

# Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering on Polarized Protons and Neutrons with CLAS12

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## Nucleon structure studies, Generalized Parton Distributions

GPDs: partonic structure of nucleons in terms of transverse position, longitudinal momentum and their correlations.



Big picture: Tomography of the nucleon? Nucleon spin origin? Forces inside the nucleon?



## Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering (DVCS)



## Accessing the nucleon structure by measuring asymmetries

A comment for Brynne and our MOLLER friends that use electron polarization to measure a very different kind of asymmetry 😉

Why do we measure asymmetries using polarized beams? Get an idea of it with the example of the nucleon spin structure in 1D.



- Beam  $e^-$  polarization  $\rightarrow$  probing  $\gamma$  polarization
- Coupling between opposite  $\gamma$  and quark helicities
- Electron polarization  $\rightarrow$  probes the quark helicity/spin distribution in the nucleon.

Difference in probability of scattering for each polarization state  $\Delta \sigma = \frac{\sigma_+ - \sigma_-}{\sigma_+ + \sigma_-} \propto$  difference in population of quarks of different helicity states.

Same idea for DVCS and GPDs, but in 3D!

## Accessing GPDs

Four quark GPDs can be accessed with DVCS by combining polarized beams and targets.



Complete program for GPD extraction?

- Polarized beams (CEBAF)
- DVCS measurements (CLAS12)
- $\cdot\,$  Polarized targets, p and n  $\rightarrow$  Run Group C (CLAS12, Hall B)

The Run Group C (RGC) Experimental Program

## Run Group C at CLAS12

RGC main feature: longitudinally polarized NH<sub>3</sub> and ND<sub>3</sub> targets.

+ 10.5 GeV highly-polarized electron beam

A complete program of experiments to study nucleons' structure.



Data taking: 11th June 2022 - 20th March 2023 with a 3 months break due to a major hardware failure.

- My work: DVCS on polarized protons and neutrons in D
- This presentation: DVCS on polarized protons in H.

Disclaimer: VERY preliminary results! Not fully calibrated data, (very) small fraction of the expected statistics.

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## Target overview



• NH<sub>3</sub>

- ND<sub>3</sub>
- Background targets: empty, C, CH<sub>2</sub>, CD<sub>2</sub>



#### Ingredients for a polarized target:

- Under 5T solenoid magnetic field
- Inside a 1K cryostat
- Samples are polarized with microwaves



## **DVCS Measurement**

## pDVCS events selection $ep \rightarrow ep\gamma$

- + All  $ep\gamma$  events on NH3.
- Goal is to select pDVCS on H.
- Exclusivity variables: missing masses, angles, etc.
- Background: pDVCS on N,  $ep \rightarrow ep\pi^0(\gamma\gamma)$
- → Yields extracted for each beam/target polarisation combinations.

# Genepi: GPD-based BH, DVCS and DVMP event generator







#### What we measure: asymmetries

From the extracted N<sup>beam,target</sup> yields.

• Beam Spin Asymmetry (BSA):

$$A_{LU} = \frac{(N^{++}+N^{+-}) - (N^{-+}+N^{--})}{(N^{++}+N^{-+}) + (N^{-+}+N^{--})} \simeq \frac{S_{1,unp}^{J} \sin(\phi)}{c_{0,unp}^{BH} + (c_{1,unp}^{BH} + c_{1,unp}^{I} + \dots)\cos(\phi) + \dots}$$

S(11) N C(C)

• Target Spin Asymmetry (TSA):

$$A_{UL} = \frac{(N^{++}+N^{-+})-(N^{+-}+N^{--})}{(N^{++}+N^{-+})+(N^{+-}+N^{--})} \simeq \frac{S_{1,LP}^{(\mathcal{H}_p)}, \Im(\mathcal{H}_p)}{S_{1,LP}^{(\mathcal{H}_p)} sin(\phi)}$$

• Double Spin Asymmetry (DSA):

$$A_{LL} = \frac{(N^{++}+N^{--})-(N^{+-}+N^{-+})}{(N^{++}+N^{--})+(N^{+-}+N^{-+})} \simeq \frac{c_{0,LP}^{BH}+c_{0,LP}^{I}+(c_{1,LP}^{BH}+c_{1,LP}^{I})\cos(\phi)}{c_{0,unp}^{BH}+(c_{1,unp}^{BH}+c_{1,unp}^{I}+...)\cos(\phi)+...} \underbrace{c_{1,unp}^{Y}+c_{1,un$$

#### What we measure: asymmetries

From the extracted N<sup>beam,target</sup> yields.

