# The REDTOP experiment: Rare Eta Decays To Explore New Physics



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## Why the η meson is special?



It is a Goldstone boson



Symmetry constrains its QCD dynamics

It is an eigenstate of the C, P, CP and G operators (very rare in nature):  $I^G J^{PC} = 0^+ 0^{-+}$ 



It can be used to test C and CP invariance

All its additive quantum numbers are zero

$$Q = I = j = S = B = L = 0$$



Its decays are not influenced by a change of flavor (as in K decays) and violations are "pure"

All its possible strong decays are forbidden in lowest order by P and CP invariance, G-parity conservation and isospin and charge symmetry invariance



Contributions from higher orders are enhanced by a factor of ~100,000

It is a very narrow state ( $\Gamma_n$ =1.3 KeV vs

EM decays are forbidden in lowest order by C invariance and angular momentum conservation

**Excellent for testing invariances** 

 $\Gamma_0$ =149 MeV)

The  $\eta$  decays are flavor-conserving reactions



Decays are free of SM backgrounds for new physics search



## Detecting BSM Physics with REDTOP $(\eta/\eta)$ factory



#### Assume a yield ~ $10^{13}$ $\eta$ mesons/yr and ~ $10^{11}\eta'$ mesons/yr

#### C, T, CP-violation

- $lue{}$  CP Violation via Dalitz plot mirror asymmetry:  $\eta o \pi^{\circ} \pi^{\dagger} \pi$
- $lue{}$  CP Violation (Type I P and T odd , C even):  $\eta -> 4\pi^{\circ} \rightarrow 8\gamma$
- ullet CP Violation (Type II C and T odd , P even):  $\eta \to \pi^{\circ} \, \ell \ell \ell$  and  $\eta \to 3\gamma$
- Test of CP invariance via  $\mu$  longitudinal polarization:  $\eta \rightarrow \mu^{+}\mu^{-}$
- Test of CP invariance via  $\gamma*$  polarization studies:  $\eta \to \pi^+\pi^-e^+e^-$  and  $\eta \to \pi^+\pi^-\mu^+\mu^-$
- Test of CP invariance in angular correlation studies:  $\eta \rightarrow \mu^{+}\mu^{-}e^{+}e^{-}$
- Test of T invariance via  $\mu$  transverse polarization:  $\eta \to \pi^0 \mu^+ \mu^-$  and  $\eta \to \gamma \mu^+ \mu^-$
- $\begin{tabular}{ll} $\square$ $ \textit{CPT violation: $\mu$ polariz. in $\eta \to \pi^* \mu \ v$ vs $\eta \to \pi \ \mu^* v$ and $\gamma$ polarization in $\eta \to \gamma \ \gamma$ } \end{tabular}$

#### Other discrete symmetry violations

- Lepton Flavor Violation:  $\eta \rightarrow \mu^+ e^- + c.c.$
- Double lepton Flavor Violation:  $\eta \rightarrow \mu^{\dagger} \mu^{\dagger} e^{-}e^{-} + c.c.$

#### Non- $\eta/\eta'$ based BSM Physics

- □ Dark photon and ALP searches in Drell-Yan processes: qqbar  $\rightarrow$  A'/a  $\rightarrow$  I+I-
- □ ALP's searches in Primakoff processes:  $p Z \rightarrow p Z a \rightarrow l^{+}l^{-}$  (F. Kahlhoefer)
- □ Charged pion and kaon decays:  $\pi + \rightarrow \mu^+ v A' \rightarrow \mu^+ v e^+ e^-$  and  $K + \rightarrow \mu^+ v A' \rightarrow \mu^+ v e^+ e^-$
- □ Neutral pion decay:  $\pi^{o} \rightarrow \gamma A' \rightarrow \gamma e^{+}e^{-}$

