

# Measuring transverse size with virtual photons

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Work done with Samu Kurki

arXiv:0911.3011

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How to determine the size of the interaction region in electro-production from the dependence on the photon virtuality.

JOINT INT/JLAB WORKSHOP ON

## Nuclear Structure & Dynamics at SHORT DISTANCES

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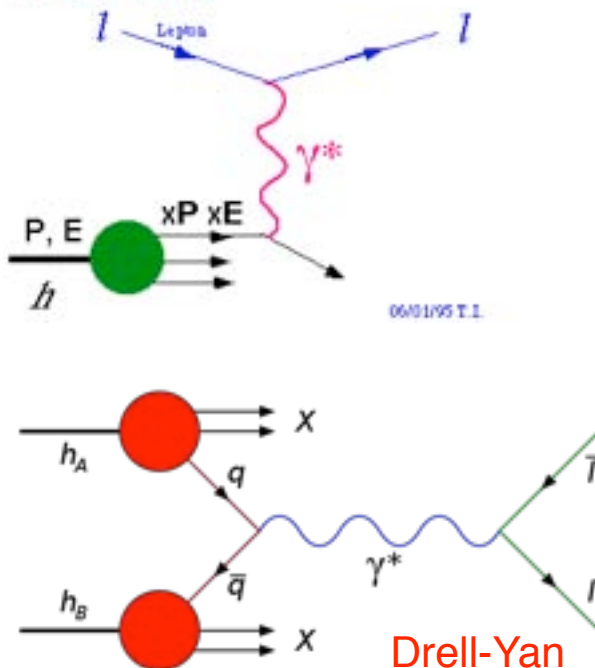
[http://int.phys.washington.edu/PROGRAMS/programs\\_all.html](http://int.phys.washington.edu/PROGRAMS/programs_all.html)

# Photons are useful probes of strong dynamics at any $Q^2$

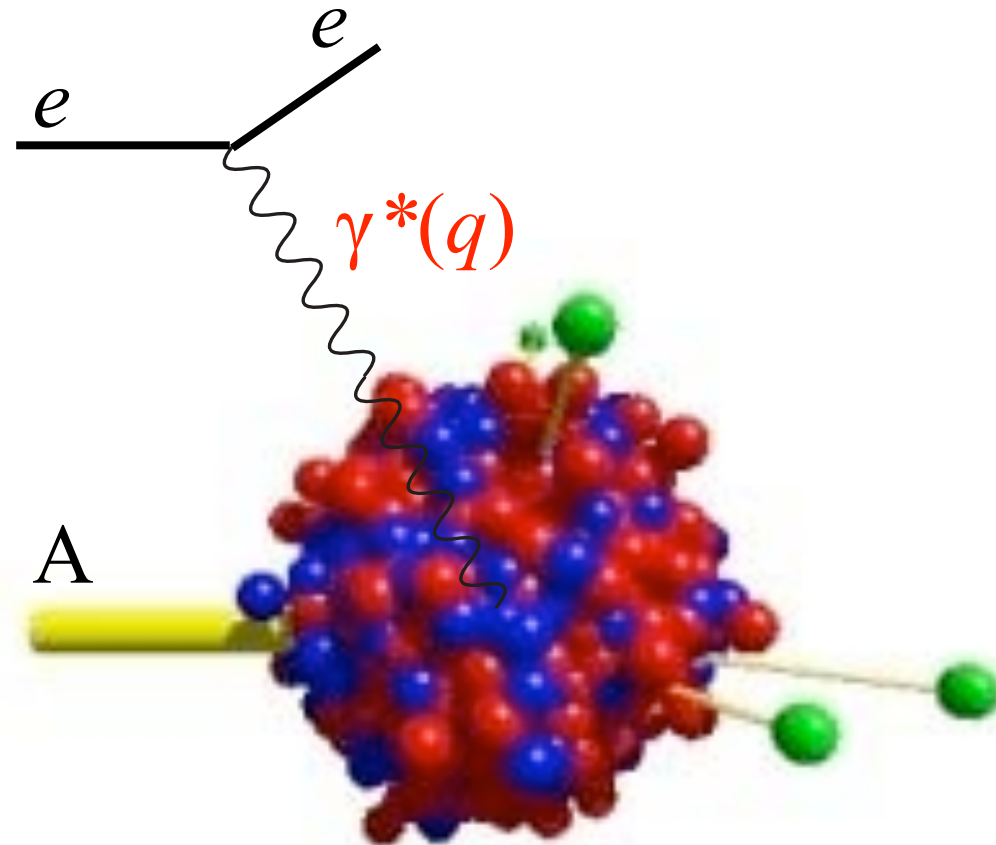
Scattering from pointlike sources at LT in the Bj limit

$$\sigma(q^2 \rightarrow \infty) \propto 1/q^2$$

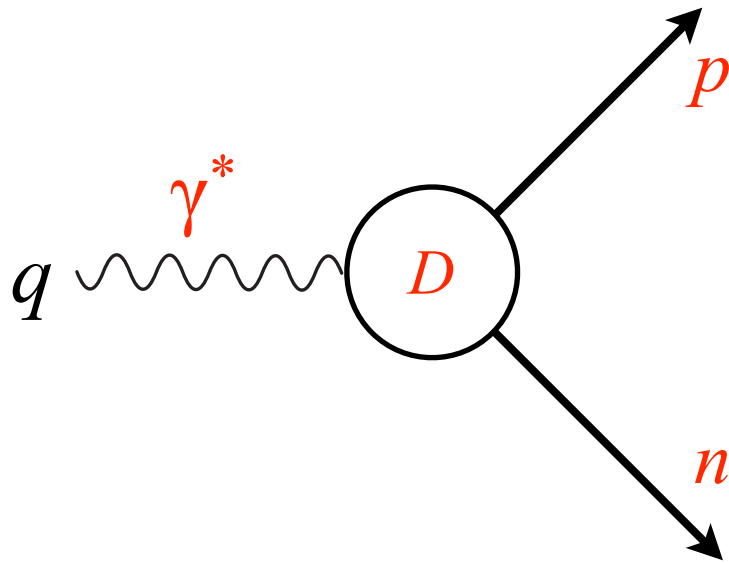
Deep Inelastic Scattering  
in Parton Model



