

# Studies of mass modification of the $\eta'(958)$ meson in nuclei in the LEPS2/BGOegg experiment

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Reimei workshop  
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# $\eta'(958)$ meson

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

Larger mass compared with other pseudo-scalar mesons

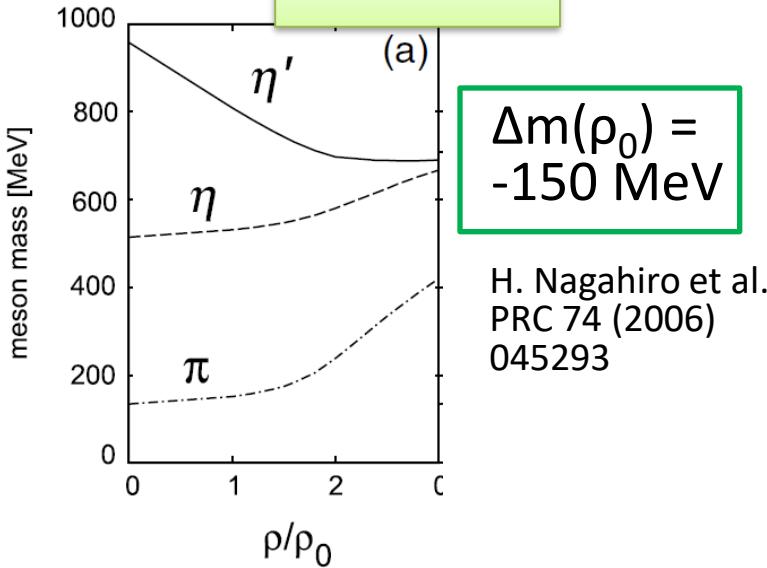
$U_A(1)$  anomaly

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

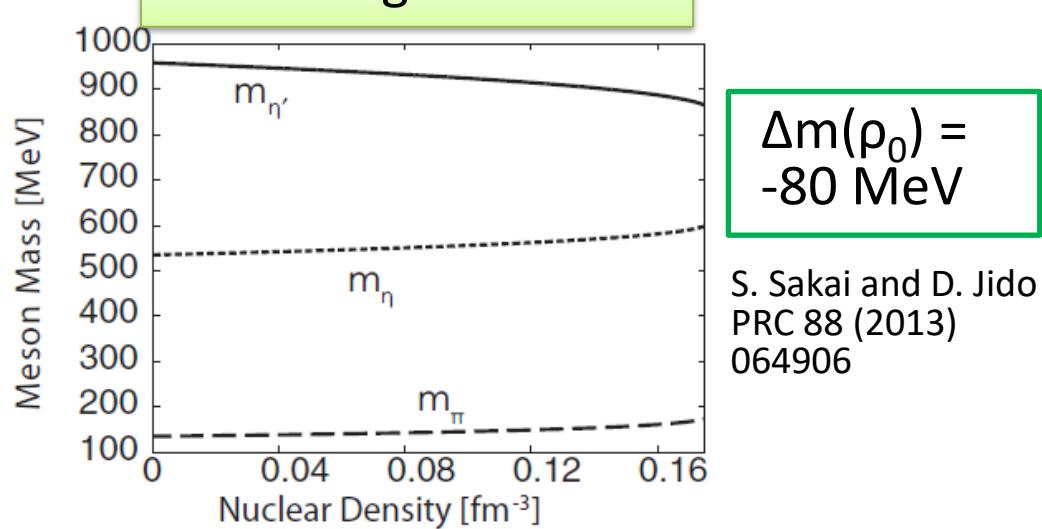
D. Jido et al., PRC 85 (2012) 032201(R)

Models with  $U_A(1)$  anomaly term

NJL model



Linear sigma model



A large mass reduction is expected

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

# LEPS2/BGOegg experiment

SPring-8/LEPS2 beam line  
1.3-2.4 GeV  $\gamma$  beam

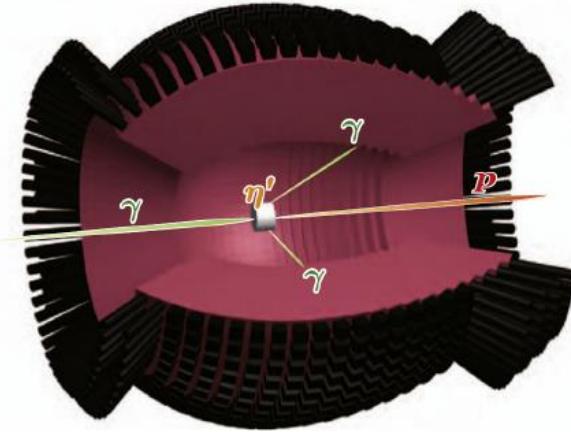


## BGOegg calorimeter

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

$$\eta' \rightarrow 2\gamma, \quad \eta \rightarrow 2\gamma$$

$$\eta' \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \eta \rightarrow 6\gamma$$

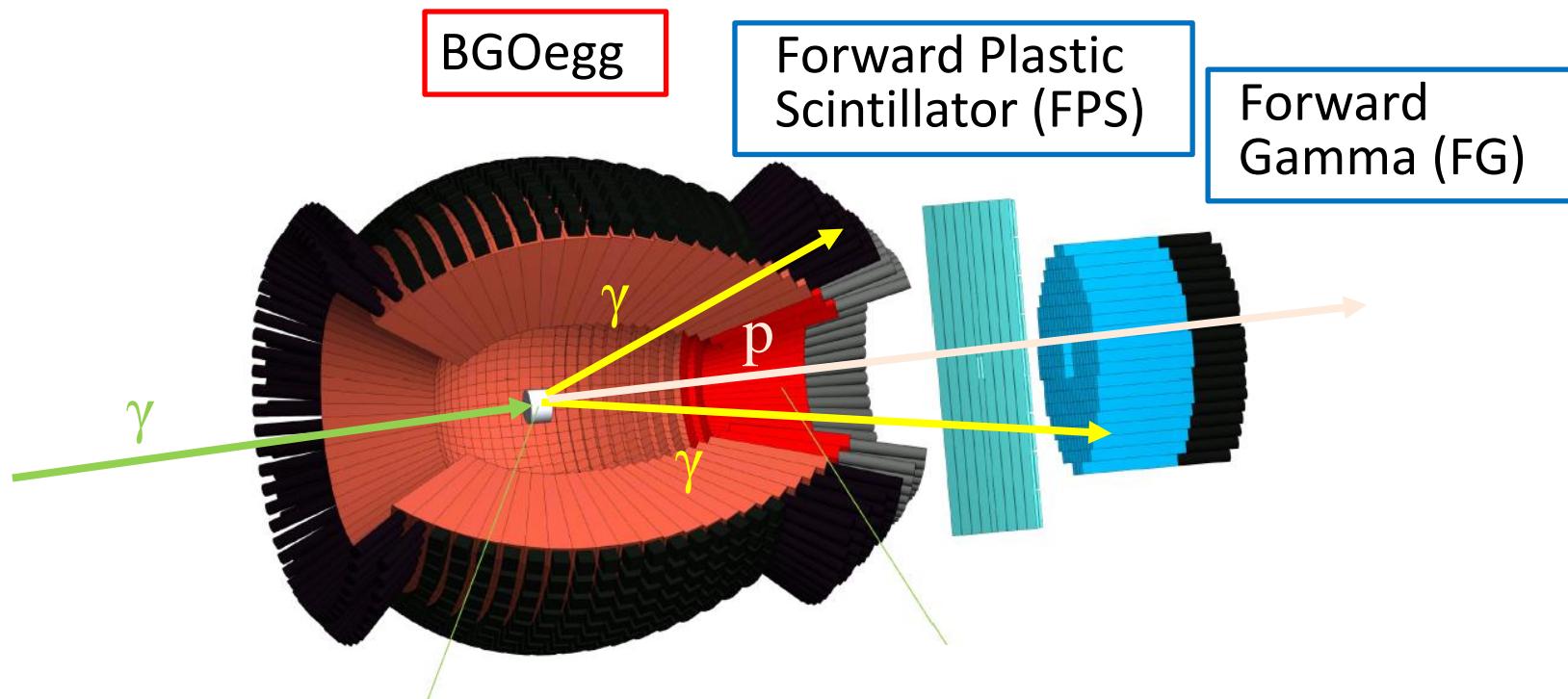


## Phase-I (2014-2016)

1.  $\eta'$ -nucleus bound state search N. Tomida *et al.*, PRL 124 (2020) 202501

