



Probing nuclear gluons with heavy flavors at an Electron-Ion Collider

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Overview

AIM: Study feasibility of direct measurements of nuclear gluons at $x \gtrsim 0.1$ using heavy quark probes with a future Electron-Ion Collider

- Nuclear modification of gluons (large- x)
- Open charm/beauty as direct probe
- Charm reconstruction at EIC
 - Charm production rate at large- x
 - Charm reconstruction
 - PID and Vertex detectors at EIC
- Impact on nuclear gluons

LDRD- 1601/1701 project
("Nuclear gluons with charm at EIC")
https://wiki.jlab.org/nuclear_gluons/
[arXiv:1610.08536], [arXiv:1608.08686]

Nuclear partons: Physics interest

- DIS processes on nuclei $A > 1$ probe nuclear PDFs

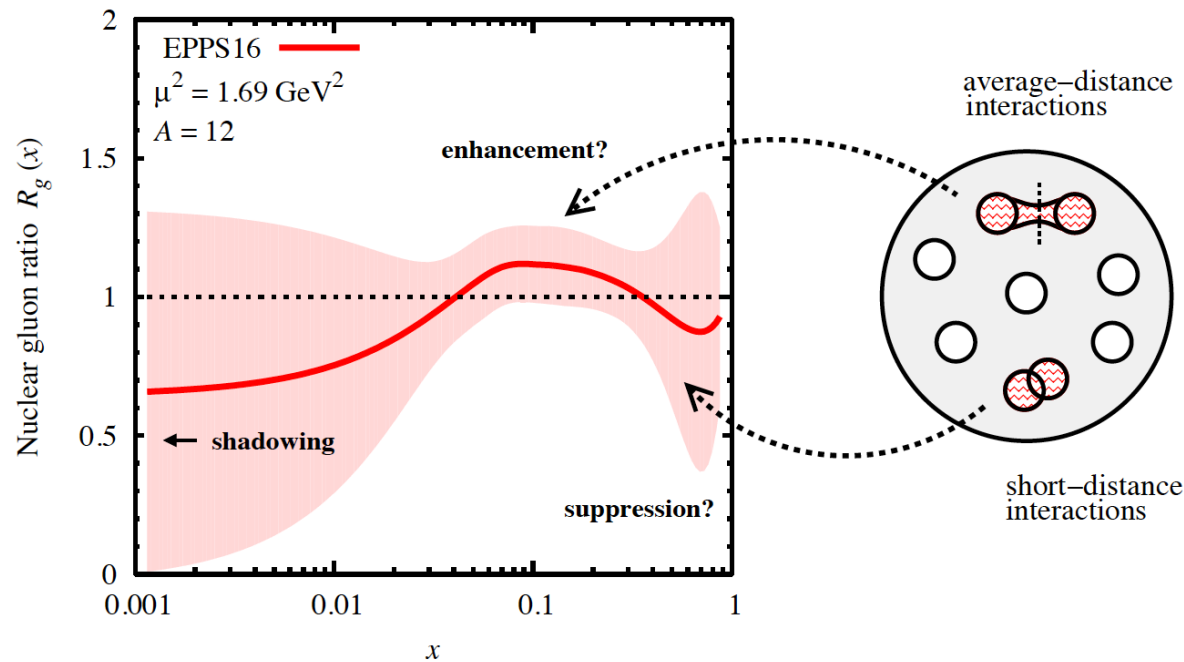
Quark/gluon densities of entire nucleus

Nuclear matrix elements of QCD quark/gluon operators, DGLAP evolution

- Fundamental physics interest

- Compare quark/gluon densities of nucleus with those of a system of free nucleons: $A \neq \sum N$, "nuclear modifications"
- Learn about QCD substructure of nucleon interactions — how they emerge from the microscopic theory?
- "Next step" after exploring single nucleon structure!

Nuclear partons: Nucleon interactions



$$0.3 < x < 0.8$$

Suppression?
EMC effect

Interactions at short distances
cf. short-range NN correlations JLab 6/12 GeV

$$0.05 < x < 0.2$$

Enhancement?
Antishadowing

Interactions at average distances

$$x \ll 0.1$$

Shadowing

Coherent interactions enabled by diffraction Gribov 70s
Suppression effect calculable Frankfurt, Strikman Guzey 12+
Observed in J/ψ photoproduction on nuclei ALICE, CMS
Suggests large antishadowing

Nuclear partons: Probing gluons

- Determine nuclear gluon density at large x (> 0.05)!
- Nuclear gluon probes:

$eA/\mu A/\nu A$
 $eA/\gamma A$
 $pA/eA/\gamma A$

Q^2 dependence of F_{2A} , F_{LA} + DGLAP
Heavy quark production - direct probe!
Jets?



