



18th International Workshop on Meson Physics

25th - 30th June 2026, Kraków, Poland

Organized by Jagiellonian University,
GSI Helmholtz Centre for Heavy Ion Research,
INFN-LNF Frascati, Institute of Nuclear Physics PAS

Organizers:

Catalina Curceanu	INFN-LNF Frascati	(Chair)
James Ritman	GSI Darmstadt / RU-Bochum	(Chair)
Piotr Salabura	Jagiellonian University	(Chair)
Sean Dobbs	Florida State University	
Andrzej Kupś	Uppsala University	
Joachim Stroth	GSI / Goethe University of Frankfurt	
Antoni Szczurek	Institute of Nuclear Physics PAS	
Damian Gil	Jagiellonian University	(Scientific Secretary)
Rafał Lalik	Jagiellonian University	(Scientific Secretary)

Advisory Committee:

Marco Battaglieri	INFN Genova
Andrea Dainese	INF Padova
Achim Denig	University of Mainz
Alessandro Drago	University of Ferrara
Laura Fabbietti	Technical University of Munich
Christian Fischer	University of Giessen
Avraham Gal	Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Tanja Horn	The Catholic University of America
Daisuke Jido	Tokio Institute of Technology
Takashi Nakano	Osaka University
Hiroyuki Nuomi	Osaka University
Eulogio Oset	University of Valencia
Angels Ramos	University of Barcelona, ICCUB
Beatrice Ramstein	IPN Orsay
Craig D. Roberts	Argonne National Laboratory
Hartmut Schmiieden	University of Bonn
Karin Schönning	Uppsala University
Xiaoyan Shen	Institute of High Energy Physics CAS Beijing
Matt Shepherd	Indiana University
Adam Szczepaniak	Indiana University
Ulrike Thoma	Osaka University
Eberhard Widmann	Austrian Academy of Sciences Vienna
Bing Song Zou	Tsinghua University

Mailing address:
MESON2026 Workshop, Uniwersytet Jagielloński,
Instytut Fizyki, ul. Łojasiewicza 11, 30-348 Kraków, Poland
phone: +48 12 664 45 87, +48 12 664 47 11
e-mail: meson@if.uj.edu.pl



<https://meson.if.uj.edu.pl>



Meson spectroscopy at Jefferson Lab

M. Battaglieri
INFN

What we do not know

1. What is the nature of the mass of hadrons?

Quarks account for only a small fraction of the mass of the proton ($m_u=1.7-3.3$ MeV, $m_d=4.1-5.8$ MeV): what leads to the \sim GeV mass?

2. Which are the relevant degrees of freedom?

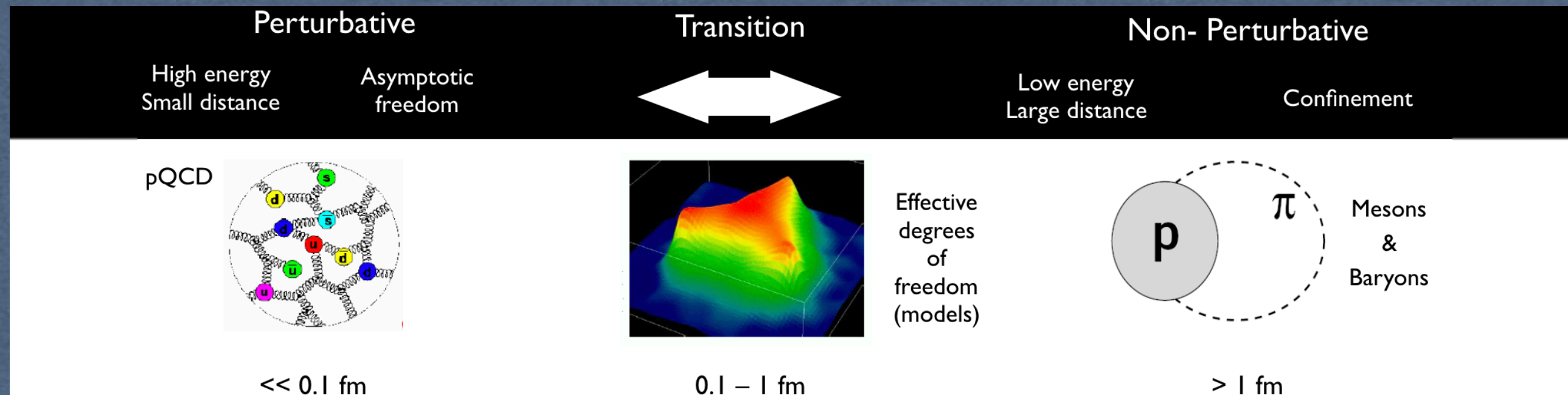
At high energy, phenomena can be described in terms of quarks and gluons; at low energy, we observed baryons and mesons: what are the real degrees of freedom, and how does the transition from small to large distances occur?

3. What is the origin of confinement?

Are quarks confined within colorless objects? Can we prove and explain it?

4. Do quark configurations beyond qqq and $qq\text{-bar}$ exist?

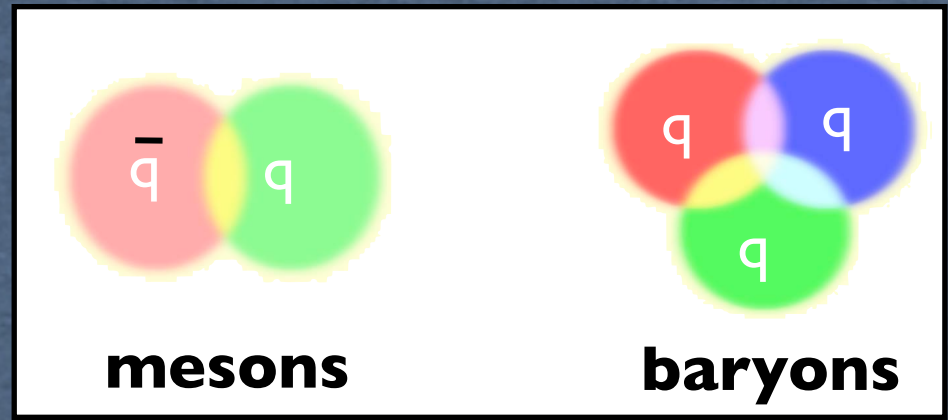
The theory of strong interactions does not prohibit hadronic states with different quark configurations ($5q$, gg , $2qg$). Can we find evidence of the existence of such states?



Studying the spectrum of hadrons is a fundamental step to understanding the characteristics of constituents and forces

What we know

Observed mesons and baryons well described by 1st principles QCD



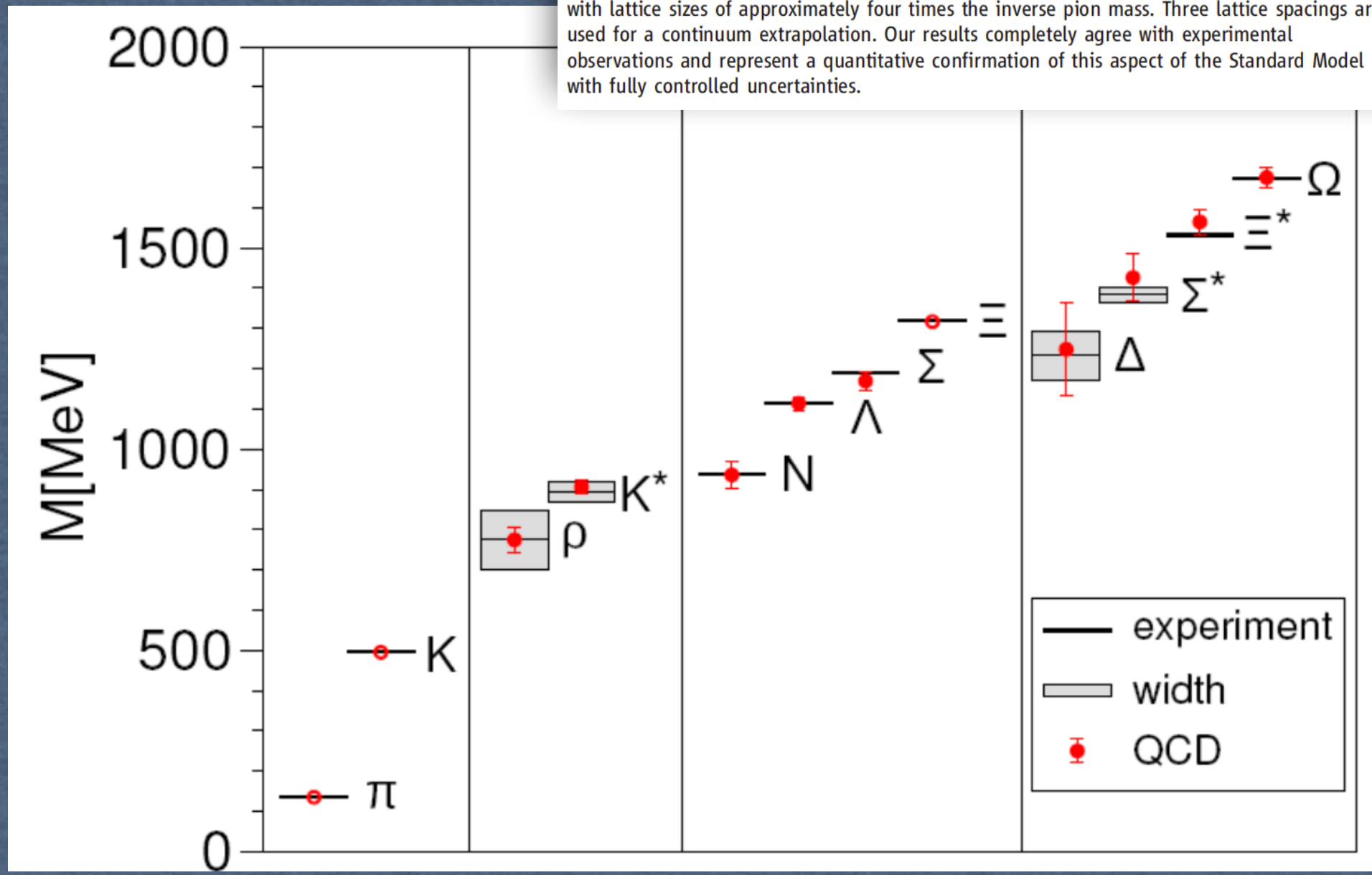
Quarks are confined inside colorless hadrons they combine to 'neutralize' color force

Ab Initio Determination of Light Hadron Masses

S. Dürr,¹ Z. Fodor,^{1,2,3} J. Frison,⁴ C. Hoelbling,^{2,3,4} R. Hoffmann,² S. D. Katz,^{2,3} S. Krieg,² T. Kurth,² L. Lellouch,⁴ T. Lippert,^{2,5} K. K. Szabo,² G. Vulvert⁴

More than 99% of the mass of the visible universe is made up of protons and neutrons. Both particles are much heavier than their quark and gluon constituents, and the Standard Model of particle physics should explain this difference. We present a full ab initio calculation of the masses of protons, neutrons, and other light hadrons, using lattice quantum chromodynamics. Pion masses down to 190 mega-electron volts are used to extrapolate to the physical point, with lattice sizes of approximately four times the inverse pion mass. Three lattice spacings are used for a continuum extrapolation. Our results completely agree with experimental observations and represent a quantitative confirmation of this aspect of the Standard Model with fully controlled uncertainties.

Science 21 Nov 2008:
Vol. 322, Issue 5905, pp. 1224-1227
DOI: 10.1126/science.1163233



X	Experimental (28)	M_X (Ξ set)	M_X (Ω set)
ρ	0.775	0.775 (29) (13)	0.778 (30) (33)
K^*	0.894	0.906 (14) (4)	0.907 (15) (8)
N	0.939	0.936 (25) (22)	0.953 (29) (19)
Λ	1.116	1.114 (15) (5)	1.103 (23) (10)
Σ	1.191	1.169 (18) (15)	1.157 (25) (15)
Ξ	1.318	1.318	1.317 (16) (13)
Δ	1.232	1.248 (97) (61)	1.234 (82) (81)
Σ^*	1.385	1.427 (46) (35)	1.404 (38) (27)
Ξ^*	1.533	1.565 (26) (15)	1.561 (15) (15)
Ω	1.672	1.676 (20) (15)	1.672

What we know (light q)

Constituent Quark Model

- Quark-antiquark pairs with total spin $S=0,1$ and orbital angular momentum L

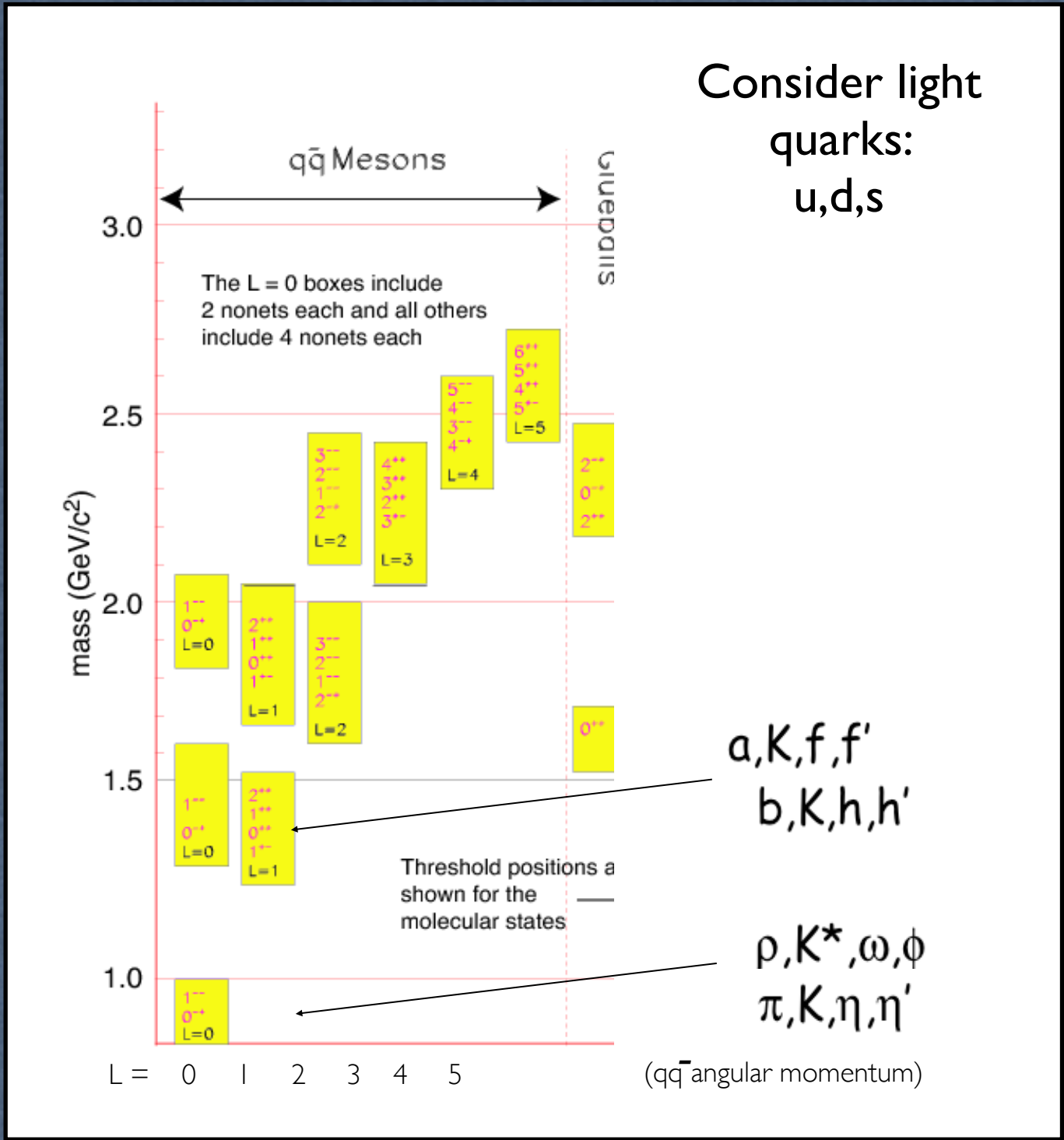
$S = S_1 + S_2$ $J = L + S$
 $P = (-1)^{L+1}$ $C = (-1)^{L+S}$

Not all the J^{PC} combinations are allowed:
 0^{++} 0^{+-} 0^{-+} 0^{--} 1^{++} 1^{+-} 1^{-+} 1^{--} 2^{++} 2^{+-} 2^{-+} 2^{--} 3^{++} 3^{+-} 3^{-+} 3^{--} ...

- SU(3) flavor symmetry \rightarrow nonet ($8 \oplus 1$) of degenerate states

$J^{PC} = 0^{-+}$	$\Rightarrow (\pi, K, \eta, \eta')$	
1^{--}	$\Rightarrow (\rho, K^*, \omega, \Phi)$	
1^{+-}	$\Rightarrow (b_1, K_1, h_1, h_1')$	
...		

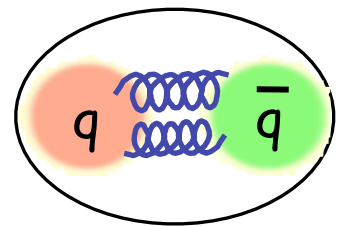
- Great success in describing the lower mass states
- but, a number of predicted states is not experimentally observed and assignments are uncertain



The gluons and the hadron spectrum

- Understanding gluonic excitations of mesons and the origin of confinement
- At high energy experimental evidence is found in jet production
- At lower energies the hadron spectrum carries information about the gluons that bind quarks
- Can we find hints of the glue in the meson spectrum?

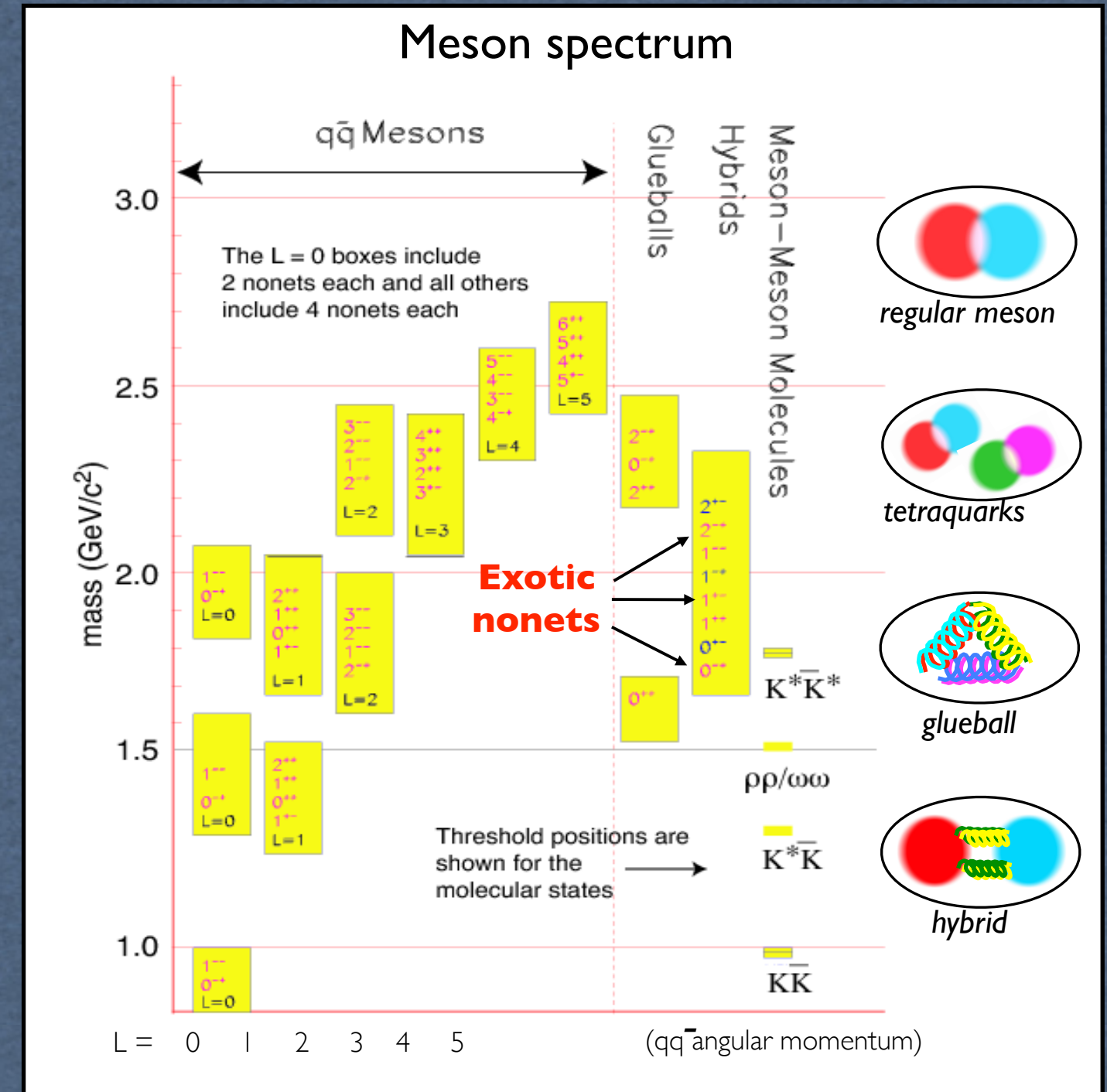
Search for non-standard states with explicit gluonic degrees of freedom



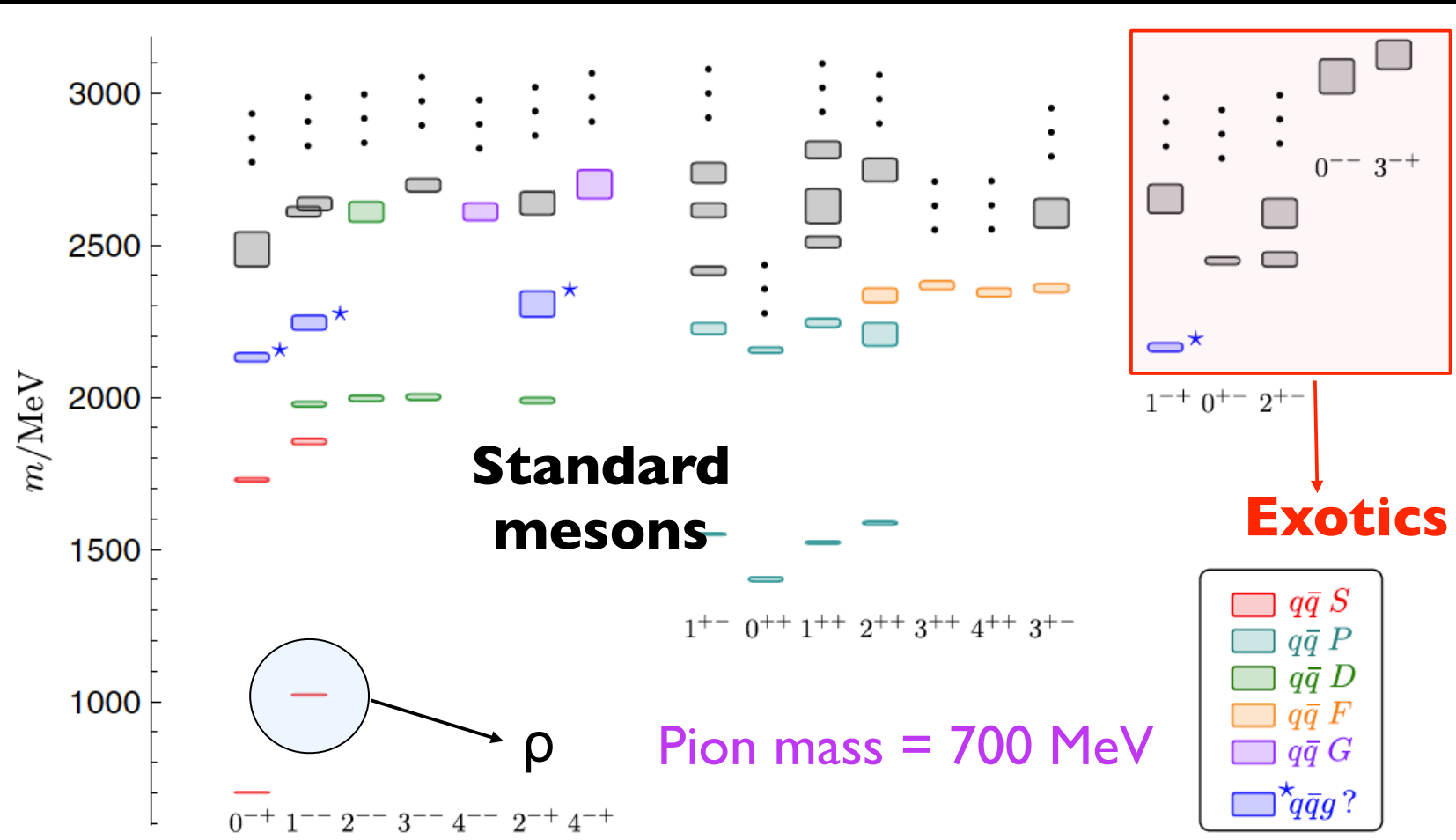
hybrid mesons

Not-allowed $J^{PC} = 0^{-}, 0^{+}, 1^{-}, 2^{+} \dots$

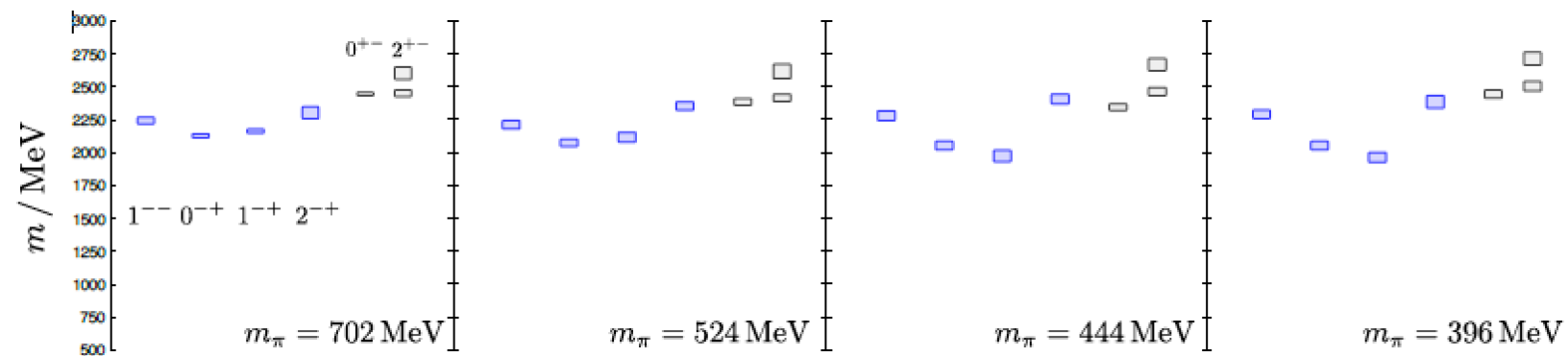
Unambiguous experimental signature for the presence of gluonic degrees of freedom in the spectrum of mesonic states



