

# Experimental tests of QCD as the theory of the strong interaction at the low energy frontier

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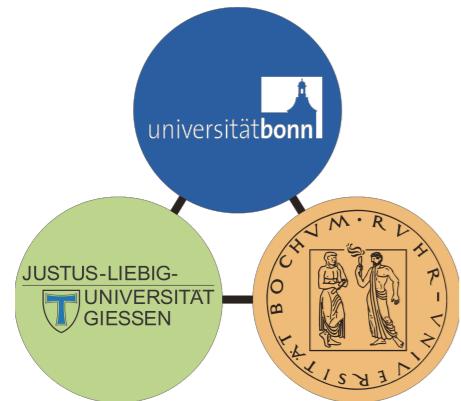


for the CBELSA/TAPS Collaboration

## Outline:

- ◆ theo. predictions on hadron properties and their changes in a nuclear medium
- ◆ exp. approaches for studying the meson-nucleus interaction
- ◆ evidence for mass drop and broadening of the  $\eta'$  meson in nuclei
- ◆ search for  $\eta'$ -nucleus bound states
- ◆ summary & outlook

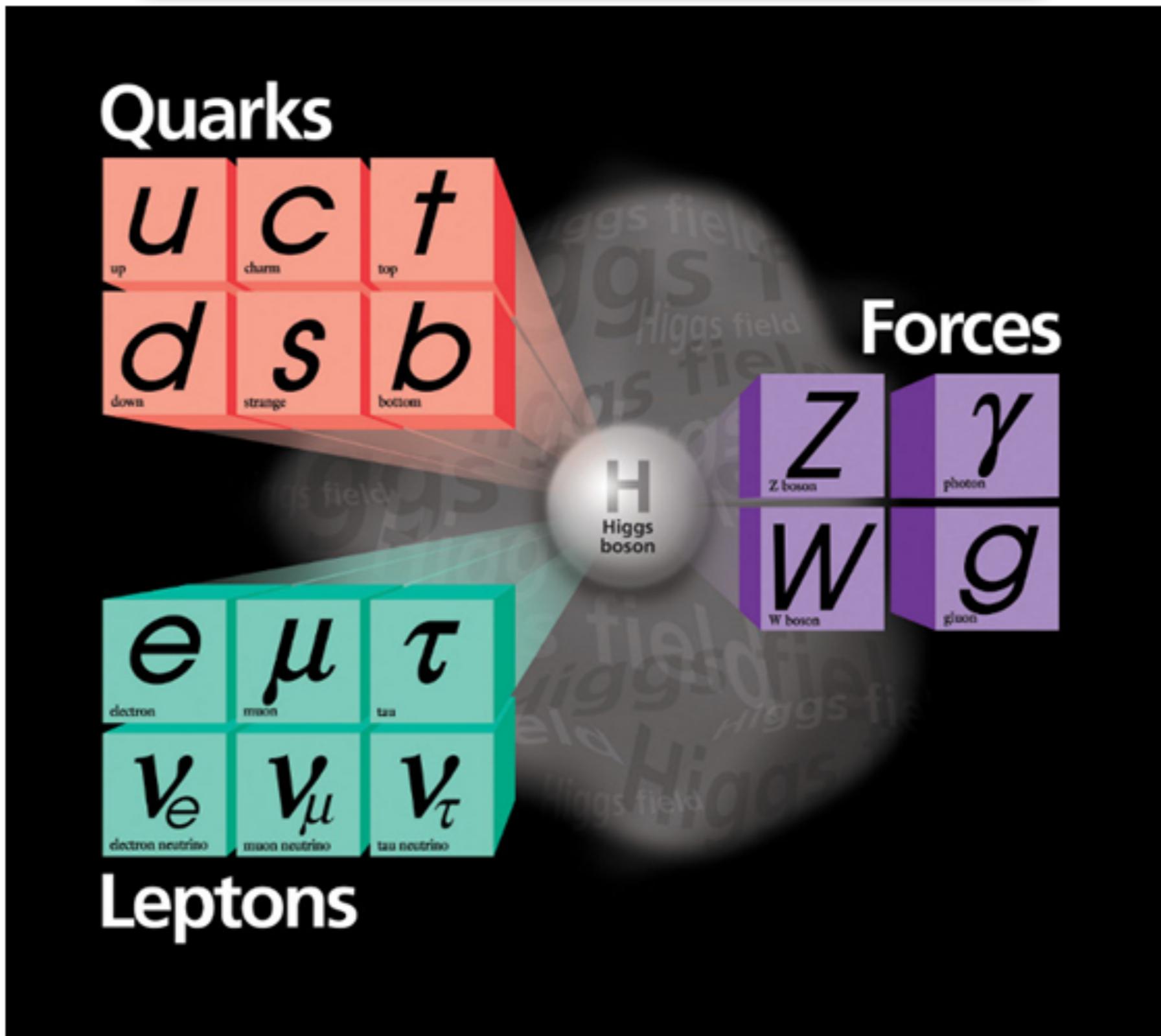
\*funded by the DFG within SFB/TR16



Humboldt Kolleg on Particle Physics  
From the Vacuum to the Universe  
26.6.-1.7.2016; Kitzbühel, Austria

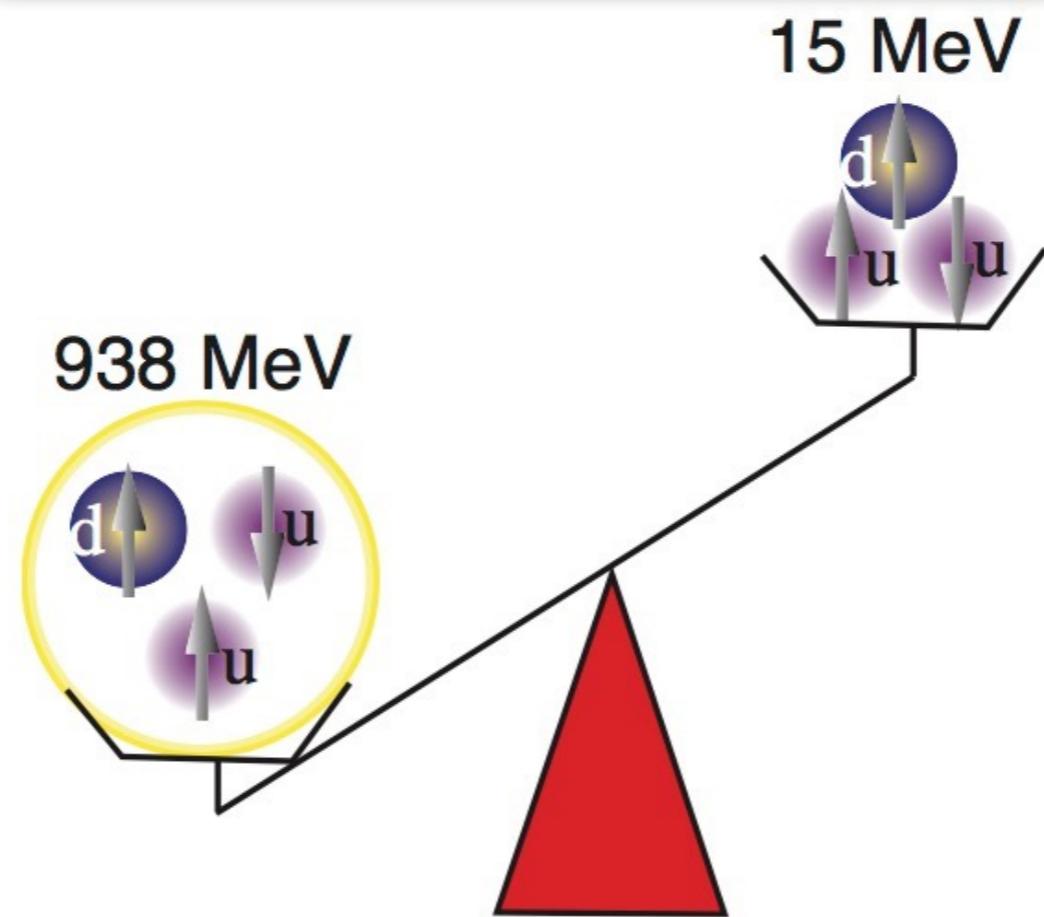
**HIC** for FAIR  
Helmholtz International Center

# The mass of elementary particles



mass of elementary particles generated by their interaction with the Higgs field

# The mass of the nucleon



$$m_N = 938 \text{ MeV}/c^2 \gg m_q \approx 5-10 \text{ MeV}/c^2$$

- how is it possible that massive protons and neutrons can be built from almost massless quarks ??
- $m = E/c^2$ ; mass without mass (Wheeler,Wilczek): mass given by energy stored in the motion of quarks (confined in the nucleon) and by energy stored in color gluon fields

# how strong is the strong interaction ??

momentum dependence of the strong interaction coupling strength

S. Bethge, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 58 (2007) 351

for low momenta

$$\alpha_s \approx 1$$

$\Rightarrow$  **strong QCD confinement infrared slavery**

relevant degrees of freedom:

mesons, baryons

lattice QCD

QCD-inspired models

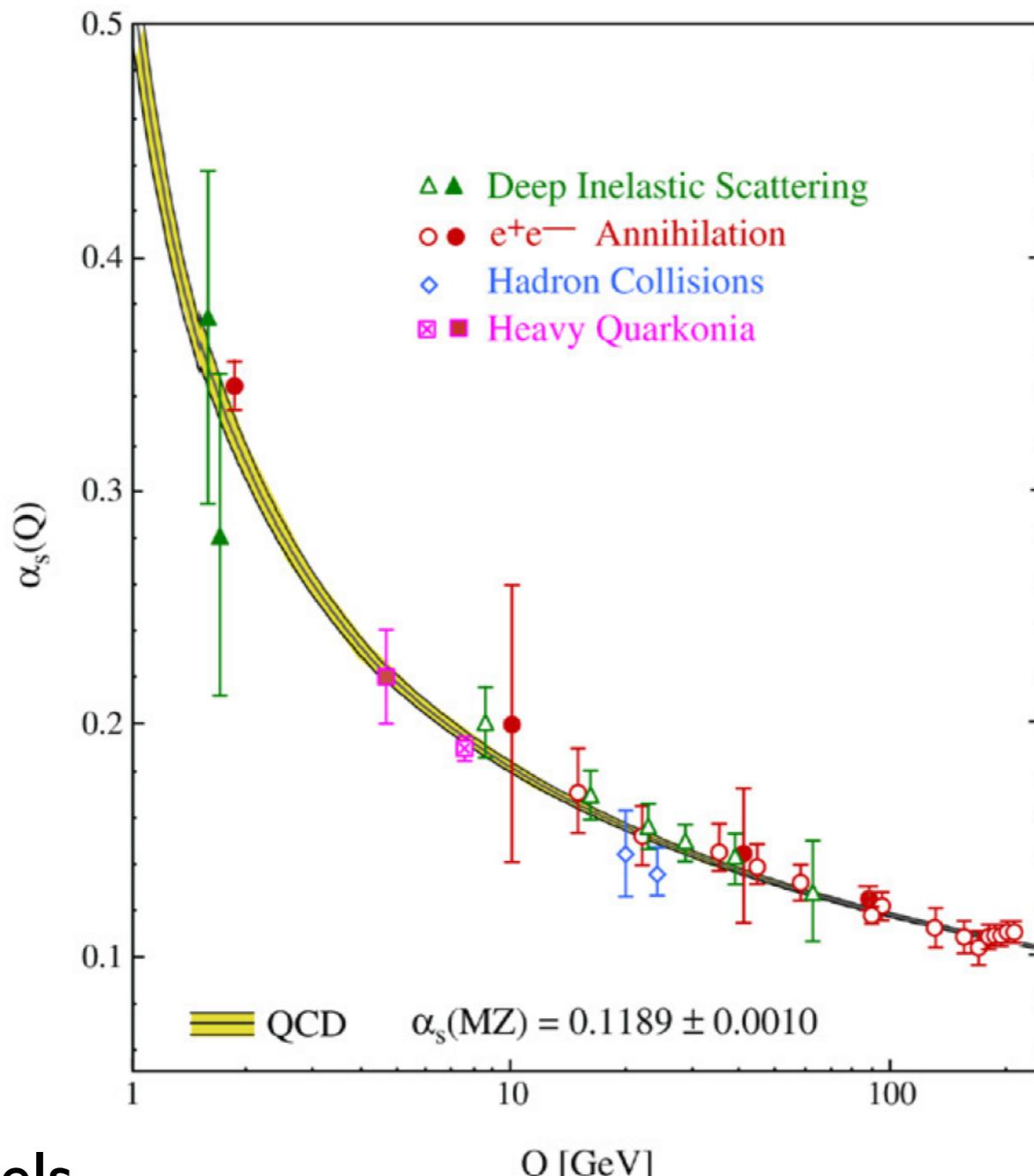
for high momenta

$$\alpha_s \ll 1:$$

$\Rightarrow$  **perturbative QCD asymptotic freedom; (LO,NLO,NNLO)**

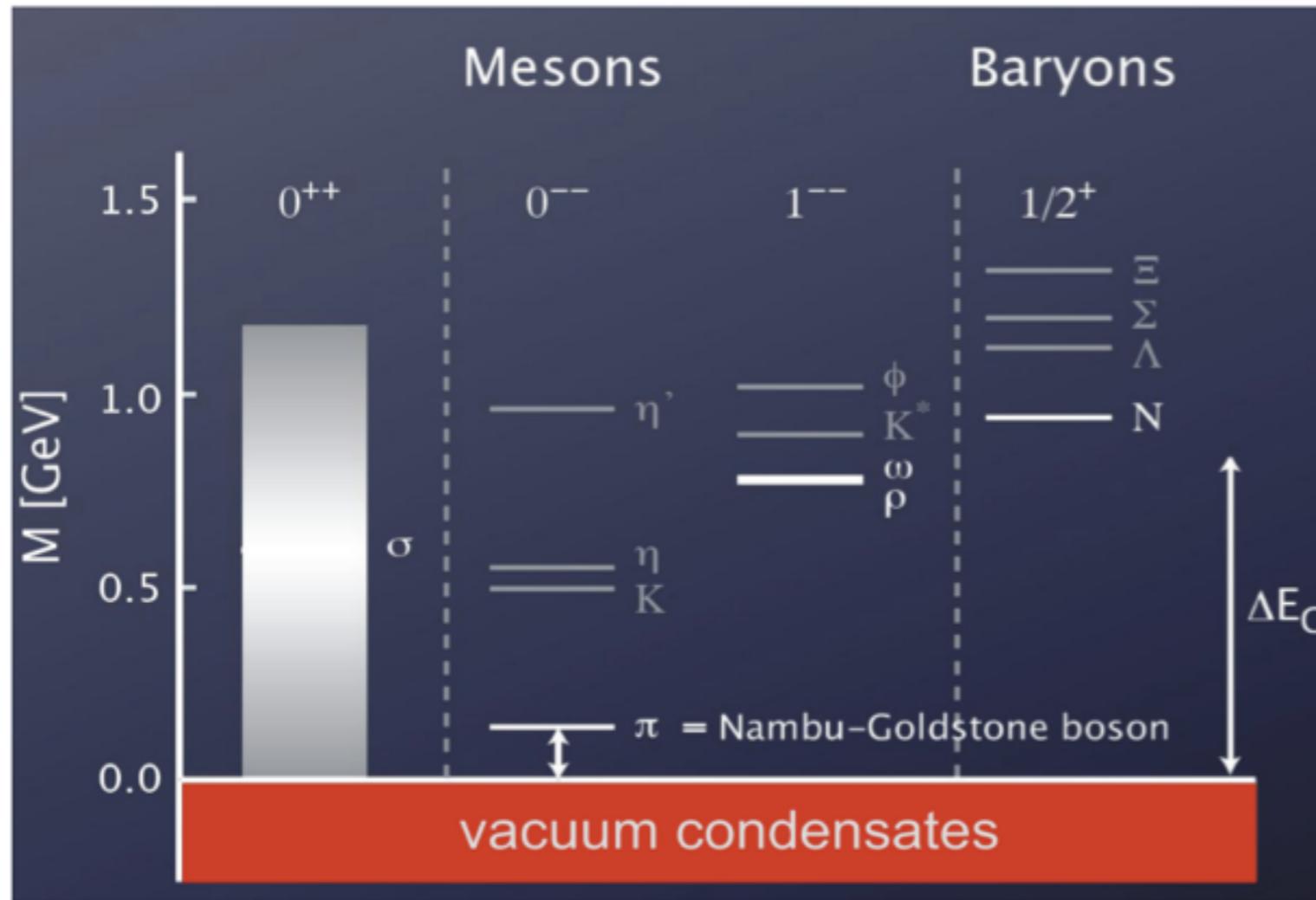
relevant degrees of freedom:

quarks, gluons



# How does one test QCD in the non-perturbative sector ??

our approach: study the mass spectrum of hadrons and their modification in a strongly interacting medium