2. Direct measurement of  $\eta'$  mass in nuclei Y. Matsumura , PhD thesis (2021)

# BGOegg Phase-II experiment



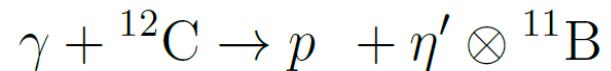
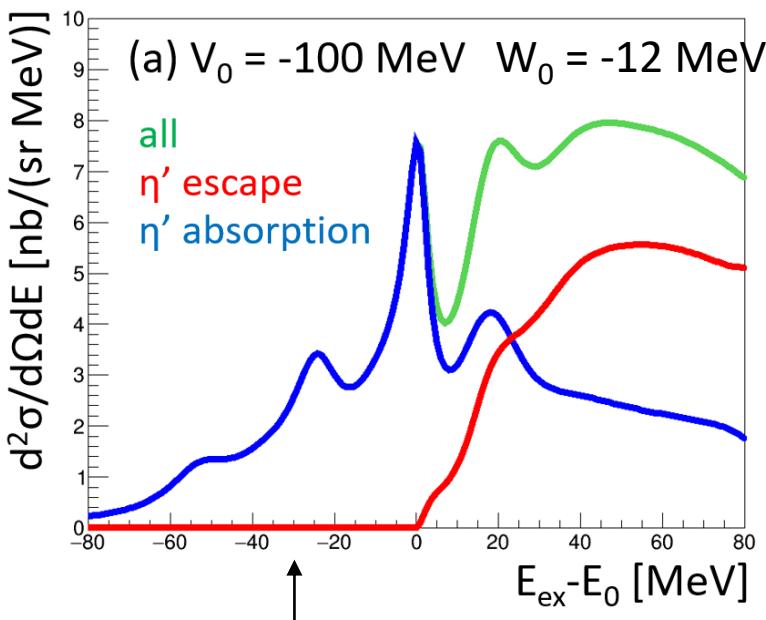
- Additional calorimeters in the upstream hole  
⇒ ~Full acceptance for  $\gamma$  rays
- 2022-

# $\eta'$ -nucleus bound state

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

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

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



Excitation energy

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

Our aim

Examine  $\eta'$ -nucleus potential

Search for a bound state

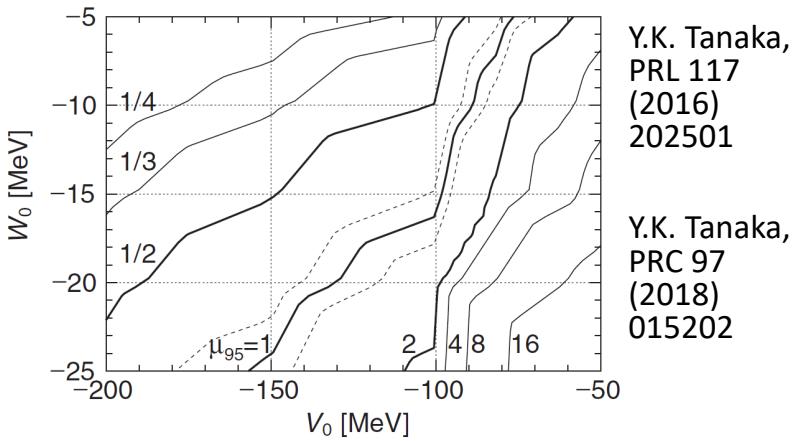
Calculation within Distorted Wave Impulse Approximation (DWIA)

# Past experiments

$\eta$ -PRiME@GSI

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

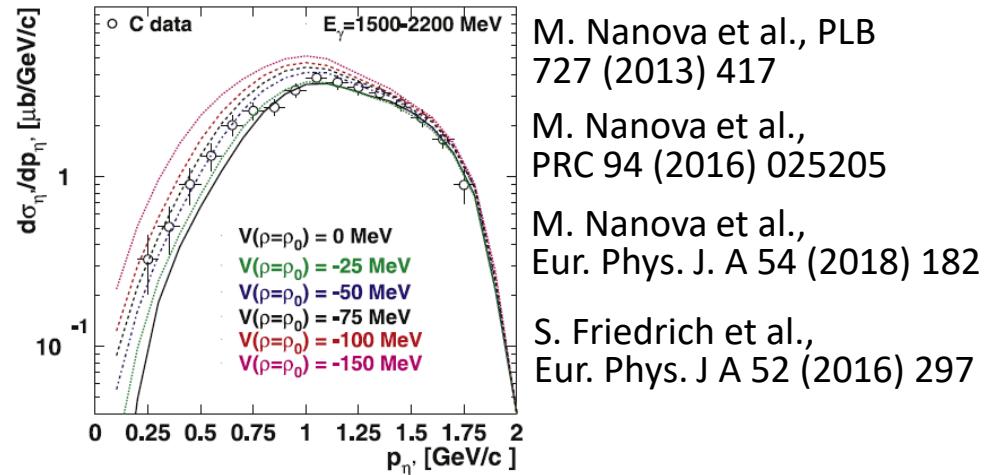
Inclusive missing mass spectroscopy



CBELSA/TAPS

$\eta'$  photoproduction off C, Nb

$\eta'$  escaped from nuclei



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

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

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

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

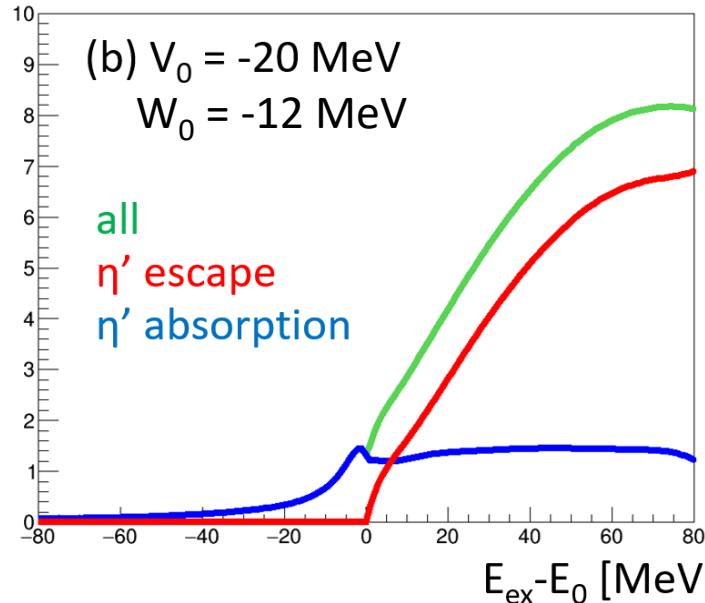
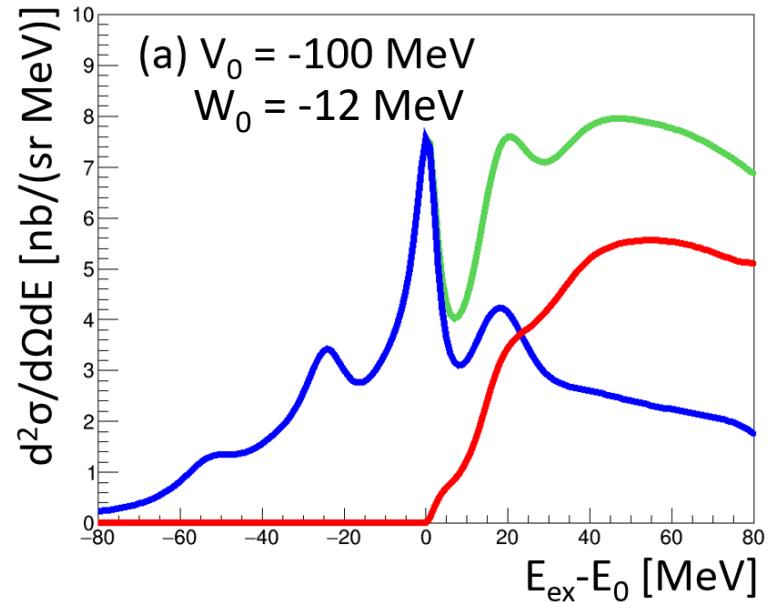
- Large multi meson backgrounds  
→ **No signal peak observed**
- Upper limit on  $V_0$ ,  $W_0$  depending on an unknown **scaling factor** of the DWIA cross section and the elementary cross section

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

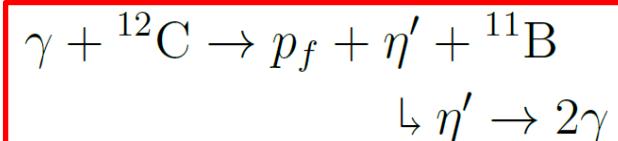
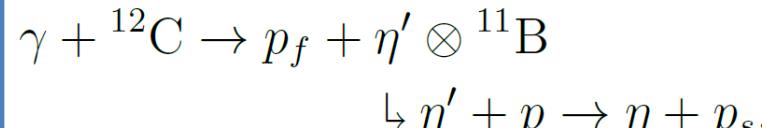
# Present experiment

