

# Welcome and Overview

$b_1/A_{zz}$  Tensor Collaboration

Jefferson Lab  
2025-10-13

Karl J Slifer  
University of New Hampshire



Jefferson Lab



E12-13-011: The  $b_1$  experiment

41 Days in Jlab Hall C  
A- Physics Rating

E12-15-005:  $A_{zz}$  for  $x>1$

44 Days in Jlab Hall C  
A- Physics Rating

Spokespersons

Chen, Day, Higinbotham, Kalantarians,  
Keller, Long, Rondon, Santiesteban, Slifer

# History

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2010 : LOI-11-003 b1

2011 : PAC 37 cross section method. Withdrawn

2013 : PAC 40 PR12-13-001. A- C1 conditional approved

2014 : 1st Tensor Workshop at Jefferson Lab

2015 : PAC 43 PR12-15-005 Azz proposal. Conditional approved.

**2022 : Full Approval after Conditional Review**

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**2023 : PAC 51 Jeopardy Review of b1/Azz**

running conditions modified:  $P_{zz}$  from 30  $\rightarrow$  26%, I from 115 to 85 nA

2023 : 2<sup>nd</sup> Tensor Workshop at ECT\*

2024 : CLAS Approved Analysis of RG-C Deuteron Data

2025 : EPJA Topical Review

2025 : Tensor Collaboration Meeting



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2025 : Tensor Collaboration Meeting

**2026? : ERR**

3rd Tensor Workshop



# Workforce

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## Grad Students

Jay Roberts (UVA)  
Sujan Subedi (UVA)  
Muhammad Farooq (UNH)  
Michael McClellan (UNH)  
Hector Chinchay (UNH)  
Chhetra Lama (UNH)  
Anchit Arora (UNH)  
Zoe Wolters (UNH)  
Devin Seay (UVA)  
Aden Whitney (UNH)

## Undergrads

Ian Cruz (UVA)  
Eli Phippard (UNH)  
Shane Clements (UVA)

## Post-docs

Ishara Fernando  
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Forhad Hossain

## +Faculty

David Ruth  
Carlos Yero

## Jlab Staff

Jiwan Poudel  
Jian-Ping Chen  
Chris Keith  
James Maxwell  
+whole target group....  
Dave Mack  
Doug Higinbotham  
Dave Gaskell  
Hanjie Liu  
Mark M. Dalton

## Spokespeople

Jian-Ping Chen  
Donal Day  
Douglas Higinbotham  
Narbe Kalantarians  
Dustin Keller  
Elena Long  
Oscar Rondon  
Nathaly Santiesteban  
Karl Slifer

# Observable: Tensor Asymmetry $A_{zz}$

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$$A_{zz} = \left[ \frac{2}{f P_{zz}} \right] \left[ \frac{\sigma(P_z, P_{zz}) + \sigma(-P_z, P_{zz})}{\sigma(P_z, 0) + \sigma(-P_z, 0)} - 1 \right]$$

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma(+P_z, P_{zz})$$

$$\sigma_2 = \sigma(-P_z, P_{zz})$$

$$\sigma_3 = \sigma(+P_z, 0)$$

$$\sigma_4 = \sigma(-P_z, 0)$$

$$\text{sensitivity to slow drifts} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_{\text{flips}}}}$$

## New Information

Since the original PAC review, we have increased the planned number of polarization state flips from about once per day to about once per hour

This reduces the sensitivity to slow drifts by about  $1/\sqrt{24}$

And allows reduction in running requirements

$P_{zz} = 26\%$  (originally was 30%)

$I = 85 \text{ nA}$  (originally was 115nA)

Request for Polarized beam (originally assumed unpol)

Tensor polarization allows control of the nuclear spatial configuration



Tensor polarization allows control of the nuclear spatial configuration



Measuring  $A_{zz}$  over a broad range in  $x$  gives access to :

