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# The Concept of Hadron Formation Length

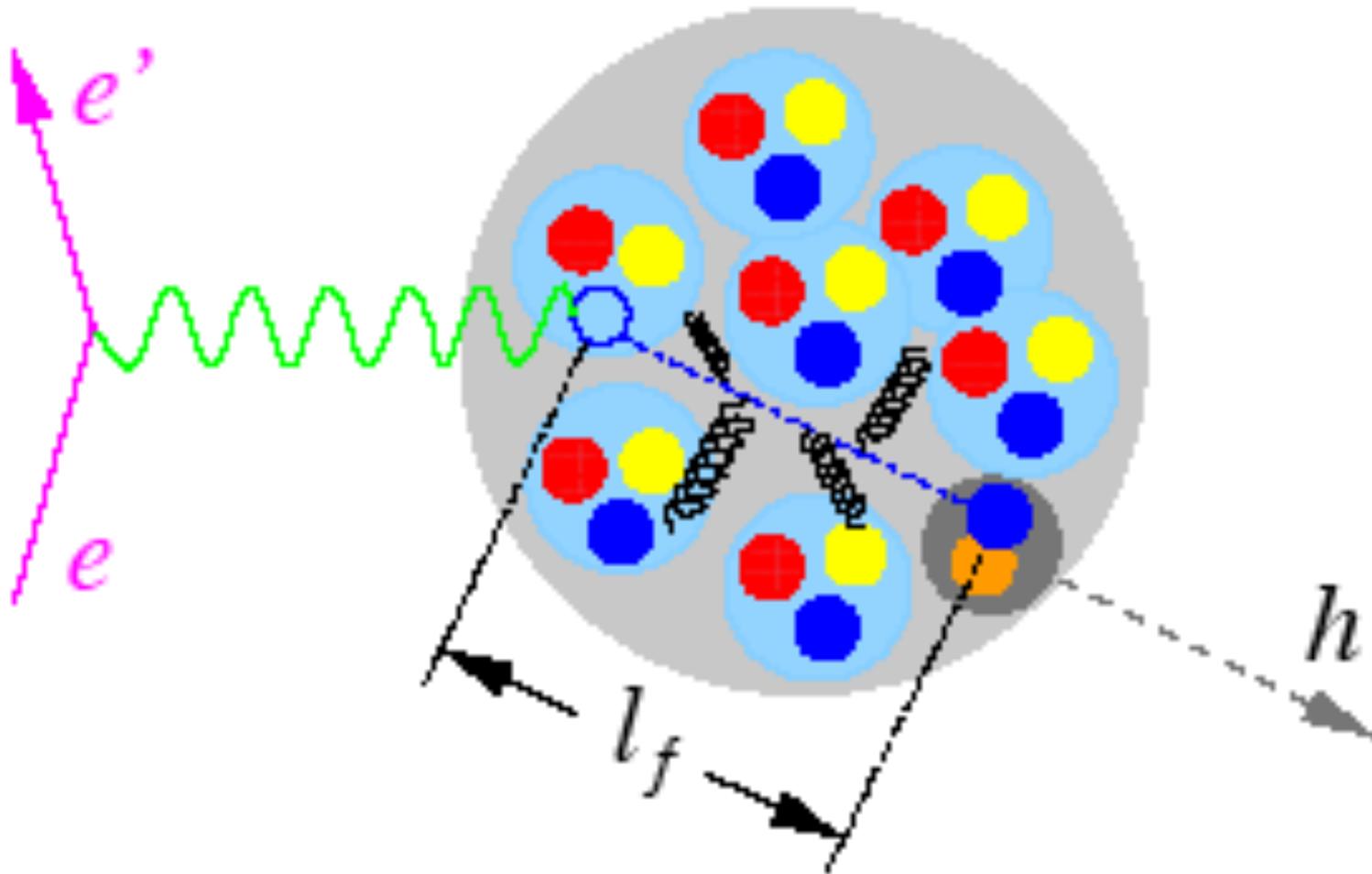
When/where does a hadron actually interact “hadronically”

