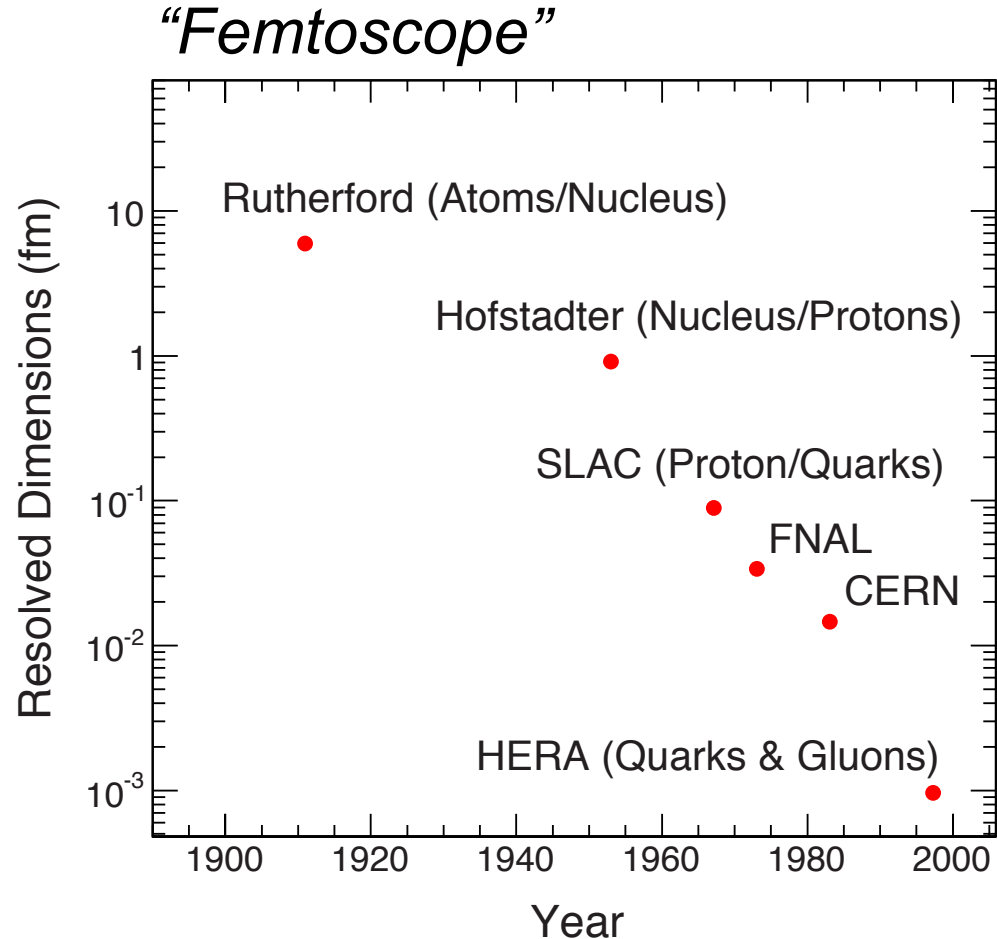


**Understanding the
visible matter that
binds us at the EIC**

- Kong Tu, BNL

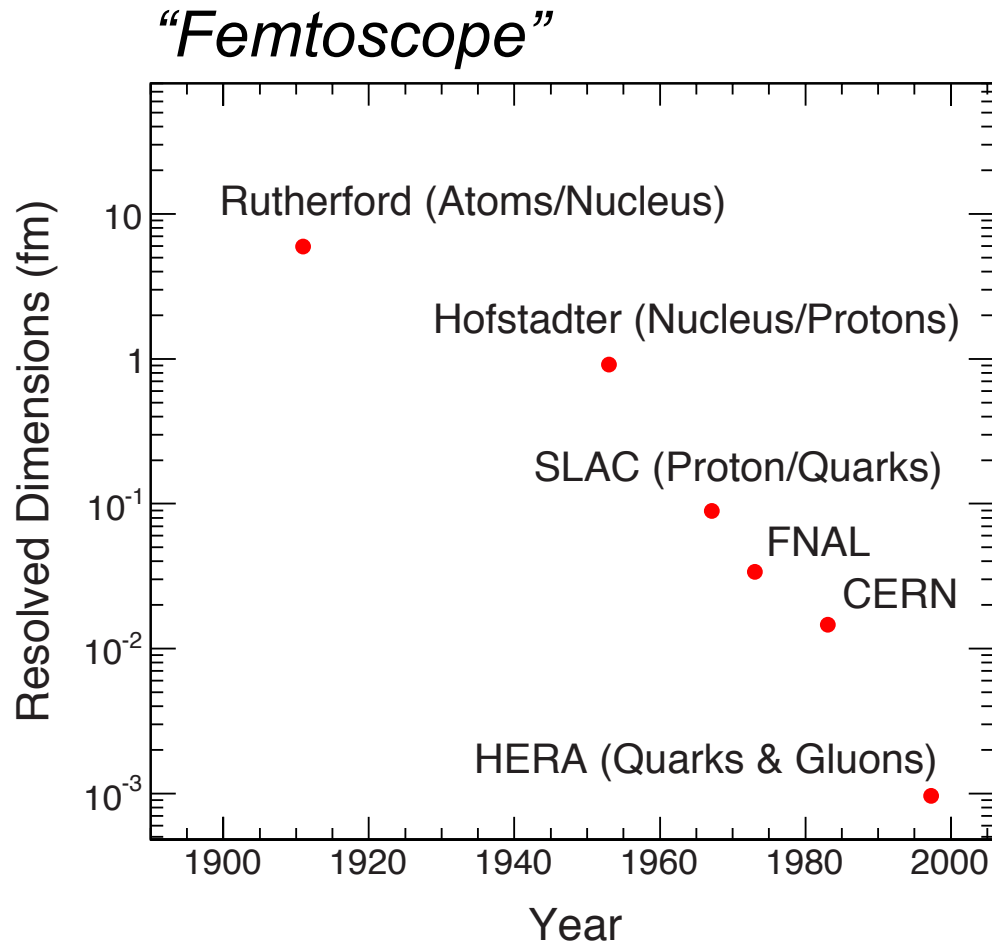
Imaging program: seeing is believing

femtosecale imaging reveals the inner structure of nucleon and nucleus

