



**University of New Hampshire**  
**Nuclear & Particle Physics Group**

# **A Measurement of the Proton's Spin Structure Functions in the Truly Strong Region 2022 Winter Status Update**

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**Hall A Collaboration Meeting**

**February 11, 2022**

## 1. Experiment Background

- First low  $Q^2$  measurement of transverse proton spin structure

## 2. Recent Progress

- Sanity checks on data
- Detailed investigation into model input
- Publication writing and revision

## 3. Publication Progress:



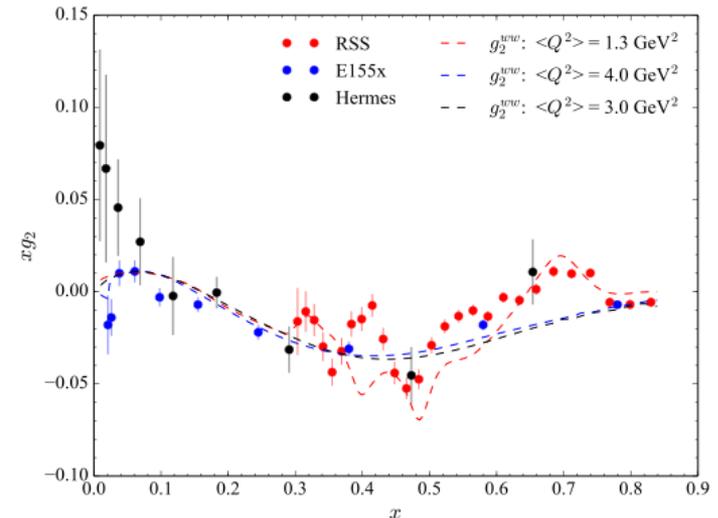
# Motivation:

Measure a fundamental spin observable ( $g_2$ ) in the region  $0.02 < Q^2 < 0.20 \text{ GeV}^2$  for the first time

$$\frac{d^2\sigma^\pm}{d\Omega dE'} = \sigma_{\text{Mott}} \left[ \alpha F_1(x, Q^2) + \beta F_2(x, Q^2) \pm \gamma g_1(x, Q^2) \pm \delta g_2(x, Q^2) \right]$$

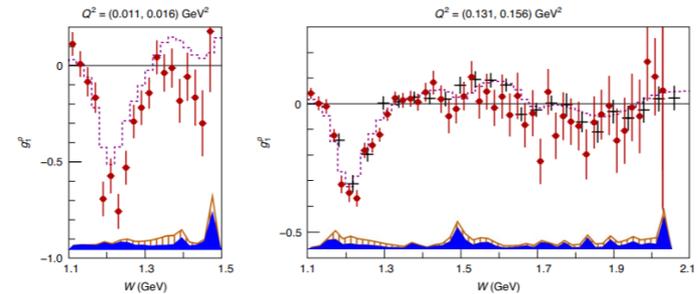
$g_1$  and  $g_2$  related to spin distribution

- Measurements at Jefferson Lab:
  - RSS – medium  $Q^2$  (1-2  $\text{GeV}^2$ ) (published)
  - SANE – high  $Q^2$  (2-6  $\text{GeV}^2$ ) (analysis)
  - **$g_2p$  – low  $Q^2$  (0.02-0.20  $\text{GeV}^2$ ) (analysis)**
- Low  $Q^2$  is difficult:
  - Electrons strongly influenced by target field
  - Strong kinematic dependence on observables
- Low  $Q^2$  is useful:
  - Test predictions of Chiral Perturbation Theory ( $\chi\text{PT}$ )
  - Test sum rules and measure moments of  $g_2$
  - Study finite size effects of the proton

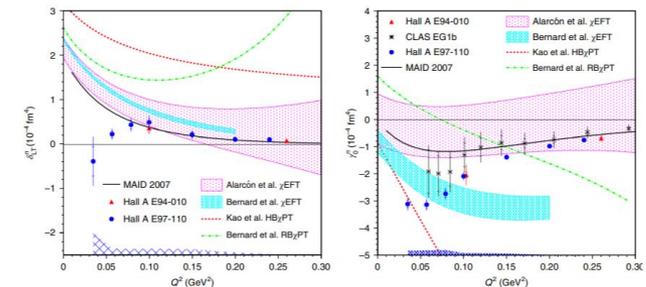


# Recent Spin Structure Studies

- EG<sub>4</sub>: Published in Nature Physics in April 2021
  - Low+Medium  $Q^2$  measurement of  $g_1$  and longitudinal moments for Proton
- Small-Angle GDH: Published in Nature Physics in May 2021
  - Low+Medium  $Q^2$  measurement of  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  for Neutron
- New  $\chi$ PT Calculations: Bernard et. al calculation in 2013 gave closer agreement to results of E94010
- Alarcon et. al calculation has been updated several times, most recently in 2020
- These calculations disagree at low  $Q^2$  for the proton, showing that there are unanswered questions about QCD in the chiral domain



