# Wide-Angle Compton Scattering in Hall C at Jefferson Lab

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for the JLab WACS, Neutral Particle Spectrometer (NPS) and Compact Photon Source (CPS) Collaborations

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- Theoretical context and motivation
  - Factorization of the reaction mechanism
  - Non-perturbative transverse structure of the proton
    - GPD-based approach
    - Soft Collinear Effective Theory
    - Relativistic Constituent Quark Model
- The Jefferson Lab WACS program
  - 6 GeV results and perspectives for the 12 GeV era
- Experimental technique
  - A promising new approach for polarized physics with real photons
- Proposed measurements at 12 GeV
- Summary

- Hard exclusive nucleon Compton scattering can be investigated in two complementary kinematic regimes:
  - Deeply-virtual: large  $Q^2$ ;  $\left(\frac{-t}{Q^2}\right) \ll 1$
  - Wide-angle: large -t, -u;  $\left(\frac{Q^2}{-t}\right) \ll 1$
- WACS is a powerful yet under-utilised probe of transverse nucleon structure, similar to high-Q<sup>2</sup> elastic electron scattering.
- However, unlike elastic eN experiments WACS is sensitive to the nucleon's axial structure and therefore related to high-Q<sup>2</sup> neutrino scattering experiments.



It is one of the least explored of the fundamental reactions in the several GeV regime.

- A number of theoretical approaches have been proposed over the years:
  - pQCD (two hard gluon exchange)
  - Regge exchange and VMD models
  - GPD-based soft overlap mechanism
  - Soft collinear effective theory (SCET)
  - Relativistic constituent quark model
  - Dyson-Schwinger equations
- How does the reaction mechanism factorize?
- Having established the dominant factorization scheme, what new insights on the non-perturbative structure of the proton are accessible?





Radyushkin, Phys Rev D58 (1998) Huang *et al.* EPJ C23 (2002) Diehl & Kroll, EPJ C73 (2013)



- Provided that  $s, -t, -u \gg \Lambda^2$ the handbag mechanism involves factorization of the scattering amplitude into:
  - Hard photon-parton scattering
  - Soft emission and re-absorption of parton by proton

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mu'+,\mu+} = 2\pi\alpha_{\rm em} \Big\{ \mathcal{H}_{\mu'+,\mu+}[R_V + R_A] + \mathcal{H}_{\mu'-,\mu-}[R_V - R_A] \Big\} \\ \mathcal{M}_{\mu'-,\mu+} = 2\pi\alpha_{\rm em} \frac{\sqrt{-t}}{m} \Big\{ \mathcal{H}_{\mu'+,\mu+} + \mathcal{H}_{\mu'-,\mu-} \Big\} R_T$$

Non-perturbative physics encoded in vector, axial-vector and tensor form factors which can be related to 1/x moments of high momentum transfer, zero skewedness GPDs  $H, \tilde{H}$  and E.

## Non-perturbative Proton Structure: WACS Form Factors

 $\gamma p \rightarrow \gamma' p$ 

$$R_V(t) = \sum_q e_q^2 \int_0^1 \frac{\mathrm{d}x}{x} H_v^q(x,0,t)$$

poorly constrained even at moderate -t

$$R_A(t) = \sum_q e_q^2 \int_0^1 \frac{\mathrm{d}x}{x} \tilde{H}_v^q(x,0,t)$$

 $R_{T}(t) = \sum_{q} e_q^2 \int_0^1 \frac{\mathrm{d}x}{x} E_v^q(x,0,t)$ 

$$F_1(t) = \sum_q e_q \int_0^1 \mathrm{d}x \, H^q_v(x,0,t)$$

poorly constrained even at moderate 
$$-t$$

$$G_{A}(t) = \sum_{q} e_{q} \int_{0}^{1} \mathrm{d}x \, \tilde{H}_{v}^{q}(x,0,t)$$

$$F_2(t) = \sum_q e_q \int_0^1 \mathrm{d}x \, E_v^q(x,0,t)$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{dt}\right)_{\rm KN} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \frac{(s-u)^2}{s^2 + u^2} \left[ R_V^2(t) + \frac{-t}{4m^2} R_T^2(t) \right] + \frac{1}{2} \frac{t^2}{s^2 + u^2} R_A^2(t) \right\}$$

$$A_{LL} = K_{LL} = \frac{R_A(t)}{R_V(t)} A_{LL}^{KN}$$
$$A_{LS} = -K_{LS} = A_{LL} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{-t}}{2m} \frac{R_T(t)}{R_V(t)} - \beta \right]$$
  
