

A visualization of particle physics. A green beam of light enters from the left, passing through a large, semi-transparent sphere. Inside and around this sphere are several smaller, glowing red spheres, each containing a blue and red core. The background is a light blue gradient with scattered blue dots and a green starburst at the top.

# Hadron Propagation and Color Transparency at 12 GeV

## E12-06-107

Holly Szumila-Vance

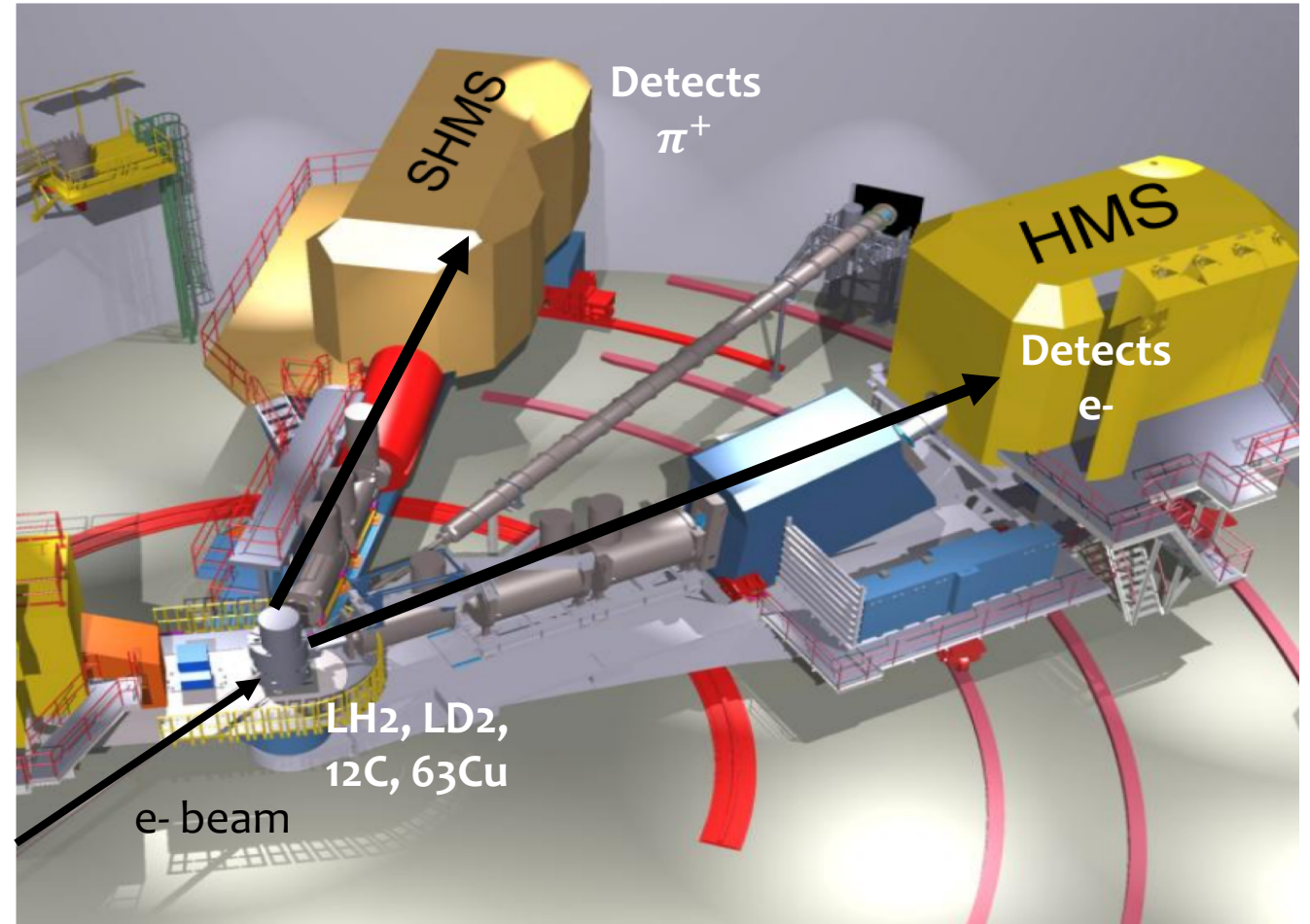
On behalf of Carlos Ayerbe Gayoso & Dipangkar Dutta

Hall C Collaboration Meeting

January 2024

# Outline

- Introduce color transparency (CT)
- Recent proton results
- Running next year in Hall C: pions!



# Nuclear transparency

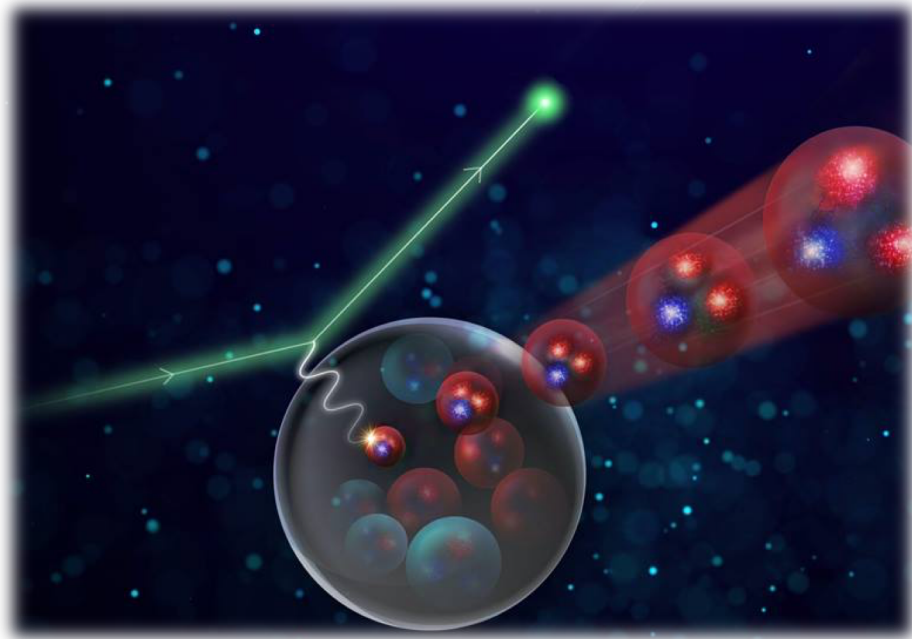
Probability knocked out proton in scattering to be deflected or absorbed.

Ratio of cross-sections for exclusive processes from nuclei and nucleons is the Transparency.

$$T_A = \frac{\sigma_A}{A \sigma_N}$$

(nuclear cross section)  
(free nucleon cross section)

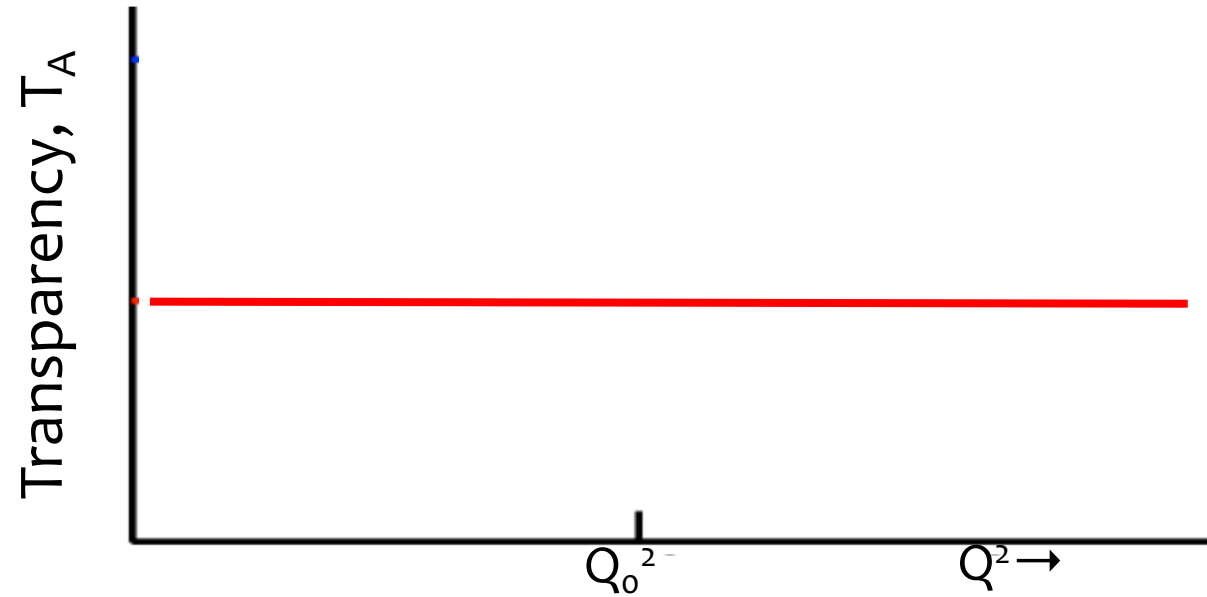
$$\sigma_A = \sigma_N A^\alpha$$



# Transparency is momentum independent (in the strongly interacting hadronic picture )

$$T_A = \frac{\sigma_A}{A \sigma_N}$$

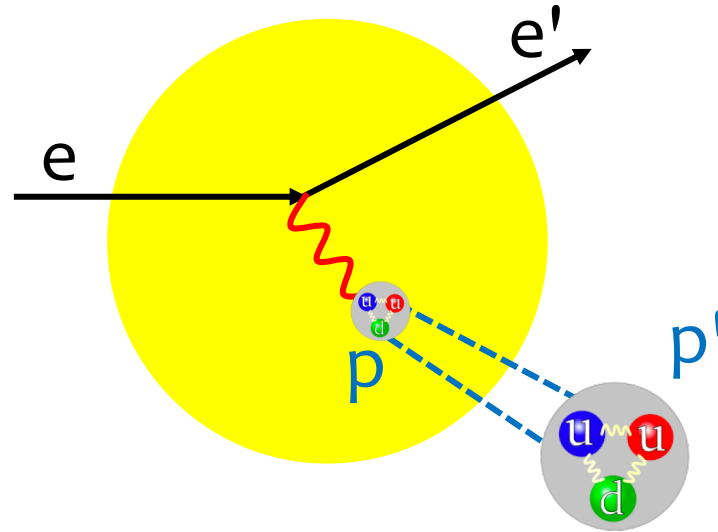
$$\sigma_A = \sigma_N A^\alpha$$



- scattering cross section
- Glauber multiple scattering
- Correlations and Final State Interaction (FSI) effects

# Color transparency is a fundamental prediction of pQCD

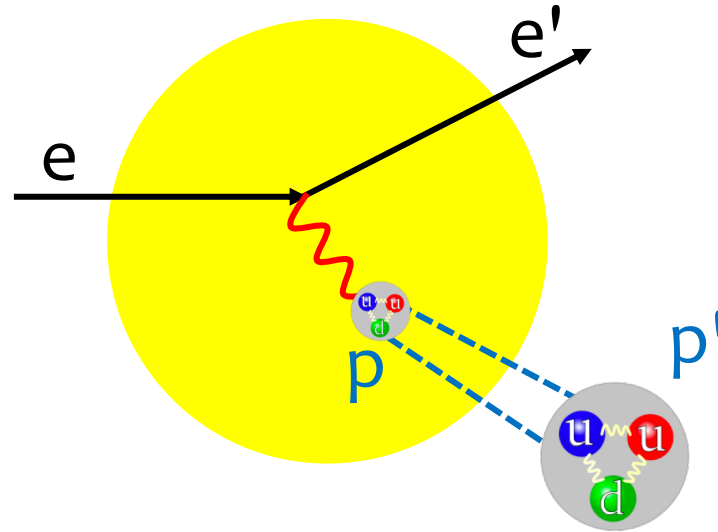
Introduced by  
Mueller and Brodsky, 1982



Vanishing of final state interactions of hadrons with nuclear medium in exclusive processes at high momentum transfer

