

Meson Form Factors

- Charged pion (π[±]) and kaon (K[±]) form factors (F_π, F_K) are key QCD observables
 - Describe momentum space distributions of partons within hadrons



- Meson wave function can be split into $\phi_\pi^{
 m soft}$ $(k < k_0)$ and $\phi_\pi^{
 m hard}$, the hard tail
 - Can treat $\phi^{\rm hard}_{\pi}$ in pQCD, cannot with $\phi^{\rm soft}_{\pi}$
 - Form factor is the overlap between the two tails (right figure)

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- F_{π} and F_{K} of special interest in hadron structure studies
 - π Lightest QCD quark system, simple
 - K Another simple system, contains strange quark

Cover Image - Brookhaven National Lab, https://www.flickr.com/photos/brookhavenlab/

• To access F_{π} at high Q^2 , must measure F_{π} indirectly

• Use the "pion cloud" of the proton via $p(e, e'\pi^+)n$

- At small -t, the pion pole process dominates σ_L
- In the Born term model, F_{π}^2 appears as -

$$rac{d\sigma_L}{dt} \propto rac{-tQ^2}{(t-m_\pi^2)} g_{\pi NN}^2(t) F_\pi^2(Q^2,t)$$

- We do not use the Born term model
- Drawbacks of this technique -
 - Isolating σ_L experimentally challenging
 - Theoretical uncertainty in F_{π} extraction
 - Model dependent (smaller dependency at low -t)
 - Measure Deep Exclusive Meson Production (DEMP)



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DEMP Studies at the EIC

- Measurements of the $p(e, e'\pi^+n)$ reaction at the EIC can potentially extend the Q^2 reach of F_{π}
- A challenging measurement however
 - Need good identification of $p(e, e'\pi^+n)$ triple coincidences
 - $\,\circ\,$ Conventional L-T separation not possible \to would need lower than feasible proton energies to access low ϵ
 - Need to use a model to isolate $d\sigma_L/dt$ from $d\sigma_{uns}/dt$
- Utilise 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
- Event generator being modified to generate kaon events

DEMP Event Generator - Pions

- Want to examine exclusive reactions
 - $p(e, e'\pi^+n)$ exclusive reaction is reaction of interest $\rightarrow p(e, e'\pi^+)X$ SIDIS events are background
- Generator uses Regge-based p(e, e'π⁺)n model from T.K. Choi, K.J. Kong and B.G. Yu (CKY) - arXiv 1508.00969
 - MC event generator created by parametrising CKY σ_L , σ_T for $5 < Q^2 < 35$, 2 < W < 10, 0 < -t < 1.2



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EIC Detector Overview

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- Feed generator output into detector simulations
- Far forward detectors critical for form factor studies

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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 -
 - Exactly two tracks
 - One positively charged track going in the +z direction (π^+)
 - 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

8

15

$\sigma_{\rm L}$ Isolation with a Model at the EIC

- QCD scaling predicts $\sigma_L \propto Q^{-6}$ and $\sigma_T \propto Q^{-8}$
- At the high Q^2 and Waccessible at the EIC, phenomenological models predict $\sigma_L \gg \sigma_T$ at small -t
- Can attempt to extract σ_L by using a model to isolate dominant $d\sigma_L/dt$ from measured $d\sigma_{UNS}/dt$
- Examine π^+/π^- ratios as a test of the model



Predictions are assuming $\epsilon > 0.9995$ with the kinematic ranges seen earlier T.Vrancx, J. Ryckebusch, PRC 89(2014)025203

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EIC F_{π} Data

- ECCE appears to be capable of measuring F_{π} to $Q^2 \sim 32.5 \ GeV^2$
- Error bars represent real projected error bars
 - 2.5% point-to-point
 - 12% scale
 - $\delta R = R$, $R = \sigma_L / \sigma_T$
 - *R* = 0.013 014 at lowest -*t* from VR model
- Uncertainties dominated by *R* at low *Q*²
- Statistical uncertainties dominate at high Q^2

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- Results look promising, need to test π^- too
- More details in upcoming ECCE NIM paper

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$F_{\mathcal{K}}$ at the EIC - Challenges and Possibilities

- F_K at the EIC via DEMP will be extremely challenging
- Would need to measure two reactions
 - $p(e, e'K^+\Lambda)$
 - $p(e, e'K^+\Sigma)$
 - Need both for pole dominance tests

$$R = \frac{\sigma_L \left[p(e, e'K^+ \Sigma^0) \right]}{\sigma_L \left[p(e, e'K^+ \Lambda^0) \right]} \to R \approx \frac{g_{\rho K \Sigma}^2}{g_{\rho K \Lambda}^2}$$



