

Precision measurements of the F_2 structure function at large x in the resonance region and beyond

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We propose to measure $H(e, e')$ and $D(e, e')$ inclusive cross sections in the resonance region and beyond for a precise extraction of the F_2 structure function at large Bjorken x , up to 0.99, and intermediate four-momentum transferred squared Q^2 , up to about 17 GeV². The proposed measurements would be used for detailed studies of the perturbative and nonperturbative mechanisms underpinning the valence quark dynamics at large x . With the advance of these studies the data could then be utilized to constrain PDFs at large x .

I. INTRODUCTION

Electron-nucleon scattering has been an excellent tool to explore the structure of the nucleon. In fact, it was a series of inclusive electron-nucleon scattering experiments at SLAC in the late 1960s that showed the nucleon to be made of point-like objects which were called at the time partons [1]. With the establishment of QCD as the theory of strong interactions we came to understand hadrons as composite objects of quarks and gluons which interact weakly at large energy scales but very strongly at low energy scales. The unique properties of QCD, confinement and asymptotic freedom, ensure that the degrees of freedom of the QCD Lagrangian, quarks and gluons, are not the ones observed in nature, hadrons. In spite of the fact that the building blocks of matter, quarks and gluons, are not observables, several decades of accumulated data from a variety of hard scattering processes together with sophisticated QCD analyses

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lead to a detailed mapping of the nucleon's parton distribution functions (PDFs) over a wide range of kinematics.

Lepton-nucleon deep inelastic scattering (DIS) processes played a dominant role in obtaining information on the behavior of the quark PDFs as well as on the gluon distribution but the kinematic coverage of many DIS experiments is limited in Bjorken x and so our knowledge of PDFs is not uniform over the entire x range, lacking especially at large x . As x approaches 1 at fixed Q^2 , the invariant mass of the produced hadronic system, W , approaches values in the nucleon resonance region where non-perturbative effects are non-negligible. In order to stay in a region of high W but access high values of x , one must go to increased values of Q^2 . Presently this avenue has limitations imposed by the available beam energy.

A more detailed mapping of the large- x region is important for a number of reasons. The large- x region provides a laboratory for studying the flavor and spin dynamics of quarks. The behavior of quark distribution functions with x is of interest in itself, to e.g. experimentally support (or not) the Drell-Yan-West relation postulate which links the x dependence of the structure function as x approaches 1 and the Q^2 dependence of the electromagnetic form factor. Moreover, the d/u ratio at large x is very sensitive to different mechanisms of spin-flavor symmetry breaking in the nucleon [2]. The large- x region also constitutes an appreciable amount of the moments of unpolarized (and polarized) structure functions, especially for the higher moments. It is precisely these moments that can be calculated from first principles in QCD on the lattice [3], in terms of matrix elements of local operators. In addition, knowledge of PDFs at large x is essential for determining high-energy cross sections at collider energies such as in search of new physics beyond the Standard Model, where structure information at large x feeds down through perturbative Q^2 evolution to lower x and higher values of Q^2 .

The measurement of Z- and W-boson production at Tevatron and the LHC has been proposed as very precise 1% level luminosity monitor, needed for an accurate measurement of a variety of Standard Model cross-sections and search for physics behind the Standard Model [4, 5]. However, the presently large theoretical uncertainties in quark-quark and quark-gluon luminosity due to the unconstrained nuclear corrections in deuteron target DIS data are of the same order of magnitude [6]. Precise large- x DIS data over a wide range of Q^2 will contribute to better constrain nuclear corrections [7] leading to precise luminosity monitoring at Tevatron and LHC.

Nuclear PDFs at large x are also important in the analysis of neutrino oscillation experiments such as T2K [8], NO ν A [9] and DUSEL [10]. A large part of the theoretical uncertainty has to do with lack of precise knowledge of the neutrino-nucleus interaction in the kinematics between the DIS and resonance regions, as well as with the implementation of the non-isoscalarity correction. Better control of the nuclear corrections at large x and a precise knowledge of the d/u ratio will have a direct impact on the interpretation of such measurements [7].

A fully quantitative description of the nucleon structure in terms of PDFs relies, however, on our ability to unravel the Q^2 -dependence of the data in detail. In particular it is important to obtain more quantitative information on the boundary or "transition" regions of x and Q^2 where perturbative QCD (pQCD) evolution regulated by the Q^2 -evolution equations can no longer be the only mechanism responsible for the Q^2 -dependence of the data. Explicitly, from a theoretical standpoint, the large- x region requires the inclusion not only of leading twist PDFs, but also of contributions suppressed by at least one power of Q^2 , which include target mass corrections and higher twist corrections. Moreover, if a nuclear target is used one must include nuclear corrections which account for the difference between the PDFs in free nucleons and those in nucleons bound in a nucleus. Several exploratory studies have been made following this avenue to improve our knowledge of the PDFs at large x [6, 7].

JLab is uniquely suited to provide precise measurements to further our understanding of the nucleon structure at large x and advances have been already made with the accumulation of structure function data at 6 GeV. The 12 GeV upgrade offers an unique opportunity to continue and extend these studies in pursuit of understanding a fundamental property of the nucleon: its quark structure.

II. MOTIVATION

There have been several analyses that explored the possibility of extending the range of fitted DIS data in both W^2 and Q^2 to lower values than have been traditionally used in global PDF fits, in order to obtain a more uniform coverage of x in terms of experimental constraints [6, 7]. The standard cuts on DIS data in previous QCD analyses have excluded points with low W^2 (a typical example, CTEQ6 used only data with $Q^2 > 4 \text{ GeV}^2$ and $W^2 > 12.25 \text{ GeV}^2$ [11]) which means that the PDFs have not been constrained at large x . The most recent analysis by Accardi *et al.* [7] shows that excellent fits of PDFs can result when the Q^2 and W^2 cuts on data selection are lowered if target mass corrections, higher twist contributions, and nuclear effects for deuterium targets are all taken into account. Taken from this analysis, Fig. 1 displays the relative PDF errors for u and d quarks normalized to the relative errors of a reference fit. The PDFs in the reference fit were obtained using the traditional kinematic cuts ($Q^2 > 4 \text{ GeV}^2$ and $W^2 > 12.25 \text{ GeV}^2$) that exclude the low Q^2 and low W^2 data and render unconstrained quark distributions at large x . With a more permissive kinematic cut, $Q^2 > 1.69 \text{ GeV}^2$ and $W^2 > 3 \text{ GeV}^2$, labeled in Fig. 1 as **cut3**, there is a

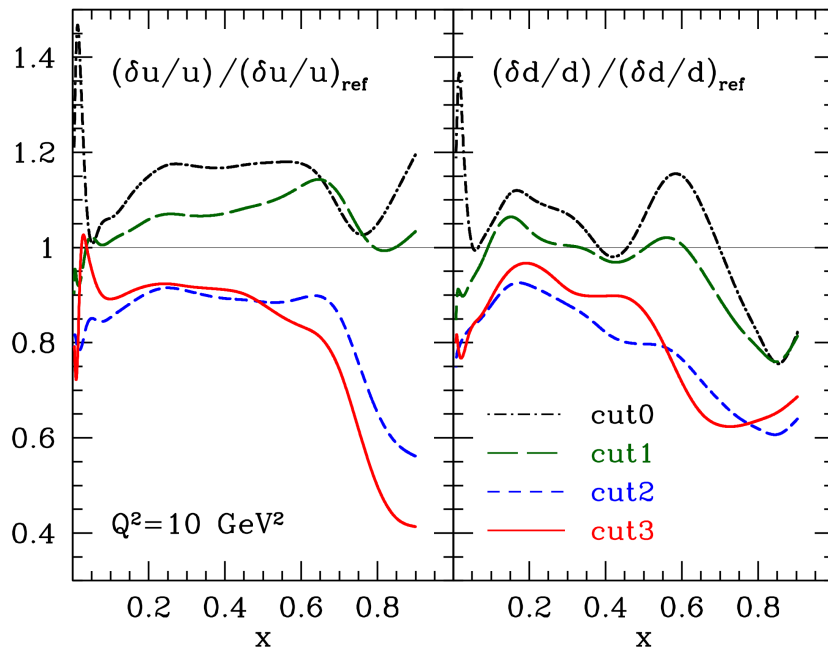


FIG. 1: Relative PDF errors for u and d quarks normalized to the relative errors in the reference fit at a Q^2 of 10 GeV^2 from the analysis of A. Accardi *et al.* [7]. The kinematic cut **cut0** is the least permissive excluding data with $Q^2 < 4 \text{ GeV}^2$ and $W^2 < 12.25 \text{ GeV}^2$. The kinematic cut **cut3** is the most permissive and uses data with $Q^2 > 1.69 \text{ GeV}^2$ and $W^2 > 3 \text{ GeV}^2$ for PDF fits. The use of low W^2 DIS data have a significant impact on the PDFs at large x : there is a substantial reduction in the experimental uncertainty of these PDFs, with the **cut3** errors reduced by 10–20% for $x < 0.6$ and by up to 40–60% at large x . For the less permissive kinematic cuts **cut0** and **cut1** the errors typically increase because the allowed amount of DIS data is not sufficient to compensate for the added free parameters of the fit function that describe the phenomenological higher twist contributions.

substantial reduction in the uncertainty of the PDFs. The experimental errors are reduced by 10–20% for $x < 0.6$ and by up to 40–60% at larger x (8% of the total number of data points employed in the fit that pass the kinematic cut **cut3** is from the lower energy JLab run E00-116 [12]). The resulting fits show that the leading twist u - and d -quark PDFs are stable with respect to the choices made for implementing the target mass corrections, as long as a flexible higher twist parametrization is employed. It was also found that compared to previous global analyses there is a stronger suppression of the d -quark distribution at large x . The amount of suppression, however, is sensitive to the treatment of the nuclear corrections which are an important source of uncertainty at large x and further progress needs to be made in the study of the behavior of the large- x PDFs and d/u ratio [7].

The work of A. Accardi *et al.* shows that the theoretical complications arising from the inclusion of low W^2 DIS data in global analysis of PDFs can be addressed and we can gain detailed knowledge of the quark distributions at large x . However, extending to very large x at a finite Q^2 one always encounters the resonance region. If one could utilize the vast quantity of resonance region data one could significantly improve the statistics and decrease the uncertainties which arise from extrapolations of PDFs into unmeasured regions of x . The resonance region could be treated using the concept of *quark-hadron duality* which may be a general property of quantum field theories with inherent weak and strong coupling limits, with QCD as prime example.

The observation of a non-trivial relationship between inclusive electron–nucleon scattering cross sections at low energy, in the region dominated by the nucleon resonances, and that in the deep inelastic scaling regime was made by Bloom and Gilman [13, 14] while analyzing data from the early deep inelastic scattering experiments at SLAC. Bloom–Gilman duality was reformulated in QCD in terms of an operator product (*twist*) expansion of moments of the structure functions [15, 16]. This allowed a systematic classification of terms responsible for duality and its violations in terms of so-called *higher-twist* operators which describe long-range interactions between quarks and gluons. However, this description could not explain *why* particular multi-parton correlations were suppressed, and *how* the physics of resonances gave way to scaling [17].

With the development of high luminosity beams at modern accelerator facilities such as JLab, a wealth of new information on structure functions, with unprecedented accuracy and over a wide range of kinematics, has become

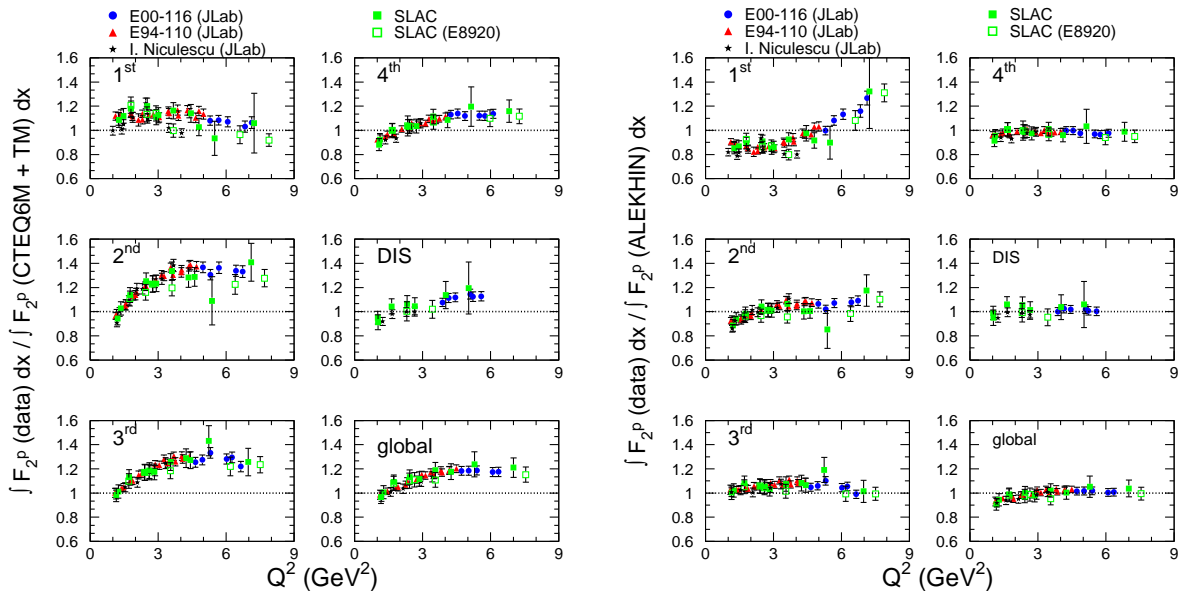


FIG. 2: Quark-hadron duality studies in the F_2^p structure function. The six panels on each figure correspond to different resonance regions delimited using W^2 cuts as follows: 1st region $\rightarrow W^2 \in [1.3, 3.9]$, 2nd region $\rightarrow W^2 \in [1.9, 2.5]$, 3rd region $\rightarrow W^2 \in [2.5, 3.1]$, 4th region $\rightarrow W^2 \in [3.1, 3.9]$ and global $\rightarrow W^2 \in [3.9, 4.5]$. The integrals of the F_2^p structure function extracted from the data is compared to the integrals of QCD fits. **Left:** comparison of data to CTEQ6 [11]. **Right:** comparison of data to ALEKHIN [6].

available. One of the striking findings of the new JLab data [17–19] is that Bloom-Gilman duality appears to work exceedingly well, down to Q^2 values as low as 1 GeV² or even below. This is considerably lower than previously believed, and well into the region where α_s is relatively large. Furthermore, the equivalence of the averaged resonance and scaling structure functions appeared to hold for each resonance, over restricted regions in W , so that the resonance–scaling duality holds also locally. It was also found that quark-hadron duality manifests itself in the separated proton transverse (F_1^p) and longitudinal (F_L^p) structure functions. However, as larger- x regions were probed a puzzling pattern started to emerge. A study by Liang *et al.* [19, 20] indicated quark-hadron duality in the F_2^p structure function to hold better than 5% at a Q^2 of 1 GeV² when compared to a standard QCD fit which excludes low W^2 DIS data from the analysis [21]. A growing discrepancy was observed as regions of higher Q^2 , up to 3.5 GeV², and higher x were explored. This finding came in strong contradiction with the expectation that duality should work best with increasing Q^2 . The question arose whether this growing discrepancy was really a violation of duality by contributions from dynamical higher-twists or mostly a consequence of the well-known issue of unconstrained PDFs at large x .

A more recent analysis by S.P. Malace *et al.* [12] extended the x and Q^2 coverage of the quark-hadron duality studies up to values of 0.9 and 7 GeV², respectively. It was found that, when compared to standard QCD fits [11, 21] largely unconstrained at large x , the ratio of integrals of F_2^p resonance data and the QCD fits becomes independent of Q^2 starting with a value of about 4 GeV², as shown in Fig 2, left panel. This is an indication that, as expected from quark-hadron duality, there are only small violations of the Q^2 evolution by data in the resonance region, on average. The saturation of this ratio above unity happens at increasing values for resonance regions with decreasing W^2 and increasing x , likely due to the lack of strength of PDFs at large x , but, more important, the ratio remains constant in Q^2 .

A comparison to a QCD fit which includes lower W^2 DIS data and is expected to be better constrained at large x [6] revealed that the nonperturbative contributions to the averaged resonance region data are comparable to the ones in the low W^2 DIS region at the level of 5% or less, as seen in Fig. 2, right panel, pointing to the conclusion that with a careful study of the Q^2 -dependent contributions, properly averaged resonance region data could be used to provide much needed constraints for PDFs at large x . The findings of the quark-hadron duality studies in the deuteron structure function F_2^d pointed to similar conclusions. We have appended the findings of this analysis as published in Physical Review C.

Similar conclusions were drawn from a recent analysis by S.P. Malace *et al.* which extracted the neutron structure function F_2^n from inclusive proton and deuteron data in the large- x region and tested the validity of quark-hadron duality in the neutron [22]. An example of the extracted neutron structure function F_2^n from this analysis is shown in Fig. 3, left panel, together with the input proton and deuteron data. The comparison of integrals of the neutron structure function from data to integrals of a QCD fit constrained by lower W^2 DIS data [23] showed clear signatures

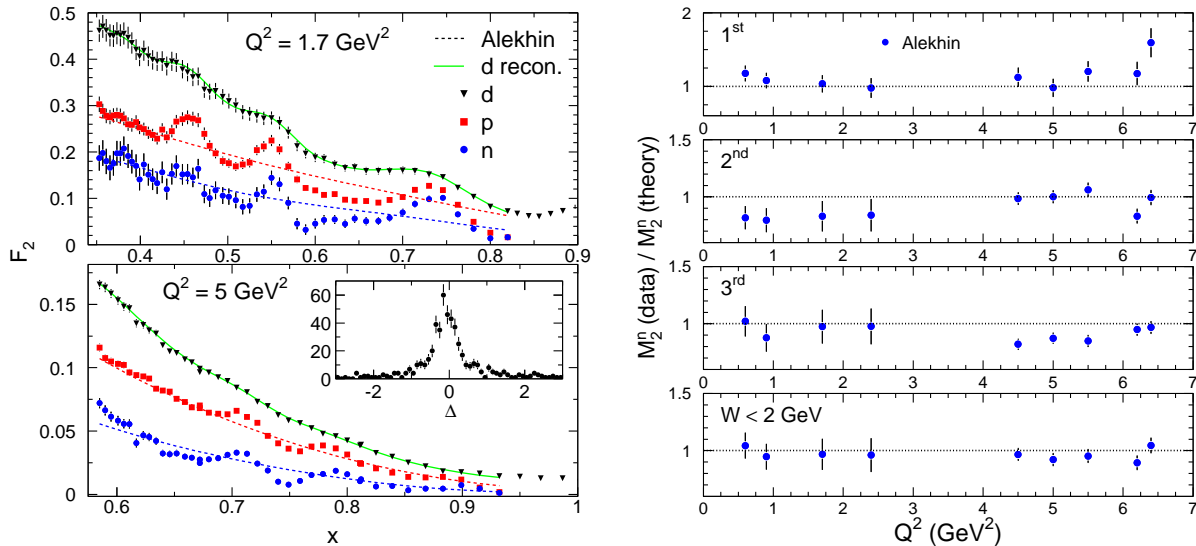


FIG. 3: **Left:** Extracted neutron F_2^n structure function (blue circles) at $Q^2 = 1.7$ and 5 GeV^2 , together with proton (red circles) and deuteron (black triangles) data from JLab ($Q^2 = 5 \text{ GeV}^2$) and SLAC ($Q^2 = 1.7 \text{ GeV}^2$), and the reconstructed deuteron (green full curve). The proton and deuteron data are compared to the global QCD fit from Alekhin *et al.* [23]. The dependence of the iteration on the neutron initial value is illustrated in the insert, which shows the difference Δ normalized to the total uncertainty of the extracted neutron structure functions with different starting points (see appended final draft for details). **Right:** Quark-hadron duality studies in the neutron structure function F_2^n extracted from proton and deuteron data. The integrals of data are compared to integrals of the global QCD fit [23] in various resonance regions.

of quark-hadron duality with better than 15 – 20% agreement in the individual resonance regions and less than 10% deviations when integrated over the entire resonance region ($W^2 < 4 \text{ GeV}^2$), as seen in Fig.3, right panel. From these results it appears that the duality seen in the proton occurs in the neutron as well. This is an important hint that may help in the search for the answer to the broader question- why does duality occur? These findings also suggest that global QCD analyses that already implement nonperturbative effects at large x to describe low W^2 DIS data should be readily extendable to the resonance region. We have appended the draft on the findings of this analysis, as submitted to Physical Review Letters.

The $x \rightarrow 1$ region is an important testing ground for nonperturbative and perturbative mechanisms underpinning valence quark dynamics and is vital to map out if we hope to achieve a complete description of the nucleon structure. Two experimental programs have been already approved to provide information about the neutron F_2^n structure function and the d/u ratio at large x . E12-06-113, "The Structure of the Free Neutron at Large x -Bjorken", in Hall B will determine the neutron F_2^n structure function from measurements of DIS on a deuterium target with low-momentum spectator protons in the backward center of mass hemisphere, which tags DIS on an almost free neutron in the deuteron and is expected to set constraints on F_2^n up to x of 0.8. E12-06-118, "Measurements of the F_2^n/F_2^p , d/u Ratios and A=3 EMC effect in Deep Inelastic Electron Scattering off the Tritium and Helium Mirror Nuclei", will extract, amongst other, the F_2^n/F_2^p ratio from measured ratios of ${}^3\text{He}$ to ${}^3\text{H}$ structure functions and set constraints on d/u ratio up to $x \sim 0.85$.

Presently, there are precise measurements of the proton F_2^p and deuteron F_2^d structure functions at large x up to a value of x of about 0.9 and $Q^2 < 7 \text{ GeV}^2$ with most of the statistics provided by JLab data. There are few measurements from SLAC at higher Q^2 , up to about 10 GeV^2 but with large statistical uncertainties, reaching values of 60-70% at the largest x . Above Q^2 of 10 GeV^2 the large x region ($x > 0.8$) is practically unexplored. The 11 GeV beam at JLab offers the unique opportunity of extending the precision measurements of the F_2^p and F_2^d structure function to larger x and Q^2 . We propose precision measurements of the spin averaged proton F_2^p and deuteron F_2^d structure functions in the resonance region and beyond up to x of 0.99 and Q^2 of 17 GeV^2 .

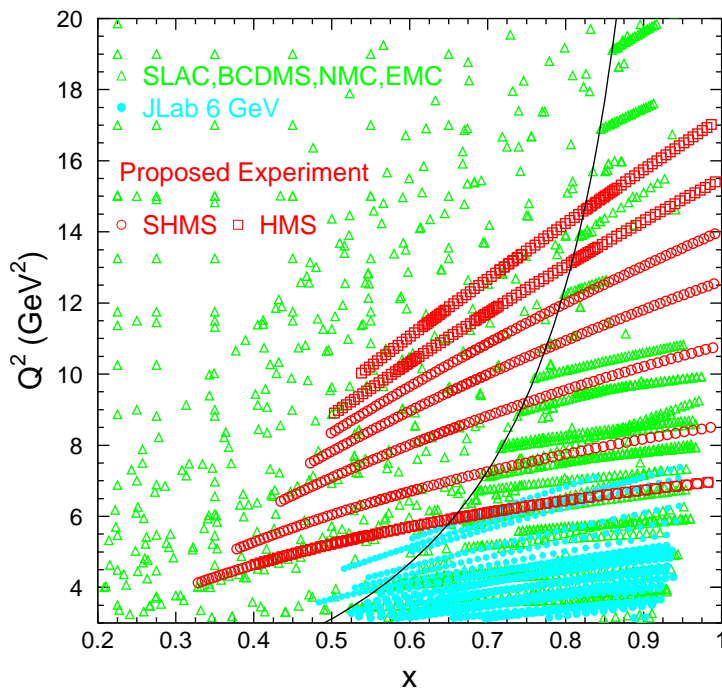


FIG. 4: Kinematics for the proposed experiment in x and Q^2 . World data from SLAC, BCDMS, NMC, EMC, SLAC (in green) and lower energy JLab (in cyan) are also shown. The solid curve indicates $W^2 = 4 \text{ GeV}^2$.

III. DETAILS OF THE 11 GEV PROPOSED MEASUREMENTS

A. Proposed Kinematics and Experimental Equipment

The kinematics for the proposed experiment are shown in Fig. 4 in x and Q^2 . Also displayed in Fig 4 are world data from SLAC, BCDMS, NMC, EMC and JLab (lower energy). The low W^2 region, $W^2 < 4 \text{ GeV}^2$, (i.e. to the right of the solid curve) is poorly populated above a Q^2 of about 10 GeV^2 . In addition, the few data from SLAC that populate this particular kinematic region have large statistical uncertainties. This is shown in Fig. 5 where the statistical uncertainties of the SLAC data in the region of $W^2 < 4 \text{ GeV}^2$ are plotted together with the uncertainties of the JLab experiment E00-116 [12]. The uncertainties of the latter are, in most cases, within 5% even at large x while the uncertainties of SLAC measurements grow with increasing x , reaching values of 60-70%.

We plan to measure the $H(e, e')$ and $D(e, e')$ cross sections in the resonance region and beyond up to a W^2 of about 9 GeV^2 . The proposed kinematics will offer, in particular, a detailed coverage of the very large x region up to a Q^2 of about 17 GeV^2 , where data are presently scarce or with large statistical uncertainties. The statistics currently provided by SLAC data can be significantly improved in this region due to the CEBAF high luminosity beam and to the large acceptance of the spectrometers. Details of the proposed measurements on both hydrogen and deuterium targets are given in Table 1. These measurements would be performed using the existing HMS and the new SHMS which is part of the standard package for the 12 GeV upgrade. As shown in Table 1, the SHMS would be used for the intermediate angle measurements, from 17° to 35° . Due to the large momentum acceptance of SHMS, only two momentum settings would be necessary to cover a sizable x range. The HMS would be used for large angle measurements, 42° and 55° , and would push the kinematic coverage to a Q^2 as large as 17 GeV^2 and x larger than 0.9. Data at 17° will be taken in both HMS and SHMS for crosschecks of the two spectrometers. The rate for the elastic process in $H(e, e')$ is high enough at 17° to allow for a statistically significant measurement so elastic data will be taken at this kinematics for hydrogen elastic studies. Few additional elastic runs will be taken at lower angles with SHMS.

The measurements would be performed in HMS using the existing detector package which consists of a gas Cerenkov detector and a lead glass calorimeter for particle identification (rejection of pion background) and of drift chambers for particle track reconstruction. The SHMS spectrometer will have a similar package of nearly identical performance.

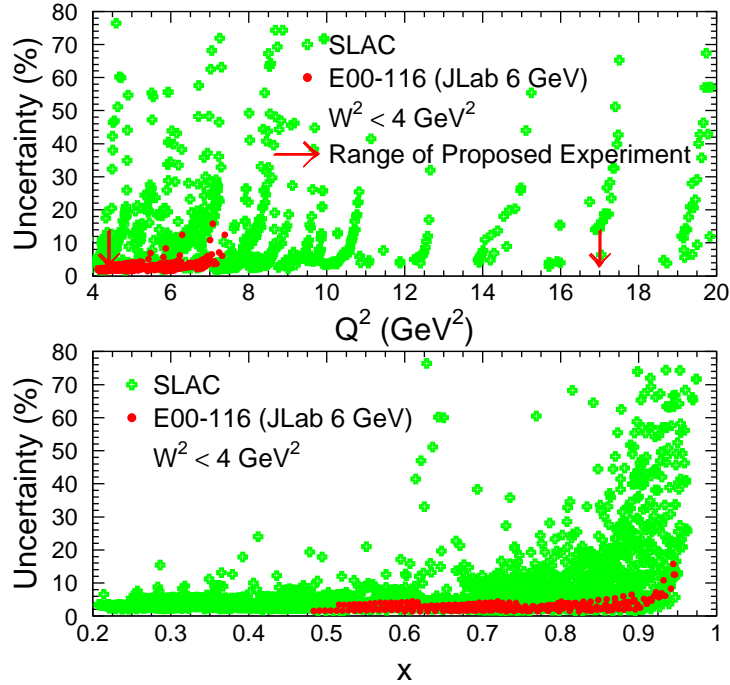


FIG. 5: Uncertainties from SLAC (green) and JLAB experiment E00-116 (red) as a function of Q^2 (top panel) and x (bottom panel) in the region $W^2 < 4 \text{ GeV}^2$. The arrows on the top panel indicate the Q^2 coverage of the proposed experiment. The statistical uncertainties for the proposed measurements are expected to be similar or better than those of the lower energy run E00-116.

TABLE I: The kinematics for the proposed experiment at a beam energy of 11 GeV. For the momentum E' the central value is given.

SHMS					HMS				
$\theta(\text{deg})$	$E'(\text{GeV})$	x	$Q^2(\text{GeV}^2)$	time(h)	$\theta(\text{deg})$	$E'(\text{GeV}/c)$	x	$Q^2((\text{GeV})^2)$	time(h)
17	6.01	0.33-0.97	4.13-6.88	0.5 (H)	17	6.73	0.40-0.97	4.65-6.92	0.75 (H)
	4.72			0.5 (D)		5.95			0.75 (D)
20	5.32	0.38-0.97	5.08-8.46	0.5 (H)	42	2.54	0.50-0.99	8.90-15.33	31 (H)
	4.21			0.5 (D)		2.22			16 (D)
						1.95			
						1.71			
25	4.33	0.43-0.98	6.43-10.69	1 (H)	55	1.70	0.54-0.99	10.02-17.02	100 (H)
	3.43			1 (D)		1.50			50 (D)
						1.32			
						1.16			
30	3.53	0.47-0.98	7.50-12.48	4 (H)					
	2.80			4 (D)					
35	2.91	0.50-0.98	8.34-13.88	8.3 (H)					
	2.30			8.3 (D)					

Besides the two cryogenic targets, hydrogen and deuterium, we will also take data on an aluminum empty (dummy) target for background measurements (background originating from the aluminum endcaps of the cryogenic targets) and on a carbon foil target for determination of the beam offsets with respect to the target.

