### The Search for Exotic Hadrons at GlueX

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### 2 The GlueX Experiment

3 Light Quark Spectroscopy: Recent Results

Future of the GlueX Spectroscopy Program

### Spectroscopy





Joseph v. Fraunhofer, 1814

- Spectroscopy: study of the interaction between matter and electromagnetic radiation
- Precision measurements of the hydrogen atom spectrum ultimately lead to the development of QED
- Lasting impact on astro- and nuclear physics, solid state physics

## The Strong Interaction



#### Quantum ChromoDynamics (QCD)

- Confinement: only color-neutral objects can be observed
- Baryons and mesons as the relevant degrees of freedom



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### Spectroscopic Notation $J^{PC}$

- J: Angular momentum
- P: Parity
- C: Charge conjugation

## Light Meson Spectroscopy





#### Meson Spectroscopy

- Study of qq system: equivalent to the hydrogen atom
- Many broad and overlapping states in mass spectrum

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#### Meson Spectroscopy

- Study of qq system: equivalent to the hydrogen atom
- Many broad and overlapping states in mass spectrum
- Characterize states by quantum numbers
- Disentangle states with angular distribution of decay
- Use interference to look for small signals



Allowed  $J^{PC}$  for  $q\bar{q}$  mesons:  $0^{++}, 0^{-+}, 1^{--}, 1^{+-}, 2^{++}, ...$ 

### **Evidence for Exotic States**



#### **Experimental Status**

- Forbidden  $J^{PC}$  for  $q\bar{q}$  mesons:  $0^{+-}, 1^{-+}, 2^{+-}, \dots$
- Smoking gun for states beyond the quark-antiquark model
- Lowest mass state  $\pi_1(1600)$ :  $J^{PC} = 1^{-+}$



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- Existence and interpretation debated for a long time





### Evidence for Exotic States



1.57

(n (1855))

it projection (baseline fit)

(a)  $\chi^2/dof =$ 

Events/(10MeV/c<sup>2</sup>)

300

200

15

#### **Experimental Status**

- Forbidden  $J^{PC}$  for  $q\bar{q}$  mesons:  $0^{+-}, 1^{-+}, 2^{+-}, ...$
- Smoking gun for states beyond the guark-antiguark model
- Lowest mass state  $\pi_1(1600)$ :  $J^{PC} = 1^{-+}$ ٠
- Significant progress in recent years, isospin-partner  $\eta_1(1855)$ ?



### Lattice QCD





- Excited spectrum of states with identified spin, including exotic quantum numbers
- Tremendous progress in recent years: resonance parameters and decay modes
- Experimental results need to reach equivalent precision



### The GlueX Experiment



**Gluonic Excitation Experiment** 



### GlueX at Jefferson Lab





- 12 GeV electron beam from CEBAF accelerator
- Coherent Bremsstrahlung on diamond radiator
- Linear polarization peak  $P_{\gamma} \sim 40\%$
- Photon energy tagged by scattered electrons
- Beam intensity:  $1 5 \cdot 10^7 \gamma$ /s in peak



### Photoproduction





#### **Complementary Production Mechanism**

- Wide variety of states in spectrum accessible
- Photon polarization provides constraints on produced systems
- Understanding of **production mechanism** is prerequisite for interpretation
- Very limited photoproduction data existing at these energies

### **GlueX** Detector





### The Path to Exotic Hadrons





#### Close Collaboration between GlueX Experiment and Theory / Phenomenology

- Detailed study of photoproduction mechanism with polarization, robust theoretical models
- Develop capable analysis frameworks, evaluate with known states in the spectrum

### **Cross Section Measurements**





η Diff. Cross Sec. 8.0 < E<sub>2</sub> < 8.5 GeV

#### $\gamma p \rightarrow \eta p$

- t-channel dominant, but coverage of entire kinematic regime
- Regge models at low |t|, Handbag for intermediate |t|

### **Cross Section Measurements**







#### $\gamma p \rightarrow \eta p$

- t-channel dominant, but coverage of entire kinematic regime
- Regge models at low |t|, Handbag for intermediate |t|
- Energy coverage: 3 12 GeV
   Overlap with previous measurements