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- ${\scriptstyle \bullet}$ Consider just the Λ channel for now
 - Λ plays a similar role to neutron in π studies
 - ${\scriptstyle \circ }$ Very forward focused, but, Λ will decay
 - $\Lambda \rightarrow n\pi^0$ ~ 36 %

•
$$\Lambda
ightarrow p\pi^-$$
 - $\sim 64~\%$

- Neutral channel potentially best option
 - Very challenging 3 particle final state

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$F_{\mathcal{K}}$ at the EIC - Generator Updates

 URegina MSc student Love Preet working on adding Kaon DEMP event generator module to DEMPGen

• Starting with $p(e, e'K^+\Lambda)$

- Parametrise a Regge-based model in a similar way to the pion
- For p(e, e'K⁺Λ) module, use the Vanderhagen, Guidal, Laget (VGL) model
- Parametrise σ_L , σ_T for $1 < Q^2 < 35$, 2 < W < 10, -t < 2.0

• Parametrise with a polynomial, exponential and exponential

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VGL Model - M. Guidal, J.-M. Laget, M. Vanderhaeghen, PRC 61 (3000) 025204

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VGL Model - M. Guidal, J.-M. Laget, M. Vanderhaeghen, PRC 61 (3000) 025204

DEMPGen Improvements

- In addition to adding the $p(e, e'K^+\Lambda)$ module, improvements to the generator implemented
- New method to interpolate parametrisation
- Interpolation matches generator output very closely
 - Even at points far from the initial parametrisation
- Will incorporate improvements in pion model too in the near future



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Form Factors at the EIC - Outlook

- EIC has the potential to push the Q^2 reach of F_{π} measurements into the 30 GeV^2 range
 - Can we measure F_K too?
- F_{π} work already featured in the EIC yellow report
- Worked closely with the ECCE proto-collaboration
 - Carrying out feasibility studies
 - Existing DEMP event generator utilised
 - Activities were a priority for the ECCE Diffractive and Tagging group

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- Will continue to develop simulations with ePIC
- Kaon event generator and simulations in progress
- Results to be published in an upcoming NIM paper
 - arXiv:2208.14575v1
 - Expect to see this in print soon!

R. Abdul Khalek et al. EIC Yellow Report. 2021. arXiv:2103.05419, Sections 7.2.1 and 8.5.1

Thanks for listening, any questions?







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EIC-Canada

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The University of Regina is situated on the territories of the nehiyawak, Anihsināpēk, Dakota, Lakota, and Nakoda, and the homeland of the Métis/Michif Nation. The University of Regina is on Treaty 4 lands with a presence in Treaty 6.

Backup Zone

Understanding Dynamic Matter

- Interactions and structure are not isolated ideas in nuclear matter
 - Observed properties of nucleons and nuclei (mass, spin) emerge from this complex interplay



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- Properties of hadrons are emergent phenomena
- Mechanism known as Dynamical Chiral Symmetry Breaking (DCSB) plays a part in generating hadronic mass
- QCD behaves very differently at short and long distances (high and low energy)
 - How do our two distinct regions of QCD behaviour connect?
- A major puzzle of the standard model to try and resolve!
- How can we examine hadronic structure?

Image - A. Deshpande, Stony Brook University

Model Validation via π^-/π^+ ratios

- Measure exclusive ${}^{2}H(e, e'\pi^{+}n)n$ and ${}^{2}H(e, e'\pi^{-}p)p$ in same kinematics as $p(e, e'\pi^{+}n)$
- π *t*-channel diagram is purely isovector \rightarrow G-Parity conserved

$$R = \frac{\sigma [n(e, e'\pi^{-}p)]}{\sigma [p(e, e'\pi^{+}n)]} = \frac{|A_V - A_S|^2}{|A_V - A_S|^2}$$

- R will be diluted if σ_T not small or if there are significant non-pole contributions to σ_L
- Compare R to model expectations



T.Vrancx, J. Ryckebusch, PRC 89(2014)025203

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DEMP Acceptance for $-t < 0.5 \ GeV^2$

- $5(e^{-})$ on 100(p) GeV collisions, 25 mrad crossing angle
- Events weighted by cross section
- No smearing