X. Zheng et al. Nature Physics 17, 736-741



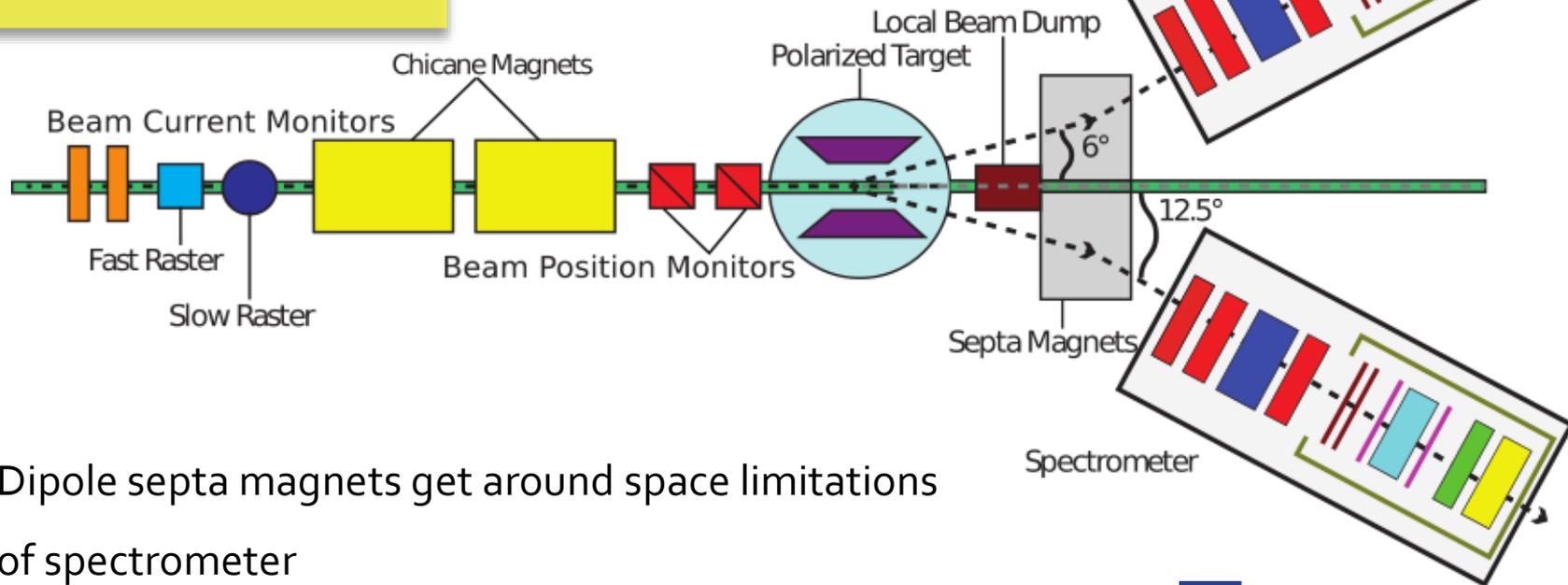
V. Sulkosky et al. Nature Physics 17, 687-692