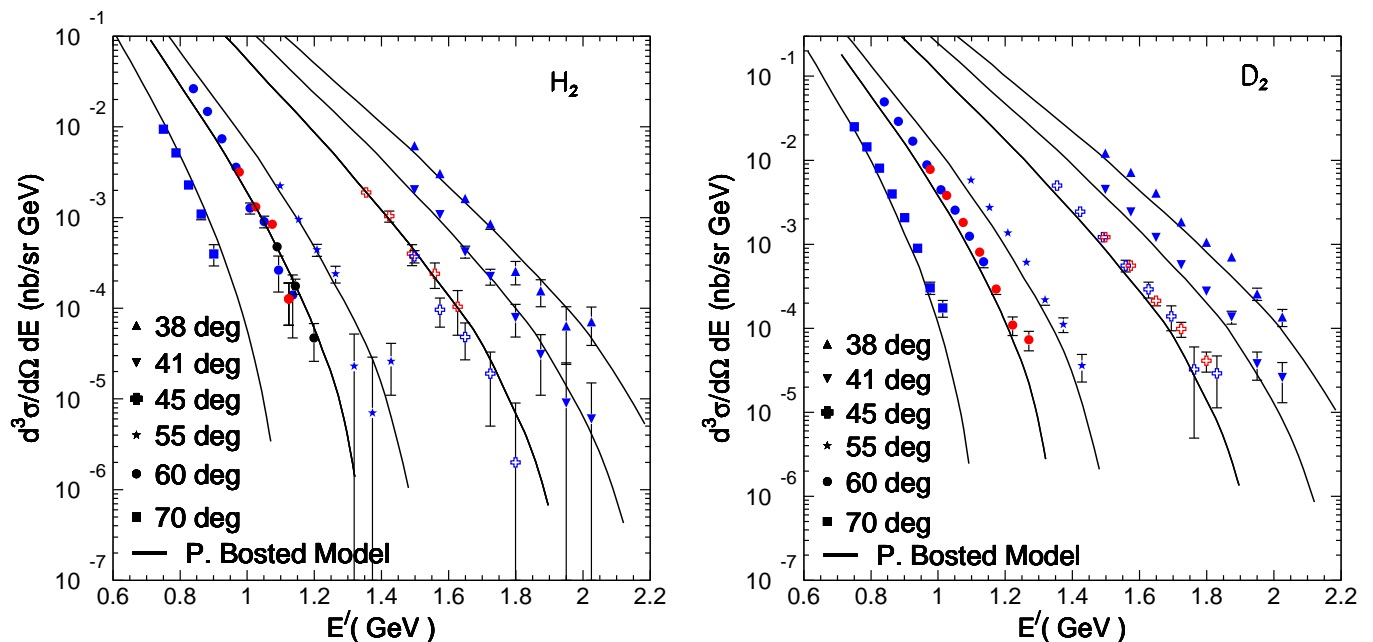


FIG. 6: The measured positron cross section on hydrogen (left) and deuterium (right) as a function of momentum compared to the model of P. Bosted [24] for the E00-116 running.

B. Backgrounds

The proposed experiment is, from a technical point of view, a straightforward extension of the the lower energy measurements of inclusive scattering from hydrogen and deuterium targets [12]. The main sources of background are the electrons scattered on the walls of the cryogenic target cell, the pion contamination of the electron distribution and the charge symmetric background. The background coming from the target walls is measured taking data for each setting on an empty (dummy) target. In a previous run (experiment E00-116 [12]) the pion contamination was at most 0.5% for the hydrogen target at a momentum of the scattered electron of 0.8 GeV and up to 1.7% for the deuterium target at the same kinematics. The main limitation for this lower energy run was the pion rejection in the calorimeter when the scattered electron is at low momentum. For the proposed kinematics the minimum scattered electron energy is higher, 1.2 GeV in HMS and 2.3 GeV in SHMS. The pion rejection should be sufficient for the proposed kinematics.

The main source of background from secondary electrons produced in the target is the production of neutral pions that decay into $\gamma\gamma$ or $e^+e^-\gamma$. The photons can further convert into e^+e^- pairs in the target materials or in the materials preceding the detectors. This background being charge-symmetric can be measured directly by changing the polarity of the spectrometers to positive and measuring the produced positrons. For the previous run [12] this background was measured and studied extensively. The positron cross section was determined and then subtracted from the measured electron cross section. The highest contribution of this background to the measured electron cross section was found to be of the order of 15% at an angle of 70°, a momentum of the scattered electron of 0.8 GeV and a beam energy of 5.5 GeV. A comparison of the measured positron cross section from the previous run to a model developed by P. Bosted [24] is shown in Fig. 6. This model uses a fit to the charged pion production data accumulated at SLAC [25]. The neutral pion production is estimated as an average of the positive- and negative-pion production. The positron cross section is calculated using the decay branching ratios for a neutral pion and the radiation length of the material where a photon that results from the decay can produce e^+e^- pairs. It was found that this model describes fairly well the momentum dependence of the positron cross section for both hydrogen and deuterium targets for the 5.5 GeV run. For the hydrogen target, the model reproduces the data quantitatively as well in most cases, while for the deuterium target a slight underestimation of the data was observed.

We used the same model to estimate the possible contribution of the charge symmetric background to the proposed measurements for both hydrogen and deuterium targets and the results are shown in Figs. 7 and 8. The largest contribution of the charge-symmetric background is expected at 55° and the lowest momentum and is estimated to be of the order of 11% for the hydrogen target and of 15% for deuterium. By 42° the contribution drops to about 2% while for the next largest angle, namely 35° is below 1%. Considering that the model we use has not been tested

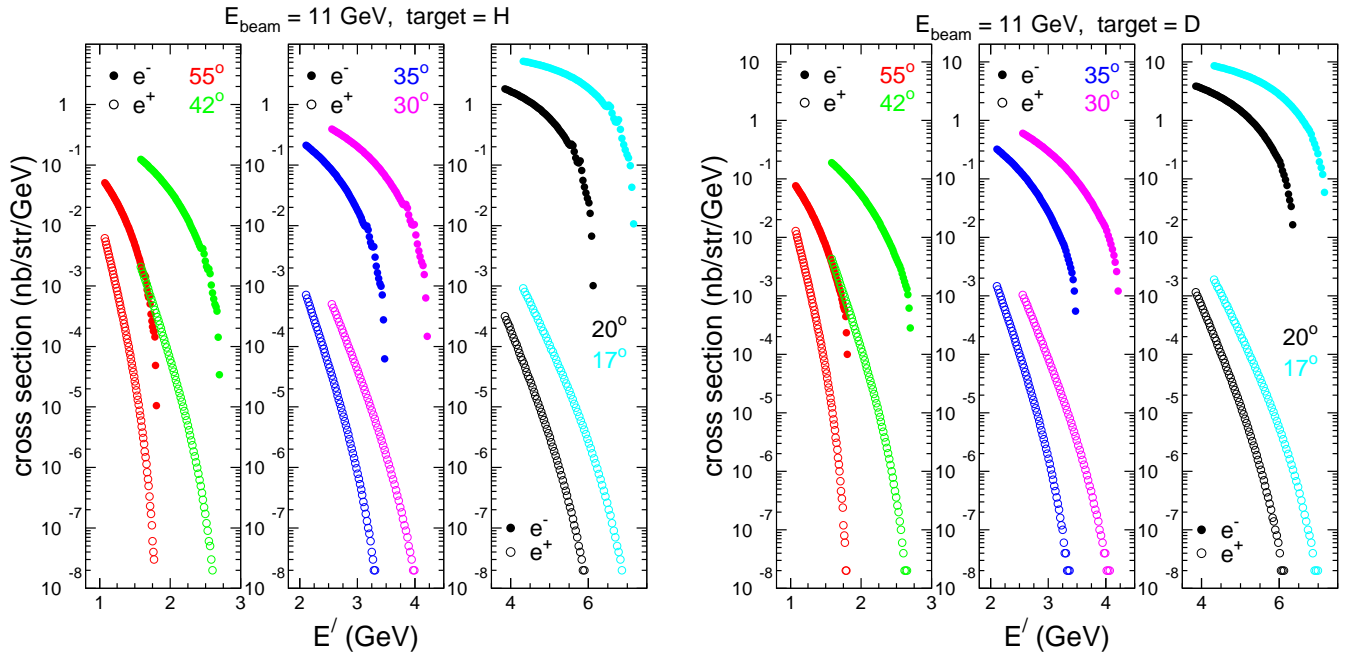


FIG. 7: The positron cross section on hydrogen (left) and deuterium (right) as a function of momentum calculated using the model of P. Bosted [24] for the proposed kinematics.

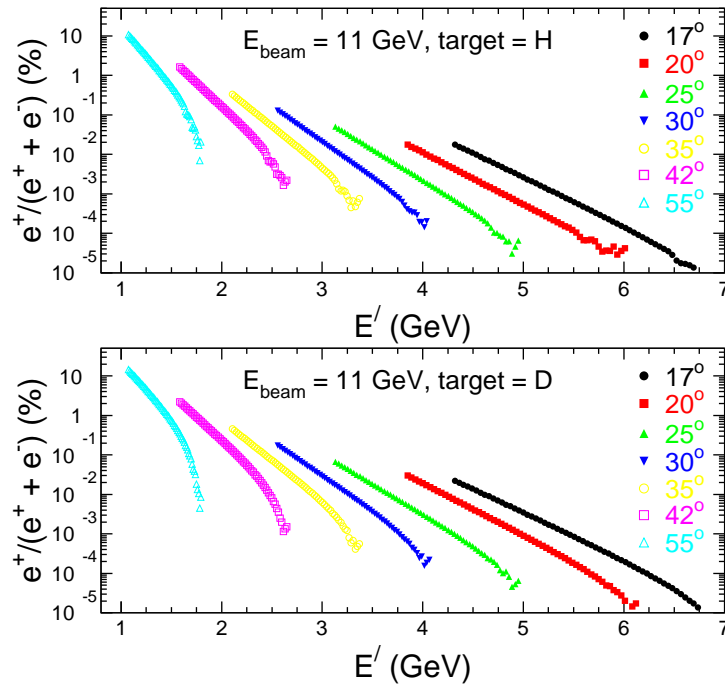


FIG. 8: The ratio of positron cross section to the sum of the positron and electron cross sections produced using the model of P. Bosted [24] for the proposed kinematics.

TABLE II: Point-to-point systematic uncertainties in the experimental parameters and the corresponding systematic uncertainties in the differential cross section for the E00-116 running.

Quantity	Uncertainty	$\delta_\sigma(\%)$
Beam Energy	5×10^{-4}	0.30%
Scattered e' Energy	5×10^{-4}	0.25%
Scattered e' Angle	0.2 mrad	0.26%
Beam Charge	0.05%	0.05%
Dead time	0.25%	0.25%
Trigger Efficiency	0.2%	0.2%
Tracking Efficiency	0.2%	0.2%
PID cut efficiency	0.25%	0.25%
Pion Cont. Subtraction	0.2%	0.2%
Charge-Symmetric Background	6% - 20%	<2%
Acceptance Correction	0.8%	0.8%
Radiative Corrections	0.5%-3.6%	0.5%-3.6%
Model dependence	0.2%-5%	0.2%-5%

at these energies we plan to measure the charge-symmetric background not only at 55° and 42° but also at the next two largest angle settings, namely 35° and 30° , even if the contribution of this background is estimated to be at the sub-percent level.

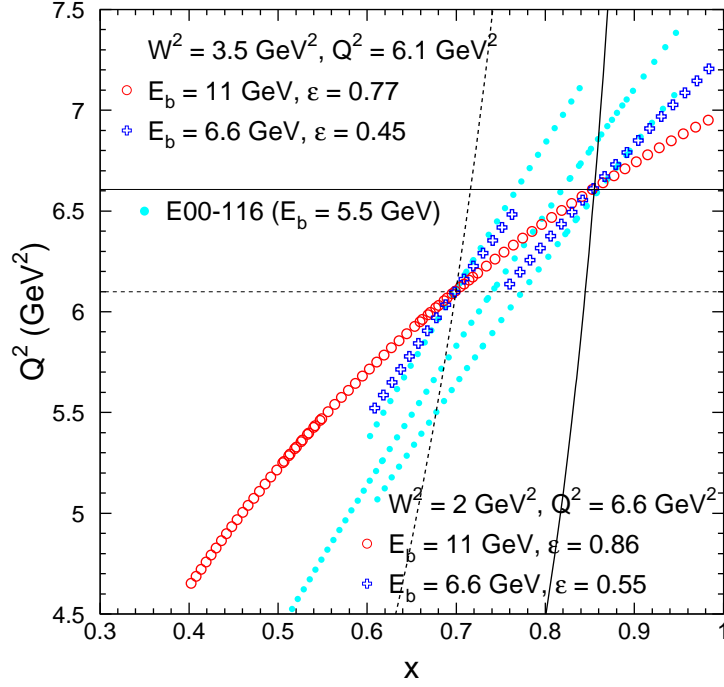
C. Systematic Errors

An overview of the point-to-point systematic uncertainties of the cross sections from the previous E00-116 run is given in Table 2. The largest contributions to the total uncertainties came from the charge-symmetric background subtraction, the model dependence of the extracted cross section and the radiative corrections. For the most part, the uncertainty of the charge-symmetric background subtraction originated from the fact that the electron data, both the scattered and the background electrons, were taken with a different spectrometer (HMS) than the positron data (SOS). The SOS spectrometer had a larger momentum acceptance than the HMS and, to minimize running time, the central momentum settings at a fixed angle were not matched in the two spectrometers. Thus the model of P. Bosted [24] was used to center the positron cross section at the kinematics of the scattered electron cross section and this introduced an uncertainty in the background extraction at the largest angles, namely 60° and 70° [12]. For the proposed experiment the electrons and positrons will be measured at the same kinematics and with the same spectrometer and we expect the uncertainty to be greatly reduced.

Part of the uncertainty of the radiative corrections came from the elastic/quasielastic subtraction, namely how well known was the elastic/quasielastic model used to obtain the inelastic cross section from the measured one. For the kinematics of the previous run the elastic contribution was negligible and only the quasielastic part was significant enough to contribute to the total uncertainty. For most part, the proposed measurements will cover a kinematic region (high Q^2) where both the elastic and the quasielastic contributions to the total cross section are expected to be small to negligible thus a reduction in this uncertainty is possible. The uncertainty originating from the model dependence of the cross section (models are used for bin-centering corrections, radiative corrections) was for most of the kinematic regime ($W^2 > 2 \text{ GeV}^2$) studied during the previous run within 1% and grew to lower W^2 due to lack of well constrained models in that particular region.

There is an additional uncertainty in the extraction of F_2 from the cross section due to the uncertainty in $R = \sigma_L/\sigma_T$. For the previous run this was estimated to be of the order of 2%. For cross section measurements at fixed ϵ the fractional uncertainty on the extracted F_2 depends on the uncertainty on R as $\delta F_2/F_2 \sim \delta R \cdot (1 - \epsilon)$. Since $F_2 \sim \sigma_T + \sigma_L$ and one measures $\sigma_T + \epsilon \cdot \sigma_L$, this is simply the error in extrapolating a straight line with slope R ($\ll 1$) to the value at $\epsilon = 1$. Giving the decreasing value of R with increasing Q^2 we expect $R \sim 0.15$ for the kinematic range proposed, based on previous data at both smaller Q^2 (same W^2) and the same Q^2 (but larger W^2). Even if one were to assume an uncertainty on this estimation of 100%, i.e. $\delta R = 0.15$, the corresponding uncertainty in the extracted F_2 at $\epsilon = 0.77$ is only $\delta F_2/F_2 = 0.15 \cdot (1 - 0.77) = 3.4\%$. This uncertainty can be cut in half by even a modest 50% determination of R which can be accomplished by a measurement at a lower ϵ provided by an additional beam energy. The kinematics of choice for a determination of R are displayed in Fig. 9 and details are presented in Table 3.

These measurements will be performed with HMS. As seen in Fig. 9, data from the previous E00-116 run could additionally be used for checks of R . The point $(W^2, Q^2) = (3.5, 6.1) \text{ GeV}^2$ will provide the opportunity to cross check our measured R with that extracted from SLAC data (R from the parametrization $R1998$ [26]) while the other

FIG. 9: Proposed kinematics for a determination of R .TABLE III: Kinematics proposed for a determination of R .

$W^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2, Q^2 = 6.6 \text{ GeV}^2$					$W^2 = 3.5 \text{ GeV}^2, Q^2 = 6.1 \text{ GeV}^2$				
E_{beam}	$\theta(\text{deg})$	$E'(\text{GeV})$	ϵ	time(h)	$\theta(\text{deg})$	$E'(\text{GeV}/c)$	ϵ	time(h)	
6.6	37.1	1.49	0.55	0.75	40.3	1.95	0.45	0.75	

(W^2, Q^2) point will provide R in a region where, currently, no such measurements are available.

D. Request to laboratory

The runtimes for the hydrogen and deuterium targets are listed in Table 1 assuming a current of $40\mu\text{A}$, a 10cm length target and that the commissioning of the spectrometers has been done. The total runtime for the cryogenic targets is 229 hours, including positive polarity measurements of the charge-symmetric background. The total beam time request is summarized in Table 4. This includes time for empty target measurements, target boiling studies, BCM calibration and beam spot monitoring, hydrogen elastics and commissioning time. The total beamtime request adds up to 314 hours or 13 days.

E. Technical Participation of Research Groups

The lead institutions for this proposal are Hampton University, James Madison University and the University of South Carolina. The group at Hampton University has the responsibility of building the wire chambers for SHMS, the group at James Madison University plans to build the hodoscopes for SHMS and the group at the University of South Carolina will participate in commissioning.

TABLE IV: Beam time request for the proposed experiment.

Activity	time (hours)
Hydrogen and Deuterium running	229
Empty (dummy) target running	20
Hydrogen elastics	5
Target boiling studies	8
Configuration change	10
BCM calibration	4
Beam spot monitoring	4
R measurements	10
Detector checkout	24
Total	314 (\sim 13 days)

IV. SUMMARY

We propose to measure $H(e, e')$ and $D(e, e')$ inclusive cross sections in the resonance region and beyond for a precise extraction of the F_2 structure function at large Bjorken x , up to 0.99, and intermediate four-momentum transferred squared Q^2 , up to about 17 GeV². These data would provide a good coverage of the large x and intermediate Q^2 region where very few measurements exist, some with large statistical uncertainties. The proposed measurements will allow the study of the transition from perturbative to non-perturbative degrees of freedom, and will contribute to a precise determination of large- x quark distributions, which is one of the milestones (HP14) for the 12 GeV upgrade.

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Applications of quark-hadron duality in the F_2 structure function

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Inclusive electron-proton and electron-deuteron inelastic cross sections have been measured at Jefferson Lab (JLab) in the resonance region, at large Bjorken x , up to 0.92, and four-momentum transfer squared Q^2 up to 7.5 GeV^2 in the experiment E00-116. These measurements are used to extend to larger x and Q^2 precision, quantitative, studies of the phenomenon of quark-hadron duality. Our analysis confirms, both globally and locally, the apparent “violation” of quark-hadron duality previously observed at a Q^2 of 3.5 GeV^2 when resonance data are compared to structure function data created from CTEQ6M and MRST2004 parton distribution functions (PDFs). More importantly, our new data show that this discrepancy saturates by $Q^2 \sim 4 \text{ GeV}^2$, becoming Q^2 independent. This suggests only small violations of Q^2 evolution by contributions from the higher-twist terms in the resonance region that is confirmed by our comparisons to ALEKHIN and ALLM97. We conclude that the unconstrained strength of the CTEQ6M and MRST2004 PDFs at large x is the major source of the disagreement between data and these parametrizations in the kinematic regime we study and that, in view of quark-hadron duality, properly averaged resonance region data could be used in global quantum chromodynamics fits to reduce PDF uncertainties at large x .

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I. INTRODUCTION

To understand how quantum chromodynamics (QCD) works remains one of the great challenges in nuclear physics

today. The challenge arises from the fact that the degrees of freedom observed in nature, hadrons and nuclei, are not the same as the ones appearing in the QCD Lagrangian, quarks, and gluons. The challenge is then to formulate a connection between the description of hard, or short-distance, scattering processes that can be calculated perturbatively in terms of quark and gluon degrees of freedom and their weak couplings, and soft, or long-distance, scattering processes, where the

*Deceased.

†Deceased.

physical asymptotic states are prominent and the quarks and gluons interact strongly.

Given these strong quark-gluon interactions, or the large value of the strong coupling constant α_s , the spectra of the asymptotic hadron states are not calculable within a perturbative QCD (pQCD) framework and are difficult to directly connect to the underlying quark-gluon or parton dynamics. Yet, several instances exist in nature where the behavior of low-energy scattering cross sections, averaged over appropriate energy intervals, closely coincide with asymptotically high-energy scattering cross sections, calculated in terms of quark-gluon degrees of freedom. This phenomenon is referred to as *quark-hadron duality* and may be a general property of quantum field theories with inherent weak and strong coupling limits, with QCD as a prime example.

The observation of a nontrivial relationship between inclusive electron–nucleon scattering cross sections at low energy, in the region dominated by the nucleon resonances, and that in the deep inelastic scaling regime at high energy predates QCD itself. While analyzing the data from the early deep-inelastic-scattering experiments at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC), Bloom and Gilman observed [1,2] that the inclusive structure function at low hadronic final state mass, W , generally follows a global scaling curve that describes high- W data and to which the resonance structure function averages. Following the development of QCD in the early 1970s, the Bloom-Gilman duality was reformulated in terms of an operator product (*twist*) expansion of moments of the structure functions [3,4]. This allowed a systematic classification of terms responsible for duality and its violations in terms of so-called *higher-twist* operators that describe long-range interactions between quarks and gluons. However, this description could not explain *why* particular multiparton correlations were suppressed and *how* the physics of resonances gave way to scaling [5].

Since then, with the development of high-luminosity beams at modern accelerator facilities such as the Jefferson Lab (JLab), a wealth of new information on structure functions, with unprecedented accuracy and over a wide range of kinematics, has become available. One of the striking findings of the new JLab data [5–7] is that Bloom-Gilman duality appears to work exceedingly well, down to Q^2 values as low as 1 GeV² or even below. This is considerably lower than previously believed and well into the region where α_s is relatively large. Furthermore, the equivalence of the averaged resonance and scaling structure functions appeared to hold for each resonance, over restricted regions in W , so the resonance-scaling duality holds also locally. It was also found that quark-hadron duality manifests itself in the separated proton transverse (F_1^p) and longitudinal (F_L^p) structure functions.

The more recent JLab resonance structure-function studies have revealed an important application of duality: if the workings of the resonance–deep inelastic interplay are sufficiently well understood, the region of high Bjorken- x ($x \gtrsim 0.7$, where x is the longitudinal momentum fraction of the hadron carried by the parton in the infinite momentum frame) would become accessible to quantitative studies. This region remains largely unexplored experimentally due to the requirement of high-energy beams with sufficiently high luminosity.

The $x \rightarrow 1$ region is an important testing ground for nonperturbative and perturbative mechanisms underpinning valence quark dynamics and is vital to map out if we hope to achieve a complete description of nucleon structure. Data from the nucleon resonance region, where quark-hadron duality has been established, could be used to better constrain QCD parametrizations of parton distribution functions (PDFs), from which also the hadronic backgrounds in high-energy collisions are computed [8]. The large- x region also constitutes an appreciable amount of the moments of polarized and unpolarized structure functions, especially for the higher moments. It is precisely these moments that can be calculated from first principles in QCD on the lattice [9], in terms of matrix elements of local operators.

Note that, because the x dependence of structure functions cannot be calculated on the lattice directly, one cannot easily use the lattice to learn about the degree to which duality holds locally. Indeed, the ability to calculate a leading-twist moment on the lattice implicitly uses quark-hadron duality to average the resonance contributions to a smooth, scaling function.

In this article, we quantitatively study the application of quark-hadron duality to access parton dynamics in the region of large x , up to $x \sim 0.9$. For this, we accumulated a series of inclusive electron-proton and electron-deuteron scattering data in the nucleon resonance region ($W^2 < 4 \text{ GeV}^2$) at the highest momentum transfers accessible at JLab. These data are at values of Q^2 far above where duality was quantitatively found to be valid in previous JLab experiments. The extracted F_2 structure-function data are also compared with various state-of-the-art parametrizations of F_2 world data to improve our understanding of parton dynamics at large values of Bjorken x .

The article is structured in five sections. Section II summarizes techniques of modeling the dynamics of the nucleon in terms of structure functions computed from PDFs and examines in detail few representative parametrizations of the nucleon F_2 structure function focusing on the large x region. Section III is an overview of the experimental apparatus utilized to collect these experimental data and of the analysis steps taken to extract the cross section and the F_2 structure function. In Sec. IV we present our studies of the application of quark-hadron duality to gain insight in the parton dynamics at large x . In Sec. V we draw conclusions.

II. F_2 PARAMETRIZATIONS AT LARGE BJORKEN x

The purpose of this section is to give an overview of the techniques typically employed to map out the dynamics of the nucleon via structure functions. This discussion points out the importance, but also the difficulty, of obtaining a parametrization of the F_2 structure function for the entire kinematic range. In particular, the exclusion of data in regions where the perturbative QCD mechanisms are not the only ones expected to contribute greatly limits the applicability of these parametrizations and also our knowledge of the nucleon structure. In this context, quark-hadron duality might be the tool that could open kinematic regions not easily accessible otherwise to detailed studies. Four representative parametrizations

will be examined in detail with an emphasis on the large x region: ALLM97 [10], CTEQ6M [11], MRST2004 [12], and ALEKHIN [13,14]. These parametrizations were used in our duality studies that will be presented in Sec. IV.

Last, the parametrization of the structure function F_2^p from Bourrely *et al.* [15] will also be considered. This parametrization is obtained from parton distribution functions constructed in a statistical physical picture of the nucleon, where the nucleon is viewed as a gas of massless partons (quarks, antiquarks, and gluons) in equilibrium at a given temperature in a finite size volume. The x dependence of the parton distributions is chosen to correspond to a Fermi-Dirac distribution for quarks and antiquarks and to a Bose-Einstein distribution for gluons. The parametrization involves a total of eight free parameters that are constrained by fitting high W^2 data from various experiments: NMC, BCDMS, E665, ZEUS, CCFR. A comparison of F_2^p from Bourrely *et al.* to results from CTEQ6M and ALLM97 will be shown in Sec. IV.

A. Empirical parameterization of F_2^p : ALLM97

ALLM97, proposed as an update of ALLM [16] published in 1991, is a Regge-motivated parametrization extended to the large Q^2 regime in a way compatible with QCD expectations. The data set used to obtain the ALLM97 fit coefficients included all γ^*p measurements published up to 1997, with $W^2 > 3 \text{ GeV}^2$, and covering a wide range in Q^2 , $0 \leq Q^2 \leq 5000 \text{ GeV}^2$. The ALLM97 fit function has a total of 23 parameters, half of which are needed for the description of the low W^2 (high x) region where higher-

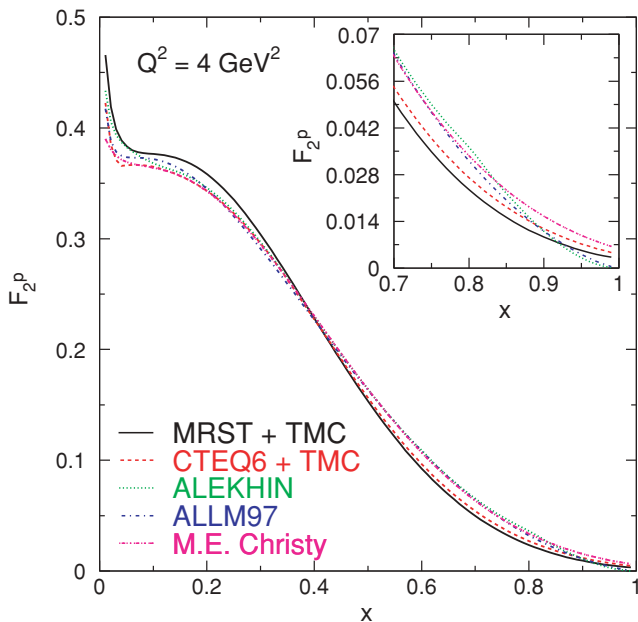


FIG. 1. (Color online) Existing F_2^p parametrizations at a Q^2 value of 4 GeV^2 . CTEQ6M [11], MRST2004 [12], ALLM97 [10], and ALEKHIN [13,14] were used for the quark-hadron duality studies presented in Sec. IV. Target mass corrections were added to CTEQ6M and MRST2004 (see text). The M. E. Christy [17] parametrization is shown for comparison.

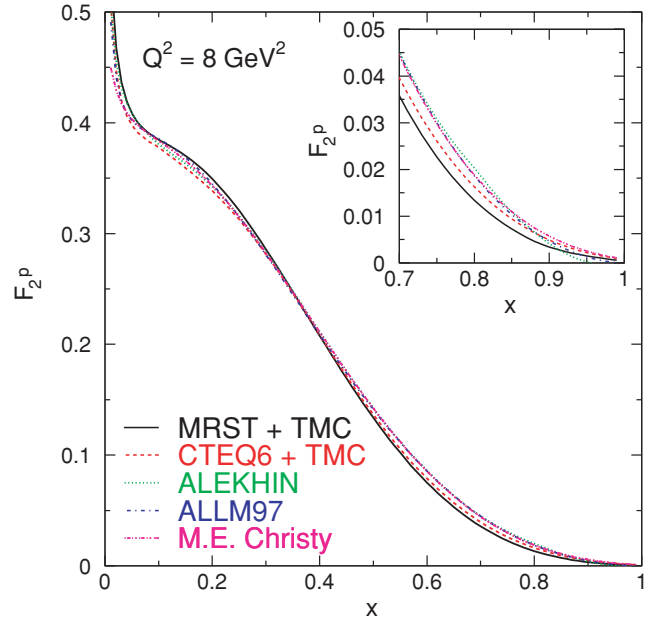


FIG. 2. (Color online) Existing F_2^p parametrizations at a Q^2 value of 8 GeV^2 . CTEQ6M [11], MRST2004 [12], ALLM97 [10], and ALEKHIN [13,14] were used for the quark-hadron duality studies presented in Sec. IV. Target mass corrections were added to CTEQ6M and MRST2004 (see text). The M. E. Christy [17] parametrization is shown for comparison.

twist terms are expected to be important. There are two important aspects to be noted in relation to the behavior of the ALLM97 parametrization at large x (see Figs. 1 and 2). On the one hand, the data set used to obtain the fit coefficients is selected with a rather low W^2 cut. Thus, it is expected that, if duality holds *globally*, the extrapolation of ALLM97 below W^2 of 3 GeV^2 in the resonance region will work reasonably well, *on average*. On the other hand, ALLM97 being an empirical fit, some of its shortcomings, like unconstrained x and Q^2 dependence or inability to fully account for target mass effects, will become obvious as we probe kinematic regimes outside its domain of applicability. This will most likely be revealed in a clear manner when extrapolating to low W^2 regions.