• Neutrons within 0.2° of outgoing proton beam, offset is due to the crossing angle (25 mrad $\approx 1.4^{\circ}$)

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The Pion in pQCD

• At very large Q^2 , F_π can be calculated using pQCD

$$F_{\pi}(Q^2) = rac{4}{3}\pi lpha_s \int_0^1 dx dy rac{2}{3}rac{1}{yQ^2}\phi(x)\phi(y)$$

• As $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$, the pion distribution amplitude, ϕ_{π} becomes -

 $\phi_{\pi}(x)
ightarrow rac{3f_{\pi}}{\sqrt{n_c}} x(1-x) \;\; f_{\pi} = 93 \; MeV, \; \pi^+
ightarrow \mu^+
u$ decay constant

• F_{π} can be calculated with pQCD in this limit to be -

$$Q^2 F_{\pi} \xrightarrow[Q^2 \to \infty]{} 16\pi \alpha_s(Q^2) f_{\pi}^2$$

- This is a rigorous prediction of pQCD
- Q^2 reach of existing data doesn't extend into this region

• Need unique, cutting edge experiments to push into this region Eqns - G.P. Lepage, S.J. Brodsky, PLB 87, p359, 1979

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21 / 15

The Pion in pQCD

• At experimentally accessible Q^2 , both the hard and soft components contribute



- Interplay of hard and soft contributions poorly understood
- Experiments can study the transition from soft to hard regime

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Connecting Pion Structure and Mass Generation

- ϕ_{π} as shown before has a broad, concave shape
- Previous pQCD derivation (conformal limit) did not include DCSB effects
- Incorporating DCSB changes $\phi_{\pi}(x)$ and brings F_{π} calculation much closer to the data
 - "Squashes down" PDA
- Pion structure and hadron mass generation are interlinked
- How can we measure F_{π} or F_{K} ?





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Measurement of F_{π} - Low Q^2

- At low Q^2 , F_π can be measured model independently
 - High energy elastic π^- scattering from atomic electrons in H
- CERN SPS 300 *GeV* pions to measure F_{π} up to
 - $Q^2 = 0.25 \ GeV^2$
- Used data to extract pion charge radius $r_{\pi} = 0.657 \pm 0.012 \ fm$
- Maximum accessible Q² approximately proportional to pion beam energy
 - $Q^2 = 1 \ GeV^2$ requires 1 TeV pion beam (!)



Amendolia, et al., NPB 277(1986) p168, P. Brauel, et al., ZPhysC (1979), p101, H. Ackermann, et al., NPB137 (1978), p294

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- Upcoming JLab measurements push the Q^2 reach of pion (F_{π}) and kaon (F_{K}) form factor data considerably
- Still can't answer some key questions regarding the emergence of hadronic mass however
- Can we get quantitative guidance on the emergent pion mass mechanism?

ightarrow Need F_π data for $Q^2=10-40~GeVc^{-2}$

• What is the size and range of interference between emergent mass and the Higgs-mass mechanism? \rightarrow Need F_{κ} data for $Q^2 = 10 - 20 \ GeVc^{-2}$

Beyond what is possible at JLab in the 12 GeV era

• Need a different machine \rightarrow The Electron-Ion Collider (EIC)

Simulation Results - Neutron Reconstruction

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

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

- 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

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35%

2%

26 / <u>15</u>

• Reconstruction of -t from detected e' and π^+ tracks proved highly unreliable

•
$$-t = -(p_e - p_{e'} - p_{\pi})^2$$

 Calculation of -t from reconstructed neutron track matched "truth" value closely

 $\circ \ -t_{alt}=-\left(p_p-p_n\right)^2$

• Only possible due to the excellent position accuracy provided by a good ZDC

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 Note that the x-axis -t scale here runs to 10 GeV²!

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 x-axis -t scale an order of magnitude smaller now!

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Simulation Results - Q^2 5 – 7.5 GeV²



• Predicted $e'\pi^+n$ triple coincidence rate, binned in Q^2 and -t

- 5 (e', GeV) on 100 (p, GeV) events
- $\mathcal{L} = 10^{34} cm^{-2} s^{-1}$ assumed
- -t bins are 0.04 GeV² wide
- Cut on θ_n ($\theta_n = 1.45 \pm 0.5^\circ$) and $\vec{p}_{miss} = \vec{p}_e + \vec{p}_p \vec{p}_{e'} \vec{p}_{\pi^+}$ (varies by Q^2 bin) to simulate removal of SIDIS background
 - New cut on difference between p_{miss} and detected ZDC angles implemented too, $|\Delta \theta| < 0.6^{\circ}$, $|\Delta \phi| < 3.0^{\circ}$

