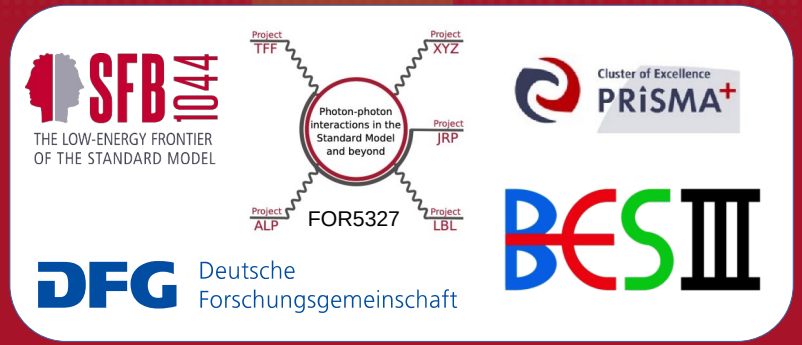
$\gamma\gamma$ Physics Program at BESIII

Christoph Florian Redmer for the BESIII Collaboration

Fifth Plenary Workshop of the g-2 Theory Initiative

September 07, 2022



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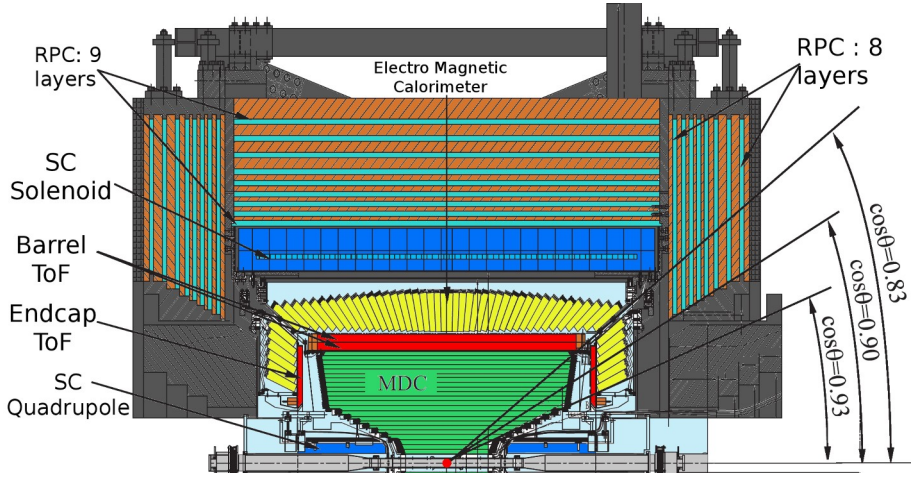
BESIII Experiment

- Operated at BEPCII in Beijing, China
- Center-of-mass energies from 2 – 5 GeV
- Design luminosity $10^{33}cm^{-2}s^{-1}$ at 3.773 GeV



- World's largest e+e- data sets at τ-charm energies
- 10^{10} J/ψ and 3×10^{9}ψ(2s) directly produced
- More than 20 fb^{-1} collected between 3.773 and 5 GeV
- Currently collecting 20 fb^{-1} at 3.773 GeV

