

# How we learned to stop worrying and love tritium

**Nathaly Santiesteban**

On behalf of the E12-11-112 collaboration



Hall A/C Summer Collaboration Meeting  
July 8, 2021



# E12-11-112 workforce



Shujie Li



Leiqaa Kurbanli



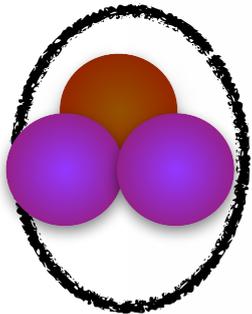
Nathaly Santiesteban 

## ${}^3\text{H}/{}^3\text{He}$ motivation

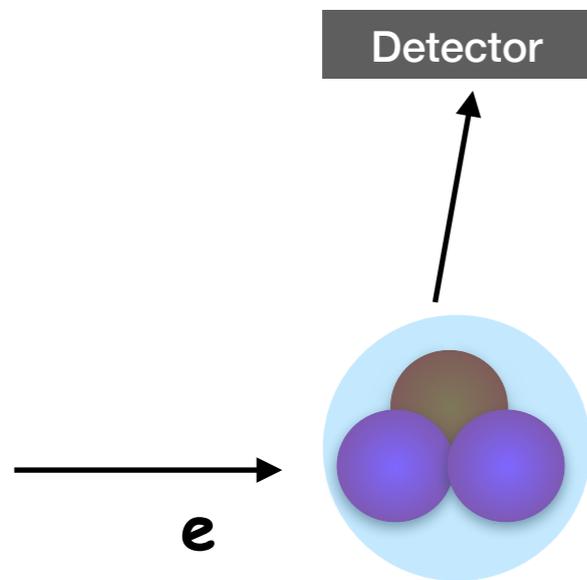
${}^3\text{He}$  and  ${}^3\text{H}$  mirror nuclei:

${}^3\text{He}$  (protons)  $\leftrightarrow$   ${}^3\text{H}$  (neutrons)

- ◆ Few-body nuclei
- ◆ Benchmark data
- ◆ cancellation of experimental systematics, nuclear effects



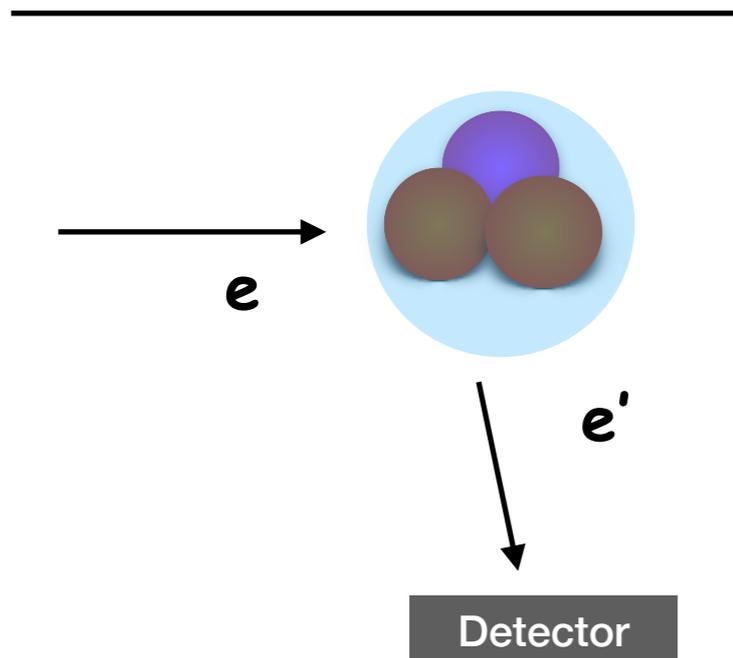
# ${}^3\text{H}/{}^3\text{He}$ motivation



${}^3\text{He}$  and  ${}^3\text{H}$  mirror nuclei:



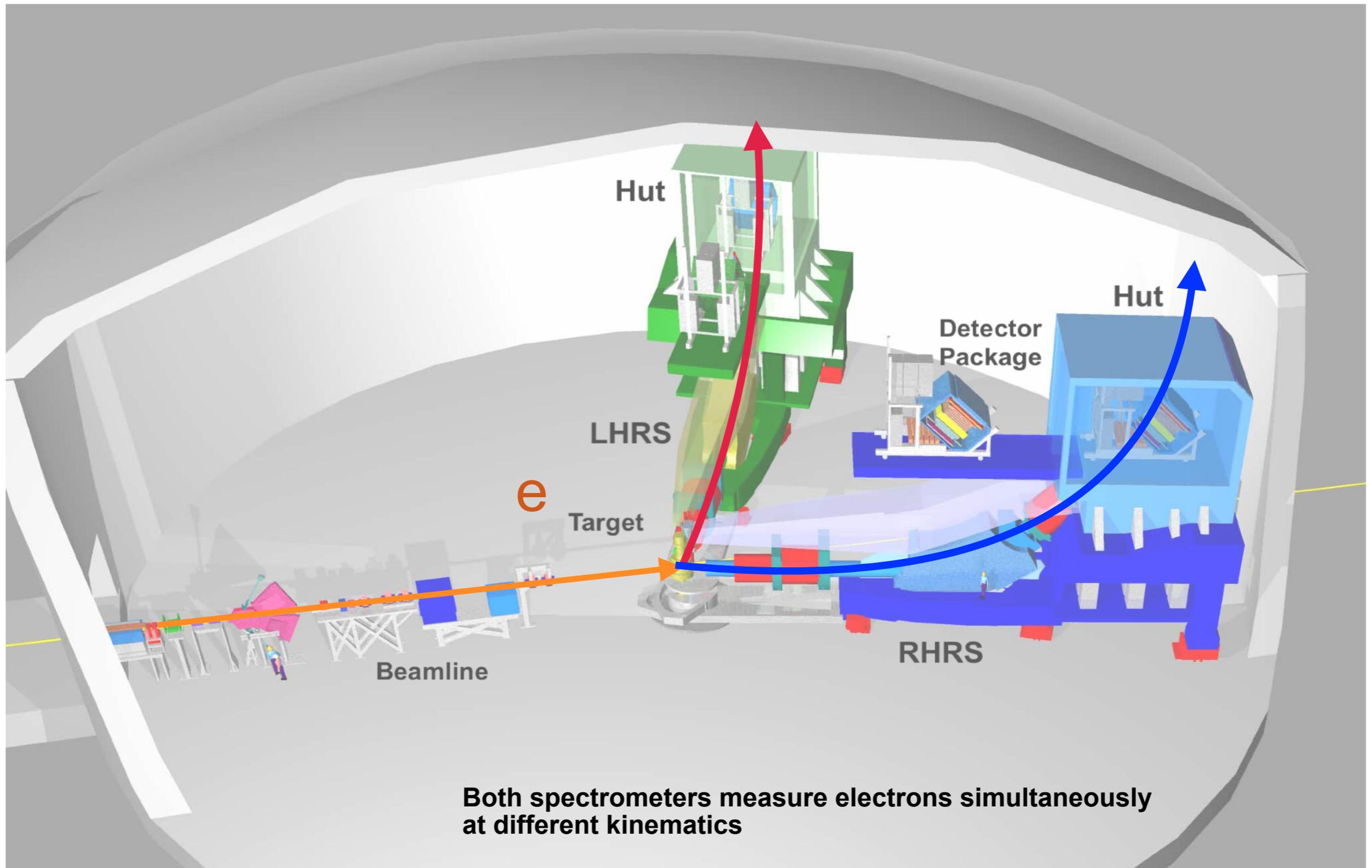
- ◆ Few-body nuclei
- ◆ Benchmark data
- ◆ cancellation of experimental systematics, nuclear effects



Inclusive Measurements

- ◆ Sum of Short-range correlations:  
 ${}^3\text{He}/{}^3\text{H} (2pn + pp)/(2pn + nn) (x>1)$   
Ratio of pp to pn pairs assuming isospin symmetry
- ◆ Access  $G_M^n$ : Effective neutron target ( $x=1$ )
- ◆ Charge radius of  ${}^3\text{H}$  vs  ${}^3\text{He}$  ( $x=3$ )

# Hall A configuration



**Both spectrometers measure electrons simultaneously at different kinematics**

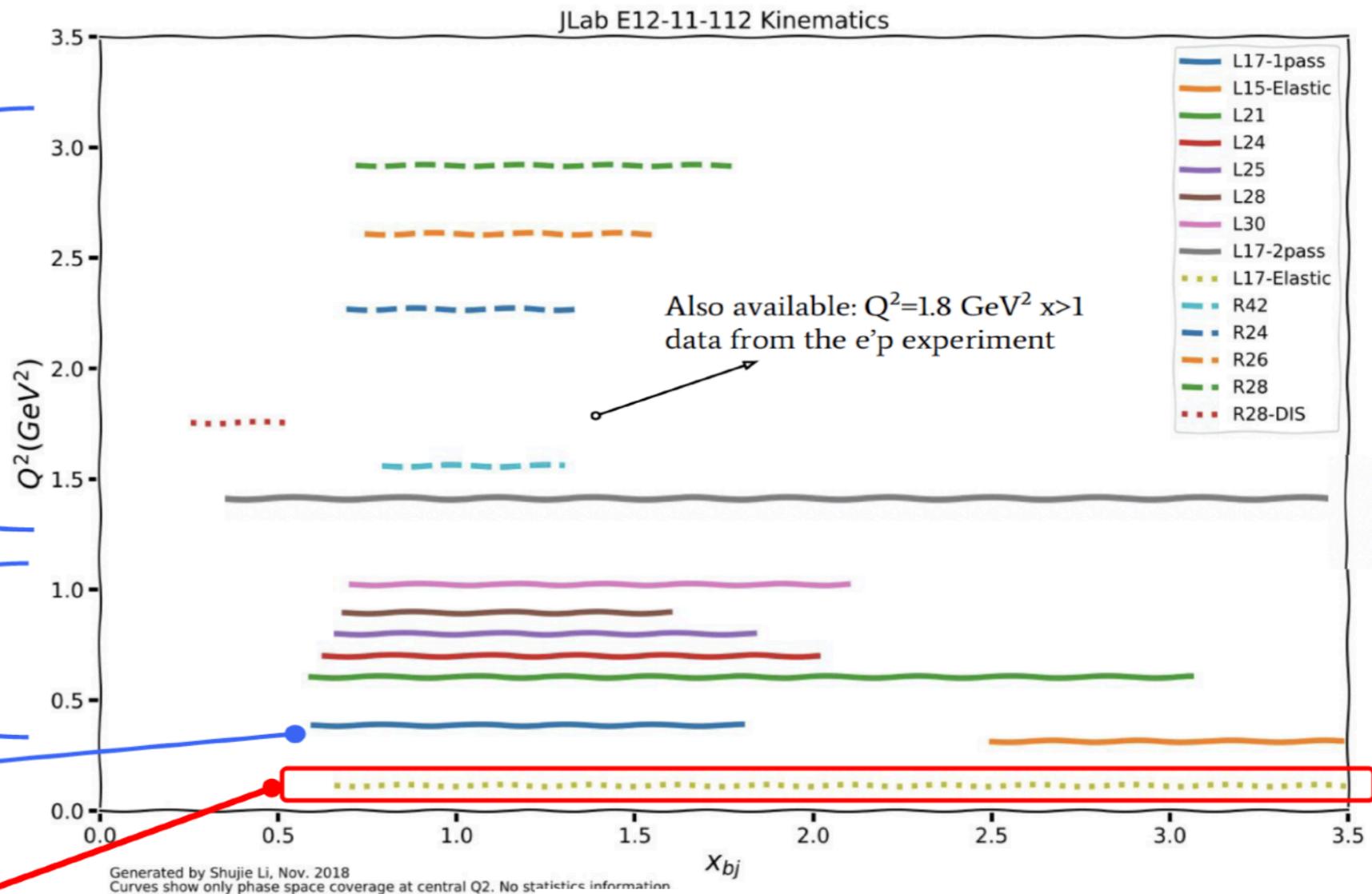
# Kinematics coverage

**P. Solvignon, J. Arrington, D.B. Day, D. Higinbotham, Z. Ye (Spokepeople)**

Fall 2018  
 LHRS: Dedicated NN and 3N SRC study ( $1 < x_{bj} < 3$ ) with 4.3 GeV beam  
 RHRS: QE scan

May 2018:  
 QE scan with 2.2 GeV beam

Dec 2017:  
 Commissioning  
 Target "boiling" study (also QE data at  $Q^2=0.4 \text{ GeV}^2$ )