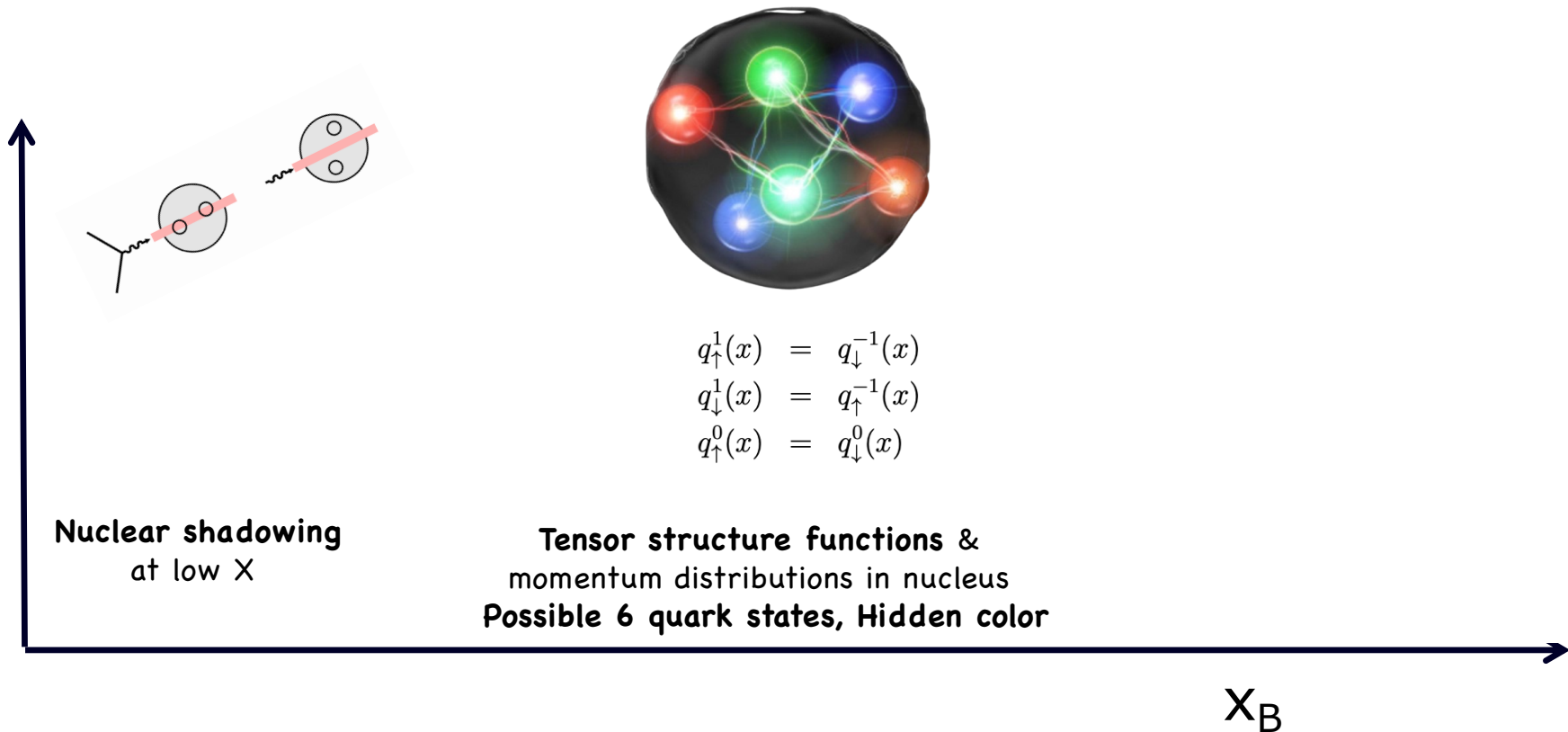
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Tensor polarization allows control of the nuclear spatial configuration



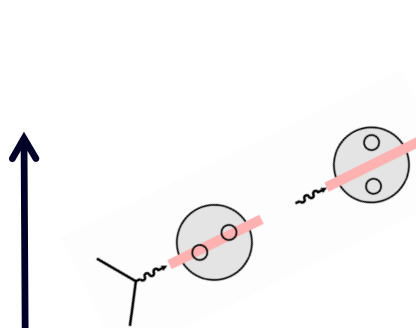
Measuring  $A_{zz}$  over a broad range in  $x$  gives access to :



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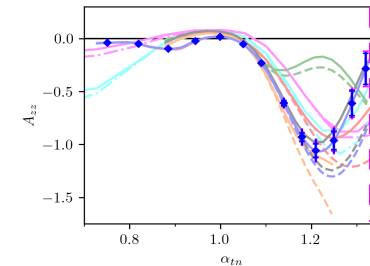


