

Generalized Parton Distributions and Nucleon Spin Structure from Lattice QCD

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Generalized parton distributions


Gauge-Invariant Decomposition of Nucleon Spin

#3

Xiang-Dong Ji (MIT, LNS and Washington U., Seattle) (Mar, 1996)

Published in: *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 78 (1997) 610-613 • e-Print: [hep-ph/9603249](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/9603249) [hep-ph]

 pdf  DOI  cite  claim

 reference search  2,420 citations

Deeply virtual Compton scattering

#4

Xiang-Dong Ji (Maryland U. and MIT, LNS and Washington U., Seattle) (Sep, 1996)

Published in: *Phys.Rev.D* 55 (1997) 7114-7125 • e-Print: [hep-ph/9609381](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/9609381) [hep-ph]

 pdf  DOI  cite  claim

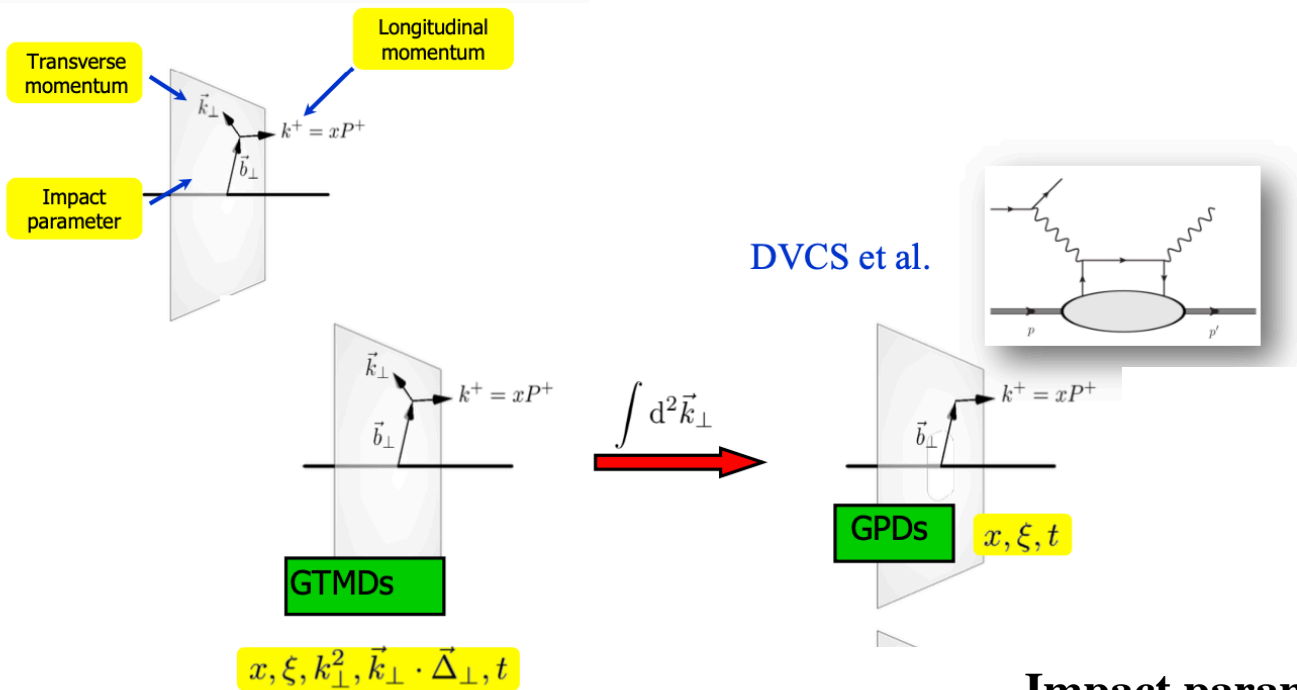
 reference search  1,642 citations

Example: Unpol. quark GPD

$$F(x, \xi, t) = \frac{1}{2\bar{P}^+} \int \frac{d\lambda}{2\pi} e^{-ix\lambda} \langle P' | O_{\gamma^+}(\lambda n) | P \rangle = \frac{1}{2\bar{P}^+} \bar{u}(P') \left[H(x, \xi, t) \gamma^+ + E(x, \xi, t) \frac{i\sigma^{+\mu} \Delta_\mu}{2M} \right] u(P)$$
$$O_{\gamma^+}(\lambda n) = \bar{\psi}\left(\frac{\lambda n}{2}\right) \gamma^+ W\left(\frac{\lambda n}{2}, -\frac{\lambda n}{2}\right) \psi\left(-\frac{\lambda n}{2}\right), \quad \bar{P} = \frac{P' + P}{2}, \quad \Delta = P' - P, \quad t = \Delta^2, \quad \xi = -\frac{\Delta^+}{2\bar{P}^+}$$

See also Mueller et al, FP 94', Radyushkin, PRD 99'

Generalized parton distributions



Generalized parton distributions

- Link PDFs and FFs
- Correlate transverse coordinate and longitudinal momentum of partons
- Shed light on nucleon spin and mass structure

Impact parameter distribution

Burkhardt, PRD 00'

$$q(x, b) = \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^2} H(x, \xi = 0, t = -\mathbf{q}^2) e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{b}}$$

Angular momentum (Ji sum rule)

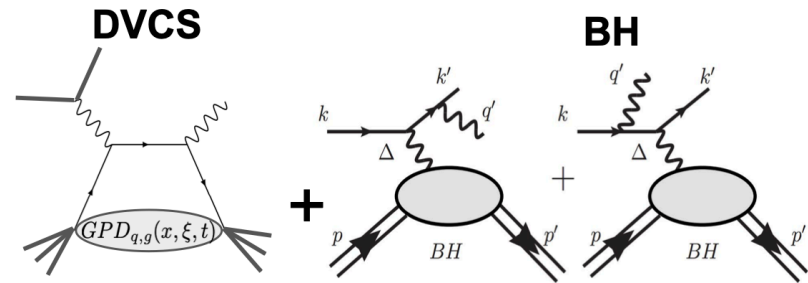
Ji, PRL 97' & PRD 97'

$$\mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{q}} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 dx x [H(x, \xi, 0) + E(x, \xi, 0)]$$

GPDs from phenomenology

- Extraction of GPDs from DVCS

$$\sigma = \sigma_{BH} + \sigma_{DVCS} + \sigma_I$$



$$\sigma_{BH}(x_{Bj}, t, Q^2, E_b, \phi) = \frac{\Gamma}{t} \left[A_{UU}^{BH} (F_1^2 + \tau F_2^2) + B_{UU}^{BH} \tau G_M^2(t) \right]$$

← No CFFs

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{\mathcal{I}}(x_{Bj}, t, Q^2, E_b, \phi) = & \frac{\Gamma}{Q^2 t} \left[A_{\mathcal{I}}(x_{Bj}, t, Q^2, E_b, \phi) \left(F_1(t) \Re \mathcal{H}(x_{Bj}, t, Q^2) + \tau F_2(t) \Re \mathcal{E}(x_{Bj}, t, Q^2) \right) \right. \\ & + B_{\mathcal{I}}(x_{Bj}, t, Q^2, E_b, \phi) G_M(t) \left(\Re \mathcal{H}(x_{Bj}, t, Q^2) + \Re \mathcal{E}(x_{Bj}, t, Q^2) \right) \\ & \left. + C_{\mathcal{I}}(x_{Bj}, t, Q^2, E_b, \phi) G_M(t) \Re \tilde{\mathcal{H}}(x_{Bj}, t, Q^2) \right] \end{aligned}$$

