Physics performance with the ePIC detector at the future Electron-Ion Collider

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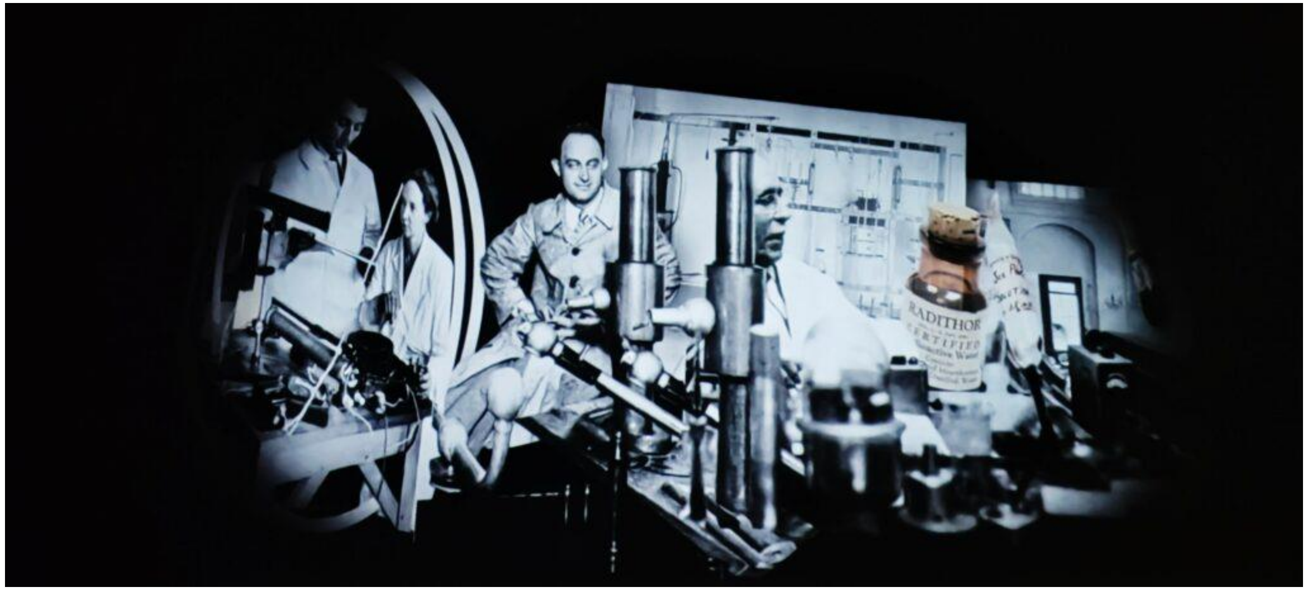


The IUPAP WG9/C12 AGM and Nuclear Science Symposium

Centro Enrico Fermi

Rome (Italy), April 15-16, 2026

EIC science pillars

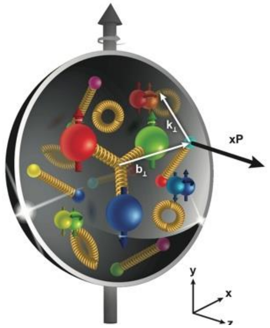
The EIC will unravel the different contribution from the quarks, gluons and orbital angular momentum

SPIN is one of the fundamental properties of matter.
All elementary particles, but the Higgs carry spin.
Spin cannot be explained by a static picture of the proton
It is the interplay between the intrinsic properties and interactions of quarks and gluons

Does the mass of visible matter emerge from quark-gluon interactions?

Atom: Binding/Mass = 0.00000001
Nucleus: Binding/Mass = 0.01
Proton: Binding/Mass = 100

For the proton the EIC will determine an important term contributing to the proton mass, the so-called “QCD trace anomaly



How can we understand their dynamical origin in QCD?
What is the relation to Confinement

How are the quarks and gluon distributed in space and momentum inside the nucleon & nuclei?

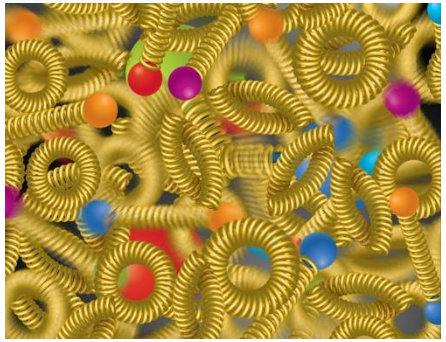
How do the nucleon properties emerge from them and their interactions?

How do the confined hadronic states emerge from quarks and gluons?

Is the structure of a free and bound nucleon the same?

How do quarks and gluons, interact with a nuclear medium?

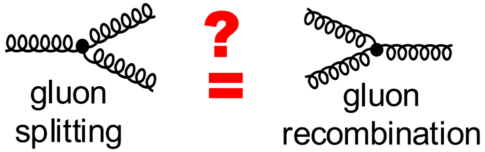
How do the quark-gluon interactions create nuclear binding?



What happens to the gluon density in nuclei? Does it saturate at high energy?

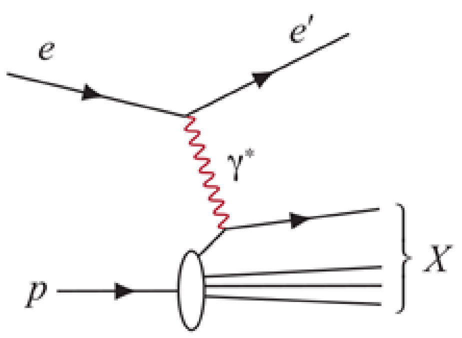
How many gluons can fit in a proton?

How does a dense nuclear environment affect the quarks and gluons, their correlations, and their interactions?



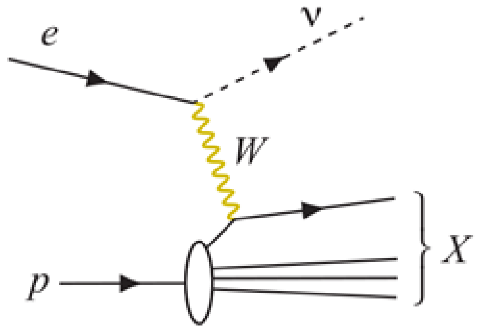
What process must be measured?

DIS event kinematics - scattered electron or final state particles (CC DIS, low y)



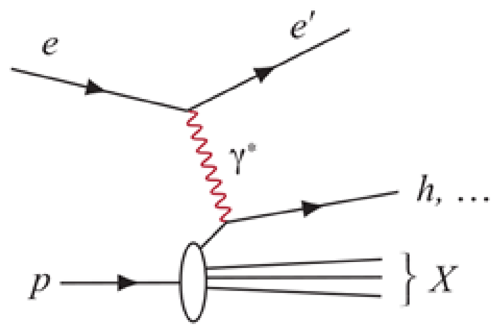
Neutral Current DIS

- Detection of scattered electron with high precision - event kinematics



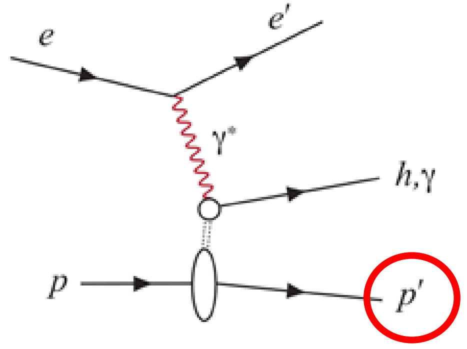
Charged Current DIS

- Event kinematics from the final state particles (Jacquet-Blondel method)



Semi-Inclusive DIS

- Precise detection of scattered electron in coincidence with at least 1 hadron



Exclusive Processes

- Detection of all particles in event

Parton Distributions in nucleons and nuclei

QCD at Extreme Parton Densities - Saturation

Spin and Flavor structure of nucleons and nuclei

Tomography Transverse Momentum Dist.

QCD at Extreme Parton Densities - Saturation

Tomography Spatial Imaging

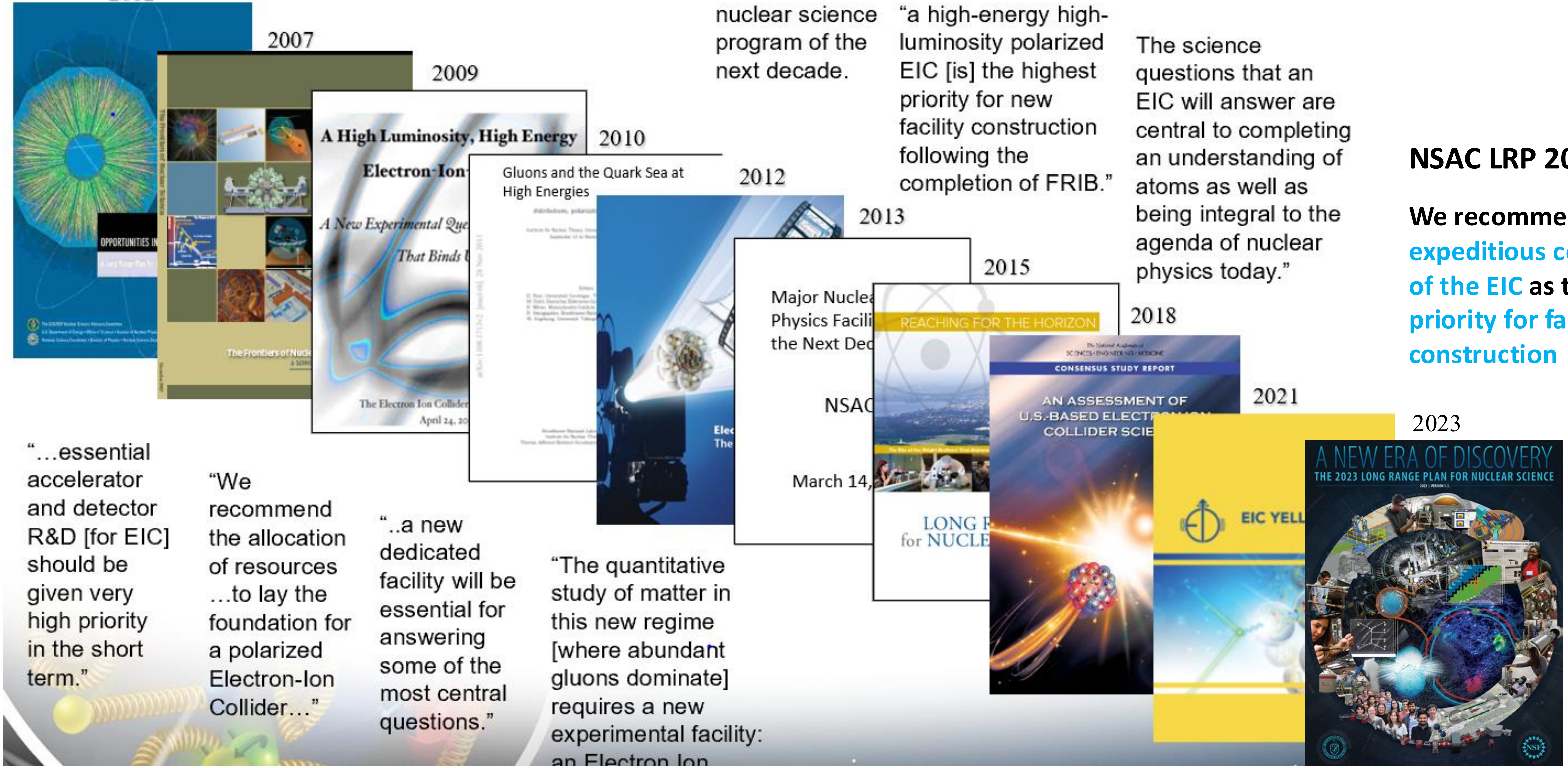
$\int \mathcal{L}dt$:

$\sim 1\ \text{fb}^{-1}$

$\sim 10\ \text{fb}^{-1}$

$\sim 100\ \text{fb}^{-1}$

> 20 years long pathway!



"…essential accelerator and detector R&D [for EIC] should be given very high priority in the short term."

"We recommend the allocation of resources …to lay the foundation for a polarized Electron-Ion Collider…"

"..a new dedicated facility will be essential for answering some of the most central questions."

"The quantitative study of matter in this new regime [where abundant gluons dominate] requires a new experimental facility: an Electron Ion … *central* to the nuclear science program of the next decade."

"a high-energy high-luminosity polarized EIC [is] the highest priority for new facility construction following the completion of FRIB."

The science questions that an EIC will answer are central to completing an understanding of atoms as well as being integral to the agenda of nuclear physics today."

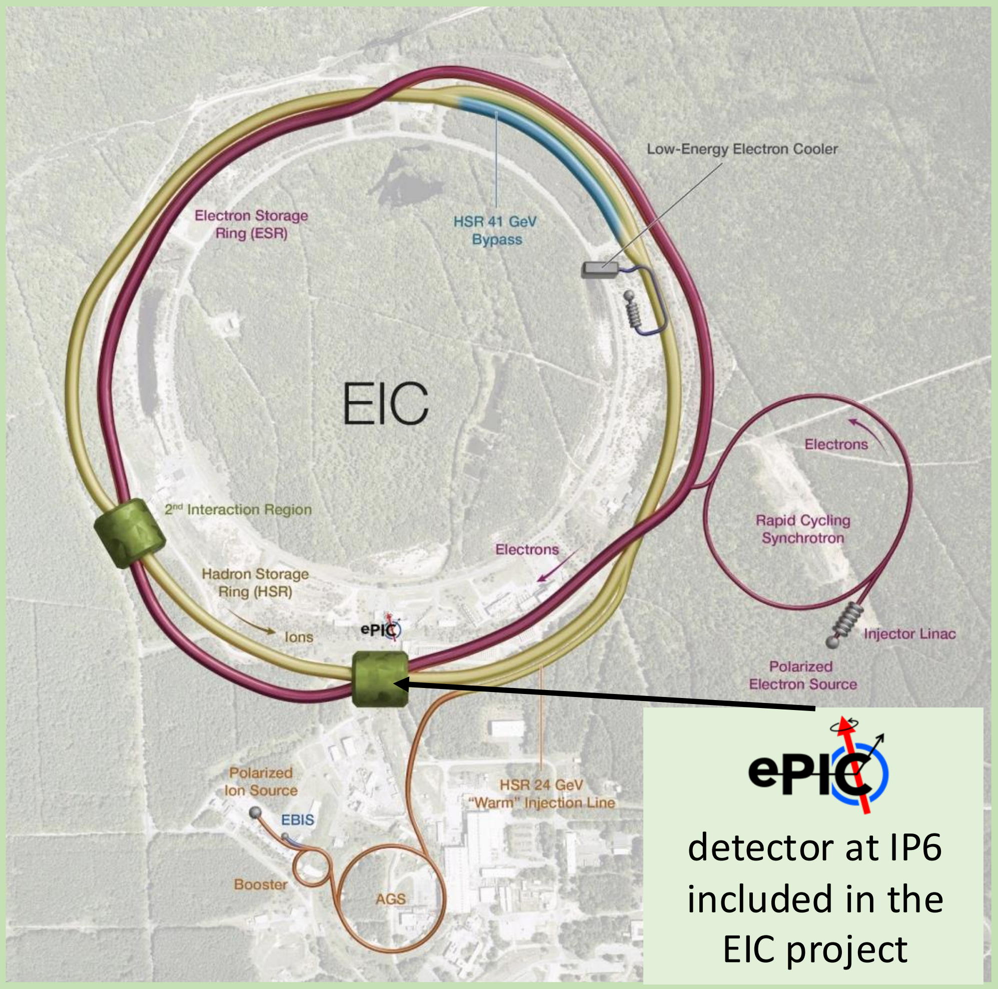
NSAC LRP 2023:

We recommend the expeditious completion of the EIC as the highest priority for facility construction

The Electron-Ion Collider

Could be the only new collider in the coming ~20-30 years

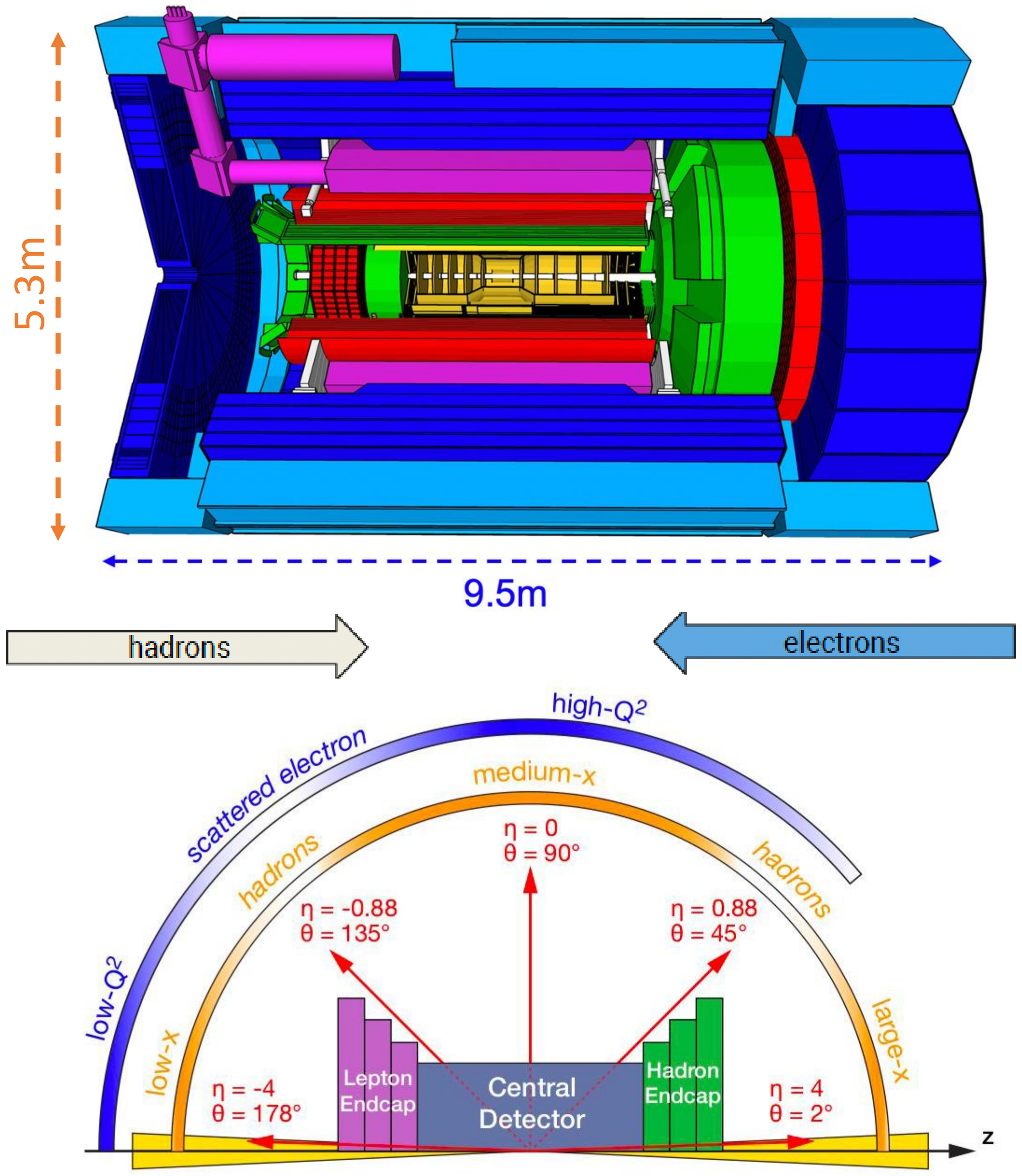
See A. Deshpande's talk



- ✓ Add a 5 to 18 GeV electron storage ring
- ✓ Two interaction regions, IP6 and IP8
- ✓ High Luminosity: 10^{33} -10^{34} $cm^{-2}s^{-1}$ (~10^2-10^3 * HERA)
- ✓ Flexible √s = ~20-140 GeV (per nucleon)
- ✓ Highly polarized (~70%) $e^{\uparrow}, p^{\uparrow}, D^{\uparrow}, He^{\uparrow}$,
  - with a flexible spin pattern
- ✓ Wide variety of nuclear beams: (D to U)

