

Study of NN Short Range Correlations in the XEM2 Experiment

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25 Jun 2025

For the Light ions for the EIC
Summer School

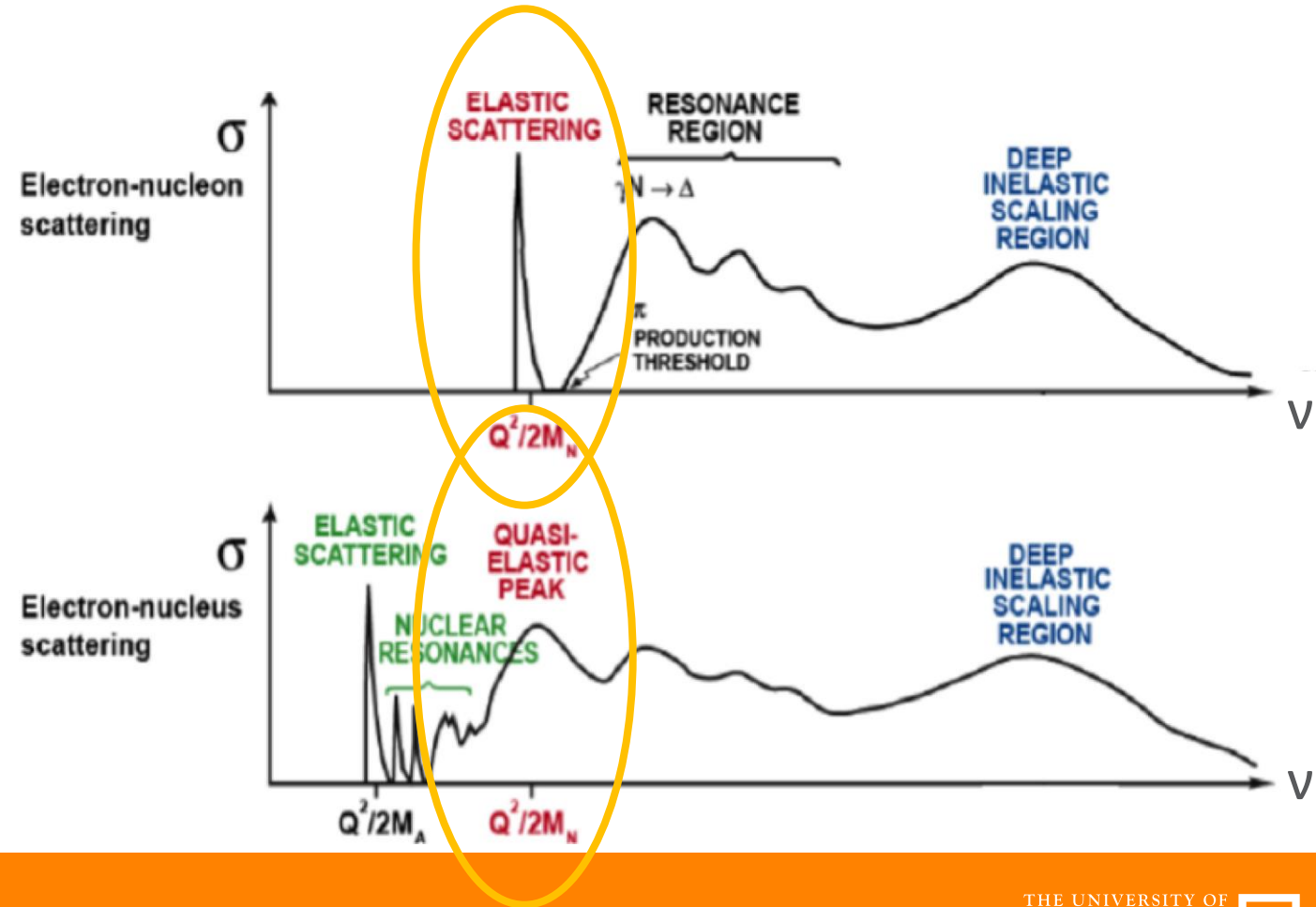


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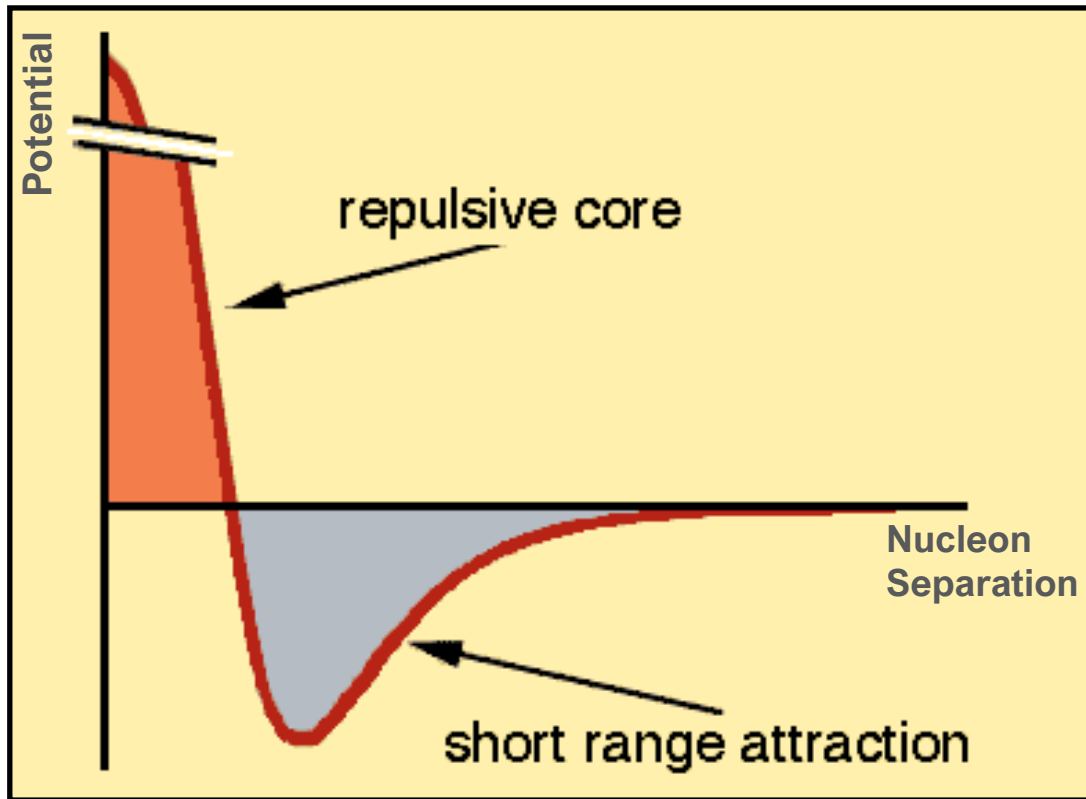


Scattering Processes

- This experiment will be focused on Quasi-Elastic (QE) Scattering
 - Can be interpreted as scattering from the entire nucleon within the nucleus

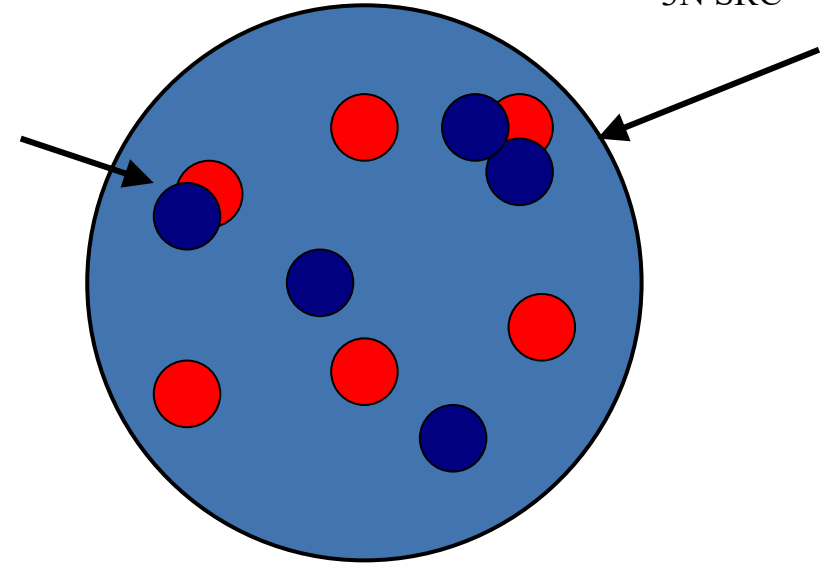


The NN Short-Range Correlation (SRC) Picture



2N SRC

3N SRC



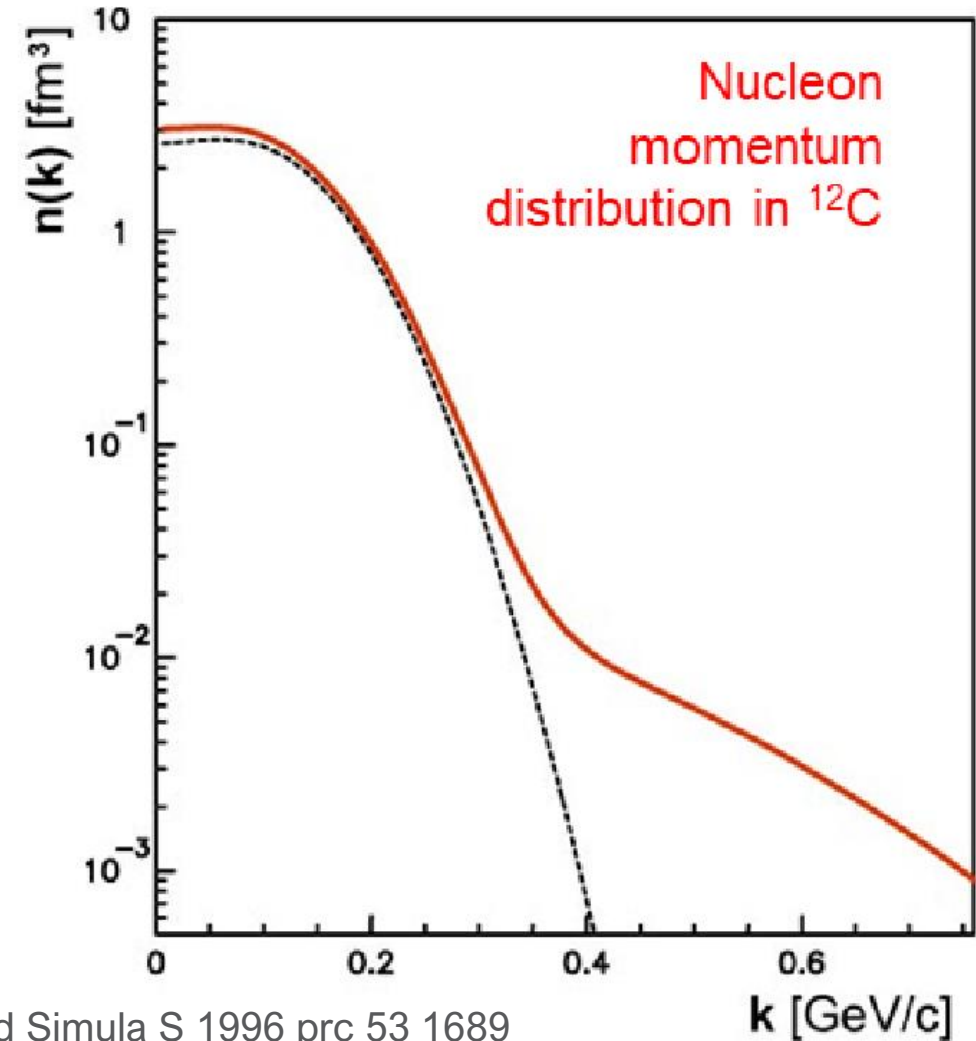
High momentum nucleons
→ Short Range Correlations

