

# $\pi^- / \pi^+$ Separated Response Function Ratios in Forward, Exclusive Pion Electroproduction



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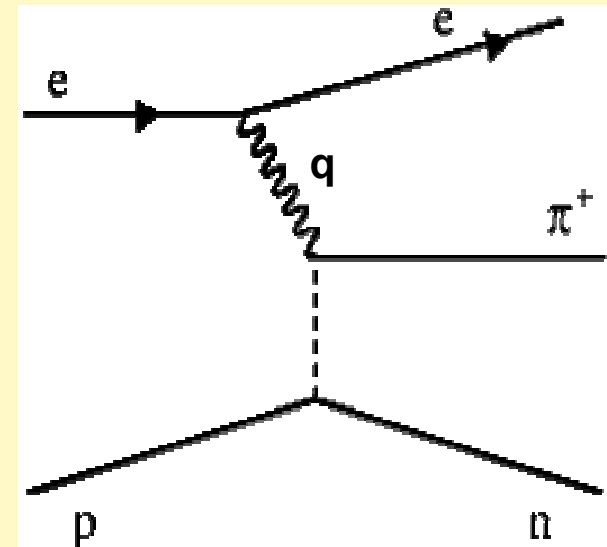
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# Deep Exclusive Meson Production

- Single  $\pi^+$  produced from proton, or  $\pi^-$  from neutron at high momentum transfer.
- Probes the relevant degrees of freedom within nucleon at different distance scales.
- Use the virtual photon's longitudinal and transverse polarizations to act as a filter on the details of the probing interaction.



$$R_T = \frac{\gamma_T^* n \rightarrow \pi^- p}{\gamma_T^* p \rightarrow \pi^+ n} \xrightarrow{\text{high } -t} \frac{2Q_d^2}{2Q_u^2} = \frac{(-1/3)^2}{(+2/3)^2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

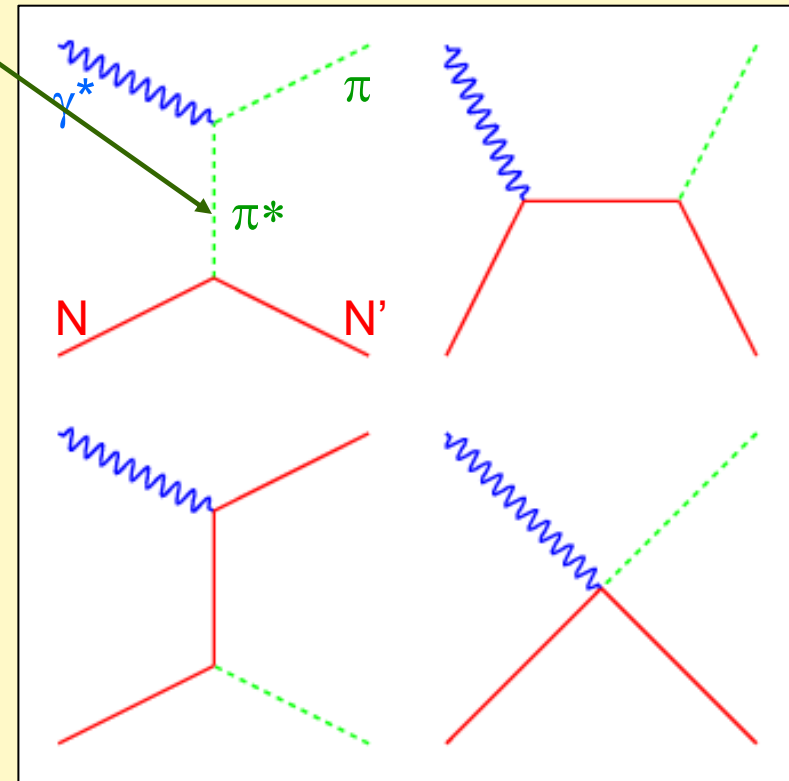
A. Nachtmann, Nucl. Phys. B 115 (1976) 61

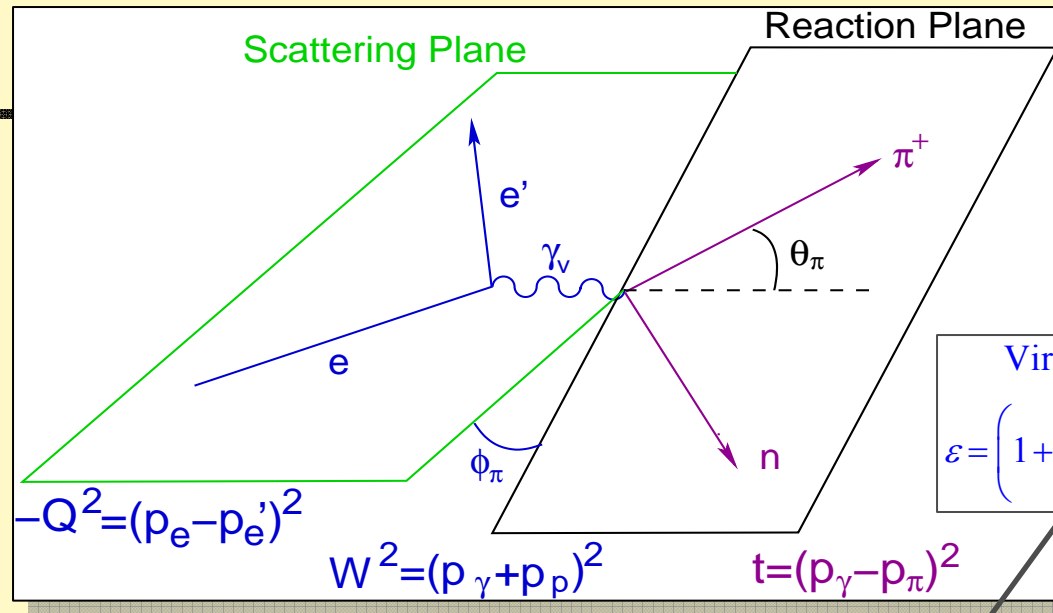
# At low $-t$ , Meson-Nucleon Degrees of Freedom