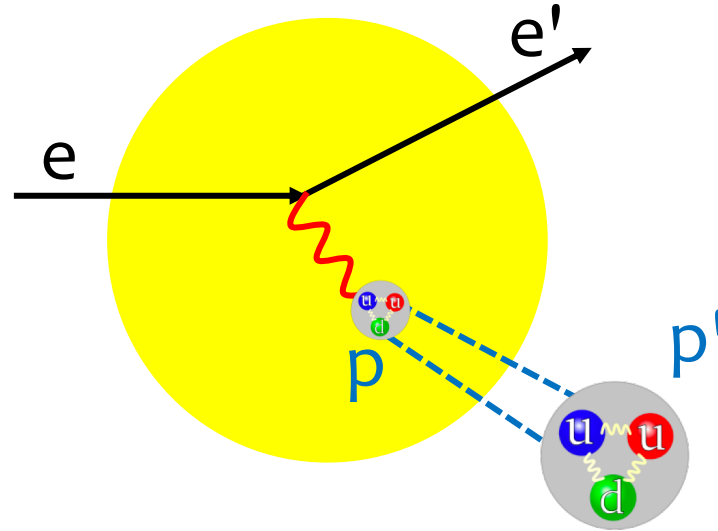
# Color transparency is a fundamental prediction of pQCD

Quantum mechanics:  
Hadrons fluctuate to  
small transverse size  
(*squeezing*, transferred  
momentum)



# Color transparency is a fundamental prediction of pQCD

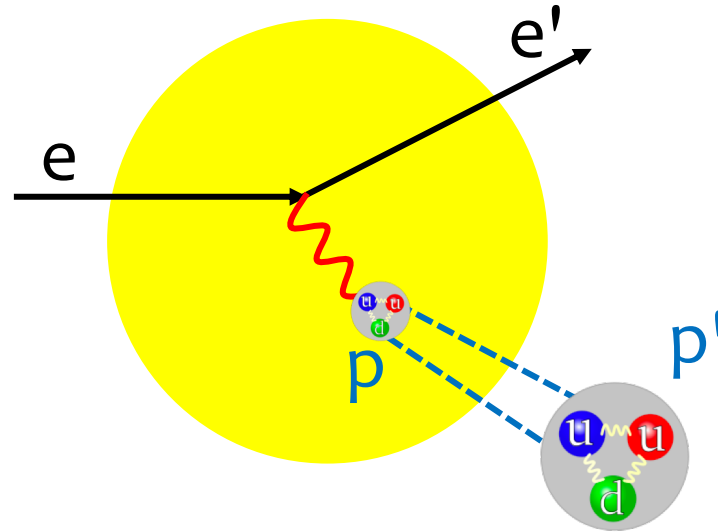
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**Relativity:**  
Maintains this small size as it propagates out of the nucleus (*freezing*, transferred energy)

# Color transparency is a fundamental prediction of pQCD

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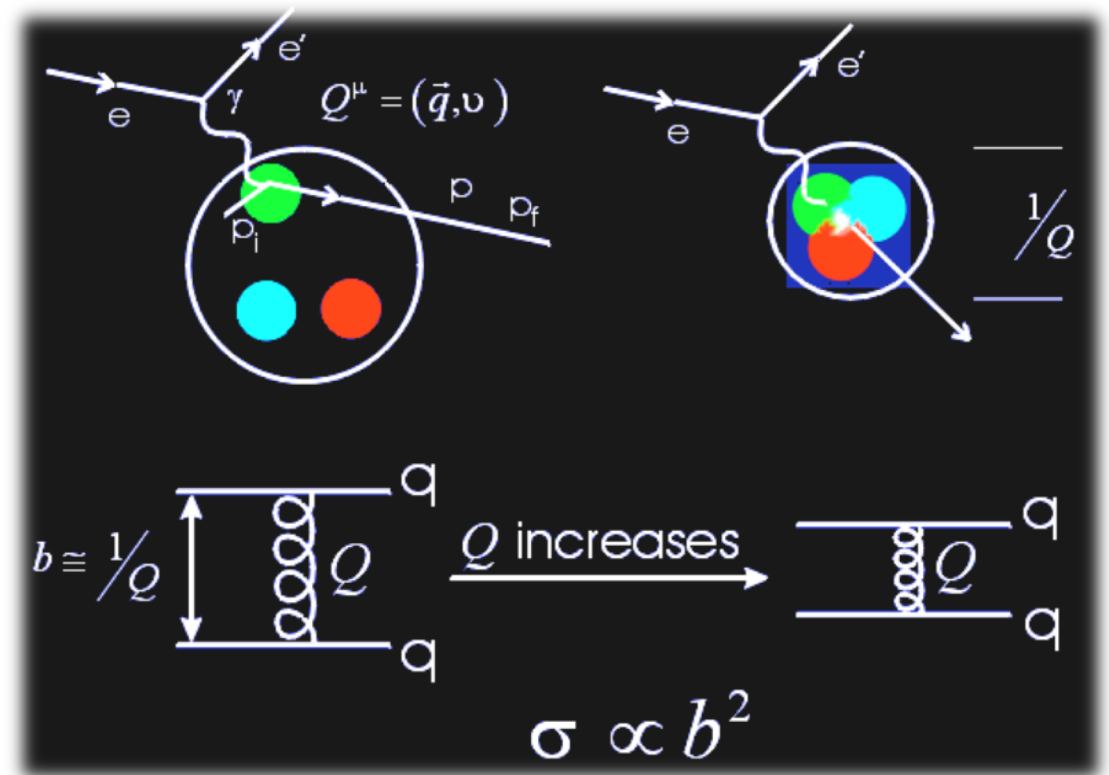
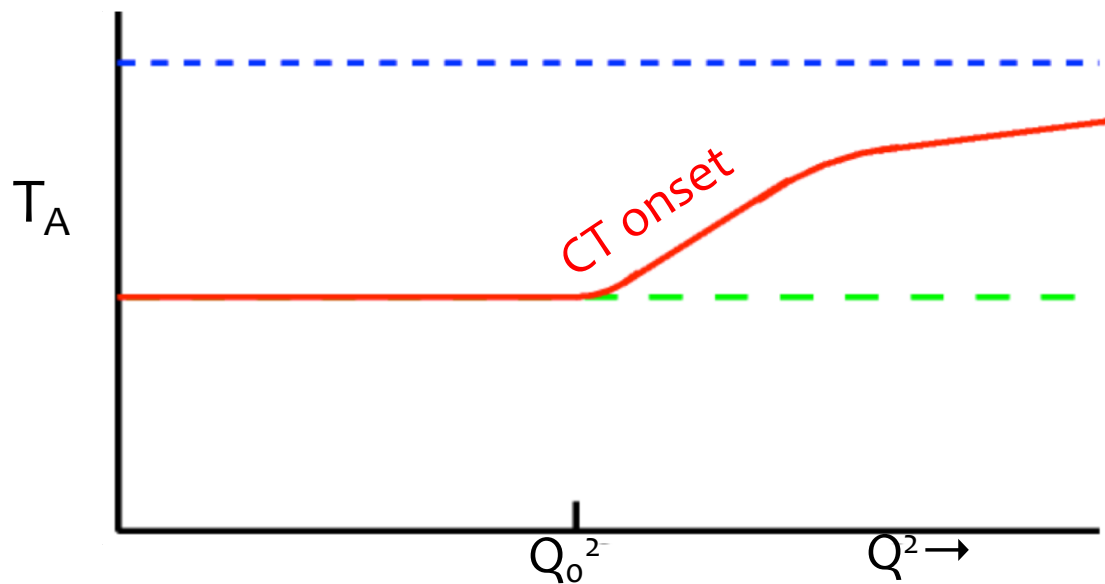
**Relativity:**  
Maintains this small size as it propagates out of the nucleus (*freezing*, transferred energy)

**Strong force:**  
Experience reduced attenuation in the nucleus, color screened



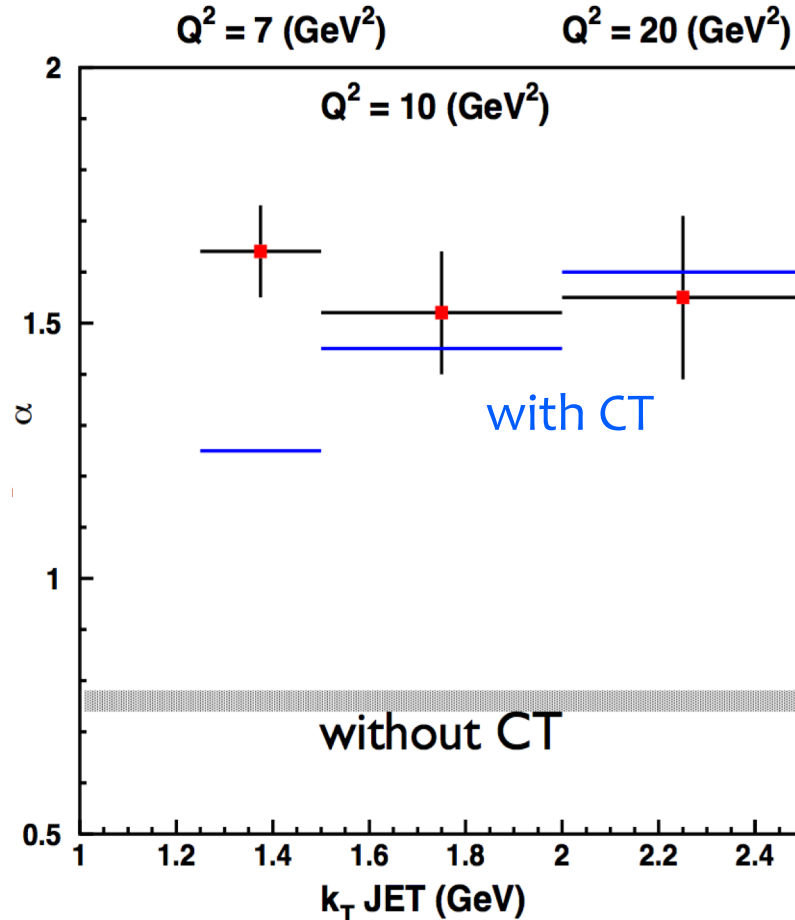
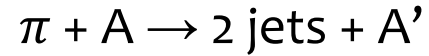
# Onset of CT indicates the transition to quark-gluon degrees of freedom

CT is unexpected in the strongly interacting hadronic picture



# CT established at high energies

Coherent diffractive dissociation of 500 GeV/c pions on C and Pt



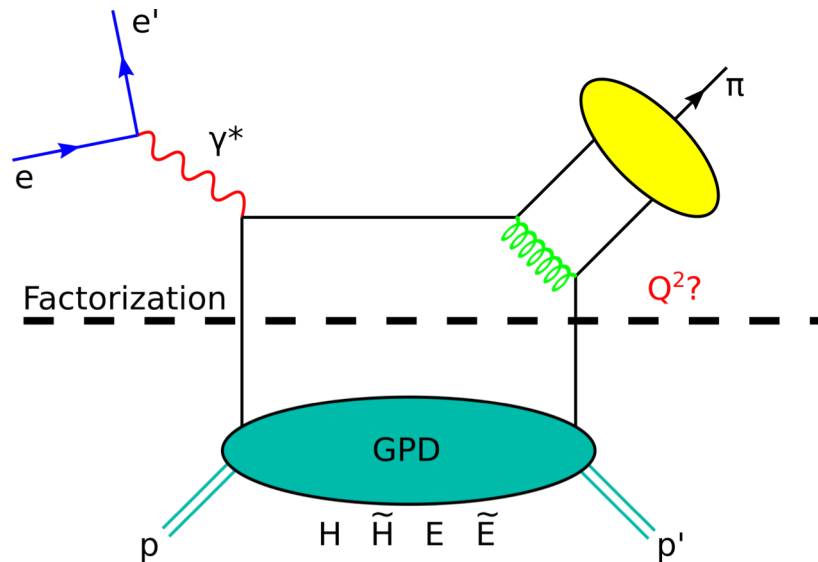
Fit to  $\sigma = \sigma_0 A^\alpha$

Pion-nucleus total cross section,  $\alpha=1.6$

CT predictions by L. L. Frankfurt, G. A. Miller, and M. Strikman, Phys. Lett. B304, 1 (1993)

# CT is connected to other physics interpretations

GPD framework requires factorization into a hard interaction with single quark and soft part (GPDs).