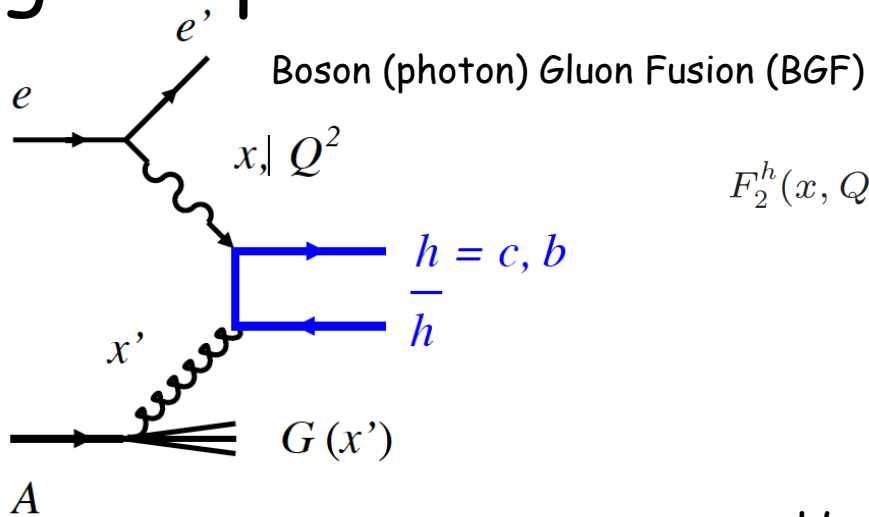
- EIC capabilities

Nuclear beams $A = 2-208$
CM energy \sqrt{s} (eN) $\sim 20-70$ GeV
Luminosity $L \sim 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
Next generation of detectors
with PID and vertex



first eA collider
coverage at large x_B
rare processes
final states

Open charm/beauty production as a direct gluon probe

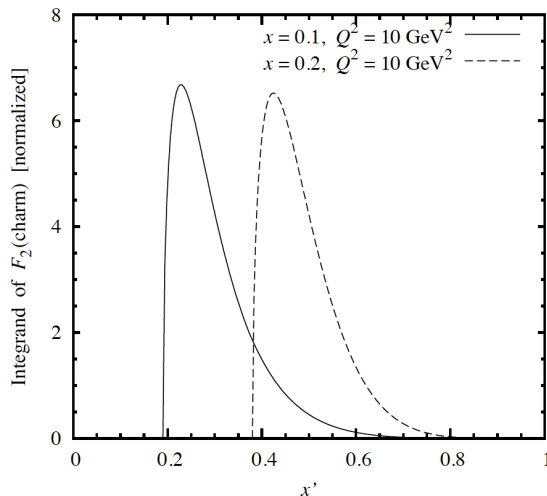


$$F_2^h(x, Q^2) = \int_{ax}^1 \frac{dx'}{x'} x' G(x') \hat{F}_g^h(x/x', Q^2, m_h^2, \mu^2)$$

coefficient function

$$a = 1 + \frac{4m_h^2}{Q^2}$$

sets limit of x' integral

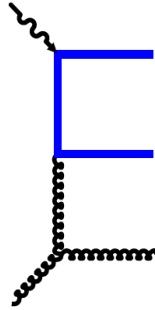
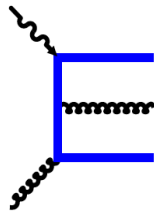
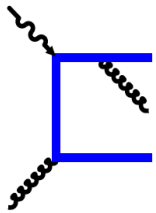


- Heavy quark production probes large- x' gluons "almost locally" at $x'_{\text{glue}} \geq x_{\text{BJ}} (1 + 4m_h^2/Q^2)$

- NLO corrections calculated, theory uncertainties quantified

Laenen, Riemersma, Smith, Van Neerven 93+, Kawamura et al. 12, Alekhin, Moch et al. 93+

Heavy quark production: Higher orders

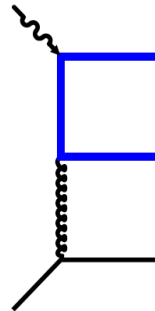
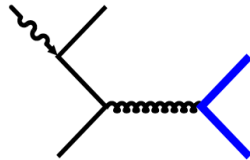
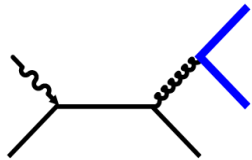


gluons eg^2

Heavy quark production at NLO

- Sensitivity to light quarks at $O(ehg^2)$
- LO photon-gluon fusion large at $x > 0.1$
- Theoretical uncertainties quantified

Laenen, Riemersma, Smith Van Neerven, Harris 93+.
Alekhin, Moch, Blumlein, Vogt, Kawamura et al. 11+