**Nuclear shadowing**  
at low  $x$



$$\begin{aligned} q_{\uparrow}^1(x) &= q_{\downarrow}^{-1}(x) \\ q_{\downarrow}^1(x) &= q_{\uparrow}^{-1}(x) \\ q_{\uparrow}^0(x) &= q_{\downarrow}^0(x) \end{aligned}$$

**Tensor structure functions &  
momentum distributions in nucleus**  
**Possible 6 quark states, Hidden color**



$$A_{zz} \propto \frac{\frac{1}{2} w^2(k) + u(k) w(k) \sqrt{2}}{u^2(k) + w^2(k)}$$

**S/D Wave components**  
SRCs at large  $x$

$x_B$

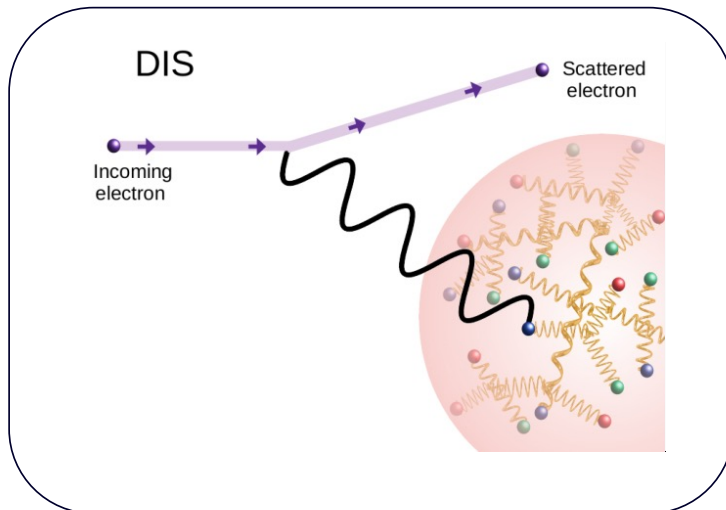
# $b_1$ structure function

$$\begin{aligned}
 W_{\mu\nu} = & -F_1 g_{\mu\nu} + F_2 \frac{P_\mu P_\nu}{\nu} \\
 & + i \frac{g_1}{\nu} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} q^\lambda s^\sigma + i \frac{g_2}{\nu^2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} q^\lambda (p \cdot q s^\sigma - s \cdot q p^\sigma) \\
 & - b_1 r_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{6} b_2 (s_{\mu\nu} + t_{\mu\nu} + u_{\mu\nu}) \\
 & + \frac{1}{2} b_3 (s_{\mu\nu} - u_{\mu\nu}) + \frac{1}{2} b_4 (s_{\mu\nu} - t_{\mu\nu})
 \end{aligned}$$

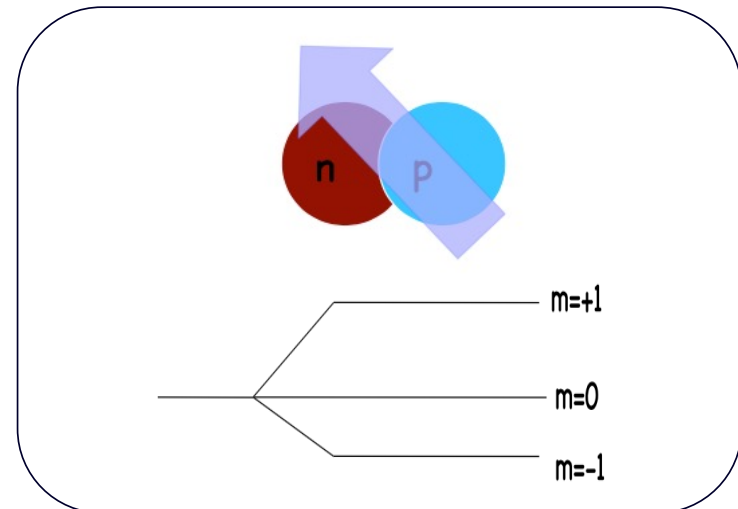
difference of spin averaged parton distributions  
of a  $m=0$  and  $m=1$  nuclear target

