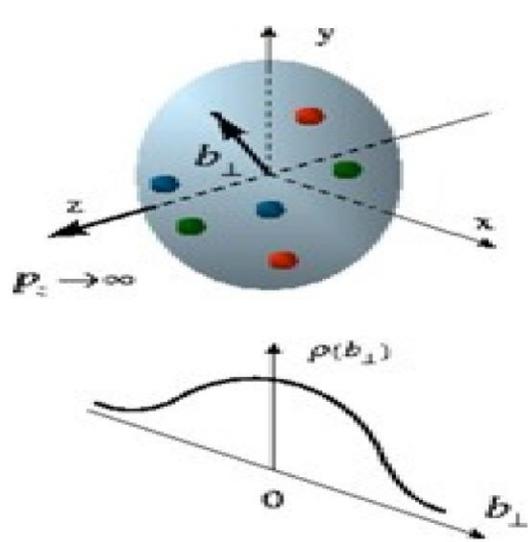


**Measurement of the  
exclusive neutral pion electroproduction  
at  
Jefferson Lab Hall A experiment E12-06-114**

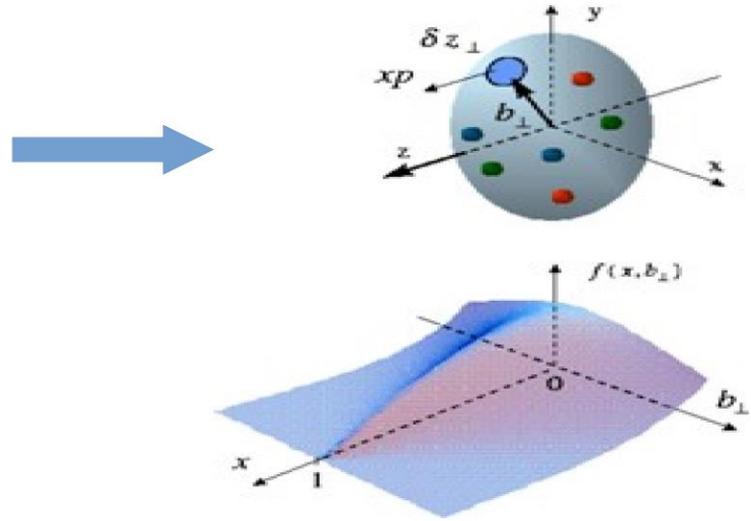
TQCD Meeting  
January 18, 2022

Po-Ju Lin

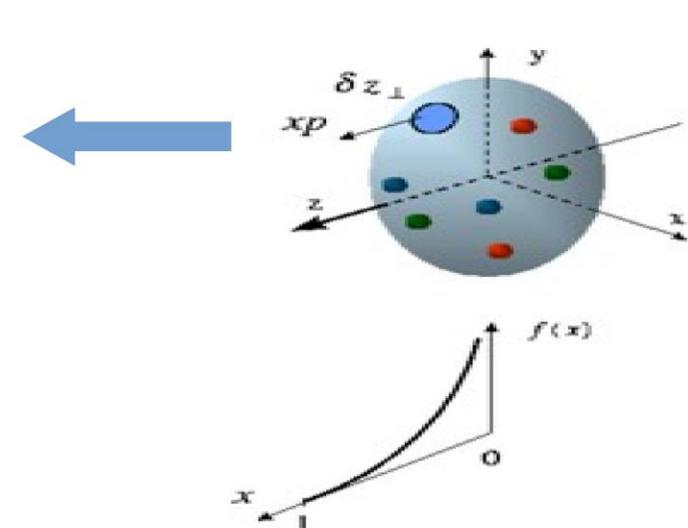
# Picture of Nucleon



- **Form Factors (FFs)**
  - ✓ Spatial distribution
  - ✗ Momentum distribution



- **Generalized Parton Distributions (GPDs)**
  - ✓ Spatial distribution
  - ✓ Longitudinal momentum distribution



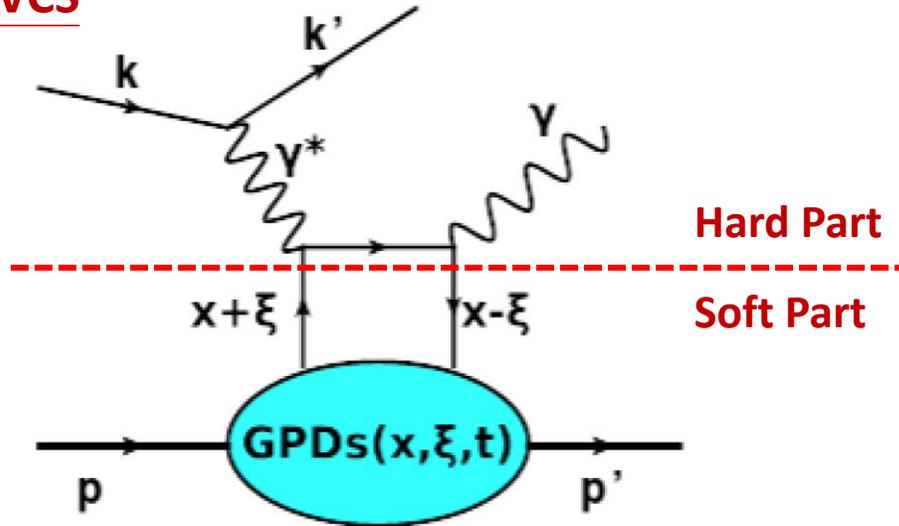
- **Parton Distribution Functions (PDFs)**
  - ✓ Longitudinal momentum distribution
  - ✗ Spatial distribution

## GPDs

- Correlate the transverse position to the longitudinal momentum of the partons and thus provides a 3-D information of the nucleon.
- Accessible through exclusive processes.

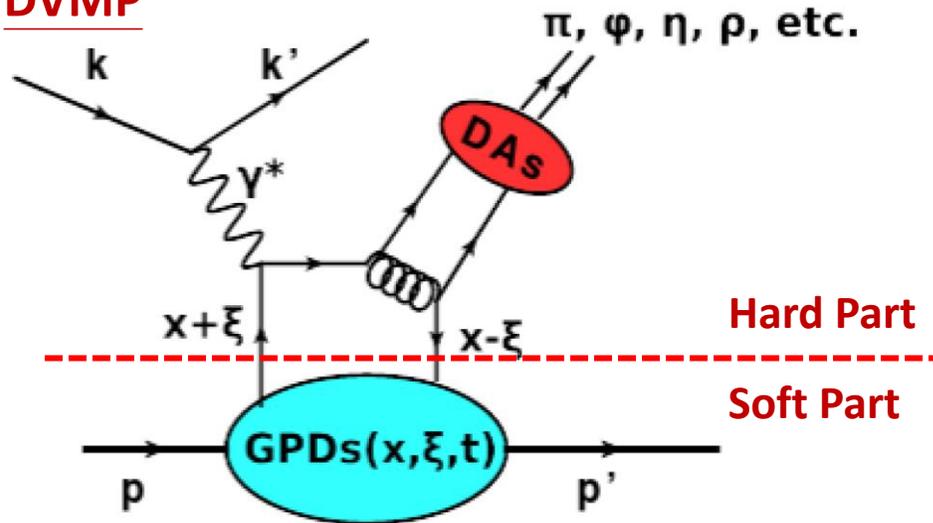
# Deep Exclusive Processes

## DVCS



- The GPDs depend on the variables at fixed  $Q^2$ :
  - $x$ : average longitudinal momentum frac.
  - $\xi$ : longitudinal momentum diff.  $\approx x_B/(2-x_B)$
  - $t$ : four momentum transfer

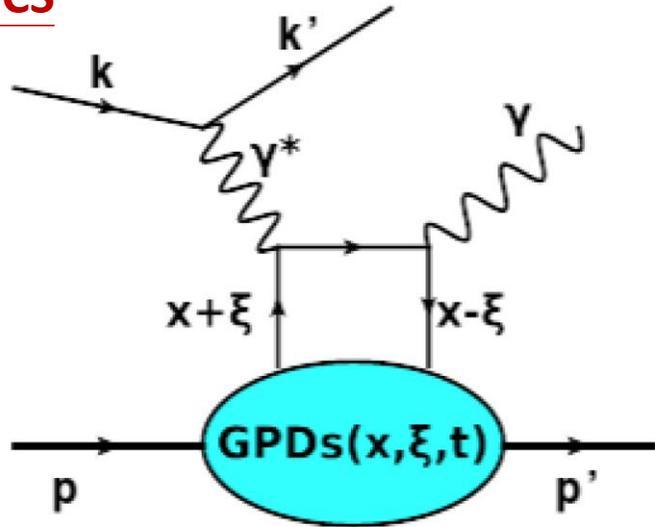
## DVMP



- Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering (DVCS) & Deeply Virtual Meson Production (DVMP)
  - Hard exclusive production of a single photon or meson
- In Bjorken limit ( $Q^2$  &  $\nu \rightarrow \infty$  at fixed  $x_B$ )
  - Hard Part: Calculable perturbatively
  - Soft Part: Nucleon structure described by GPDs

# Deep Exclusive Processes

## DVCS



4 chiral-even GPDs: helicity of parton unchanged

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbf{H}^q(x, \xi, t) & \mathbf{E}^q(x, \xi, t) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{H}}^q(x, \xi, t) & \tilde{\mathbf{E}}^q(x, \xi, t) \end{matrix}$$

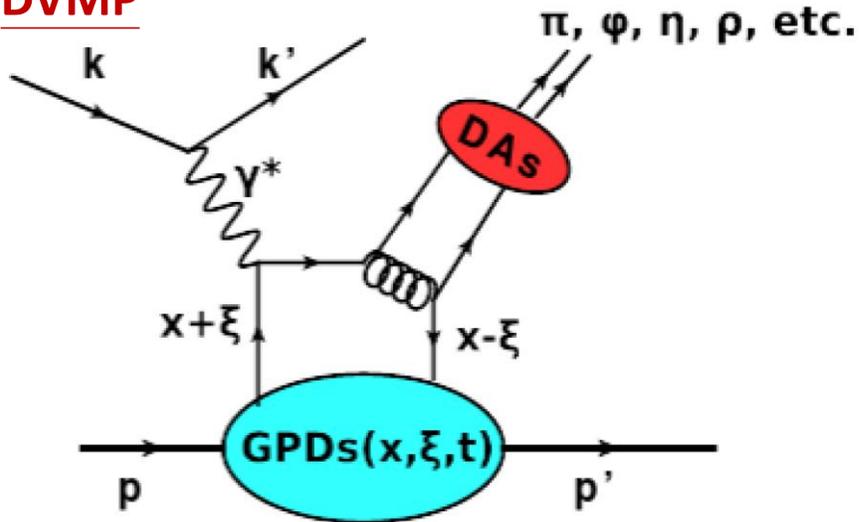
via **DVCS**  
**DVMP**

+ 4 chiral-odd (transversity) GPDs: helicity of parton changed

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbf{H}_T^q(x, \xi, t) & \mathbf{E}_T^q(x, \xi, t) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{H}}_T^q(x, \xi, t) & \tilde{\mathbf{E}}_T^q(x, \xi, t) \end{matrix}$$

via **DVMP**

## DVMP



### ➤ DVCS

- Golden channel, simple and clean final state

### ➤ DVMP

- Ability to probe the chiral-odd GPDs
- Additional non-perturbative term from meson distribution amplitude

# Exclusive $\pi^0$ Production

$e p \rightarrow e \pi^0 p$

$$\frac{d^4\sigma}{dQ^2 dx_B dt d\phi} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \Gamma_\gamma(Q^2, x_B, E) \left[ \frac{d\sigma_T}{dt} + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_L}{dt} + \sqrt{2\epsilon(1+\epsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{dt} \cos(\phi) \right. \\ \left. + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{dt} \cos(2\phi) + h \sqrt{2\epsilon(1-\epsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{dt} \sin(\phi) \right]$$

$\epsilon$ : degree of longitudinal polarization  
 $h$ : helicity of the initial lepton

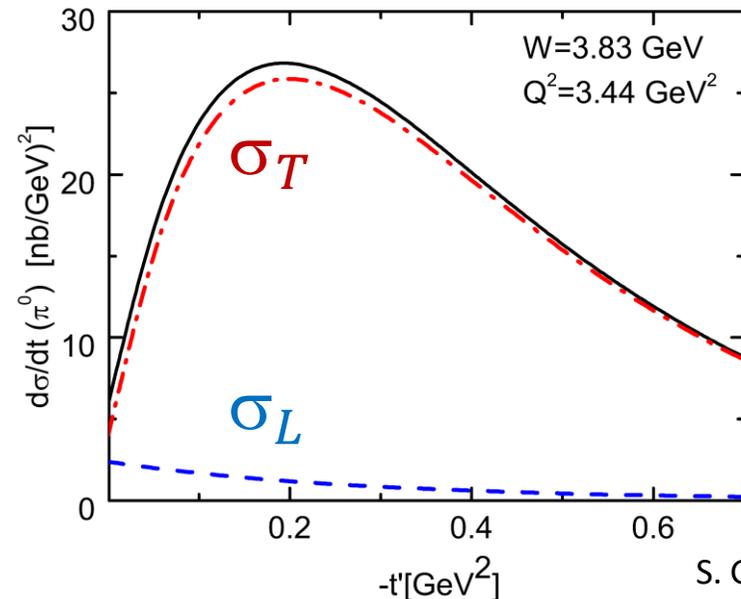
- Factorization proven only for  $\sigma_L$ , which depends on chiral-even GPDs only
- At sufficiently high  $Q^2$ , expect  $\sigma_L \propto Q^{-6}$  while  $\sigma_T$  asymptotically suppressed and  $\propto Q^{-8}$   
→  $\sigma_L$  dominance
- Previous experiments with limited reach in  $Q^2$  suggest the dominance of  $\sigma_T$