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

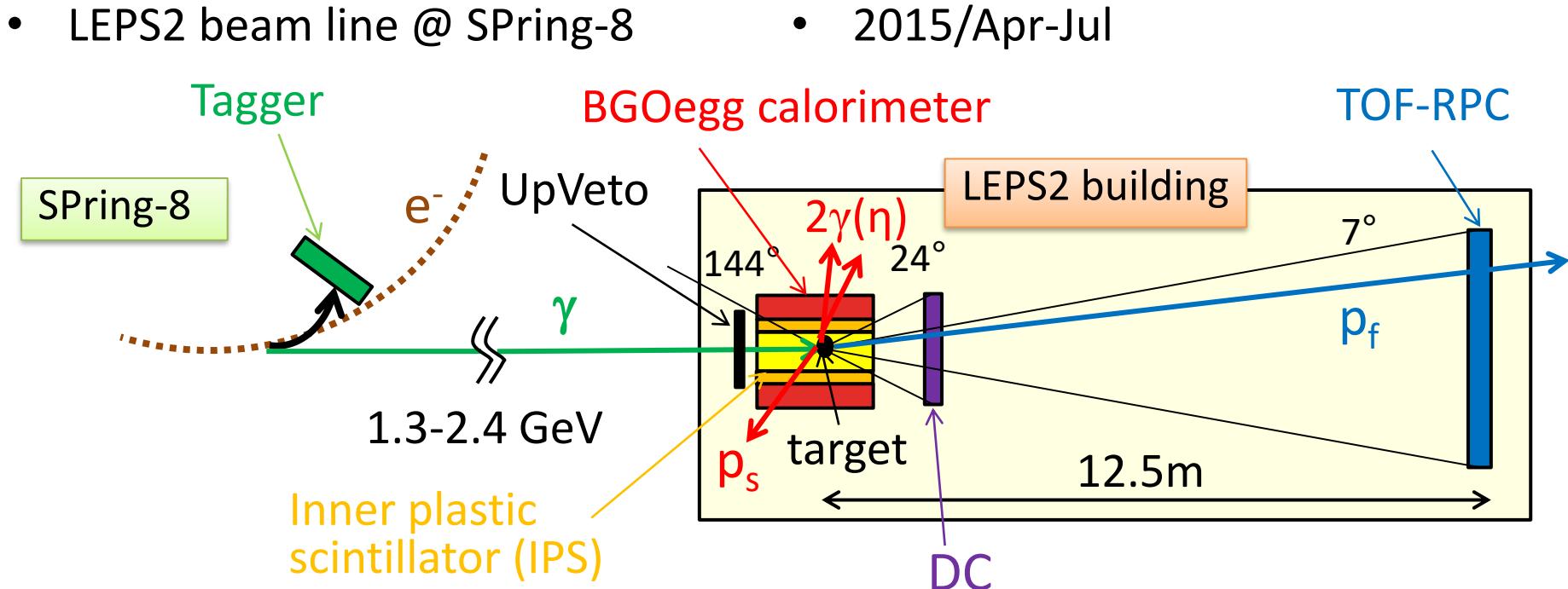
Tag decay products from  $\eta'$  in nucleus to reduce BG



- $\eta'$  absorption : Search for bound states  
 $\eta'\text{N} \rightarrow \eta\text{N}$  large branch expected (>40%)
- $\eta'$  escape => Evaluate production rate of  $\eta'$   
(Normalization of the DWIA calculation)

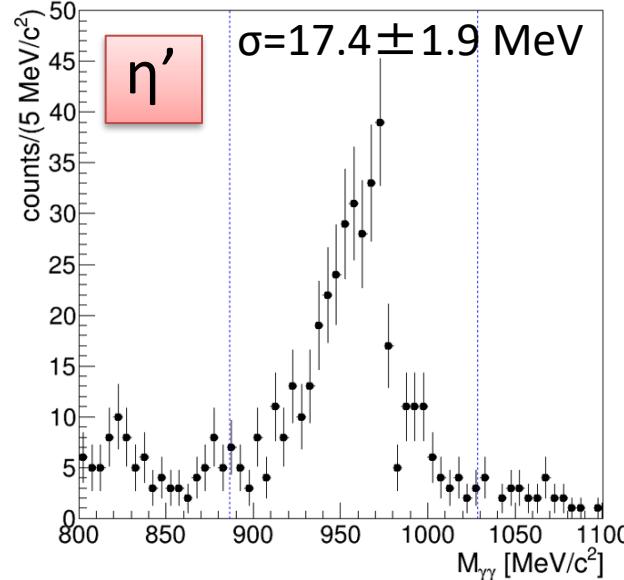
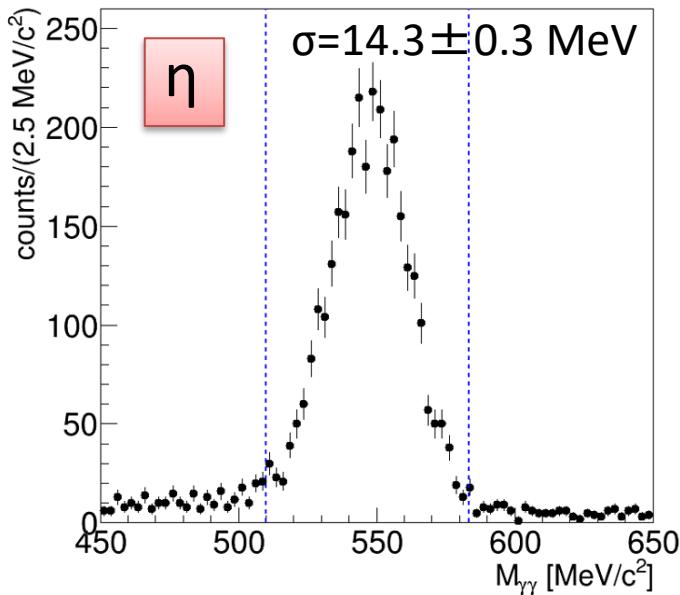


# Experimental set up

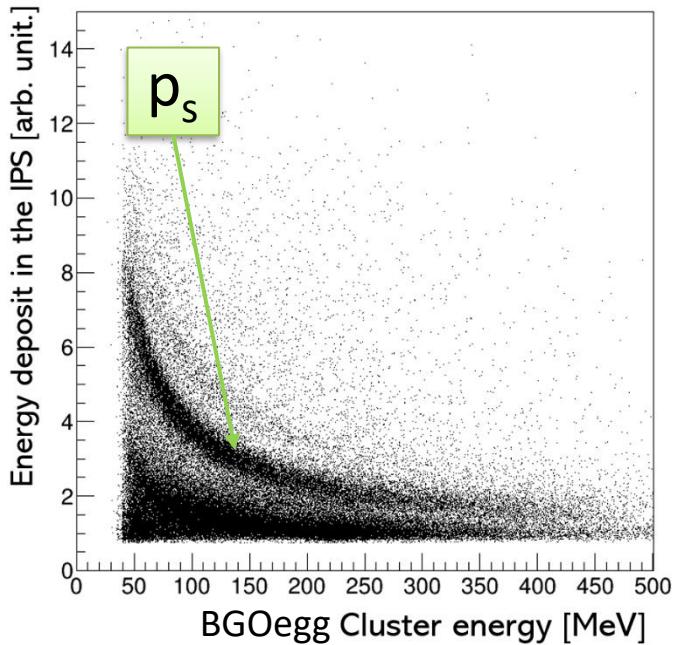


- $\gamma + {}^{12}\text{C} \rightarrow p_f + (\eta + p_s) + X$  : bound state search ( $\eta' N \rightarrow \eta N$ )
- $\gamma + {}^{12}\text{C} \rightarrow p_f + \eta' + X$  : production rate of  $\eta'$ 
  - Missing mass spectroscopy of  ${}^{12}\text{C}(\gamma, p_f)$  : Tagger, TOF-RPC
  - Decay products ( $\eta + p_s$ ),  $\eta'$  : BGOegg, IPS
  - No other detected particles
- Trigger : Tagger  $\times$  BGOegg 2 crystal hits  
 $\Rightarrow$  Simultaneous measurements of ( $\eta + p_s$ ) and  $\eta'$  tag modes  
 $\eta'$  mass spectrum study

