

New Neutron Structure Function Extraction from Global Inclusive Proton and Deuteron Data

Shujie Li

with many thanks to my **CTEQ-JLab** collaborators:

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**Extraction of the neutron F_2 structure function from inclusive
proton and deuteron deep-inelastic scattering data**

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- Global fit with a focus on fixed-target data from Jefferson Lab
 - Large- x , low- $Q^2 \rightarrow$ TMC, HT
 - Nuclear dynamics \rightarrow p,n motions, off-shell PDFs
- $F_2(n)$ extracted from global data, and also available as LHAPDF grids for
 - experiment result projection
 - “free” neutron data as input to other PDF fitter
 - nuclear PDF and neutrino scattering

CJ Global QCD fits

For the latest status, see [Matteo Cerutti's talk](#), Wed noon, WG1

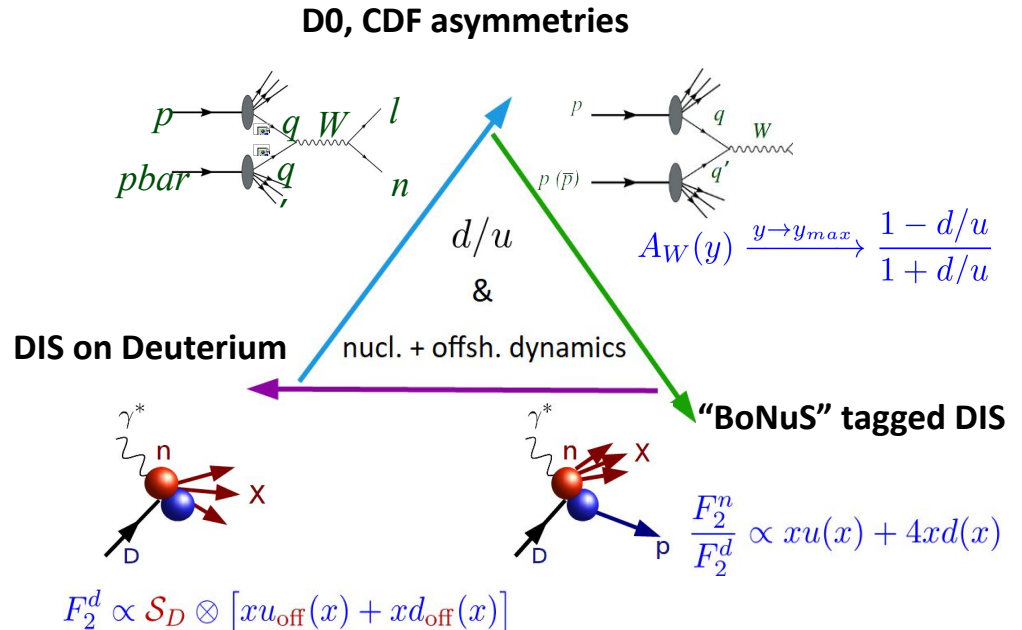
- pQCD factorization & universality: can fit PDFs to a variety of hard scattering data

$$d\sigma_{\text{hadron}} = \sum_{f_1, f_2, i, j} \phi_{f_1} \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{\text{parton}}^{f_1 f_2 \rightarrow ij} \otimes \phi_{f_2}$$

← pQCD calc.
← PDFs (from DIS fits)

- Hadron-hadron collisions
 - Jets
 - Electro-weak boson production
- Electron-proton DIS
- Electron-Deuteron DIS

- Large-x PDFs: interplay of observables

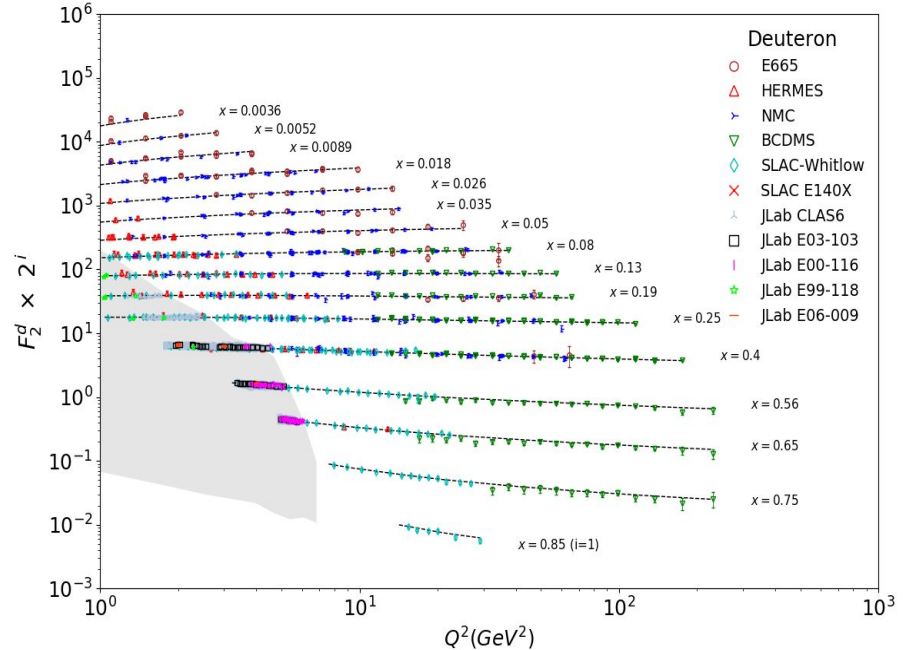


CJ Global QCD fits

CJ15: *Phys.Rev.D* 93, 114017 (2016)

CJ22: *Phys.Rev.D* 107, 113005 (2023)

- **1000+ data points**
 - including high x , low Q^2 data from JLab
 - $W^2 > 3.0 \text{ GeV}^2$, $Q^2 > 1.69 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$
- **Lower-energy / nuclear focus:**
 - **Full treatment for HT, TMC, nuclear smearing, and offshellness**
 - Deuteron Fermi motion and binding with **Weak Binding Approximation**



$$F_{2d}(x, Q^2) = \int \frac{dz}{z} dp_T^2 \mathcal{K}(z, p^2, \gamma) |\psi_{N/d}(|\vec{p}|)|^2 F_{2N}(x/z, Q^2, p^2)$$

kinematic and
"flux" factors

Nucleon wave function

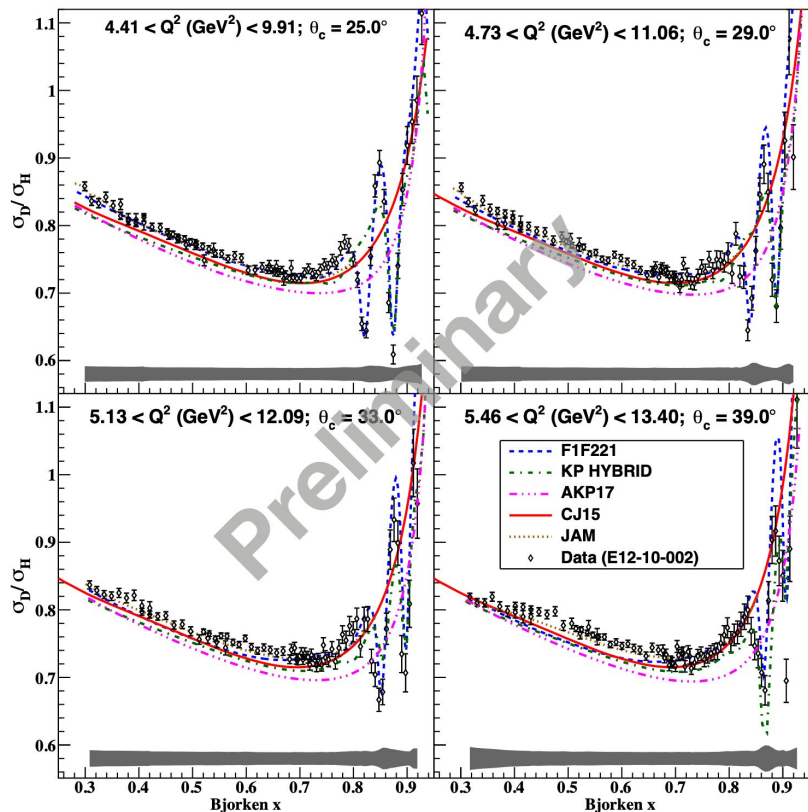
structure function of
**bound, off-shell
nucleon**