Drift Chamber (MDC)
- σ(p)/p = 0.5%
- $\sigma_{dE/dx}$ = 6.0%

Time-of-flight system (TOF)
- σ(t) = 60ps

Superconducting Magnet
- 1 T magnetic field

EM Calorimeter (EMC)
- σ(E)/E = 2.5%
- $\sigma_{Z,\Phi}$(E) = 0.5 – 0.7 cm

Muon Chambers
- p > 400 MeV/c
- δRΦ = 1.4 ~ 1.7 cm

Nucl.Instr.Meth. A614 (2010) 345

Experimental Access to TFFs

Time-like

- Meson Dalitz decays

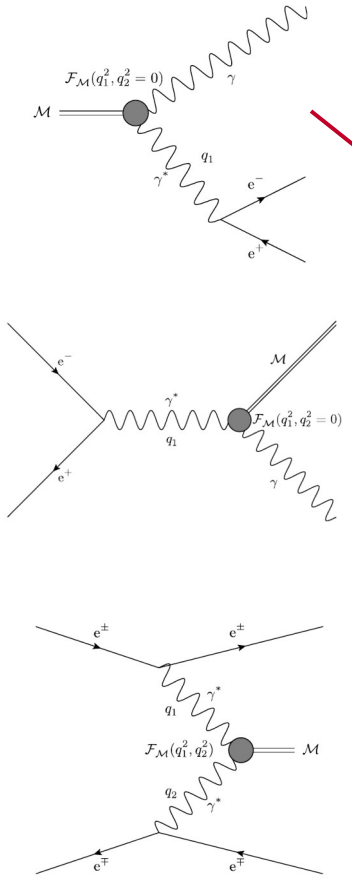
$$m_{ll}^2 < q^2 < m_P^2$$

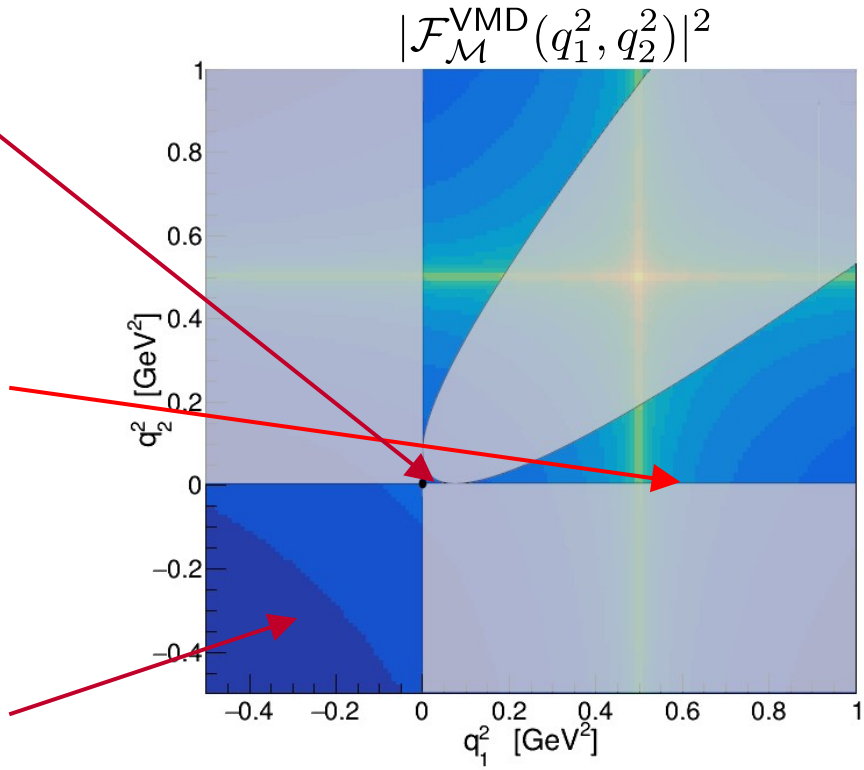
- Radiative production

$$q^2 = s; \quad q^2 > m_P^2$$

Space-like

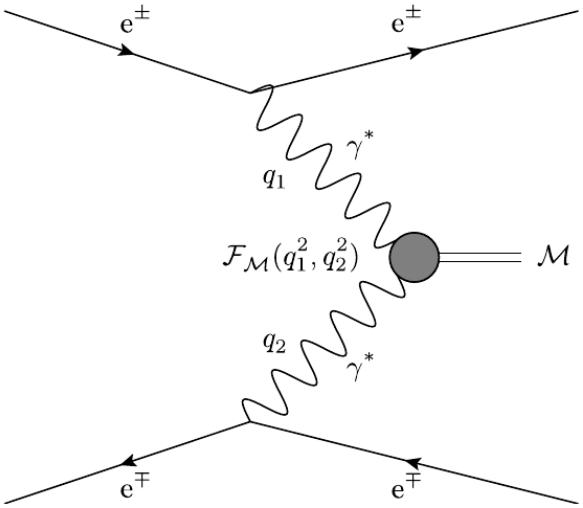
- Two-photon collisions





Space-Like TFF at BESIII

- Scattering of two (virtual) photons
- Photon-fusion to hadronic states
- Production of C-even states in e+e- collisions
- Direct access to $J^{PC} = 0,2^{\pm+}$

