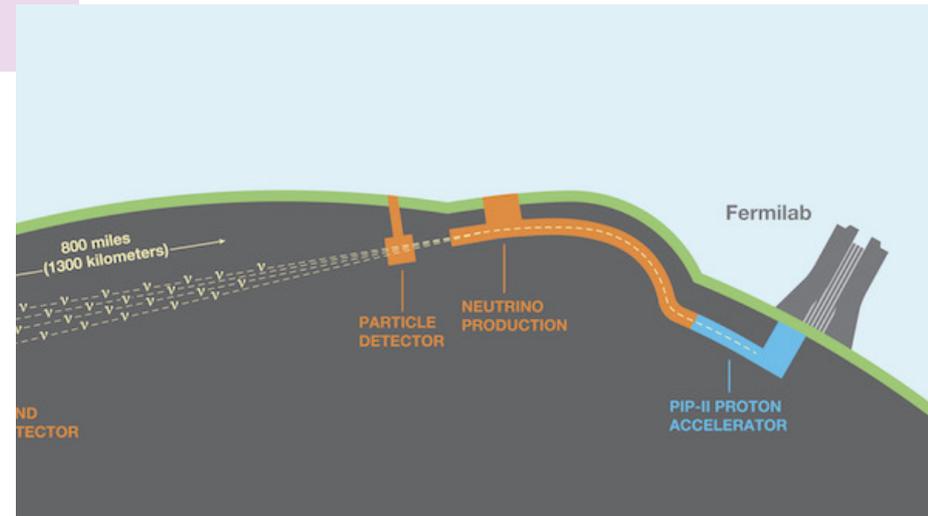


# neutrino physics and HEP: lecture 2

frontiers in neutrino interactions: experiments, simulation, and theory

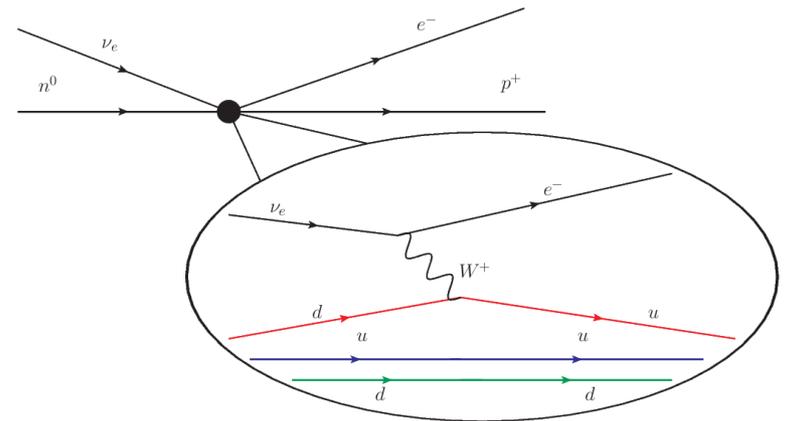
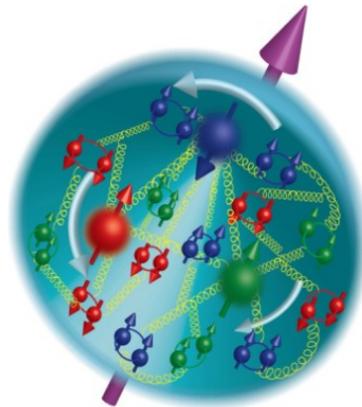
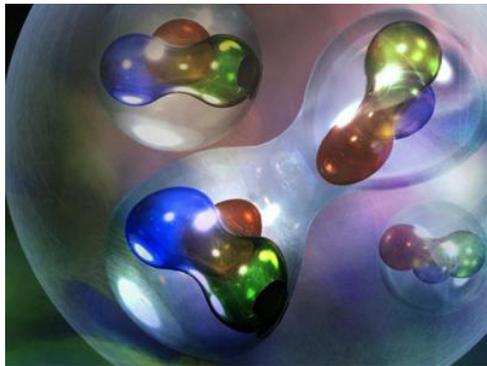
Tim Hobbs – Fermilab, IIT

15<sup>th</sup> July 2022



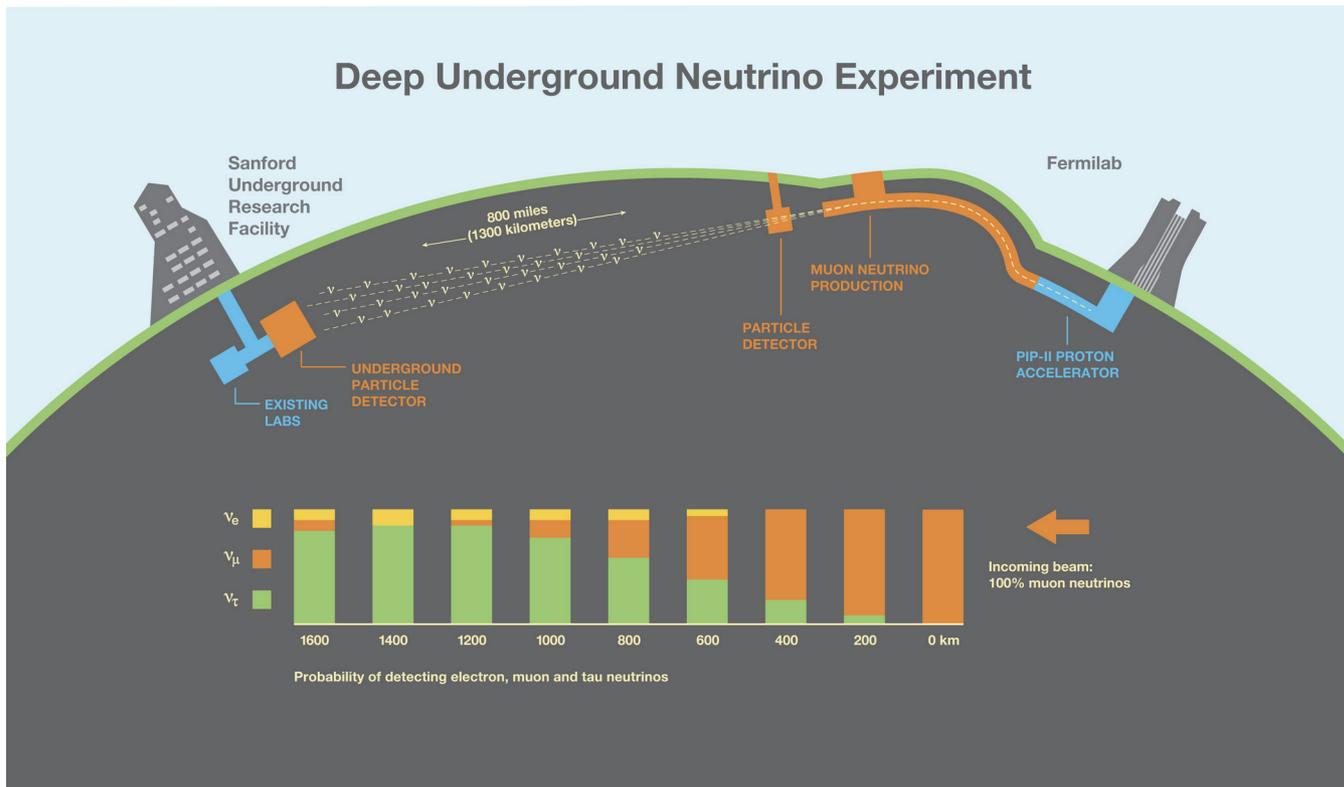
Special thanks to Fermilab colleagues:  
Minerba Betancourt, Jorge Morfin, Steven Gardiner, ...

and, of course, CTEQ colleagues!



# yesterday: neutrino experiments in broader context of HEP

- neutrino expts (think: **flavor oscillation** searches) occupy important place in SM tests



- requires knowledge of the  $\nu A$  cross section,  $\sigma(E_\nu)$ , to extract neutrino disappearance signature from near-, far-detectors

→ theory inaccuracies translate into limits in experimental precision

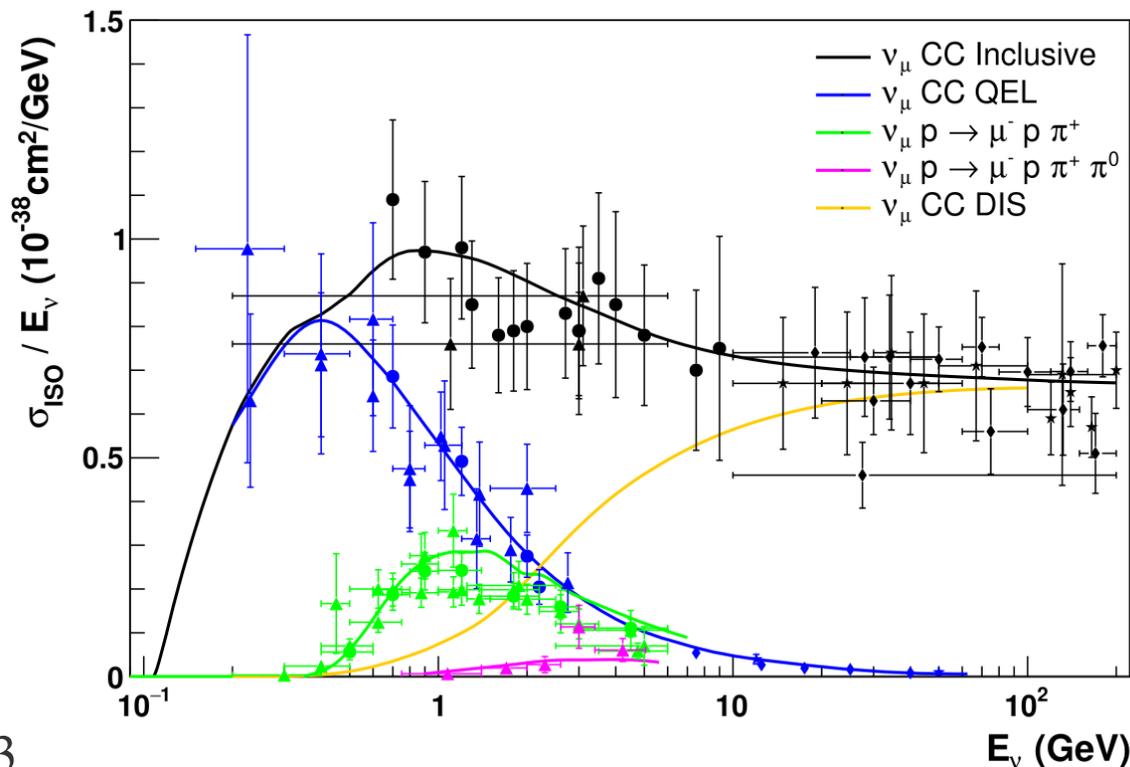
hampers sensitivity to: neutrino masses; hierarchy; BSM signatures; ...

# caution! measured neutrino flux must be unfolded (tomorrow)

- oscillation searches require near/far fluxes; unfolding depends on  $\sigma(E_\nu)$

$$N_i(E_\nu^{\text{rec}}, L) \sim \sum_k \int dE_\nu \Phi_i(E_\nu, L) \sigma_k(E_\nu) f_{\sigma_k}(E_\nu, E_\nu^{\text{rec}})$$

|   |   |   |                    |
|---|---|---|--------------------|
| } | $\Phi_i(E_\nu, L)$ : neutrino flux, $i^{\text{th}}$ flavor  | → | want this          |
|   | $\sigma_k(E_\nu)$ : total cross section, process $k$        | → | need to know these |
|   | $f_{\sigma_k}(E_\nu, E_\nu^{\text{rec}})$ : smearing matrix |   |                    |



Shirley Li

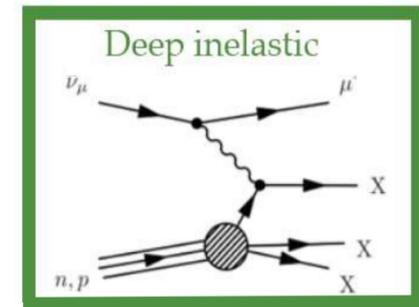
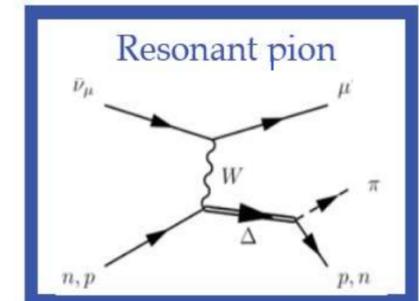
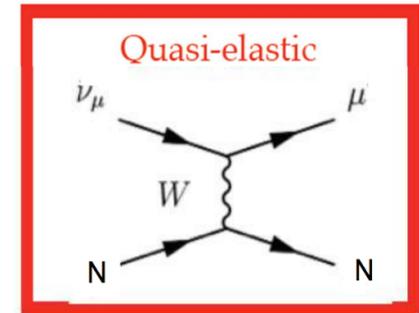
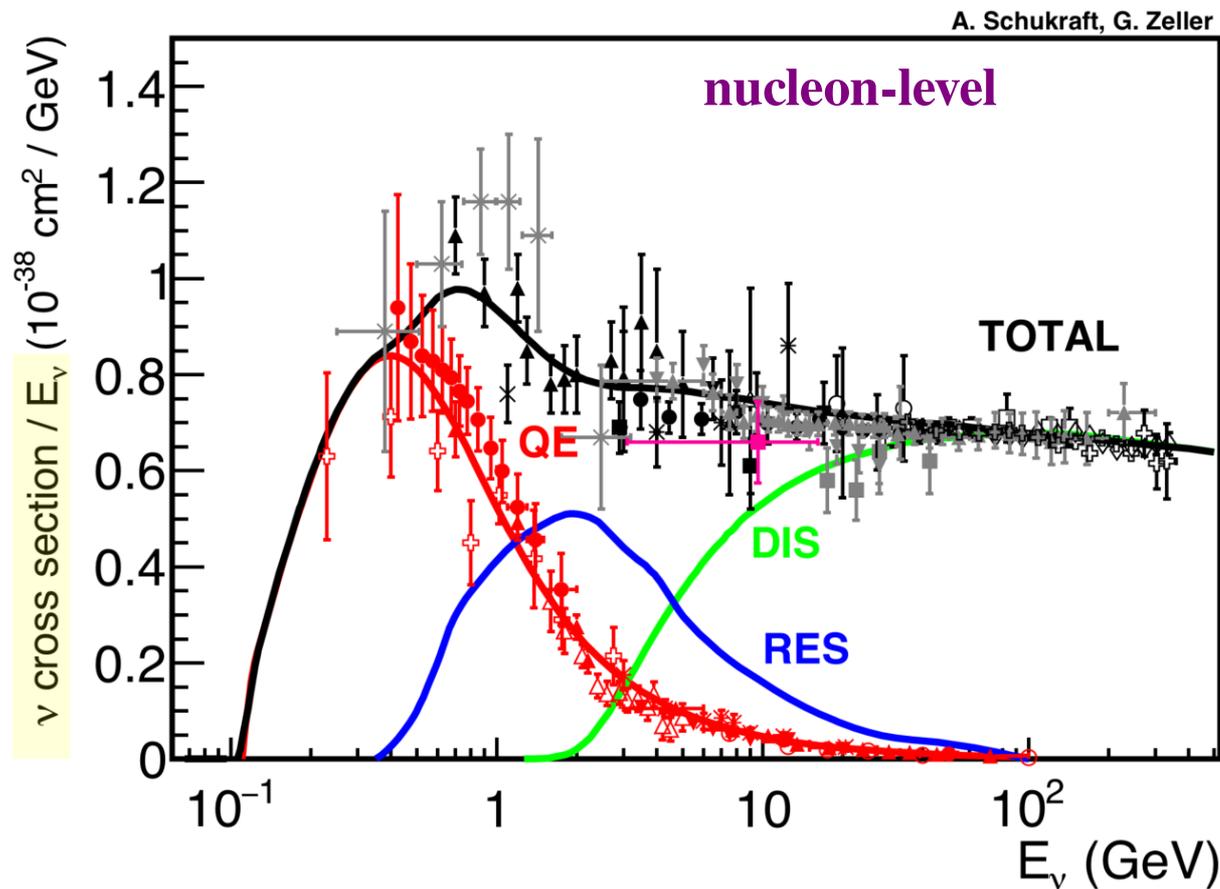
## today: the $\nu A$ cross section – connections to QCD, nuclear dynamics

---

- **anatomy of  $\nu A$  interactions**: the integrated cross section
  - $\nu A$  theory meets experiments: **neutrino generators**
  - **neutrino DIS**: quark-level neutrino scattering
  - **open issues** in  $\nu A$  physics
-

# neutrino cross sections are complicated!

- full, integrated cross section emerges from various constituent sub-processes



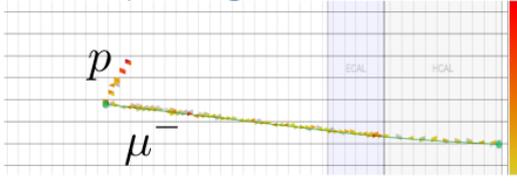
- for nucleon scattering, three distinct mechanisms; unique empirical signatures  
→ distinct QCD/nuclear processes; predominate at very different kinematics

# neutrino cross sections are complicated!

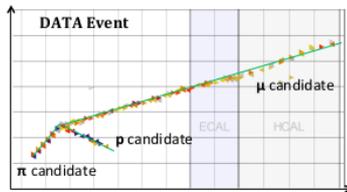
- experimentalists search for characteristic signals

**empirical**

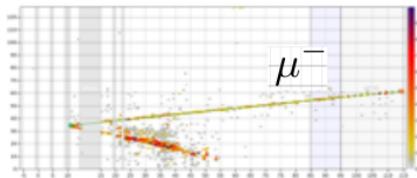
The neutrino scatters elastically off the nucleon ejecting a nucleon from the target



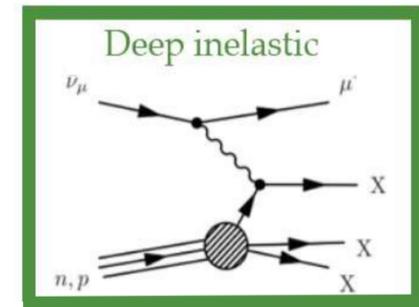
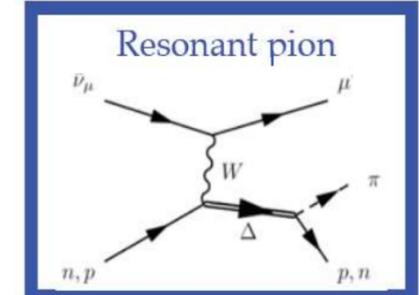
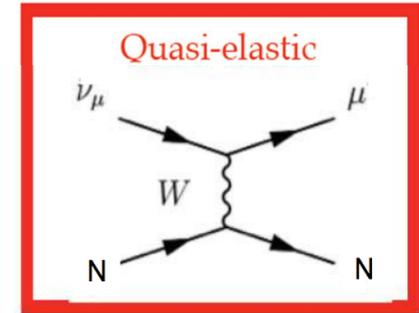
The neutrino can excite the target nucleon to a resonance state



The neutrino scatters off a quark in the nucleon producing a hadronic system in the final state



**theoretical**



hadronic degrees of freedom

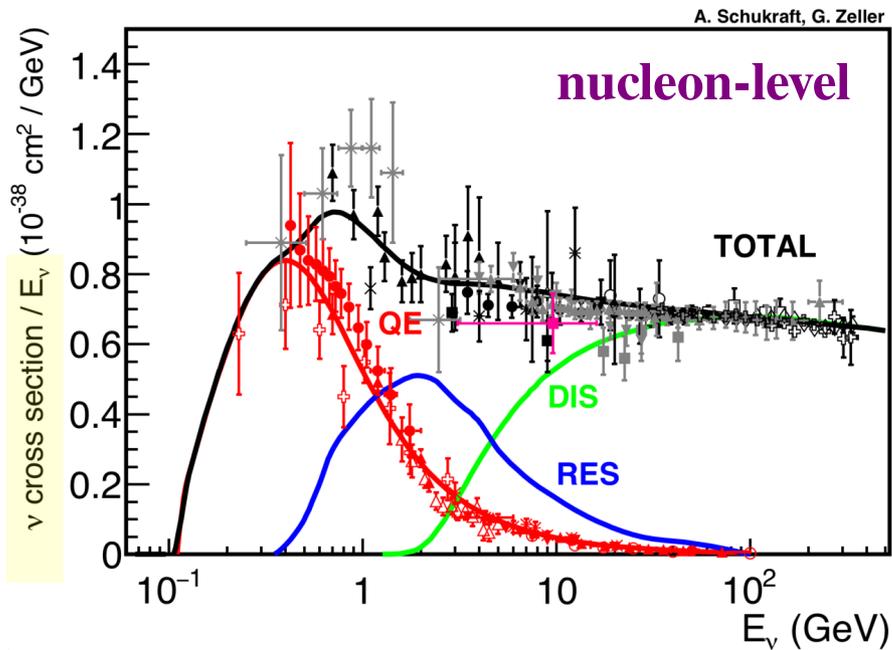
partonic

- for nucleon scattering, three distinct mechanisms; unique empirical signatures

→ distinct QCD/nuclear processes; predominate at very different kinematics

# neutrino cross sections are complicated!

- full, integrated cross section emerges from various constituent sub-processes

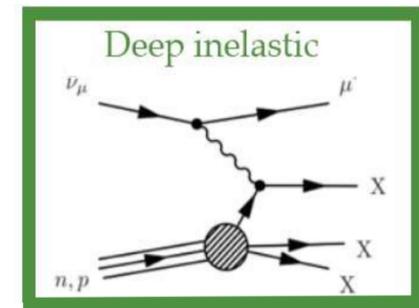
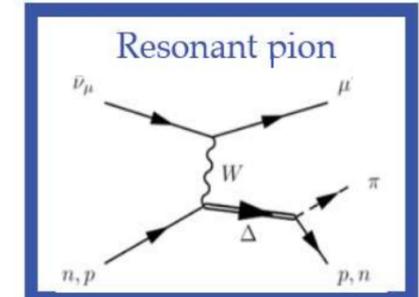
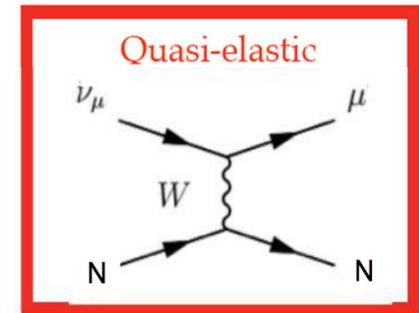