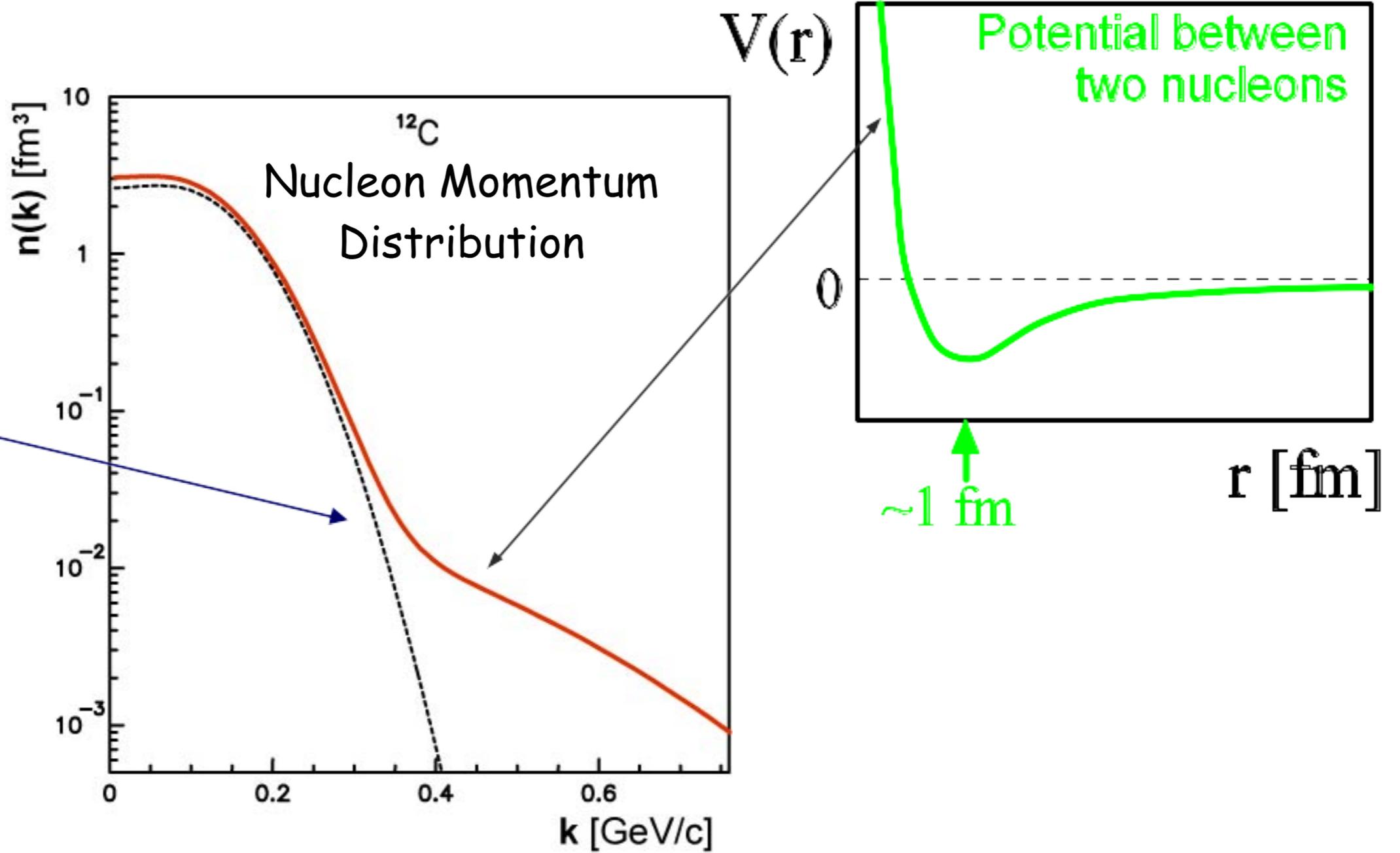


**October 2018: Elastic scattering with 1.171 GeV beam**

# **$X > 1$ Physics Analysis**



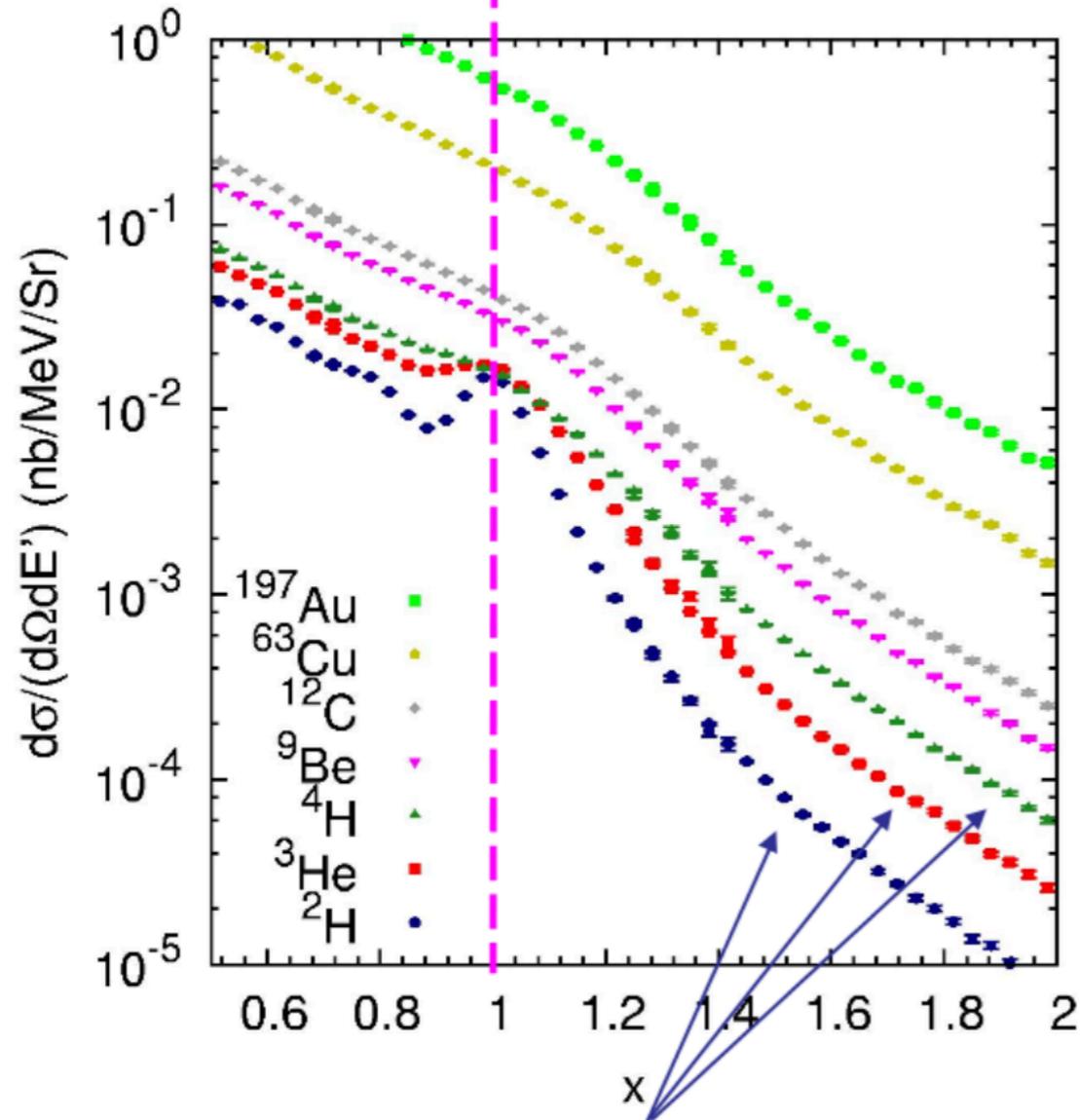
# Short Range Correlations



# Probing 2N SRC at $x > 1$

JLAB Hall C E02-019

QE

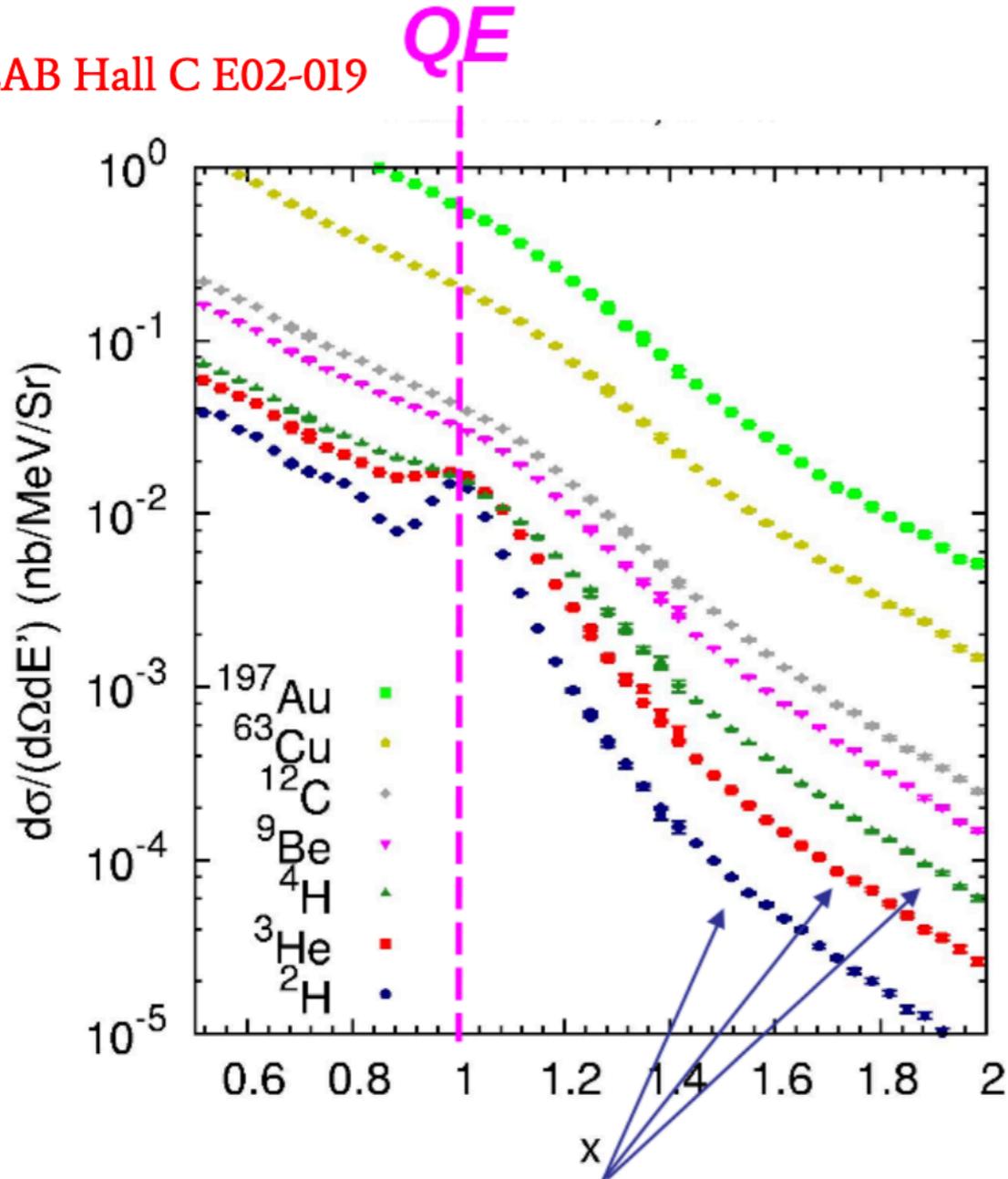


*High momentum tails should yield constant ratio if SRC-dominated*

*N. Fomin, et al., PRL 108 (2012) 092052*

# Probing 2N SRC at $x > 1$

JLAB Hall C E02-019



*High momentum tails should yield constant ratio if SRC-dominated*

N. Fomin, et al., PRL 108 (2012) 092052

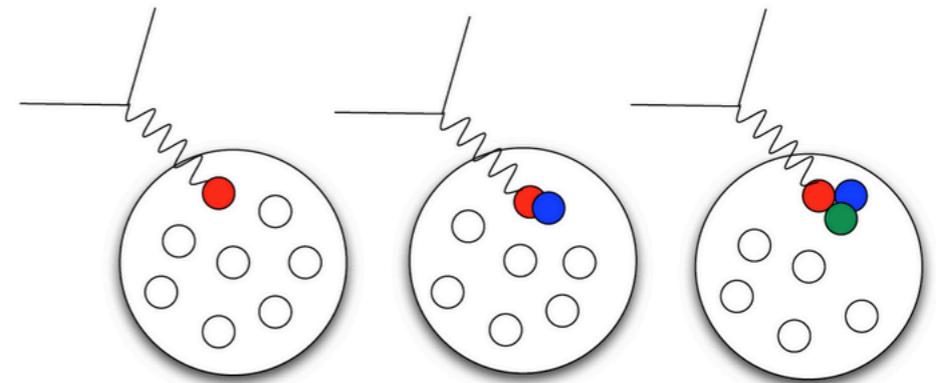
## Inclusive electron scattering:

- high statistics
- background suppressed at high  $Q^2$

Probability to find 2N SRC in nucleus A

$$\sigma_A = \sigma_{QE} + a_2(A)\sigma_2 + a_3(A)\sigma_3 + \dots$$

Cross section from 2N SRC



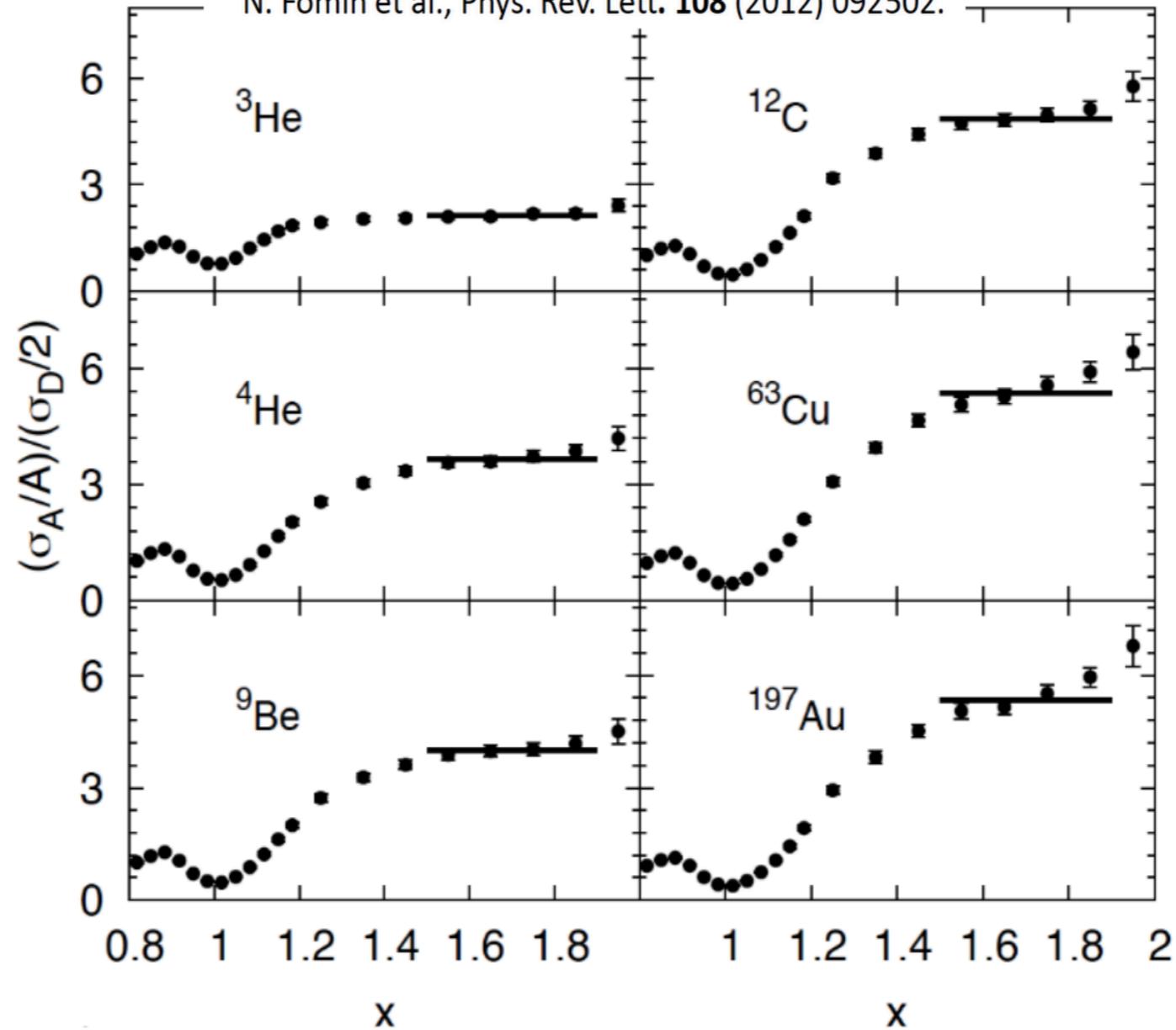
# Previous Experiments

## Plateaus in Cross section ratio

JLAB Hall C E02-019

N. Fomin et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **108** (2012) 092502.

$$\frac{\sigma_A}{\sigma_{2H}} \approx \frac{a_2(A)}{a_2(^2H)} = \text{const}$$



# Precision Measurement of the Isospin Dependence in the 2N Short Range Correlation Region



Check the 2N SRC isospin dependence at  $1 < x < 2$ , and also 3N momentum sharing configuration.