# Exclusive $\pi^0$ Production

$e p \rightarrow e \pi^0 p$

$$\frac{d^4\sigma}{dQ^2 dx_B dt d\phi} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \Gamma_\gamma(Q^2, x_B, E) \left[ \frac{d\sigma_T}{dt} + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_L}{dt} + \sqrt{2\epsilon(1+\epsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{dt} \cos(\phi) + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{dt} \cos(2\phi) + h \sqrt{2\epsilon(1-\epsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{dt} \sin(\phi) \right]$$

$\epsilon$ : degree of longitudinal polarization  
 $h$ : helicity of the initial lepton

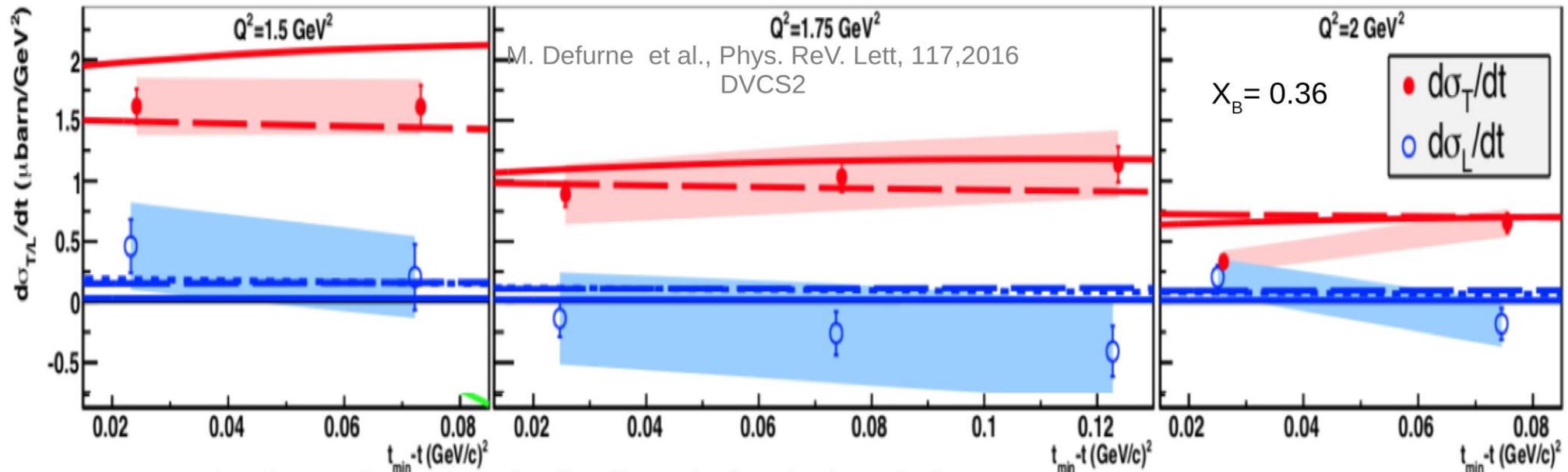


➤ Modeling of  $\sigma_T \rightarrow$  coupling between transversity GPDs and twist-3 pion amplitude

# Exclusive $\pi^0$ Production

$e p \rightarrow e \pi^0 p$

$$\frac{d^4\sigma}{dQ^2 dx_B dt d\phi} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \Gamma_\gamma(Q^2, x_B, E) \left[ \frac{d\sigma_T}{dt} + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_L}{dt} + \sqrt{2\epsilon(1+\epsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{dt} \cos(\phi) + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{dt} \cos(2\phi) + h \sqrt{2\epsilon(1-\epsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{dt} \sin(\phi) \right]$$



# Exclusive $\pi^0$ Production

$e p \rightarrow e \pi^0 p$

$$\frac{d^4\sigma}{dQ^2 dx_B dt d\phi} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \Gamma_\gamma(Q^2, x_B, E) \left[ \frac{d\sigma_T}{dt} + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_L}{dt} + \sqrt{2\epsilon(1+\epsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{dt} \cos(\phi) + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{dt} \cos(2\phi) + h \sqrt{2\epsilon(1-\epsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{dt} \sin(\phi) \right]$$

- $\frac{d\sigma_L}{dt} = \frac{4\pi\alpha}{k'} \frac{1}{Q^6} \left\{ (1-\xi^2) |\langle \tilde{H} \rangle|^2 - 2\xi^2 \text{Re} [\langle \tilde{H} \rangle^* \langle \tilde{E} \rangle] - \frac{t'}{4m^2} \xi^2 |\langle \tilde{E} \rangle|^2 \right\}$
- $\frac{d\sigma_T}{dt} = \frac{4\pi\alpha}{2k'} \frac{\mu_\pi^2}{Q^8} \left[ (1-\xi^2) |\langle H_T \rangle|^2 - \frac{t'}{8m^2} |\langle \bar{E}_T \rangle|^2 \right]$
- $\frac{\sigma_{LT}}{dt} = \frac{4\pi\alpha}{\sqrt{2}k'} \frac{\mu_\pi}{Q^7} \xi \sqrt{1-\xi^2} \frac{\sqrt{-t'}}{2m} \text{Re} [\langle H_T \rangle^* \langle \tilde{E} \rangle]$
- $\frac{\sigma_{TT}}{dt} = \frac{4\pi\alpha}{k'} \frac{\mu_\pi^2}{Q^8} \frac{t'}{16m^2} |\langle \bar{E}_T \rangle|^2$

$$\bar{E}_T = 2\tilde{H}_T + E_T$$

$\epsilon$ : degree of longitudinal polarization  
 $h$ : helicity of the initial lepton

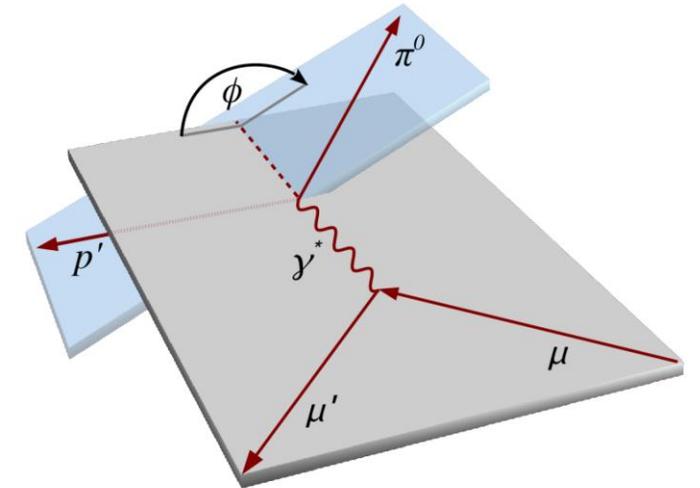
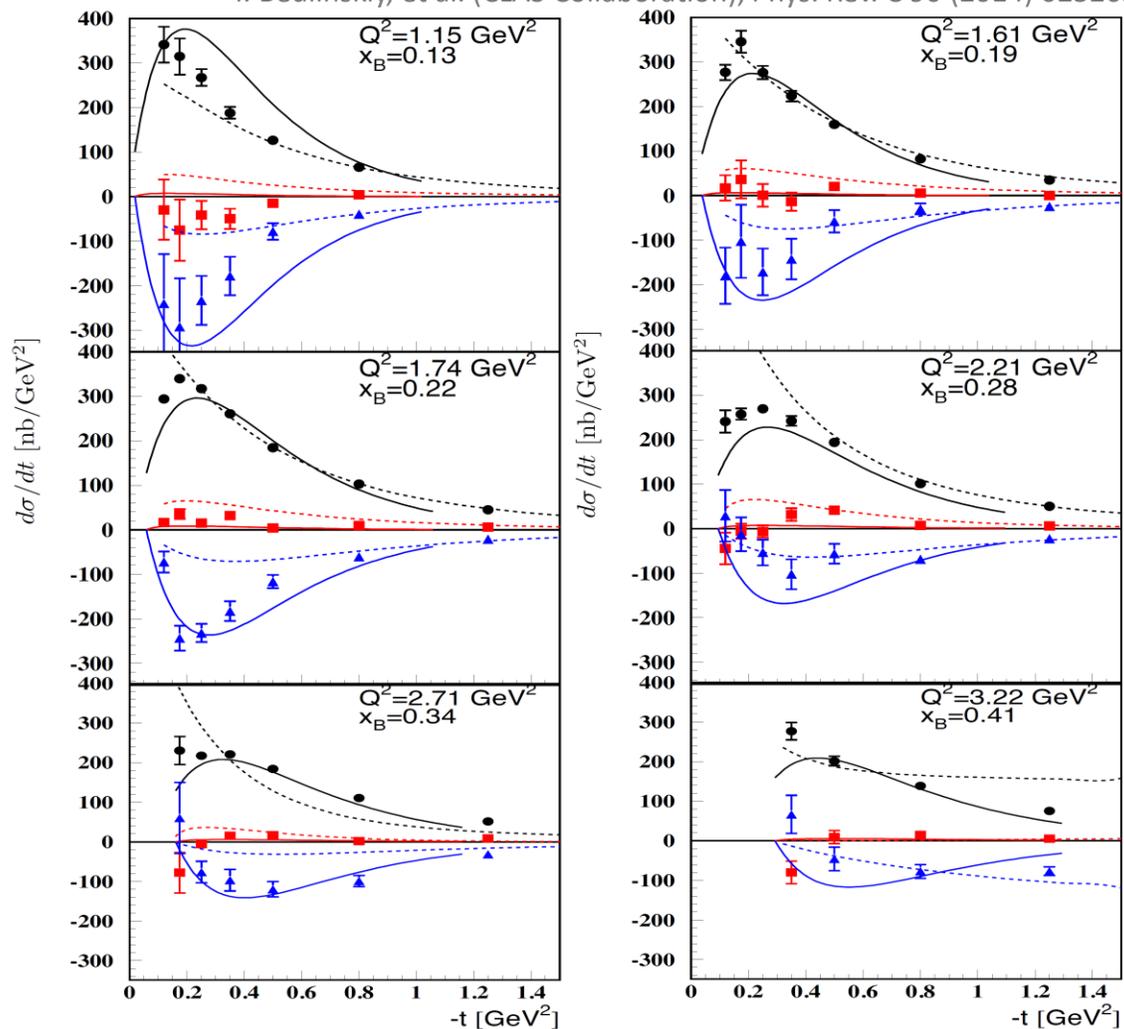


Fig: M.G. Alexeev et al. *Phys.Lett.B* 805 (2020)

# Other Exclusive $\pi^0$ Measurements

## CLAS

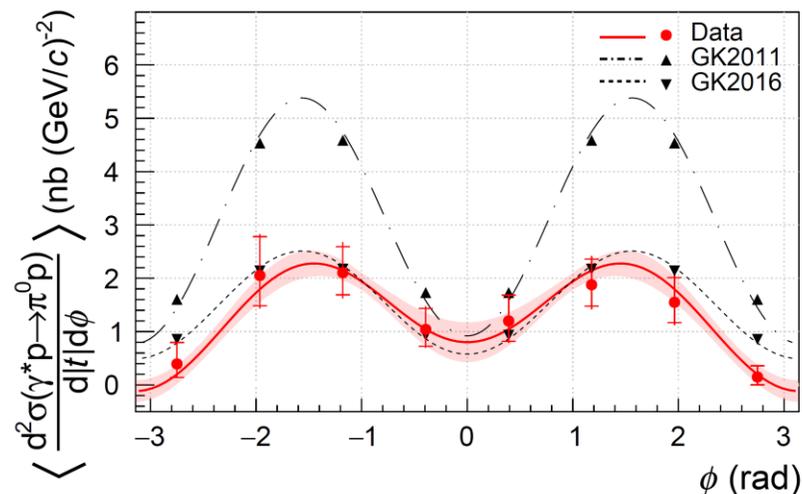
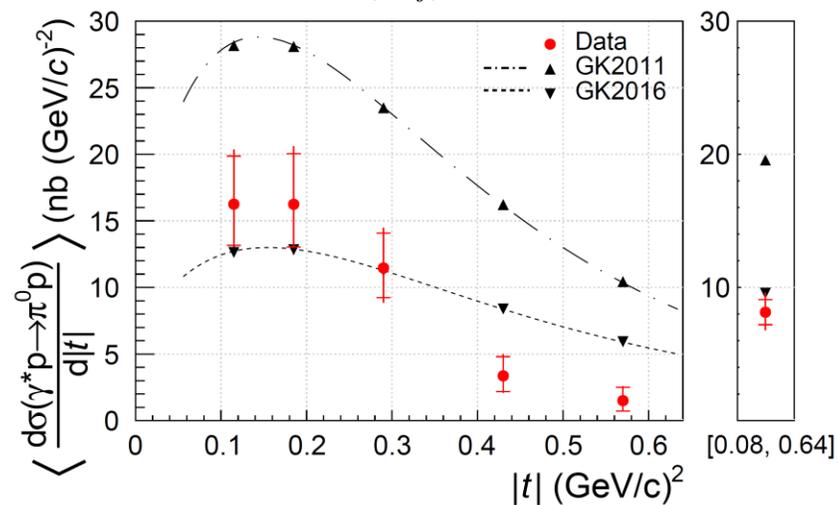
I. Bedlinskiy, et al. (CLAS Collaboration), Phys. Rev. C 90 (2014) 025205



