

# Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering with CLAS12 at Jefferson Laboratory

#### Adam HOBART on behalf of CLAS Collaboration

3D Structure of the Nucleon via Generalized Parton Distributions, Incheon, Korea



Laboratoire de Physique des 2 Infinis







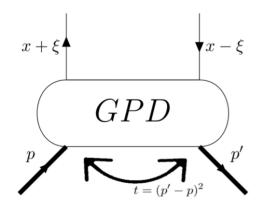
## GPDs

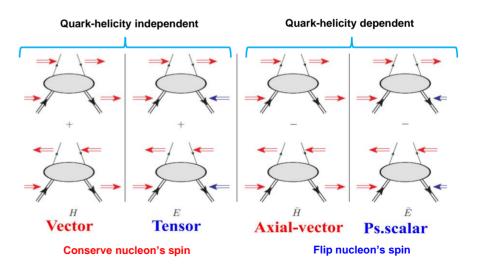
- QCD at low energies: non perturbative regime
  - Need structure functions to describe nucleon structure

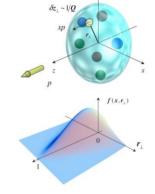
### GPDs

Correlation of transverse position and longitudinal momentum of partons in the nucleon & the spin structure - through Ji's sum rule x. Ji, Phy.Rev.Lett.78,610(1997)

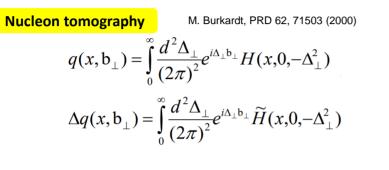
- GPDs can be accessed through exclusive leptoproduction reactions
- At leading order QCD, chiral-even (quark helicity is conserved), quark sector: 4 GPDs for each quark flavor  $H, \tilde{H}, E$  and  $\tilde{E}$
- GPDs depend on x,  $\xi$  and t = (p' p) 2

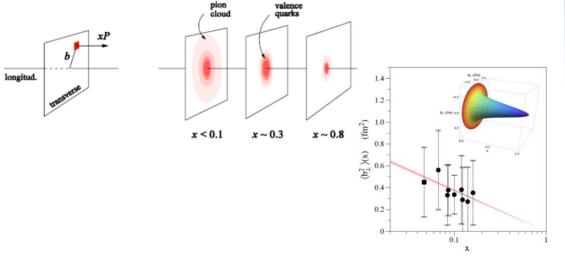






• GPDs: Fourier transforms of non-local, non-diagonal QCD operators





Quark angular momentum

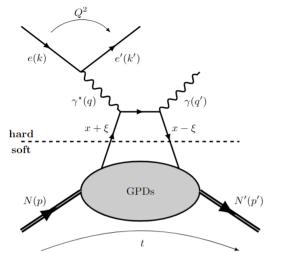
X. Ji, Phy.Rev.Lett.78,610(1997)

$$\frac{1}{2}\int_{-1}^{1} x dx (H(x,\xi,t=0) + E(x,\xi,t=0)) = J = \frac{1}{2}\Delta\Sigma + \Delta L$$

Nucleon spin: 
$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}\Delta\Sigma + \Delta L + \Delta G$$

- The intrinsic spin of the quarks can not explain the origin of the spin of the nucleon (nucleon Spin Crisis)
- Intrinsic spin of the gluons
- GPDs: quantify the contribution of orbital angular momentum of quarks to the nucleon spin

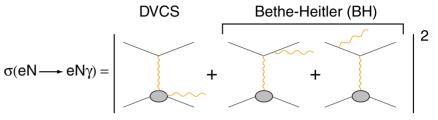
### Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering of leptons off nucleons



- DVCS allows access to 4 complex GPDs-related quantities:
  - Compton Form Factors (x, ξ,t) (CFFs)

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{q} e_{q}^{2} \left\{ i \, \pi \left[ H^{q}(\xi,\xi,t) - H^{q}(-\xi,\xi,t) \right] \, + \, \mathcal{P} \int_{-1}^{1} dx H^{q}(x,\xi,t) \left[ \frac{1}{\xi-x} - \frac{1}{\xi+x} \right] \right\}$$

 x can not be accessed experimentally by DVCS: Models needed to map the x dependence



BH is purely electromagnetic and parametrised by FFs

- Experimentally measured observables:
  - Sensitive to the DVCS-BH interference part (linear in CFFs)
    - Should have: Beam polarized and/or target polarized
  - Access to a combinations of CFFs
    - The separation of CFFs requires the measurement of several observables
  - Depending on the target (proton or neutron): different sensitivity to the CFFs (GPDs)
    - The flavor separation of GPDs requires measurements on both nucleons

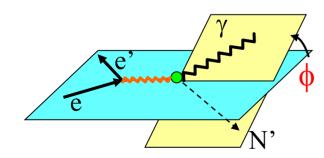
 $(H,E)_{u}(\xi,\xi,t) = \frac{9}{15} \Big[ 4 \big(H,E\big)_{p}(\xi,\xi,t) - \big(H,E\big)_{n}(\xi,\xi,t) \Big]$  $(H,E)_{d}(\xi,\xi,t) = \frac{9}{15} \Big[ 4 \big(H,E\big)_{n}(\xi,\xi,t) - \big(H,E\big)_{p}(\xi,\xi,t) \Big]$  Polarized beam, unpolarized taget  $\Delta \sigma_{LU} \sim \sin(\phi) \Im \{F_1 H + \xi (F_1 + F_2) \widetilde{H} - k F_2 E + \dots \}$ 

Unpolarized beam, polarized target

 $\Delta \sigma_{UL} \sim \sin(\phi) \,\Im \left\{ F_1 \,\widetilde{H} + \xi (F_1 + F_2) \left( H + \frac{x_b}{2} E \right) - \xi k \, F_2 \widetilde{E} \right\}$ 

polarized beam, longitudinal polarized target  $\Delta \sigma_{LL} \sim (A + B \cos(\phi)) \Re \{F_1 \, \widetilde{H} + \xi (F_1 + F_2) \left( H + \frac{x_b}{2} E \right) + \dots \}$ 

unpolarized beam, transverse polarized target  $\Delta \sigma_{UT} \sim \cos(\phi) \sin(\phi_s - \phi) \Im\{k(F_2 H - F_1 E) + ...\}$ 



Observable	Proton	Neutron
$\Delta\sigma_{LU}$	$\Im\{\boldsymbol{H}_{\boldsymbol{p}}, \widetilde{H}_{p}, E_{p}\}$	$\Im \{H_n, \widetilde{H}_n, \boldsymbol{E_n}\}$
$\Delta\sigma_{UL}$	$\Im\{H_p, \widetilde{H}_p\}$	$\Im\{H_n, E_n\}$
$\Delta\sigma_{LL}$	$\Re\{H_p, \widetilde{H}_p\}$	$\Re\{\boldsymbol{H_n}, E_n\}$
$\Delta\sigma_{UT}$	$\Im\{H_p, E_p\}$	ℑ{ <b>H</b> <sub>n</sub> }

e.g. (in experiment) 
$$\Delta \sigma_{LU} = \frac{1}{Pol.} \times \frac{N^+ - N^-}{N^+ + N^-}$$

