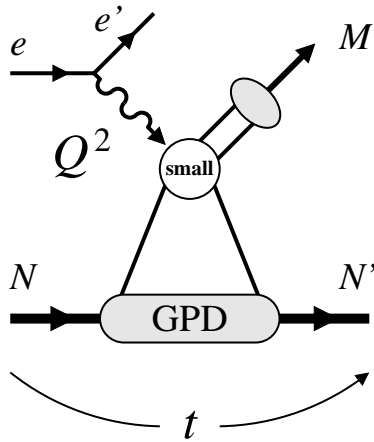


Hard exclusive meson production at JLab12

C. Weiss (JLab), CLAS Collaboration Meeting, JLab, 09-Mar-2018



- High- Q^2 meson production

Distances \leftrightarrow dynamics \leftrightarrow structures

- Exclusive vector mesons

Mechanism from small to large x [HERA](#), [COMPASS](#), [HERMES](#)

ϕ at large x : Nucleon gluonic radius [CLAS12 E12-12-007](#)

ρ^0, ρ^+ at large x : Dynamics?

- Exclusive pseudoscalar mesons

π^0, η : Helicity-flip mechanism, transversity GPDs
[CLAS12 E12-06-108](#), [Hall A E12-06-114](#), [Hall C E12-13-010](#)

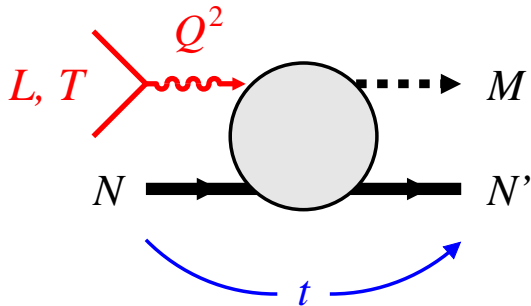
π^+ : Pole vs. non-pole, pion FF [Hall C E12-06-101](#), [E12-07-105](#)

- High- t and backward production

J/ψ near threshold: High- t gluonic FF [GlueX](#), [CLAS12](#), [SOLID](#)



Exclusive mesons: High Q^2



- Exclusive electroproduction

Q^2 size of probe, resolution scale

t size of target configurations

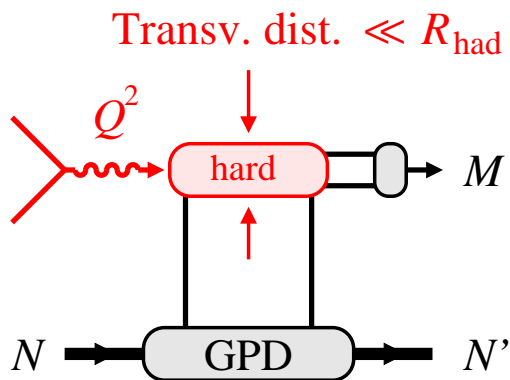
- Transverse distances in interaction \ll hadronic size

Collinear factorization: GPDs \times hard process \times DA

[Collins, Frankfurt, Strikman 96](#)

$Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$: Pointlike $q\bar{q}$ pair, pQCD interactions, σ_L

$Q^2 \sim \text{few GeV}^2$: Finite size distribution, non-perturbative interactions, $L + T$ responses



- Nucleon structure in GPDs

Quark/gluon form factors of nucleon

QCD operator definition $\langle N' | \text{Twist-2} | N \rangle$

Universal, process-independent

Relations to PDFs, FFs, charges

Non-perturbative methods, LQCD

- Where does approach to small-size regime take place?

How to observe & quantify it?

Model-independent criteria!

Experience with small- x : t slopes, W dependence, ...

- What interactions mediate the production process?

How to account for finite-size effects?

pQCD interactions with finite-size corrections

Frankfurt, Strikman, Koepf 96+;
Musatov, Radyushkin 97; Goloskokov, Kroll 08+

Non-perturbative interactions, chiral symmetry breaking?

- What structures in nucleon and meson are probed?

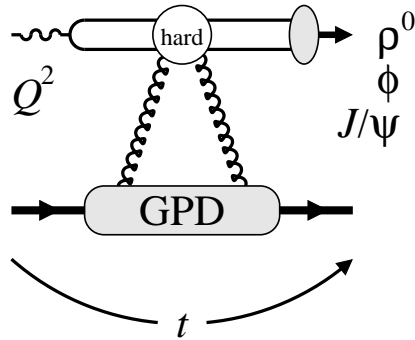
GPDs: Quarks vs. gluons, chiral even-odd, spin-flavor

