

Supplementary Materials: Probing the Deuteron at Very Large Internal Momenta

Spectrometer Acceptance

The ${}^1\text{H}(e, e'p)$ coincidence elastic reaction was used (at kinematics very similar to the deuteron 80 MeV/c setting) to check of the spectrometers' acceptance model[1] using the simulation program, SIMC. The proton form factor parametrization of Ref.[2] was used.

Figures 1 and 2 show the spectrometers' reconstructed quantities ($\delta, Y_{\text{tar}}, Y'_{\text{tar}}, X'_{\text{tar}}$) where δ is the momentum fraction defined as $\delta = \frac{P - P_0}{P_p}$, where P is the particle momentum and P_0 is the spectrometer central momentum. The Y_{tar} is the reconstructed trajectory along the spectrometer y -coordinate, and $(Y'_{\text{tar}}, X'_{\text{tar}})$ are the reconstructed trajectories tangent to the spectrometer central optics axis ($+z$) and are defined as $Y'_{\text{tar}} = \frac{dY_{\text{tar}}}{dz}$ and $X'_{\text{tar}} = \frac{dX_{\text{tar}}}{dz}$. See Section 4.4 of Ref.[3] for a more detailed description of these quantities.

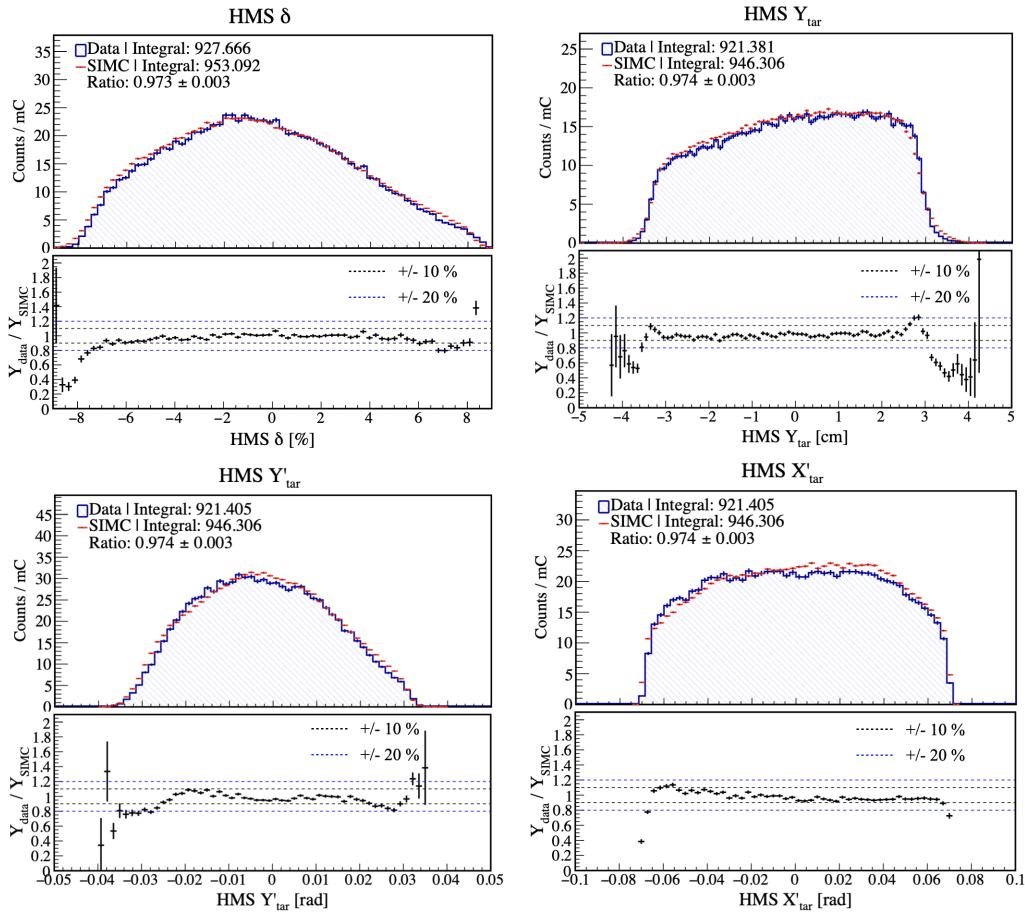


FIG. 1. HMS reconstructed quantities ($\delta, Y_{\text{tar}}, Y'_{\text{tar}}, X'_{\text{tar}}$) at the target reaction vertex using ${}^1\text{H}(e, e'p)$. For each reconstructed quantity, the top panel shows a comparison between data (blue) and SIMC (red) with their respective integrated charge-normalized yields and the data-to-SIMC ratio numerical values (top-left corner). The bottom panel shows the data to SIMC yield ratio ($Y_{\text{data}}/Y_{\text{SIMC}}$) on a bin-by-bin basis, where the inner (black) and outer (blue) dashed lines represent a percent deviation from unity of $\pm 10\%$ and $\pm 20\%$, respectively.

