GlueX at 1 - 4 GeV

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and the GlueX Collaboration







GlueX Acknowledgements: <u>gluex.org/thanks</u>

Hall D Beam Opportunity 2026

The accelerator is scheduled to run at 690 MeV per pass in 2026 for 55 calendar days. This would allow a 3833 MeV beam in Hall D with relatively modest additional effort.

(photon beam in the range 956 MeV to 3764 MeV)

We propose to:

- investigate N(1685) using polarization observables for $K_S^0 \Lambda$
- weak-decay constant for α_{-} for $\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^{-}$
- measure differential cross sections and perform isospin separation of strong production amplitudes in the transition between resonance and Regge regions Emphasis on the lowest energy region for both rate and linear polarization.



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Baryon Resonances from Neutrons

Measurements off neutrons are essential for an isospin decomposition of resonances.

Different resonance contributions are possible from the neutron.

Large increase in proton data over the last decade

Neutron target is much more rare.

 γNN^* and $\gamma N\Delta^*$ couplings may differ strongly for proton and neutron, relatively unexplored, discovery potential due to lack of data.

With a photon beam and deuteron target we have an opportunity to contribute.

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What about *N*(1685)?

Observation of a narrow peak in cross section data of $\gamma n \rightarrow \eta n$ at W = 1685 MeV with $\Gamma \approx 30$ MeV by GRAAL, CBELSA/TAPS, A2, Tohoku group at LNS

Possible explanations:

- Interference term between partial waves? Eur. Phys. J. A 51.6 (2015), p. 72, Phys. Rev. C 78 (2008), p. 065201
- Opening of a strangeness channel? Phys. Lett. B 683 (2010), pp. 145–149
- Coupled channel effects? Phys. Lett. B 650 (2007), pp. 172–178

• A narrow resonance?

Phys. Lett. B 636 (2006), pp. 253–258 Eur. Phys. J. A 32 (2007), pp. 311–319 Phys. Rev. D 99.7 (2019), p. 074010

A true resonant structure is expected to decay to $K^0\Lambda$



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How to investigate the nature of this narrow peak?

Why $K^0 \Lambda$?: accessible from γn initial state only isospin-¹/₂ resonances contribute Predicted to have strong coupling $\frac{Br(N(1685) \rightarrow K^0 \Lambda)}{Br(N(1685) \rightarrow n\eta)} = 0.6$ Sub et al. Phys. Rev. D 99.7 (2019)



Kim et al.: improved description of differential cross sections when including narrow resonance in cross section.

BnGa: model with interference between N(1535) and N(1650)

Either way, cross section is small.

Polarization observables

Polarization observables sensitive to interference of amplitudes enhances sensitivity to small signals

 $\gamma d \rightarrow K^0 \Lambda(p)$ off a liquid deuterium target

Linearly and circularly polarized beam
Self-analyzing decay of Λ
7 independent polarization observables accessible

Beam		Target			Recoil		il	
	-				x' y' z'			$d\sigma d\sigma_0$
	-	x	y	z	-	-	-	$\frac{\omega}{\mu} = \frac{\omega}{\mu} \left[1 - P_{\rm lin} \Sigma \cos 2\Phi\right]$
								at at
unpolarized	σ_0		T			P		$+ \alpha_{-} \cos \theta_{x'} (-P_{\mathrm{lin}} O_{x'} \sin 2\Phi - P_{\mathrm{circ}} C_{x'})$
linearly pol.	Σ	H	P	G	$O_{x'}$	T	$O_{z'}$	$-\alpha_{-}\cos\theta_{y'}(-P+P_{\mathrm{lin}}T\cos2\Phi)$
								$-\alpha \cos\theta_{z'}(P_{in}O_{z'}\sin 2\Phi + P_{oin}C_{z'})]$
circularly pol.		F		E	$C_{x'}$		$C_{z'}$	

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Extraction of the final state

Full simulation and reconstruction done with validated GlueX tools.

