



## Exclusive $\eta_c$ production by $\gamma\gamma^*$ interactions in electron-ion collisions

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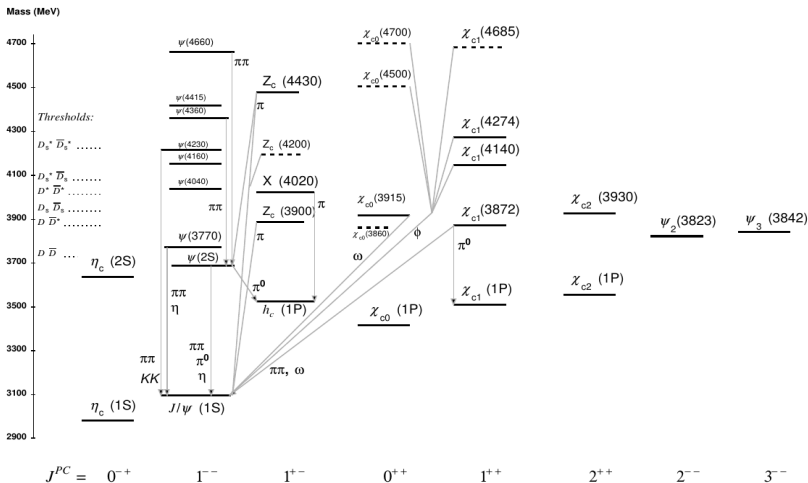
in collaboration with

V. B. Goncalves, W. Schäfer, A. Szczurek

15<sup>th</sup> December 2023



# Spectrum of charmonium system and beyond

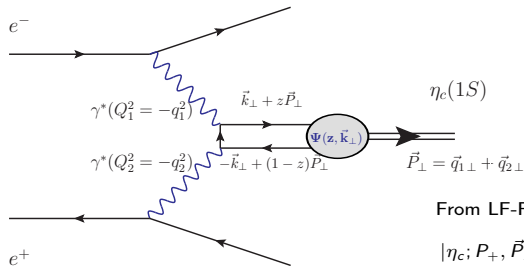


R.L. Workman et al. (Particle Data Group), Prog.Theor.Exp.Phys. 2022, 083C01 (2022)

$J^{PC} = 0^{-+}$  - pseudoscalar ;  $0^{++}$  - scalar ;  $1^{--}$  - vector ;  $1^{++}$  - axial vector

# Transition form factor $\gamma^* \gamma^*$ to S-wave ( $c\bar{c}$ ) bound system

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mu\nu}(\gamma^*(q_1)\gamma^*(q_2) \rightarrow \eta_c) = 4\pi\alpha_{\text{em}} (-i)\epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} q_1^\alpha q_2^\beta F(Q_1^2, Q_2^2)$$



space-like photons, their virtualities:  $Q_i^2 > 0$

$F_{\gamma^* \gamma^* \rightarrow Q}$  - provide information, how photons couple to  $c\bar{c}$  state  
 -  $2\gamma$  can couple only to quarkonia with even charge parity

$\psi(z, \vec{k}_\perp)$  -  $c\bar{c}$  light-cone wave function

$z$  - the fraction of the longitudinal momentum carried by quark

$$\vec{k}_\perp = (1-z)\vec{p}_{Q\perp} - z\vec{p}_{\bar{Q}\perp}$$

From LF-Fock state expansion

$$|\eta_c; P_+, \vec{P}_\perp\rangle = \sum_{i,j,\lambda,\bar{\lambda}} \frac{\delta_j^i}{\sqrt{N_c}} \int \frac{dz d^2 \vec{k}_\perp}{z(1-z)16\pi^3} \Psi_{\lambda\bar{\lambda}}(z, \vec{k}_\perp) \times |Q_{i\lambda}(zP_+, p_Q) \bar{Q}_{\bar{\lambda}}^j((1-z)P_+, p_{\bar{Q}})\rangle + \dots$$

$$F(Q_1^2, Q_2^2) = e_c^2 \sqrt{N_c} \cdot \int \frac{dz d^2 \vec{k}_\perp}{z(1-z)16\pi^3} \psi(z, \vec{k}_\perp) \times \left\{ \frac{1-z}{(\vec{k}_\perp - (1-z)\vec{q}_{2\perp})^2 + z(1-z)\vec{q}_{1\perp}^2 + m_c^2} + \frac{z}{(\vec{k}_\perp + z\vec{q}_{2\perp})^2 + z(1-z)\vec{q}_{1\perp}^2 + m_c^2} \right\}.$$