B. QCD parameterization of F_2^p

Starting from two basic ideas of pQCD, *factorization* and *evolution*, the F_2^p structure function can be calculated from PDFs extracted from hard-scattering data [18]. The theorem of factorization of long-distance from short-distance dependence in deep inelastic scattering (DIS) allows for the structure function to be expressed as a generalization of the parton model results:

$$F_2^{\gamma p}(x, Q^2) = \sum_{i=f,\bar{f},G} \int_0^1 d\xi C_2^{\gamma i} \left[\frac{x}{\xi}, \alpha_s(Q^2) \right] \times \phi_{i/p}(\xi, Q^2), \quad (1)$$

where i denotes a sum over all partons (quarks, antiquarks, and gluons) inside the proton, $C_2^{\gamma i}$ are coefficient functions *independent* of the long-distance effects while $\phi_{i/p}$ are parton

distributions sensitive to the nonperturbative, long-distance effects inside the proton [19]. The evolution, on the other hand, enables the systematic, perturbative computation of logarithmic scale-braking effects and ensures that measuring $F_2^{\gamma p}(x, Q^2)$ is enough to predict not only $F_2^{\gamma p}(x, Q^2)$ but also $F_2^{\gamma p}(x, Q'^2)$ for all Q'^2 , assuming that both Q^2 and Q'^2 are large enough that a perturbative expansion in α_s is still appropriate. This is typically done by using the DGLAP evolution equations to evolve the parton distributions:

$$Q^2 \frac{d}{dQ^2} \phi_{i/p}(x, Q^2) = \sum_{j=f, \bar{f}, G} \int_x^1 \frac{d\xi}{\xi} P_{ij} \left[\frac{x}{\xi}, \alpha_s(Q^2) \right] \times \phi_{j/p}(\xi, Q^2), \quad (2)$$

where P_{ij} are the evolution kernels (splitting functions) given by a perturbative expansion in α_s , beginning with the leading order (LO) $O(\alpha_s)$ but also calculable to higher orders, next-to-leading order (NLO), or next-to-next-leading order (NNLO). The kernels have the physical interpretation as probability densities of obtaining a parton of type i from one of type j carrying a fraction of the parent parton's momentum.

Thus, the three basic quantities are the coefficient functions $C_2^{(\gamma i)}$, the evolution kernels P_{ij} , and the PDFs $\phi_{i/p}$. Of these, the first two are computed perturbatively as power series in α_s . The physical nonperturbative parton distributions are extracted by combining theory and experiment and performing QCD fits. In a typical QCD fitting procedure the x dependence of the parton distributions is parameterized at some low scale, Q_0^2 , where higher-order corrections in α_s are expected to be negligible, and then a fixed order (either LO or NLO or NNLO) DGLAP evolution is performed to specify the distributions at higher scales where data exist. A global fit to the data then determines the parameters of the input distributions. There is considerable freedom in choosing the parametric form of the parton distributions at scale Q_0^2 [18]. The parametrization should be general enough to accommodate all possible x . A typical choice is:

$$\phi(x, Q_0^2) = A_0 x^{A_1} (1-x)^{A_2} P(x), \quad (3)$$

where $P(x)$ is a smooth function of x , x^{A_1} and $(1-x)^{A_2}$ determines the small and large x behavior, respectively, and $A_{0,1,2}$ are coefficients to be determined from fits to data.

When performing QCD fits, there are several conceptual difficulties to take into account. First, a QCD analysis of F_2 measurements involves the use of the gluon distribution that is, *a priori*, unknown. In fact, the gluon distribution is the most uncertain of the PDFs and is particularly ill-determined for $x > 0.3$, with uncertainties reaching 200% by $x = 0.5$ [11]. This in turn translates in an uncertainty in the α_s determination from QCD analysis of PDFs because there is a correlation between the *hardness* of the gluon and the magnitude of Λ_{QCD} , the quantity which sets the scale for α_s [20]. The $x F_3$ measurements should be able to provide a precise value of Λ_{QCD} because the gluon distribution does not enter into the evolution. However, the experimental uncertainties of $x F_3$ are still larger than those of F_2 and discrepancies in extracting $x F_3$ were observed between different experiments in the region of $x > 0.4$ [21].

It should be pointed out that a standard QCD analysis of PDFs does not take into account all residual Q^2 effects arising, for example, from higher-order radiative corrections in α_s or/and nonperturbative higher-twist corrections. In particular, the higher-twist terms are nonfactorizable and process dependent and QCD has no rigorous prescription to account for it. As a result, most PDFs extractions are performed using *safe* kinematic cuts for data selection to exclude regions where higher-twist or/and higher-order corrections in α_s play an important role. A typical set of cuts employed to select data for fitting is $Q^2 > 2 \text{ GeV}^2$ and $W^2 > 12 \text{ GeV}^2$ (this type of W^2 cut rejects the whole resonance region). Limiting the data coverage to a particular range in Q^2 and W^2 will result in a limitation in the x coverage. For example, for a fixed Q^2 , a W^2 cut of $W^2 > W_{\text{lim}}^2$ will limit the x range to $x < Q^2 / (W_{\text{lim}}^2 - M^2 + Q^2)$. Considering that the x dependence of the PDFs is parameterized empirically, as exemplified in Eq. (3), and that the parametrization coefficients are extracted from fits to data, these data selection cuts, though they make possible the extraction of PDFs without the complications specified above, yield to unconstrained strengths of the PDFs at large x [11].

To date, the large experimental uncertainties in the large x regime, when excluding the low W^2 data, prevent answers to basic questions as to why the d quark distribution appears to be *softer* than the u quark distribution. For the same reason, the d/u behavior at large x , a critical test of the mechanism of spin-flavor symmetry breaking, is highly unconstrained. Furthermore, knowledge of PDFs at large x is essential for determining high-energy cross sections at collider energies such as in search of new physics beyond the Standard Model, where structure information at large x feeds down through perturbative Q^2 evolution to lower x and higher values of Q^2 [5]. Thus, it is of paramount importance to decrease the uncertainties in the extraction of PDFs by deriving the parametrizations directly from data without resorting to theoretical assumptions alone for the extrapolation to $x \sim 1$.

Extending to larger x at a finite Q^2 means encountering the resonance region. An important consequence of duality is that the resonance and deep inelastic regions are deeply connected and properly averaged resonance region data could facilitate our understanding of the deep inelastic region. In some of the QCD analysis performed, the higher-twist terms have been extracted from data selected with a kinematic cut of $W^2 > 10 \text{ GeV}^2$ [14,22,23]. However, it was shown in several analyses [24,25] that only a relatively small higher-twist contribution consistent with the one obtained in Refs. [14,22,23] would be necessary to describe the entire F_2 structure-function spectrum. Indeed, S. Liuti *et al.* analyzed resonance region data within a fixed- W^2 framework. This study found that the higher-twist contributions in the resonance region are similar to those from $W^2 > 10 \text{ GeV}^2$, with the exception of Δ region where the effects seem to be larger. This is in no way surprising if one thinks of it as a consequence of quark-hadron duality that ensures that, on average, higher-twists are small or cancel. As a consequence of duality, the wealth of resonance region data could be used to access the large x region and constrain the PDFs in this regime. This approach, however, requires a very good understanding of the Q^2 dependence of the data in

these kinematic regions of x and Q^2 where the perturbative evolution is no more the only mechanism responsible for the Q^2 behavior.

Figures 1 and 2 depict three pQCD parametrizations of the F_2 structure function at two Q^2 values, 4 and 8 GeV², with a zoom-in of the large- x region. The CTEQ6M parametrization shown is a QCD fit to hard scattering and DIS data (BCDMS, NMC, CCFR, E605, CDF, H1, ZEUS, D0) with $Q^2 > 4$ GeV² and $W^2 > 12.25$ GeV². The x dependence of the PDFs is parameterized at a Q^2 of 1.3 GeV² and then the QCD evolution equations are used to evolve the distributions at higher Q^2 in the NLO (and LO). The authors employed the twist-2 pQCD formalism so the kinematic cuts used for data selection were tested to ensure that the introduction of simple phenomenological higher twist terms would not improve significantly the quality of the fit. The CTEQ6M fit shown in Figs. 1 and 2 is obtained in the \overline{MS} (modified minimal subtraction) factorization scheme. One of the main improvements over earlier CTEQ fits is the addition to the global set of data of new measurements (H1, ZEUS, D0) that provide better constraints on the PDFs, in general, and on the gluon distribution at large x , the result being a harder gluon distribution in this region. The other noteworthy improvement is the full treatment of uncertainties of the PDFs and their physical predictions, using an eigenvector-basis approach.

The MRST2004 parametrization is a QCD fit to a wide set of deep inelastic and related hard-scattering data (BCDMS, SLAC, NMC, CCFR, CDF, H1, ZEUS, HERA, D0) with $Q^2 > 2$ GeV² and $W^2 > 12.5$ GeV². The x dependence of the PDFs is parameterized at Q^2 of 1 GeV² and a fixed order, LO or NLO or NNLO, QCD evolution is performed to specify the distributions at larger Q^2 where data exist. A global fit to the data then determines the parameters of the input distributions. Though the fits are performed in the standard \overline{MS} scheme, the gluon distribution is parameterized in the DIS (deep inelastic scattering) factorization scheme and then transformed to the \overline{MS} scheme. Together with more precise calculations of the splitting functions up to NNLO, this is actually the main improvement over earlier MRST fits (MRST2001 [26]). Indeed, the NLO global analysis with this new gluon parametrization appears to work extremely well when compared to Tevatron jet data and is even better for the NNLO fit. This objective could not be accomplished by previous MRST parametrizations.

Both CTEQ6M and MRST2004 are shown here with target mass corrections (TMC) included according to Ref. [27]. CTEQ6M has more strength at large x than MRST2004. For most part, this discrepancy originates from the fact that the two groups use different functional forms for the parametrization of the nonperturbative input parton distributions and neither parametrization is constrained by measurements in the large x regime.

The ALEKHIN parametrization shown in Figs. 1 and 2 is an update of an earlier parametrization [14], the significant improvement being the use of recent calculations of the exact NNLO evolution kernel. The data used were from SLAC, BCDMS, NMC, HERA, H1, and ZEUS with kinematic cuts of $Q^2 > 2.5$ GeV², $W^2 > 3.24$ GeV², and $x < 0.75$. The model for the data description was based on pQCD with

phenomenological parametrization of the twist-2 and higher-twist contributions to the structure functions. The analysis was performed in the \overline{MS} scheme with the number of flavors fixed at 3. The twist-2 PDFs were parameterized at $Q^2 = 9$ GeV². The pQCD analysis was done up to NNLO. Given the rather low W^2 cut used to select the data set, ALEKHIN parametrization includes, in addition to the typical parameters of pQCD, parameters to account for the target mass and dynamical higher-twist effects. This is a novelty, considering the standard procedure of performing QCD fits. The higher-twist contributions to the structure function were parameterized in additive form:

$$F_2 = F_2^{\text{LT,TMC}} + \frac{H_2(x)}{Q^2}, \quad (4)$$

where $F_2^{\text{LT,TMC}}$ has contributions from the twist-2 terms with target mass corrections included according to Ref. [27] and the dynamical twist-4 term $H_2(x)$ is parameterized in a model-independent way as a piece-linear function of x . The use of the exact NNLO corrections made possible an improvement in the positivity of the gluon distributions extrapolated to small x and Q : in this parametrization the gluon distributions are positive up to $Q^2 = 1$ GeV², i.e., throughout the kinematic region where the parton model proved to be applicable. Because the ALEKHIN parametrization is based on fits to data with lower W^2 than CTEQ6M and MRST2004, its PDFs are expected to be better constrained at large x .

C. Parameterizations of F_2^d

The parametrizations discussed above provide parton distribution functions from which the nucleon structure function can be constructed in a QCD framework. ALLM97 is a fit to just the nucleon (proton) structure function. To construct the structure function for a nucleon inside a nucleus substantial additional challenges need to be overcome. There are a host of well-documented issues in extracting nucleon structure functions from nuclear data, even from deuterium data (see, for instance, Refs. [28–32]). At large x in particular, the effects of Fermi motion, nuclear binding, the EMC effect, off-shell corrections, and the like are quite large and must be taken into account. Because there is no consensus on how best to accomplish this, we have here chosen to compare the measured deuterium resonance region data directly to deep inelastic deuterium structure functions. Specifically, we have chosen to multiply the array of structure functions previously discussed by the following parametrization of d/p (deuteron over proton) [33]:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{2p} = & 0.9851 - 0.5648x - 0.0904x^2 \\ & + 0.7183x^3 - 0.3428x^4. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

This equation is the result of a data fit up to $x = 0.8$ and may not be constrained correctly at the highest x . Moreover, it assumes no Q^2 dependence, a need for which has been indicated in other works [34]. A more thorough approach might in the future consider specifically structure functions formed from nuclear PDFs, such as those found in Refs. [35–38].

D. Target mass corrections

At large-enough values of Q^2 and W^2 , QCD provides a rather clear and rigorous perturbative description of the physics that generates the Q^2 behavior of the structure function. When $W \rightarrow M$, where M is the proton mass, both the nonperturbative kinematical power corrections (target mass corrections) and the dynamical higher twist have to be taken into account. Because these characterize the long-range nonperturbative interactions between quarks and gluons, the dynamical higher-twist terms contain information about the dynamics of confinement. However, the target mass corrections arise from purely kinematic effects associated with finite values of $Q^2/\nu = 4M^2x^2/Q^2$. The target mass terms are related to the twist-2 operators and contain no additional information on the nonperturbative multiparton correlations. In consequence, target mass effects should either be corrected for in the data or the effect should be included in the QCD fits if one aims for a consistent comparison of data to QCD fits. The target mass effects were taken into account in the CTEQ6M, MRST2004, and ALEKHIN parametrizations of the structure function according to the prescription of Georgi and Politzer [27]. It is nontrivial to note that there is not an universally agreed-on prescription to account for target mass [39–41], and so the choice of approach inherently introduces some uncertainty to this analysis.

III. EXPERIMENT AND DATA ANALYSIS

The experiment E00-116 was carried out in summer 2003 in Hall C at JLab. A fixed electron beam of energy 5.5 GeV came incident on cryogenic targets. The target system consisted of 4-cm-long liquid hydrogen and deuterium, contained in circular aluminum cans. Scattered electrons were detected in the High Momentum Spectrometer (HMS). The Short Orbit Spectrometer (SOS) was used for detection of positrons, which was used to estimate possible electron background originating from charge-symmetric processes such as π^0 production and subsequent decay in the target. The data were taken at various scattering angles and momenta as follows: for each fixed spectrometer angle, the central momentum was varied to cover a region in W^2 from about 1.2 to 4.5 GeV². The kinematics covered by this experiment are shown in Table I. These data extend the existing Hall C resonance region measurements at larger x and Q^2 [6,7].

A. Experimental setup

1. Beam line

During E00-116, the Continuous Electron Beam Accelerator Facility (CEBAF) at JLab provided an unpolarized, continuous wave (CW) electron beam of 5.5 GeV, with currents up to 100 μ A. The beam was steered from the Beam Switch Yard to the experimental hall through the beam line. Hall C beam line is equipped with magnets used to focus and steer the beam, as well as several monitors needed to measure the energy, current, position, and profile of the beam. The profile and the absolute position of the beam is monitored using

TABLE I. The kinematic regime covered by E00-116 at a beam energy of 5.5 GeV.

Angle (°)	Momentum (GeV/c)	x	Q^2 [(GeV) ²]
37.93	2.26	0.48–0.92	3.58–5.48
	1.94		
	1.67		
41	2.17	0.53–0.94	3.99–5.86
	1.86		
	1.60		
	1.94		
45	1.67	0.55–0.95	4.28–6.29
	1.44		
	1.34		
	1.16		
55	1.47	0.60–0.94	5.01–7.07
	1.31		
	1.19		
60	1.04	0.52–0.95	4.52–7.38
	0.89		
	0.91		
70	0.80	0.60–0.83	5.38–7.11
	0.80		

superharps. A superharp consists of a frame and three tungsten wires (two horizontal and one vertical) that are moved back and forth through the beam to determine the centroid position to about 10 μ m. However, the superharp cannot be used during the data taking because it has a destructive interaction with the beam. Therefore, beam position monitors (BPMs) [42] are used to continuously monitor the relative beam position during data taking. The BPMs are nondestructive to the beam and are calibrated with superharp scans. During this experiment, the typical relative variation of the beam position at the target was found to be less than 0.2 mm.

The beam energy is measured using the superharps and the dipole magnets in the beam line. Due to the fact that the dipole fields are accurately mapped and that the beam path is determined with high precision by the superharps, the accuracy of the absolute beam energy measurement is at the level of 5×10^{-4} GeV.

The beam current and charge in Hall C is measured by a system of beam current monitors (BCMs) together with a parametric current transformer (Unser) [43]. All these monitors are placed in the beam line before the target in the following order: BCM1, Unser, BCM2, and BCM3. Although the BCMs have a very stable offset, the gain drifts with time and the Unser is used for BCMs gain calibrations. Dedicated calibration runs are typically performed to minimize the effects of drifts in the BCMs gains. For this experiment, BCM2 was used for monitoring but, due to time constraints, no BCM calibration runs were taken. However, the experiment that ran just before E00-116 had the same set point for the BCM2 gain, such that it was possible to use their calibration runs taken 5 weeks and 1 week before this experiment [44]. The difference in BCM2 gain and offset when using each run individually or the combined runs was below 0.1%, indicating that there were no significant drifts in the BCM2 gain over a 1-month period. Figure 3 shows that the difference between

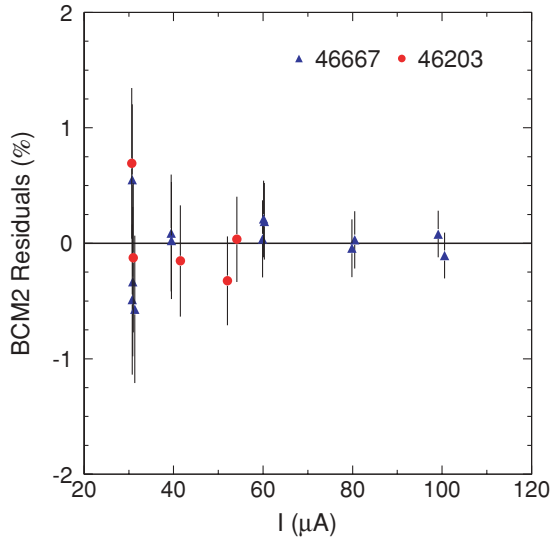


FIG. 3. (Color online) The difference between the current as given by the BCM2 after calibration and the current as given by the Unser. The two calibration runs, 46203 and 46667, were taken 1 month apart and yielded very similar results for the BCM2 gain and offset (see text).

the current as given by the BCM2 after calibration and the current as given by the Unser (the residuals) are within 0.15% above $50 \mu\text{A}$. The calibration result from the combined runs was used to calculate the current and the charge for this experiment. For this experiment's current regime, the normalization uncertainty in the current measurement was estimated to be $\sim 0.3\%$ at $100 \mu\text{A}$ and originated from possible small drifts of the BCM gain, from the precision of the BCM calibration, and from the accuracy of the Unser in measuring the current, the latter bringing the largest contribution. The point-to-point uncertainty was estimated to be 0.05% by taking the difference in the normalization uncertainties propagated at 80 and $100 \mu\text{A}$, this being roughly the range in the beam current used in this experiment.

The electron beam generated by CEBAF is a high current beam with a very small transverse size [100–200 μm full width at half maximum (FWHM)]. To prevent damage to the targets and to minimize the changes in the cryotarget densities due to localized boiling, a rastering system is used to distribute the deposited energy of the beam in a uniform manner over the target volume. The raster consists of two sets of steering magnets: the first set of magnets rasters the beam vertically and the second horizontally. For this experiment the raster consisted of a 2×2 mm uniform structure. A detailed description of the Hall C raster system is given in Ref. [45].

2. Target

This experiment used the standard liquid hydrogen and liquid deuterium cryogenic target system in Hall C. The liquid targets were contained in aluminum cans. Data were taken on aluminum foils (dummy target) for background measurement and subtraction. Moreover, several runs were taken using a carbon foil target to determine the beam offsets relative to the

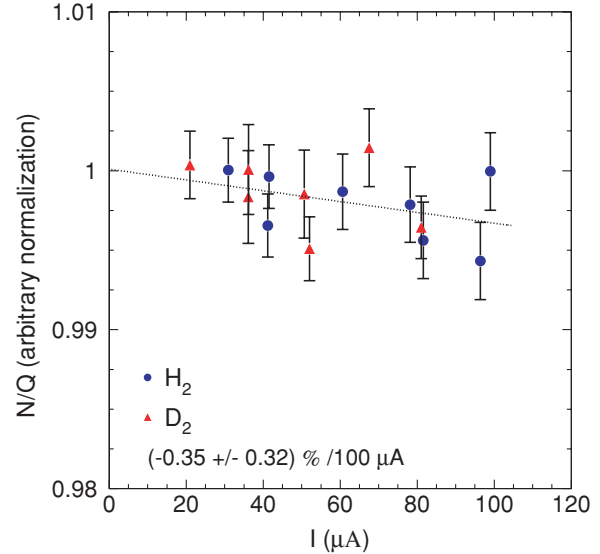


FIG. 4. (Color online) Relative hydrogen and deuterium target yield versus beam current. The correction for the boiling effect is obtained from a linear fit to the data shown as the dotted line.

pivot of the target. The cryogenic target cells were mounted on a cryostack together with the combination of carbon and aluminum target sled. The cryogenic system ensured that the temperature and density of the liquid targets were maintained during data taking at optimum values of 19 K and 0.0723 g/cm^3 for hydrogen and 22 K and 0.1674 g/cm^3 for deuterium.

To accurately determine the experimental luminosity it is necessary to have a precise knowledge, among others, of the targets' density and thickness. Though the cryogenic system is designed to ensure that the liquid hydrogen and deuterium targets are maintained at a fixed nominal temperature in all conditions, in reality, when the beam passes through the targets and deposits heat there are local changes in the temperature and density of the cryogen (boiling effect). Dedicated data (luminosity scans) are taken to study and correct for this effect. During E00-116, luminosity scans were performed on both hydrogen and deuterium targets. It was found that the boiling effect gives a small correction of $(0.35 \pm 0.32)\%/100 \mu\text{A}$ to the luminosity for both cryogenic targets as seen in Fig. 4. This parametrization was used on a run-by-run basis to correct for the boiling effect for both liquid targets. The majority of the data were collected at $\sim 100 \mu\text{A}$. The density correction at this current is of the size of the uncertainty of the fit, therefore the normalization uncertainty was taken to be 0.35%. The point-to-point systematic uncertainty on the density correction, originating from the uncertainty in the current, is negligible.

Because of the circular geometry of the cryogenic target cell, a careful analysis is required to determine the effective target length that will enter in the calculation of the luminosity. If the beam was exactly aligned along the diameter of the target, the effective target length will simply be the outer diameter of the target cell minus the cell walls. If there is a displacement between the beam and the center of the target, then the effective target length will be $2\sqrt{r^2 - dx^2}$, where r is the inner radius of the cell and dx is the beam offset from the center of the target. For E00-116, several sources of information

TABLE II. E00-116 effective lengths of the cryogenic targets.

Target	Effective Target Length (cm)
Hydrogen	3.946 ± 0.029
Deuterium	3.927 ± 0.029

were used to determine the effective target length: the target survey that provides measurements, at room temperature, of the outer diameter of the cell together with the thickness of the cell walls, a survey of the target position relative to the pivot, and dedicated data taken on a central carbon foil that provides the beam offset relative to the pivot [46]. The effective target length used in the cross section extractions is listed in Table II.

3. Spectrometers

In what follows, a summary of the main characteristics of Hall C spectrometers will be given with emphasis on the aspects relevant to E00-116. Detailed information about the Hall C HMS and SOS can be found in Refs. [47,48]. The HMS is a magnetic spectrometer consisting of a 25° vertical bend dipole magnet for momentum dispersion and three quadrupole magnets for focusing. All magnets are superconducting. For this experiment, the HMS was operated in the point-to-point optical tune. The range used in the momentum (E') acceptance, $\delta = \frac{\Delta p}{p}$, was of $\pm 8\%$ while the range in the angular (θ) acceptance, $\Delta(\theta)$, was ± 35 mrad. The SOS consists of a quadrupole magnet and two dipole magnets. For E00-116, the point-to-point optical tune was used. The range used in δ was of $(-15, +20)\%$ while the range in the angular acceptance was ± 60 mrad.

The detector packages for the two spectrometers are very similar and consist of two drift chambers for track reconstruction, scintillators arrays for triggering, a threshold gas Cerenkov, and an electromagnetic calorimeter, which were both used in this experiment for particle identification (PID) and pion rejection. The HMS Cerenkov counter was used to distinguish between e^- and π^- with momenta between 0.8 and 2.3 GeV. For this purpose, the Cerenkov tank was filled with perfluorobutane (C_4F_{10} , $n = 1.00143$ at 1 atm and 300K) at about 0.9 atm, making the detector fully sensitive to e^- but insensitive to π^- in the momentum range specified above. The SOS Cerenkov counter was used to detect e^+ and reject π^+ with momenta ranging from 0.8 to 1.7 GeV. The Cerenkov tank was filled with freon-12 ($n = 1.00108$ at 1 atm) at about 1 atm giving a Cerenkov threshold of 3 GeV for π^+ and 11 MeV for e^+ . For E00-116, a typical spectrum of the HMS Cerenkov number of photoelectrons is shown in Fig. 5. In this distribution, the π^- events peak at zero while the e^- events give an average of about 13 photoelectrons.

The HMS and SOS calorimeters are identical except for their size. Each calorimeter consists of $10\text{ cm} \times 10\text{ cm} \times 70\text{ cm}$ blocks of TF-1-1000 type lead glass ($\rho = 3.86\text{ g/cm}^3$, $n = 1.67$, and radiation length = 2.5 cm). The HMS calorimeter is 13 blocks high while the one in the SOS just 11. The

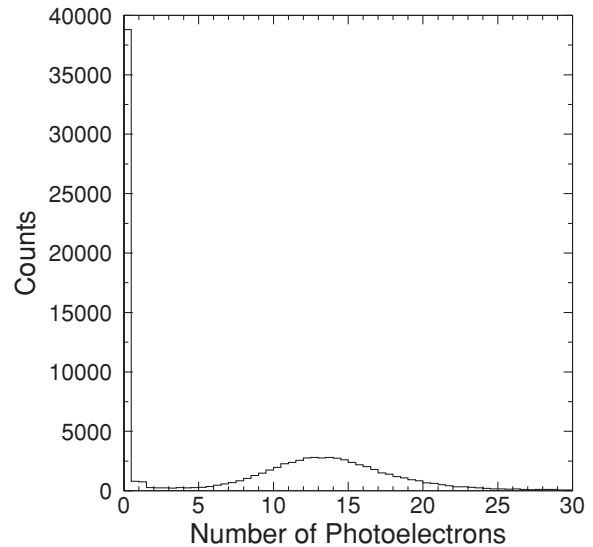


FIG. 5. An example of the distribution of number of photoelectrons collected in the HMS Cerenkov detector. The pion peak appears at zero while electrons produce on average about 13 photoelectrons. As discussed later in the text, a cut of number of photoelectrons = 2 was used to separate electrons from pions.

calorimeters are rotated by 5° from the spectrometers optical axis to reduce eventual losses through the cracks between the blocks. For this experiment, the calorimeters were used to detect e^- (HMS) and e^+ (SOS). The hadrons that could have reached the calorimeters were mostly π^- or π^+ . The e^- (e^+) were distinguished from π^- (π^+) according to their fractional energy, total energy deposited in the calorimeter, normalized by the momentum. The e^- (e^+) deposit their entire energy in the detector peaking in the fractional energy spectrum at 1; the π^- (π^+) deposit around 0.3 GeV and they will peak in the fractional energy distribution at $0.3\text{ GeV}/E'$. A typical distribution of the fractional energy deposited in the HMS calorimeter is shown in Fig. 6.

B. Data analysis

The inclusive electroproduction cross section can be expressed as:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE'} = (N_{\text{measured}} - BG) \frac{1}{N_e N_t} \frac{1}{d\Omega dE'} \frac{1}{A} \frac{1}{\varepsilon}. \quad (6)$$

Here N_e is the number of incident electrons and N_t is the number of target particles per unit area, which can be calculated in terms of the mass density ρ , the atomic number A , and the thickness x from $N_t = \frac{\rho N_A x}{A}$ (N_A is Avogadro's number). N_{measured} is the number of scattered electrons *observed* in the solid angle $d\Omega$ and in the energy range dE' . BG is the background, A is the detector acceptance, and ε is the detector efficiency. The most significant corrections that were applied to N_{measured} will be discussed below.

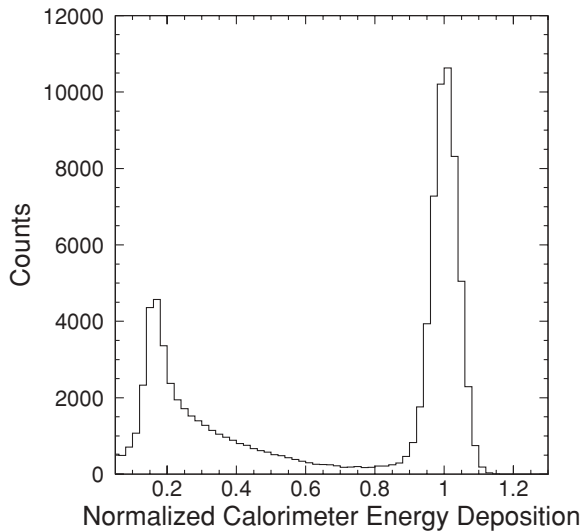


FIG. 6. An example of the distribution of fractional energy deposited in the HMS calorimeter. Electrons deposit their entire energy in the calorimeter peaking at 1 in the distribution while pions lose just a fraction of their energy. In the data analysis, a cut of fractional energy deposited = 0.7 was used to separate electrons from pions.

