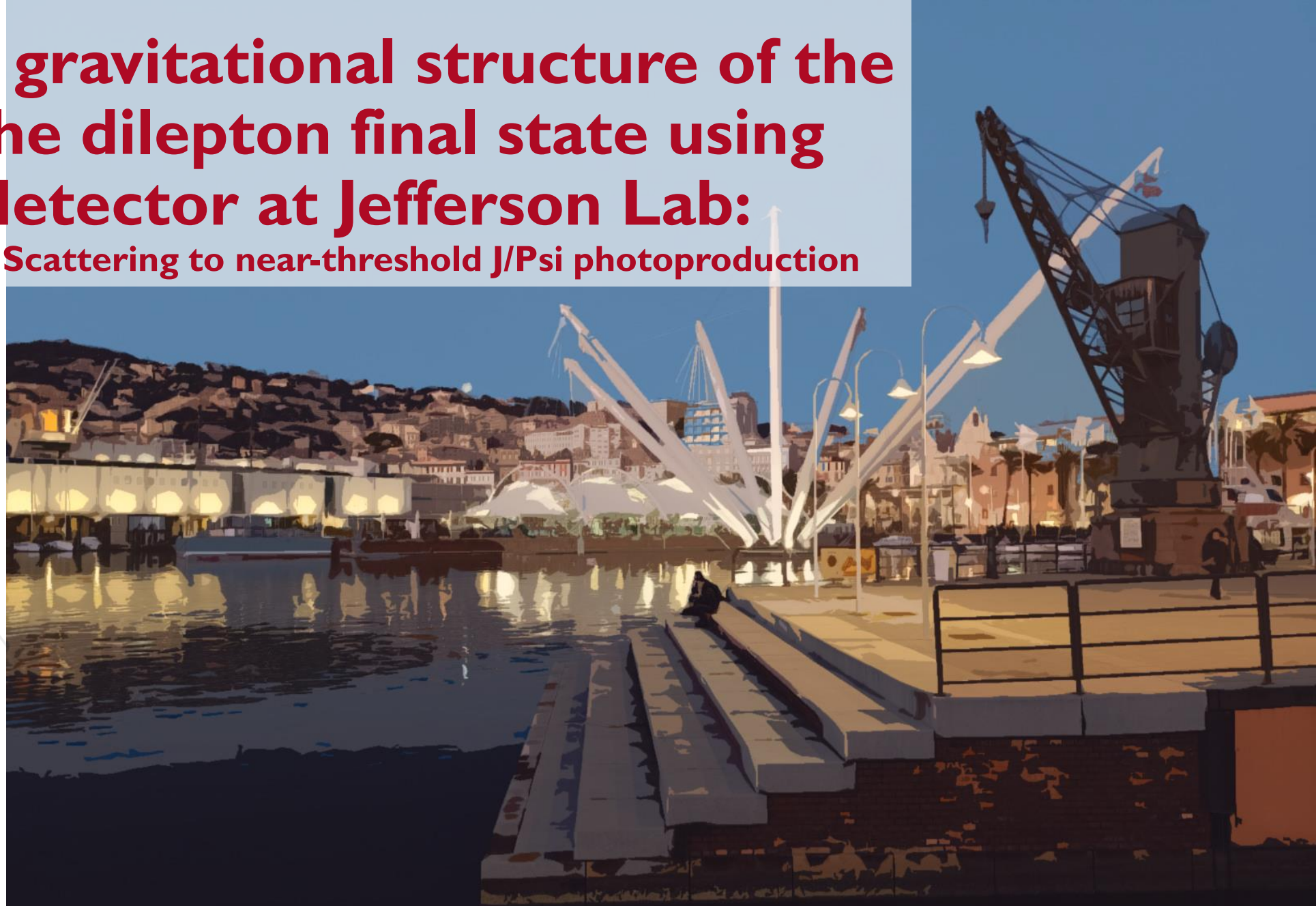


# Exploring the gravitational structure of the proton with the dilepton final state using the CLAS12 detector at Jefferson Lab:

from Timelike Compton Scattering to near-threshold J/Psi photoproduction

Pierre Chatagnon,  
for the CLAS collaboration



HADRON2023, 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2023, Genova



# Outline of the talk

1

# Gravitational Form Factors and their link to Generalized Parton Distributions



# The CLAS12 experiment at Jefferson Lab



## Early results: First Timelike Compton Scattering measurement with CLAS12

IV

Ongoing effort : near threshold  $J/\psi$  photoproduction cross-section measurement



## The Gravitational Form Factors, ...

- Y. Kobzarev and L. B. Okun, Gravitational Interaction Of Fermions, Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. 43, 1904 (1962)  
Heinz Pagels, Energy-Momentum Structure Form Factors of Particles, Phys. Rev. 144, 1250 (1966)

- Related to the spin, the mass and the force distribution in the nucleons

Nonforward parton distributions A. V. Radyushkin, Phys. Rev. D 56, 5524 (1997)  
Deeply virtual Compton scattering Xiangdong Ji, Phys. Rev. D 55, 7114 (1997)

- Closely related to electro-magnetic FFs and PDFs

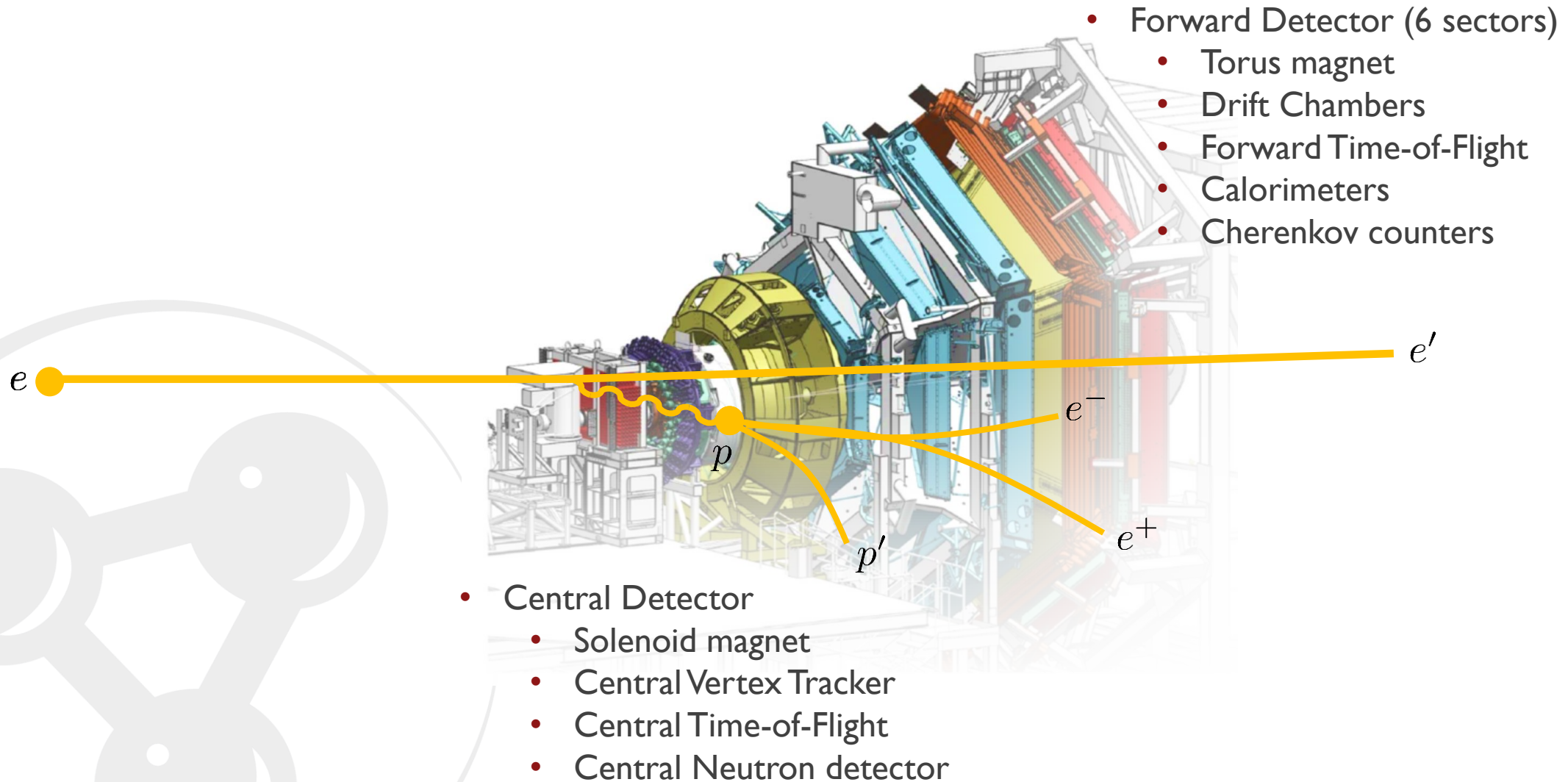
$$\int_{-1}^1 dx H^q(x, \xi, t) = F_1^q(t) \quad \int_{-1}^1 dx E^q(x, \xi, t) = F_2^q(t) \quad H^q(x, 0, 0) = \begin{cases} q(x), & x > 0 \\ -\bar{q}(-x), & x < 0 \end{cases}$$





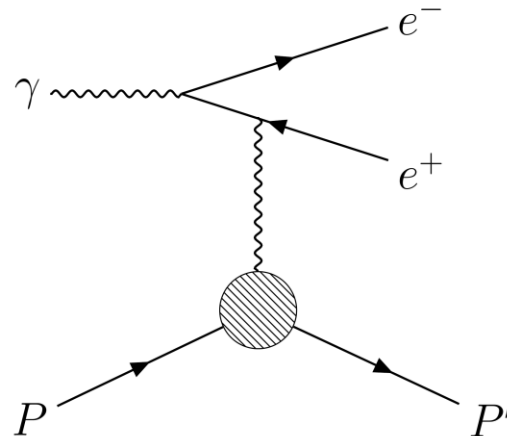


# Measuring the dilepton final state with the CLAS12 experiment at Jefferson Lab





DVCS:  $ep \rightarrow e'p'\gamma$



## Bethe-Heitler

Diagram illustrating the kinematics of the  $e^+e^-$  CM system. The diagram shows two intersecting planes. A vector  $p'$  points left along the intersection line. A vector  $k$  points up-right, and a vector  $k'$  points down-right, both originating from the intersection line. The angle between  $p'$  and  $k$  is  $\theta$ . The angle between the intersection line and the plane containing  $k$  and  $k'$  is  $\phi$ .

$$-t = (p - p')^2$$

$$Q'^2 = (k + k')^2$$

$$L = [(q - k)^2 - m_l^2][(q - k')^2 - m_l^2]$$

$$L_0 = (Q'^2 \sin^2 \theta)/4$$



## TCS unpolarized cross-section

$$\frac{d^4\sigma_{INT}}{dQ'^2 dt d\Omega} \propto \frac{L_0}{L} \left[ \cos(\phi) \frac{1 + \cos^2(\theta)}{\sin(\theta)} \text{Re}\mathcal{H} + \dots \right]$$
$$\mathcal{H} = \int_{-1}^1 dx H(x, \xi, t) \left( \frac{1}{\xi - x - i\epsilon} - \frac{1}{\xi + x - i\epsilon} \right)$$

- Angular dependence of the TCS cross-section gives access to the real part of  $\mathcal{H}$ .
- This quantity is not well constrained by existing DVCS data (accessed in cross-section mostly).
- $\text{Re}(\mathcal{H})$  is related to the GFFs  $D$ , itself related to the mechanical properties of the nucleon:

$$\text{Re}\mathcal{H}(\xi, t) = \mathcal{P} \int_{-1}^1 dx \left( \frac{1}{\xi - x} - \frac{1}{\xi + x} \right) \text{Im}\mathcal{H}(\xi, t) + \Delta(t) \longrightarrow \Delta(t) \propto D^{\mathcal{Q}}(t) \propto \int d^3\mathbf{r} \, p(r) \frac{j_0(r\sqrt{-t})}{t}$$