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Fermilab

# Hadron (Pion) Formation Length - Hadronization

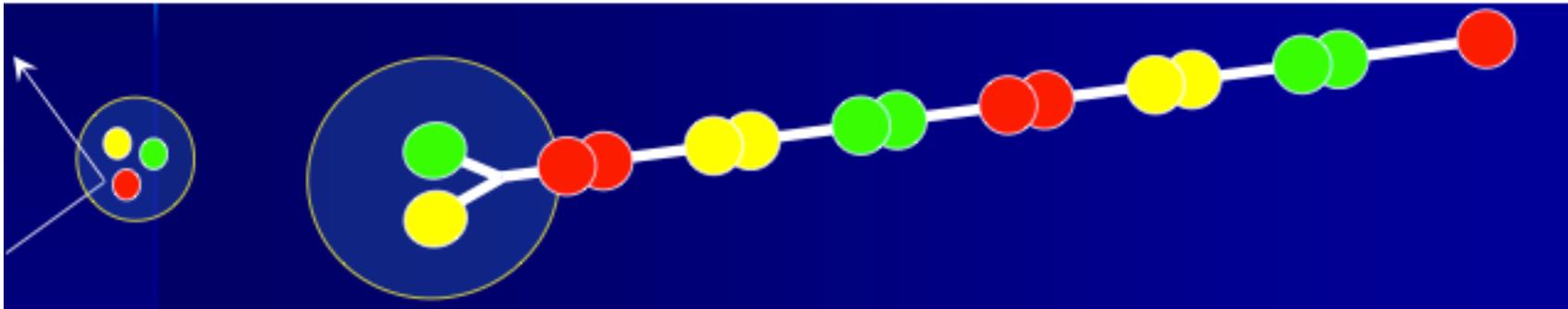
**Will Brooks** – USM, Chile – Expert; source of many figures