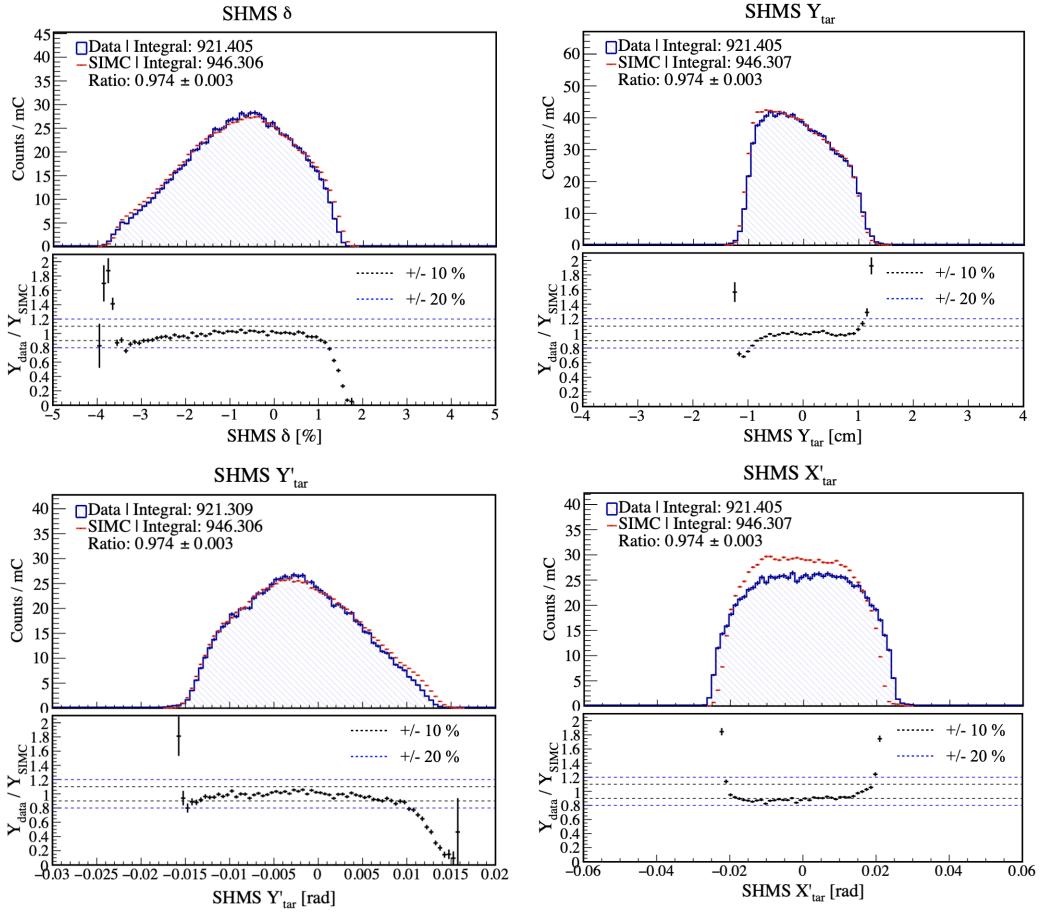


FIG. 2. Same as Fig. 1, but for SHMS.

Event Selection Cuts

Figures 3-7 show the event selection cuts for data (blue hatched) and SIMC (red data points) for the deuteron 80 MeV/c kinematic setting at $\theta_{nq} = 35 \pm 5^\circ$. The black dashed or red solid lines (for collimators) represent the cuts or geometrical (collimators) boundaries used to select true ${}^2\text{H}(e, e'p)n$ coincidence events. The exact same cuts were also applied to the 580 and 750 MeV/c settings. The data yield has been normalized by the total charge and corrected for the inefficiencies described in the Letter. The FSI model from J.M. Laget was used in the simulation for the plots shown below.

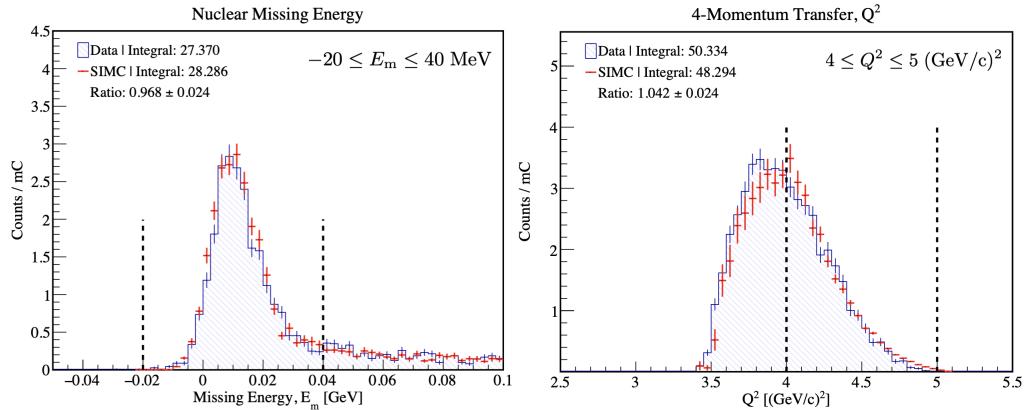


FIG. 3. Event selection cuts on missing energy (left) and 4-momentum transfer (right).