Different contributions from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  for the different nucleons

**DVCS with an unpolarized deuterium target :** 

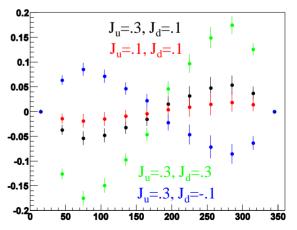
- Scattering off neutron (nDVCS): GPD E
  - Determination of Ji sum rule
    - Contribution of orbital angular momentum of quarks to the nucleon spin

$$\frac{1}{2}\int_{-1}^{1} x dx (H(x,\xi,t=0) + E(x,\xi,t=0)) = J = \frac{1}{2}\Delta\Sigma + \Delta L$$

- Scattering off proton (pDVCS): GPD H
  - Quantify medium effects
    - Essential for the extraction of BSA of a "free" neutron (deconvoluting medium effect via comparison with DVCS on hydrogen target)
- The BSA for nDVCS:
  - is complementary to the TSA for pDVCS on transverse target, aiming at E
  - depends strongly on the kinematics  $\rightarrow$  wide coverage needed
  - is smaller than for pDVCS → more beam time needed to achieve reasonable statistics

Observable	Proton	Neutron
$\Delta \sigma_{LU}$	$\Im \{ \boldsymbol{H_p}, \widetilde{H}_p, E_p \}$	$\Im \{H_n, \widetilde{H}_n, \boldsymbol{E_n}\}$
$\Delta \sigma_{UL}$	$\Im\{H_p, \widetilde{H}_p\}$	$\Im\{\boldsymbol{H_n}, \boldsymbol{E_n}\}$
$\Delta\sigma_{LL}$	$\Re\{H_p, \widetilde{H}_p\}$	$\Re\{\boldsymbol{H_n}, E_n\}$
$\Delta\sigma_{UT}$	$\Im\{H_p, E_p\}$	ℑ{ <i>H</i> <sub>n</sub> }

Model predictions (VGG) for different values of quarks' angular momentum

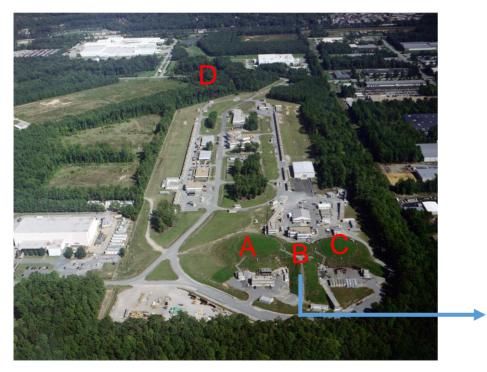


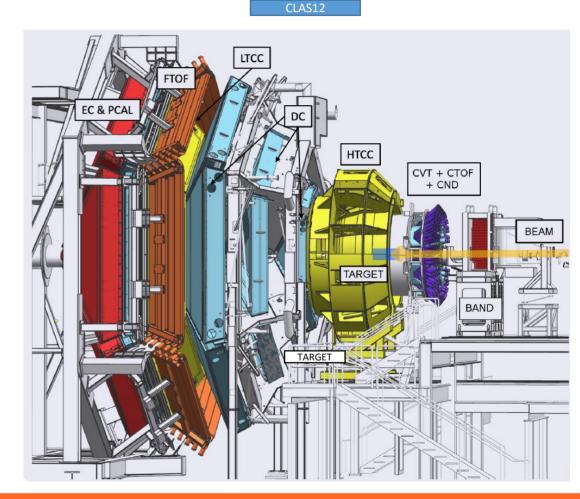
Different contributions from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  for the different nucleons

## The CEBAF and CLAS at Jefferson Laboratory

Continuos Electron Beam Accelerator Facility

- Up to 12 GeV electrons
- Two anti-parallel linacs, with recirculating arcs on both ends
- 4 experimental halls





### CLAS12: DVCS off proton G. Christiaens, M. Defurne, D. Sokhan

Phys. Rev. Lett. 130 (21) 211902 (2023)

- A 10.6 GeV electron beam
  - With an average polarization of 86%
  - Scattering off an unpolarized LH2 target of 5 cm length

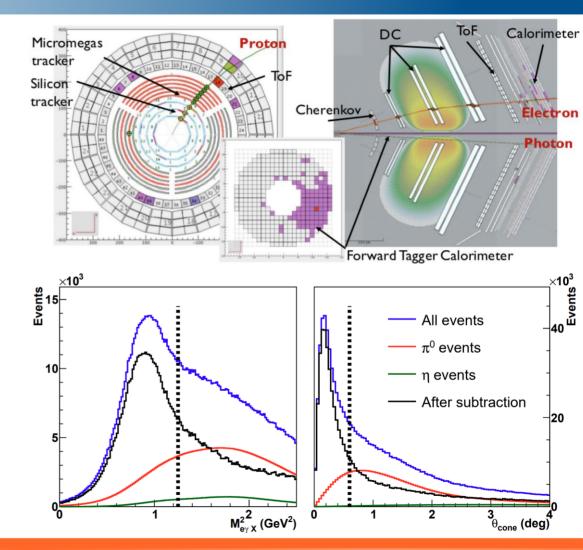
The exclusivity of the event is insured by:

Electron detection: Cerenkov detector, drift chambers and electromagnetic calorimeter

Photon detection: sampling calorimeter or a small PbWO4calorimeter close to the beamline

Proton detection: Silicon and Micromegas detector

- Exclusivity is enforced by cutting on 5 variables:
  - The missing mass  $ep \rightarrow e\gamma pX$
  - The missing mass  $ep \rightarrow e\gamma X$
  - The missing energy
  - The missing transverse momentum
  - The cone angle (angle between detected photon and expected photon assuming exclusivity)

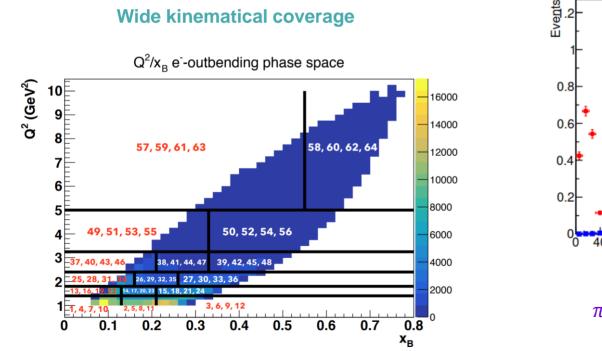


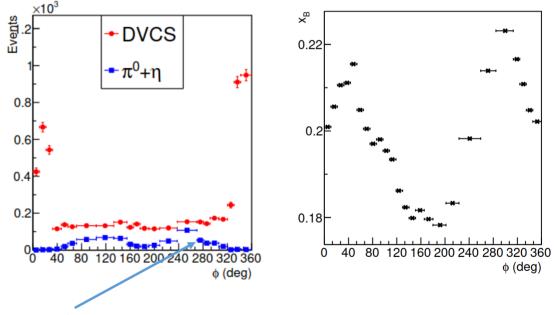


- For each  $Q^2/x_b$ , 4 bins in t are defined
  - 64  $(Q^2, x_b, t)$  kinematical bins
- $\Phi$ : adaptative binning to accommodate for the steep dependence of the cross section.