#### Many other channels

- Precise measurement for many different final states ongoing
- Consistency between decay modes limits systematic uncertainties

### Polarization Transfer First GlueX Publication: PRC 95, 042201 (2017)





### $\pi^{\rm 0}$ and $\eta$ from 2016 Commissioning Data

- Modeling production mechanism: Σ sensitive to exchanged J<sup>PC</sup>
- Cancel systematic effects by rotating polarization plane by 90°
- First measurement for  $\eta$  in this energy



### Pseudoscalar Meson Photoproduction



#### **Beam Asymmetry Measurements**

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- $\eta$ : significantly higher precision
- $\eta'$ : first measurement in this
- $K^+$ : no visible *t*-dependence
- $\pi^-$ : unnatural exchange important at small -t

- Neutral exchange: natural parity exchange dominates
- Charge exchange: unnatural parity exchange for small t

# Vector Meson Photoproduction

### Spin-Density Matrix Elements



- Full angular distribution of vector meson production and decay is described by spin-density matrix elements ρ<sup>k</sup><sub>ii</sub>
- Linear beam polarization provides access to nine linearly independent SDMEs
- Intensity W is expressed as function of angles cos ϑ, φ, Φ and degree of polarization P<sub>γ</sub>



$$\begin{split} W(\cos\vartheta,\varphi,\Phi) &= W^{0}(\cos\vartheta,\varphi) - P_{\gamma}\cos(2\Phi)W^{1}(\cos\vartheta,\varphi) - P_{\gamma}\sin(2\Phi)W^{2}(\cos\vartheta,\varphi) \\ W^{0}(\cos\vartheta,\varphi) &= \frac{3}{4\pi} \left( \frac{1}{2} (1-\rho_{00}^{0}) + \frac{1}{2} (3\rho_{00}^{0}-1)\cos^{2}\vartheta - \sqrt{2}\operatorname{Re}\rho_{10}^{0}\sin2\vartheta\cos\varphi - \rho_{1-1}^{0}\sin^{2}\vartheta\cos2\varphi \right) \\ W^{1}(\cos\vartheta,\varphi) &= \frac{3}{4\pi} \left( \rho_{11}^{1}\sin^{2}\vartheta + \rho_{00}^{1}\cos^{2}\vartheta - \sqrt{2}\operatorname{Re}\rho_{10}^{1}\sin2\vartheta\cos\varphi - \rho_{1-1}^{1}\sin^{2}\vartheta\cos2\varphi \right) \\ W^{2}(\cos\vartheta,\varphi) &= \frac{3}{4\pi} \left( \sqrt{2}\operatorname{Im}\rho_{10}^{2}\sin2\vartheta\sin\varphi + \operatorname{Im}\rho_{1-1}^{2}\sin^{2}\vartheta\sin2\varphi \right) \\ Schilling et al. [Nucl. Phy. B, 15 (1970) 397] \end{split}$$

### Extraction of SDMEs with Amplitude Analysis Technique



#### Extended Maximum-Likelihood Fit

$$\ln L = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{\text{events}} \ln \mathcal{I}(\tau_i)}_{\text{Experiment}} - \underbrace{\int d\Omega \, \mathcal{I}(\tau) \, \eta(\tau)}_{\text{Normalization Integral}}$$

- Choose SDMEs such that intensity fits the observed events
- Normalization integral evaluated by a phase-space Monte Carlo sample with the acceptance  $\eta(\tau) = 0/1$

#### Analysis Strategy

- Improve theoretical description of photoproduction process
- Understand and evaluate detector acceptance
- Prerequisites for amplitude analysis of possible exotic signals



### ρ(770) Meson SDMEs PRC 108, 055204 (2023)





#### $\gamma p ightarrow ho$ (770)p

- High precision with only fraction of data set
- Orders of magnitude more precise than previous measurements
- Uncertainties dominated by systematics
- Agree with Regge model up to  $-t \approx 0.5 \, {\rm GeV}^2/c^2$  [JPAC, PRD 97 094003 (2018)]
- Studies of mass and energy dependence

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### ρ(770) Meson SDMEs PRC 108, 055204 (2023)





