

Photoproduction of mesons off light nuclei

- excited states of the neutron and meson - nucleus bound states -

B. Krusche, U. Basel, CBELSA/TAPS, CBALL/TAPS collaborations



Introduction



Experimental setups

- ◆ Crystal Barrel & TAPS @ ELSA
- ◆ Crystal Ball & TAPS @ MAMI

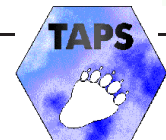
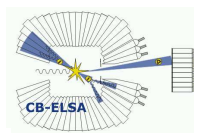
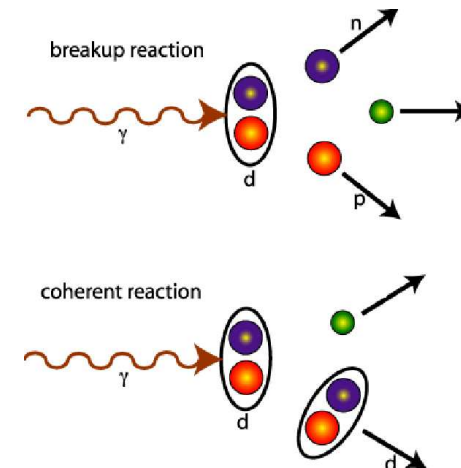


Experimental results

- ◆ photoproduction of mesons off quasi-free nucleons: η , η' , π^0 , $\pi^0\pi^0$, $\pi^0\eta$,...
- ◆ coherent photoproduction of mesons off light nuclei: $\pi^0\eta$, $\pi^0\pi^0$, $\pi^0\pi^0\pi^0$
- ◆ search for η -mesic nuclei: ${}^3\text{He}(\gamma, \eta){}^3\text{He}$, ${}^7\text{Li}(\gamma, \eta){}^7\text{Li}$

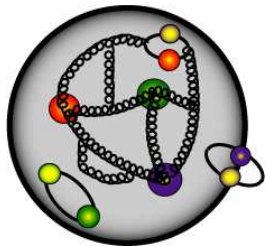


Conclusions



Structure of the Nucleon

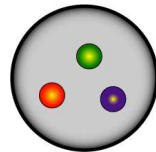
complex many body system



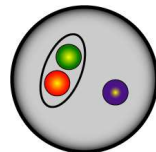
- valence quarks
- sea quarks
- gluons

models - effective dof's:

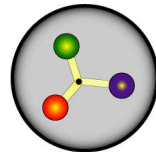
3 equivalent constituent quarks



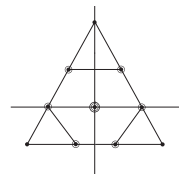
quark - diquark models (fewer states)



quarks - flux tubes etc. (more states)

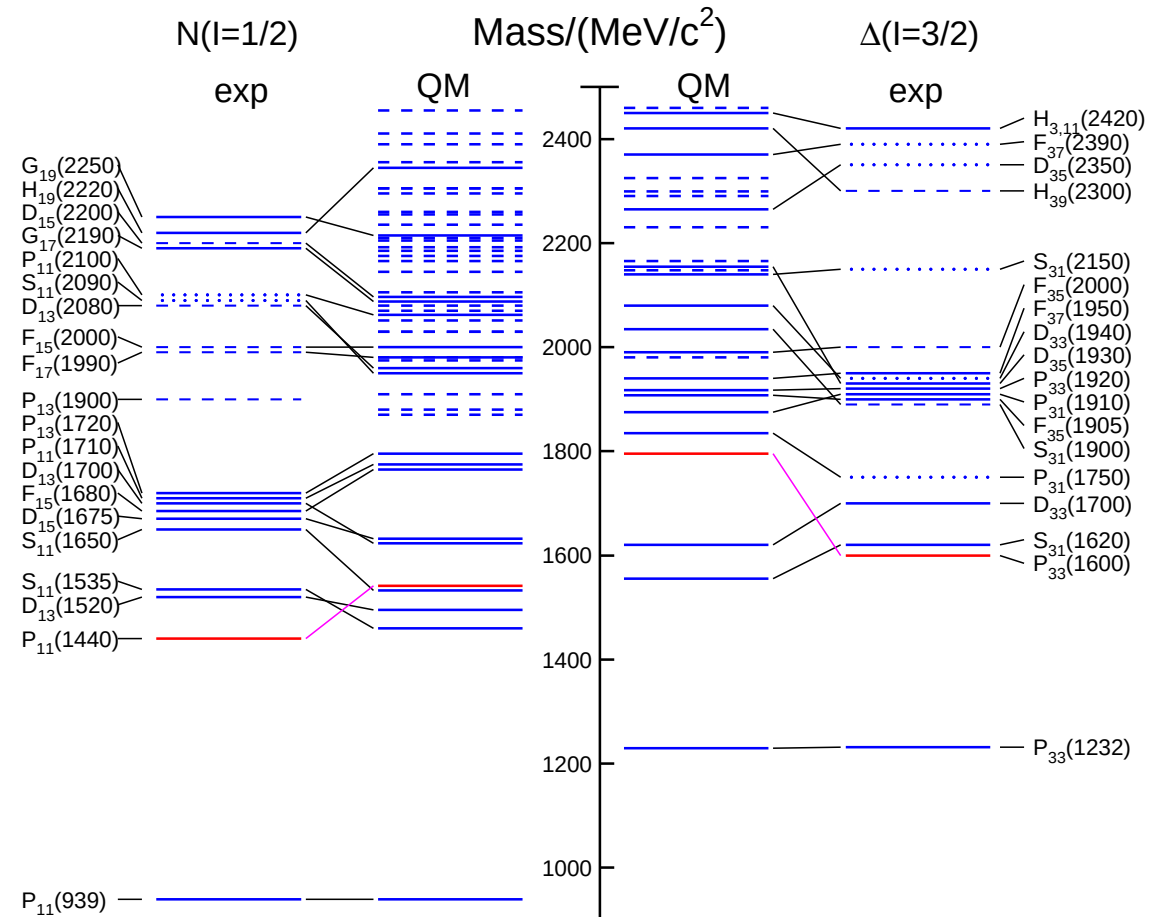


chiral soliton models (anti-decuplet states)



coupled channel dynamics (molecule-like states) ■ ■ ■

comparison: known excited states - constituent quark model (Capstick & Roberts)

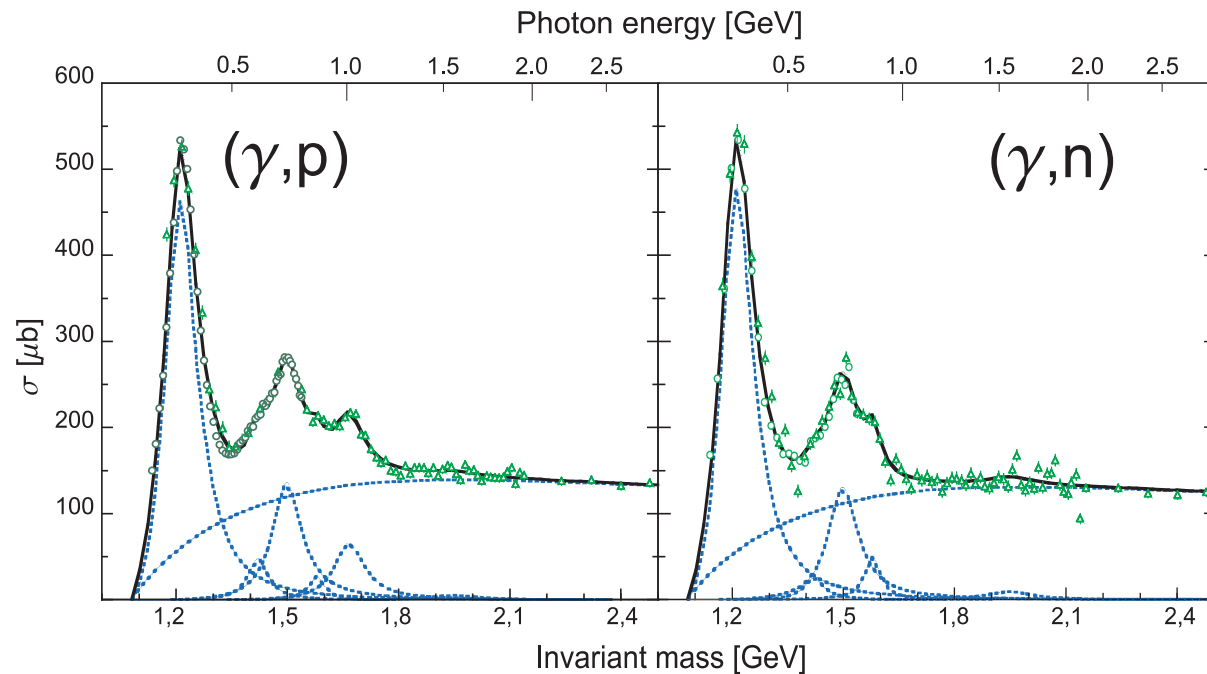


ordering of (low-lying) states?

missing resonance problem?

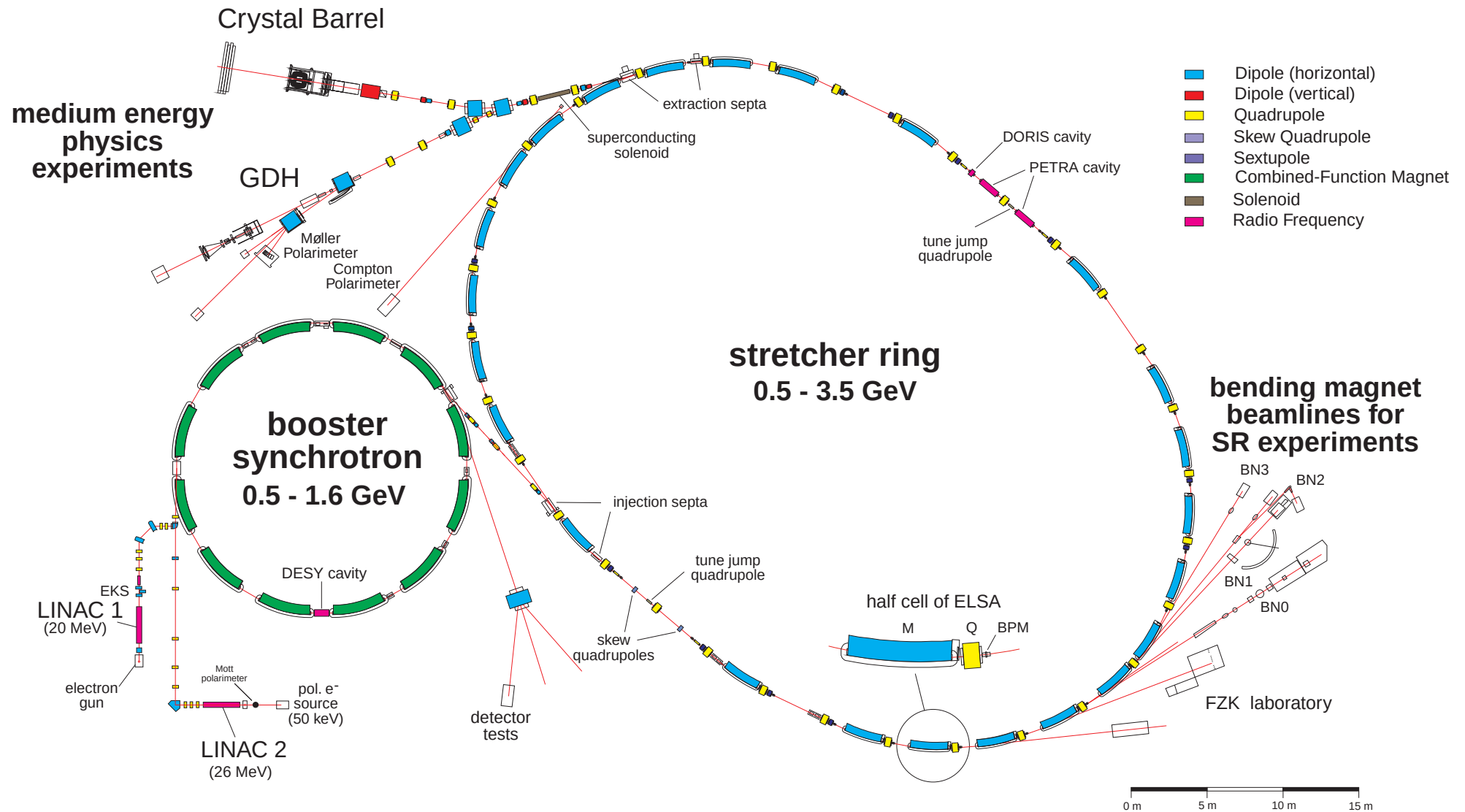
electromagnetic excitations of the neutron

- importance of measurements off the neutron:
 - different resonance contributions
 - needed for extraction of iso-spin composition of elm. couplings



- complications due to use of nuclear targets (deuteron):
 - Fermi motion
 - nuclear effects like FSI, re-scattering, coherent contributions

Electron Stretcher Accelerator (ELSA)



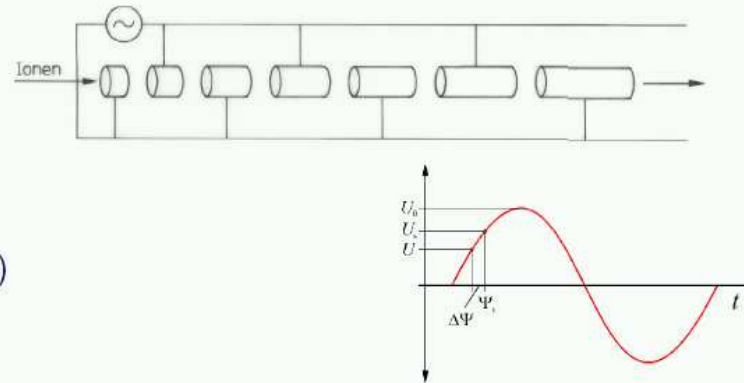
more: V. Crede, Monday, 12:00

MAMI accelerator in Mainz

Mainz Microtron (MAMI)

continuous wave electron accelerator, max. beam energy 883

0. Stage: Linac (2.5 GHz, 3.45 MeV)



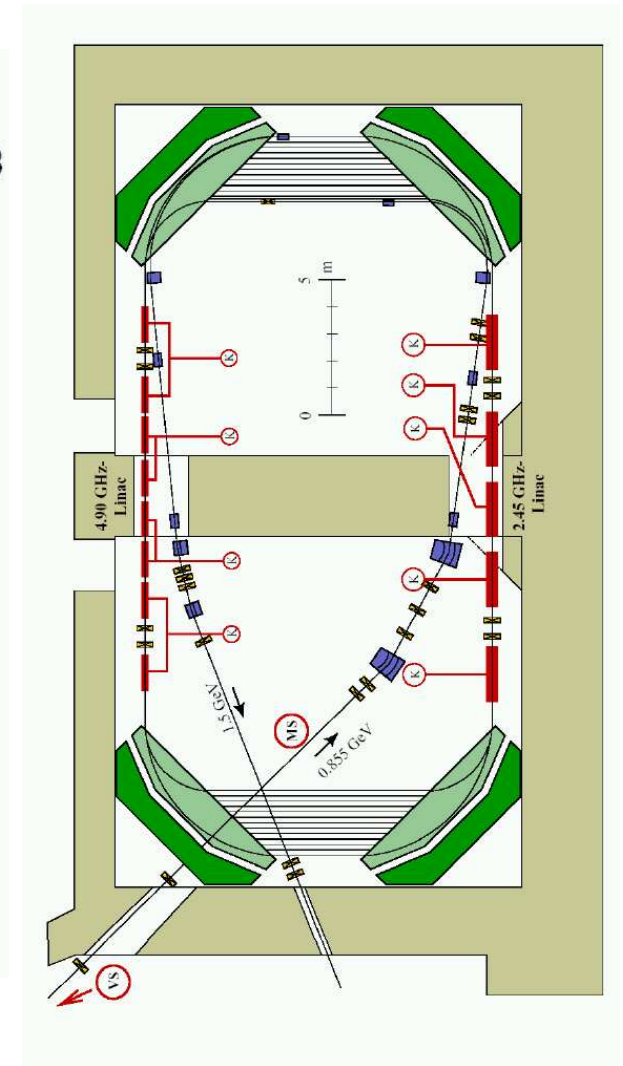
accelerators
(racetrack microtrons)

1.-3. Stage: Racetrack Microtrons:

- ◆ microbunches of 0.4ns
- ◆ linear accelerator structures
- ◆ constant B field $\Rightarrow$ varying radii (18, 51, 90 return cycles)
- ◆ very efficient acceleration and continuous mode
- ◆ high current (0.1mA)

4. Stage: Harmonic Double Sided Microtron

maximum energy: 1.5 GeV

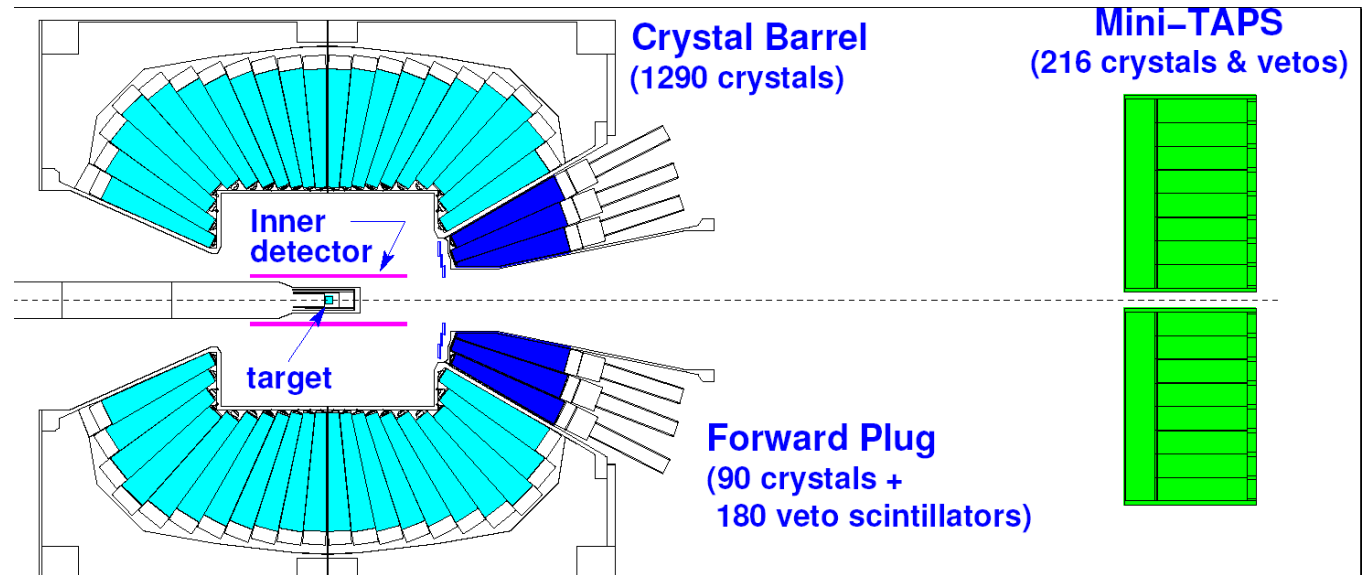


more: B. Briscoe, Monday 15:00

Experiments: Crystal Ball & Crystal Barrel with TAPS

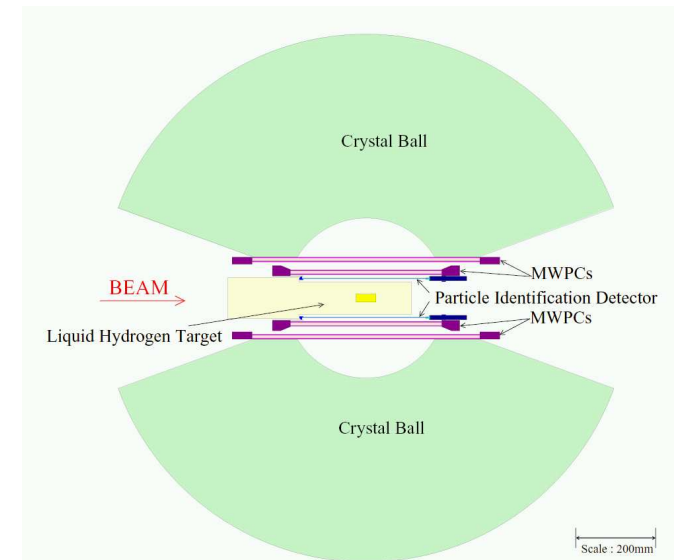
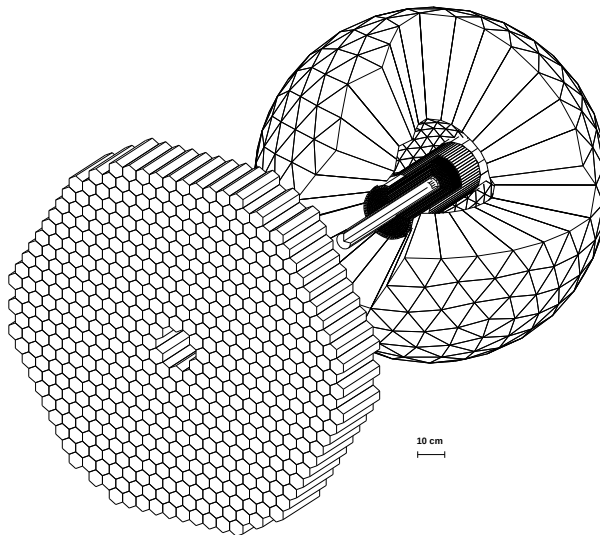
- **Bonn ELSA accelerator:**
Crystal Barrel (CsI),
TAPS (BaF₂) forward wall,
inner detectors