[Phys.Rev.D100\(2019\)5, 054018](https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.07418)

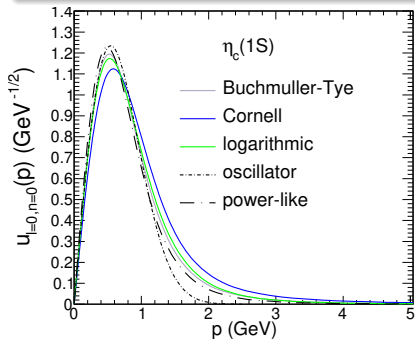
# Light-front wave functions from the rest-frame

## Rest-frame wave functions for $J = 0$ :

$$\Psi_{\tau\bar{\tau}}(\vec{p}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \underbrace{\xi_Q^{\tau\dagger} \hat{O} i\sigma_2 \xi_{\bar{Q}}^{\bar{\tau}*}}_{\text{spin-orbit}} \underbrace{\frac{u(p)}{p}}_{\text{radial}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}};$$

where  $\hat{O} =$

$$\begin{cases} \mathbb{I} & \text{spin-singlet, } S = 0, L = 0. \\ \frac{\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{k}}{k} & \text{spin-triplet, } S = 1, L = 1. \end{cases}$$



## mapping rest frame momentum to light-front representation:

$$\vec{p} = (\vec{k}_\perp, k_z) = (\vec{k}_\perp, \frac{1}{2}(2z - 1)M_{c\bar{c}}),$$

$$M_{c\bar{c}}^2 = \frac{\vec{k}_\perp^2 + m_Q^2}{z(1-z)},$$

## Melosh-transf. of spin-orbit part:

$$\xi_Q = R(z, \vec{k}_\perp) \chi_Q, \quad \xi_{\bar{Q}}^* = R^*(1-z, -\vec{k}_\perp) \chi_{\bar{Q}}^*$$

$$R(z, \vec{k}_\perp) = \frac{m_Q + zM - i\vec{\sigma} \cdot (\vec{n} \times \vec{k}_\perp)}{\sqrt{(m_Q + zM)^2 + \vec{k}_\perp^2}}$$

$$\hat{O}' = R^\dagger(z, \vec{k}_\perp) \hat{O} i\sigma_2 R^*(1-z, -\vec{k}_\perp) (i\sigma_2)^{-1}$$

# S-wave light-front wave function for $J = 0$

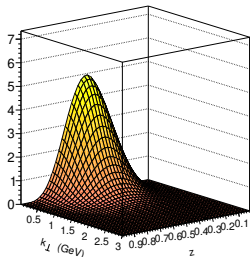
$$\Psi_{\lambda\bar{\lambda}}(z, \vec{k}_{\perp}) = \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_{++}(z, \vec{k}_{\perp}) & \Psi_{+-}(z, \vec{k}_{\perp}) \\ \Psi_{-+}(z, \vec{k}_{\perp}) & \Psi_{--}(z, \vec{k}_{\perp}) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{z(1-z)}} \begin{pmatrix} -k_x + ik_y & m_Q \\ -m_Q & -k_x - ik_y \end{pmatrix} \psi(z, \vec{k}_{\perp})$$

$$\psi(z, \vec{k}_{\perp}) = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{2M_{c\bar{c}}}} \frac{u(p)}{p}$$

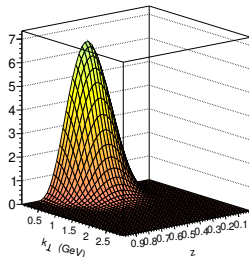
$$M_{c\bar{c}}^2 = \frac{\vec{k}_{\perp}^2 + m_Q^2}{z(1-z)}$$

$\psi(z, k_{\perp})$  (GeV<sup>2</sup>)  $\eta_c$  (1S)