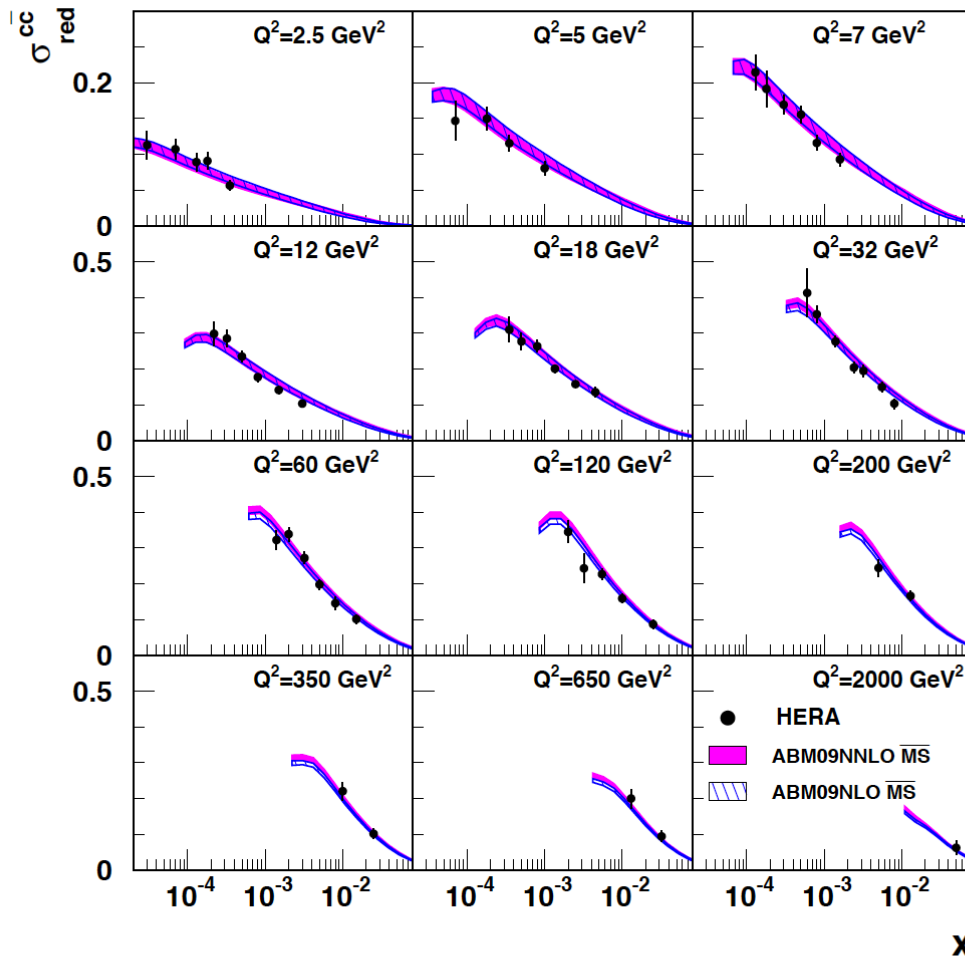
quarks eg^2

Perturbative stability LO \rightarrow NLO

- Good stability of F_2^c with choice of effective LO scale [Gluck, Reya, Stratmann 94](#)
- Rapidity, p_T distributions more sensitive

Heavy quarks at HERA

H1 and ZEUS



$c\bar{c}$, $b\bar{b}$ production in $ep/\gamma p$

- Mostly $x < 10^{-2}$
- Various reconstruction methods
- Extensive tests of theory
- Measurements of $c \rightarrow D$ and $b \rightarrow B$ fragmentation functions

Simulation tools

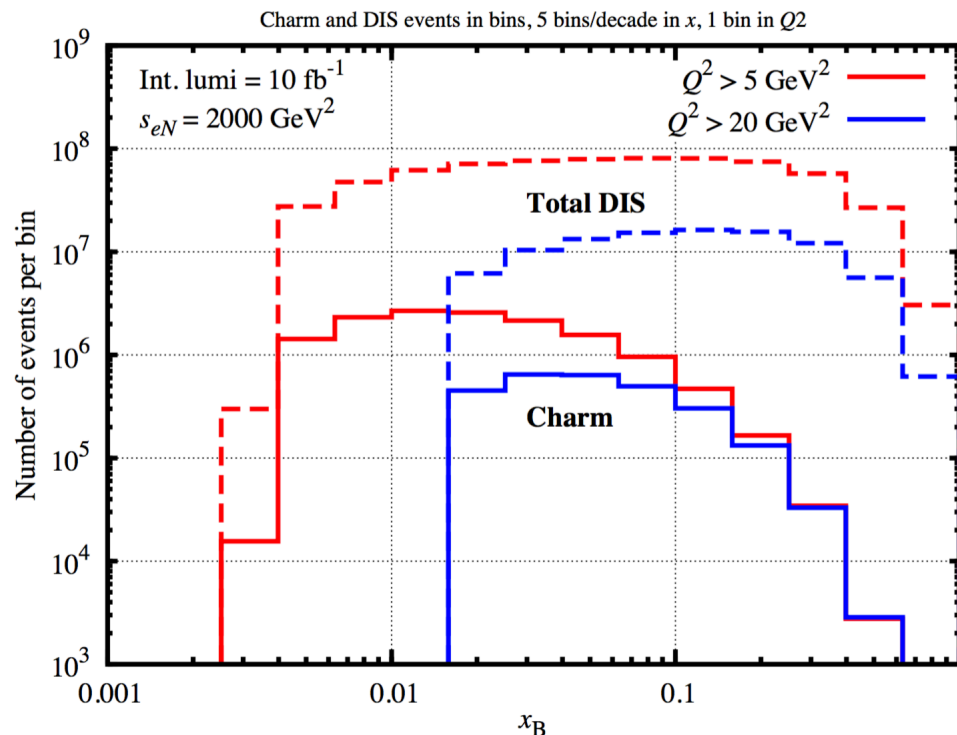
HVQDIS LO/NLO cross sec.
+ MC integration [Harris, Smith 98](#)

