Meson Structure Functions at EIC Early Career Workshop June 7th, 2021

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Overview of Pion and Kaon Structure

- The pion is both the lightest bound quark system with a valence $\bar{q}q$ structure and a Nambu-Goldstone boson
- There are exact statements from QCD in terms of current quark masses due to PCAC [Phys. Rep. 87 (1982) 77; Phys. Rev. C 56 (1997) 3369; Phys. Lett. B420 (1998) 267]
 - From this, it follows the mass of bound states increase as \sqrt{m} with the mass of the constituents
 - In both DSE and IQCD, the mass function of quarks is the same, regardless of what hadron the quarks reside in. It is the DCSB that makes the pion and kaon masses light.
- Pseudoscalar masses are generated dynamically





Accessing the Pion and Kaon Structure

- At low -t values, the cross-section displays behavior characteristic of meson pole dominance
 - Using the Sullivan process can provide reliable access to a meson target in this region
- Experimental studies over the last decade have given confidence in the electroproduction method yielding the physical pion form factor



Pion cloud can access a) Elastic FF b) PDF Arlene C. Aguilar, et al., Eur. Phy. J. A (2019) DOI:10.1140/epja/i2019-12885-0 3

Off-Shell Considerations

- The Sullivan process can provide reliable access to a meson target as t becomes space-like
- If the pole associated with the ground-state meson remains the dominant feature of the process
 - the structure of the related correlation evolves slowly and smoothly with virtuality
- Recent theoretical calculations found that changes in pion structure are modest so that a well-constrained experimental analysis should be reliable
 - For the pion when $-t \le 0.6 \text{ GeV}^2$
 - For the kaon when $-t \le 0.9 \text{ GeV}^2$



S-X Qin, C. Chen, C. Mezrag, C.D. Roberts, Phys. Rev. C 97 (2018) 015203

Experimental Validation

- To check these conditions are satisfied empirically...
 - data is taken covering a range in t
 - compare this data with phenomenological and theoretical expectations
 - F_π values do not depend on -t to give confidence in applicability of model to the kinematic regime of the data
 - Verify that the pion pole diagram is the dominant contribution in the reaction mechanism
 - $R_L (= \sigma_L(\pi^-)/\sigma_L(\pi^+))$ approaches the pion charge ratio, consistent with pion pole dominance



T. Horn, C.D. Roberts, J. Phys. G43 (2016) no.7, 073001 G. Huber et al, PRL112 (2014)182501 R. J. Perry et al., arXiV:1811.09356 (2019)

Existing Structure Function Measurements

Q2 = 82 Gel

0.4 +

0.2

0.2

- Knowledge of the pion structure function is very limited...
 - At low x HERA TDIS data \cap through Sullivan process
 - At large x Pionic Drell-Yan 0 from nucleons in nuclei
- One pion exchange is the dominant mechanism
 - Can extract pion structure 0 function
 - In practice use in-depth model 0 and kinematic studies to include rescattering, absorption...



Tagged Deep Inelastic Scattering (TDIS)

• Using the Sullivan process – scattering from nucleon-meson fluctuations

detect scattered electron

 $\begin{array}{c} e \\ -Q^{2} \\ \gamma^{*} \\ \hline pion \ target \ (undetected) \\ N \\ \hline t \\ N \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} P \\ \gamma^{*} \\ \gamma^{*} \\ N \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} DIS \ event - reconstruct \ x, \\ Q^{2}, \ W^{2}, \ also \ M_{x} \\ (W_{\pi}) \ of \\ undetected \\ recoiling \\ hadronic \\ system \\ \end{array}$

tagged outgoing target nucleon



EIC Capabilities

- $L_{FIC} = 10^{34} \text{ e-nucleons/cm}^2/\text{s} = 1000 \text{ x } L_{HFRA}$
- Fraction of proton wave function related to pion Sullivan process is roughly 10⁻³ for a small –t bin (0.02)
 - Pion data at EIC should be comparable or better than 0 the proton data at HERA, or the 3D nucleon structure data at COMPASS
- By mapping pion (kaon) structure for -t < 0.6 (0.9) GeV^2 , we gain at least a decade as compared to HERA/COMPASS
- Consistency checks with complementary COMPASS++/AMBER Drell-Yan data can show process-independence of pion structure information Journal of Physics G (2021) arXiv:2102.11788





Jefferson Lab TDIS Collaboration, JLab Experiment C12-15-005

Global Fits: Pion and Kaon Structure Functions

- First MC global QCD analysis of pion PDFs
 - Using Fermilab DY and HERA Leading Neutron data
 - Significant reduction of uncertainties on sea quark and gluon distributions in the pion with inclusion of HERA leading neutron data
 - Implications for "TDIS" (Tagged DIS) experiments at JLab