• Reconstruct
$$\gamma d \to K_S^0 \Lambda(p)$$
 with $K_S^0 \to \pi^+ \pi^-$
and $\Lambda \to p\pi^-$

• Proton identified using missing mass

 $p_{\text{missing}} = p_{\gamma} + p_d - (p_{K_s} + p_{\Lambda})$

• Background from $K_s \Sigma$ with missing photon from Σ decay (~3%)

240F Signal 220 Background 200 Sum 180 D 0.8 160⊦ Counts [a.u.] 140 120 100 80 60 0.7 40 20 200 250 300 350 400 450 500 50 100 150 0.8 1.2 0.6 1.6 1.8 0.4 14 p_r [MeV] Missing Mass [GeV]

Participant-Spectator Model: Fermi momentum of same size but opposite direction for p and n Proton remains unaffected after the interaction \rightarrow spectator

Missing momentum well reconstructed

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Final State Interaction effects

Examples of possible interactions from proton









Control missing momentum

FSIs are small for low missing momentum



Compare free and quasi-free proton (after Fermi motion correction)



 \rightarrow FSI effects can be largely controlled!

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Projected uncertainties

Good statistical precision and full CM coverage. Will be very constraining to models.

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{d\sigma_0}{dt} [1 - P_{\text{lin}} \Sigma \cos 2\Phi + \alpha_- \cos \theta_{x'} (-P_{\text{lin}} O_{x'} \sin 2\Phi - P_{\text{circ}} C_{x'}) - \alpha_- \cos \theta_{y'} (-P + P_{\text{lin}} T \cos 2\Phi) - \alpha_- \cos \theta_{z'} (P_{\text{lin}} O_{z'} \sin 2\Phi + P_{\text{circ}} C_{z'})]$$



Uncertainties for 17.5 PAC days with standard 5 mm collimator.

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The α_{-} parameter for Λ decay

The $\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^-$ decay is a weak decay and preserves some of the polarization of the Λ

 α_{-} is the parameter that tells us how much of the polarization is transferred from the Λ onto the proton \rightarrow "Self-analysing" decay.

Significant tension exists between collider and fixed-target extractions.

E12-12-002A **Approved by PAC52** in 2024 as run-group addition to GlueX/JEF. Currently taking data.

Use the same method as Ireland et al. but do it better!



Main systematic for GlueX:

Photon beam linear polarization due to dominance of amplitudes depending on linear polarization

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Method to Extract α_{-}

Measure $P, \Sigma, T, O_x, O_z, C_x, C_z$ all simultaneously for $\gamma p \to K^+ \Lambda$

$$I(\Phi, \theta_{x',y',z'}) = 1 + \alpha_{-} \cos \theta_{y'} P - P_{L}^{\gamma} \cos(2\Phi)(\Sigma + \alpha_{-} \cos \theta_{y'} T) - P_{L}^{\gamma} \sin(2\Phi)(\alpha_{-} \cos \theta_{x'} O_{x'} + \alpha_{-} \cos \theta_{z'} O_{z'}) - P_{C}^{\gamma}(\alpha_{-} \cos \theta_{x'} C_{x'} + \alpha_{-} \cos \theta_{z'} C_{z'})$$

Requirement: Linear + circular polarization in Hall D simultaneously (elliptical polarization)

by Fierz identities cause over constrained system: leave α_{-} as free parameter

$$\Sigma^{2} - T^{2} + P^{2} + C_{x'}^{2} + C_{z'}^{2} + O_{x'}^{2} + O_{z'}^{2} = 1$$

$$\Sigma P - T - C_{x'}O_{z'} + C_{z'}O_{x'} = 0$$

In practice: directly fit amplitudes to data instead of constrained polarization observables (automatically constrained)



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The advantage of lower energies

Statistical precision:

- cross sections about factor 10 greater
 - (SLAC: $\sigma \propto 1/E_{\gamma}^2$)



Low energy running	% uncertainty	Rel. uncertainty on alpha	Absolute uncertainty
Photon beam circ. pol.	2%	1.9% (<0.2% at 9 GeV)	0.014
Photon beam lin. pol.	<2%	<0.7% (<4% at 9 GeV)	0.005
Acceptance	2%	2%	0.015
Sigma baryon contamination	<2.5%	<0.3%	< 0.002
Total		2.9%	0.021

Systematic uncertainty:

- different polarization observables dominate, polarization systematics enter differently
- linear polarization less important
- access to more central events in CM
- partially independent systematic uncertainties
- total uncertainty reduced in combined analysis

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Transition Region (Resonance \rightarrow Regge)

Published world data for π^0 , η and η' from deuterium:

 $E_{\gamma} \sim 1.0 - 1.6 \, \text{GeV}$ measured by multiple experiments~ 10 × $E_{\gamma} \sim 1.6 - 2.5 \, \text{GeV}$ measured before~ 100 × $E_{\gamma} \gtrsim 2.5 \, \text{GeV}$ never measured



• Disentangle the isospin composition of the elementary strong production amplitudes, particularly to understand the interplay between coherent and incoherent nuclear processes.