**np pair dominates:**

$$\frac{\sigma_{3H}}{\sigma_{3He}} \approx \frac{2\sigma_{np}}{2\sigma_{np}} = 1$$

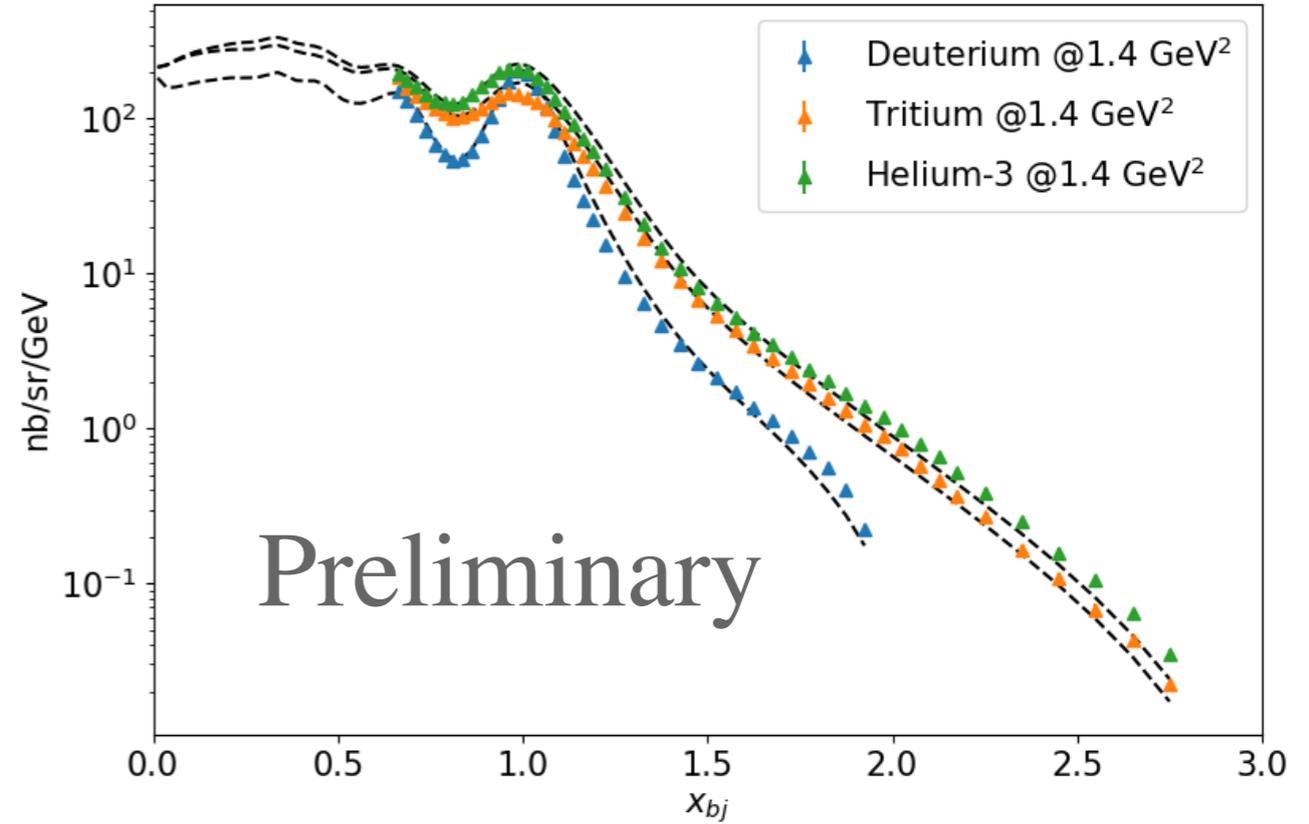
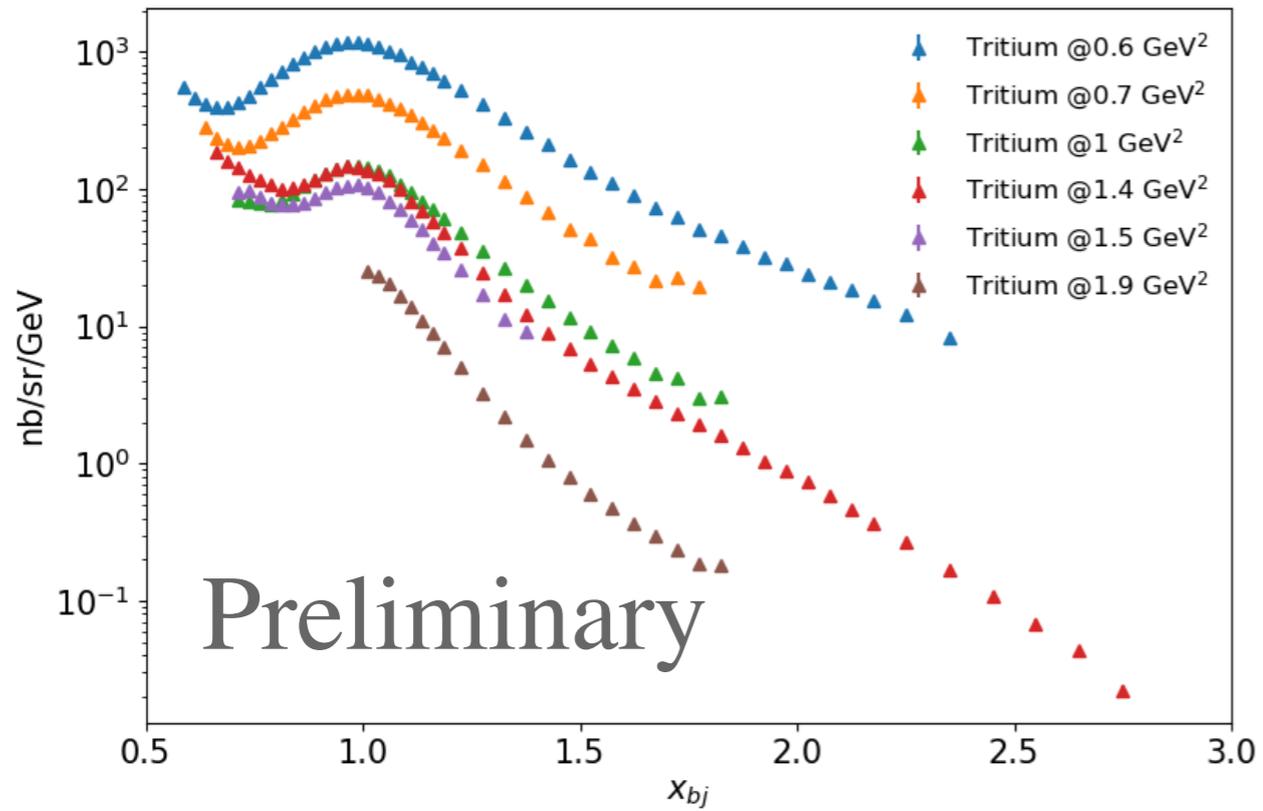
where  
 $\sigma_{np} = \sigma_n + \sigma_p$

**no isospin preference:**

$$\frac{\sigma_{3H}}{\sigma_{3He}} = \frac{2\sigma_{np} + \sigma_{nn}}{2\sigma_{np} + \sigma_{pp}} \rightarrow 0.74$$

$$\sigma_p \approx 2.43\sigma_n$$

# Preliminary Cross-Sections ( $x > 1$ )

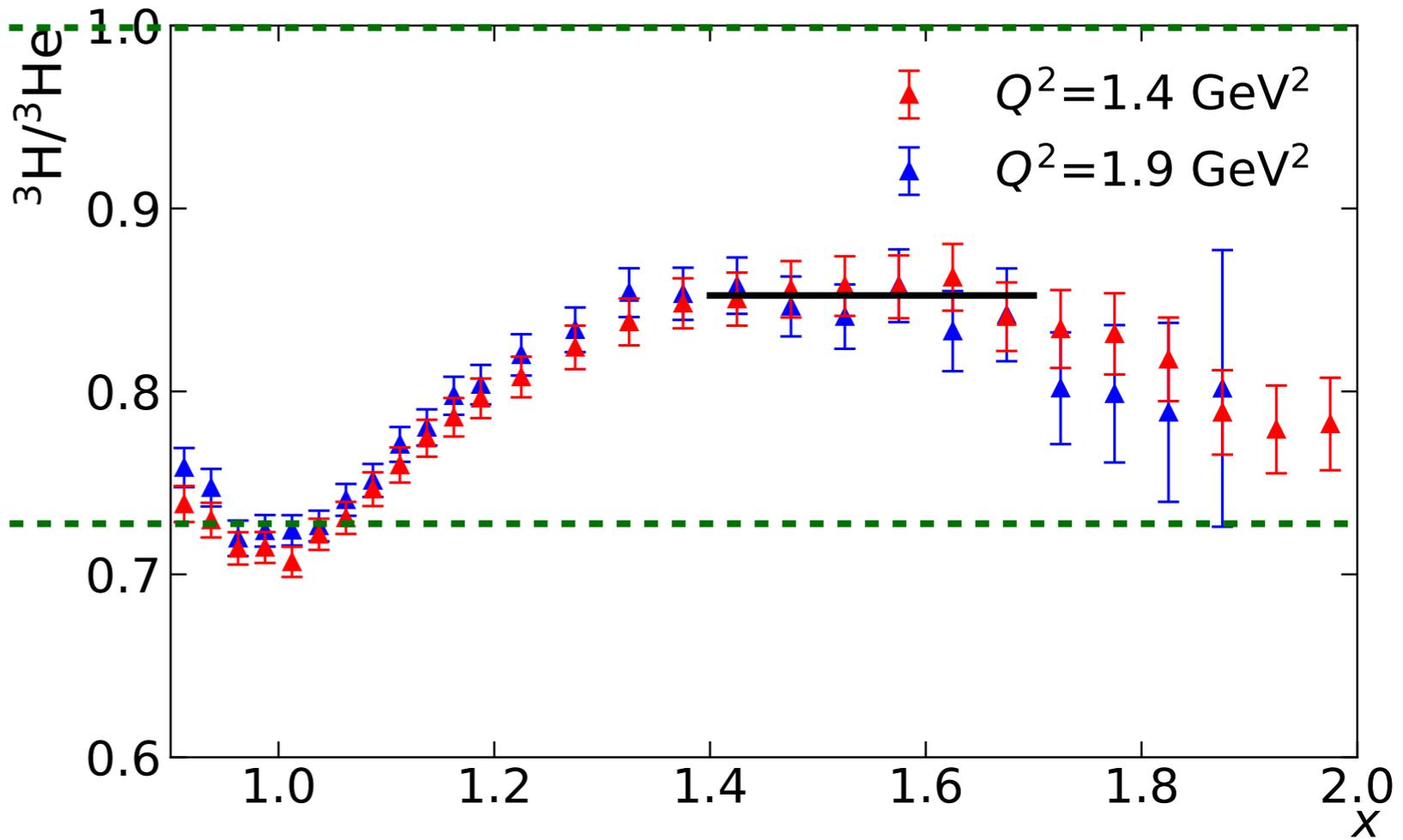


# $^3\text{H}/^3\text{He}$ Cross Section Ratio

$$\frac{\sigma_{^3\text{H}}}{\sigma_{^3\text{He}}} \approx \frac{2\sigma_{np}}{\sigma_{np}} = 1$$



$$\frac{\sigma_{^3\text{H}}}{\sigma_{^3\text{He}}} = \frac{2\sigma_{np} + \sigma_{pp}}{2\sigma_{np} + \sigma_{pp}} \rightarrow 0.74$$



## ${}^3\text{H}/{}^3\text{He}$ Interpretation

$$\frac{\sigma_{3H}}{\sigma_{3He}} = \frac{N_{np}\sigma_{np} + N_{nn}\sigma_{nn}}{N_{np}\sigma_{np} + N_{pp}\sigma_{pp}}$$

→ where:  $\sigma_{np} = \sigma_n + \sigma_p$

→ Off-shell  
deForest cross  
section:

$$\sigma_p/\sigma_n \approx 2.43$$

→ Experimental  
Cross section  
ratio:

$$\frac{\sigma_{3H}}{\sigma_{3He}} = 0.85$$

→ Assuming  $N_{nn}({}^3\text{H}) = N_{pp}({}^3\text{He})$

## ${}^3\text{H}/{}^3\text{He}$ Interpretation

$$\frac{\sigma_{3\text{H}}}{\sigma_{3\text{He}}} = \frac{N_{np}\sigma_{np} + N_{nn}\sigma_{nn}}{N_{np}\sigma_{np} + N_{pp}\sigma_{pp}}$$

→ where:  $\sigma_{np} = \sigma_n + \sigma_p$

→ Off-shell deForest cross section:

$$\sigma_p/\sigma_n \approx 2.43$$

→ Experimental Cross section ratio:

$$\frac{\sigma_{3\text{H}}}{\sigma_{3\text{He}}} = 0.85$$

→ Assuming  $N_{nn}({}^3\text{H}) = N_{pp}({}^3\text{He})$

From the cross section ratio:

$$\frac{N_{np}}{N_{pp}} = 4.23$$

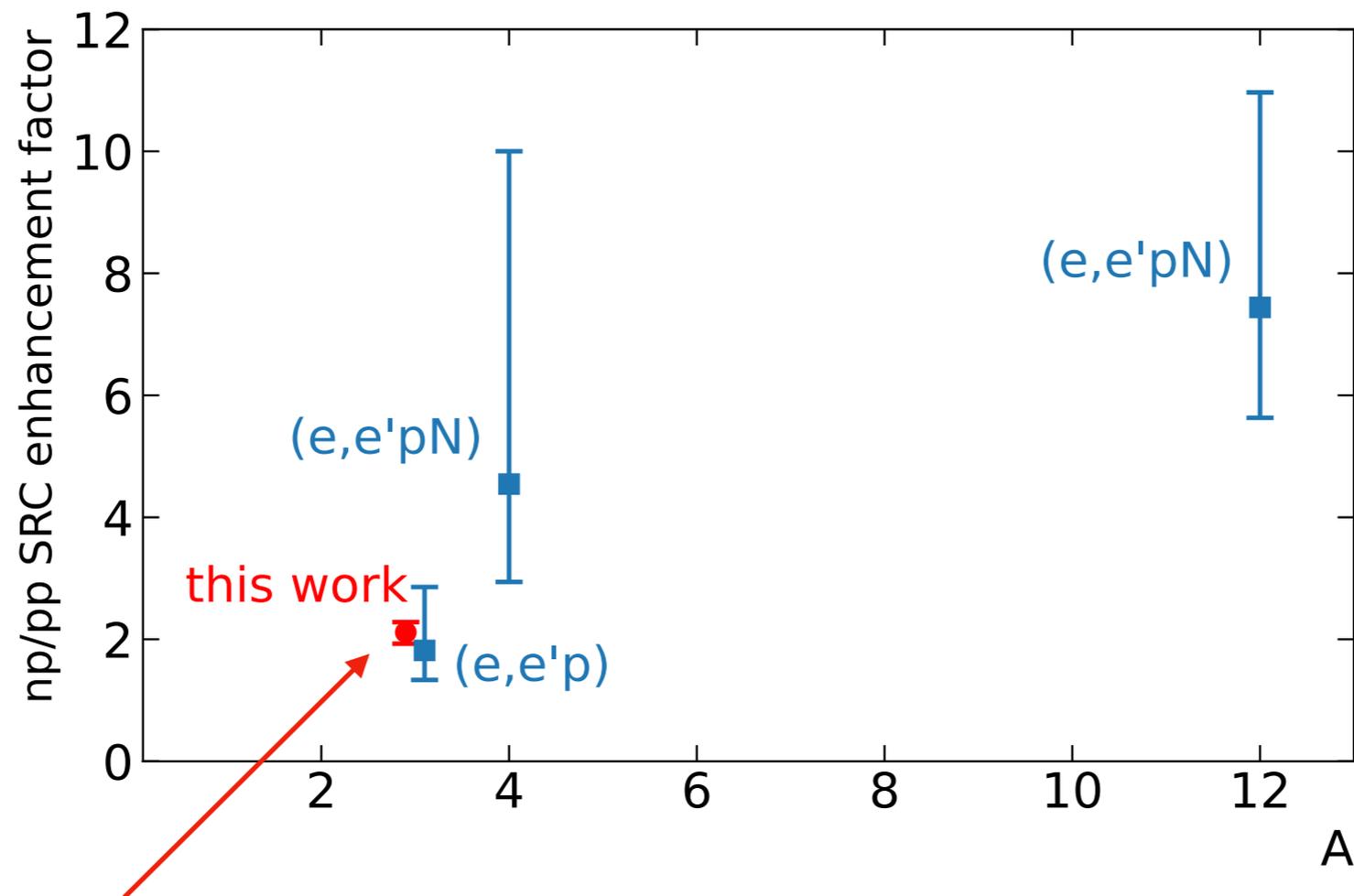
From pair counting in  ${}^3\text{He}$ :

$$P_{np/pp} = 2$$

2.1 enhancement from simple np pair counting

# $^3\text{H}/^3\text{He}$ Interpretation

Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 212501 (2020)  
I. Korover et al., Phys. Rev. Lett.113, 022501 (2014)  
R. Shneoret al., Phys. Rev. Lett.99, 072501 (2007)



