# High-t Exclusive $\pi^0$ Photoproduction

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On behalf of the CLAS Collaboration

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#### **Outline**

- -Introduction
- -Dalitz decay and Photon Conversion
- -CLAS Data analysis
- -Exclusive photoproduction cross section of neutral pions on hydrogen target in CLAS
- -Conclusions

#### Introduction

In general pion photoproduction cross section in terms of amplitudes could be presented as:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{q}{k}|<2|\mathcal{F}|1>|^2$$

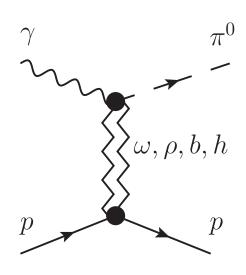
For given isospin configuration there are four amplitudes:

$$\mathcal{F} = i\sigma \cdot \epsilon \mathcal{F}_1 + \frac{\sigma \cdot \mathbf{q}\sigma \cdot (\mathbf{k} \times \epsilon)}{\mathbf{q}\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{F}_2 + \frac{\mathbf{i}\sigma \cdot \mathbf{k}\mathbf{q} \cdot \epsilon}{\mathbf{q}\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{F}_3 + \frac{\mathbf{i}\sigma \cdot \mathbf{q}\mathbf{q} \cdot \epsilon}{\mathbf{q}^2} \mathcal{F}_4$$

G.F. Chew, M.L. Goldberger, F.E. Low, and Y. Nambu, Phys.Rev. 106, 1345 (1957) called CGNL amplitudes

At low energies these amplitudes could be expanded in terms of linear combinations of associated Legendre polynomials and partial waves.

At higher energies number of relevant waves increases and it becomes very difficult to perform expansion of amplitudes. In this case one can use crossed-channel Regge expansion.



Regge trajectories contribute only to a particular combinations of invariant amplitudes  $A_i$ .

The combination of CGNL amplitudes with good quantum numbers for neutral pion production are:

$$F_1 = A_1 - 2mA_4,$$
  $F_2 = A_1 + tA_2,$   $F_3 = 2mA_1 - tA_4,$   $F_4 = A_3.$ 

The vector  $(\omega, \rho)$  trajectories contribute to  $F_1, F_3$ .

The axial-vector (b, h) trajectories contribute to  $F_2, F_4$ .

In the leading Reggeon exchange approximation

$$F_i(s,t) = \beta_i(t) \frac{\pi}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \frac{1 - e^{-i\pi\alpha}}{2\sin\pi\alpha} s^{\alpha-1}$$

 $\alpha$  is Regge trajectory.

The vector and axial-vector trajectories are:

$$\alpha_V(t) = 0.9(t - m_{\rho}^2) + 1,$$
  $\alpha_A(t) = 0.7(t - m_{b_1}^2) + 1.$ 

In these terms the differential cross section is represented as:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt}(s,t) = \frac{1}{32\pi} \left[ \frac{|F_3|^2 - t|F_1|^2}{4m^2 - t} + |F_2|^2 - t|F_4|^2 \right]$$

This model was applied by V. Mathieu and A. Szczepaniak to describe neutral pion photoproduction cross section at high energies (to be published).

Regge exchange model was used by M. Guidal, J.-M. Laget and M. Vanderhaeghen in PLB 400, 6 (1997) to describe pion photoproduction.

Later Regge model of GLV was modified in J.M. Laget, PLB 695, 199 (2011) and includes pion rescattering as well as u-channel exchange.

#### Experiment

Photoproduction cross section in the reaction

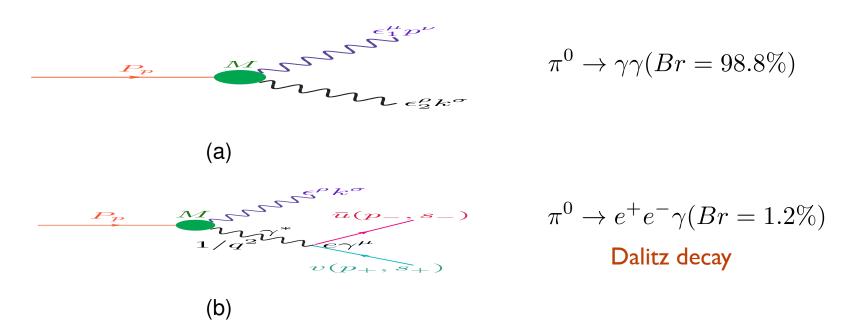
$$\gamma + p \to p\pi^0 \to pe^+e^-\gamma$$

was measured in CLAS using data from g12 run period. It is reported in M.Kunkel's Ph.D.Thesis.

