

# A Muon-Ion Collider (at BNL)

**The future QCD frontier and path to a new energy frontier of  $\mu^+\mu^-$  colliders**  
[arXiv:2107.02073](https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.02073)

**Darin Acosta, Wei Li (Rice University)**

# Who we are



**Darin Acosta:** Particle Physicist on CMS (Higgs, Standard Model physics and BSM searches etc.), funded by US DOE-HEP; Previously on CDF at the Tevatron, and on ZEUS at HERA ([ep collider](#))



**Wei Li:** Nuclear Physicist on CMS (high-energy nuclear collisions, QCD in extreme densities), funded by US DOE-NP; also on STAR (and previously PHOBOS) at RHIC (AA collider) and emerging collaborations at EIC ([ep/eA collider](#))

There are many examples of successful synergies between HEP and NP in CMS in physics measurements, detector design, operations and upgrades

In chatting about the future of each other's fields, we recognize further opportunities to collaborate...

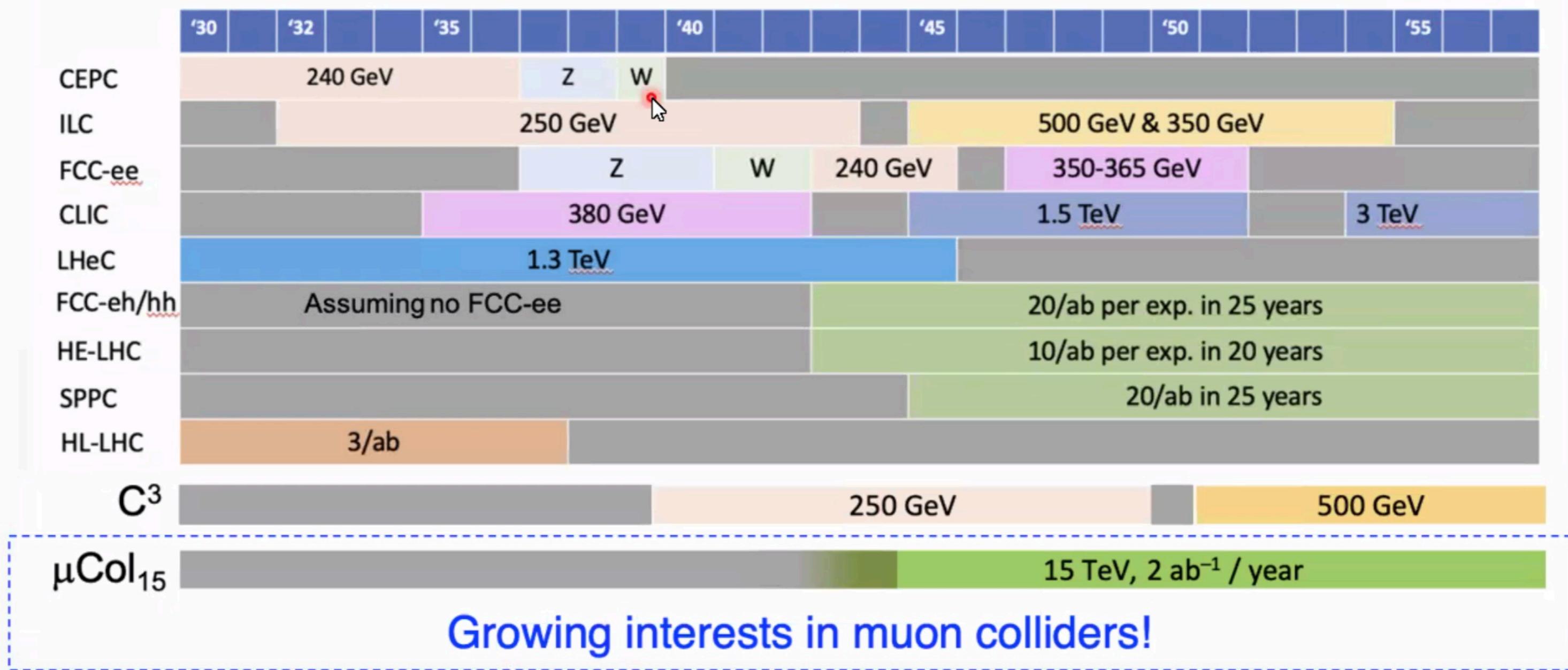
n.b. Neither of us is an accelerator expert...

# Future of High Energy Physics Energy Frontier



- Many options for Higgs factories and energy frontier machines
- What would be an optimal and realistic path forward?

S. Dasu



# An Energy Frontier Muon Collider

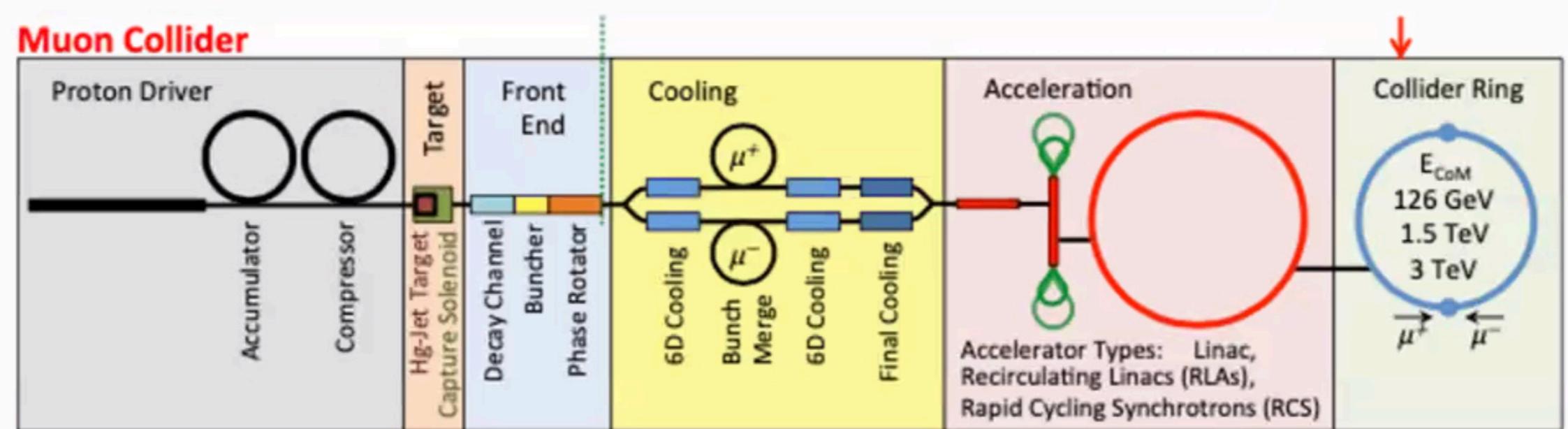
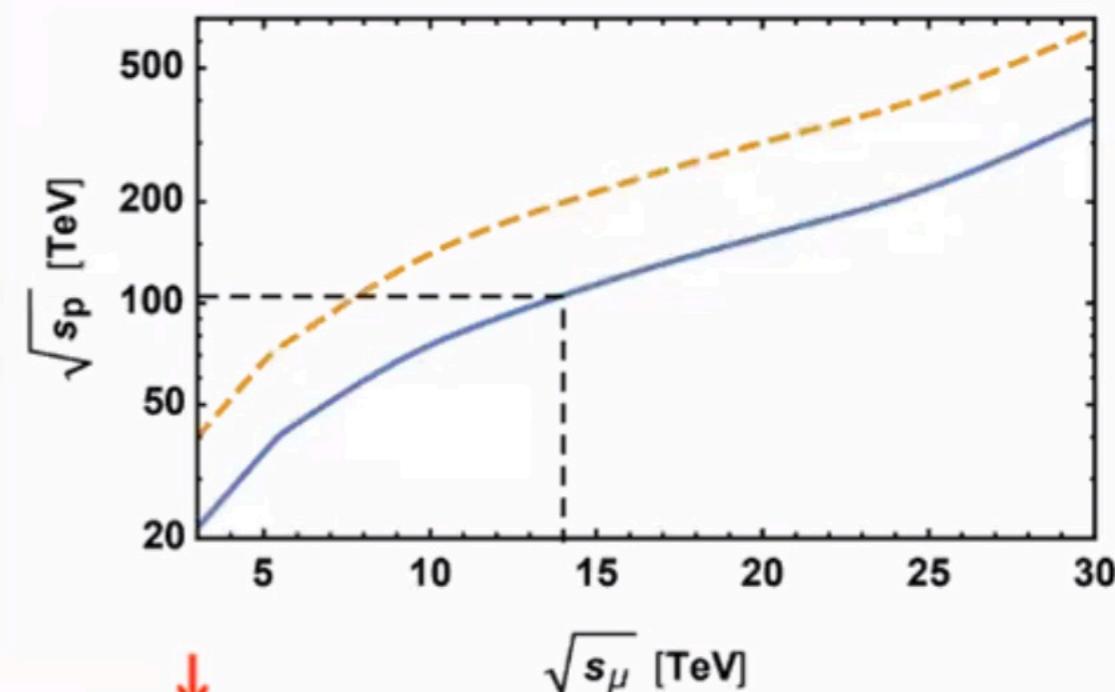


A more compact and innovative facility to incorporate the advantages of a high precision lepton collider and an energy frontier machine

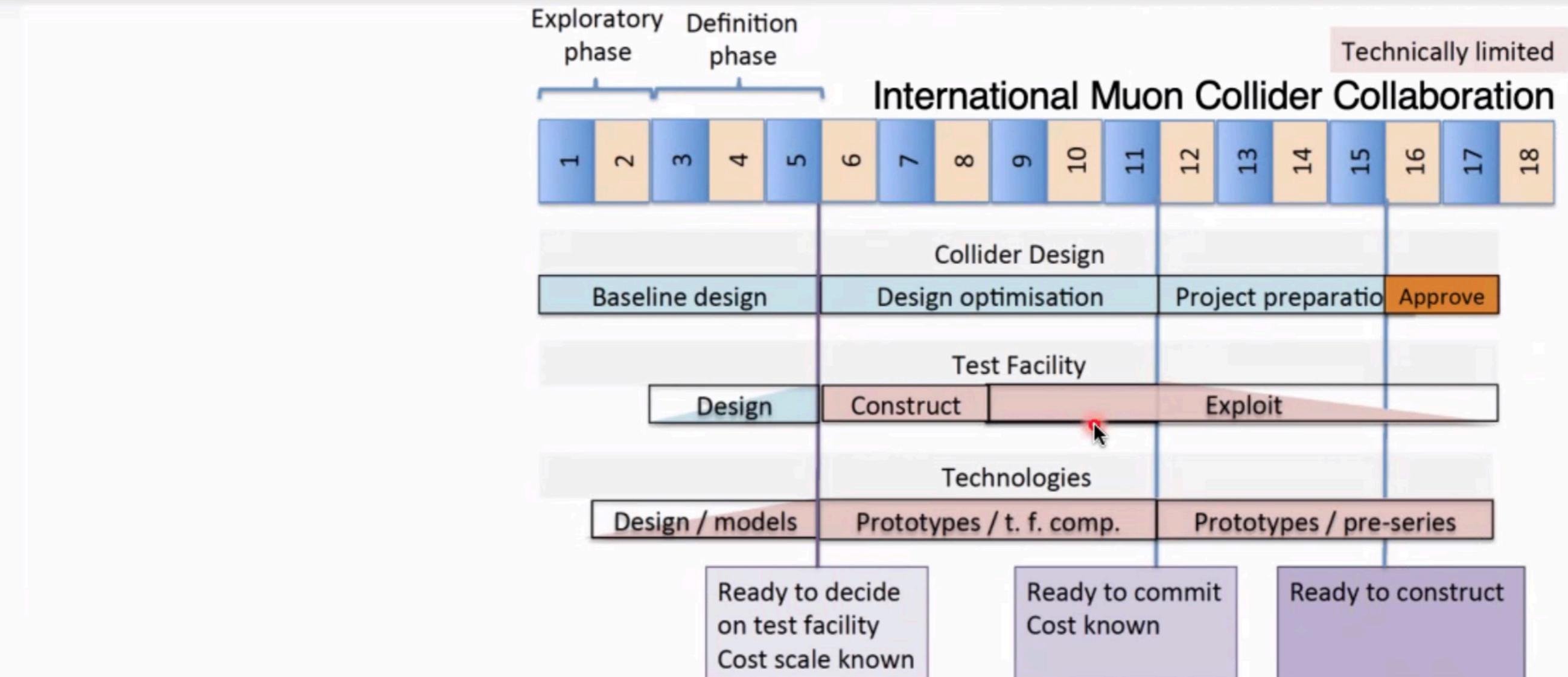
arXiv:1901.06150

An O(10) TeV muon collider has the equivalent mass reach to an O(100) TeV proton collider

But much R&D still to do...



# Potential timeline of muon colliders



## Physics potential along the way

D. Schulte

Ultimate Beam Limits, April 6, 2021

arXiv:1901.06150

4

A vigorous and ambitious R&D program is needed to assess the feasibility of a tens-of-TeV's muon collider. Therefore it is important to investigate the physics potential of smaller-scale machines that might be built along the way as technology demonstrators. Starting from medium energy, the first option to be considered is a muon collider operating around the top production threshold ( $\sim 400$  GeV). This

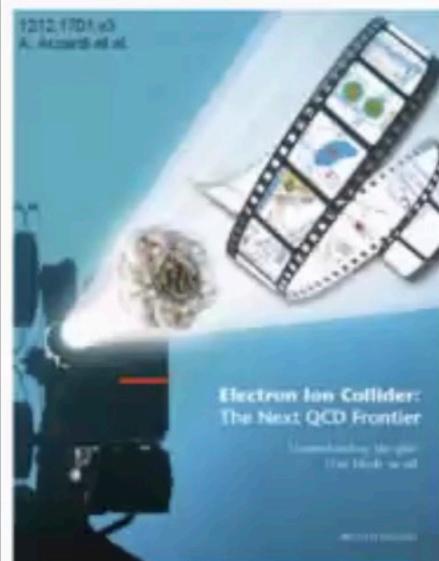
**A demonstrator with compelling science is needed before going to O(10+) TeV**

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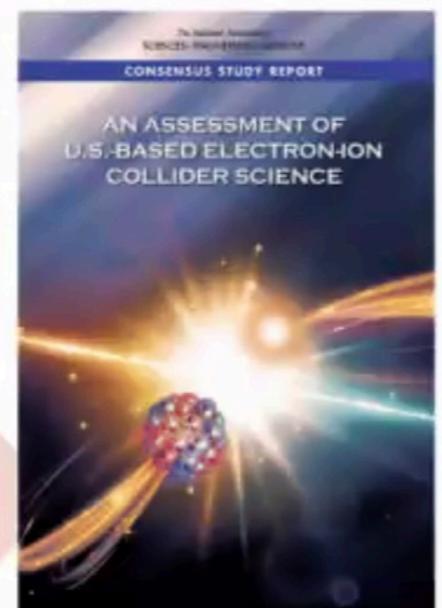
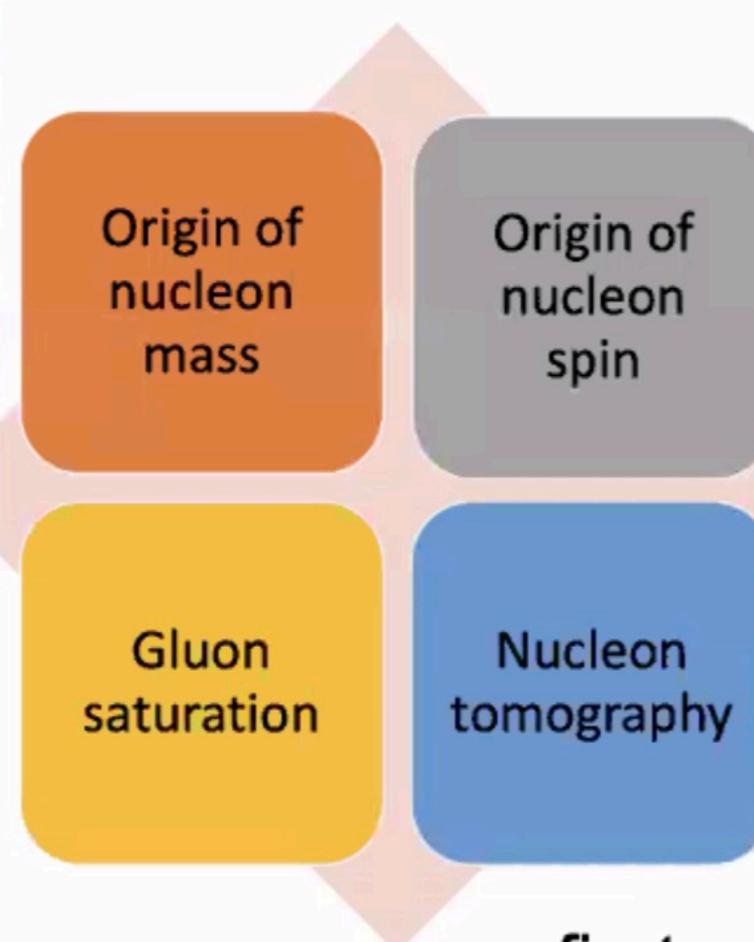
# Future of NP in USA



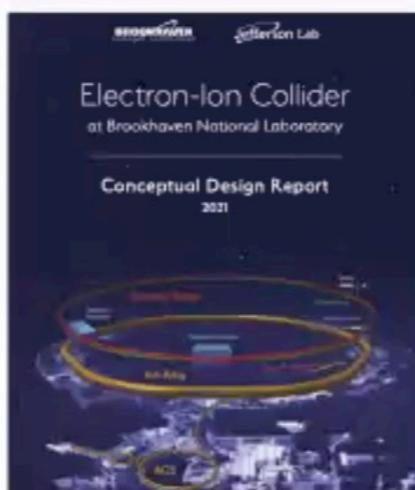
## Electron-Ion Collider at BNL (2030-) – a new QCD frontier (CD-1, funded by DOE-NP)