1. PID cut efficiency

The rejection of negatively charged pions was accomplished by placing requirements on both the number of photoelectrons collected by the Cerenkov detector, number of photoelectrons larger than 2, and the fractional energy deposited by the particle in the calorimeter, fractional energy larger than 0.7. In what follows, the efficiency of these cuts in not rejecting valid electrons will be discussed.

Cerenkov cut efficiency. To determine how many electrons are lost when applying the Cerenkov cut number of photoelectrons larger than 2, it is important to work with a clean sample of electrons (no pion contamination). Once a clean sample of electrons is selected, then the Cerenkov cut efficiency is determined from the ratio of number of events that pass the cut to the total number of events in the clean sample. If the sample is pion contaminated then the Cerenkov cut efficiency will be artificially lower. Unfortunately, it was impossible for this experiment to select a clean sample of electrons just with a calorimeter cut. For the particular kinematics of E00-116, the pion to electron ratio was rather large (up to 150:1). The pions can undergo charge-exchange reactions and deposit up to their entire energy in the calorimeter. This could result in a *high-energy tail* for pions that could extend beyond 1 in the fractional energy spectrum making the selection of a clean sample of electrons practically impossible even with high calorimeter cuts. The unbiased electron cut efficiency for the Cerenkov was determined by extrapolating to zero pion to electron ratio. It was found to be $(99.60 \pm 0.24)\%$, which is in very good agreement with the findings of other experiments that ran at similar conditions [49]. This value was used as a correction for the data. The normalization systematic uncertainty was taken to be the uncertainty of the fit extrapolation at zero pion to electron ratio, 0.24%.

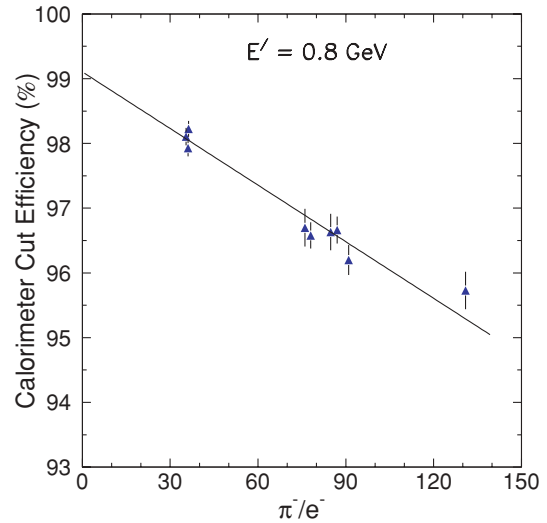


FIG. 7. (Color online) The electromagnetic calorimeter cut efficiency versus π/e ratio. The fit represented by the solid line extrapolates the efficiency at zero π/e ratio to obtain the true electron efficiency.

Calorimeter cut efficiency. Just as for the Cerenkov, the estimation of how many valid electrons are lost when using a cut on the fractional energy deposited in the calorimeter was complicated by the fact that, for this experiment, the large pion-to-electron ratio made impossible the selection of a clean sample of electrons using just a cut on the number of photoelectrons acquired in the Cerenkov detector. The same approach was taken in this case as for the estimation of the Cerenkov cut efficiency: the calorimeter cut efficiency was extrapolated to zero pion to electron ratio to find the true electron efficiency. The extrapolation was done for each momentum setting separately to deconvolute the efficiency dependence on the pion-to-electron ratio from the dependence on the resolution of the calorimeter. An example of the efficiency extrapolation at zero pion to electron ratio for one momentum setting is shown in Fig. 7. The efficiency, obtained in this manner, and parameterized as a function of momentum, is shown in Fig. 8. The parametrization was used as a correction in the data analysis. Our parametrization was compared to the result obtained from an experiment that ran in similar experimental conditions but at different kinematics where the pion to electron ratio is small [49]. The two results were found to agree within 0.3%. The normalization and point-to-point uncertainties on this correction were estimated to be 0.3 and 0.25%, respectively.

2. Backgrounds

There are three physical processes that are possible sources of background for this experiment: electrons scattered from the target aluminum walls, negatively charged pions that are not rejected by the PID cuts, and electrons originating from other processes like charge symmetric processes that produce equal number of positrons. Each of these possible sources of background will be discussed in what follows.

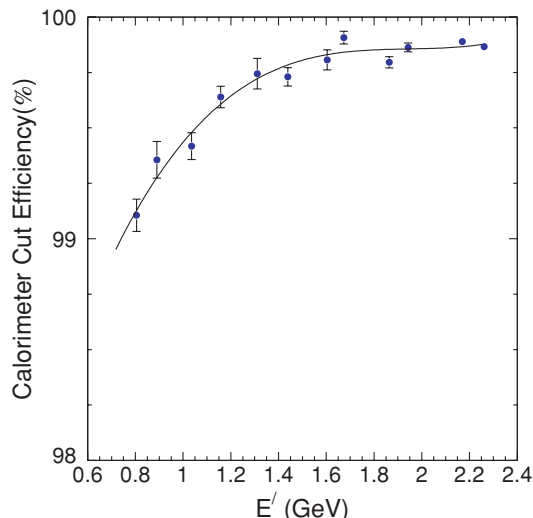


FIG. 8. (Color online) The electromagnetic calorimeter cut efficiency versus momentum. The solid line is a fit to the data and parameterizes the cut efficiency dependence on the momentum of the particle. This parametrization was used to correct for the loss of valid electrons due to the calorimeter cut inefficiency.

Target cell background. During data taking on the cryogenic targets, some of the incoming electrons scatter on the aluminum walls of the target cell and end up being detected at the same kinematics as the electrons that scatter from the cryogen. This background has to be determined and subtracted from the measured yields to obtain the yields for scattering from the cryogen only. To determine this background dedicated data were taken on a dummy target at exactly the same kinematics as on hydrogen and deuterium. To minimize the data acquisition time, the total thickness of the dummy target was about eight times the total cell wall thickness seen by the beam. The background coming from the scattering from the target cell walls $BTW(E', \theta)$, was determined as:

$$BTW(E', \theta) = \frac{T_w Q_w R_d^{\text{ext}}}{T_d Q_d R_w^{\text{ext}}} N_d(E', \theta), \quad (7)$$

where θ is the spectrometer angle, $Q_{w(d)}$ is the total charge incident on the cell walls (dummy), $T_{w(d)}$ is the total thickness of the cell walls (dummy), $N_d(E', \theta)$ is the number of events collected from the dummy run after applying efficiencies and dead-time corrections, and $R_{w(d)}^{\text{ext}}$ is the external radiative correction (external bremsstrahlung emission) for the cell walls (dummy). The target cell background subtraction was performed for each hydrogen and deuterium run on a (E', θ) bin-by-bin basis. The size of this background was at most 18% and its uncertainty was dominated by the statistical uncertainty on $N_d(E', \theta)$ and by the uncertainty in measuring the thickness of the cell walls and dummy. The thickness of the cell walls was known up to 1% while, by comparison, the uncertainty in the dummy thickness measurement was negligible [50]. This led to a systematic uncertainty in the cross section of at most 0.2%. The statistical uncertainty on $N_d(E', \theta)$ was propagated to the uncertainty of the cross section.

Pion background. Even after applying the PID cuts, some pion background may still be present. Although pions do not

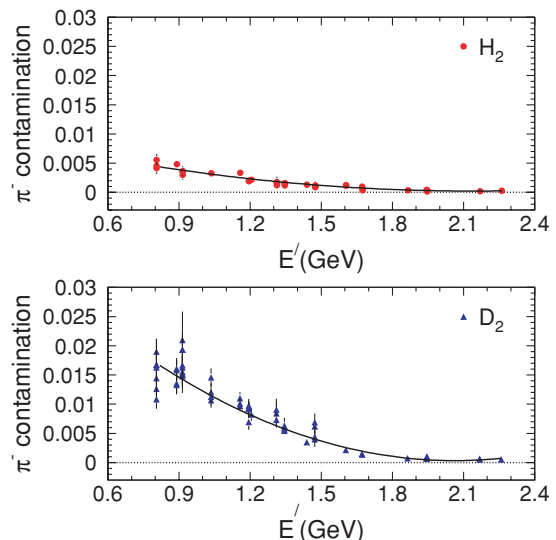


FIG. 9. (Color online) The pion contamination (see text) as a function of momentum. As expected, the pion contamination is larger for the deuterium target (bottom panel) than for the hydrogen target (top panel). The solid lines represent parametrizations of the pion contamination as a function of momentum. These parametrizations were used as corrections in the cross-section extraction.

produce Cerenkov light directly, they can generate, through ionization, δ rays in the materials preceding the Cerenkov detector (electron knockout). These knock-on electrons could have high-enough energy to emit Cerenkov light and pass the PID Cerenkov cut. In the electromagnetic calorimeter, the pions give signal according to their energy loss but through a charge-exchange reaction they can produce neutral pions that decay into $\gamma\gamma$ or $e^-e^+\gamma$. In this way, the entire energy of the pion can be deposited in the calorimeter. This process typically gives the high-energy “tail” for pions that extends to deposited fractional energy of 1. For this experiment, the pion background was estimated using a method developed for the Hall C E99-118 analysis [34] in which the pion rejection factor is used to normalize the pion fractional energy distribution in the calorimeter. The number of events in this normalized distribution that pass the PID calorimeter cut of 0.7 represents the pion contamination. The result of the pion contamination estimation for this experiment is shown in Fig. 9 for both hydrogen and deuterium targets. As expected for a heavier target, the pion contamination for deuterium (maximum of about 1.7%) is about 3 times larger than for hydrogen (maximum of 0.5%) at the lowest momentum. For this background subtraction, parametrizations as a function of momentum were used as corrections (no angle dependence was observed). The point-to-point uncertainty on this correction was determined to be 0.2% for both targets.

Charge-symmetric background. For electron-proton scattering there is a significant probability to produce a neutral pion in the target that then decays into $\gamma\gamma$ or $e^-e^+\gamma$. The photons can further convert into electron-positron pairs in the target material or in the materials preceding the detectors. Photons can also be produced through the Bethe-Heitler process. However, the leptons resulting from Bethe-Heitler processes

are very forward peaked so their contribution is significant only at forward angles. The outcome is that the secondary electrons will end up being detected together with the scattered electrons. For the kinematics of this experiment (backward angles) the dominant source of secondary electrons is the neutral pion production in the target and the subsequent decays. The electron production through Bethe-Heitler process is negligible. The fact that the background electrons are produced in pairs with positrons (charge-symmetric background) can be exploited experimentally and the background electrons can be disentangled from the scattered electrons by detecting positrons.

For E00-116, due to the limited running period (less than a week), it was decided to take advantage of the availability of the SOS. The SOS has a larger momentum acceptance than the HMS and two SOS momentum settings could easily cover an HMS scan with three-momentum settings. However, by using a different spectrometer for positron measurements the photon to electron-positron pairs conversion factor is different as the photons encounter different radiation lengths of material. In addition, the SOS acceptance function and the detector inefficiencies are different than the HMS ones. Taking into account these considerations, we decided that an accurate estimation of the charge-symmetric background would require the extraction of the positron cross sections rather than the yields as it was done for previous Hall C experiments. This way, the charge-symmetric background would be corrected by subtracting the measured positron cross section from the measured electron cross section bin by bin on a (E', θ) grid.

The first step in the positron cross section analysis was to perform the detectors calibrations. Once the calibrations were performed, the positron yield selected with PID cuts was binned in the (δ, θ) acceptance around the central values. The yield was corrected for the electronic and computer dead times and for the tracking inefficiency. To obtain the positron yields from the cryotargets alone, the endcap contributions had to be subtracted. Also the pion contamination was determined and parameterized as a function of momentum for each cryotarget and applied as correction to the yield. Next, the spectrometer acceptance corrections were calculated and applied to the yield. Thus, the positron cross section was obtained on a (δ, θ) grid.

Our goal was to determine the cross section at the central angle as a function of momentum but still to keep the statistics accumulated. This could be done, in principle, by statistically averaging the measured cross section over the angular acceptance. However, the variation of the positron cross section across θ acceptance was non-negligible. Therefore, before averaging, a model was needed to remove the cross section θ dependence (the so called bin-centering correction). The positron cross section model used for this purpose was developed by P. Bosted [51]. The model uses a fit to the charged pion production data accumulated at SLAC [52]. The neutral pion production is estimated as the average of the positive- and negative-pion production. The positron cross section is calculated using the decay branching ratios for a neutral pion and the radiation length of the material where a photon that results from the decay can produce electron-positron pairs. Taking into account that the positron cross-section model

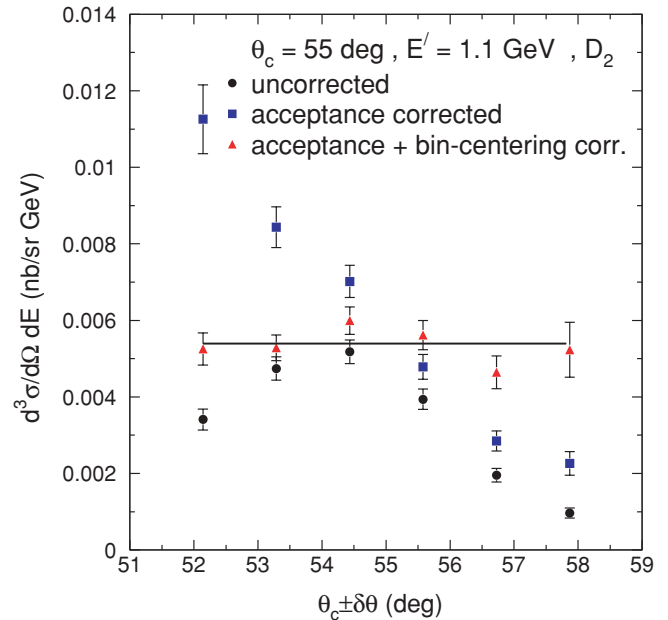


FIG. 10. (Color online) An example of the measured positron cross section across the SOS angular acceptance. The cross section is shown at various stages in the analysis. In black circles the cross section is depicted before acceptance and bin-centering corrections. The blue squares show the cross section after acceptance corrections were applied. The angular dependence of the positron cross section is obvious. The red triangles represent the cross section after both the acceptance and bin-centering corrections were applied. It can be seen that the bin-centering corrections removed the angular dependence of the cross section.

described above was used just for bin centering, the main requirement was that the model should describe *the shape* of the angular dependence of the positron cross section. To make sure that this requirement was met, first it was checked if, after applying the bin-centering correction, there is any angular dependence left across the acceptance. A typical example is shown in Fig. 10 where it can be seen that, within the statistical uncertainty, the bin-centering correction removes the angular dependence of the cross section.

It was also checked that the data overlap in the angular acceptance from one central angle setting to the next if the model would be used to center the data at certain angle values in the acceptance. Good agreement was found for neighboring scans in the overlapping region.

Finally, the positron cross section was extracted at fixed central angles as a function of momentum. Figures 11 and 12 show the positron cross section for both hydrogen and deuterium targets compared to the model of P. Bosted. It can be seen that the model describes qualitatively well the momentum dependence of the cross section.

As stated previously, the electron data, both the scattered and the background electrons, were taken using HMS while the charge-symmetric background was measured using SOS. Therefore, at the end of the experiment, a setting was taken at the same kinematics in HMS and SOS (both spectrometers were set on negative polarity). The result of the analysis of this scan in the two spectrometers is shown in Fig. 13. It was

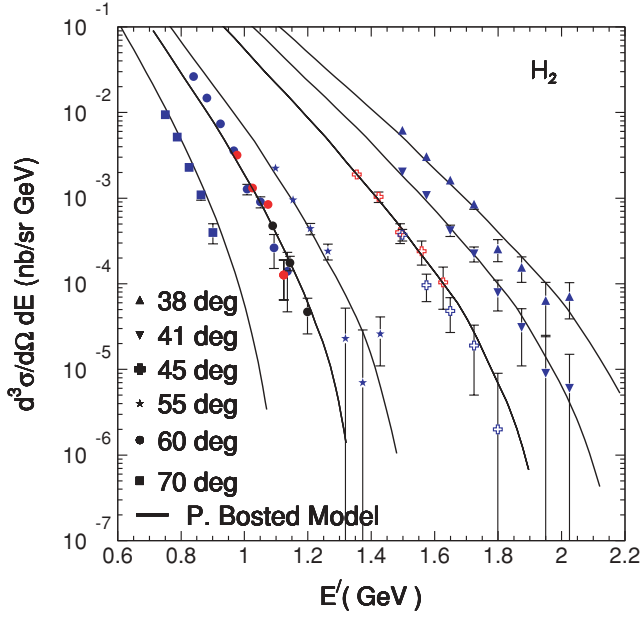


FIG. 11. (Color online) The measured positron cross section on hydrogen as a function of momentum compared to the model of P. Bosted [51].

found that the analysis in the two spectrometers agreed within 1.3%. This translated in a normalization uncertainty in the scattered electron cross section below 0.2%, considering that the relative contribution of the charge symmetric background to the measured cross section was at most 15%.

In the end, the charge symmetric background was subtracted bin by bin in (E', θ) . For the subtraction, the positron cross section had to be centered at the scattered electron data kinematics. The model of P. Bosted was used for this

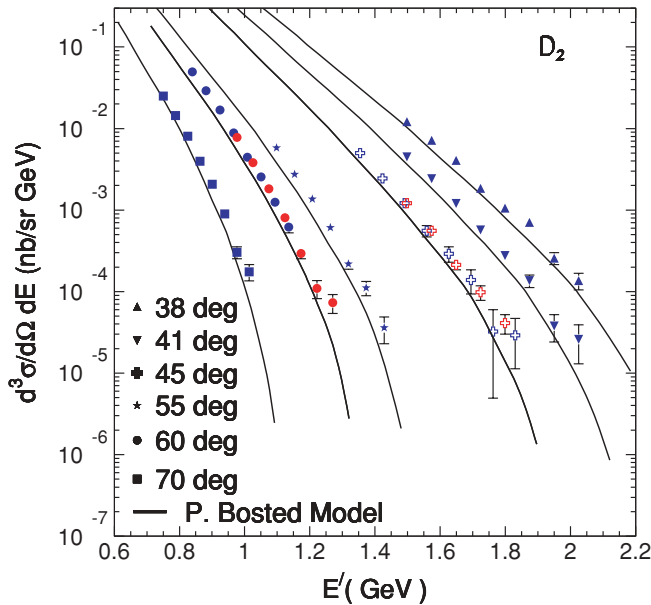


FIG. 12. (Color online) The measured positron cross section on deuterium as a function of momentum compared to the model of P. Bosted [51].

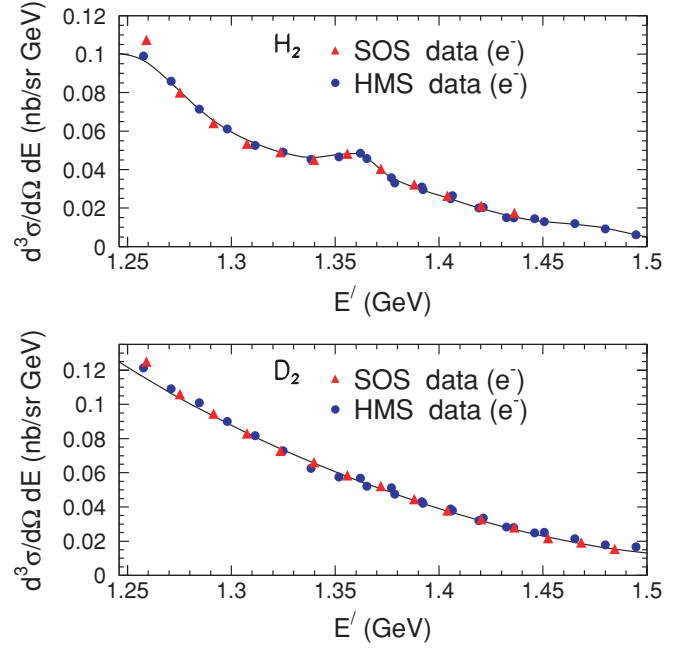


FIG. 13. (Color online) The comparison of SOS and HMS analyses for $H(e, e')$ (top panel) and $D(e, e')$ (bottom panel).

purpose. Quantitatively, it was found that the use of the model for bin-centering corrections in momentum introduced an uncertainty of 6% in the positron cross section at 38°, 41°, 45°, and 55° and of 20% at 60° and 70°. This translated in an uncertainty on the electron cross section up to 2% at the lowest momentum at 60° and 70° but below 0.2% for the rest of the data.

3. Acceptance corrections

For a fixed angle and momentum setting, the spectrometers have a finite angle and momentum acceptance. This experiment used the same procedure of extracting the spectrometer's acceptance functions as previous Hall C experiments. This procedure is described in detail elsewhere [53].

For this analysis, the acceptance correction was applied on a bin-by-bin basis in (δ, θ) . The point-to-point uncertainty on the acceptance correction in HMS was estimated to be 0.8%. This is dominated by the position uncertainties on the target, collimator, magnets, and detector package. The normalization uncertainty on the acceptance correction was determined by combining in quadrature an uncertainty of 0.7% coming from the reduction in the solid angle and an uncertainty of 0.4% due to modeling of the HMS optics [53].

C. Cross sections extraction

For this experiment, the electroproduction differential cross section $H(e, e')$ and $D(e, e')$ was extracted according to Eq. (5), binned in 16 and 20 bins in momentum and angle, respectively. Our goal was to obtain the one photon-exchange (Born) cross section at a fixed angle as a function of momentum. For this, two additional corrections were

necessary: the bin-centering correction, which makes possible the extraction of the differential cross section at a fixed angle without sacrificing statistics and the radiative corrections that are necessary to obtain from the measured cross section the one photon-exchange contribution. Considering that both the bin-centering corrections and the radiative corrections are calculated using a model for the cross section, the sensitivity of our results to the model input was studied in detail. All of this will be discussed in what follows.

Bin-centering corrections. As previously mentioned, the measured cross section was initially extracted binned in small momentum and angle bins corresponding to the acceptance intervals in δ and θ , respectively. The goal, however, was to extract the cross section at a fixed angle, the central angle θ_c , keeping all the statistics accumulated. If the cross section would not vary across the θ acceptance, then the cross section at θ_c could be simply obtained by statistically averaging the cross section over the angular acceptance. However, for the kinematics of this experiment, the variation of the cross section over the angular acceptance was not negligible. Thus, before statistically averaging, the so called bin-centering correction had to be applied to center the cross section measured in the θ acceptance interval at θ_c . This correction was applied as:

$$\sigma^{\text{data}}(E, E', \theta_c) = \sigma^{\text{data}}(E, E', \theta_i) \frac{\sigma^{\text{model}}(E, E', \theta_c)}{\sigma^{\text{model}}(E, E', \theta_i)}, \quad (8)$$

where $\sigma^{\text{model}}(E, E', \theta_i)$ and $\sigma^{\text{model}}(E, E', \theta_c)$ are the model cross sections calculated at θ_i and θ_c , while $\sigma^{\text{data}}(E, E', \theta_i)$ and $\sigma^{\text{data}}(E, E', \theta_c)$ are the cross sections extracted from the data at θ_i and θ_c . The bin-centering correction was applied to the measured radiated hydrogen and deuterium cross sections using the radiated model cross section. The models used to calculate the correction will be discussed next.

Radiative corrections. In the perturbative picture, the lowest-order process in α (the electromagnetic running coupling constant) that contributes to the cross section for inclusive electron-nucleon scattering is represented schematically in Fig. 14(a). In addition to this leading one photon exchange diagram (Born), there are higher-order processes in α that contribute to the scattering. These diagrams are shown schematically in Figs. 14(b)–14(e) and include vacuum polarization (the exchanged photon creates particle-antiparticle pairs), vertex processes (emission and reabsorption of virtual photons), and Bremsstrahlung (emission of real photons in the field of the nucleon during interaction). To determine the differential cross section that accounts just for the one-photon-exchange process, all the other contributions from higher-order processes in α have to be calculated and corrected for in the measured cross section. The radiative processes can be divided into two main categories: internal and external. The internal effects take place at the scattering vertex and include Bremsstrahlung, vacuum polarization, vertex processes, and multiple photon exchange. External Bremsstrahlung occurs within the target material before or after the primary scattering takes place and is dependent on the target thickness. As a consequence, the energy of the incoming and/or the scattered electron will change.

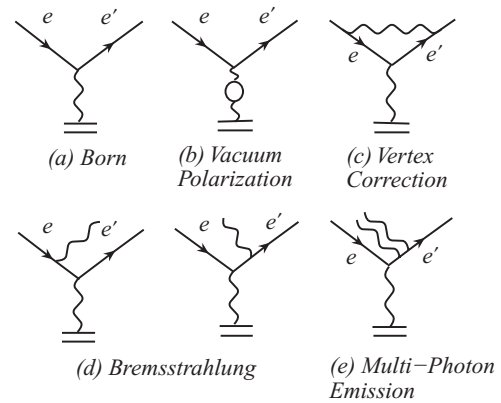


FIG. 14. Lowest-order Feynman diagrams for inclusive lepton-nucleon scattering [34].

The measured cross section can be written as the sum of various processes (Fig. 15):

$$\sigma_{\text{measured}}^{\text{hydrogen}} = \sigma_{\text{inelastic}}^{\text{radiated}} + \sigma_{\text{elastic}}^{\text{radiated}}. \quad (9)$$

$$\sigma_{\text{measured}}^{\text{deuterium}} = \sigma_{\text{inelastic}}^{\text{radiated}} + \sigma_{\text{elastic}}^{\text{radiated}} + \sigma_{\text{quasielastic}}^{\text{radiated}}. \quad (10)$$

To obtain the Born inelastic cross section, the radiative tails from elastic/nuclear elastic and quasielastic cross sections were subtracted while the inelastic radiative effects were corrected multiplicatively. In practice, the usual calculation of radiative corrections includes only the emission of one hard photon. However, there is a probability for the electron to emit two hard photons. Therefore additional corrections (the α^2 term) should be taken into account when estimating the radiative correction.

There are two programs utilized for the radiative corrections calculations: one based on the Mo and Tsai formalism [54] and the other one based on the Bardin formalism [55], which includes in the calculations the two hard-photon radiation and has a different treatment of the soft photon contribution. The program based on Mo and Tsai formalism calculates both internal and external radiative corrections, unlike the Bardin one that calculates just internal radiative corrections. For this experiment, the radiative corrections (both internal and external) were estimated using the Mo and Tsai formalism. The α^2 term correction was estimated using the Bardin formalism and at this experiment kinematics it proved to be below 0.5% (1%) for hydrogen (deuterium). The size of the correction is within the theoretical uncertainty of the calculation and it was assigned as a point-to-point uncertainty.

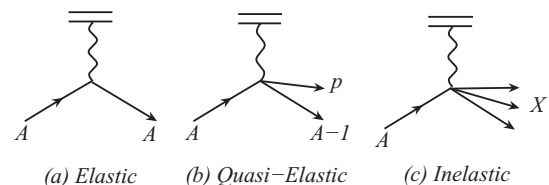


FIG. 15. Schematic representation of the processes that can contribute to the E00-116 measurements.

Additional uncertainties in the experimental cross section originate from the elastic (elastic and quasielastic) contribution subtractions. At the kinematics of this experiment, the elastic contribution to the total experimental cross section is negligible. The uncertainty coming from the quasielastic contribution subtraction was estimated by propagating the point-to-point model uncertainty into the experimental cross section. This kinematic dependent uncertainty was parametrized for each angle setting separately. Finally, the normalization uncertainty in the cross section coming from the theoretical uncertainty in the radiative corrections calculation was estimated to be 1% [56].

Iteration procedure. As stated previously, the bin-centering corrections were calculated using a model for the cross section. The same model was typically used to calculate the radiative corrections. To minimize the model dependence of the extracted cross section, an iterative procedure was followed. First, a starting model was used to calculate both the bin-centering and radiative corrections. Then, the extracted cross section was fit and the new fit was used to calculate the corrections and re-extract the cross section. This process continued until the extracted cross section did not vary significantly (not more than 0.3%) from one iteration to the next. Additionally, the iteration procedure was followed using two different starting models. After the last iteration, the two sets of cross sections were expected to be consistent.

For $H(e, e')$ the two starting models (fits to previous data) used were the model of M. E. Christy and P. Bosted [57] and the H_2 model [58]. The fitting procedure used is described extensively in Ref. [57]. Only two iterations were necessary and it was found that the difference in the cross section between the last iteration and the one before last was about 0.3%. Also after each iteration the difference in the cross section when starting with the two models specified above was calculated. This difference after the last iteration was assigned as a kinematic dependent uncertainty accounting for the model dependence of the final result.

For $D(e, e')$ measurements, the iteration was performed using the same fitting procedure as for $H(e, e')$ but with one modification: the fit form for the resonances used nonrelativistic Breit-Wigners. The data seemed to be described better around pion threshold by such a fit. Three iterations were performed and the difference in the cross sections between the last iteration and the second last was around 0.3%. Just like for the $H(e, e')$ data set, two different models were used in the iteration procedure: the Bodek model [59] and ALLM97 [10] multiplied by the parametrization of the ratio of the deuterium and the proton electroproduction cross sections [33]. The difference between the two sets of cross sections after the last iteration was parameterized to give the uncertainty originating in the possible model dependence of the final result.

Systematic uncertainties. The total point-to-point systematic uncertainty in the cross section extraction was taken as the sum in quadrature of the individual uncertainties. An overview of these uncertainties is given in Table III. The total normalization systematic uncertainty amounted to about 1.75% while the statistical uncertainty is below 3%. The total and Born deradiated differential cross sections extracted from this experiment for both $H(e, e')$ and $D(e, e')$,

TABLE III. Point-to-point systematic uncertainties in the experimental parameters and the corresponding systematic uncertainties in the differential cross section.

Quantity	Uncertainty	δ_σ (%)
Beam Energy	5×10^{-4}	0.30%
Scattered e' Energy	5×10^{-4}	0.25%
Scattered e' Angle	0.2 mrad	0.26%
Beam Charge	0.05%	0.05%
Dead time	0.25%	0.25%
Trigger Efficiency	0.2%	0.2%
Tracking Efficiency	0.2%	0.2%
PID cut efficiency	0.25%	0.25%
Pion Cont. Subtraction	0.2%	0.2%
Charge-Symmetric Background	6%–20%	<2%
Acceptance Correction	0.8%	0.8%
Radiative Corrections	0.5%–3.6%	0.5%–3.6%
Model dependence	0.2%–5%	0.2%–5%

together with the point-to-point associated uncertainties, are given in Tables V, VI, VII, VIII, and IX. The extracted Born differential cross sections are also shown as a function of x and W^2 in Figs. 16–19. These data provide large x and intermediate Q^2 high-precision measurements in the resonance region where the precision of existing data from SLAC is typically 5 to 30% for the statistical uncertainty alone. This precision is not enough to distinguish between theoretical parametrizations of the structure function that at a Q^2 of 8 GeV² and $x = 0.8$, for example, differ by at most 30% as shown in Fig. 2.