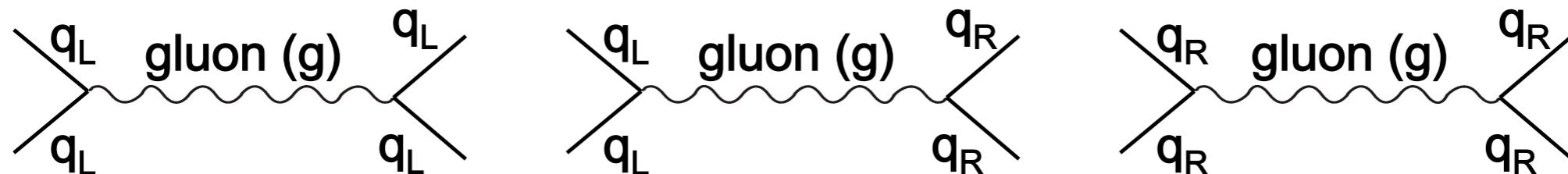
mesons ( $q\bar{q}$ ) = excitations of the QCD vacuum

QCD vacuum has complex structure governed by condensates:  
chiral condensate, gluon condensate, higher order quark condensates

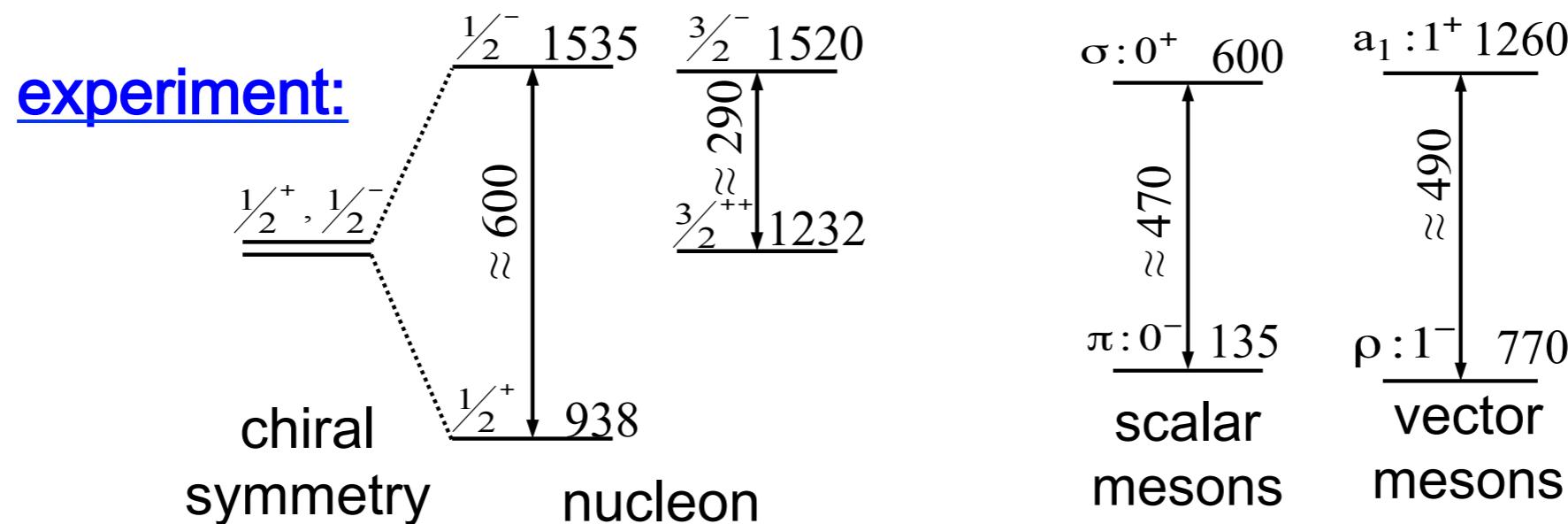
does this excitation energy spectrum reflect the symmetries of QCD ?

# chiral symmetry and chiral symmetry breaking

- chiral symmetry = fundamental symmetry of QCD for massless quarks ( $m_q \rightarrow 0$ )

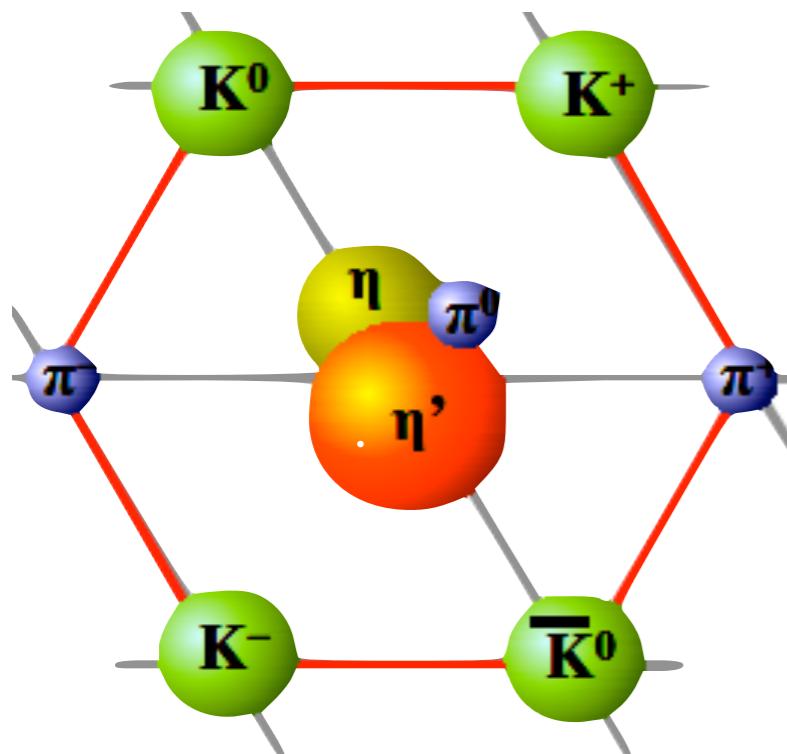


- if chiral symmetry were to hold also in the hadronic sector, chiral partners (same spin; opposite parity) should be degenerate in mass:  $m(J^+) = m(J^-)$

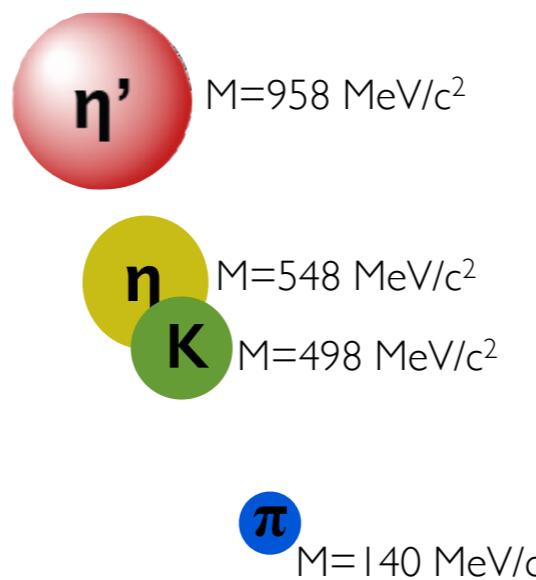


- chiral symmetry broken in the hadronic sector  
mass split  $\Delta m \approx 300\text{-}600$  MeV, almost comparable to hadron masses !!
- if chiral symmetry were at least partially restored in the nuclear medium  
- as predicted in several theoretical approaches -  
 $\Delta m \rightarrow 0$ , **hadron mass distributions in the medium should change !!**

# symmetry breaking in the hadronic sector



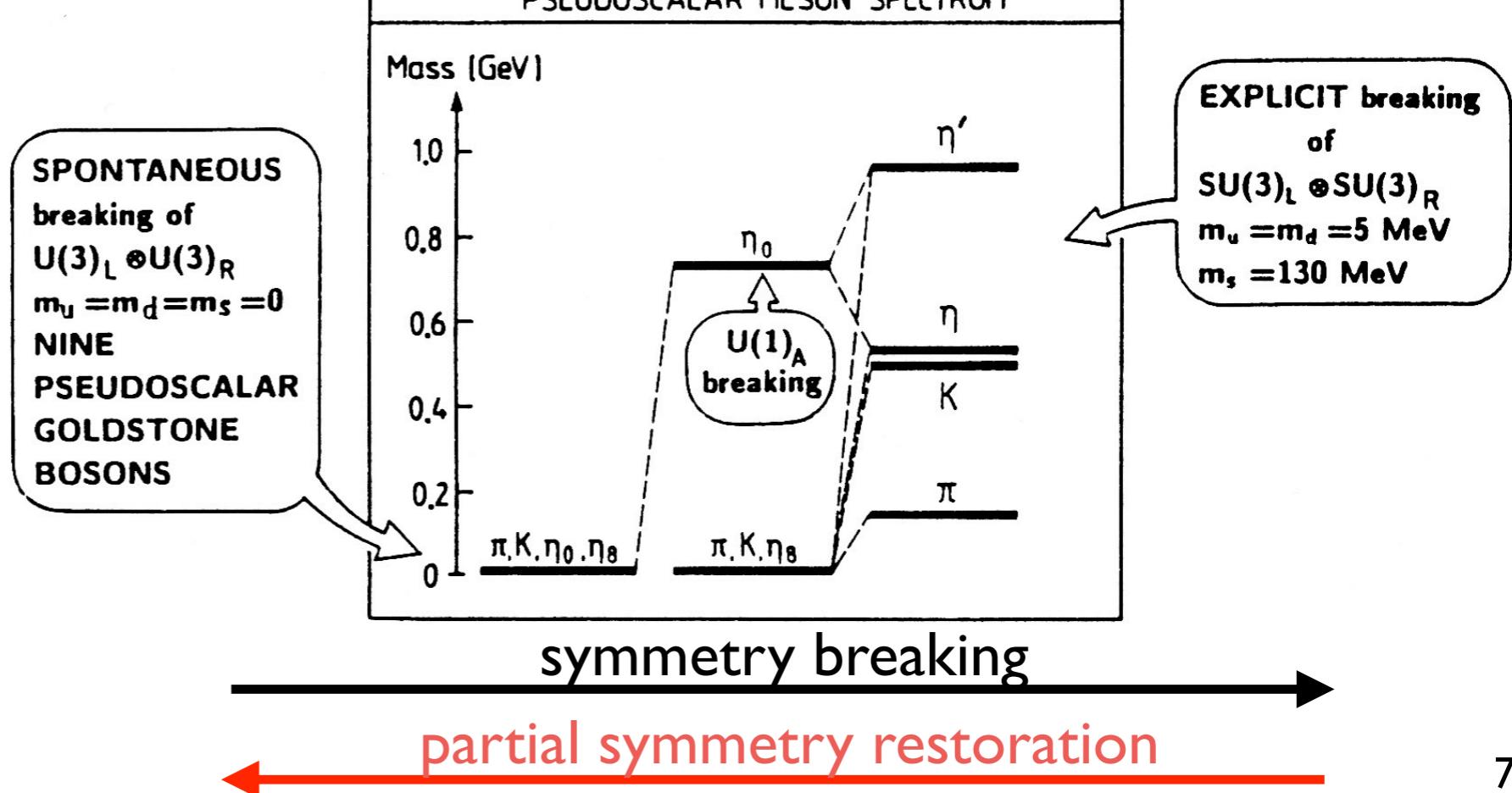
nonet of  
pseudoscalar  
mesons



V. Bernard, R.L. Jaffe, U.-G. Meissner, NPB 308 (1988) 753  
 S. Klimt, M. Lutz, U. Vogel, W Weise, NPA 516 (1990) 429  
 W. Weise, NBI Copenhagen, 1993

mass as a result of  
symmetry breaking

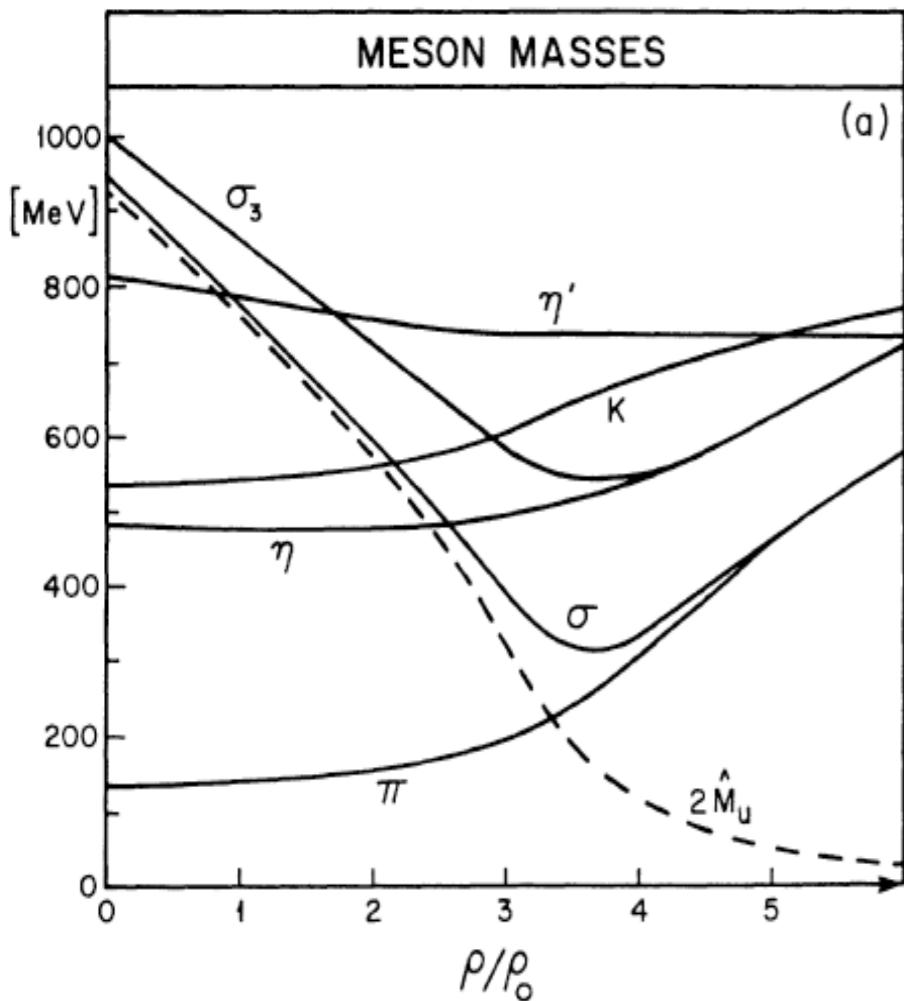
partial restoration of  
chiral symmetry  
predicted to occur  
in a nucleus  $\Rightarrow$  impact  
on meson masses ??