TABLE 5: Running conditions for g12

| Electron Beam Energy        | $5.714~{ m GeV}$                            |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Electron Beam Current       | 60-65 nA (production) & 24 nA(single-prong) |
| Electron Beam Polarization  | Circular                                    |
| Radiator Material/Density   | Au / $646\mu \mathrm{g/cm^2}$               |
| Radiator Thickness          | $10^{-4}\chi_0$                             |
| Radius of Photon collimator | 6.4 mm                                      |
| Photon Beam Energy Range    | $1.142-5.425 \; \mathrm{GeV}$               |
| Target Shell Material       | Kapton                                      |
| Target Length/Diameter      | 40  cm/4  cm                                |
| Target Inside Material      | $\ell { m H}_2$                             |
| Target Position             | -90 cm from CLAS center                     |
| Target Polarization         | None  |
| Torus Magnetic Current      | $\frac{1}{2}B_{max} = 1930 \text{ A}$       |

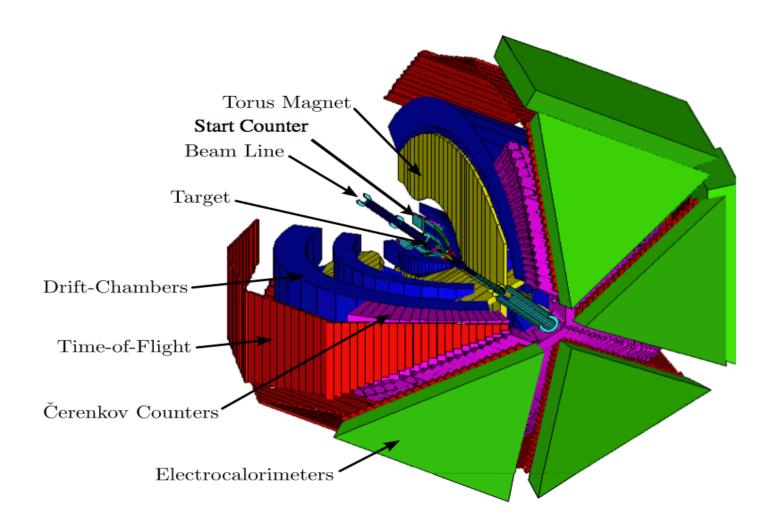
## $\pi^0$ Decay Modes



From the trigger point of view we choose Dalitz decay mode.

The lepton pairs could be produced from the conversion in LH target as well. From MC simulation the final sample contains roughly equal number of events coming from Dalitz decay and pair production in LH target.