← Linear CFFs: 3

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{DVCS}(x_{Bj}, t, Q^2, E_b, \phi) = & \frac{\Gamma}{Q^2} \frac{2}{1-\epsilon} \left[(1-\xi^2) \left[(\Re \mathcal{H})^2 + (\Im \mathcal{H})^2 + (\Re \tilde{\mathcal{H}})^2 + (\Im \tilde{\mathcal{H}})^2 \right] \right. \\ & + \frac{t_o - t}{4M^2} \left[(\Re \mathcal{E})^2 + (\Im \mathcal{E})^2 + \xi^2 (\Re \tilde{\mathcal{E}})^2 + \xi^2 (\Im \tilde{\mathcal{E}})^2 \right] \\ & \left. - 2\xi^2 \left[\Re \mathcal{H} \Re \mathcal{E} + \Im \mathcal{H} \Im \mathcal{E} + \Re \tilde{\mathcal{H}} \Re \tilde{\mathcal{E}} + \Im \tilde{\mathcal{H}} \Im \tilde{\mathcal{E}} \right] \right] \end{aligned}$$

← Quadratic CFFs: 8

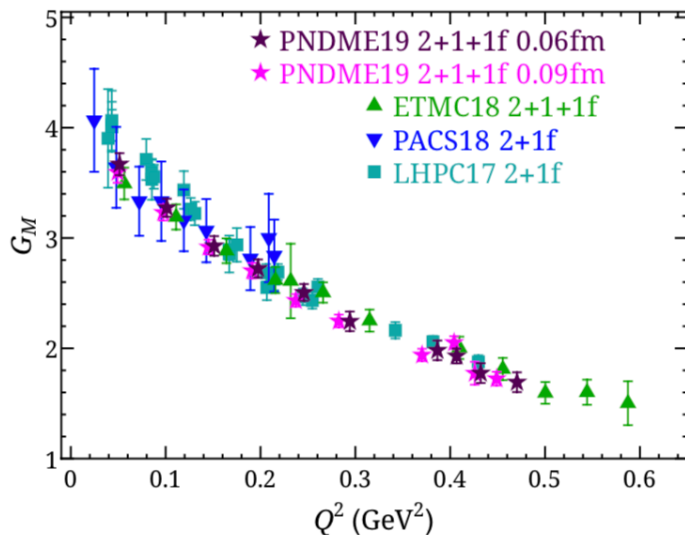
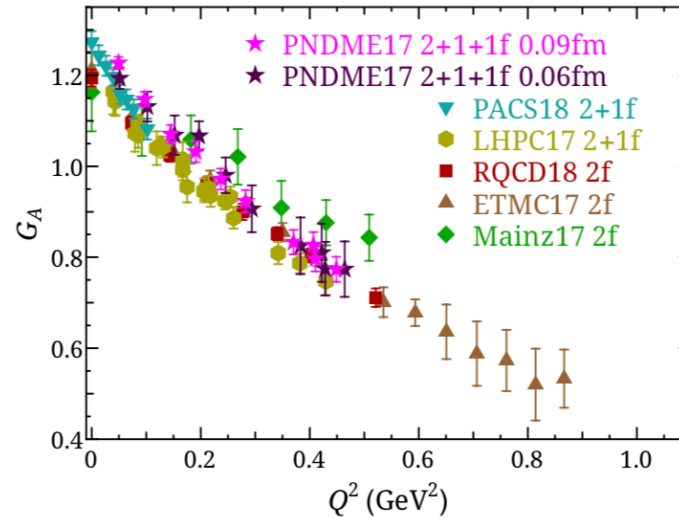
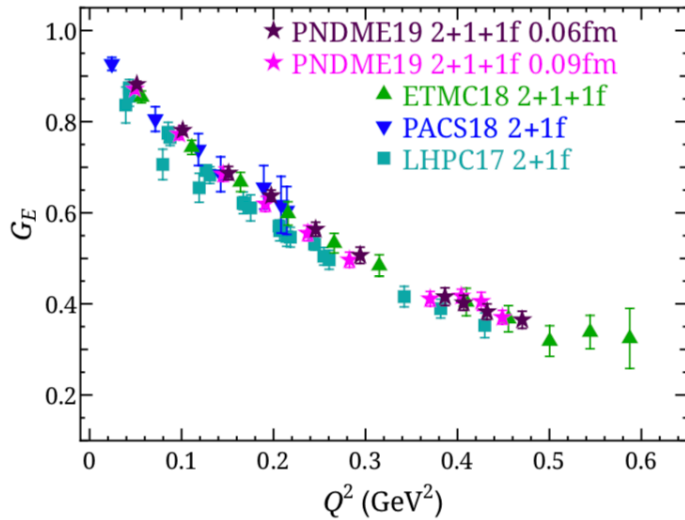
Very complicated to disentangle all these pieces

- Moreover,

$$\mathcal{H}(\xi, t, Q^2) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{dx}{\xi} \sum_{a=g,u,d,\dots} C^a \left(\frac{x}{\xi}, \frac{Q^2}{\mu_F^2}, \alpha_S(\mu_F^2) \right) H^a(x, \xi, t, \mu_F^2)$$

