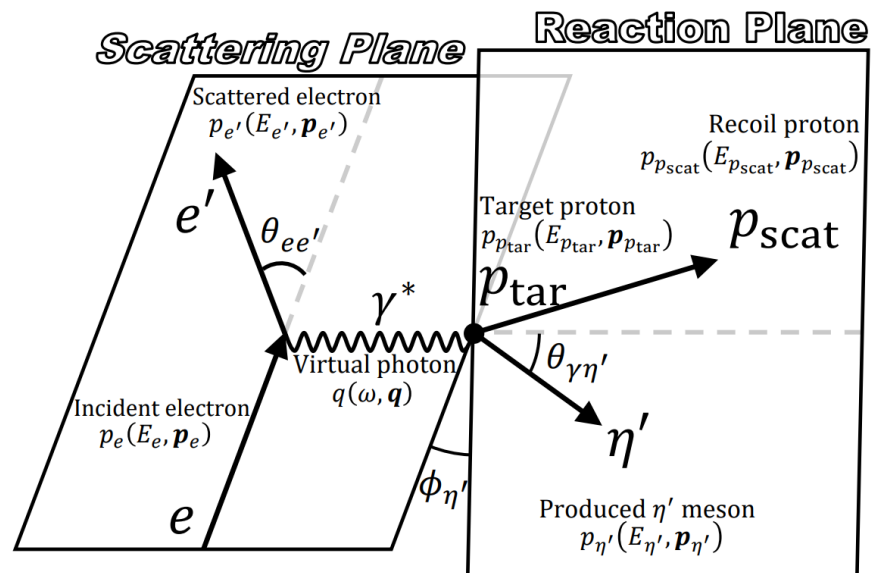


S. Sakai and D. Jido, PRC 88 (2013), 064906.



## ◆ $\eta'$ -electroproduction in the JLab hypernuclear experiment

- The  $e^- + p \rightarrow e^- + p + \eta'$  reaction (besides the  $e^- + p \rightarrow e^- + \Lambda + K^+$ ) in the same dataset.
- Understandable by extension from the real photon reaction:



The triple differential cross section of the electroproduction:

$$\frac{d^3\sigma}{dE_{e'} d\Omega_{e'} d\Omega_{\eta'}^{CM}} = \Gamma \left( \frac{d\sigma_{\gamma^*}}{d\Omega_{\eta'}^{CM}} \right)$$

