

A1n Update

Xiaochao Zheng

University of Virginia

January 27, 2026

For the JLab E12-06-110 Collaboration

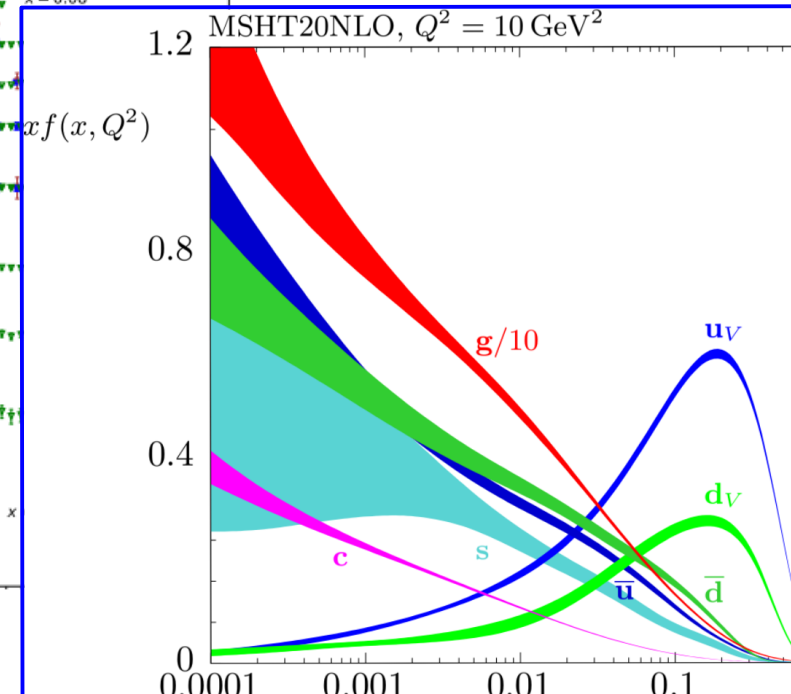
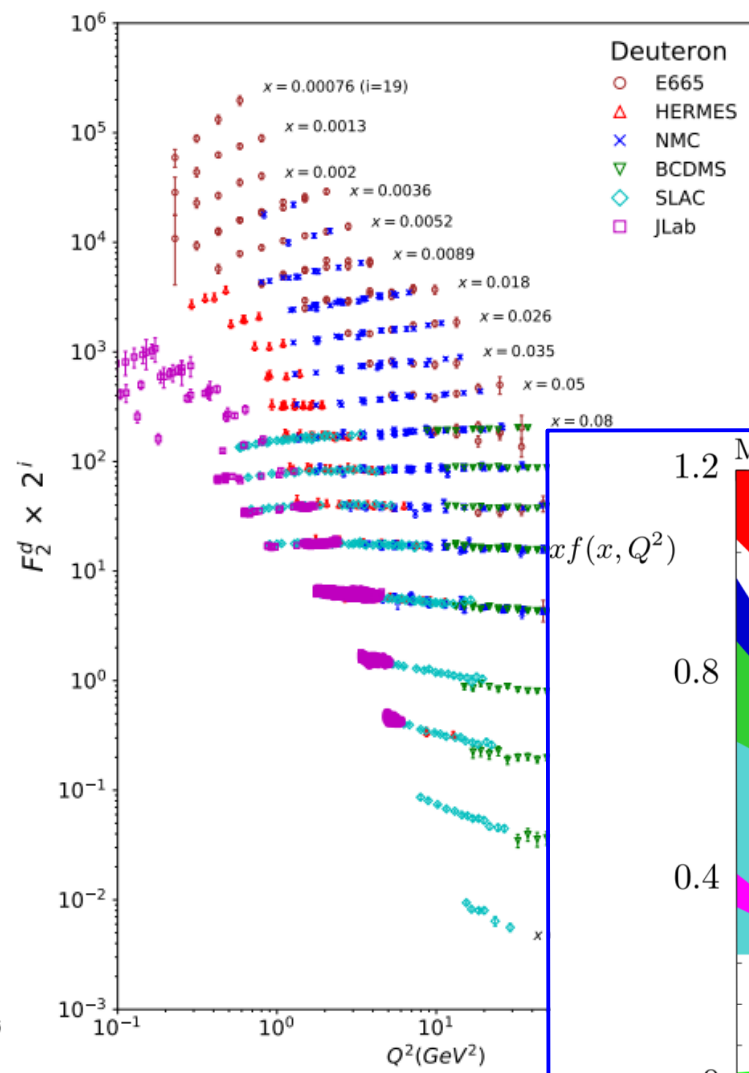
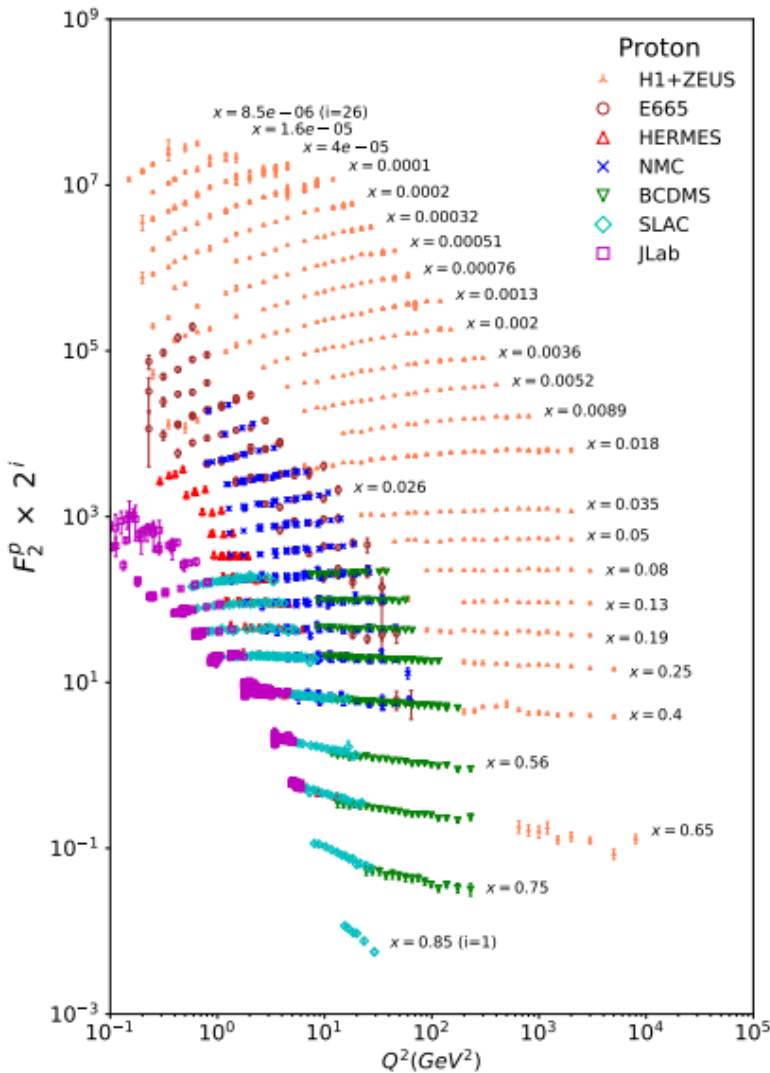
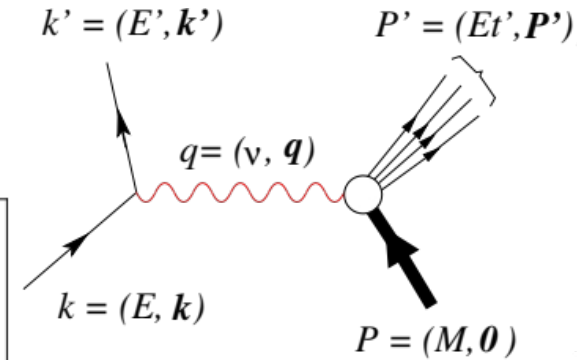


 **Jefferson Lab**

Hall C Winter Collaboration Meeting Jan 26-27, 2026

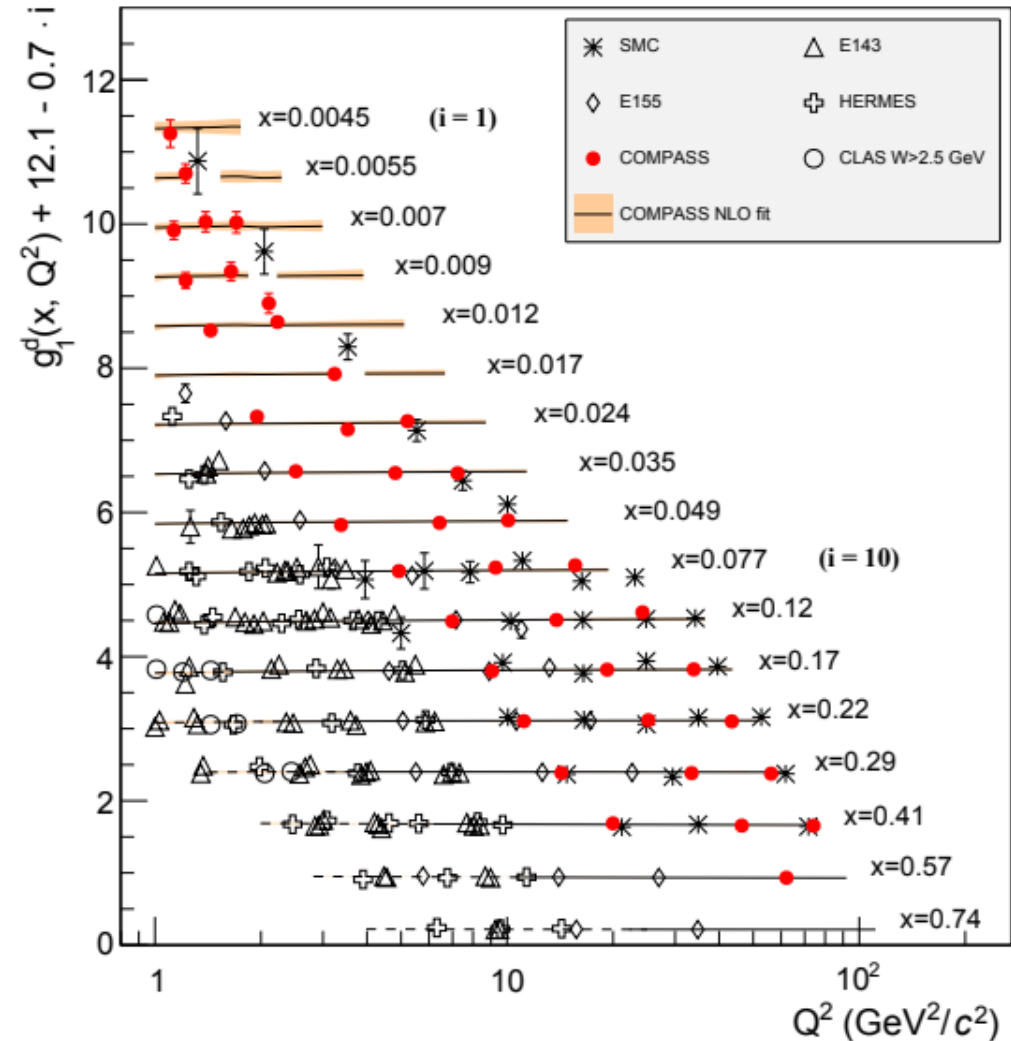
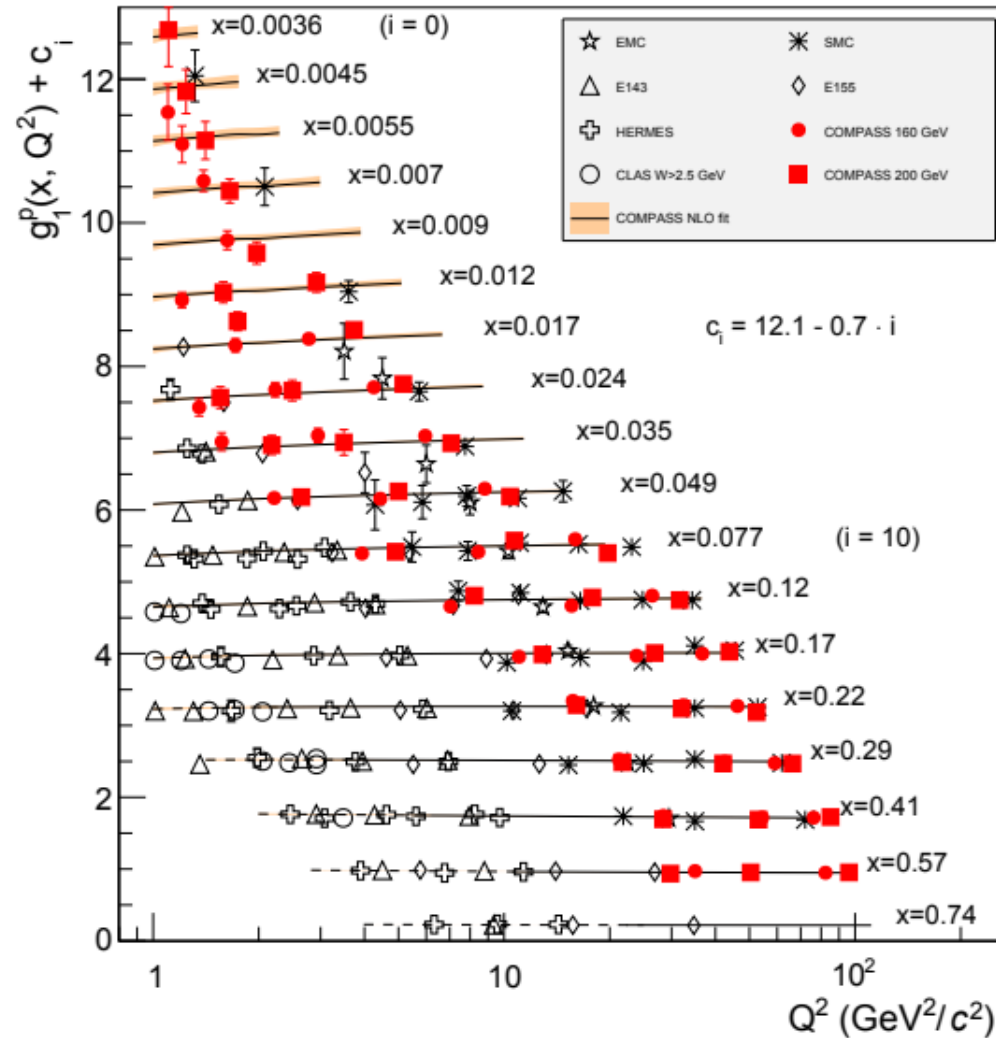
Inclusive Lepton Scattering Formalism (Unpolarized)

$$\frac{d^2 \sigma_0}{d\Omega dE'} \propto \sigma_{Mott} \left[\alpha F_2(x, Q^2) + \beta F_1(x, Q^2) \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right]$$



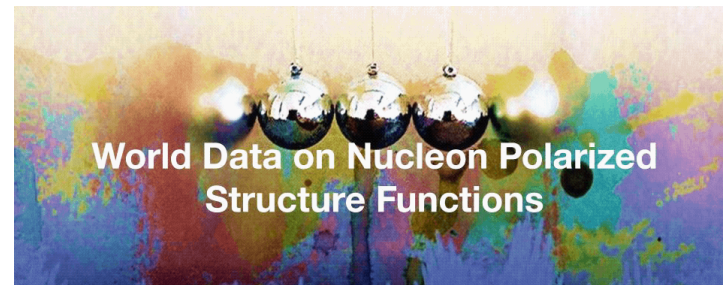
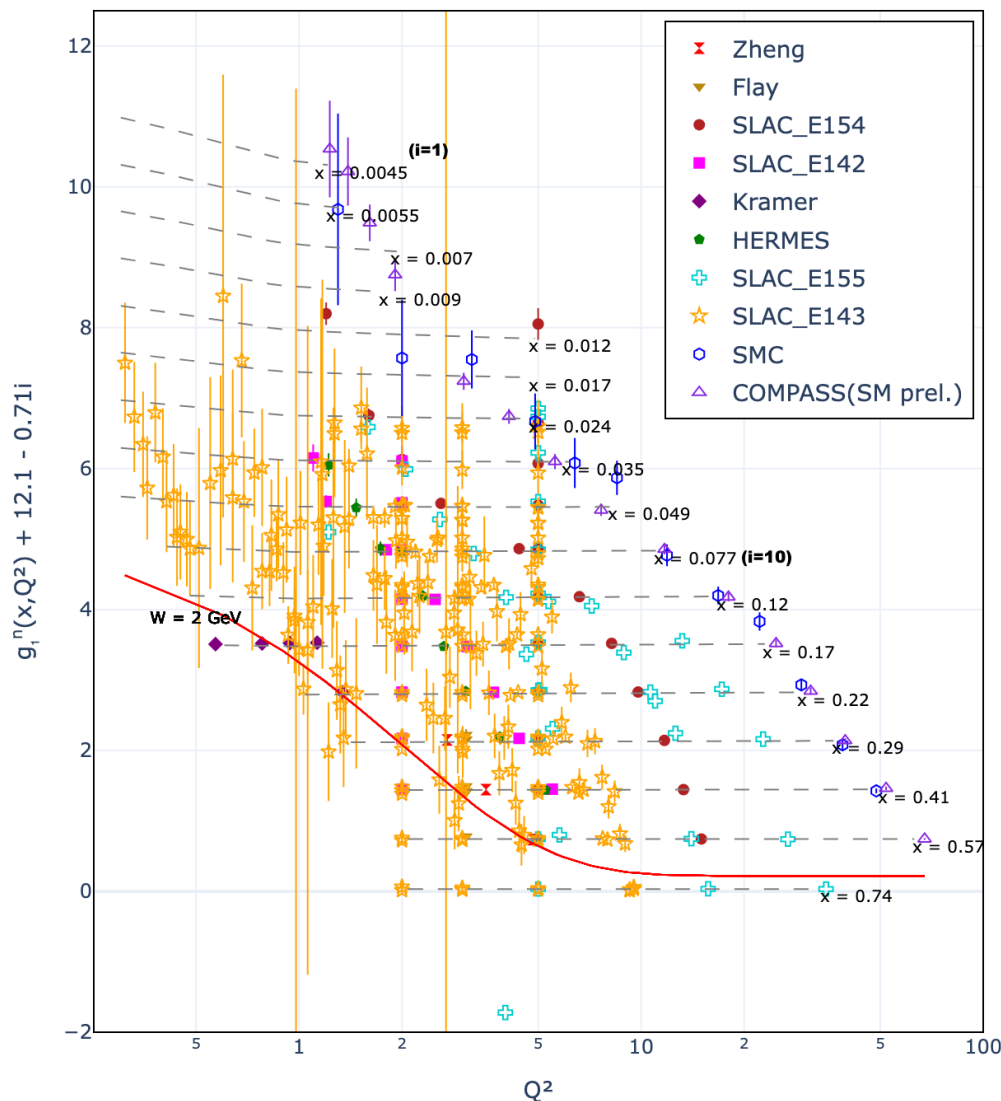
Inclusive Lepton Scattering Formalism (Polarized)

$$\frac{d^2\sigma^{\uparrow\downarrow}}{d\Omega dE'} - \frac{d^2\sigma^{\uparrow\uparrow}}{d\Omega dE'} \propto \sigma_{\text{point-like}} \left[\alpha' g_1(x, Q^2) + \beta' g_2(x, Q^2) \right]$$