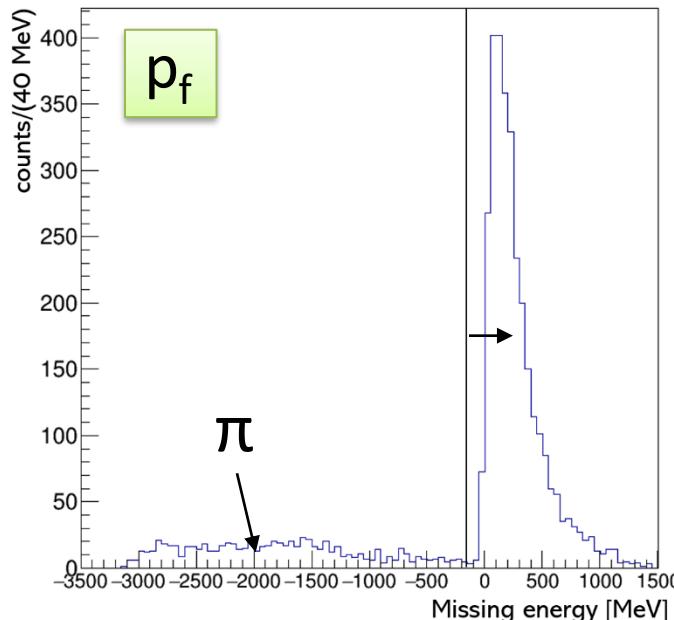
# Particle identification



- 2 $\gamma$  invariant mass (BGOegg)
- $\eta$  : Br=39%
- $\eta'$  : Br=2.2%
- Small combinatorial BG



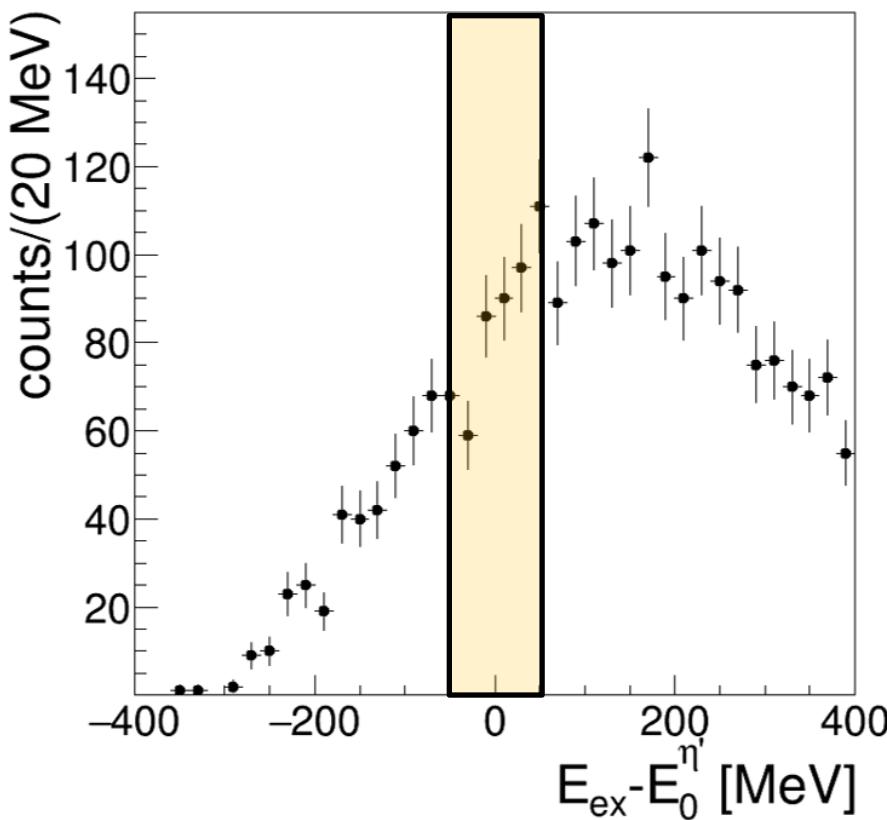
- dE-E (BGOegg, IPS)



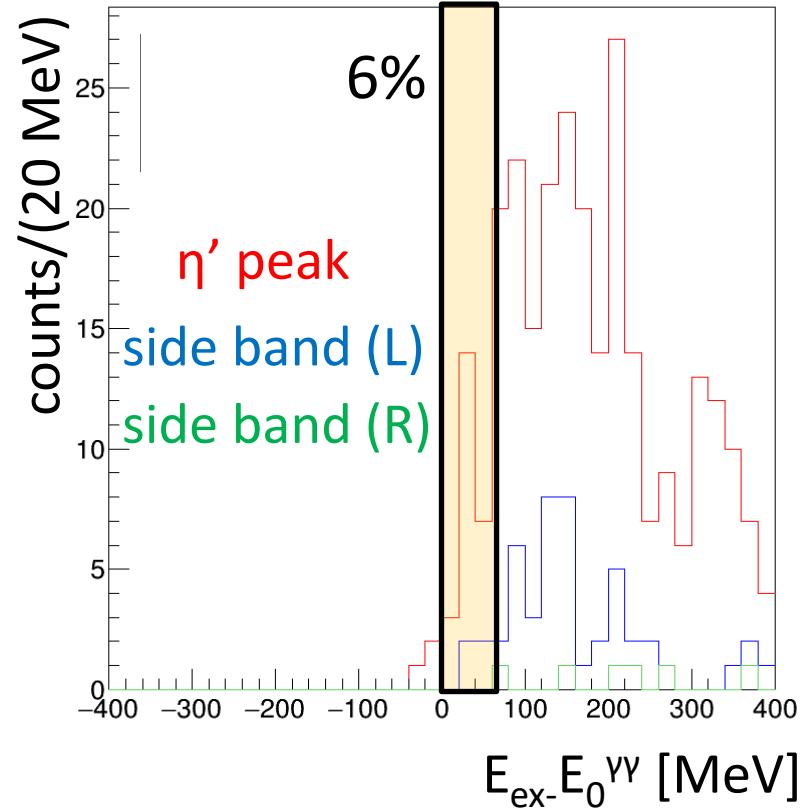
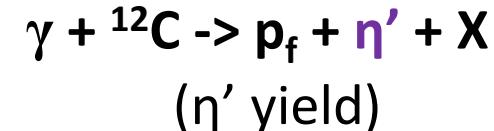
- missing energy  $E_i - E_f$  (no PID detector, assume it is a proton)

# Excitation energy distribution

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



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

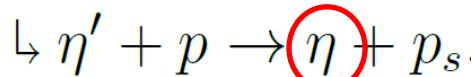
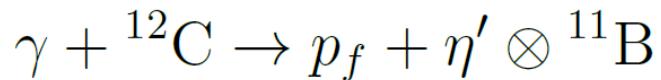


Rising from  $\eta'$  threshold  
 Few events in  $0 < E_{ex} - E_0 < 50$  MeV

# $(\eta + p_s)$ background source

signal

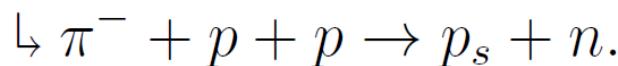
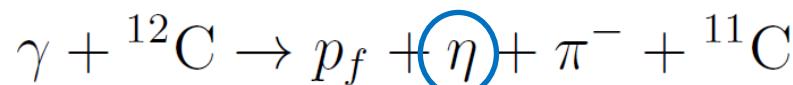
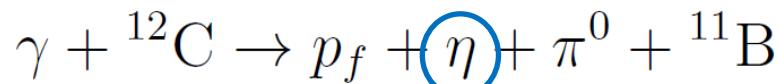
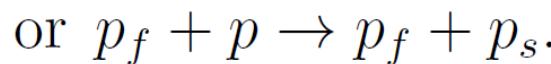
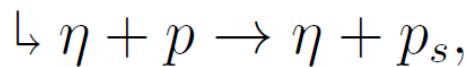
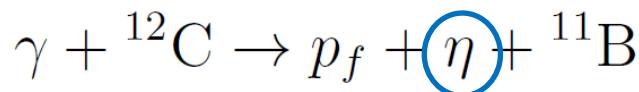
secondary  $\eta$



back-to-back  $\eta p_s$   
isotropic angular  
distribution

BG

primary  $\eta$



Forward-going  $\eta$

Undetected  $\pi$

# $(\eta + p_s)$ kinematical cut

- Optimize to maximize S/N ratio & signal yield : Blind analysis
  - Signal : simulation (isotropic back-to-back  $\eta p_s$  pair + FSI in nuclei (QMD))
  - BG : side-band data ( $\cos(\eta p_s) < -0.9$ ,  $100 < |E_{ex} - E_0| < 200$  MeV)

(a) **Opening angle**  $\cos(\eta p_s) < -0.9$   $\leq$  signal : back-to-back  $\eta p_s$

(b) **|Missing energy| < 150 MeV**  $\leq$  signal : no additional particle

$$\text{missing energy} = E_\gamma + m_{^{12}\text{C}} - E_\eta - E_{ps} - E_{pf} - m_{^{11}\text{B}}$$