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

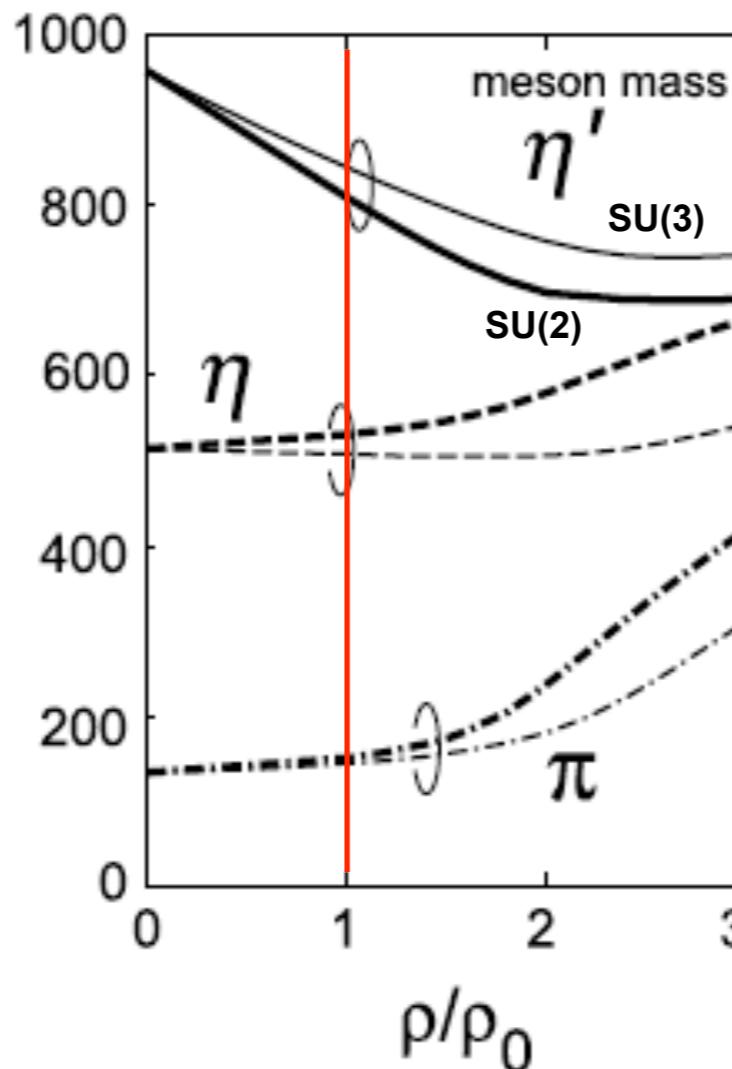
## NJL-model

V. Bernard and U.-G. Meissner,  
Phys. Rev.D 38 (1988) 1551



## NJL-model

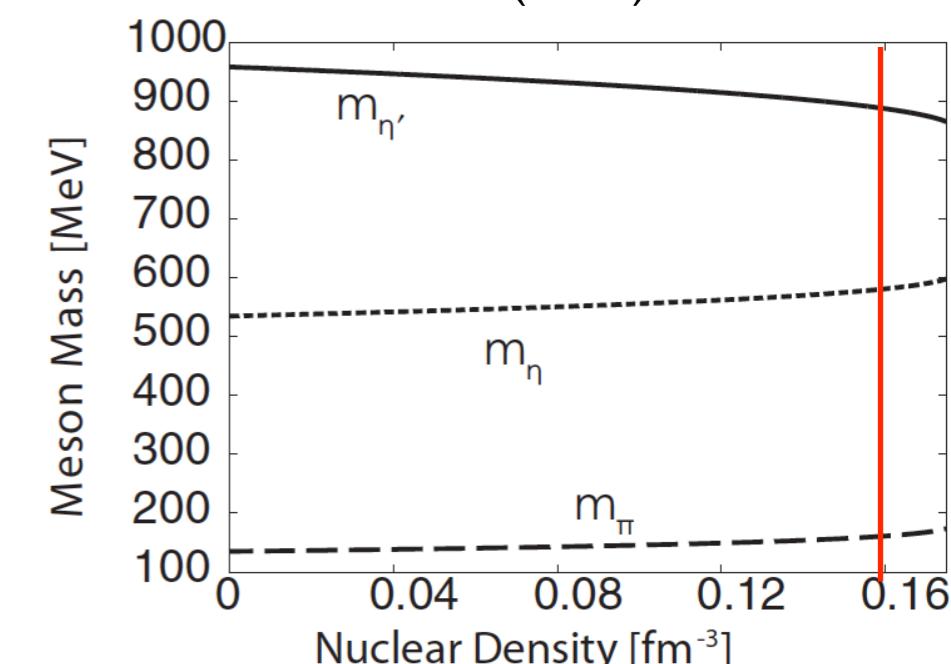
H. Nagahiro, M. Takizawa and S. Hirenzaki,  
Phys. Rev. C 74 (2006) 045203



almost no dependence of  
 $\eta'$  mass on density

## linear $\sigma$ model

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



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

## QMC-model

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

$$\Delta m_{\eta'}(\rho_0) \approx -40 \text{ MeV}$$

for  $\theta_{\eta\eta'} = -20^\circ$

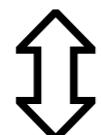
# meson-nucleus optical potential

H. Nagahiro, M. Takizawa, S. Hirenzaki, PRC 74 (2006) 045203

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

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

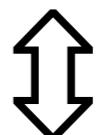
real part



in-medium mass modification

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

imaginary part

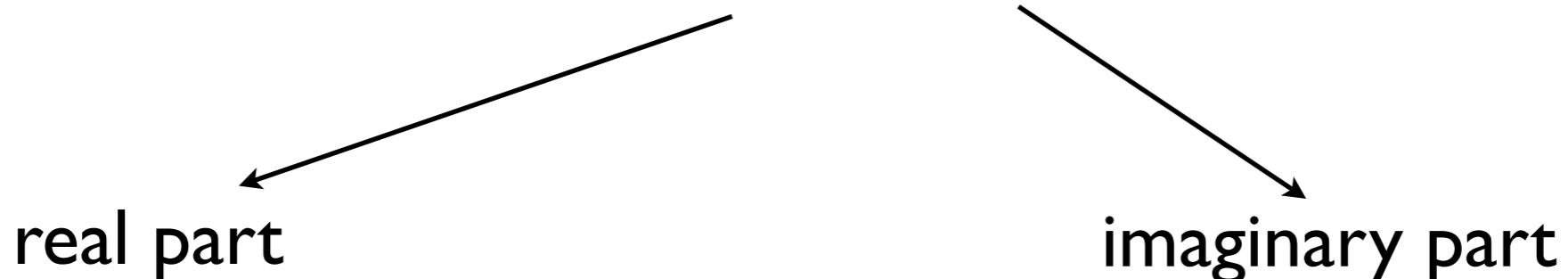


lifetime shortened  
in-medium width  
inelastic cross section

mass and lifetime (width) may be changed in the medium

# experimental approaches to determine the meson-nucleus optical potential

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



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

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

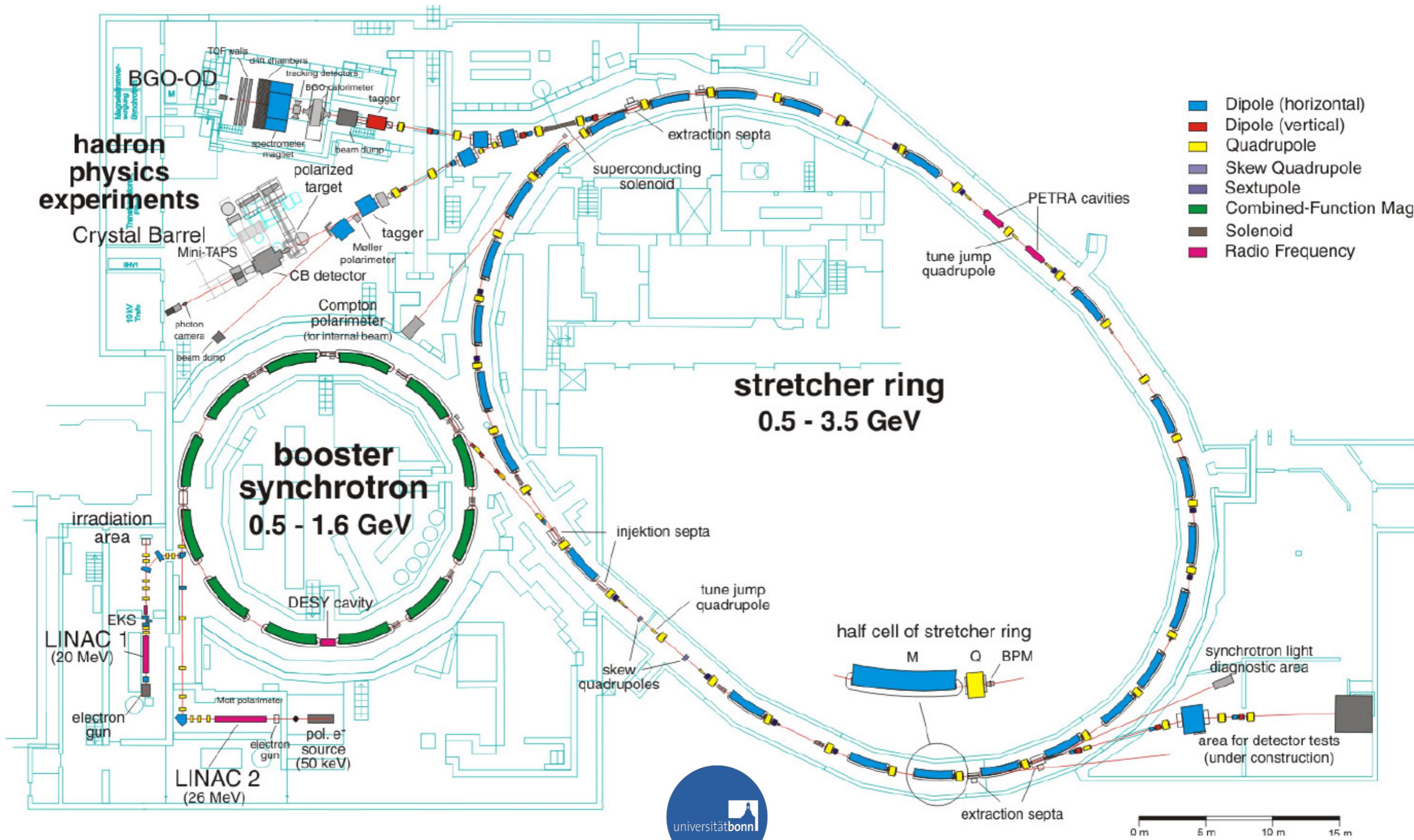
- line shape analysis
- excitation function
- momentum distribution
- meson-nucleus bound states

