Exclusive Measurement of Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering on the Neutron: Beam spin asymmetries

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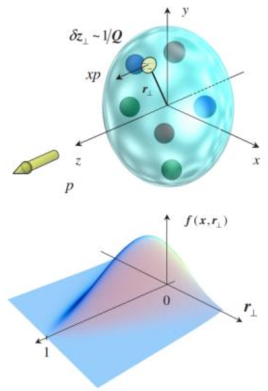
CLAS collaboration meeting
12-15 March 2024

Timeline of the analysis

- Analysis started mid 2020 (not all data were available)
- Analysis went to review May 2022
- Review ended October 2023
- Ad-hoc review of the paper is ongoing. Target journal PRL

Belitsky, Radyushkin, Physics Reports, 2005

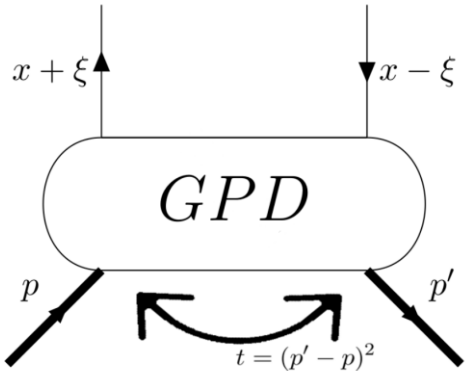


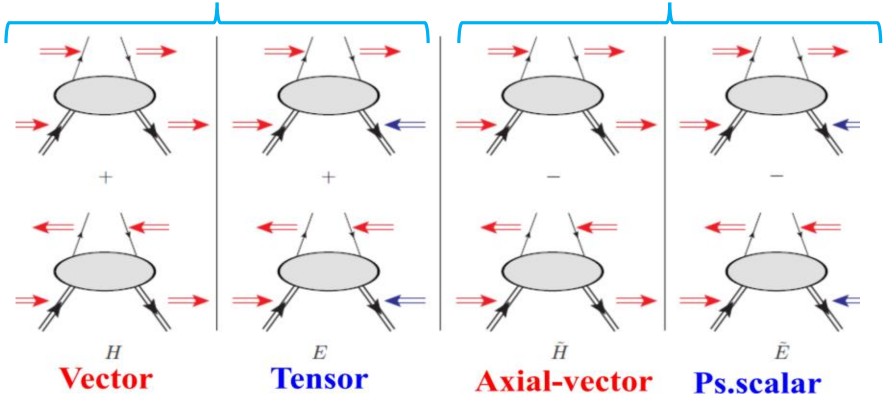
- QCD at low energies: non perturbative regime
  - Need structure functions to describe nucleon structure

GPDs

Correlation of transverse position and longitudinal momentum of partons in the nucleon & the spin structure - through Ji's sum rule X. Ji, Phy.Rev.Lett.78,610(1997)

- GPDs can be accessed through exclusive leptoproduction reactions
- At leading order QCD, chiral-even (quark helicity is conserved), quark sector: 4 GPDs for each quark flavor $H, \widetilde{H}, E$ and $\widetilde{E}$
- GPDs depend on x, ξ and t = (p' − p) [2]





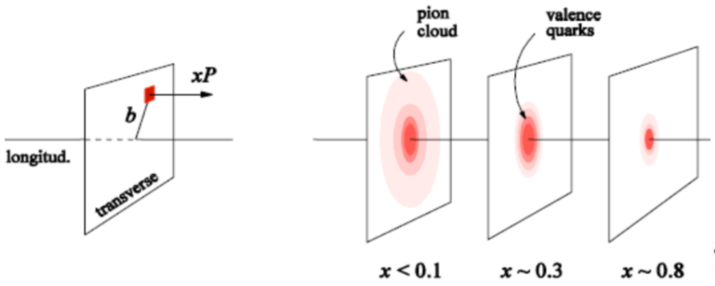
- GPDs: Fourier transforms of non-local, non-diagonal QCD operators

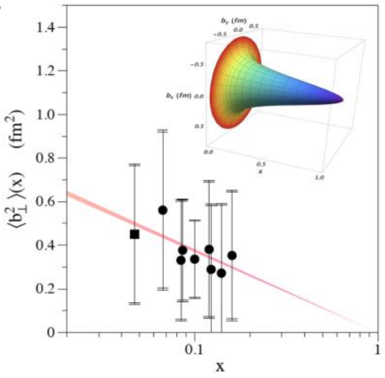
Nucleon tomography

M. Burkardt, PRD 62, 71503 (2000)

$$q(x,\mathrm{b}_\perp) = \int_0^\infty \frac{d^2\Delta_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} e^{i\Delta_\perp \mathrm{b}_\perp} H(x,0,-\Delta_\perp^2)$$

$$\Delta q(x,\mathrm{b}_\perp) = \int_0^\infty \frac{d^2\Delta_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} e^{i\Delta_\perp \mathrm{b}_\perp} \widetilde{H}(x,0,-\Delta_\perp^2)$$





R. Dupré, M. Guidal, M.Vanderhaeghen, PRD95, 011501 (2017)

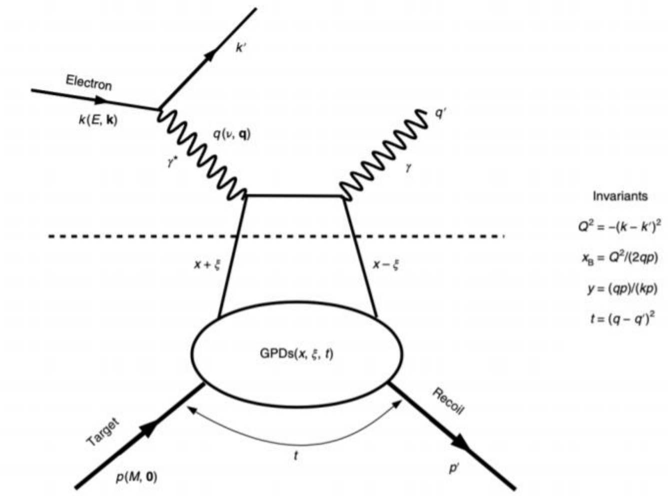
Quark angular momentum

X. Ji, Phy.Rev.Lett.78,610(1997)

$$\frac{1}{2}\int_{-1}^{1} x dx (H(x,\xi,t=0) + E(x,\xi,t=0)) = J = \frac{1}{2}\Delta\Sigma + \Delta L$$

Nucleon spin: $\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}\Delta\Sigma + \Delta L + \Delta G$

- The intrinsic spin of the quarks can not explain the origin of the spin of the nucleon **(nucleon Spin Crisis)**
- **Intrinsic spin of the gluons**
- GPDs: quantify the contribution of orbital angular momentum of quarks to the nucleon spin

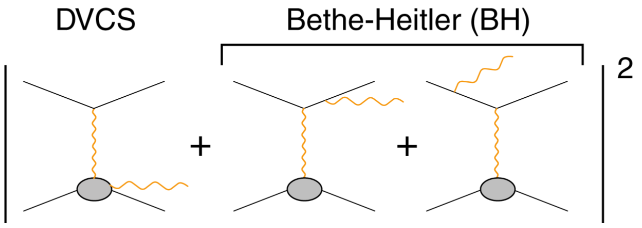


- DVCS allows access to 4 complex GPDs-related quantities:
  - Compton Form Factors (x, ξ,t) (CFFs)

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_q e_q^2 \left\{ i\,\pi\,[H^q(\xi,\xi,t) - H^q(-\xi,\xi,t)] \;+\; \mathcal{P}\int_{-1}^{1} dx H^q(x,\xi,t)\left[\frac{1}{\xi-x} - \frac{1}{\xi+x}\right] \right\}$$

- x can not be accessed experimentally by DVCS: Models needed to map the x dependence

$\sigma(eN \longrightarrow eN\gamma) =$



BH is purely electromagnetic and parametrised by FFs

- Experimentally measured observables:
  - Sensitive to the DVCS-BH interference part (linear in CFFs)
    - Should have: Beam polarized and/or target polarized
  - Access to a combinations of CFFs
    - The separation of CFFs requires the measurement of several observables
  - Depending on the target (proton or neutron): different sensitivity to the CFFs (GPDs)
    - The flavor separation of GPDs requires measurements on both nucleons

$$(H,E)_u(\xi,\xi,t) = \tfrac{9}{15}\left[4(H,E)_p(\xi,\xi,t) - (H,E)_n(\xi,\xi,t)\right]$$
$$(H,E)_d(\xi,\xi,t) = \tfrac{9}{15}\left[4(H,E)_n(\xi,\xi,t) - (H,E)_p(\xi,\xi,t)\right]$$

Polarized beam, unpolarized taget

$$\Delta\sigma_{LU} \approx \sin(\phi)\,\Im\{F_1 \boldsymbol{H} + \xi(F_1+F_2)\widetilde{\boldsymbol{H}} - k\,F_2 \boldsymbol{E} + \ldots\} \overset{\text{Exp.}}{\approx} \frac{1}{Pol.} \times \frac{N^+ - N^-}{N^+ + N^-}$$