GPDs from lattice

- Complementary inputs from lattice QCD - **moments**



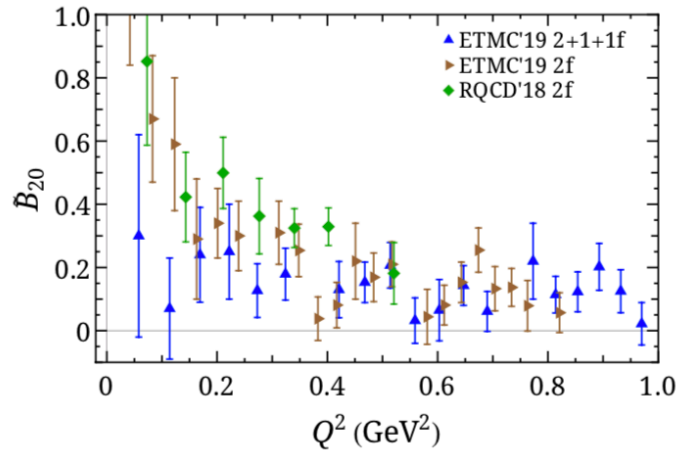
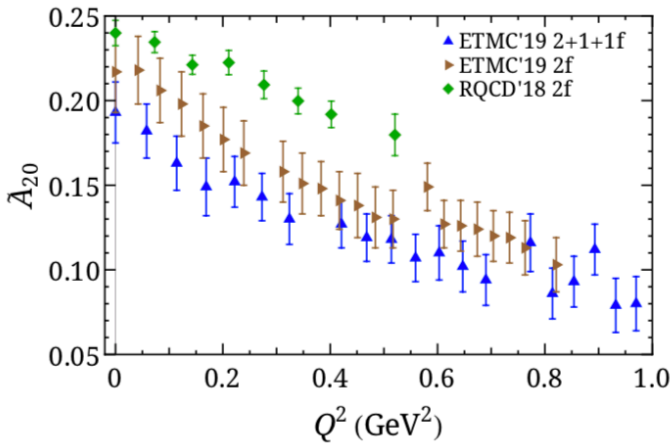
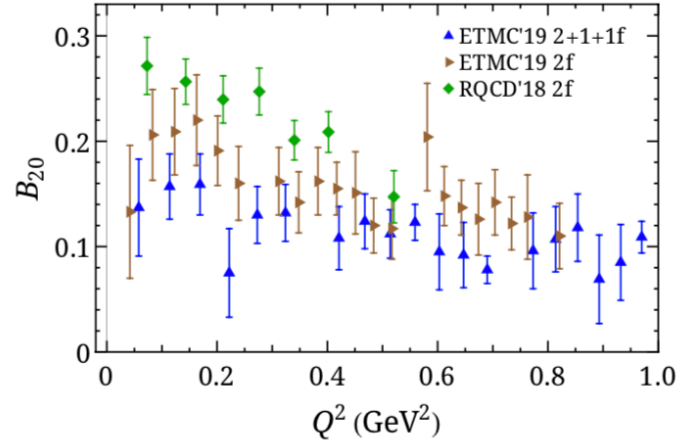
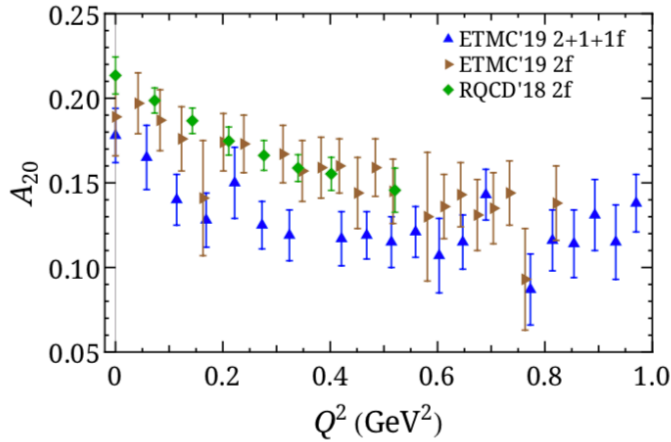
$$\langle N(p_f) | V_\mu^+(x) | N(p_i) \rangle = \bar{u}^N \left[\gamma_\mu F_1(q^2) + i\sigma_{\mu\nu} \frac{q^\nu}{2M_N} F_2(q^2) \right] u_N e^{iq \cdot x}$$

$$\langle N(p_f) | A_\mu^+(x) | N(p_i) \rangle = \bar{u}_N \left[\gamma_\mu \gamma_5 G_A(q^2) + iq_\mu \gamma_5 G_P(q^2) \right] u_N e^{iq \cdot x}$$

Constantinou, JHZ et al, PPNP 21'

GPDs from lattice

- Complementary inputs from lattice QCD - **moments**



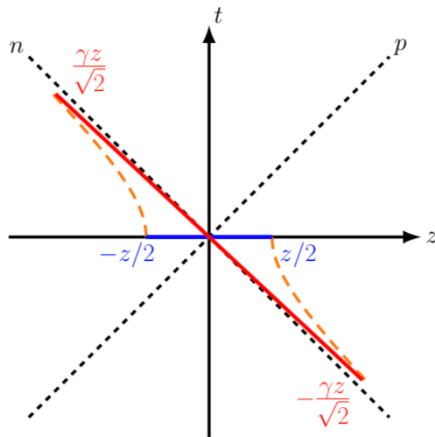
$$\langle N(p', s') | \mathcal{O}_V^{\mu\nu} | N(p, s) \rangle = \bar{u}_N(p', s') \frac{1}{2} \left[A_{20}(q^2) \gamma^{\{\mu} P^{\nu\}} + B_{20}(q^2) \frac{i\sigma^{\{\mu\alpha} q_\alpha P^{\nu\}}}{2m_N} + C_{20}(q^2) \frac{1}{m_N} q^{\{\mu} q^{\nu\}} \right] u_N(p, s),$$

$$\langle N(p', s') | \mathcal{O}_A^{\mu\nu} | N(p, s) \rangle = \bar{u}_N(p', s') \frac{i}{2} \left[\tilde{A}_{20}(q^2) \gamma^{\{\mu} P^{\nu\}} \gamma^5 + \tilde{B}_{20}(q^2) \frac{q^{\{\mu} P^{\nu\}}}{2m_N} \gamma^5 \right] u_N(p, s),$$

GPDs from lattice

- Complementary inputs from lattice QCD - **distributions**

Large-Momentum Effective Theory



Example:

Quark PDF: $q^{[\Gamma]}(x) = \int \frac{d\xi^-}{4\pi} e^{ixP^+\xi^-} \langle PS | \bar{\psi}(0) \Gamma U(0; \xi^-) \psi(\xi^-) | PS \rangle$

From $\tilde{q}^{[\Gamma]}(x) = \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{-ixzP_z} \langle PS | \bar{\psi}(0) \Gamma U(0; z) \psi(z) | PS \rangle$

Factorization:

Xiong, **JHZ** et al, PRD 14', Izubuchi et al, PRD 18', Yao, Ji, **JHZ**, JHEP 23'

Ji, PRL 13' & SCPMA 14',
Ji, **JHZ** et al, RMP 21'

$$q^{[\Gamma]}(x) = C \left(\frac{x}{y}, \frac{\mu}{yP_z} \right) \otimes \tilde{q}(y) + \mathcal{O} \left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{x^2 P_z^2}, \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{(1-x)^2 P_z^2} \right)$$

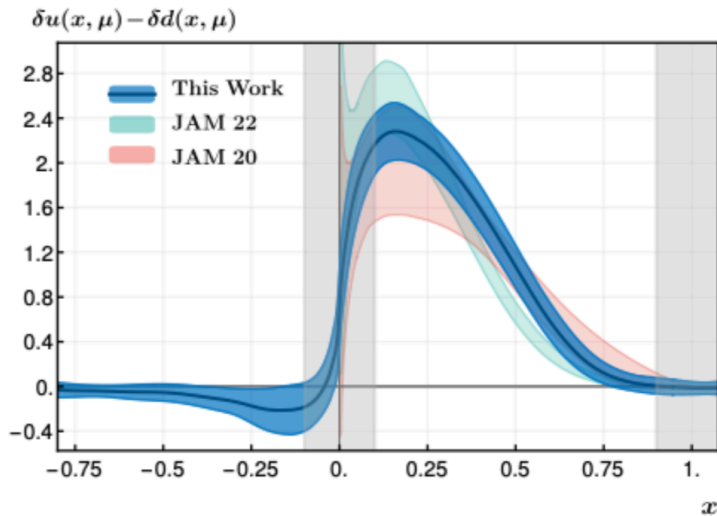
GPDs from lattice

- Complementary inputs from lattice QCD - **distributions**

Large-Momentum Effective Theory

Some state-of-the-art results

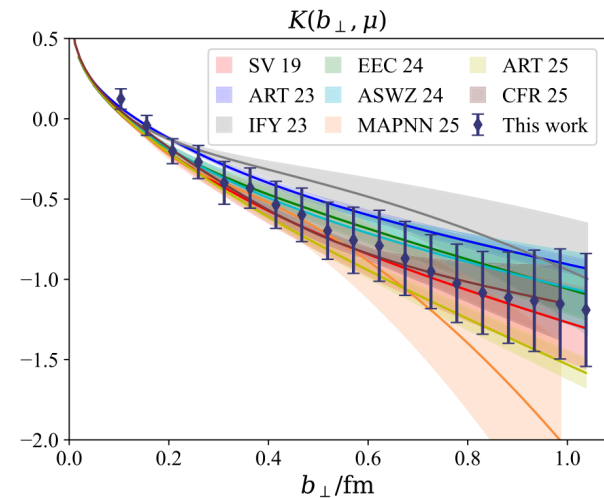
Nucleon quark transversity PDF



Yao, **JHZ** et al (LPC), PRL 23'