— GK Model  
- - - GHL Model

●  $d\sigma_T + \epsilon d\sigma_L$  ■  $\sigma_{TL}$  ▲  $\sigma_{TT}$

## COMPASS - $\langle Q^2 \rangle = 2.0 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$ $\langle x_{Bj} \rangle = 0.093$



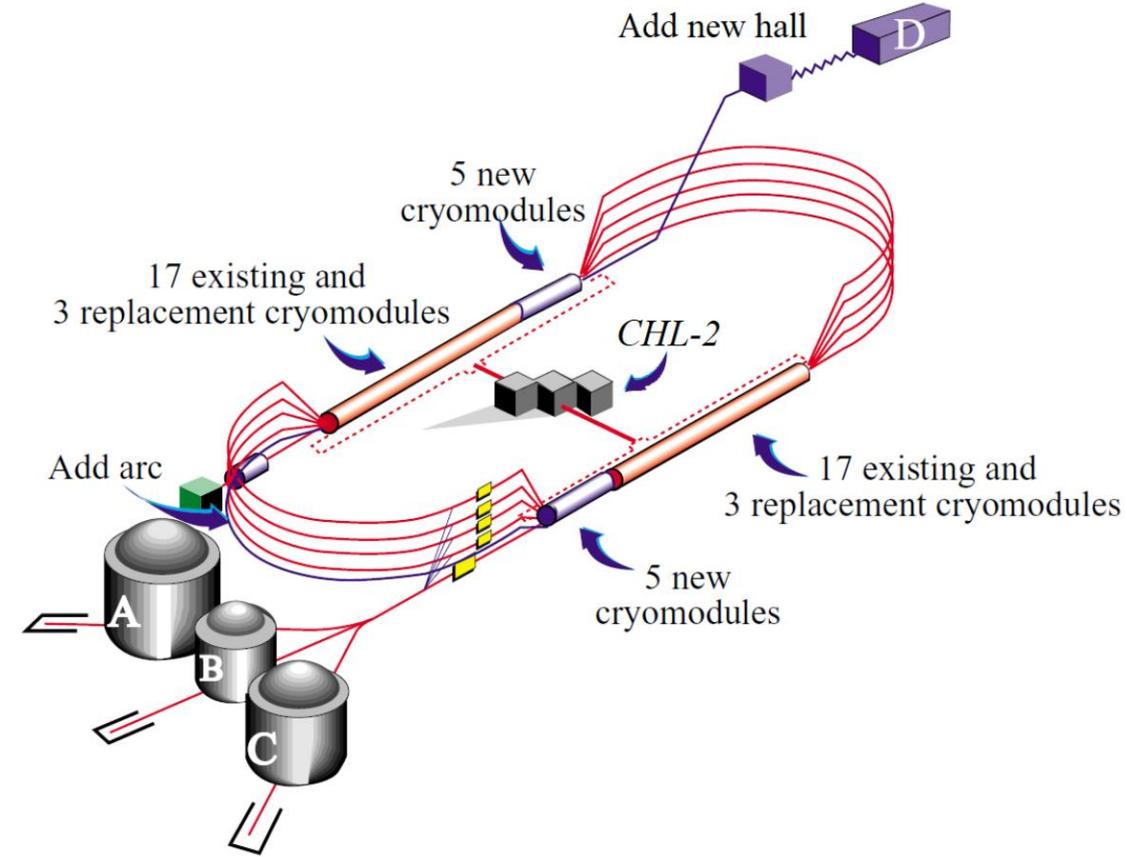
M.G. Alexeev et al. Phys.Lett.B 805 (2020)

# Jefferson Lab

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas\\_Jefferson\\_National\\_Accelerator\\_Facility](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Jefferson_National_Accelerator_Facility)



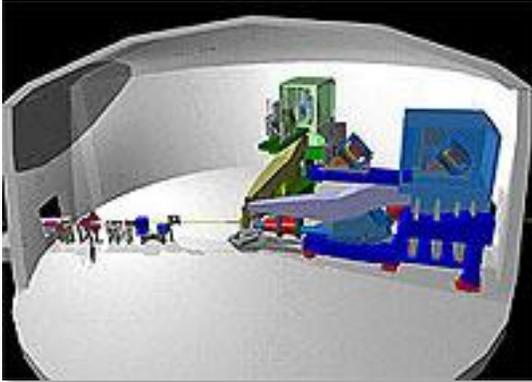
[https://www.jlab.org/div\\_dept/physics\\_division/GeV/whitepaperv11/index.htm](https://www.jlab.org/div_dept/physics_division/GeV/whitepaperv11/index.htm)



Jefferson Lab: US national laboratory located in Newport News, Virginia  
→ Continuous Electron Beam Accelerator Facility (CEBAF) + exp. Halls.

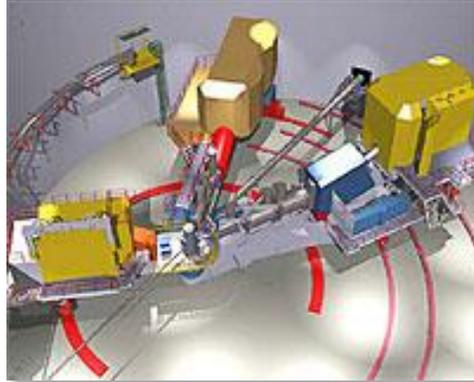
# Jefferson Lab Experimental Halls

**Hall A**

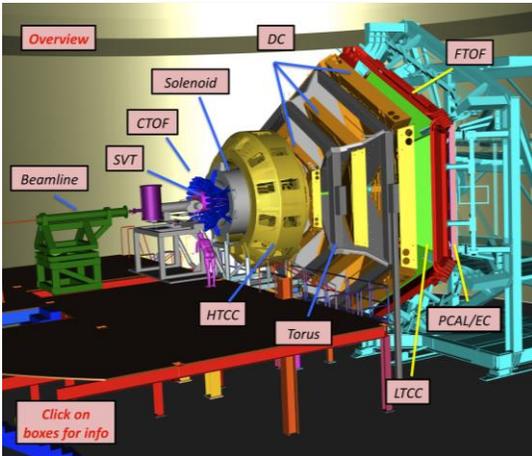


- High luminosity, limited kinematic coverage  
→ Test the validity of theoretical formalism

**Hall C**

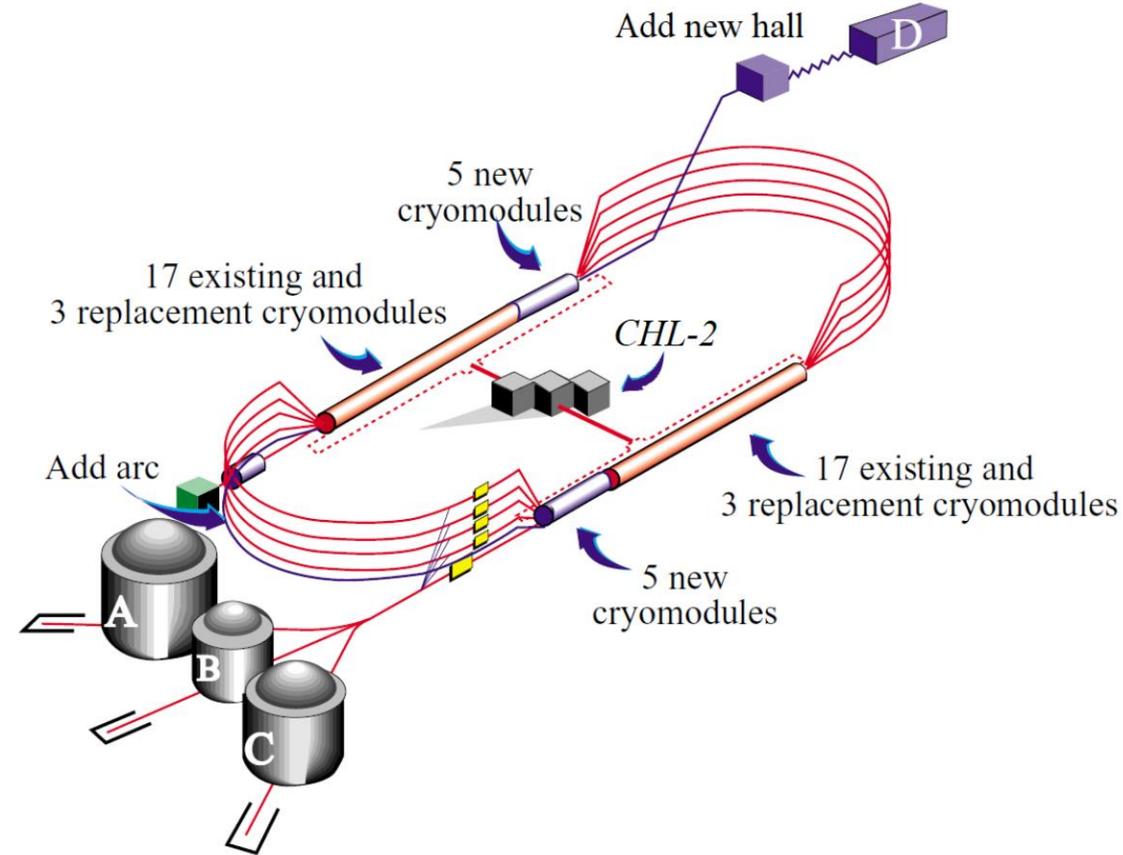


**Hall B – CLAS 12**

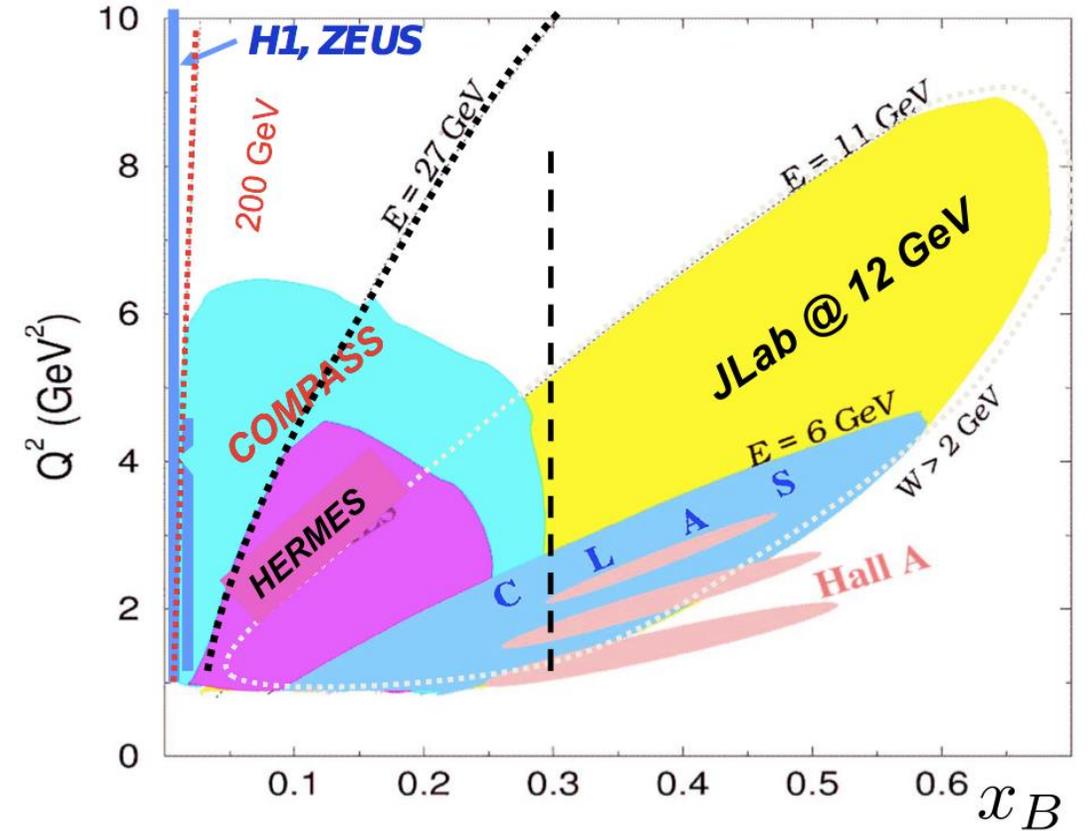
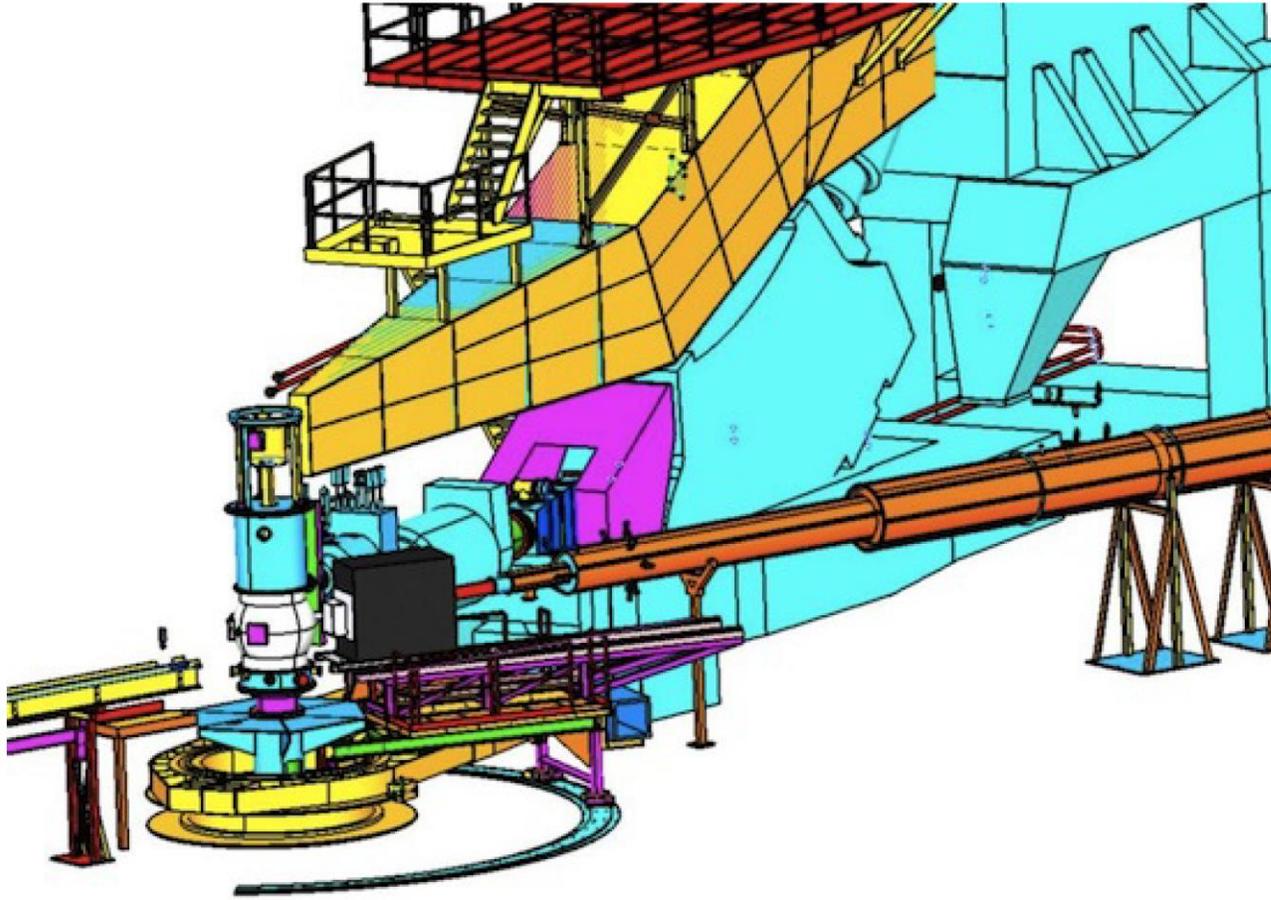