Were studying the high momentum component of the nuclear wave function

Picture credit: Nadia Fomin

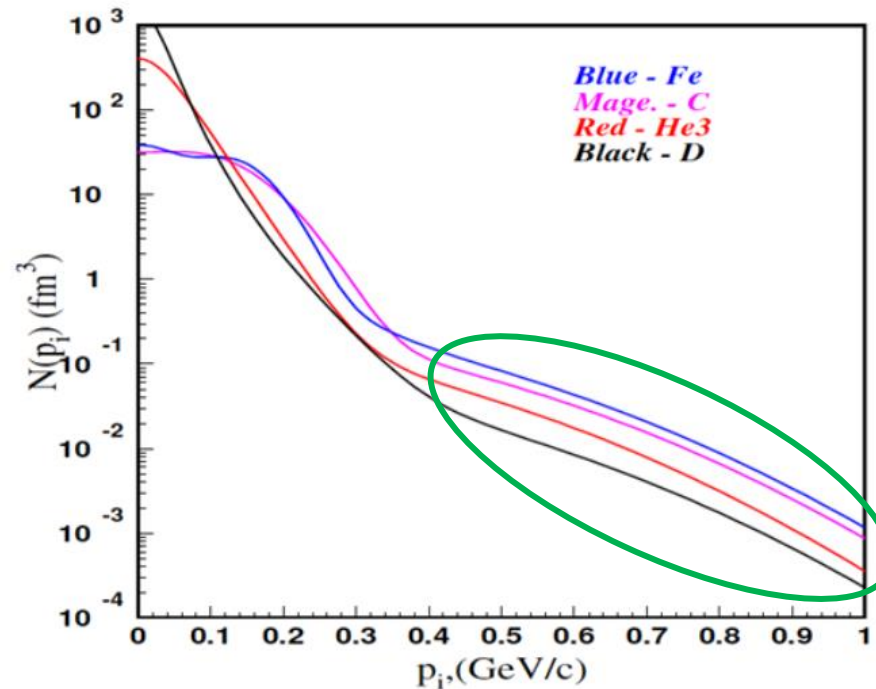
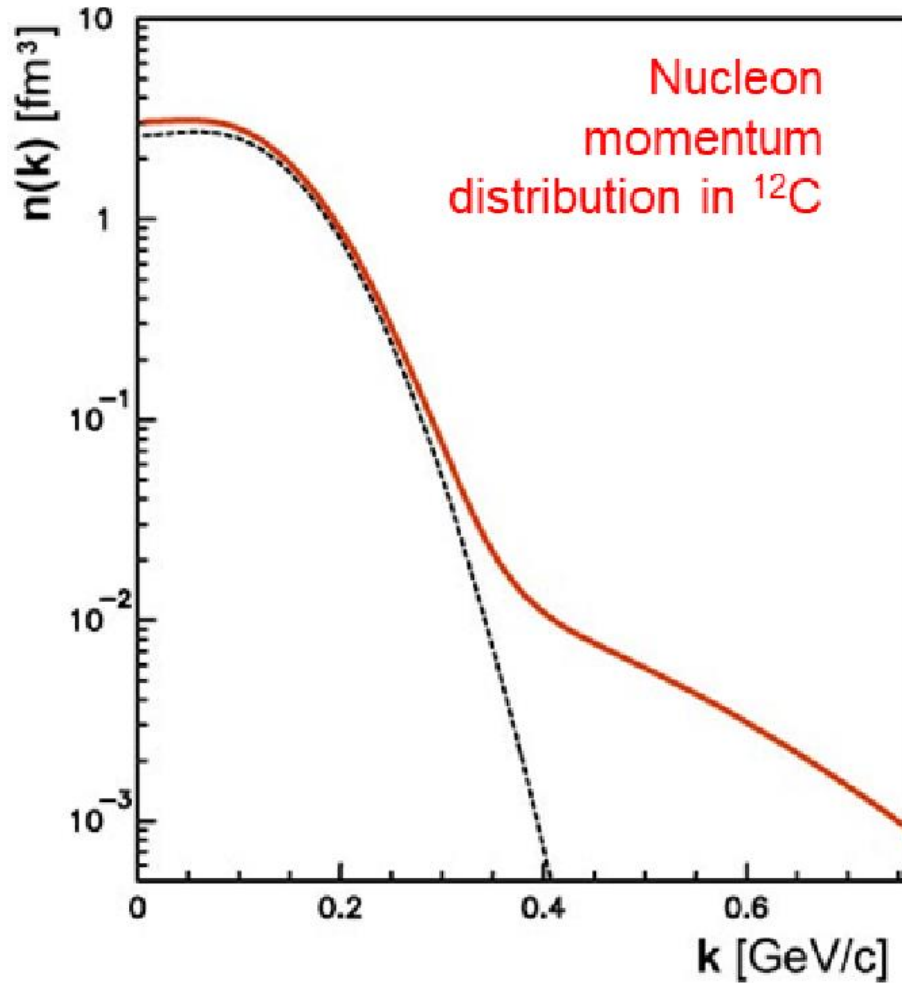
The nucleon momentum distribution

- Early Mean-Field models of the nucleus couldn't account for the “observation” of a tail in the distribution at high momentum
 - Nucleons were “observed” above the Fermi momentum
 - Where do these high momentum nucleons come from??

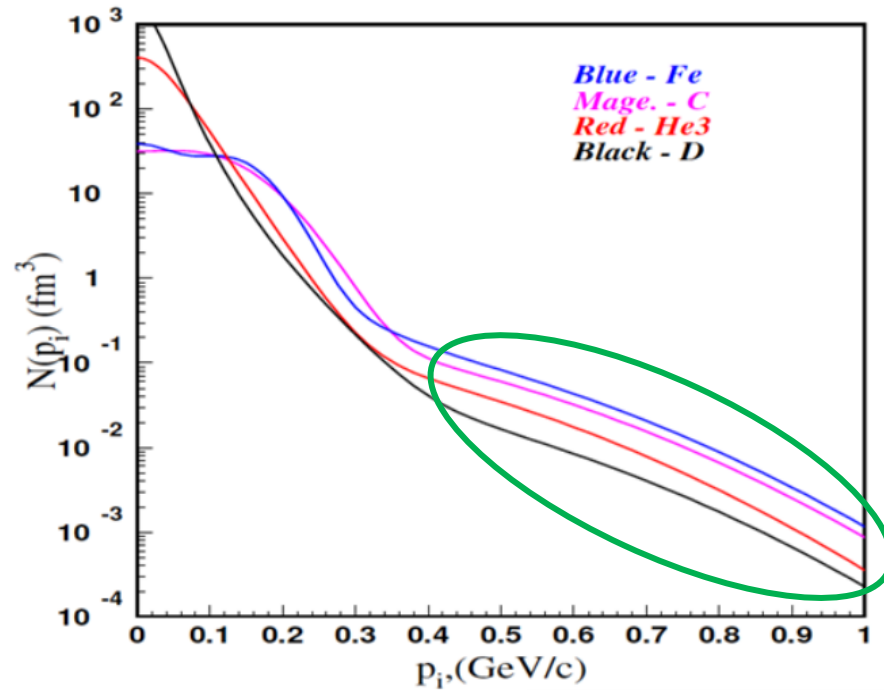
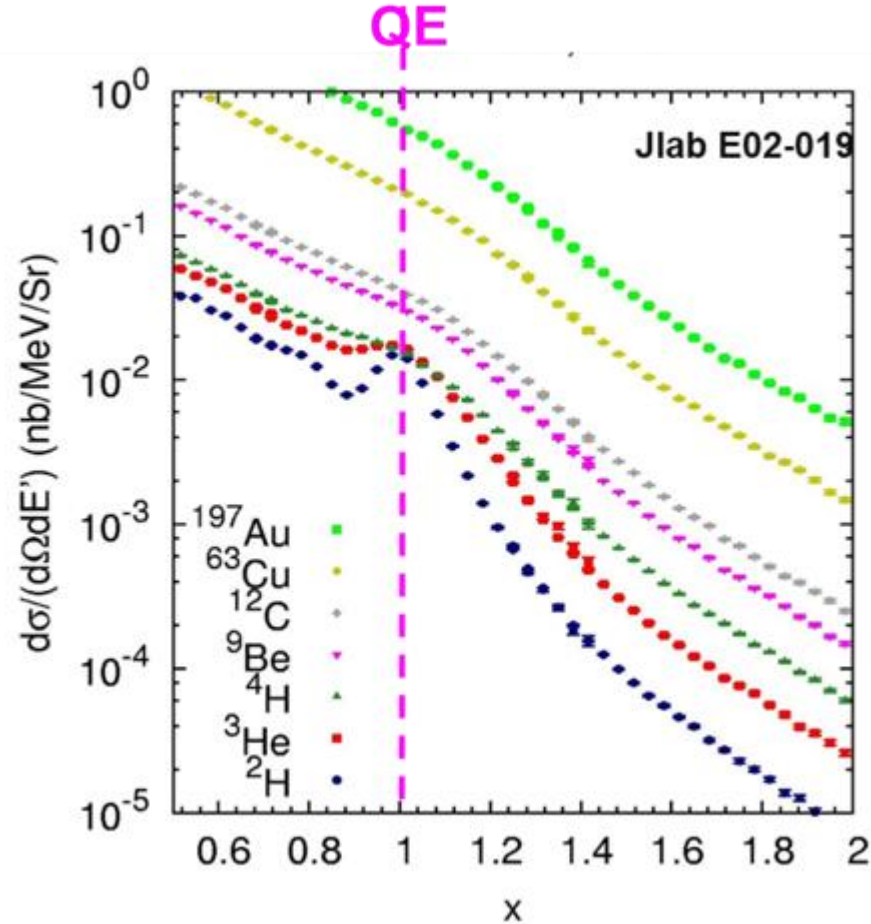