The  $q^2$  dependence reflects the effective size of the interaction region



# Example: Deuteron photodisintegration

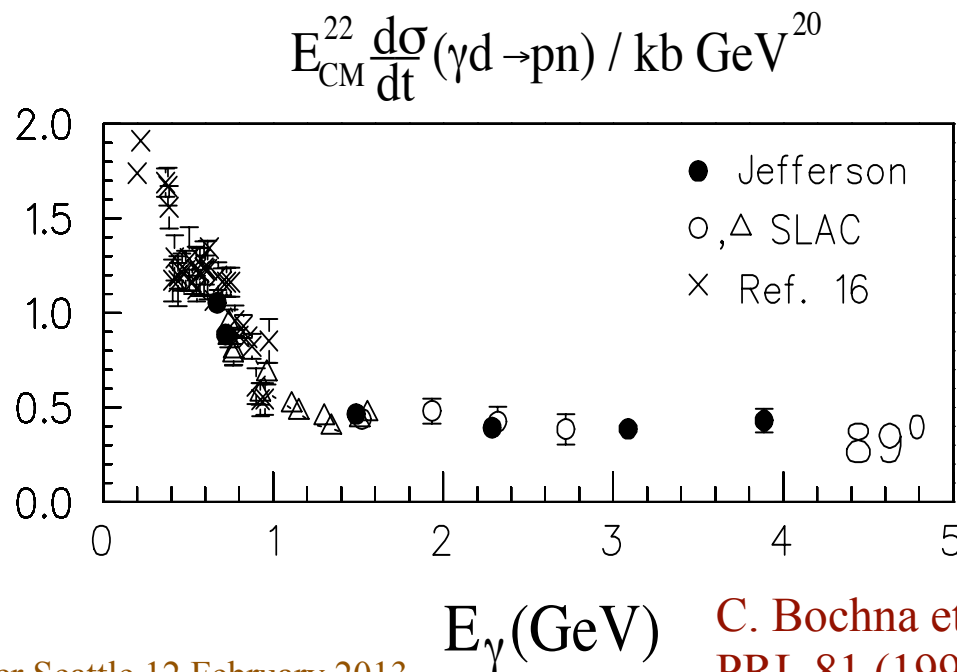


The  $90^\circ$  break-up cross section at  $q^2=0$  agrees with dimensional scaling for  $E_\gamma > 1$  GeV.

Does this mean that only compact configurations of the deuteron, with  $R < 0.2$  fm, contribute to this process?

If so, expect no  $q^2$ -dependence for  $q^2 < 1$  GeV<sup>2</sup>.

This can be formulated more precisely through a Fourier transform to coordinate space.



C. Bochna et al,  
PRL 81 (1998) 4576

# Relativistic effects on photon resolution

From DIS, recall that resolution of photon with  $q^2 = -Q^2$  is different in the longitudinal and transverse directions:

$$\Delta r_{\parallel} \sim \frac{1}{Q} \frac{\nu}{Q} = \frac{1}{2m x_{Bj}} \quad \Delta r_{\perp} \sim \frac{1}{Q}$$

Hence we can accurately measure only the **transverse** size (impact parameter  $\mathbf{b}$ ):

$$\int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{b}} \langle p(p_1) n(p_2) | J^\mu(q) | D(p) \rangle$$

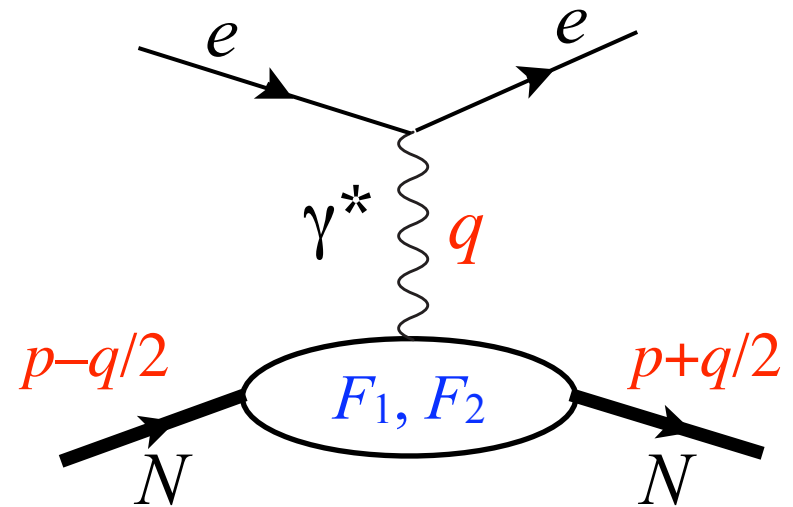
- $\mathbf{q}$  is frame dependent: **Is there a preferred frame?**
- $p_1 + p_2 = p + q$  depends on  $q$ : **What is  $p_1(q)$ ,  $p_2(q)$  ?**
- Does the result depend on  $\mu$  ?

# Recall: Nucleon Form Factors

Using Lorentz and gauge invariance, the scattering amplitude is expressed in terms of the **Dirac**  $F_1$  and **Pauli**  $F_2$  form factors, which depend on  $Q^2 = -q^2$

$$A_{\lambda\lambda'}^\mu = \langle p + \frac{1}{2}q, \lambda' | J^\mu(0) | p - \frac{1}{2}q, \lambda \rangle$$

$$= \bar{u}(p + \frac{1}{2}q, \lambda') \left[ F_1(Q^2) \gamma^\mu + F_2(Q^2) \frac{i}{2m} \sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\nu \right] u(p - \frac{1}{2}q, \lambda)$$



The photon scatters from quarks, which are ultrarelativistic.

- How can we measure the quark positions with resolution  $\Delta b \sim 1/Q$ , when the photon itself is not moving faster than the quarks?

# Boosting to the Infinite Momentum Frame

The photon probes a hadron at an instant of  $x^+ = t+z$ , not at an instant in  $t$

The Light Front  $\approx$  Infinite Momentum Frame

Quark motion in the **transverse direction** slows down in the IMF:  $v_{\perp} = \frac{p_{\perp}}{xE_h}$

A hadron state of momentum  $P^+ = P^0 + P^3$  defined at given  $x^+ = x^0 + x^3$  can be expanded in terms its quark and gluon Fock states as

$$|P^+, \mathbf{P}_{\perp}, \lambda\rangle_{x^+=0} = \sum_{n, \lambda_i} \prod_{i=1}^n \left[ \int_0^1 \frac{dx_i}{\sqrt{x_i}} \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{k}_i}{16\pi^3} \right] 16\pi^3 \delta(1 - \sum_i x_i) \delta^{(2)}(\sum_i \mathbf{k}_i) \\ \times \psi_n(x_i, \mathbf{k}_i, \lambda_i) |n; x_i P^+, x_i \mathbf{P}_{\perp} + \mathbf{k}_i, \lambda_i\rangle_{x^+=0}$$

where the LF wave functions  $\psi_n(x_i, \mathbf{k}_i, \lambda_i)$  are **independent** of the hadron momentum  $P^+, P_{\perp}$ .