Unpolarized beam, polarized target

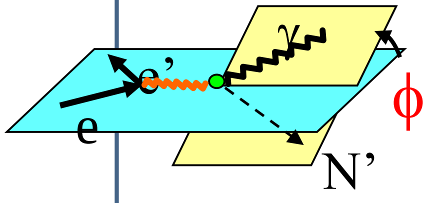
$$\Delta\sigma_{UL} \approx \sin(\phi)\,\Im\left\{F_1\,\widetilde{\boldsymbol{H}} + \xi(F_1+F_2)\left(\boldsymbol{H} + \frac{x_b}{2}\boldsymbol{E}\right) - \xi k\,F_2 \widetilde{\boldsymbol{E}}\right\}$$

polarized beam, longitudinal polarized target

$$\Delta\sigma_{LL} \approx (A + B\cos(\phi))\,\Re\{F_1\,\widetilde{\boldsymbol{H}} + \xi(F_1+F_2)\left(\boldsymbol{H} + \frac{x_b}{2}\boldsymbol{E}\right) + \ldots\}$$

unpolarized beam, transverse polarized target

$$\Delta\sigma_{UT} \approx \cos(\phi)\,\sin(\phi_s - \phi)\,\Im\{k(F_2\,\boldsymbol{H} - F_1 \boldsymbol{E}) + \ldots\}$$



Different contributions from F_1 and F_2 for the different nucleons

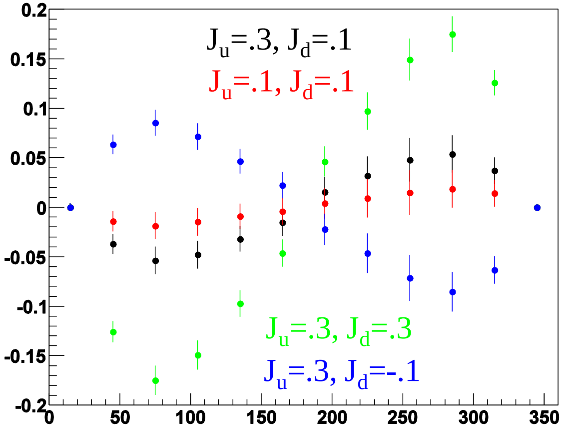
Observable	Proton	Neutron
$\Delta\sigma_{LU}$	$\Im\{\boldsymbol{H_p}, \widetilde{H}_p, E_p\}$	$\Im\{H_n, \widetilde{H}_n, \boldsymbol{E_n}\}$
$\Delta\sigma_{UL}$	$\Im\{\boldsymbol{H_p}, \widetilde{\boldsymbol{H}}_{\boldsymbol{p}}\}$	$\Im\{\boldsymbol{H_n}, E_n\}$
$\Delta\sigma_{LL}$	$\Re\{\boldsymbol{H_p}, \widetilde{\boldsymbol{H}}_{\boldsymbol{p}}\}$	$\Re\{\boldsymbol{H_n}, E_n\}$
$\Delta\sigma_{UT}$	$\Im\{\boldsymbol{H_p}, \boldsymbol{E_p}\}$	$\Im\{\boldsymbol{H_n}\}$

- **DVCS with an unpolarized deuterium target :**
- Scattering off neutron (nDVCS): GPD **E**
  - Determination of Ji sum rule
    - Contribution of orbital angular momentum of quarks to the nucleon spin

$$\frac{1}{2}\int_{-1}^{1} x dx (H(x,\xi,t=0) + E(x,\xi,t=0)) = J = \frac{1}{2}\Delta\Sigma + \Delta L$$

- Scattering off proton (pDVCS): GPD **H**
  - Quantify medium effects
    - Essential for the extraction of BSA of a “free” neutron (de-convoluting medium effect via comparison with DVCS on hydrogen target)

Model predictions (VGG) for different values of quarks’ angular momentum

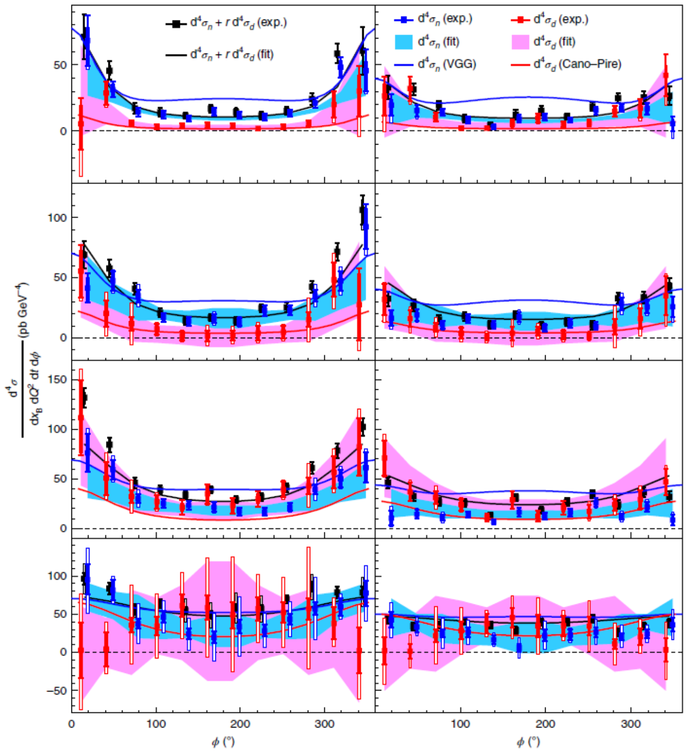


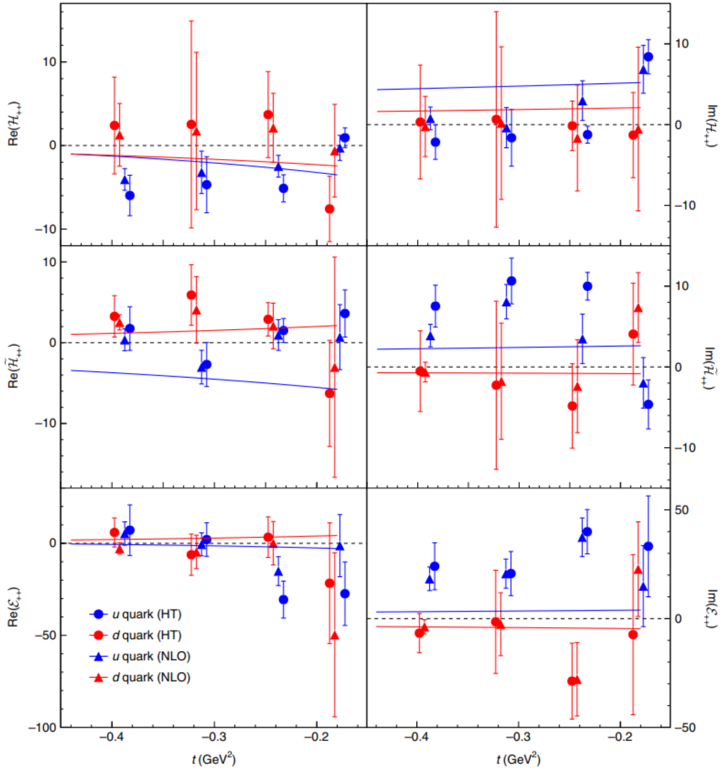
- Previous pioneering measurement of nDVCS (Jlab Hall A @ 6 GeV)
  - Beam-energy « Rosenbluth » separation of nDVCS CS using an LD2 target and two different beam energies
  - First observation of non-zero nDVCS CS

+data from: Mazouz, M. et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 242501 (2007).

- No neutron detection $D(e,e'\gamma)X - H(e,e'\gamma)X = n(e,e'\gamma)n + d(e,e'\gamma)d + \dots$