- note: these processes traverse the boundary between perturbative and nonperturbative dynamics;

→ **closely tied up with confinement** (“grand challenge”)

hadronic degrees of freedom ↑

partonic ↓

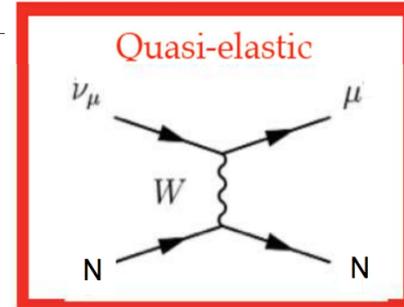
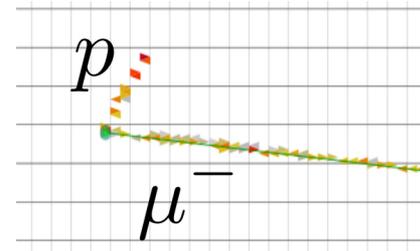


- for nucleon scattering, three distinct mechanisms; unique empirical signatures

→ distinct QCD/nuclear processes; predominate at very different kinematics

# quasi-elastic scattering dominates low-energy cross section

- Using Llewellyn-Smith formalism:



$$\frac{d\sigma}{dQ_{QE}^2} = \frac{M^2 G_F^2 \cos^2 \theta_C}{8\pi E_\nu^2} \left\{ A(Q^2) \pm B(Q^2) \frac{s-u}{M^2} + C(Q^2) \frac{(s-u)^2}{M^4} \right\}$$

$Q^2$ -dependent factors depend ( $A, B, C$ ) on single-nucleon information

→ vector, axial-vector form factors:  $F_{1,2}(Q^2), F_A(Q^2)$

$$A(Q^2) = \frac{m_\mu^2 + Q^2}{M^2} \left\{ \left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{4M^2}\right) F_A^2 - \left(1 - \frac{Q^2}{4M^2}\right) F_1^2 + \frac{Q^2}{4M^2} \left(1 - \frac{Q^2}{4M^2}\right) (\xi F_2)^2 \right. \\ \left. + \frac{Q^2}{M^2} \text{Re}(F_1^* \xi F_2) - \frac{Q^2}{M^2} \left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{4M^2}\right) (F_A^3)^2 \right. \\ \left. - \frac{m_\mu^2}{4M^2} \left[ |F_1 + \xi F_2|^2 + |F_A + 2F_P|^2 - 4 \left(1 + \frac{Q^2}{4M^2}\right) ((F_V^3)^2 + F_P^2) \right] \right\}$$

especially limiting

$$B(Q^2) = \frac{Q^2}{M^2} \text{Re} [F_A^* (F_1 + \xi F_2)] - \frac{m_\mu^2}{M^2} \text{Re} \left[ (F_1 - \tau \xi F_2) F_V^{3*} - \left(F_A^* - \frac{Q^2}{2M^2} F_P\right) F_A^3 \right]$$

$$C(Q^2) = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ F_A^2 + F_1^2 + \tau (\xi F_2)^2 + \frac{Q^2}{M^2} (F_A^3)^2 \right\}$$

# how to describe nucleon form factor inputs?

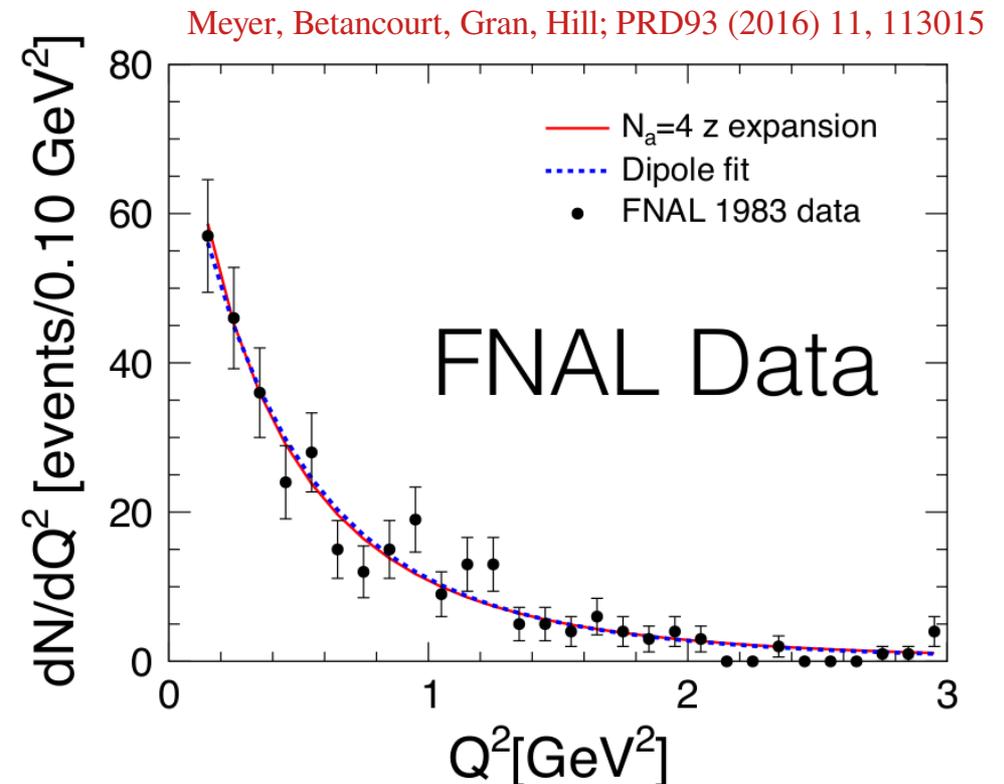
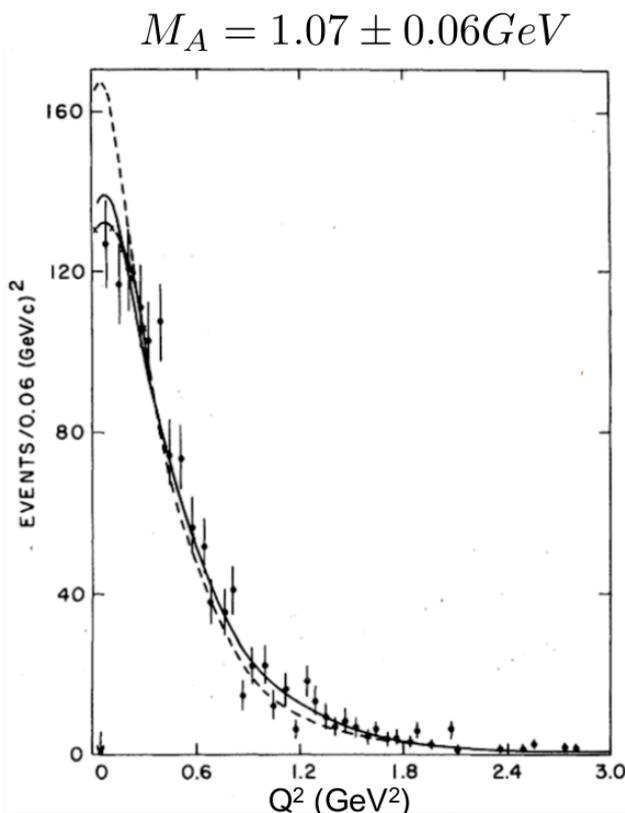
→ historically, a single-parameter dipole ansatz used:

$$G_A(Q^2) = g_A \left( 1 + \frac{Q^2}{M_A^2} \right)^{-2}$$

...but is this adequate?

- low- $Q^2$  shape is nontrivial: more flexible approaches necessary

$$F_A(q^2) = \sum_{k=0}^{k_{\max}} a_k z(q^2)^k$$



$$\langle p'_N \lambda'_N; N | J_A^\mu(0) | p_N, \lambda_N; N \rangle$$

$$G_A \equiv \tilde{F}_{1N}$$

$$= \bar{u}(p'_N, \lambda'_N) \left[ \tilde{F}_{1N} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 + \tilde{F}_{2N} \frac{q^\mu \gamma_5}{2M} \right] \frac{\tau}{2} u(p_N, \lambda_N)$$

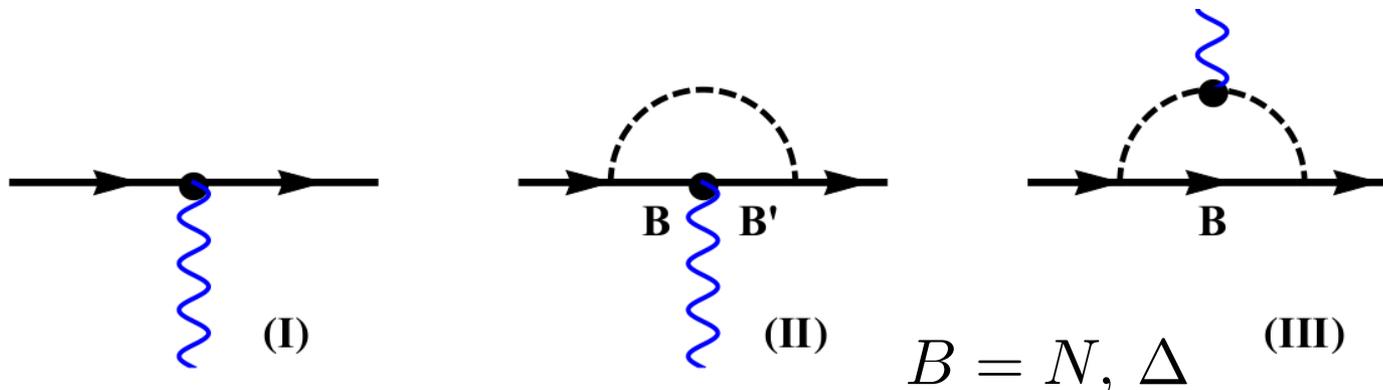
**we can build a physical (relativistic quark) model for nucleon's axial structure:**

model EM and axial form factors light-front wave functions for *bare* quark+diquark core

$$|p_N^+, \lambda_N; N\rangle^{ss} = \int \frac{dx d\vec{k}_\perp}{16\pi^3 x(1-x)} \sum_{\lambda_q} \phi_{\lambda_q}^{\lambda_N}(x, \vec{k}_\perp) |x, \vec{k}_\perp, \lambda_q; q, d = s\rangle$$

$$|p_N^+, \lambda_N; N\rangle^{st} = \int \frac{dx d\vec{k}_\perp}{16\pi^3 x(1-x)} \sum_{\lambda_q, \lambda_d} \phi_{\lambda_q \lambda_d}^{\lambda_N}(x, \vec{k}_\perp) |x, \vec{k}_\perp, \lambda_q, \lambda_d; q, d = a\rangle$$

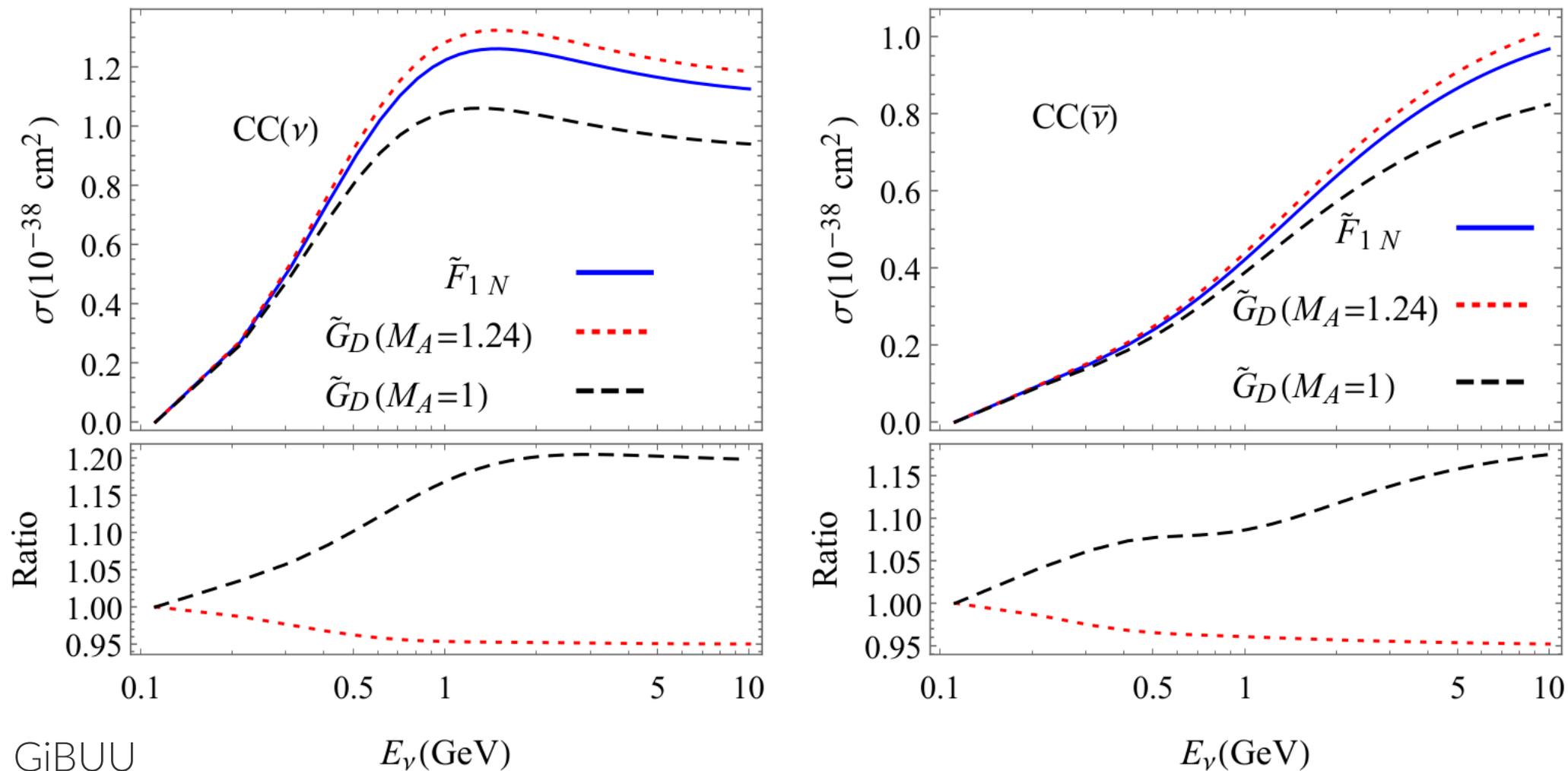
... include pion 'cloud' contributions via chiral lagrangians with relativistic vertex factors:



Zhang, TJH, Miller

# form factor models $\rightarrow$ QE $\rightarrow$ total cross section

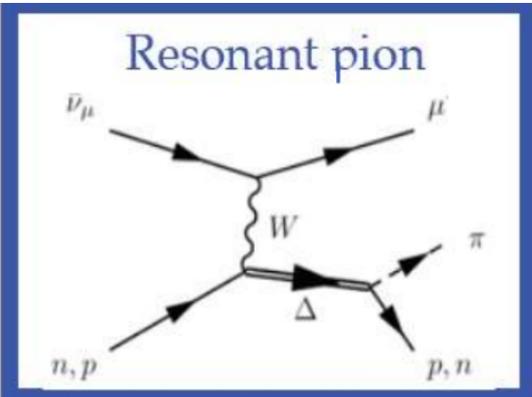
variations in axial form factor  $Q^2$  dependence influence cross section



Argon cross sections in DUNE peak-flux region shift by **>5-10%**

**$\rightarrow$  needs more data; concerted theory effort!**

# resonance region: subtle mix of hadronic, QCD dynamics



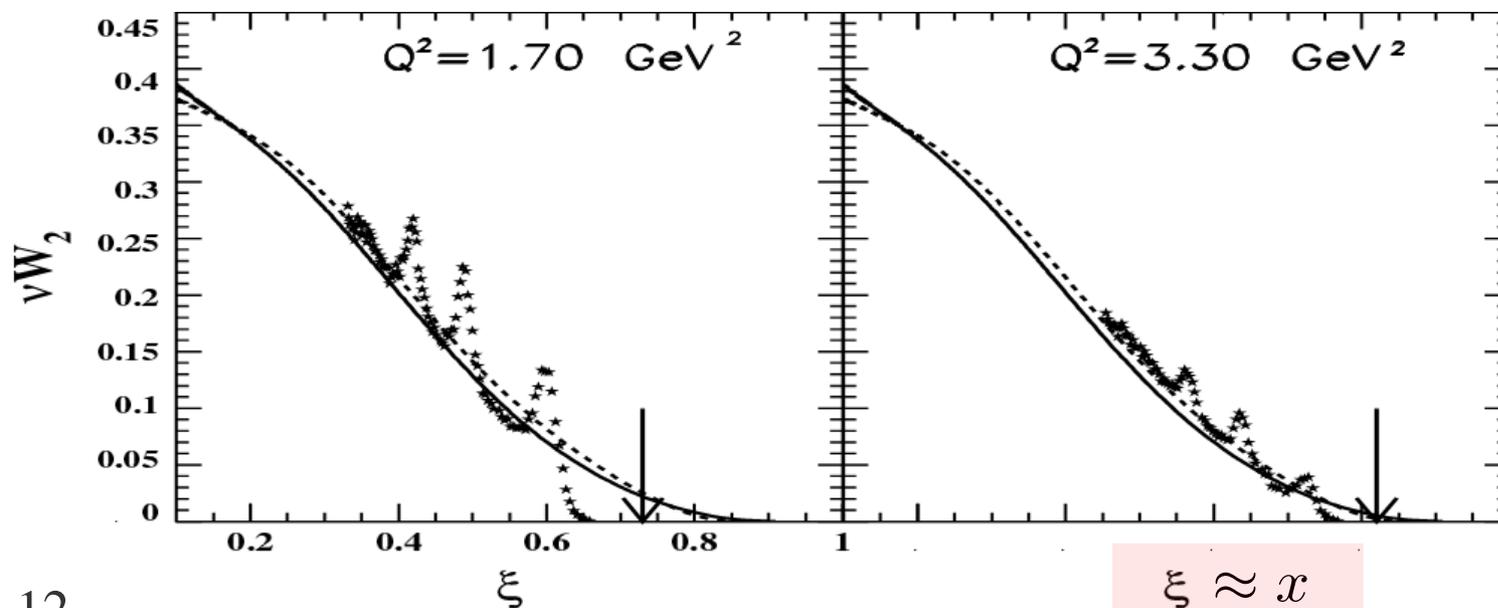
$$W^2 = (p + q)^2 = M_N^2 + Q^2 \left( \frac{1}{x} - 1 \right)$$

[low  $W \rightarrow x \sim 1$ ]

$$x = Q^2 / 2p \cdot q$$

- more 'exclusive' processes involving production of definite nucleon excitations

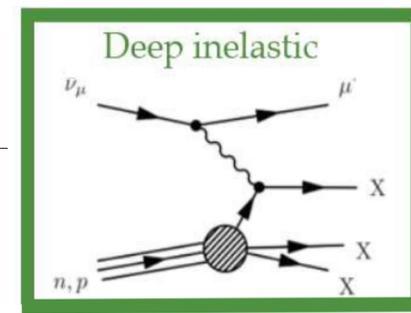
$\langle \Delta | T | N \rangle \rightarrow$  computed from quark models (e.g., Berger-Sehgal, ...)



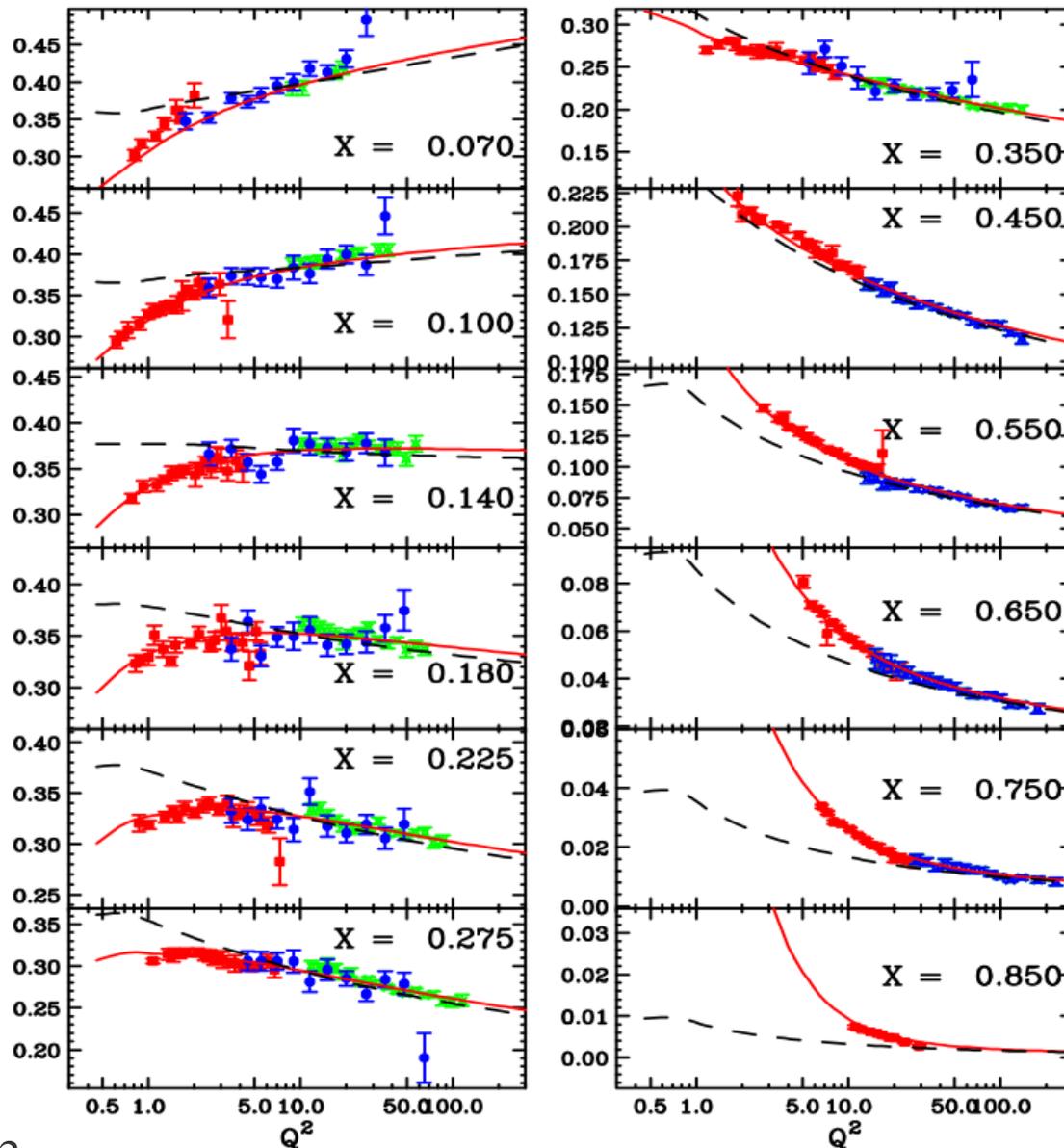
- important point: model-computed resonances fluctuate about smooth high-energy background;
- consistent description of RES, DIS is challenging!