Charm production rate at large x at EIC

Differential cross sections using LO QCD formulas

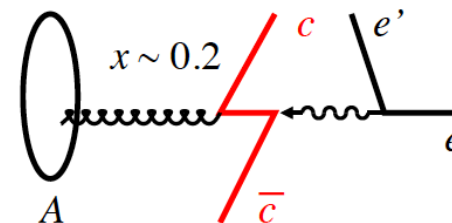
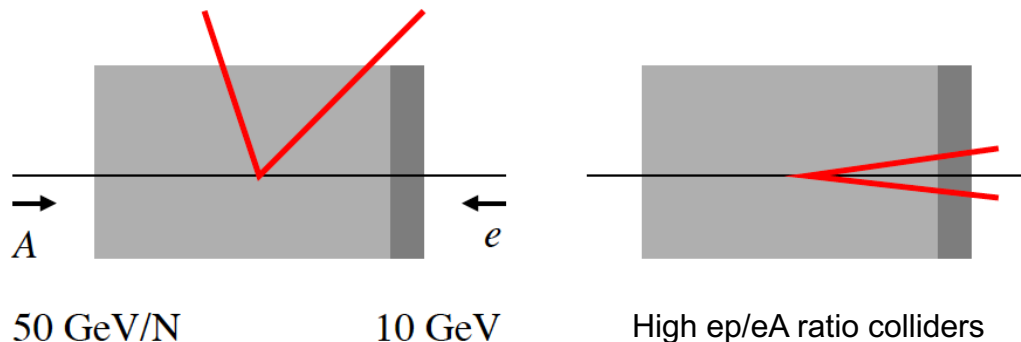
$$d\sigma(e + N \rightarrow e' + X) = \text{Flux}(x, y, Q^2) F_2(x, Q^2) dx dQ^2 \quad (1)$$

$$d\sigma(e + N \rightarrow e' + c\bar{c} + X') = \text{Flux}(x, y, Q^2) F_2^{c\bar{c}}(x, Q^2) dx dQ^2 \quad (2)$$

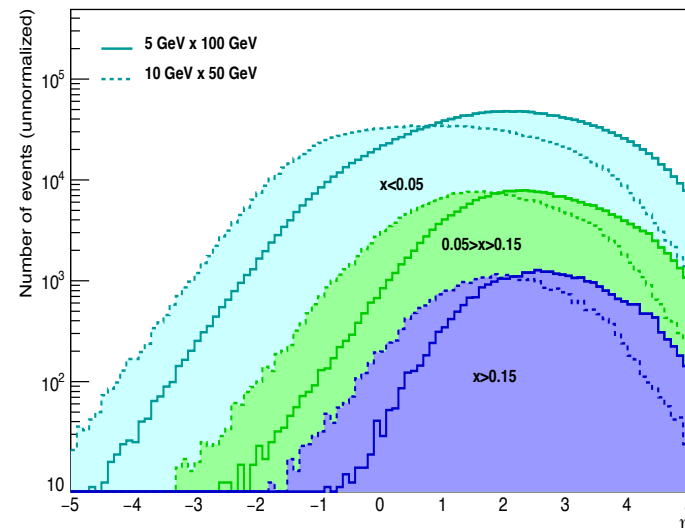


- Charm production rates drop rapidly at large x
- Charm production rates 10^5 at $x \sim 0.1$ (int. lumi 10 fb^{-1})
Defines charm reconstruction efficiency needed for physics
- Charm/DIS ratio 2-3 % at $x \sim 0.1$
Defines charm reconstruction environment

Charm momentum and angle distributions



- Large- x $c\bar{c}$ pairs produced almost at rest in low-ratio collider
Example: Gluon with $x = 0.2$ and 10~50 GeV/N
Contrast with high-ratio collider!
- π/K produced at large angles, with typical momenta ~ 5 GeV
Favorable situation!
- Good PID and momentum resolution available in central detector
Enables "new" methods of charm reconstruction