- transparency ratio measurement

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

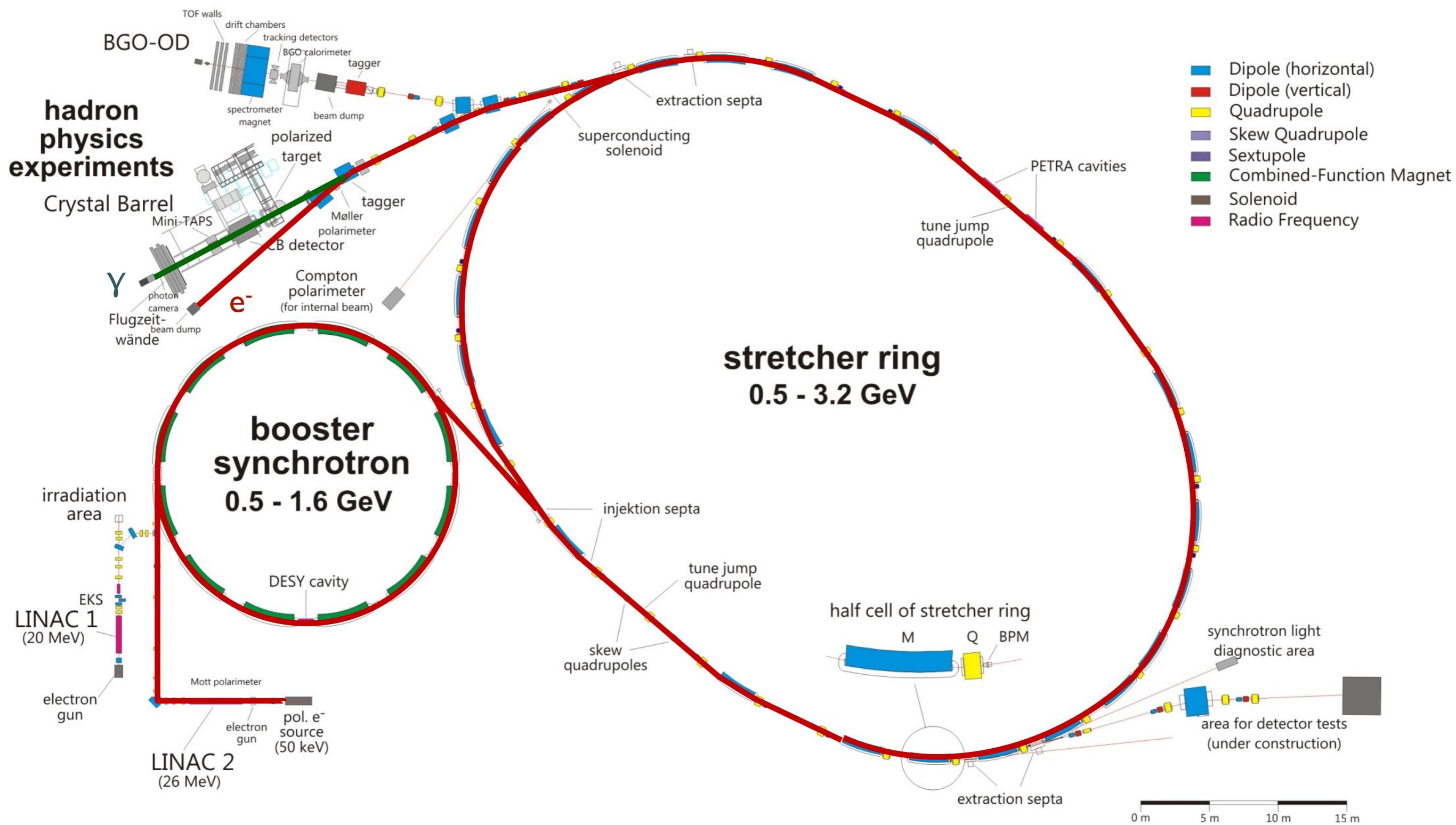
D. Cabrera et al., NPA 733 (2004) 130

# The Electron Stretcher Accelerator (ELSA), Univ. Bonn



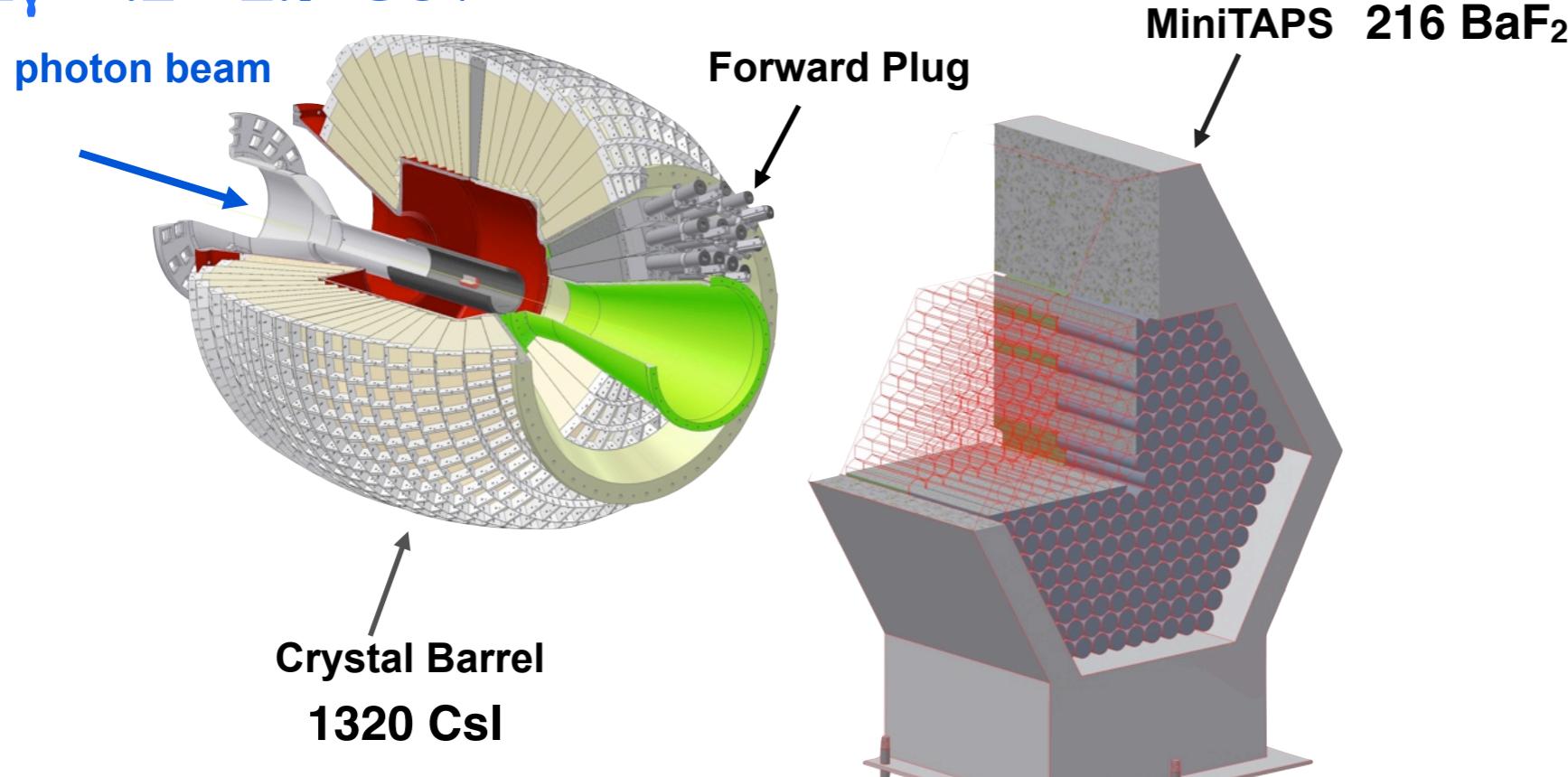
\*funded by the DFG within SFB/TR16

# The Electron Stretcher Accelerator (ELSA), Univ. Bonn



# CBELSA/TAPS Experiment

$E_\gamma = 1.2 - 2.9 \text{ GeV}$

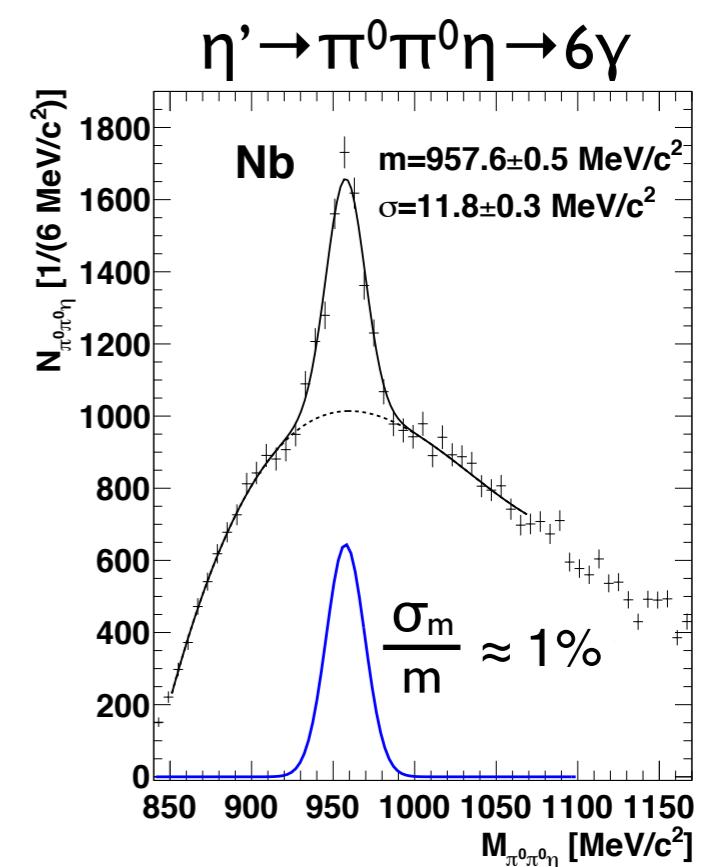
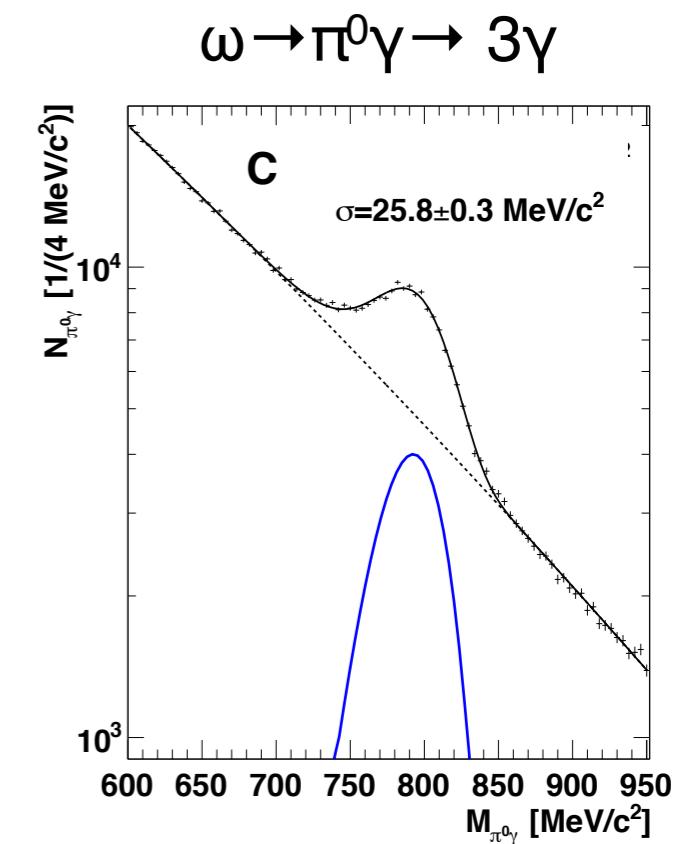


solid target:  $^{12}\text{C}$  and  $^{93}\text{Nb}$

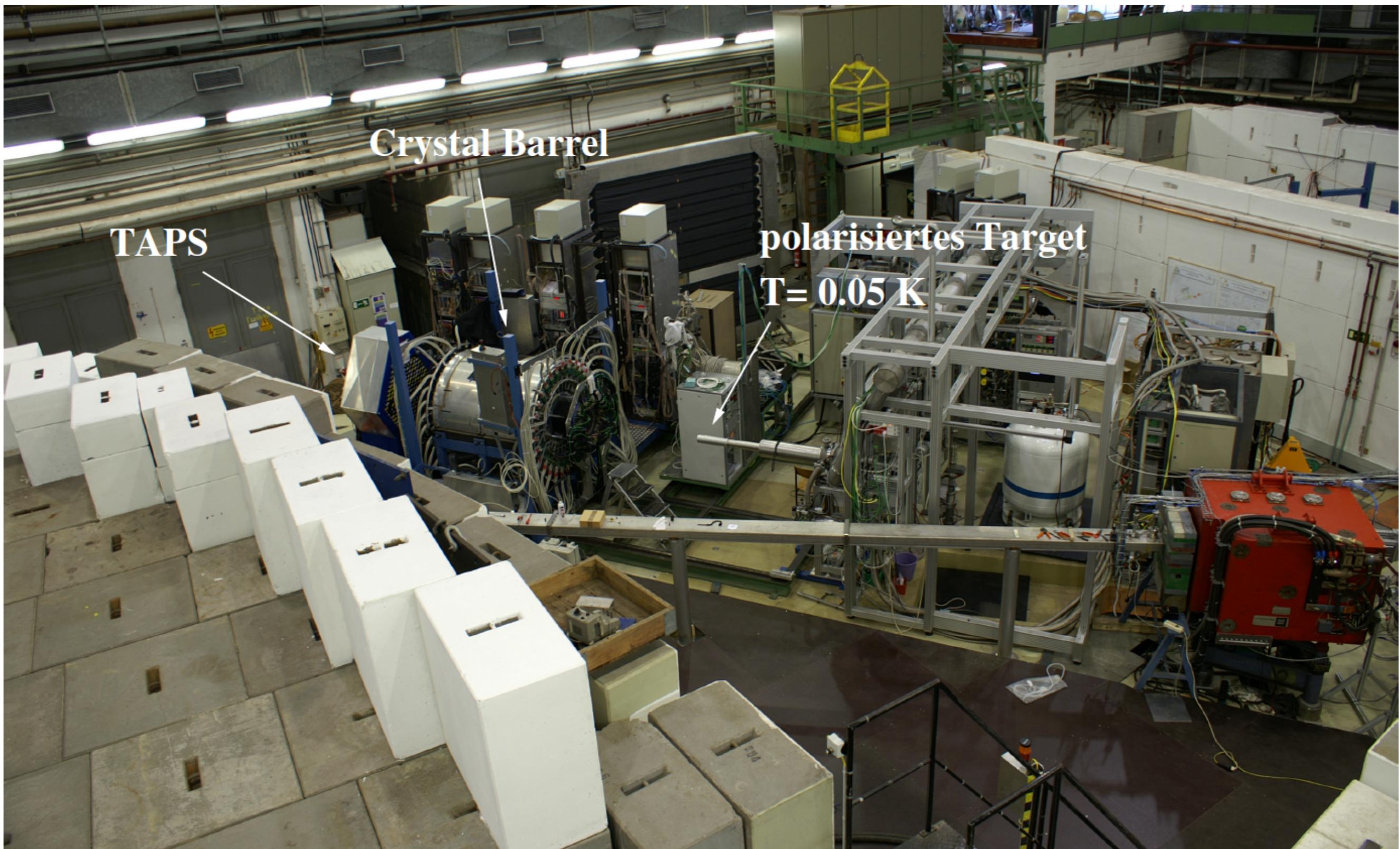
4 $\pi$  photon detector: ideally suited for identification of multi-photon final states

$\omega \rightarrow \pi^0 \gamma \rightarrow 3\gamma$  BR 8.2%

$\eta' \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \eta \rightarrow 6\gamma$  BR 8.5%



