Measurement of the proton spin structure function g_2^p and asymmetry A_2^p at the HERMES experiment

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The HERA legacy:



$$F_2\left(x\right) = 2xF_1\left(x\right)$$







The polarised deep-inelastic scattering process:

• inclusive measurement ($lN \rightarrow l'X$):



$$Q^2 \equiv -q^2, \quad x = Q^2/(2P \cdot q)$$



• spin-dependent cross-section contribution:

$$\frac{d^3 \left(\sigma(\alpha) - \sigma(\alpha + \pi)\right)}{dx \, dy \, d\phi_S} = \frac{e^4}{2\pi^2 Q^2} \left\{ \cos \alpha \left[\left(1 - \frac{y}{2} - \frac{y^2 \gamma^2}{4}\right) \mathbf{g_1} \left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{Q^2}\right) - \left(\frac{y}{2} \gamma^2\right) \mathbf{g_2} \left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{Q^2}\right) \right] - \sin \alpha \cos \phi_S \gamma \sqrt{1 - y - \frac{y^2 \gamma^2}{4}} \left[\frac{y}{2} \mathbf{g_1} \left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{Q^2}\right) + \mathbf{g_2} \left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{Q^2}\right) \right] \right\}$$

The structure function g_2 :

• Wandzura-Wilczek decomposition:

$$g_2(x,Q^2) = g_2^{WW}(x,Q^2) + \bar{g}_2(x,Q^2)$$

•
$$g_2^{WW}(x,Q^2) = -g_1(x,Q^2) + \int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y} g_2(y,Q^2)$$

- $^\circ~$ pure twist-three contribution \overline{g}_2
 - probing quark-gluon correlations
 - $\int_{0}^{1} dx \, x^{n} \bar{g}_{2}\left(x, Q^{2}\right) = \frac{n}{4(n+1)} d_{n}\left(Q^{2}\right)$
 - d_2 : Lorentz-force acting on quark
- Burkhardt-Cottingham sum rule:

$$\int_{0}^{1} dx \, g_2\left(x, Q^2\right) = 0$$

 \blacktriangleright nodes? (besides x = 1 and perhaps x = 0)



The HERMES polarised DIS scattering experiment:



- Sokolov-Ternov mechanism
 - transverse beam polarisation
- spin rotators:
 - → longitudinal beam polarisation: $\langle P_B \rangle = 0.34 \pm 0.01$

The HERMES spectrometer:



- polarised hydrogen target internal to the HERA storage ring
 - background-free measurements from highly polarised protons
 - substantial reduction of time-dependent systematics
- very clean lepton-hadron separation
- 2003–2005: transversely polarised target: $\langle P_T \rangle = 0.71 \pm 0.06$

The measurement of double-spin asymmetries:

• lepton-beam asymmetries:

$$A_{\parallel} = \frac{\sigma^{\to \Leftarrow} - \sigma^{\to \Rightarrow}}{\sigma^{\to \Leftarrow} + \sigma^{\to \Rightarrow}} = D(A_1 + \eta A_2)$$
$$A_{\perp} = \frac{\sigma^{\to \uparrow} - \sigma^{\to \Downarrow}}{\sigma^{\to \uparrow} + \sigma^{\to \uparrow}} = d(A_2 - \zeta A_1)$$

• virtual-photon asymmetries:

$$A_{1} = \frac{\sigma_{\frac{1}{2}} - \sigma_{\frac{3}{2}}}{\sigma_{\frac{1}{2}} + \sigma_{\frac{3}{2}}} = \frac{g_{1} - \gamma^{2}g_{2}}{F_{1}}$$
$$A_{2} = \frac{\sigma_{\text{LT}}}{\sigma_{\text{T}}} = \frac{\gamma(g_{1} + g_{2})}{F_{1}}$$

The measurement of A_{\perp} :

• HERA beam facility: $\sigma^{\rightarrow \uparrow}$, $\sigma^{\rightarrow \Downarrow}$ and $\sigma^{\leftarrow \uparrow}$, $\sigma^{\leftarrow \Downarrow}$

$$A_{1}(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2}) = \frac{\sigma^{\to\uparrow}(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2}) - \sigma^{\to\downarrow}(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2})}{\sigma^{\to\uparrow}(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2}) + \sigma^{\to\uparrow}(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2})}$$
$$= -\frac{\sigma^{\leftarrow\uparrow}(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2}) - \sigma^{\leftarrow\downarrow}(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2})}{\sigma^{\leftarrow\uparrow}(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2}) + \sigma^{\leftarrow\uparrow}(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2})}$$
$$= \cos\phi_{S} A_{\perp}(x, Q^{2})$$

• A_{\perp} reconstructed from luminosity-normalised count-rates:

$$A_{\perp}^{(\leftarrow)}\left(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2}\right) = \frac{1}{|P_{B}P_{T}|} \frac{N^{(\leftarrow)}\left(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2}\right) - N^{(\leftarrow)}\psi\left(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2}\right)}{N^{(\leftarrow)}\left(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2}\right) + N^{(\leftarrow)}\psi\left(\phi_{S}, x, Q^{2}\right)}$$

Correction for kinematic smearing effects:

- $A'_{\perp}(\phi_S, x, Q^2)$ measurement affected by
 - higher order QED processes
- resulting bin migration studied in Monte Carlo (MC)
 - \blacktriangleright smearing matrix S
 - (model-independent) unfolding algorithm

$$\begin{split} A_{\perp}\left(j\right) &= -1 + \frac{2}{N_{\text{MC, unpol}}\left(j\right)} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{\text{bins}}} \left(S^{\to\uparrow\uparrow} + S^{\to\downarrow\downarrow}\right)^{-1}\left(j,i\right) \times \\ & \left(A_{\perp}'\left(i\right)N_{\text{MC, unpol}}'\left(i\right) - n_{\text{MC, bg}}\left(i\right) + \sum_{k=1}^{n_{\text{bins}}} S^{\to\uparrow\uparrow}\left(i,k\right)N_{\text{MC, unpol}}\left(k\right)\right) \end{split}$$

 \blacktriangleright statistical correlation of $A_{\perp}(\phi_S, x, Q^2)$

HERMES extraction of $A_2^p(x)$:



$$A_2^p = \frac{1}{1+\eta\,\zeta} \,\left(\frac{A_\perp^p}{d} + \frac{\eta\,\zeta}{\gamma}\left(1+\gamma^2\right)\frac{g_1^p}{F_1^p}\right)$$

$$R$$
 R1998

 F_2^p
 GM07

 $\frac{g_1^p}{F_1^p}$
 E155

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HERMES extraction of $g_2^p(x)$:



R1998

E155

In a nutshell:

• extraction of $A_2^p(x,Q^2)$ in

 $0.0041 < x < 0.9 \text{ and } 0.18 \, \mathrm{GeV}^2 < Q^2 < 20 \, \mathrm{GeV}^2$

- extraction of $g_2^p(x,Q^2)$
 - consistent with SMC, E143 and E155
 ➡ important check of *transverse data*
 - ° consistent with $g_2^p(x,Q^2) \approx g_2^{p,WW}(x,Q^2)$
 - → no sensitivity to $\bar{g}_2^p(x,Q^2)$?
 - probing quark-gluon correlation?
- in preparation for final publication
- including a more detailed analysis of $g_2^p(x,Q^2)$