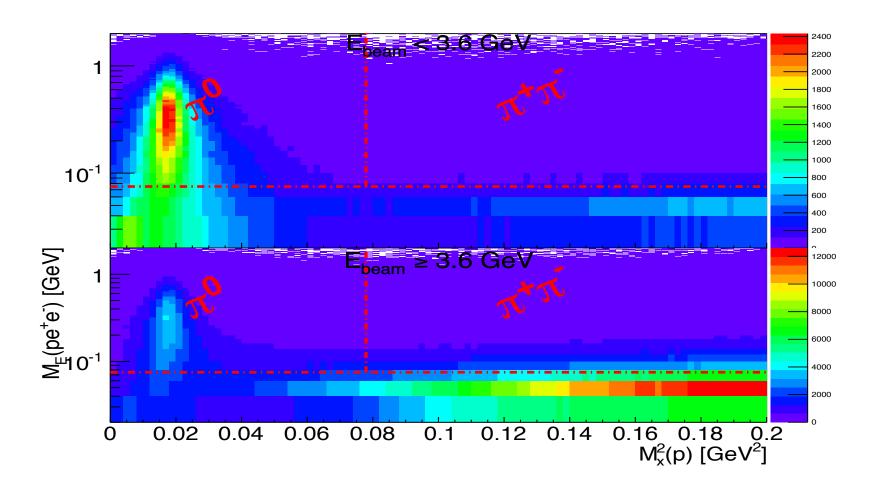
#### **CLAS** Detector



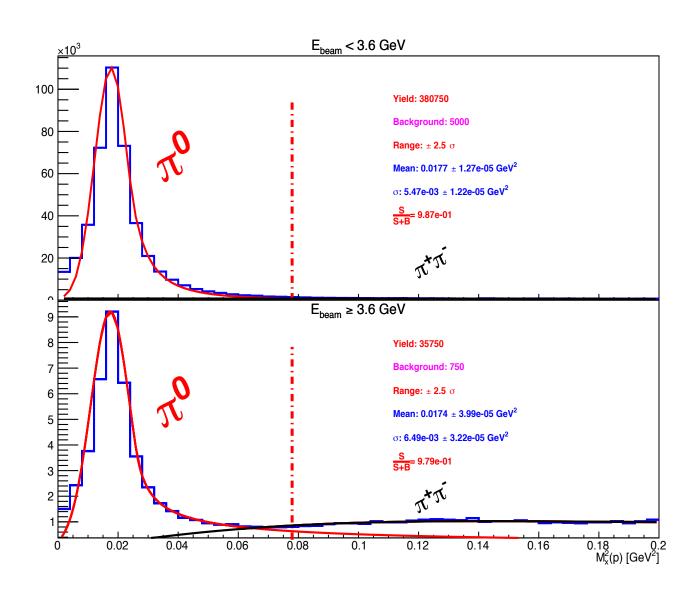
#### **Event Selection**

- -Event are selected with  $\gamma + p \rightarrow pq^+q^-(X)$  final state
- -Identify  $pe^+e^-(X)$  final state using CC and EC and TOF
- -Use kinematic fit to identify missing photon
- -Use kinematic fit to cut out  $\gamma + p \rightarrow p\pi^+\pi^-(X)$

## Missing energy vs Missing Mass



# Reconstructed peak of $\pi^0 \rightarrow e^+e^-\gamma$



### New (preliminary) CLAS and World Data

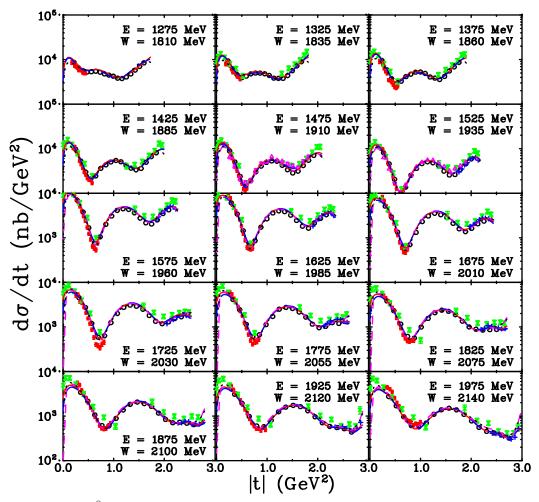
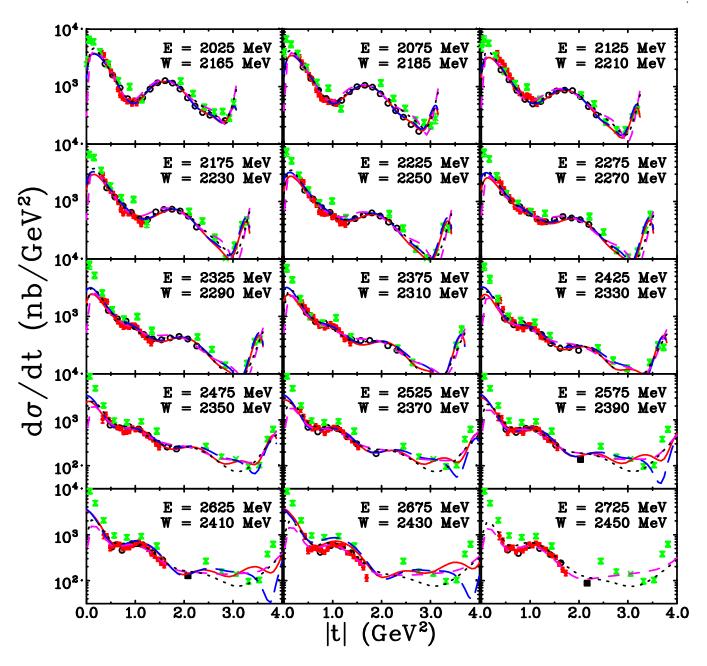
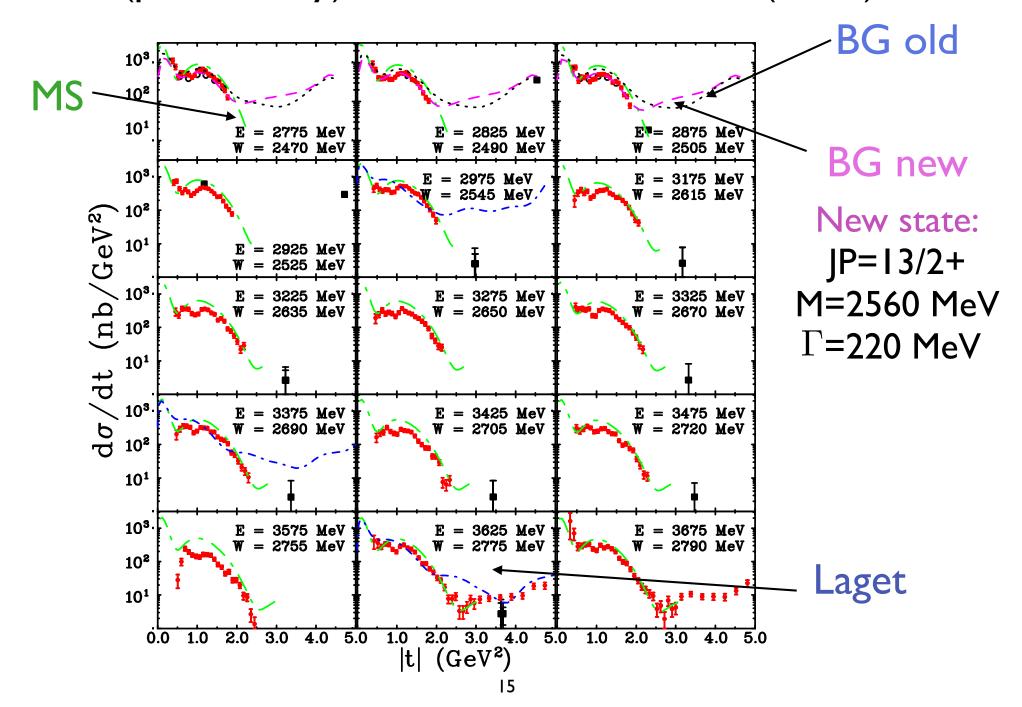


