

# Meson-nucleus interactions studied in photo-nuclear experiments

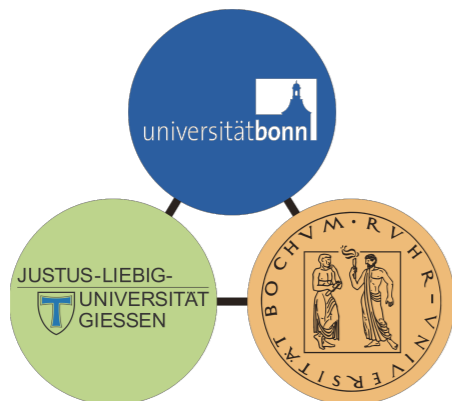
Volker Metag  
II. Physikalisches Institut



## Outline:

- ◆ theoretical predictions for meson-nucleus optical potentials
- ◆ exp. approaches and results on the imaginary part of the  $\omega$ ,  $\eta'$ - nucleus potential
- ◆ exp. approaches and results on the real part of the  $\omega$ ,  $\eta'$ - nucleus potential
- ◆ search for meson-nucleus bound states
- ◆ summary & outlook

\*funded by the DFG within SFB/TR16



Hadrons and Hadron Interactions in QCD  
Symposium  
Kyoto, Japan, March 2-6, 2015

**HIC** | **FAIR**  
for  
Helmholtz International Center

# bound systems

earth ↔ moon



bound by gravitation

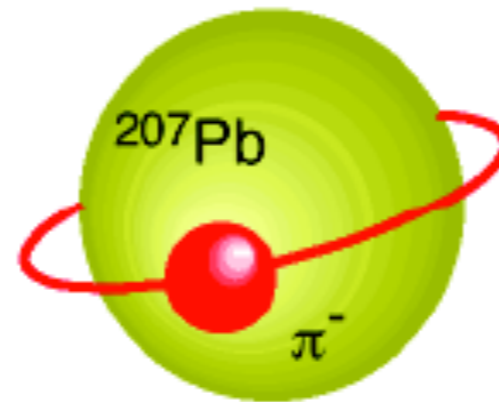
# bound systems

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bound by gravitation

$\pi^- \leftrightarrow$  nucleus



bound by superposition  
of attractive Coulomb-  
and repulsive strong  
interaction

talk by Kenta Itahashi

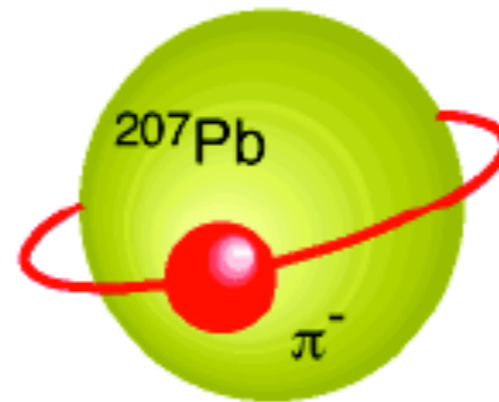
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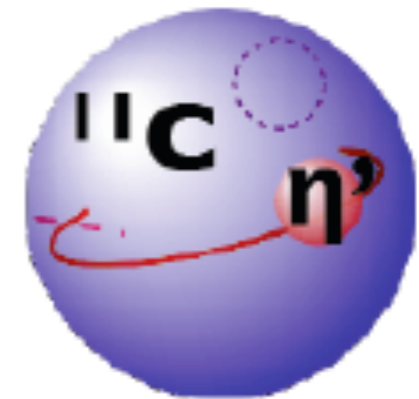
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talk by Kenta Itahashi

$\omega, \eta' \leftrightarrow$  nucleus



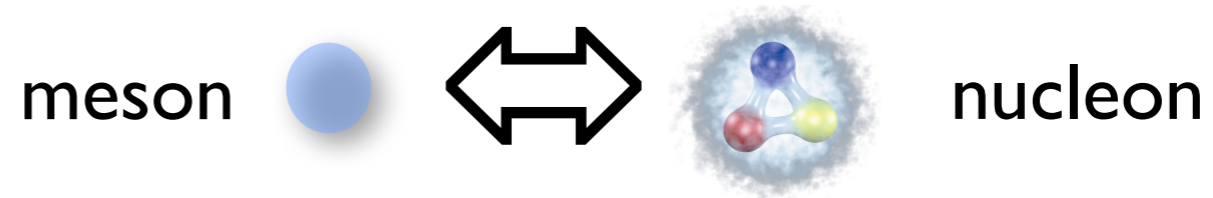
bound solely by  
the strong interaction

?

talks by Kenta Itahashi  
and Yoshiki Tanaka

# meson-nucleon/nucleus interaction

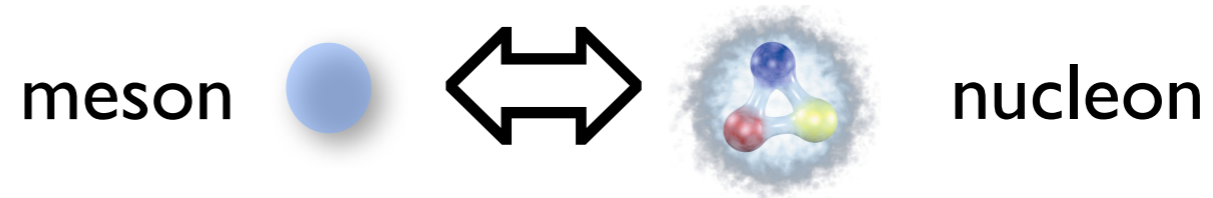
## I. meson-nucleon interaction:



for short-lived mesons ( $\eta$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\eta'$ ,  $\Phi$ ) no beams available;  
study of meson-nucleon interaction by final state interactions  
in elementary reactions, e.g.  $p + p \Rightarrow p + p + \eta'$   
 $\Rightarrow$  scattering length (talk by Pawel Moskal)  
- interaction attractive or repulsive ?

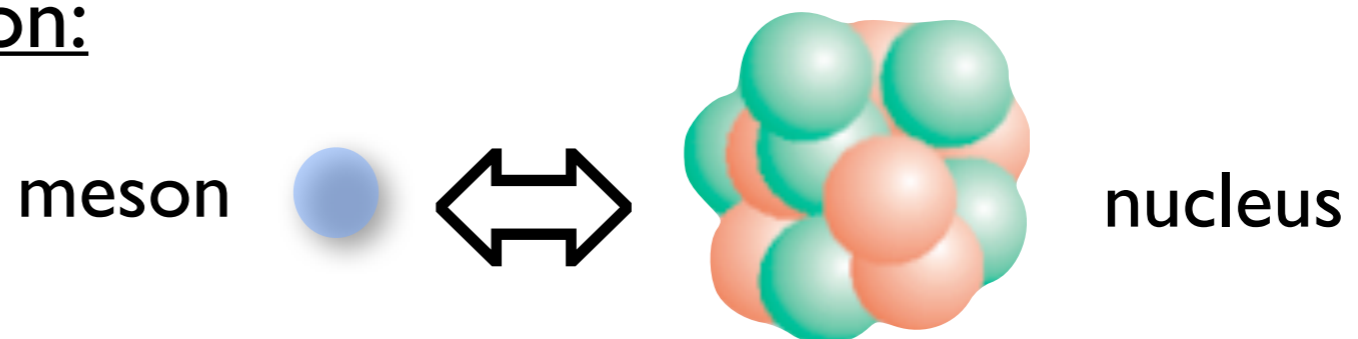
# meson-nucleon/nucleus interaction

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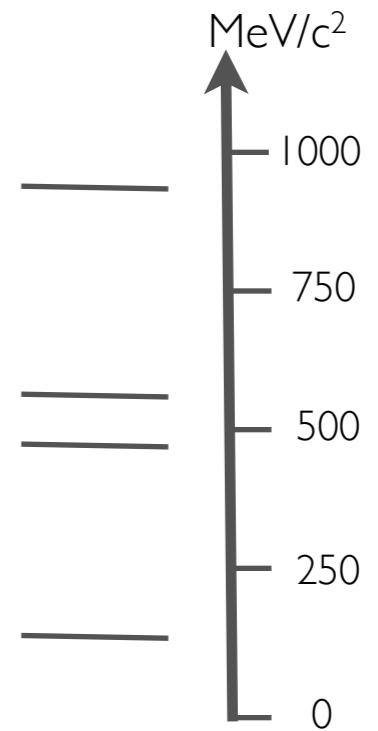
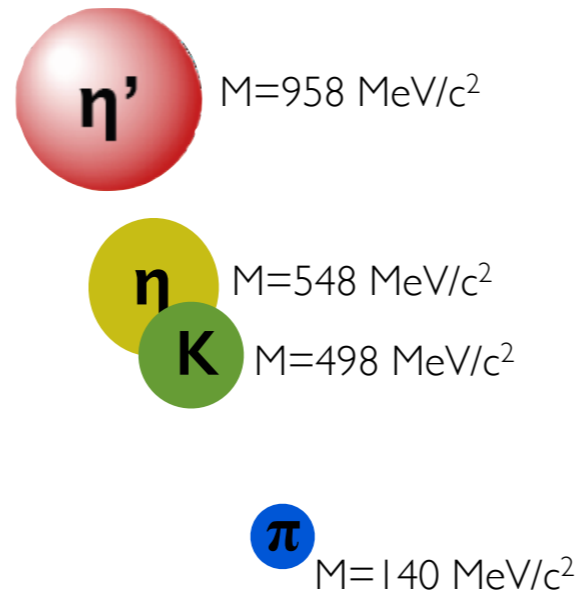
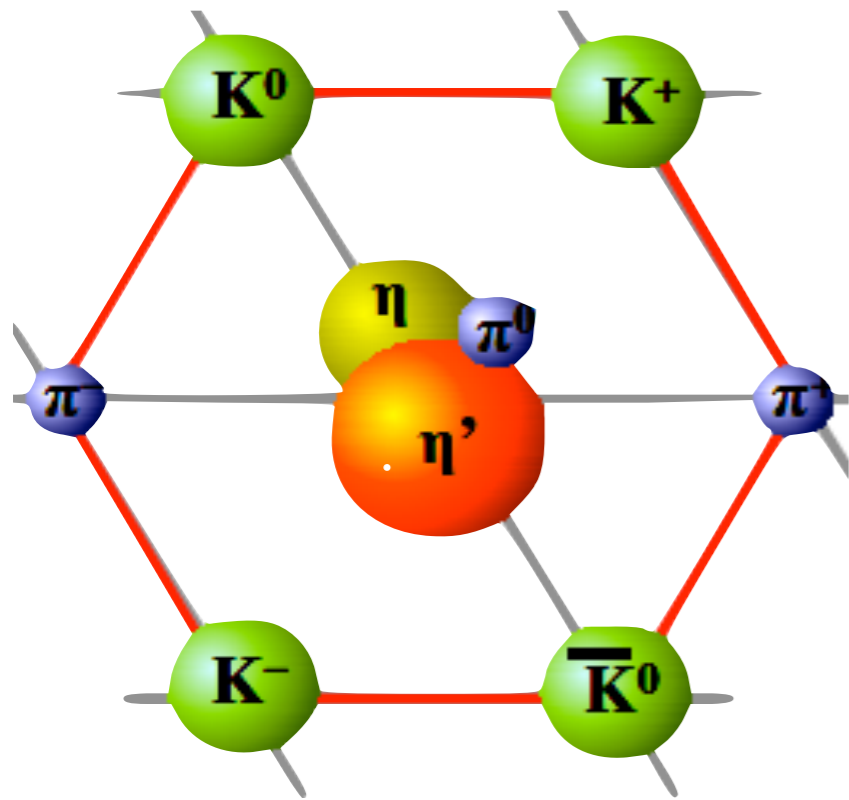
## II. meson-nucleus interaction:



- if attractive, interaction strong enough to form meson-nucleus bound states ?

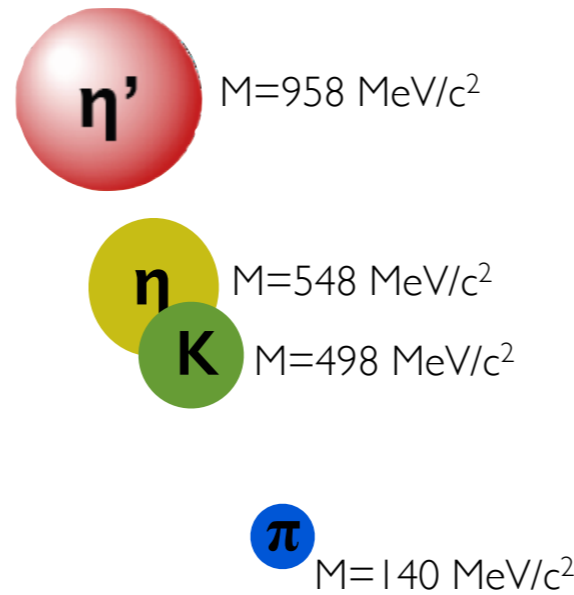
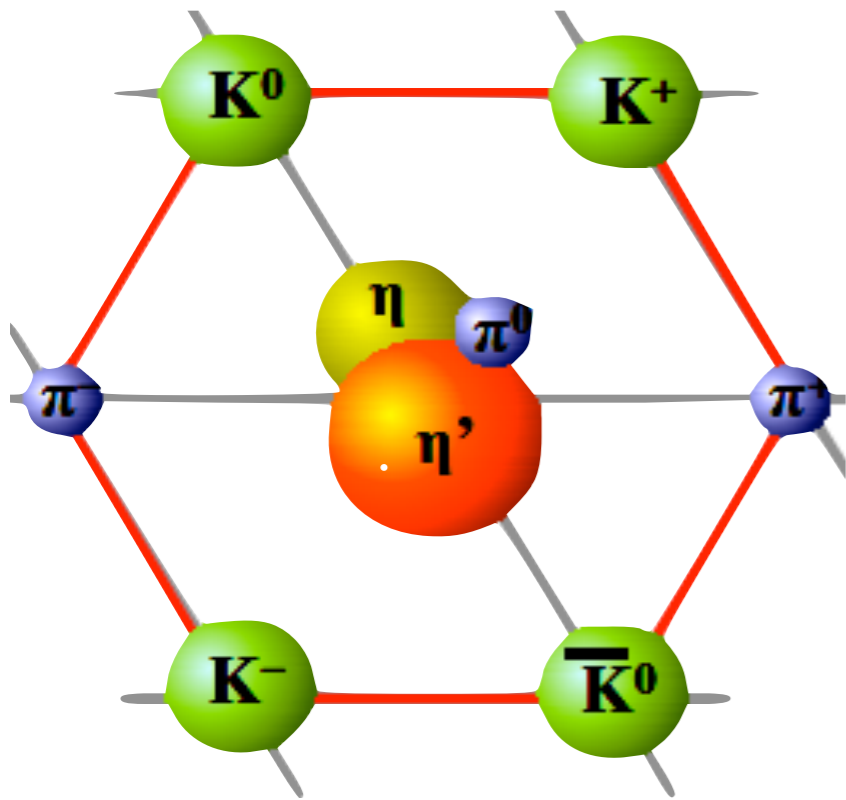
# symmetry breaking in the hadronic sector

## nonet of pseudoscalar mesons



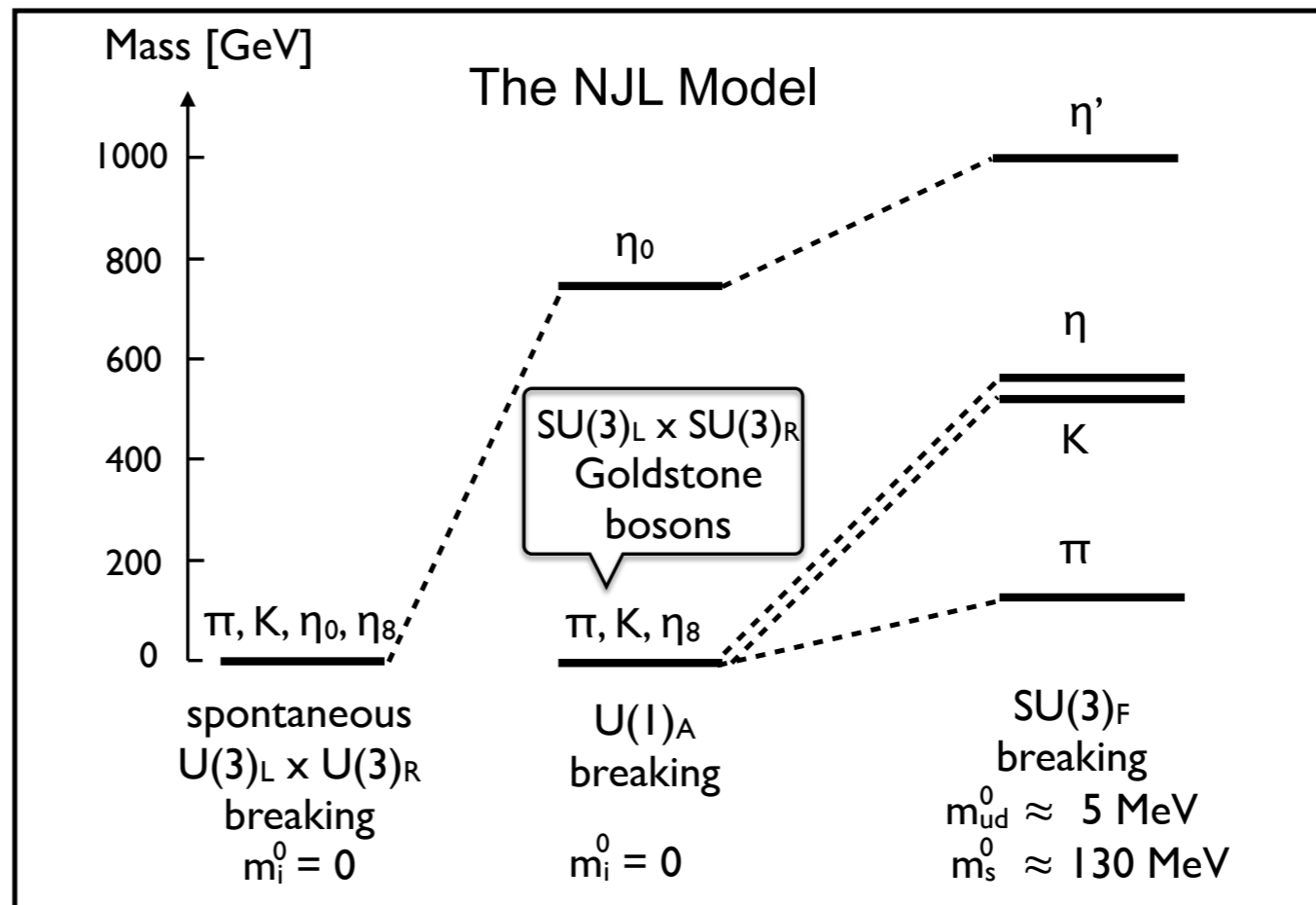
# symmetry breaking in the hadronic sector

## nonet of pseudoscalar mesons



S. Klimt et al., Nucl. Phys.A 516 (1990) 429

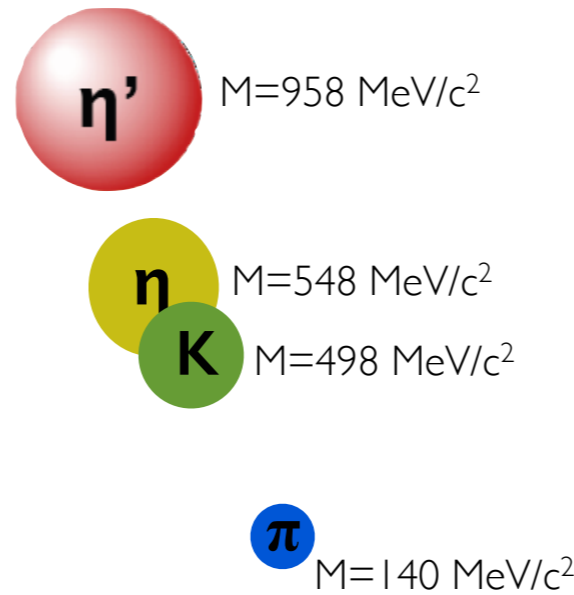
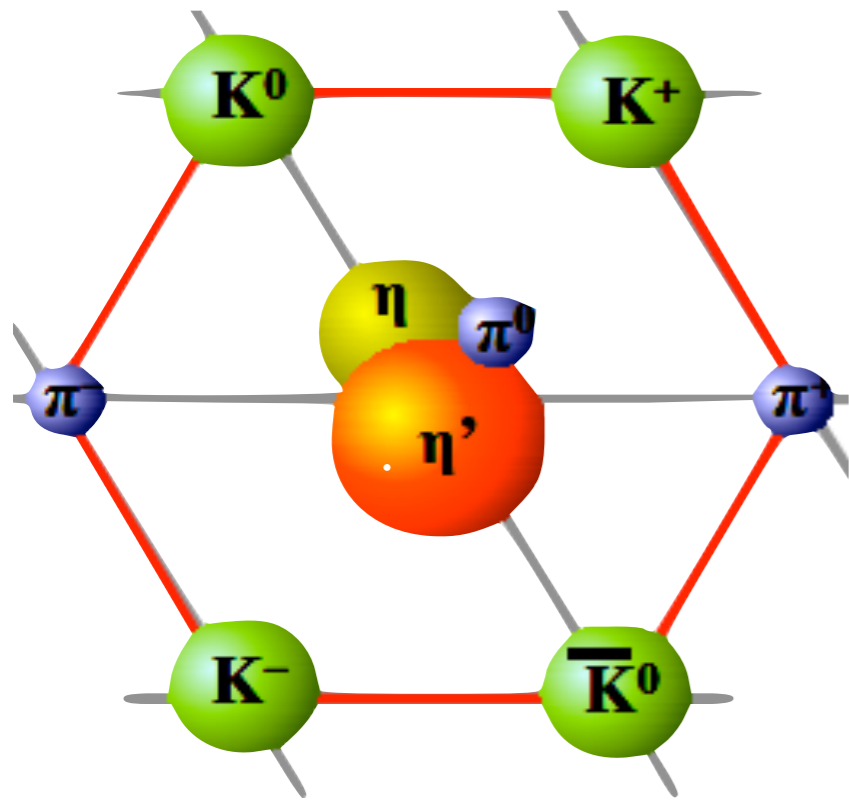
mass as a result of symmetry breaking





# symmetry breaking in the hadronic sector

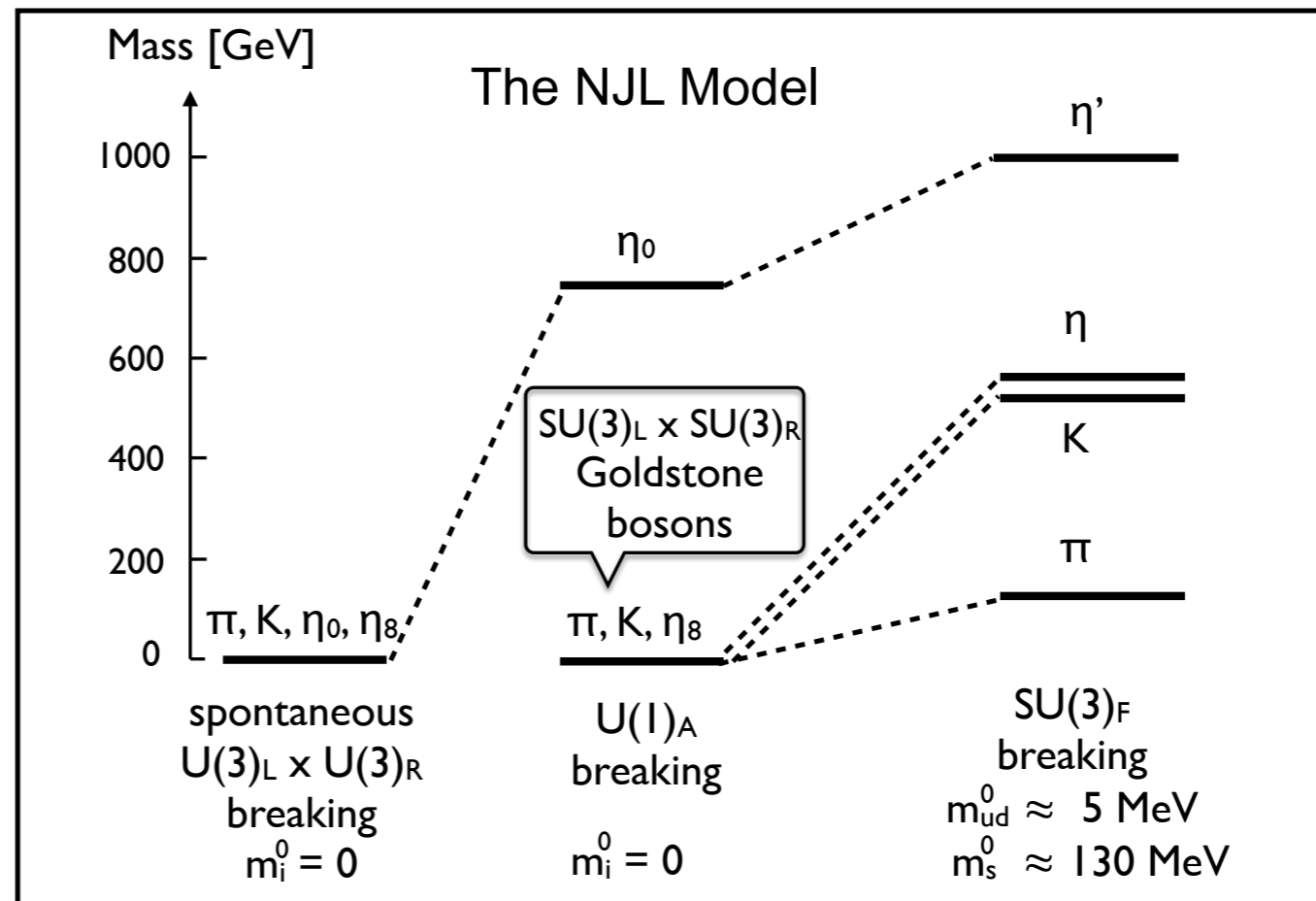
## nonet of pseudoscalar mesons



S. Klimt et al., Nucl. Phys.A 516 (1990) 429

mass as a result of symmetry breaking

partial restoration of chiral symmetry predicted in a nucleus  
 → impact on in-medium meson masses ??