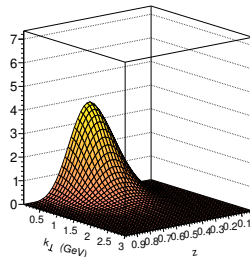
Buchmüller-Tye  
 $m_c = 1.48$  GeV

$\psi(z, k_{\perp})$  (GeV<sup>2</sup>)  $\eta_c$  (1S)



harmonic oscillator  
 $m_c = 1.4$  GeV

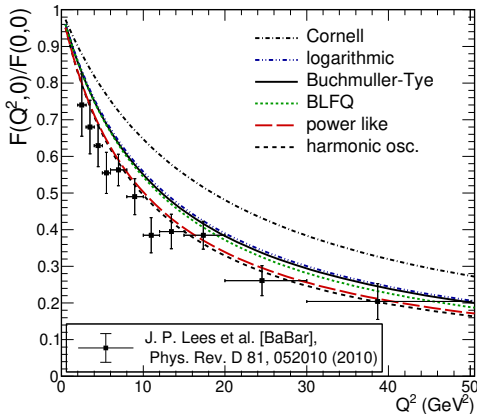
$\psi(z, k_{\perp})$  (GeV<sup>2</sup>)  $\eta_c$  (1S)



power-like  
 $m_c = 1.33$  GeV

## Normalized transition form factor at on-shell point

$$F(Q^2, 0) = e_c^2 \sqrt{N_c} 4 \int \frac{dz d^2 \vec{k}_\perp}{\sqrt{z(1-z)} 16\pi^3} \left\{ \frac{1}{\vec{k}_\perp^2 + z(1-z)Q^2 + m_c^2} \tilde{\psi}_{\uparrow\downarrow}(z, k_\perp) + \frac{\vec{k}_\perp^2}{[\vec{k}_\perp^2 + z(1-z)Q^2 + m_c^2]^2} \left( \tilde{\psi}_{\uparrow\downarrow}(z, k_\perp) + \frac{m_c}{k_\perp} \tilde{\psi}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(z, k_\perp) \right) \right\}$$



$$\Gamma(\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \eta_c) = \frac{\pi}{4} \alpha_{em}^2 M_{\eta_c}^3 |F(0, 0)|^2$$

$$\Psi_{\lambda\bar{\lambda}}(z, \vec{k}_\perp) = e^{im\phi} \tilde{\psi}_{\lambda\bar{\lambda}}(z, k_\perp)$$

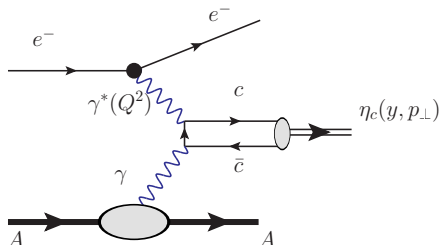
BLFQ: [Phys.Rev.D96\(2017\)016022](#)

$$\vec{k}_\perp = k_\perp (\cos \phi, \sin \phi), \quad m = |\lambda + \bar{\lambda}|$$

$$\tilde{\psi}_{\uparrow\downarrow}(z, k_\perp) \rightarrow \frac{m_c}{\sqrt{z(1-z)}} \psi(z, k_\perp)$$

$$\tilde{\psi}_{\uparrow\uparrow}(z, k_\perp) \rightarrow \frac{-|\vec{k}_\perp|}{\sqrt{z(1-z)}} \psi(z, k_\perp)$$

# Electron-ion collisions



the nuclear radius:  $R_A = r_0 A^{1/3}$ , with  $r_0 = 1.1 \text{ fm}$

$$\omega_e = \frac{\sqrt{M^2 + p_\perp^2}}{2} e^{+y}$$

$$\omega_A = \frac{\sqrt{M^2 + p_\perp^2}}{2} e^{-y}$$

$$p_\perp^2 = \left(1 - \frac{\omega_e}{E_e}\right) Q^2$$

$$\frac{dN_A}{d\omega_A} = \frac{2Z^2 \alpha_{em}}{\pi \omega_A} \left[ \xi K_0(\xi) K_1(\xi) - \frac{\xi^2}{2} (K_1^2(\xi) - K_0^2(\xi)) \right]$$

$\xi = R_A \omega_A / \gamma_L$ ,  $K_0$  and  $K_1$  -modified Bessel functions  
i.e.: [Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci.55, 271\(2005\)](https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-nucl-082104-104233)

$$\frac{d^2 N_e}{d\omega_e dQ^2} = \frac{\alpha_{em}}{\pi \omega_e Q^2} \left[ \left(1 - \frac{\omega_e}{E_e}\right) \left(1 - \frac{Q_{min}^2}{Q^2}\right) + \frac{\omega_e^2}{2E_e^2} \right]$$