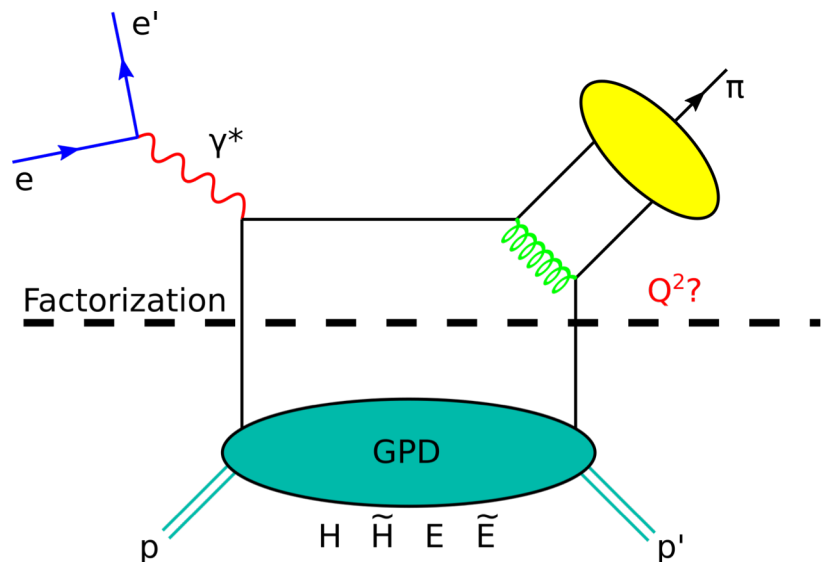


## Color cancellation required for factorization:

- > small size configurations
- > at high  $Q^2$ , small size object moves through nucleus with no further interactions

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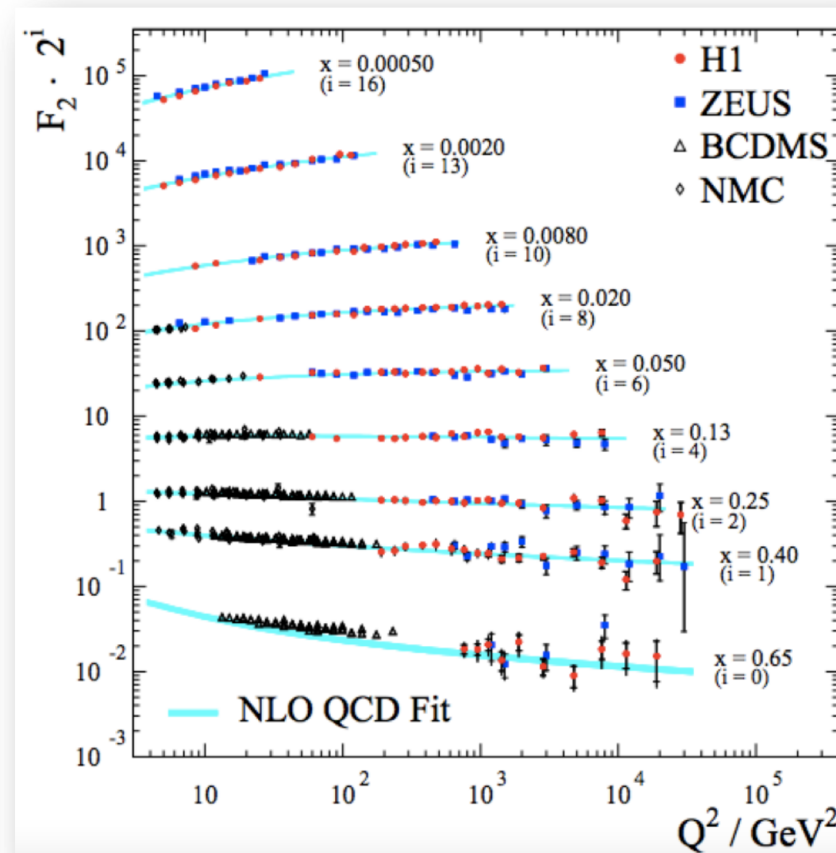
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L. Frankfurt and M. Strikman, *Phys Rep.* 160, 235 (1988).

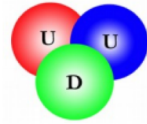
CT is implied by successful description of DIS.

Scaling at low  $x$  requires a suppression of interaction.



# Onset of CT experiments

**Baryon**



**Meson**



$A(e, e'p)$

The Search for Color Transparency at 12 GeV

$A(e, e'\pi^+)$

2018: proton CT experiment

2021: D. Bhetuwal et al, PRL126:082301

2023: D. Bhetuwal, et al, PRC **108**, 025203

→ [Workshop in 2020](#)

→ [MDPI Special Issue](#)

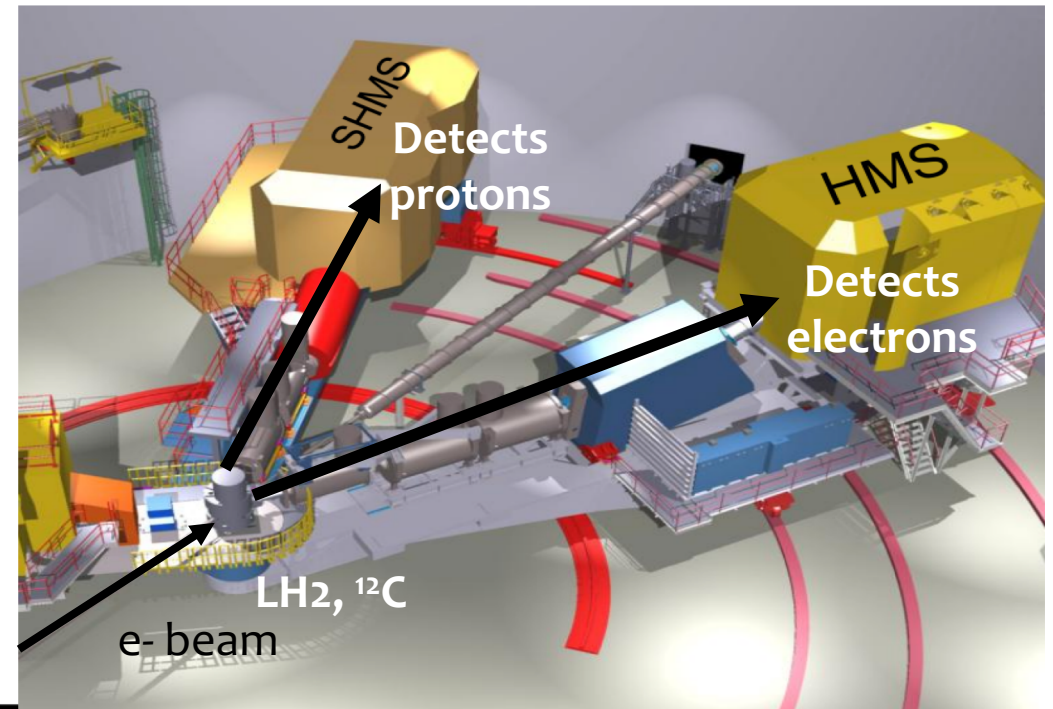
→ [new proposal E12-23-010](#)

2025: pion CT scheduled to run!

# Overview of the proton CT experiment

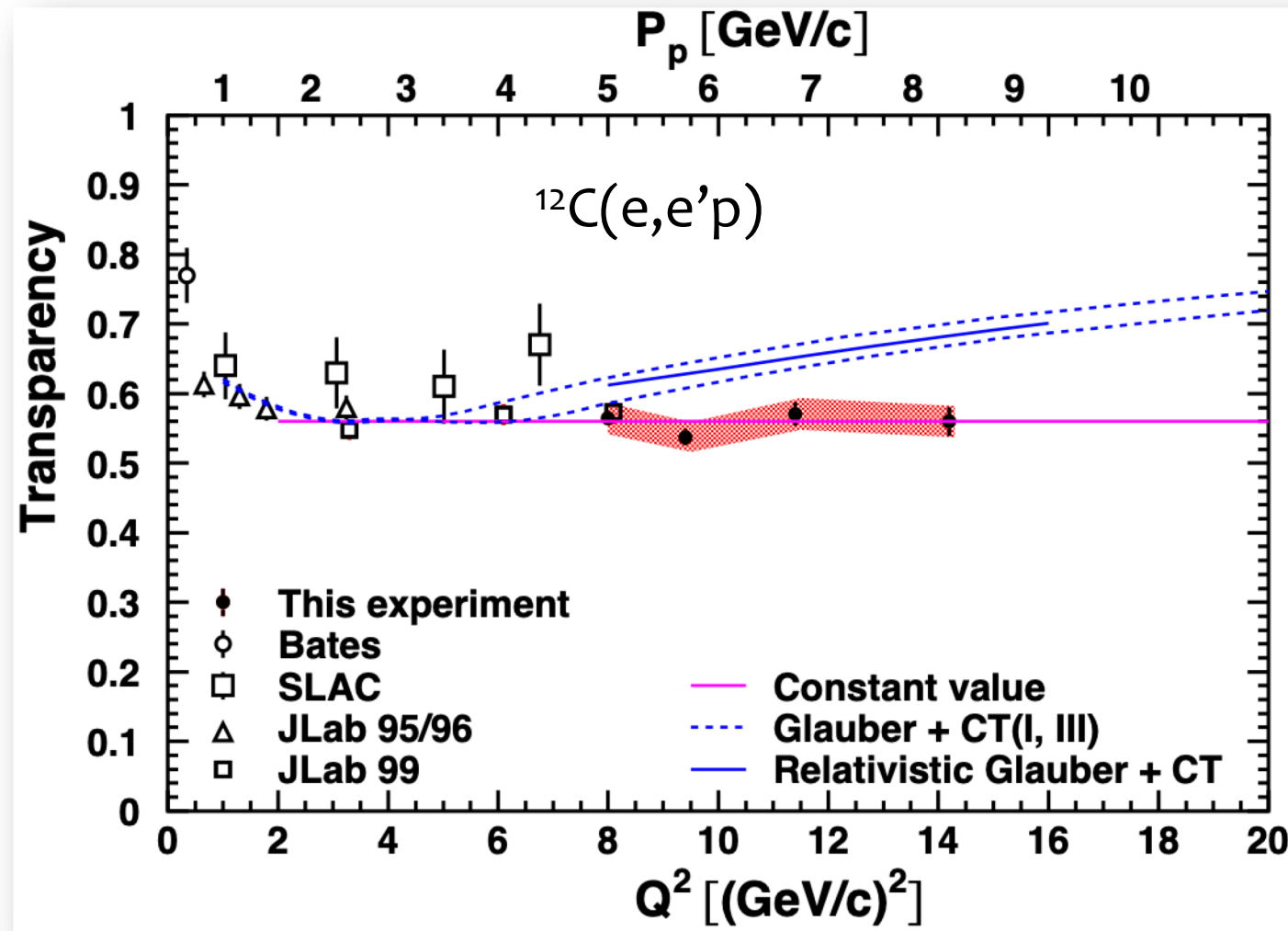
Commissioning experiment for Hall C SHMS

8.5 PAC days of running  
10cm LH2,  
5% r.l. carbon



	HMS		SHMS		
	$Q^2$ (GeV/c <sup>2</sup> )	$\theta_e^{lab}$ (deg)	$p_{e'}$ (GeV/c)	$\theta_p^{lab}$ (deg)	$p_p$ (GeV/c)
6.4 GeV beam	8.0	45.1	2.125	17.1	5.030
	9.4	23.2	5.481	21.6	5.830
	11.4	28.5	4.451	17.8	6.882
	14.2	39.3	2.970	12.8	8.352
					10.6 GeV beam

# Recent proton experiment shows no onset up to $Q^2 < 14 \text{ GeV}^2$ ...

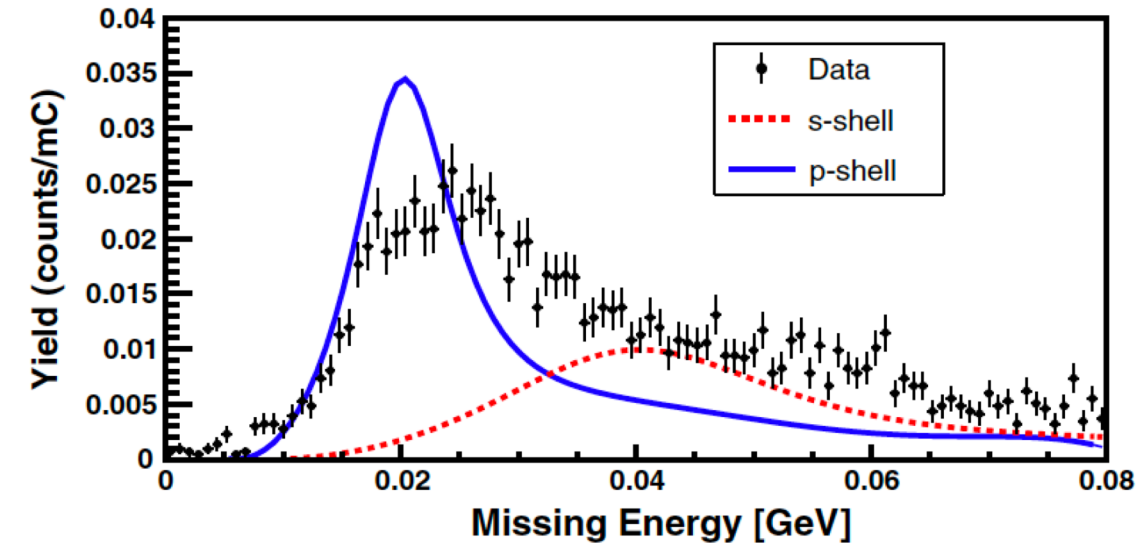


# No CT in the shell-dependent transparencies

CT predicted to be more prominent for

$1s_{1/2}$  protons

Frankfurt, Nuclear Physics A515 (1990)



