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# Tagging in JLab Overview

## Deuterium (polarized or not)

- Study pion and kaon content (TDIS @ JLab)
- Study the unpolarized neutron (Bonus @ JLab)
- Study nuclear effects and SRC (BAND @ JLab)

## Helium-3 (polarized)

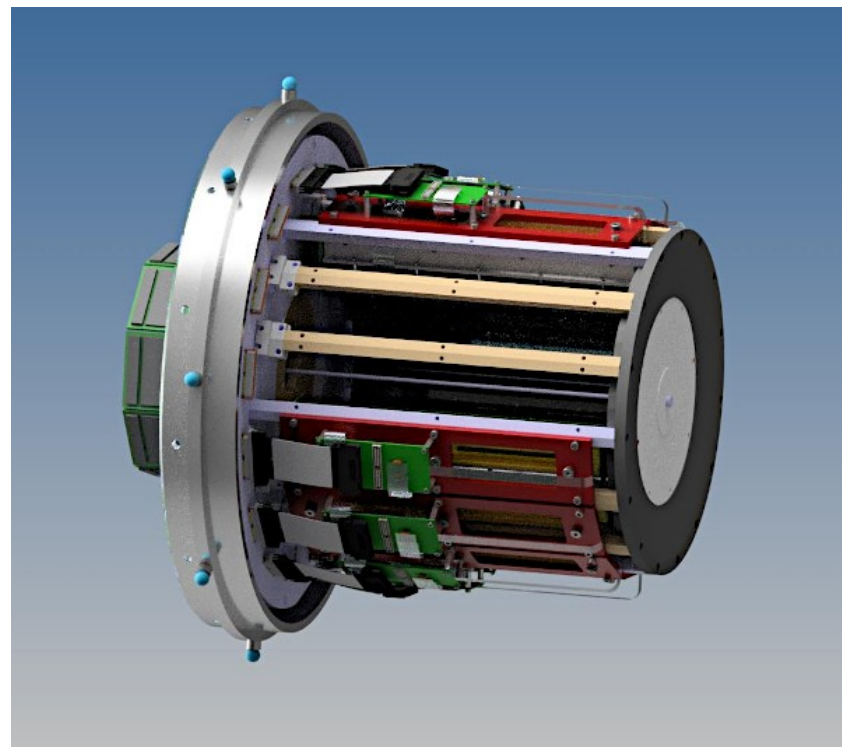
- Effective polarized neutron, 3N SRC...

## Helium-4

- Study bound nucleons (ALERT @ JLab)
- Study of EMC and SRC (ALERT @ JLab)

## Heavy targets

- Centrality tagging, SRCs...



# Strategies to Target Neutrons

## How to approach the problem ?

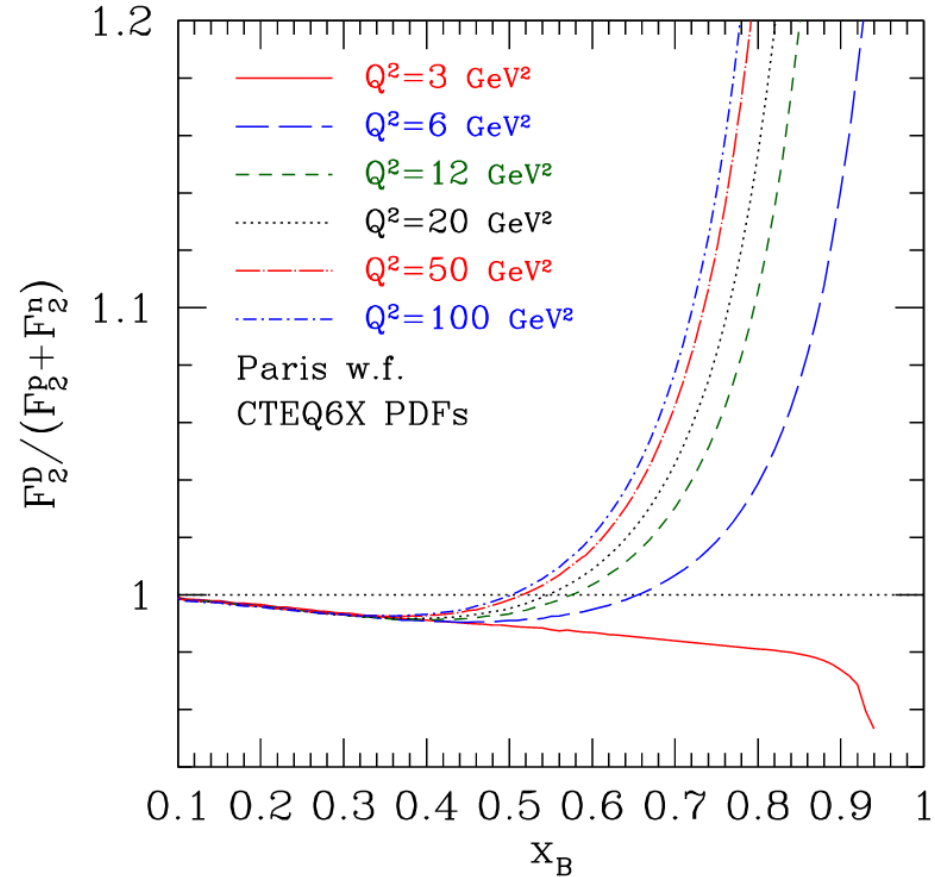
- Use of nuclei to get stable neutrons
- The lightest the better to simplify things
  - Deuterium in most cases, helium-3 if we want polarization