## Forward/Backward correspondence:

$$\frac{d\sigma_{BH}}{dQ^2 dt d\Omega} \propto \frac{1 + \cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \xrightarrow{FB} \frac{d\sigma_{BH}}{dQ^2 dt d\Omega}$$

$$\frac{d^4\sigma_{INT}}{dQ'^2 dt d\Omega} \propto \frac{L_0}{L} \cos(\phi) \frac{1 + \cos^2(\theta)}{\sin(\theta)} \xrightarrow{FB} - \frac{d\sigma_{INT}}{dQ^2 dt d\Omega}$$

$$A_{FB}(\theta_0, \phi_0) = \frac{d\sigma(\theta_0, \phi_0) - d\sigma(180^\circ - \theta_0, 180^\circ + \phi_0)}{d\sigma(\theta_0, \phi_0) + d\sigma(180^\circ - \theta_0, 180^\circ + \phi_0)} = \frac{-\frac{\alpha_{em}^3}{4\pi s^2} \frac{1}{-t} \frac{m_p}{Q'} \frac{1}{\tau\sqrt{1-\tau}} \frac{L_0}{L} \cos\phi_0 \frac{(1+\cos^2\theta_0)}{\sin(\theta_0)}}{d\sigma_{BH}(\theta_0, \phi_0) + d\sigma_{BH}(180^\circ - \theta_0, 180^\circ + \phi_0)} \text{Re}\mathcal{H}$$

- Concept initially explored for  $J/\psi$  production (Gryniuk, Vanderhaeghen, *Phys. Rev. D*, 2016)
- Exploratory studies for TCS performed alongside this work
- Predictions for TCS have been published very recently + **LO radiative correction negligible** (Heller, Keil, Vanderhaeghen, *Phys. Rev. D*, 2021)



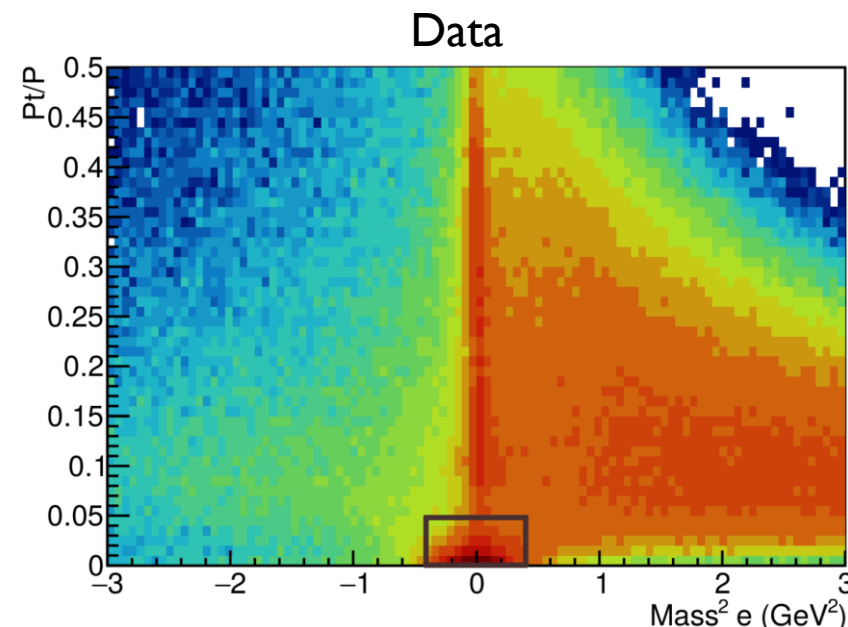
## 1) CLAS12 PID + Positron NN PID

$$p_X = p_{beam} + p_p - p_{e^+} - p_{e^+} - p_{p'}$$

$$2) \quad |M_X^2| < 0.4 \text{GeV}^2$$

$$3) \frac{Pt_X}{P_X} < 0.05$$

$$\rightarrow Q^2 < 0.1 \text{ GeV}^2$$





# CLAS12 dilepton invariant mass spectrum

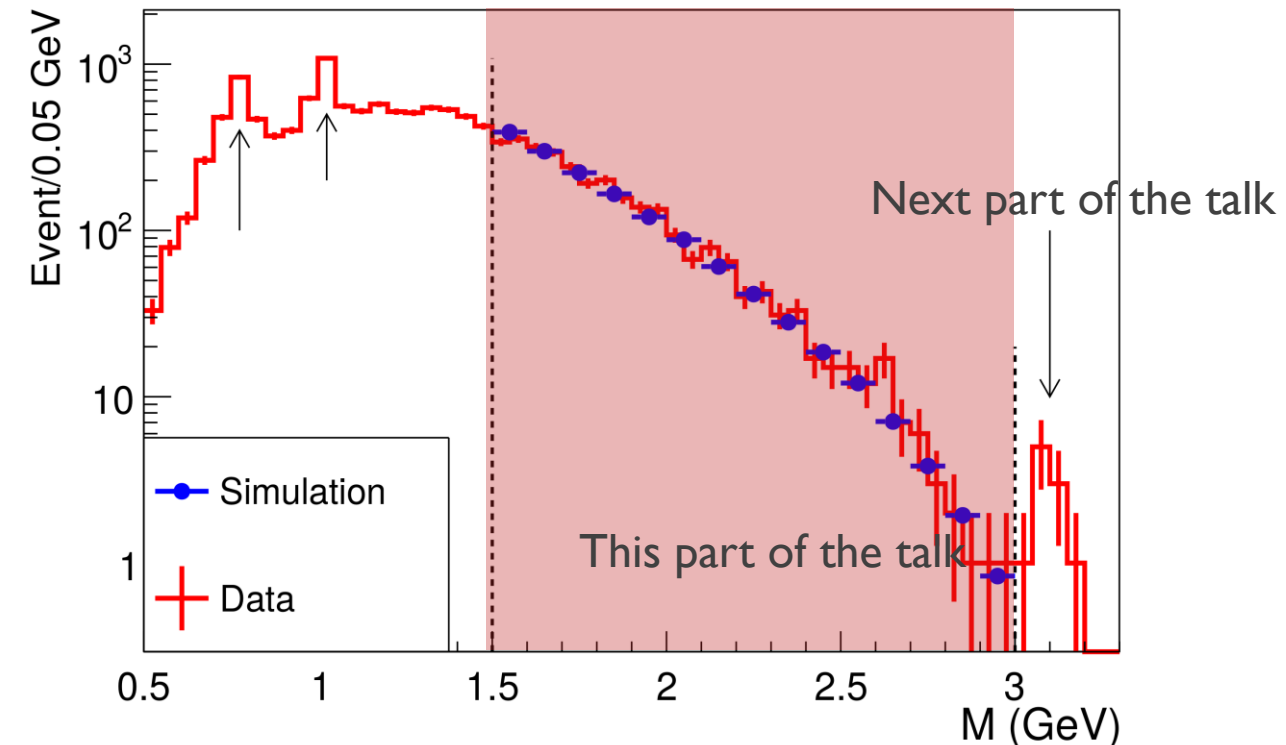
- Data taken in Fall 2018
  - 10.6 GeV beam on Liquid H<sub>2</sub> target
  - Accumulated charge: 37mC or 48 fb<sup>-1</sup>
- 
- Vector mesons peaks are visible in data:  $\omega$  (770),  $\rho$  (782),  $\phi$  (1020) and  $J/\psi$  (3096).
  - Data/simulation are matching at the 15% level, up to an overall normalization factor.
  - No clear contribution of higher mass vector meson production ( $\rho$  (1450),  $\rho$  (1700)).

## Phase-space for the TCS analysis

$$0.15 \text{ GeV}^2 < -t < 0.8 \text{ GeV}^2$$

$$1.5 \text{ GeV} < M_{e^+e^-} < 3 \text{ GeV}$$

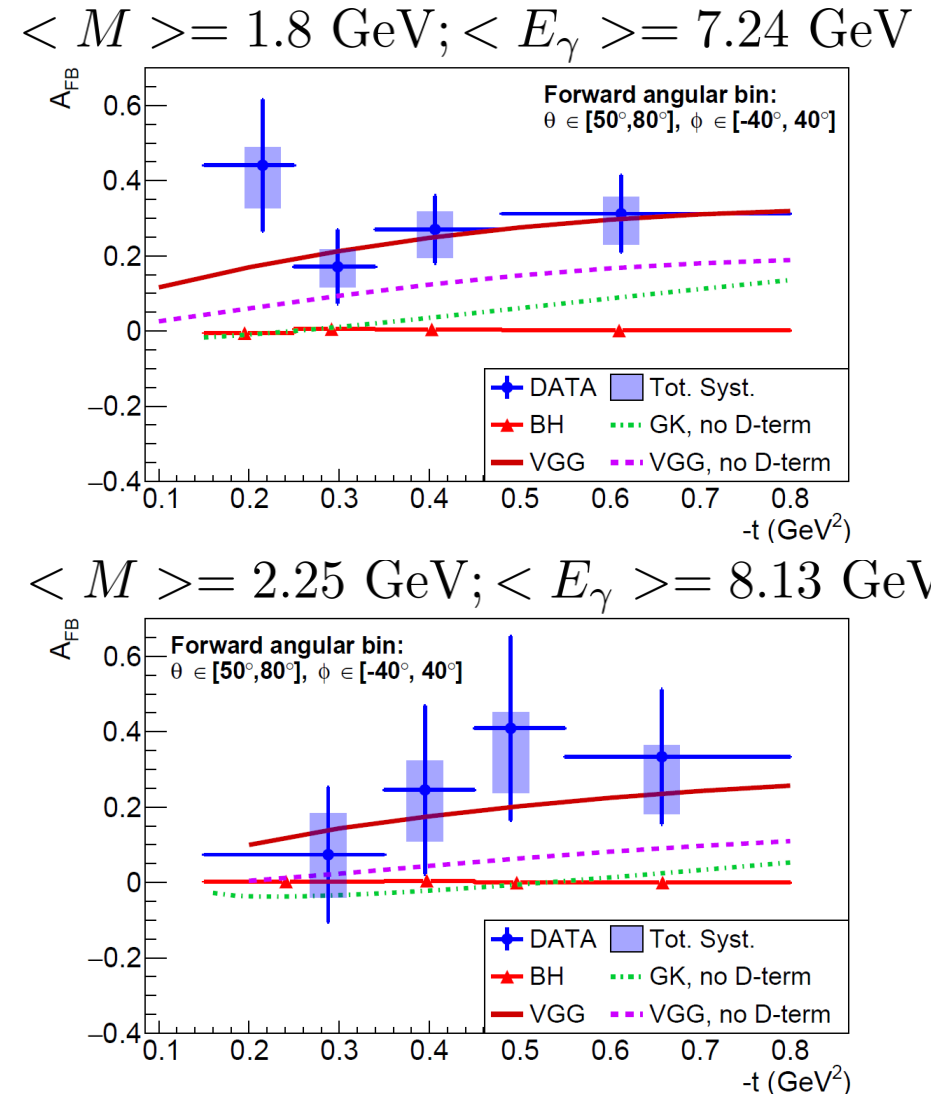
$$4 \text{ GeV} < E_\gamma < 10.6 \text{ GeV}$$





# Forward/Backward asymmetry results

- Integration over the forward angular bin :  
$$\theta \in [50^\circ, 80^\circ] \text{ and } \phi \in [-40^\circ, 40^\circ]$$
- Asymmetry measured in two mass bins:  
$$M \in [1.5 \text{ GeV}, 3.0 \text{ GeV}] \text{ and } M \in [2.0 \text{ GeV}, 3.0 \text{ GeV}]$$
- The measured asymmetry is non-zero: **evidence of signal** beyond pure BH contribution
- Measured asymmetry is better reproduced by the VGG model including the D-term
  1. Confirmation of the importance of the D-term in the parametrization of the GPD
  2. One can use TCS data to constrain it