World's first Polarized electron-proton/light ion and electron-Nucleus collider

The ePIC detector



Tracking

- New 1.7 T solenoid
- Si MAPS (vertex, barrel, forward, backward disks)
- MPGDs (μRWELL/μMegas) (barrel, forward, backward disks)

Particle identification

- High performance DIRC (barrel)
- Dual radiator (aerogel+gas) RICH (forward)
- Proximity focusing RICH (aerogel) (backward)
- TOF (~30ps): AC-LGAD (barrel and forward)

E.M. Calorimetry

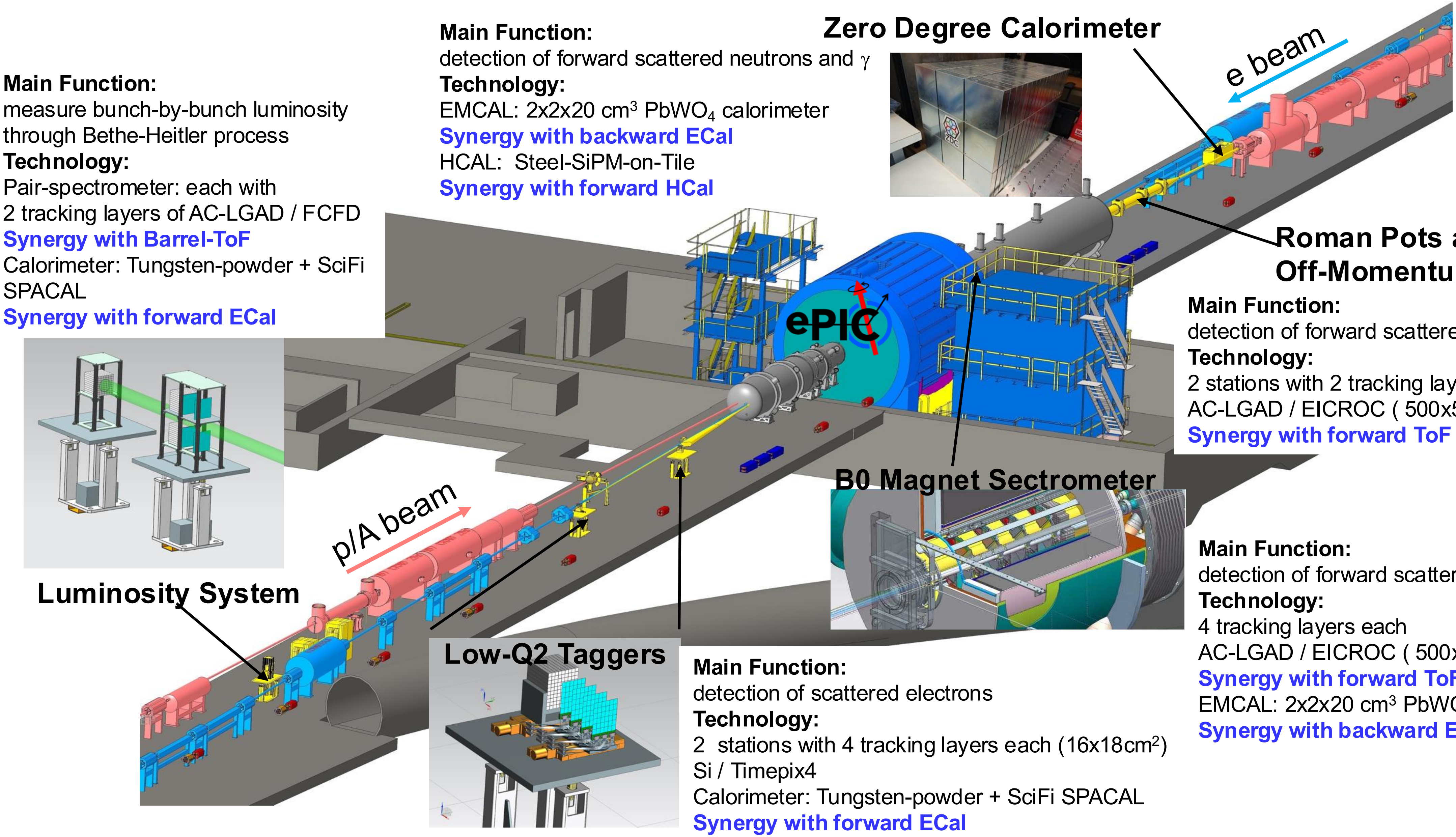
- Imaging EMCAL (barrel)
- W-powder/ScFi (forward)
- $PbWO_4$ crystals (backward)

Hadronic Calorimetry

- Fe/Scint reuse from sPHENIX (barrel)
- Steel/Scint - W/Scint (backwards/forward)

DAQ: streaming/triggerless with AI

Far forward/backwards detectors



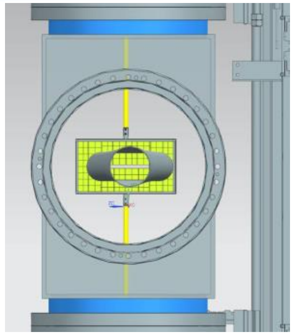
Luminosity System

Main Function:
measure bunch-by-bunch luminosity through Bethe-Heitler process
Technology:
Pair-spectrometer: each with
2 tracking layers of AC-LGAD / FCFD
Synergy with Barrel-ToF
Calorimeter: Tungsten-powder + SciFi SPACAL
Synergy with forward ECal

Zero Degree Calorimeter

Main Function:
detection of forward scattered neutrons and γ
Technology:
EMCAL: 2x2x20 cm^3 $PbWO_4$ calorimeter
Synergy with backward ECal
HCAL: Steel-SiPM-on-Tile
Synergy with forward HCal

Roman Pots and Off-Momentum Detectors



Main Function:
detection of forward scattered protons and nuclei
Technology:
2 stations with 2 tracking layers each
AC-LGAD / EICROC (500x500 μm^2 pixel)
Synergy with forward ToF

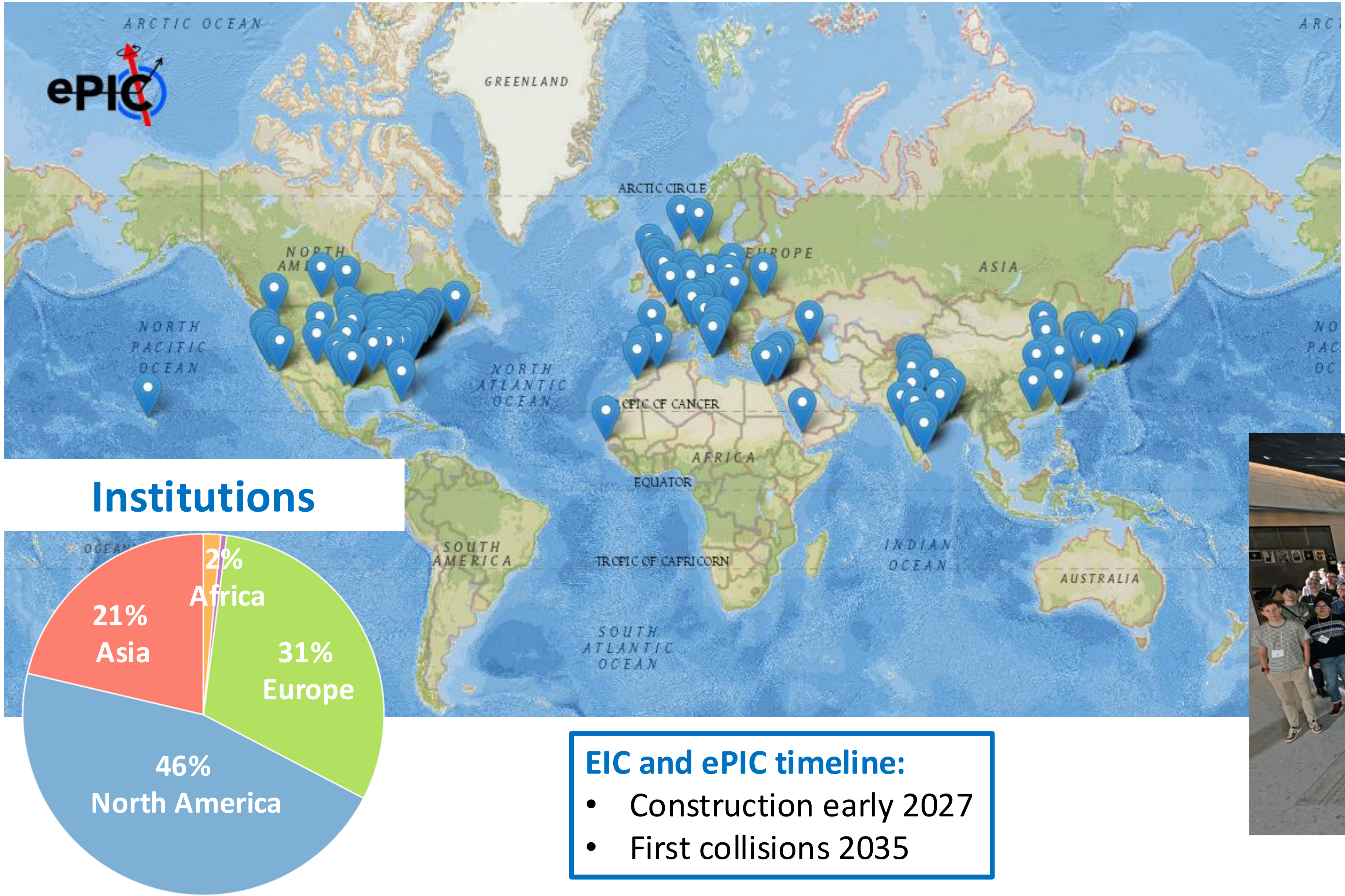
B0 Magnet Sectrometer

Main Function:
detection of forward scattered protons and γ
Technology:
4 tracking layers each
AC-LGAD / EICROC (500x500 μm^2 pixel)
Synergy with forward ToF
EMCAL: 2x2x20 cm^3 $PbWO_4$ calorimeter
Synergy with backward ECal

Low-Q2 Taggers

Main Function:
detection of scattered electrons
Technology:
2 stations with 4 tracking layers each (16x18cm^2)
Si / Timepix4
Calorimeter: Tungsten-powder + SciFi SPACAL
Synergy with forward ECal

The ePIC Collaboration



Institutions

A truly global pursuit for a new experiment at the EIC

26 Countries

183 Institutions and counting!

1158 scientists and counting!


BNL – January 2026

EIC and ePIC timeline:

- Construction early 2027
- First collisions 2035

Structure of the ePIC Physics Working Groups

PHYSICS ANALYSIS COORDINATORS
Salvatore Fazio (Calabria) - Rachel Montgomery (Glasgow)
Rosi Reed (Lehigh) - deputy

INCLUSIVE PHYSICS
Win Lin (Stony Brook)
Stephen Maple (Birmingham)

SEMI-INCLUSIVE PHYSICS
Anselm Vossen (Duke)
Ralf Seidl (RIKEN)

JETS AND HEAVY FLAVOR
Shyam Kumar (Bari)
Rongrong Ma (BNL)

EXCLUSIVE, DIFFRACTION AND TAGGING
Stephen Kay (York)
Zhoudunming Tu (BNL)

BSM AND PRECISION EW
Zuhal Seyma Demiroglu (Stony Brook)
Juliette Memmei (Manitoba)

Ingredients we need:

- A flexible collider (EIC)
- A versatile general-purpose detector (ePIC)
- An engaged and enthusiastic International Collaboration

- PWGs at ePIC typically meet by-weekly
- Global Physics Analysis Coordination by-weekly

ePIC Technical Design Report

pre–TDR (60% design completion) ⟹ December 2025

TDR (90% design completion) ⟹ ~ late 2026

- (pre)TDR are a deliverable of the EIC/ePIC Project

  - **Executive Summary**
  - **CHAPTER 1 – Introduction**
    - About the EIC project and the accelerator complex (high level approach)
  - **CHAPTER 2 – Requirements**
    - Requirements resulting as an evolution of the YR ones
  - **CHAPTER 3 – Experimental Systems**
    - **Past "chapter 8"**
    - Presenting the detector subsystems matching the requirements (mainly individual performance)
  - **CHAPTER 4 – Detector Performance for the EIC physics program**
    - **Past "chapter 2"**
    - Presenting the holistic detector performance by the performance for key physics measurements
  - **CHAPTER 5 – Detector-Accelerator interfaces**
    - INTEGRATION INTO THE FACILITY

ePIC and EIC Early Science Report

Jefferson Lab   Brookhaven National Laboratory

June 13, 2025

Subject: ePIC Collaboration: Early Science Document

John Lajoie and Silvia Dalla Torre
Spokespeople, ePIC Collaboration

Dear John, Silvia and the ePIC Collaboration,

As the EIC construction plan becomes more mature, it is apparent that there will be a period of about five years when there will be collisions at the ePIC and early data could be recorded. The EIC Project team has released their expectations for the beam parameters (polarization, luminosity, energy and nuclear species) and their ramp-up during that early operating phase. We are writing to you – the ePIC collaboration - to develop a short document summarizing the science that would be possible from those early data.

Based on the early commissioning beam parameters released by the EIC project [1,2], the ePIC collaboration should summarize for the broader nuclear physics community, the funding agencies, and for the Labs, what exciting scientific results would be possible from this perid. The results in the document should be based on the most recent understanding of the ePIC detector including the acceptances, efficiencies of each detector subsystem, and off-line reconstruction capabilities the collaboration has developed so far. We believe this document will also serve to help in the preparation of the ePIC TDR currently under preparation by the collaboration with the EIC Project, as input to CD2/3 milestone for the EIC. Beyond the physics of interest, we think that this ePIC early physics document would also be useful to demonstrate the collaboration's engagement and getting prepared for physics at the EIC and capture the status of ePIC collaboration's activities at this stage. We are happy to support this activity through in-person or hybrid workshops or topical meetings should they be needed.

We recognize that this is an additional exercise for the ePIC community. At the same time, many previous such exercises (like the Yellow Report) were focused on full EIC machine capability. This report should focus on the science that could be produced before the ramp up to the full EIC machine capability.

We suggest that the collaboration prepares this report by May 1, 2026.

- **Charge by BNL/JLAB Associate Lab Directors** [by May 1st]
- **Dedicated "physics readiness" workshops:**
  - **Sep. 13, 2024 – online [link]**
  - **Jan. 2025, plenary at Coll. Meeting [link]**
  - **Apr. 2025, CFNS @ Stony Brook [link]**
  - **Sep. 2025, IoP in London [link]**
  - **Mar. 2026, University of Calabria & INFN Cosenza [link]**
- **Goal of this exercise:**
  - **Highlight *meaningful* and *impactful* science within early years of running without undermining the importance of achieving full EIC capabilities**
  - ***Meaningful*:** The EIC early science program must engage the collaboration; it must get the collaboration excited about working hard for the future. It must have a balance of *breadth* and *depth*
  - ***Impactful*:** The EIC early science program must take the first steps down the path to realizing the EIC science goals

NIM-A Special Issue

- Special Issue form filed with Elsevier Jan 2026
  - Spokesperson is Executive Guest Editor
  - Coordinators are Co-Guest Editors
- Planning for publications to be Open Access
- Currently planning to publish:
  - ePIC Overview Paper (includes science)
  - Subsystem technical papers (derived from pTDR)
  - Physics performance paper (derived from pTDR)
  - Early Science Whitepaper
  - Early Science Physics Appendices
  - BSM/EW Physics Performance Paper
  - Streaming Computing Model Paper

Overall 30+ publications

This Special Issue will be an important tool to communicate to the NP community the depth, breadth and excitement for EIC science

Highlights on the performance on some physics measurements of the ePIC detector

- ALL IS A WORK IN PROGRESS!
- Software framework, event reconstruction, tools… are being finalized and are evolving as we speak!