# Hall A Experimental Setup:

Measuring  $g_2^p$

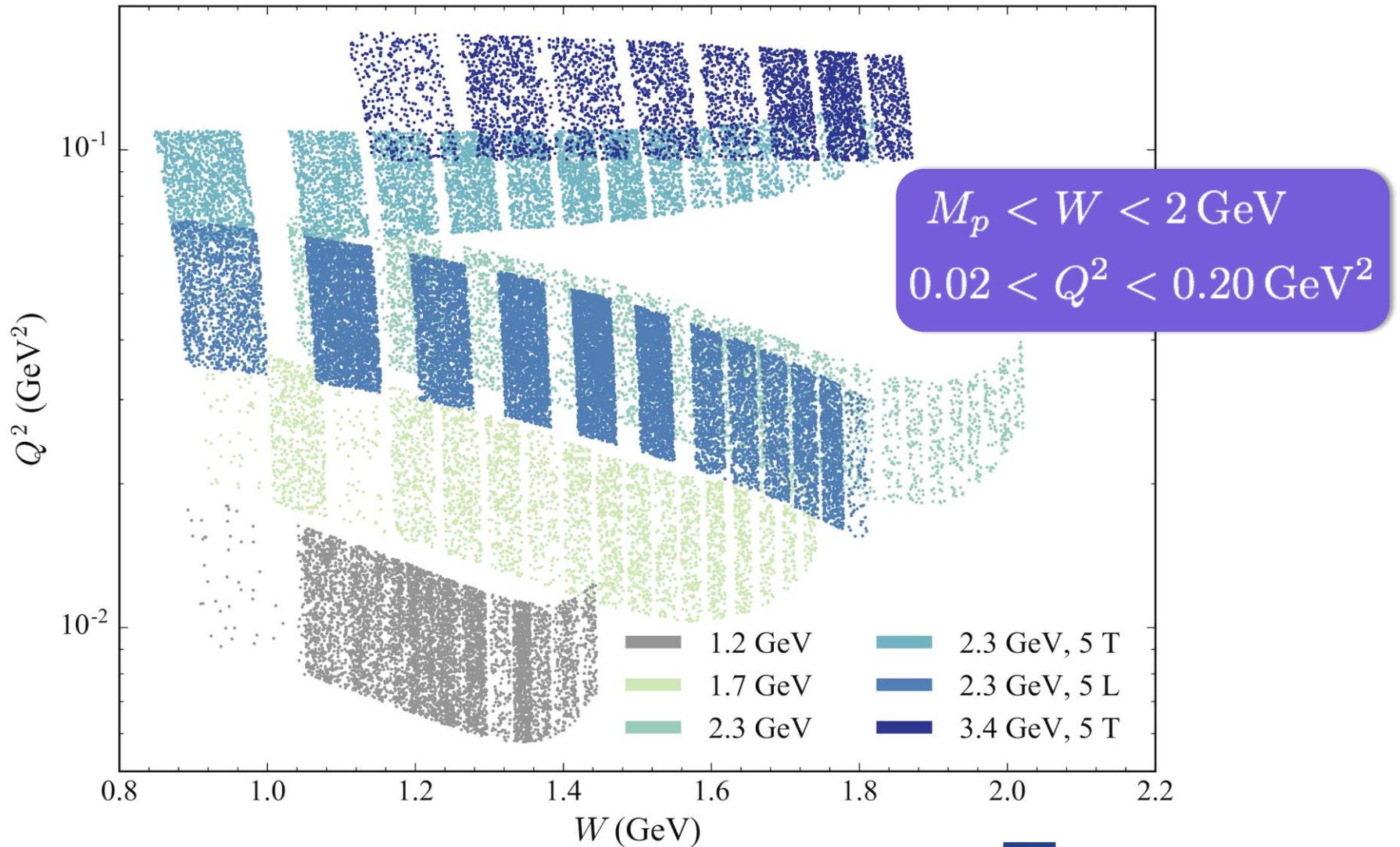
- Electron Beam
- Polarized Proton Target
- Spectrometer/Detectors
- Small Scattering Angle

- $g_2^p$  experiment ran spring 2012 in Hall A
- Transverse polarized  $NH_3$  target (2.5/5.0T)
- Dipole chicane magnets help compensate for target field bending of beam

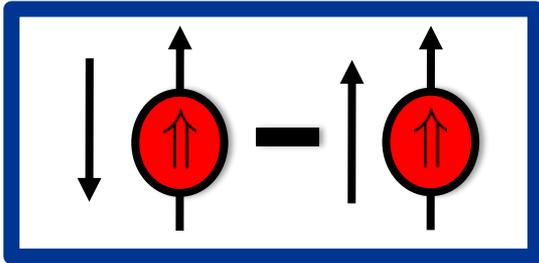


- Dipole septa magnets get around space limitations of spectrometer

# $g_2p$ Kinematic Coverage



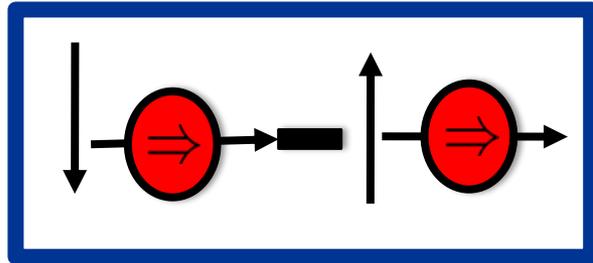
# Extracting Spin Structure by Looking at Cross Section Differences



Parallel

Inclusive *polarized* cross sections

$$\frac{d^2\sigma^{\uparrow\uparrow}}{dE'd\Omega} - \frac{d^2\sigma^{\downarrow\uparrow}}{dE'd\Omega} = \frac{4\alpha^2}{M\nu Q^2} \frac{E'}{E} \left[ g_1(x, Q^2) \{E + E' \cos\theta\} - \frac{Q^2}{\nu} g_2(\nu, Q^2) \right]$$



Perpendicular

$$\frac{d^2\sigma^{\uparrow\Rightarrow}}{dE'd\Omega} - \frac{d^2\sigma^{\downarrow\Rightarrow}}{dE'd\Omega} = \frac{4\alpha^2}{M\nu Q^2} \frac{E'^2}{E} \sin\theta \left[ \nu g_1(x, Q^2) + 2E g_2(\nu, Q^2) \right]$$

