



Nucleon resonance studies from KY electroproduction at CLAS12

23 September 2025

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Outline

Physics Motivation: Study of the nucleon excitation spectrum to understand the dynamical properties of QCD in the non-perturbative regime.

What is the role of glue?

- Search for new Baryon States \rightarrow Hybrid States

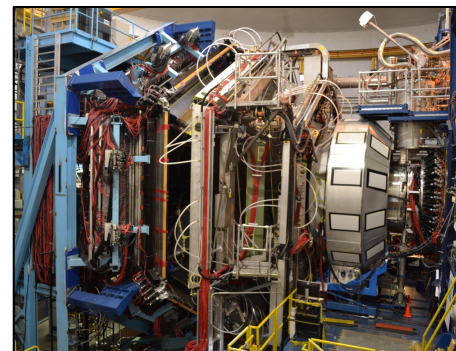
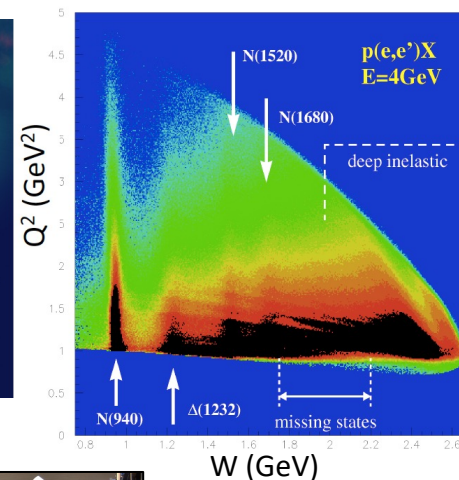
How does the role of the active degrees of freedom in the nucleon spectrum evolve with distance scale?

- Probe underlying degrees of freedom and their emergence from QCD via studies of the Q^2 evolution of electroproduction amplitudes

CLAS12 and Forward Tagger (FT) @ JLab: Experimental Setup description.

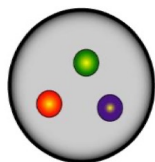
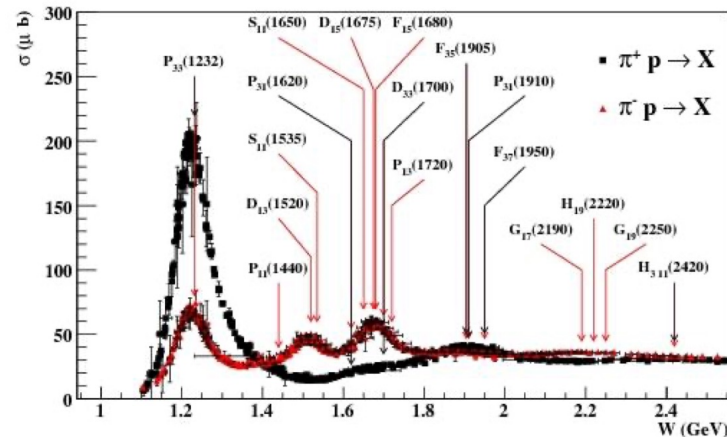
On-going Data Analysis:

- **Results from Physics Runs:** $ep \rightarrow e'KY$ channel studied exploiting data from Fall 2018 Physics Runs in Hall B at Jefferson Lab – new data available from 2024

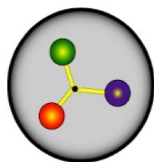


Why N*? From the N* Spectrum to QCD

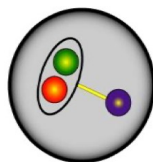
- Understanding the proton's ground state requires understanding its excitation spectrum
- The N* spectrum reflects the **effective degrees of freedom** and the forces



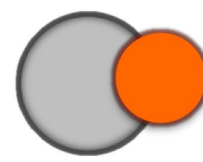
CQM



CQM+flux tubes



Quark-diquark clustering



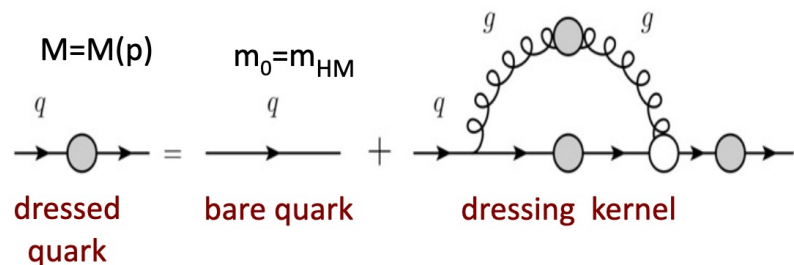
Baryon-meson system



From the Constituent Quark model to QCD.

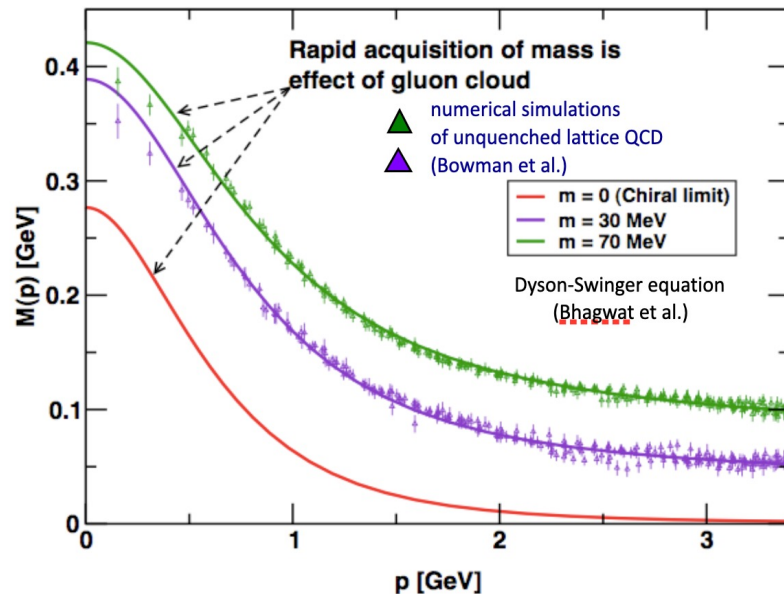
Mass Acquisition

Effective quark mass depends on its momentum



mass composition

- <2% Higgs mechanism
- >98% non-perturbative strong interaction



We need more information about the working of QCD in the non-perturbative regime

Exotic Hadrons

Standard Hadrons come in two varieties: Baryons & Mesons

Exotic Hadrons

Meson and baryon states whose properties cannot be described in terms of q anti- q or qqq degrees of freedom only

Hybrid mesons/baryons:

qqq or $q\bar{q}$ valence quarks plus a valence gluon

Multiquark states:

- Baryons with more than 3 valence quarks: **pentaquarks or di-baryons**
- Mesons with more than a quark-antiquark pair: **tetraquarks**

Glueballs:

Particles made up of gluonic degrees of freedom only

Molecules...

Molecule

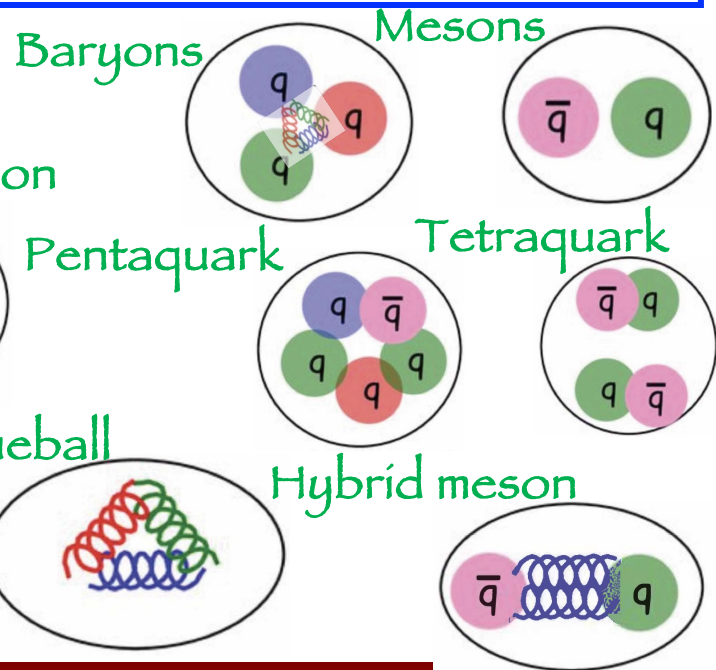
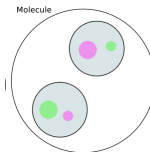


Photo- and Electro-Production of Mesons on Nucleon Targets

Meson photo- and electro-
production reactions

for

Light quark baryon
spectroscopy

Two elements provided a crucial boost in the field:

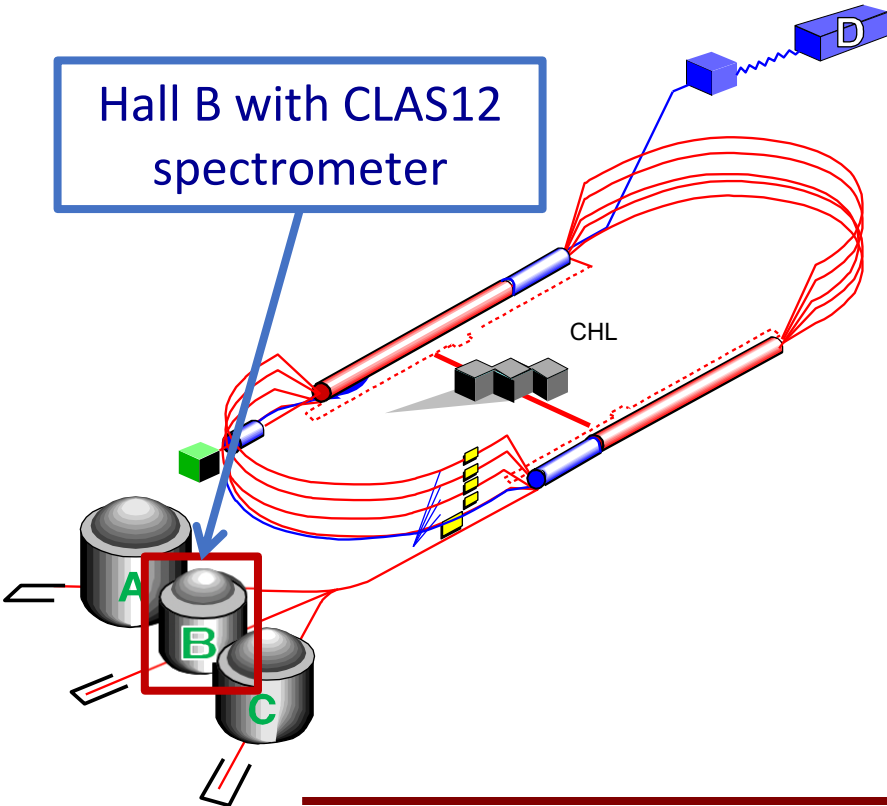
- advent of large solid angle detectors
- polarized beam and targets



single and double
polarization observables

Powerful tool to study the internal structure of the
nucleon

CLAS N* Experimental Program



The N* program is one of the Hall B fundamental

- CLAS & CLAS12 – optimized to study exclusive reaction channels over a broad kinematic range:

pN , ωN , φN , ηN , $\eta' N$, $\pi\pi N$, KY , K^*Y , KY^*



CLAS12

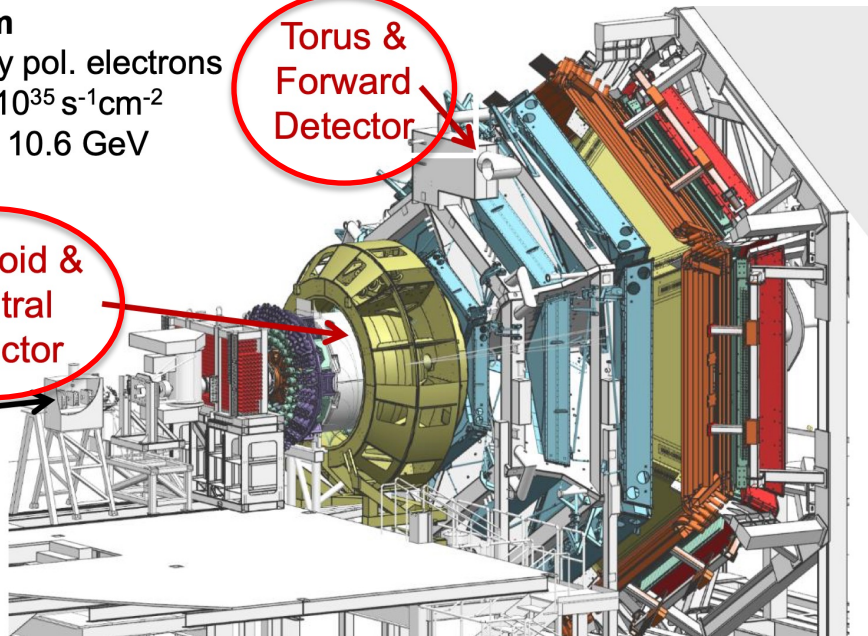
Beam

- 85% longitudinally pol. electrons
- Max. luminosity: $10^{35} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$
- Energies: up to $\sim 10.6 \text{ GeV}$

Torus &
Forward
Detector

Solenoid &
Central
Detector

beam

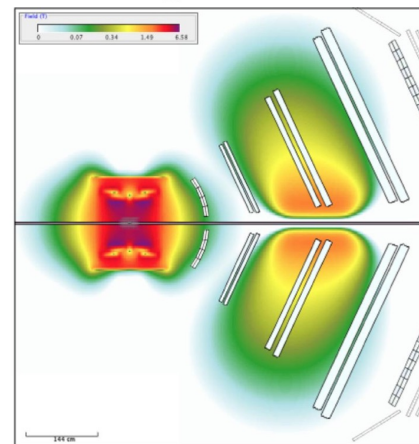


[V.D. Burkert et al., Nucl. Inst. and Meth. A 959, 163419 (2020)]

Targets (org. by Run Groups)

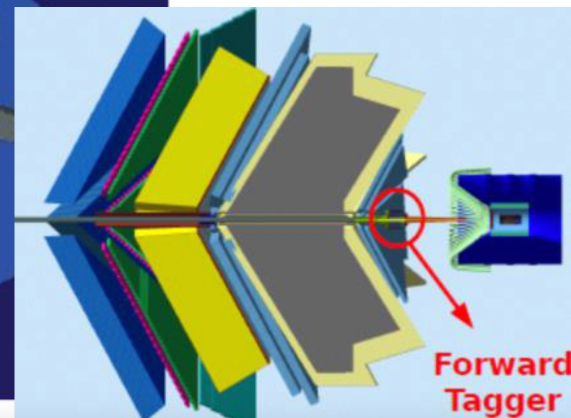
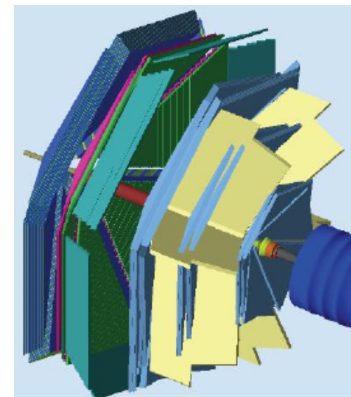
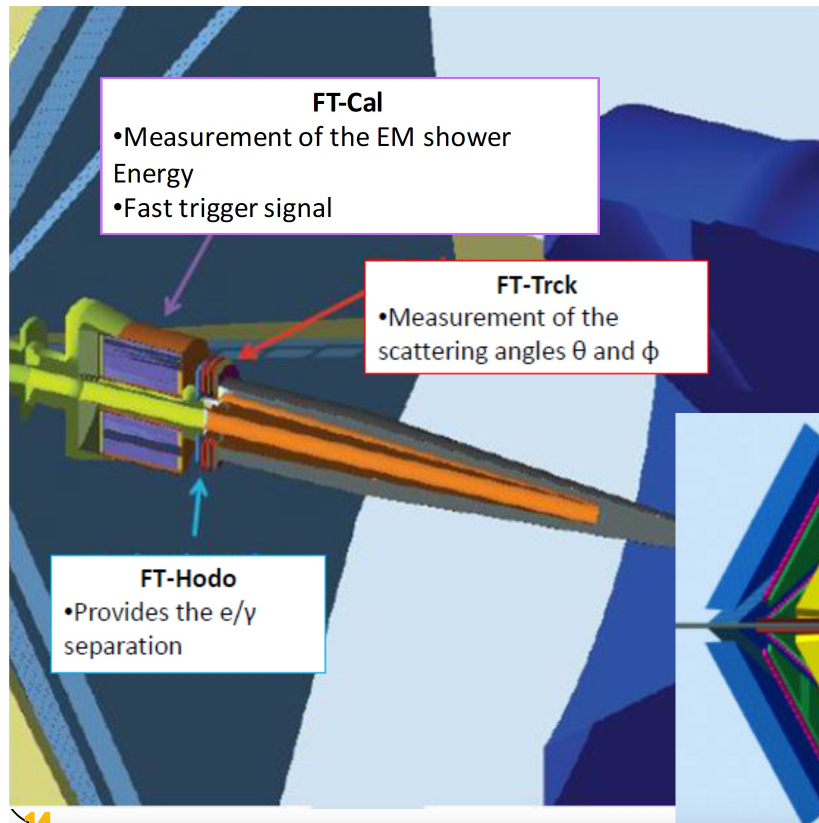
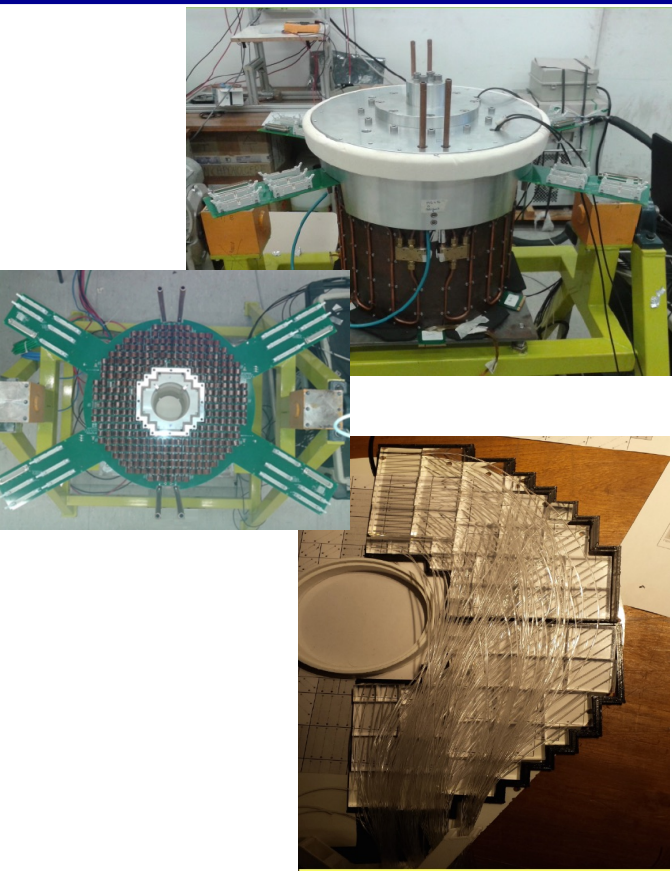
- Proton (RG-A/K)
- Deuteron (RG-B)
- Nuclei (RG-M/D/E)
- Long. pol. NH_3/ND_3 (RG-C)

