Spatial Imaging of Proton from a Light-front Hamiltonian Approach



Xingbo Zhao With Imp

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Outline

- Spatial Imaging on the light-front through GPDs
- Basis Light-front Quantization
- Numerical results for proton
 - Form factors and PDFs
 - GPDs at zero-skewness
 - Skewed GPDs
- Conclusions

3D Structure in Coordinate Space

• Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering (DVCS)

 $e(p) + P(P) \rightarrow e'(p') + P'(P') + \gamma$

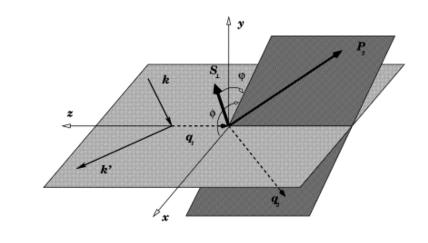
DVCS

GPDs

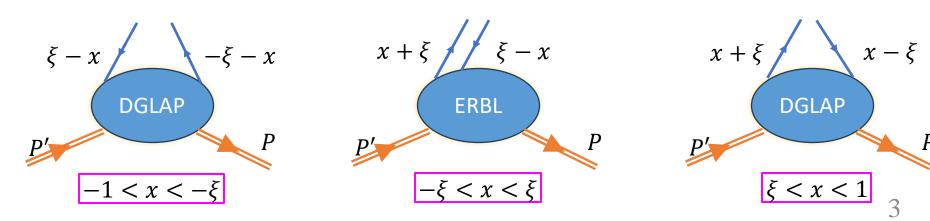
 $t = (p' - p)^2$

x+8

[X. Ji, Phys. Rev. D 55, 7114 (1997)]







Definition of GPDs

• GPDs are defined through the following bilocal operator on the light front

$$F_{\Lambda'\Lambda}^{[\Gamma]}(x,\xi,\Delta^2) = \int \frac{dz^-}{4\pi} e^{ip\cdot x} \left\langle P',\Lambda' \middle| \bar{\psi}\left(-\frac{z}{2}\right) w\left(-\frac{z}{2},\frac{z}{2}\right) \Gamma\psi\left(\frac{z}{2}\right) \middle| P,\Lambda \right\rangle \middle|_{z^+=z^\perp=0}$$

[Diehl, 2003]

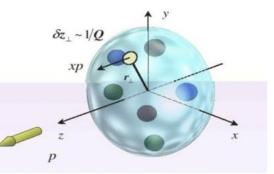
F(x,b)

0

b

• GPDs are parameterized by taking different Γ matrices

$$F_{\Lambda'\Lambda}^{[\gamma^+]} = \frac{1}{2P^+} \bar{u} \left[\gamma^+ H(x,\xi,t) + \frac{i\sigma^{+\Delta}}{2M} E(x,\xi,t) \right] u$$
$$F_{\Lambda'\Lambda}^{[\gamma^+\gamma_5]} = \frac{1}{2P^+} \bar{u} \left[\gamma^+ \gamma_5 \widetilde{H}(x,\xi,t) + \frac{\Delta^+ \gamma_5}{2M} \widetilde{E}(x,\xi,t) \right] u$$

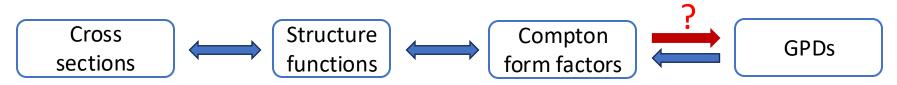


• Fourie transform of GPDs at $\xi = 0$ with respect to t produces spatial imaging

$$F(x,b) = \int \frac{d^2 \vec{\Delta}_{\perp}}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\vec{b}_{\perp}\cdot\vec{\Delta}_{\perp}} F(x,\xi=0,t=-\Delta_{\perp}^2)$$

GPDs and Compton Form Factors

• Cross sections to Compton form factors



• GPDs to Compton form factors (CFFs)

$$\mathcal{F}(\xi, -t) = \int_{-1}^{1} dx \left(\frac{1}{x - \xi - i\epsilon} - \frac{1}{x + \xi - i\epsilon} \right) F(x, \xi, -t)$$

