# Backward-angle (*u*-Channel) Physics π<sup>0</sup> Production at EIC

#### Wenliang 'Bill' Li

#### Joint postdoc at W&M and JLab EIC Center EICUG Early Career Workshop 2021

29/July/2020







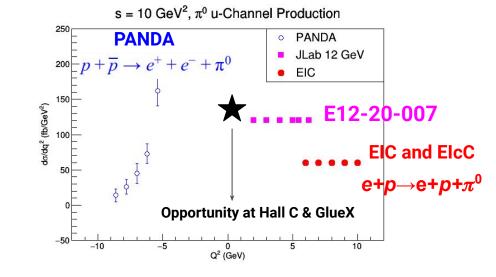
### u-Channel studies at EIC

#### 7.4 Understanding Hadronization

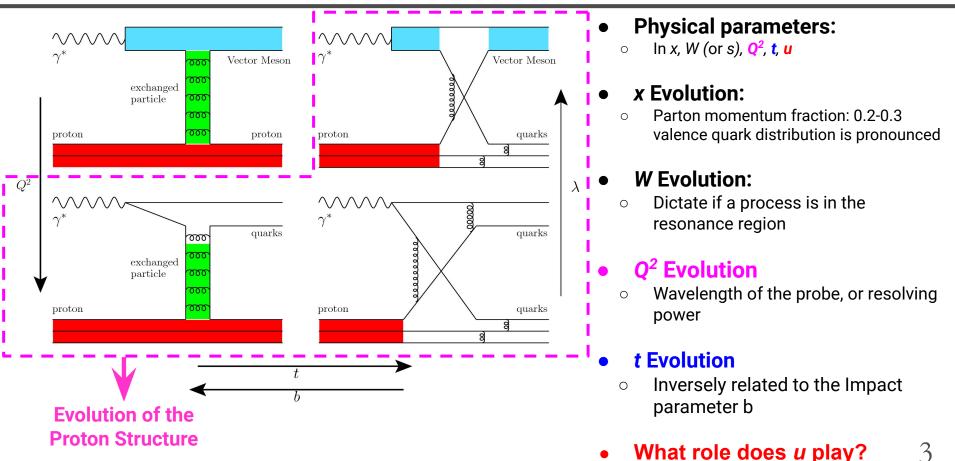
There is great potential also in studying **new particle production mechanisms** such as exclusive backward *u*-channel production. Given its high luminosity the EIC may be able to discover fundamental QCD particle production processes with low cross sections such as via hard (perturbative) C-odd three gluon exchange.



- As postdoctoral fellow at JLab EIC Center: Development of Backward π<sup>0</sup> Program for EIC
  - Feasibility studies included as part of the EIC Yellow report.



### Hadronic Model: Transition (Evolution) of Proton Structure



### **Jefferson Lab Experimental Halls at 12 GeV**

# Bending Arc Super Conducting Inear Accelerator Injector







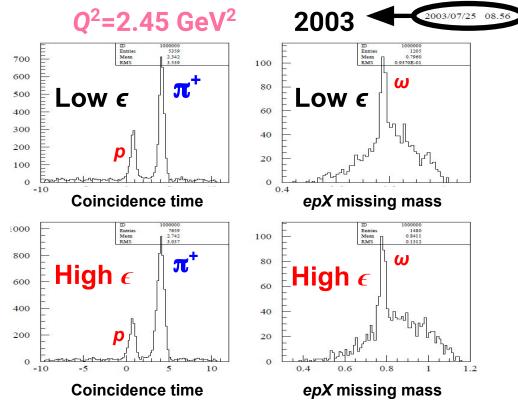
- Facility:
  - Two Superconducting LINAC
- Electron beam energy up to 12 GeV
- Four experimental Halls different objectives:
  - Hall A: upgrading, not shown
  - **Hall B:** low lumi. beam, large acceptance. Study multiple interactions simultaneously.
  - Hall C: High Res. Spectrometers. High intensity beam. Study nucleon structure, LT separation.
  - Hall D: photon beam, large acceptance.