# DIS for neutrino programs

...interactions at quark level...



- need to cover DIS from very high energies down to low  $W$ ,  $Q^2$



- strong reliance on tunable phenomenological models; *e.g.*, Bodek-Yang

LO PDFs,  $q(x) \rightarrow q(\xi_w)$

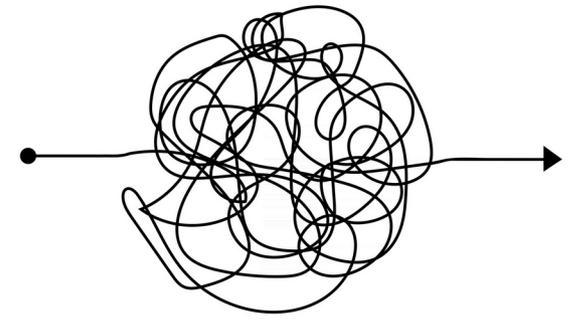
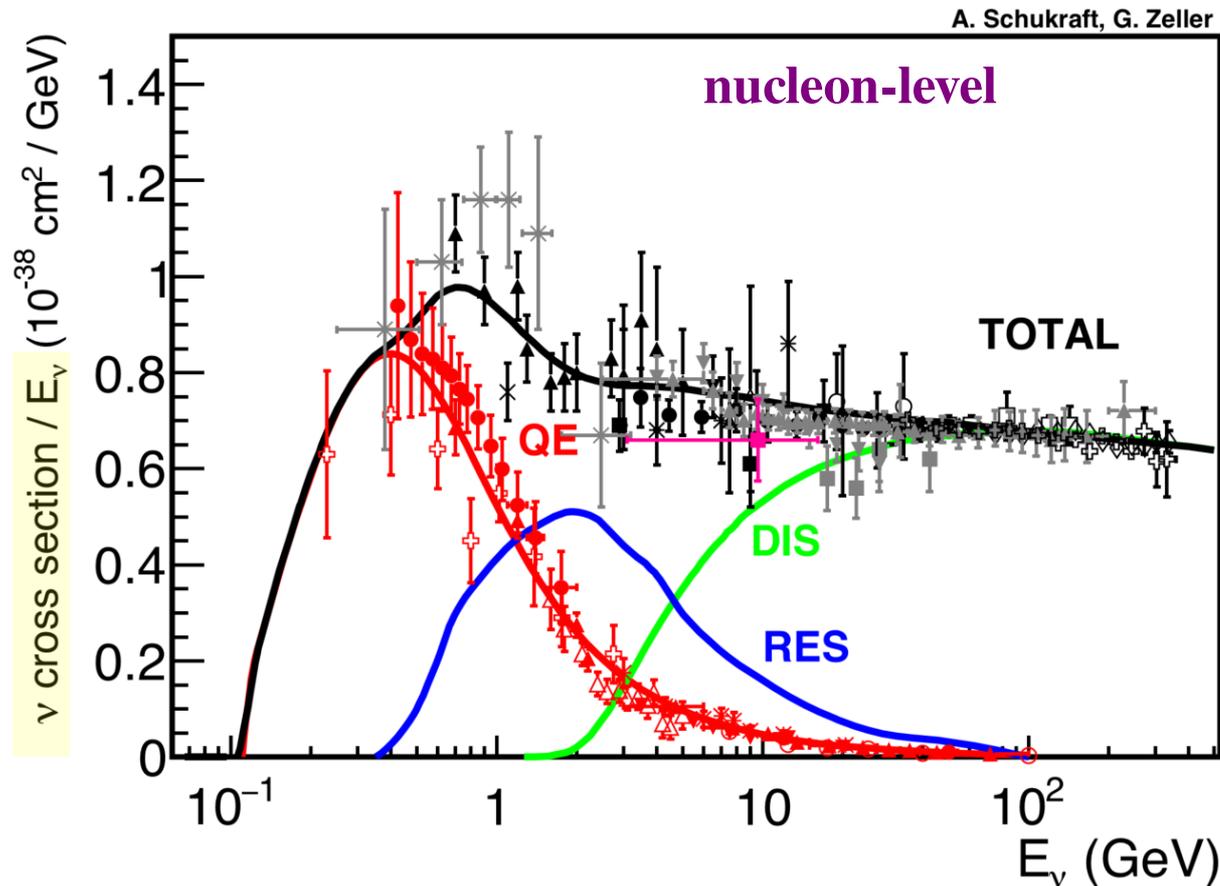
$$\xi_w = \frac{Q^2 + M_f^2 + B}{M\nu[1 + \sqrt{1 + Q^2/\nu^2}] + A}$$

- together with low- $Q^2$  K-factors, meant to simulate missing [non]perturbative QCD dynamics

(will revisit later...)

# neutrino-nucleus cross sections are (still more) complicated!

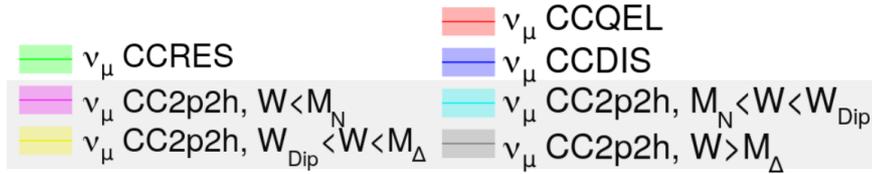
- again, each of these sub-processes is determined in conjunction with the others



- above:  $\nu N \rightarrow$  incorporating nuclear effects ( $\nu A$ ) further complicates things  
... introduces more processes to be modeled...

# nuclear models like '2p2h' are necessary for $\nu A$

- low-energy data (few-GeV and below) generally require explicit nuclear models

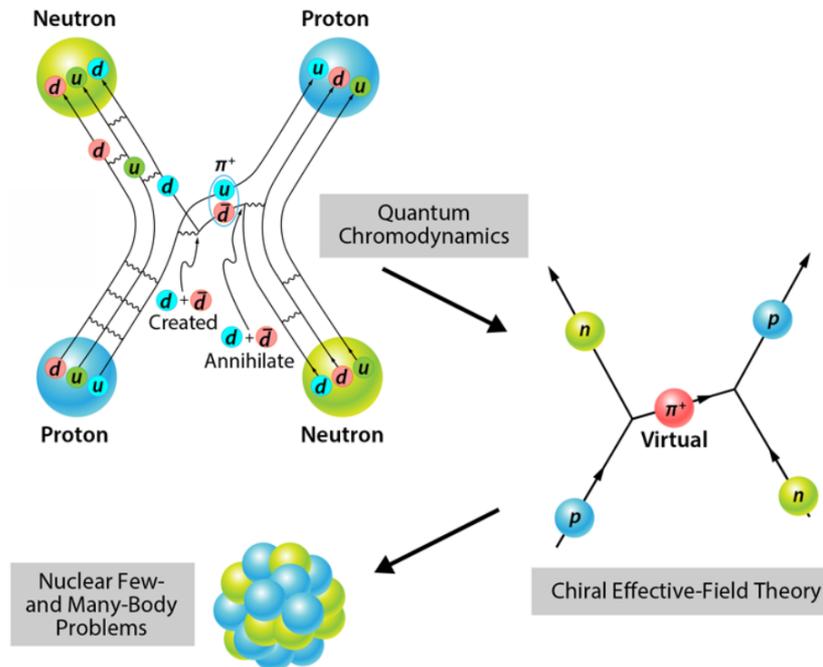
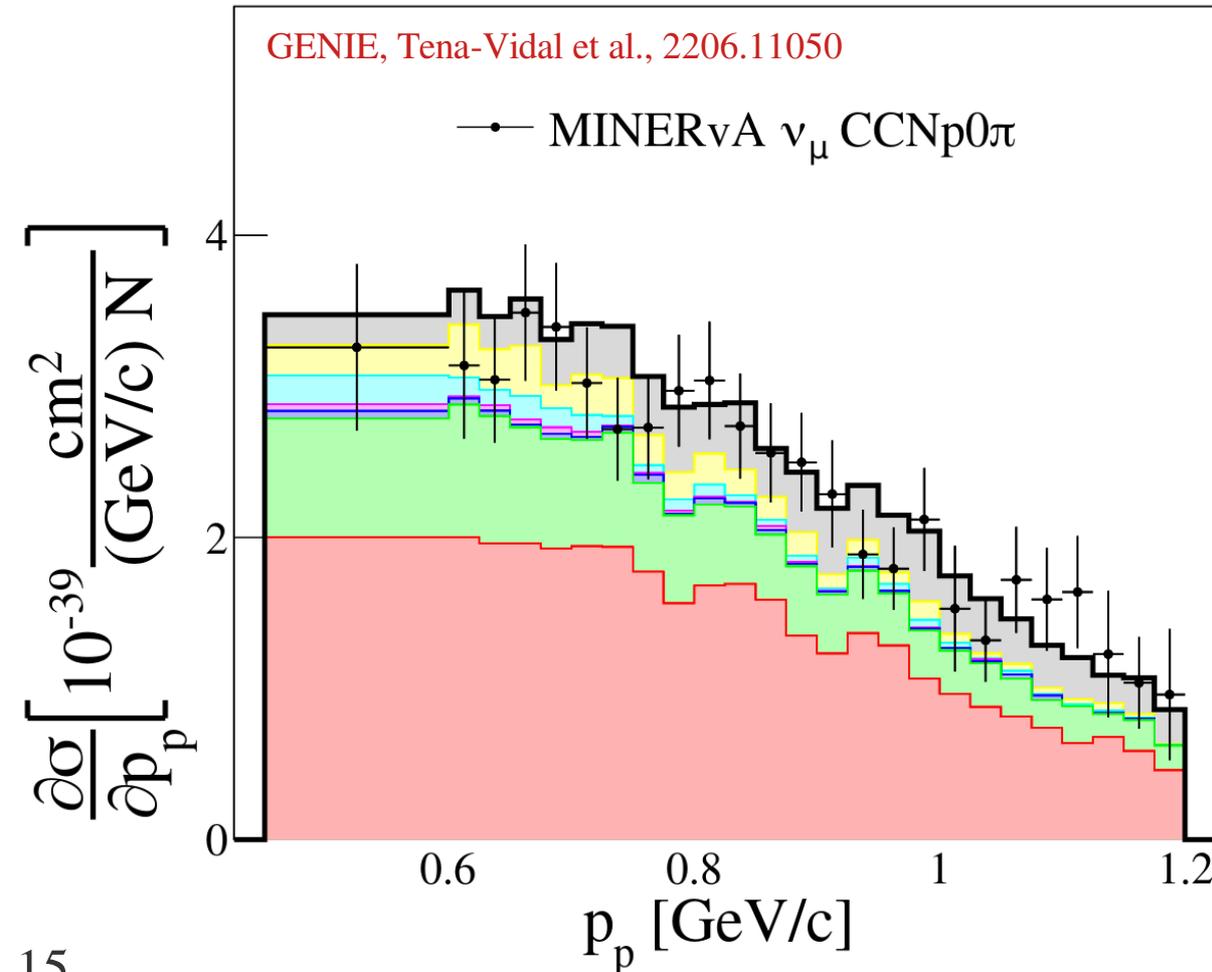


- the nuclear medium offers novel (QCD) interactions unavailable in scattering from free nucleons

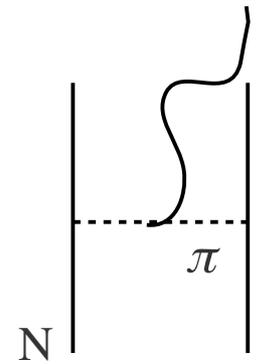
*e.g., scattering from 2-nucleon states*

GENIE, Tena-Vidal et al., 2206.11050

MINER $\nu A$   $\nu_\mu$  CCNp0 $\pi$

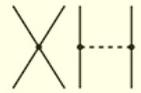


# meson (pion) exchange dominant low-energy mechanism

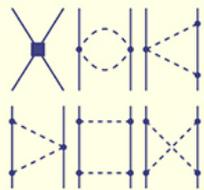


LO  
(Q/Λ<sub>χ</sub>)<sup>0</sup>

2N Force



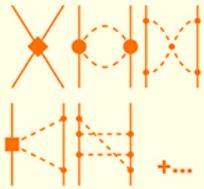
NLO  
(Q/Λ<sub>χ</sub>)<sup>2</sup>



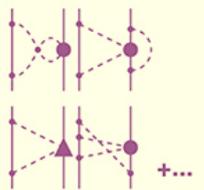
NNLO  
(Q/Λ<sub>χ</sub>)<sup>3</sup>



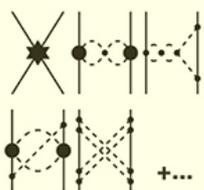
N<sup>3</sup>LO  
(Q/Λ<sub>χ</sub>)<sup>4</sup>



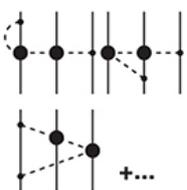
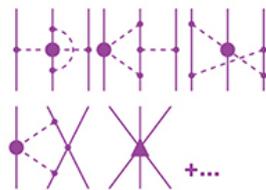
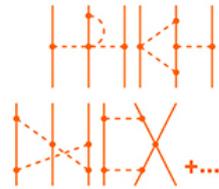
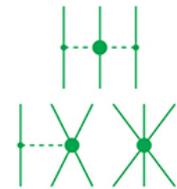
N<sup>4</sup>LO  
(Q/Λ<sub>χ</sub>)<sup>5</sup>



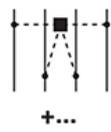
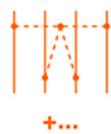
N<sup>5</sup>LO  
(Q/Λ<sub>χ</sub>)<sup>6</sup>



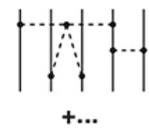
3N Force



4N Force



5N Force



- 2-nucleon picture has basis in formal low-energy theory

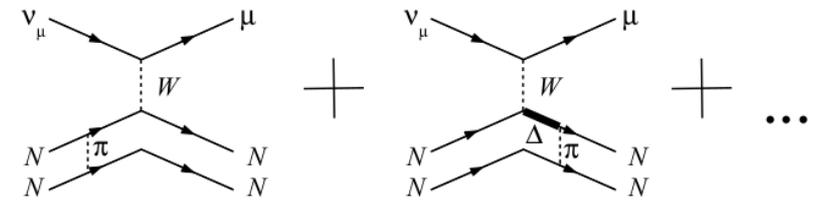
$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N} = \frac{g_A}{2f_\pi} \bar{\psi}_N \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \partial_\mu \boldsymbol{\pi} \psi_N - \frac{1}{(2f_\pi)^2} \bar{\psi}_N \gamma^\mu \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot (\boldsymbol{\pi} \times \partial_\mu \boldsymbol{\pi}) \psi_N$$

- systematically improvable to higher orders, particle interactions [perturbation theory not just for QCD, EW theory!]

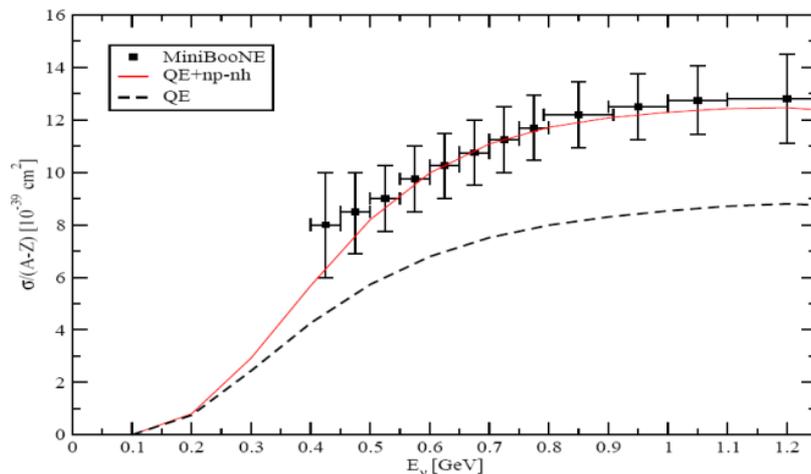
nuclear physics produces multi-2 (and higher)-nucleon correlations; external bosons scatter from these

# modern neutrino calculations implement phenomenological models

- still require freedom to **parametrically tune** to describe data; implement models derived from 2-nucleon scattering mechanism
- Inclusion of the multi nucleon emission channel (np-nn) gives better agreement with data



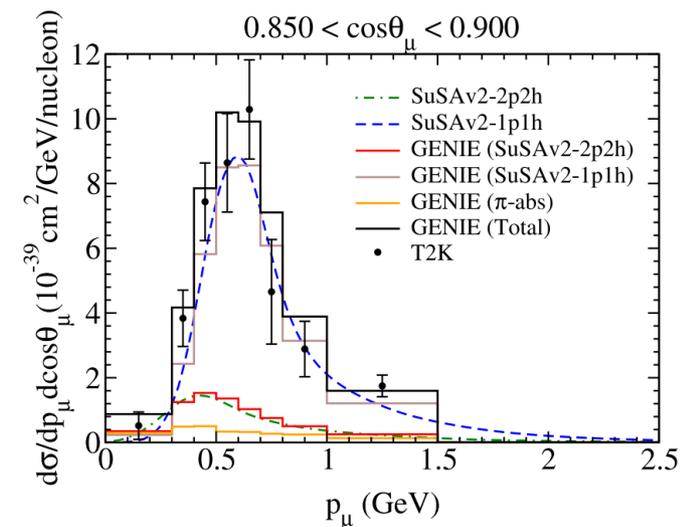
Model compared to MiniBooNE data



M. Martini, M. Ericson, G. Chanfray, J. Marteau *Phys. Rev. C* 80 065501 (2009)

other models:  
SuperScaling  
Approximation  
(SUSA)

[Phys. Rev. D 101, 033003 \(2020\)](#)

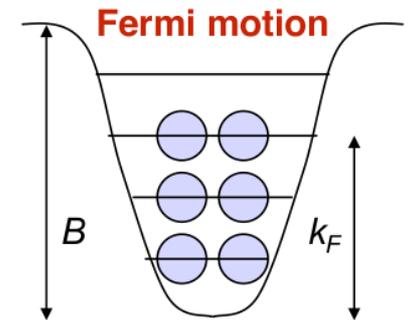


- We are using one of the theoretical predictions and latest GENIE implementation of Valencia model for QE-like 2p2h, arXiv:1601.02038, PRC 70, 055503 (2004), PRC 83, 045501 (2011)

# 2-nucleon ('2p2h') effects are merely one example

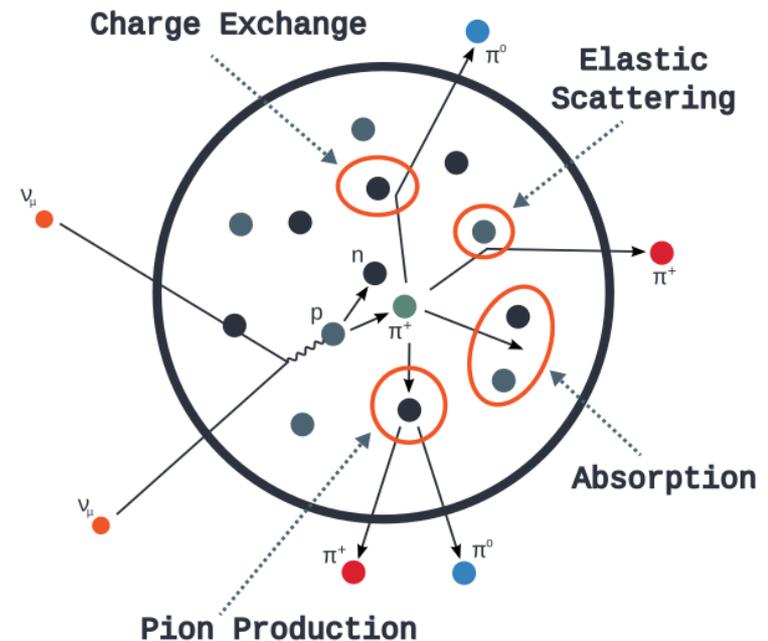
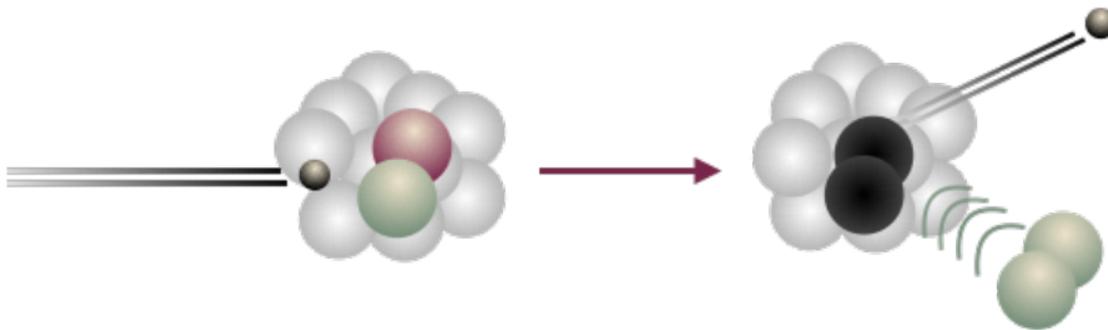
- large, multi-nucleon system introduces many considerations