## Can we just subtract the protons ?

- Yes ! This is mostly what has been done in the past
- But, high x is where nuclear effects are large even in deuterium

## Some alternative strategies

- Tagging where you make sure it was a neutron interacting
- Comparing symmetric nuclei (tritium and helium-3)



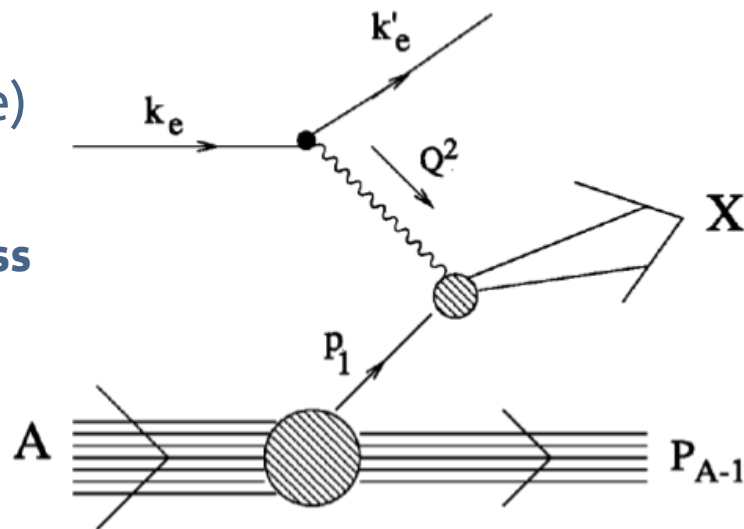
# More About Tagging

## Why are the tagged processes special ?

- They are semi-inclusive hard processes ( $> \text{GeV}$  scale)
- In which we detect nuclear fragments (MeV scale)
  - **Selecting the optimal kinematics to isolate our process**
- They give unique information on the state of the nucleus right at the hard interaction

## What do we use it for ?

- Select special configuration of the nucleus
- Can be very useful to understand nuclear effects
- Also to avoid nuclear effects and get quasi-free neutrons
  - **We want to tag a backward proton at the lowest possible energy**



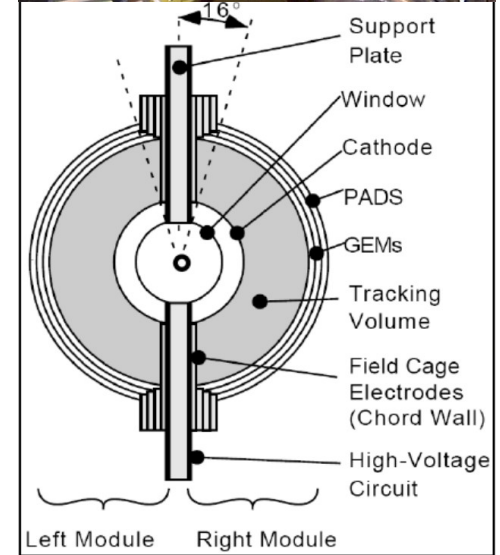
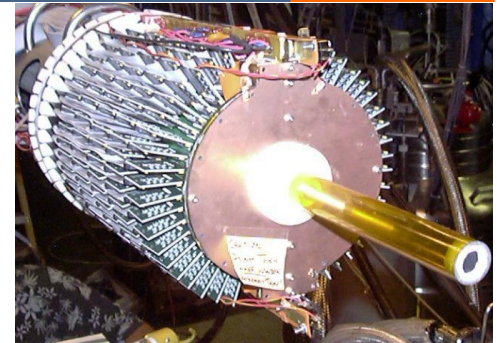
# The Original Bonus Experiment

## At JLab with the CLAS spectrometer

- Electron beam at 5.3 GeV and a large acceptance spectrometer
  - But no way to measure protons below 200 MeV/c

## The BONUS detector

- A small radial TPC placed right around a gaseous deuterium target
- All materials kept to a minimum
- Capable to detect as low as 60 MeV/c protons