- Study nuclear effects by comparing free proton with bound proton.
- Search for (or place upper bound on) the quasi-free Primakoff process.

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Projected Uncertainties

Measure differential and total cross section.

Huge improvement in uncertainties on cross sections or brand new cross sections over large energy range.



Existing data Jaegle et al. Eur.Phys.J.A 47 (2011) 89

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Composition of the amplitude

Detecting the pseudo scalar with either n, p \rightarrow extract Regge trajectories large range of energies where this was never possible before

Most simple Regge-like model $(\sigma \propto |A|^2)$

$$\begin{aligned} A(\gamma p \to \pi^0 p) &= t^{\pi}_{\omega} + t^{\pi}_{\rho} \\ A(\gamma n \to \pi^0 n) &= t^{\pi}_{\omega} - t^{\pi}_{\rho} \\ A(\gamma d \to \pi^0 d) &= 2t^{\pi}_{\omega} \\ A(\gamma p \to \eta^{(\prime)} p) &= t^{\eta^{(\prime)}}_{\omega} + t^{\eta^{(\prime)}}_{\rho} \\ A(\gamma n \to \eta^{(\prime)} n) &= t^{\eta^{(\prime)}}_{\omega} - t^{\eta^{(\prime)}}_{\rho} \\ A(\gamma d \to \eta^{(\prime)} d) &= 2t^{\eta^{(\prime)}}_{\omega} \end{aligned}$$

In order to measure absolute cross sections over the full energy range, will normalize against Compton events.

The all neutral final states $\pi^0 n$ and ηn have no tracks and need empty target running to control backgrounds.



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Experiment

Maximize rate and linear polarization at lowest tagging energies (also gives high linear

polarization over a wide range of energies)

Run at 20-30 nA, not to saturate tagger.

Modify trigger for lower energy events.

Widen collimator hole (5 mm \rightarrow 10 mm) to increase acceptance.





GlueX Endorsed: commitment by the GlueX collaboration to operate the detector, staff shifts, calibrate and process the data, as well as provide support for data analysis.

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Beamtime Request

	PAC Days	Current	Target	Coherent Edge	Pair Spec.		
Commissioning	3	Various configurations					
Luminosity calibration	3	Various configurations					
Hydrogen running	10	30 nA	LH_2	$\sim 1.4 \text{ GeV}$	$1 < E_{\gamma} < 1.7 \text{ GeV}$		
	1	30 nA	empty	$\sim 1.4 { m GeV}$	$1 < E_{\gamma} < 1.7 {\rm GeV}$		
Deuterium running	10	20 nA	LD_2	$\sim 1.2~{ m GeV}$	$1 < E_{\gamma} < 1.7 {\rm GeV}$		
	1	20 nA	empty	$\sim 1.2~{ m GeV}$	$1 < E_{\gamma} < 1.7 \text{ GeV}$		
Total	28			*Mo	dified from written proposal		

Commissioning: setup beamline for low current running, adjust coherent enhancement location, optimize trigger for rate and acceptance,

Luminosity calibration: cross calibrate Compton scattering events with the Pair Spectrometer.

Empty target running: allow the study of beamline backgrounds (necessary for neutral final states and Primakov reactions.)

Polarimetry: requesting the injector group measure the polarization using the Mott polarimeter every 2 weeks to 1.0% statistical precision to help control systematic uncertainties.

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Summary

Opportunity to do interesting physics with zero cost in new beam time.

General philosophy of GlueX is to accumulate a general purpose data set useful for multiple different analyses. Accomplish with:

- deuteron and proton targets.
- systematic studies to allow absolute cross sections over full energy range.
- empty target running to facilitate neutral final states and low-t processes.

Unique and timely data set suitable for a range of interesting analyses.