Inclusive Lepton Scattering Formalism (Polarized)

$g_1^n(x, Q^2)$ vs Q^2

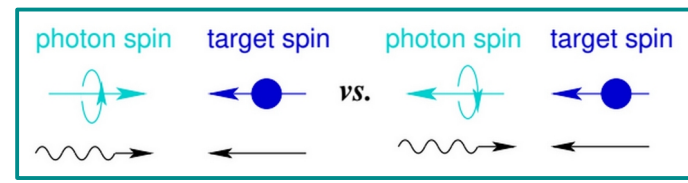


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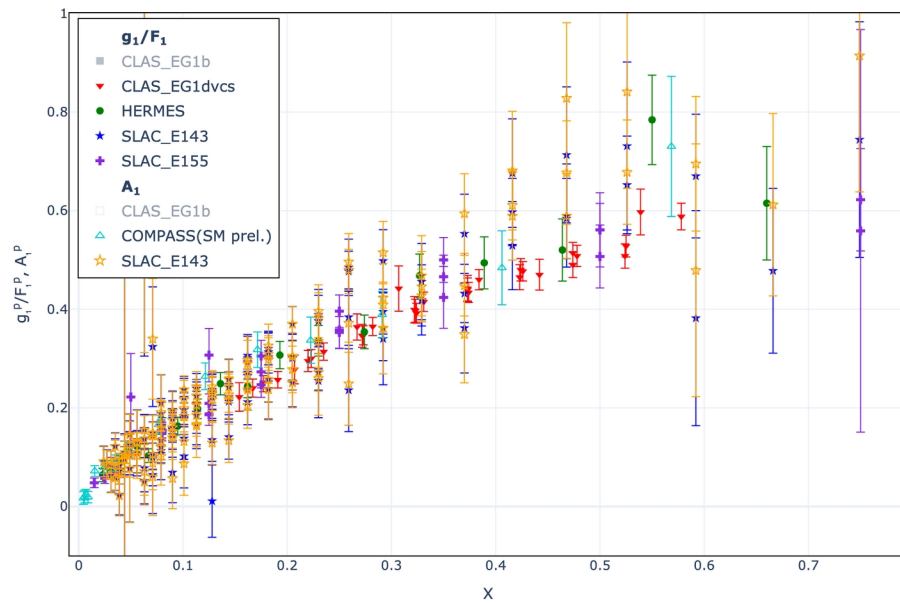
website built by Scarlett Morse (UVA):
<https://qnz3gx.github.io/sim.github.io/>

World Data on Spin Asymmetries

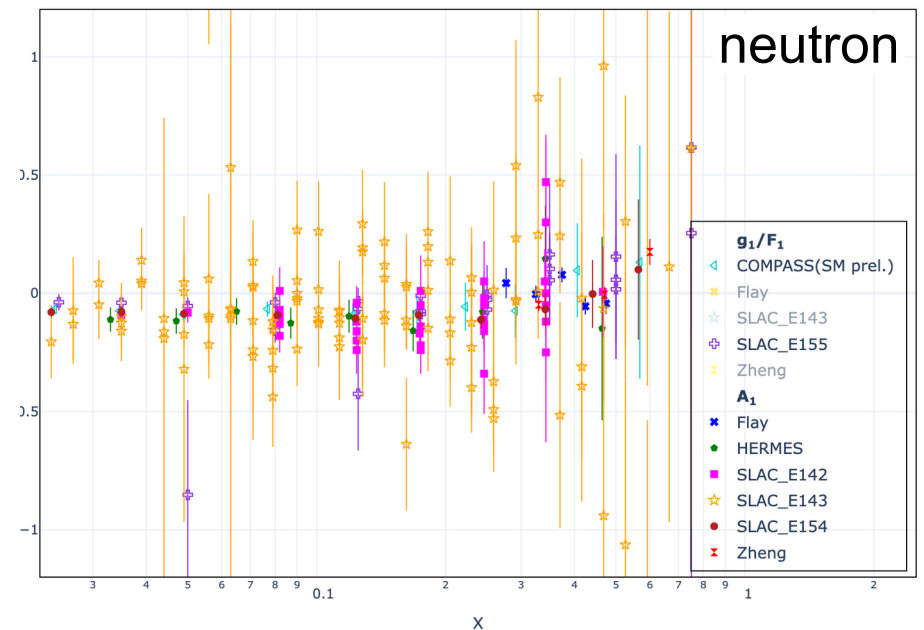
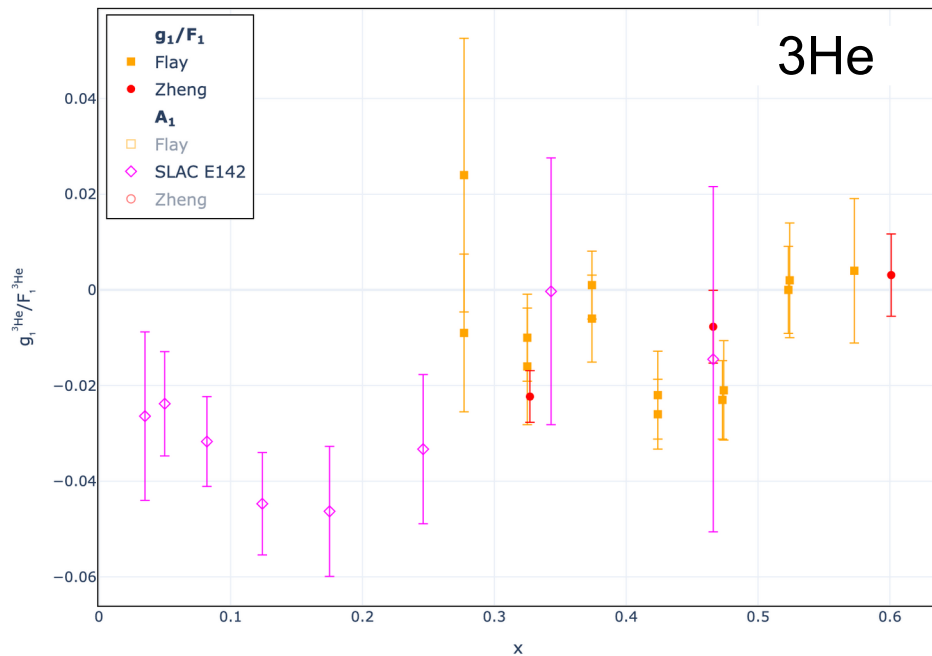
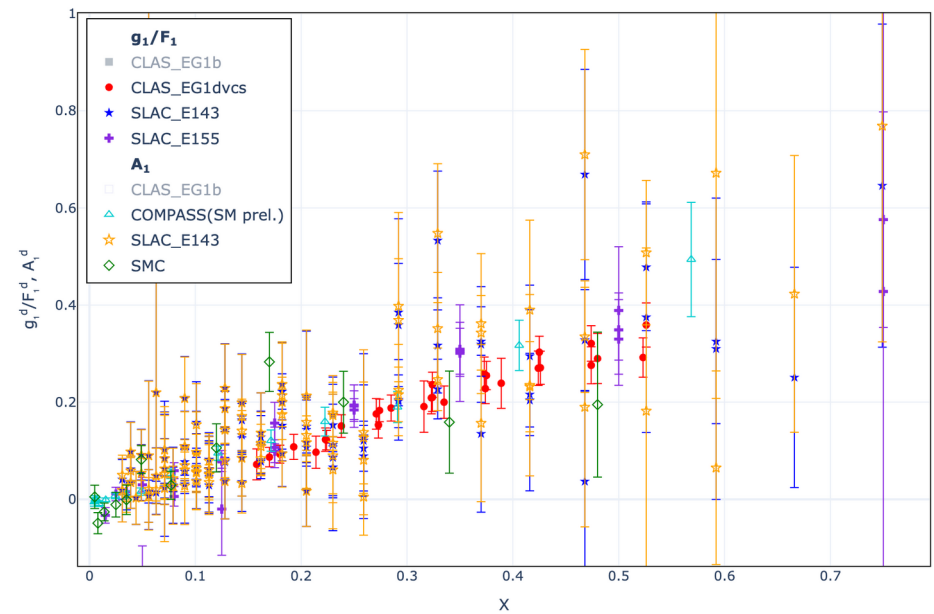
$$A_1 = \frac{g_1 - \gamma^2 g_2}{F_1} \approx \frac{g_1}{F_1}$$



proton



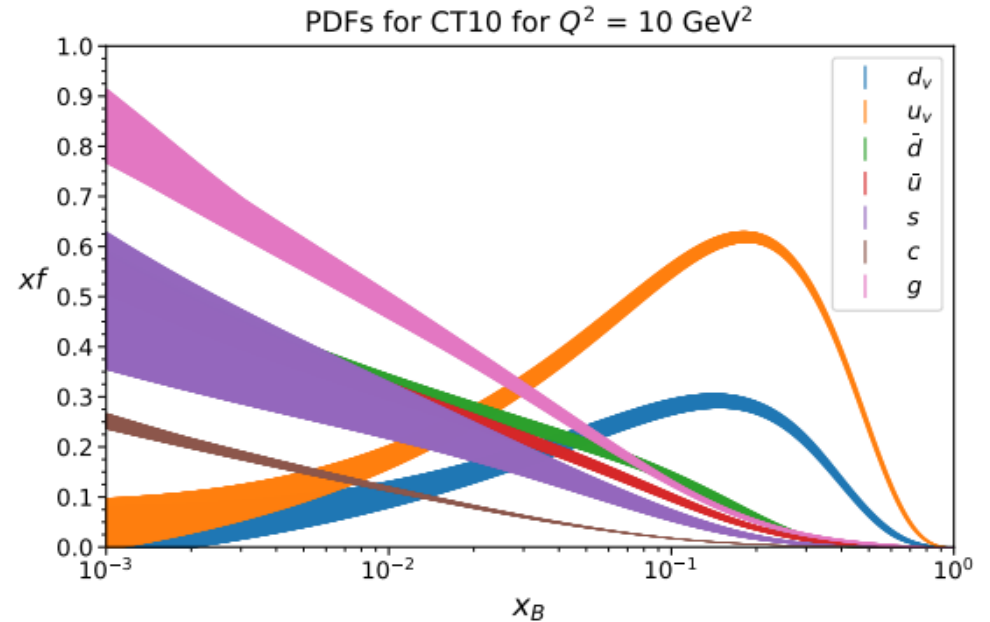
deuteron



Spin at high x as part of the Nucleon Structure and QCD Study

$$|p^\uparrow\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|u^\uparrow(ud)_{00}\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{18}}|u^\uparrow(ud)_{10}\rangle - \frac{1}{3}|u^\downarrow(ud)_{11}\rangle - \frac{1}{3}|d^\uparrow(uu)_{10}\rangle - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}|d^\downarrow(uu)_{11}\rangle$$

Model	$\frac{F_2^n}{F_2^p}$	$\frac{d}{u}$	$\frac{\Delta d}{\Delta u}$	$\frac{\Delta u}{u}$	$\frac{\Delta d}{d}$	A_1^n	A_1^p
CSM	0.45(5)	0.23(6)	-0.14(3)	0.63(8)	-0.38(7)	0.15(5)	0.58(8)
DSE-1	0.49	0.28	-0.11	0.65	-0.26	0.17	0.59
DSE-2	0.41	0.18	-0.07	0.88	-0.33	0.34	0.88
$0_{[ud]}^+$	$\frac{1}{4}$	0	0	1	0	1	1
NJL	0.43	0.2	-0.06	0.8	-0.25	0.35	0.77
SU(6)	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	0	$\frac{5}{9}$
CQM	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	1	$-\frac{1}{3}$	1	1
pQCD	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{5}$	$\frac{1}{5}$	1	1	1	1
HLFQCD	0.28	0.035	0.035	1	1	1	1



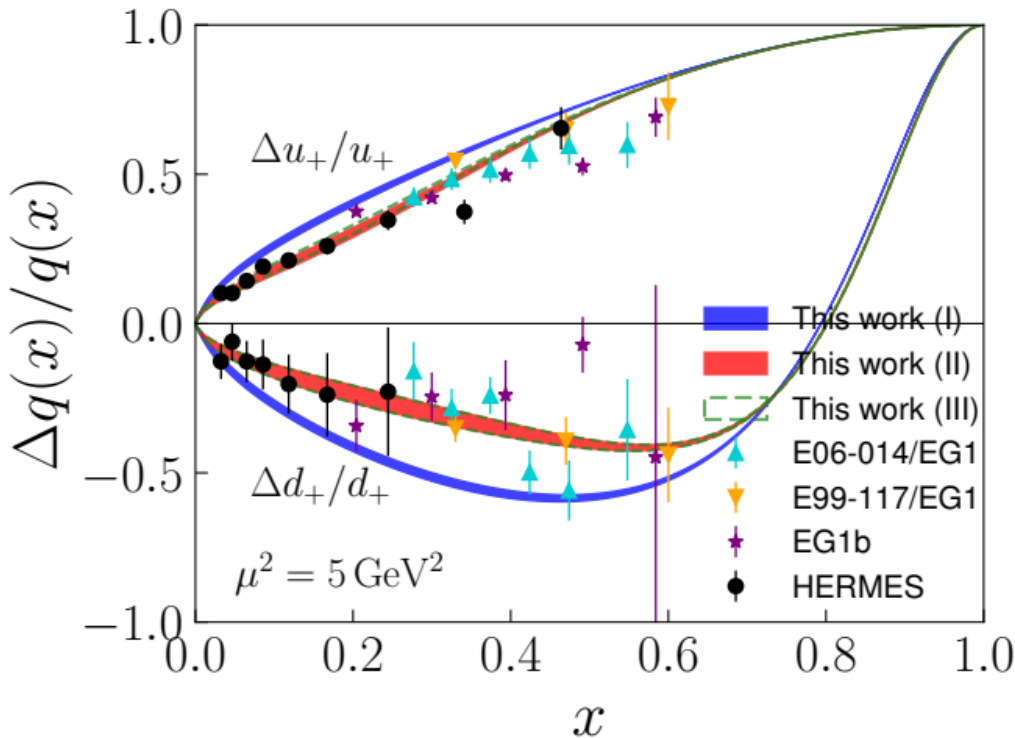
Nucleon structure functions at high x:

1. “simplest” picture of the nucleon internal structure, valence quark dominate
2. predictions exist from theories, models, and/or phenomenology