Magnetic Field



Ideal instrument to study exclusive meson electroproduction
in the nucleon resonance region

Experimental Setup: Forward Tagger



Electron Beam with CLAS12

Run Group Proposal (RG K) “Color Confinement and Strong QCD”:

Search for Hybrid Baryons (qqqg)

KY Electroproduction for the N* study

DVCS

SIDIS

RUN CONDITIONS	
Torus Current	100% (3375 A) - negative out-bending
Solenoid	-100 %
FT	ON @ 7.5 GeV -> OFF @ 6.5 GeV and 8.5 GeV
Beam/Target	Polarized electrons, un-polarized LH ₂ target
Luminosity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• $\sim 5 \cdot 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ @ 7.5 GeV $\sim 0.87 \cdot 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ @ 6.5 GeV$0.87 \cdot 10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ @ 6.4 GeV $10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ @ 8.5 GeV FULL LUMINOSITY

Fall 2018: EVENTS **15.6 G**

Spring 2024: EVENTS **60 G** (Statistics increased by a factor 4)

50% of the total

Hybrid Hadrons

Hybrid hadrons with dominant gluonic contributions are predicted to exist by QCD.

Experimentally:

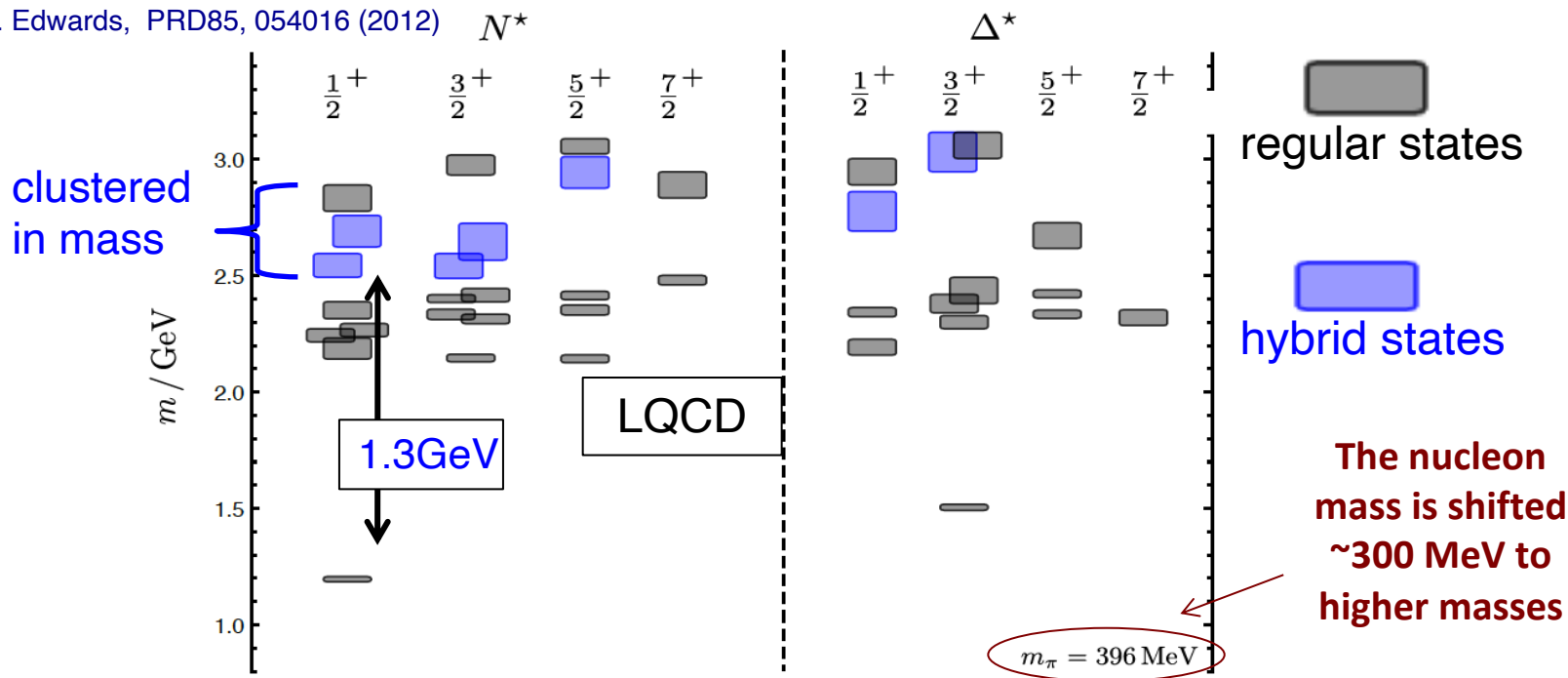
- **Hybrid mesons** $|q\bar{q}g\rangle$ states may have exotic quantum numbers J^{PC} not available to pure $|q\bar{q}\rangle$ states
GlueX, MesonEx, COMPASS, PANDA
- **Hybrid baryons** $|qqqg\rangle$ have the same quantum numbers J^P as $|qqq\rangle$ electroproduction with CLAS12 (Hall B).

Theoretical predictions:

- ✧ MIT bag model - T. Barnes and F. Close, Phys. Lett. 123B, 89 (1983).
- ✧ QCD Sum Rule - L. Kisslinger and Z. Li, Phys. Rev. D 51, R5986 (1995).
- ✧ Flux Tube model - S. Capstick and P. R. Page, Phys. Rev. C 66, 065204 (2002).
- ✧ LQCD - J.J. Dudek and R.G. Edwards, PRD85, 054016 (2012).

Hybrid Baryons in LQCD

J.J. Dudek and R.G. Edwards, PRD85, 054016 (2012)



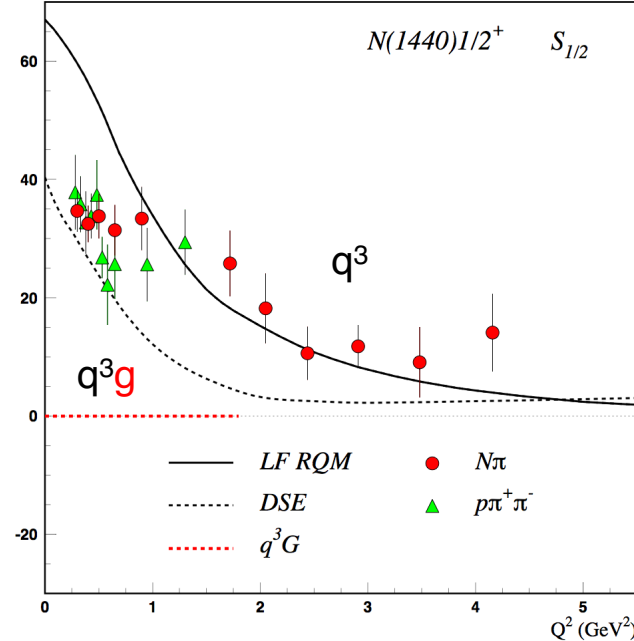
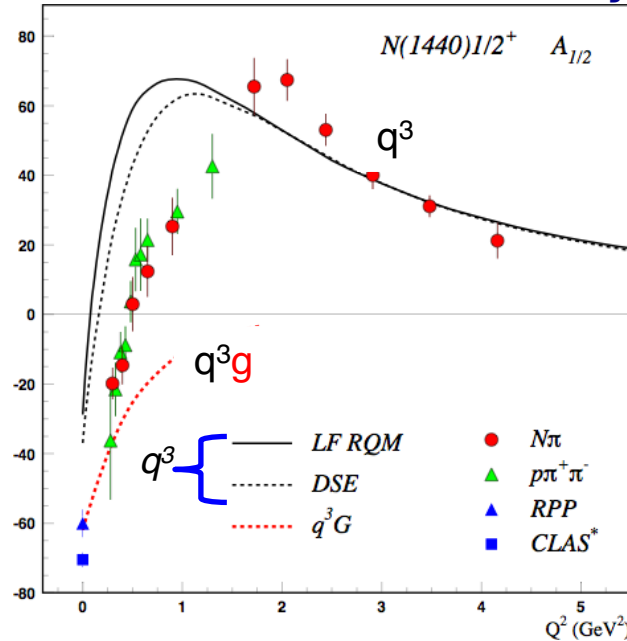
Hybrid states have same J^P values as qqq baryons. How to identify them?

- Overpopulation of $N \frac{1}{2}^+$ and $N \frac{3}{2}^+$ states compared to QM projections.
- $A_{1/2}$ ($A_{3/2}$) and $S_{1/2}$ show different Q^2 evolution.