- Lower luminosity, wide kinematic coverage → Map the GPDs

[https://www.jlab.org/div\\_dept/physics\\_division/GeV/whitepaperv11/index.html](https://www.jlab.org/div_dept/physics_division/GeV/whitepaperv11/index.html)

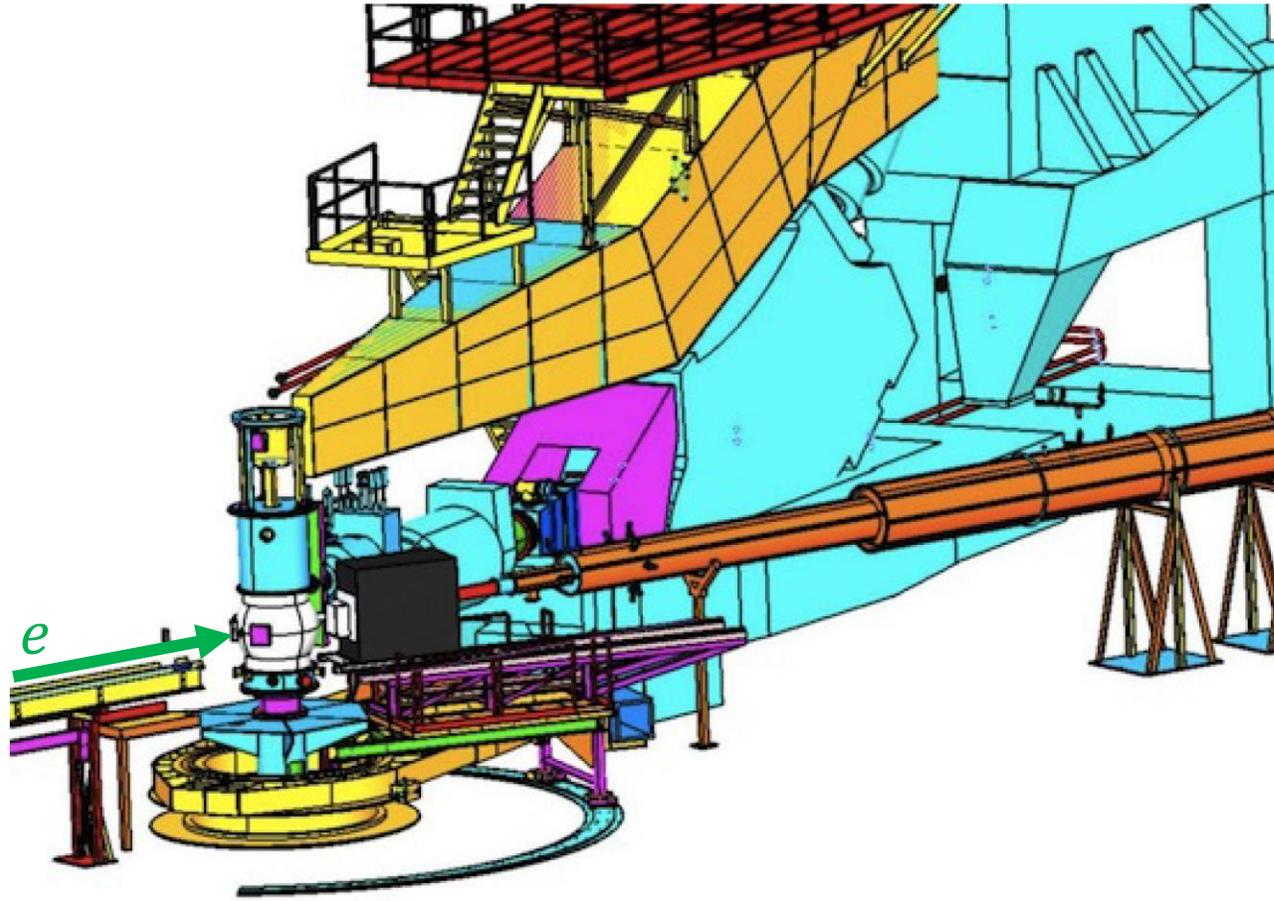


# Jefferson Lab Hall A experiment E12-06-114

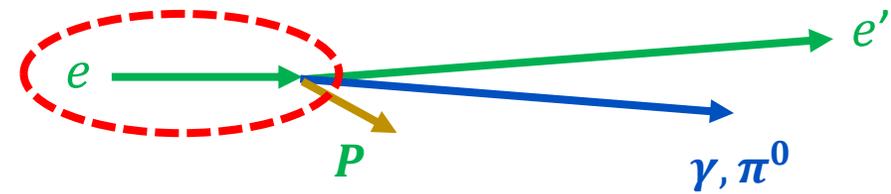


➤ 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation DVCS project @ Hall A → CEBAF12 grants the ability to explore high  $x_B$  with extended  $Q^2$ .

# E12-06-114 Experimental Setup



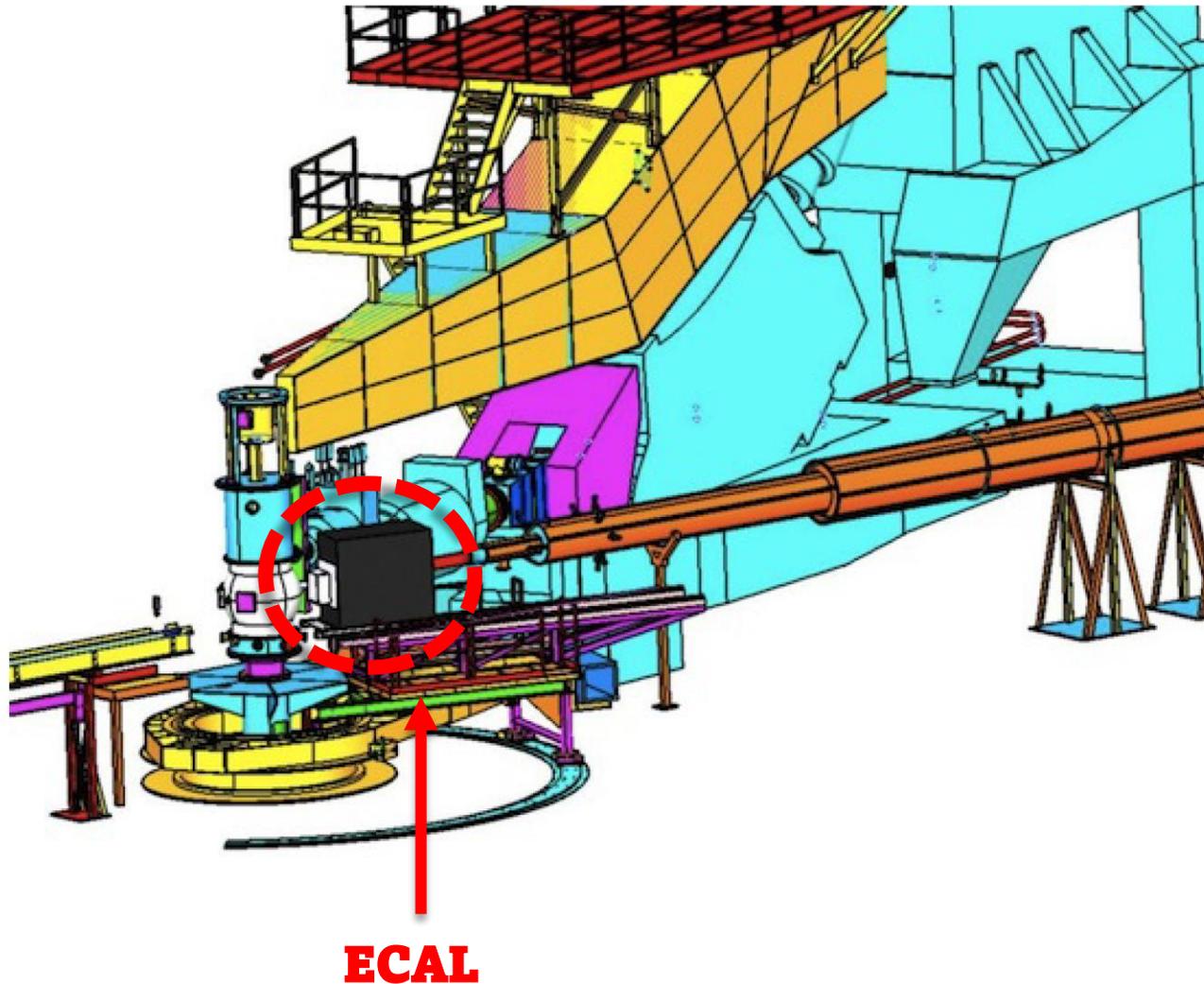
## DVCS & Exclusive $\pi^0$ Production



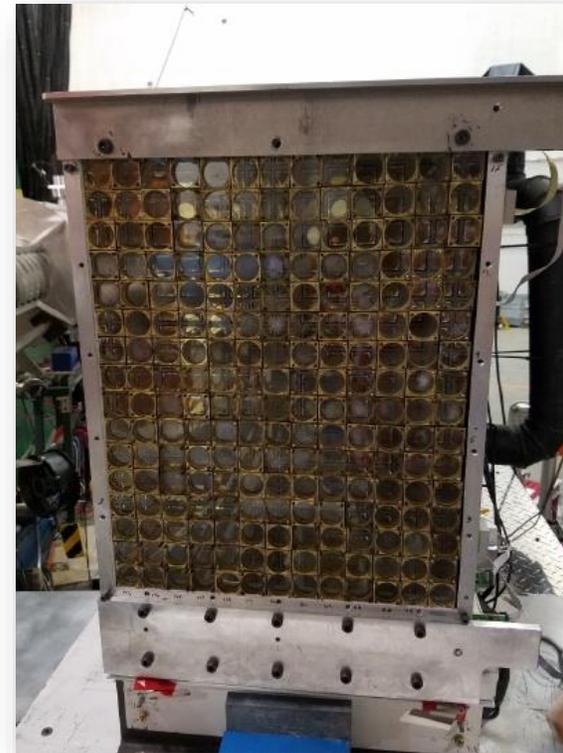
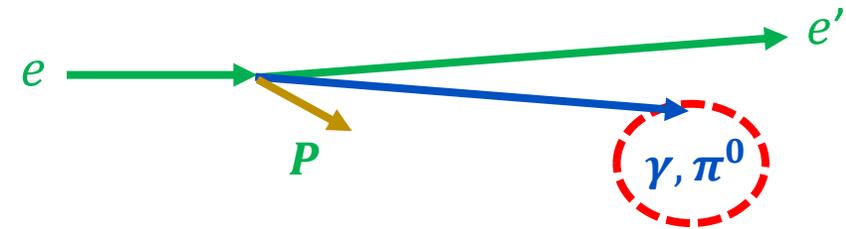
- **Electron beam**
  - polarisation  $\sim 85\%$
  - helicity flipped at 30 Hz
  - luminosity:  $\sim 10^{38}$  Hz/cm<sup>2</sup>
- **LH<sub>2</sub> target**
  - 6.35 cm diameter, 15 cm long