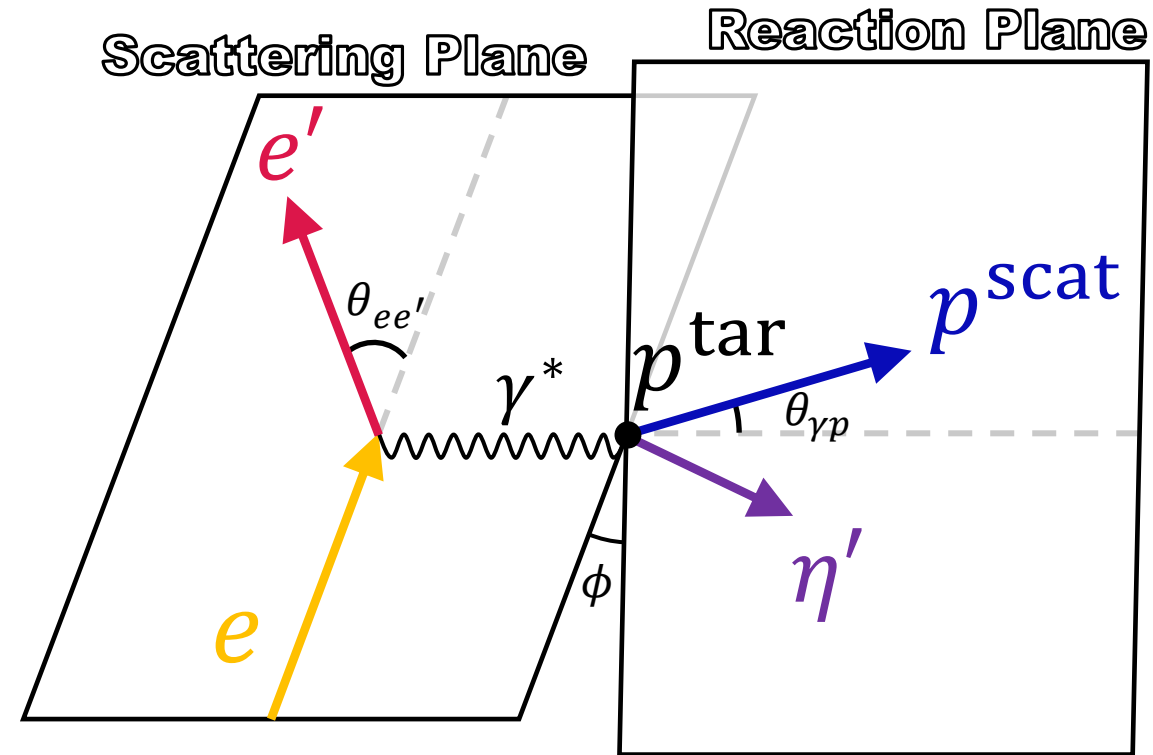
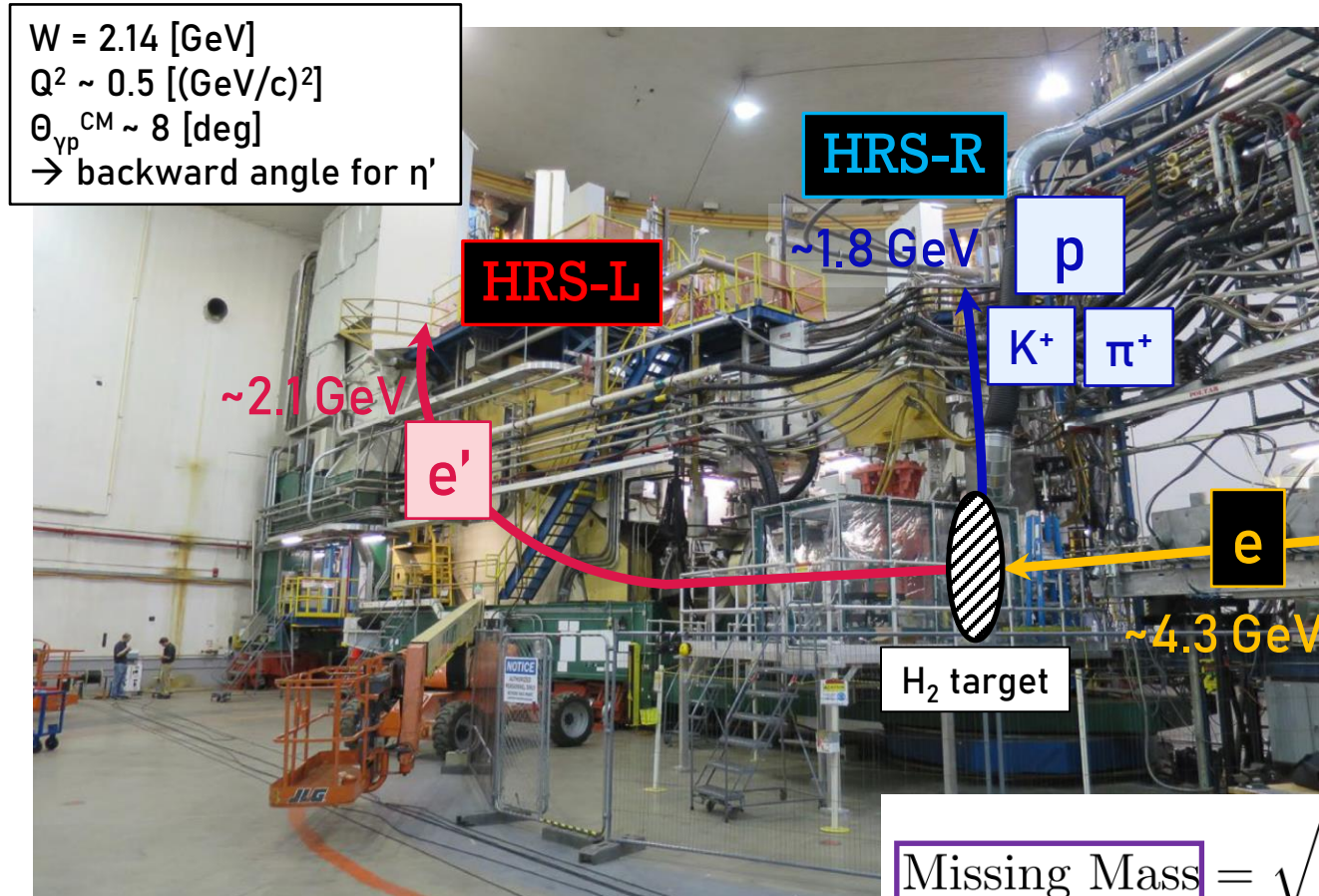
flux of virtual photons  
with the electron scattering