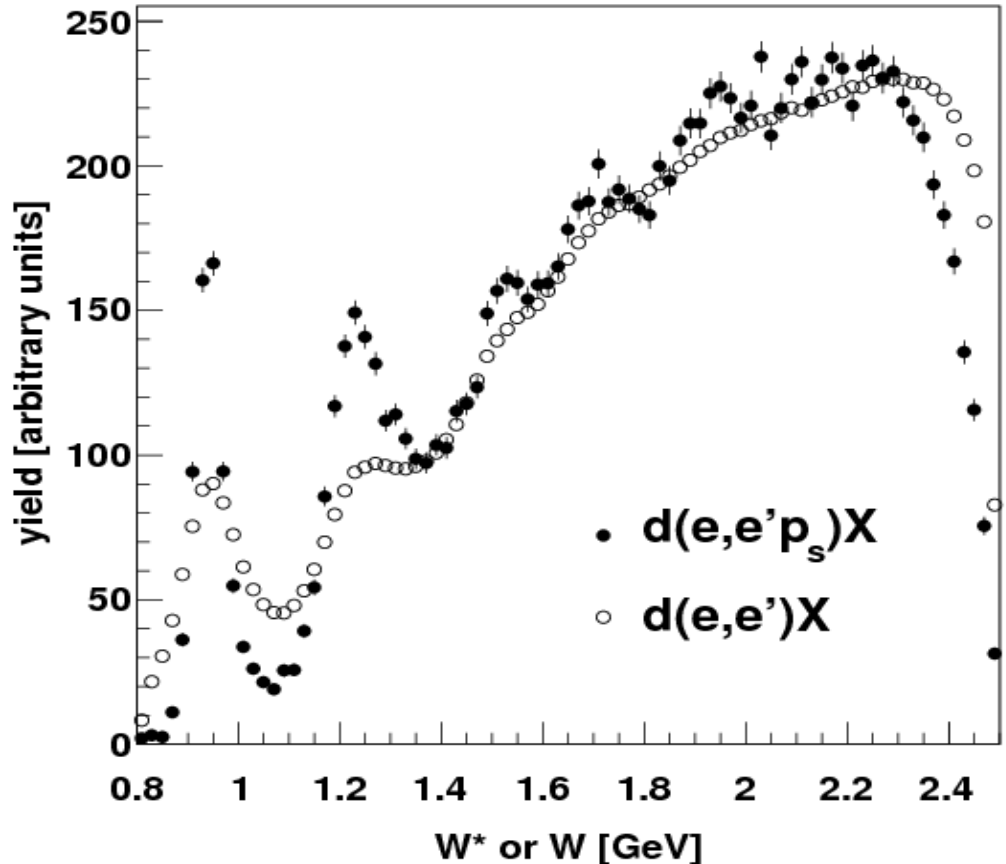
# Tagging Nuclear Reactions

## Does tagging actually work ?

- To control final state interaction
  - To validate our calculations
  - Then to select ideal kinematics
- To control the initial state
  - Access to the nucleon's kinematic
  - Access to the nucleon's virtuality
  - And correct for it !

*W. Cosyn and M. Sargsian, Phys. Rev. C84 (2011) 014601*

**Yes !**



# Bonus Results

## Measure of the neutron $F_2$

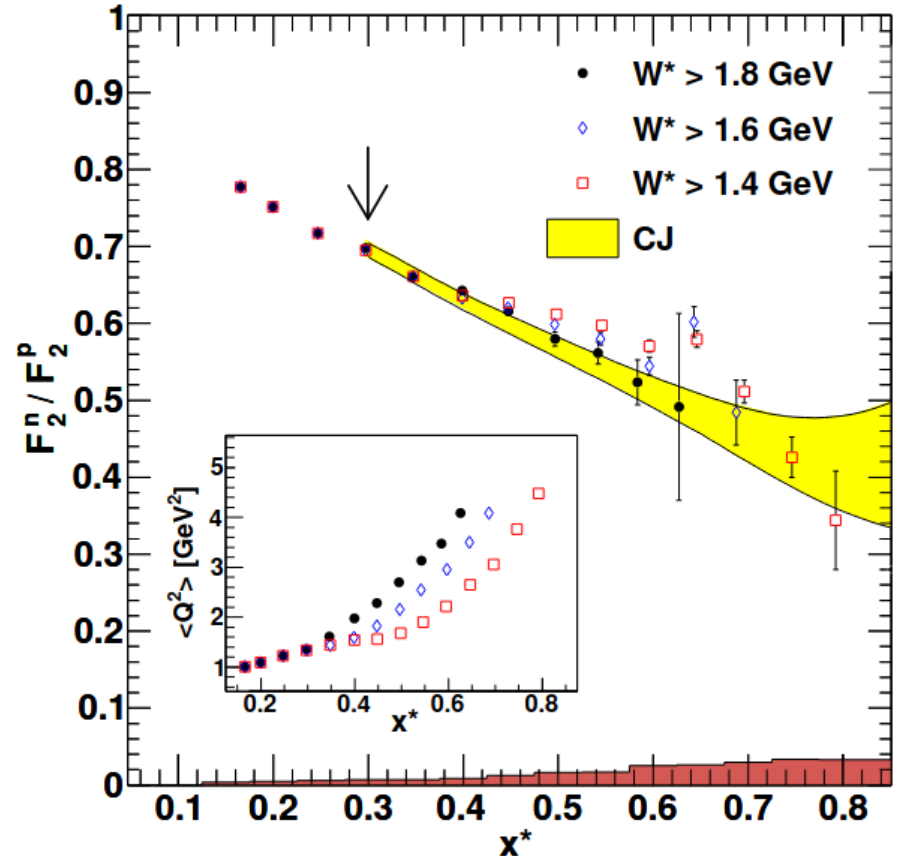
- As a function of  $x^*$ 
  - Corrected for the proton kinematic
- With pretty loose  $W^*$  cut
  - Due to a lack of data