Spin at high x as part of the Nucleon Structure and QCD Study

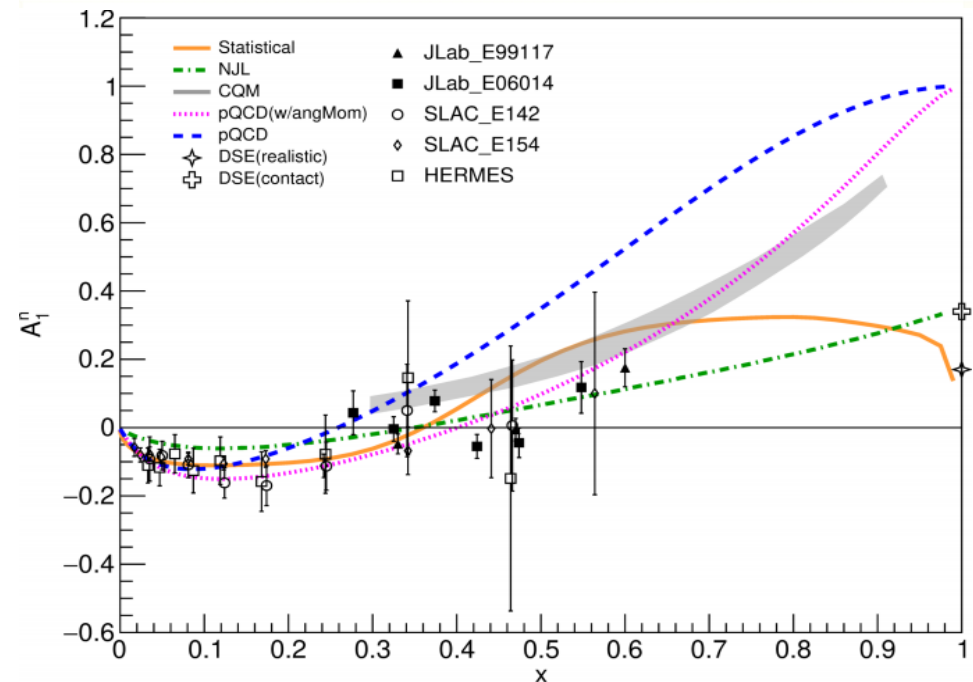
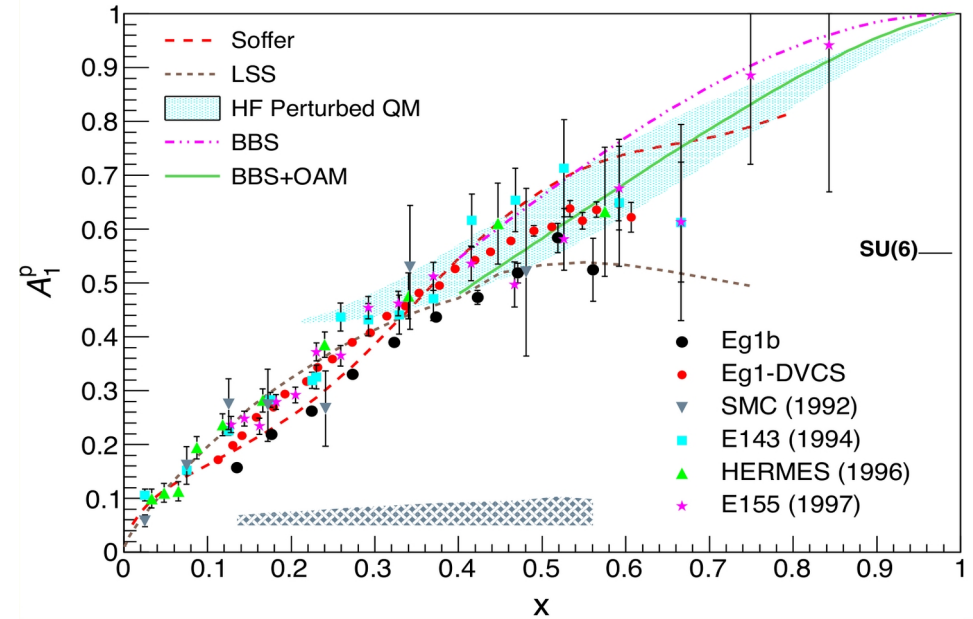
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T. Liu et al., [Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 082003 \(2020\)arXiv:1909.13818](#)



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D. Parno et al. Phys.Rev.Lett. 113 (2014) 2, 022002, [1404.4003](#)

Hall C 12 GeV A1n/d2n Collaboration

PhD (all graduated)

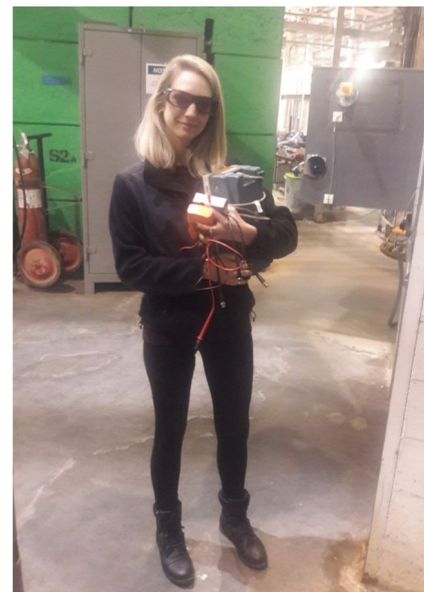
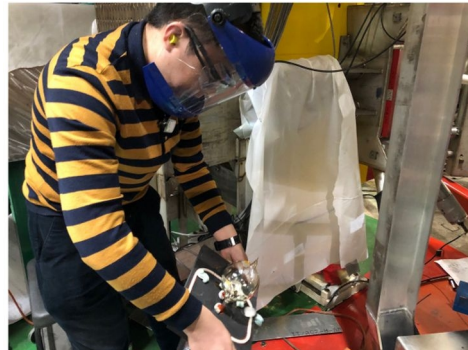
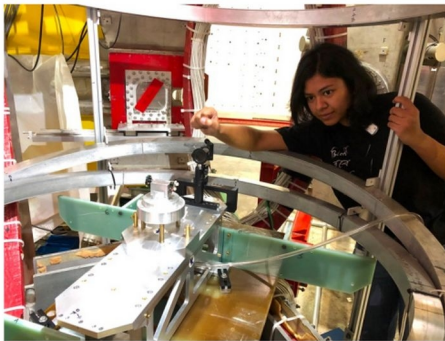
People

Spokespeople

D. Androic, W. Armstrong, [T. Averett](#), X. Bai, J. Bane, S. Barcus, J. Benesch, H. Bhatt, D. Bhetuwal, D. Biswas, A. Camsonne, [G. Cates](#), [J-P. Chen](#), [J. Chen](#), [M. Chen](#), C. Cotton, M-M. Dalton, A. Deur, B. Dhital, B. Duran, S.C. Dusa, I. Fernando, E. Fuchey, B. Gamage, H. Gao, D. Gaskell, T.N. Gautam, N. Gauthier, C.A. Gayoso, O. Hansen, F. Hauenstein, W. Henry, G. Huber, C. Jantzi, S. Jia, K. Jin, M. Jones, S. Joosten, A. Karki, B. Karki, S. Katugampola, S. Kay, C. Keppel, E. King, P. King, [W. Korsch](#), V. Kumar, [I. Li](#), R. Li, S. Li, W. Li, D. Mack, S. Malace, P. Markowitz, J. Matter, M. McCaughan, [Z-E. Meziani](#), R. Michaels, A. Mkrtchyan, H. Mkrtchyan, C. Morean, V. Nelyubin, G. Niculescu, M. Niculescu, [M. Nycz](#), C. Peng, S. Premathilake, A. Puckett, A. Rathnayake, [M. Reh fuss](#), P. Reimer, G. Riley, Y. Roblin, J. Roche, [M. Roy](#), M. Satnik, [B. Sawatzky](#), S. Seeds, S. Sirca, G. Smith, N. Sparveris, H. Szumila-Vance, A. Tadepalli, V. Tadevosyan, Y. Tian, [R. Trottar](#), A. Usman, H. Voskanyan, S. Wood, B. Yale, C. Yero, A. Yoon, J. Zhang, Z. Zhao, [X. Zheng](#), J. Zhou

Institutions

A.I. Alikhanian National Science Laboratory; Argonne National Laboratory; Artem Alikhanian National Laboratory (AANL); Christopher Newport University; Duke University; Florida International University; Hampton University ; James Madison University ; Jefferson Lab; Kent State University; Mississippi State University; Ohio University; Old Dominion University; Rutgers University; Syracuse University; Temple University; The College of William and Mary; Univ. of Ljubljana; University of Connecticut; University of Kentucky; University of Kentucky; University of New Hampshire; University of Regina; University of Tennessee; University of Virginia; University of Virginia; University of Zagreb



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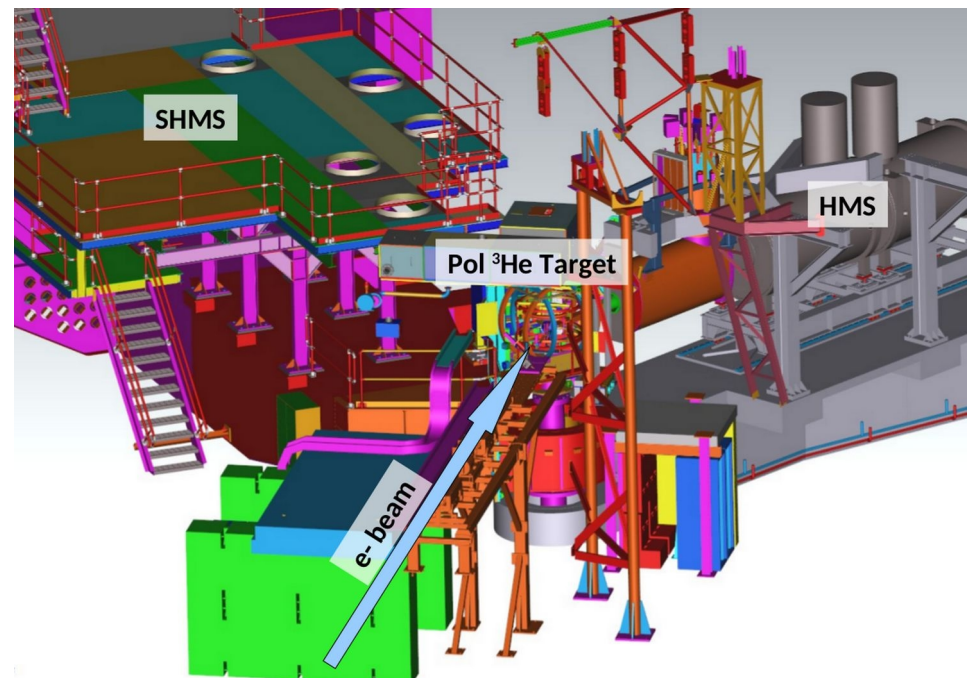
JLab 12 GeV A_1^n E12-06-110 (Hall C)

- 10.4 GeV beam, 85% longitudinal polarization, 30 uA
 - First in Hall C's 12 GeV era to utilize polarized beam
- HMS and SHMS detecting electrons in the inclusive mode
- Polarized ^3He target (40cm)
 - first time use in Hall C
 - 50-55% in-beam polarization $\rightarrow$ factor 2 increase in ^3He target FOM vs. 6 GeV era
- Beam charge asymmetry controlled by parity DAQ (PREX-II/CREX) – below 50ppm per one-hour run

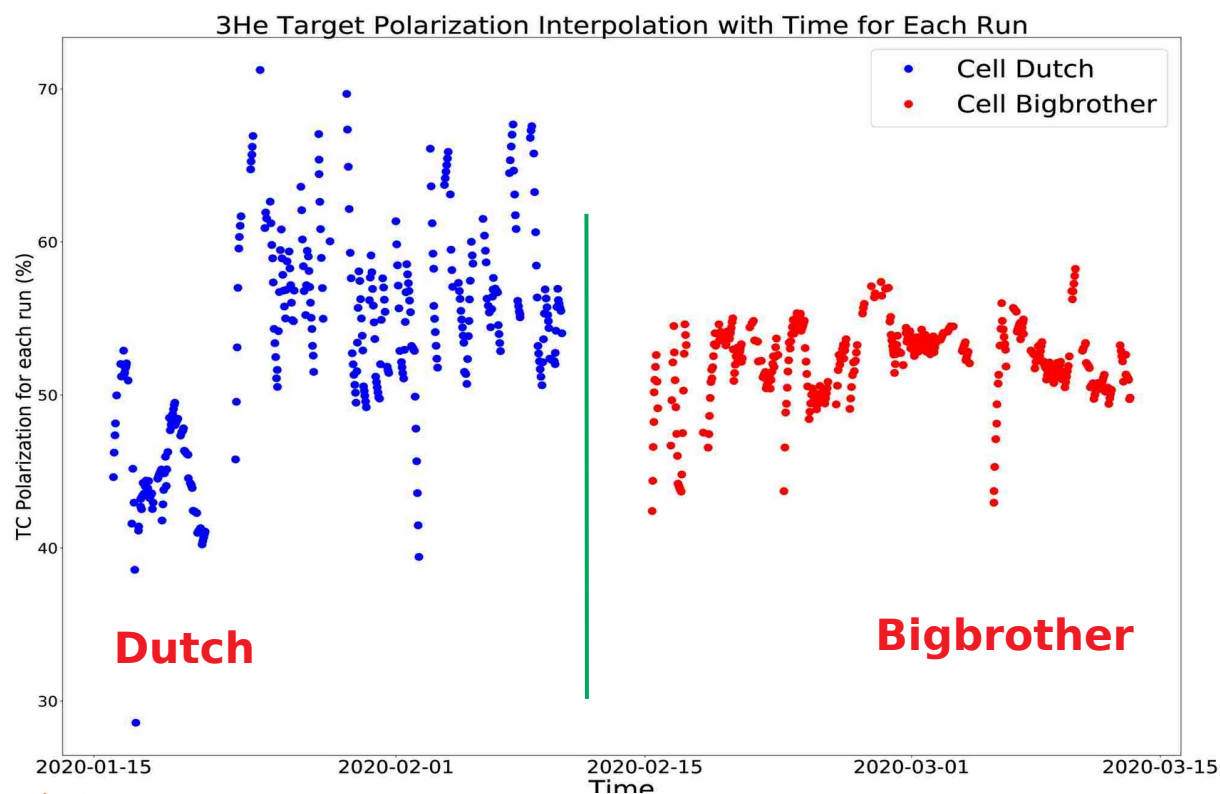
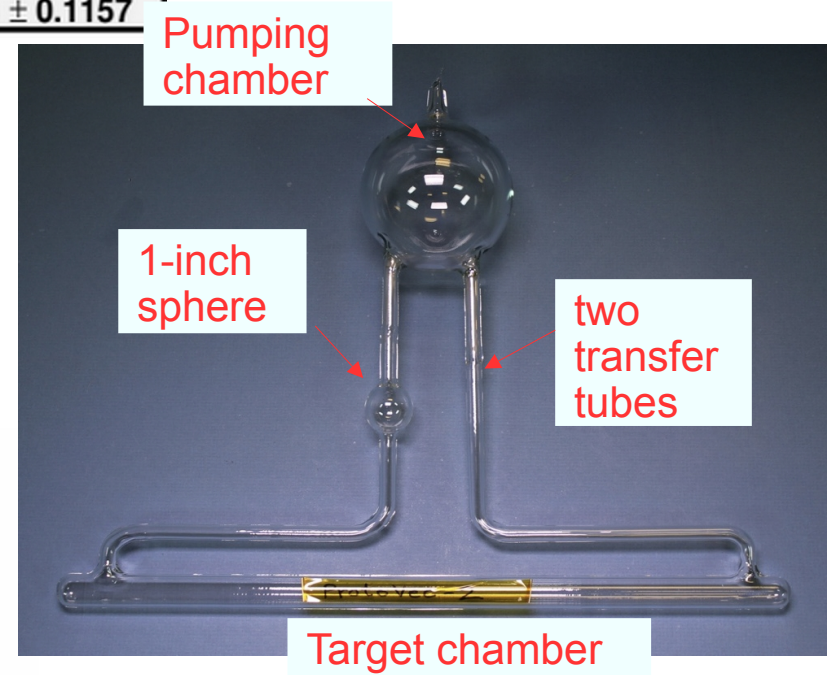
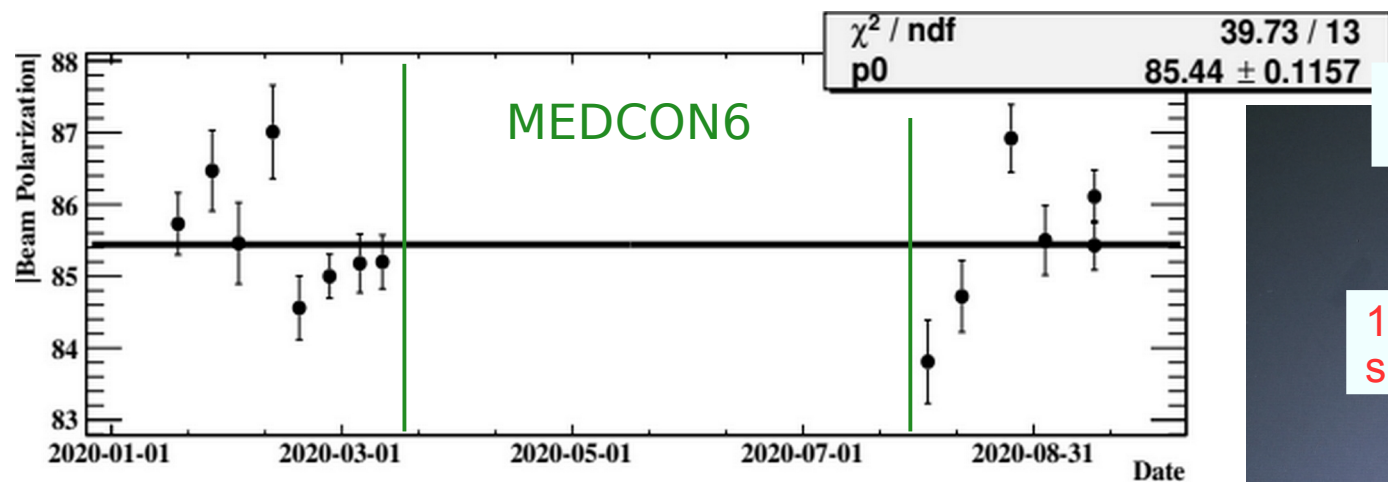
Ran from Dec. 2019 to March 2020

Kine	Spec	E_b GeV	E_p GeV	θ ($^\circ$)	beam time (hours)
$\Delta(1232)$	SHMS	2.17	-1.79736	8.5	4.0
Elastic	SHMS	2.17	-2.12860	8.5	8.0

Kine	Spec	E_b GeV	E_p GeV	θ ($^\circ$)	e^- production (hours)	e^+ prod. (hours)	Tot. Time (hours)
DIS							
3	HMS	10.38	2.90	30.0	88.0	0.0	88.0
4	HMS	10.38	3.50	30.0	511.0	0.0	511.0
B	SHMS	10.38	3.40	30.0	511.0	4.0	515.0
C	SHMS	10.38	2.60	30.0	88.0	4.0	92.0