# E12-06-114 Experimental Setup

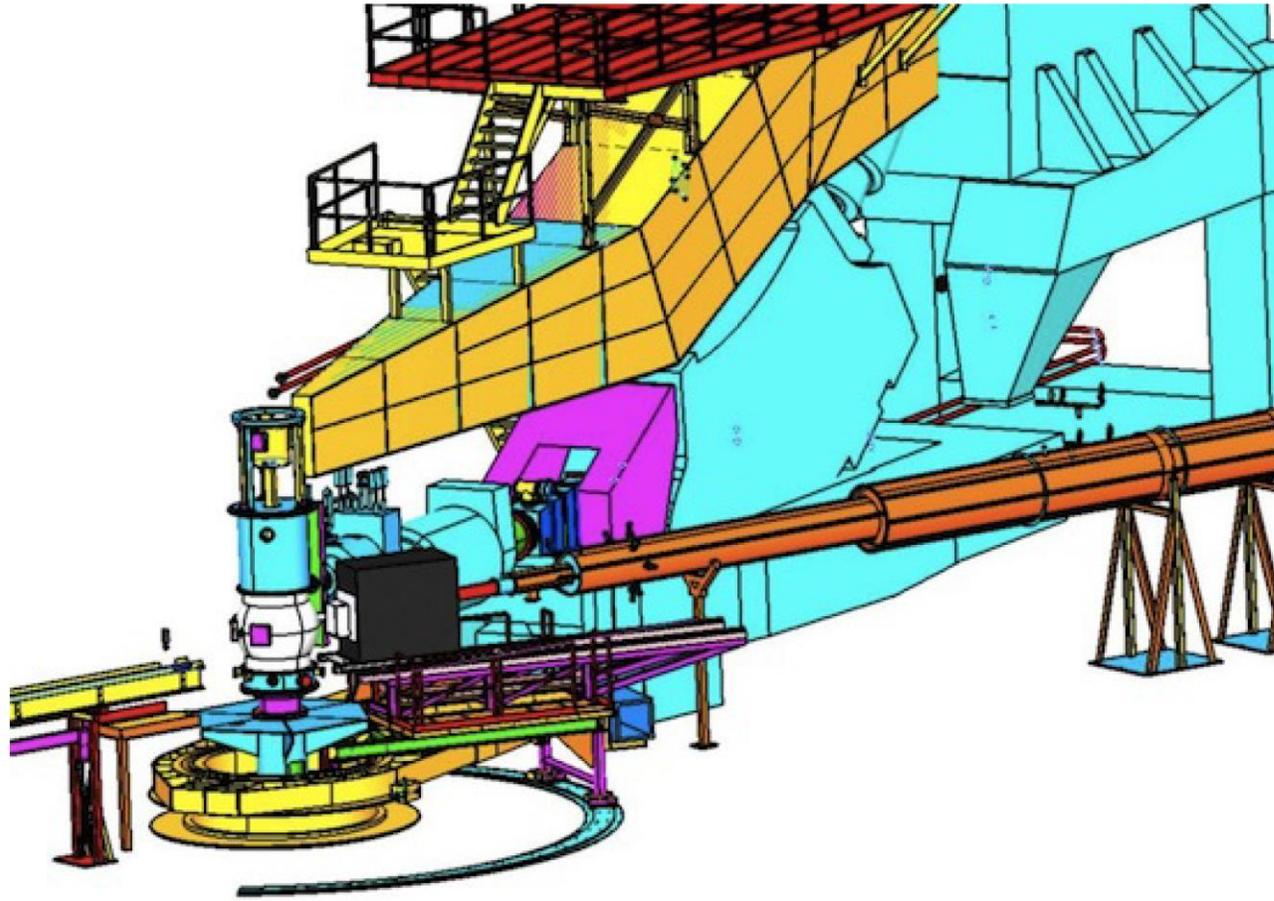


## DVCS & Exclusive $\pi^0$ Production

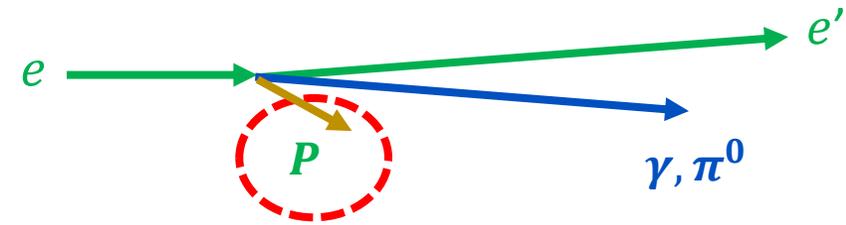


- **ECAL**
- 208 blocks of  $\text{PF}_2$
- $3 \times 3 \times 18.6 \text{ cm}^3$  each
- $\sim 20$  radiation lengths
- Moliere radius 2.2cm
- E resolution  $\sim 3\%$   
@ 4.2 GeV

# E12-06-114 Experimental Setup



## DVCS & Exclusive $\pi^0$ Production

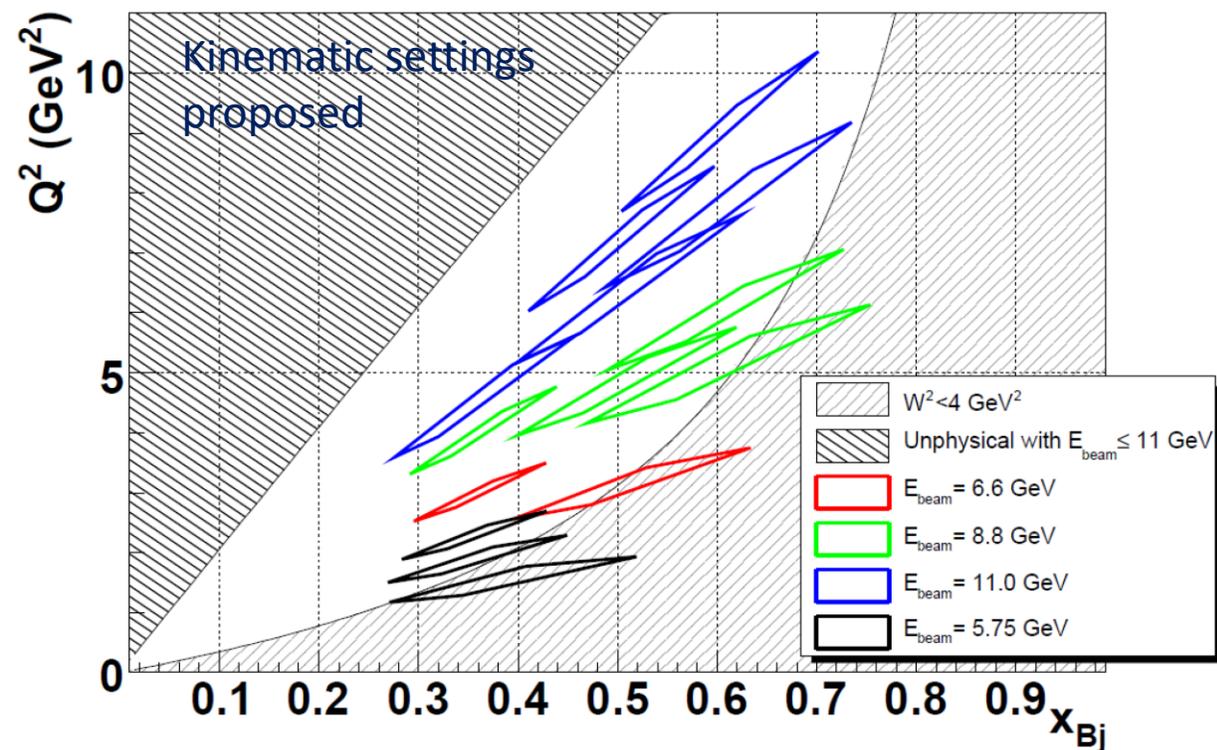


## Recoil Proton

- Not detected
- Exclusivity of events ensured using missing mass,  $M_X^2$

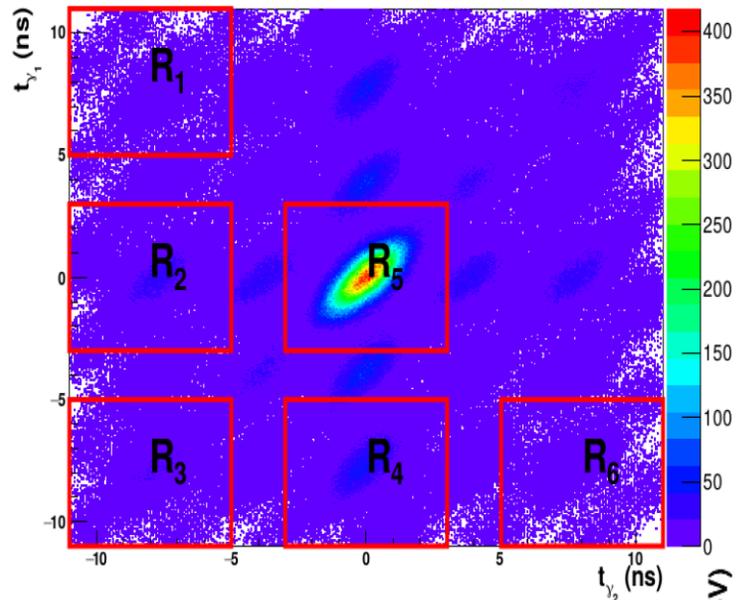
# E12-06-114 Kinematic Settings

$x_B$ label	0.36			0.48				0.60	
$\langle x_B \rangle$	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.48	0.45	0.46	0.46	0.59	0.60
$E$ (GeV)	7.38	8.52	10.59	4.49	8.85	8.85	10.99	8.52	10.59
$Q^2$ (GeV <sup>2</sup> )	3.11	3.57	4.44	2.67	4.06	5.16	6.56	5.49	8.31
$W^2$ (GeV <sup>2</sup> )	6.51	7.29	8.79	3.81	5.62	6.67	8.32	4.58	6.46
$-t_{\min}$ (GeV <sup>2</sup> )	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.33	0.35	0.35	0.36	0.67	0.71
$\epsilon$	0.61	0.62	0.63	0.51	0.71	0.55	0.52	0.66	0.50

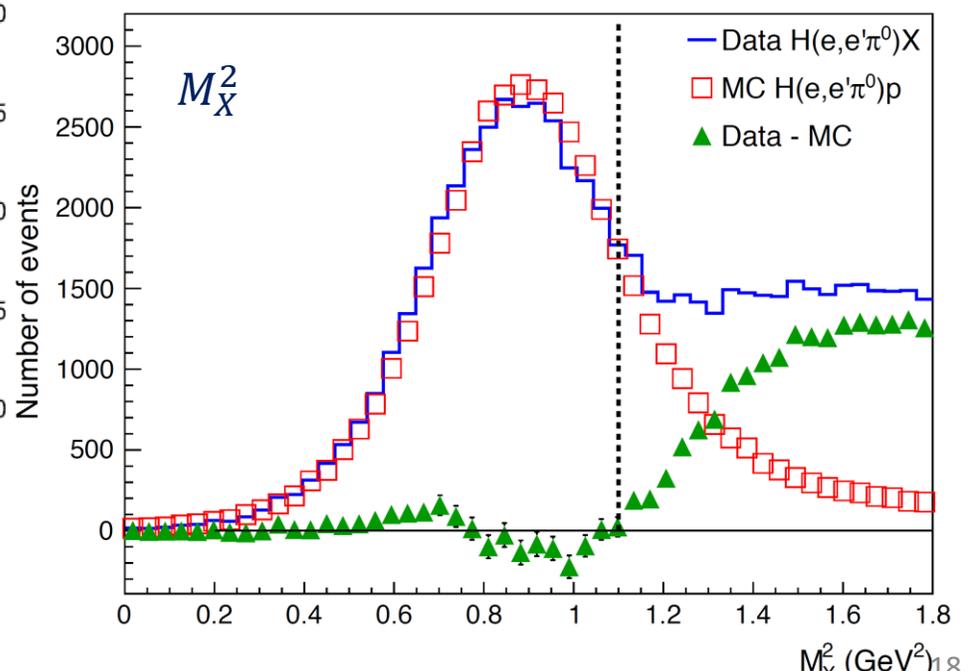
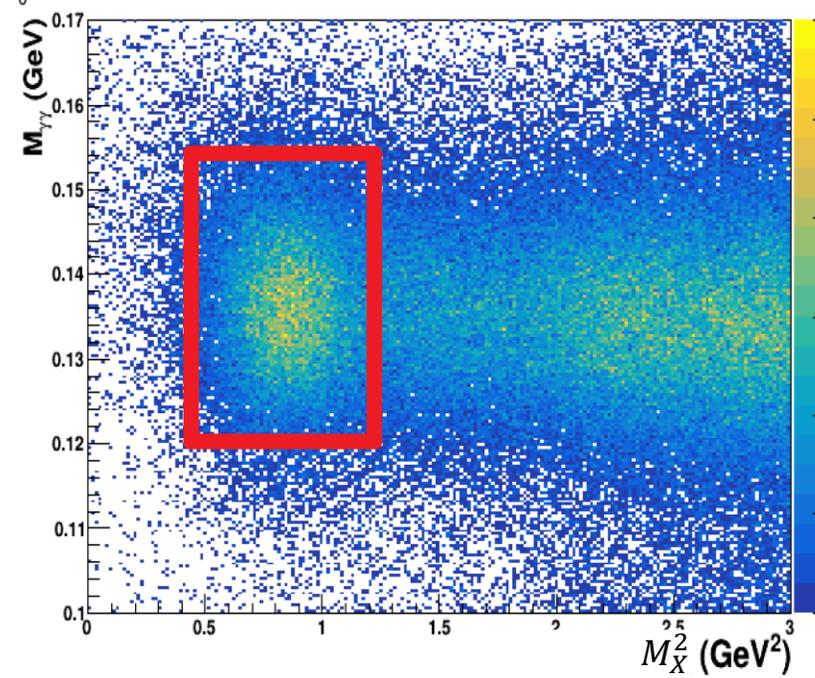
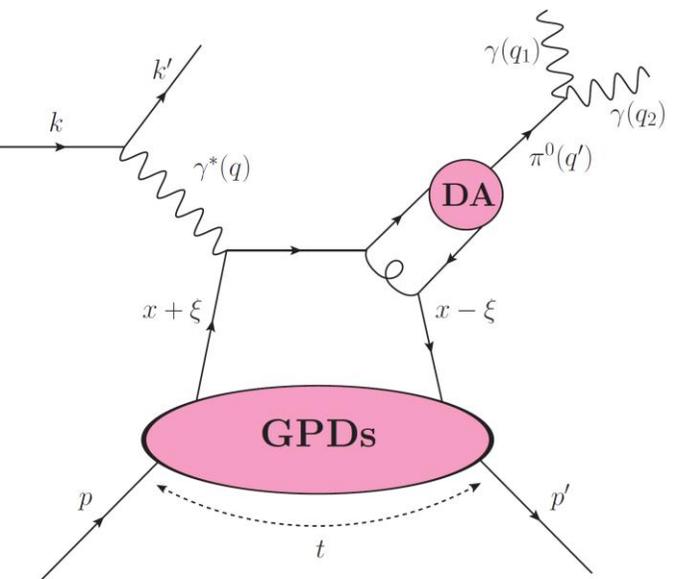