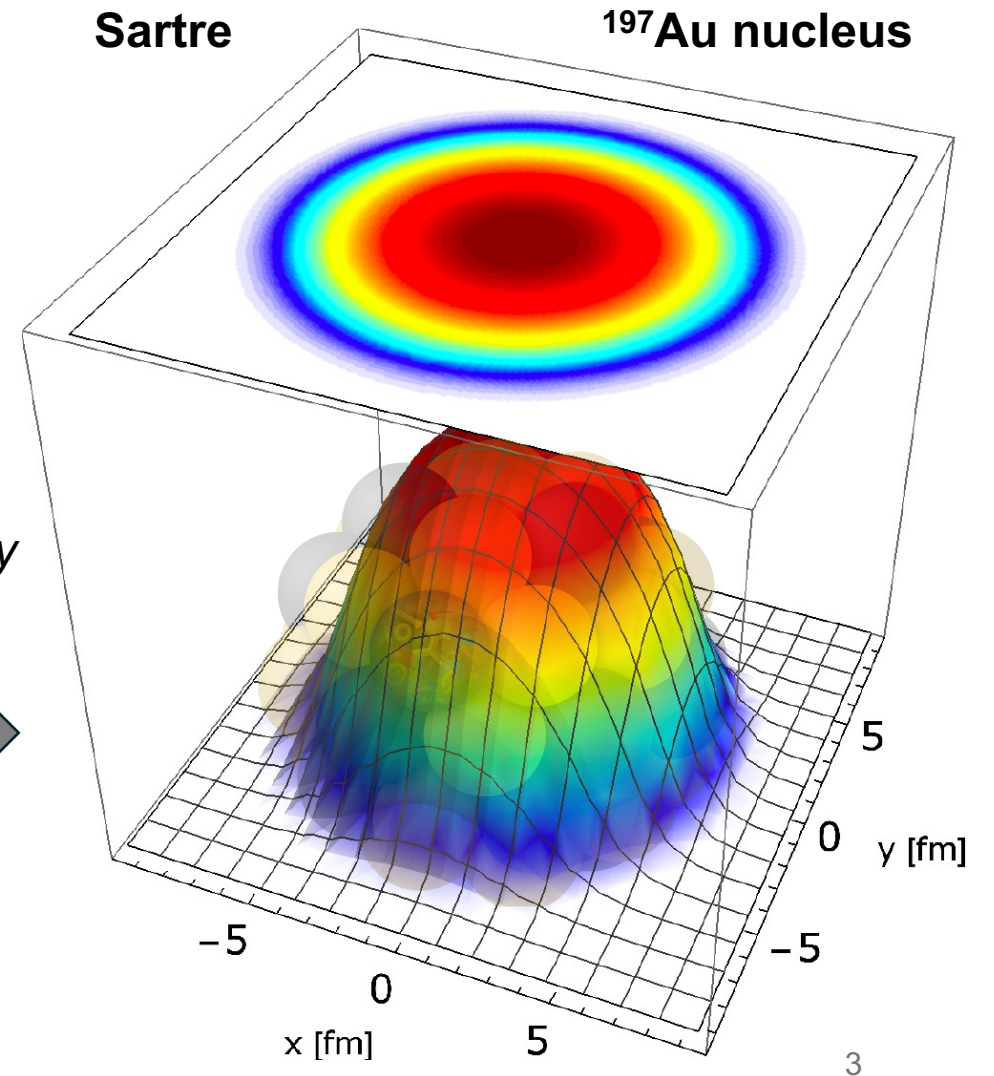


Imaging program: seeing is believing

femtosecond imaging reveals the inner structure of nucleon and nucleus

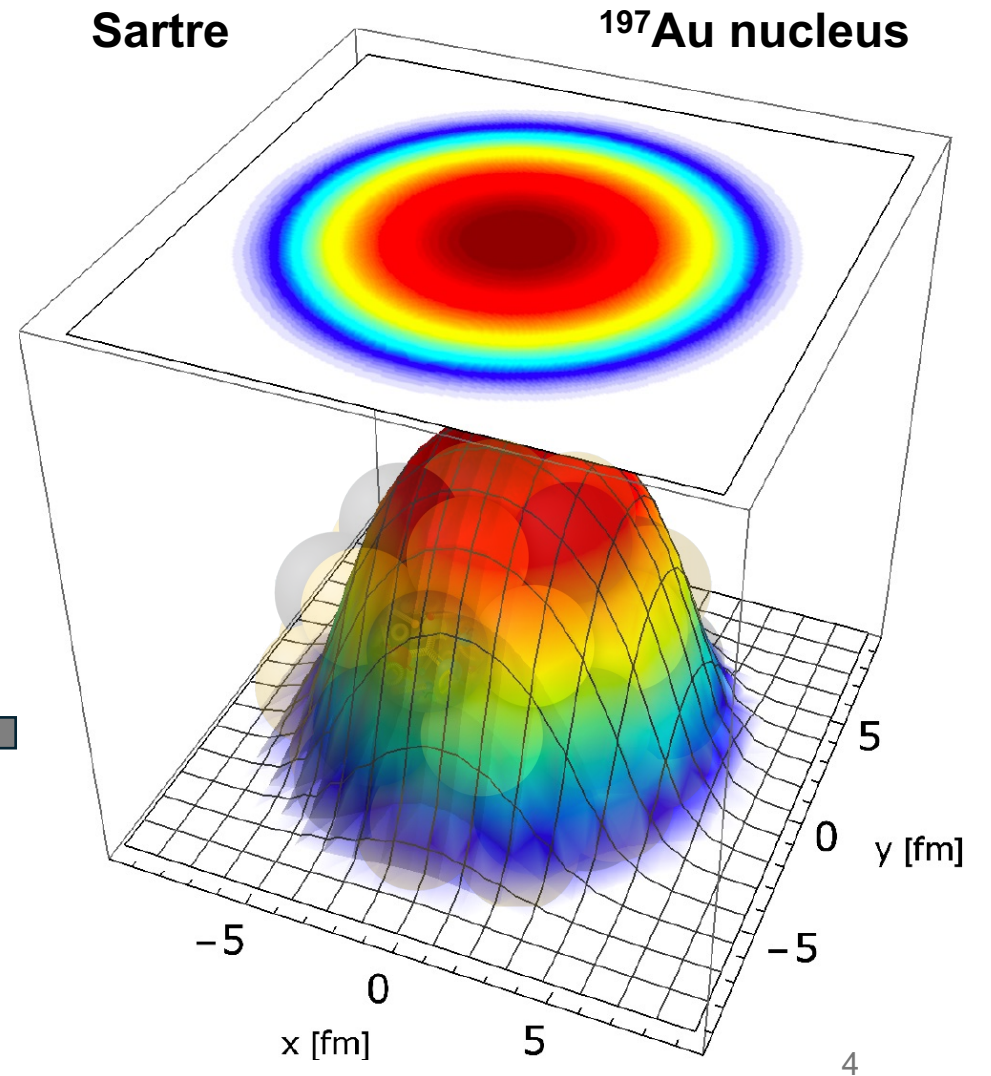
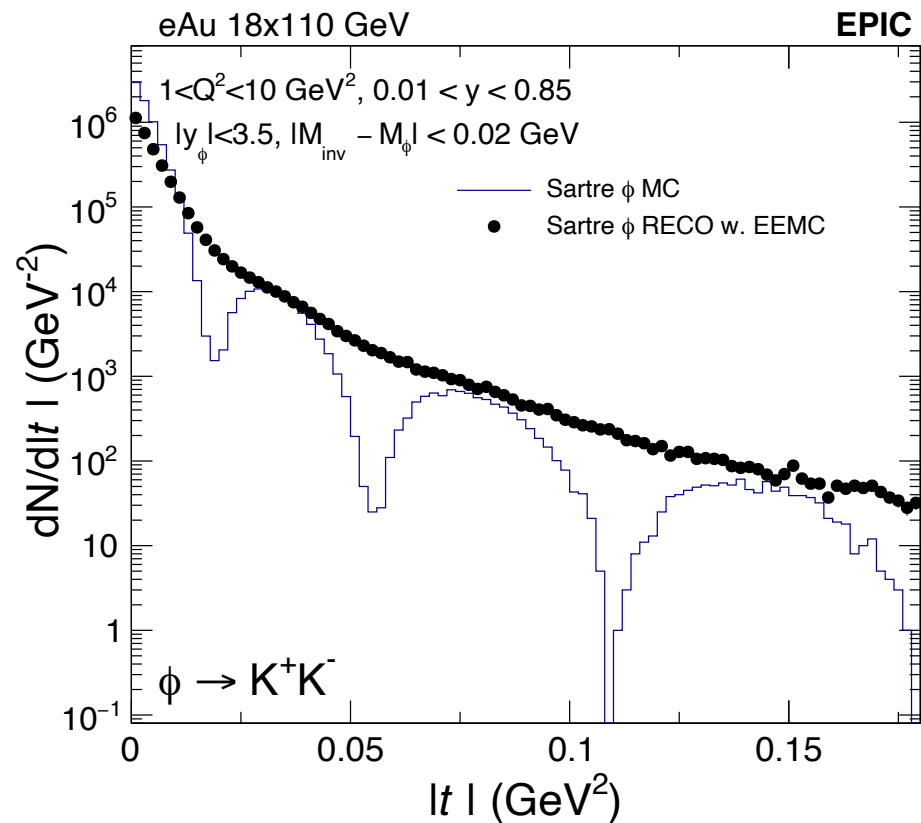