One measured kinematical point:
Q^2=1.9 GeV^2 and x_B=0.36

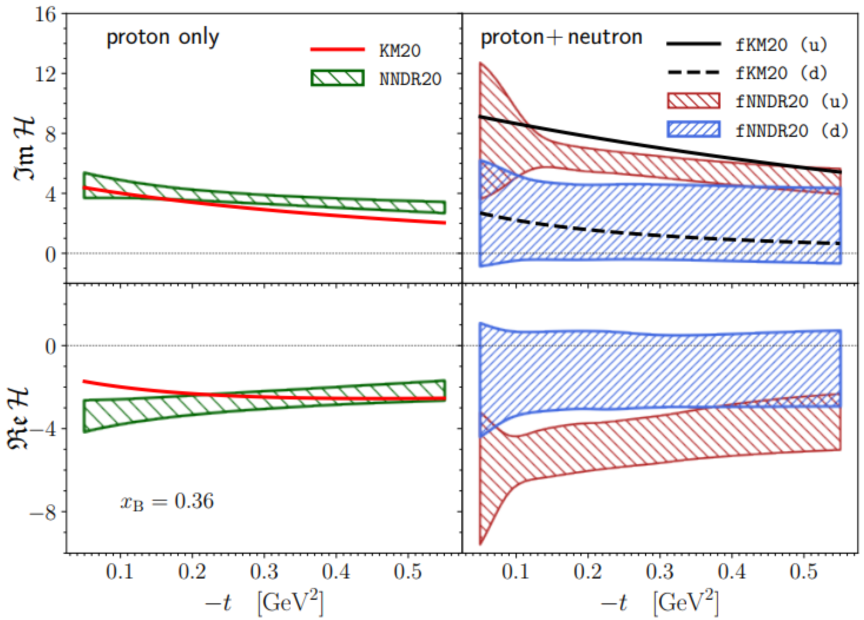


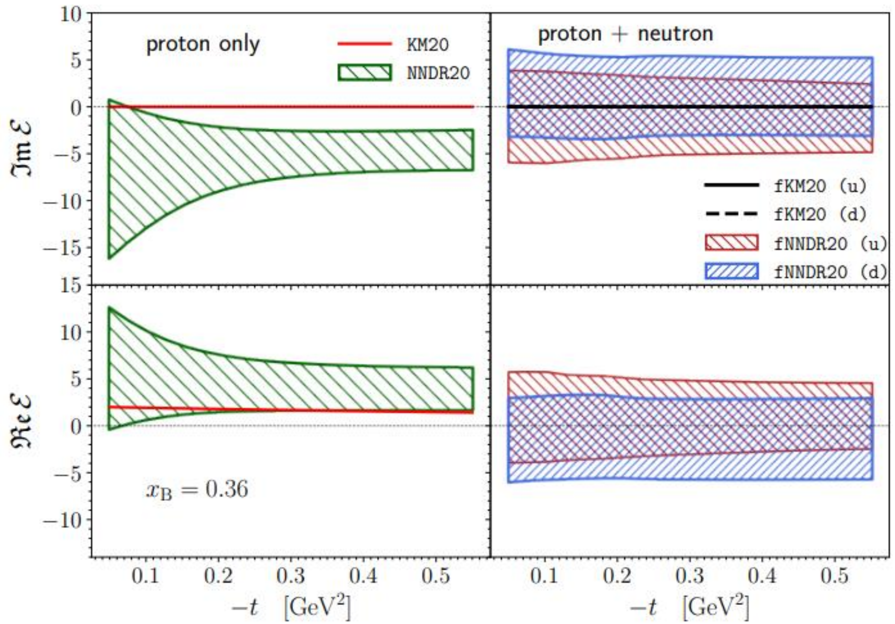


Benali M., Desnault C., Mazouz M. *et al. Nat. Phys.* **16,** 191–198 (2020)

Previously on flavor separation!

M. Čuić K. Kumericki et al. PhysRevLett.125.232005 and arxiv 2007.00029 (2020)

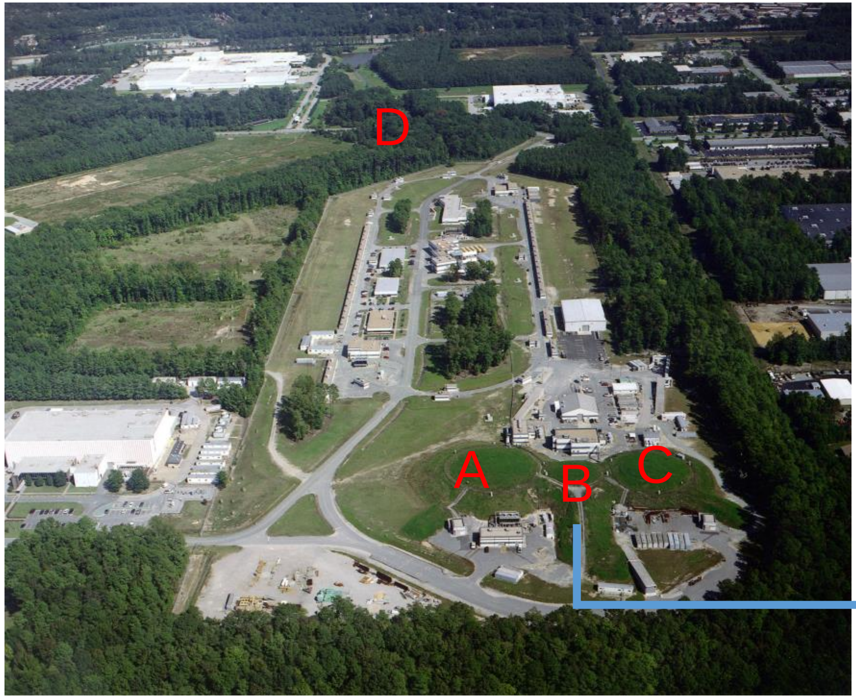




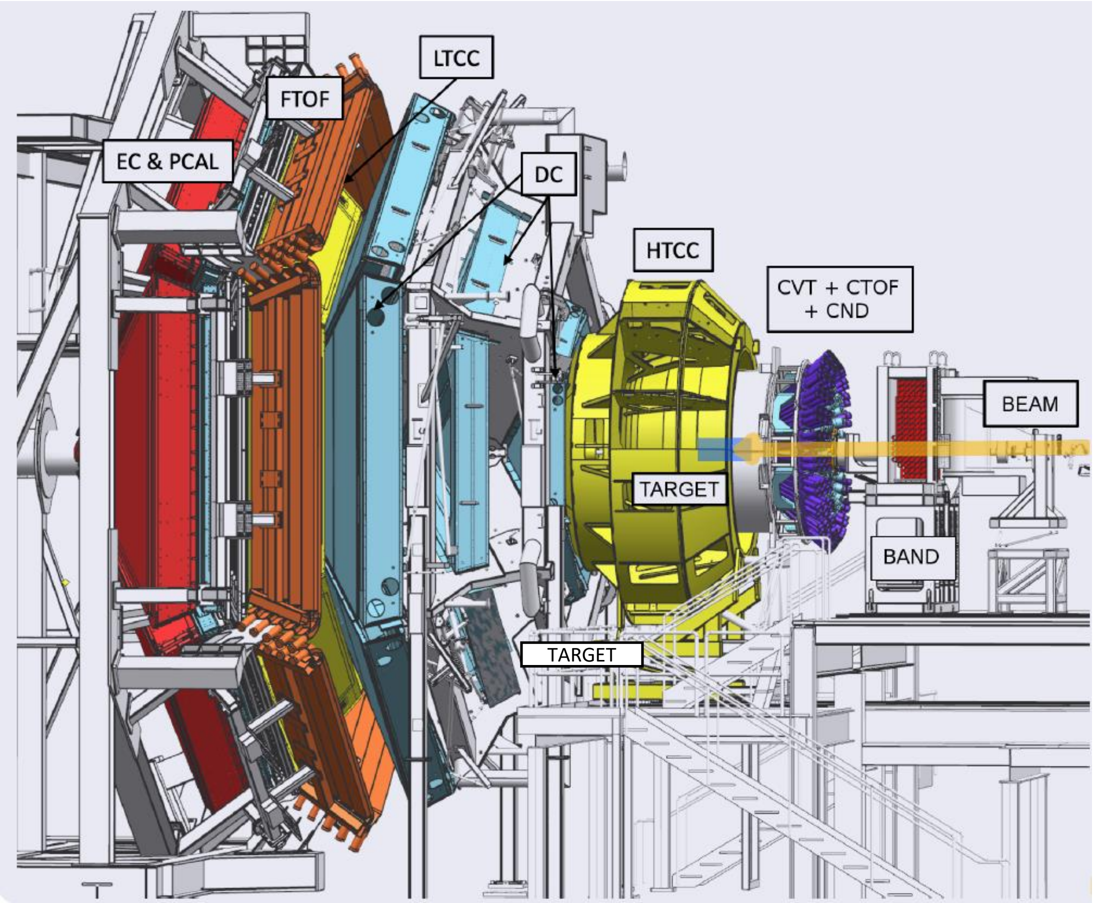
- Proton and neutron data from JLab
- Up and down contributions to CFF H separated
- CFF E flavors are not separated, a significant sign ambiguity!