**Jan Sobczyk** et al. [Final State Interactions Effects in Neutrino-Nucleus Interactions](#)  
[arXiv:1202.4197](#)



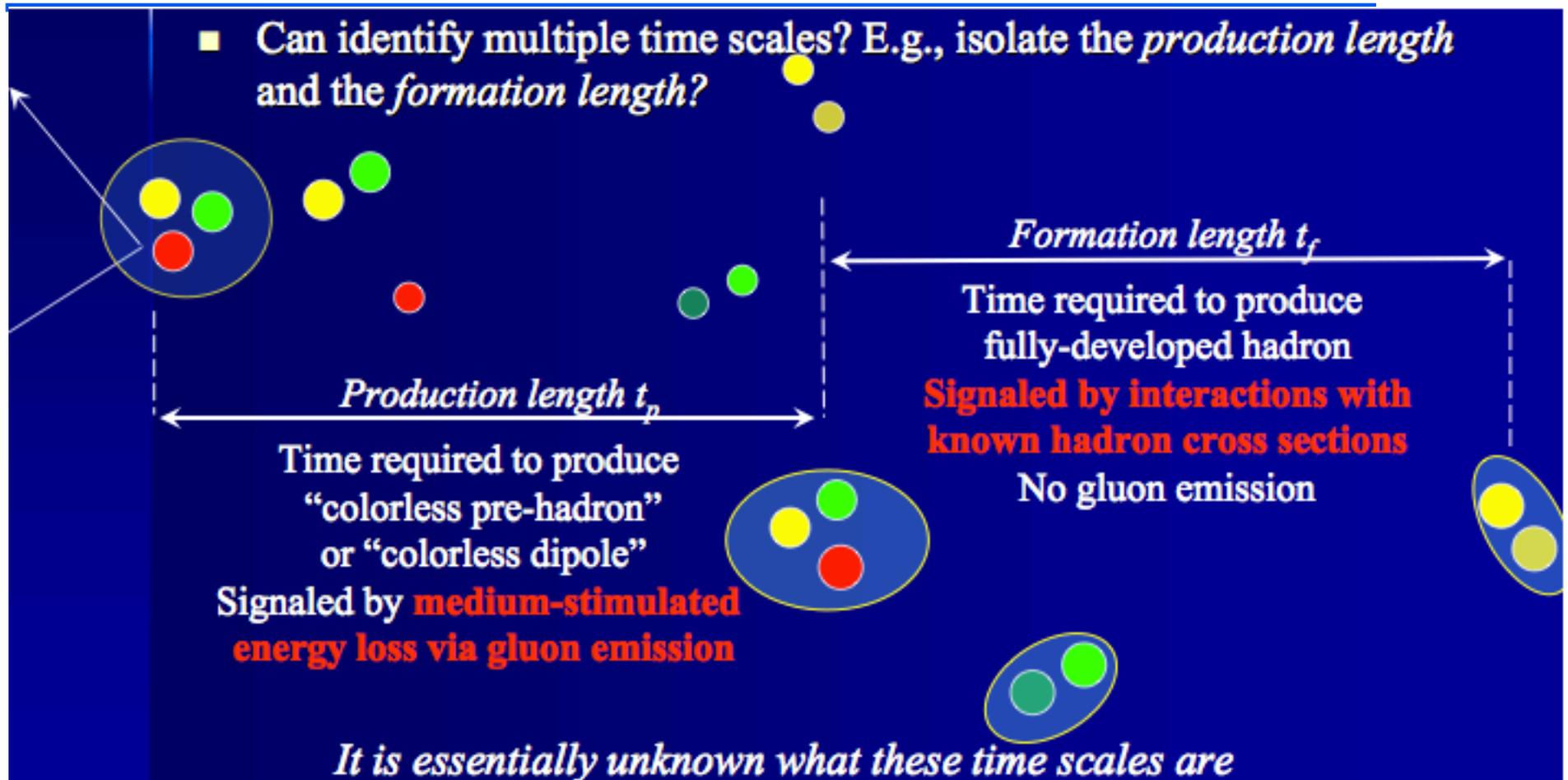
# The Concept

- ◆ Hadronization via a two-step process: first production time/length



- ◆ “Confinement” is still involved and we – have a “production” time before a “formation” time. During this production time the quark(s) can lose energy by emitting gluons or quark-N interactions ...

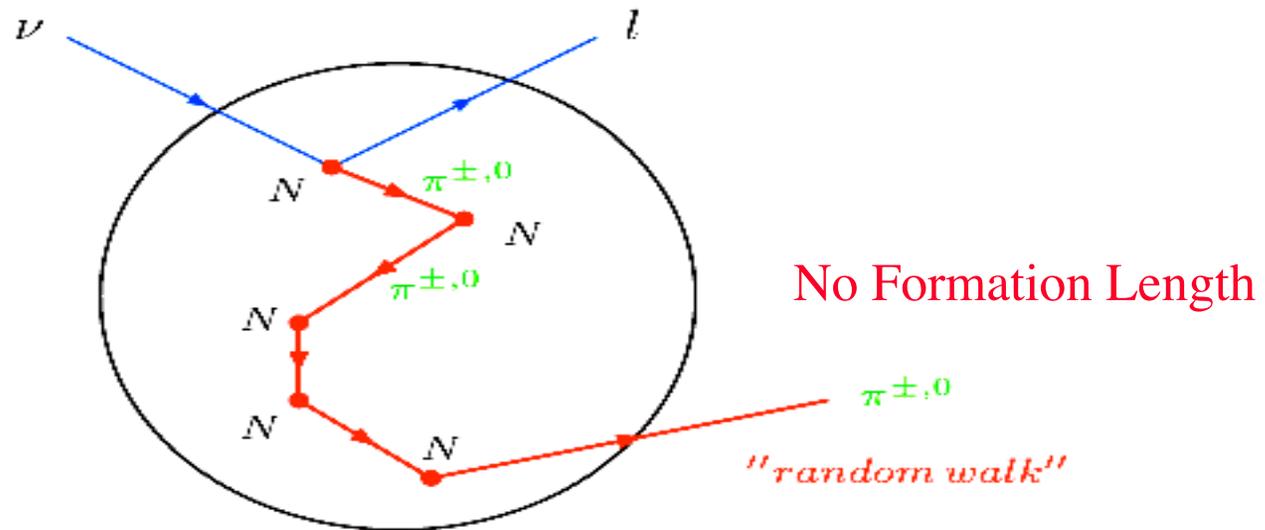
# Two Time Scales for Hadron Formation



- ◆ Can actually estimate the different lengths via experiment.
- ◆ For us, let's consider only the sum of the two lengths.