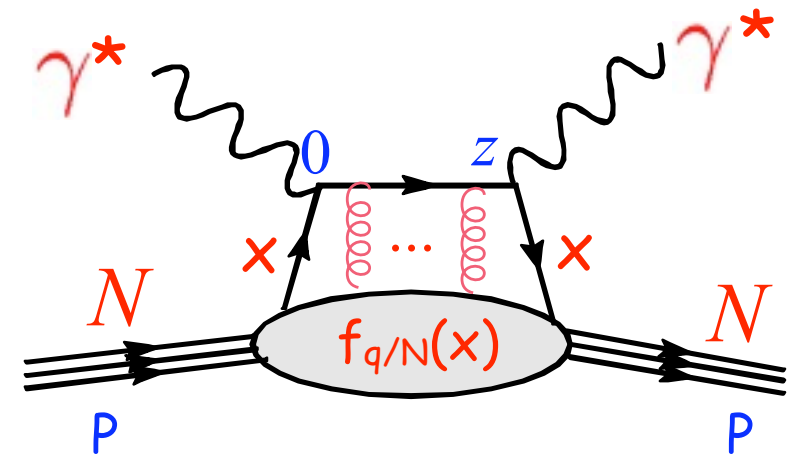
**Note:** The partons carry fractions  $x_i$  of the hadron momentum  $P$ , like in non-relativistic physics with  $m_i/M \rightarrow x_i$ .

# Inclusive Deep Inelastic Scattering (DIS)

In the DIS **cross section** the photon vertices of the amplitude and amplitude\* are separated by a light-like distance  $z$ :  $z^+, z_\perp \rightarrow 0$ ;  $z^- \sim 1/(2mxBj)$ .

The parton distributions can be expressed in terms of LF wave functions:

$$f_{q/N}(x) = \sum_{n, \lambda_i, k} \prod_{i=1}^n \left[ \int \frac{dx_i d^2 \mathbf{k}_i}{16\pi^3} \right] 16\pi^3 \delta\left(1 - \sum_i x_i\right) \delta^{(2)}\left(\sum_i \mathbf{k}_i\right) \\ \times \delta(x - x_k) |\psi_n(x_i, \mathbf{k}_i, \lambda_i)|^2$$



- Notes:** – The parton distribution is defined in the **Bj limit** ( $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$ )
- The above expression is approximate, since **rescattering** of the struck parton (described by the Wilson line) is **neglected**.

# The Generalized Parton Distributions: GPD's

The GPD's are non-forward matrix elements of the PDF operator:

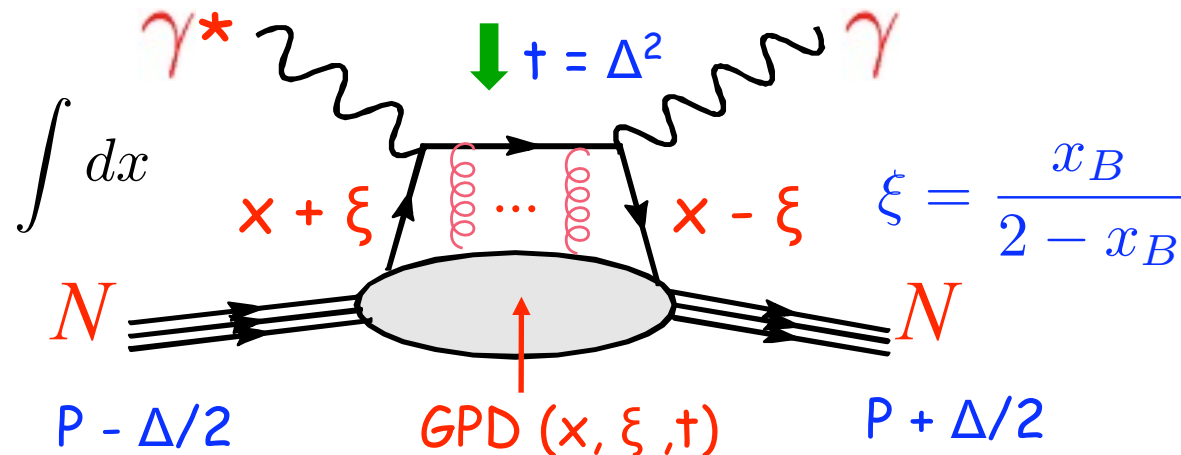
$$\frac{1}{8\pi} \int dr^- e^{im_x r^- / 2} \langle P + \frac{1}{2}\Delta | \bar{q}(-\frac{1}{2}r) \gamma^+ W[\frac{1}{2}r^-, -\frac{1}{2}r^-] q(\frac{1}{2}r) | P - \frac{1}{2}\Delta \rangle_{r^+ = r_\perp = 0}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2P^+} \bar{u}(P + \frac{1}{2}\Delta) \left[ H(x, \xi, t) \gamma^+ + E(x, \xi, t) i\sigma^{+\nu} \frac{\Delta_\nu}{2m} \right] u(P - \frac{1}{2}\Delta)$$

The GPD **amplitudes** can be accessed experimentally through the Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering **cross section** at leading twist:  $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$ .

DVCS:  $e N \rightarrow e' + \gamma + N$

Through  $\Delta_\perp$ , the GPD's contain information about the parton distributions in transverse space.