Meson DAs: chiral even-odd, higher twist

Questions are interrelated

Need to consider all available evidence

Need experimental data and theory



- $\rho^0, \phi, J/\psi$ production at small x

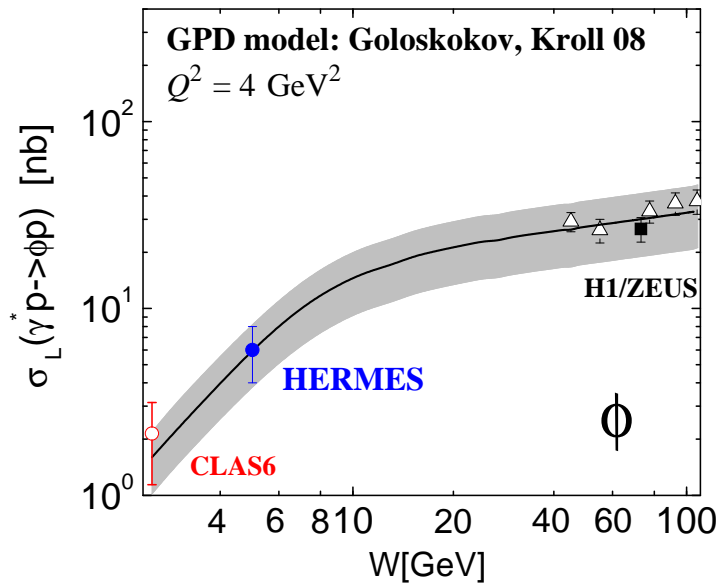
HERA $x = 10^{-4}-10^{-2}$, $Q^2 = 0-30 \text{ GeV}^2$

Approach to small-size regime tested:
 t -slopes become Q^2 -independent above $\sim 10 \text{ GeV}^2$,
 same for $\rho^0, \phi, J/\psi, \gamma$

Factorized description with finite-size effects
 predicts cross sections & kin dependences

[Frankfurt, Strikman, Koepf 96](#); [Goloskokov, Kroll 08+](#)

Probes gluon GPD



- ϕ production at larger x

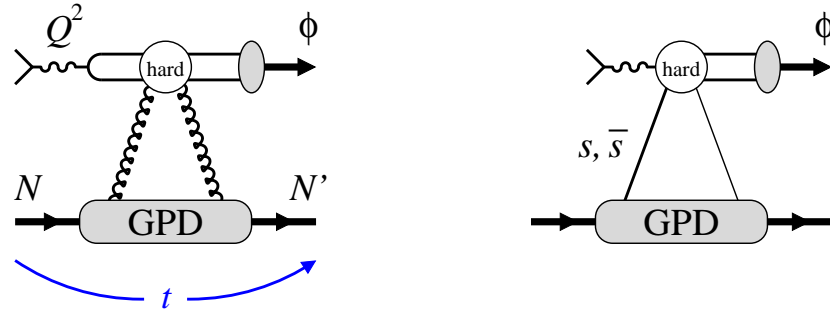
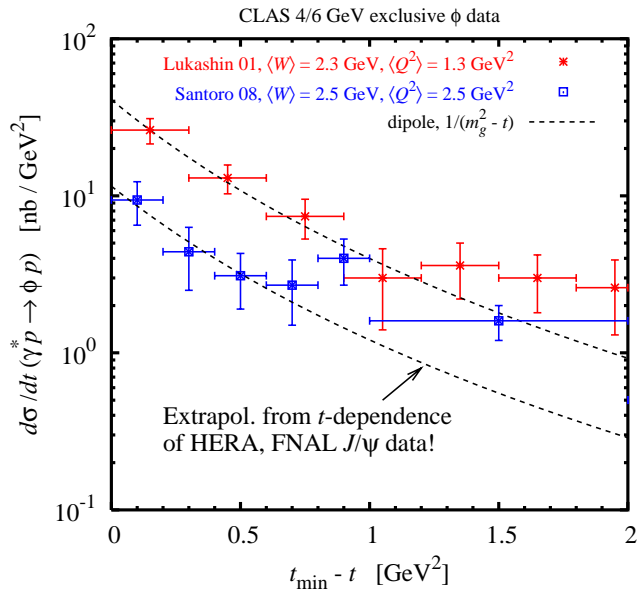
No change in kin dependences

Appears gluon-dominated even at $x > 0.1$

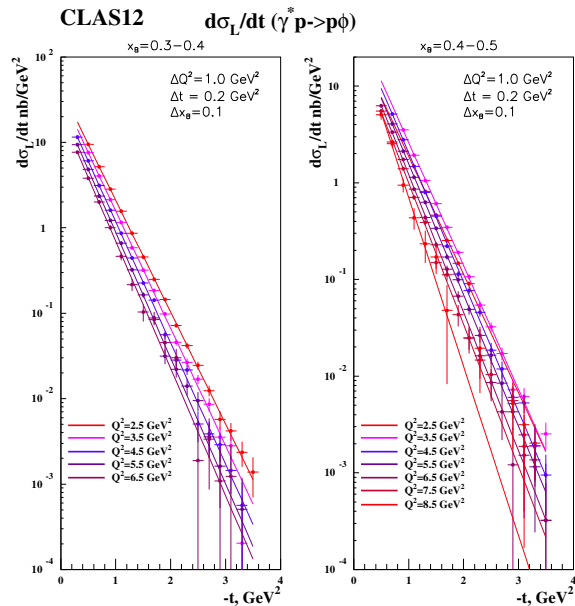
GPD model reproduces cross sections

[Goloskokov, Kroll 08+](#)