Polarizations During A1n



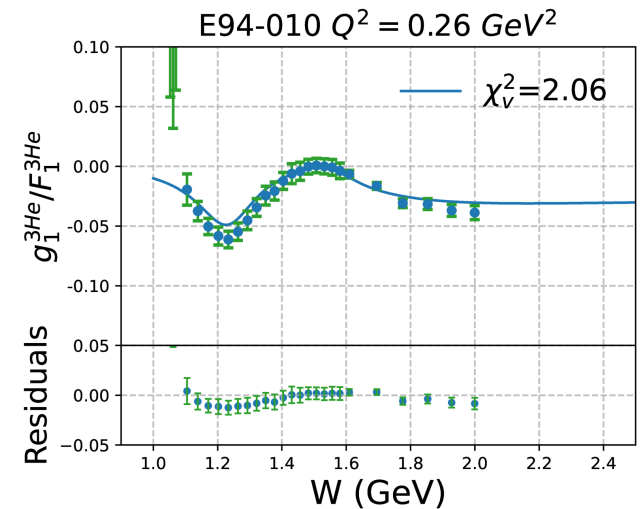
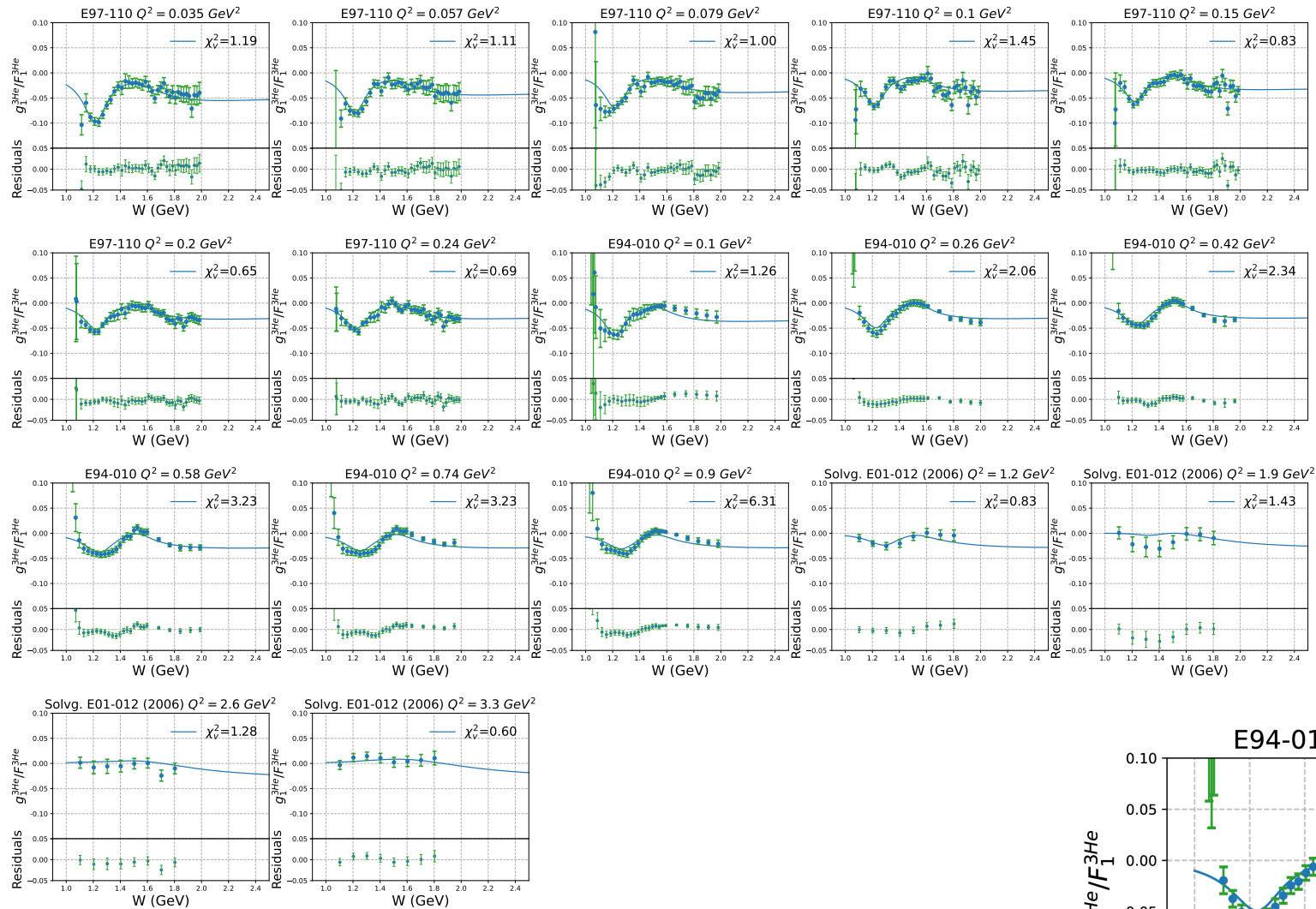
Analysis Status

Timeline:

- Ran from Dec. 2019 to March 2020 (d2n ran later in 2020);
- Two PhD's: Melanie Cardona and Mingyu Chen both graduated in 2023, with preliminary ^3He asymmetries;
- Radiative correction and double-checking: 2024-2025 (“second analysis team”);
- Preliminary results presented at SPIN'25 (Sept 2025);
- ^3He QE asymmetry paper reviewed by PLB (Jan 2026);
- Draft short paper on $A1n$ in progress;
- Inclusive pion analysis started.



Fit of g_1/F_1 (^3He) for Radiative Corrections

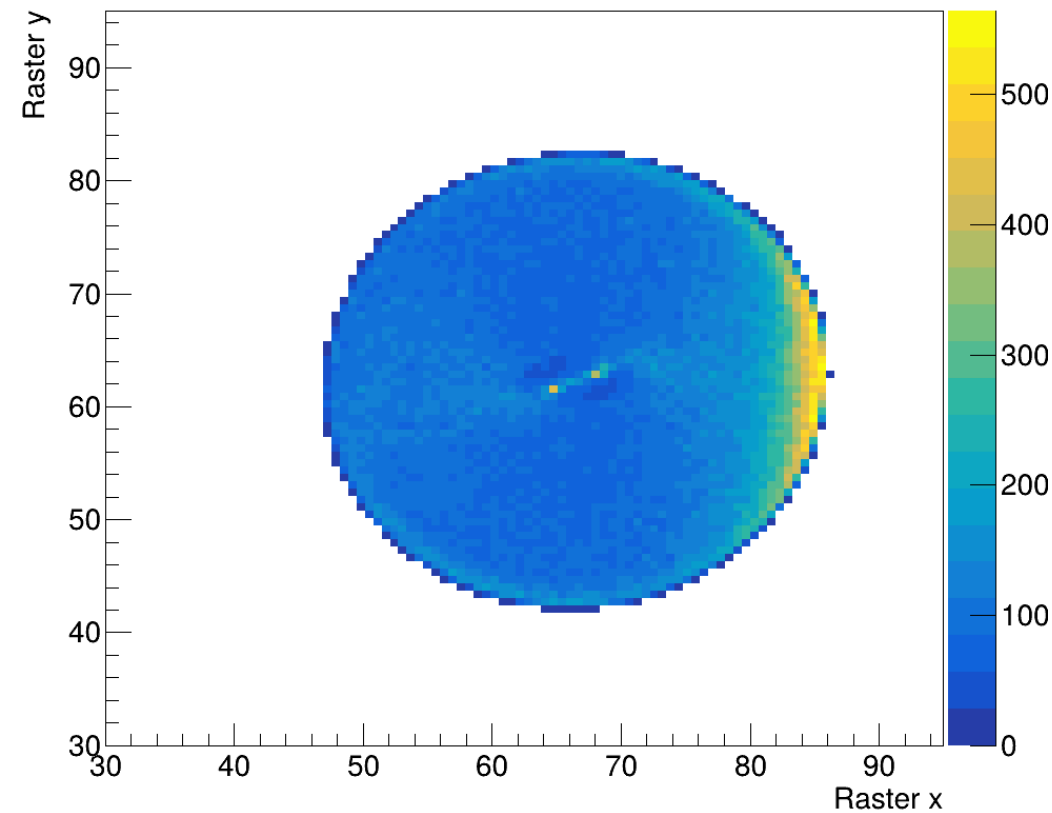


Fit done by: R. Trotta → will be expanded to p and n
RC done by: I. Li, XZ

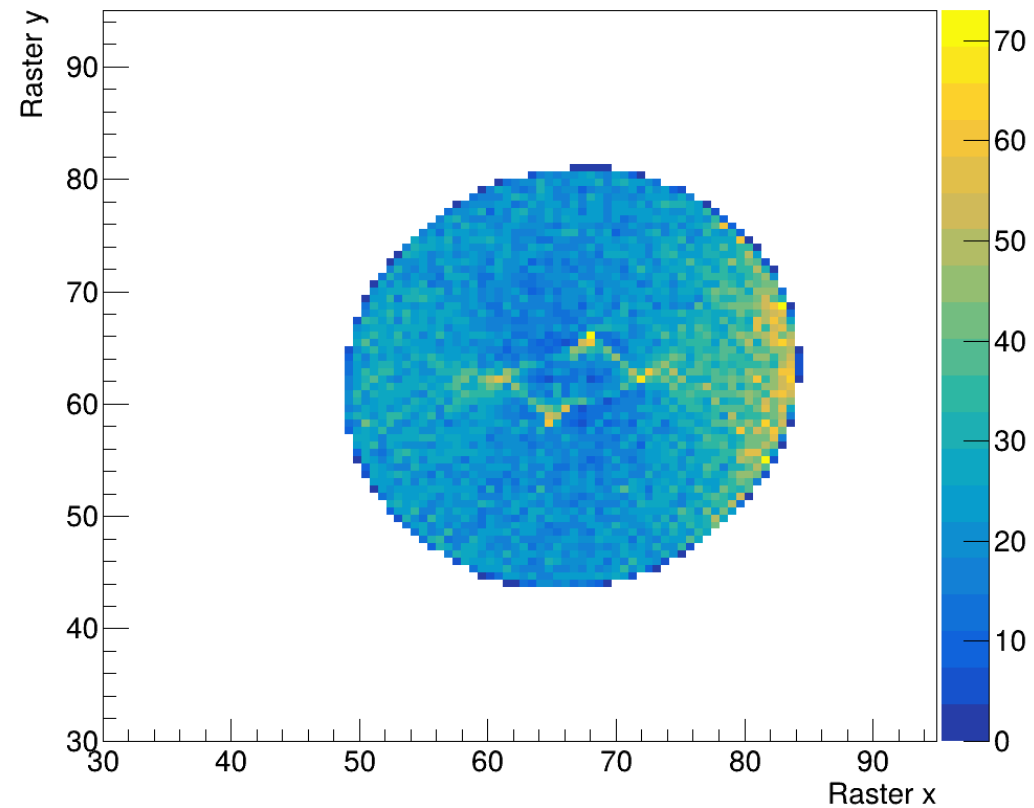


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Beam Scraping of ^3He Glass Cell checked with Hydra



A scraping run identified by Melanie



A scraping run picked up by Hydra

Work done by: M. Nycz

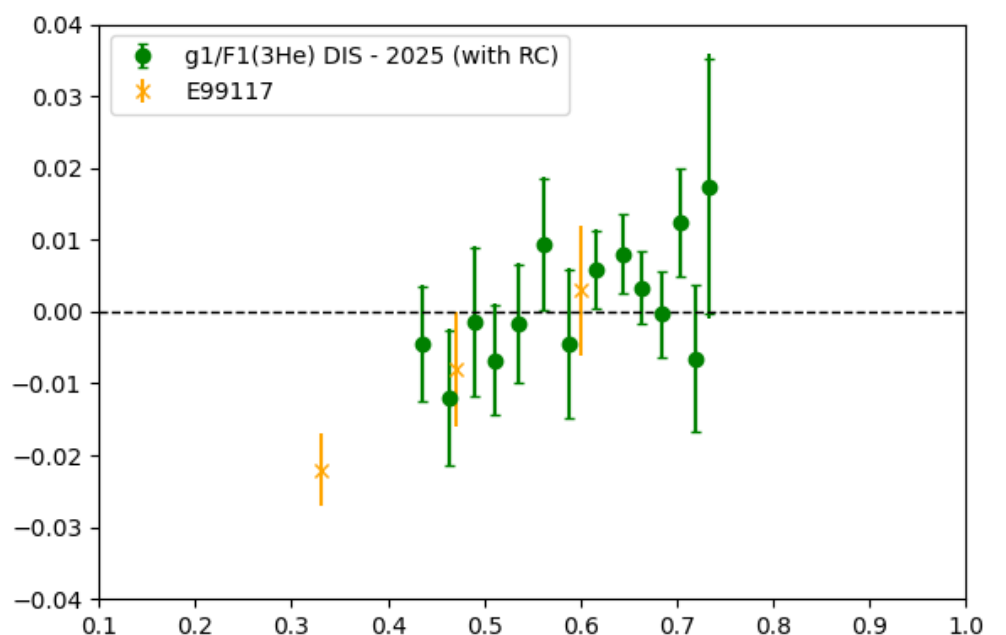
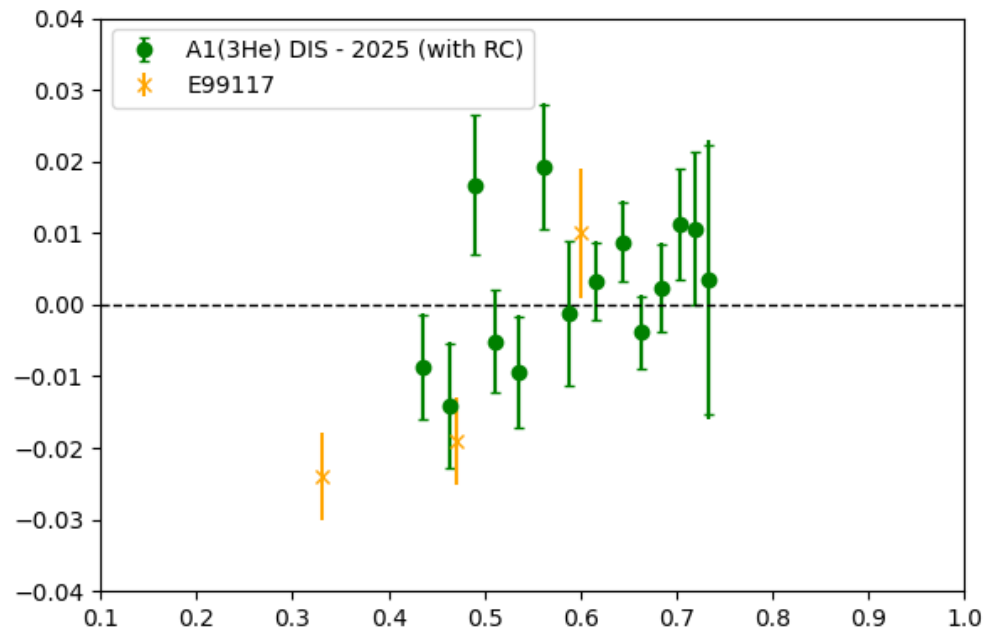
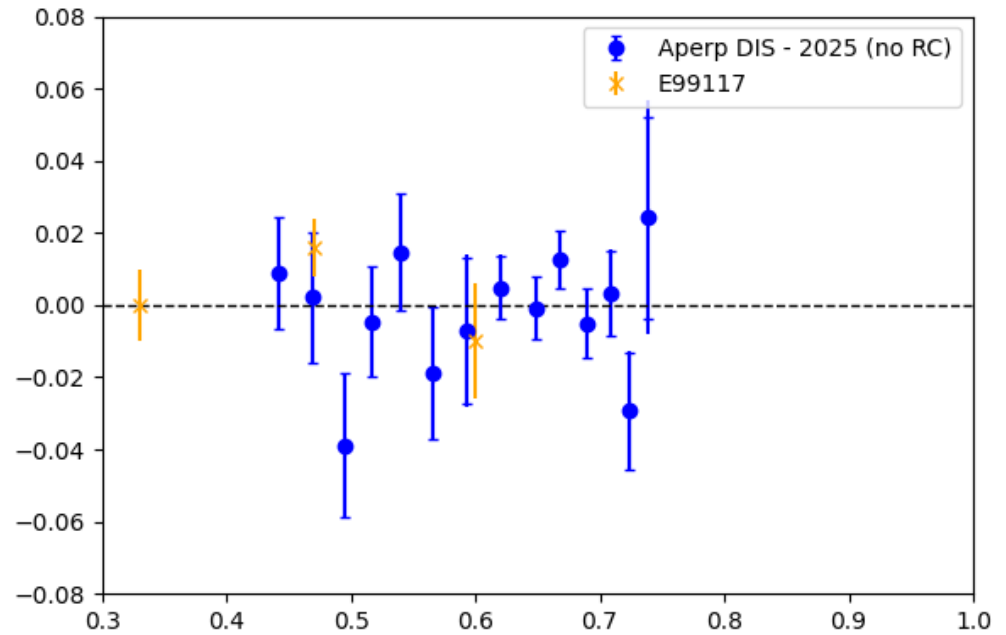
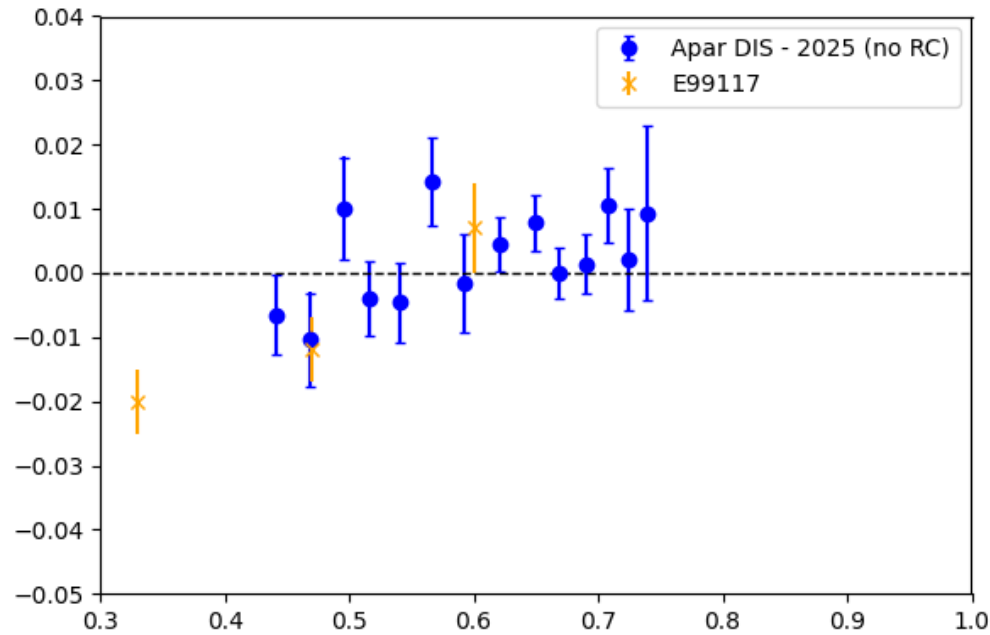