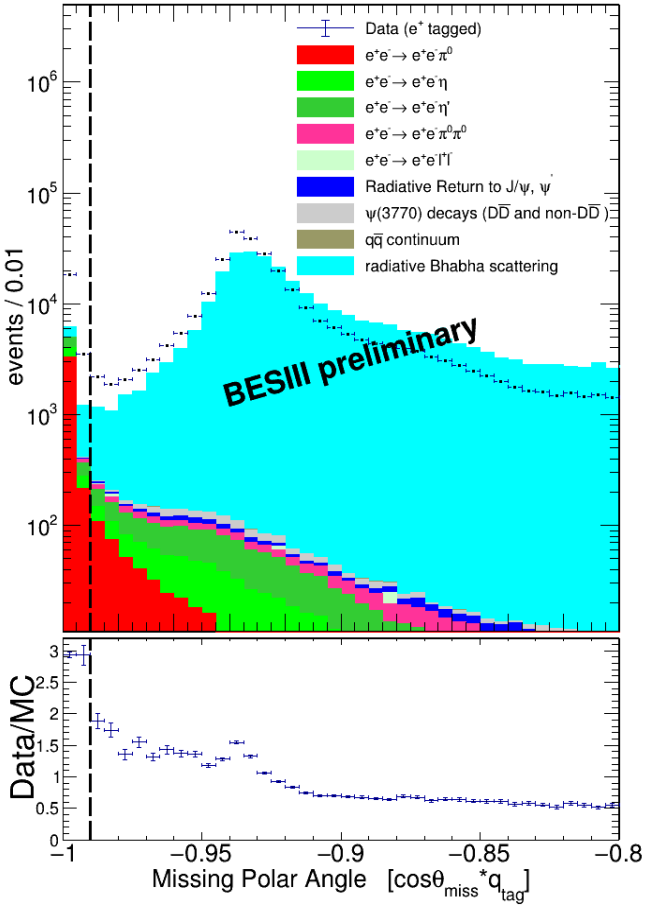


- Produced masses $m_X \ll \sqrt{s}$
- Energy dependence $\sigma \propto \alpha^2 \ln^2 E$
- Forward-peaked kinematics
- $\sigma = \sigma_{\text{point-like}} |F(Q_1^2, Q_2^2)|^2, \qquad Q^2 = -q^2$

- Access to Q^2 by “tagging” of scattered leptons

Space-like $\gamma\gamma^* \to \pi^0$ TFF at BESIII

- Based on 2.9 fb^{-1} at 3.773 GeV
- Select:
  - Exactly one lepton
  - At least two photons
- missing lepton from energy-momentum conservation
- Require small scattering angle of missing lepton
  - “single-tag condition”
  - Small virtuality of exchanged photon $q_{\text{tag}} \cdot \cos\theta_{\text{miss}} < -0.99$

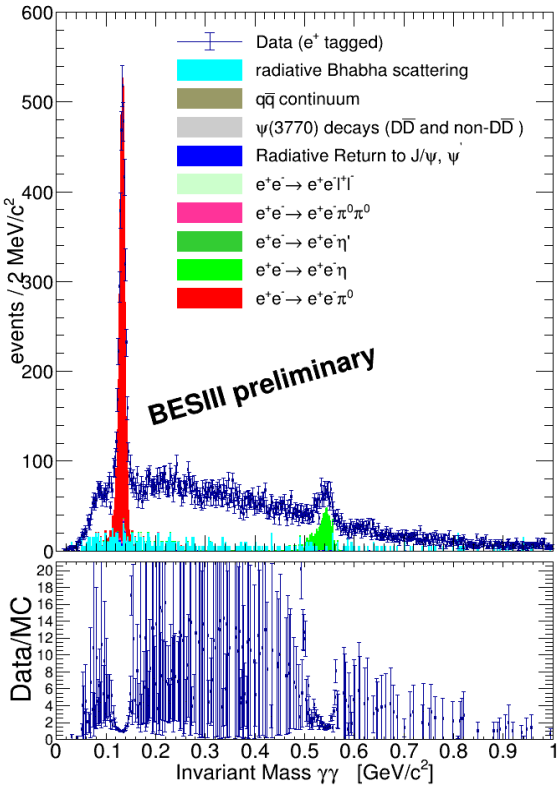


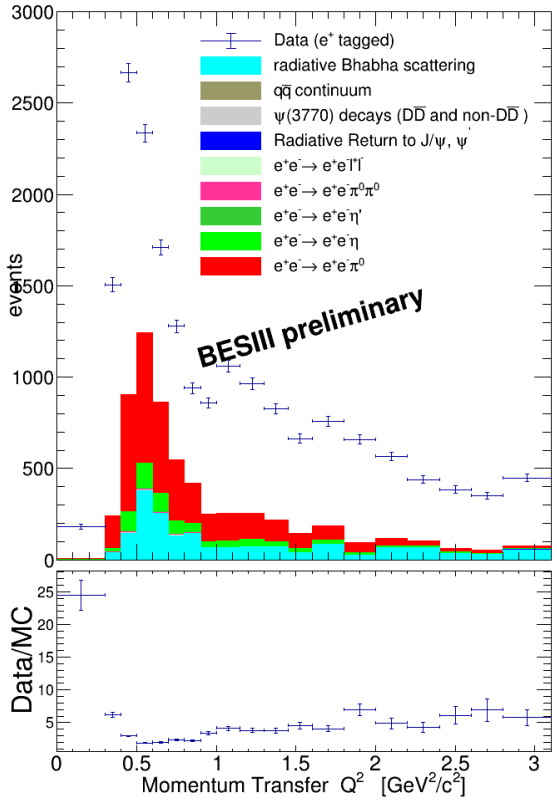
Space-like $\gamma\gamma^* \to \pi^0$ TFF at BESIII

