

# ELECTROPRODUCTION OF $\phi$ TOWARD THE STRANGENESS D-TERM

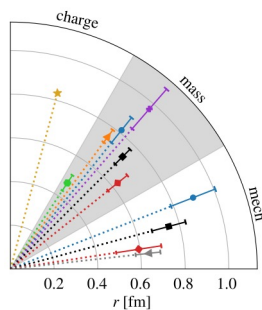
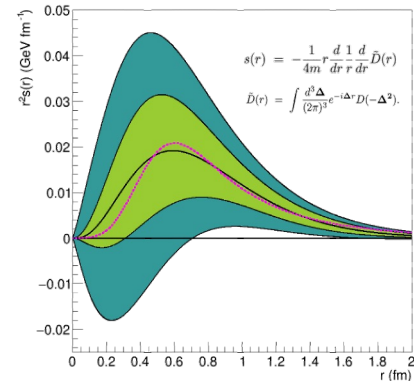
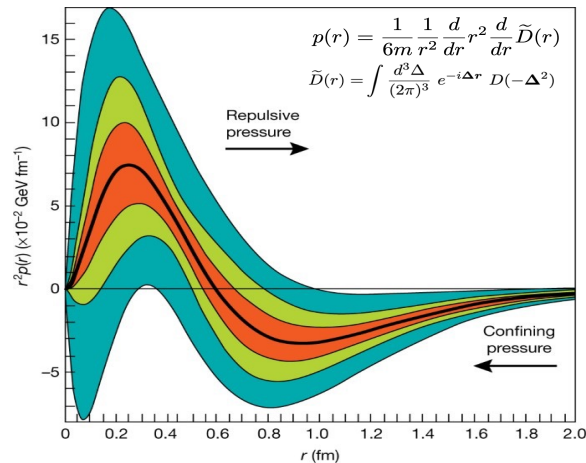
**HENRY KLEST**  
Argonne National Laboratory

CNF Mini Workshop: Vector  
Quarkonia as Pressure Gauges  
March 27, 2026

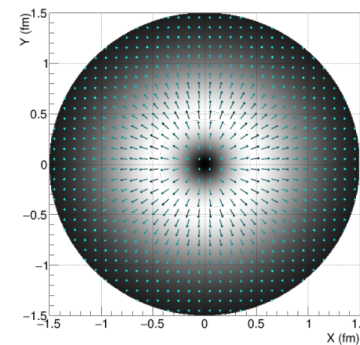
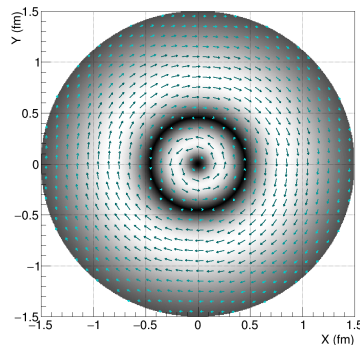
# MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

- The total  $D$ -term provides a gateway for extraction of various **mechanical** properties of the proton, including:

- Pressure distribution
- Shear force distribution
- Mechanical radius
- Tangential & normal force distributions



- PDG
- $g$ , Duran et al. method 2
- $g$ , Duran et al. method 1
- $g$ , Guo et al.
- $g$
- $q + g$
- $q$
- $q$ , BEG



# HOW DO WE ACCESS THE D-TERM?

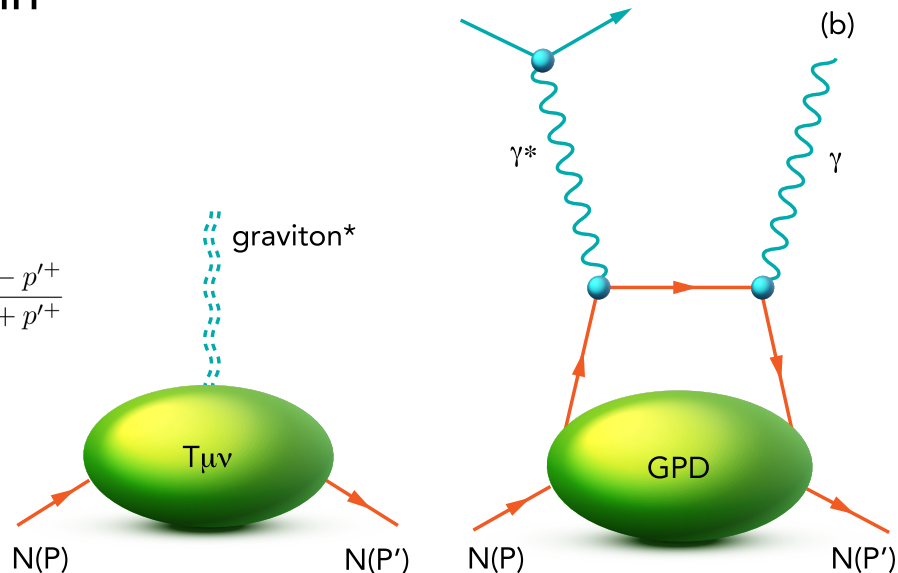
- Graviton scattering would measure directly  $T^{\mu\nu}$
- Can access GFFs via the second Mellin moments of the generalized parton distributions (GPDs)

$$\int_{-1}^1 dx x H^a(x, \xi, t) = A^a(t) + \xi^2 D^a(t)$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 dx x E^a(x, \xi, t) = B^a(t) - \xi^2 D^a(t)$$

$$\xi = \frac{p^+ - p'^+}{p^+ + p'^+}$$

In certain regions, hard exclusive reaction cross sections reduce to **simple functions of the GFFs!**



Graviton exchange  $\approx$  Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering

# HOW DO WE ACCESS THE D-TERM?

The total  $D$ -term arises from its partonic contributions via a sum rule:

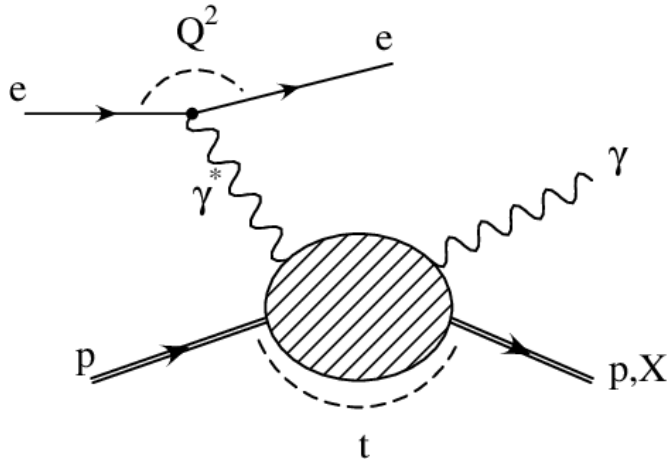
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Total } D\text{-term} \\ \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}} \\ D(0) \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{Partonic } D\text{-term contributions} \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10cm}} \\ D_g(0) + D_u(0) + D_d(0) + D_s(0) + \dots \end{array}$$

Different exclusive processes access the **contributions of different parton species** to the total proton  $D$ -term!

Up & Down quarks:  
Accessible via DVCS cross section &  
beam-spin asymmetries



$$D(0) = D_g(0) + D_u(0) + D_d(0) + D_s(0) + \dots$$



**The pressure distribution inside the proton**

[V. D. Burkert](#) ✉, [L. Elouadrhiri](#) & [F. X. Girod](#)

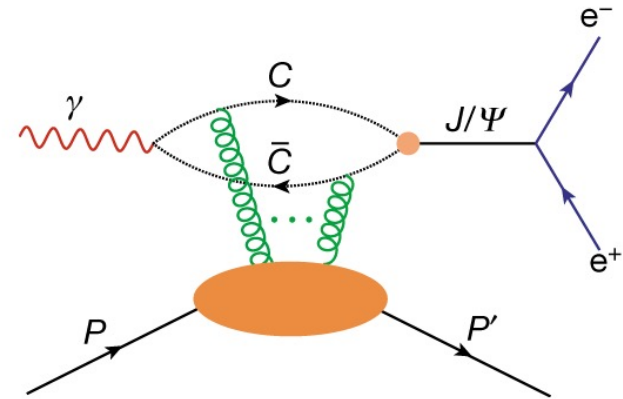
Gluons:  
 Accessible via near-threshold  
 production of  $J/\psi$  and  $\Upsilon$



$$D(0) = D_g(0) + D_u(0) + D_d(0) + D_s(0) + \dots$$

## Determining the Proton's Gluonic Gravitational Form Factors

B. Duran<sup>3,1</sup>, Z.-E. Meiziani<sup>1,3\*\*</sup>, S. Joosten<sup>1</sup>, M. K. Jones<sup>2</sup>, S. Prasad<sup>1</sup>, C. Peng<sup>1</sup>,  
 W. Armstrong<sup>1</sup>, H. Atac<sup>3</sup>, E. Chudakov<sup>2</sup>, H. Bhatt<sup>5</sup>, D. Bhetuwal<sup>5</sup>, M. Boer<sup>11</sup>,  
 A. Camsonne<sup>2</sup>, J.-P. Chen<sup>2</sup>, M. M. Dalton<sup>2</sup>, N. Deokar<sup>3</sup>, M. Diefenthaler<sup>2</sup>, J. Dunne<sup>5</sup>,  
 L. El Fassi<sup>5</sup>, E. Fuchey<sup>9</sup>, H. Gao<sup>4</sup>, D. Gaskell<sup>2</sup>, O. Hansen<sup>2</sup>, F. Hauenstein<sup>6</sup>,  
 D. Higinbotham<sup>2</sup>, S. Jia<sup>3</sup>, A. Karki<sup>5</sup>, C. Keppel<sup>2</sup>, P. King<sup>7</sup>, H.S. Ko<sup>10</sup>, X. Li<sup>4</sup>, R. Li<sup>3</sup>,  
 D. Mack<sup>2</sup>, S. Malace<sup>2</sup>, M. McCaughan<sup>2</sup>, R. E. McClellan<sup>8</sup>, R. Michaels<sup>2</sup>, D. Meekins<sup>2</sup>,  
 M. Paolone<sup>3</sup>, L. Pentchev<sup>2</sup>, E. Pooser<sup>2</sup>, A. Puckett<sup>9</sup>, R. Radloff<sup>7</sup>, M. Rehfuss<sup>3</sup>,  
 P. E. Reimer<sup>1</sup>, S. Riordan<sup>1</sup>, B. Sawatzky<sup>2</sup>, A. Smith<sup>4</sup>, N. Sparveris<sup>3</sup>, H. Szumila-Vance<sup>2</sup>,  
 S. Wood<sup>2</sup>, J. Xie<sup>1</sup>, Z. Ye<sup>1</sup>, C. Yero<sup>6</sup>, and Z. Zhao<sup>4</sup>



$$D(0) = D_g(0) + D_u(0) + D_d(0) + \underbrace{D_s(0)} + \dots$$

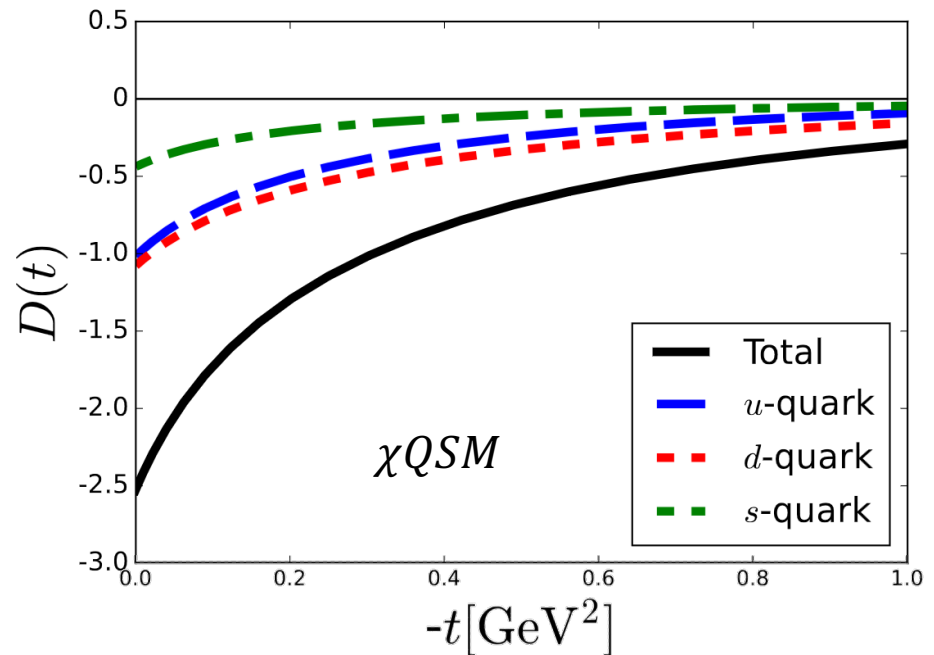
**Strange quarks:**  
Can we just  
neglect them...?

# THEORY PREDICTIONS

- Large- $N_c$  theory predicts that the  $D$ -term is “**flavor-blind**”<sup>[1]</sup>
  - i.e.  $D_u \sim D_d$  despite their different number densities, this is supported by lattice results<sup>[2]</sup>

- Extending this argument, could  $D_u \sim D_d \sim D_s$ ?

- Chiral quark soliton model<sup>[3]</sup> prediction:  $D_u \sim D_d \sim 2D_s$



[1] - Goeke et al.: **Hard exclusive reactions and the structure of hadrons**, *Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys*, 2001

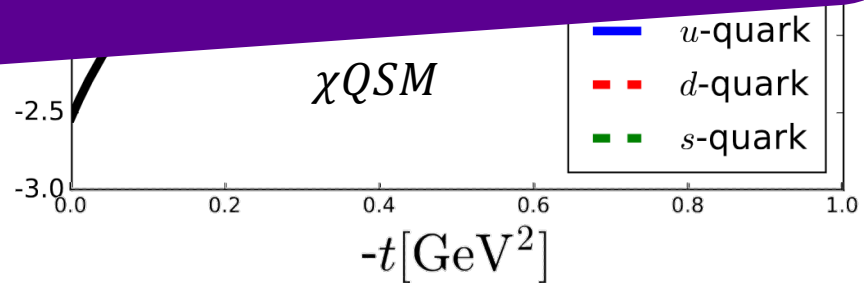
[2] - Hackett et al.: **Gravitational form factors of the proton from lattice QCD**, *PRL*, 2024

[3] - Won et al.: **Role of strange quarks in the  $D$ -term and cosmological constant term of the proton**, *PRD*, 2023

# THEORY PREDICTIONS

- Large- $N_c$  theory predicts that the  $D$ -term is “flavor blind”<sup>[1]</sup>
  - i.e.  $D \approx D$  for all quarks

“The contributions of strange quarks play a particularly significant role in the  $D$ -term. Therefore, when extracting these contributions from experimental data, it is essential to take into account the influence of strange quarks.”<sup>[3]</sup>



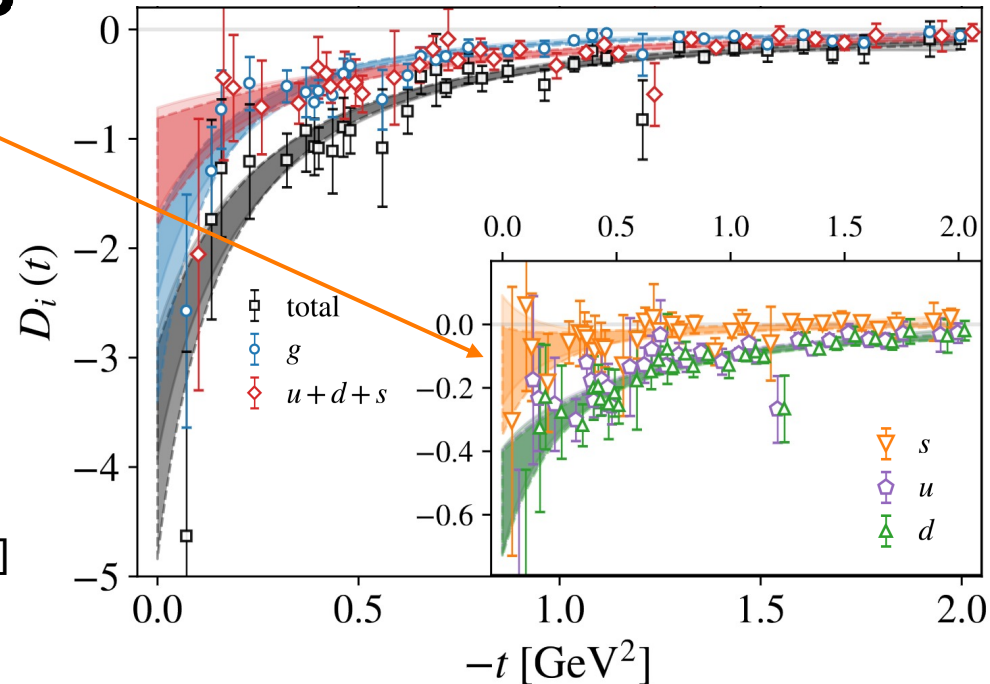
[1] - Goeke et al.: **Hard exclusive reactions and the structure of hadrons**, *Prog.Part.Nucl.Phys*, 2001

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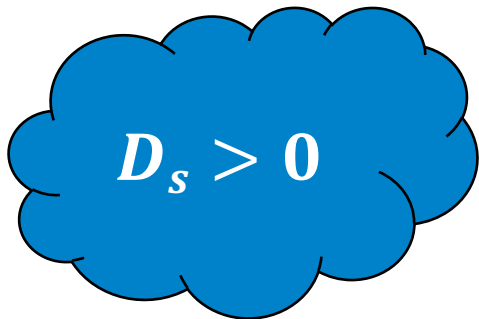
[3] - Won et al.: **Role of strange quarks in the  $D$ -term and cosmological constant term of the proton**, *PRD*, 2023

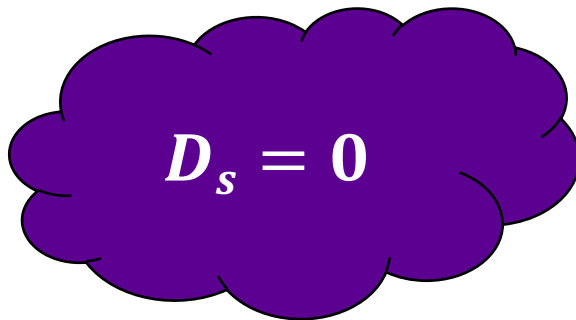
# THEORY PREDICTIONS

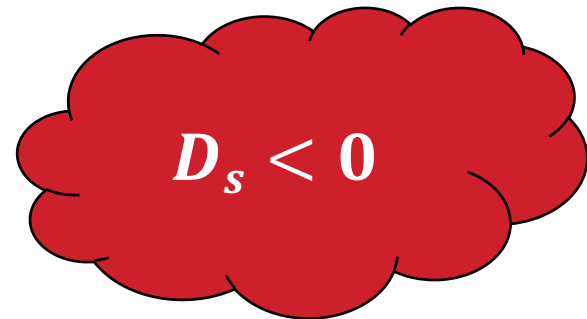
- $D_s$  calculated on the lattice<sup>[1]</sup>
  - **Uncertainties are large!**
  - Lattice does not exclude  $D_u \sim D_d \sim 2D_s$  or  $D_s > 0$
- **Opposite signs of sea & valence** quarks is a distinct possibility, predicted by  $\chi QSM$ <sup>[1]</sup>



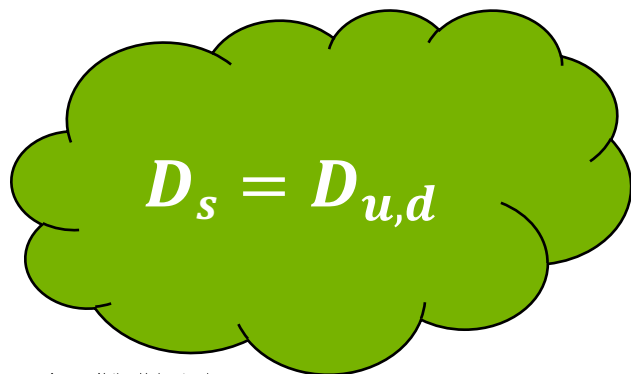
$D_s > 0$  would mean that strange quarks feel forces of opposite direction to up & down quarks!