- Fermi motion: In a nucleus, the target nucleon has a momentum. Modeled as Fermi gas that fills up all available state until some Fermi momentum
- Pauli blocking: Pauli exclusion principle ensures that states cannot occupy states that are already filled
- Multi nucleon interactions
- Final state interactions



**Final State Interactions (FSI)**

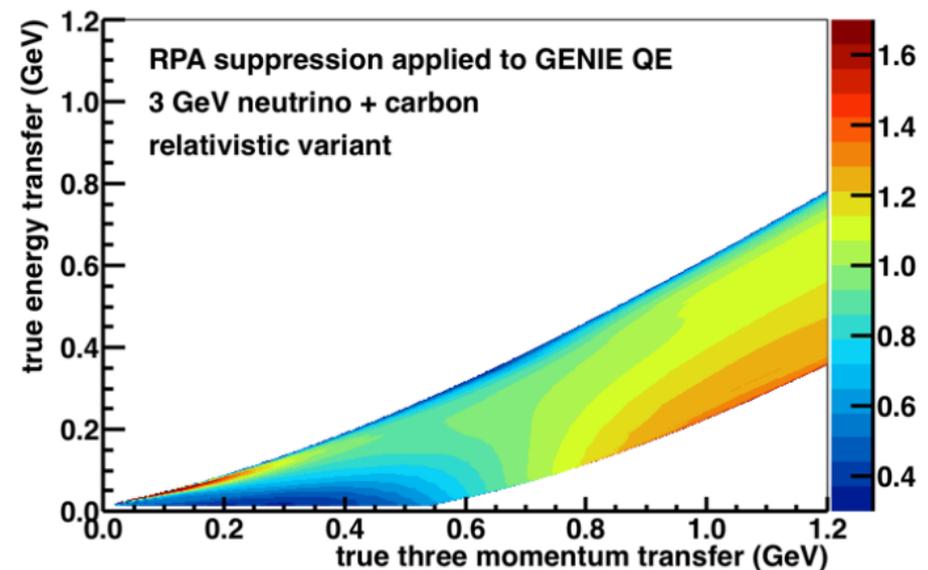
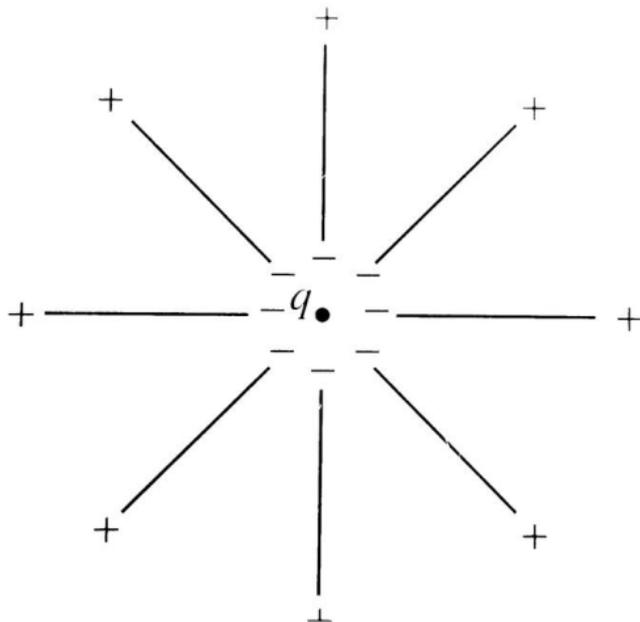
**Multi nucleon interactions**



in contrast to few-nucleon, collective nuclear effects as well

- low-energy cross sections (QE) subject to **long-distance correlations**
- Analogous to screening of electric charge in a dielectric
- For neutrino scattering in a nucleus, imagine the W as having a weak charge and polarizing the nuclear medium
- Calculated using Random phase approximation (RPA), PRC 70, 055503 (2004)
- We add the RPA to GENIE by reweighting the QE events
- Suppress cross sections at low four momentum transfer  $Q^2$

$$\sigma^{\text{QEL}} = \omega_{\text{RPA}} \cdot \sigma_{\text{RPA}}^{\text{QEL}} + \omega_{\text{No RPA}} \cdot \sigma_{\text{No RPA}}^{\text{QEL}}$$





# merely a *sampling* of the types of nuclear models

---

- these nuclear corrections are generally felt at low energies

$$E_\nu \lesssim 1 \text{ GeV}, \text{ probing correlation lengths } \gtrsim 1 \text{ fm}$$

- nuclear medium is complex soup of strongly-correlated fields, QCD *d.o.f.*
  - natural to expect corrections at higher energies
  - deeply fascinating: how does QCD produce dynamics of nuclear environment?

OR: what are the partonic implications of placing a nucleon in the nucleus?

→ focus of nuclear DIS programs;

→ vital for  $\nu A$  precision predictions

...more soon!

# hadronic, nuclear model effects are a double-edged sword

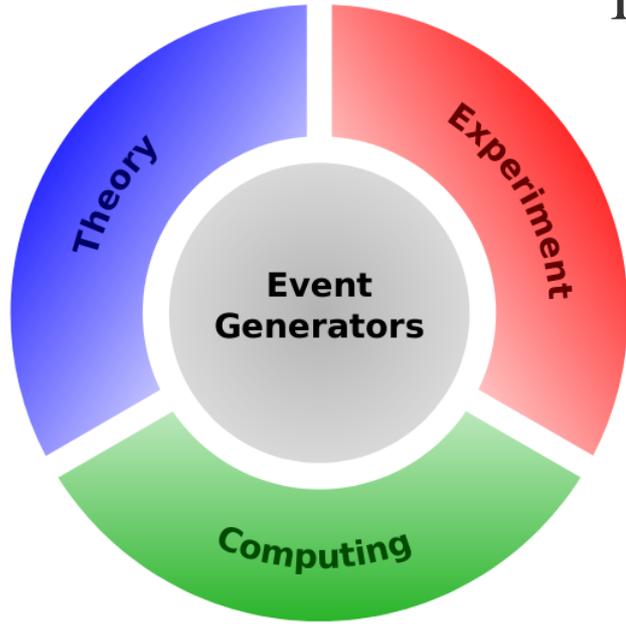
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- clear that the  $\nu A$  cross section involves interplay of various models
  - prescription/model/parametrization uncertainties are an important limitation



- conversely, high-quality neutrino (or other) data may be sensitive to model choices
  - can be used to constrain tunable parameters; test model assumptions
  - need systematic approach to include theory ingredients simultaneously

# ingredients come together in event generators



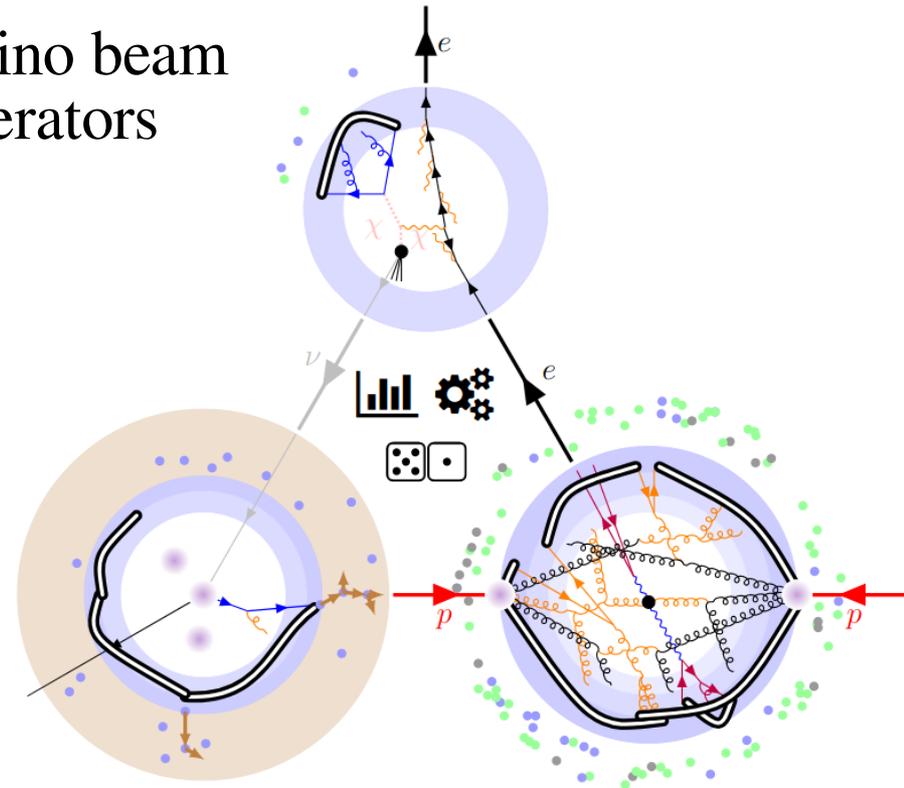
- neutrino events must ultimately be simulated in Monte Carlo generators to understand systematics

→ frameworks rest at interface of theory, computation, and experiment

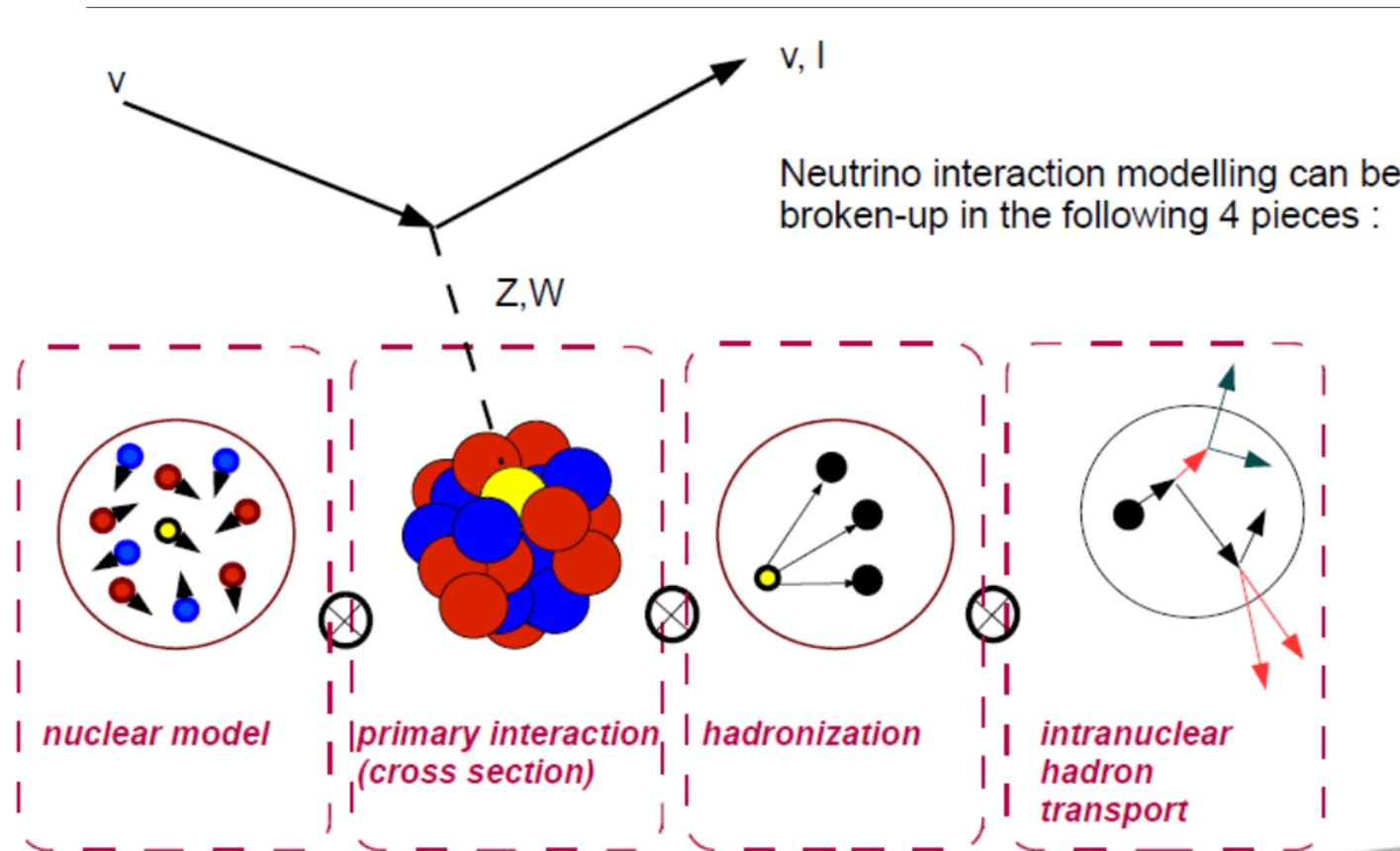
- again, impracticability of determining neutrino beam energy implies sensitive dependence on generators for event-by-event reconstruction

for DUNE, need **percent-level precision** or better; past this, sensitivity to CP-violation, mixing degrades substantially

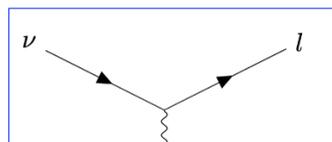
**central development effort**



generators systematize the physics ingredients discussed above

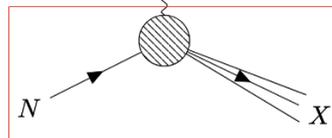


- aspiration: structure neutrino generators for easier BSM modifications



Leptonic Tensor ( $L_{\mu\nu}$ )

[predominant locus of BSM scenarios]



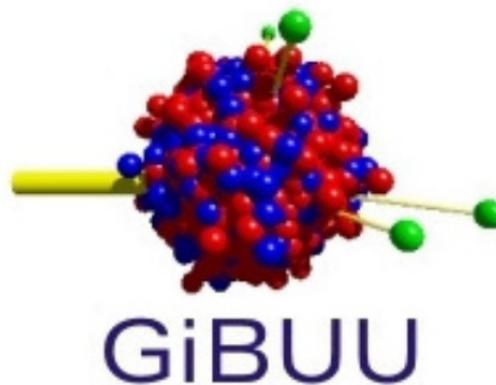
Hadronic Tensor ( $H^{\mu\nu}$ )

- recent developments: Achilles generator

Isaacson et al., 2205.06378

# ecosystem of neutrino generators

- must stress: **generators occupy vital place bridging experiments ↔ theory**
- commonly used generator packages implement different mixes of theory models; approaches to hadron transport



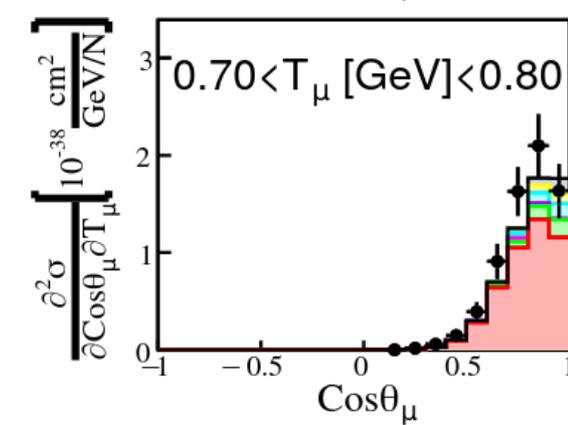
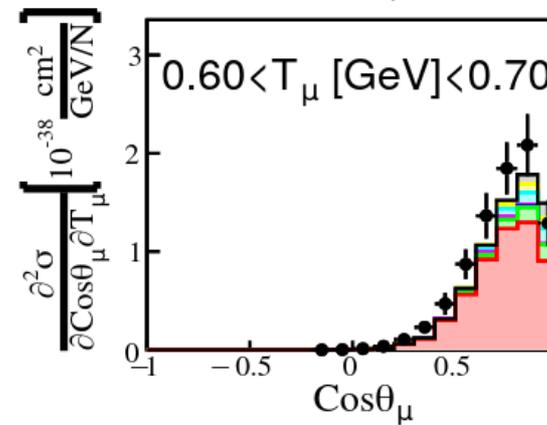
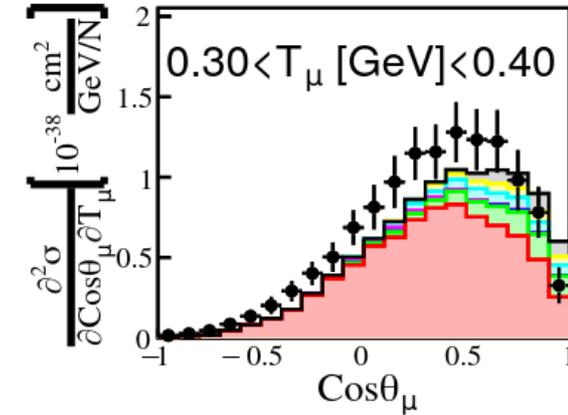
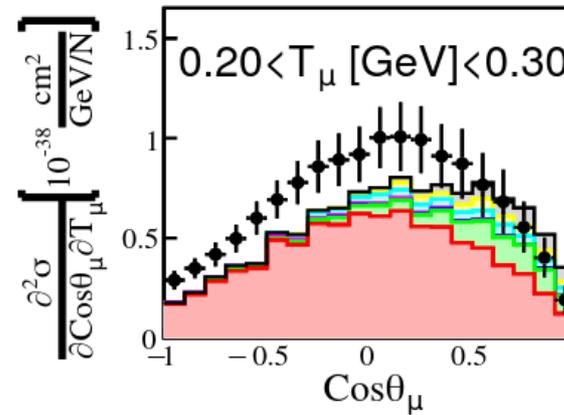
→ on-going effort to standardize theory interfaces; input/output conventions; interoperability

[lessons from collider efforts useful]

# generator tunings

- neutrino generators accompanied by global analyses of available parameters

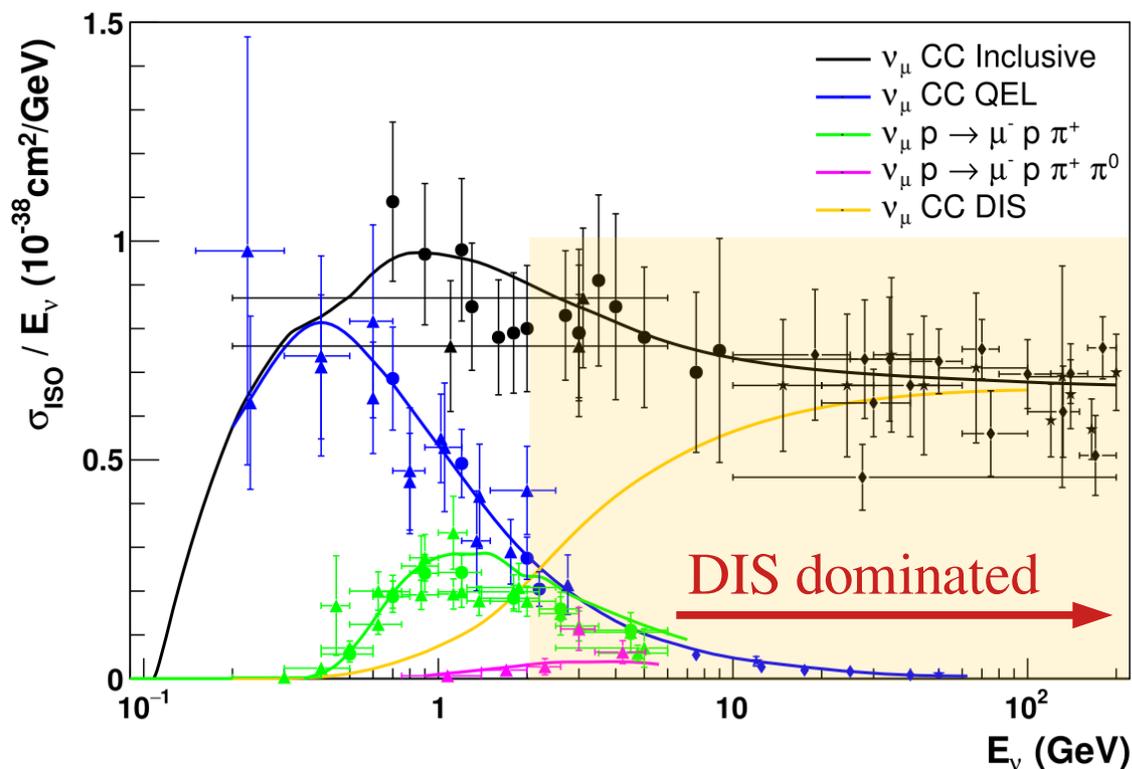
| Simulation domain         | Model                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Nuclear model             | Local Fermi Gas [14]     |
| QEL and 2p2h              | Valencia [13, 15]        |
| QEL Charm                 | Kovalenko [16]           |
| QEL $\Delta S = 1$        | Pais [17]                |
| RES                       | Berger-Sehgal [18]       |
| SIS/DIS                   | Bodek-Yang [19]          |
| DIS $\Delta S = 1$        | Aivazis-Tung-Olness [20] |
| Coherent $\pi$ production | Berger-Sehgal [18]       |
| Hadronization             | AGKY [21]                |
| FSI                       | INTRANUKE hA [22]        |



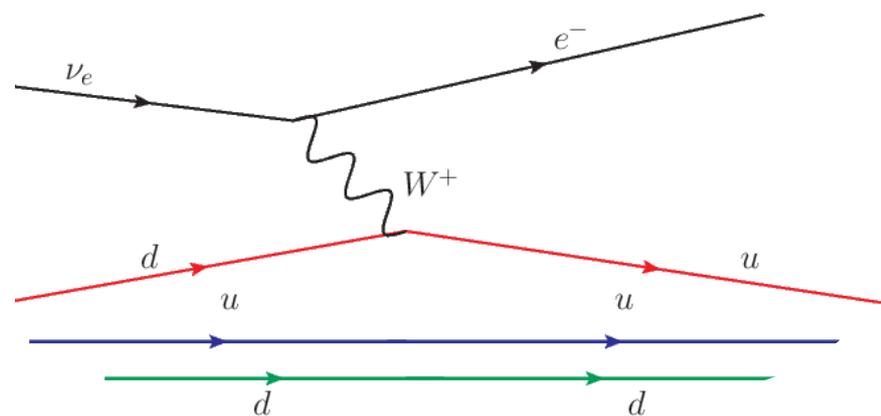
- physical compatibility of models in tunes is an open topic
- **complicated correlations and patterns of tensions**

- given strong model dependence, strong value to QCD-based input...

