

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

David Hamilton

University of Glasgow

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

[david.j.hamilton@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:david.j.hamilton@glasgow.ac.uk)

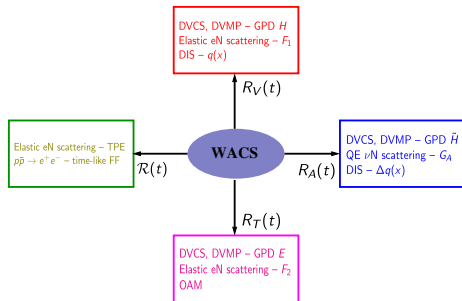
SBS Collaboration Meeting

July 18th 2023

- 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

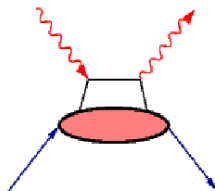
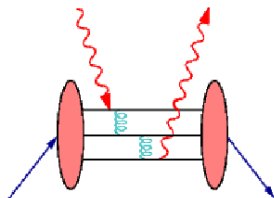
# WACS: An Introduction

- 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- $Q^2$  elastic electron scattering**.
- However, unlike elastic eN experiments WACS is sensitive to the nucleon's axial structure and therefore related to **high- $Q^2$  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?

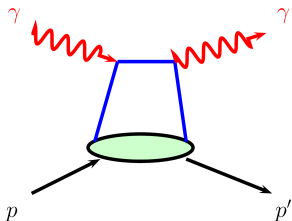


# Non-perturbative Proton Structure: GPD-based Approach

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

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mu'+, \mu+} = 2\pi\alpha_{\text{em}} \left\{ \mathcal{H}_{\mu'+, \mu+} [R_V + R_A] + \mathcal{H}_{\mu'-, \mu-} [R_V - R_A] \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mu'-, \mu+} = 2\pi\alpha_{\text{em}} \frac{\sqrt{-t}}{m} \left\{ \mathcal{H}_{\mu'+, \mu+} + \mathcal{H}_{\mu'-, \mu-} \right\} R_T$$

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

$$\gamma p \rightarrow \gamma' p$$

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

poorly constrained even at  
moderate  $-t$

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

$$R_T(t) = \sum_q e_q^2 \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x} E_V^q(x, 0, t)$$

$$ep \rightarrow e' p$$

$$F_1(t) = \sum_q e_q \int_0^1 dx H_V^q(x, 0, t)$$

poorly constrained even at  
moderate  $-t$

$$G_A(t) = \sum_q e_q \int_0^1 dx \tilde{H}_V^q(x, 0, t)$$

$$F_2(t) = \sum_q e_q \int_0^1 dx E_V^q(x, 0, t)$$

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

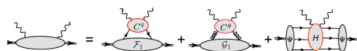
$$A_{LL} = K_{LL} = \frac{R_A(t)}{R_V(t)} A_{LL}^{\text{KN}}$$

Diehl & Kroll, EPJ C73 (2013)

$$A_{LS} = -K_{LS} = A_{LL} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{-t}}{2m} \frac{R_T(t)}{R_V(t)} - \beta \right]$$

# Non-perturbative Proton Structure: SCET and rCQM

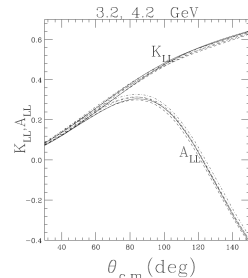
Kivel & Vanderhaeghen JHEP 4 (2013)



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

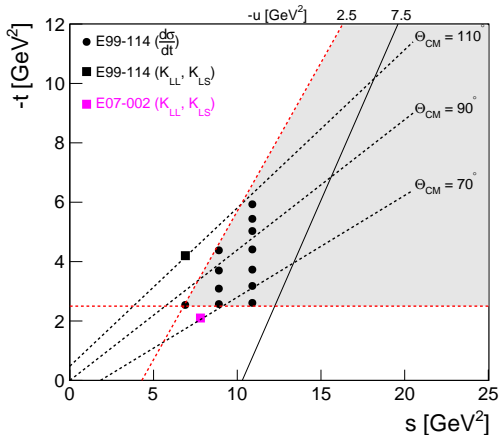
- The Soft Collinear Effective Theory represents an alternative **factorized QCD-based approach to WACS**.
- It has shown the importance of WACS in understanding **two-photon exchange effects in elastic scattering**.
- In this framework, a **new universal form factor is introduced** which describes the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