Credit: Degli Atti C C and Simula S 1996 prc 53 1689

The nucleon momentum distribution

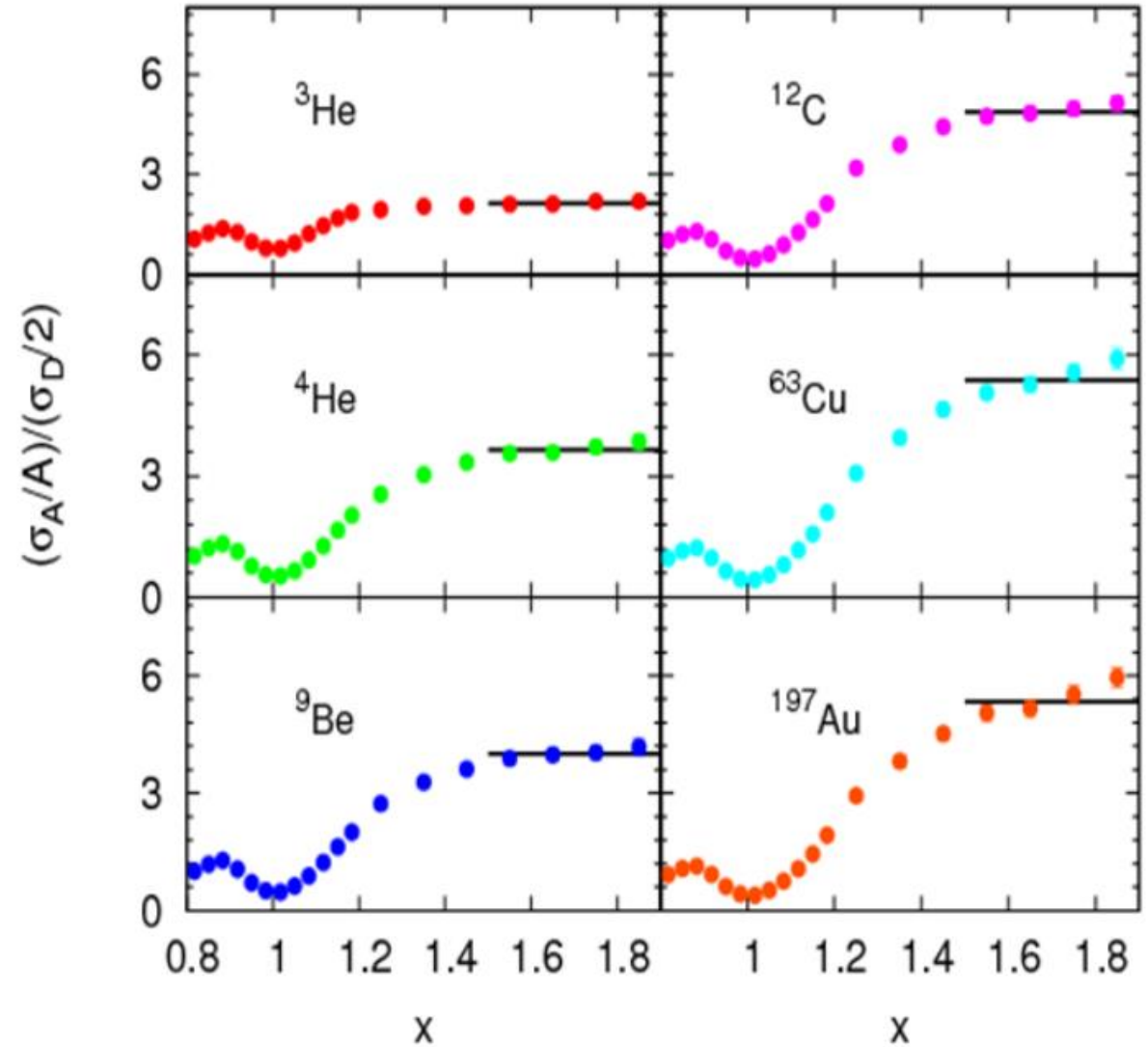


The nucleon momentum distribution



2N SRC data

- In the region $x > 1$, these plateaus have been observed
- The value of this plateau is the magnitude of a_2 .
- a_2 can also be interpreted as the abundance of 2N SRCs relative to Deuteron.



Fomin N et al. 2012 Phys. Rev. Lett. 108 092502

SRC Expansion

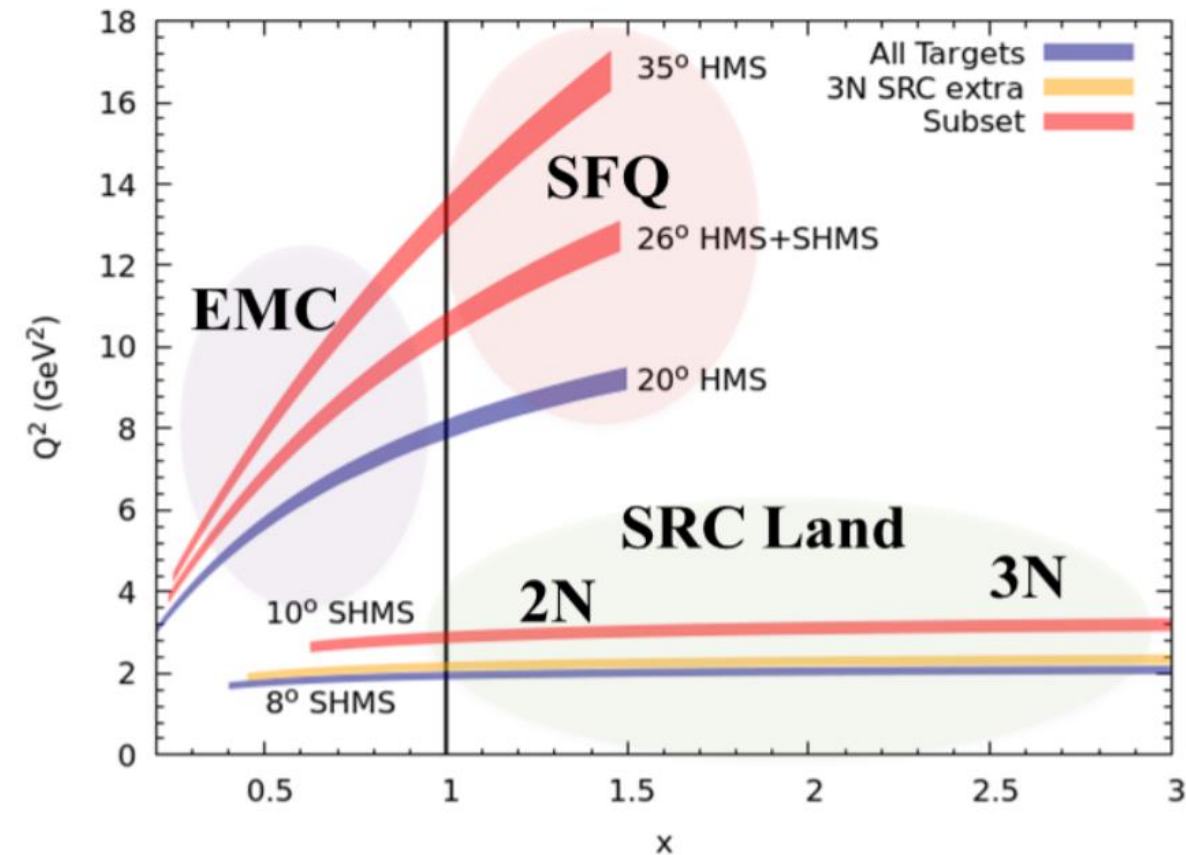
- We can expand the cross section in terms of scattering cross sections for each SRC order:

$$\sigma(x, Q^2) = Aa_1\sigma_1(x, Q^2) + \frac{A}{2}a_2\sigma_2(x, Q^2) + \frac{A}{3}a_3\sigma_3(x, Q^2) + \dots$$

- σ_n is the scattering cross-section from a nucleon that's part of an SRC group of size n
- a_n is the ratio of the scattering cross sections from a nucleus of mass A to that off the simplest nucleus of mass n
- a_n represents the abundance of each nN SRC group. In the case of $2N$: $a_2(A) = \frac{2}{A} \frac{\sigma_A}{\sigma_D} \Big|_{x \in \text{plateau}}$

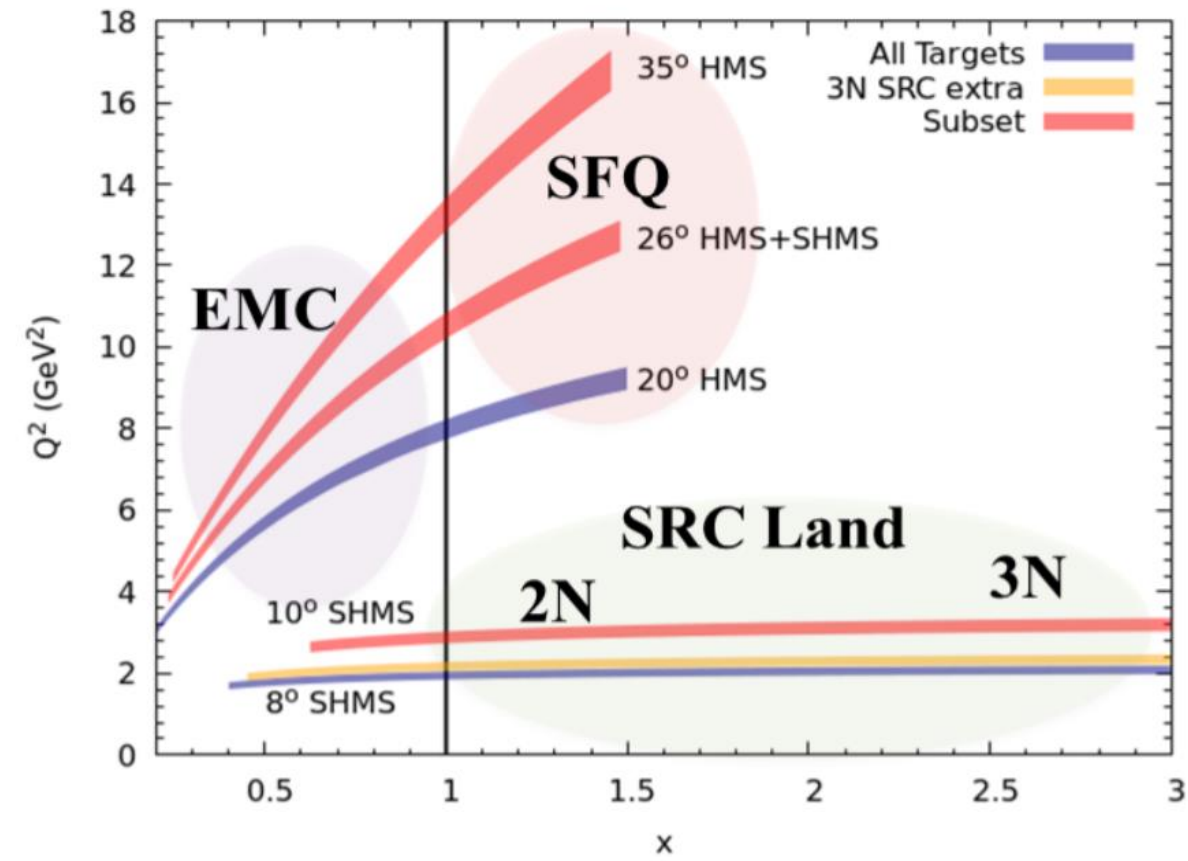
XEM2 Details – Hall C

- Ran concurrently with Experiment E12-10-008 (Detailed Studies of the nuclear dependence of F_2 in light nuclei) using HMS
- Data was taken for SRC experiment in SHMS and EMC experiment in HMS were taken SIMULTANEOUSLY
 - Some data was taken using both spectrometers simultaneously.
- For SRCs ALL targets were measured at 8 deg,
 - Only a subset was measured at 10 deg.