*N. Baillie et al. CLAS Coll. Phys.Rev.Lett. 108 (2012) 142001*

## Contribution to PDF fits

- Unique data for PDF fits
  - Free of nuclear effects

*A. Accardi et al. Phys.Rev.D 93 (2016) 11, 114017*





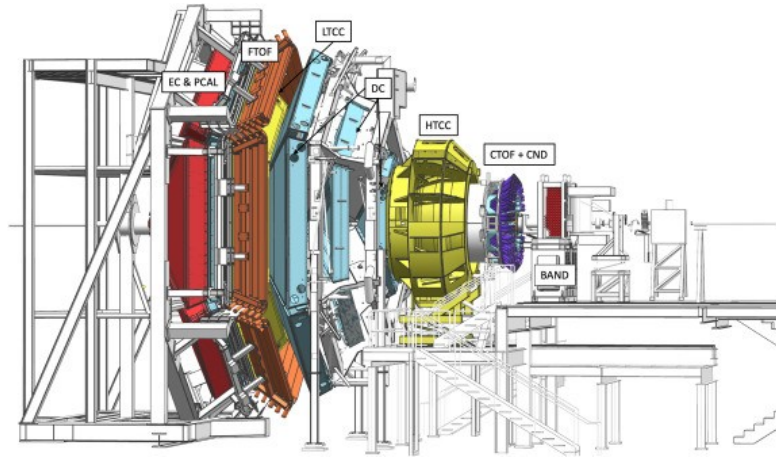
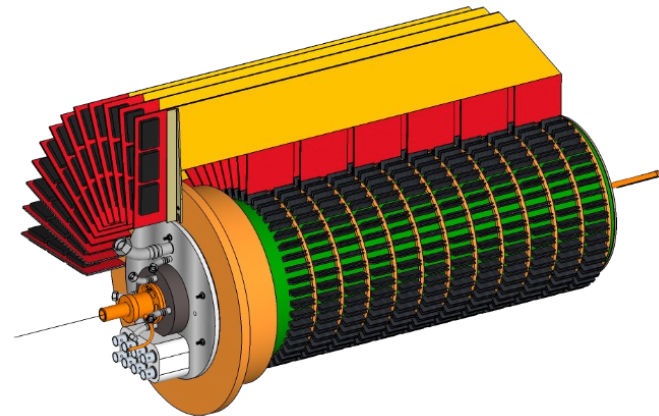
# Going to Bonus12

## The same detector but better

- No more structure inside
  - **GEMs are self supported**
- Longer target and detector
- Faster electronics
  - **To get more statistics**