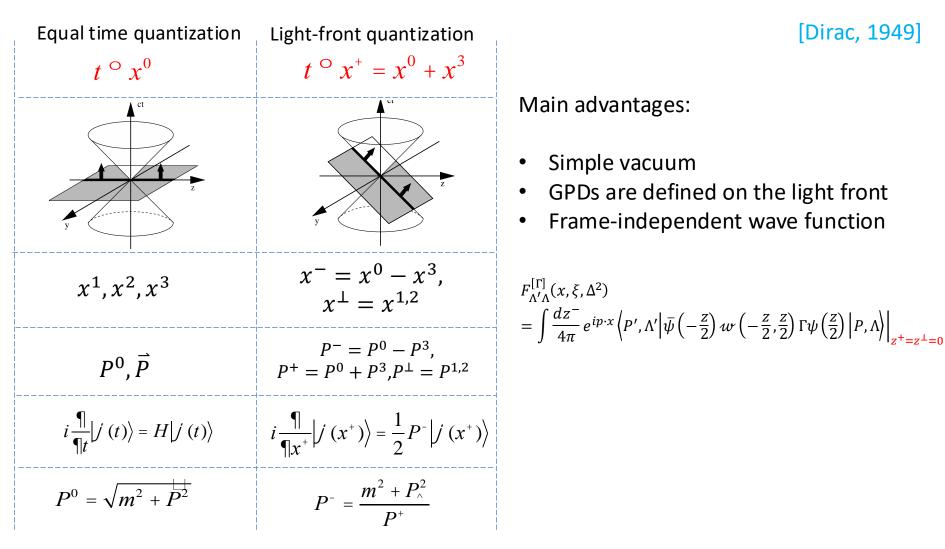
$$\tilde{\mathcal{F}}(\xi, -t) = \int_{-1}^{1} dx \left(\frac{1}{x - \xi - i\epsilon} + \frac{1}{x + \xi - i\epsilon} \right) \tilde{F}(x, \xi, -t)$$

$$\mathsf{GPDs}$$

- Compton form factors are integrations of GPDs over x
- Challenging to extract GPDs from CFFs
- Exploring GPDs from theory is interesting

See J. Qiu's talk on 08/19

Light-front Quantization

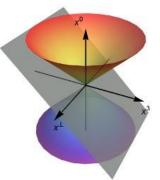


Basis Light-Front Quantization

• Hamiltonian eigenvalue equation

$$P^{-}|\beta\rangle = P_{\beta}^{-}|\beta\rangle$$

P⁻: Light-Front Hamiltonian $|\beta\rangle$: Eigenstates (wave function) **P**⁻_B: Eigenvalues (mass) [Dirac, 1949] [Vary, et.al, Phys.Rev.C '10]



- Basis setup
 - Fock sector expansion: $|P, \Lambda\rangle = |qqq\rangle + |qqqg\rangle + |qqq q\bar{q}\rangle + \cdots$
 - Single particle $|\alpha\rangle = |n_1, m_1, n_2, m_2, n_3, m_3\rangle \otimes |k_1^+, k_2^+, k_3^+\rangle \otimes |\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, C\rangle$ basis in $|qqq\rangle$ 2D harmonic oscillator Discretized longitudinal Helicity and color

i

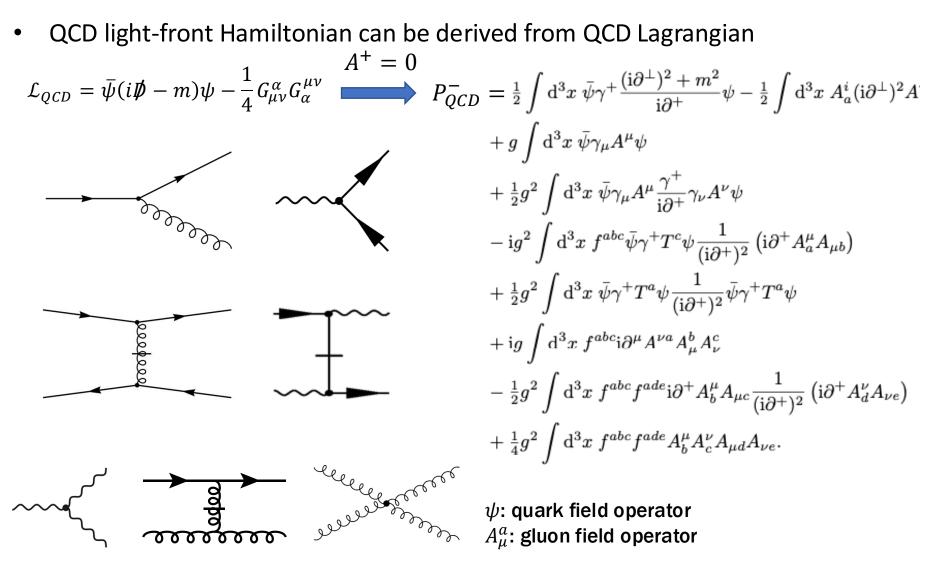
$$\sum_{i} (2n_i + |m_i| + 1) \le N_{\max}$$