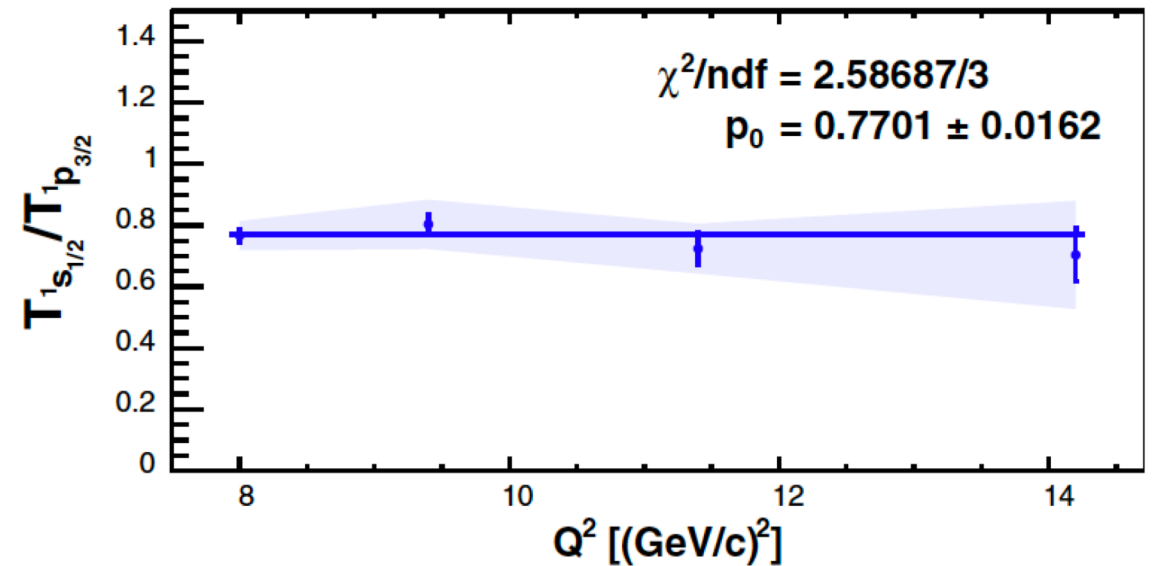
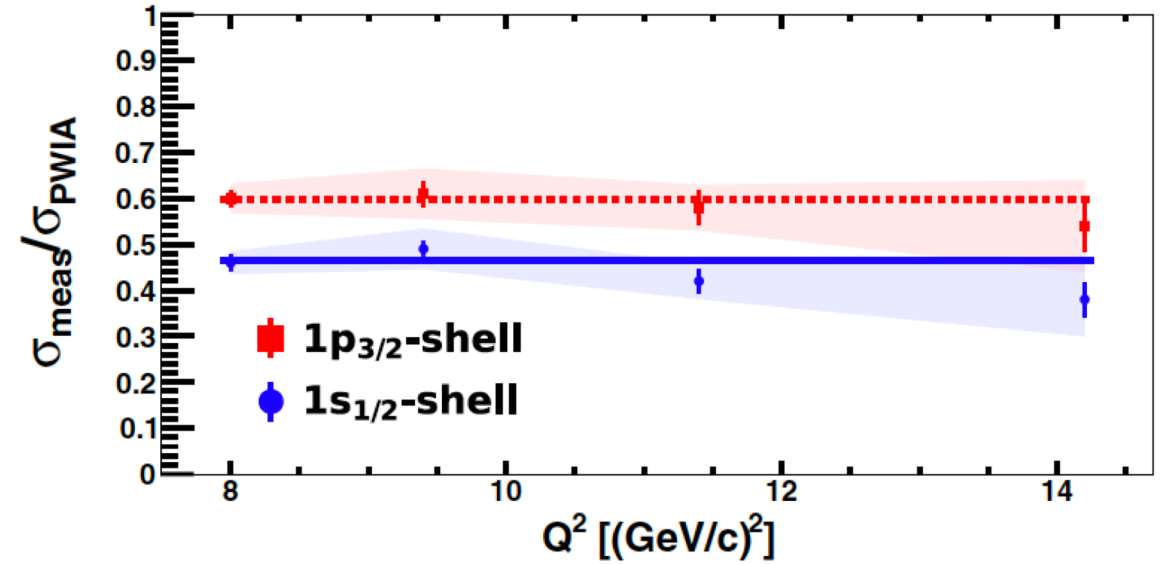
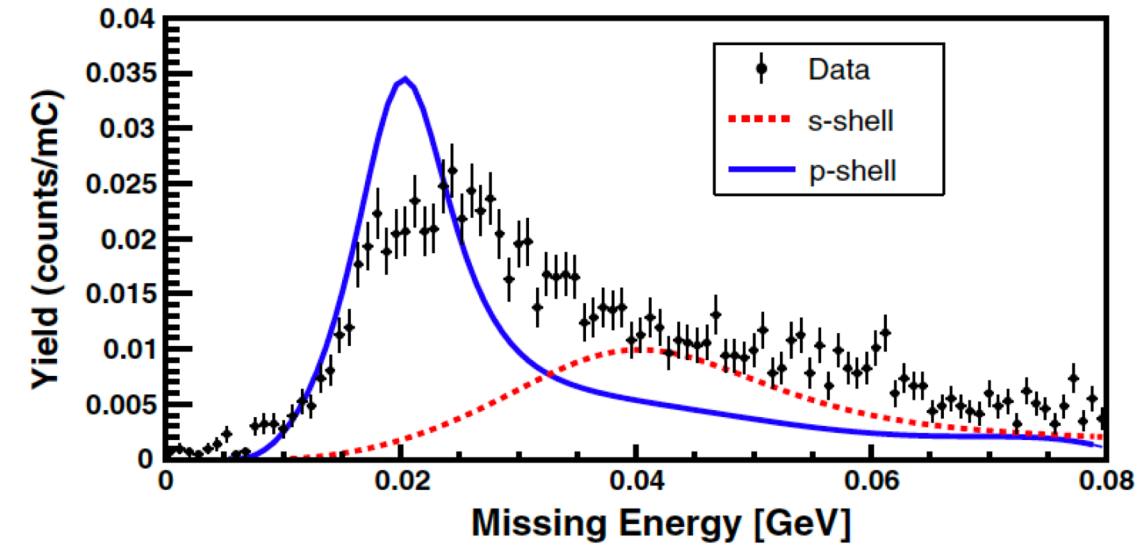


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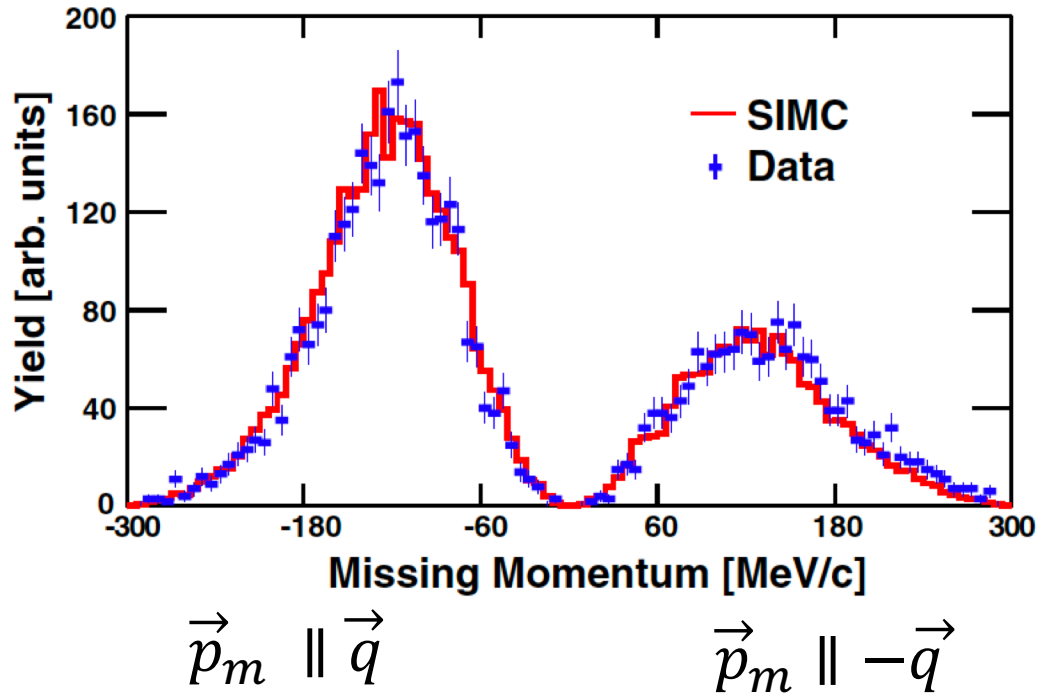
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# No CT in the asymmetry relative to $\vec{q}$



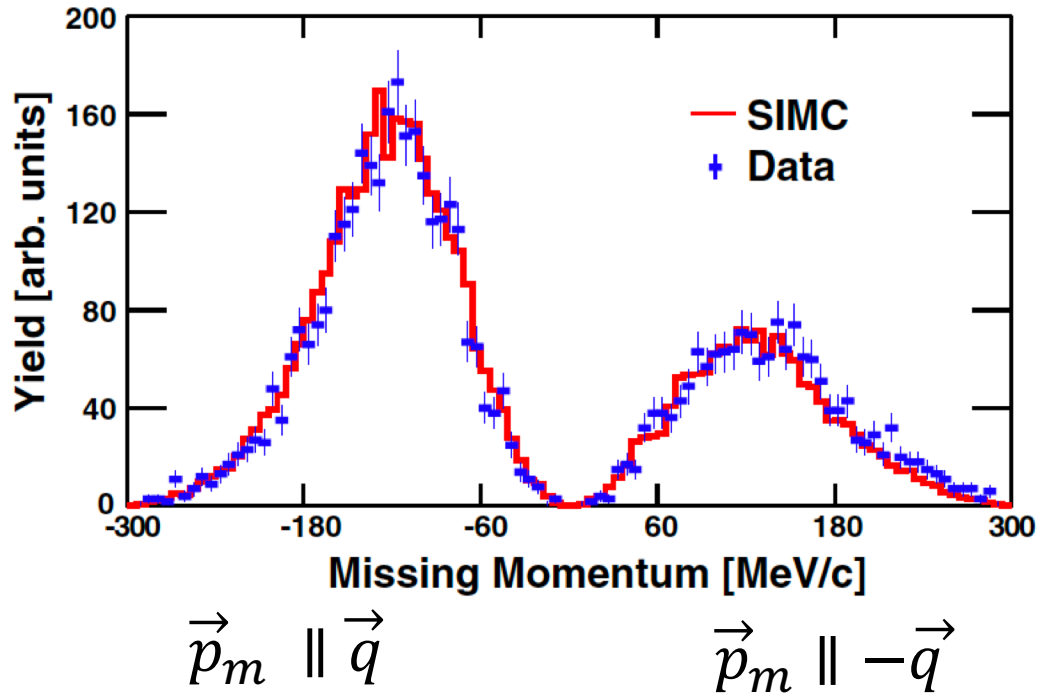
$$A_{pm} = \frac{N_+ - N_-}{N_+ + N_-}$$

CT arising from Fermi motion predicted to occur when  $\vec{p}_m \parallel -\vec{q}$