- $\pi^+$   $t$ -channel diagram is purely isovector (G-parity conservation).

$$R_L = \frac{\sigma_L[n(e, e' \pi^-) p]}{\sigma_L[p(e, e' \pi^+) n]} = \frac{|A_V - A_S|^2}{|A_V + A_S|^2}$$

- A significant deviation of  $R_L$  from unity would indicate the presence of Isoscalar backgrounds (such as  $b_1(1235)$  contributions to  $t$ -channel).
- Relevant for the extraction of the pion form factor from  $p(e, e' \pi^+) n$  data, which uses a model including some isoscalar background.





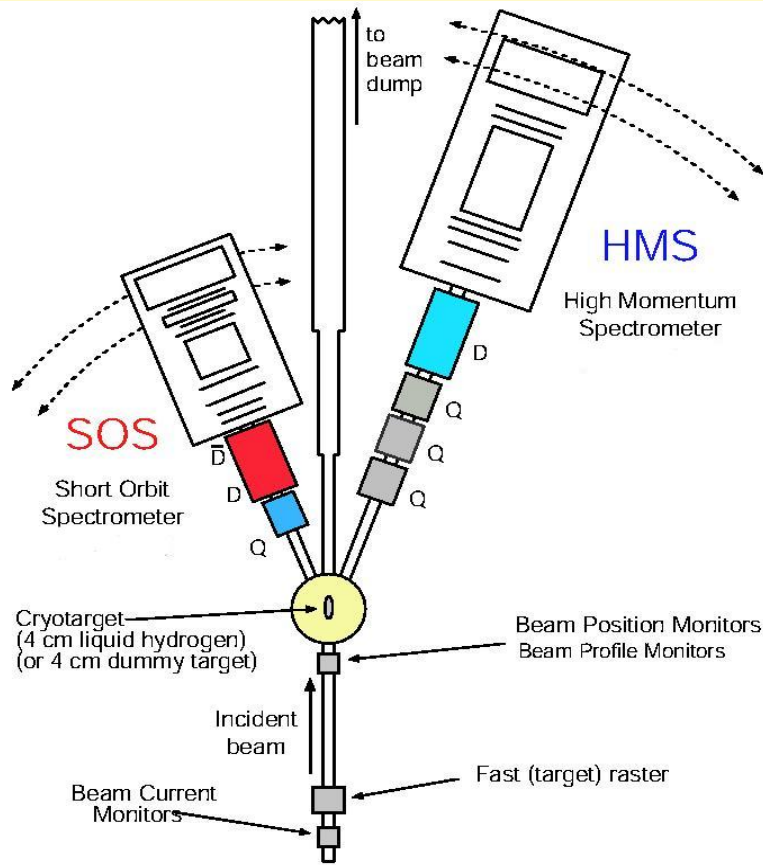
Virtual-photon polarization:

$$\varepsilon = \left( 1 + 2 \frac{(E_e - E_{e'})^2 + Q^2}{Q^2} \tan^2 \frac{\theta_{e'}}{2} \right)^{-1}$$

$$2\pi \frac{d\sigma}{dt d\phi} = \varepsilon \frac{d\sigma_L}{dt} + \frac{d\sigma_T}{dt} + \sqrt{2\varepsilon(\varepsilon+1)} \frac{d\sigma_{LT}}{dt} \cos \phi + \varepsilon \frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{dt} \cos 2\phi$$

- At small  $-t$ ,  $\sigma_L$  has maximum contribution from the  $\pi$  pole.
  - $t = (p_{\text{target}} - p_{\text{recoil}})^2$  used in this analysis.
  - not necessarily equivalent to  $(p_\gamma - p_\pi)^2$  due to Fermi momentum and radiation.
- Only three of  $Q^2$ ,  $W$ ,  $t$ ,  $\theta_\pi$  are independent.
  - Vary  $\theta_\pi$  to measure  $t$  dependence.
  - Since non-parallel data needed, LT and TT must also be determined.

# Experimental Setup



## Hall C spectrometers:

- Coincidence measurement.
- SOS detects  $e^-$ .
- HMS detects  $\pi^+$  and  $\pi^-$ .