#### $(Q^2, x_b, t)$ kinematics are $\Phi$ dependent

Binning chosen to accommodate for this variation





 $\pi^0/\eta$  background subtraction is insured using toy MC

- Deriving the mean and standard deviation of a 100 ANN-predictions
  produced by a global fit (PARTONS)
  - The new data are shown to be in good agreement
- Comparisons with KM15 and VGG/GK models

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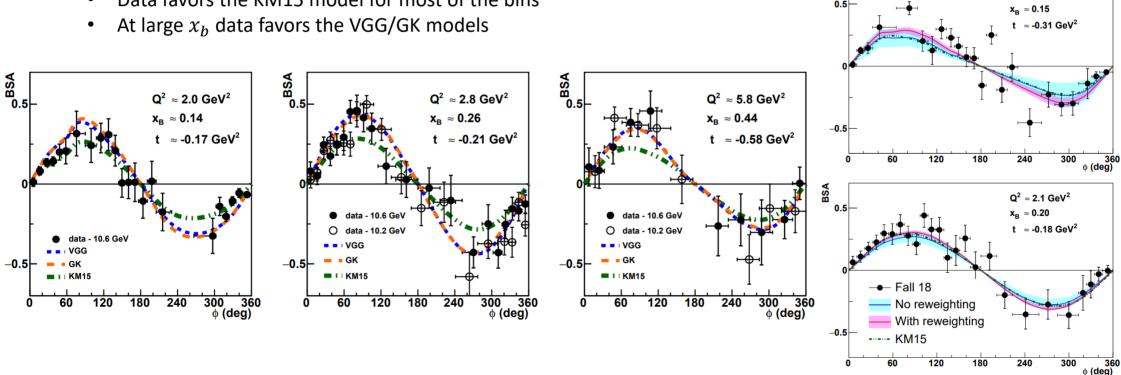
Data favors the KM15 model for most of the bins

H. Moutarde, P. Sznajder, and J. Wagner, EPJC 79, 614 (2019)

Kumericki, Kresimir and M uller, Dieter, EPJ Web of Conferences 112, 01012 (2016). S. V. Goloskokov and P. Kroll, EPJC 65, 10.1140 (2009)

M. Vanderhaeghen, P. A. Guichon, and M. Guidal, Phys.Rev. D60, 094017 (1999)

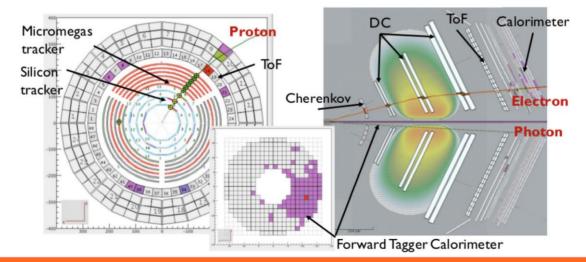
3SA



 $Q^2 \approx 1.6 \text{ GeV}^2$ 

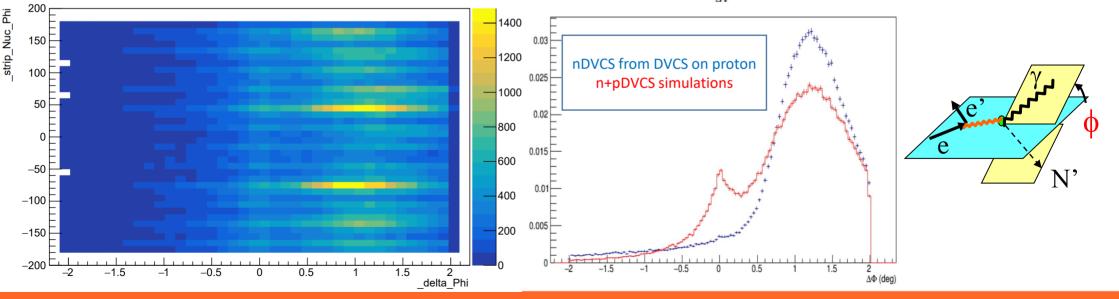


- A 10.6/10.4/10.2 GeV electron beam
  - With an average polarization of 86%
  - Scattering off an unpolarized Liquid Deuterium target of 5 cm length
- The exclusivity of the event is insured by:
  - Electron detection: Cerenkov detector, drift chambers and electromagnetic calorimeter
  - Photon detection: sampling calorimeter or a small PbWO4-calorimeter close to the beamline
  - Proton detection: Silicon and Micromegas detector OR Neutron detection: Central Neutron Detector
- For Neutron Detection:
  - Machine Learning techniques are applied to improve the Identification and reduce charged particle contamination