$\eta'$  production  
by the virtual photon ( $\gamma^*$ )

- Measuring the  $\eta'$  generated at a backward angle (almost 180 deg.) relative to the photon in the CM frame (= we can see slower  $\eta'$ )

## ◆ JLab E12-17-003 (the $nn\Lambda$ state search in 2018)

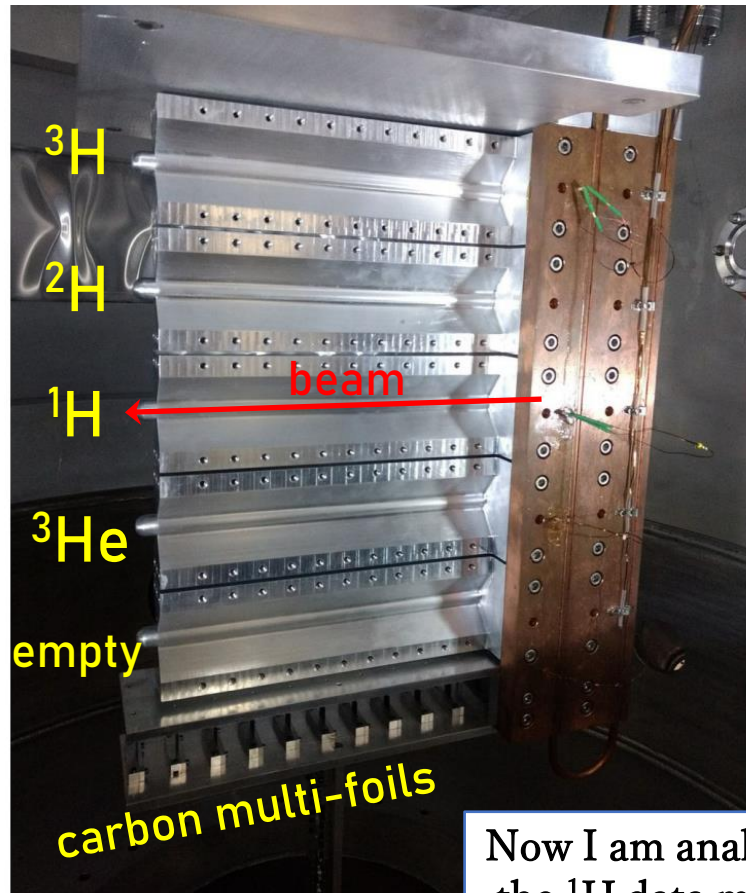
↳ the  $e^- + p \rightarrow e^- + p + \eta'$  reaction in the same dataset



$$\text{Missing Mass} = \sqrt{\{(E_e - E_{e'}) + M_p - E_{p_{\text{scat}}}\}^2 - \{(\mathbf{p}_e - \mathbf{p}_{e'}) - \mathbf{p}_{p_{\text{scat}}}\}^2}$$