# Why do we care? Final State Interactions

- Two step process



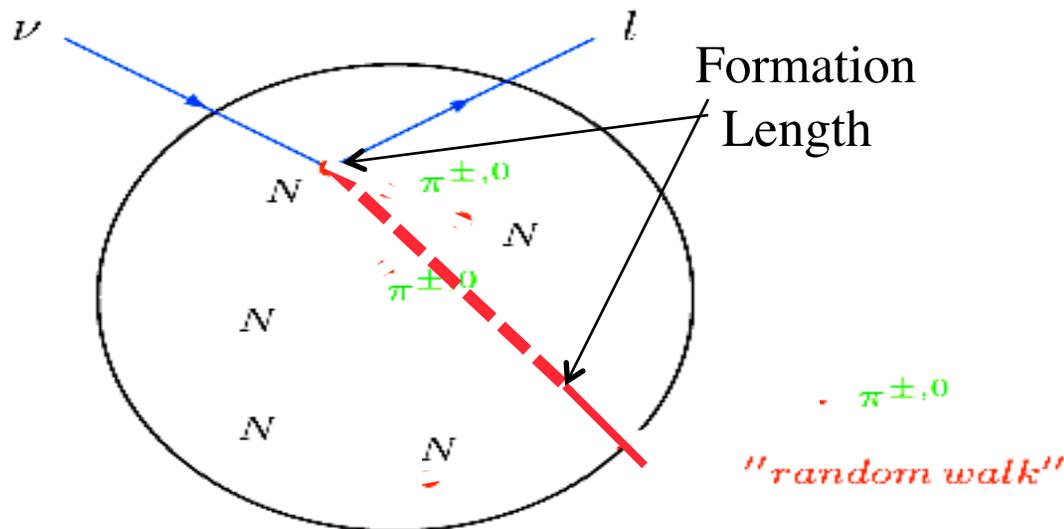
1. **single pion production** in  $\nu N$  scattering  
→ Pauli Principle, Fermi motion
  2. **multiple scattering** of pions  
→ Charge exchange, absorption, Pauli Principle
- step 2 is described by the **charge exchange matrix**  $M$ 
    - only depends on properties of the target
    - charge density profile  $\rho(r)$

# Why do we care? Final State Interactions

Introduce Formation Length – no strong interactions until hadron is “formed”

Pion more probable to escape the nucleus without any FSI

- Two step process



◆ Without formation length:

▼ Lower average  $E$  of particles leaving the nucleus

▼ Broader  $p_T$  spectrum of particles leaving the nucleus

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We can determine this “formation length” for a pion ( $z = E_\pi / \nu$ ) via Hadron Multiplicity Ratios off various A

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$$R_M(z, \nu, Q^2, p_t^2) = \frac{\left. \frac{N_h(z, \nu, Q^2, p_t^2)}{N_{DIS}} \right|_A}{\left. \frac{N_h(z, \nu, Q^2, p_t^2)}{N_{DIS}} \right|_D} \propto \frac{\left. \frac{\sum e_f^2 q_f(x, Q^2, p_T^2) D_f^h(z, Q^2, k_T^2)}{\sum e_f^2 q_f(x, Q^2, p_T^2)} \right|_A}{\left. \frac{\sum e_f^2 q_f(x, Q^2, p_T^2) D_f^h(z, Q^2, k_T^2)}{\sum e_f^2 q_f(x, Q^2, p_T^2)} \right|_D}$$