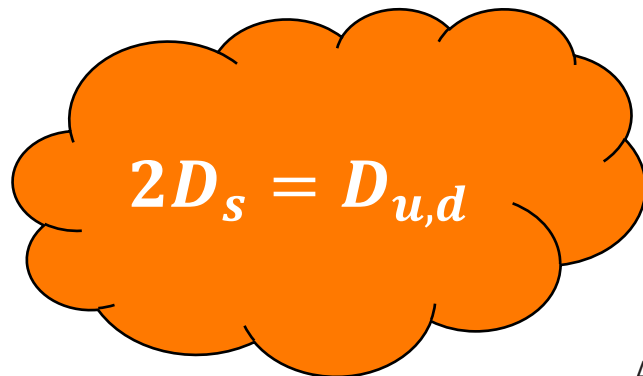

$$D_s > 0$$


$$D_s = 0$$


$$D_s < 0$$

**Variety of theory predictions giving very different values for  $D_s$ , can we extract it experimentally?**

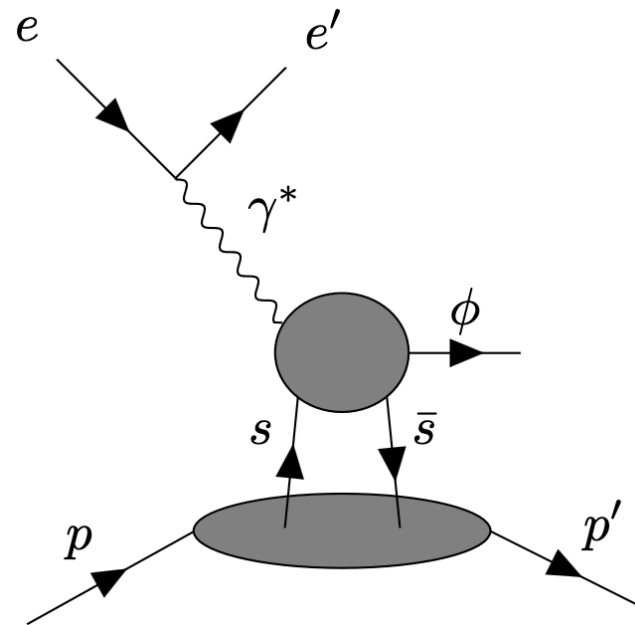

$$D_s = D_{u,d}$$


$$2D_s = D_{u,d}$$

# ACCESSING THE STRANGE QUARK CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROTON D-TERM

- **Electroproduction of  $\phi$  mesons at large  $\xi$**  provides sensitivity to the strangeness  $D$ -term<sup>[1,2]</sup>
  - $\phi$  meson is very nearly a pure  $s\bar{s}$  state
    - Couples strongly to strangeness in the proton
  - **Only known process** to access  $D_s$

**But never measured in the required kinematic region!**



# THEORY PREDICTIONS

NLO GPD calculation for  $\phi$  DVMP cross section now available<sup>[1]!</sup>

$$\frac{d\sigma_L}{dt} = \frac{2\pi^2\alpha_{em}}{(W^2 - M^2)Wp_{cm}} \left( (1 - \xi^2)|\mathcal{H}|^2 - \left( \frac{t}{4M^2} + \xi^2 \right) |\mathcal{E}|^2 - 2\xi^2 \text{Re}(\mathcal{H}\mathcal{E}^*) \right)$$

DVMP amplitudes  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{E}$  have **direct dependence** on partonic  $D$ -term contributions for large  $\xi$ !

$$\mathcal{H}(\xi, t) \approx \frac{2\kappa}{\xi^2} \frac{15}{2} \left[ \left\{ \alpha_s(\mu) + \frac{\alpha_s^2(\mu)}{2\pi} \left( 25.7309 - 2n_f + \left( -\frac{131}{18} + \frac{n_f}{3} \right) \ln \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} \right) \right\} (A_s(t, \mu) + \xi^2 D_s(t, \mu)) \right. \\ \left. + \frac{3}{8} \left\{ \alpha_s + \frac{\alpha_s^2}{2\pi} \left( 13.8682 - \frac{83}{18} \ln \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} \right) \right\} (A_g + \xi^2 D_g) \right]$$

Large cancellation for  $D_g$ !

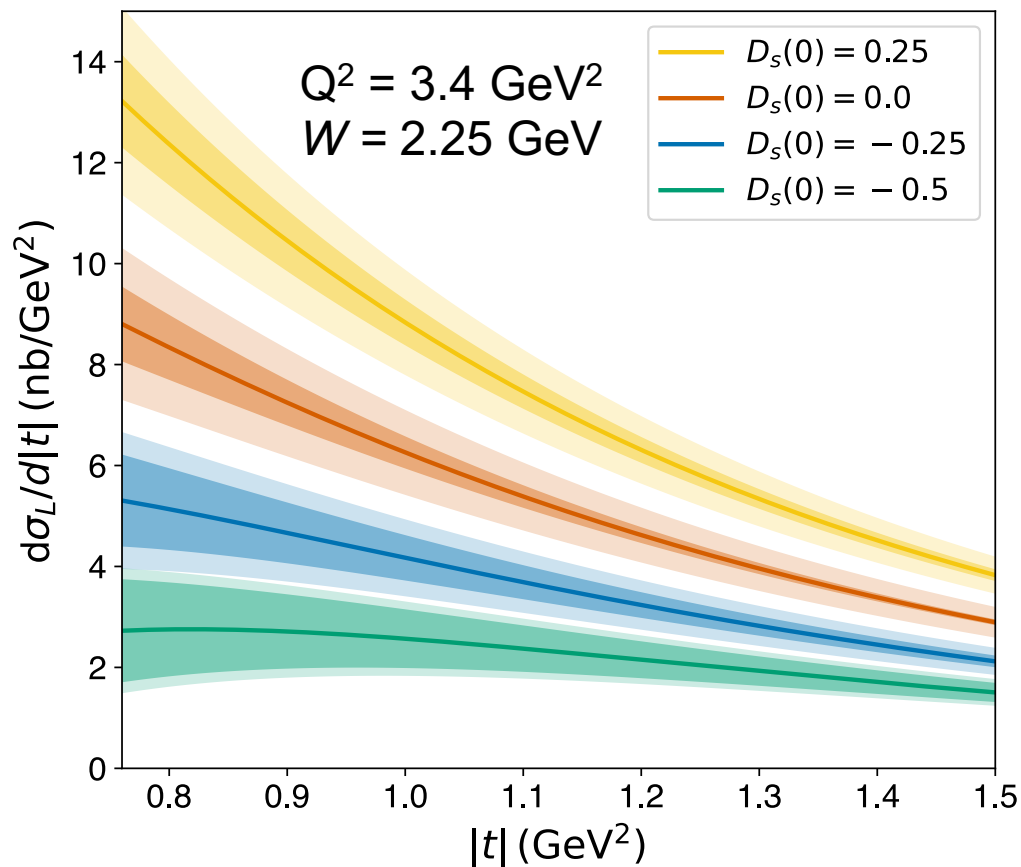
$$A_g \approx 0.4, D_g \approx -2$$

While  $D_s$  contributes directly!

$$A_s \approx 0.03, D_s \approx ?$$

[1] – Hatta, HK, et al.: Deeply virtual  $\phi$ -meson production near threshold, *PTEP*, 2025

# THEORY PREDICTIONS



[1] – Hatta, HK, et al.: Deeply virtual  $\phi$ -meson production near threshold, *PTEP*, 2025

# KINEMATICS

- Challenging kinematic constraints to access  $D_s$  experimentally

- $\xi \geq 0.4$

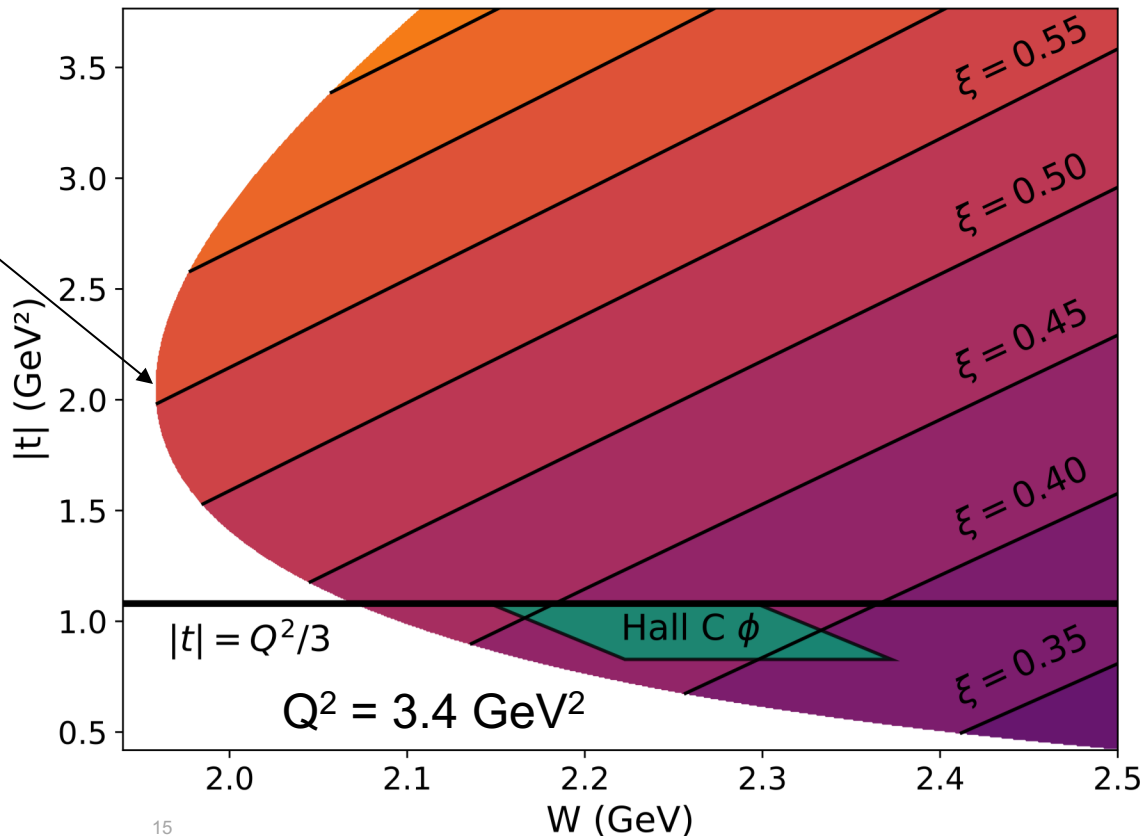
- $|t| \ll Q^2$

- **Not too close** to the threshold  $W = 1.96$  GeV

- Cross section  $\propto Q^{-9}$ !

- Requires **high luminosity** and precise kinematic reconstruction

**Can use the Hall C spectrometers!**

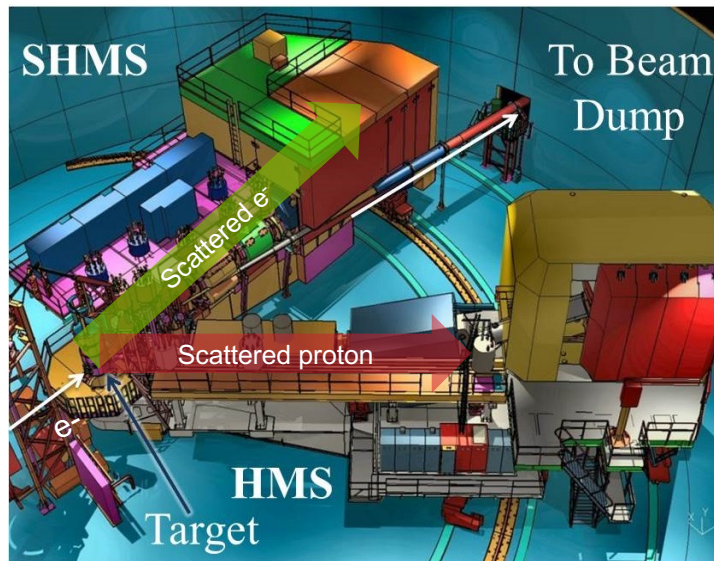


# $\phi$ -007 EXPERIMENT IN HALL C

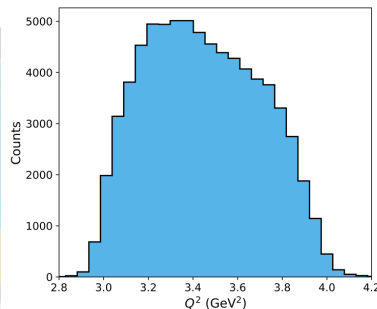
Spokespersons: H. Klest, S. Joosten,  
H. Szumila-Vance, W. B. Li

- 54  $\mu A$  10.6 GeV beam, 15 cm LH<sub>2</sub> target
- Measure proton in HMS, electron in SHMS
  - SHMS:  $\theta_{e'}$  = 13°,  $p_{e'}$  = 6.7 GeV
  - HMS:  $\theta_{p'}$  = 32°,  $p_{p'}$  = 1.1 GeV

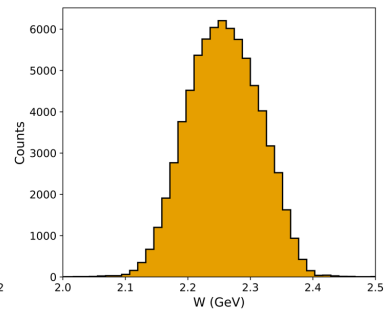
$\phi$ -007 Experiment approved at  
PAC53 with A- rating! Passed  
ERR in Feb.



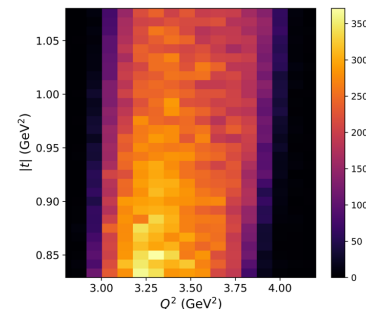
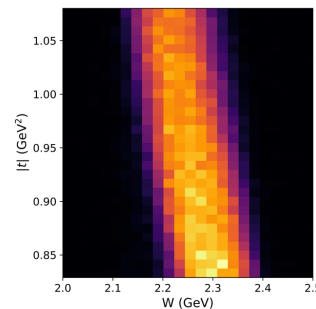
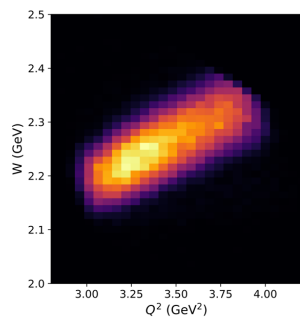
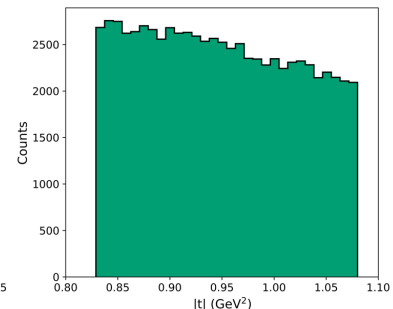
$Q^2 \sim 3.4 \text{ GeV}^2$



$W \sim 2.25 \text{ GeV}$

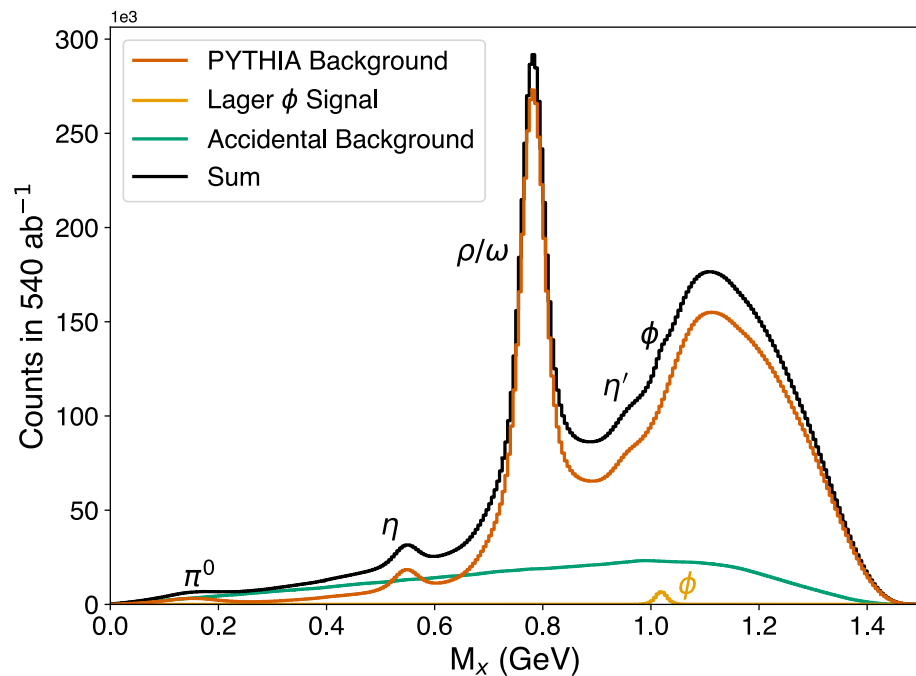
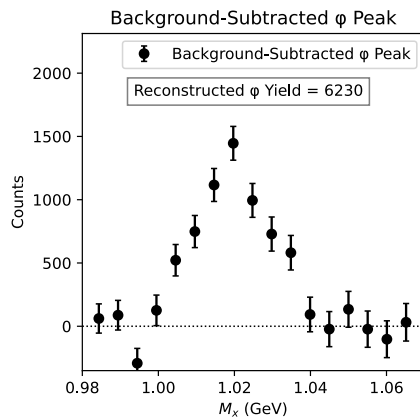
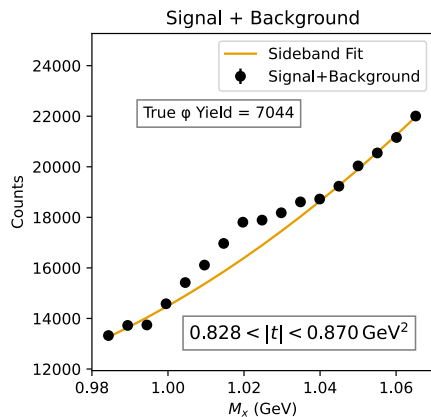


$|t| \sim 0.95 \text{ GeV}^2$



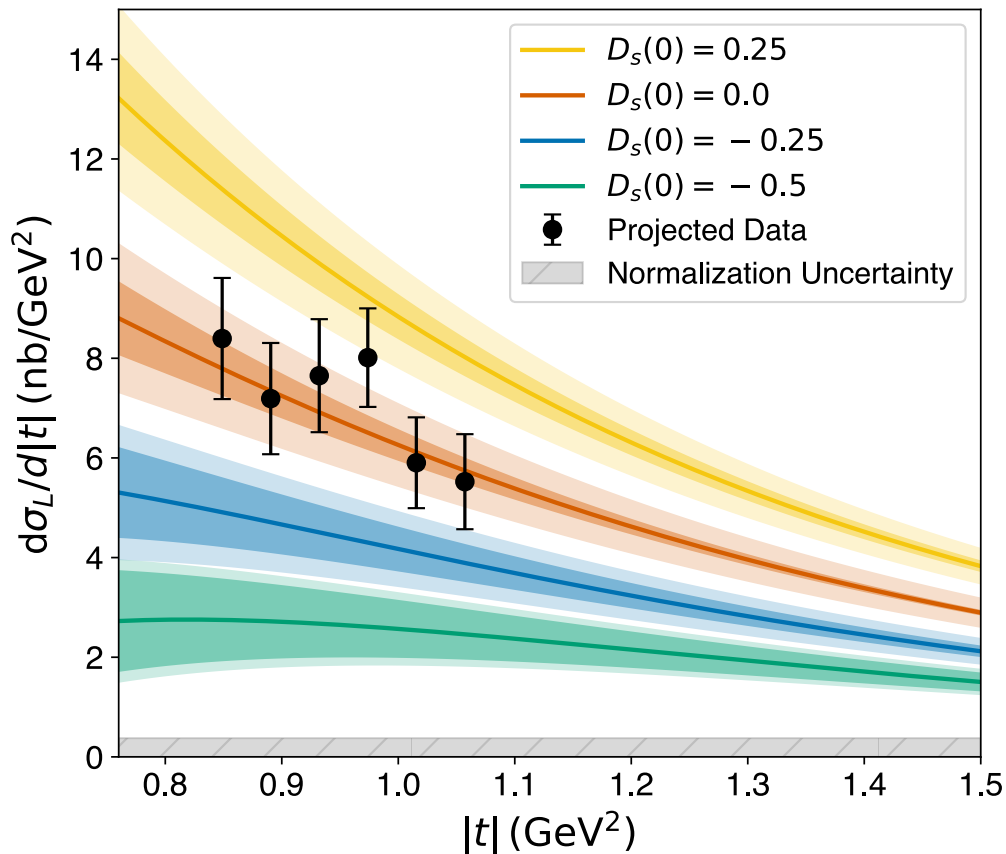
# EXPERIMENTAL MEASUREMENT - $\phi$ -007

- Measure  $e + p \rightarrow e' + p' + \phi$  via missing mass technique
- **Large and irreducible** continuum background from  $e + p \rightarrow e' + p' + X!$ 
  - However, missing mass resolution of the Hall C spectrometers is good enough to **fit + subtract background with the data itself**



# CROSS SECTION PROJECTIONS - $\phi$ -007

Linear scale



- Experimental uncertainty from these sources:

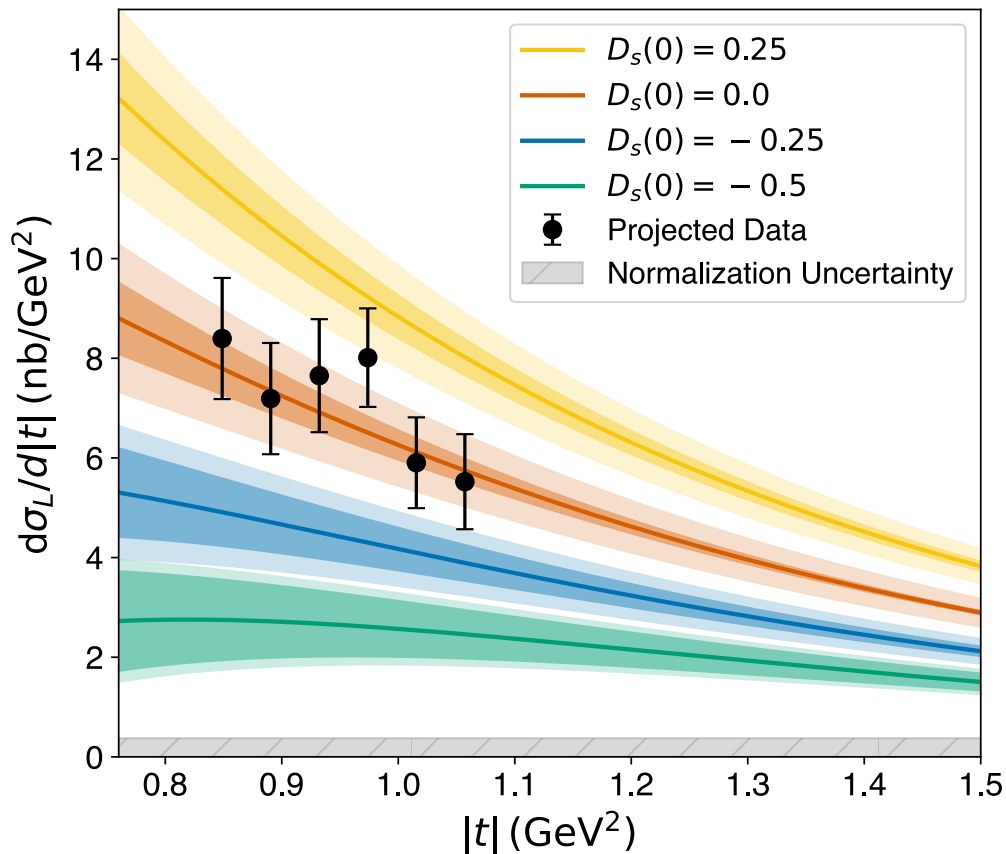
Source	Bin 1	Bin 2	Bin 3	Bin 4	Bin 5	Bin 6
Signal Extraction	14.0%	13.6%	14.9%	13.6%	13.3%	15.1%
Radiative Correction	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%
Background Modeling	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%
Tracking Efficiency	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
Rescattering Correction	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Other Systematics	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
<b>Total Point-to-point</b>	<b>15.6%</b>	<b>15.2%</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>15.2%</b>	<b>14.9%</b>	<b>16.6%</b>
Acceptance Correction	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Value of $R^{11}$	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%
<b>Total Normalization</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>

**Dominated by signal extraction!**  
**→ Needs high statistics, 540 ab<sup>-1</sup>**

- Theoretical uncertainty and experimental uncertainty are of similar size

# HOW WELL CAN WE EXTRACT $D_s$ ?

Linear scale



- Jitter datapoints and fit to theory predictions at different values of  $D_s$
- Anticipate resolutions of 0.1 to 0.2 on  $D_s(0)$

**Precise enough to validate or invalidate the claim that  $D_s = D_{u,d}$ !**

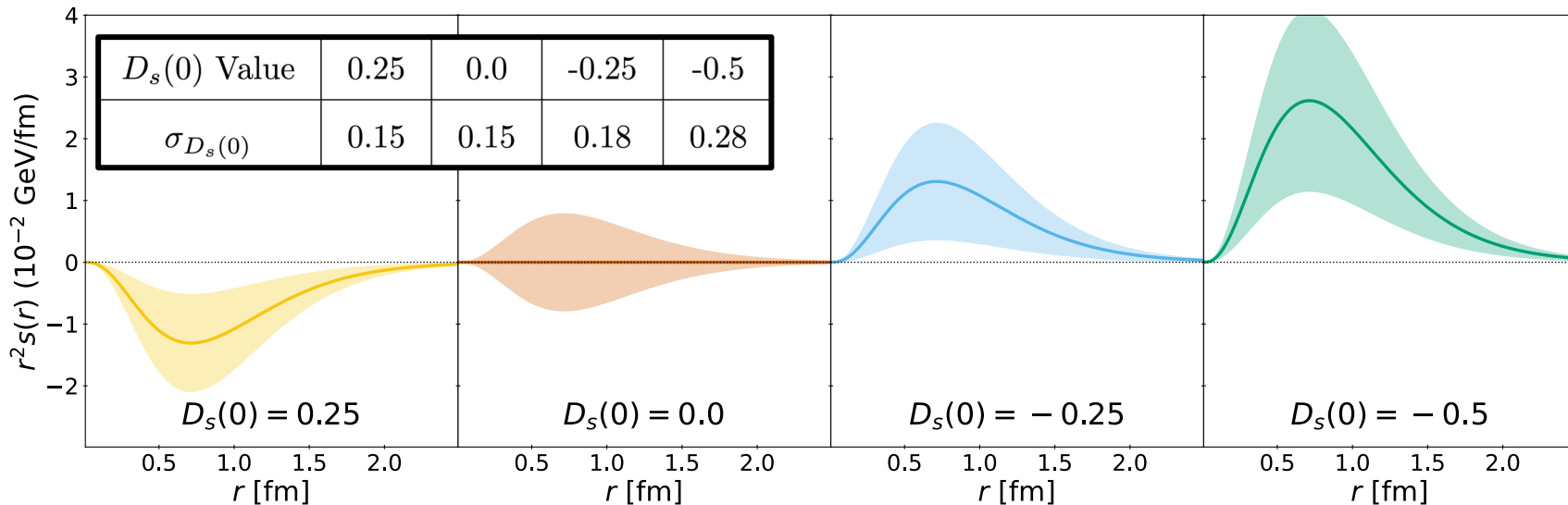
$D_s(0)$ Value	0.25	0.0	-0.25	-0.5
$\sigma_{D_s(0)}$	0.15	0.15	0.18	0.28

Extracted resolutions on  $D_s(0)$  for various values of  $D_s(0)$ .

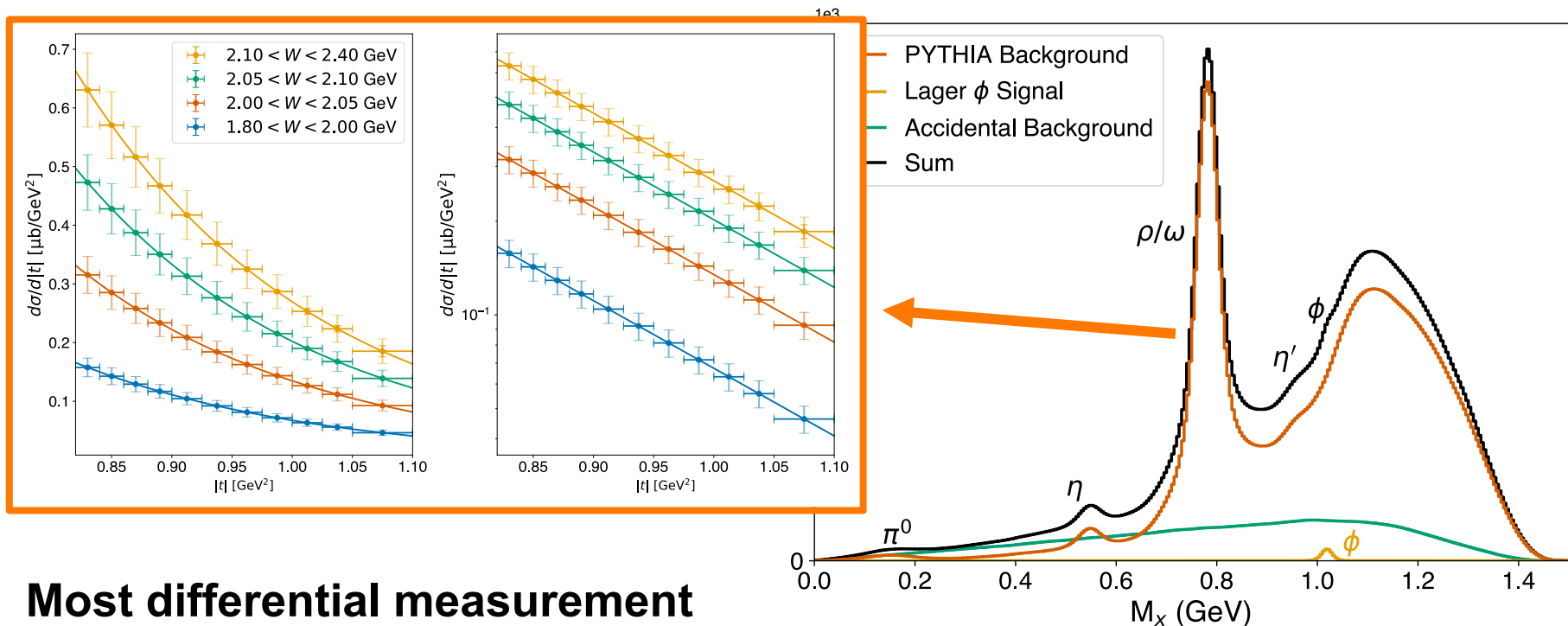
# WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM $\phi$ -007?

Using these resolutions on  $D_s(0)$  and the functional form measured on the lattice, can project uncertainties for the **strangeness shear force distribution**

## First ever extraction! Terra incognita...



# WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN FROM $\phi$ -007 ?

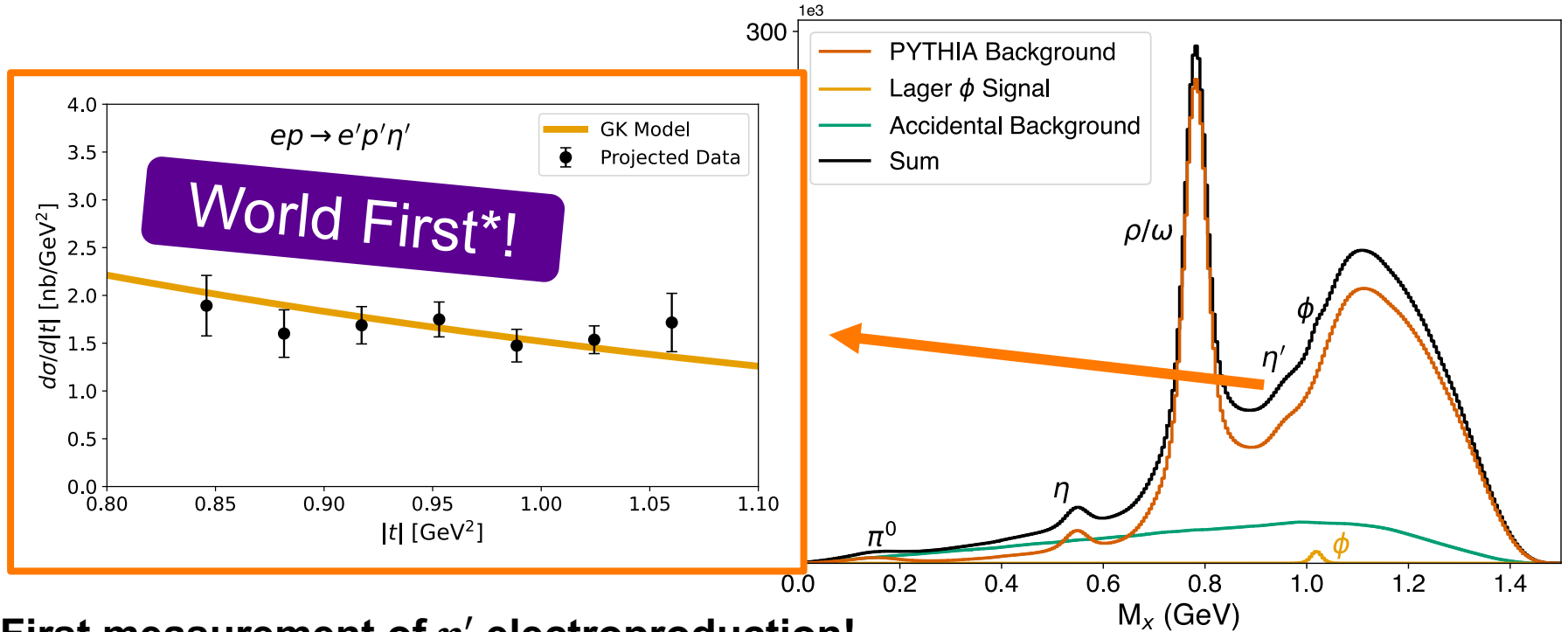


**Most differential measurement  
of near-threshold  $\omega$   
electroproduction! + BSA!**

**Connection to the proton mass radius<sup>[1]</sup>?**

[1] - Wang et al. Extraction of the proton mass radius from the vector meson photoproductions near thresholds, *PRD*, 2021

# WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN FROM $\phi$ -007 ?

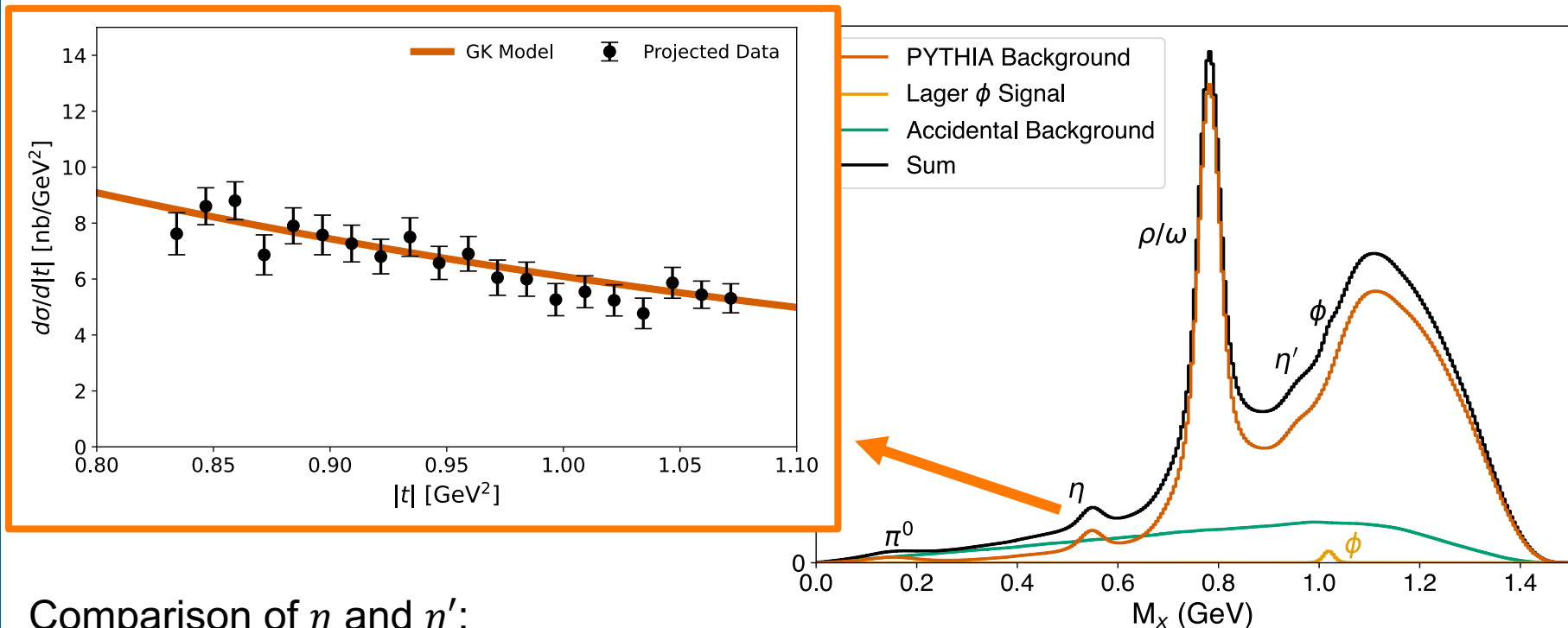


First measurement of  $\eta'$  electroproduction!

Unexpectedly large  $\eta'$  mass is generated by the **QCD chiral anomaly**,  
**What can electroproduction teach us?**

[1] Eides, Frankfurt, Strikman - **Hard Exclusive Electroproduction of Pseudoscalar Mesons and QCD axial anomaly**, *PRD*, 1999

# WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN FROM $\phi$ -007 ?



Comparison of  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$ :

**What is the role of the chiral anomaly in electroproduction<sup>[1]</sup>?**

$\eta : \eta' = 1 : 2 \rightarrow$  Naïve cross section ratios neglecting the anomaly

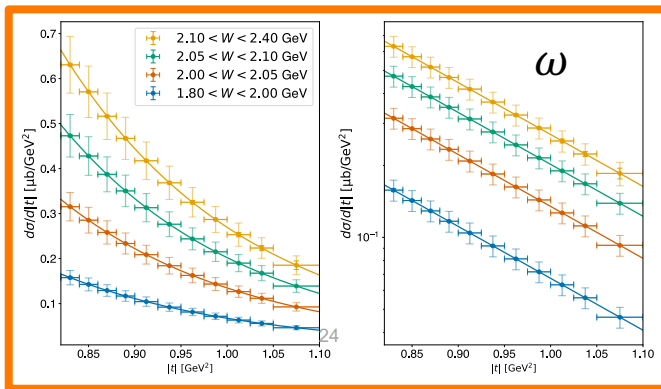
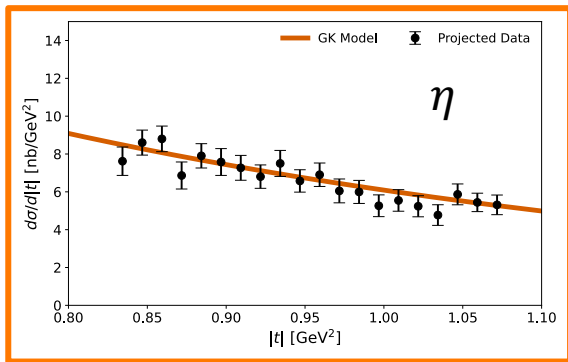
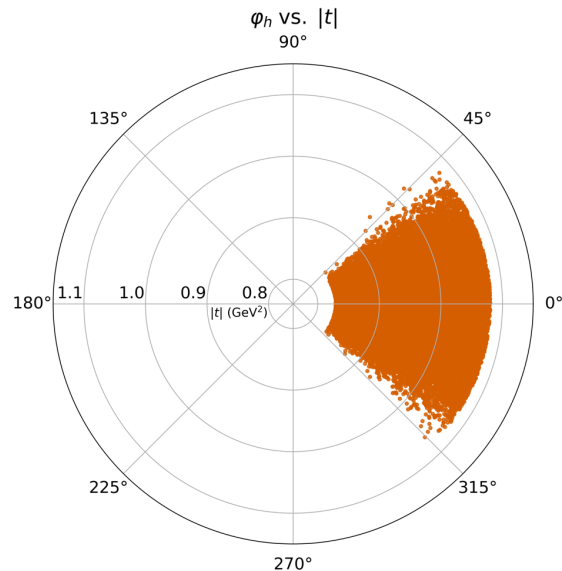
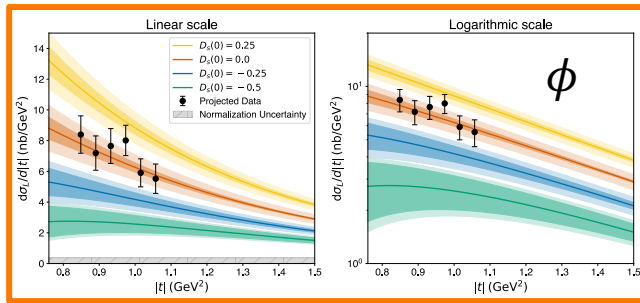
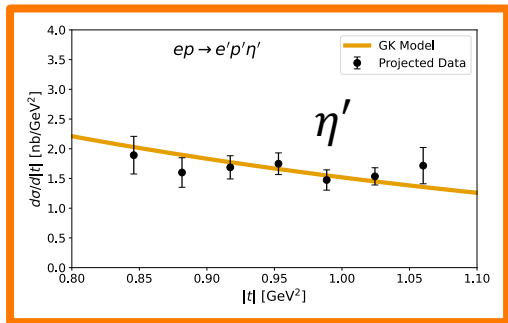
$\eta : \eta' = 1 : 0.87 \rightarrow$  With the anomaly included

[1] Eides, Frankfurt, Strikman - **Hard Exclusive Electroproduction of Pseudoscalar Mesons and QCD axial anomaly**

# WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS DATA?

Beam Spin Asymmetries for all!  
(Partially)

$$\text{BSA} = \frac{\sqrt{2\epsilon(1-\epsilon)} \frac{\sigma_{LT'}}{\sigma_0} \sin \phi_h}{1 + \sqrt{2\epsilon(1+\epsilon)} \frac{\sigma_{LT}}{\sigma_0} \cos \phi_h + \epsilon \frac{\sigma_{TT}}{\sigma_0} \cos 2\phi_h}$$

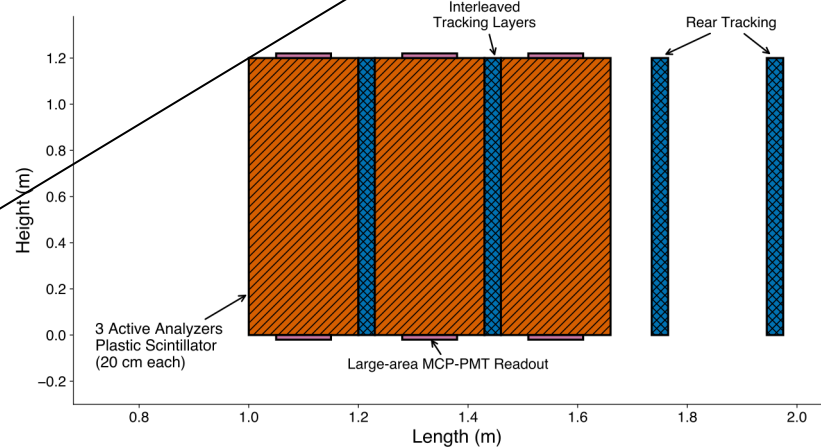
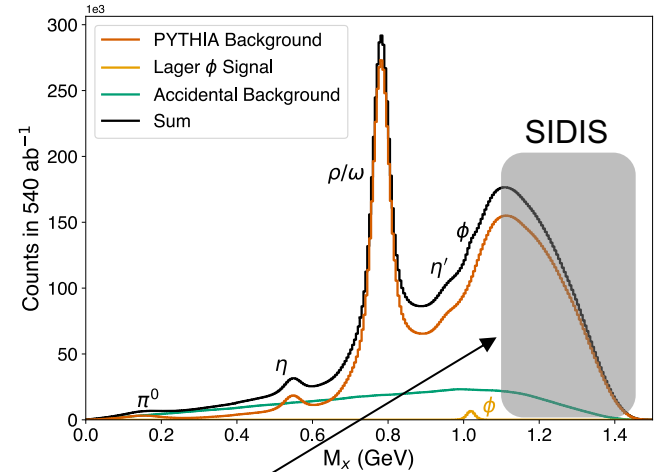


# ASIDE: RECOIL POLARIZATION

- Addition of proton polarimeter in HMS would enable the **first measurement of recoil polarization in DVMP** via  $H(e, e'p)X$  reaction
  - **Test s-channel helicity conservation** in a new way
  - Recoil polarization only measured in a very limited set of reactions, almost exclusively elastic scattering
- For semi-inclusive DIS, connection to the spin-dependent odderon!?