#### Spin-Density Matrix Element Analysis for other Hadrons

- Λ(1520) photoproduction [ PRC 105, 035201 (2022) ], analysis of ω(782), φ(1020) ongoing
- Improve theoretical description of photoproduction process and evaluate detector acceptance

- Natural parity exchange dominates across t range
- Deviation from *s*-channel helicity conservation (ℙ)
   ⇒ Contribution from *f*<sub>2</sub>, *a*<sub>2</sub>

### Study of Charge Exchange Mechanism



 $-P_{\gamma}\sin 2\Phi \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \operatorname{Im} \left[ \rho_{31}^{2}\sin 2\vartheta \sin \varphi + \rho_{3-1}^{2}\sin^{2}\vartheta \sin 2\varphi \right] \right\}$ 

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# SDMEs in $\Delta^{++}$ (1232) Photoproduction



#### arXiv:2406.12829 (2024)



• Models under-constrained by previous measurements, do not describe unnatural parity exchange

Sensitive to relative sign of exchange couplings

# SDMEs in $\Delta^{++}(1232)$ Photoproduction

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# The $\eta\pi$ and $\eta'\pi$ Systems



- Strongest evidence for exotic  $\pi_1(1600)$  from COMPASS in these channels
- Competitive statistical precision, but different production and multiple decay modes
- Collaboration with theory on development of amplitudes and models





- Clear signals for  $a_0(980)$  and  $a_2(1320)$
- Different angular distribution between charged (top) and neutral (bottom) final state
- Production mechanism populates states with different spin-projections

### $\Rightarrow$ Amplitude Analysis

### **PWA with Beam Polarization**



$$\mathcal{I}(\Omega, \Phi) = \mathcal{I}^0(\Omega) - P_\gamma \mathcal{I}^1(\Omega) \cos 2\Phi - P_\gamma \mathcal{I}^2(\Omega) \sin 2\Phi$$

• New amplitude formalism in reflectivity basis with  $Z_{\ell}^{m}(\Omega, \Phi) = Y_{\ell}^{m}(\Omega)e^{-i\Phi}$ : JPAC [PRD 100, 054017 (2019)]

$$\mathcal{I}(\Omega, \Phi) \propto (1 - P_{\gamma}) \left| \sum_{\ell, m} [\ell]_{m}^{(\varepsilon = -)} \operatorname{Re} Z_{\ell}^{m}(\Omega, \Phi) \right|^{2} + (1 - P_{\gamma}) \left| \sum_{\ell, m} [\ell]_{m}^{(\varepsilon = +)} \operatorname{Im} Z_{\ell}^{m}(\Omega, \Phi) \right|^{2} + (1 + P_{\gamma}) \left| \sum_{\ell, m} [\ell]_{m}^{(\varepsilon = +)} \operatorname{Re} Z_{\ell}^{m}(\Omega, \Phi) \right|^{2} + (1 + P_{\gamma}) \left| \sum_{\ell, m} [\ell]_{m}^{(\varepsilon = -)} \operatorname{Im} Z_{\ell}^{m}(\Omega, \Phi) \right|^{2}$$

• Reflectivity  $\varepsilon = \pm$  corresponds to naturality of exchange

- Describes all two-pseudoscalar meson systems ( $\pi\pi$ ,  $K\bar{K}$ ,  $\pi\eta$ , etc.)
- Fully mass-independent analysis difficult due to complexity of wave set:  $S_0^{\pm}$ ,  $P_{-1,0,1}^{\pm}$ ,  $D_{-2,-1,0,1,2}^{\pm}$ ,...
- Require theory input to limit number of amplitudes or constrain mass dependence of known resonances

### a<sub>2</sub>(1320) Cross Section





#### Semi-mass dependent method: impose Breit-Wigner shape for a<sub>2</sub>(1320)

## a<sub>2</sub>(1320) Cross Section





- Good agreement with theory prediction, demonstrate validity of method
- Separation of natural and unnatural parity exchange mechanisms, natural exchange dominant
- Reference for search for exotic  $\pi_1(1600)$  in  $\eta'\pi$