See Peng Sun's talk

Collins-Soper kernel



Tan et al (LPC), PRD 26'

See talks by Qi-An Zhang, Jin-Xin Tan

GPDs from lattice

- Complementary inputs from lattice QCD - **distributions**

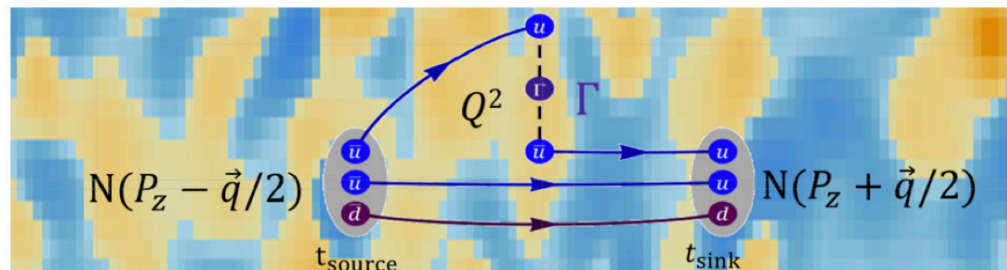
Factorization for GPDs

Ji, **JHZ** et al, PRD 15' & Xiong, **JHZ**, PRD 15'

$$H_{u-d}^\pi(x, \xi, t, \mu) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dy}{|y|} C\left(\frac{x}{y}, \frac{\xi}{y}, \frac{yP^z}{\mu}\right) \tilde{H}_{u-d}^\pi(y, \xi, t, P^z) + h.t.$$

$$\tilde{h}_{\text{lat}}(z, P^z, t, a) = \frac{P^z}{P_0} \langle N(\vec{P} + \frac{\vec{\Delta}}{2}) | \bar{q}(z) \Gamma \left(\prod_n U_z(n\hat{z}) \right) \tau_3 q(0) | N(\vec{P} - \frac{\vec{\Delta}}{2}) \rangle$$

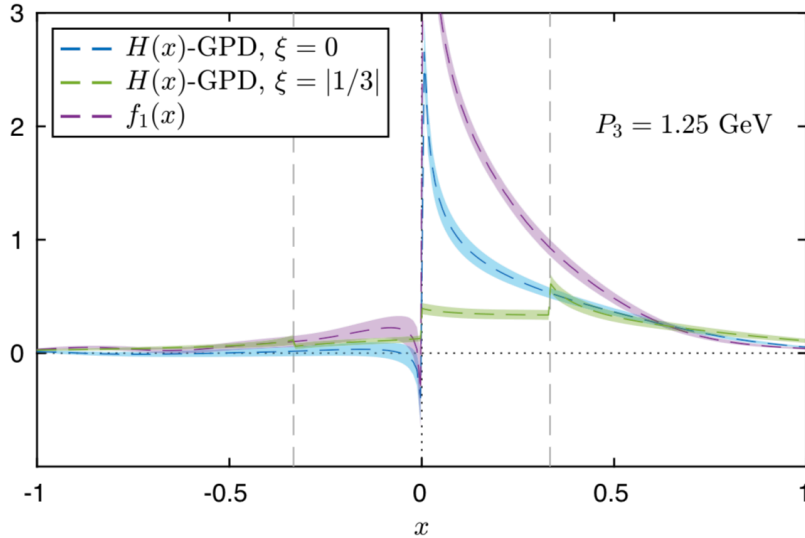
$$\tilde{H}_{u-d}^\pi(x, \xi, t, P^z) = \int \frac{dz}{4\pi} e^{ixzP^z} \tilde{h}_{\text{lat}}^R(z, P^z, t)$$



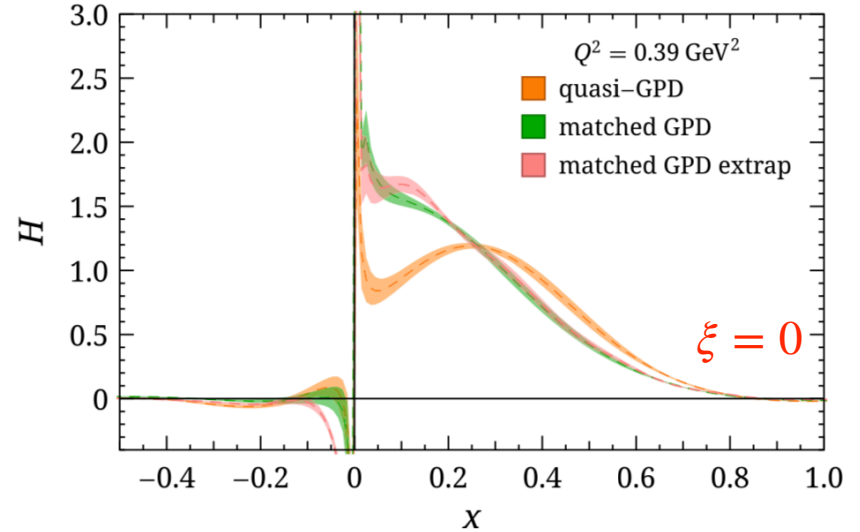
Chen, **JHZ** et al, NPB 20'