EIC: charm event reconstruction

Kaons from charm at large- x

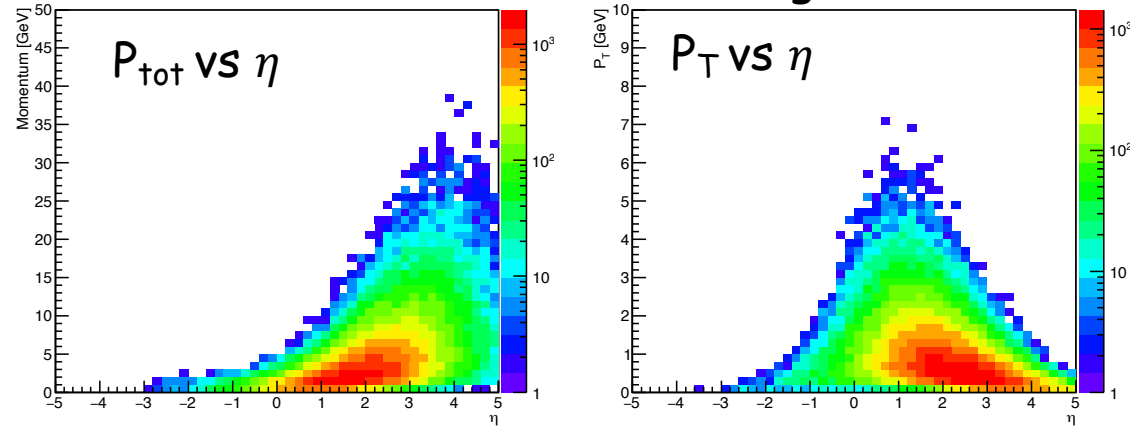
- Exclusive D-meson decays
- Inclusive decays with displaced vertex

Questions

- How well do the methods work at large x ?
- What are the overall efficiencies and uncertainties?
- What detector performance is required?

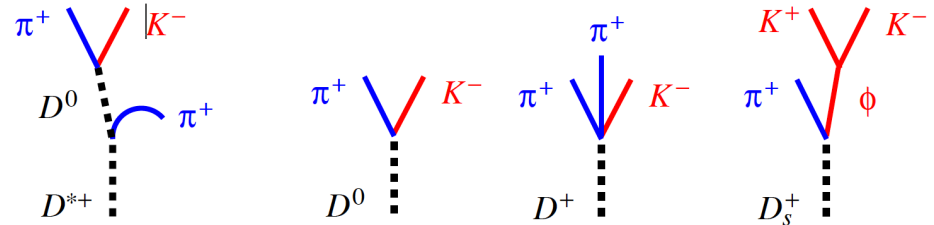
Simulations at different levels

- 1) Theoretical estimates of reconstruction efficiency
- 2) Model acceptance and PID performance, describe resolution effects through smearing of vertex and momentum distributions
- 3) Tracking and vertexing based on schematic JLEIC detector model



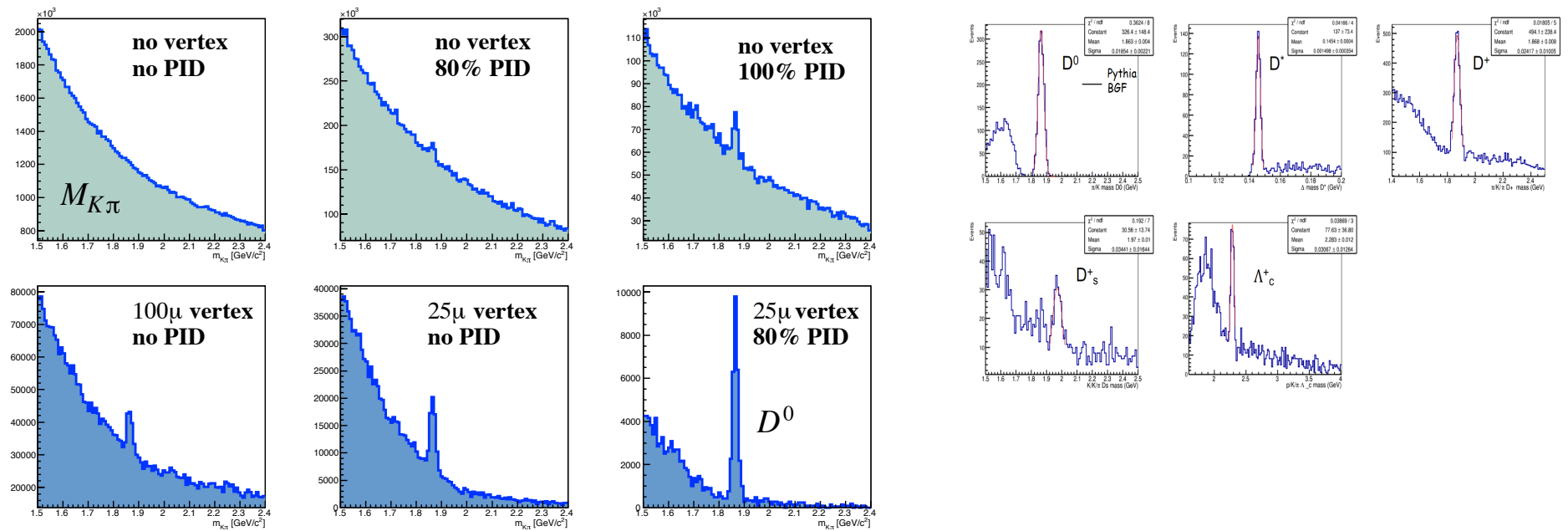
EIC: Charm reconstruction with exclusive D's

h_c	f	Decay	BR
D^0	59%	$K^- \pi^+$	3.9%
		$K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	8.1%
D^+	23%	$K^- \pi^+ \pi^+$	9.2%
D^{*+}	23%	$(K^- \pi^+)_{D^0} \pi^+_{\text{slow}}$	2.6%
		$(K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-)_{D^0} \pi^+_{\text{slow}}$	5.5%
D_s^+	9%	$(K^+ K^-)_\phi \pi^+$	2.3%
Λ_c^+	8%	$p K^- \pi^+$	5.0%