(c) **Polar angle**  $\cos(p_s) < 0.5$

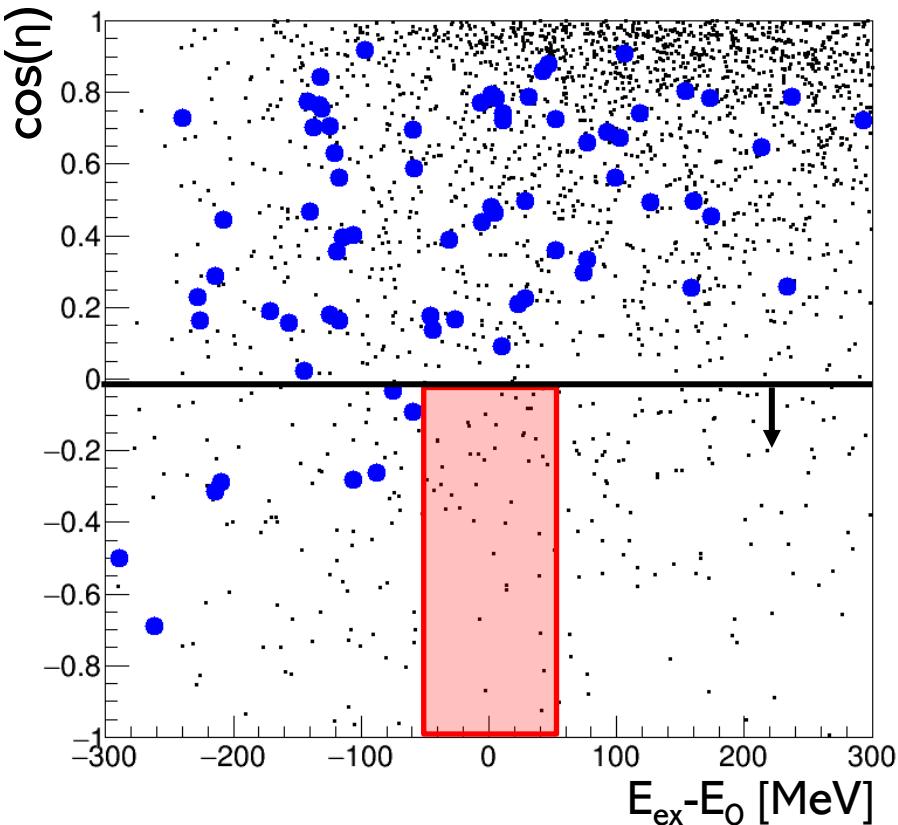
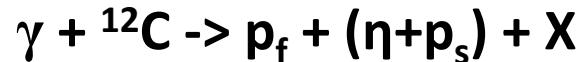
(d) **Polar angle**  $\cos(\eta) < 0$

$\leq$  signal : Isotropic distribution  
 $\leq$  BG : concentrate in forward

$E_{ex} - E_0^{\eta'}$ region [MeV]	Side band		$(V_0 = -100$ MeV)	Side band	
	[−300, −200]	[−200, −100]	expected signal [−50, 50]	[100, 200]	[200, 300]
no cuts	67	188	$(58.4 \pm 14.7) \times \text{Br}_{\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N}$	507	438
(a): $\cos \theta_{lab}^{\eta p_s} < -0.9$	11	26	$(43.8 \pm 11.0) \times \text{Br}_{\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N}$	24	18
(a), (b): $ E_{miss}^{\eta p_s p_f}  < 150$ MeV	11	24	$(43.8 \pm 11.0) \times \text{Br}_{\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N}$	9	4
(a), (b), (c): $\cos \theta_{lab}^{p_s} < 0.5$	9	18	$(35.7 \pm 9.0) \times \text{Br}_{\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N}$	9	4
(a), (b), (c), (d): $\cos \theta_{lab}^\eta < 0$	4	1	$(13.1 \pm 3.3) \times \text{Br}_{\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N}$	0	0

BG : Reduced to 0.4%    Signal : Preserve 23%

# $\eta'$ -nucleus search result



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

No events satisfying cuts(a)-(d)  
in  $-50 < E_{\text{ex}} - E_0 < 50$  MeV

No  $(\eta + p_s)$  signals from  $\eta'$  bound state are observed

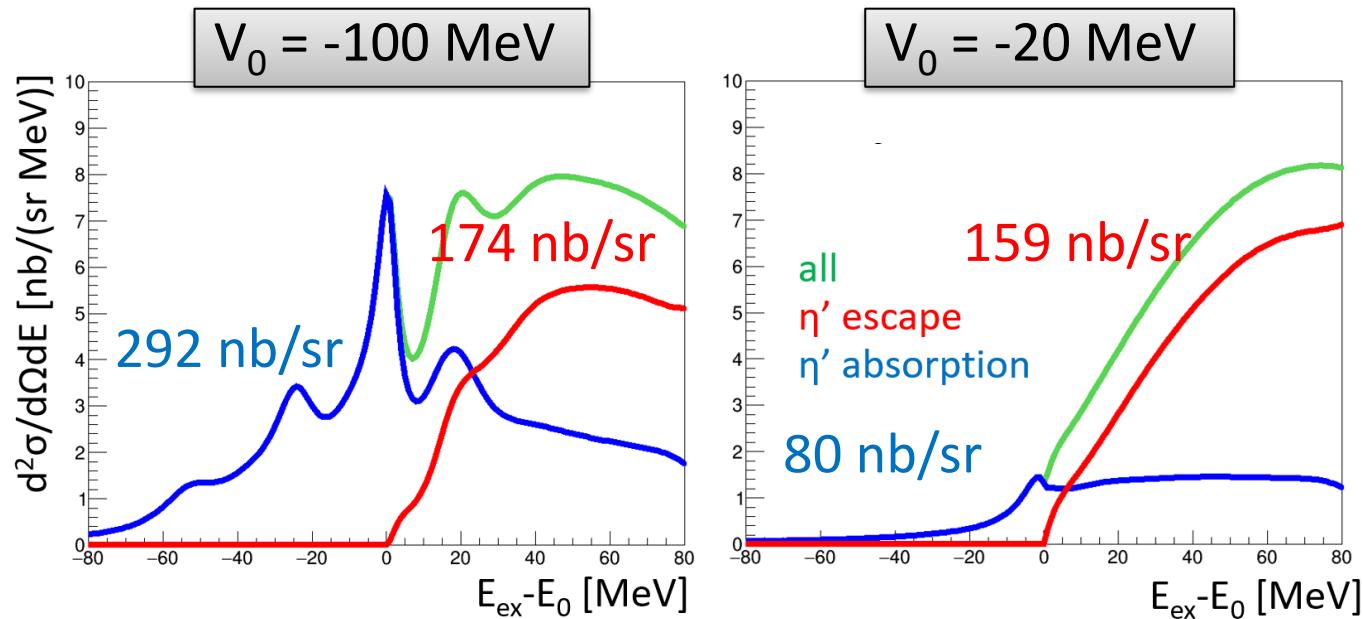
Upper limit of the production cross section of  $\eta'$ -nucleus with  $(\eta + p_s)$  emission : **2.2 nb/sr**  
@ $\cos(\eta p_s) < -0.9$   
( $E_\gamma = 1.3$ -2.4 GeV average )