See [W. Henry's talk](#)

Impact of Large-x Deuteron Data

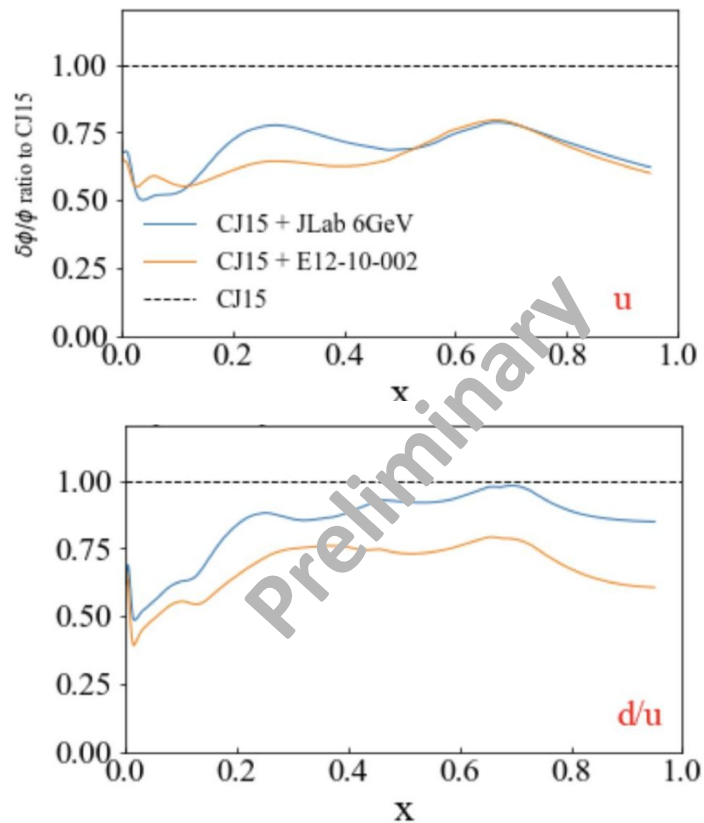
“Power of precision”

JLab E12-10-002 data



Courtesy of Bill Henry

Impact on PDF uncertainties



Neutron F_2 Extraction

Reference: S. Li et. al.

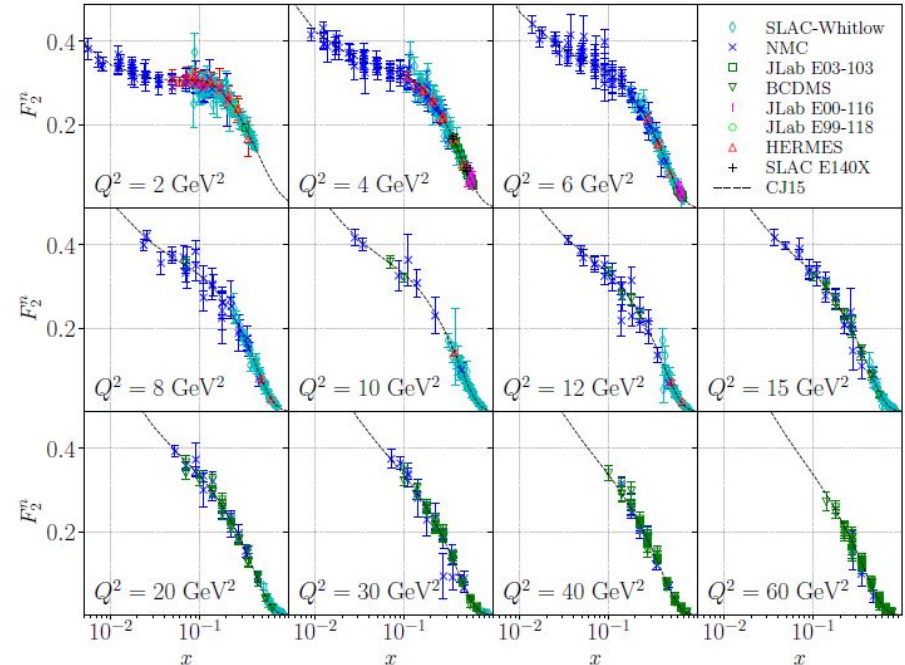
[arXiv:2309.16851](https://arxiv.org/abs/2309.16851), accepted by PRD

- **Basic idea:**

$$\widehat{F}_2^{n(0)}(x, Q^2) = \frac{2 \widehat{F}_2^{d(0)}(x, Q^2)_{\text{exp}}}{R_{d/N}^{\text{CJ}}(x, Q^2)} - \widehat{F}_2^{p(0)}(x, Q^2)_{\text{exp}}$$

- **But also:**

- P, d data matching
- Data **cross normalization**
 - Based on CJ15 PDFs
 - Refit of norm,
Correlated errors
- Bin-centered for applications such as Isosinglet moment
- ...



F2 neutron datasets and grids available at
<https://github.com/JeffersonLab/CJ-database/>

F₂ n/p Extraction

Reference: S. Li et. al.

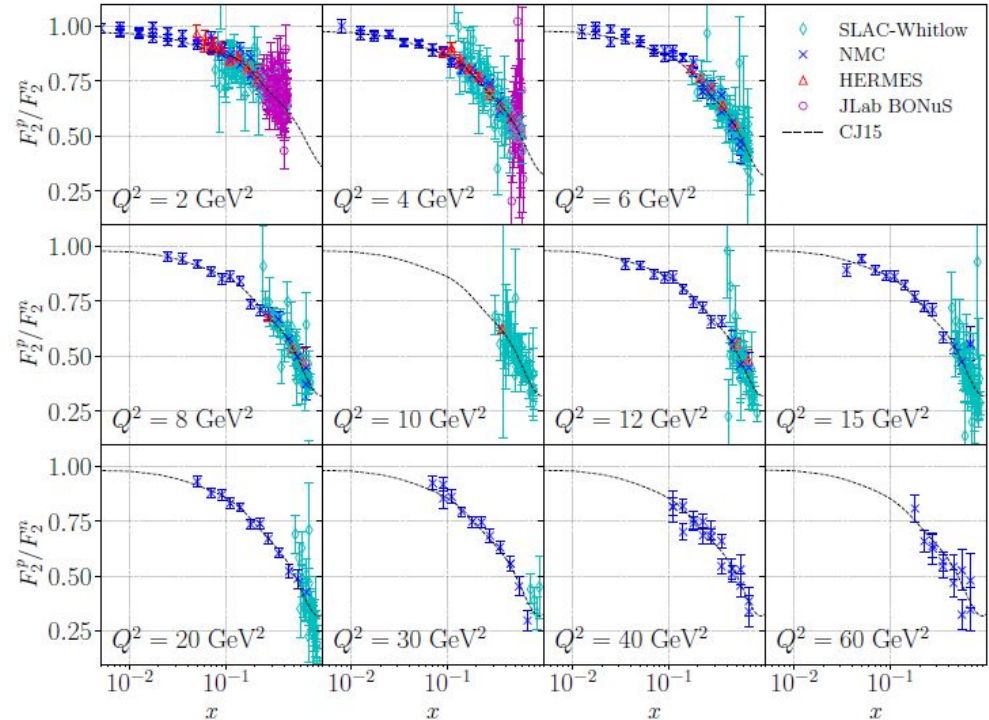
[arXiv:2309.16851](https://arxiv.org/abs/2309.16851), accepted by PRD

- Similar idea, but using
 - d/p data

$$\hat{R}_{n/p}^{(0)} \equiv \frac{2 \hat{R}_{d/p}^{\text{exp},(0)}}{R_{d/N}^{\text{CJ}} - 1}$$

- n/d BONuS data

$$\hat{R}_{n/p}^{(0)} \equiv \frac{\hat{R}_{n/d}^{\text{exp},(0)} R_{d/N}^{\text{CJ}}}{1 - \hat{R}_{n/d}^{\text{exp},(0)} R_{d/N}^{\text{CJ}}}$$



F2 neutron datasets and grids available at
<https://github.com/JeffersonLab/CJ-database/>