# **Backward-angle Observables**

#### ■ Fpi-2 (E01-004) 2003

**FREE!** 

- Spokesperson: Garth Huber, Henk Blok
- Standard HMS and SOS (e) configuration
- Electric form factor of charged  $\pi$  through exclusive  $\pi$  production
- Primary reaction for Fpi-2
  - H(e, e' π<sup>+</sup>)n
- In addition, the experiment fortuitously received
  - *p*(e,e' *p*)ω
- Kinematics coverage
  - W= 2.21 GeV, Q<sup>2</sup>=1.6 and 2.45 GeV<sup>2</sup>
  - Two  $\epsilon$  settings for each  $Q^2$



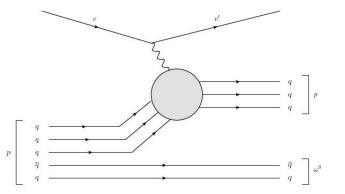
### *t*-Channel $\pi^+$ vs *u*-Channel $\omega$ Production

#### • Primary reaction for Fpi-2

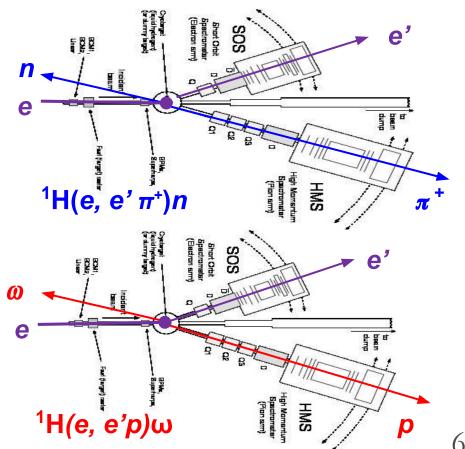
- H(e, e'  $\pi^+$ )n
- n (940 MeV)
- ο π<sup>+</sup> (140 MeV)

#### • Unexpected reaction:

- Η(e,e' p)ω
- *p* (940 MeV)
- ω (783 MeV)

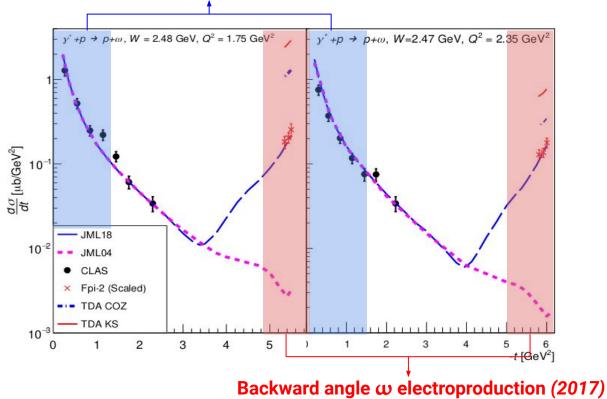


Mark Strikman & Christian Weiss: A proton being knocked out of a proton process



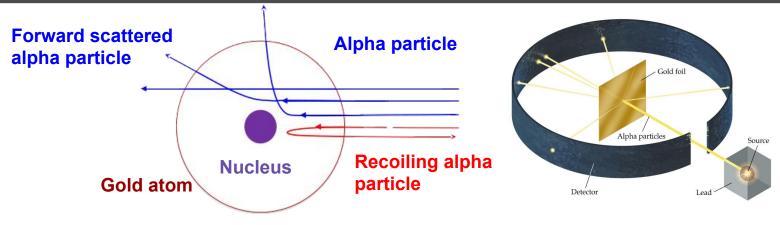
### **Results on Backward-angle Electroproduction**

#### Forward ω electroproduction from CLAS 6 (2004)



- Analysis: 2013-2017
- Topic of my Ph.D Results published in Phys. Rev. Let. (2019) <u>https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevL</u> <u>ett.123.182501</u>
- The magnitude of *u*-channel peak is surprisingly large

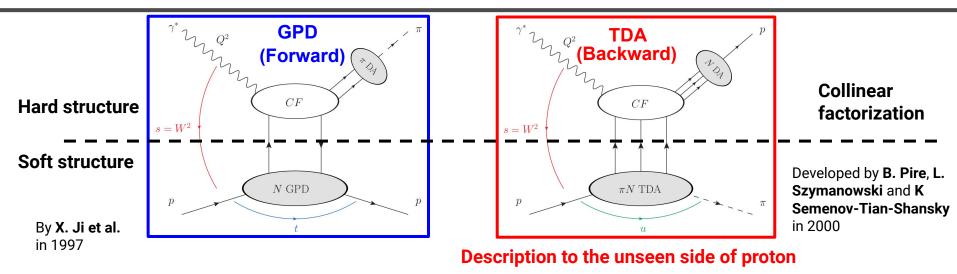
### Forward and Backward-angle Scattering off Atoms





- Forward scattered alpha particle: extracting the interaction radius of the nucleus and mapping out the transverse structure of the atom (mostly empty)
- Recoiling alpha particle: stiffness of the "point-like" structure.
- Full structure must incorporate both forward angle and backward angle observables.