WACS in Hall C at Jefferson Lab

Diehl & Kroll, EPJ C73 (2013)

- *R<sub>V</sub>(t)* and *R<sub>T</sub>(t)* form factors parameterised from *H* and *E* GPDs extracted from flavour decomposed Dirac and Pauli form factors.
- This approach is not possible for the axial form factor R<sub>A</sub>(t); instead a profile function for H̃ was used based on Δq(x) data.
- This then allowed for predictions for the experimental observables  $\frac{d\sigma}{dt}$ ,  $K_{LL}$ , and  $K_{LS}$ .



## Non-perturbative Proton Structure: SCET and rCQM

Kivel & Vanderhaeghen JHEP 4 (2013)



$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt} \simeq \frac{2\pi\alpha^2}{(s-m^2)^2} \left(\frac{1}{1-t/s} + 1 - t/s\right) |\mathcal{R}|^2 = \frac{d\sigma^{KN}}{dt} |\mathcal{R}|^2,$$

- The Soft Collinear Effective Theory represents an alternative factorized QCD-based approach to WACS.
- It has shown the importance of WACS in understanding two-photon exchange effects in elastic ep scattering.
- In this framework, a new universal form factor is introduced which describes the soft-overlap contribution in a variety of hard exclusive reactions, such as time-like Compton scattering.



- The relativistic Constituent Quark Model is a handbag-based approach in which relativistic and quark mass effects induce significant quark transverse and orbital angular momentum.
- If the active quark mass is large  $(M_p/3)$  $A_{LL} \neq K_{LL}$ .

- Two experiments during the 6 GeV era:
  - E99-114 in Hall A with HRS and RCS calorimeter (Pb-glass)
  - E07-002 in Hall C with HMS and BigCal (Pb-glass)





- A factor of 1000 improvement in figure-of-merit over previous experiments.
- Disagreement with pQCD predictions cross section scales as  $1/s^{7.5}$ .

Extracted vector/SCET form factor exhibits strong evidence of *s*-independence and therefore factorization provided that  $s, -t, -u > 2.5 \text{ GeV}^2$ .

# 6 GeV Results - Polarization Observables

Hamilton et al. PRL94 (2005) Diehl & Kroll Eur. Phys. J. C73 (2013) Fanelli et al. PRL115 (2015) 1.0E99-114 0.8 E07-002  $K_{LL}$ Klein-Nishina 0.6 сом 0.8SCET 0.4 0.2 0.6 ¥ 0 -0.2 0.4 -0.4  $s = 7.8 \,\text{GeV}^2$ nOCD-COZ -0.6 0.2pQCD-asymp.  $11 \text{ GeV}^2$  $15 \text{ GeV}^2$ -0.8 -1 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160 60 90 120 <sup>^</sup>30 150 $\theta_{cm}$  [deg]  $\theta_{\rm cm}$  [deg]

- Results strongly favour leading quark (Feynman) mechanism ( $x \approx 1$ ).
- E07-002 result is larger than all predictions including Klein-Nishina:  $K_{LL} = R_A(t)/R_V(t) K_{LL}^{KN} \implies \text{large } R_A(t).$

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• E07-002 result is larger than all predictions including Klein-Nishina:  $K_{LL} = R_A(t)/R_V(t) K_{LN}^{KN} \implies \text{large } R_A(t).$ 

New result suggests axial nucleon current is larger that vector current at moderate -t, but validity of factorization and mass corrections are potentially problematic.

- Two experiments during the 6 GeV era:
  - E99-114 in Hall A with HRS and RCS calorimeter (Pb-glass)
  - E07-002 in Hall C with HMS and BigCal (Pb-glass)
- Cross section experiment approved by PAC42 (A-) for running at 12 GeV:
  - E12-14-003 in Hall C with HMS and NPS (PbWO<sub>4</sub>)



# E12-14-003 – Differential Cross Section

Wojtsekhowski et al. JLab Proposal PR12-14-003



- New measurements (all firmly in the wide-angle regime) will allow for a rigorous test of factorization in hard exclusive reactions and extraction of vector/SCET form factor.
- Extension to highest possible values of -t will:
  - Offer new insights into the interplay between hard and soft physics and non-perturbative proton structure.
  - Allow for a direct comparison between  $R_V(t)$  and the Dirac form factor (different quark charge and x weightings) and test the universality of leading quark mechanism.