Uncertainties

- Experimental uncertainties
 - Statistical
 - Systematics (correlated/uncorrelated)
- theoretical systematics (PDF uncertainties) using $2^* 24$ (=19 PDF + 2 off-shell + 3 higher-twist parameters) eigen-PDF sets:
 - Normalization + correlated shifts uncertainties
 - Nuclear correction (d/(p+n)) uncertainties

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{\text{exp}} \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{data}}} \left(\frac{D_i + \Delta_i - T_i/n}{\delta D_i} \right)^2 + (\lambda^{\text{norm}})^2 + \sum_{k=1}^K \lambda_k^2 \right]_{\text{exp}}$$

correlated error normalization
uncorrelated error

```
# fit parameters
LAMBDA      0.22680      0.0000
a0uv        2.4067      0.0000
a1uv        0.61537     0.19856E-01
a2uv        3.5433     0.12414E-01
a3uv        0.0000     0.0000
a4uv        3.4609     0.42903
a5uv        0.0000     0.0000
a0dv        24.684     0.0000
a1dv        1.1595     0.33533E-01
a2dv        6.5514     0.15936
a3dv        -3.5030     0.86332E-01
a4dv        4.6787     0.14209
a5dv        0.0000     0.0000
a0ud        0.14658     0.50348E-02
a1ud        -0.20775    0.37551E-02
a2ud        8.3286     0.19114
a3ud        0.0000     0.0000
a4ud        14.606     1.2151
a5ud        0.0000     0.0000
a0du        35712.     0.0000
a1du        4.0249     0.74070E-01
a2du        20.154     0.87862
a3du        17.000     0.0000
a4du        51.156     10.239
a0g         45.542     0.0000
a1g         0.60307     0.31164E-01
a2g         6.4812     0.96748
a3g         -3.3064     0.13418
a4g         3.1721     0.31376
a5g         0.0000     0.0000
kappa       0.40000     0.0000
a6dv        -0.36005E-02    0.66324E-03
a7dv        2.0000     0.0000
off1        -3.6735     1.5278
off2        0.57717E-01  0.14842E-01
ht1         -3.2874     0.26061
ht2         1.9274     0.10524
ht3         -2.0701     0.19888E-01
ht4         0.0000     0.0000
```

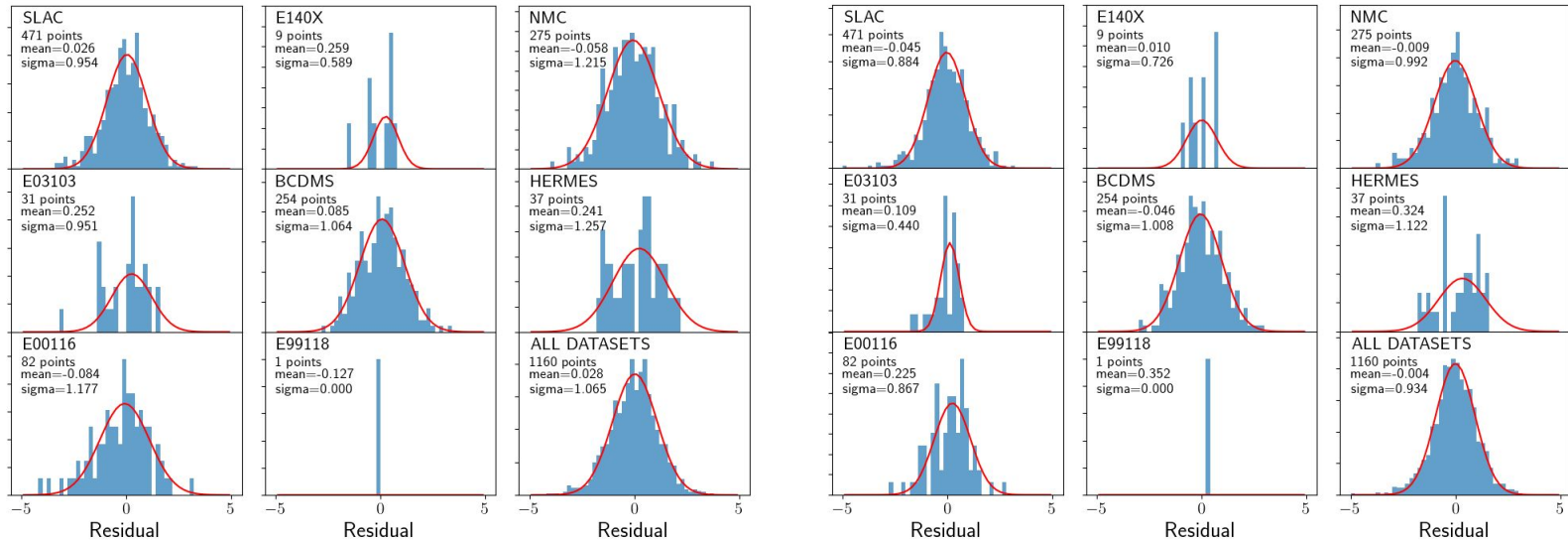

Data - Fit Residual After Cross-normalization

[10.1103/RevModPhys.92.045003](#)

$$r_k(a_{\text{fit}}, \lambda_{\text{fit}}) = \frac{D_k - T_k(a_{\text{fit}})}{\sigma_k} - \sum_I \beta_{kI} \lambda_I^{\text{fit}}$$

uncorrelated
Correlated uncertainty

Proton



Application: non-singlet moments

F2 from data

Nachtmann moment M^{NS}

$$M_2^{p-n}(Q^2) = \int_0^1 dx \frac{\xi^3}{x^3} \left[\frac{3 + 9r + 8r^2}{20} \right] F_2^{p-n}(x, Q^2)$$

$$\xi = 2x/(1+r) \quad r = \sqrt{1 + 4M^2x^2/Q^2}.$$

accounts for kinematic TMC.

It connects to **non-singlet moments**
by

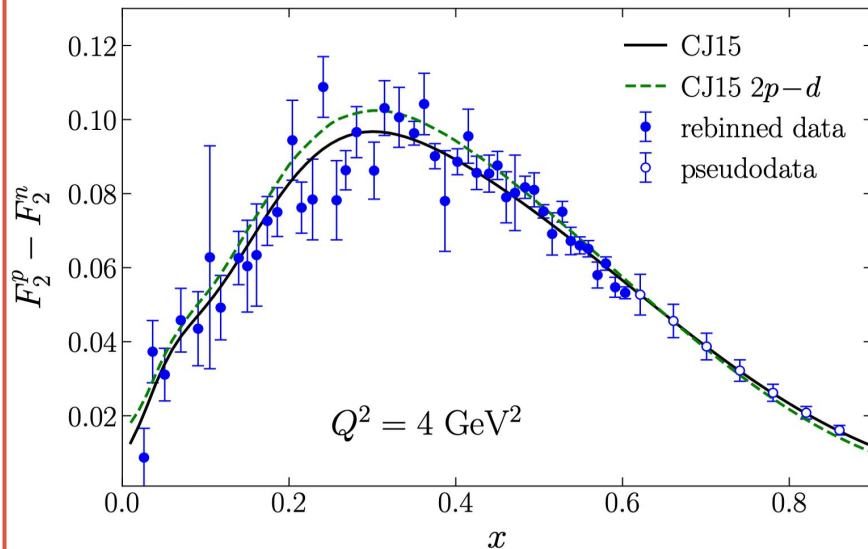
$$\frac{3}{C_2} M_2^{\text{NS}} = \langle x \rangle_{u^+ - d^+} + \text{HT}$$

Application: non-singlet moments

F2 from data

$$M_2^{p-n}(Q^2) = \int_0^1 dx \frac{\xi^3}{x^3} \left[\frac{3 + 9r + 8r^2}{20} \right] F_2^{p-n}(x, Q^2)$$

$$\frac{3}{C_2} M_2^{\text{NS}} = \langle x \rangle_{u^+ - d^+} + \text{HT}$$



At given Q^2 :