White paper  
arXiv:1212.1701

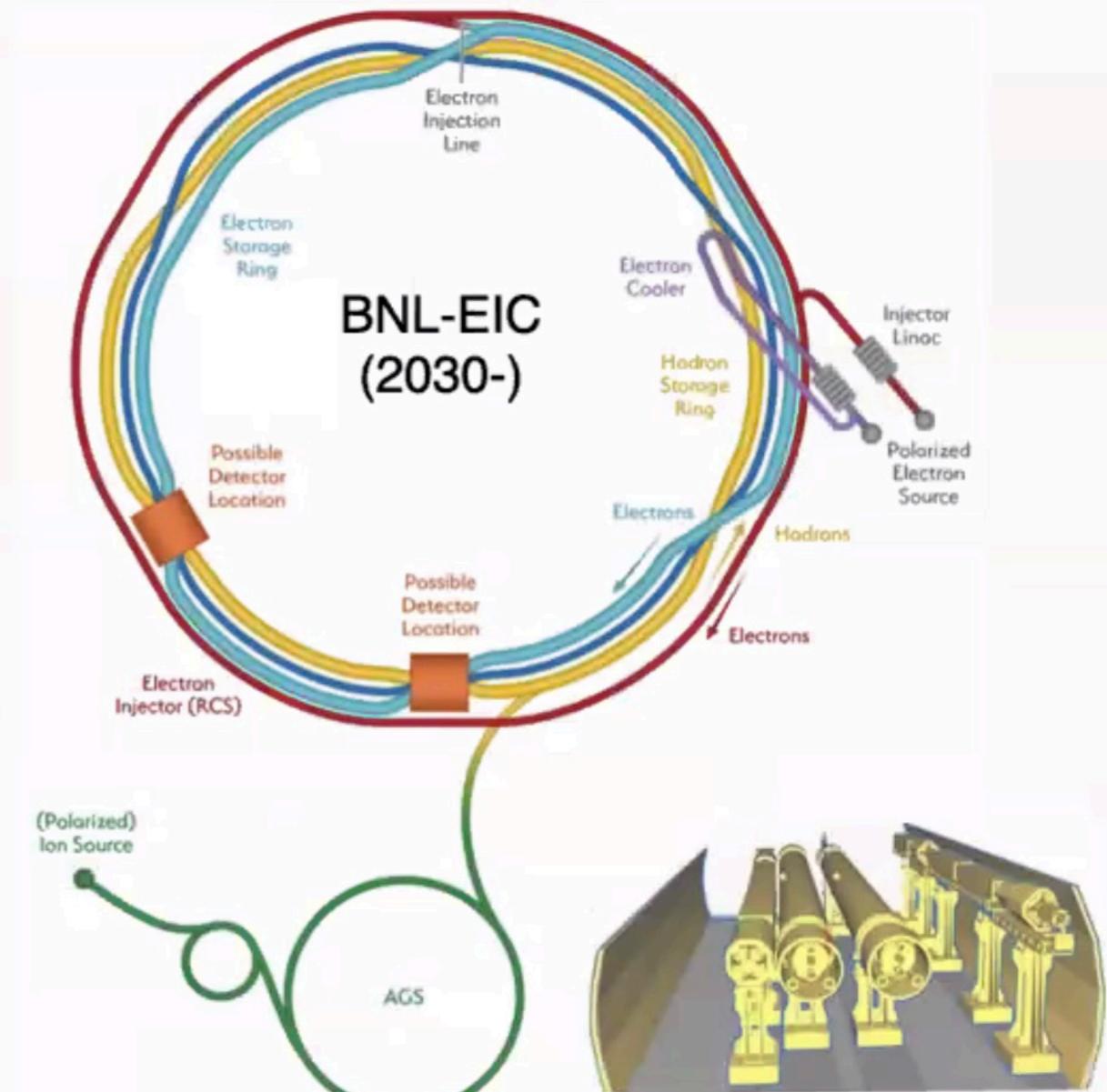


NAS report  
July 2018



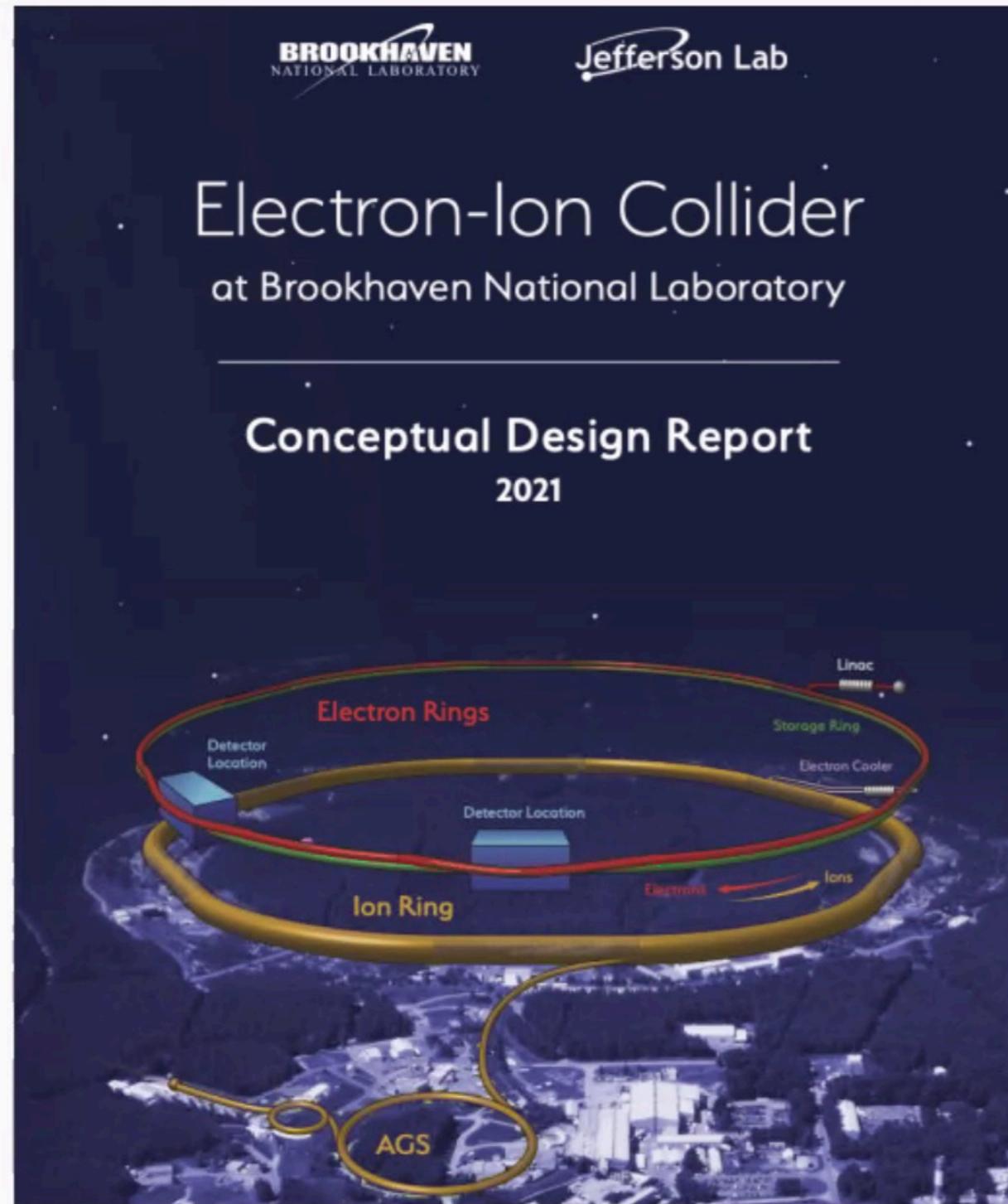
CDR 2021

first conceived in late 90s



ep, eA (any ion in periodic table) up to 140 GeV;  
Polarized e, p,  $^3\text{He}$  beams (70% polarization)

# The Electron-Ion Collider (EIC)



[EIC Conceptual Design Report](#) just released and project approved

Salient points:

- Hadron beam energy up to 275 GeV (increase from RHIC)
- Electron beam energy up to 18 GeV
- $\sqrt{s} = 20 - 140 \text{ GeV}$
- Luminosity  $10^{33} - 10^{34} \text{ Hz/cm}^2$
- Polarized electron, proton and ion beams (any)
- Design supports 2 detectors, only one in project scope

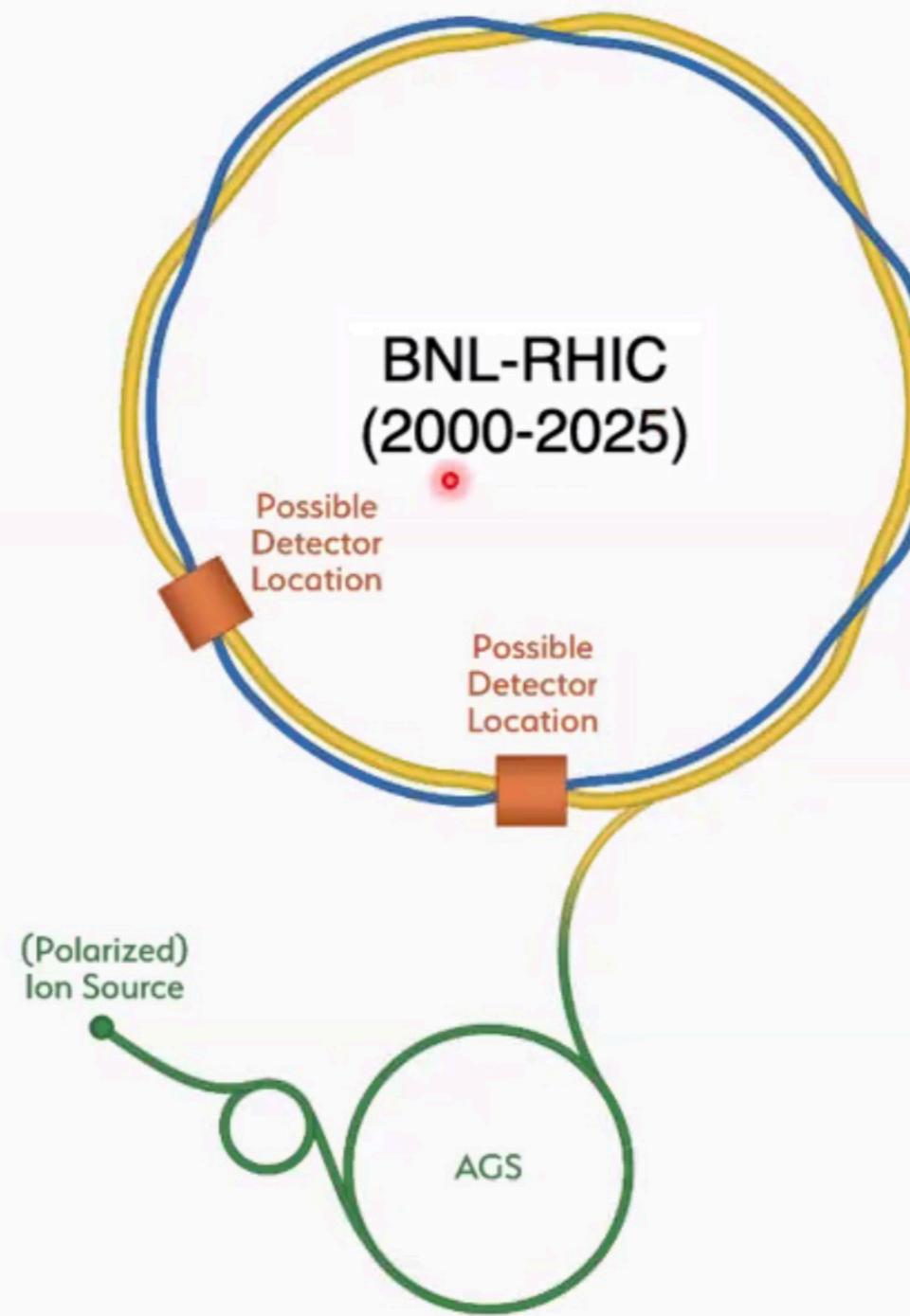
Physics goals:

- ep and eN deep inelastic scattering
- Nucleon spin structure
- Gluon saturation scale ( $Q_s$ )

# Electron-Ion Collider at BNL



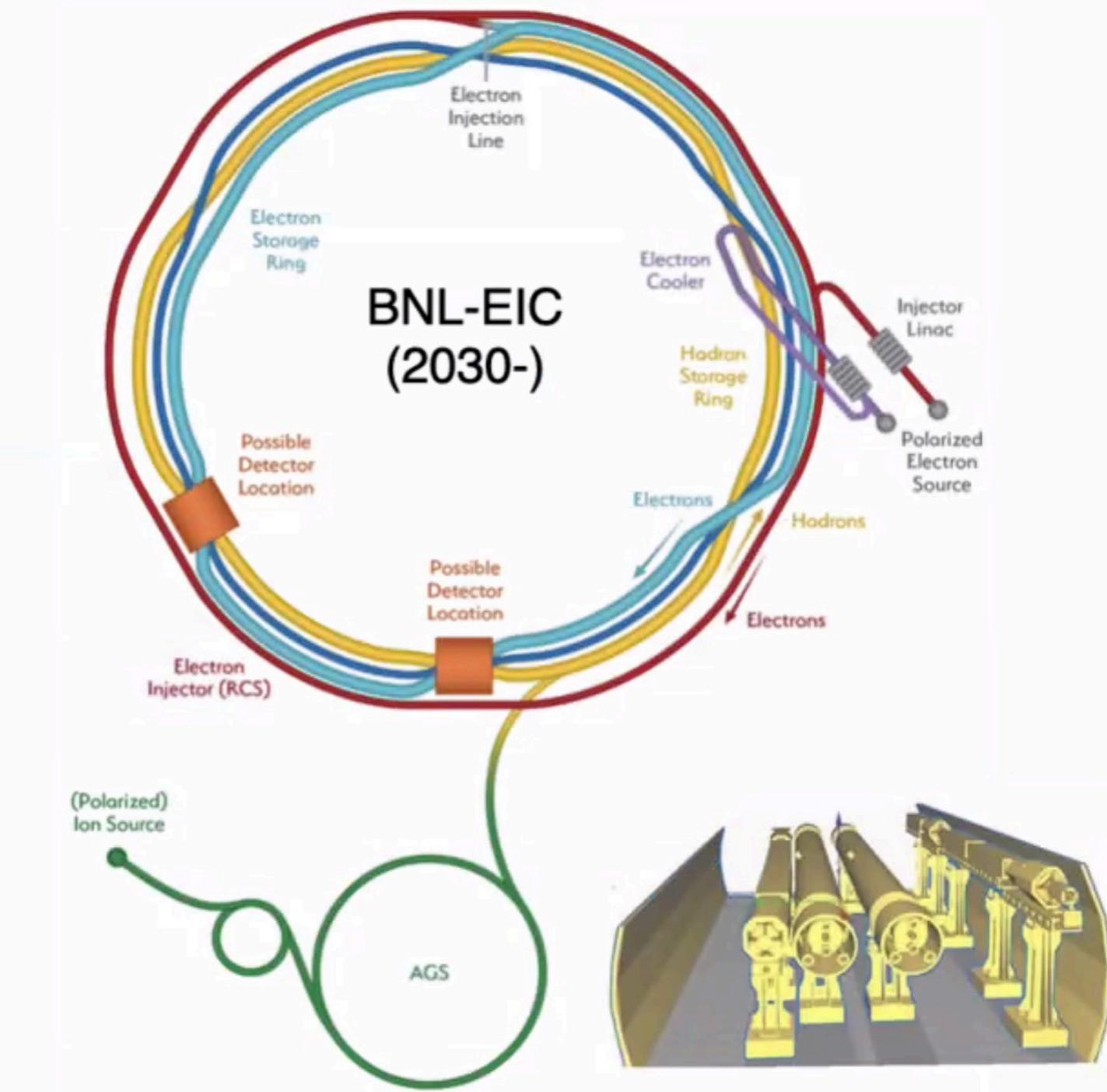
pp, pA, AA up to 500 GeV



upgrade



ep, eA up to 140 GeV



# Electron-Ion Collider at BNL



One of hadron storage rings is re-used.

RHIC infrastructure (existing tunnel) is re-used as much as possible.

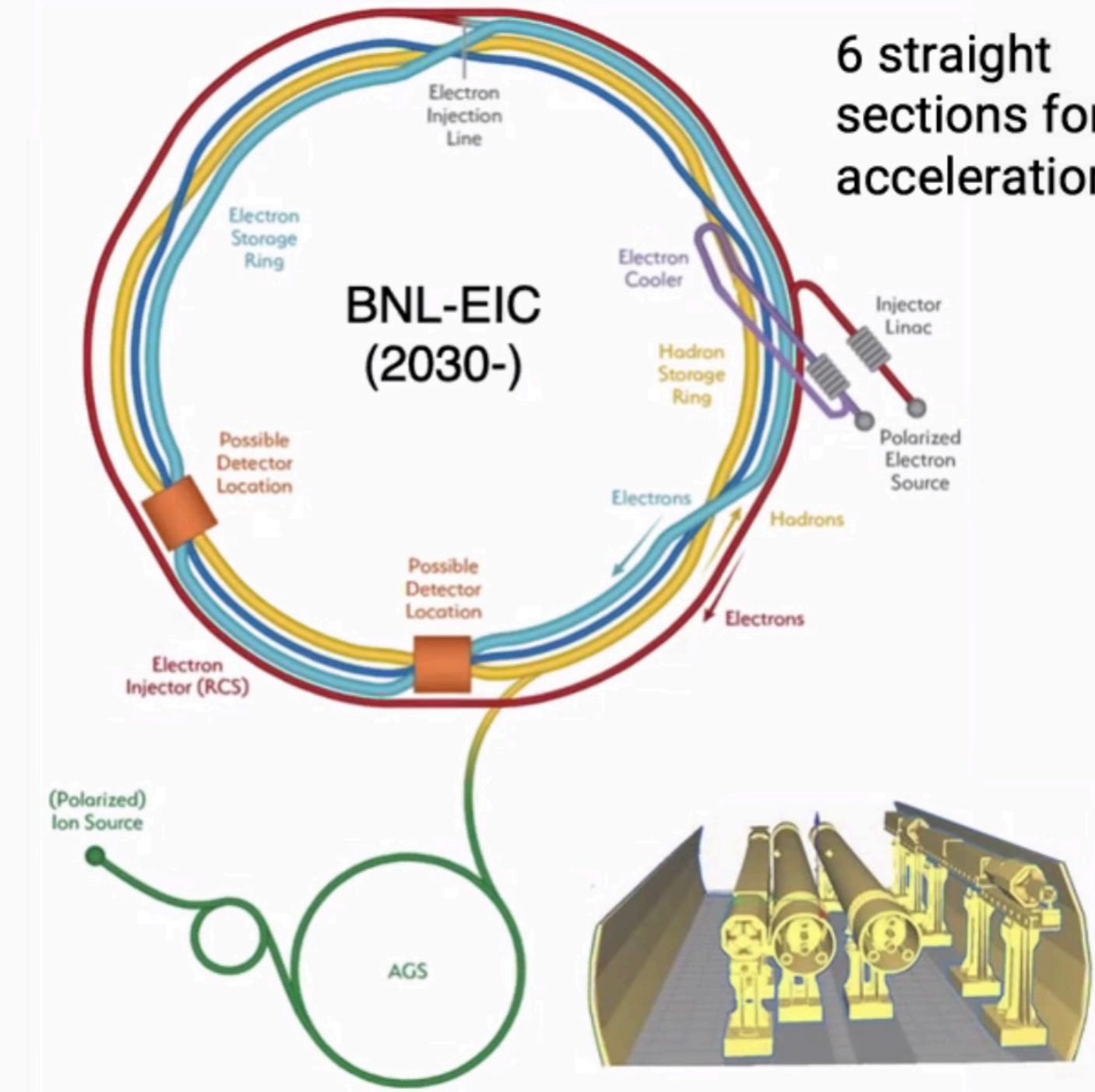
Additions to RHIC:

- Polarized electron source
- LINAC
- Rapid-cycling synchrotron (RCS) in the RHIC tunnel.
- A new electron storage ring in the RHIC tunnel.

Cost: \$1.6-2.6B (DOE-NP).