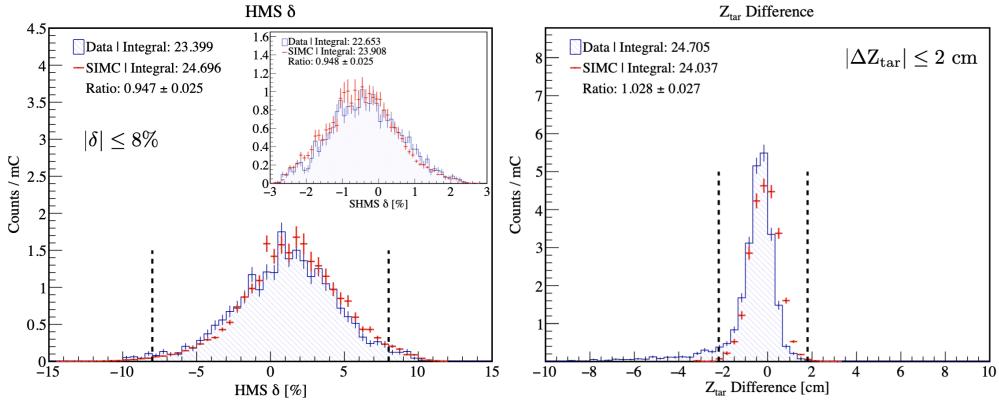


FIG. 4. Acceptance cut on HMS momentum fraction (left) and event selection cut on the difference between the z -reaction vertex on both spectrometers (right). Inset (left): The SHMS momentum fraction was set by the HMS δ cut to be $\lesssim 3\%$ which is well within the SHMS momentum acceptance range of $-10 \leq \delta \leq 22\%$

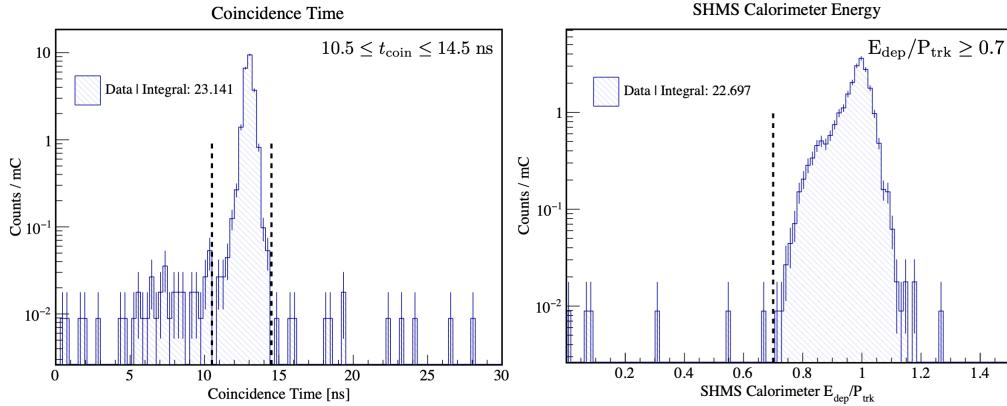


FIG. 5. Event selection cuts on the electron-proton (ep) coincidence time (left) and total deposited energy on calorimeter normalized by the particle track momentum (right).

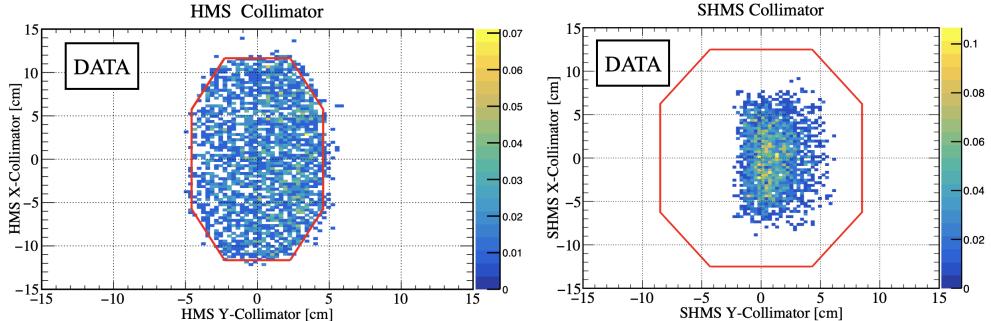


FIG. 6. (left) Geometrical acceptance cut on reconstructed events projected at the HMS collimator. (right) The SHMS events (correlated with HMS events on left plot), projected at the SHMS collimator. The projection at the SHMS collimator clearly shows that the acceptance of the SHMS is driven by that of the HMS.