## Targets:

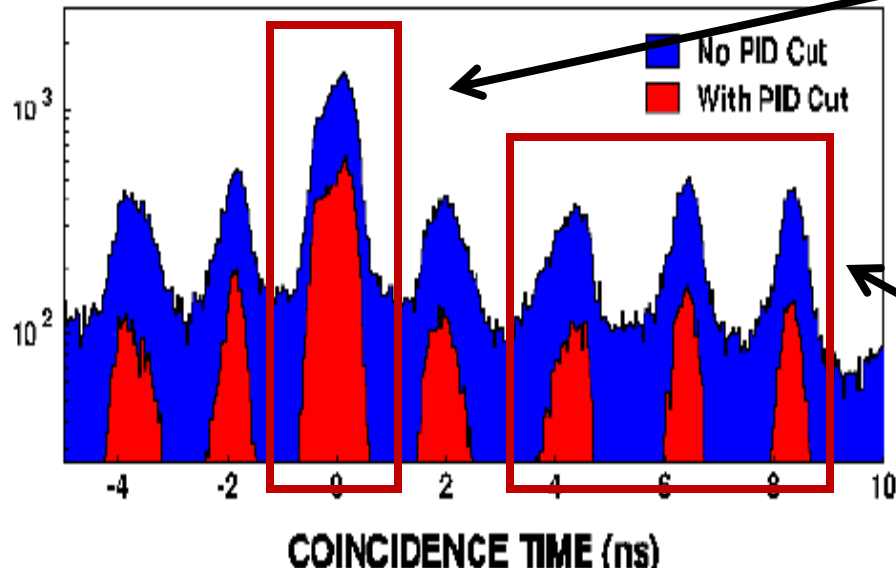
- Liquid 4-cm H/D cells.
- Al target for empty cell measurement.
- $^{12}\text{C}$  solid targets for optics calibration.



| Exp        | Q2<br>(GeV/c) <sup>2</sup> | W<br>(GeV) | t <sub>min</sub>  <br>(GeV/c) <sup>2</sup> | E <sub>e</sub><br>(GeV) |
|------------|----------------------------|------------|--|-------------------------|
| F $\pi$ -1 | 0.6-1.6                    | 1.95       | 0.03-0.150                                 | 2.445-4.045             |
| F $\pi$ -2 | 1.6, 2.5                   | 2.22       | 0.093, 0.189                               | 3.779-5.246             |

# $^2\text{H}(e, e'\pi^\pm)\text{NN}$ Event selection

**Electron-pion coincidences**



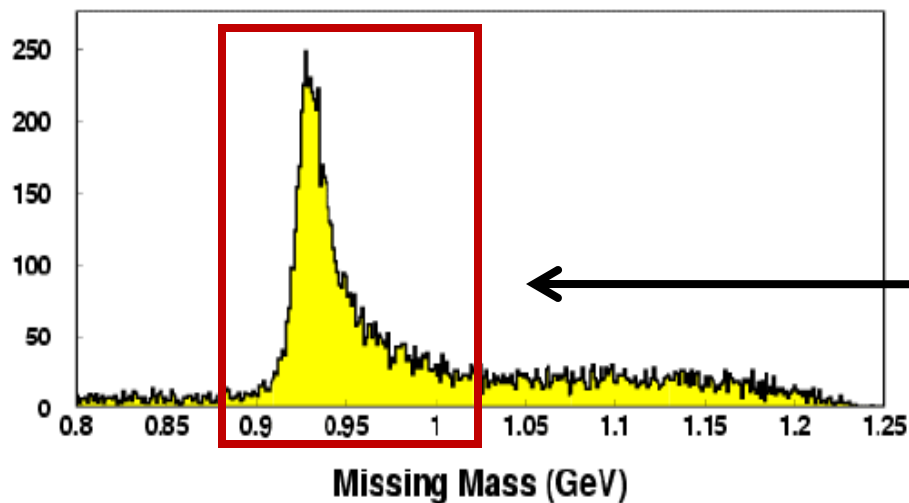
Pions detected in HMS – Cerenkov & Coincidence time for PID  
Coincidence time resolution  $\sim 200\text{--}230$  ps.  
Cut value  $\pm 1$  ns.

**Random coincidences**

Electrons detected in SOS – Cerenkov & Lead Glass Calorimeter

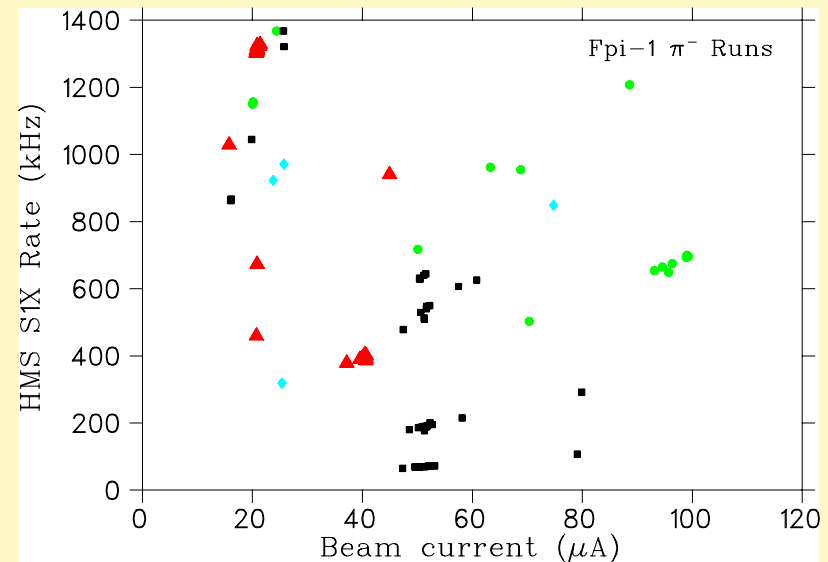
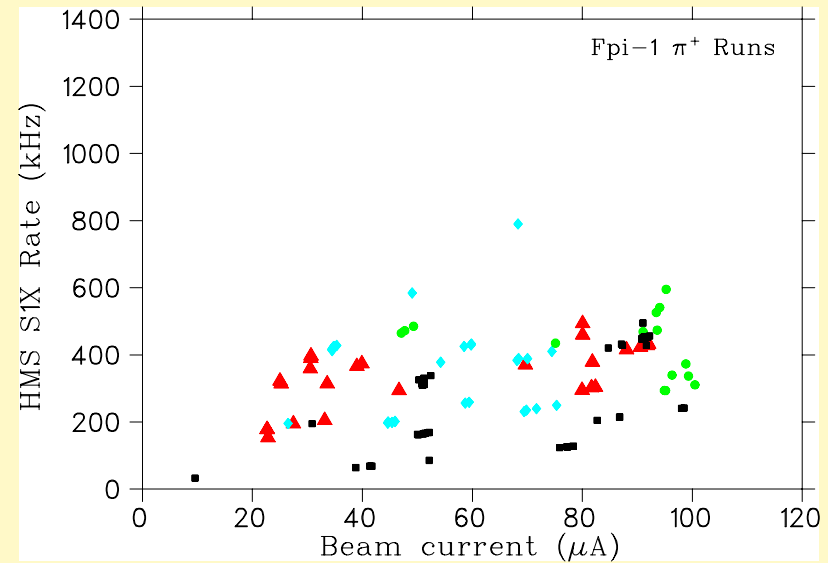
Exclusivity assured via  $0.875 < \text{MM} < 1.03$  GeV cut