- $x < 0.1$: fit according to Reggie theory

$$F_2^p - F_2^n = Ax^\alpha$$

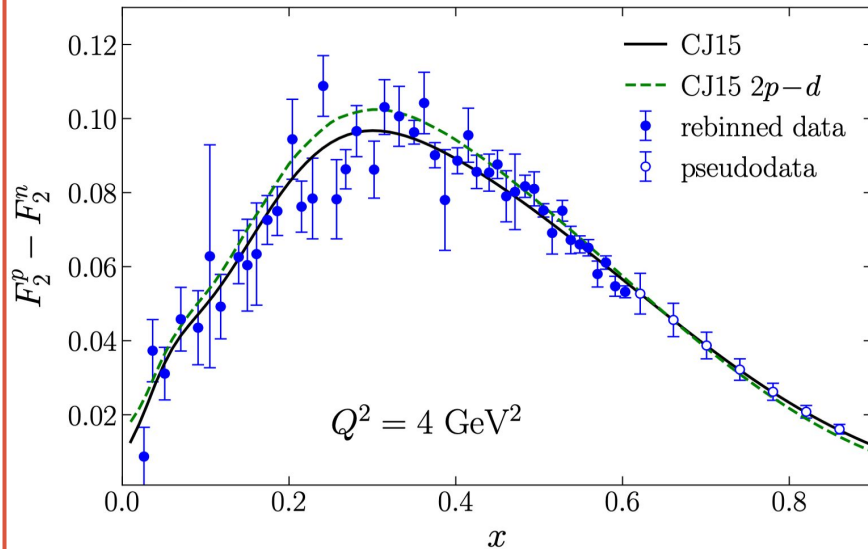
- x in measured range: binned and interpolated
- High x : two theory models, CJ15 and F1F209, cutoff at pion threshold

Application: non-singlet moments

F2 from data

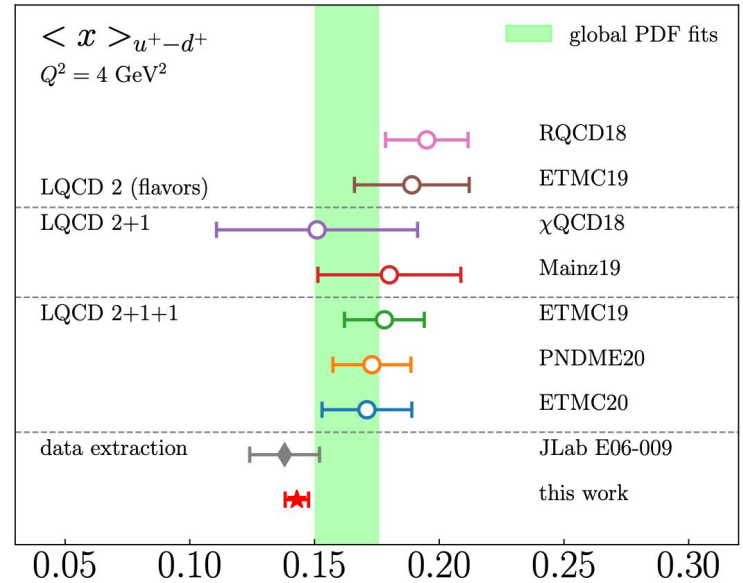
$$M_2^{p-n}(Q^2) = \int_0^1 dx \frac{\xi^3}{x^3} \left[\frac{3 + 9r + 8r^2}{20} \right] F_2^{p-n}(x, Q^2)$$

$$\frac{3}{C_2} M_2^{\text{NS}} = \langle x \rangle_{u^+-d^+} + \text{HT}$$



Moments from LQCD

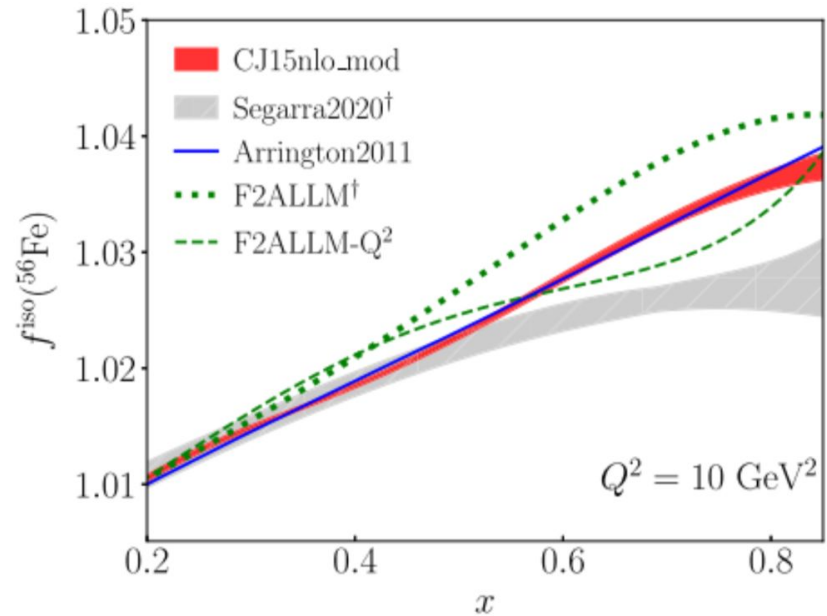
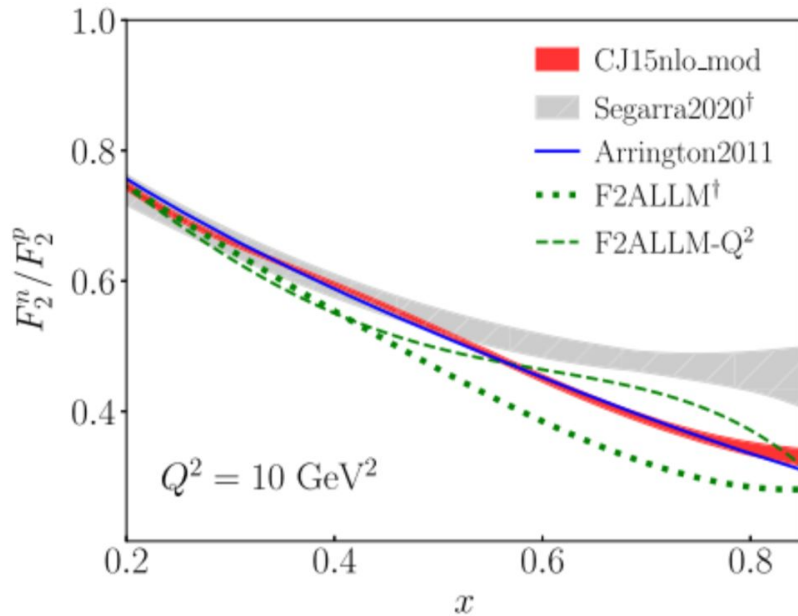
$$\langle x \rangle_{u^+-d^+} = \int dx x [u(x) + \bar{u}(x) - d(x) - \bar{d}(x)]$$



Application: isoscalar corrections

$$f_A^{\text{iso}} \approx \left(\frac{A}{2}\right) \frac{1 + F_2^n/F_2^p}{Z + NF_2^n/F_2^p}$$

Correction depends on x and Q^2 , important for **EMC effect** and **neutrino scattering**



Open Database on Github

<https://github.com/JeffersonLab/CJ-database>

CJ Unpolarized DIS Database Homepage [↗](#)

Reference: [arXiv:2309.16851](https://arxiv.org/abs/2309.16851).

See also

- CTEQ-JLab collaboration [website](#).
- [note](#) for reduced cross section and F2 calculation.

World DIS data tables [↗](#)

World **proton** and **deuteron** data of unpolarized DIS cross sections, F2 structure functions, and the longitudinal to transverse cross section ratio R are collected or extracted from various experiments. Data were collected for the CJ global fit and related analysis. Now open for general use. See details under the [data](#) directory.

Neutron F2 extraction [↗](#)

Based on the collected F2 data, we performed a data-driven extraction of **neutron F2** and **neutron-to-proton F2n/F2p ratio** within the CJ15 framework (see eq. 7-9 in reference for details). Data from all experiments are cross-normalized and combined into a single Excel file, both in the original kinematics, as well as rebinned in Q^2 . Check the [f2n](#) directory.