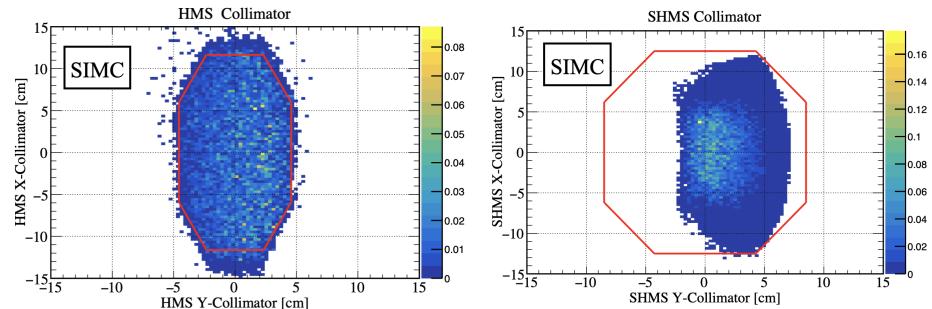


FIG. 7. Same as Fig. 6, but for simulation.

Deuteron Kinematic Distributions

Figures 8 and 9 show the fundamental kinematic variable distributions for each of the central missing momentum settings at $\theta_{nq} = 35^\circ$ and 45° . The data has been normalized by the total charge and corrected for the inefficiencies described in the Letter. Radiative and bin-centering corrections have not been applied for these plots. The same event selection cuts mentioned in the previous sections were applied (including the Q^2 cut), with the exception of the Q^2 distribution itself. Only the first dataset (out of 2) for the 580 and (out of 3) for the 750 MeV/c settings are shown.

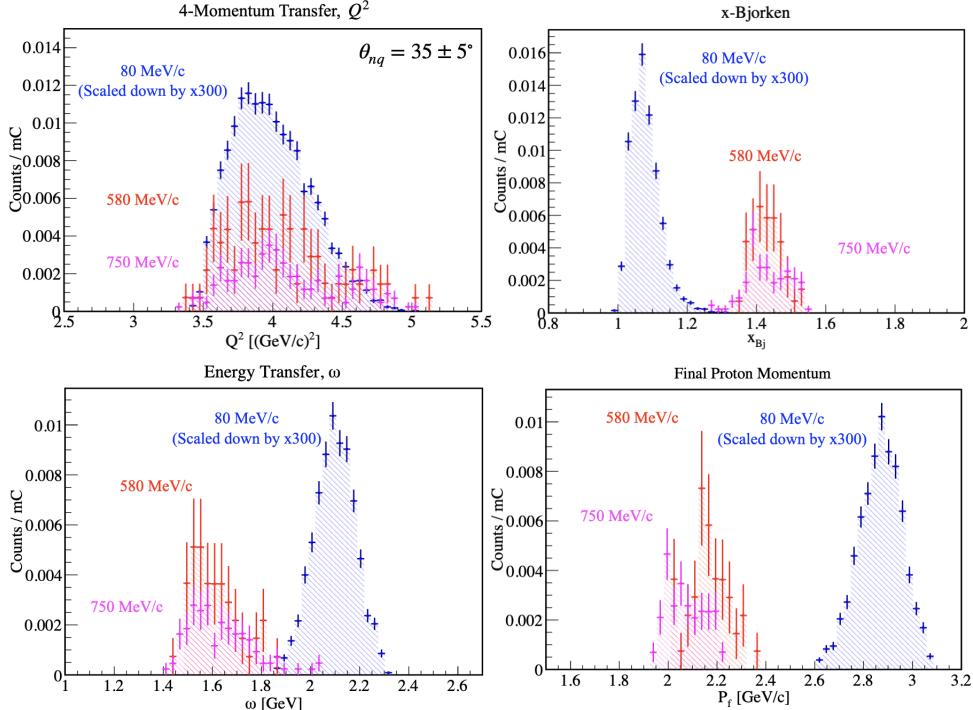


FIG. 8. Deuteron kinematic distributions for the 80 (blue), 580 (set1, red) and 750 (set1, magenta) MeV/c central missing momentum settings at $\theta_{nq} = 35^\circ$.