- After PID & MM cuts, almost no random coincidences remain.



# Corrections to $\pi^-$ , $\pi^+$ Data

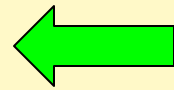
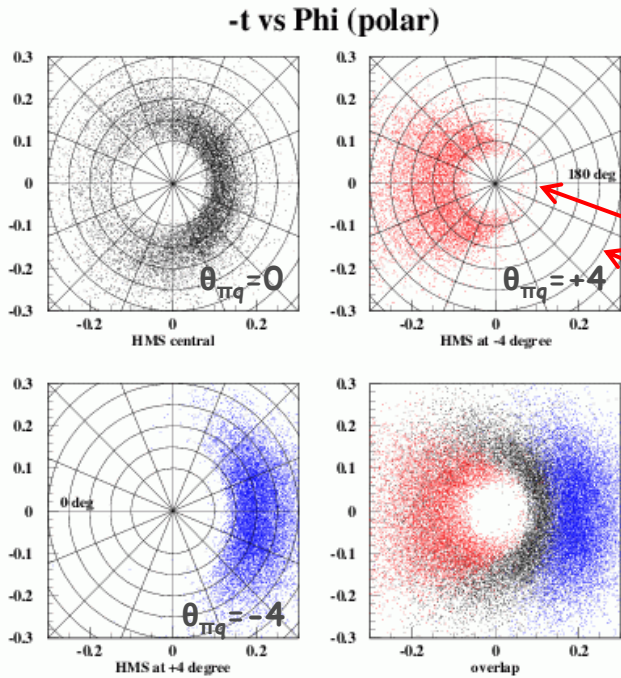
- **Negative polarity of HMS field for  ${}^2\text{H}(e,e'\pi^-)pp$  means these runs have high electron rates not shared by  ${}^2\text{H}(e,e'\pi^+)nn$  runs.**
- **Understanding rate dependent corrections very important with respect to final  $\pi^-/\pi^+$  ratios.**
  - Better high rate HMS tracking algorithm.
  - More accurate high rate tracking efficiencies (91-98%).
  - HMS Cerenkov  $\pi^-$  blocking correction (13%/MHz  $e^-$ ).
  - High current  ${}^2\text{H}$  target boiling correction (7%/100 $\mu\text{A}$ ).



$Q^2=0.60, 0.75, 1.0, 1.6 \text{ GeV}^2$



# Kinematic Coverage

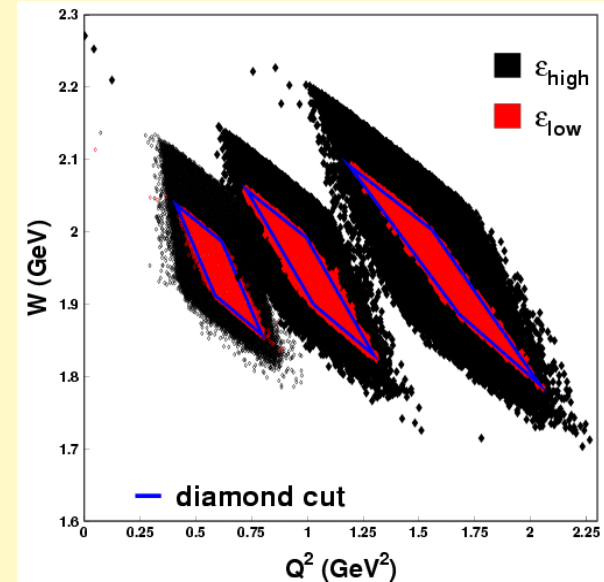
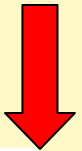


Measure  $\sigma_{TT}$  and  $\sigma_{LT}$  by taking data at three  $\pi^+$  angles:  $\theta_{\pi^+} = 0^\circ, +4^\circ, -4^\circ$ .