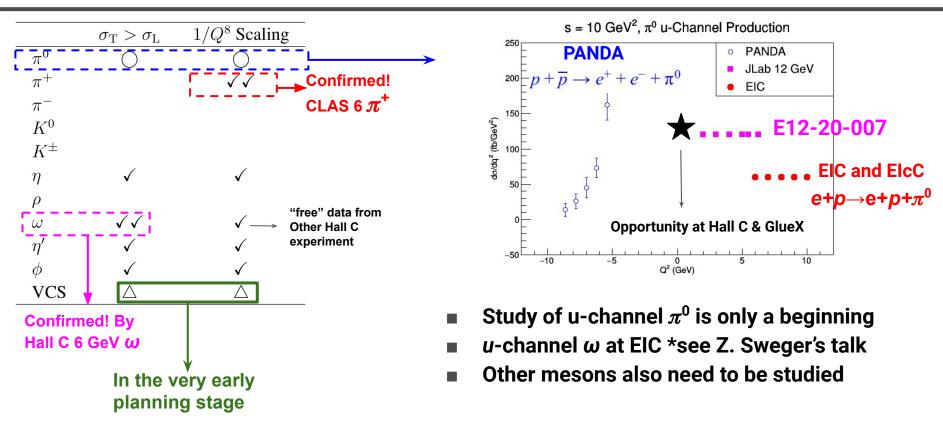
# GPD, SPD and TDA (Hard Structure)