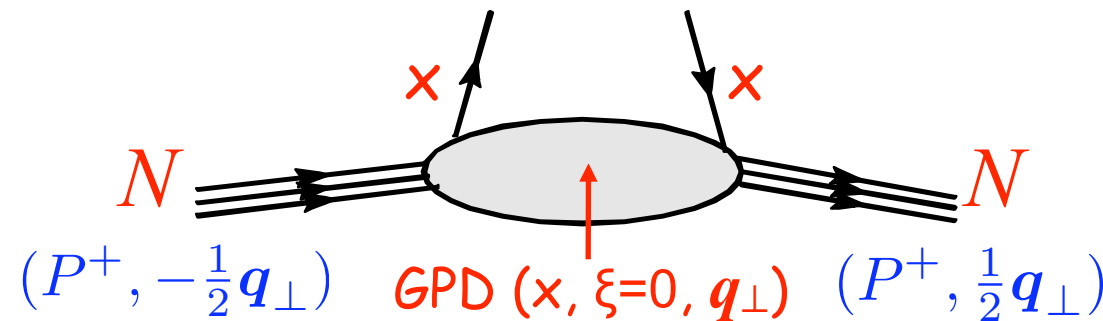
# Impact parameter distributions via the GPD's

Extrapolating the GPD to  $\xi = 0$  and Fourier transforming it wrt.  $\mathbf{q}_\perp$

$$f_{q/N}(x, \mathbf{b}) = \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{b}} \int \frac{dz^-}{8\pi} e^{ixP^+ z^- / 2} \times \langle P^+, \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{q}, \lambda | \bar{q}(0^+, -\frac{1}{2} z^-, \mathbf{0}_\perp) \gamma^+ q(0^+, \frac{1}{2} z^-, \mathbf{0}_\perp) | P^+, -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{q}, \lambda \rangle$$

Soper (1977)  
Burkardt (2000)  
Diehl (2002)

the GPD can be expressed in terms of LF wf's with the struck quark at transverse position  $\mathbf{b}$  (still ignoring the Wilson line):



$$f_{q/N}(x, \mathbf{b}) = \sum_{n, \lambda_i, k} \prod_{i=1}^n \left[ \int dx_i \int 4\pi d^2 \mathbf{b}_i \right] \delta \left( 1 - \sum_i x_i \right) \frac{1}{4\pi} \delta^2 \left( \sum_i x_i \mathbf{b}_i \right)$$

$$\times \delta^{(2)}(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b}_k) \delta(x - x_k) |\psi_n^\lambda(x_i, \mathbf{b}_i, \lambda_i)|^2$$

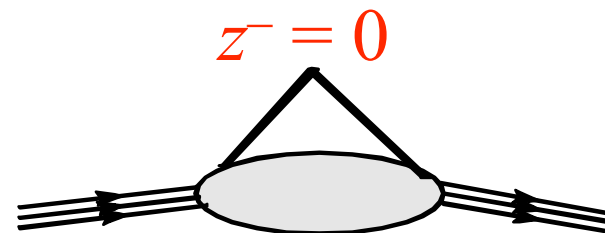
“Center of momentum” at the origin

Fourier-transformed wave function

## Relation of GPD's to Form Factors

When GPD's are integrated over  $x$  the GPD reduces to a form factor, since

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \exp(ixP^+ z^- / 2) \propto \delta(z^-)$$



ensures that the photon vertices coalesce.

The GPD's vanish for  $|x| > 1$ , hence the relations reduce to

$$\int_{-1}^1 dx H^q(x, \xi, t) = F_1^q(t) \quad \text{Dirac}$$

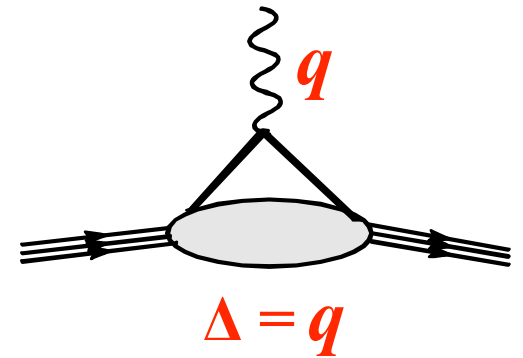
$$\int_{-1}^1 dx E^q(x, \xi, t) = F_2^q(t) \quad \text{Pauli}$$

This gives constraints on GPD models and a great experimental simplification:  
**Form factors are easy to measure (compared to GPD's!).**

# Impact parameter picture of GPD's inherited by FF's

Fourier transforms of form factors give charge densities in impact parameter space:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_0(\mathbf{b}) &= \int_0^\infty \frac{dQ}{2\pi} Q J_0(bQ) F_1(Q^2) \\ &= \sum_{n, \lambda_i, k} e_k \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \int dx_i \int 4\pi d^2 \mathbf{b}_i \right] \delta\left(1 - \sum_i x_i\right) \frac{1}{4\pi} \delta^{(2)}\left(\sum_i x_i \mathbf{b}_i\right) \\ &\quad \times \delta^{(2)}(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b}_k) |\psi_n^\lambda(x_i, \mathbf{b}_i, \lambda_i)|^2 \end{aligned}$$