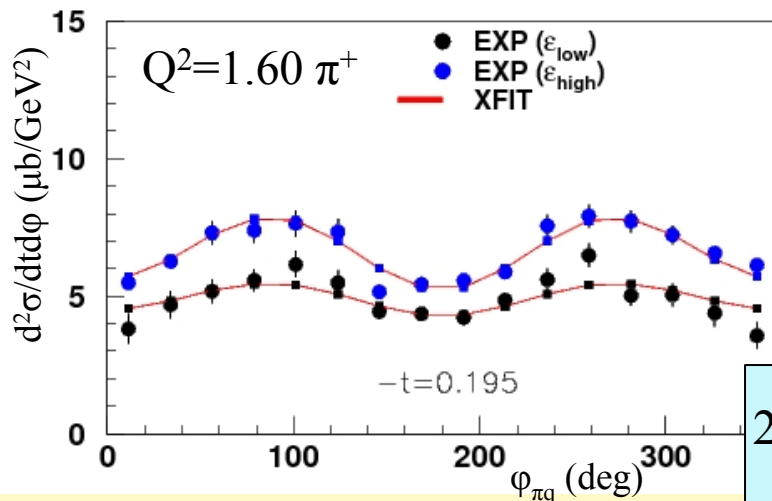
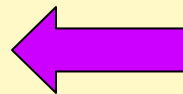
$-t = 0.1$

$-t = 0.3$

Diamond cuts define common  $(W, Q^2)$  coverage at both  $\epsilon$ .



Extract  $\sigma_L$  by simultaneous fit of L, T, LT, TT



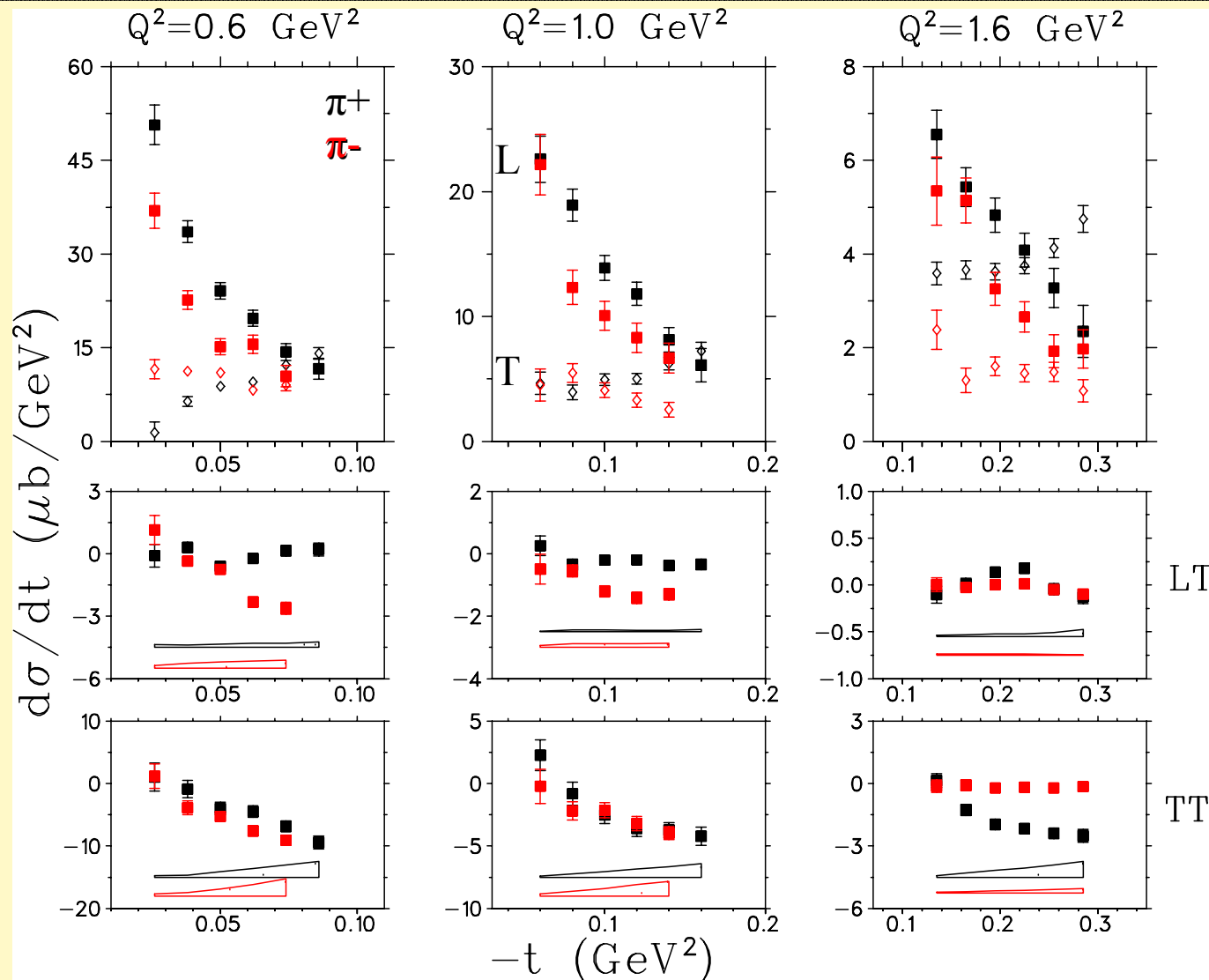
$$2\pi \frac{d\sigma}{dt d\phi} = \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_L}{dt} + \frac{d\sigma_T}{dt} + \sqrt{2\epsilon(\epsilon+1)} \frac{d\sigma_{LT}}{dt} \cos\phi + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{dt} \cos 2\phi$$