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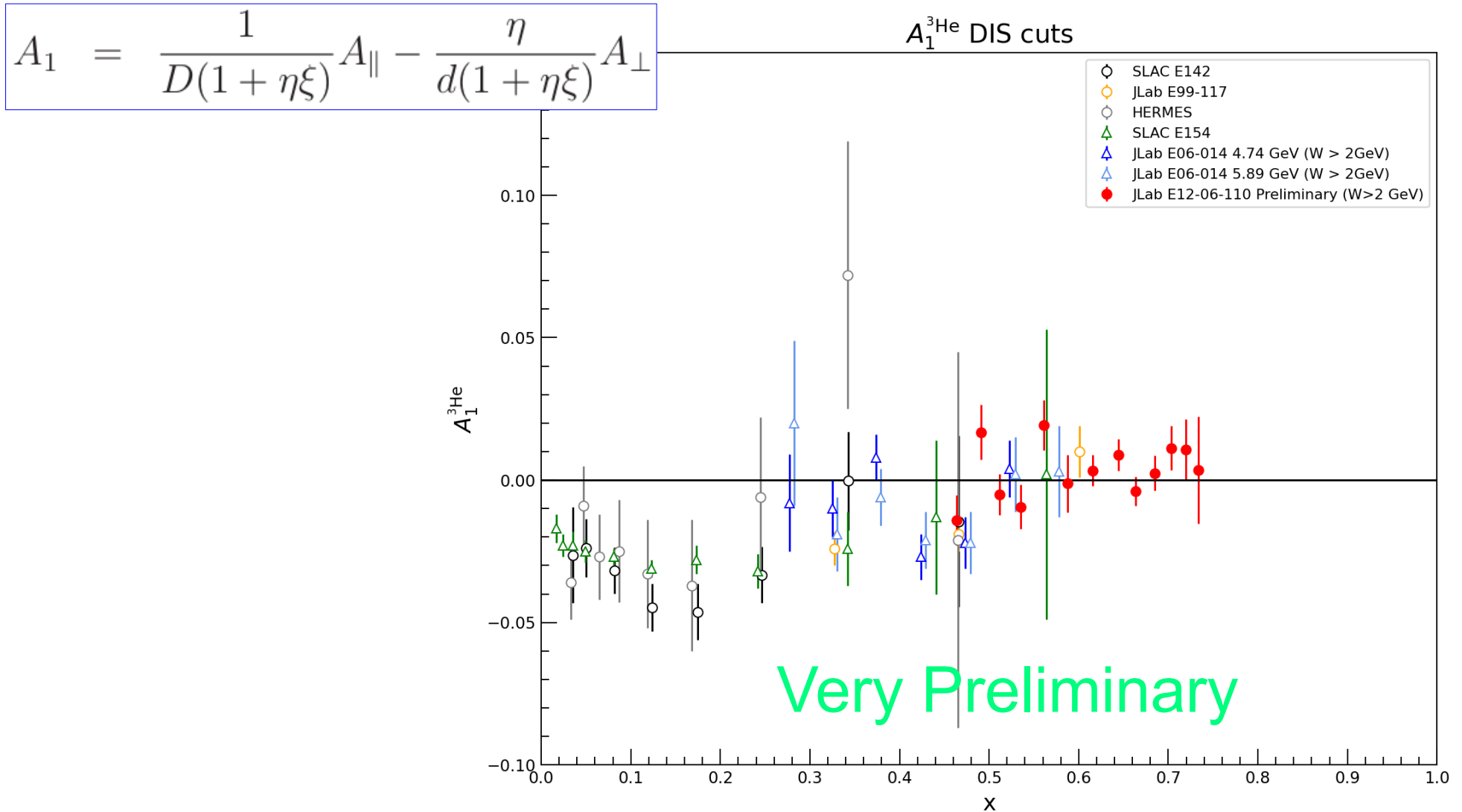
Preliminary Results



Preliminary Results on ^3He Asymmetries (DIS)



Very Preliminary Results on $A_1(3\text{He})$ (DIS)



Work done by: M. Chen, M. Cardona, M. Nycz, R. Trotta, XZ (and the E12-06-110 collaboration)



Nuclear (un)smearing in Progress

1. Comparison between effective polarization and full nuclear smearing ongoing – M. Nycz, I. Li
2. Full nuclear unsmearing will allow us to extract resonance A_1^n

$$A_1^n = \frac{1}{P_n} \frac{F_2^{3\text{He}}}{F_2^n} \left(A_1^{3\text{He}} - 2P_p \frac{F_2^p}{F_2^{3\text{He}}} A_1^p \right)$$

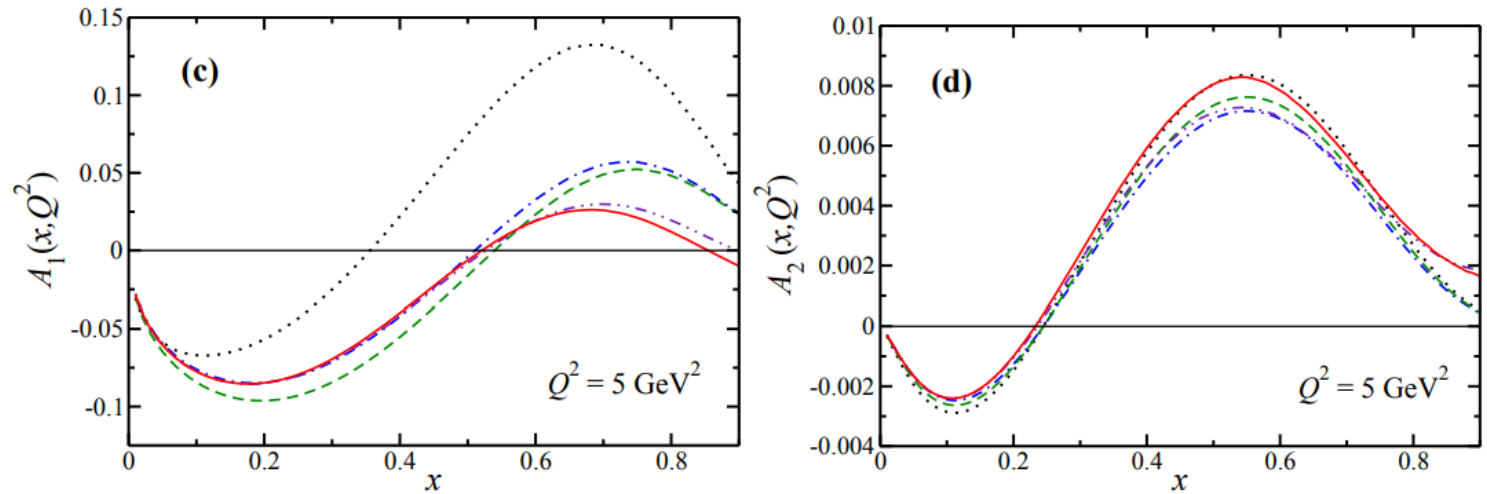


FIG. 6: As in Fig. 2, but for the polarization asymmetries A_1 and A_2 of the neutron and ^3He at $Q^2 = 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ [(a) and (b)] and $Q^2 = 5 \text{ GeV}^2$ [(c) and (d)], constructed from ratios of the spin-dependent structure functions in Fig. 2 and the unpolarized F_1 structure function from the Bosted-Christy parametrization [55]. Note that the ^3He asymmetries are scaled by a factor $(1 + 2F_1^p/F_1^n)$.

From <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1308.3723>, the difference between effective polarization and full nuclear smearing is significant above $x=0.6$



Proton g_1/F_1 DIS Fit in Progress

6 GeV fit:

$$\frac{g_1^p}{F_1^p} = x^\alpha (a + bx) \left(1 + \frac{\beta}{Q^2}\right)$$

New fit:

$$\frac{g_1^p}{F_1^p} = \xi^\alpha (a + b \xi) \left(1 + \frac{\beta}{Q^2}\right)$$

New fit:

Fit parameters:

[0.7103 1.1221 -0.3457 **-0.2703**]

χ^2/dof : 0.7735509561589263

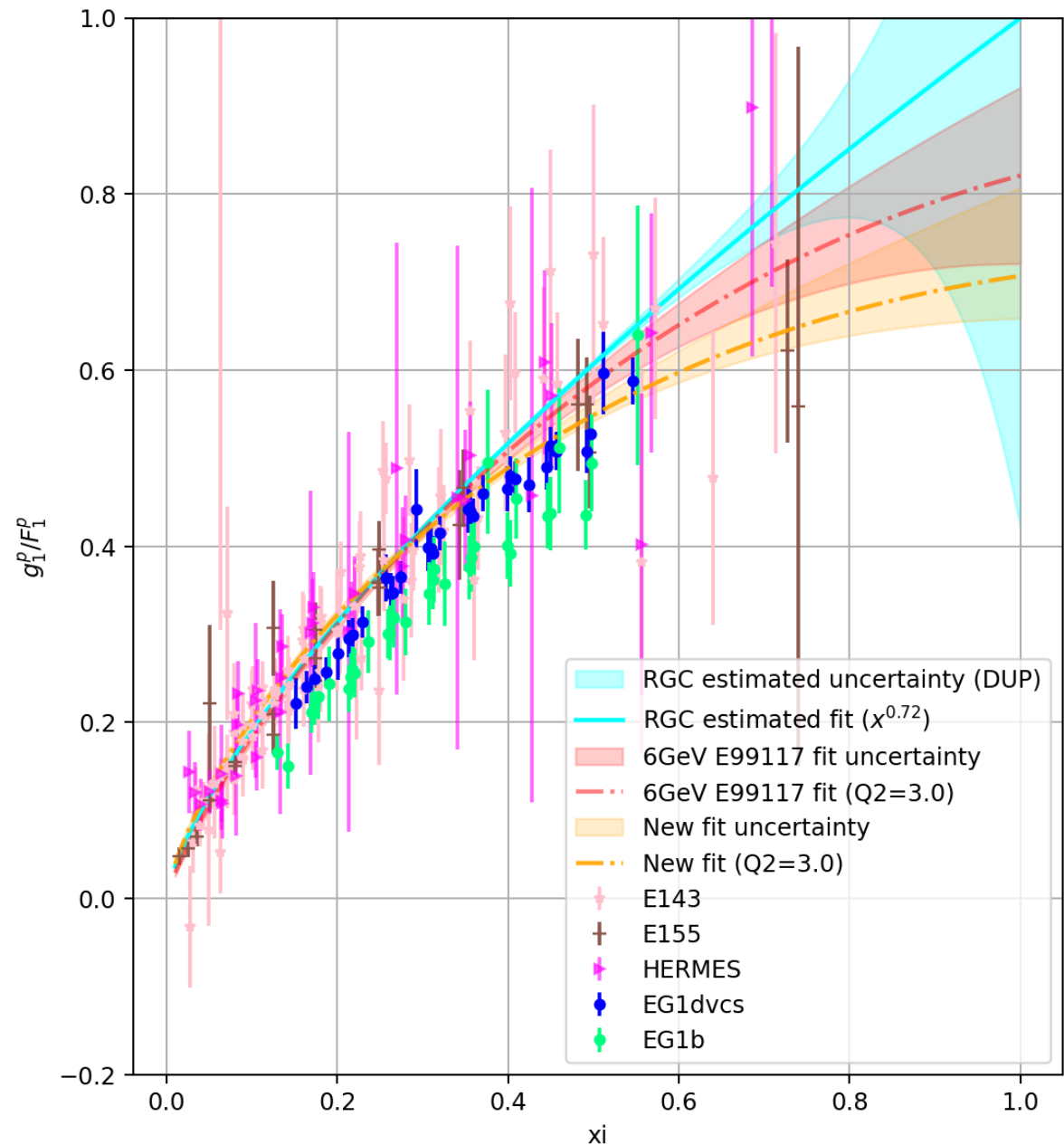
Parameter errors:

[0.0216 0.0687 0.1191 **0.0248**]

Correlation matrix:

```
[[ 1.    0.9405 -0.9038 -0.1618]
 [ 0.9405 1.    -0.977 -0.3975]
 [-0.9038 -0.977 1.    0.3215]
 [-0.1618 -0.3975 0.3215 1.    ]]
```

$\text{err} = \sqrt{\text{stat}^2 + \text{syst}^2}$

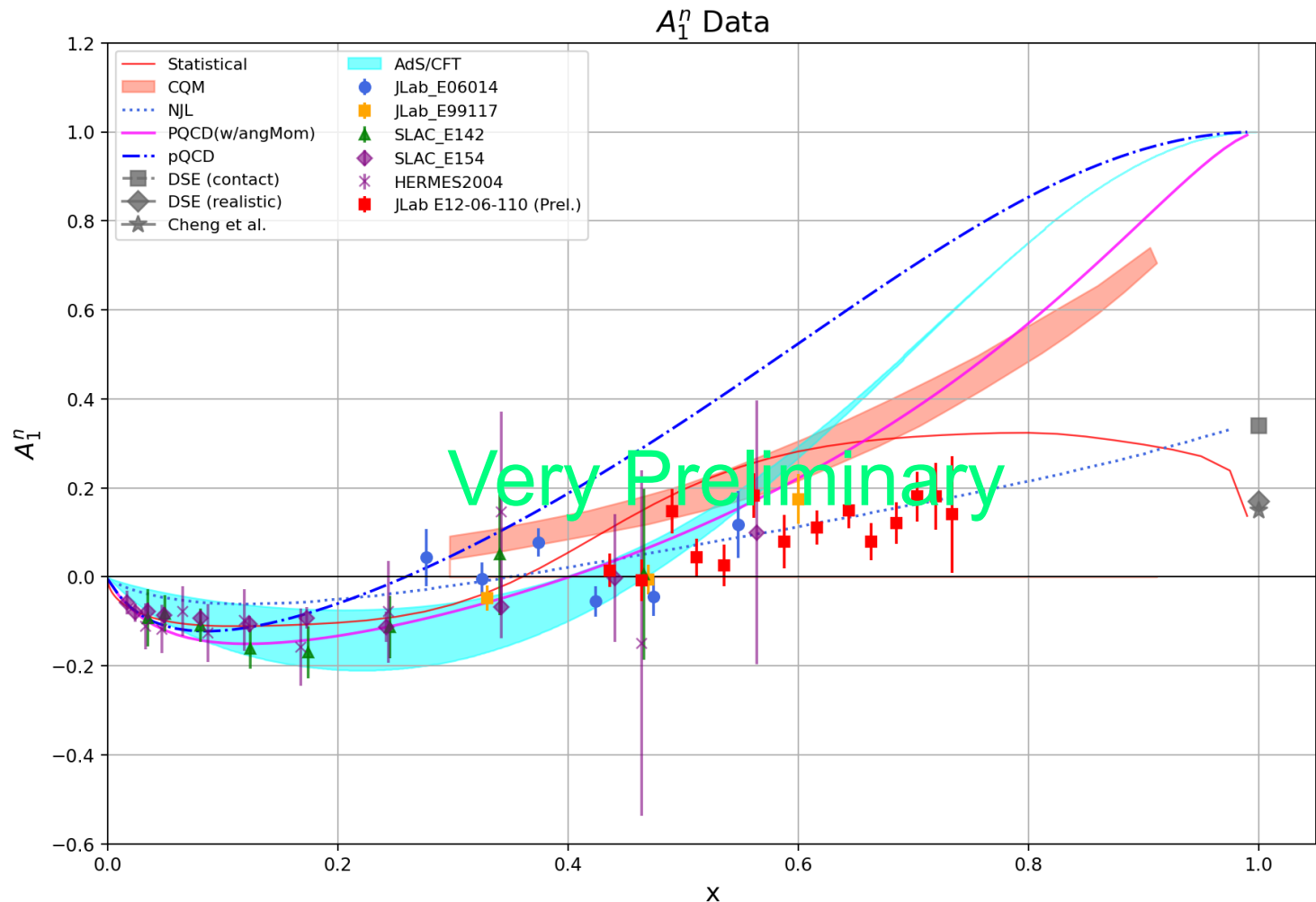


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Very Preliminary Results on A1n (DIS)