- Ran in 2014 & 2016
- 9 settings with  $x_B$  of 0.36, 0.48, and 0.6 and  $Q^2$  ranging from about 3 to 8 GeV<sup>2</sup>
- About 50% of allocated 100 PAC days
- Missing PAC days reallocated to the future experiment @ Hall C

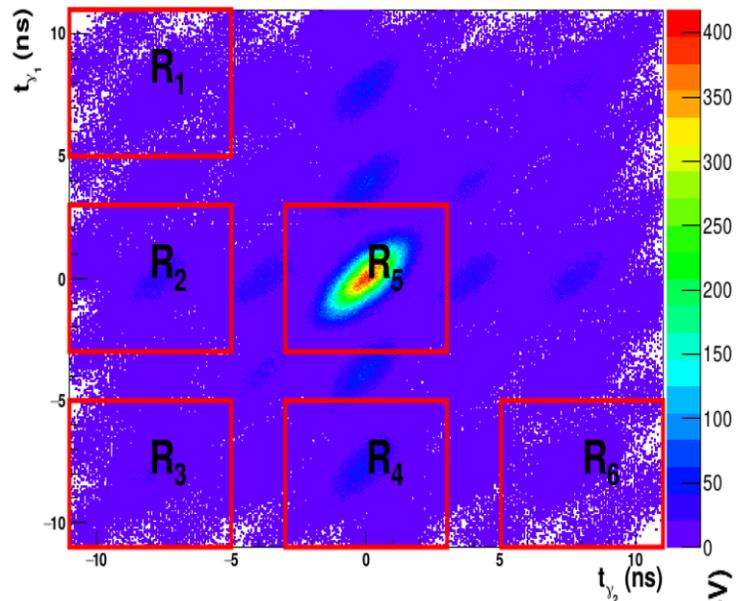
# Exclusive $\pi^0$ Event Selection



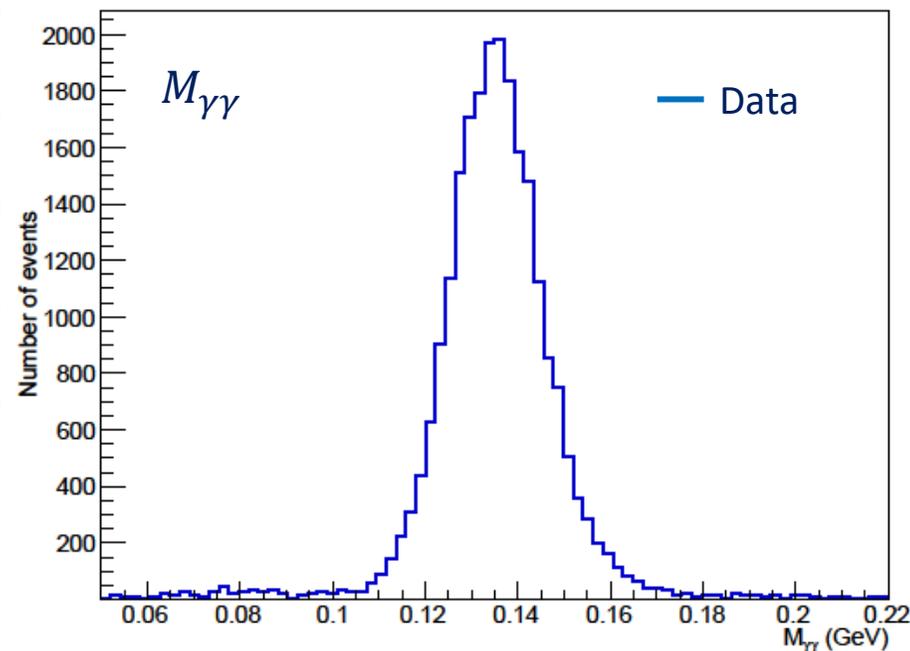
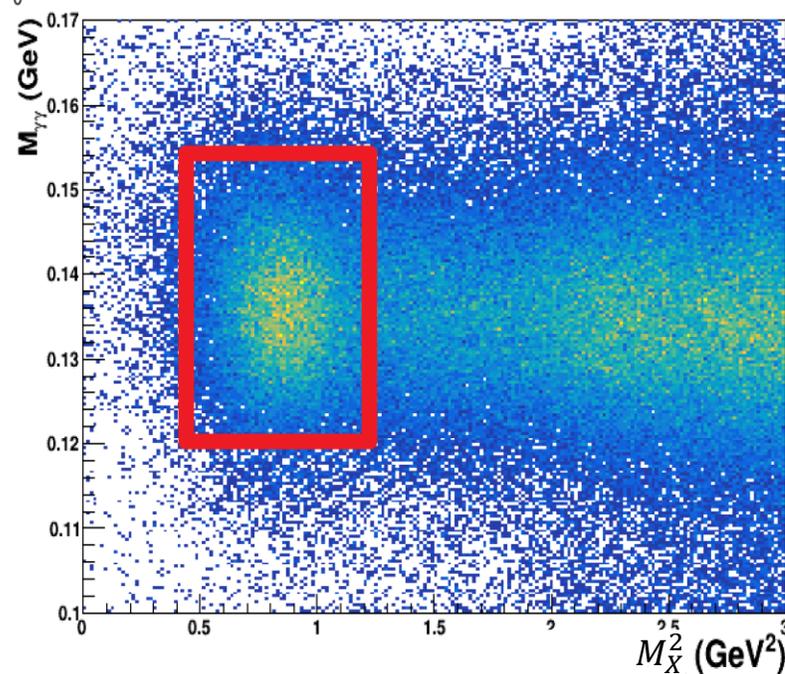
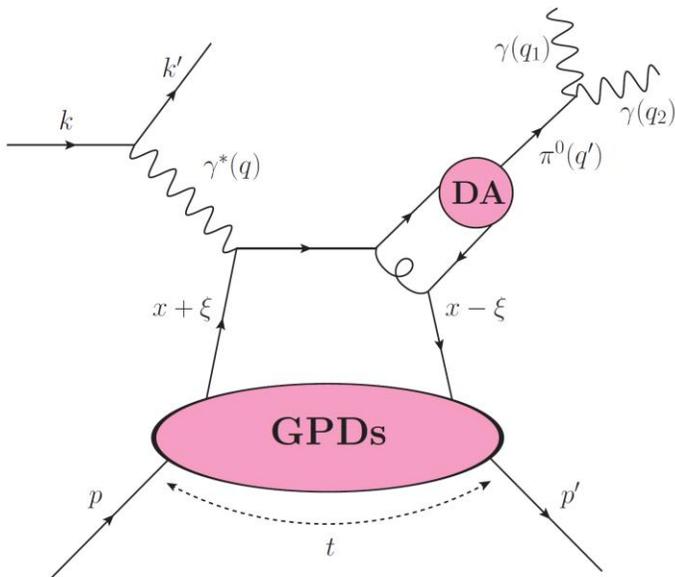
- Main background: accidentals. The background in the signal coincidence window,  $[-3,3]$  ns, is estimated via other time windows.
- Exclusivity  $\rightarrow$  remove the  $M_X^2 = (k + P - k' - q_1 - q_2)^2$  contribution from inclusive channels, threshold  $\approx 1.15 \text{ GeV}^2$
- $\pi^0$  events  $\rightarrow$  select events with invariant mass  $M_{\gamma\gamma} = \sqrt{(q_1 + q_2)^2}$  around the  $\pi^0$  mass



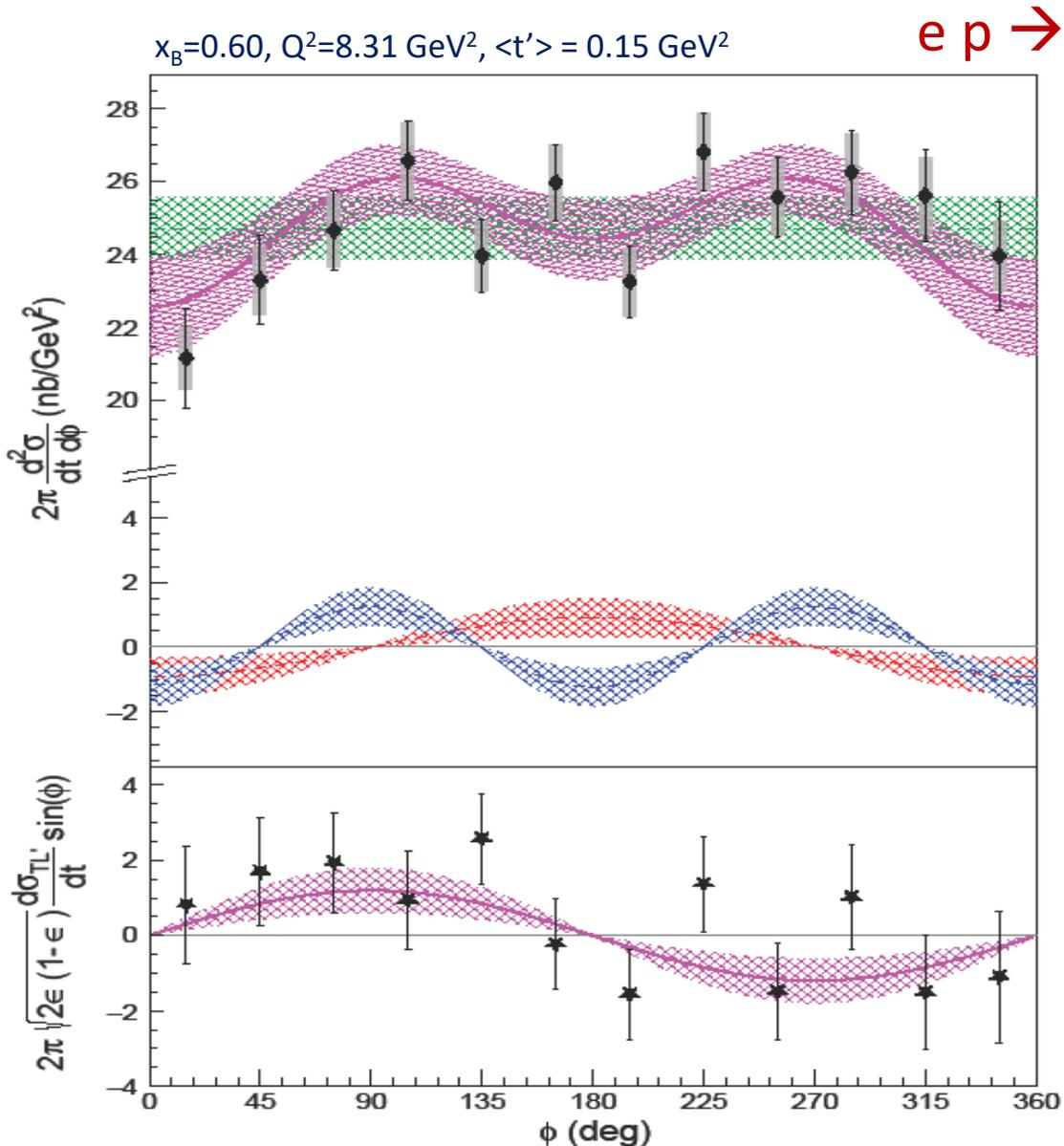
# Exclusive $\pi^0$ Event Selection



- Main background: accidentals. The background in the signal coincidence window,  $[-3,3]$  ns, is estimated via other time windows.
- Exclusivity  $\rightarrow$  remove the  $M_X^2 = (k + P - k' - q_1 - q_2)^2$  contribution from inclusive channels, threshold  $\approx 1.15 \text{ GeV}^2$
- $\pi^0$  events  $\rightarrow$  select events with invariant mass  $M_{\gamma\gamma} = \sqrt{(q_1 + q_2)^2}$  around the  $\pi^0$  mass