$E_\gamma \leq 3.5$ GeV,
lin. pol.: available,
circ. pol.: available

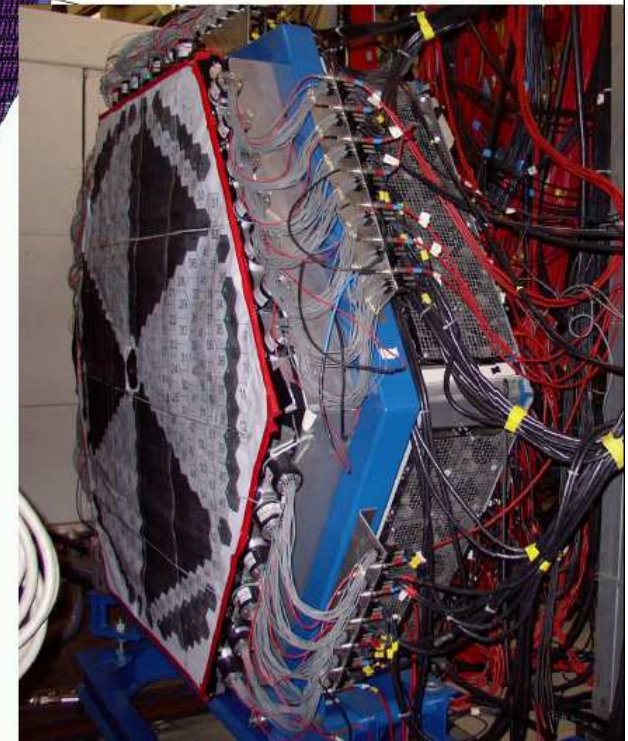
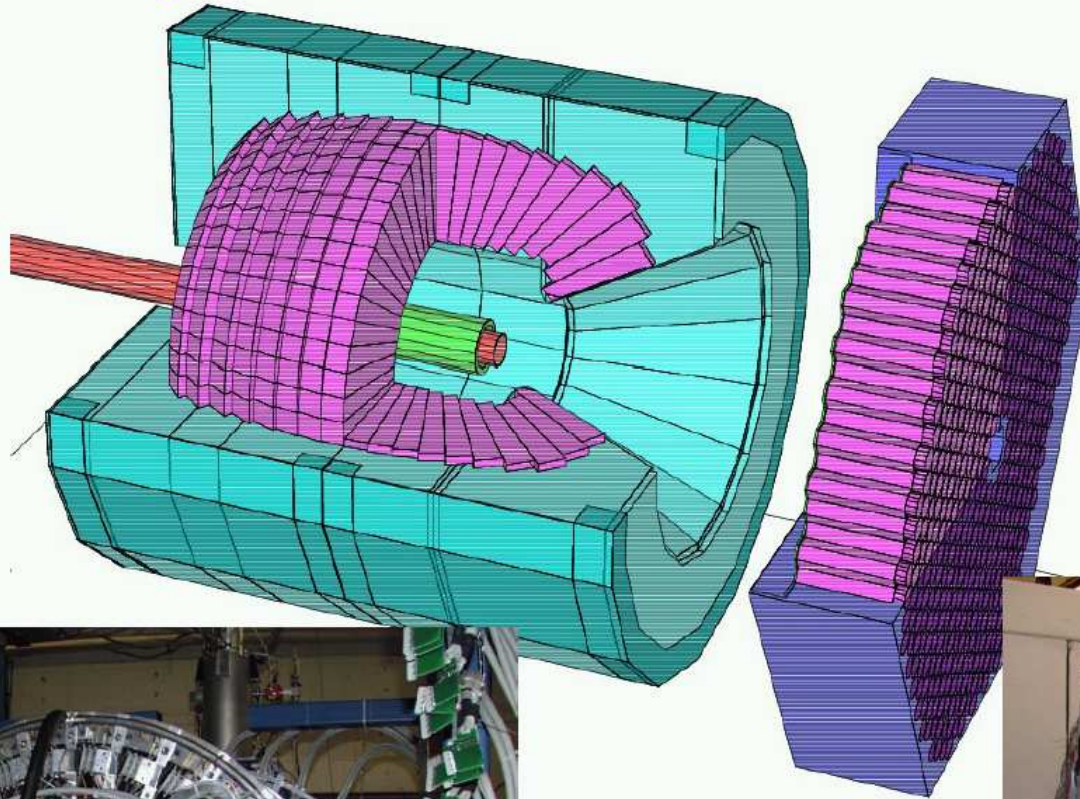
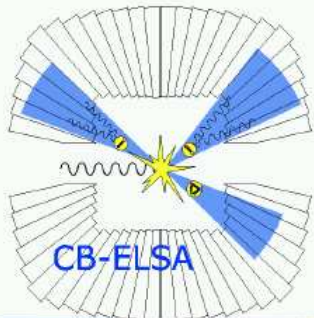


- **Mainz MAMI accelerator:**
Crystal Ball (NaJ),
TAPS (BaF₂) forward wall,
inner detectors

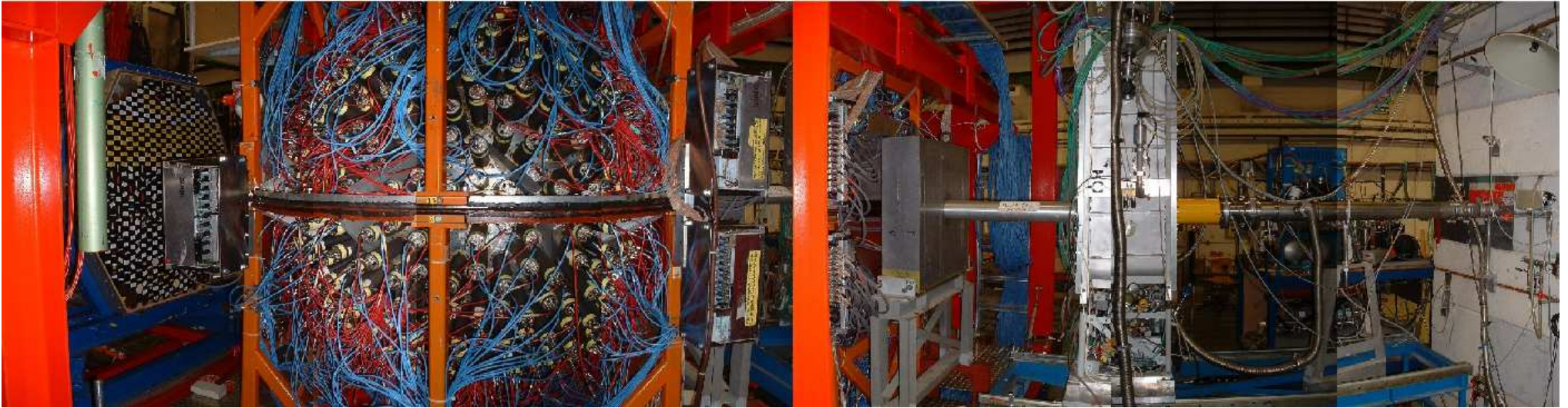
$E_\gamma \leq 1.5$ GeV,
lin. pol.: available,
circ. pol.: available



Crystal Barrel and TAPS



TAPS Crystal Ball - at MAMI



η -photoproduction off the proton: resonance contributions?

branching ratios and elm. couplings (PDG):

state	b_η [%]	$A_{1/2}^p$	$A_{3/2}^p$	$A_{1/2}^n$	$A_{3/2}^n$
• $D_{13}(1520)$:	0.23 ± 0.04	-24	166	59	139
• $S_{11}(1535)$:	30 - 55	90		-46	
• $S_{11}(1650)$:	3 - 10	53		-15	
• $D_{15}(1675)$:	0 ± 1	19	15	-43	-58
• $F_{15}(1680)$:	0 ± 1	-15	133	29	-33
• $D_{13}(1700)$:	0 ± 1				
• $P_{11}(1710)$:	6.2 ± 1.0				
• $P_{13}(1720)$:	4 ± 1				

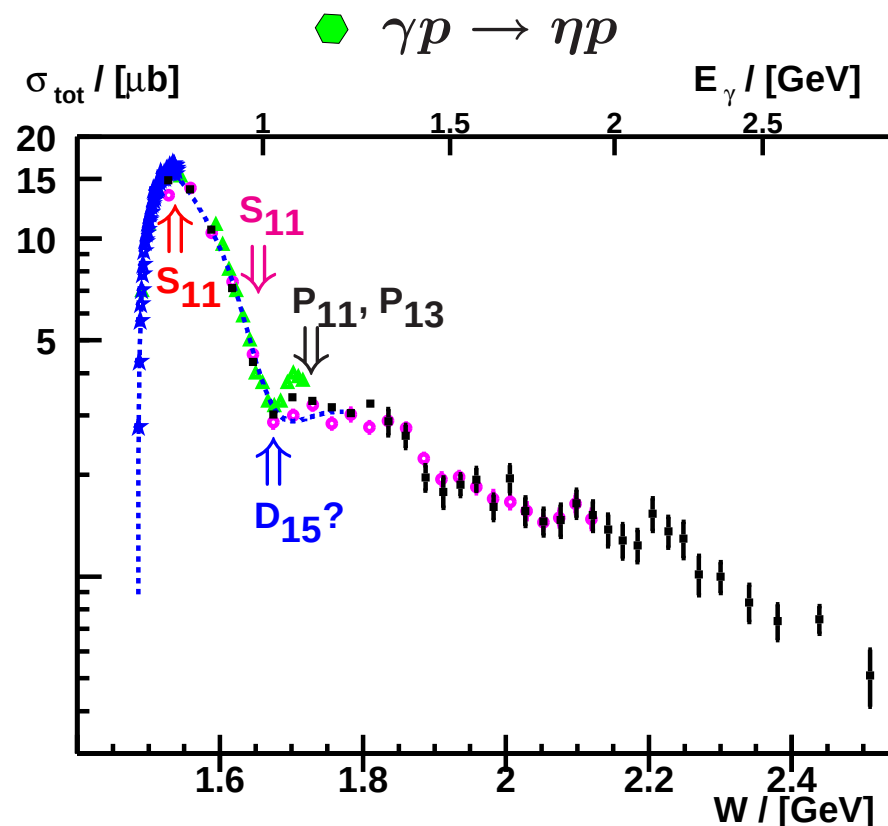
- $D_{15}(1675)$ has stronger electromagnetic coupling to neutron than to proton

but parameters quite uncertain:

$$A_{1/2}^n = -(21-57), A_{3/2}^n = -(30-77)$$

$$b_\eta = 0-1\% \text{ (PDG)}, b_\eta = 17\% \text{ (ETA-MAID, Chiang et al.)}$$

- interference structure in S_{11} -sector?

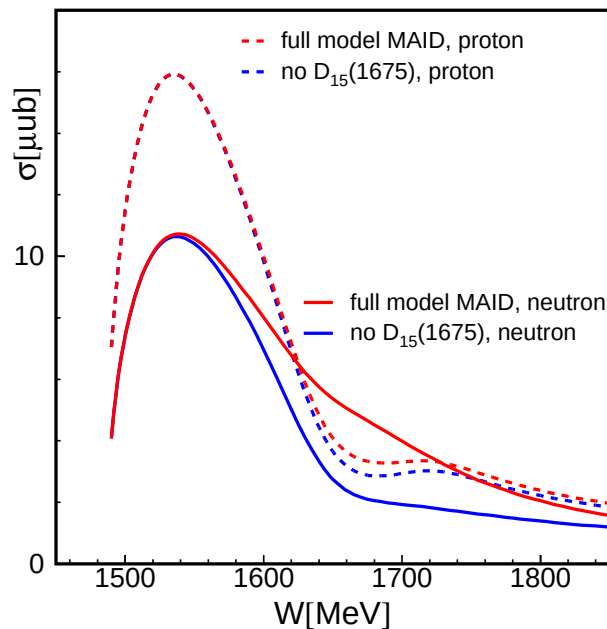


Data:

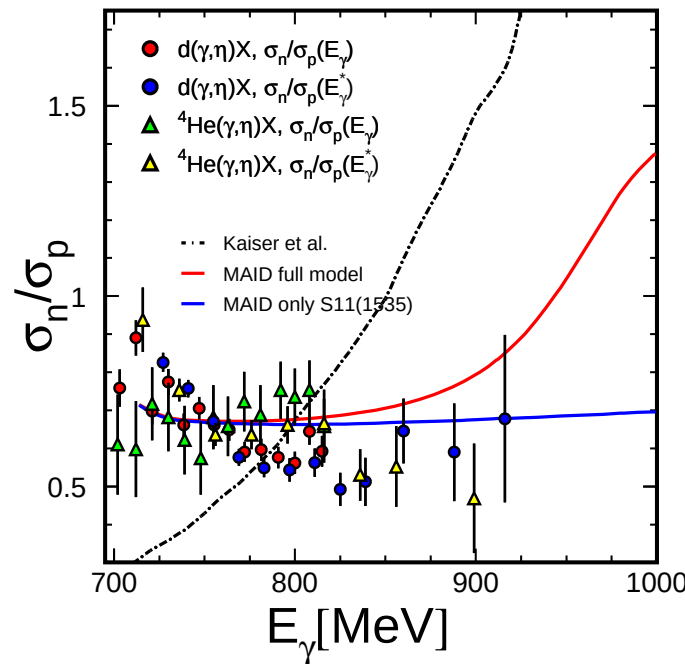
- TAPS: B. Krusche et al., PRL74 (1995) 3736
- GRAAL: F. Renard et al., PLB528 (2002) 215
- CLAS: M. Dugger et al., PRL89 (2002) 222002
- Crystal Barrel: V. Crede et al., PRL94 (2005) 012004

what is expected for $n(\gamma, \eta)n$ - why is it interesting?

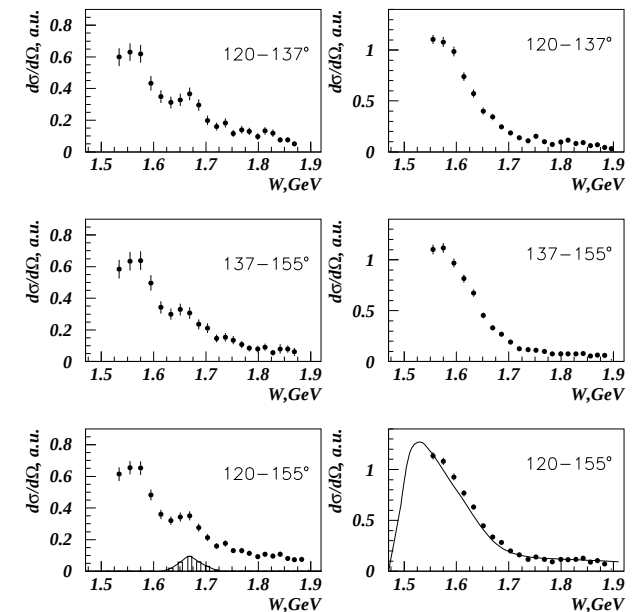
- total cross sections for proton and neutron from MAID model with and without $D_{15}(1675)$



- previous data from MAMI only at lower incident photon energies



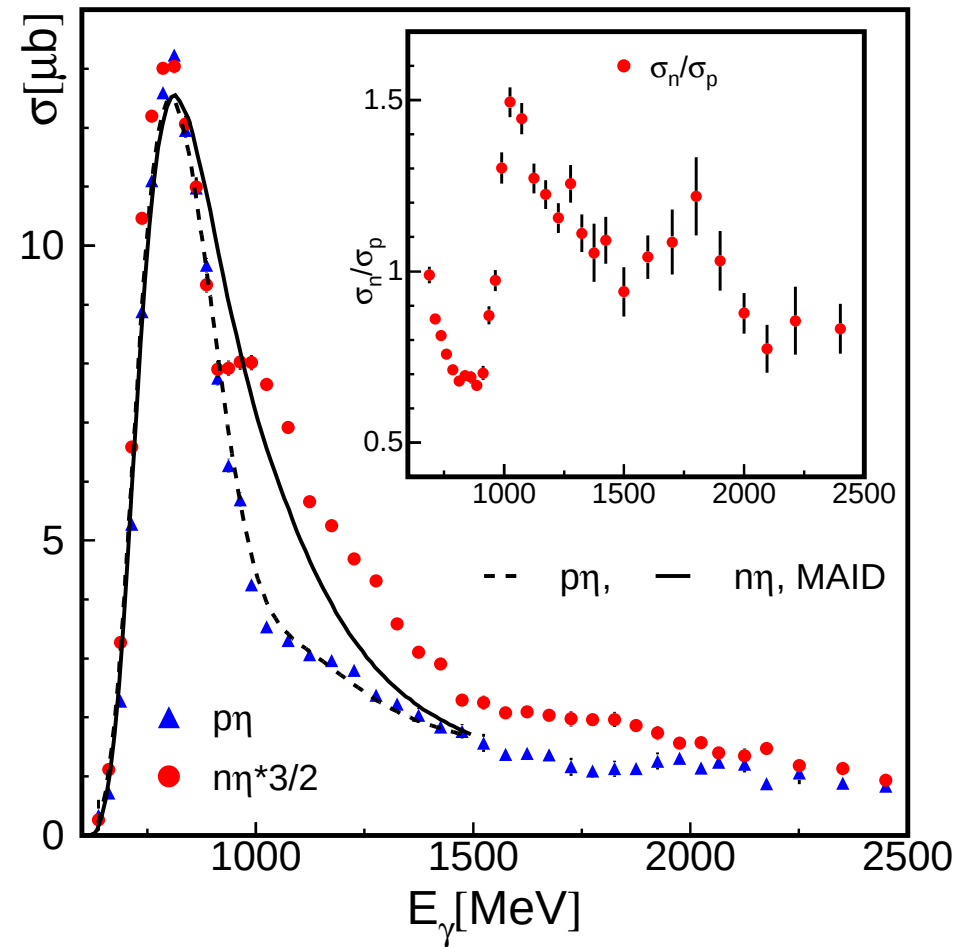
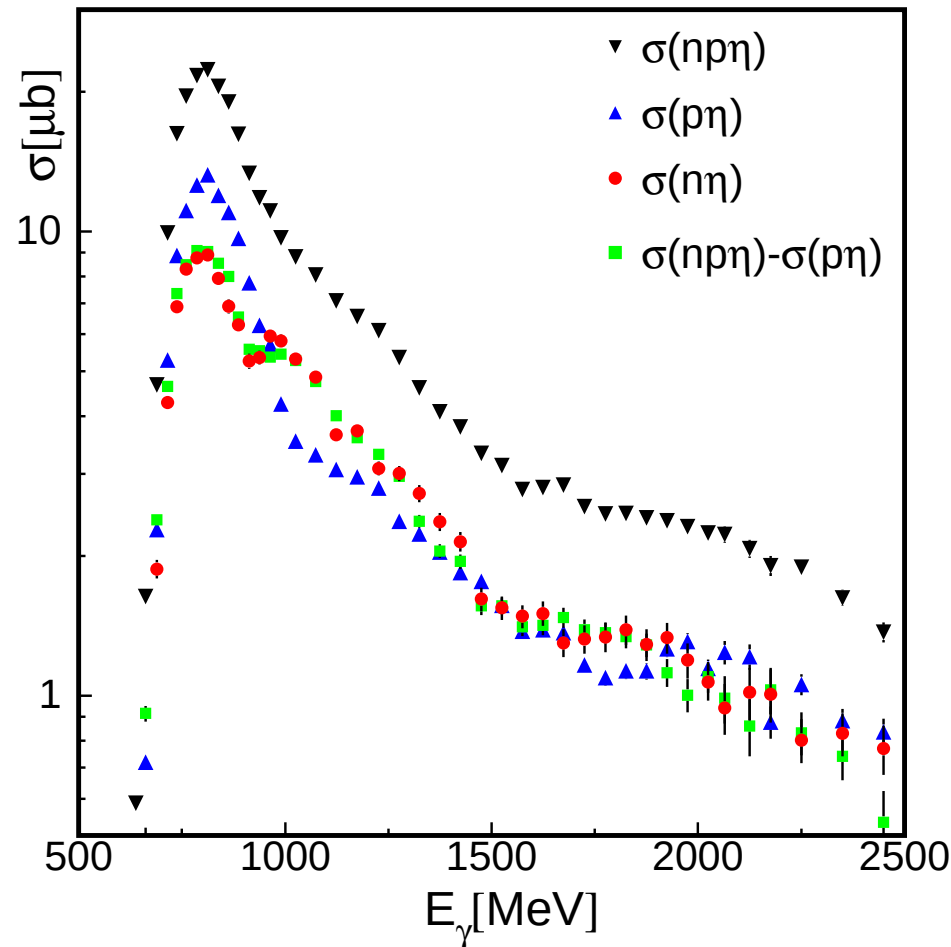
- GRAAL experiment reported narrow structure in neutron excitation function



- predictions from chiral soliton models: P_{11} -like state of the anti-decuplet has strong photon-coupling to the neutron and large ηN decay branching ratio**