Structure function grids [↗](#)

Within CJ framework, we calculated various structure functions (F2, F3, FL, etc) at given x, Q^2 grids. Results are provided under folder [SFN grids](#) in the [LHAPDF](#) format. An example plotting script is available at `src/plot_sfn.py`

LHAPDF grids on F2, FL, F3 with γ, g_z, Z
F2 come with HT

Experiment	σ_r	F2	R
SLAC-Whitlow	p: 10014	p: 10010	p: 10064
	d: 10015	d: 10011	d: 10065
	d/p: 10034	d/p (*): 10034	
SLAC-Whitlow(rebinned)		rebinned p: 10012	
		rebinned d: 10013	
SLAC-E140			d: 10066
SLAC-E140x	p: 10037	p: 10035	p: 10067
	d: 10038	d: 10036	d: 10068
NMC	p: 10022	p: 10020	
	d: 10040	d: 10039	
	d/p: 10021	d/p (*): 10021	
BCDMS	p: 10018	p: 10016	p: 10069
	d: 10019	d: 10017	d: 10070
JLab E06-009	d: 10042	d: 10041	d: 10071
(includes E04-001, E02-109)			
JLab E94-110	p: 10044	p: 10043	p: 10074
	JLab E03-103	p: 10047	p: 10045
	d: 10048	d: 10046	
JLab E99-118	p: 10052	p: 10049	p: (A)
	d: 10053	d: 10050	p-d: (A)
	d/p: 10054	d/p: 10051	
JLab JLCEE96	p: 10055	p: 10072	
	d: 10056	d: 10073	
	JLab E00-116	p: 10003	p: 10001
CLAS6	d: 10004	p: 10002	
	p: 10059	p: 10057	
	d: 10060	d: 10058	
BONUS		n: 10061	
		n/d: 10033	
HERA I+II	p: 10026 - 10032		
HERMES	p: 10007	p: 10005	
	d: 10008	d: 10006	
	d/p: 10009		
E665		p: 10062	
		d: 10063	

Outlook

<https://github.com/JeffersonLab/CJ-database/>

- We provided a **data-driven extraction of F2n** from Deuteron data, with our best knowledge of HT and nuclear effects
- **World data on F2p and d** are sorted into a database with clear documentation on **uncertainties**
- F2n data sets are available, can be used e.g. as input to other global analysis
- F2 grids in LHAPDF format, can provide **isoscalar corrections** with uncertainties

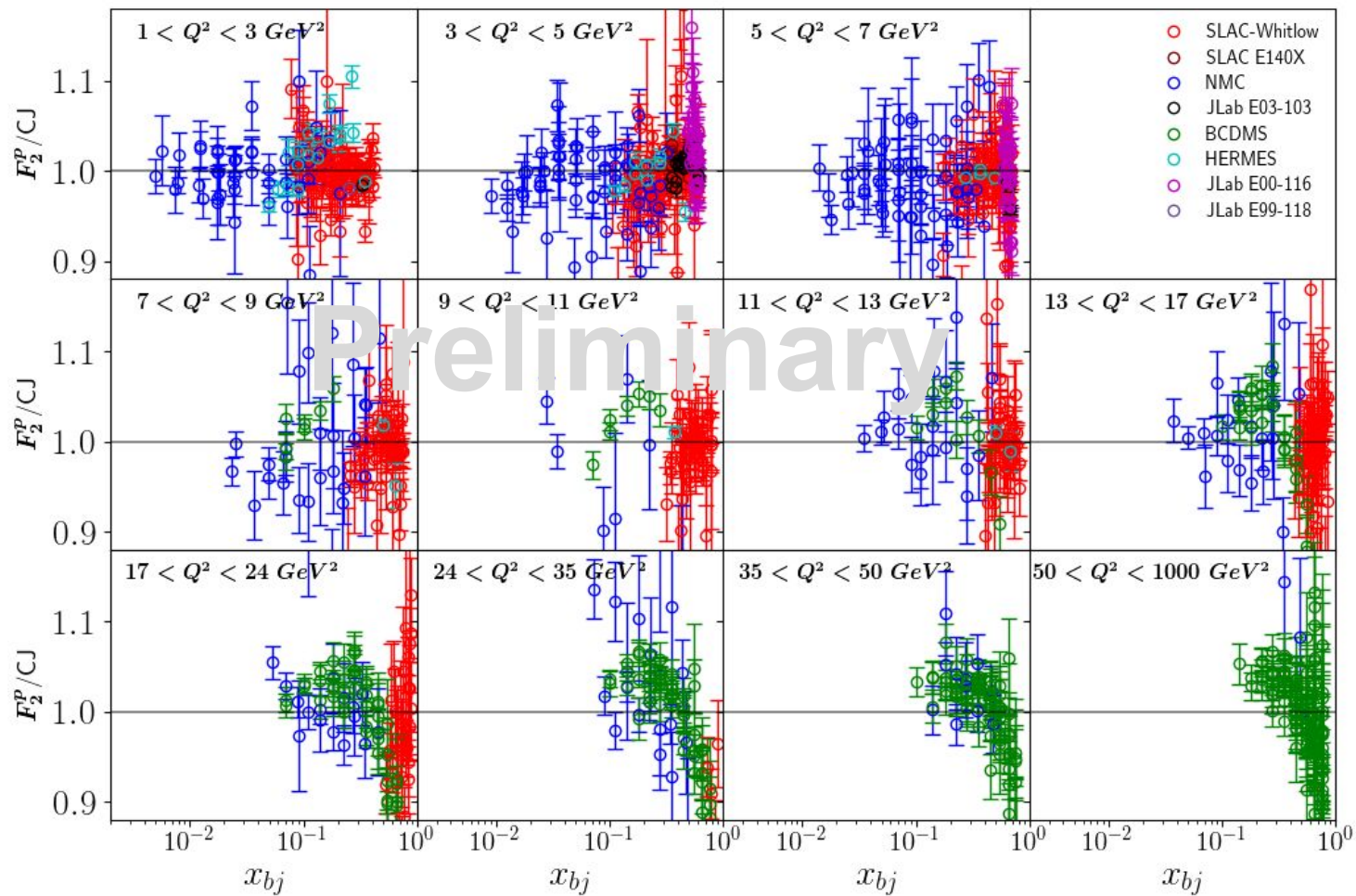
- **Next step:** continue the coordinated Theory-Experiment Effort:
 - Interplay of HT and off-shell
 - Strange sea with LHC data
 - NNLO
 - Structure function with CJ22 and updated uncertainties

Thank you!