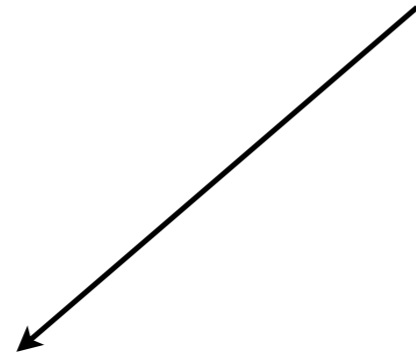


## meson-nucleus optical potential

$$U(r) = V(r) + iW(r)$$

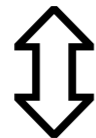
# meson-nucleus optical potential

$$U(r) = V(r) + iW(r)$$



$$V(r) = \Delta m(\rho_0) \cdot \frac{\rho(r)}{\rho_0}$$

real part



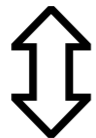
in-medium mass modification

# meson-nucleus optical potential

$$U(r) = V(r) + iW(r)$$

$$V(r) = \Delta m(\rho_0) \cdot \frac{\rho(r)}{\rho_0}$$

real part



in-medium mass modification

$$W(r) = -\Gamma_0/2 \cdot \frac{\rho(r)}{\rho_0} \\ = -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \hbar c \cdot \rho(r) \cdot \sigma_{inel} \cdot \beta$$

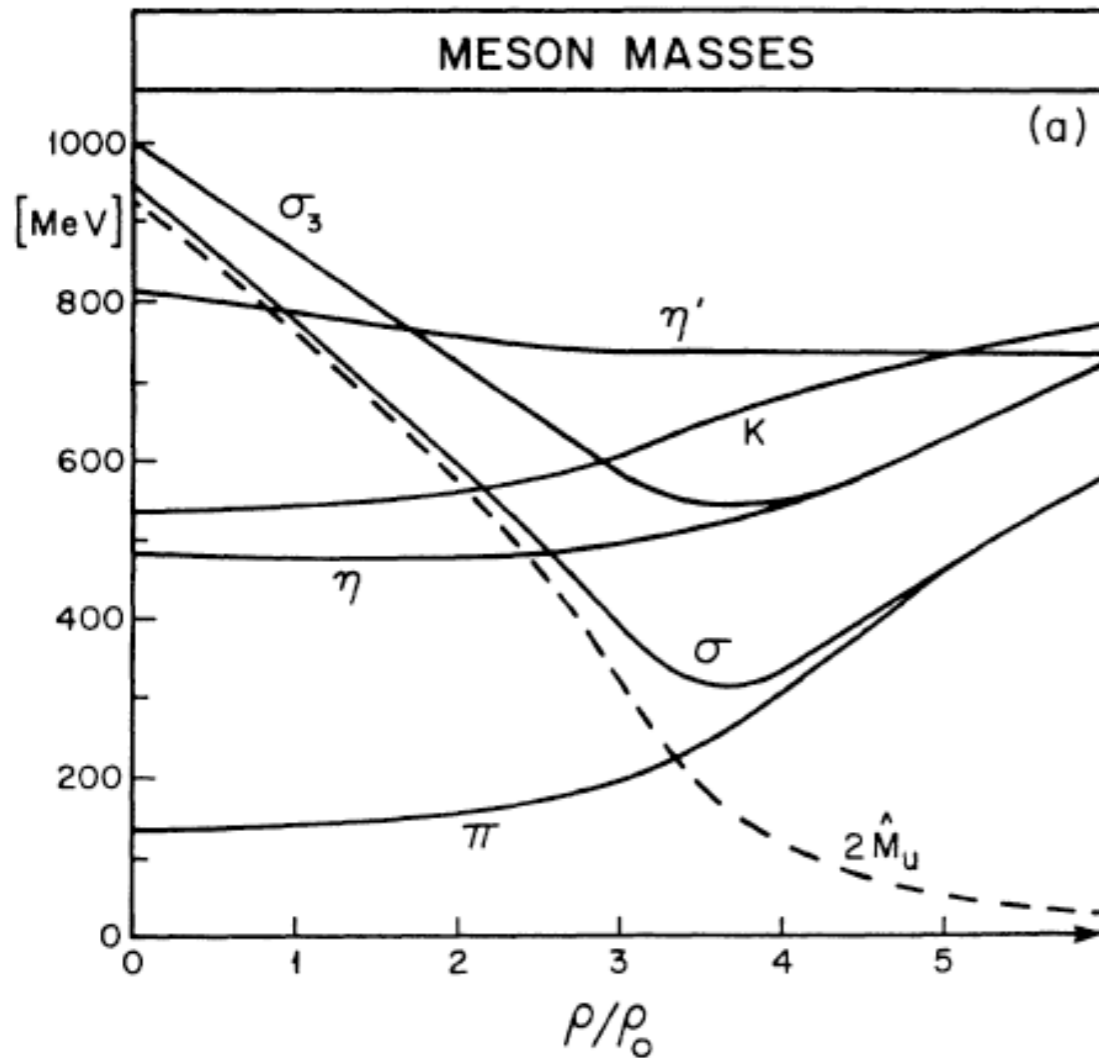
imaginary part



in-medium width  
inelastic cross section

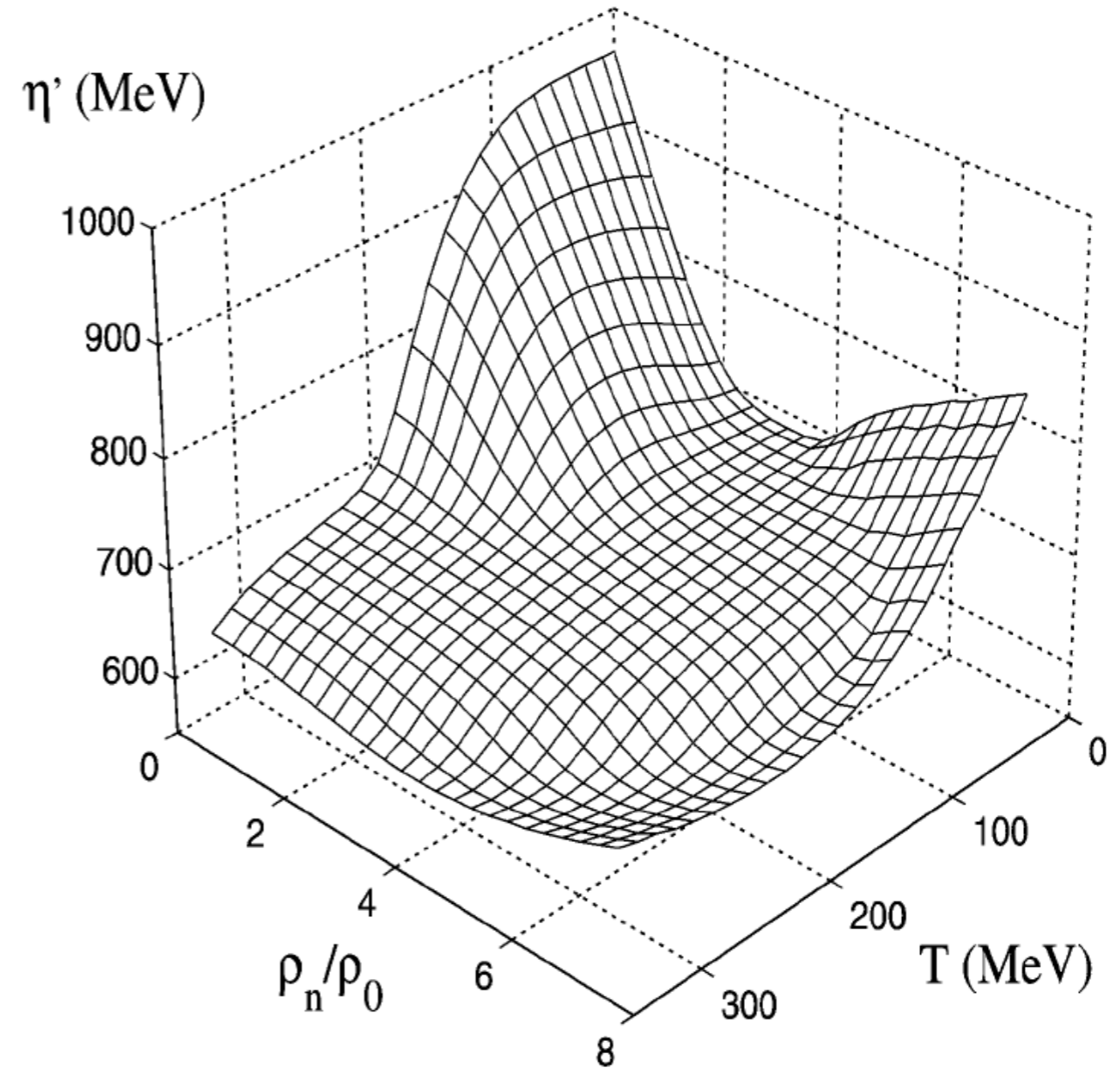
# model predictions for the in-medium mass of the $\eta'$ meson

V. Bernard und U.-G. Meißner,  
Phys. Rev. D 38 (1988) 1551



almost no density dependence  
of in-medium  $\eta'$  mass

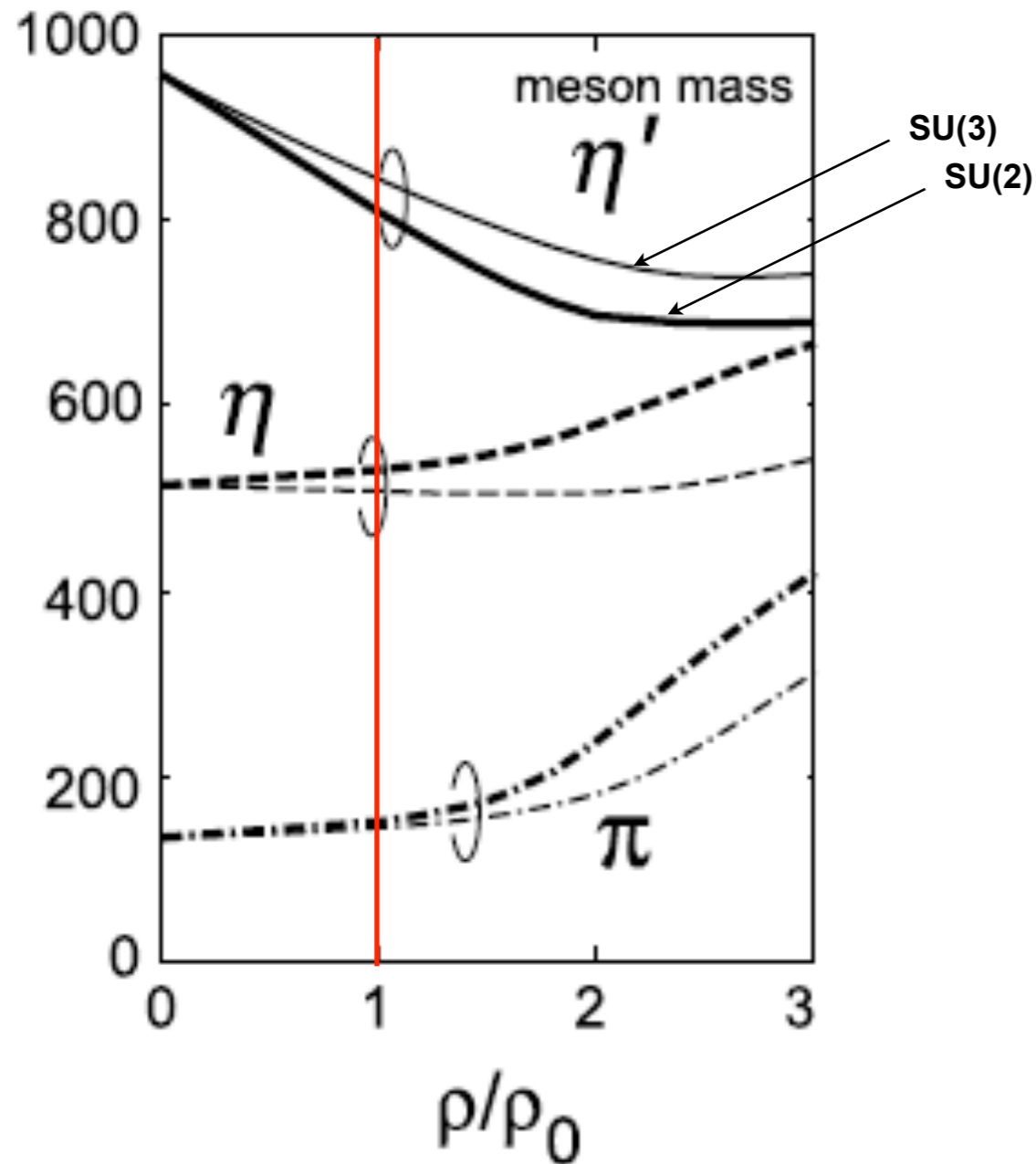
P. Costa et al.,  
PLB 560 (2003) 171



$$\Delta m_{\eta'} (\rho=\rho_0; T=0) \approx -150 \text{ MeV}$$

# model predictions for the in-medium mass of the $\eta'$ meson

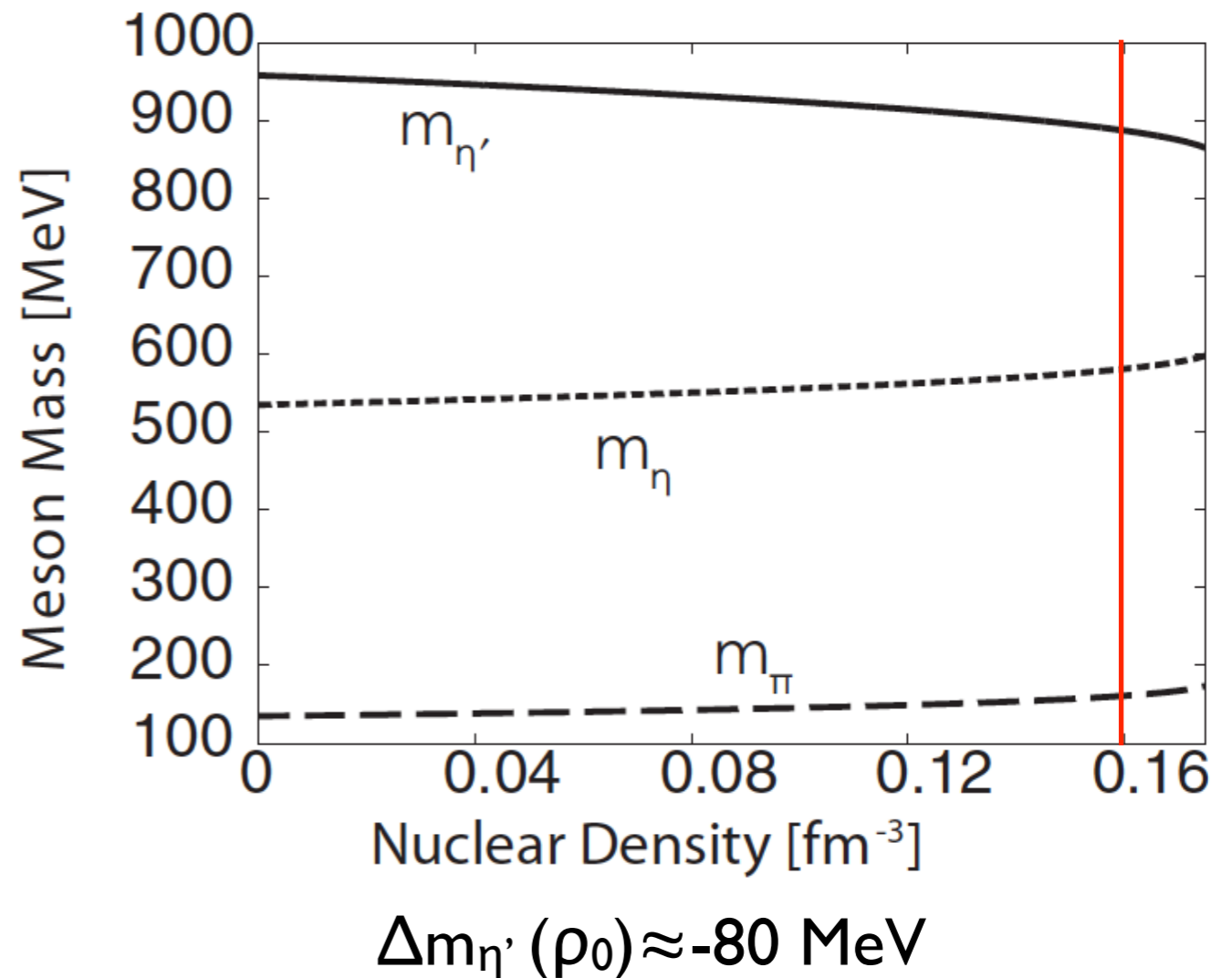
H. Nagahiro, M. Takizawa and S. Hirenzaki,  
Phys. Rev. C 74 (2006) 045203



$$\Delta m_{\eta'}(\rho_0) \approx -150 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\Delta m_{\eta}(\rho_0) \approx +20 \text{ MeV}$$

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



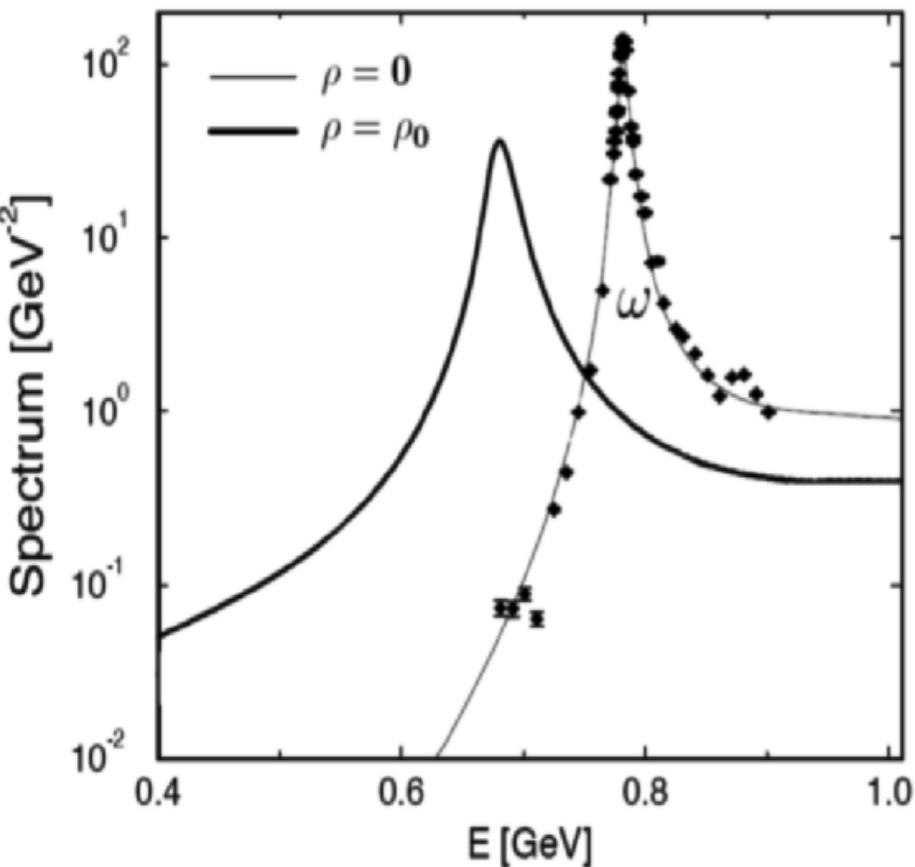
$$\Delta m_{\eta'}(\rho_0) \approx -80 \text{ MeV}$$

S. Bass and A. Thomas,  
PLB 634 (2006) 368

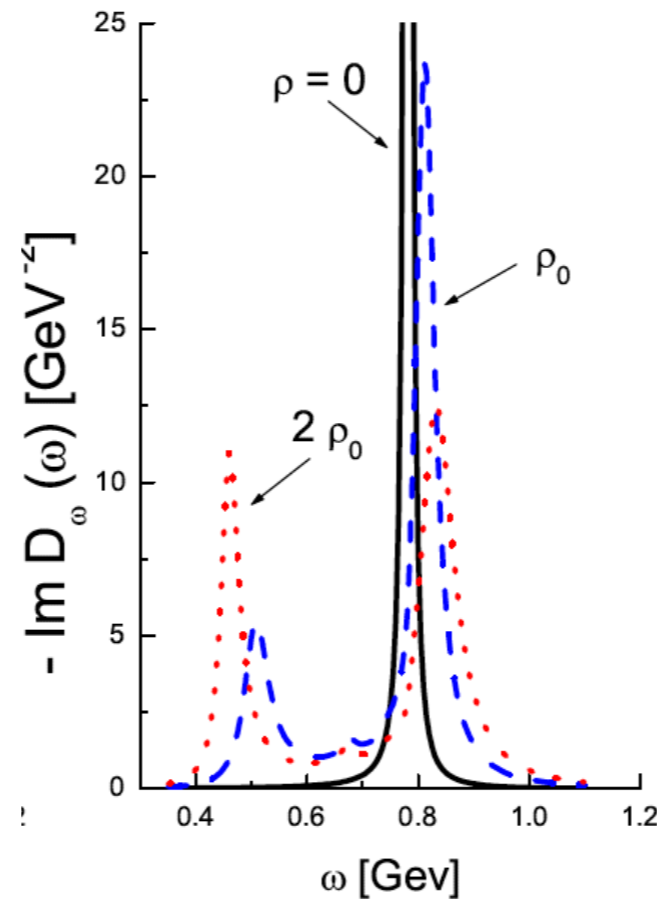
$$\Delta m_{\eta'}(\rho_0) \approx -40 \text{ MeV} \text{ for } \theta_{\eta\eta'} = -20^\circ$$

# model predictions for in-medium mass/width of the $\omega$ meson

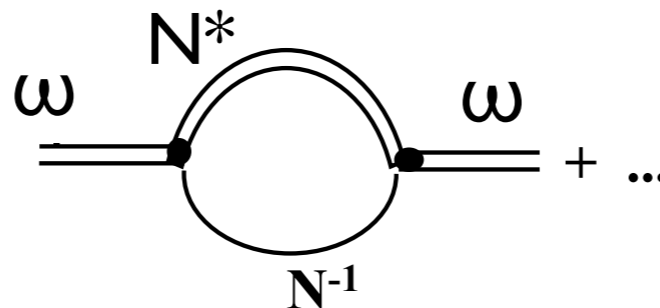
F. Klingl et al.,  
NPA 610 (1997) 297;  
NPA 650 (1999) 299