Leptonic variables :  $\nu$  (or  $x$ ) and  $Q^2$

Hadronic variables :  $z$  and  $p_t^2$

Different nuclei : size and density

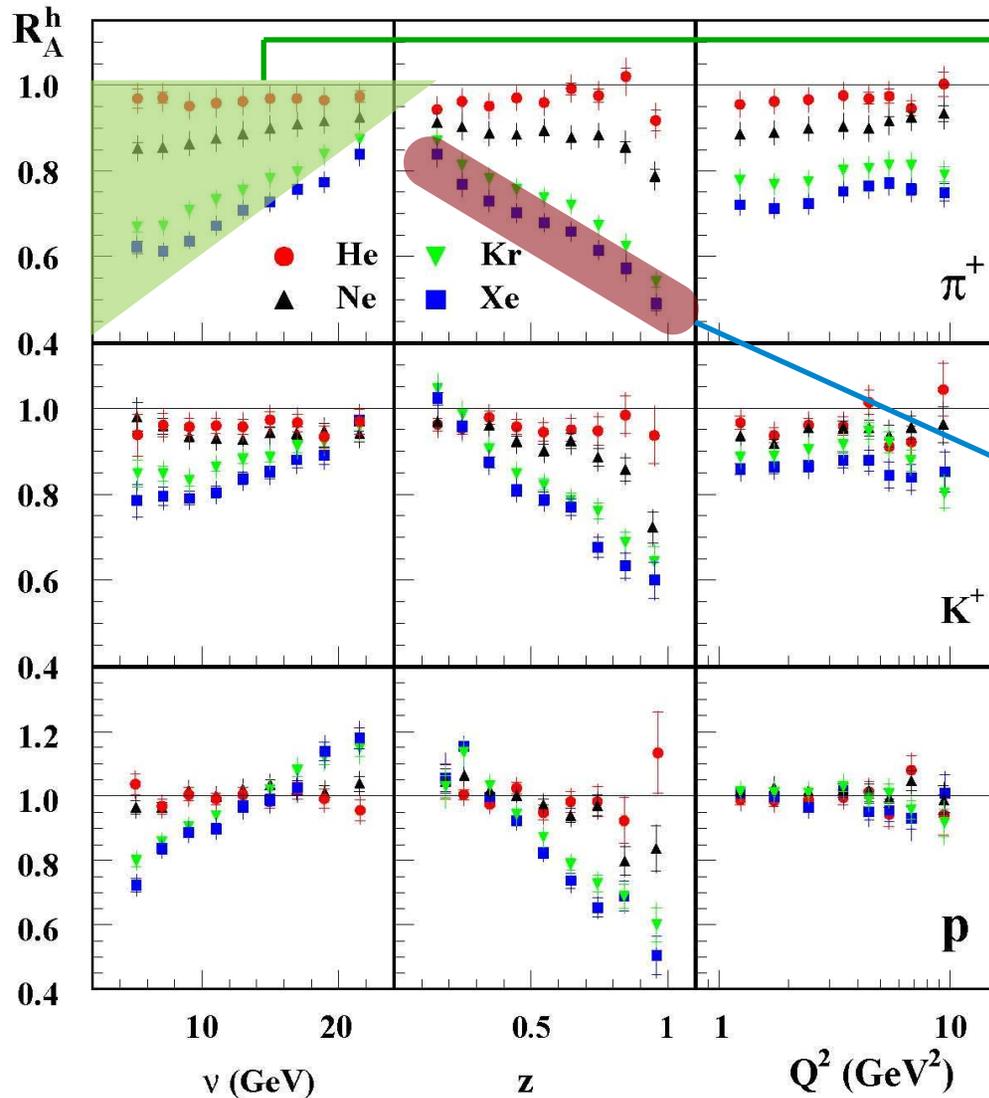
Different hadrons : flavors and mixing of FFs

Double-ratio: no need for acceptance corrections

Systematic uncertainties are minimize in the double-ratio

# Fit ratios to $\tau = f(A, z, \nu, Q^2, p_T^2)$

## HERMES (SLAC, EMC, E665)



Strong A mass effect

z behavior

Partonic: energy loss +

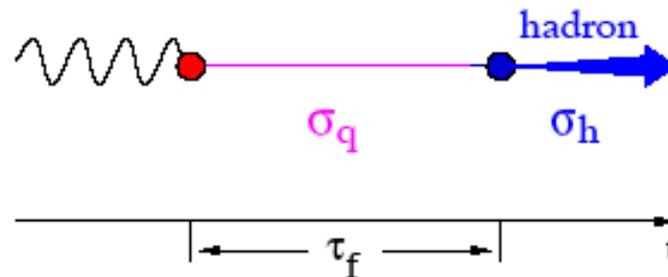
FF modification

Hadronic: h formation length

+ absorption

# Models of Hadron Attenuation: Sum Both Steps

- ◆ Hadron production from nuclei can be influenced by
  - ▼ Pre-hadronized **quark** interactions with other nucleons in nucleus
  - ▼ Produced **hadron** interactions with other nucleons
- ◆  $t_f = l_f / c$ , the hadron formation time will affect which dominates



- ◆ One time-scale model - hadron produced “directly”

$$\tau_f \approx E_h R_h / m_h$$

For pion mass,  $R_h = 0.66 \text{ fm}$

For 0.5 GeV p,  $\tau_f \approx 2.4 \text{ fm}$

# Two Expressions for Pion Formation Length

**HERMES parameterization  
for pion formation length:**

Valid for higher energy pions

$$\tau = 1.4 \cdot \nu \cdot (1 - z) \text{ fm}$$

Example:  $z = 0.5$   $\nu = 10 \text{ GeV}$ <sup>1</sup>  
 $\tau = 7 \text{ fm} \approx \text{radius of Pb}$