- Background rejection:
  - Single-tag condition
  - Helicity angle of photons
  - Energy/momentum conservation w.r.t radiative effects

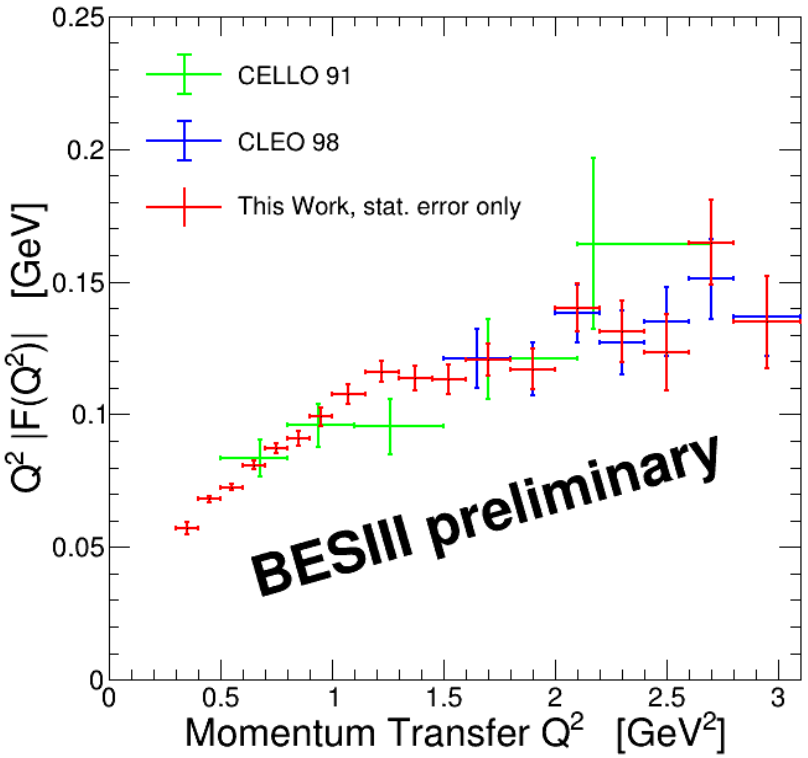
- Clear signals of π^0 and η
- Incomplete MC description
  - Data-driven background subtraction

- Differential cross section w.r.t Q^2
- Divide out point-like cross section using MC distributions





Space-like $\gamma\gamma^* \to \pi^0$ TFF at BESIII

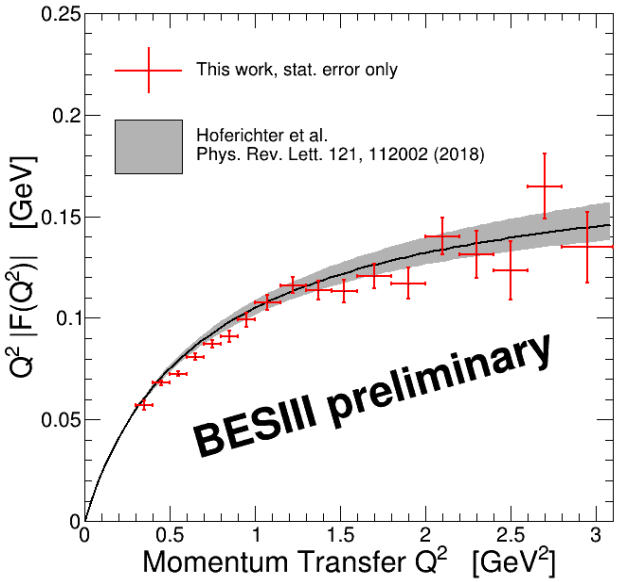


- Covers relevant range of Q^2 for a_μ
- Unprecedented accuracy for $Q^2 < 1.5$ GeV^2
- Competitive accuracy up to 3.1 GeV^2
- First measurement below 0.5 GeV^2
  - Limited by acceptance for $\pi^0 \to \gamma\gamma$
- More data sets to be analyzed