The CEBAF and CLAS at Jefferson Laboratory

Continuos Electron Beam Accelerator Facility
- Up to 12 GeV electrons

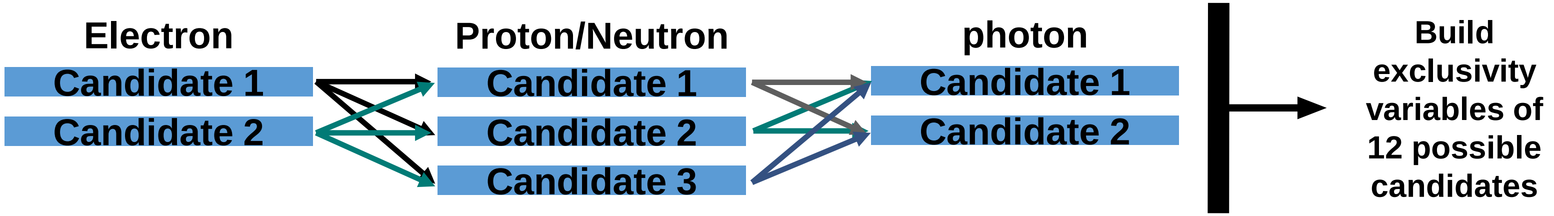


CLAS12



CLAS12: DVCS with an unpolarized deuterium target

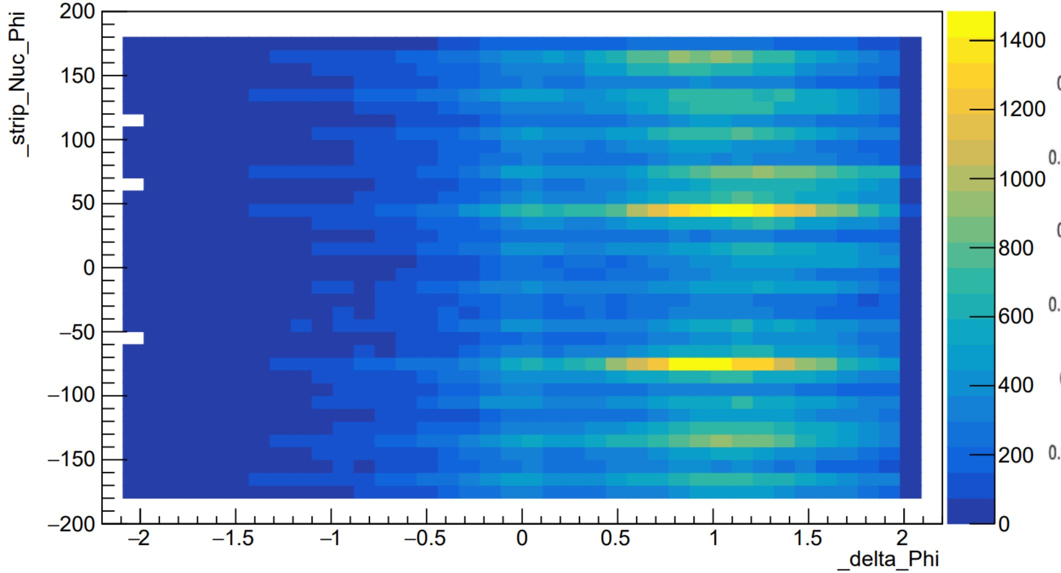
- RGB: A 10.6/10.4/10.2 GeV electron beam
  - With an average polarization of 86%
  - Scattering off an unpolarized Liquid Deuterium target of 5 cm length
- The exclusivity of the event is insured by:
  - Electron detection: HTTC, DC, ECAL
  - Photon detection: EMCAL or FT
  - Proton detection: CVT or FD OR Neutron detection: CND or FD
- For Neutron Detection:
  - Machine Learning techniques are applied to improve the identification and reduce charged particle contamination
- Construct all the possible combinations of final state particles: ed->e’Nγ(Nspec) (N:nucleon)
  - Best candidate in event is selected based on best exclusivity criteria (a multi-dimensional χ2-like variable including exclusivity variables)

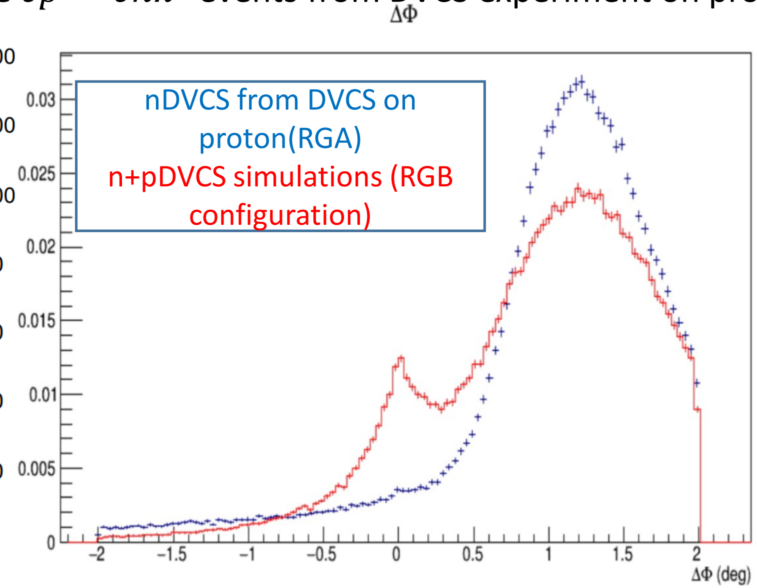


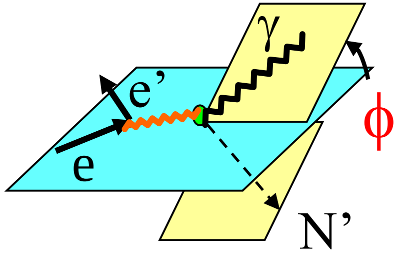
  - The combination of variables that give the minimum value for the χ2-like variable is supposed to be the best choice for a DVCS event
  - This choice coincides at 97% with the option of choosing the highest energy final state particles

Improving the neutron selection with ML techniques

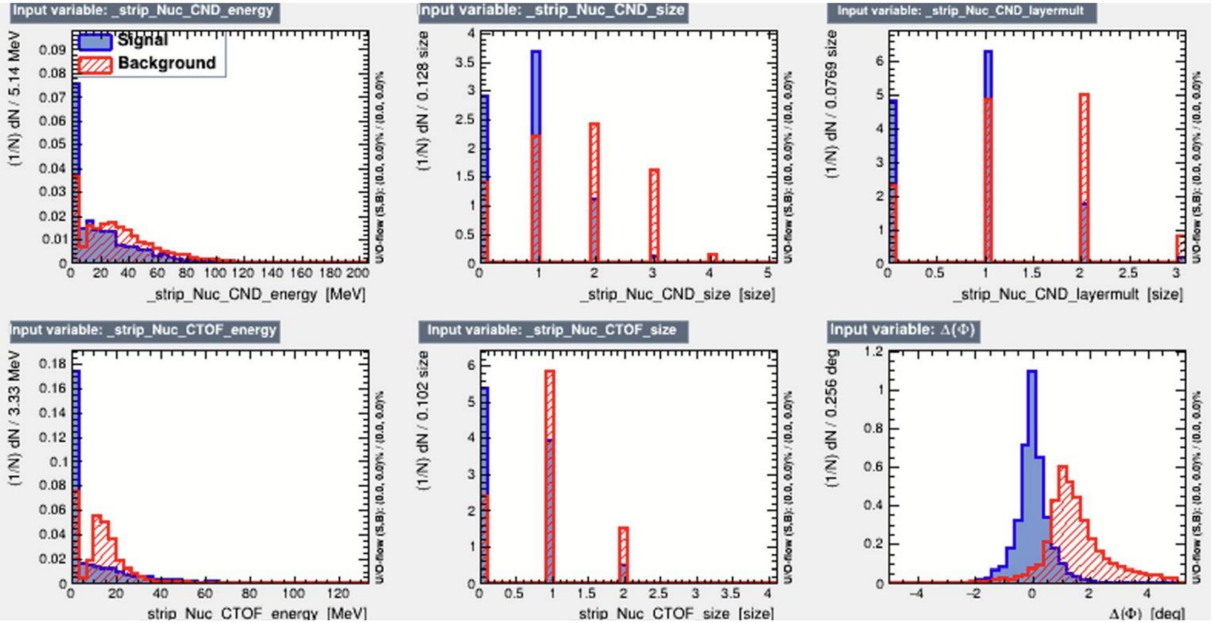
- The tracking of the CVT is neither 100% efficient nor uniform
- In the dead regions of the CVT protons have no associated track and thus can be misidentified as neutrons
- Protons roughly account for more than >40% contamination in the "nDVCS" signal sample. Current approach, based on Machine Learning & Multi-Variate Algorithms:
  - We reconstruct nDVCS from DVCS experiment on proton requiring neutron PID : selected neutron are misidentified protons
  - We use this sample to determine the characteristics of fake neutrons in low- and high-level reconstructed variables
  - Based on those characteristics we subtract the fake neutrons contamination from nDVCS
  - As a « signal » sample in the training of the ML we use $ep \rightarrow en\pi^{+}$ events from DVCS experiment on proton (RGA)