• Beam Spin Asymmetry (BSA):

$$A_{LU} = \frac{P_t^-(N^{++}-N^{-+}) + P_t^+(N^{+-}-N^{--})}{Pb \times (P_t^-(N^{++}+N^{-+}) + P_t^+(N^{+-}+N^{--}))} \simeq \frac{S_{1,unp}^{I} \sin(\phi)}{c_{0,unp}^{BH} + c_{1,unp}^{I} + c_{1,unp}^{I} + \dots)\cos(\phi) + \dots}$$

 $\Re(H_{a})$   $\Re(\mathcal{E}_{a})$ 

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• Target Spin Asymmetry (TSA):

$$A_{UL} = \frac{N^{++} + N^{-+} - N^{+-} - N^{--}}{Df \times (P_t^- (N^{++} + N^{-+}) + P_t^+ (N^{+-} + N^{--}))} \simeq \frac{S_{1,LP}^{(h_p), S(h_p), S(h_p)}}{C_{0,unp}^{BH} + (C_{1,unp}^{BH} + C_{1,unp}^{l} + \dots) \cos(\phi) + \dots}$$

$$A_{LL} = \frac{N^{++} + N^{--} - N^{+-} - N^{-+}}{P_b \times Df \times (P_t^- (N^{++} + N^{-+}) + P_t^+ (N^{+-} + N^{--}))} \simeq \frac{c_{0,LP}^{BH} + c_{1,LP}^{J} + c_{1,LP}^{(BH)} + c_{1,LP}^{(J)} \cos(\phi)}{c_{0,unp}^{BH} + (c_{1,unp}^{BH} + c_{1,unp}^{H} + \dots)\cos(\phi) + \dots}$$

Reality: no 100% polarizations, unpolarized N background.

## Measuring the target polarization

Measuring the target polarization is not trivial. Necessitates full analysis of (quasi-)elastic  $ep \rightarrow ep$  events.



• 
$$A = \frac{N^+ - N^-}{N^+ + N^-} = A_{\parallel}^{th} \times P_b \times P_t$$
  
•  $A_{\parallel}^{th} = \frac{2\tau G[\frac{R}{E} + G(\tau \frac{R}{E} + (1+\tau)\tan(\frac{\theta}{2})^2)]}{1 + G^2 \frac{\tau}{e}}$  very well known with  $G = \frac{G_M}{G_E}$ 

• A very reliable way of knowing  $P_b \times P_t!$ 

#### Preliminary asymmetries for pDVCS (NH3)



## Outlooks

- $\cdot\,$  Data processing is on-going
- Final analysis: BSA, TSA, DSA on polarized p and n in ND3.
- Proton and neutron CFFs, flavor dependency, D effects.



## Backup

## Measuring the target polarization

A crucial measurement that I will be using today as a warm-up for asymmetry measurements: elastic extraction of  $P_b \times P_t$ 

The only accurate way to measure the target polarization is by analysing (quasi-)elastic events  $ep \rightarrow ep$ .



## Elastic extraction of $P_b \times P_t$

 $\cdot$  ep  $\rightarrow$  ep

- Count events with + VS  $e^-$  polarizations.
- Probes the polarization of p inside H or D.
- Observed asymmetry  $A = A_{\parallel}^{th} \times P_b \times P_t$
- We know the proton electromagnetic form factor ratio  $G = G_M/G_E$  very well.
- Theoretical DSA  $A_{\parallel}^{th} = \frac{2\tau G[\frac{M}{E} + G(\frac{M}{E} + (1+\tau)\tan(\frac{\theta}{2})^2)]}{1 + G^2 \frac{\tau}{\epsilon}}$
- A very reliable way of knowing  $P_b \times P_t!$

Of course the full story is more subtle:

- Taking into account N background? Dilution factors.
- Max likelihood estimator for  $P_b \times P_t$ ?
- Low statistics at 10.5 GeV
- Radiative effects? Resolution effects? Nuclear binding in D?



## Miscellaneous DVCS and GPDs information





• 
$$Q^2 = -q^2 = -(p_e - p'_e)^2$$
  
•  $t = (p_n - p'_n)^2$ 





## The RGC beamline

#### The raster magnets

- Target is depolarized by radiation damage
- Beam is moved uniformly on the surface
   = rastering

#### FTOn/ELMO configurations

- Beginning and end of RGC used the Forward Tagger
- Middle of the run used the ELMO Möller cone



## The RGC schedule

#### Original plan: Run from June 8, 2022 to March 14, 2023 120 PAC days