FIG. 3: (Color online)  $\pi^0$  photoproduction cross section,  $d\sigma/dt$ , off the proton at E = 1275 – 1975 MeV (W = 1810 – 2140 MeV) versus t, t is the squared four-momentum transfer between the incident photon and E, while the center-of-mass total energy is indicated by W. Red solid (blue dashed) lines correspond to the SAID KU14 (DU13 [7]) solution, which terminates at W = 2.5 GeV. Black dotted lines give the BG2014-02 BnGa [8] predictions. It terminates at W = 2.75 GeV. Magenta long dashed lines give BG2015 fit (included new CLAS data). Experimental data are from the current (red filled circles), CLAS [9] (black open circles), GRAAL [10] (magenta open triangles), LEPS [11] (blue plus), CB-ELSA [12] (green crosses). The plotted points from previously published experimental data above E = 2 GeV [13] (black filled squares) are those data points within  $\Delta E = \pm 3$  MeV of photon energy in laboratory system indicated on each panel.

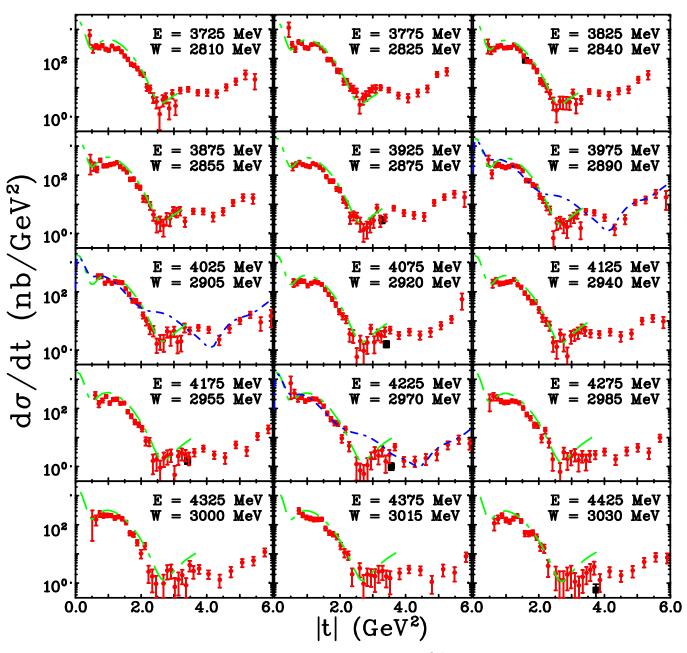
### New (preliminary) CLAS and World Data (cont.)