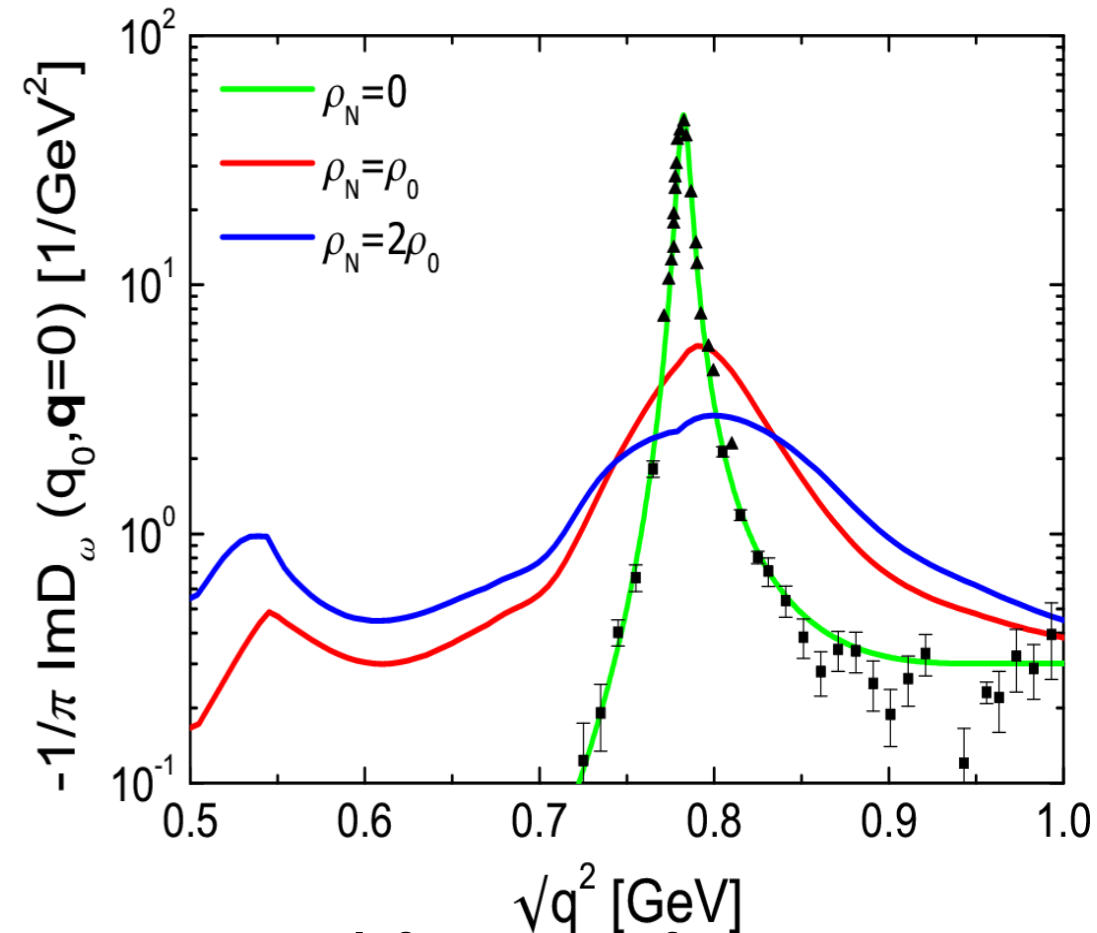
M. Lutz et al.,  
NPA 706 (2002) 437



splitting into  $\omega$ -like  
and  $N^*N^{-1}$  mode  
due to coupling to  
nucleon resonances



P. Mühlich et al., NPA 780 (2006) 187



spectral function for  $\omega$  meson  
at rest:

almost no mass shift;  
strong in-medium broadening  
 $\text{Re}(U) \approx 0$ ;  $\text{Im}(U)$  large

- lowering of in-medium mass
- broadening of resonance  
with increasing nuclear density

# experimental approaches to determine the meson-nucleus optical potential

$$U(r) = V(r) + iW(r)$$

←  
real part

$$V(r) = \Delta m(\rho_0) \cdot \frac{\rho(r)}{\rho_0}$$

- line shape analysis
- excitation function
- momentum distribution
- meson-nucleus bound states



# experimental approaches to determine the meson-nucleus optical potential

$$U(r) = V(r) + iW(r)$$

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$$V(r) = \Delta m(\rho_0) \cdot \frac{\rho(r)}{\rho_0}$$

- line shape analysis
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imaginary part

$$\begin{aligned} W(r) &= -\Gamma_0/2 \cdot \frac{\rho(r)}{\rho_0} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \hbar c \cdot \rho(r) \cdot \sigma_{inel} \cdot \beta \end{aligned}$$

- transparency ratio measurement

$$T_A = \frac{\sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow \eta' X}}{A \cdot \sigma_{\gamma N \rightarrow \eta' X}}$$

The imaginary part  $W$  of the meson-nucleus optical potential

# Photoproduction of $\omega$ and $\eta'$ mesons on nuclei

$\omega$

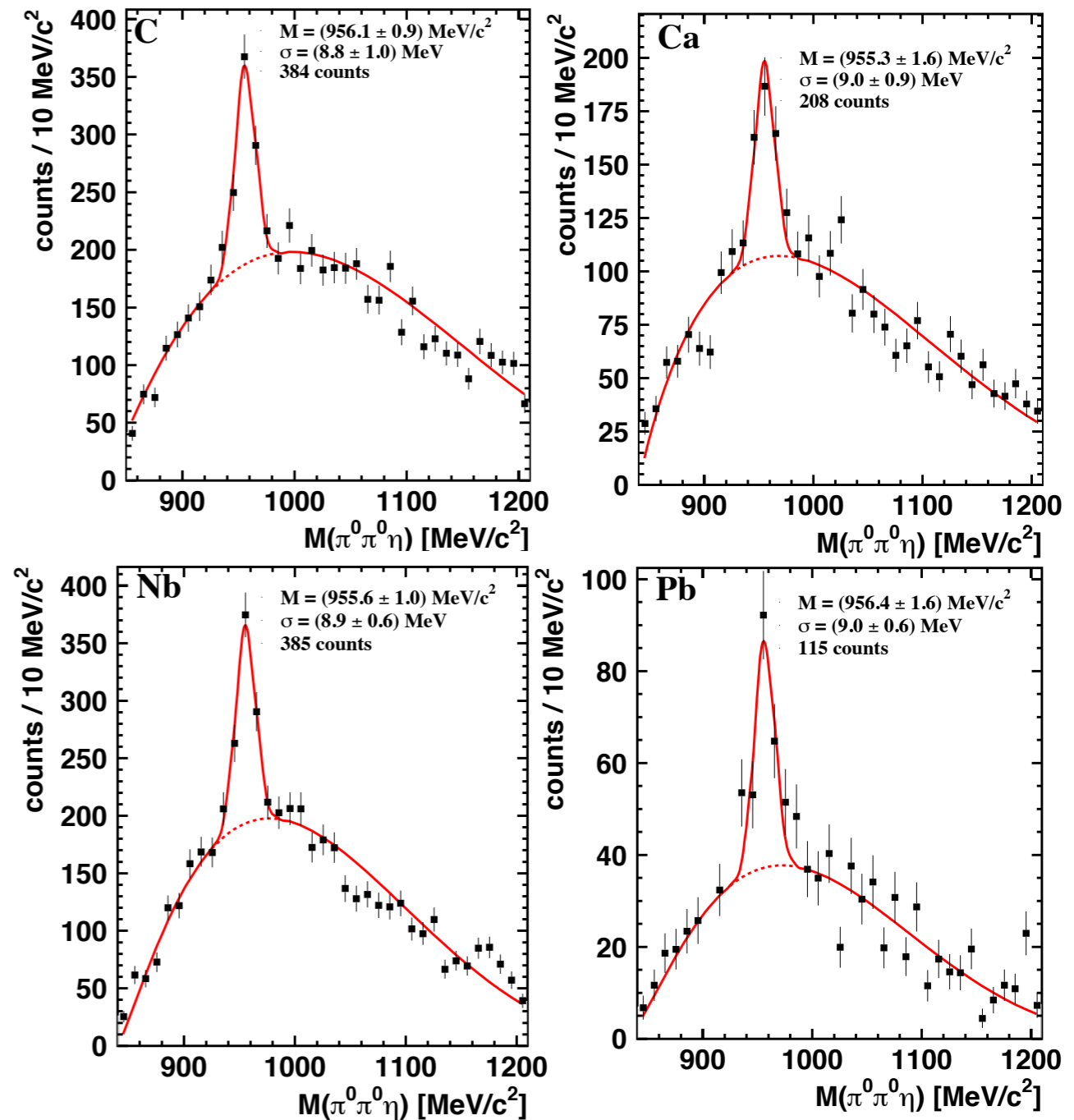
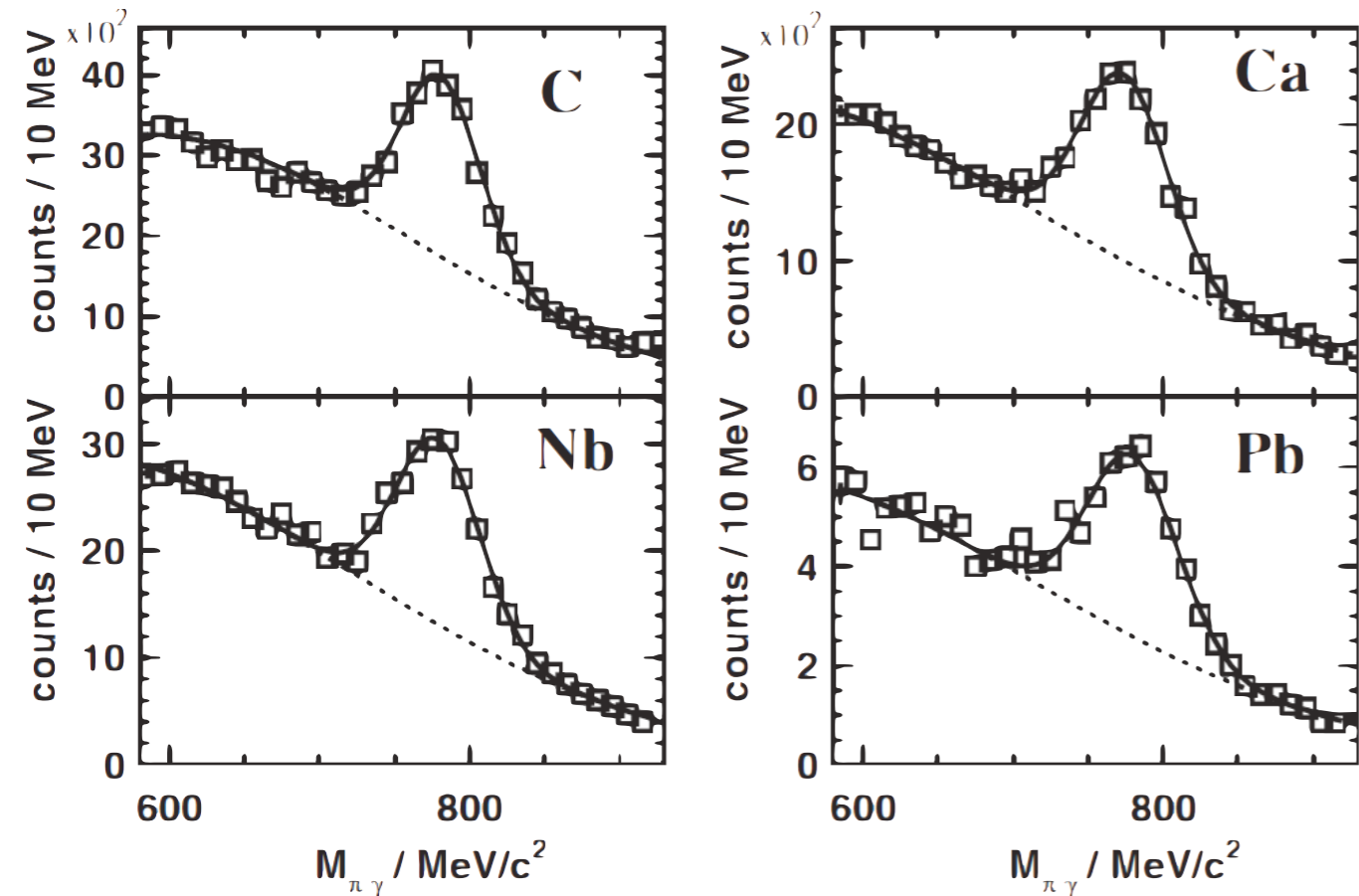
experiments performed with the CBELSA/TAPS detector (Bonn)

$\eta'$



M. Kotulla et al, PRL 100 (2008) 19230

M. Nanova et al., PLB 710 (2012) 600



transparency ratio

$$T_A = \frac{\sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow \eta' X}}{A \cdot \sigma_{\gamma N \rightarrow \eta' X}}$$

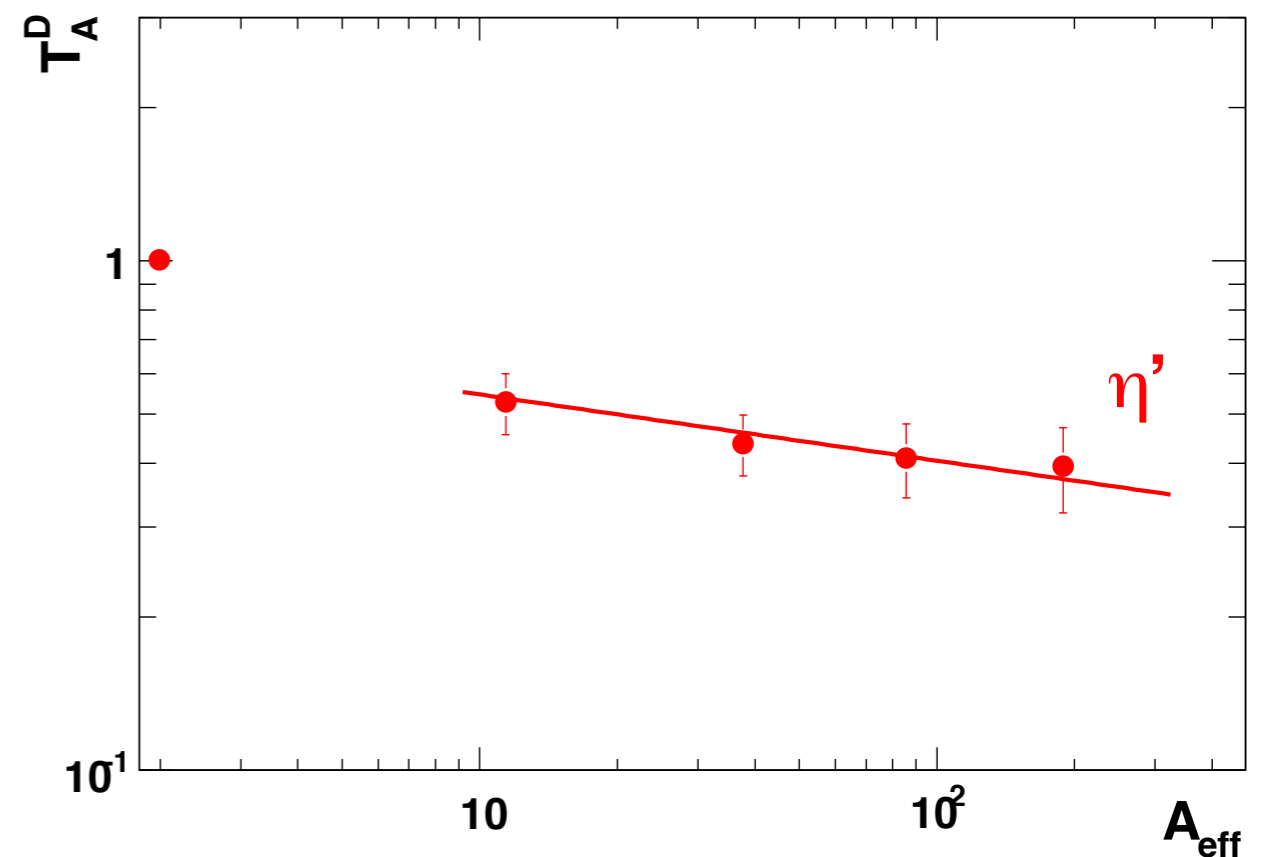
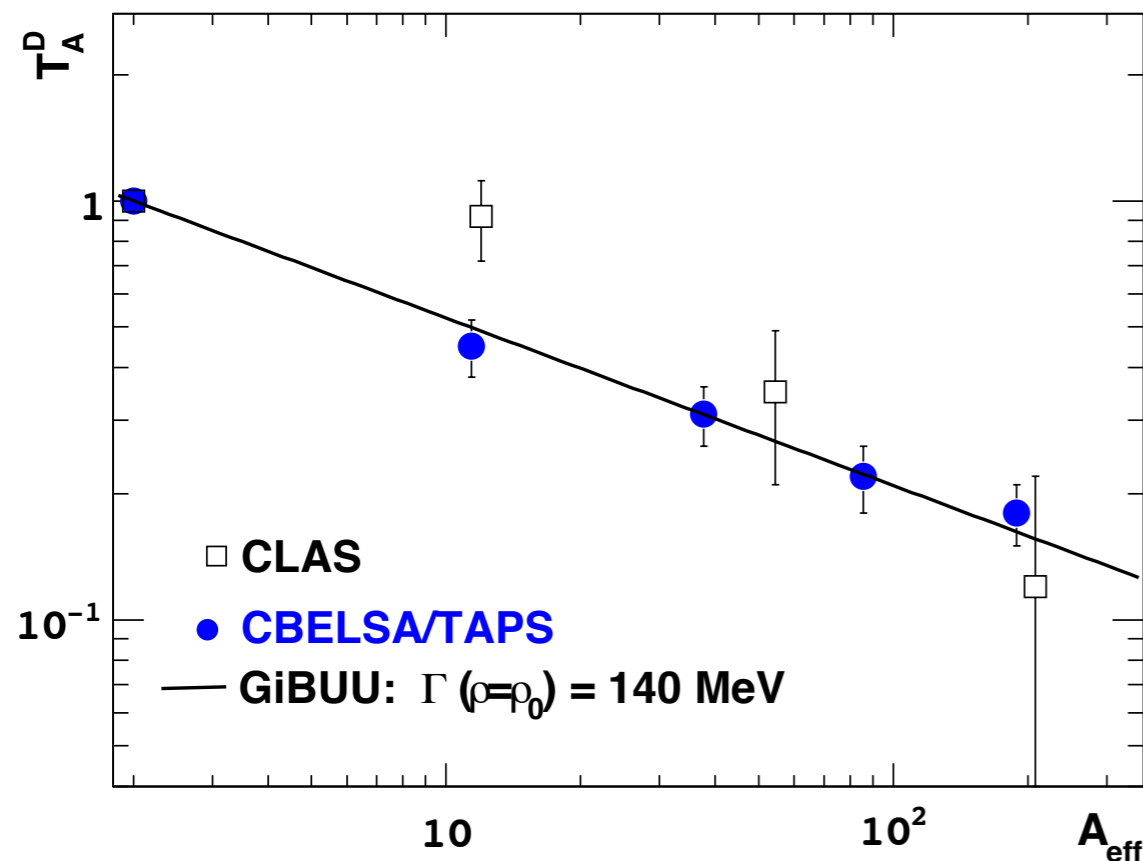
# transparency ratio for $\omega$ and $\eta'$ mesons for different nuclei

$$T_A^D = \frac{\sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow \omega X}}{Z_{\text{eff}} \cdot \sigma(\gamma p_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow \omega p) + N_{\text{eff}} \cdot \sigma(\gamma n_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow \omega n)}$$

data on photo production cross sections off bound proton and neutron from

$\omega$ : F. Dietz et al., EPJA 51 (2015) 6

$\eta'$ : I. Jaegle et al., EPJA 47 (2011) 11



$$\Gamma_{\omega}(\langle p_{\omega} \rangle = 1.1 \text{ GeV}/c; \rho = \rho_0) \approx 140 \text{ MeV} \quad \Gamma_{\eta'}(\langle p_{\eta'} \rangle = 1.05 \text{ GeV}/c; \rho = \rho_0) \approx 20 \text{ MeV}$$

low density approximation:  $\Gamma(\rho_0) = \hbar c \cdot \beta \cdot \rho_0 \cdot \sigma_{\text{inel}}$

$$\sigma_{\omega N}^{\text{inel}} = (65 \pm 25) \text{ mb}$$

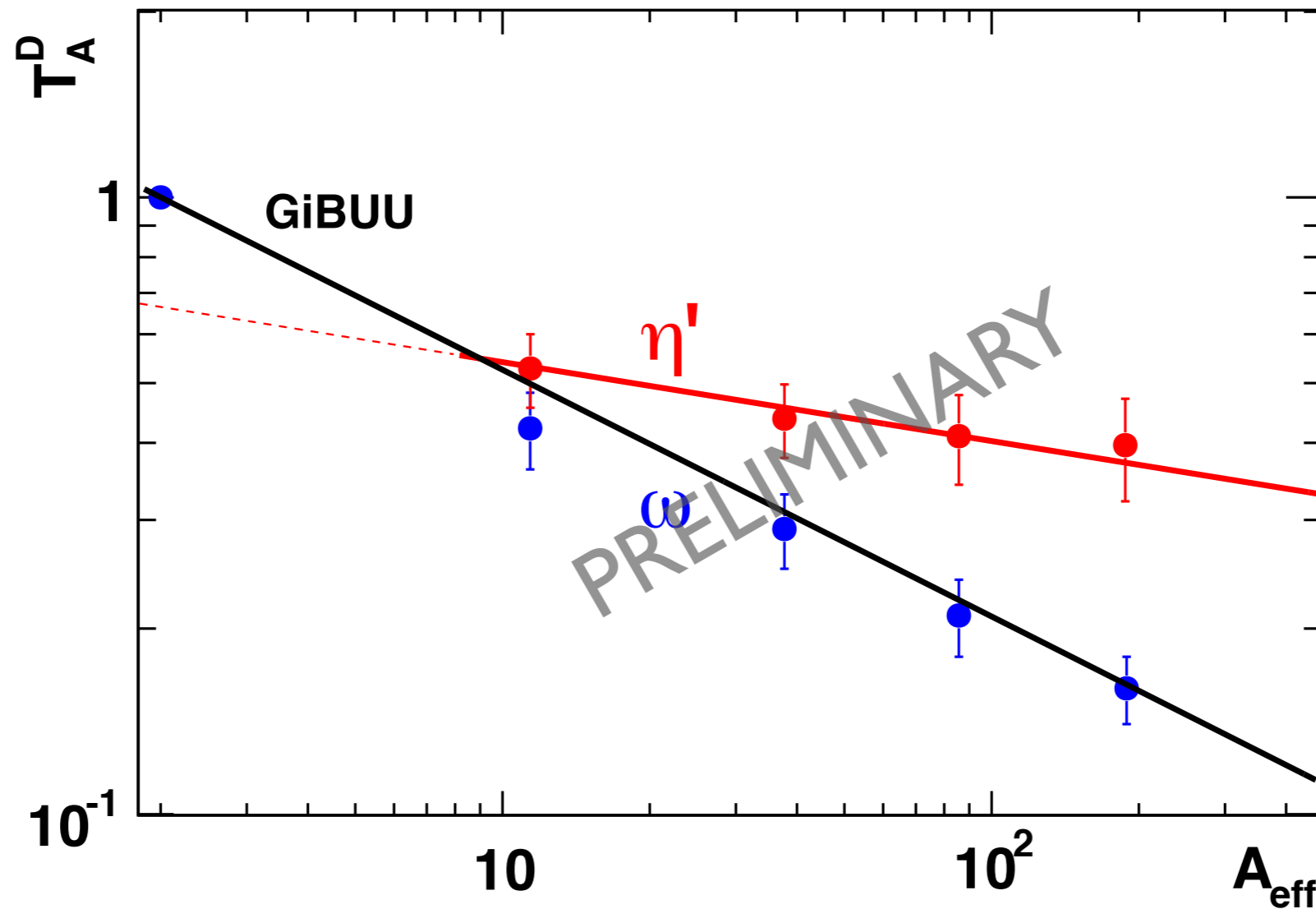
$$\sigma_{\eta' N}^{\text{inel}} = (10.3 \pm 1.4) \text{ mb}$$

$$\omega: W(\rho = \rho_0) = -\Gamma_0/2 \approx -70 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\eta': W(\rho = \rho_0) = -\Gamma_0/2 = -(10 \pm 2.5) \text{ MeV}$$

# comparison of transparency ratios for $\omega$ and $\eta'$ mesons

$$T_A^D = \frac{\sigma_{\gamma A \rightarrow \omega X}}{Z_{\text{eff}} \cdot \sigma(\gamma p_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow \omega p) + N_{\text{eff}} \cdot \sigma(\gamma n_{\text{bound}} \rightarrow \omega n)}$$



inelastic interactions with nuclear medium much weaker for  $\eta'$  meson

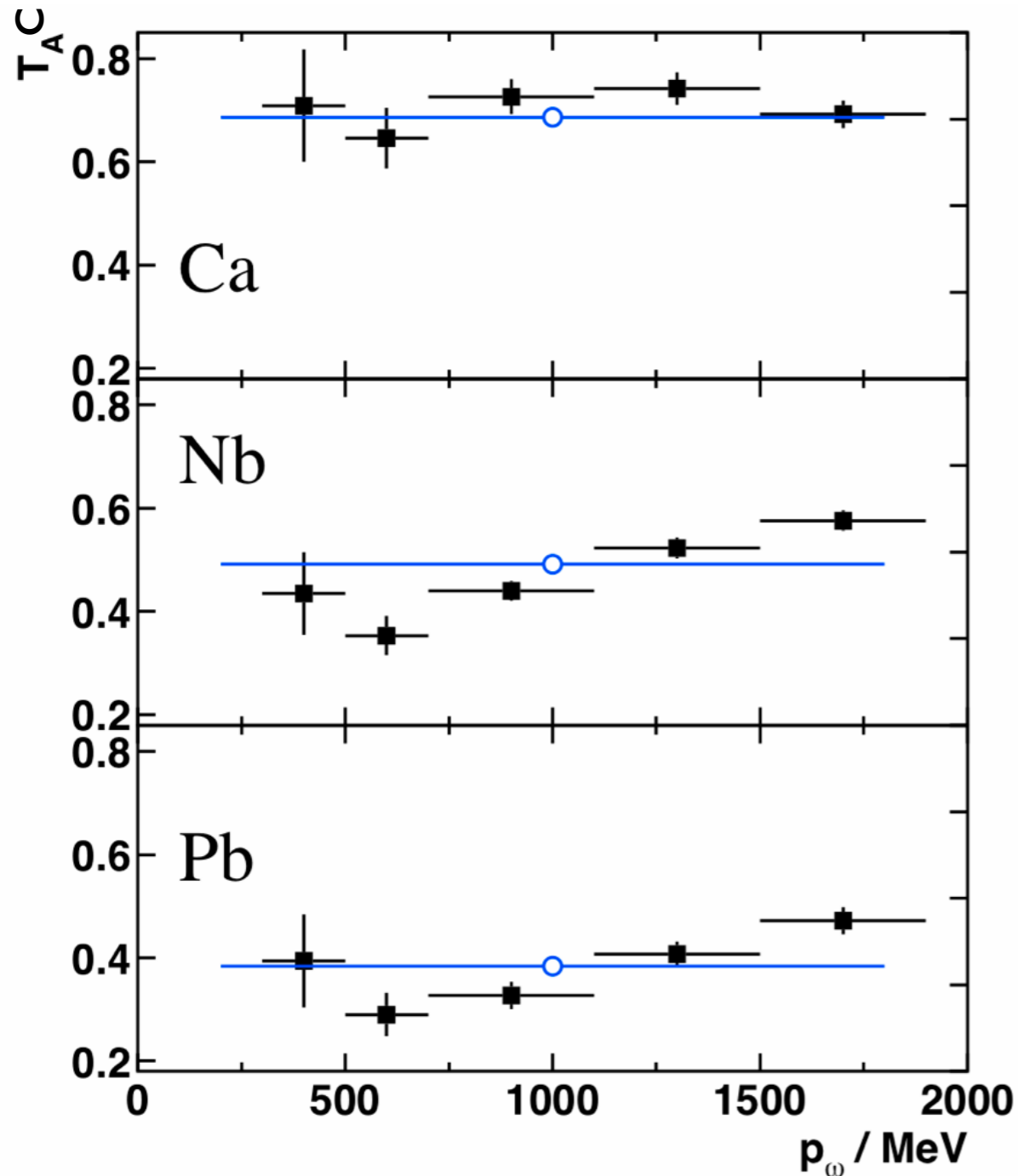
$\omega$ : one-body absorption (e.g.,  $\omega N \rightarrow \pi N$ ) dominant (A. Ramos, EPJA 49 (2013) 148 )

$\eta'$ : additional absorption mechanism not present in D; 2-body absorption ??