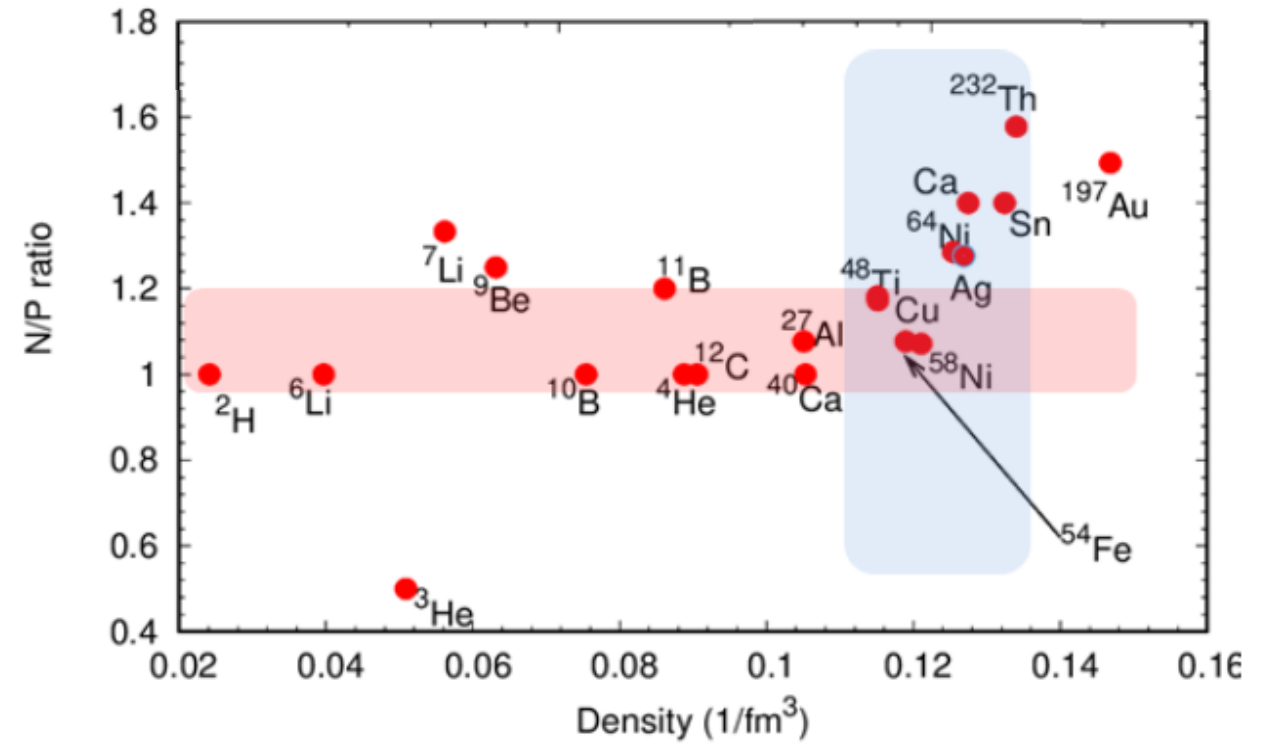
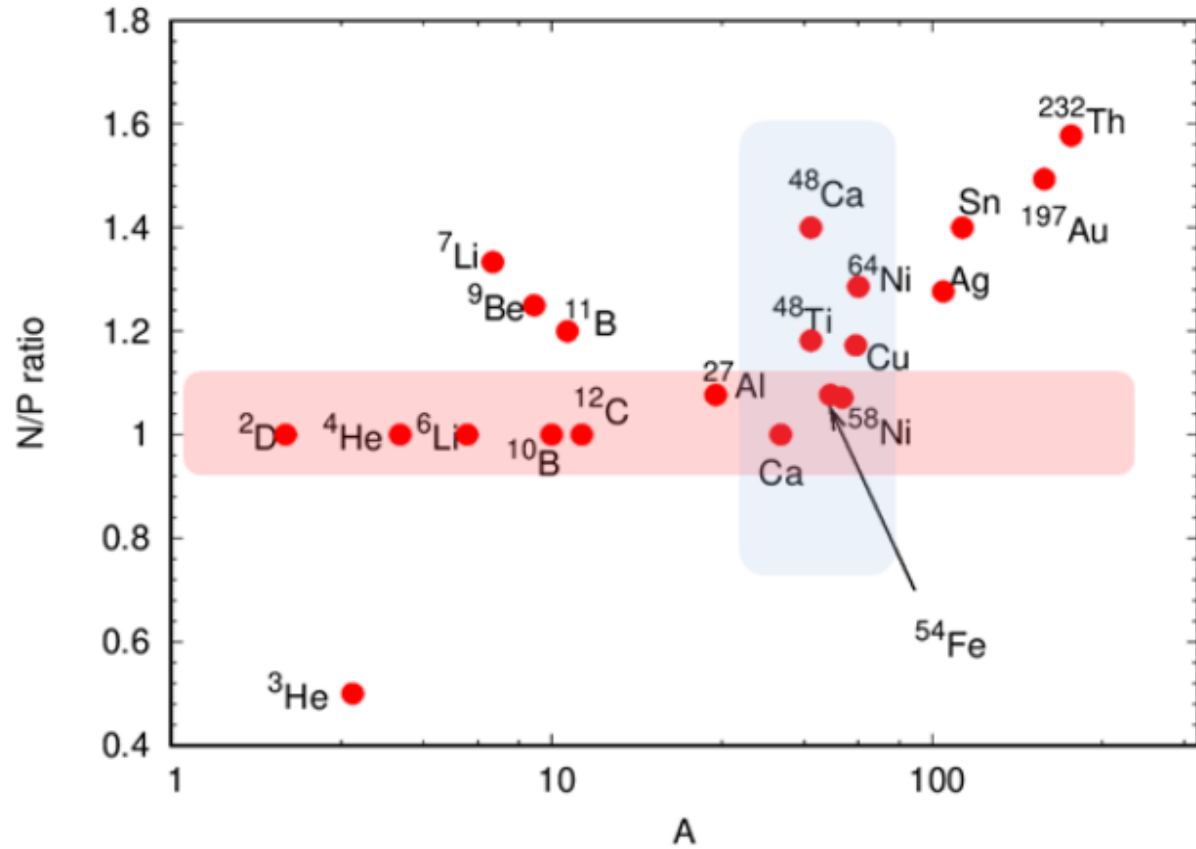


XEM2 Details

Previously measured targets	NEW targets
^3He	^{10}B
^4He	^{11}B
^9Be	$^6\text{Li}^*$
^{12}C	$^7\text{Li}^*$
^{63}Cu	^{48}Ti
^{197}Au	Sn^*
^{40}Ca	$^{232}\text{Thor}$
^{48}Ca	^{58}Ni
^{54}Fe	^{64}Ni
Al	Ag



Targets



Picture credit: Nadia Fomin

Detector Calibrations & Corrections

- Beam energy calibration
- Beam Current Monitor (BCM) Calibrations
- Reference Time Cuts
- Timing window cuts
- Cherenkov Calibrations
- Calorimeter Calibrations
- Hodoscope Calibrations
- Drift Chamber
- Momentum & Angle Offsets
- Boiling Corrections
- Coulomb Corrections
- Hodoscope Cuts
- Detector Efficiency
 - Cherenkov
 - Calorimeter
 - Beam current monitor
- Electronic Dead Time Efficiency
- Computer Dead Time Efficiency
- Multi-Track reconstruction
- Target deformations

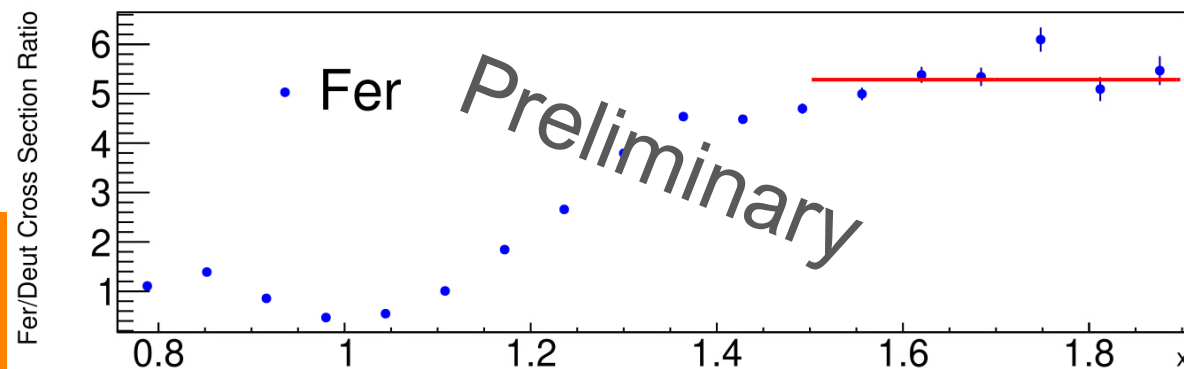
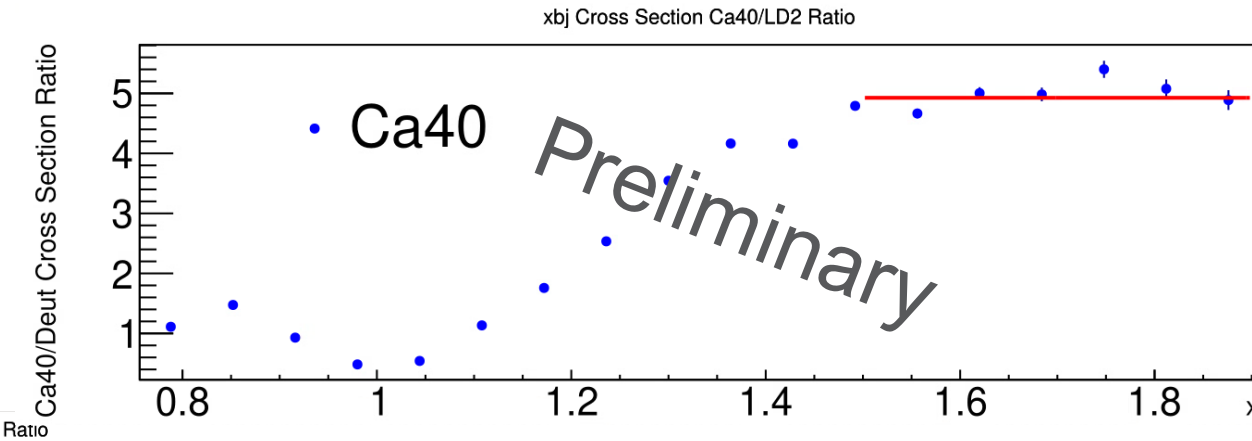
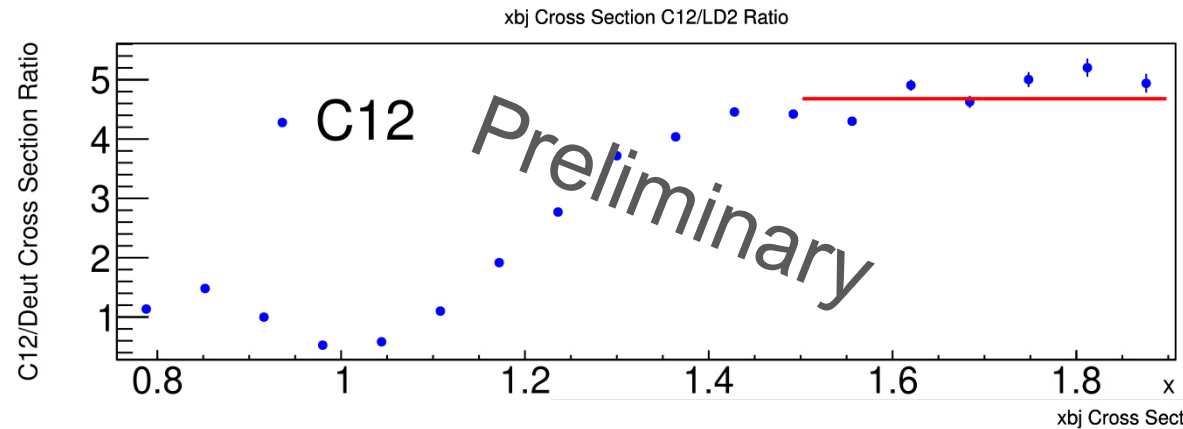
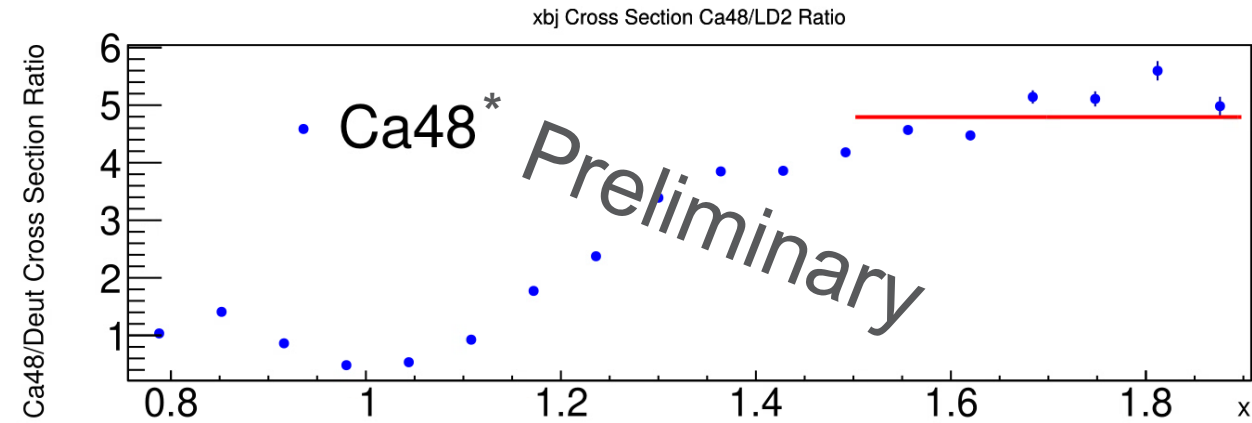
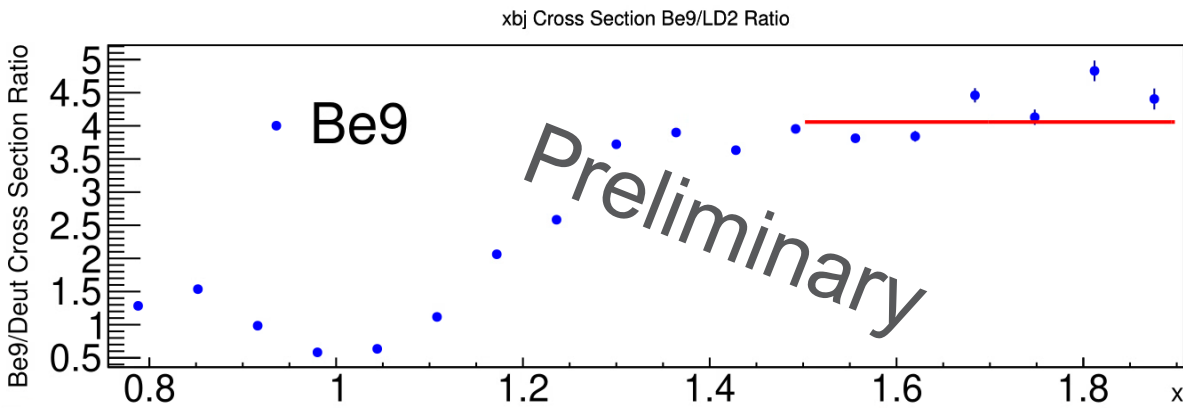
Born Cross Section