# neutrino-nuclear DIS is a problem of special interest



→ most formulable in terms of active QCD degrees of freedom



- high energy scattering dominated DIS

- provides context to systematically improve QCD theory

- unique access to hadron, nuclear flavor structure

$\sim \langle \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 \rangle$  CC operator structure selects unique parton-level flavor currents

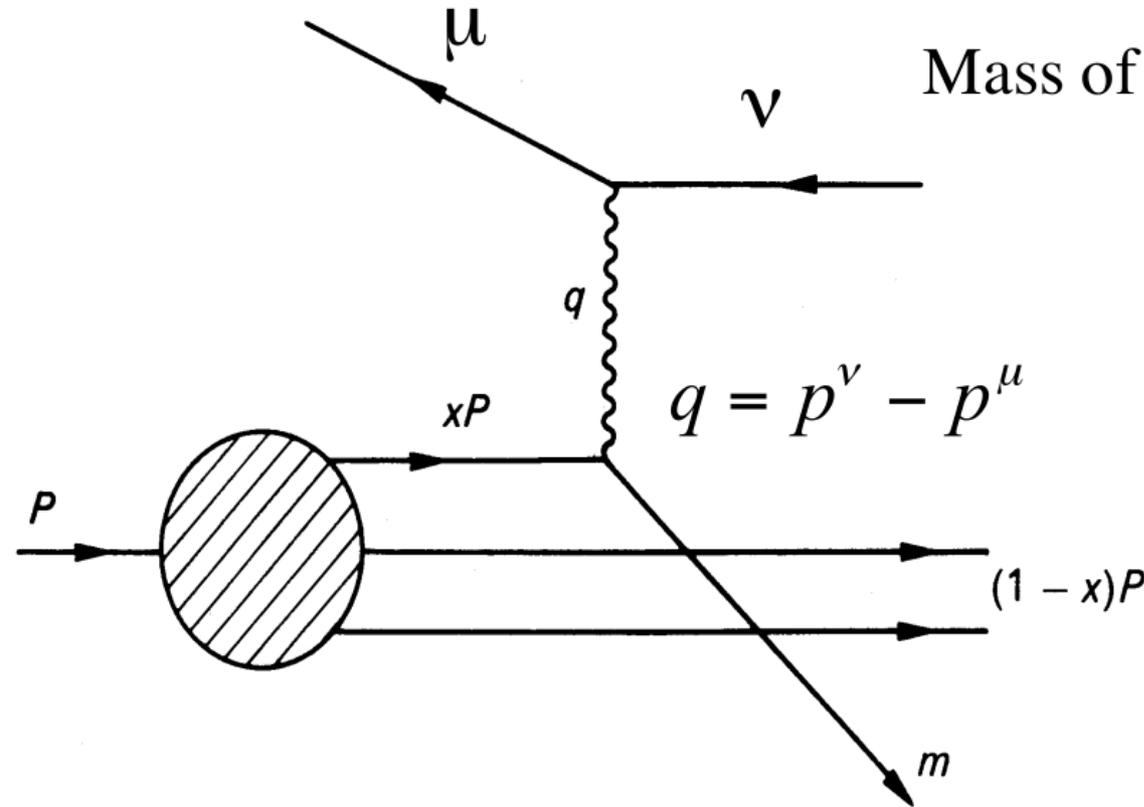
- critical contribution in few-GeV region for DUNE, Phase-1, 2

neutrino DIS closely resembles EM analogue

Mass of target quark  $m_q^2 = x^2 P^2$

Mass of final state quark

$$m_{q'}^2 = (xP + q)^2$$



In “infinite momentum frame”,  $x$  is momentum of partons inside the nucleon

$$x = \frac{Q^2}{2P \cdot q} = \frac{Q^2}{2M_T \nu}$$

Neutrino scatters off a point-like parton inside the nucleon. Valid picture at high energies

# neutrino-nucleon interactions in the quark model

- charge-current structure restricts flavors “felt” by external boson

## Scattering off proton:

recitation yesterday: point-like scattering!

$$\frac{d\sigma_{CC}(v_{\mu}P)}{dx dy} = \frac{G_F^2 ME}{\pi} 2x \left\{ [d(x) + s(x)] + [\bar{u}(x) + \bar{c}(x)] (1-y)^2 \right\}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma_{CC}(\bar{v}_{\mu}P)}{dx dy} = \frac{G_F^2 ME}{\pi} 2x \left\{ [u(x) + c(x)] (1-y)^2 + [\bar{d}(x) + \bar{s}(x)] \right\}$$

## Structure functions:

$$F_2^{vp}(x) = 2x[d(x) + \bar{u}(x) + s(x) + \bar{c}(x)]$$

$$xF_3^{vp}(x) = 2x[d(x) - \bar{u}(x) + s(x) - \bar{c}(x)]$$

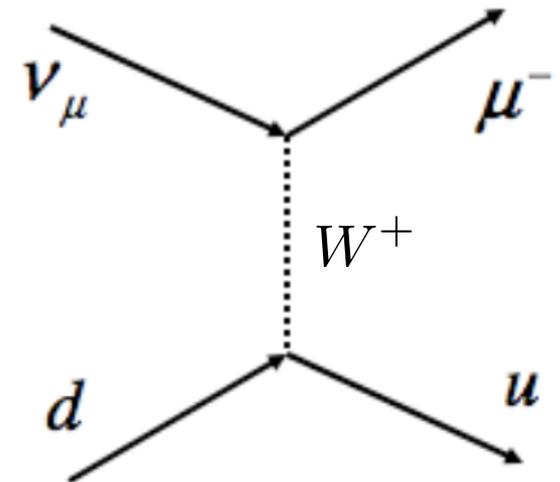
$$F_2^{\bar{v}p}(x) = 2x[u(x) + c(x) + \bar{d}(x) + \bar{s}(x)]$$

$$xF_3^{\bar{v}p}(x) = 2x[u(x) + c(x) - \bar{d}(x) - \bar{s}(x)]$$

## Neutron (isospin symmetry):

$$F_2^{vn}(x) = 2x[u(x) + \bar{d}(x) + s(x) + \bar{c}(x)]$$

$$xF_3^{vn}(x) = 2x[u(x) - \bar{d}(x) + s(x) - \bar{c}(x)]$$



# nuclear scattering involves systems with mixed isospin

- simplifications occur in quark model for isoscalar nucleons,  $N = (p + n)/2$ 
  - Scattering off isoscalar target (equal number neutrons and protons):

$$q \equiv u + d + s + c$$

$$\bar{q} \equiv \bar{u} + \bar{d} + \bar{s} + \bar{c}$$

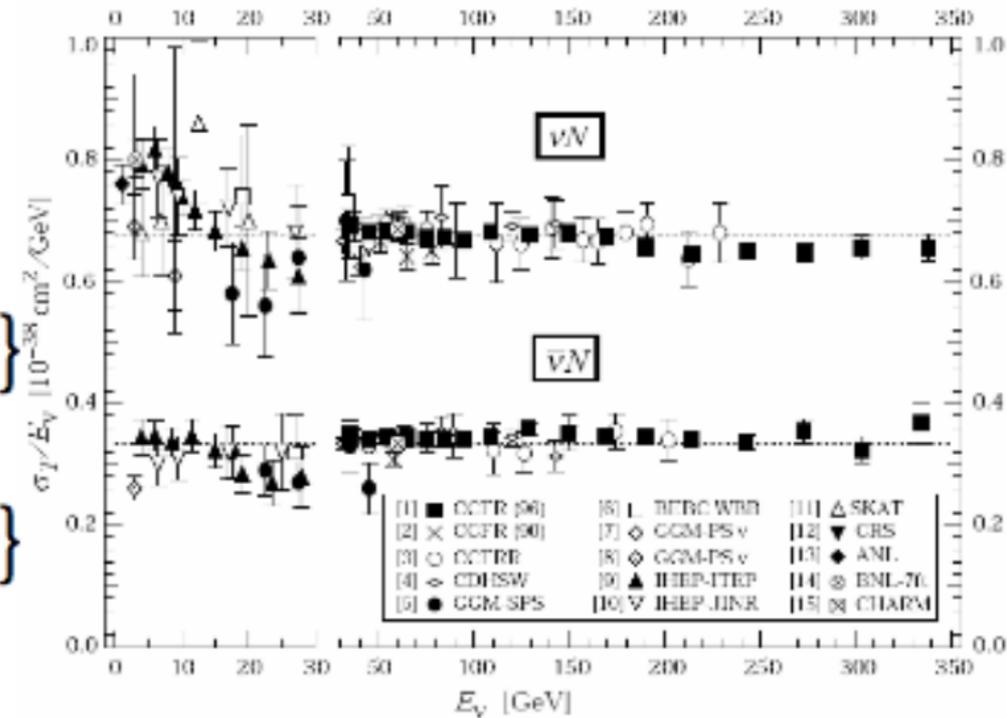
$$F_2^{VN}(x) = x[q(x) + \bar{q}(x)]$$

$$xF_3^{VN}(x) = x[q(x) - \bar{q}(x) + 2(s(x) - c(x))]$$

$$xF_3^{\bar{V}N}(x) = x[q(x) - \bar{q}(x) - 2(s(x) - c(x))]$$

$$\frac{d\sigma_{CC}(\nu_\mu N)}{dxdy} = \frac{G_F^2 ME}{\pi} x \left\{ q(x) + \bar{q}(x) (1-y)^2 \right\}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma_{CC}(\bar{\nu}_\mu N)}{dxdy} = \frac{G_F^2 ME}{\pi} x \left\{ q(x)(1-y)^2 + \bar{q}(x) \right\}$$



- Total cross-section:

$$\sigma_{CC}(\nu_\mu N) = \frac{G_F^2 s}{2\pi} \left[ \langle Q \rangle + \frac{1}{3} \langle \bar{Q} \rangle \right] = (0.677 \pm 0.014) \times 10^{-38} \text{ cm}^2 / \text{GeV} \times E(\text{GeV})$$

$$\sigma_{CC}(\bar{\nu}_\mu N) = \frac{G_F^2 s}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{3} \langle Q \rangle + \langle \bar{Q} \rangle \right] = (0.334 \pm 0.008) \times 10^{-38} \text{ cm}^2 / \text{GeV} \times E(\text{GeV})$$

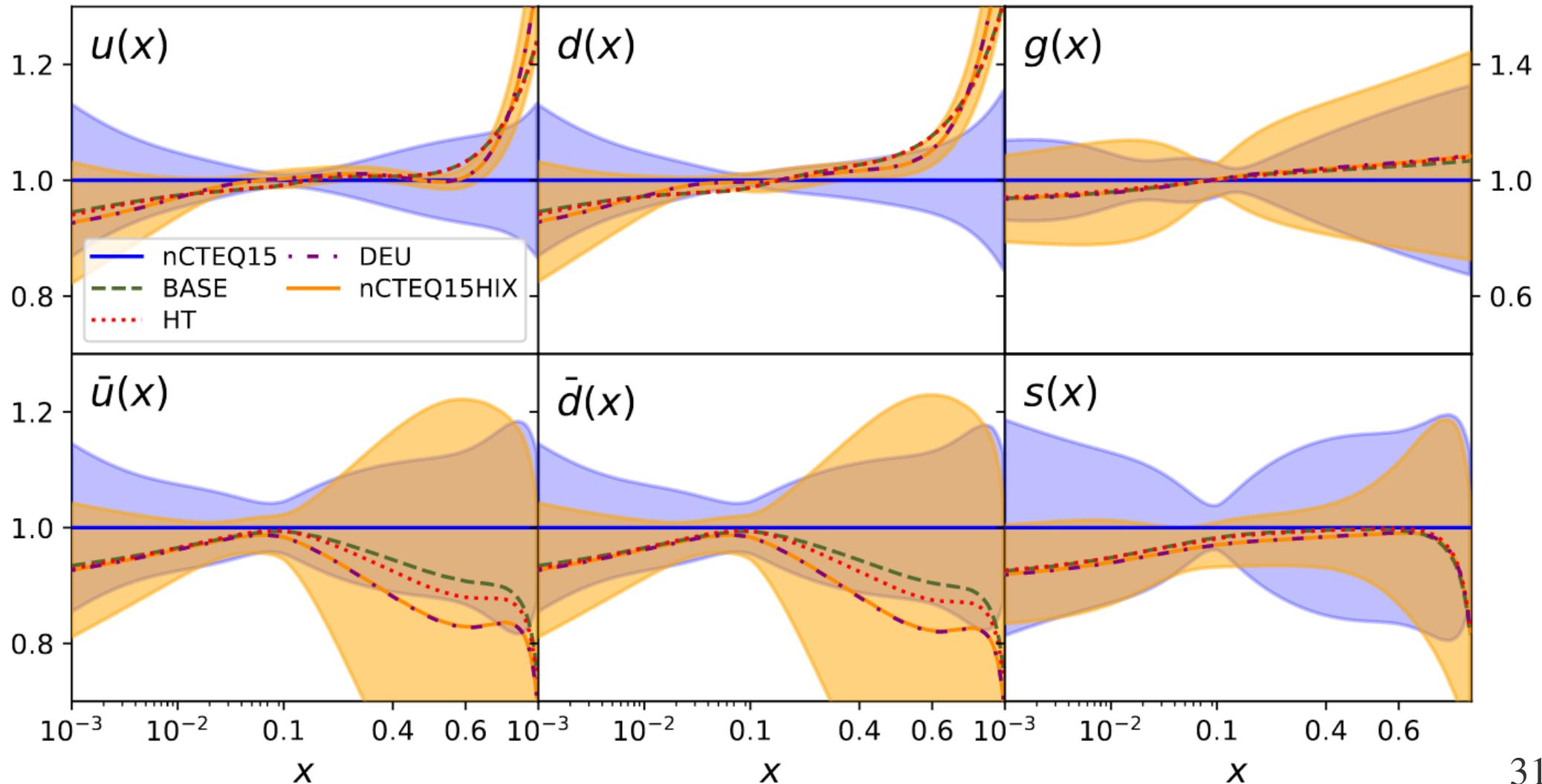
# ultimately, need freely-fitted **nuclear PDFs**

→ multitude of nuclear effects impact the partonic content of nuclei vs. proton

$$x f_i^{p/A}(x, Q_0) = c_0 x^{c_1} (1-x)^{c_2} e^{c_3 x} (1 + e^{c_4 x})^{c_5}$$

(anti)shadowing; long, short-distance correlations; collective effects; ...

Iron PDF Ratios to nCTEQ15 ( $Q = 2$  GeV)

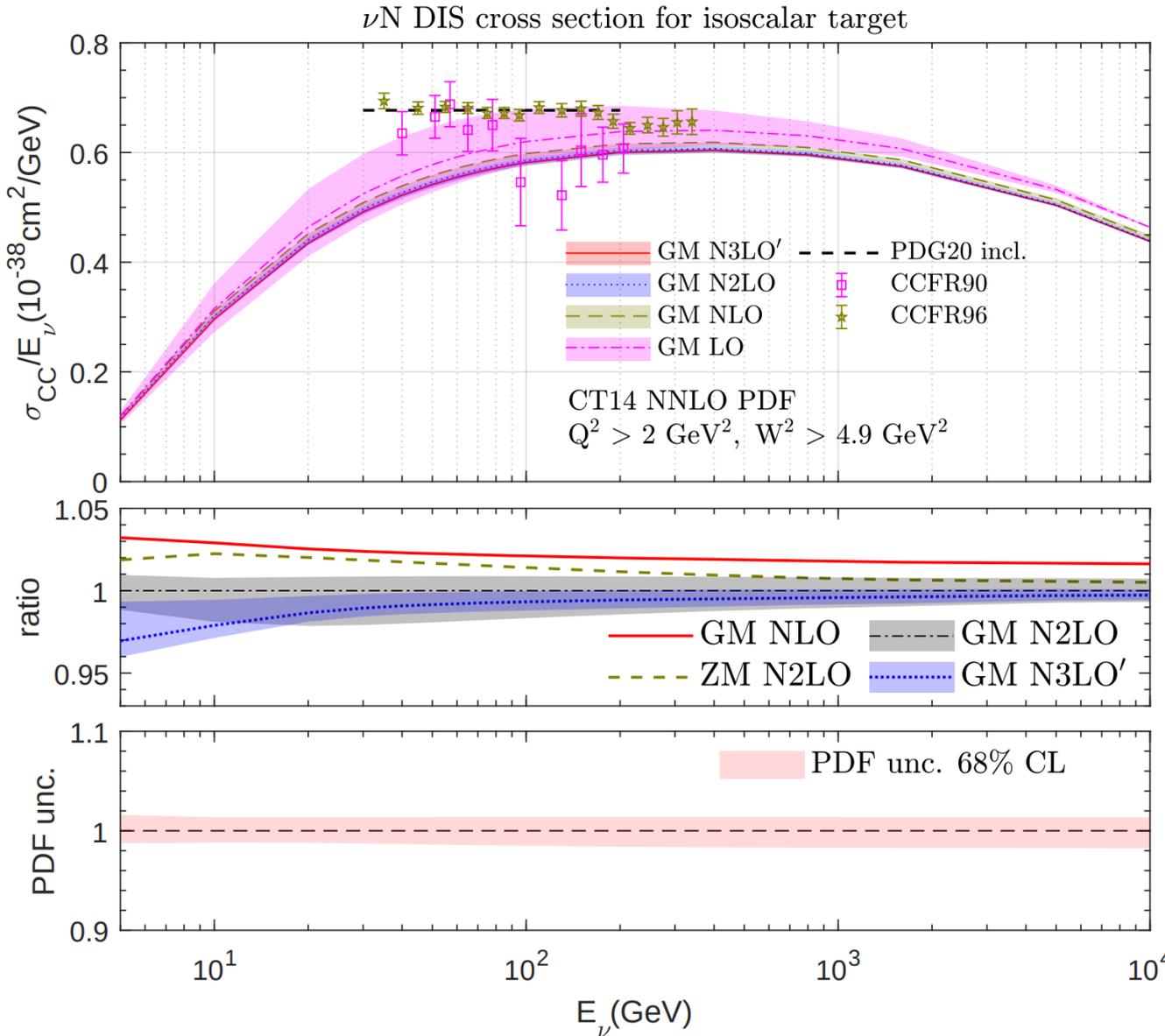


but this is all LO! ... higher orders are important (and challenging)

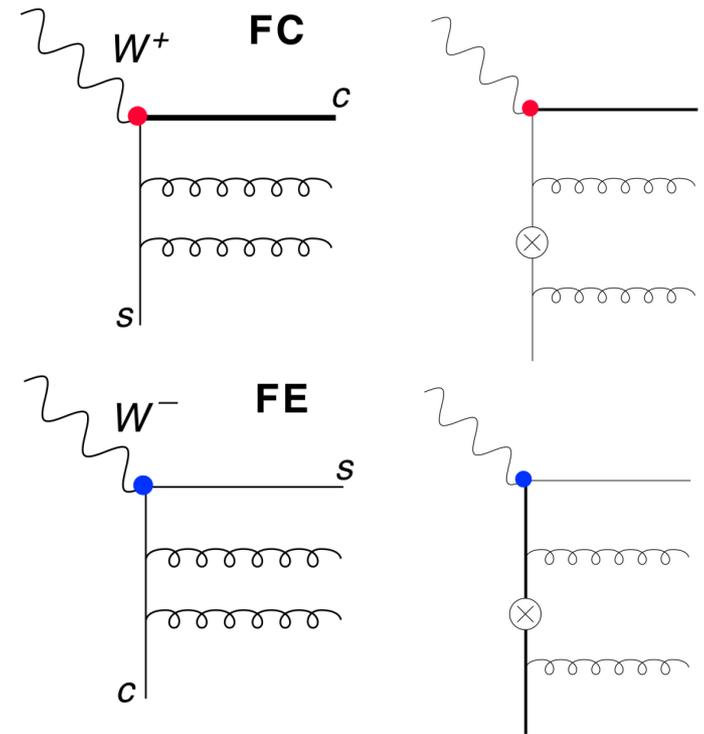
- computing NNLO corrections is very non-trivial, especially given heavy-quark mass scales

Phys. Rev. D **105** (2022) 1, L011503

$$F_i^{\text{CC}}(x, Q^2) = \sum_a \int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y} C_i^a(y) \Phi_a\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{M_N^2}{Q^2}\right)$$



→ at higher energies, significant impact on sensitivity of forward-physics program at FASER $\nu$  ( $\sim 100$ s GeV); neutrino telescopes ( $> \text{TeV}$ )



## some open questions

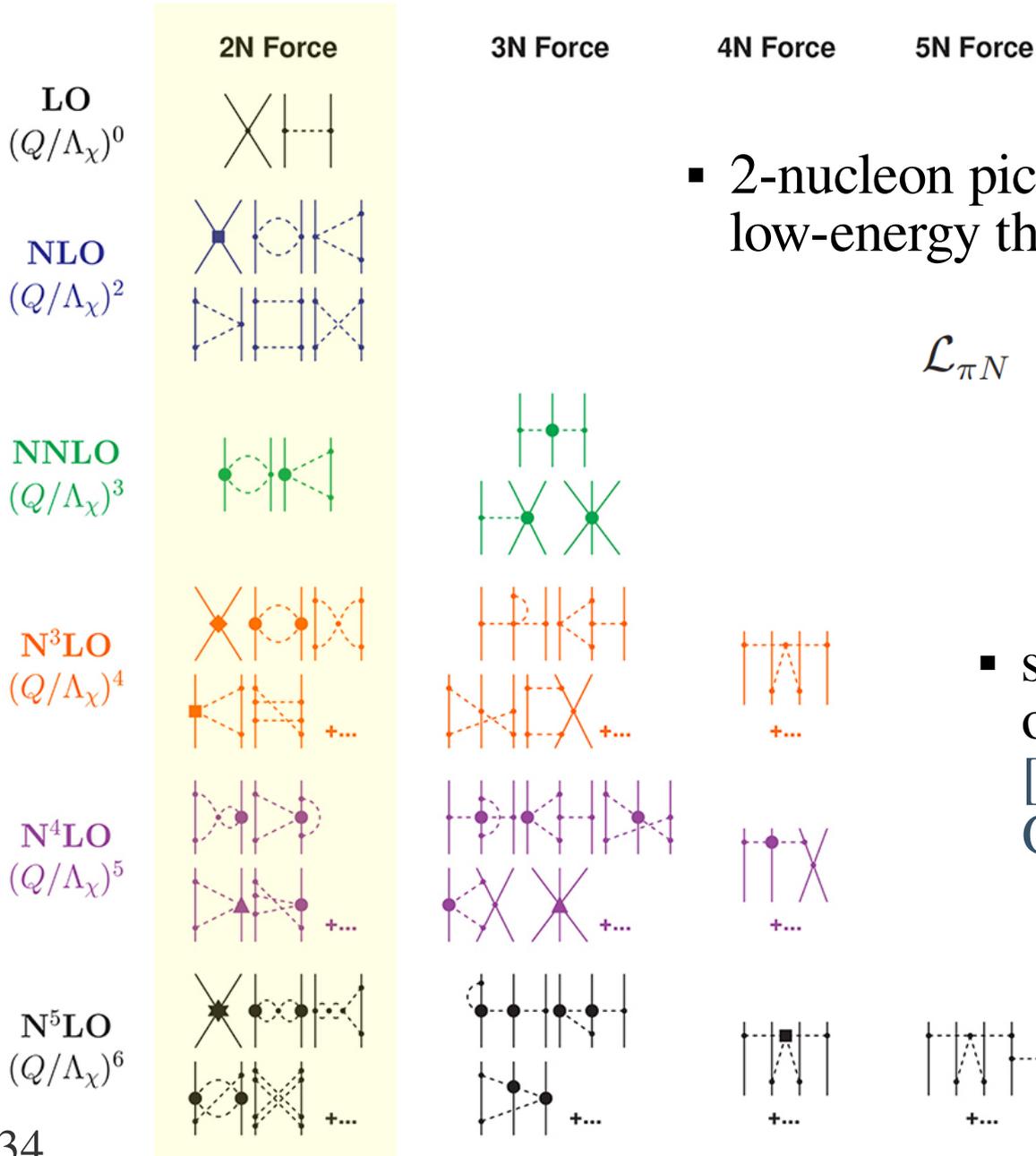
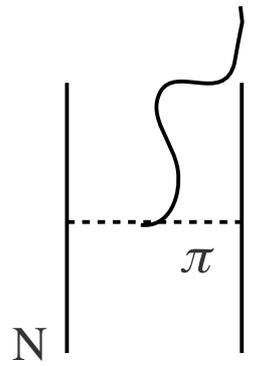
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- exciting topics; YOU may be the one to solve or advance these...



again, must disclaim that this is my own very limited (and biased) selection!