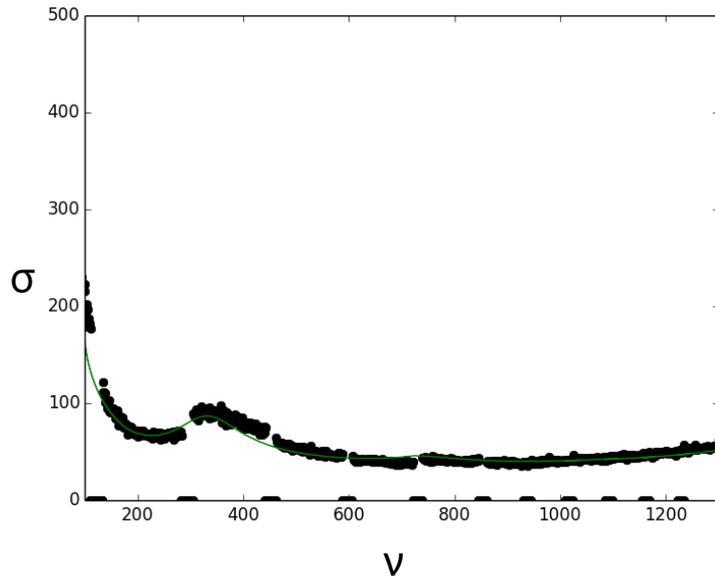
$$\Delta\sigma_{\perp} = \frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE'} (\downarrow\rightarrow - \uparrow\rightarrow) = 2 \cdot A_{\perp} \sigma_0$$

From Data

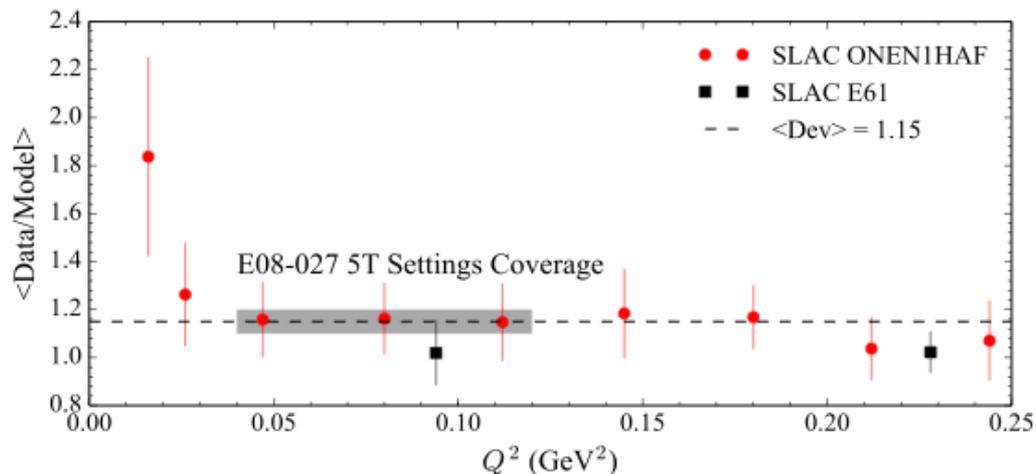
From Model



# Recent Updates: Model Cross Section

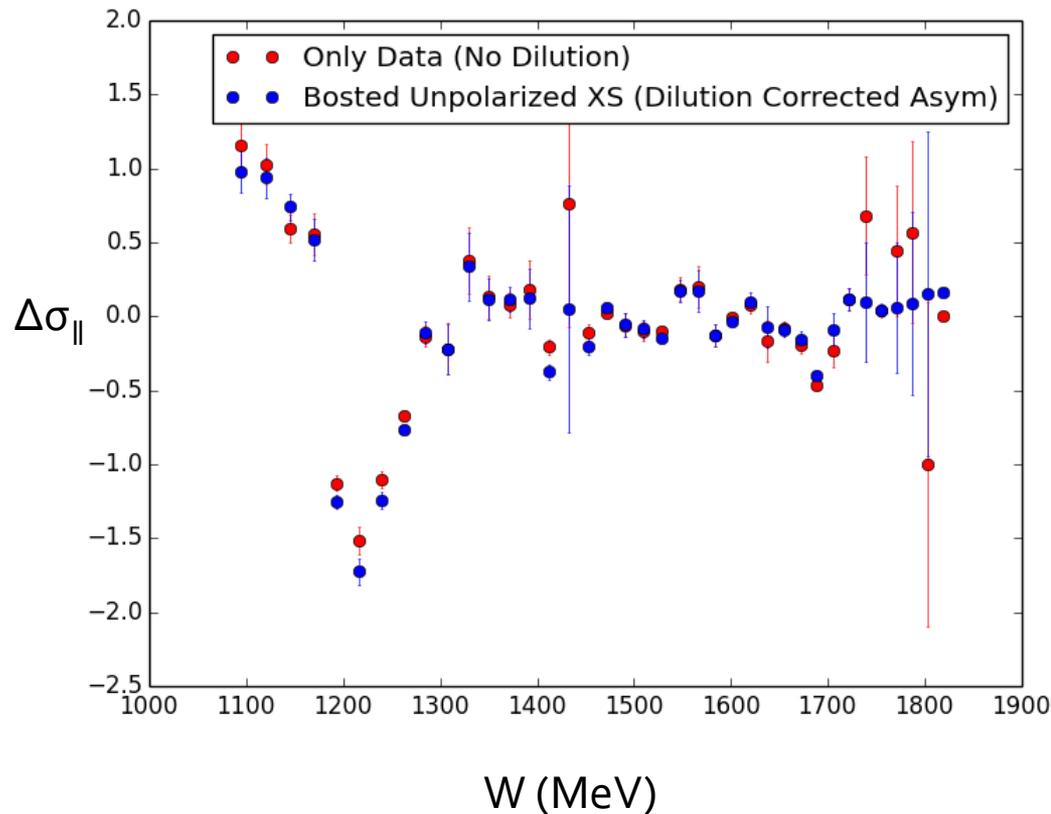


- g2p data has good agreement with Bosted-Christy Model if a scaling of 1.15 is used
- We investigated this scaling in depth and determined its impact on the moments is less than 6%
- Transverse acceptance forces us to use model cross section