Separating q^3g from q^3 states?

CLAS results on electrocouplings clarified nature of the Roper.

Will CLAS12 data be able to identify gluonic contributions ?



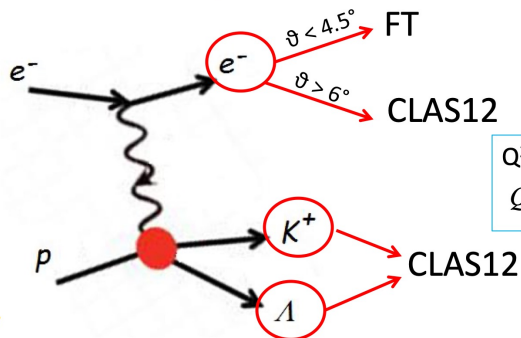
For hybrid “Roper”, $A_{1/2}(Q^2)$ drops off faster with Q^2 and $S_{1/2}(Q^2) \sim 0$.

Hybrid Baryons

Data from KY are critical to provide the extraction of the electrocoupling amplitudes:

$$e p \rightarrow e' K^+ \Lambda, \Lambda \rightarrow \pi \pi^-$$

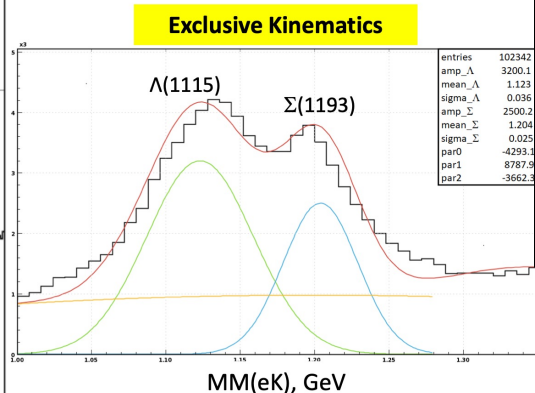
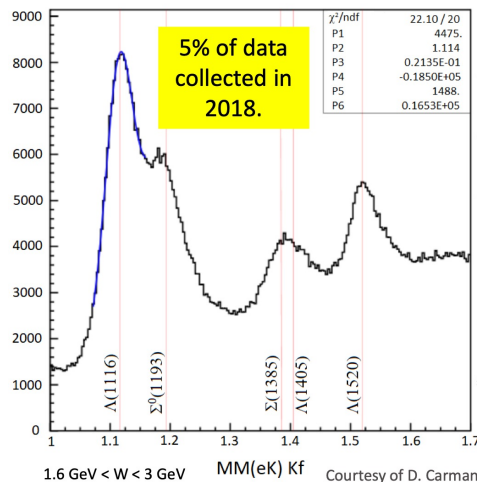
FT allows to probe the **crucial Q^2 range** where hybrid baryons may be identified due to their fast dropping $A_{1/2}(Q^2)$ amplitude and the suppression of the scalar $S_{1/2}(Q^2)$ amplitude.



$$Q^2 \text{ range of interest: } 0.05 - 2 \text{ GeV}^2$$

$$Q^2 = 4E_{\text{beam}}E_e' \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \Rightarrow \theta < 5^\circ$$

Electron in the FD(CLAS)/FT



Preliminary results obtained with data collected in 2018

$p(e, e' K^+) \Lambda$

$E_{\text{beam}} = 7.546 \text{ GeV}$

Recoil and Transferred Polarization in K^+Y Electroproduction in the Nucleon Resonance Region with CLAS12

$$e + p \rightarrow e' + K^+ + Y \quad \text{where } Y = \Lambda, \Sigma^0$$

Polarized-electron beam + unpolarized target \rightarrow polarized recoil hyperon

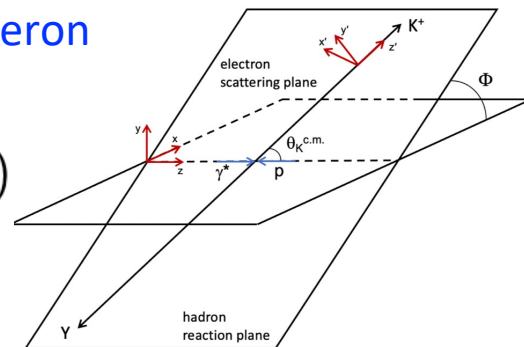
$$\frac{d\sigma_v}{d\Omega_K^{c.m.}} = \sigma_0(1 + hA_{LT'} + P_{x'}\hat{x}' \cdot \hat{S}' + P_{y'}\hat{y}' \cdot \hat{S}' + P_{z'}\hat{z}' \cdot \hat{S}')$$

Hyperon
polarization

Beam helicity
independent part:
Recoil polarization

Beam helicity
dependent part:
Transferred
polarization

$$\boxed{P_{i'}} = \boxed{P_{i'}^0} + h\boxed{P_{i'}'}$$



Analysis of CLAS12 RG-K data from Fall 2018

- 6.535 GeV and 7.546 GeV electrons on LH_2 target
- Extract polarizations from longitudinally polarized electron beam to final state hyperon vs Q^2 , W , $\cos \vartheta_K^{c.m.}$

Recoil and Transferred Polarization in K⁺Y Electroproduction in the Nucleon Resonance Region with CLAS12

Phys. Rev. C

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 105, 065201 (2022)

Beam-recoil transferred polarization in K⁺Y electroproduction in the nucleon resonance region with CLAS12

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D. S. Carman, A. D'Angelo, L. Lanza, V. Mokeev (CLAS Collaboration):

- Beam-Recoil Transferred Polarization in K⁺Y Electroproduction in the Nucleon Resonance Region with CLAS12
- Recoil Polarization in K⁺Y Electroproduction in the Nucleon Resonance Region with CLAS12

ep → e'K⁺Y

Hyperon polarization

Beam helicity independent part: Recoil polarization

Beam helicity dependent part: Transferred polarization

$$P_{i'} = P_{i'}^0 - h P_{i'}'$$

Analysis of CLAS12 RG-K data from Fall 2018

- 6.535 GeV and 7.546 GeV electrons on LH₂ target
- Extract polarizations from longitudinally polarized electron beam to final state hyperon vs Q², W, cos θ_K^{g.c.m.}

Recoil Polarization in K⁺Y Electroproduction in the Nucleon Resonance Region with CLAS12

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2469-9985/2022/105(6)/065201(24)

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2022-RG-K KY P'

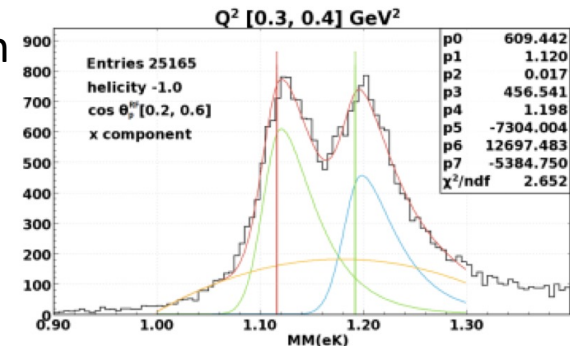
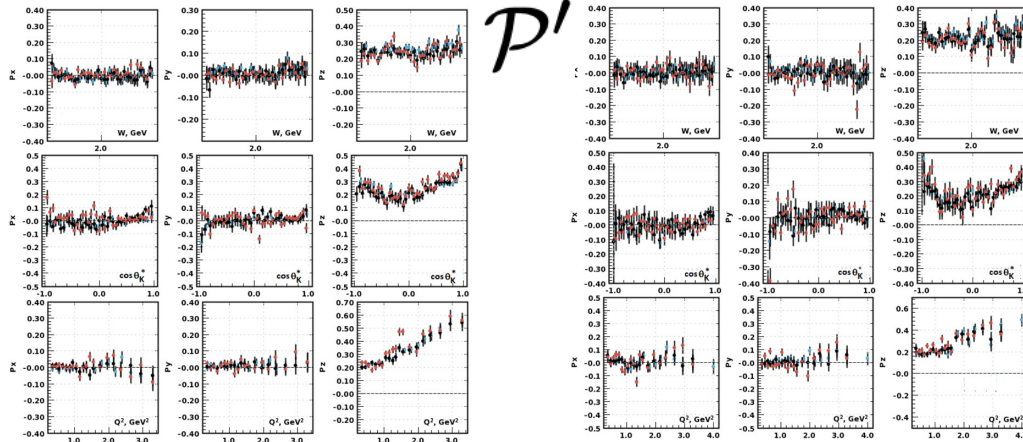
17 Sept 2025-RG-K KY P⁰

Beam-Recoil Transferred Polarization in K^+Y Electroproduction in the Nucleon Resonance Region with CLAS12

The **RM-ToV analysis** consists of the direct exploitation of equation

$$A = \frac{N^+ - N^-}{N^+ + N^-} = \nu_Y \alpha_\Lambda P_b \mathcal{P}'_Y \cos \theta_p^{RF}$$

The events in each kinematic bin of Q^2 , W and $\cos \vartheta_K^*$ were divided into 5 $\cos \vartheta_p^{RF}$ bins for each beam helicity...