$$\sum k_i^+ = K_{\max} \qquad \Lambda = \sum (\lambda_i + m_i)$$

i

- Advantages:
 - Rotational symmetry in transverse plane
 - Exact factorization between center-of-mass motion and intrinsic motion
 - Harmonic oscillator basis supplies adequate infrared behavior

Light-Front Hamiltonian



Publications on Nucleon GPDs

 $|\text{Proton}\rangle = |qqq\rangle + |qqqg\rangle + |qqq u\overline{u}\rangle + |qqq d\overline{d}\rangle + |qqq s\overline{s}\rangle + \cdots$

• |*qqq*>:

Proton GPD [Xu et al., Phys.Rev.D104,094036 (2021)]
Proton angular momentum [Liu et al., Phys.Rev.D105,094018 (2022)]
Proton twist-3 GPDs [Zhang et al., Phys.Rev.D109,034031 (2024)]
Proton chiral odd GPDs [Kaur et al., Phys. Rev. D 109, 014015 (2024)]

• $|qqq\rangle + |qqqg\rangle$:

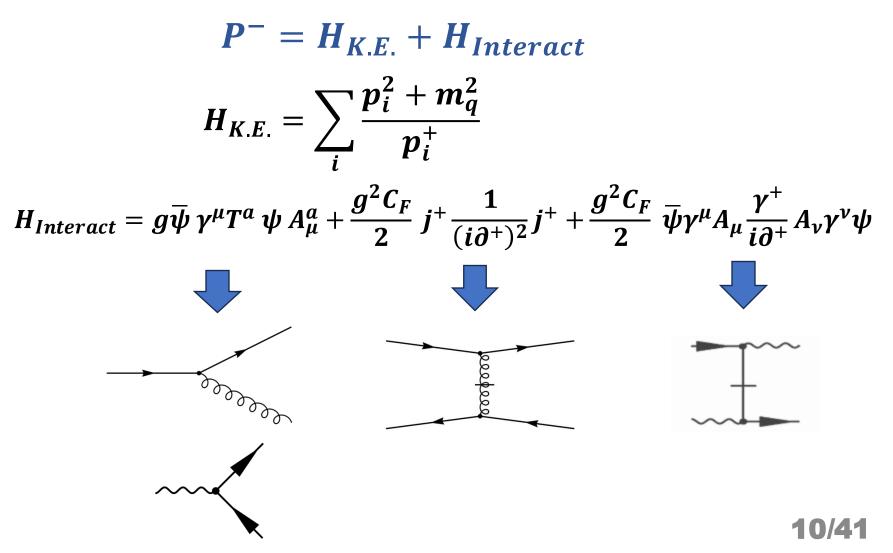
Proton spin structure [Xu et al., Phys.Rev.D,108 9, 094002 (2023)] Gluon GPDs [Lin et al., Phys.Lett.B,847 138305 (2023)]

• $|qqq\rangle + |qqqg\rangle + |qqqq\overline{q}\rangle$

Proton structure with sea quarks [arxiv:2408.xxxx]

Light-Front Hamiltonian

 $|\text{Proton}\rangle = \Psi_1 |qqq\rangle + \Psi_2 |qqqqg\rangle + \Psi_{31} |qqq u\bar{u}\rangle + \Psi_{32} |qqq d\bar{d}\rangle + \Psi_{33} |qqq s\bar{s}\rangle$