2.1 enhancement from simple np pair counting

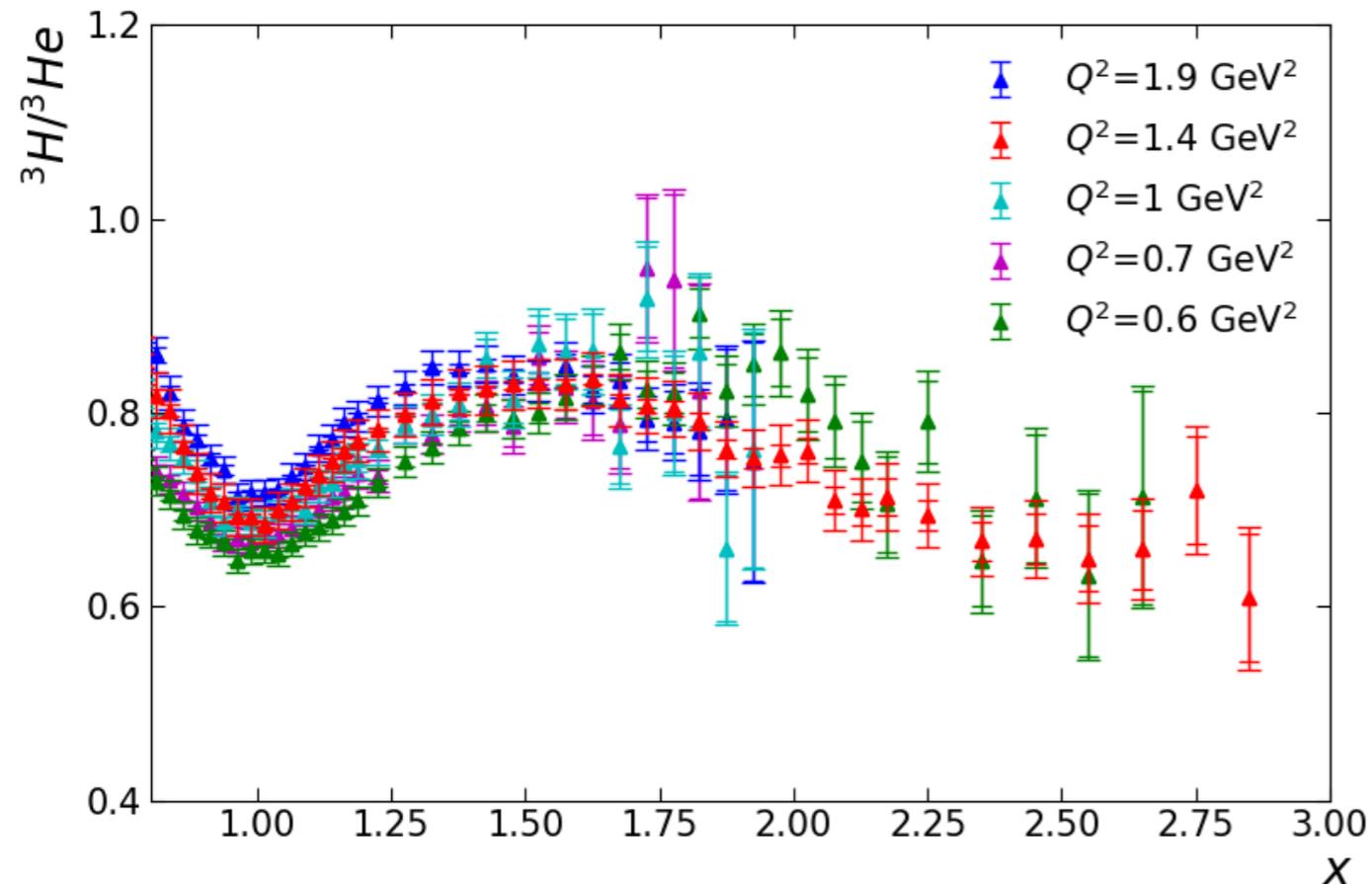
## The isospin structure of short-range correlations in the mirror nuclei ${}^3\text{H}$ and ${}^3\text{He}$

S. Li,<sup>1,2</sup> R. Cruz-Torres,<sup>3,2</sup> N. Santiesteban,<sup>1,3</sup> D. Abrams,<sup>4</sup> S. Alsalmi,<sup>5</sup> D. Androic,<sup>6</sup> K. Aniol,<sup>7</sup> J. Arrington,<sup>2,8</sup> T. Averett,<sup>9</sup> C. Ayerbe Gayoso,<sup>9</sup> J. Bane,<sup>10</sup> S. Barcus,<sup>9</sup> J. Barrow,<sup>10</sup> A. Beck,<sup>3</sup> V. Bellini,<sup>11</sup> H. Bhatt,<sup>12</sup> D. Bhetuwal,<sup>12</sup> D. Biswas,<sup>13</sup> D. Bulumulla,<sup>14</sup> A. Camsonne,<sup>15</sup> J. Castellanos,<sup>16</sup> J. Chen,<sup>9</sup> J-P. Chen,<sup>15</sup> D. Chrisman,<sup>17</sup> M. E. Christy,<sup>13</sup> C. Clarke,<sup>18</sup> S. Covrig,<sup>15</sup> K. Craycraft,<sup>10</sup> D. Day,<sup>4</sup> D. Dutta,<sup>12</sup> E. Fuchey,<sup>19</sup> C. Gal,<sup>4</sup> F. Garibaldi,<sup>20</sup> T. N. Gautam,<sup>13</sup> T. Gogami,<sup>21</sup> J. Gomez,<sup>15</sup> P. Guéye,<sup>13,17</sup> A. Habarakada,<sup>13</sup> T. Hague,<sup>5</sup> O. Hansen,<sup>15</sup> F. Hauenstein,<sup>14</sup> W. Henry,<sup>22</sup> D. W. Higinbotham,<sup>15</sup> R. J. Holt,<sup>8</sup> C. Hyde,<sup>14</sup> K. Itabashi,<sup>21</sup> M. Kaneta,<sup>21</sup> A. Karki,<sup>12</sup> A. T. Katramatou,<sup>5</sup> C. E. Keppel,<sup>15</sup> M. Khachatryan,<sup>14</sup> V. Khachatryan,<sup>18</sup> P. M. King,<sup>23</sup> I. Korover,<sup>24</sup> L. Kurbany,<sup>1</sup> T. Kutz,<sup>18</sup> N. Lashley-Colthirst,<sup>13</sup> W. B. Li,<sup>9</sup> H. Liu,<sup>25</sup> N. Liyanage,<sup>4</sup> E. Long,<sup>1</sup> J. Mammei,<sup>26</sup> P. Markowitz,<sup>16</sup> R. E. McClellan,<sup>15</sup> F. Meddi,<sup>20</sup> D. Meekins,<sup>15</sup> S. Mey-Tal Beck,<sup>3</sup> R. Michaels,<sup>15</sup> M. Mihovilović,<sup>27,28,29</sup> A. Moyer,<sup>30</sup> S. Nagao,<sup>21</sup> V. Nelyubin,<sup>4</sup> D. Nguyen,<sup>4</sup> M. Nycz,<sup>5</sup> M. Olson,<sup>31</sup> L. Ou,<sup>3</sup> V. Owen,<sup>9</sup> C. Palatchi,<sup>4</sup> B. Pandey,<sup>13</sup> A. Papadopoulou,<sup>3</sup> S. Park,<sup>18</sup> S. Paul,<sup>9</sup> T. Petkovic,<sup>6</sup> R. Pomatsalyuk,<sup>32</sup> S. Premathilake,<sup>4</sup> V. Punjabi,<sup>33</sup> R. D. Ransome,<sup>34</sup> P. E. Reimer,<sup>8</sup> J. Reinhold,<sup>16</sup> S. Riordan,<sup>8</sup> J. Roche,<sup>23</sup> V. M. Rodriguez,<sup>35</sup> A. Schmidt,<sup>3</sup> B. Schmookler,<sup>3</sup> E. P. Segarra,<sup>3</sup> A. Shahinyan,<sup>36</sup> K. Slifer,<sup>1</sup> P. Solvignon,<sup>1</sup> S. Širca,<sup>27,28</sup> T. Su,<sup>5</sup> R. Suleiman,<sup>15</sup> H. Szumila-Vance,<sup>15</sup> L. Tang,<sup>15</sup> Y. Tian,<sup>37</sup> W. Tireman,<sup>38</sup> F. Tortorici,<sup>11</sup> Y. Toyama,<sup>21</sup> K. Uehara,<sup>21</sup> G. Urciuoli,<sup>20</sup> D. Votaw,<sup>17</sup> J. Williamson,<sup>39</sup> B. Wojtsekhowski,<sup>15</sup> S. Wood,<sup>15</sup> Z. H. Ye,<sup>8,\*</sup> J. Zhang,<sup>4</sup> and X. Zheng<sup>4</sup>

(Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility Hall A Tritium Collaboration)

Currently under review by PRL

## Future Work



- Additional data at low  $Q^2$
- Additional data at  $x > 2$
- Theoretical calculations are underway  
Noemi Rocco (Fermilab)  
Alessandro Lovato (Argonne Lab)  
Misak Sargsian (FIU)

### Expectations

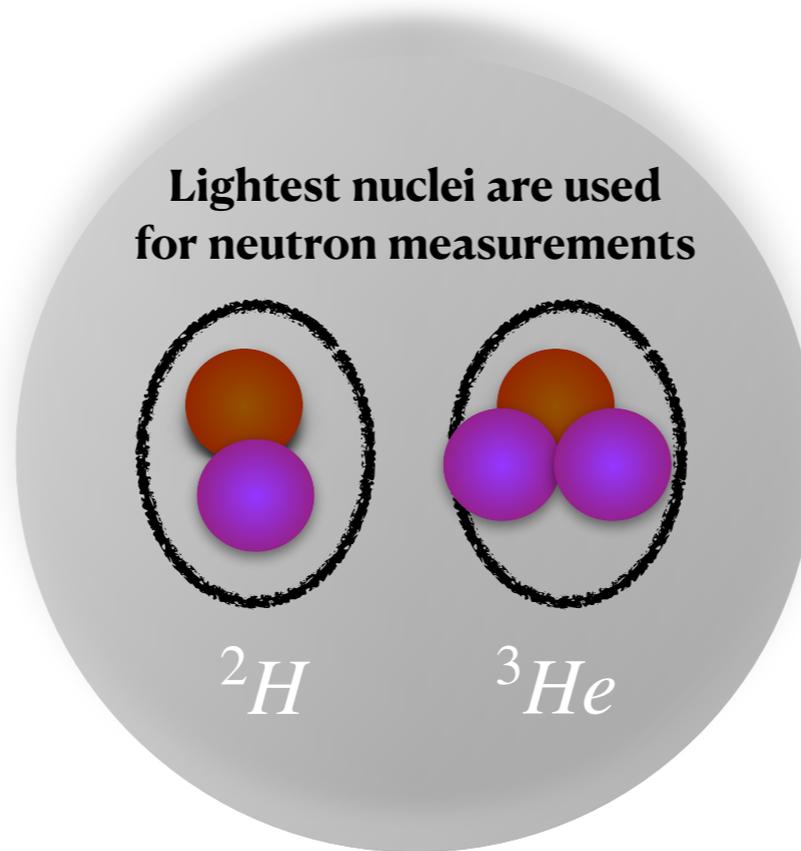
- 1+ Publication of the theoretical interpretation.
- 1 arXiv paper with extracted cross sections



# **X=1 Physics Analysis**



# Accessing to neutrons



Neutron measurements include:

$${}^3\overrightarrow{\text{He}}(\overrightarrow{e}, e') \text{ QE}$$

polarization experiments

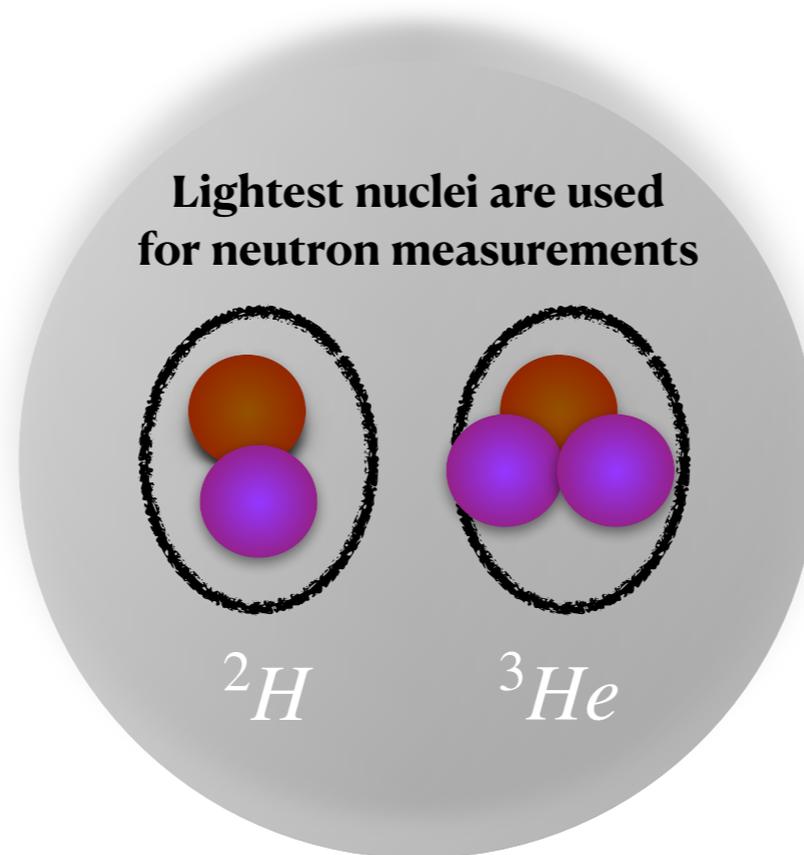
$$\frac{{}^2\text{H}(e, e'p)}{{}^2\text{H}(e, e'n)} \text{ QE ratio}$$

$${}^2\overrightarrow{\text{H}}(\overrightarrow{e}, e') \text{ QE}$$

Vector-polarized deuterium

$$\frac{{}^2\text{H}(e, e') - p(e, e')}{{}^2\text{H}(e, e'p), {}^2\text{H}(e, e'n)}$$

## Accessing to neutrons



If measuring neutrons (no charge):

- Energy information from time of flight
- Requires precise measurement of neutron detection efficiencies

Measurement Corrections:

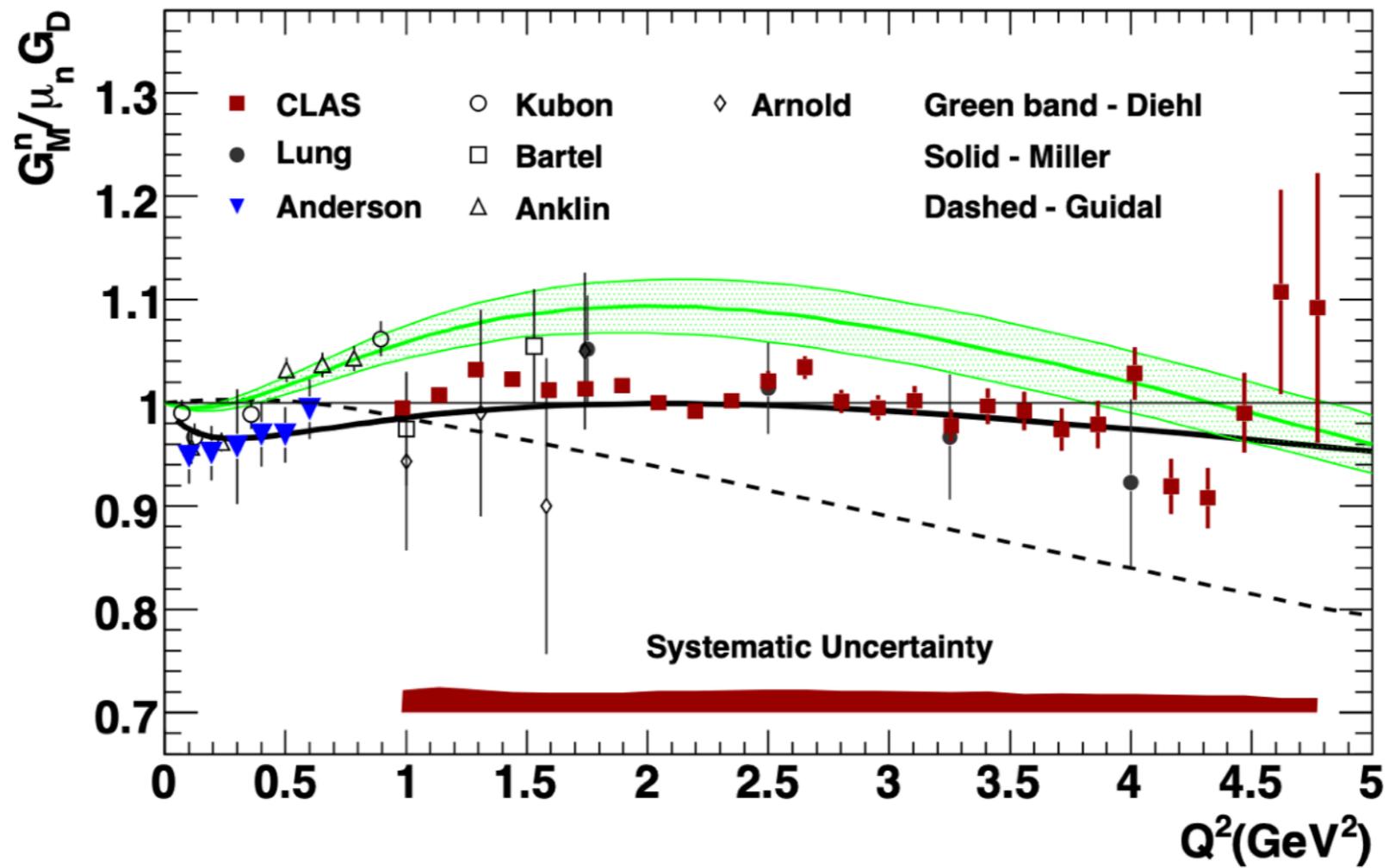
- Reaction mechanisms FSI and MEC
- Nuclear structure

## Neutron cross section

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_n = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{Mott} \frac{1}{1 + \tau} \left( (G_E^n(Q^2))^2 + \frac{\tau}{\varepsilon} (G_M^n(Q^2))^2 \right)$$

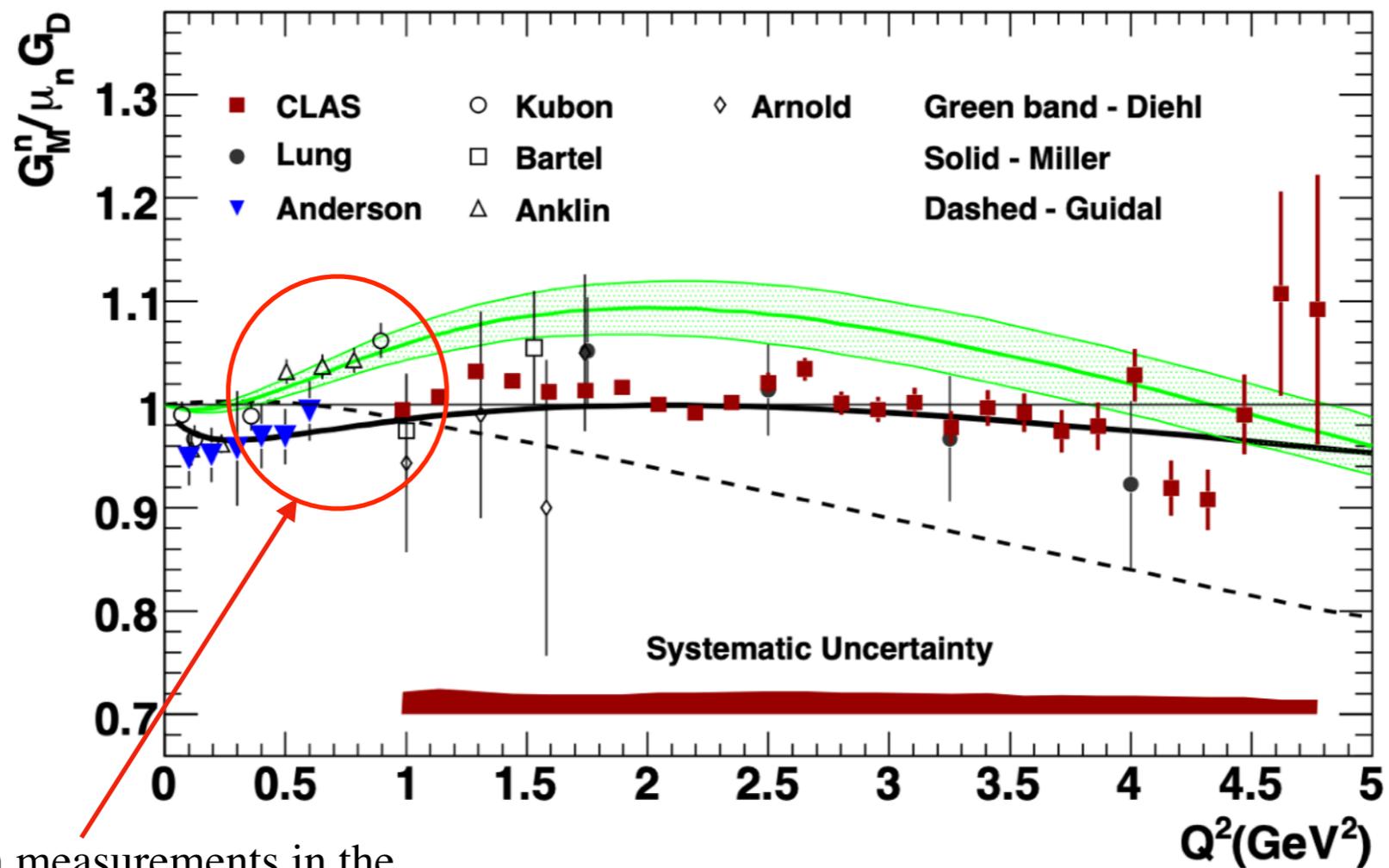
How well do we know the magnetic form factor?

# Current Status of $G_M^n$



CLAS Collaboration. Phys.Rev.Lett. **102** (2009)