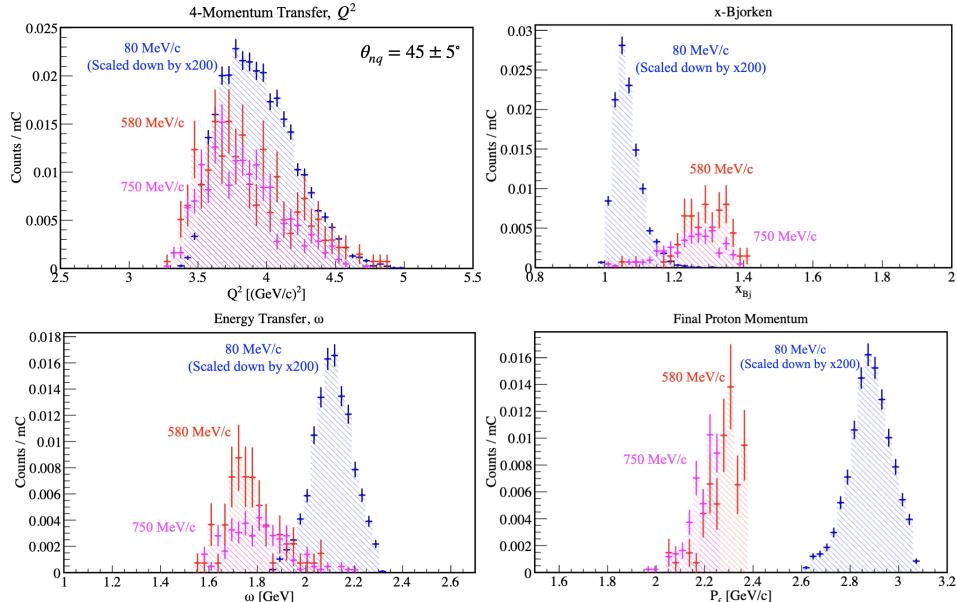


FIG. 9. Same as Fig. 8, but for $\theta_{nq} = 45^\circ$

Estimate of the Target Cell Endcaps Contribution to the Data Yield

To estimate the contribution to the yield due to the electron interaction with the aluminum endcaps of the target cell, a sample of events were selected in the negative part of the missing energy spectrum using the deuteron high missing momentum settings (580 and 750 MeV/c). We assume that the contribution due to the target endcaps is constant across the missing energy spectrum, therefore, by selecting a sample in the negative part of the spectrum over a specific range, we can estimate the endcaps contribution beneath the deuteron missing energy peak over the same range.

Figure 10 shows the missing energy spectrum for the 580 MeV/c setting (left) and the corresponding reconstructed SHMS z -vertex (right) for the specified range. The integral over endcaps and $^2\text{H}(e, e'p)n$ events show that the contribution from the cell walls is $0.00806/0.275 \sim 0.0293$ or approximately 2.9 % which is negligible.

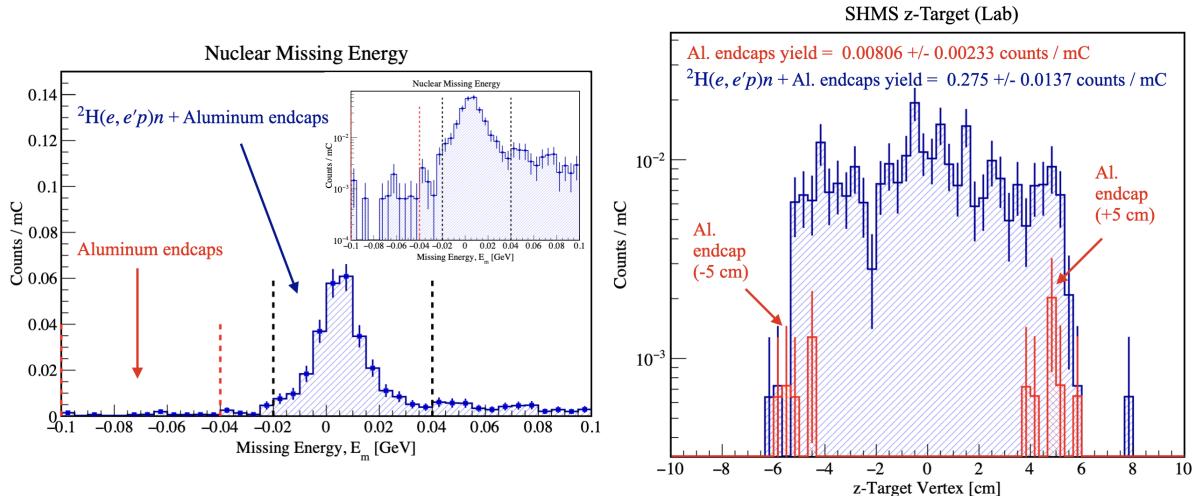


FIG. 10. (left) Missing energy spectrum for the deuteron 580 MeV/c setting with event selection region corresponding to Aluminum endcaps (in red) and deuteron missing energy peak over a 40 MeV range, each. (right) The SHMS z -reaction vertex corresponding to the specified region in the missing energy spectrum. Inset (left): Missing energy spectrum on a logarithmic scale.

Radiative & Bin-Centering Corrections

The radiative corrections were applied by multiplying the ratio of non-radiative to radiative SIMC yields to the data yield for each (θ_{nq}, p_r) kinematic bin as described in the Letter. The radiative correction factors for $\theta_{nq} = 35^\circ$ and 45° are shown in Fig. 11. The calculation was done using the Laget PWIA and FSI models for systematic effect studies, but the FSI model was ultimately used to correct the data yield.