## The same JLab but better

- A newly upgraded JLab and CLAS12





# Running the Bonus12 experiment

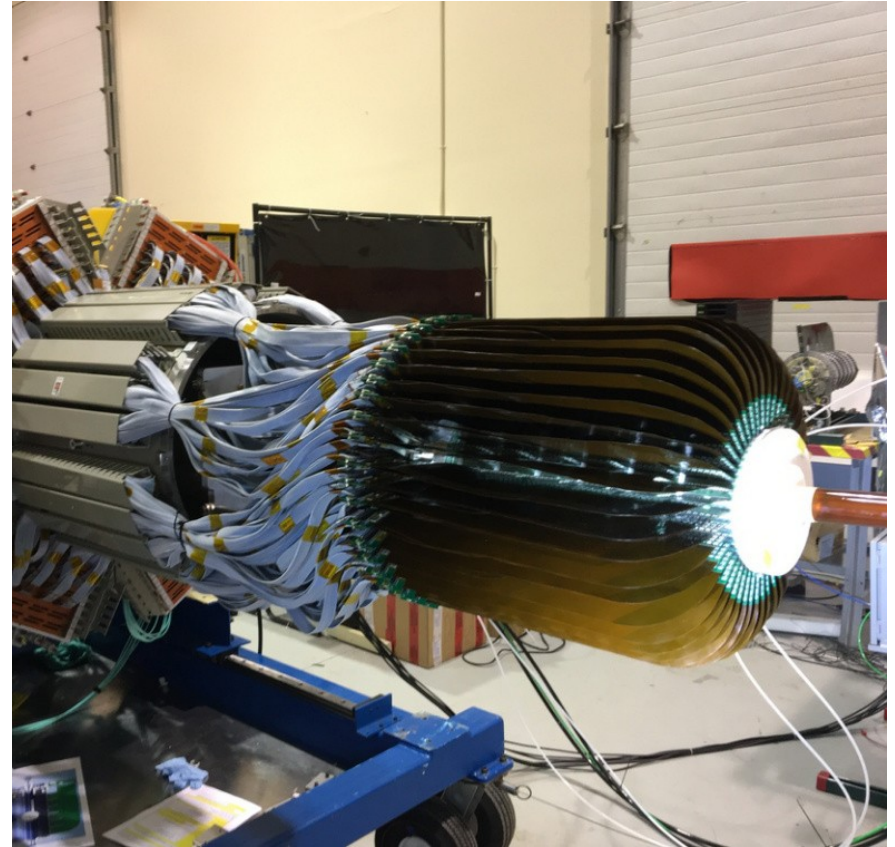
## The experiment ran in 2020

- With a short pause in the middle
- Accumulated ~5B triggers

## Data analysis is in progress

- Detector calibration is done
- Bonus specific reconstruction is now in place
- We are starting the extraction of the final observables

**Sadly, no early pick at the data is available yet**



# Running the Bonus12 experiment

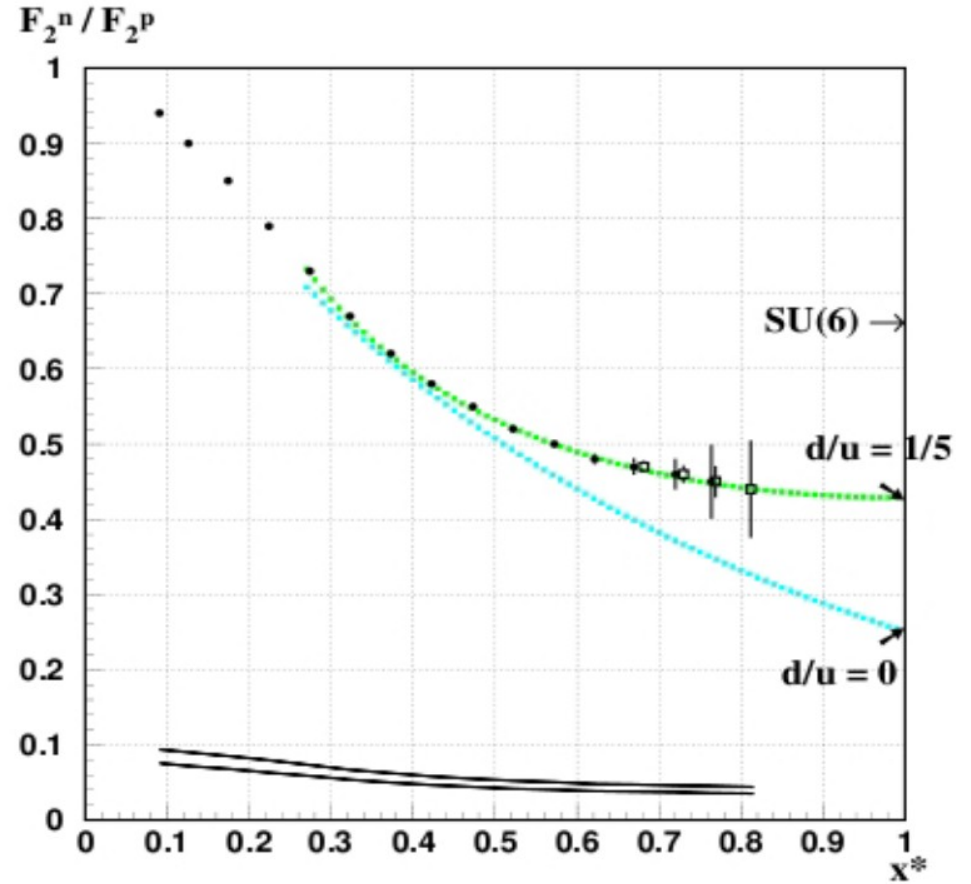
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**Sadly, no early pick at the data is available yet, only a projection**