$$b_1(x) = \frac{q^0(x) - q^1(x)}{2}$$

Hoodbhoy, Jaffe & Manohar (1989)  
Interpretation in Parton model

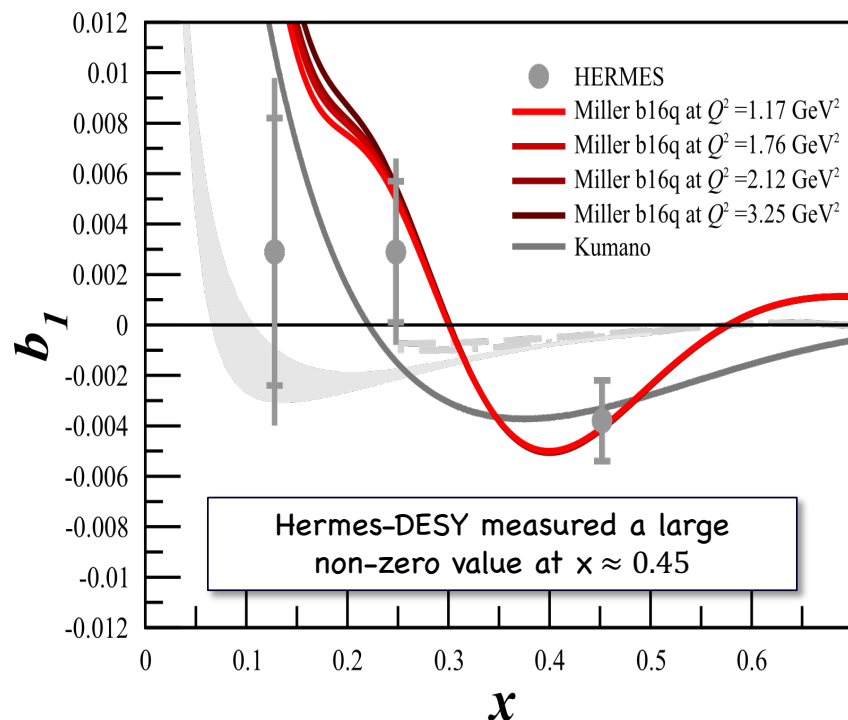


DIS (probing partons)



but depends on the Nuclear Spin State

# Conventional Nuclear Physics can not reproduce HERMES Data



Khan & Hoodbhoy, PRC 44 ,1219 (1991) :  $b_1 \approx O(10^{-4})$   
Relativistic convolution model with binding

Umnikov, PLB 391, 177 (1997) :  $b_1 \approx O(10^{-3})$   
Relativistic convolution with Bethe-Salpeter formalism

W. Cosyn, Y. Dong, S. Kumano, M. Sargsian PRD95 (2017) 074036  
Standard Convolution description

*"new mechanism [is needed] to explain  
large differences between current data  
and our theoretical results"*