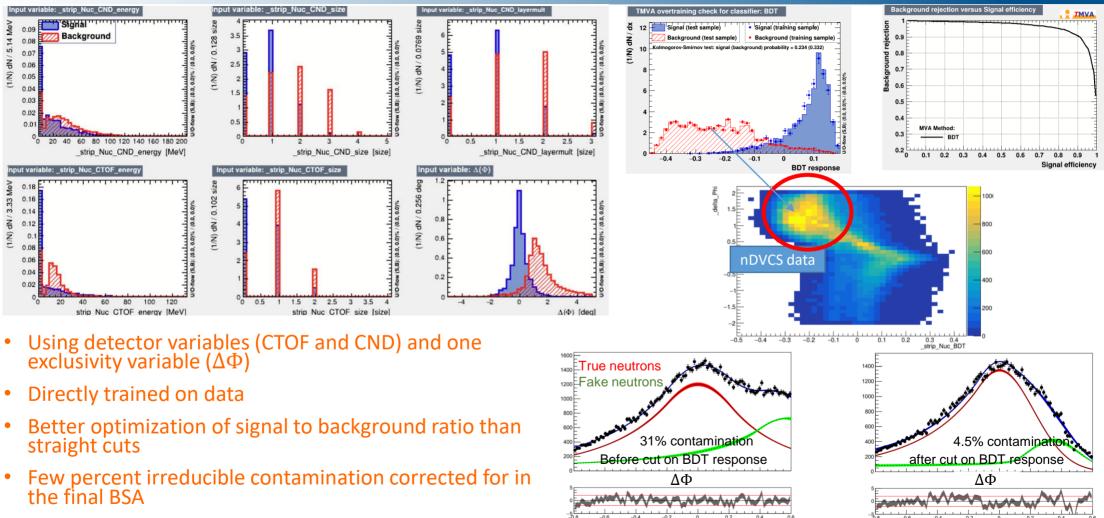


- The tracking of the CVT is neither 100% efficient nor uniform
- In the dead regions of the CVT protons have no associated track and thus can be misidentified as neutrons
- Protons roughly account for more than >40% contamination in the "nDVCS" signal sample Current approach, based on Machine Learning & Multi-Variate Algorithms:
  - We reconstruct nDVCS from DVCS experiment on proton requiring neutron PID : selected neutron are misidentified protons
  - We use this sample to determine the characteristics of fake neutrons in low- and high-level reconstructed variables
  - Based on those characteristics we subtract the fake neutrons contamination from nDVCS
  - As a « signal » sample in the training of the ML we use  $ep \rightarrow en\pi^+$  events from DVCS experiment on proton



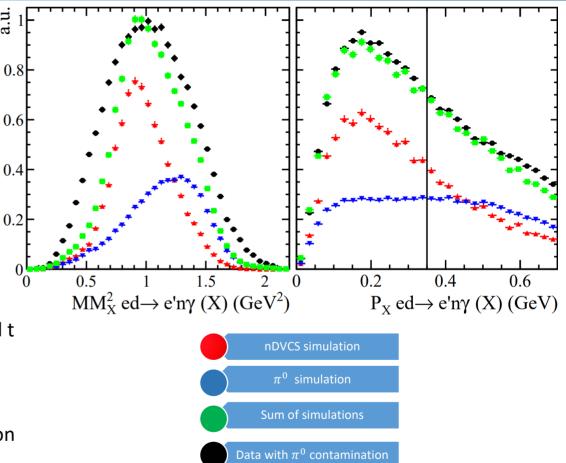


### Improving the neutron selection with ML techniques



## CLAS12: DVCS with an unpolarized deuterium target

- The nDVCS (pDVCS) final state is selected with the following diagonal selected with the following diagonal di diagonal diagonal diagonal diagonal diagonal diagonal diagon
  - Missing mass
    - ed  $\rightarrow$  eN  $\gamma$  X
    - $e N \rightarrow e N \gamma X$
    - $e N \rightarrow e N X$
  - Missing momentum
    - $e d \rightarrow e N \gamma X$
  - ΔΦ, Δt, θ(γ,X)
    - Difference between two ways of calculating  $\Phi$  and t
    - Cone angle between measured and reconstructed photon
- Exclusivity selection is optimized with a 4-D  $\chi^2$ -like distribution including  $\Delta \Phi$ ,  $\Delta t$ ,  $\theta(\gamma, X)$  and missing mass e N  $\rightarrow$  e N X



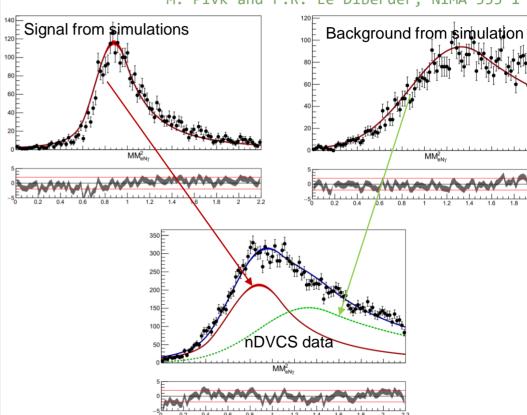
#### $\pi^0$ background contamination is estimated using simulations



## $\pi^0$ background subtraction

- Subtraction using simulations of the background channel
  - Monte Carlo simulations:
    - GPD-based event generator for DVCS/pi0 on deuterium
    - DVCS amplitude calculated according to the BKM formalism
    - Fermi-motion distribution evaluated according to Paris potential
- 1. Estimate the ratio of partially reconstructed eN  $\pi^0(1 \text{ photon})$  decay to fully reconstructed eN  $\pi^0$  decays in MC
- 2. This is done for each kinematic bin to minimize MC model dependence
- 3. Multiply this ratio by the number of reconstructed eN  $\pi^0$  in data to get the number of eN  $\pi^0(1 \text{ photon})$  in data
- 4. Subtract this number from DVCS reconstructed decays in data per each kinematical bin

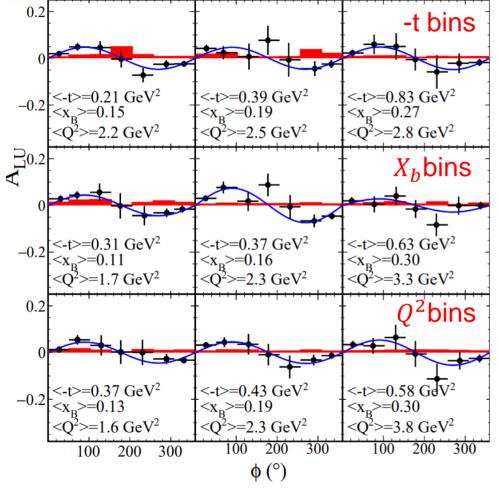
Simulations:  $R = \frac{N(eN\pi_{1\gamma}^{0})}{N(eN\pi^{0})}$ Data:  $N(eN\pi_{1\gamma}^{0}) = R * N(eN\pi^{0})$  $N(DVCS) = N(DVCS_{recon}) - N(eN\pi_{1\gamma}^{0})$   $\pi^0$  background subtraction is also performed by statistical unfolding of contribution to the missing mass spectrum M. Pivk and F.R. Le Diberder, NIMA 555 1 2005

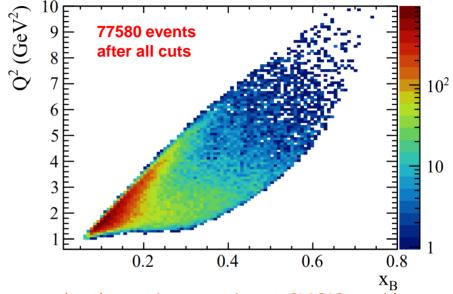


The difference between the estimations of background from both methods is considered as a systematic