...and the number of Λ events was extracted using a fit of the $MM(eK^+)$ spectrum

Comparison between independent analyses results

Blue dots : Approach 1

Red dots : Approach 2

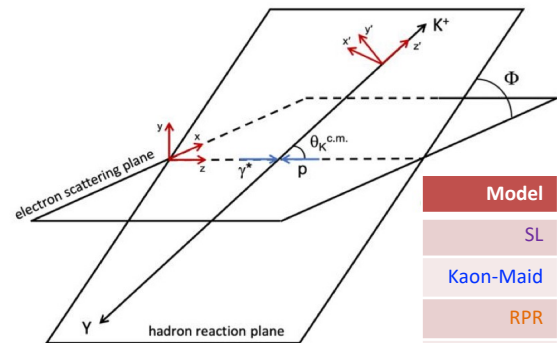
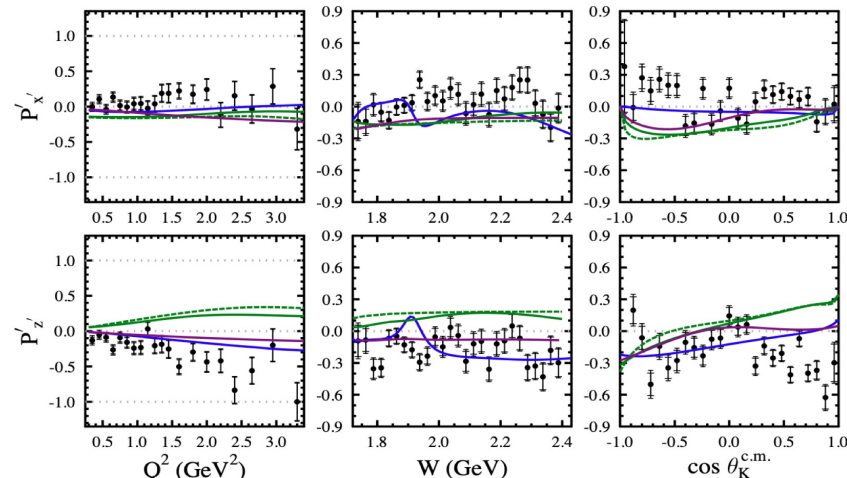
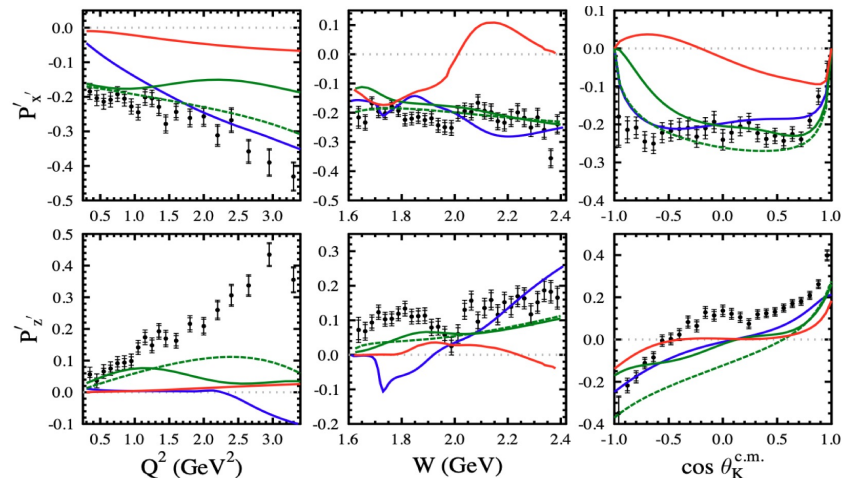
Black dots : Approach 1 (different fitting procedure)

CLAS12 $K^+\Lambda$ Transferred Polarization

$K^+\Lambda$

D.S. Carman et al. (CLAS), PRC 105, 065201 (2022)

$K^+\Sigma$



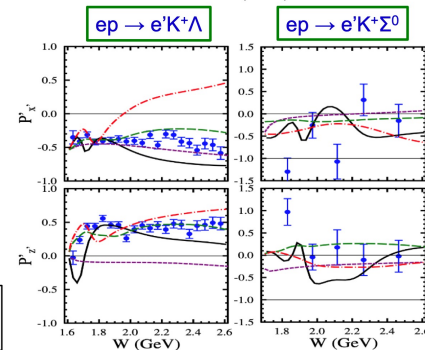
RG-K – Fall 2018 - 6.5 GeV

Model	Year	Type	Fit Data	N* States
SL	1996	Isobar	none	1/2, 3/2
Kaon-Maid	2000	Isobar	none	1/2, 3/2, 5/2
RPR	2011	Isobar+Regge	CLAS γp	1/2, 3/2, 5/2
BS3	2018	Isobar	CLAS $\gamma p + ep$	1/2, 3/2, 5/2

CLAS12
vs.
CLAS (e1-6)

Mart/Bennhold
RPR-1

RPR-2
Regge



[D.S. Carman et al., Phys. Rev. C 79, 065205 (2009)]

Recoil Polarization in K^+Y Electroproduction in the Nucleon Resonance Region with CLAS12

Recoil Polarization in K^+Y Electroproduction in the Nucleon Resonance Region with CLAS12

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- **RG-K Λ and Σ^0 recoil polarization analysis by D. Carman, A. D'Angelo, L. Lanza, V. Mokeev: Paper published on PRC on 17 September, 2025 (DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1103/nhqv-7fv7>)**

- **This work aims at extending the available data from CLAS to provide more complete input to available reaction models to improve our understanding of strong QCD in the non-perturbative domain.**

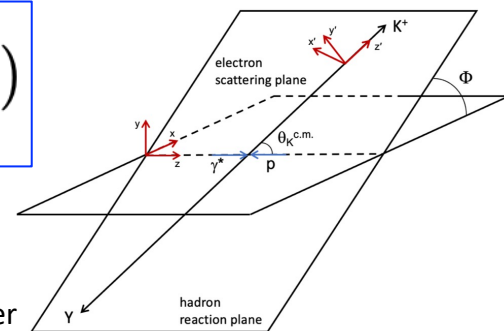
KY channels: $e + p \rightarrow e' + K^+ + Y$ where $Y = \Lambda, \Sigma^0$
polarization of the parent Λ or Σ_0

$$\frac{dN}{d \cos \theta_p^{RF}} = N_0 \left(1 + \nu_Y \alpha P_Y \cos \theta_p^{RF} \right)$$

angular distribution of the decay p in the Y decay frame

$\nu_Y = 1, -0.256 (\Lambda, \Sigma^0)$
Dilution factor

$\alpha = 0.747 \pm 0.009$
 Λ weak decay asymmetry parameter



Recoil Polarization in K^+Y Electroproduction in the Nucleon Resonance Region with CLAS12

$$\frac{dN}{d\cos\theta_p^{RF}} = N_0 \left(1 + \nu_Y \alpha P_Y \cos\theta_p^{RF} \right)$$

Recoil polarization for Λ and Σ^0

Yield in the **forward** angle

range, i.e. $\cos\theta_{RF}^p > 0$ $N_F = \int_0^1 N_0 (1 + \nu_Y \alpha P_Y \cos\theta_p^{RF}) d\cos\theta_p^{RF} = N_0 + N_0 \cdot \frac{\nu_Y \alpha P_Y}{2}$

Yield in the **backward** angle

range, i.e. $\cos\theta_{RF}^p < 0$ $N_B = \int_{-1}^0 N_0 (1 + \nu_Y \alpha P_Y \cos\theta_p^{RF}) d\cos\theta_p^{RF} = N_0 - N_0 \cdot \frac{\nu_Y \alpha P_Y}{2}$

Forward-backward yield asymmetry

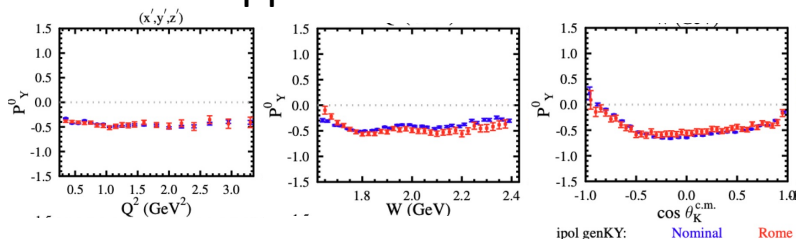
$$A_{FB} = \frac{\frac{N_F}{A_F} - \frac{N_B}{A_B}}{\frac{N_F}{A_F} + \frac{N_B}{A_B}} = \frac{\nu_Y \alpha P_Y}{2}$$