Scientific goals: origin of the mass of visible matter

- Gluons have no mass and quarks are very light, but nucleons and nuclei are heavy, making up for most of the visible mass in the Universe
- Visible matter only made of constituents of light mass: masses emerge from quark-gluon dynamics

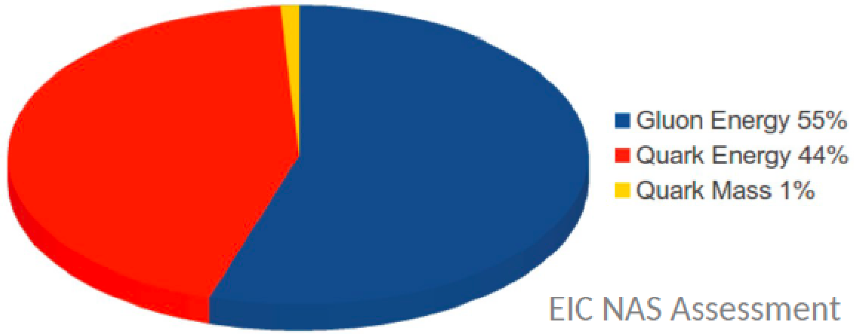
Proton (valence quarks: uud) → $m_p = 940$ MeV

- The mass is dominated by the energy of highly relativistic gluonic field
- EIC can determine an important contribution term to the proton mass, the so-called "QCD trace anomaly" $\longmapsto$ accessible in exclusive reactions (e.g. Υ photoproduction near threshold)

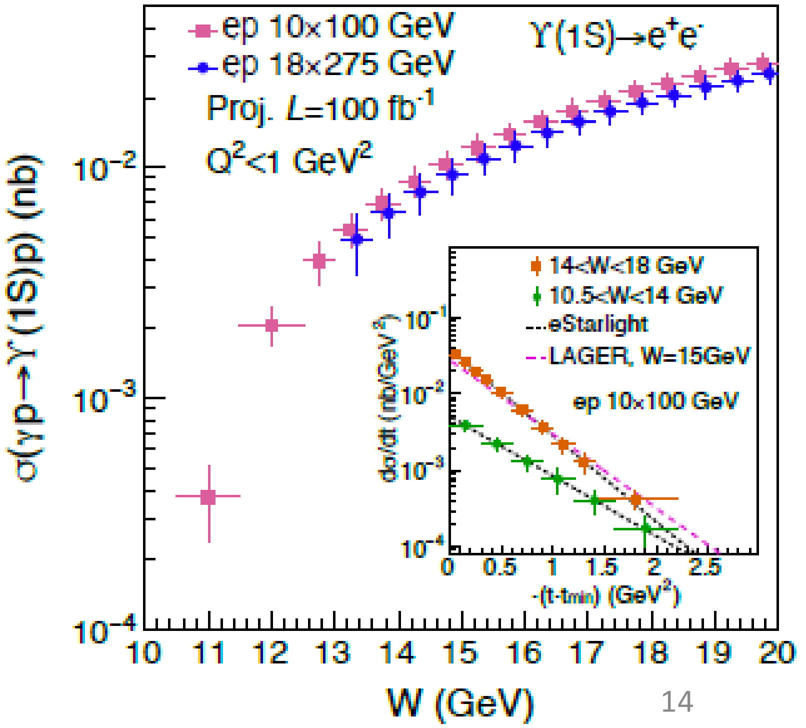
Key detector performance:

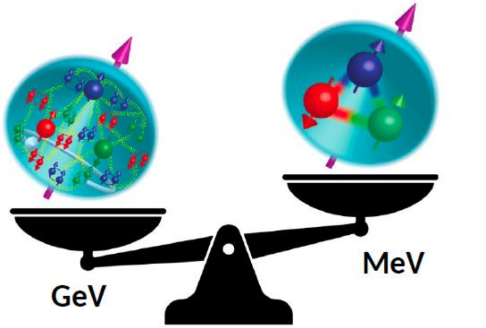
- Acceptance and low material for VM decay leptons
- Resolution of lepton pair inv. mass
- Muon id

Contributions to the total mass of the nucleon

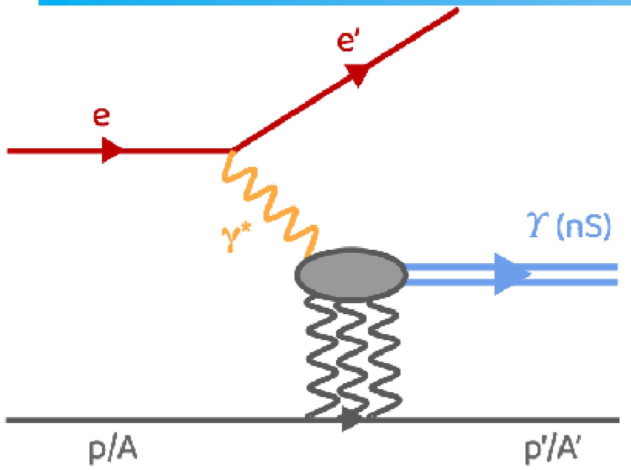


EIC NAS Assessment

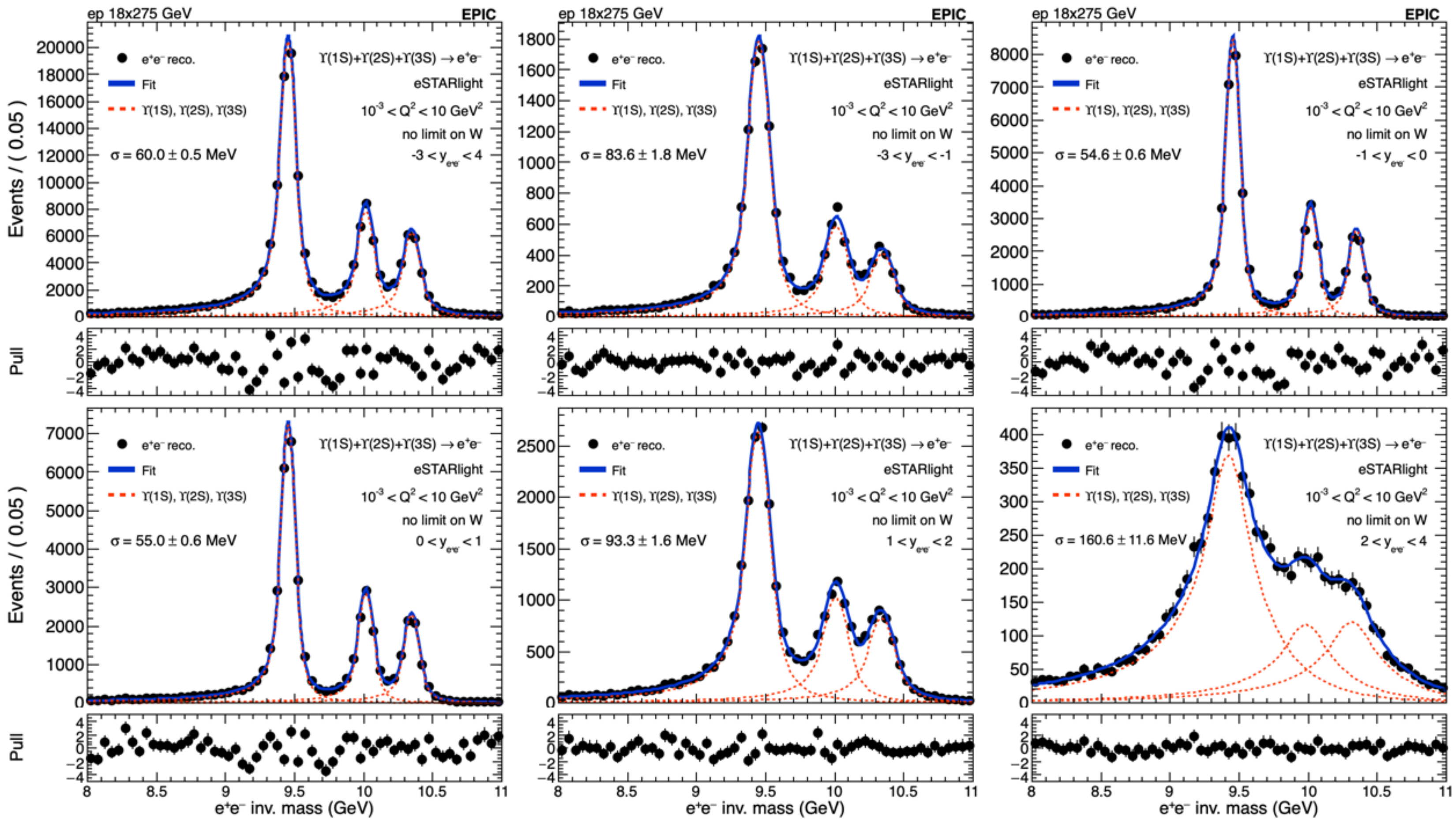




ePIC performance: Υ production



$\Upsilon(1S), \Upsilon(2S), \Upsilon(3S) \rightarrow e^+e^-$



left -> right: Different rapidity intervals

- Sensitivity to gluon distributions
- Challenges: tracking resolution is crucial
- First studies at low Q^2
  - Ratio yields 1 : 0.45 : 0.33 from STARlight paper
  - Fitted with the **Double-Sided Crystal Ball function**
  - $m_{\Upsilon nS} = m_{\Upsilon 1S} \frac{\text{PDGmass}_{nS}}{\text{PDGmass}_{1S}}$

Scientific goals: proton PDFs

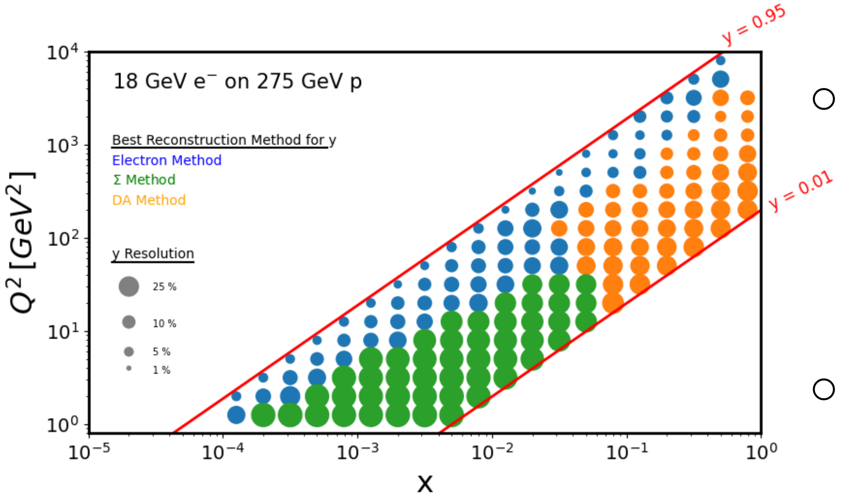
Proton PDFs @ EIC

- $F_2(x, Q^2)$ **largely studied at HERA**
- Nevertheless, a better precision often needed for precise calculations!
  → explore specific kinematics
- Observable: Neutral Current cross sections
- EIC impact on HERA + LHC global fits, as estimated at the times of detector proposals in 2022 (ATHENA), show promising results [JINST 17 (2022) 10, P10019]
  - **High-*x* region: constrain of both gluons and flavor-separated valence quarks**
- Novel impact studies [arXiv:2602.00860] based on ePIC pseudodata and the conditions of the EIC early running confirm this statement

Key detector performance:

- Electron ID
- Fine *y* resolution over large phase space

ePIC performance: proton PDFs



Kinematic Resolutions

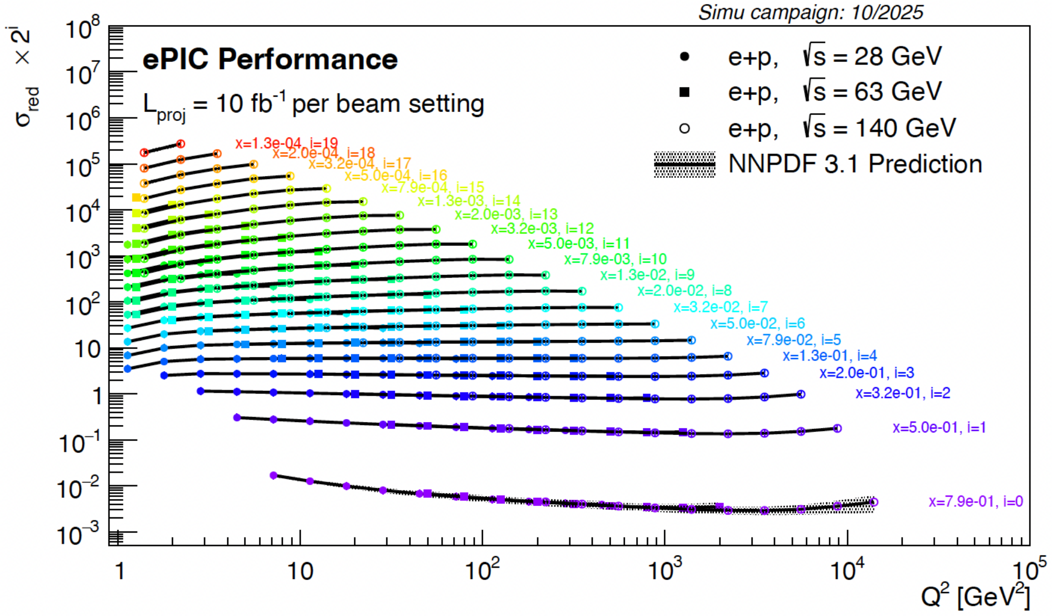
- Reconstruct inclusive kinematics using various methods
  - Color of point indicates best method for *y* (inelasticity)
  - Size of point indicates *y* resolution
- **< 30% *y* reso. across $x - Q^2$ plane**

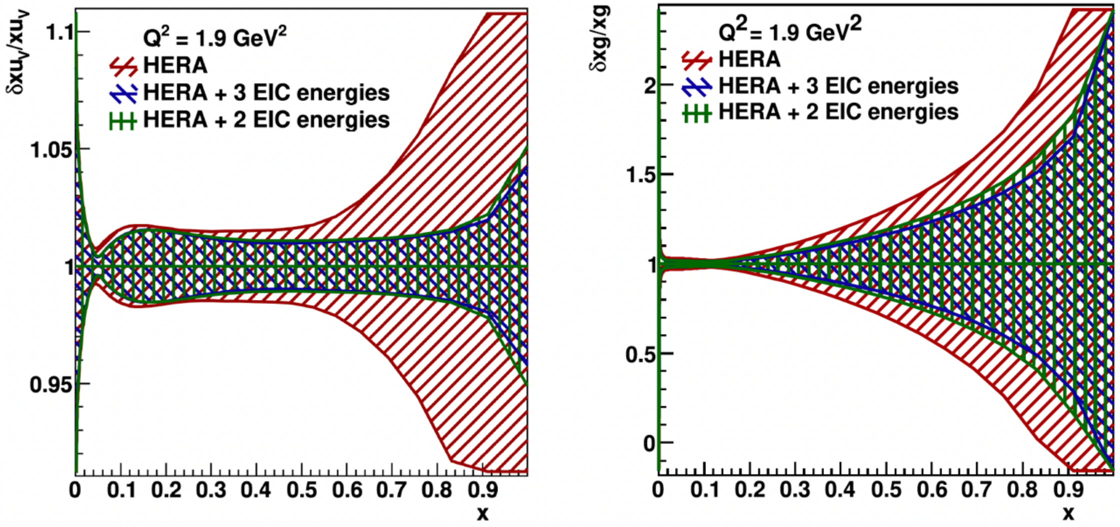
$$y_e = 1 - \frac{E_e(1-\cos\theta_e)}{2E_0},$$

$$y_{DA} = \frac{\alpha_h}{\alpha_e + \alpha_h},$$

$$y_\Sigma = \frac{\delta_h}{\delta_h + E_e(1-\cos\theta_e)},$$

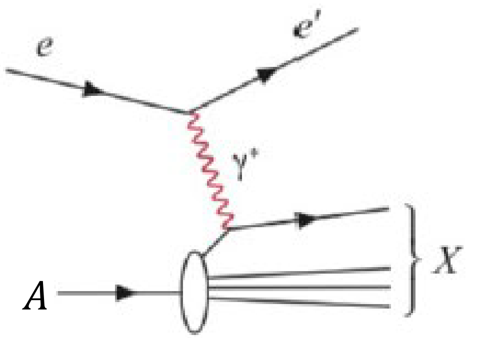
Neutral Current cross sections → parton distributions

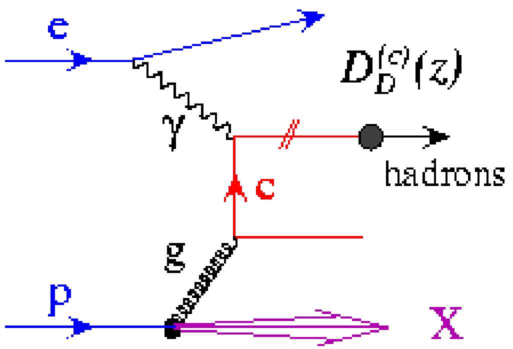




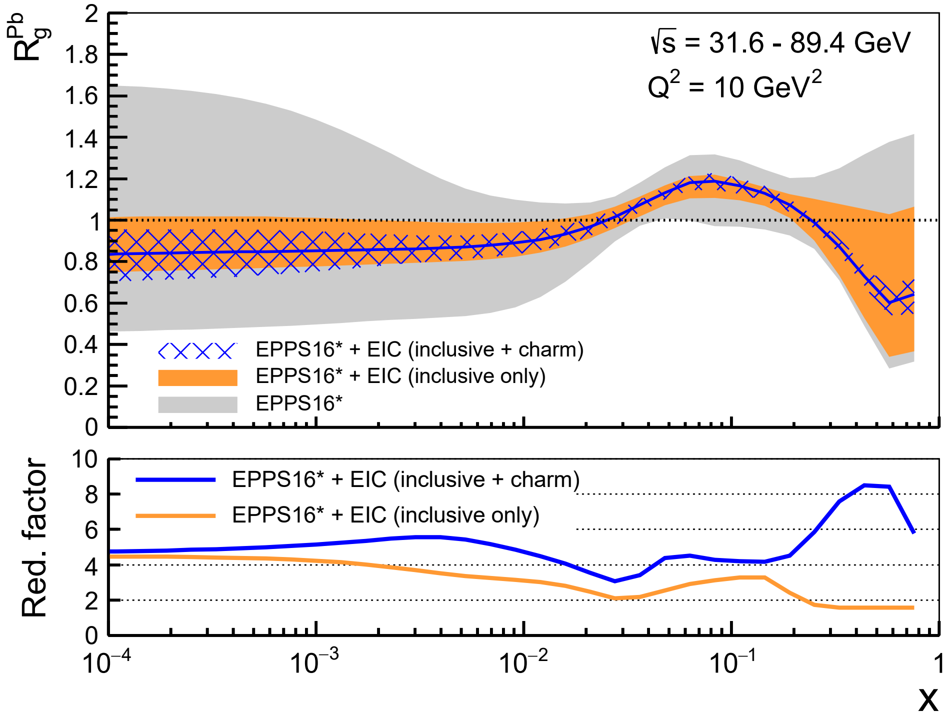
arXiv:2602.00860

Scientific goals: nuclear PDFs





- ○ **Inclusive DIS in e+A**
  - tag the scattered electron
- ○ **Charm production:**
- Direct access to gluons at medium to high *x* by tagging **photon-gluon fusion**