# CBELSA/TAPS Experiment



The real part of the meson-nucleus  
optical potential

# Determination of the real part of the $\eta'$ -nucleus potential

J. Weil, U. Mosel and V. Metag, PLB 723 (2013 ) 120

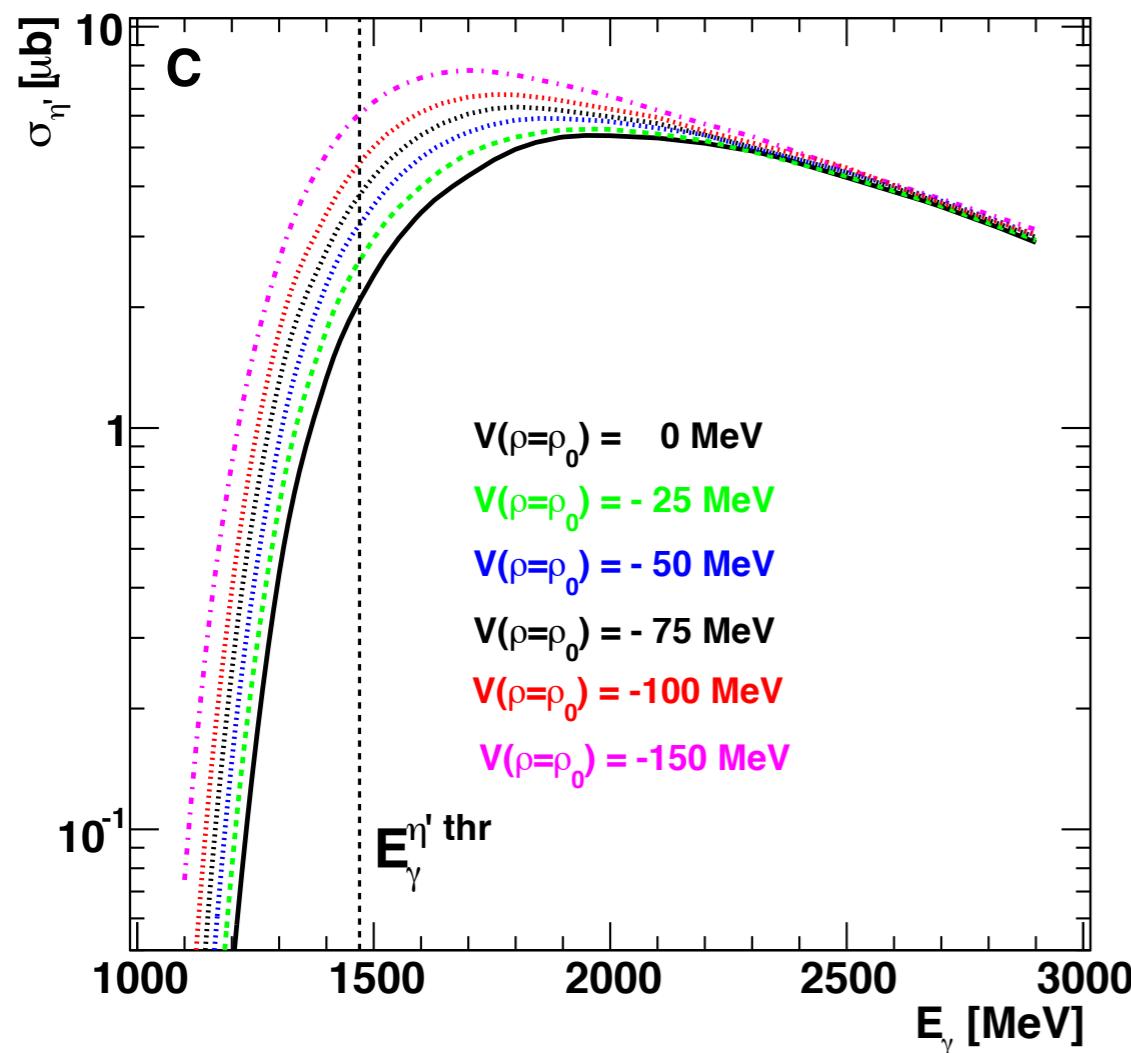
calc.: E. Paryev, J. Phys. G 40 (2013) 025201

based on  $\sigma_{\text{exp}}$  for  $\gamma p \rightarrow p\eta'$  and  $\gamma n \rightarrow n\eta'$  from I. Jaegle EPJA 47 (2011) 11

- 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

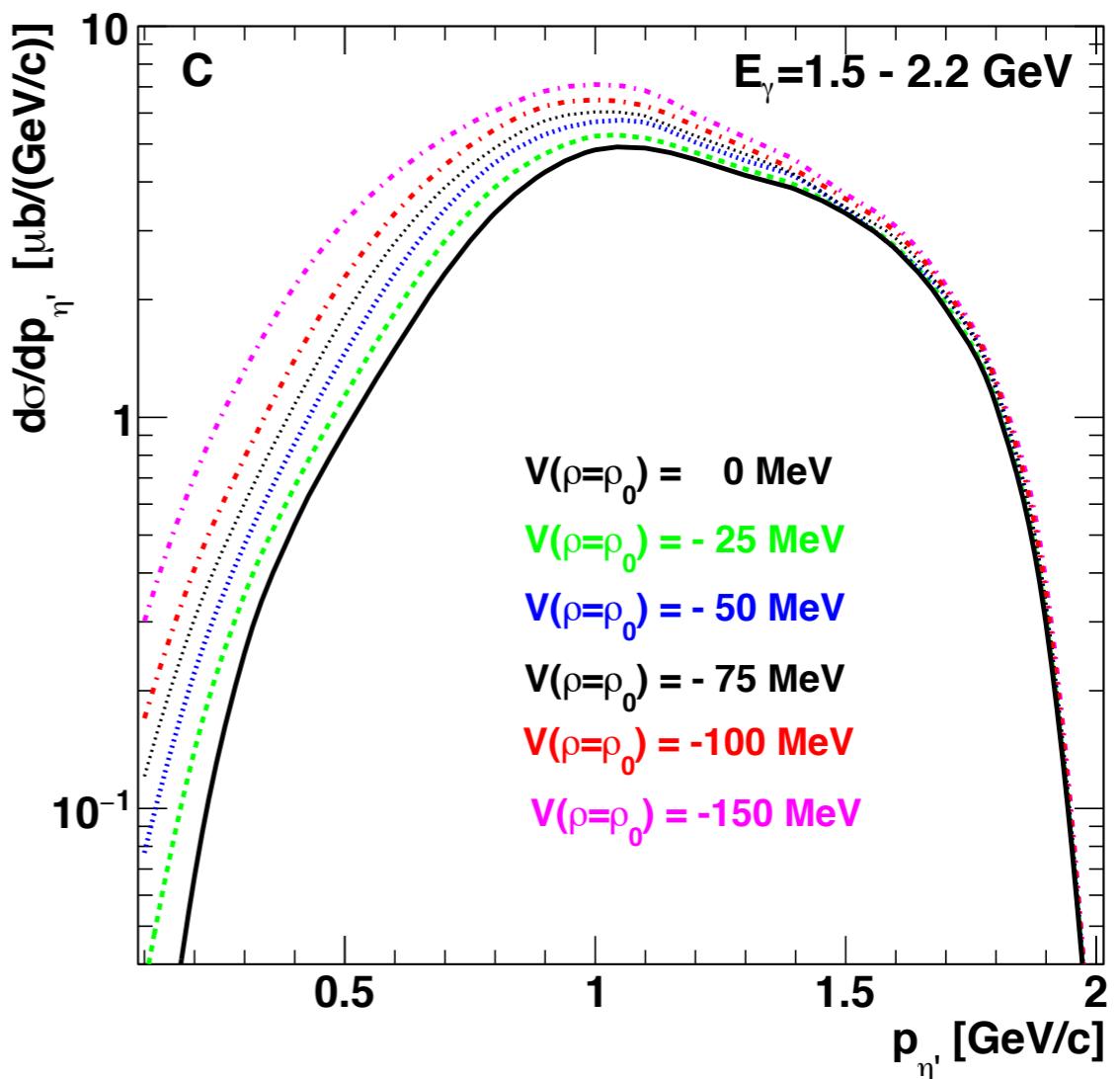
⇒ cross section enhancement



- 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

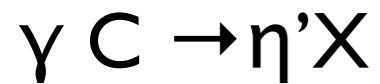
⇒ downward shift of momentum distribution



# Excitation function and momentum distribution for $\eta'$ photoproduction off C

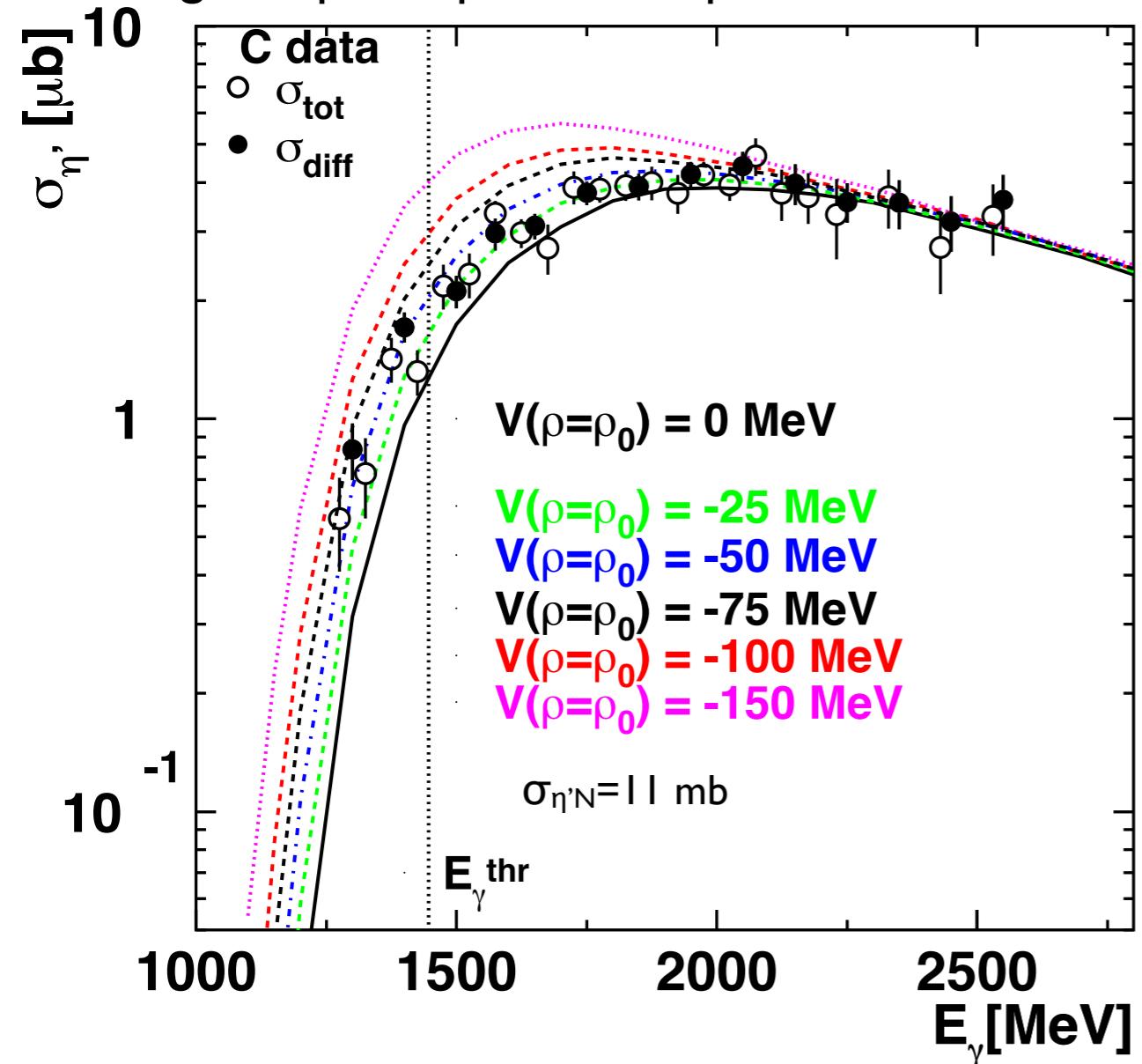
**CBELSA/TAPS @ ELSA**

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

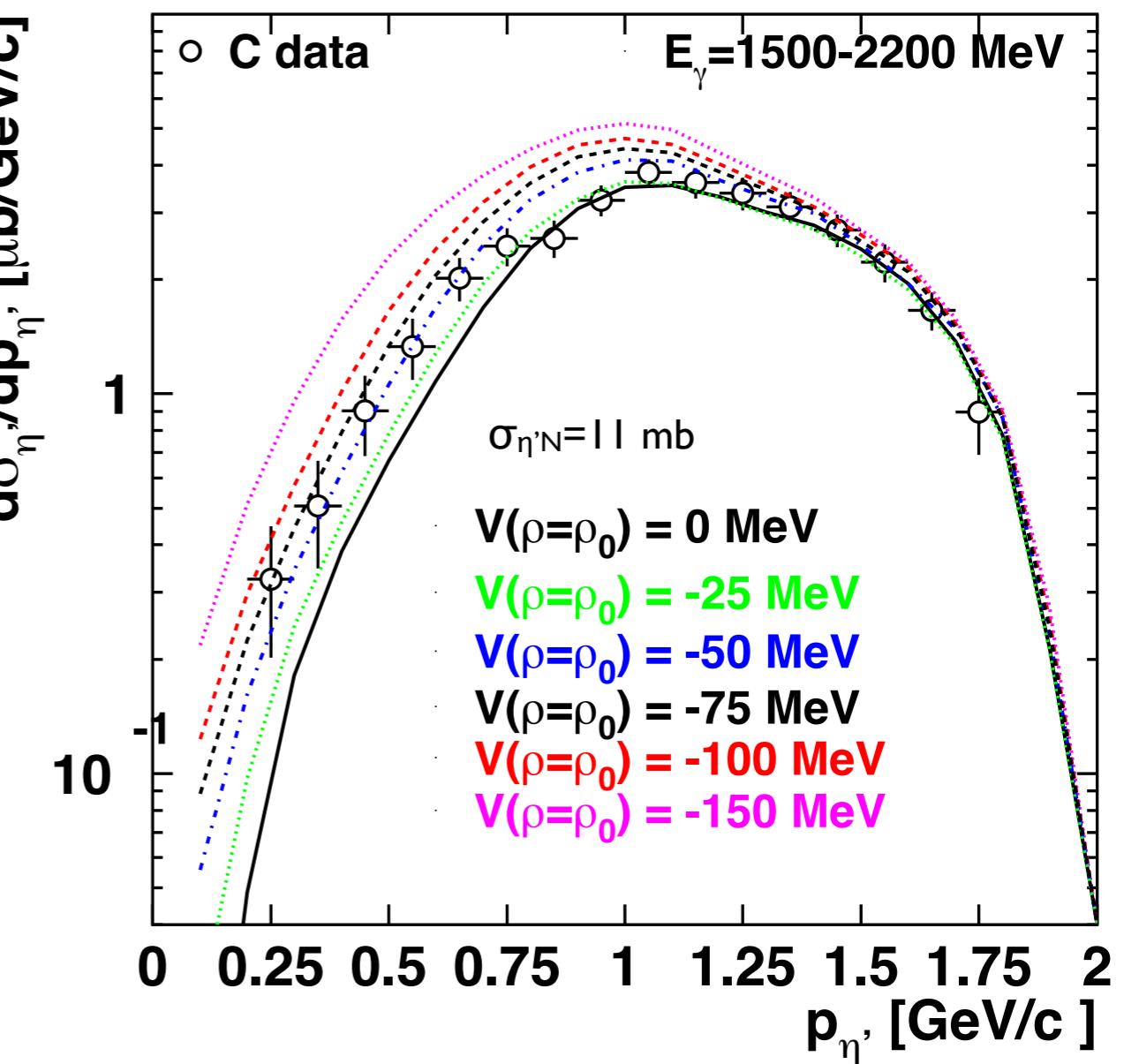


calc.: E. Paryev, J. Phys. G 40 (2013) 025201

using as input experimental production cross sections:  $\gamma + p, n \rightarrow \eta' X$ ; I. Jaegle et al., EPJA 47 (2011) 11