# earlier: showed $\chi_{PT}$ description of nuclear interactions



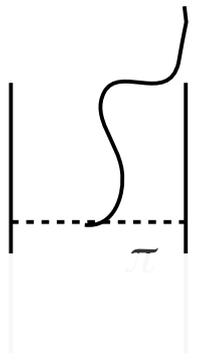
- 2-nucleon picture has basis in formal low-energy theory

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi N} = \frac{g_A}{2f_\pi} \bar{\psi}_N \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \partial_\mu \boldsymbol{\pi} \psi_N - \frac{1}{(2f_\pi)^2} \bar{\psi}_N \gamma^\mu \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot (\boldsymbol{\pi} \times \partial_\mu \boldsymbol{\pi}) \psi_N$$

- systematically improvable to higher orders, particle interactions [perturbation theory not just for QCD, EW theory!]

nuclear physics produces multi-2 (and higher)-nucleon correlations; external bosons scatter from these

# based on the non-linear realization of chiral symmetry

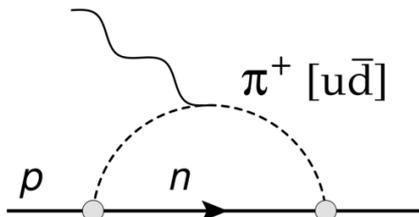


- deep question: the pion is the pseudo-Nambu-Goldstone boson associated with chiral symmetry breaking...

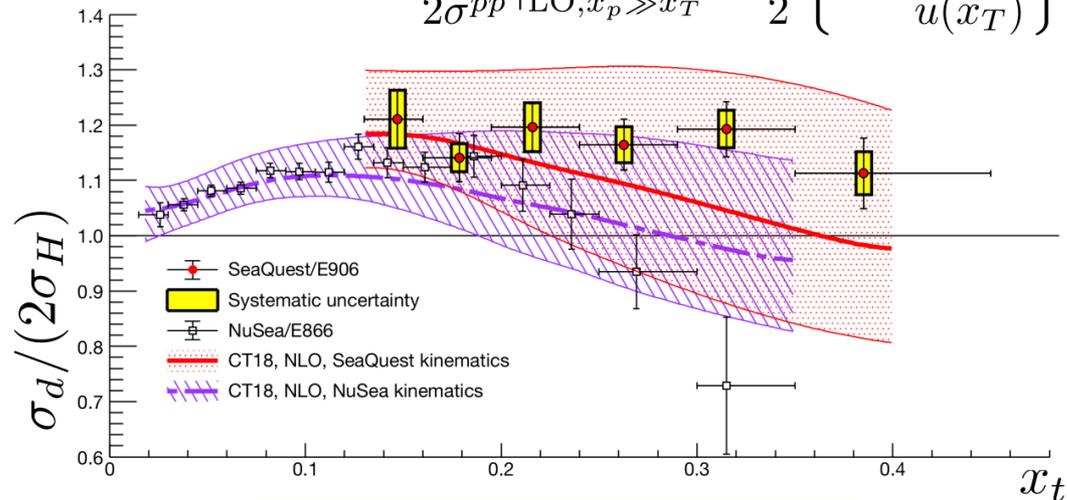
- how does this work at quark-level? the symmetries of QCD must be reflected in the symmetries of the hadronic effective theory
- **relevant for understanding QCD, modeling  $\nu A$**

The Fermilab SeaQuest (E906) experiment may be sensitive to the high- $x$  fraction of  $\bar{d}$  vs.  $\bar{u}$

- many nonpert. models favor  $\bar{d}/\bar{u} > 1$



$$\frac{\sigma^{pd}}{2\sigma^{pp}} \Big|_{\text{LO}, x_p \gg x_T} \sim \frac{1}{2} \left\{ 1 + \frac{\bar{d}(x_T)}{\bar{u}(x_T)} \right\}$$



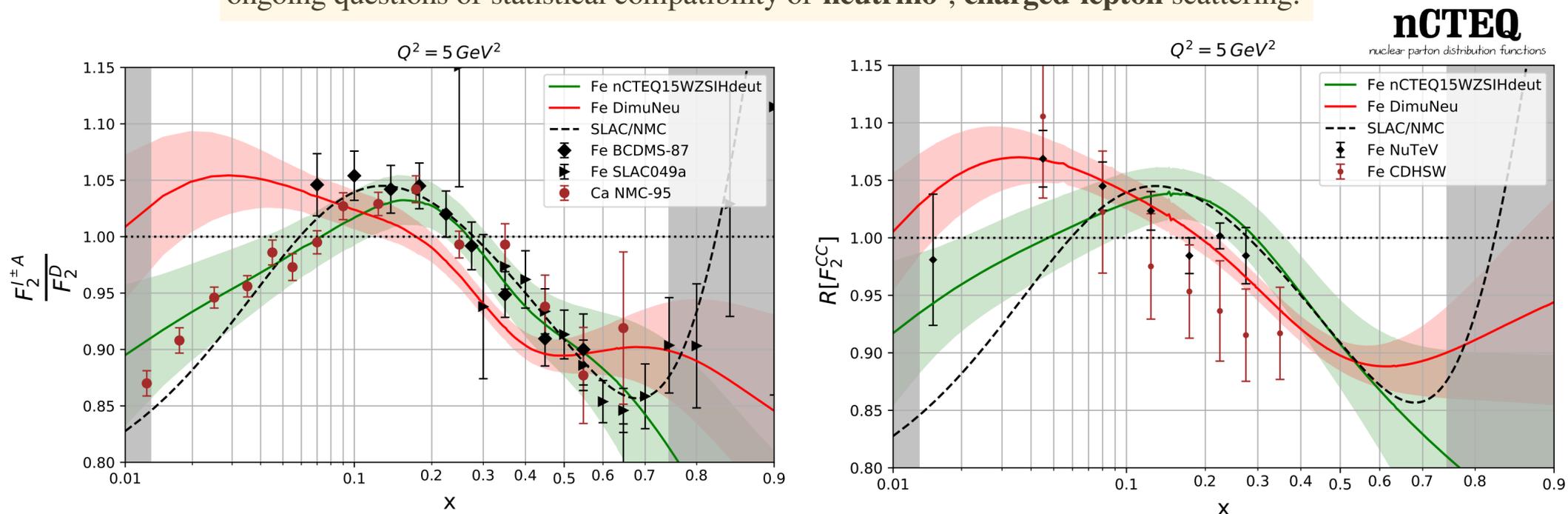
CT18 NNLO,  $\chi^2_E/N_{pt} = 0.82$

to higher  
st for  
es multi-2  
orrelations;  
from these

# must better understand QCD in nuclei

- require knowledge of nuclear corrections; these directly fitted by nPDF analyses
  - better control over  $x$ ,  $A$  dependence can benefit flavor separations
- require knowledge of nuclear corrections; these directly fitted by nPDF analyses

ongoing questions of statistical compatibility of neutrino-, charged-lepton scattering:



**nCTEQ**  
nuclear parton distribution functions

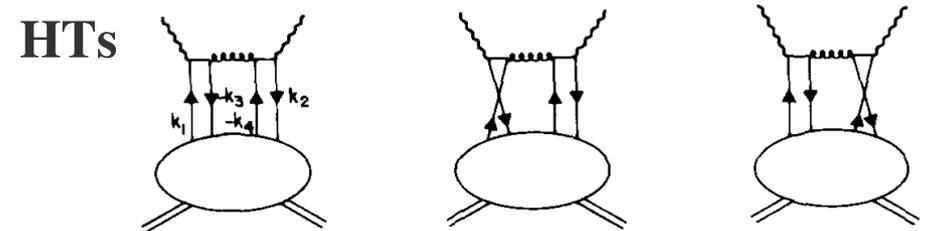
$$F_i^{CC}(x, Q^2) = \sum_a \int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y} C_i^a(y) \Phi_a\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{M_N^2}{Q^2}\right)$$

Muzakka et al., 2204.13157

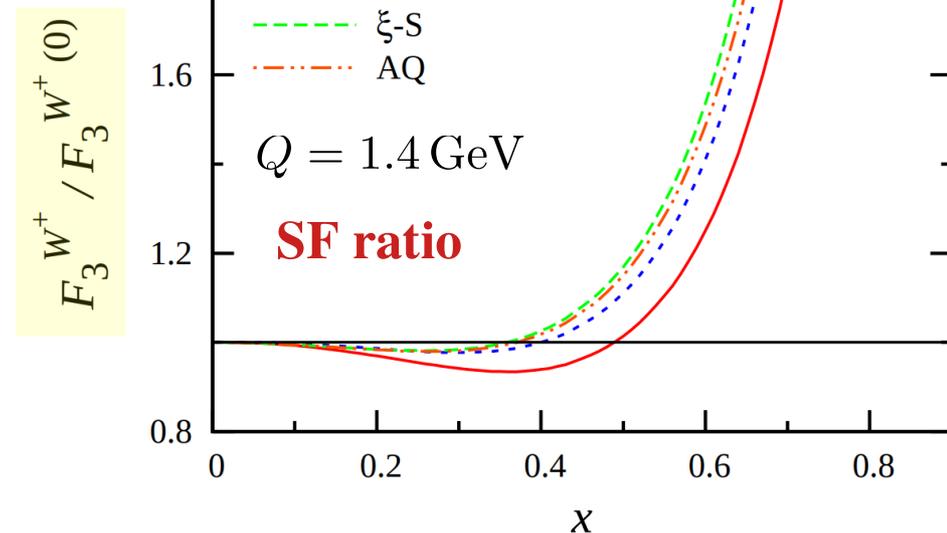
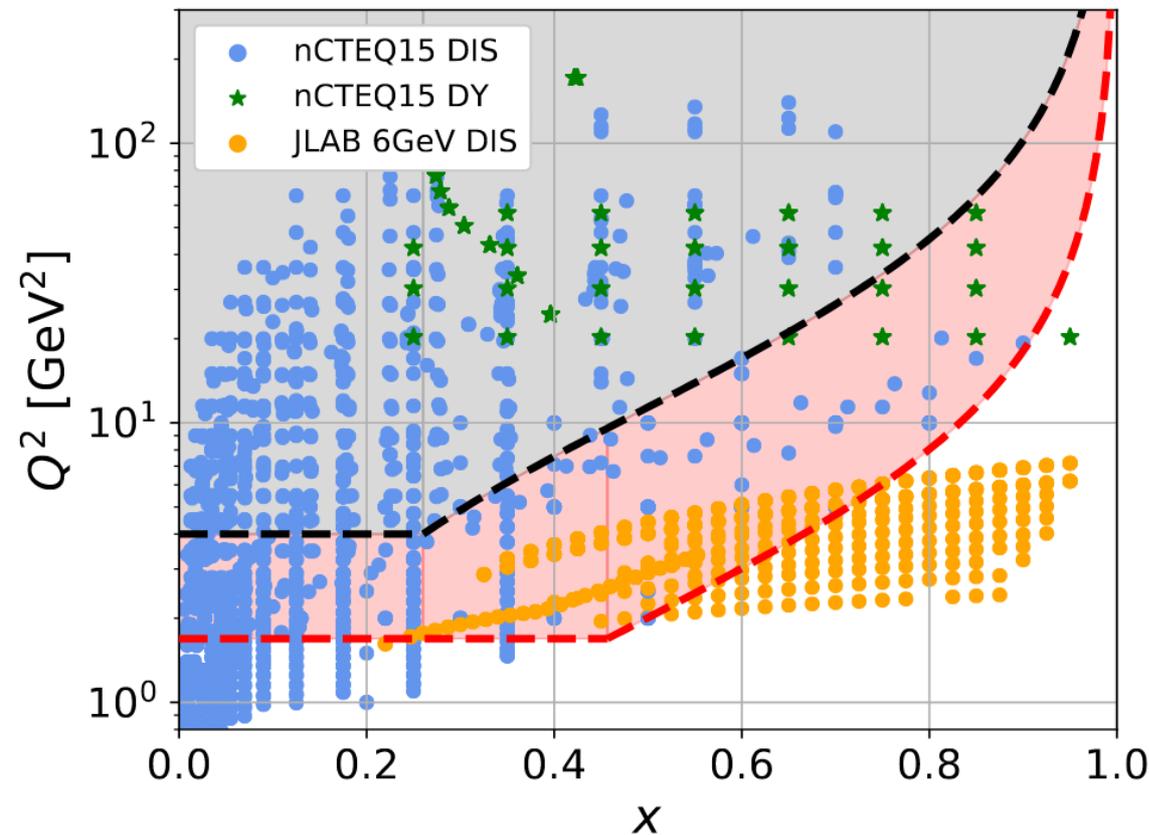
- tests of nuclear factorization would be valuable; **how do EW probes see nuclei?**

# how far can we extend formal QCD into DIS/SIS regime?

- can answer phenomenologically → systematically lower reach of QCD analysis to lower  $Q^2$ ,  $W^2$



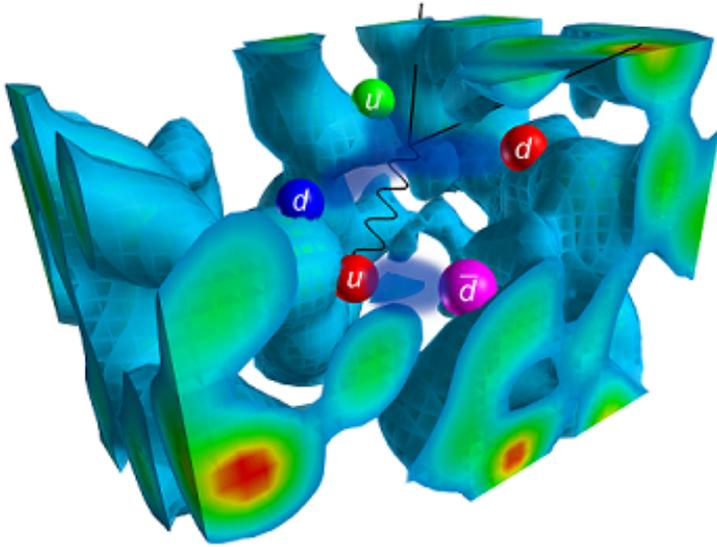
Brady, Accardi, TJH, Melnitchouk: PRD84 (2011) 9, 074008



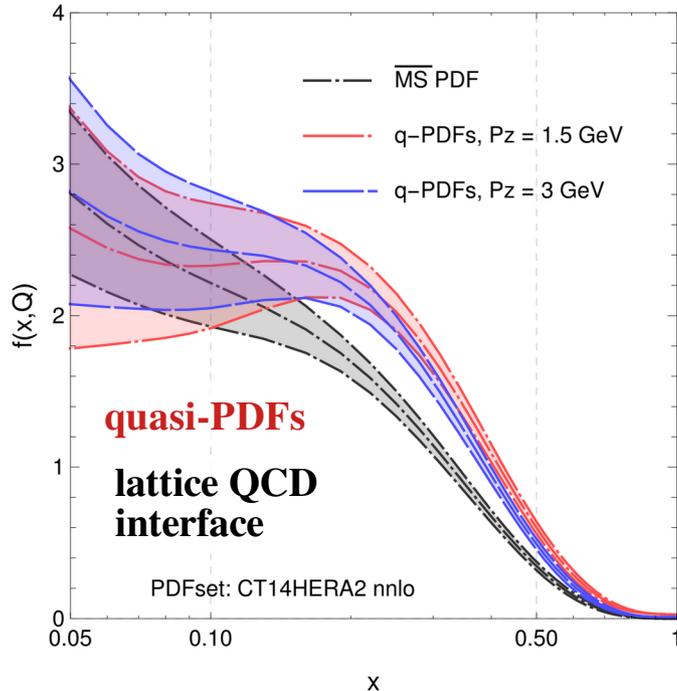
- encounter finite- $Q^2$  effects: multi-parton interactions (“higher twist”); nonperturbative mass effects (TMCs)

→ requires careful treatment in few-GeV region ...currently absent.

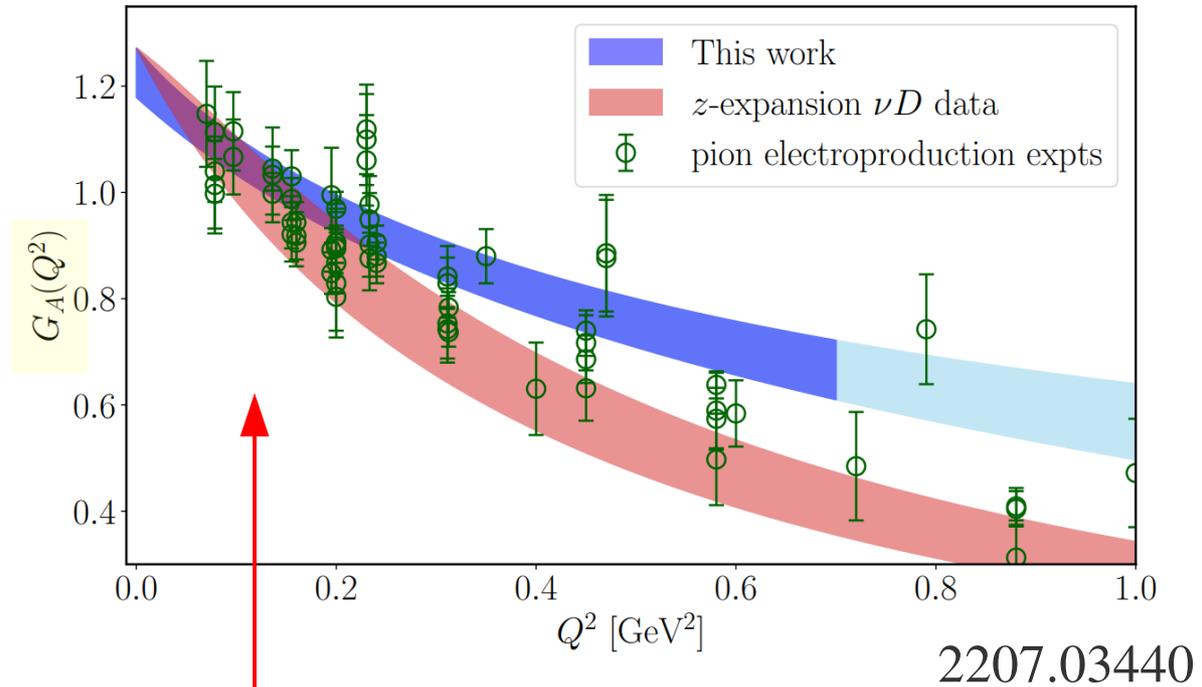
# what might lattice QCD, *ab initio* methods achieve?