EIC: putting heavy nuclei under the best femtoscope.



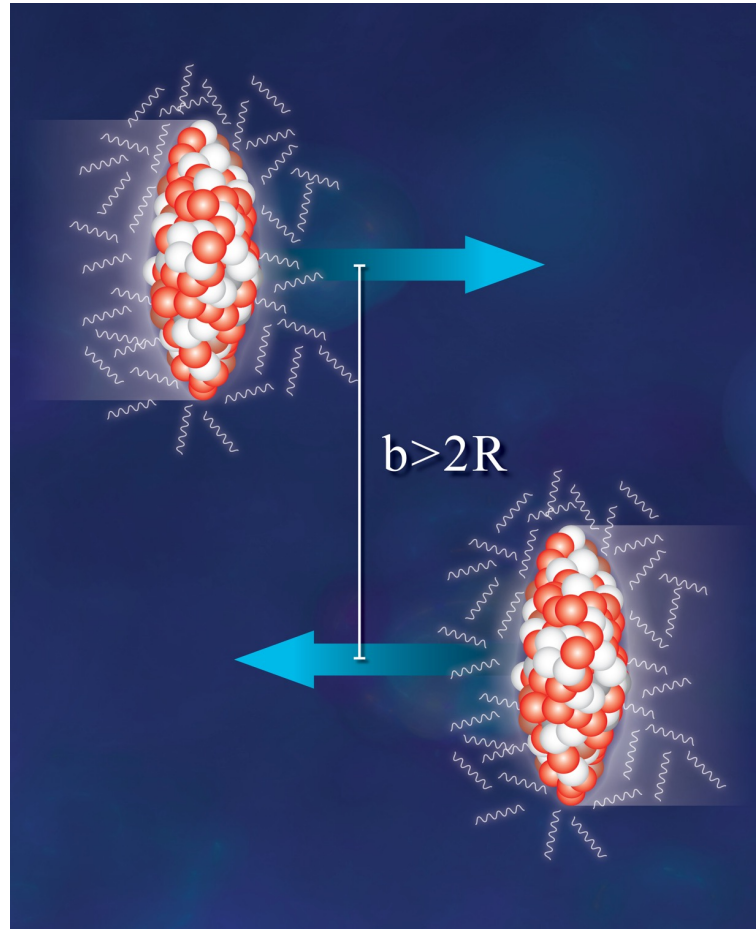
Imaging program: seeing is believing

femtoscale imaging reveals the inner structure of nucleon and nucleus



A full simulation paths our way towards realizing this program

Previewing the physics of EIC from UPCs



EIC

Electroproduction (virtual photons)

Q^2 – an independent hard scale

CM energy, $W \sim [9, 86]$ GeV, $x \sim 10^{-4} - 10^{-2}$

Deuterium to Uranium

Large far-forward coverage, esp. for nuclear breakup.

UPC RHIC & LHC

Photoproduction only (real photons)