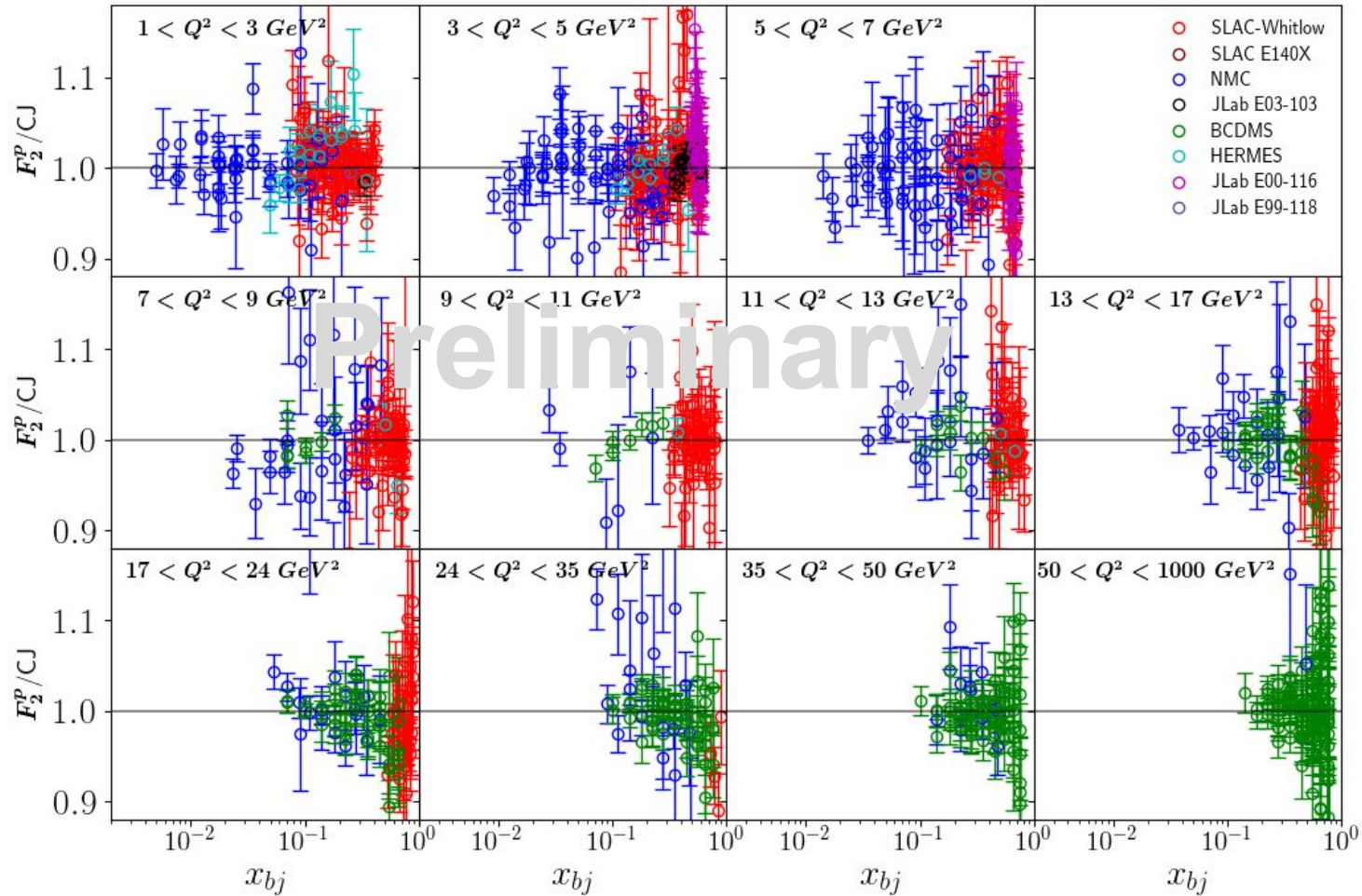


Backups

raw F_2^p Data/CJ



modified+normed F_2^p Data/CJ



Data Selection

1. DIS cuts:

- a. $Q^2 > 1.691 \text{ GeV}^2/c^2$
- b. $W^2 > 3.5 \text{ GeV}^2$

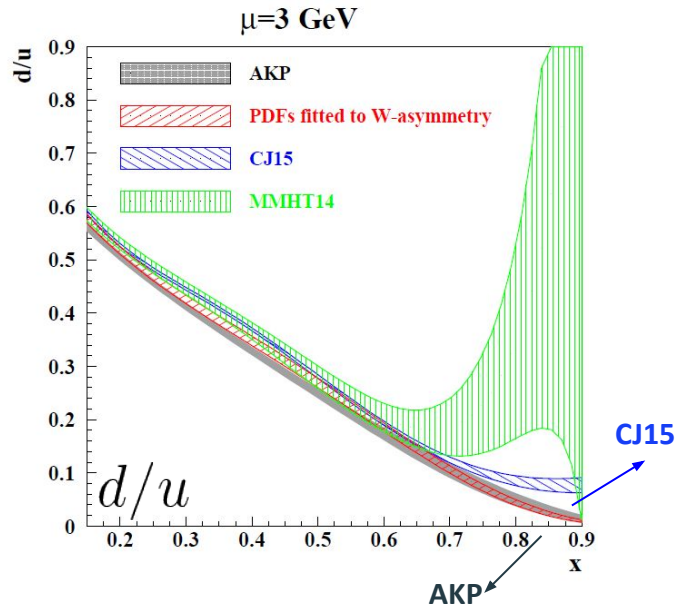
2. Within each experiment, we match the proton and deuteron data points by requiring:

- a. same beam energy,
- b. $|x_{\text{proton}} - x_{\text{deuteron}}| < 0.01$,
- c. $|Q_{\text{proton}}^2 - Q_{\text{deuteron}}^2| < 1\%$.

Experiments	# of Proton F2 Data Points	# of Deuteron F2 Data Points	# of Constructed Neutron Points
SLAC-Whitlow ^[2]	564	582	470
BCDMS	351 ^[3]	254 ^[4]	254
HERMES ^[5]	45	45	45
JLab E-00-116 ^[6]	136	136	120
NMC ^[7]	275	275	258
SLAC-E140x ^[8]	9	13	9
JLab E-03-103 ^[9]	37	69	37
JLab CLAS6	609 ^[10]	1723 ^[11]	0
JLab E-94-110 ^[12]	112	0	0
JLab E-06-009 ^[13]	0	79	0
JLab E-99-118 ^[14]	2	2	2

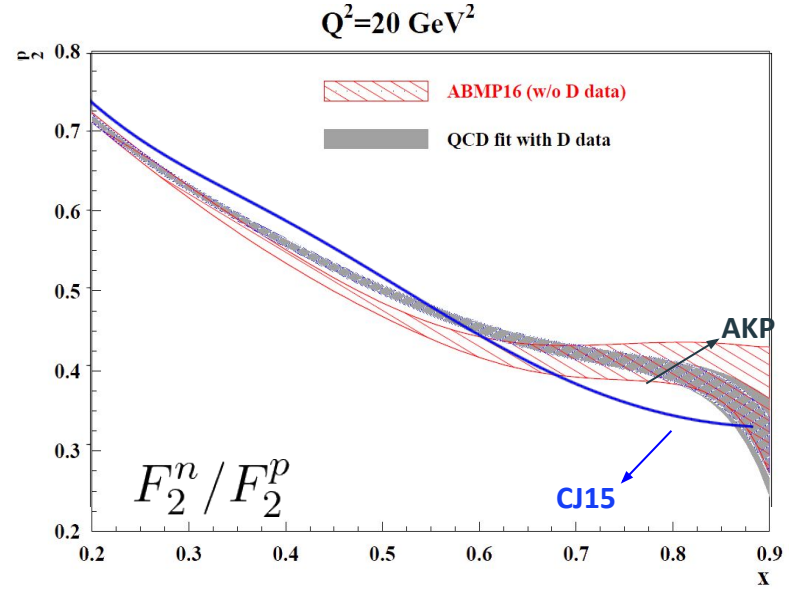
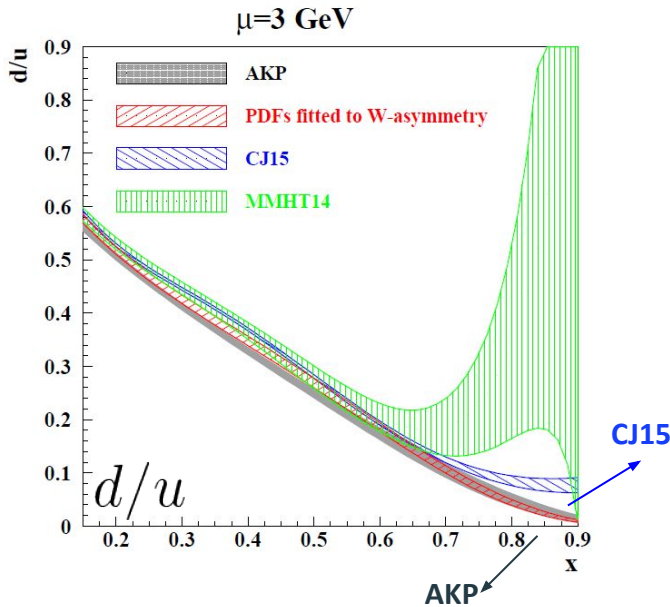
CJ15 and AKP: d/u to free nucleons