Vector mesons: Mechanism ϕ large x



- t -dependence of 6 GeV ϕ data consistent with gluon GPD measured at high energies
Extrapolation of HERA, FNAL J/ψ results



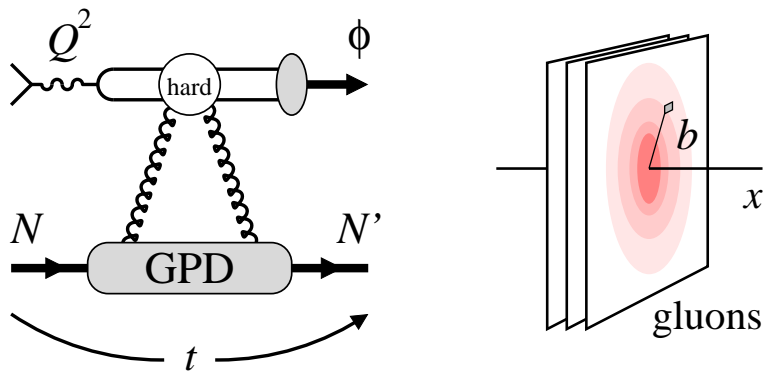
- CLAS12: Test ϕ production mechanism and GPD description

When does t -slope become independent of Q^2 ?

How does ξ -dependence change with Q^2 ?

- Strange quark contributions?

Indications of $s\bar{s}$ at $x > 0.1$
Requires theoretical estimate



- Transverse spatial distribution of gluons

2D Fourier of t -dependence of gluon GPD

Fundamental gluonic radius, cf. charge radii

Leading-twist characteristic: LQCD, models

$x < 0.01$ measured at HERA, FNAL,

$x > 0.1$ practically unknown

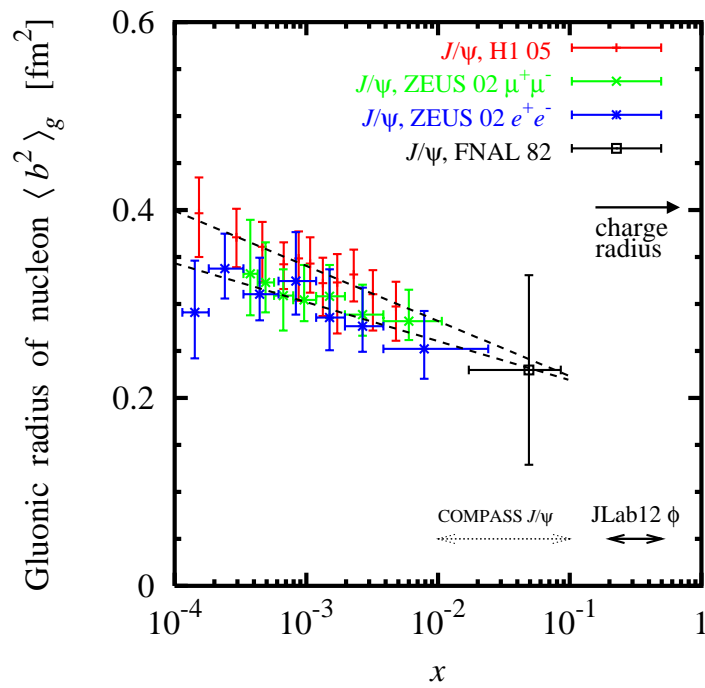
Changes with x : Chiral dynamics, diffusion

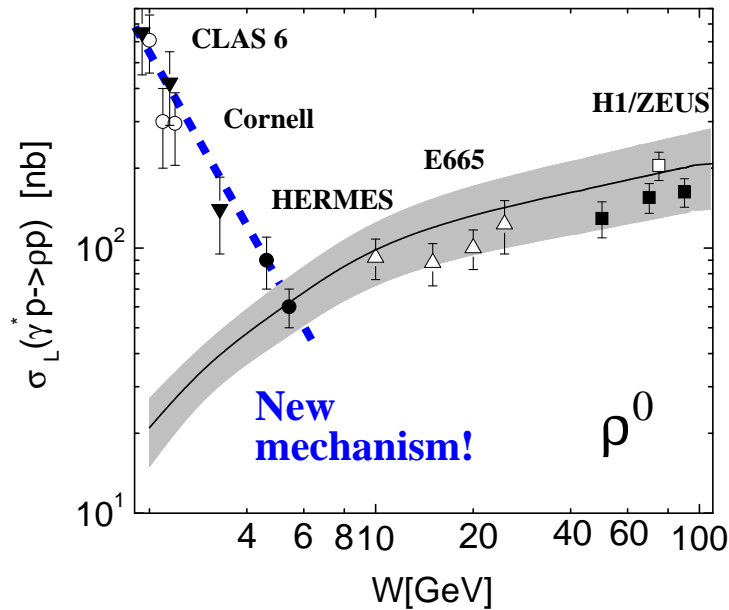
DIS: Large gluon density above $x > 0.1$

