#### Nuclear PDFs & lepton—nucleon scattering

From Quarks to Hadrons

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Thanks for substantial input from my friends & colleagues







JLab

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#### arXiv:hep-ph/9907340

#### 907340 "QCD is our most perfect physical theory" Frank Wilczek

 
 Electromagnetism
 Weak Interaction
 Strong Interaction
 Gravitation

 Image: Construction
 Image: Construction
 Image: Construction
 Image: Construction

 Image: Construction
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#### **QCD** is our most perfect physical theory

What QCD Tells Us About Nature - and Why We Should Listen. Frank Wilczek

In many respects, our most complex asymptotic freedom strong color confinement ... associated manifestations

Lessons: The Nature of Nature

"... alien, simple, beautiful, weird, & comprehensible"





#### The QCD Parton Model

$$d\sigma = f_a(x, Q) \otimes \widehat{\sigma}$$

Parameterized in terms of a single variable x, the momentum fraction ... use DGLAP to determine Q dependence

 $f_a(x)$  ... working in the limit of a spherical horse ...



**Nuclear PDFs: Complementary efforts in general agreement** 



Nuclear PDFs are more complex more DOF than Proton case more "issues" to consider more work to do ...



### The Challenges



#### **nPDFs:** Extend Kinematic Reach in {x,Q<sup>2</sup>}



#### **nCTEQ Wish List**

Fred Olness w/ help from: Tim Hobbs, Aleksander Kusina, Pavel Nadolsky, Tomas Jezo, Thia Keppel, Michael Klasen, Karol Kovarik, Jorge Morfin, Ingo Schienbein, Efrain Segarra, Steve Sekula





#### **Gluon (& Charm+Bottom):**

Improve  $R_G$  via  $F_L$ : window on NLO and mass effects

#### Nuclear A:

Map out A dependence ... and maybe beyond

 $\mathbf{C} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{E} \mathbf{Q}$ 

### Case Study: The Strange PDF





**Strange PDF:**  $\nu$  N di-muon Production





#### **Puzzle: What is the Nuclear Correction**



**Propagation of**  $\gamma/W$  thru nuclei

#### ... the motivation for nCTEQ



# ... not just Nuclear PDFS

#### **Nuclear PDFs are ESSENTIAL for proton PDFs**

neutrino DIS

$$F_2^{\nu} \sim \begin{bmatrix} d+s+\bar{u}+\bar{c} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$F_2^{\bar{\nu}} \sim \begin{bmatrix} \bar{d}+\bar{s}+u+c \end{bmatrix}$$

$$F_3^{\nu} \sim 2\begin{bmatrix} d+s-\bar{u}-\bar{c} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$F_3^{\bar{\nu}} \sim 2\begin{bmatrix} u+c-\bar{d}-\bar{s} \end{bmatrix}$$

Differentiate flavors of free-proton PDFs:





"... for the time being it is still appears advantageous to retain nuclear target data in the global dataset for general-purpose PDF determination"

### Nuclear PDF

### The Players The Ingredients

#### ... selected NLO Nuclear PDF Fits



#### nuclear parton distribution functions

**HKN'07:** Hirai, Kumano, Nagai [PRC 76, 065207 (2007)]

**DSSZ'11:** de Florian, Sassot, Stratmann, Zurita [PRD 85, 074028 (2012)]

nCTEQ'15: nCTEQ Collaboration [PRD 93, 085037 (2016)]

**EPPS'16:** Eskola, Paakkinen, Paukkunen, Salgado Eur.Phys.J. C77 (2017) no.3, 163

**TUJU'19:** Tubingen & Jyvaskyla [Walt, Helenius, Vogelsang Phys. Rev. D 100, 096015 (2019)]

#### **nNNPDF2.0:** NNPDF Collaboration

[Khalek, Ethier, Rojo, van Weelden arXiv:2006.14629 (2020)]



#### Data sets & cuts for nPDF fits



proton vs nuclear: fewer data and more DOF ... impose assumptions on nPDFs

#### Nuclear PDFs: DIS, DY, $\pi$ Prod, (new) Di-Jet







... expand our knowledge of nuclear A dimension

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**Selected Nuclear PDFs** 



### some details ...

#### 1) Multiplicative nuclear correction factors (HKN, EPPS, DSSZ)

$$f_i^{\mathbf{p}/\mathbf{A}}(x_N, Q_0) = R_i(x_N, Q_0, \mathbf{A}) f_i^{\mathbf{free \ proton}}(x_N, Q_0)$$

*... for example* 

HKN  

$$R_i(x, Q_0, \mathbf{A}) = 1 + \left(1 - \frac{1}{A^{\alpha}}\right) \frac{a_i + b_i x + c_i x^2 + d_i x^3}{(1 - x)^{\beta_i}}$$



2) Generalized A-parameterization (nCTEQ)

$$f_{i}^{p/A}(x_{N}, \mu_{0}) = f_{i}(x_{N}, A, \mu_{0})$$

$$f \sim \dots x^{c_{1}(A)}(1 - x)^{c_{2}(A)}\dots$$

$$c_{k} \sim c_{k,0} + c_{k,1}\left(1 - A^{-c_{k,2}}\right)$$
Proton Nuclear



use proton as a Boundary Condition

#### nCTEQ15 A-Dependence



#### **Isospin Symmetry used to relate PDFs**







Isospin terms are comparable to NNLO QCD

QCD & EW Corrections do NOT factorize

A Review of Target Mass Corrections. Ingo Schienbein et al, J.Phys.G35:053101,2008.

### Revisit: The Strange PDF





**High Energy Insight:** *W/Z Production at LHC and the strange PDF* <sup>25</sup>



2018 CTEQ School Tutorial

ATLAS: Eur. Phys. J. C 77 (2017) 367

#### W/Z Production at LHC and the strange PDF



Are the data increasing the strange PDF because that is dictated by nature,

or

is the fit simply exploiting s(x) because that is least constrained flavors?



# xFitter





#### Versatility of xFitter



#### **Nuclear PDFs with xFitter**



## Conclusion



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