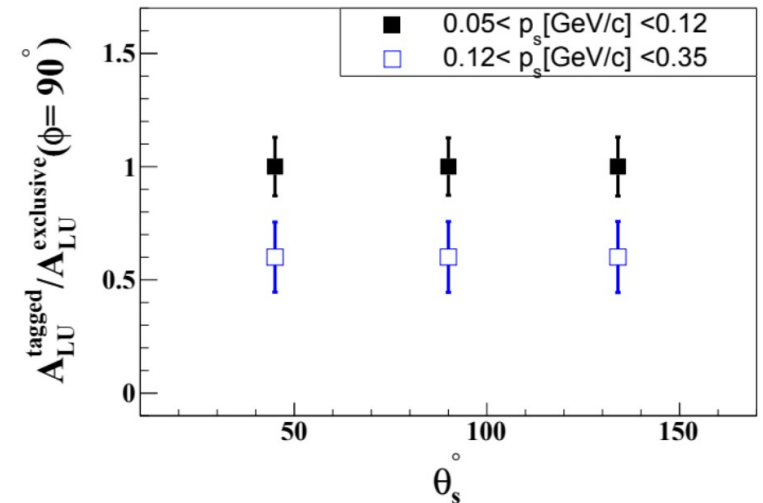
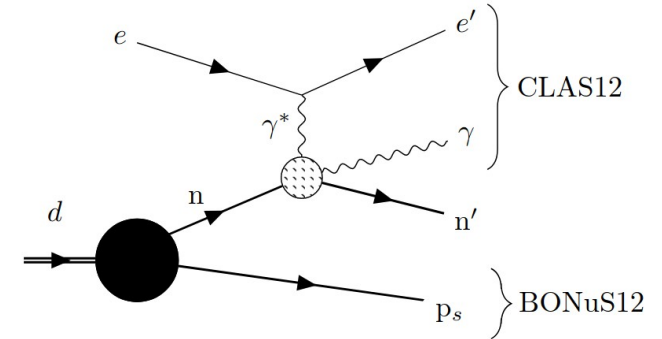
# Can we tag other processes ?

## We can and we will !

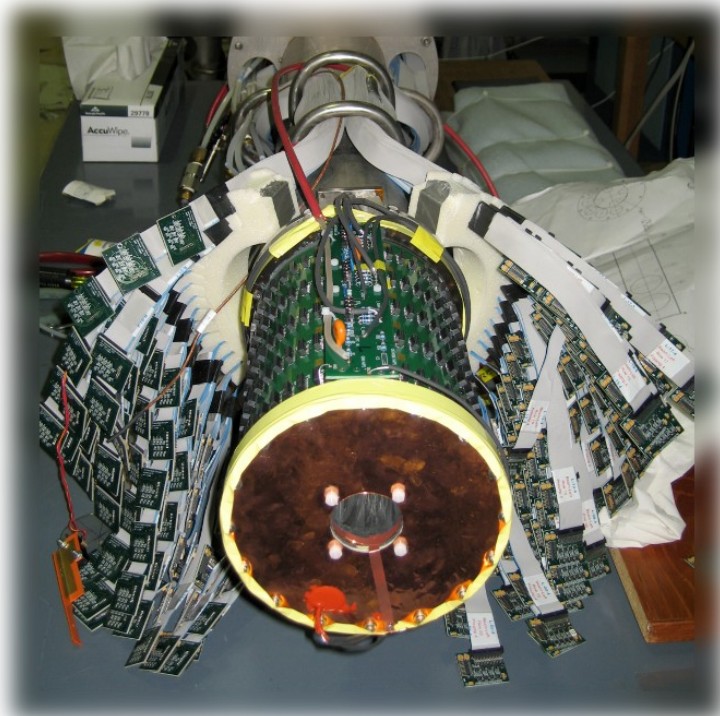
- DVCS on neutron is also of interest
- It has been measured through D minus p
- It can also be detected in the final state
  - Experiment with CLAS12

## But tagging is the cleanest

- Accounts for all missing energies and momenta to check exclusivity
- Controls the nuclear effects
  - Can those be large ?



# Detecting Recoil Nuclei



## Recoil nuclei are evasive

- They usually do not make it out of the target...