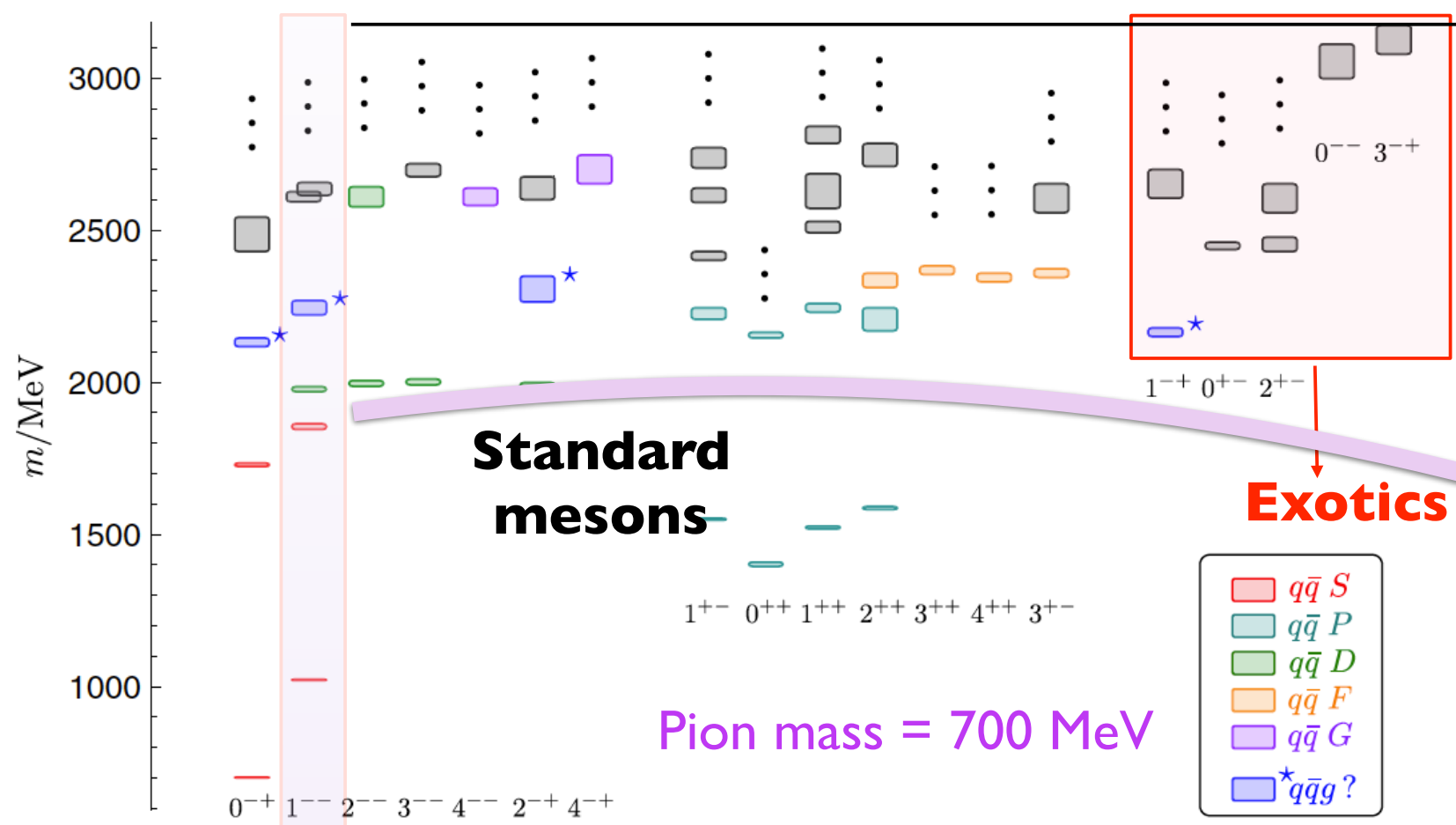
Light q spectrum from lattice QCD



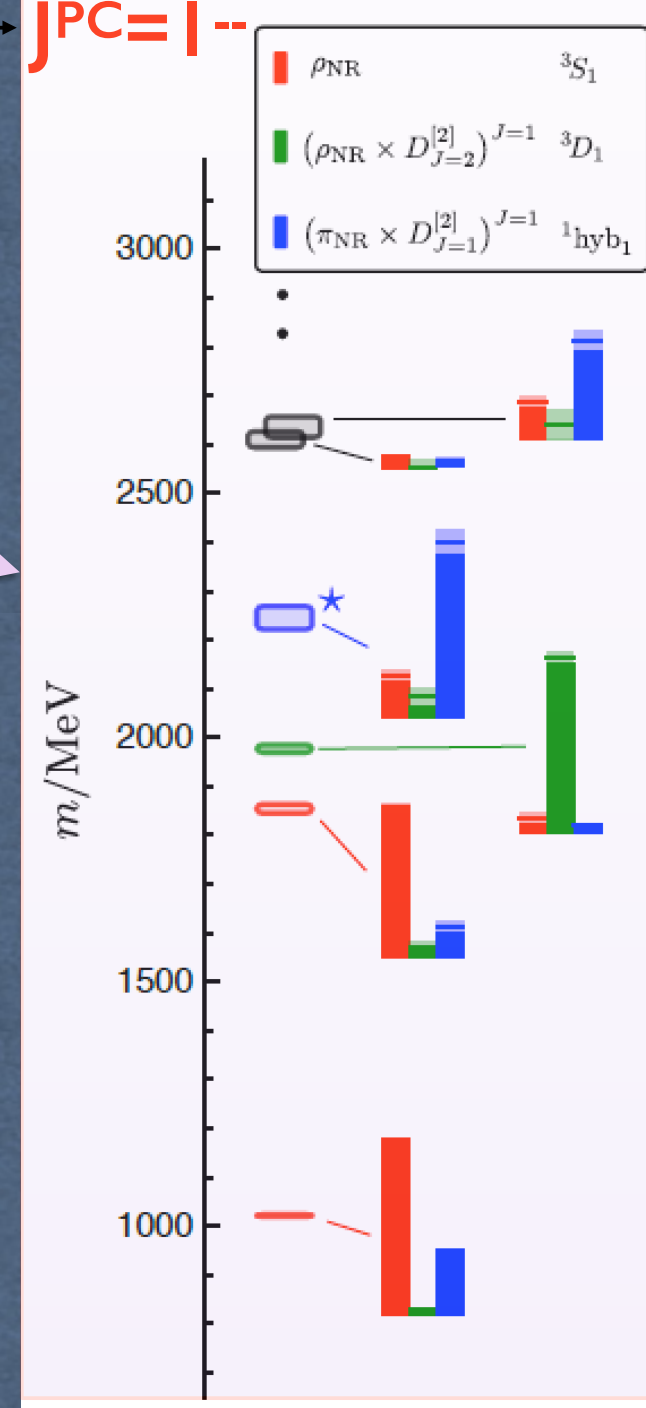
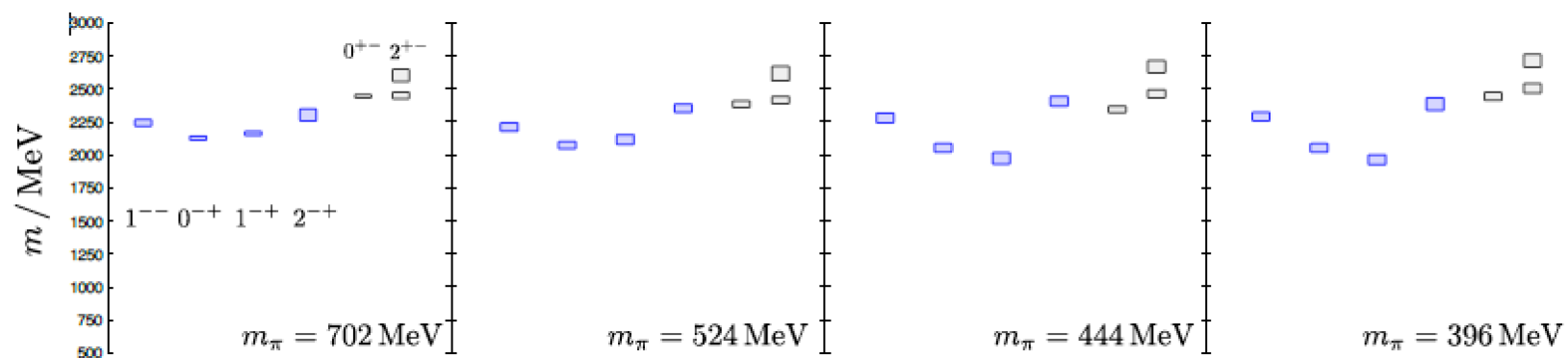
J.Dudek et al Phys.Rev.D82 (2010) 034508, Phys. Rev. D84, 074023 (2011), PysRev.D110 (2024) 034512



Light q spectrum from lattice QCD

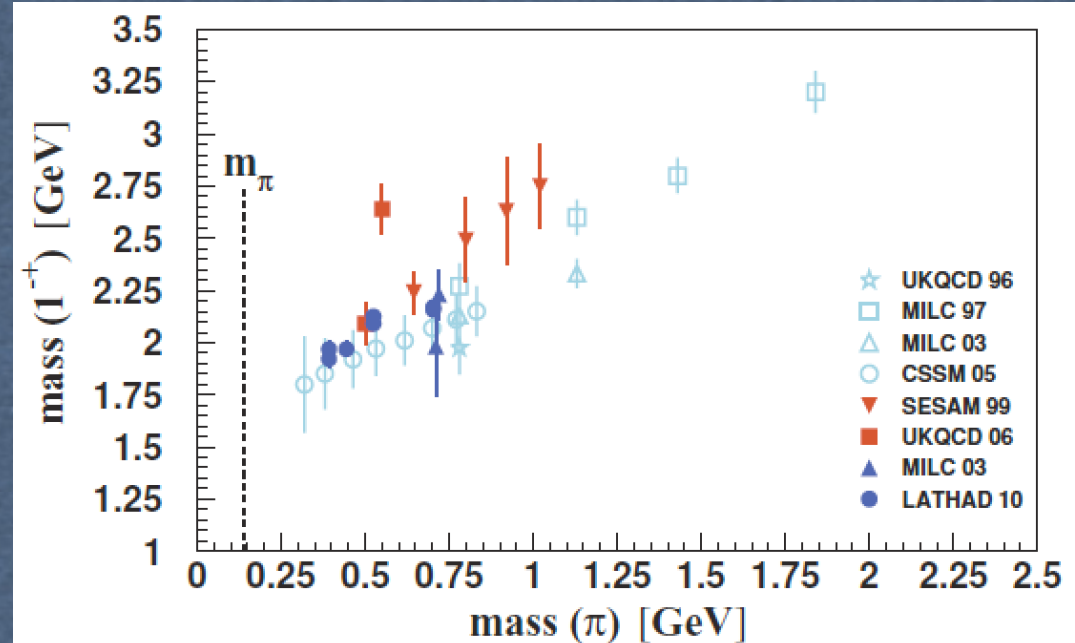


J.Dudek et al Phys.Rev.D82 (2010) 034508 J.Dudek et al., Phys. Rev. D84, 074023 (2011)



in blue: overlap with $J^{PC} = 1^{-+}$ operator interpreted as $q\bar{q}$ in S-wave + $J_g^{PCg} = 1^{-+}$ in P-wave

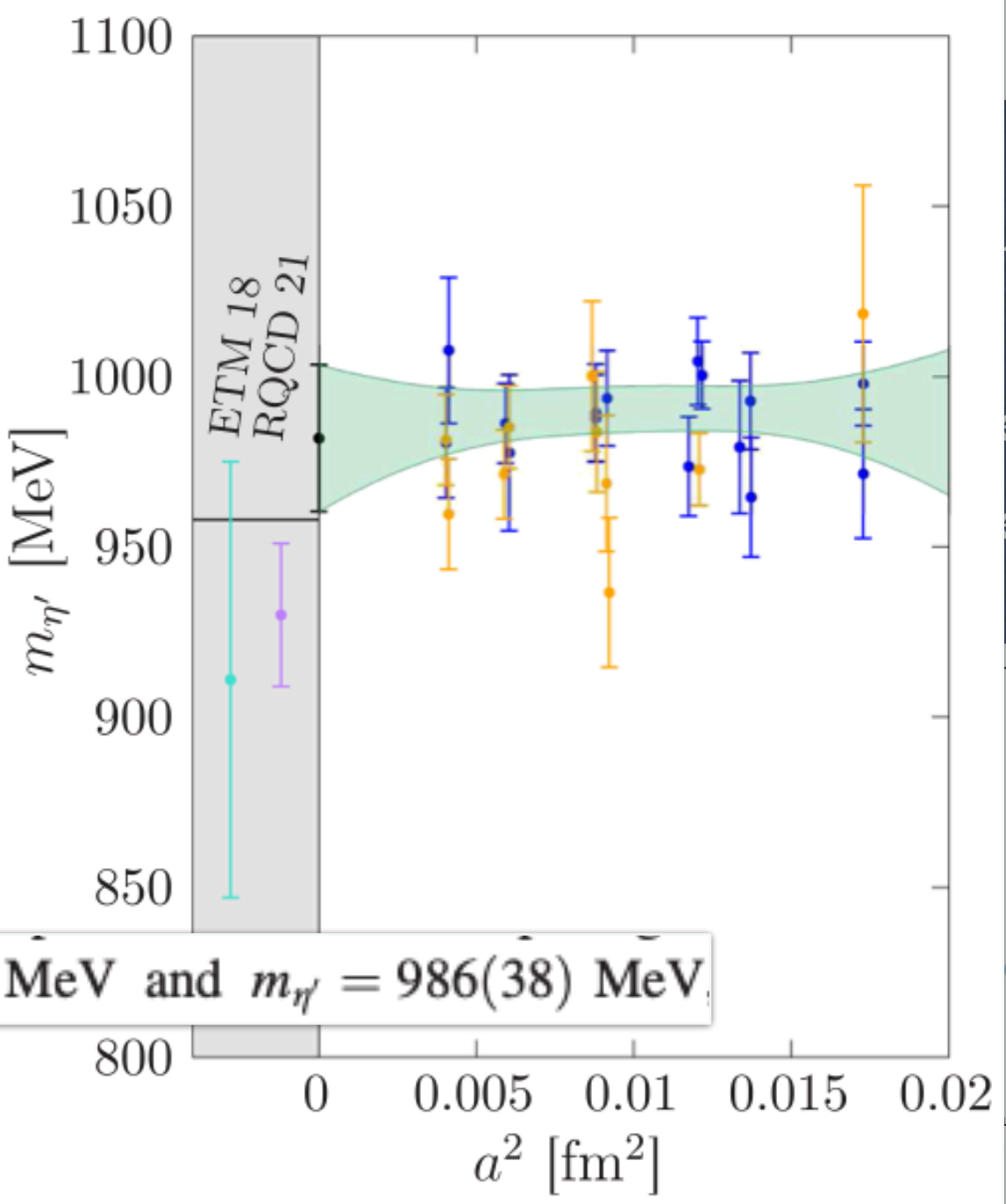
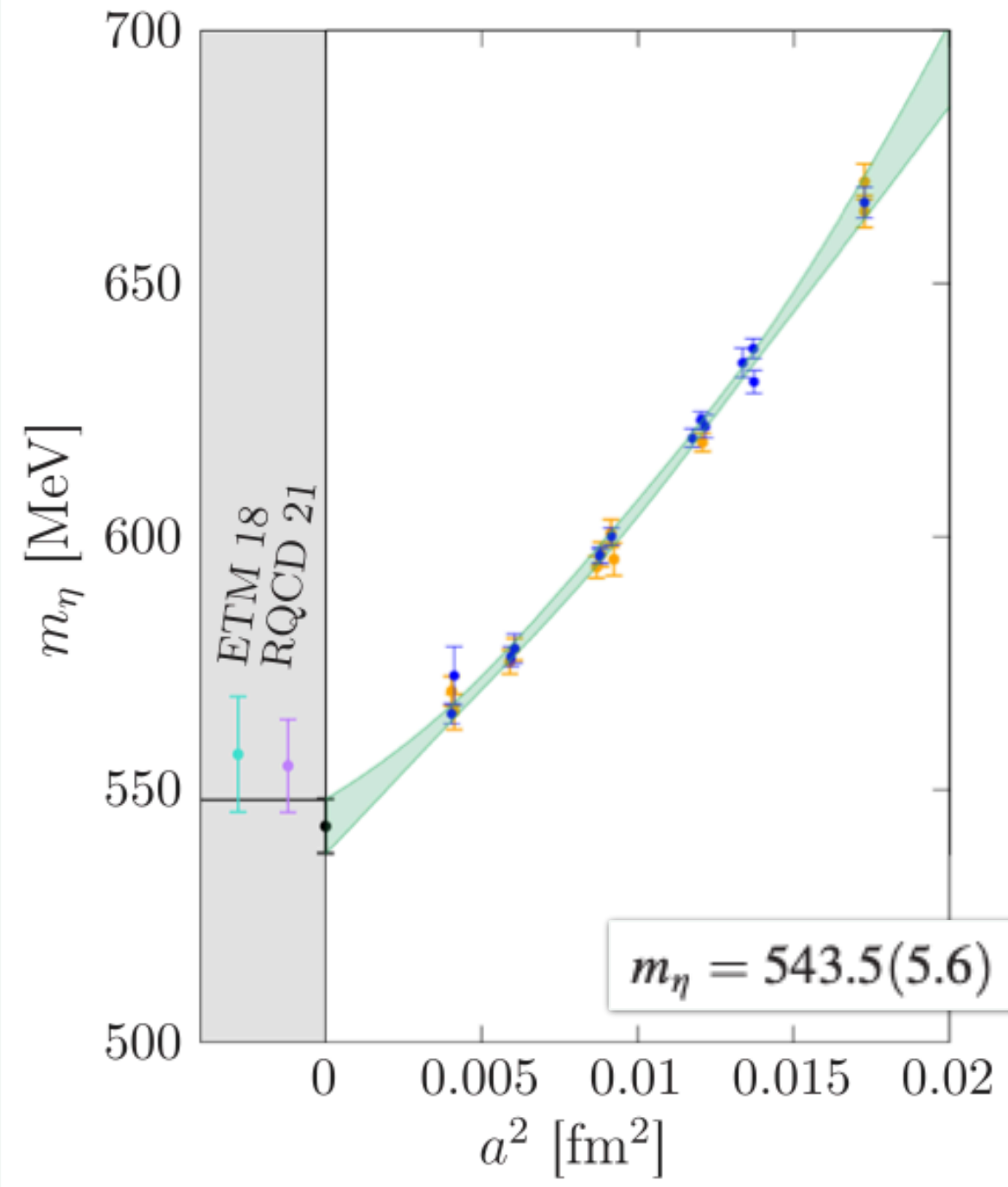
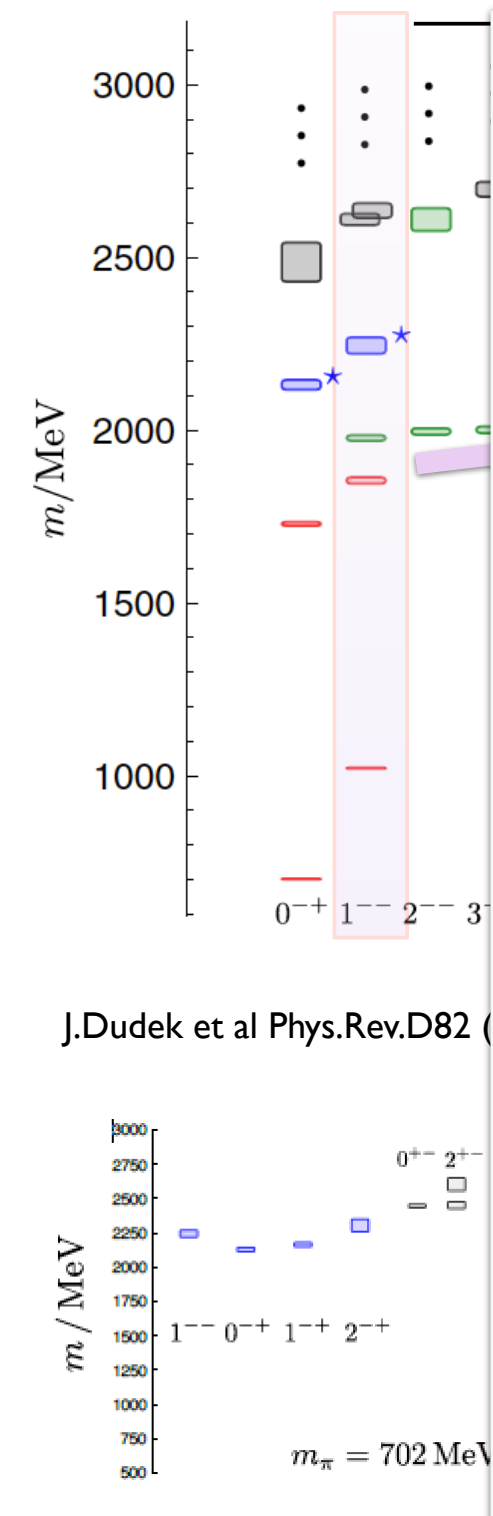
- Interpretation in term of CQM + Gluon field
- Dependence on Lattice size
- Dependence on pion mass



Light q spectrum from lattice QCD

Lattice-QCD predictions for η and η' masses at the physical point

W.Verplanke et al. Phys Rev D 111, 094506 (2025)

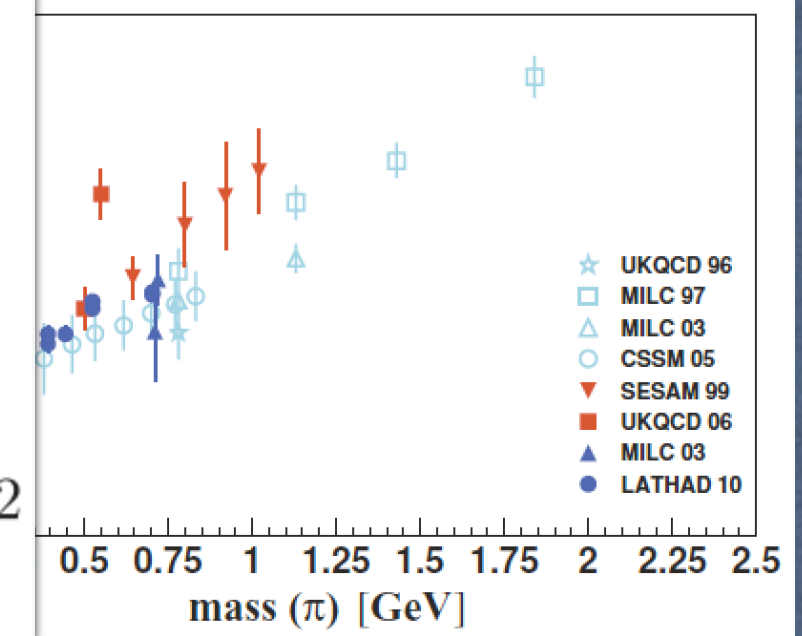


$m_\eta = 543.5(5.6)$ MeV and $m_{\eta'} = 986(38)$ MeV

overlap with $J^{PC}=1^{-+}$ operator
as $q\bar{q}$ in S-wave +
P-wave

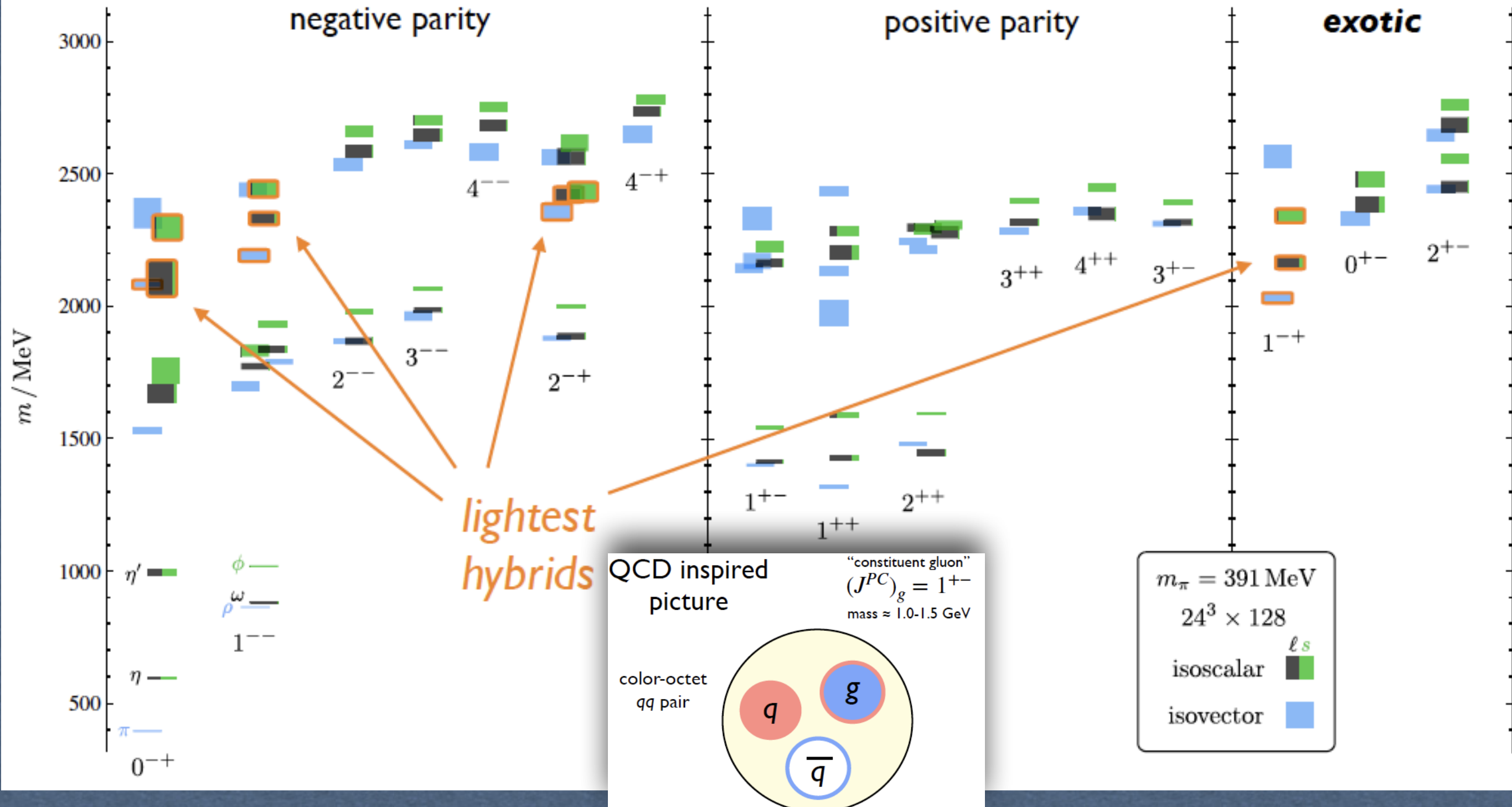
representation in term of CQM
field

sensitivity on Lattice size
sensitivity on pion mass



Light q spectrum from lattice QCD

Dudek, Edwards, Guo, and Thomas, PRD 88, 094505 (2013)