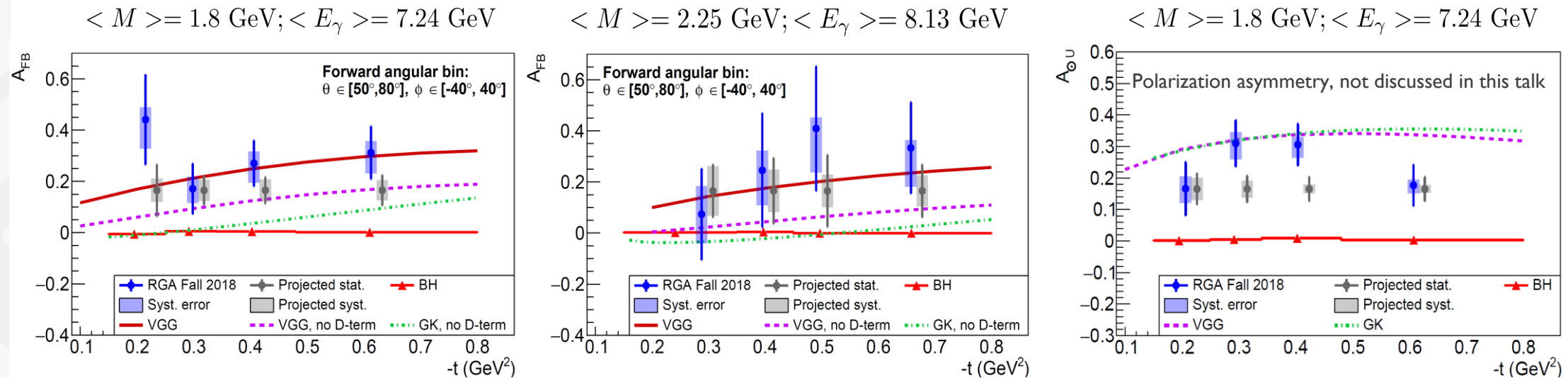




# Perspective for TCS measurements with CLAS12

## Projections for the full proton target dataset (RG-A)

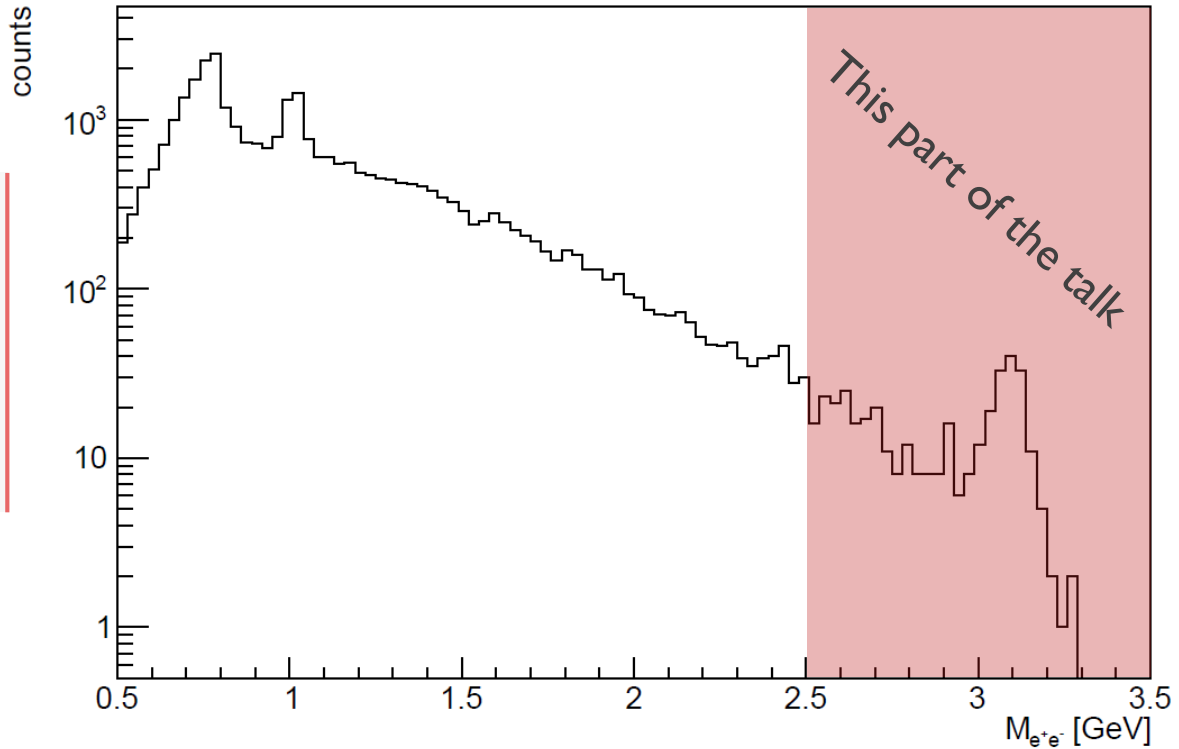
- Only a fraction of CLAS12 proton target dataset was used for in the PRL article (1/3).
- New significant improvement on the tracking software have been done since 2020 → 50% more efficiency for 3-particles final state





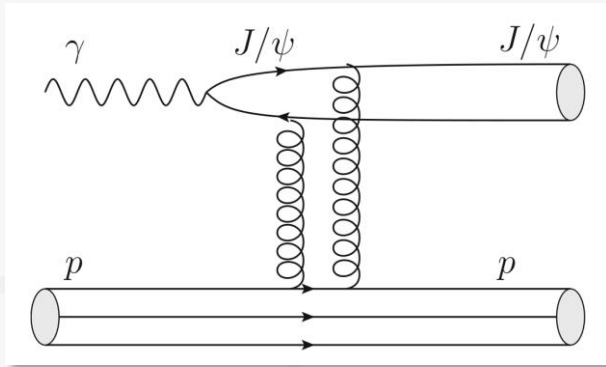
- Use the same dataset as for the TCS analysis for now.
- 10.6 GeV beam on Liquid H<sub>2</sub> target
- Accumulated charge: 37mC or 48 fb<sup>-1</sup>

CLAS12 Preliminary - ee ch.





- Probe the gluon content of the proton (under 2-gluon exchange assumption and no open-charm contributions discussed in the next slide)



- The  $t$ -dependence of the cross-section allow to access gluon Gravitational Form Factors (GFFs), mass radius of the nucleon and gluon GPDs.
- Model-dependent limit on the branching ration of the  $P_c$  pentaquark.

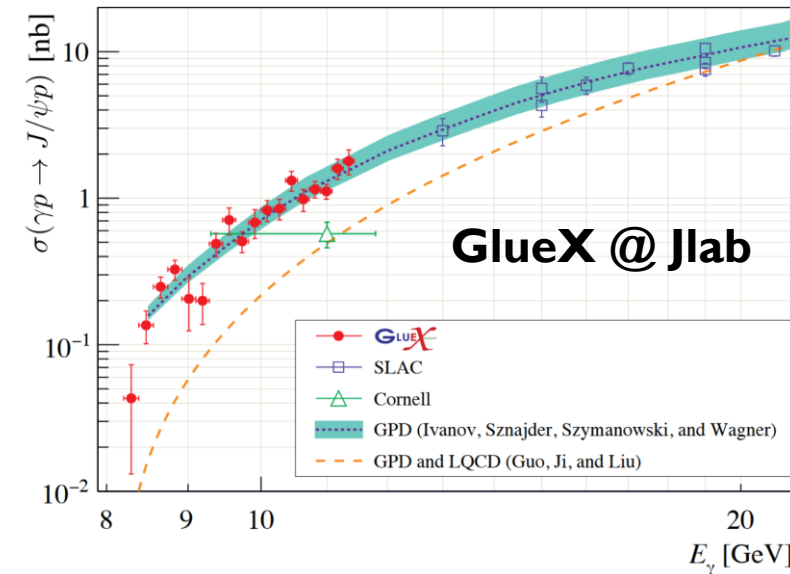
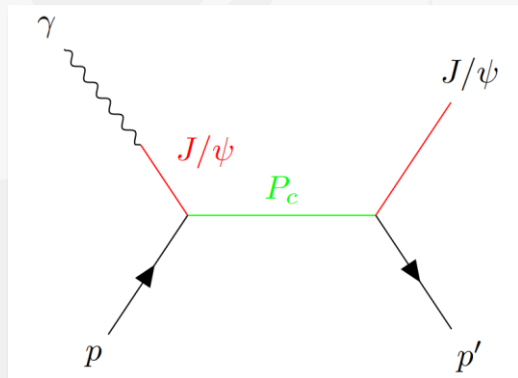


Figure in, Measurement of the  $J/\psi$  photoproduction cross section over the full near-threshold kinematic region, S. Adhikari *et al.* (GlueX Collaboration) arXiv:2304.03845

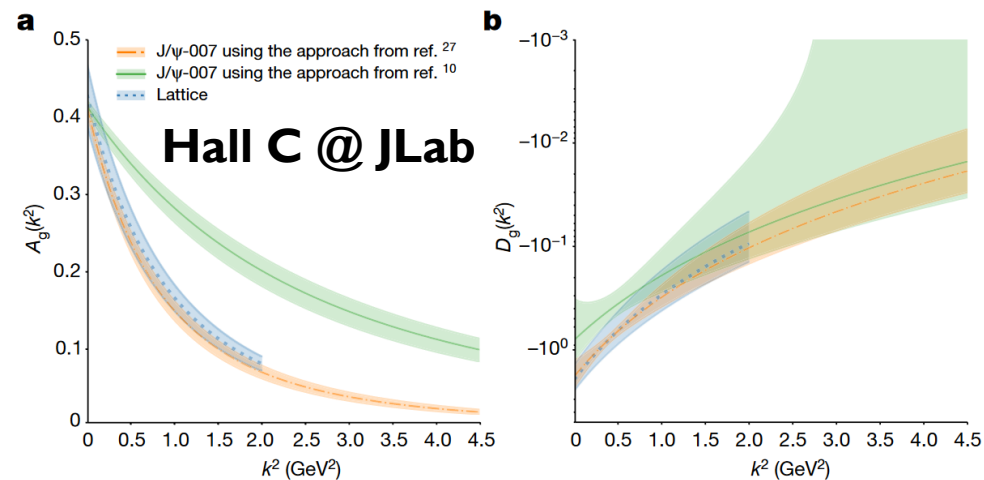


Figure in Duran, B., Meziani, Z.E., Joosten, S. *et al.* Determining the gluonic gravitational form factors of the proton. *Nature* 615, 813–816 (2023)