TJH, Wang, Nadolsky, Olness: PRD100 (2019) 9, 094040  
u-d at  $\mu_F = 3\text{ GeV}$



- many limiting QCD inputs discussed earlier may be calculable on the **lattice**



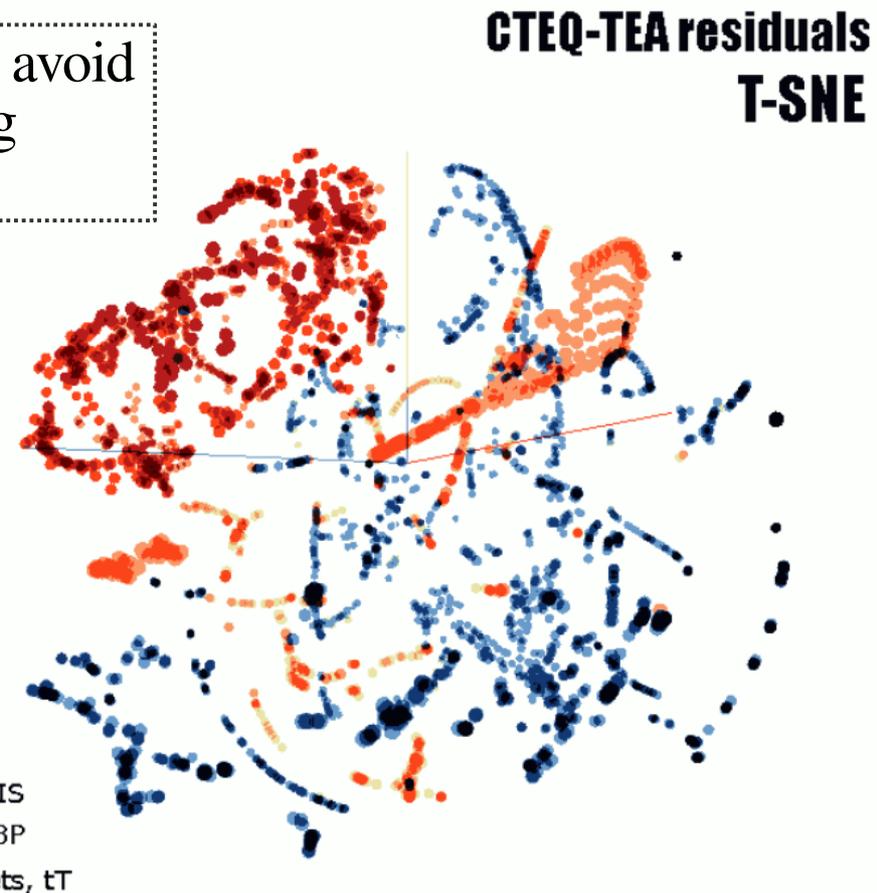
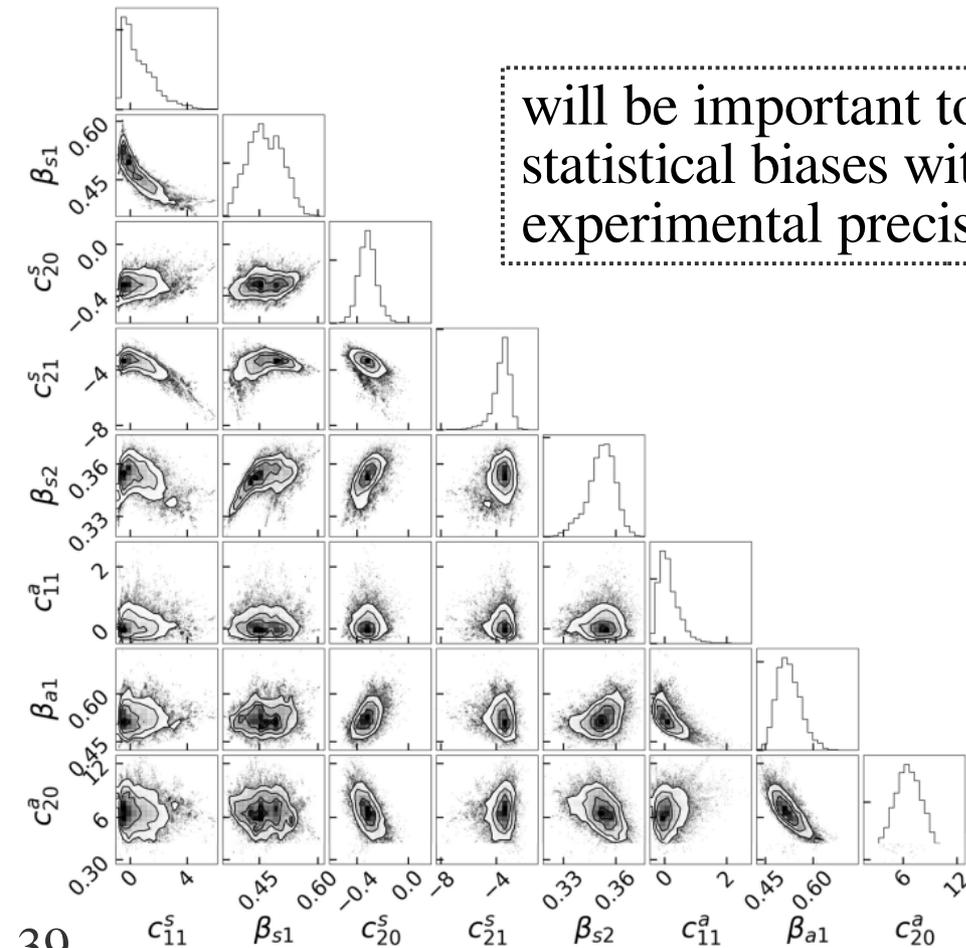
*e.g.*, useful for quasi-elastic neutrino cross section

- synergies with QCD analyses possible

$$G_A(Q^2 = 0) = g_A = \int_0^1 dx \Delta u(x) - \Delta d(x)$$

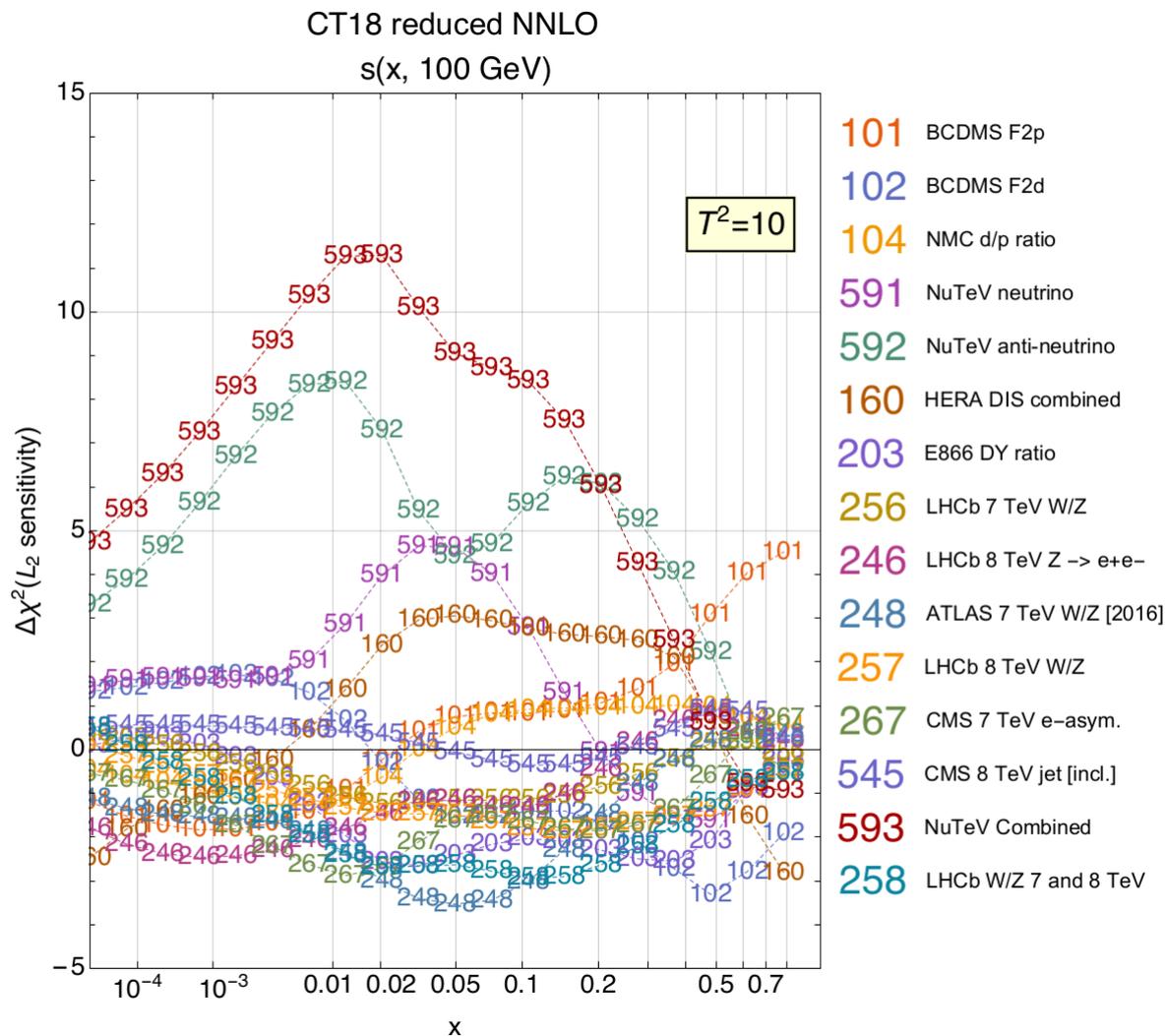
# can we improve the model tunings inside event generators?

- emphasized that generator tunings must contend with internal correlations
  - Bayesian methods (*e.g.*, MCMC) helpful for disentangling
  - dimensionality reduction techniques can encapsulate dominant pulls



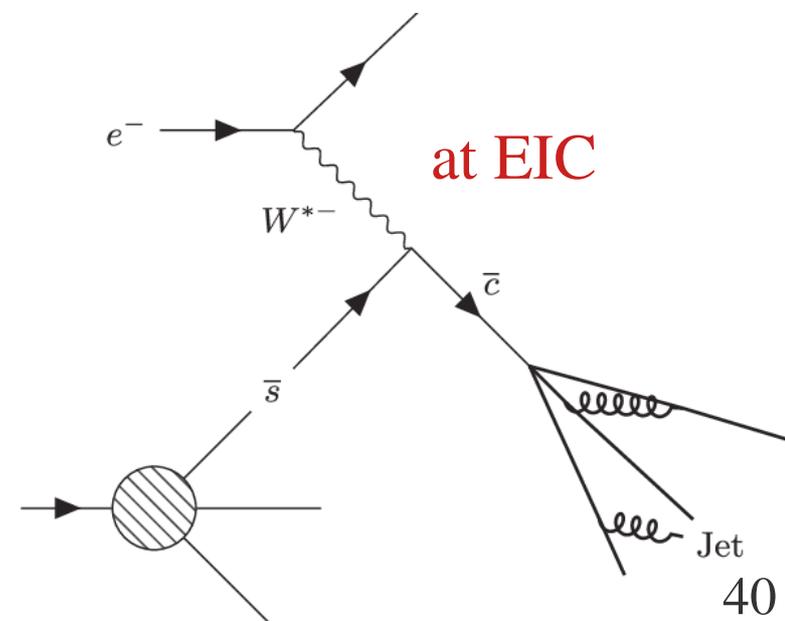
# connections to other experiments?

- CC nuclear DIS has an important place in PDF analyses



- would be valuable to better understand relationships to other influential hadronic data

- analogous charged-lepton measurements at EIC; parity-violation at JLab



- data from LHC, EIC, JLab, RHIC, ...

## exciting times: many problems, many opportunities

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- understanding the neutrino sector is inextricably linked to understanding QCD
  - many interesting **calculations**, **measurements** await your effort
  - all strike at **core HEP objectives**



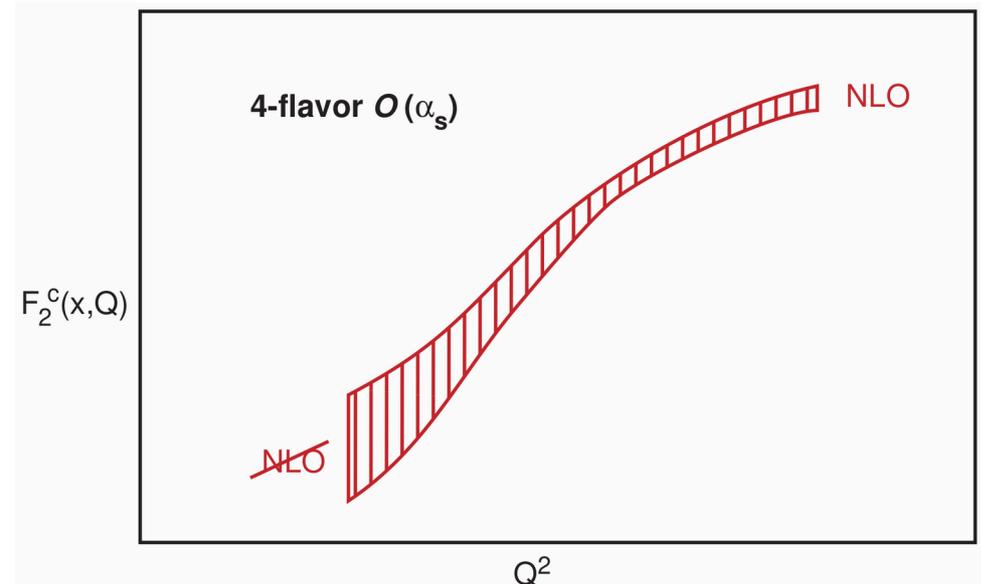
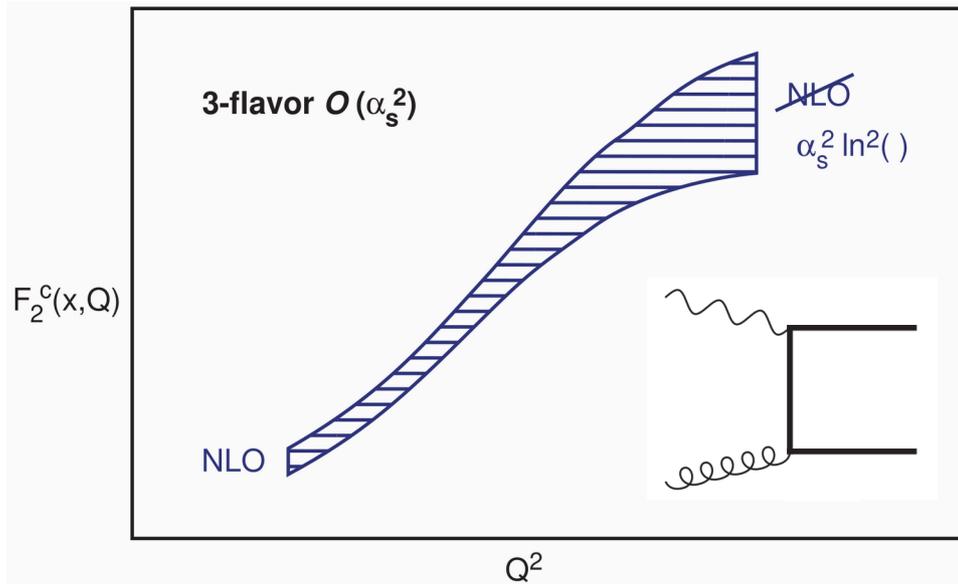
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Many thanks! 😊 please reach out with questions: [thobbs@fnal.gov](mailto:thobbs@fnal.gov)

—— supplementary material ——

# evolution schemes as general problem in QCD

- higher order(s) in pQCD: improved accuracy in Wilson coeff., control over scale dependence
- at given fixed order, nontrivial relationship with chosen heavy-quark (HQ) scheme



- fixed flavor-number (FFN):  $Q \gtrsim M_Q$ ; flavor-creation (FC) processes with  $n_f = 3$
- zero-mass (ZM) variable flavor-number:  $Q \gg M_Q$ ; flavor-excitation (FE) processes with  $n_f = 4$

- 2 paradigms adapted to different regimes w.r.t. HQ mass scale;  $\exists$  **interpolation scheme?**

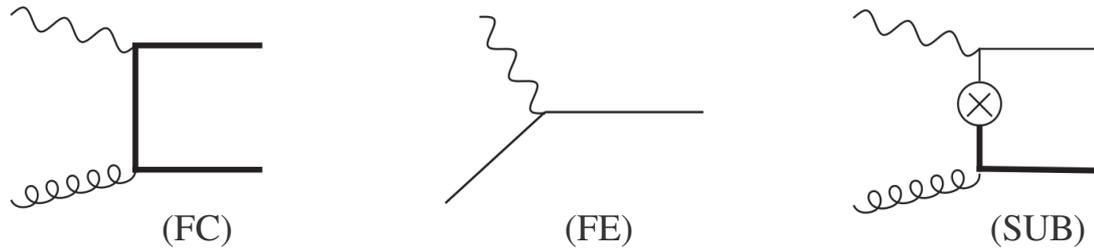
# general-mass schemes: S-ACOT- $\chi$

- variable flavor-number scheme to interpolate between ZM and FFN regimes: **ACOT**

Aivazis, Collins, Olness, Tung; PRD50 (1994) 3085-3118

→ systematic approach to incorporating HQ mass dependence

- introduce subtraction term(s) to eliminate double counting between FC/FE contributions:



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Q \gtrsim M_Q \implies (\text{SUB}) \approx (\text{FE}) \text{ such that } n_f = 3 \text{ FC dominates} \\ Q \gg M_Q \implies (\text{SUB}) \approx (\text{FC}) \text{ such that } n_f = 4 \text{ FE dominates} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\chi(x, Q, M_Q) = x \left( 1 + \frac{1}{Q^2} \left[ \sum_{\text{F.S.}} M_Q \right]^2 \right)$$

- “simplified” ACOT (S-ACOT): neglect full HQ mass dependence in FE graphs
- S-ACOT- $\chi$ : smooth HQ thresholds, include approx. HQ mass dependence:  $C_i(x) \rightarrow C_i(\chi)$

- formulation necessitates careful tracking of diagrams to organize calculation correctly

# template calculation: NC DIS at NNLO

Guzzi, Nadolsky, Lai, Yuan Phys. Rev. D86, 053005 (2012)

[arXiv: 1108.5112]

- at structure-function level, factorization allows separation of coeff. functions, PDFs:

$$F(x, Q) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_f^s} e_i^2 \sum_{a=0}^{N_f} [C_{i,a} \otimes \Phi_{a/p}] (x, Q) \quad (F = F_{2,L})$$

- compute S-ACOT- $\chi$  coeff. functions: expand in  $\alpha_s$  each term in auxiliary partonic struct. func.:

$$F_{i,b}(\hat{x}, Q) = \sum_{a=0}^{N_f} [C_{i,a} \otimes \Phi_{a/b}] (\hat{x}, Q)$$

→ matching terms order-by-order,

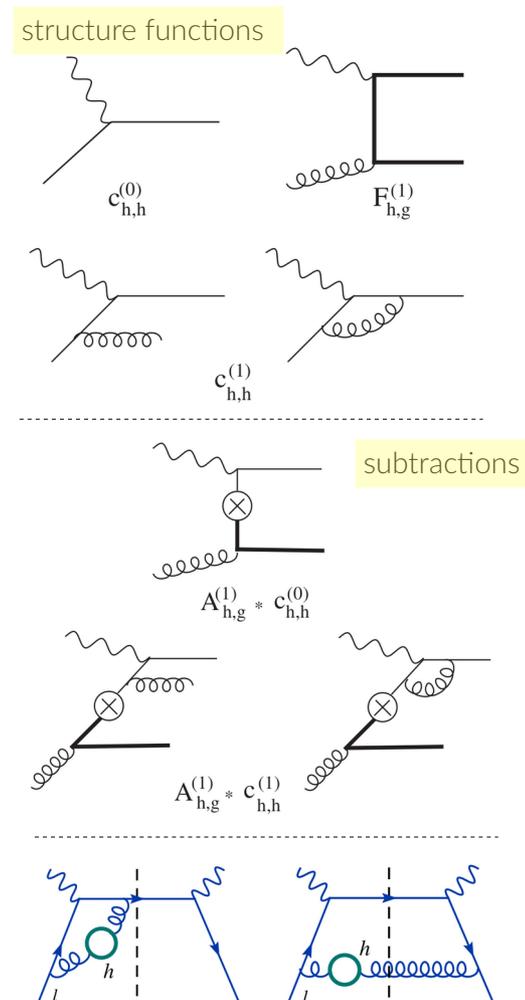
$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} C_{i,b}^{(0)}(\hat{x}) &= F_{i,b}^{(0)}(\hat{x}) \\ C_{i,b}^{(1)}(\hat{x}) &= F_{i,b}^{(1)}(\hat{x}) - [C_{i,a}^{(0)} \otimes A_{ab}^{(1)}](\hat{x}) \\ C_{i,b}^{(2)}(\hat{x}) &= F_{i,b}^{(2)}(\hat{x}) - [C_{i,a}^{(0)} \otimes A_{ab}^{(2)}](\hat{x}) - [C_{i,a}^{(1)} \otimes A_{ab}^{(1)}](\hat{x}) \end{aligned} \right.$$