π^{+} Structure Functions (F^{π}₂)

- For projections use a Fast Monte Carlo that includes the Sullivan process
 - PDFs, form factor, fragmentation function projections



- Progress made with generator documented in the following publications...
 - Feasibility of structure function data [2019 EPJA article (DOI:10.1140/epja/i2019-12885-0)]
 - Pion structure function (pion SF) projections [2021 JPhysG (arXiv:2102.11788)]
 - Over the last year projections were made in the context of the EIC detector proposals. Those for the ECCE configuration is anticipated to appear in NIM this year
- π structure function: Measure DIS cross section with tagged neutron at small -t
- Beam energies: 5 on 41, 5 on 100, 10 on 100, 10 on 135, 18 on 275
 - Only e-P currently implemented, but want to incorporate e-D

F_{2}^{π} Projections

- Reasonable uncertainties in the mid-to-large x region but increasing rapidly as $x \rightarrow 1$
 - Even with these restrictions, the coverage in mid to high x is unprecedented
- Access to a significant range of Q² and x, for appropriately small-t
 - Allows for much-improved insights in the gluonic content of the pion



NLO through pion PDFs



Meson Structure Functions – Scattered Electron



• Scattered electrons can be detected in the central detector

Meson Structure Functions – Forward Baryon



• Baryon (neutron, lambda) at very small forward angles and nearly the beam momentum

F_{2}^{π} Neutron Final State

- Neutron final state uses Zero Degree Calorimeter (ZDC)
- Constraining neutron energy around $50\%/\sqrt{E}$ will assure an achievable resolution in x
- The ZDC must reconstruct the energy and position well enough to constrain both scattering kinematics and 4-momentum of pion
- Acceptance ~100% for energies >50n41 with the 60x60 cm ZDC size
- The BO occupancy shows a significant amount of leading neutrons hitting the detector for 5on41 corresponding to a significant drop in ZDC acceptance
- Some lost acceptance can be recovered with a secondary focus





- A good ZDC angular resolution is required for a sufficient -t resolution
- The deviation of t from its detected value, $\Delta t = t tT$ ruth, is much greater for 5on41
- This provides a consistent picture between ZDC acceptance and -t resolution for the energy ranges
- Access to a significant range of Q² and x, for appropriately small -t, will allow for much improved insights in the gluonic content of the pion



K^{+} Structure Functions (F_{2}^{K})

• A has two primary decay modes...

 $\begin{array}{c} \Lambda \rightarrow p + \pi^{-} \\ \Lambda \rightarrow n + \pi^{0} \end{array}$

- Optimizing the detection efficiency of these decay products is critical for kaon studies
- The decay length of Λ is dependent on the initial proton beam energy
 - Proper choice of this beam energy is a must since decay lengths can reach past the forward spectrometer at higher energies



Plans for F_{2}^{K} projections

- Goal is to extend to tagged kaon structure function
- Very limited data on F_{2}^{K}
 - Exploratory data on kaon SF are planned to come from JLab experiment (C12-15-006A) in the next few years.
- Kaon projected structure function data will be of similar quality as the projected pion structure function data for the small-t geometric forward particle detection acceptances at EIC studies in progress
- To determine projected kaon structure function data from pion structure function projections
 - one method...scale the pion to the kaon case with the coupling constants while taking the geometric detection efficiencies into account

S. Goloskokov and P. Kroll, Eur.Phys.J. A47 (2011) 112:

 $g_{\pi NN} = 13.1$ $g_{Kp\Lambda} = -13.3$ $g_{Kp\Sigma} = -3.5$

Summary

- Produced initial physics deliverables, physics objects, and kinematic plots/coverage
 - Physics deliverables: π/K structure function plots
 - Physics objects:
 - o scattered electron
 - Measure "X" and tagged neutron (π structure function)
 - \circ Measure "X" and tagged Λ/Σ (K structure function)
- Next steps are to...
 - Simulate $K\Lambda$ and $K\Sigma$ events
 - Extend π to K structure function
 - Continue far-forward analysis and extend to the 2nd IR (ie IP8)
 - Early results for F_2^{π} at IP8 will be available in the upcoming ECCE NIM paper

Meson structure working group members!