- CLAS12: Extract t -dep of gluon GPD and transverse profile at $x = 0.2 - 0.5$

Relative t -dependence of $d\sigma_L/dt$

L/T from SCHC





- Change of mechanism

Glucos at high W / small x

New mechanism at low W / large x

- CLAS6 data: $\rho^+ > \rho^0$ at large x

Fradi et al.

New mechanism must involve quarks

- Theoretical description?

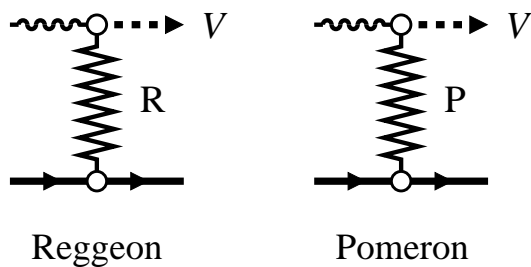
Soft regime: Reggeon vs. Pomeron

Hard regime: GPD description?

Guidal, Morrow 07: Rescaled D-term. Conflicts DVCS.

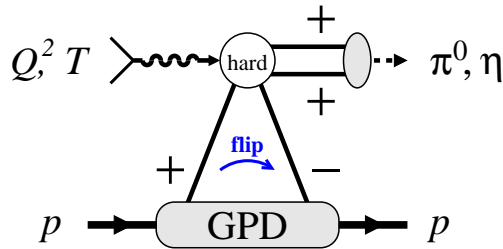
Kroll, Goloskokov 14: Transversity GPDs in ρ spin density.

To be tested with COMPASS data.



- CLAS12 could have major impact!