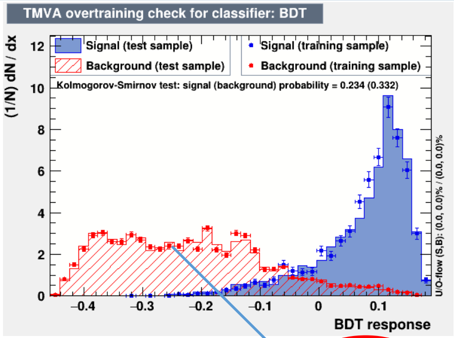


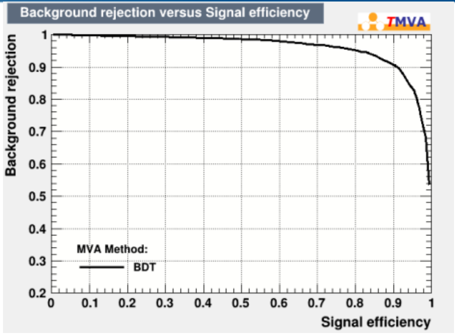


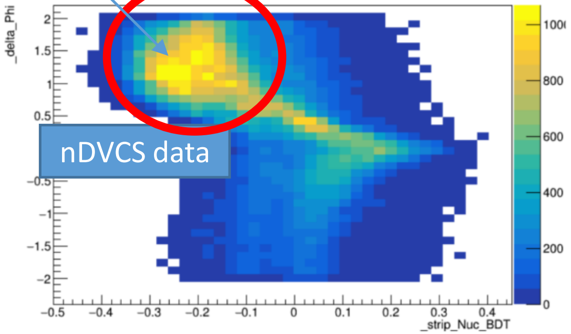


Improving the neutron selection with ML techniques

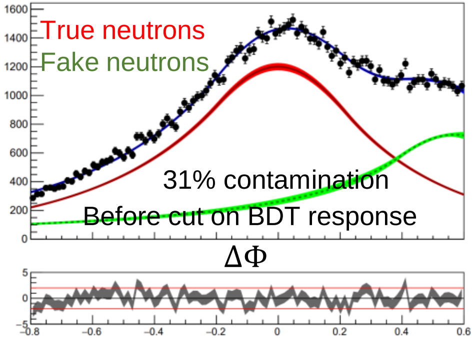


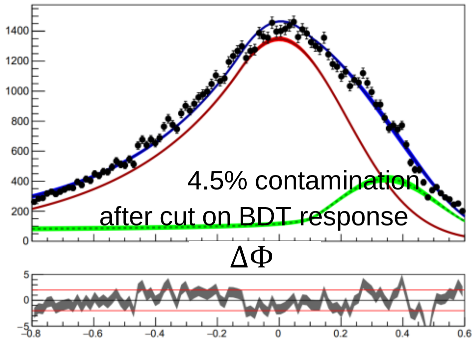




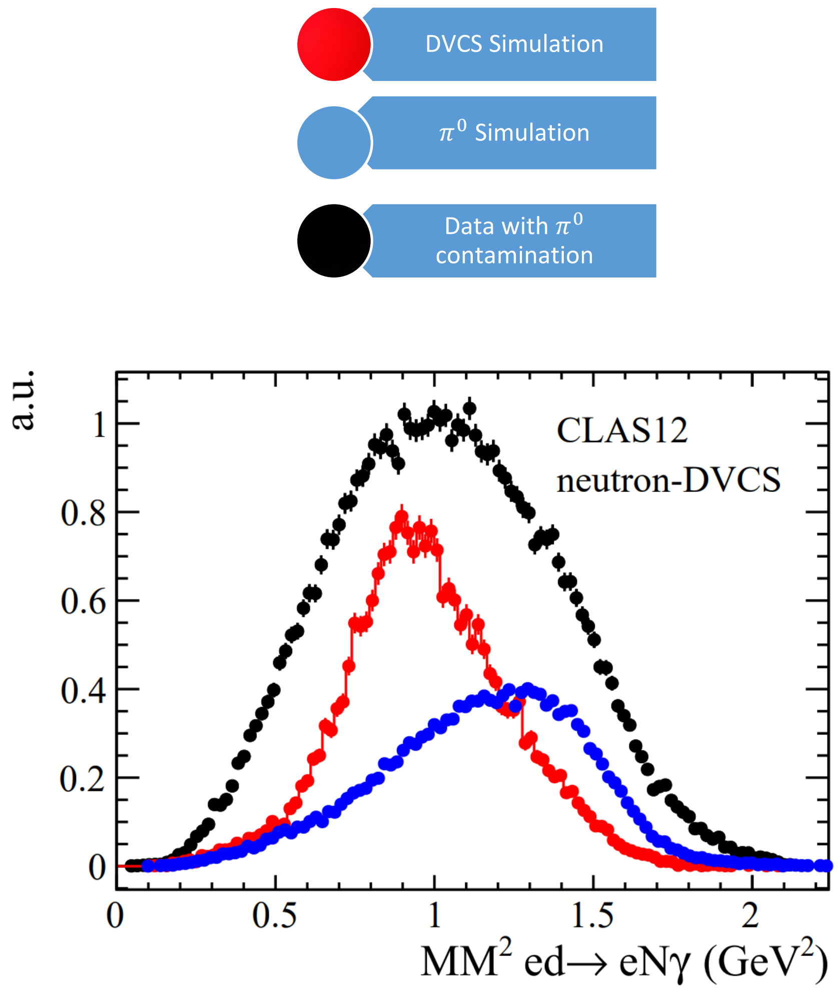


- Using detector variables (CTOF and CND) and one exclusivity variable ($\Delta\Phi$)
- Directly trained on data
- Better optimization of signal to background ratio than straight cuts
- Few percent irreducible contamination corrected for in the final BSA





- The nDVCS (pDVCS) final state is selected with the following exclusivity criteria: (N:nucleon)
  - Missing mass
    - e d → e N γ X
    - e N → e N γ X
    - e N → e N X
  - Missing momentum
    - e d → e N γ X
  - ΔΦ, Δt, θ(γ,X)
    - Difference between two ways of calculating Φ and t
    - Cone angle between measured and reconstructed photon
- Exclusivity selection is optimized with a 4-D χ^2-like distribution including ΔΦ, Δt, θ(γ,X) and missing mass e N → e N X
  - This is the same variable used to select best candidate



π^0 background subtraction

- Subtraction using simulations of the background channel
  - Monte Carlo simulations:
    - GPD-based event generator for DVCS/pi0 on deuterium
    - DVCS amplitude calculated according to the BKM formalism
    - Fermi-motion distribution evaluated according to Paris potential

1. Estimate the ratio of partially reconstructed eN π^0(1 photon) decay to fully reconstructed eN π^0 decays in MC
2. This is done for each kinematic bin to minimize MC model dependence
3. Multiply this ratio by the number of reconstructed eN π^0 in data to get the number of eN π^0(1 photon) in data
4. Subtract this number from DVCS reconstructed decays in data per each kinematical bin

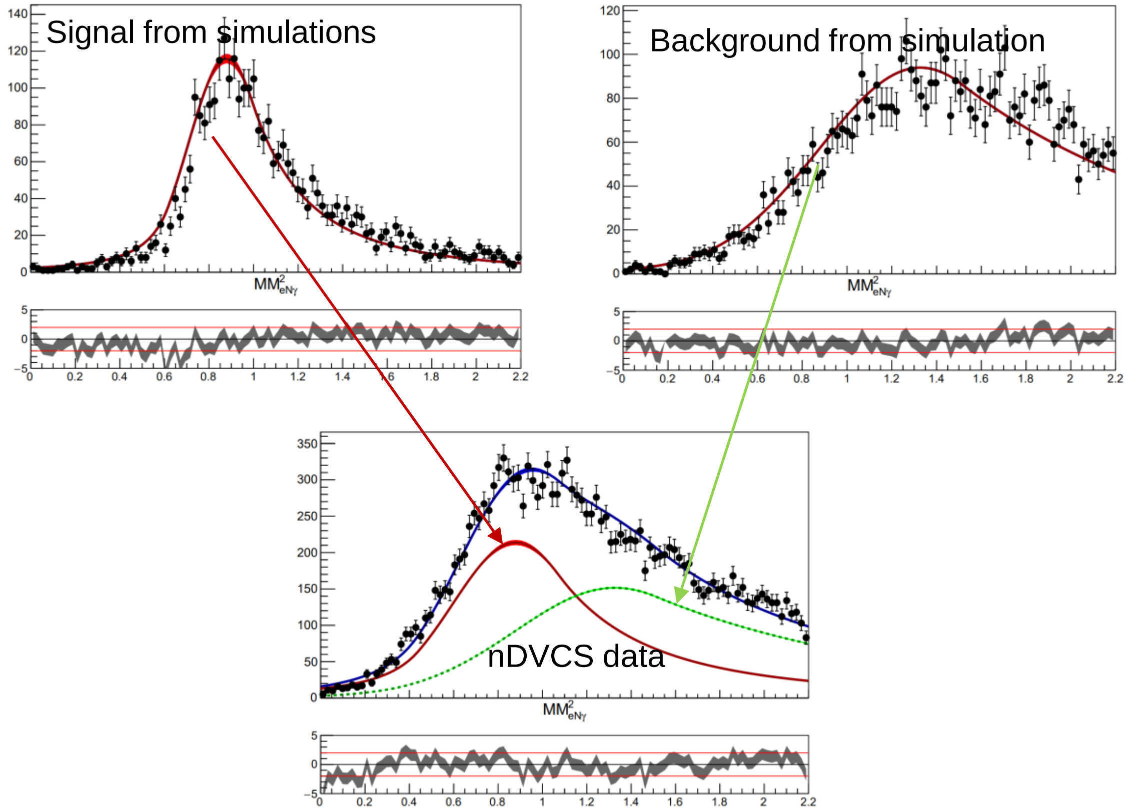
$$\text{Simulations: } R = \frac{N(eN\pi^0_{1\gamma})}{N(eN\pi^0)}$$

$$\text{Data: } N(eN\pi^0_{1\gamma}) = R * N(eN\pi^0)$$

$$N(DVCS) = N(DVCS_{recon}) - N(eN\pi^0_{1\gamma})$$

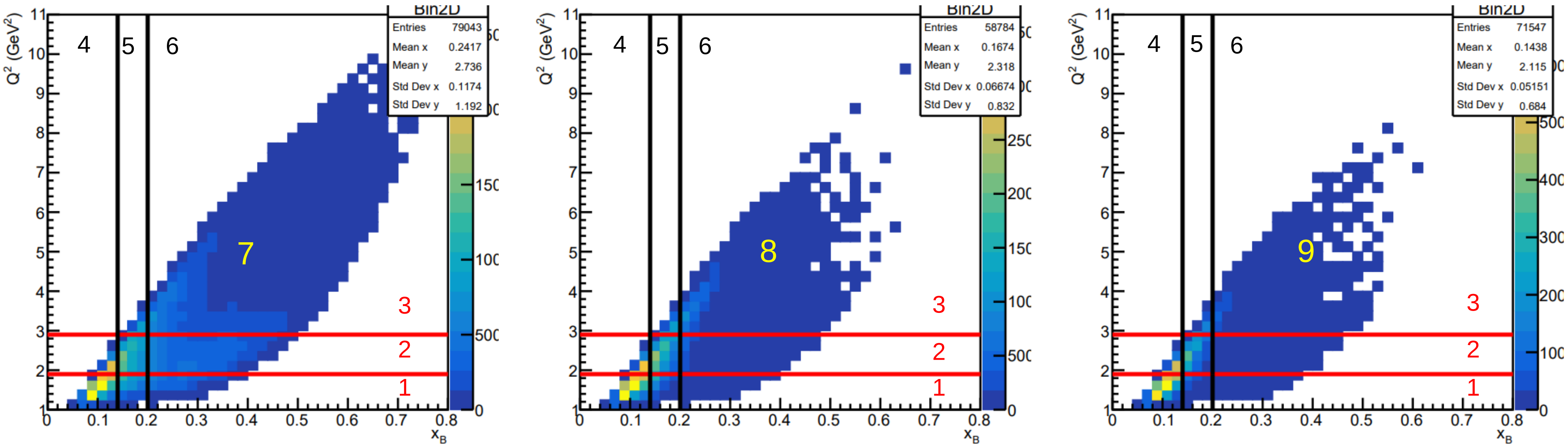
- π^0 background subtraction is also performed by statistical unfolding of contribution to the missing mass spectrum