*"room for more advanced or exotic mechanisms  
playing an important role"*

**Cosyn et. al PRD95 (2017) 074036**

**G. Miller PRC89 (2014) 045203**

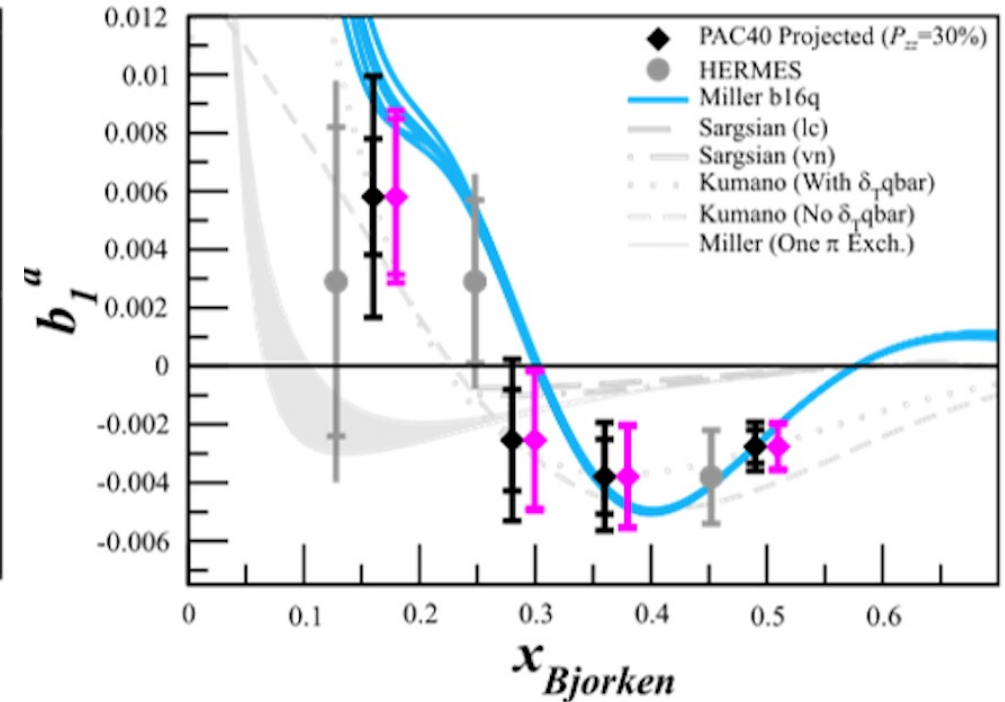
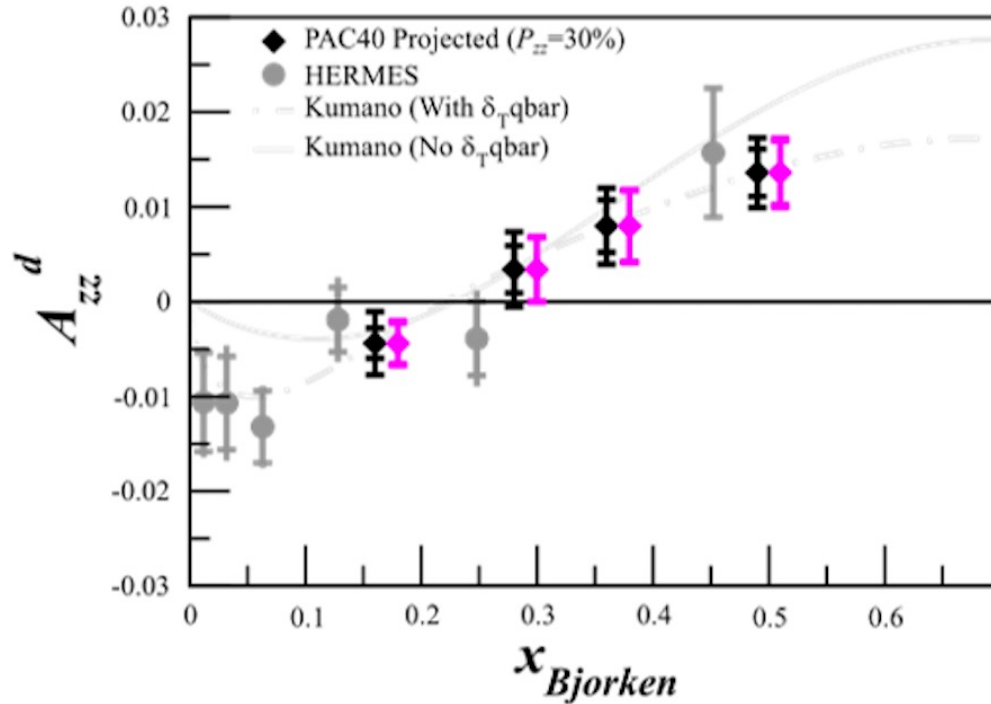
Pionic and Hidden-Color, Six-Quark Contributions to the Deuteron  $b_1$  Structure Function

6-quark probability needed to ( $P_{6Q} = 0.0015$ ) is small enough  
that it does not violate conventional nuclear physics.

# $b_1$ Projected Results

Measured Observable

$$b_1 = -\frac{3}{2}F_1^d A_{zz}$$



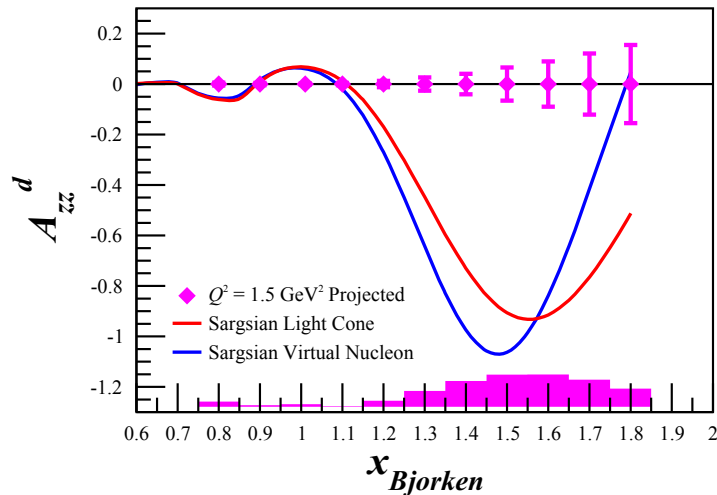
Projections based on

◆ PAC40 Projected ( $P_{zz}=30\%$ ,  $I=115\text{nA}$ )