- Bosted-Christy model in this region is based on E61, while g2p and onen1haf require a similar scaling factor
- However all three experiments agree within error

# Recent Updates: Longitudinal Sanity Checks



- Compared polarized cross section difference from data, to  $\Delta\sigma_{\parallel}$  from model and dilution-corrected asymmetry
- Good agreement is a sanity check on the dilution and the use of the model for the transverse settings

# First publication nearly finished

- We have been hard at work on a paper focused on the transverse results with the intention of submission to Nature Physics, following the success of the EG4 and Small-Angle GDH Experiments in that journal
- Paper is nearly complete and has been sent to our core group for comments
- We aim to send our draft to the Hall A collaboration for comments and the C.C. for approval **within a few weeks.**

## Moments of the Proton Spin Structure Function $g_2$ in the Truly Strong Region

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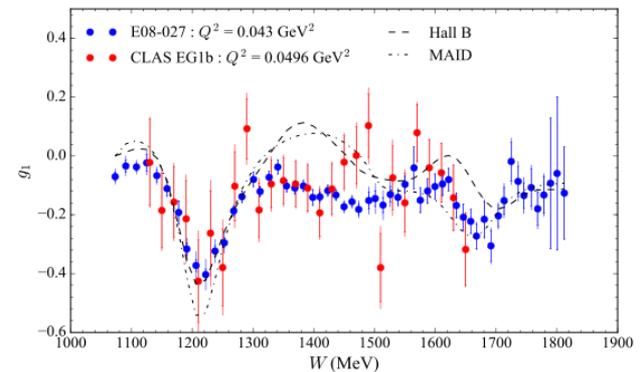
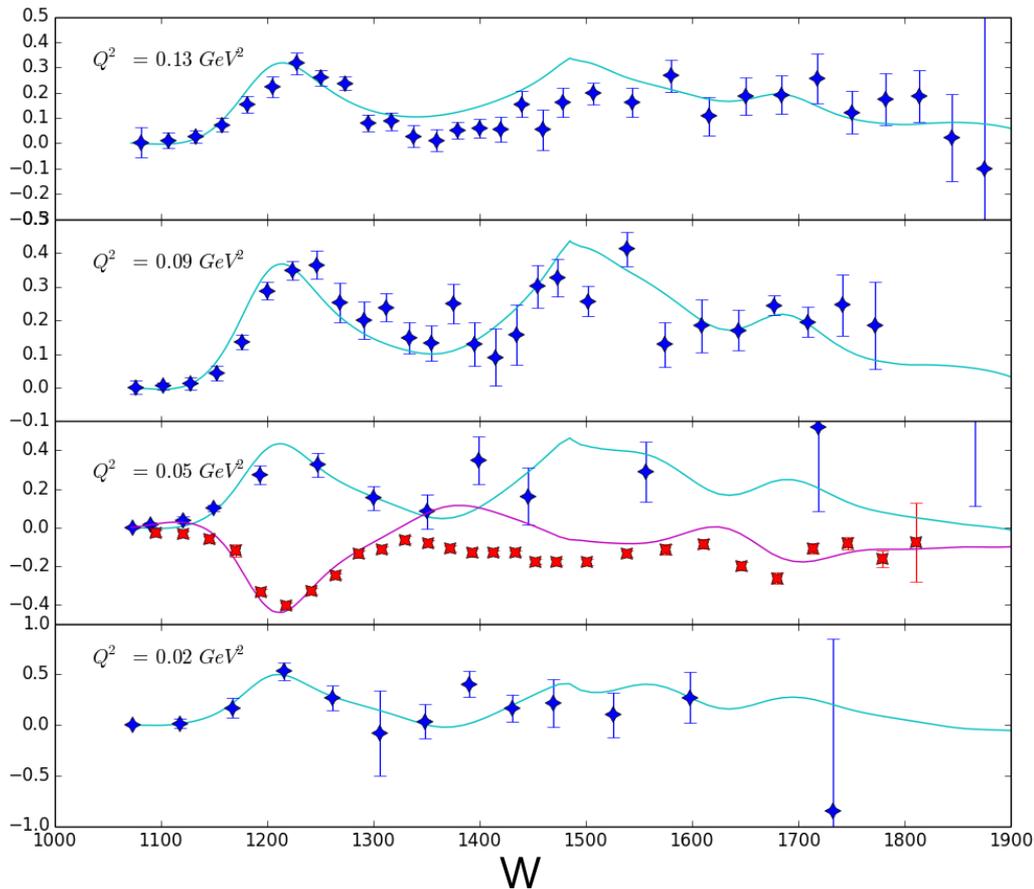
Author list is **not final** and is under careful review