*Jennings and Kopeliovich PRL 70 (1993)*

*Bianconi et al, PLB 325 (1994)*

# No CT in the asymmetry relative to $\vec{q}$

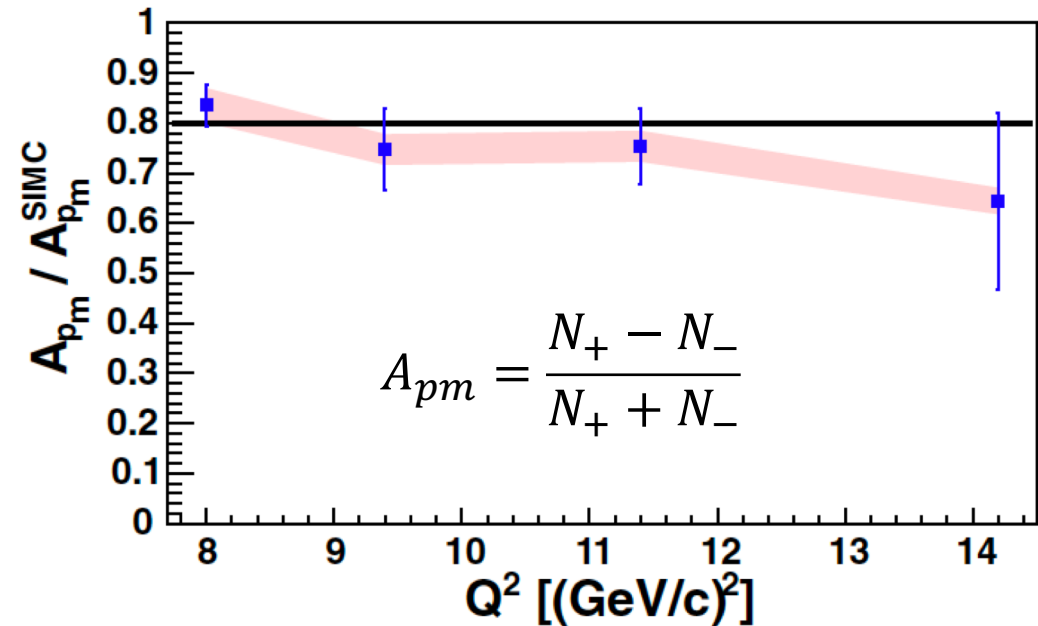


CT arising from Fermi motion predicted to occur when  $\vec{p}_m \parallel -\vec{q}$

*Jennings and Kopeliovich PRL 70 (1993)*

*Bianconi et al, PLB 325 (1994)*

Studied  $A_{pm}$  in bins of missing energy and missing momentum  
 → no CT-like effect observed

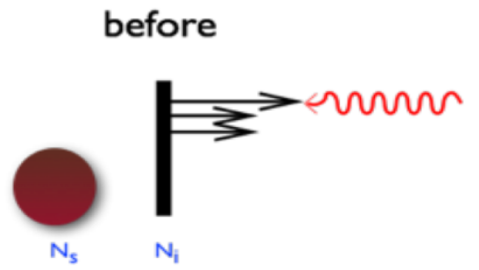


D. Bhetuwal, et al, Phys. Rev. C 108, 025203 (2023)

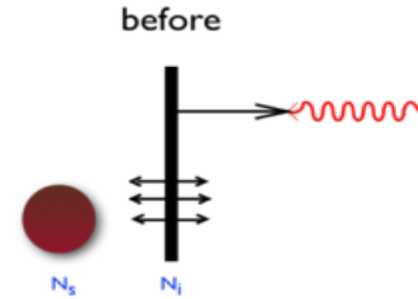
# (Some) interpretations

No PLC was formed (Feynman Mechanism)

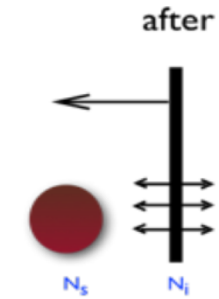
G. Miller, *Physics* 2022  
O. Caplow-Munro and G. Miller, *PRC* 104 (2021)



PLC



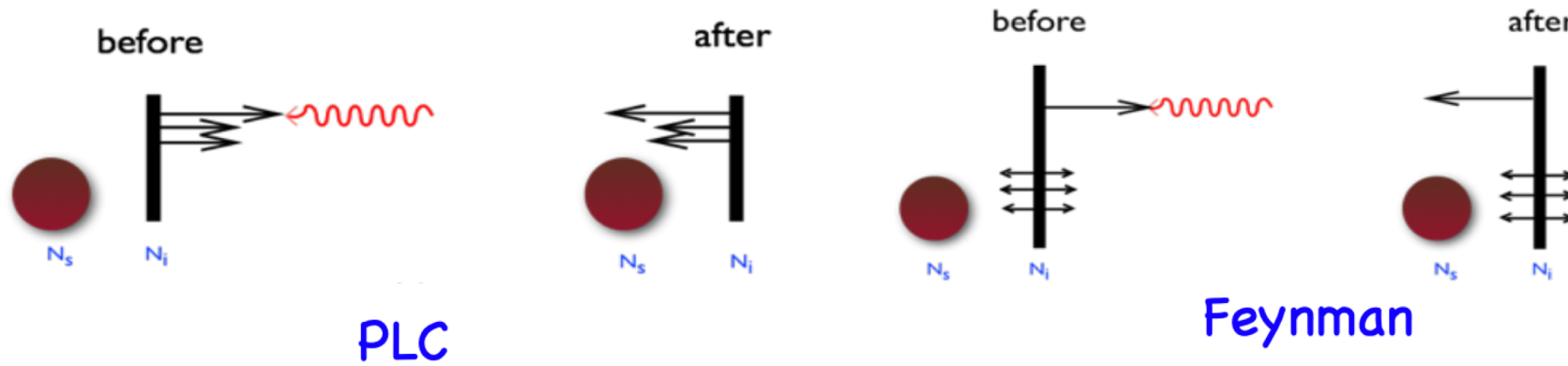
Feynman



# (Some) interpretations

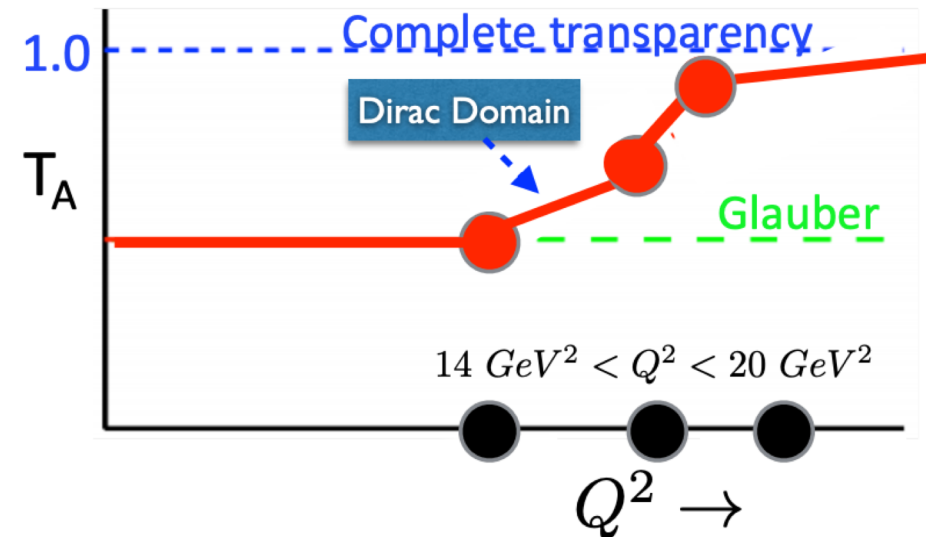
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HLFQCD says we need higher  $Q^2$

Brodsky and de Téramond, *Physics* 2022



# Let's talk about near-term running in Hall C

$$A(e, e' \pi^+)$$

17.5 PAC days of running

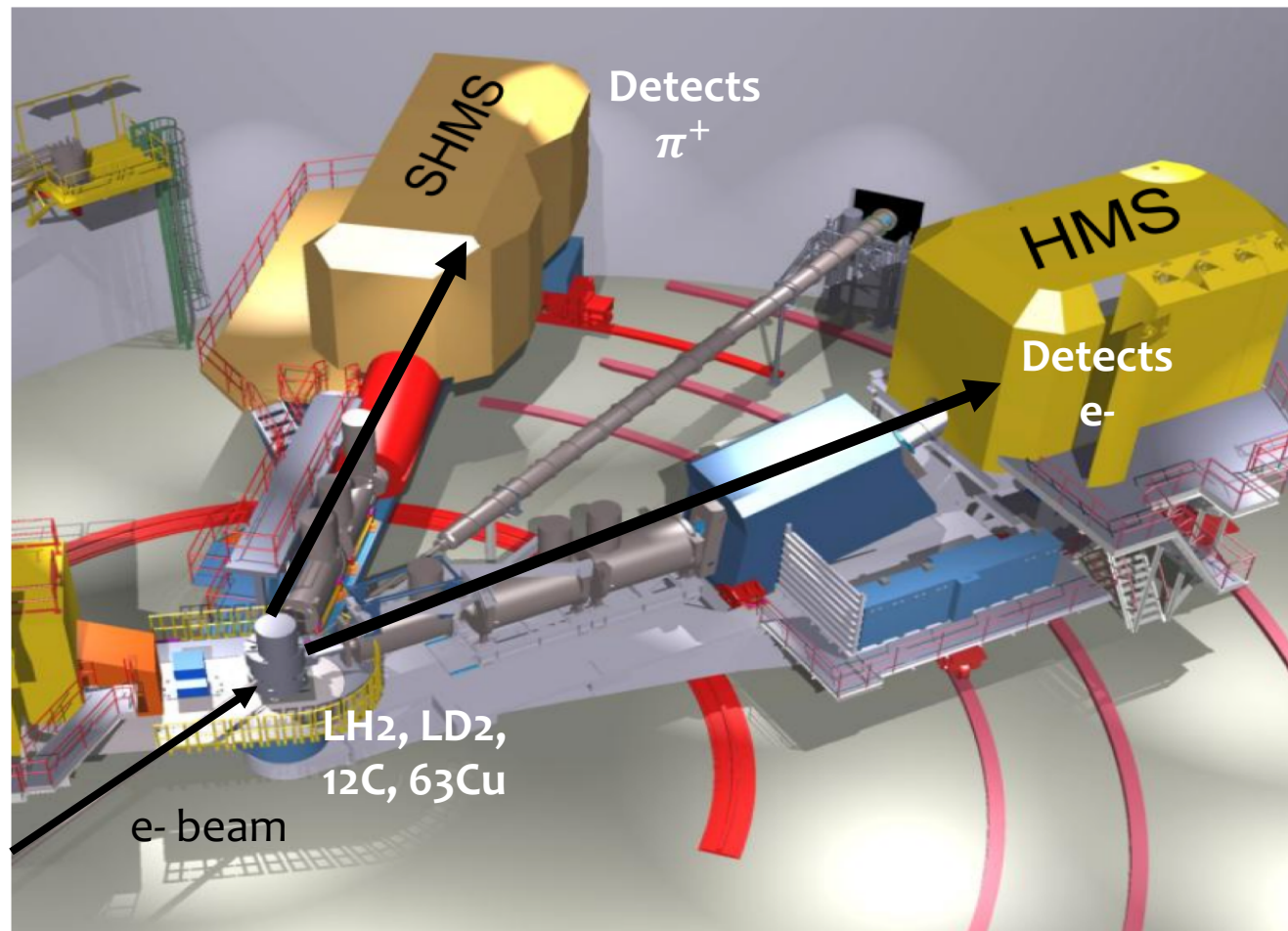
11 GeV beam

$^1\text{H}$ ,  $^2\text{H}$ ,  $^{12}\text{C}$ ,  $^{63}\text{Cu}$

$Q^2$	$W$	$\theta_{e'}^{HMS}$	$E_{e'}$	$\theta_{\pi}^{SHMS}$	$p_{\pi}$	$k_{\pi}$
$(\text{GeV}/c)^2$	GeV	deg	GeV	deg	GeV/c	GeV
5.0	2.43	16.28	5.67	15.96	5.110	0.67
6.5	2.74	22.13	4.010	11.72	6.771	0.67
8.0	3.02	32.37	2.340	7.90	8.442	0.67
9.5	3.09	47.71	1.320	5.52	9.42	0.74