Miller, Phys Rev C 69 (2004)



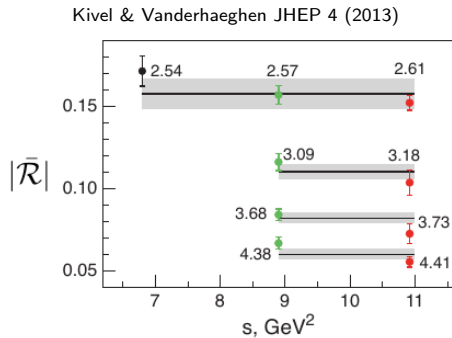
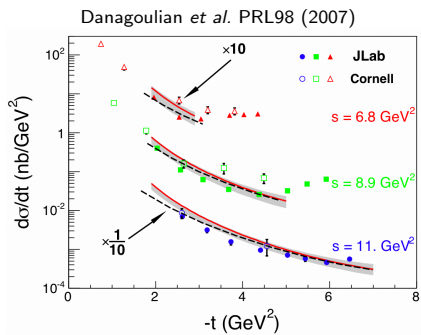
- The relativistic Constituent Quark Model is a handbag-based approach in which **relativistic and quark mass effects induce significant quark transverse and orbital angular momentum**.
- If the active quark mass is large ( $M_p/3$ )  $A_{LL} \neq K_{LL}$ .

- 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)





# 6 GeV Results – Differential Cross Section

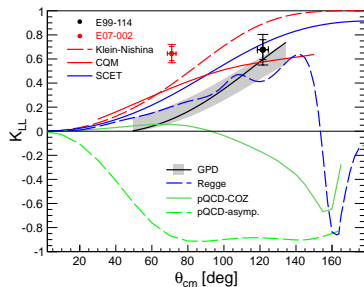


- A factor of 1000 improvement in figure-of-merit over previous experiments.
- Disagreement with pQCD predictions – cross section scales as  $1/s^{7.5}$ .

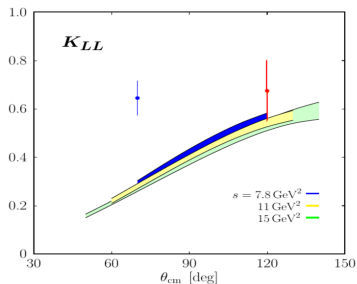
Extracted vector/SCET form factor exhibits strong evidence of  $s$ -independence and therefore factorization **provided that  $s, -t, -u > 2.5$  GeV<sup>2</sup>**.

## 6 GeV Results – Polarization Observables

Hamilton *et al.* PRL94 (2005)  
Fanelli *et al.* PRL115 (2015)



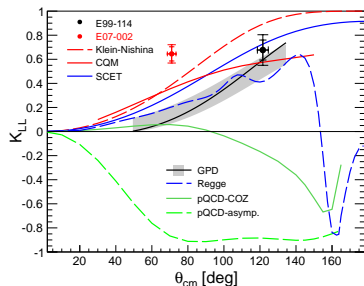
Diehl & Kroll Eur. Phys. J. C73 (2013)



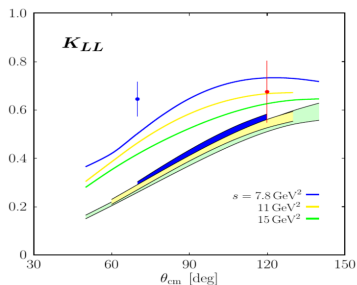
- Results strongly favour leading quark (Feynman) mechanism ( $x \approx 1$ ).
- E07-002 result is larger than all predictions including Klein-Nishina:  
 $K_{LL} = R_A(t)/R_V(t) K_{LL}^{KN} \implies$  large  $R_A(t)$ .