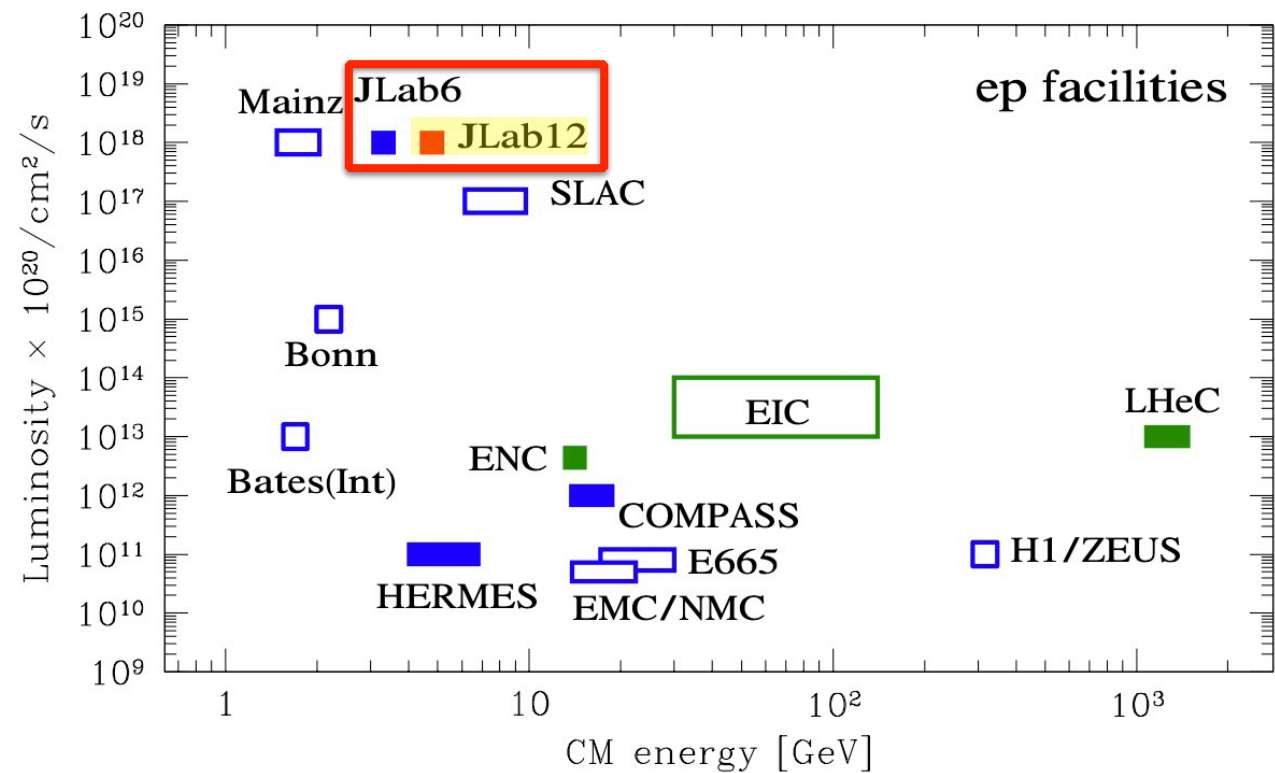
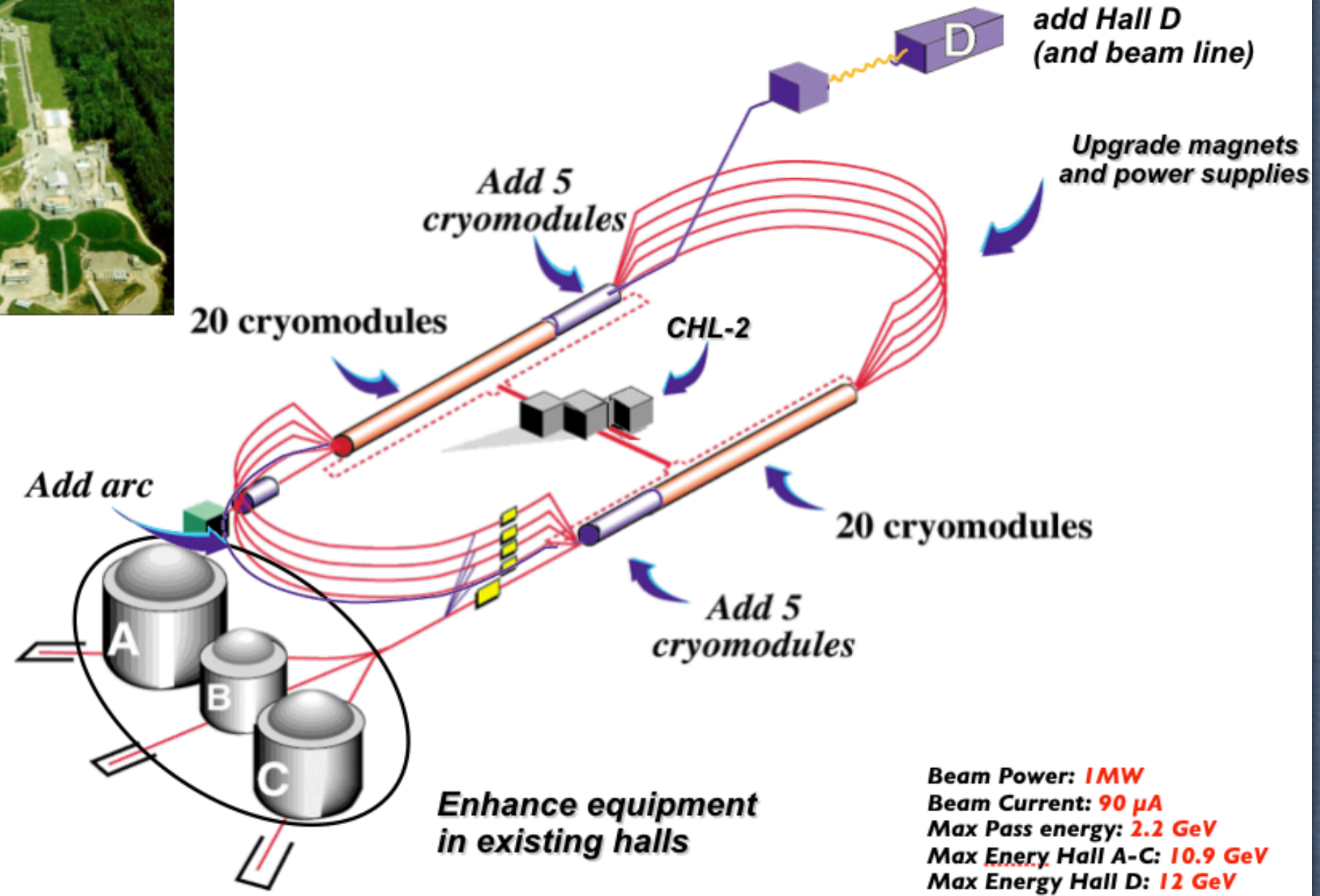
Lattice-QCD predictions for the lowest hybrid states

$0^{+-} \sim 2.0$ GeV
 $1^{-+} \sim 1.6$ GeV

Hybrid mesons and glueballs mass range:
 1.4 GeV - 3.0 GeV

This mass range is accessible in current experiments (CLAS12 and GLUEX @JLab)

Jefferson Lab The intensity frontier



- * Primary Beam: Electrons
- * Beam Energy: 12 GeV
- $10 > \lambda > 0.1$ fm
- nucleon → quark transition
- baryon and meson excited states

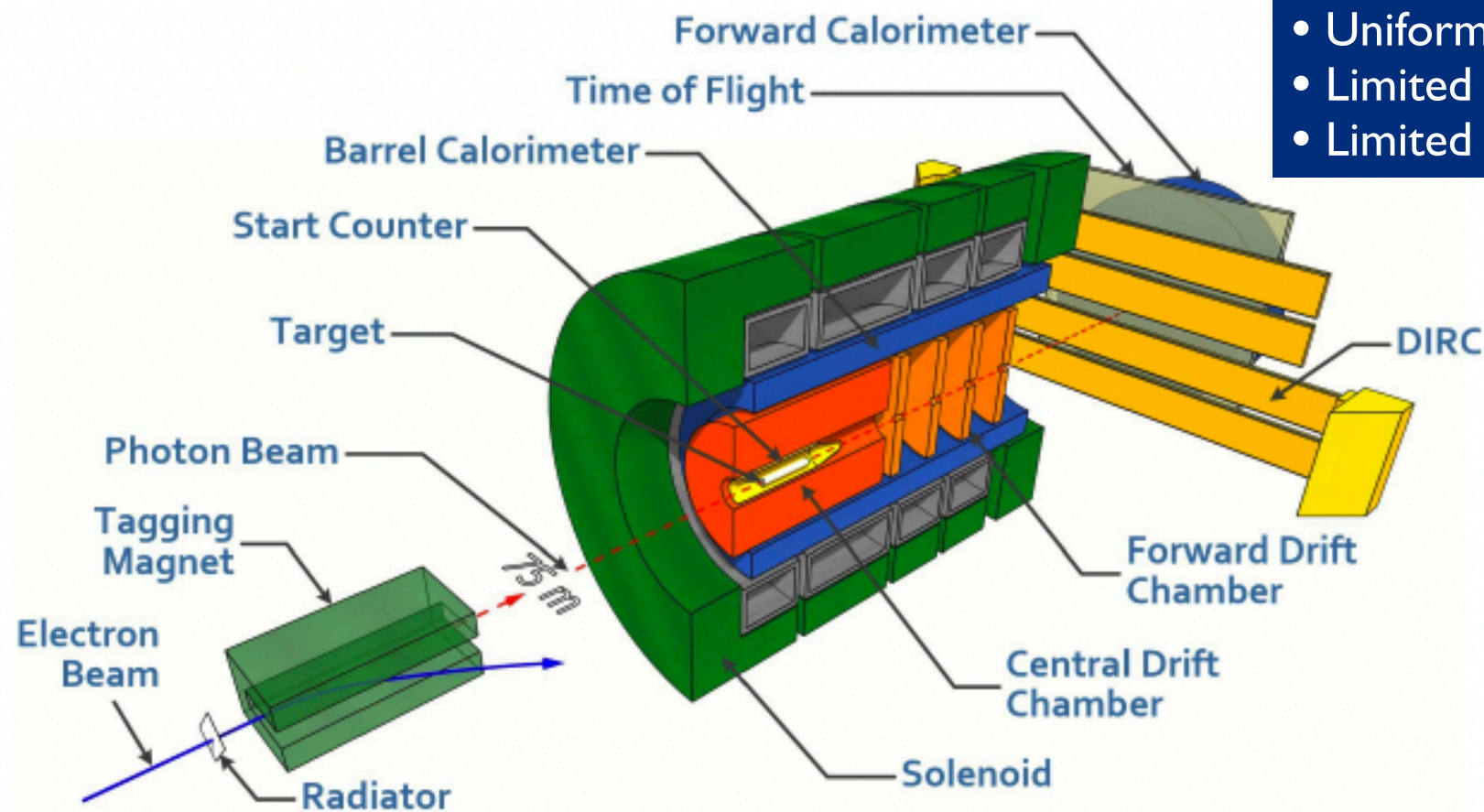
- * 100% Duty Factor (CW) Beam
- coincidence experiments
- Four simultaneous beams
- Independent E and I

- * Polarization
- spin degrees of freedom
- weak neutral currents

Meson spectroscopy with photons at JLab-12 GeV

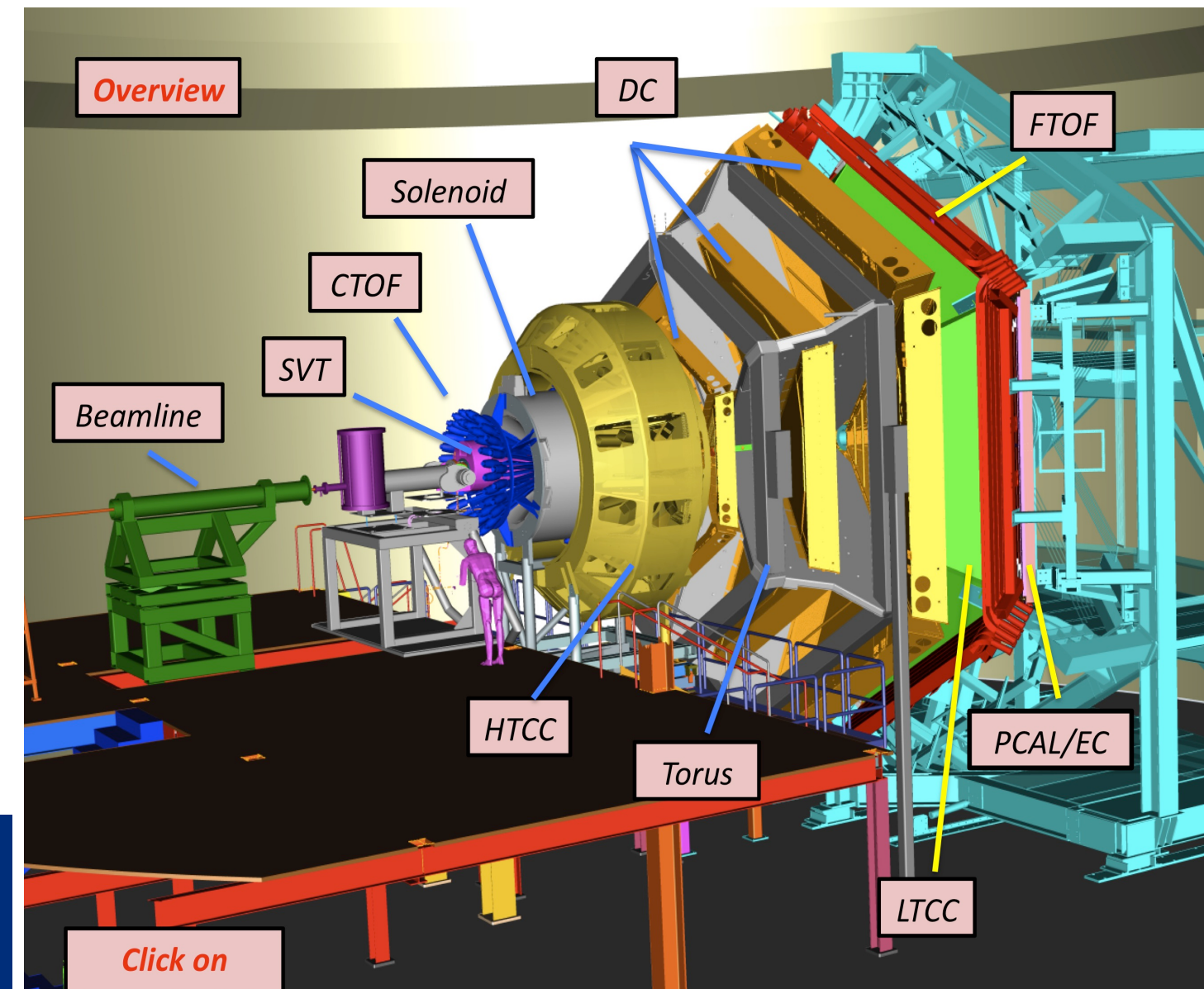
- Determination of JPC of meson states requires PWA
- Decay and production of exclusive reactions
- Good acceptance, energy resolution, particle identification

Hall-D - GlueX Detector



- Good hermeticity
- Uniform acceptance
- Limited resolution
- Limited pID

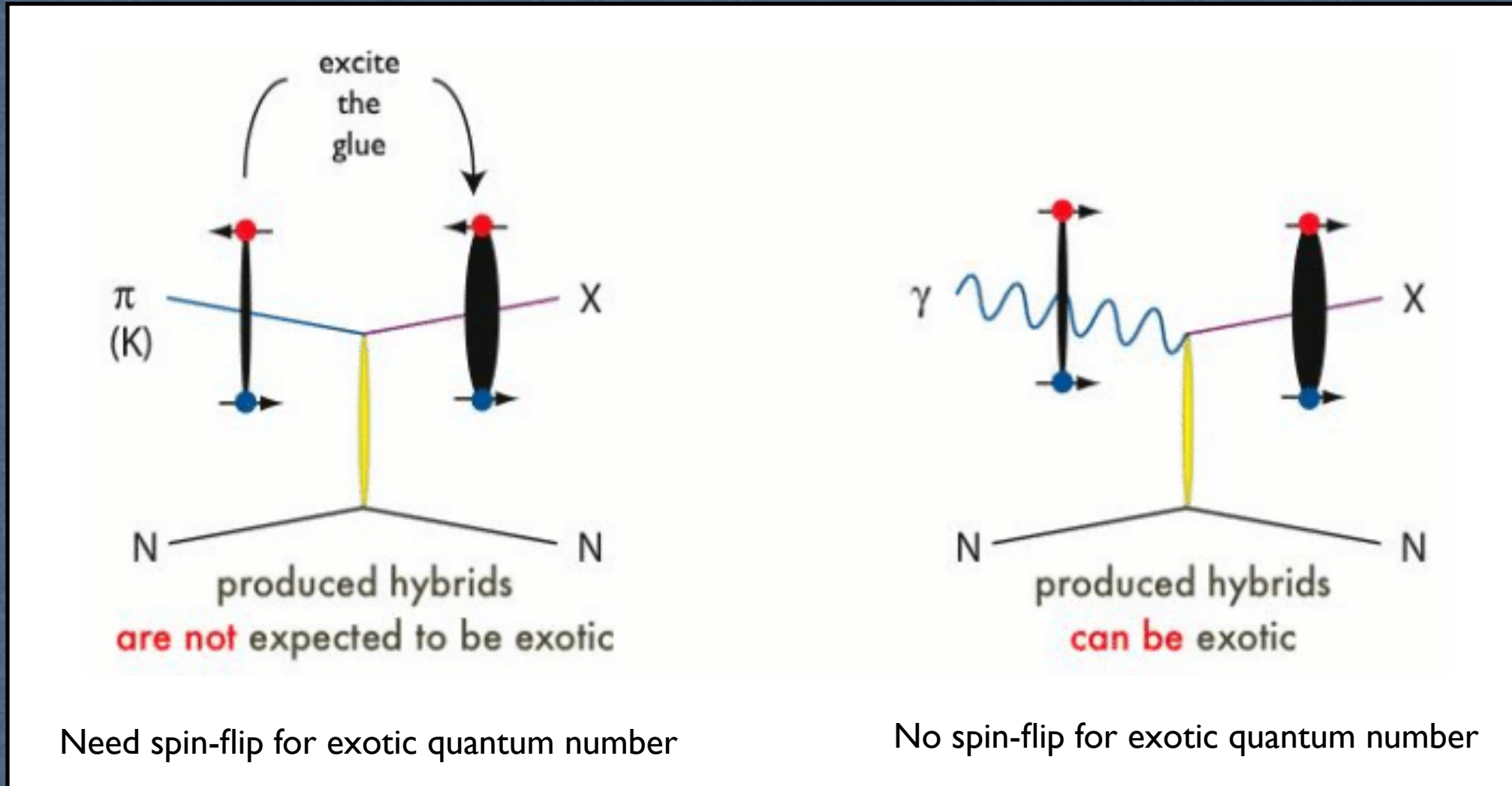
Hall-B - CLAS12 Detector



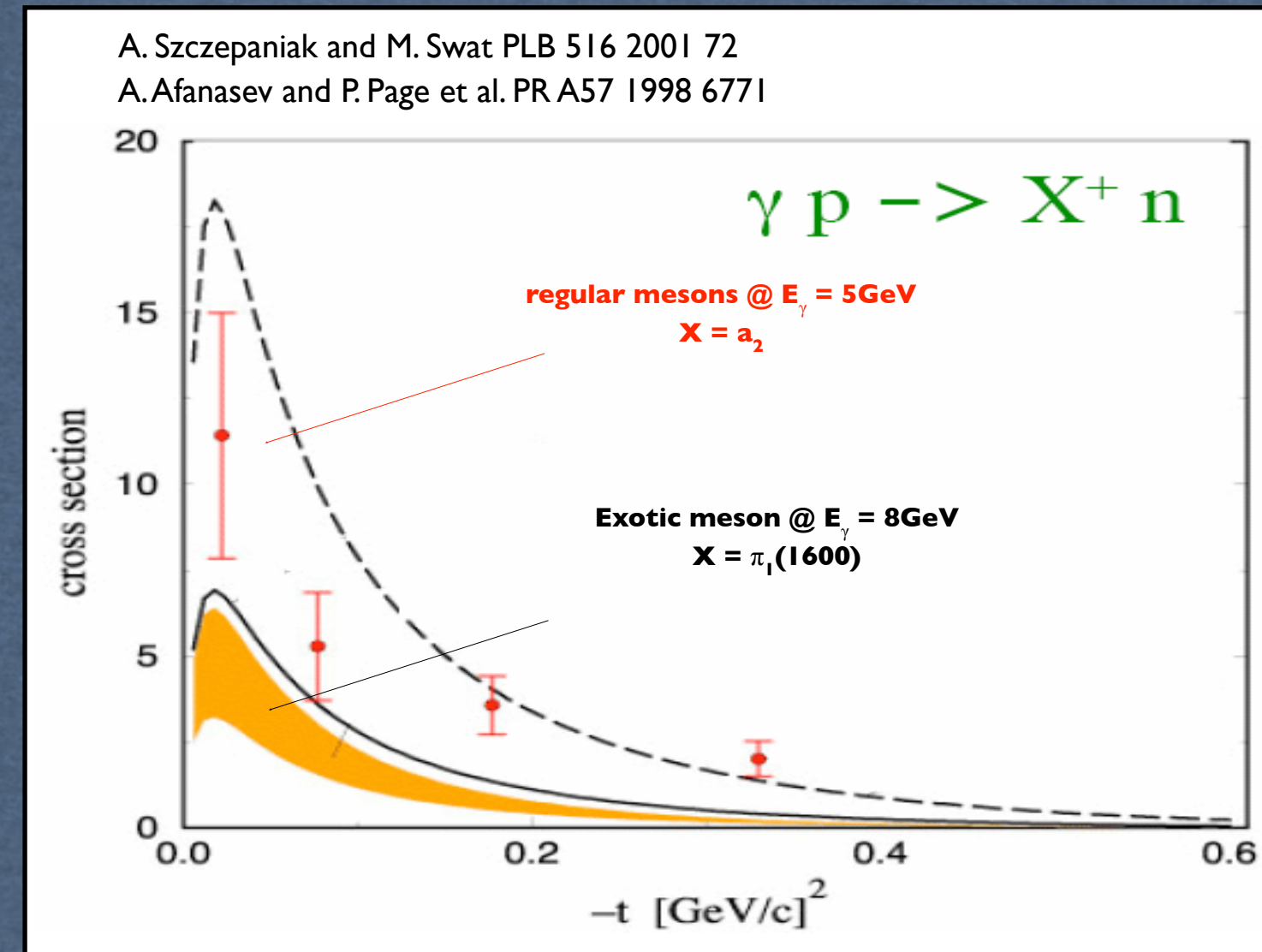
- Good resolution
- Good pID
- Reasonable hermeticity
- Un-uniform acceptance

Why photoproduction?