$Q_{min}^2 = m_e^2 \omega_e^2 / [E_e(E_e - \omega_e)]$  and  $Q_{max}^2 = 4E_e(E_e - \omega_e)$

$$\sigma(eA \rightarrow e\eta_c A) = \int d\omega_e dQ^2 \frac{d^2 N_e}{d\omega_e dQ^2} \times \sigma(\gamma^* A \rightarrow \eta_c A)$$

$$\sigma(\gamma^* A \rightarrow \eta_c A) = \int d\omega_A \frac{dN_A}{d\omega_A} \times \sigma_{TT}(\gamma^* \gamma \rightarrow \eta_c; W_{\gamma\gamma}, Q^2, 0)$$

$$W_{\gamma\gamma} = \sqrt{4\omega_e \omega_A - p_\perp^2}$$

## $\sigma_{\text{TT}}$ cross-section for one virtual photon

$$\sigma_{\text{TT}}(W_{\gamma\gamma}, Q_1^2, Q_2^2) = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{X}} \frac{M_{\eta_c} \Gamma_{\text{tot}}}{(W_{\gamma\gamma}^2 - M_{\eta_c}^2)^2 + M_{\eta_c}^2 \Gamma_{\text{tot}}^2} \mathcal{M}^*(++)\mathcal{M}(++)$$

the helicity amplitude  $\mathcal{M}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = e_\mu^1(\lambda_1)e_\nu^2(\lambda_2)\mathcal{M}^{\mu\nu}$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mu\nu}(\gamma^*(q_1)\gamma^*(q_2) \rightarrow \eta_c) = 4\pi\alpha_{\text{em}}(-i)\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}q_1^\alpha q_2^\beta F(Q_1^2, Q_2^2).$$

$X = (q_1 \cdot q_2)^2 - q_1^2 q_2^2$ , in the limit  $Q_2^2 \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\sqrt{X} = q_1 \cdot q_2 = (M_{\eta_c}^2 + Q^2)/2$

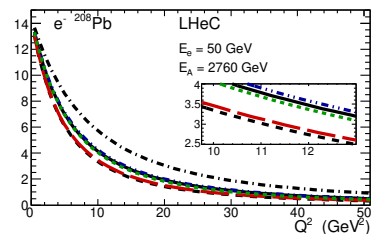
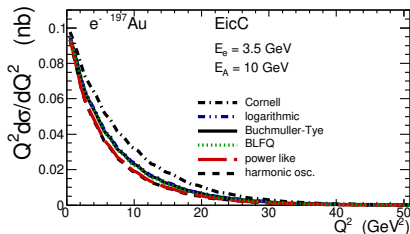
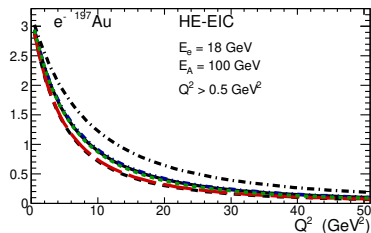
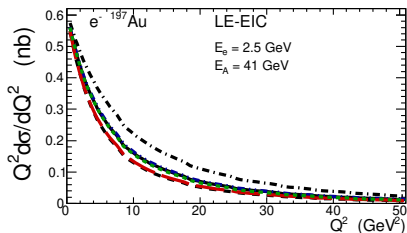
$$\sigma_{\text{TT}}(W_{\gamma\gamma}, Q^2, 0) = 2\pi^2\alpha_{\text{em}}^2 \frac{M_{\eta_c} \Gamma_{\text{tot}}}{(W_{\gamma\gamma}^2 - M_{\eta_c}^2)^2 + M_{\eta_c}^2 \Gamma_{\text{tot}}^2} (M_{\eta_c}^2 + Q^2) F^2(Q^2, 0).$$