## How to handle that ?

- Use a light nuclei : Helium
  - It is also spin-0 which is nice for simplicity
- Use a light target : a straw
  - Filled at 5 Atm with 50  $\mu\text{m}$  thick walls
- Get very close to it : Radial TPC
  - 3 cm away from the target

## The experiment ran in 2009



# Incoherent Helium DVCS

## Measurement with CLAS at Jefferson Lab

- Proton bound in helium target

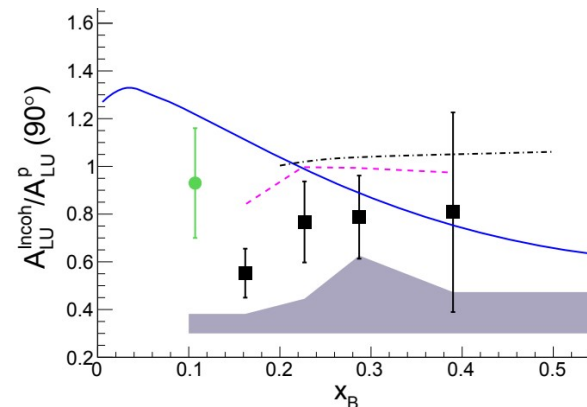
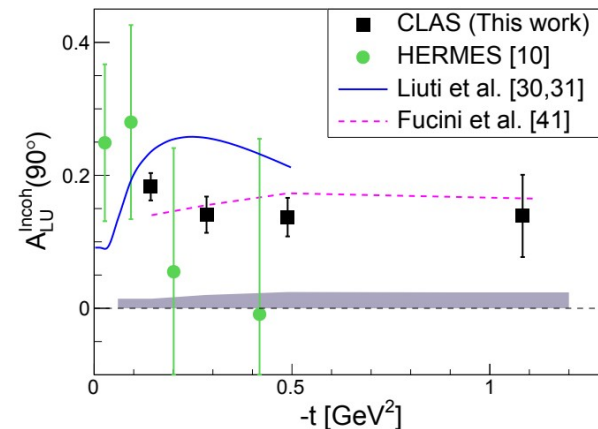
## Gives a "generalized" EMC

- Strongly suppressed
- Strange behavior compared to the models

*M. Hattawy et al. (CLAS Coll.) Phys. Rev. Lett., 123(3):032502, 2019.*

## More work is ongoing on these questions

- On the theoretical side for a better description
- On the experimental side with tagging



# The ALERT Detector

## A Low Energy Recoil Tracker

- Hyperbolic drift chamber
- Time-of-Flight array

## It will be used for a large array of experiments

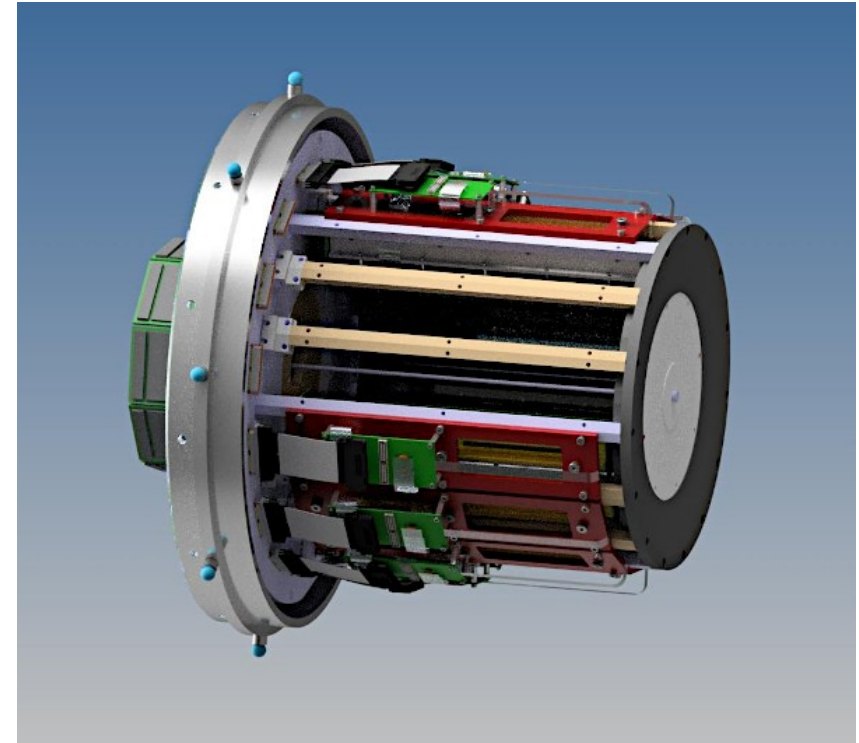
- Nuclear DVCS, DVMP...
- Tagged processes (detailed later)

## Collaborative effort within CLAS12

- ANL, IJCLab, JLab, NMSU, Mississippi SU and Temple
- We tested a prototype with a nuclear beam in the Fall at the ALTO facility (Orsay, France)