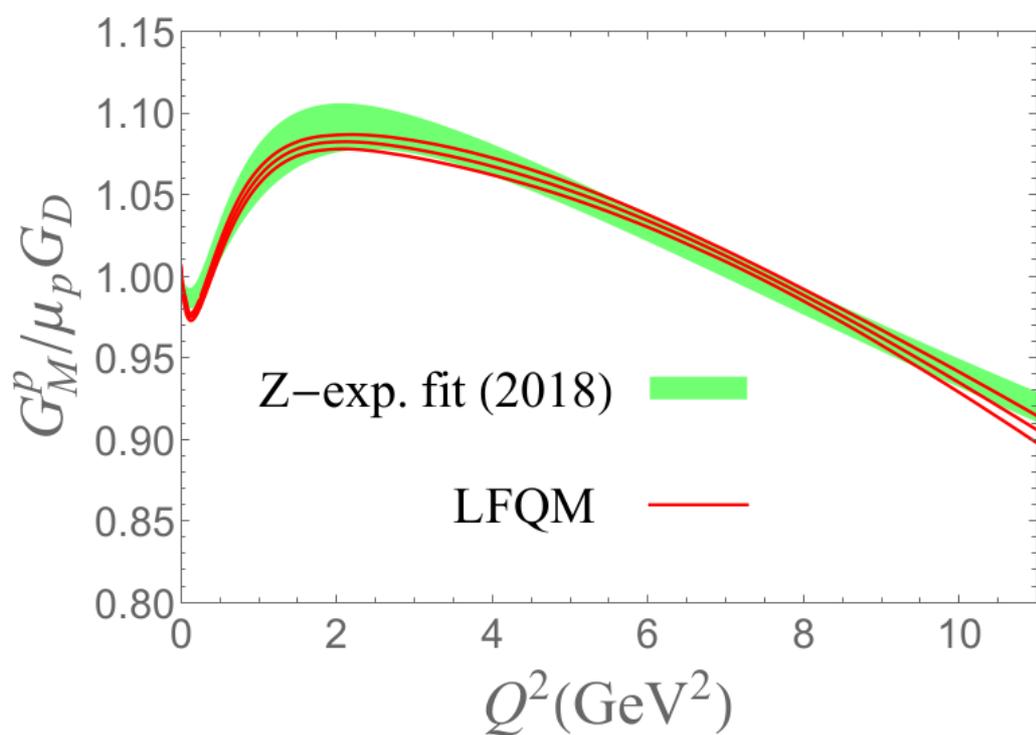
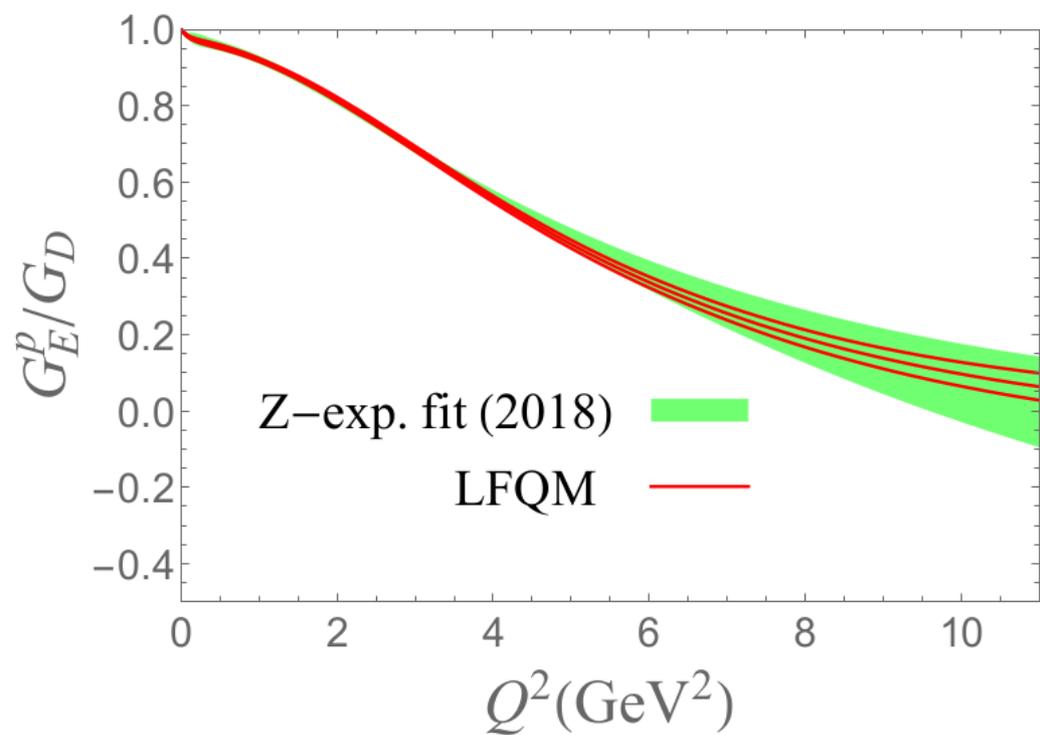
- organize into heavy-, light-quark pieces:  $F = \sum_{l=1}^{N_l} F_l + F_h$

$$C_{h,g}^{(2)} = \hat{F}_{h,g}^{(2)} - A_{hg}^{(2)} - c_{h,h}^{(1)} \otimes A_{hg}^{(1)}$$

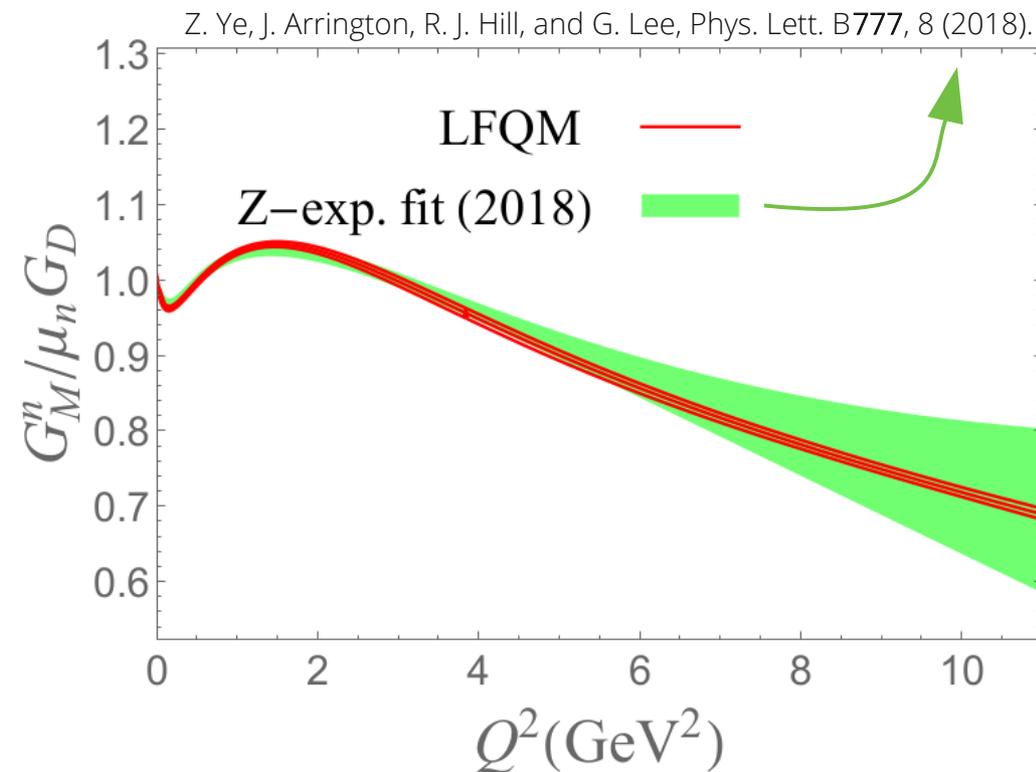
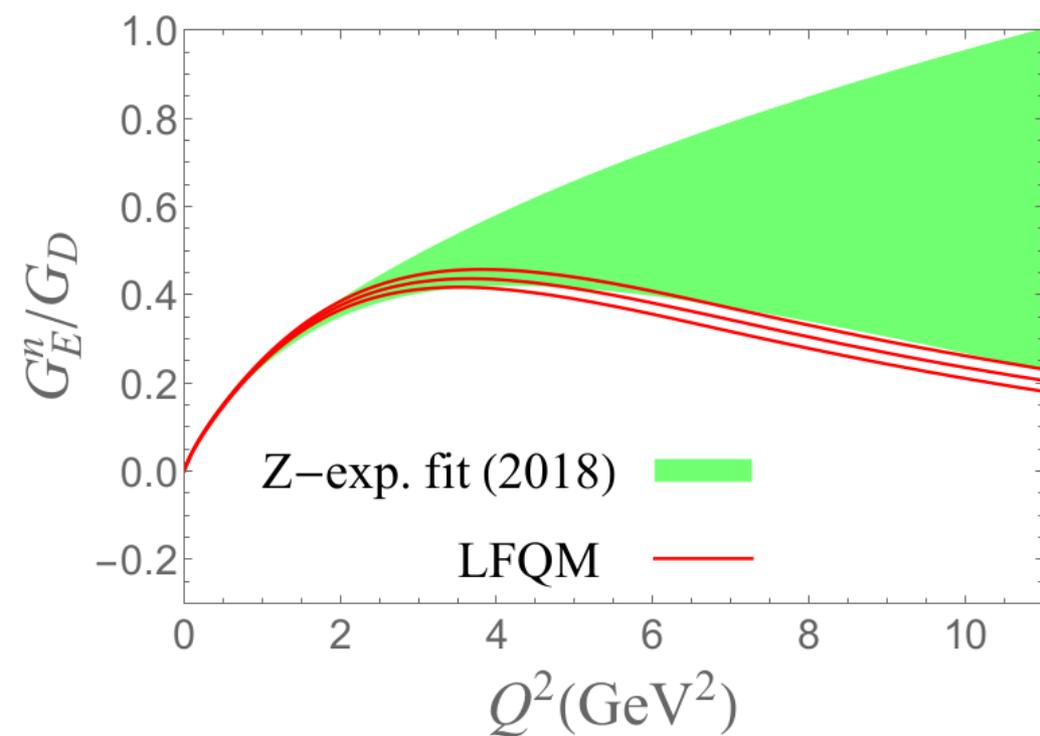
→ S-ACOT- $\chi$ : massless FE,  $\chi$ -rescaled

→ light-quark SFs: additional flavor non-sing. (NS) disconnected graphs:





→ tune the model to fit EM form factors

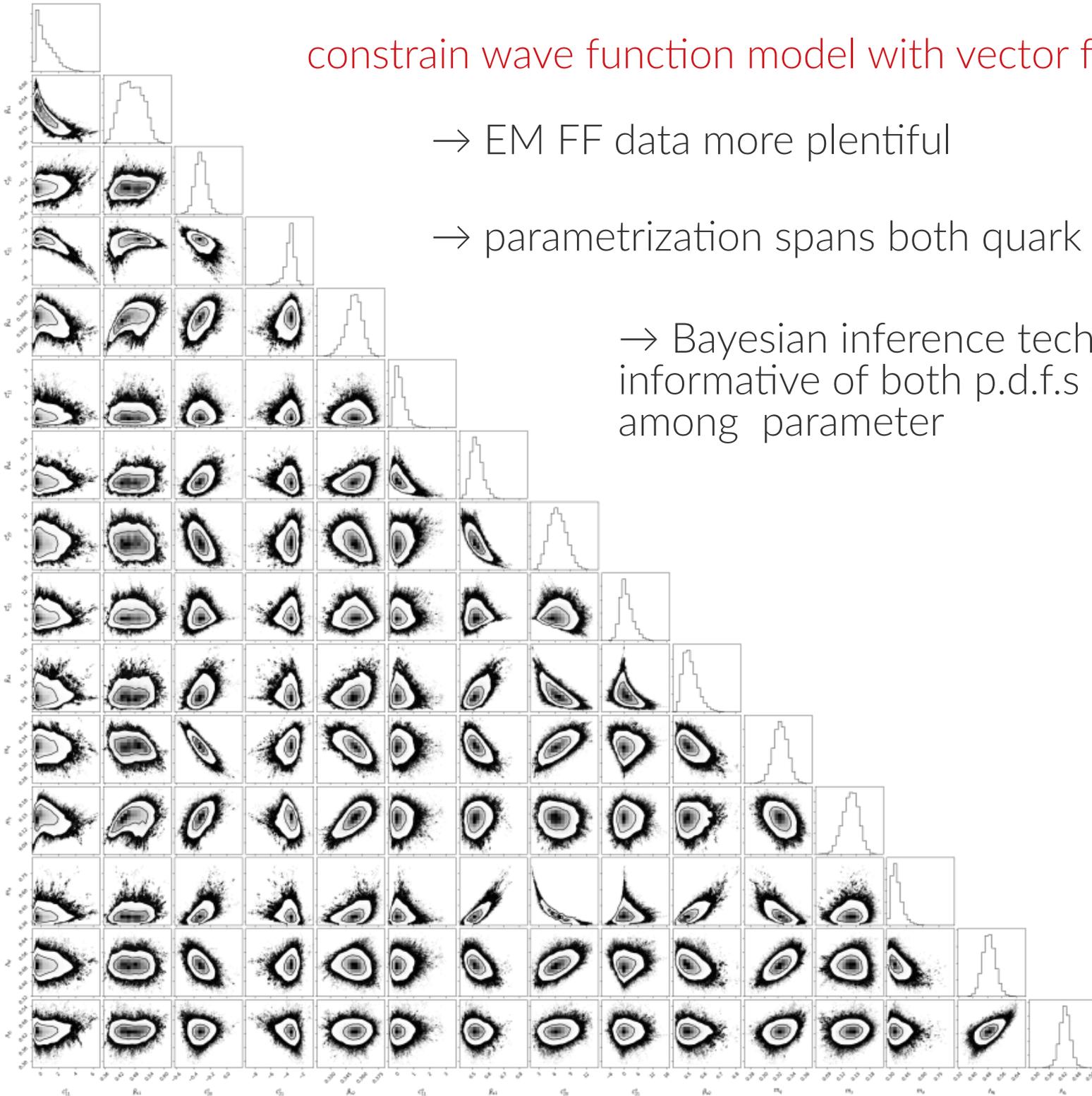


# constrain wave function model with vector form factor data

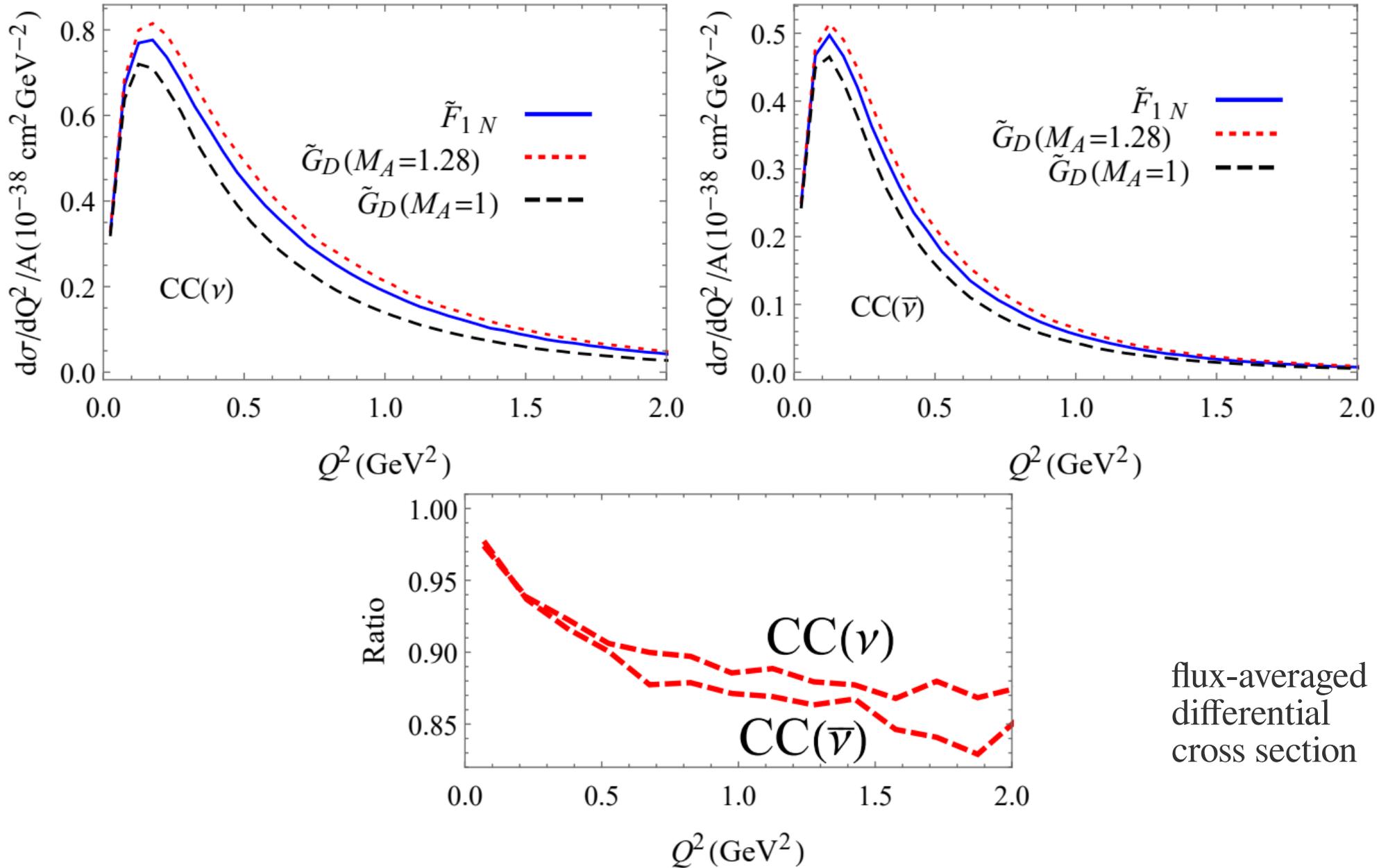
→ EM FF data more plentiful

→ parametrization spans both quark and pion sectors

→ Bayesian inference techniques are informative of both p.d.f.s and correlations among parameter



the behavior of the axial form factor has a large impact in nuclear cross sections!  $\rightarrow$  input into GiBUU transport code for  $\nu(\bar{\nu}) - {}^{40}\text{Ar}$

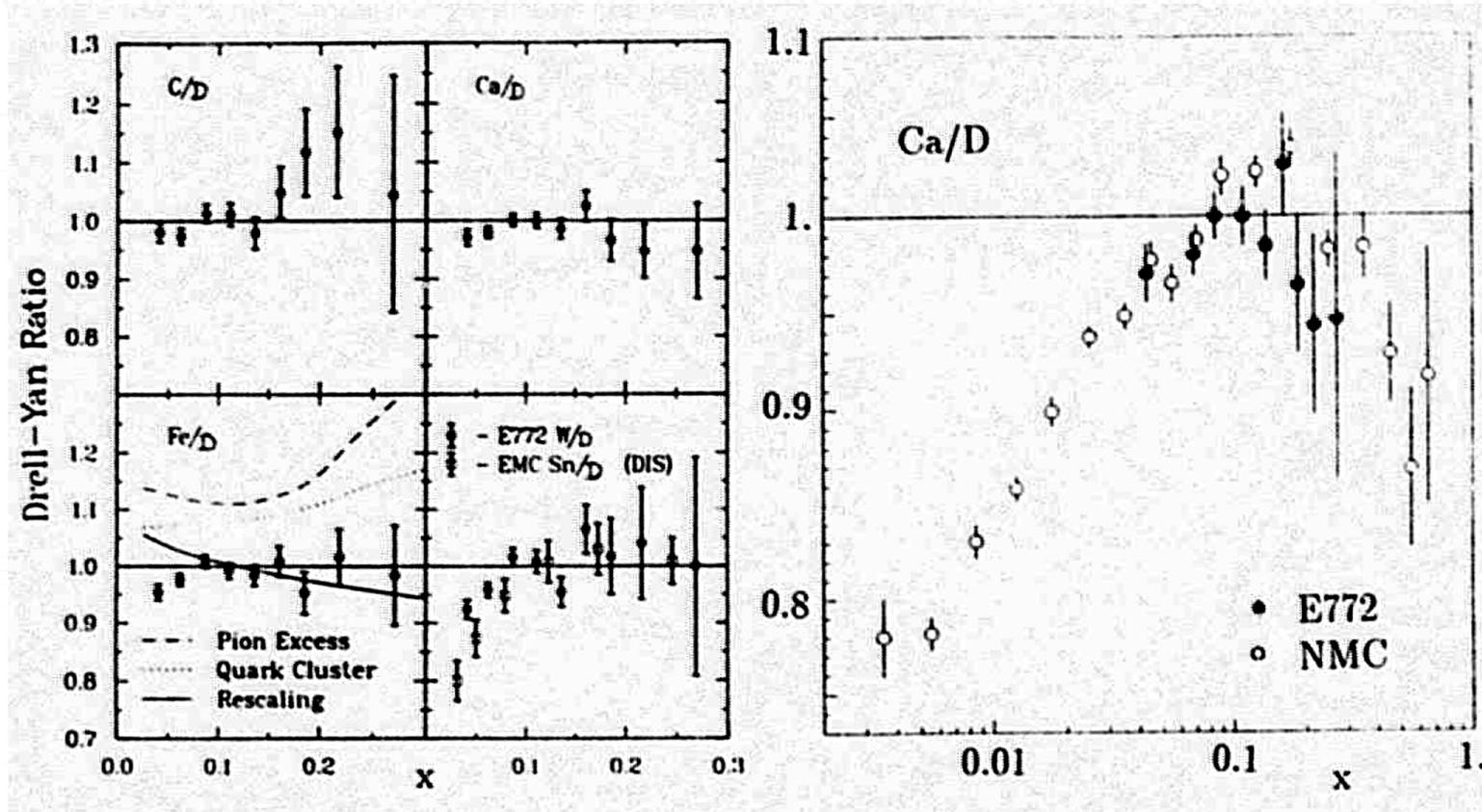


$\sim 5\text{-}10\%$  deviation from naive 1-parameter dipole ansatz!

# important relationship between deuteron / heavy nucl. data

- since CTEQ6: phenomenological nuclear correction factors, *e.g.*,

Rondio, Nucl. Phys. A553 (1993) 615c-624c



|    |                   |  |                          |
|----|-------------------|--|--------------------------|
| 8  | nu-A incl. DIS    | CDHSW $F_2$<br>CDHSW $xF_3$<br>CCFR $F_2$<br>CCFR $xF_3$   | 108<br>109<br>110<br>111 |
| 9  | ttbar production  | CMS 8 TeV $19.7 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ , $t\bar{t}$ norm. top $p_T$ and $y$ cross sec.<br>ATLAS 8 TeV $20.3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ , $t\bar{t}$ $p_T^t$ , $m_{t\bar{t}}$ abs. spectrum | 573<br>580               |
| 10 | nu-A dimuon SIDIS | NuTeV $\nu\mu\mu$ SIDIS<br>NuTeV $\nu\bar{\mu}\mu$ SIDIS<br>CCFR $\nu\mu\mu$ SIDIS<br>CCFR $\nu\bar{\mu}\mu$ SIDIS   | 124<br>125<br>126<br>127 |

→ deserves dedicated, consistent study;  
heavy-nuclear corrections can be  $\lesssim 5\%$