Daniele Binosi, Huey-Wen Lin, Timothy Hobbs, Arun Tadepalli, Rachel Montgomery, Paul Reimer, David Richards, Rik Yoshida, Craig Roberts, Garth Huber, Thia Keppel, John Arrington, Lei Chang, Stephen Kay, Ian L. Pegg, Love Preet, Jorge Segovia, Carlos Ayerbe Gayoso, Bill Li, Yulia Furletova, Dmitry Romanov, Markus Diefenthaler, Richard Trotta, Tanja Horn, Rolf Ent, Tobias Frederico, Ali Usman



EXTRA

Validation: Reduced cross-section compared with HERA



- Proton beam = 100 GeV/c
- Electron beam = 5 GeV/c
- x_{Bi}=(0.01-1.0)
- $Q^2 = (10 100)$



F_{π} -> Selecting Good Simulated Events

- Pass through a full Geant4 simulation (ECCE)
 - More realistic estimates of detector acceptance/performance than earlier studies
- Identify $e'\pi^+n$ triple coincidences in the simulation output
- For a good triple coincidence event, require -
 - $\circ \quad \text{Exactly two tracks} \\$
 - One positively charged track going in the +z direction $(\pi+)$
 - One negatively charged track going in the -z direction (e')
 - At least one hit in the zero degree calorimeter (ZDC)
 - For 5 (e', GeV) on 100 (p, GeV) events, require that the hit has an energy deposit over 40 GeV
- Both conditions must be satisfied
- Determine kinematic quantities for remaining events

Lambda Final State

• A has two primary decay modes...

 $\begin{array}{c} \Lambda \rightarrow p + \pi^{-} \\ \Lambda \rightarrow n + \pi^{0} \end{array}$

- Optimizing the detection efficiency of these decay products is critical for kaon studies
- The decay length of Λ is dependent on the initial proton beam energy
 - Proper choice of this beam energy is a must since decay lengths can reach past the forward spectrometer at higher energies



Lambda Final State



18 x 275

Decay Length



6.635

9175

3.077



There are some advantages for lower proton energy for K-A detection

Lambda Final State

 $\Lambda \rightarrow p + \pi -:$ very challenging!

need additional particle tracking between dipoles and ZDC

 $\Lambda \rightarrow n + \pi^0$: looks promising

need additional high-res/granularity EMCal+tracking before ZDC



π^{+} Form Factors (F_{π})

- Measurements of the p(e, e' π^+ n) reaction at the EIC can potentially extend the Q² reach of F_{π} measurements even further
- A challenging measurement however
 - Need good identification of p(e, e' π^+ n) triple coincidences
 - \circ Conventional L-T separation not possible \rightarrow would need lower than feasible proton energies to access low
 - Need to use a model to isolate $d\sigma_1/dt$ from $d\sigma_{uns}/dt$
- Utilize new EIC software framework to assess the feasibility of the study with updated design parameters
 - Feed in events generated from a DEMP event generator
 - Multiple detector concepts to evaluate



F_{π} Projections

- ECCE appears to be capable of measuring F_{π} to
 - $\circ \quad Q^2 \, \text{~~} \, 32.5 \, GeV^2$
- Error bars represent real projected error bars
 - $\circ \quad 2.5\% \, \text{point-to-point}$
 - 12% scale
 - \circ $\delta R = R, R = \sigma_L / \sigma_T$
 - \circ R = 0.013 014 at lowest –t from VR model
- Uncertainties dominated by R at low Q²
- Statistical uncertainties dominate at high Q²
- Results look promising, need to test π^- too
- More details in upcoming ECCE NIM paper

Analysis by Stephen Kay



Meson Form Factor - Scattered Electron





• The exclusive electron are stuck to a tighter band

Meson Form Factor - Scattered π^+





Meson Form Factor - Forward Neutron





• Neutron carries ~80% of the momentum within 0.2° of outgoing proton

F_{π} Neutron Reconstruction

- High energy ZDC hit requirement used as a veto
 - ZDC neutron ERes is relatively poor though
- However, position resolution is excellent, ~ 1.5 mm
- Combine ZDC position info with missing momentum track to reconstruct the neutron track

$$p_{miss} = |\vec{p_e} + \vec{p_p} - \vec{p_{e'}} - \vec{p_{\pi^+}}|$$

- Use ZDC angles, θ_{ZDC} and ϕ_{ZDC} rather than the missing momentum angles, θ_{pMiss} and ϕ_{pMiss}
- Adjust E_{Miss} to reproduce m_n
- After adjustments, reconstructed neutron track matches "truth" momentum closely





Plans for F_{κ} projections

- Need to update DEMP with a kaon module
- URegina MSc student (Love Preet) is working on this module
 - Parameterization based upon previous data
 - Vrancx/Ryckebusch Regge model guidance
 - http://rprmodel.ugent.be/calc/
- Use similar approach to pion model in generator
 - $\circ \quad \text{Need} \ \Lambda \ \text{and} \ \Sigma \ \text{modules}$
- In parallel, will begin studies of A reconstruction in ZDC
 - Can use particle gun
 - \circ May need to use likelihood analysis for Λ reconstruction
 - Should also examine charged decay channel
- Kaon model updates and simulations will be focus over the summer