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• $-t_{min}$ migrates with Q^2 as expected

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Simulation Results - Q^2 15 – 20 GeV²



• Predicted $e'\pi^+n$ triple coincidence rate, binned in Q^2 and -t

- 5 (e', GeV) on 100 (p, GeV) events
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Simulation Results - $Q^2 30 - 35 \ GeV^2$



• Predicted $e'\pi^+n$ triple coincidence rate, binned in Q^2 and -t

- 5 (e', GeV) on 100 (p, GeV) events
- $\mathcal{L} = 10^{34} cm^{-2} s^{-1}$ assumed
- -t bins are 0.04 GeV^2 wide
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Isolating σ_L from σ_T in an e-p Collider

• For a collider -

$$\epsilon = \frac{2(1-y)}{1+(1-y)^2}$$
 with $y = \frac{Q^2}{x(s_{tot} - M_N^2)}$

• y is the fractional energy loss

• Systematic uncertainties in σ_L magnified by $1/\Delta\epsilon$

• Ideally, $\Delta\epsilon > 0.2$

- To access $\epsilon < 0.8$ with a collider, need y > 0.5
 - Only accessible at small s_{tot}
 - Requires low proton energies (\sim 10 GeV), luminosity too low

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• Conventional L-T separation not practical, need another way to determine σ_L

$\Delta \theta$ and $\Delta \phi$ Cuts

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- Make use of high angular resolution of ZDC
- Compare hit θ/φ positions of neutron on ZDC to calculated θ/φ from p_{miss}
- If no other particles produced, quantities should be correlated
 - True for DEMP events
- Energetic neutrons from inclusive background processes will be less correlated
 - Additional lower energy particles produced



- $\theta_{pMiss} \theta_{ZDC}$ and $\phi_{pMiss} - \phi_{ZDC}$ cut upon, in addition to other cuts
- $|\theta_{pMiss} \theta_{ZDC}| < 0.6^{\circ},$ $|\phi_{pMiss} - \phi_{ZDC}| < 3.0^{\circ}$

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F_K at the EIC - Generator Updates

- Working on adding Kaon DEMP events to DEMPGen
 - Starting with $p(e, e'K^+\Lambda)$
- Parametrise a Regge-based model in a similar way to the pion
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34

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VGL Model Paper - https://doi.org/10.1016/S0375-9474(97)00612-X

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What About the Kaon?

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- K^+ PDA (ϕ_K) is also broad and concave, but asymmetric
- Heavier s quark carries more bound state momentum than the u quark



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C. Shi, et al., PRD 92 (2015) 014035, F. Guo, et al., PRD 96(2017) 034024 (Full calculation)

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The Electron-Ion Collider

- Major announcement in January 2020
 - Brookhaven National Lab (BNL) was chosen as the site of the future Electron-Ion Collider (EIC)
 - BNL is situated on Long Island, New York
 - Existing site of the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) and the Alternating Gradient Synchrotron (AGS)

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37 / 15



Upgrading RHIC - eRHIC



Image - Brookhaven National Lab

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Use existing RHIC

- Up to 275 *GeV* polarised proton beams
- Existing tunnel, detector halls, hadron injector complex (AGS)
- New 18 GeV electron linac
 - New high intensity electron storage ring in existing tunnel
- Achieve high \mathcal{L} , high E e-p/A collisions with full acceptance detectors
- High *L* achieved by state of the art beam cooling techniques

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Upgrading RHIC - eRHIC



Image - Brookhaven National Lab

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Simulation Results - Detection Efficiency

- Can examine truth quantities too, quick check of detection efficiency
- Efficiency = $\frac{\text{Accepted}}{\text{Thrown}}$
- Detection efficiency fairly high, $\sim 80\%$
- Nearly independent of Q^2
- Detection efficiency highest for low -t
 - Falls off rapidly with increasing *-t*
 - Dictated by size of ZDC



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41

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Current and Projected JLab F_{π} Data

- JLab 12 GeV program includes measurements of F_{π} to higher Q^2
- JLab Hall C is the only facility worldwide that can perform this measurement
- Projected error bars show on plot, *y* positioning of points arbitrary
- Models all disagree!