# Cross-section Extraction



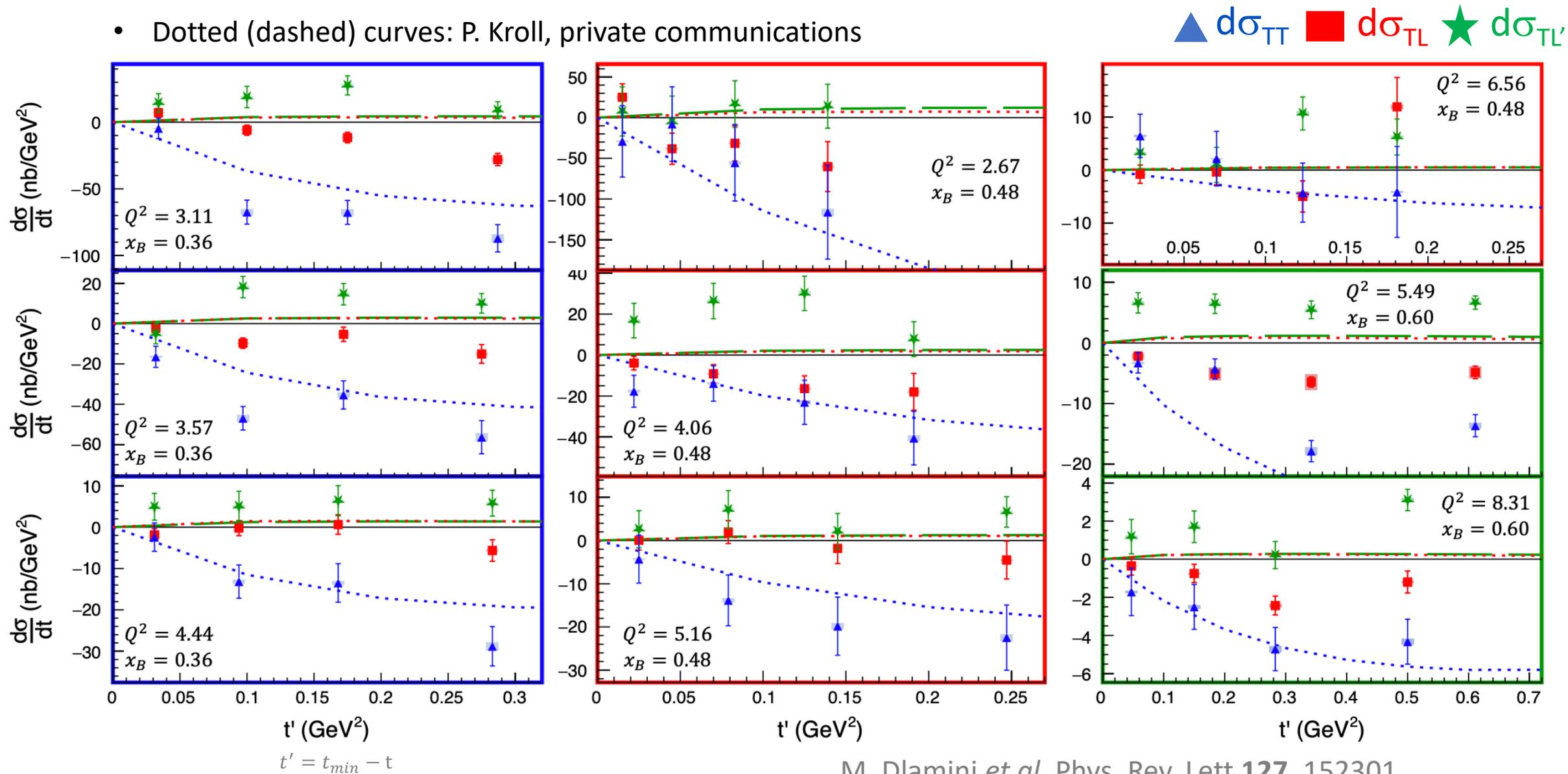
$$\frac{d^4\sigma}{dQ^2 dx_B dt d\phi} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d^2 \Gamma_\gamma}{dQ^2 dx_B} (Q^2, x_B, E)$$

$$\left[ \frac{d\sigma_T}{dt} + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_L}{dt} + \sqrt{2\epsilon(1+\epsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{LT}}{dt} \cos(\phi) + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{dt} \cos(2\phi) + h \sqrt{2\epsilon(1-\epsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{LT'}}{dt} \sin(\phi) \right]$$

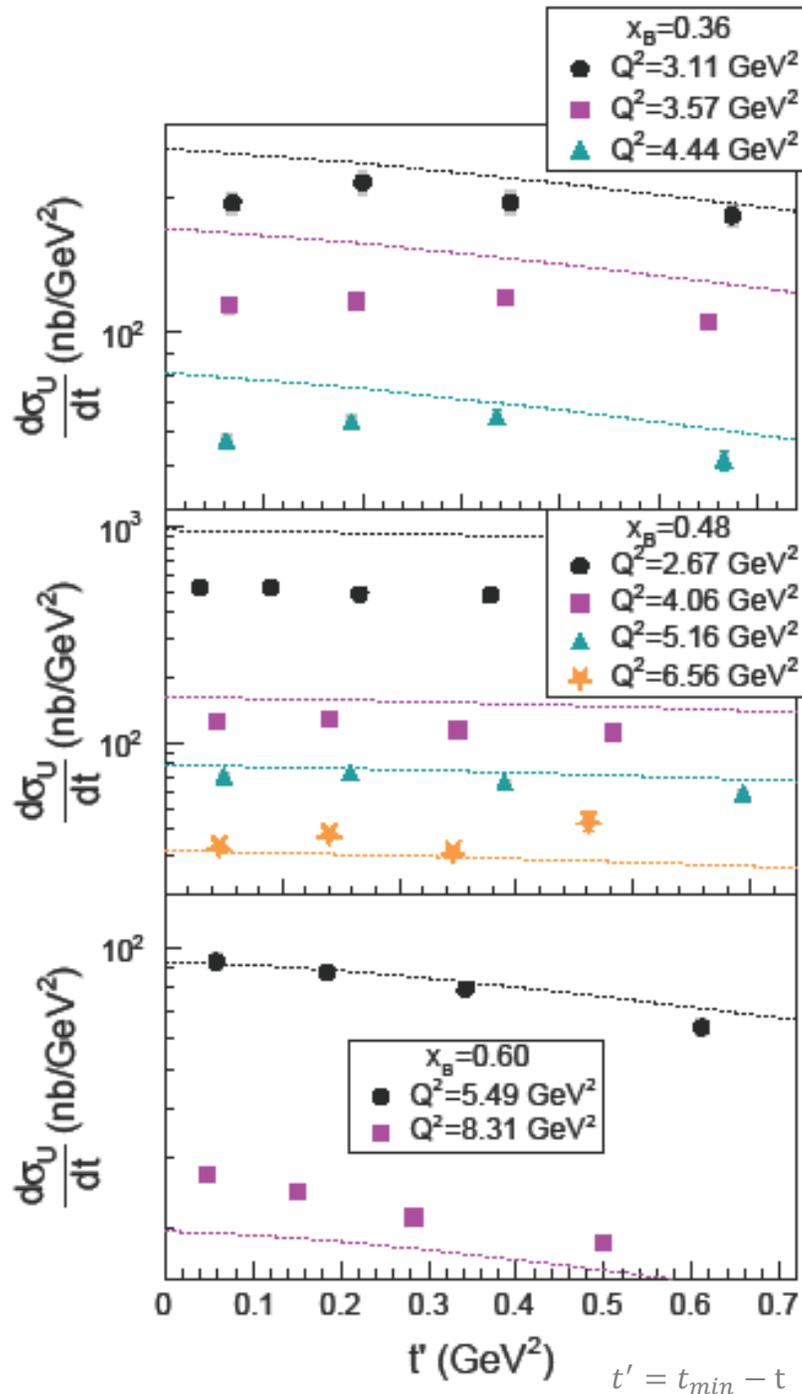
- Cross-sections extracted for all 9 kinematic settings
- Extract different terms via their corresponding  $\phi$  dependence
- $d\sigma_T$  and  $d\sigma_L$  can't be separated, extracted as  $d\sigma_U = d\sigma_T + \epsilon d\sigma_L$
- Main systematic errors come from deviation observed in DIS events and the exclusivity cuts

# Cross-sections

- Dotted (dashed) curves: P. Kroll, private communications

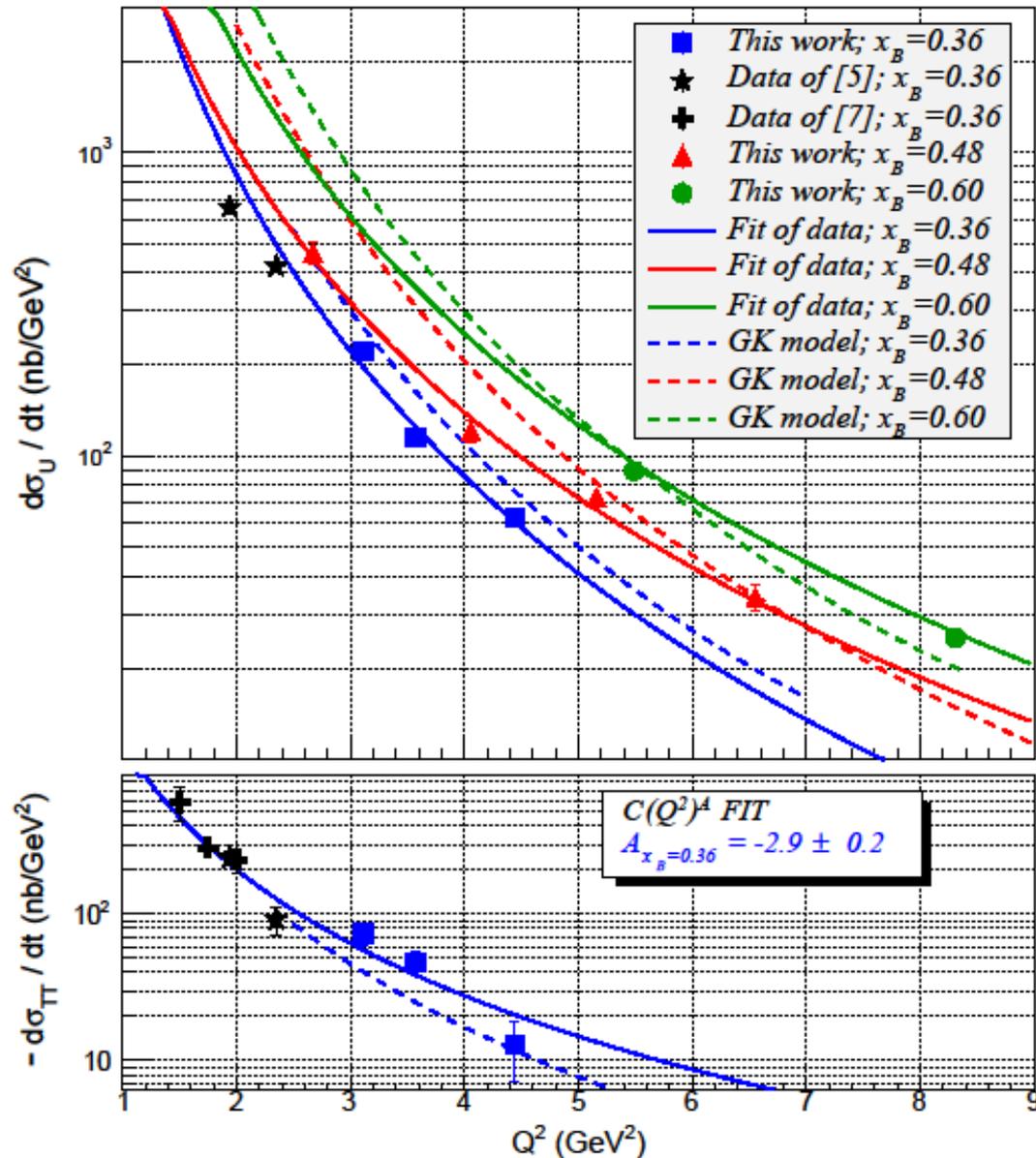


# Cross-sections



- Solid Markers: Measured  $d\sigma_U = d\sigma_T + \epsilon d\sigma_L$
- Dotted curves: P. Kroll, private communications
- Reasonable agreement in  $d\sigma_U$  and  $d\sigma_{TT}$
- $d\sigma_{TT}$  larger than  $d\sigma_{TL}$  &  $d\sigma_{TL'}$  in general
  - Hint the dominance of  $\sigma_T \rightarrow$  as suggested by the GK model
- GK underestimates both  $\sigma_{TL}$  &  $\sigma_{TL'}$ 
  - Suggest a larger contribution of the longitudinal amplitude than the one expected by GK.
- Sign difference in  $\sigma_{TL}$ 
  - Different from Hall B or COMPASS results
- Provide useful input for understanding the GPDs involved in the valence domain

# $Q^2$ Dependence



- Dashed curves: P. Kroll, private communications
- Solid Markers: Experimental measurements  $\langle t' \rangle = 0.1 \text{ GeV}^2$