## 1) CLAS12 PID + Positron NN PID

$$ep \rightarrow (e')\gamma p \rightarrow (e')J/\psi p' \rightarrow (X)e^+e^-p'$$

$$p_X = p_{beam} + p_p - p_{e^+} - p_{e^+} - p_{p'}$$

$$2) \quad |M_X^2| < 0.4 GeV^2$$

3 )  $|Q^2| < 0.1$

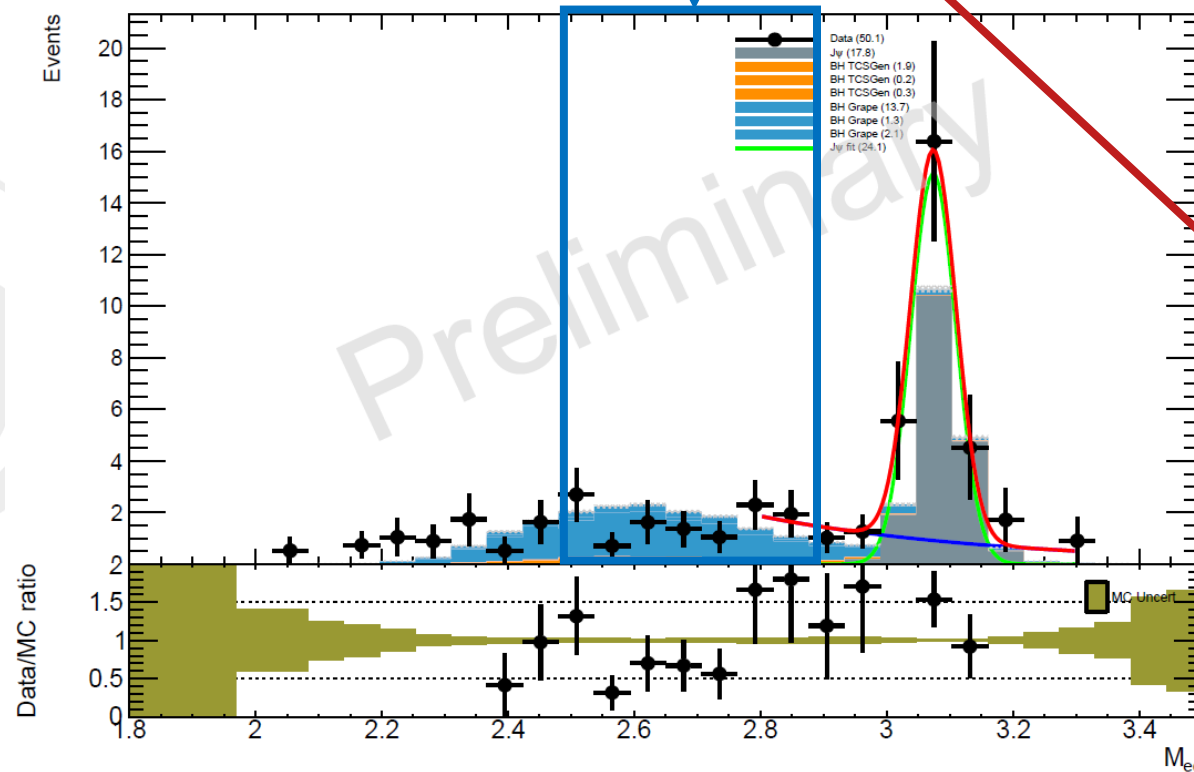
- 
- Figure 1 consists of two panels. The top panel is a log-linear plot showing the event rate (Events) on the y-axis (log scale from 1 to 100) versus  $Q^2$  on the x-axis (linear scale from -0.1 to 0.5). A red vertical line is drawn at  $Q^2 = 0.1$ . The data points are shown as blue circles with error bars. The background is composed of four stacked components: Data raw (2253.0),  $J/\psi$  (106.2), BH TCSCGen (60.1), and BH Grape (567.6). The bottom panel is a linear plot showing the Data/MC ratio on the y-axis (linear scale from 0.5 to 1.5) versus  $Q^2$  on the x-axis (linear scale from -0.1 to 0.5). A green horizontal line is drawn at a ratio of 1.0. The data points are shown as blue circles with error bars. A green shaded region is labeled 'MC J/psi'.



- Number of photons (from accumulated charge and photon flux from QED).
- Number of targets (from the density of dihydrogen and length of the target).

Reconstruction  
efficiency of the  $J/\psi$   
 $\rightarrow$  from MC

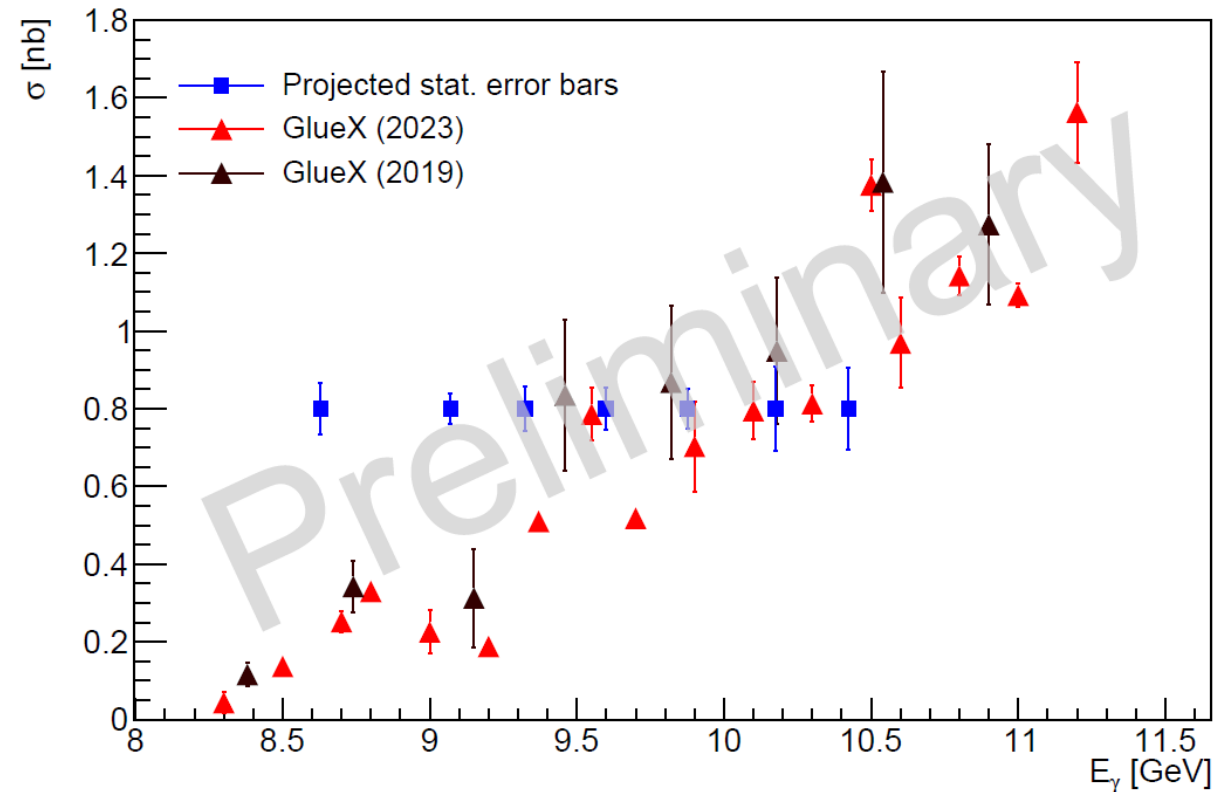
Branching ratio of  $J/\psi \rightarrow e^+e^-$   
6%





# Projections for the full CLAS12 proton target dataset

- Projected statistics error bars based on full dataset available on proton target and expected 50% improvement for tracking.
- Maximum photon energy slightly smaller than GlueX.
- Projected error bars are competitive with GlueX.
- $t$ -dependence will also be extracted.
- $J/\psi$  photoproduction on neutron is also measured, see Richard Tyson (Univ. of Glasgow) talk on Thursday.



Including all data taken on unpolarized proton and improved tracking efficiency



## Summary and take-aways

- The relation between GPDs and GFFs allows to probe the interaction.
- Dilepton final state reactions (TCS and  $J/\psi$ ) play a crucial role in experimentally extraction GFFs and GPDs.
- The CLAS12 detector is the ideal place to perform such measurement, with large angular coverage and great particle identification.
- First TCS measurement have been published in 2021, and the Forward/Backward asymmetry shows promising results. Full re-processed dataset will soon be analyzed.
- $J/\psi$  photoproduction cross-section on proton target will soon be available. Stay tuned !



# BACK-UP



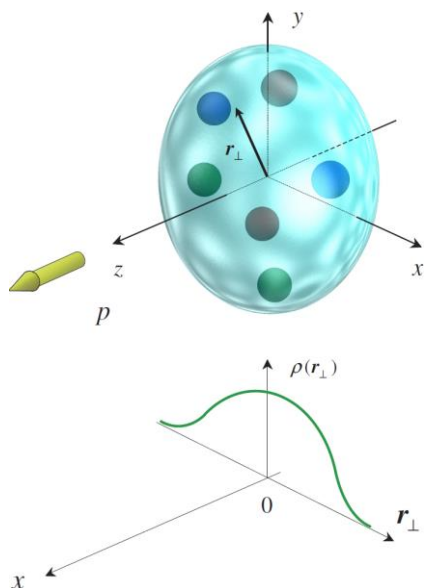


# GPDs and other theoretical considerations

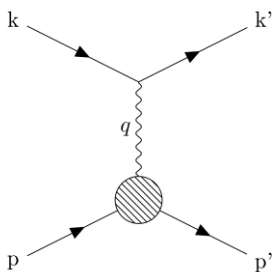


# The Generalized Parton Distributions

## Form Factors



Accessed via elastic scattering

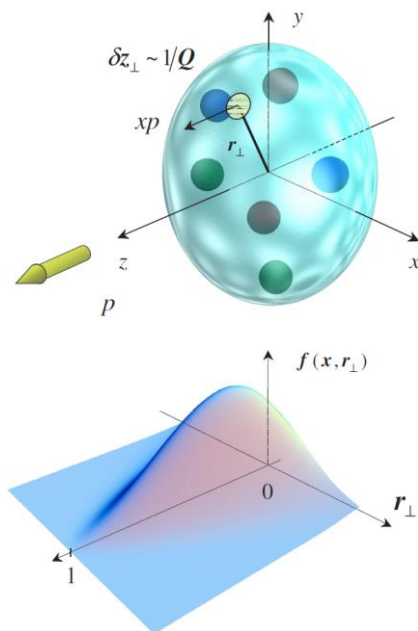


Position in the transverse plane

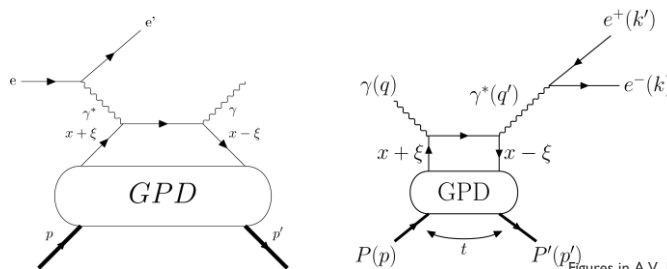
$$\int_{-1}^1 dx H^q(x, \xi, t) = F_1^q(t)$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 dx E^q(x, \xi, t) = F_2^q(t)$$

## GPDs



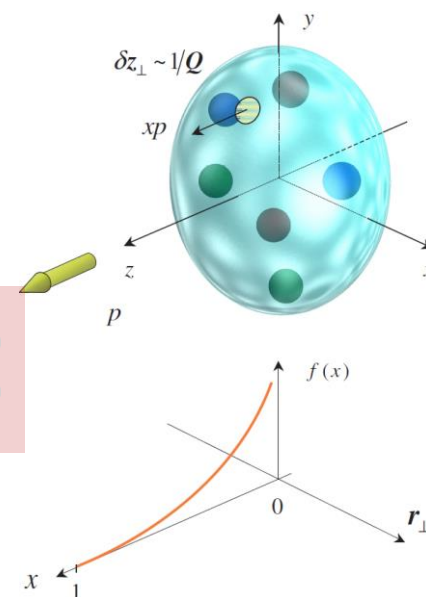
... and their correlations  
Accessed via exclusive reactions



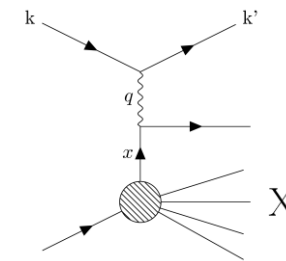
Momentum in the longitudinal direction

$$H^q(x, 0, 0) = \begin{cases} q(x), & x > 0 \\ -\bar{q}(-x), & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

## PDFs



Accessed via Deep Inelastic Scattering



Figures in A.V. Belitsky, A.V. Radyushkin, Unraveling hadron structure with generalized parton distributions, Physics Reports, Volume 418, Issues 1-6 2005



# What can we learn from GPDs ?

- Tomography of the nucleon: the Fourier transform of the GPDs can be interpreted as a probability density:

$$H^q(x, b_{\perp}) = \int \frac{d^2 \Delta_{\perp}}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-ib_{\perp} \Delta_{\perp}} H^q(x, 0, -\Delta_{\perp}^2)$$

- Understanding the spin composition of the nucleon (aka the “spin puzzle”) using the Ji’s sum rule:

$$\frac{1}{2} = J_Q + J_G \longrightarrow J_Q = \sum_q \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 dx \, x (H^q(x, \xi, 0) + E^q(x, \xi, 0)) = \sum_q \frac{1}{2} (A^q(t) + B^q(t))$$

- Accessing Gravitational Form Factors by mimicking a spin-2 interaction:

$$\int_{-1}^1 dx \, x H^q(x, \xi, t) = A^q(t) + \xi^2 D^q(t) \quad \int_{-1}^1 dx \, x E^q(x, \xi, t) = B^q(t) - \xi^2 D^q(t)$$



# Motivations to measure $J/\psi$ photoproduction near threshold: the open-charm “issue”

## Open-charm “issue”

- The previous considerations rely on the application of Vector Meson Dominance.
- Thus the contribution from open-charm meson channels must be ruled-out/understood.
- Measuring photoproduction on both proton and neutron probes different channel and will bring new constraints on open-charm contributions.

