# Search for $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ in HPS (redux)

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September 1, 2020

# Data Samples

- Using data from the 2019 "good" runs.
- Nathan skimmed off the mult2 triggers /mss/hallb/hps/physrun2019/production/evio-skims/mult2/
- Reconstructed with master version of hps-java
  2852 files, ~120 million events
- Loop over "photons" in event, create invariant mass of the pairs.
  - Cuts:
    - Both fiducial: seed crystal not on edge of calorimeter
    - Opposite: top/bottom and left/right
    - Cluster  $\Delta t < 5$  ns

### Cluster X vs Y

two fiducial photon cluster x vs y



### Cluster delta Time

Two photon delta time



#### Two-Photon Invariant Mass

two fiducial photon mass opposite



### Two-Photon Invariant Mass

two fiducial photon mass opposite



### Two-Photon ESum



#### Two-Photon ESum vs Mass

two fiducial photon opposite esum vs mass thetaCut



# Two-Photon Mass vs Opening Angle

two fiducial photon opposite mass vs theta



#### Theta vs ESum



two fiducial photon opposite theta vs esum



# MC Samples

- Generated MC samples of individual  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$  with  $\pi^0$  energies flat between 500MeV and 4GeV.
- $\pi^0$  direction along z, within +/- 3° of the z axis.
  - Forgot to rotate by 30.5 mrad.
- Simulated with slic
- Processed through full chain of:
  - spacing (but no beam overlay)
  - trigger (using pulser trigger, not mult2)
  - readout
  - reconstruction
- Analyzed using same analysis as data.

### MC Cluster X vs Y

two fiducial photon opposite cluster x vs y



### MC Cluster delta Time

Two photon delta time



#### MC Two-Photon Invariant Mass

two fiducial photon mass opposite



### MC Two-Photon ESum



### MC Two-Photon ESum vs Mass

two fiducial photon opposite esum vs mass thetaCut



# MC Mass vs Opening Angle

two fiducial photon mass vs theta



### MC Theta vs ESum

Compare to Data

two fiducial photon opposite theta vs esum



## Summary

- A search has been conducted for the process  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$  using the mult2 trigger skims from the 2019 set of "good" runs.
- 120 million events have been reconstructed and the invariant mass distribution of "photon" pairs has been analyzed.
- Selection cuts have been minimal:
  - Both clusters are in the fiducial region of the calorimeter
    Clusters are within 5ns of each other in time
- No evidence for a peak at the π<sup>0</sup> mass has been found.
- MC samples of  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$  with  $\pi^0$  energies between 500MeV and 4GeV have been generated and analyzed.
- Have not yet checked for trigger bias/efficiency.