■ This work,  $x_B = 0.36$

▲ This work,  $x_B = 0.48$

● This work,  $x_B = 0.60$

★ E. Fuchey *et al*, Phys. Rev. C 83, 025201 (2011)

■ M. Defurne *et al*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 262001 (2016)

➤  $C(Q^2)^A \exp(-Bt')$  fit to experimental results of  $d\sigma_U$  in different  $x_B \rightarrow$  solid curves

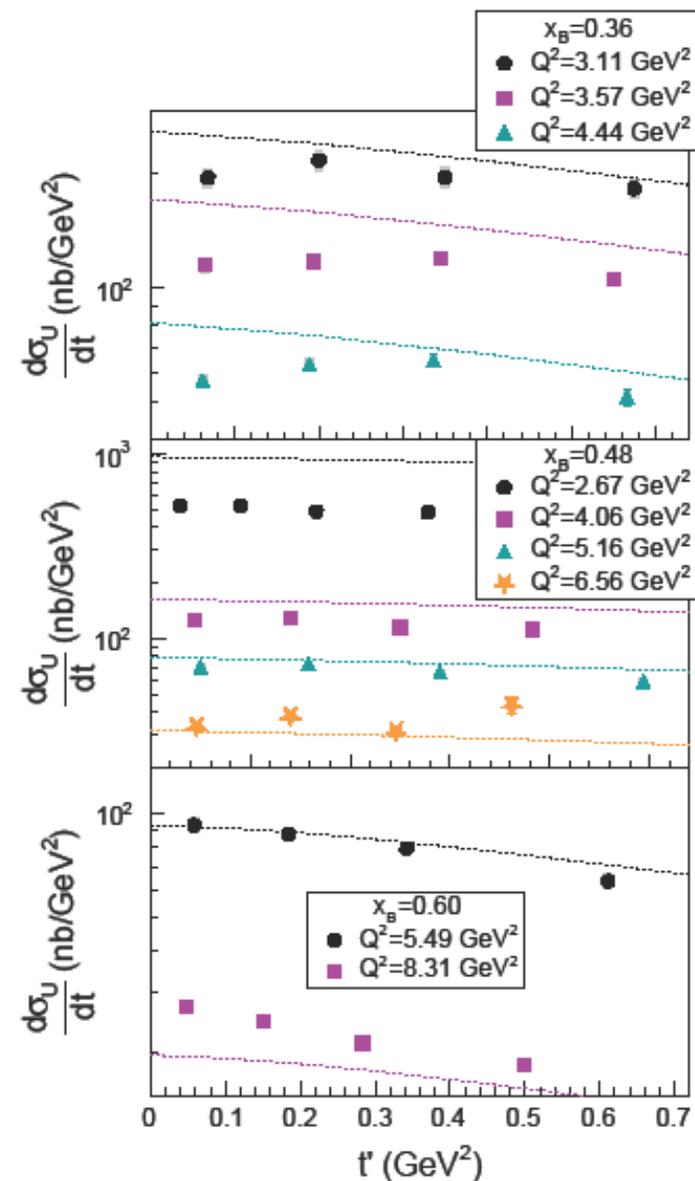
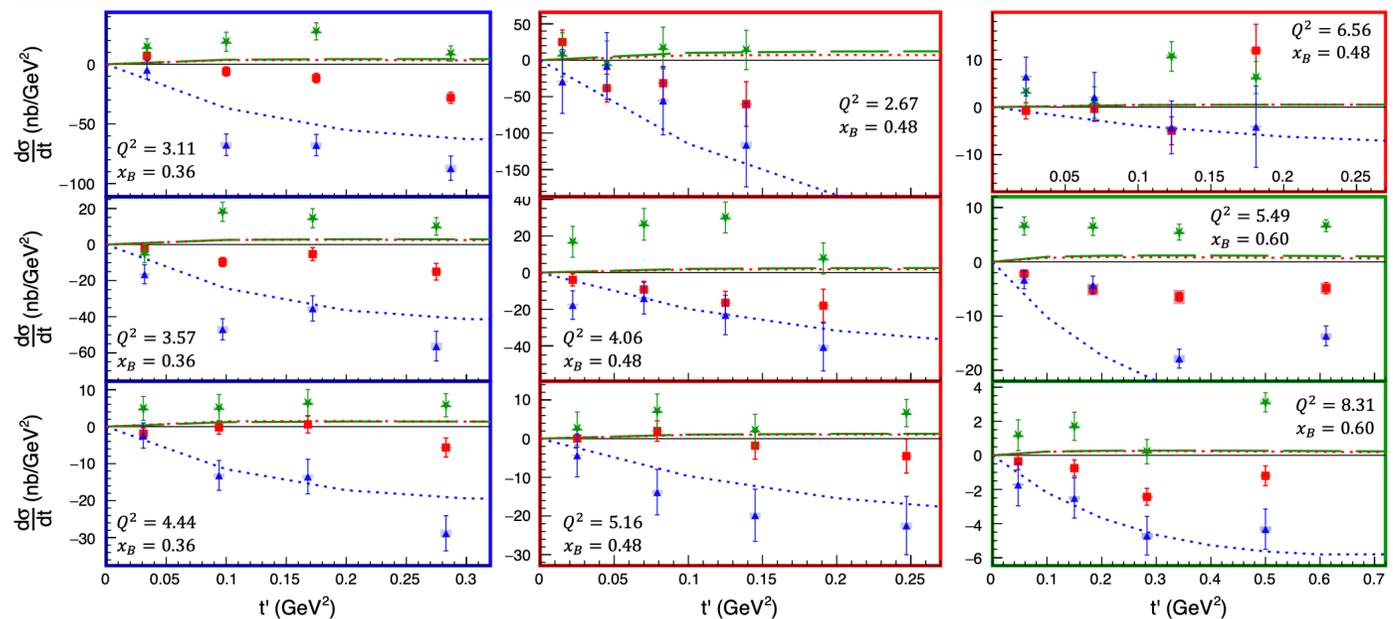
$x_B = 0.36 \rightarrow A = -3.3 \pm 0.1$

$x_B = 0.48 \rightarrow A = -2.9 \pm 0.1$

$x_B = 0.60 \rightarrow A = -3.1 \pm 0.1$

➤  $Q^2$  dependence closer to  $Q^{-6}$ , rather than  $Q^{-8}$  as expected for  $\sigma_T$  at high  $Q^2$

# Summary



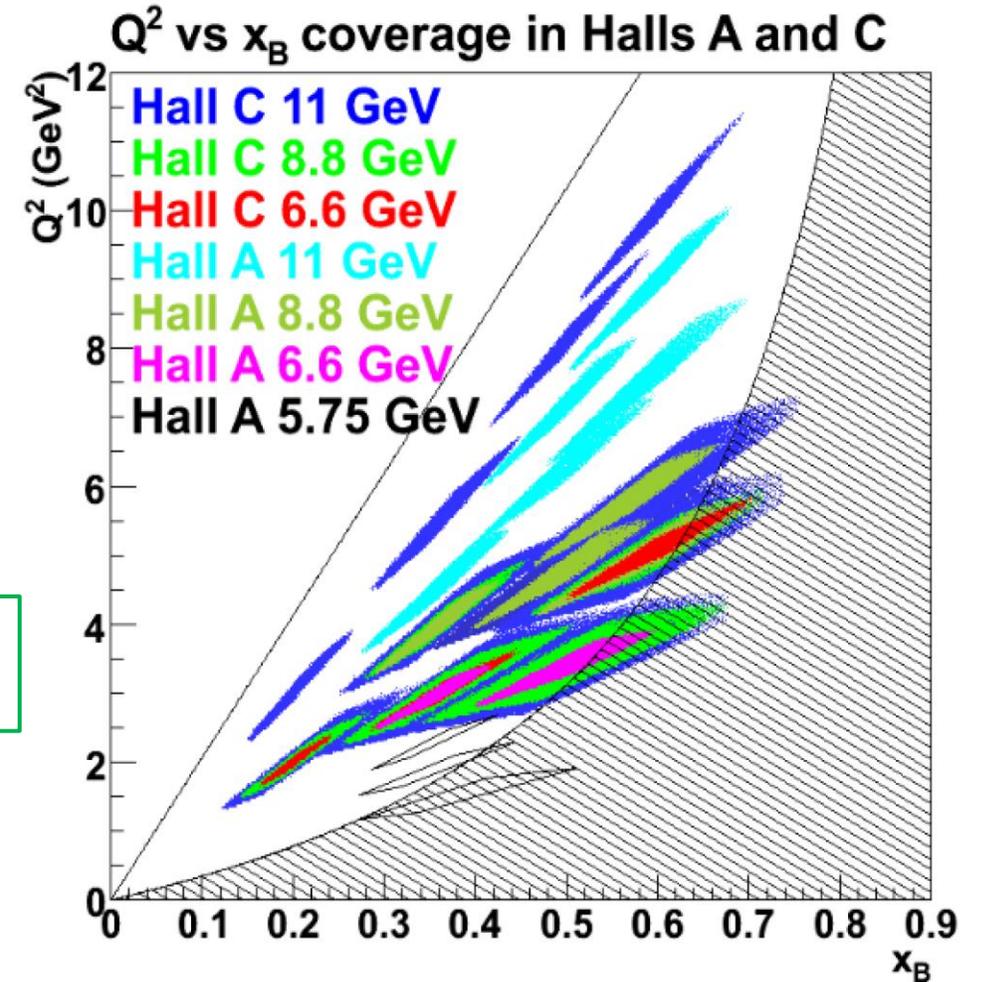
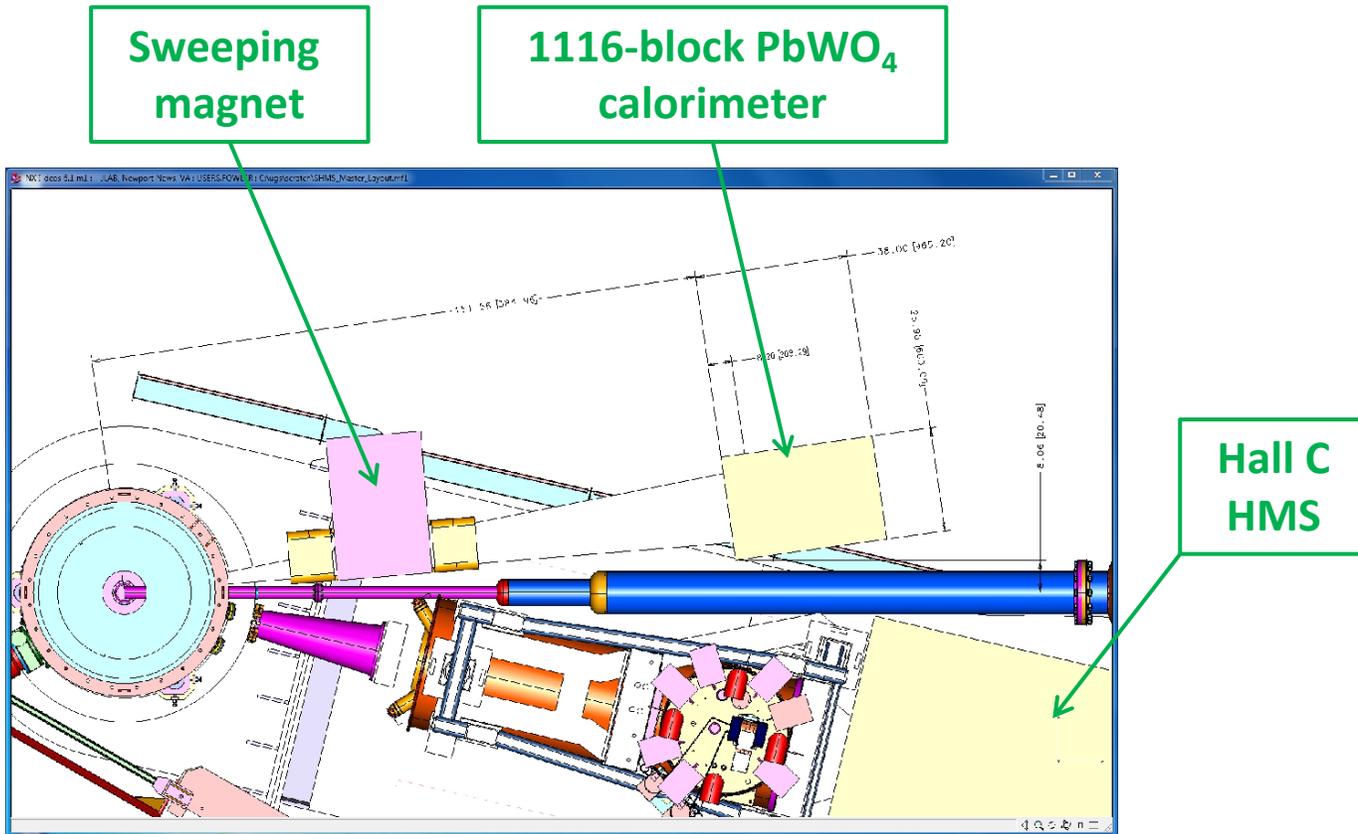
## Exclusive $\pi^0$ Production

(M. Dlamini *et al*, Phys. Rev. Lett **127**, 152301)

- Reasonable description of results by GK model
- Non-negligible contributions from longitudinal and transverse amplitudes are needed to better describe the data
- Provide inputs for transversity GPD parameterization

# Outlook

- Extension to higher  $Q^2$  and lower  $x_B$
- $\sigma_T$  and  $\sigma_L$  separation of  $\pi^0$  production at Hall C



**Thank you!**