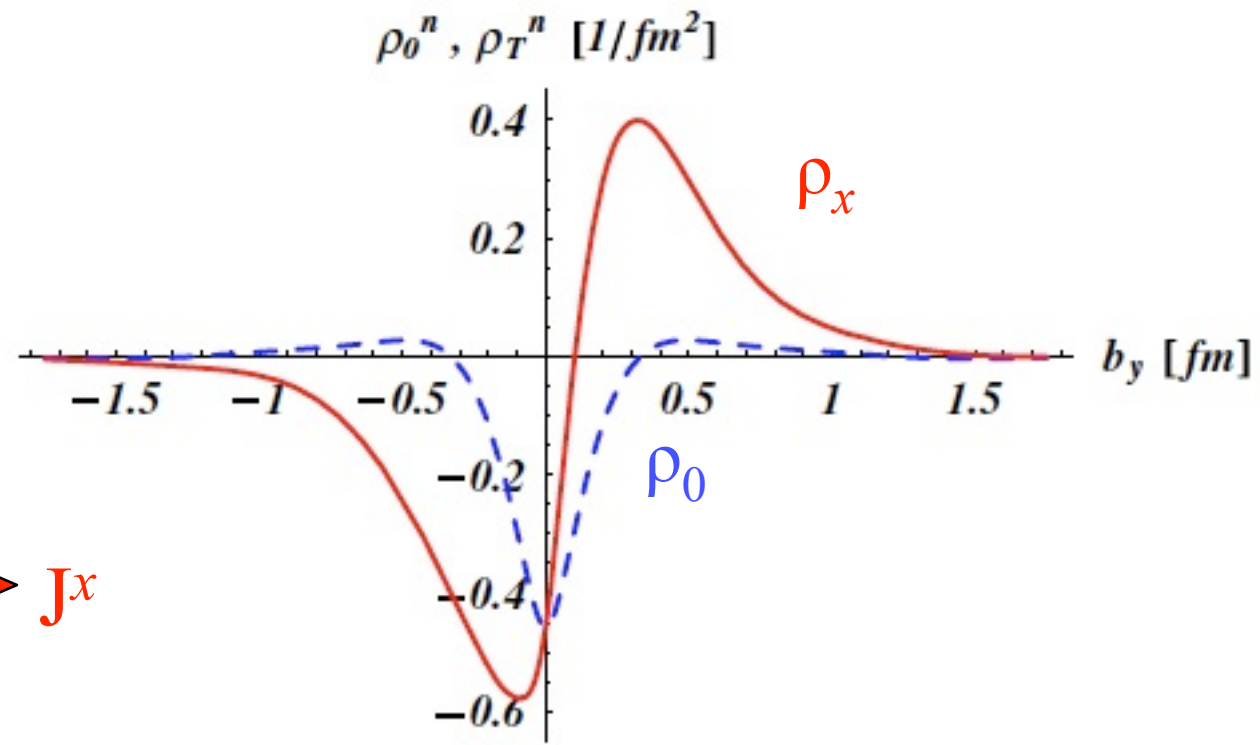
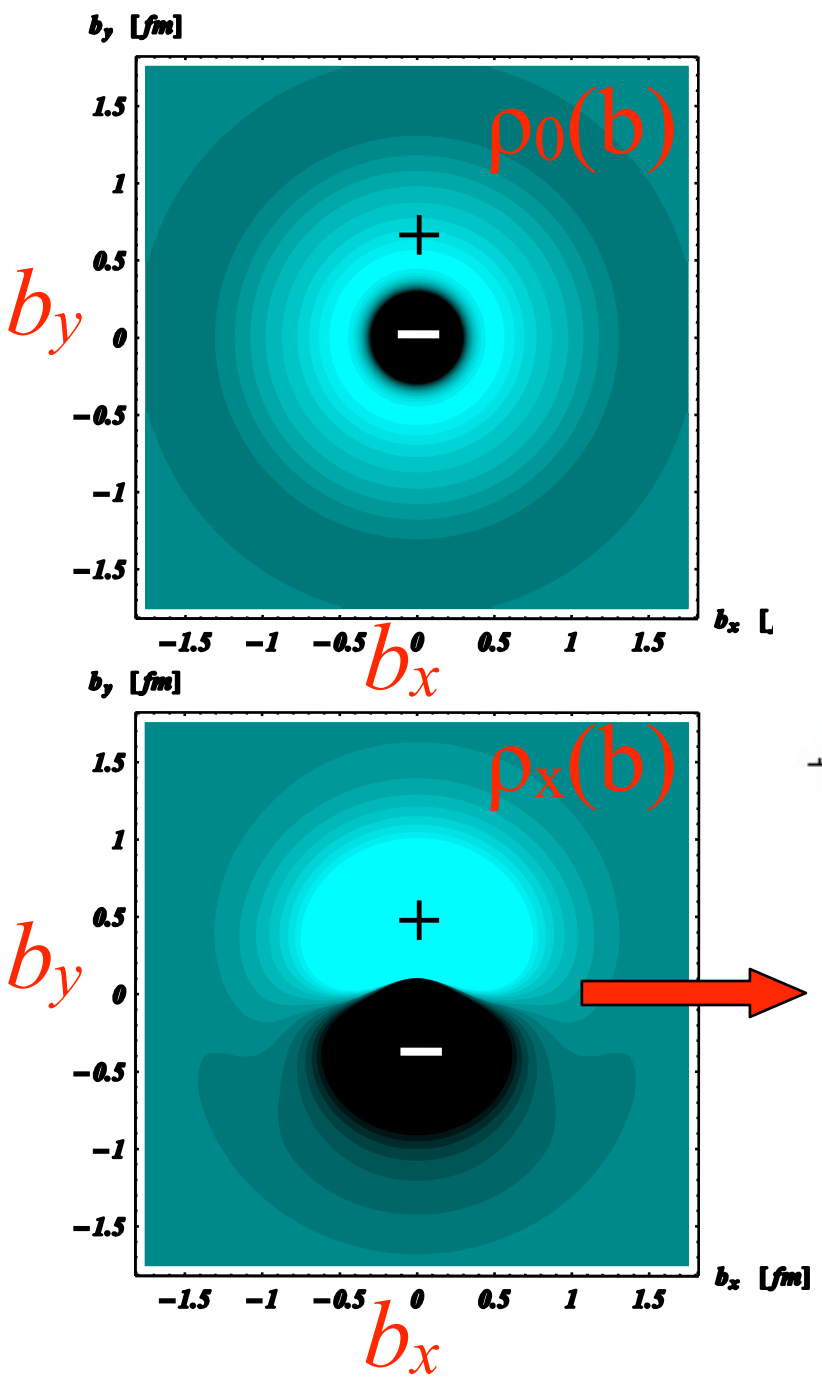


No more Wilson line: Fock expansion is “exact”

No more “leading twist”: Resolution in  $b \sim 1/q_{max}$

Using measured form factors, find the

# empirical quark transverse densities in neutron



Miller (2007)  
Carlson and Vanderhaeghen (2008)

data : Bradford, Bodek, Budd, Arrington (2006)