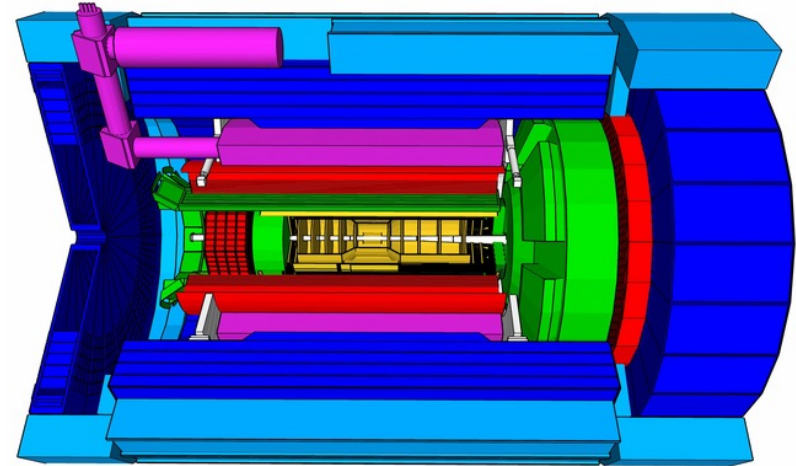
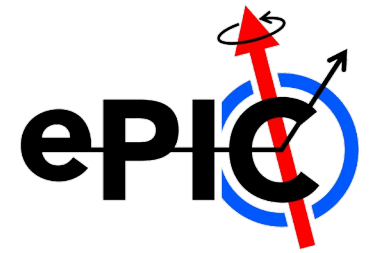
Single spin asymmetry in  $e + p \rightarrow e' + B^\uparrow + X$

Yoshitaka Hatta<sup>1,2</sup> and Oleg V. Teryaev<sup>3</sup>



# WHAT ABOUT THE EIC?

- **Large acceptance detector!**
  - Means  $\phi$  decay products can be **measured directly**, fully exclusive
  - Use the dual-radiator RICH for PID of kaons at relatively small angles
  - **Background** can be **substantially reduced**
  
- How well can we do? Can we access  $D_s$  at the EIC?

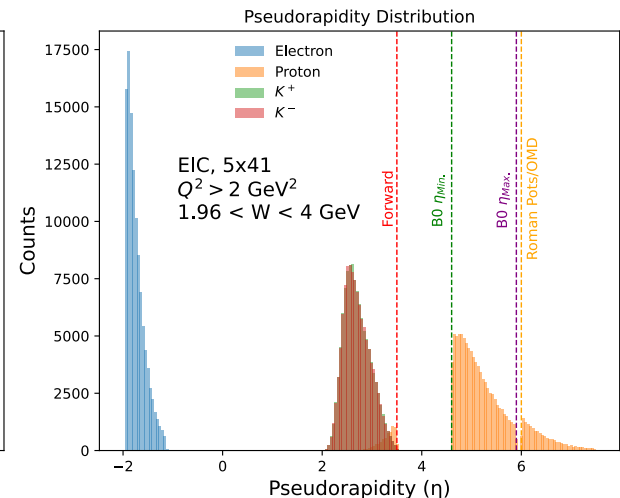
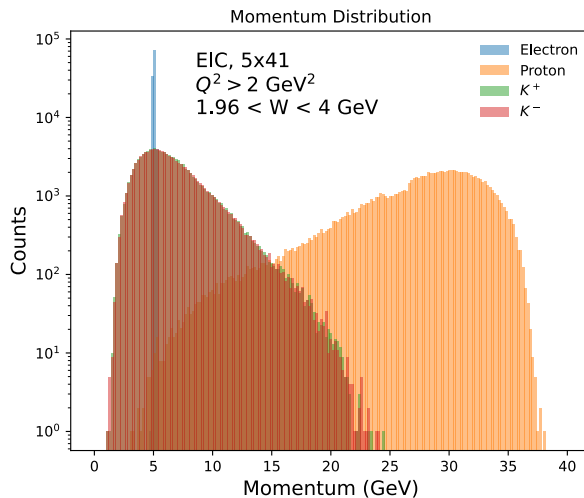
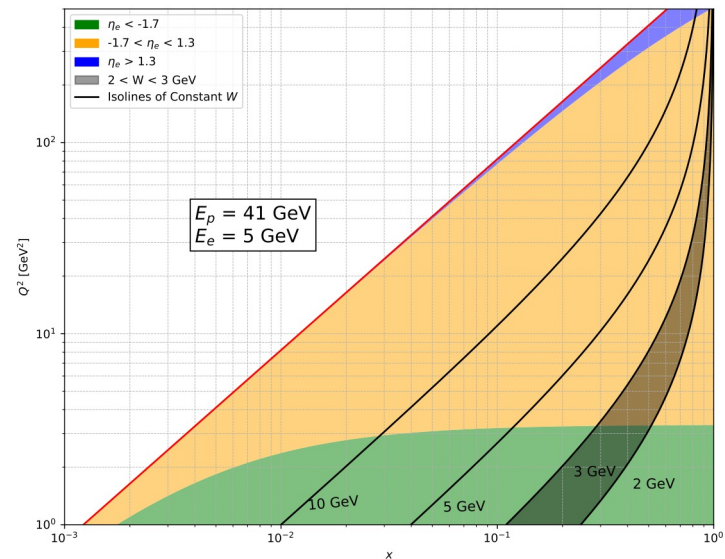


# PROJECTIONS



- Only 5x41 GeV mode enables access to near-threshold  $\phi$
- Acceptance for  $\phi$  in central detector is nearly zero for even 10x100 GeV energy
  - $\phi$  too forward boosted near-threshold

- Fully exclusive measurement only possible thanks to EIC far-forward detectors!



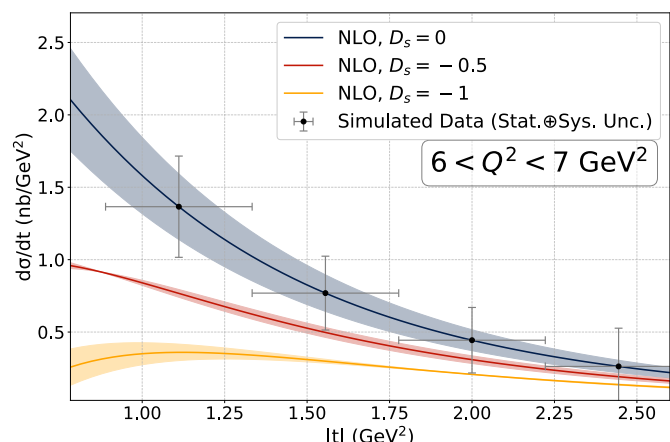
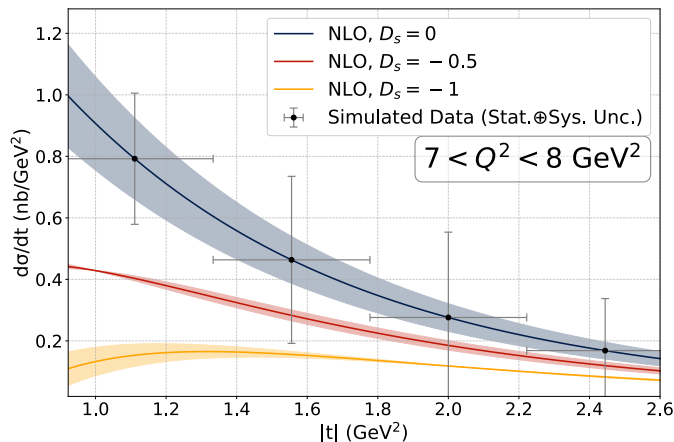
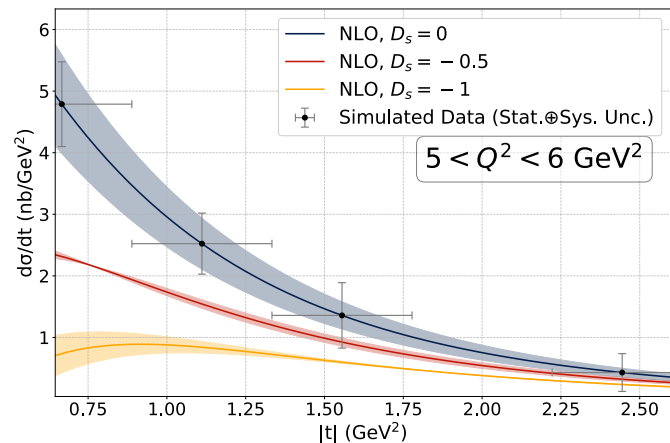
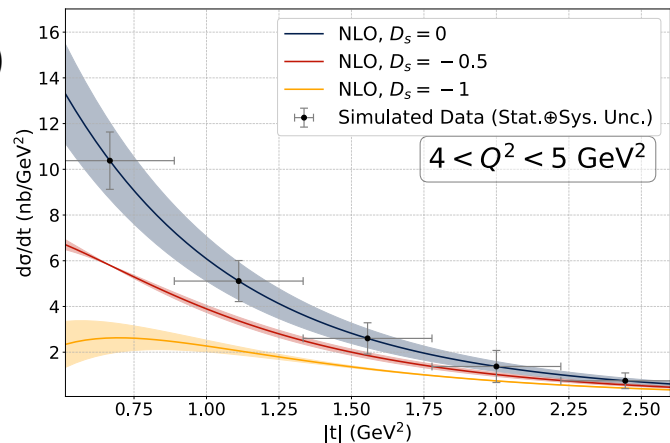
# PROJECTIONS



EIC 5x41 Projections for  $\frac{d\sigma_L}{d|t|}$  at  $2.4 < W < 2.8$  GeV

- Assume  $10 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  (5x41)
  - Two years (40 weeks) of running at the design luminosity
- Full exclusivity
  - $e^-$ ,  $K^\pm$ ,  $p$  all measured in the detector

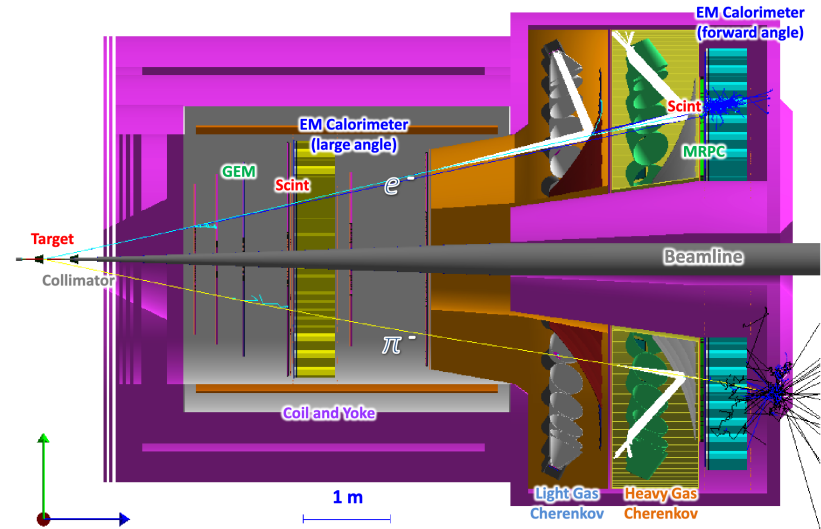
Limited by statistics & forward acceptance



# EXCLUSIVE $\phi$ IN SOLID

- Large acceptance & luminosity!
  - $\phi$  decay products can be **measured directly**
    - Fully exclusive, low background
    - Measure  $R$  to extract  $\sigma_L$
  - Near-threshold is more accessible than at EIC
  - PID from **ToF, Cherenkovs**

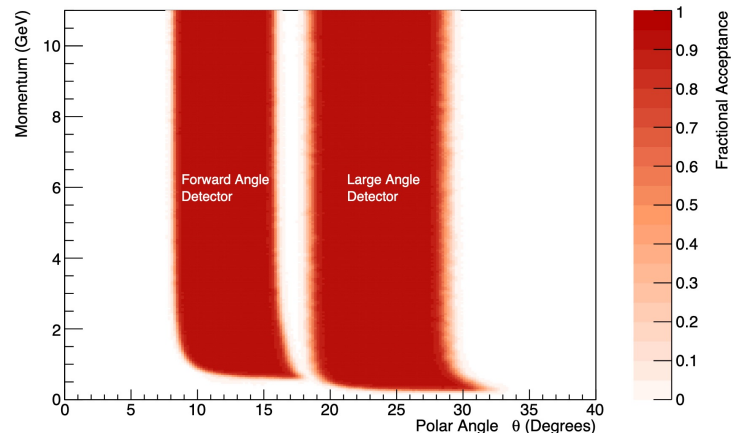
**High statistics & continuous kinematic coverage for multidimensional measurement!**



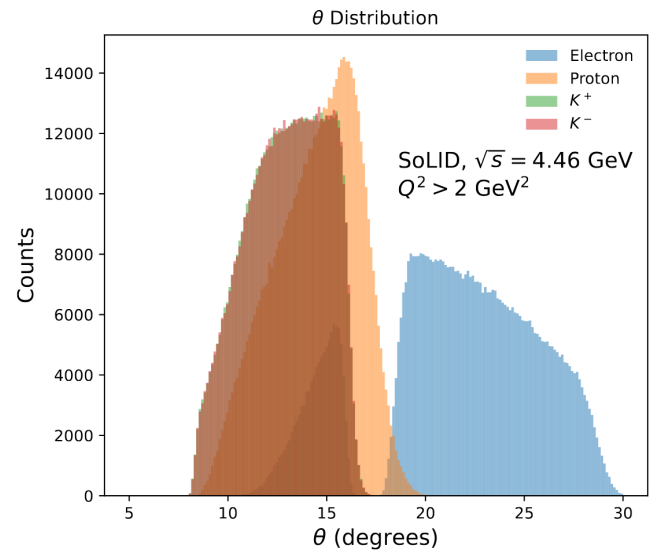
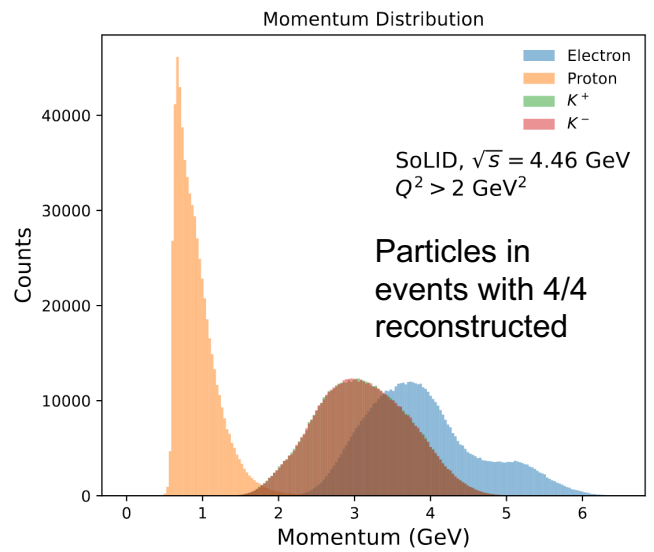
# PROJECTIONS



- Exclusive  $\phi$  projections for SoLID
  - $43.2 \text{ ab}^{-1}$  (existing  $J/\psi$  proposal)
  - **Fully exclusive!** - Detect all four final state particles:  $e'$ ,  $p'$ ,  $K^+$ ,  $K^-$
- Require kaons, proton to be detected in forward angle detector
  - Better TOF PID



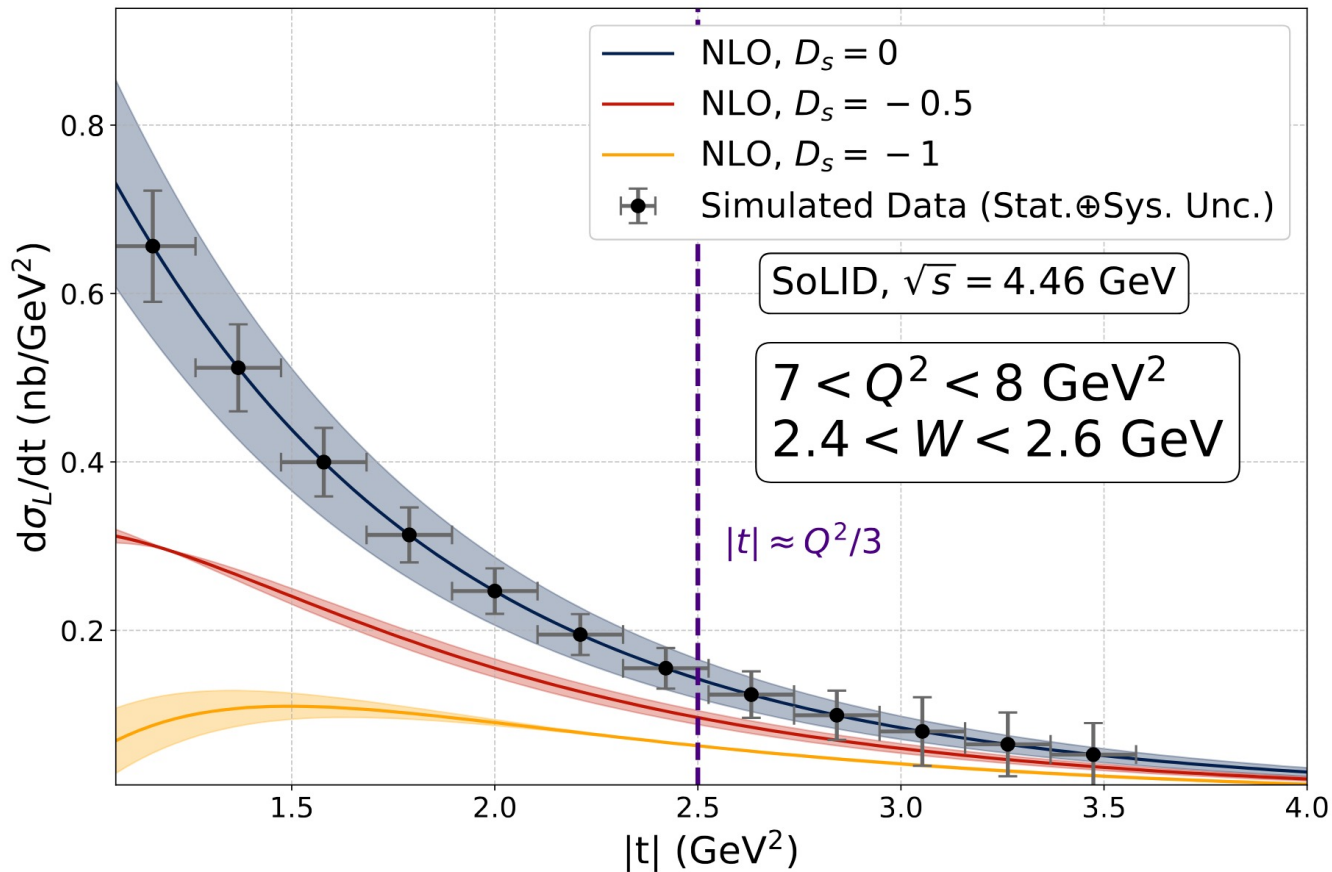
**Particle momenta nicely suited for the SoLID PID systems!**



