## Abstract Submitted for the DNP17 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Exclusive  $\eta$  photoproduction and  $\Sigma$  beam asymmetries at GlueX WILLIAM MCGINLEY, Carnegie Mellon University, GLUEX COLLABORATION — GlueX is capable of making  $\Sigma$  beam asymmetry measurements using a tagged, linearly-polarized 9 GeV photon beam incident on a hydrogen target. Measurements of the  $\Sigma$  beam asymmetry for the exclusive reaction,  $\gamma p \to \eta p$ , will provide insight into the meson production mechanism. These measurements are the first beam asymmetry results for the  $\eta$  in this energy range and are expected to further constrain Regge theory models for photoproduced pseudoscalar mesons. This talk will present preliminary results of the photon  $\Sigma$  beam asymmetry as a function of the Mandelstam variable, t, for multiple  $\eta$  decay modes using data from a recent run.

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