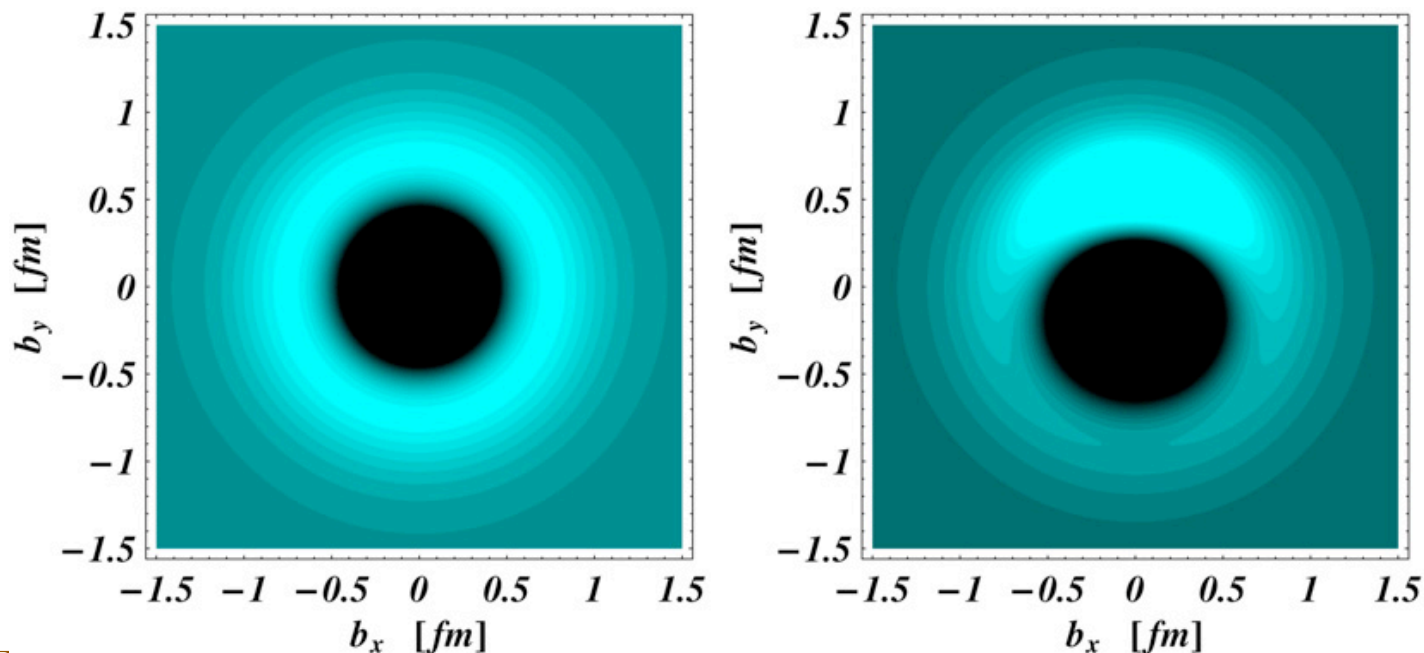
# Generalization to transition Form Factors

In the case of transition form factors, the density is no longer positive definite but the charge distribution is still interesting:

*“It is found that the transition from the proton to its first radially excited state is dominated by up quarks in a central region of around 0.5 fm and by down quarks in an outer band which extends up to about 1 fm.”*

Tiator and Vanderhaeghen (2009)

$$\gamma^* N \rightarrow P_{11}(1440)$$



# Generalization to any $\gamma^*$ transition

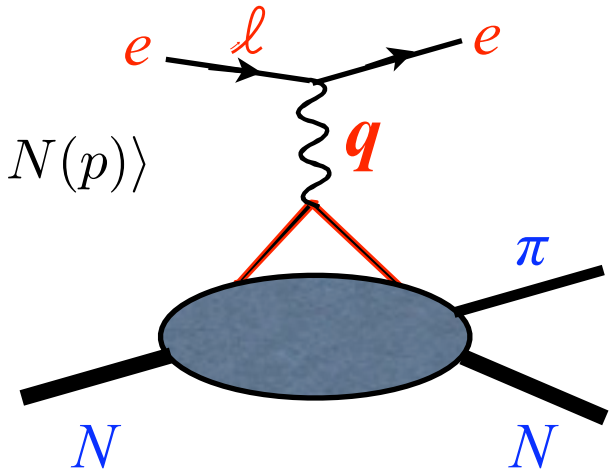
PH and S. Kurki  
arXiv:1101.4810

$$\mathcal{M}(\ell N \rightarrow \ell' f) = -e^2 \bar{u}(\ell') \gamma_\mu u(\ell) \frac{1}{q^2} \int d^4x e^{-iq \cdot x} \langle f | J^\mu(x) | N(p) \rangle$$

Need to identify  $J^+$  current contribution for

LF Fock expansion: E.g.:  $\ell^- \rightarrow \infty$  at fixed  $q$

$$J^+(x) = e_q \bar{q}(x) \gamma^+ q(x) = 2e_q q_+^\dagger(x) q_+(x)$$



$$q_+(x) = \frac{1}{4} \gamma^- \gamma^+ q(x)$$

$$q_+(0^+, x^-, \mathbf{x}) = \int \frac{dk^+}{k^+} \theta(k^+) \left[ b(k^+, \mathbf{x}) u_+(k^+) e^{-i\frac{1}{2}k^+x^-} + d^\dagger(k^+, \mathbf{x}) v_+(k^+) e^{i\frac{1}{2}k^+x^-} \right]$$

where the LF spinors satisfy:  $u_+^\dagger(k^+, \lambda') u_+(k^+, \lambda) = k^+ \delta_{\lambda' \lambda}$

$$\text{Fourier transform to impact parameter: } |p^+, \mathbf{p}\rangle = 4\pi \int d^2\mathbf{b} e^{i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{b}} |p^+, \mathbf{b}\rangle$$

Expand into LF Fock states:

$$|p^+, \mathbf{b}\rangle = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_n \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \int_0^1 \frac{dx_i}{\sqrt{x_i}} \int 4\pi d^2 \mathbf{b}_i \right] \delta\left(1 - \sum_i x_i\right) \delta^2\left(\mathbf{b} - \sum_i x_i \mathbf{b}_i\right) \\ \times \psi_n(x_i, \mathbf{b}_i - \mathbf{b}) \prod_{i=1}^n b^\dagger(x_i p^+, \mathbf{b}_i) d^\dagger(\ ) a^\dagger(\ ) |0\rangle$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\frac{1}{2p^+} \langle f(p^+, \mathbf{b}_f) | J^+(0) | N(p^+, \mathbf{b}_N) \rangle \equiv \frac{1}{(4\pi)^2} \delta^2(\mathbf{b}_f - \mathbf{b}_N) \mathcal{A}_{fN}(-\mathbf{b}_N)$$

where

$$\mathcal{A}_{fN}(\mathbf{b}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_n \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \int_0^1 dx_i \int 4\pi d^2 \mathbf{b}_i \right] \delta\left(1 - \sum_i x_i\right) \delta^2\left(\sum_i x_i \mathbf{b}_i\right) \\ \times \psi_n^{f*}(x_i, \mathbf{b}_i) \psi_n^N(x_i, \mathbf{b}_i) \sum_k e_k \delta^2(\mathbf{b}_k - \mathbf{b})$$

is **diagonal in Fock states  $n$**  in frames where  $q^+ = 0$  ( $\Rightarrow$  no pair production)