D. F_2 Extraction

The structure function F_2 was calculated using the formula:

$$F_2 = \frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE'} \frac{1+R}{1+\varepsilon R} \frac{K\nu}{4\pi\alpha} \frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{1}{1+\frac{\nu^2}{Q^2}}, \quad (11)$$

where $K = (W^2 - M^2)/(2M)$, $\nu = E - E'$, and α is the electromagnetic coupling constant. The quantity ε is the degree of polarization of the virtual photon:

$$\varepsilon = \left(1 + 2 \frac{\nu^2 + Q^2}{Q^2} \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right)^{-1}, \quad (12)$$

TABLE IV. An example of the x ranges covered by different resonance regions for two Q^2 values.

W^2 region	x range	
	$Q^2 = 2$ (GeV ²)	$Q^2 = 6$ (GeV ²)
1st	0.66–0.83	0.85–0.93
2nd	0.55–0.66	0.79–0.85
3rd	0.47–0.55	0.73–0.79
4th	0.40–0.47	0.67–0.73
<i>DIS</i>	0.35–0.40	0.62–0.67

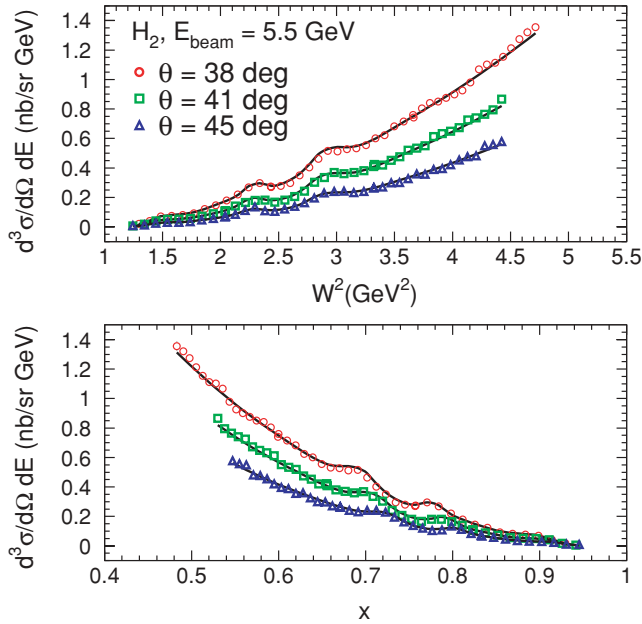


FIG. 16. (Color online) The $H(e,e')$ Born differential cross section extracted from E00-116 data at a beam energy of 5.5 GeV and spectrometer central angle of 38° (empty circles), 41° (empty squares), and 45° (empty triangles) as a function of W^2 (top panel) and x (bottom panel). Both the statistical and point-to-point systematic uncertainties are plotted. The curves shown represent the fit after the last iteration [46,57].

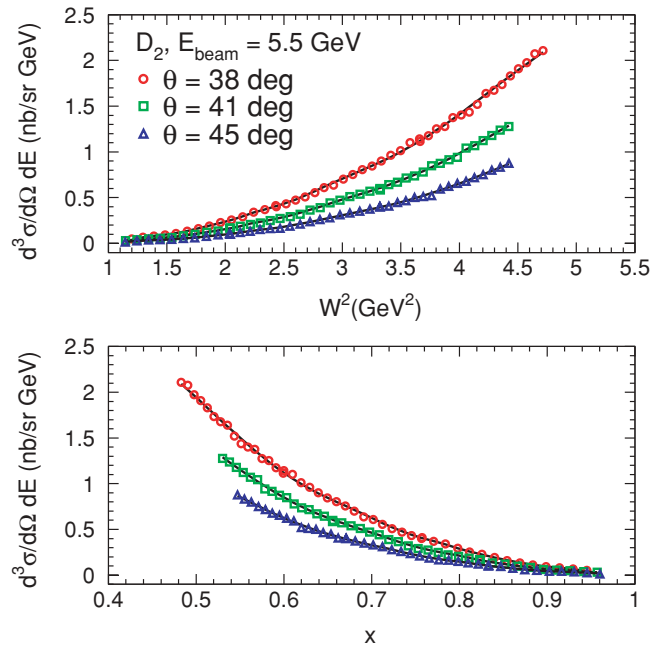


FIG. 18. (Color online) The $D(e,e')$ Born differential cross section extracted from E00-116 data at a beam energy of 5.5 GeV and spectrometer central angle of 38° (empty circles), 41° (empty squares), and 45° (empty triangles) as a function of W^2 (top panel) and x (bottom panel). Both the statistical and point-to-point systematic uncertainties are plotted. The curves shown represent the fit after the last iteration [46].

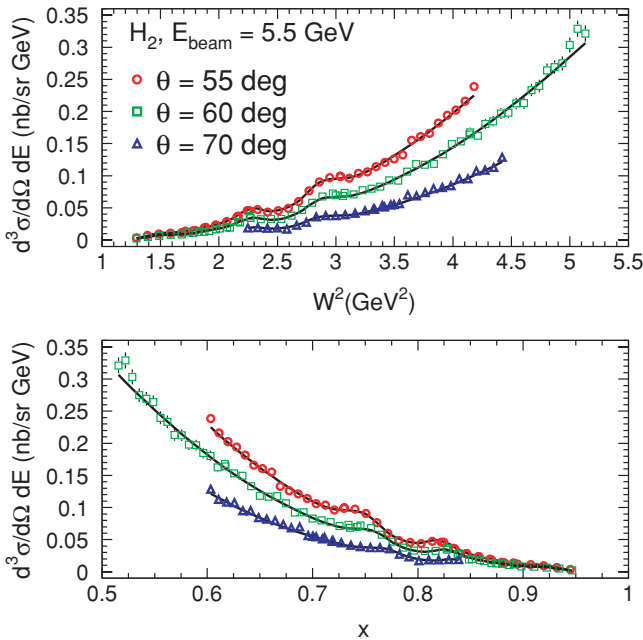


FIG. 17. (Color online) The $H(e,e')$ Born differential cross section extracted from E00-116 data at a beam energy of 5.5 GeV and spectrometer central angle of 55° (empty circles), 60° (empty squares), and 70° (empty triangles) as a function of W^2 (top panel) and x (bottom panel). Both the statistical and point-to-point systematic uncertainties are plotted. The curves shown represent the fit after the last iteration [46,57].

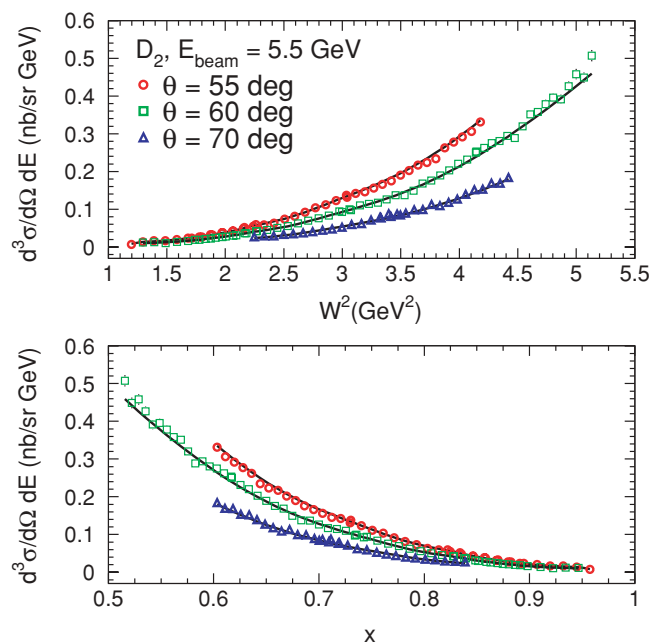


FIG. 19. (Color online) The $D(e,e')$ Born differential cross section extracted from E00-116 data at a beam energy of 5.5 GeV and spectrometer central angle of 55° (empty circles), 60° (empty squares), and 70° (empty triangles) as a function of W^2 (top panel) and x (bottom panel). Both the statistical and point-to-point systematic uncertainties are plotted. The curves shown represent the fit after the last iteration [46].

and Γ is the flux of the virtual photon:

$$\Gamma = \frac{\alpha K}{2\pi^2 Q^2} \frac{E'}{E} \frac{1}{1 - \epsilon}. \quad (13)$$

The extraction of F_2 requires the knowledge of both the differential cross section and the quantity R that is the ratio of the longitudinal to the transverse component of the cross section. For this experiment, it was not planned to measure R but just the differential cross section because R is not expected to be large in the Q^2 range of this data set. Thus, for the structure-function extraction, it was needed to resort to an existing R parametrization. To estimate the sensitivity of the F_2 structure function to different R parametrizations, the following approach was taken. F_2 was extracted at the lowest and highest Q^2 for this experiment using three different R parametrizations from R1990 [60], R1998 [61], and E94-110 [56], respectively. It was found that F_2 varies on average by 2% when different R parametrizations are used. R1990 and R1998 are parametrizations of R extracted mainly from DIS measurements, while R from E94-110 is extracted from resonance region measurements, only. The R parametrization from E94-110 is kinematically limited to $W^2 < 3.85 \text{ GeV}^2$ and typically lower Q^2 than this experiment. However, it was shown to agree, where applicable kinematically, to R1990 and R1998. The R parametrization R1998 was obtained using a larger data set than R1990 (R1998 used, in addition to the data set of R1990, other measurements extending the parametrization to lower and higher x) and also had a better confidence level of the fit (73%) than R1990 (61%). For all these reasons, R from R1998 was used for the structure-function calculation and an additional uncertainty of 2% was assigned to F_2 to account for the sensitivity of the extraction to R .

IV. RESULTS

In this section we present our results with a preamble of previous quark-hadron duality studies. With this very brief summary of previous studies we intend to create the appropriate context for the detailed discussion of our results and the conclusions that will be drawn.

A. Previous quark-hadron duality studies with electron scattering

Over 3 decades ago, Bloom and Gilman acknowledged the resonance-scaling connection in inclusive electron-nucleon scattering. After more than 20 years, it was an early JLab experiment that revived the interest in the phenomenon of quark-hadron duality [6,62,63]. This experiment confirmed the observations of Bloom and Gilman and, in addition, acknowledged the onset of duality also locally. The findings of these studies prompted interest in a more detailed analysis of duality, one within the QCD formalism.

Comparisons of the resonance region data to some QCD predictions were performed using measurements from JLab experiment E94-110 [7,56]. The F_1^p and F_2^p extracted from E94-110 were compared to QCD fits from the MRST [64]

and CTEQ6 [65] collaborations evaluated at the same Q^2 as the data and with the inclusion of target mass corrections. It was observed that the QCD fits seem to describe on average the resonance strength at each Q^2 value investigated— Q^2 of 1.5, 2.5, and 3.5 GeV^2 —as if the resonances would follow, on average, the same perturbative Q^2 evolution as the QCD fits. On a more quantitative level, quark-hadron duality was investigated by computing ratios of the integrals of the structure function over x in the resonance region at fixed Q^2 values from both the data and the scaling curves. It was found that duality seems to hold better than 5% above $Q^2 = 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ when compared to MRST with target mass corrections. However, at the highest Q^2 of 3.5 GeV^2 and the highest x the ratio to MRST was noticed to rise above unity up to 18% [5].

This finding came in strong contradiction with the expectation that duality should work even better at higher Q^2 . If the higher-twist contributions seem to be small or cancel to some degree at low Q^2 then, considering that these terms are weighted by powers of $1/Q^2$ in the operator product expansion, it is expected that this must be even more the case at a higher Q^2 . Moreover, the observation of increasing discrepancy between data and some QCD fits with increasing Q^2 (and increasing x) is not unique to the resonance region: DIS data from SLAC exhibit the same behavior [66]. In consequence, this rise has been ascribed not to a violation of duality but rather to an underestimation of the large x strength in some QCD fits.

These studies made obvious the utility of high-precision resonance region data at an even higher Q^2 (and thus larger x). This extension of resonance region measurements was crucial for the verification of QCD fit behavior in this kinematic regime. Considering that most of the currently available large x data lie in the resonance region, the confirmation of quark-hadron duality as an effective tool would offer much needed experimental constraints for theoretical predictions in the region of $x \rightarrow 1$.

In what follows, therefore, we present quark-hadron duality studies performed using the F_2 structure function extracted from this experiment, as well as from earlier Hall C [56,62] and SLAC [67–74] measurements in the resonance region.

B. Quark-hadron duality: the Q^2 dependence

An exhaustive description of nucleon structure in terms of parton distribution functions requires knowledge of the strength of the PDFs for the entire x regime. Most global QCD fits are essentially unconstrained at large x [36]. The quark-hadron duality phenomenon could be the key for providing experimental constraints in the large x region by the use of properly averaged resonance data. This avenue relies, however, on our ability to unravel the Q^2 dependence of the data in a region where the perturbative mechanisms are not the only ones to be taken into account.

In this context, a comparison of the Q^2 dependence of various theoretical predictions to the one exhibited by averaged resonance region data was studied in a similar fashion to that of Refs. [56,62]. Ratios of the integrals of the F_2 structure

function were considered:

$$I = \frac{\int_{x_{\min}}^{x_{\max}} F_2^{\text{data}}(x, Q^2) dx}{\int_{x_{\min}}^{x_{\max}} F_2^{\text{param.}}(x, Q^2) dx}. \quad (14)$$

The integrand in the numerator (F_2^{data}) is the F_2 structure function extracted from the experimental cross sections. The integrand in the denominator ($F_2^{\text{param.}}$) is the F_2 structure function as given by the parametrizations introduced in Sec. II: CTEQ6M+TM, MRST2004+TM, ALEKHIN, ALLM97. It is important to note that, for this analysis, $F_2^{\text{param.}}$ was generated at the same values of x and Q^2 as the data and was integrated over the same range in x as the data using the same integration procedure. This, by dint of the W^2 cuts used to obtain these global fits, by definition extends them into regions where they are not constrained in x , and only their Q^2 dependence is determined.

For *global* duality studies, the limits of the integrals, x_{\min} and x_{\max} , were the experimental x values corresponding to $W_{\min}^2 = 1.3 \text{ GeV}^2$ and $W_{\max}^2 = 4.5 \text{ GeV}^2$, respectively. To compare the Q^2 dependence of theoretical predictions to individual resonance structures, for *local* duality studies, the resonance regions were delimited using the same W^2 cuts as in a previous analysis [6]:

- (i) first region (1st) $\rightarrow W^2 \in [1.3, 1.9] \text{ GeV}^2$
- (ii) second region (2nd) $\rightarrow W^2 \in [1.9, 2.5] \text{ GeV}^2$
- (iii) third region (3rd) $\rightarrow W^2 \in [2.5, 3.1] \text{ GeV}^2$
- (iv) fourth region (4th) $\rightarrow W^2 \in [3.1, 3.9] \text{ GeV}^2$
- (v) DIS region (DIS) $\rightarrow W^2 \in [3.9, 4.5] \text{ GeV}^2$

These W^2 limits translate in the integrals of Eq. (14), to x_{\min} and x_{\max} values according to:

$$x = \frac{Q^2}{W^2 + Q^2 - M}, \quad (15)$$

where M is the proton mass. As an example, the x range covered by different resonance regions for two Q^2 values are given in Table IV. At a given Q^2 , the lowest W^2 region (the first region) corresponds to the highest x regime while for a fixed W^2 region, the larger the Q^2 , the larger the x regime.

Figures 20–23 depict the results of the global and local duality studies performed for $H(e, e')$. The quantity I is shown for each resonance region individually as well as integrated over the full region specified above. The uncertainties shown are obtained by adding in quadrature the statistical and systematic uncertainties on the numerator alone. No parametrization uncertainties are plotted. The latter are typically substantial at large x , on the order of 100% [11]. Overall, the data of this experiment (blue circles), previous JLab data (the data represented by black stars and red triangles are from Refs. [62] and [56], respectively), and SLAC data (green squares [67–74]) are found to be in good agreement. A slight disagreement could be observed between this experiment and the SLAC experiment E-8920 that is singled out from the other SLAC data sets (empty green square). The disagreement becomes smaller as we approach the DIS region. This is possibly related to the fact that, for E-8920, the radiative corrections were rescaled to bring the DIS data in agreement with the other SLAC experiments that

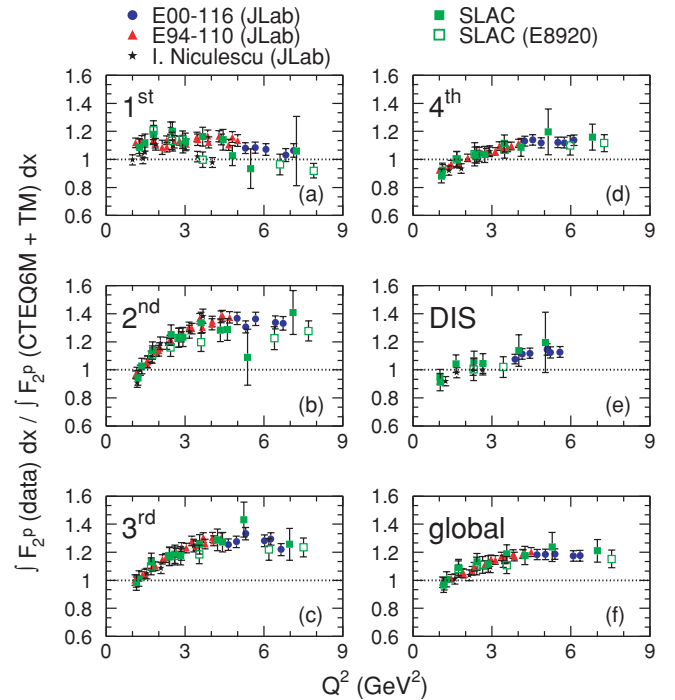


FIG. 20. (Color online) Local and global duality studies for $H(e, e')$ where CTEQ6M+TM [11] was used for comparison. Together with the data of this experiment (blue circles) are also plotted the results using measurements from two previous Hall C experiments, I. Niculescu (black stars) [62] and E94-110 (red triangles) [56], and from SLAC [67–74].

could, however, have resulted in a possible incorrect estimation of the radiative corrections in the resonance region.

Figure 20 presents our results when we compare the integral of the F_2^p extracted from the data to the integral of F_2^p obtained from the CTEQ6M PDFs with the inclusion of target mass effects as explained in Sec. II. The quantity I is close to unity at a Q^2 of about 1.5 GeV^2 and then rises above unity with increasing Q^2 . However, I reaches a plateau at a Q^2 of about 4 GeV^2 and, above this value, the Q^2 dependence saturates. This behavior is displayed when the integration is done globally as seen in the bottom right panel but also for “all” the individual resonance regions except for the first resonance region (upper left panel). The saturation of the Q^2 dependence indicates that the discrepancy between data and parametrization is not a Q^2 -dependent effect. It is most likely, therefore, due to the fact that CTEQ6M+TM does not model accurately the strength of the PDFs at large x . Put differently, I being greater than 1 and, reaching a constant value above $Q^2 \sim 4 \text{ GeV}^2$, most likely does not represent the failure of QCD in describing the Q^2 evolution of the averaged resonance region data but rather a paucity in the strength of the PDFs at large x . The resonance region data do display on average a QCD type Q^2 dependence.

The ratio I seems to become constant at a slightly different value for each resonance region. In fact, as we move from the fourth resonance region ($I \sim 1.1$) to the third ($I \sim 1.28$) and then to the second ($I \sim 1.35$), the discrepancy increases. This is possibly related to the growing uncertainty associated with

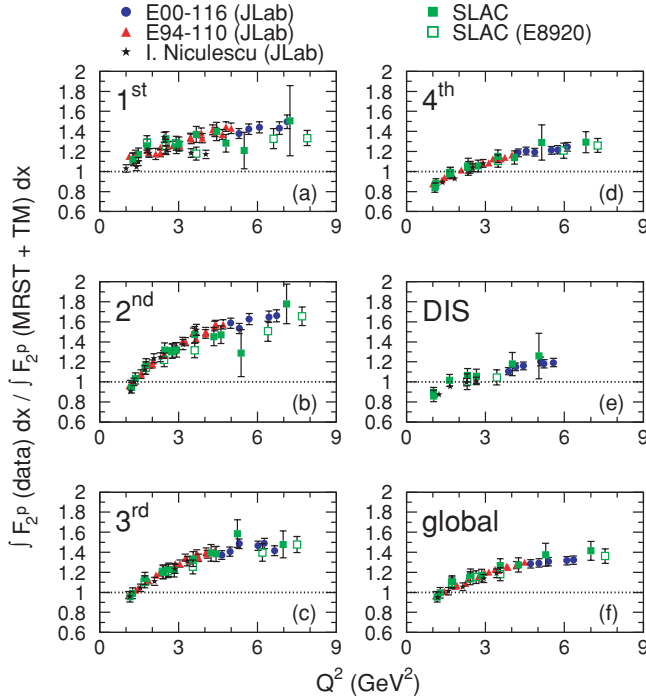


FIG. 21. (Color online) Local and global duality studies for $H(e, e')$ where MRST2004+TM [12] was used for comparison. Together with the data of this experiment (blue circles) are also plotted the results using measurements from two previous Hall C experiments, I. Niculescu (black stars) [62] and E94-110 (red triangles) [56], and from SLAC [67–74].

PDF strengths at large x . For a fixed Q^2 , the second resonance region probes a larger x regime than the third and the third larger than the fourth and so on. Because the x dependence of the PDFs is less and less constrained at larger and larger x , we expect this to be reflected in a more obvious way when we study the second resonance region rather than the third, for example.

It was reported before that the N - Δ transition region provides a different behavior when compared to the rest of the resonance region [24]. This could be related to the fact that this region is the only one with a single resonant state and there are arguments that more than one state is necessary to approximate closure and duality [75]. It should also be pointed out that the first resonance region probes the highest x regime where the PDFs are expected to be least constrained.

Figure 21 shows the ratio of the integrals of F_2^p from the data and MRST2004 with target mass corrections. The observed Q^2 dependence of I yields similar conclusions to those drawn from the comparison to CTEQ6M: we encounter the same rise of I with Q^2 that eventually saturates for all resonance regions except for the first one and also globally. And just as for CTEQ6M, I saturates at a different values for each resonance region. This is not surprising considering that the extraction procedure of PDFs for MRST2004 is rather similar to the one employed by CTEQ6M. There are, however, few features that set apart the comparison with MRST2004. This parametrization undershoots the data by an even larger amount and I saturates at a larger value of Q^2 than for

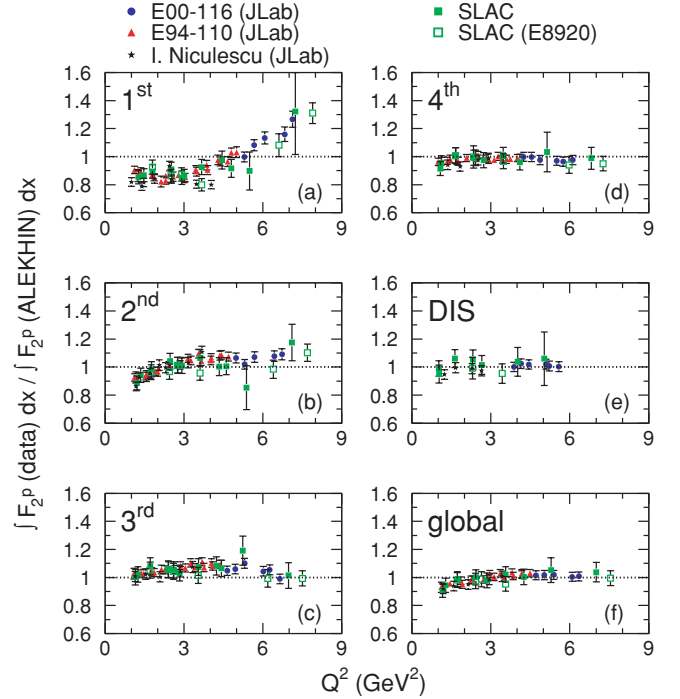


FIG. 22. (Color online) Local and global duality studies for $H(e, e')$ where ALEKHIN [13,14] was used for comparison. Together with the data of this experiment (blue circles) are also plotted the results using measurements from two previous Hall C experiments, I. Niculescu (black stars) [62] and E94-110 (red triangles) [56], and from SLAC [67–74].

CTEQ6M+TM. This most likely results from the differences in the x dependence modeling of the PDFs between the two parametrizations.

Figure 22 shows the comparison of our averaged F_2^p resonance data to the parametrization of ALEKHIN. It should be noted that it is not just the leading twist that is considered in this parametrization, as is the case with CTEQ6M and MRST2004, but also the higher twists. By explicitly accounting for higher-twist terms, Alekhin can extend the validity of his fit to an x as large as 0.75 and a W^2 as low as 3.24 GeV^2 . Though this W^2 cut practically excludes resonance region data, it is still more permissive than the cuts employed by CTEQ6M or MRST2004, ensuring that the ALEKHIN fit is far better constrained at large x . Indeed, the agreement between the averaged resonance data and ALEKHIN is obvious in Fig. 22. For the fourth resonance and the DIS regions (upper and middle right panel, respectively) the quantity I is very close to unity across the entire Q^2 range investigated. Good agreement is obtained when analyzing the second and third resonance regions: I deviates from unity by only 5% or less and, for most part, seems independent of Q^2 . This finding is quite remarkable: according to ALEKHIN higher-twist coefficients in the resonance region, on average, differ from the ones extracted from the DIS region by at most 5%. It should be pointed out that not all of this already small discrepancy can be attributed to the contribution from higher-twist terms: ALEKHIN does not include resonance data in his fit therefore the x dependence of the PDFs is unconstrained in this region,

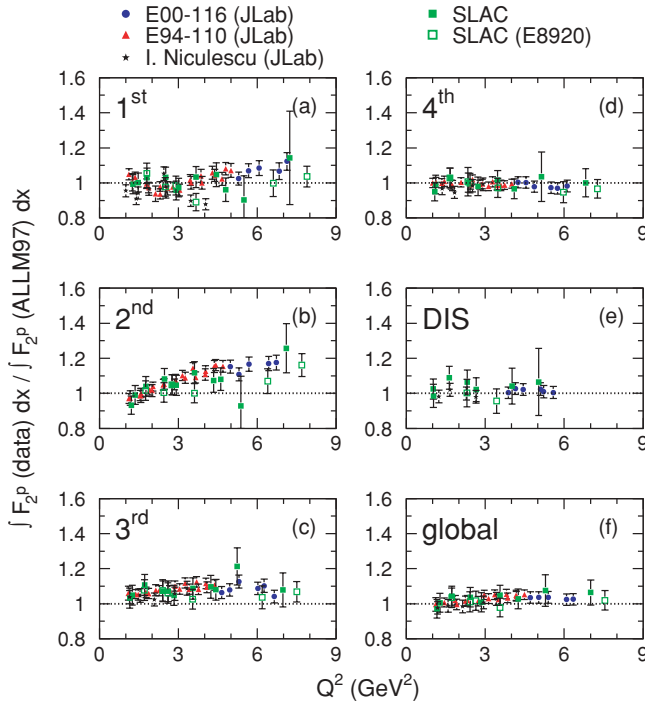


FIG. 23. (Color online) Local and global duality studies for $H(e, e')$ where ALLM97 [10] was used for comparison. Together with the data of this experiment (blue circles) are also plotted the results using measurements from two previous Hall C experiments, I. Niculescu (black stars) [62] and E94-110 (red triangles) [56], and from SLAC [67–74].

though to a far lesser extent than for CTEQ6M or MRST2004. This finding is quite different from what was observed when comparing to CTEQ6M, for example. There I deviates from unity by about 10% in the DIS region but by almost 35% in the second resonance region. When compared to ALEKHIN, the first resonance region (upper left panel) behaves differently but in this kinematic regime the fit validity is questionable. The data are well described on average also globally. Thus the higher-twist terms contributions in the resonance region is shown to be quantitatively comparable on average with the ones extracted from the deep-inelastic-scattering data pointing to the onset of quark-hadron duality.

The comparison of our integrated F_2^p resonance data to ALLM97 is presented in Fig. 23. The Q^2 dependence of I shows very good agreement between data and this parametrization in the fourth resonance (upper right panel) and DIS (middle right panel) regions and also globally. If quark-hadron duality holds, this is to be expected considering that ALLM97 successfully fits data down to a W^2 as low as 3 GeV². The agreement slightly worsens as we move to the third and second resonance regions. Though I is about 7% above unity, it seems to be independent of Q^2 for the third resonance region. A familiar pattern emerges when analyzing the Q^2 dependence of I in the second resonance region: I rises with increasing Q^2 but this rise eventually saturates around Q^2 of 4 GeV². It is to be expected that as the larger x and lower W^2 region is probed, the comparison between averaged resonance data and this parametrization

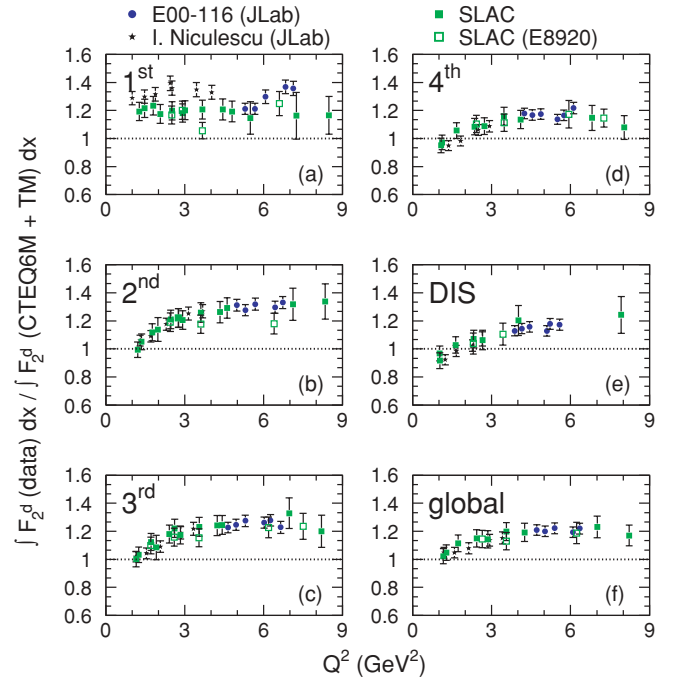


FIG. 24. (Color online) Local and global duality studies for $D(e, e')$ where CTEQ6M+TM [11] multiplied by d/p ratio from Ref. [33] was used for comparison. Together with the data of this experiment (blue circles) are also plotted the results using measurements from two previous Hall C experiments, I. Niculescu (black stars) [62] and E94-110 (red triangles) [56], and from SLAC [67–74].

to unravel some of its shortcomings like unconstrained x and Q^2 dependence or inability to fully account for target mass effects. The averaged resonance data in the first region (upper left panel) compare surprisingly well with ALLM97 but no definite conclusions could be drawn within QCD framework considering that ALLM97 accounts for the x and Q^2 dependence empirically and this is a region far from the domain of validity of this parametrization. Overall, the comparison of averaged resonance data to ALLM97 confirms that, quantitatively, higher-twist terms contributions in the resonance region seem to be comparable, on average, with the ones in the deep-inelastic-scattering data.