- Simple exclusive channel $D^{*+} \rightarrow \pi^+_{\text{slow}} + (K^- \pi^+)_{D^0}$
- For reconstruction need to provide good vertex and PID
- At HERA1: no PID, no vertex, HERA2: no PID + vertex
 \Rightarrow Efficiency $< 1\%$
- At EIC: PID + vertex detection
 \Rightarrow allow use of other exclusive channels D^0, D^+, D_s^+
- Theoretical efficiency $\sim 10\%$ summed over channels
 Fragmentation ratio $f \sim$ Branching ratio BR

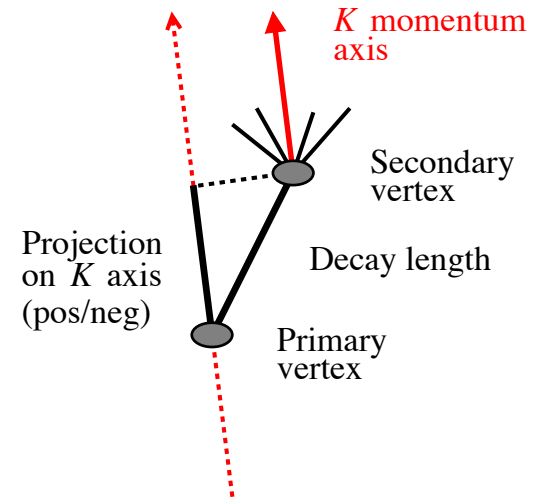
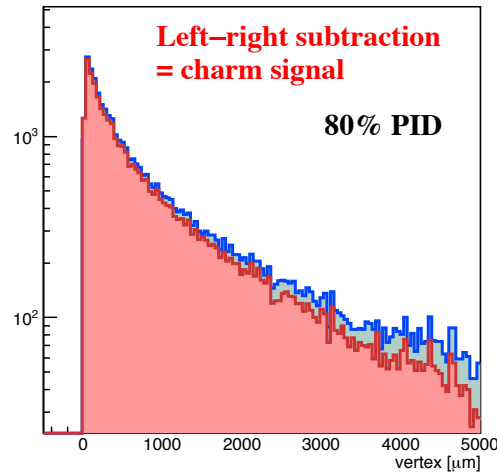
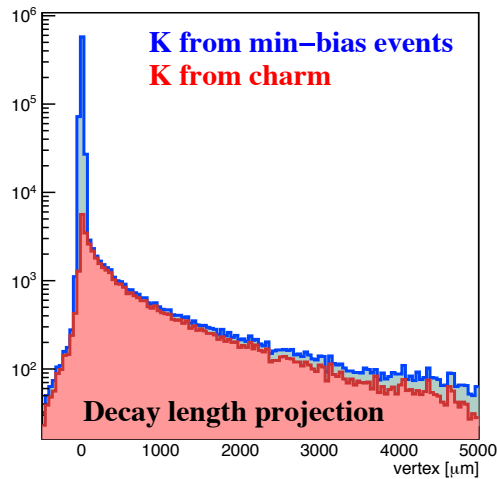
EIC: Charm reconstruction with exclusive D's



Example: D⁰ meson reconstruction using exclusive decay $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$
 ep (10 GeV \times 100 GeV), $Q^2 > 10 \text{ GeV}^2$ and $x_B > 0.05$, vertex $> 100 \mu\text{m}$

simulation with mass/momentum and vertex smearing
 Impact of PID and vertex detection

EIC: Charm reconstruction with inclusive modes



Decay length significance distribution:

- Establish secondary vertex

- Project decay length on jet axis, positive/negative

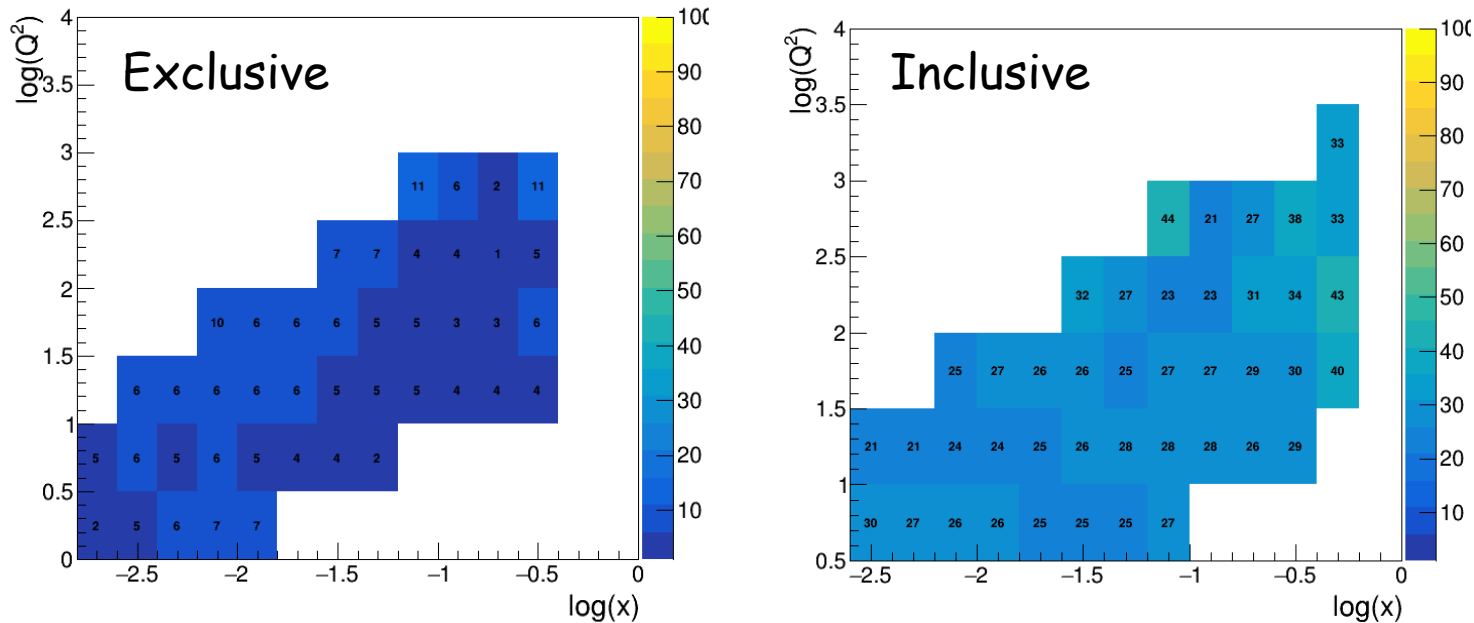
Identify D-meson decays through positive projection

- Used at HERA-I with vertex detector

- Use for charm at EIC

Identified K from PID.

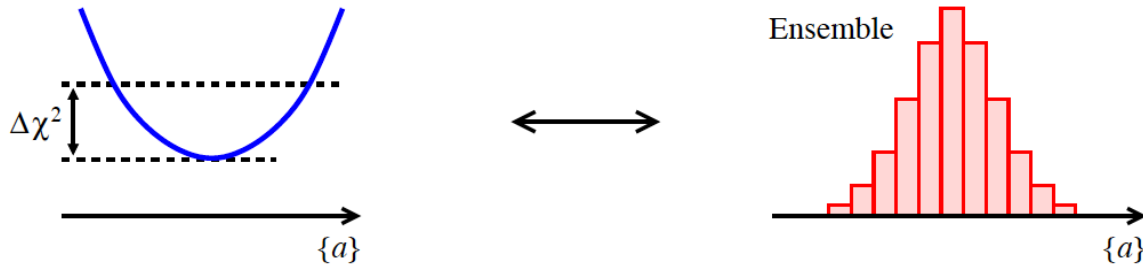
EIC: Charm reconstruction efficiency



Total efficiency estimated:

- ~5-6% exclusive, ~25-30% inclusive
- Little kinematic variation in (x, Q^2) region of interest
- Systematic uncertainties? HERA $\lesssim 10\%$
- Both vertex detection and PID are essential for charm reconstruction