CJ15: *PRD* 93 (2016) 114017
AKP: *PRD* 96 (2017) 054005
(see also 2203.07333)



$$\frac{F_{2n}}{F_{2p}} \approx \frac{1 + 4d/u}{4 + d/u}$$

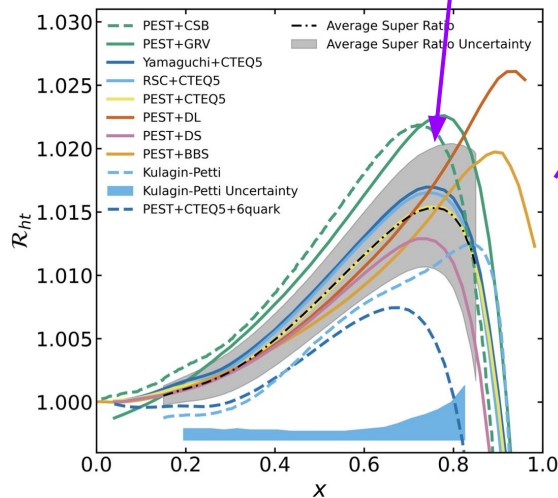
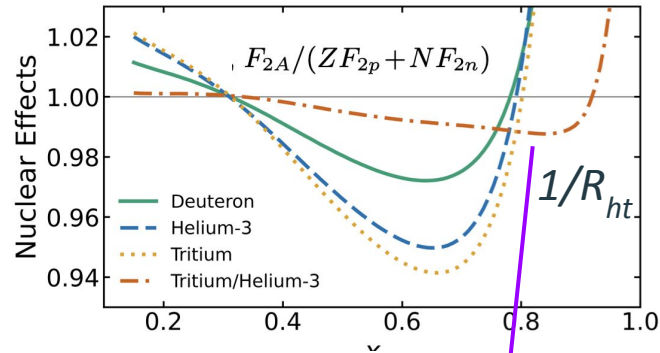
CJ15 and AKP: d/u to free nucleons



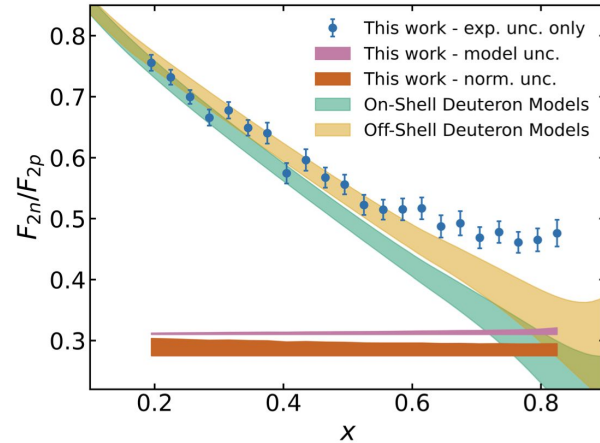
- **AKP has smaller d/u but bigger n/p ???**
 - Not possible at Leading Twist!
 - → **Large HT contributions to high- x n/p ratio**

F2 n/p from MARATHON data impact study

T. Hague, et. al., arxiv 2312.13499, NOT a CJ work



Norm. shift: original 2.5%, here 1.3%



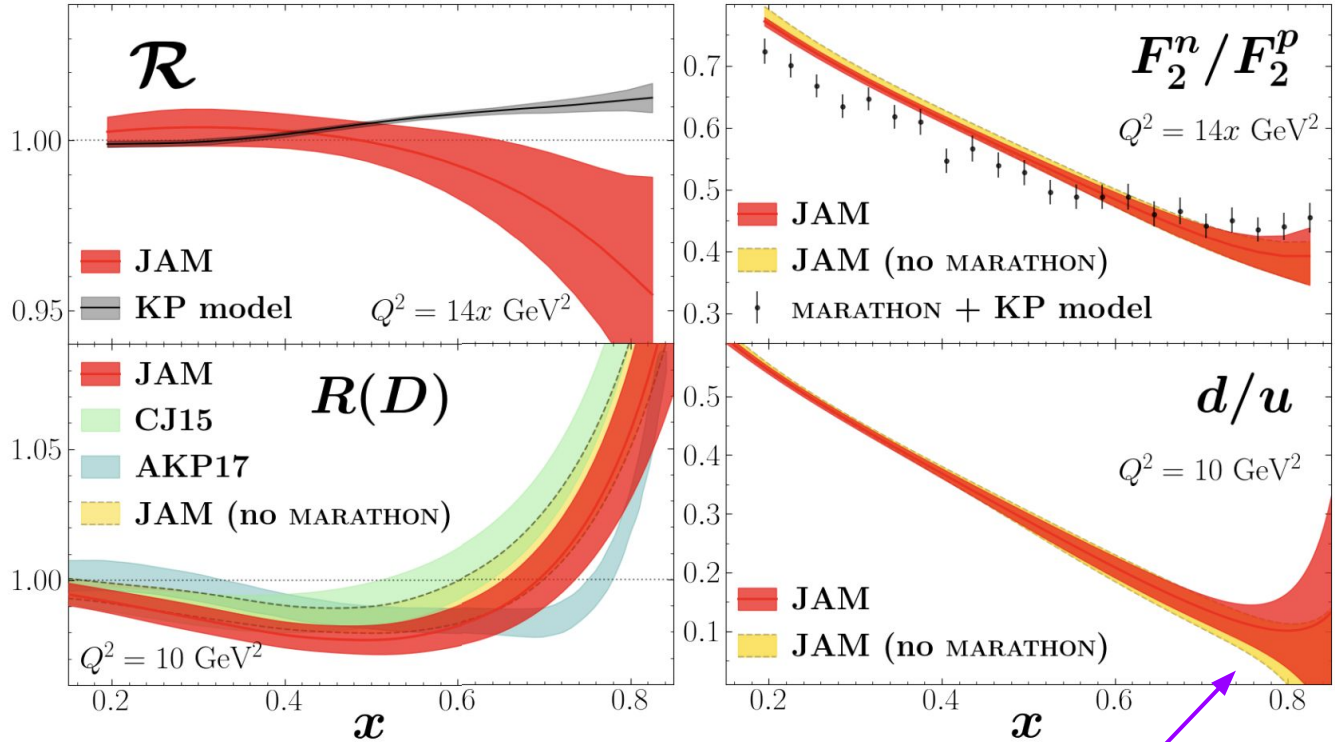
Varying R_{ht} didn't change the n/p shape at high x noticeably:

⇒ n/p is different in deuteron and A=3 nuclei?

⇒ More likely: larger than expected isospin dependence in nuclear effects

Iso-vector nuclear effect?

C. Cocuzza et. al. (JAM), arxiv: 2104.06946



The fit miserably hanging in/between deuteron and A=3 data, still not the full answer

CJ's answer: (very likely) the interplay b/w HT and offshell

HT systematics & offshell corrections

Paper in progress

- Additive vs. Multiplicative**

$$F_2(x, Q^2) = F_2^{LT}(x, Q^2) + \frac{H(x)}{Q^2}$$

$$F_2(x, Q^2) = F_2^{LT}(x, Q^2) \left(1 + \frac{C(x)}{Q^2}\right)$$

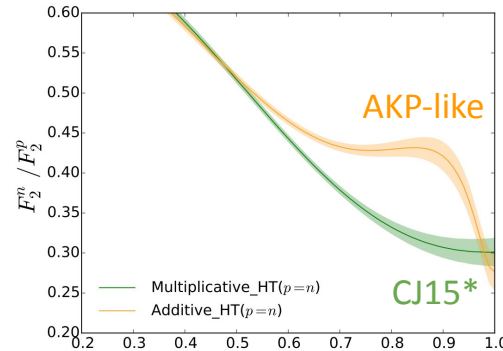
- Isospin, Q^2 evol. not independent**

$$\tilde{H}_{p,n}(x, Q^2) = C(x) F_{2p,n}^{LT}(x, Q^2)$$

- Non-negligible large-x bias**

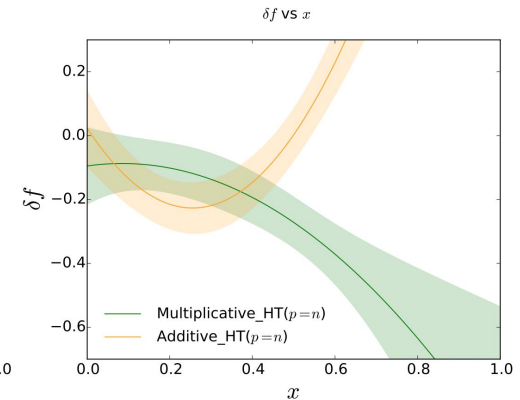
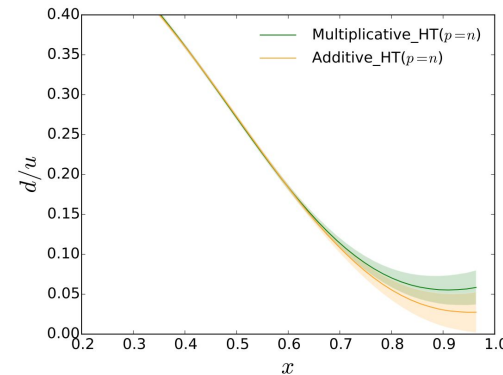
$$\frac{n}{p} \xrightarrow{x \rightarrow 1} \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4} + 3 \frac{H}{u} & \text{add. } p = n \\ \frac{1}{4} + \frac{H}{u} & p \neq n \\ \frac{1}{4} & \text{mult. } p = n \end{cases}$$