A similar pattern as for $H(e, e')$ is observed when studying the Q^2 dependence of I for $D(e, e')$ (Figs. 24–27). It should be noted that, as discussed in Sec. II, there is an additional factor to consider when analyzing the results from our global and local quark-hadron duality studies for $D(e, e')$: all of the three QCD-based parametrizations used in our analysis provide PDFs from which the proton structure function is constructed. In addition, ALLM97 is a fit to only proton data. To obtain parametrizations for the deuteron structure function we used the F_2^p parametrizations and the d/p parametrization from Ref. [33] introduced in Sec. II.

Figure 24 shows our results when we compare the integral of F_2^d extracted from the data to the integral of F_2^d obtained from CTEQ6M PDFs as explained above. The Q^2 dependence of I displays similar characteristics to the ones acknowledged in our study of the proton data presented in Fig. 20: I rises

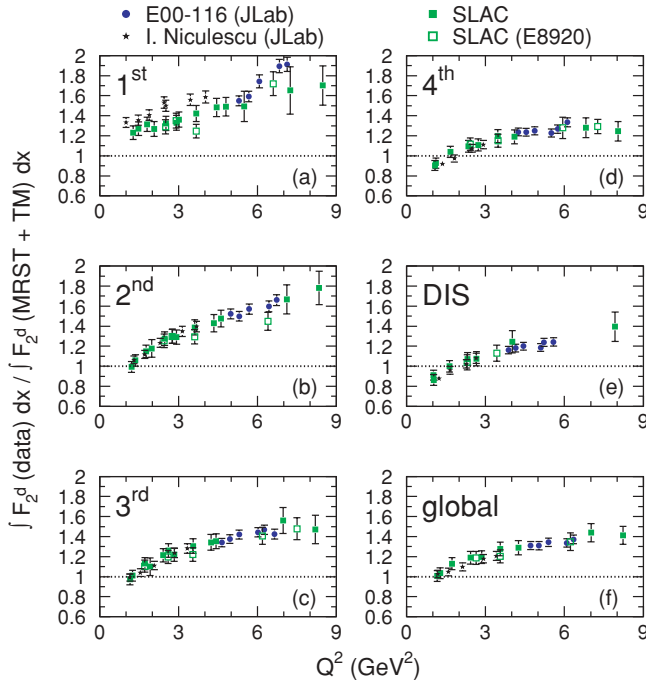


FIG. 25. (Color online) Local and global duality studies for $D(e,e')$ where MRST2004+TM [12] multiplied by d/p ratio from Ref. [33] was used for comparison. Together with the data of this experiment (blue circles) are also plotted the results using measurements from two previous Hall C experiments, I. Niculescu (black stars) [62] and E94-110 (red triangles) [56], and from SLAC [67–74].

above unity with increasing Q^2 but a plateau is reached at a Q^2 of about 4 GeV^2 . Above this value I is practically independent of Q^2 . As observed before, the first resonance region (upper left panel) stands out and, in addition to the aspects discussed for $H(e,e')$, the complication of having to resort to extrapolations of the d/p parametrization should be taken into account.

A similar behavior is acknowledged when the data are compared with MRST2004 (Fig. 25). However, the Q^2 dependence of I saturates at a larger Q^2 value than for CTEQ6M just as it happened for $H(e,e')$. This trend is even more accentuated as we probe larger x regimes (second resonance region in the middle left panel, for example) where the reliability of the d/p parametrization is questionable.

Just as for $H(e,e')$, good agreement is observed when the $D(e,e')$ data are compared to ALEKHIN, as seen in Fig. 26. In fact, except for the first resonance region (upper left panel) where both the PDFs and the d/p parametrization are expected to be largely unconstrained, the $D(e,e')$ data are described by this parametrization down to the lowest Q^2 analyzed. Similar conclusions can be drawn from the comparison of the data to ALLM97 that is presented in Fig. 27.

To summarize, our studies showed that above a Q^2 of about 4 GeV^2 for CTEQ6M and slightly higher for MRST2004 the ratio of the integrals of resonance data and parametrizations becomes independent of Q^2 . This is a very important finding that suggests that, above a surprisingly low Q^2 value, most of the disagreement between the averaged resonance data

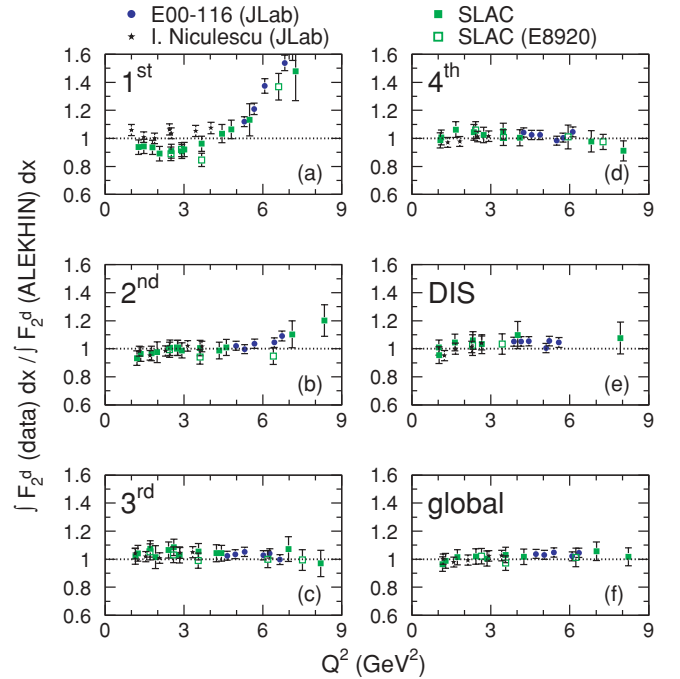


FIG. 26. (Color online) Local and global duality studies for $D(e,e')$ where ALEKHIN [13,14] multiplied by d/p ratio from Ref. [33] was used for comparison. Together with the data of this experiment (blue circles) are also plotted the results using measurements from two previous Hall C experiments, I. Niculescu (black stars) [62] and E94-110 (red triangles) [56], and from SLAC [67–74].

and the above-mentioned parametrizations is unrelated to the violation of the Q^2 evolution by contributions from the higher-twist terms in the resonance region. In fact, the comparison of our data to ALEKHIN and ALLM97 confirmed that higher-twist contributions to deep inelastic scattering and averaged resonance region data are comparable. All these findings point to the unconstrained strength of the CTEQ6M and MRST2004 PDFs at large x as major source for the disagreement between data and the above-mentioned parametrizations in this kinematic regime.

C. Quark-hadron duality: the x dependence

Our quark-hadron duality studies discussed above indicate that there are small rather than large violations of the Q^2 evolution in the resonance region *on average*. Thus when referring to disagreements between data and theory, the ability of PDF-based calculations to describe the x dependence of the data in particular at large x is brought into discussion.

We used the averaged proton structure-function data for the five W^2 regions to draw a comparison to the theoretical calculations at fixed Q_0^2 as a function of x . The data averaging was done as follows:

$$F_2^{p,\text{ave}} = \frac{\int_{x_{\min}}^{x_{\max}} F_{2,\text{data}}^p dx}{x_{\max} - x_{\min}}, \quad (16)$$

where x_{\min} and x_{\max} are the integration limits corresponding to the W^2 limits defined in the previous section.

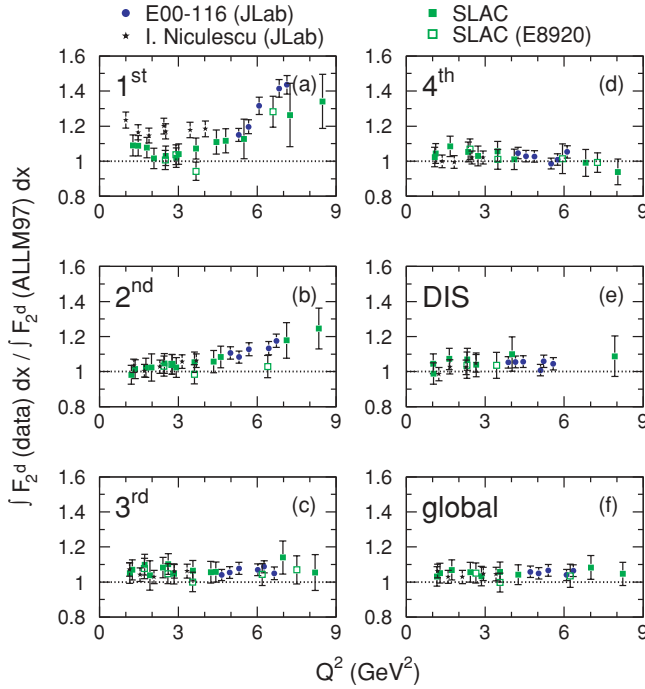


FIG. 27. (Color online) Local and global duality studies for $D(e, e')$ where ALLM97 [10] multiplied by d/p ratio from Ref. [33] was used for comparison. Together with the data of this experiment (blue circles) are also plotted the results using measurements from two previous Hall C experiments, I. Niculescu (black stars) [62] and E94-110 (red triangles) [56], and from SLAC [67–74].

The averaged structure-function data, $F_2^{p,\text{ave}}$ were then centered at a fixed Q_0^2 . Data within small Q^2 intervals were chosen for centering: for example, all $F_2^{p,\text{ave}}$ data in the Q^2 interval of 2 to 4 GeV^2 were evaluated at $Q_0^2 = 3 \text{ GeV}^2$ and so on. This was done as follows:

$$F_2^{p,\text{ave}}(x, Q_0^2) = F_2^{p,\text{ave}}(x, Q^2) \frac{F_{2,\text{param.}}^p(x, Q_0^2)}{F_{2,\text{param.}}^p(x, Q^2)}. \quad (17)$$

The parametrization of M. E. Christy [17] was used for bin centering because it describes the Q^2 dependence of the data to better than 3%. In addition, to study the sensitivity of the results to the choice of parametrization, the CTEQ6M fit was also used and the difference in the results when the two parametrizations are used was assigned as a systematic uncertainty. Just as for the quark-hadron duality studies discussed in the previous section our data were compared with all of the four parametrizations introduced in Sec. II and the results are presented in Figs. 28–31.

Given that the deviations between our locally averaged resonance region data and the expectations based on PDF parametrizations such as CTEQ6M and MRST2004 seem related to the uncertainty of these PDFs at large x , we start a comparison of the x dependence of our averaged resonance data with the phenomenological ALEKHIN and ALLM97 structure-function parametrizations. Figure 28 shows the ratio of the F_2^p structure function extracted from the data as explained above and the parametrization of ALEKHIN at four values of Q^2 as a function of x . At Q^2 of 3 and 5 GeV^2 (upper

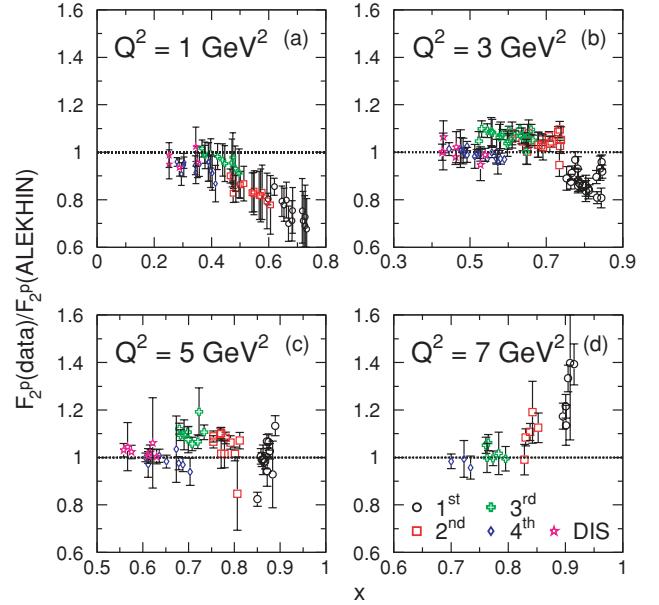


FIG. 28. (Color online) The ratio of F_2 structure function from data to F_2 from ALEKHIN [13,14] versus x at fixed Q^2 .

right and lower left panel, respectively) the parametrization describes the x dependence of the data well, except for the largest x regime where measurements from the first resonance region are used. There is a small shift between the DIS+fourth resonance region data and the rest but no obvious disagreement that depends on x is observed. At Q^2 of 7 GeV^2 (lower right panel) our data probe the largest x regime where ALEKHIN is least constrained and we acknowledge a growing discrepancy between data and parametrization with increasing x . At Q^2 of 1 GeV^2 ALEKHIN fails to describe the x dependence of

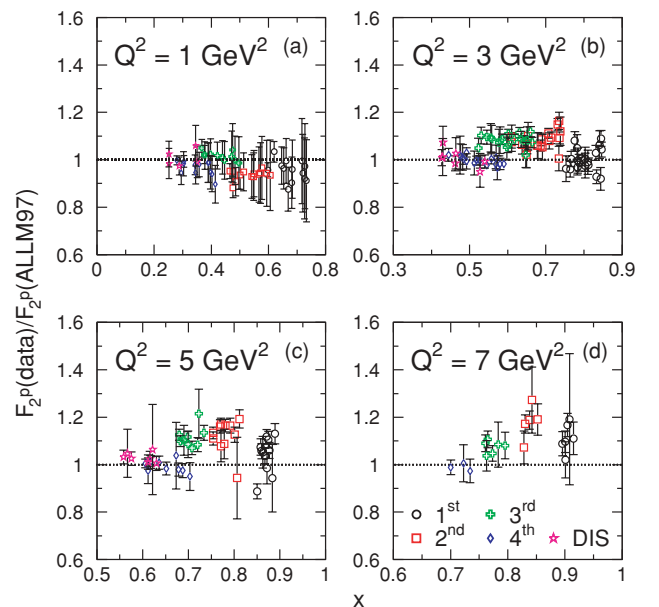


FIG. 29. (Color online) The ratio of F_2 structure function from data to F_2 from ALLM97 [10] versus x at fixed Q^2 .

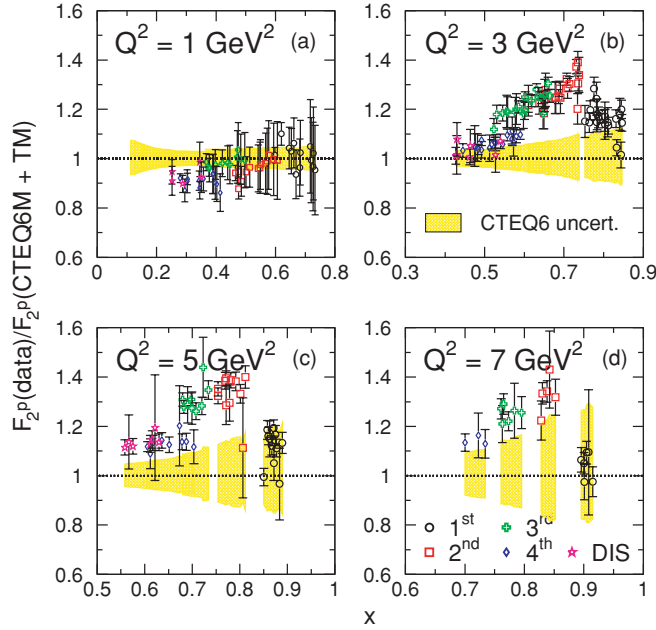


FIG. 30. (Color online) The ratio of F_2 structure function from data to F_2 from CTEQ6M+TM [11] versus x at fixed Q^2 .

our data as x increases: the data probe here a regime where both the x and Q^2 limits of applicability are reached for this parametrization. Similar conclusions can be drawn from the comparison of our data with ALLM97 presented in Fig. 29.

Figure 30 shows the comparison of the data to CTEQ6M+TM. The CTEQ6M uncertainties are plotted also as a band. The parametrization fails to describe the x dependence of the data. The discrepancy is much larger than observed in our comparisons with ALEKHIN and ALLM97

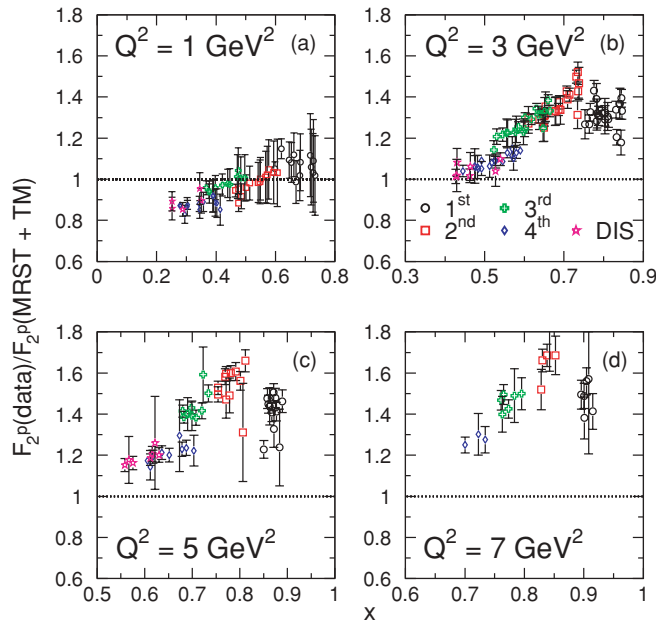


FIG. 31. (Color online) The ratio of F_2 structure function from data to F_2 from MRST2004+TM [12] versus x at fixed Q^2 .

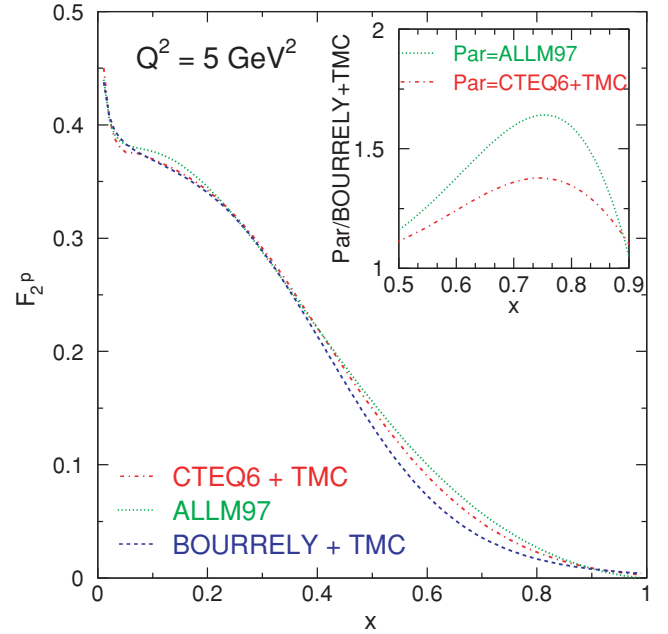


FIG. 32. (Color online) A comparison of the F_2 parametrization from Bourrely *et al.* [15] to CTEQ6M [11] and ALLM97 [10] at a Q^2 value of 5 GeV^2 . In the insert, the ratio of the two parametrizations, ALLM97 and CTEQ6+TMC, to the parametrization from Bourrely *et al.* is shown.

and it also grows strongly with increasing x . The same conclusion can be drawn from the comparison of the data to MRST2004+TM presented in Fig. 31. Again, this is not surprising considering that for both calculations the strength of the PDFs is largely unconstrained in the kinematic regime that we study. However, the ALEKHIN parametrization accounts explicitly for higher-twist, which allows it to include data with lower W^2 (and larger x) than CTEQ6M and MRST2004. This offers better constraints to the x functional form that reflects a more realistic description of the data.

Figure 32 shows the comparison of the F_2^p structure function from Bourrely *et al.* [15] to CTEQ6M+TM and ALLM97 at a fixed Q^2 value of 5 GeV^2 . The target mass effects were included in the parametrization of Bourrely *et al.* in an identical fashion as for CTEQ6M, according to Georgi and Politzer prescription [27]. At low x , $x < 0.4$, the three parametrizations agree reasonably well. At large x , however, significant discrepancies arise: up to 30% when compared to CTEQ6M+TM and larger for ALLM97, as shown in the insert of Fig. 32. Without the inclusion of target mass effects, the ratio of CTEQ6M+TM and ALLM97 to the parametrization from Bourrely *et al.* would be even larger at large x ($x > 0.5$). The major cause of this discrepancy is, most likely, the scarcity of high W^2 and high x data that could constrain the x dependence of the parton distribution functions. The parametrization from Bourrely *et al.* undershoots the F_2^p structure function from ALLM97 that was found to be in fairly good agreement with our averaged resonance region data.

We conclude that what appeared to be a violation of quark-hadron duality when we compared our averaged resonance data with CTEQ6M and MRST2004 is actually, for the most

part, a reflection of the inability of these parametrizations to realistically model the large x strength of their PDFs.

V. CONCLUSIONS

We have performed high-precision measurements of the $H(e, e')$ and $D(e, e')$ cross sections in the resonance region at large x and intermediate Q^2 . In this work, both global and local quark-hadron duality was quantified for the proton and deuteron using our new large x data as well as previous resonance region measurements from JLab and SLAC. Previous studies [7,56] indicated quark-hadron duality in the F_2^p structure function to hold better than 5% above $Q^2 = 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ when compared to a typical QCD fit like MRST, with a growing discrepancy observed as regions of higher Q^2 , about 3.5 GeV^2 , and higher x were explored. This finding came in strong contradiction with the expectation that duality should work best with increasing Q^2 . The question arose whether this growing discrepancy was really a violation of duality by contributions from higher-twist terms or mostly a consequence of the well-known issue of highly unconstrained PDFs at large x .

We found that, when compared to CTEQ6M and MRST2004, the ratio of integrals of resonance data and these parametrizations becomes independent of Q^2 starting with a value of about 4 GeV^2 for CTEQ6M and slightly higher for MRST2004. This is an indication that, as expected from quark-hadron duality, there are only small violations of the Q^2 evolution by data in the resonance region, on average. This ratio saturates above unity at increasing values for regions with decreasing W^2 (and increasing x) but remains constant in Q^2 , likely due to the uncertainty in the PDFs extraction at large x .

The comparison to ALEKHIN revealed that the higher-twist contributions to the averaged resonance region data are comparable to the ones in the low W^2 DIS region at the level of 5% or less. This points as well to the unconstrained PDFs at large x as a major source of the observed discrepancy between data and CTEQ6M and MRST2004. This argument is further supported by our studies of the x dependence of the data and parametrizations.

This analysis concludes that, with a careful study of the Q^2 -dependent contributions, properly averaged resonance region data could be used to provide much needed constraints for PDFs at large x , shedding light on the parton dynamics in this regime. In view of quark-hadron duality, a CTEQ subgroup has begun to attempt the improvement of PDFs at large x expanding the possible data sets by lowering the W^2 cut [76].

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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APPENDIX: TABLES OF DIFFERENTIAL CROSS SECTIONS

TABLE V. Differential cross sections extracted from the measurements of E00-116. The normalization uncertainty is 1.75%.

E'	Q^2	W^2	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst
1.5456	3.5853	4.7162	1.3552	0.0215	0.0208	1.3921	0.0215	0.0156	2.1071	0.0276	0.0319	2.1383	0.0278	0.0242
1.5623	3.6241	4.6461	1.3206	0.0209	0.0203	1.3507	0.0210	0.0152	2.0745	0.0268	0.0314	2.0941	0.0271	0.0237
1.5790	3.6629	4.5760	1.2747	0.0200	0.0196	1.2985	0.0202	0.0146	1.9751	0.0255	0.0299	1.9844	0.0259	0.0224
1.5957	3.7016	4.5059	1.2117	0.0194	0.0186	1.2309	0.0196	0.0138	1.9098	0.0247	0.0289	1.9096	0.0252	0.0216
1.6124	3.7404	4.4358	1.1546	0.0187	0.0177	1.1680	0.0190	0.0131	1.8305	0.0238	0.0277	1.8221	0.0244	0.0206
1.6291	3.7791	4.3656	1.1127	0.0182	0.0171	1.1212	0.0185	0.0126	1.7357	0.0229	0.0263	1.7200	0.0236	0.0194
1.6458	3.8179	4.2955	1.1025	0.0179	0.0169	1.1045	0.0184	0.0124	1.6753	0.0223	0.0254	1.6534	0.0230	0.0187
1.6625	3.8567	4.2254	1.0683	0.0174	0.0164	1.0668	0.0179	0.0120	1.6388	0.0219	0.0248	1.6102	0.0227	0.0182
1.6793	3.8954	4.1553	0.9795	0.0165	0.0150	0.9756	0.0170	0.0109	1.5186	0.0207	0.0230	1.4874	0.0216	0.0168
1.6960	3.9342	4.0852	0.9257	0.0161	0.0142	0.9189	0.0166	0.0103	1.4352	0.0200	0.0218	1.4014	0.0209	0.0158
1.7127	3.9729	4.0151	0.8999	0.0157	0.0138	0.8897	0.0162	0.0100	1.4014	0.0195	0.0212	1.3632	0.0205	0.0154
1.7294	4.0117	3.9450	0.8757	0.0153	0.0135	0.8623	0.0160	0.0097	1.3753	0.0193	0.0208	1.3332	0.0203	0.0151
1.7461	4.0505	3.8748	0.8500	0.0149	0.0131	0.8337	0.0155	0.0094	1.2775	0.0183	0.0194	1.2358	0.0193	0.0140
1.7628	4.0892	3.8047	0.8408	0.0147	0.0129	0.8209	0.0154	0.0092	1.2525	0.0180	0.0190	1.2076	0.0190	0.0137
1.7795	4.1280	3.7346	0.8035	0.0142	0.0123	0.7816	0.0149	0.0088	1.1757	0.0172	0.0178	1.1318	0.0182	0.0128
1.7962	4.1667	3.6645	0.7409	0.0135	0.0114	0.7188	0.0142	0.0081	1.1152	0.0166	0.0169	1.0705	0.0176	0.0121
1.7973	4.1692	3.6601	0.7589	0.0102	0.0117	0.7352	0.0108	0.0082	1.1433	0.0107	0.0173	1.0962	0.0113	0.0124
1.8167	4.2143	3.5785	0.7148	0.0097	0.0110	0.6903	0.0102	0.0077	1.1020	0.0102	0.0167	1.0524	0.0109	0.0119
1.8361	4.2593	3.4970	0.6820	0.0093	0.0105	0.6565	0.0098	0.0074	1.0121	0.0095	0.0153	0.9639	0.0101	0.0109
1.8556	4.3044	3.4155	0.6232	0.0087	0.0096	0.5993	0.0093	0.0067	0.9622	0.0090	0.0146	0.9125	0.0097	0.0103
1.8750	4.3495	3.3339	0.6015	0.0085	0.0092	0.5773	0.0091	0.0065	0.8998	0.0087	0.0136	0.8496	0.0093	0.0096

TABLE V. (*Continued.*)