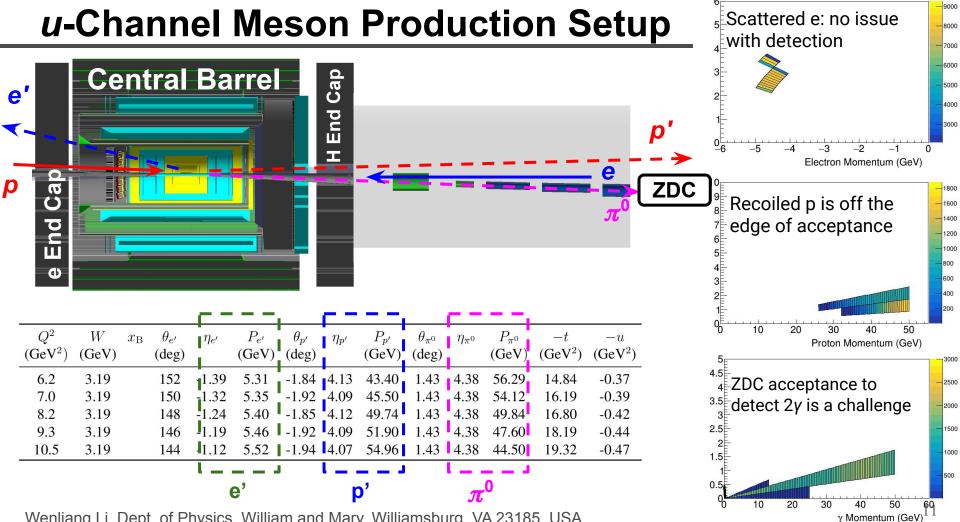


#### A complete description of nucleon

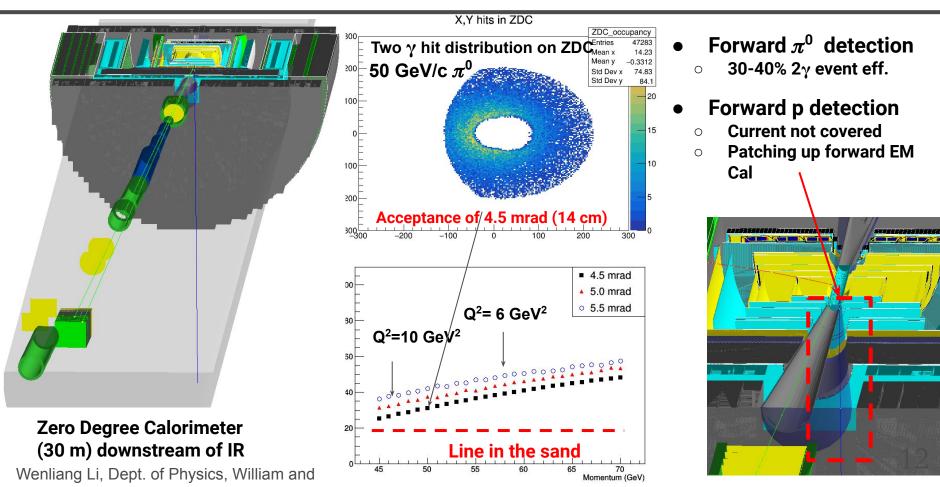
- **GPD**: It is extracted predominantly based in the forward angle observables.
- TDA: meson-nucleon Transition Distribution Amplitude (TDA) only accessible through backward (u-channel) meson production.
  - Prediction #1: the transverse cross section dominate over the longitudinal,  $\sigma_{\tau} >> \sigma_{\mu}$
  - Prediction #2: classic  $\sigma \propto 1/Q^8$  scaling behavior

# Systematically studying TDA

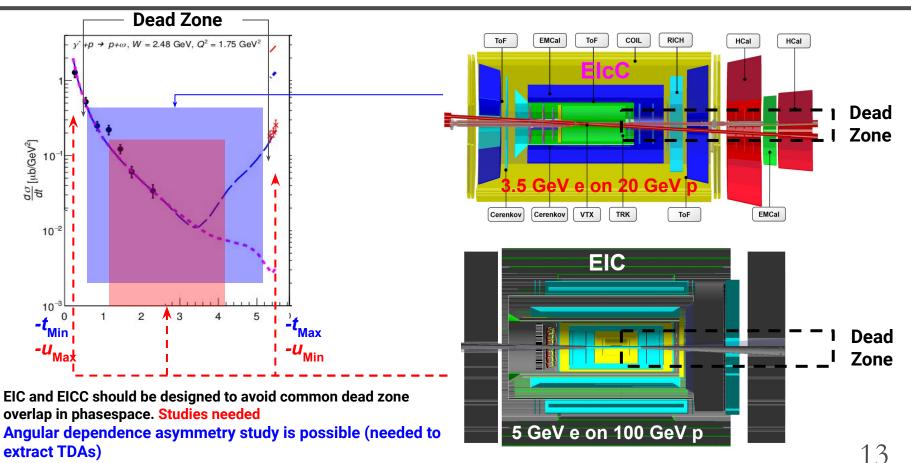




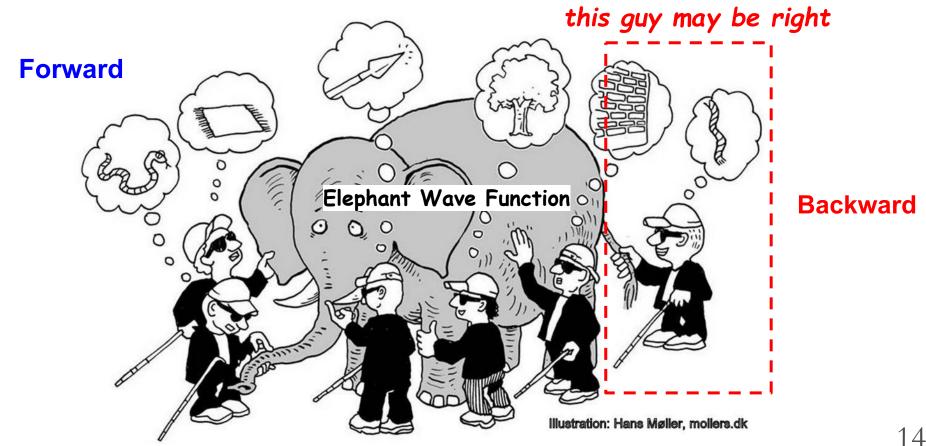
### Realistic ZDC acceptance for $\pi^0$ and p detection