Pseudoscalars: π^0, η mechanism



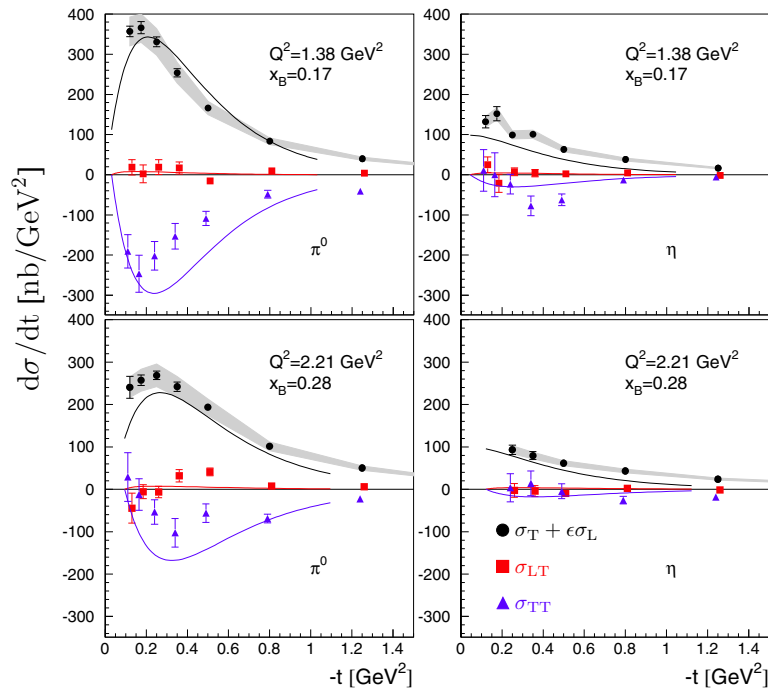
- Dominance of helicity-flip structures

Goldstein Liuti et al. 08+, Goloskokov, Kroll 11+

Large helicity-flip pion DA induced by dynamical χ SB in QCD

Helicity-flip GPD \leftrightarrow transversity

Twist-3 mechanism, formally subleading



- Describes JLab 6 GeV data

Absolute cross sections

L vs. T from response functions

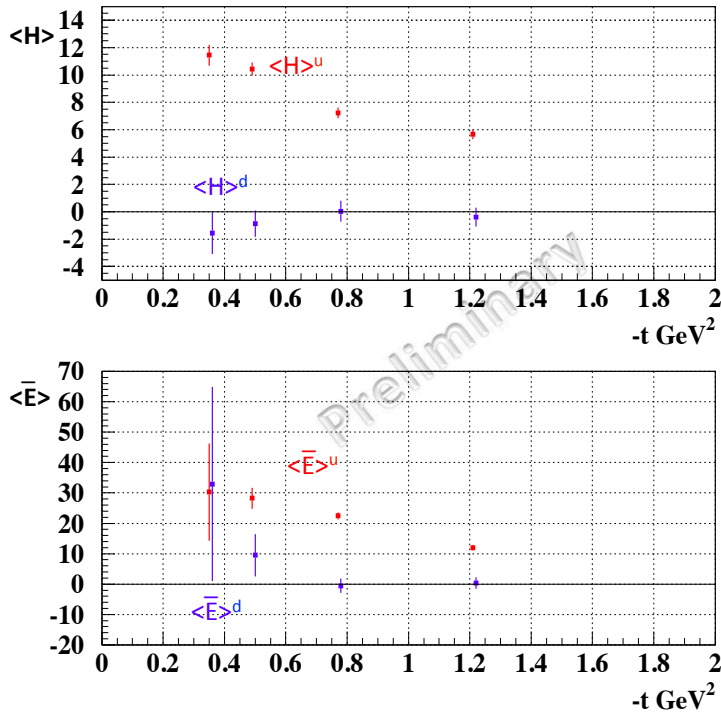
- JLab12: Test mechanism

Expect $T \gg L$

Avoid Rosenbluth separation \rightarrow Discussion

Pseudoscalars: π^0, η and quark transversity

9



- Potential access to quark transversity

Complements SIDIS, pp Drell-Yan
Leading-twist structure: LQCD, models

- Flavor separation with $\pi^0 + \eta$

Different isospin components of amplitude

Simplifying assumptions about phase

- Theoretical insight from large- N_c QCD

[Schweitzer, CW PRC94 \(2016\) 045202](#)

CLAS6 preliminary Kubarovsky 14

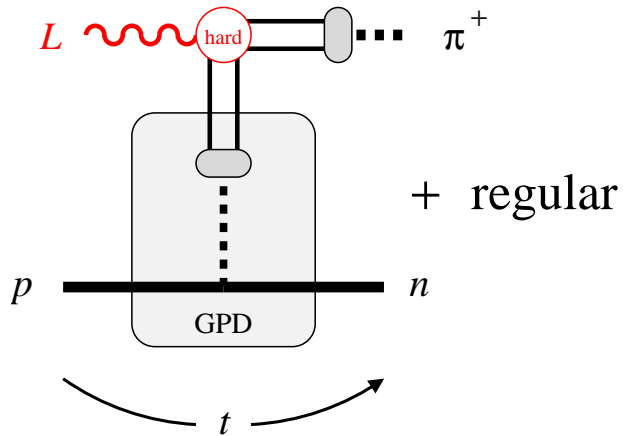
$\langle H_T \rangle : |u - d| \gg |u + d|$ nonsinglet leading

$\langle \bar{E}_T \rangle : |u + d| \gg |u - d|$ singlet leading

$$\langle H \rangle = \int dx H(x, \xi, t) \int d^2 k_T A_{\text{hard}}(x, \xi, k_T) S(k_T)$$