E'	Q^2	W^2	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst
1.8944	4.3946	3.2524	0.5551	0.0080	0.0085	0.5320	0.0086	0.0060	0.8456	0.0082	0.0128	0.7941	0.0089	0.0090
1.9139	4.4396	3.1709	0.5318	0.0077	0.0082	0.5070	0.0083	0.0057	0.8058	0.0079	0.0122	0.7520	0.0086	0.0085
1.9333	4.4847	3.0893	0.5271	0.0077	0.0081	0.4961	0.0083	0.0056	0.7552	0.0075	0.0114	0.7002	0.0082	0.0079
1.9527	4.5298	3.0078	0.5116	0.0074	0.0079	0.4707	0.0082	0.0053	0.7004	0.0070	0.0106	0.6454	0.0078	0.0073
1.9721	4.5748	2.9263	0.5150	0.0072	0.0079	0.4637	0.0082	0.0052	0.6366	0.0066	0.0097	0.5837	0.0073	0.0066
1.9916	4.6199	2.8447	0.4624	0.0066	0.0071	0.4090	0.0076	0.0046	0.6079	0.0063	0.0092	0.5545	0.0071	0.0063
2.0110	4.6650	2.7632	0.4032	0.0061	0.0062	0.3600	0.0070	0.0040	0.5547	0.0060	0.0084	0.5046	0.0067	0.0057
2.0304	4.7101	2.6817	0.3493	0.0055	0.0054	0.3173	0.0062	0.0036	0.5063	0.0056	0.0077	0.4597	0.0063	0.0052
2.0499	4.7551	2.6001	0.2953	0.0050	0.0045	0.2722	0.0056	0.0031	0.4710	0.0053	0.0071	0.4269	0.0060	0.0048
2.0693	4.8002	2.5186	0.2786	0.0050	0.0043	0.2585	0.0055	0.0029	0.4320	0.0050	0.0066	0.3906	0.0056	0.0044
2.0887	4.8453	2.4370	0.2701	0.0049	0.0042	0.2491	0.0055	0.0028	0.4007	0.0047	0.0061	0.3610	0.0054	0.0041
2.0898	4.8477	2.4327	0.2737	0.0035	0.0042	0.2519	0.0039	0.0028	0.4123	0.0036	0.0063	0.3707	0.0041	0.0042
2.1124	4.9001	2.3379	0.2959	0.0035	0.0046	0.2601	0.0041	0.0029	0.3702	0.0033	0.0056	0.3306	0.0038	0.0037
2.1349	4.9525	2.2431	0.2671	0.0032	0.0041	0.2266	0.0038	0.0026	0.3394	0.0030	0.0052	0.2998	0.0035	0.0034
2.1575	5.0049	2.1483	0.2188	0.0027	0.0034	0.1875	0.0033	0.0021	0.2923	0.0027	0.0045	0.2584	0.0032	0.0029
2.1801	5.0573	2.0535	0.1789	0.0024	0.0028	0.1548	0.0029	0.0018	0.2545	0.0024	0.0039	0.2246	0.0029	0.0026
2.2027	5.1097	1.9587	0.1442	0.0021	0.0023	0.1252	0.0026	0.0014	0.2271	0.0023	0.0035	0.2002	0.0027	0.0023
2.2253	5.1621	1.8639	0.1218	0.0019	0.0019	0.1063	0.0023	0.0013	0.1912	0.0020	0.0030	0.1696	0.0024	0.0020
2.2479	5.2145	1.7691	0.0925	0.0017	0.0015	0.0823	0.0020	0.0010	0.1595	0.0018	0.0026	0.1431	0.0022	0.0017
2.2705	5.2669	1.6743	0.0816	0.0016	0.0014	0.0727	0.0020	0.0010	0.1342	0.0016	0.0022	0.1227	0.0020	0.0015
2.2931	5.3193	1.5795	0.0750	0.0016	0.0015	0.0657	0.0020	0.0011	0.1093	0.0015	0.0019	0.1032	0.0018	0.0013
2.3157	5.3718	1.4847	0.0696	0.0017	0.0017	0.0582	0.0023	0.0013	0.0929	0.0013	0.0018	0.0912	0.0017	0.0012
2.3383	5.4242	1.3899	0.0405	0.0012	0.0014	0.0354	0.0018	0.0012	0.0796	0.0013	0.0019	0.0816	0.0017	0.0012
2.3609	5.4766	1.2951	0.0203	0.0009	0.0011	0.0218	0.0014	0.0012	0.0670	0.0011	0.0019	0.0723	0.0015	0.0013
1.4831	3.9954	4.4235	0.8663	0.0185	0.0133	0.8764	0.0187	0.0098	1.2778	0.0208	0.0194	1.2761	0.0213	0.0144
1.4991	4.0386	4.3502	0.7946	0.0176	0.0122	0.8019	0.0179	0.0090	1.2380	0.0202	0.0188	1.2305	0.0208	0.0139
1.5151	4.0818	4.2769	0.7645	0.0167	0.0117	0.7684	0.0170	0.0086	1.1795	0.0193	0.0179	1.1689	0.0199	0.0132
1.5312	4.1250	4.2036	0.7400	0.0164	0.0114	0.7408	0.0168	0.0083	1.1221	0.0186	0.0170	1.1068	0.0192	0.0125
1.5472	4.1682	4.1303	0.7246	0.0161	0.0111	0.7221	0.0166	0.0081	1.0686	0.0179	0.0162	1.0499	0.0187	0.0119
1.5632	4.2114	4.0571	0.6731	0.0152	0.0103	0.6686	0.0157	0.0075	1.0422	0.0174	0.0158	1.0200	0.0182	0.0115
1.5793	4.2546	3.9838	0.6490	0.0149	0.0100	0.6418	0.0155	0.0072	0.9415	0.0164	0.0143	0.9193	0.0172	0.0104
1.5953	4.2978	3.9105	0.6325	0.0147	0.0097	0.6228	0.0153	0.0070	0.9152	0.0161	0.0139	0.8904	0.0169	0.0101
1.6113	4.3410	3.8372	0.6119	0.0143	0.0094	0.5998	0.0150	0.0067	0.8736	0.0155	0.0132	0.8473	0.0163	0.0096
1.6273	4.3842	3.7639	0.5512	0.0135	0.0085	0.5390	0.0142	0.0060	0.8480	0.0152	0.0129	0.8196	0.0161	0.0093
1.6434	4.4274	3.6907	0.5340	0.0132	0.0082	0.5199	0.0139	0.0058	0.7789	0.0145	0.0118	0.7510	0.0154	0.0085
1.6594	4.4706	3.6174	0.5193	0.0131	0.0080	0.5035	0.0138	0.0056	0.7367	0.0141	0.0112	0.7082	0.0149	0.0080
1.6754	4.5138	3.5441	0.4758	0.0124	0.0073	0.4603	0.0132	0.0052	0.7148	0.0138	0.0108	0.6846	0.0147	0.0077
1.6915	4.5570	3.4708	0.4524	0.0120	0.0070	0.4367	0.0128	0.0049	0.6694	0.0133	0.0102	0.6393	0.0142	0.0072

TABLE VI. Differential cross sections extracted from the measurements of E00-116. The normalization uncertainty is 1.75%.

E'	Q^2	W^2	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst
1.7075	4.6001	3.3975	0.4201	0.0116	0.0065	0.4054	0.0123	0.0045	0.6431	0.0128	0.0098	0.6117	0.0137	0.0069
1.7235	4.6433	3.3243	0.4230	0.0113	0.0065	0.4071	0.0120	0.0046	0.5836	0.0120	0.0089	0.5534	0.0129	0.0063
1.7244	4.6456	3.3204	0.4093	0.0064	0.0063	0.3939	0.0068	0.0044	0.5993	0.0068	0.0091	0.5674	0.0073	0.0064
1.7430	4.6958	3.2352	0.3807	0.0060	0.0058	0.3659	0.0064	0.0041	0.5712	0.0065	0.0087	0.5377	0.0071	0.0061
1.7617	4.7460	3.1500	0.3693	0.0058	0.0057	0.3528	0.0062	0.0040	0.5378	0.0061	0.0082	0.5031	0.0066	0.0057
1.7803	4.7963	3.0648	0.3606	0.0057	0.0055	0.3394	0.0062	0.0038	0.5111	0.0059	0.0078	0.4748	0.0065	0.0054
1.7990	4.8465	2.9796	0.3687	0.0056	0.0057	0.3379	0.0062	0.0038	0.4707	0.0055	0.0071	0.4345	0.0061	0.0049
1.8176	4.8967	2.8944	0.3350	0.0052	0.0051	0.3003	0.0059	0.0034	0.4412	0.0052	0.0067	0.4048	0.0058	0.0046
1.8362	4.9469	2.8092	0.3029	0.0047	0.0047	0.2682	0.0055	0.0030	0.3902	0.0048	0.0059	0.3568	0.0054	0.0040
1.8549	4.9972	2.7240	0.2416	0.0042	0.0037	0.2176	0.0047	0.0024	0.3643	0.0046	0.0055	0.3320	0.0052	0.0038
1.8735	5.0474	2.6388	0.2065	0.0038	0.0032	0.1900	0.0042	0.0021	0.3191	0.0042	0.0048	0.2906	0.0048	0.0033
1.8922	5.0976	2.5536	0.1809	0.0035	0.0028	0.1687	0.0039	0.0019	0.2912	0.0040	0.0044	0.2646	0.0045	0.0030
1.9108	5.1478	2.4684	0.1664	0.0035	0.0026	0.1556	0.0039	0.0017	0.2737	0.0038	0.0042	0.2479	0.0044	0.0028

TABLE VI. (Continued.)

E'	Q^2	W^2	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE'd\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE'd\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE'd\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE'd\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst
1.9294	5.1980	2.3832	0.1810	0.0037	0.0028	0.1656	0.0042	0.0019	0.2485	0.0036	0.0038	0.2239	0.0041	0.0025
1.9481	5.2483	2.2980	0.1802	0.0036	0.0028	0.1562	0.0043	0.0018	0.2217	0.0034	0.0034	0.1983	0.0039	0.0022
1.9667	5.2985	2.2128	0.1649	0.0033	0.0025	0.1395	0.0040	0.0016	0.2068	0.0032	0.0032	0.1828	0.0037	0.0021
1.9854	5.3487	2.1276	0.1410	0.0028	0.0022	0.1206	0.0035	0.0014	0.1870	0.0029	0.0029	0.1654	0.0034	0.0019
2.0040	5.3989	2.0424	0.1089	0.0024	0.0017	0.0947	0.0029	0.0011	0.1648	0.0027	0.0025	0.1464	0.0032	0.0017
2.0051	5.4019	2.0373	0.1060	0.0014	0.0016	0.0923	0.0017	0.0011	0.1679	0.0019	0.0026	0.1488	0.0022	0.0017
2.0268	5.4603	1.9382	0.0885	0.0013	0.0014	0.0774	0.0015	0.0009	0.1345	0.0016	0.0021	0.1201	0.0020	0.0014
2.0485	5.5187	1.8391	0.0718	0.0011	0.0011	0.0632	0.0014	0.0008	0.1214	0.0015	0.0019	0.1086	0.0018	0.0012
2.0702	5.5771	1.7401	0.0560	0.0010	0.0009	0.0503	0.0012	0.0006	0.0981	0.0013	0.0016	0.0892	0.0016	0.0010
2.0918	5.6355	1.6410	0.0520	0.0010	0.0009	0.0465	0.0012	0.0007	0.0830	0.0012	0.0014	0.0772	0.0015	0.0009
2.1135	5.6939	1.5419	0.0503	0.0010	0.0011	0.0438	0.0012	0.0008	0.0625	0.0010	0.0011	0.0611	0.0013	0.0008
2.1352	5.7523	1.4428	0.0407	0.0010	0.0012	0.0338	0.0014	0.0009	0.0547	0.0010	0.0012	0.0556	0.0013	0.0008
2.1569	5.8107	1.3437	0.0182	0.0006	0.0008	0.0173	0.0009	0.0007	0.0487	0.0009	0.0013	0.0510	0.0012	0.0009
2.1785	5.8691	1.2447	0.0062	0.0004	0.0004	0.0129	0.0007	0.0009	0.0389	0.0008	0.0014	0.0435	0.0011	0.0010
1.3308	4.2817	4.4229	0.5780	0.0128	0.0089	0.5884	0.0130	0.0066	0.8757	0.0147	0.0133	0.8806	0.0150	0.0100
1.3452	4.3280	4.3496	0.5583	0.0123	0.0086	0.5660	0.0125	0.0063	0.8315	0.0141	0.0126	0.8329	0.0145	0.0094
1.3596	4.3743	4.2763	0.5494	0.0118	0.0084	0.5543	0.0121	0.0062	0.7993	0.0135	0.0121	0.7973	0.0139	0.0090
1.3740	4.4206	4.2031	0.4809	0.0111	0.0074	0.4847	0.0113	0.0054	0.7488	0.0130	0.0114	0.7443	0.0134	0.0084
1.3883	4.4668	4.1298	0.4764	0.0109	0.0073	0.4777	0.0112	0.0054	0.7165	0.0125	0.0109	0.7094	0.0129	0.0080
1.4027	4.5131	4.0565	0.4544	0.0105	0.0070	0.4537	0.0108	0.0051	0.6773	0.0121	0.0103	0.6682	0.0126	0.0076
1.4171	4.5594	3.9832	0.4213	0.0100	0.0065	0.4192	0.0104	0.0047	0.6539	0.0118	0.0099	0.6426	0.0123	0.0073
1.4315	4.6057	3.9099	0.3955	0.0098	0.0061	0.3922	0.0101	0.0044	0.6223	0.0114	0.0094	0.6096	0.0119	0.0069
1.4459	4.6520	3.8366	0.3889	0.0096	0.0060	0.3838	0.0100	0.0043	0.5932	0.0110	0.0090	0.5790	0.0115	0.0066
1.4603	4.6983	3.7633	0.3559	0.0090	0.0055	0.3502	0.0094	0.0039	0.5211	0.0102	0.0079	0.5080	0.0107	0.0057
1.4747	4.7446	3.6901	0.3590	0.0090	0.0055	0.3513	0.0095	0.0039	0.5106	0.0101	0.0077	0.4957	0.0106	0.0056
1.4891	4.7909	3.6168	0.3255	0.0086	0.0050	0.3178	0.0090	0.0036	0.5001	0.0100	0.0076	0.4837	0.0105	0.0055
1.5034	4.8372	3.5435	0.2999	0.0082	0.0046	0.2923	0.0086	0.0033	0.4644	0.0095	0.0070	0.4478	0.0101	0.0051
1.5178	4.8834	3.4702	0.2983	0.0081	0.0046	0.2896	0.0085	0.0032	0.4466	0.0092	0.0068	0.4290	0.0098	0.0049
1.5322	4.9297	3.3969	0.2710	0.0076	0.0042	0.2632	0.0081	0.0030	0.4049	0.0086	0.0061	0.3879	0.0092	0.0044
1.5466	4.9760	3.3236	0.2653	0.0074	0.0041	0.2571	0.0079	0.0029	0.3978	0.0084	0.0060	0.3791	0.0090	0.0043
1.5474	4.9787	3.3194	0.2636	0.0049	0.0041	0.2553	0.0052	0.0029	0.4027	0.0052	0.0061	0.3833	0.0056	0.0043
1.5642	5.0325	3.2342	0.2402	0.0046	0.0037	0.2325	0.0050	0.0026	0.3733	0.0049	0.0057	0.3535	0.0053	0.0040
1.5809	5.0863	3.1490	0.2311	0.0045	0.0036	0.2224	0.0048	0.0025	0.3494	0.0047	0.0053	0.3288	0.0051	0.0037
1.5976	5.1402	3.0637	0.2419	0.0045	0.0037	0.2288	0.0049	0.0026	0.3297	0.0044	0.0050	0.3081	0.0048	0.0035
1.6143	5.1940	2.9785	0.2407	0.0044	0.0037	0.2219	0.0049	0.0025	0.3108	0.0042	0.0047	0.2883	0.0047	0.0033
1.6311	5.2478	2.8933	0.2297	0.0042	0.0035	0.2067	0.0047	0.0023	0.2786	0.0039	0.0042	0.2573	0.0044	0.0029
1.6478	5.3016	2.8081	0.1955	0.0037	0.0030	0.1742	0.0043	0.0020	0.2588	0.0038	0.0039	0.2379	0.0042	0.0027
1.6645	5.3555	2.7229	0.1634	0.0034	0.0025	0.1480	0.0038	0.0017	0.2356	0.0035	0.0036	0.2160	0.0039	0.0024
1.6813	5.4093	2.6377	0.1392	0.0031	0.0021	0.1288	0.0035	0.0014	0.2098	0.0033	0.0032	0.1920	0.0037	0.0022
1.6980	5.4631	2.5525	0.1200	0.0029	0.0018	0.1124	0.0032	0.0013	0.1855	0.0030	0.0028	0.1696	0.0034	0.0019
1.7147	5.5169	2.4672	0.1038	0.0028	0.0016	0.0978	0.0030	0.0011	0.1656	0.0028	0.0025	0.1510	0.0032	0.0017
1.7315	5.5707	2.3820	0.1088	0.0029	0.0017	0.1002	0.0032	0.0011	0.1615	0.0028	0.0025	0.1460	0.0032	0.0017
1.7482	5.6246	2.2968	0.1343	0.0031	0.0021	0.1165	0.0038	0.0013	0.1506	0.0026	0.0023	0.1350	0.0031	0.0015
1.7649	5.6784	2.2116	0.1111	0.0027	0.0017	0.0946	0.0032	0.0011	0.1320	0.0024	0.0020	0.1175	0.0028	0.0013
1.7816	5.7322	2.1264	0.0846	0.0022	0.0013	0.0728	0.0026	0.0008	0.1194	0.0022	0.0018	0.1066	0.0026	0.0012
1.7984	5.7860	2.0412	0.0708	0.0020	0.0011	0.0618	0.0024	0.0007	0.0999	0.0020	0.0015	0.0896	0.0024	0.0010

TABLE VII. Differential cross sections extracted from the measurements of E00-116. The normalization uncertainty is 1.75%.

E'	Q^2	W^2	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE'd\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE'd\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE'd\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE'd\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst
1.7994	5.7894	2.0359	0.0658	0.0010	0.0010	0.0576	0.0012	0.0007	0.1043	0.0024	0.0016	0.0932	0.0028	0.0011
1.8189	5.8520	1.9368	0.0568	0.0009	0.0009	0.0498	0.0010	0.0006	0.0929	0.0023	0.0014	0.0830	0.0027	0.0010
1.8383	5.9145	1.8377	0.0456	0.0008	0.0007	0.0403	0.0009	0.0005	0.0752	0.0019	0.0012	0.0679	0.0023	0.0008
1.8578	5.9771	1.7386	0.0346	0.0007	0.0006	0.0312	0.0008	0.0004	0.0594	0.0017	0.0010	0.0546	0.0021	0.0006

TABLE VII. (*Continued.*)

E'	Q^2	W^2	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Born}}}{dE'd\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE'd\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Born}}}{dE'd\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE'd\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst
1.8772	6.0397	1.6395	0.0307	0.0007	0.0006	0.0277	0.0008	0.0004	0.0524	0.0016	0.0009	0.0491	0.0019	0.0006
1.8967	6.1023	1.5404	0.0294	0.0007	0.0006	0.0258	0.0008	0.0005	0.0424	0.0014	0.0008	0.0411	0.0018	0.0005
1.9161	6.1649	1.4413	0.0238	0.0007	0.0007	0.0200	0.0010	0.0005	0.0404	0.0014	0.0008	0.0398	0.0018	0.0005
1.9356	6.2275	1.3422	0.0118	0.0005	0.0005	0.0112	0.0008	0.0005	0.0351	0.0014	0.0009	0.0353	0.0018	0.0005
1.9550	6.2901	1.2431	0.0083	0.0005	0.0006	0.0115	0.0007	0.0008	0.0258	0.0010	0.0008	0.0278	0.0015	0.0005
1.0699	5.0150	4.1791	0.2387	0.0054	0.0037	0.2444	0.0055	0.0027	0.3316	0.0049	0.0050	0.3379	0.0050	0.0038
1.0815	5.0692	4.1032	0.2160	0.0051	0.0033	0.2208	0.0052	0.0025	0.3061	0.0047	0.0046	0.3110	0.0048	0.0035
1.0931	5.1234	4.0273	0.2025	0.0050	0.0031	0.2064	0.0051	0.0023	0.2916	0.0045	0.0044	0.2951	0.0046	0.0033
1.1046	5.1776	3.9513	0.1942	0.0047	0.0030	0.1969	0.0048	0.0022	0.2775	0.0043	0.0042	0.2797	0.0044	0.0032
1.1162	5.2319	3.8754	0.1818	0.0046	0.0028	0.1838	0.0047	0.0021	0.2624	0.0042	0.0040	0.2635	0.0043	0.0030
1.1278	5.2861	3.7995	0.1659	0.0043	0.0025	0.1672	0.0044	0.0019	0.2342	0.0039	0.0036	0.2346	0.0040	0.0027
1.1393	5.3403	3.7236	0.1609	0.0042	0.0025	0.1613	0.0043	0.0018	0.2236	0.0038	0.0034	0.2233	0.0040	0.0025
1.1509	5.3945	3.6477	0.1551	0.0040	0.0024	0.1548	0.0041	0.0017	0.2171	0.0037	0.0033	0.2154	0.0038	0.0024
1.1625	5.4487	3.5717	0.1325	0.0038	0.0020	0.1322	0.0039	0.0015	0.2020	0.0035	0.0031	0.1998	0.0037	0.0023
1.1741	5.5029	3.4958	0.1260	0.0036	0.0019	0.1254	0.0038	0.0014	0.1900	0.0034	0.0029	0.1871	0.0036	0.0021
1.1856	5.5572	3.4199	0.1209	0.0035	0.0019	0.1201	0.0037	0.0013	0.1756	0.0032	0.0027	0.1722	0.0034	0.0020
1.1972	5.6114	3.3440	0.1139	0.0035	0.0017	0.1129	0.0036	0.0013	0.1661	0.0031	0.0025	0.1623	0.0033	0.0018
1.2088	5.6656	3.2680	0.1060	0.0033	0.0016	0.1050	0.0034	0.0012	0.1559	0.0030	0.0024	0.1512	0.0032	0.0017
1.2203	5.7198	3.1921	0.1036	0.0032	0.0016	0.1022	0.0034	0.0011	0.1459	0.0029	0.0022	0.1411	0.0031	0.0016
1.2319	5.7740	3.1162	0.0962	0.0030	0.0015	0.0943	0.0032	0.0011	0.1421	0.0028	0.0022	0.1362	0.0030	0.0015
1.2435	5.8282	3.0403	0.0987	0.0029	0.0015	0.0950	0.0032	0.0011	0.1313	0.0026	0.0020	0.1252	0.0028	0.0014
1.2442	5.8318	3.0353	0.0994	0.0014	0.0015	0.0955	0.0015	0.0011	0.1373	0.0015	0.0021	0.1305	0.0016	0.0015
1.2577	5.8949	2.9470	0.0972	0.0014	0.0015	0.0908	0.0015	0.0010	0.1232	0.0013	0.0019	0.1165	0.0015	0.0013
1.2711	5.9579	2.8587	0.0907	0.0013	0.0014	0.0826	0.0015	0.0009	0.1116	0.0013	0.0017	0.1050	0.0014	0.0012
1.2846	6.0210	2.7704	0.0765	0.0011	0.0012	0.0697	0.0013	0.0008	0.1037	0.0012	0.0016	0.0971	0.0013	0.0011
1.2980	6.0840	2.6821	0.0598	0.0010	0.0009	0.0561	0.0011	0.0006	0.0918	0.0011	0.0014	0.0858	0.0012	0.0010
1.3115	6.1471	2.5938	0.0488	0.0009	0.0008	0.0468	0.0010	0.0005	0.0816	0.0010	0.0012	0.0761	0.0012	0.0009
1.3249	6.2101	2.5055	0.0456	0.0009	0.0007	0.0440	0.0010	0.0005	0.0737	0.0010	0.0011	0.0685	0.0011	0.0008
1.3384	6.2732	2.4172	0.0435	0.0009	0.0007	0.0417	0.0010	0.0005	0.0632	0.0009	0.0010	0.0587	0.0010	0.0007
1.3518	6.3362	2.3290	0.0472	0.0009	0.0007	0.0428	0.0011	0.0005	0.0587	0.0009	0.0009	0.0541	0.0010	0.0006
1.3653	6.3992	2.2407	0.0458	0.0009	0.0007	0.0399	0.0011	0.0004	0.0547	0.0008	0.0008	0.0499	0.0009	0.0006
1.3787	6.4623	2.1524	0.0355	0.0008	0.0005	0.0308	0.0009	0.0003	0.0481	0.0008	0.0007	0.0437	0.0009	0.0005
1.3922	6.5253	2.0641	0.0281	0.0006	0.0004	0.0249	0.0008	0.0003	0.0418	0.0007	0.0006	0.0384	0.0008	0.0004
1.4056	6.5884	1.9758	0.0231	0.0006	0.0004	0.0207	0.0007	0.0002	0.0381	0.0007	0.0006	0.0348	0.0007	0.0004
1.4191	6.6514	1.8875	0.0195	0.0005	0.0003	0.0174	0.0006	0.0002	0.0314	0.0006	0.0005	0.0290	0.0007	0.0003
1.4325	6.7145	1.7992	0.0147	0.0005	0.0002	0.0133	0.0006	0.0002	0.0272	0.0006	0.0004	0.0253	0.0007	0.0003
1.4460	6.7775	1.7109	0.0137	0.0005	0.0002	0.0124	0.0006	0.0001	0.0233	0.0005	0.0004	0.0220	0.0006	0.0003
1.3622	6.3850	2.2605	0.0458	0.0010	0.0007	0.0399	0.0012	0.0005	0.0592	0.0009	0.0009	0.0540	0.0010	0.0006
1.3770	6.4541	2.1639	0.0368	0.0008	0.0006	0.0316	0.0010	0.0004	0.0517	0.0008	0.0008	0.0469	0.0009	0.0005
1.3917	6.5231	2.0672	0.0282	0.0007	0.0004	0.0249	0.0008	0.0003	0.0429	0.0007	0.0007	0.0392	0.0009	0.0005
1.4064	6.5921	1.9706	0.0235	0.0007	0.0004	0.0209	0.0008	0.0003	0.0380	0.0007	0.0006	0.0348	0.0008	0.0004
1.4212	6.6612	1.8739	0.0187	0.0006	0.0003	0.0165	0.0007	0.0002	0.0326	0.0006	0.0005	0.0300	0.0007	0.0004
1.4359	6.7302	1.7772	0.0139	0.0005	0.0002	0.0125	0.0006	0.0002	0.0271	0.0006	0.0004	0.0252	0.0007	0.0003
1.4506	6.7992	1.6806	0.0119	0.0005	0.0002	0.0109	0.0006	0.0001	0.0234	0.0005	0.0004	0.0222	0.0006	0.0003
1.4653	6.8682	1.5839	0.0110	0.0005	0.0002	0.0099	0.0006	0.0002	0.0199	0.0005	0.0003	0.0192	0.0006	0.0002
1.4801	6.9373	1.4872	0.0094	0.0005	0.0002	0.0082	0.0006	0.0002	0.0169	0.0005	0.0003	0.0167	0.0006	0.0002
1.4948	7.0063	1.3906	0.0070	0.0003	0.0002	0.0059	0.0005	0.0002	0.0168	0.0005	0.0004	0.0165	0.0006	0.0002
1.5095	7.0753	1.2939	0.0034	0.0002	0.0002	0.0034	0.0003	0.0002	0.0137	0.0004	0.0004	0.0137	0.0006	0.0002
0.8234	4.5252	5.1315	0.3212	0.0115	0.0049	0.3569	0.0111	0.0040	0.5071	0.0130	0.0077	0.5602	0.0125	0.0064
0.8323	4.5741	5.0659	0.3289	0.0115	0.0051	0.3623	0.0111	0.0041	0.4487	0.0122	0.0068	0.4966	0.0118	0.0056
0.8412	4.6230	5.0003	0.3035	0.0107	0.0047	0.3335	0.0104	0.0037	0.4580	0.0120	0.0070	0.5030	0.0116	0.0057
0.8501	4.6719	4.9347	0.2749	0.0100	0.0042	0.3017	0.0097	0.0034	0.4263	0.0114	0.0065	0.4668	0.0111	0.0053
0.8590	4.7209	4.8690	0.2692	0.0098	0.0041	0.2934	0.0096	0.0033	0.3912	0.0108	0.0060	0.4270	0.0105	0.0049
0.8679	4.7698	4.8034	0.2640	0.0097	0.0041	0.2859	0.0095	0.0032	0.3956	0.0106	0.0060	0.4278	0.0104	0.0049
0.8768	4.8187	4.7378	0.2396	0.0092	0.0037	0.2589	0.0091	0.0029	0.3781	0.0105	0.0058	0.4065	0.0103	0.0046

TABLE VIII. Differential cross sections extracted from the measurements of E00-116. The normalization uncertainty is 1.75%.