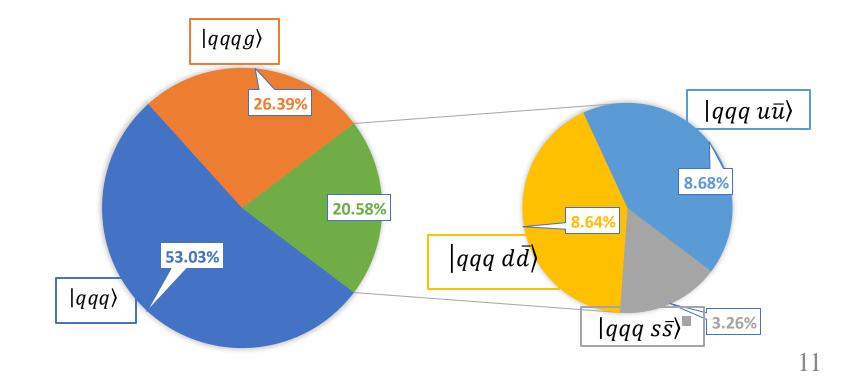
Fock Sector Decomposition

 $|\operatorname{Proton}\rangle \rightarrow |qqq\rangle + |qqqqg\rangle + |qqqu\bar{u}\rangle + |qqqd\bar{d}\rangle + |qqqs\bar{s}\rangle$

Truncation parameter: $N_{\text{max}} = 7$ and $K_{\text{max}} = 16$

m_u	m_d	m_{f}	g	b	b _{inst}
0.99 GeV	0.94 GeV	5.9 GeV	3.0	0.6 GeV	2.7 GeV

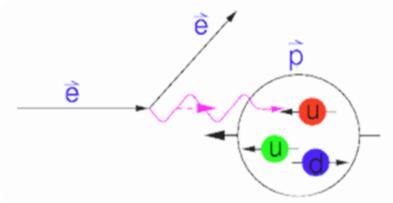
In five quark Fock sectors, current quark masses are used



Electromagnetic Form Factor

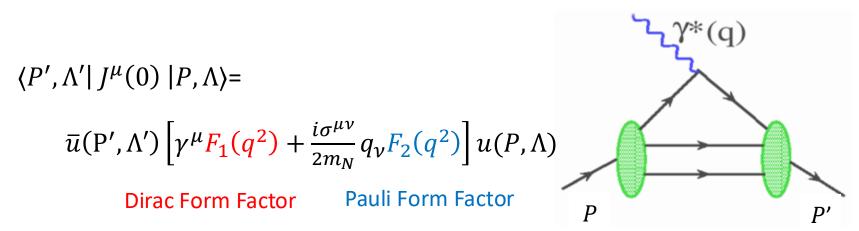
• Elastic scattering of proton

 $e(p) + h(P) \rightarrow e(p') + h(P')$



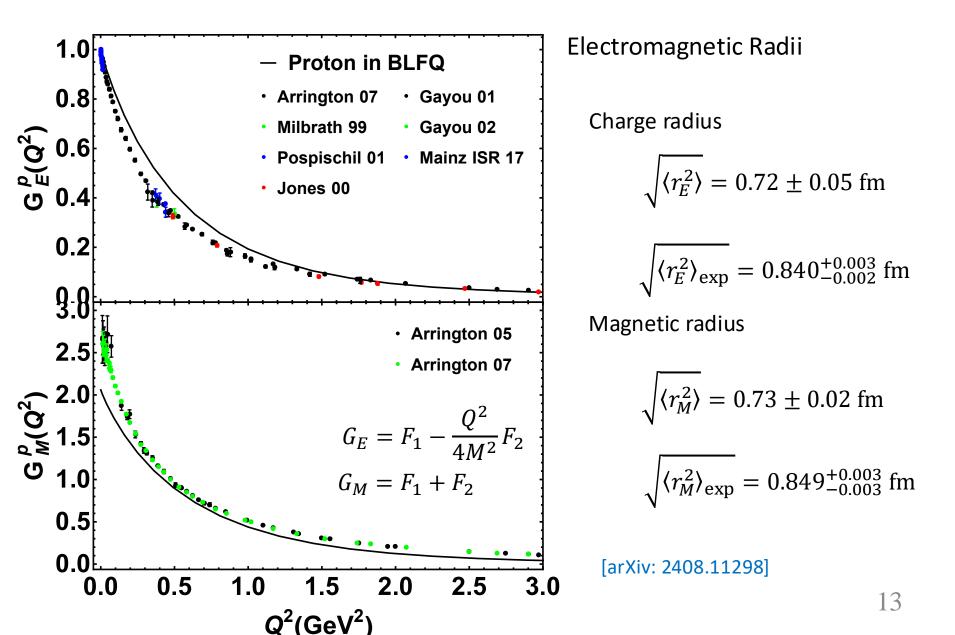
[R. Hofstadter, Nobel Prize 1961]