# momentum dependence of transparency ratios for $\omega$ and $\eta'$

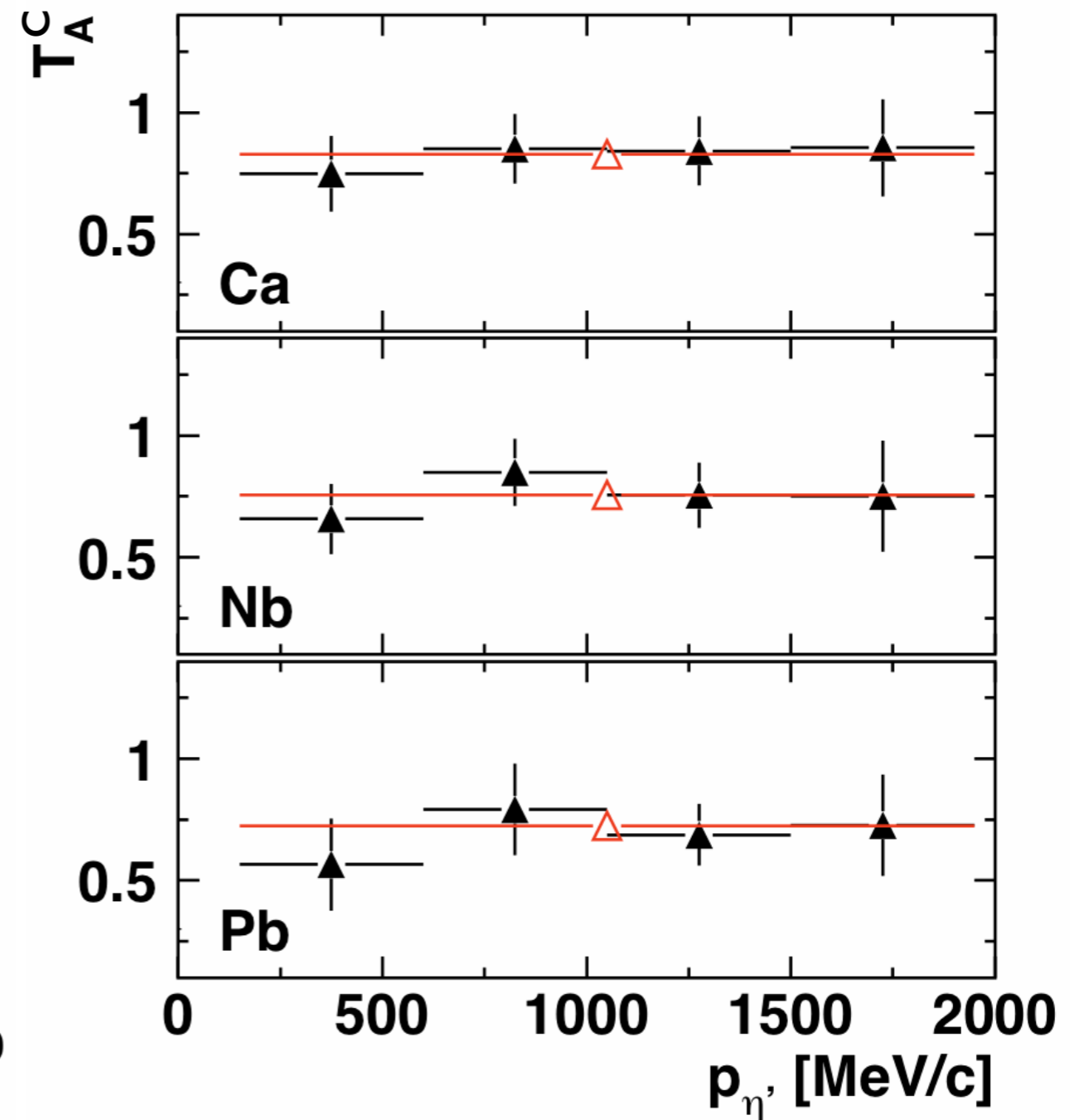
$\omega$

M. Kotulla et al., PRL 100 (2008) 192302



$\eta'$

M. Nanova et al., PLB 710 (2012) 600



no strong variation of transparency ratio with meson momentum;

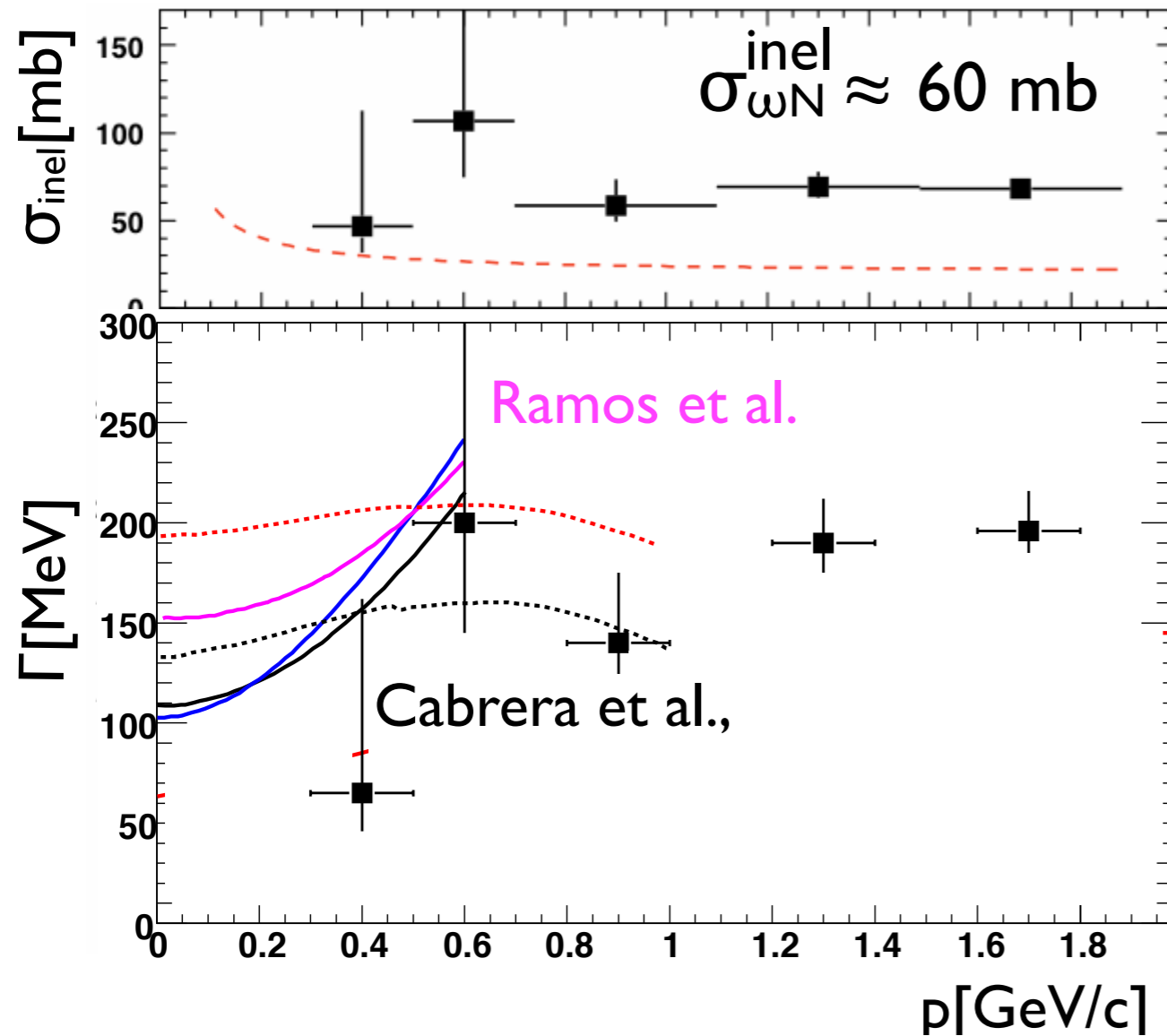
# momentum dependence of $\sigma_{inel}$ and $\Gamma$ for $\omega$ and $\eta'$ mesons

$\omega$

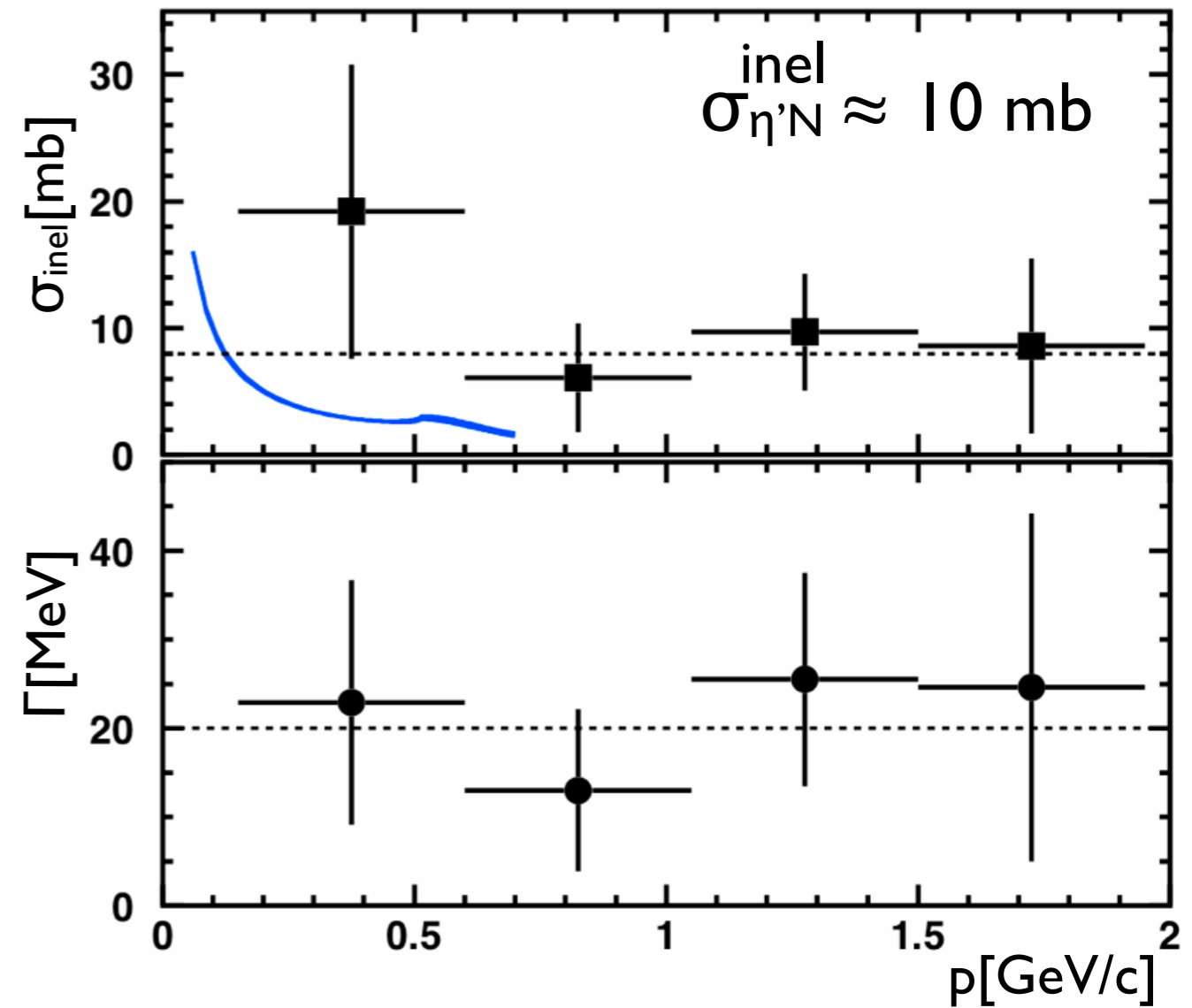
$$\Gamma(\rho_0) = \hbar c \cdot \beta \cdot \rho_0 \cdot \sigma_{inel}$$

$\eta'$

M. Kotulla et al., PRL 100 (2008) 192302



M. Nanova et al., PLB 710 (2012) 600



solid curves: A. Ramos et al., EPJA 49 (2013) 148

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

dotted curves: D. Cabrera, R. Rapp, PLB 729 (2014) 67

The real part  $V$  of the  
meson-nucleus optical potential

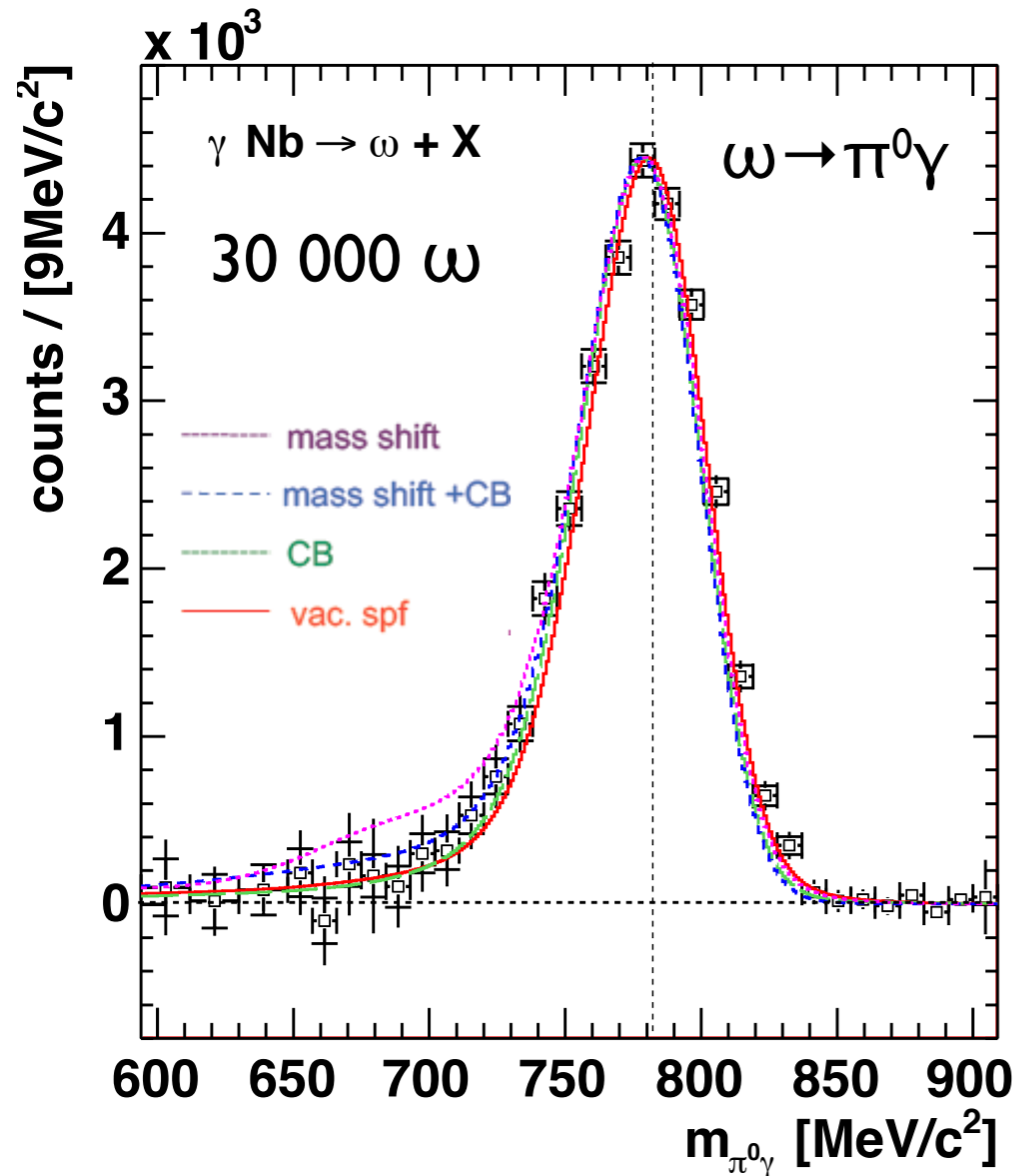


# The real part of the $\omega$ -nucleus optical potential

M.Thiel et al., EPJA 49 (2013) 132

- line shape analysis:  $m(\rho, \vec{p}) = \sqrt{(p_1 + p_2)^2}$

comparison with GiBUU calculations  
for different in-medium scenarios



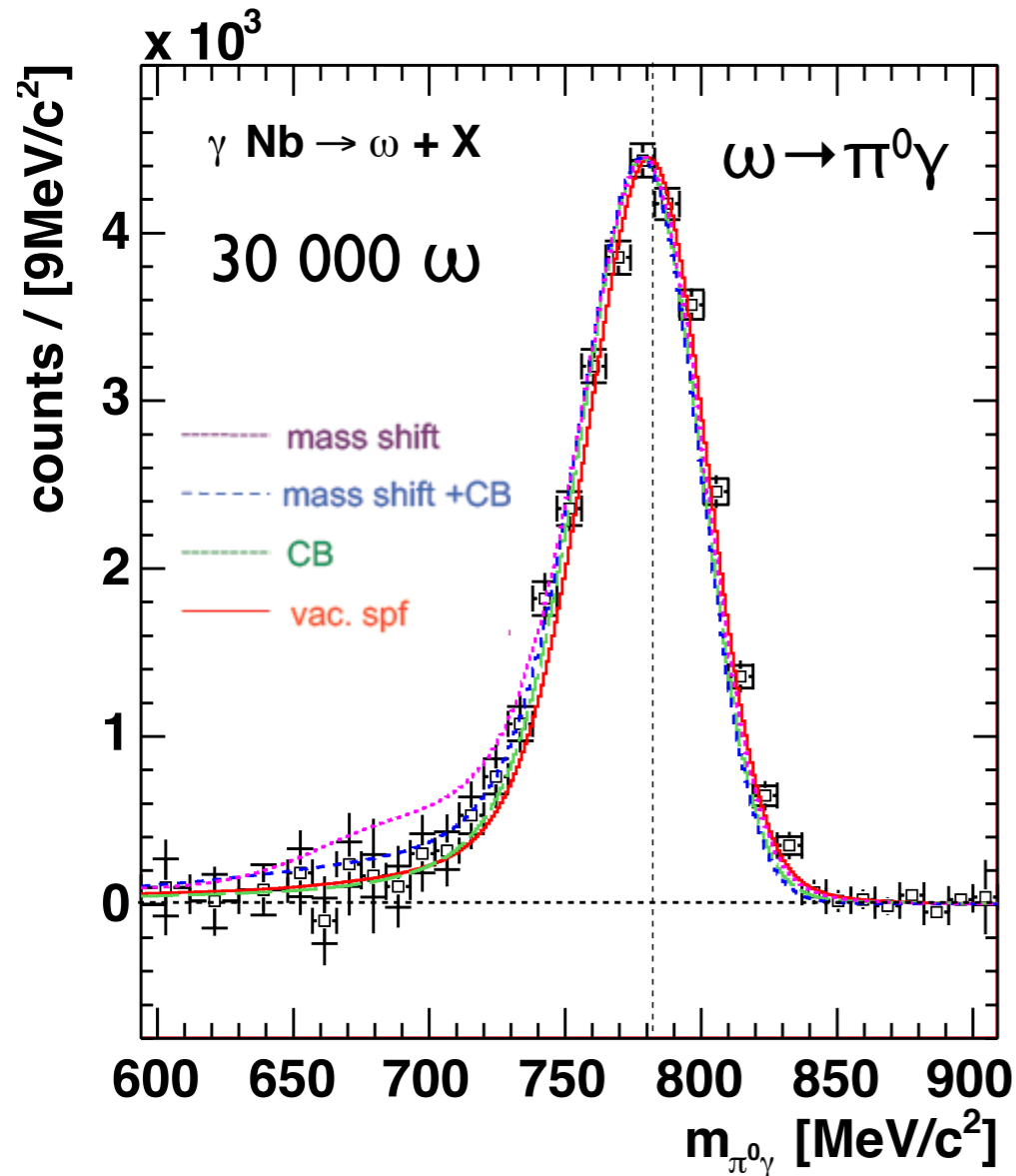
scenarios difficult to distinguish

# The real part of the $\omega$ -nucleus optical potential

M.Thiel et al., EPJA 49 (2013) 132

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scenarios difficult to distinguish

sensitivity limited by 4 effects:

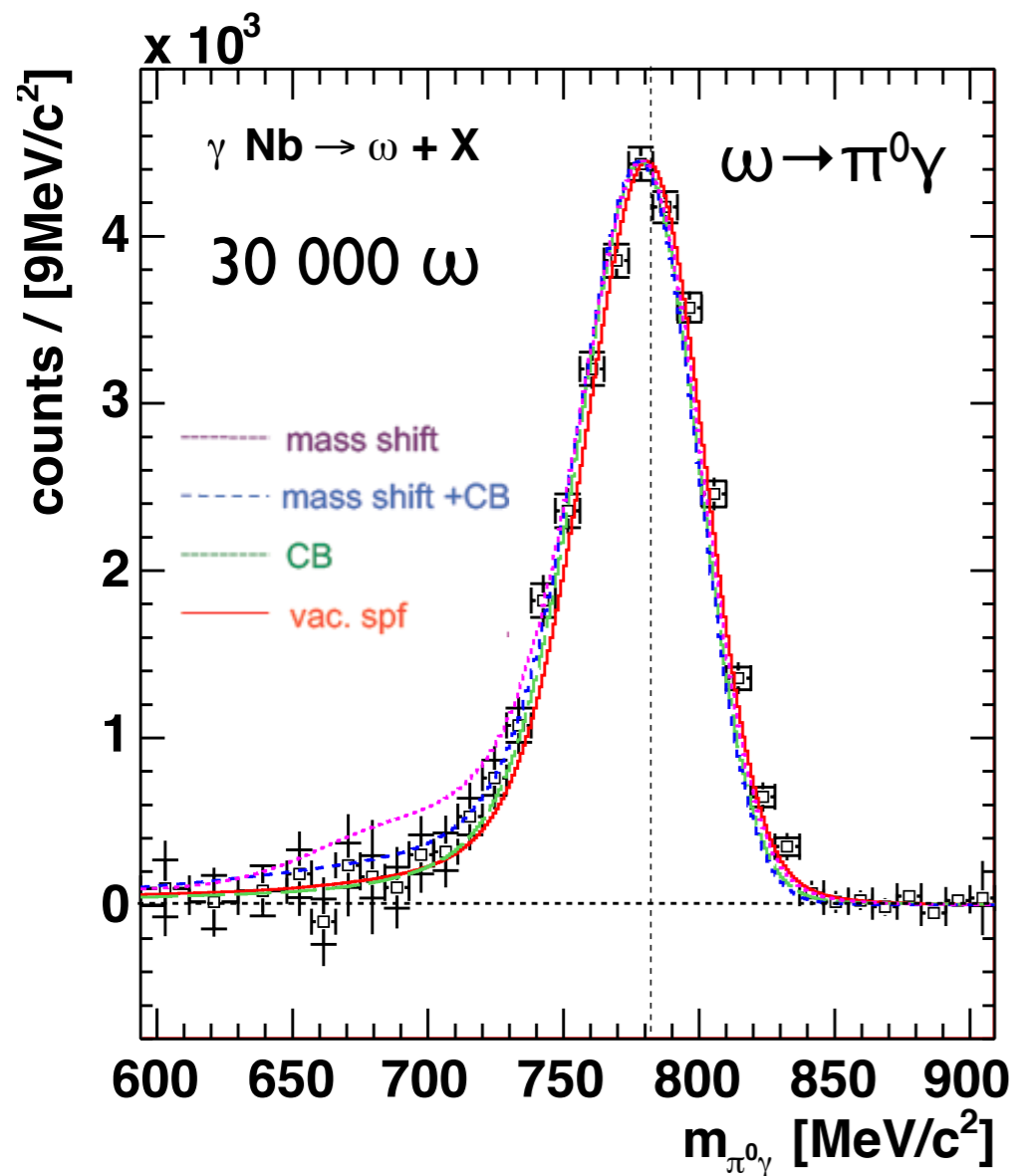
- 1) mass resolution  $\sigma \approx 3\%$ ;  
only mass shifts  $\gg 3\%$  observable
- 2) only 30% of all  $\omega \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma$  decays occur within the Nb nucleus
- 3)  $\omega$  decays occur over a wide range of densities, thereby smearing out any density-dependent signal
- 4)  $\omega \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma$  signal smeared out and reduced due to large in-medium width ( $\Gamma_{\text{med}} \approx 16 \cdot \Gamma_{\text{vac}}$ );  $\omega$  mesons removed in nuclear medium via inelastic channels (like  $\omega N \rightarrow \pi N$ )