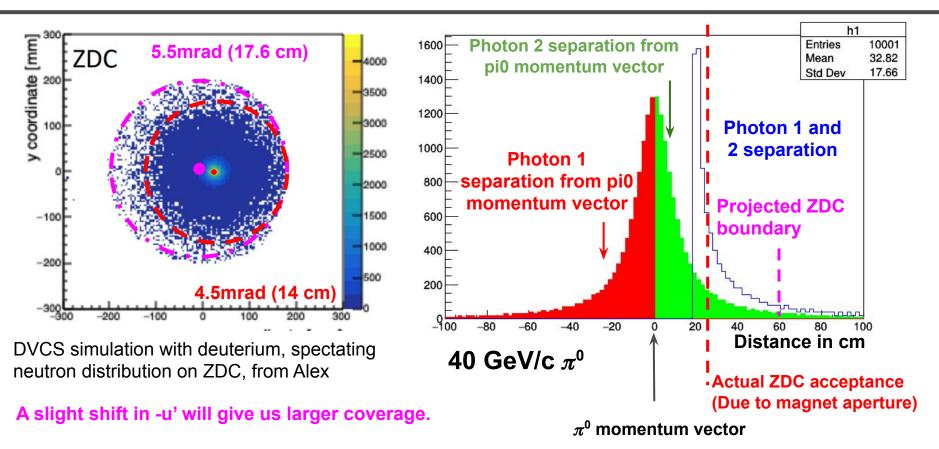
### **EIC and EicC Complementarity**



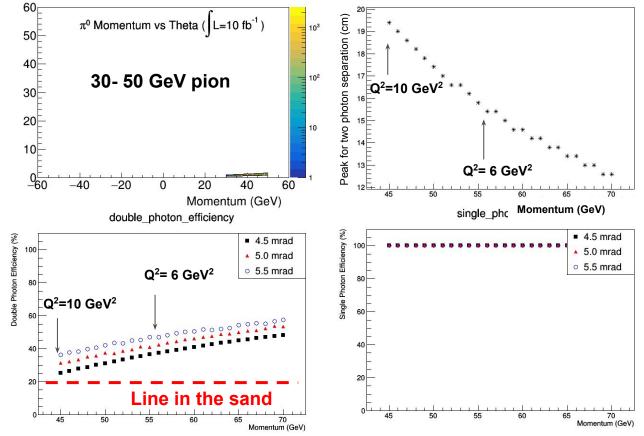
#### Thank You! .. and Let's explore *u*-channel Physics together!



### Realistic ZDC Acceptance (through magnets Aperture)



### $\pi^0 \rightarrow 2\gamma$ Detection at ZDC

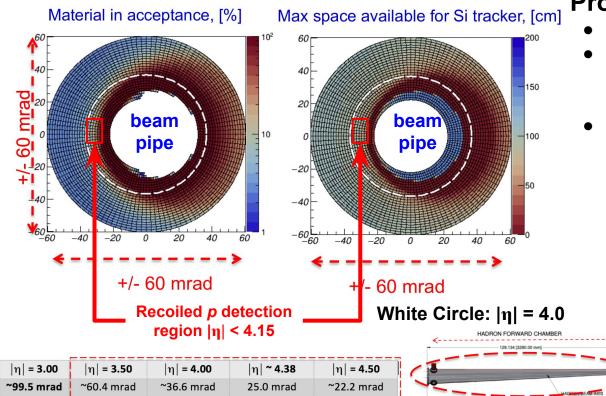


- Double photon efficiency for the nominal π<sup>0</sup> event is larger than 20%
- Detector (magnetic aperture) constrains:
  - Fixing center of the neutral particle at ZDC
  - Ensuring largest possible symmetrical acceptance

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# **Recoil Proton Detection**