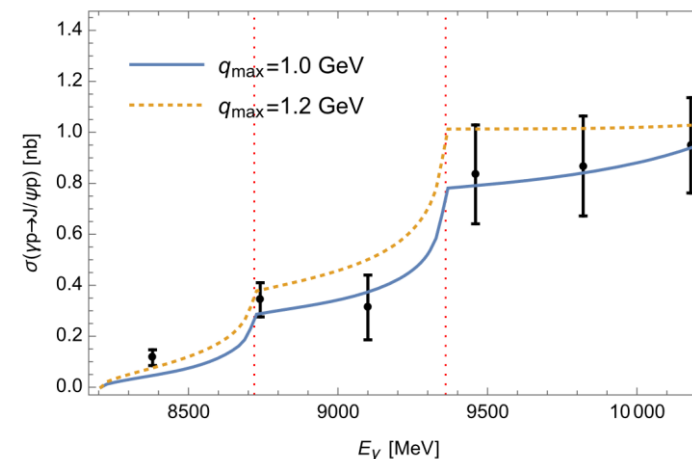
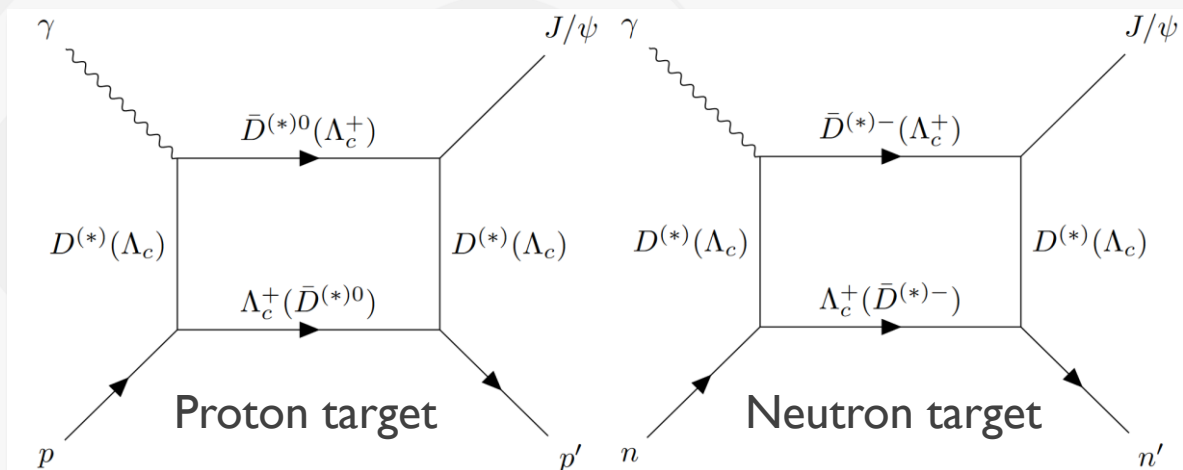


Figure in Du, ML., Baru, V., Guo, FK. et al. Deciphering the mechanism of near-threshold  $J/\psi$  photoproduction. *Eur. Phys. J. C* 80, 1053 (2020)

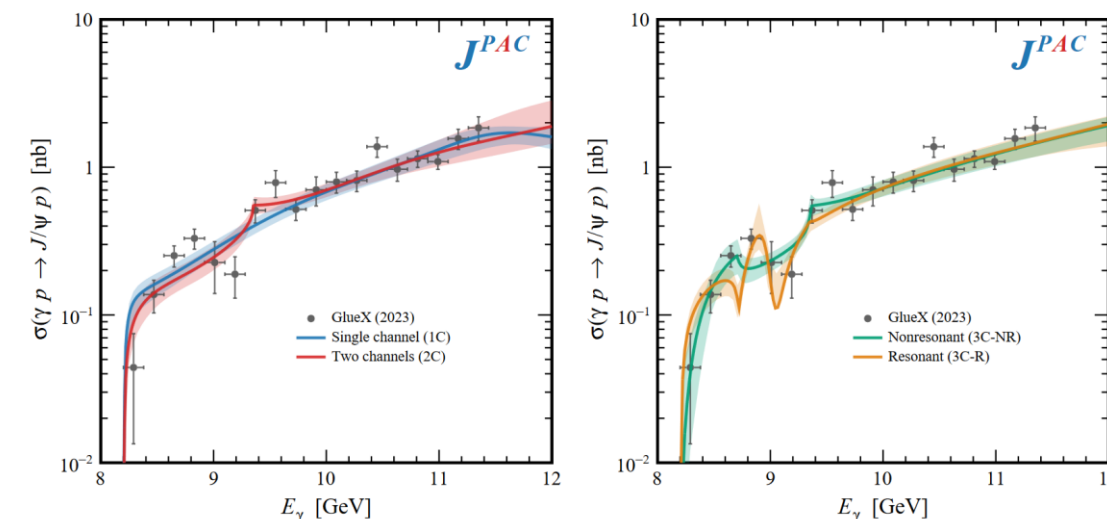


Figure in D. Winney, C. Fernandez-Ramirez, A. Pilloni, A. N. Hiller Blin et al. (JPAC), Dynamics in near-threshold  $J/\psi$  photoproduction [arXiv:2305.01449](https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.01449)



# Event selection





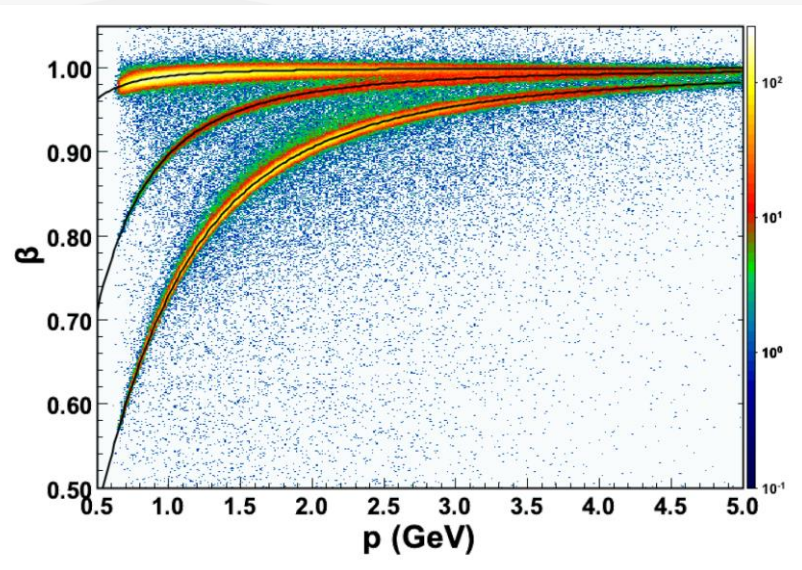
# Particle identification

1) CLAS12 PID + Positron NN PID

$$ep \rightarrow (e')\gamma p \rightarrow (X)\overbrace{e^+e^-} p'$$

## Proton identification

Velocity from the time-of-flight

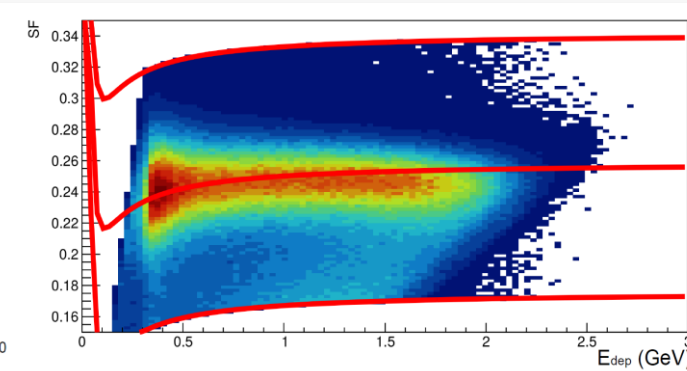
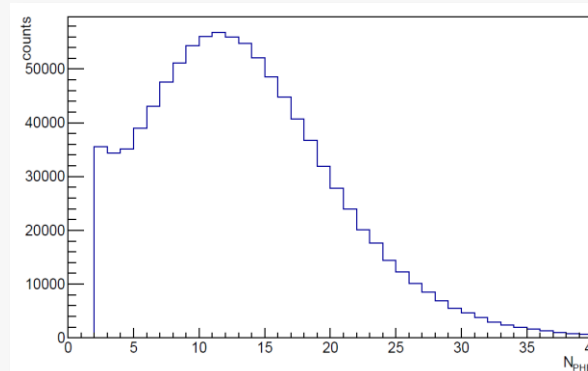