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KEK E325; M. Naruki et al., PRL96 (2006) 092301:  $\Delta m(\rho_0) = -9.2\%$  ; no broadening

talk by S.Yokkaichi, J-PARC E16

# The real part of the $\omega$ -nucleus potential

J.Weil, U.Mosel and V.Metag, PLB 723 (2013) 120  $\omega \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma$

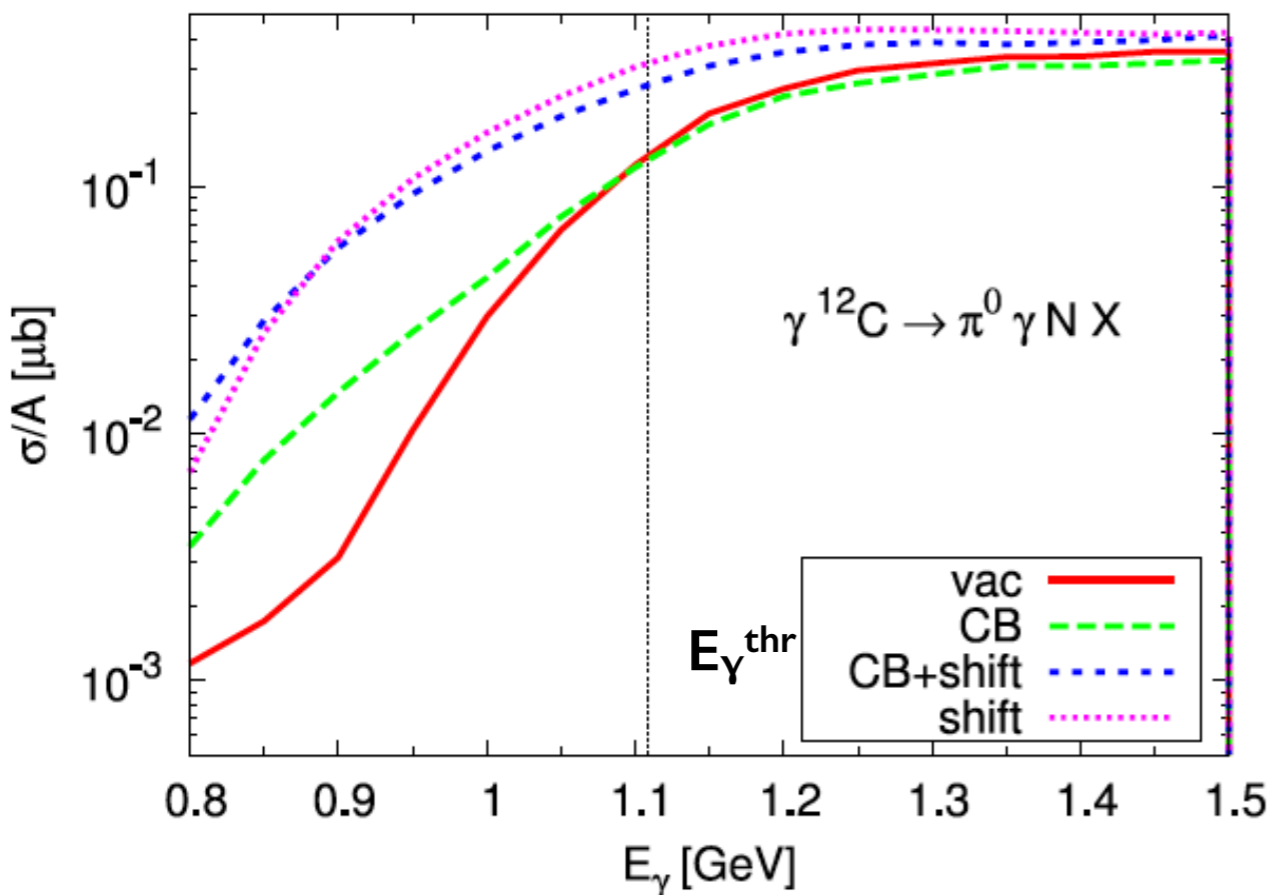
sensitive to nuclear density at production point

- [measurement of the excitation function of the meson](#)

in case of dropping mass -  
higher meson yield for given  $\sqrt{s}$   
because of increased phase space  
due to lowering of the production threshold

⇒ cross section enhancement

$\pi^0 \gamma$  excitation function



# The real part of the $\omega$ -nucleus potential

J.Weil, U.Mosel and V.Metag, PLB 723 (2013) 120  $\omega \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma$

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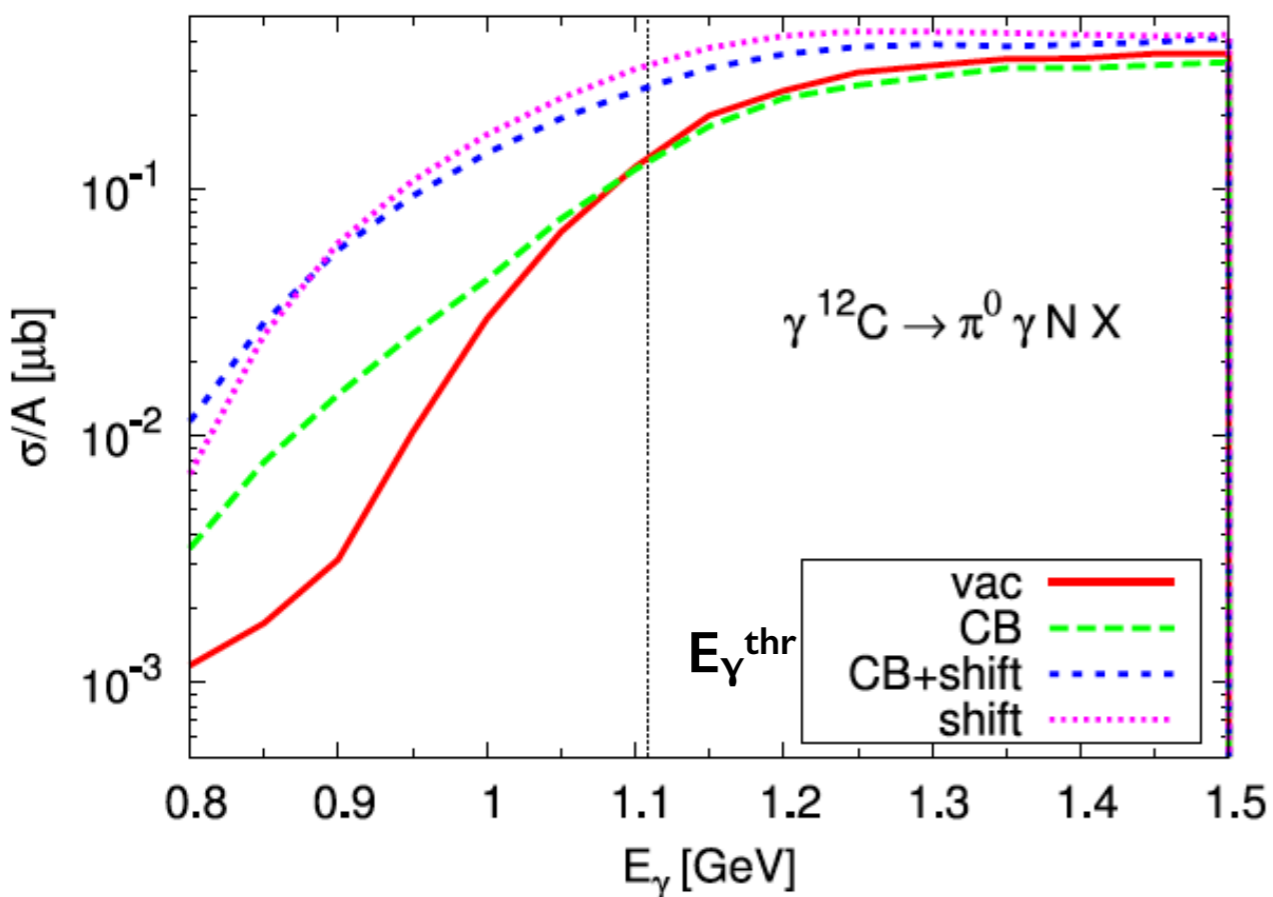
⇒ cross section enhancement

- momentum distribution of the meson:

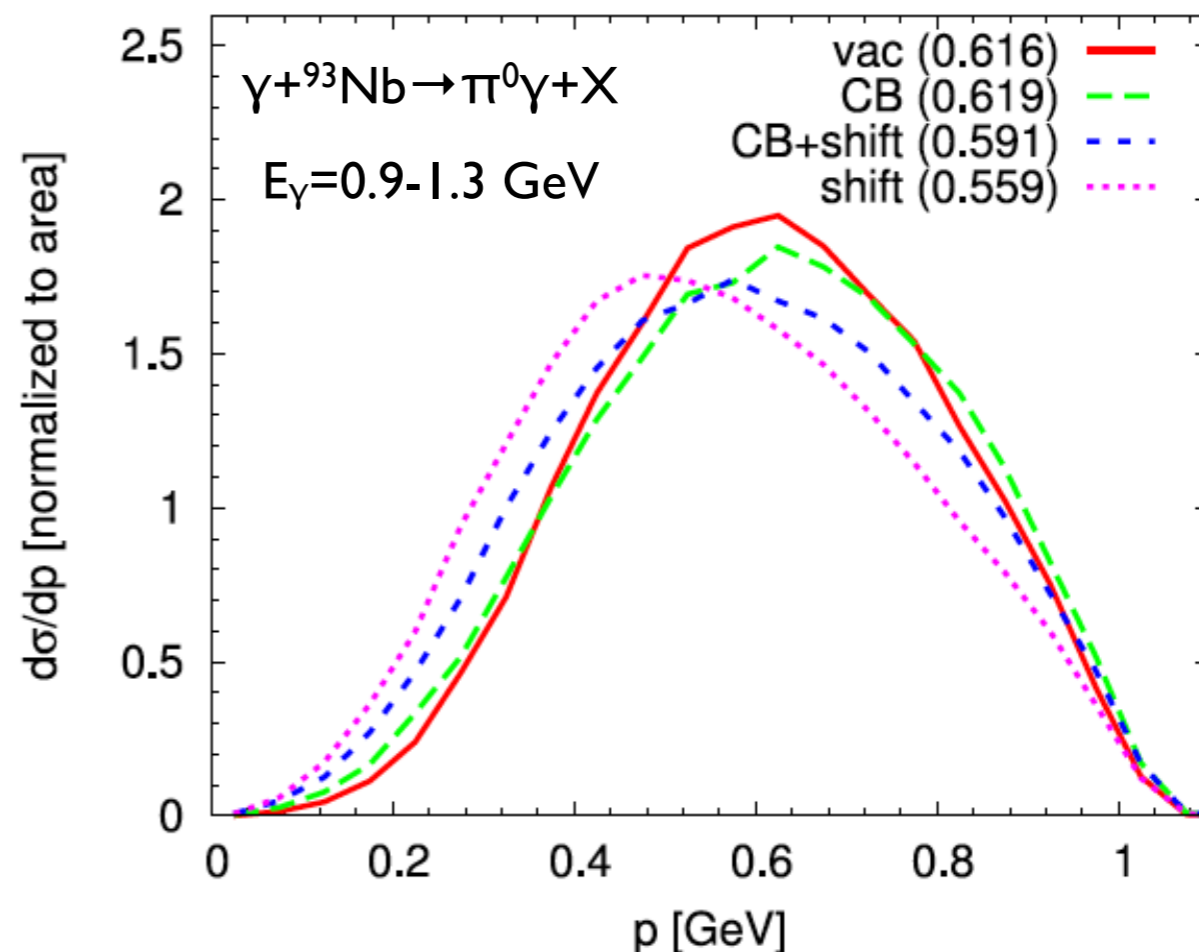
in case of dropping mass - when leaving the nucleus hadron has to become on-shell;  
mass generated at the expense of kinetic energy

⇒ downward shift of momentum distribution

$\pi^0 \gamma$  excitation function



$\pi^0 \gamma$  momentum distribution



# excitation function for $\omega$ and $\eta'$ photoproduction off C

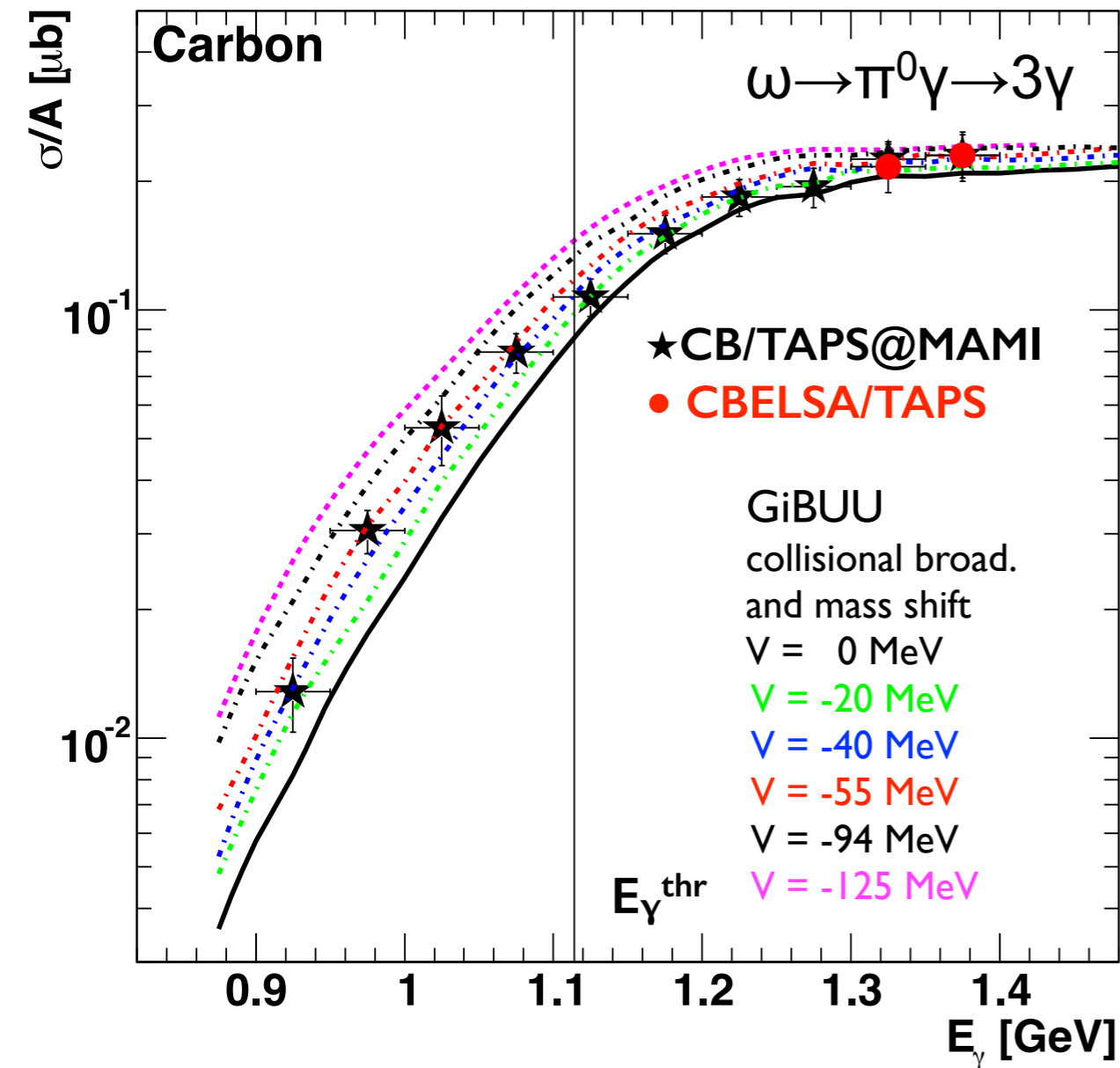
$\omega$

CB/TAPS @ MAMI

V. Metag et al., PPNP, 67 (2012) 530.

$\eta'$

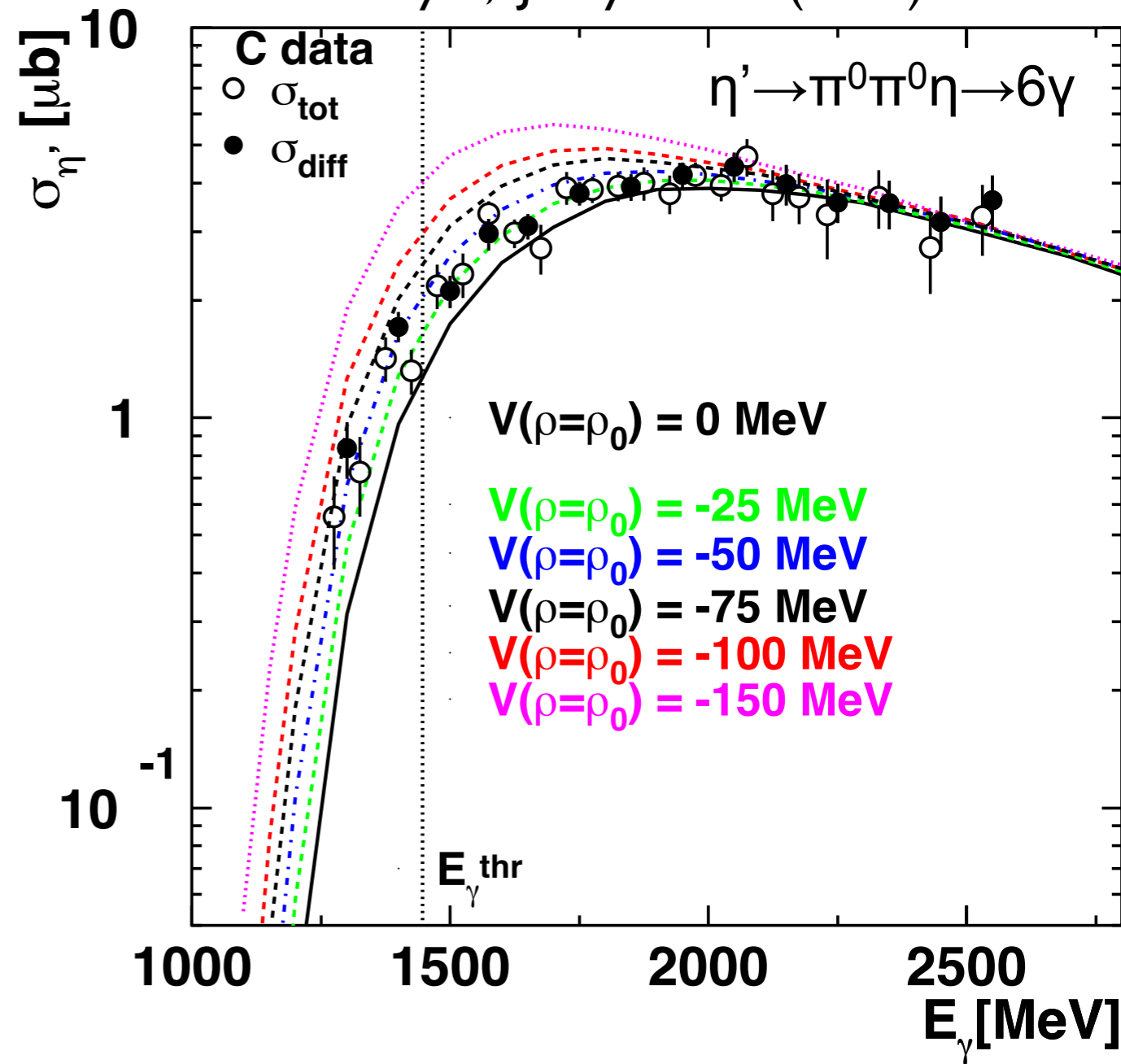
data: M. Nanova et al., PLB 727 (2013) 417  
 calc.: E. Paryev, J. Phys. G 40 (2013) 025201



$$V_{\omega}(\rho=\rho_0) = -(42 \pm 17(\text{stat}) \pm 20(\text{syst})) \text{ MeV}$$

data disfavour scenario:

„broadening and -125 MeV mass shift“



$$V_{\eta'}(\rho=\rho_0) = -(40 \pm 6(\text{stat}) \pm 10(\text{syst})) \text{ MeV}$$

data disfavour strong mass shifts

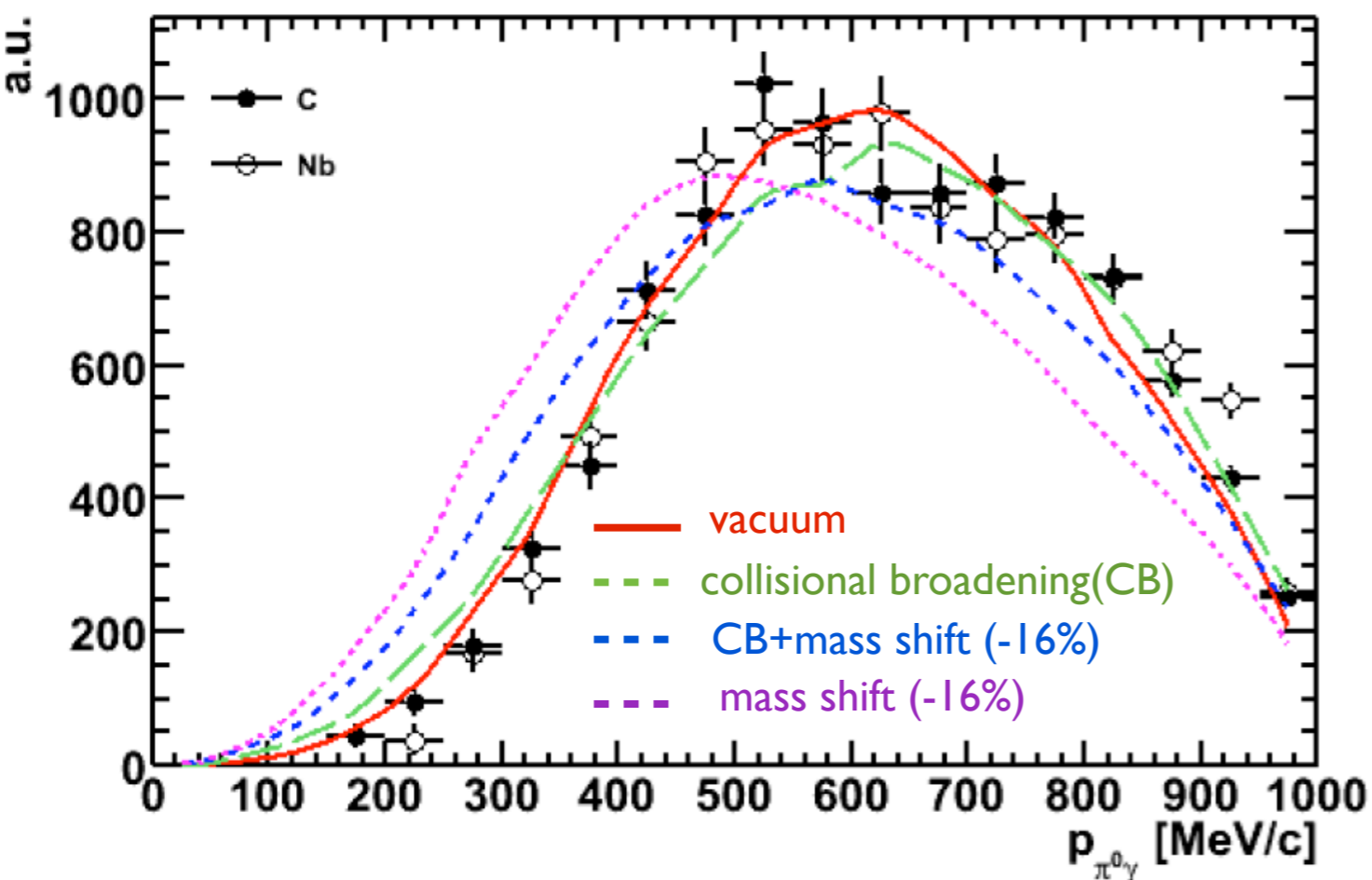
# momentum distribution for $\omega$ and $\eta'$ photoproduction