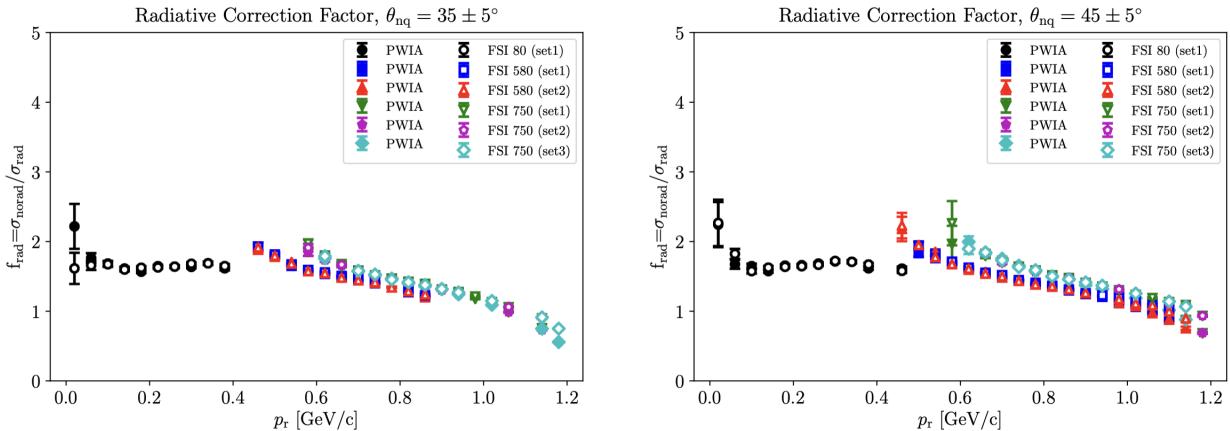


FIG. 11. Radiative correction factor versus neutron recoil momenta, p_r , for $\theta_{nq} = 35^\circ$ (left) and 45° (right).

The bin centering corrections were applied by multiplying the ratio, $f_{bc} \equiv \sigma_{\text{avg.kin}}/\bar{\sigma}$, to the average data cross section over each (θ_{nq}, p_r) kinematic bin, as described in the Letter. The bin centering correction factors for $\theta_{nq} = 35^\circ$ and 45° are shown in Fig. 12. The calculation was done using the Laget PWIA and FSI models for systematic effect studies, but the FSI model was ultimately used to correct the data cross section.

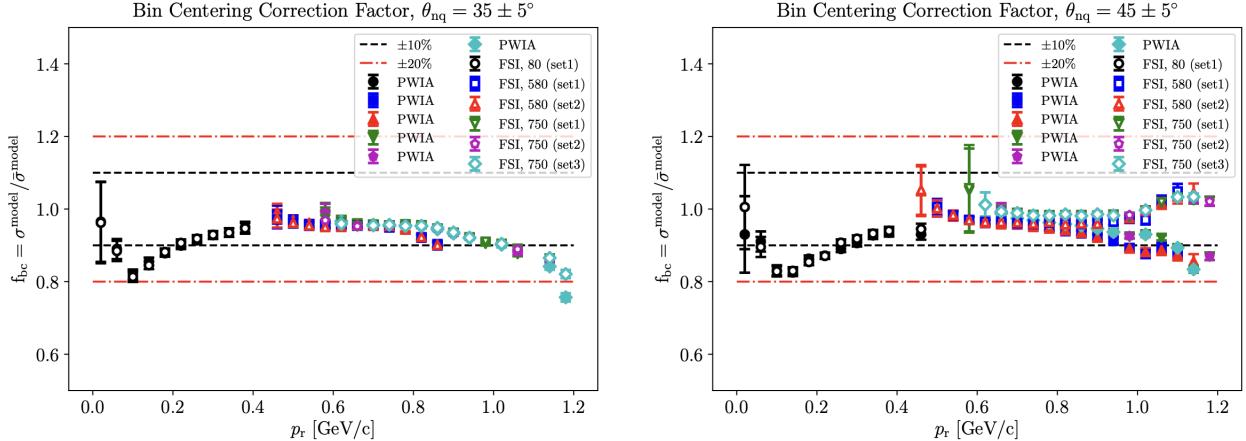


FIG. 12. Bin centering correction factor versus neutron recoil momenta, p_r , for $\theta_{nq} = 35^\circ$ (left) and 45° (right). The inner (black dashed) and outer (red dash-dotted) lines represent a percent deviation from unity of $\pm 10\%$ and $\pm 20\%$, respectively.

Systematic Uncertainty Studies on Event Selection Cuts, Radiative and Bin-Centering Corrections

A study of the sensitivity on the experimental cross section due to variations in the event selection cuts was carried out. To determine if the variation in each of the cuts contributes to a systematic effect and whether this contribution is significant enough to be considered as a systematic error, we used the approach by R. Barlow described in Ref. [4].

Consider a cross section measurement done two different ways (i.e., apply different cuts). Let the measurements and their statistical uncertainties be: $(\sigma_{bc,1}^{\text{exp}} \pm \delta\sigma_{bc,1}^{\text{exp}})$ and $(\sigma_{bc,2}^{\text{exp}} \pm \delta\sigma_{bc,2}^{\text{exp}})$ where one of the measurements is a subset of the other. The difference and its associated uncertainty can be expressed as,

$$\Delta \equiv \sigma_{bc,1}^{\text{exp}} - \sigma_{bc,2}^{\text{exp}}, \quad (1a)$$

$$\sigma_\Delta^2 \equiv (\delta\sigma_{bc,1}^{\text{exp}})^2 - (\delta\sigma_{bc,2}^{\text{exp}})^2, \quad (1b)$$

where the error of the difference between the two measurements is found by taking the difference of their variance. As demonstrated in Ref.[4], this error accounts for the possible correlation between the two measurements. By taking the ratio

$$R_{\text{Barlow}} \equiv \frac{\Delta}{\sigma_\Delta}, \quad (2)$$

a criterion imposed on R_{Barlow} determines whether the difference is significant enough to be considered as a systematic error or sufficiently small that it may be ignored. This criterion requires knowledge of the correlation between the subsets, but in general, as suggested in Ref.[5]: if $R_{\text{Barlow}} < 2$ (or $\Delta < 2\sigma_\Delta$) the test passes and if $R_{\text{Barlow}} > 4$ (or $\Delta > 4\sigma_\Delta$), the test fails and the discrepancy must be added as a systematic error. For $2 < R_{\text{Barlow}} < 4$, a judgement must be made.