★ Photoproduction: exotic J^{PC} are more likely produced by $S=1$ probe



★ Photoproduction is widely used to study hadron spectroscopy



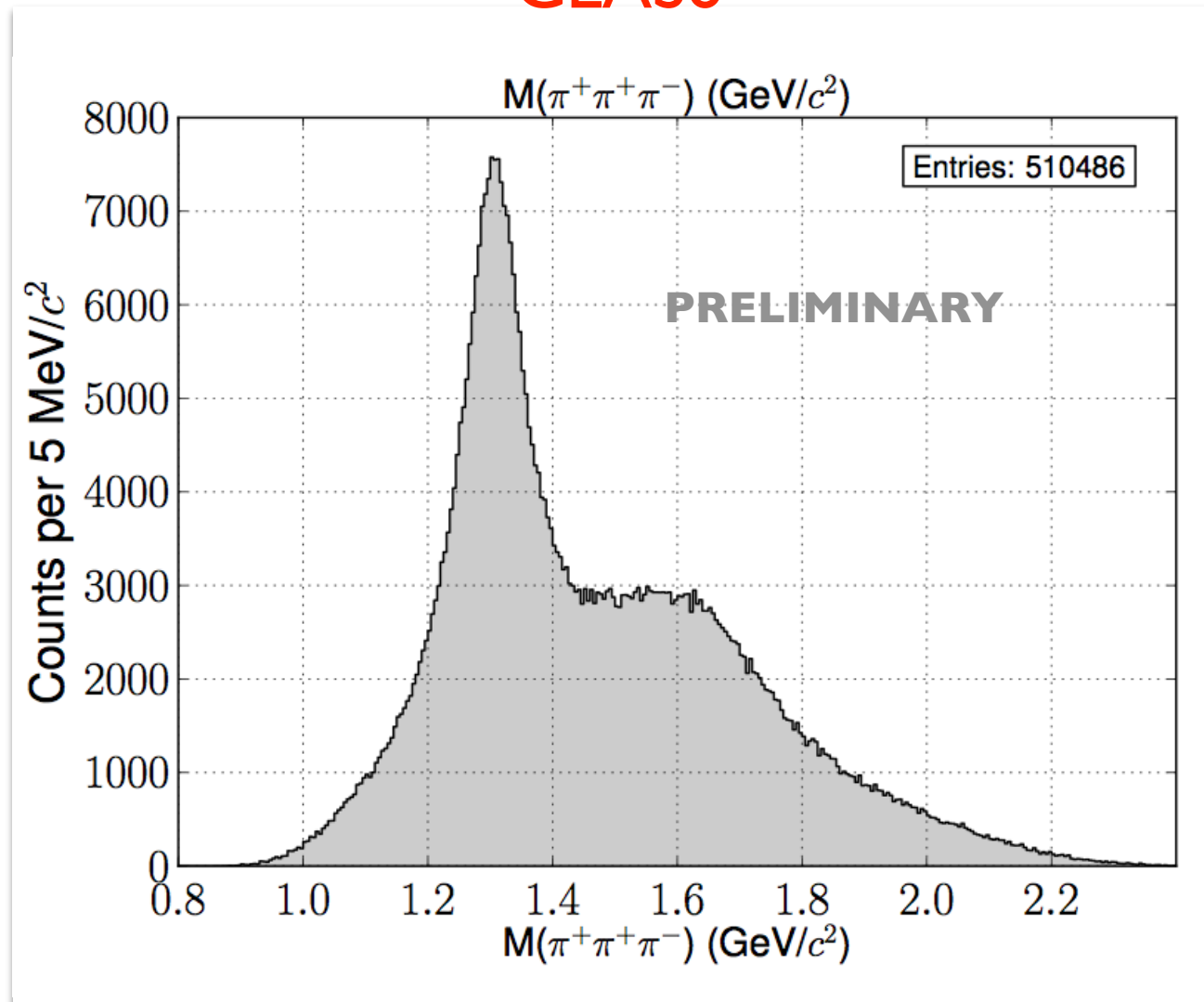
★ Linear polarization acts like a filter to disentangle the production mechanisms and suppress bg

★ Production rate for exotics is expected comparable as for regular mesons

nPQCD in action

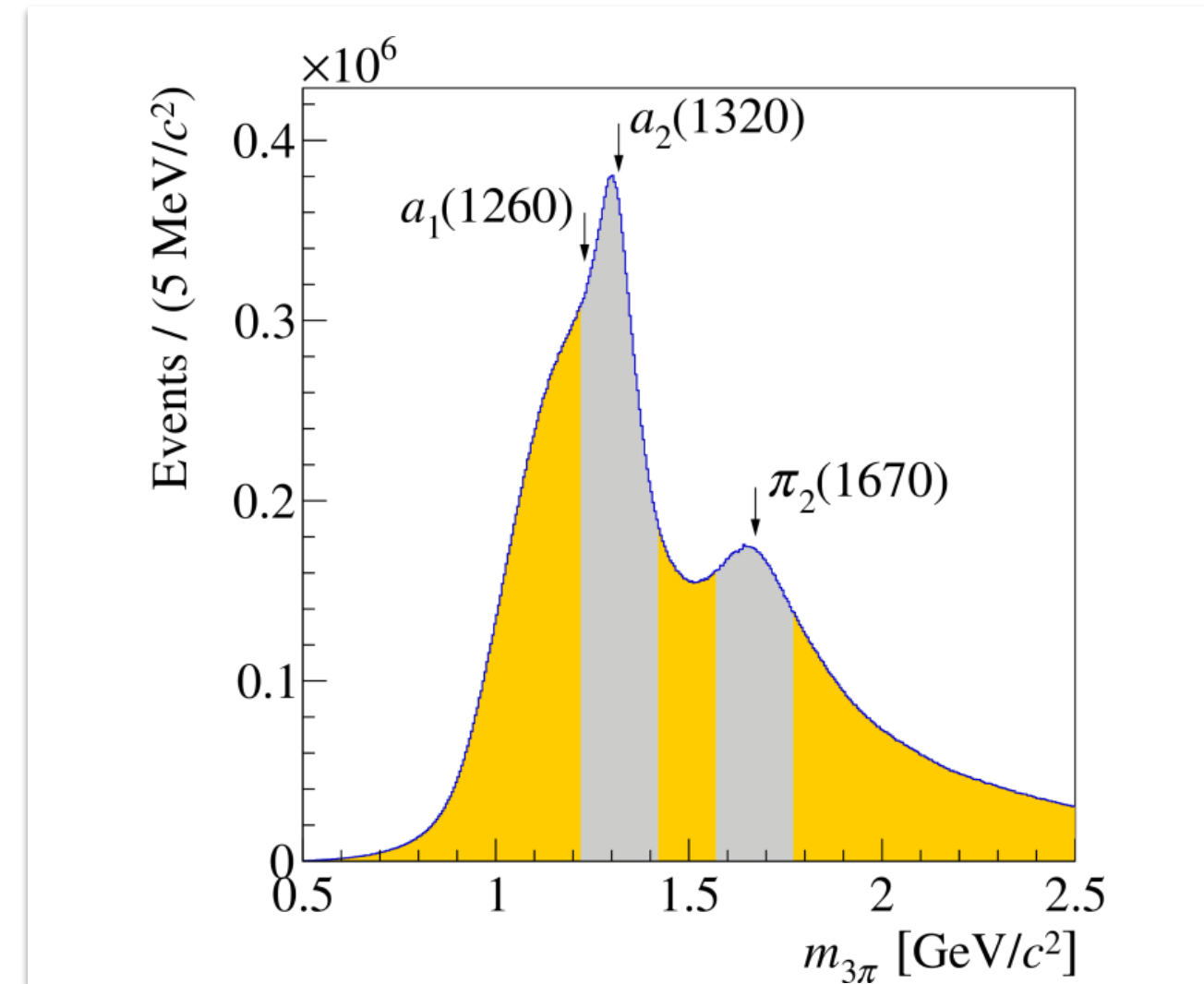
A side note: invariant mass spectrum of (3π) system measured at:

CLAS6



$\gamma p \rightarrow (n) \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$
 $E_\gamma = 5 \text{ GeV}$

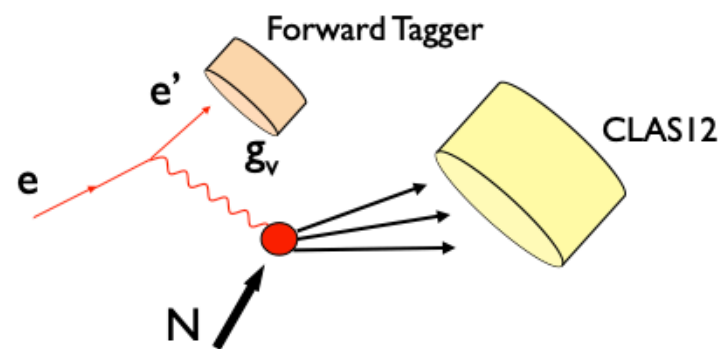
COMPASS



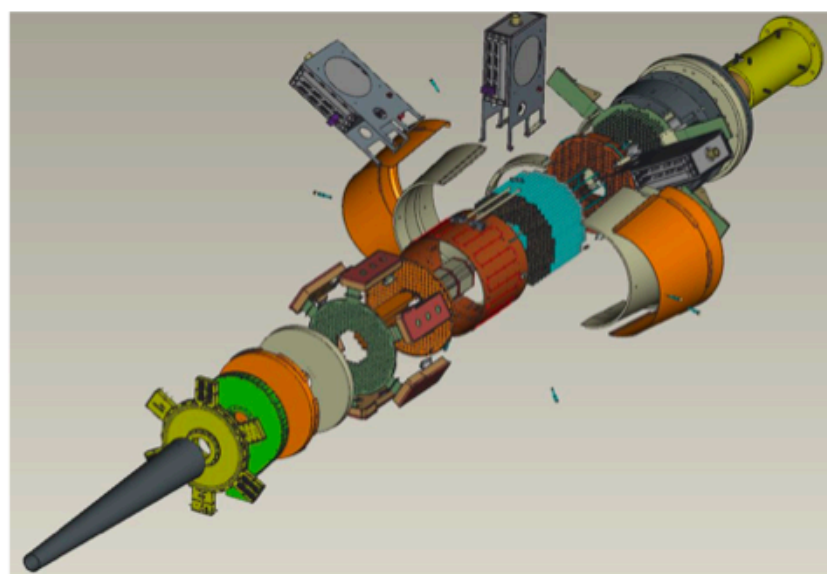
$\pi^- p \rightarrow (p) \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^-$
 $E_\pi = 191 \text{ GeV}$

Despite the significant difference in beam energy, the two spectra are similar showing the resonances dominate the spectrum below 2 GeV (low energy \rightarrow non-pQCD)

Quasi-real photoproduction with CLAS12 (Low Q^2 electron scattering)



$E_{scattered}$	0.5 - 4.5 GeV
θ	$2.5^\circ - 4.5^\circ$
ϕ	$0^\circ - 360^\circ$
ν	6.5 - 10.5 GeV
Q^2	0.01 - 0.3 GeV^2 ($\langle Q^2 \rangle > 0.1 \text{ GeV}^2$)
W	3.6 - 4.5 GeV



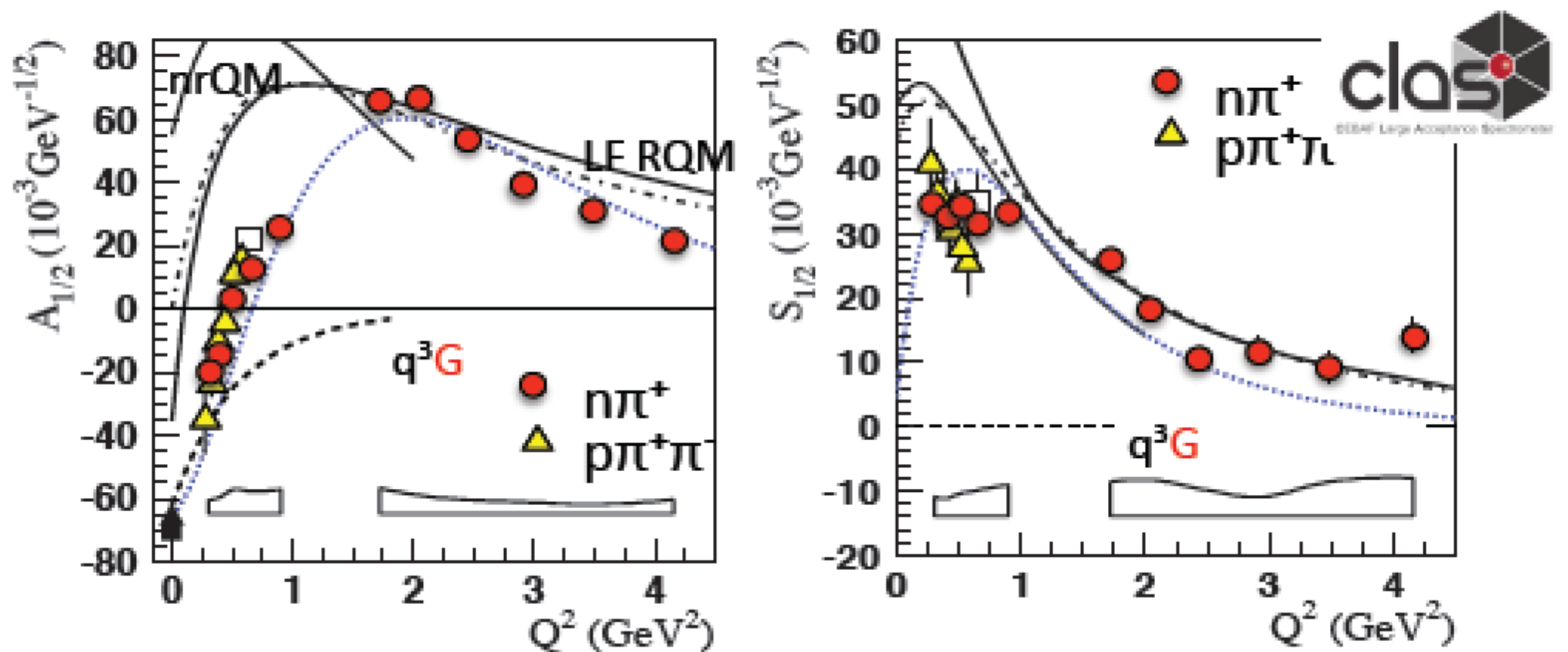
- ★ Electron scattering at “0” degrees ($2.5^\circ - 4.5^\circ$)
 - low Q^2 virtual photon \Leftrightarrow real photon
- ★ Photon tagged by detecting the scattered electron at low angles
 - High energy photons $6.5 < E_g < 10.5 \text{ GeV}$
- ★ Quasi-real photons are linearly polarized
 - Polarization $\sim 70\% - 10\%$ (measured event-by-event)
- ★ High Luminosity (unique opportunity to run thin gas target!)
 - Equivalent photon flux $N_\gamma \sim 5 \cdot 10^8$ on 5cm H_2 ($L=10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$)
- ★ Multiparticle hadronic states detected in CLAS12
 - High resolution and excellent PID (kaon identification)

Complementary to Hall-D GLUEX

Transition form factor evolution in Q^2 as a filter?

Electro-production can be used to explore the hadron structure at different wavelengths (Q^2)

Electro-couplings of “Roper” $N(1440) 1/2^+$



A suppressed longitudinal amplitude $S_{1/2}(Q^2)$ in comparison with transverse electro-excitation amplitude

$Q^3 G$
 $Q^3 G$

A drop of the transverse helicity amplitudes $A_{1/2}(Q^2)$ faster than for ordinary three quark states, because of extra glue-component in valence structure

- $N\pi$ and $N\pi\pi$ give consistent results
- $A_{1/2}$ changes sign and has large magnitude at high Q^2
- QM fails to reproduce low Q^2 behavior, LFQM better at large Q^2
- Both $A_{1/2}(Q^2)$ and $S_{1/2}(Q^2)$ inconsistent with hybrid model prediction

CLAS12 will map out the full meson/baryon spectrum and its evolution in Q^2

The MesonEx physics program

Photoproduction of hyperons with CLAS12

Exp-12-008 "Very Strange Experiment"

Search for missing excited hyperon states

* Excited cascades

- Hyperon spectrum less known $\Xi(1820)$, $\Xi(1530)$
- How quark masses change the effective degrees of freedom in hadron spectra
- $\Xi(1530)$, $\Xi(1820)$
- $K^+K^+\pi^-$, $K^+K^0K^-$

* Ω^- photoproduction

- 3 s quarks system poorly known
- Quantum number poorly known
- $K^+K^+K^0$, $K^+K^0K^-$

* Quantum numbers and production dynamics determination

- Parity and polarisation measurement of $\Xi(1820)$
- Ω^- cross section

Meson spectroscopy with photons in CLAS12

Exp-11-005 "MesonEx"

Study the meson spectrum in the 1-3 GeV mass range to identify gluonic excitation of mesons (hybrids) and other quark configuration beyond the CQM

* Hybrid mesons and Exotics

- Search for hybrids looking at many different final states
- Charged and neutral-rich decay modes
- $\gamma p \rightarrow p 3\pi$, $\gamma p \rightarrow p \eta \pi$, ...

* Scalar mesons

- Poorly known f_0 and a_0 mesons in the mass range 1-2 GeV
- Theoretical indications of unconventional configurations (qqqq or gg)
- $\gamma p \rightarrow p 2\pi$, $\gamma p \rightarrow p 2K$, ...

* Hybrids with hidden strangeness and strangeonia

- Intermediate mass of s quarks links long to short distance QCD potential
- Good resolution and kaon Id required
- $\gamma p \rightarrow p \phi \pi$, $\gamma p \rightarrow p \phi \eta$, $\gamma p \rightarrow p 2K \pi$, ...

Light Meson Decay

Exp-12-06-108b "LMD"

Transition Form Factor of the eta' Meson with CLAS12

* Transition form factor of the eta' meson

- hadronic light-by-light (HLBL) contribution to the muon anomalous magnetic moment a_μ
- Dalitz decays of η' mesons, $\eta' \rightarrow \gamma e^+ e^-$
- η' produced in $e p \rightarrow e p \eta'$
- 0.5% statistical uncertainties (disregarding higher order effects)

* Radiative decays of eta'

- Access to the gamma vertex
- Competition with other experiments

- Studied in g12 (CLAS6)

- Detector requirements: high luminosity, lepton trigger capability, large angle acceptance

- External photon pair production background suppressed by exploiting the 1 mm vertex resolution

Requirements

1) 4π detector

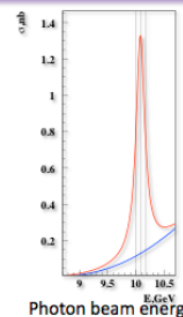
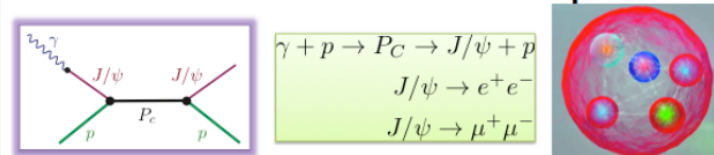
2) High intensity 10 GeV electron beam

LHCb Pentaquark with CLAS12

Exp-12-12-001a "Pentaquark"

Near threshold J/psi photoproduction and study of LHCb pentaquarks with CLAS12

Search for LHCb Pentaquark



$BR(P_c \rightarrow J/\psi p) = 1\%$ $L = 10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

	$P_c(4380)$		$P_c(4450)$	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
Untagged mode	48	500	70	220
Tagged mode	20	600	28	880
Total	68	1100	98	1100

98 events/day for narrow $P_c(4450)$ pentaquark state at nominal CLAS12 luminosity

Requirements

- 1) 4π detector
- 2) High intensity 10 GeV electron beam

Nucleon resonances studies with CLAS12

Exp-12-009 "N*" and Exp-12-06-108a "KY"

Study the baryon spectrum to map the Q² evolution of excited states in an unexplored domain

* Single and multi pions Xsec

- Extended kinematic coverage in the unexplored Q² region between 5-10 GeV
- Precise and abundant data for many final states

* Hyperon electroproduction

- Natural extension to single and multi K final states

* Photocoupling extraction

- Mapping the NN* transition form factors to pin down the underlying dynamics
- Phenomenological models to parameterize the data, and PWA for full interpretation
- Well established analysis procedure tested with CLAS data

- Isobar model and beyond
- Detector requirements: good acceptance, energy resolution, particle Id
- Identification of exotic configuration via PWA

Requirements

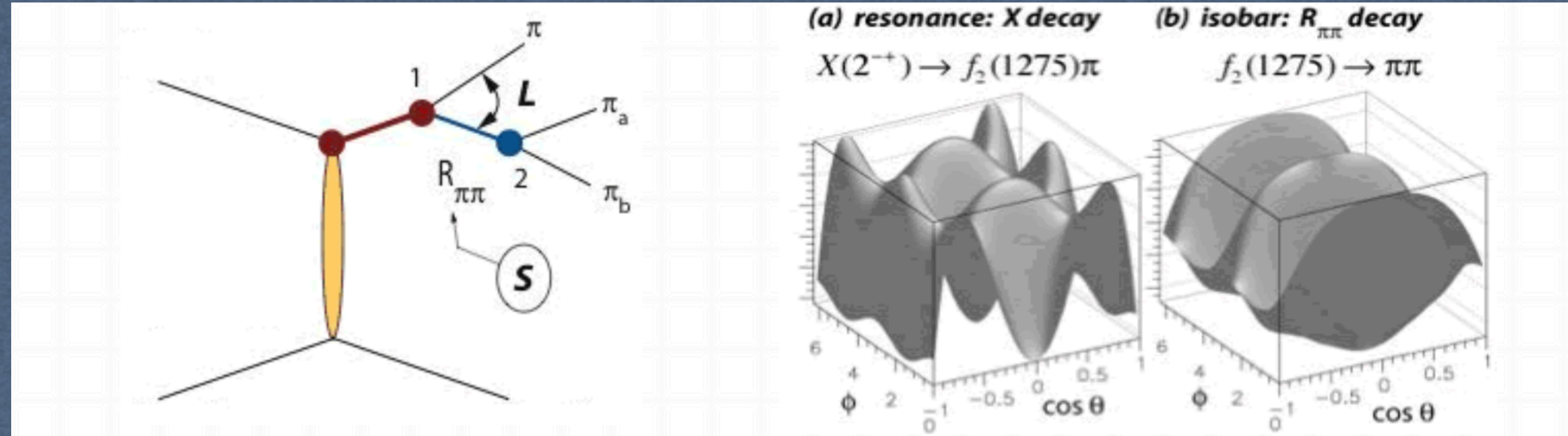
- 1) 4π detector
- 2) High intensity 10 GeV electron beam

Resonance detection

Two main experimental approaches to identifying and studying a hadron resonance

Decay

- Easier and straightforward
- Independent on production mechanisms
- Dalitz plot for 3-body decays
- Isobar Model for higher multiplicity

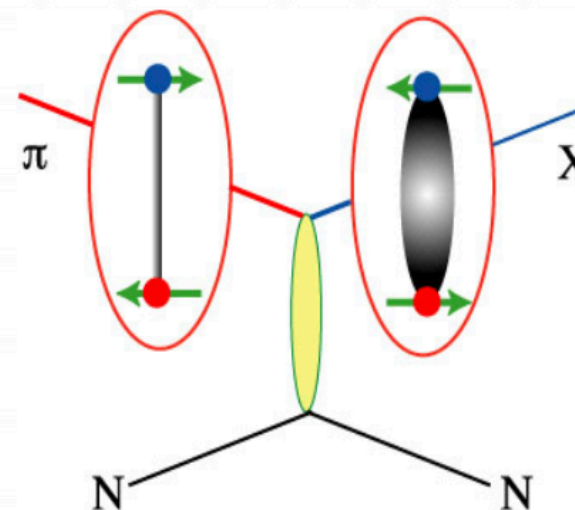


Production

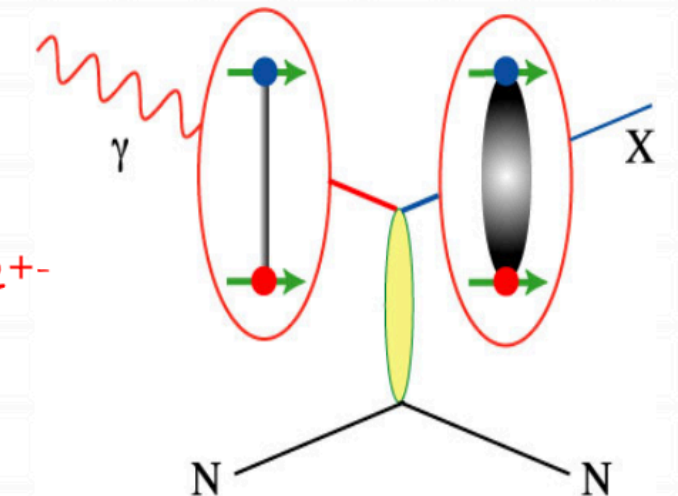
- Requires parametrisation of production vertex
- exclusive (or semi-inclusive) final state
- sensitive to the internal structure (nature)