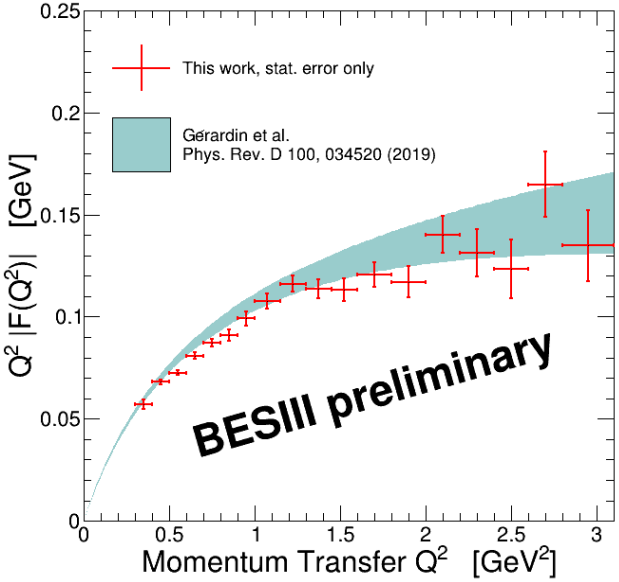
- Analysis to be extended to TFFs of η and η'

Space-like $\gamma\gamma^* \to \pi^0$ TFF at BESIII

Comparison to: Dispersive Construction



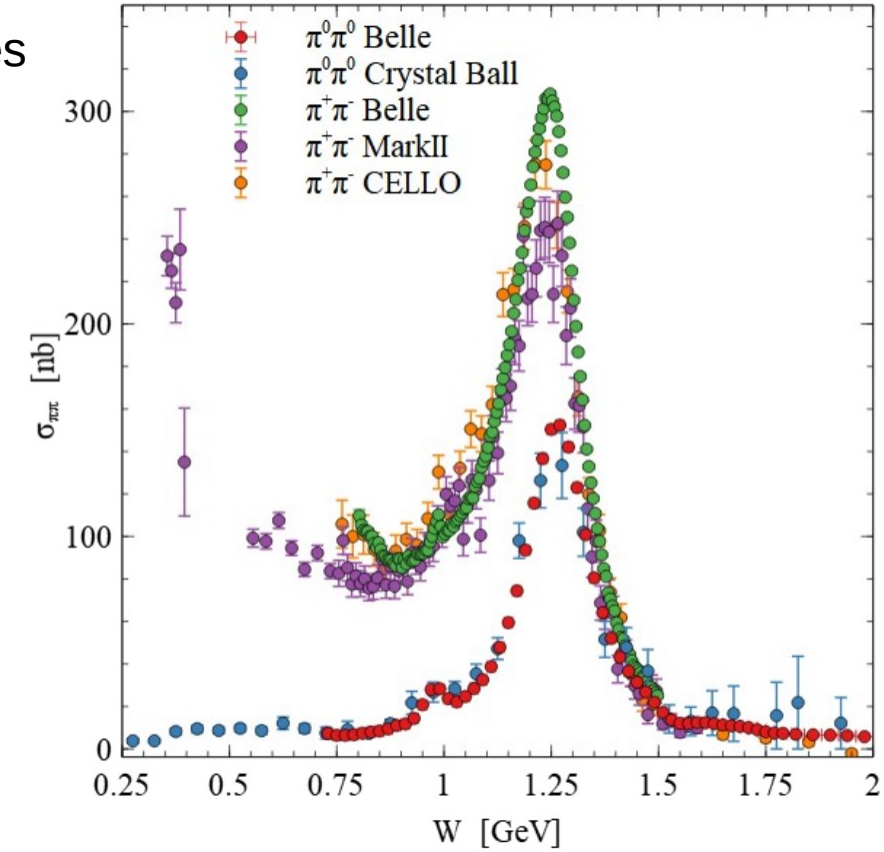
Lattice QCD



BESIII measurement confirms theory calculations used for recent estimate of a_μ^{HLbL}