Model-independent parametric predictions
for hierarchy of spin-flavor components

Invariant amplitude, cf. Compton form factors



- Same helicity-flip mechanism in π^+

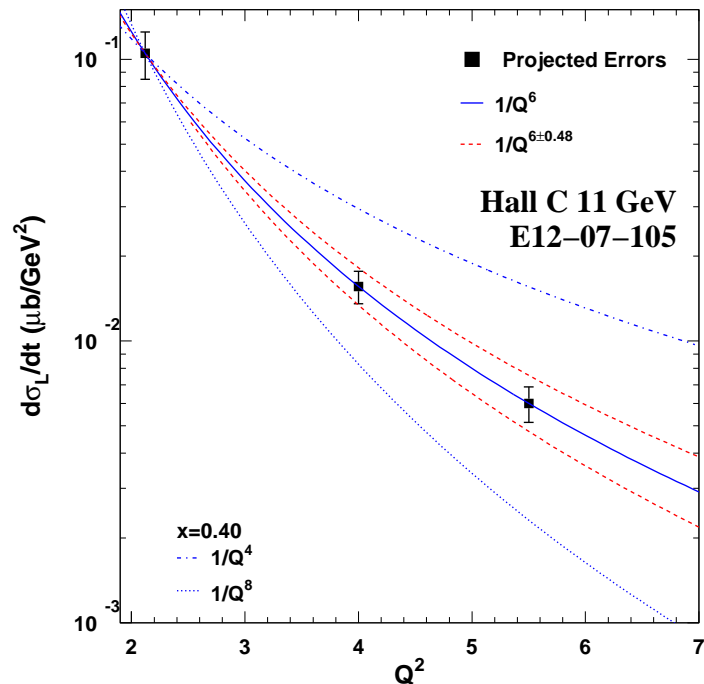
- Pion pole in electroproduction

Mostly L amplitude

Residue = pion form factor

Separate pole \leftrightarrow non-pole

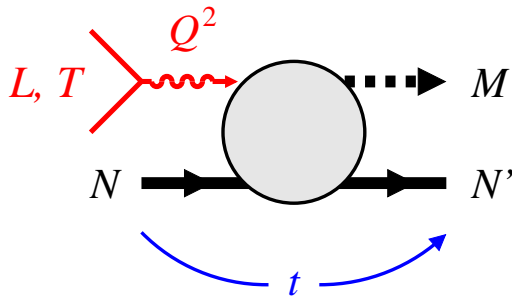
Should be revisited in view of helicity-flip mechanism



- JLab12 experiments

Hall C E12-07-105

- Joint physics analysis $\pi^0, \eta \leftrightarrow \pi^+$



- Meson production at $|t| \gg 1 \text{ GeV}^2$:
Nucleon in small-size configuration

Cf. high- t elastic nucleon form factors

- QCD-based description

pQCD mechanism

Brodsky, Lepage 80's

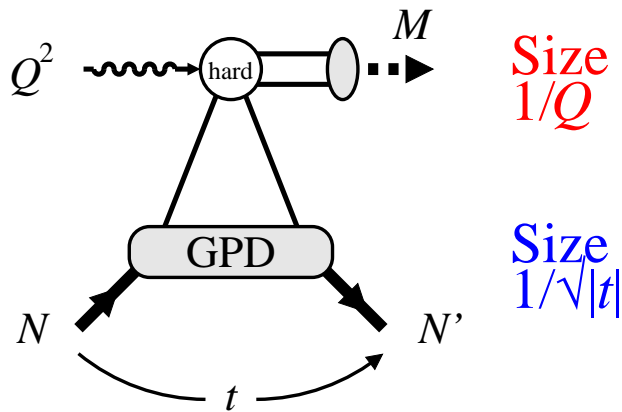
Single-quark dominance, handbag graph Kroll et al.

Conventional GPD based on $|t| \ll \mu^2$,
new concept if $|t| \sim \mu^2$,

Hadron-induced processes
SCET approach

Kumano, Strikman, Sudoh 09

Kivel, Vanderhaeghen



- JLab12: Explore mechanism

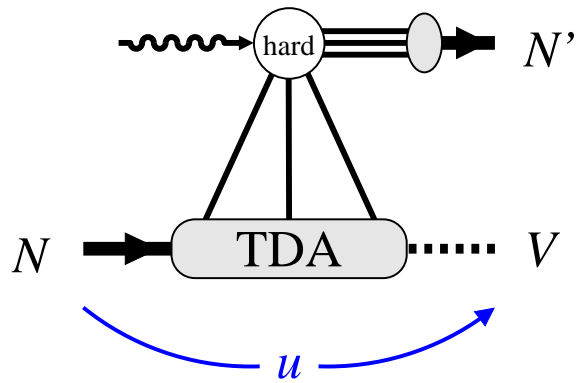
Extend t -range

Realize high $|t|$ and high Q^2 – new regime

CLAS12 E12-06-108, Hall C E12-14-005

Exclusive mesons: Backward angles

12

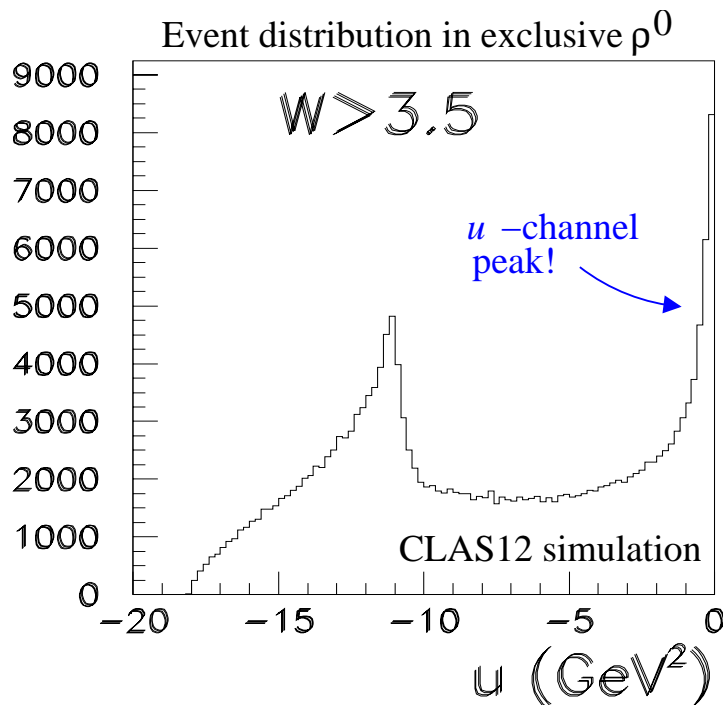


- Large $|t|$, small $|u| < 1 \text{ GeV}^2$
- Knockout of small-size nucleon configuration, mesonic system left