M. Pivk and F.R. Le Diberder, NIMA 555 1 2005



The difference between the estimations of background from both methods is considered as a systematic

First-time measurement of nDVCS with detection of the active neutron

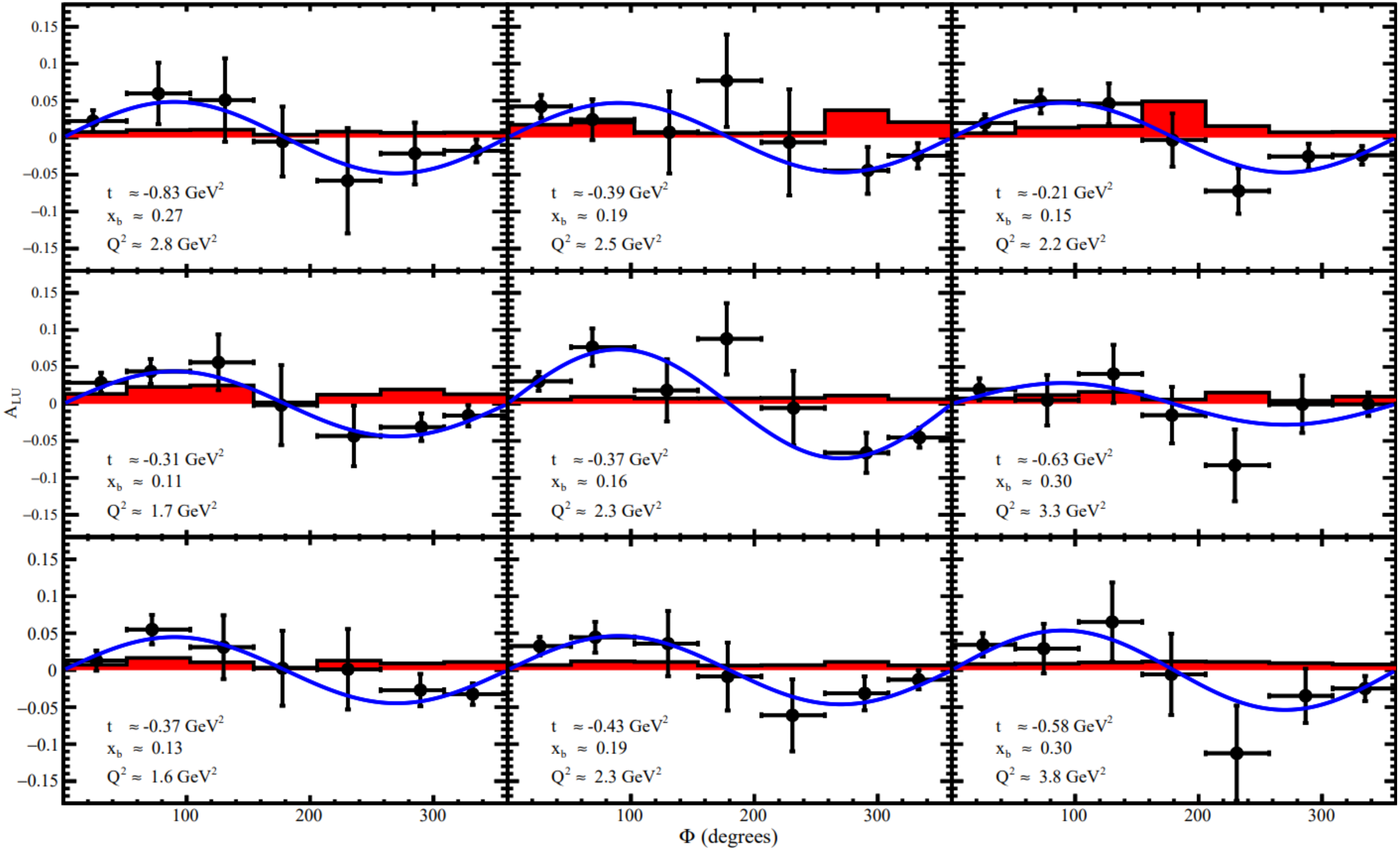


- Compared to the previous experiment, CLAS12 provides :
  - The possibility to scan the BSA of nDVCS on a wide phase space
  - The possibility to reach the high Q^2 high x_b region of the phase space
  - Exclusive measurement with the detection of the active neutron

bin number	$< Q^2 >$ GeV^2	$< x_b >$	$< -t >$ GeV^2
1	1.60973	0.132015	0.388061
2	2.33568	0.199322	0.467386
3	3.92472	0.314797	0.667296
4	1.70901	0.111932	0.324567
5	2.35954	0.167174	0.384192
6	3.29066	0.312552	0.70405
7	2.91918	0.277885	0.832902
8	2.44265	0.185242	0.355265
9	2.16854	0.149355	0.22063

CLAS12: nDVCS with an unpolarized deuterium target

- Observation of positive BSA for nDVCS
- Systematic errors:
  - beam polarization
  - selection cuts
  - background subtraction
  - merging of data sets with different energies
- Statistics is expected to double with remaining scheduled beam time and improvements with reconstruction software (Pass2 data)



CLAS12: nDVCS with an unpolarized deuterium target

$$A_{LU} \approx \Im\{F_1 \boldsymbol{H} + \xi(F_1 + F_2)\widetilde{\boldsymbol{H}} - k\, F_2 \boldsymbol{E} + \ \dots\}$$