$\omega$

CB/TAPS @ MAMI

M.Thiel et al., EPJA 49 (2013) 132

$E_\gamma=900-1300$  MeV

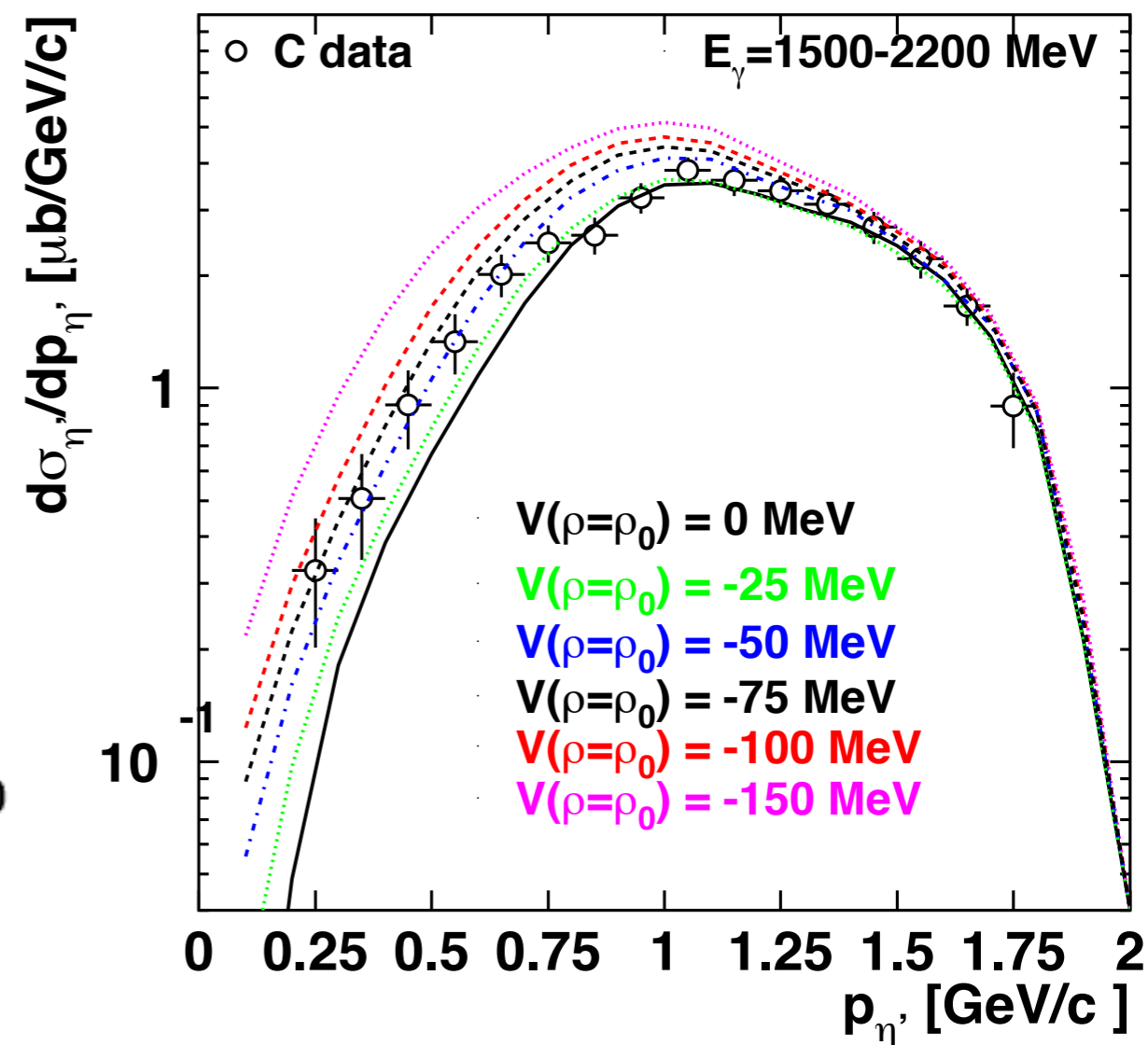


data not consistent with strong mass shift scenario ( $\Delta m/m \approx -16\%$ )

$\eta'$

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

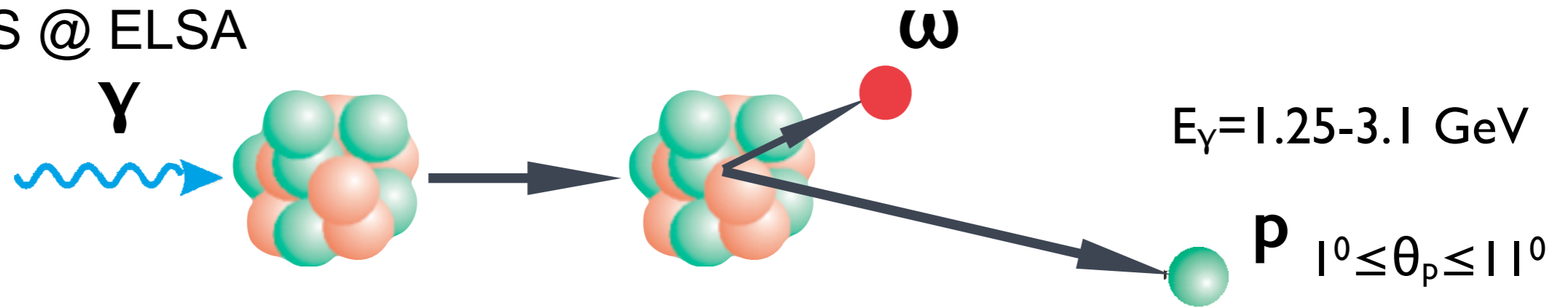
calc.: E. Paryev, J. Phys. G 40 (2013) 025201



$$V_{\eta'}(p_{\eta'} \approx 1.1 \text{ GeV}/c; \rho = \rho_0) = -(32 \pm 11) \text{ MeV}$$

# real part of $\omega$ -nucleus potential from $\omega$ kinetic energy

CBELSA/TAPS @ ELSA

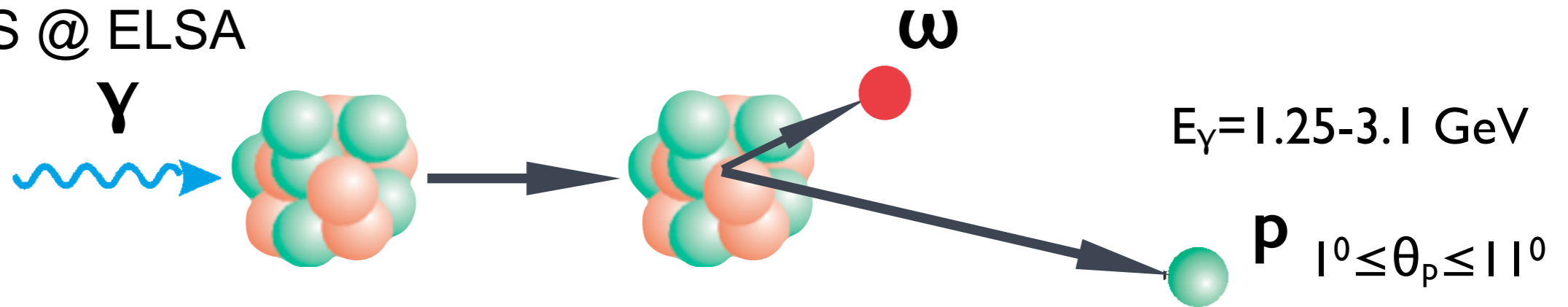


the higher the attraction the lower the kinetic energy of the  $\omega$  meson



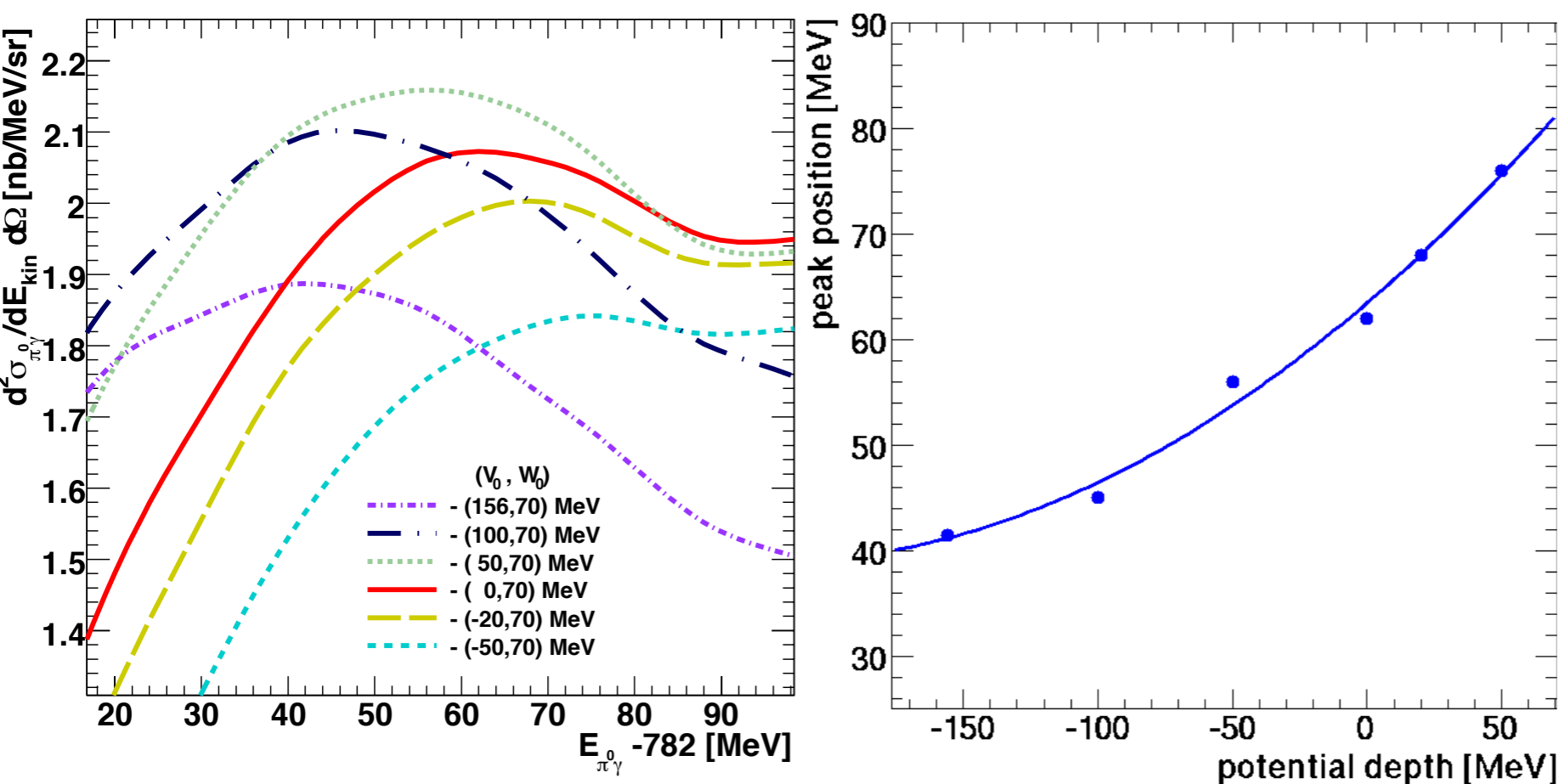
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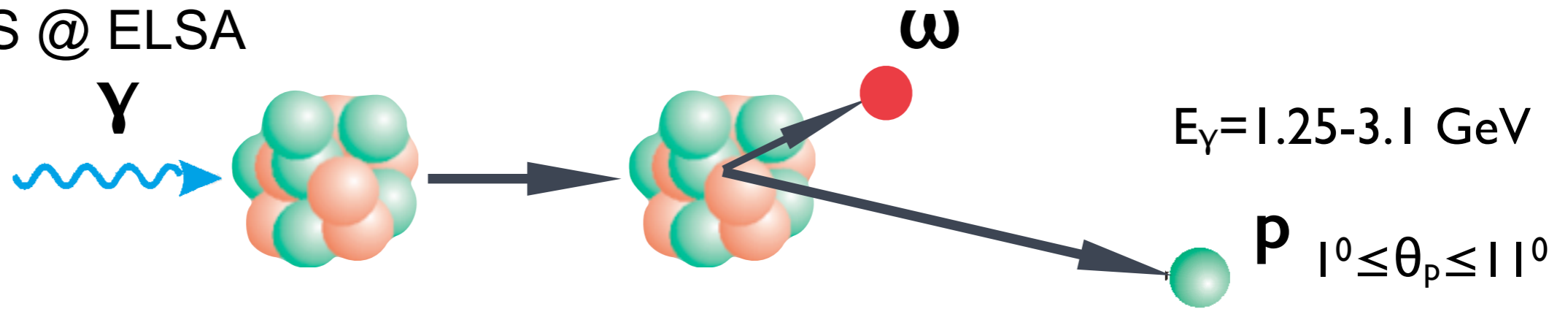
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H. Nagahiro, priv. com.



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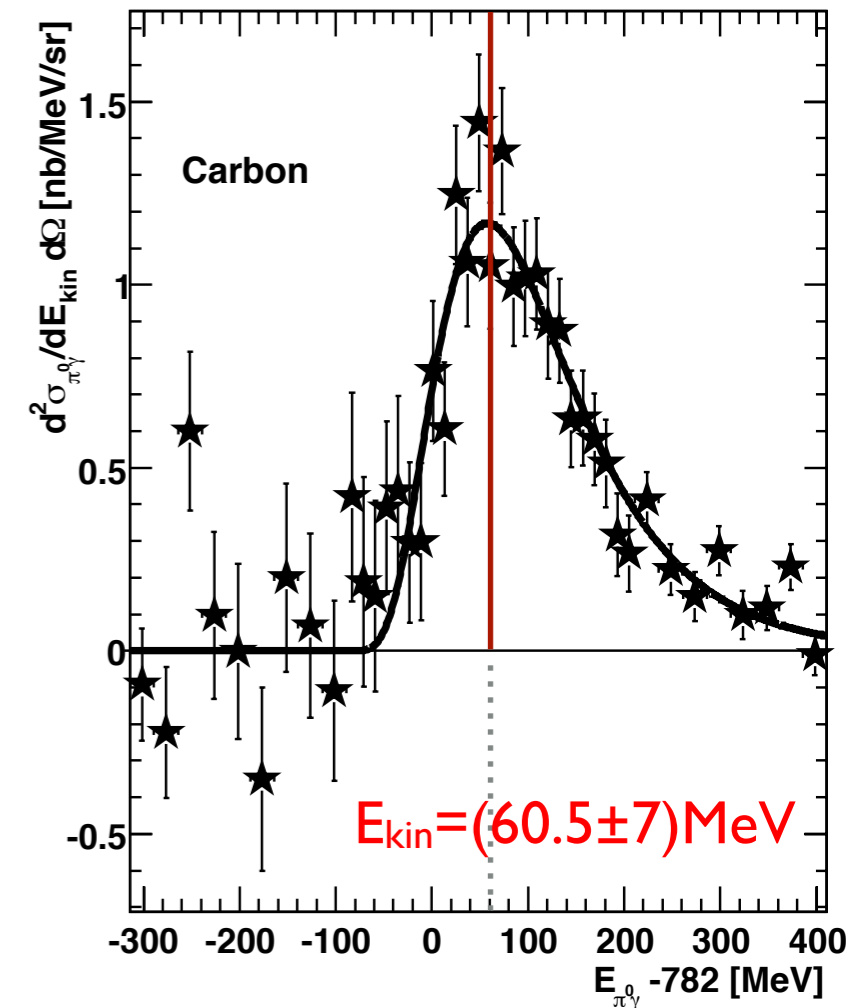
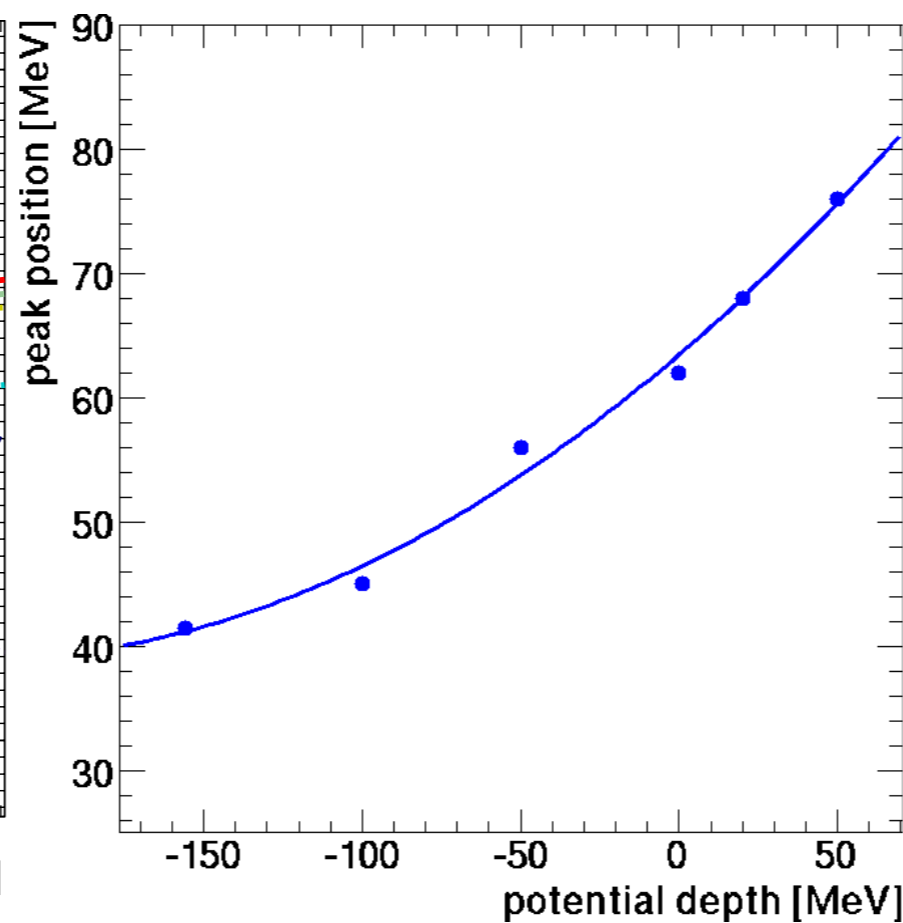
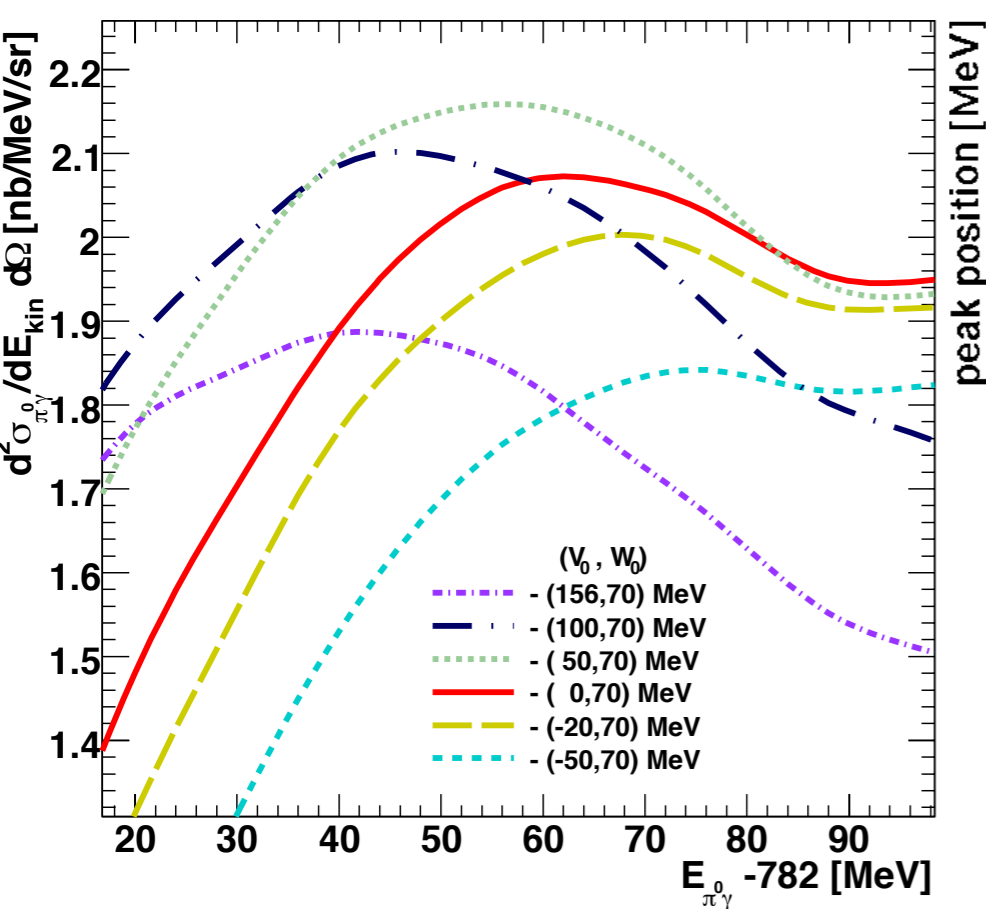
CBELSA/TAPS @ ELSA



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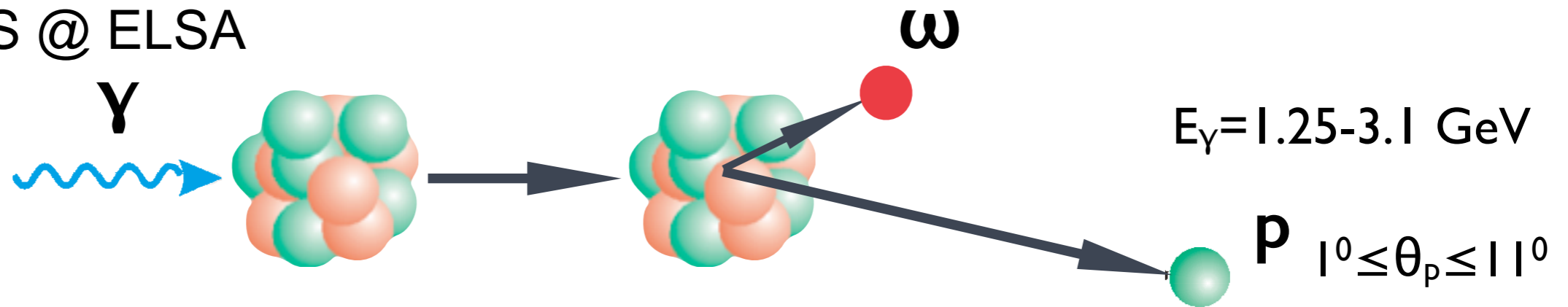
H. Nagahiro, priv. com.