### CLAS12: nDVCS with an unpolarized deuterium target

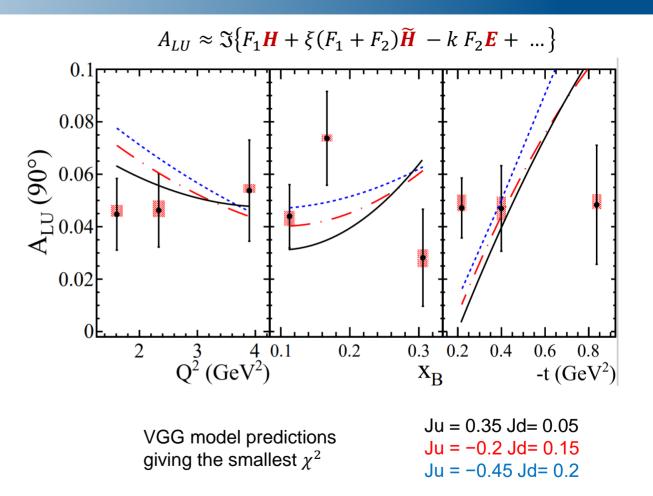
### First-time measurement of nDVCS with detection of the active neutron





- Compared to the previous experiment, CLAS12 provides :
  - The possibility to scan the BSA of nDVCS on a wide phase space
  - The possibility to reach the high  $Q^2$  high  $x_b$  region of the phase space
  - Exclusive measurement with the detection of the active neutron
- Hall A @ JLAB: one measured kinematical point at  $Q^2$ =1.9 GeV<sup>2</sup> and x<sub>B</sub>=0.36

- Observation of positive BSA for nDVCS
- Systematic errors include:
  - Error due to beam polarization
  - Error due to selection cuts
  - Error due to residual proton contamination
  - Error due to merging of data sets with different energies
- Statistics is expected to double with remaining schedualed beam time and improvements with reconstruction software

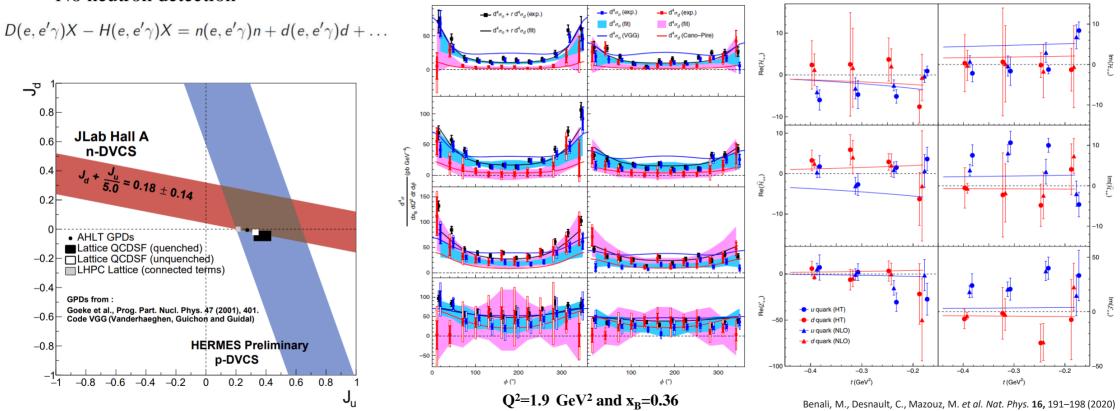


M. Vanderhaeghen, P.A.M. Guichon, and M. Guidal, PRD 60, 094017 (1999)

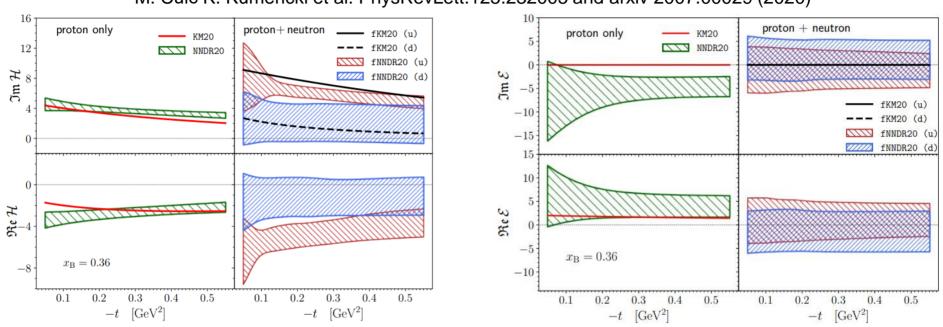


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- Previous pioneering measurement of nDVCS (Jlab Hall A @ 6 GeV) ٠
  - Beam-energy « Rosenbluth » separation of nDVCS CS using an LD2 target and two different beam energies
  - First observation of non-zero nDVCS CS
- No neutron detection •



+data from: Mazouz, M. et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 242501 (2007).

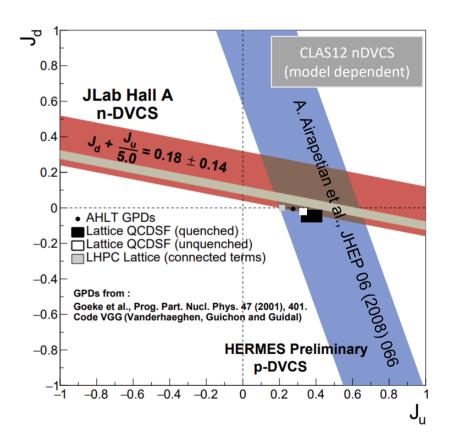


#### M. Čuić K. Kumericki et al. PhysRevLett.125.232005 and arxiv 2007.00029 (2020)

- Proton and neutron data from Jlab (clas6 and Hall A)
  - Up and down contributions to CFF H separated
- CFF E flavors are not separated, a significant sign ambiguity remains



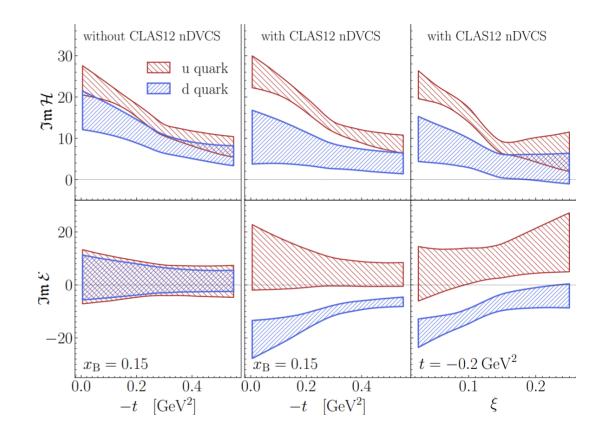
- Model-dependant extraction of  $J_u$  and  $J_d$ 
  - Use VGG model (PRD 60, 094017 (1999)) and generate a set of values for  $\rm J_u$  and  $\rm J_d$
  - Look for the 1 standard deviation error ellipse: defined as  $\chi^2 \chi^2_{min} = 1$
- Compatible with limits set before by pioneering Hall A measurement
- Compatible with Lattice QCD predictions
- Shortcomings:
  - none of the considered sets of  ${\rm J}_{\rm u}$  and  ${\rm J}_{\rm d}$  reproduce correctly the distributions
  - VGG has problems in reproducing proton data
- Closest-to-truth model-dependent representation of data.