* Photoproduction: exotic J^{PC} are more likely produced by $S=1$ probe

Pion Beam
Quark spins
anti-aligned
 $J^{PC} = 1^-, 1^{++}$

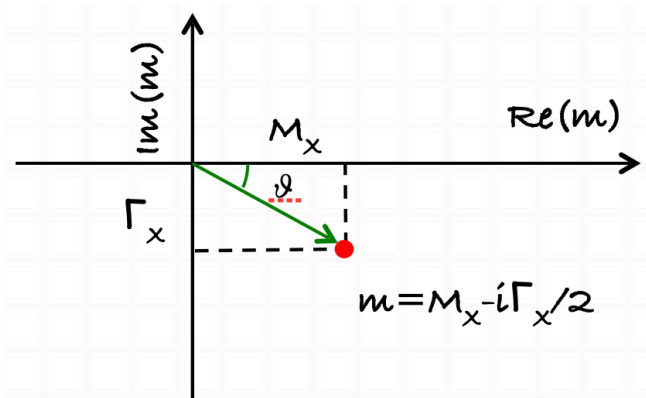


Photon Beam
Quark spins
already aligned
 $J^{PC} = 0^{+-}, 1^{-+}, 2^{+-}$



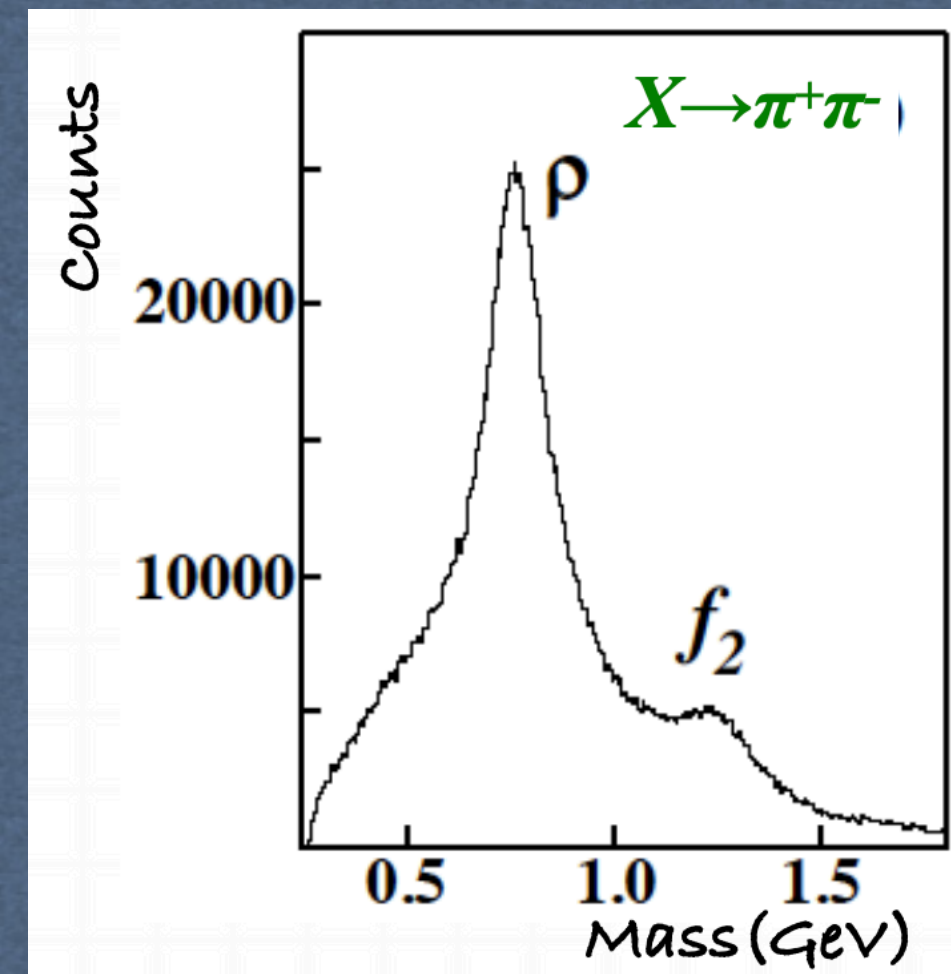
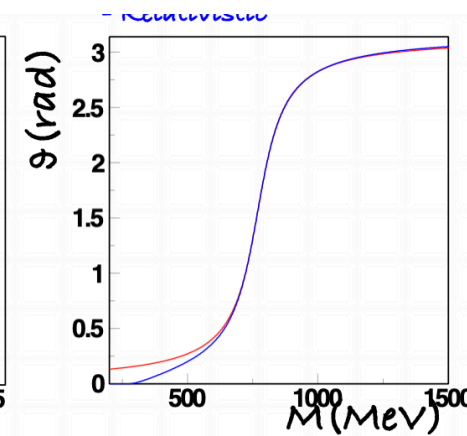
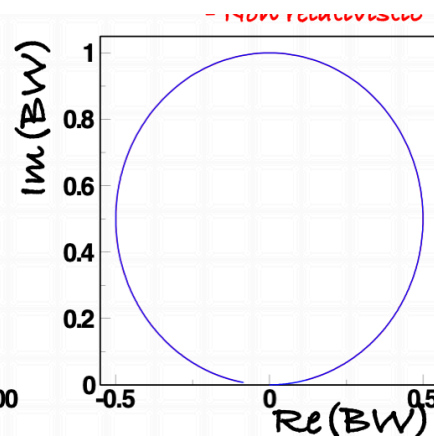
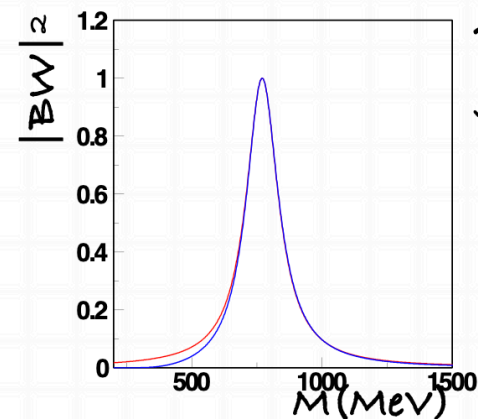
From data to the spectrum

'resonance' is defined by the pole in the first Riemann sheet of the complex amplitude
... not every bump is a resonance and not every resonance is a bump!



$$M_x \sim M_0$$

$$\Gamma_x \sim \Gamma_0$$



- A hadron resonance can be observed by studying the **invariant mass spectrum** of its decay product.
- In real life, resonances do not always appear so clearly in a mass spectrum because they are **not isolated**
- A resonance has specific quantum numbers with defined decay angular momentum
- Each partial wave only includes the corresponding resonances

- Goal: extract the intensity of the different angular waves as a function of the invariant mass of the final state particles
- Measure events for the process of interest
- Build a model that describes the process
- Fit the model to the data

Partial Wave Analysis (PWA)

PWA with CLAS12

$\gamma p \rightarrow n \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$

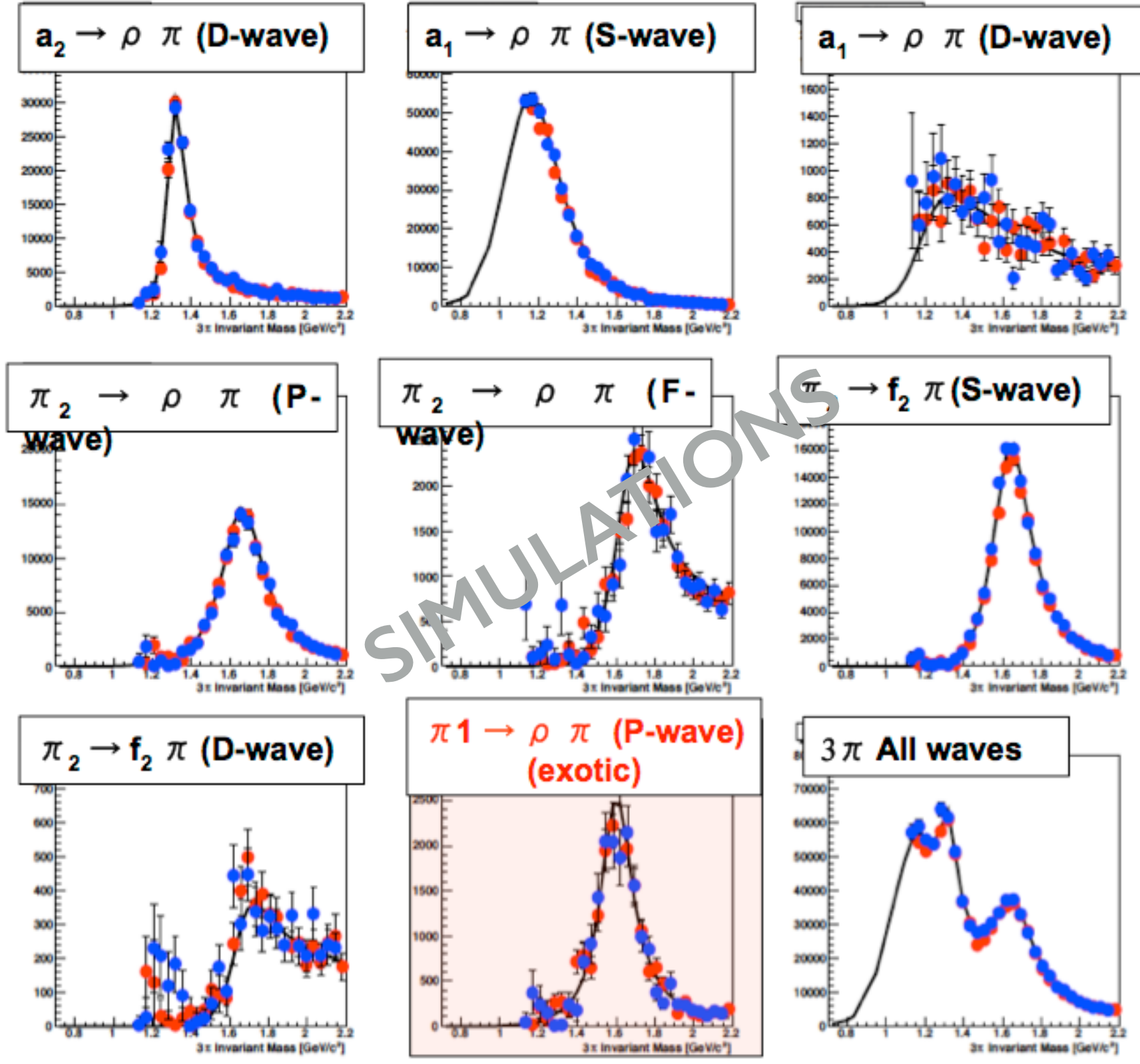
• The process is described as sum of 8 isobar channels:

- $a_2 \rightarrow \rho \pi$ (D-wave)
- $a_1 \rightarrow \rho \pi$ (S-wave)
- $a_1 \rightarrow \rho \pi$ (D-wave)
- $\pi_2 \rightarrow \rho \pi$ (P-wave)
- $\pi_2 \rightarrow \rho \pi$ (F-wave)
- $\pi_2 \rightarrow f_2 \pi$ (S-wave)
- $\pi_2 \rightarrow f_2 \pi$ (D-wave)

~3% $\pi_1 \rightarrow \rho \pi$ (P-wave) (exotic)

- Amplitudes calculated by A.Szczepaniak and P.Guo
- CLAS12 acceptance projected and fitted
- PWA is stable against CLAS12 acceptance/ resolution distortion

Black = generated blue/red = fit $t=0.2 \text{ GeV}^2$ (0.5 GeV^2)



Modern AI-supported tools for data analysis

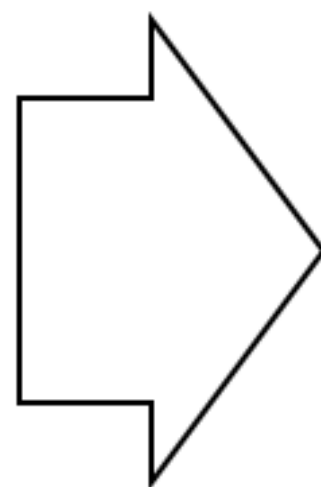
AI for NP/HEP

- Data collected by NP/HEP experiments are (always) affected by the detector's effects
- Before starting physics analysis the detector's effects unfolding are required
- Traditional observables may not be adequate to extract physics in multidimensional space (multi-particles in the final state)
- At High-Intensity frontiers, data sets are large and difficult to manipulate/preserve

Shall AI support NP/HEP experiments to extract physics from data in a more efficient way?

Develop AI-supported procedures to:

- Data preparation for unfolding detector effects
- Accurately fit data in multiD space
- Extract physics observables (xsec, asymmetries, ...)
from *synthetic* data (AI-generated)
- Interpret physics observables
- in all steps, quantifying the uncertainty (UQ)



A(i)DAPT

AI for Data Analysis and PreservaTion

Collaborative effort (regular meeting)

- ML experts (ODU, JLab)
- Experimentalists (JLab Hall-B, GlueX)
- Theorists (JPAC, JAM)

Detector unfolding

Detector effects make measured observables (detector-level) **DIFFERENT** from 'true' observables (vertex-level)

Resolution

- Any detector has a finite resolution that spreads the measurement
- A spike could be not resolved
- The measurement may extend in an unphysical region (e.g. negative squared missing mass)

Acceptance

- Any measurement covers only a fraction of the reaction phase-space
- Difficulty: the cross section (Probability Density Function) can not be constrained by general rules (other than being positive) since it reflects the underlying (a-priori unknown) physics
- No model-independent extrapolation of PDF outside detector's acceptance is possible (based on measured phase space)

[Efficiency]

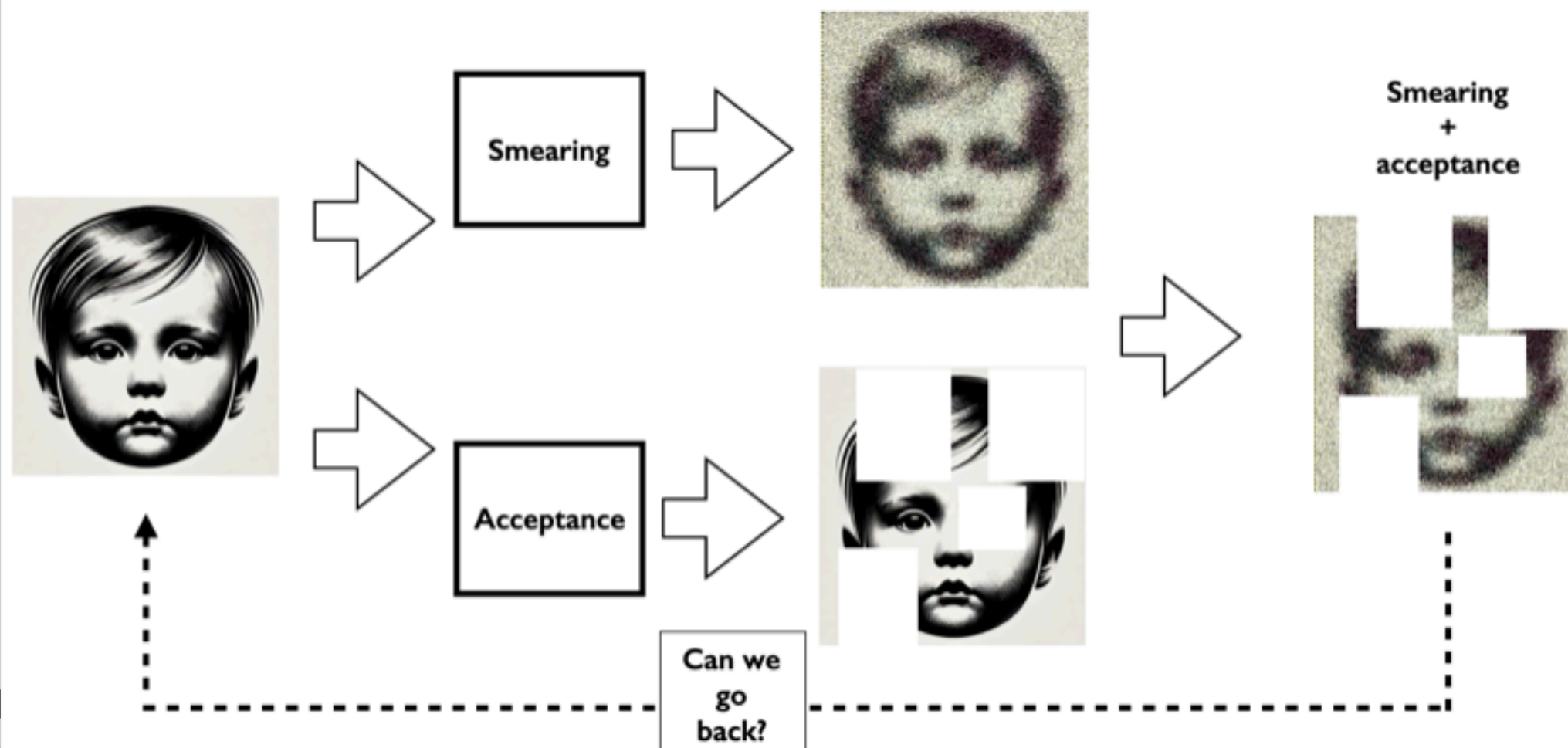
- Detection is a non-deterministic process provides different results in multiple measurements of the same observable

Use AI:

- **INSIDE ACCEPTANCE** to replace data with a synthetic replica statistically identical to the original but w/o smearing
- **OUTSIDE ACCEPTANCE:** to generate pseudo-data according a physics informed model

GANs for detector unfolding

Can we recover the original image?



Detector unfolding

Detector unfolding

Detect
(vertex

Use AI:
• INSID
• OUTS

GANs for detector unfolding

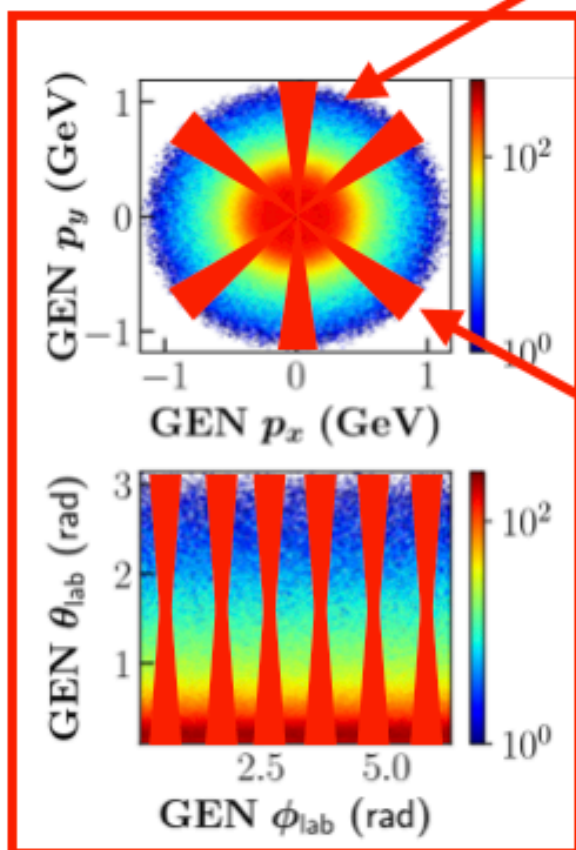
Detector unfolding

Detector unfolding

Detector
(vertex)

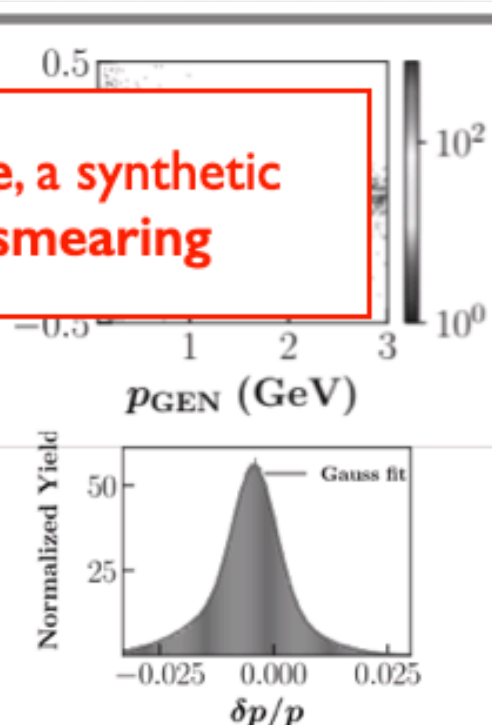
Detector unfolding

Vertex-level



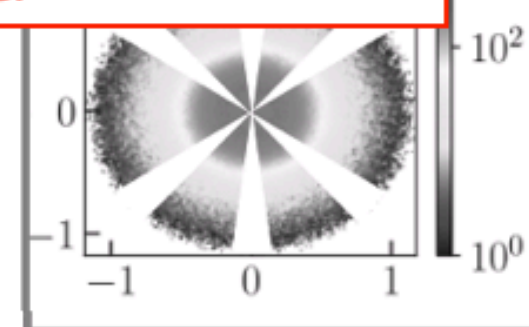
within the acceptance, a synthetic replica of data w/o smearing

Smearing

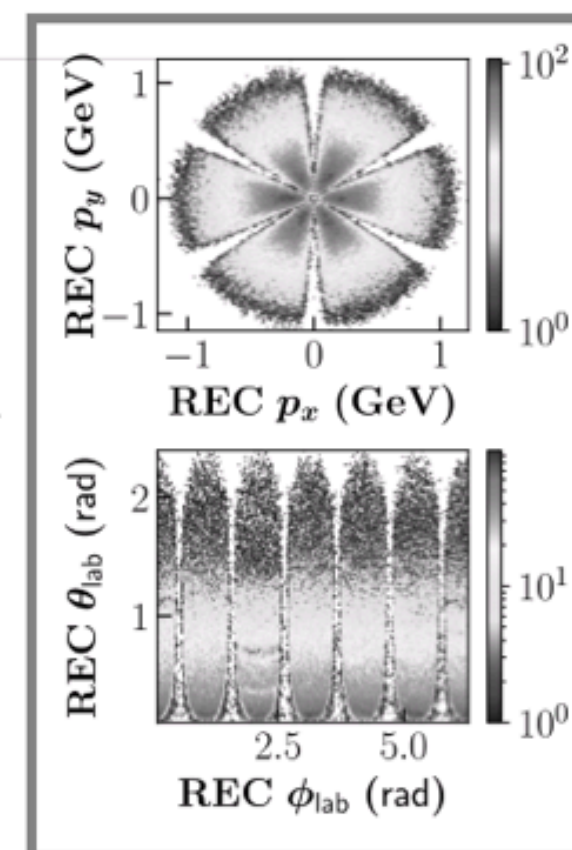


outside the acceptance pseudo-data generated according a physics-informed model

Acceptance



Detector-level

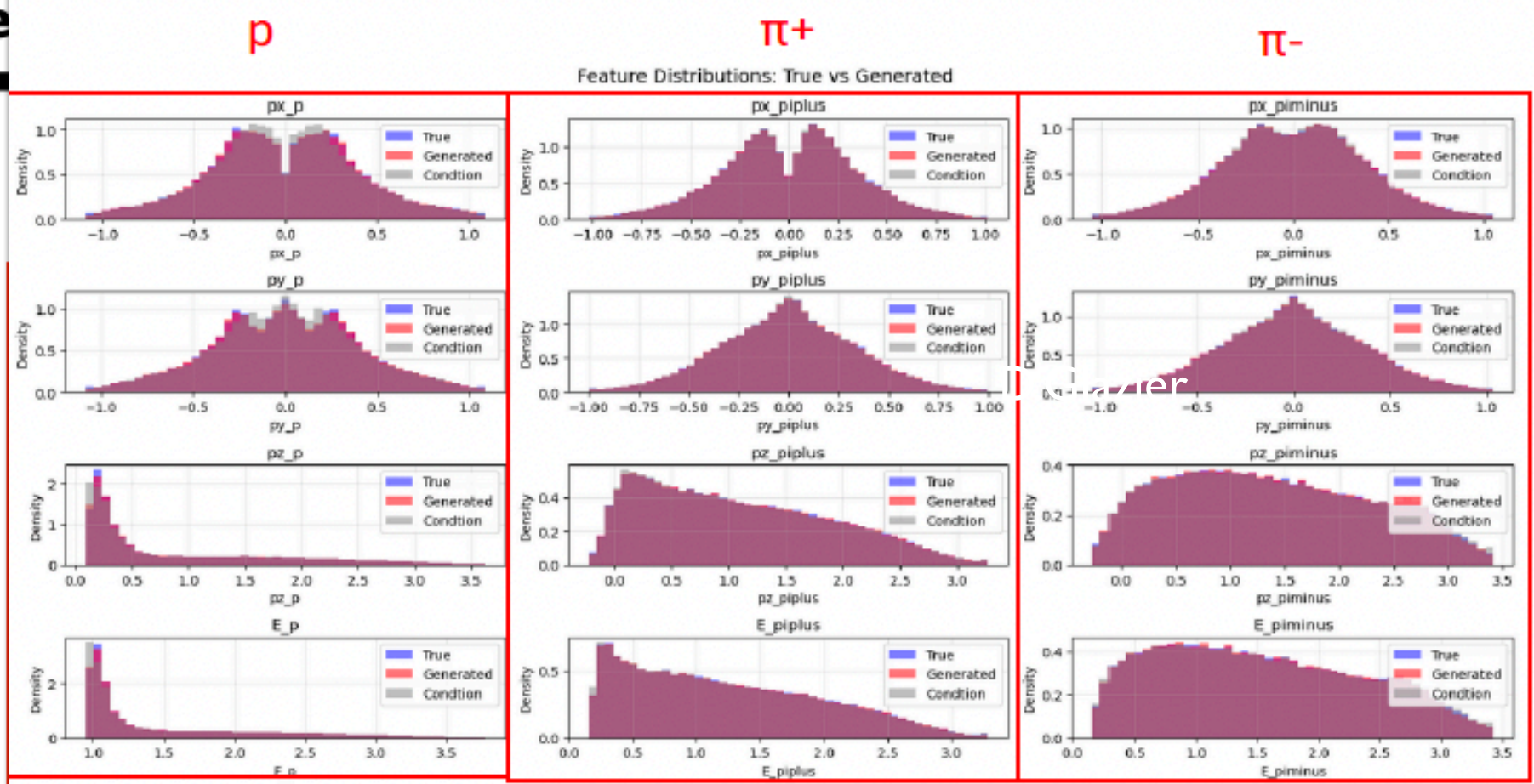
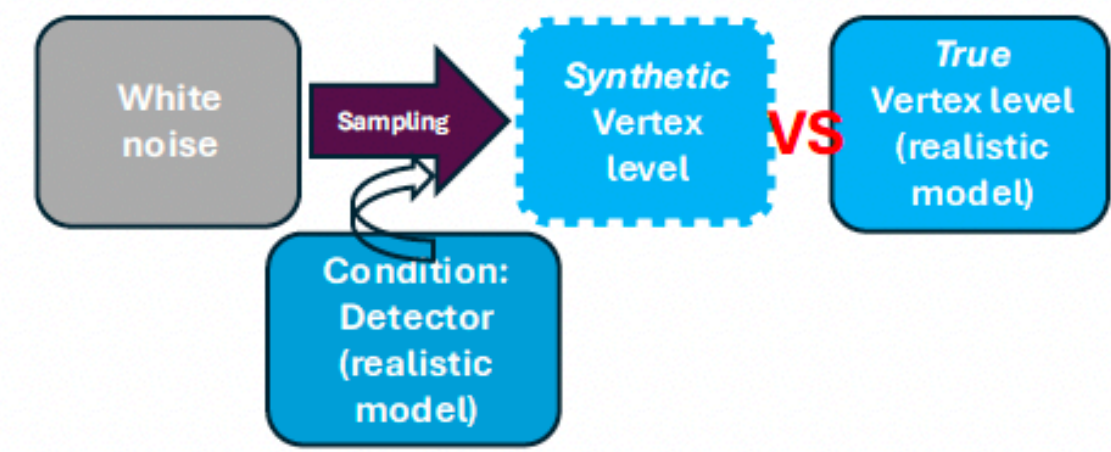


with generative AI we can go back, by generating a synthetic copy of the original data