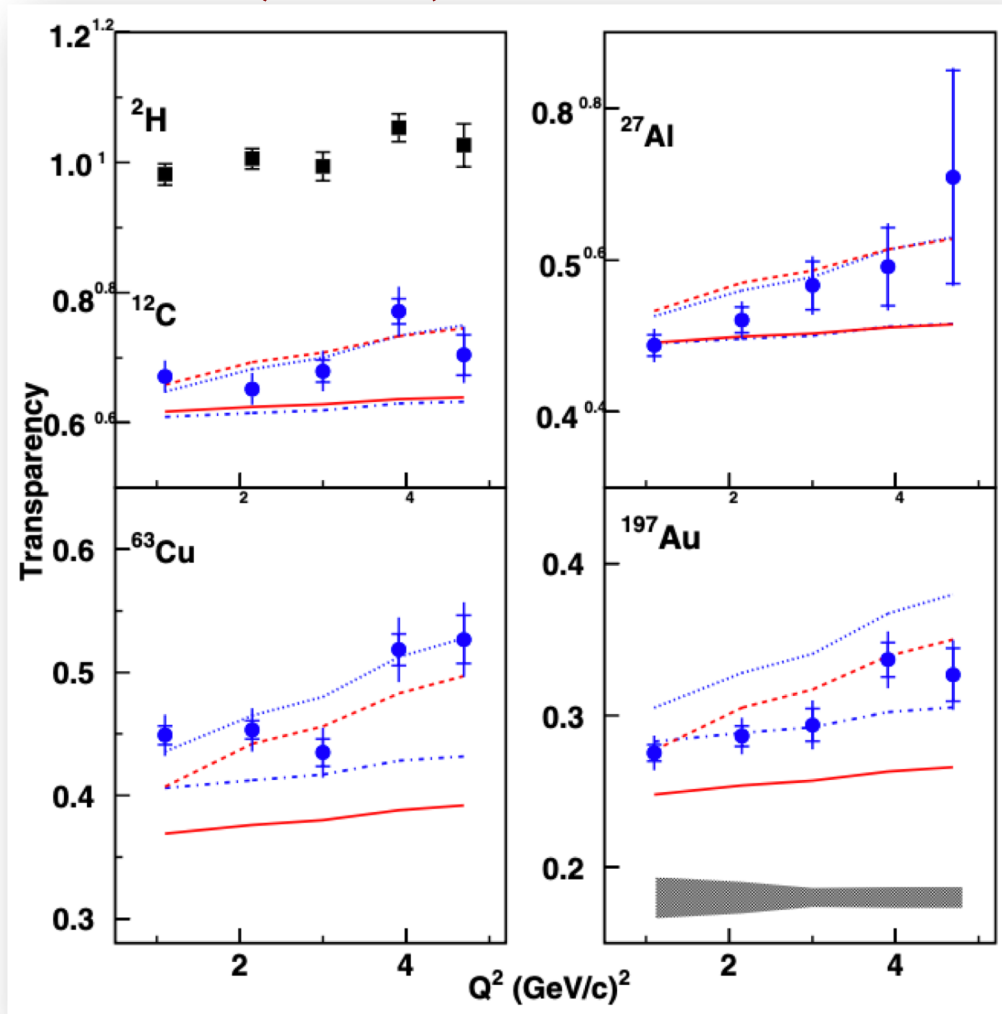
Heavy gas for  $\pi^+/\text{K}^+$  discrimination