New probe of valence quark core

pQCD-based description through transition DA $\langle M|qqq|N \rangle$

[Frankfurt et al. 02](#); [Pire, Szymanowski et al. 10+](#)



- JLab6 results

Hall C backward ω, σ

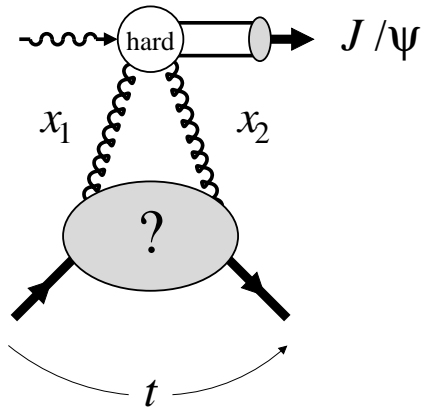
[Huber et al.](#)

CLAS6 backward π^+, π^0

[Kubarovsky, Park et al.](#)

- CLAS12 data expected

New physics — explore mechanism!



- Near-threshold kinematics

Large $|t_{\min}| \sim 2.2, \text{ GeV}^2$

Large skewness $\zeta = x_1 - x_2 \sim 0.75$

Probes high- t gluon GPD/FF

- Theoretical questions

Factorization in near-threshold regime?

Behavior of gluonic form factor?

Correlations in nucleon LC wave function?

Cf. model of Brodsky, Chudakov, Hoyer, Laget 01

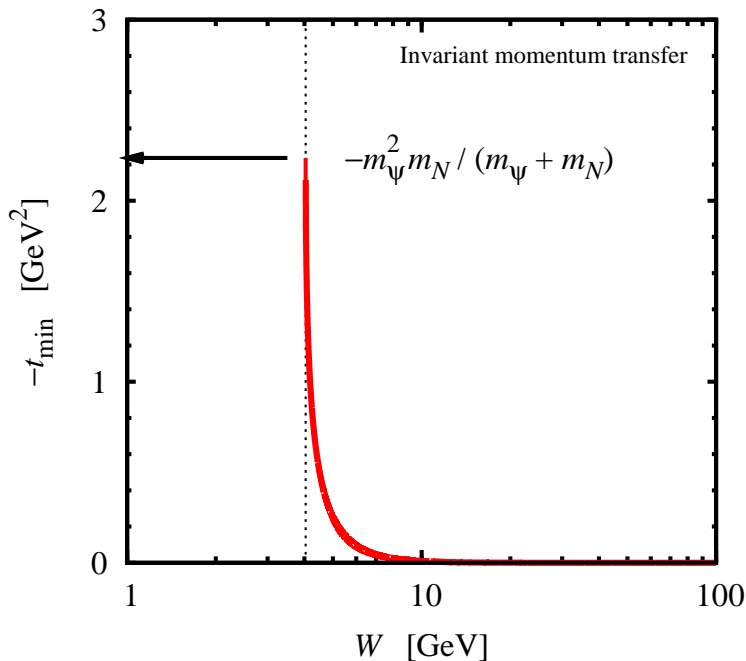
$J/\psi - p$ bound states

LHCb Pentaquark

- JLab12 J/ψ experiments

GlueX, CLAS12 e^+e^- , SOLID electroproduction

First J/ψ 's seen at GlueX!



Exclusive mesons: Strangeness

- Strange vector mesons $\gamma^* N \rightarrow K^{*+} \Lambda, K^* \Sigma$

Contribute to understanding of quark-based production mechanism at large x , cf. ρ

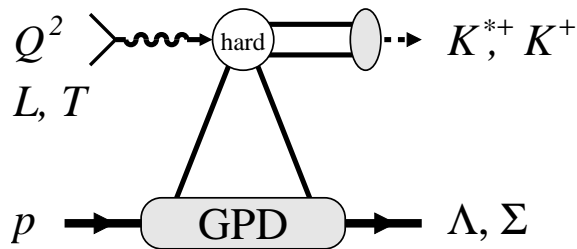
Spin structure of nucleon transition through $N(\text{pol})$ and $\Lambda(\text{self-analyzing})$

- Strange pseudoscalar mesons $\gamma^* N \rightarrow K^+ \Lambda, K^+ \Sigma$

Helicity-flip vs. non-flip mechanism?