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

# Comparison with theoretical calculation

## DWIA calculation

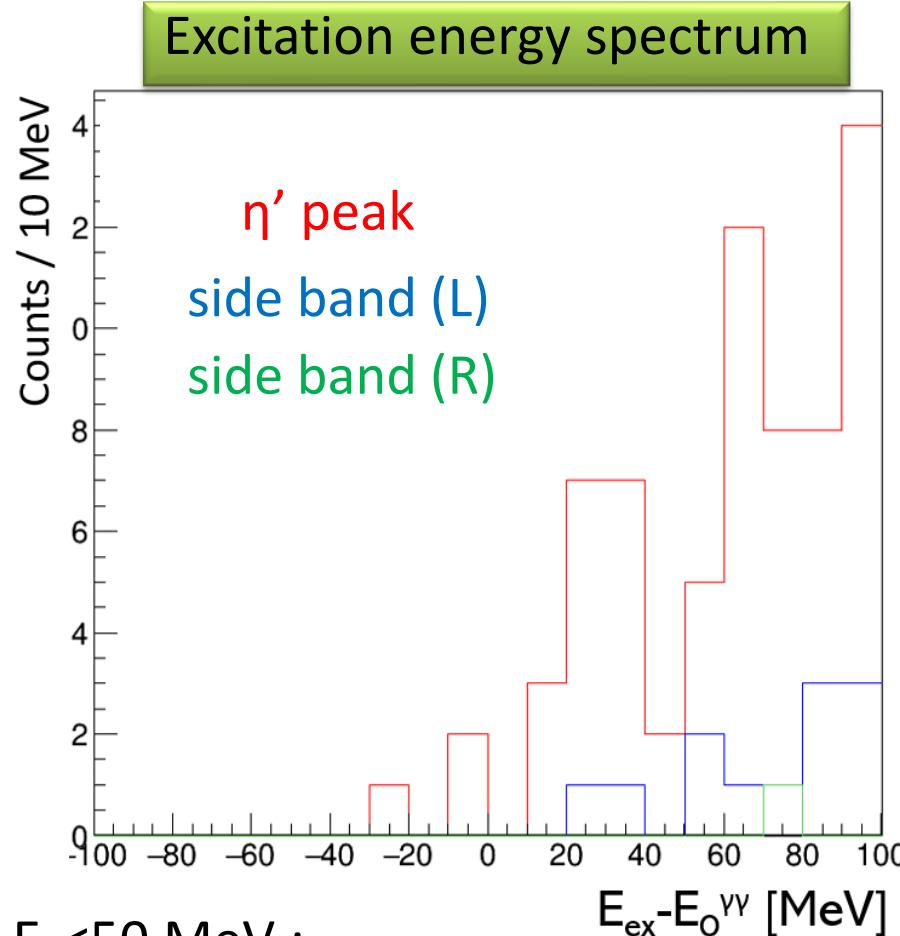
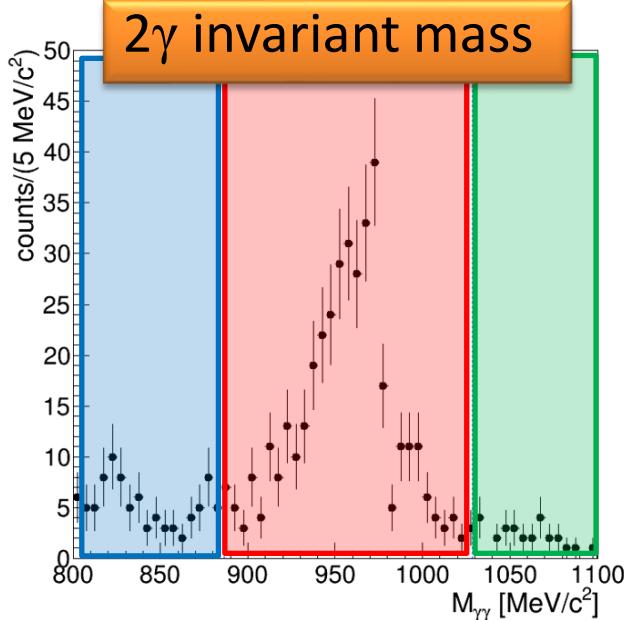
Input : Fermi averaged  $\gamma p \rightarrow \eta' p$  elementary cross section <= CBELSA/LEPS data  
 $W_0 = -12$  MeV



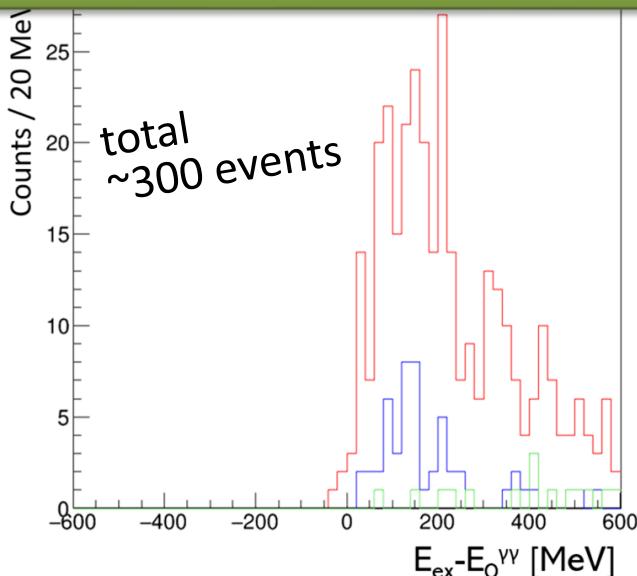
## Experiment

- $\eta'$  absorption ( $\eta + p_s$ )  
 No events in  $-50 < E_{ex} - E_0 < 50$  MeV  $\Rightarrow$  Small  $V_0$ ?  
 $< 2.2$  nb/sr      Small  $\eta' N \rightarrow \eta N$  branch?  
 Small  $\eta'$  production rate?
- $\eta'$  escape  
 $60.2 \pm 15.4(\text{stat}) \pm 4.1(\text{syst})$  nb/sr  $\Rightarrow$  Normalization factor of the DWIA calculation :  $\sim 1/3$

# $\eta'$ escape



**Wide excitation energy spectrum**



$17 \pm 4$  events  
 $60.2 \pm 15.4(\text{stat}) \pm 4.1(\text{syst}) \text{ nb/sr}$   
 $(E_\gamma = 1.3\text{-}2.4 \text{ GeV average})$

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

$$\left( \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega_{p_f}} \right)_{theory}^{\eta+p_s} = F \times \left( \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega_{p_f}} \right)_{theory}^{\eta' abs} \times \text{Br}_{\eta' N \rightarrow \eta N} \times P_{sr\eta}^{\eta p_s}$$