- U.S. accounting, including detectors

$\text{ep, eA}$  up to 140 GeV

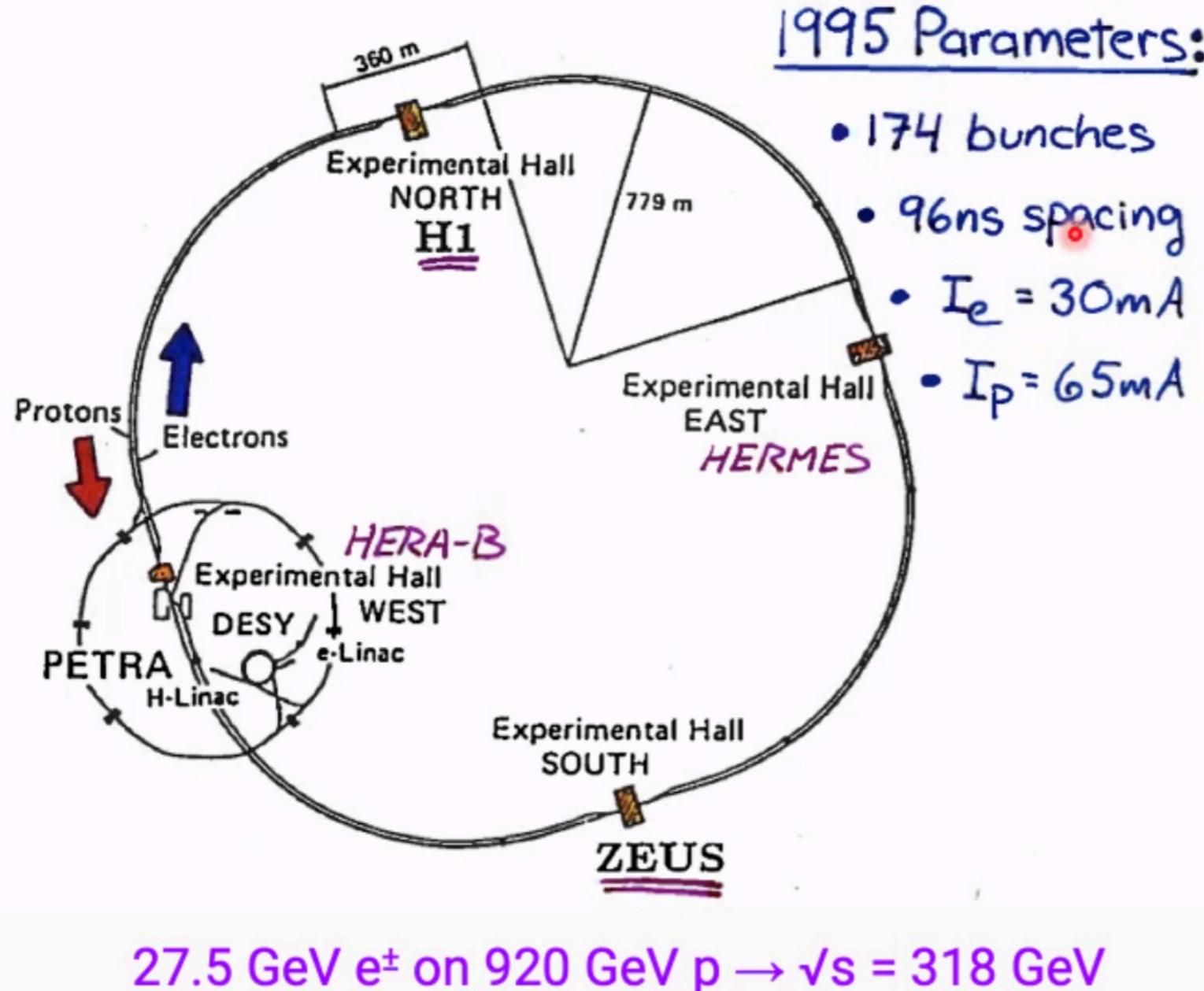


6 straight sections for acceleration

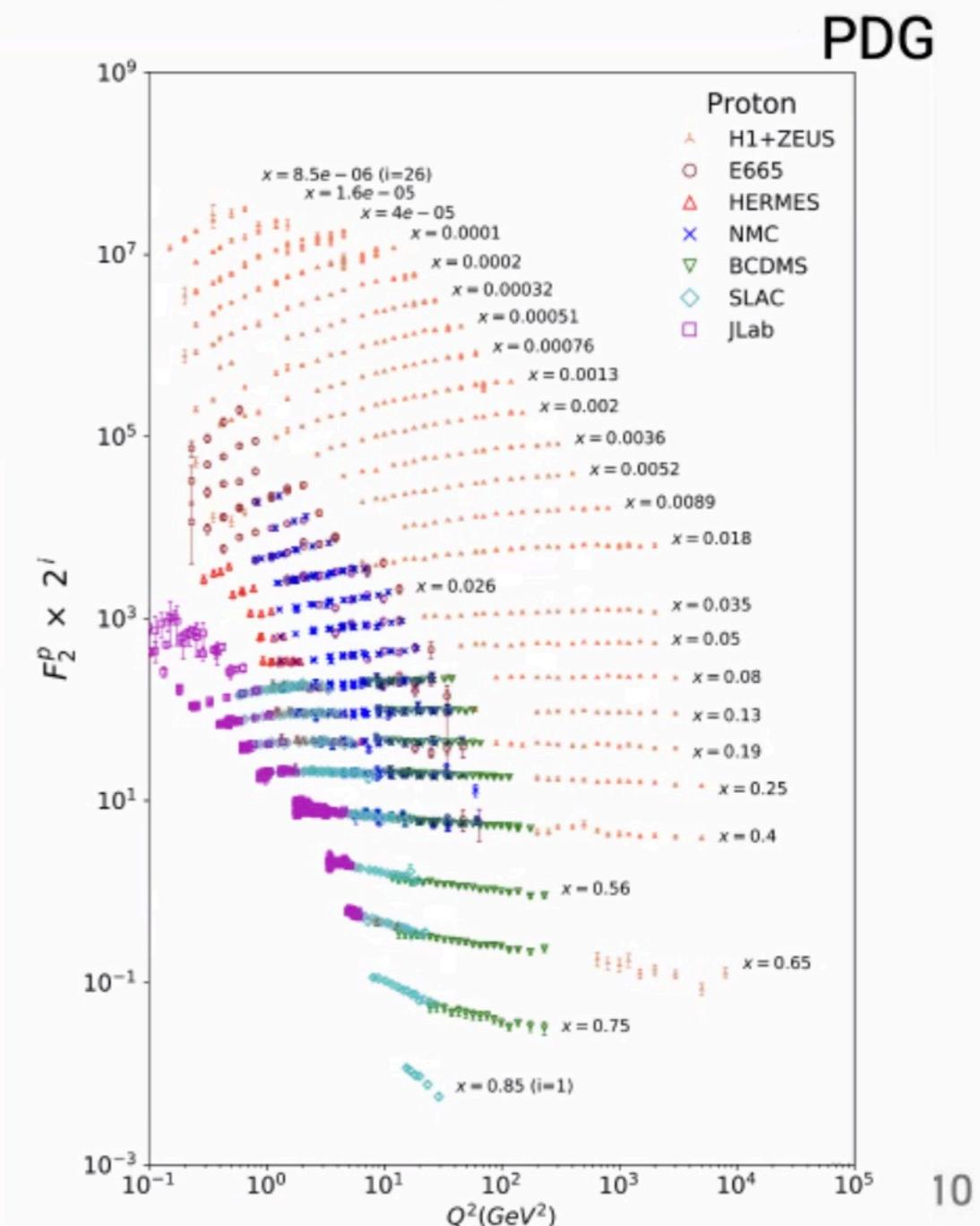


# A Successor to HERA

## HERA



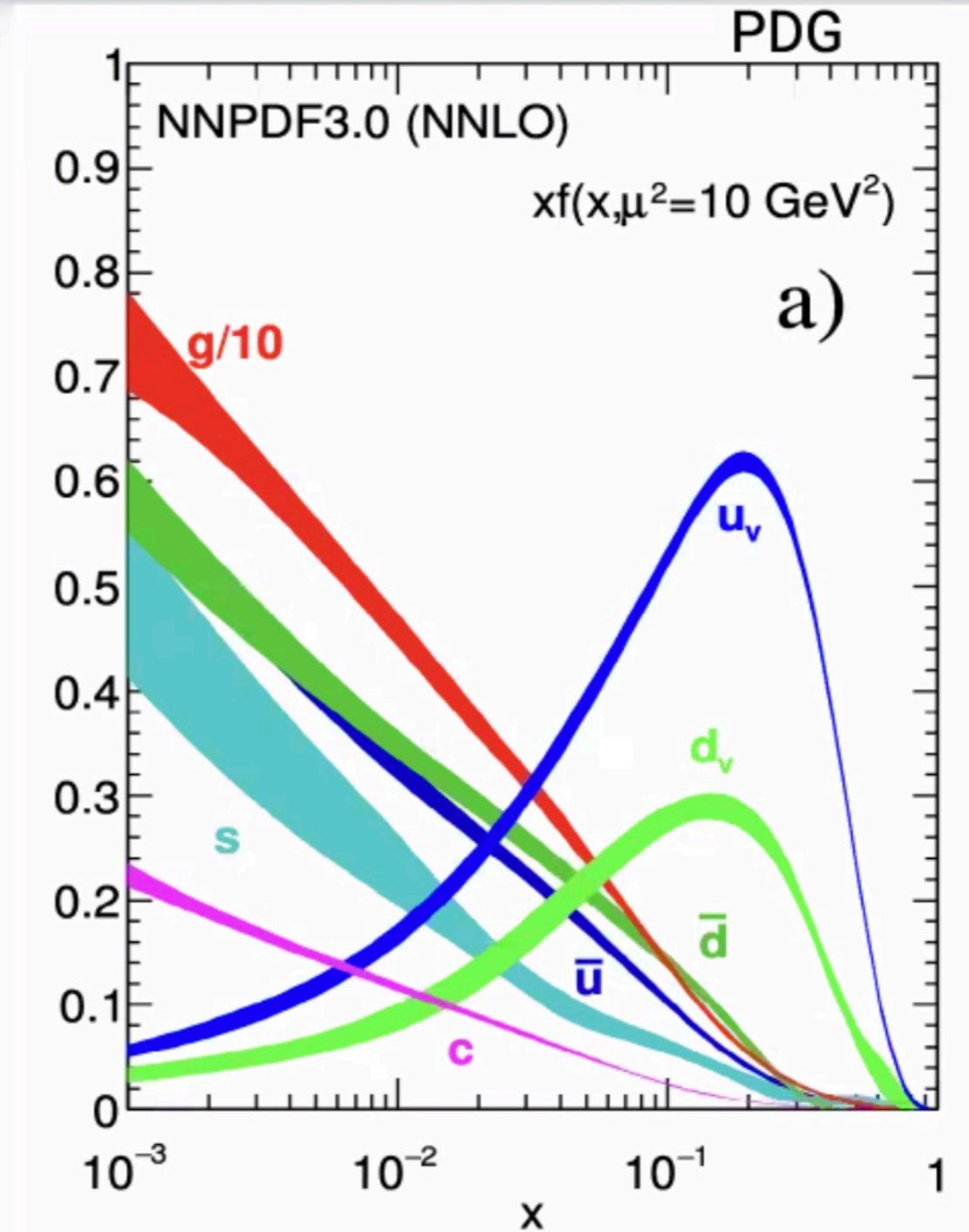
- HERA probed a completely new DIS regime from earlier fixed target experiments



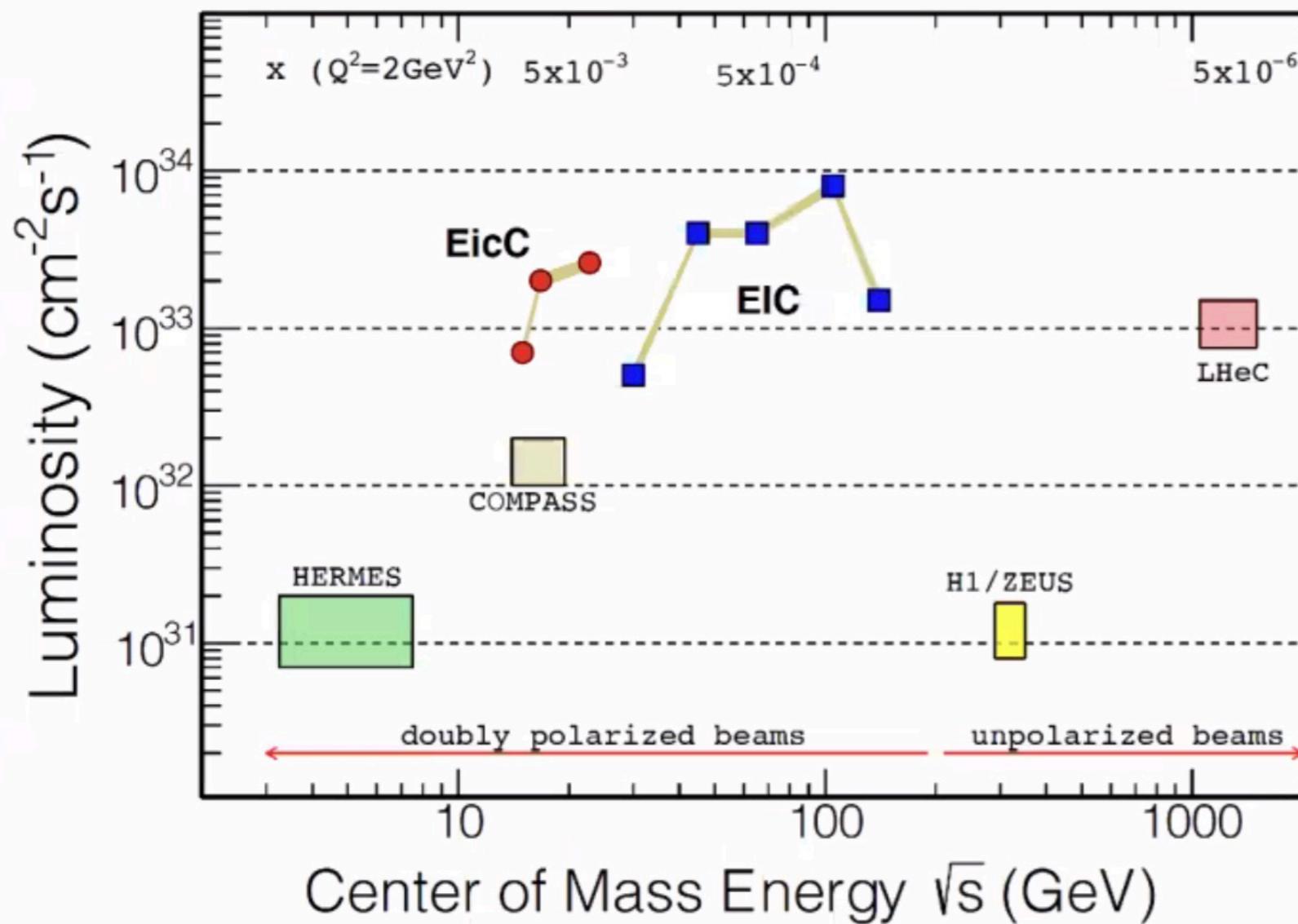
# Parton Densities



- HERA paved the way for precision LHC physics through precise structure function measurements, from which the parton densities are extracted through global fits with QCD
- HERA saw the strong rise in the gluon density at low  $x$ 
  - When do saturation effects come into play?



# Lumi vs. $\sqrt{s}$ at lepton-hadron colliders



HERA at DESY – high energy but low luminosity, unpolarized or singly polarized (\*)

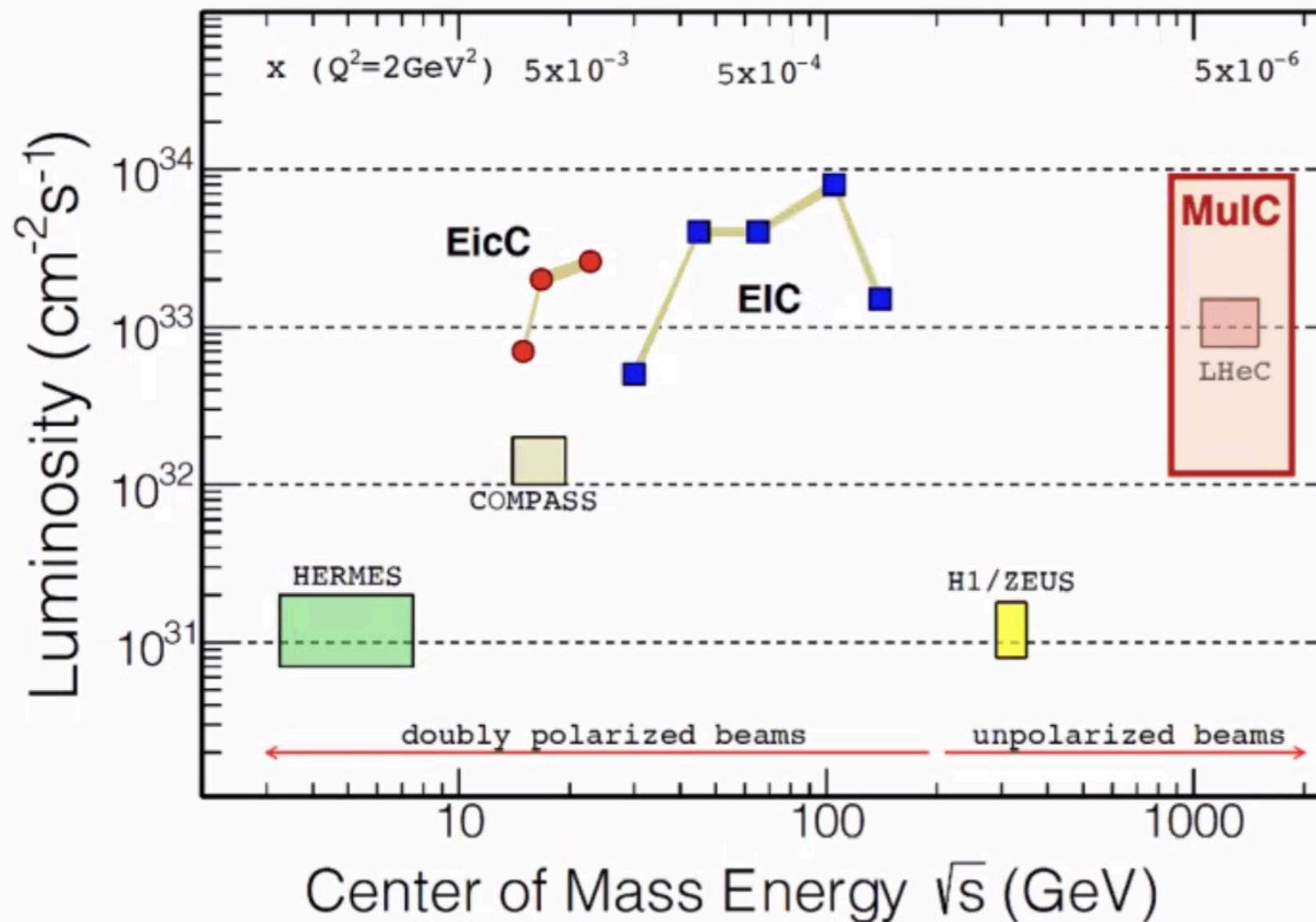
EIC at BNL – lowish energy but high luminosity, doubly polarized, ions

What's after EIC?

- LHeC (arXiv:2007.14491)?

(\*) HERA-II did achieve longitudinally polarized electron beams

# DIS at lepton-hadron colliders



HERA at DESY – high energy but low luminosity, unpolarized

EIC at BNL – lowish energy but high luminosity, doubly polarized, ions

What's after EIC?