#### Figures created by Alexander Kiselev



#### **Proton End Cap constrain**

• Recoiled proton  $|\eta| < 4.13$ 

+/- 4.5 m

354 331 (9000 00 mm

REBYLLIUM SECTION

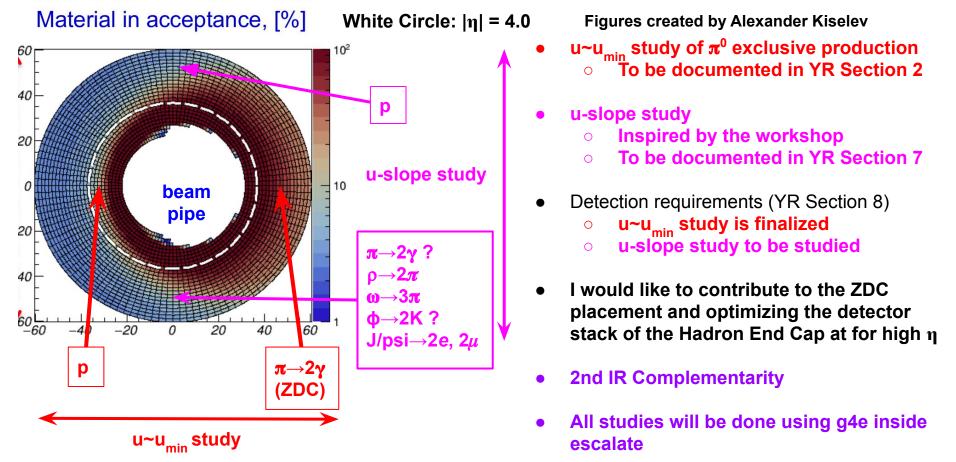
- Limited detector acceptance near the incidence electron and outgoing proton beam pipe
  - Preliminary assessment: Acceptance is feasible with reduced efficiency, further simulation work is required.

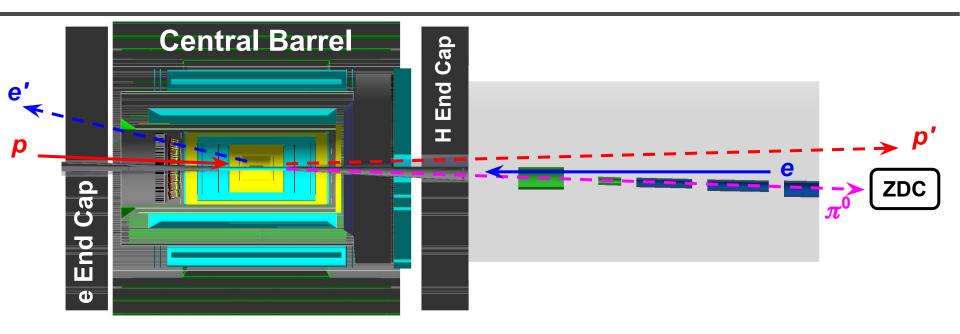
LECTRON REAM AXIS

FLECTRON FORWARD

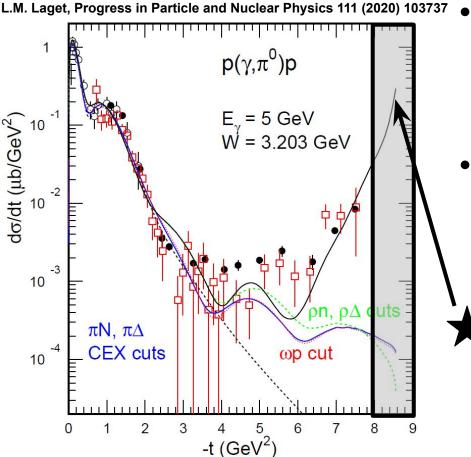
Top view

### u-channel Meson Study from Hadron End Point of View



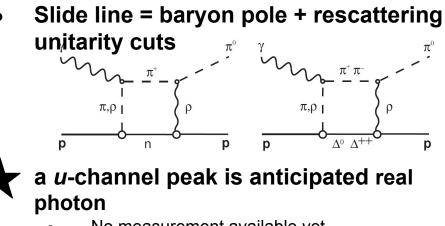


# $\pi^0$ Production Measurement via Real Photon



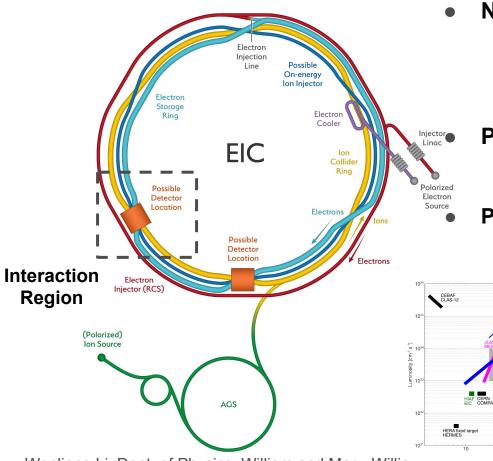
p(γ,  $\pi^0$ )p study as function of -*t*, s~10 GeV<sup>2</sup>

- Open circles: DESY data
- Open squares: 6 GeV CLAS data
- Full circles: SLAC data



- No measurement available yet
- $\circ$  Open question: would the  $\gamma^*$  extrapolate to the real photon point?

