Revealing the Transition Region of QCD with the Proton's g₂ Structure Function

C12-24-002 Jefferson Lab PAC 53 7/24/2025 **David Ruth**, Jian-Ping Chen, Nathaly Santiesteban, Karl Slifer

Experiment Overview

Hall: C

Measurement: Inclusive

Goal Observables:

- g_2 Spin Structure Function
- $\overline{d_2}$ Polarizability
- Δ_2 Hydrogen Hyperfine Splitting Contribution
- $\overline{g_2}$ Twist 3 Effects
- g_TPDF

Needed Equipment:

- Solid Transversely-Polarized Target
- Chicane Magnet
- Beamline Instrumentation

Detectors: SHMS

Beam Current: 85 nA Beam Energies: 4.4 GeV, 8.8 GeV Target Material: NH₃ (Ammonia) Q² Range: 0.22 – 2.2 GeV² W Range: 1078 – 2400 MeV

Requested Days: 26

Current Status: C2 (Conditional Approval) PAC52 Report Conditions:

• "The impact of this new setup on the detector resolution and its subsequent effect on the physics results has not been thoroughly addressed. <u>A full Monte Carlo simulation</u> of the new setup and detector is needed." (Complete)





- Partons Combine to Form Nucleon
- Confinement
- Effective Theories: χPT
- Can't use Twist Approx.

- Individual Partons
- Asymptotic Freedom
- Perturbative QCD
- Leading Twist



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- Quark/Gluon Correlations
- Lattice QCD
- Higher Twists

- Individual Partons
- Asymptotic Freedom
- Perturbative QCD
- Leading Twist

How to study QCD and higher twist in the transition region?

• In unpolarized systems, F_1 / F_2 structure functions describe quark-gluon distribution:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE'} = \sigma_{\text{Mott}} \left[\frac{1}{\nu} F_2(x, Q^2) + \frac{2}{M} F_1(x, Q^2) \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right]$$

• In a spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ polarized system, g_1/g_2 describe the spin distribution :

$$\frac{d^2\sigma^{\pm}}{d\Omega dE'} = \sigma_{\text{Mott}} \left[\alpha F_1(x, Q^2) + \beta F_2(x, Q^2) \pm \gamma g_1(x, Q^2) \pm \delta g_2(x, Q^2) \right]$$
Nucleon Spin Structure Quark-Gluon Correlations

g₂ Structure Function enables direct tests of QCD and higher twist

• Higher Twist: $g_{2}(x,Q^{2}) = g_{2}^{WW}(x,Q^{2}) - \int_{x}^{1} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[\frac{m_{q}}{M}h_{T}(y,Q^{2}) + \zeta(y,Q^{2})\right] \frac{dy}{y}$ Function of g₁





• Benchmarking (Lattice) QCD:

Weighted integrals (moments) of the spin structure functions can be directly calculated by effective theories:

$$\overline{d_2} = \int_0^{x_{th}} x^2 [2g_1(x, Q^2) + 3g_2(x, Q^2)] dx$$

Polarizabilities describe nucleon's ensemble response to an external field

Recent Successful JLab Program

- **Highly** successful program to measure SSF
- Three different experiments published recent SSF results in *Nature Physics*
- 2007 JLab Review: DOE Milestone to "measure g₁ and g₂ over an enlarged range of x and Q²"