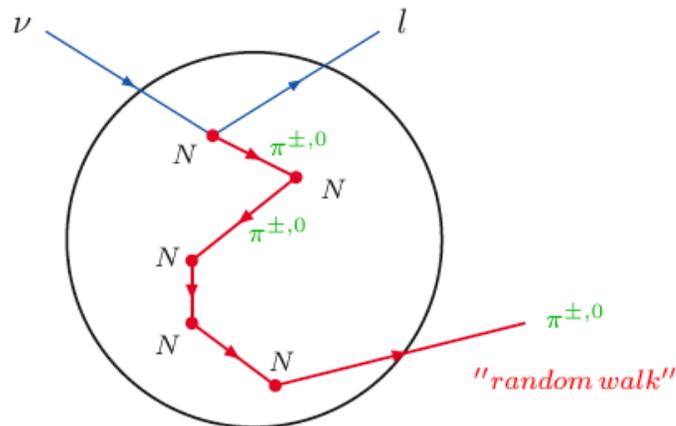
For lower  $E_\pi$ : 
$$\tau = \frac{.342 p \text{ (GeV/c)} m_\pi}{m_\pi^2 + a p_t^2}$$

Nucleus	A	$r_0 (=1.2 \text{ fm } A^{1/3})$	$p (l_f > r_0)$
C	12	2.7 (fm)	1.1 (GeV/c)
Fe	56	4.6	1.8
Pb	207	7.1	2.9

# Nuclear Effects - Formation length

Adler, Nusinov, Paschos model (1974)

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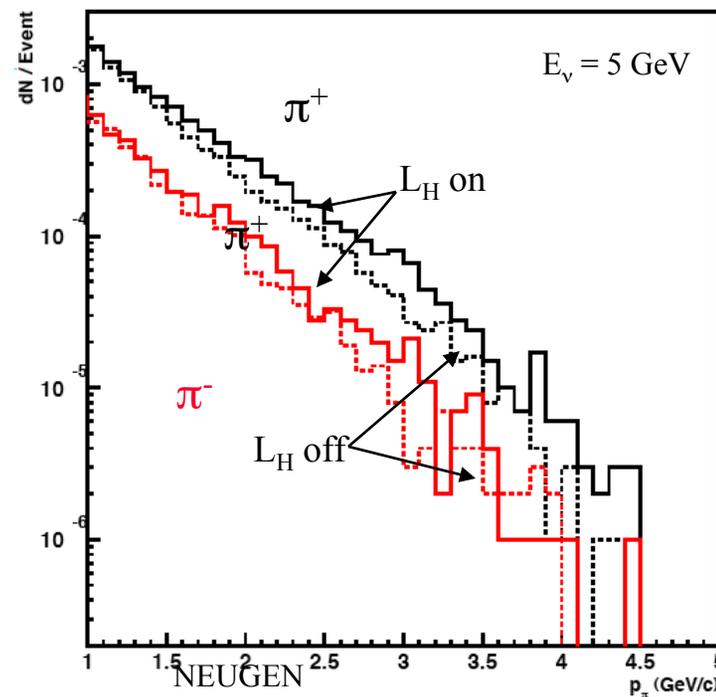


- charge exchange matrix  $M$  for isoscalar targets  
( $M = M^T$ ,  $\sum_j M_{ij} = A_p$ ,  $M_{+0} = M_{-0} \rightarrow 3$  param.  $A_p, d, c$ )

$$M = A_p \begin{pmatrix} 1 - c - d & d & c \\ d & 1 - 2d & d \\ c & d & 1 - c - d \end{pmatrix}$$

- $\pi^+$  cross section is **largely reduced** (up to 40%)  $\leftrightarrow$  charge exchange  $M$
- $\pi^0$  cross sections is **slightly increased** by the nuclear corrections