Momentum from the track curvature

## Lepton identification

Cherenkov counters

+ Calorimeter energy deposition



$$\text{Sampling Fraction} = \frac{E_{dep}}{P}$$

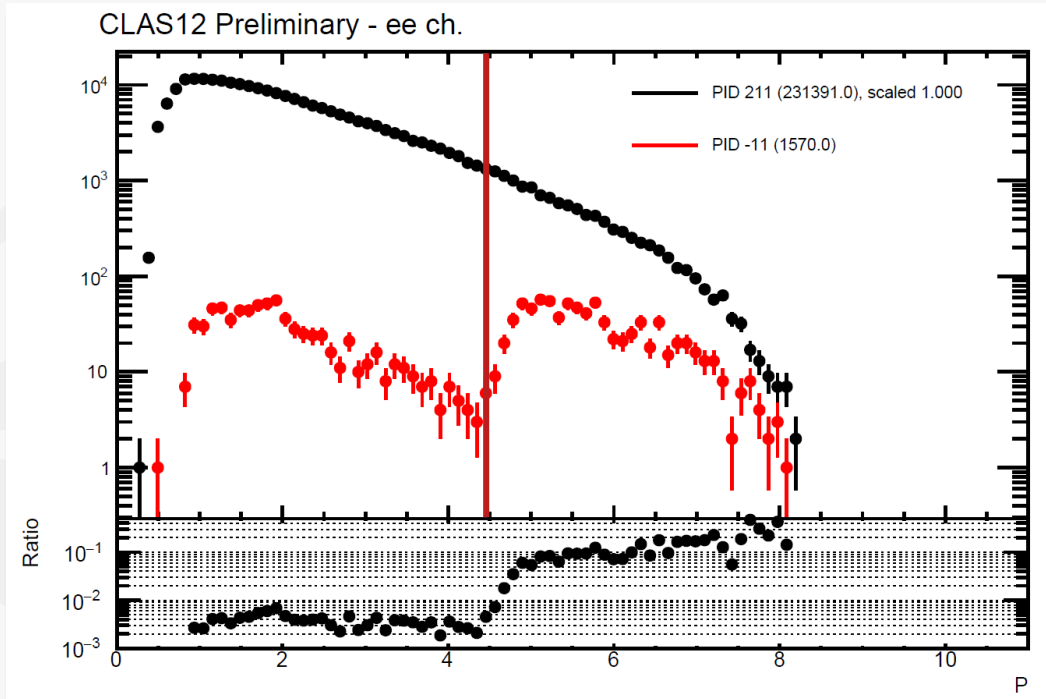


# One important challenge: a clean positron identification

## Pion background at large momenta

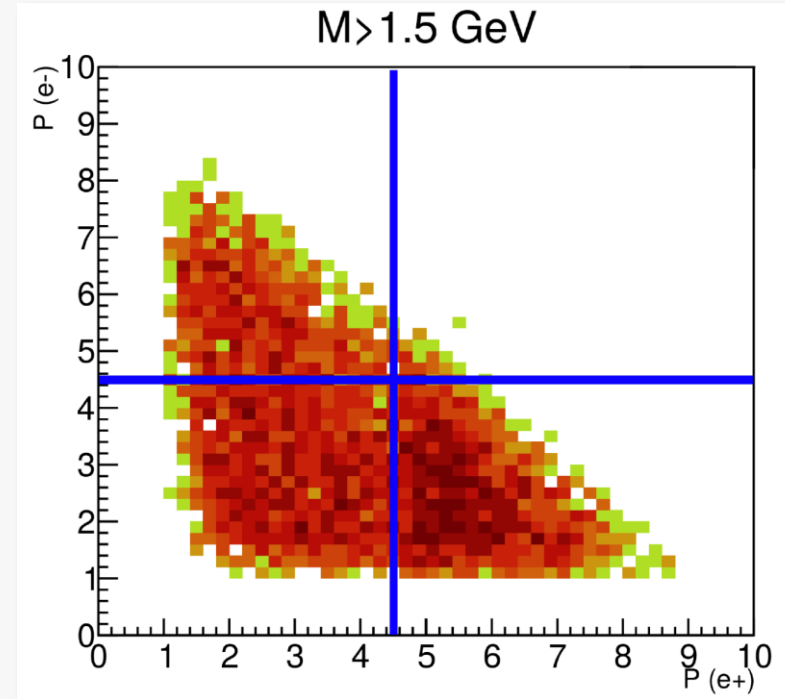
At high momenta (typically above the HTCC threshold at 4.5 GeV), both pions and leptons will emit Cherenkov light.

$$ep \rightarrow ep\pi^+\pi^- \text{ VS } ep \rightarrow epe^+\pi^-$$



$$\gamma p \rightarrow e^+e^-p$$

$M > 1.5 \text{ GeV}$





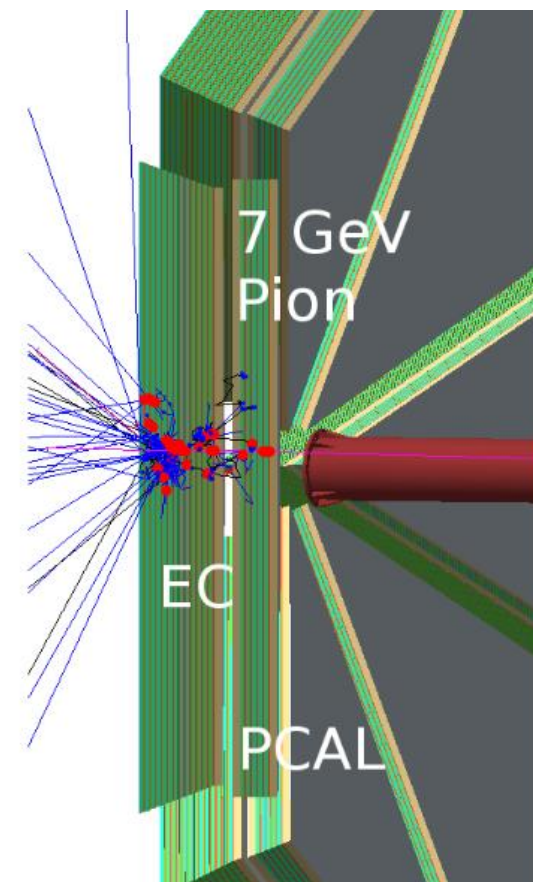
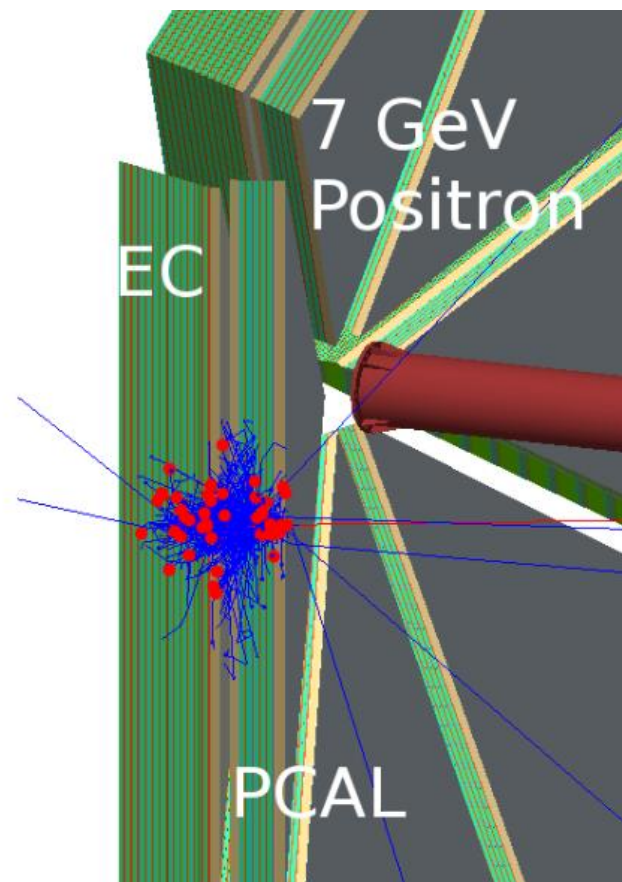
# AI identification of the positrons

## Strategy and discriminating variables

- Leptons produce electromagnetic showers and tend to deposit energy in the first layers of the calorimeters.
- Pions are **Minimum Ionizing Particles** in the GeV region, they deposit small amounts of energy all along their path.
- Two main characteristics to use:

1. 
$$SF_{\text{EC Layer}} = \frac{E_{\text{dep}}(\text{EC Layer})}{P}$$

2. 
$$M_2 = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{U,V,W} \frac{\sum_{\text{strip}} (x-D)^2 \cdot \ln(E)}{\sum_{\text{strip}} \ln(E)}$$





# Performances of AI identification of the positrons

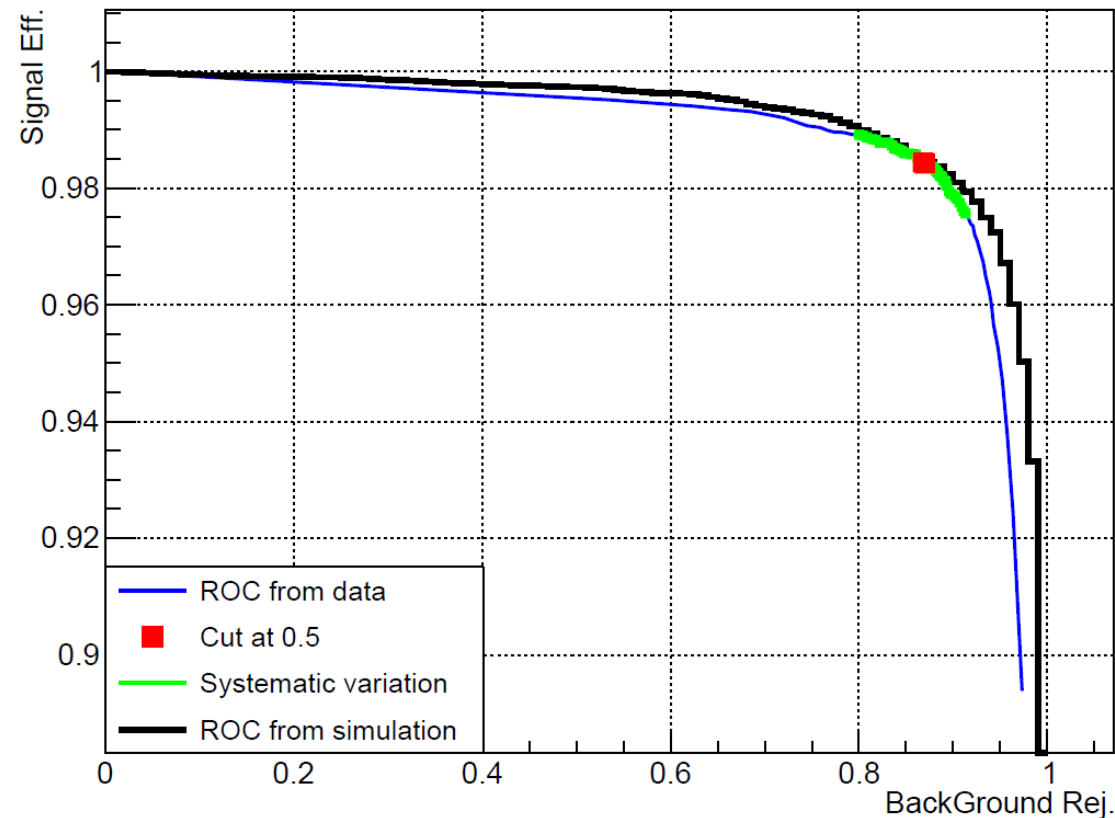
## Strategy and discriminating variables

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# More on TCS





# TCS interference cross-section formulae and CFFs

## Unpolarized cross-section

Formulae and notations of Berger, Diehl, Pire, Eur.Phys.J.C23:675-689,2002

$$\frac{d^4\sigma_{INT}}{dQ'^2 dt d\Omega} \propto \frac{L_0}{L} \left[ \cos(\phi) \frac{1 + \cos^2(\theta)}{\sin(\theta)} \text{Re}\tilde{M}^{--} + \dots \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \tilde{M}^{--} = \frac{2\sqrt{t_0 - t}}{M} \frac{1 - \xi}{1 + \xi} \left[ F_1 \mathcal{H} - \xi(F_1 + F_2) \tilde{\mathcal{H}} - \frac{t}{4M^2} F_2 \mathcal{E} \right]$$

## Compton Form Factors (CFFs)

$$\mathcal{H} = \int_{-1}^1 H(x, \xi, t) \left( \frac{1}{\xi - x - i\epsilon} - \frac{1}{\xi + x - i\epsilon} \right)$$

## Polarized cross-section

$$\frac{d^4\sigma_{INT}}{dQ'^2 dt d\Omega} = \frac{d^4\sigma_{INT} |_{\text{unpol.}}}{dQ'^2 dt d\Omega} - \nu \cdot A \frac{L_0}{L} \left[ \sin(\phi) \frac{1 + \cos^2(\theta)}{\sin(\theta)} \text{Im}\tilde{M}^{--} + \dots \right]$$



# First observable: the photon polarization asymmetry

## Definition

$$A_{\odot U} = \frac{d\sigma^+ - d\sigma^-}{d\sigma^+ + d\sigma^-} = \frac{-\frac{\alpha_{em}^3}{4\pi s^2} \frac{1}{-t} \frac{m_p}{Q'} \frac{1}{\tau\sqrt{1-\tau}} \frac{L_0}{L} \sin\phi \frac{(1+\cos^2\theta)}{\sin(\theta)} \text{Im}\tilde{M}^{--}}{d\sigma_{BH}}$$