nature physics https://doi.org/10.1038/s41567-021-Measurement of the generalized spin polarizabilities of the neutron in the low-Q² region Vincent Sulkosky^{1,2,3}, Chao Peng^{4,5}, Jian-ping Chen², Alexandre Deur⁽¹⁾^{2,3}, Sergey Abrahamyan⁶, Konrad A. Aniol⁷, David S. Armstrong¹, Todd Averett¹, Stephanie L. Bailey¹, Arie Beck⁸, Pierre Bertin⁹, Florentin Butaru¹⁰, Werner Boeglin¹¹, Alexandre Camsonne⁹, Gordon D. Cates³, Chia-Cheh Chang¹², Seonho Choi¹⁰, Eugene Chudakov², Luminita Coman¹¹, Juan C. Cornejo¹⁰ Brandon Craver³ Francesco Cusanno¹³ Raffaele De Leo¹⁴ Cornelis W. de Jager^{2,35} Joseph D. D. ARTICLES nature physics ttps://doi.org/10.1038/s41567-021-01198-; Check for u Measurement of the proton spin structure at long distances X. Zheng¹, A. Deur^{1,2}, H. Kang³, S. E. Kuhn^{3,4}, M. Ripani⁵, J. Zhang¹, K. P. Adhikari^{2,4,6,50}, S. Adhikari⁷, M. J. Amaryan⁴, H. Atac⁸, H. Avakian², L. Barion⁹, M. Battaglieri^{2,5}, I. Bedlinskiy¹⁰ F. Benmokhtar¹¹, A. Bianconi^{12,13}, A. S. Biselli¹⁴, S. Boiarinov², M. Bondì⁵, F. Bossù¹⁵, P. Bosted¹⁶, W. J. Briscoe¹⁷, J. Brock², W. K. Brooks^{2,18}, D. Bulumulla⁴, V. D. Burkert², C. Carlin², D. S. Carman² nature physics Article https://doi.org/10.1038/s41567-022-01781-Proton spin structure and generalized polarizabilities in the strong quantum chromodynamics regime Received: 23 April 2022 A list of authors and their affiliations appears at the end of the pape

The strong interaction is not well understood at low energies or for

interactions with low momentum transfer. Chiral perturbation theory give

Accented: 2 September 2023

Published online: 13 October 2022



Proton





g₂







Builds on 3 previous Hall A/C Successful measurements with near identical setup, plus:

- Much higher rates than the higher Q² experiments
- <u>Smaller out-of-plane angle</u> than the low
 Q² data



Transition Region g₂ has **Strong** scientific motivation:

- <u>Needed</u> as a Benchmark for Lattice QCD
- Unique Sensitivity to Twist-3 Effects

Proposed Experiment

- Let's measure proton g_2 in the resonance region across the missing part of the transition regime
- Full order of magnitude in Q²: 0.2 GeV² 2.2 GeV²
- <u>First ever</u> transition region measurement of the proton's g₂ structure function -- extract moments and higher twist effects

- 5T polarized target
- Chicane Magnet
- Low current beamline configuration

Nearly identical to the successful setup for previous Hall A/C experiments RSS, EG4, g2p

• Slow Raster

Polarized Target

- NH₃ (Ammonia) target
- Transversely Polarized with Dynamic Nuclear Polarization (DNP)
- Since previous experiments:
 - New Target Group magnet more optimized for transverse running!
 - Needs installation w/ UVA PT fridge & scattering chamber
 - Collaboration will send students & work together with Target Group on this project

Chicane Magnet

- Transverse target field needs pre-bending of the beam
- Chicane design (J. Benesch) replaces two existing 1m dipoles
- Further BMAD optimization performed by R. Bodenstein
- Chicane is needed for SoLID + any experiment with transverse PT
- Allows beam to **cleanly** reach hall dump no local dump needed!

Simulation Study

- Monte-Carlo simulation performed with all effects included & accounted for:
 - Raster
 - Chicane —
 - Target Field
 - Spectrometer Optics
 - Multiple Scattering
 - Radiative Effects
 - Ionization Energy Loss
 - Particle Decay
- Chicane optimization: BMAD and Optim
- Standard Hall C analysis cuts
- Systematic impact on observable now included

All following plots are for the worst case kinematic setting at the lowest Q^2 .

Chicane BPMs/ 5T Transverse Harps

Target

SHMS

Target field/chicane effects are smaller for all other settings.

Thanks to Jefferson Lab Staff Scientists

Dave Gaskell, Jay Benesch, and Ryan Bodenstein for their help!