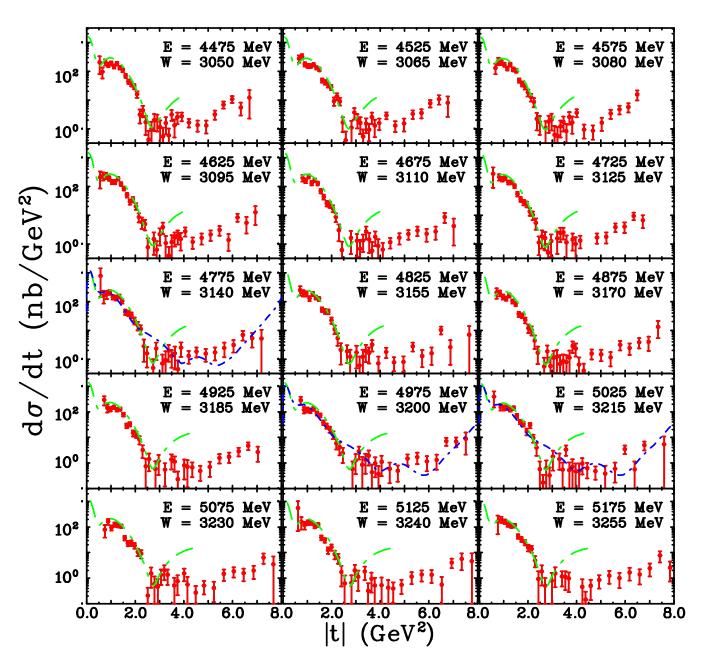
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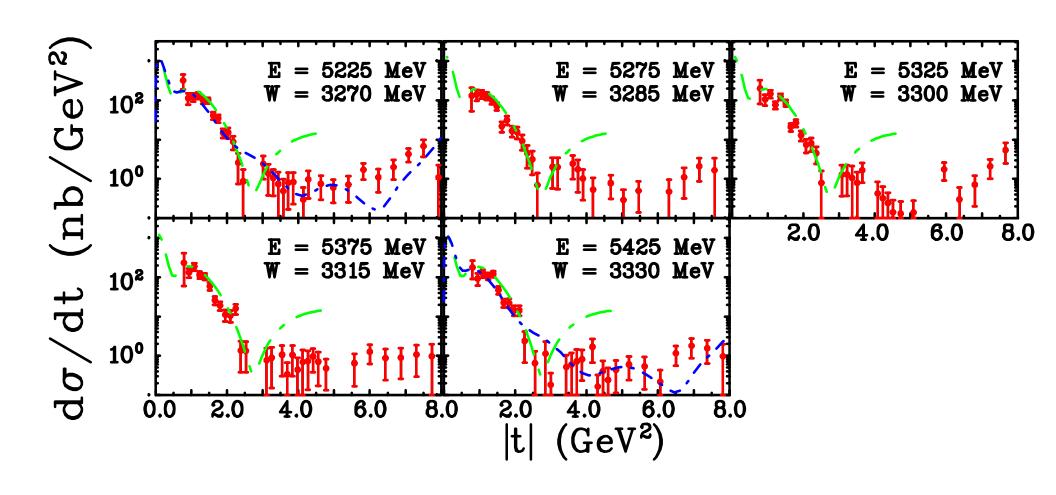
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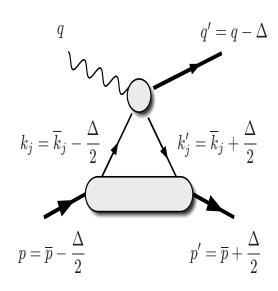
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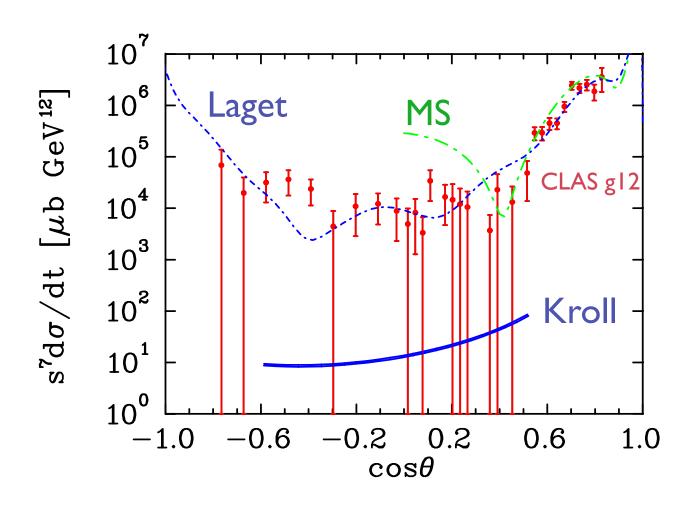
#### Handbag Model



P. Kroll et al.

Applied to WACS is very successful Underestimates neutral pion cross section significantly

## $s^7$ Scaling in $\gamma + p \rightarrow p\pi^0$



### Scaling: Future Prospects