Lattice results on GPDs

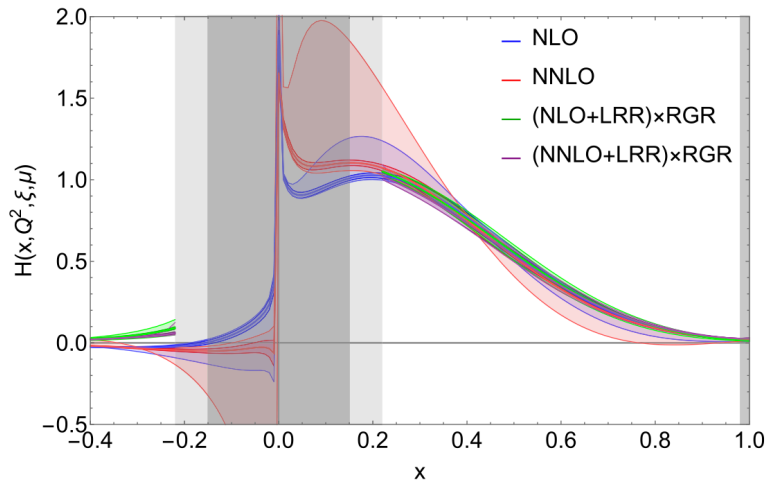
Quark GPDs of proton



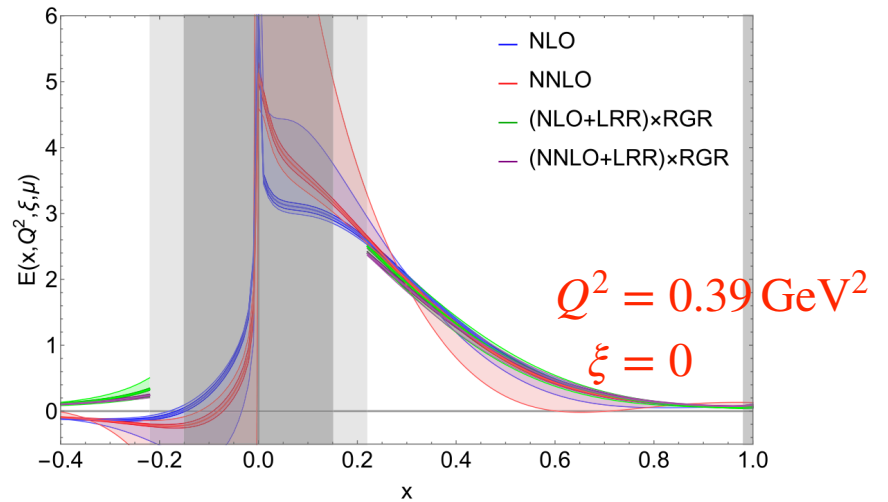
Alexandrou et al, PRL 20'



Lin, PRL 21'



Holligan et al, PRD 24'

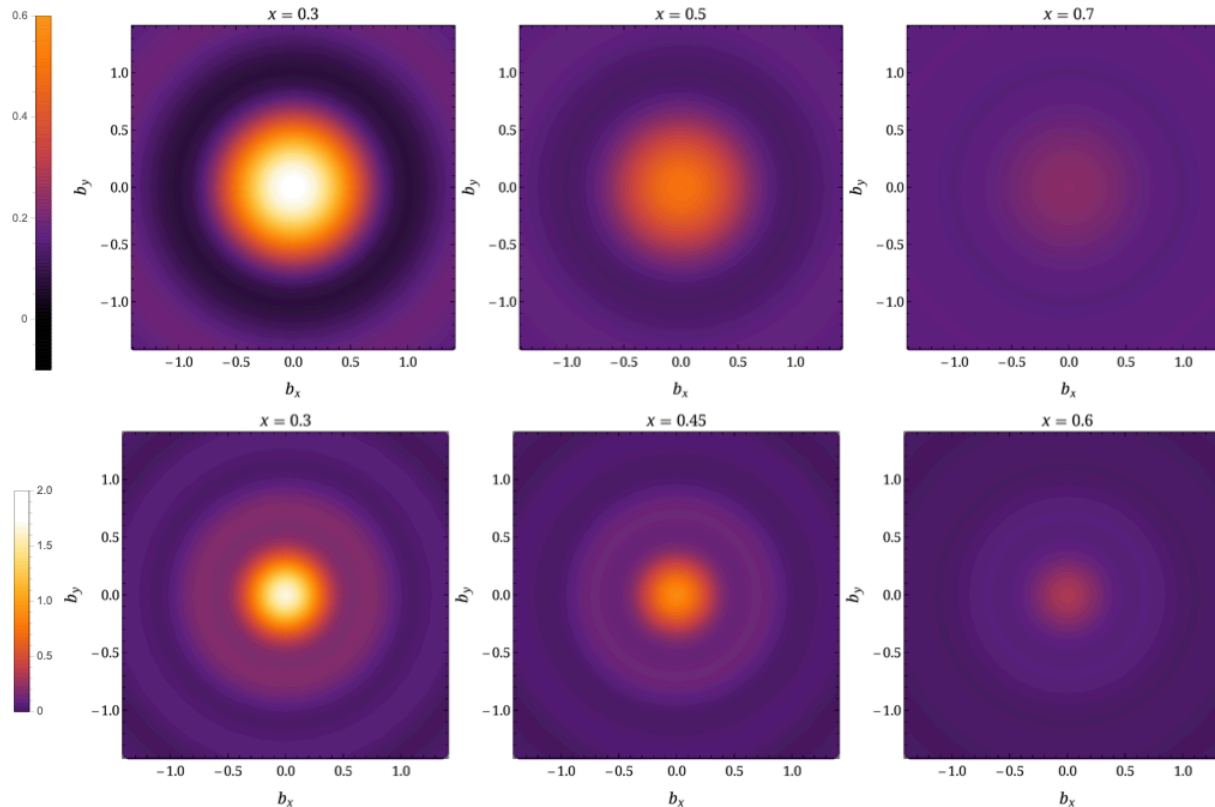


Lattice results on GPDs

Quark GPDs of proton

Impact parameter distribution

$$q(x, b) = \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^2} H(x, \xi = 0, t = -\mathbf{q}^2) e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{b}}$$

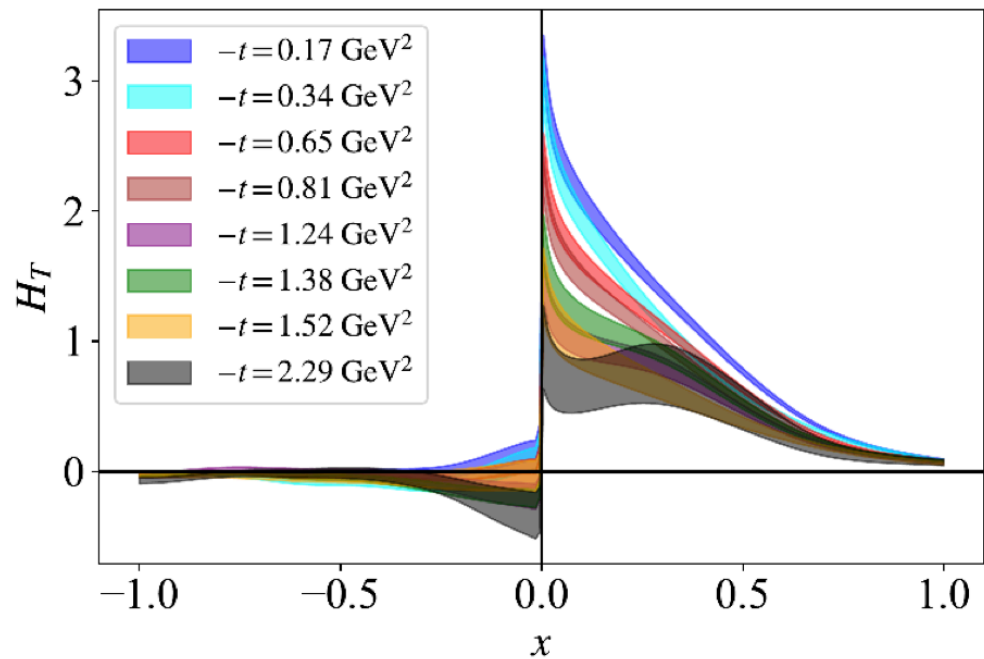
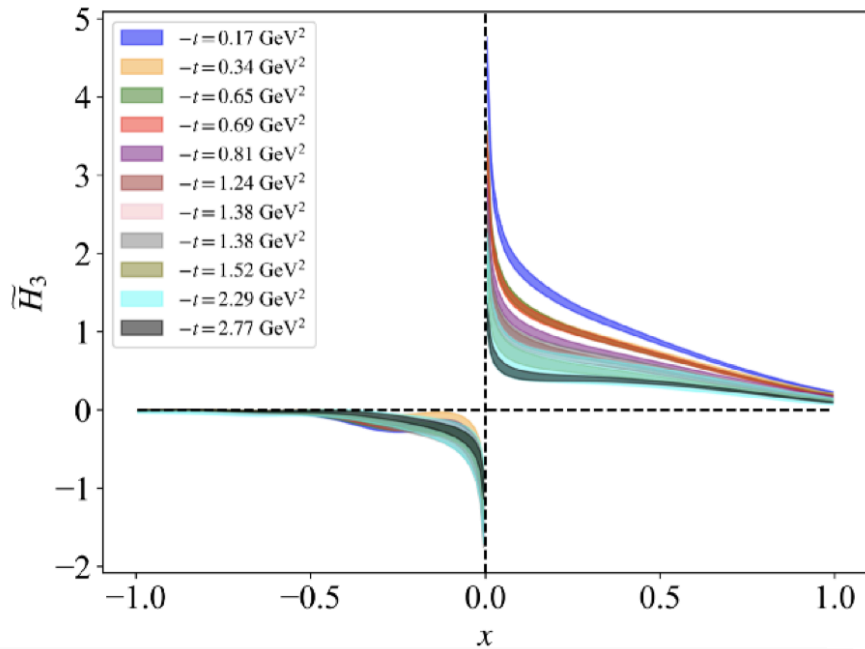