# PROJECTIONS



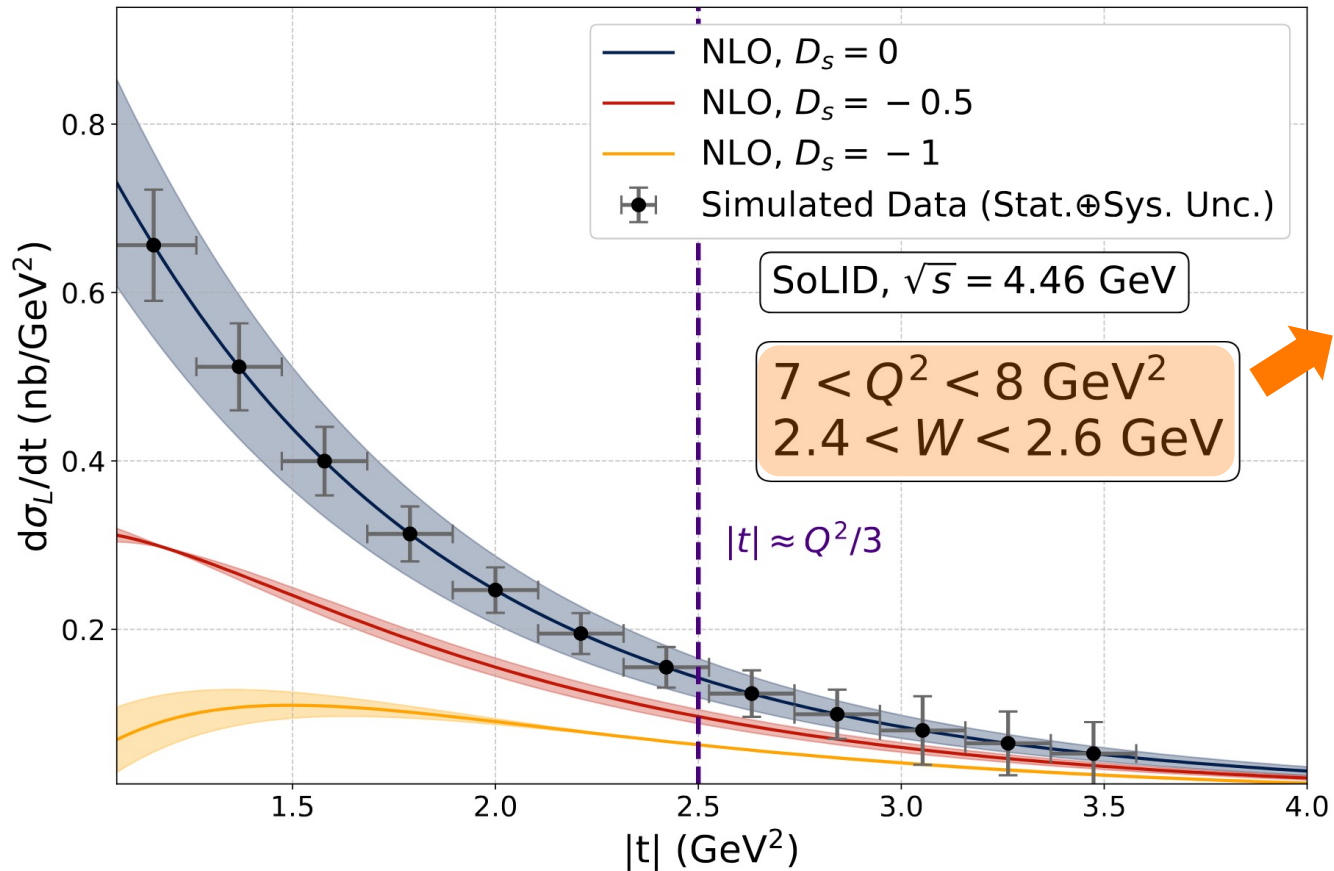
Assumption of 10% systematic uncertainty still **exhibits good sensitivity to  $D_s$ !**



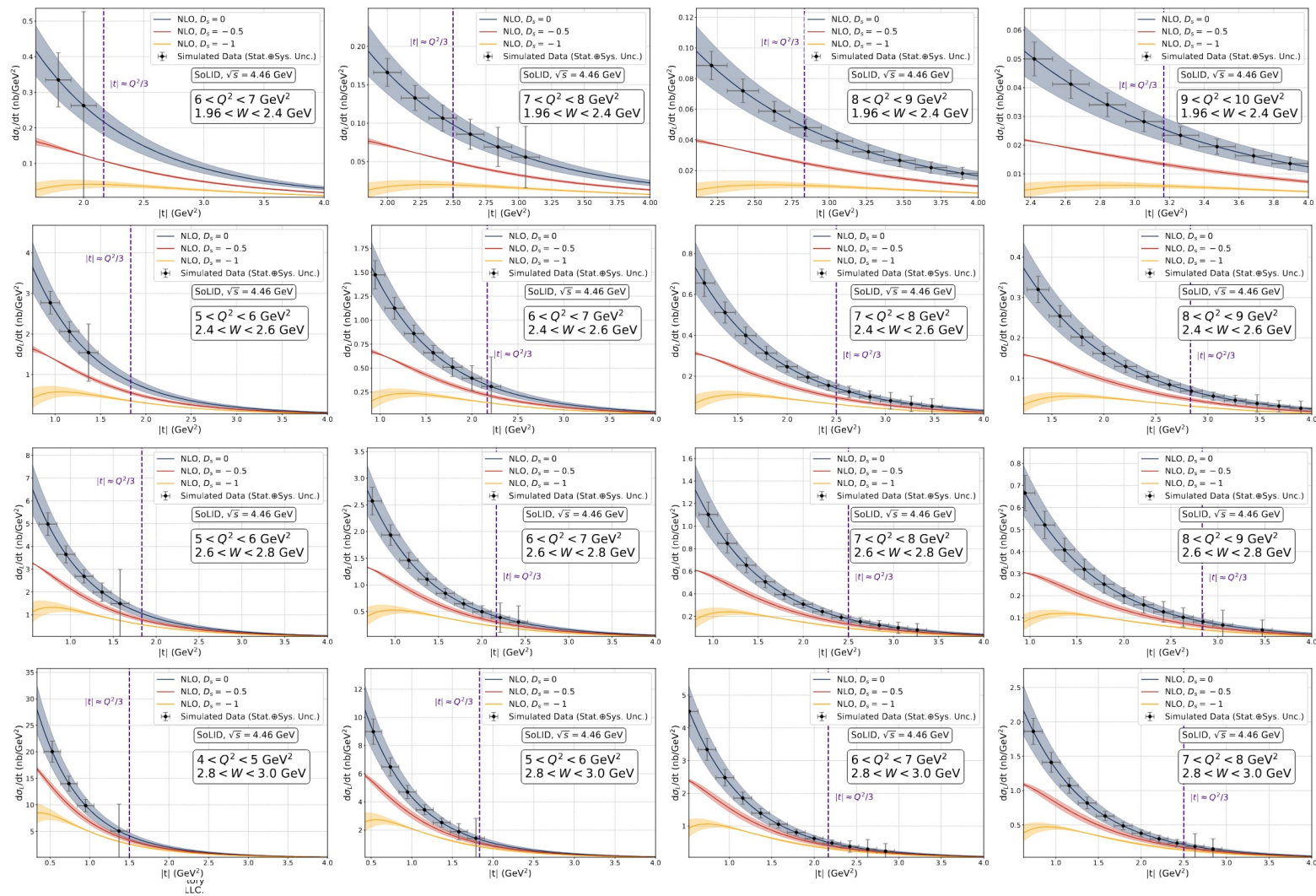
# PROJECTIONS



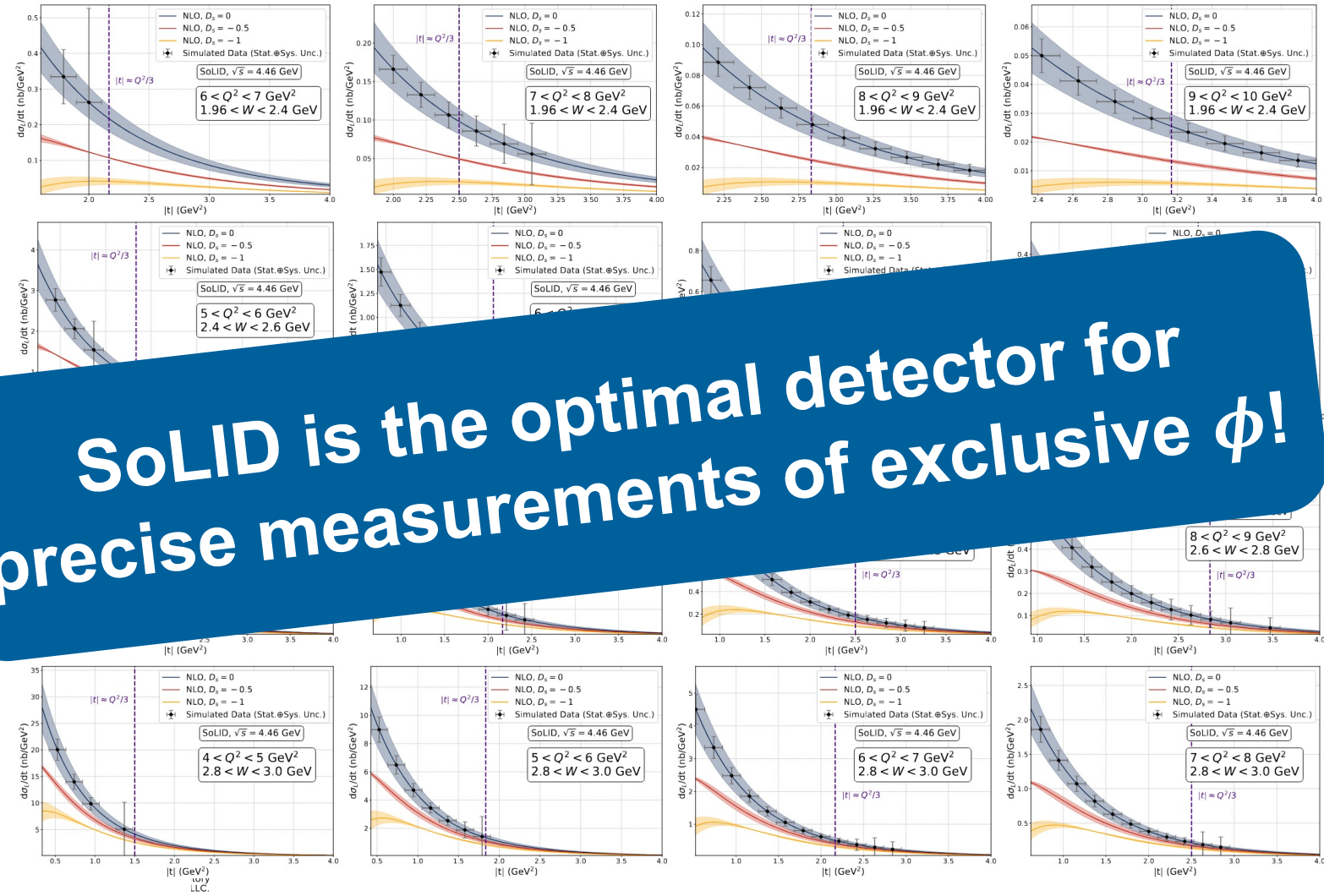
Assumption of 10% systematic uncertainty still **exhibits good sensitivity to  $D_s$ !**



Ideal kinematics!

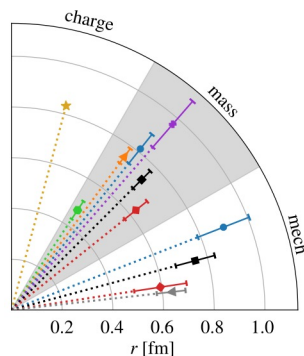
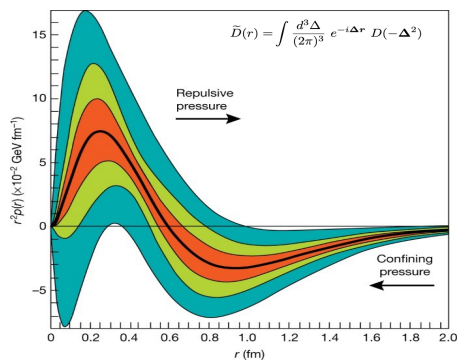


**SoLID is the optimal detector for precise measurements of exclusive  $\phi$ !**

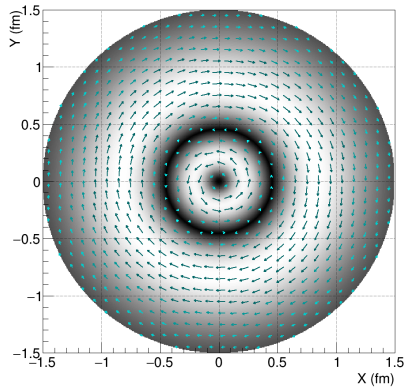
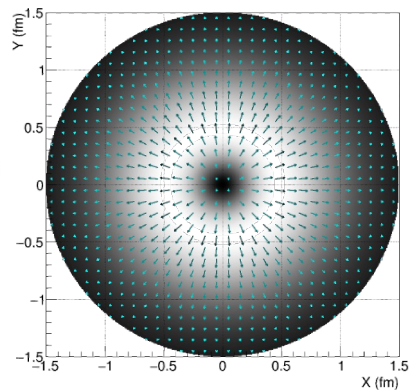


# Armed with the **missing piece** $D_s$ , can finally do global analyses of **total** $D$ -term from **experimental data!**

$$D(0) = \underbrace{D_g(0)}_{J/\psi} + \underbrace{D_u(0) + D_d(0)}_{DVCS} + \underbrace{D_s(0)}_{\phi \text{ DVMP}} + \dots$$



- ★ PDG
- $g$ , Duran et al. method 2
- ▲  $g$ , Duran et al. method 1
- $g$ , Guo et al.
- $g$
- $q + g$
- $q$
- ◄  $q$ , BEG



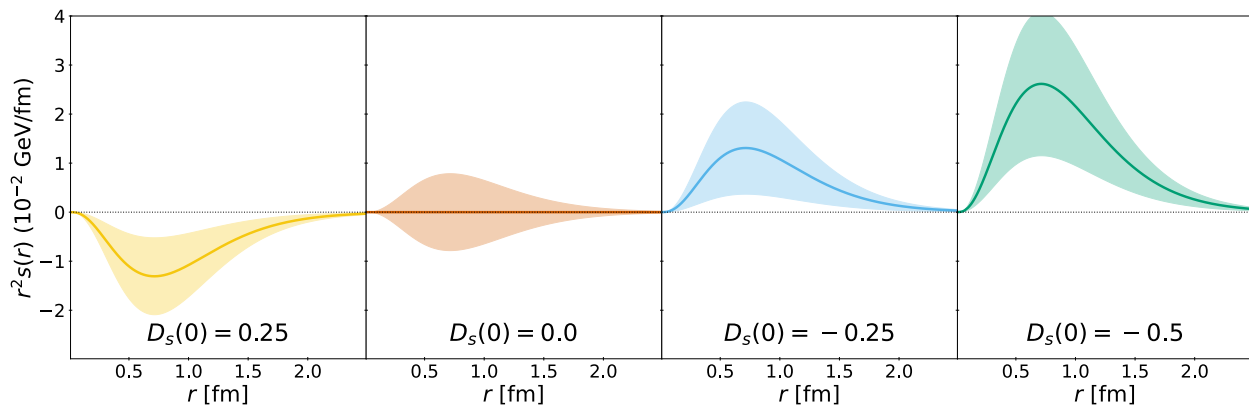
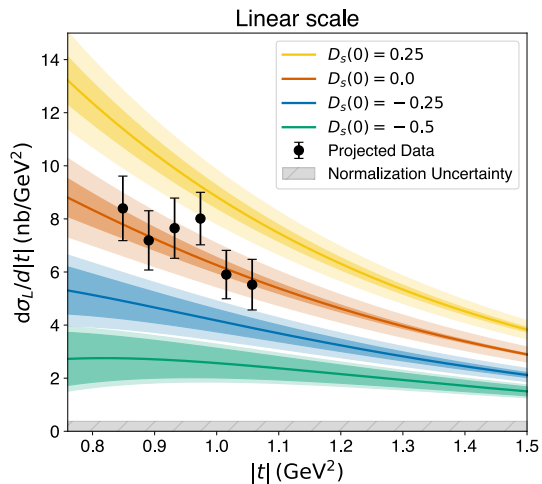
Armed with the **missing piece**  $D_s$ , can finally do global analyses of ***total***  $D$ -term from **experimental data!**

$$D(0) = \underbrace{D_g(0)}_{J/\psi} + \underbrace{D_u(0) + D_d(0)}_{\text{DVCS}} + \underbrace{D_s(0)}_{\phi \text{ DVMP}} + \dots$$

These quantities teach us about the strength of the strong force inside nucleons,  
**it's important we get them right!**

# CONCLUSION

- To fully understand proton mechanical structure, **need to extract the contribution of strangeness to the  $D$ -term**
  - **Only place in the world** presently capable of this measurement is **CEBAF**
  - Need more **data** to **validate** near-threshold collinear factorization
  - Result of  $D_s(0) = 0 \rightarrow$  **Supports** existing results on mechanical quantities
  - Observation of  $D_s(0) \neq 0 \rightarrow$  **Discovery** of the contribution of strangeness to the mechanical structure of the nucleon!



# BACKUP

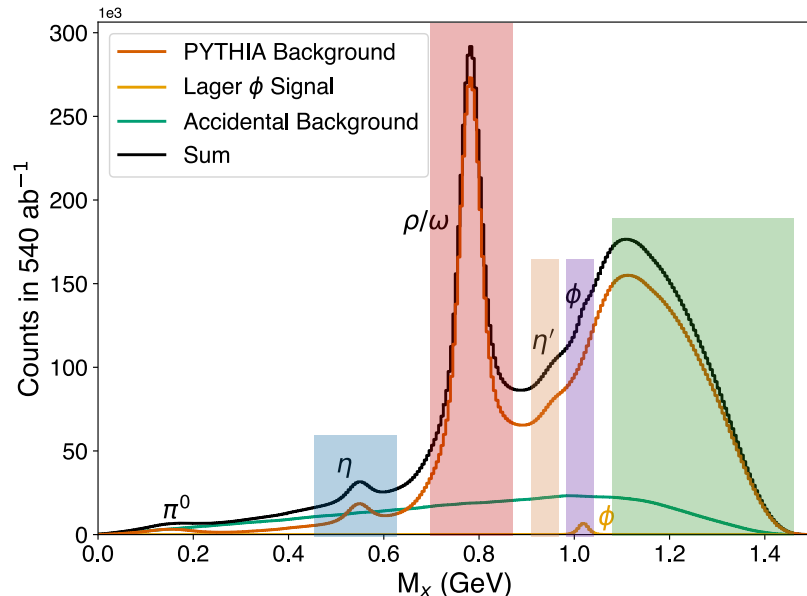
59 Collaborators



# WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN FROM $\phi$ -007?

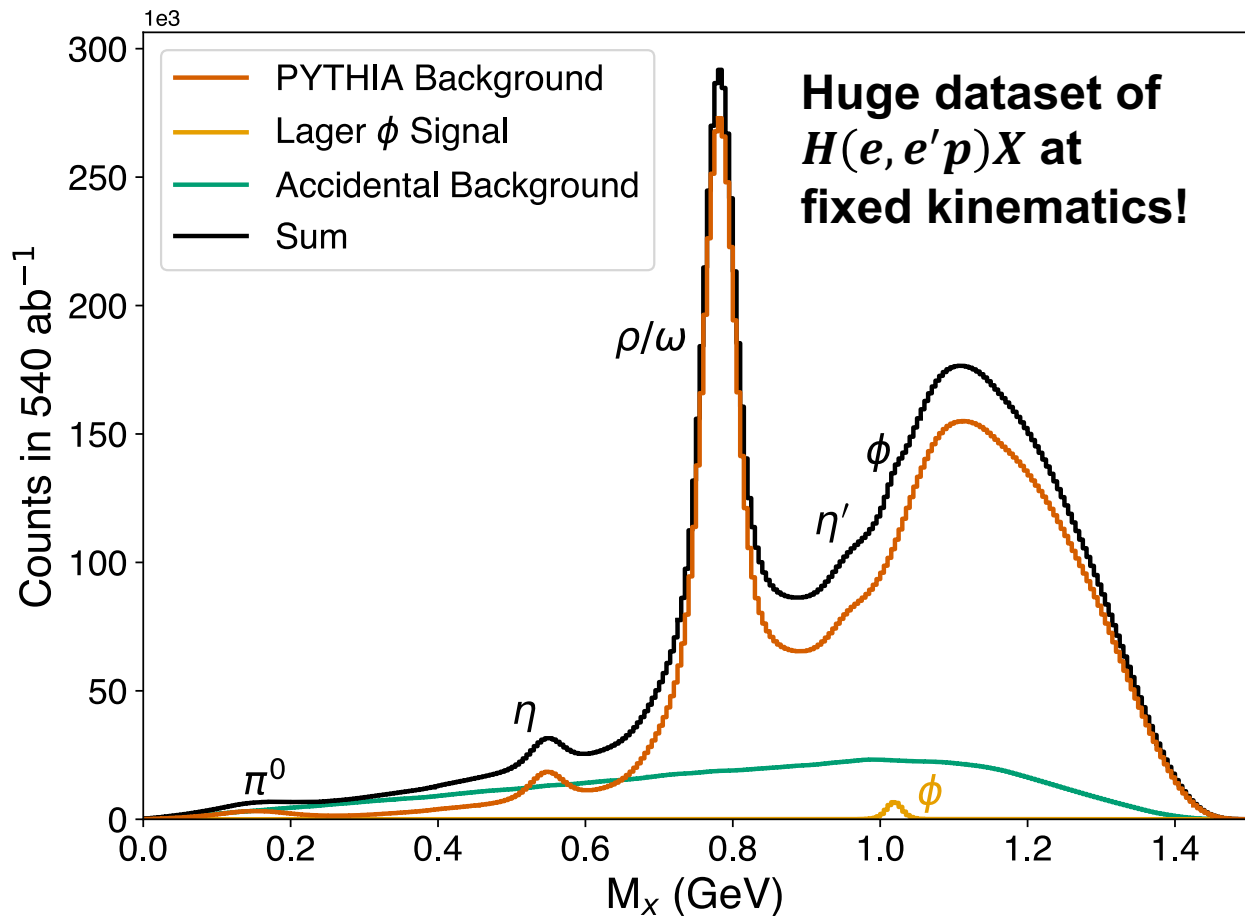
Channel	Physics Goal
$\phi$ BSA	Compare to GPD models
$\eta'$ cross section / BSA	GPDs and/or study of the chiral anomaly
$\omega$ cross section / BSA	Compare to GPD models, Mass radius
$\eta$ cross section / BSA	Baseline for $\eta'$ sans anomaly
$u$ -channel $H(e, e'\pi)X$	Baryon junction / spectroscopy
$u$ -channel $H(e, e'K)X$	Baryon junction / spectroscopy
$\pi/K/p$ SIDIS	High statistics cross check of SIDIS validity at low- $M_X$

TABLE II. Planned measurements in addition to the  $\phi$  cross section and their physics goals.