- LHeC ([arXiv:2007.14491](https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.14491))?
- **Muon-Ion Collider at BNL!**  
(esp. with polarized muons)

# A Muon-Ion Collider: Who Ordered That?



Probe a **new energy scale** and nucleon momentum fraction in Deep Inelastic Scattering using a relatively compact machine

- $\sqrt{s} \sim 1 \text{ TeV}$
- $Q^2$  up to  $10^6 \text{ GeV}^2$
- $x$  as low as  $10^{-6}$

 **An order of magnitude beyond the HERA ep collider**

Build a science case for **a TeV muon storage ring** as a demonstrator toward a multi-TeV  $\mu^+\mu^-$  collider

- QCD and hadron/nucleon structure in new regimes
- Higgs, Top, BSM

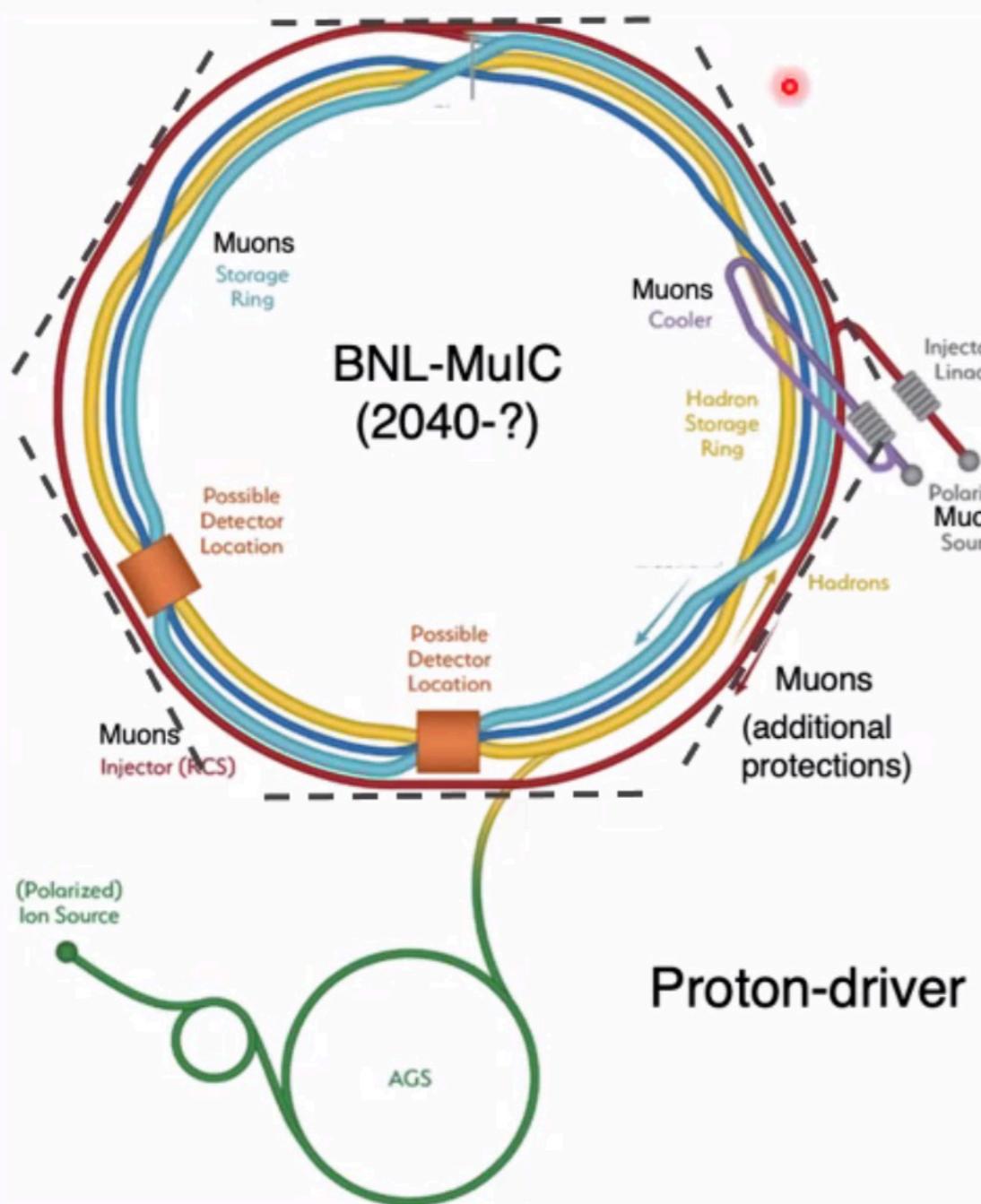
Facilitate the collaboration of the **nuclear and particle physics communities** around an innovative and forward-looking machine

**Re-use existing facilities** at BNL (MuIC as an upgrade to the EIC)

# Muon-Ion Collider at BNL



replace e by  $\mu$  beam



Bending radius of RHIC tunnel:  $r = 290\text{m}$

Achievable muon beam energy: **0.3Br**

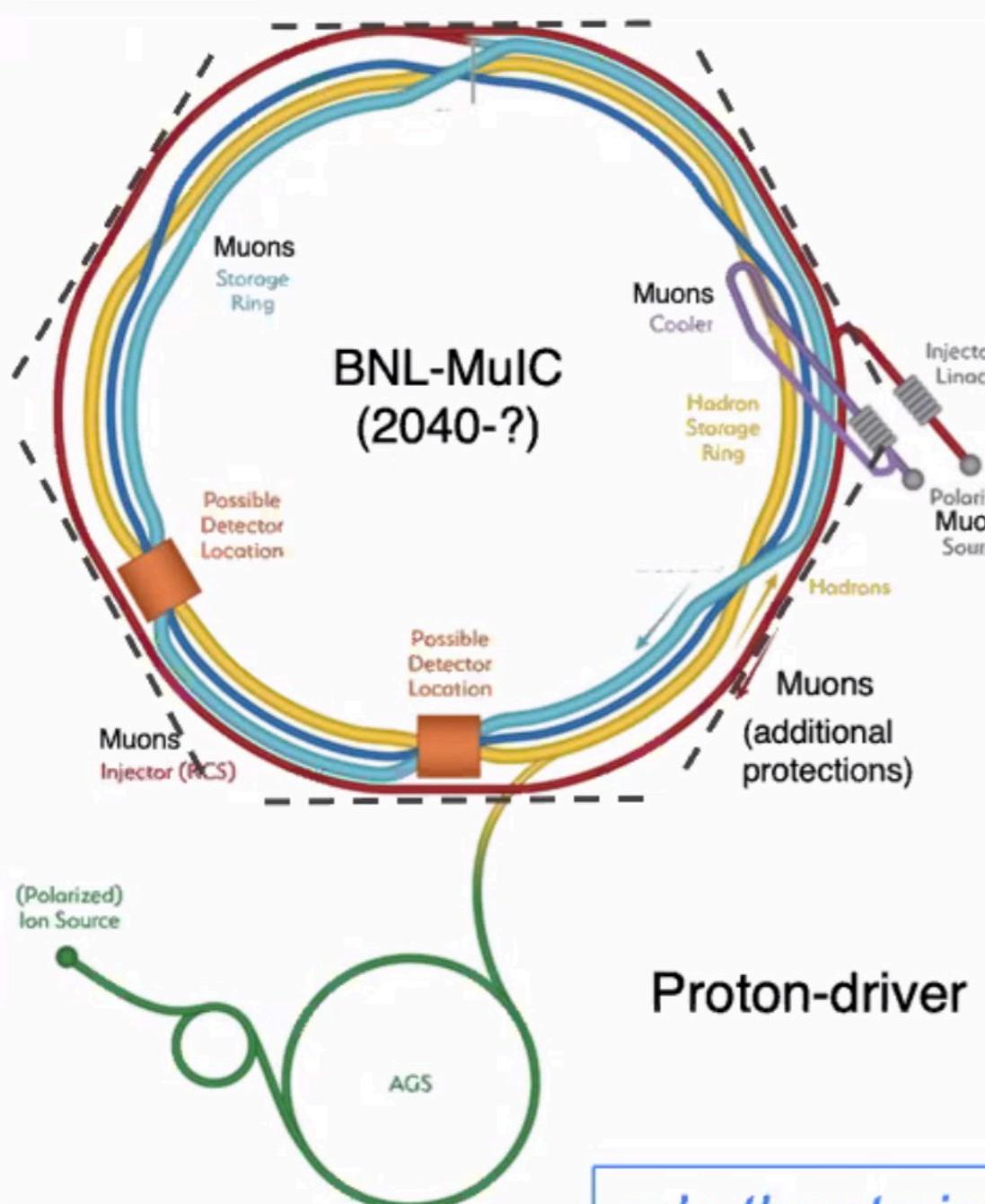
Parameter	1 (aggressive)	2 (realistic)	3 (conservative)
Muon energy (TeV)	1.39	0.96	0.73
Muon bending magnets (T)	16 (FCC)	11 (HL-LHC)	8.4 (LHC)
Muon bending radius (m)		290	
Proton (Au) energy (TeV)		0.275 (0.11/nucleon)	
CoM energy (TeV)	1.24 (0.78)	1.03 (0.65)	0.9 (0.57)

7-8X increase over top EIC energy

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7-8X increase over top EIC energy

*n.b. the straight sections would provide collimated beams of neutrinos as well*

# Muon-Ion Collider at BNL



## Luminosity estimate:

$$f_c^\mu = f_{\text{rep}} * N_c$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mu p} = \frac{N^\mu N^p}{4\pi \max[\sigma_x^\mu, \sigma_x^p] \max[\sigma_y^\mu, \sigma_y^p]} \min[f_c^\mu, f_c^p] H_{hg}$$

arXiv:1905.05564

Parameter	Muon	Proton
Energy (TeV)	0.96	0.275
CoM energy (TeV)	1.03	
Bunch intensity ( $10^{11}$ )	20	3
Norm. emittance, $\epsilon_{x,y}$ ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	25	0.2
$\beta^*_{x,y}$ @IP (cm)	1	5
Trans. RMS beam size, $\sigma_{x,y}$ ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	5.2	5.8
Muon repetition rate, $f_{\text{rep}}$ (Hz)	15	
Cycles/Collisions per muon bunch, $N_c$	3279 (~300B)	
$L_{\mu p}$ ( $10^{33}\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ )		7

## Muon beam (MAP):

arXiv:1901.06150

Table 1: Main parameters of the proton driver muon facilities

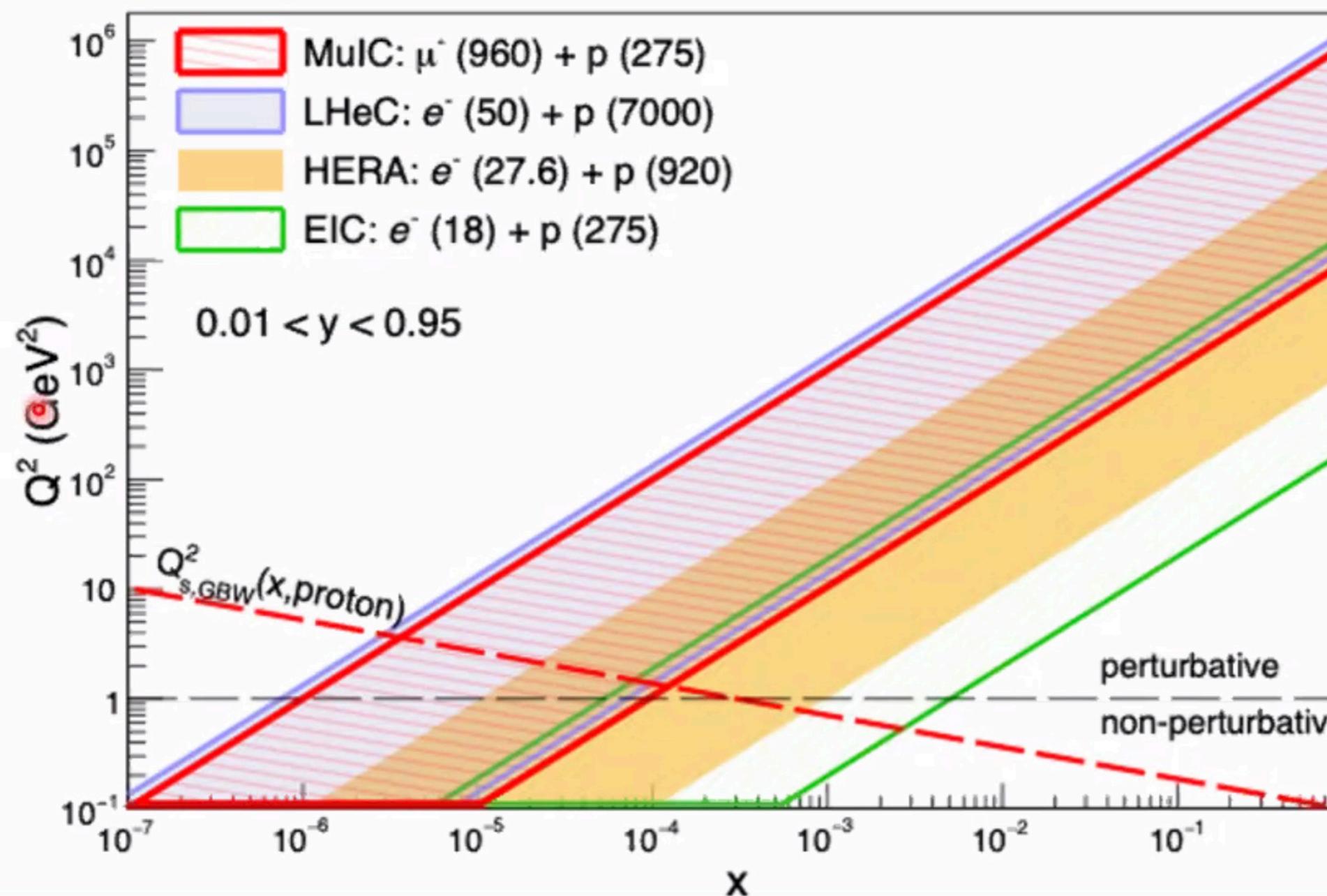
Parameter	Units	Higgs	Multi-TeV
CoM Energy	TeV	0.126	1.5
Avg. Luminosity	$10^{34}\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$	0.008	1.25
Beam Energy Spread	%	0.004	0.1
Higgs Production/ $10^7$ sec		13'500	37'500
Circumference	km	0.3	2.5
No. of IP's		1	2
Repetition Rate	Hz	15	15
$\beta^*_{x,y}$	cm	1.7	1
No. muons/bunch	$10^{12}$	4	2
Norm. Trans. Emittance, $\epsilon_{TN}$	$\mu\text{m-rad}$	200	25
Norm. Long. Emittance, $\epsilon_{LN}$	$\mu\text{m-rad}$	1.5	70
Bunch Length, $\sigma_S$	cm	6.3	1
Proton Driver Power	MW	4	4
Wall Plug Power	MW	200	216
		230	270

## Polarized proton beam from eRHIC/EIC

arXiv:1409.1633

*And the more experimental interaction points,  
the better before the muons decay...*

# $Q^2$ - $x$ Reach Comparison: e( $\mu$ )-p Scattering



Well beyond the coverage of  
the EIC and HERA

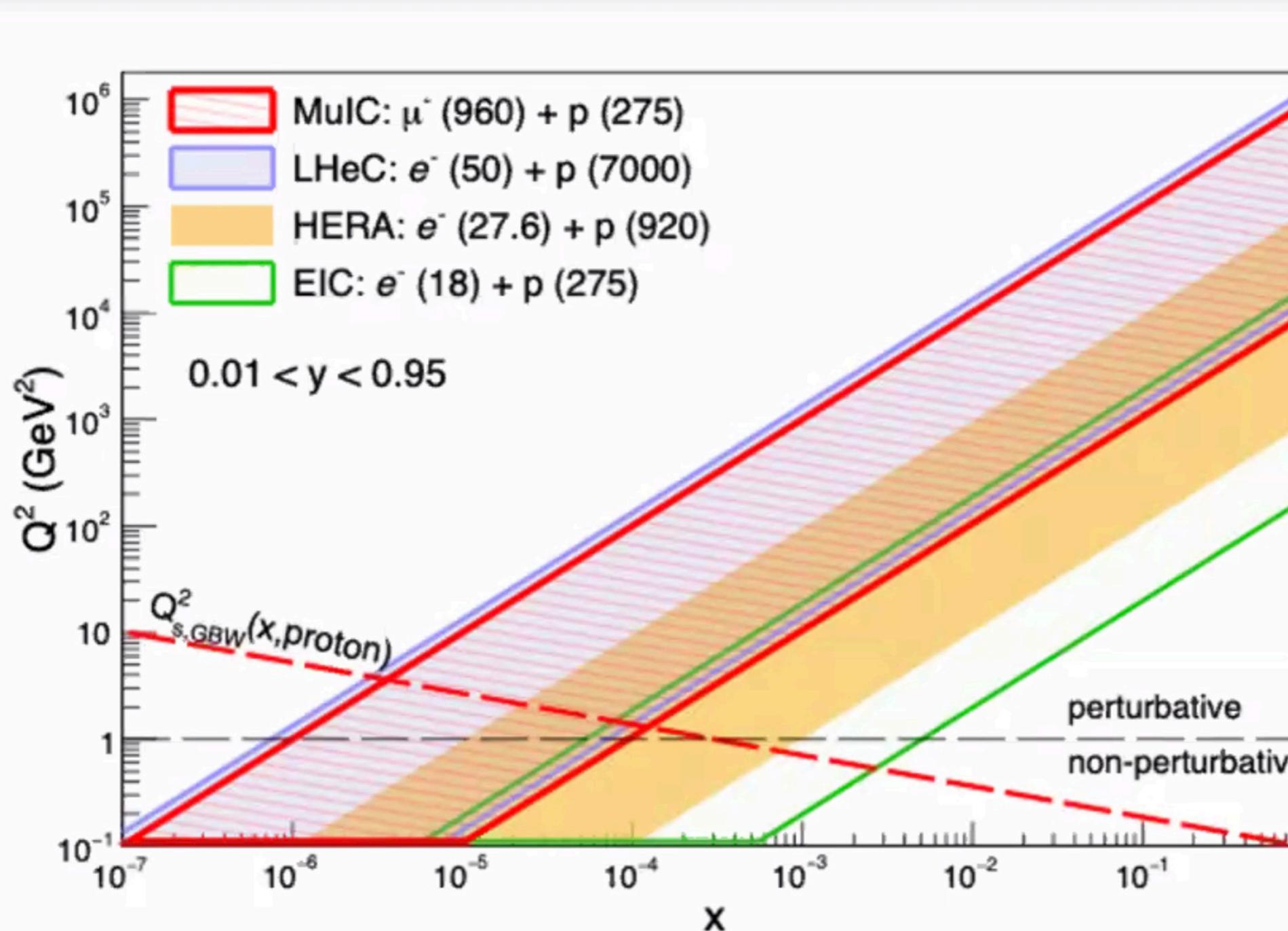
Similar coverage to the  
proposed Large Hadron  
Electron Collider **LHeC** [1]

Potential to see gluon  
saturation [2] in the proton

[1] LHeC: [arXiv:2007.14491](https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.14491)

[2] GBW model: [Phys. Rev. D 59,  
014017 \(1998\)](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.59.014017)