- This is the actual cross section that we will use to take our ratios

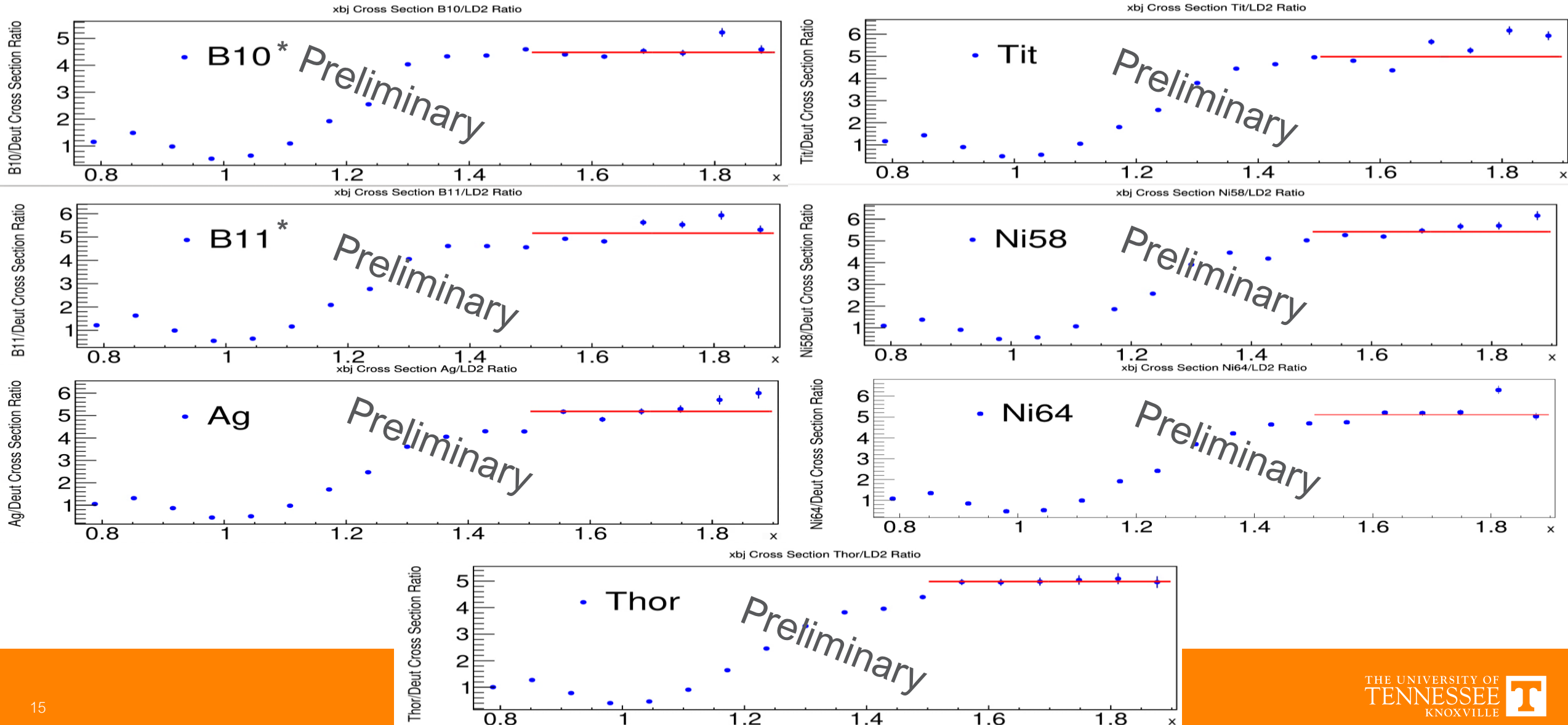
$$\sigma_{Born}(x, Q^2) \equiv \frac{Y_{data}}{Y_{MC}} \cdot \sigma_{Born}^{Model}$$

- Y_{data} will be extracted from our data
- Y_{MC} will be extracted from a Monte Carlo simulation of our spectrometer weighted by the radiated cross section model
- CURRENTLY we ONLY have statistical uncertainties.

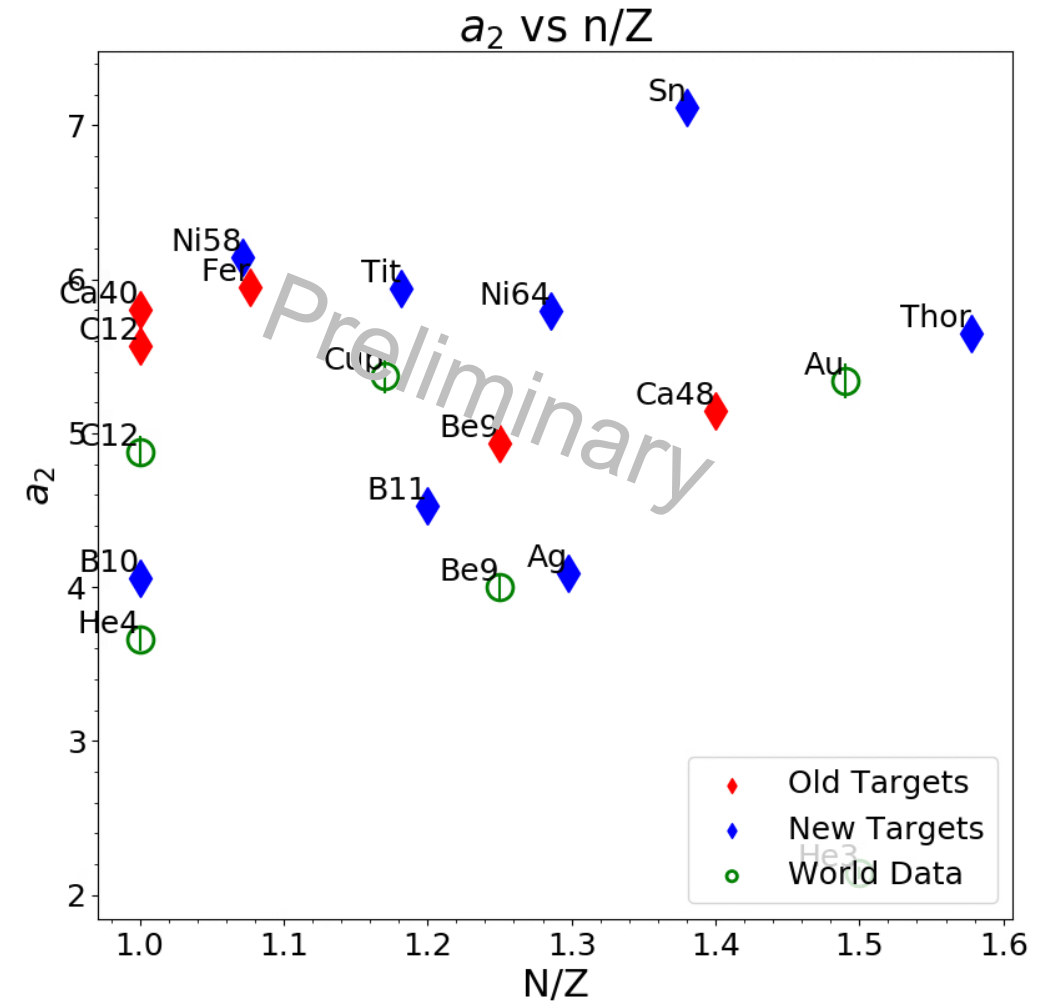
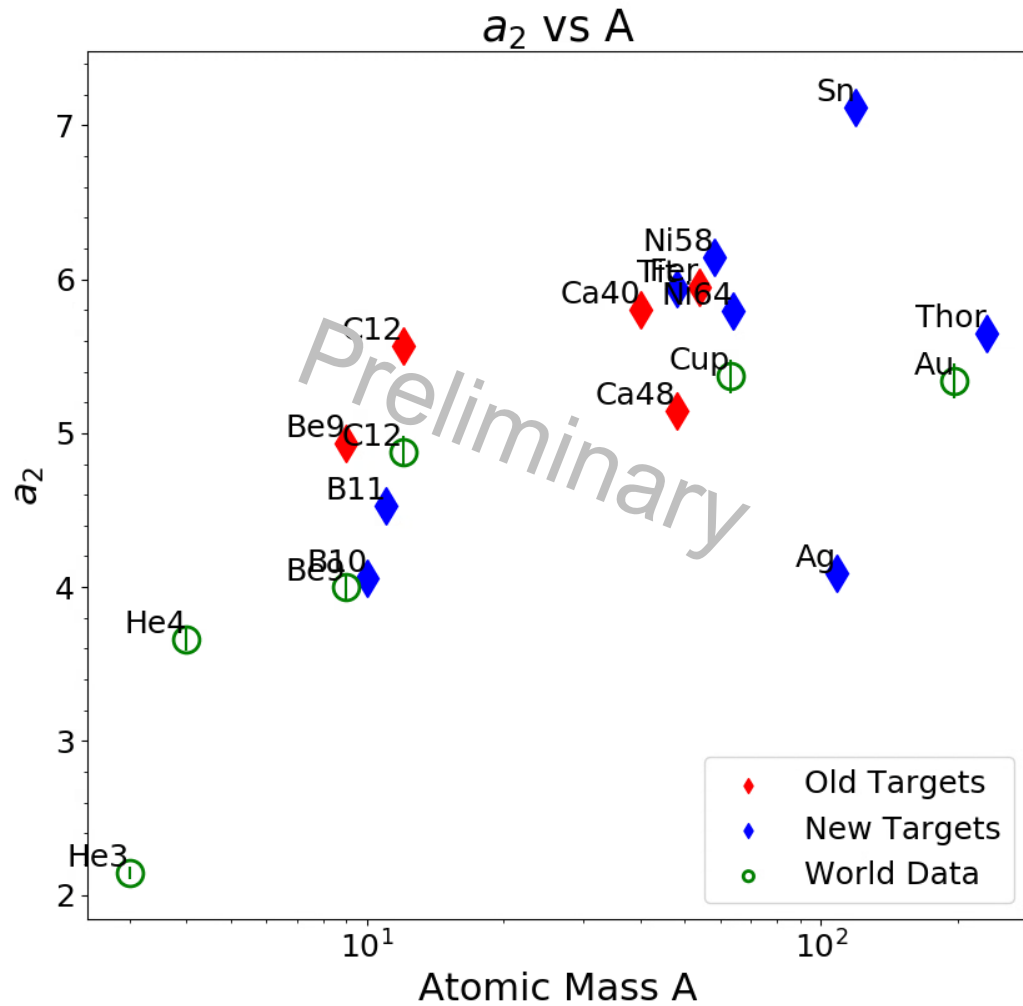
XS Ratios (9.2 GeV 8°) - old