we can take advantage of the relation  $\Gamma(\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \eta_c) = \frac{\pi}{4}\alpha_{\text{em}}^2 M_{\eta_c}^3 |F(0,0)|^2$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{\text{TT}}(W_{\gamma\gamma}, Q^2, 0) &= 8\pi \frac{\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma} \Gamma_{\text{tot}}}{(W_{\gamma\gamma}^2 - M_{\eta_c}^2)^2 + M_{\eta_c}^2 \Gamma_{\text{tot}}^2} \left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{M_{\eta_c}^2}\right) \left(\frac{F(Q^2, 0)}{F(0, 0)}\right)^2 \\ &\approx 8\pi^2 \delta(W_{\gamma\gamma}^2 - M_{\eta_c}^2) \frac{\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}}{M_{\eta_c}} \left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{M_{\eta_c}^2}\right) \left(\frac{F(Q^2, 0)}{F(0, 0)}\right)^2 \end{aligned}$$



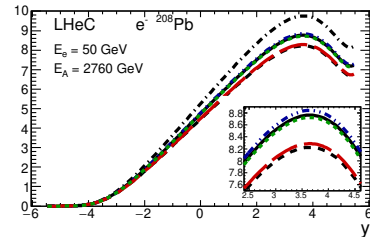
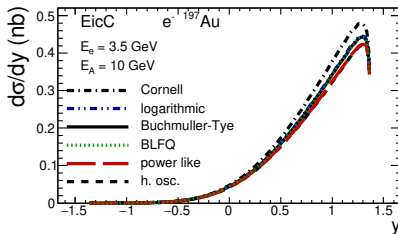
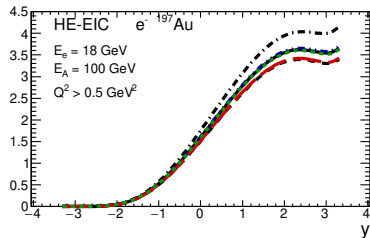
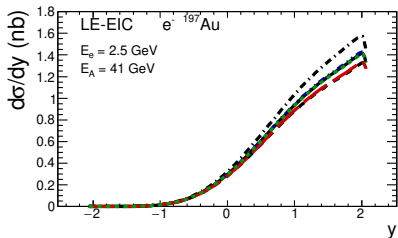
# Differential distribution in photon virtuality



$Q^2 > 0.5$   $\text{GeV}^2$

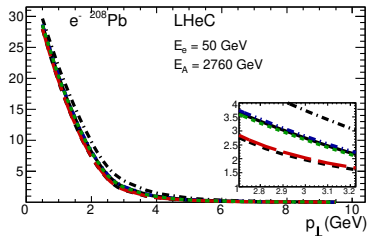
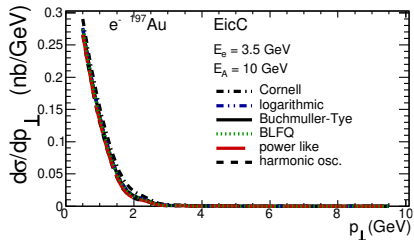
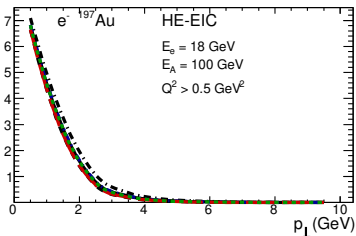
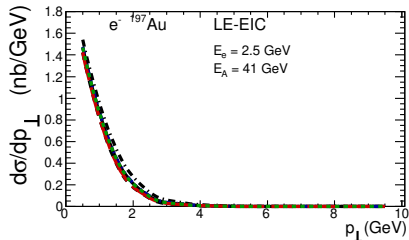
[Phys. Lett. B 843\(2023\)138046](#)

# Differential distribution in $\eta_c$ rapidity



$Q^2 > 0.5 \text{ GeV}^2$

# Differential distribution in $\eta_c$ transverse momentum



$Q^2 > 0.5 \text{ GeV}^2$

[Phys. Lett. B 843\(2023\)138046](#)

- We derived the transition form factor for two off-shell photons  $F(Q_1^2, Q_2^2)$ .
- We estimate the rapidity, transverse momentum, and  $Q^2$  distributions considering the energy configurations expected in the future electron-ion colliders at the BNL(USA), CERN, and in China.
- Our results indicate that the electron-ion colliders can be considered as an alternative and provide supplementary data to those obtained in  $e^+e^-$  colliders.
- The results derived in this paper indicate the cross sections for the future electron-ion colliders are of the order of 0.1-60 nb