Figure 13 below shows an example of the systematic effects on the missing energy cut for $\theta_{nq} = 35^\circ$ and 45° over the full p_r range. In Fig. 13, the different color groups represent the Barlow ratio evaluated at difference between the subset and full missing energy cut range. For mostly the entire momentum range, the Barlow ratio was kept within 2-4 standard deviations with the exception of a few outliers which can be understood from the fact that these might have very similar variances. These systematic studies were mainly done to check the stability of the event selection cuts and the effects of cut variation on the cross section were found to be negligible. Similar plots for the other event selection cuts systematics can be found in Section 5.10 of Ref. [3].

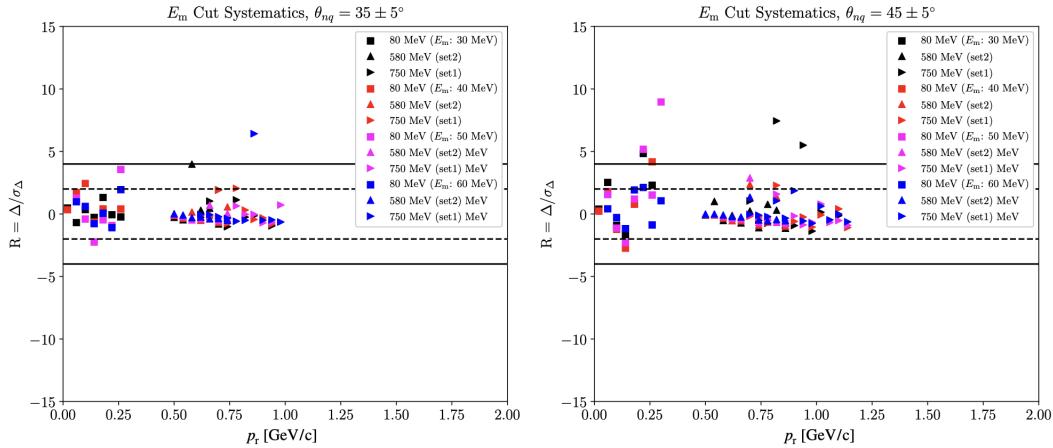


FIG. 13. Systematic effects of the missing energy cut on the data cross section for $\theta_{nq} = 35^\circ$ (left) and 45° (right). The inner (black dashed) and outer (black solid) lines represent the $\Delta = \pm 2\sigma_\Delta$ and $\pm 4\sigma_\Delta$ boundaries, respectively.

The systematic effect on the cross sections due to model dependency of the radiative and bin-centering corrections was investigated using the Barlow ratio approach described above. In this case, the ratio was calculated from the difference between the experimental cross sections using the Laget PWIA and FSI models for both radiative and bin-centering corrections.

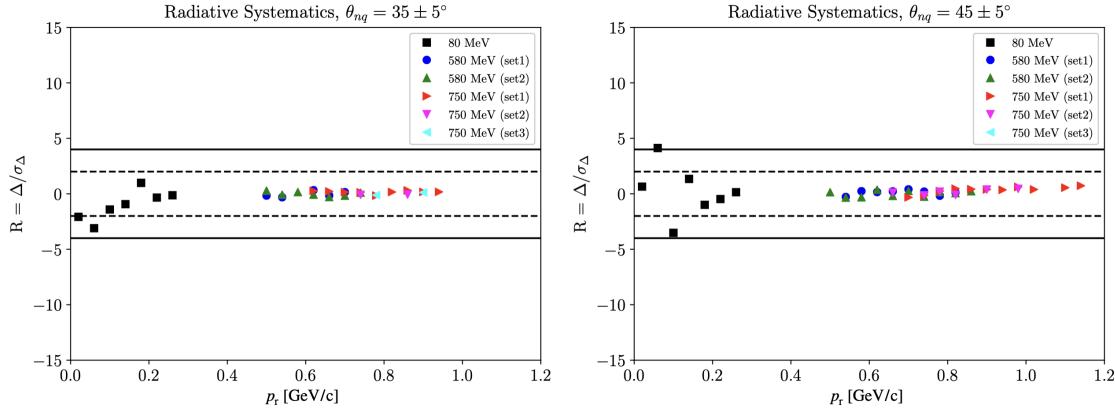


FIG. 14. Systematic effects of the radiative corrections model dependency on the data cross sections for $\theta_{nq} = 35^\circ$ (left) and 45° (right). The inner (black dashed) and outer (black solid) lines represent the $\Delta = \pm 2\sigma_\Delta$ and $\pm 4\sigma_\Delta$ boundaries, respectively.