XS Ratios (9.2 GeV 8°) - new



Nuclear Dependences: a_2 vs A & a_2 vs N/Z



Thanks



Spokespeople:

- John Arrington (LBL), Nadia Fomin (UTK) & Dave Gaskell (JLab)

Graduate Students:

- Cameron Cotton (UVA), Abishek Karki* (MSU), Casey Morean* (UTK), Ramon Ogaz (UTK), Abhyuday Sharda (UTK), Sebastian Vasquez (UCR), Zoe Wolters (UNH), Jordan O’Kronley (UTK)

Other Collaborators:

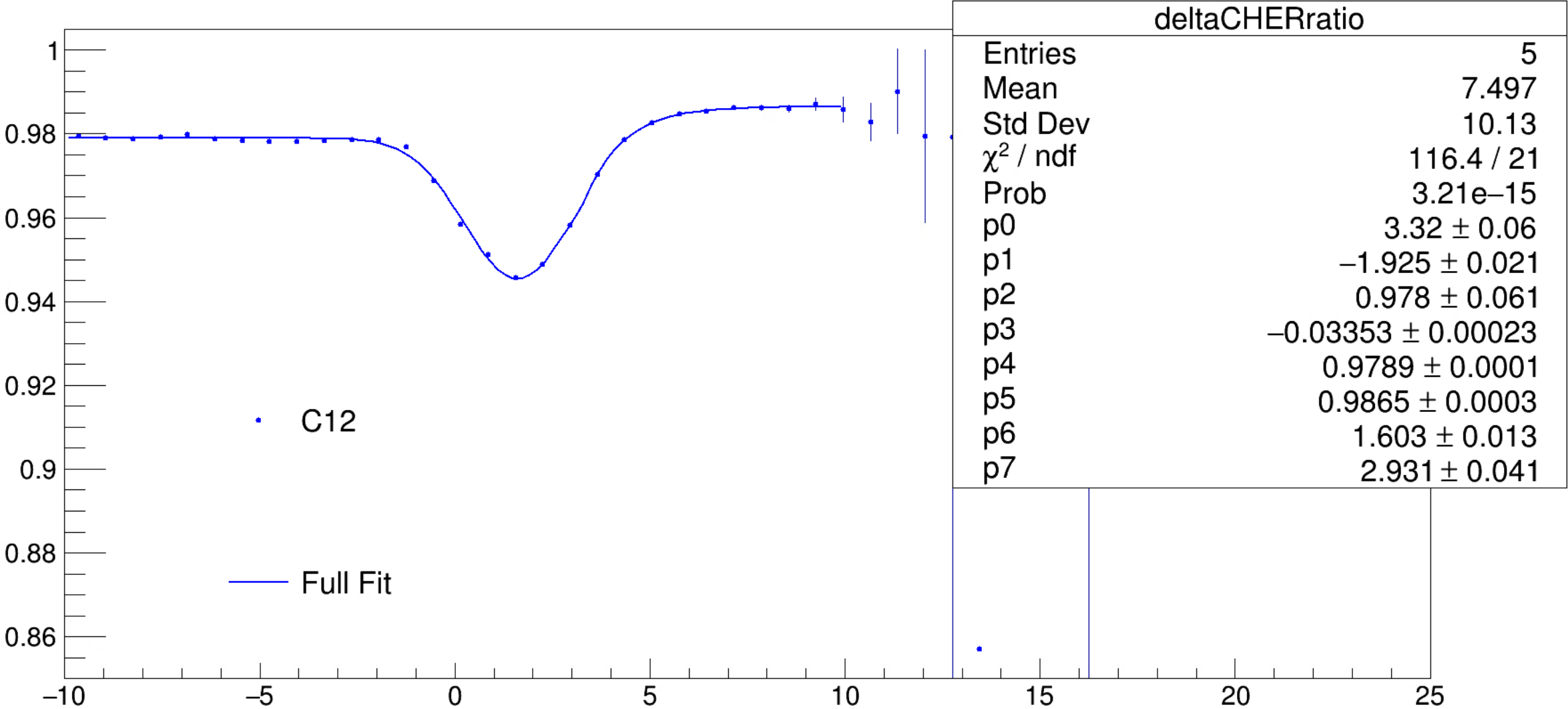
- Burcu Duran (NMSU), Miguel Arratia (UCR), Dipangkar Dutta (MSU), Shujie Li (LBL), Dien Nguyen (UTK), Nathaly Santiesteban (UNH), Xiaochao Zheng (UVA), Tyler Hague (JLab)

DOE award: DE-SC0013615

* Graduated

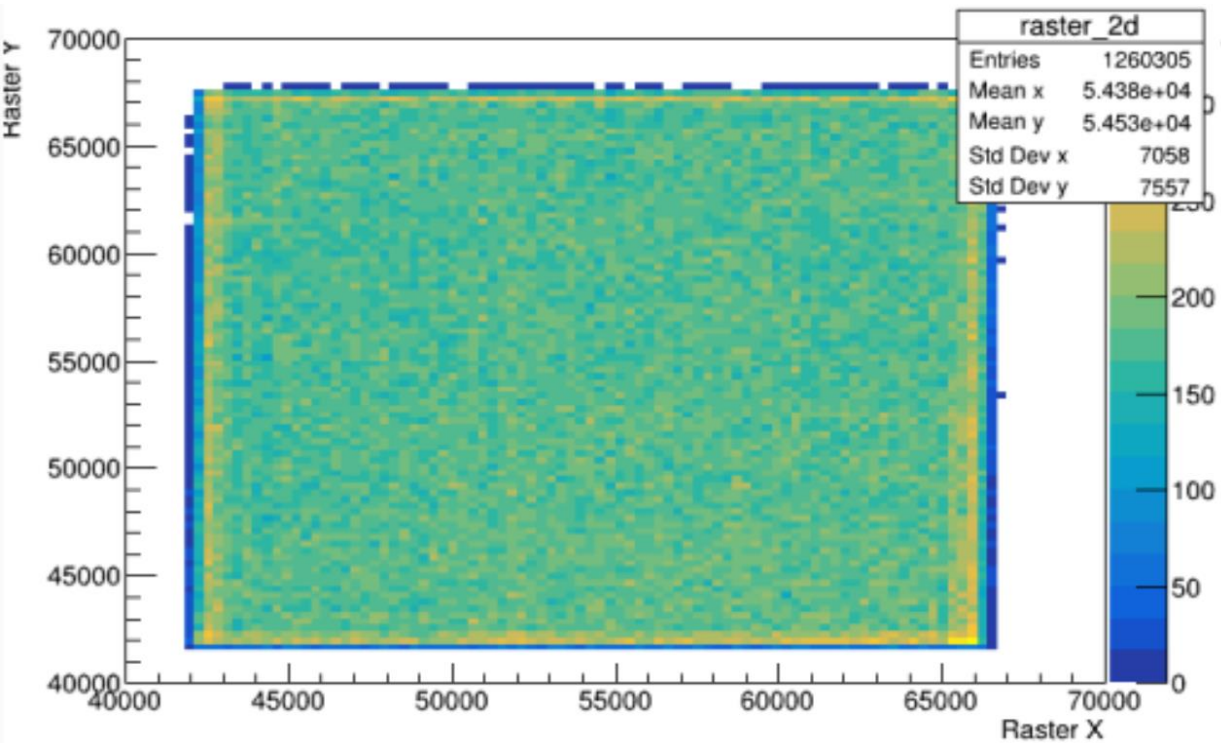
Cherenkov Detector Efficiency

delta from DATA (ratio)