S. Friedrich, PLB 736 (2014) 26



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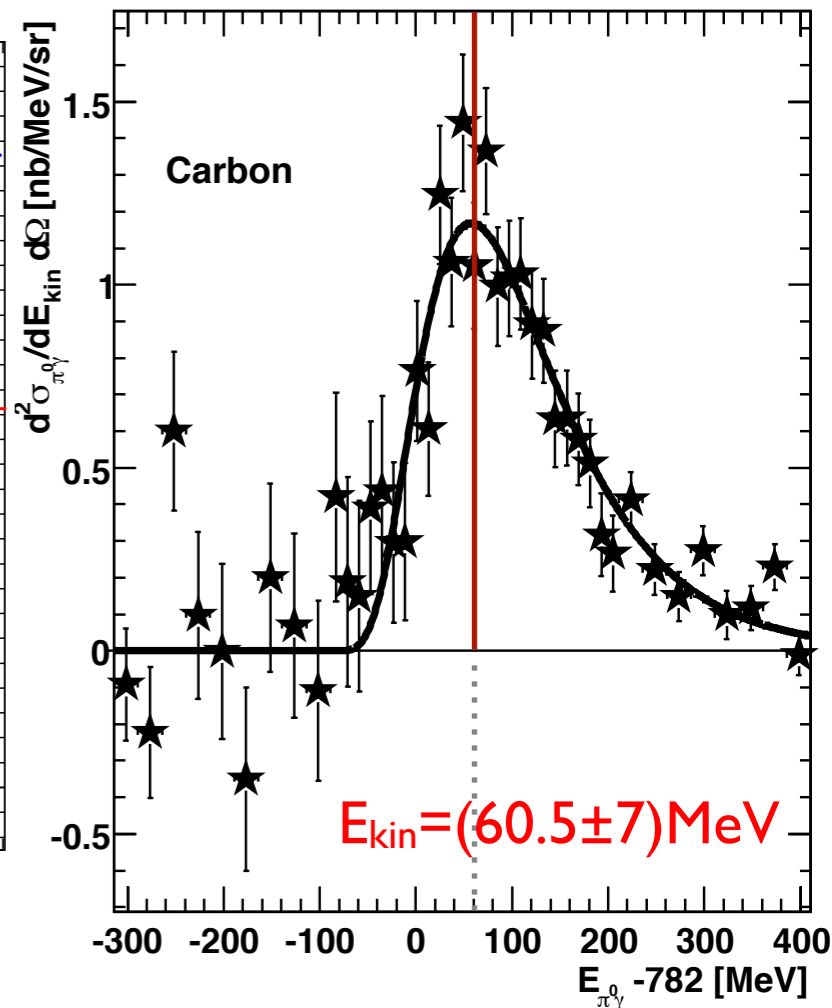
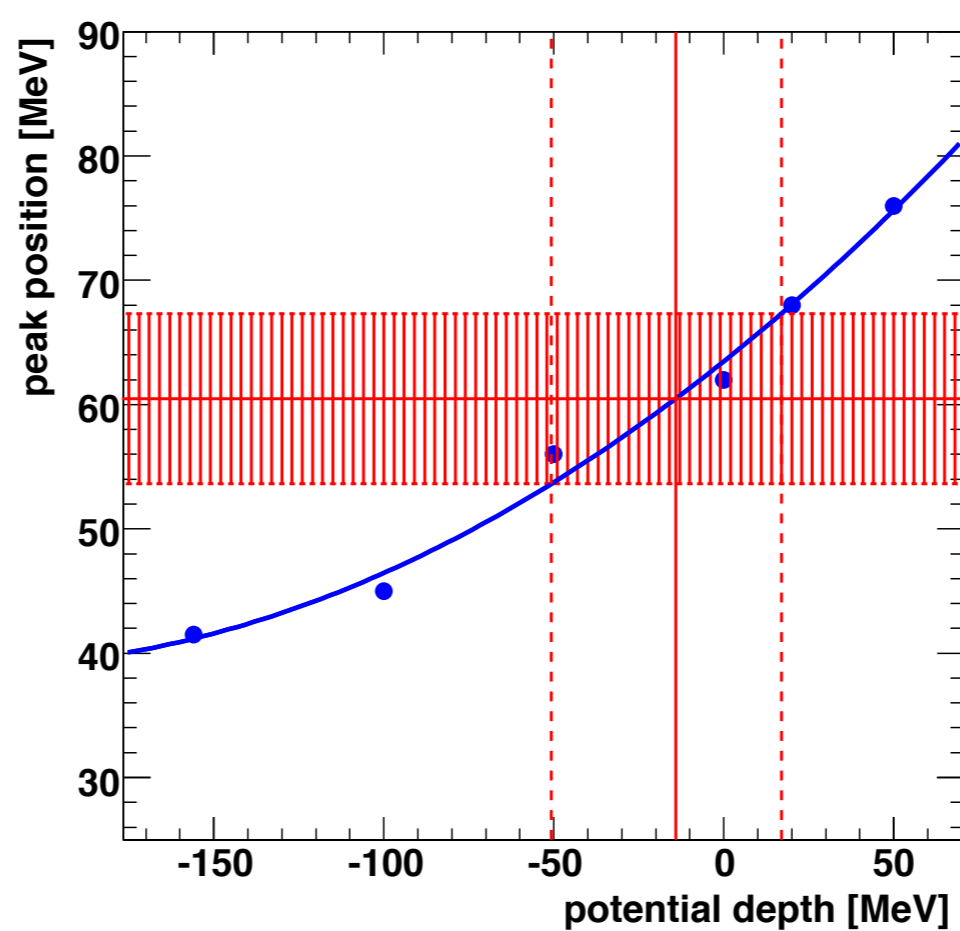
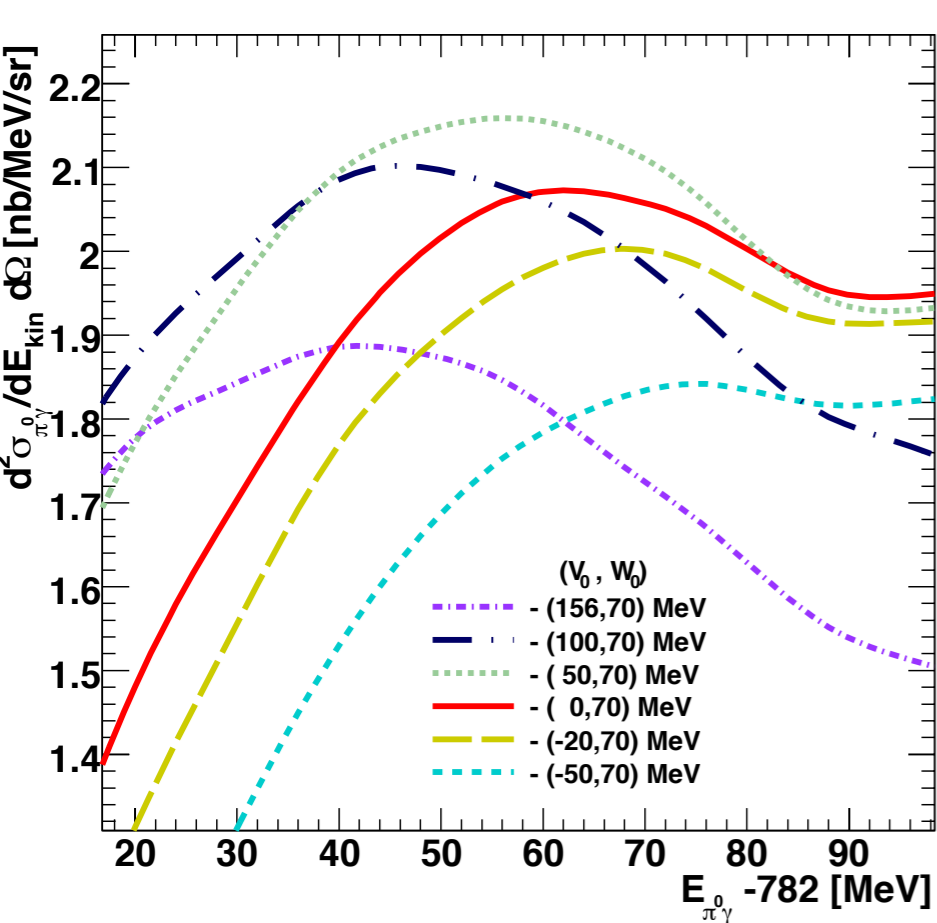
CBELSA/TAPS @ ELSA



the higher the attraction the lower the kinetic energy of the  $\omega$  meson

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S. Friedrich, PLB 736 (2014) 26



$$V_\omega(p_\omega \approx 300 \text{ MeV}/c; \rho = \rho_0) = -(15 \pm 35) \text{ MeV}$$

# compilation of results for real and imaginary part of the $\omega$ , $\eta'$ -nucleus optical potential

$\omega$

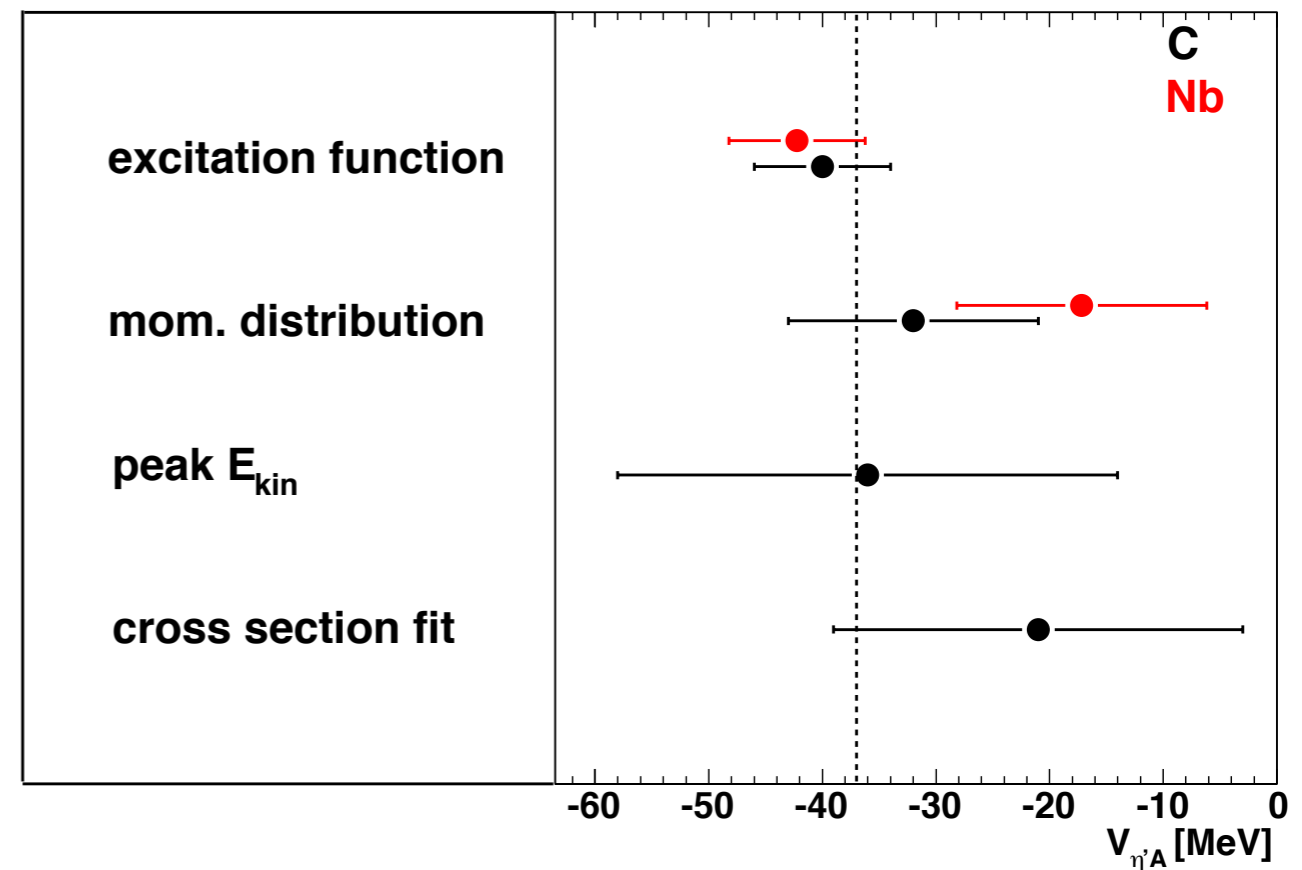
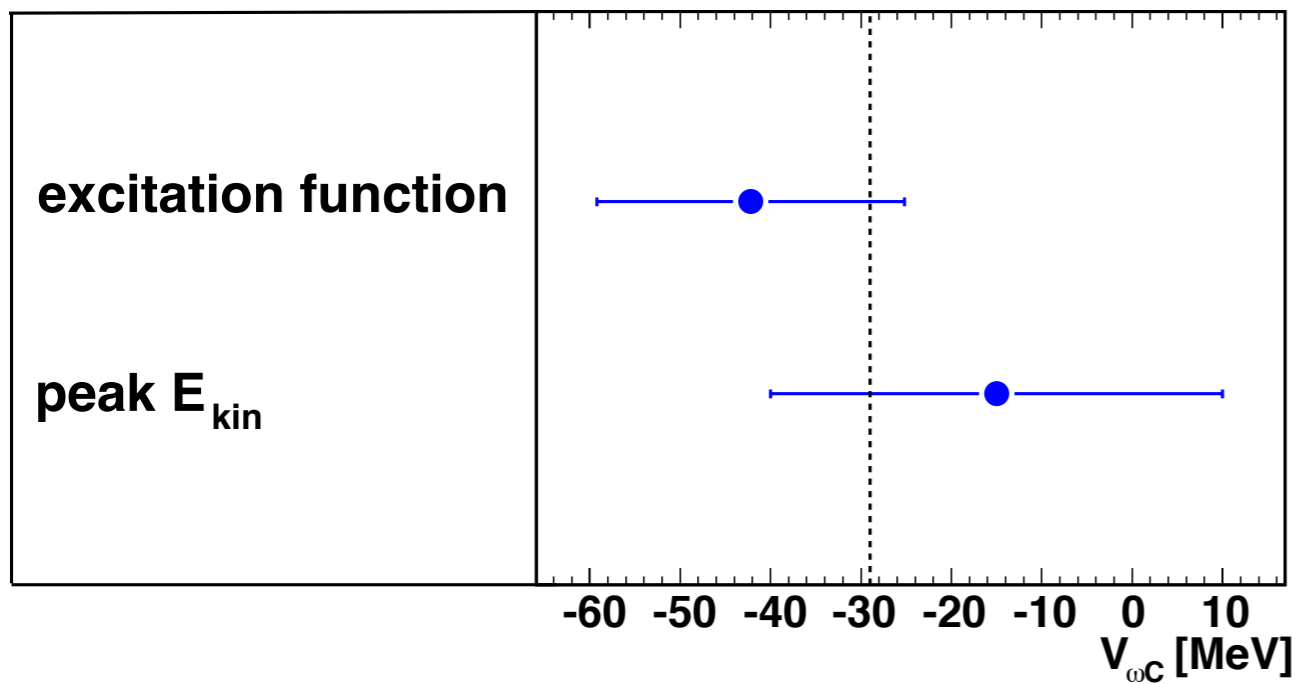
$\eta'$

imaginary part:

$$W_{\omega A}(\rho=\rho_0) = -\Gamma_0/2 = - (65-75) \text{ MeV}$$

$$W_{\eta' A}(\rho=\rho_0) = -\Gamma_0/2 = - (7.5-12.5) \text{ MeV}$$

real part:



$$V_{\omega A}(\rho=\rho_0) = -(29 \pm 19(\text{stat}) \pm 20(\text{syst})) \text{ MeV}$$

$$V_{\eta' A}(\rho=\rho_0) = -(37 \pm 5(\text{stat}) \pm 10(\text{syst})) \text{ MeV}$$

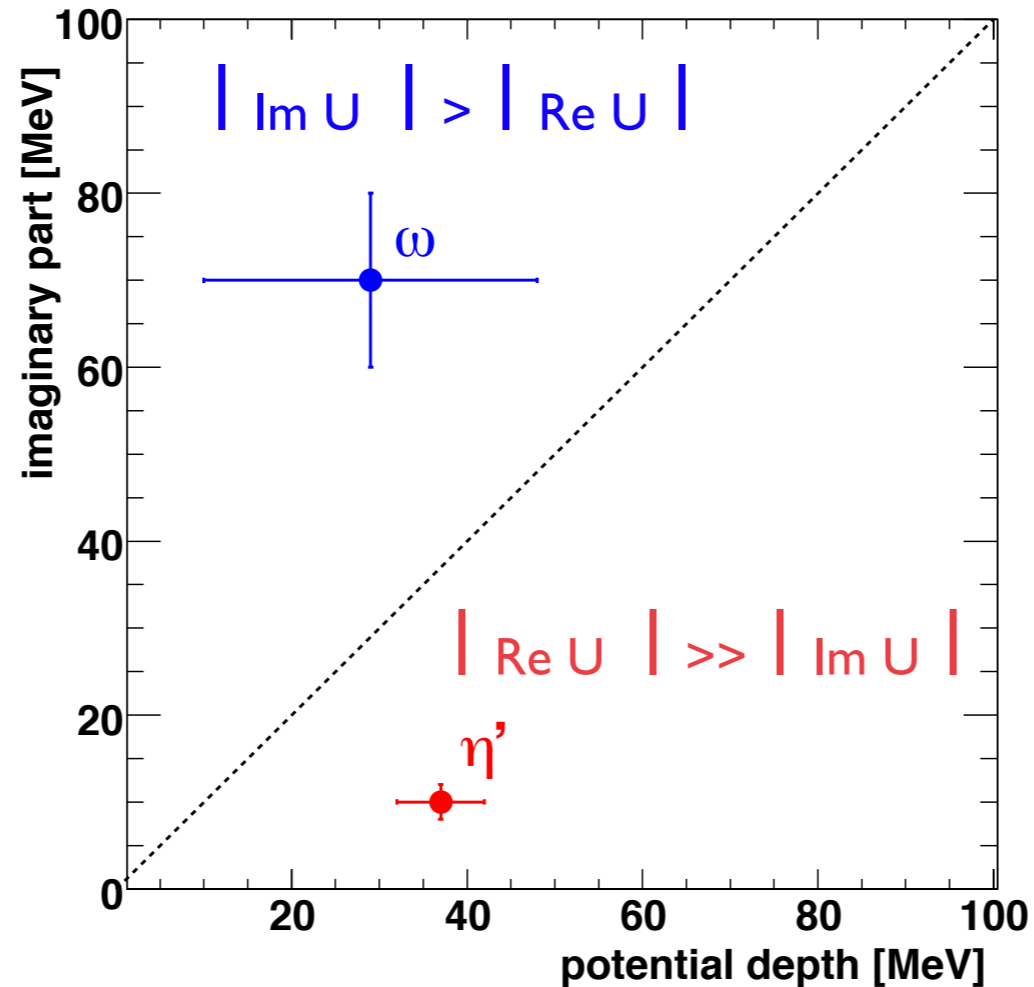
# compilation of results for real and imaginary part of the $\omega$ , $\eta'$ -nucleus optical potential

$$U_{\omega A}(\rho=\rho_0)=$$

$$-(29 \pm 19(\text{stat}) \pm 20(\text{syst}) + i(70 \pm 10) \text{ MeV}$$

$$U_{\eta' A}(\rho=\rho_0)=$$

$$-(37 \pm 5(\text{stat}) \pm 10(\text{syst}) + i(10 \pm 3) \text{ MeV}$$



$| \text{Im } U | > | \text{Re } U | ; \Rightarrow \omega$  not a good candidate  
to search for meson-nucleus bound states!

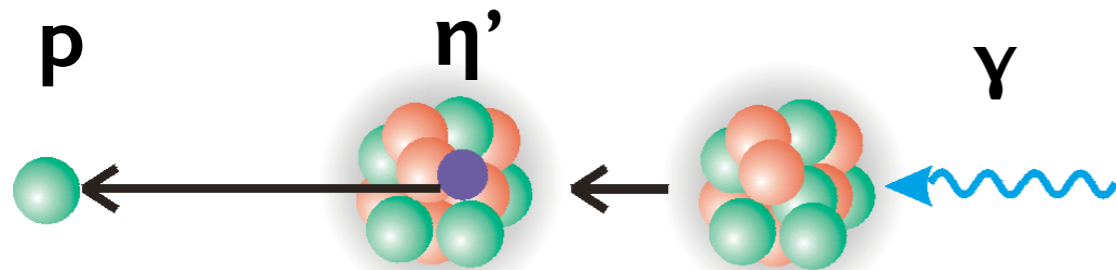
$| \text{Re } U | \gg | \text{Im } U | ; \Rightarrow \eta'$  promising candidate to search for mesic states

first (indirect) observation of in-medium mass shift of  $\eta'$  at  $\rho=\rho_0$  and  $T=0$   
in good agreement with QMC model predictions (S. Bass et al., PLB 634 (2006) 368)

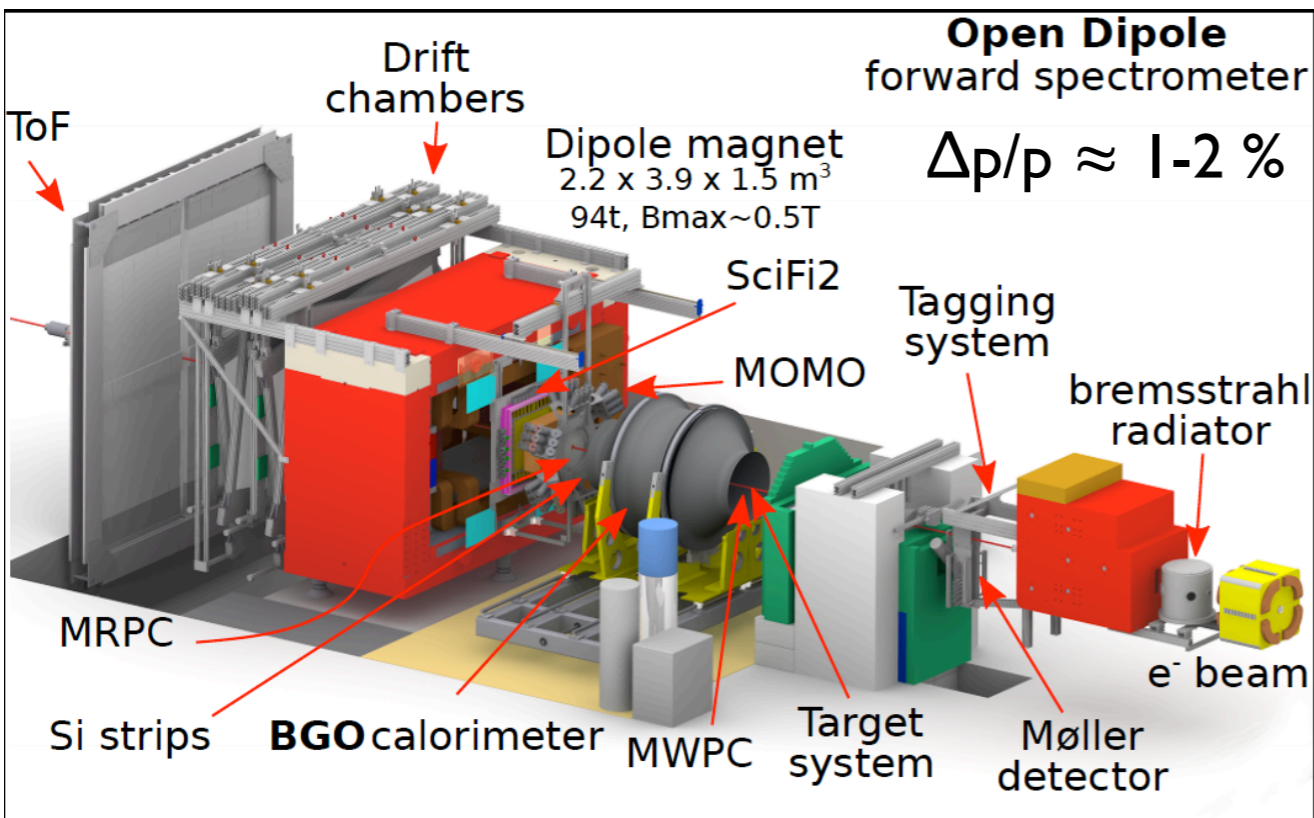
# search for $\eta'$ -mesic states

## BGO-OD@ELSA

$^{12}\text{C}(\gamma, p) \eta' X @ 2.8 \text{ GeV}$



formation and decay of  $\eta'$ -mesic state



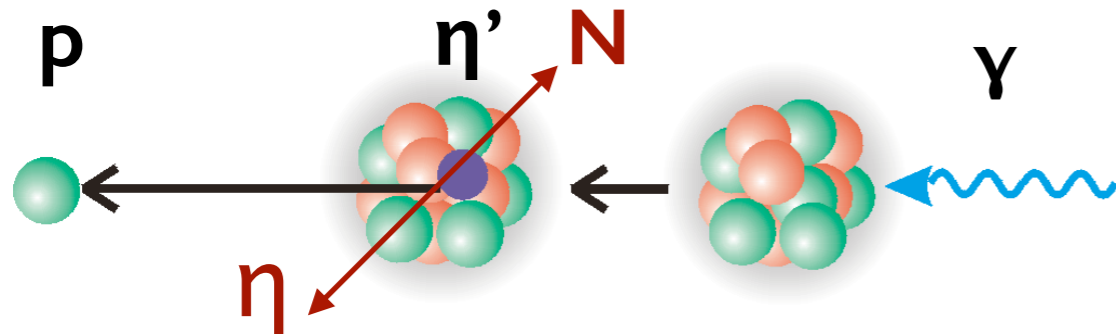
BGO-OD ideally suited for exclusive measurement

approved proposal: [ELSA/3-2012-BGO](#)