Noble gas with Ar



# Onset for mesons observed at few GeV<sup>2</sup>

Hall C:  $A(e, e' \pi^+)$

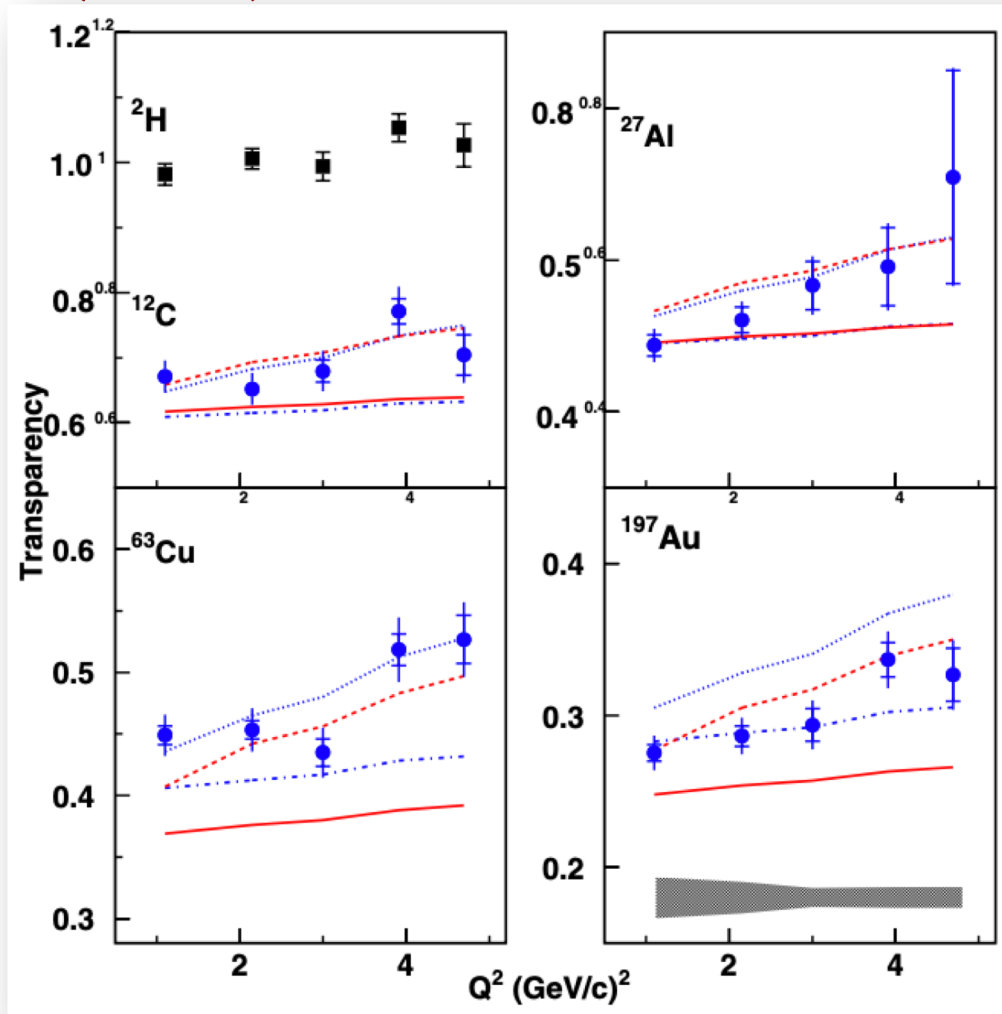


*B. Clasie et al, PRL99:242502 (2007)*

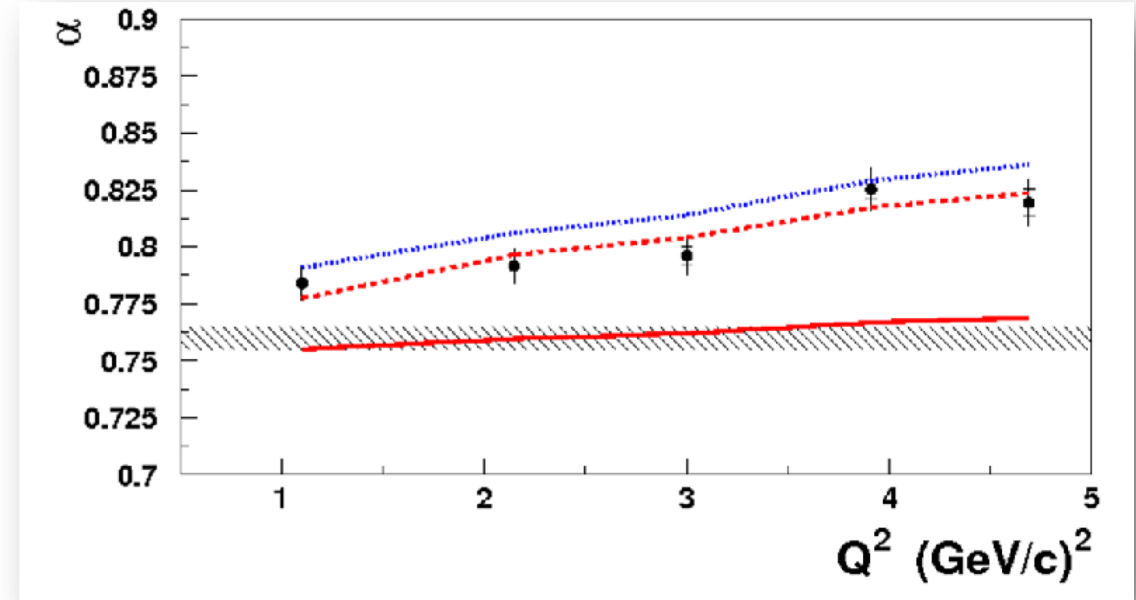
*X. Qian et al, PRC81:055209 (2010)*

# Onset for mesons observed at few GeV<sup>2</sup>

$A(e, e' \pi^+)$



Extracted from  $T = A^{\alpha-1}$

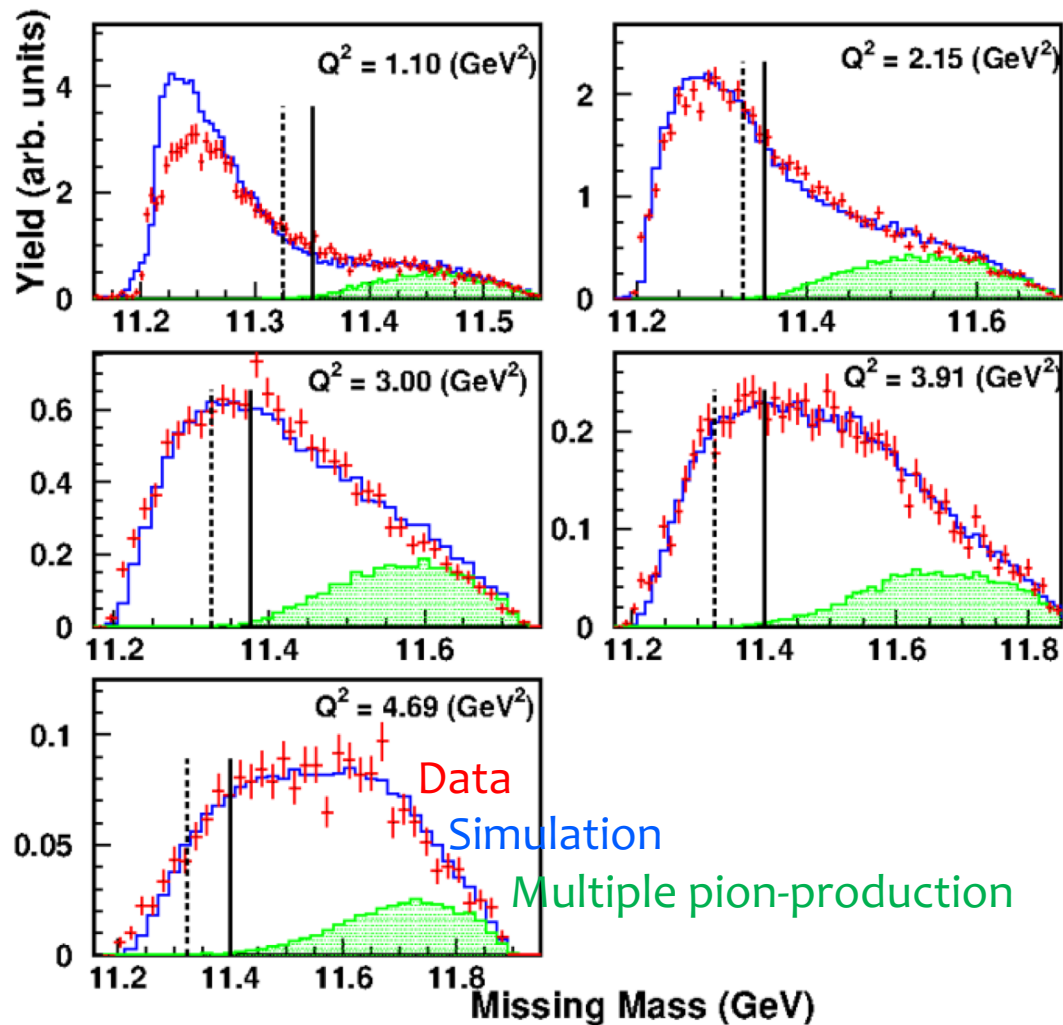


B. Clasie et al, PRL99:242502 (2007)  
X. Qian et al, PRC81:055209 (2010)



# Previous analysis

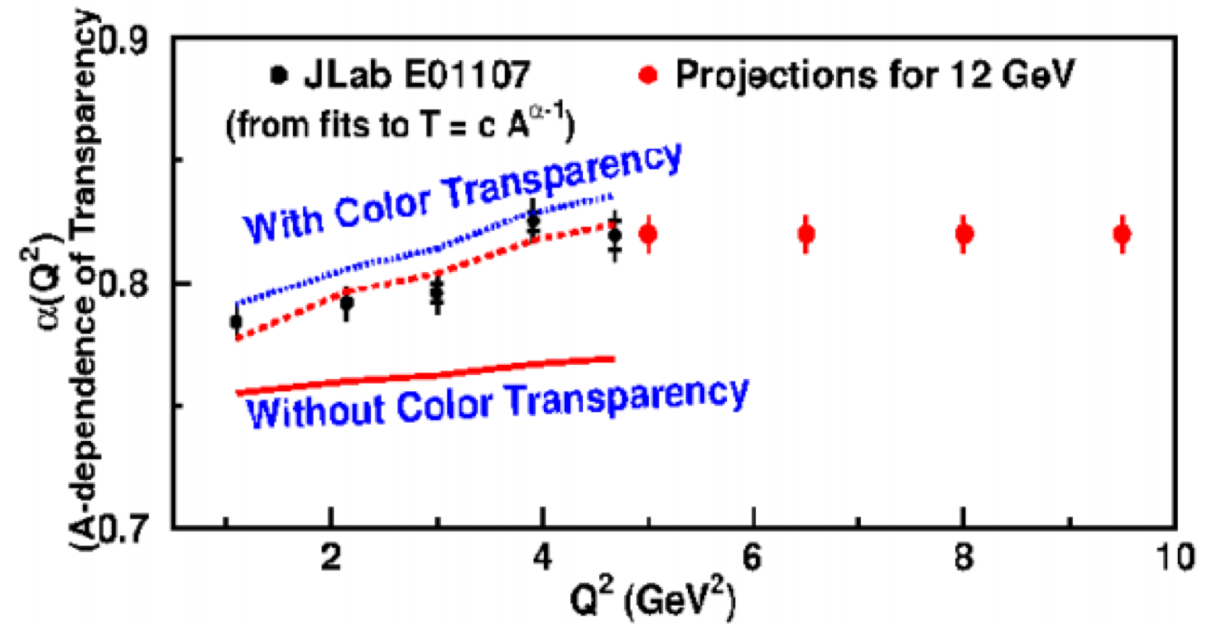
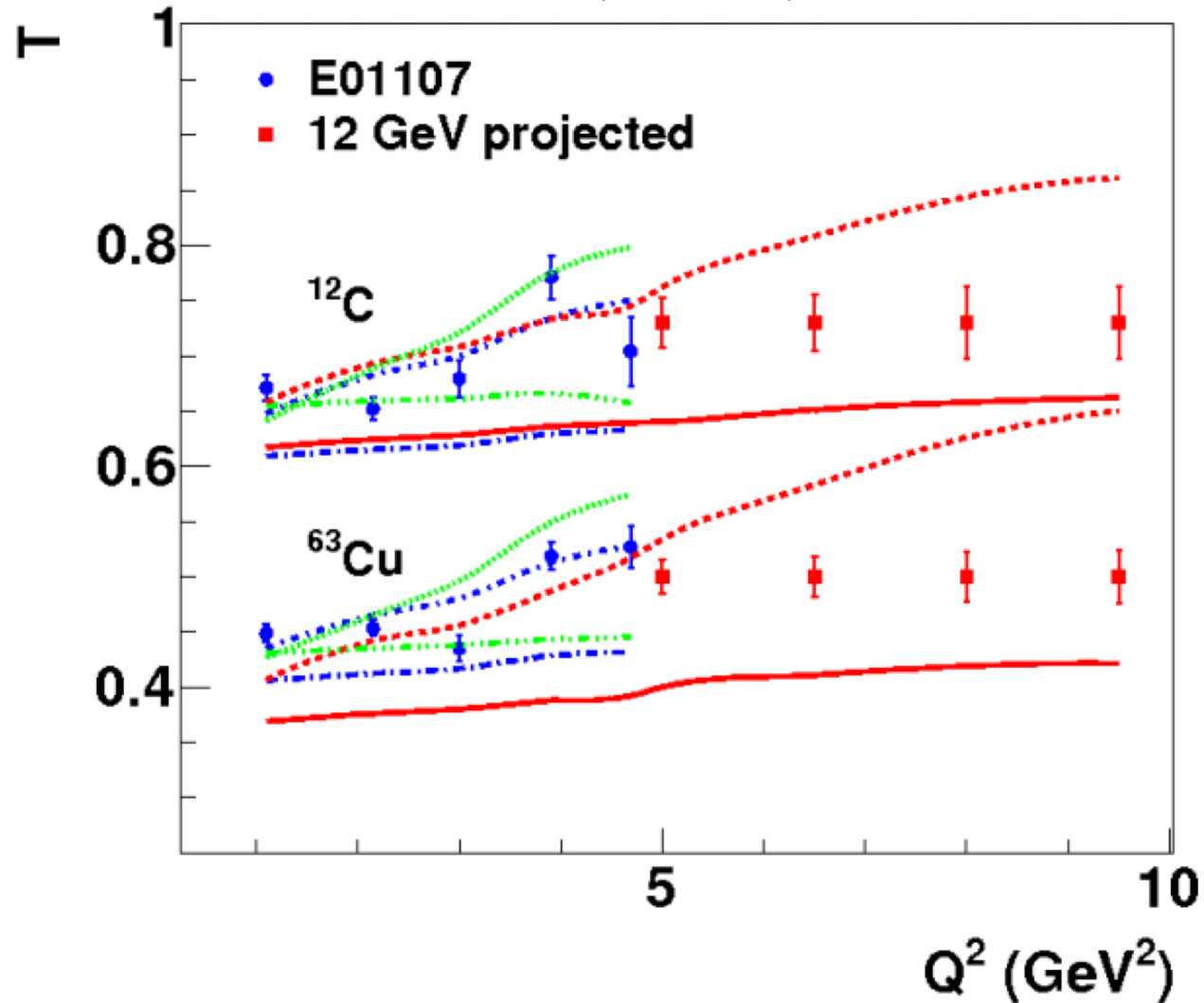
Compare  $A > 1$  yields with  $H(e, e' \pi^+)$ , PWIA  
Evaluate  $Q^2$  and  $A$  dependence



$$M_{miss} = M_{A-1} + M_{\pi}$$

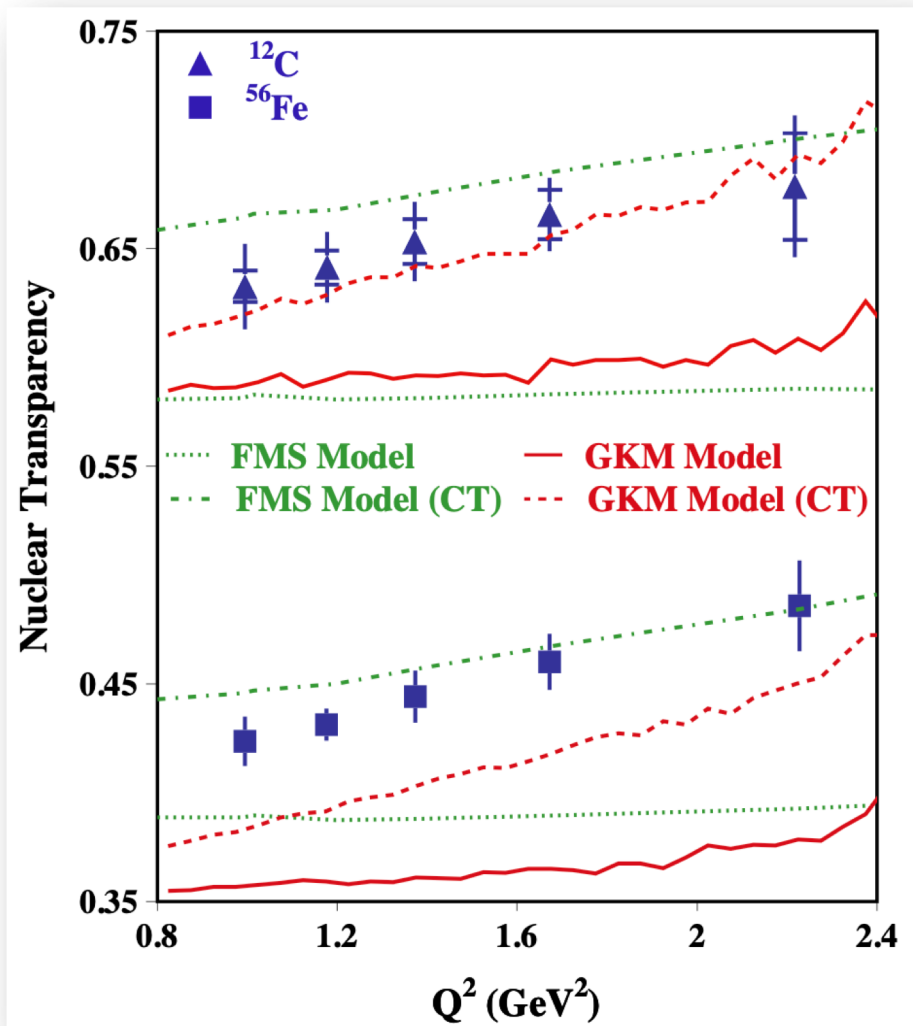
# Measure the onset over a large momentum range

$$A(e, e' \pi^+)$$

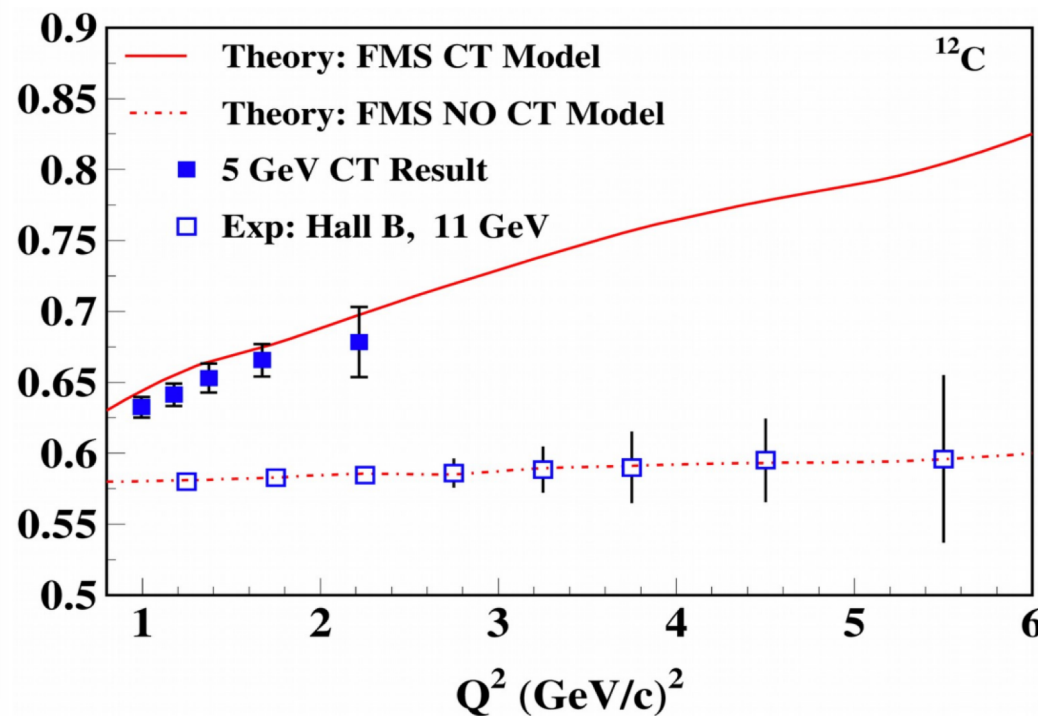
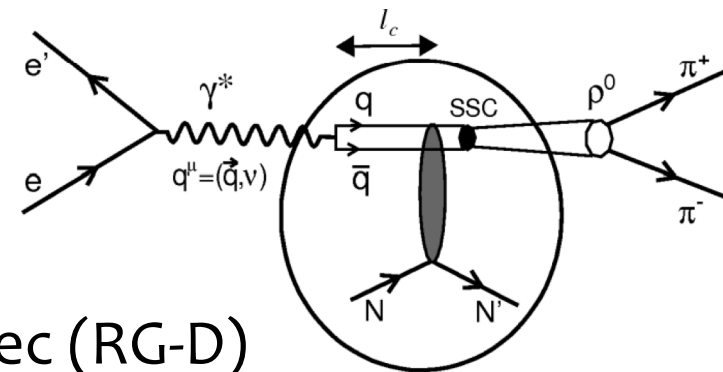