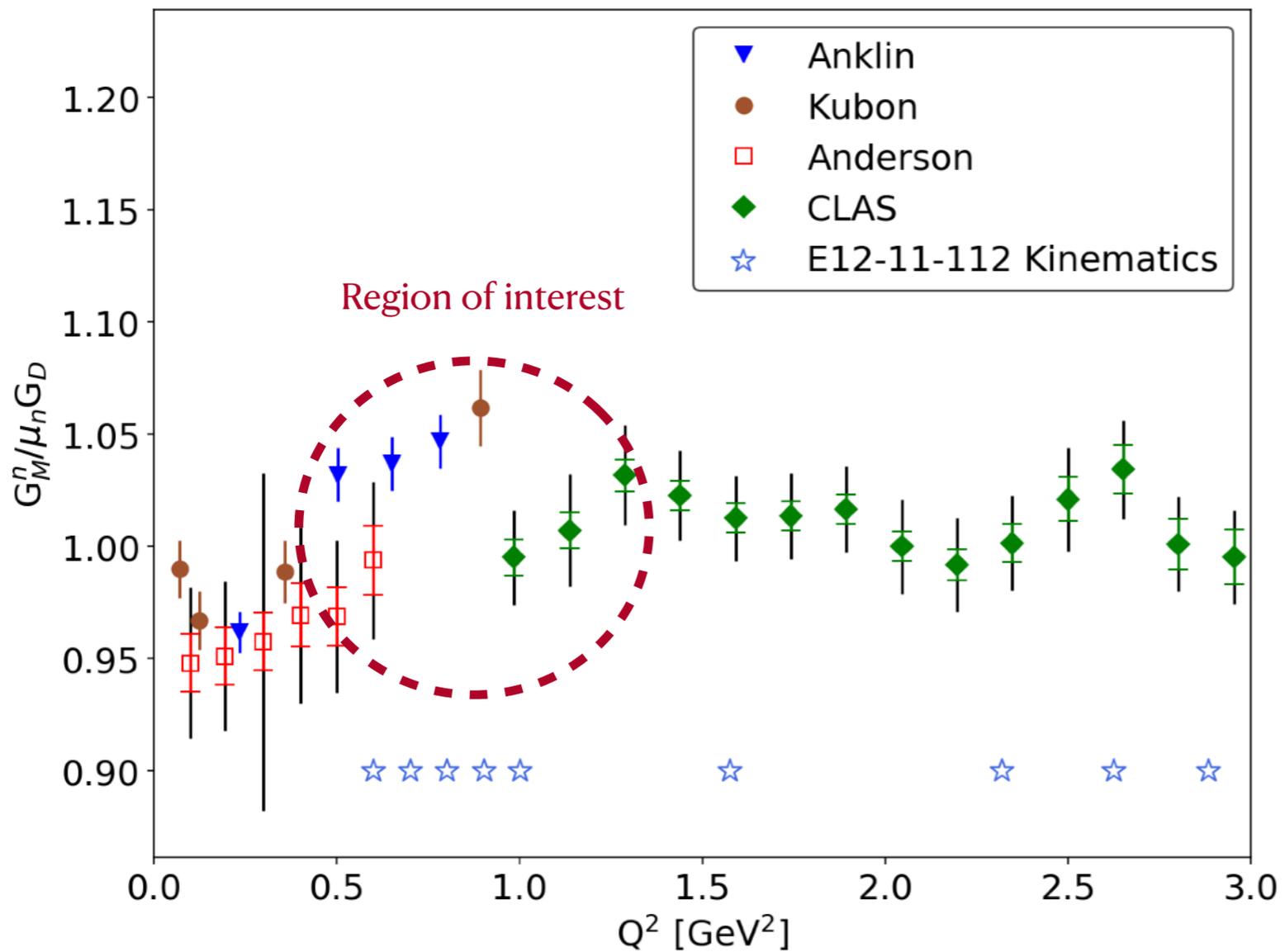
# Current Status of $G_M^n$



High precision measurements in the  $0.5 < Q^2 < 1$  region have ~8% discrepancy

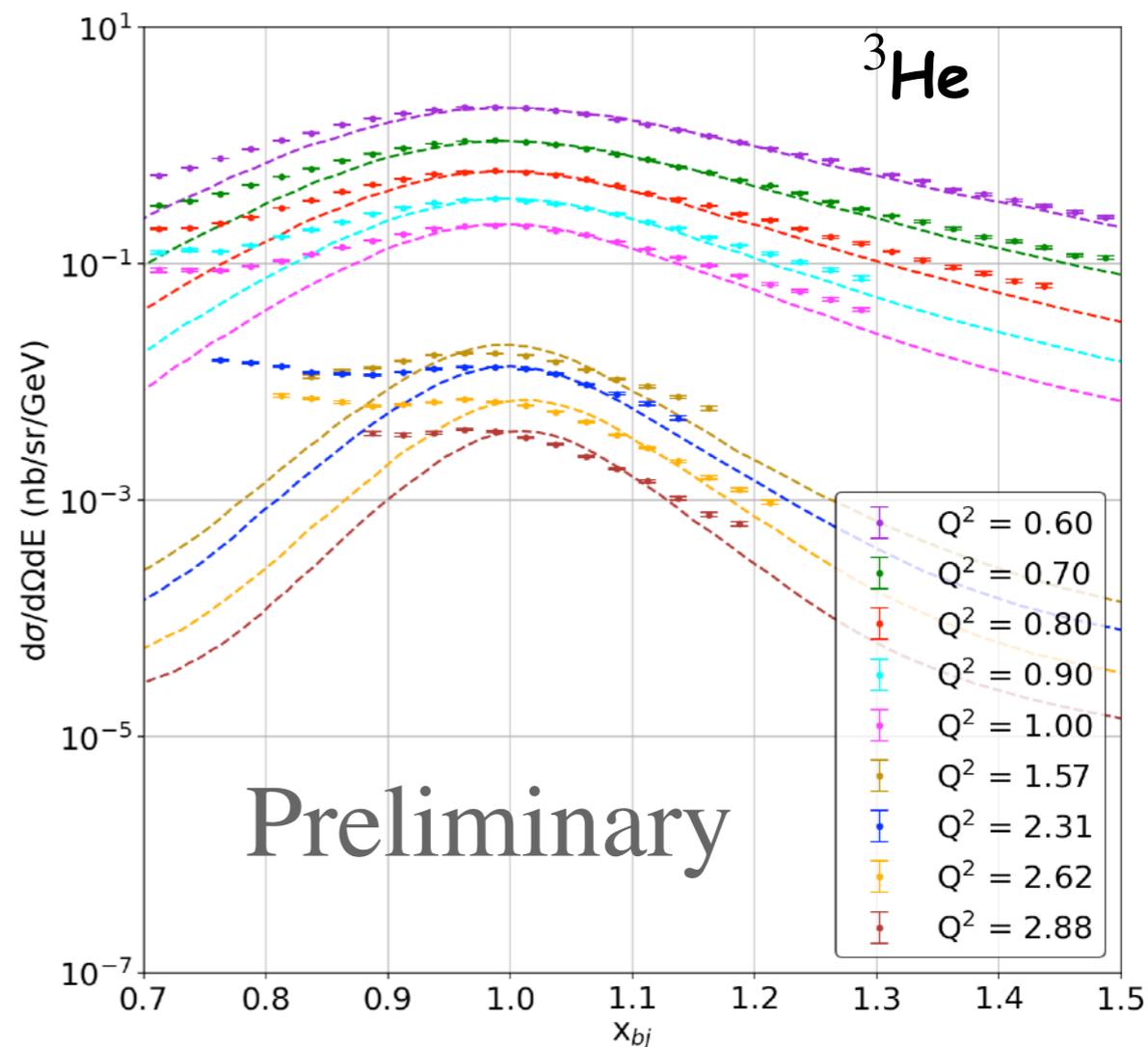
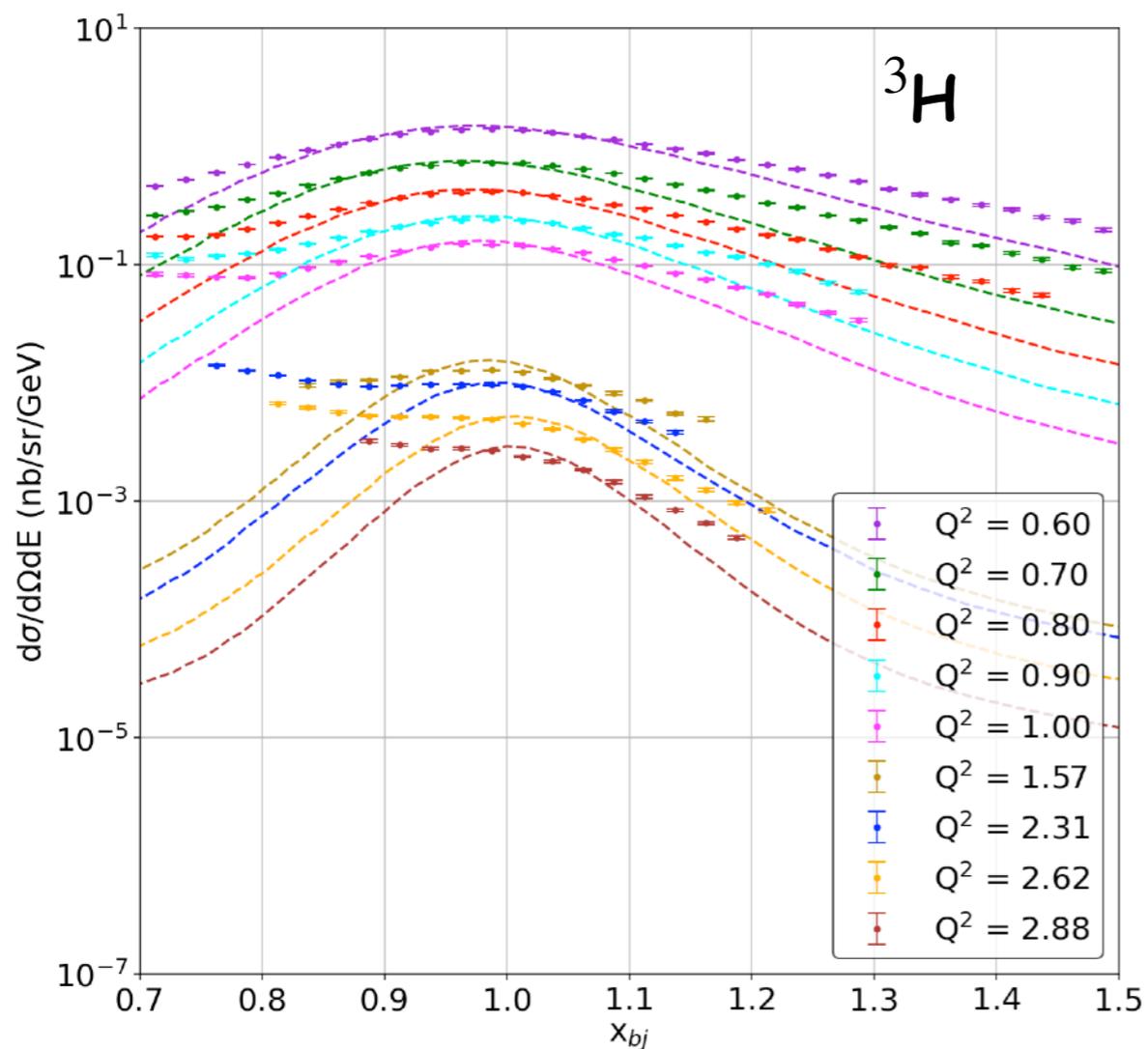
CLAS Collaboration. Phys.Rev.Lett. **102** (2009)

## E12-11-112 Goal



Measure the neutron magnetic form factor using the  $^3H/^3He$  cross-section ratios

# Preliminary Cross Sections



Theory calculations courtesy of N. Rocco (Fermilab) and A. Lovatto (Argonne Lab)

# $G_M^n$ extraction without medium corrections

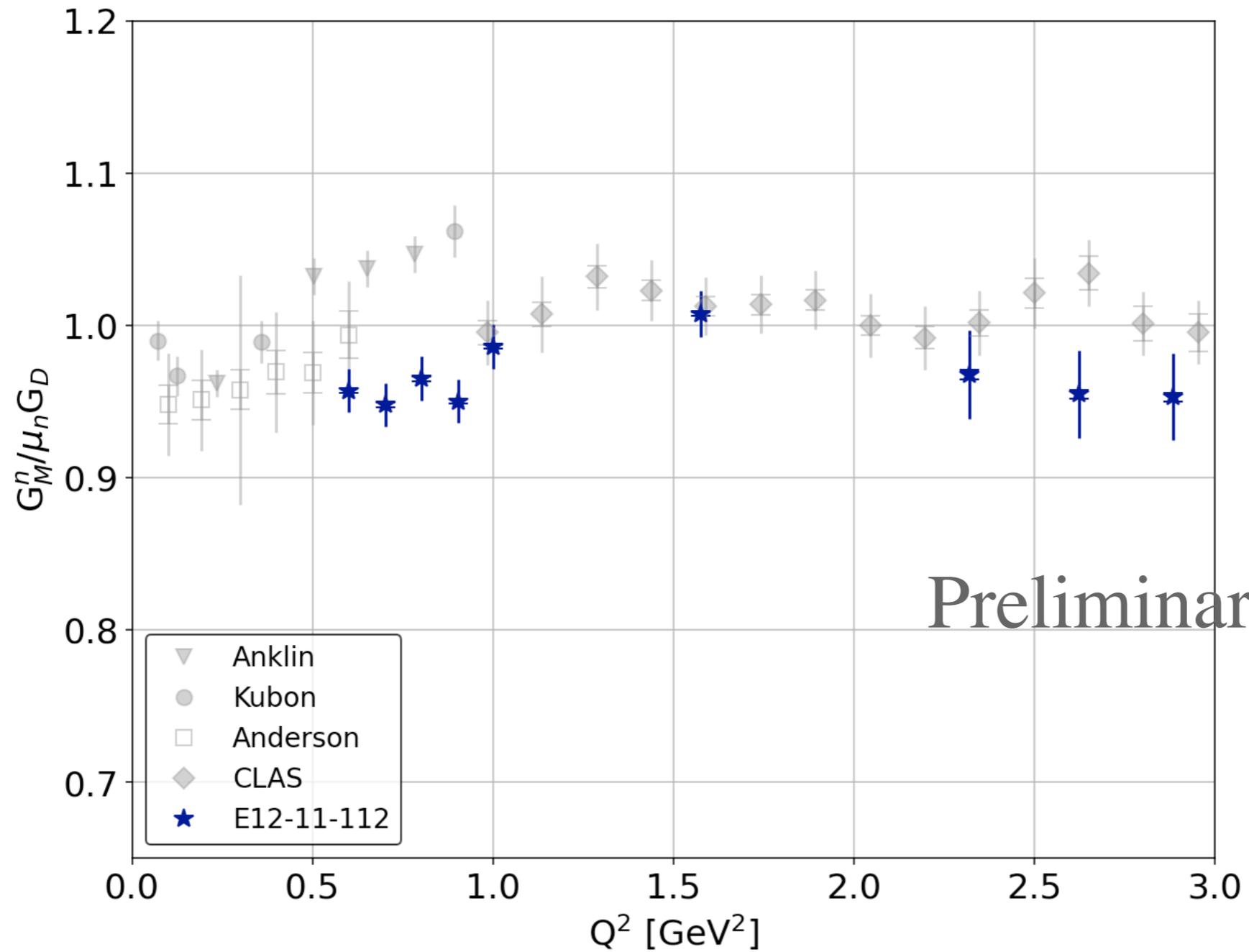
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \sigma_{3H} \sim 2\sigma_n + \sigma_p & & \sigma_{3He} \sim \sigma_n + 2\sigma_p \\ \swarrow & & \swarrow \\ R = \frac{\sigma_{3H}}{\sigma_{3He}} \sim \frac{2\sigma_n + \sigma_p}{\sigma_n + 2\sigma_p} \end{array}$$

$$\sigma_n \sim \frac{1 - 2R}{R - 2} \sigma_p$$

$$(G_M^n)^2 \sim \frac{\epsilon}{\tau} \left[ \frac{1 - 2R}{R - 2} \sigma_p \frac{1 + \tau}{\sigma_{mott}} - (G_E^n)^2 \right]$$

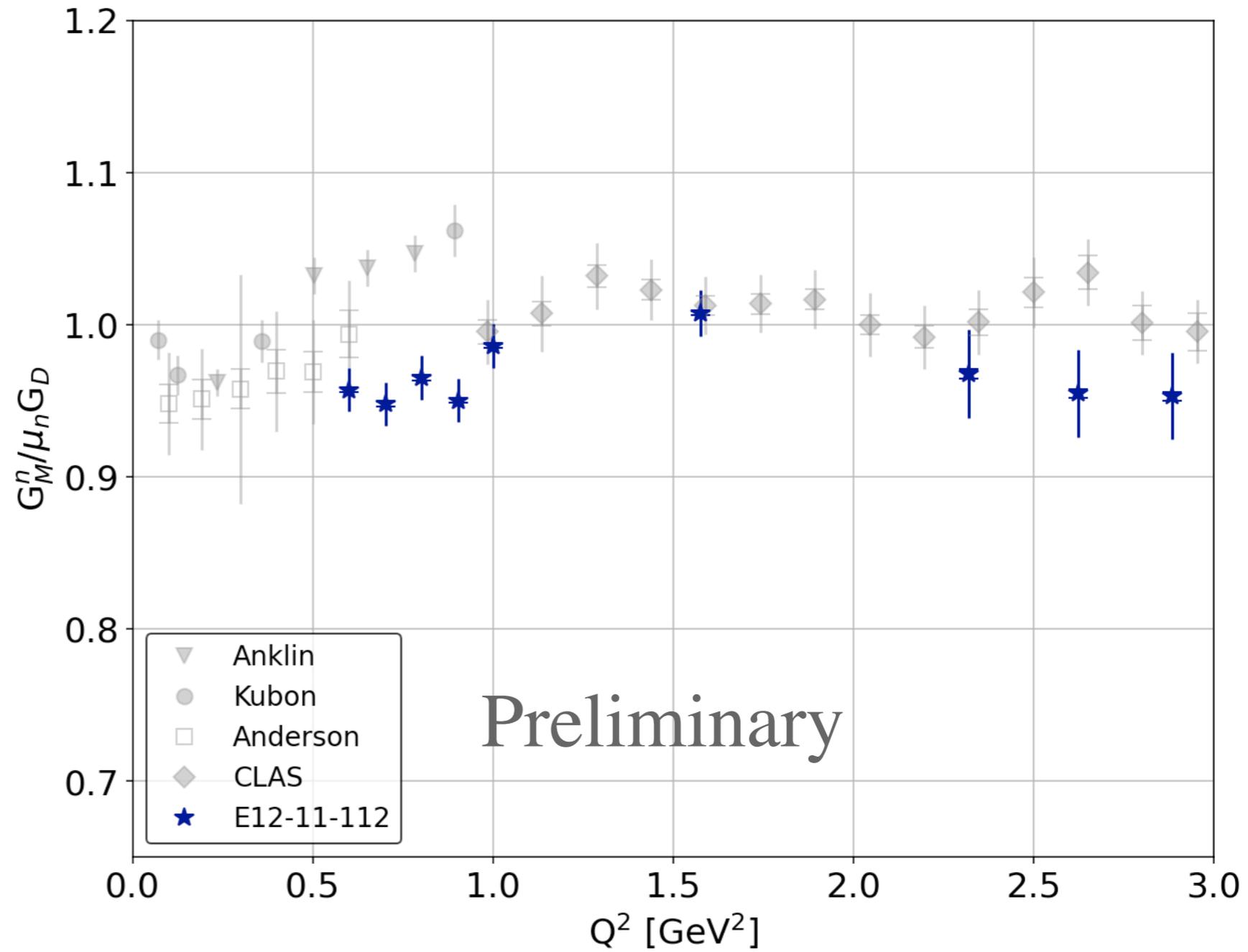
# $G_M^n$ extraction without medium corrections

$$(G_M^n)^2 \sim \frac{\epsilon}{\tau} \left[ \frac{1-2R}{R-2} \sigma_p \frac{1+\tau}{\sigma_{mott}} - (G_E^n)^2 \right]$$



## Current Work

Finalize the final version of this plot after medium corrections.



Expectations

1 form factor publication

1 arXiv paper with extracted cross sections



# Uncertainties

$$1 \leq x \leq 2$$

## Cross-Section

## Ratios

Sources	Normalization (%)	Point-to-Point (%)	Normalization (%)	Point-to-Point (%)
Beam Energy	--	0.5 - 1	--	--
Scattering Angle	0.6	0.2	--	--
Momentum		1-3	--	--
Tracking Efficiency	0.2	0.1	--	--
Acceptance	--	0.1-1.5	--	--
Efficiencies/Trigger/ Livetime	--	0.01-0.1	--	--
<sup>3</sup> He contamination		<0.3		<0.3
Radiative Corrections	1	0.4-0.4	--	--
Endcap Contamination	0.07	0.1-0.3	0.1	0.1-0.3
Charge	0.5	--	0.1	--
Boiling	0.3, 0.4	--	0.2	--
Target Thickness	0.3-1	--	1.04	--
Hydrogen Contamination**	0.2	--	0.2	--