Slow Raster Raster 1

Resolution w/ Target: 10-20 MeV

• There should be no issue resolving the resonances of g_2p

Resolutions

Resolution w/ Target: ~0.96°

<u>There should be no issue resolving the features of the moments</u>

Impact on Coverage

Effects on the kinematic coverage are small and well-understood

Systematic Impact

- Around a 2% or less effect from the resolution on the XS
- Included in new systematics calculation

Simulation Conclusions

- PAC52 Conditional: "The impact of this new setup on the detector resolution and its subsequent effect on the physics results has not been thoroughly addressed. <u>A full Monte Carlo simulation</u> of the new setup and detector is needed."
 (Complete)
- Resolutions enlarged by the target field = 2% syst. uncertainty contribution
- We have fulfilled PAC52's condition and the impact of the target and chicane is now well understood and accounted for

g₂ Extraction Method

• Measure Asymmetry and Cross Section:

Beam Time Required

Source	Time (PAC Days)
$Q^2 = 0.22 \text{ GeV}^2$	0.1
$Q^2 = 0.33 \text{ GeV}^2$	0.2
$Q^2 = 0.46 \text{ GeV}^2$	0.3
$Q^2 = 0.62 \text{ GeV}^2$	0.8
$Q^2 = 0.77 \text{ GeV}^2$	1.1
$Q^2 = 0.89 \text{ GeV}^2$	1.8
$Q^2 = 1.03 \text{ GeV}^2$	2.3
$Q^2 = 1.25 \text{ GeV}^2$	4.6
$Q^2 = 1.84 \text{ GeV}^2$	0.9
$Q^2 = 2.2 \text{ GeV}^2$	0.9
Total Physics Days	13
Overhead Days	13

Only

26 Days

To measure $10 Q^2$ settings of g_2 with high precision...

covering a <u>full order of magnitude</u> of the transition region!

Projected Systematics

 Dominating systematics are target polarization and acceptance

Source	%
Acceptance	4-6
Packing Fraction	3
Charge Determination	1
Tracking Efficiency	1
PID Efficiencies	< 1
Software Cut Efficiency	< 1
Resolution/Simulation	< 2
Energy	0.5
Deadtime	< 1
XS Total	5-7
Target Polarization	5
Beam Polarization	3
Radiative Corrections	3
Parallel Contribution	2
Const Q ² Adjustment	< 1
S.F. Total	8.5-9.8

Projected g₂ Uncertainties

0.3

0.2

0.1

-0.1

-0.2

0.10

0.05

0.0

-0.05

-0.10

-0.15

0.00

-0.02

-0.04

-0.06

-0.08

-0.10

5

1200

1200

1200

1400

1400

1400

1600

1600

W (MeV)

W (MeV)

1600

4.4 GeV, 14.5 degree Setting

1800

8.8 GeV, 11.0 degree Setting

1800

2000

2000

W (MeV)

Fills the last major Q² spectrum gap for the nucleon spin structure functions 22

1600

W (MeV)

• 4.4 GeV, 6.5 degree Setting

1800

4.4 GeV. 12.5 degree Setting

1800

2000

2000

0.4

0.3

0.2

01

-0.1

-0.2

6

0.6

0.5

0.4

0.3

0.2

0.1

0.0

-0.1

0.20

0.15

0.10

0.05

-0.05

-0.10

-0.15

-0.20

6 0.00

1200

1200

1400

1400

1600

W (MeV)

*g*2

 $\overline{g_2}$ (Twist 3 Extraction)

First ever extraction of this quantity for the proton!

Projected $\overline{d_2}$ Uncertainties

Can benchmark Lattice QCD in the regime where Perturbative QCD starts failing

New Lattice calculations expected in next few years!

Hydrogen Hyperfine Splitting Impact

- One of the "best-measured" quantities in physics
- Theoretical precision is six orders of magnitude worse than experimental precision
- Dominating theoretical uncertainty driven by lack of g₂ data!
- This proposal covers 30% of the relevant Δ_2 contribution

What do the theorists have to say...?

"A clear case of 'low-hanging fruit' with a wealth of opportunities to address long-standing open questions."