# Hall B is extending rho-meson measurements

Hall B:  $A(e, e' \rho^0)$



Completed running in Dec (RG-D)  
Targets: deuterium,  $^{12}\text{C}$ ,  $^{63}\text{Cu}$ ,  $^{120}\text{Sn}$



L. El Fassi et al, PLB 712,326 (2012)

L. El Fassi, Physics 4, no. 3 (2022)

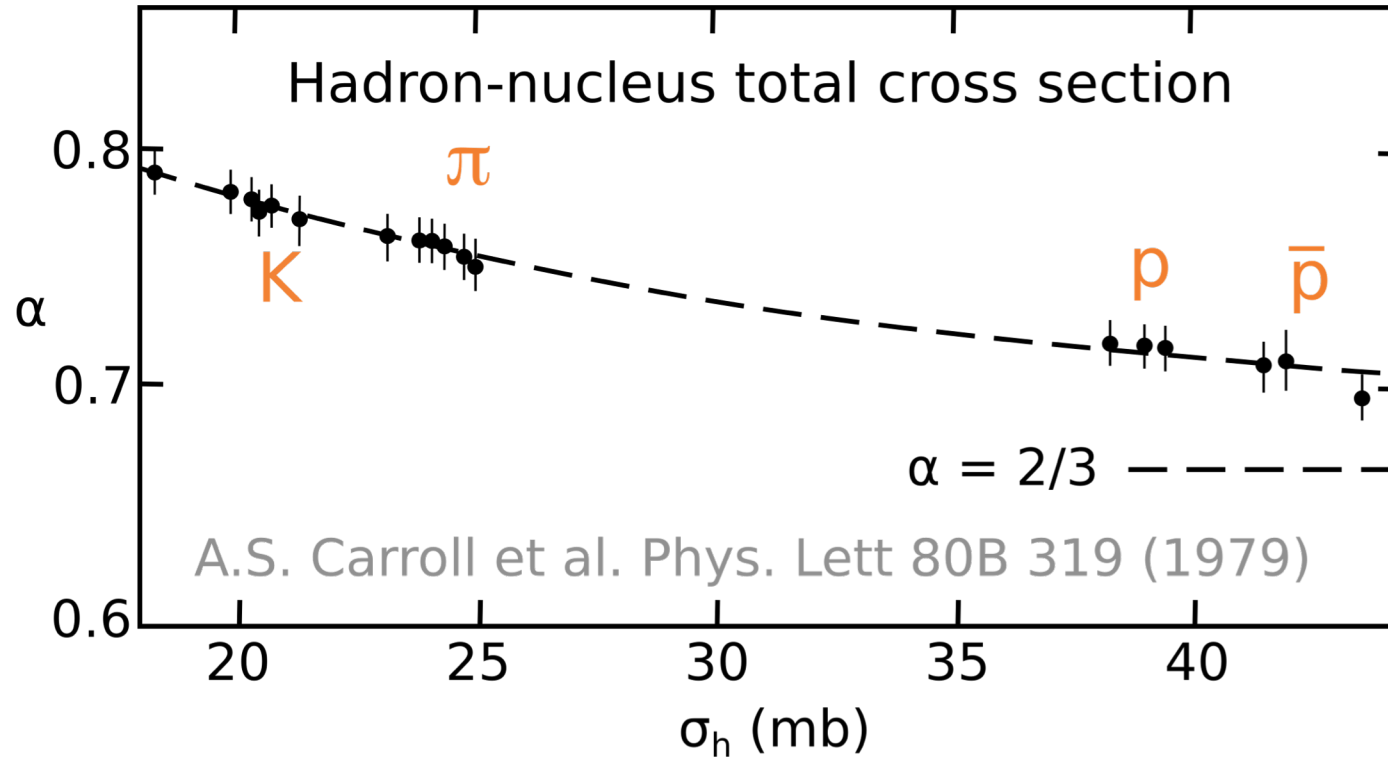
# Summary

- Onset of CT is an exciting opportunity to explore the connection between hadronic and partonic degrees of freedom in nuclei
- Not observed in protons in the recent Hall C experiment
- Hall C will measure  $A(e, e' \pi^+)$  in 2025
  - Pion propagation in nuclear matter
  - Map onset of CT through factorization regime

Looking forward to running next year. Sign up for shifts, and join our team!

# Absorption cross section is momentum independent

Hadron momenta:  
60, 200, 280 GeV/c



$$\sigma_A(A) = \sigma_N A^\alpha$$

Targets of  
C, Li, Al, Sn, Cu, Pb

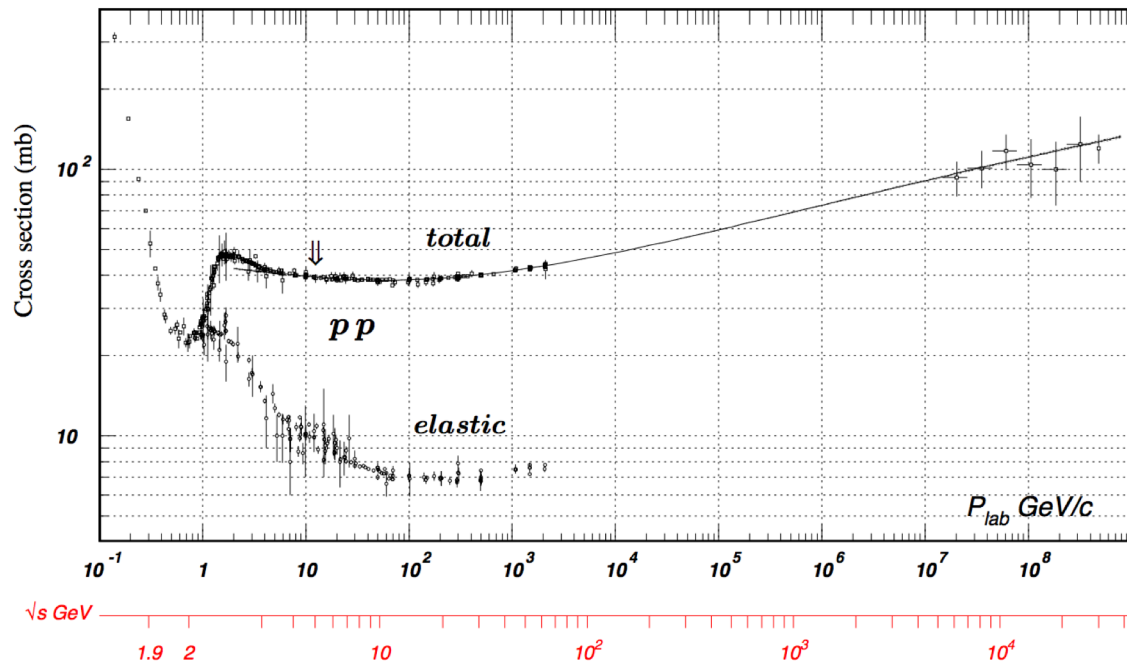
$\alpha < 1$  due to  
strong  
interaction  
nature of the  
probe

Tendency of  $\alpha \rightarrow 2/3$  expected for opaque nucleus

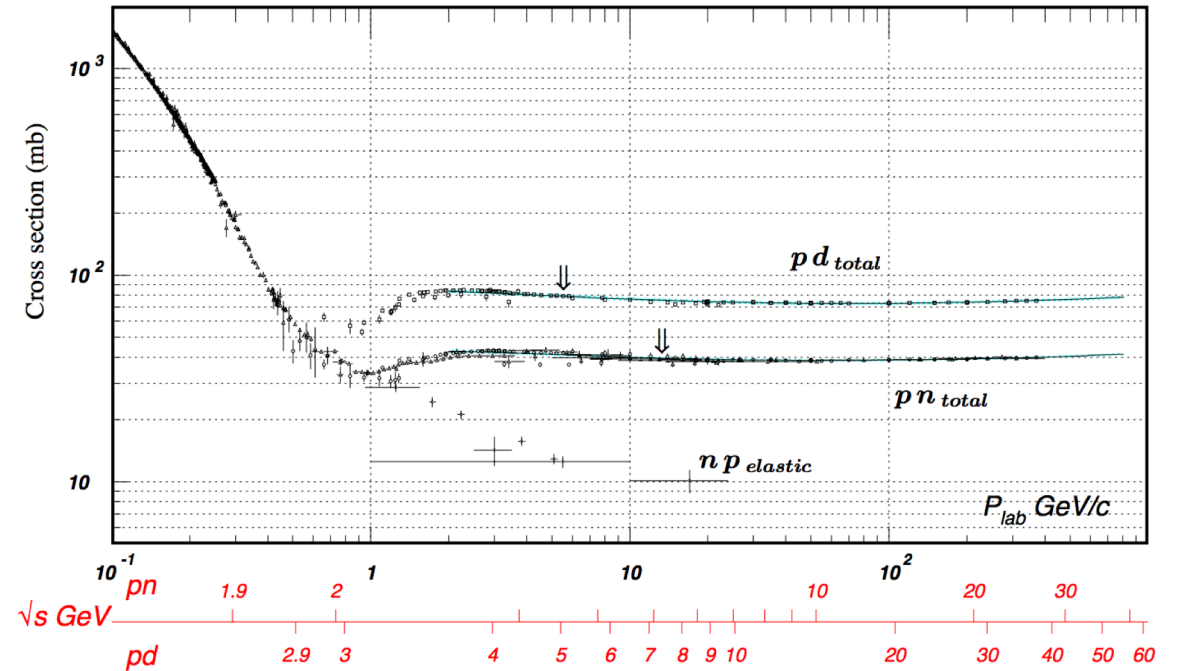
# NN cross section

NN cross section is essentially energy independent

pp scattering cross section



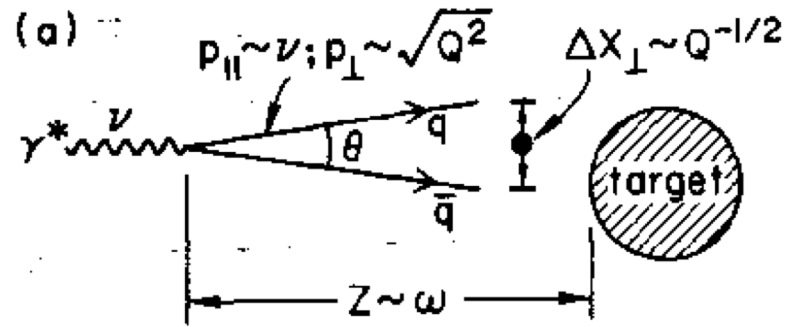
pn scattering cross section



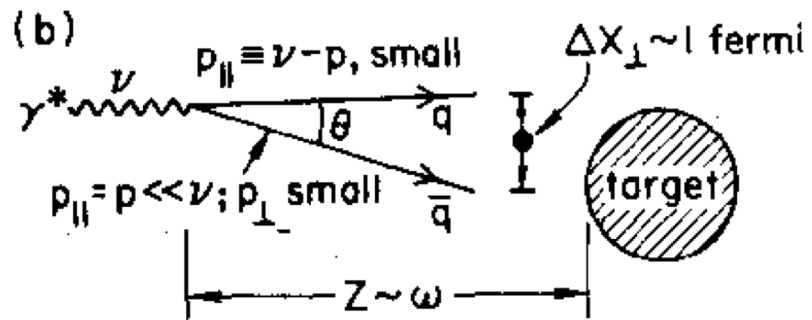
# DIS picture

Small-x picture

No interaction



Interaction



Large-x picture

Interaction