# Magnetic Spectrometer Calibrations

- Over-constrained  $p(e, e'p)$  reaction and elastic  $e+^{12}\text{C}$  reactions used to calibrate spectrometer acceptances, momenta, offsets, etc.
- Spectrometers well-understood after careful comparison with MC simulations.
  - Beam energy and spectrometer momenta determined to  $<0.1\%$ .
  - Spectrometer angles to  $<1$  mrad.
- Agreement with published  $p+e$  elastics cross sections  $<2\%$ .

| Source   | Pt-Pt        | $\epsilon$ uncorr.<br>t corr,        | Scale                                |
|--|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Beam and Spectrometer Kinematic Offsets            | 0.2%         | 0.8-1.1%                             |                                      |
| HMS $\beta$ -cut corrections                       | 0.4%         |                                      |                                      |
| Particle ID  |              | 0.2%                                 |                                      |
| Pion Absorption Correction                         |              |                                      | 1.0%                                 |
| Pion Decay Correction                              | 0.03%        |                                      | 1.0%                                 |
| HMS Tracking                                       |              | 0.4% ( $\pi^+$ )<br>1.3% ( $\pi^-$ ) | 1.0% ( $\pi^+$ )<br>1.0% ( $\pi^-$ ) |
| SOS Tracking                                       |              | 0.2%                                 | 0.5%                                 |
| Integrated Beam Charge                             | 0.3%         |                                      | 0.5%                                 |
| Target Thickness                                   |              | 0.3%                                 | 1.0%                                 |
| CPU and Trigger Dead time                          |              | 0.3%                                 |                                      |
| HMS Cerenkov Veto Correction ( $\pi^-$ )           | 0.7%         |                                      | 2.0%                                 |
| Missing Mass Cut                                   | 0.8%         |                                      | 1.3%                                 |
| Spectrometer Acceptance                            | 1.0%         | 0.6%                                 | 1.0%                                 |
| MC Model Dependence (L,T)                          | 0.4%         | 0.7-3.5%                             | 0.3-2.0%                             |
| Radiative Corrections                              |              | 0.4%                                 | 2.0%                                 |
| <b>TOTAL (<math>\pi^+</math>)</b>                  | <b>1.4%</b>  | <b>1.4-3.6%</b>                      | <b>3.1-3.5%</b>                      |
| <b>TOTAL (<math>\pi^-</math>)</b>                  | <b>1.6%</b>  | <b>2.3-4.4%</b>                      | <b>3.7-4.2%</b>                      |
| <b>Typical Statistical Uncertainty (per t-bin)</b> | <b>5-10%</b> |                                      |                                      |

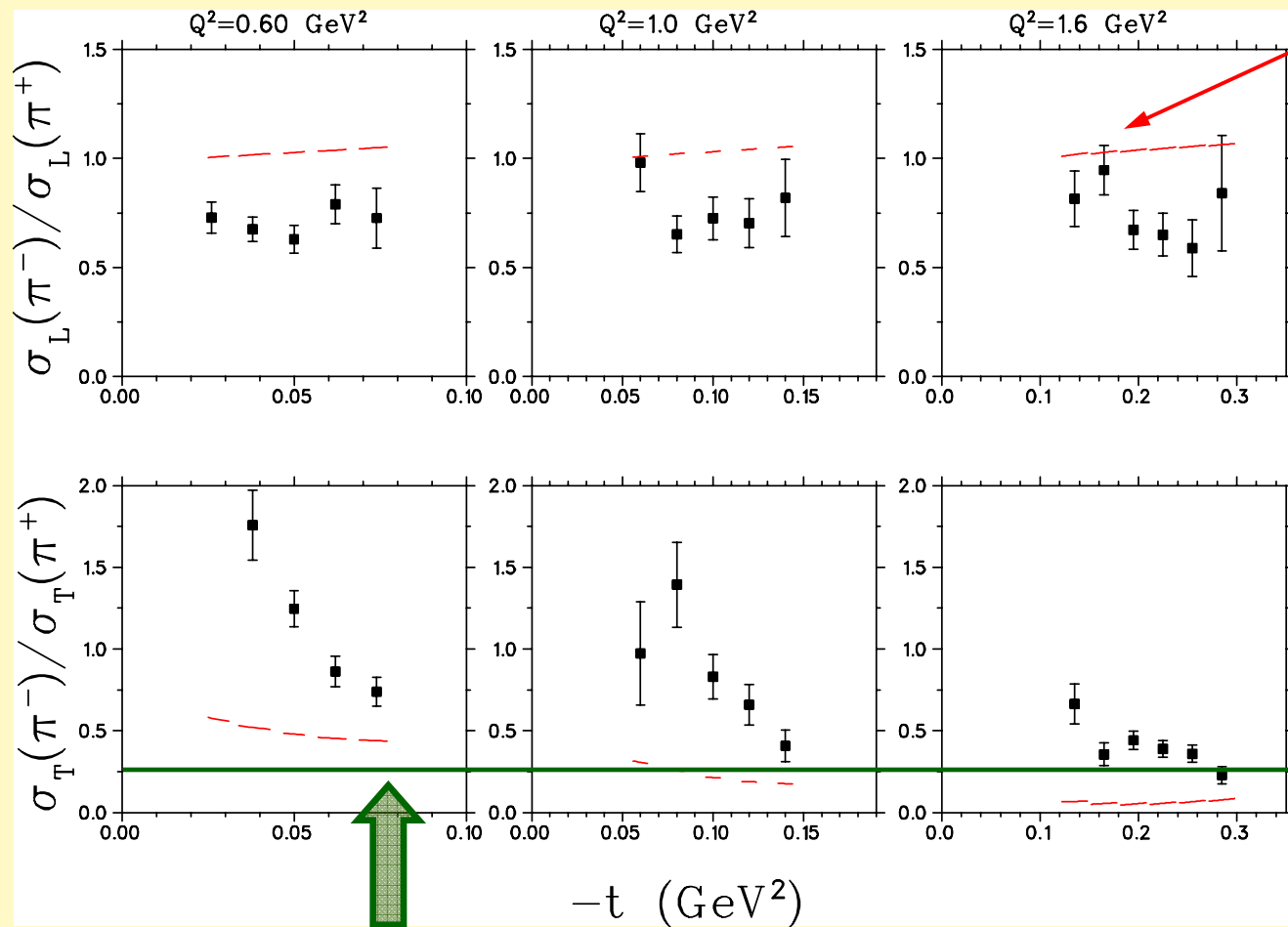
# $^2\text{H}(e,e'\pi^\pm)\text{NN}$ Separated $d\sigma/dt$