- Two experiments during the 6 GeV era:
  - E99-114 in Hall A with HRS and RCS calorimeter (Pb-glass).
  - E07-002 in Hall C with HMS and BigCal (Pb-glass).
- Cross section experiment approved by PAC42 (A-):
  - E12-14-003 in Hall C with HMS and NPS (PbWO<sub>4</sub>).
- Polarized target experiment approved by PAC45 (A-):
  - E12-17-008 in Hall C will measure *A<sub>LL</sub>* and *A<sub>LS</sub>* with BigBite, NPS and new CPS.



## Plans for 12 GeV – Apparatus

### Neutral Particle Spectrometer



• Development at an advanced stage for a new highly-segmented PbWO<sub>4</sub> electromagnetic calorimeter for Hall C.

#### **Compact Photon Source**



 Work well underway on a new high-intensity compact photon source (CPS) for use with a solid polarised target for measurements of A<sub>LL</sub>.

Day et al. NIM A957 (2020)

Horn et al. NIM A956 (2020)

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• What are the constraints on GPD moments and what do they tell us about the proton's axial and tensor structure?



- Is the quark which absorbs and emits photons a constituent or a current quark?
- What does comparison of the SCET and GPD predictions tell us about proton structure and the role of hadron helicity-flip?

- A 3 μA polarized electron beam incident on a 10 % radiator inside a Compact Photon Source (CPS) produces a high-intensity untagged photon beam.
- The proton target is the UVA/JLab solid polarized ammonia target.
- The recoil proton is detected with the BigBite spectrometer equipped with GEM trackers and trigger detectors.
- The highly-segmented PbWO<sub>4</sub> NPS calorimeter is used to detect the scattered photon.



The use of the CPS and BigBite results in a significantly improved figure-of-merit over all previous experiments and opens up a new range of polarized physics opportunities at JLab.

- Data analysis relies on utilization of the kinematic two-body correlation between the scattered photon/electron and the recoil proton.
- The three dominant reaction channels within acceptance are:
  - $\gamma p \rightarrow \gamma p$
  - $\gamma p \rightarrow \pi^0 p$
  - $ep \rightarrow ep$  and  $(ep\gamma)$
- Robust extraction of the WACS signal requires:
  - Excellent angular and momentum resolution in both the photon and proton spectrometers.
  - Precise determination of  $\pi^0$ background shape, particularly at large scattering angles.



# E12-17-008 Expected Results - Reaction Mechanism



- Make an explicit, model-independent test of factorization by measuring the s-dependence of the polarization observables at fixed  $\theta_p^{cm}$ , and verify that target mass corrections and higher twist effects are small.
- Measurement of A<sub>LL</sub> at large CM scattering angle will allow for a singular test of whether current or constituent quarks are the relevant degree of freedom in hard exclusive reactions at these sub-asymptotic energies.

# E12-17-008 Expected Results - Proton Structure



- Systematically improve our knowledge of the non-perturbative matrix elements of the handbag mechanism in the GPD and SCET approaches.
- Constrain the GPDs  $\tilde{H}$  and E at high -t and compare with the Axial and Pauli form factors, which will have a significant and broad impact in the fields of electron and neutrino scattering.

- The WACS programme is unique to Jefferson Lab and offers a relatively unexplored window on hadron structure at high momentum transfer.
- Results from the JLab 6 GeV era demonstrate factorization appears to be valid for Mandelstam variables above 2.5  $\text{GeV}^2$  this will be tested unambiguously with the proposed measurements.
- The results will have a significant impact beyond WACS and JLab (e.g. at Belle and MINERvA) by systematically improving our knowledge of handbag-based theoretical approaches and transverse proton structure.
- The proposed experimental technique with a high-intensity photon beam and polarized target opens up physics possibilities that have hitherto been inaccessible at tagged photon facilities.
- New experiments are planned for the 12 GeV facility on both unpolarised and polarised observables with unprecedented precision and kinematic reach.