- Global fits of CFF using neural networks (model-independent)
  - K. Kumericki et al., JHEP 07, 073531 (2011);
    M. Cuic, K. Kumericki, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 533 125, 232005 (2020)).
- Data used:
  - CLAS6 and HERMES pDVCS observables
  - CLAS12 pDVCS BSA and nDVCS BSA
- Same extraction method applied to nDVCS Hall-A data, only separation for ImH

Clear quark-flavor separation of both ImH and ImE thanks to CLAS12 nDVCS data allow the

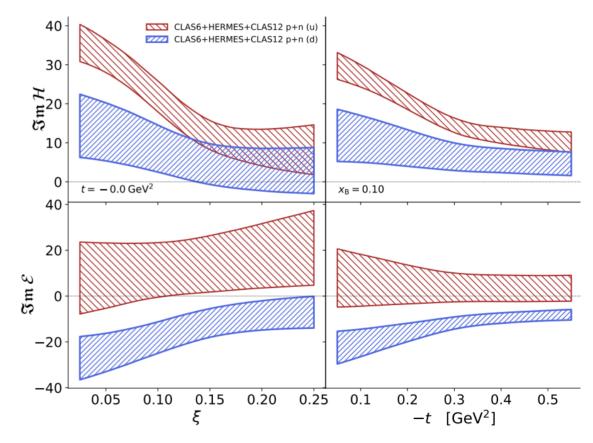




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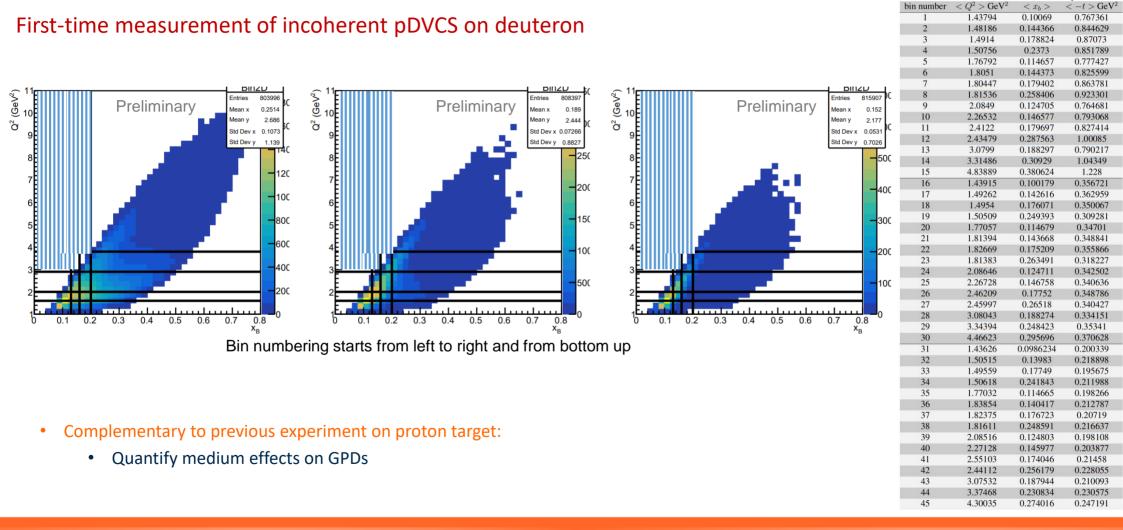
Clear quark-flavor separation of both ImH and ImE thanks to CLAS12 nDVCS data allow the

#### Results extrapolated to t=0 GeV<sup>2</sup>

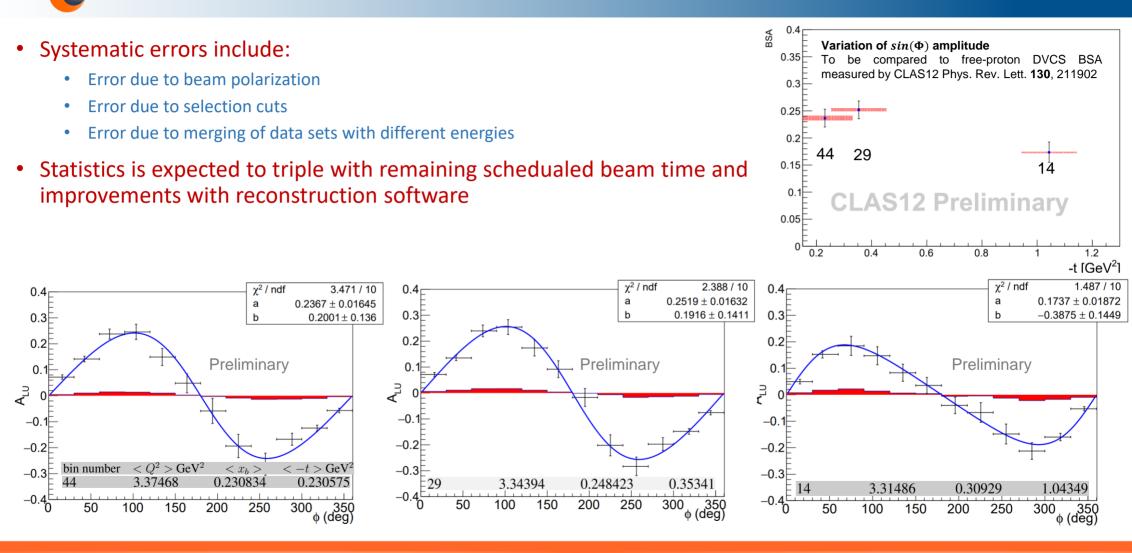




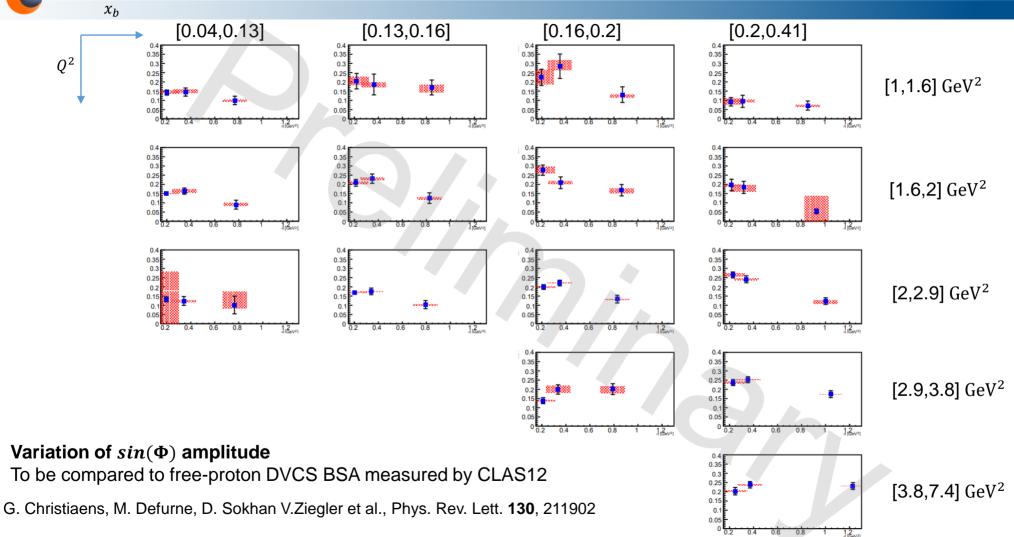
### CLAS12: pDVCS with an unpolarized deuterium target