- $W=1.95 \text{ GeV}$ , above most of the resonance region.
- Longitudinal cross-section shows steep rise due to  $\pi$  pole at small  $-t$ .
- Transverse cross-section much flatter, generally smaller for  $\pi^-$ .
- Negative TT.
- LT nearly zero.

Error bars indicate statistical and pt-pt systematic uncertainties in quadrature. Bands indicate LT, TT MC model dependence systematic uncertainty.

# $\pi^-/\pi^+$ Separated Response Function Ratios



## VGL Regge Model:

- $\pi$  electroproduction in terms of exchange of  $\pi$  and  $\rho$  Regge trajectories.

[PRC 57(1998)1454]

- Model parameters fixed from pion photoproduction.
- Free parameters:  $\Lambda_\pi^2$  and  $\Lambda_\rho^2$  (from  $^1\text{H}$  data).

$R_L=0.8$  consistent with  $|A_S/A_V|<6\%$ .

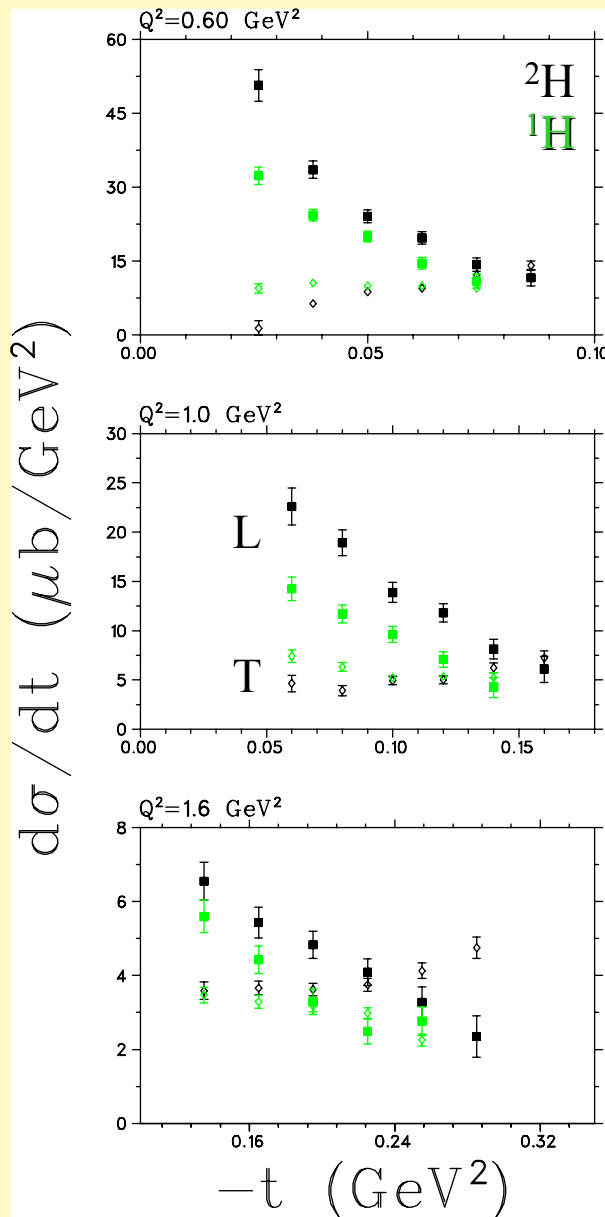
- Transverse Ratios tend to  $\frac{1}{4}$  as  $-t$  increases:
  - Is this an indication of Nachtmann's quark charge scaling?
- $-t=0.3$  GeV<sup>2</sup> seems too low for this to apply. Might indicate the partial cancellation of soft QCD corrections in the formation of the ratio.