Three dedicated groups ready to analyze the data as soon as it is available. We expect:

- information on the nature of the feature at 1685 MeV in $\gamma n \rightarrow \eta n$
- measurement of α_{-} in Λ decay at 1.4 GeV
- first (or improved) differential cross sections from the neutron in the E range 956 MeV to 3764 MeV





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GlueX Acknowledgements: gluex.org/thanks

Backup Slides

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Modified Beamtime Request

Since the proposal was written the expected time available for the measurement has been shortened to 28 PAC days from 39, a factor of 0.7. We are now planning on using a wider photon beam collimator (from 5 mm to 10 mm), which will increase the beam flux to the experiment by a factor 2.6 at the polarization peak for the Alpha and Baryon parts and by up to 3.8 elsewhere. This will better balance the rates in the spectrometer with the rates in the tagger, but will lower the beam linear-polarization at the peak by about 7% relative. Together these factors should lead to an increase in statistics of about > 1.8, over what was proposed. A modified beam time request from the proposal document is presented here.

	PAC Days	Current	Target	Coherent Edge	Pair Spec.		
Commissioning	3	Various configurations					
Luminosity calibration	3	Various configurations					
Hydrogen running	10	30 nA	LH_2	$\sim 1.4 \text{ GeV}$	$1 < E_{\gamma} < 1.7 \text{ GeV}$		
	1	30 nA	empty	$\sim 1.4 { m GeV}$	$1 < E_{\gamma} < 1.7 \text{ GeV}$		
Deuterium running	10	20 nA	LD_2	$\sim 1.2~{ m GeV}$	$1 < E_{\gamma} < 1.7 {\rm GeV}$		
	1	20 nA	empty	$\sim 1.2~{ m GeV}$	$1 < E_{\gamma} < 1.7 \text{ GeV}$		
Total	28						

Prioritization

We would like to maintain the general nature of the data set as much as possible.

In the event of major loss of beam time:

- Ruthlessly optimize commissioning time
- Remove luminosity calibration running
- Remove empty target running
- Decrease proton running time: $t_p = t_d / \sqrt{2}$
- For example if we have only 12 PAC days we might do the following.

	PAC Days	Current	Target	Coherent Edge	Pair Spec.
Commissioning	2		V	arious configuration	ons
Deuterium running	6	20 nA	LD_2	$\sim 1.2 { m ~GeV}$	$1 < E_{\gamma} < 1.7 \text{ GeV}$
Hydrogen running	4	20 nA	LH_2	$\sim 1.2~{ m GeV}$	$1 < E_{\gamma} < 1.7 \text{ GeV}$
Total	12				

Redundant Polarization Measurement



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0.20

0.15

0.10

0.05

0.00

-0.05

-0.10

-0.15

-0.20

Amplitude

Beam Tests 2025

We intend to test the following during the 2025 running.

Lower the coherent peak to 35\% of the endpoint energy (done)

Turn on the full tagger, lower the beam current and test the nonoamp BPMs.

Lower the trigger threshold for the BCAL to 200 MeV and monitor trigger rate.

Lower the pair spectrometer field to center acceptance at $E_{\gamma} \approx 32 \% E_e$



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Changes to Trigger









Lower BCAL energy threshold to 200 MeV



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Differential cross section



Fig. 4. Differential cross section for the $\gamma n \rightarrow K^0 \Lambda$ reaction as a function of $\cos \theta_{CM}^{K^0}$ for each beam energy. The dashed (blue), dot-dashed (magenta), and solid (black) curves correspond to the contribution from K^* Reggeon exchange, that from the sum of N^* exchanges, and the total contribution, respectively. The dotted (green) one indicates the total contribution without the effect of the narrow resonance $N(1685, 1/2^+)$. The data are taken from the FOREST experiment [25].

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Baryon analysis



confidence level





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The α_{-} parameter for Λ decay



I **DECAY PARAMETERS**

See the "Note on Baryon Decay Parameters" in the neutron Listings. Some early results have been omitted.