## CLAS12: pDVCS with an unpolarized deuterium target



### CLAS12: pDVCS with an unpolarized deuterium target





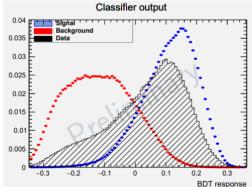
- Reanalysis of proton DVCS data (on hydrogen) is under review by the collaboration
  - Use of Machine Learning to optimize process selection

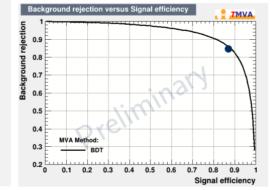
#### $ep \rightarrow e\gamma p$ : **BDT**

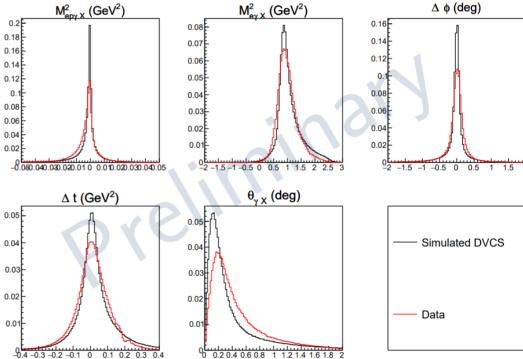
To optimize the DVCS event selection, a Boosted Decision Tree (BDT) is trained to classify the events.

- $\Box$  Discriminating variables:  $\{M_{ep\gamma}^2, M_{e\gamma}^2, \Delta\phi, \Delta t, \theta_{\gamma X}\}.$
- □ Simulated DVCS as signal.

 $\hfill\square$  Simulated  $\pi^0$  events, reconstructed as DVCS, as background.







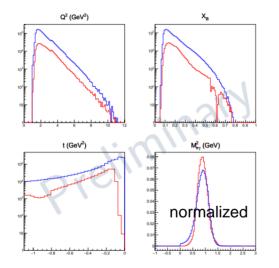
(a) BDT output distributions for different datasets.

# (b) ROC curve of the model and applied cut.



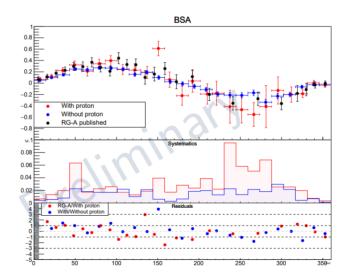
- Reanalysis of proton DVCS data (on hydrogen) is under review by the collaboration
  - Use of Machine Learning to optimize process selection
  - Ignore proton information to increase phase-space

There is an important increase on statistics



**Figure:** Kinematic variables for the analysis with proton (red) and without proton (blue) information.

**Chosen bin\*:**  $1.8 < Q^2 (\text{GeV}^2) < 2.4, \ 0.16 < x_B < 0.26, \ -t (\text{GeV}^2) < 0.2$ 



#### We access a wider region in t.

- The analysis of absolute DVCS cross section on proton is advanced (Sangbaek Lee)
  - No release plots but analysis in advanced stage
- A parallel analysis of DVCS absolute cross section (ignoring proton detection) is just starting (J.S. Alvarado)
- Another nDVCS experiment on longitudinally polarized deuterium target was carried out in 2022 -2023 with CLAS12 (analysis by N. Pilleux)
- The second half of Run Group B will run with double luminosity following the CLAS12 high-lumi upgrade
- A transversely polarized target pDVCS experiment is foreseen for ~2028 with CLAS12
- The combination of all neutron and proton DVCS data will allow quark-flavor separation of all CFFs in the valence region
- The Ji's sum rule is the ultimate, ambitious goal of this program

Observable (target)	CFF sensitivity	Status
ITSA(p), IDSA(p)	$\Im\{H_p, \widetilde{H}_p\}, \Re\{H_p, \widetilde{H}_p\}$	Data taken
ITSA(n), IDSA(n)	$\Im\{H_n\}, \Re\{H_n\}$	Data taken
tTSA(p)	$\Im\{H_p\}, \Im\{E_p\},$	~2028

- Analysis ongoing: Deuteron DVCS
  - Phyisics observable to extract is Beam Spin Asymmetry (BSA)

$$\Delta \sigma_{LU} \sim \sin(\phi) \Im \left\{ \frac{2G_1 H_1 + (G_1 - \tau G_3)(H_1 - 2\tau H_3) + \frac{2}{3}\tau G_3 H_5}{2G_1^2 + (G_1 - 2\tau G_3)^2} \right\}$$

- Spin 1: 9 GPDs for each quark flavor
  - BSA of DVCS off deuterium is sensitive to 3 of them



### Summary

- GPDs are powerful tool to explore the structure of the nucleons and nuclei
  - Nucleon tomography, quark angular momentum, distribution of forces in the nucleon
- Exclusive reactions can provide important information on nucleon structure
  - DVCS via the extraction of GPDs
- CLAS12 offers a wide kinematical reach over which the GPDs dependence on different kinematical variables can be scanned
  - Data to add constraints on GPDs in unexplored regions of the phase space
  - Possibilities to measure new observables using different experimental configurations
    - Flavor separation of GPDs
- Promising results from incoherent DVCS on deuteron (n and p channels) from CLAS12 data
  - First BSA measurement from neutron-DVCS with tagged neutron
  - First measurement of BSA for proton-DVCS with deuterium target
    - To be compared to free-proton DVCS BSA measured by CLAS12

G. Christiaens, M. Defurne, D. Sokhan V.Ziegler et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 130 (21) 211902 (2023)

- The beam -spin asymmetry for nDVCS is a precious tool to constrain the GPD E and for quark -flavor separation of GPDs
- CLAS12 measured the BSA for nDVCS with detected neutron for the first time
- The first ~43% of the experiment ran in 2019 -2020 at Jlab
- A small but clear BSA was extracted
- Comparison with a model allows to put modeldependent constraints on J<sub>d</sub>
- The data, together with the proton DVCS data, allow the quark -flavor separation of ImH and ImE
- An article is ready for submission to PRL