# **BNL-EIC Project**



Wenliang Li, Dept. of Physics, William and Mary, Williamson, M. Loroo, Co.

#### Next generation Electron-Ion Collider (EIC)

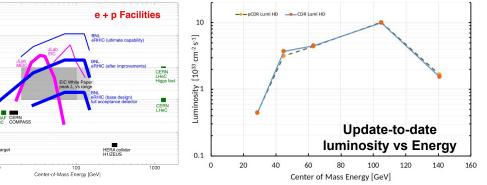
- Current consists of 1 interaction region (IR)
- Luminosity with 100 GeV p on 5 GeV e: 10 x10<sup>33</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>

#### **Project location:**

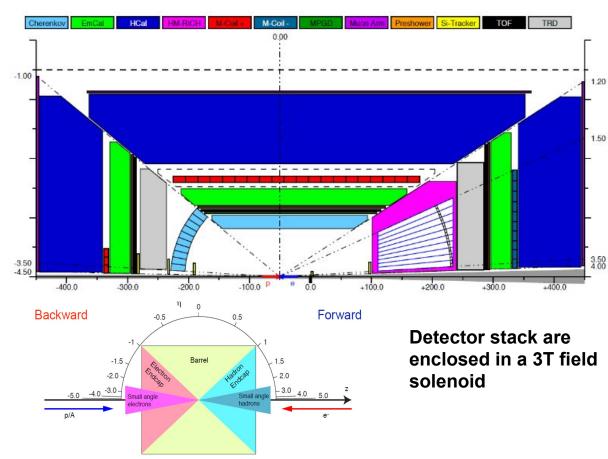
Brookhaven National Lab (BNL), NY

#### Project information:

- CD-0 approved ~ \$2 B
- Completion in ~10-15 years



# **EIC Central Detector Update-to-date Concept**



#### Hadron End Cap

- η > 1 (~45 Degrees)
- HCal + EmCal
- RICH
- Tracking

#### **Electron End Cap**

- η < -1
- HCal+EmCal
- Tracking
- Cherenkov PID

#### **Barrel Calorimeter**

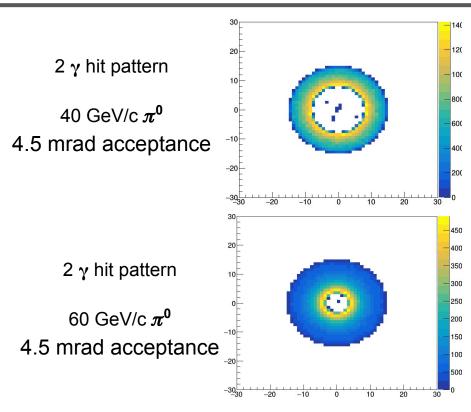
- $-1 < \eta < 1$
- Not needed for the *u*-channel
- Used as veto

# Zero-degree Calorimeter (not shown)

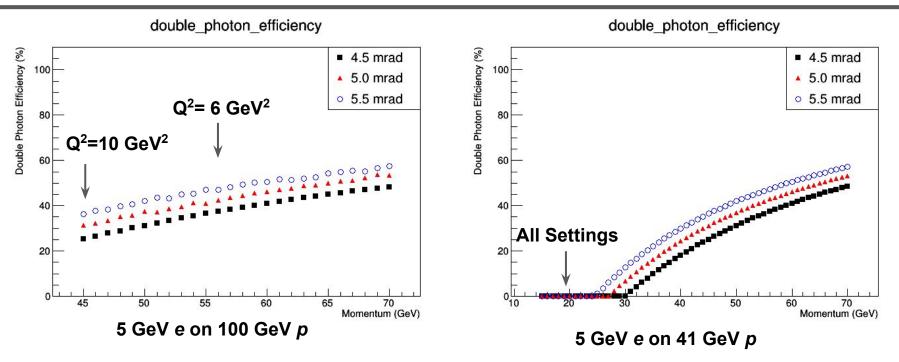
• Expecting neutral particles

# Physics background (to our current best knowledge)

- Double photon case:
  - Primary reaction:  $e+p > e'+p' + \pi^0$
  - $\circ$  Ideal expected trigger: e'+p'+ 2  $\gamma$
  - Physics background: none
  - $\circ$  ~ Less than ideal trigger: e'+2  $\gamma$
  - Background:  $\Delta$ ->n+ $\pi^0$
- Single photon case:
  - Primary reaction:  $e+p > e'+p' + \pi^0$
  - $\circ$  Ideal expected trigger: e'+p'+  $\gamma$
  - Physics background: DVCS, eta, $\Delta$ ->n+ $\pi^{0}$
  - $\circ$  ~ Less than ideal trigger: e'+ $\gamma$
  - Background: many possibilities
- We can use the double photon event to normalize the single photon events