# Structure Function Results

Blue Stars –  $g_2$  (Transverse Setting)

Red Xs –  $g_1$  (Longitudinal Setting)



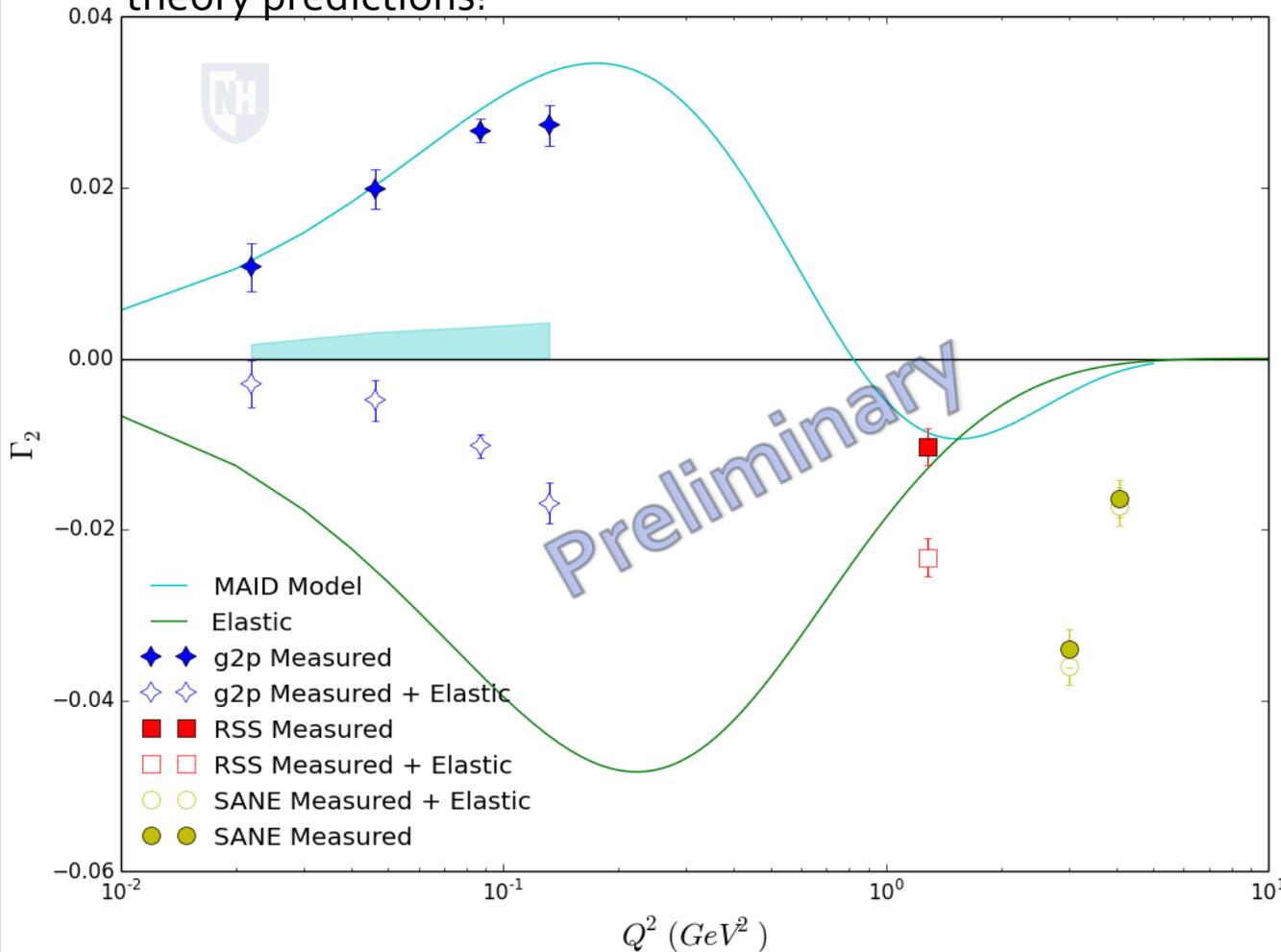
- E08-027 data is consistent with previously published data from CLAS
- But with much better statistics!!



# First Moment of $g_2(x, Q^2)$

$$\Gamma_2 = \int_0^{x_{th}} g_2(x, Q^2) dx$$

Moments provide a useful quantity that can be related back to theory predictions!