Total ~ 1.15

\*\* Only in the Fall kinematics

# **X=3 Physics Analysis**



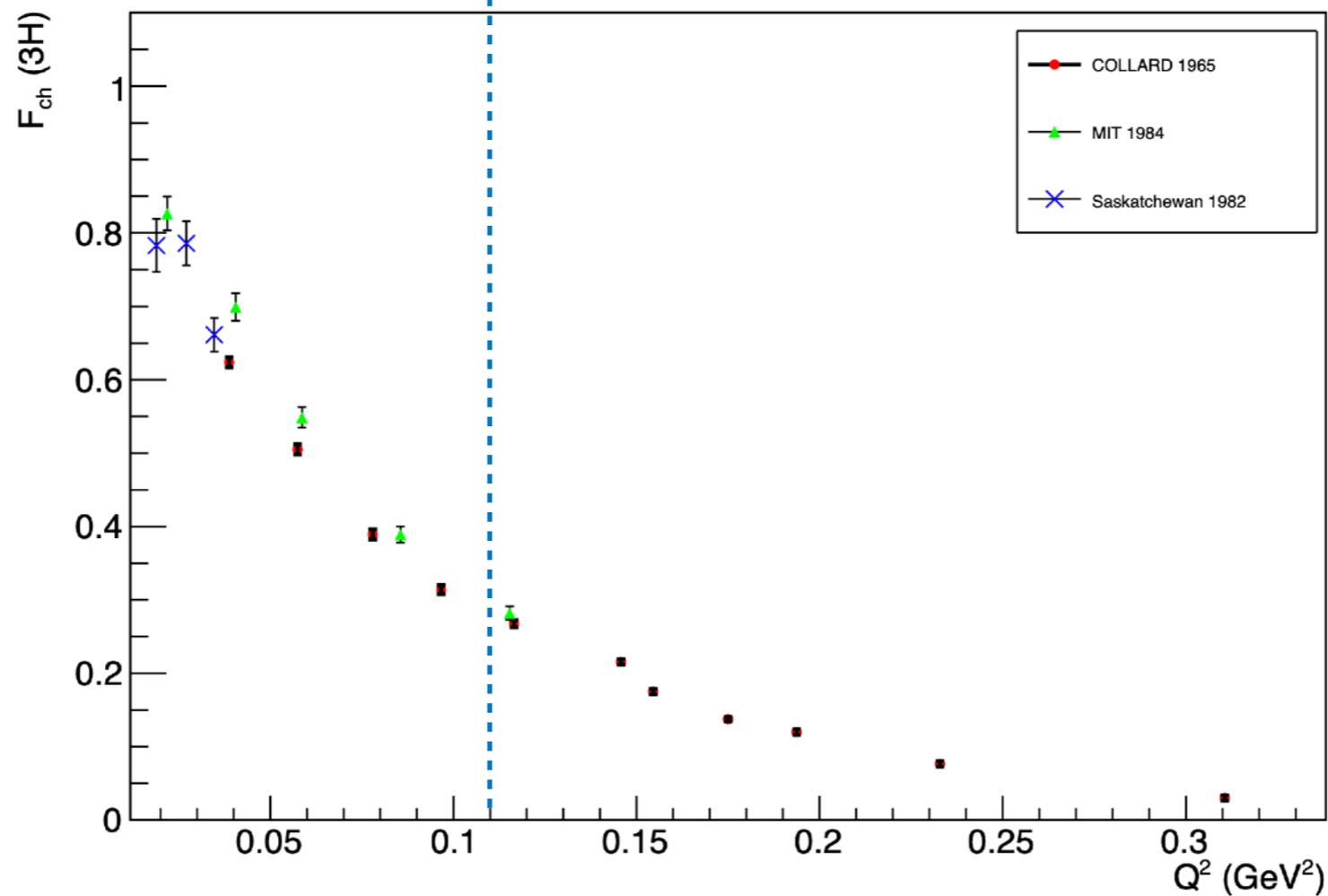
## Elastic Scattering

$$\left( \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_{exp.} = \left( \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_{Mott} \left[ \frac{F_{ch}^2 + \tau F_M^2}{1 + \tau} + 2\tau F_M^2 \tan^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \right].$$

# Elastic Scattering

$$\left( \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_{exp.} = \left( \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_{Mott} \left[ \frac{F_{ch}^2 + \tau F_M^2}{1 + \tau} + 2\tau F_M^2 \tan^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \right]$$

## E12-11-112 Measurement



The charge form factor can be described by :

$$F(q^2) = \int e^{\frac{iq \cdot x}{\hbar}} \rho(x) d^3x \xrightarrow{x \rightarrow r} 4\pi \int \rho(r) \frac{\sin(|q|r/\hbar)}{|q|r/\hbar} r^2 dr$$

Extracting the charge radius in the limit  $q^2 \rightarrow 0$ :  $\langle r^2 \rangle \equiv -6 \hbar^2 \left. \frac{dF(q^2)}{dq^2} \right|_{q^2=0}$

$$\langle r^2 \rangle \equiv -6 \hbar^2 \left. \frac{dF(q^2)}{dq^2} \right|_{q^2=0}$$

**Goal: Extract the  ${}^3\text{H}$  charge radius**

Current experimental results: large uncertainties, discrepancies

	$\langle r_{rms}^2 \rangle_{3\text{H}}$	$\langle r_{rms}^2 \rangle_{3\text{He}}$	
GFMC	1.77(1)	1.97(1)	
$\chi\text{EFT}$	1.756(6)	1.962(4)	
SACLAY	1.76(9)	1.96(3)	$\longrightarrow \Delta R_{\text{RMS}} = 0.20(10)$
BATES	1.68(3)	1.97(3)	$\longrightarrow \Delta R_{\text{RMS}} = 0.29(04)$
Atomic	-----	1.959(4)	

## Extracting the $^3\text{H}$ Charge Radius

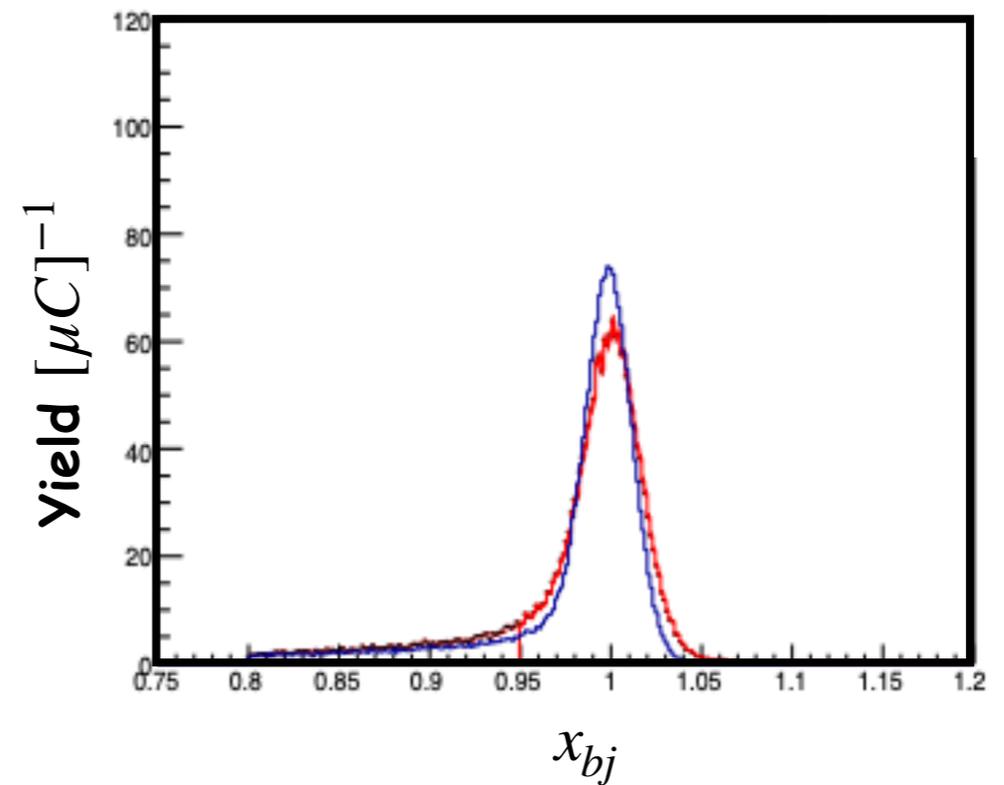
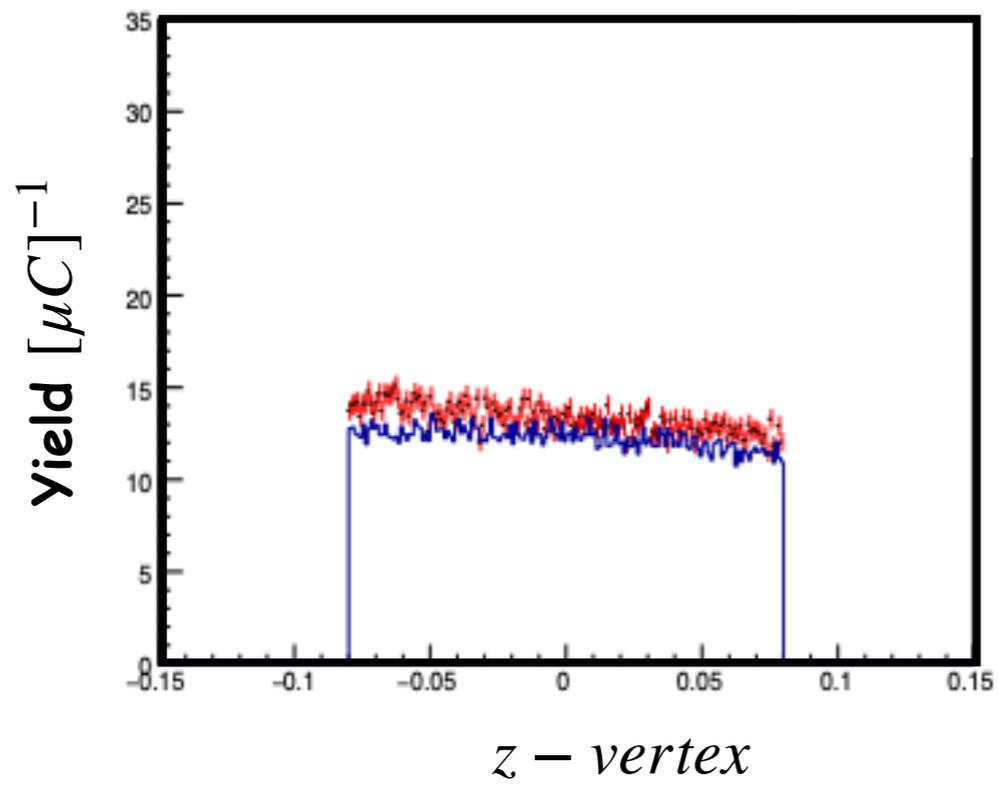
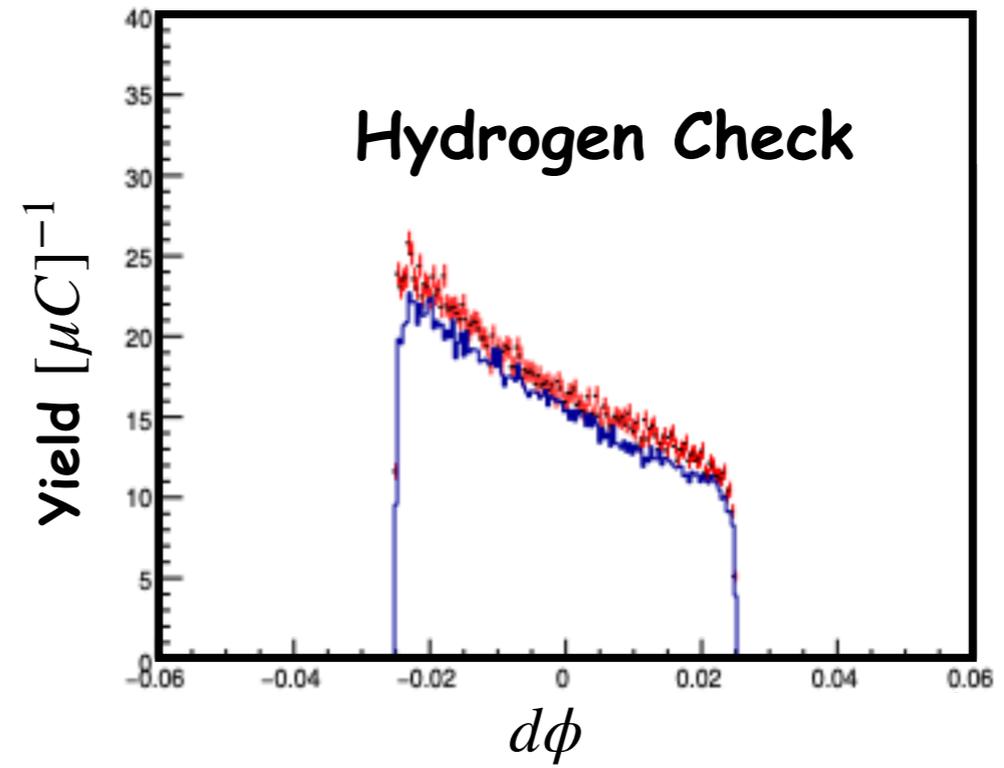
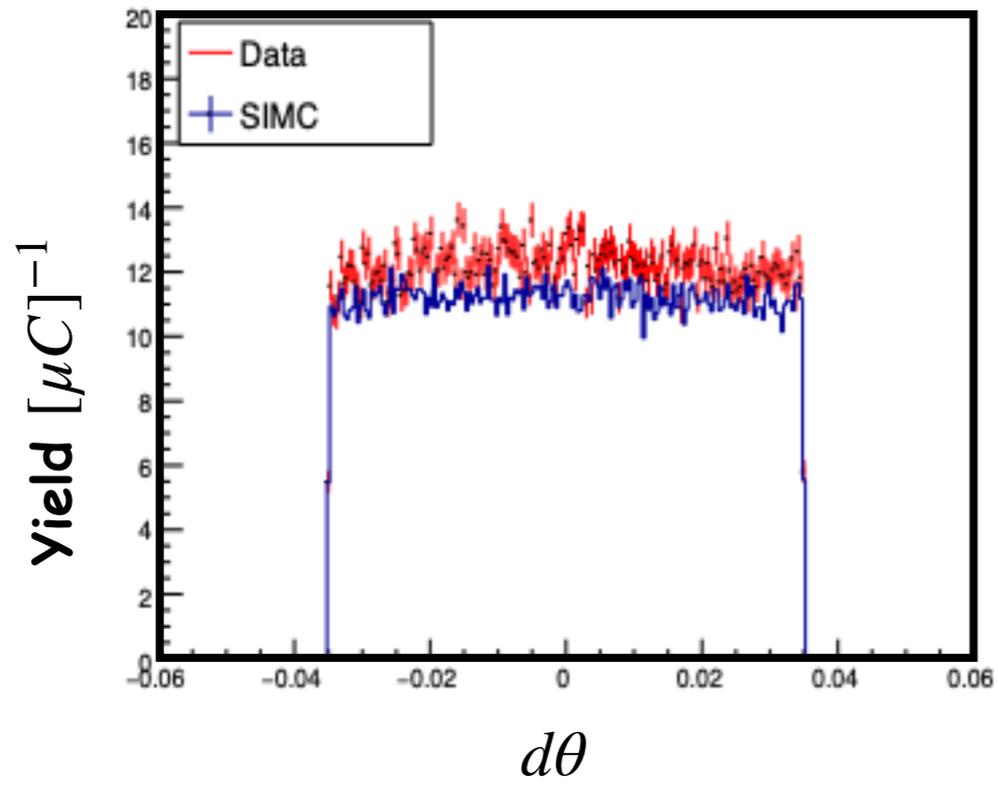
$$Q^2 = 0.11 \text{ GeV}^2$$

$\sigma(^3\text{He})$  will be compared with world data.