#### New particles and forces searches

- Scalar meson searches (charged channel):  $\eta \to \pi^o H$  with  $H \to e^+ e^-$  and  $H \to \mu^+ \mu^-$
- □ Dark photon searches:  $\eta \rightarrow \gamma A'$  with  $A' \rightarrow \ell \ell$
- □ Protophobic fifth force searches :  $\eta \rightarrow \gamma X_{17}$  with  $X_{17} \rightarrow e^+e^-$
- **QCD** axion searches :  $\eta \rightarrow \pi \pi a_{17}$  with  $a_{17} \rightarrow e^+e^-$
- New leptophobic baryonic force searches :  $\eta \rightarrow \gamma B$  with  $B \rightarrow e^+e^-$  or  $B \rightarrow \gamma \pi^o$
- □ Indirect searches for dark photons new gauge bosons and leptoquark:  $\eta \rightarrow \mu^{\dagger} \mu^{\dagger}$  and  $\eta \rightarrow e^{\dagger} e^{-}$
- □ Search for true muonium:  $\eta \to \gamma (\mu^+ \mu^-)|_{2M_{\mu}} \to \gamma e^+ e^-$
- Lepton Universality

#### **Other Precision Physics measurements**

- □ Proton radius anomaly:  $\eta \rightarrow \gamma \mu^{+}\mu^{-}$  vs  $\eta \rightarrow \gamma e^{+}e^{-}$
- $\blacksquare$  All unseen leptonic decay mode of  $\eta / \eta$  (SM predicts  $10^{-6}$  - $10^{-9}$ )

#### High precision studies on medium energy physics

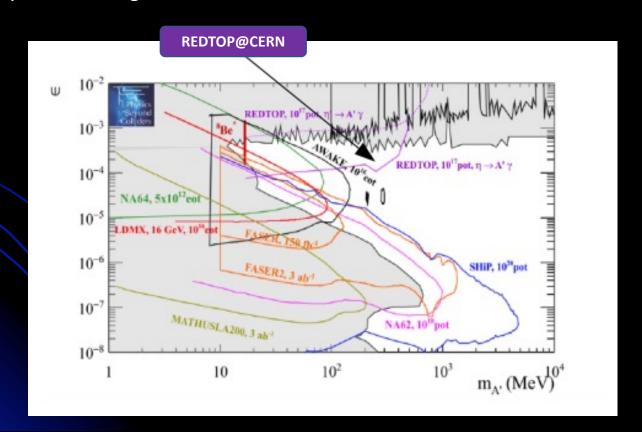
- Nuclear models
- Chiral perturbation theory
- Non-perturbative QCD
- □ Isospin breaking due to the u-d quark mass difference
- Octet-singlet mixing angle
- Electromagnetic transition form-factors (important input for q-2)

## Dark photon searches



## $\eta \rightarrow \gamma A'$ with $A' \rightarrow \mu^{+} \mu^{-}$ and $e^{+} e^{-}$

- □ Studied within the "Physics Beyond Collider" program at CERN for 10<sup>17</sup> POT
- □ FNAL and BNL can provide 10x more POT
- Only "bump hunt analysis". Adding vertexing improve the sensitivity to physics BSM by 10x
- A protophobic gauge boson might explain the 17 MeV anomaly in Beryllium nuclear decays https://arxiv.org/abs/1608.03591

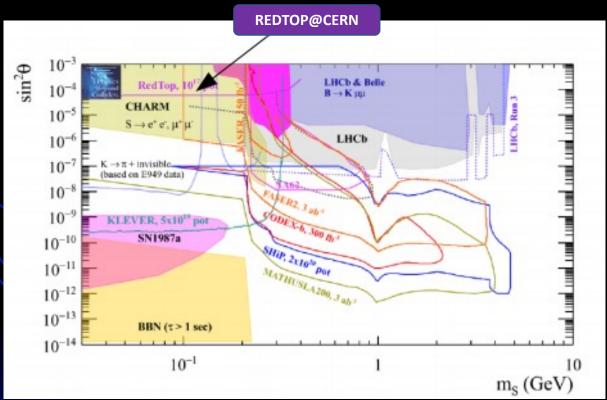


## Searches for light scalar mesons



## $\eta \rightarrow \pi^{o} H$ with $H \rightarrow \mu^{+} \mu^{-}$ and $e^{+} e^{-}$

- Viable DM candidate (in certain circumstances) coupling to Higgs portal M. Pospelov, A.
   Ritz and M. Voloshin, Phys. Rev. D 78, 115012 (2008)
- Studied within the "Physics Beyond Collider" program at CERN for 10<sup>17</sup> POT
- FNAL and BNL can provide 10x more POT
- Only "bump hunt analysis". Adding vertexing improve the sensitivity to physics BSM by 1000x