E.C. Aschenauer, S. F., M.A.C. Lamont, H. Paukkunen, P. Zurita [Phys. Rev. D 96, 114005 (2017)]

- ❑ The EIC provides a factor ~10 larger reach in Q^2 and at low-x compared to available data

➢ Higher $\sqrt{s}$ energy constrains gluons at mid- and low-*x*

➢ charm has a dramatic effect at high-*x*

Key detector performance:

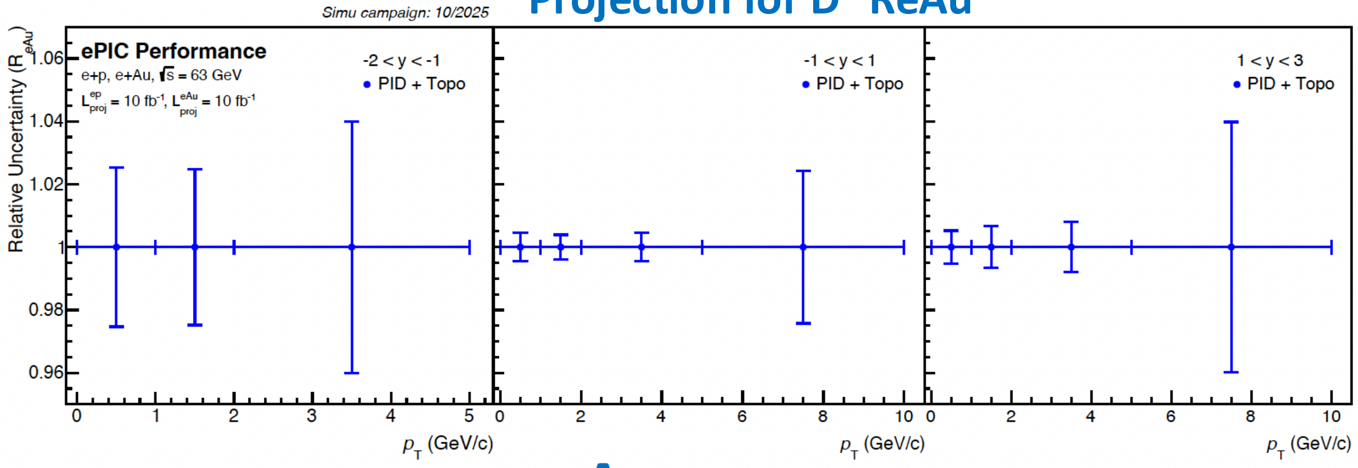
- Vertexing (for charm tagging)
- Electron ID
- Fine resolution in *y* over a large phase space

ePDFs studies in progress at ePIC

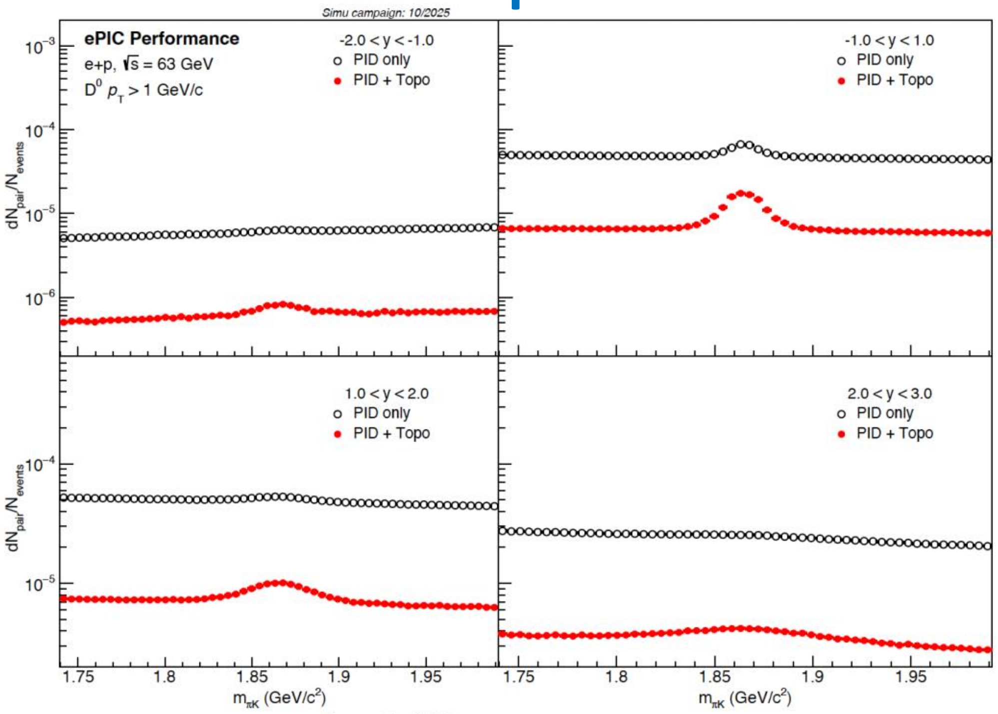
ePIC performance: Open D^0 reconstruction with ePIC

- Open D^0 reconstruction
  - projected statistical unc. for D^0 R_{eAu}
  - Invariant mass distributions of π + K pairs vs different D^0 rapidity ranges
  - › Assessing tracking performance

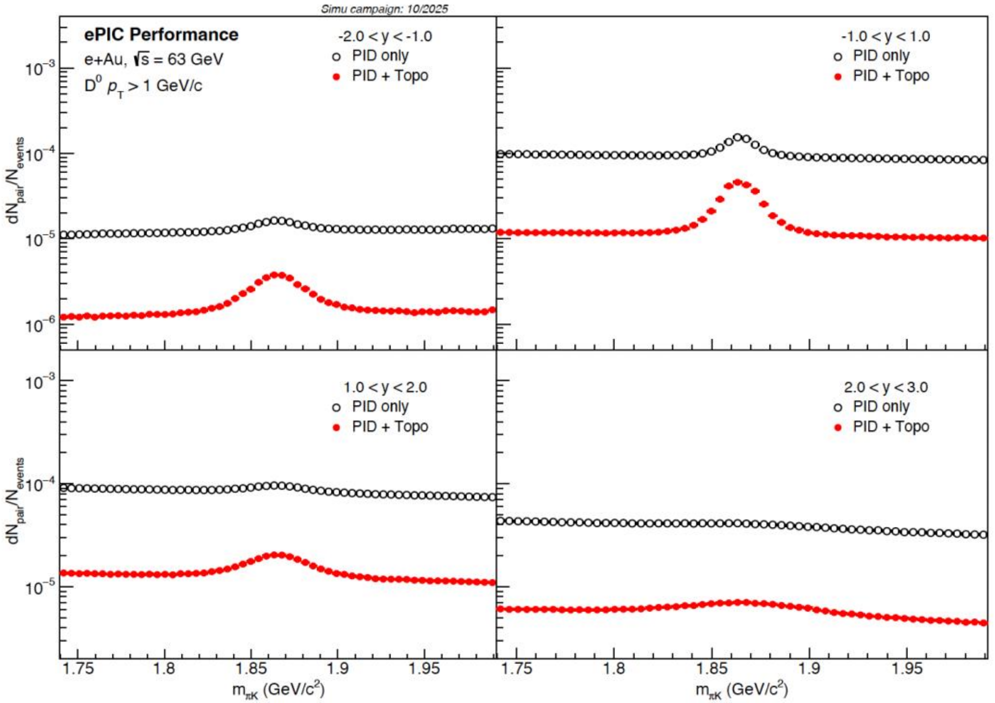
Projection for D^0 ReAu



e+p



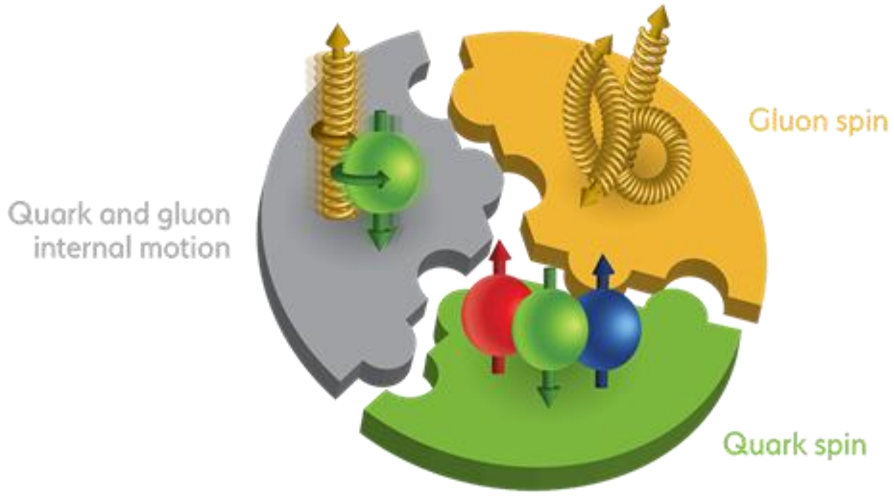
e+Au



Scientific goals: source of the proton's spin

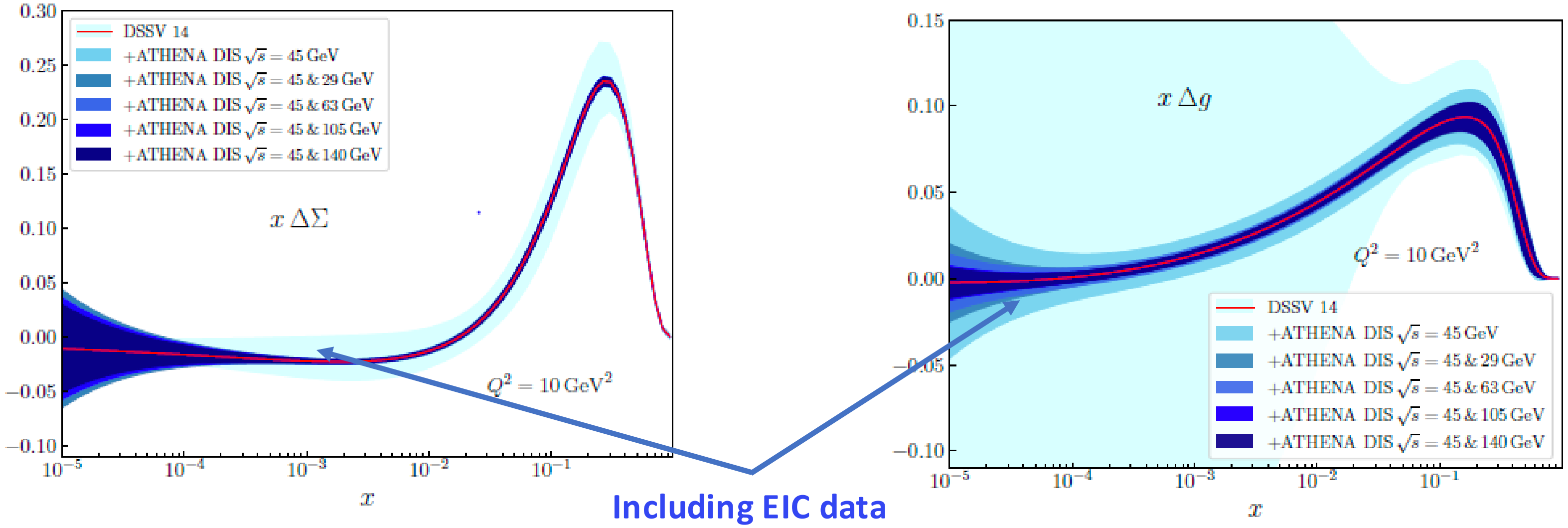
Jaffe and Manohar "sum rule" [Nucl. Phys. B337, 509 (1990)]

$$\frac{1}{2}\hbar = \left\langle P,\frac{1}{2}\middle| J^z_{QCD} \middle| P,\frac{1}{2}\right\rangle = \underbrace{\sum_q \frac{1}{2} S^z_q}_{\text{total u+d+s quark spin}} + \overbrace{S^z_g}^{\text{gluon spin}} + \underbrace{\sum_q L^z_q + L^z_g}_{\text{angular momentum}}$$



- **Observable:** double spin asymmetries
- **DIS** scaling violations determine **gluons** at small *x*

1/2 - Quarks - Gluons = orb. angular momentum

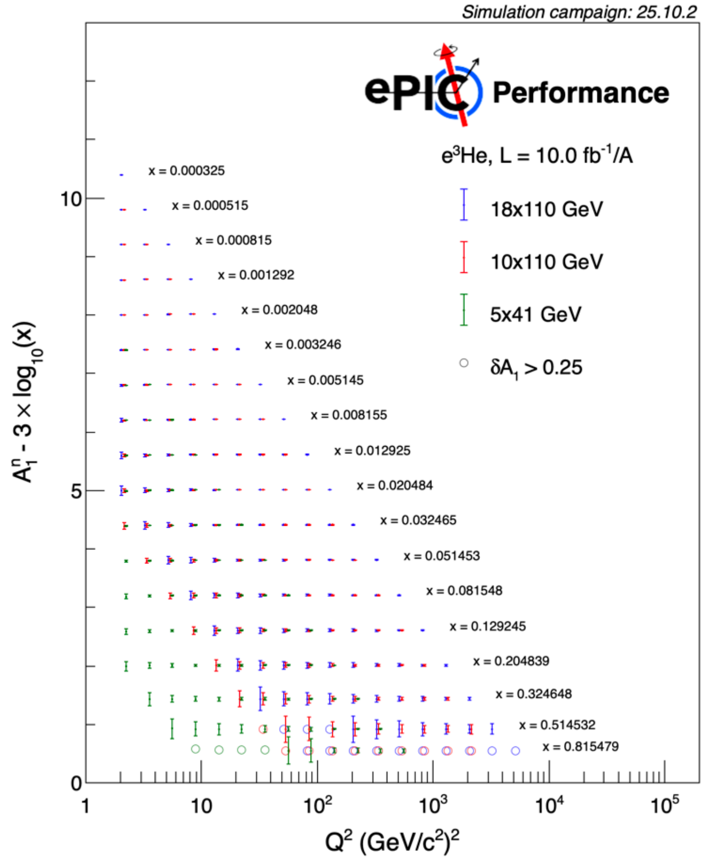


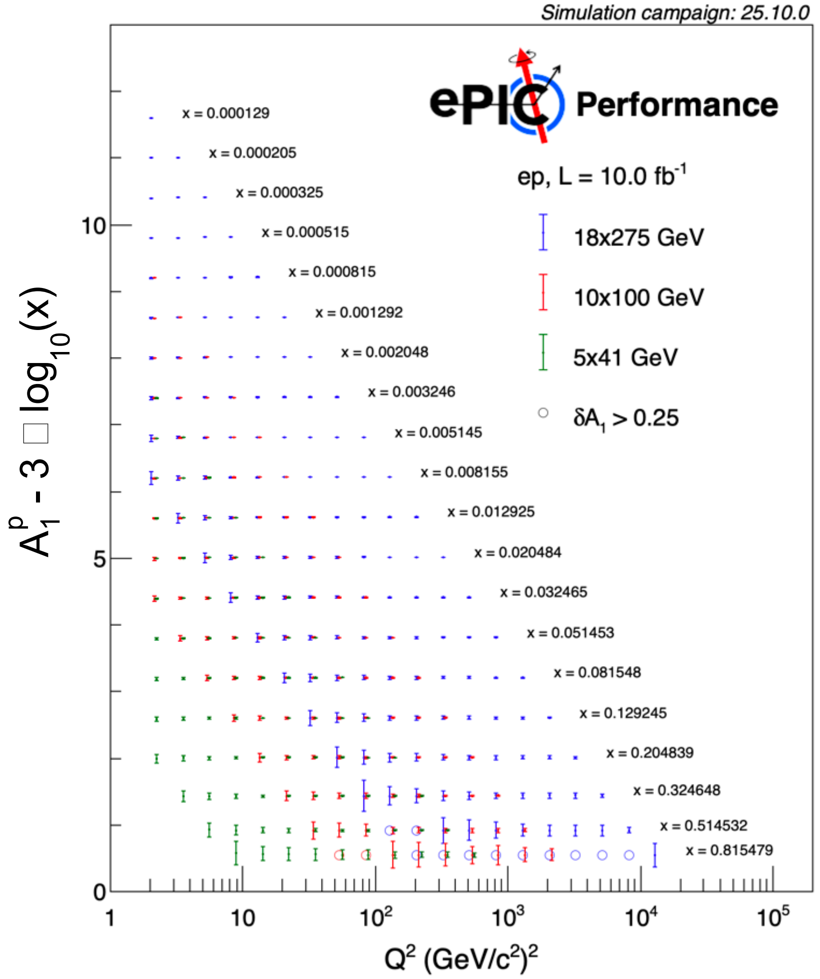
ePIC performance: Double Spin Asymmetries - A_1^p

The A_1^p determination at ePIC

$$A_{||} = \frac{\sigma_{\downarrow\Uparrow}-\sigma_{\uparrow\Uparrow}}{\sigma_{\downarrow\Uparrow}+\sigma_{\uparrow\Uparrow}}, \quad A_{\perp} = \frac{\sigma_{\downarrow\Rightarrow}-\sigma_{\uparrow\Rightarrow}}{\sigma_{\downarrow\Rightarrow}+\sigma_{\uparrow\Rightarrow}} \quad \rightarrow A_1 \approx g_1/F_1$$

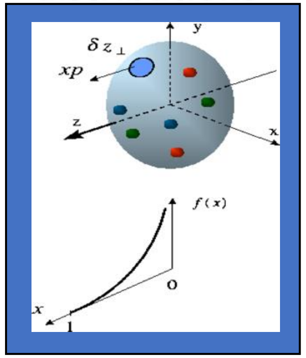
- Realistic eID (Tracking + Electron method) - Acceptance and Bin migrations from simulation
- A_1^p calculated according to parametrization
- A_1^n using He^3