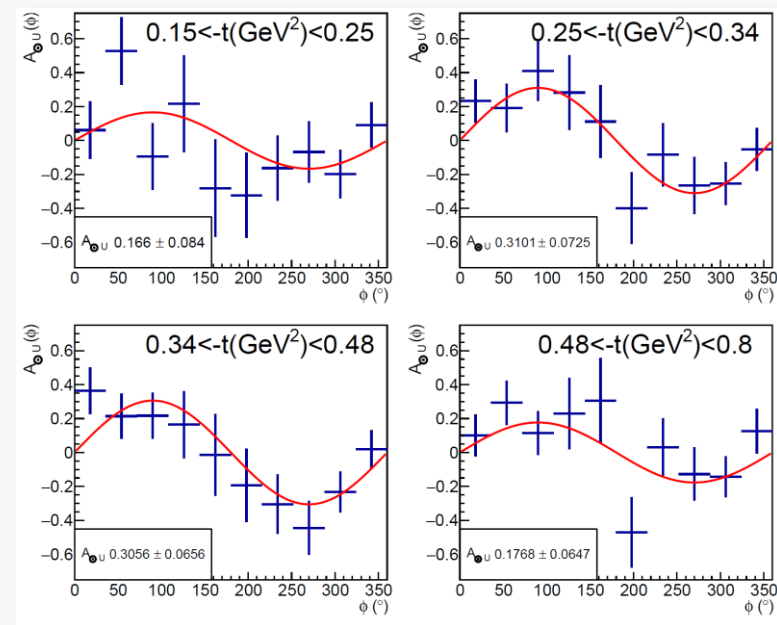
## Measurement

$$A_{\odot U}(-t, E\gamma, M; \phi) = \frac{1}{P_b} \frac{N^+ - N^-}{N^+ + N^-} \text{ where } N^\pm = \sum \frac{1}{Acc} P_{trans}.$$

- $P_{trans}$  is the transferred polarization from the electron to the photon, fully calculable in QED.

Olsen, Maximon, Phys. Rev. 114 (1959)

- $P_b$  is the polarization of the electron beam at 85%.
- The obtained distributions of  $A_{\odot U}(-t; \phi)$  are then fitted with a sine function.



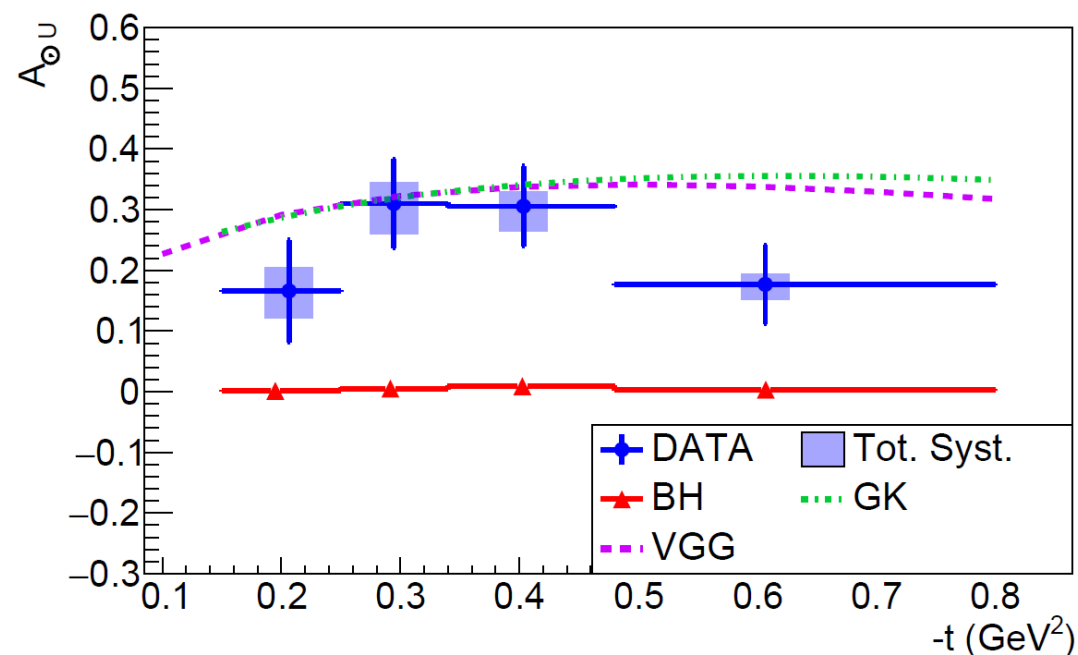


# Photon polarization asymmetry results

- A sizeable asymmetry is measured, above the expected vanishing asymmetry predicted for BH.
- Results have been compared to 2 model predictions:
  1. VGG model
  2. GK model
- The size of the asymmetry is well reproduced by both models, giving a hint for the universality of GPDs.

$$\langle M \rangle = 1.8 \text{ GeV}; \langle E_\gamma \rangle = 7.29 \text{ GeV};$$

$$\langle \theta \rangle = 92^\circ$$





# $J/\psi$ analysis





# Background subtracted data using same-charge lepton events

- Opposite charge leptons

Background final states ( $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+$ )	Physics final state
$e'p'e^+(e^- + X) + e'p'\pi^+(\pi^- + X)$	$e^-e^+p'(e')$
$N(e^+e^-p') = n_S(e^+e^-) + n_{BG}(e'e^+/\pi^+)$	

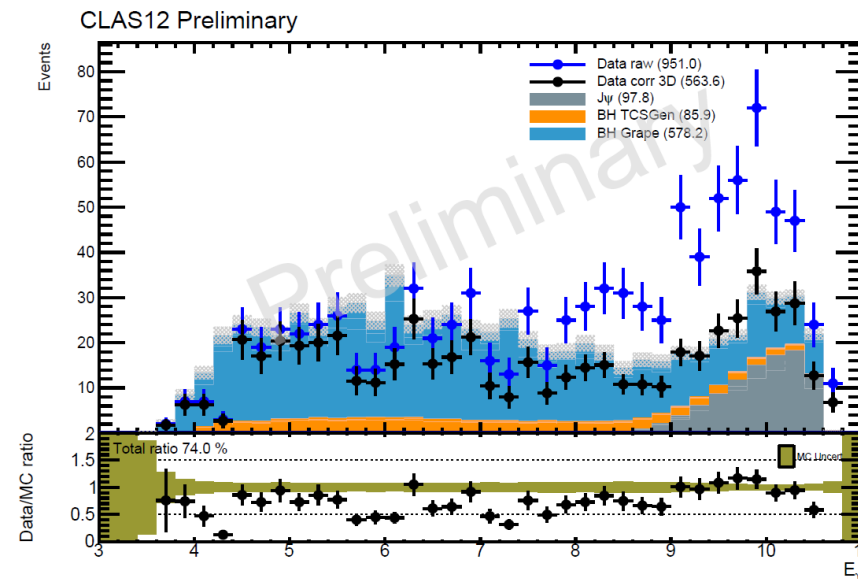
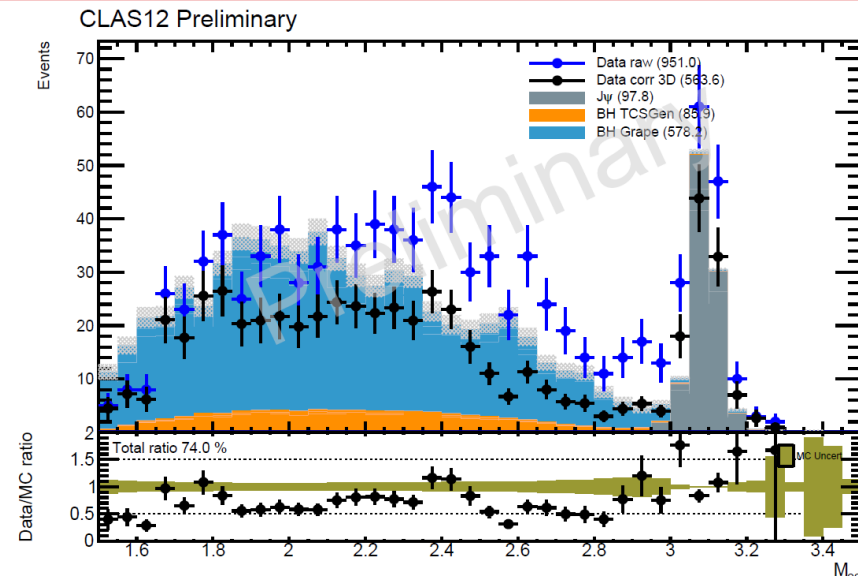
- Same charge leptons

$$ep \rightarrow p'e^-e^-(X \simeq e)$$

$$e'p'\pi^-(\pi^+ + X) + e'p'e^-(e^+ + X)$$

- Background correction weight, combining inbending and outbending data:

$$w = \frac{n_S}{(n_S + n_{BG})} = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{N_{e^-e^-p}}{N_{e^+e^-p}} \bigg|_{In} \frac{N_{e^-e^-p}}{N_{e^+e^-p}} \bigg|_{Out}}$$





# Background removal procedure

## Sample contents

### Opposite charge leptons

Background final states ( $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+$ )

$$e'p'e^+(e^- + X) + e'p'\pi^+(\pi^- + X)$$

Physics final state

$$e^-e^+p'(e')$$

$$N(e^+e^-p') = n_S(e^+e^-) + n_{BG}(e'e^+/\pi^+)$$

### Same charge leptons

$$ep \rightarrow p'e^-e^-(X \simeq e)$$

$$e'p'\pi^-(\pi^+ + X) + e'p'e^-(e^+ + X)$$

$$R^{in} = \frac{N^{in}(e'e^-p')}{N^{in}(e^+e^-p')} = \frac{a^2 \cdot \sigma_{BG}}{a \cdot b \cdot \sigma_{BG+S}} = \frac{a \cdot \sigma_{BG}}{b \cdot \sigma_{BG+S}}$$

$$R^{out} = \frac{N^{out}(e'e^-p')}{N^{out}(e^+e^-p')} = \frac{b^2 \cdot \sigma_{BG}}{a \cdot b \cdot \sigma_{BG+S}} = \frac{b \cdot \sigma_{BG}}{a \cdot \sigma_{BG+S}}$$

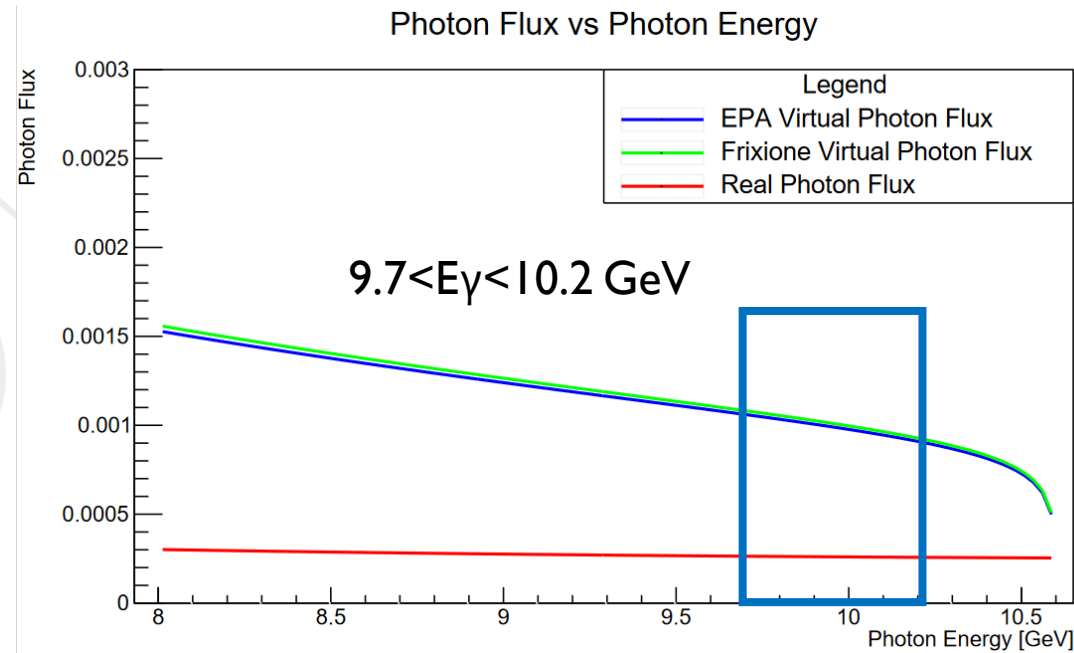
$$w = \frac{S}{(S+B)_{In}} = 1 - \frac{N_{e^-e^-p}}{N_{e^-e^+p} In} \frac{b}{a} = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{N_{e^-e^-p}}{N_{e^-e^+p} In} \frac{N_{e^-e^-p}}{N_{e^-e^+p} Out}}$$