## Searches for light scalar mesons

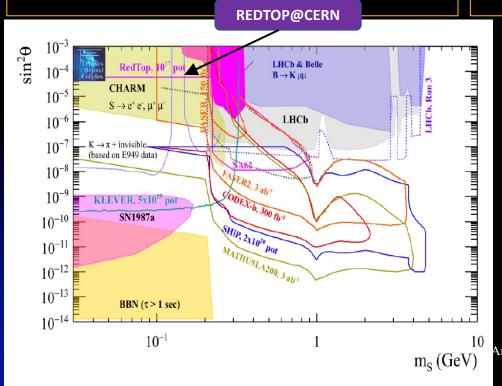


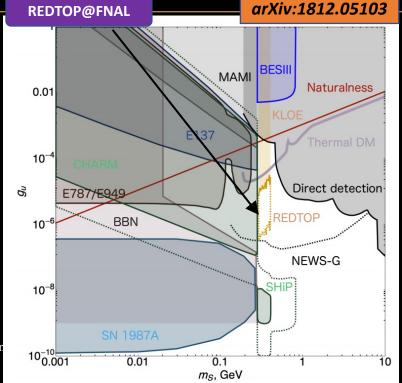
#### MINIMAL SM HIGGS EXTENSION

- Studied within the "Physics Beyond Collider Program at CERN for 10<sup>17</sup> POT
- FNAL and BNL can provide 10x more POT
- Only "bump hunt analysis" Vertexing add 10x more sensitivity

#### HADROPHILIC SCALAR MEDIATOR

- □ Studied in *arXiv*:1812.05103
- Only "bump hunt", no vertexing

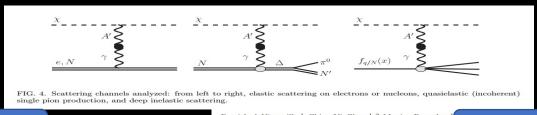


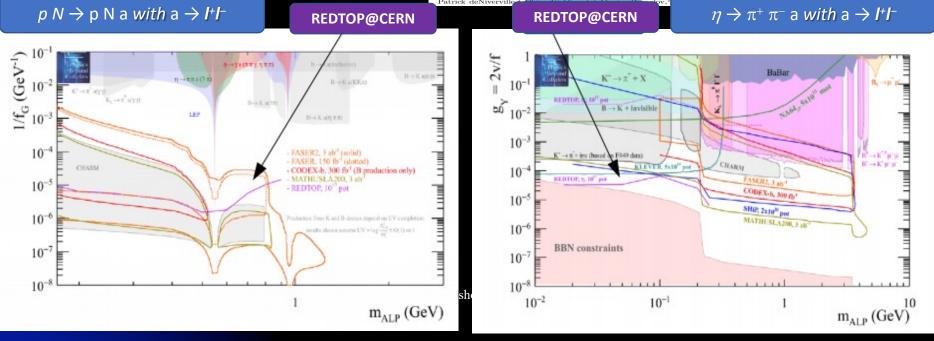


#### Searches for ALPs with fermion or gluon coupling



- Beam emitted ALP's from the following processes:
  - □ Drell-Yan processes:  $qqbar \rightarrow A'/a \rightarrow I^{\dagger}I^{\dagger}$
  - Proton bremsstrahlung processes:  $p N \rightarrow p N A'/a$  with  $A'/a \rightarrow I^{\dagger}I^{\dagger}$  (J. Blümlein and J. Brunner)
  - □ Primakoff processes:  $p Z \rightarrow p Z a \rightarrow l^+l^-$  (F. Kahlhoefer, et. Al.)
- Only "bump hunt analysis" with  $10^{17}$  POT (CERN). Will add vertexing+timing to the analysis.
- Redtop@PIP-II will provide x100 sensitivity (ALPACA study).



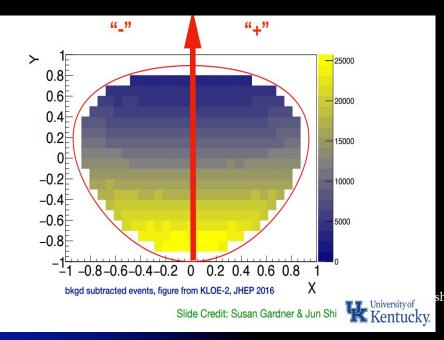


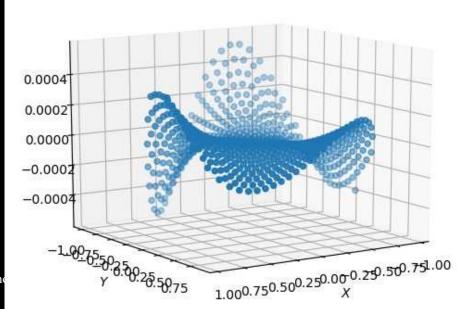
## **CP Violation from Dalitz plot mirror asymmetry**