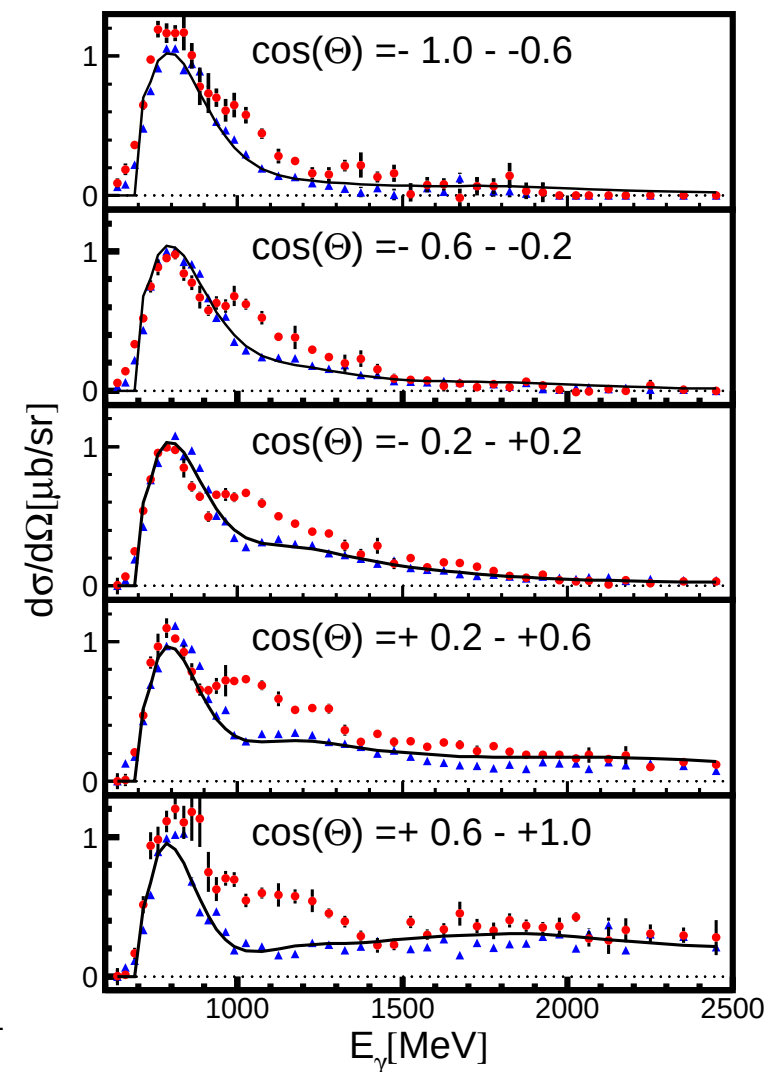
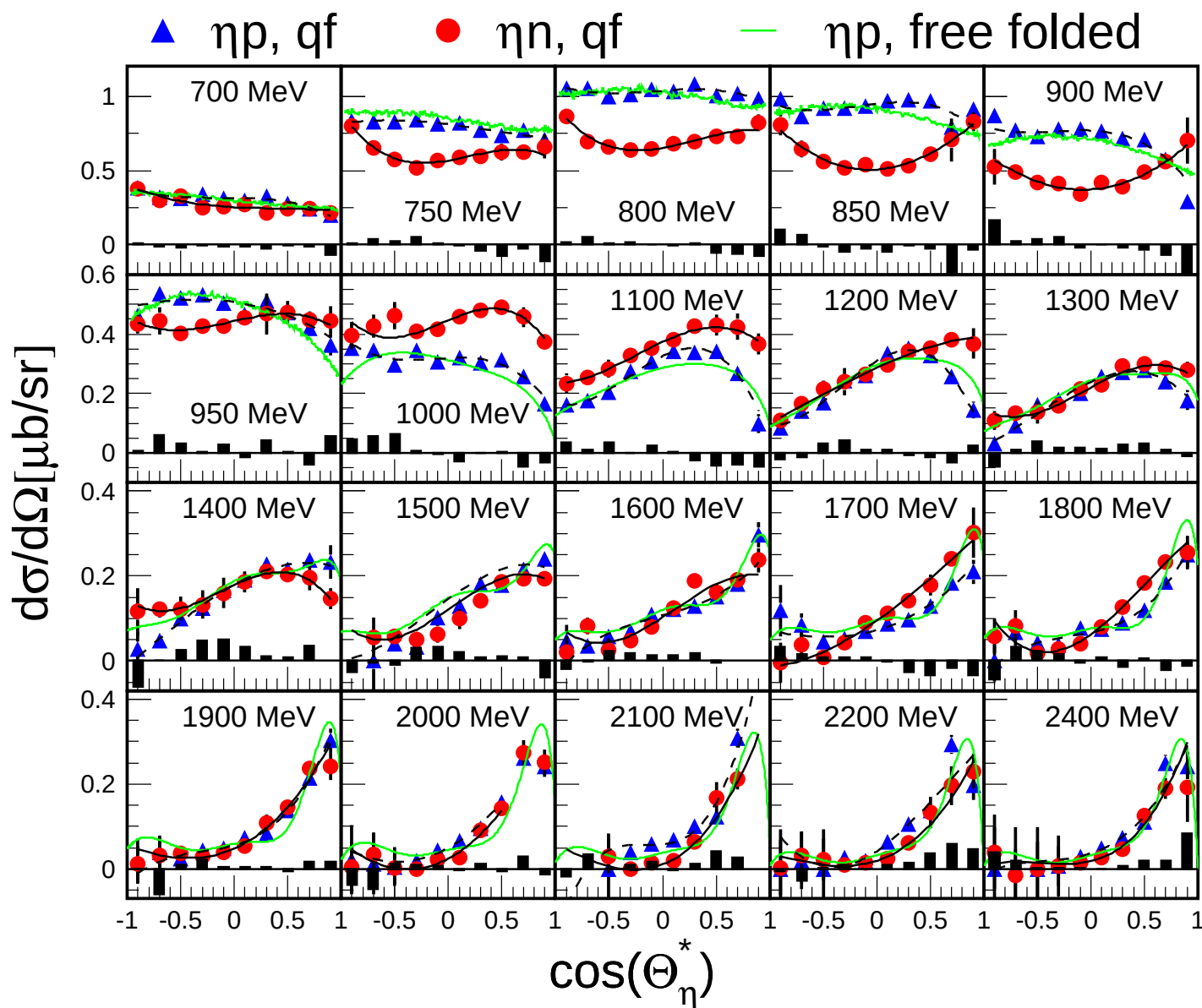
quasifree η -photoproduction off the deuteron

- ◆ cross section for $\gamma n \rightarrow \eta n$ from analyses with very different systematics:
 - (1) η in coincidence with recoil neutrons
 - (2) difference of inclusive data and η in coincidence with recoil protons



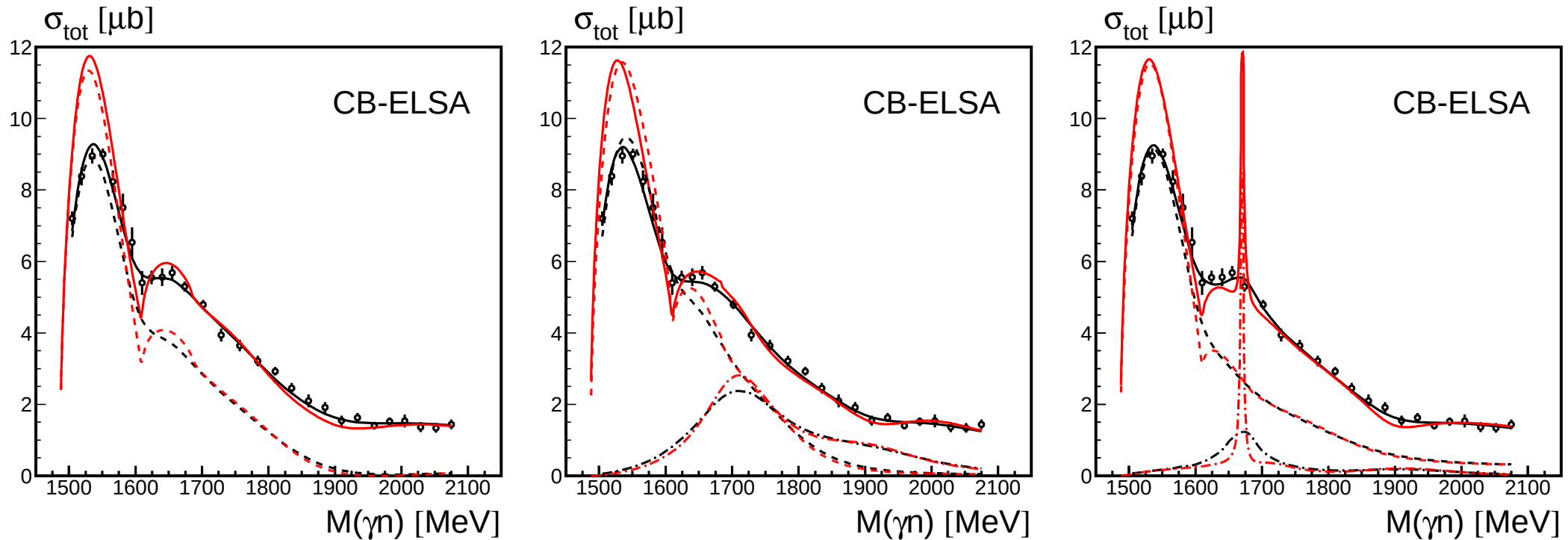
I. Jaegle et al.

quasi-free angular distributions



I. Jaegle et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 100 (2008) 252002

Bonn-Gatchina-Model analysis

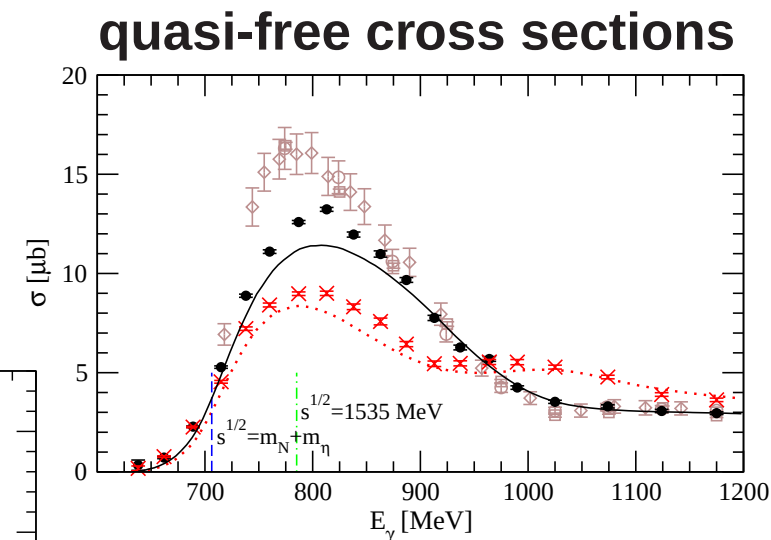
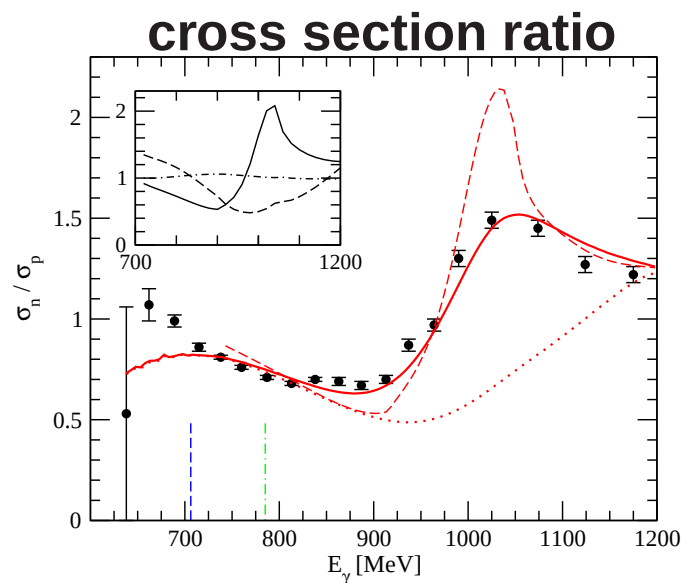
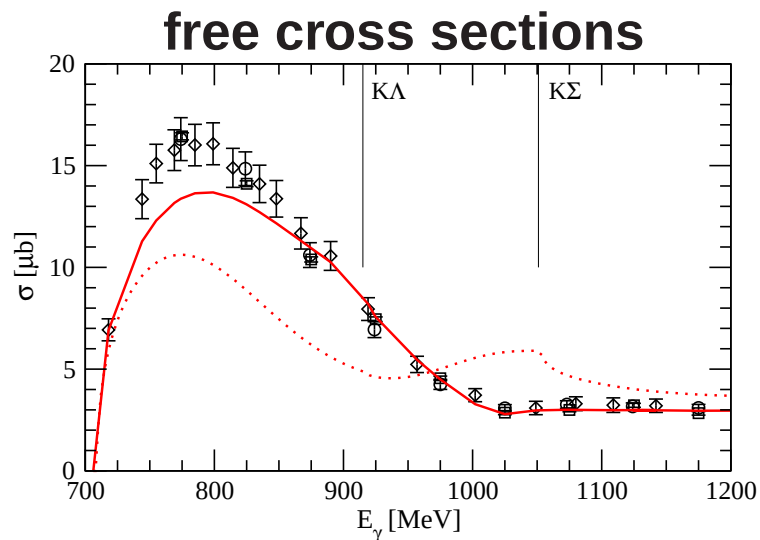


◆ different scenarios to reproduce 'bump' structure:

- ◆ left: interference in S_{11} -sector: adjusting phases etc.
- ◆ center: introduction of conventional (broad) P_{11} resonance
- ◆ right: introduction of very narrow P_{11} resonance

s-wave coupled channel model

- s-wave coupled channel model with dynamical generation of $S_{11}(1535)$ pole



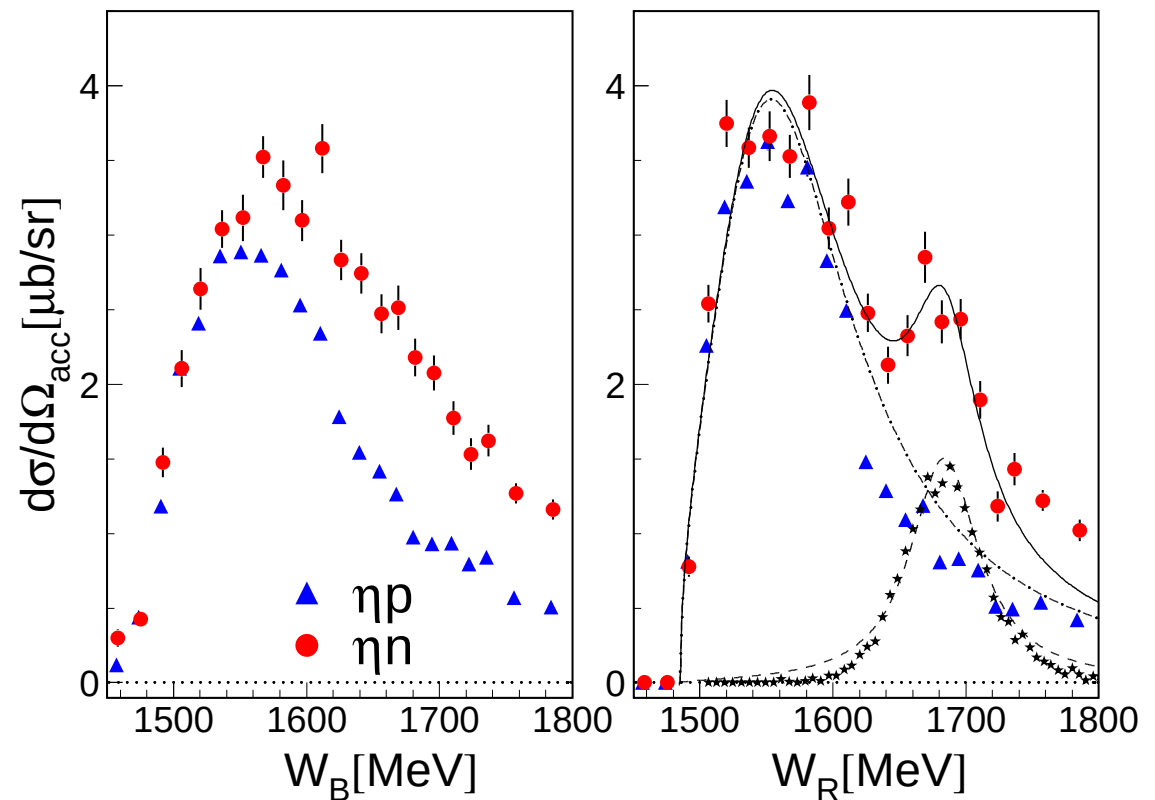
- structure in σ_n / σ_p due to $K\Lambda$, $K\Sigma$ threshold effects (intermediate strangeness states in loop-diagrams)

'de-folding' of Fermi motion

- for events with neutron in TAPS
($\cos(\Theta_{\eta}^{\star}) < -0.1$)
neutron energy from time-of-flight
- comparision: W from photon
energy (Fermi smeared) -
 W from nucleon - meson
4-vectors (resolution smeared)
- de-folded proton cross section
similar to free proton,
de-folded neutron cross section
shows structure around 1.7 GeV:

position: $W=1683$ MeV
width: $\Gamma=60\pm 10$ MeV
(resolution dominated)

I. Jaegle et al.,
Phys. Rev. Lett. 100 (2008) 252002

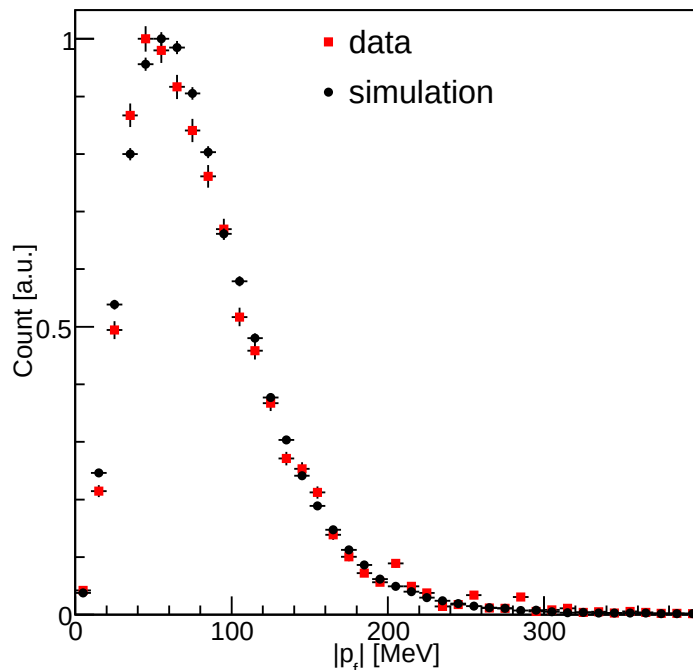


'de-folding' of Fermi motion - kinematical re-construction

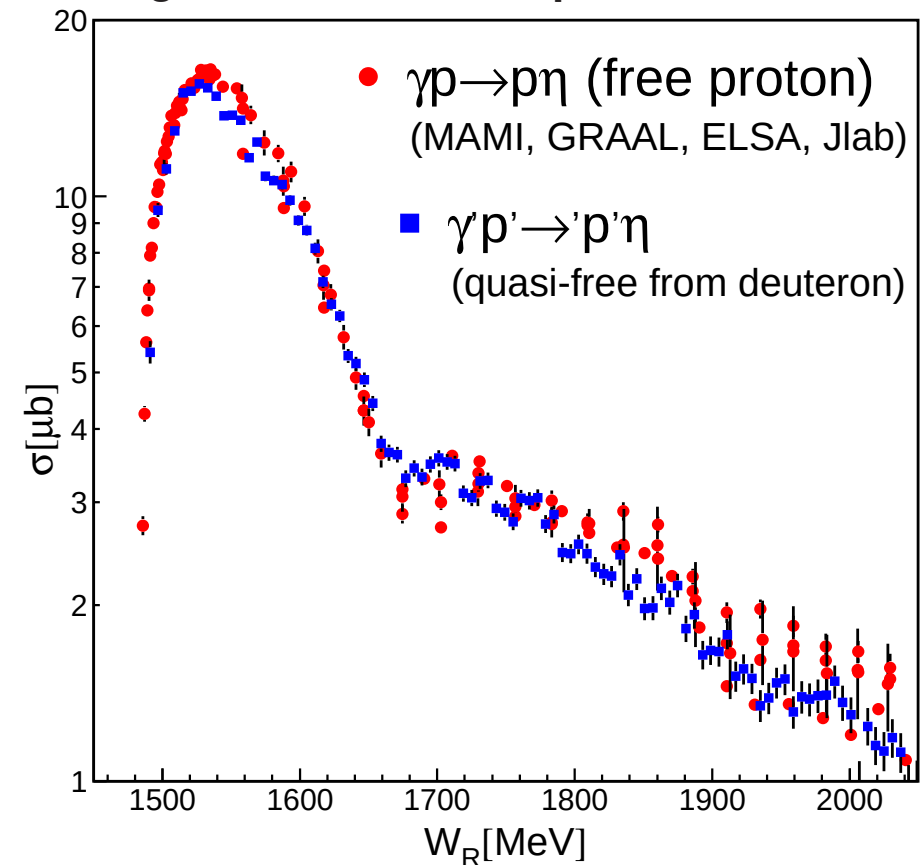
reaction kinematics completely determined even without neutron ToF:

- initial state: incident photon and deuteron at rest
known/measured: $E_\gamma, m_d, p_d = 0$
- final state: η -meson, participant, and spectator nucleon
known/measured: $m_s, m_p, \Theta_p, \Phi_p, m_\eta, p_\eta$
not measured: T_p, p_s (four variables)
- four constraints from energy/momentum conservation
→ **four-vectors of participant and spectator determined**

spectator momentum in quantitative agreement with deuteron wave function

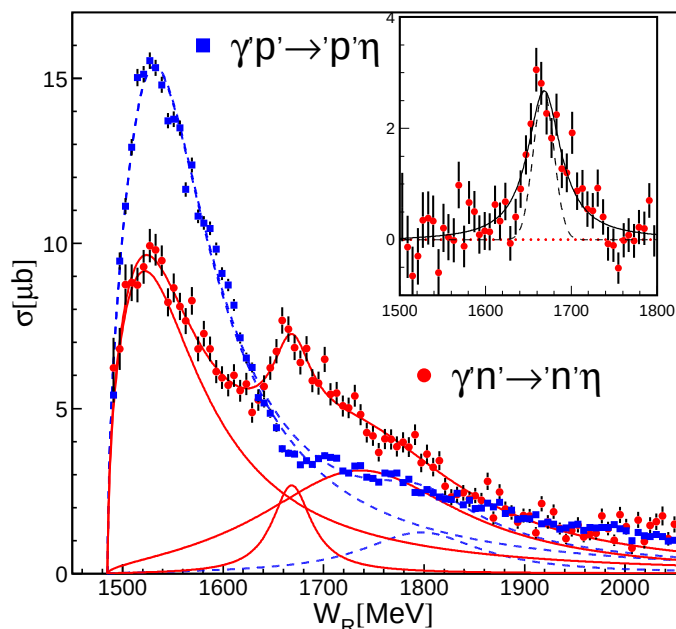


proton cross section in quantitative agreement with free proton data

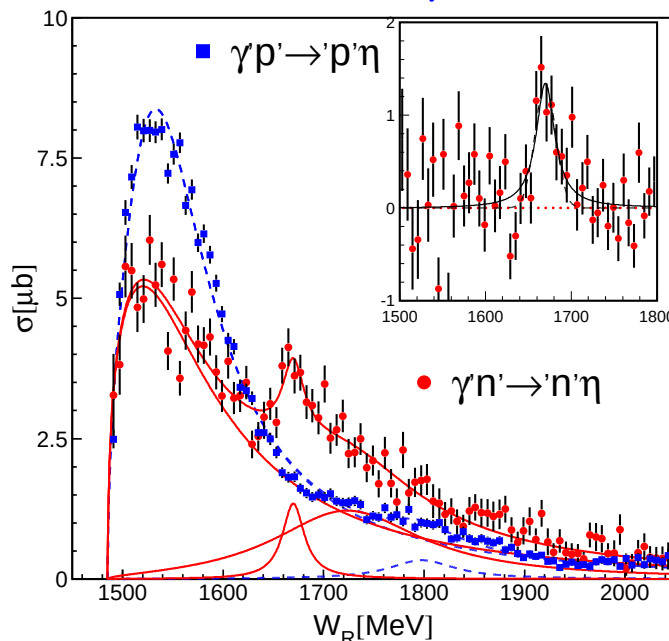


Fermi de-folded proton and neutron data

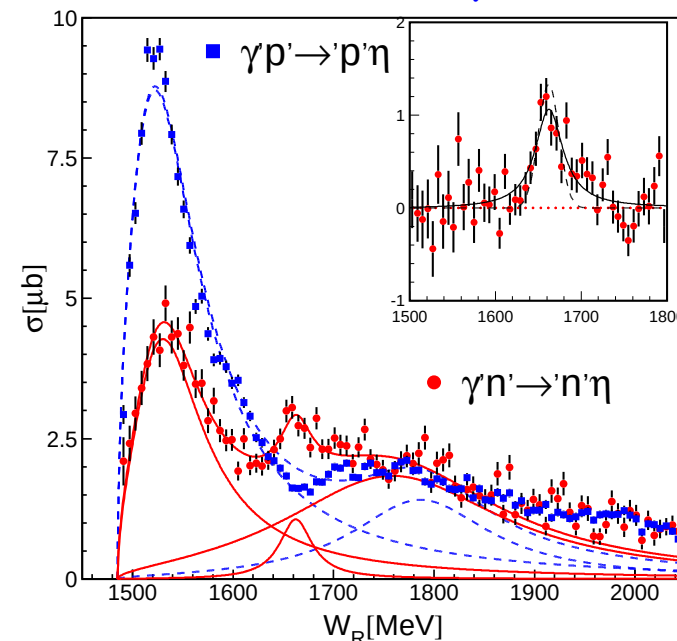
total cross section



$\cos(\Theta_{\eta}^{\star}) < 0$



$\cos(\Theta_{\eta}^{\star}) > 0$



phenomenological fit of data with:

- proton: one Breit-Wigner with energy dep. width for S_{11} , one further BW
- neutron: one Breit-Wigner with energy dep. width for S_{11} , two further BW

parameters of narrow neutron Breit-Wigner:

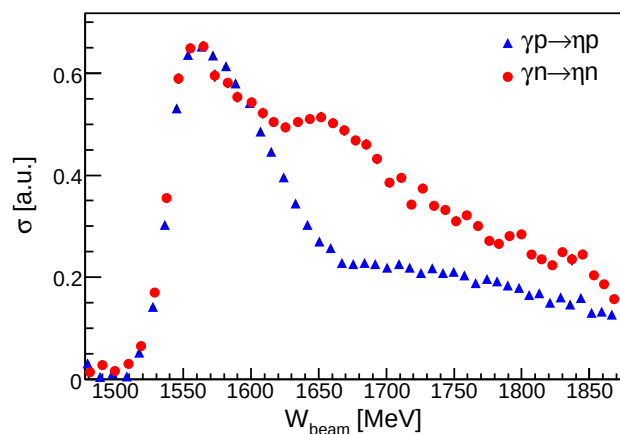
- position: (1668 ± 4) MeV (total), (1670 ± 3) MeV ($\cos(\Theta_{\eta}^{\star}) < 0$), (1662 ± 5) MeV ($\cos(\Theta_{\eta}^{\star}) > 0$)
- width: (48 ± 15) MeV (total), (26 ± 9) MeV ($\cos(\Theta_{\eta}^{\star}) < 0$), (40 ± 20) MeV ($\cos(\Theta_{\eta}^{\star}) > 0$)
- experimental resolution for width: ≈ 25 MeV

New high statistics measurement at MAMI C

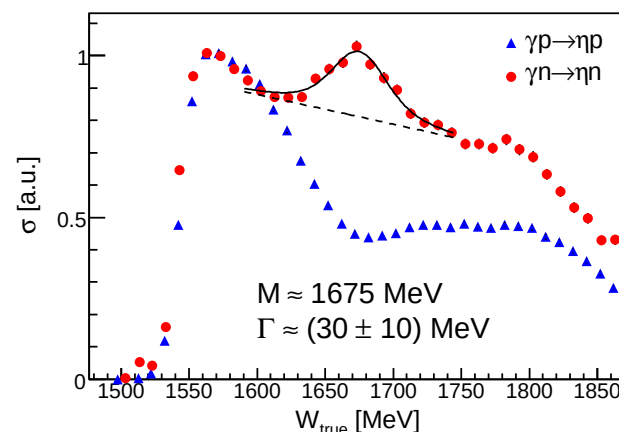
Very preliminary analysis, less than 50 % of data, no efficiency corrections,
fit with Breit-Wigner folded with experimental resolution: $\Gamma(BW) \approx 30 \text{ MeV}$

D. Werthmüller et al.

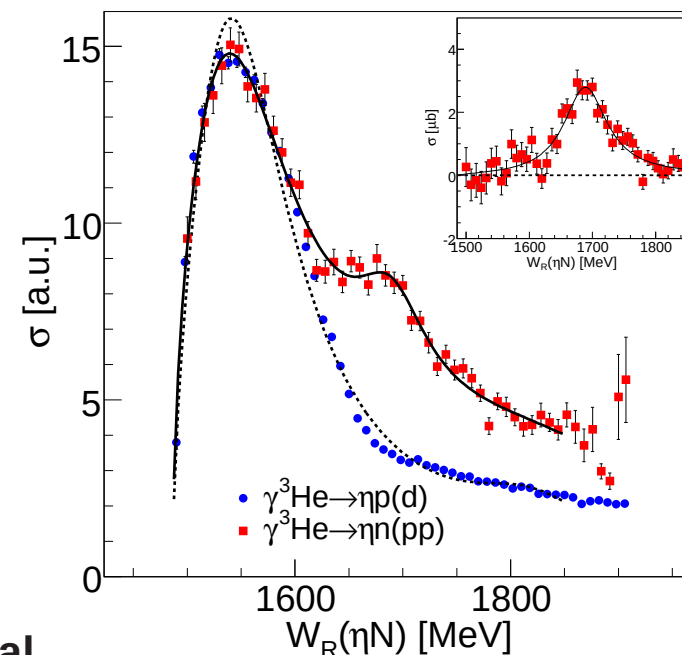
● $W = f(E_\gamma)$



● $W = f(P_n, P_\eta)$



● just for completeness:
structure also seen in
quasi-free η -production off ^3He :



L. Witthauer et al.

Summary

- ◆ narrow structure in excitation function of $\gamma n \rightarrow n\eta$:
- ◆ **GRAAL:** $W \approx 1680 \text{ MeV}, \Gamma < 30 \text{ MeV}$
- ◆ **Tohoku-LNS:** $W \approx 1666 \text{ MeV}, \Gamma < 40 \text{ MeV}$
- ◆ **ELSA:** $W \approx 1685 \text{ MeV}, \Gamma < 50 \text{ MeV}$
- ◆ **MAMI-C:** $W \approx 1675 \text{ MeV}, \Gamma < 40 \text{ MeV}$
- ◆ **so far no information about quantum numbers of possible resonance or whatever nature of the structure**

the story of η -mesic nuclei

- 1985: Bhalerao & Liu:
attractive η -nucleus interaction for $A \geq 12$

- 1986: Liu & Haider:
suggestion of η -nucleus bound states

- experiments: inconclusive e.g.:

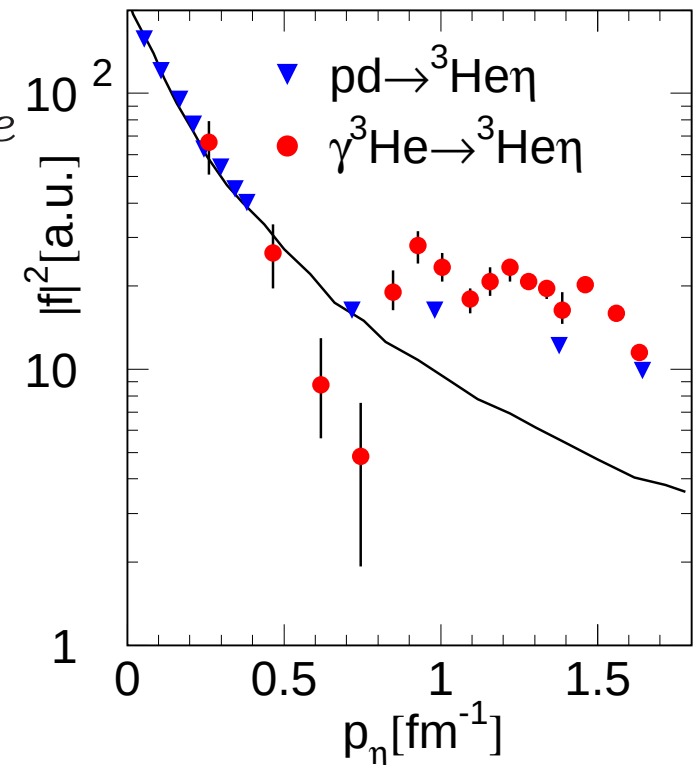
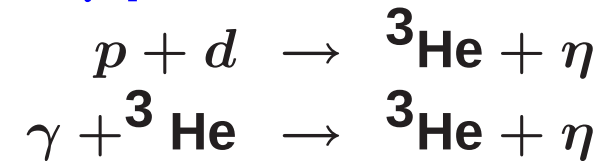
Chrien et al. (1988): $\pi^+ + {}^{16}\text{O} \rightarrow p + {}_{\eta}^{15}\text{O}$

Johnson et al. (1993): $\pi^+ + {}^{18}\text{O} \rightarrow \pi^- + {}_{\eta}^{18}\text{Ne}$

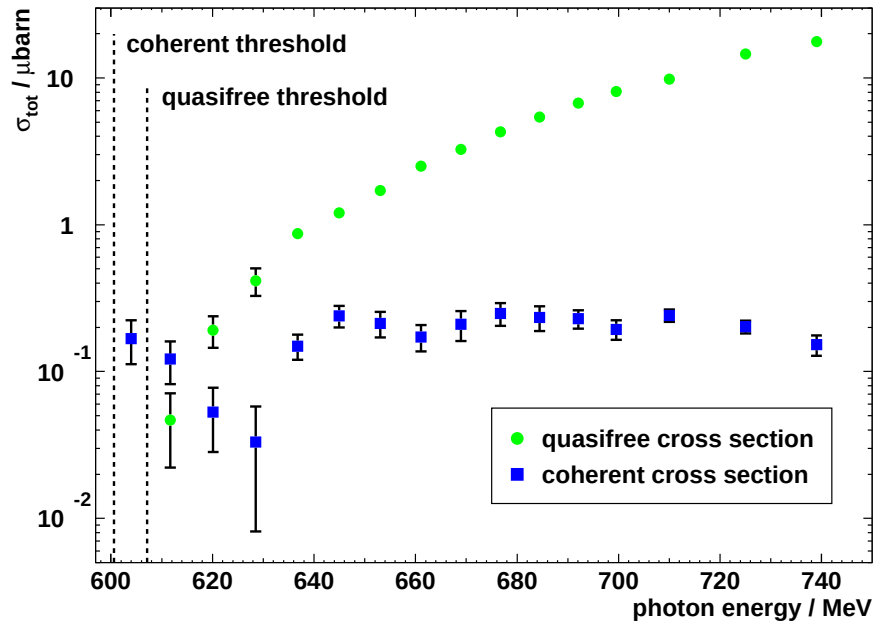
- 1993 - 2002: analysis of new η -production data from the proton:
larger η N-scattering lengths

- 1991 - 2002: T. Ueda, C. Wilkin, S.A. Rakityanski and others:
suggestions of bound ${}^2\text{H-}$, ${}^3\text{H-}$, ${}^3\text{He-}$, ${}^4\text{He-}\eta$ states

- experiments:
threshold behavior
of η -production



η -photoproduction from ^3He - threshold behavior

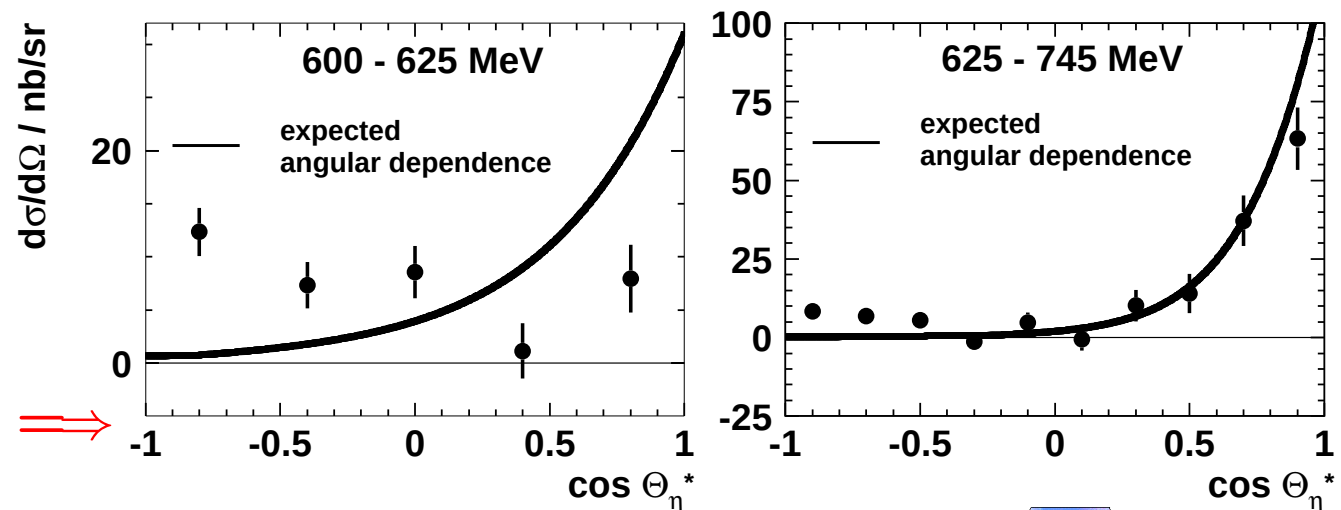


M. Pfeiffer et al., PRL 92 (2005) 252001

● evidence for strong final state interaction of the η -meson

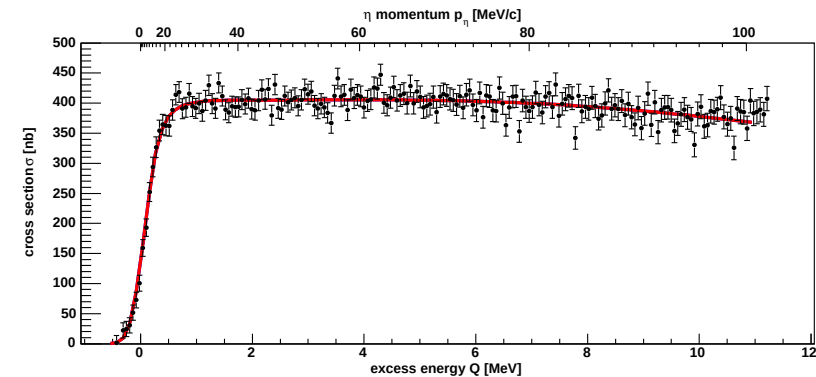
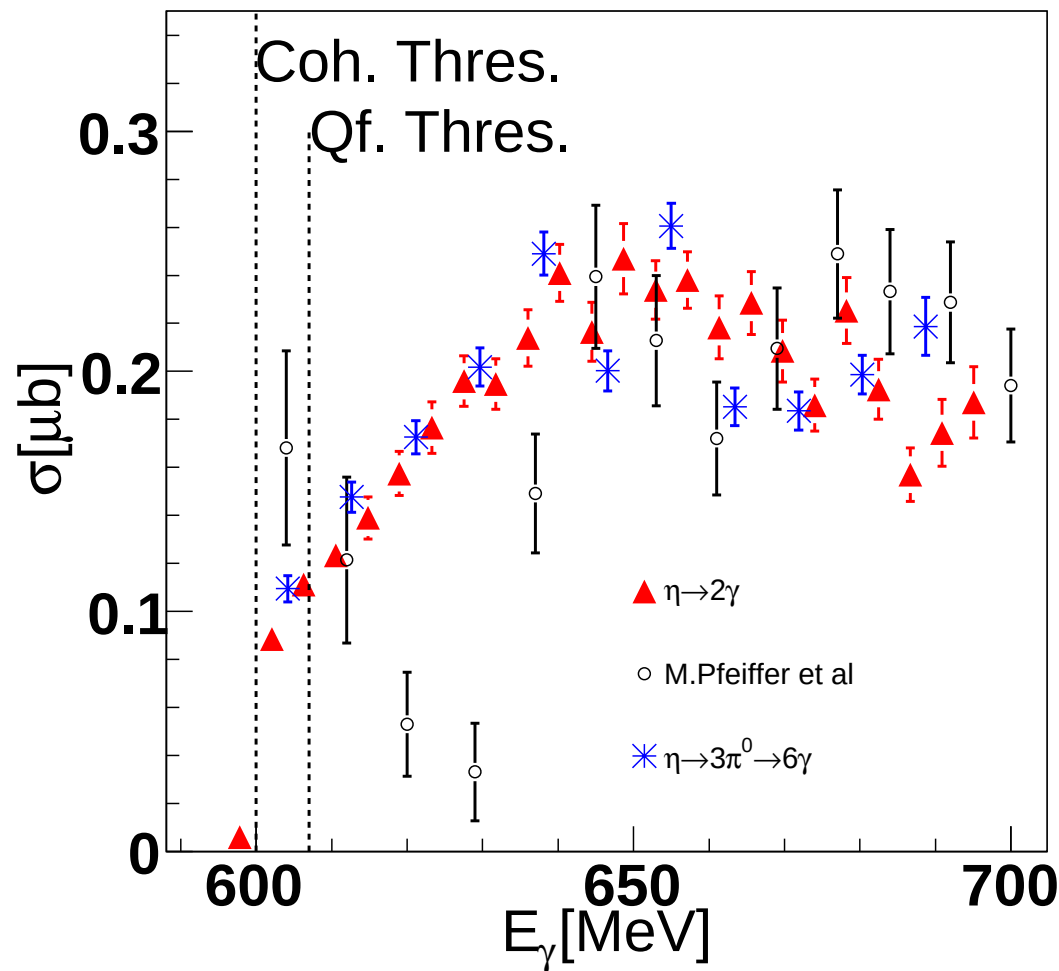
⇐ threshold enhancement of coherent part

isotropic angular distribution of coherent part at threshold ⇐⇐

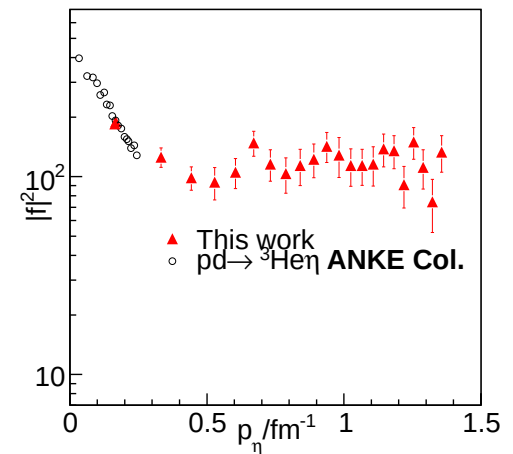


new ^3He experiment - coherent η -production

- very steep rise of total cross section at threshold confirmed;
similar to hadron induced reaction: $pd \rightarrow ^3\text{He}\eta$ (T. Mersmann et al., PRL 98 (2007) 242301)



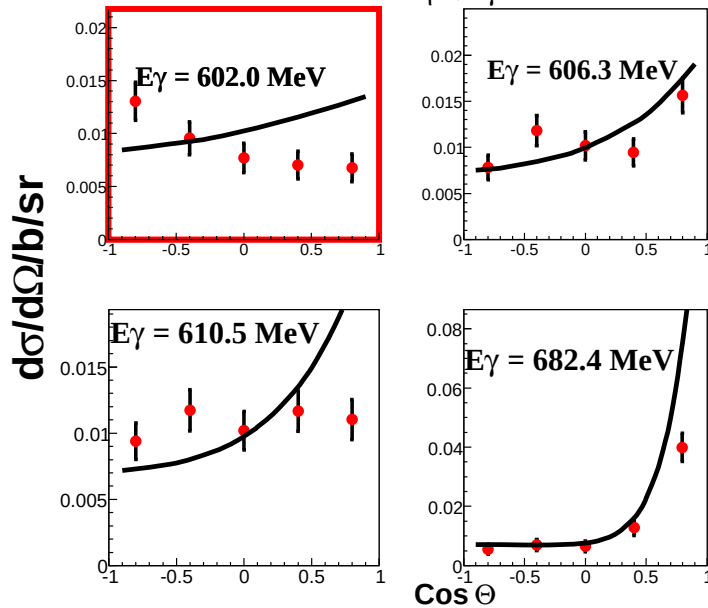
- phase space reduced amplitudes:



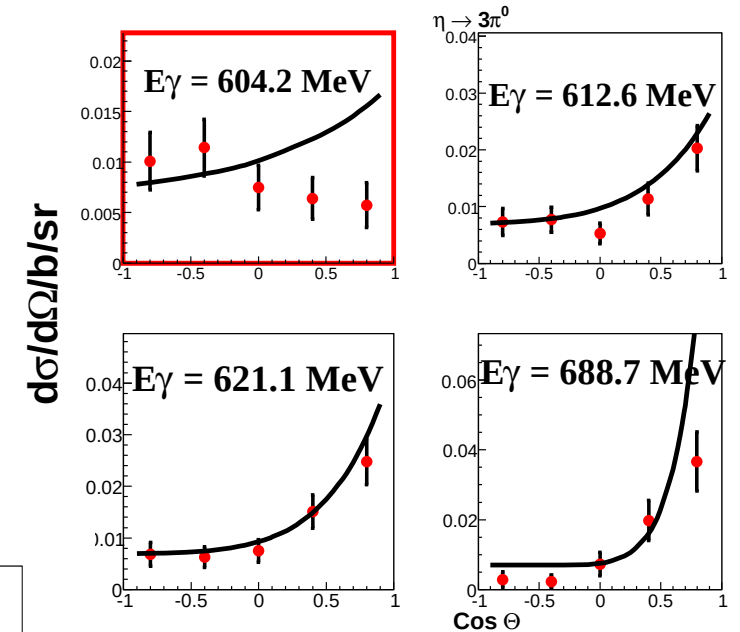
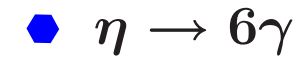
F. Pheron et al.