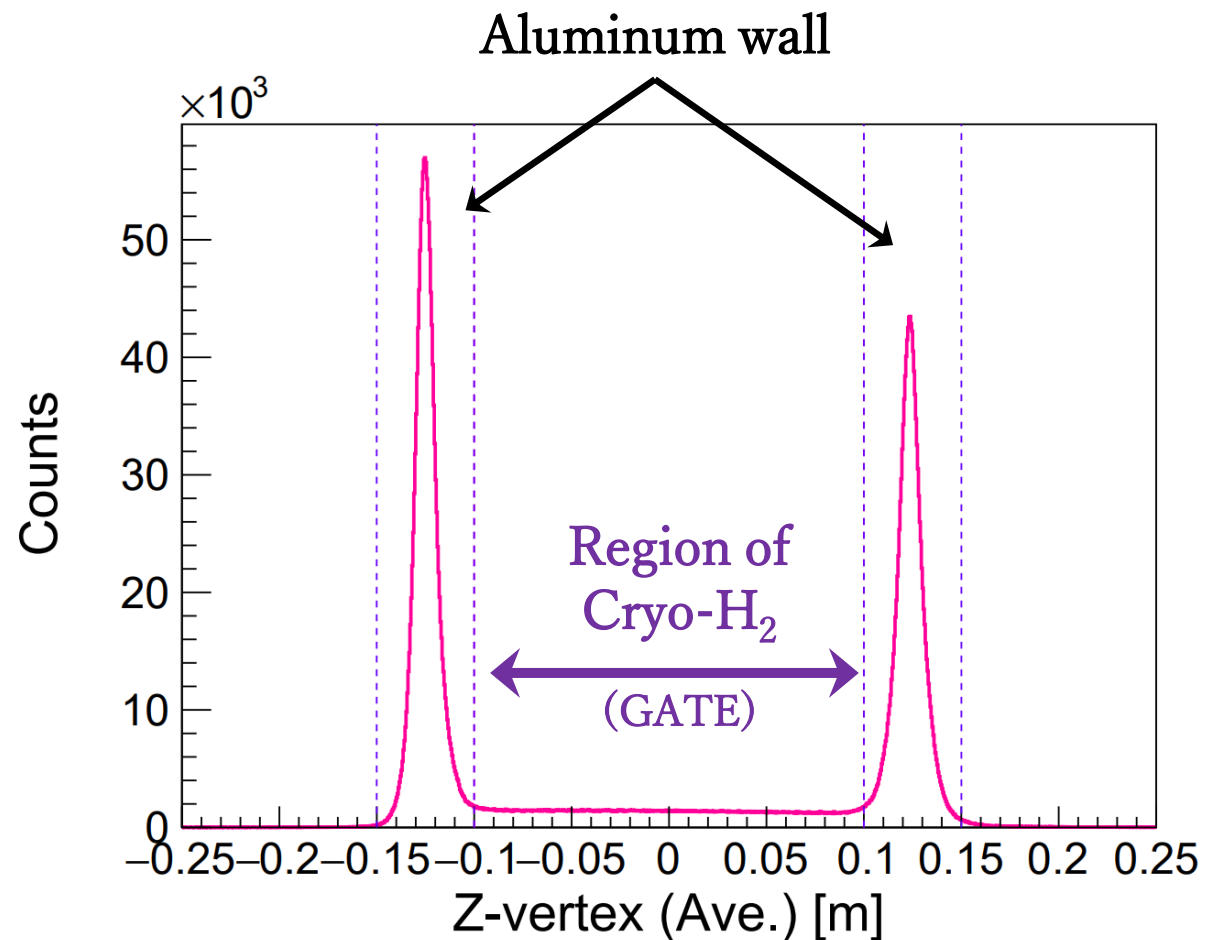
## ◆ Target system

S.N. Santiesteban et.al., NIMA 940 (2019), 351-358.

