# Gas Electron Multiplier Detectors used in the SBS GMn Experiment

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#### **Electron-Nucleon Scattering**



- Electron-nucleon scattering can be used to investigate the nucleon structure.
- $F_1(Q^2)$  and  $F_2(Q^2)$  are Pauli and Dirac form factors.
- $G_{F}$  and  $G_{M}$ , more commonly used, describe the electric and magnetic distributions.

$$G_E=F_1-\kappa au F_2$$
  $G_M=F_1+\kappa F_2$   $au=rac{Q^2}{4M^2}$ 

#### Neutron Electromagnetic Form Factor Ratio

- Previous experiments measured the proton ratio  $G_E^p/G_M^p$  up to Q<sup>2</sup> = 8 GeV<sup>2</sup> and the neutron ratio  $G_E^n/G_M^n$  up to Q<sup>2</sup> = 3.5 GeV<sup>2</sup>.
- They found that  $G_E^p/G_M^p$  sharply declined after Q<sup>2</sup> ~ 1 GeV<sup>2</sup>.
- It is suspected that  $G_E^n/G_M^n$  will exhibit the same behavior at higher Q<sup>2</sup>.



### Super BigBite Spectrometer (SBS) Program

- Precision Measurement of the Neutron Magnetic Form Factor up to Q<sup>2</sup> = 18.0 (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup> by the Ratio Method (GMn).
- Measurement of the Neutron Electromagnetic Form Factor Ratio  $G_E^n/G_M^n$  at High Q<sup>2</sup> (GEn-II).
- Measurement of the Ratio  $G_E^n/G_M^n$  by the Double-polarized  ${}^2\mathrm{H}(\vec{e},e'\vec{n})$  Reaction (GEn-RP).
- Large Acceptance Proton Form Factor Ratio Measurements at 13 and 15 (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup> Using Recoil Polarization Method (GEp-V).



#### GMn "Ratio Method" Calculation

- Collide electron beam onto a deuterium target.
- Simultaneously measure the proton and neutron cross section.
- Many systematic errors cancel in the ratio.



#### SBS GMn Experiment

- GMn ran from October 2021 to February 2022.
- Measurements completed at  $Q^2 = 3.0, 4.5, 7.5, 10, and 13.6 \text{ GeV}^2$ .



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### Gas Electron Multiplier (GEM) Detectors

- The detector consists of three thin foils with micrometer size holes.
- Strong electric fields are created in a very small region.
- Incoming charged particles ionize the gas and shower through large electric fields.
- Resulting shower deposits charge onto copper readout strips.
- Electronics read out the position of the strips hit.





### **U-V GEM Readout**

- UVa group has produced 50 X-Y and 4 U-V GEMs for the SBS experiments.
- National Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN) in Italy has produced 12 X-Y GEMs.
- Technological improvements have made U-V orientation GEMs possible.
- U-V GEMs can be larger  $\Rightarrow$  Reduce size of dead areas.
- U-V GEMs provide extra coordinate information ⇒ Improved tracking results.





<u>UVa U-V</u>

400 mm



**U-V Readout Strips** 

## SBS GEM Types

<u>UVa X-Y</u>



#### <u>UVa U-V</u>



### GEM Commissioning at JLab

- Layers stacked together on a large cosmic stand.
- Multiple layers with hits can be used to form tracks.
- Tracks are projected through all layers to look for real hits.







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#### SBS GMn/GEn Spectrometers



#### Super BigBite Spectrometer (Neutron/Proton Arm)





### GEM Commissioning with Beam

- Under low beam current we varied the GEM voltage and measured the resulting efficiency curve.
- Set operating voltages to the onset of the efficiency plateau.
- This process was completed for all GEM modules.
- Overall 85+% efficiency, except for some worse areas.





### High Rate Tracking

- Large number of possible of 2D hit combinations.
- "Fake hits" from noise would artificially reduce the tracking efficiency.
- Signal on top of a large background could be lost, reducing the efficiency.

#### Tracking Procedure

- Form all 2D hit combinations from strips.
- Filter hits using a variety of thresholds
  - Cluster ADC
  - Correlation coefficients
  - ADC asymmetry
  - Timing cuts
- Form all possible tracks through hits on layers
  - Cut on calorimeter region
  - Cut on projection back to target



#### **GEM Overall Performance**

- Due to high rates the back tracker performed consistently better than the front layers.
  - After analysis improvements, real efficiencies will likely be at least 5% better.
- Good position resolutions of 70 µm





#### GEM Efficiency throughout GMn

### Summary

- GMn was completed in February 2022.
- Learned a lot about GEM performances and solutions for future experiments.
  - Many fixes currently being implemented.
- GEn-II will run in the September of 2022.
- FF measurement will provides tests for various hadronic structure models.



#### References

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