## We hope to take data in July 2024

- Official soon I was told





# Tagging to Access Offshellness

## Tagging connects EMC to nucleon kinematics

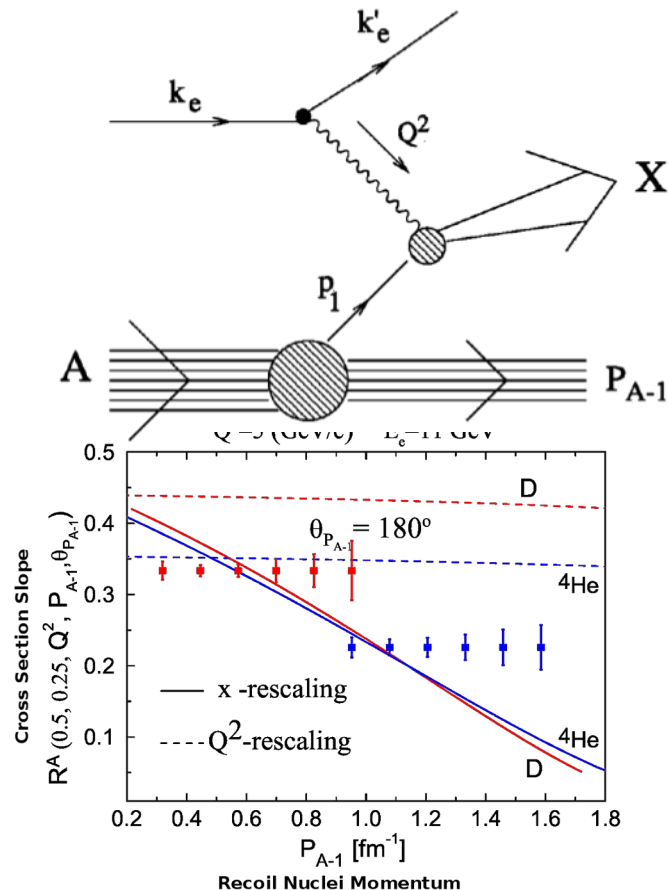
- Linked through virtuality of the nucleon
- Can differentiate mean field from SRC nucleons

## This will test models and more

- Comparison between deuterium and helium
- It unequivocally resolve the link between the EMC effect and nucleon momentum

## Different nuclei

- Cover different momentum ranges
- Mean field vs SRC





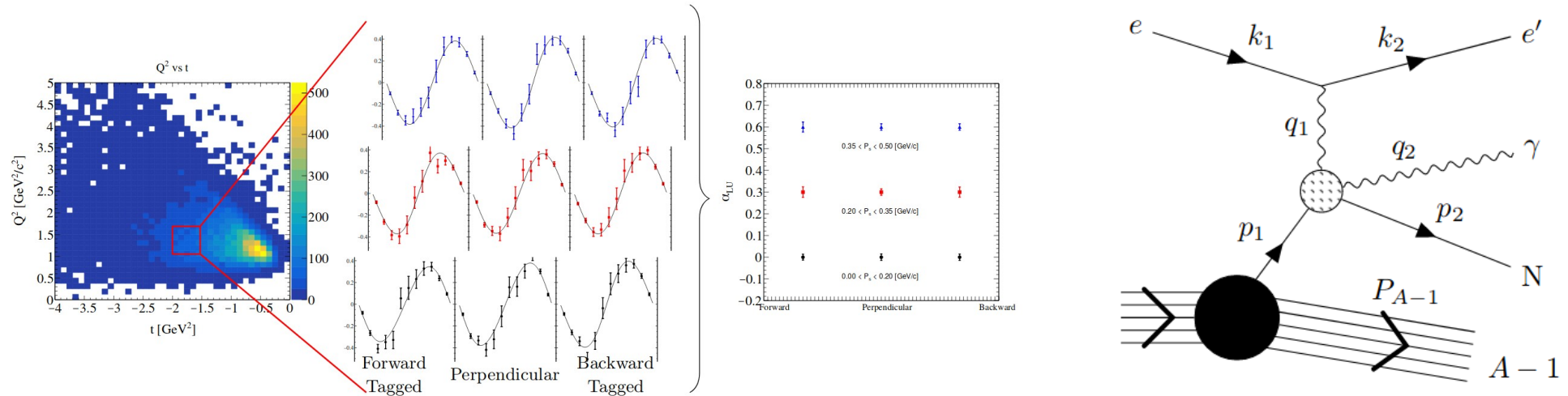
# Understanding the Incoherent DVCS

## Tagging the incoherent DVCS

- A tagged measurement can pin down the origin of the strong BSA suppression in incoherent DVCS
- By better controlling the initial and final states independently

## Proposed for JLab 12 GeV

- This is probably an important addition for all incoherent processes in the future



# Summary

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## Bonus experiments used tagging as an effective neutron target

- Demonstration that the process works well
- Bonus paved the way for many more tagging experiments
  - **The Bonus12 experiment is completed (including tagging DVCS on neutrons)**

## Tagging can be used to understand nuclear effects

- BAND experiment presented earlier
- ALERT detector will be the next major experiment of tagging
  - **New results for low and intermediate momentum of protons out of D**
  - **Expend the tagging program to helium-4**

## Farther in the future... EIC

- The importance of tagging in the EIC program is impressive