◆ New Projected ( $P_{zz}=26\%$ ,  $I=85\text{nA}$ ) With frequent spin flips

# E12-15-005: $A_{ZZ}$ Experiment

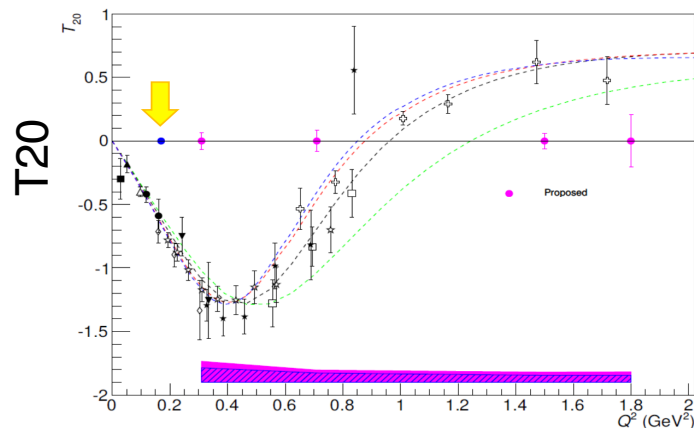
## $A_{ZZ}$ in the $x > 1$ Region



Very Large Tensor Asymmetries predicted

Sensitive to the S/D-wave ratio in the deuteron wave function

$4\sigma$  discrim between hard/soft wave functions  
 $6\sigma$  discrim between relativistic models



“further explores the nature of short-range pn correlations, the discovery of which was one of the most important results of the 6 GeV nuclear program.”

PAC44 Theory Report

# CLAS APPROVED ANALYSIS OF RGC DATA

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[Submitted on 27 Feb 2025 (v1), last revised 11 Jun 2025 (this version, v3)]

## Spin 1 Transverse Momentum Dependent Tensor Structure Functions in CLAS12

Jiwan Poudel, Alessandro Bacchetta, Jian-Ping Chen, Dustin Keller, Ishara Fernando, Elena Long, David Ruth, Nathaly Santiesteban, Karl Slifer

We propose to analyze CLAS12 RG-C data to study the tensor transverse-momentum-dependent parton distribution functions (TMDs) on deuteron data. The deuteron is the lightest nucleus with spin-1, in essence a weakly bound system of two spin-1/2 nucleons. However, one of the most intriguing characteristics of the deuteron is that the tensor polarized structure provides direct access to the quark and gluon distribution of light nuclear system, which cannot be naively constructed from the proton and neutron. We will study the tensor polarized structure functions with the Semi-inclusive Deep Inelastic Scattering (SIDIS)  $eD \rightarrow eP_X$  and Inclusive processes in the available data on deuterated ammonia (ND<sub>3</sub>) target. We will perform the first ever SIDIS analysis extraction of the tensor structure functions, which can be interpreted in term of completely unexplored tensor polarized TMDs. Our analysis will focus on the extraction of the tensor structure functions  $b_1$  from inclusive process, and  $F_{U(LL),T}$  and  $F^{\cos 2\phi_h}_{U(LL)}$  from SIDIS. These last two structure functions carry information related to two tensor-polarized TMDs,  $f_{1LL}$  and  $h^{\perp}_{1LL}$ . These initial exploratory measurements of tensor-polarized structure functions will enable the first extraction of spin-1 TMDs and motivate more precise future measurements.

Subjects: **High Energy Physics - Phenomenology (hep-ph)**; High Energy Physics - Experiment (hep-ex)

Cite as: [arXiv:2502.20044](https://arxiv.org/abs/2502.20044) [hep-ph]

(or [arXiv:2502.20044v3](https://arxiv.org/abs/2502.20044v3) [hep-ph] for this version)