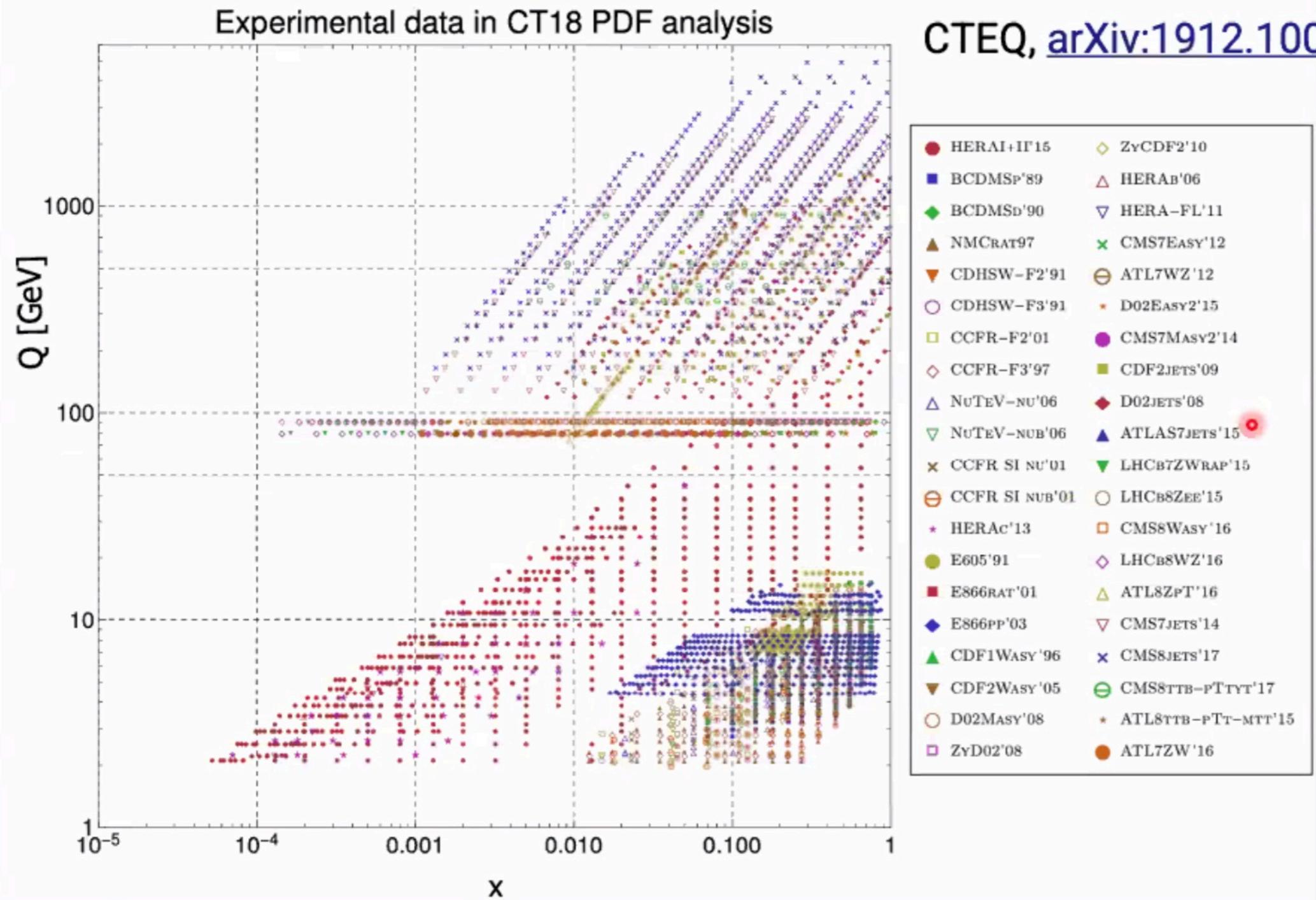
# $Q^2$ - $x$ Reach Comparison: $e(\mu)$ -p Scattering



MuIC:  $\mu(960)+p(275)$ ,  $y_{cm} = -0.63$  vs. LHeC:  $e(50)+p(7000)$ ,  $y_{cm} = 2.47$

Similar  $\sqrt{s}$  but very different final-state kinematics

# Science potential at the MuIC: PDF Measurements

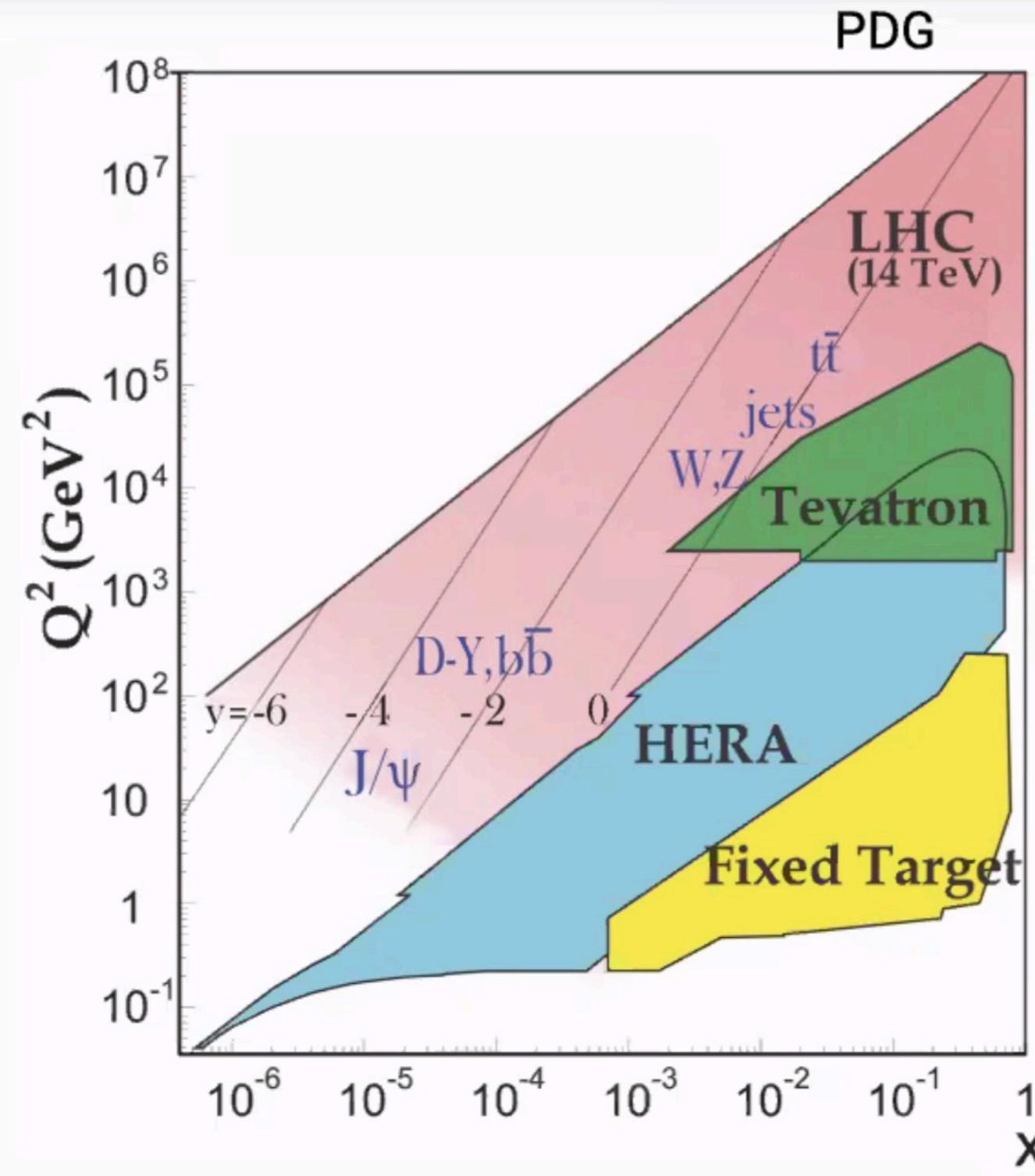


← Data used for global  
CTEQ fits

The MuIC would definitely  
probe new territory



# PDF Measurement is Complementary to Hadron Colliders



LHC data also can be used to extract parton densities from Drell-Yan, W, jet, and top production measurements

- But it's a bit circular when also trying to measure those cross sections...
- Also convoluted with QCD effects and quark flavor

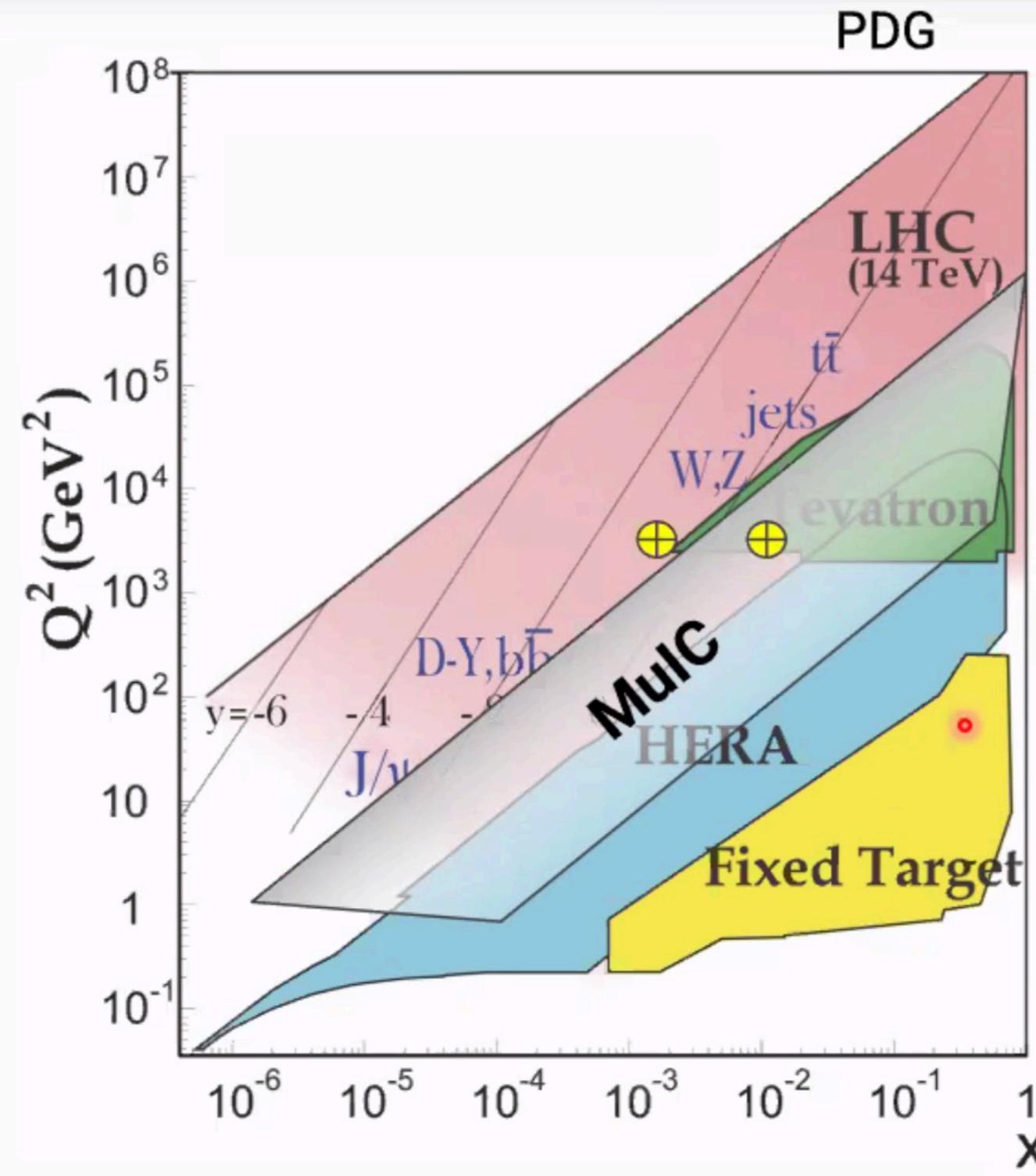
DIS measurements can more cleanly decouple quark flavor and QCD effects

The MuIC also can directly probe parton densities at the scale for Higgs production at the (HL)LHC, and for a future 100 TeV FCChh should one be built

- Less reliant on fit extrapolation → smaller uncertainties on cross sections ( $<\sim 1\%$ )
- Useful input for an FCChh program
  - As HERA was for the LHC



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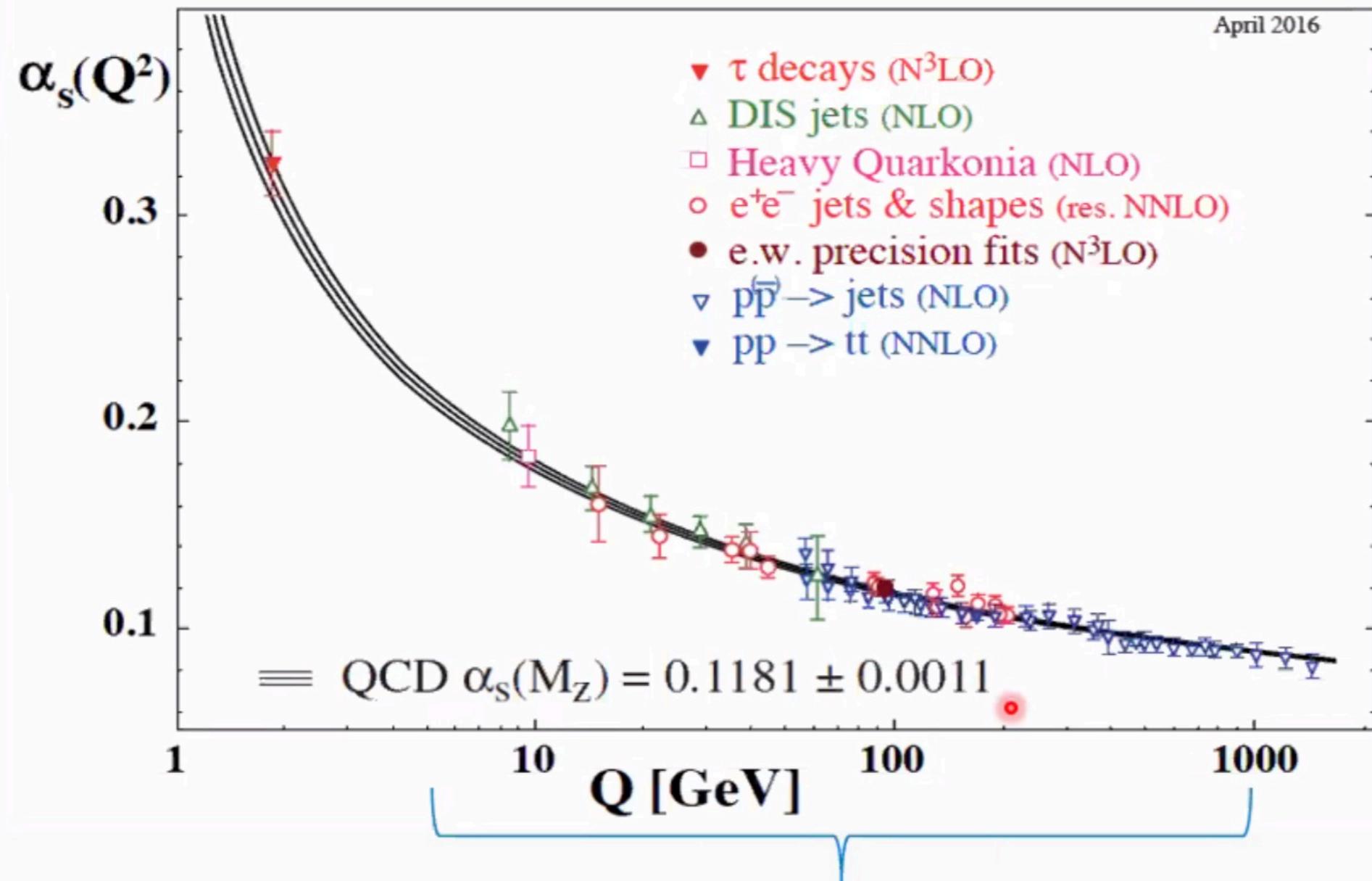
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# QCD and the Running of $\alpha_s$

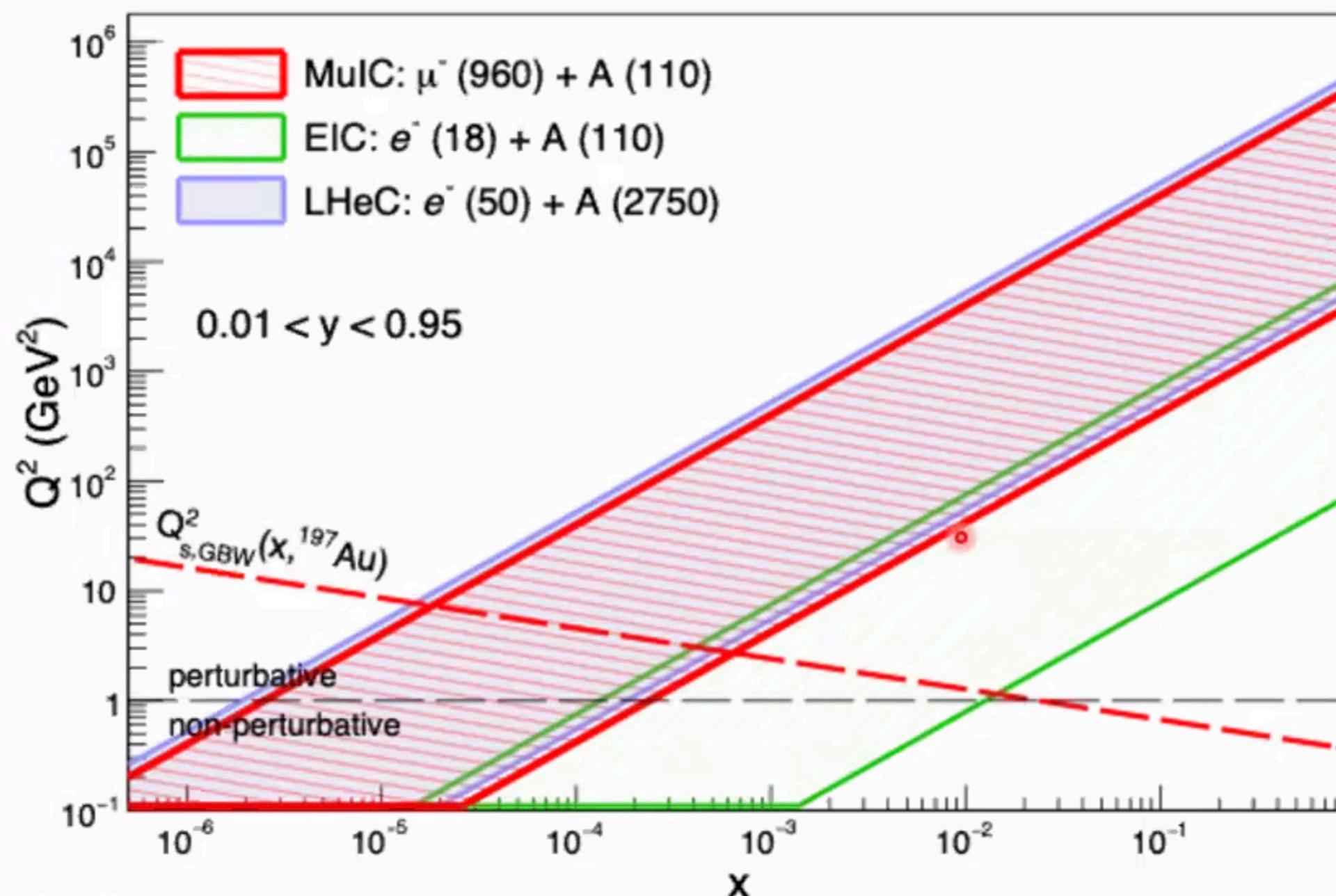


- Measurements can span an even broader range to measure  $\alpha_s(Q^2)$  in a single experiment
  - Both from QCD evolution fits to structure function data, and from DIS multijet rate measurements
  - Removes some inter-experiment systematics