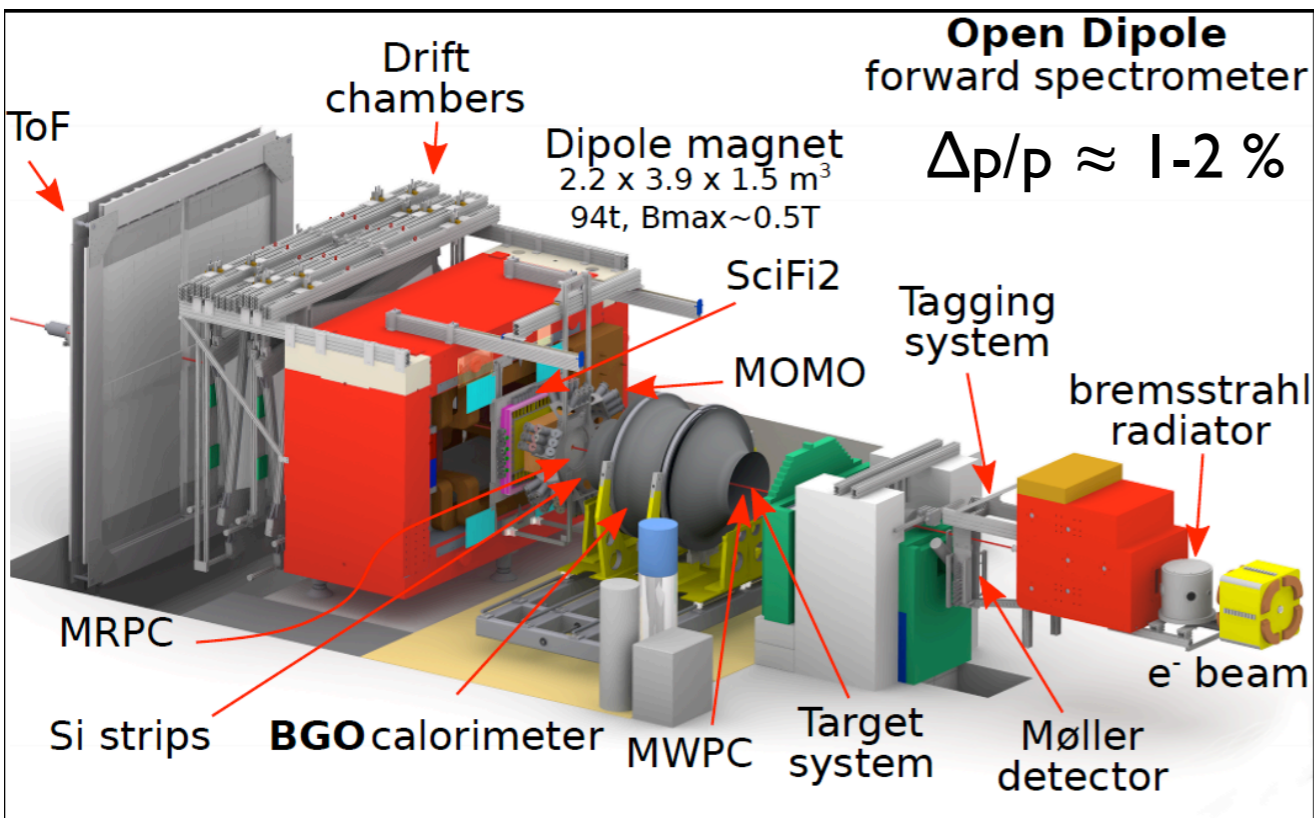
# search for $\eta'$ -mesic states

## BGO-OD@ELSA

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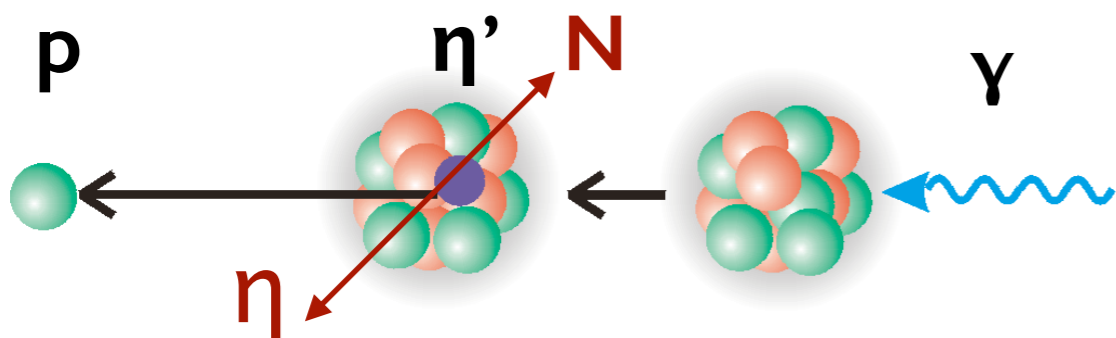
BGO-OD ideally suited for exclusive measurement

approved proposal: [ELSA/3-2012-BGO](#)

# search for $\eta'$ -mesic states

## BGO-OD@ELSA

$^{12}\text{C}(\gamma, p) \eta' X @ 2.8 \text{ GeV}$

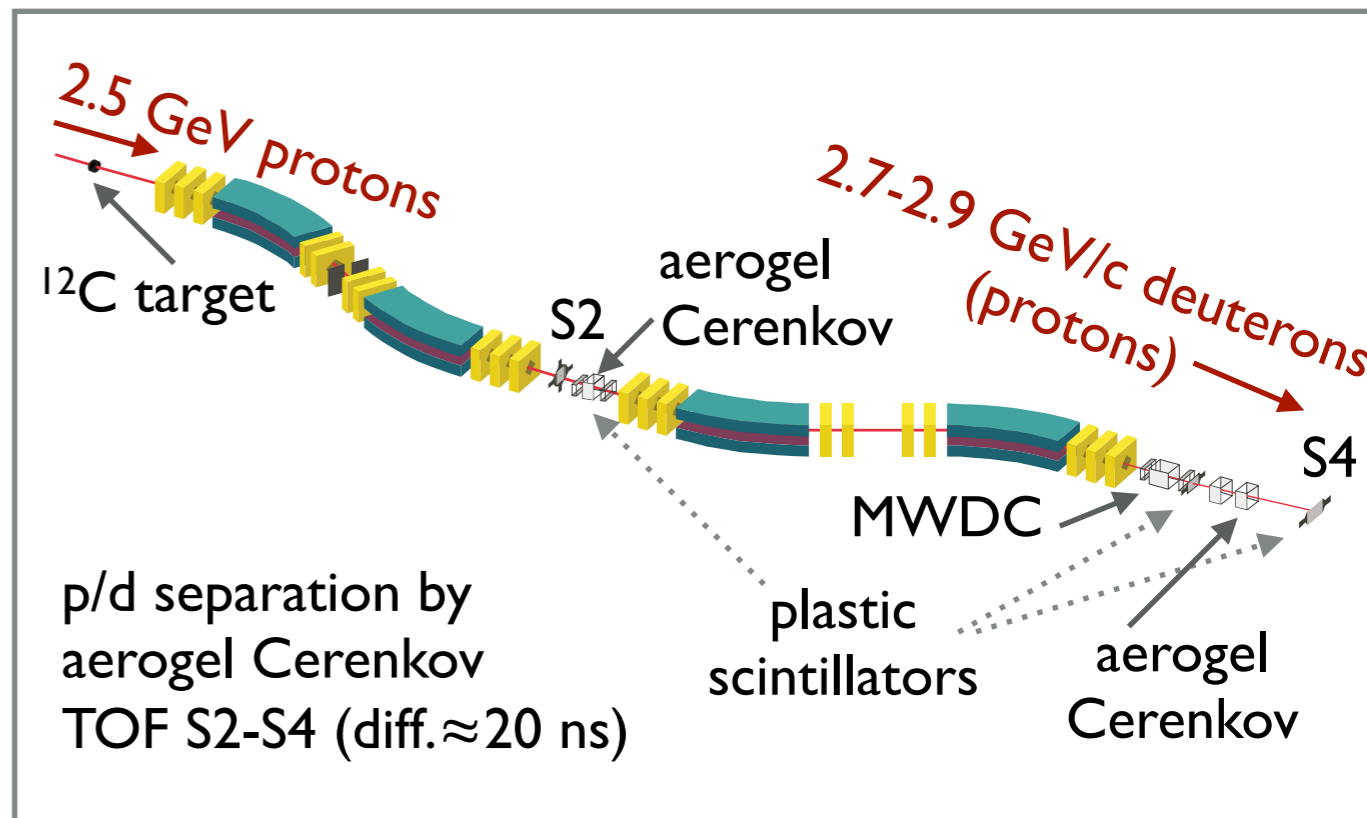
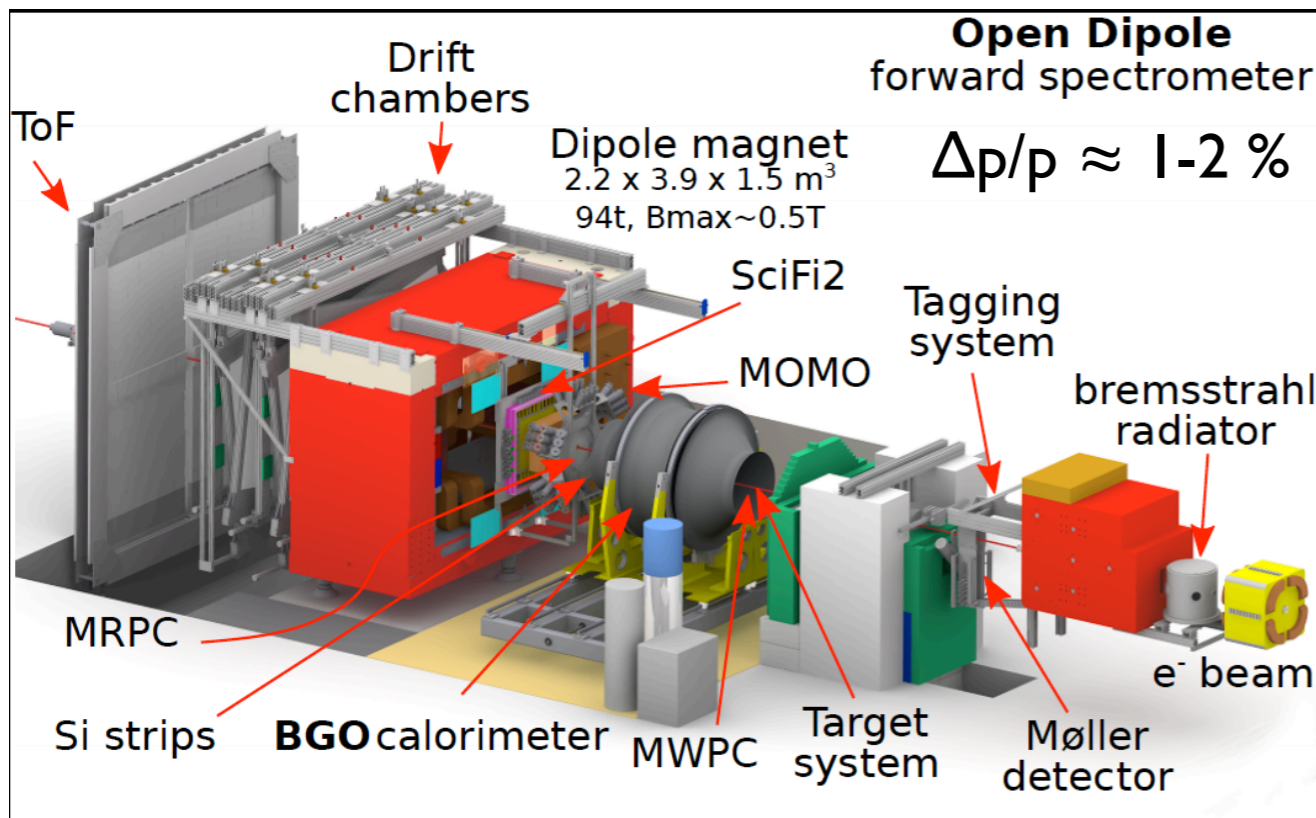
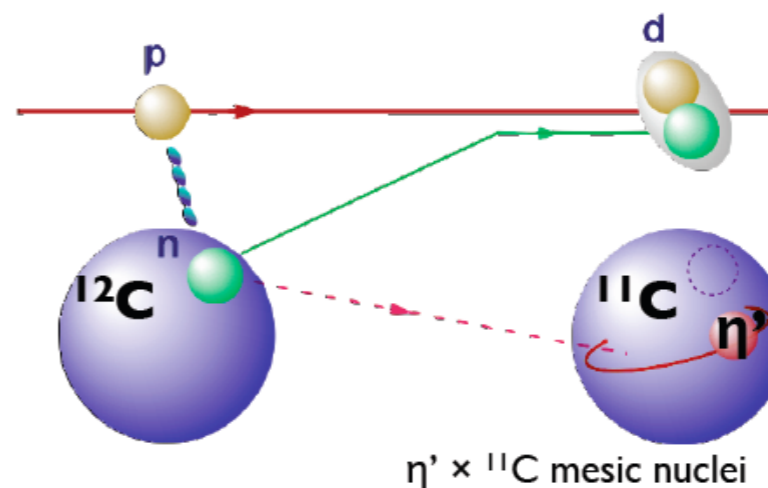


formation and decay of  $\eta'$ -mesic state

## FRS@GSI

$^{12}\text{C}(p, d) \eta' X @ 2.5 \text{ GeV}$

K. Itahashi *et al.*, Prog. Theo. Phys. 128(2012) 601



BGO-OD ideally suited for exclusive measurement

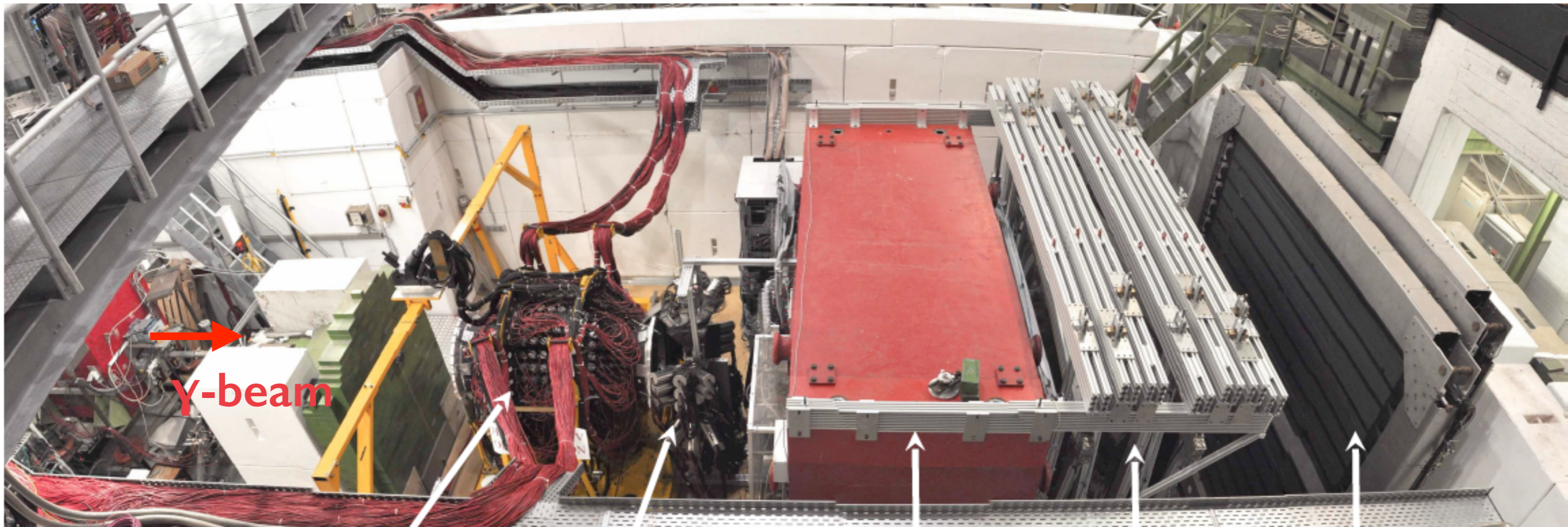
missing mass spectrometry:  $\Delta m = 1.6 \text{ MeV}/c^2$

approved proposal: ELSA/3-2012-BGO

status report by K. Itahashi and Y. Tanaka



# The BGO-OD experiment



BGO-ball

scintillating  
fibers

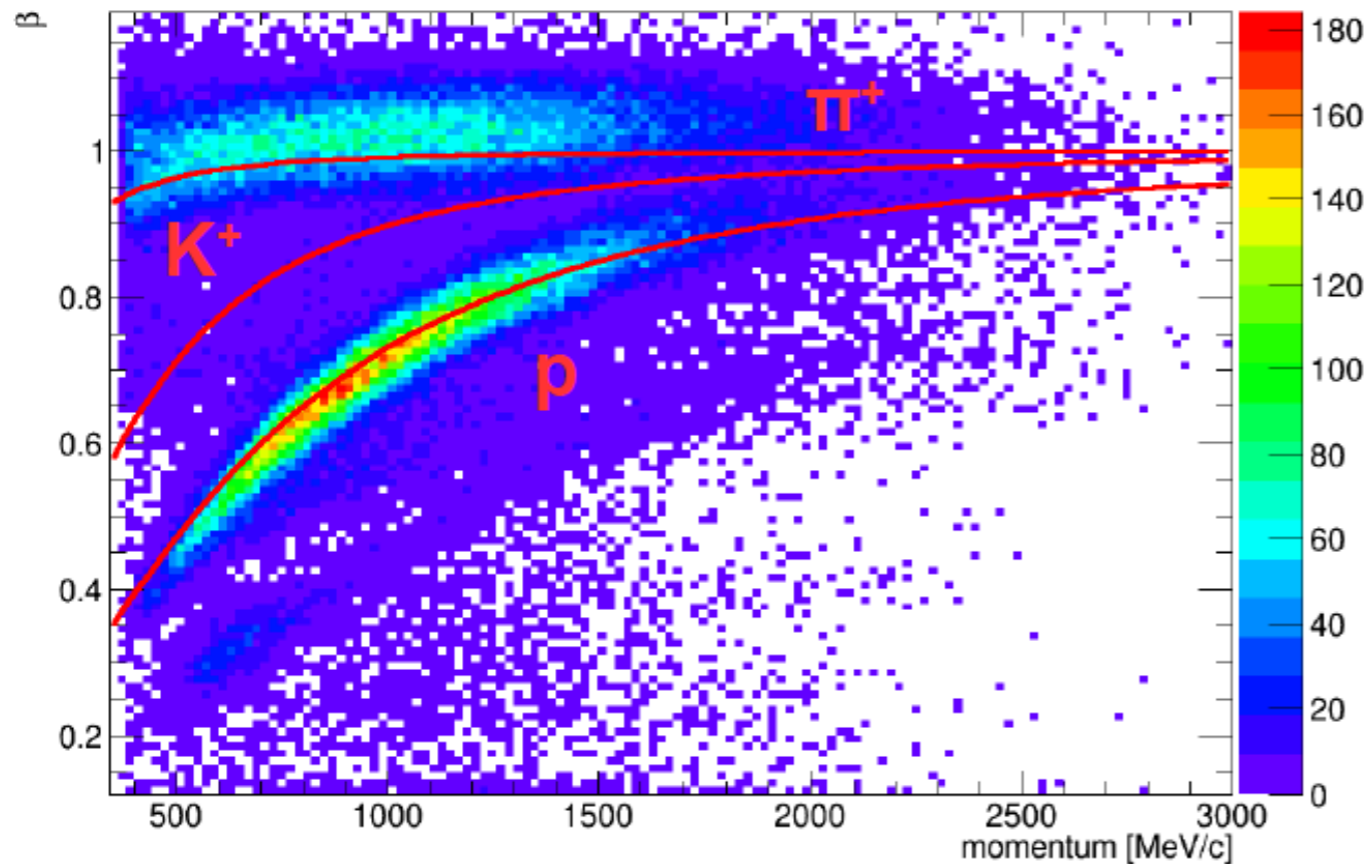
open dipole  
magnet

MWPC

TOF

# BGO-OD: results of test experiment

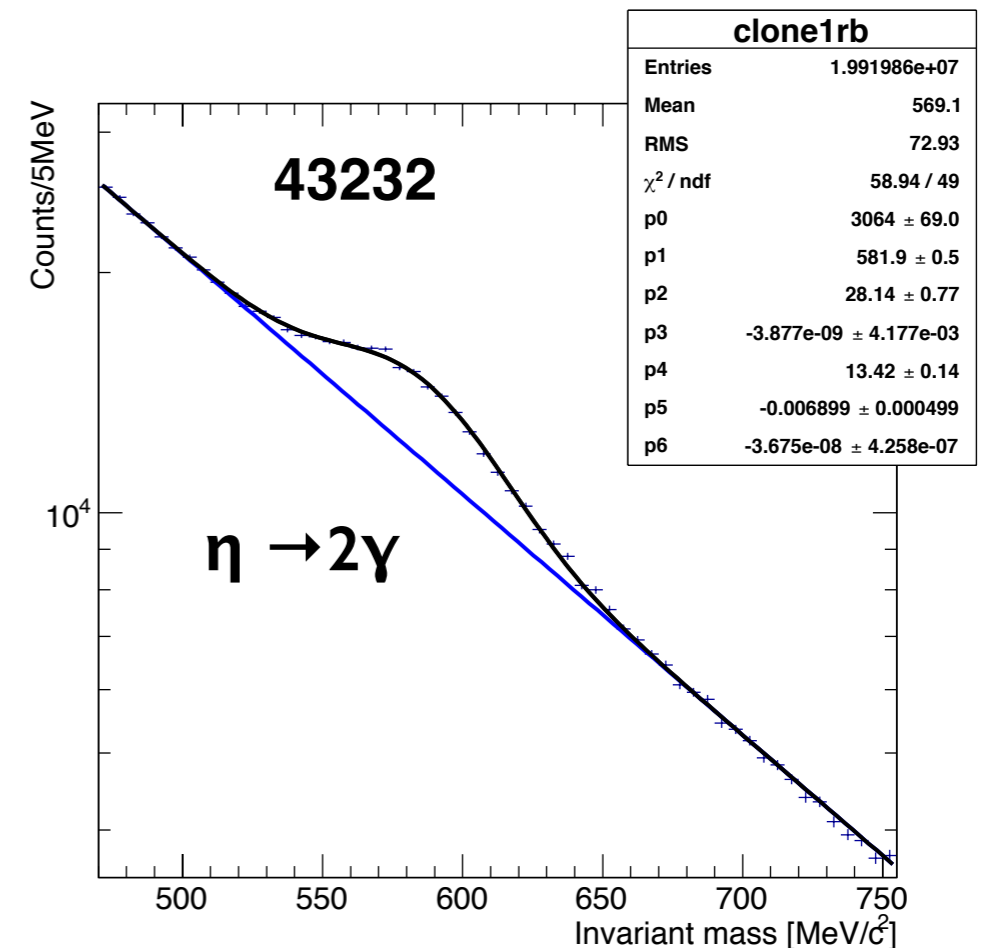
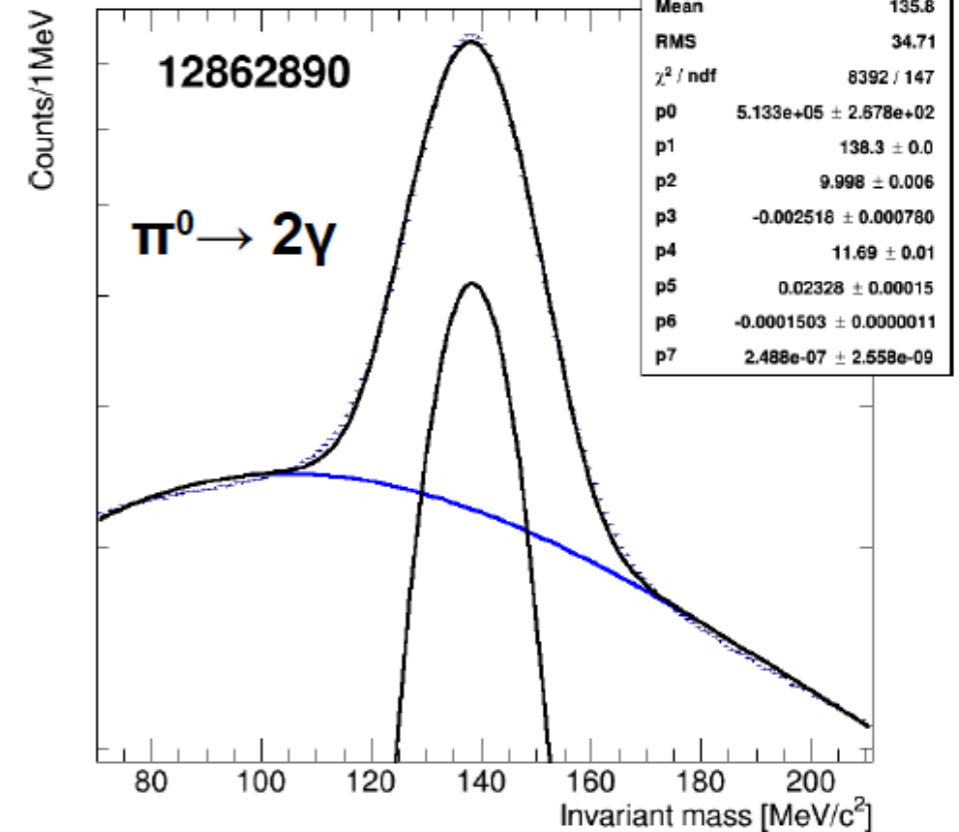
separation and identification  
of charged particles in open dipole



momentum resolution:  $\Delta p/p = 1\%$

BGO:  $\pi^0, \eta \rightarrow 2\gamma$

run for  $\eta'$ - mesic states has started !!!



## summary

- real and imaginary part of the  $\omega$  and  $\eta'$ -nucleus potential have been determined

$\omega$ :  $| \text{Im } U | > | \text{Re } U | \rightarrow$  not a good candidate for the search for mesic states

$\eta'$ :  $| \text{Re } U | \gg | \text{Im } U | \rightarrow$  good candidate for the search for mesic states

first results on momentum dependence of the  $\omega$ - and  $\eta'$ -nucleus optical potential

- The run for  $\eta'$  mesic states has started:

photo-nuclear experiments: LEPS2, BGO-OD:  $^{12}\text{C}(\gamma, p) \eta' \otimes ^{11}\text{B}$

T. Nakano

hadronic pick-up reaction: FRS@GSI:  $^{12}\text{C}(p, d) \eta' \otimes ^{11}\text{C}$

K.Itahashi, Y.Tanaka