Mass or p_T – hard scales

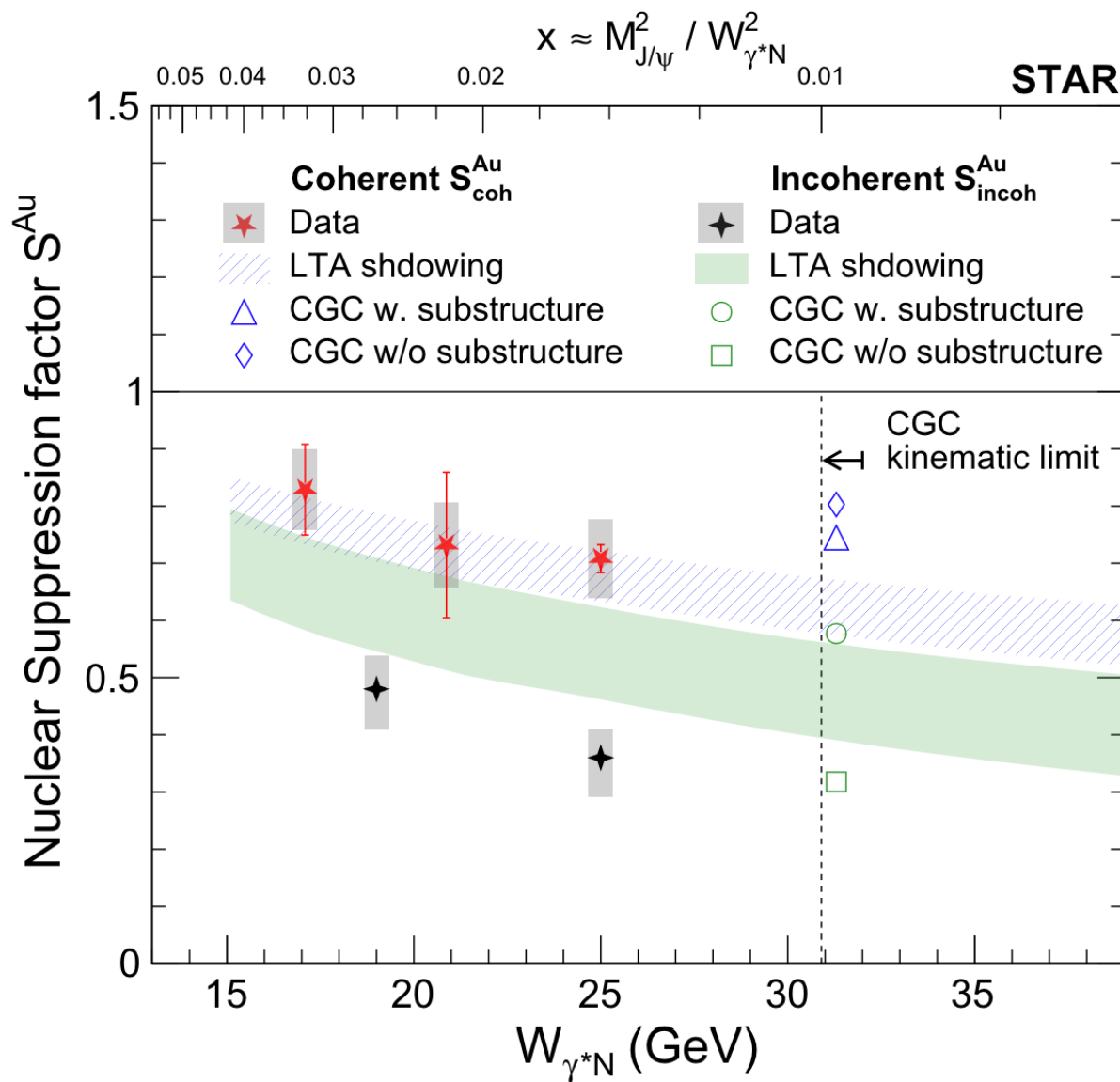
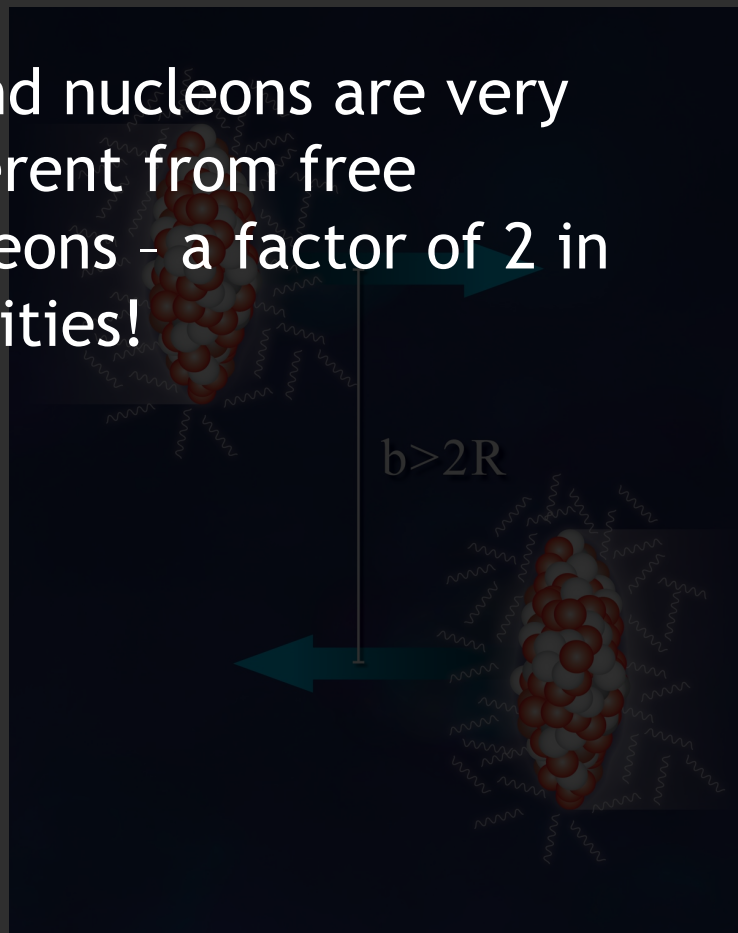
CM energy, $W \sim [4, 400-1000]$ GeV, $x \sim 10^{-5} - 10^{-1}$

mostly Pb^{208} , Au^{197} .