Partial waves of space-like $\gamma\gamma^* \to \pi\pi$

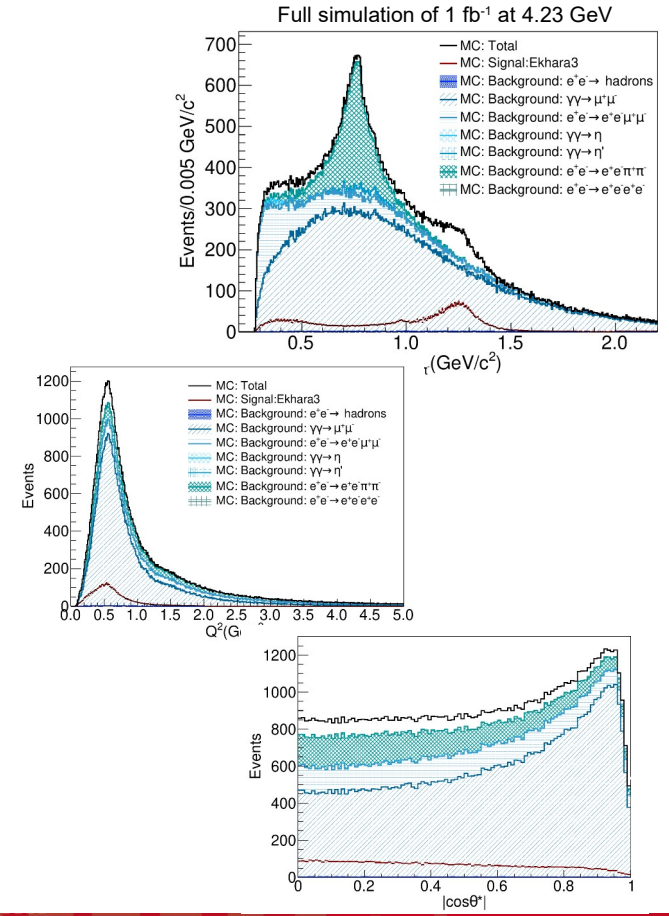
- Relevant for spectroscopy and polarizabilities
- Previous Measurements
  - Mostly untagged, i.e. $\gamma\gamma \to \pi\pi$
  - Limited coverage of helicity angles
  - Data scarce at small masses
- Only one single-tagged result available
  - Belle: $\gamma\gamma^* \to \pi^0\pi^0$
  - Full helicity angle coverage
  - M > 0.5 GeV
  - $Q^2 > 3$ GeV^2



Partial waves of space-like $\gamma\gamma^* \to \pi^+\pi^-$

- Combine 7.5 fb^{-1} from 3.773 GeV to 4.6 GeV
- Event selection analogous to single pseudoscalar analysis
- Machine learning tools to suppress $e^+e^- \to e^+e^-\mu^+\mu^-$
- Subtraction of ρ contribution in $e^+e^- \to e^+e^-\pi^+\pi^-$
  - Fit peak in data using shape from theory
- Conversion to photon-based cross section
- Study $\pi^+\pi^-$ invariant mass in bins of Q^2 and $\cos\theta^*$

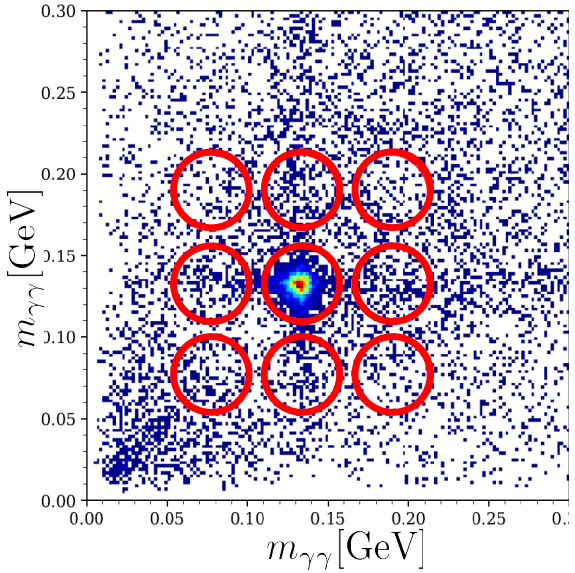
- First single-tag measurement of $\pi^+\pi^-$!
  - Access to:
    - low momentum transfers $0.2 < Q^2\ [\mathrm{GeV}^2] < 2.0$
    - low invariant masses $2m_{\pi^+} < M\ [\mathrm{GeV}] < 2.0$
    - full coverage of $\cos\theta^*$



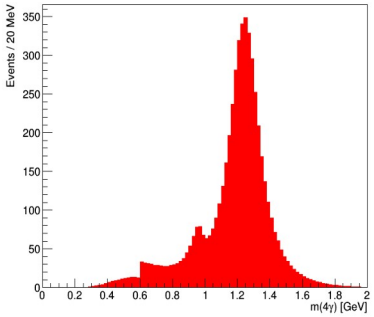
Partial waves of space-like $\gamma\gamma^* \to \pi^0\pi^0$