Lin, PRL 21' & PLB 22'

Lattice results on GPDs

Quark GPDs of proton

Results from asymmetric frame

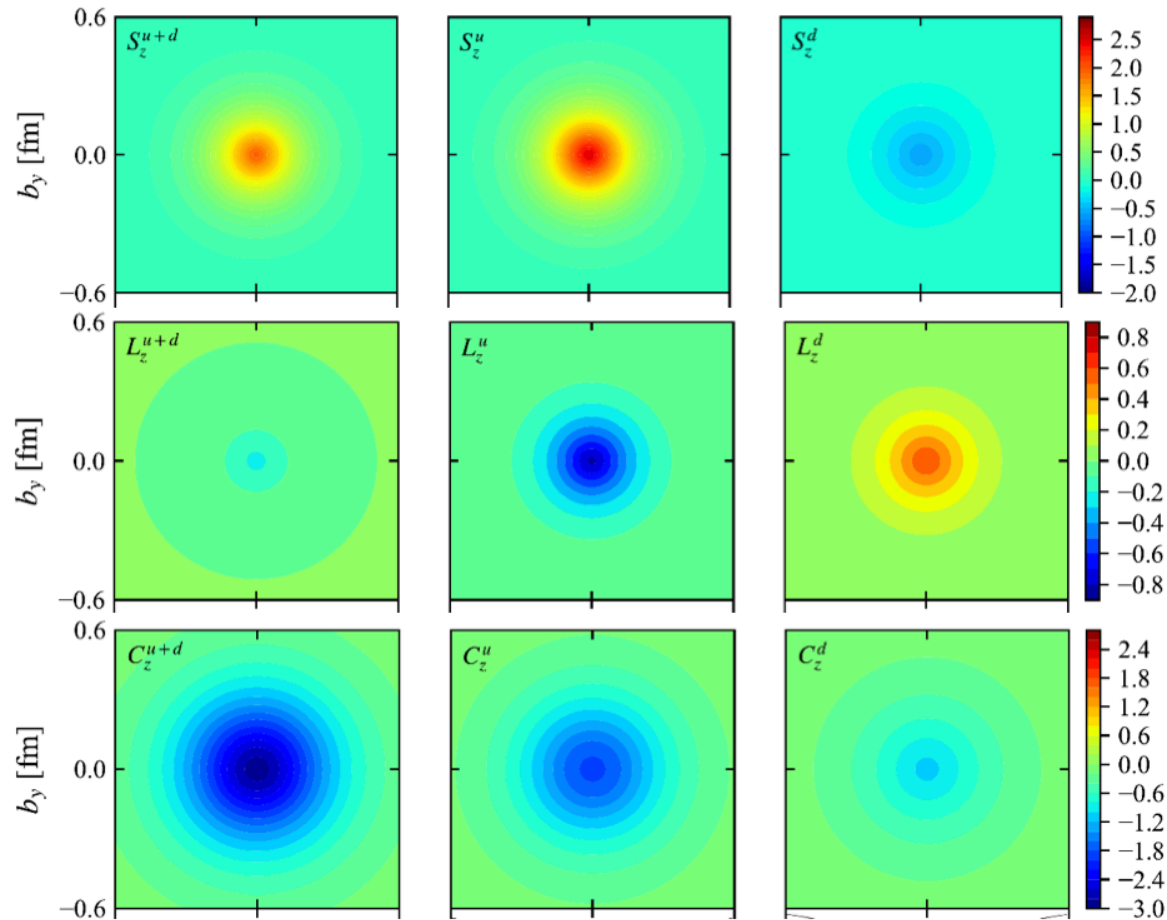


Bhattacharya et al, PRD 22', PRD 24' & PRD 25'

Lattice results on GPDs

Quark GPDs of proton

Results from asymmetric frame: moments from short-distance factorization

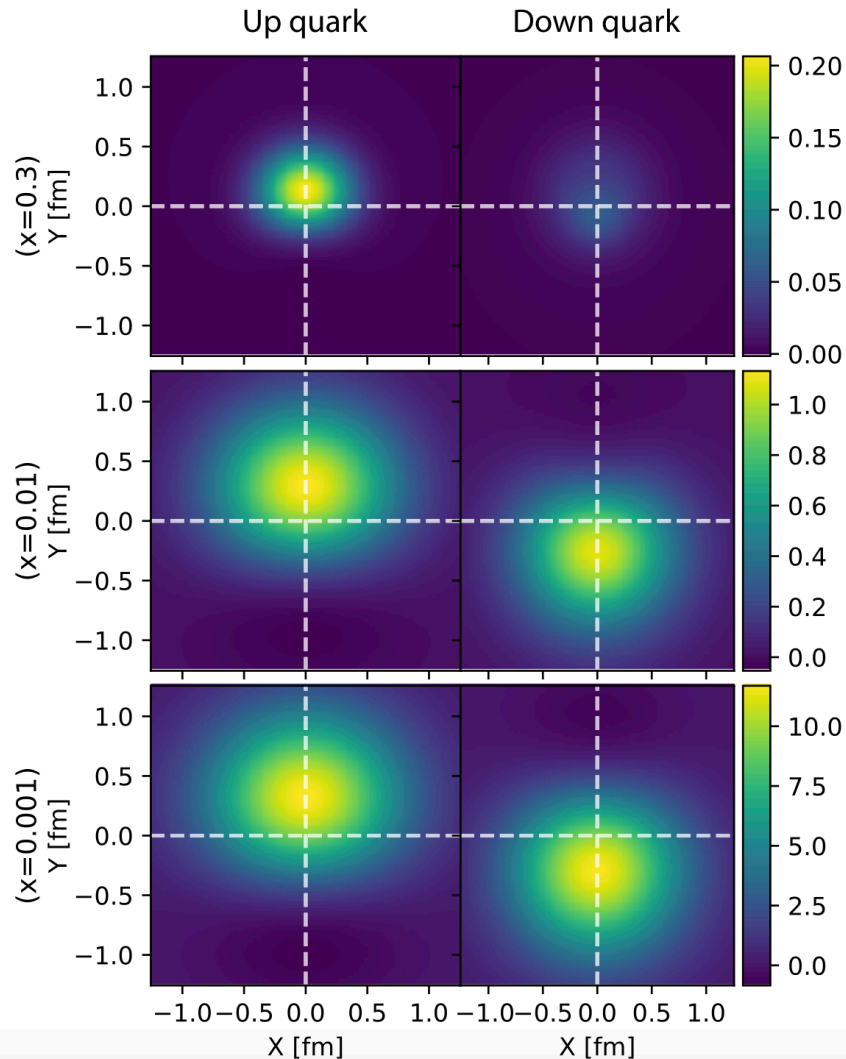


Bhattacharya et al, JHEP 25'