Limited far-forward coverage for breakup products

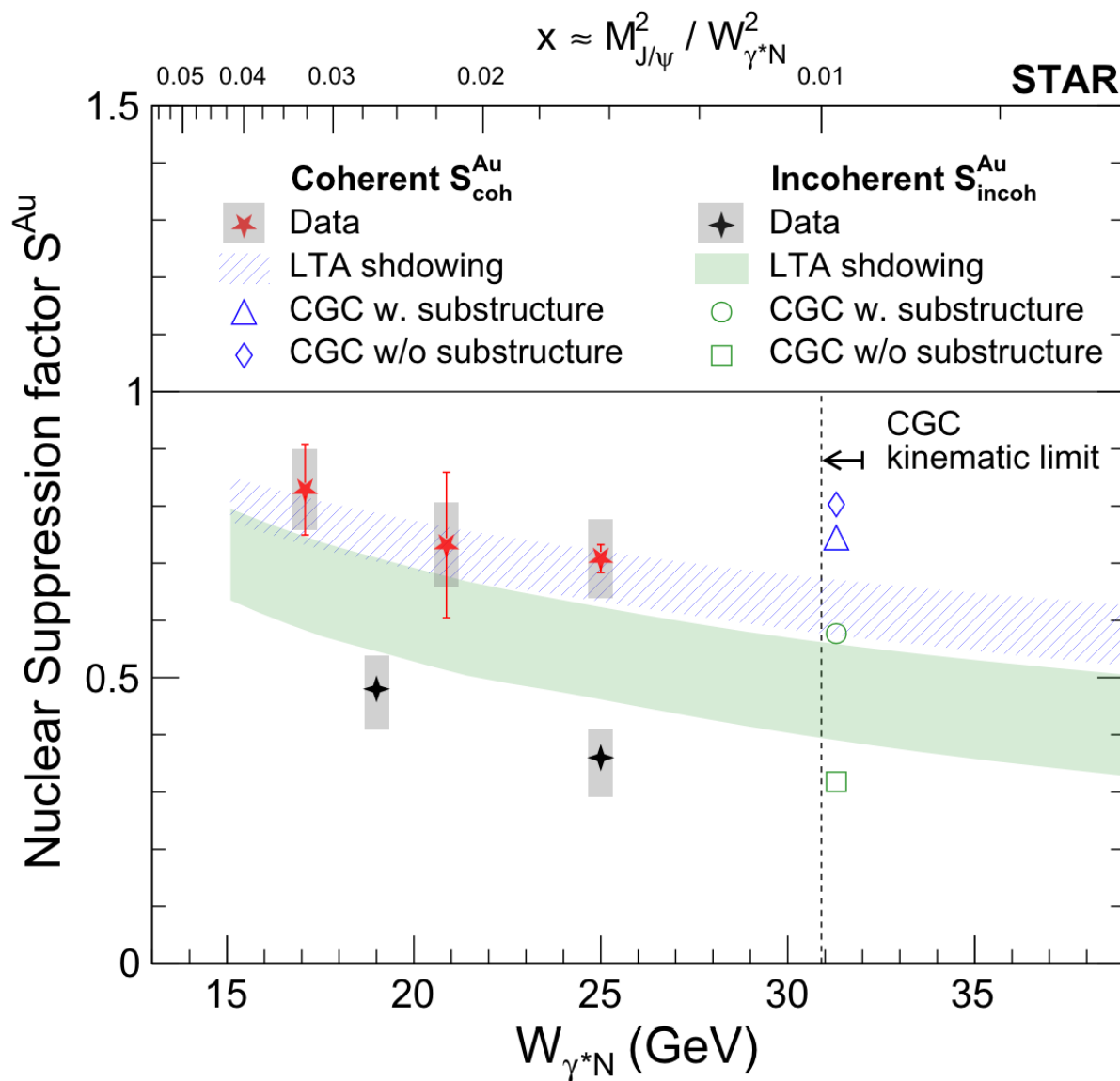
Previewing the physics of J/ψ from UPCs

- Bound nucleons are very different from free nucleons - a factor of 2 in densities!