E'	Q^2	W^2	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst
0.8857	4.8676	4.6722	0.2333	0.0090	0.0036	0.2507	0.0089	0.0028	0.3579	0.0099	0.0054	0.3828	0.0098	0.0044
0.8947	4.9165	4.6065	0.2130	0.0085	0.0033	0.2283	0.0085	0.0026	0.3515	0.0096	0.0053	0.3736	0.0095	0.0043
0.9036	4.9655	4.5409	0.2124	0.0084	0.0033	0.2261	0.0084	0.0025	0.3200	0.0093	0.0049	0.3392	0.0093	0.0039
0.9125	5.0144	4.4753	0.1982	0.0081	0.0030	0.2104	0.0081	0.0024	0.2887	0.0087	0.0044	0.3055	0.0086	0.0035
0.9214	5.0633	4.4096	0.1970	0.0079	0.0030	0.2078	0.0079	0.0023	0.2940	0.0087	0.0045	0.3087	0.0087	0.0035
0.9303	5.1122	4.3440	0.1848	0.0076	0.0028	0.1944	0.0076	0.0022	0.2807	0.0085	0.0043	0.2936	0.0085	0.0033
0.9392	5.1611	4.2784	0.1804	0.0076	0.0028	0.1890	0.0076	0.0021	0.2750	0.0083	0.0042	0.2861	0.0084	0.0033
0.9481	5.2101	4.2128	0.1625	0.0070	0.0025	0.1700	0.0071	0.0019	0.2625	0.0081	0.0040	0.2720	0.0081	0.0031
0.9570	5.2590	4.1471	0.1675	0.0069	0.0026	0.1740	0.0070	0.0020	0.2532	0.0078	0.0039	0.2614	0.0079	0.0030
0.9576	5.2623	4.1428	0.1640	0.0047	0.0025	0.1702	0.0048	0.0019	0.2501	0.0046	0.0038	0.2578	0.0046	0.0029
0.9679	5.3191	4.0664	0.1534	0.0044	0.0024	0.1587	0.0045	0.0018	0.2313	0.0043	0.0035	0.2379	0.0044	0.0027
0.9783	5.3760	3.9901	0.1493	0.0043	0.0023	0.1537	0.0044	0.0017	0.2202	0.0041	0.0033	0.2254	0.0042	0.0026
0.9886	5.4329	3.9138	0.1333	0.0040	0.0020	0.1372	0.0041	0.0015	0.2029	0.0039	0.0031	0.2070	0.0040	0.0024
0.9990	5.4898	3.8375	0.1183	0.0037	0.0018	0.1216	0.0038	0.0014	0.1894	0.0037	0.0029	0.1926	0.0038	0.0022
1.0093	5.5467	3.7612	0.1170	0.0037	0.0018	0.1194	0.0038	0.0013	0.1758	0.0035	0.0027	0.1781	0.0037	0.0020
1.0197	5.6036	3.6849	0.1178	0.0036	0.0018	0.1195	0.0038	0.0013	0.1682	0.0034	0.0026	0.1695	0.0036	0.0019
1.0300	5.6605	3.6086	0.1065	0.0035	0.0016	0.1077	0.0036	0.0012	0.1492	0.0032	0.0023	0.1500	0.0034	0.0017
1.0404	5.7174	3.5322	0.0923	0.0032	0.0014	0.0934	0.0034	0.0010	0.1374	0.0031	0.0021	0.1378	0.0032	0.0016
1.0507	5.7743	3.4559	0.0928	0.0033	0.0014	0.0933	0.0034	0.0010	0.1372	0.0031	0.0021	0.1365	0.0032	0.0016
1.0611	5.8311	3.3796	0.0829	0.0030	0.0013	0.0835	0.0031	0.0009	0.1264	0.0029	0.0019	0.1251	0.0031	0.0014
1.0714	5.8880	3.3033	0.0799	0.0030	0.0012	0.0802	0.0031	0.0009	0.1172	0.0028	0.0018	0.1156	0.0030	0.0013
1.0818	5.9449	3.2270	0.0773	0.0029	0.0012	0.0774	0.0030	0.0009	0.1145	0.0027	0.0017	0.1120	0.0029	0.0013
1.0921	6.0018	3.1507	0.0711	0.0027	0.0011	0.0709	0.0028	0.0008	0.1101	0.0027	0.0017	0.1071	0.0029	0.0012
1.1025	6.0587	3.0743	0.0732	0.0028	0.0011	0.0720	0.0029	0.0008	0.0973	0.0025	0.0015	0.0942	0.0027	0.0011
1.1128	6.1156	2.9980	0.0696	0.0026	0.0011	0.0670	0.0028	0.0008	0.0926	0.0024	0.0014	0.0890	0.0026	0.0010
1.1043	6.0685	3.0612	0.0684	0.0017	0.0011	0.0672	0.0018	0.0008	0.0996	0.0012	0.0015	0.0961	0.0013	0.0011
1.1162	6.1341	2.9732	0.0723	0.0017	0.0011	0.0690	0.0019	0.0008	0.0941	0.0012	0.0014	0.0901	0.0013	0.0010
1.1281	6.1997	2.8852	0.0678	0.0016	0.0010	0.0629	0.0017	0.0007	0.0835	0.0011	0.0013	0.0796	0.0011	0.0009
1.1401	6.2653	2.7972	0.0577	0.0014	0.0009	0.0529	0.0016	0.0006	0.0759	0.0010	0.0012	0.0720	0.0011	0.0008
1.1520	6.3309	2.7092	0.0468	0.0012	0.0007	0.0440	0.0014	0.0005	0.0695	0.0009	0.0011	0.0657	0.0010	0.0008
1.1640	6.3965	2.6212	0.0377	0.0011	0.0006	0.0364	0.0012	0.0004	0.0622	0.0009	0.0010	0.0586	0.0010	0.0007
1.1759	6.4621	2.5332	0.0328	0.0011	0.0005	0.0321	0.0012	0.0004	0.0555	0.0008	0.0008	0.0521	0.0009	0.0006
1.1878	6.5277	2.4452	0.0325	0.0011	0.0005	0.0316	0.0012	0.0004	0.0503	0.0008	0.0008	0.0471	0.0009	0.0005
1.1998	6.5933	2.3572	0.0324	0.0011	0.0005	0.0303	0.0012	0.0003	0.0452	0.0008	0.0007	0.0422	0.0008	0.0005
1.2117	6.6589	2.2692	0.0342	0.0011	0.0005	0.0301	0.0013	0.0003	0.0422	0.0007	0.0007	0.0390	0.0008	0.0005
1.2236	6.7245	2.1812	0.0272	0.0009	0.0004	0.0236	0.0011	0.0003	0.0367	0.0007	0.0006	0.0336	0.0008	0.0004
1.2356	6.7901	2.0932	0.0190	0.0008	0.0003	0.0170	0.0009	0.0002	0.0309	0.0006	0.0005	0.0286	0.0007	0.0003
1.2475	6.8557	2.0052	0.0179	0.0007	0.0003	0.0161	0.0009	0.0002	0.0273	0.0006	0.0004	0.0253	0.0007	0.0003
1.2595	6.9213	1.9172	0.0140	0.0007	0.0002	0.0127	0.0008	0.0001	0.0242	0.0005	0.0004	0.0225	0.0006	0.0003
1.2714	6.9869	1.8291	0.0125	0.0006	0.0002	0.0113	0.0007	0.0001	0.0213	0.0005	0.0003	0.0199	0.0006	0.0002
1.2833	7.0525	1.7411	0.0115	0.0006	0.0002	0.0105	0.0007	0.0001	0.0186	0.0005	0.0003	0.0175	0.0005	0.0002
1.2128	6.6637	2.2624	0.0368	0.0006	0.0006	0.0324	0.0007	0.0004	0.0420	0.0005	0.0007	0.0387	0.0006	0.0005
1.2259	6.7358	2.1657	0.0284	0.0005	0.0004	0.0245	0.0006	0.0003	0.0366	0.0005	0.0006	0.0336	0.0005	0.0004
1.2390	6.8078	2.0691	0.0198	0.0004	0.0003	0.0178	0.0005	0.0002	0.0300	0.0004	0.0005	0.0278	0.0005	0.0003
1.2521	6.8799	1.9724	0.0165	0.0004	0.0003	0.0149	0.0005	0.0002	0.0259	0.0004	0.0004	0.0240	0.0005	0.0003
1.2652	6.9519	1.8758	0.0128	0.0003	0.0002	0.0116	0.0004	0.0001	0.0221	0.0004	0.0004	0.0206	0.0004	0.0003
1.2783	7.0239	1.7792	0.0106	0.0003	0.0002	0.0097	0.0004	0.0001	0.0191	0.0003	0.0003	0.0180	0.0004	0.0002
1.2914	7.0960	1.6825	0.0083	0.0003	0.0001	0.0079	0.0003	0.0001	0.0158	0.0003	0.0003	0.0151	0.0004	0.0002
1.3045	7.1680	1.5859	0.0079	0.0003	0.0002	0.0073	0.0003	0.0001	0.0136	0.0003	0.0002	0.0133	0.0003	0.0002
1.3177	7.2401	1.4892	0.0062	0.0003	0.0002	0.0057	0.0004	0.0001	0.0105	0.0002	0.0002	0.0107	0.0003	0.0001
1.3308	7.3121	1.3926	0.0048	0.0002	0.0002	0.0042	0.0003	0.0001	0.0125	0.0003	0.0003	0.0122	0.0004	0.0002
1.3439	7.3841	1.2959	0.0024	0.0002	0.0001	0.0027	0.0003	0.0001	0.0118	0.0003	0.0003	0.0113	0.0004	0.0002
0.7445	5.3831	4.4216	0.1287	0.0037	0.0020	0.1402	0.0036	0.0016	0.1842	0.0052	0.0028	0.2018	0.0051	0.0023
0.7526	5.4413	4.3483	0.1127	0.0034	0.0017	0.1232	0.0034	0.0014	0.1691	0.0048	0.0026	0.1849	0.0047	0.0021
0.7606	5.4995	4.2750	0.1085	0.0033	0.0017	0.1179	0.0033	0.0013	0.1688	0.0047	0.0026	0.1830	0.0047	0.0021
0.7687	5.5577	4.2017	0.1074	0.0032	0.0017	0.1158	0.0032	0.0013	0.1534	0.0044	0.0023	0.1658	0.0043	0.0019
0.7767	5.6159	4.1284	0.0952	0.0030	0.0015	0.1027	0.0030	0.0012	0.1517	0.0043	0.0023	0.1627	0.0043	0.0019
0.7848	5.6741	4.0551	0.0951	0.0029	0.0015	0.1017	0.0029	0.0011	0.1396	0.0040	0.0021	0.1492	0.0041	0.0017
0.7928	5.7323	3.9818	0.0843	0.0028	0.0013	0.0902	0.0028	0.0010	0.1270	0.0039	0.0019	0.1353	0.0039	0.0016

TABLE IX. Differential cross sections extracted from the measurements of E00-116. The normalization uncertainty is 1.75%.

E'	Q^2	W^2	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (H)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{Bom}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst	$\frac{d\sigma^{\text{rad}}}{dE' d\Omega}$ (D)	Stat	Syst
0.8009	5.7905	3.9085	0.0817	0.0027	0.0013	0.0869	0.0027	0.0010	0.1181	0.0037	0.0018	0.1253	0.0037	0.0014
0.8089	5.8487	3.8352	0.0797	0.0027	0.0012	0.0842	0.0027	0.0009	0.1093	0.0035	0.0017	0.1156	0.0036	0.0013
0.8170	5.9069	3.7619	0.0736	0.0025	0.0011	0.0776	0.0025	0.0009	0.1127	0.0035	0.0017	0.1179	0.0036	0.0014
0.8250	5.9651	3.6886	0.0686	0.0025	0.0011	0.0720	0.0025	0.0008	0.0994	0.0033	0.0015	0.1039	0.0033	0.0012
0.8331	6.0233	3.6153	0.0700	0.0024	0.0011	0.0729	0.0025	0.0008	0.0985	0.0032	0.0015	0.1022	0.0033	0.0012
0.8411	6.0815	3.5420	0.0563	0.0022	0.0009	0.0590	0.0023	0.0007	0.0896	0.0031	0.0014	0.0927	0.0032	0.0011
0.8492	6.1397	3.4687	0.0546	0.0021	0.0008	0.0570	0.0022	0.0006	0.0869	0.0029	0.0013	0.0893	0.0030	0.0010
0.8572	6.1979	3.3954	0.0537	0.0021	0.0008	0.0558	0.0022	0.0006	0.0879	0.0029	0.0013	0.0895	0.0030	0.0010
0.8653	6.2561	3.3221	0.0484	0.0020	0.0007	0.0503	0.0021	0.0006	0.0784	0.0027	0.0012	0.0796	0.0028	0.0009
0.8461	6.1175	3.4967	0.0552	0.0013	0.0008	0.0576	0.0014	0.0006	0.0844	0.0021	0.0013	0.0871	0.0022	0.0010
0.8552	6.1836	3.4134	0.0512	0.0013	0.0008	0.0535	0.0013	0.0006	0.0806	0.0020	0.0012	0.0826	0.0021	0.0009
0.8644	6.2498	3.3301	0.0478	0.0012	0.0007	0.0497	0.0013	0.0006	0.0765	0.0019	0.0012	0.0779	0.0020	0.0009
0.8735	6.3159	3.2468	0.0453	0.0012	0.0007	0.0470	0.0012	0.0005	0.0715	0.0018	0.0011	0.0722	0.0019	0.0008
0.8827	6.3820	3.1635	0.0414	0.0011	0.0006	0.0427	0.0011	0.0005	0.0620	0.0016	0.0009	0.0624	0.0017	0.0007
0.8918	6.4482	3.0802	0.0392	0.0010	0.0006	0.0399	0.0011	0.0004	0.0594	0.0016	0.0009	0.0593	0.0017	0.0007
0.9010	6.5143	2.9969	0.0377	0.0010	0.0006	0.0375	0.0011	0.0004	0.0526	0.0015	0.0008	0.0522	0.0016	0.0006
0.9101	6.5804	2.9136	0.0377	0.0010	0.0006	0.0363	0.0011	0.0004	0.0476	0.0014	0.0007	0.0470	0.0015	0.0005
0.9193	6.6466	2.8303	0.0360	0.0009	0.0006	0.0338	0.0010	0.0004	0.0440	0.0013	0.0007	0.0431	0.0015	0.0005
0.9284	6.7127	2.7470	0.0276	0.0008	0.0004	0.0265	0.0009	0.0003	0.0403	0.0013	0.0006	0.0394	0.0014	0.0005
0.9376	6.7788	2.6637	0.0230	0.0008	0.0004	0.0226	0.0008	0.0003	0.0374	0.0012	0.0006	0.0363	0.0013	0.0004
0.9467	6.8450	2.5804	0.0170	0.0007	0.0003	0.0174	0.0007	0.0002	0.0347	0.0012	0.0005	0.0335	0.0013	0.0004
0.9559	6.9111	2.4971	0.0187	0.0007	0.0003	0.0189	0.0007	0.0002	0.0329	0.0011	0.0005	0.0317	0.0013	0.0004
0.9650	6.9772	2.4138	0.0184	0.0007	0.0003	0.0182	0.0007	0.0002	0.0294	0.0010	0.0005	0.0281	0.0012	0.0003
0.9742	7.0434	2.3305	0.0191	0.0007	0.0003	0.0180	0.0008	0.0002	0.0291	0.0011	0.0005	0.0277	0.0012	0.0003
0.9833	7.1095	2.2472	0.0189	0.0007	0.0003	0.0170	0.0008	0.0002	0.0271	0.0011	0.0004	0.0254	0.0012	0.0003

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Confirmation of quark-hadron duality in the neutron F_2 structure function

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Using a recently developed technique we extract the neutron F_2^n structure function from inclusive proton and deuteron data in the large- x region, and test the validity of quark-hadron duality in the neutron. We establish for the first time the accuracy of duality in the low-lying neutron resonance regions over a range of Q^2 , and compare with the corresponding results on the proton. Our findings open the possibility of using resonance region data to constrain parton distributions at large x .

The quest to understand the strong interactions at intermediate energies, and particularly the transition from quark-gluon to hadron degrees of freedom, is one of the main outstanding challenges in modern nuclear physics. Considerable attention has been focused recently on the similarity or “duality” between quark and hadron descriptions of observables in electron-hadron scattering [1]. A classic example is the finding [2] that inclusive structure functions in the region dominated by the nucleon resonances on average resemble the structure functions measured in the deep inelastic scattering (DIS) region at higher energies.

With the availability of high-precision data from Jefferson Lab and elsewhere, duality has now been firmly established for the proton F_2 and F_L structure functions [3, 4, 5], and exploratory studies in spin-dependent and semi-inclusive scattering have provided tantalizing glimpses of the flavor and spin dependence of duality (for a review see Ref. [1]). A complete picture of the workings of duality in the nucleon can only be constructed, however, with information on duality in the *neutron*, little empirical data on which exists.

Calculations based on quark models point to intriguing differences between duality in the proton and neutron [6], and some arguments even suggest that duality in the proton may be due to accidental cancellations between quark charges, which do not occur for the neutron [7]. Studies of duality in neutron structure functions would therefore provide important insights about the dynamical origins of the phenomenon. More generally, understanding the transition between the resonance and DIS regions at low final state hadron mass W can lead to better constraints on parton distribution functions at large parton momentum fractions x , which are currently poorly constrained.

In this Letter we use a recently developed technique [8] to extract the neutron F_2^n structure function from proton (p) and deuterium (d) F_2 data in the resonance region over a range of photon virtualities from $Q^2 = 0.6$ to 6.4 GeV^2 . The new method is based on an iterative approach in which the nuclear corrections are applied additively, and has been found to accurately reproduce neutron structure functions of almost arbitrary shape in both the DIS and resonance regions [8].

The extraction of reliable neutron information from

deuterium data requires a careful treatment of nuclear effects [9], and we use the latest theoretical developments which allow the deuteron structure function to be analyzed in both the resonance and DIS regions, at both low and high Q^2 . The framework for describing inclusive scattering from the deuteron at $x \gg 0$ is the nuclear impulse approximation, in which the virtual photon scatters incoherently from individual nucleons.

In the weak binding approximation the deuteron F_2^d structure function can be written as a sum of smeared proton and neutron structure functions \tilde{F}_2^N ($N = p, n$), and an additive term which accounts for possible modification of the structure functions off-shell [8, 10, 11],

$$F_2^d = \tilde{F}_2^p + \tilde{F}_2^n + \delta^{(\text{off})} F_2^d. \quad (1)$$

The smeared nucleon structure functions are given by convolutions of the nucleon light-cone momentum distribution in the deuteron, $f_{N/d}$, and the bound nucleon structure functions [8, 10],

$$\tilde{F}_2^N = f_{N/d} \otimes F_2^N, \quad (2)$$

where the symbol \otimes denotes a convolution. The nucleon momentum distribution (or smearing) function $f_{N/d}$ accounts for the effects of the nucleon’s Fermi motion and binding, including finite- Q^2 corrections [8, 10], and is taken to be identical for the proton and neutron. The off-shell correction $\delta^{(\text{off})} F_2^d$ has been found in several models [10, 11, 12] to be typically of the order 1–2% for most $x \lesssim 0.9$.

To extract the neutron structure function from p and d data at finite Q^2 one must first convolute the proton F_2^p structure function with $f_{N/d}$ as in Eq. (2). To account for the quasi-elastic (QE) tail in the deuteron data the elastic nucleon contribution is smeared using the same $f_{N/d}$. Subtracting from the deuteron F_2^d the QE contribution, together with the off-shell correction and the smeared proton \tilde{F}_2^p , one obtains an effective smeared neutron structure function \tilde{F}_2^n and then solves Eq. (2) for the neutron.

The nuclear corrections are parametrized by an additive correction δ ,

$$\tilde{F}_2^n = \mathcal{N}(F_2^n + \delta), \quad (3)$$

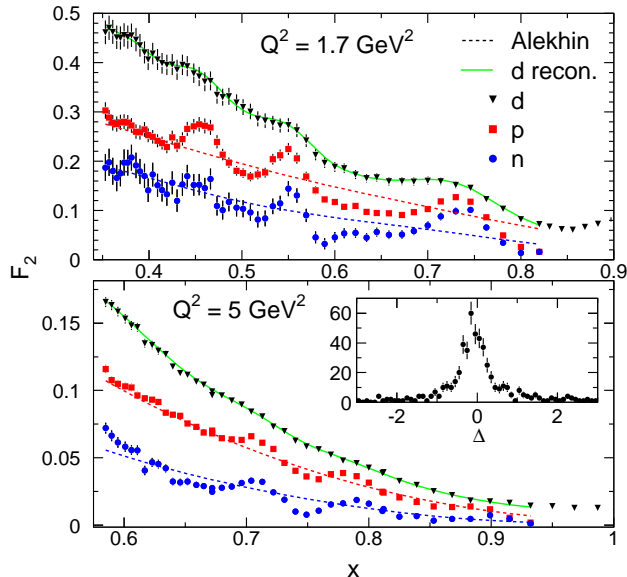


FIG. 1: Extracted neutron F_2^n structure function at $Q^2 = 1.7$ and 5 GeV^2 , together with the input proton and deuteron data, and the reconstructed deuteron. The proton and neutron data are compared with the global QCD fit from Alekhin *et al.* [20]. The dependence of the iteration on the initial value is illustrated in the insert, which shows the difference Δ of the extracted neutron functions with different starting points (see text).

where \mathcal{N} gives the normalization of the smearing function. The F_2^n structure function is then extracted using an iterative procedure [8], which after one iteration gives

$$F_2^{n(1)} = F_2^{n(0)} + \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \left(\tilde{F}_2^n - f \otimes F_2^{n(0)} \right), \quad (4)$$

starting from a first estimate $F_2^{n(0)}$, and iterated until convergence is reached. The robustness of this method and its ability to reliably estimate errors on the extracted neutron function were investigated extensively in Ref. [8]. Since the smearing function is sharply peaked, the convergence of this method is typically extremely fast, requiring only one or two iterations before the F_2^d function reconstructed from the extracted F_2^n matches the original data to within experimental uncertainties.

In this analysis we use proton and deuteron F_2 data from JLab experiment E00-116 [5] and SLAC experiments E49a6 and E49a10 [13]. The former span the high- Q^2 region, $4.5 \leq Q^2 \leq 6.4 \text{ GeV}^2$, while the latter cover the lower Q^2 range, $0.6 \leq Q^2 \leq 2.4 \text{ GeV}^2$, providing a total of 514 data points. Because the extraction method requires proton and deuteron F_2 data at fixed Q^2 , the centering of the data at the same Q^2 was made at the cross section level using the p and d fits from Ref. [14]. To test the sensitivity of the results to the choice of the bin-centering fit, an additional fit was used for each target

[5, 15, 16] and half the difference in the results assigned as a systematic uncertainty.

The stability of the iteration method relies on the availability of relatively smooth data, especially for deuterium (irregularities in proton data are smoothed out by the smearing). This is critical at large x where the structure functions are small, and discontinuities could even render the extracted neutron results negative. It is particularly important that the QE contribution to the deuteron F_2^d be accounted for in the analysis, and we model this using the same smearing function $f_{N/d}$ [8, 10] and the nucleon form factors from Refs. [17, 18]. We have verified that this provides a good description of the QE peak as a function of Q^2 .

An example of the extracted neutron F_2^n structure function is displayed in Fig. 1 for $Q^2 = 1.7$ and 5 GeV^2 , together with the input proton and deuteron data (the complete data set will be shown in Ref. [19]). The statistical and systematic uncertainties here have been added in quadrature. The starting value of the neutron for the iteration was $F_2^{n(0)} = F_2^p$, and the deuteron F_2^d reconstructed from the proton and extracted neutron was found to be in good agreement with the data after two iterations. The spectrum of the F_2^n structure function in the resonance region displays similar characteristics as observed from the proton spectrum: one finds three resonant enhancements which fall with Q^2 at a similar rate as for the proton.

To check that the extracted neutron structure function does not depend on the starting value of the iteration, the extraction procedure was repeated assuming a different boundary condition, $F_2^{n(0)} = F_2^p/2$. The difference between the two results $\Delta = [F_2^n(F_2^{n(0)} = F_2^p) - F_2^n(F_2^{n(0)} = F_2^p/2)]/\sigma(F_2^n)$, normalized by the total F_2^n uncertainty $\sigma(F_2^n)$, is shown in the insert of Fig. 1 after two iterations. One finds an almost Gaussian distribution centered around 0 (the mean of the distribution is around -0.07) with a width well within the typical total uncertainty of F_2^n . In fact only 6% of the total number of data points lie outside of a 2σ range. More extreme boundary conditions, such as $F_2^{n(0)} = 0$, do not alter the characteristics of the extracted F_2^n structure function spectrum, with the resonant structures already visible after just 1 iteration. On the other hand, as discussed in Ref. [8], more iterations are needed for poor choices of initial values, which increases the scatter of data points if the deuterium data in particular display any nonuniformities.

The effect of the off-shell correction $\delta^{(\text{off})} F_2^d$ was taken into account using the model of Ref. [12], which gives $\approx -1.5\%$ correction over most of the x range considered, and can be argued provides an upper limit on the correction. The F_2^d data are corrected by subtracting half of the off-shell correction from [12], and assigning a 100% uncertainty. When propagated into the F_2^n uncertainty this was found to contribute less than 2% to the total uncertainty.

In Fig. 1 we also show F_2^p and F_2^n from global QCD

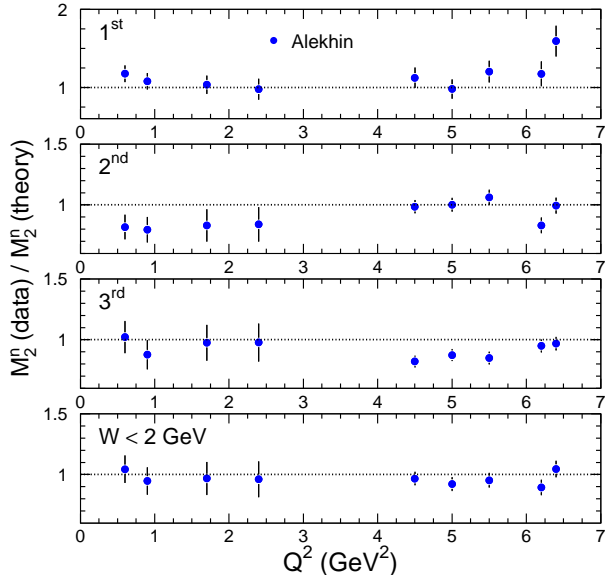


FIG. 2: Truncated neutron moments M_2^n (“data”) in various resonance regions (1st, 2nd, 3rd and $W < 2$ GeV) relative to the QCD fit from Alekhin *et al.* [20] (“theory”).

fits to DIS data (with $W^2 > 4$ GeV²) from Alekhin *et al.* [20], which illustrates the striking similarity between the QCD fit and the resonance data, reminiscent of Bloom-Gilman duality [2]. To quantify this duality we consider ratios of “truncated” moments M_2 [21],

$$M_2(Q^2, \Delta x) = \int_{\Delta x} dx F_2(x, Q^2), \quad (5)$$

in the resonance region for specific intervals Δx . Following previous proton data analyses [3, 5], we consider the regions

- 1st resonance region $\rightarrow W^2 \in [1.3, 1.9]$ GeV²
- 2nd resonance region $\rightarrow W^2 \in [1.9, 2.5]$ GeV²
- 3rd resonance region $\rightarrow W^2 \in [2.5, 3.1]$ GeV²

as well as the entire resonance region $1.3 \leq W^2 \leq 4$ GeV². At a given Q^2 , the lowest- W region (the 1st or Δ resonance region) corresponds to the highest- x range, and for a fixed W interval, the larger the Q^2 , the higher the x .

The ratio of the truncated moments of the resonance data to the global QCD fit of larger- W data [20], computed over the same x range, is shown in Fig. 2 as a function of Q^2 . Globally, the agreement between the QCD fit and the resonance data is quite remarkable, with deviations of $\lesssim 10\%$ observed over the entire Q^2 range. Locally, in the individual resonance regions the deviations are generally $\lesssim 15\text{--}20\%$, somewhat larger only in the 1st resonance region at the largest Q^2 . This is not surprising

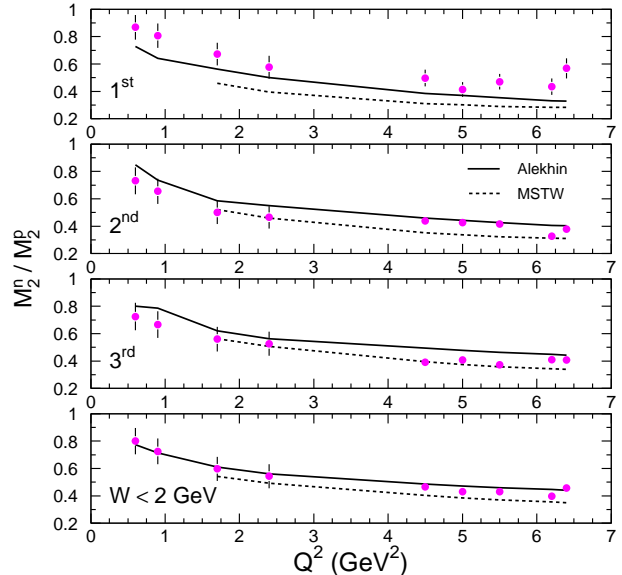


FIG. 3: Ratio of truncated neutron to proton moments M_2^n/M_2^p in various resonance regions as a function of Q^2 , compared with global QCD fits from Alekhin *et al.* [20] (solid) and MSTW [22] (dashed).

given the fact that the Δ region at $Q^2 = 6.4$ GeV² covers the highest- x regime studied, $x \sim 0.9$, where the QCD fit is mostly beyond its limit of applicability.

The isospin dependence of duality can be studied by comparing the truncated neutron moments with the analogous proton moments. The ratio of these is displayed in Fig. 3 as a function of Q^2 for the various resonance regions, and compared with global QCD fits from Alekhin *et al.* [20] and from MSTW [22], corrected for target mass effects [23]. The MSTW fits are shown for $Q^2 \gtrsim 2$ GeV², which corresponds to their approximate limit of validity.

The ratios show good agreement with the data, with the exception of the Δ region which is somewhat underestimated. Since the proton and neutron transitions to the Δ are isovector, the resonant contributions should be identical; on the other hand, the DIS structure functions in the Δ region are expected to be rather different, with $F_2^n \ll F_2^p$, so that violation of duality here is expected to be strongest. In addition, the QCD fits are least constrained in this region due to the scarcity of large- x DIS data. This is especially the case for the MSTW fit [22] which limits the data sets in their global fit to $W^2 > 15$ GeV².

The M_2^n/M_2^p ratios at fixed Q^2 are shown in Fig. 4 as a function of x for the three resonance regions, compared with the QCD fits as in Fig. 3. The global fits offer a good description of the second and third resonance region data, revealing clear evidence of duality down to a Q^2 as low as 0.6 GeV². The fits underestimate the Δ -region ratios, which is not surprising given that the x

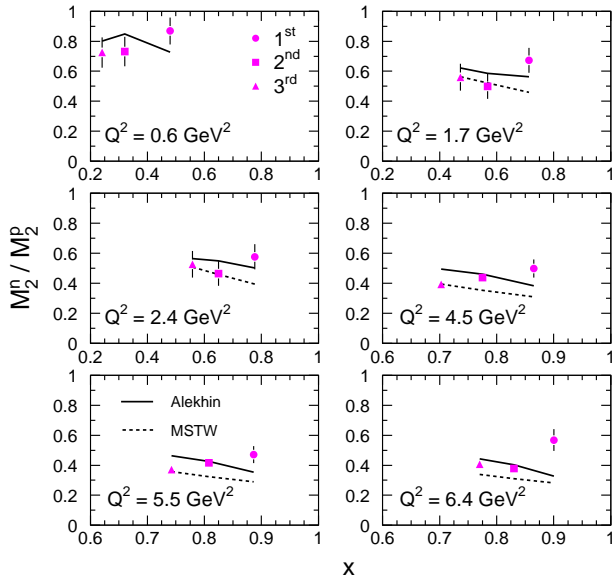


FIG. 4: As in Fig. 3 but as a function of x for fixed Q^2 .

dependence of parton distributions at large x is poorly constrained. This trend becomes more pronounced as one moves to larger Q^2 ($\gtrsim 4 \text{ GeV}^2$), and larger x . The Alekhin *et al.* fit [20] offers a better description at large x , which is likely due to its inclusion of lower- W , lower- Q^2 data.

Our results can be compared with quark model expectations for the isospin dependence of duality, which predict systematic deviations of resonance data from local duality. Whereas the proton data are expected to overestimate the DIS function in the 2nd and 3rd resonance regions, due to the relative strengths of couplings

to odd-parity resonances, the neutron data are predicted to lie below the DIS curve in the 2nd resonance region [6]. Remarkably, the neutron data do indeed underestimate the global F_2^n fits in this region, just as the proton data were found to exceed the global F_2^p fits [3, 5]. Moreover, the similarity between the truncated M_2^n moments in the $W < 2 \text{ GeV}$ and DIS regions strongly suggests that the resonance cancellations in the proton are not accidental [7], but rather form a systematic pattern which dramatically reveals itself through the Bloom-Gilman duality phenomenon.

In conclusion, we have extracted the neutron structure function F_2^n in the resonance region from inclusive proton and deuterium data. Our comparisons of empirical truncated moments to those extracted from global QCD fits to higher- W data show clear signatures of Bloom-Gilman duality, with better than 15 – 20% agreement in the individual resonance regions, and less than 10% deviations when integrated over the entire $W < 2 \text{ GeV}$ region. Our findings suggest that averaged resonance region data could be used to constrain the large- x behavior of global QCD fits. Such analysis would require a careful study of nonperturbative effects at large- x , however, in view of our findings, global analyses which implement these effects [20, 24] should be readily extendable also to the low- W region.

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