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



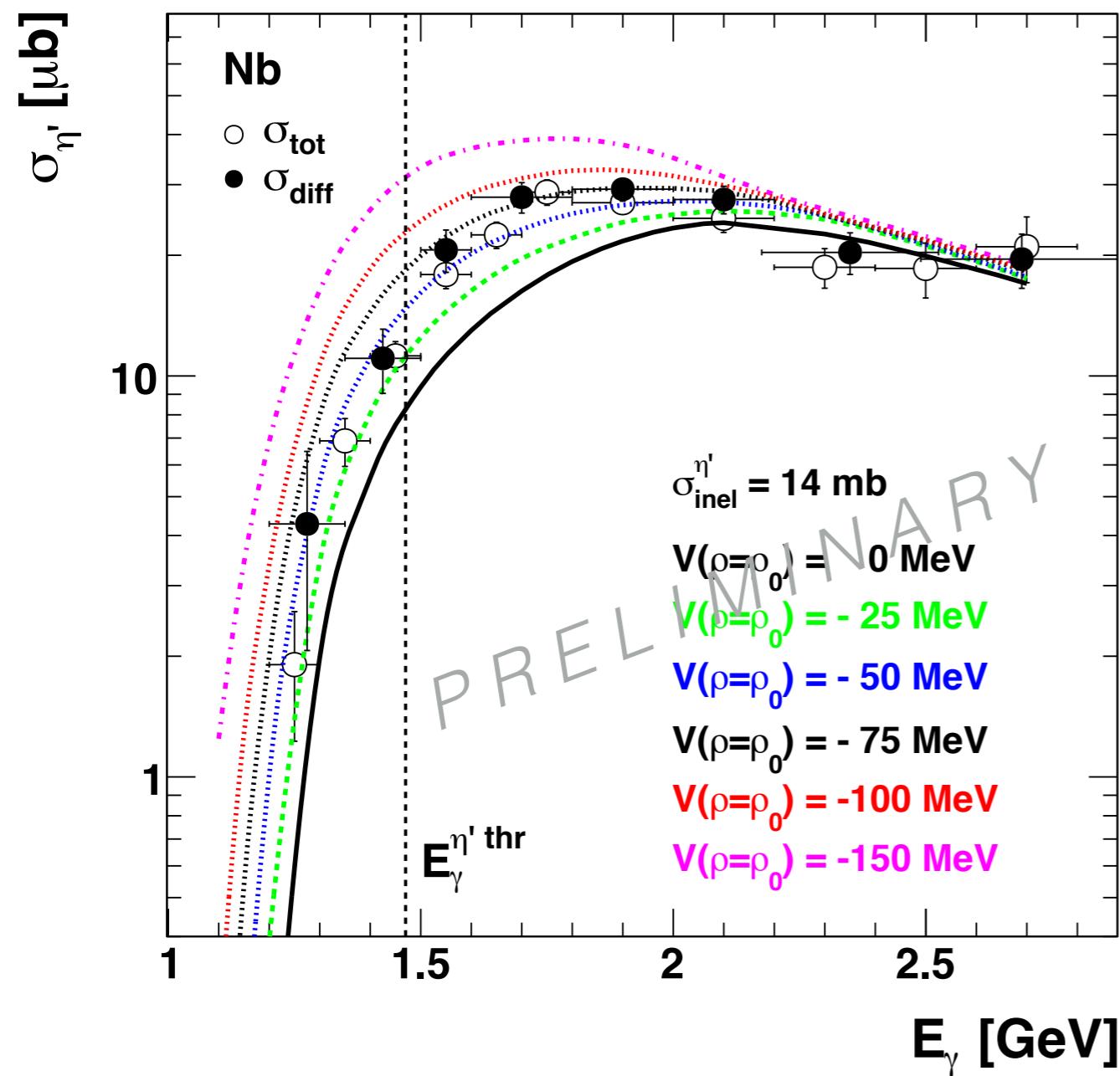
$$V_{\eta'}(p_{\eta'} \approx 1.1 \text{ GeV}/c; \rho=\rho_0) = -(32 \pm 11) \text{ MeV}$$

data disfavour strong mass shifts

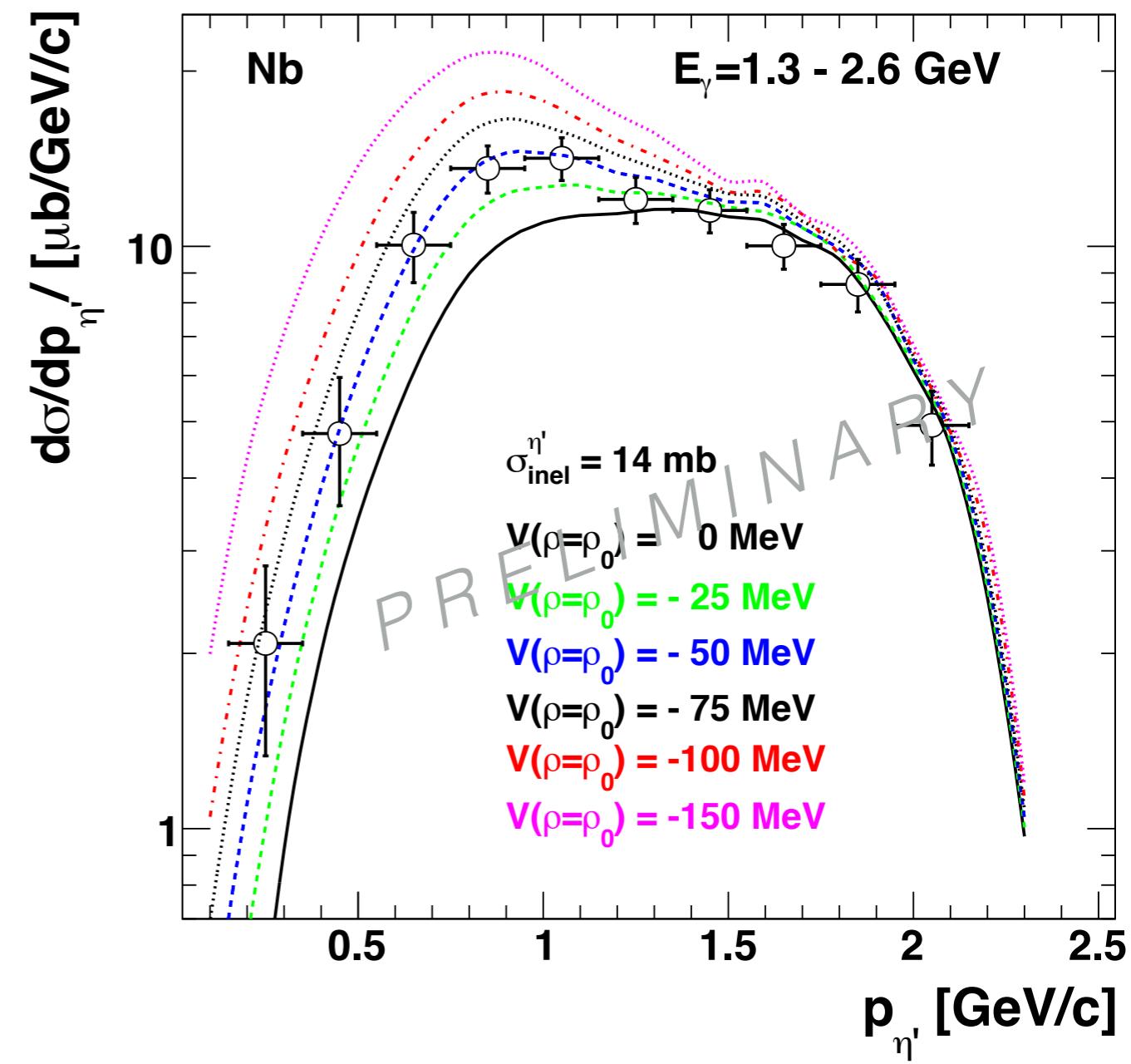
# Excitation function and momentum distribution for $\eta'$ photoproduction off Nb

CBELSA/TAPS @ ELSA

M. Nanova et al., submitted to PRC for publication  
calc.: E. Paryev, priv. communication



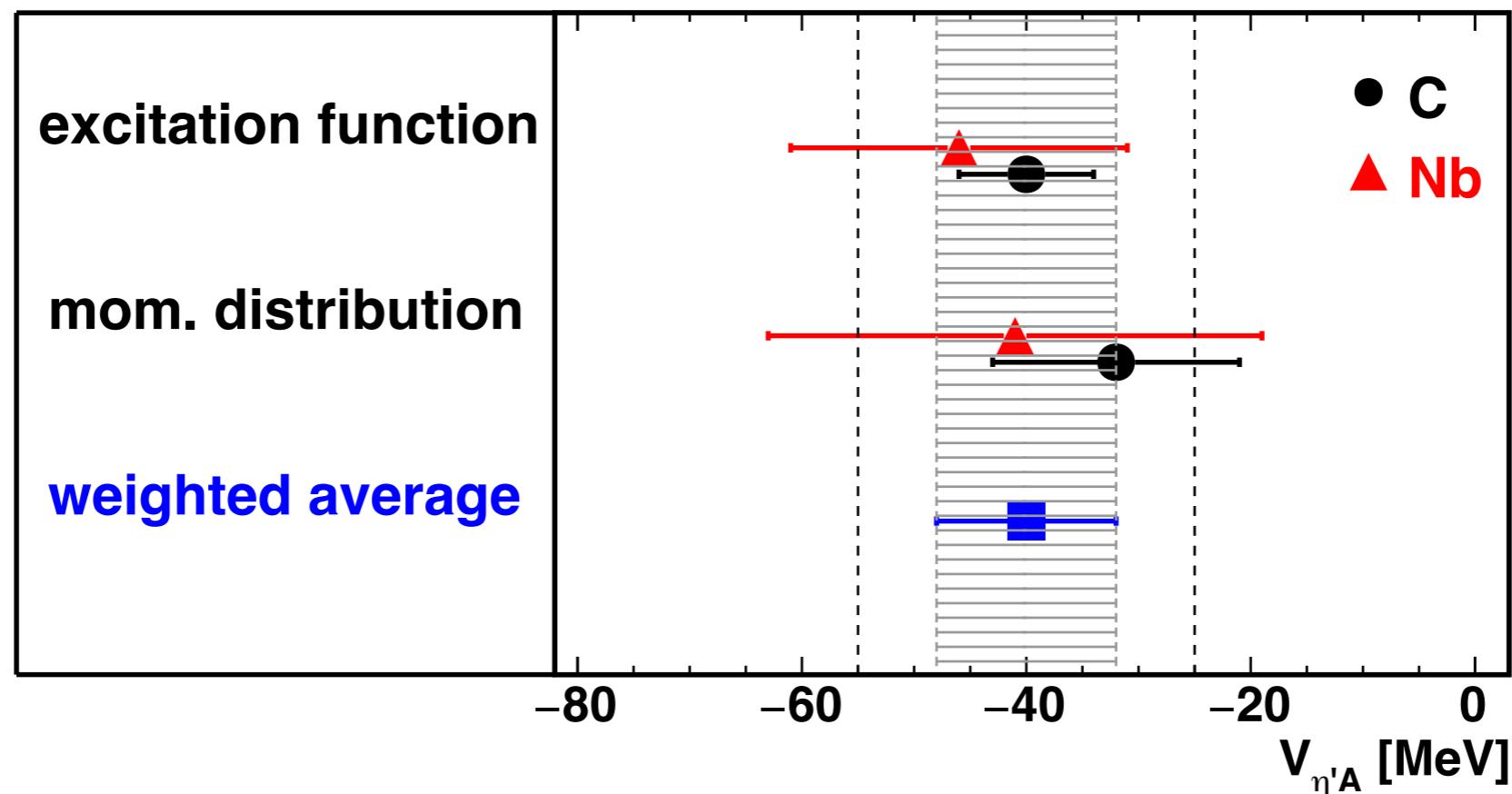
$$V_{\eta'}(\rho=\rho_0) = -(47 \pm 15) \text{ MeV}$$



$$V_{\eta'}(p_{\eta'} \approx 1.14 \text{ GeV}/c; \rho=\rho_0) = -(41 \pm 22) \text{ MeV}$$