# $Q^2$ -x Reach Comparison: e( $\mu$ )-A Scattering



Can explore well the predicted saturation regime [1] in ions



Saturation scale:  
$$Q_s^2(A) = A^{1/3} Q_s^2(p)$$

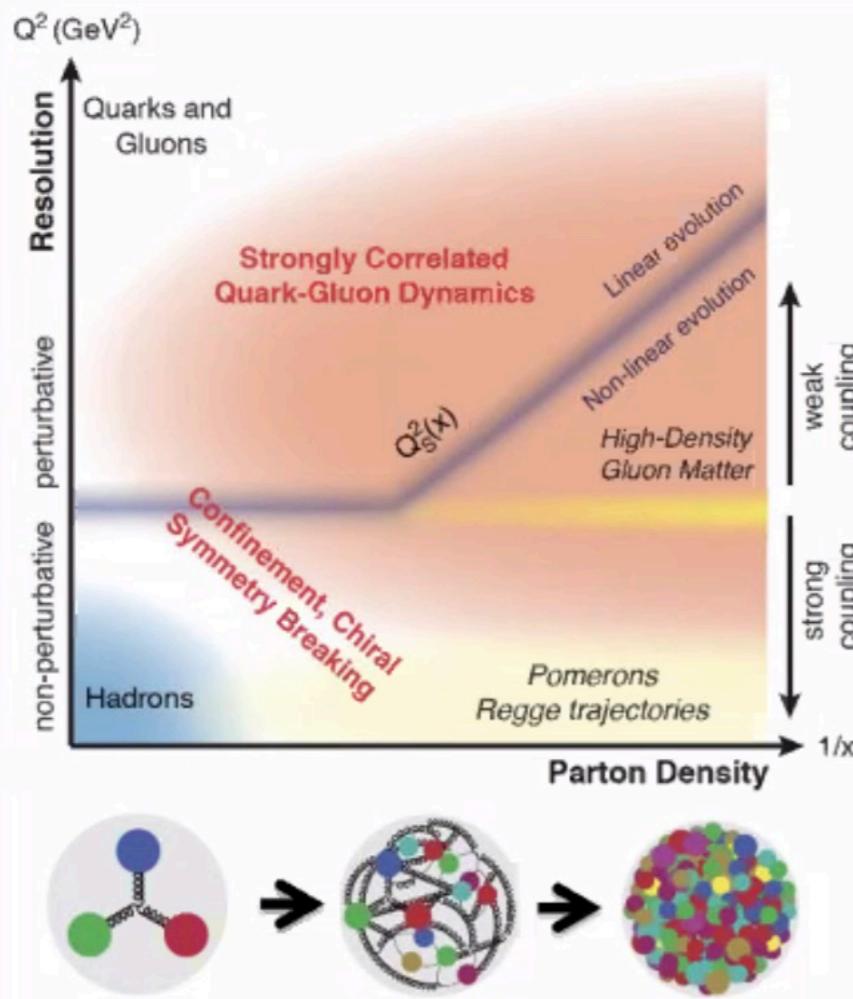
Also the MuIC can scan a wide range of ion species

[1] GBW model: [Phys. Rev. D 59, 014017 \(1998\)](#)

# Nuclear Physics at the MuIC

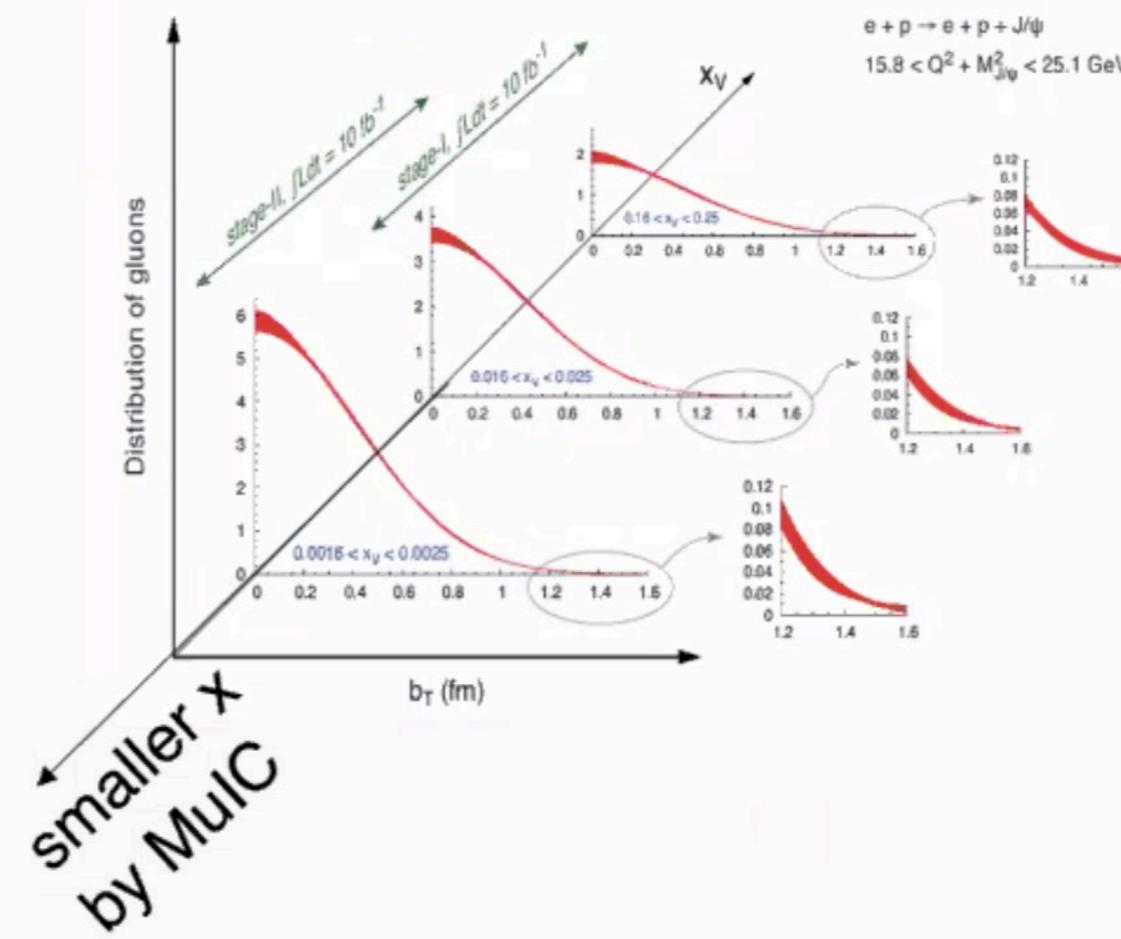


## Gluon saturation



What's the property of high-density gluon matter

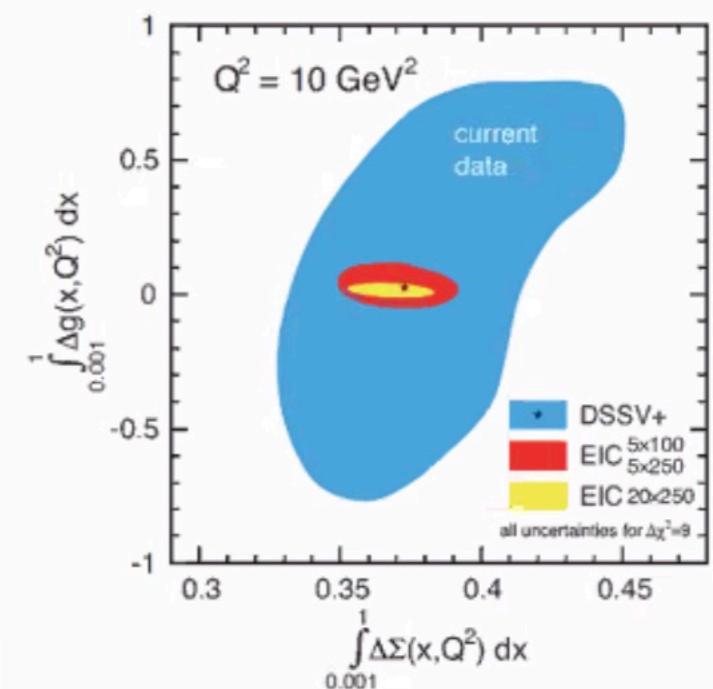
## 3D Nucleon structure



## Nucleon spin puzzle

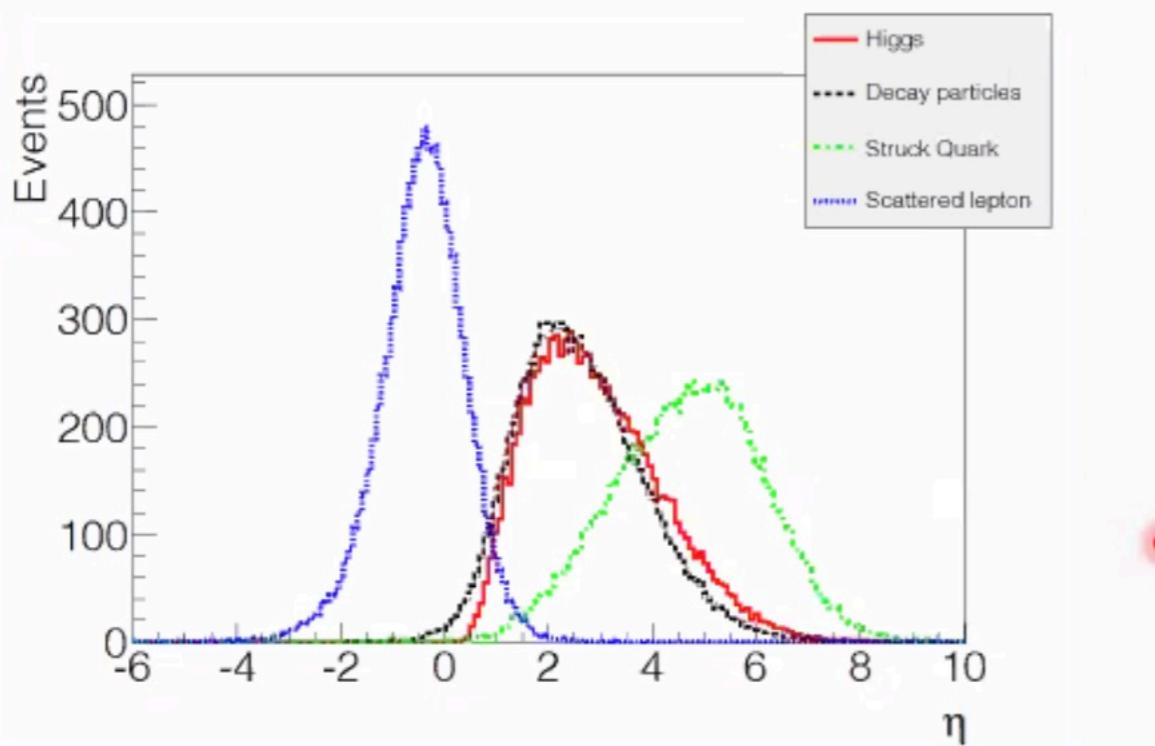
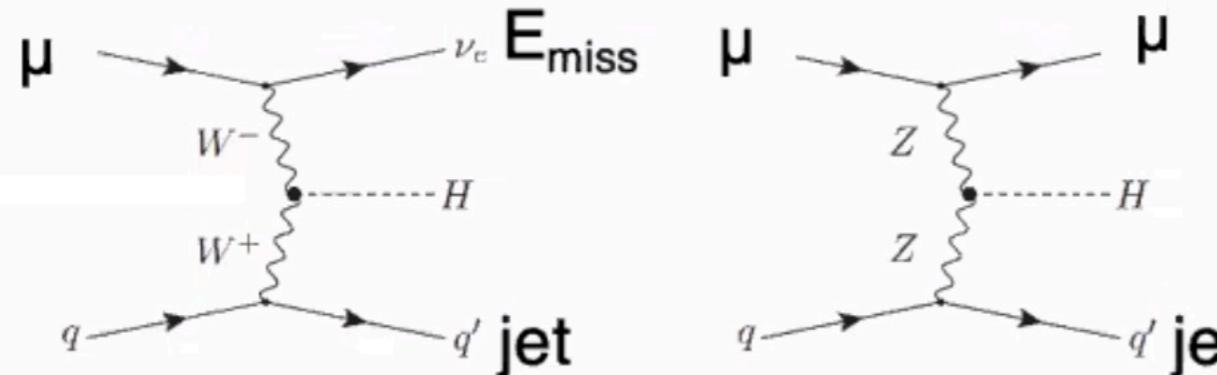
"Helicity sum rule"

$$\frac{1}{2}\hbar = \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\Delta\Sigma}_{\text{quark contribution}} + \underbrace{\Delta G}_{\text{gluon contribution}} + \sum_q L_q^z + L_g^z$$