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

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

H. Nagahiro *et al.*, PLB 709 (2012) 87
- $\eta' N \rightarrow \eta N$  :  $\sim 80\%$  of 1N abs
 

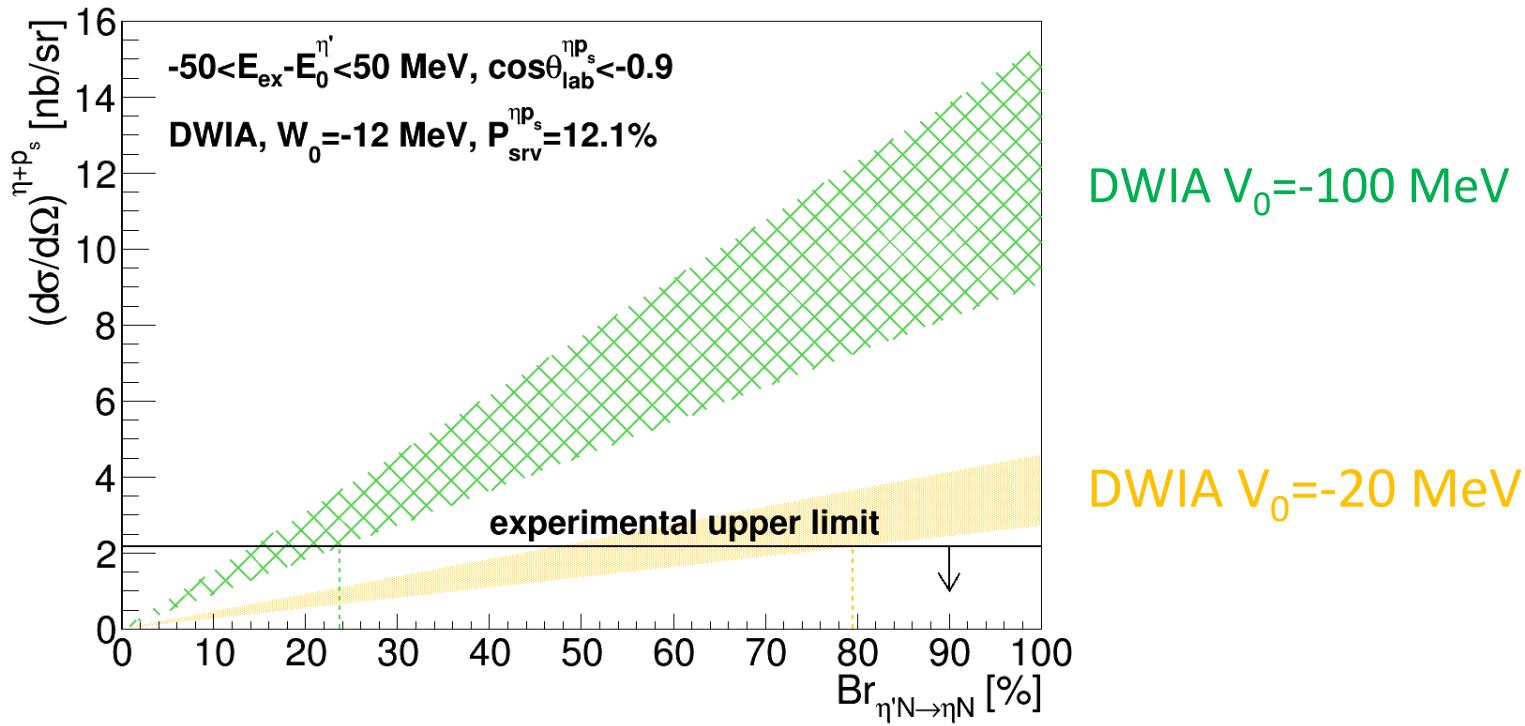
E. Oset and A. Ramos PLB 704 (2011) 334

=> Expect  $\text{Br}_{\eta' N \rightarrow \eta N} \geq 50\% \times 80\% = 40\%$

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

# Comparison

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



Indicate

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

Small  $V_0$



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



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

# Comparison with past experiments

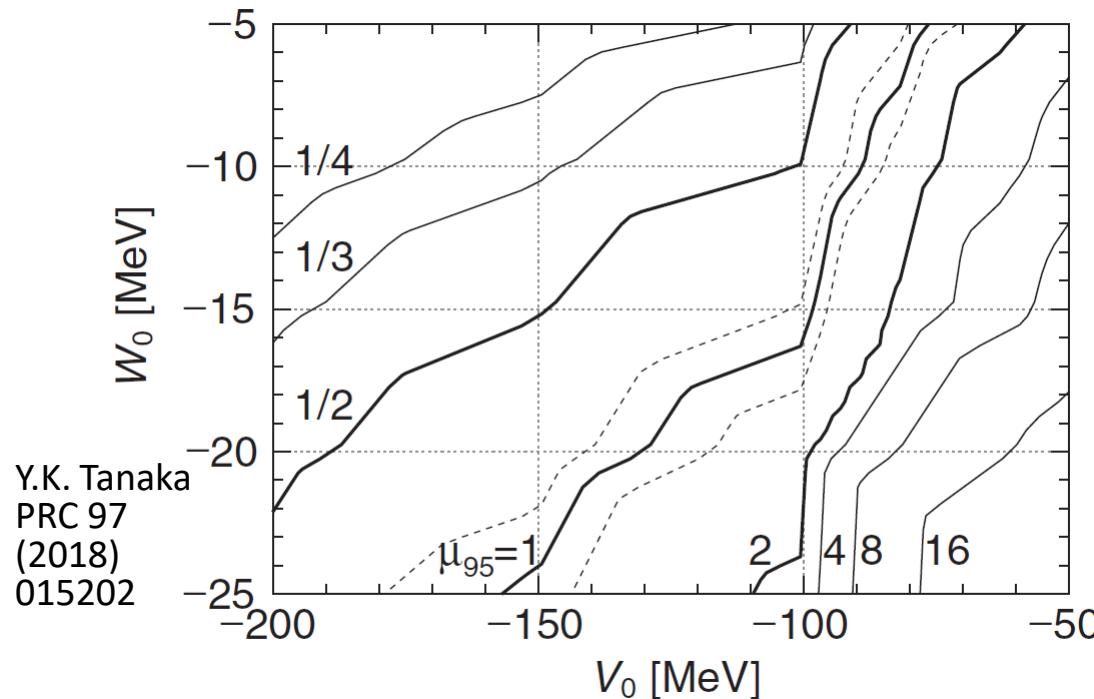
CBELSA/TAPS

$$V_0 = -40 \pm 6(\text{stat}) \pm 15(\text{syst}) \text{ MeV}$$

Consistent

Eta-PRIME/Super FRS

- Derived from the comparison with a similar DWIA calculation
- Uncertainty of the elementary  $n(p,d)\eta'$  cross section :  $\sim 2$
- Uncertainty of the DWIA calculation :  $\sim 3 <-$  in our case



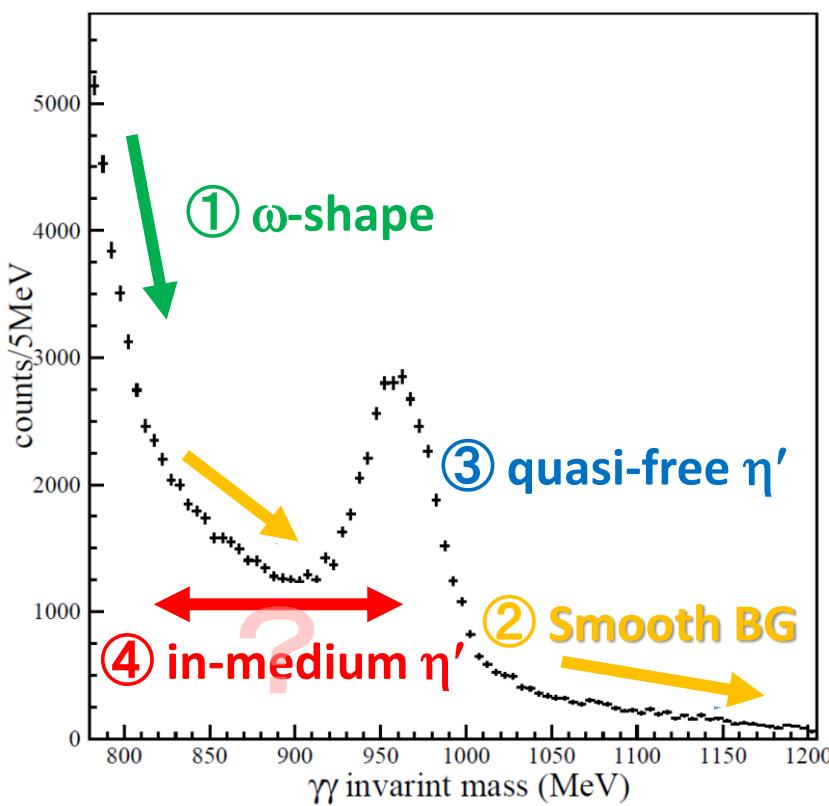
# Prospects of the $\eta'$ -nucleus study

- New DWIA calculation
  - $E_{\text{ex}} - E_0 > 50 \text{ MeV} \Rightarrow$  Tighter upper limit  
Evaluation of potential using  $\eta'$  escape events
  - Different parameters ( $W_0$ , potential shape)  
H. Fujioka *et al.*, PRL 126 (2021) 019201
- Analysis of  $\eta' \text{NN} \rightarrow \text{NN}$  decay mode using existing BGOegg data
- Analysis of 2016 data

# Direct measurement of $\eta'$ mass spectrum

- $\gamma + {}^{12}\text{C} \rightarrow \eta' + X$   
 $\eta' \rightarrow 2\gamma$  (2.2%)
- 2 neutral BGOegg cluster ( $2\gamma$ )
- 1 or 0 charged BGOegg cluster ( $p$ )

2015 all data



Fitting function

- ①  $\omega \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma \rightarrow 3\gamma$ , 1 $\gamma$  missing  
MC
- ②  $2\pi^0 \rightarrow 4\gamma$  &  $\pi^0 \eta \rightarrow 4\gamma$ , 2 $\gamma$  missing  
 $\exp(p_0 + p_1 x + p_2 x^2 + p_3 x^3)$
- ③ quasi-free  $\eta'$   
gaussian with fixed  $\sigma$
- ④ In-medium  $\eta'$   
MC