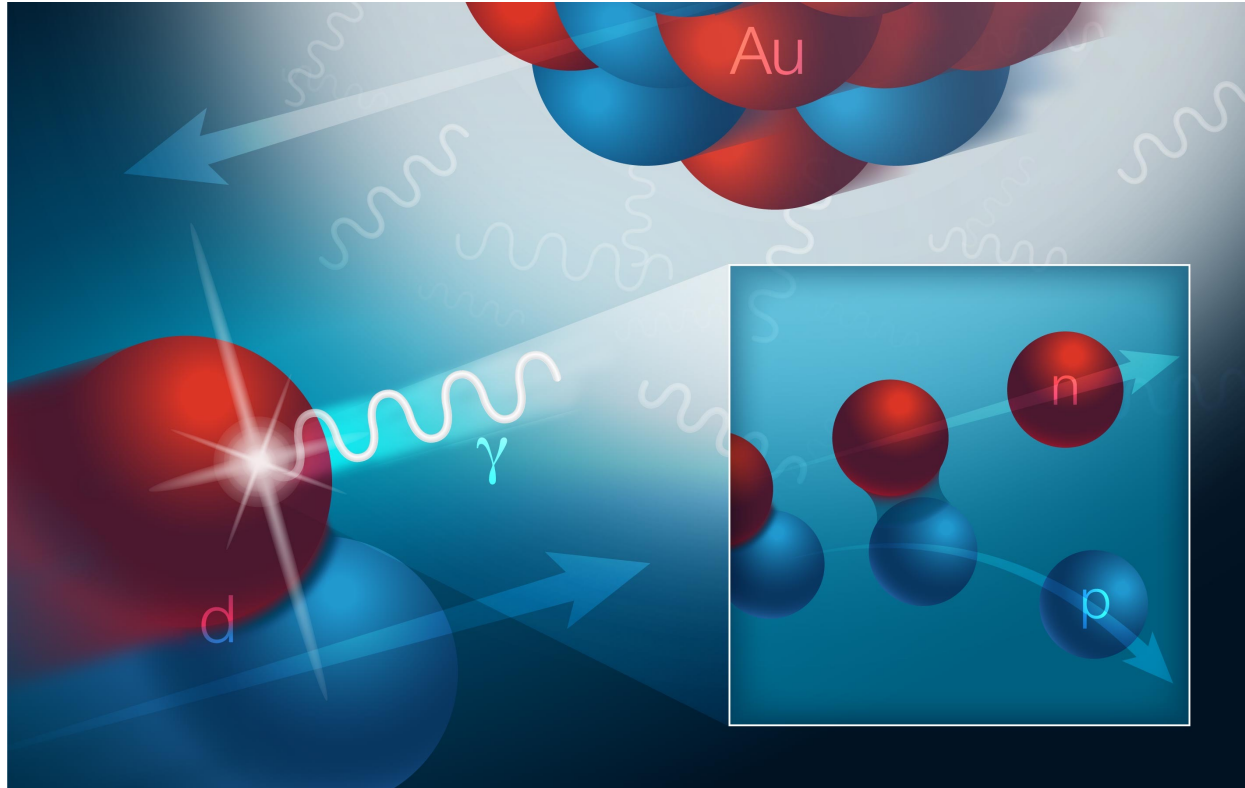


Previewing the physics of EIC from UPCs

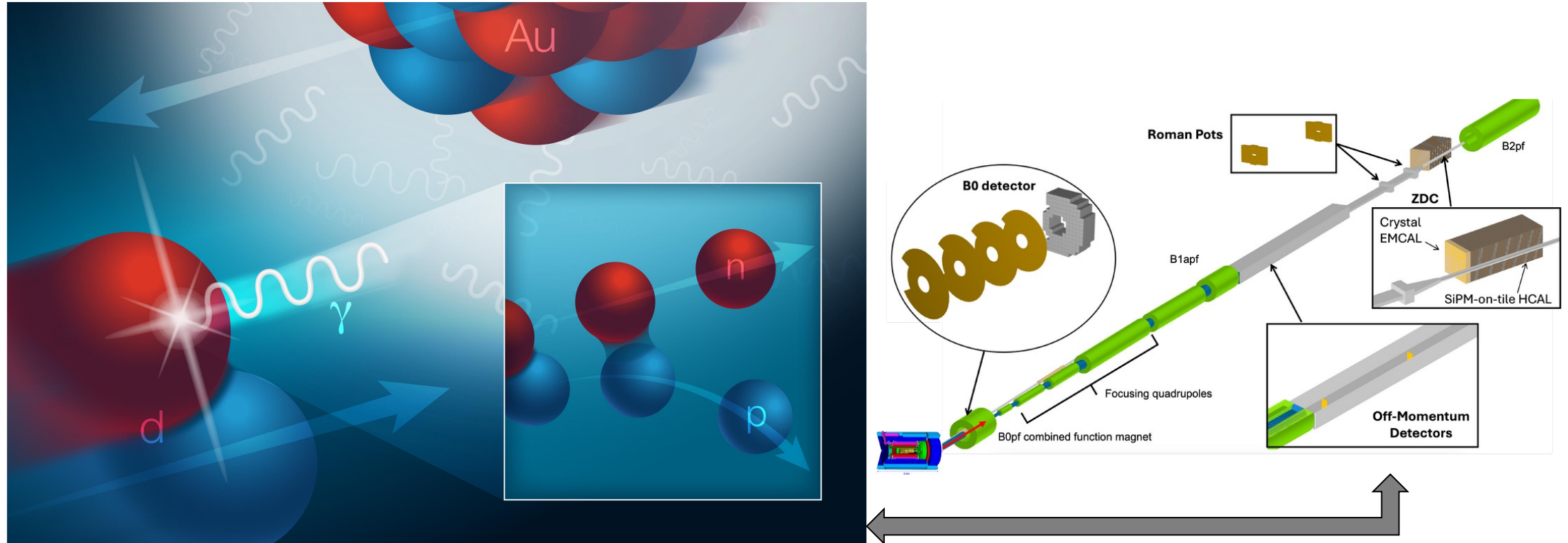
- Bound nucleons are very different from free nucleons - a factor of 2 in densities!
- Incoherent was recently found to be sensitive to saturation, shadowing, parton modification, and imaging at the EIC.



Tagging program: Precise control of how bound the nucleon is



Tagging program: Precise control of how bound the nucleon is



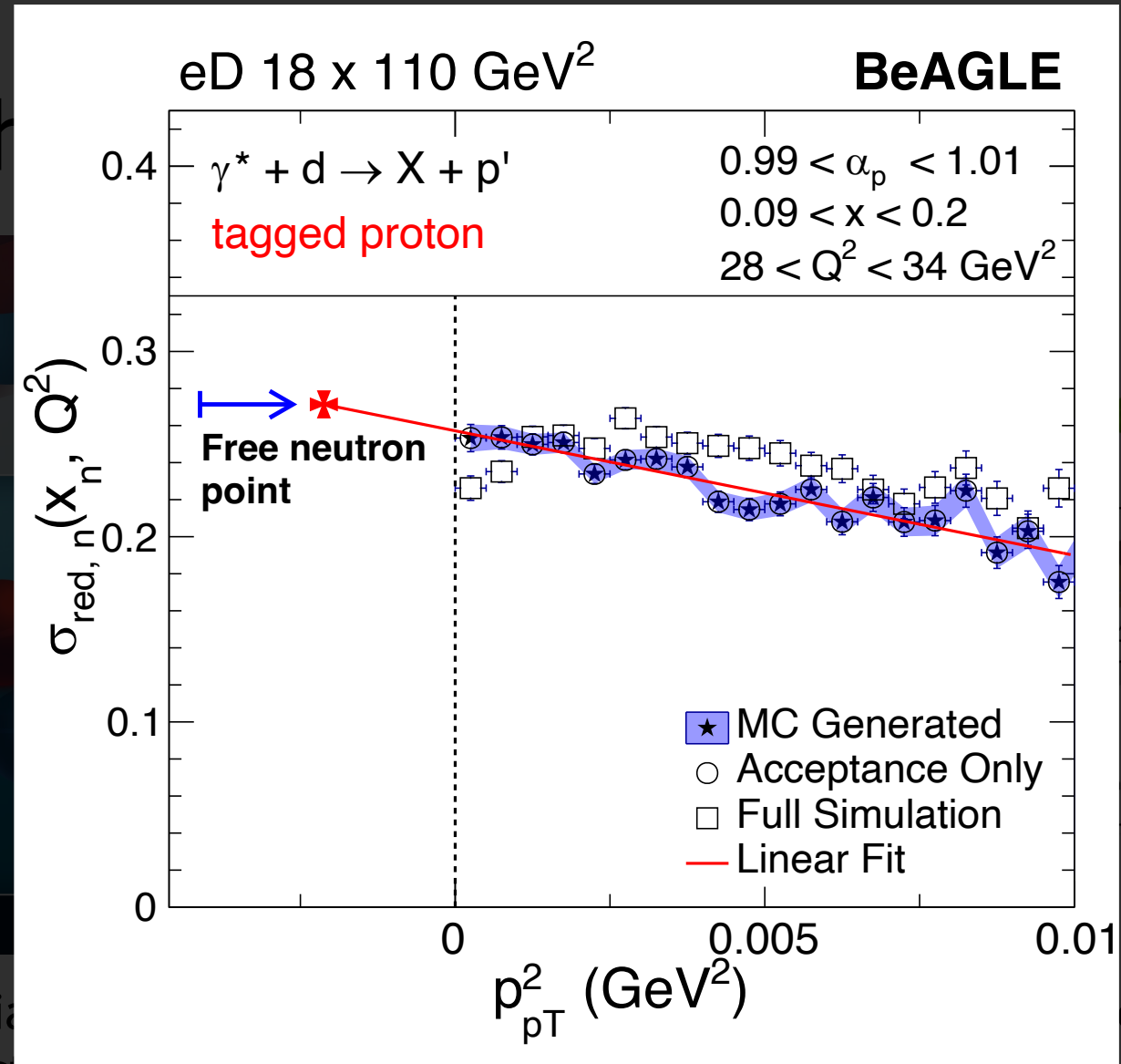
Spectator tagging - access to the initial nucleon-nucleon configuration. Partially motivated the Off-Momentum Detector by detecting the deuteron (light nuclei) breakup.

Tagging program: Precise control of k

The spectator tagging method accesses both free and bound nucleons – a wide range of kinematics enabled by the EIC and Far-forward detectors.