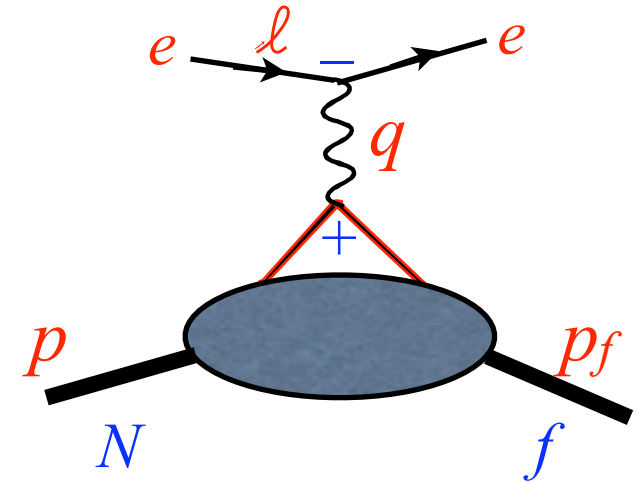
# FT of $\gamma^*$ matrix element in momentum space

In the frame:

$$p = (p^+, p^-, -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{q})$$

$$q = (0^+, q^-, \mathbf{q})$$

$$p_f = (p^+, p^- + q^-, \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{q})$$



we have

$$\int \frac{d^2\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{b}} \frac{1}{2p^+} \langle f(p_f) | J^+(0) | N(p) \rangle = \mathcal{A}_{fN}(\mathbf{b})$$

where  $\mathcal{A}_{fN}(\mathbf{b})$  is given by the previous overlap of Fock amplitudes, which are universal features of  $N$  and  $f$ .

The  $\mathbf{b}$ -distribution may be studied as a **function of the final state  $f$** , providing information about the transverse size of the contributing Fock states.

When  $f$  consists of several hadrons their relative momenta must be consistent with the LF Fock expansion at all  $p_f = q + p$



## Example: $f = \pi(p_1) N(p_2)$

In order to conform with the Lorentz covariance of LF states, at any  $p_f$  :

$$|\pi N(p_f^+, \mathbf{p}_f; \Psi^f)\rangle \equiv \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x(1-x)}} \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{k}}{16\pi^3} \Psi^f(x, \mathbf{k}) |\pi(p_1) N(p_2)\rangle$$

where  $\Psi^f(x, \mathbf{k})$  is a freely chosen function of the relative variables  $x, \mathbf{k}$  :

$$\begin{aligned} p_1^+ &= x p_f^+ & \mathbf{p}_1 &= x \mathbf{p}_f + \mathbf{k} \\ p_2^+ &= (1-x) p_f^+ & \mathbf{p}_2 &= (1-x) \mathbf{p}_f - \mathbf{k} \end{aligned}$$

With  $x, \mathbf{k}$  being independent of  $p_f$ , this defines the pion and nucleon momenta  $p_1, p_2$  at all photon momenta  $q$ .

The  $|\pi N(p_f^+, \mathbf{p}_f; \Psi^f)\rangle$  state has an LF Fock expansion of standard form, in terms of the pion and nucleon Fock amplitudes.

## Illustration (1): $\gamma^* + \mu \rightarrow \mu + \gamma$

The QED matrix element  $\mathcal{A}_{\lambda_1, \lambda_2}^{\mu\gamma} = \frac{1}{2p^+} \langle \mu(p_1, \lambda_1) \gamma(p_2, \lambda_2) | J^+(0) | \mu(p, \lambda = \frac{1}{2}) \rangle$

expressed in terms of the relative variables  $x, \mathbf{k}$  is:

$$\mathcal{A}_{+\frac{1}{2}+1}^{\mu\gamma}(\mathbf{q}; x, \mathbf{k}) = 2e\sqrt{x} \left[ \frac{\mathbf{e}_- \cdot \mathbf{k}}{(1-x)^2 m^2 + \mathbf{k}^2} - \frac{\mathbf{e}_- \cdot (\mathbf{k} - (1-x)\mathbf{q})}{(1-x)^2 m^2 + (\mathbf{k} - (1-x)\mathbf{q})^2} \right]$$

where  $\mathbf{e}_\lambda \cdot \mathbf{k} = -\lambda e^{i\lambda\phi_k} |\mathbf{k}| / \sqrt{2}$ . The Fourier transform gives:

$$\mathcal{A}_{+\frac{1}{2}+1}^{\mu\gamma}(\mathbf{b}; x, \mathbf{k}) = 2e\sqrt{x} \left[ \frac{\mathbf{e}_- \cdot \mathbf{k}}{(1-x)^2 m^2 + \mathbf{k}^2} \delta^2(\mathbf{b}) - \frac{i}{2\sqrt{2}\pi} \frac{m e^{-i\phi_b}}{1-x} K_1(mb) \exp\left(-i \frac{\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{b}}{1-x}\right) \right]$$

In the first term the  $\gamma^*$  interacts with the initial muon, which by definition is at  $\mathbf{b} = 0$ . The second term reflects the distribution of the final muon in transverse space.

This expression agrees exactly with the wave function overlap formula.

## Illustration (2): $\gamma^* + \mu \rightarrow \mu + \gamma$

Choosing  $\Psi(x', \mathbf{k}) = \delta(x' - x) \sqrt{x(1-x)} \exp\left(-i \frac{\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{b}'_{\mu}}{1-x}\right)$

corresponds to fixing the impact parameter  $\mathbf{b}'_{\mu}$  of the final muon. Then

$$\mathcal{A}_{+\frac{1}{2}+1}^{\mu\gamma}(\mathbf{b}; x, \mathbf{b}'_{\mu}) = \sqrt{x(1-x)} \psi_{+\frac{1}{2}+1}^{\uparrow}(x, \mathbf{b}'_{\mu}) \left[ -\delta^{(2)}(\mathbf{b}) + \delta^{(2)}(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b}'_{\mu}) \right]$$

which again conforms with the general overlap expression of LF Fock state wave functions.

# Fourier transform of the cross section

The  $\gamma^* + N \rightarrow f$  amplitudes have dynamical phases (resonances,...).

$\Rightarrow$  Calculating their Fourier transforms requires a partial wave analysis.

However, one can Fourier transform the measured cross section itself.

