Probing Hadron Structure Using Meson Electroproduction



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Avnish Singh June 13, 2024

- 1. What is Hadron "structure"?
- 2. Distributions; Generalized Parton Distribution (GPD)
- 3. How do we see them?; DVCS, DVMP, etc.
- 4. Let's make pions!; DVMP shallow waters
- 5. L/T intro; Aysmptotic limit doesn't work :(
- 6. Past and Current experiments; Neutral Particle Spectrometer
- 7. What now ...? Ideas ...? GPDs ...? Something else ...?

Hadron Structure

- 1. Simply adding the individual "partons" doesn't give the whole picture.
- 2. Many ways to look at the nucleon
 - Charge distribution
 - Mass distribution
 - Spin distribution
 - Pressure distribution
 - · 2-Dimensional vs. 3-Dimensional structure
 - · Longitudinal vs. Transverse structure
- Interestingly enough, two structures needn't be the same.
 For example, the charge radius of the proton ≠ the mass radius of the proton.

Distributions



arXiv:1512.01328

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Light Cone Variables

1. Introduction to new variables: For a four-vector V^{μ} , its light cone components are defined as:

$$V^{+} = \frac{V^{0} + V^{3}}{\sqrt{2}}, \qquad V^{-} = \frac{V^{0} - V^{3}}{\sqrt{2}}, \qquad \mathbf{V}^{T} = \left(V^{1}, V^{2}\right)$$
(1)

2. Why introduce new variables? Consider a boost:

$$V'^{+} = V^{+}e^{\psi}, \qquad V'^{-} = V^{-}e^{-\psi}, \qquad \mathbf{V}'_{T} = \mathbf{V}_{T}$$
 (2)

where the *hyperbolic angle* $\psi = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1+v}{1-v}$.

3. Notice the simplicity in boost transformations.

Generalized Parton Distributions (GPDs)

Definition:

- GPDs describe the correlation between the longitudinal momentum and the transverse position of partons.
- Key Variables:
 - x: Longitudinal momentum fraction.
 - ξ : Skewness parameter.
 - *t*: Momentum transfer squared.
- An example of GPD equation:

$$\int \frac{dz^{-}}{4\pi} e^{ixP^{+}z^{-}} \left\langle p', \lambda_{N}' \right| \bar{\psi}_{q} \left(-\frac{1}{2}z \right) \gamma^{+} \psi_{q} \left(\frac{1}{2}z \right) \left| p, \lambda_{N} \right\rangle \Big|_{z^{+}=0, \mathbf{z}_{T}=0}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2P^{+}} \bar{u} \left(p', \lambda_{N}' \right) \left[H^{q} \gamma^{+} + E^{q} \frac{i\sigma^{+\alpha} \Delta_{\alpha}}{2M_{N}} \right] u \left(p, \lambda_{N} \right)$$
(3)

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How to see them? Just squint your eyes!



(a) Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering (DVCS)



(b) Deeply Virtual Meson Production (DVMP) arxiv:1608.01003

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Deeply Virtual Meson Production: Adding flavor to GPDs

- DVMP more sensitive for probing <u>flavours</u>.
- Gives access to the transversity GPDs at leading-twist: $H_T, \tilde{H}_T, E_T, \tilde{E}_T.$
- DVMP (vector mesons) gives access to gluon-GPDs at leading-twist while DVCS only gives that at higher order making it harder to extract.
- At leading twist, pseudoscalar meson production also gives polarized GPDs (*H̃_q* and *Ẽ_q*), which can be accessed without the need for a polarized target or beam.

Experimental Access

- The handbag mechanism is applicable in the asymptotic limit ($Q^2 \to \infty$) and for longitudinal photons.
- The cross section can be expressed as:

$$\frac{d^4\sigma}{dQ^2 dx_B dt d\phi} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{d^2\Gamma}{dx_B dQ^2} \left(Q^2, x_B, E\right) \\ \times \left[\frac{d\sigma_T}{dt} + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_L}{dt} + \sqrt{2\epsilon(1+\epsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{dt} \cos\phi + \epsilon \frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{dt} \cos 2\phi + h\sqrt{2\epsilon(11-\epsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{LT'}}{dt} \sin\phi\right]$$
(4)

where *E* is the incident lepton energy in the target rest frame and ϕ is the angle between the leptonic and hadronic planes.

Visualization of Data: Understanding Trends and Patterns



Figure 2: $d\sigma_{TT}$ (blue triangles), $d\sigma_{LT}$ (red squares), and $d\sigma_{LT'}$ (green stars). https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.127.152301

Visualization of Data: Understanding Trends and Patterns



Figure 3: Unpolarized and unseparated data for $d\sigma_U = d\sigma_T + \epsilon d\sigma_L$. https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.127.152301

Visualization of Data: Understanding Trends and Patterns



Figure 4: Fits to the analytic form $(Q^2)^A$ https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.127.152301

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Let's Go! Neutral Particle Spectrometer

- 1. Run Group 1 experiments were completed in Hall-C recently on May 20^{th} .
- Utilized HMS (High Momentum Spectrometer) and NPS (Neutral Particle Spectrometer) in coincidence.
- 3. For π^0 DVMP, the decay $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$ (observed by NPS) in coincidence with e^- (observed by HMS) is under study.



- Testing the limits of factorization with Q^2 .
- Insights into the GPDs with better access to the flavors.
- Separation of the longitudinal and transverse contributions necessary.
- Lots of data! → Lots of analysis! → Exciting models and theories to explore! → Many sleepless nights ahead!

Thank You!

" Questions? Comments? Concerns? "

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