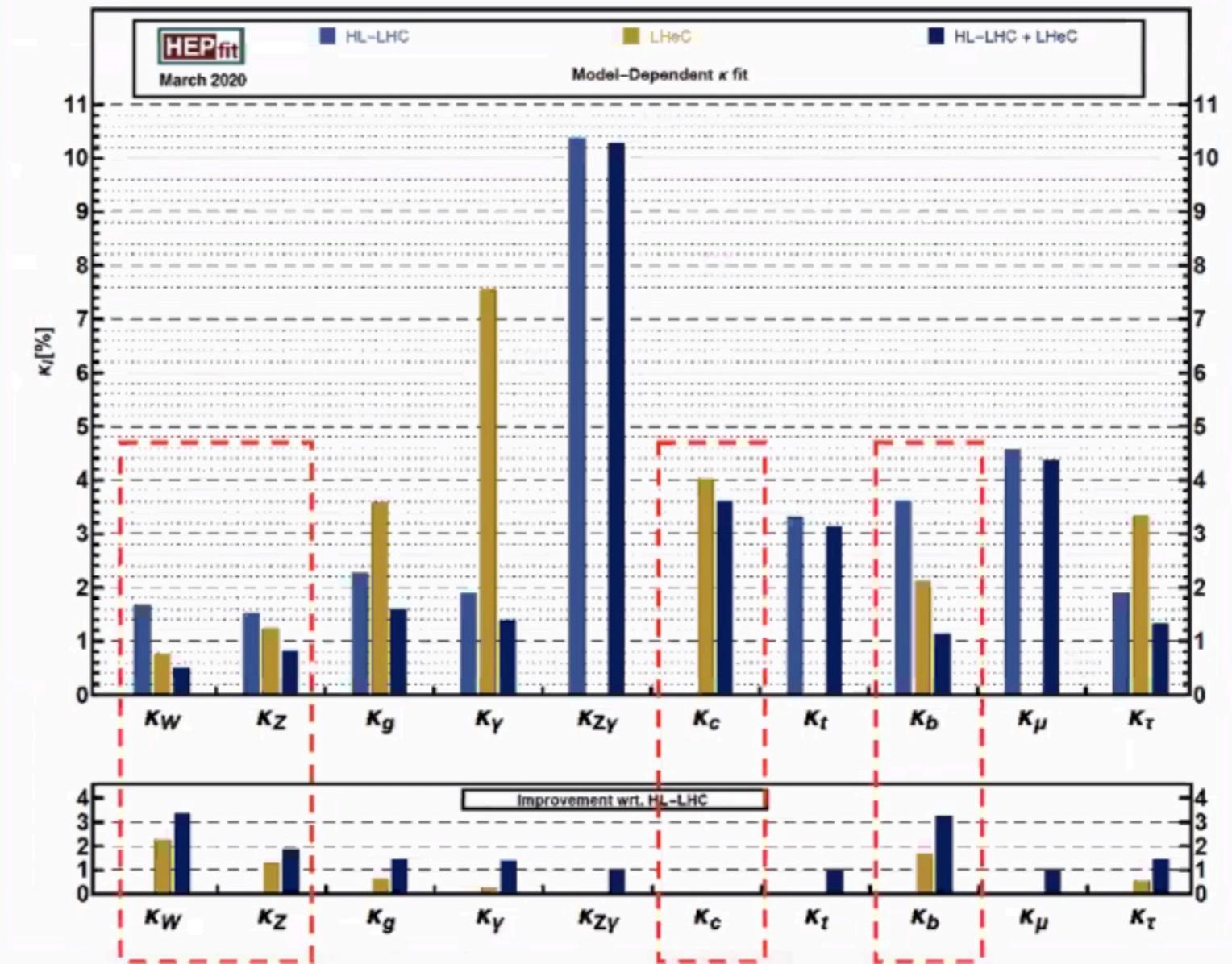


MuIC to reach  $x \sim 10^{-5}$

# Higgs at the MuLC

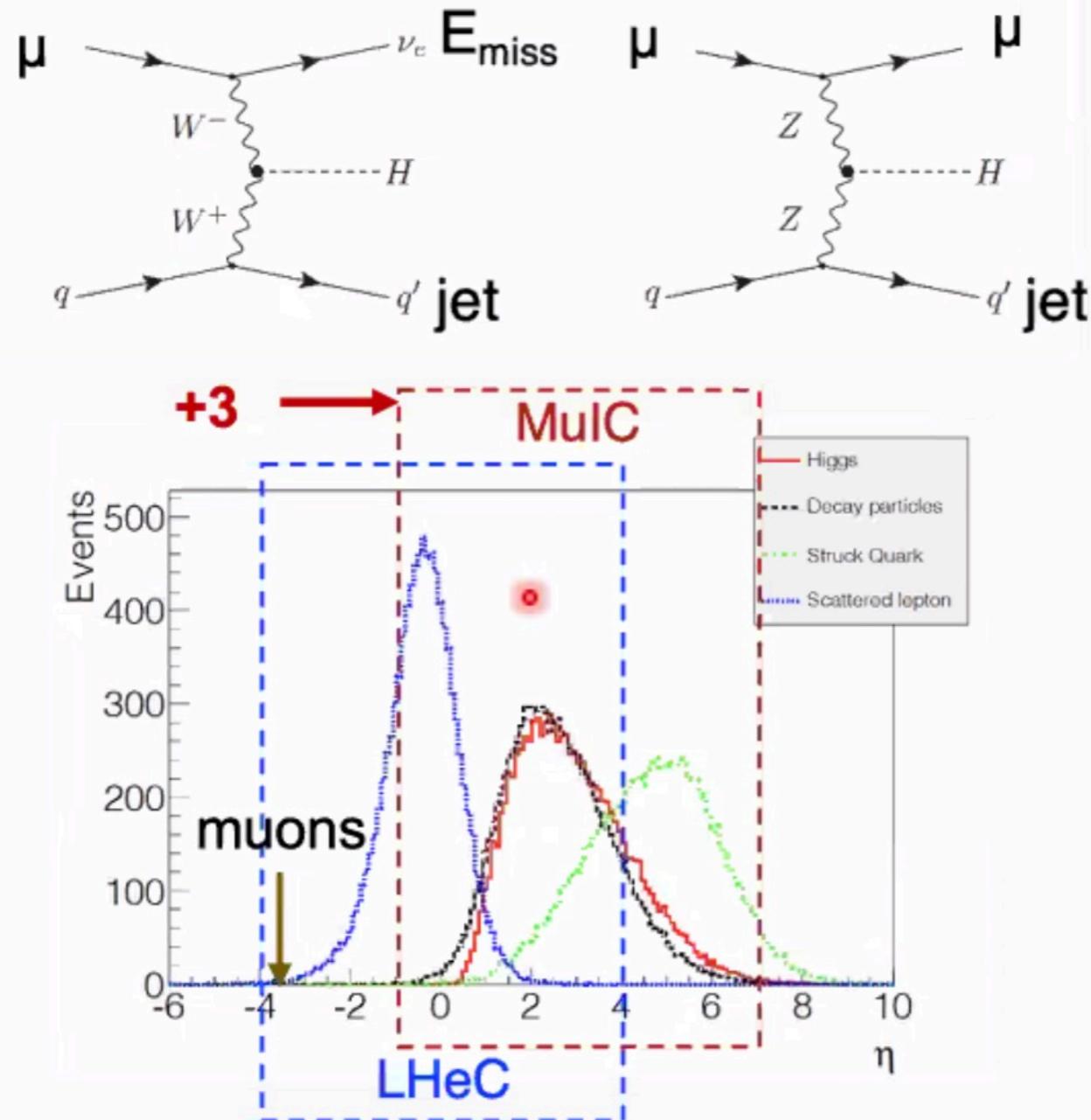


## Uncertainties of Higgs couplings



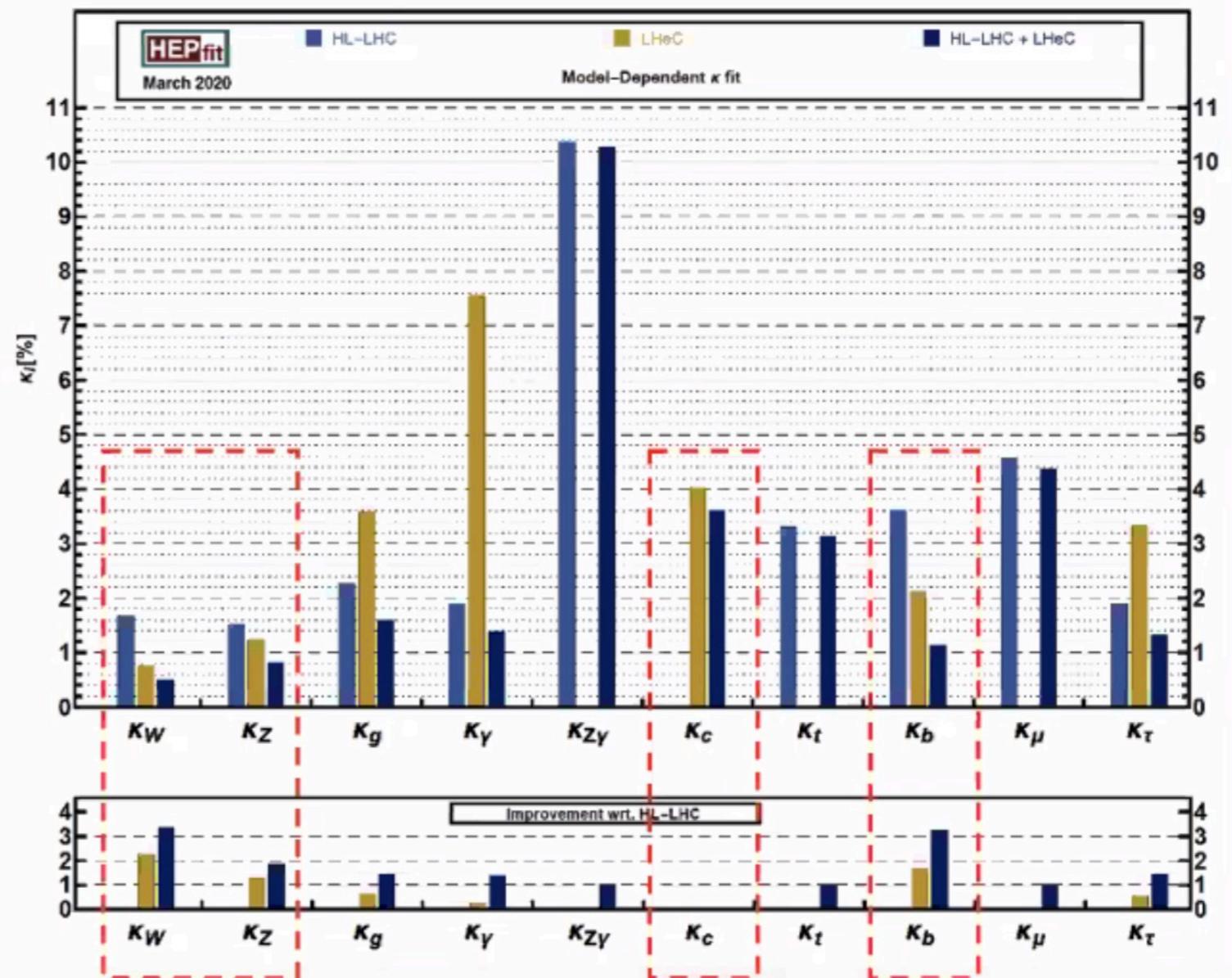
LHeC outperforms HL-LHC with  $L_{int} = 1/ab$   
in  $K_W, K_Z, K_b, K_c$  K\_c Second generation

# Higgs at the MuIC



At MuIC, kinematics for Higgs, jets more favorable but scattered muon is very forward.

## Uncertainties of Higgs couplings

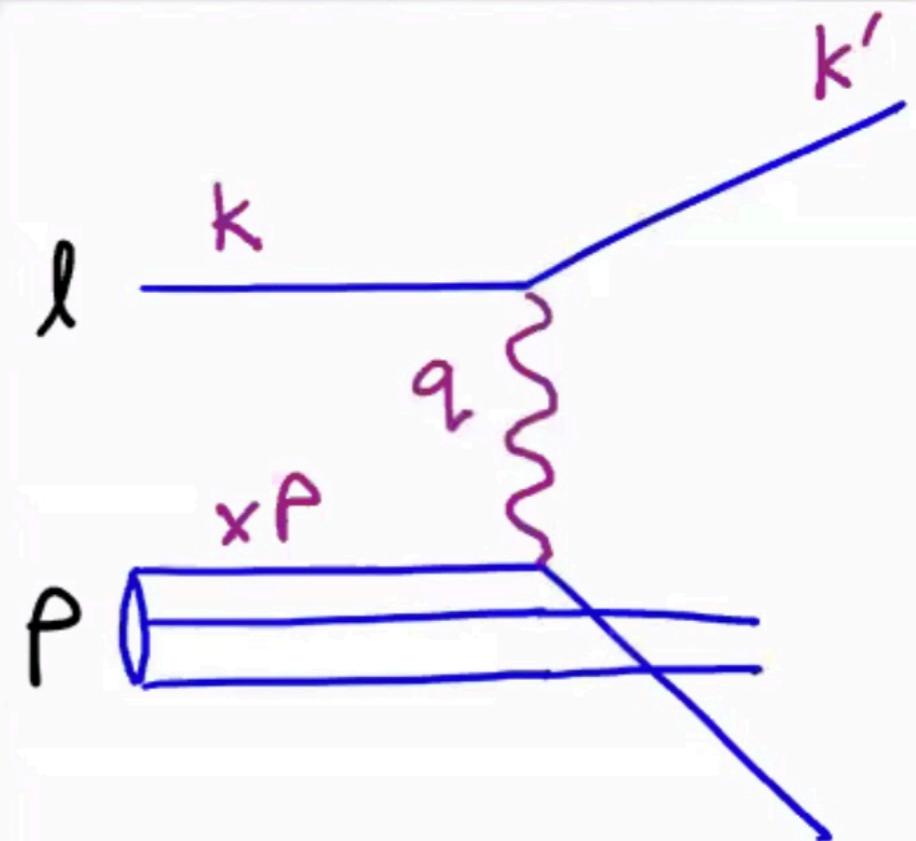


LHeC outperforms HL-LHC with  $L_{\text{int}} = 1/\text{ab}$  in  $\kappa_W$ ,  $\kappa_Z$ ,  $\kappa_b$ ,  $\kappa_c$  Second generation!

# DIS Variables and Kinematics



- $x = \frac{Q^2}{2P \cdot q}$  Bjorken x scaling variable
- $y = \frac{P \cdot q}{P \cdot k}$  Inelasticity
- $Q^2 \equiv -q^2 = -(k - k')^2 = sxy$  4-mom transfer
- $s = (k + P)^2$  squared c.o.m. energy



From scattered lepton:      From scattered hadrons:

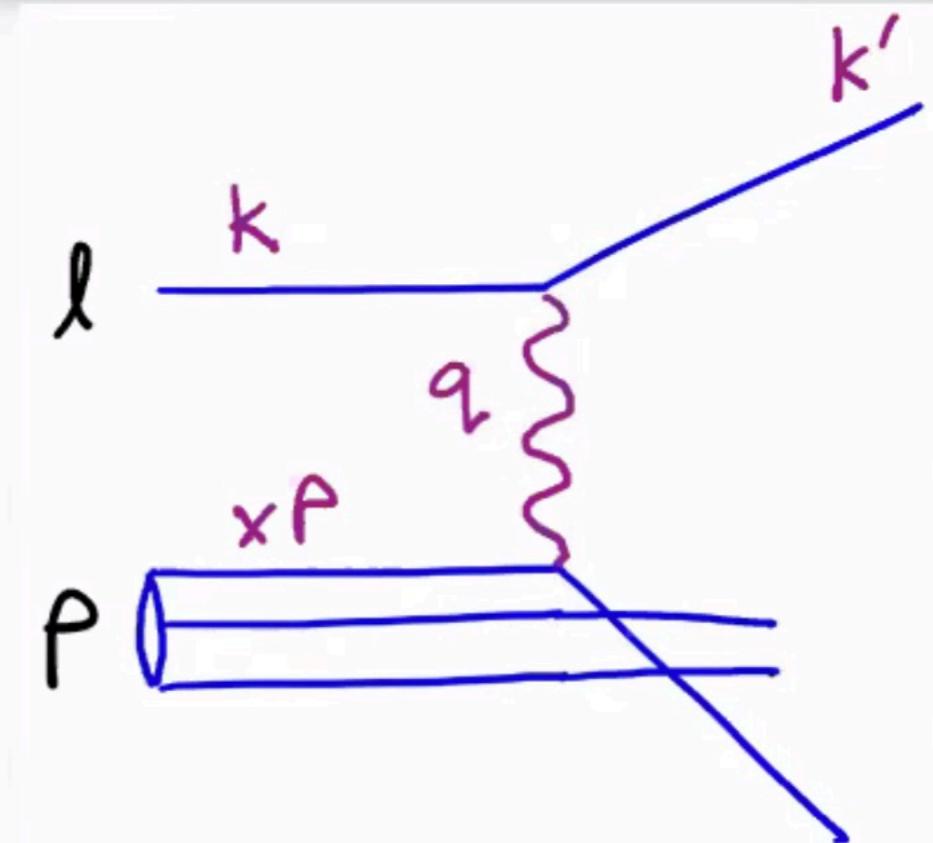
- $Q^2 = 2E_\ell E'_\ell (1 + \cos \theta)$

$$y = 1 - \frac{E'_\ell}{2E_\ell} (1 - \cos \theta)$$

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$\theta$  is the polar angle w.r.t. the initial hadron direction

From scattered lepton:

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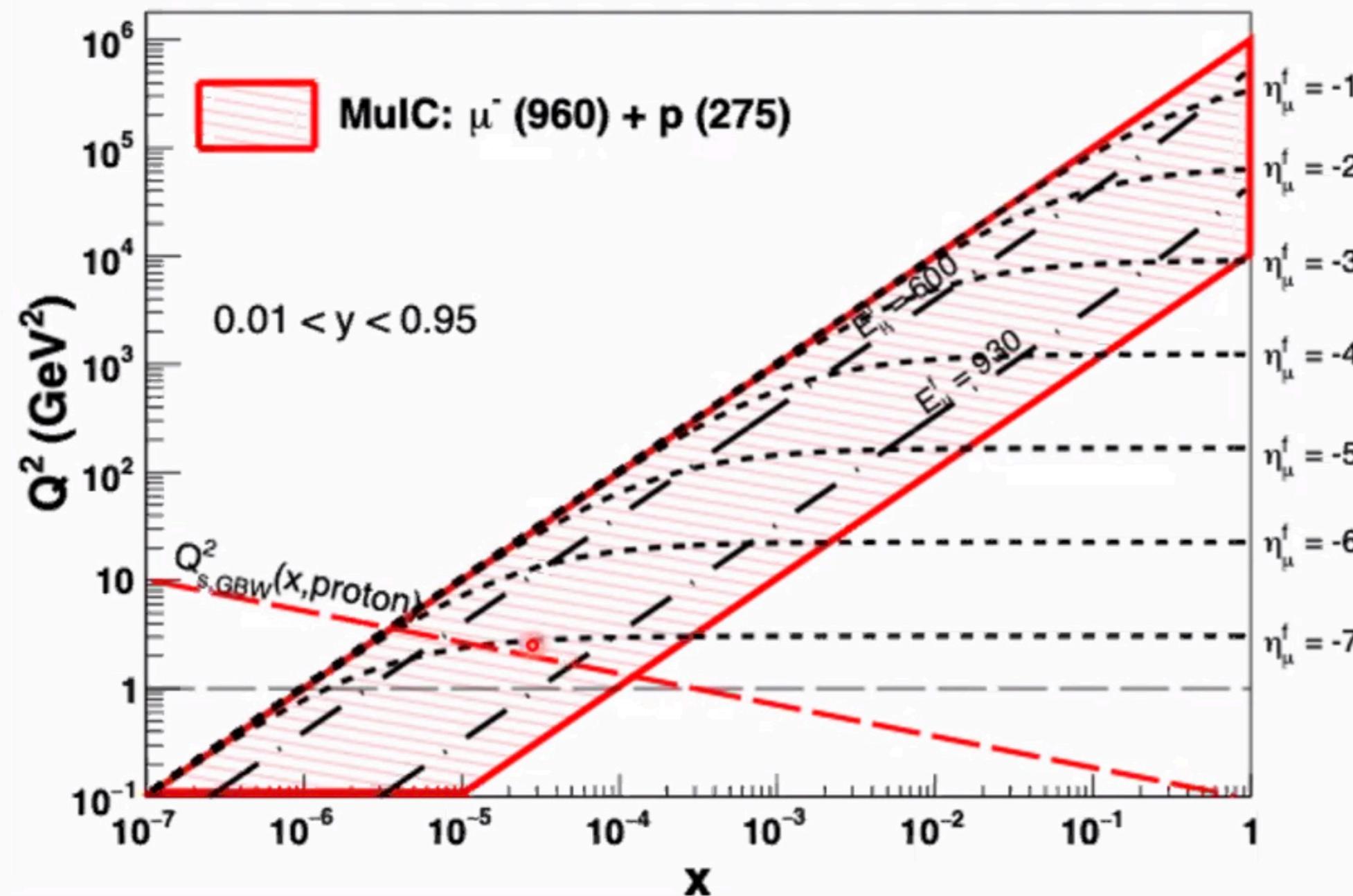
From scattered hadrons:

$$Q^2(P, \gamma) = \frac{P^2 \sin^2 \gamma}{1 - y(P, \gamma)},$$

$$y(P, \gamma) = \frac{P(1 - \cos \gamma)}{2E_\mu^i},$$

$$\begin{aligned} P^2 &= (\Sigma_h P_h^x)^2 + (\Sigma_h P_h^y)^2 + (\Sigma_h P_h^z)^2, \\ \cos \gamma &= \frac{(\Sigma_h P_h^x)^2 + (\Sigma_h P_h^y)^2 - (\Sigma_h (E_h - P_h^z))^2}{(\Sigma_h P_h^x)^2 + (\Sigma_h P_h^y)^2 + (\Sigma_h (E_h - P_h^z))^2}, \end{aligned}$$

# Scattered Lepton Kinematics - MuC



- Scattered muon momentum essentially defines  $y$  (decreases with  $y$  increasing)
  - **Typically  $> 500 \text{ GeV}$**
- Scattering angle is in very backward (lepton) direction
  - **$-7 < \eta < -5$  at low  $Q^2$**

Distinct experimental challenges in tagging very forward muons to address.  
(but hundreds of GeV muons will penetrate through anything, i.e. shielding)



# Detector requirements and design

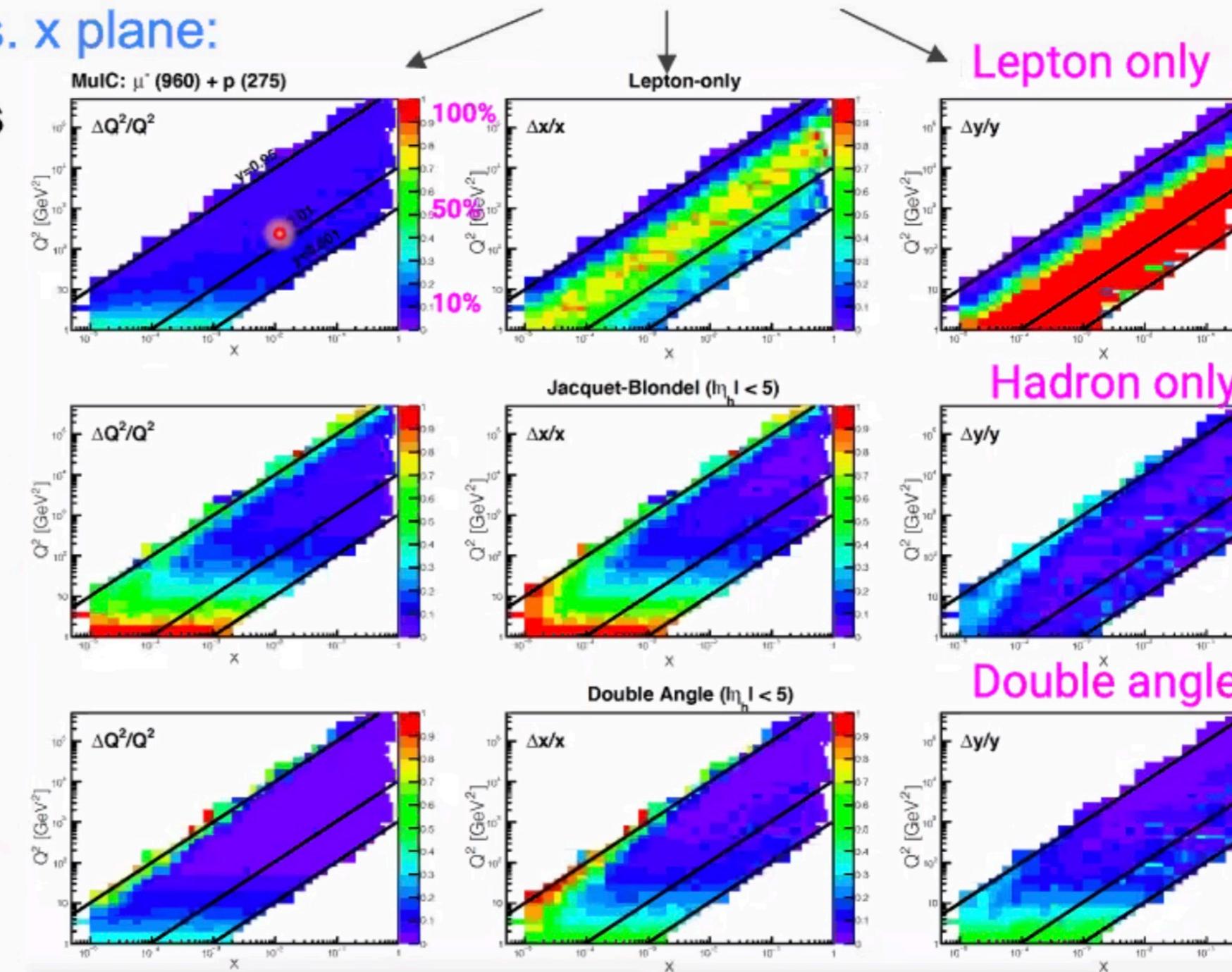
Simple assumptions of detector resolutions  
to smear particles from PYTHIA 8