## in $\eta \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^o$



- ullet CP-violation from this process is not bounded by EDM as is the case for the  $\eta{\to}4\pi$  process.
- Complementary to EDM searches even in the case of T and P odd observables
- □ The flavor structure of the eta is different from the nucleus
- Current PDG limits consistent with no asymmetry
- $\blacksquare$  REDTOP will collect  $4x10^{11}$  such decay (factor 100 in stat. error)
- New model in GenieHad (collaboration with S. Gardner & J. Shi UK) based on PHYSICAL REVIEW D 101, 115038 (2020)



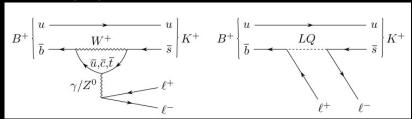


## **Lepton Universality Test**



LHCb latest results: with  $B+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu K^+ \text{ vs } e^+ e^- K^+$ 

- Based on 3850 vs 1640 evts ( $BR_{SM} = 10^{-6}$ )
- $\square$  3.1 $\sigma$  discrepancy vs SM



 $\eta/\eta'$  factories are especially important to confirm the anomaly

- If new particle has a mass close to  $2xM_{\mu}$  the  $\mu$ -e non-universality could be do to a phase space effect rather than a different coupling
- Low energy experiments are more sensitive to that mass scale (MeV-GeV)
- Several processes under study:

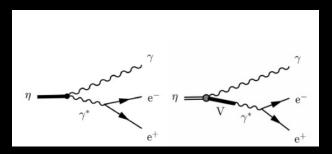
  - $\eta \rightarrow \pi^o \mu^+ \mu^- \text{ vs } \pi^o e^+ e^-$

## Lepton Universality Test: REDTOP

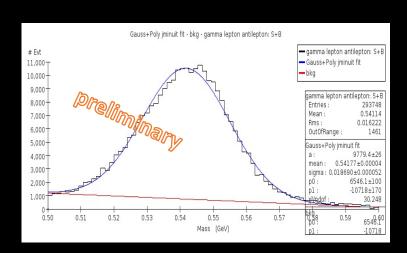


$$\eta \rightarrow \gamma \mu^{+} \mu^{-} \text{ vs } \gamma e^{+} e^{-}$$

- Preliminary studies based on  $3x10^{10}$  POT  $(9x10^7 \ \eta \ mesons)$  or  $10^{-5}$  of the 1-year run statistics
- Main background: η and π $^{o} → γγ$  with ensuing gamma-conversion



- Rejected using high-resolution energy measurement (ADRIANO2) and vertex reconstruction
- $\varepsilon_{reco} = 26.5\% \ (\eta \rightarrow \gamma e^+ e^-)$   $18.7\% \ (\eta \rightarrow \gamma \mu^+ \mu^-)$
- Errors on ratio of BR's cancel away
- Preliminary stat uncertainty:
  - $\sim$  < 0.3% for  $\eta \rightarrow \gamma e^+ e^-$  ( cfr LHCb @ 4.2%)
  - $\sim$  < 0.9% for  $\eta \rightarrow \gamma \mu^+ \mu^-$  ( cfr LHCb @ 1.8%)

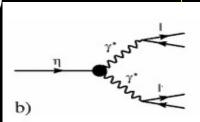


## Lepton Universality Test: REDTOP



## $\eta \rightarrow \mu^{+}\mu^{-}\mu^{+}\mu^{-}$ vs $e^{+}e^{-}\mu^{+}\mu^{-}$ vs $e^{+}e^{-}e^{+}e^{-}$

- □ Theoretical calculations at the 10<sup>-3</sup> precision from Kampf, Novotný, Sanchez-Puertas (PR D 97, 056010 (2018)) hard photon corrections need to be included
- Preliminary studies based on  $3x10^{10}$  POT ( $9x10^7$   $\eta$  mesons) or  $10^{-5}$  of the 1-year run statistics