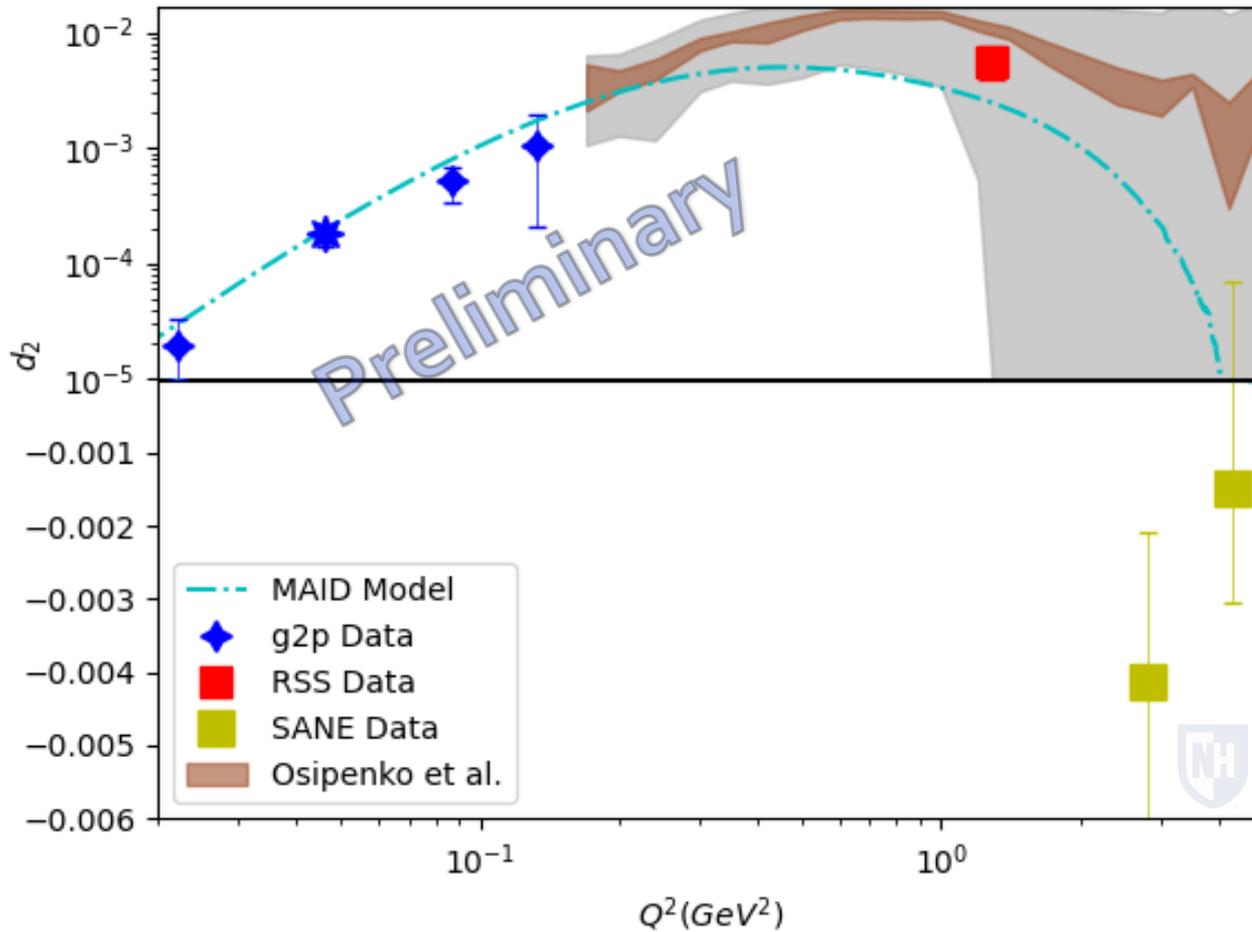
Burkhardt-Cottingham Sum rule says this moment should be zero everywhere...

Unmeasured, low  $x$  part difficult to calculate accurately at low  $Q^2$

Distance between Measured+elastic and zero can be taken as measurement of this hard to measure region if BC sum rule is followed