α_{-} FOR $\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^{-}$

VALUE	EVTS	DOCUMENT ID		TECN	COMMENT
0.642±0.013 OUR					
0.584 ± 0.046	8500	ASTBURY	75	SPEC	
0.649 ± 0.023	10325	CLELAND	72	OSPK	
0.67 ± 0.06	3520	DAUBER	69	HBC	From Ξ decay
0.645 ± 0.017	10130	OVERSETH	67	OSPK	Λ from $\pi^- p$
0.62 ± 0.07	1156	CRONIN	63	CNTR	Λ from $\pi^- p$

$\alpha_+ \text{ FOR } \overline{\Lambda} \to \overline{p}\pi^+$

VALUE	EVTS	DOCUMENT ID		TECN	COMMENT
-0.71 ±0.08 OUR AV	ERAGE				
$-0.755\!\pm\!0.083\!\pm\!0.063$	pprox 8.7k	ABLIKIM	10	BES	$J/\psi \rightarrow \Lambda \overline{\Lambda}$
-0.63 ± 0.13	770	TIXIER	88	DM2	$J/\psi ightarrow \Lambda \overline{\Lambda}$

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M. Tanabashi et al. (Particle Data Group), Phys. Rev. D 98, 030001 (2018)

- * The $\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^-$ decay is a weak decay and preserves some of the polarisation of the Λ
- * α_{-} is the parameter that tells us how much of the polarisation is transferred from the Λ onto the proton \rightarrow "Self-analysing" decay

 $\pi^+(\pi^0)$

* In 2019 new BESIII result with huge discrepancy







2019 - Ireland et al.

D.G. Ireland et al

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 123, 182301 (2019)

Kaon Photoproduction and the Λ Decay Parameter α_{-} If the photon beam is circularly polarized we have

 $1 + \alpha_{-}\cos\theta_{y}P + (\alpha_{-}\cos\theta_{x}C_{x} + \alpha_{-}\cos\theta_{z}C_{z})P_{C}^{\gamma}, \quad (2)$

and if the photon beam is linearly polarized the distribution is

$$1 + \alpha_{-} \cos \theta_{y} P - \{\Sigma + \alpha_{-} \cos \theta_{y} T\} P_{L}^{\gamma} \cos 2\phi - \{\alpha_{-} \cos \theta_{x} O_{x} + \alpha_{-} \cos \theta_{z} O_{z}\} P_{L}^{\gamma} \sin 2\phi.$$
(3)

+ Fierz identities:
$$O_x^2 + O_z^2 + C_x^2 + C_z^2 + \Sigma^2 - T^2 + P^2 = 1$$

 $\Sigma P - C_x O_z + C_z O_x - T = 0$

Extract alpha from over-constrained set of equations Use data from three different publications from different beam times

Extrapolate data to have data set with common kinematics

Since then two more publications by BES3

Old results ignored by PDG but tension between new results





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Pair Spectrometer Acceptance

the pair spectrometer has limited energy acceptance $\approx \pm 30\%$ 950 MeV < E_{γ} < 1615 MeV

the remainder of the energy range will be normalized to Compton scattering rate



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Relationship between pol. obs. and fitted amplitudes

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}t} &= |b_1|^2 + |b_2|^2 + |b_3|^2 + |b_4|^2\\ \Sigma \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}t} &= |b_1|^2 + |b_2|^2 - |b_3|^2 - |b_4|^2\\ T \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}t} &= |b_1|^2 - |b_2|^2 - |b_3|^2 + |b_4|^2\\ P \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}t} &= |b_1|^2 - |b_2|^2 + |b_3|^2 - |b_4|^2\\ O_{x'} \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}t} &= -2\operatorname{Re}(b_1b_4^* - b_2b_3^*)\\ O_{z'} \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}t} &= -2\operatorname{Im}(b_1b_4^* + b_2b_3^*)\\ C_{x'} \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}t} &= 2\operatorname{Im}(b_1b_4^* - b_2b_3^*)\\ \end{aligned}$$

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Variation of observables



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Study parameters

- * To determine analysing power (i.e. final statistical precision) and influence of polarisation systematics
- Simulate MC and run the same analysis workflow as for PAC52 proofof-concept
- Generate 12/13 statistically independent data samples with 500k events each (projected statistics for about 2 PAC of running)
- * Use polarisation observables from BnGa PWA at different $\cos(\theta)$
- * Fit each sample and extract α_{-}
- * To study polarisation, fit with value different from generation
 - * E.g. generate with $P_L^{\gamma} = 0.80$, but analyse with $P_L^{\gamma} = 0.80 + n\sigma$
 - * n=1,2,3

*
$$\sigma_{L,C} = 0.02 \times P_{L,C}$$



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