Charm impact: PDF reweighting



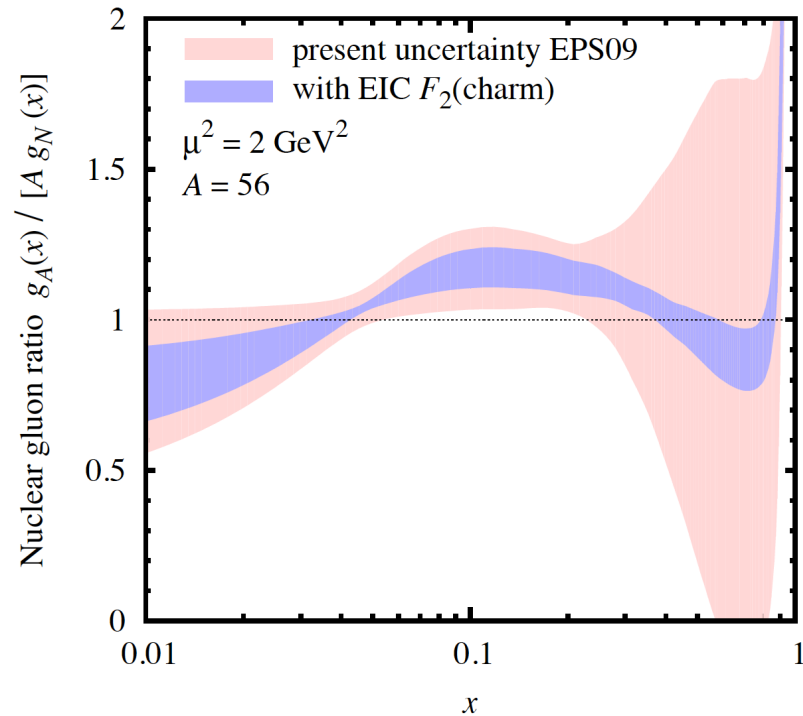
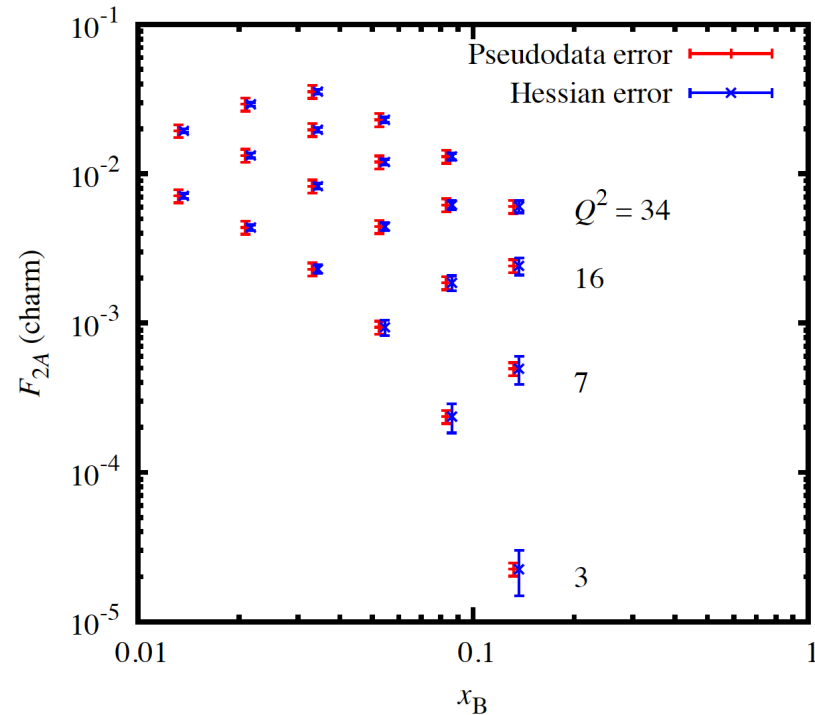
PDF reweighting

- Method for quantifying impact of new (pseudo-) data on existing global fit
Giele, Keller 98; NNPDF Collab Ball et al 11; Paukkunen, Zurita 14; Sato et al 16
- Represents existing fit as statistical ensemble, uses Bayes' theorem
- Avoids costly re-fitting
- Widely used in PDF analysis, HEP

Implemented for charm pseudodata from EIC

- Presently F2c, can be extended to other observables

Charm impact: Large-x gluons



- Charm pseudodata
 $F_{c2}(x, Q^2)$, assumed 10% total uncertainty, dominated by systematics, point-to-point
 Here EPS09, LO approximation. To be updated/refined
- Substantial impact on large- x nuclear gluons
See also: Aschenauer et al, PRD 96 114005 (2017)
- Theoretical uncertainties to be estimated
- Nuclear final-state interactions vs. initial-state modifications
- Uncertainties of nuclear ratios

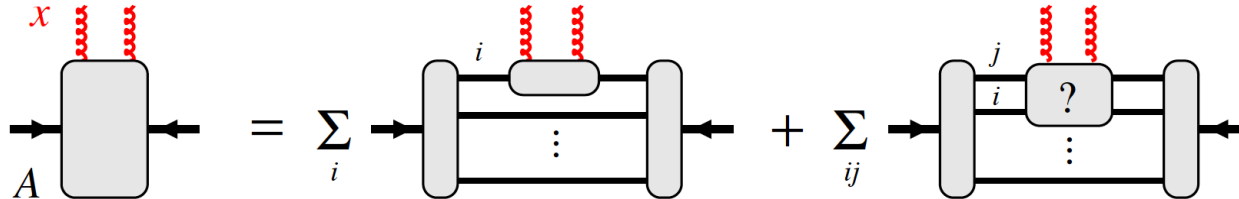
Summary

- Open charm production at EIC can constrain nuclear gluons at large- x
Natural measurement for medium-energy collider
- Nuclear PDFs opens window on nucleon interactions in QCD
- High Luminosity ($\sim 10^{34} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) is essential for charm production at $x > 0.1$
- Challenge to identify charm/beauty with overall high efficiency and in kinematic region with ~ 100 times larger DIS background
- PID and high-resolution vertex detector significantly improve charm reconstruction efficiency and overall charm to background ratio and should be integrated into EIC detector design

Open for collaboration!

Backup

Nuclear partons: Nucleon interactions



Hard process, QCD factorization

Nuclear matrix element $\langle A | \text{Twist-2} | A \rangle$

- 1-nucleon contribution $\langle N | \text{Twist-2} | N \rangle$ — nucleon PDF, Fermi motion
- 2-nucleon contribution $\langle NN | \text{Twist-2} | NN \rangle$ — nucleon interactions!
- Well-defined operator, scale dependence μ^2 , matching with LQCD, nuclear EFT

Physics questions:

- How do interactions modify quarks/gluons with different x ?
- What are the relevant distances in the NN interactions?
- What are the relevant intermediate states? Non-nucleonic DoF!