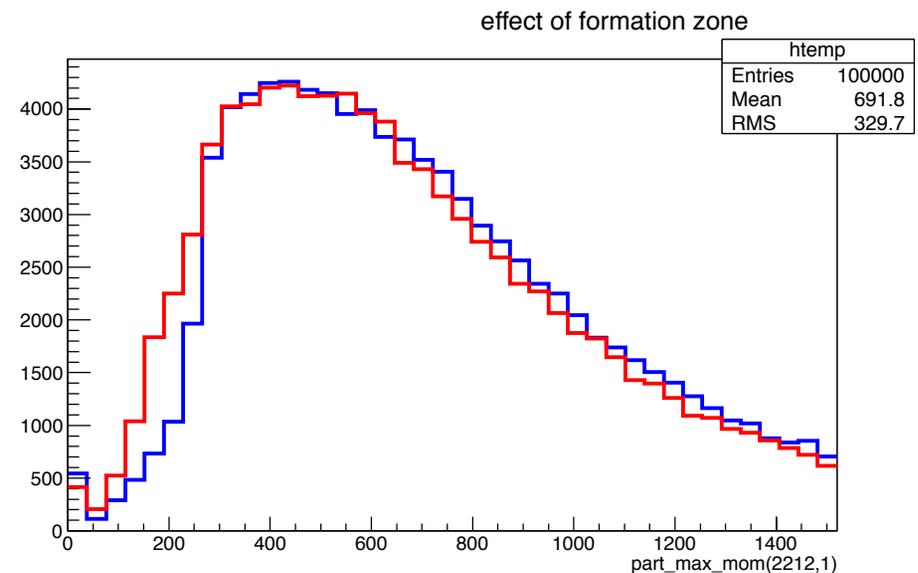
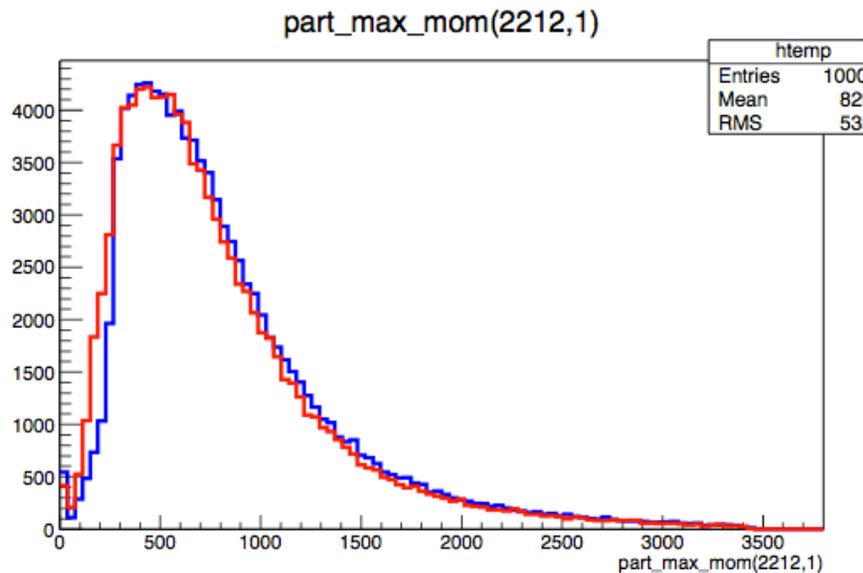
One obvious omission, this model does not include **hadron formation length corrections**



**MINERνA can measure  $L_H$  off of C, Fe and Pb**

# What About Nucleons?

- ◆ **Jan Sobczyk** with T. Golan and C. Juszczak summarized the concept of using the “uncertainty principal” in terms of a “coherence length”.
- ◆ It gives us a “reaction time” within which the proton cannot interact:  $\tau = E / |p \cdot q|$   
→  $\tau_{\text{SKAT}} = E / \mu^2$  with  $\mu^2 = 0.08 \pm 0.04 \text{ GeV}^2$
- ◆ With  $E_\nu = 3 \text{ GeV}$ , using NuWRO Jan gets the following. An average increase of momentum of protons out of the nucleus of 40 MeV/c.



# Formation Length in MC Generators (Jan)

TABLE III. Formation Time models in various Monte Carlo event generators.

MC	QE	RES <sup>a</sup>	DIS
NEUT	–	SKAT	SKAT
FLUKA	Coh length	Rantf	Rantf
GENIE	–	–	Rantf-like
NUANCE	1 fm	1 fm	1 fm

<sup>a</sup>Note that every MC has its own definition of what the RES and DIS terms mean.

- ◆ NuWro uses a formation zone for both nucleons and pions.
- ◆ Jan currently looking at FZ effects for 1 and 2-track QE with complete LE spectrum on scintillator, Fe and Pb. For 2-track looking at fraction with p above 150 MeV while for 1 track checking the outgoing proton and neutron energy spectra with and without FZ.