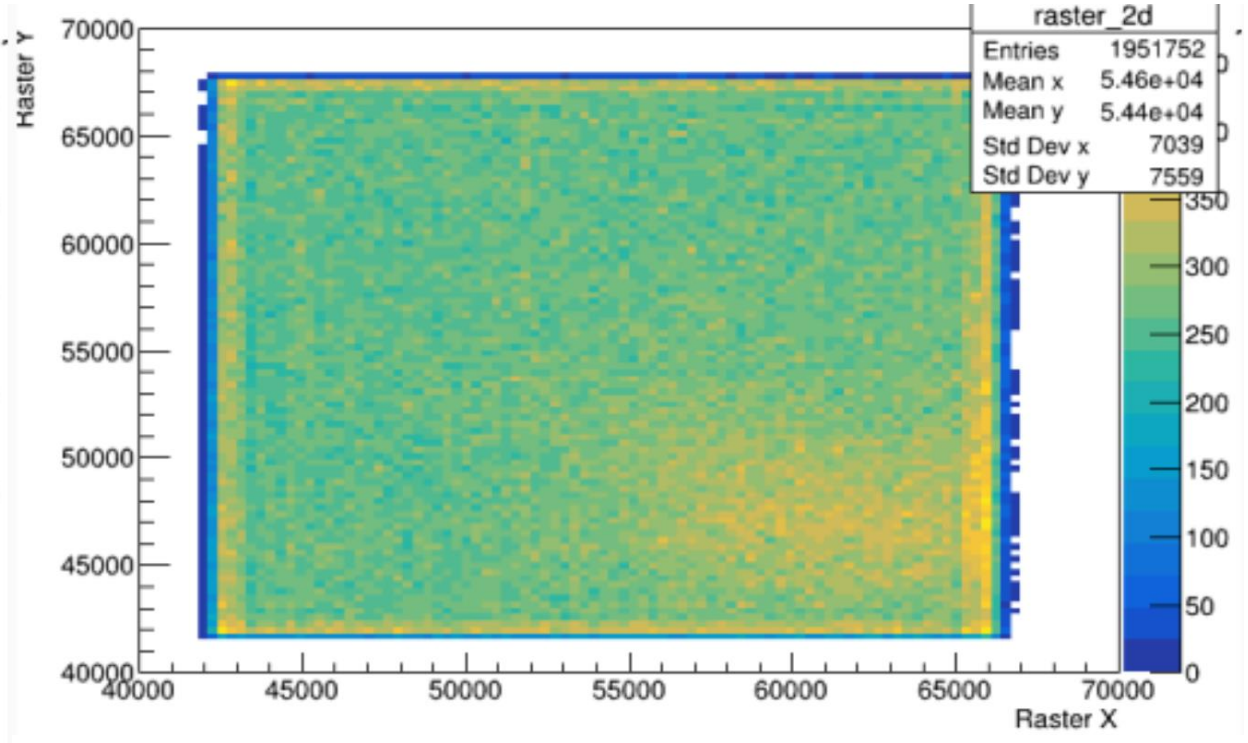


Li target Melting

Before



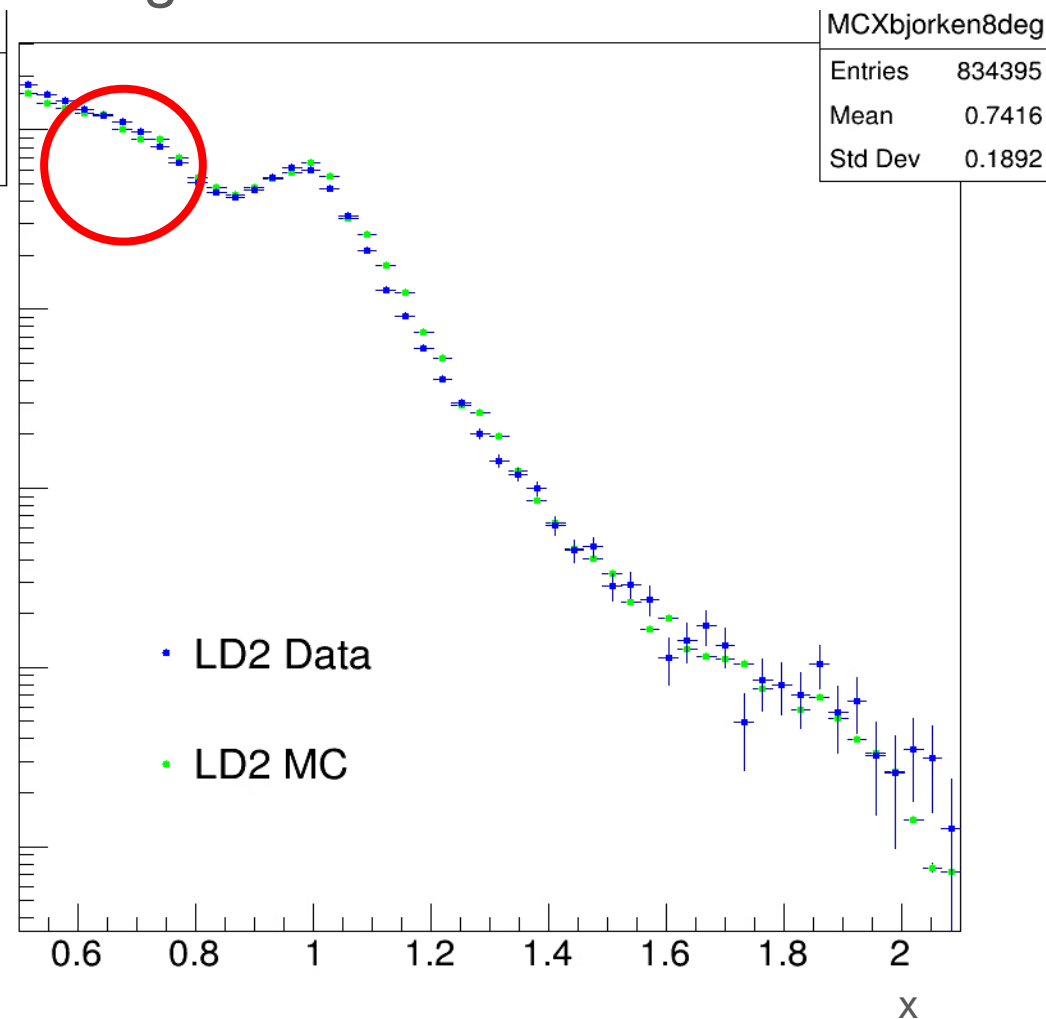
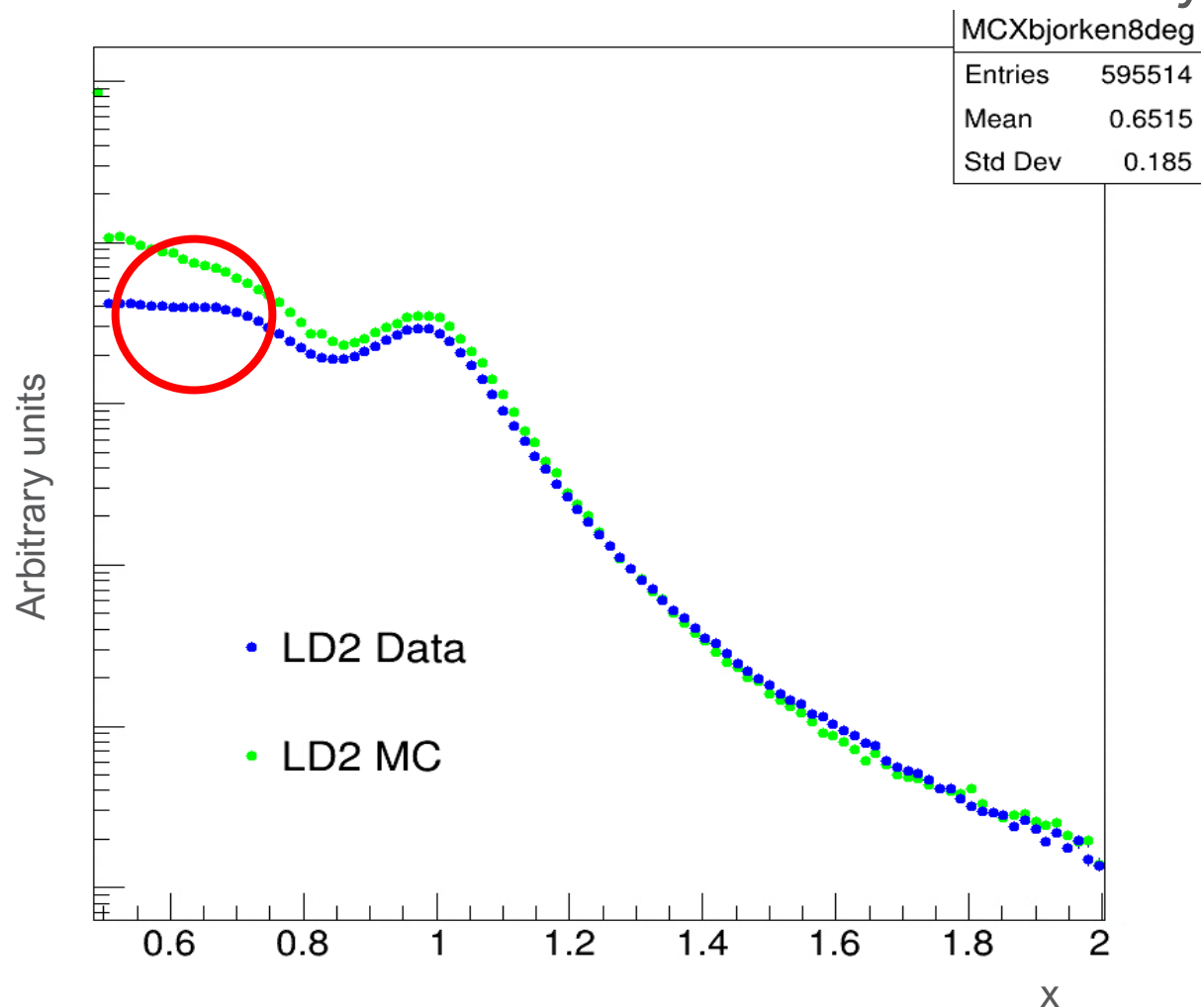
After



Uneven raster distribution suggests target deformation from melting

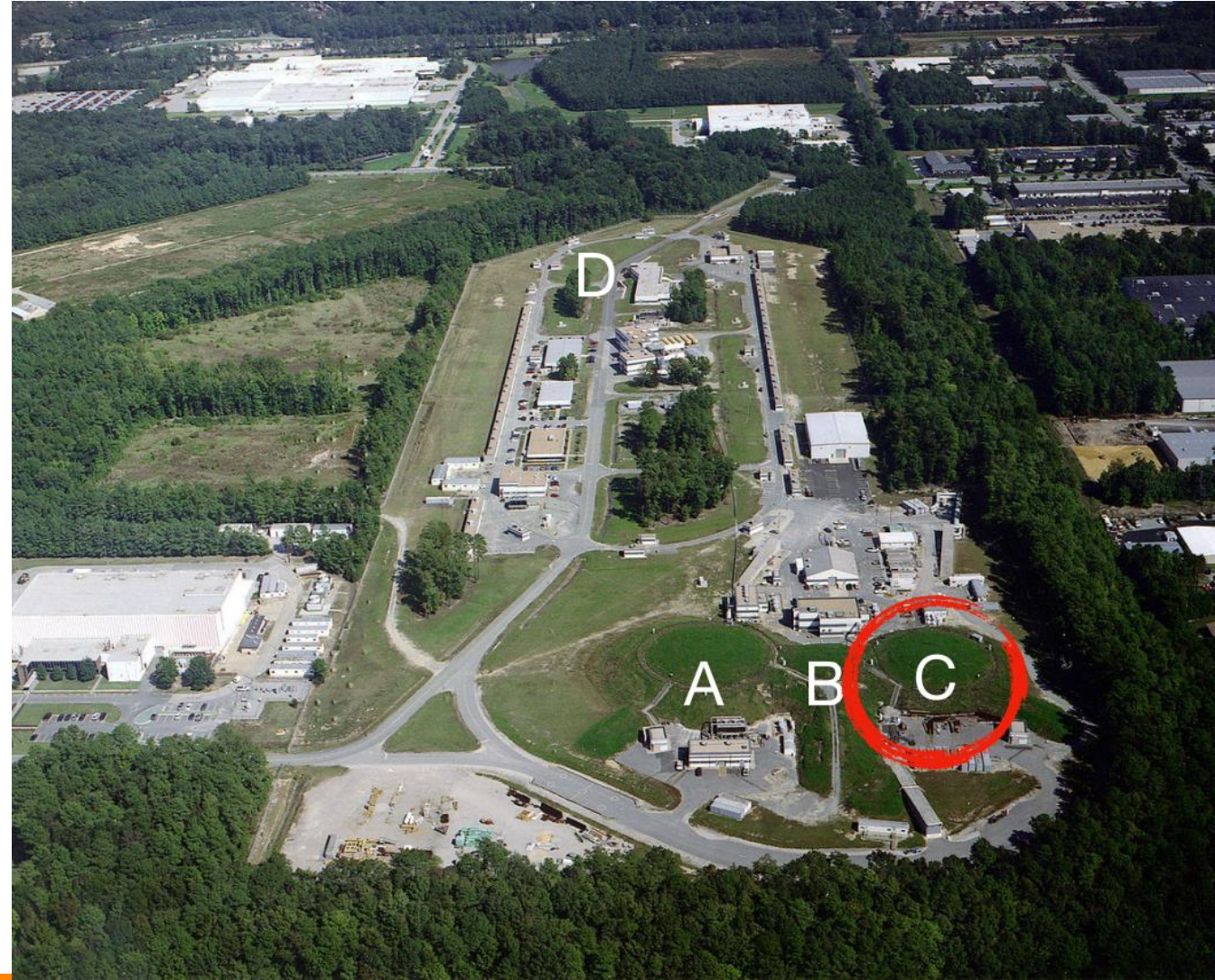
Hodoscope geometric configurations

Turning off a section of the detector where we don't expect any $x > 1$ events in order to increase DAQ efficiency at high x