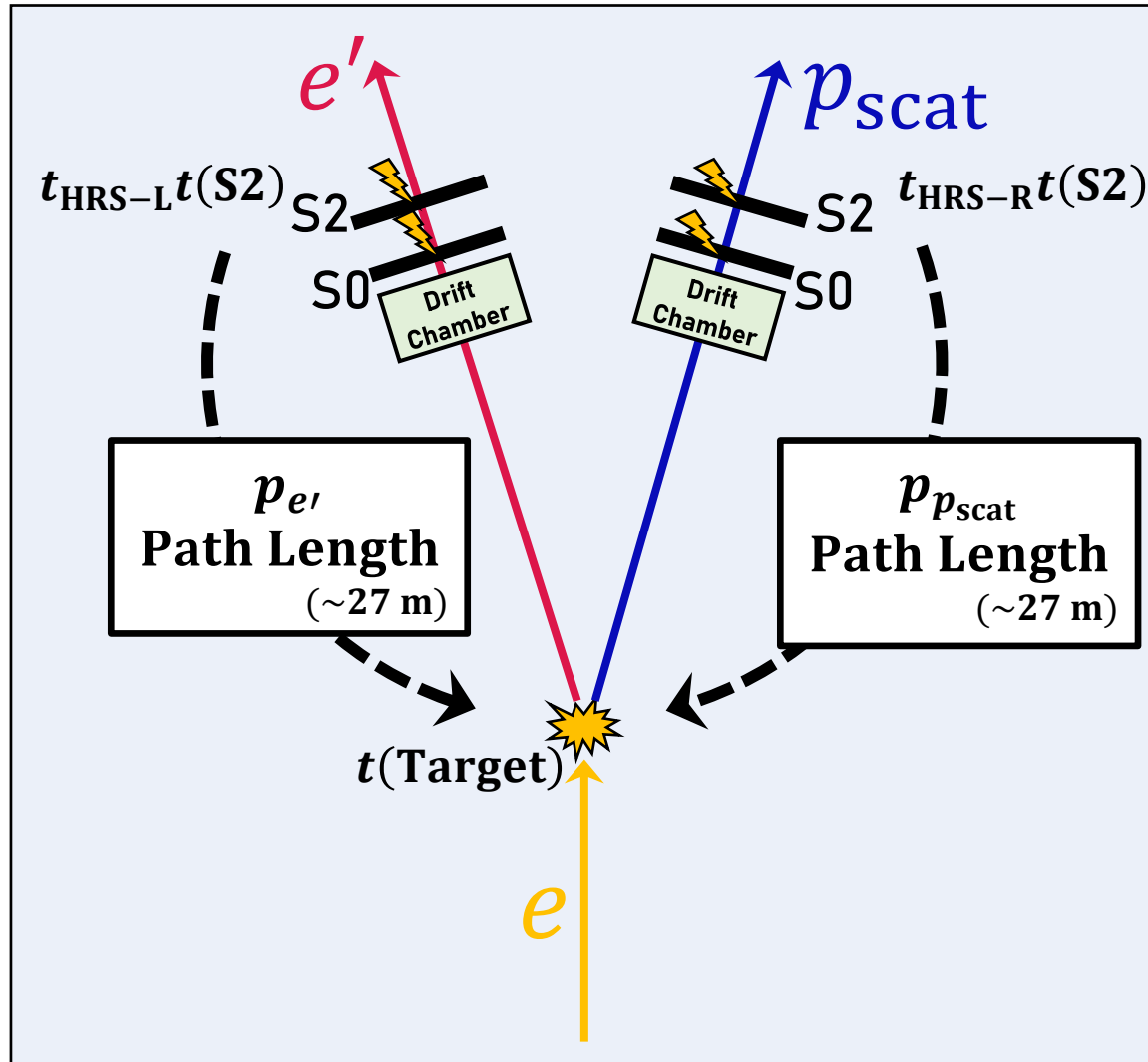


Now I am analyzing  
the  $^1\text{H}$  data mainly

## ◆ Event selection by $Z_{\text{vertex}}$ cut



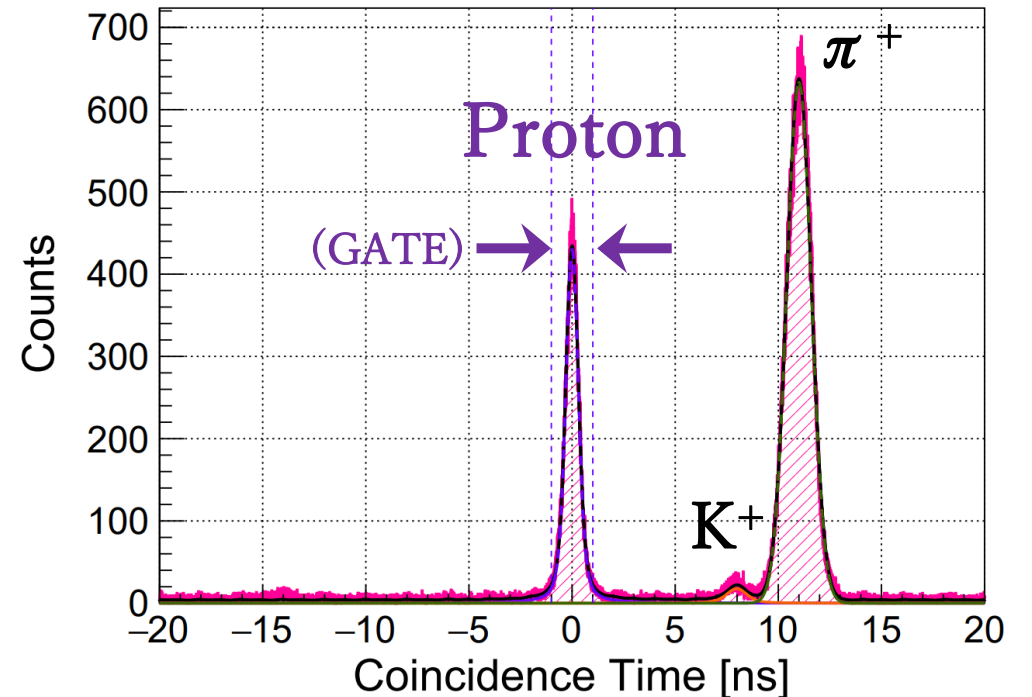
## ◆ Particle ID by the Coincidence Time



$$\text{Coincidence Time} := t_{\text{HRS-L}}(\text{Target}) - t_{\text{HRS-R}}(\text{Target}),$$