# Photon flux and accumulated charge

$$\sigma_0(E_\gamma) = \boxed{\mathcal{N}_\gamma \cdot n_T} \cdot \frac{N_{J/\psi}}{\omega_c \cdot Br \cdot \epsilon(E_\gamma)}$$

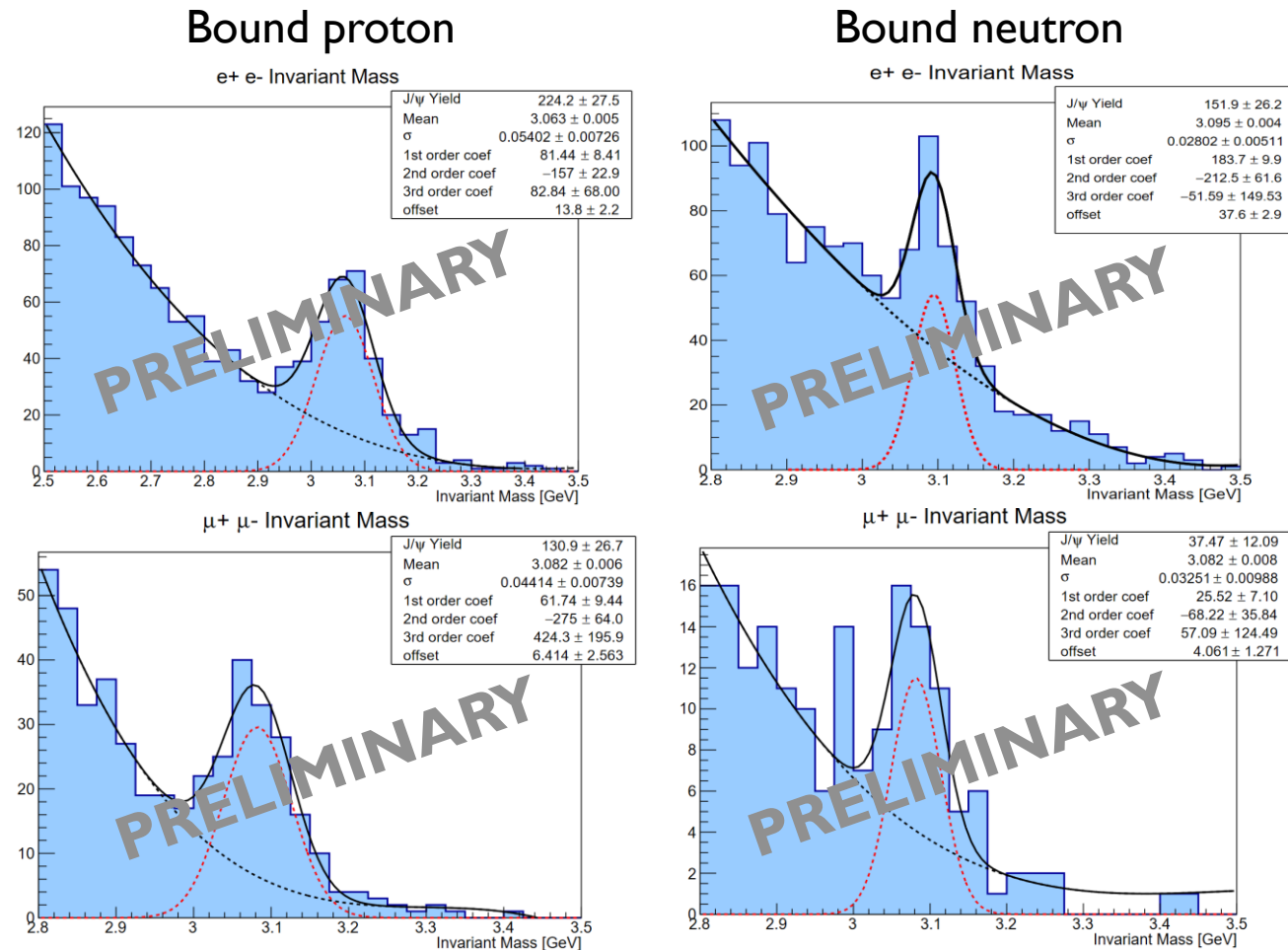
- Number of photons (from accumulated charge and photon flux from QED)
- Number of targets (from the density of dihydrogen and length of the target)





# Deuterium target and muon final state

- Deuterium data were taken by CLAS12 in 2019/2020.
- Opportunity to measure  $J/\psi$  production on (bound) neutron and (bound) proton.
- Alongside this analysis, a framework to explore the muon decay channel was developed.
- This effort is lead by R.Tyson from University of Glasgow.

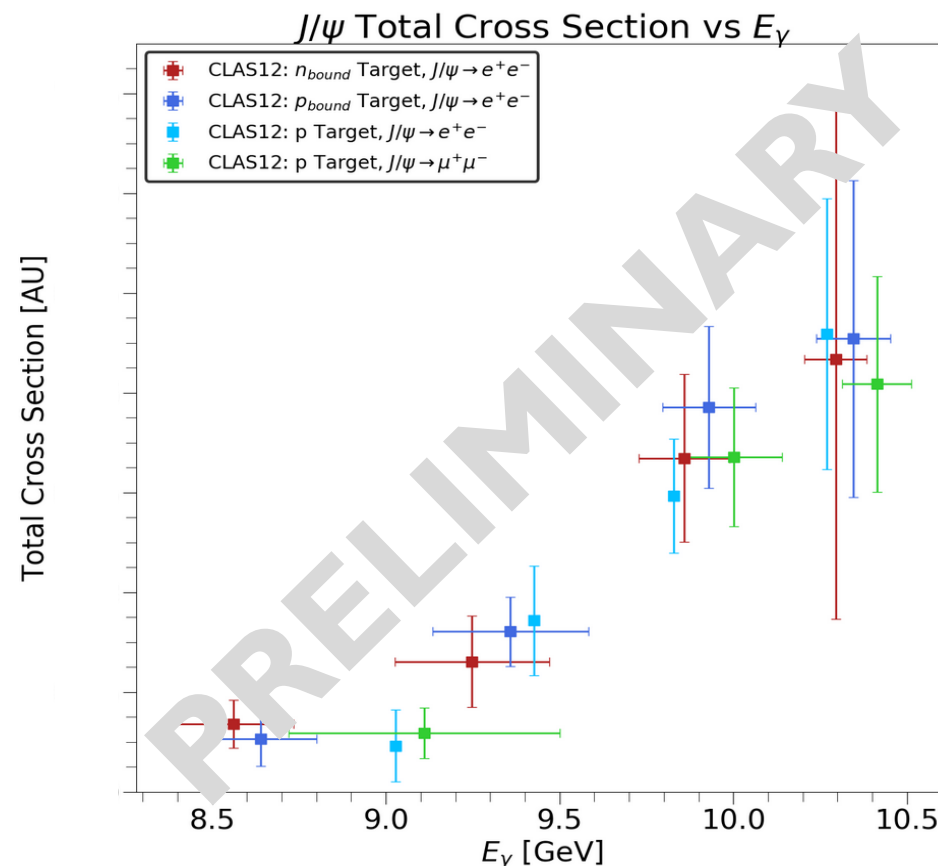


Taken from R.Tyson PhD analysis, Univ. of Glasgow



# Preliminary results for proton/neutron data

- Preliminary results for the comparison of decay channels and target nucleon.
- This measurement could have implication on understanding open-charm channels contribution.



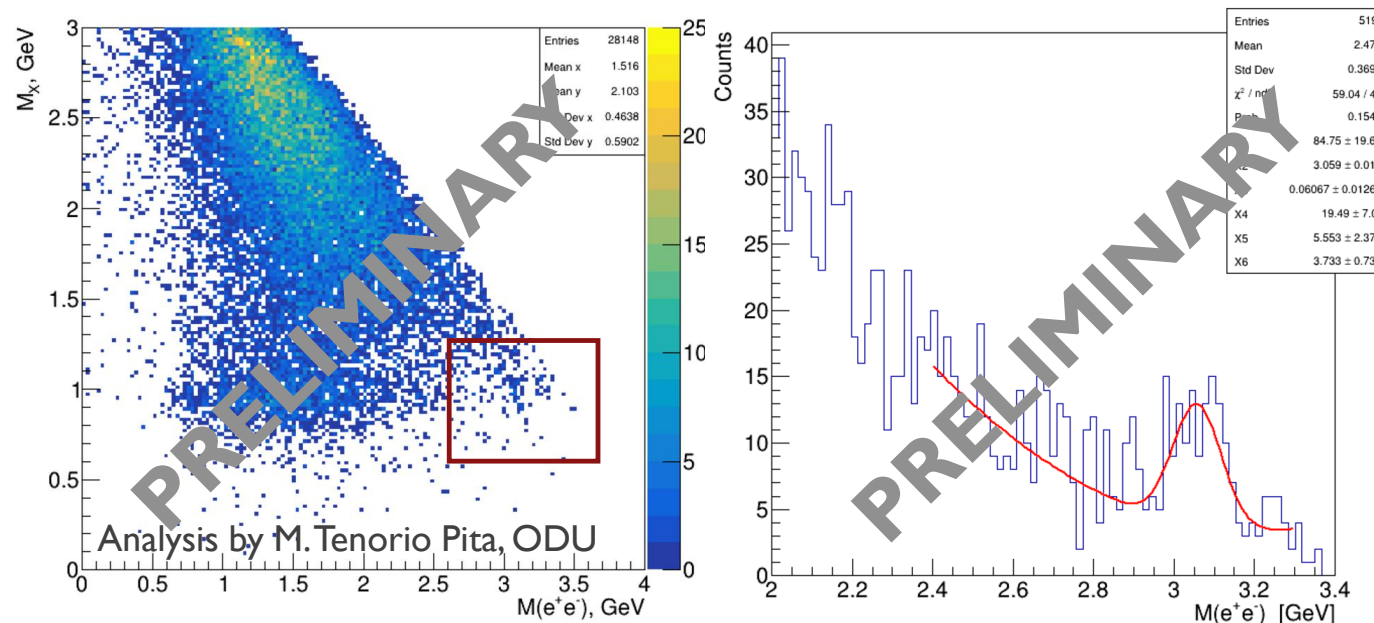
Taken from R. Tyson PhD analysis, Univ. of Glasgow



# Tagged $J/\psi$ quasi-photoproduction analysis

$$ep \rightarrow e' J/\psi \ p' \rightarrow e' l^+ l^- (X)$$

- Analysis conducted by M.Tenorio Pita, ODU.
- In this case, one electron in the Forward Tagger (Low lab angle  $<5^\circ$ ) and a lepton pair in CLAS12.
- Excellent cross-check of the quasi-photoproduction approach.
- Early results show low statistics, the new data “cooking” including better tracking efficiency will be beneficial for this analysis.
- Other event topologies will be explored.



## Other potential $J/\psi$ analysis using CLAS12 data

- Available data for longitudinally polarized proton target