Particle	Detector	Resolution	
		$\frac{\sigma(p)}{p}$ or $\frac{\sigma(E)}{E}$	$\sigma(\eta, \varphi)$
(Forward) Muons	e.g., MPGD	$0.01\% p \oplus 1\%$	$0.2 \times 10^{-3}$
Charged particles ( $\pi^\pm, K^\pm, p/\bar{p}, e^\pm$ )	Tracker + PID	$0.1\% p \oplus 1\%$	$\left(\frac{2}{p} \oplus 0.2\right) \times 10^{-3}$
Photons	EM Calorimeter	$\frac{10\%}{\sqrt{E}} \oplus 2\%$	$\frac{0.087}{\sqrt{12}}$
Neutral hadrons ( $n, K_L^0$ )	Hadronic Calorimeter	$\frac{50\%}{\sqrt{E}} \oplus 10\%$	$\frac{0.087}{\sqrt{12}}$

- Muons: 10% at 1 TeV,  $\eta > -7$
- Hadrons:  $|\eta| < 5$

Resolutions of reconstructed  $Q^2$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  with 3 methods

$Q^2$  vs.  $x$  plane:

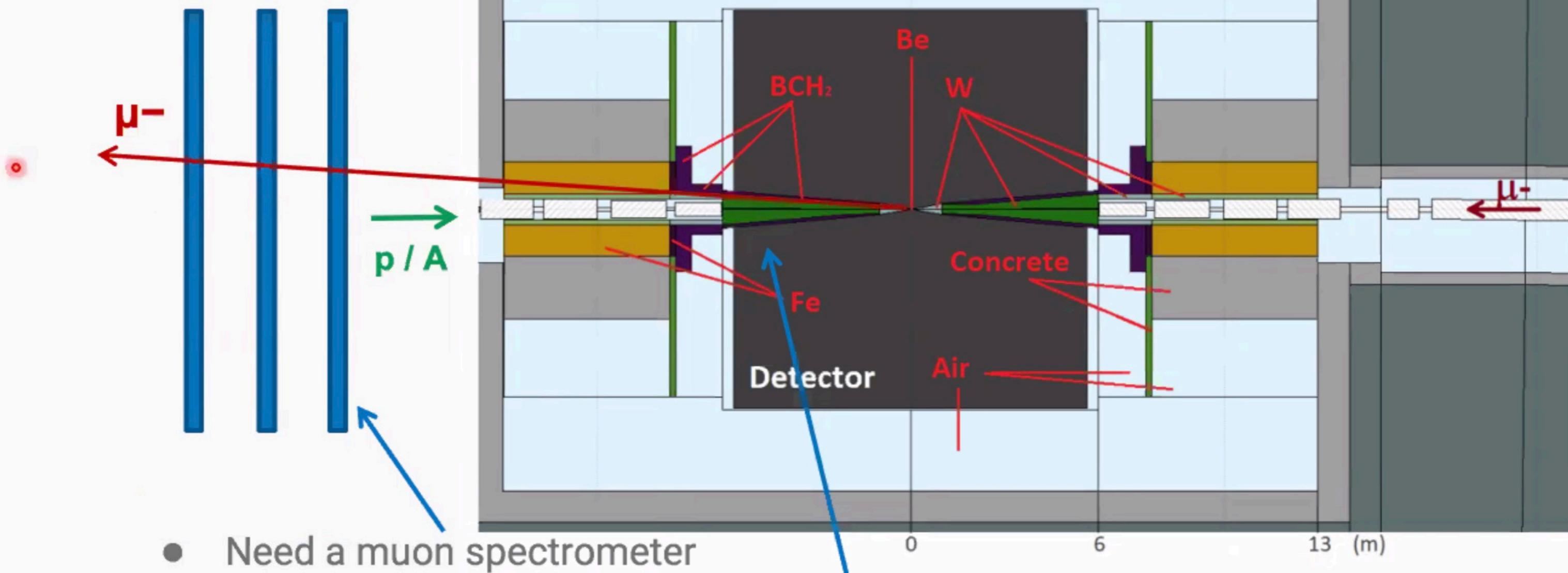


# Detector Design Considerations



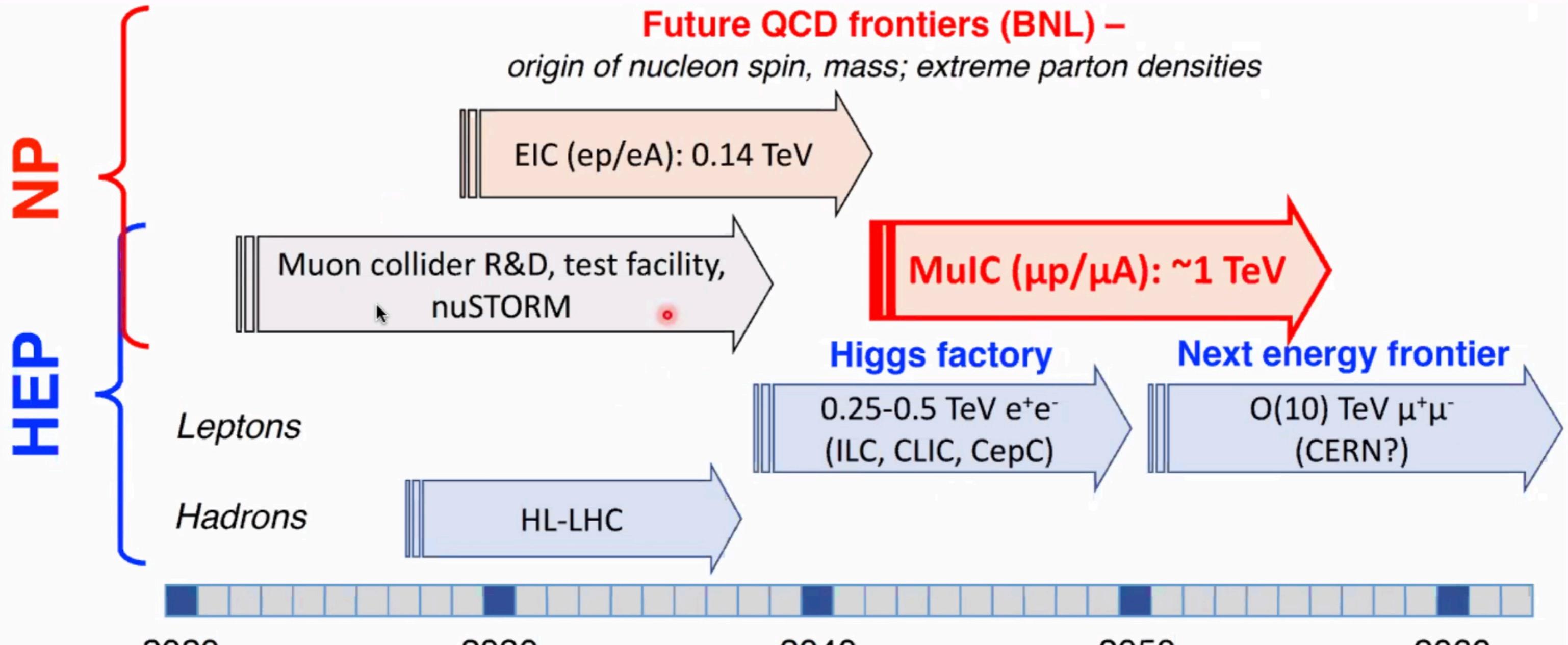
From Collamati et al. on  $\mu^+\mu^-$  collider: [arXiv:2105.09116](https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.09116)

Muon  
Spectrometer



- Need a muon spectrometer
- Perhaps can reduce downstream shielding to improve hadron acceptance, as shielding nozzle may start at  $|\eta| \sim 2.4$

# Path forward (in our view)

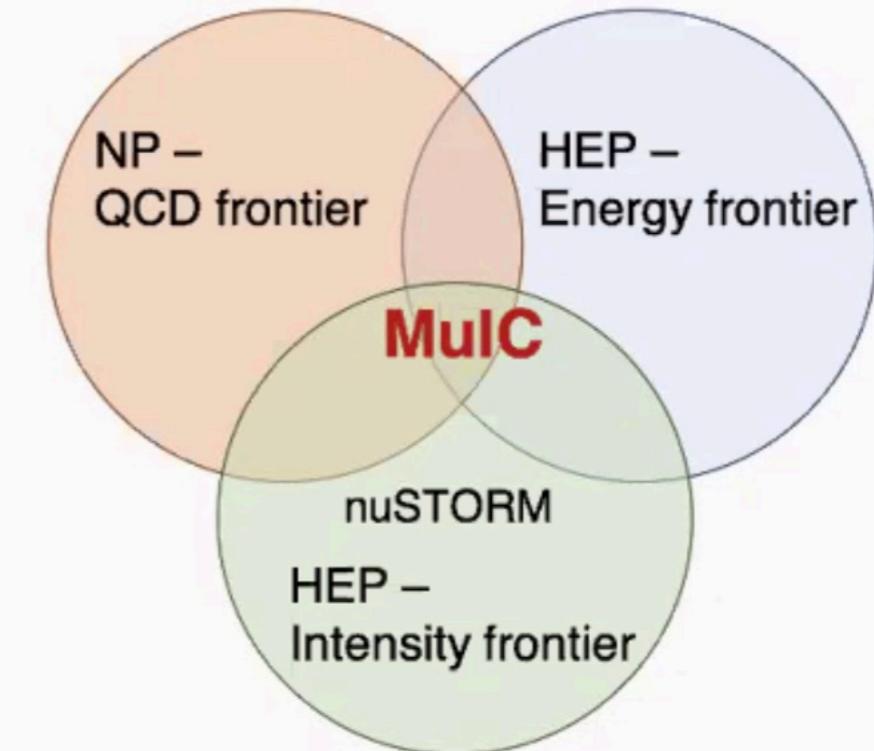


*A possible roadmap to future muon colliders in NP and HEP*



## Key merits of MuIC concept:

- Compelling sciences with synergies across NP and HEP energy and intensity (e.g, [nuSTORM](#)) frontiers
- Serves as a demonstrator or staging option to establish the muon collider technology toward the ultimate O(10+) TeV  $\mu^+\mu^-$  (CERN?)
- Affordable as an “upgrade” to the EIC by re-using the existing facility, infrastructure, accelerator expertise
- A unique muon collider sited in US with a clear design goal by joint efforts of HEP and NP communities, and even attracting worldwide interests





# Next steps

- Propose MuIC at BNL as one of future muon collider options in US to the Snowmass2021 planning exercise, and also propose the idea to the NP community in the upcoming long-range planning process in 2022
- Build on the MuIC concept, seek to establish dedicated R&D program on muon collider technology in US, involving HEP and NP in collaboration with the International Muon Collider Collaboration
- Engage BNL to consider MuIC as a future option of the lab, to start conceiving a possible design and potentially establish test facilities.
  - **Discuss with accelerator design experts on feasibility of muon acceleration at BNL facility**
- **Engage broader theoretical and experimental communities to explore the physics potential and to address detector design requirements/challenges (workshops, collaborations, and working groups)**

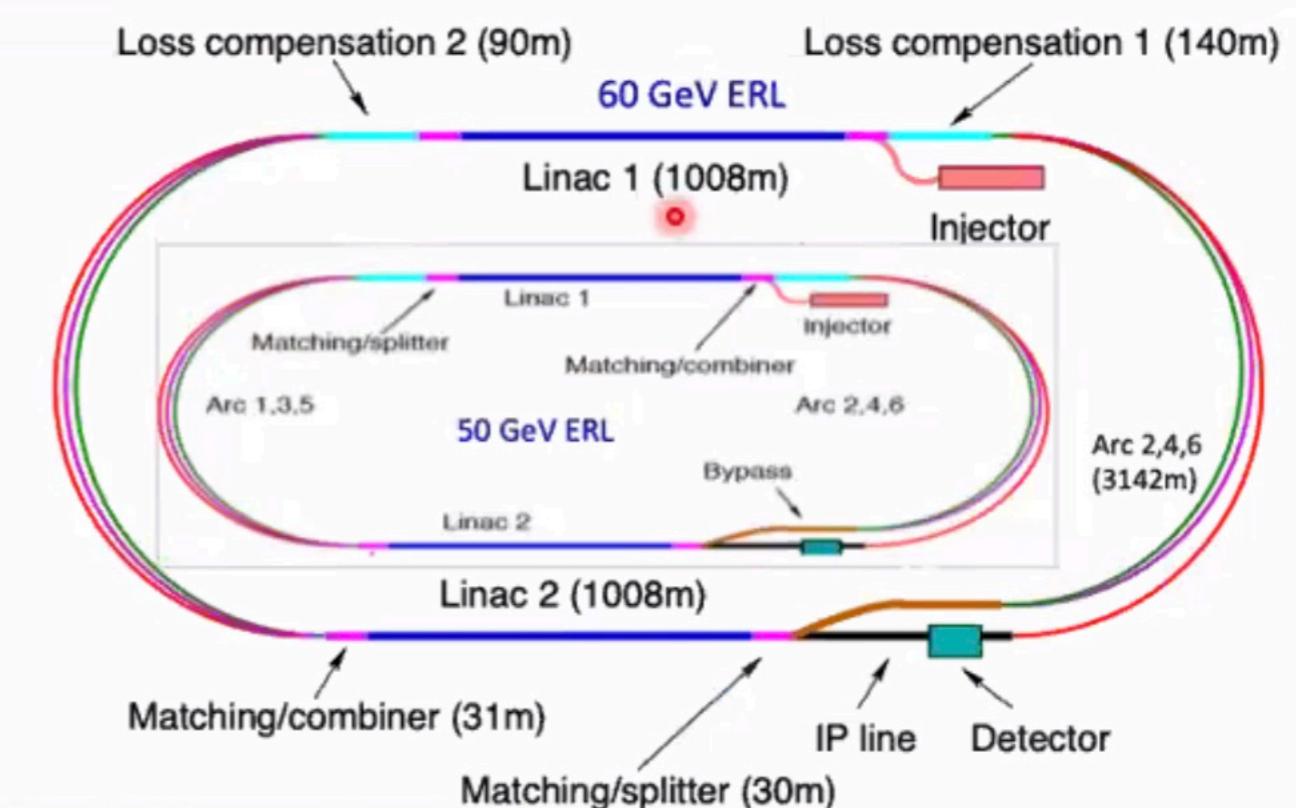
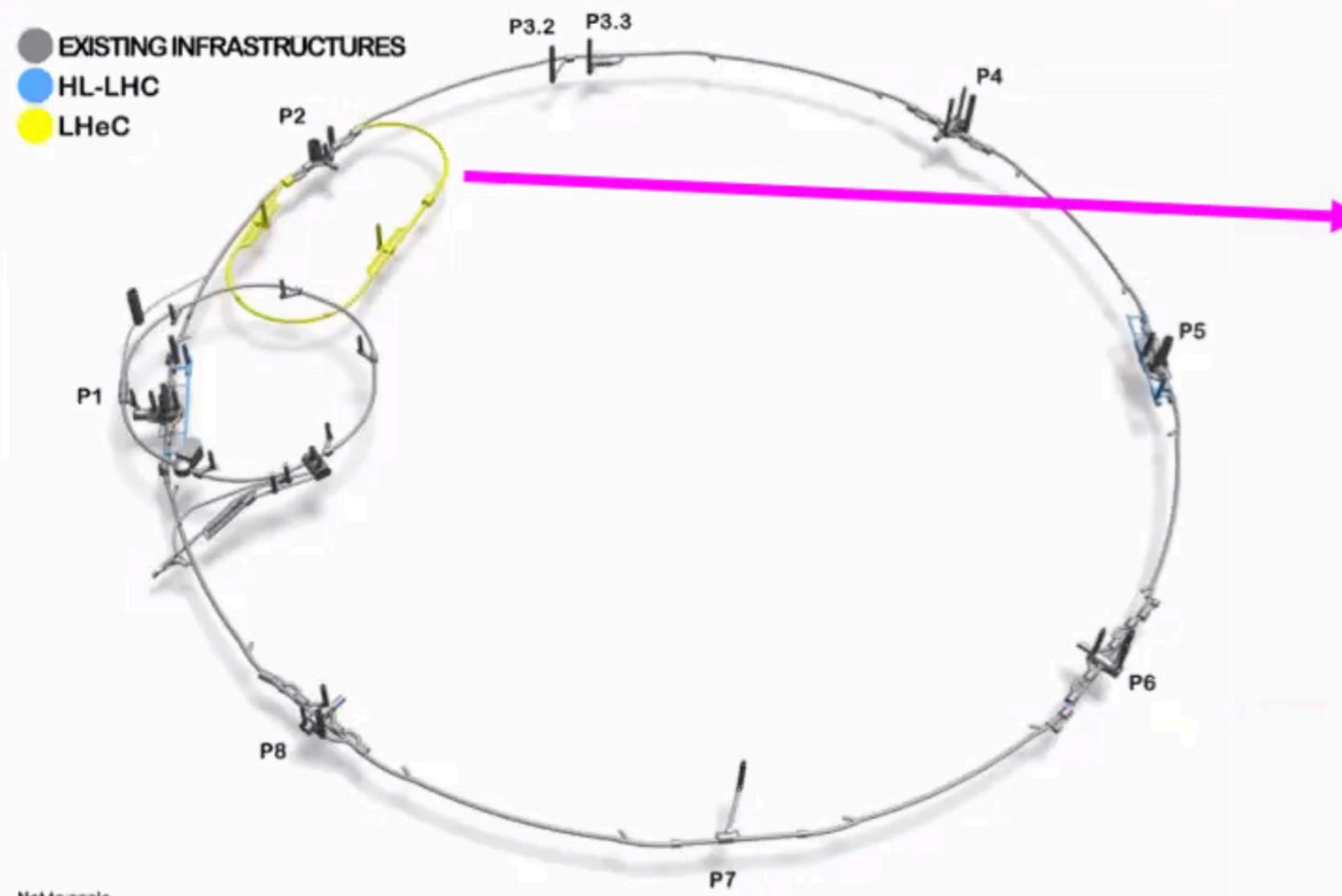
# One Approach: Large Hadron Electron Collider



- LHeC: 50 – 60 GeV  $e^-$  on 7 TeV  $p$  ( $\sqrt{s} = 1.2\text{--}1.3 \text{ TeV}$ )

LHeC: [arXiv:2007.14491](https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.14491)

- Two oppositely directed linacs and 3 arcs
- Two design options: 50 GeV (smaller) vs. 60 GeV (larger)



Not to scale

# An Energy Frontier Muon Collider



A more compact and innovative facility to incorporate the advantages of a high precision lepton collider and an energy frontier machine

arXiv:1901.06150

An  $O(10)$  TeV muon collider has the equivalent mass reach to an  $O(100)$  TeV proton collider

But much R&D still to do...

