

Abstract Submitted  
for the SES12 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**The Photoproduction of Strangeness in  $\gamma p \rightarrow \Lambda K^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$  with CLAS at Jefferson Lab** HUSSEIN AL GHOUL, Florida State University — Following the prediction of exotic states by Quantum Chromodynamics, the search for new and exotic mesons has become a priority in nuclear physics. The g12 Experiment, using the CEBAF Large Acceptance Spectrometer (CLAS) at Jefferson Lab, has provided a large photoproduction dataset. This experiment used a liquid hydrogen target, a 4 - 5.5 GeV tagged photon beam, and acquired 26 billion events. The reaction  $\gamma p \rightarrow \Lambda K^+ \pi^- \pi^+$  provides an opportunity for searching for excited strange mesons using the g12 dataset. In this reaction, the  $\Lambda$  is identified via the  $p \pi^-$  decay where  $\pi^-$  is identified using the energy-momentum conservation. Studies indicate two dominating decay modes: the  $K^*(982)\pi$  mode, and the  $K^+ \rho$  mode. Preliminary results will be presented in this talk, along with the kinematics and dynamics of this reaction. Future plans, including partial wave analysis, will be discussed briefly.

Hussein Al Ghoul  
Florida State University

Date submitted: 19 Sep 2012

Electronic form version 1.4