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• Contributions from sea quarks and gluons highly uncertain at high Q²



• A world leading, high impact measurement

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Current and Projected JLab F_K Data

- Data has all been acquired and analysis is in progress
- Projected errors bars, y positioning of points arbitrary
- No existing data above $Q^2 \sim 2.25 \ GeV^2$
- Error bars on sparse existing data are very large
- Kaon structure even more poorly known than the pion

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- $p(e,e'\pi^+)n$ data obtained away from $t=m_\pi^2$ pole
- "Chew Low" extrapolation method must know analytical dependence of $d\sigma_L/dt$ in unphysical region
- Extrapolation method last used in 1972 by Devenish and Lyth
- Very large systematic uncertainties
- Failed to produce a reliable result
- Different polynomial fits equally likely in physical region
 - Form factor values divergent when extrapolated



44

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• We do not use the Chew-Low method

Extracting F_{π} at JLab

- Only reliable approach for extracting F_{π} from σ_L is to use a model that incorporates the π^+ production mechanism and the spectator nucleon
- JLab F_π experiments so far use the VGL Regge model
 Reliably describes σ₁ across a wide kinematic domaon
- Ideally, want a better understanding of the model dependence of the result
- There has been considerable recent interest
 - T.K. Choi, K.J. Kong, B.G. Yu, arXiv 1508.00969
 - T. Vrancx, J. Ryckebusch, PRC 89(2014)025203
 - M.M. Kaskulov, U. Mosel, PRC 81(2010)045202
 - S.V. Goloskokov, P.Kroll, EPJC 65(2010)137
- We aim to publish our experimentally measured cross section data so that updated values of F_{π} can be extracted as the models improve

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45 / 15

VGL - Vanderhaeghen-Guidal-Laget Model - Vanderhaeghen, Guidal, Laget, PRC 57(1998) 1454

$F_{\pi}(Q^2)$ from JLab Data

VGL model incorporates π^+ production mechanism and spectator neutron effects

- Feynman propagator $\frac{1}{t-m_{\pi}^2}$ replaced by π and ρ Regge propagators
- Represents the exchange of a series of particles, compared to a single particle
- Free parameters Λ_π, Λ_ρ -Trajectory cutoff parameters
- At small -t, σ_L only sensitive to F_{π}

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$$F_{\pi} = \frac{1}{1 + Q^2 / \Lambda_{\pi}^2}$$



Error bars indicate statistical and random (pt-pt) systematic uncertainties in quadrature. Yellow band indicates the correlated (scale) and partly correlated (t-corr) systematic uncertainties.

$$\Lambda_{\pi}^2 = 0.513, 0.491 \ GeV^2, \Lambda_{\rho}^2 = 1.7 \ GeV^2$$

T. Horn, et al., PRL 97(2006) 192001

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46

15

Two F_{π} Validation Methods

- Test #1 Measure F_{π} at fixed Q^2/W , but vary -t
 - *F*_π values should not depend on -t
- Test #2 π⁺ t-channel diagram is purely isovector
- Use a deuterium target to measure σ_L [n(e, e'π⁻)p]
- Examine the ratio -

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$$R = \frac{\sigma_L [n(e, e'\pi^-)p]}{\sigma_L [p(e, e'\pi^+)n]} = \frac{|A_V - A_S|^2}{|A_V + A_S|^2}$$

• Will test at $Q^2 = 1.6, 3.85, 6.0 \ GeV^2$



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)

47

15

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F_K Measurement at JLab

- Similar to F_π, elastic K⁺ scattering from e⁻ used to determine F_K at low Q²
- Can "kaon cloud" of the proton be used in the same way as the pion to extract *F_k* from electroproduction?
- Kaon pole further from kinematically allowed region

$$rac{d\sigma_L}{dt} \propto rac{-tQ^2}{(t-m_K^2)}g_K^2(T)F_K^2(Q^2,t)$$

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• Issues are being explored and tested in JLab E12-09-011

Amendolia, et al., PLB178(1986)435

Stephen Kay



29/10/22

48

15

F_K Validation

- Again, low Q² data is an important test
- Due to experimental setup, can simultaneously study Λ^0 and Σ^0 channels
- Can conduct a pole dominance test through the ratio - $\sigma_{L} \left[n(e, e'K^{+})\Sigma^{0} \right]$

 $\frac{\sigma_L \left[p(e, e'K^+) \Sigma^0 \right]}{\sigma_L \left[p(e, e'K^+) \Lambda^0 \right]}$

• Should be similar to ratio of $g_{pK\Lambda}^2/g_{pK\Sigma}^2$ if t-channel exchange dominates