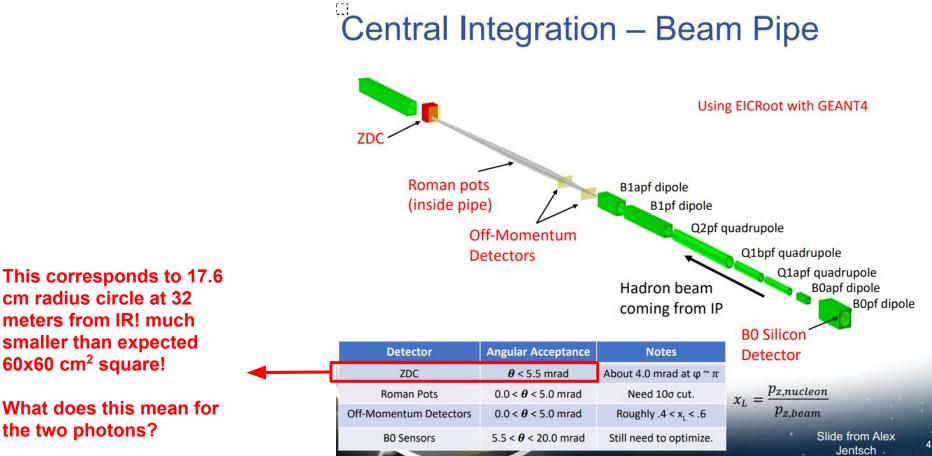
### EIC $e+p \rightarrow e+p+\pi^0$ for 5 GeV e on 41 GeV p



**Conclusion:** 

- No double photon detection on the ZDC!
- Proton will be at a more optimal angle
- 5 GeV e on 100 GeV p is more optimal.
- The setting configuration of 10 GeV e on 100 GeV p is similar

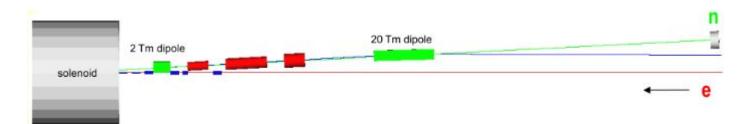
### From Pavia Meeting



cm radius circle at 32 meters from IR! much smaller than expected 60x60 cm<sup>2</sup> square!

What does this mean for the two photons?

### Detecting a 20-50 GeV pi0



- At 20-50 GeV,  $\pi^{0}$ -> 2 gamma decay angle (between two photon) is 0.8-0.4 degree.
- Best way to detect  $\pi^0$  at neutro  $\sin \theta_{\max} = \frac{m_{\pi}}{2E_{\gamma}}$  we need to insert lead to slow down  $\pi^0$ ? Resolution needed to distinguish pi0 from single photon DVCS events?
- Simulation is needed to answer these questions
- Some feedbacks and suggestions from experts:
  - Abhay: PHENIX central arm, 5 meters from IR. pi0->2photon separation at about 20 GeV. Our calorimeter granularity 2.7 cm square facing the IR.
  - Elke: In Star, ECal at 7m and separate pi0 up to 60 gev
  - Preshower to the calorimeter?

### **Question and Discussion**

- How ready is fast-smear and full simulation for the tagging detector to perform photon/neutron PID study?
- Small angle proton detection, complications?
- Backward  $\pi^0$  is just the beginning
  - Study on u-channel  $\eta$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\pi^{+}$  is in the plan (not inclued in YR)
  - Our currently knowledge of *u*-channel physics in the DIS region almost none
    - Unknown *W* dependence (EIC possible)
    - Unknown x<sub>B</sub> dependence (EIC + 12 GeV possible)
    - Unclear -t dependence (EIC possible, but required significant modification to ZDC, bigger ZDC)
    - L/T Separation possibility? (Need more study)
- More and more *u*-channel data will come out of 12 GeV, on all meson production channels
- Would be there a universality (*t*-channel and *u*-channel) effort in the EIC era?