# Projection for $\pi_1(1600) \to \eta^{(')}\pi_{arXiv:2407.03316 (2024)}$

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 $\Rightarrow$  First upper limit on the photoproduction cross section of the spin-exotic  $\pi_1(1600)$ 

# Projection for $\pi_1(1600) \to \eta^{(')} \pi_{arXiv:2407.03316 (2024)}$



Saturate measured  $\omega \pi \pi$  cross section (*I* = 1) with *a*<sub>2</sub>(1320) and  $\pi_1(1600)$  lineshapes



- Upper limit for photoproduction cross sections  $\gamma p \rightarrow \pi_1^0(1600)p$  and  $\gamma p \rightarrow \pi_1^-(1600)\Delta^{++}$
- Project this cross section into ηπ and η'π
   ⇒ Could dominate η'π<sup>0</sup> and η'π<sup>−</sup> channels







# First look at $\gamma p \rightarrow \eta' \pi^- \Delta^{++}$





### Vector-Pseudoscalar Meson Systems



### PWA of $\gamma p ightarrow \omega \pi^0 p$

- High statistical precision
- Clear separation of **b<sub>1</sub>(1235)** (1<sup>+</sup>) and **ρ(1450)** (1<sup>-</sup>)
- Production dominated by natural parity exchange

- $\Omega$  describes the decay of the resonance
- ${\bf \Omega}_{\rm H}$  describes the decay of the vector meson
- tindicates the orientation of the polarization plane
- All vector-pseudoscalar meson systems ( $\omega \pi$ ,  $\omega \eta$ ,  $\phi \pi$ , ...)

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 $<sup>\</sup>Rightarrow$  K. Scheuer (W&M), Session B

# Study of A(1405) Decay





#### **Differential Cross Section**

- Neutral  $\Sigma^0 \pi^0$  decay isolates isospin 0
- Λ(1405) line shape deviates from pure Breit-Wigner form
- GlueX studies  $\Lambda(1520)$  independently in  $\gamma p \rightarrow K^+ \Lambda(1502)$  [PRC 105, 035201 (2022)]

# Study of A(1405) Decay





#### Two-Pole Hypothesis

- Simultaneous fit to both channels
- K-matrix parametrization for Λ(1405)
- Incoherent sum of Λ(1520) and background
- Fit favors two poles, currently working towards determination of pole positions



### $J/\psi$ Photoproduction at Threshold $\gamma p \rightarrow J/\psi p$ , $J/\psi \rightarrow e^+e^-$



Threshold for  $J/\psi$  production:  $E_{\gamma} = 8.22 \, {
m GeV}$ 



 $\gamma \rightarrow$ 

Electron identification: *E*/*p* in calorimeters, pion background suppression by 10<sup>-4</sup>

Kinematic Fit with 0.1% precision on photon beam energy

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- Electron identification: *E*/*p* in calorimeters, pion background suppression by 10<sup>-4</sup>
- Kinematic Fit with 0.1% precision on photon beam energy
- Cross section normalized by non-resonant e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> production (Bethe-Heitler)

### J/ψ Cross Section at Threshold PRL 123, 072001 (2019)





#### Energy dependence probes

- Production dynamics
   Brodsky et al. [PRL 498 (2001)]
- Gluon distribution in proton
   Kharzeev et al. [NPA 661, 568 (1999)]

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#### Search for Resonance in $J/\psi p$

- No evidence for  $P_c^+$  states
- Model-dependent upper limit for  $J^{PC} = 3/2^{-1}$ • State | BR (90% CL) •  $P_c^+(4312)3/2^- < 2.9\%$ •  $P_c^+(4440)3/2^- < 1.6\%$ •  $P_c^+(4457)3/2^- < 2.7\%$
- Disfavors hadrocharmonium and some molecular models

### $J/\psi$ Cross Section with GlueX-I Data PRC 108, 025201 (2023)



• 4 times more data, smaller systematic uncertainties, precise measurement of  $d\sigma/dt$ 

• Results relevant for fundamental properties: proton mass, gravitational form factors, scattering length

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- Results relevant for fundamental properties: proton mass, gravitational form factors, scattering length
- Possible evidence for contribution from open charm production