<https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2502.20044> 

## Phd Students analyzing RGC deuteron data in preparation for b1/Azz

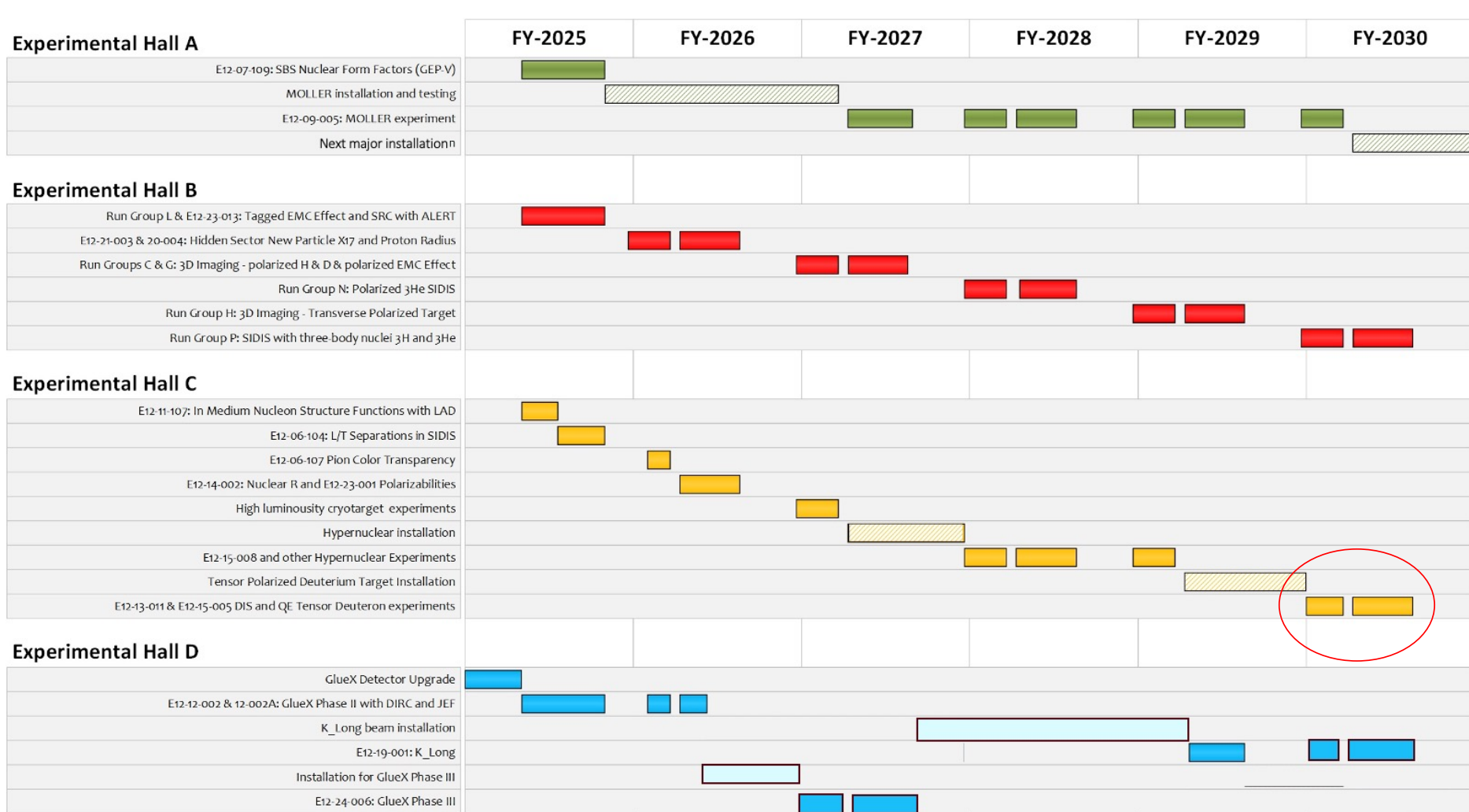
Chhetra Lama : Inclusive Quasi-elastic Tensor Asymmetry

M. Farooq : Inclusive DIS Tensor Asymmetry

Hector Chinchay : Semi-Inclusive DIS Tensor Asymmetry

Coordinated by  
Nathaly S.

# Accelerator Schedule



9

D. Higinbotham  
Nuclear Physics Experimental Schedule  
July 21, 2025. PAC 53

# Goals of this meeting

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- 1) Assess progress made since 2023 (Jeopardy)
- 2) Set a specific goal date for the ERR
- 3) Advocate for the earliest possible Running



Group Photo at 1<sup>st</sup> coffee break

Social Event

7:00 PM Monday



Tradition Brewing Company

700 Thimble Shoals Blvd  
Newport News, VA 23606