Lattice results on GPDs

Quark GPDs of proton

Experimental and lattice inputs combined



See Yuxun Guo's talk

Guo et al, PRL 25'

Proton spin structure

Jaffe-Manohar sum rule [Jaffe and Manohar, NPB 90'](#)

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}\Delta\Sigma + L_q + \Delta G + L_g$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \int d^3\mathbf{x} \left[\psi_f^\dagger \frac{\Sigma}{2} \psi_f + \psi_f^\dagger \left(\mathbf{x} \times \frac{1}{i} \nabla \right) \psi_f + \mathbf{E}_a \times \mathbf{A}_a + E_a^i (\mathbf{x} \times \nabla) A_a^i \right]$$

- Complete decomposition into quark and gluon spin & OAM
- Gauge-dependent, but with clear partonic interpretation



Ji sum rule [Ji, PRL 97'](#)

$$\frac{1}{2} = J_q + J_g = \frac{1}{2}\Delta\Sigma + L_q + J_g$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \int d^3\mathbf{x} \left[\psi_f^\dagger \frac{\Sigma}{2} \psi_f + \psi_f^\dagger \left(\mathbf{x} \times \frac{1}{i} \mathbf{D} \right) \psi_f + \mathbf{x} \times (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}) \right]$$

- Frame- and gauge-independent
- Quark and gluon contributions related to the moments of GPDs

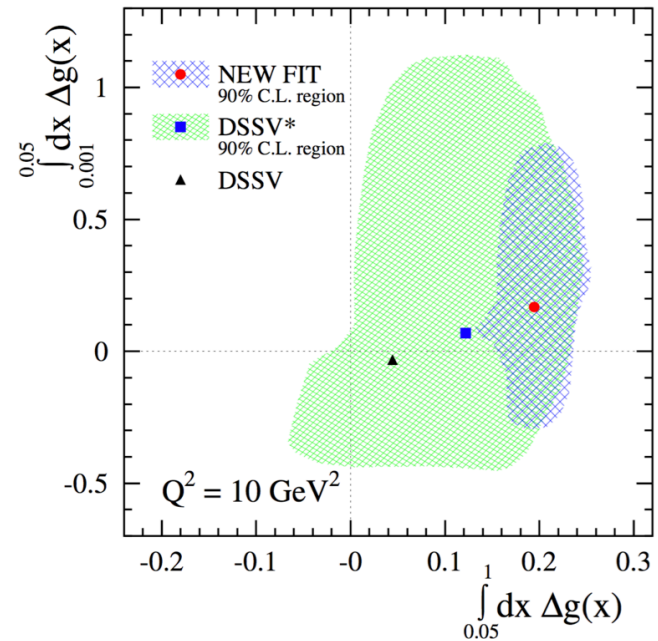
Proton spin structure

- The total gluon helicity ΔG can be measured by probing the spin-dependent gluon helicity distribution in polarized high-energy scattering experiments

$$\Delta g(x) = \frac{i}{2xP^+} \int \frac{d\xi^-}{2\pi} e^{-ix\xi^- P^+} \langle PS | F_a^{+\mu}(\xi^-) \mathcal{L}_{ab}(\xi^-, 0) \tilde{F}_{b,\mu}^+(0) | PS \rangle$$



$$\Delta G = \int dx \Delta g(x) \text{ is still } \mathbf{nonlocal}$$



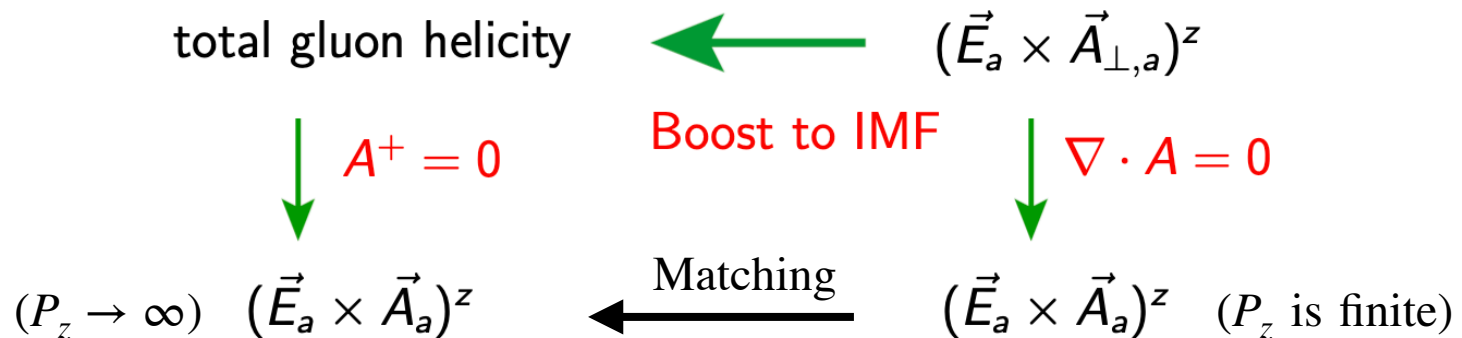
- Complicated nonlocal lightcone correlation, and reduces to $\mathbf{E}_a \times \mathbf{A}_a$ in the lightcone gauge $\mathbf{A}^+ = \mathbf{0}$
- Difficult to calculate from theory

Proton spin structure

- ΔG can be obtained by boosting the matrix element of the static operator $\vec{E}_a \times \vec{A}_{\perp,a}$ to the infinite momentum frame [Ji, JHZ, Zhao, PRL 13'](#)
 - \vec{A}_{\perp} takes a nonlocal form in general, but reduces to \vec{A} in the Coulomb gauge
 - Coulomb gauge approaches lightcone gauge under large Lorentz boost
- ΔG can be calculated by studying the matrix element