Spin-flavor structure of transversity GPDs

$SU(3)$ and large- N_c relations



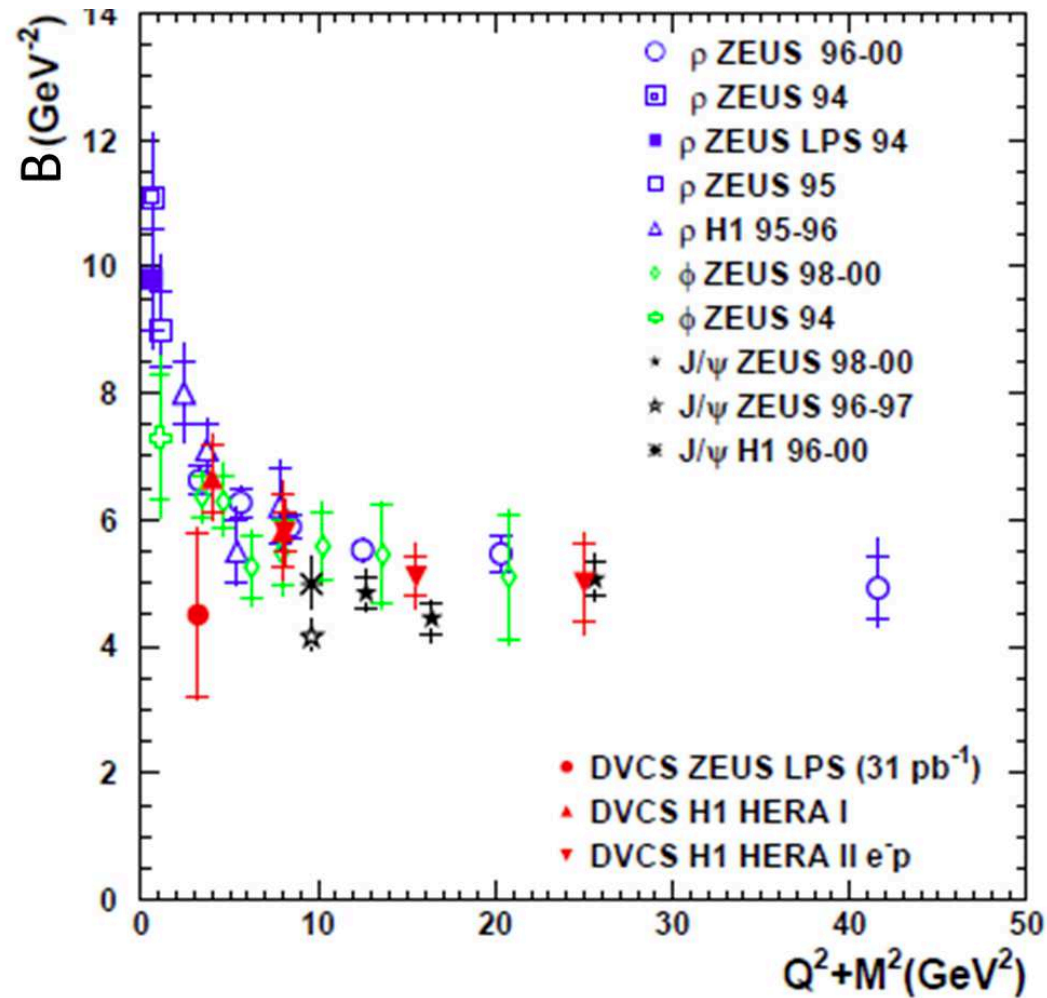
- Kinematic coverage $Q^2 \sim \text{few } 10 \text{ GeV}^2$ should allow to reach small-size regime in most meson channels; luminosity $\sim 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ required
- Definitive tests of reaction mechanism: t -slopes, Q^2 -scaling
- Probe structures selectively
 - gluons $\phi, J/\psi, \Upsilon$
 - gluons + singlet quarks ρ^0, ω, γ
 - non-singlet quarks ρ^+, K^*
 - polarized quarks $\pi^+, \pi^0, \eta, K^+, K_L$
- Explore novel dynamics
 - Non-singlets and polarization at small x
 - $N \rightarrow N^*$ transitions through hard processes
 - Quantum fluctuations of gluons and diffractive dissociation
- JLEIC detectors designed for exclusive reactions

Exclusive mesons: Summary

- Unifying framework: Small transverse distances, GPDs
- Access specific structures: Gluonic radius, transversity, ...
- Analysis in two stages: Understand mechanism, extract structures
- Theory work needed: Non-perturbative interactions
- Many open questions: Mechanism of ρ production at large x ?
Potential for real discoveries!
- Looking forward to JLab12 data

Supplementary material

Vector mesons: t -slopes



Summary t -slopes of exclusive vector mesons and DVCS measured at HERA, as function of Q^2