# Summary

- Separated  $\sigma_L$ ,  $\sigma_T$ ,  $\sigma_{LT}$ ,  $\sigma_{TT}$  cross sections for the  $^2\text{H}(e, e'\pi^\pm)\text{NN}$  reactions were extracted at  $Q^2=0.6, 1.0, 1.6$   $\text{GeV}^2$ ,  $W=1.95$   $\text{GeV}$  using the Rosenbluth L/T separation technique.
- $\pi^-/\pi^+$  ratios for  $\sigma_L$ ,  $\sigma_T$  were extracted as a function of  $-t$ .
- $R_L \approx 0.8$ , trending towards unity at low  $-t$ .
  - Indicates the dominance of isovector processes at low  $-t$  in the longitudinal response function.
- The evolution of  $R_T$  with  $-t$  shows a rapid fall off consistent with earlier theoretical predictions, expected to approach  $1/4$ , the square of the ratio of the quark charges involved.
  - Further theoretical work needed re. alternate explanations.



# Comparison of $\pi^+$ from $^1\text{H}$ and $^2\text{H}$

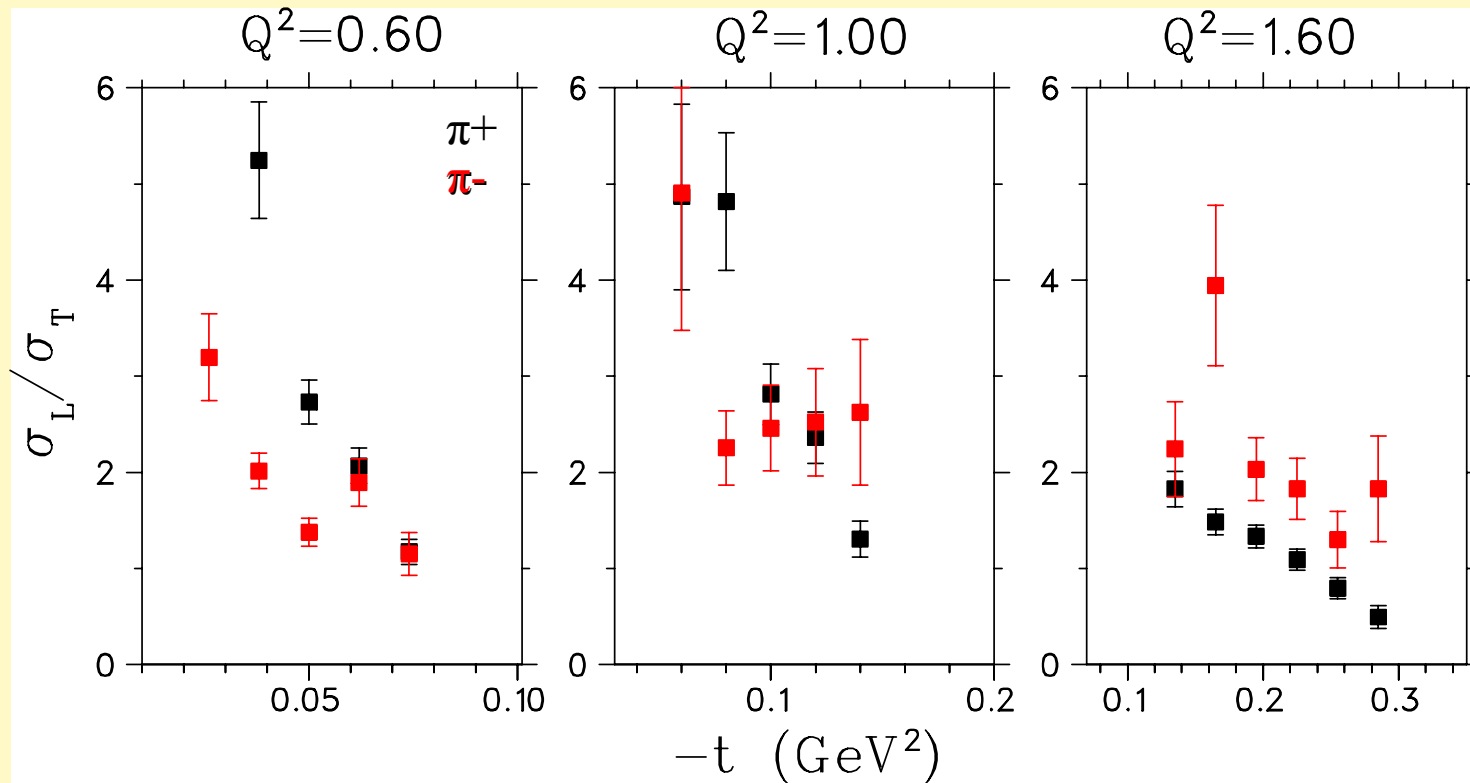


- Intriguing differences between  $\pi^+$  production from hydrogen and deuterium.
- $\sigma_L$  consistently larger from  $^2\text{H}$  than  $^1\text{H}$ .
- $\sigma_T$  t-dependences different as well.
- Are these due to off-shell effects in  $^2\text{H}$ ?
- Role of Fermi momentum in  $^2\text{H}$ ?

Error bars indicate statistical and pt-pt systematic uncertainties in quadrature.

# $\sigma_L/\sigma_T$ Ratios for $\pi^+$ , $\pi^-$

- L/T ratio becomes more favorable for  $\pi^-$  production from quasi-free neutron as  $Q^2$  increases.



Error bars indicate statistical and  $pt$ - $pt$  systematic uncertainties in quadrature.