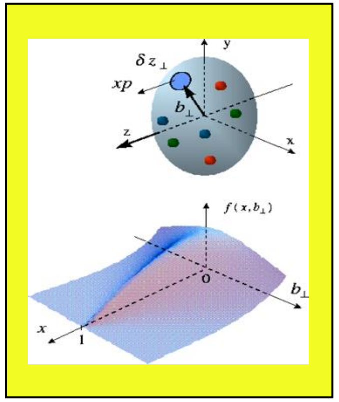
Scientific goals: GPDs

Longitudinal momentum & helicity distributions



$\boldsymbol{f(x)}$

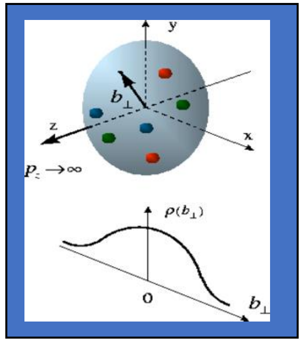
parton densities



$\boldsymbol{H(x,\xi,t)}$

GPDs

transverse charge & current densities



$\boldsymbol{F(t)}$

form factors

N / q	U	L	T
U	H		E_T
L		$\tilde{H}$	$\tilde{E}_T$
T	E	$\tilde{E}$	H_T $\tilde{H}_T$

Spin-½ hadron: **4 chiral-even** (H, E and their polarized-hadron versions $\widetilde{H}$, $\tilde{E}$) and **4 chiral-odd** ($H_T, E_T, \widetilde{H}_T, \tilde{E}_T$) quark and gluon **GPDs at leading twist**

Like usual PDFs, GPDs are non-perturbative functions **defined via the matrix elements of parton operators**:

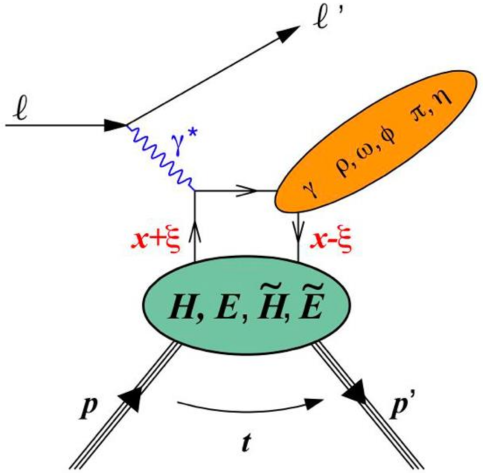
$$F^q = \frac{1}{2}\int \frac{dz^-}{2\pi} e^{ix\bar{P}^+z^-} \langle p'|\bar{q}(-\frac{1}{2}z)\gamma^+ q(\frac{1}{2}z)|p\rangle|_{z^+=0,\mathbf{z}=0}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\bar{P}^+}\left[H^q(x,\xi,t,\mu^2)\bar{u}(p')\gamma^+ u(p) + E^q(x,\xi,t,\mu^2)\bar{u}(p')\frac{i\sigma^{+\alpha}\Delta_\alpha}{2m_N}u(p)\right]$$

- Experimental access to GPDs via Compton Form Factors (CFFs)

$$\mathcal{H}(\xi,t) = \sum_q e_q^2 \int_{-1}^{1} dx\, H^q(x,\xi,t)\left(\frac{1}{\xi - x - i\varepsilon} - \frac{1}{\xi + x - i\varepsilon}\right)$$

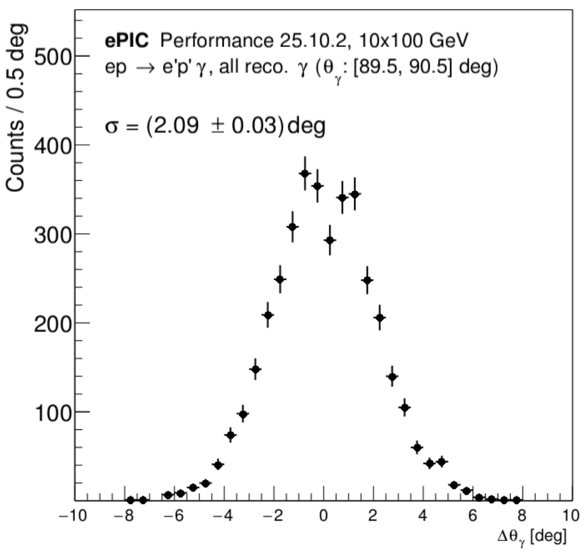
- Measure t-differential cross sections and asymmetries in exclusive processes [DVCS + VMs needed to constrain the whole set and separate flavors]

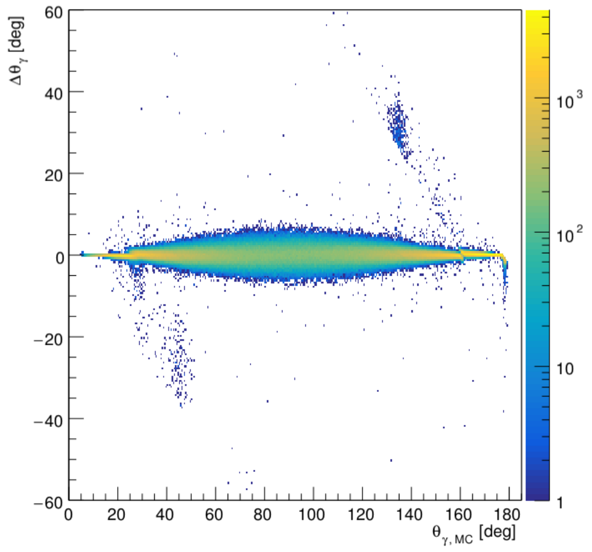


Mandelstam variable:
$\boldsymbol{t = -(p' - p)^2}$

ePIC performance: proton momentum via f.f. spectrometers

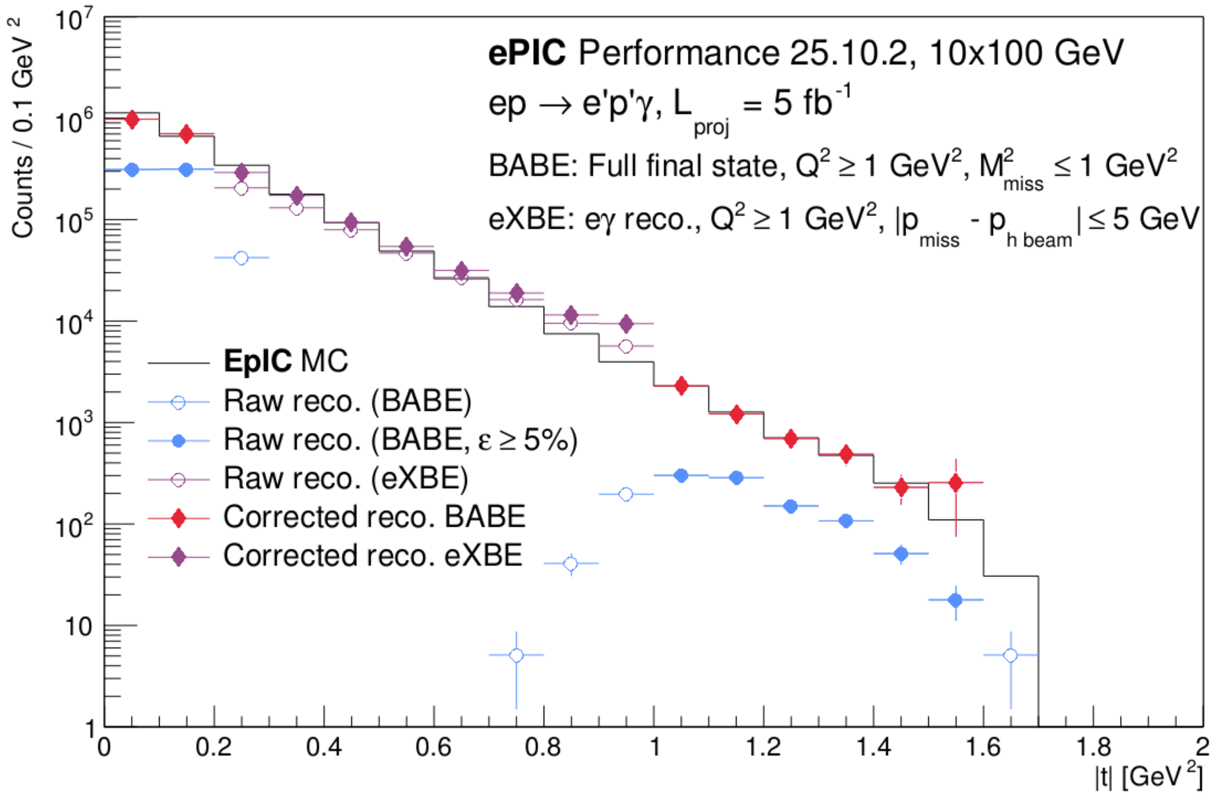
$t = -(p' - p)^2$, in exclusive and diffractive processes is directedly measured via **far forward trackers**, roman pots (RPs) and B0





Reconstructed minus generated track polar angle

- for all reconstructed DVCS photons (left)
- vs the generated photon θ (right)



Generated and reconstructed t-distributions for fully-exclusive DVCS events

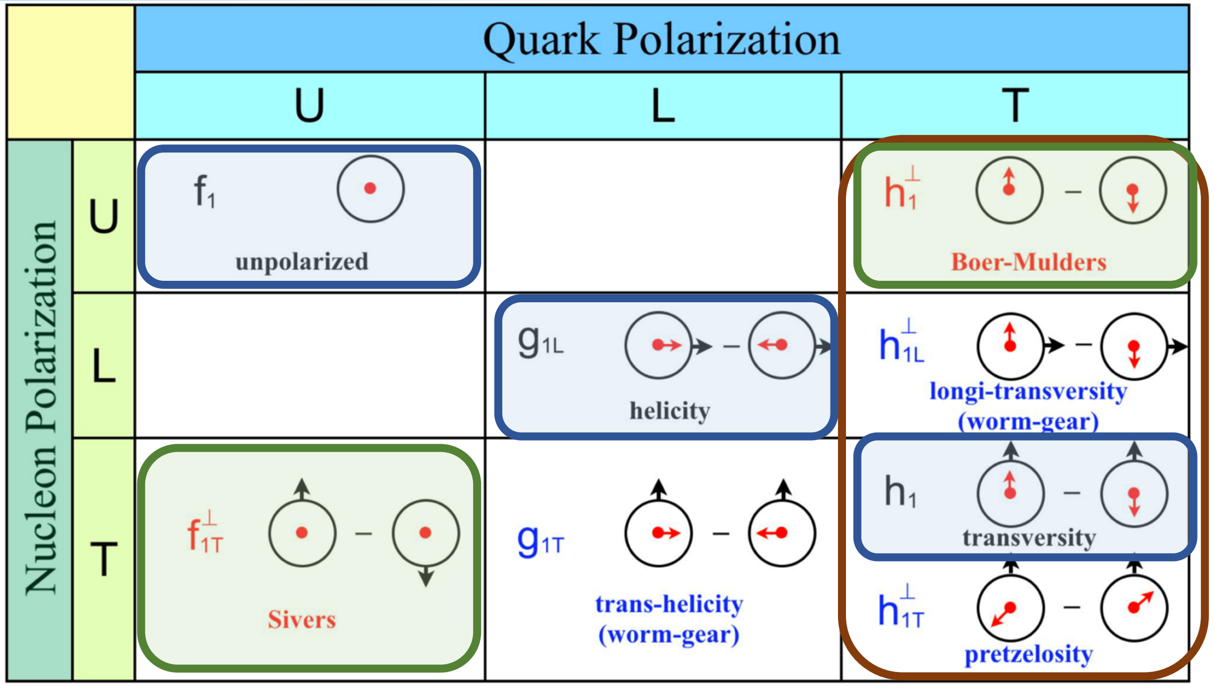
Scientific goals: TMDs

TMDs surviving integration over k_T

Time-reversal odd TMDs describing **strength of spin-orbit correlations**

Chiral odd TMDs

Note: off-diagonal part vanishes without parton's transverse motion



Non-zero strength of spin-orbit correlations → indication of parton OAM

- **Sivers:** correl. of transverse-spin direction and the parton transverse momentum
- **Boer-Mulders:** correl. of parton transverse spin and parton transverse momentum
- Collins: fragmentation of a transversely polarized parton into a final-state hadron

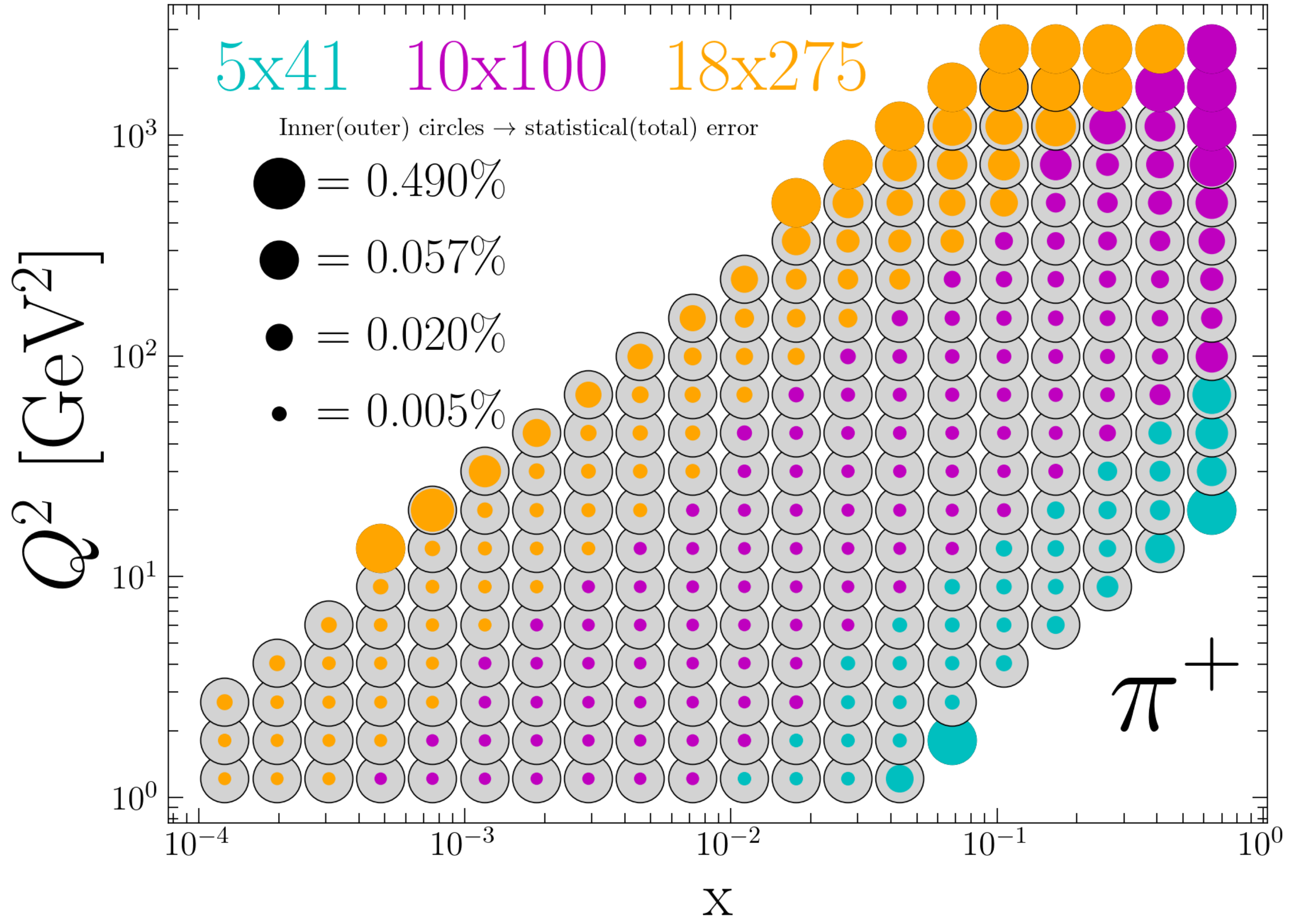
What we want to measure: $$\frac{d\sigma}{dx\, dQ^2\, dz\, d\phi_S\, d\phi_h\, dp_T^h}$$

- **6-fold differential cross sections in SIDIS**
- **Azimuthal asymmetries and their modulations**

Key detector performance:

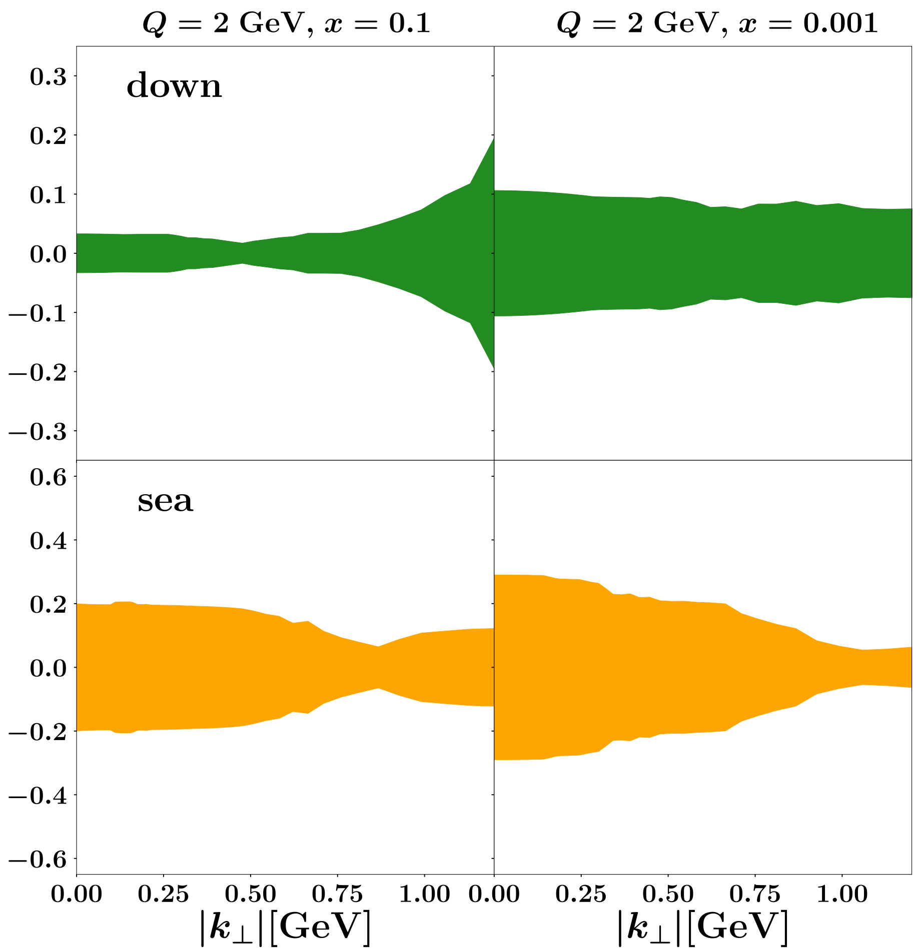
- Azimuthal acceptance
- PID
- Acceptance
- Vertexing (heavy flavor)
- Quality of tracking
- HCal (for jets)

ePIC performance: Unpolarized TMDs



Expected statistical/total uncertainty of un-polarized TMD PDFs for π+

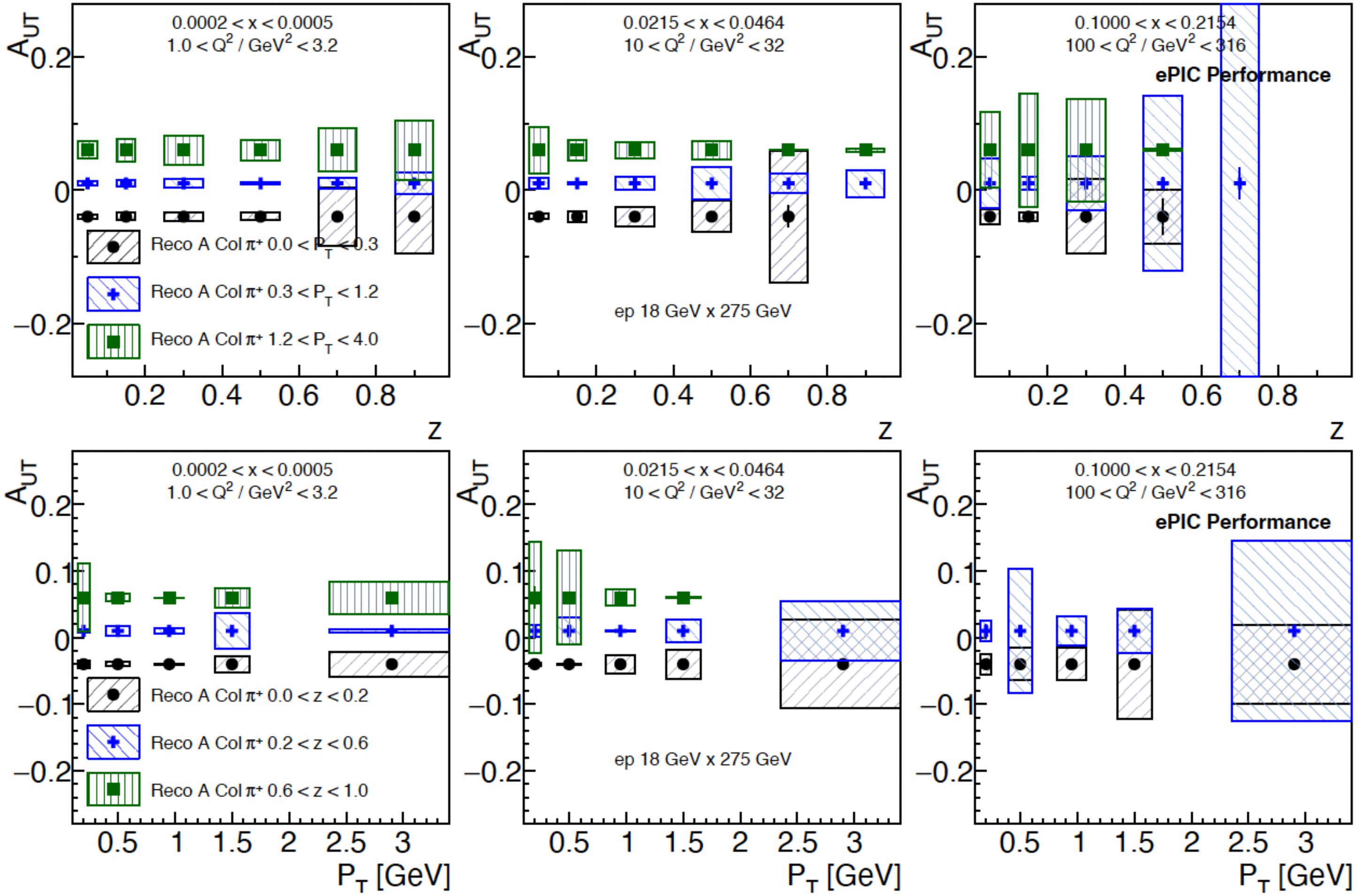
- Inner (outer) circles: statistical(total) uncertainty
- Colors: beam energy configuration with highest statistics in a bin



Uncertainties based on the MAP24 global TMD fit

- Lighter shades: based on existing data
- Darker shades: after including ePIC data

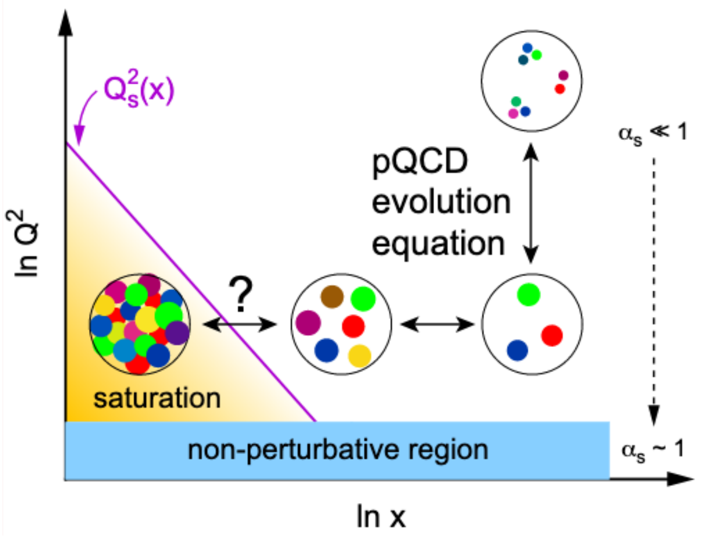
ePIC performance: Collins Asymmetries

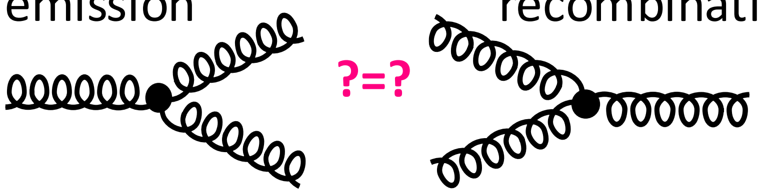


- **Collins Asymmetry:** effect due to convolution of quark transversity (h_1^q) and Collins FF ($H_{1\pi/q}^{\perp}$)
  - Collins asymmetries can be obtained from identified hadrons within jets
  - Projections assume a **10 fb^{-1}** luminosity

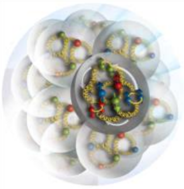
- The Collins FF plotted vs the **fractional hadron momentum z** and **transverse momentum** relative to the jet momentum and its axis

Scientific goals: gluon saturation

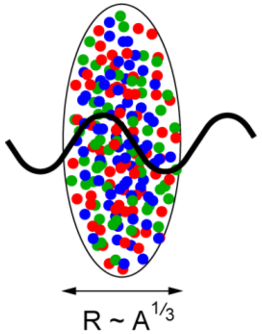




$$(Q_s^A)^2 \sim cQ_o^2\left(\frac{A}{x}\right)^{1/3}$$

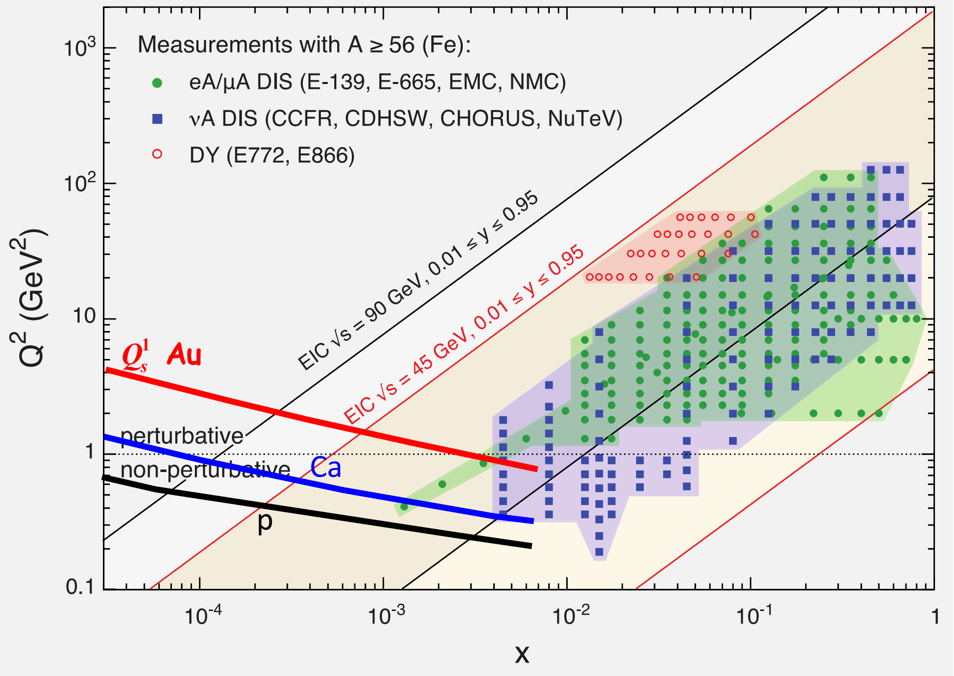


$L \sim (2m_N x)^{-1} > 2\, R_A \sim A^{1/3}$



Probe interacts coherently with all nucleons

Gold: 197 times smaller effective *x* !



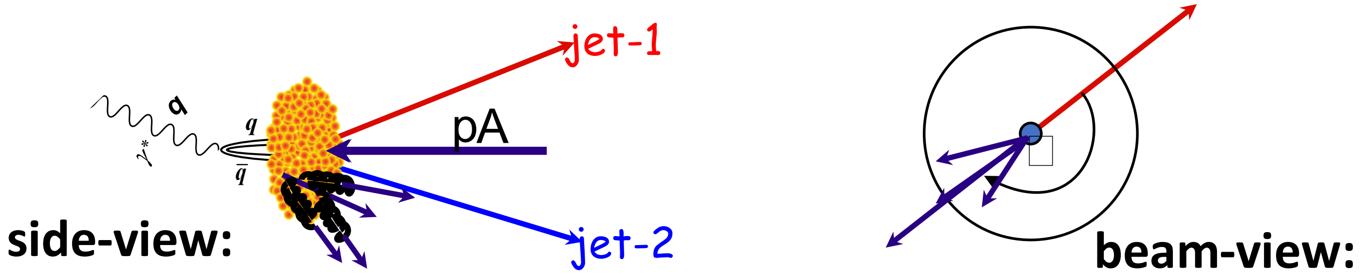
→ EIC will map the transition between a non-saturated and a saturated regime with high precision, by making use of a large range of nuclei and spin

→ With its flexible ion source, we will be able to measure the A-dependence of the saturation scale $Q_s(x)$

→ a fundamental landmark of QCD

Scientific goals: gluon saturation

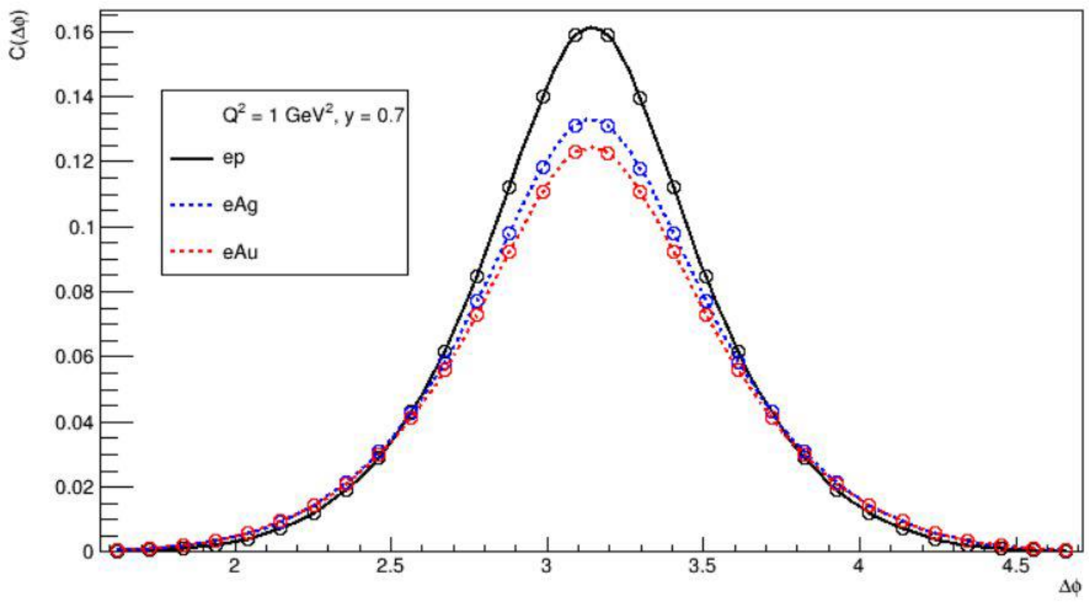
Di-hadron correlations



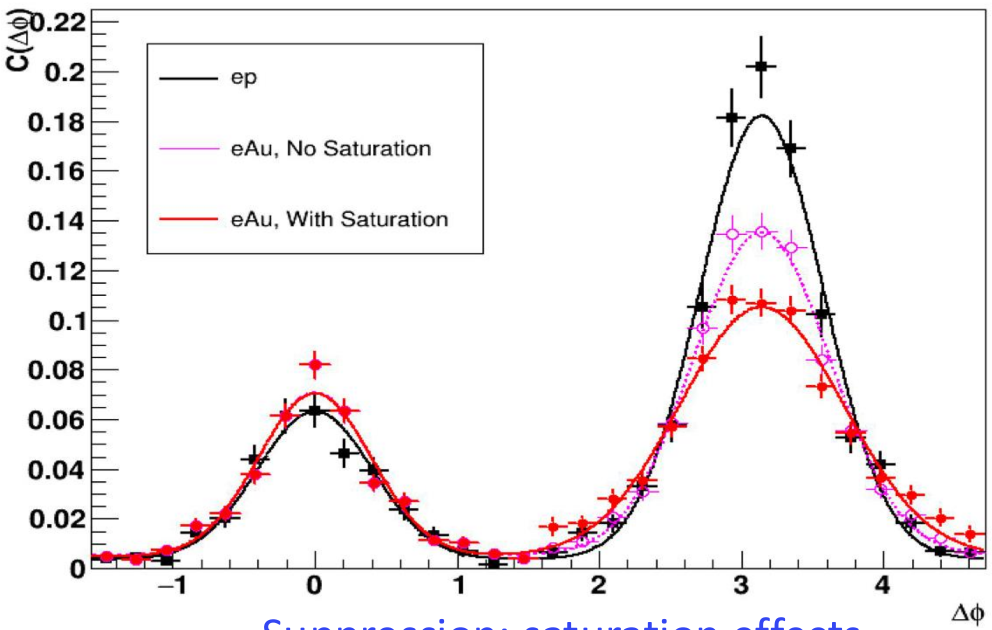
Key detector performance:
- Quality of detection at mid rapidity
- Reconstruction of dijets (dihadron)
- Particle ID

Low gluon density (ep):
pQCD predicts 2→2 process
⇒ back-to-back di-jet

High gluon density (eA):
2 → many process
⇒ expect broadening of away-side



Suppression: A-dependence

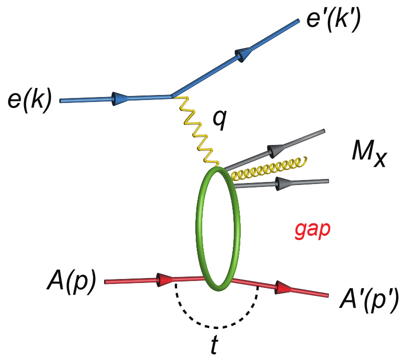


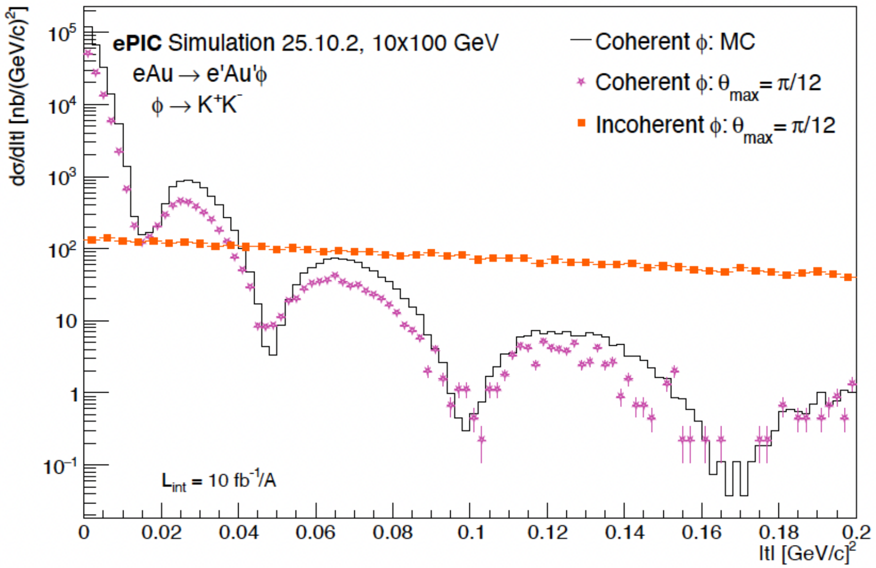
Suppression: saturation effects

ePIC performance: DVMP in e-A

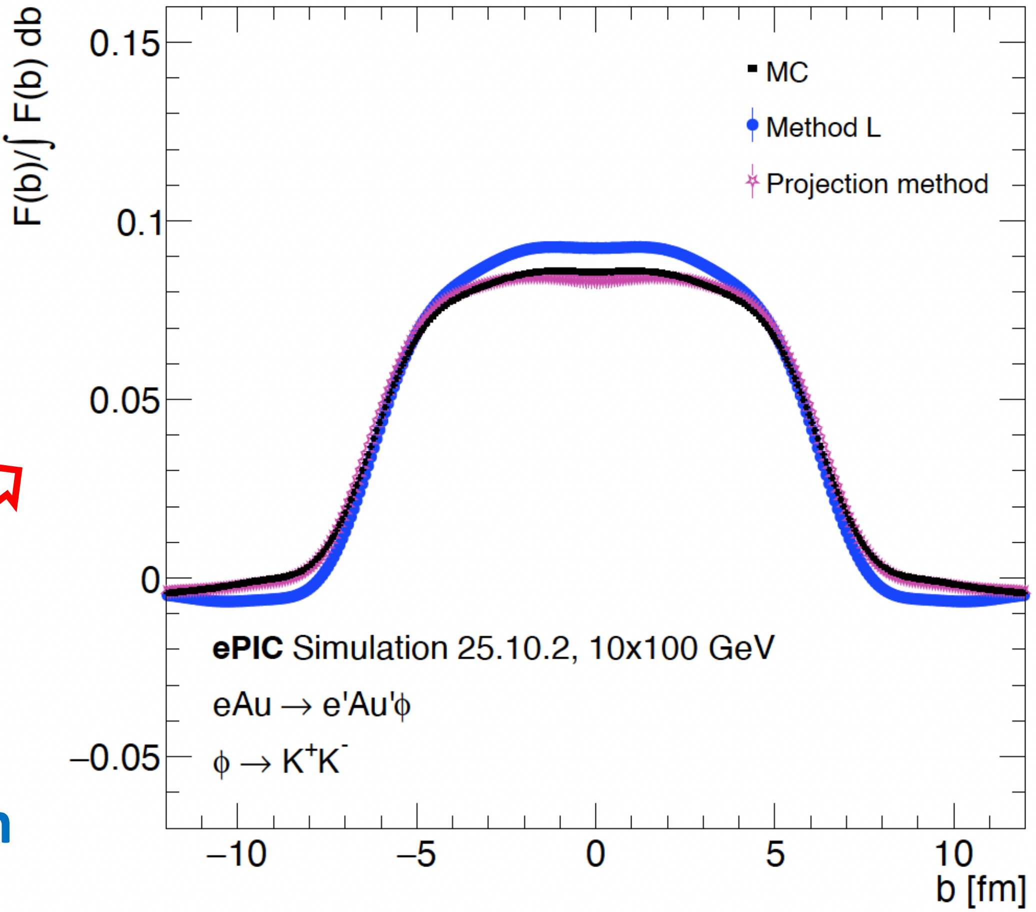
Diffraction

High sensitivity to gluon density in linear regime $\sigma \sim [g(x,Q^2)]^2$





Fourier transform



2-dimensional Fourier-Bessel transformation of the |t| distribution can be interpreted as the spatial distribution of gluons