MAMI

differential cross section



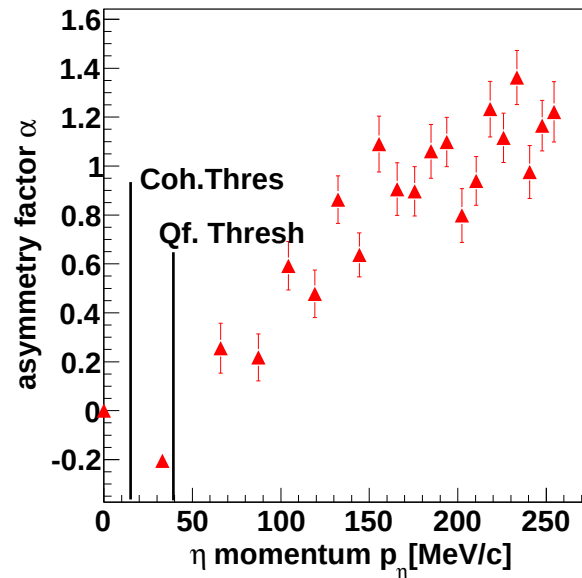
◆ **black lines:**
angular dependence
of ^3He form factor



distributions fitted with:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = a + b \cdot \cos(\Theta) + c \cdot \cos^2(\Theta)$$

$$\alpha = b/a$$

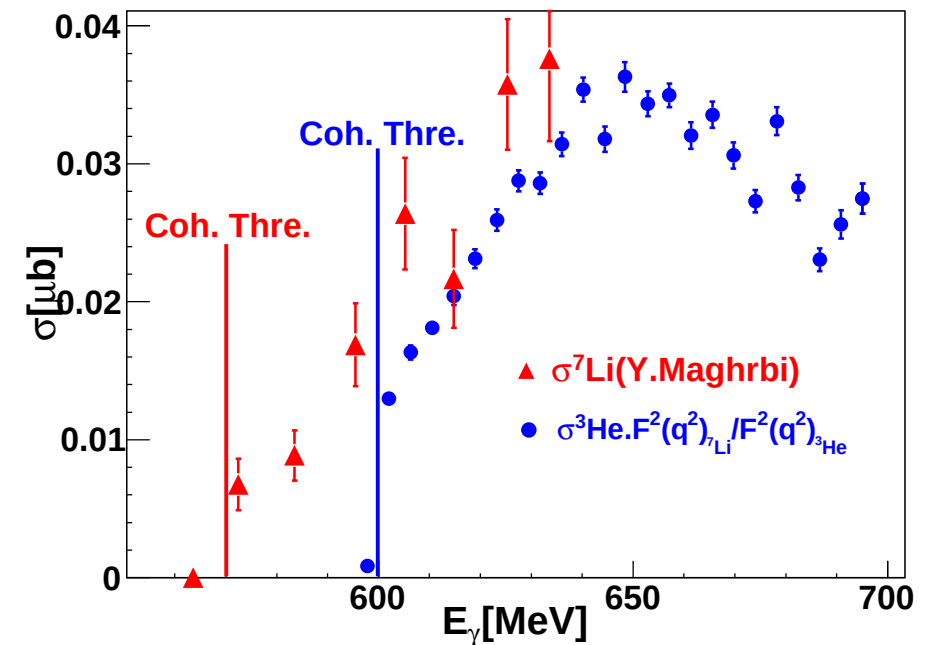


threshold angular distributions
do not behave as expected from
form factor dependence

summary: coherent η -photoproduction off light nuclei

- strong threshold enhancement for $\gamma^3\text{He} \rightarrow ^3\text{He} \eta$ confirmed
- angular distributions close to threshold different from form factor expectation
- first preliminary results also for $\gamma^7\text{Li} \rightarrow ^7\text{Li} \eta$
- cross section for $\gamma^7\text{Li} \rightarrow ^7\text{Li} \eta$ smaller by roughly one order of magnitude (corresponds to ratio of form factors)
- threshold enhancement for $\gamma^7\text{Li} \rightarrow ^7\text{Li} \eta$ less pronounced
- what about ^4He ?

- comparison:
 $\gamma^3\text{He} \rightarrow ^3\text{He} \eta$ and $\gamma^7\text{Li} \rightarrow ^7\text{Li} \eta$



Details:
talks by F. Pheron and Y. Maghrbi

what about η -mesic ^4He ?

- η -photoproduction dominated by excitation of $S_{11}(1535)$:

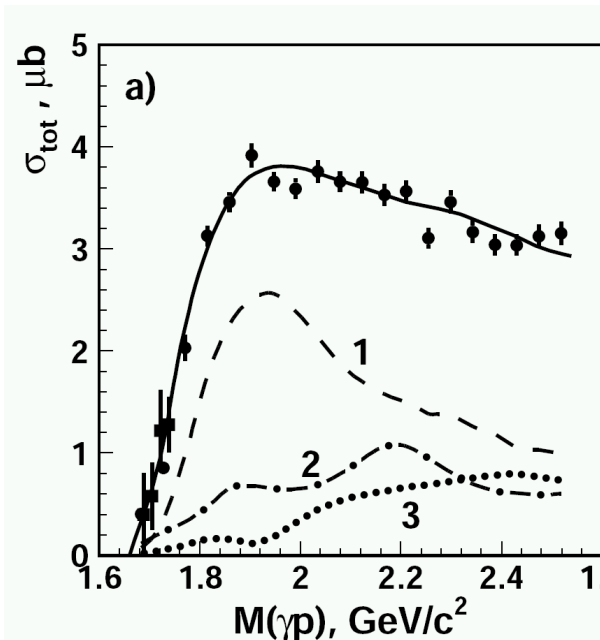
$$\gamma(E1) + N \rightarrow S_{11} \rightarrow N + \eta$$

$$J_z: \quad -1 \quad +1/2 \quad -1/2 \quad -1/2 \quad 0 \quad \Rightarrow \text{spin-flip transition}$$

- isospin structure: $A_{1/2}^{IS}/A_{1/2}^P \approx 0.09 \Rightarrow \text{dominantly isovector}$

- $\Rightarrow$ coherent η -photoproduction ruled out for $I=J=0$ nuclei

- possible way out: **coherent photoproduction of $\eta\pi^0$ -pairs**



$\gamma p \rightarrow \eta\pi^0 p$:
dominant final states
 --- $\Delta(1232)\eta$
 -.- $N(1535)\pi$,
 $pa_0(980)$

dominant process close to threshold:

$$\gamma p \rightarrow D_{33}(1700) \rightarrow \eta P_{33}(1232) \rightarrow \eta\pi^0 p$$

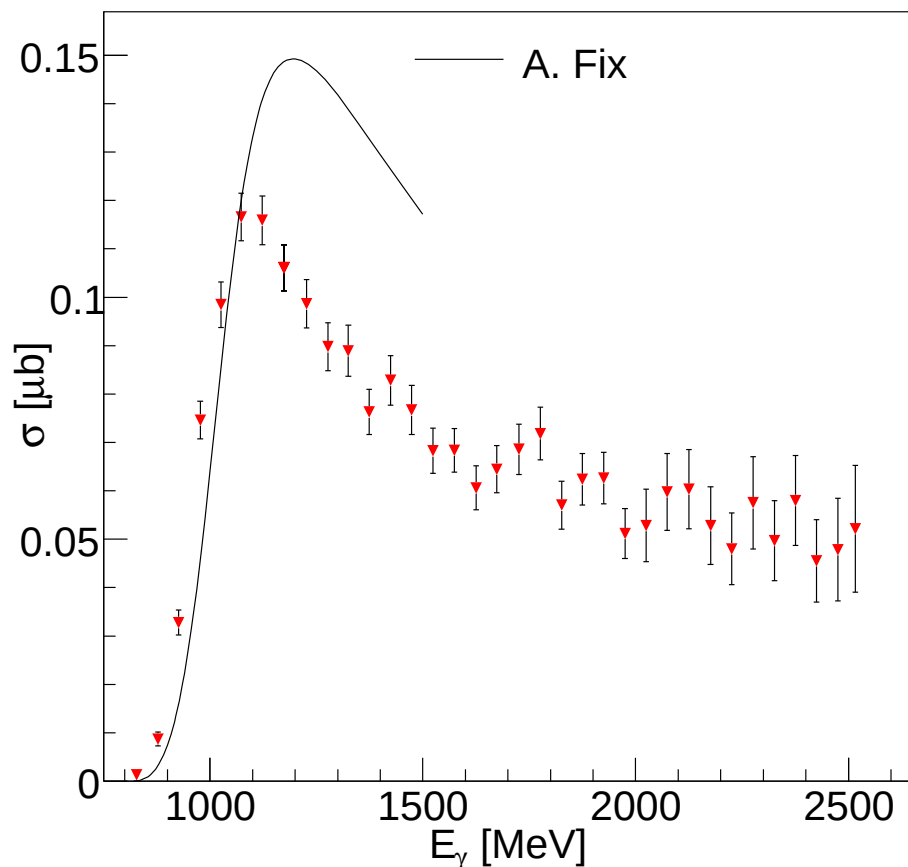
I. Horn et al., PRL 101, EPJA 38 (2008)

V. Kashevarov et al., EPJA (2009)

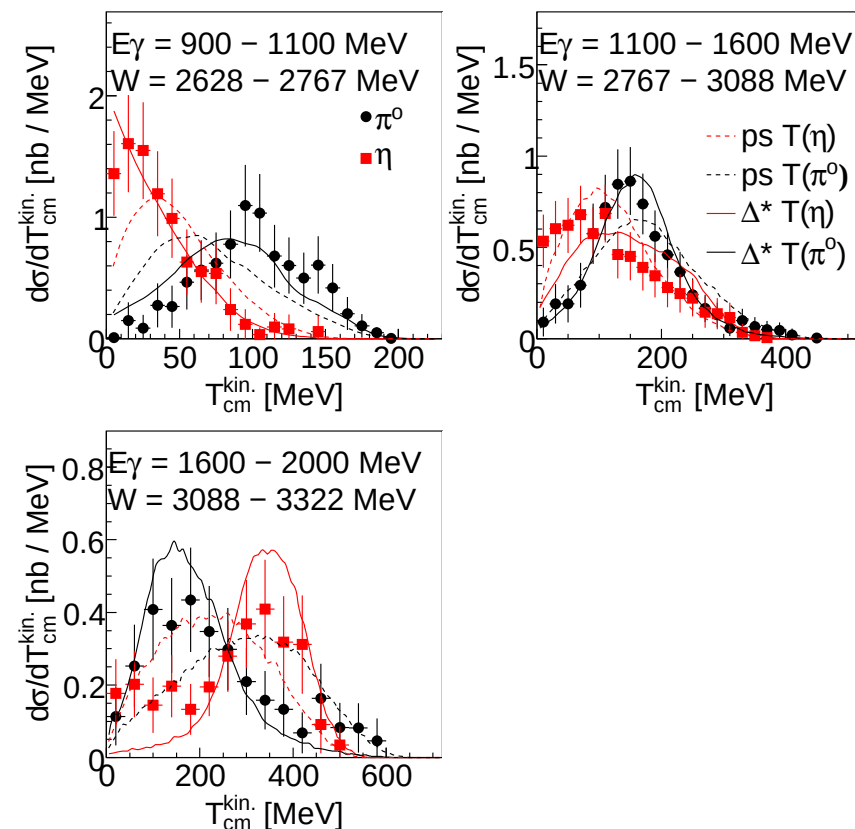
$\Rightarrow$ no spin-flip,
 identical amplitude for p, n
 $\Rightarrow$ ideal entrance channel

$d(\gamma, \eta\pi^0)d$: total cross section, kinetic energy distributions

◆ total cross section



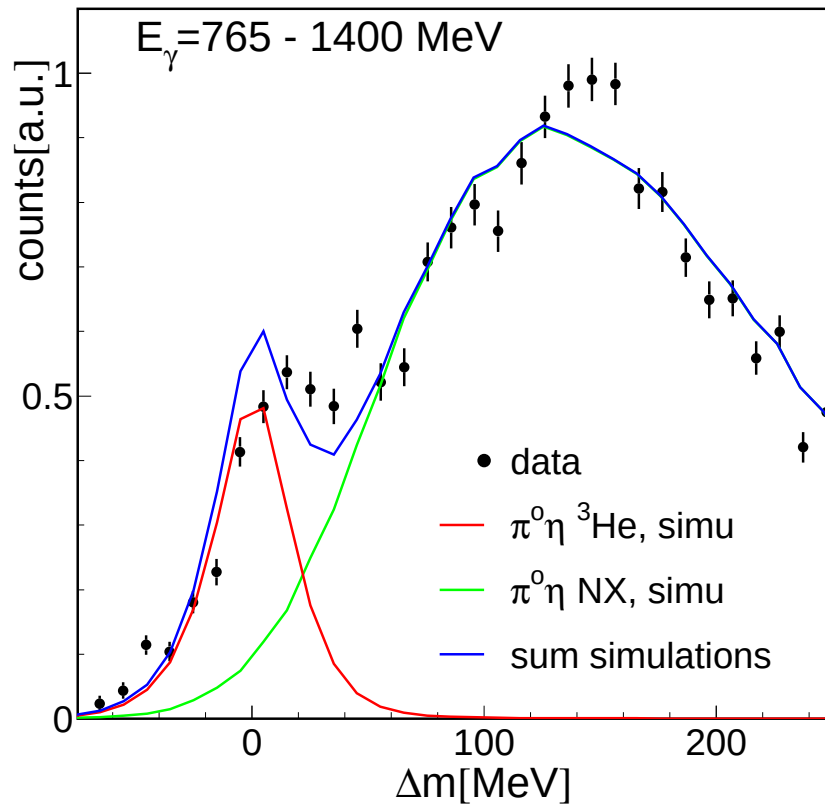
◆ kinetic energy



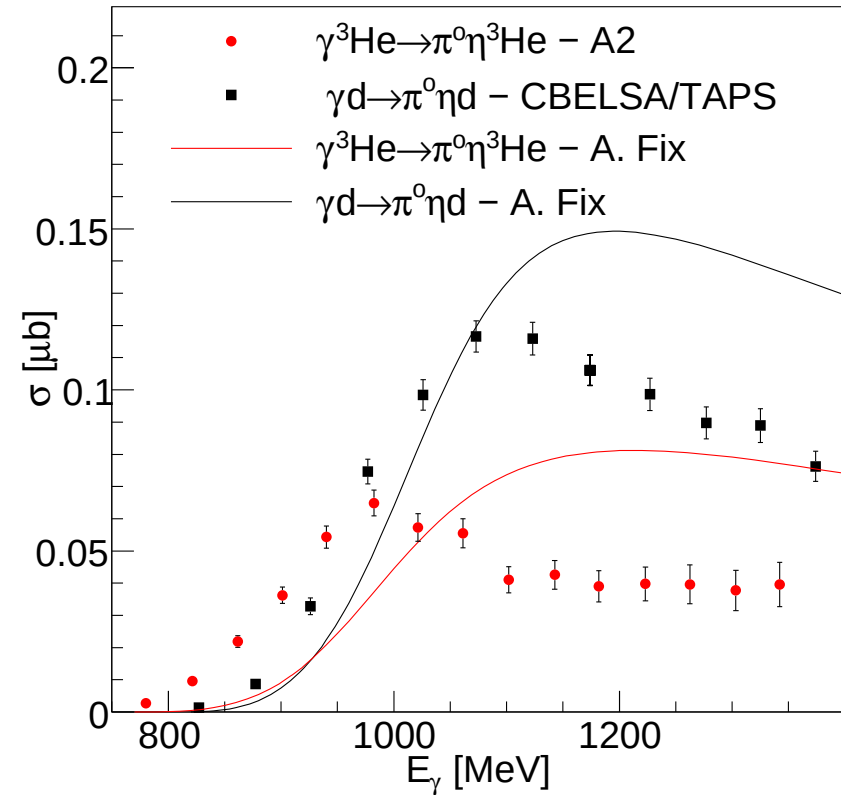
- ◆ total cross section in reasonable agreement with predictions
- ◆ T distributions support dominant $\Delta^* \rightarrow \Delta(1232)\eta \rightarrow N\eta\pi^0$ contribution:
 $T(\pi^0)$ peaks around 100 MeV ($\Delta(1232) \rightarrow N\pi$), $T(\eta)$ rises with E_γ

very preliminary: $^3\text{He}(\gamma, \eta\pi^0)^3\text{He}$

◆ identification via missing mass

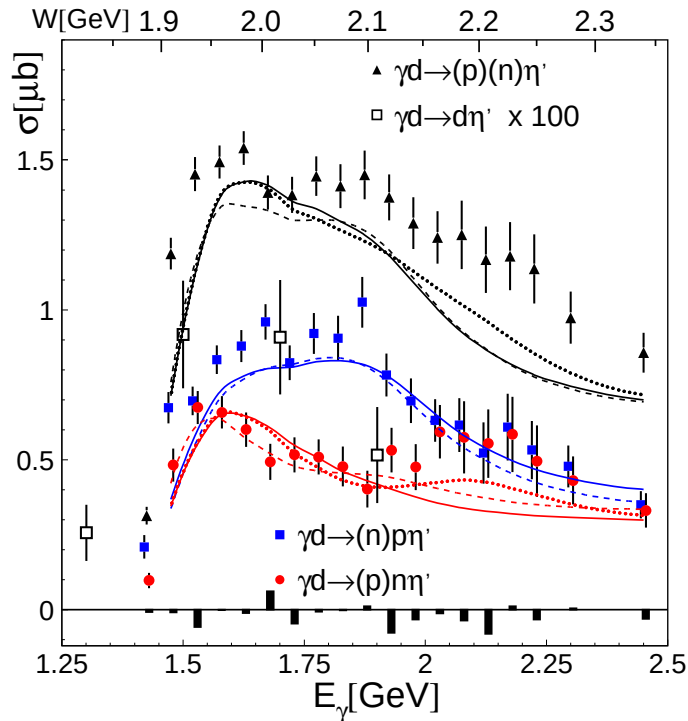


◆ preliminary total cross section



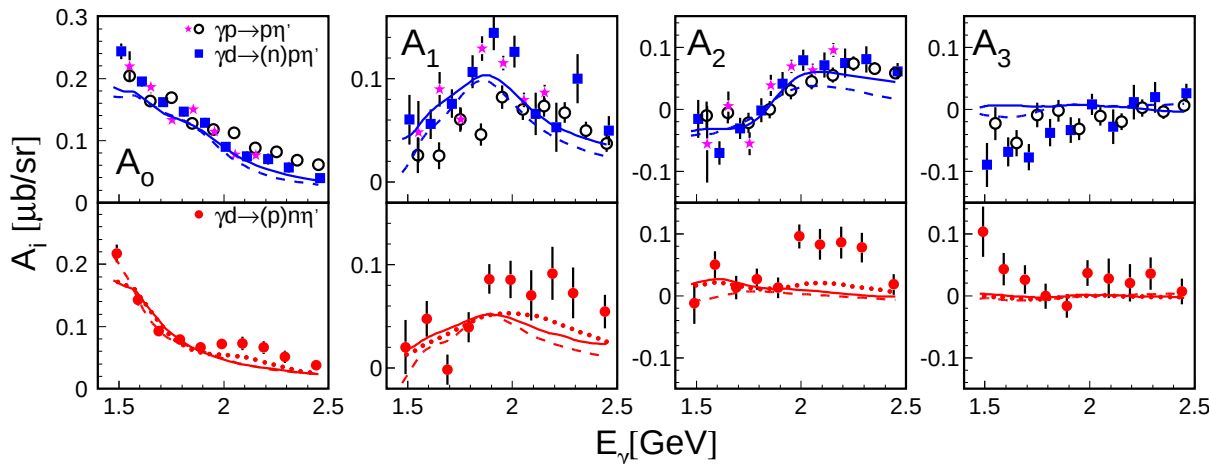
◆ qualitative agreement with isotope dependence from Fix' model

results for many more channels, e.g. quasi-free η'



$\Leftarrow$ total cross sections,
model calculations
K. Nakayama et al.