A1n extracted using effective polarizations, the 6 GeV fit for the proton A1p, F1F221 (p, n, plus our own 3He fit)

$$A_1^n = \frac{1}{P_n} \frac{F_2^{3\text{He}}}{F_2^n} \left(A_1^{3\text{He}} - 2P_p \frac{F_2^p}{F_2^{3\text{He}}} A_1^p \right)$$

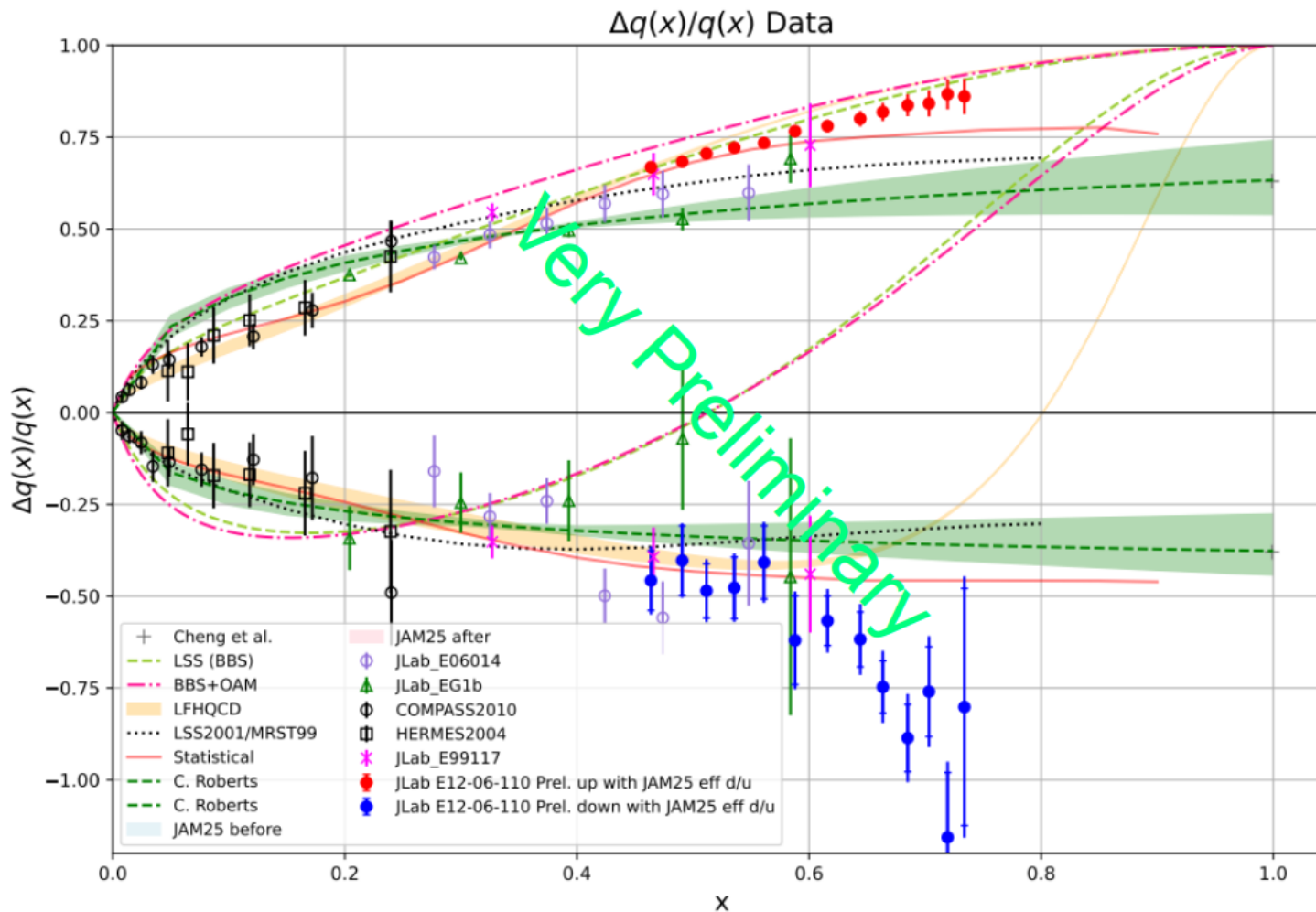


Preliminary Results on Quark Polarizations

$$\frac{\Delta u + \Delta \bar{u}}{u + \bar{u}} = \frac{4}{15} \frac{g_1^p}{F_1^p} (4 + R^{du}) - \frac{1}{15} \frac{g_1^n}{F_1^n} (1 + 4 R^{du})$$

$$\frac{\Delta d + \Delta \bar{d}}{d + \bar{d}} = -\frac{1}{15} \frac{g_1^p}{F_1^p} \left(1 + \frac{4}{R^{du}}\right) + \frac{4}{15} \frac{g_1^n}{F_1^n} \left(4 + \frac{1}{R^{du}}\right)$$

$$R^{du} = \frac{d + \bar{d}}{u + \bar{u}}$$



At high x , we need to consider significant TMC. Two approaches:

1. calculate d/u at Nachtmann x , not Bjorken x ;
2. use full SF fits to extract “effective” d/u .

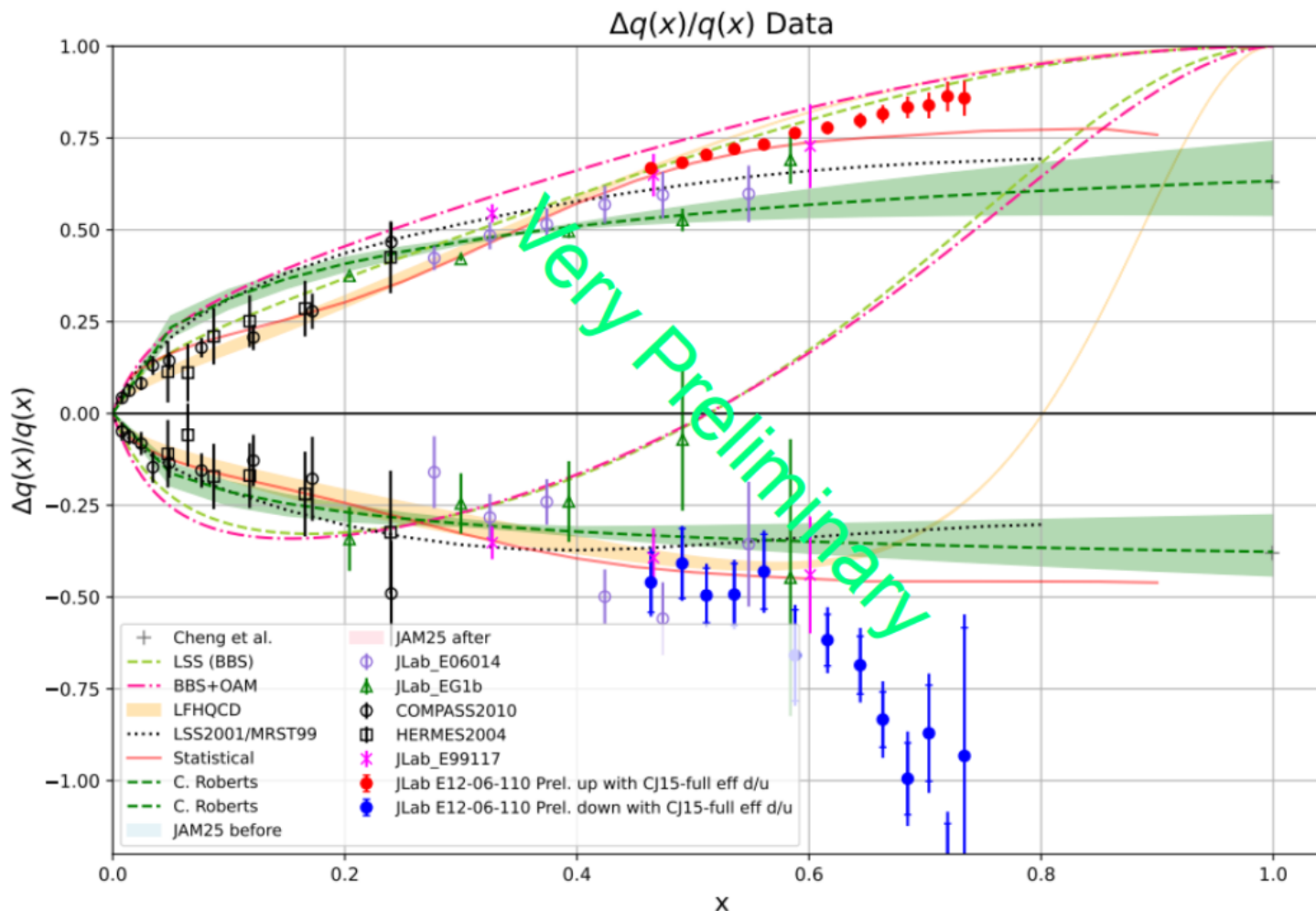


Treatment of d/u matters

$$\frac{\Delta u + \Delta \bar{u}}{u + \bar{u}} = \frac{4}{15} \frac{g_1^p}{F_1^p} (4 + R^{du}) - \frac{1}{15} \frac{g_1^n}{F_1^n} (1 + 4 R^{du})$$

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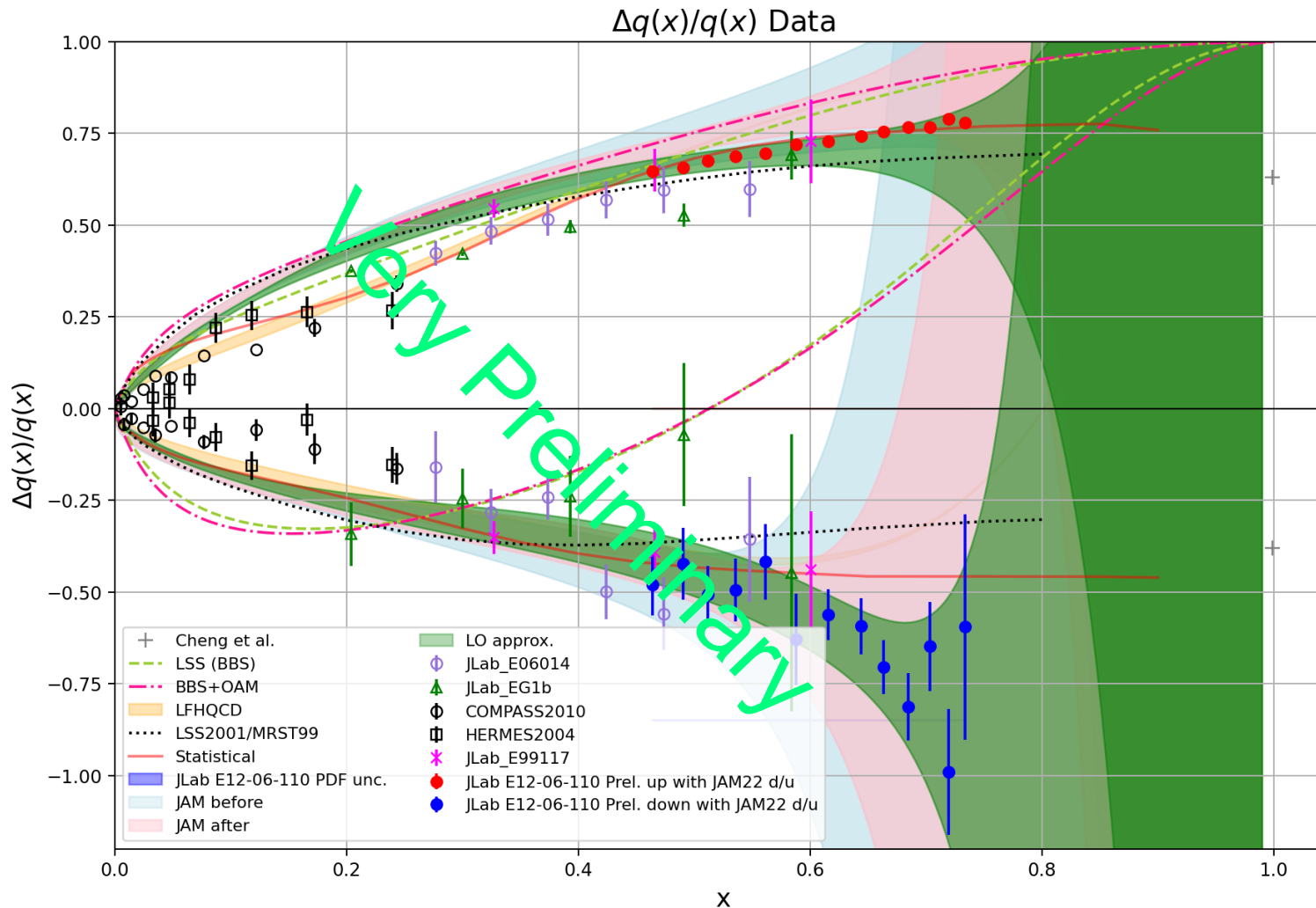
JAM Fits

$$\frac{\Delta u + \Delta \bar{u}}{u + \bar{u}} = \frac{4}{15} \frac{g_1^p}{F_1^p} (4 + R^{du}) - \frac{1}{15} \frac{g_1^n}{F_1^n} (1 + 4 R^{du})$$

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$$R^{du} = \frac{d + \bar{d}}{u + \bar{u}}$$

(JAM22 here)



Light blue: Full global analysis, with positivity constraint

Pink: with Hall C Apar, Aperp added

Green: LO approx. (naive parton model)

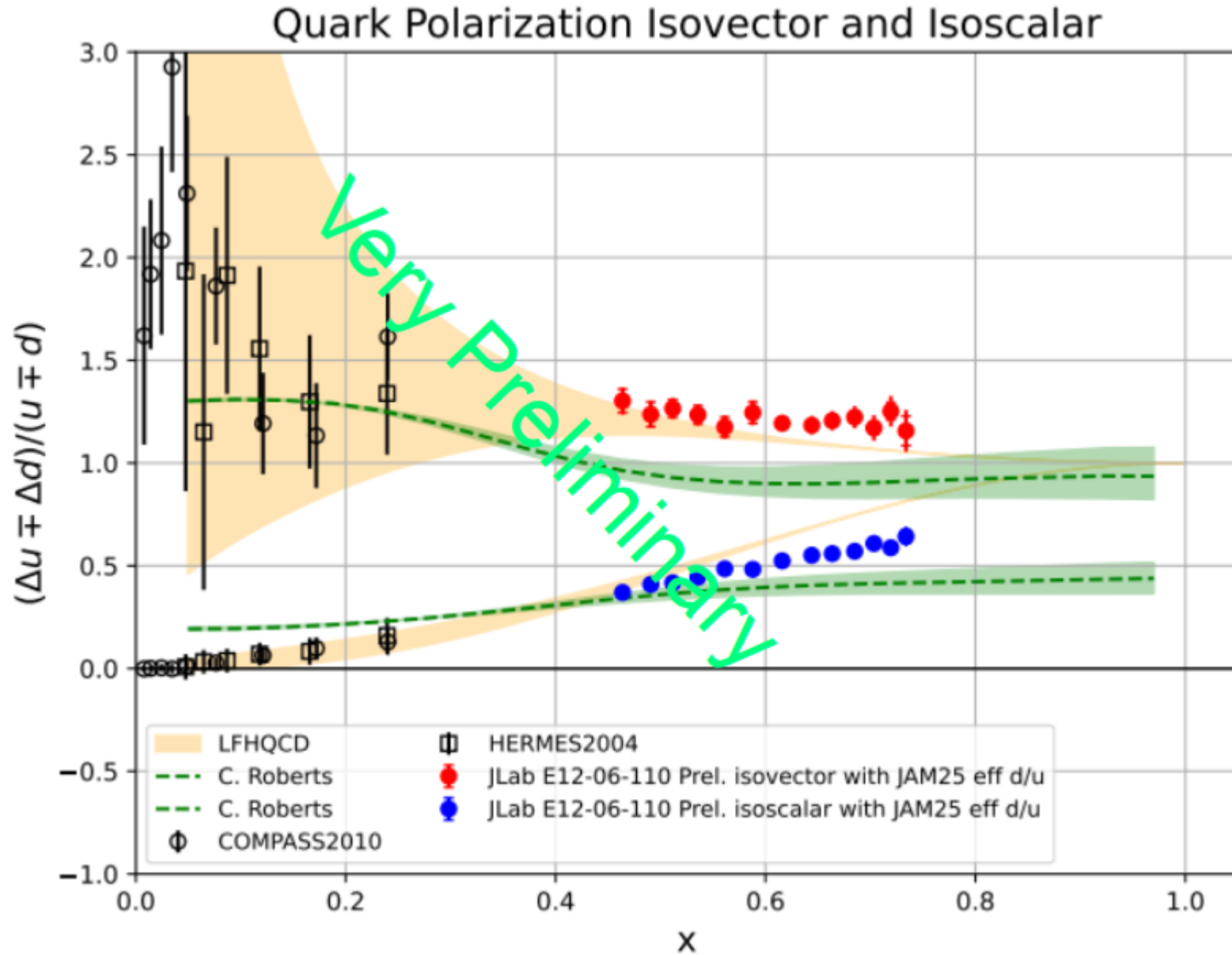
Figure credit:

C. Cocuzza, N. Sato
(JAM collaboration)



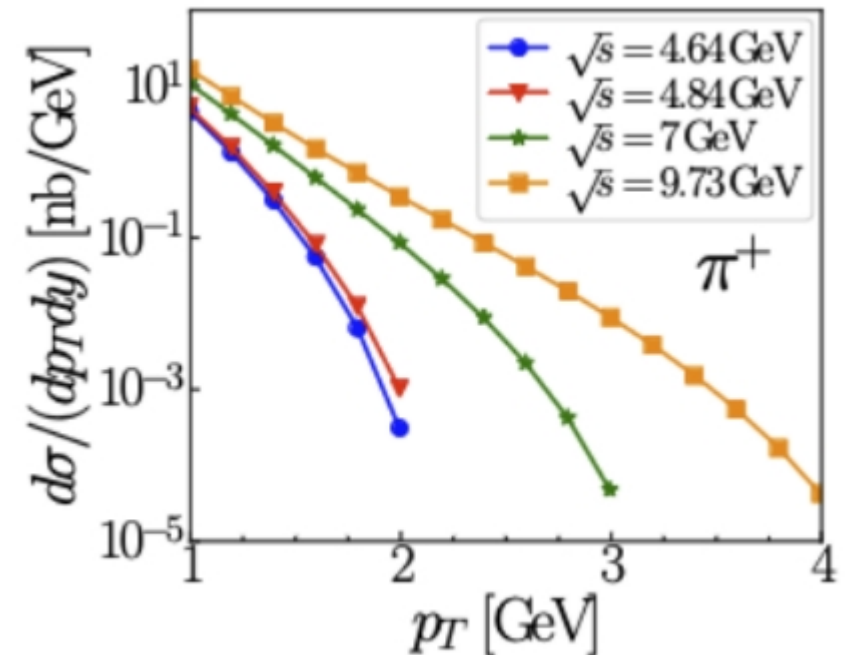
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Isoflavor Combinations



More Ideas – Inclusive Pion Production

- Traditionally considered a major background in DIS, **single pion production in ep collision** can **carry significant physics implication** on its own.
- By comparing inclusive pion cross section with calculations based on lepton distributions and fragmentation functions (see Fig), we can study how many of the pions in DIS are actually from fragmentation of the parton, and **that would be a pre-requisite of interpretation of SIDIS data**, particularly at JLab energies.
- If indeed the pions produced are mostly from non-prompt effects such as **vector meson** (e.g. ρ) decay, we need to at least understand them before interpreting SIDIS data using fragmentation alone.