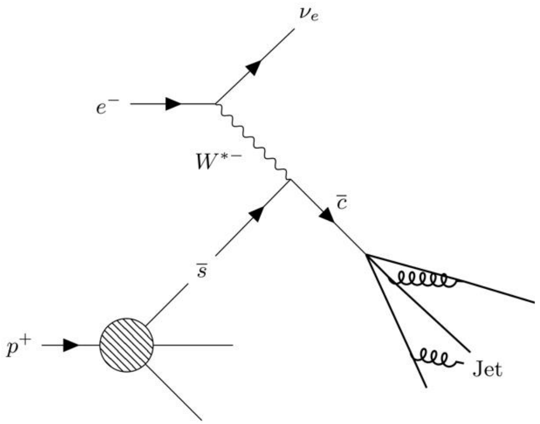
Scientific goals: jets as a versatile probe

- **Jets are extremely powerful probes!**
  - Dynamically generated, sensitive to ***many*** scales
  - Good proxy for parton kinematics
  - Like SIDIS (multiple particles in FS), but also encode correlations between particles

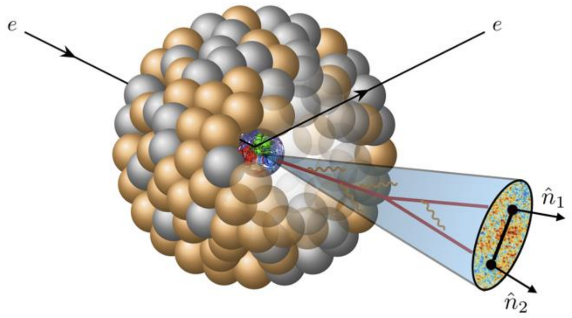
    → **Via both jet clustering & substructure**

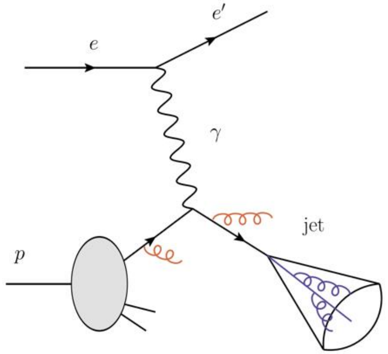
- Can provide input on all areas of EIC physics program
  - **(n)PDFs,**
    - e.g. PRD 102, 074015 (2020)
  - **Spin/flavor structure of nuclei,**
    - e.g. PRD 103, 074023 (2021)
  - **Saturation/extreme parton density,**
    - e.g. PRL 116, 202301 (2016)
  - **TMDs/GPDs,**
    - e.g. PRL 116, 202301 (2016)
  - **Cold nuclear matter effects,**
    - e.g. arXiv:2308.08143; arXiv:2506.17454

PRD 103, 074023 (2021)

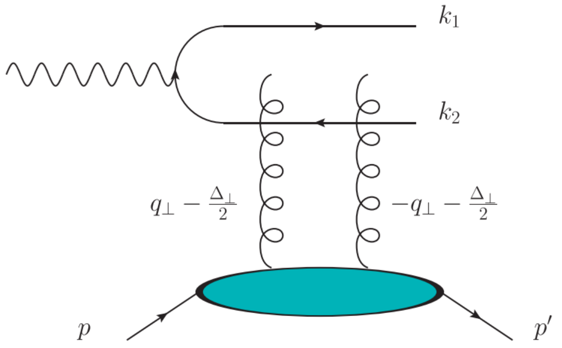


arXiv:2308.08143





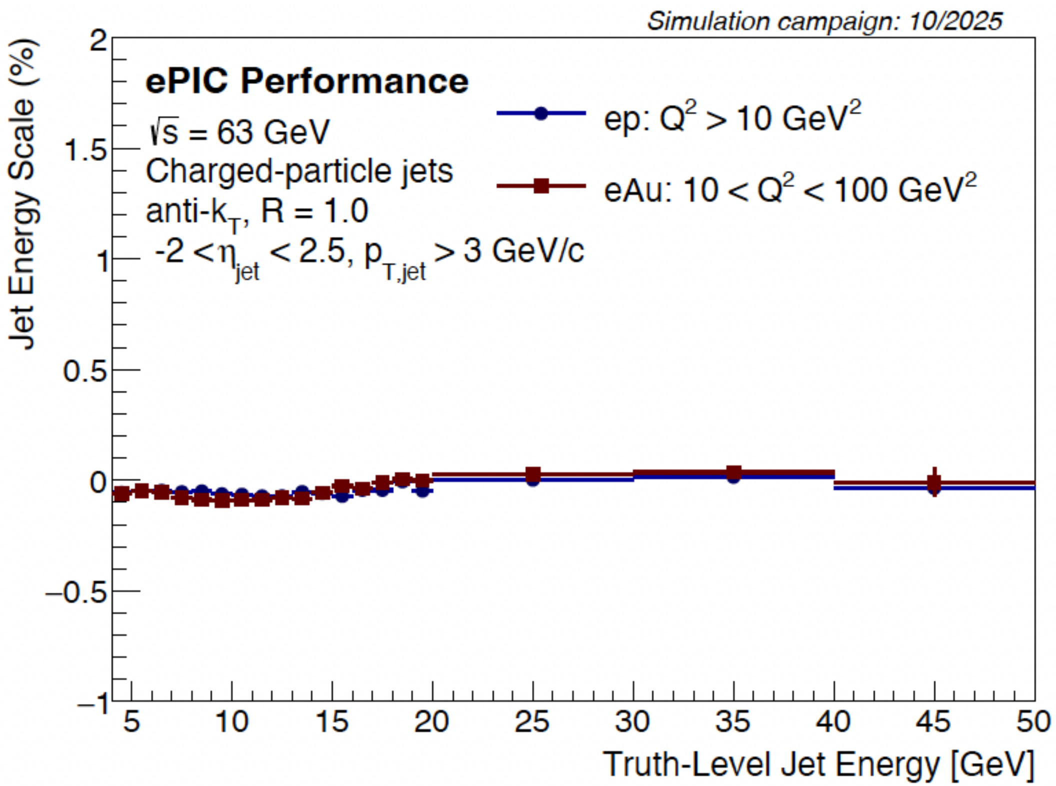
PRD 102, 074015 (2020)

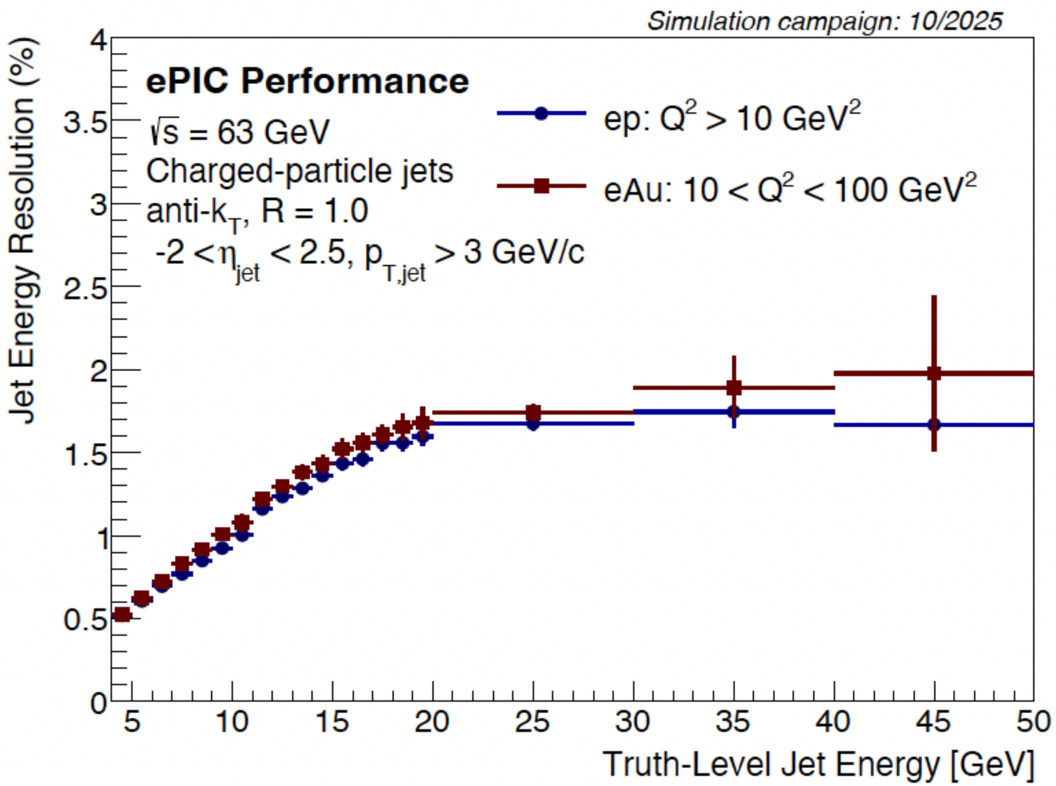


PRL 116, 202301 (2016)

Key detector performance:
- Azimuthal acceptance
- Quality of tracking
- HCal (for jets)

ePIC performance: jets Energy Scale – Resolution

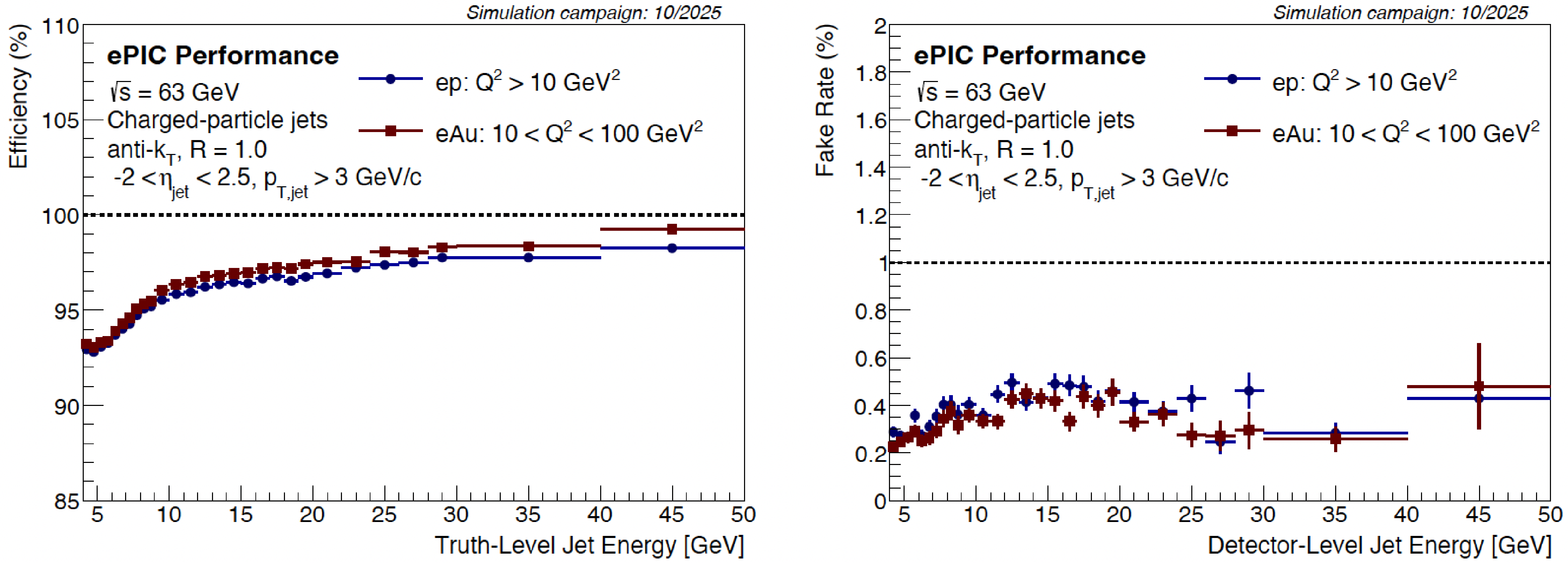




- **Above:** JES (left) & JER (right) for **charged jets**
  - Reco jets from tracks, truth jets from stable final particles
  - Jets matched via $\Delta R = \Delta\varphi \oplus \Delta\eta < 0.1$

- Only charged particles used due to lack of adequate algorithm, and **to assess tracking performance**
  → **Note:** baseline particle flow algorithm a development priority for 2026

ePIC performance: jet efficiency – fake rate



Jet finding efficiency (left) and fake jet rate (right) in percentage as a function of jet energy for charged jets in **e+p** and **e+Au** collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 63$ GeV

Summary

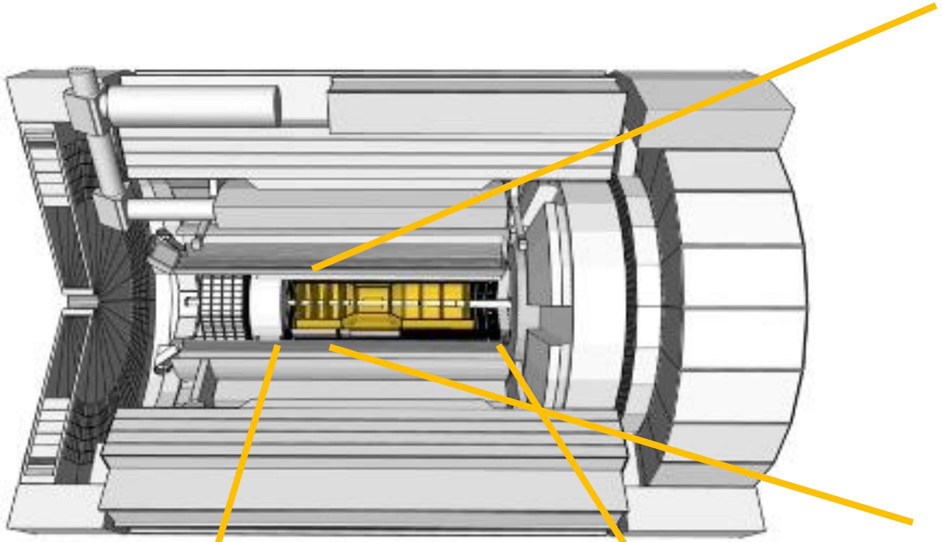
- ✓ The EIC provides an unprecedented opportunity for the ultimate understanding of QCD
  - Over two decades, the nuclear physics community has developed the scientific and technical case for the Electron-Ion Collider
  - It might be the only new collider in the world for the next decades
- ✓ The ePIC Collaboration was formed in Spring ‘22 with a successful merging of several proposal efforts
  - ePIC is and approved project

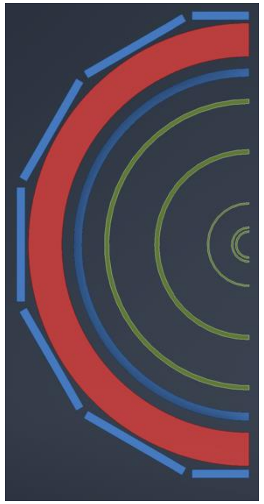
New excitement ahead

- Event reconstruction at the ePIC experiment being finalized & novel analysis tools being developed
  - New, more realistic, impact studies
  - TDR has a chapter on physics studies
  - Report on Early Science
  - NIM A special issue
- **Exploring synergies** with LHC on science is very important for us. Now it’s the best time to do so!