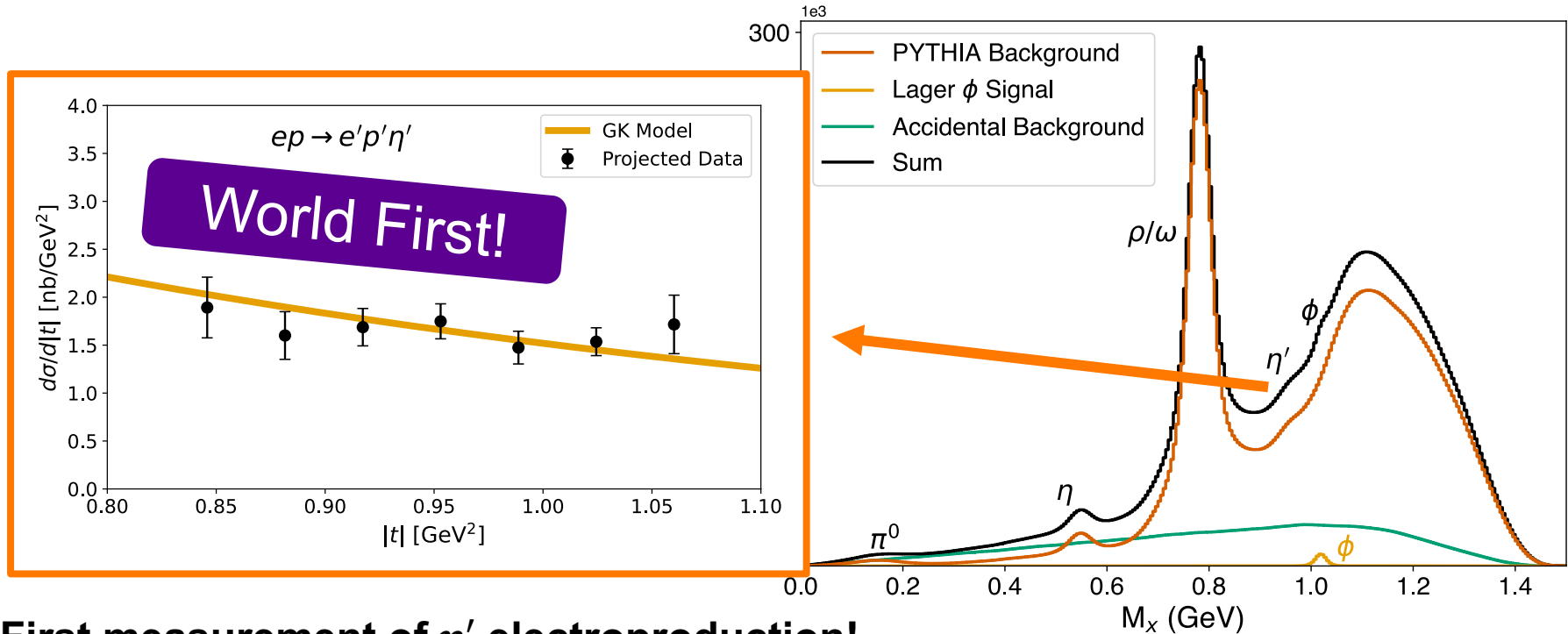


**Lots of physics opportunities that come for free with this dataset!**

# WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS DATA?



# WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS DATA?

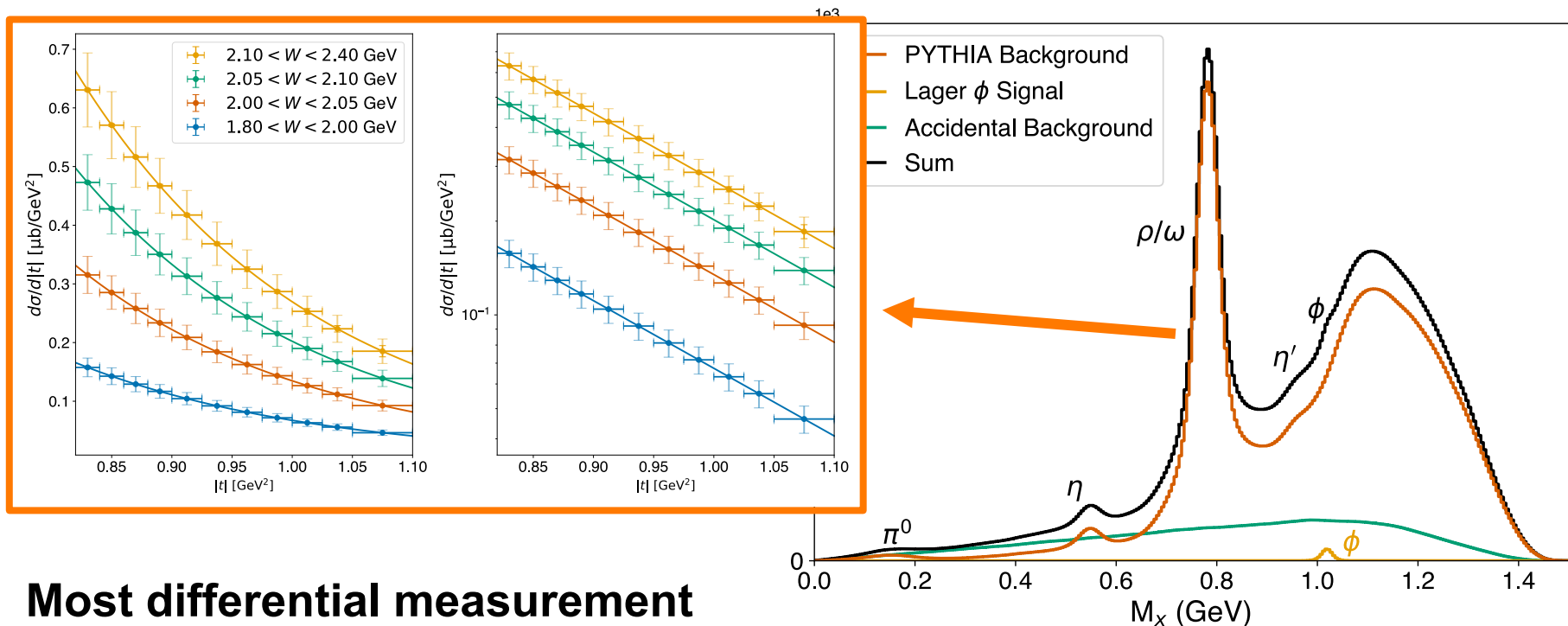


**First measurement of  $\eta'$  electroproduction!**

Unexpectedly large  $\eta'$  mass is generated by the **QCD chiral anomaly**,  
**What can electroproduction teach us?**

[1] Eides, Frankfurt, Strikman - **Hard Exclusive Electroproduction of Pseudoscalar Mesons and QCD axial anomaly**, *PRD*, 1999

# WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS DATA?

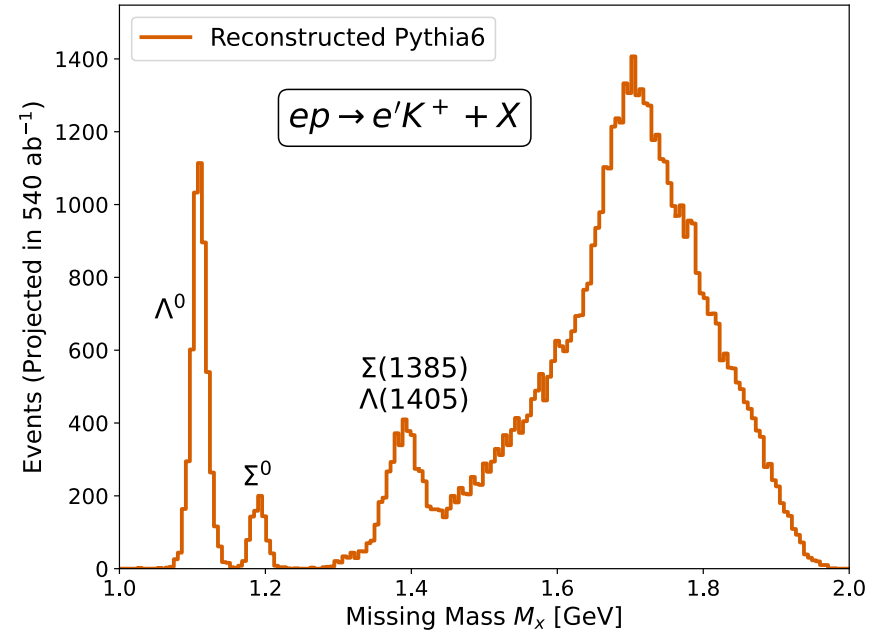
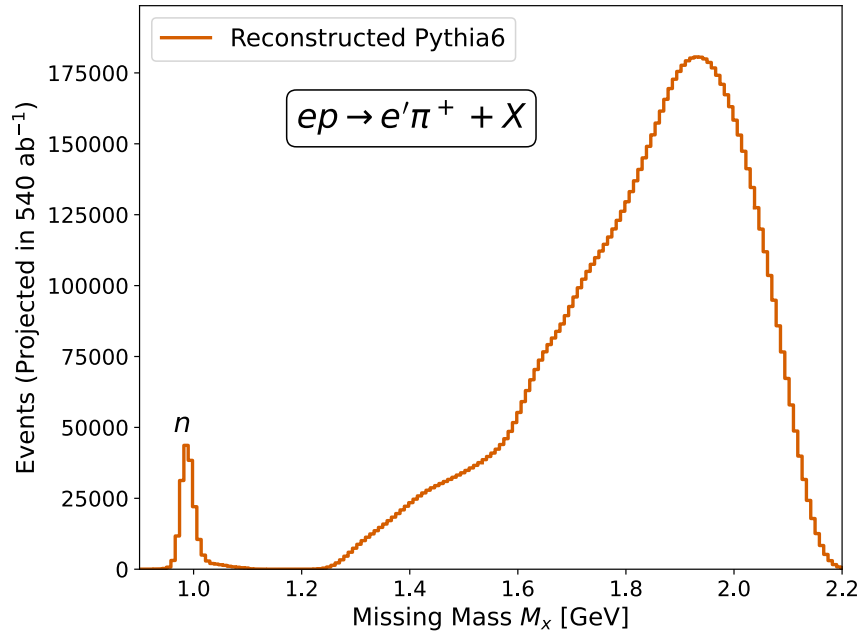


**Most differential measurement  
of near-threshold  $\omega$   
electroproduction! + BSA!**

**Connection to the proton mass radius<sup>[1]</sup>?**

[1] - Wang et al. Extraction of the proton mass radius from the vector meson photoproductions near thresholds, *PRD*, 2021

# WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS DATA?



**$u$ -channel  $\pi^+n$  and  $K^+Y$  electroproduction**

**Baryon takes most of the  $\gamma^*$  momentum**  
Compare to pQCD TDA predictions

**Connection to how baryon number is distributed in the nucleon<sup>[1]</sup>?**

[1] Pire et al. - Toward an advanced phenomenology of  $\pi N$  transition distribution amplitudes, 2025

# 59 Collaborators, international collaboration!

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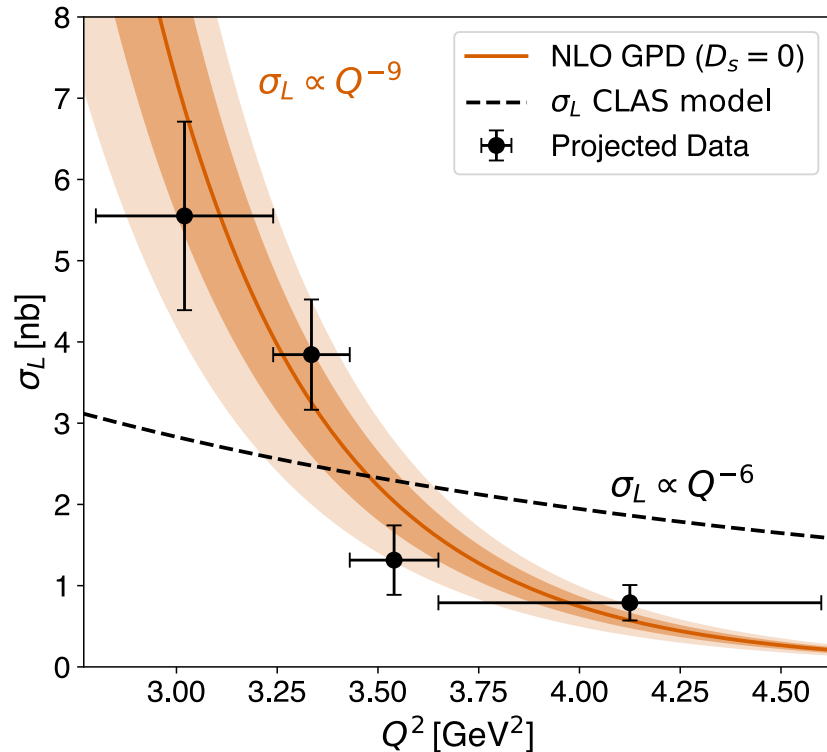
S. Kay  
*University of York, York, UK*

J. Datta  
*Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY*

# TESTING THE THEORY

- **$Q^2$  scaling lets us test!**
- Hatta et al. predicts a very steep scaling with  $Q^2$  in our range of  $W$ 
  - Predicts  $\sigma_L \propto Q^{-9}$  due to the **GFFs and hard coefficients**
    - Unique feature of the near-threshold framework<sup>[1]</sup>!
  - Standard GPD predicts  $\sigma_L \propto Q^{-6}$
  - VMD predicts  $\sigma_L \propto Q^{-4}$

Can validate or invalidate collinear factorization at these kinematics with our data!

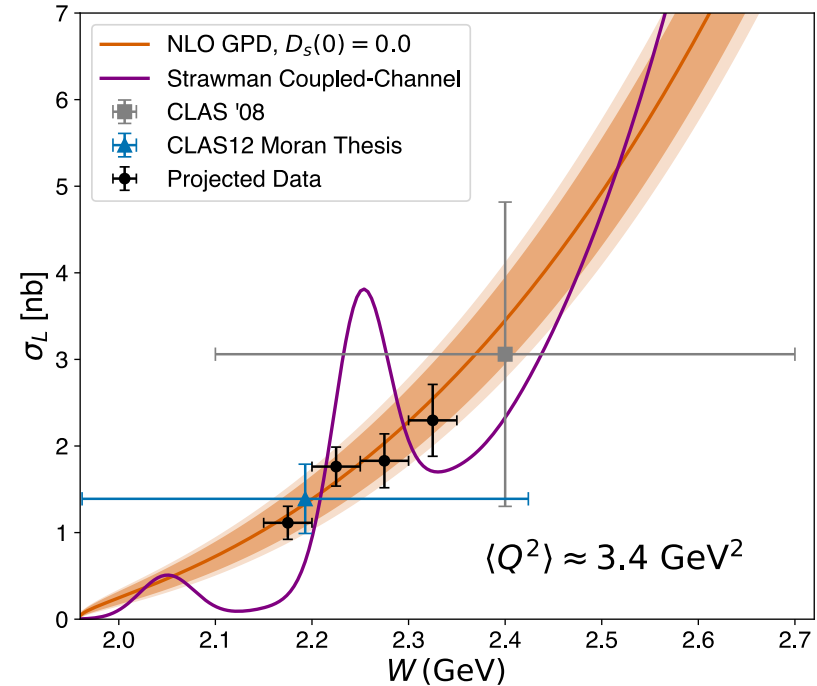


[1] – Hatta, HK, et al.: **Deeply virtual  $\phi$ -meson production near threshold**, *PTEP*, 2025

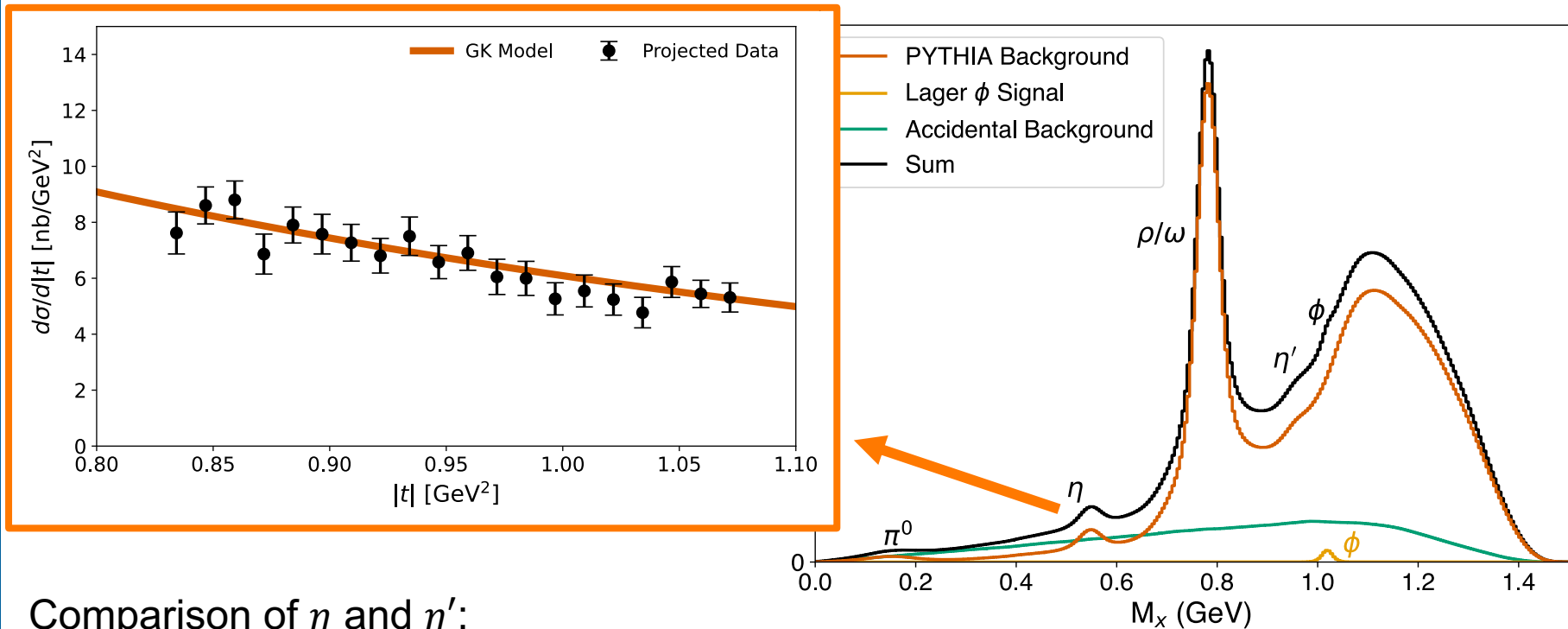
# TESTING THE THEORY

- The prediction of Hatta et al. “**agrees**” with CLAS data and preliminary results from CLAS12
  - **Data uncertainties are very large!**
- Almost any model can describe the existing data due to poor precision & large bins
- The speculation surrounding this topic is precisely why these **data are sorely needed!**

Only way to resolve this debate is with data!



# WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS DATA?



Comparison of  $\eta$  and  $\eta'$ :

**What is the role of the chiral anomaly in electroproduction<sup>[1]</sup>?**

$\eta : \eta' = 1 : 2 \rightarrow$  Naïve cross section ratios neglecting the anomaly

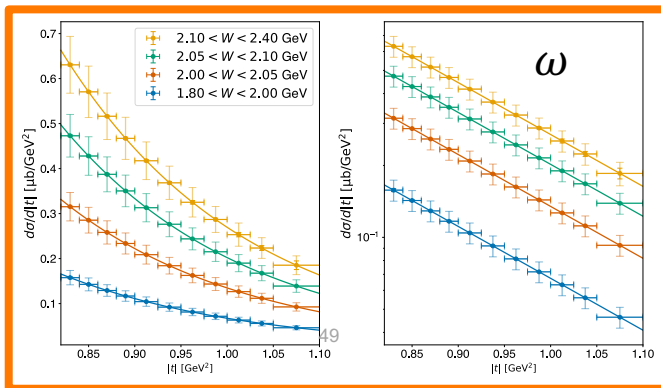
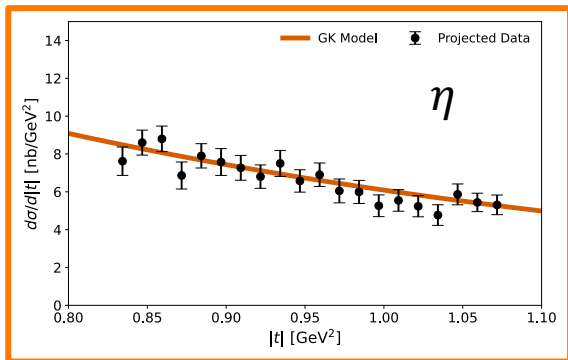
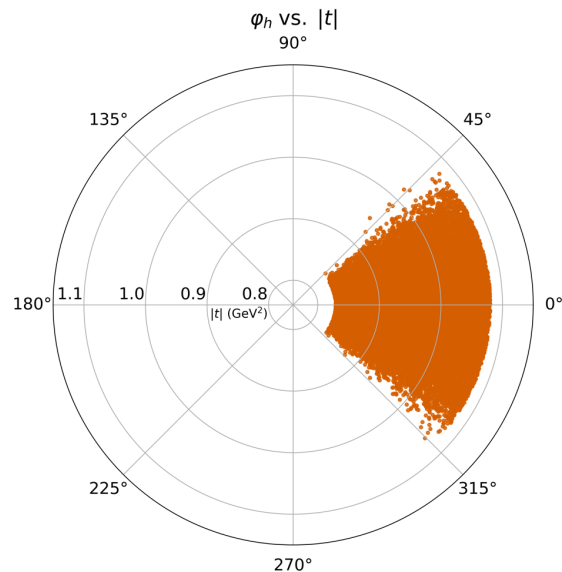
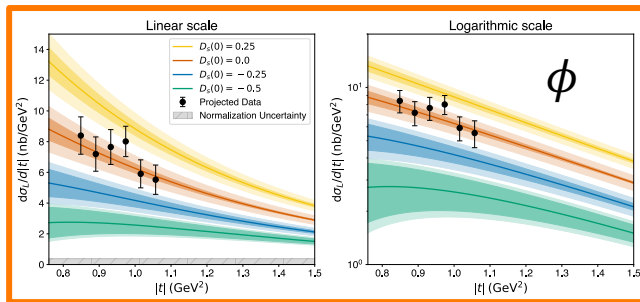
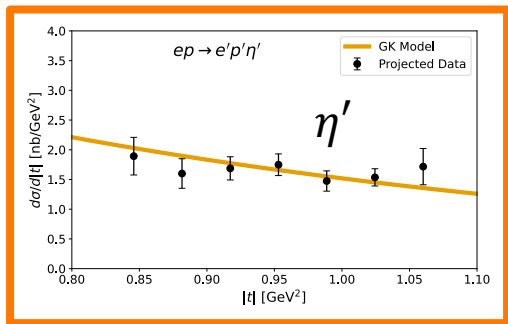
$\eta : \eta' = 1 : 0.87 \rightarrow$  With the anomaly included

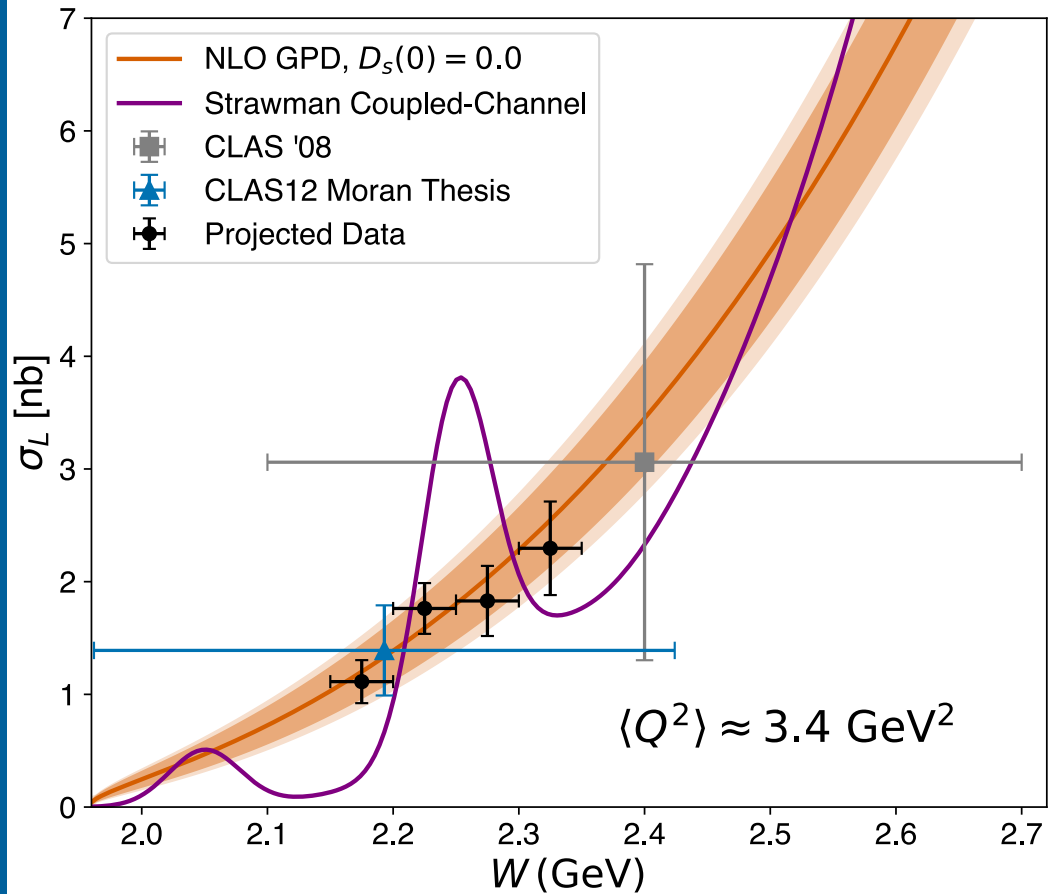
[1] Eides, Frankfurt, Strikman - **Hard Exclusive Electroproduction of Pseudoscalar Mesons and QCD axial anomaly**

# WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS DATA?

Beam Spin Asymmetries for all!  
(Partially)

$$\text{BSA} = \frac{\sqrt{2\epsilon(1-\epsilon)} \frac{\sigma_{LT'}}{\sigma_0} \sin \phi_h}{1 + \sqrt{2\epsilon(1+\epsilon)} \frac{\sigma_{LT}}{\sigma_0} \cos \phi_h + \epsilon \frac{\sigma_{TT}}{\sigma_0} \cos 2\phi_h}$$



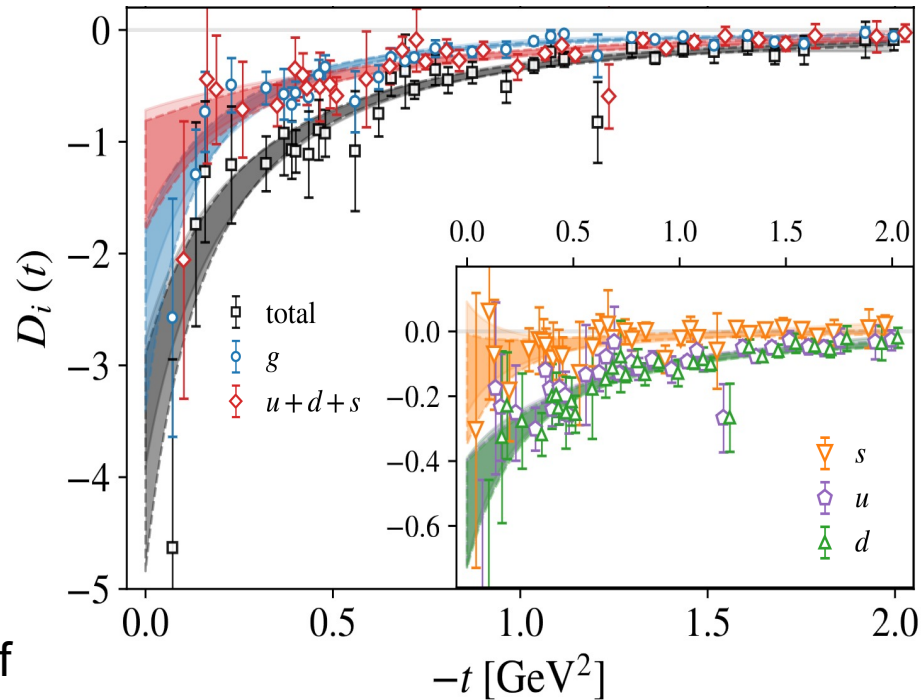


Data Source	$\langle W \rangle$ (GeV)	Data $\sigma_L$	GPD $\sigma_L$
CLAS '08 data	2.40	$3.06 \pm 1.76$	$3.44 \pm 0.66$
CLAS12 Moran thesis data	2.19	$1.39 \pm 0.30$	$1.28 \pm 0.33$

# THEORY PREDICTIONS

	Dipole	$z$ -expansion
	$D_i$	$D_i$
$u$	-0.56(17)	-0.56(17)
$d$	-0.57(17)	-0.56(17)
$s$	-0.18(17)	-0.08(17)
$u + d + s$	-1.30(49)	-1.20(48)
$g$	-2.57(84)	-2.15(32)
Total	-3.87(97)	-3.35(58)

Quark masses tuned for a pion mass of 170 MeV, lattice spacing of 0.091 fm.  
Calculations not yet in the continuum limit



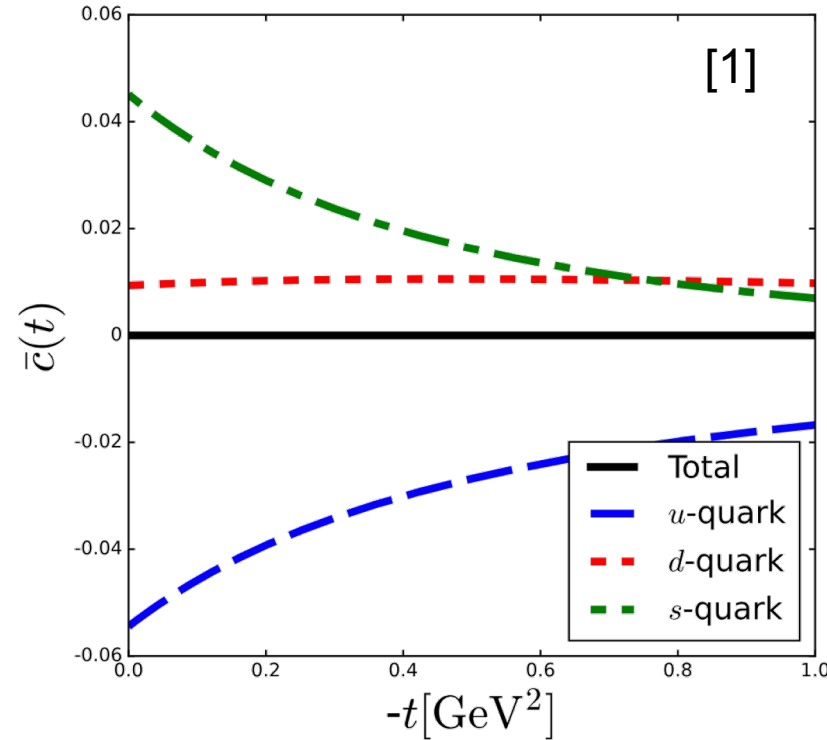
# $\bar{c}$ CAVEAT

- $\bar{c}$  form factor contributes to many of the mechanical properties (Radial pressure, radii, etc.)
  - $\bar{c}$  currently inaccessible to experiment

Pressure defined as:

$$p^a(r) = \frac{1}{6m} \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} r^2 \frac{d}{dr} \widetilde{D}^a(r) - m \int \frac{d^3\Delta}{(2\pi)^3} e^{-i\Delta r} \bar{c}^a(-\Delta^2)$$

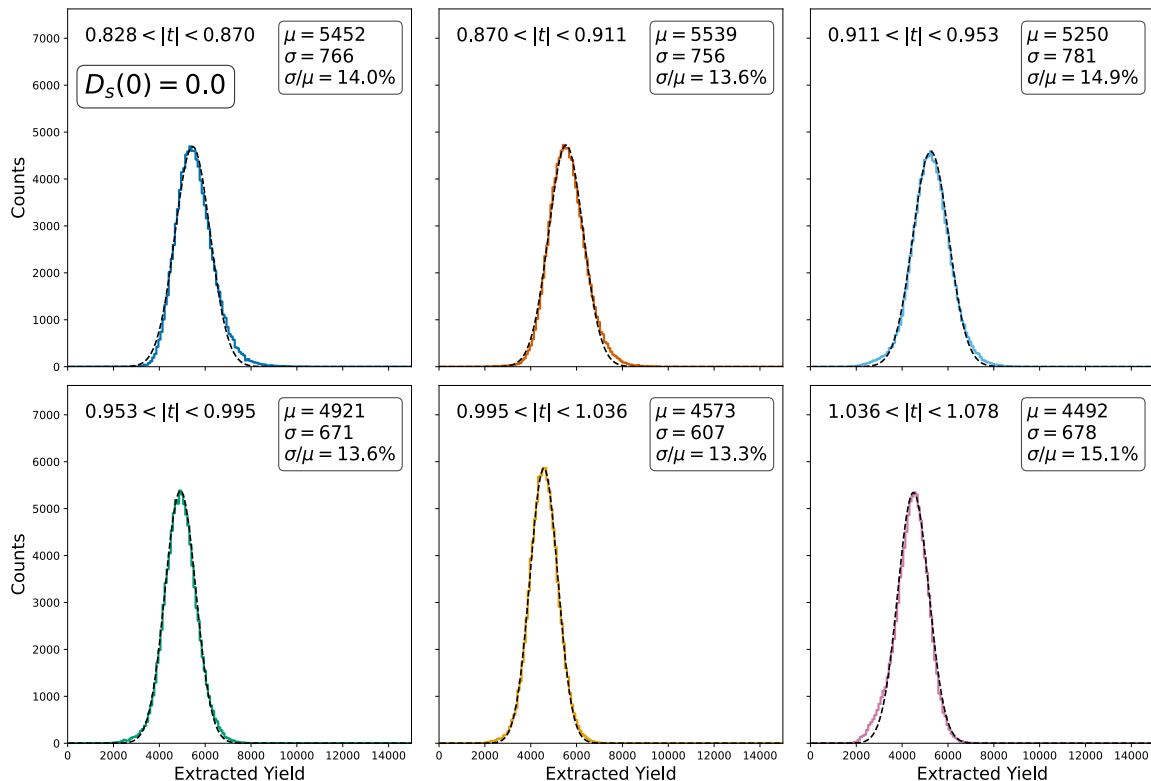
- However,  $\bar{c}_q = -\bar{c}_g!$  → Total  $\bar{c}$  **cancels** due to EMT conservation **if summing over all parton species!**



This caveat means that to extract the full set of mechanical properties, **all partonic  $D$ -term contributions must be known!**

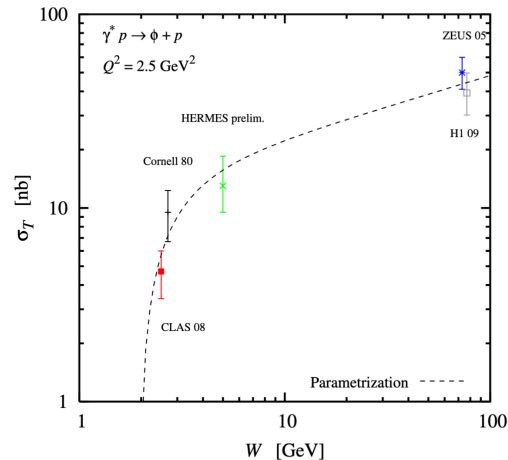
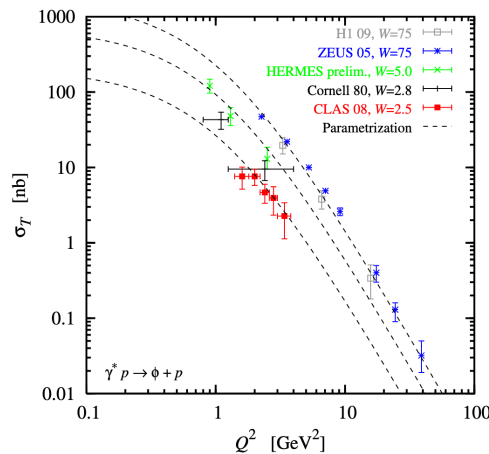
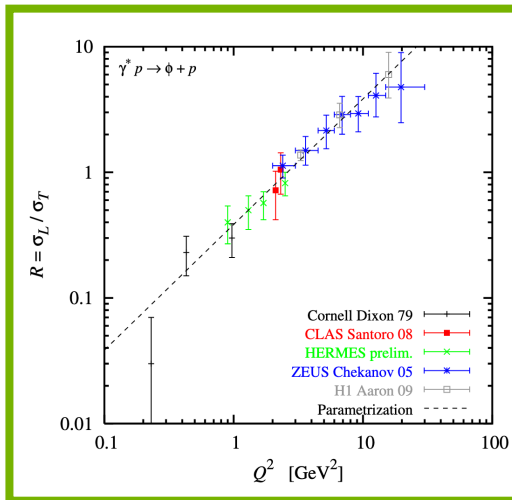
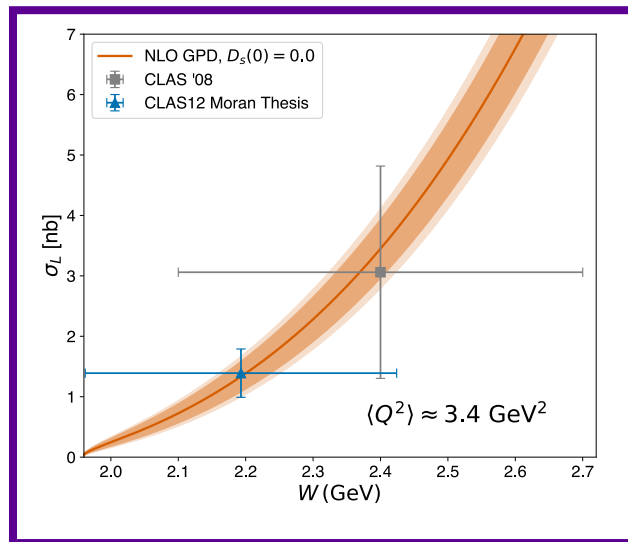
# SIGNAL EXTRACTION

- Perform the background generation, fitting, and sideband background subtraction on pseudodata 100000 times
- Results of pseudoexperiments shown for 6 bins in  $|t|$ 
  - Can bin less finely if cross section is smaller than predicted



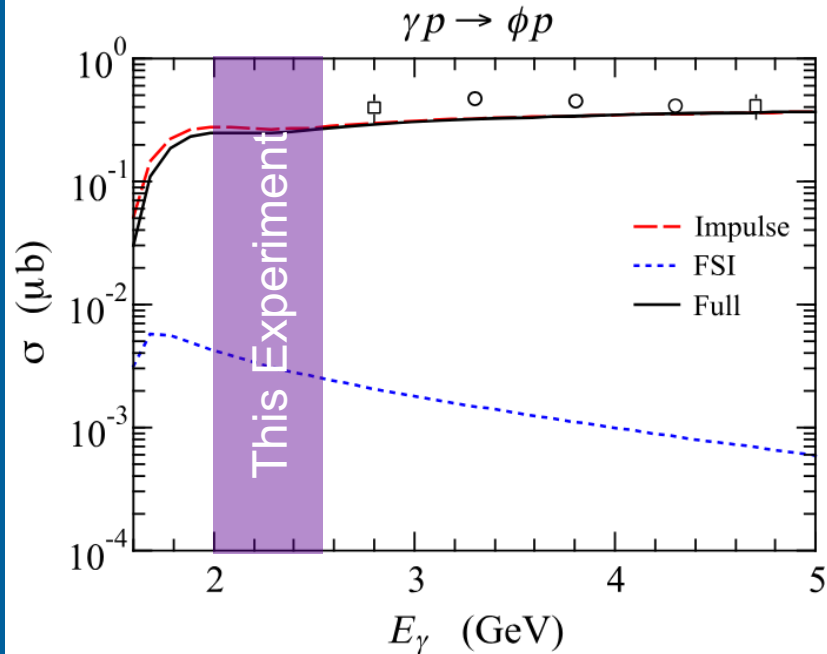
# CROSS SECTION PROJECTIONS

- $\phi$  Cross section conservatively estimated as the smaller of two predictions in our projections
  - NLO GPD prediction
  - Model based on existing world data developed for CLAS12

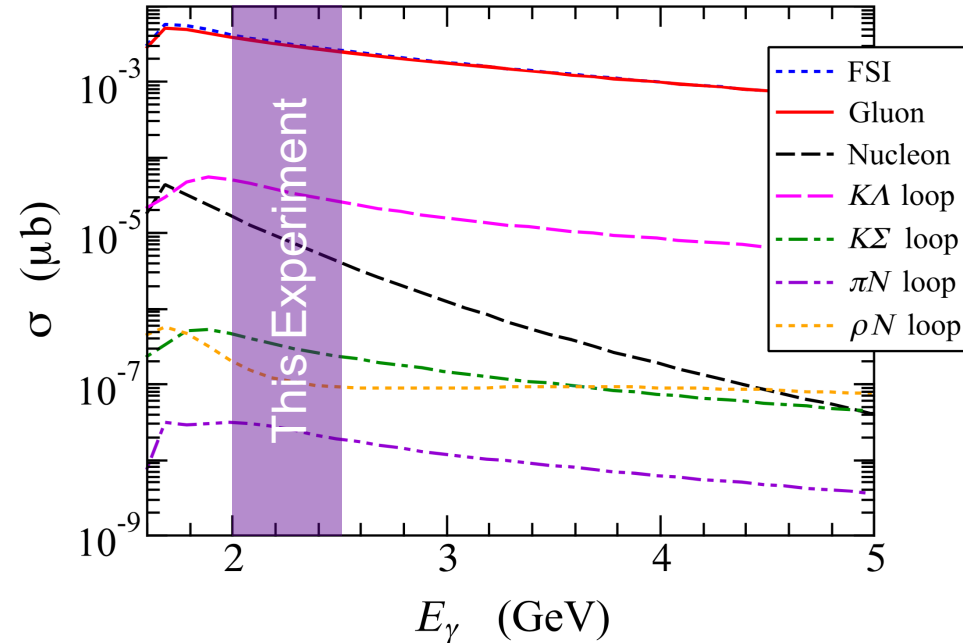


# FINAL-STATE INTERACTIONS

- FSI calculated for  $\phi$  photoproduction<sup>[1]</sup>
  - Determined to be orders of magnitude smaller than the production cross section – **negligible**