# d2 Higher Matrix Element

$$\overline{d_2} = \int_0^{x_{th}} x^2 [2 g_1(x, Q^2) + 3 g_2(x, Q^2)] dx$$

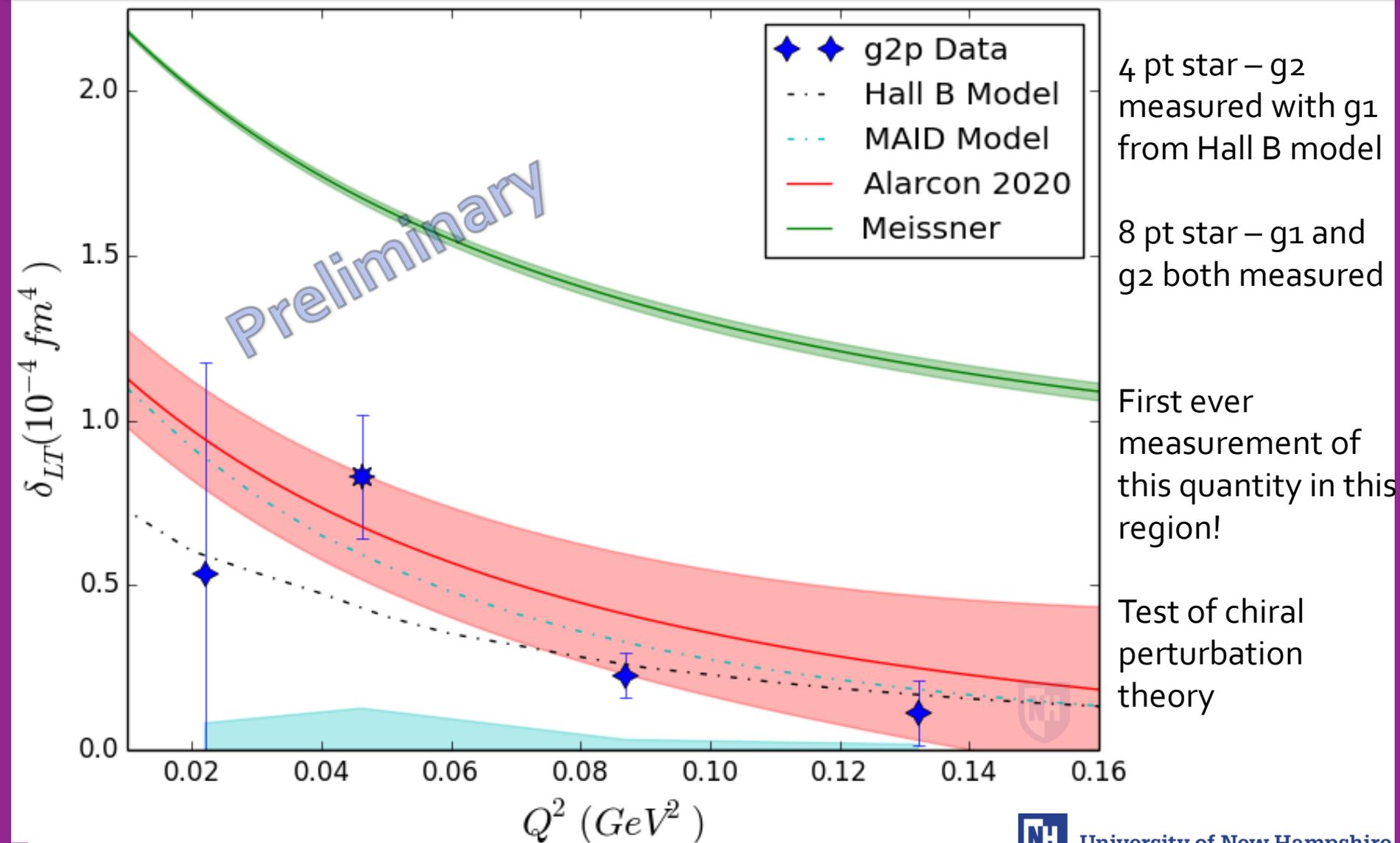


Data agrees with sign and trend of MAID model

Moment is an interesting way to probe quark-gluon correlations at low  $Q^2$

# Transverse-Longitudinal Spin Polarizability

$$\delta_{LT} = \frac{16\alpha M^2}{Q^6} \int_0^{x_{th}} x^2 [g_1(x, Q^2) + g_2(x, Q^2)] dx$$



# Conclusion

- The  $g_2$ p experiment was a precision measurement of proton  $g_2$  in low  $Q^2$  region **for the first time!**
- Analysis is complete!
- First publication is **almost done** and nearly ready to be shared with all of our collaborators



# Acknowledgements

## g2p Analysis Team

### Spokespeople:

J.P. Chen  
Karl Slifer  
Alexandre Camsonne  
Don Crabb

### Post-Docs:

Kalyan Allada  
James Maxwell  
Vince Sulkosky  
Jixie Zhang

### Graduate Students:

Ryan Zielinski  
Chao Gu  
Toby Badman  
Melissa Cummings  
Min Huang  
Jie Liu  
Pengjia Zhu



# Additional Slides: Model Scaling Factor Impact

$$g_1(x, Q^2) = K_1 \left[ \Delta\sigma_{||} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{K_2} \tan \frac{\theta}{2} \right) \right] + \frac{2g_2(x, Q^2)}{K_2 y} \tan \frac{\theta}{2}$$

Input from Hall B model

Combination of data & Bosted model

- Scaling factor is on Bosted-Christy XS
- Hall B has different systematics
- Input term is a significant part of the SSF: ~30%
- Propagate through Bosted-Christy with scaling of 1.0 vs scaling of 1.15 for Longitudinal setting
- Everything else stays the same
- Form a 'zeroeth order' and 'second order' moment:

$$M_0 = \int g_1 dx \qquad M_2 = \int x^2 g_1 dx$$

- Zeroeth order difference is suppressed by Hall B term
- 2<sup>nd</sup> order difference is further suppressed by x<sup>2</sup> weighting
- Highest difference is ~6%