• Elastic electron scattering established the extended nature of the proton



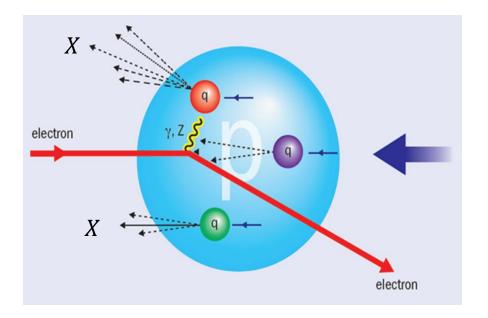
 Fourier transformation of these form factors provides spatial distributions of charge and magnetization

Electromagnetic Form Factors



Parton Distribution Functions

• Deep Inelastic Scattering (SLAC 1968)



$$e(p) + h(P) = e'(p') + X(P')$$

♦ Localized probe:

$$Q^2 = -(p - p')^2 \gg 1 \text{ fm}^{-2}$$
$$\stackrel{1}{\longrightarrow} \quad \frac{1}{Q} \ll 1 \text{ fm}$$

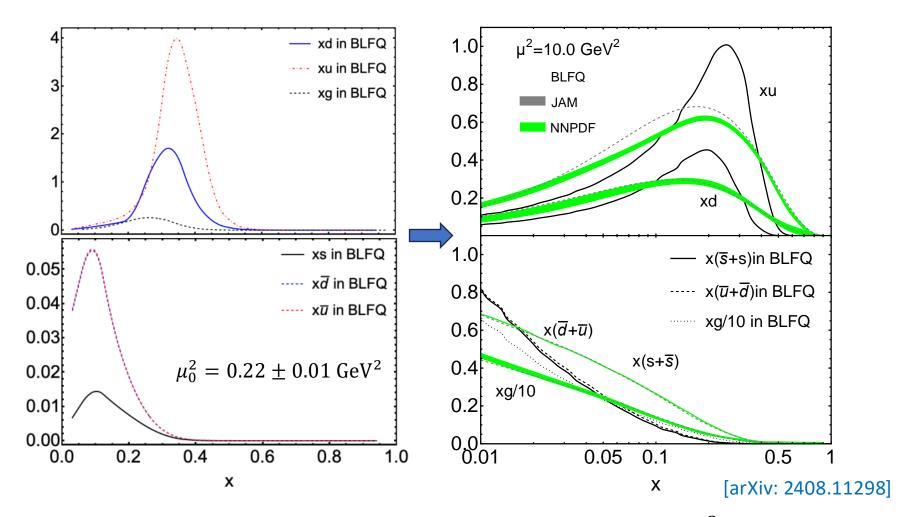
Discovery of spin ½ quarks and partonic structure

• Parton distribution functions (PDFs) are extracted from DIS processes

$$\Phi^{[\Gamma]}(x,Q^2) = \int \frac{dz^-}{8\pi} e^{ixP^+z^-/2} \langle P,\Lambda \big| \bar{\psi}(z) \Gamma \psi(0) \big| P,\Lambda \rangle$$