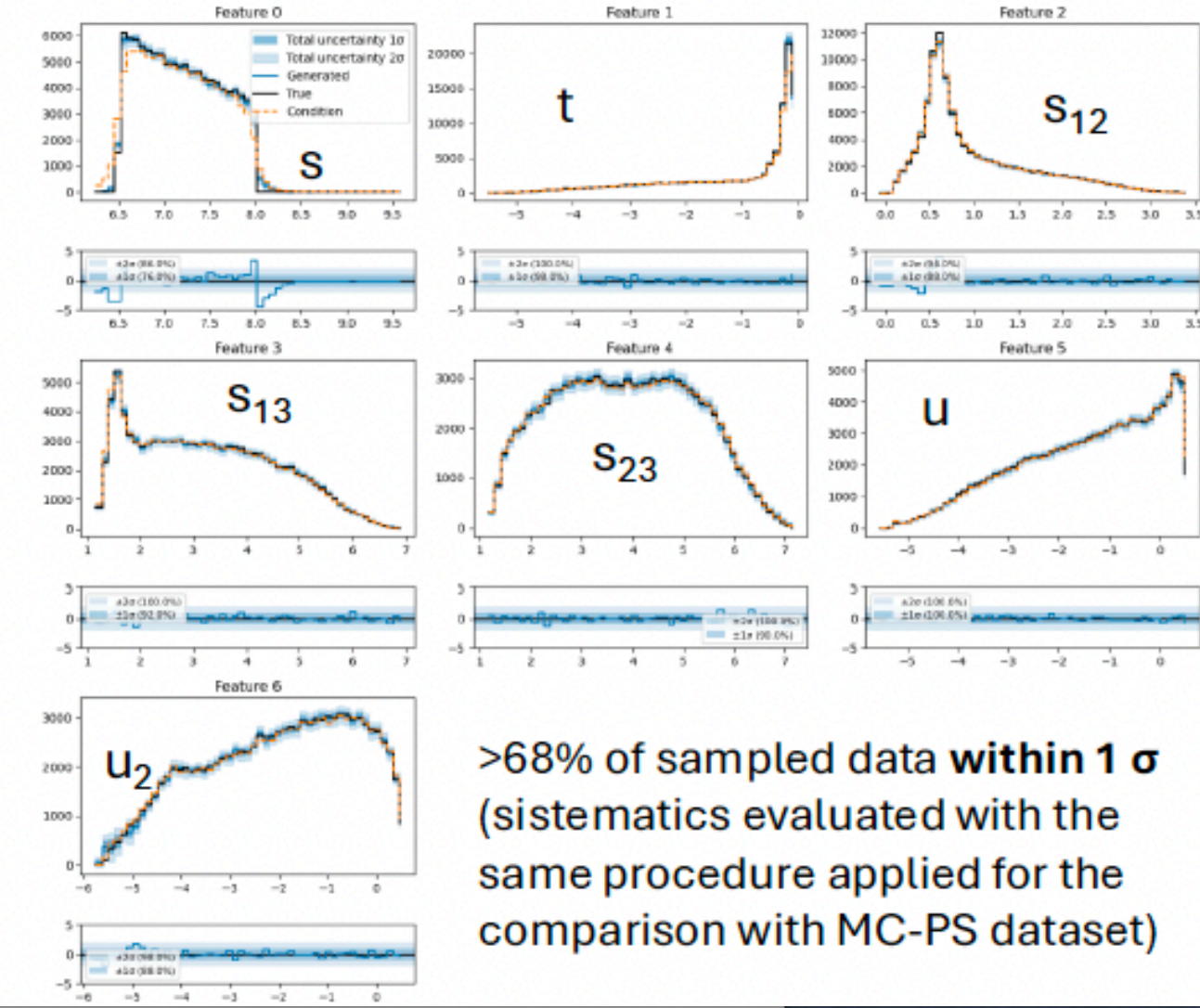
Use AI:
• INSID
• OUTS

Detector unfolded
 Detector
 (vertex)

A(i)DAPT: unfolding through diffusion models II



Correlations are preserved also in this case



>68% of sampled data within 1σ (sistematics evaluated with the same procedure applied for the comparison with MC-PS dataset)

Using the same cDM trained just on MC-PS data, we manage to **satisfactorily sample the vertex from a realistic-MC dataset never seen by the model**: production is factorized and the model has really learned how to smear

G.Foti

Use AI:
 • INSID
 • OUTS

Tools for data analysis from CLAS6 to CLAS12

- We want to extract the moments are calculated as fit parameters of the intensity:

$$\mathcal{I}(\Omega) = \sum_{JMS\Lambda} \left(\frac{2J+1}{4\pi}\right) \left(\frac{2S+1}{4\pi}\right) H(JMS\Lambda) \times D_{M,\Lambda}^{J*}(\phi_{GJ}, \theta_{GJ}, 0) D_{\Lambda,0}^{S*}(\phi_{HF}, \theta_{HF}, 0), \quad (1)$$

- The moments relate to partial waves:

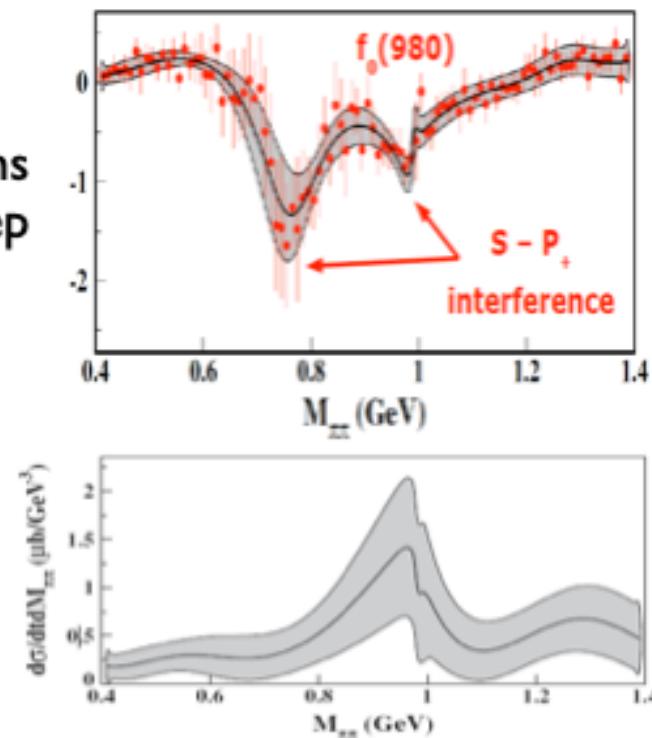
$$H(JMS\Lambda) = \sum_{b,b'} \sum_{\lambda,\lambda'} \left(\frac{\sqrt{(2l'+1)(2l+1)}}{2j'+1}\right) \left(\sqrt{\frac{2s+1}{2s'+1}}\right) (l, 0; s, \lambda | j, \lambda) \times (l', 0; s', \lambda' | j', \lambda') (s, \lambda; S, \Lambda | s', \lambda') (s, 0; S, 0 | s', 0) \times (j, m; J, M | j', m') (j, \lambda; J, \Lambda | j', \lambda') \times \rho_{bb'}. \quad (2)$$

Strategy

- Moments of the angular distributions can be used as an intermediate step toward a full PWA

$$\langle Y_{\lambda\mu} \rangle(E_\gamma, t, M) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \int d\Omega_\pi \frac{d\sigma}{dt dM d\Omega_\pi} Y_{\lambda\mu}(\Omega_\pi)$$

- Fit of amplitudes with moments lead to the first observation of the $f_0(980)$ using CLAS6 data

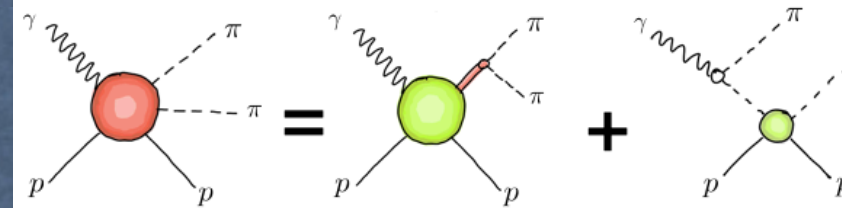


$M(\pi^+\pi^-)$ spectrum below 1.5 GeV:

- P-wave: ρ meson
- D-wave: $f_2(1270)$
- S-wave: $\sigma, f_0(980)$ and $f_0(1320)$

Regge-Amplitude Model for $\gamma p \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-p$ by JPAC, *PRD 111, 014002 (2025)*

L.Bibrzycki



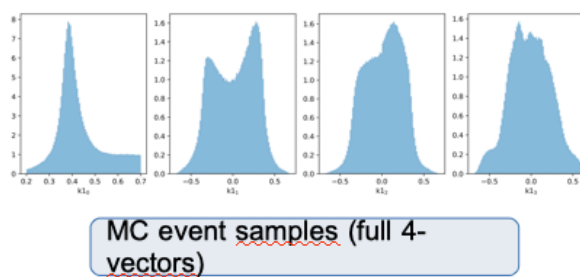
Physics Model:

- Resonances: $\rho(770), f_0(500), f_0(980), f_0(1370), f_0(1500), f_2(1270)$
- Regge exchanges: Pomeron, $a_2/f_2, \rho/\omega$
- Non-resonant Deck mechanism

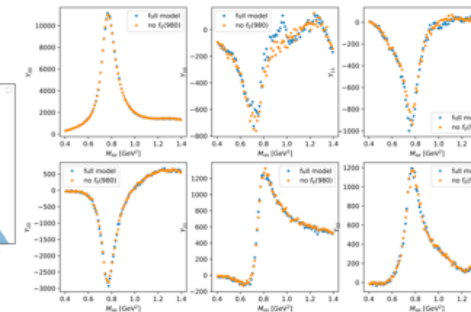
Workflow:

Amplitude model \rightarrow fit to angular moments \rightarrow 4-fold cross section \rightarrow MC generator

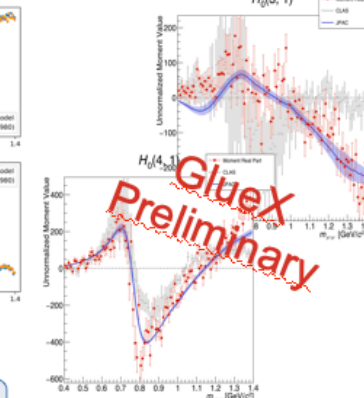
Deliverables:



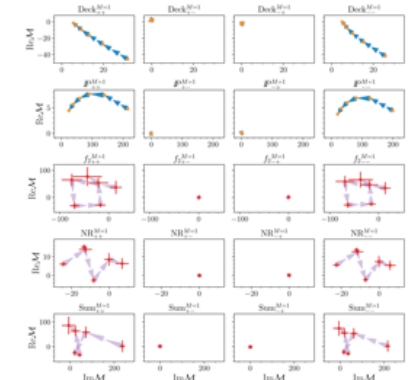
MC event samples (full 4-vectors)



Angular moments derived from the MC dataset



Higher moments



Amplitude phase motion

Tools for data analysis from CLAS6 to CLAS12

- We want to extract the moments are calculated as fit parameters of the intensity:

$$\mathcal{I}(\Omega) = \sum_{JMS\Lambda} \left(\frac{2J+1}{4\pi}\right) \left(\frac{2S+1}{4\pi}\right) H(JMS\Lambda) \times D_{M,\Lambda}^{J*}(\phi_{GJ}, \theta_{GJ}, 0) D_{\Lambda,0}^{S*}(\phi_{HF}, \theta_{HF}, 0), \quad (1)$$

- The moments relate to partial waves:

$$H(JMS\Lambda) = \sum_{b,b'} \sum_{\lambda,\lambda'} \left(\frac{\sqrt{(2l'+1)(2l+1)}}{2j'+1}\right) \left(\sqrt{\frac{2s+1}{2s'+1}}\right) (l, 0; s, \lambda | j, \lambda) \times (l', 0; s', \lambda' | j', \lambda') (s, \lambda; S, \Lambda | s', \lambda') (s, 0; S, 0 | s', 0) \times (j, m; J, M | j', m') (j, \lambda; J, \Lambda | j', \lambda') \times \rho_{bb'}. \quad (2)$$

M($\pi^+\pi^-$) spectrum below 1.5 GeV:

- P-wave: ρ meson
- D-wave: $f_2(1270)$
- S-wave: σ , $f_0(980)$ and $f_0(1320)$

Key Framework Objectives

- Model Independence I:** Experimental data can be completely summarised by Polarised Spherical Harmonic moments $H^\alpha(LM)$.
- Unpolarised Experiments:** Relating these moments to underlying partial wave amplitudes of any contributing meson resonances reduces number of independent parameters.
- Polarised nucleons:** We generalised to polarised nucleons, doubling the measurable amplitudes.
- L/T separation** Restricting the model dependence to Regge factorisation allows Single Energy L/T separations. In principle polarised nucleon experiments allow fully model independent extractions.

Current Status & Next Steps

- Formalism:** paper write up in progress.
- Tools:**
 - Moment to amplitude inverter developed.
 - Moment fitting tools for electro-production under-development.
 - Inclusive Generator based on JPAC models under-development.

A Model-Independent Partial Wave Approach to Meson Photo- and Electroproduction
Spherical Harmonic Moments, Spin Density Matrices, Partial Wave Amplitudes

Derek Glazier
Dillon Leahy, Vincent Mathieu
and the Joint Physics Analysis Centre

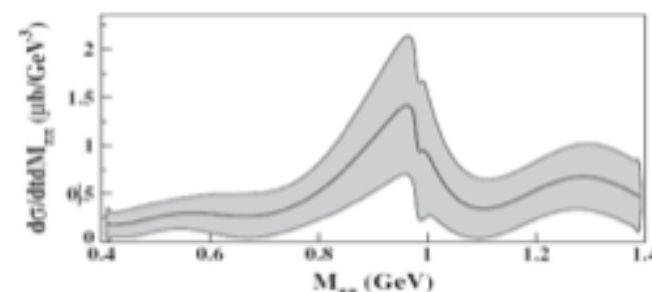
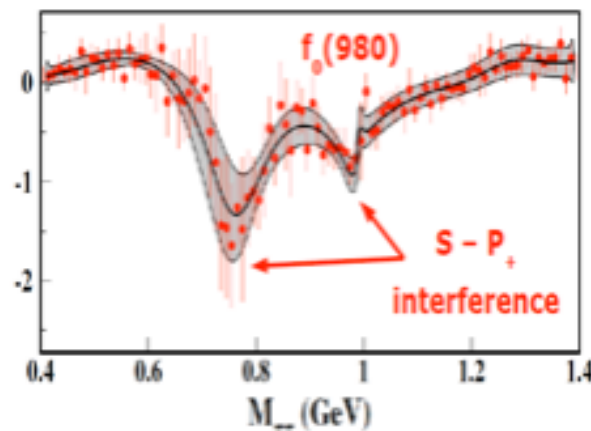
Conclusion: Methods developed for complex amplitude analysis in photoproduction for Hadron Spectroscopy experiments are ready to be implemented in electro-production reactions.

Strategy

- Moments of the angular distributions can be used as an intermediate step toward a full PWA

$$\langle Y_{\lambda\mu} \rangle(E_\gamma, t, M) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \int d\Omega_\pi \frac{d\sigma}{dt dM d\Omega_\pi} Y_{\lambda\mu}(\Omega_\pi)$$

- Fit of amplitudes with moments lead to the first observation of the $f_0(980)$ using CLAS6 data



Tools for data analysis from CLAS6 to CLAS12

- We want to extract the moments are calculated as fit parameters of the intensity:

$$\mathcal{I}(\Omega) = \sum_{JMS\Lambda} \left(\frac{2J+1}{4\pi}\right) \left(\frac{2S+1}{4\pi}\right) H(JMS\Lambda) \times D_{M,\Lambda}^{J*}(\phi_{GJ}, \theta_{GJ}, 0) D_{\Lambda,0}^{S*}(\phi_{HF}, \theta_{HF}, 0), \quad (1)$$

- The moments relate to partial waves:

$$H(JMS\Lambda) = \sum_{b,b'} \sum_{\lambda,\lambda'} \left(\frac{\sqrt{(2l'+1)(2l+1)}}{2j'+1}\right) \left(\sqrt{\frac{2s+1}{2s'+1}}\right) (l, 0; s, \lambda | j, \lambda) \times (l', 0; s', \lambda' | j', \lambda') (s, \lambda; S, \Lambda | s', \lambda') (s, 0; S, 0 | s', 0) \times (j, m; J, M | j', m') (j, \lambda; J, \Lambda | j', \lambda') \times \rho_{bb'}. \quad (2)$$

M($\pi^+\pi^-$) spectrum below 1.5 GeV:

- P-wave: ρ meson
- D-wave: $f_2(1270)$
- S-wave: σ , $f_0(980)$ and $f_0(1320)$

Polarised photoproduction of 2 spinless particles

Decay process can be studied in a number of related ways :

Moments of spherical harmonic distributions

Fourier analysis up to some truncation in L
CLAS results (Battaglieri et al, 2000)
still being analysed by JPAC

Spin Density Matrix Elements

Classic Schilling, Seybouth and Wolf paper for Vector mesons
Extended to electroproduction
Assumes only P-wave contributions
Recent GlueX results

Partial Wave Amplitudes

Allows multitude of contributing resonances of all l
Mass dependence allows pole extraction
GOAL for spectroscopy

Greater connection to physics

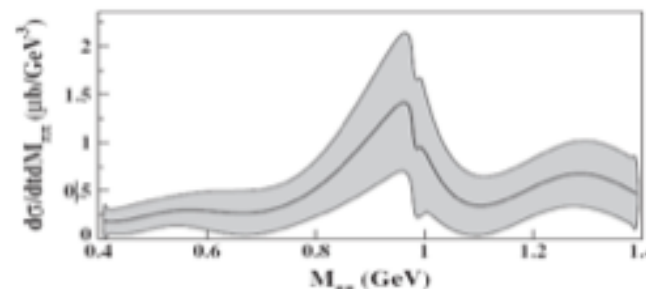
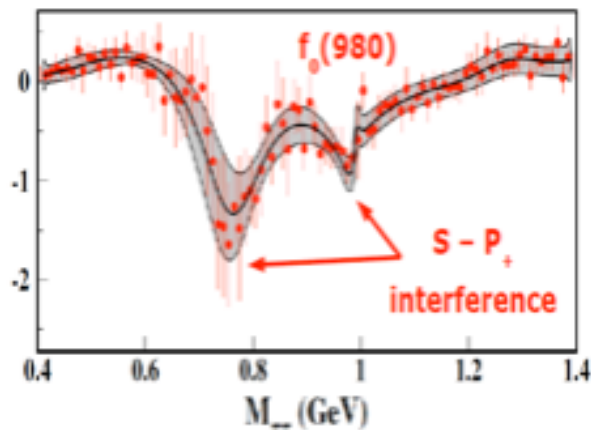


Strategy

- Moments of the angular distributions can be used as an intermediate step toward a full PWA

$$\langle Y_{\lambda\mu} \rangle(E_\gamma, t, M) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \int d\Omega_\pi \frac{d\sigma}{dt dM d\Omega_\pi} Y_{\lambda\mu}(\Omega_\pi)$$

- Fit of amplitudes with moments lead to the first observation of the $f_0(980)$ using CLAS6 data



AI for extracting amplitudes

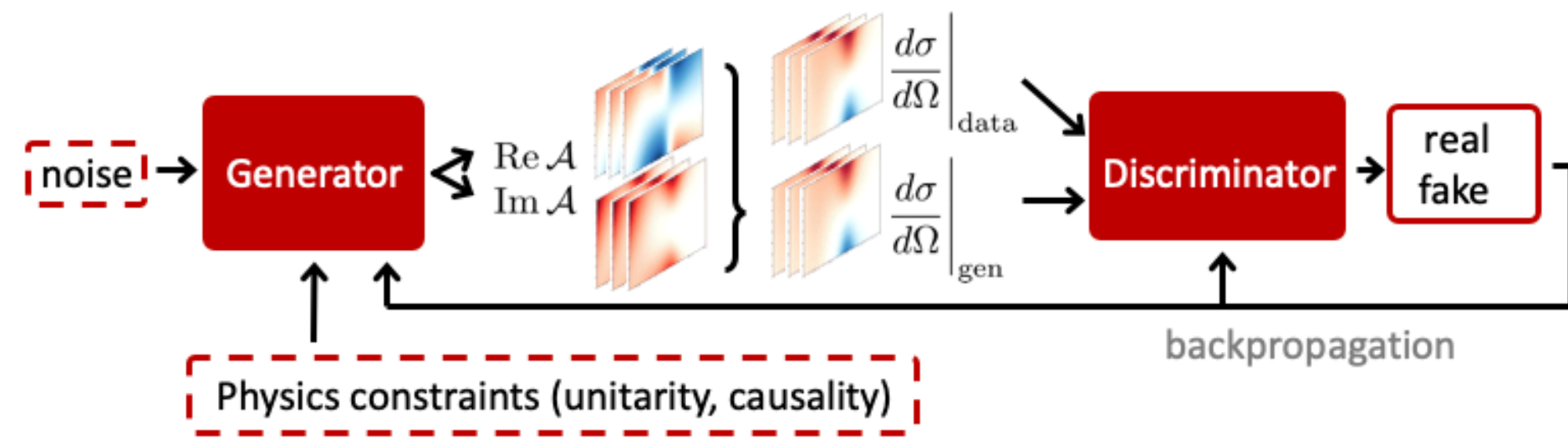
G.Montaña

Reconstruction of scattering amplitudes with physics-informed GANs

G. Montaña, J. Xu, Y. Li, A. Pilloni, M. Battaglieri and others (A(i)DAPT)

Extract amplitude from differential cross sections, using unitarity constraint

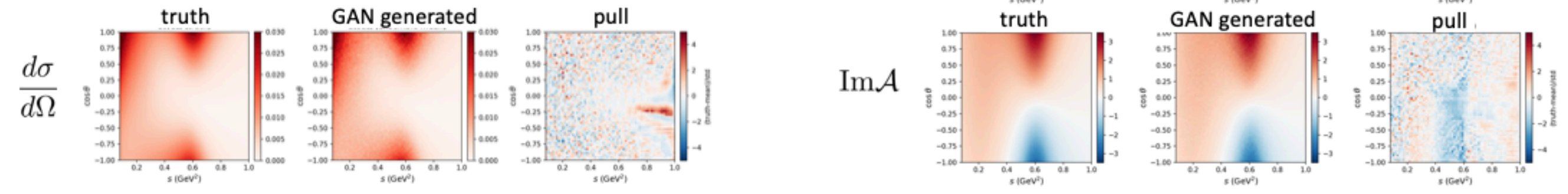
Train an AI model to extract amplitudes (complex numbers satisfying some physics constraints, e.g. unitarity) from events generated with Monte Carlo simulations according to a theoretical model (and eventually from experimental data)



Benchmark for elastic $\pi\pi$ scattering

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{truth}}(s, \cos \theta) = f_0(s) + 3f_1(s) \cos \theta$$