Legendre coefficients
of angular distributions $\Downarrow$

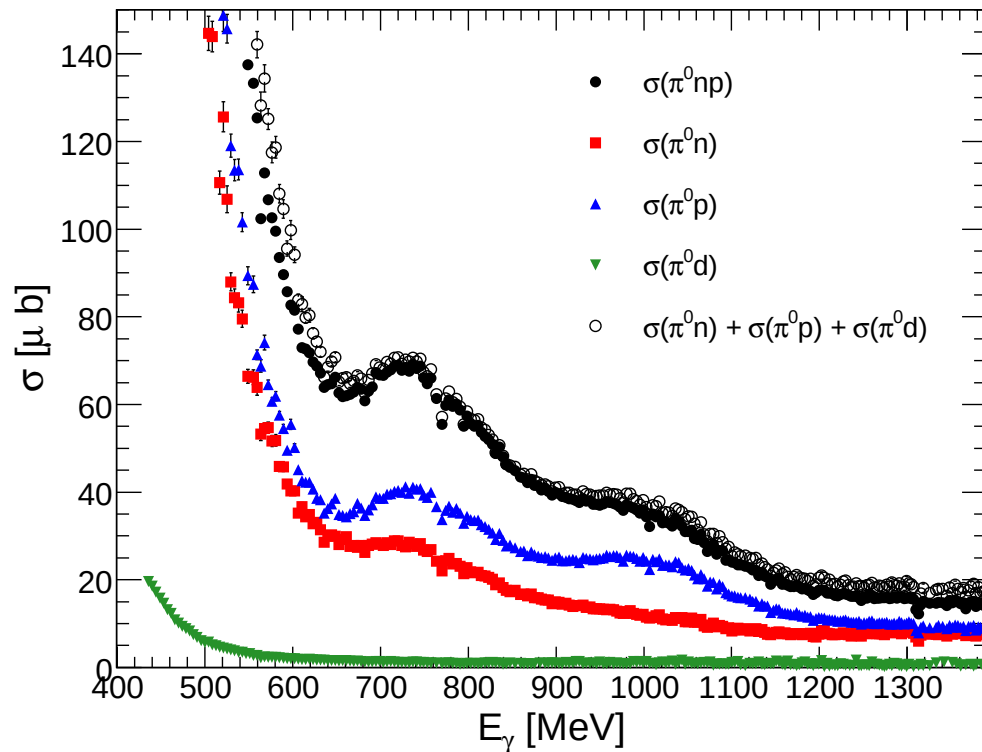


- very good agreement between quasi-free and free proton cross section
- angular distributions dominated by s-waves
- reasonable agreement with model calculations
- broad structure in neutron cross section between $2.0 \text{ GeV} < W < 2.5 \text{ GeV}$ which is less pronounced for proton

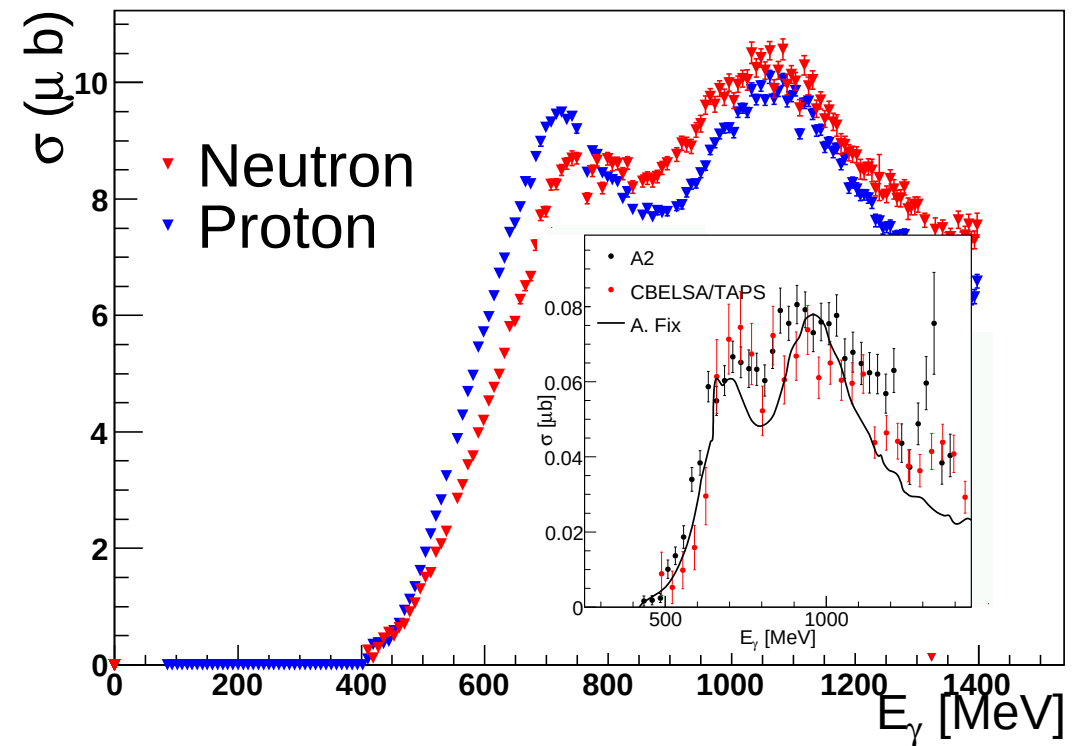
I. Jaegle et al.

single π^0 , double π^0 ...

◆ $p\pi^0, n\pi^0, d\pi^0$
M. Dieterle et al.



◆ $p\pi^0\pi^0, n\pi^0\pi^0, d\pi^0\pi^0$
M. Oberle et al.



- ◆ quasi-free off proton and neutron: contributions from different N^* -resonances
- ◆ coherent off deuteron (isospin): only Δ -resonances for single π^0 , only N^* -resonances for double π^0

Conclusions

Systematic investigation of meson production off ^2H and ^3He :



η -photoproduction off deuteron:

- ◆ large difference for resonance contributions to $p(\gamma, \eta)p$ and $n(\gamma, \eta)n$
- ◆ narrow structure in excitation function off neutron



η -photoproduction off ^3He :

- ◆ evidence for (quasi)-bound η -nucleus state



other channels:

- ◆ iso-spin dependence of the elm. nucleon excitation



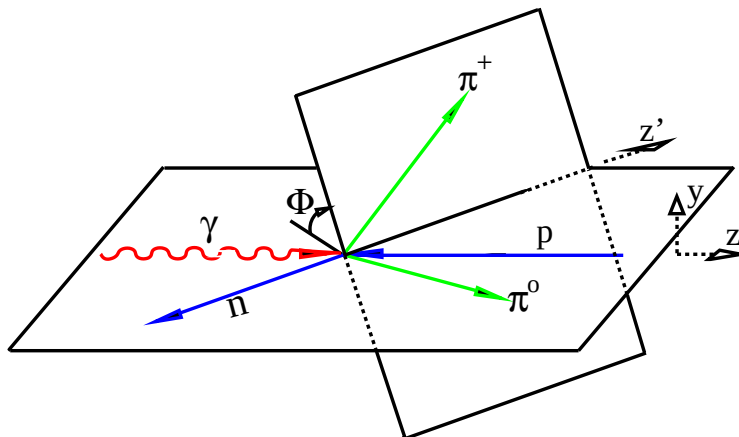
outlook:

- ◆ upcoming program to measure quasi-free (double) polarization observables

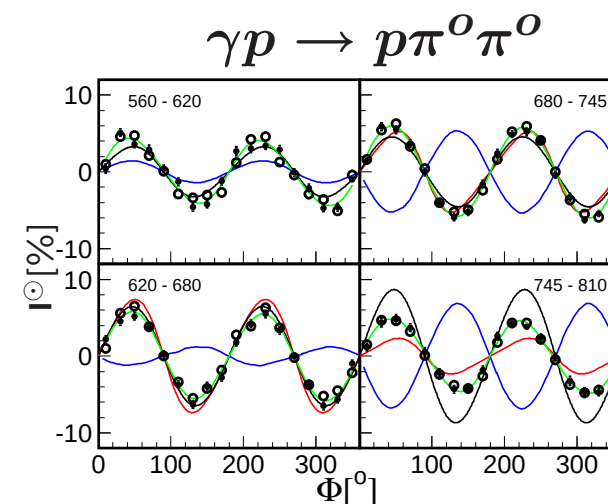
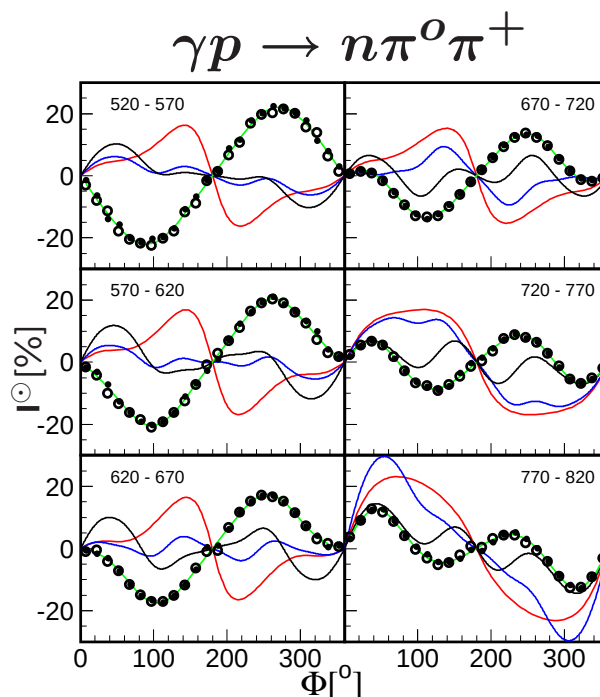
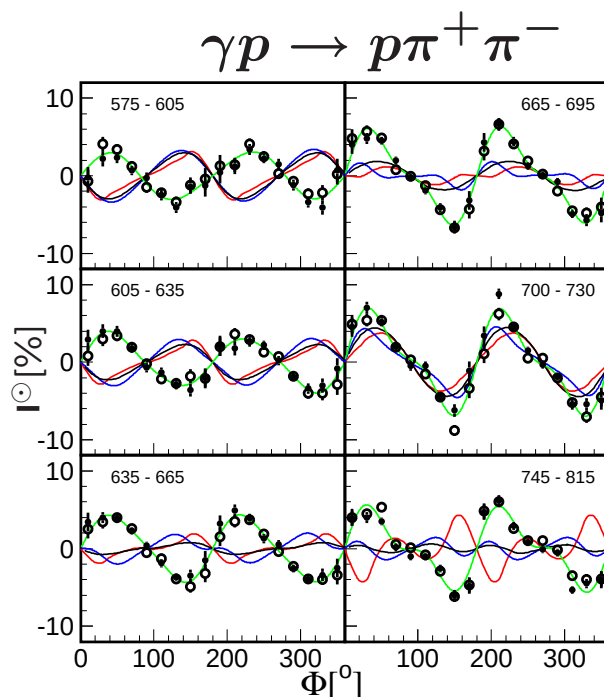
I. Jaegle
I. Keshelashvili
T. Rostomyan
F. Pheron
Y. Maghrbi
D. Werthmüller
Th. Challand
R. Trojer
M. Dieterle
M. Oberle
L. Witthauer

polarization observables - example: beam-helicity for 2π

- beam-helicity asymmetry (circularly polarized beam, unpolarized target)



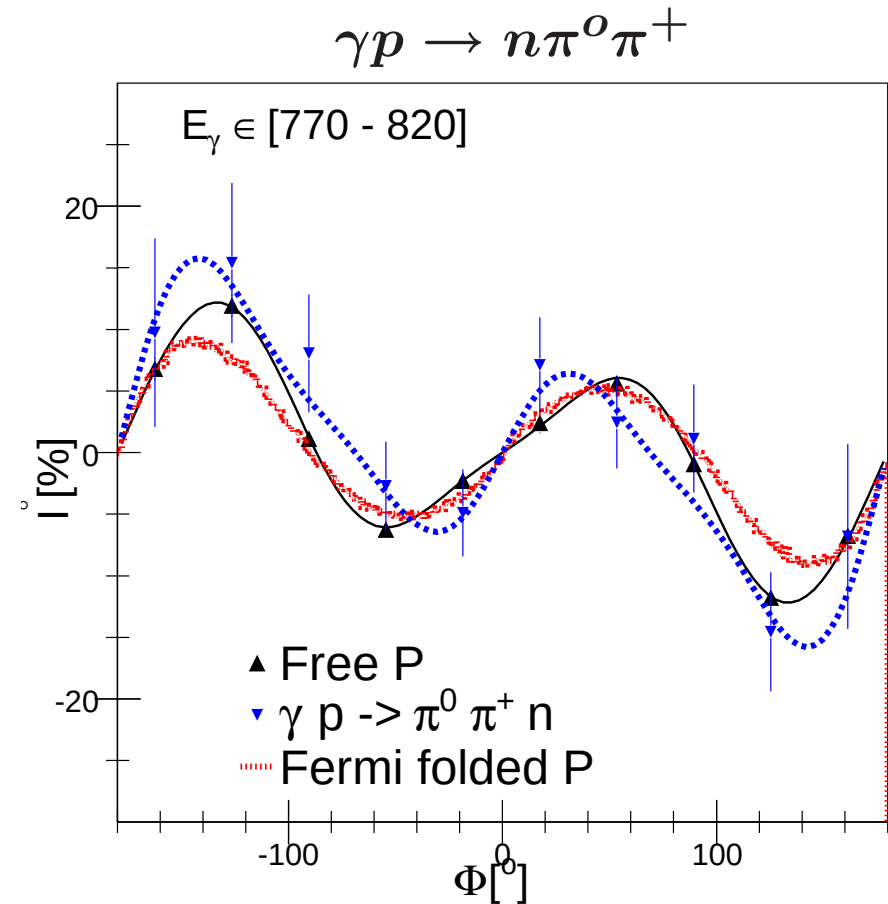
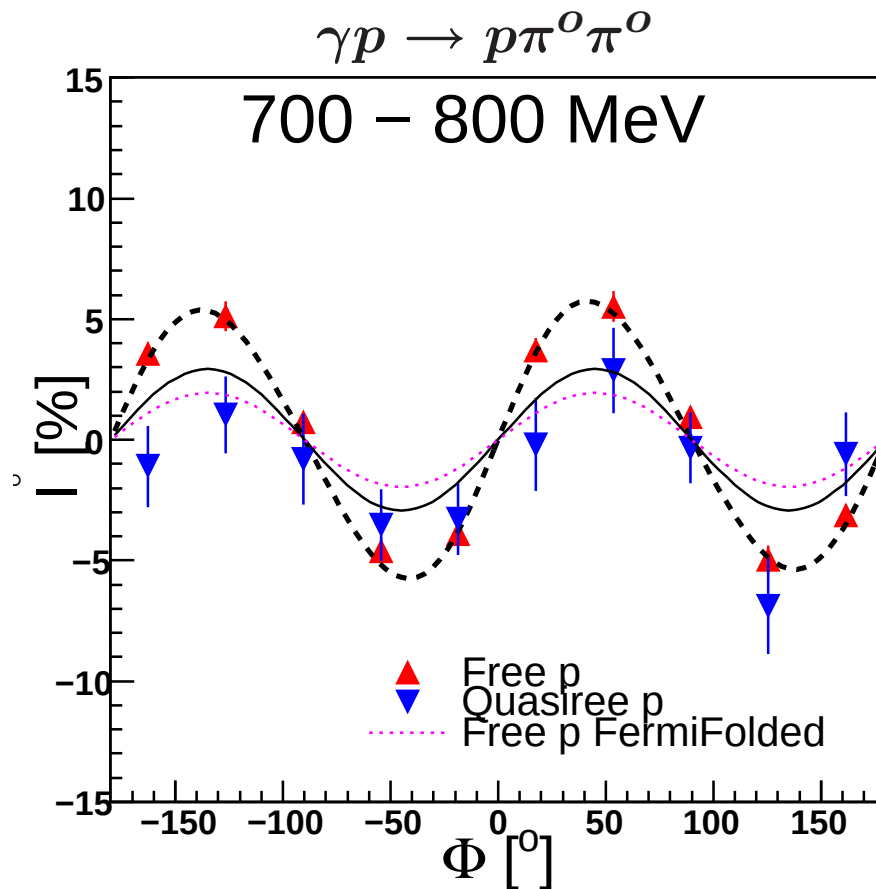
$$I^{\odot}(\Phi) \equiv \frac{d\sigma^{+} - d\sigma^{-}}{d\sigma^{+} + d\sigma^{-}}$$



D. Krambrich, F. Zehr et al.,
PRL 103 (2009) 052002

...free and quasi-free (off deuteron) proton results...

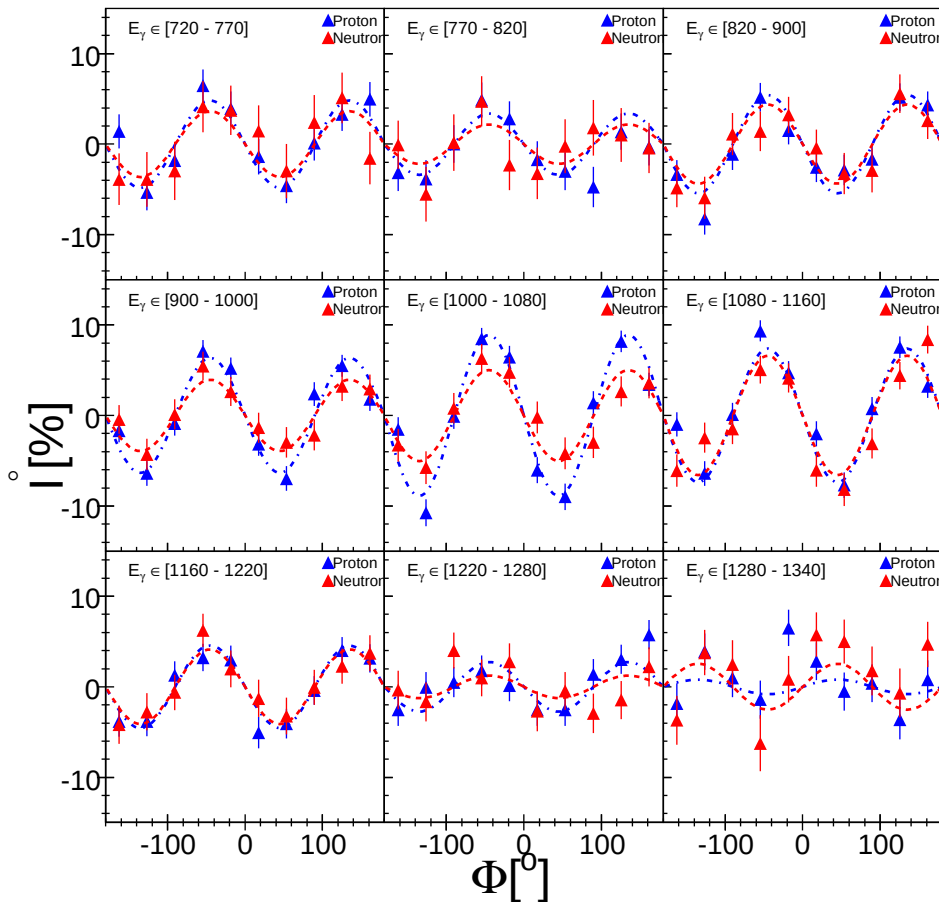
- ◆ preliminary quasi-free data from protons bound in deuteron already in good agreement with free proton data



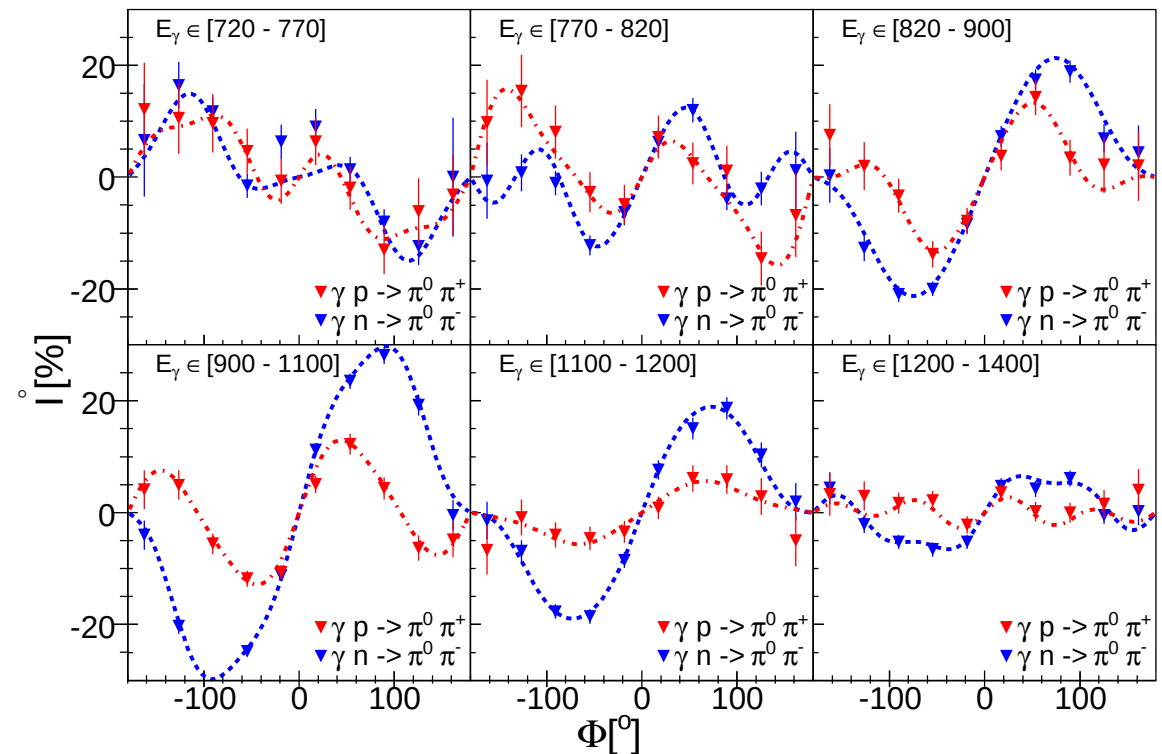
M. Oberle et al.

...quasi-free proton and quasi-free neutron...