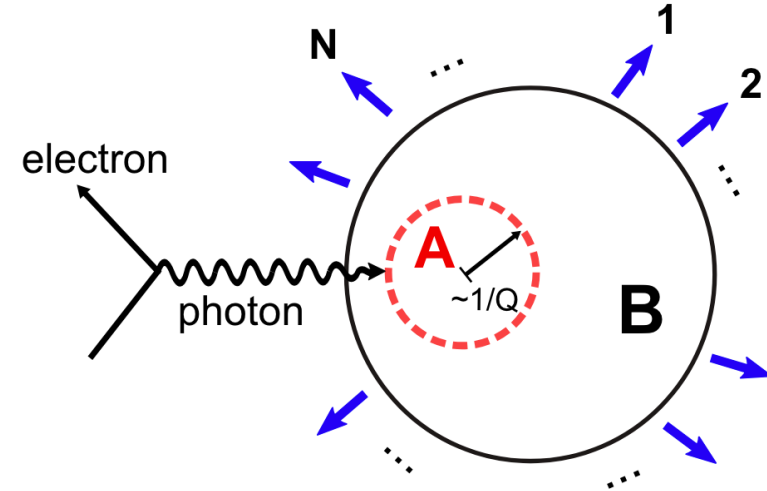
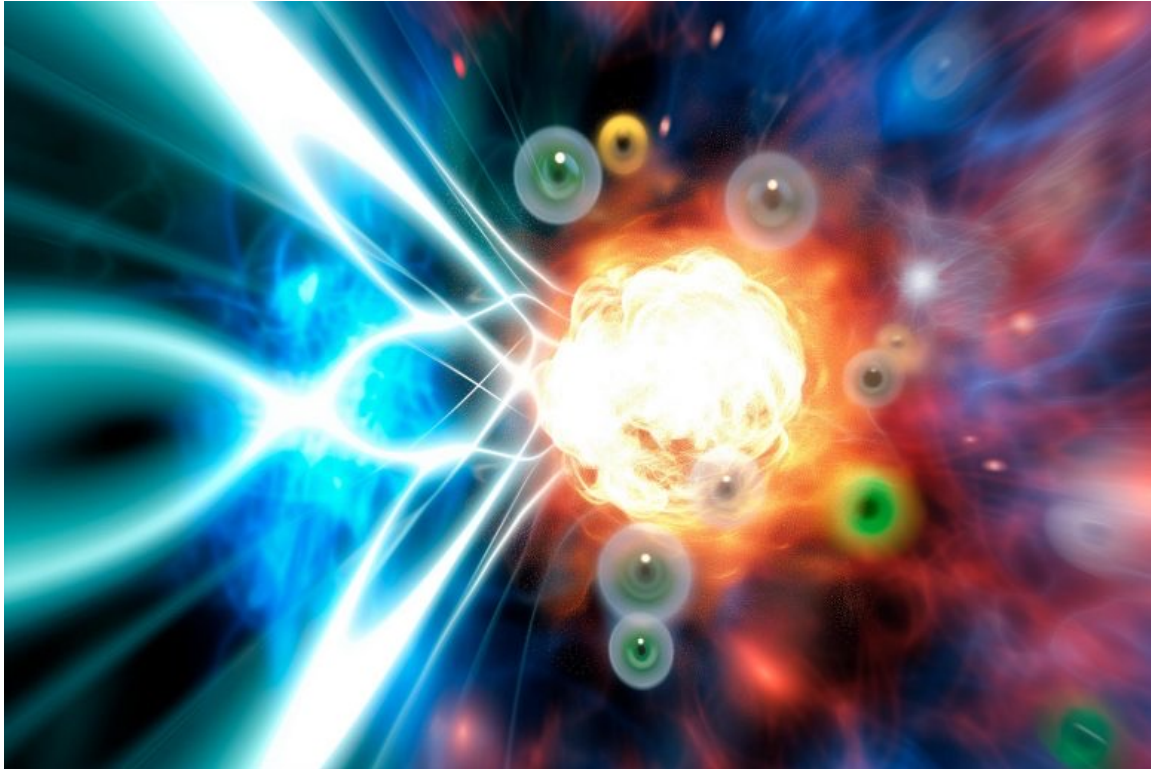
*Editor's Suggestion
Phys. Rev. C 104 (2021) 6, 065205*

Spectator tagging - access to the initial state of the target nucleon by detecting the deuteron (light nuclei) breakup.



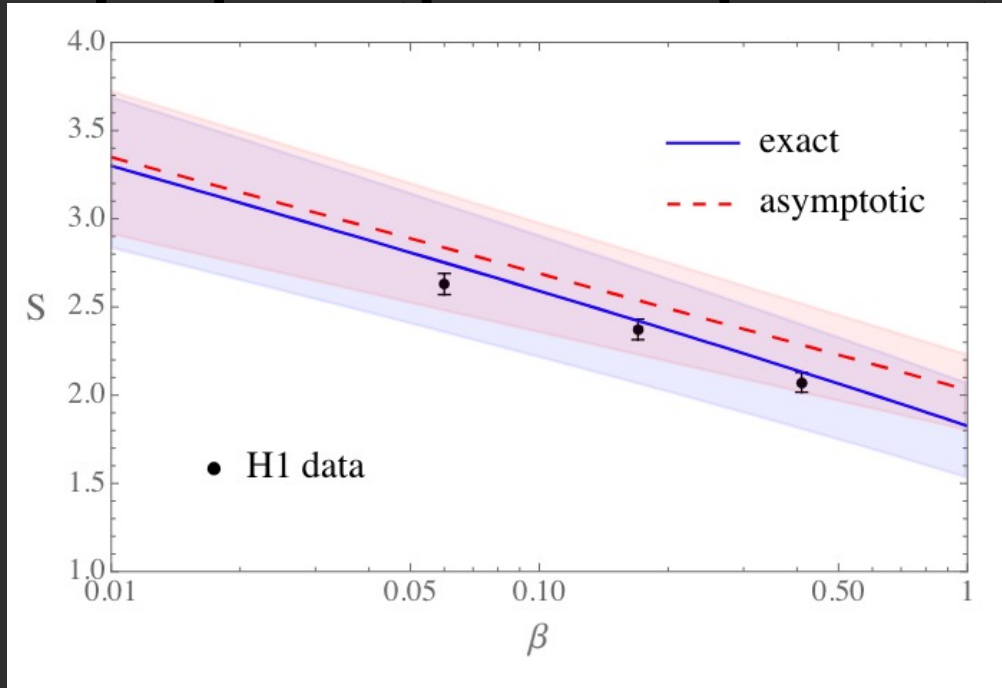
Entanglement program: Study the visible matter w. a new approach