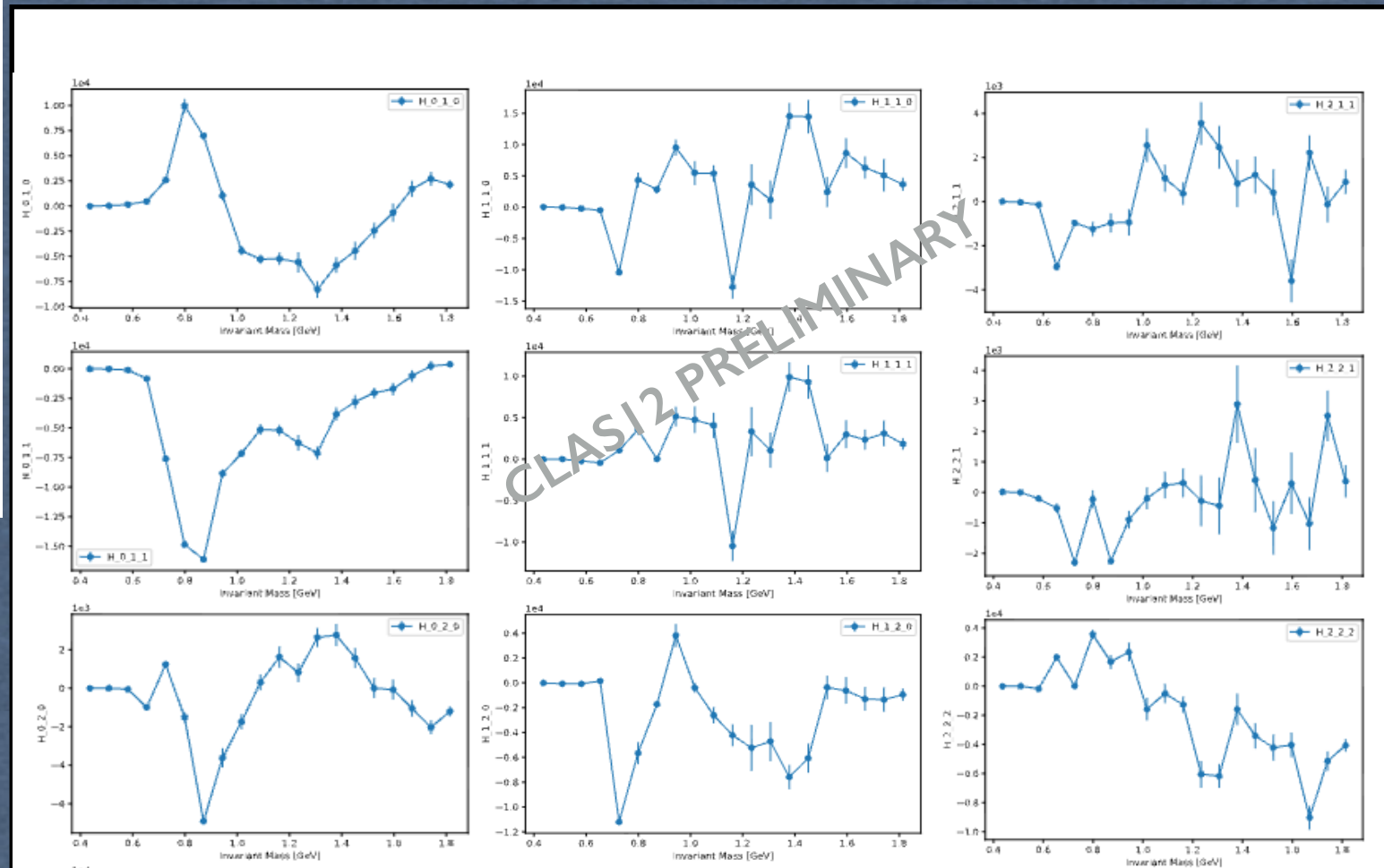
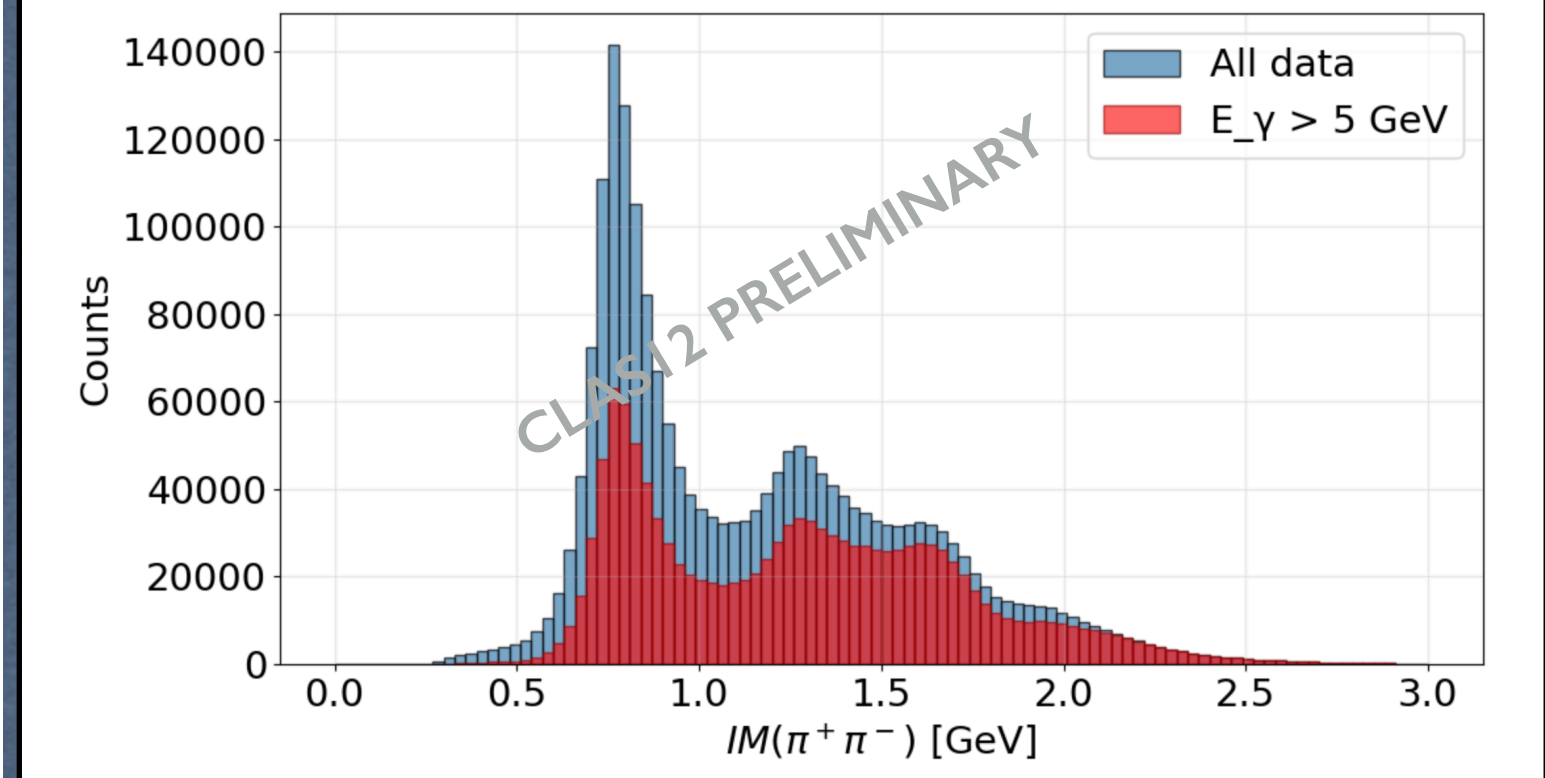
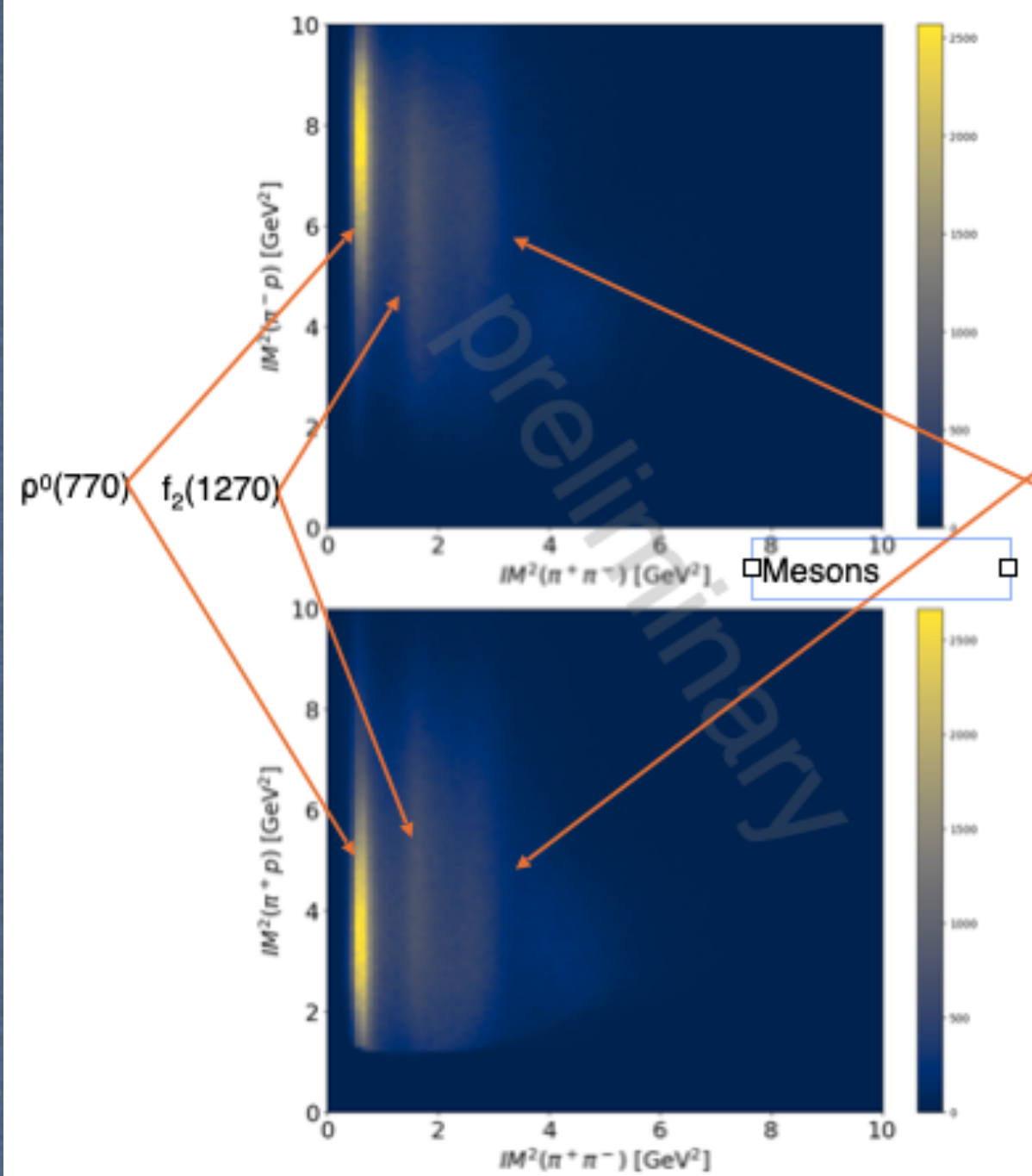
Results for reconstruction from noisy training samples:



MesonEx data



- Use standard CLAS12 PID (FT based start time)
- $p\pi^+\pi^-$ exclusive reaction (all hadrons detected)
- All $-t$
- $\langle Q^2 \rangle = 0.07 \text{ GeV}^2/c^2$
- $E_{\text{Beam}} = 10.6 \text{ GeV} \rightarrow E_{\gamma} > 5 \text{ GeV}$



- Complementary cuts select baryons for further studies
- First extraction of angular moments

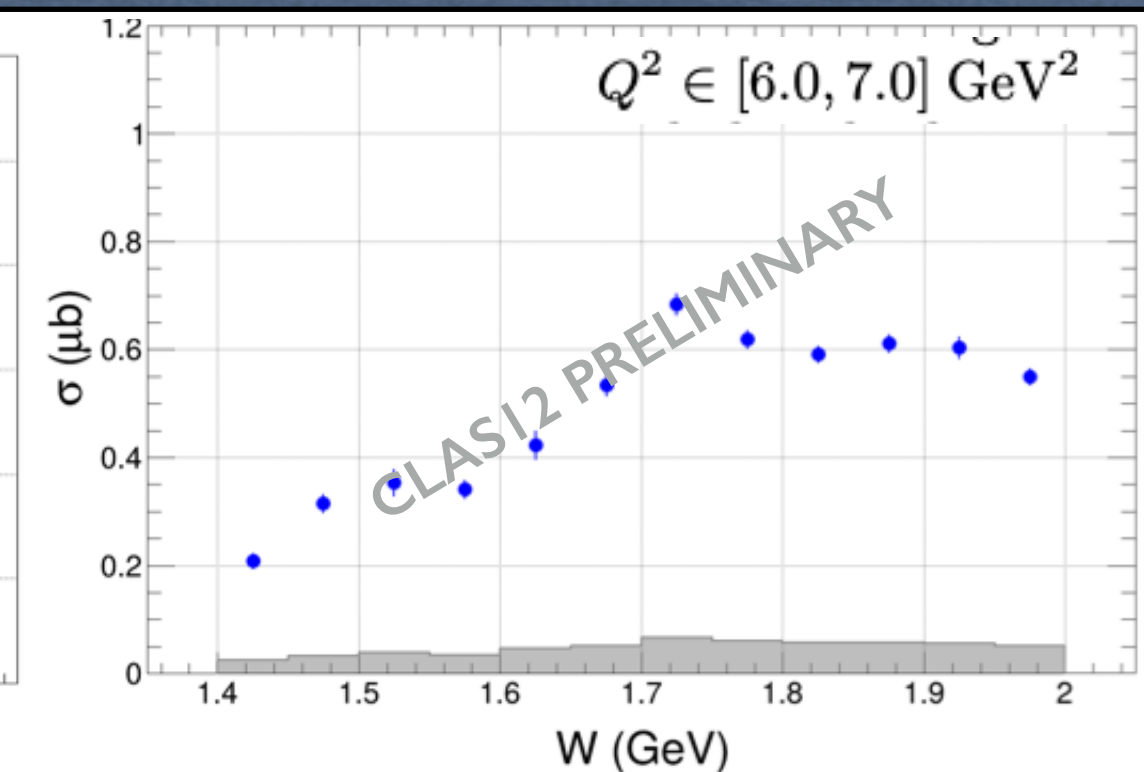
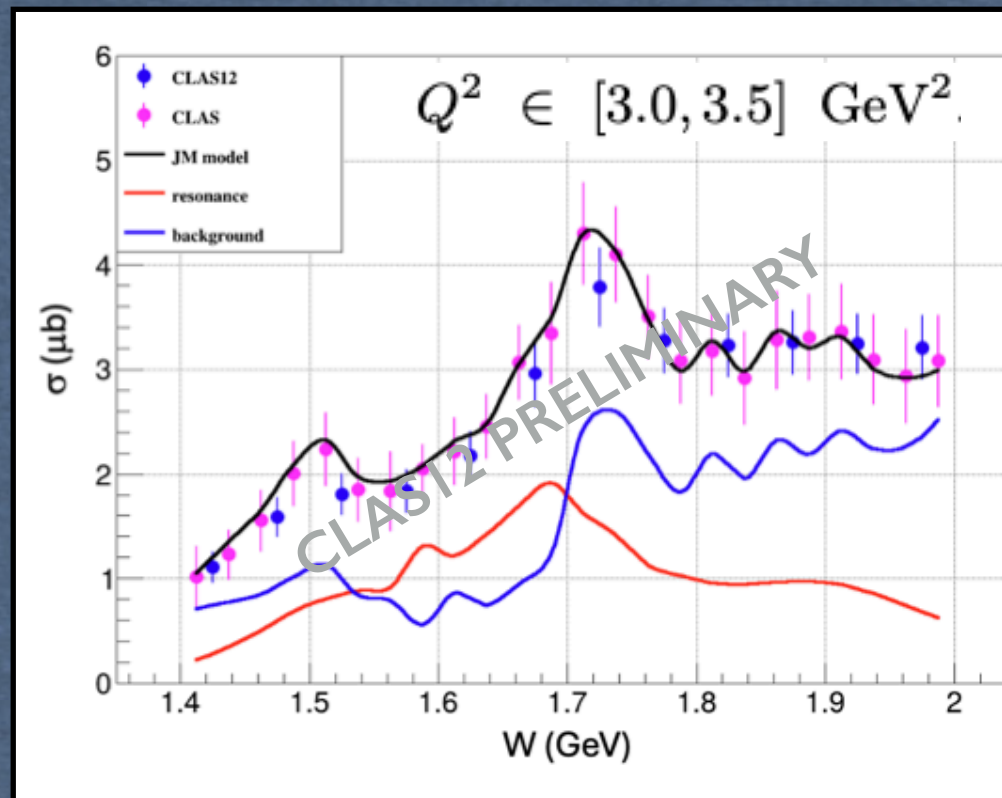
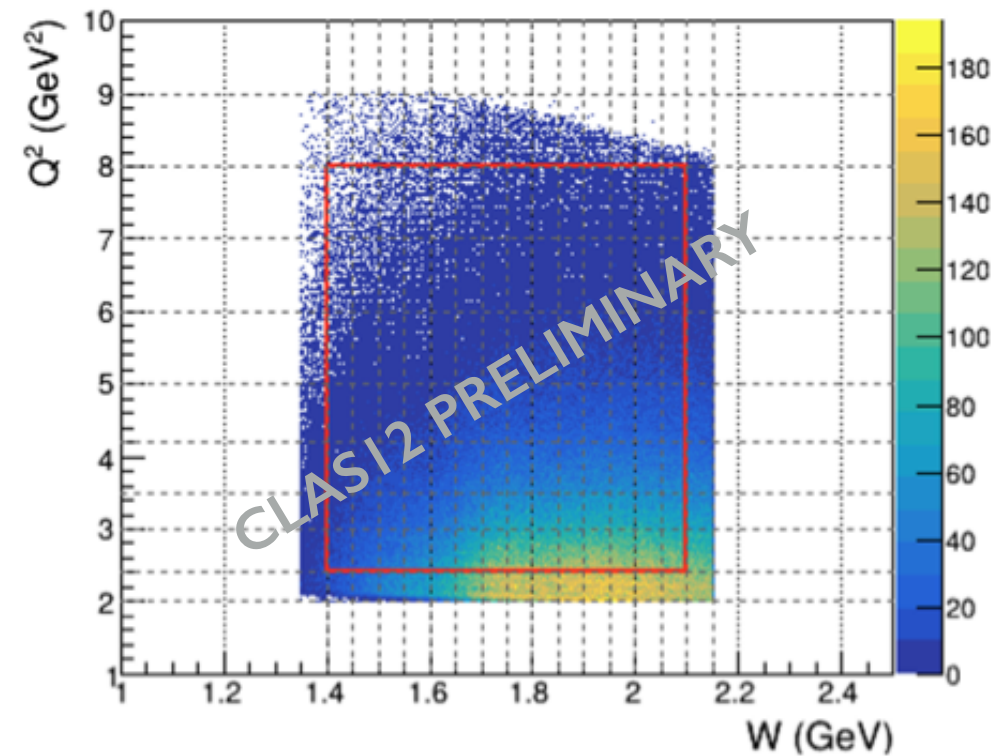
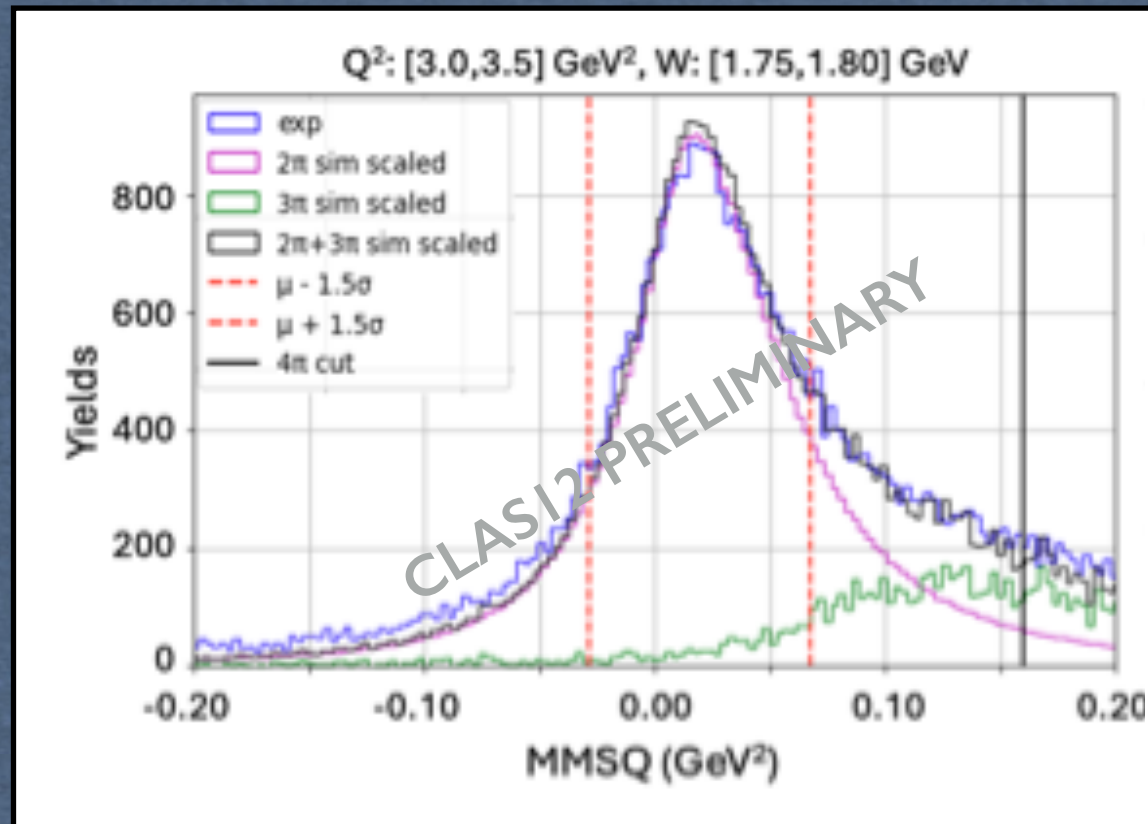
Absolute cross section

$e p \rightarrow e' p \pi^+ \pi^-$

- $p\pi^+(\pi^-)$ exclusive reaction
- $E_{\text{Beam}} = 10.6 \text{ GeV}$
- $Q^2 = [2.4 - 8] \text{ GeV}^2/c^2$
- $W = [1.4-2.1] \text{ GeV}$
- Absolute multi-d Xsec extraction

$$\frac{d^5\sigma}{dM_{h_1 h_2} dM_{h_2 h_3} d\Omega_{h_1} d\alpha_{[h_1 p][h_2 h_3]}} = \frac{1}{\Gamma_\nu} \frac{d^7\sigma}{dW dQ^2 dM_{h_1 h_2} dM_{h_2 h_3} d\Omega_{h_1} d\alpha_{[h_1 p][h_2 h_3]}}$$

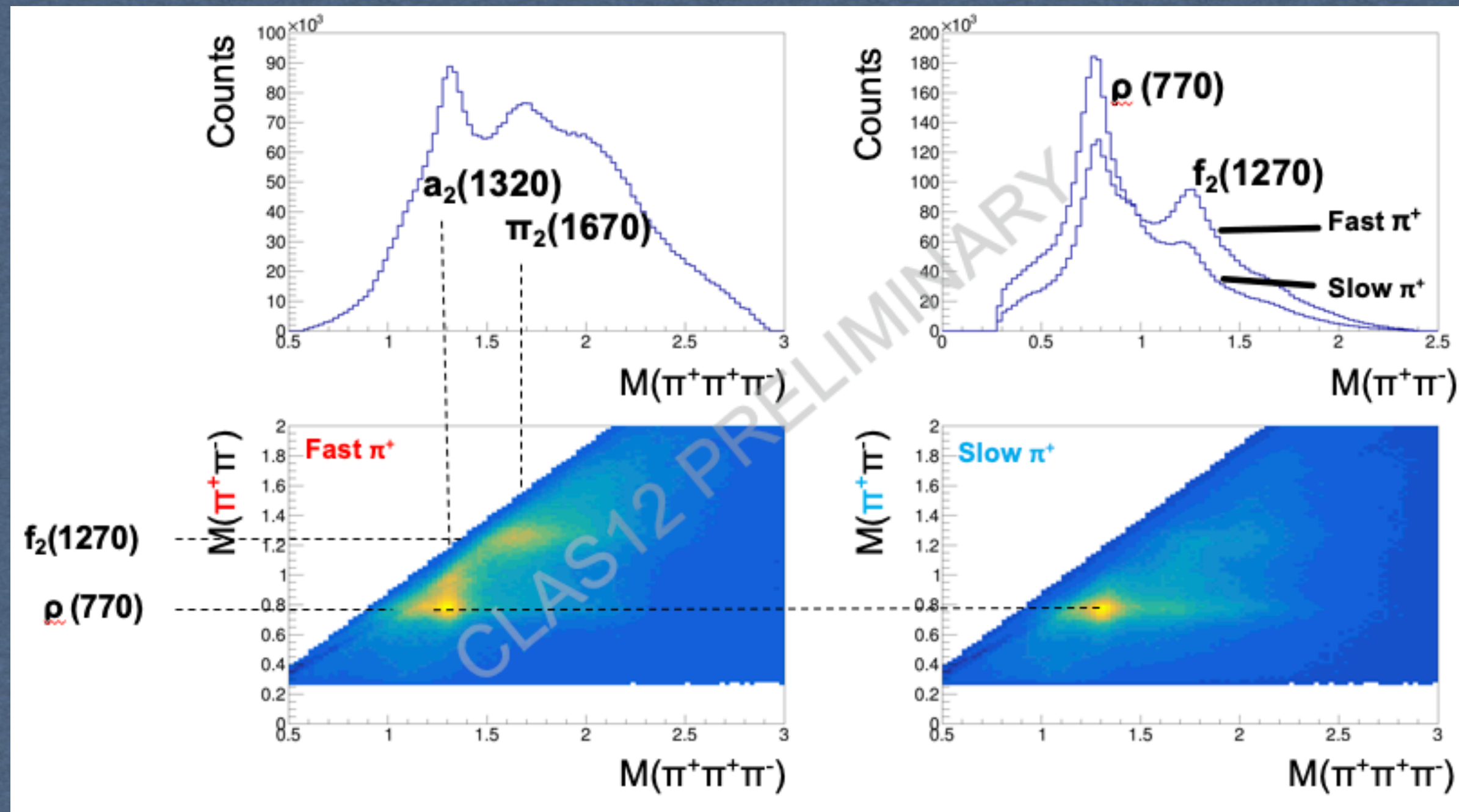
- Wide kinematic range covered
- Nucleon resonances photocoupling extraction
- Paper in preparation



MesonEx data



- Search for $\pi_1(1600)$ exotic meson
- $E_{\text{beam}} = 10.6$ GeV on LH2 target
 - $-t < -2$ GeV
 - $6 < E_\gamma < 10$ GeV
- Use standard CLAS12 PID (FT based start time)
- $p\pi^+\pi^-$ (missing n) exclusive reaction



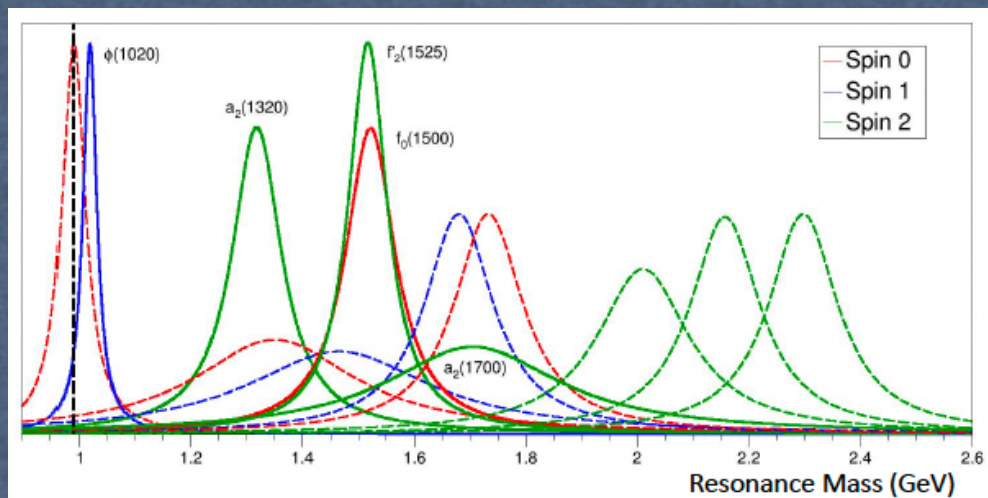
- Need to include $N^*/\Delta + 2\pi$ contributions in the analysis
- Trigger/Torus Field/Detector \rightarrow Low acceptance for $M < 1.3$ GeV