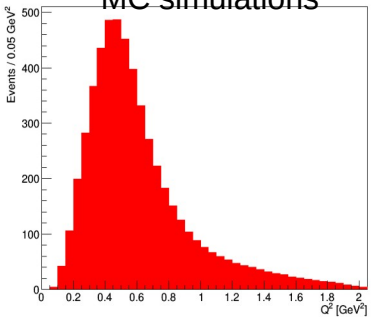
- Combine 9 fb^{-1} from 3.773 GeV to 4.6 GeV
- Event selection analogous to single pseudoscalar analysis
- Background subtraction using 2D sidebands
- Unfolding of mass bins necessary

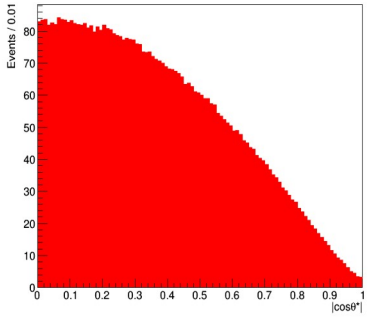
- First single-tagged measurement at $Q^2 < 2$ GeV^2
  - low momentum transfers $0.2 < Q^2$ [GeV^2] < 2.0
  - low invariant masses $2m_\pi < M$ [GeV] < 2.0
  - full coverage of cosθ*



MC simulations



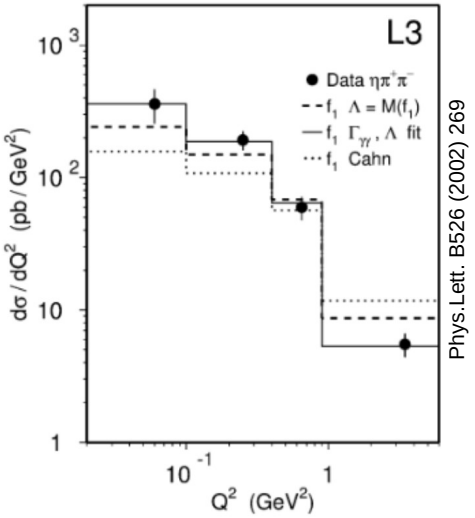


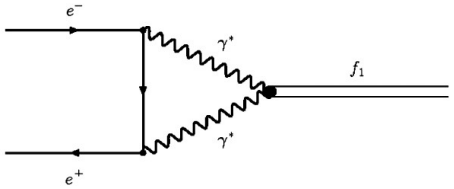


To be extended to $\gamma\gamma^* \to \eta\pi^0/\eta\eta$

Space-like $\gamma\gamma^* \to f_1(1285)$ TFF at BESIII

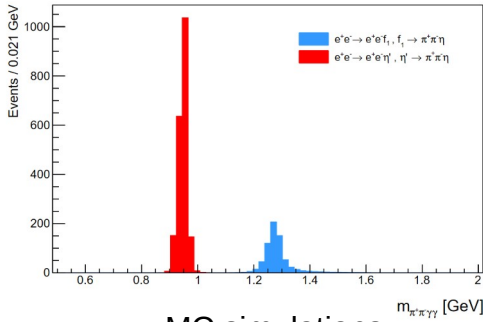
- Spin-1 meson
  - Virtual photon needed for production
  - Helicity amplitudes sensitive to photon polarizations
- Latest measurement from L3 at LEP
  - Very small Q^2
  - Only total cross section provided
- Alternative approach: direct production in e+e- annihilation
  - Rare two-photon process
  - Recently observed by SND



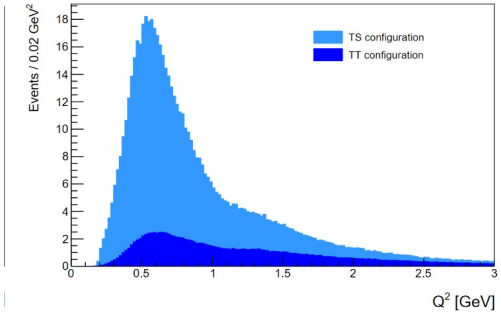


Space-like $\gamma\gamma^* \to f_1(1285)$ TFF at BESIII

- Reconstruction via $f_1(1285) \to \pi^+\pi^-\eta$
- Event selection:
  - Three charged tracks, identified as $e^\pm, \pi^+, \pi^-$
  - At least two photons
  - Single-tag condition $q_{\text{tag}} \cdot \cos\theta_{\text{miss}} < -0.99$
  - Minimum lepton energy
  - Energy-momentum conservation
- Clean signal of η' and $f_1(1285)$
- $\eta(1295)$ excluded with untagged measurement
- Remaining background subtracted with sidebands
- $0.2 \leq Q^2[\text{GeV}^2] \leq 3.0$