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### The Future of GlueX



#### Detector Upgrades

- DIRC: Extend kaon/pion separation (Fall 2019)
- FCal2: PbWO<sub>4</sub> insert with higher granularity Commissioned by the end of 2024





#### GlueX Phase II + JLab Eta Factory

- Started 2020, 2023, continue with FCal2 in 2025
- Emphasis on final states with strangeness
- Higher luminosity: rare processes

# GlueX with CEBAF 22 GeV Upgrade







#### Charmonium spectroscopy

- Exclusive photoproduction of J/ψ, χ<sub>c</sub> and ψ(2S)
- Prediction for large cross section of Z<sub>c</sub>(3900) near threshold JPAC, PRD 106, 094009 (2022)







#### Status of the GlueX Experiment

- Full data set for initial phase of GlueX available and under active analysis
- Several exciting physics results, many more to come
- GlueX Phase II in process: focus on meson spectrum with strangeness content





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#### **Beyond GlueX**

- Spectroscopy is active field of research with global effort
- Versatile GlueX detector used for precision measurements of QCD
- Detector upgrades for more science potential
- Development of new programs







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### gluex.org/thanks

### **Dedicated GlueX Presentations**





- Session C: I. Jaeglé: "The radiative decay width measurement of the  $\eta$ -meson at GlueX"
- Session B: K. Scheuer: "Amplitude Analysis of  $\omega \pi^0$  Photoproduction at GlueX"





### Amplitude Analysis



#### Step 1: Mass-Independent Partial-Wave Analysis (PWA)

- Partial wave  $\psi_w(\tau)$ : Complex-valued amplitude which describes angular distribution of decay products
- Constant in a narrow mass bin: model-independent
- Total intensity distribution  $\mathcal I$  in each mass bin: coherent sum of amplitudes with production coefficients  $T_w$

$$\mathcal{I}( au) = \left|\sum_{w}^{waves} T_w \; \psi_w( au) 
ight|^2$$

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# Step 2: Model for Mass Dependence for Results from Step 1

- Breit-Wigner function for narrow, isolated resonances
- Approximations for coupled channels: Flatté, K-matrix, ...
- Amplitudes for dynamical effects: triangle singularity, ...
- Treatment of background

Extraction of physical quantities: pole positions, coupling constants



# **PWA of** $\omega\eta$ System





Accessible states:

- 1<sup>--</sup>: ω(1650), ω(1420)
- $1^{+-}$ :  $h_1(1595)$  (needs confirmation)
- 0<sup>--</sup> and 2<sup>+-</sup>: exotic quantum numbers
- 2<sup>--</sup>: never observed



#### Analysis of several Vector-Pseudoscalar Systems ongoing

### PrimEx- $\eta$





#### PrimEx- $\eta$ : Precision measurement of $\eta$ decay

- Primakoff production of  $\eta$  meson on nuclear target (Helium)
- Precise measurement of cross section at small production angles
- Experiment completed in three beam times 2019, 2021 and 2022
- Compton cross section measured simultaneously to verify systematic effects and monitor stability

# $\pi^{\pm}$ and $\pi^{0}$ Polarizability





#### Status and Projection for Sensitivity

- Fundamental property of the strong interaction, precise predictions from χPT
- Primakoff production of  $\pi^+\pi^-$  and  $\pi^0\pi^0$  with 6 GeV polarized photon beam on Pb target
- New wire chambers behind forward calorimeter to detect muon background, data recorded in 2022

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- New wire chambers behind forward calorimeter to detect muon background, data recorded in 2022
- Precision for  $\pi^{\pm}$  estimated to be comparable with COMPASS, but different systematic effects
- Neutral pion polarizability has never been measured

## K<sub>L</sub> Facility: Strangeness Spectroscopy



#### Strange Hadron Spectroscopy with Secondary K<sub>L</sub> Beam

- Use secondary photon beam to produce tertiary beam of neutral kaons
- GlueX detector with  $4\pi$  acceptance for charged and neutral final states
- World-wide unique facility, planned to be ready after 2027
- Hyperon spectroscopy to identify missing baryon resonances,  $K\pi$  scattering to study  $\kappa$  meson

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