Agreement between **independent** approaches supports final results

Sensitivity to the detector acceptance

Acceptance Correction

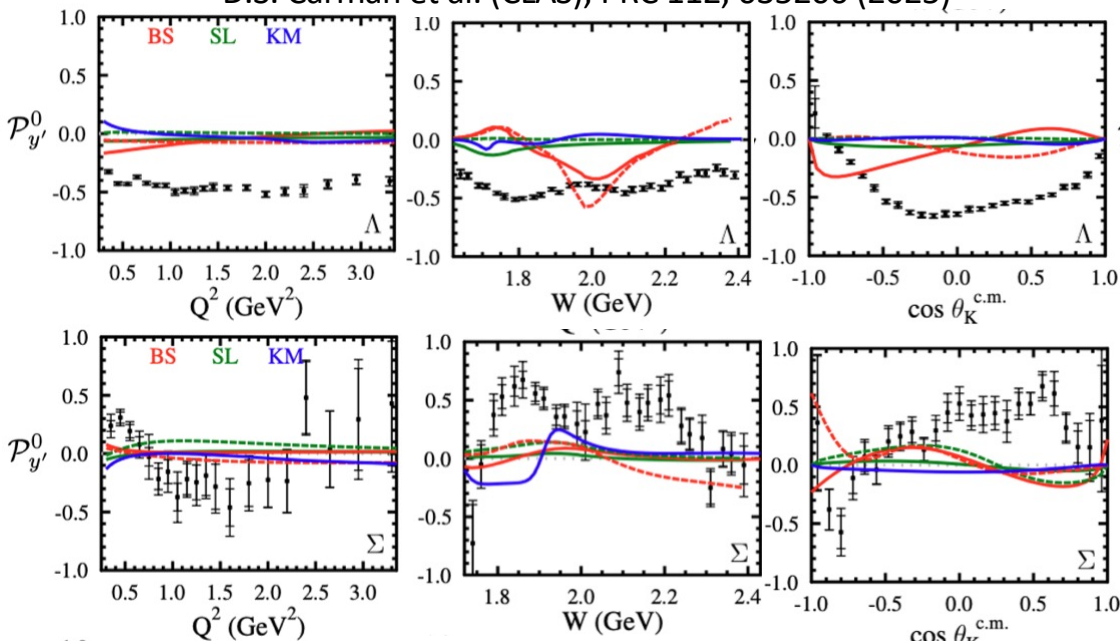
$$A_{F,B} = \frac{N_{F,B}^{REC}}{N_{F,B}^{MC}}$$



CLAS12 K⁺Y Recoil Polarization

D.S. Carman et al. (CLAS), PRC 112, 035206 (2025)

RG-K – Fall 2018 - 6.5 GeV



$K^+\Lambda$

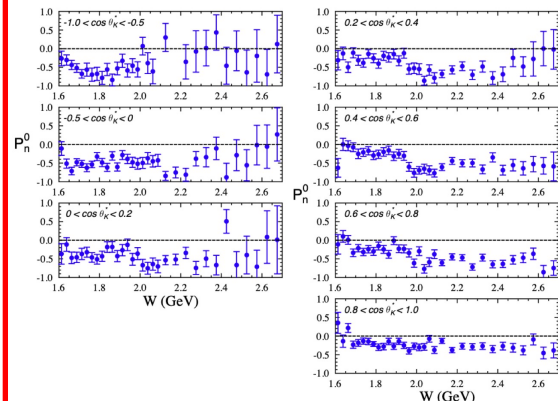
$K^+\Sigma$

CLAS12 vs. CLAS (e1f)

5.479 GeV electron beam
 Q^2 : 0.8–3.5 GeV²
 W : 1.6–2.7 GeV.

Limited statistics => **coarse bins** in W and $\cos \theta_K^{c.m.}$ - Q^2 integrated

RGK data have ~5 times the statistics compared to e1f



Model	Type
SL	Isobar
Kaon-Maid	Isobar
BS	Isobar

Full line: full model

Dashed line: model with the non-resonant terms switched off

Summary and Outlook

Summarizing:

- The study of N^* states is one of the **crucial topics** of the CLAS and CLAS12 physics programs:
 - CLAS has produced a huge amount of data up to $Q^2 < 5 \text{ GeV}^2$
 - CLAS12 was designed to extend these studies for $0.05 < Q^2 < 12 \text{ GeV}^2$
- The first results of the CLAS12 N^* program have been obtained with the analysis of KY polarization transfer data from the RGK Fall 2018 Run
 - The RGK dataset is 5x larger than the available KY world data in the resonance region
 - Only 10% of expected statistics has been analyzed.
- On going analyses:
 - Two papers on KY electroproduction have been published on PRC
 - Other analyses based on the existing RG-K data are in progress
 - More data have been collected in Spring 2024

And in the future...

- Future work with these data is expected to face up the most challenging problems of the Standard Model on the nature of hadron mass, confinement, and the emergence of N^* states from quarks and gluons

Summary and Outlook

Summarizing:

- The study of N^* states is one of the **crucial topics** of the CLAS and CLAS12
-CLAS has produced a huge amount of data up to $Q^2 < 5 \text{ GeV}^2$
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-The RGK dataset is 5x larger than the average
-Only 10% of expected statistics!
- On going analyses:
-Two papers on N^*
-Other analyses
-More data

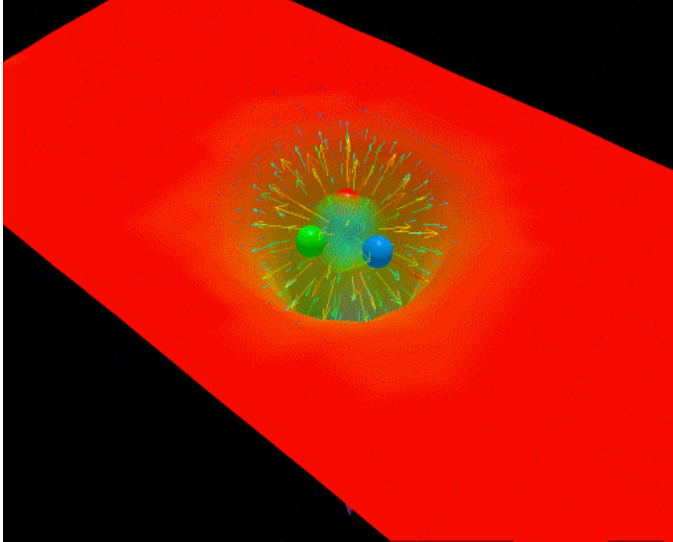
And in the future

- Future work will address the most challenging problems of the Standard Model on the nature of hadron mass, color confinement and the emergence of N^* states from quarks and gluons

Thank you for
the attention!

Critical QCD Questions Addressed

- The light N^* spectrum: what is the role of glue?



Derek B. Leinweber – University of Adelaide

“Nucleons are the stuff of which our world is made.

*As such they must be **at the center of any discussion of why the world we actually experience has the character it does.**”*

Nathan Isgur, NStar2000, Newport News, Virginia

➔ **Search for new baryon states**

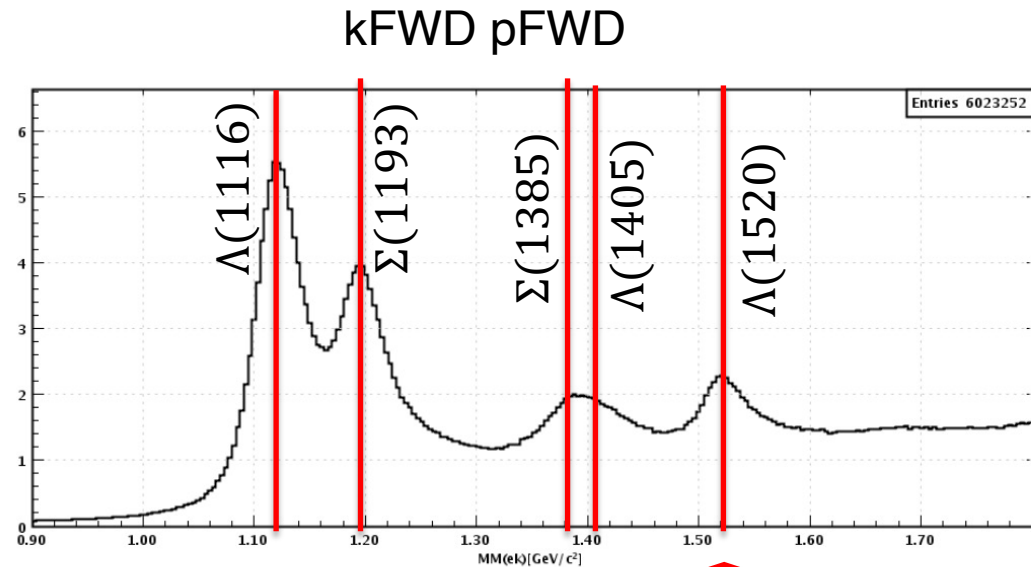
$\Lambda(1520)$

Other channels could be exploited as final states for possible new resonances..