See **Jianwei Qiu's talk**, Inclusive Pion Production in Lepton-Hadron Collision – Prerequisite for understanding SIDIS data with current factorization formalism

SoLID Collaboration Meeting, July 7-8, 2025



https://indico.jlab.org/event/948/contributions/17185/attachments/12994/20883/SoLID2025July_Qiu.pdf

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Summary and Outlook

- **Experiment** measurement of the neutron A_1 completed at JLab in 2020
 - 10.4 GeV 85% beam; 40cm long 50-55% polarized ^3He target, 30 uA beam
 - DIS up to $x=0.75$
- **Analysis (all preliminary):**
 - ^3He asymmetries done
 - Neutron asymmetries – effective pol method done, full smearing in progress
 - Quark polarizations – LO method done, global fit in progress
 - Iso vector combination
 - Inclusive pion cross section and asymmetry extraction started.
- **Publications:**
 - short A_1n paper drafted
 - long paper will start later this year
 - inclusive pion – possibly two more publications

This work is supported by DOE, Office of Science, Nuclear Physics, Medium Energy Physics



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Backup Slides

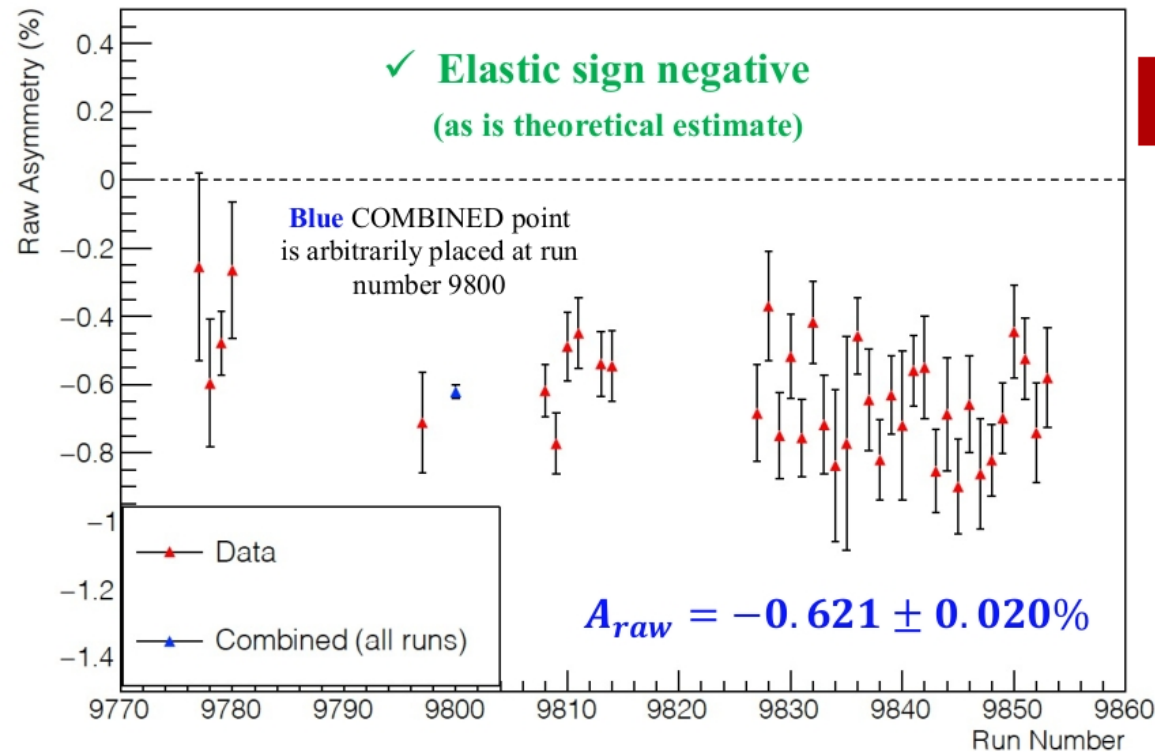


A_{para} : ^3He Elastic Asymmetries

By definition: N^+
should describe the # of
incident e^- whose spin
is **anti-||** to the ^3He
target spin

$$A_{\parallel} = \frac{\sigma^{\downarrow\uparrow} - \sigma^{\uparrow\uparrow}}{\sigma^{\downarrow\uparrow} + \sigma^{\uparrow\uparrow}}$$

SHMS Elastic Runs



e^- beam spin direction:

Period	IHWP = IN	IHWP = OUT	^3He spin direction
1-pass (Dec. 2019) (elastic + delta)	UPSTREAM ($\vec{e}^-$ anti- $^3\vec{He}$) ($\vec{e}^-$ anti- beam direction)	DOWNSTREAM ($\vec{e}^-$ $^3\vec{He}$) ($\vec{e}^-$ beam direction)	180°: DOWNSTREAM 90°: BEAM LEFT
pass change			
5-pass (DIS) (thru SHMS 10354, HMS 3162)	DOWNSTREAM ($\vec{e}^-$ $^3\vec{He}$) ($\vec{e}^-$ beam direction)	UPSTREAM ($\vec{e}^-$ anti- $^3\vec{He}$) ($\vec{e}^-$ anti- beam direction)	180°:DOWNSTREAM 90°: BEAM LEFT
Wien-flip			
5-pass (DIS) (SHMS 10355+, HMS 3163+)	UPSTREAM ($\vec{e}^-$ anti- $^3\vec{He}$) ($\vec{e}^-$ anti- beam direction)	DOWNSTREAM ($\vec{e}^-$ $^3\vec{He}$) ($\vec{e}^-$ beam direction)	180°: DOWNSTREAM 90°: BEAM LEFT

$$A_{\text{raw}} = \frac{N^+ - N^-}{N^+ + N^-}$$

SHMS Elastic Runs:

^3He @ 180°

$E_p = -2.1286 \text{ GeV}, 8.5^\circ$

- ^3He target spin direction fixed
- Incident e^- spin direction (relative to its momentum) changes with IHWP state, Wien-flip, and pass change → imperative to keep N^+, N^- consistent!



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• Credit to Melanie Cardona (Temple U.)

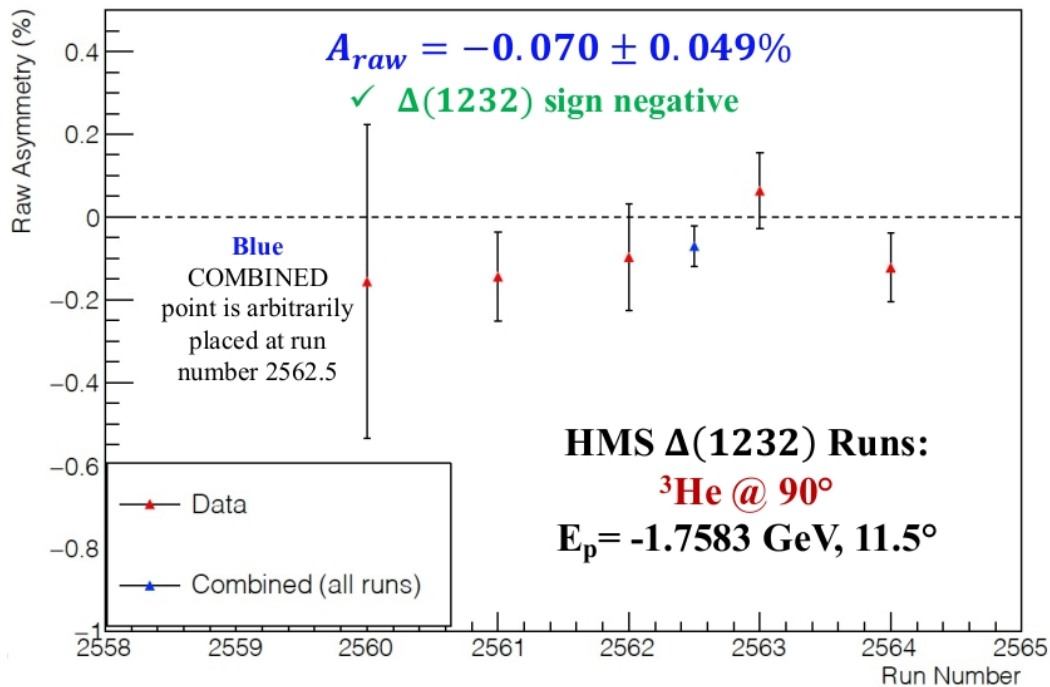
A_{perp} : ^3He $\Delta(1232)$ Asymmetries

By definition: N^+ should describe the # of incident e^- whose spin is **anti-||** to the **beam direction**, and the scattered e^- being detected on the **same side of the beam** as that to which the ^3He spins are pointing:

$$A_{\perp} = \frac{\sigma^{\downarrow\Rightarrow} - \sigma^{\uparrow\Rightarrow}}{\sigma^{\downarrow\Rightarrow} + \sigma^{\uparrow\Rightarrow}}$$

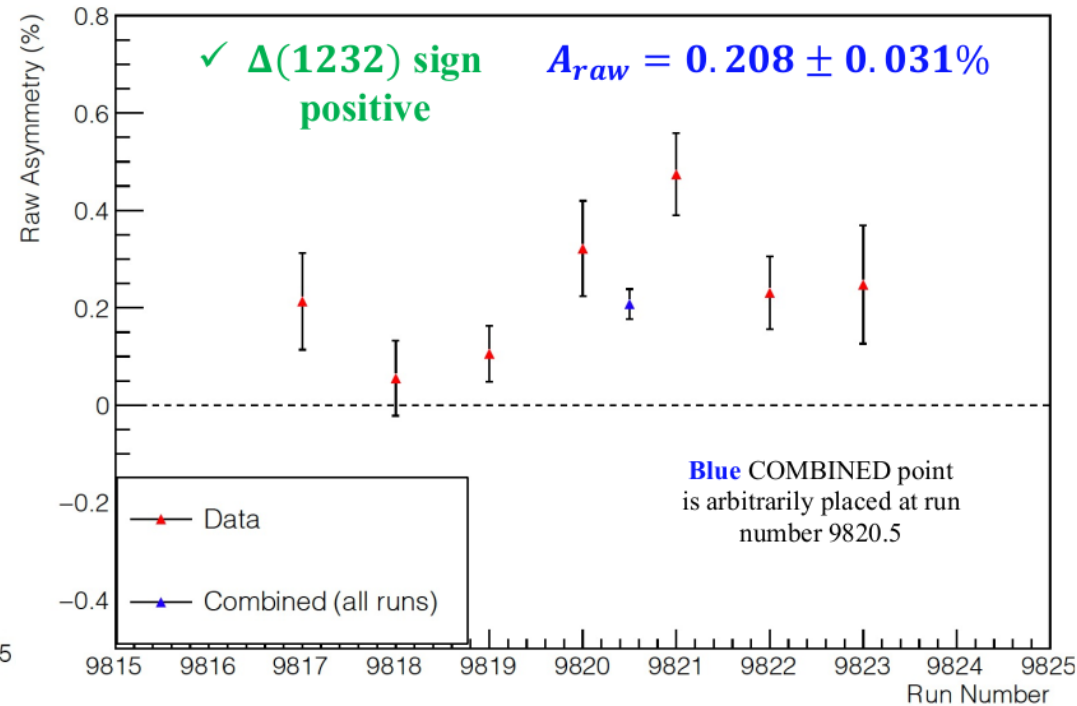
(beam left $\rightarrow$ SHMS!)

HMS Delta Runs



$$A_{\text{raw}} = \frac{N^+ - N^-}{N^+ + N^-}$$

SHMS Delta Runs



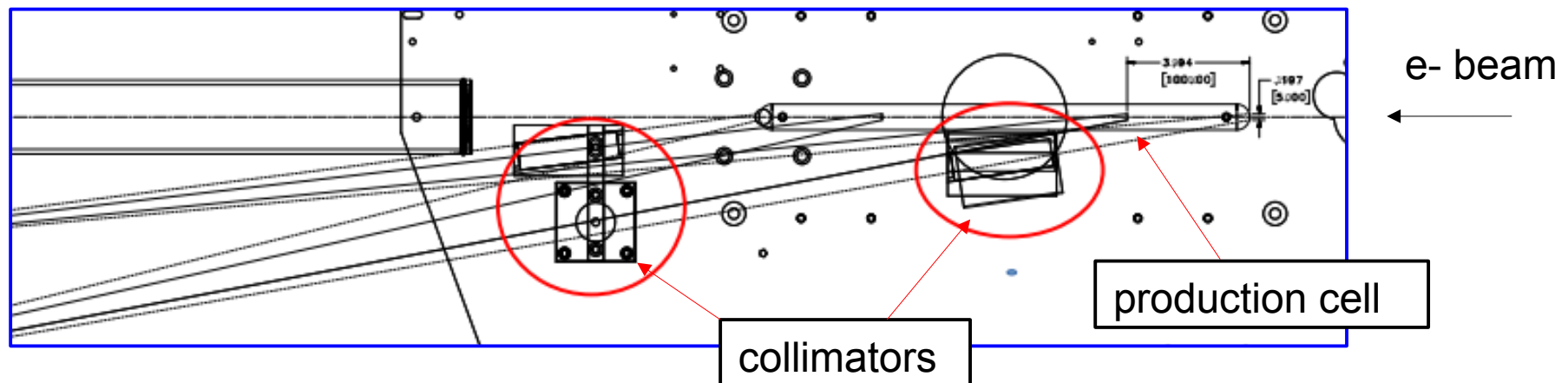
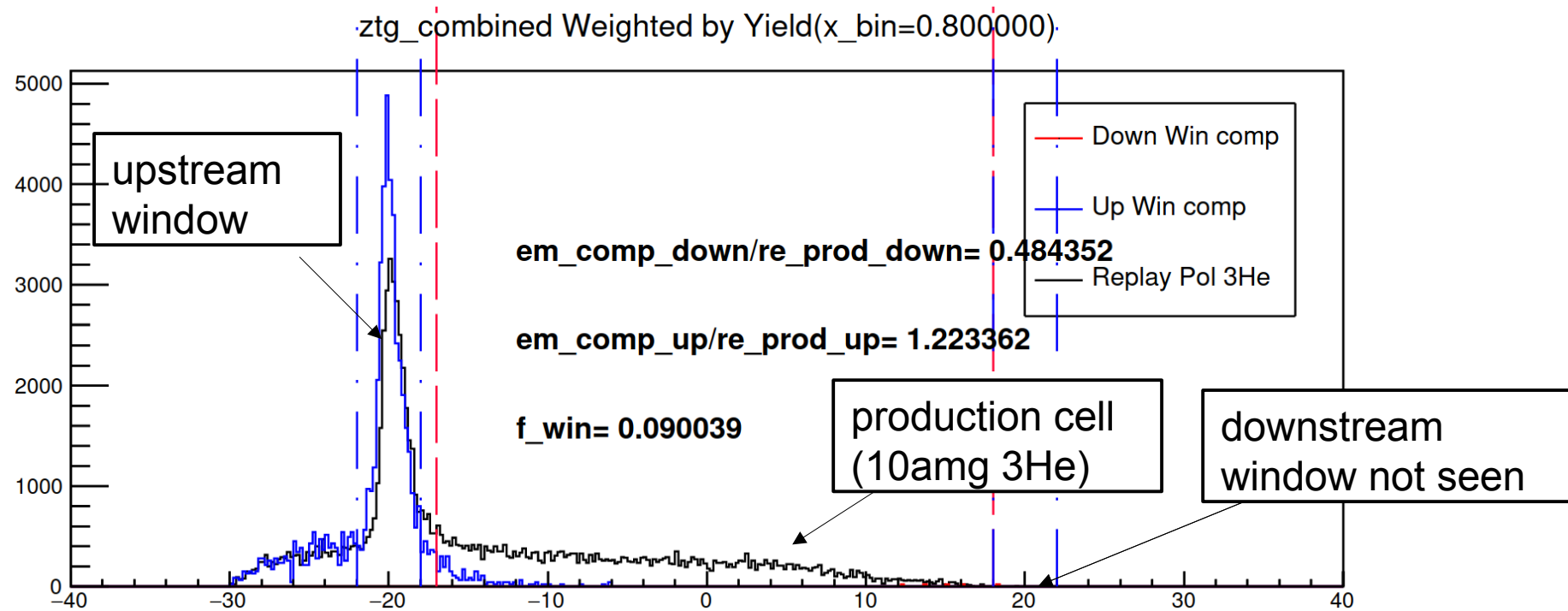
SHMS $\Delta(1232)$ Runs:
 ^3He @ 90°
 $E_p = -1.7583$ GeV, 8.5°