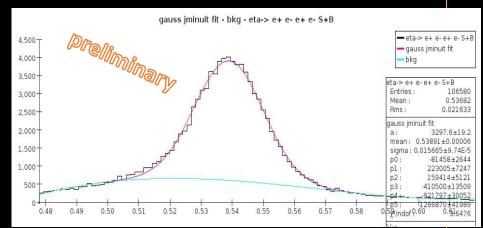
- lacksquare Main background  $\eta 
  ightarrow \gamma \, e^+ \, e^- \, \eta 
  ightarrow \gamma \, \mu^+ \, \mu^-$  with ensuing gamma-conversion
- Rejected using high-resolution energy measurement (ADRIANO2) and vertex reconstruction

$$\mathcal{E}_{reco} = 5.1\% (\eta \rightarrow e^{+} e^{-} e^{+} e^{-}) ,$$

$$1.0\% (\eta \rightarrow e^{+} e^{-} \mu^{+} \mu^{-})$$

$$1.2\% (\eta \rightarrow \mu^{+} \mu^{-} \mu^{+} \mu^{-})$$

Preliminary stat uncertainty: ~ 0.5%



## QCD axion studies



#### Based on D. Alves model (PR D 103, 055018 (2021)

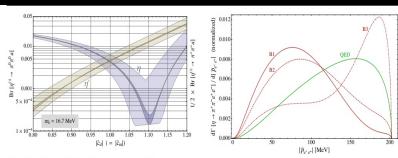
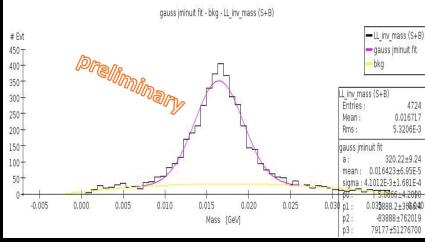


FIG. 3. Estimated branching ratios for  $\eta^{(i)} \to \pi\pi a$  as a function of the scalar octet couplings to the light pseudoscalar mesons, cf. (45), (48), and (50). The bands result from varying the masses and widths of the scalar resonances,  $a_0$  and  $f_0$ , within their experimental uncertainties. For the dark narrow bands, their masses are fixed to  $m_{a_0} = m_{f_0} = 980 \,\mathrm{MeV}$ , and their widths are varied within the ranges  $\Gamma_{a_0} = (40-100) \text{ MeV}$ ,  $\Gamma_{f_0} =$ (10-200) MeV. The broader hands result from additionally vary-

FIG. 4. The differential rate for  $\eta \to \pi^+\pi^- a$  as a function of  $|\vec{p}_{e^+e^-}| \equiv |\vec{p}_{e^+} + \vec{p}_{e^-}| = \vec{p}_a$ , for three benchmark choices of RxT parameters specified in Table I. For comparison, we also show the differential rate of the SM process  $\eta \to \pi^+\pi^-e^+e^-$ ,

reconstructed  $e^+e^-$  vertex was within a 2.5 cm distance



Assume the axion is the 17 MeV anomaly observed in Atomki experiment (Be<sup>8</sup> anomaly) Below KLOE sensitivity

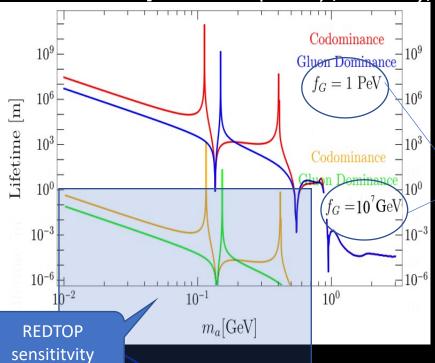
The CELSIUS/WASA Collaboration observed 24 events with SM expectation of 10

- Preliminary studies based on  $3x10^{10}$  POT ( $9x10^7$   $\eta$  mesons) or  $10^{-5}$  of the 1-year run statistics
- Main background  $\eta \to \pi^0 \pi^+ \pi^- \eta \to \gamma \pi^+ p^-$  with ensuing gamma-conversion
- Rejected using high-resolution energy measurement (ADRIANO2) and vertex reconstruction
- $\varepsilon_{\rm reco}$  = 4.8% Preliminary stat uncertainty: ~ 2.8%
- Large statistics to disentangle the six parameters of the model