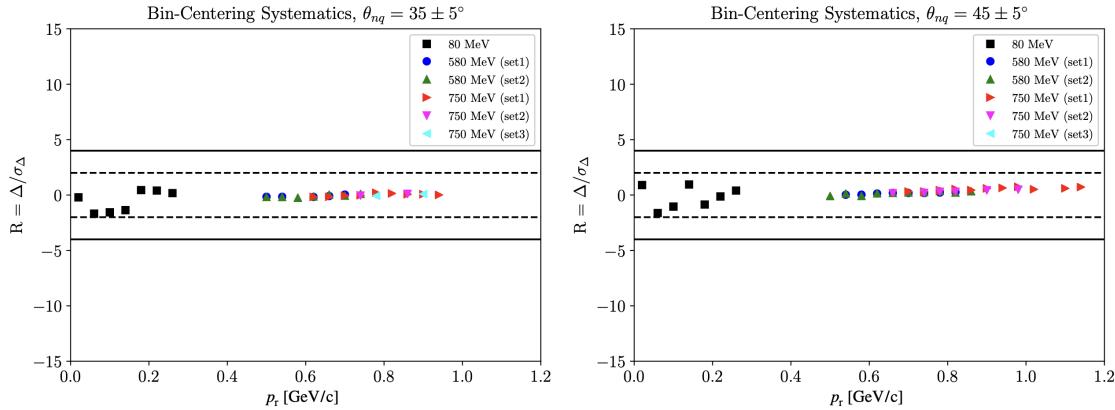


FIG. 15. Same as Fig. 14 but for bin-centering corrections.

Figures 14 and 15 show the Barlow ratio for radiative and bin-centering systematics is mostly within 2 standard deviations which show that the model dependency of the correction factors have a negligible effect on the experimental cross sections.

Cross-Section Extraction

The average experimental cross section was extracted by taking the ratio of the radiative corrected data yield (Y_{corr}) to the Monte Carlo generated phase space volume for each kinematic bin in (θ_{nq}, p_r) . For illustration purposes, Fig. 16 shows the experimental data yield (left) and the spectrometers' phase space volume (right) binned in missing momentum and integrated over all θ_{nq} bins for each of the three central momentum settings. A detailed discussion of how the experimental and reduced cross sections were extracted can be found in Sections 5.1 and 6.1 of Ref. [3].

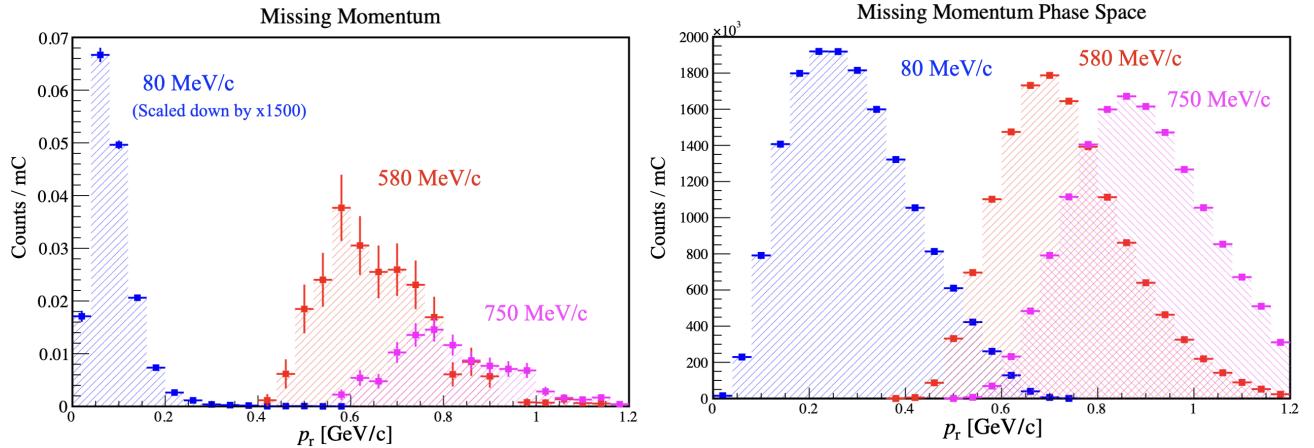


FIG. 16. (left) Experimental neutron recoil (“missing”) momentum distribution for each of the three central settings. (right) Monte Carlo (un-weighted) events generated over the spectrometers’ phase space volume binned in missing momentum.

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 - [2] J. Arrington, Implications of the discrepancy between proton form factor measurements, *Phys. Rev. C* **69**, 022201 (2004).
 - [3] C. Yero, *Cross Section Measurements of Deuteron Electro-Disintegration at Very High Recoil Momenta and Large 4-Momentum Transfers (Q^2)*, Ph.D. thesis, Florida International University, 11200 SW 8th St, Miami, FL 33199 (2020), <https://arxiv.org/abs/2009.11343>.
 - [4] R. Barlow, Systematic Errors: facts and fictions (2002), <https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ex/0207026> [hep-ex].
 - [5] R. Barlow, Systematic Errors in Particle Physics (2017), https://indico.cern.ch/event/591374/contributions/2511753/attachments/1429002/2193943/01_PWA-Barlow.pdf.