Credit: SciTechDaily.com



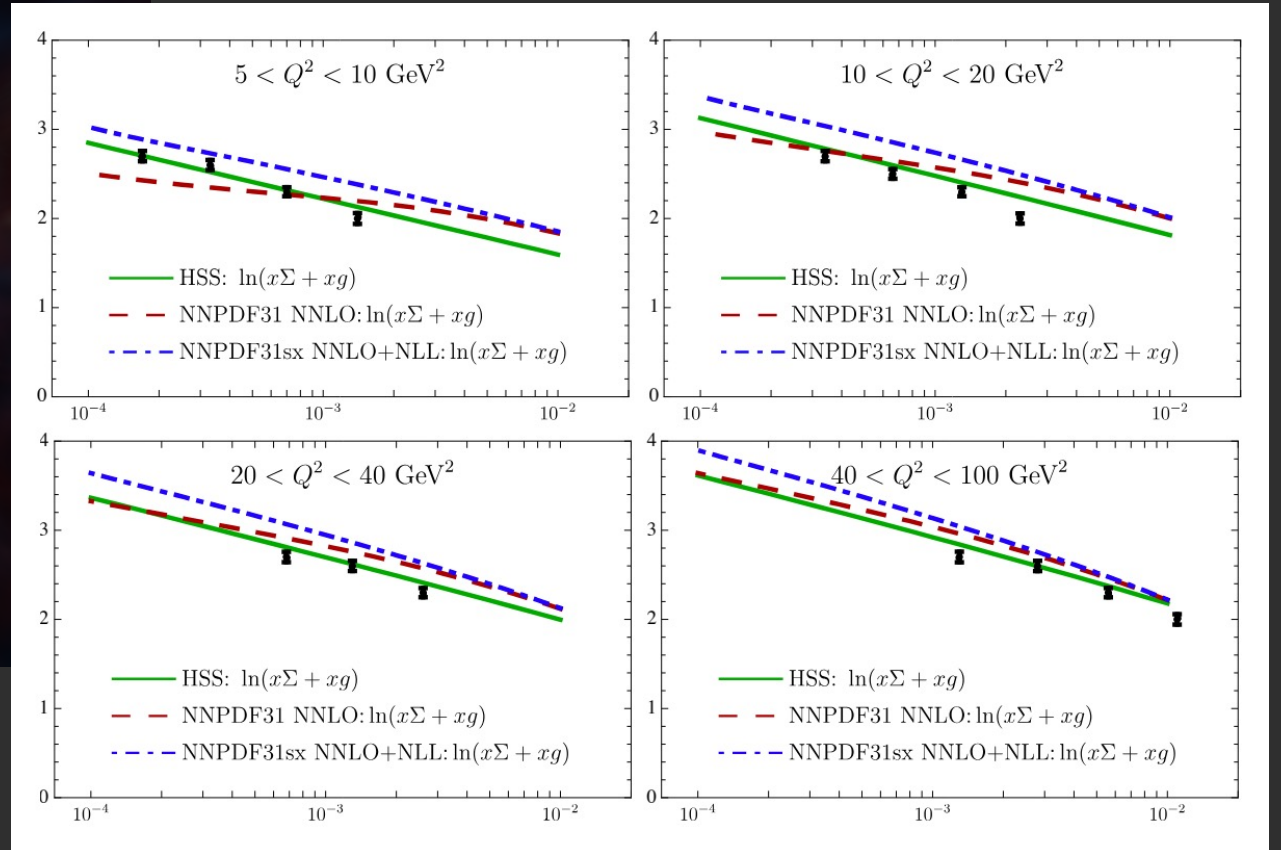
Parton entanglements may provide insights to nonperturbative QCD - color confinement

Diffractive DIS



Our model shows the importance of parton entanglement and entropy of hadrons – a new way of understanding the PDFs

Inclusive DIS



Phys. Rev. Lett. 131 (2023) 24, 241901

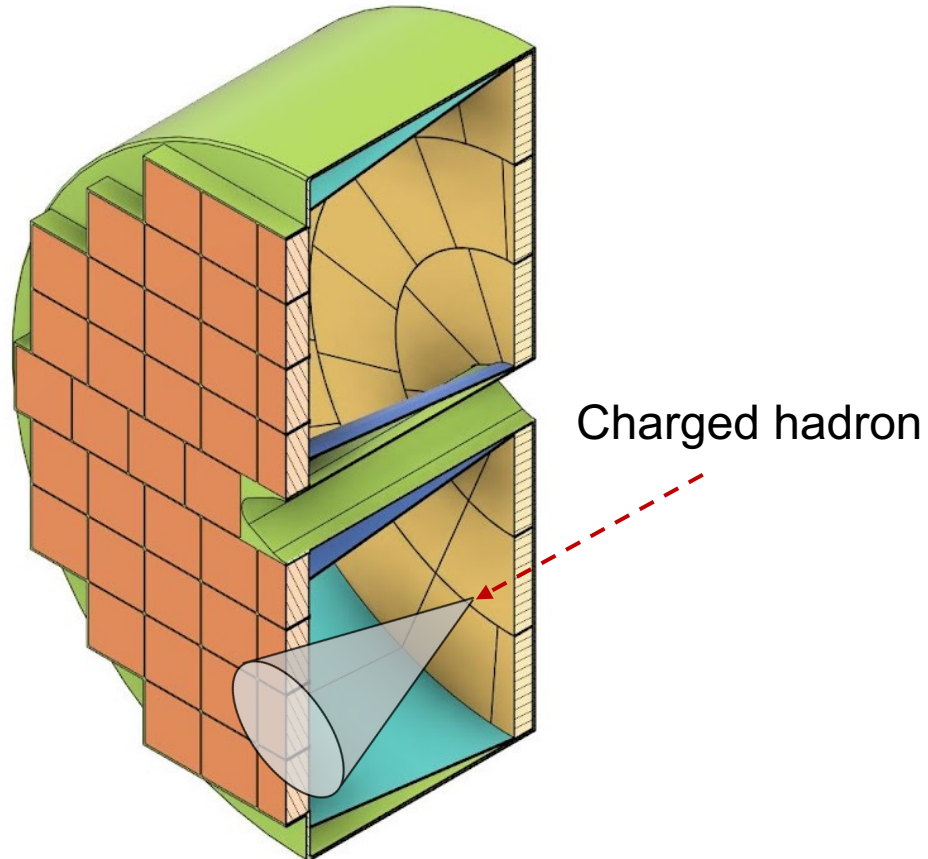
Phys. Rev. Lett. 124 (2020) 6, 062001

Eur. Phys. J. C 82 (2022) 2, 111

Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 3, 212

Detector program: Reflecting Cherenkov photons within the pfRICH

pfRICH – backward PID detector in ePIC



Aluminum mirror recovers large angle Cherenkov photons

Summary: Understanding the visible matter at the EIC



Building the EIC is still a long way to go - the best way to do it is with the best PEOPLE. Thank you all, my dear colleagues!