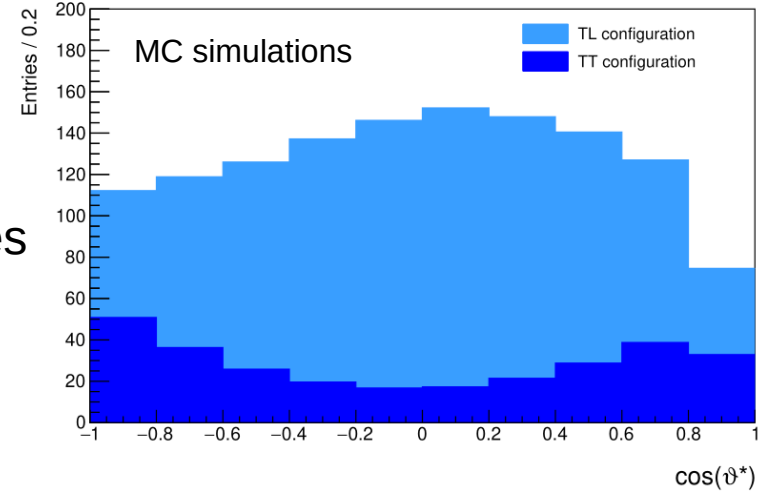


MC simulations



Space-like $\gamma\gamma^* \to f_1(1285)$ TFF at BESIII

- TL and LL polarized photons contribute
- $a_0^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}$ intermediate state dominates $f_1(1285)$ decay
- Use helicity angle distribution to disentangle amplitudes

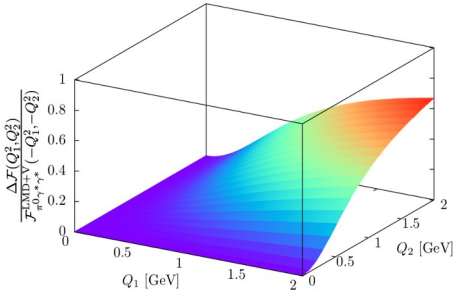


First measurement of TFFs for individual helicity states of $f_1(1285)$

- Extending efforts to $f_1'(1420)$

Double-tagged TFF Measurements at BESIII

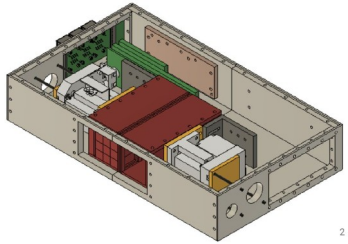
- Access to full TFF information
- Challenging measurements due to small cross section
  - Chance to validate popular models already with limited statistics
- Feasible with new data set at 3.773 GeV

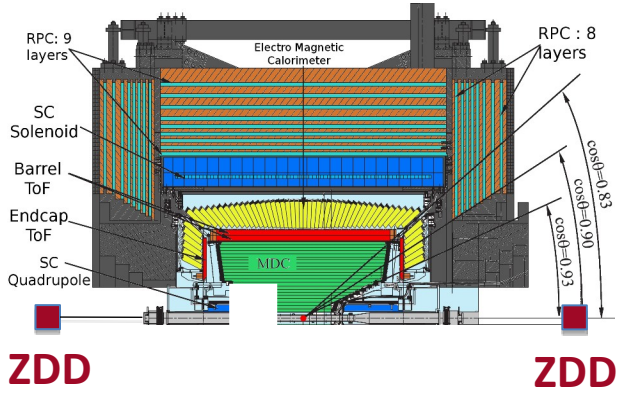


Calculations: A. Nyffeler
Phys.Rev. D94, 2016, 053006

Tagging detectors to be installed at BESIII

- Arrays of LYSO crystals covering 1 – 10 mrad





Summary

BESIII ideally suited to study two-photon reactions

- Single-tagged two-photon collisions provide important input for a_μ^{HLbL}
  - Access to virtualites $Q^2 < 3$ GeV^2
  - Measurements of TFF of with unprecedented accuracy
  - Measurements of $\pi^+\pi^-$ and $\pi^0\pi^0$ partial waves cover
    - Masses from threshold to 2 GeV
    - Virtualities from 0.2 to 2 GeV^2
    - Full range of helicity angle
  - Access to different helicity states in TFF of $f_1(1285)$
  - Double-tagged measurements in preparation
  - Significant benefits from currents data taking expected