# More ALPs studies



Based on [Gan et al (2020), K. Kelly, S. Kumar, Z. Liu(arXiv:2011.05995)



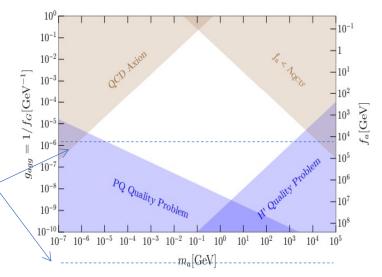


FIG. 2. Theoretical constraints on the axion parameter space for the class of models considered in this work that solve both the Strong CP and the Quality Problems, adapted from Ref. [15]. The white region is the theoretically allowed/motivated region. See the text for explanations of different labels. The parameters  $f_G$  and  $f_a$  are related by  $f_G = 4\pi^2 f_a$ .

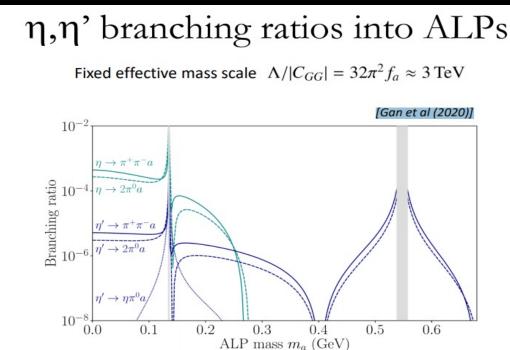
- Recent work opened interesting parameter space for heavy axions
- Original work (tailored for beam dump experiments) assume  $f_G = 10^{12}$  GeV
- ullet More realistic assumption for  $f_G$  indicates that a fixed target experiment is way more suited than a beam dump

# More ALPs studies (cont'd)



It can be searched at REDTOP in  $\eta \to \pi^+ \pi^-$  a with a  $\to \gamma \gamma$  or  $3 \pi$ 

 $\blacksquare$  ALP- $\eta$  coupling depends on a- $\eta$  mixing angle



Dark sectors in η,η' decays [S. Tulin, Snowmass 2021 RF6 Kickoff meeting]

- Vertex detector and high energy resolution dual-readout calorimeter help to reject the background ( $\eta \to \pi^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$  and  $\eta \to \gamma \pi^+ \pi^-$ )
- Expect  $10^5$ - $10^9$  events,  $m_a$  dependent

# More studies for Snowmass 2021

#### $\eta \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ and $\eta \rightarrow e^+ e^-$



- Based on the work by Pere Masjuan and Pablo Sanchez-Puertas [JHEP 1608, 108 (2016)]
- Ultra rare process: very sensitive to physics BSM, in particular new couplings (necessarily SU(2) breaking), or lepton flavor violating (LFV) models
- One operator inducing CP-violation not bound by EDM measurements [arXiv:1909.07491]

#### CP violation in $\eta \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi e^+ e^-$

- Based on the work by D. N. Gao [arXiv:hep-ph/0202002].
- Study of the angular correlation of the  $e^+e^-$  and  $\pi^+\pi$  planes due to the interference between the magnetic and electric decay amplitudes

#### More alps studies from rare $\pi^{o}$ and $\eta$ decays

- Based on the work by Stefania Gori, Wolfgang Altmannshofer , Lucian Harland-Lang Joerg Jaeckel, and Michael Spannowsky, Felix Kahlhoefer. Et al.
- Uses interface between GenieHad [arXiv:1902.04878 hep-ph]

#### Muon polarization studies

- Independent window on CPviolation
- Require implementation of polarimetry in the ADRIANO2 calorimeter

# Summary



- All meson factories: LHCb, B-factories, Daphne, J/psi factories have produced a broad spectrum of physics
- The η /η' meson is an excellent laboratory for studying rare processes and physics BSM at a lower small scale
- World-wide attention of theorists is growing and broad complementary experimental programs in different high-intensity facilities is flourishing
- **□** REDTOP goal is to produce  $^{\sim}10^{13}$  untagged  $\eta$  mesons/year and  $^{\sim}10^{11}$  η'/year in Phase-I and  $10^{13}$  tagged mesons in Phase-II
- After PBC at CERN, new studies are ongoing to improve the sensitivity for different (tagged and untagged) running modes.



# Thank you

# Backup Slides