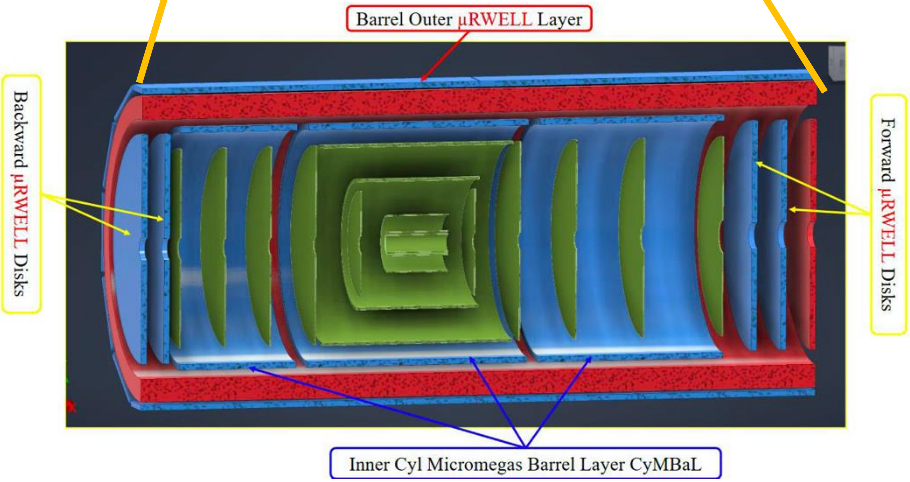

BACKUP

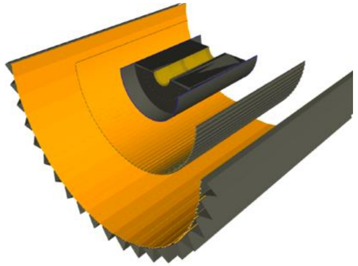
Tracking

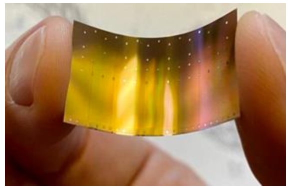




- MAPS Barrel + Disks
- MPGD Barrels + Disks
- AC-LGAD based ToF

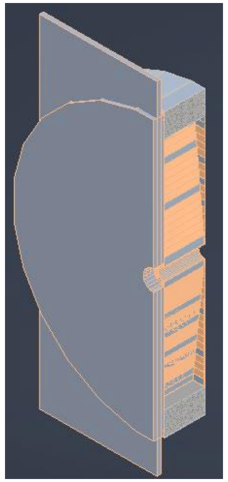




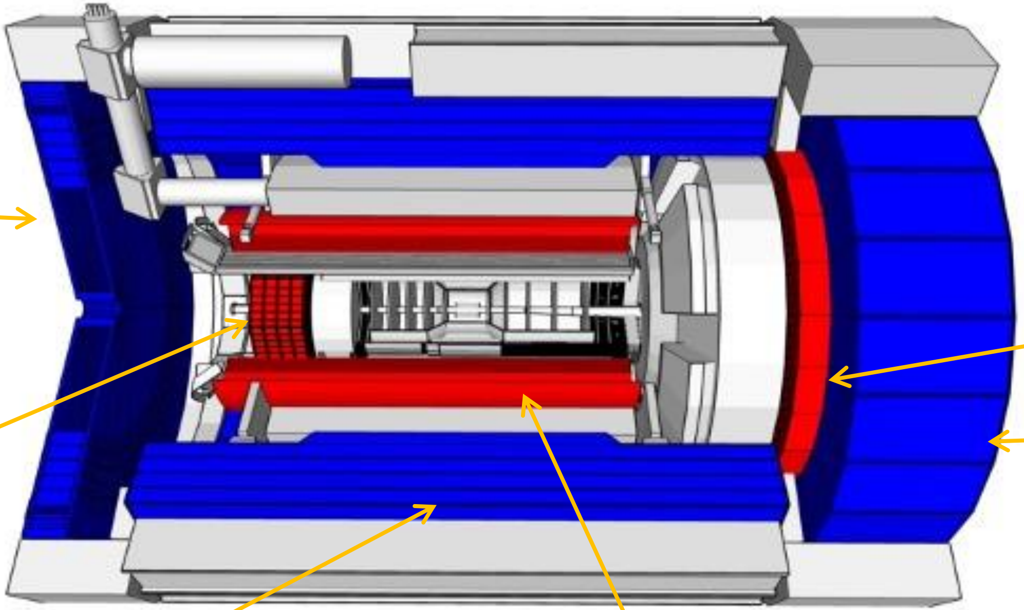


- MAPS Tracker:
  - Small pixels (20 µm), low power consumption (<20 mW/cm^2) and low material budget (0.05% to 0.55% X/X_0) per layer
  - Based on ALICE ITS3 development
  - Vertex layers optimized for beam pipe bake-out and ITS-3 sensor size
  - Forward and backward disks
- MPGD Layers:
  - Provide timing and pattern recognition
  - Cylindrical µMEGAs
  - Planar µRWell's before hpDIRC - Impact point and direction for ring seeding
- AC-LGAD TOF and AstroPix (BECAL):
  - Additional space point for pattern recognition / redundancy
  - Fast hit point / Low p PID

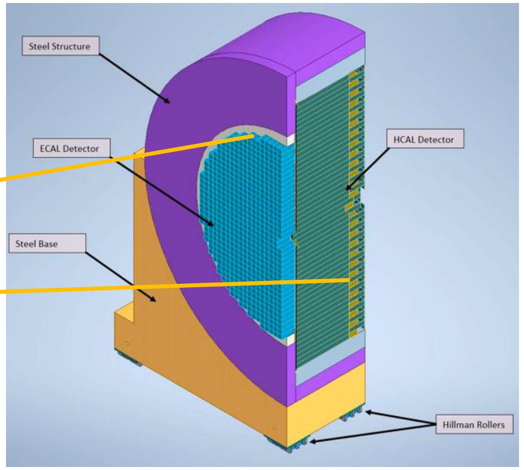
Calorimetry



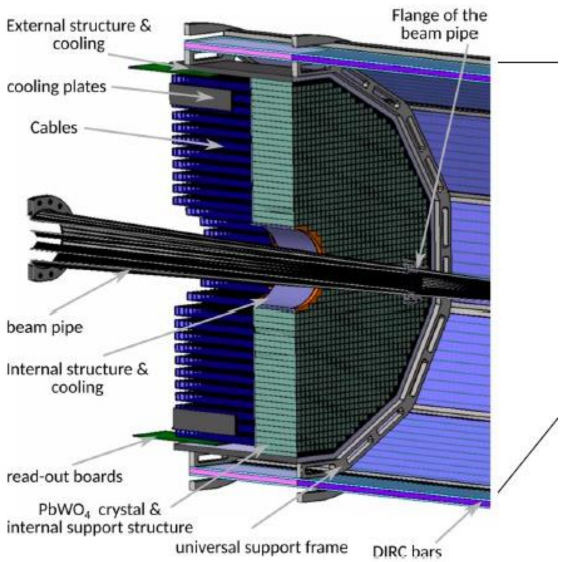
Backwards HCal
Steel/Sc
Sandwich
tail catcher



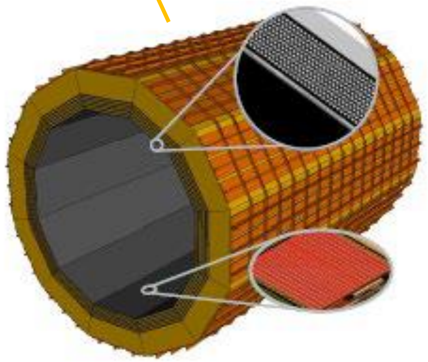
Forward EMCal
High granularity W/SciFi
a unique technology allowing to achieve
e/h ~1 (response to hadrons)



Backwards EMCal
$PbW04$ crystals, SiPM photosensors

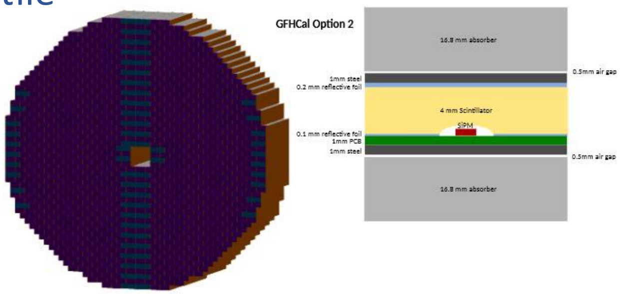


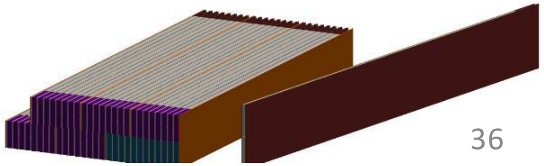
Barrel HCAL
Fe/Sc sandwich, ~3.5λ
(sPHENIX re-use)



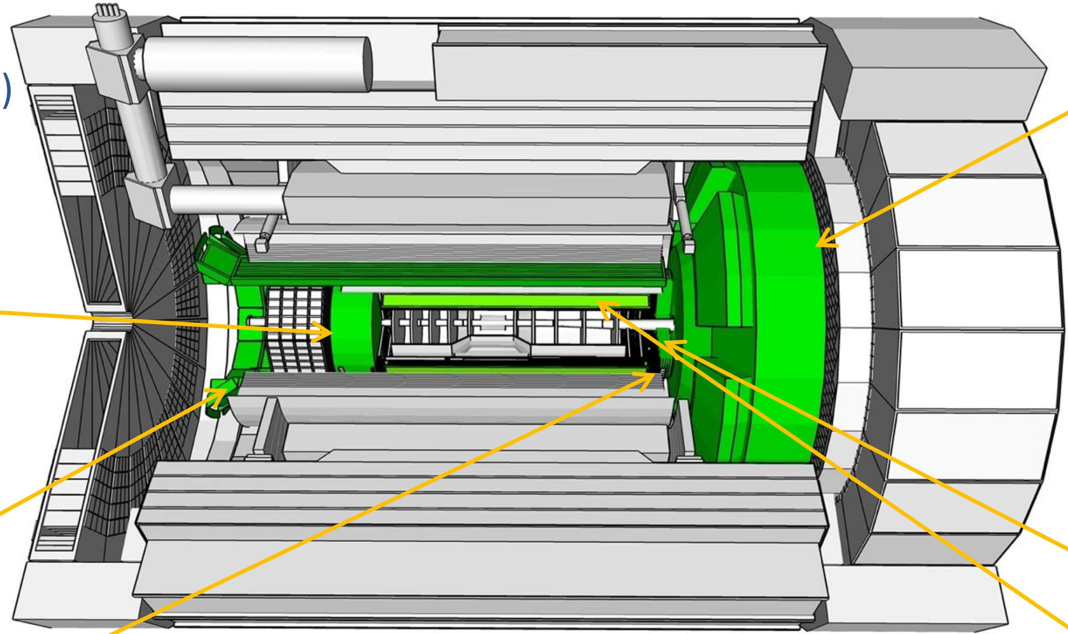
Barrel EMCAL
4 (6) layers of imaging calorimetry
by Astropix MAPS,
and sampling calorimetry by Pb/SciFi

Forward Hcal
SiPMs on tile



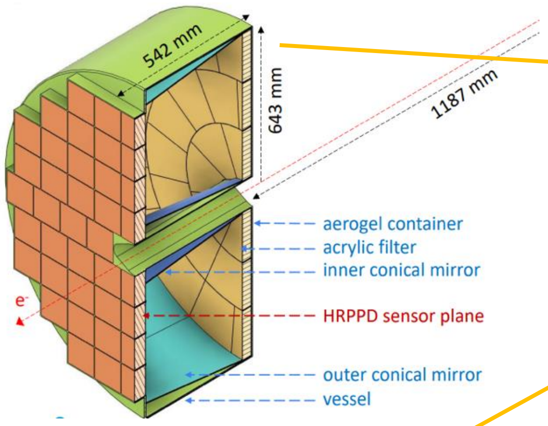


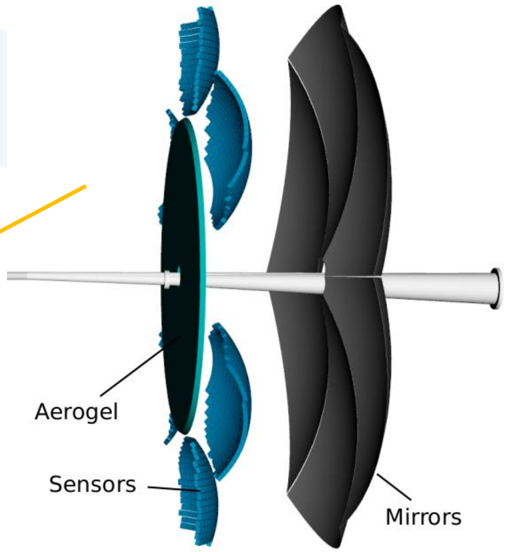
Particle ID



Proximity Focused (pfRICH)

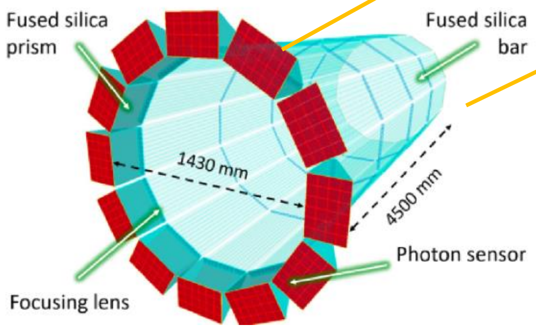
- Aerogel with Long proximity gap (~40 cm)
- Sensor: HRPPDs
- 3σ π/K sep. up to 9 GeV/c





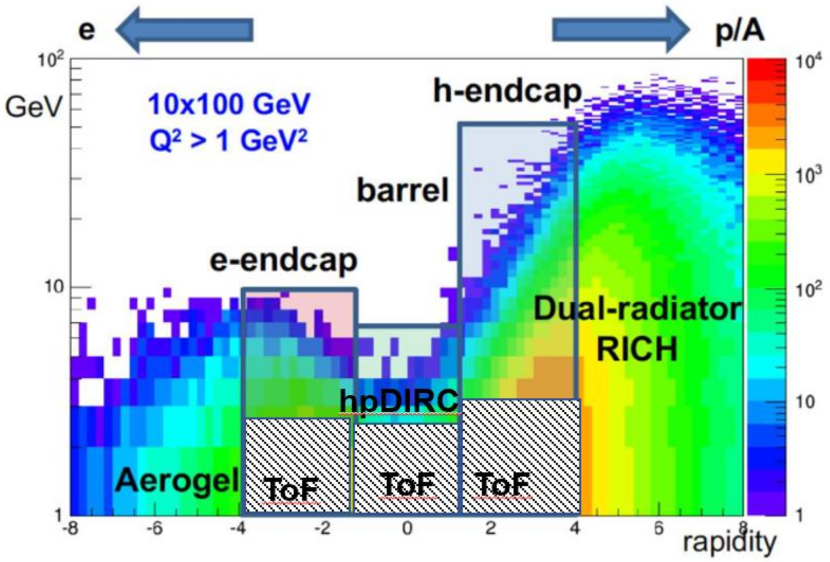
Dual-Radiator RICH (dRICH)

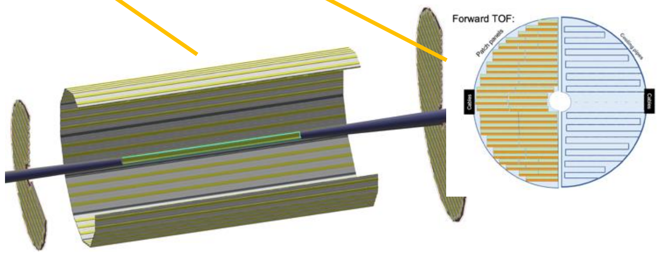
- C_2F_6 Gas Volume and Aerogel
- Single photon sensors (SiPMs)
- π/K 3σ sep. at 50 GeV/c



High-Performance DIRC

- Quartz bar radiator (BaBAR bars) light detection with MCP-PMTs
- 3σ π/K sep. at 6 GeV/c





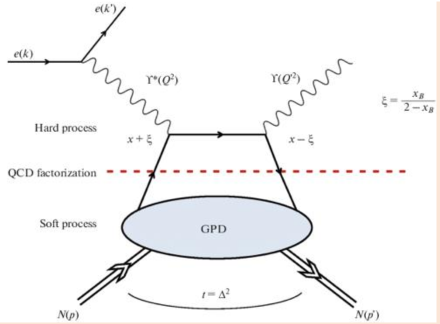
AC-LGAD TOF (~30ps)

- Accurate space point for tracking / Low p PID
- Forward disk and central barrel

Accessing GPDs in exclusive processes

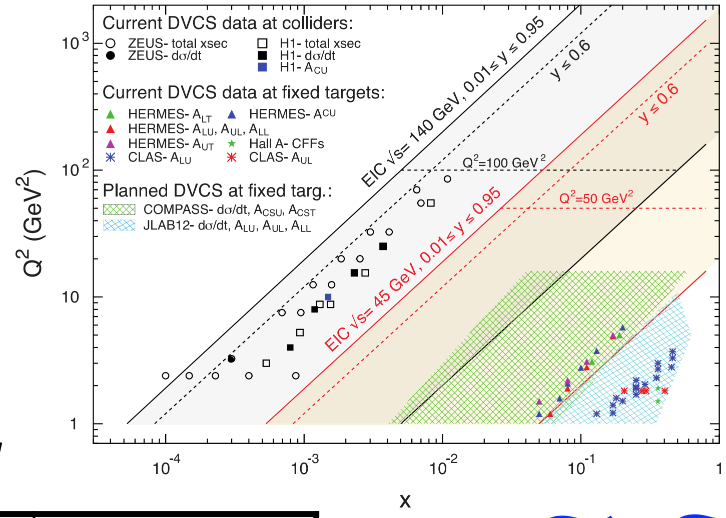
Real photon (DVCS):

- Very clean experimental signature
- No VM wave-function uncertainty
- Hard scale provided by Q^2
- Access to the whole set of GPDs
- Sensitive to both quarks and gluons [via Q^2 dependence of xsec (scaling violation)]



Hard Exclusive Meson Production (HEMP):

- Uncertainty of wave function
- Hard scale provided by $Q^2 + M^2$
- J/Psi, Y → direct access to gluons, $c\bar{c}$, or $b\bar{b}$ pairs produced via $q(g) - g$ fusion
- Light VMs → quark-flavor separation
- Psedoscalars → helicity-flip GPDs



Only possible at EIC: from valence quark region, deep into the sea!

$H^q\ E^q$

ρ^0	2u+d, 9g/4
ω	2u–d, 3g/4
ϕ	s, g
ρ^+	u–d
J/ψ, Y	g

$\widetilde{H}^q\ \widetilde{E}^q$

π^0	2Δu+Δd
η	2Δu–Δd

Key detector performance:

- γ/π^0 separ. in ECAL for DVCS
- Acceptance and low material for VM decay leptons
- Resol. of lepton pair invariant mass
- Scattered electrons over full kinematics
- t- lever arm in FF spectrometers