- Observation of positive BSA for nDVCS
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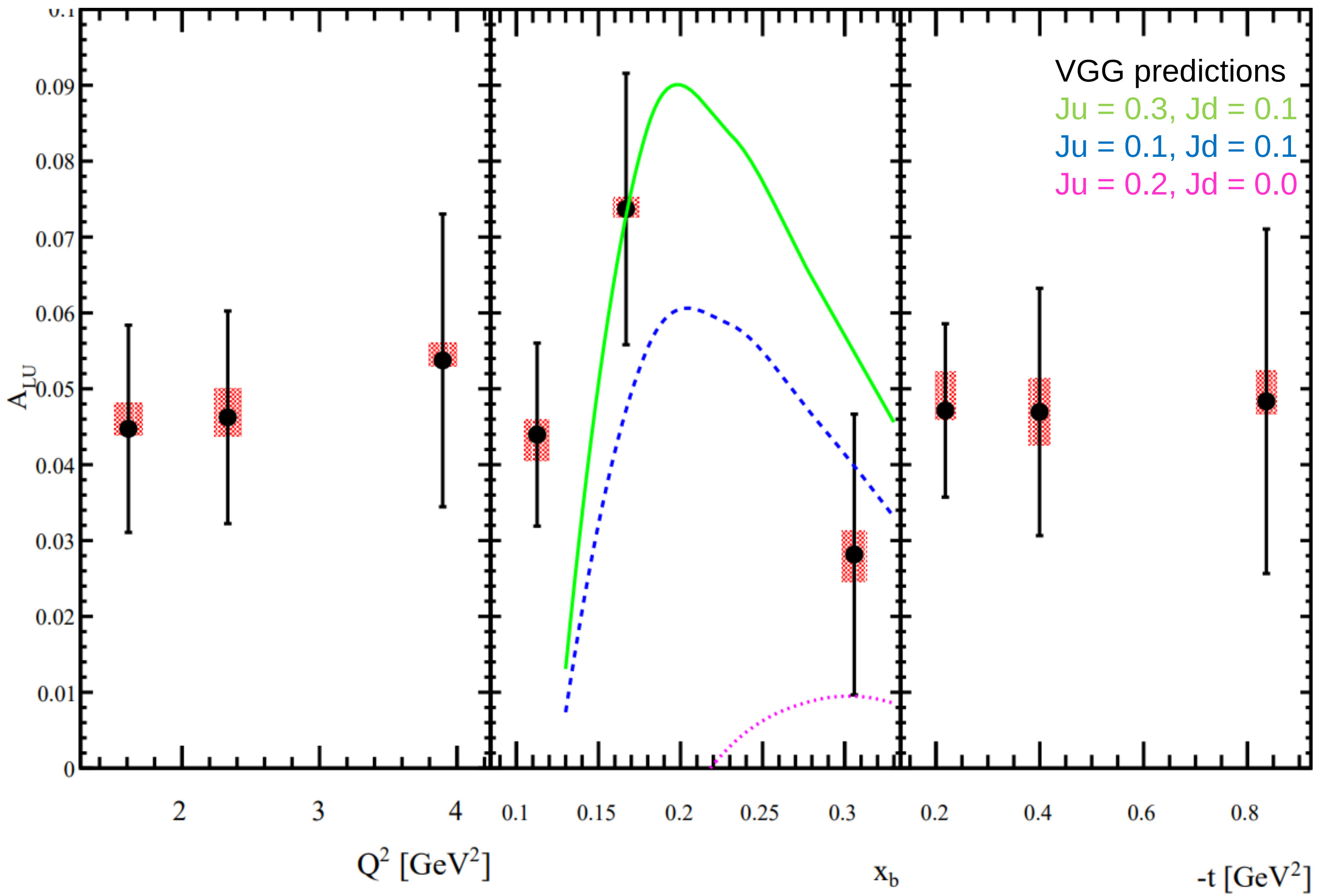
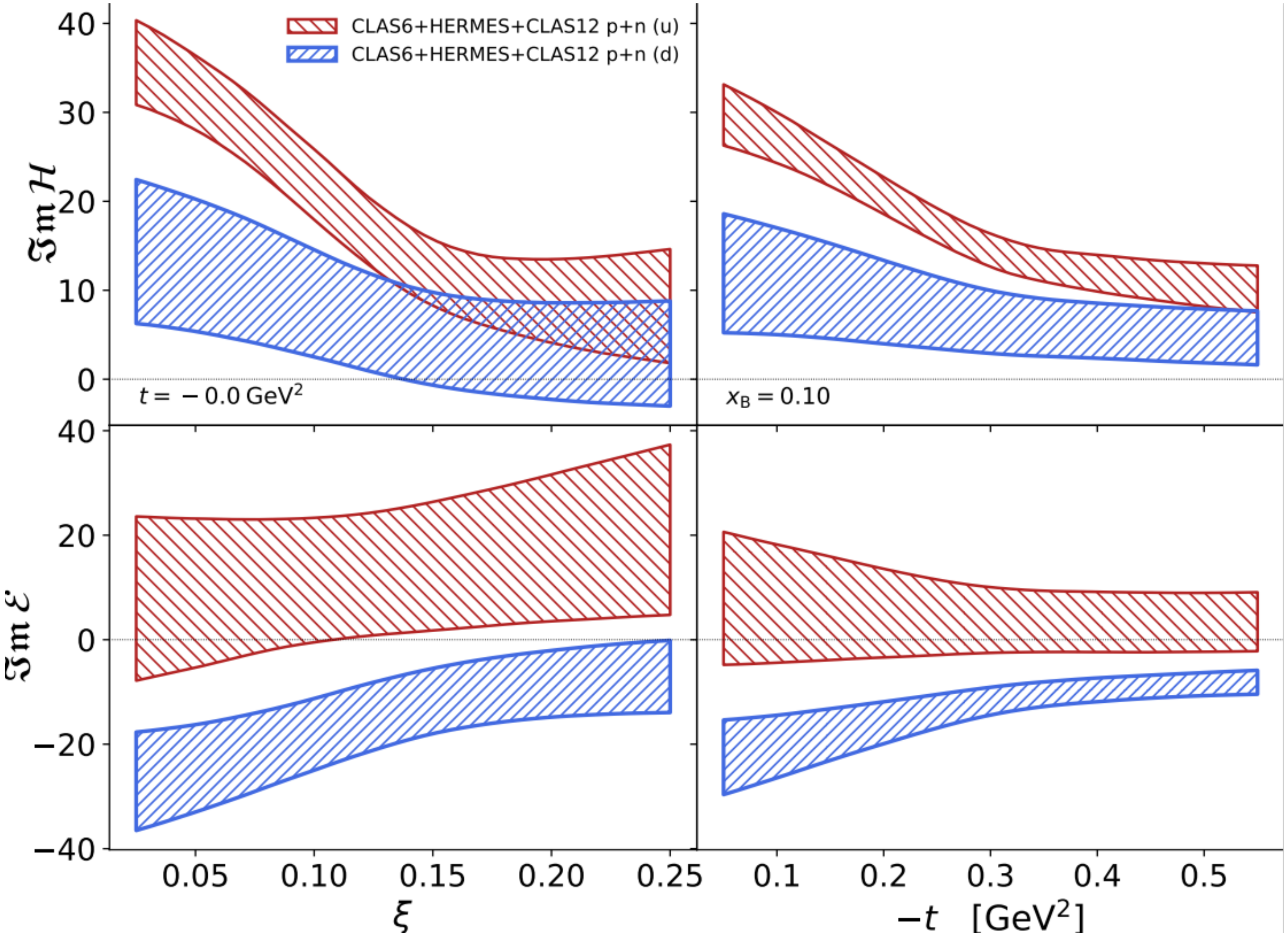


Today on flavor separation

- CFFs are parametrized as neural networks:
  - values at input kinematical variables xB and t
  - values at output representing the imaginary or real parts of CFFs.
- 200 trained neural nets to optimize the statistics
- Proton data from Jlab (including recent results from RGA) and HERMES
- Neutron data from this analysis
- Up and down contributions to CFF H separated
- CFF E flavors are now separated with no sign ambiguity

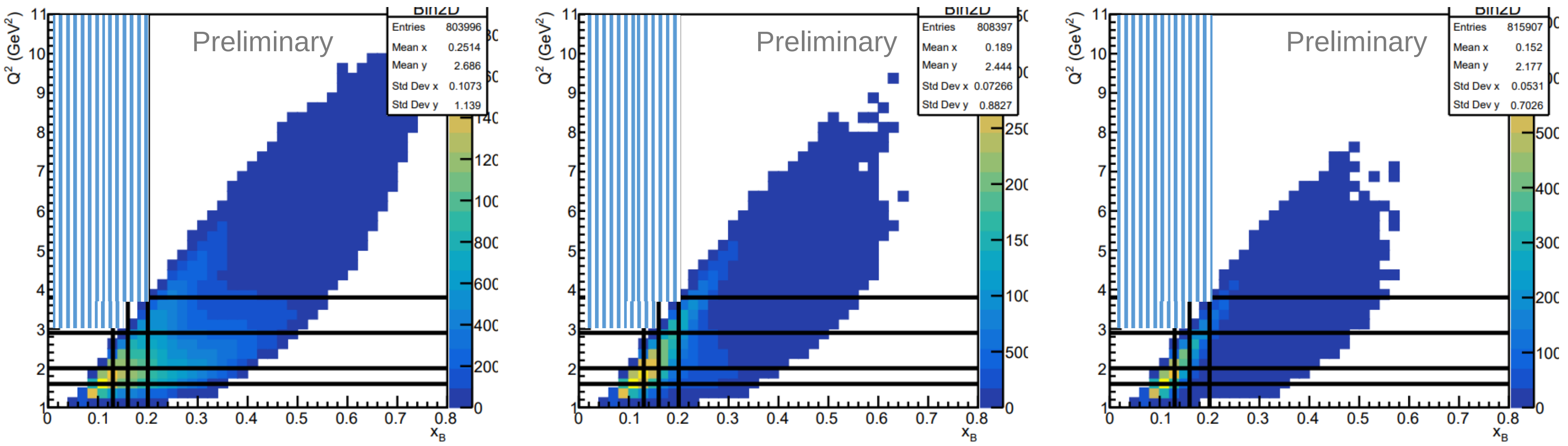


Conclusions

- GPDs are powerful tool to explore the structure of the nucleons and nuclei
  - Nucleon tomography, quark angular momentum, distribution of forces in the nucleon
- Exclusive reactions can provide important information on nucleon structure
  - DVCS via the extraction of GPDs
- CLAS12 offers a wide kinematical reach over which the GPDs dependence on different kinematical variables can be scanned
  - Data to add constraints on GPDs in unexplored regions of the phase space
  - Possibilities to measure new observables using different experimental configurations
    - Flavor separation of GPDs
- Interesting results from incoherent DVCS on deuteron (n and p channels) from CLAS12 data
  - First BSA measurement from neutron-DVCS with tagged neutron: ad-hoc review ongoing
  - First measurement of BSA for proton-DVCS with deuterium target:
    - To be compared to free-proton DVCS BSA measured by CLAS12 (RGA)

CLAS12: pDVCS with an unpolarized deuterium target

First-time measurement of incoherent pDVCS on deuteron

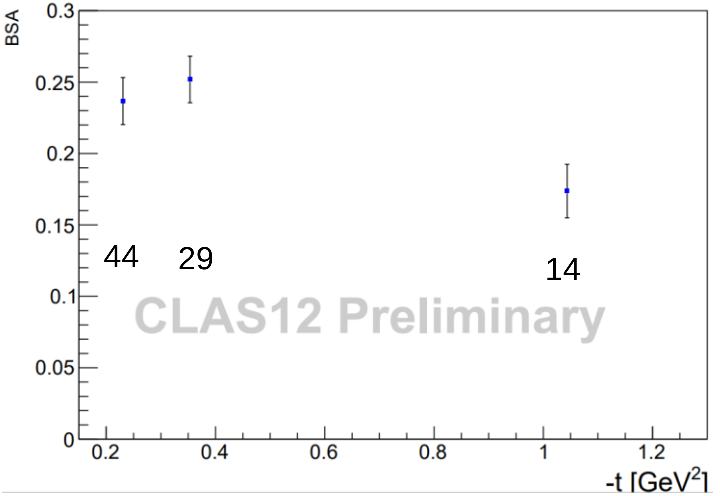


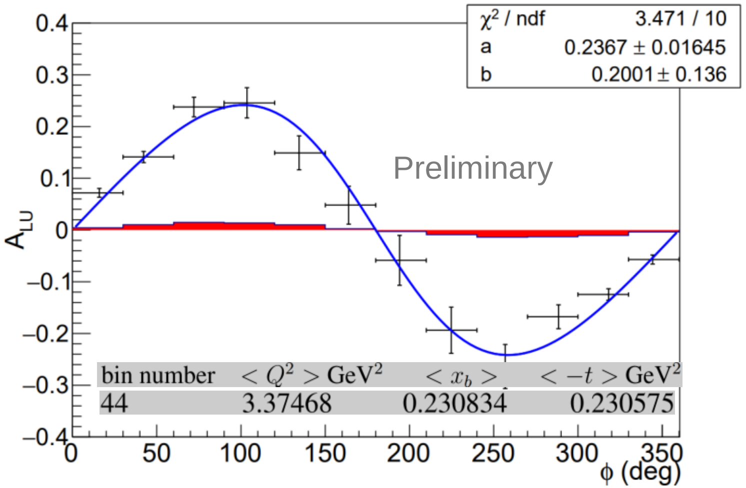
Bin numbering starts from left to right and from bottom up