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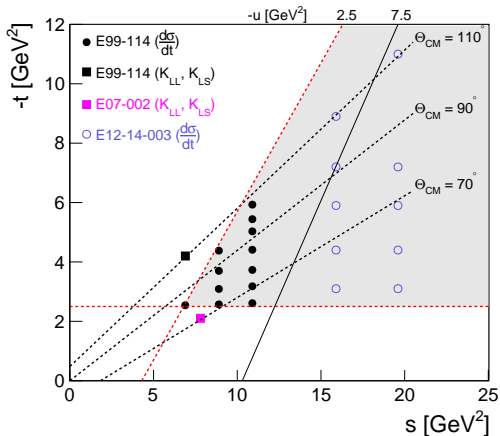
Diehl & Kroll Eur. Phys. J. C73 (2013)  
Kroll arXiv:hep-ph/1703.05000 (2017)



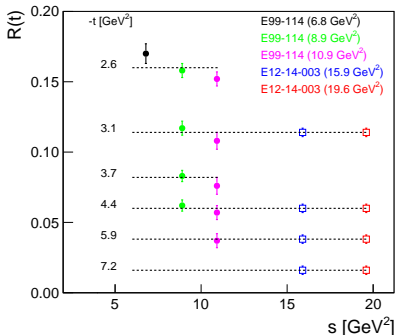
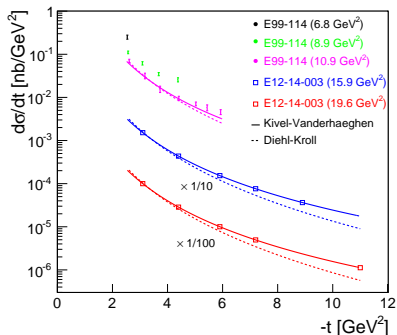
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 $K_{LL} = R_A(t)/R_V(t) K_{LL}^{\text{KN}} \implies \text{large } R_A(t)$ .

New result suggests axial nucleon current is larger than 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>)



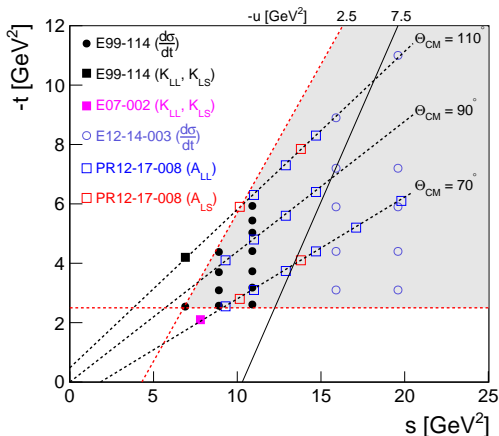
Wojtsekhowski *et al.* JLab Proposal PR12-14-003



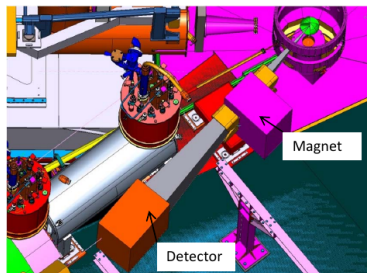
- New measurements (all firmly in the wide-angle regime) will allow for a **rigorous test of factorization in hard exclusive reactions** and extraction of vector/SCET form factor.
- Extension to highest possible values of  $-t$  will:
  - Offer new insights into the **interplay between hard and soft 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**.

# The JLab WACS Program - Polarization Observables

- Two experiments during the 6 GeV era:
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- Polarized target experiment approved by PAC45 (A-):
  - E12-17-008 in Hall C will measure  $A_{LL}$  and  $A_{LS}$  with BigBite, NPS and new CPS.



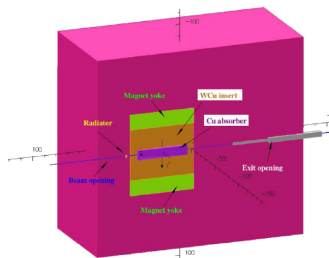
## Neutral Particle Spectrometer



- Development at an advanced stage for a new highly-segmented  $\text{PbWO}_4$  electromagnetic calorimeter for Hall C.

Horn *et al.* NIM A956 (2020)

## Compact Photon Source

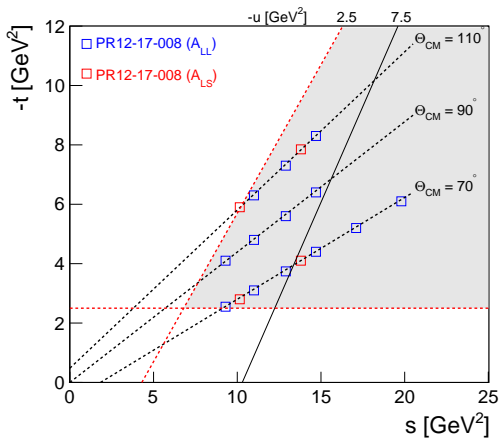


- Work well underway on a new high-intensity compact photon source (CPS) for use with a solid polarised target for measurements of  $A_{LL}$ .