$$ep \rightarrow eK^+ \Lambda(1520) \rightarrow eK^+ K^- p$$

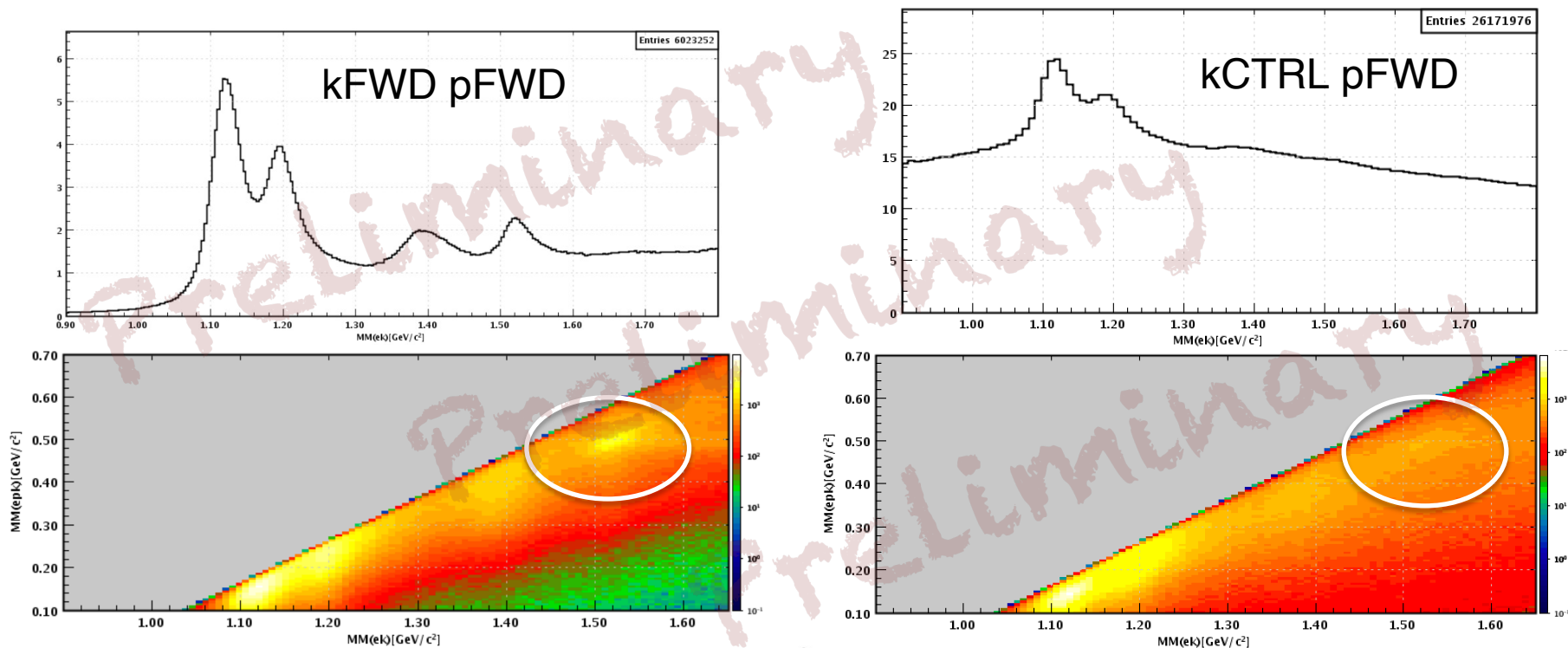
The existence of several nonstrange N^* resonances with significant ($\sim 5\%$) branching ratios into the decay channel $K^+ \Lambda(1520)$ has been predicted

- S. Barrow et al., CLAS Coll., Phys.Rev.C64:044601,2001
- Simon Chapstick and W. Roberts, Phys. Rev. D **58** 074011



$\Lambda(1520)$ arises as a separate structure

$\Lambda(1520)$

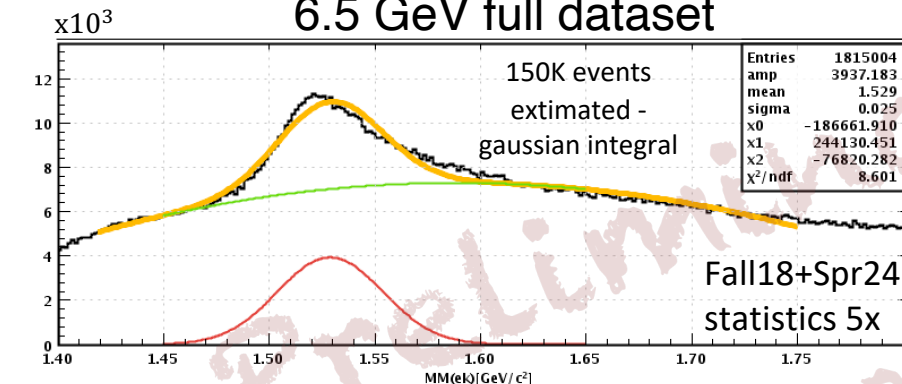


Five structures: $\Lambda(1116)$, $\Sigma^0(1193)$, $\Sigma(1385)$, $\Lambda(1405)$, $\Lambda(1520)$

$$ep \rightarrow eK^+ \Lambda(1520) \rightarrow eK^+ K^- p$$

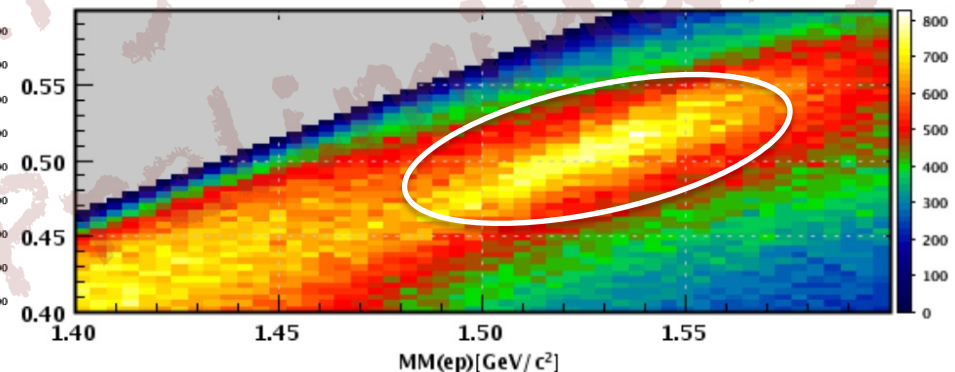
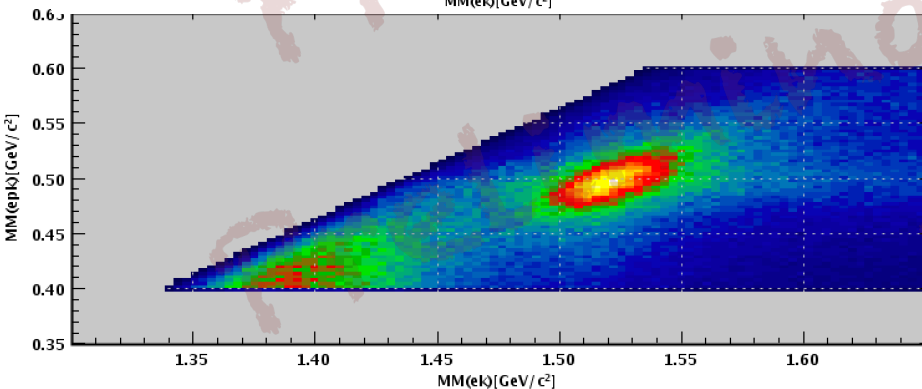
$\Lambda(1520)$

6.5 GeV full dataset



It is possible to isolate $\Lambda(1520)$ also in events with an electron detected in the FT

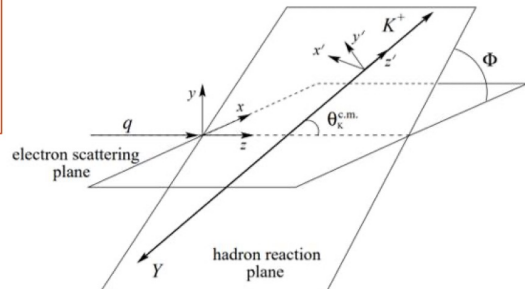
7.5 GeV dataset



$$ep \rightarrow eK^+ \Lambda(1520) \rightarrow eK^+ K^- p$$

Beam-Recoil Transferred Polarization in K^+Y Electroproduction in the Nucleon Resonance Region with CLAS12

D.S. Carman, A. D'Angelo, L. Lanza, V. Mokeev (CLAS Collaboration), "Beam-Recoil Transferred Polarization in K^+Y Electroproduction in the Nucleon Resonance Region with CLAS12", Phys. Rev. C 105, 065201 (2022)



Analysis of CLAS12 RG-K data from Fall 2018

- 6.535 GeV and 7.546 GeV electrons on LH_2 target
- Extract beam-recoil transferred polarization from longitudinally polarized beam electron to final state hyperon vs. Q^2 , W , $\cos \theta_{\nu}^{\text{c.m.}}$

$$A = \frac{N^+ - N^-}{N^+ + N^-} = \nu_Y \alpha_{\Lambda} P_b P'_Y \cos \theta_p^{RF}$$

P' = transferred polarization

(x', y', z')

P^0 = recoil polarization

$$P'_{x'} = K_I \sqrt{1 - \epsilon^2} R_{TT}^{x'0},$$

$$P'_{y'} = 0$$

$$P'_{z'} = K_I \sqrt{1 - \epsilon^2} R_{TT}^{z'0},$$

$$P_{x'}^0 = 0$$

$$P_{y'}^0 = K_I (R_T^{y'0} + \epsilon R_L^{y'0})$$

$$P_{z'}^0 = 0$$

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 105, 065201 (2022)

Beam-recoil transferred polarization in K^+Y electroproduction in the nucleon resonance region with CLAS12

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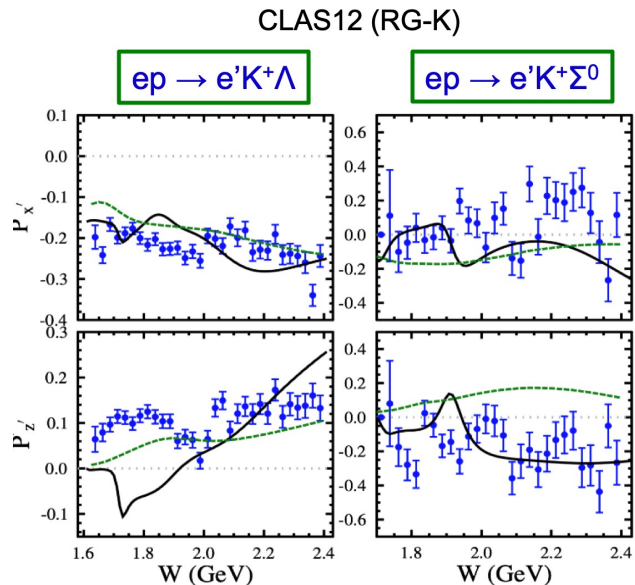
²⁹Norfolk State University, Norfolk, Virginia 23504, USA