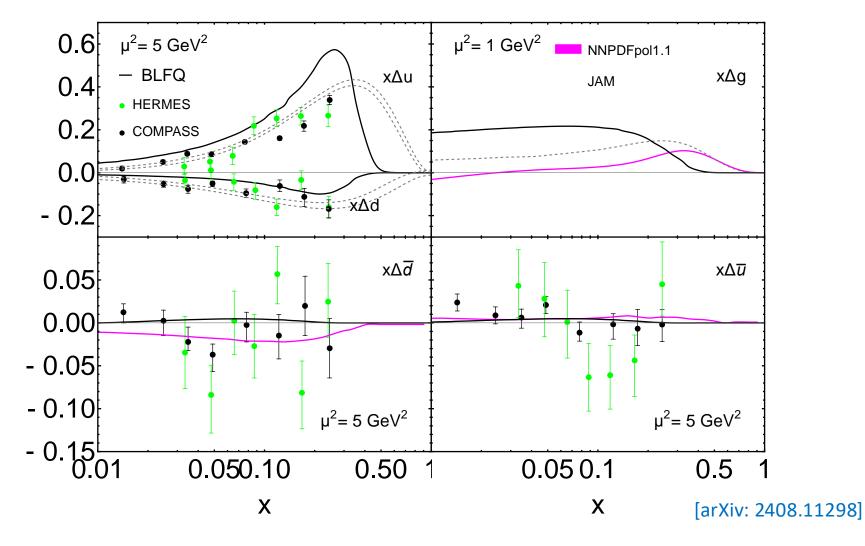
• Encode longitudinal momentum distribution and polarization of the constituents

Unpolarized PDF



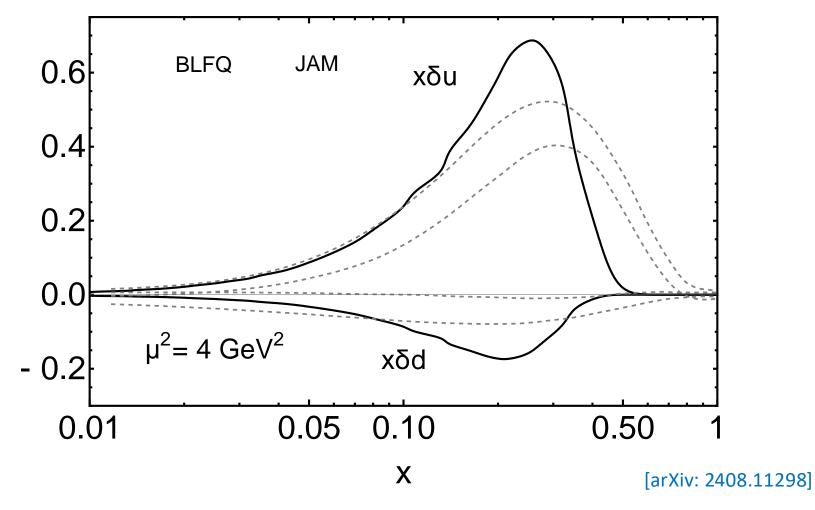
- Fitting the initial scale by matching the $\langle x \rangle$ moment at 10 GeV²
- Narrower peak than global fits

Helicity PDF



- Small-x region reasonably agrees with global fit/exp. data
- Narrower peak than global fits

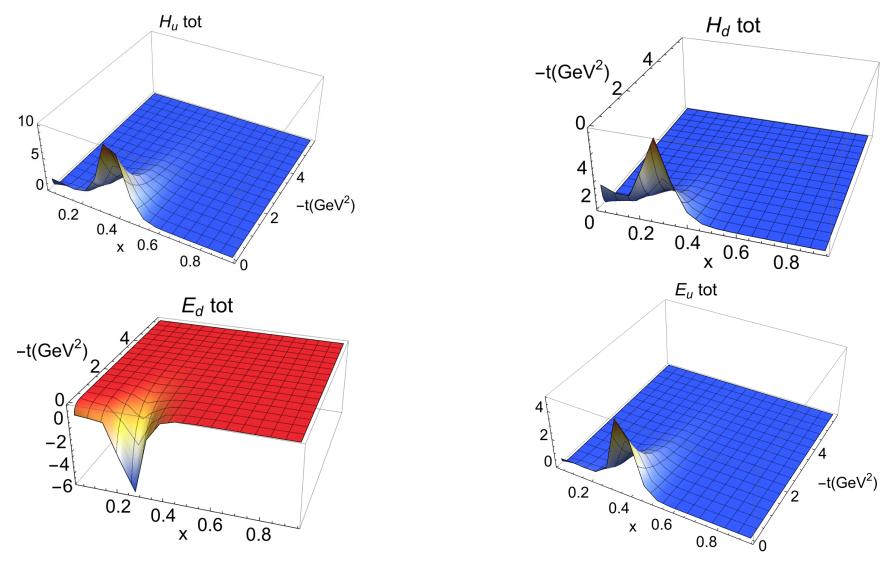
Transversity PDF



- Narrower peak than global fits
- Tensor charges: $\delta u = 0.81 \pm 0.08$, $\delta d = -0.22 \pm 0.01$