- Even the individual FSI channels are calculated and shown to be tiny



[1] – S.H. Kim et al. **Dynamical model of  $\phi$  meson photoproduction on the nucleon and  $^4\text{He}$**

# THEORY RESPONSES

Furthermore, **duality** tells us that partonic and hadronic descriptions are **not exclusive!**

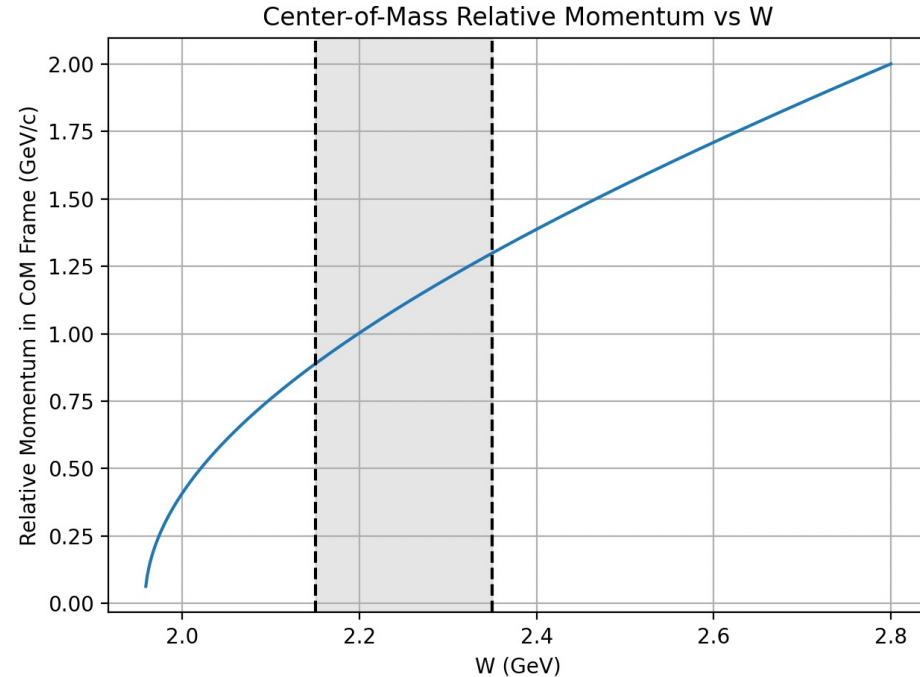
- The points raised against Hatta et al. do not apply to **holographic predictions** since holography does not rely on collinear factorization  
—Holographic predictions for  $\phi$  already exist!<sup>[1]</sup>
- In contact now with holographic theorists, a new calculation for our kinematics is possible

[1] - Mamo, Zahed: **Electroproduction of heavy vector mesons using holographic QCD: from near threshold to high energy regimes**

# “NEAR-THRESHOLD”?

- **Asymptotically close to the threshold** of  $W = 1.96$  GeV, collinear factorization indeed breaks down
- However, the  **$W$  of this experiment was chosen to be large enough** that the relative momentum between the  $\phi$  and proton is still reasonably large
  - **“Near-threshold” is misleading!**

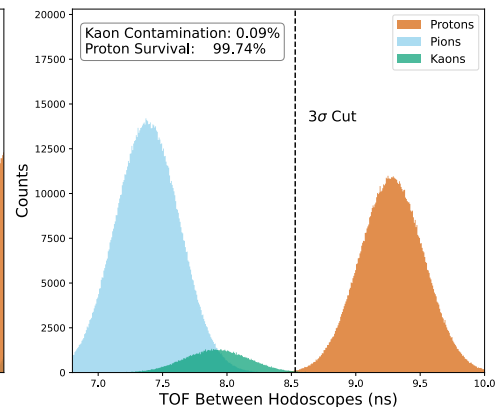
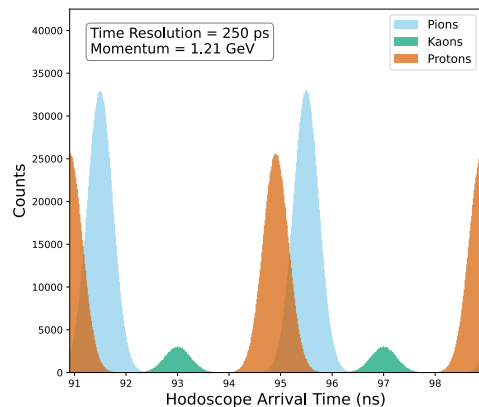
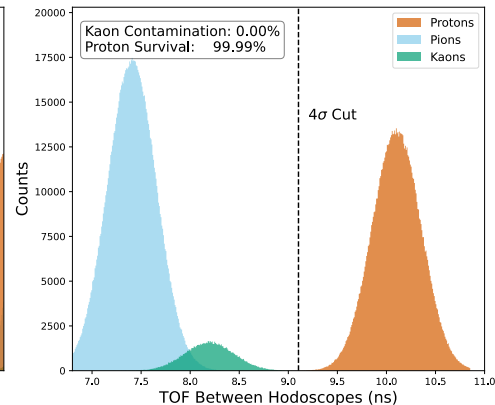
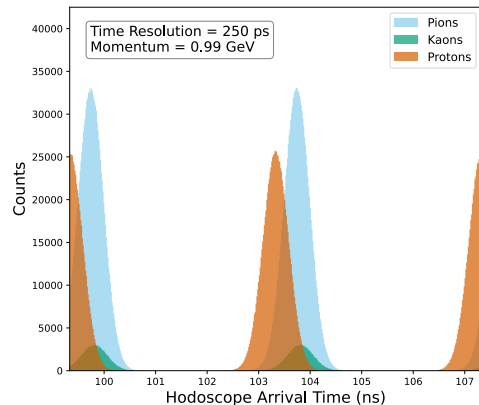
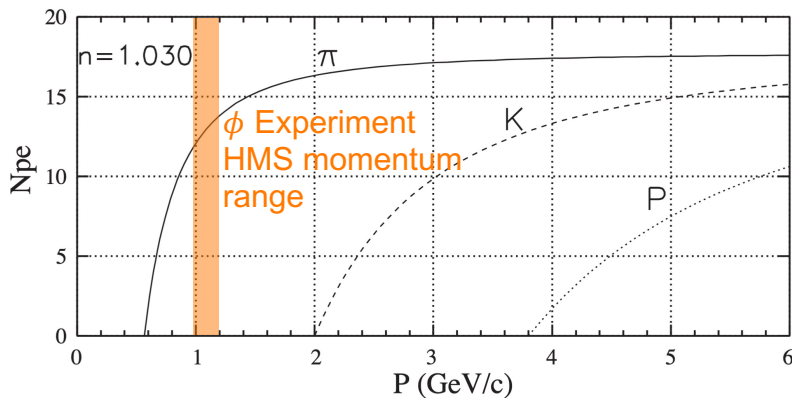
The only way to test whether collinear factorization holds quantitatively is with **data!**



Total momentum between the  $\phi$  and proton in the center-of-mass frame

# CAN WE DO $U$ -CHANNEL?

- $u$ -channel: baryon takes most of the virtual photon momentum
- Instead of  $H(e, e'P)X$ , can we do  $H(e, e'K)X$  or  $H(e, e'\pi)X$  with our dataset?
  - HMS Aerogel would likely be able to cover  $\pi/K$  separation
    - Kaons are below Cherenkov threshold, pions reasonably far above it



# EXCLUSIVE PION PRODUCTION

- $u$ -channel is sensitive to transition distribution amplitudes
  - Connected to **how baryon number is distributed** inside of nucleons<sup>[1]</sup>

[1]

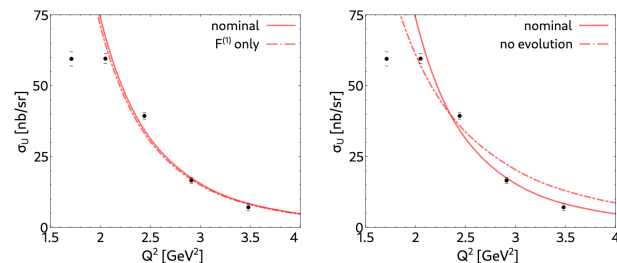
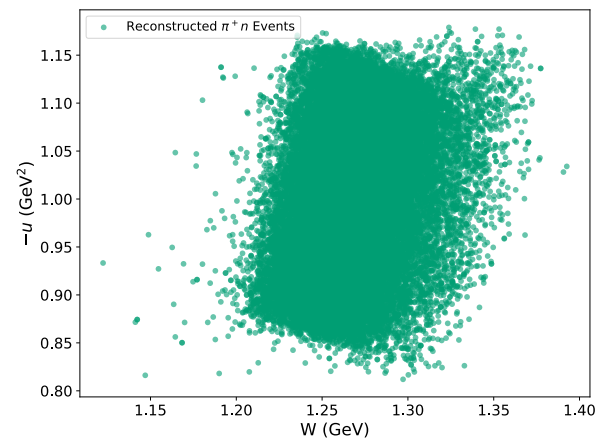
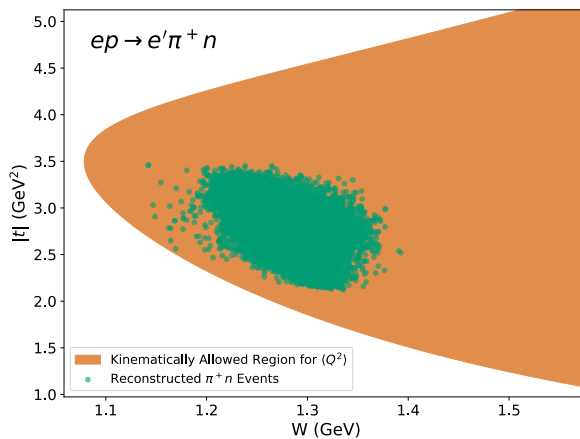
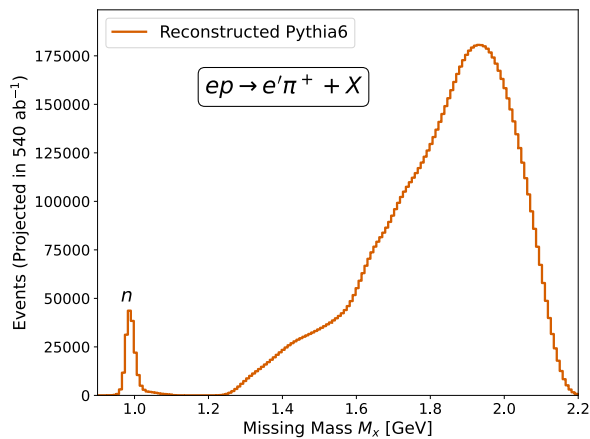
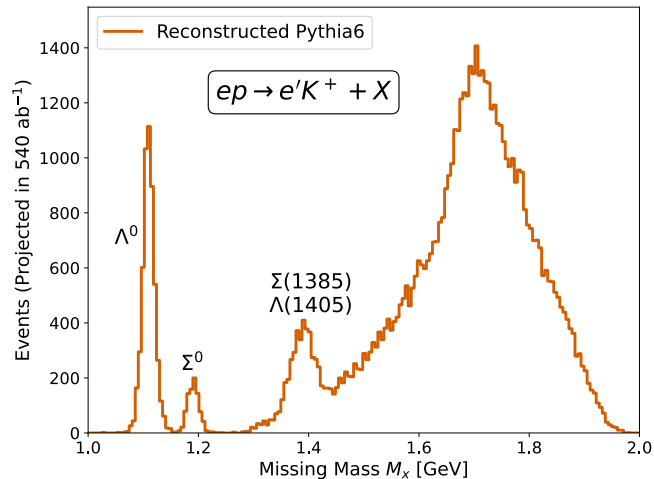


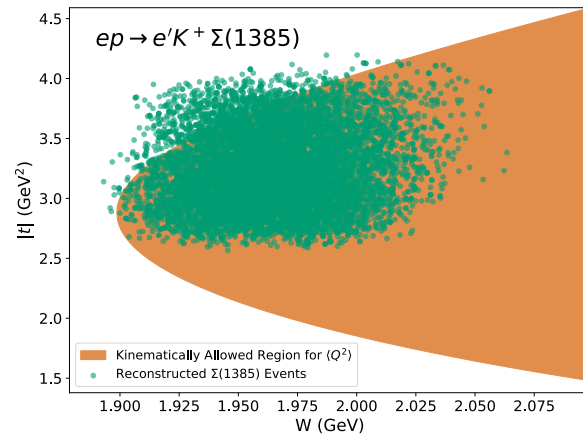
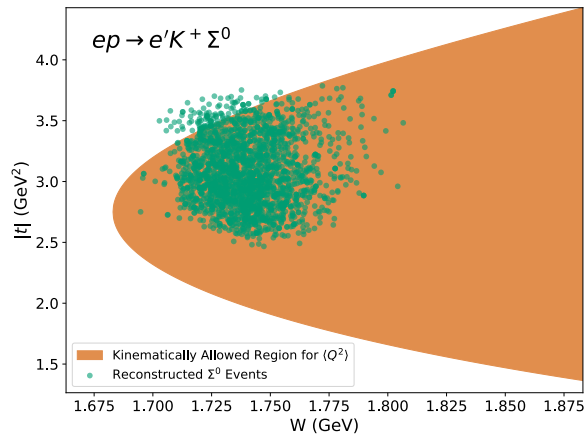
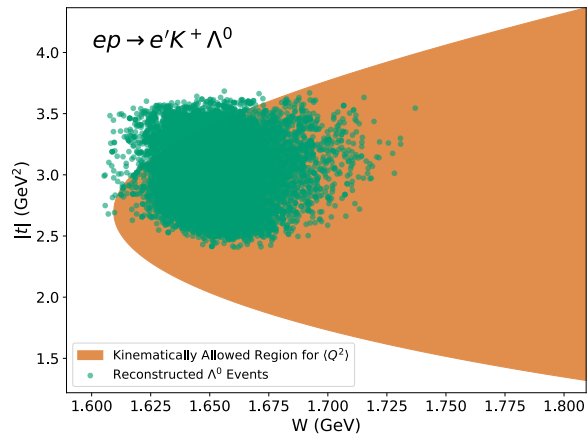
FIG. 5: CLAS data for the unseparated cross-section  $\frac{d\sigma_u}{dQ^2}$  of the  $\gamma^* p \rightarrow \pi^+ n$  reaction at backward angles [8], with  $W = 2.2$  GeV and  $u = -0.5$  GeV<sup>2</sup>. The solid curves represent the corresponding results obtained using the default version of our TDA model. The dash-dot curve in the left plot corresponds to a version of our model that includes only the second component, i.e.,  $F^{(1)}(\sigma, \rho, \omega, \nu, u)$ , with  $F^{(0)}(\kappa, \theta, \mu, \lambda, u)$  set to zero. The dotted curve shown in the right plot represents the modeling scenario when all evolution effects are neglected.



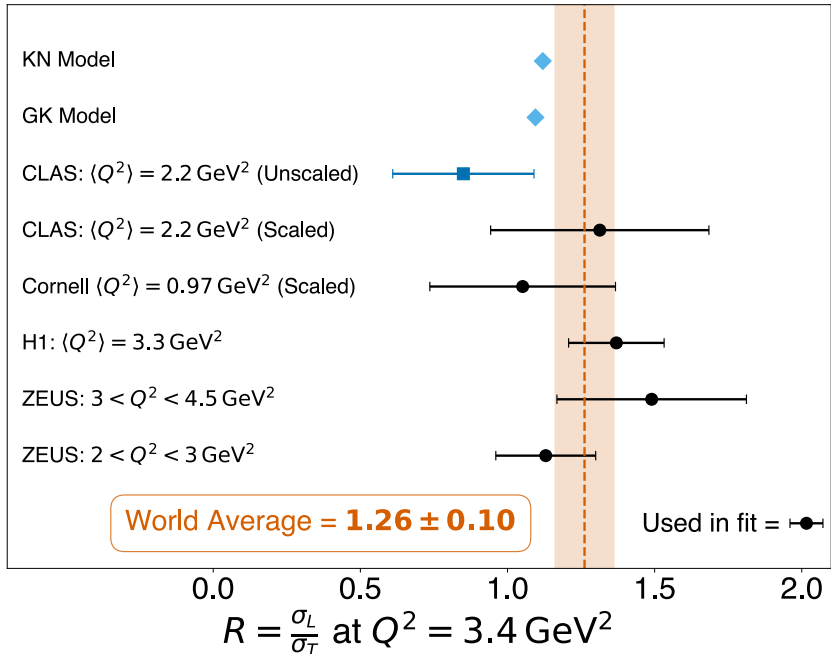
# WE CAN DO $U$ -CHANNEL!



- Near-threshold, u-channel hyperon production is accessible if  $K^+$  can be efficiently ID'd
- Likely requires refurbishment of HMS aerogel
- Note, PYTHIA6 resonance region cross sections are unreliable (especially in u-channel)
  - However, SIMC acceptance is correct, so these hyperons are well within our acceptance

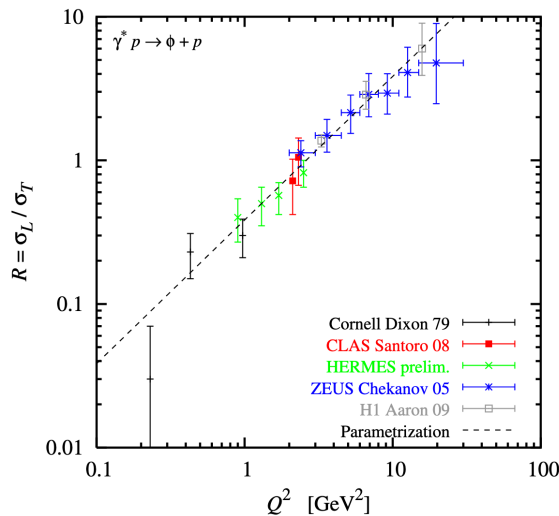


# GETTING $d\sigma_L/d|t|$



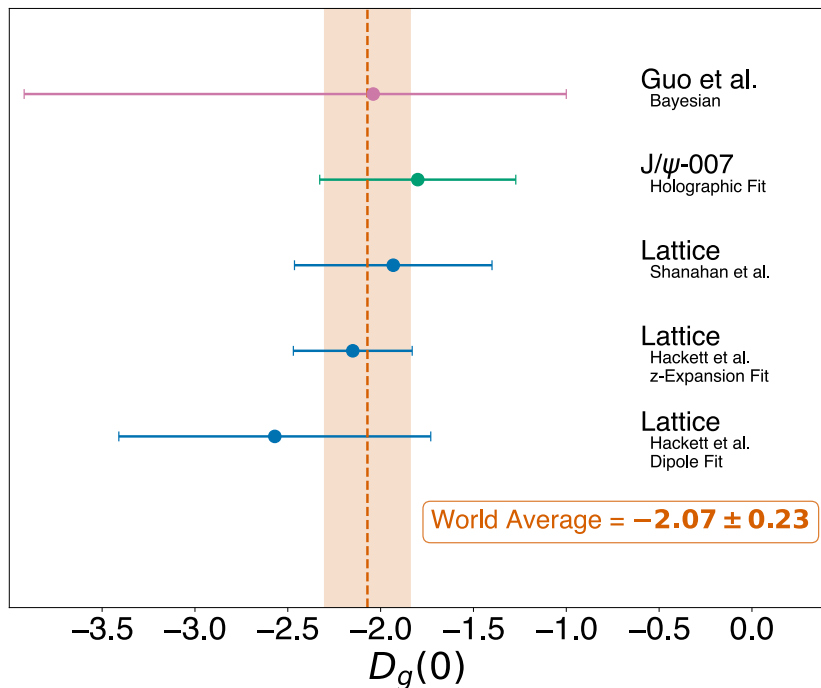
- With  $d\sigma_e/d|t|$ , need R to get  $d\sigma_L/d|t|$ 
  - Fit the world data to get an idea (and uncertainty) on this quantity within our phase space ( $Q^2 \sim 3.4 \text{ GeV}^2$ )

- World data suggests  $R(Q^2)$  **not**  $R(Q^2, W, |t|)$



- Use CLAS12 parameterization to scale nearby world datapoints

# GETTING $D_g$



- Sensitivity of cross section to  $D_g$  isn't as large as  $D_s$ , but large uncertainties on  $D_g$  can still rain on our parade
  - Average the results of lattice + Hall C data + Guo/Yuan Bayesian analysis
  - Hopefully should more results soon (CLAS12)
  - Can also include some theoretical values in here if they seem realistic
- In the end, it's obvious that a global fit to both  $D_g$  and  $D_s$  is the way to go!