- With the same CJ15 data sets, no A=3 data**



Isospin symmetric HT

- █ Additive HT ($p=n$)
- █ Mult HT ($p=n$)
→ CJ15*



I. Fernando

HT systematics & offshell corrections

- Additive vs. Multiplicative

$$F_2(x, Q^2) = F_2^{LT}(x, Q^2) + \frac{H(x)}{Q^2}$$

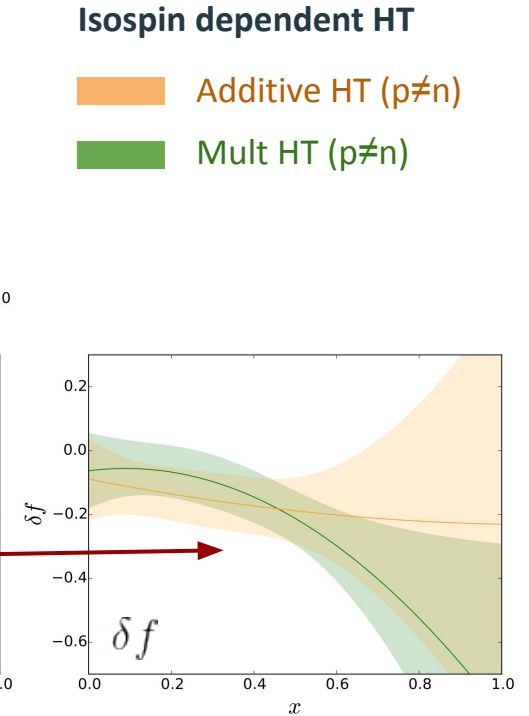
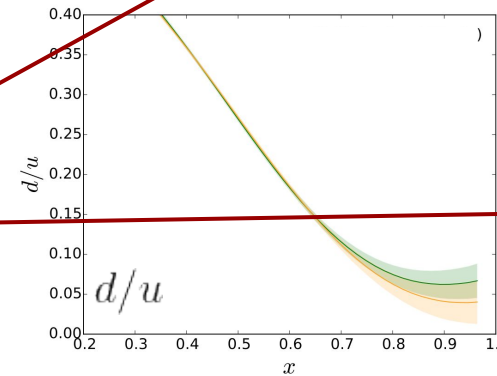
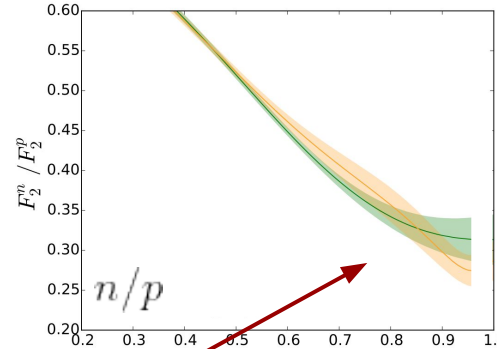
$$F_2(x, Q^2) = F_2^{LT}(x, Q^2) \left(1 + \frac{C(x)}{Q^2}\right)$$

- Isospin, Q^2 evol. not independent

$$\tilde{H}_{p,n}(x, Q^2) = C(x) F_{2p,n}^{LT}(x, Q^2)$$

- Isospin dependent HT:

- **BIAS REMOVED!**
- Very small change in d/u
- Offshell remains ~ 0 up to $x=0.6$

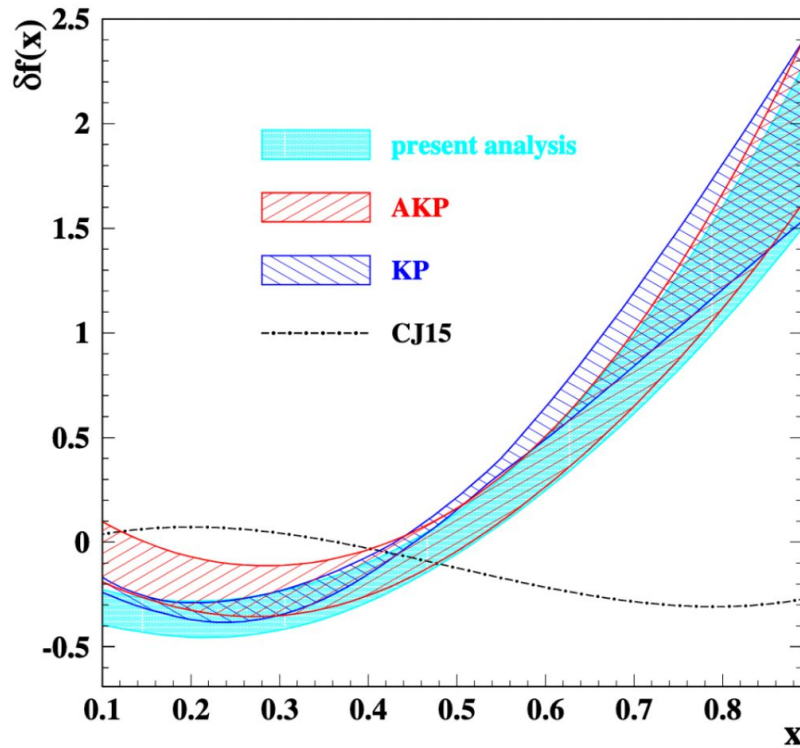


Isospin dependent HT

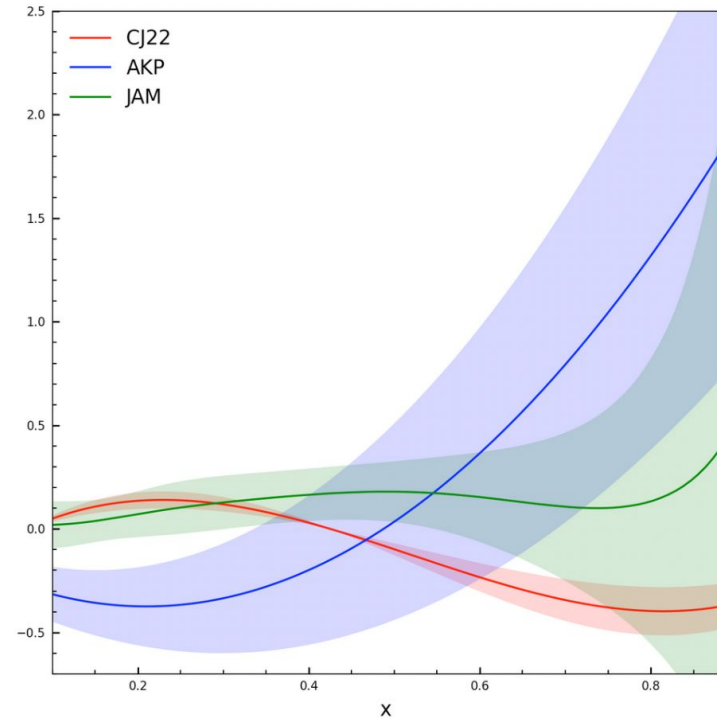
Orange Additive HT ($p \neq n$)

Green Mult HT ($p \neq n$)

I. Fernando



AKP: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2203.07333.pdf>
 Polynomial parameterization,
 $c_0 = -0.16 \pm 0.11$, $c_1 = -2.04 \pm 0.73$, and $c_2 = 4.86 \pm 1.13$



KP-like off-shell function parameters:
 $N(x - x_0)(x - x_1)(1 + x_0 - x)$

Parameter	CJ15	CJ22
N	-3.6735 ± 1.5278	-5.3600 ± 1.5674
x_0	$0.57717E091 \pm 0.14842E-01$	$0.70549E-01 \pm 0.44990E-03$
x_1	0.36419	0.42527

Bonus cross-checks

- **BONuS: Tagged proton DIS measurements**