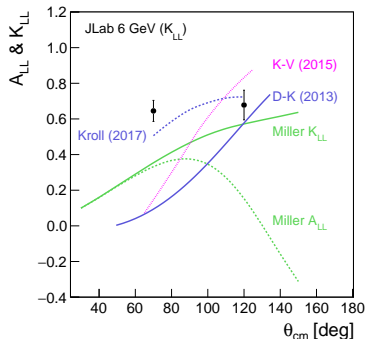
Day *et al.* NIM A957 (2020)

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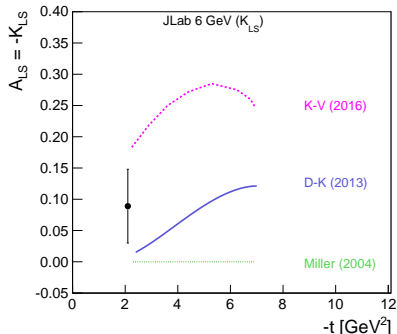
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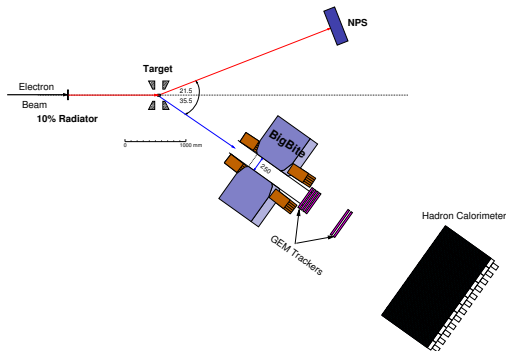


- To what degree is the factorized mechanism dominant and **how significant are theoretical corrections?**
- What are the constraints on GPD moments and what do they tell us about **the proton's axial and tensor structure?**

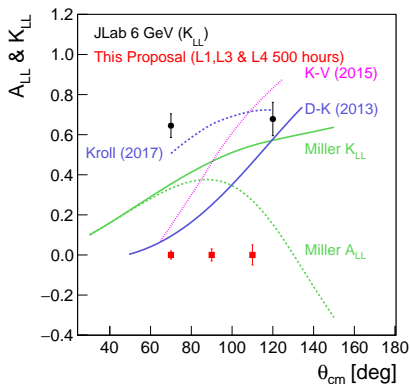
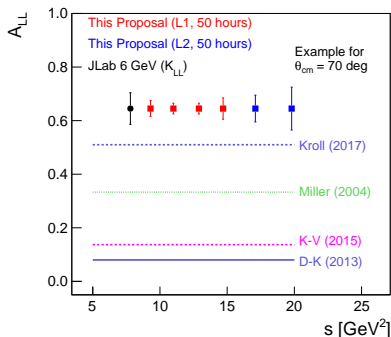


- Is the quark which absorbs and emits photons **a constituent or a current quark?**
- What does comparison of the SCET and GPD predictions tell us about **proton structure and the role of hadron helicity-flip?**

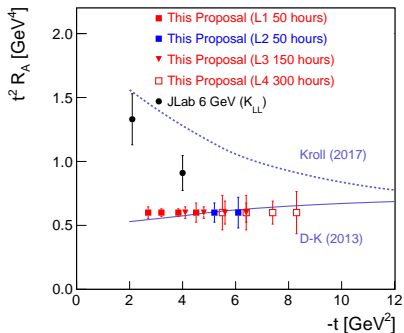
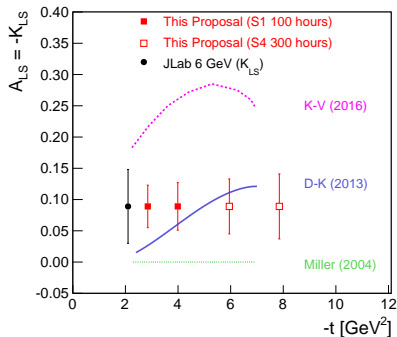
- 1 A  $3 \mu\text{A}$  polarized electron beam incident on a 10 % radiator inside a Compact Photon Source (CPS) produces a high-intensity untagged photon beam.
- 2 The proton target is the UVA/JLab solid polarized ammonia target.
- 3 The recoil proton is detected with the BigBite spectrometer equipped with GEM trackers and trigger detectors.
- 4 The highly-segmented  $\text{PbWO}_4$  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.



- 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  $A_{LL}$  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.



- 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.