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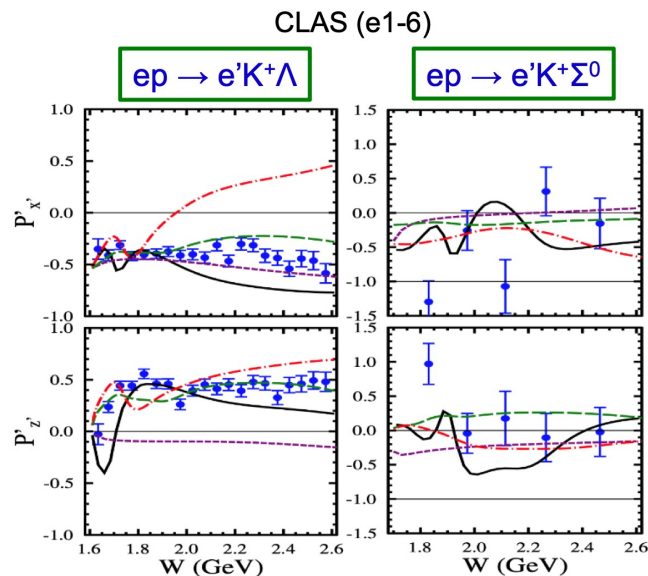
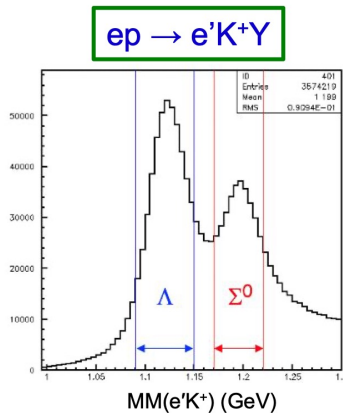
*Corresponding author: carman@fnh.org

K⁺Y Transferred Polarization CLAS12 vs. CLAS



[D.S. Carman et al., Phys. Rev. C 105, 065201 (2022)]

KAON-MAID
RPR



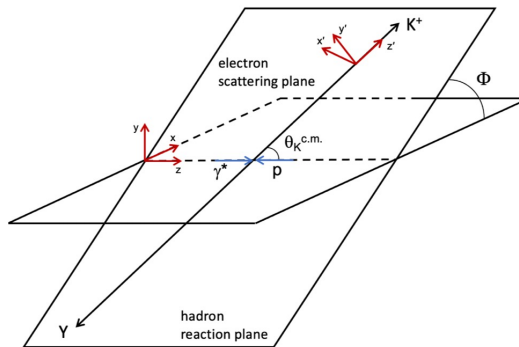
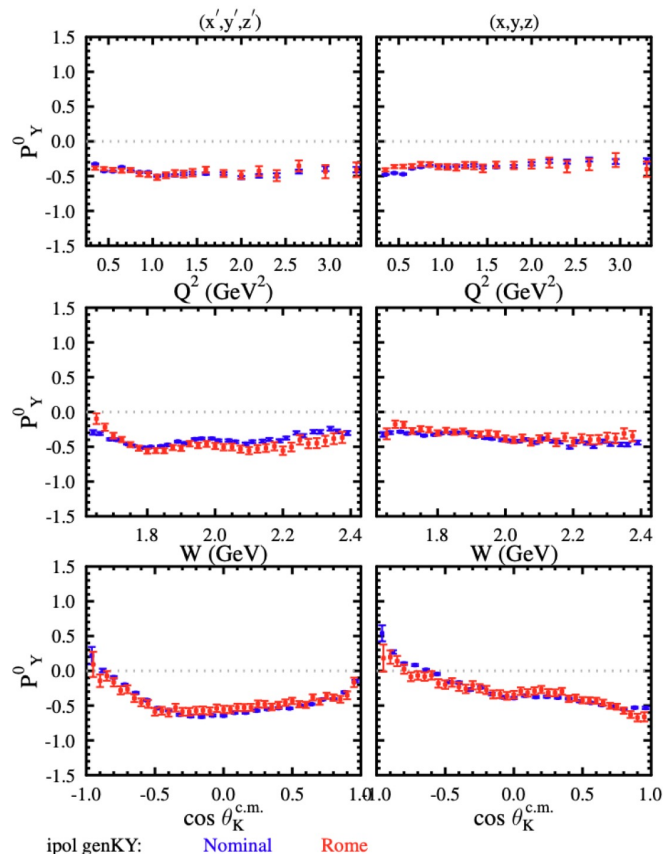
[D.S. Carman et al., Phys. Rev. C 79, 065205 (2009)]

Mart/Bennhold
RPR-1

RPR-2
Regge

World data set will get extended
by orders of magnitude

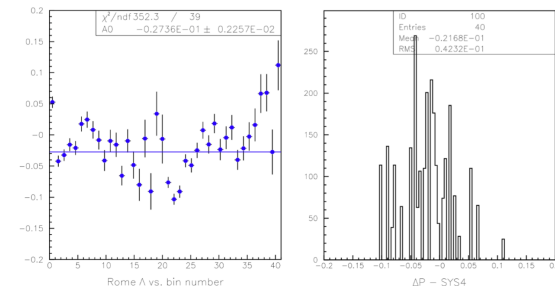
K⁺Y Induced Polarization CLAS12: Independent Analyses Match



$\mathcal{P}^U(x', y', z')$
 \mathcal{P}^U = recoil polarization

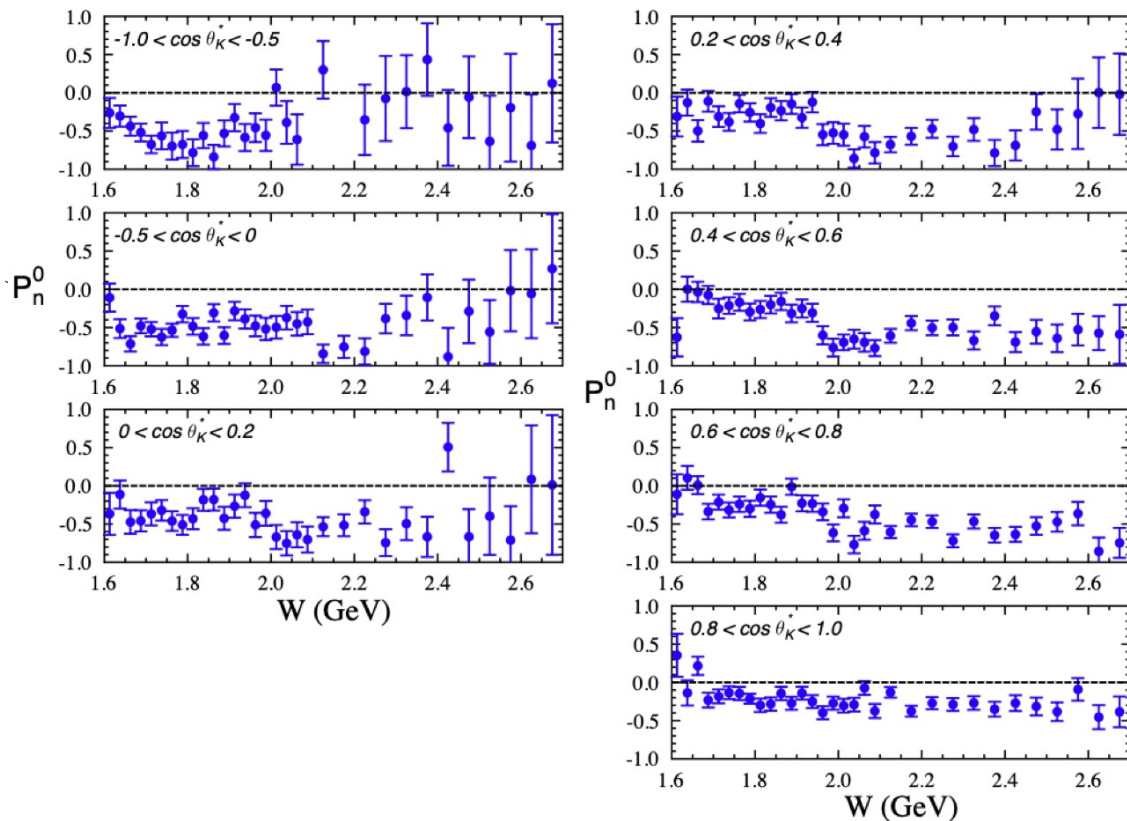
$\mathcal{P}_{x'}^0$	0
$\mathcal{P}_{y'}^0$	$K_I(R_T^{y'0} + \epsilon R_L^{y'0})$
$\mathcal{P}_{z'}^0$	0

Agreement between
independent approaches
 support final results



$$\Delta P^0 = -0.027, \text{RMS} = 0.042$$

K⁺Y Induced Polarization: Previous Results from CLAS e1f



A recoil polarization in the ep reaction was **first measured from the CLAS e1f** experiment using a 5.479 GeV electron beam

Kinematic range:

Q^2 : 0.8–3.5 GeV²

W : 1.6–2.7 GeV.

Due to limited statistics the polarization was provided in **coarse bins** in W and $\cos\theta_{c.m.}^K$ integrated over Q^2

RGK data have ~ 5 times the statistics compared to e1f