Then the  $\mathbf{b}$ -distribution reflects the **difference between the impact parameters of the photon vertex in the amplitude and its complex conjugate**:

$$\int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{b}} \left| \frac{1}{2p^+} \langle f(p_f) | J^+(0) | N(p) \rangle \right|^2 = \int d^2 \mathbf{b}_q \mathcal{A}_{fN}(\mathbf{b}_q) \mathcal{A}_{fN}^*(\mathbf{b}_q - \mathbf{b})$$

For  $|f\rangle = |\pi(p_1)N(p_2)\rangle$ , parametrized with the relative variables  $x$  and  $\mathbf{k}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_{fN}(\mathbf{b}; x, \mathbf{k}) &= \int \frac{d^2 \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{b}} \mathbf{q}^4 \frac{d\sigma(\ell N \rightarrow \ell' \pi N)}{d^2 \mathbf{q} dx d^2 \mathbf{k}} \\ &= \frac{\alpha^2}{4\pi^3} \frac{1}{x(1-x)} \int d^2 \mathbf{b}_q \mathcal{A}_{fN}(\mathbf{b}_q; x, \mathbf{k}) \mathcal{A}_{fN}^*(\mathbf{b}_q - \mathbf{b}; x, \mathbf{k}) \end{aligned}$$

## Illustration (3): $\sigma(\gamma^* + \mu \rightarrow \mu + \gamma)$

For the QED example considered above the Fourier transform of the cross section can be done analytically:

$$\mathcal{S}^{\mu\gamma}(\mathbf{b}; x, \mathbf{k}) = 4e^2 x \left\{ \frac{\mathbf{k}^2/2}{[(1-x)^2 m^2 + \mathbf{k}^2]^2} \delta^{(2)}(\mathbf{b}) - \frac{|\mathbf{k}| \cos(\phi_b - \phi_k)}{(1-x)^2 m^2 + \mathbf{k}^2} \frac{im}{2\pi} \frac{\exp\left(-i \frac{\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{b}}{1-x}\right)}{1-x} K_1(mb) \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\exp\left(-i \frac{\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{b}}{1-x}\right)}{(1-x)^2} \left[ K_0(mb) - \frac{1}{2} mb K_1(mb) \right] \right\}$$

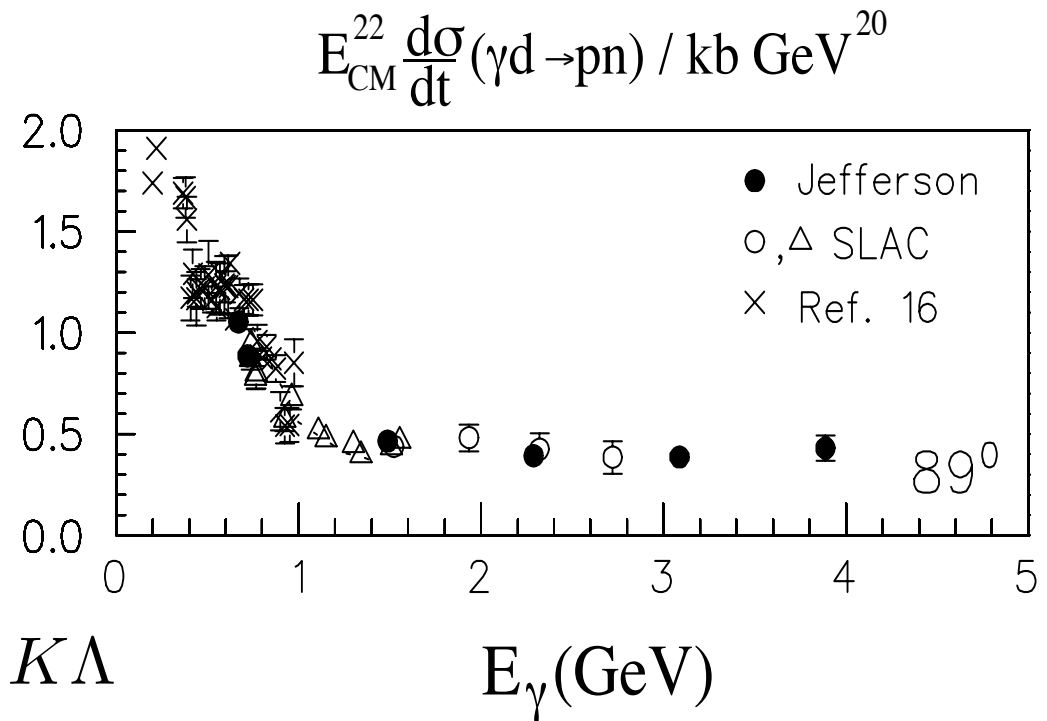
The 3 terms correspond to 2, 1 and 0 of the  $\gamma^*$  interactions occurring on the initial muon.

The imaginary part arises from an angular correlation between  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{k}$ .

# Remarks

In  $\gamma^* N \rightarrow \pi N$ , expect the  $b$ -distribution to **narrow** with the relative transverse momentum  $k$  between the  $\pi$  and the  $N$ .

$\sigma(\gamma D \rightarrow pn) \propto E^{-2.2}$  at large angles, suggesting compact states. A measurement of the  $q^2$ -dependence would allow a direct measurement of the transverse size.



In heavy quark production:

$$\gamma^* N \rightarrow K \Lambda$$

$$\gamma^* N \rightarrow D \Lambda_c$$

the  $b$ -distribution should narrow with the quark mass if the photon couples directly to the heavy quarks.

One may compare the  $b$ -distribution in ordinary and diffractive events.

# Summary (1)

Intuitively, the  $q$ -dependence of a virtual photon interaction gives information about the charge distribution in space.

The target is illuminated “instantaneously” only when the charge carriers are non-relativistic. This is the case in electron microscopy.

Quarks move inside hadrons with  $\approx$  velocity of light.

The photon phase is constant at fixed **Light-Front time**  $x^+ = t + z$

In the IMF  $\approx$  LF formulation, transverse quark velocities are non-relativistic

**2-dim.** FT's of form factors describe charge densities in transverse space

Unlike pdf's, **no “leading twist” limit is implied.**

The resolution in impact parameter is expected to be  $\Delta b \sim 1/Q_{max}$

## Summary (2)

The formulation can be generalized to transition form factors  $\gamma^* N \rightarrow N^*$  and to any (multi-hadron) final (and initial) state:  $\gamma^* A \rightarrow f$

FT of the **cross section**  $\sigma(\gamma^* N \rightarrow f)$  gives the distribution in the transverse distance  $\mathbf{b}$  between the photon vertex in  $T(\gamma^* N \rightarrow f)$  and  $[T(\gamma^* N \rightarrow f)]^*$