# In-medium $\eta'$ spectrum

- Parameters of in-medium effect  $k_1$  &  $k_2$

$$m_{\eta'}(\rho) = m_0 \left(1 - k_1 \frac{\rho}{\rho_0}\right)$$

$$\Gamma_{\eta'}(\rho) = \Gamma_0 \left(1 + k_2 \frac{\rho}{\rho_0}\right)$$

$$m_0 = 957.8 \text{ MeV}, \Gamma_0 = 0.197 \text{ MeV}$$

$\rho_0$  : nuclear saturation density

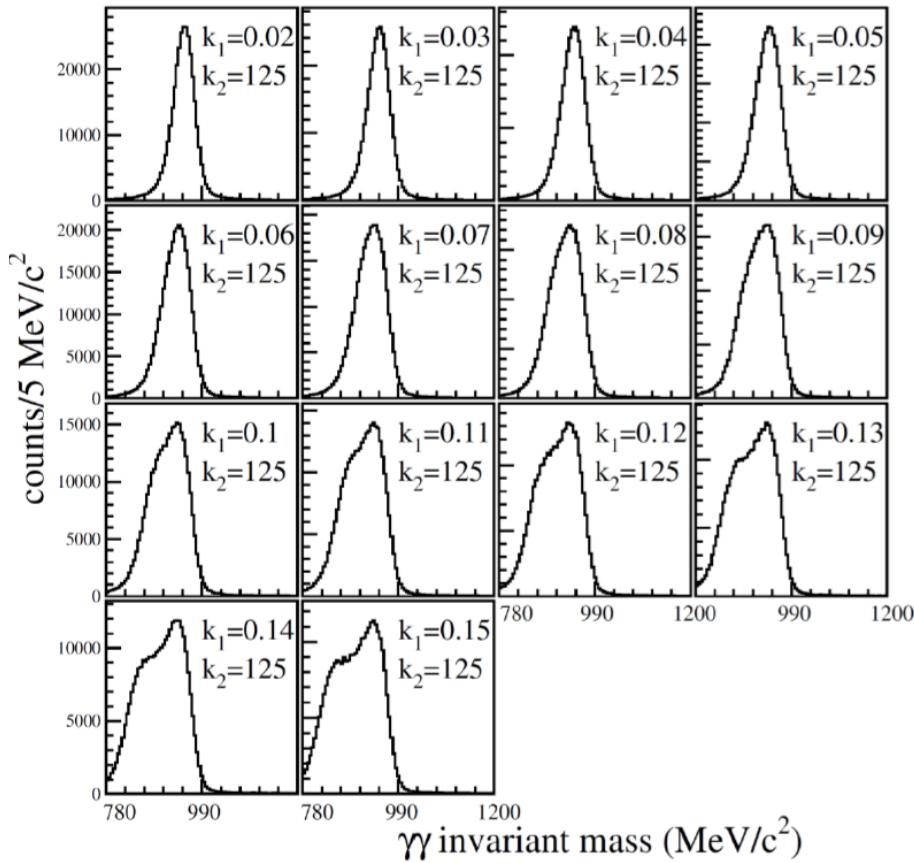
$$\rho(r) \propto [1 + \exp\{(r - R)/d\}]^{-1}$$

$$R=2.3 \text{ fm}$$

$$d=0.57 \text{ fm for C}$$

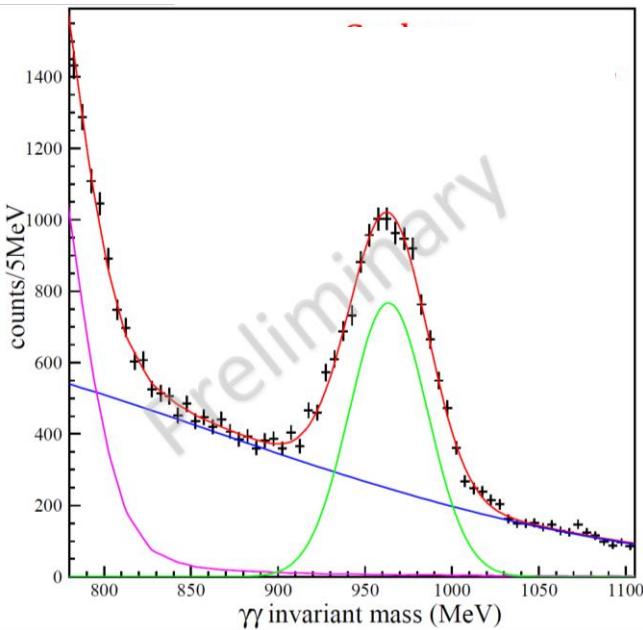
- $\eta'$  propagation in nuclei and the mass distribution at the decay point

- Detector resolution



# Fitting results

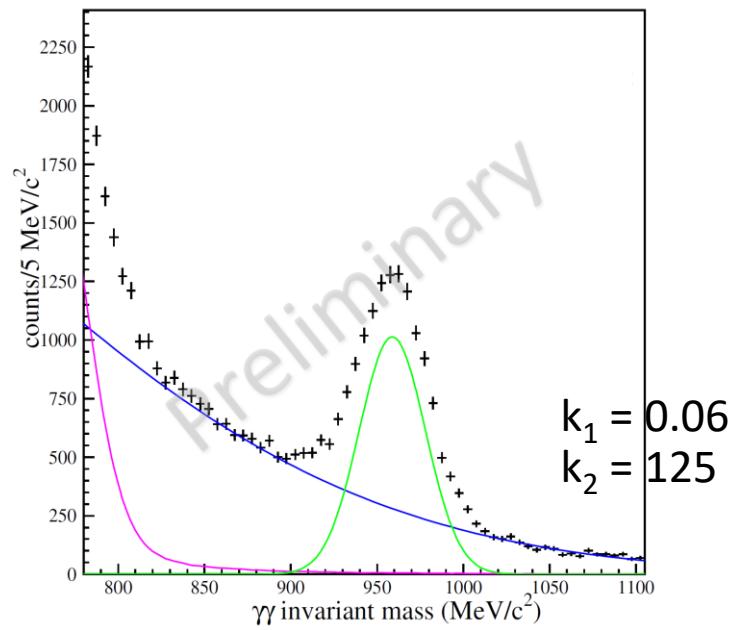
$p_{\eta'} > 1000 \text{ MeV}/c$



$\chi^2$  difference test

signal significance  $0.9\sigma$

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



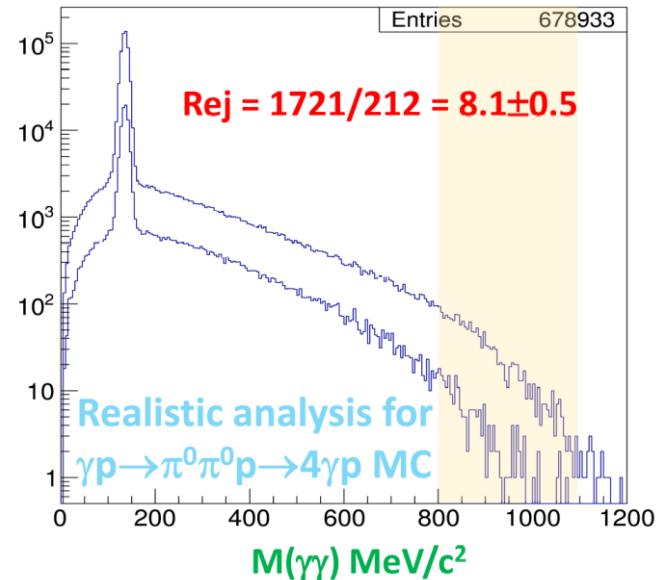
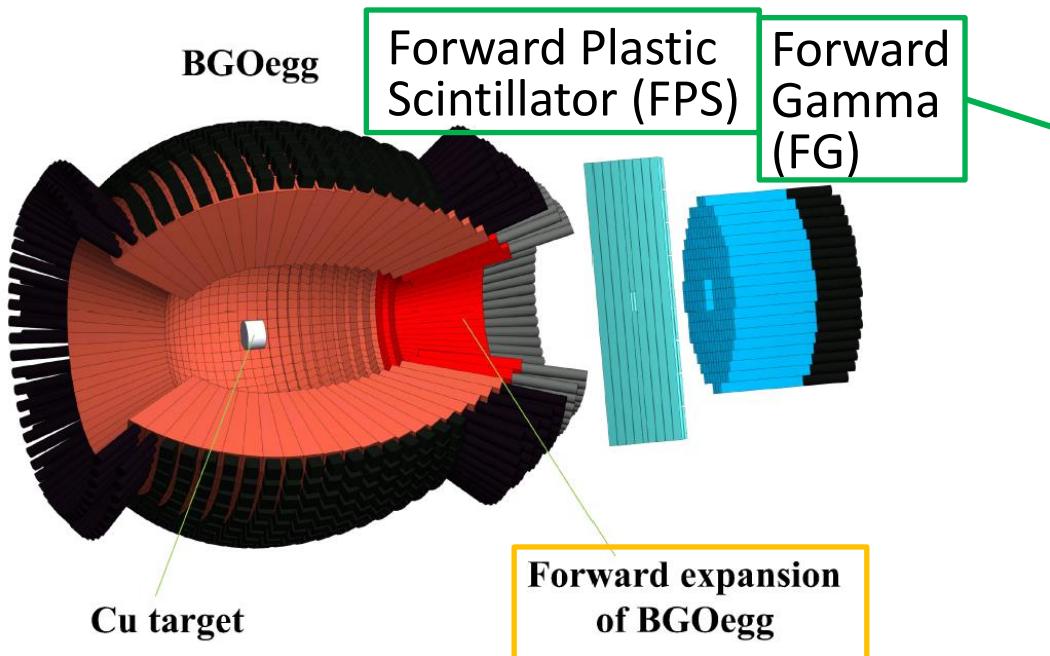
signal significance  $3.7\sigma$

## Next step

- Analysis of 2016 data → Increase statistics x2
- Phase-II experiment with reduced BG → Suppress systematic uncertainty

# Phase-II experiment

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



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

# Summary

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

Phase-I (2014-2016)

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

- First simultaneous measurement of decay products ( $\eta$ -p)
  - No signal events after kinematical selection
  - Indicate small  $V_0$  or small  $\eta'N \rightarrow \eta N$  branch
- ↓
- Update DWIA calculation, Analysis of  $\eta'N \rightarrow NN$  decay mode

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

- Indication of in-medium modification

Phase-II (2022-)

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