- PR12-23-007 Theory Report

What do the theorists have to say...?

"Scientifically sound, with a clear rationale and a well-designed experimental plan"

– PR12-24-002 Theory Report

2024

"A clear case of 'low-hanging fruit' with a wealth of opportunities to address long-standing open questions." – PR12-23-007 Theory Report

What do the theorists have to say...?

"The motivation remains as strong as in the original proposal" – C12-24-002 Theory Report

2025

"A clear case of 'low-hanging fruit' with a wealth of opportunities to address long-standing open questions." – PR12-23-007 Theory Report "Scientifically sound, with a clear rationale and a well-designed experimental plan"

– PR12-24-002 Theory Report

PAC Status

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Conditional Requirements:

 "The impact of this new setup on the detector resolution and its subsequent effect on the physics results has not been thoroughly addressed. <u>A full Monte Carlo simulation</u> of the new setup and detector is needed."

– PAC52 Report

"The PAC recognizes the significant importance of measuring the fundamental proton structure function g₂ for the proton. The presented physics case and the proponents' approach to the future measurement are solid." - PAC52 Report

PAC Report / Conditional Status

Conditional Requirements:

 "The impact of this new setup on the detector resolution and its subsequent effect on the physics results has not been thoroughly addressed. <u>A full Monte Carlo simulation</u> of the new setup and detector is needed." "In our view, this requirement has been fulfilled in great detail. The effects of the chicane and the transverse target field on the resolution of the SHMS and the experimental observables are fully understood and quantified."

-PAC53 Readers

(Prof. Alexandra Gade & Prof. Bernhard Ketzer)

– PAC52 Report

"The PAC recognizes the significant importance of measuring the fundamental proton structure function g₂ for the proton. The presented physics case and the proponents' approach to the future measurement are solid." – PAC52 Report

Summary

- All of PAC52 Conditional Requirements fulfilled
- Target field impact extensively quantified with simulation

- Significant and novel physics goals:
 - Study higher twist (interaction-dependent effects)
 - Test Lattice QCD
 - Study hydrogen hyperfine splitting
 - **Extract other polarizabilities and moments**
- Collaboration is ready to get to work on helping to prepare the equipment 🗸

Let's make it happen!

Backup Slides

TAC/Reader Questions Summary

• Is the downstream beampipe interaction due to low energy tails/multiple scattering a concern?

No, we calculated this interaction to be small and the detector is shielded against these backgrounds

Is a local beam dump an option?

We investigated this option in the proposal's first iteration and it is a worse option due to open questions about small detector angles and heat load from the high energy beam.

How long to check the low current BCM linearity?

Dr. Mack (BCM Expert) will help us check and obtain a <1% nonlinearity with a few days of work and an RF signal generator.

Is the wrong luminosity included in the rates calculation and will you exceed the DAQ rate limit?

No, there was just an unclear sentence in the proposal. The correct rate was used and we will not exceed the DAQ limit.

TAC/Reader Questions Summary

Can the polarized target be commissioned in time?

Yes, there is a significant amount of work to be done by the Target Group, but they have no doubts it can be done in time and the collaboration will help however we can.

• Overhead for a T.E. should be 4 hours, not 2.25

Fixed, does not increase PAC days request

• What do the planned statistics mean in the context of model uncertainties?

The primary goal of the statistics is to check theory directly, but the data will also hugely improve the phenomenological models, which are almost unconstrained in this region.

Are some events lost in the simulation when the target field is added?

Yes, some events are smeared outside the analysis cuts. This never effects more than 5% of events at most, and is not a significant impact on the statistics.