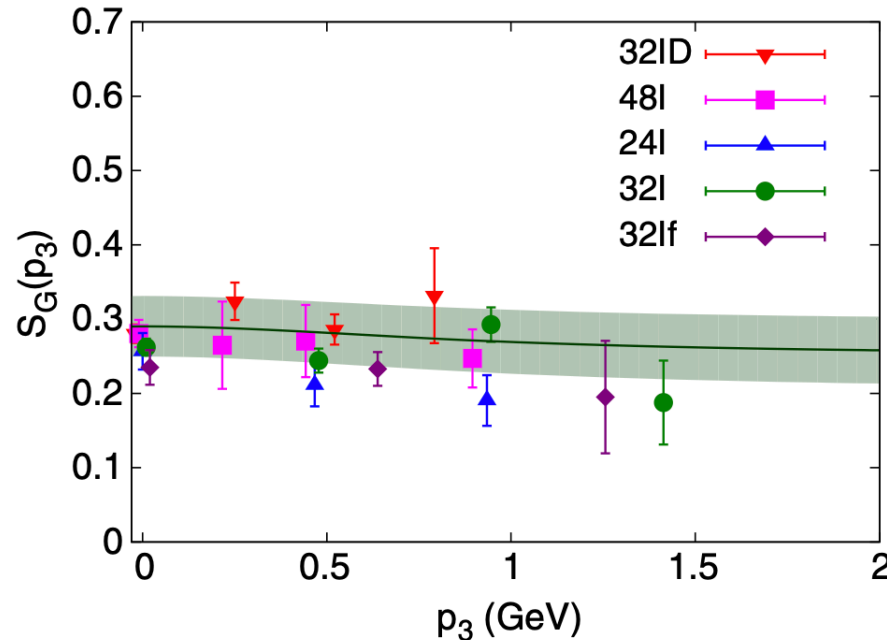
$$\Delta \tilde{G} = \langle PS | \vec{E} \times \vec{A} | PS \rangle_{\text{C.G./univ.class}} \quad \text{Hatta et al, PRD 14'}$$

in a large momentum nucleon state



Proton spin structure

- Lattice calculation [Yang et al, PRL 17'](#)



Potential improvements:

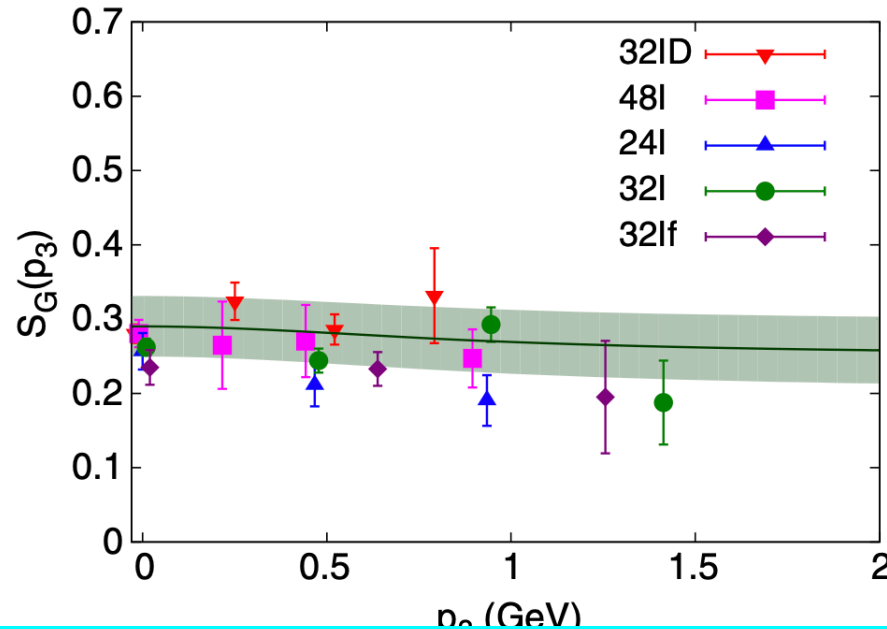
- Nonperturbative renormalization
- Inconsistency between factorizations for ΔG and $\Delta g(x)$

Both issues can be resolved simultaneously for appropriate choices of gluon operators

[Pang, Yao, JHZ, JHEP 24'](#)

Proton spin structure

- Lattice calculation [Yang et al, PRL 17'](#)



Two approaches to access ΔG :

- Potential in
- Nonperturb
 - Inconsiste

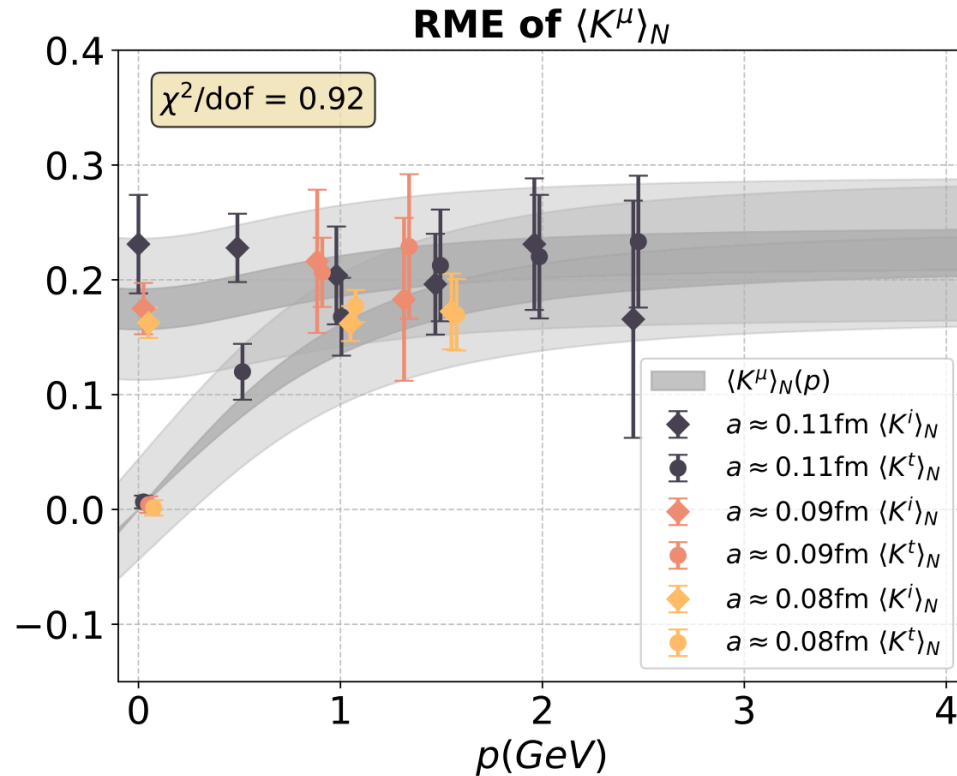
- Calculate the nucleon matrix element of K^0/K^z in Coulomb gauge
- Calculate polarized gluon helicity correlation and integrate over z

Both issues can be resolved simultaneously for appropriate choices of gluon operators

[Pang, Yao, JHZ, JHEP 24'](#)

Proton spin structure

- From topological current matrix element in a fixed gauge



See Dian-Jun Zhao's talk

Zhao, JHZ et al (LPC), arXiv: 2512.24315

Summary and outlook

- 3D tomography is an important goal of the EIC/EicC program
- In addition to phenomenological analyses, lattice QCD can provide valuable complementary information on GPDs
- Validation of spin sum rule
 - The total gluon helicity ΔG can be accessed through two different types of approaches on the lattice
 - From local operator matrix element in an appropriately fixed gauge
 - From the nonlocal correlation function defining the gluon helicity distribution $\Delta g(x)$
 - Extension to quark and gluon OAM