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1	First Measurement of Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering on the Neutron with
2	Detection of the Active Neutron
3	A. Hobart, <sup>1</sup> S. Niccolai, <sup>1</sup> M. Čuić, <sup>2</sup> K. Kumerički, <sup>2</sup> P. Achenbach, <sup>3</sup> J.S. Alvarado, <sup>1</sup> W.R. Armstrong, <sup>4</sup> H. Atac, <sup>5</sup>
4	H. Avakian, <sup>3</sup> L. Baashen, <sup>6, *</sup> N.A. Baltzell, <sup>3</sup> L. Barion, <sup>7</sup> M. Bashkanov, <sup>8</sup> M. Battaglieri, <sup>3,9,†</sup> B. Benkel, <sup>10</sup>
5	F. Benmokhtar, <sup>11</sup> A. Bianconi, <sup>12,13</sup> A.S. Biselli, <sup>14</sup> S. Boiarinov, <sup>3</sup> M. Bondi, <sup>15</sup> W.A. Booth, <sup>8</sup> F. Bossù, <sup>16</sup>
6	KTh. Brinkmann, <sup>17</sup> W.J. Briscoe, <sup>18</sup> W.K. Brooks, <sup>19</sup> S. Bueltmann, <sup>20</sup> V.D. Burkert, <sup>3</sup> T. Cao, <sup>3</sup> R. Capobianco, <sup>21</sup>
7	D.S. Carman, <sup>3</sup> P. Chatagnon, <sup>3,1</sup> G. Ciullo, <sup>7,22</sup> P.L. Cole, <sup>23</sup> M. Contalbrigo, <sup>7</sup> A. D'Angelo, <sup>10,24</sup> N. Dashyan, <sup>25</sup>
8	R. De Vita, <sup>9,‡</sup> M. Defurne, <sup>16</sup> A. Deur, <sup>3</sup> S. Diehl, <sup>17,21</sup> C. Dilks, <sup>3,26</sup> C. Djalali, <sup>27</sup> R. Dupre, <sup>1</sup> H. Egiyan, <sup>3</sup>
9	A. El Alaoui, <sup>19</sup> L. El Fassi, <sup>28</sup> L. Elouadrhiri, <sup>29</sup> S. Fegan, <sup>8</sup> A. Filippi, <sup>30</sup> C. Fogler, <sup>20</sup> K. Gates, <sup>31</sup> G. Gavalian, <sup>3, 32</sup>
10	G.P. Gilfoyle, <sup>33</sup> D. Glazier, <sup>31</sup> R.W. Gothe, <sup>34</sup> Y. Gotra, <sup>3</sup> M. Guidal, <sup>1</sup> K. Hafidi, <sup>4</sup> H. Hakobyan, <sup>19</sup> M. Hattawy, <sup>20</sup>
11	F. Hauenstein, <sup>3,20</sup> D. Heddle, <sup>29,3</sup> M. Holtrop, <sup>32</sup> Y. Ilieva, <sup>34,18</sup> D.G. Ireland, <sup>31</sup> E.L. Isupov, <sup>35</sup> H. Jiang, <sup>31</sup>
12	H.S. Jo, <sup>36</sup> K. Joo, <sup>21</sup> T. Kageya, <sup>3</sup> A. Kim, <sup>21</sup> W. Kim, <sup>36</sup> V. Klimenko, <sup>21</sup> A. Kripko, <sup>17</sup> V. Kubarovsky, <sup>3,37</sup>
13	S.E. Kuhn, <sup>20</sup> L. Lanza, <sup>10,24</sup> M. Leali, <sup>12,13</sup> S. Lee, <sup>4,38</sup> P. Lenisa, <sup>7,22</sup> X. Li, <sup>38</sup> I.J.D. MacGregor, <sup>31</sup> D. Marchand, <sup>1</sup>
14	V. Mascagna, <sup>12, 39, 13</sup> B. McKinnon, <sup>31</sup> Z.E. Meziani, <sup>4</sup> S. Migliorati, <sup>12, 13</sup> R.G. Milner, <sup>38</sup> T. Mineeva, <sup>19</sup> M. Mirazita, <sup>40</sup>
15	V. Mokeev, <sup>3,35</sup> C. Muñoz Camacho, <sup>1</sup> P. Nadel-Turonski, <sup>3</sup> P. Naidoo, <sup>31</sup> K. Neupane, <sup>34</sup> G. Niculescu, <sup>41</sup>
16	M. Osipenko, <sup>9</sup> P. Pandey, <sup>38</sup> M. Paolone, <sup>42,5</sup> L.L. Pappalardo, <sup>7,22</sup> R. Paremuzyan, <sup>3,32</sup> E. Pasyuk, <sup>3</sup> S.J. Paul, <sup>43</sup>
17	W. Phelps, <sup>29</sup> N. Pilleux, <sup>1</sup> M. Pokhrel, <sup>20</sup> S. Polcher Rafael, <sup>16</sup> J. Poudel, <sup>3</sup> J.W. Price, <sup>44</sup> Y. Prok, <sup>20</sup> T. Reed, <sup>6</sup>
18	J. Richards, <sup>21</sup> M. Ripani, <sup>9</sup> J. Ritman, <sup>45,46</sup> P. Rossi, <sup>3,40</sup> A.A. Golubenko, <sup>35</sup> C. Salgado, <sup>47</sup> S. Schadmand, <sup>45,46</sup>
19	A. Schmidt, <sup>18</sup> Marshall B.C. Scott, <sup>18</sup> E.M. Seroka, <sup>18</sup> Y.G. Sharabian, <sup>3</sup> E.V. Shirokov, <sup>35</sup> U. Shrestha, <sup>21,27</sup>
20	N. Sparveris, <sup>5</sup> M. Spreafico, <sup>9</sup> S. Stepanyan, <sup>3</sup> I.I. Strakovsky, <sup>18</sup> S. Strauch, <sup>34, 18</sup> J.A. Tan, <sup>36</sup> N. Trotta, <sup>21</sup> R. Tyson, <sup>3</sup>
21	M. Ungaro, <sup>3</sup> S. Vallarino, <sup>9</sup> L. Venturelli, <sup>12, 13</sup> V. Tommaso, <sup>9</sup> H. Voskanyan, <sup>25</sup> E. Voutier, <sup>1</sup> D.P Watts, <sup>8</sup>
22	X. Wei, <sup>3</sup> R. Williams, <sup>8</sup> M.H. Wood, <sup>48,34</sup> L. Xu, <sup>1</sup> N. Zachariou, <sup>8</sup> J. Zhang, <sup>49</sup> Z.W. Zhao, <sup>26</sup> and M. Zurek <sup>4</sup>
23	(The CLAS Collaboration)