- almost identical results for $\gamma p \rightarrow p\pi^0\pi^0$ and $\gamma n \rightarrow n\pi^0\pi^0$



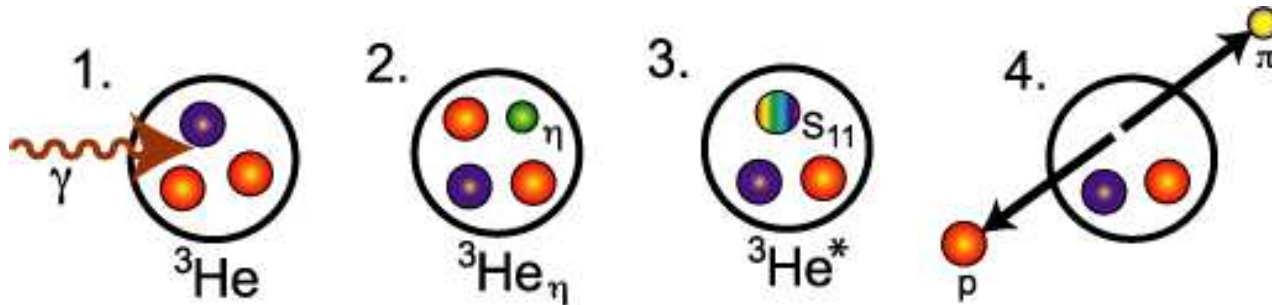
- less similarities for $\gamma p \rightarrow n\pi^0\pi^+$ and $\gamma n \rightarrow p\pi^0\pi^-$



M. Oberle et al.

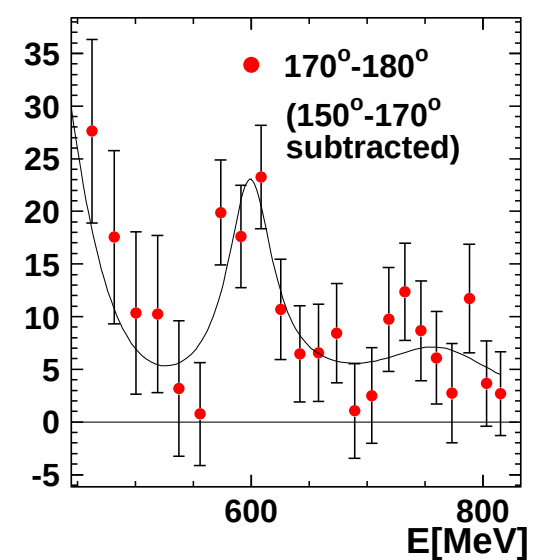
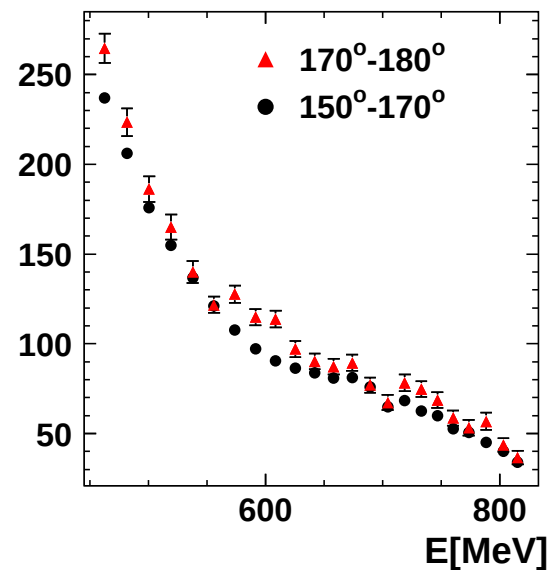
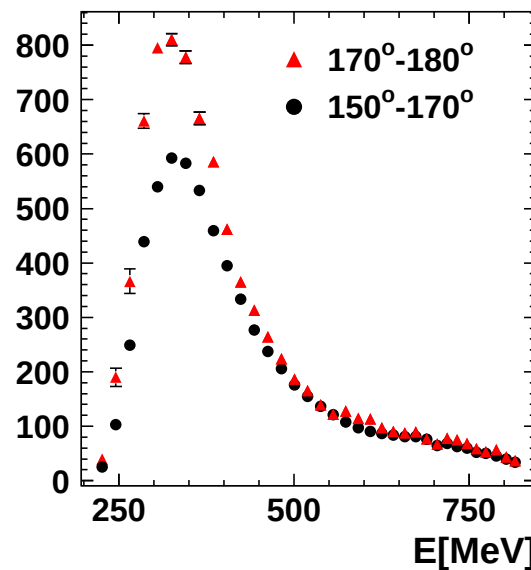
search for η -mesic nuclei

- ◆ G. Sokol et al., search in: $\gamma + {}^{12}\text{C} \rightarrow N + \eta (A - 1) \rightarrow N + \pi^+ + n + (A - 2)$
- ◆ similar principle for photoproduction from ${}^3\text{He}$:



→ search for back-to-back π^0 - p pairs

- ◆ excess of π^0 -p back-to-back emission at the η -threshold (3.5σ)

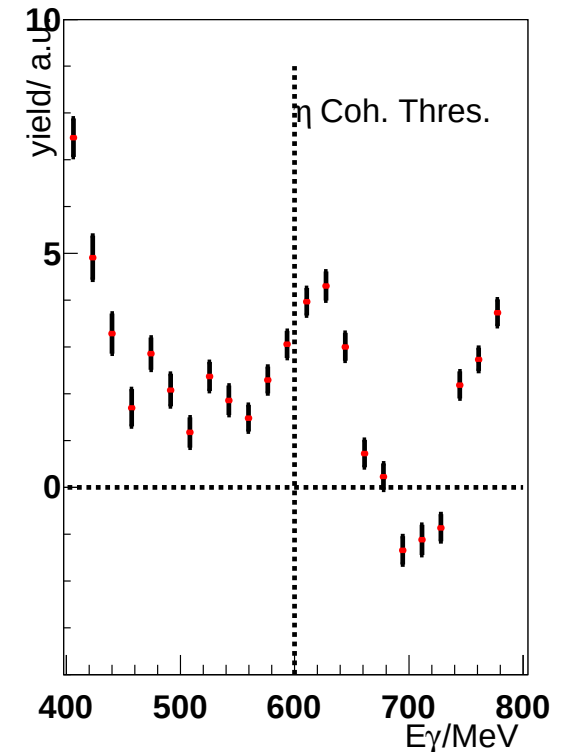
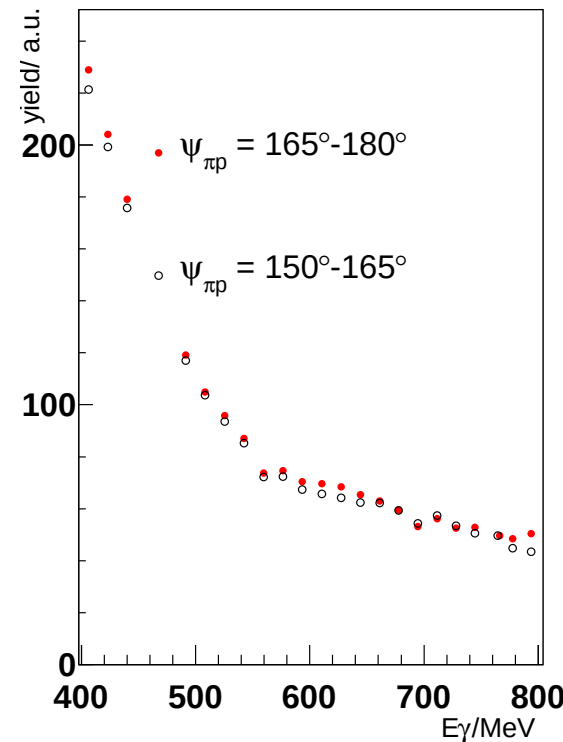
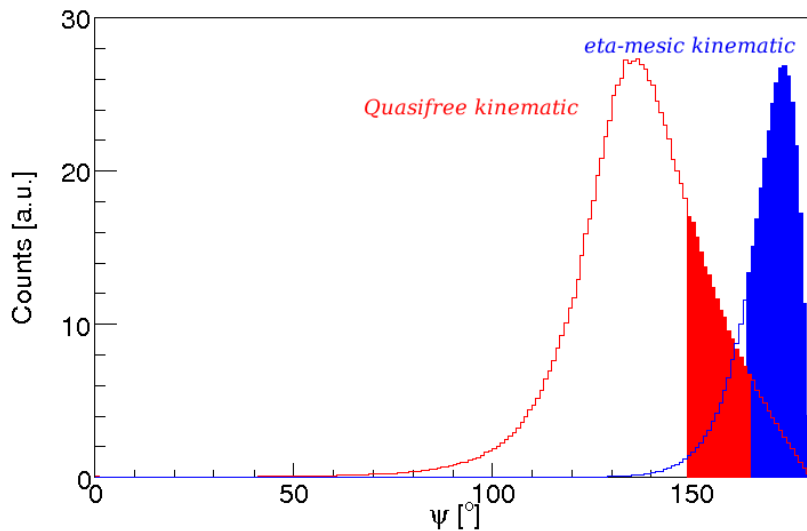


new ^3He experiment: π^0 -p back-to-back pairs

π^0 -p back-to-back pairs:

- ◆ peak structure at coherent threshold is statistically significant...

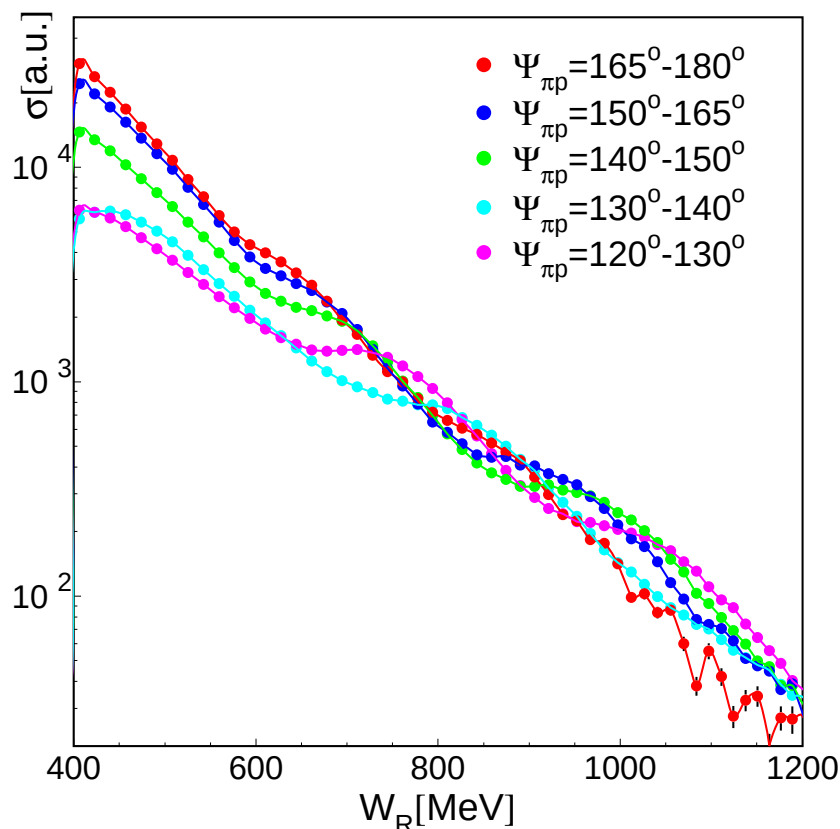
simulation of opening angle behavior
for quasi-free π^0 production
and η -mesic state



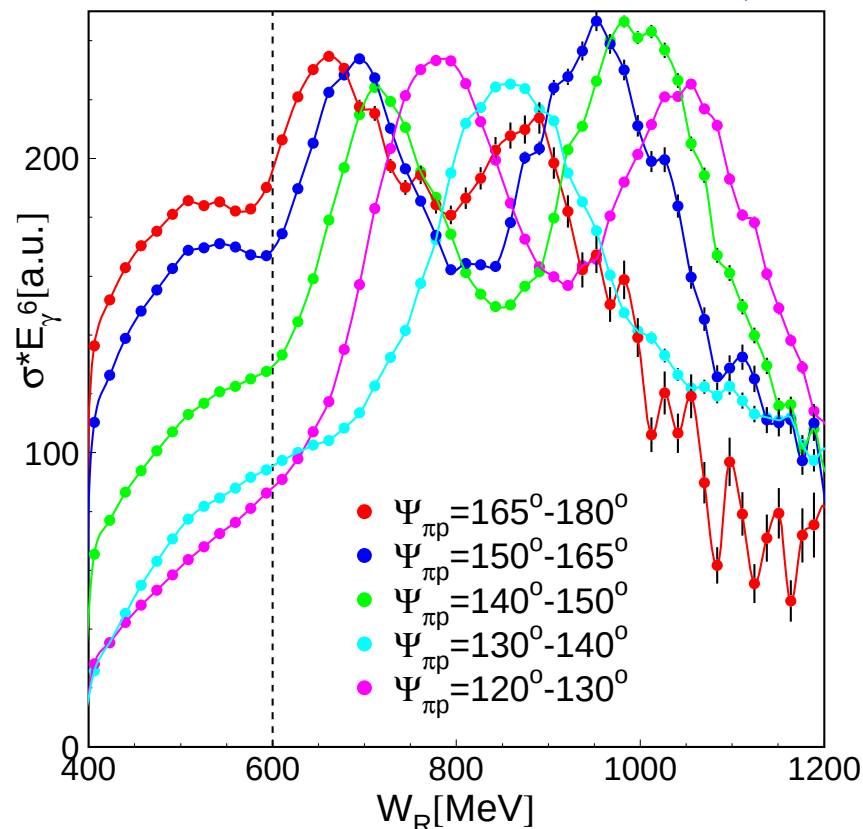
But: behavior of background from single π^0 production via nucleon resonances highly non-trivial $\rightarrow$

Dependence of $\pi^0 - p$ excitation functions on opening angle

◆ excitation functions - arbitrarily scaled



◆ excitation functions $\times E_\gamma^6$



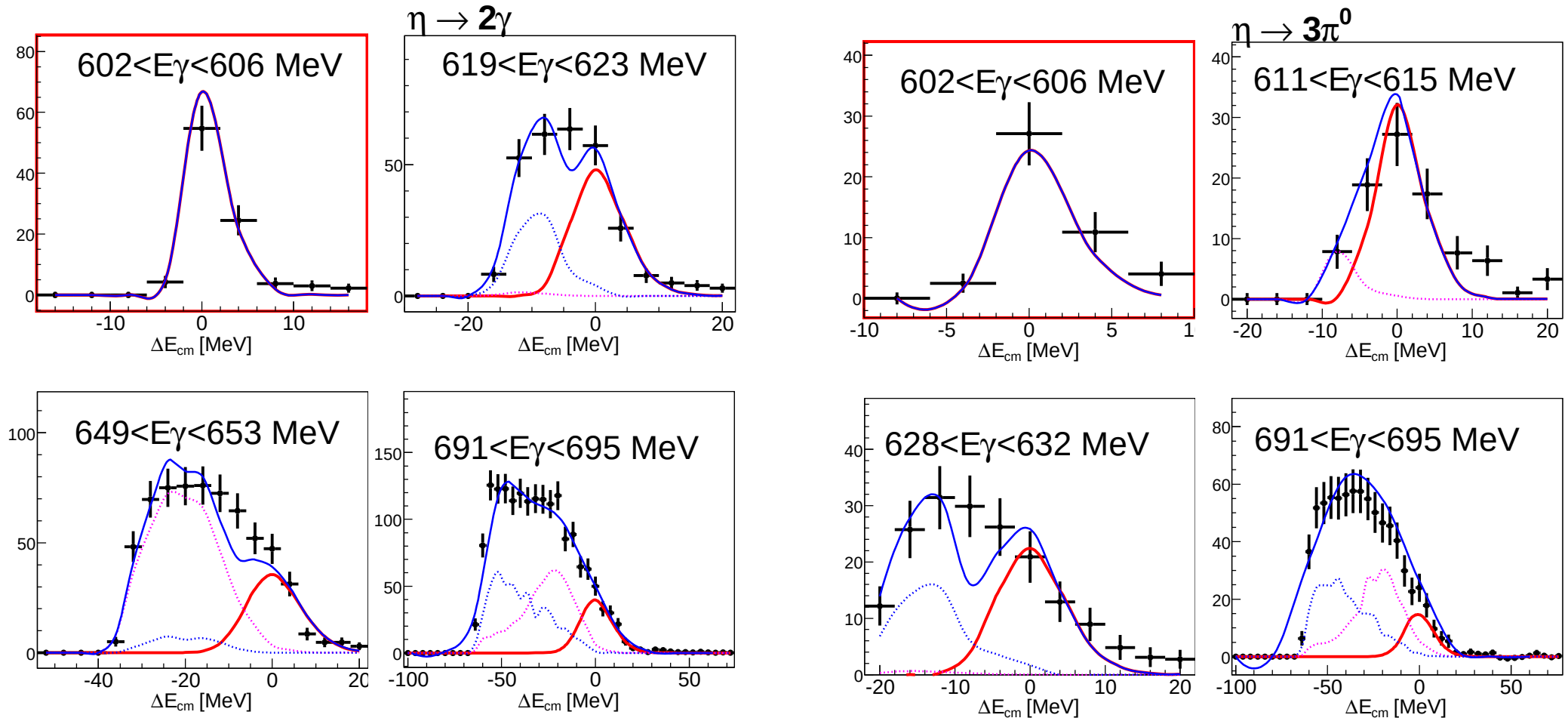
- ◆ nucleon resonances produce opening angle dependent structures in excitation functions
- ◆ subtraction of excitation functions for different opening angles can produce artificial structures almost everywhere
- ◆ basically no hope to isolate tiny structure from η -mesic state in this complicated landscape!

new ^3He experiment - improved statistics

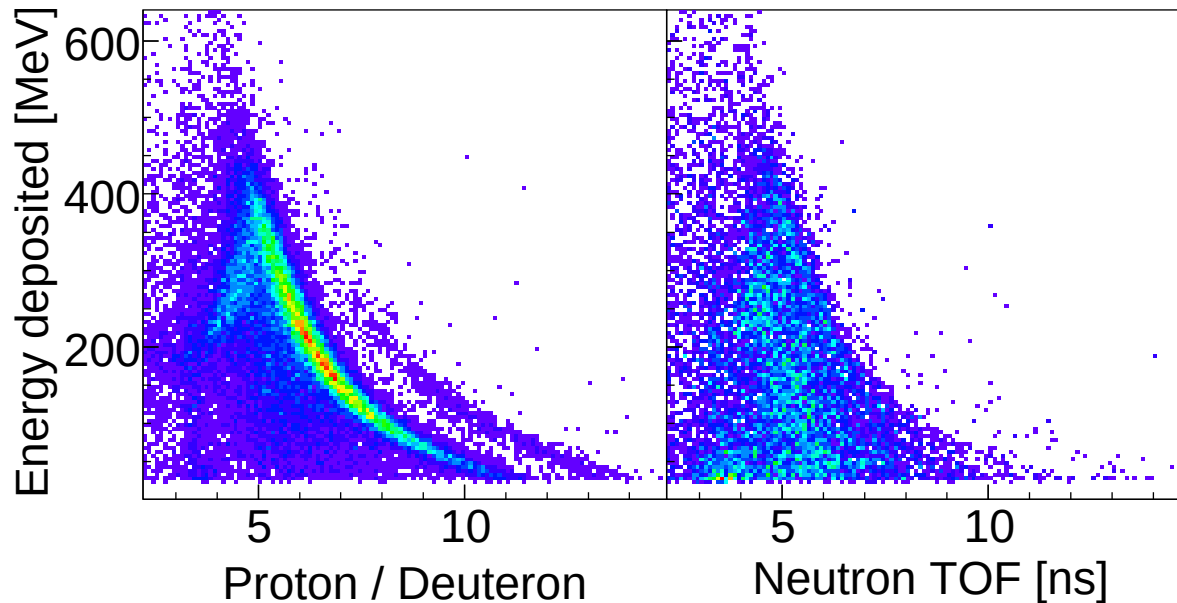
PhD thesis F. Pheron

reaction identification:

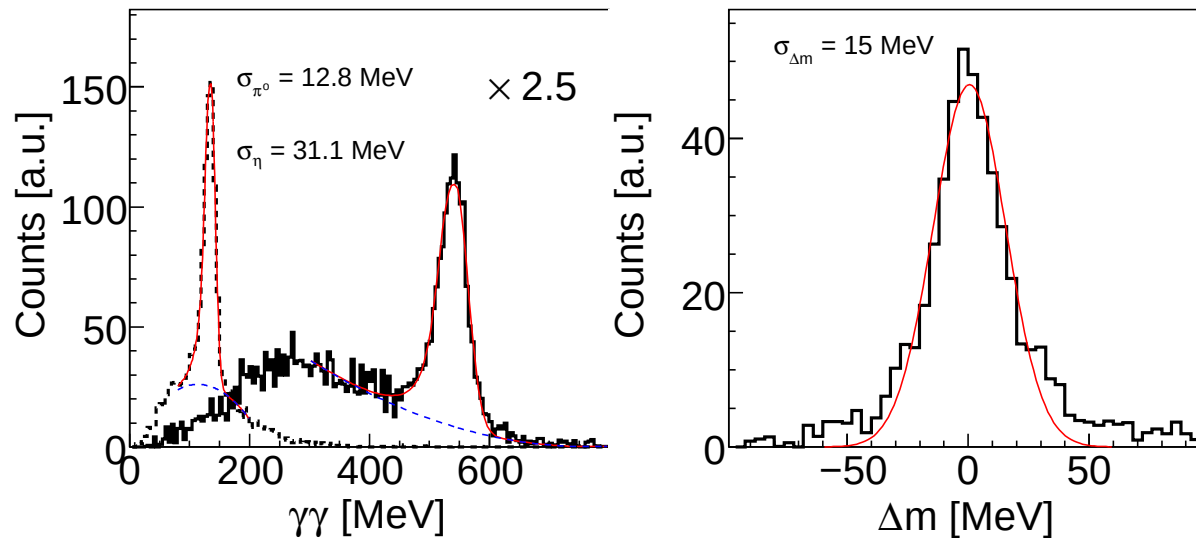
- ◆ invariant mass analyses for $\eta \rightarrow 2\gamma$ and $\eta \rightarrow 3\pi^0 \rightarrow 6\gamma$
- ◆ missing energy analysis for coherent kinematics:



coherent photoproduction of $\pi^0\eta$ -pairs: $d(\gamma, \eta\pi^0)d$



time-of-flight versus energy for deuteron identification



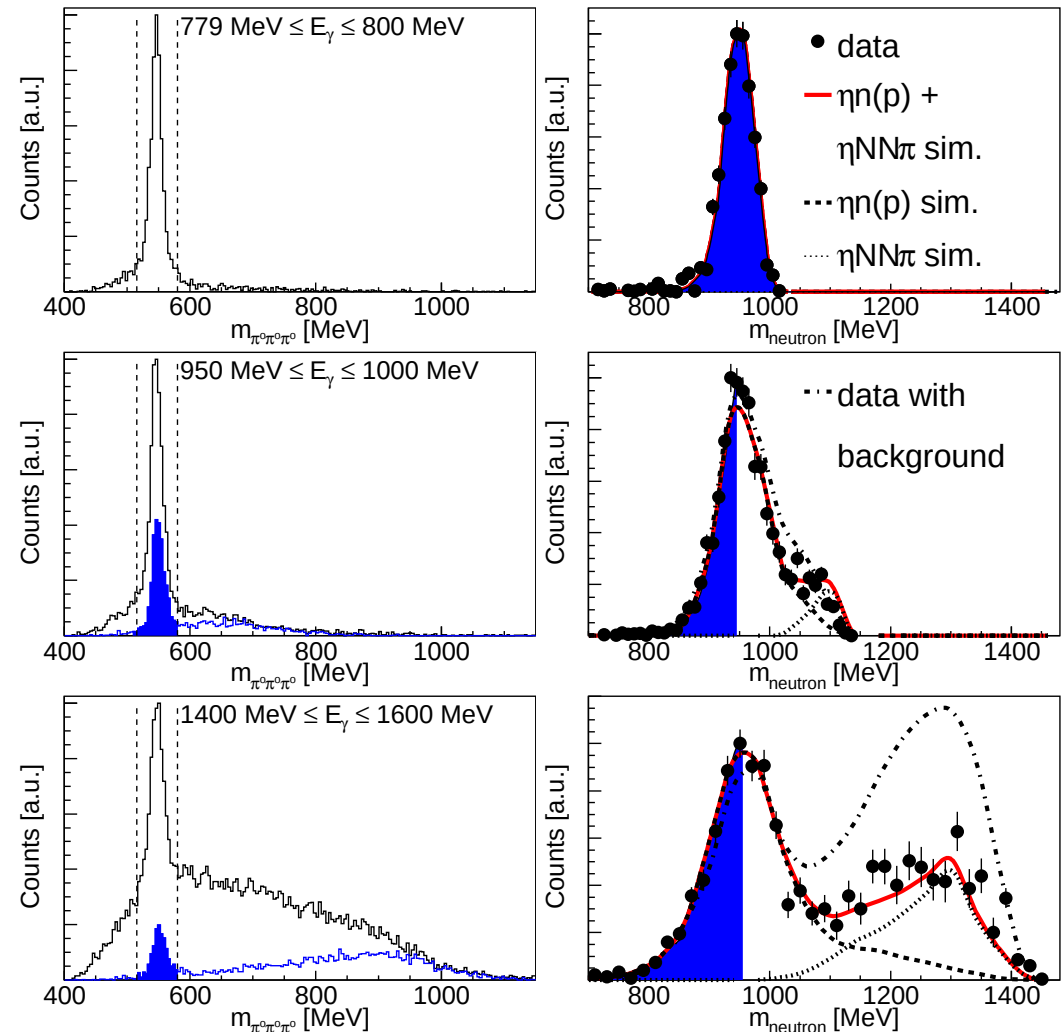
invariant mass (two-photon) for reaction identification and missing mass (deuteron treated as missing particle) for verification of coherent kinematics

I. Jaegle et al.

identification of η -meson production (exclusive)

- ◆ **decay channel:** $\eta \rightarrow 3\pi^0 \rightarrow 6\gamma$
- ◆ select events with 7 hits
- ◆ invariant mass off all photon pairs
- ◆ cut on π^0 invariant mass
- ◆ select best combination of 6γ to $3\pi^0$ by χ^2 -test
- ◆ use π^0 mass as constraint, construct $3\pi^0$ invariant mass
- ◆ cut on $3\pi^0$ invariant mass
- ◆ **missing mass analysis to remove $\eta\pi$ final states etc.**
treat recoil nucleon as missing particle:

$$m^2 = (\mathbf{P}_\gamma + \mathbf{P}_N - \mathbf{P}_\eta)^2$$

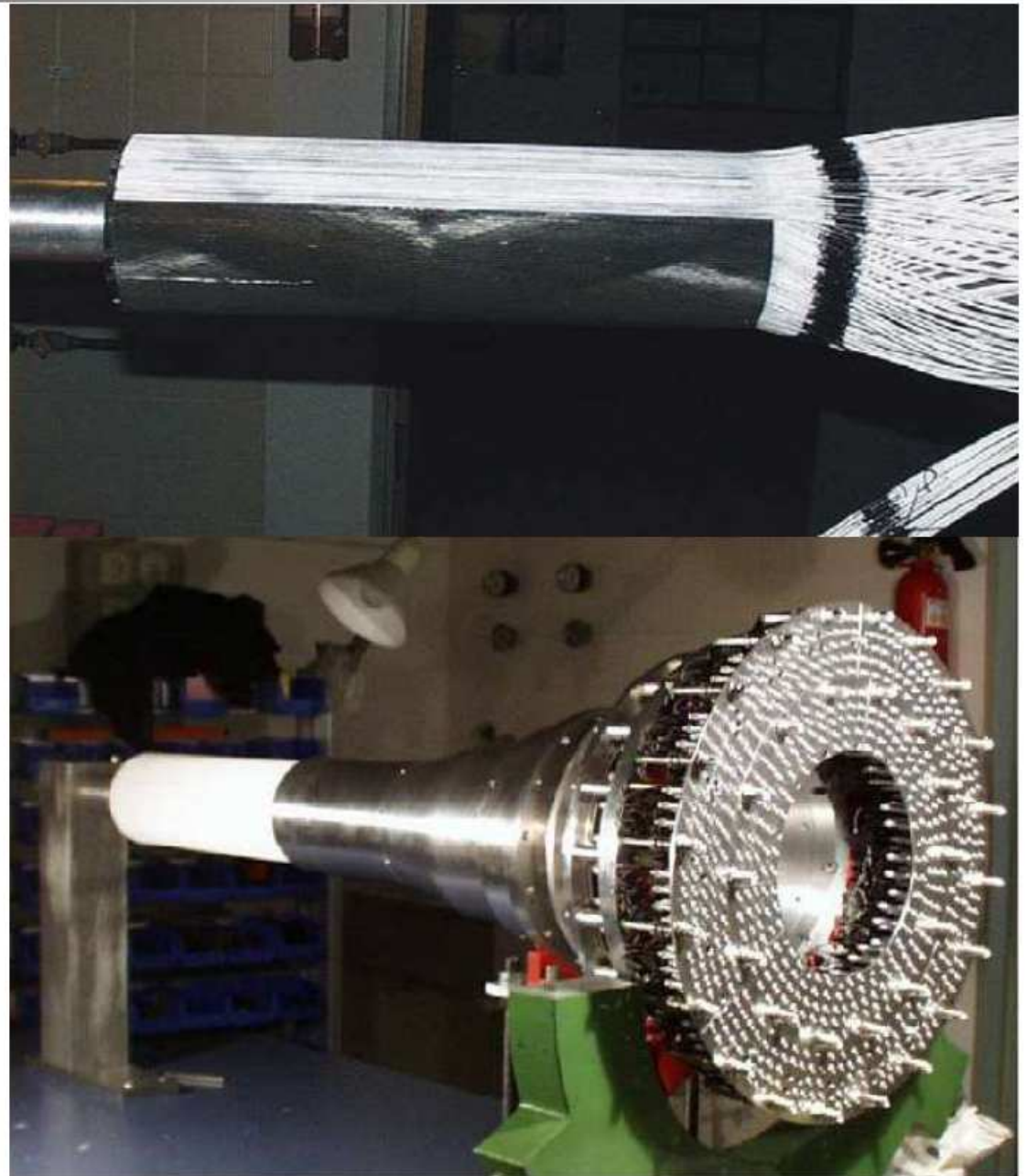
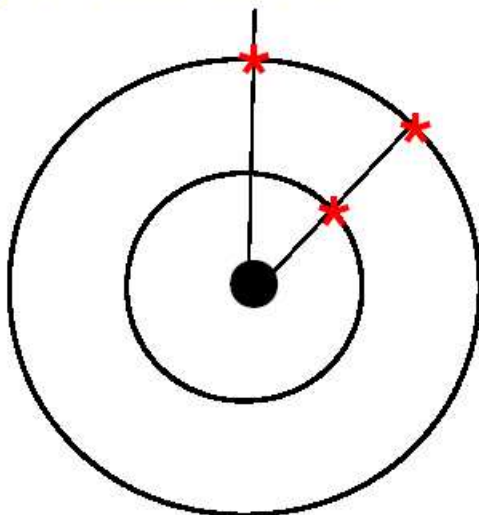




Nucleon Identification CB

inner detector:

- 3 layers of scintillating fibers
- cylindrical shape
- proton:
2 or 3 layers match a hit in the CB
- neutron:
no layer has fired



Nucleon Identification TAPS

taps veto detector:

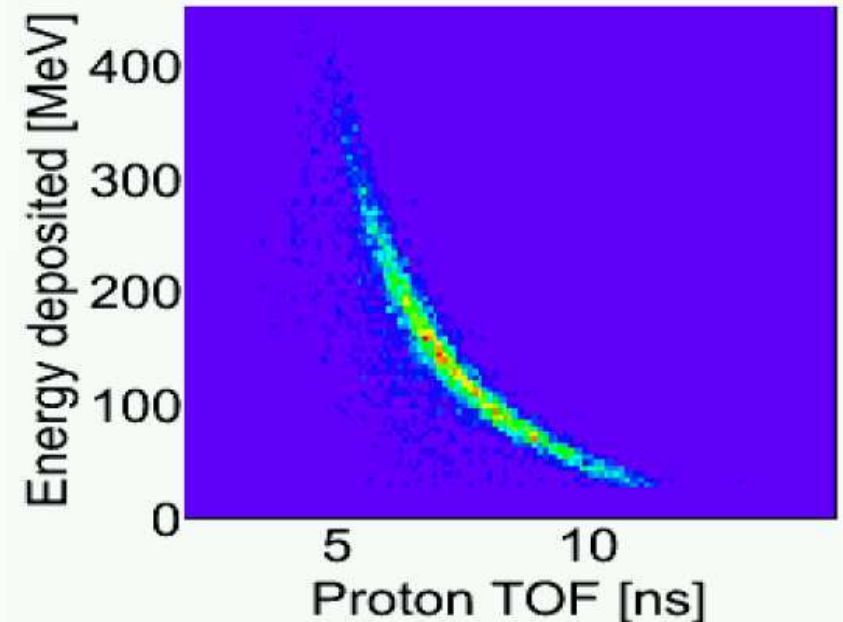
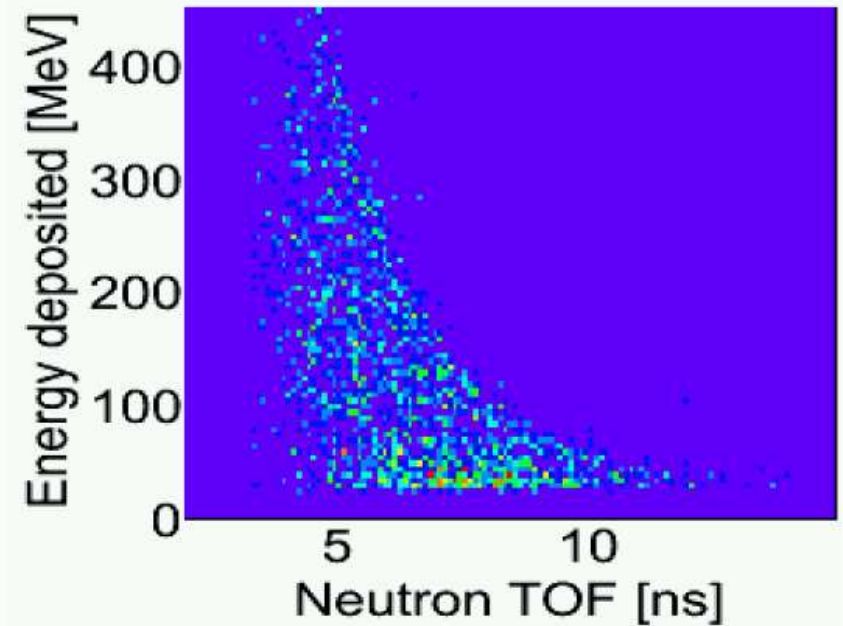
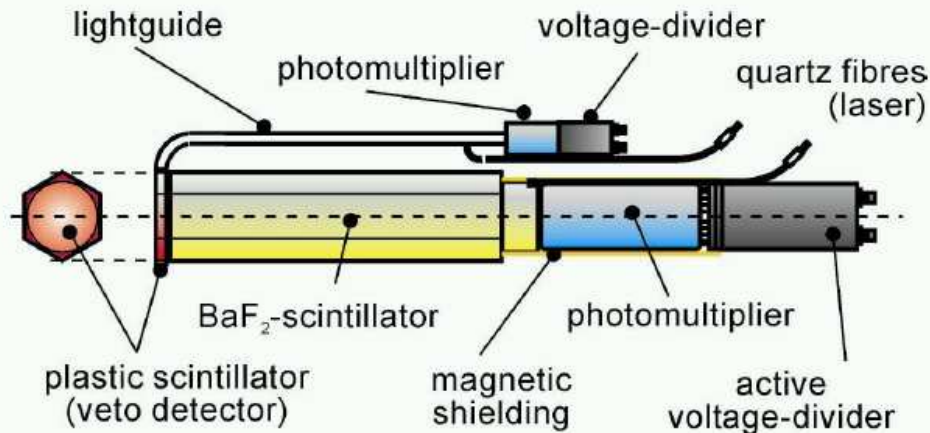
- ▶ 5 mm plastic scintillator
- ▶ individual for each BaF_2 crystal

proton:

veto hit in front of BaF_2 crystal
+ E vs TOF

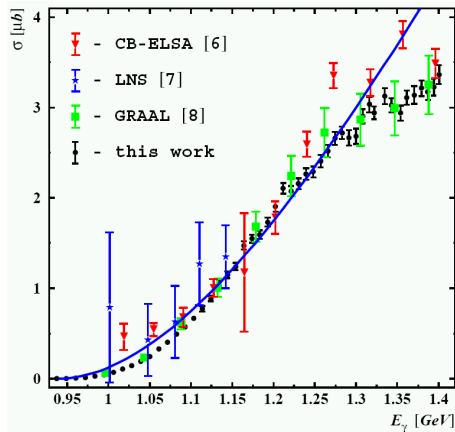
neutron:

no veto hit in front of BaF_2 crystal
+ E vs TOF

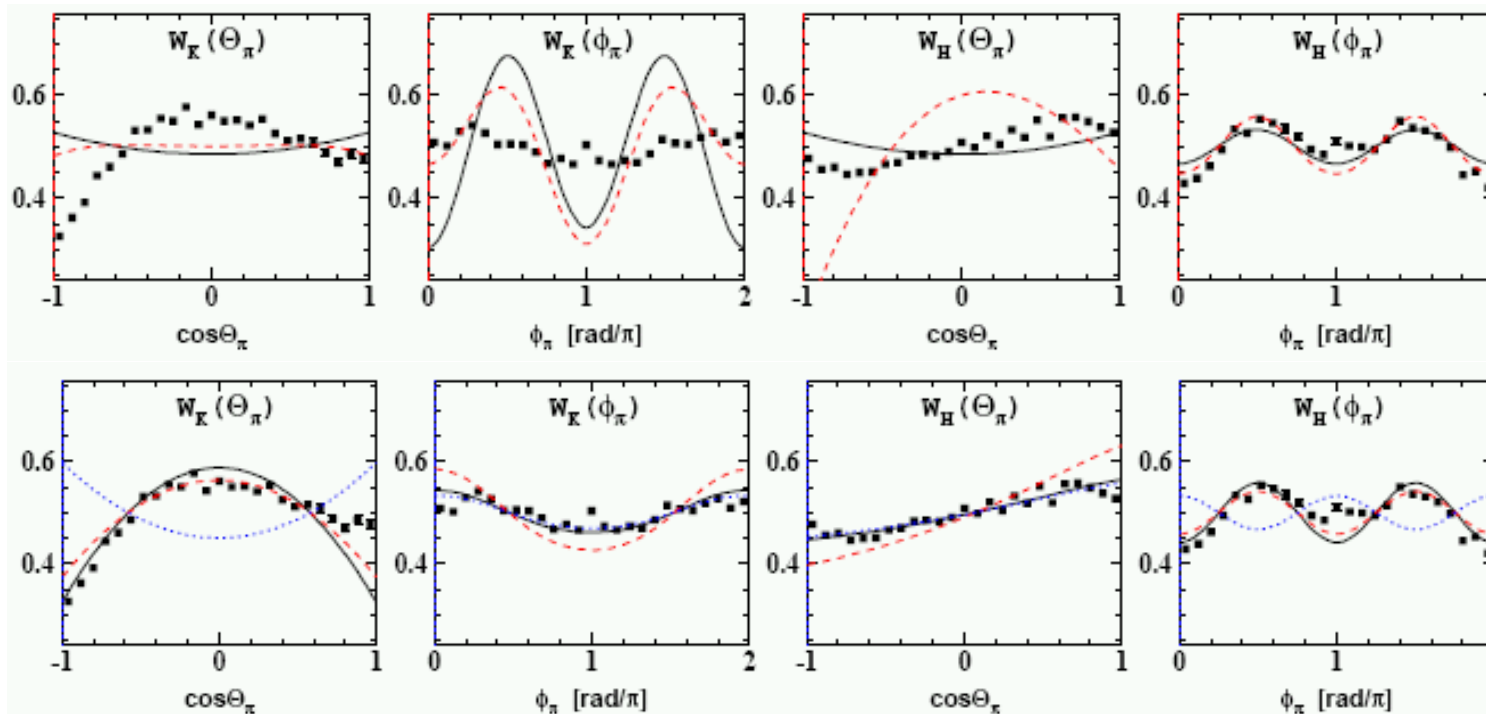


threshold region of $\pi^0\eta$ dominated by $D_{33}(1700)$

V. Kashevarov et al. (MAMI)



- analysis of threshold region in terms of isobar model (Fix et al.) indicates strong dominance of $D_{33}(1700)$
- extracted amplitudes allow specific predictions for coherent production of $\pi^0\eta$ -pairs of light nuclei (Fix et al.)

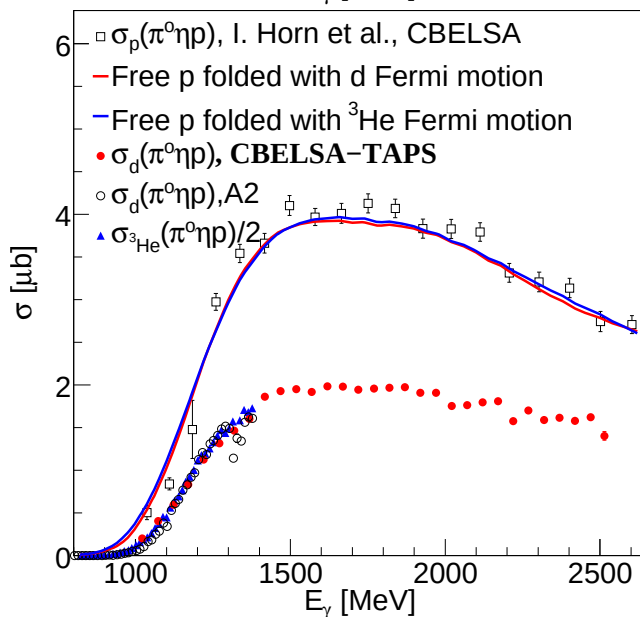
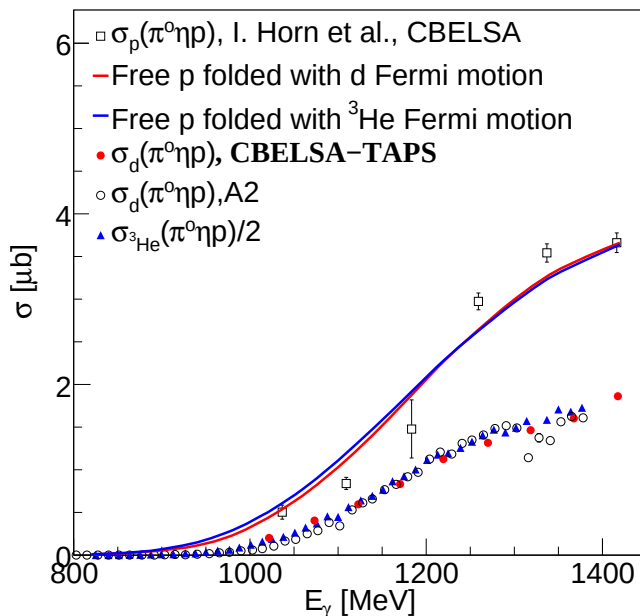


⇐ best model fits
for P_{33} or D_{35} isobars

⇐ model fits
for D_{33} isobar

quasi-free photoproduction of $\pi^0\eta$ pairs

...preliminary results



deuteron results from MAMI and ELSA consistent

quasi-free proton and neutron results from deuteron and ^3He consistent

quasi-free proton cross section roughly 50 % smaller than free proton cross section. Not yet understood. FSI ?

quasi-free proton and neutron cross sections very similar as expected