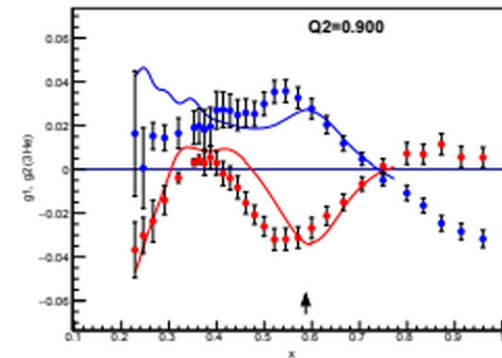
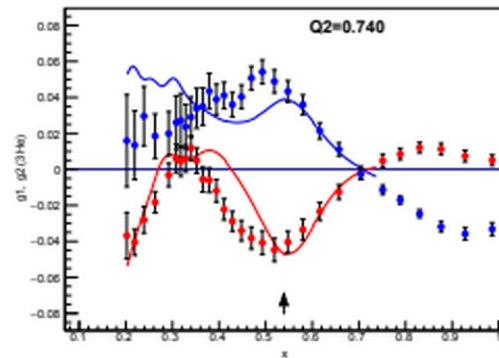
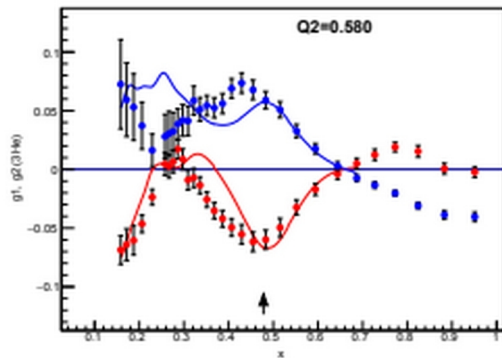
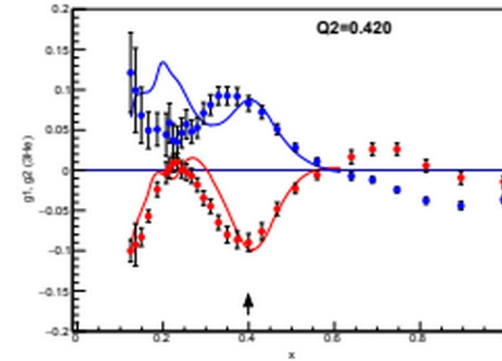
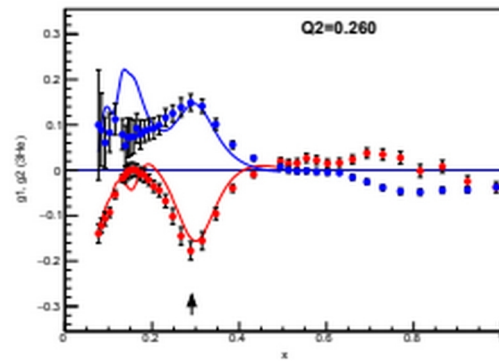
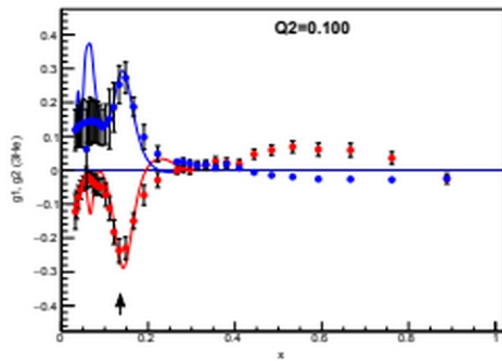
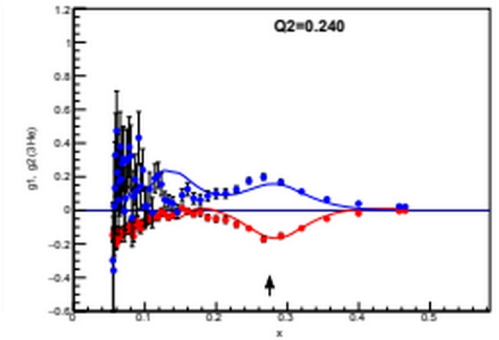
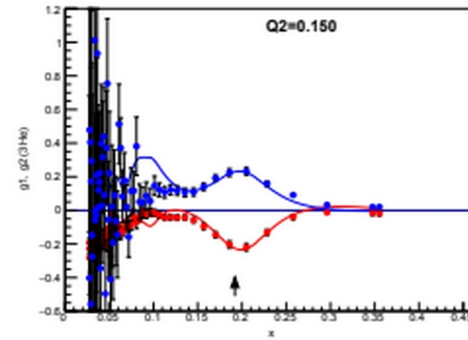
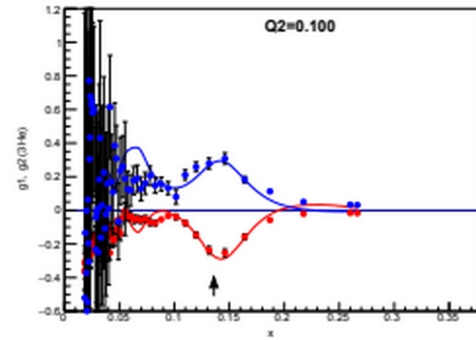
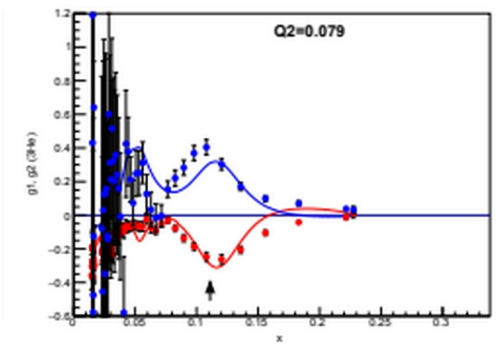
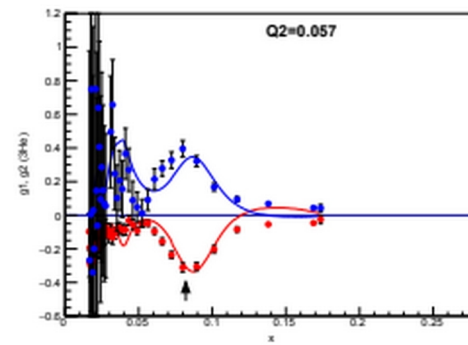
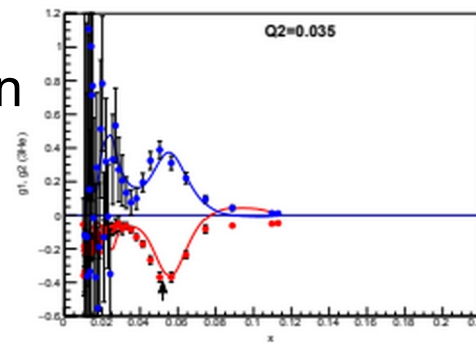
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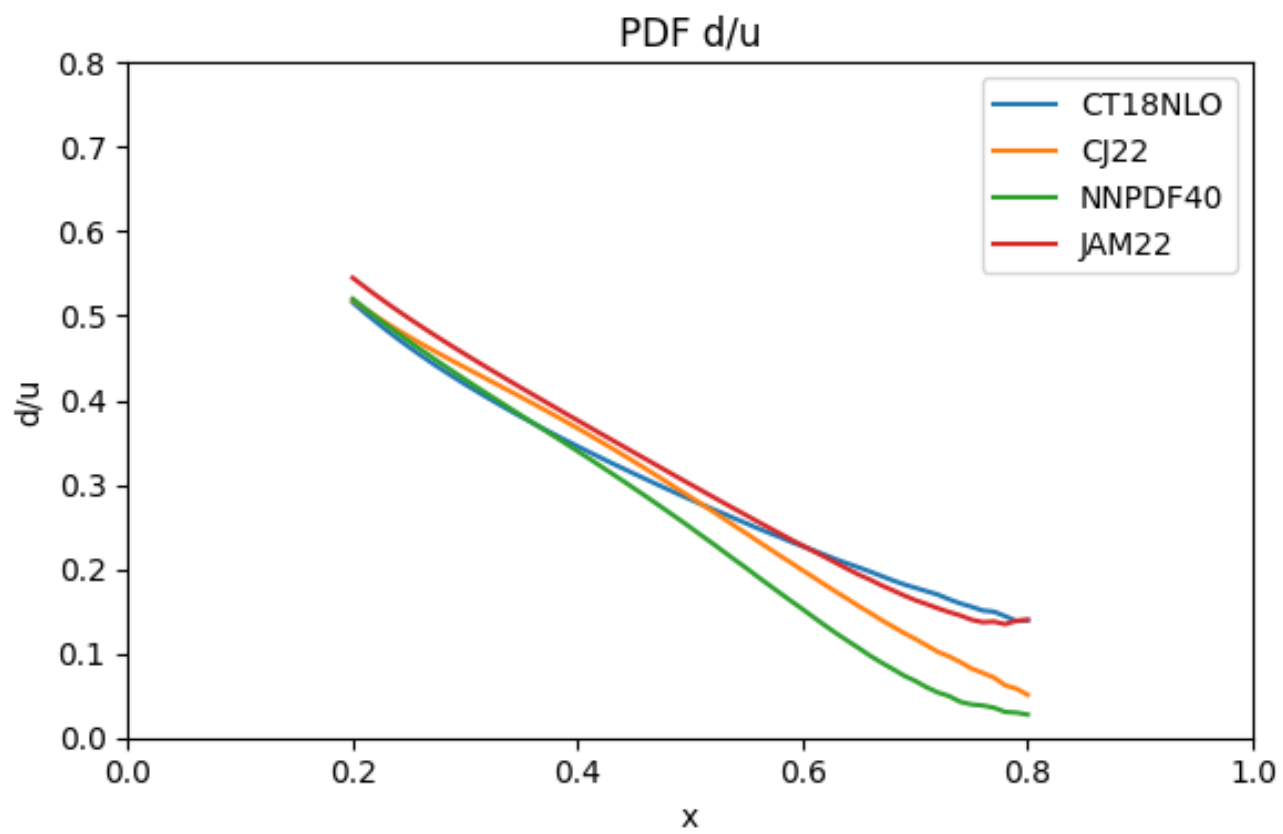
• Credit to Melanie Cardona (Temple U.)

Background from Unpolarized Glass Windows



CLAS Parameterization of g_1 , g_2 in the resonance region

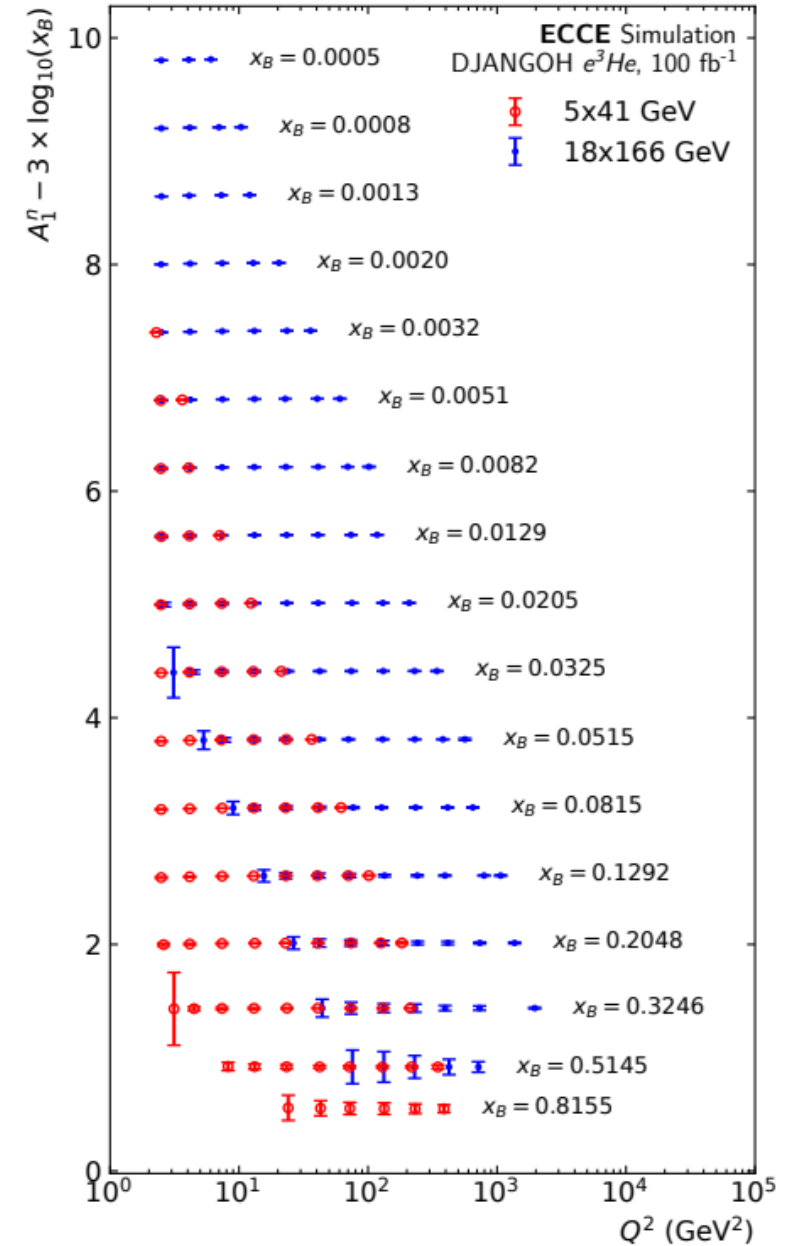
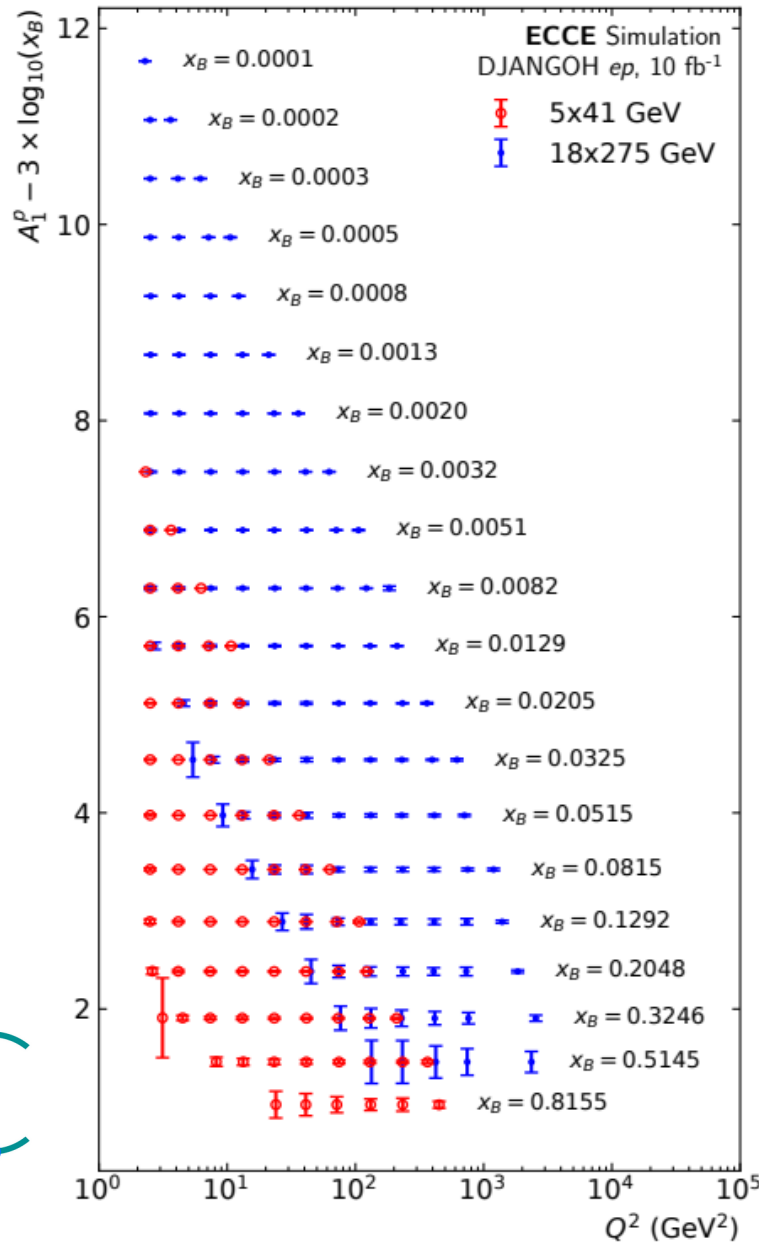




High X Spin Structure Function at the Electron Ion Collider

Figure credit:
Tyler Kutz,
Dien Nguyen,
Jackson Pybus

and ECCE



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