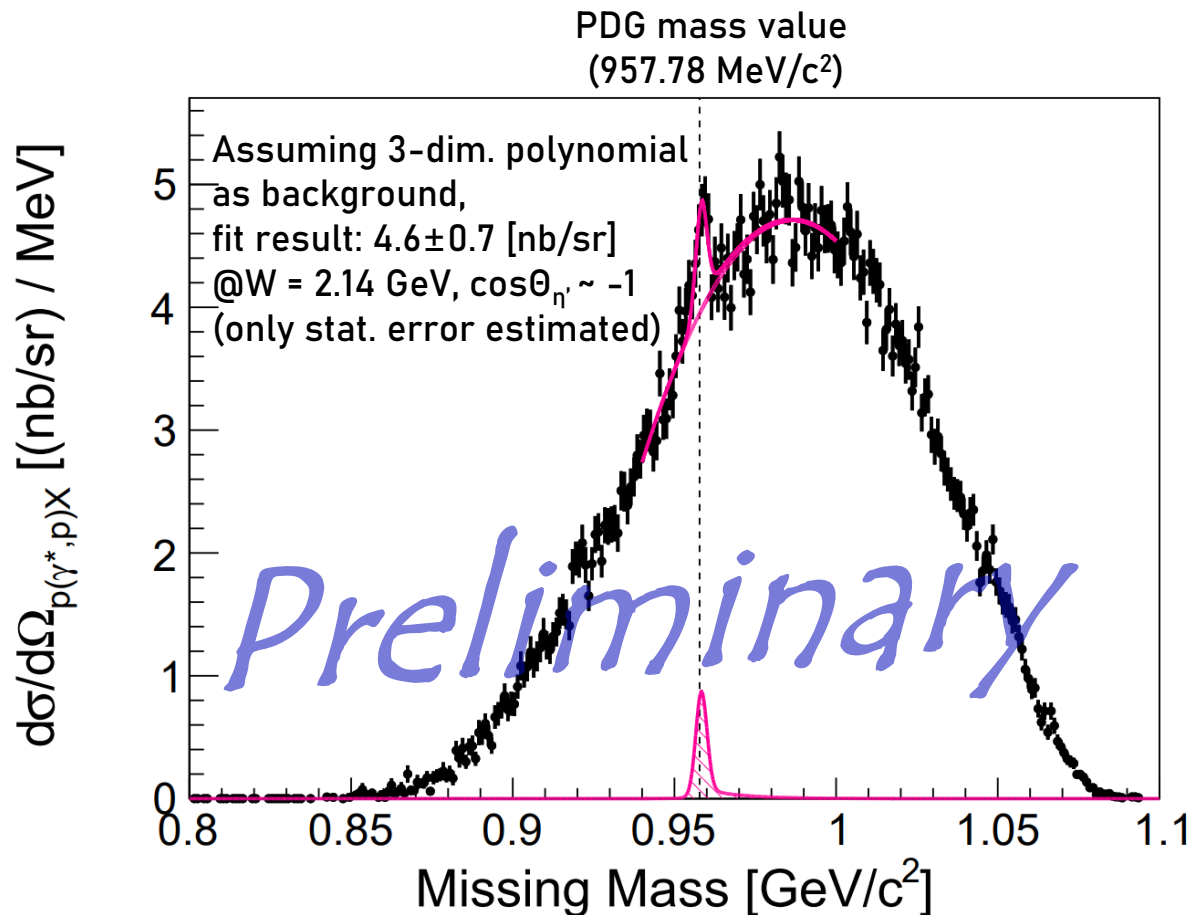
$$t(\text{Target}) = t(\text{S2}) - \frac{\text{Path Length}}{\beta c}$$

$$= t(\text{S2}) - \frac{\sqrt{p^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4} \times \text{Path Length}}{pc^2}$$