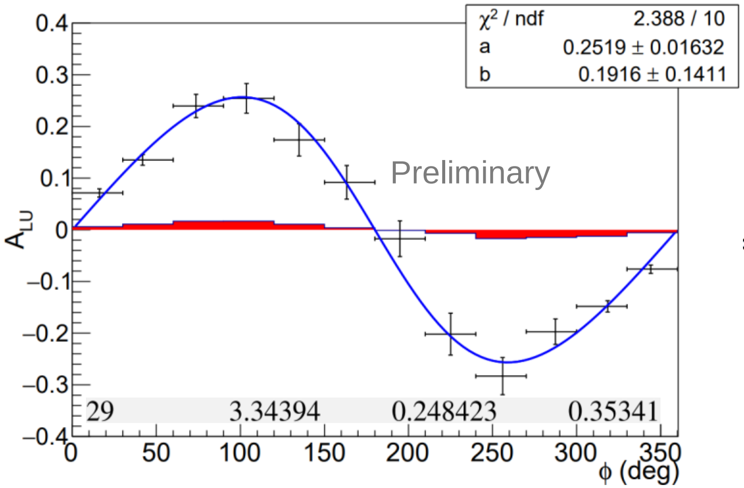
bin number	$< Q^2 >$ GeV^2	$< x_b >$	$< -t >$ GeV^2
1	1.43794	0.10069	0.767361
2	1.48186	0.144366	0.844629
3	1.4914	0.178824	0.87073
4	1.50756	0.2373	0.851789
5	1.76792	0.114657	0.777427
6	1.8051	0.144373	0.825599
7	1.80447	0.179402	0.863781
8	1.81536	0.258406	0.923301
9	2.0849	0.124705	0.764681
10	2.26532	0.146577	0.793068
11	2.4122	0.179697	0.827414
12	2.43479	0.287563	1.00085
13	3.0799	0.188297	0.790217
14	3.31486	0.30929	1.04349
15	4.83889	0.380624	1.228
16	1.43915	0.100179	0.356721
17	1.49262	0.142616	0.362959
18	1.4954	0.176071	0.350067
19	1.50509	0.249393	0.309281
20	1.77057	0.114679	0.34701
21	1.81394	0.143668	0.348841
22	1.82669	0.175209	0.355866
23	1.81383	0.263491	0.318227
24	2.08646	0.124711	0.342502
25	2.26728	0.146758	0.340636
26	2.46209	0.17752	0.348786
27	2.45997	0.26518	0.340427
28	3.08043	0.188274	0.334151
29	3.34394	0.248423	0.35341
30	4.46623	0.295696	0.370628
31	1.43626	0.0986234	0.200339
32	1.50515	0.13983	0.218898
33	1.49559	0.17749	0.195675
34	1.50618	0.241843	0.211988
35	1.77032	0.114665	0.198266
36	1.83854	0.140417	0.212787
37	1.82375	0.176723	0.20719
38	1.81611	0.248591	0.216637
39	2.08516	0.124803	0.198108
40	2.27128	0.145977	0.203877
41	2.55103	0.174046	0.21458
42	2.44112	0.256179	0.228055
43	3.07532	0.187944	0.210093
44	3.37468	0.230834	0.230575
45	4.30035	0.274016	0.247191

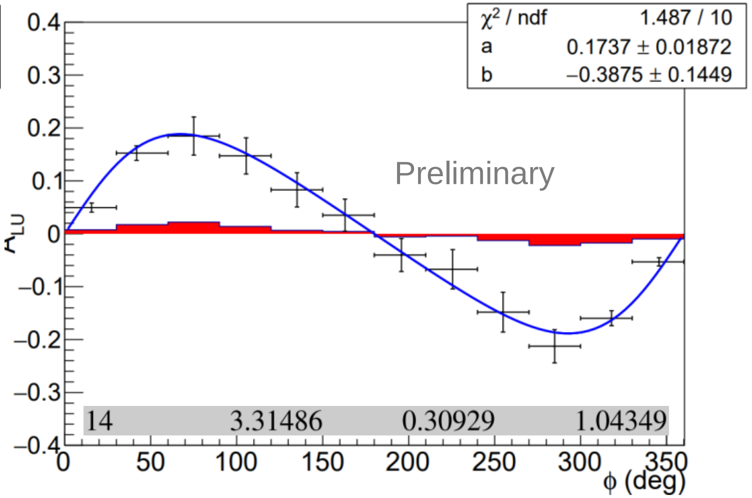
- Complementary to previous experiment on proton target:
  - Quantify medium effects on GPDs

- Observation of positive BSA for nDVCS
- Systematic errors include:
  - Error due to beam polarization
  - Error due to selection cuts
  - Error due to merging of data sets with different energies
- Statistics is expected to triple with remaining schedualed beam time and improvements with reconstruction software

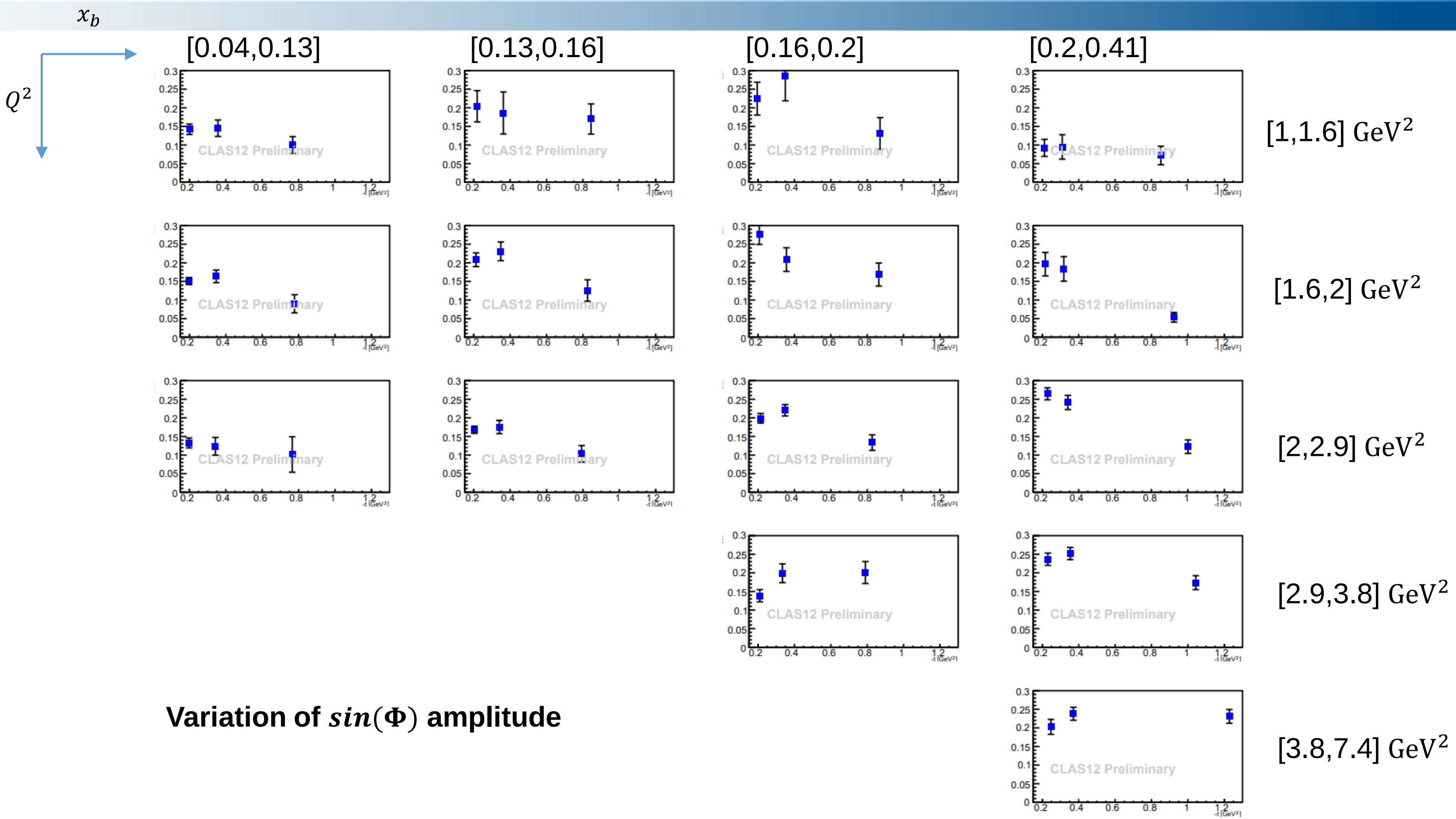








CLAS12: pDVCS with an unpolarized deuterium target



Variation of $sin(\Phi)$ amplitude