data disfavour strong mass shifts

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



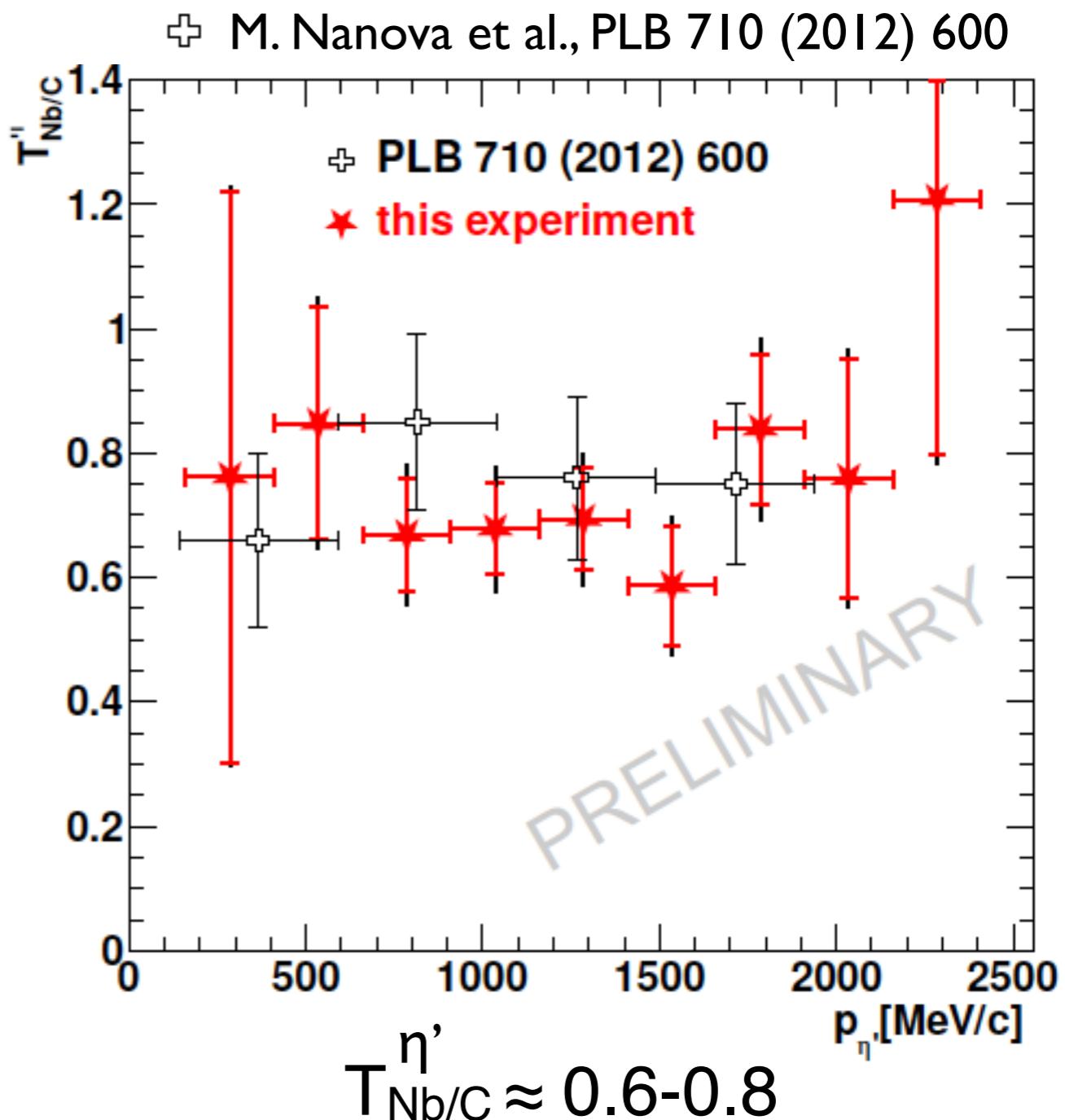
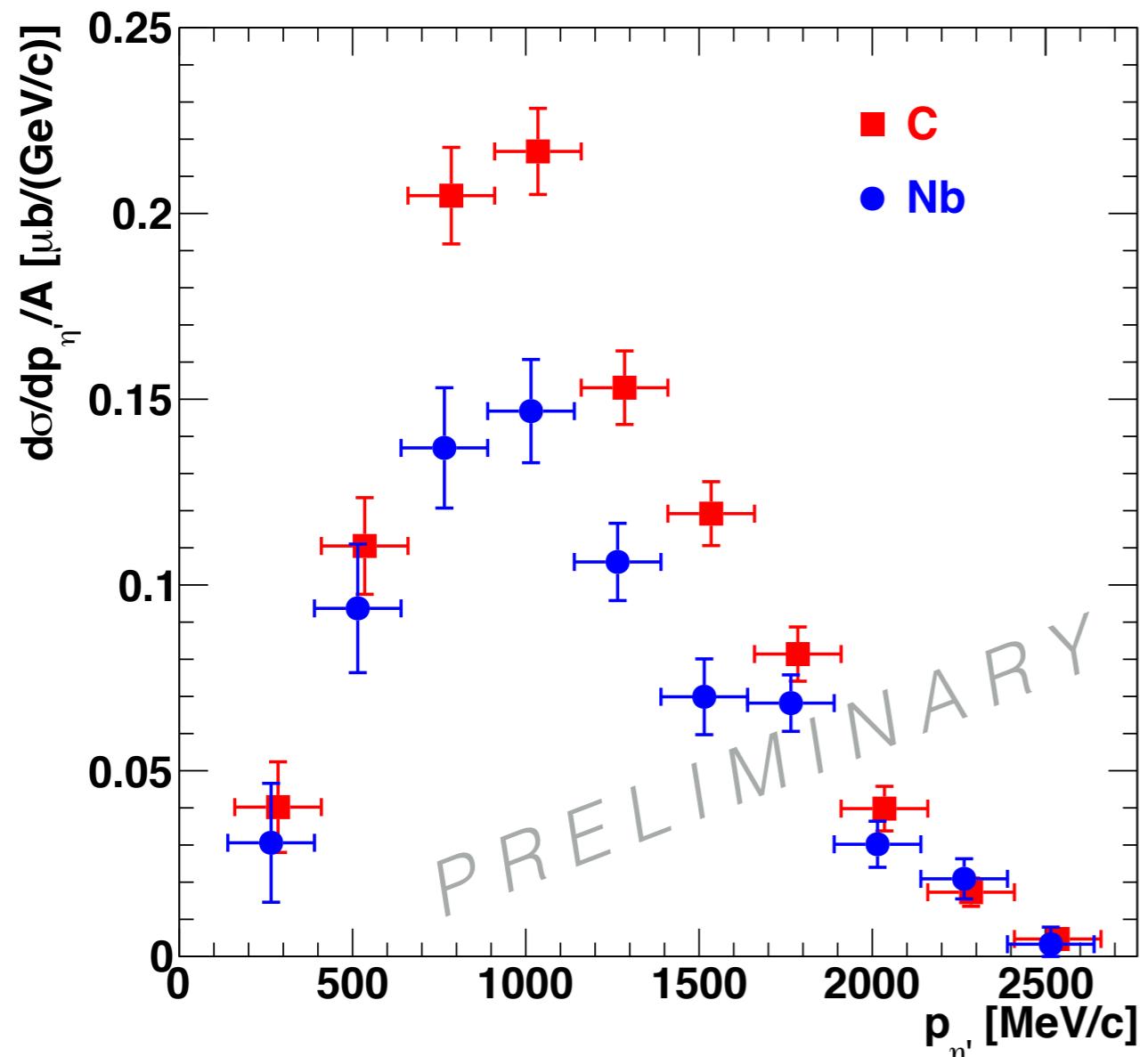
$$V_{\eta'A}(\rho=\rho_0) = -(40 \pm 8(\text{stat}) \pm 15(\text{syst})) \text{ MeV}$$

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)

The imaginary part of the meson-nucleus  
optical potential: momentum dependence

# momentum differential cross section for $\eta'$ produced off C, Nb

$E_\gamma = 1.2 - 2.9 \text{ GeV}$

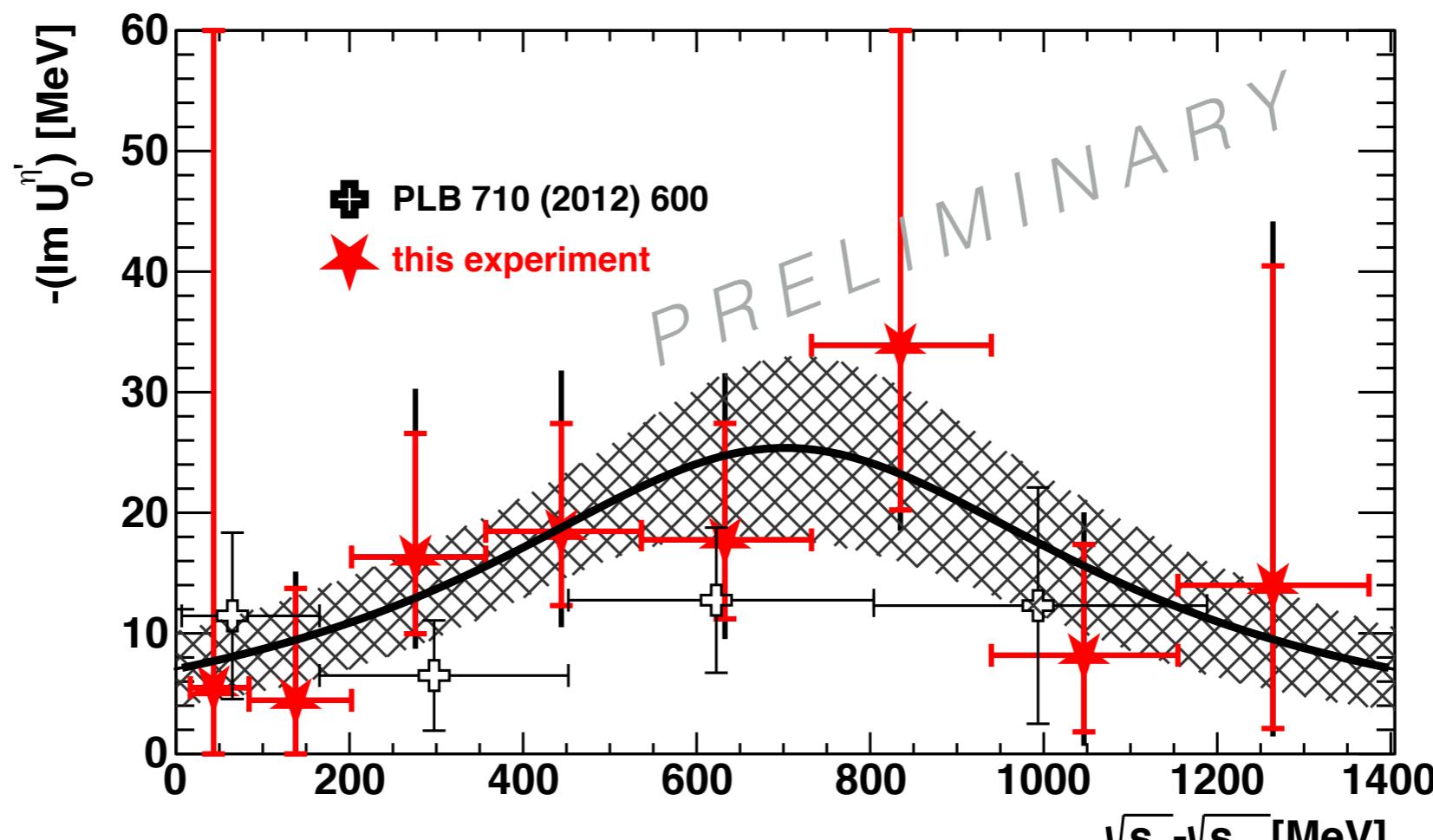


momentum differential cross sections  $\Rightarrow T_{\text{Nb/C}}^m(p_m) = \frac{12 \cdot \sigma_{\gamma\text{Nb} \rightarrow mX}(p_m)}{93 \cdot \sigma_{\gamma\text{C} \rightarrow mX}(p_m)}$

# momentum dependence of imaginary potential for $\omega, \eta'$

Glauber model: high energy Eikonal approximation

$$T_{Nb/C}^m(p_m) \Rightarrow \Gamma_0^m(\rho=\rho_0)(p_m) = -2 \operatorname{Im} U_0^m(p_m)$$



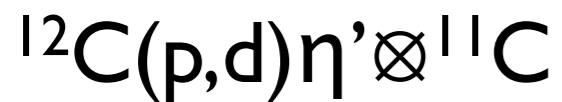
$$\operatorname{Im} U_0^{\eta'}(\rho=\rho_0, p_{\eta'}=0) = (7 \pm 3) \text{ MeV}$$

$$U_{\eta'A}(\rho=\rho_0) = -((40 \pm 8(\text{stat}) \pm 15(\text{syst}) + i(7 \pm 3)) \text{ MeV}$$

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

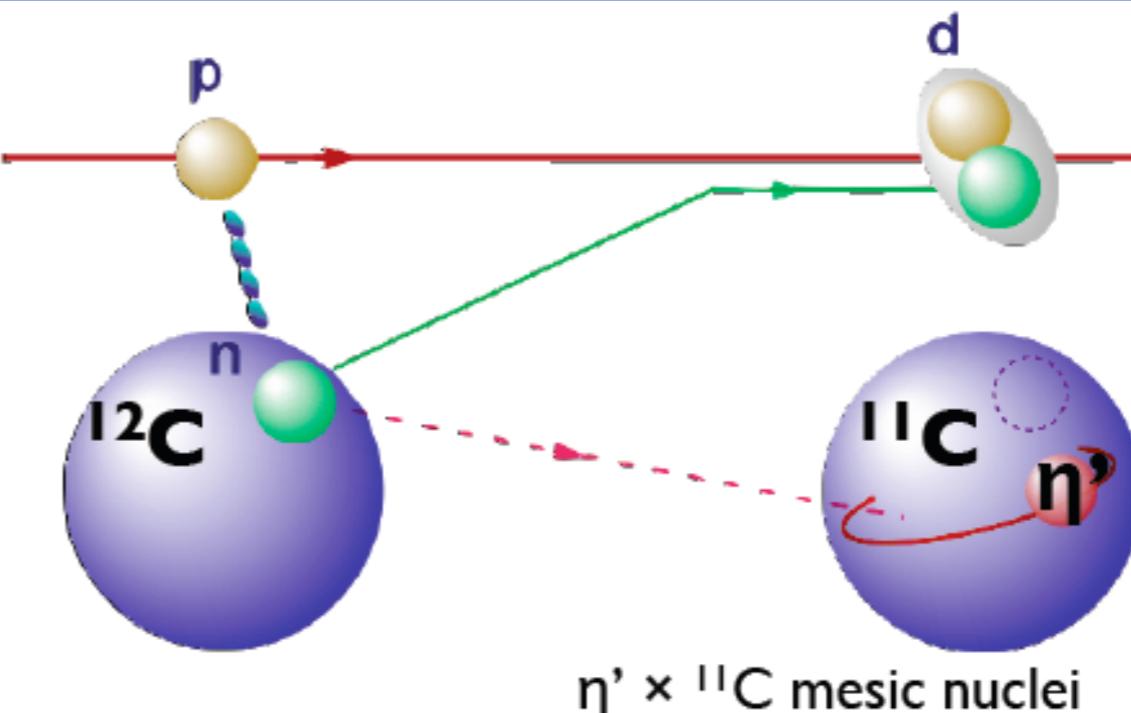
# search for $\eta'$ -mesic states in hadronic reactions