## ◆ Missing mass spectrum of the $p(e,e'p)X$ reaction



$$\left( \frac{d\sigma_{\gamma^* p \rightarrow pX}}{d\Omega_p} \right) \simeq \frac{1}{N_{\text{Target}}} \cdot \frac{1}{N_{\gamma^*}} \cdot \frac{1}{\bar{\varepsilon}} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{accept}}} \frac{1}{\varepsilon_i^{\text{DAQ}} \cdot \Delta\Omega_{\text{HRS-R}}(p_{p_{\text{scat}}}, z)}$$

$$\bar{\varepsilon} := \varepsilon^{\text{Zvertex}} \cdot \varepsilon^{\text{AC}} \cdot \varepsilon^{\text{CoinTime}} \cdot \varepsilon^{\text{FP}} \cdot \varepsilon^{\text{Single}} \cdot \varepsilon^{\text{Track}} \cdot \varepsilon^{\chi^2} \cdot \varepsilon^{\text{Detector}}$$

where the  $N_{\gamma^*}$  can be obtained by integrating the virtual photon flux  $\Gamma$  within the acceptance of HRS-L and the total beam charge,

The virtual photon flux:  $\Gamma = \frac{\alpha}{2\pi^2 Q^2} \frac{E_\gamma}{1 - \varepsilon} \frac{E_{e'}}{E_e}$

$$\varepsilon = \left[ 1 + 2 \frac{|\mathbf{q}|^2}{Q^2} \tan^2 \left( \frac{\theta_{ee'}}{2} \right) \right]^{-1}$$

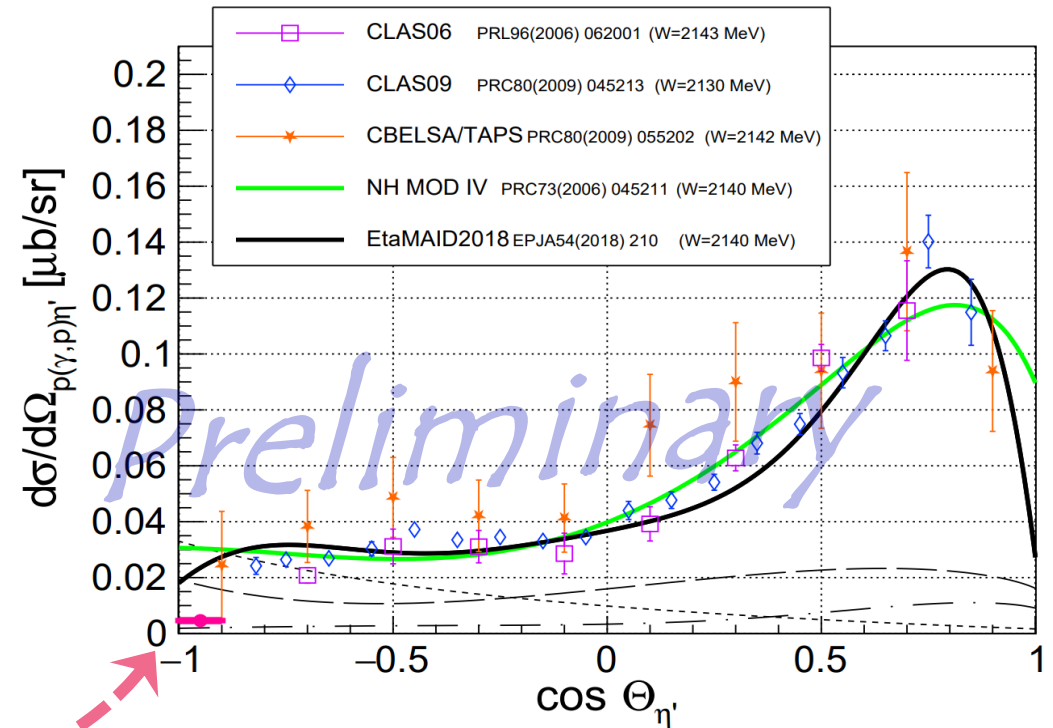
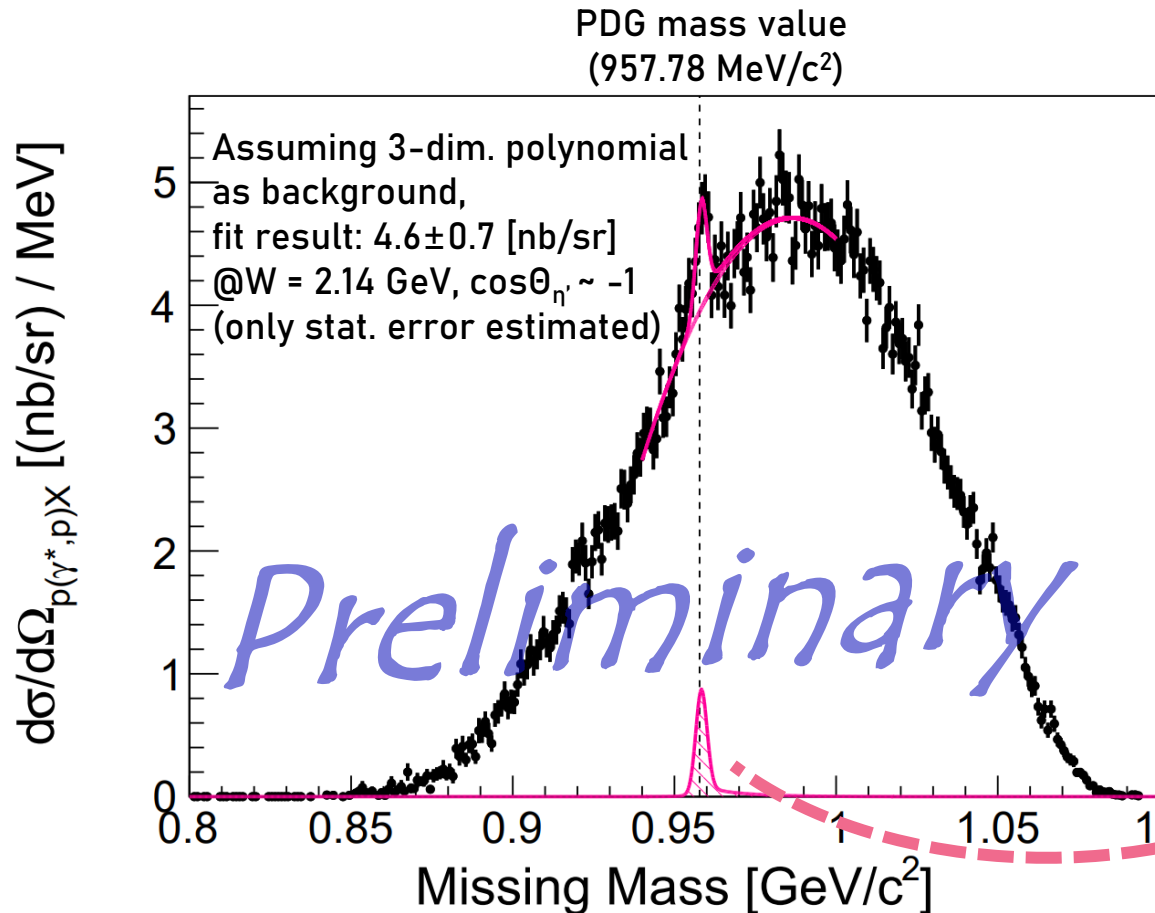
$$\varepsilon_L = \varepsilon \frac{Q^2}{\omega^2}$$