MesonEx data

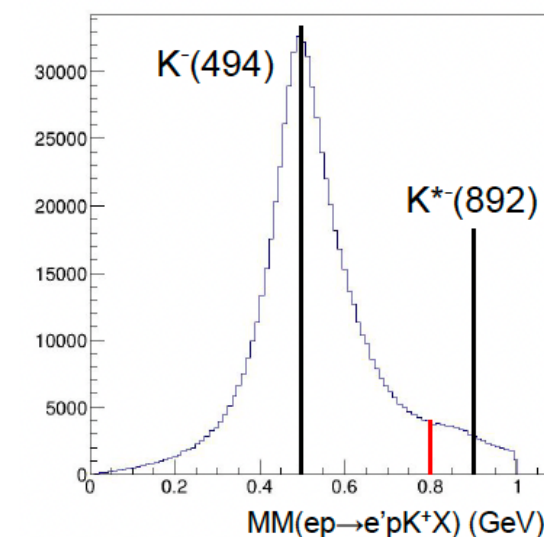
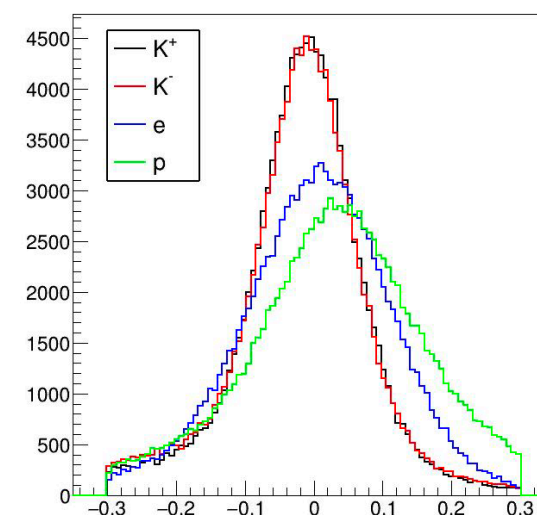
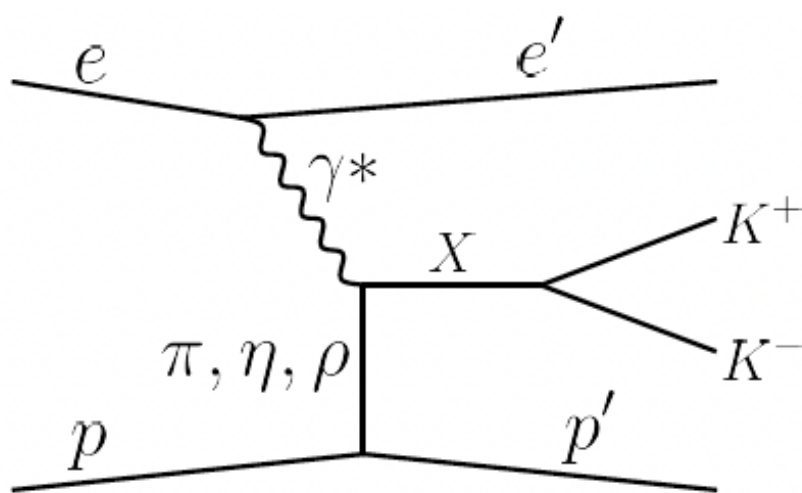


- $E_{\text{beam}} = 10.2$ GeV on LH2 target
- Q^2 between 0.07 and 0.3 GeV
- e^- in FT, hadrons in FD
- p and K^+ detected (K^- missing)

Resonances	Mass (MeV)	Width (MeV)	Spin
$\phi(1020)$	1019.5	4.3	1
$a_2(1320)$	1318.2	107.8	2
$f_0(1500)$	1522	108	0
$f'_2(1525)$	1517.3	84.4	2
$a_2(1700)$	1706	380	2



• Moment analysis



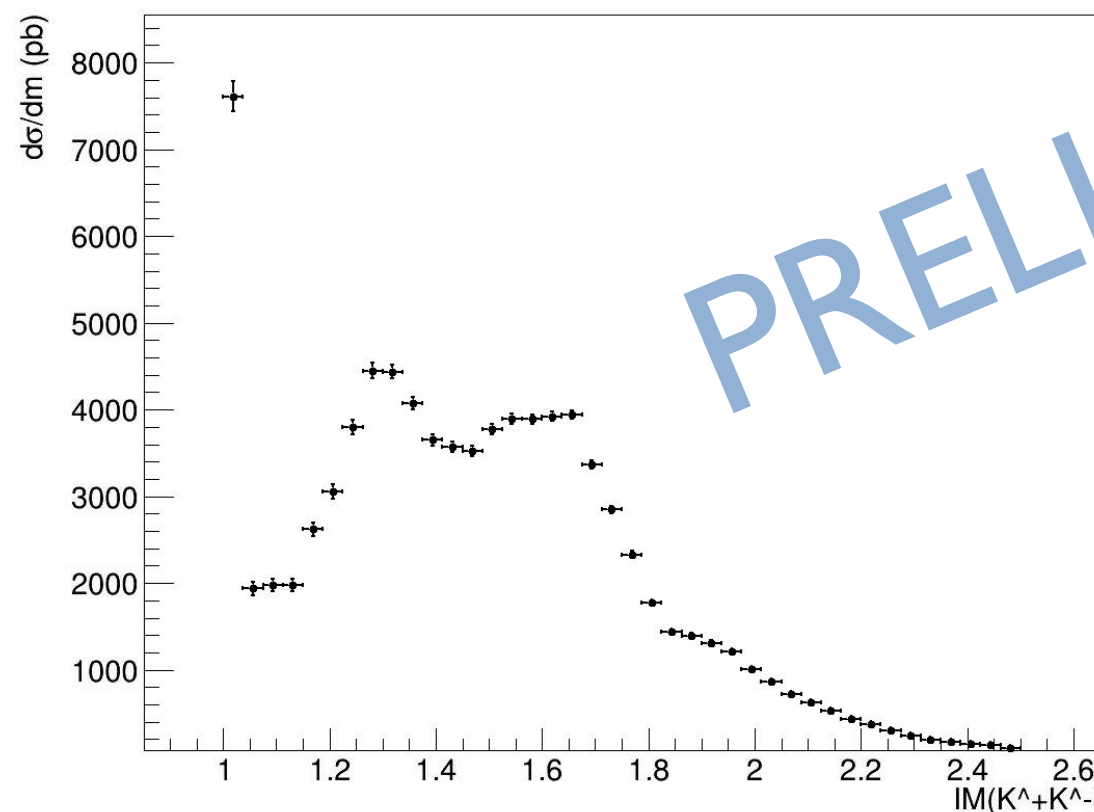
Differential cross-section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dm_{K^+K^-}} = \frac{N_i}{\Gamma \epsilon_i \Delta m_i T B R_i}$$

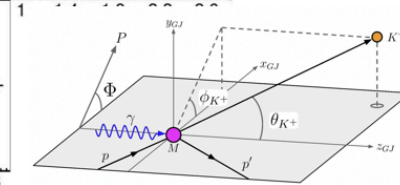
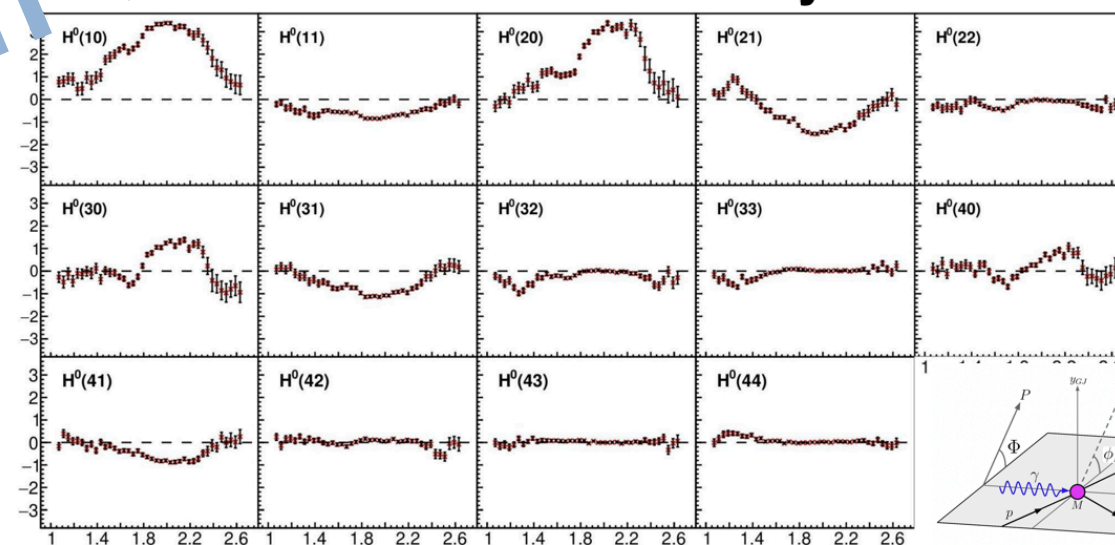
$$H^0(LM) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-1}^1 I(\Omega, \Phi) d_{M0}^L(\theta) \cos M\phi d(\cos\theta) d\phi d\Phi$$

$$H^0(00) = H^1(00) + 2 \left[|P_1^{(+)}|^2 + |D_1^{(+)}|^2 + |D_2^{(+)}|^2 \right]$$

$$H^1(00) = 2 \left[|S_0^{(+)}|^2 + |P_0^{(+)}|^2 + |D_0^{(+)}|^2 \right]$$



Moments of K+K- decay

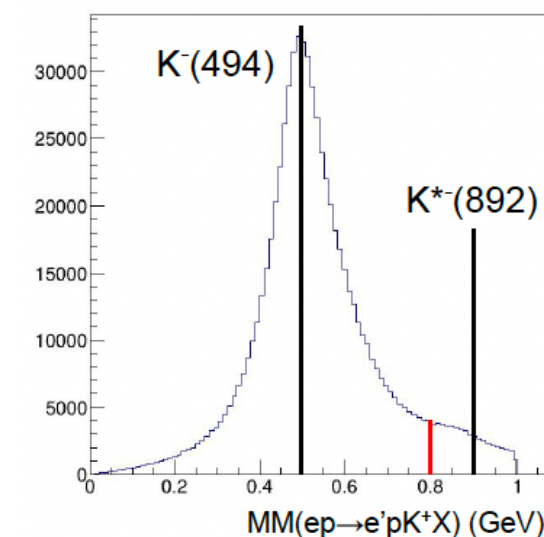
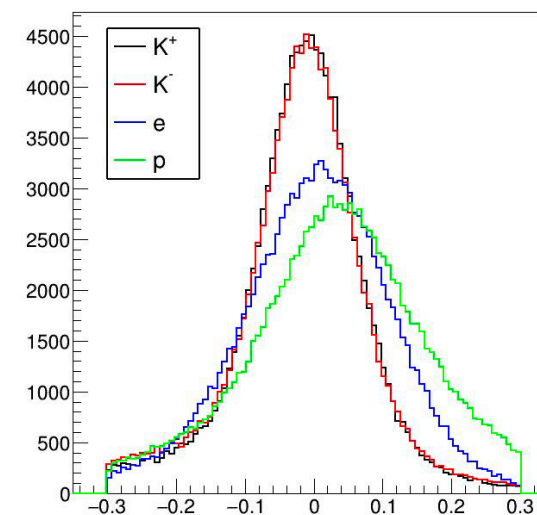
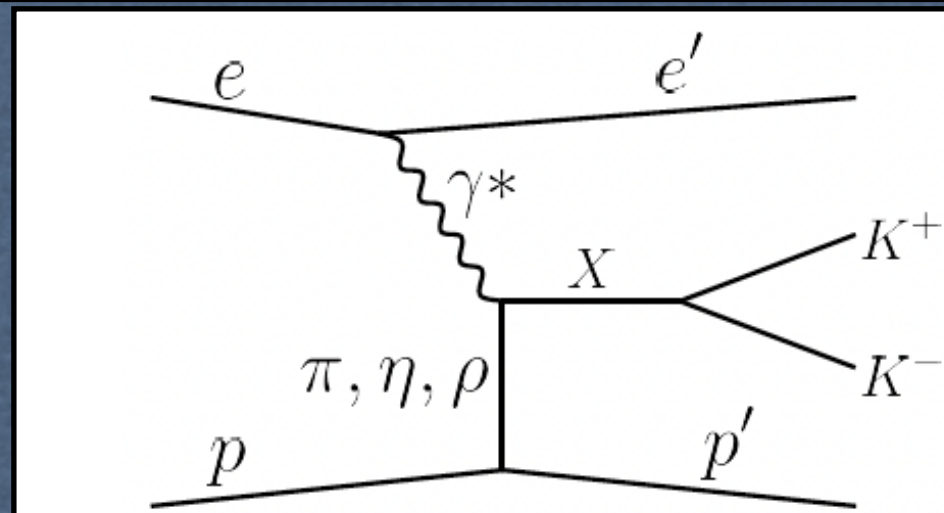


K^+K^- Invariant Mass (GeV)

MesonEx data

$$\gamma p \rightarrow p K^+ K^-$$

- $E_{\text{beam}} = 10.2$ GeV on LH2 target
- Q^2 between 0.07 and 0.3 GeV
- e^- in FT, hadrons in FD
- p and K^+ detected (K^- missing)



Resonances	Mass (MeV)	Width (MeV)	Spin
$\phi(1020)$	1019.5	4.3	
$a_2(1320)$	1318.2	107.8	
$f_0(1500)$	1522	108	
$f'_2(1525)$	1517.3	84.4	
$a_2(1700)$	1706	380	2

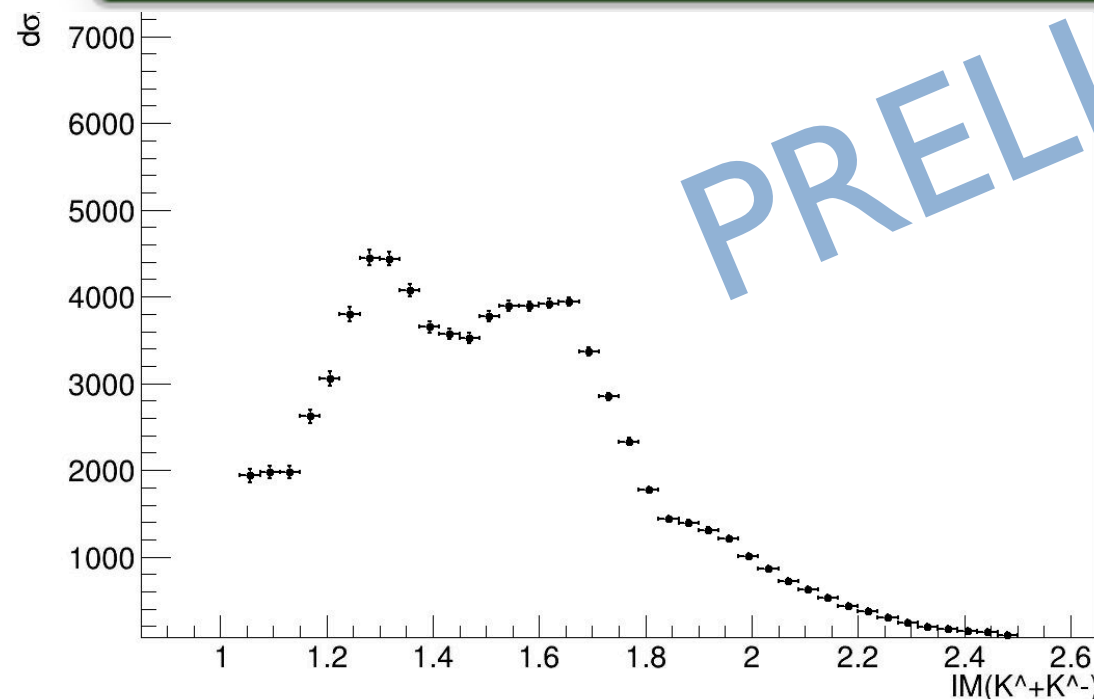
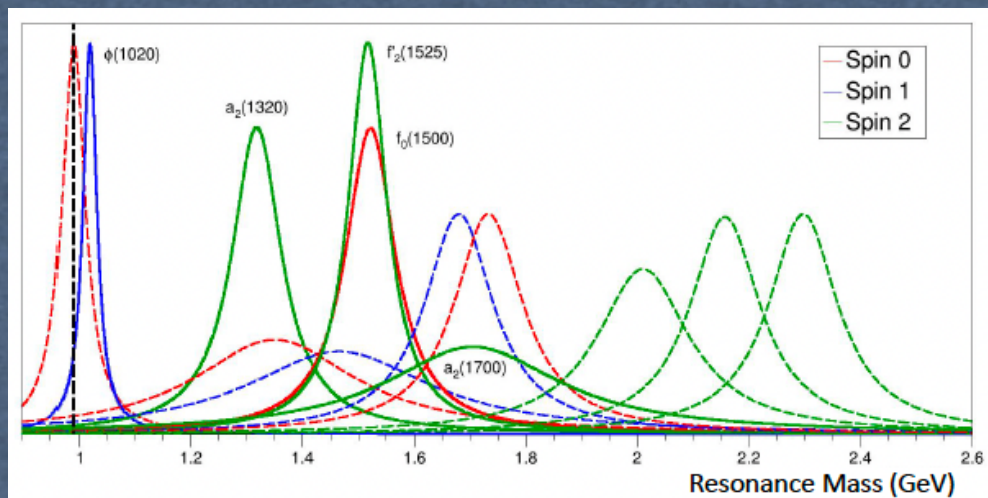
**Monday
15:25**

Differential cross-section

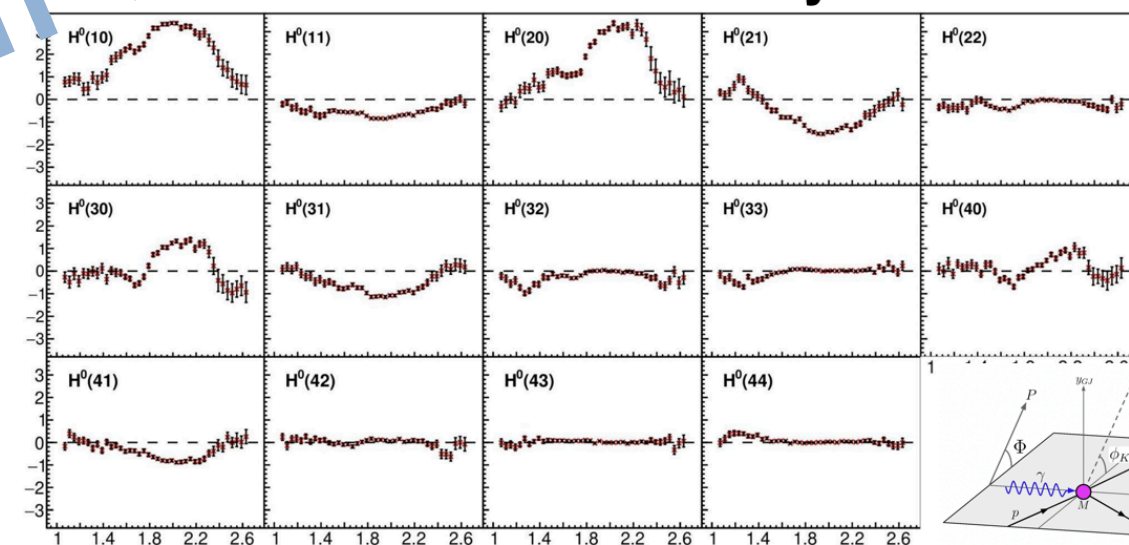
$$H^0(LM) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 I(\Omega, \Phi) d_{M0}^L(\theta) \cos M\phi d(\cos\theta) d\phi d\Phi$$

Partial Wave Analysis of Resonances in K^+K^- and KK^* wit...
Charlie Velasquez

$$D_2^{(+) |^2}$$



Moments of K^+K^- decay

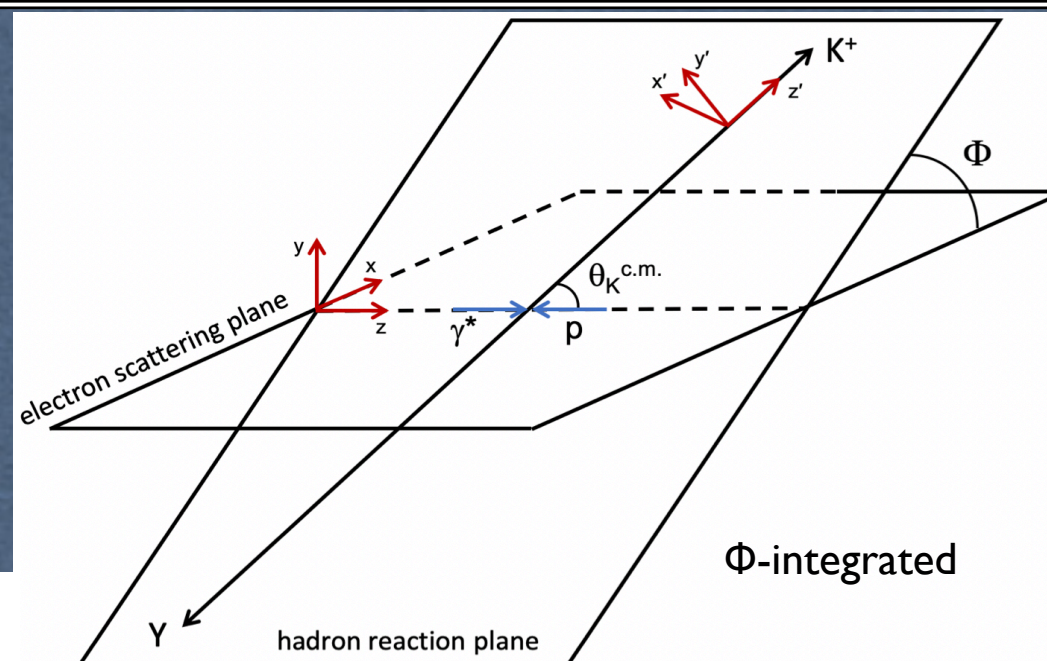


K^+K^- Invariant Mass (GeV)

CLAS12 data analysis

$e p \rightarrow K^+ Y$

- KY transferred and recoil polarisation
- K^+ ($Y=\Lambda^0$) and K^+ ($Y=\Sigma^0$)
- $E_{\text{beam}}=6.5$ GeV on LH2 target



D.S. Carman et al. (CLAS12), PRC 105, 065201 (2022)
 D.S. Carman et al. (CLAS), PRC 112, 035206 (2025)

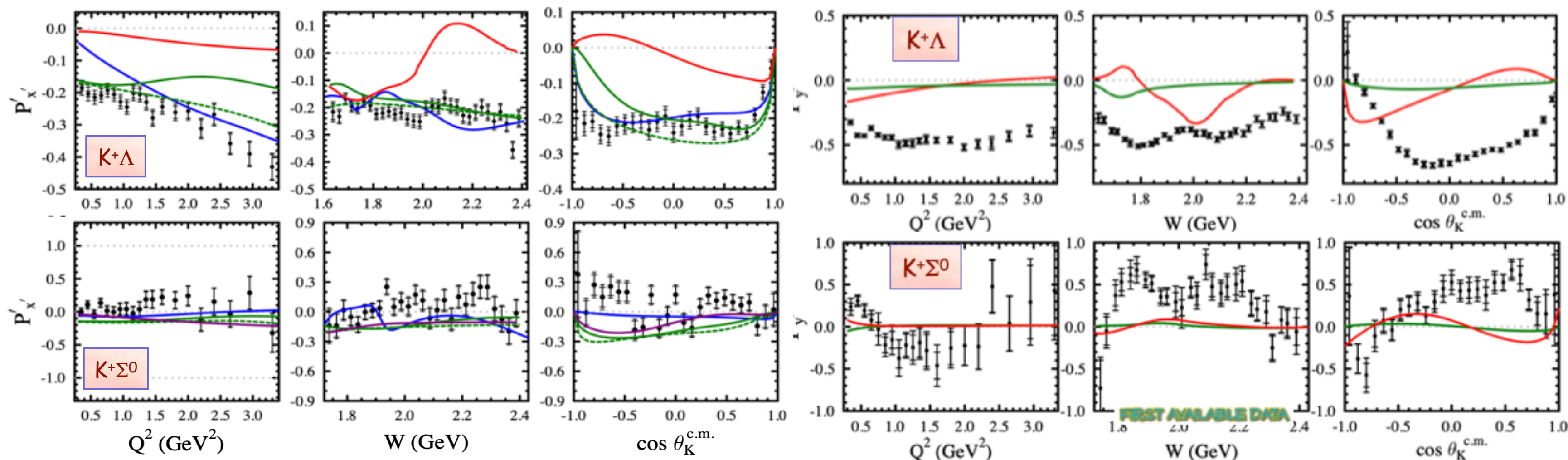
- Single and couple channel analysis
- Fine tuning of isobar models

Isobar models:

BSA: D. Skoupil and P. Bydžovský, PRC 97, 025202 (2018)

BSS: D. Petrillis and D. Skoupil, PRC 110, 065204 (2024)

SL: J.C. David, C. Fayard, G.H. Lamont, and B. Saghai, PRC 53, 2613 (1996)



Conclusions and outlook

- * Hadron spectroscopy (now as in the past) demonstrates to be an important tool to study strong forces
- * Several new multi-quark states that do not fit into the Quark Model have been discovered
- * Quark bound-states are genuine manifestation of non-perturbative regime of QCD
- * Jefferson Lab has a comprehensive spectroscopy program (GlueX & CLAS12)
- * Exotics and strangeness-rich mesons search exploit excellent resolution and particle ID
- * CLAS12
 - Low Q^2 e- scattering for high intensity, linear pol, quasi-real photon beams
 - High Q^2 e- scattering to map out baryon/meson internal dynamics
- * Abundant and precise data requires a solid PWA analysis framework
- * New analysis tools based on AI are being developed in parallel to be ready for physics analyses

High-performance detectors, high intensity e/ γ beams, strong analysis framework are the ingredients to make JLab a leading facility in modern hadron spectroscopy