Reader Question: B. Ketzer

Option: Going Lower in Q²

- What if we add a kinematic setting at the minimum Scattering Angle of SHMS (5.5 deg)?
- $Q^2 = 0.16 \text{ GeV}^2$
- 3 additional hours running + 5 additional hours overhead
- Would exceed DAQ rate limit and need a prescale factor
- Impact on resolutions in simulation seems similar to that shown for 6.5 deg setting
- We would need 1 additional PAC day to safely add this setting (total <u>27 days</u>)
- Creates more continuous coverage by connecting more closely to g2p results at low Q²

E ₀	Θ	P ₀	W	Q^2	Rate P	Rate	Pre	L	$P_b P_t$	Ι	Time
					(Hz)	(kHz)				(nA)	(h)
4.4	5.5	3.607	1.49	0.146	77	40.0	2	0.9E + 35	0.60	85	1.0
4.4	5.5	2.661	2.01	0.108	108	40.0	1	0.9E + 35	0.60	85	1.0
4.4	5.5	1.963	2.32	0.080	134	37.6	1	0.9E + 35	0.60	85	1.0

Downstream Beam Pipe

- A few TAC questions about beam interaction with downstream beam pipe
- A small fraction of the post-target beam [O(1) nA] interacts with pipe

- No consequential background:
 - Out of line of sight of SHMS electron acceptance
 - SHMS has shielded detector hut explicitly to remove these backgrounds!
 - Any residue is removed by cutting on Z_{target}
- No radiological hazard:
 - Beam current is already low
 - Only a small fraction of the beam actually interacts with beampipe

Local Beam Dump

Using the Chicane gives a much cleaner measurement

- Proposal originally featured Local Dump
- Unknown if higher beam energy will crack steel on old dump
- A helium bag would be needed
- Small SHMS angles would need to dump beam into Q1 steel

BCM Linearity

- Beam Charge Asymmetry dQ/Q: 0.1% or better with charge feedback
- Dr. Dave Mack can demonstrate the nonlinearity is not worse than 1% with RF Signal Generator
- This results in 0.01% False Physics Asymmetry (or better)

$$A_{\rm Physics}^{\rm False} = \frac{1}{P_b P_t f} \frac{dQ}{Q} \mathcal{N}$$

Hyperfine Contribution

$$\Delta_2 = -24M_p^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{dQ^2}{Q^4} \int_0^{x_{th}} \widetilde{\beta_2}(x, Q^2) g_2(x, Q^2) dx$$

- The leading error in theoretical calculations of the hydrogen HFS comes from these spin-structure function dependent integrals!
- The subject of an ongoing tension between theory and experiment
- The transition region accounts for ~30% of the integral!

Hydrogen Hyperfine Splitting Impact

$$\Delta_2 = -24M_p^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{dQ^2}{Q^4} \int_0^{x_{th}} \widetilde{\beta_2}(x, Q^2) g_2(x, Q^2) dx$$

- Transition region accounts for **30% of** \varDelta_2
- These results can cut the error in this region to 1/6 of the current error
- $\Delta_{pol} = c(\Delta_1 + \Delta_2)$ accounts for **81%** of the current two-photon Hyperfine Splitting uncertainty
- Opportunity to study or maybe eliminate a long-standing tension between theory and experiment for $\Delta_{pol}!$

"Color Polarizability" d₂

$$\left(\overline{d_2} = \int_0^{x_{th}} x^2 [2g_1(x, Q^2) + 3g_2(x, Q^2)] dx\right)$$

- At high Q²: color polarizability / "color Lorentz force"
- Interesting differences in existing data motivate further study
- Upcoming lattice predictions in this region need experimental benchmark!

- Integrals are saturated in the measured region (flat slope)
- Therefore, the low-x regime is irrelevant to these integrals

Projected Γ_2 Uncertainties

- Having data in the regime where twist-2 assumption fails helps us better understand the small-x regime
- If B.C. Sum Rule is followed, then we directly measure how the low-x part transitions from g_2^{WW} into a more complex form!

Dynamical Mass Generation

• g₂ can also directly probe dynamical mass generation in QCD!