Jefferson Lab & Beam details

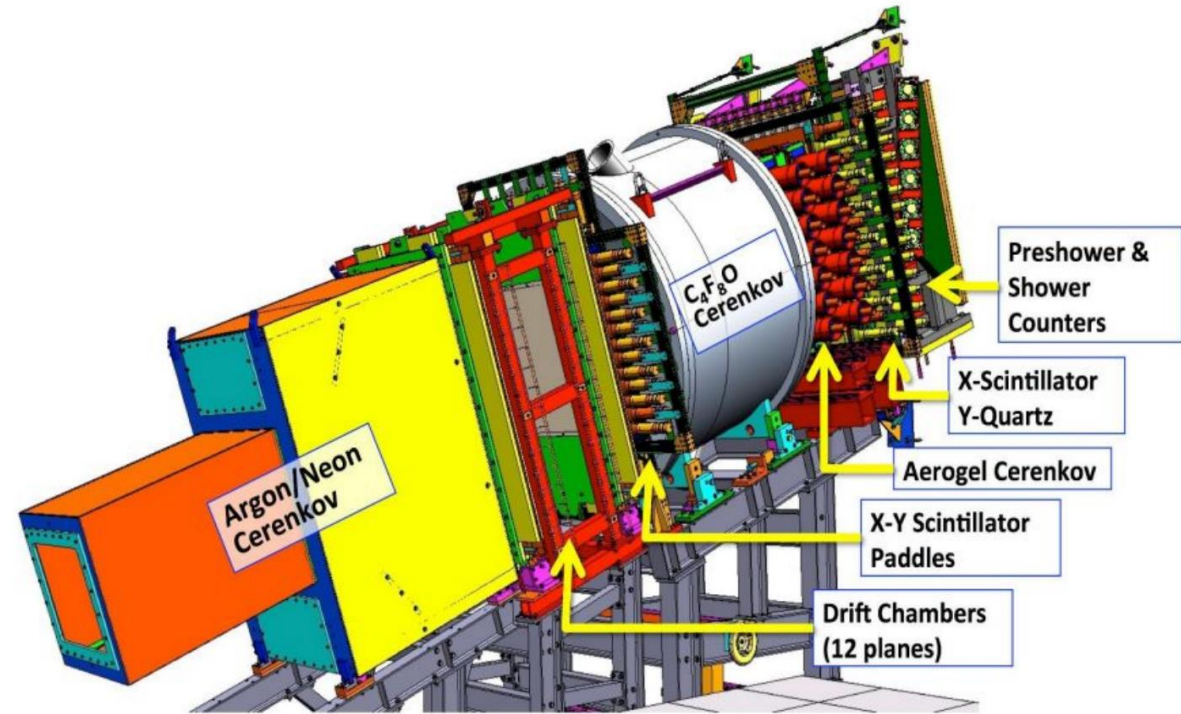
- Jlab delivers up to 70 μA of electrons at a frequency of 249.5 MHz
- Energy of the beam delivered is up to 11 GeV
- Beam size is about 600 μm in diameter



Experimental Setup (SHMS)

- Noble Gas Cherenkov: Particle ID
- Drift Chambers: Tracking
- Hodoscope (Scintillator Paddles): Primary Trigger
- Heavy Gas and Aerosol Cherenkov: UNUSED
- Calorimeter: Energy

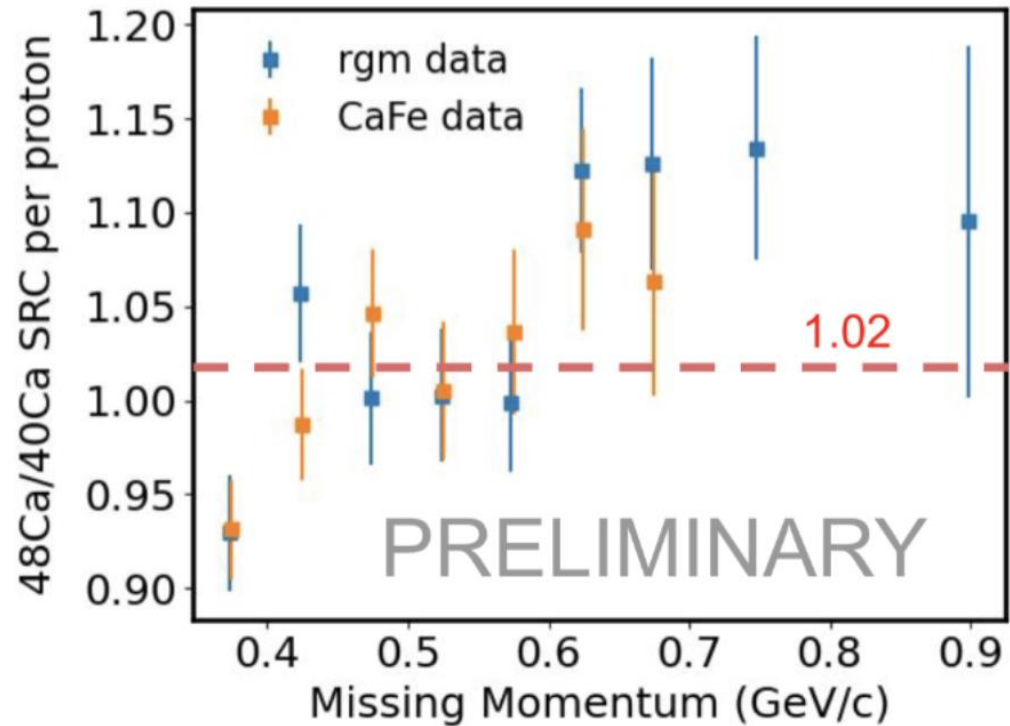
Particle Detectors inside the SHMS



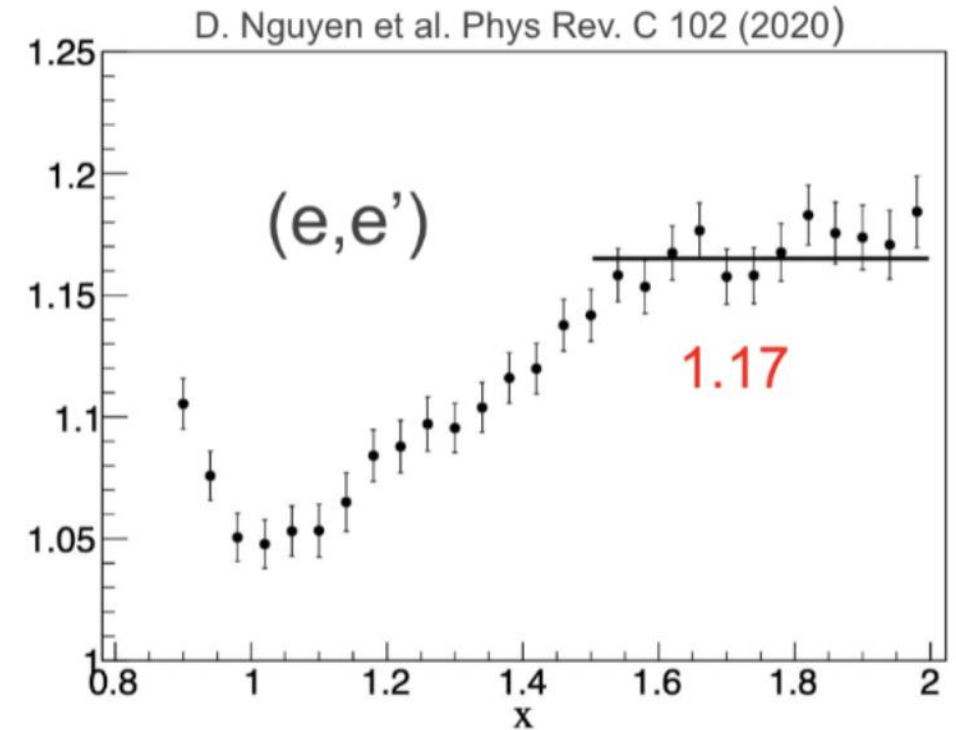
- Credit: Burcu Duran

First Look at Nuclear Dependences

- Inclusive vs Exclusive Experiments



$$\frac{\sigma(^{48}\text{Ca})}{\sigma(^{40}\text{Ca})}$$

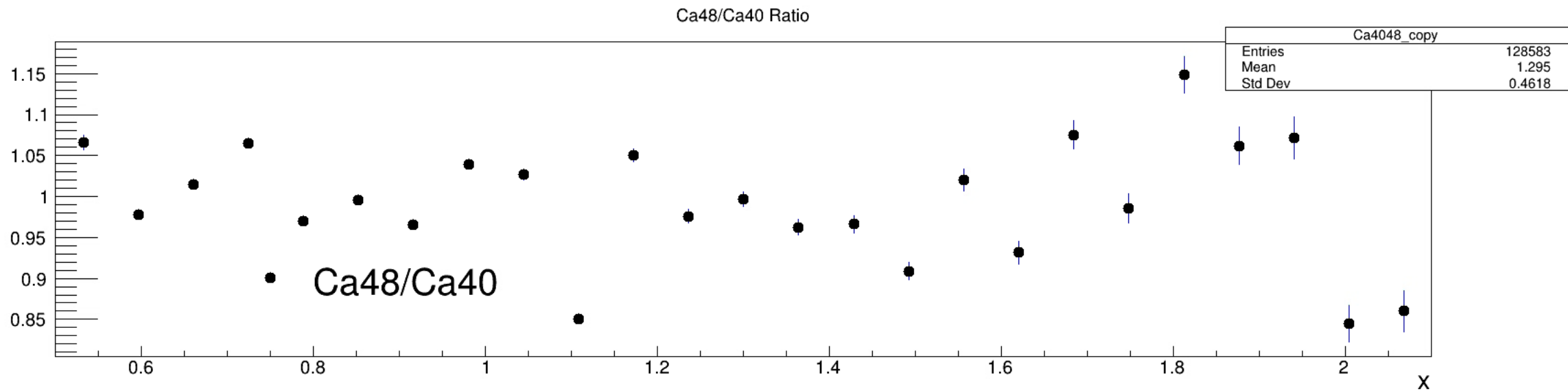


Weinstein L, Cohen E and Higinbotham D The CaFe Experiment: Short-Range Pairing Mechanisms in Heavy Nuclei Proposal to Jefferson Lab PAC 44

Next steps, issues

- Hodoscope configurations Simulations
 - Geometric cut to exclude low x particles
- Melting/damaged targets
 - Lithium & Tin
- Target contamination
- Optics
- Systematic Errors

Cross Section Ratio / Nucleon



Cross Section Ratio / Nucleon