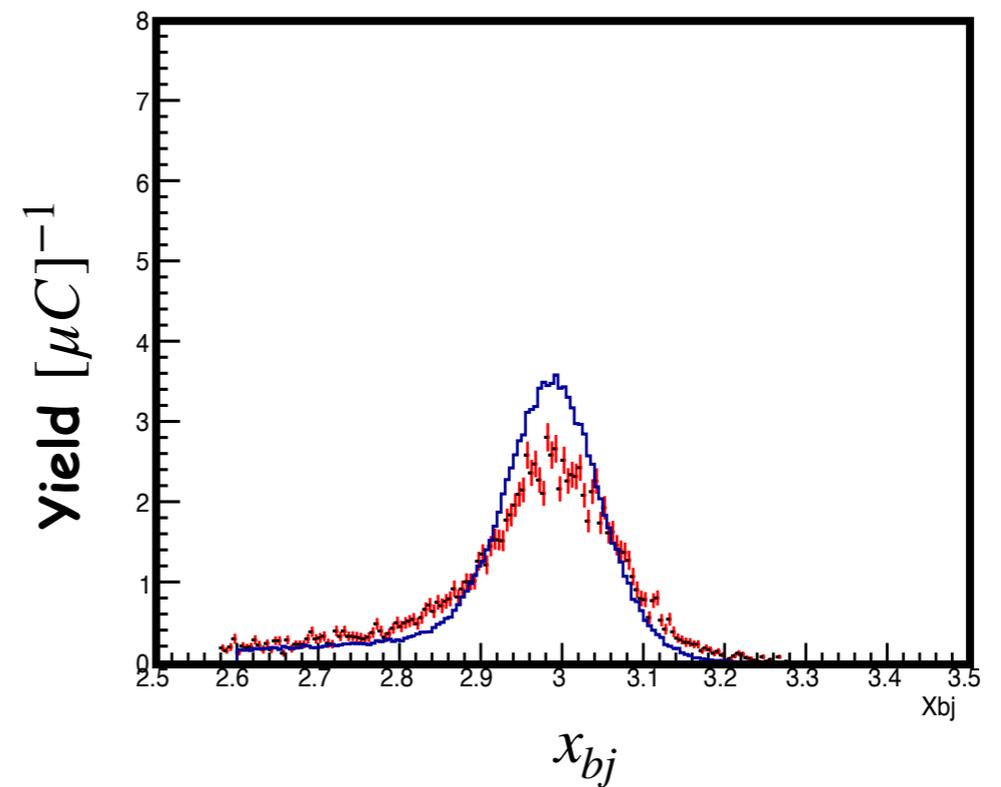
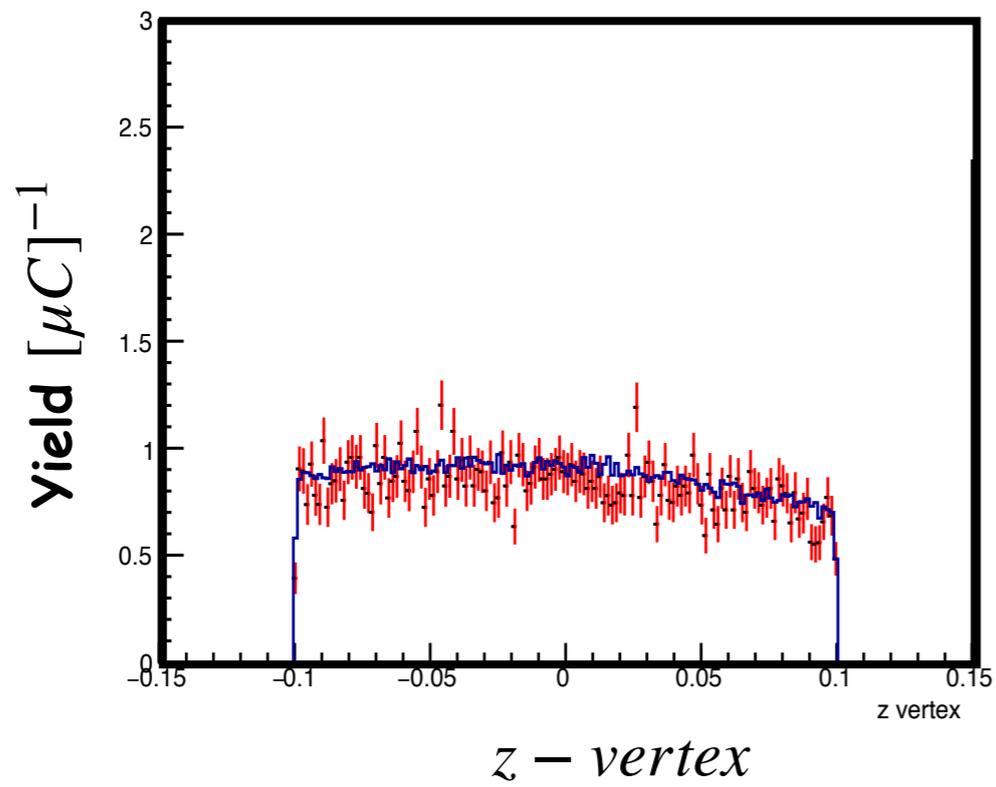
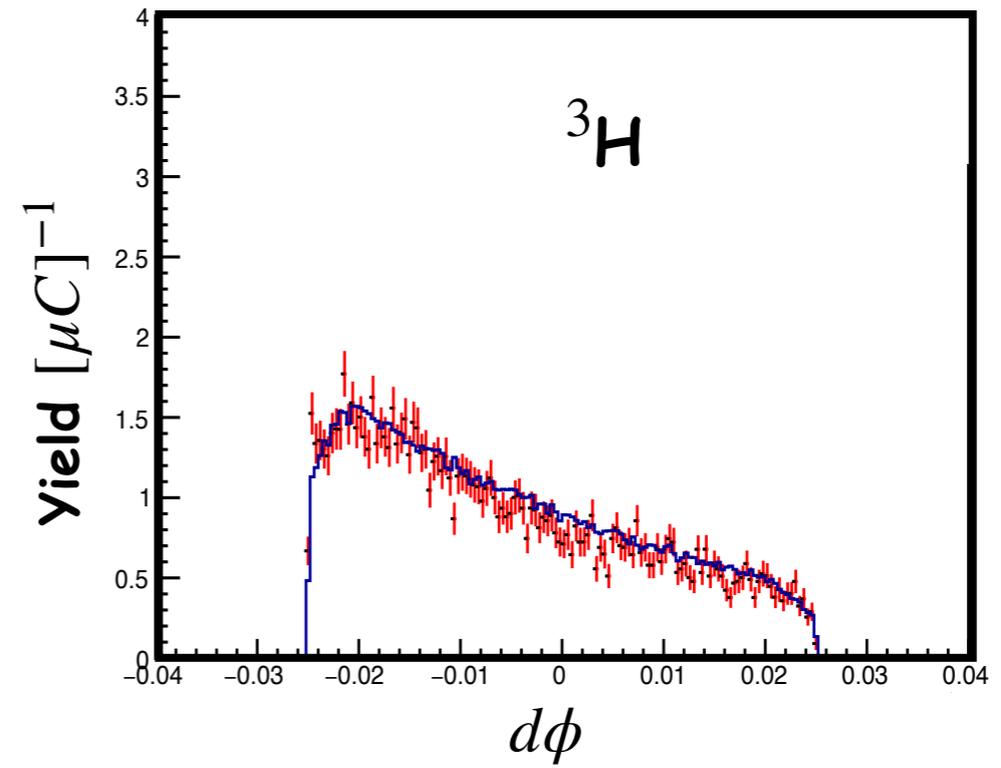
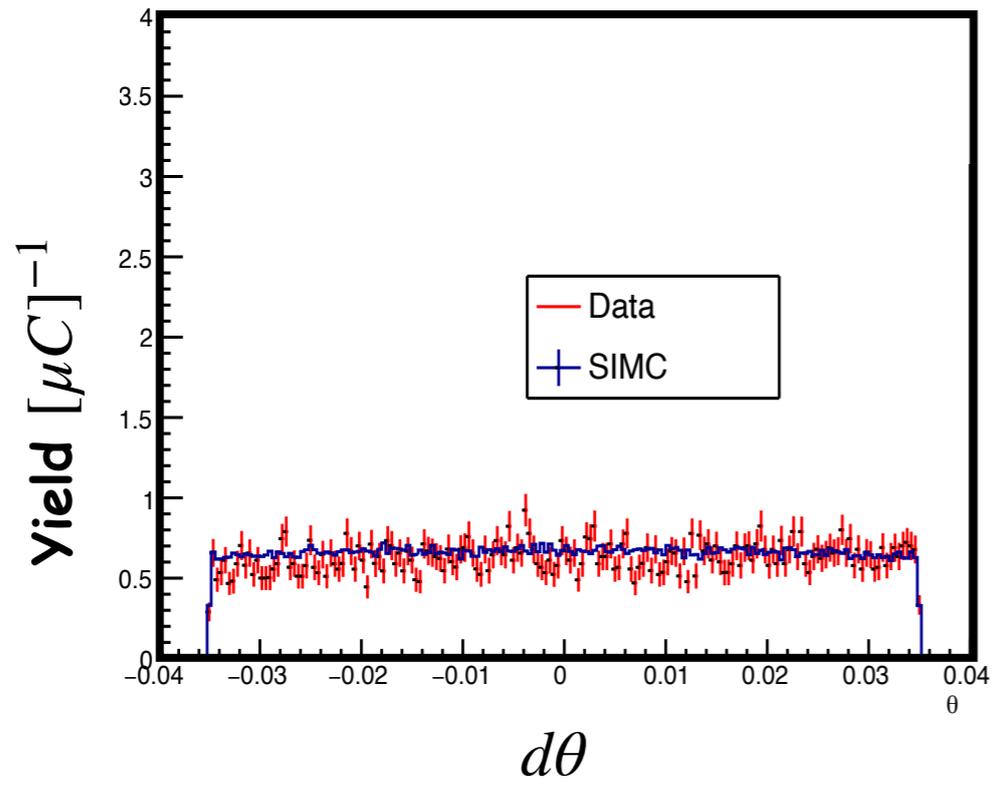
$^3\text{H}/^3\text{He}$  ratio will be used to normalize  $\sigma(^3\text{H})$  with smaller normalization uncertainty (expected  $\sim 1.5\%$ )

Perform a Global fit to the world  $^3\text{H}$  data after including the  $Q^2 = 0.11 \text{ GeV}^2$  point and extrapolate to  $q^2 \rightarrow 0$ .

# Data vs SIMC



# Data vs SIMC



## Status and Future Work

- Data is calibrated and Yields were extracted successfully.
- Simulation and Data comparisons are being optimized.
- Systematic uncertainties are under review.

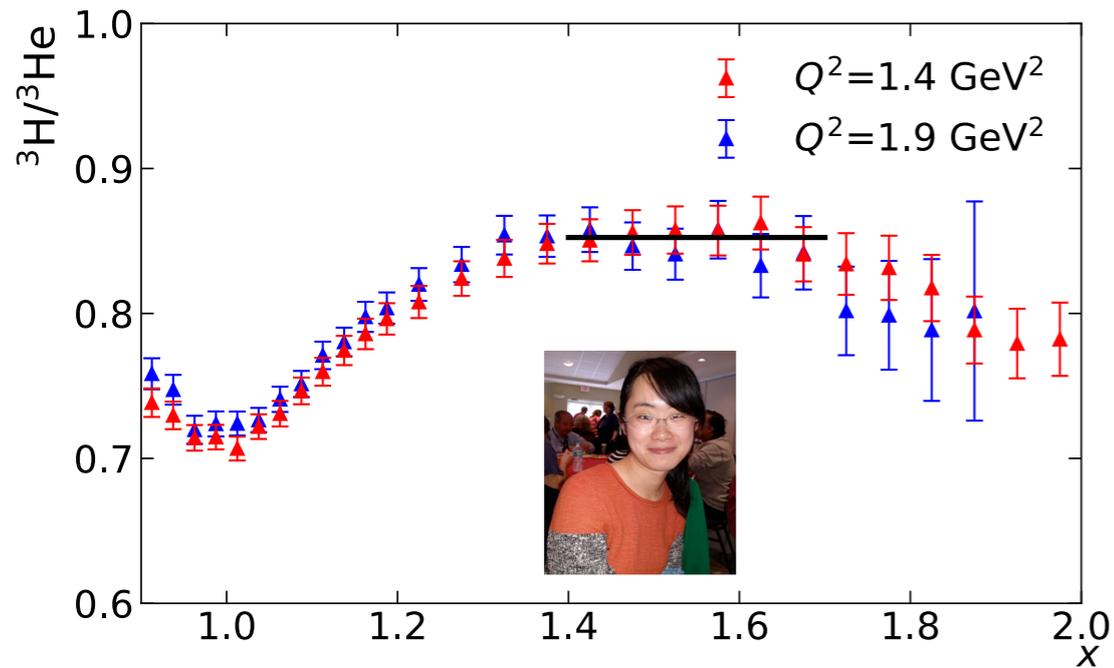
Next...

- Cross section ratios extraction
- Global fit analysis

Expectations: 1  $^3\text{H}$  charge radius  
Publication



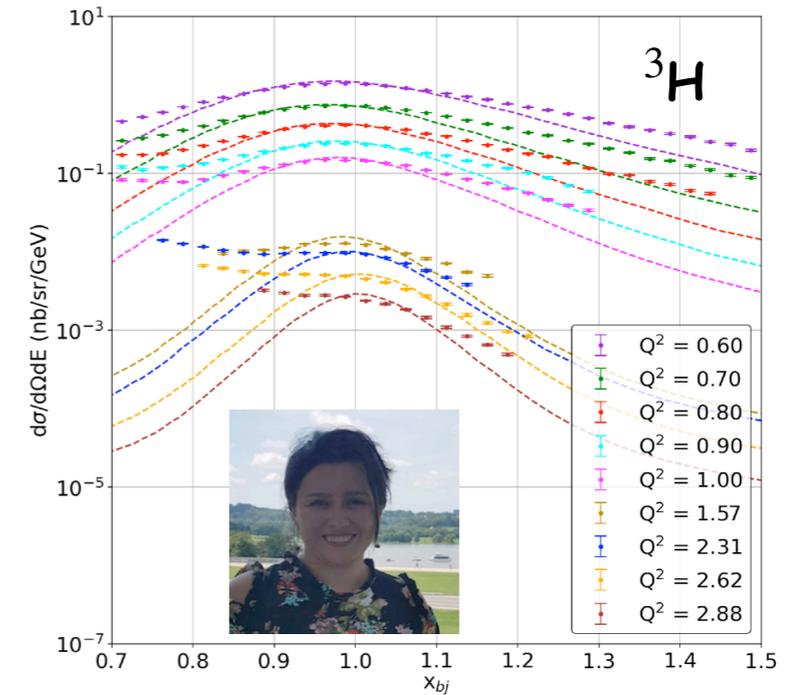
# Summary



1 Submitted publication

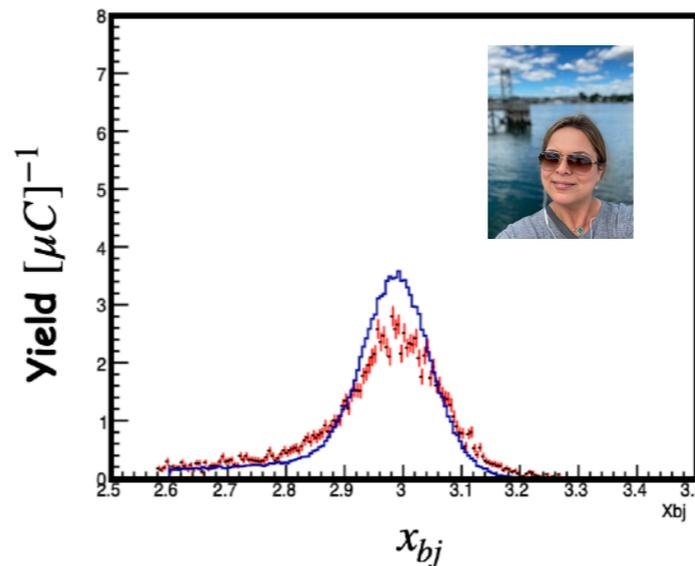
1+ Publication of the theoretical interpretation +  $x > 2$  data.

1 arXiv paper with extracted cross sections



1 Form factor publication

1 arXiv paper with extracted cross sections



1  $^3\text{H}$  charge radius Publication

# Thank you!

Special thanks to:

Shujie Li, Leiqaa Kurbanli, John Arrington,  
Douglas Higginbotham, Elena Long, Karl Slifer, Zhihong Ye  
E12-11-112 collaboration  
Tritium collaboration  
Target group  
Hall A staff and collaborators