FRS@GSI: PRIME



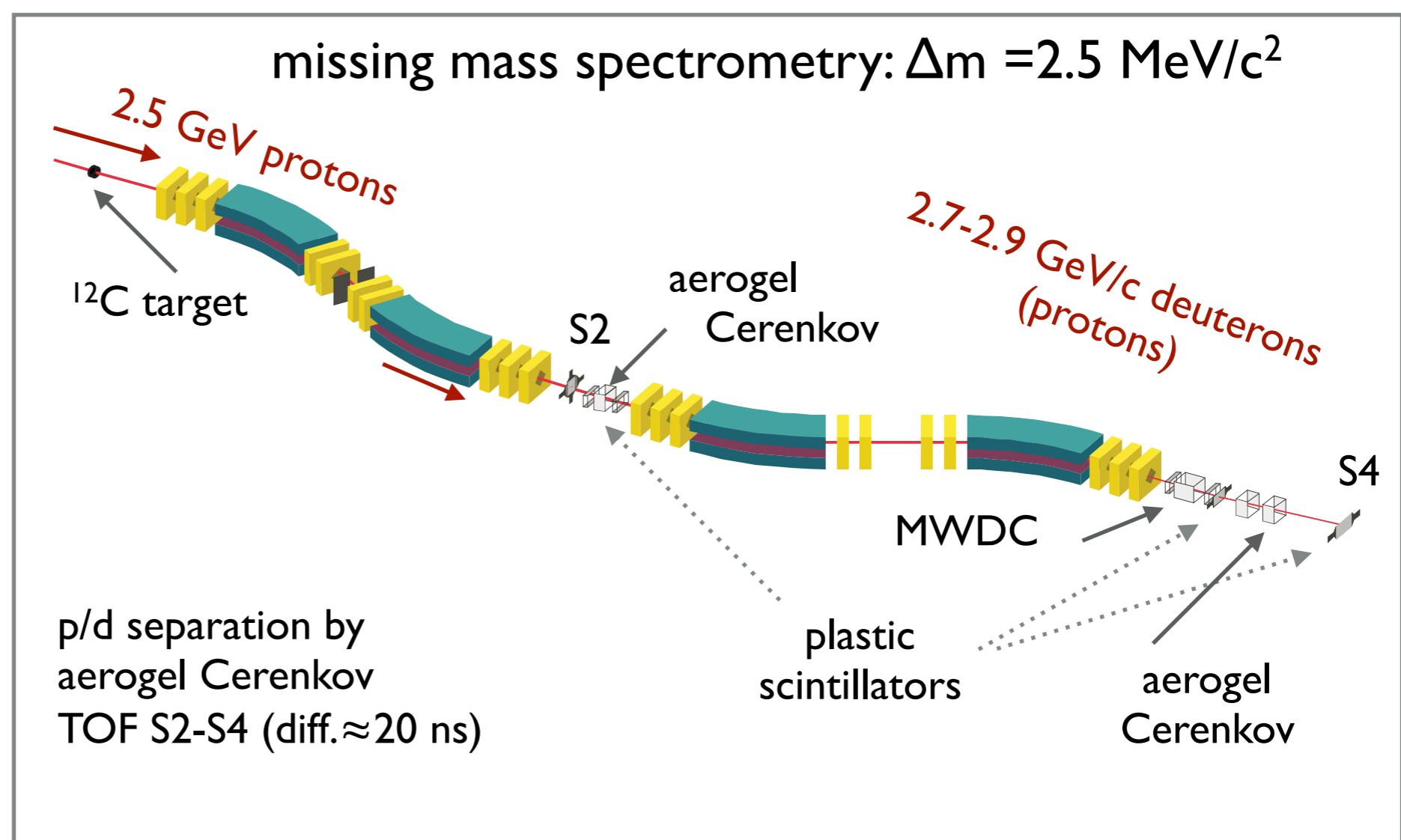
K. Itahashi et al., PTP 128 (2012) 601

H. Nagahiro et al., PRC 87 (2013) 045201



particle identification  
by time-of-flight

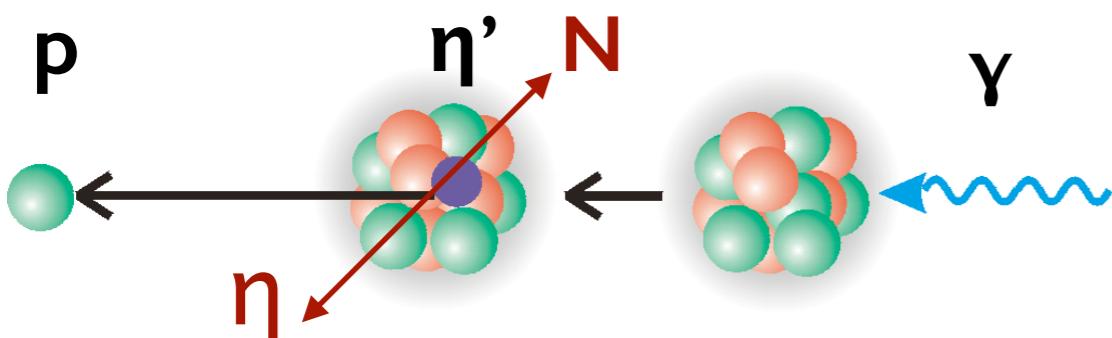
no structures in  
bound state region  
observed;  
deep potentials with  
 $|V_0| > 100$  MeV  
excluded



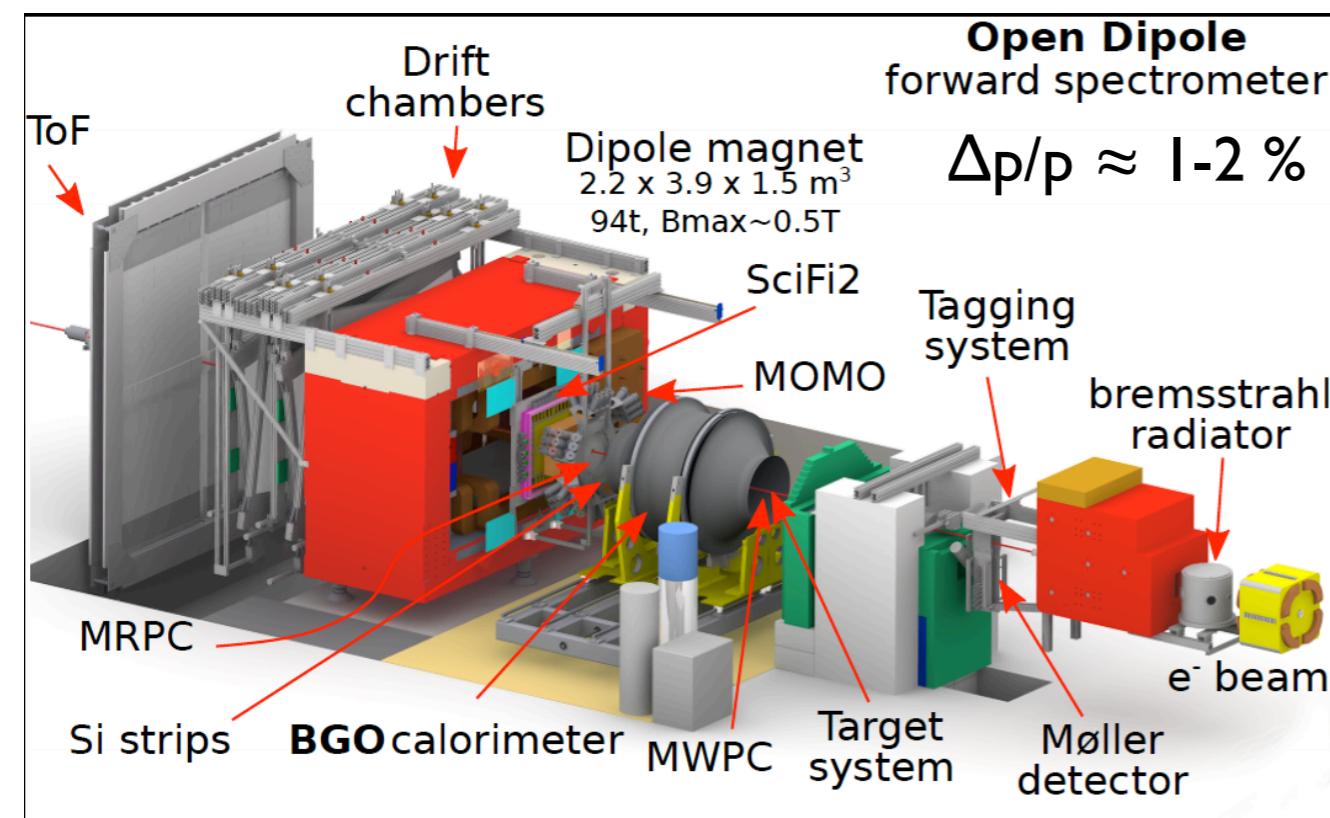
# outlook: search for $\eta'$ -mesic states in photo-nuclear reactions

## BGO-OD@ELSA

$^{12}\text{C}(\gamma, p) \eta' X$  @ 1.5-2.8 GeV



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

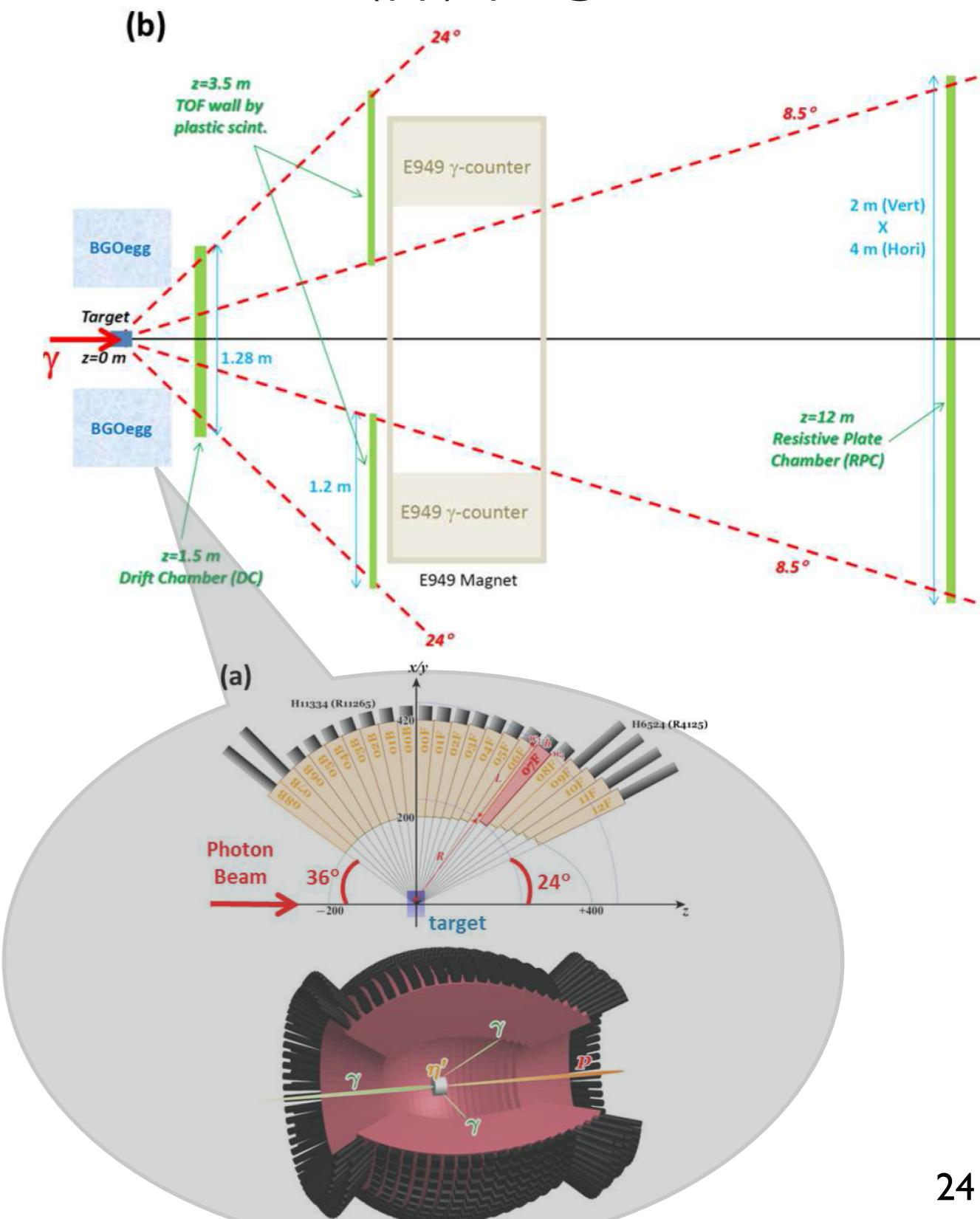


BGO-OD ideally suited for exclusive measurement

approved proposal: ELSA/3-2012-BGO

## LEPS2@SPring-8

$^{12}\text{C}(\gamma, p) \eta' X$  @ 1.5-2.4 GeV



how do meson properties (mass, width) change  
in a dense nuclear medium ??

meson properties do change in a strongly interacting medium !!

- mesons are broadened in the medium; their lifetime is shortened through inelastic collisions:  $\Gamma_{\eta'}(\rho=\rho_0; p_{\eta'}=0) = (14 \pm 6) \text{ MeV}$ ; ( $\Gamma_{\eta'}^{\text{vac}} = 0.2 \text{ MeV}$ )
- large mass modifications  $|\Delta m| > 100 \text{ MeV}$  (as predicted by some calculations) have not been observed
- for the  $\eta'$  meson an in-medium mass drop of  $\Delta m (\rho=\rho_0) \approx -40 \text{ MeV}$  has been determined
- in-medium effects described within meson-nucleus optical potential
- the  $\eta'$  meson is a good candidate for forming meson-nucleus bound states since  $|Im U| \ll |Re U|$
- search for  $\eta'$  mesic states ongoing

# status of experiments in 2016

	LEPS@ SPring-8	CLAS @JLAB	CBELSA/ TAPS	E-325 @KEK	ANKE @COSY	CERES @CERN	NA60 @CERN
reaction	$\gamma A$ 1.5-2.4 GeV	$\gamma A$ 1.5-2.4 GeV	$\gamma A$ 0.7-3.1 GeV	$pA$ 12 GeV	$pA$ 2.8 GeV	Au+Au 158 AGeV	In+ In 158 AGeV
momentum acceptance	$p > 1.0 \text{ GeV}/c$	$p > 0.8 \text{ GeV}/c$	$p > 0.0 \text{ GeV}/c$	$p > 0.5 \text{ GeV}/c$	$p > 0.6 \text{ GeV}/c$	$p_t > 0.0 \text{ GeV}/c$	$p_t > 0.0 \text{ GeV}/c$
$\rho$		$\Delta m \approx 0$ $\Gamma(\rho_0/2)$ $\approx 220 \text{ MeV}$		$\Delta m/m = -9\%$ $\Delta \Gamma \approx 0$		$\Delta m \approx 0$ broadening	$\Delta m \approx 0$ broadening
$\omega$		$\Gamma(\rho_0)$ $> 200 \text{ MeV}$	$\Delta m \approx -30 \text{ MeV}$ $\Gamma(\rho_0, p=0)$ $\approx 60 \text{ MeV}$	$\Delta m/m = -9\%$ $\Delta \Gamma \approx 0$			
$\eta'$			$\Delta m \approx -40 \text{ MeV}$ $\Gamma(\rho_0, p=0)$ $\approx 15 \text{ MeV}$				
$\Phi$	$\Gamma(\rho_0) \approx$ 100 MeV	$\Gamma(\rho_0) \approx$ 40-200 MeV		$\Delta m/m \approx -3.4\%$ $\Gamma(\rho_0/2) \approx$ 15 MeV	$\Gamma(\rho_0) \approx$ 30-60 MeV		