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### **Physics motivation**



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Physics motivation: Hard exclusive  $\pi^+$  electroproduction

 $ep \rightarrow en\pi^{+}$ 





forward region small t / large u channel contribution

**backward region** small u / large t channel contribution

#### **Physics motivation**

Baryon to meson TDAs: Matrix elements of a three quark operator

 $\rightarrow$  Describe partonic correlations inside a baryon

 $\rightarrow$  Common features with GPDs:

- → Give access to partonic correlations inside a nucleon with the momentum distribution of the nucleon's baryon density
- → Similar to GPDs, a Fourier transformed TDA ( $\Delta T \rightarrow \mathbf{b}$ ) allows an impact-parameter interpretation for TDAs in the transverse plane

**Nucleon DAs**: Defined by the same operator

 $\rightarrow$  Limiting case of TDAs with the meson state replaced by the vacuum

**Aim:** Investigate the TDA kinematic regime and study the transition from the GPD to the TDA formalism

#### Physics motivation: Hard exclusive $\pi^+$ electroproduction



#### **Experimental Setup**



- CLAS at 5.5 GeV (e1f run period)
- Iongitudinally polarized electron beam
- unpolarized hydrogen target

#### **Particle identification: Electron ID**

- Negative charge
- Drift chamber fiducial cut
- EC fiducial cut
- EC minimum energy deposition cut
- EC sampling fraction cut
- z vertex position cut
- Cherenkov counter geometrical matching cuts



### Particle identification: $\pi^+$ ID

- Positive charge
- DC fiducial cuts
- Maximum likelyhood particle selection based on  $\beta$  vs p correlation

$$P(\beta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\beta-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2\right)$$

→ Assign particle to species with the highest probability

$$\alpha = 1 - \int_{\mu-\beta}^{\mu+\beta} P(\beta, p, h) d\beta$$

→ Check if particle is within the 3 sigma region (conf. lev. > 0.27%)



## **Selection of exclusive events**



• Resolution and background increase in the backward region

**Upper limit:** Background exceeds signal level at some point

- $\rightarrow$  For most -t bins this point is at ~ 0.99 GeV
- $\rightarrow$  1 GeV used as fixed upper limit

**Lower limit:** 3 sigma region is used for low t (only limitted for hight -t).

#### **Kinematic coverage and cuts**



**DIS cut:** W > 2 GeV  $Q^2 > 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ 

#### Separation of forward and backward region



#### Beam spin asymmetry

$$BSA_i = \frac{1}{P_e} \cdot \frac{N_i^+ - N_i^-}{N_i^+ + N_i^-} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{P}_e = \mathsf{75} \ \% : \text{average } e^- \text{ beam} \\ \text{polarisation} \end{array}$$

#### Integrated over all kinematic variables in forward / backward region:



Stefan Diehl, U Giessen + UConn

#### **BSA for different -t bins**





0.26 BSAt bin 01

BSA







## **Study of systematic uncertainties**

source	variation	
beam polarization	$\pm 0.024$	
DC region 1 fiducial	$\pm 1 \text{ cm}$	
DC region 3 fiducial	$\pm 3 \mathrm{~cm}$	
EC - w fiducial	$\pm$ 10 cm (1 bar)	
EC - v fiducial	$\pm$ 10 cm (1 bar)	
EC - u fiducial	$\pm$ 10 cm (1 bar)	
EC sampling fraction	$\pm 1\sigma$	
z-vertex	$\pm$ 0.5 cm	
$\theta_{CC}$ matching	$\pm 1\sigma$	
EC energy deposition	$\pm$ 0.01 (GeV)	
pion confidence level $(\alpha)$	0.01 - 0.07	



## **Study of acceptance effects**

- e n  $\pi^+$  events generated with a realistic event generator including radiative effects
- t-dependend beam spin asymmetry introduced according to mesured values
- Geometric acceptance simulated with formulas developed for e1-f by Daniel Carman



## **Study of acceptance effects**

#### generated:



E. I

-150

φ<sub>CM</sub><sup>150</sup> [deg]

100



0

50

2600

-150

-100

-50

1 1 1

100

150

 $\phi_{\rm CM}$ 

50

03/08/2019

### **Background subtraction**





- forward: ~ 16 % background
- backward: ~ 23 % background
- Uncertainty (5 % of number of events) is considered as systeamtics

#### **Background subtraction**

#### forward



### **Background subtraction**





#### Results



#### **First feasbility studies for other channels**



#### **First feasbility studies for other channels**



#### **Future plans and ongoing work**

#### **Exprimental aspects:**

- More detailed studies of cross sections and BSA will be performed with CLAS12
  - $\rightarrow$  Higher statistics
  - $\rightarrow$  Coverge of a larger kinematic region
  - $\rightarrow$  Neutron target and neutron detection

<b>Reactions:</b>	$e \ p \rightarrow e \ n \ \pi^{+}$	(RG-A)
	$e \ p \rightarrow e \ p \ \pi^0$	(RG-A)
	$e n \rightarrow e p \pi$	(RG-B)

• Simulations are in progress

#### Future plans and ongoing work

#### **Theoretical aspects:**

- Extraction of GPDs with the HepGen++ code, based on the Goloskokov-Kroll model
- Extraction of TDAs is still under development
- Development of a first realistic TDA based event generator is in progress (based on a TDA model and Mathematica code from Kirill Semenov, Bernard Pire and Lech Szimanowski [PRD85])

## **Summary and Conclusion**

- $A_{LU}^{\sin(\Phi)}$  moment from the hard exclusive  $\pi^+$  channel has been extracted for the first time over a large range of kinematics.
- The results show a clear sign change from forward to backward angles, which may indicate a transition from the GPD to the TDA regime.
- The study on  $\pi^+$  is under review and a paper will be submitted soon.
- A similar effect has been observed for  $\pi^0$  and  $\pi^{\scriptscriptstyle -}$ 
  - $\rightarrow$  More detailed studies will be performed with CLAS12
- Plan to submit CAA proposal for all exclsuive pion channels from proton and neutron targets







# Backup

### Backup I - Cut limits for the missing mass





- Upper limit: Background exceeds signal level at some point
- → In backward direction this point is at ~ 1 GeV
   → Used as fixed upper limit

Lower Limit: 3 sigma region is used for low t.

→ Reduced value at high t, due to significant background below the signal

B

### **Backup II** - fit of all 3 moments

#### forward region:

$$A_{LU}^{\sin(\phi)} = 0.100 \pm 0.004(stat.) \pm 0.012(syst.)$$
  

$$A_{LU}^{\cos(\phi)} = -0.054 \pm 0.068(stat.) \pm 0.058(syst.)$$
  

$$A_{LU}^{\cos(2\phi)} = -0.160 \pm 0.069(stat.) \pm 0.058(syst.)$$

#### backward region:

$$A_{LU}^{\sin(\phi)} = -0.070 \pm 0.014(stat.) \pm 0.012(syst.)$$
$$A_{LU}^{\cos(\phi)} = 0.17 \pm 0.36(stat.) \pm 0.32(syst.)$$
$$A_{LU}^{\cos(2\phi)} = -0.02 \pm 0.34(stat.) \pm 0.19(syst.)$$