$$Q^2 = -q^2 = 2E_e E_{e'} - 2m_e^2 - 2|\mathbf{p}_e| |\mathbf{p}_{e'}| \cos\theta_{ee'}$$

$$E_\gamma = \omega + \frac{q^2}{2m_p}$$

Four-momenta of the virtual photon:  $q = (\omega, \mathbf{q}) = (E_e - E_{e'}, \mathbf{p}_e - \mathbf{p}_{e'})$

## ◆ Missing mass spectrum of the $p(e,e'p)X$ reaction



- Theoretical calculation for  $Q^2 > 0$  needs discussion
- Estimation of Sys.error etc. ongoing

## Summary

- $\eta'$  production has been studied from the interest of  $N^*$  coupling and/or  $\eta'N$  interaction.
- Our data from JLab hypernuclear experiments include  $\eta'$  production events with the  $(e,e'p)$  reactions (in particular, at relatively low  $Q^2$  and  $\cos\Theta_{\eta'} \sim -1$ ).
- I am currently deriving the differential cross section off the proton target and comparing it with the theoretical calculation and other experiments for the photoproduction.

## Future Prospect

- We should be able to find the upper limit of the  $\eta'$ -nuclei cross section by analyzing the data of the other targets ( $^3\text{H}$ , Al-cell, carbon multifoil) or in the experiments at Hall-C.
- Understanding of the elementary process off the proton target will be the basis of for the interpretation of the results.