 $g_2^{\text{quark}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_q e_q^2 \frac{m_q}{M} \left(\frac{h_1^q}{x}\right)^* (x_B) ,$ $g_2^{\text{jet}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_q e_q^2 \frac{M_q - m_q}{M} \frac{h_1^q(x_B)}{x_B} .$

- <u>Strong</u> theory interest in this aspect
- Will coordinate with global QCD analysis groups (JAM/CJ collaborations at JLab) to optimally use data

A. Accardi & A. Bacchetta, PLB 2017

	E ₀ (GeV)	Scattering Angle (deg)	P ₀ (GeV)	Target Q ² (GeV ²)	Proton Rate (Hz)	Rate (kHz)	Time (h)
Dataa		6.5	3.607	0.22	77	40.0	1
Kales			2.661		65	25.1	1
			1.963		69	18.9	1
Tahla		8	3.607	0.33	41	21.4	1.3
เล่มเป			2.661		28	11.5	1.9
			1.963		30	8.3	1.8
			3.607		18	9.1	2.3
		9.5	2.661	0.46	14	5.9	3.0
			1.963		15	4.3	2.8
	4.4		3.607		7	3.7	6.0
		11.2	2.661	0.62	6	3.0	6.5
			1.963		7	2.2	5.9
	:	12.5	3.607	0.765	4	2.0	9.1
			2.661		4	1.9	8.5
			1.963		4	1.5	7.6
		13.5	3.607	0.892	2	1.3	16.5
			2.661		3	1.3	13.7
			1.963		3	1.1	12.1
		14.5	3.607	1.028	1	0.8	23.2
Total PAC Davs			2.661		2	1.0	17.4
13.0			1.963		2	0.8	14.9
13.0		16	3.607	1.250	0	0.4	50.8
			2.661		1	0.6	32.7
			1.963		1	0.5	26.6
	8.8	11 14	7.213	2.3	0	0.5	33.3
			5.321		0	0.8	19.0
			7.213	3.44	0	0.1	101.8
			5.321		0	0.2	31.6

Overhead

• Total: 12.7 Overhead Days (305.5)

Overhead	Number	Time Per (hr)	(hr)
Target Anneal	26	2.0	52.0
Beamline Survey	10	8.0	80.0
Target Swap	2	4.0	8.0
Target T.E.	6	4	24.0
Target Field Ramp	10	1.0	10.0
Carbon, Dummy, Empty runs	28	0.5	14.0
Pass Change	2	4.0	8.0
Momentum Change	28	0.5	14.0
Moller Measurement	10(+1 shift)	4.0(+8.0)	48.0
Pair-Symmetric Background	2	4.0	8.0
Optics Calibration	2	16.0	32.0
BCM Calibration	2	4.0	8.0

Burkhardt-Cottingham Sum Rule

$$\Gamma_2 = \int_0^{x_{th}} g_2(x, Q^2) dx = 0$$

- "Superconvergence" Sum Rule for an amplitude whose imaginary part is \mathbf{g}_2
- Assuming convergent dispersion relations for $g_2(v)$ and $vg_2(v)$, arises naturally from subtraction of VVCS amplitudes:

•
$$Im S_2(\nu, Q^2) = \frac{2\pi}{\nu^2 M} g_2(x, Q^2)$$

•
$$S_2(\nu, Q^2) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\nu_{th}}^{\infty} \frac{\nu \, Im \, S_2}{\nu'^2 - \nu^2} d\nu'$$

•
$$\nu S_2(\nu, Q^2) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\nu_{th}}^{\infty} \frac{\nu' Im S_2}{\nu'^2 - \nu^2} d\nu'$$

 B.C. Integral converges to 0 in both QED and Perturbative QCD, and follows from Wandzura-Wilczek relation (Altarelli et al [1994], R. L. Jaffe [1990 Review])

Reliability of the Chicane

- Chicane is a <u>new</u> installation, not a refurbishment of the old chicane
- Design is fundamentally similar to numerous similar projects by the JLab staff, nothing untested or uncertain about it
- Dr. Benesch is the longest serving member of the TAC and has designed resistive and superconducting magnets since 1976
- Staff scientists are very confident that chicane will be carefully built and tested and will work well, but will need some time to commission

Collaboration

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David Ruth

g2p Analysis

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