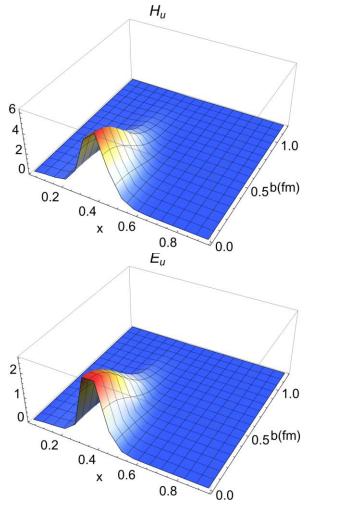
[PRL 132, 091901 (2024)] [PRD 98, 091501 (2018)]

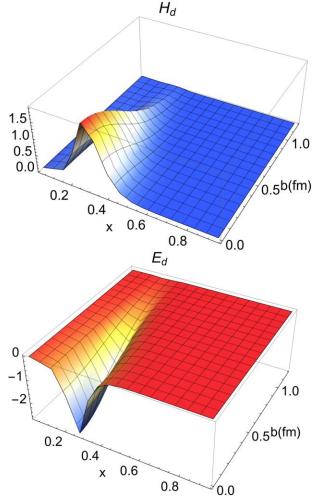
u and d Quark GPDs at $\xi = 0$



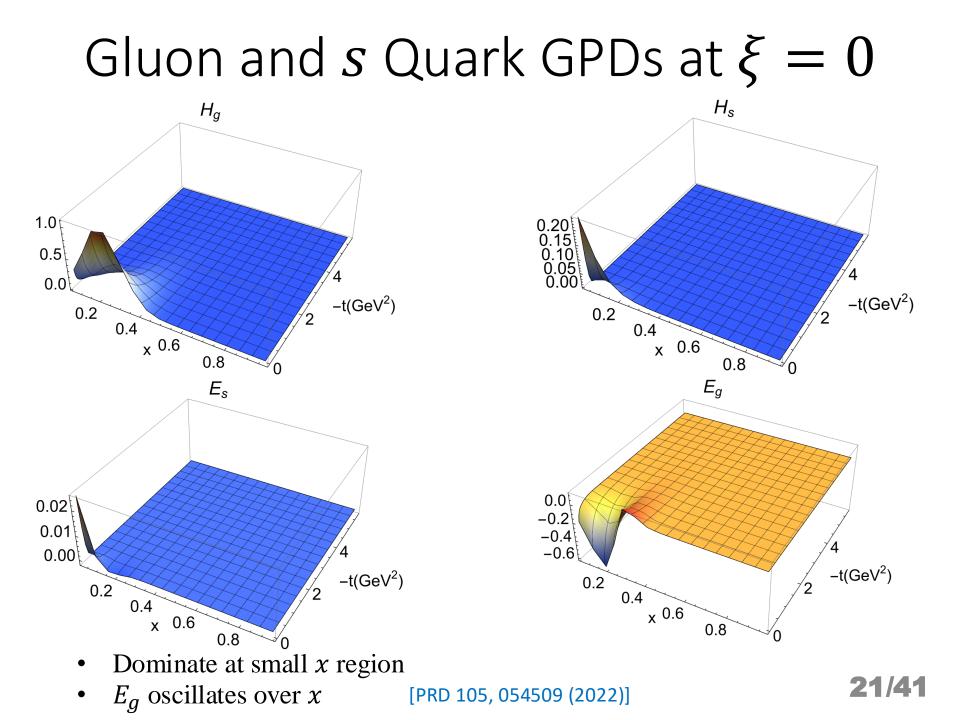
- Contributions from all Fock sectors
- Achieved qualitative features compared to various models

GPDs in Impact Parameter Space

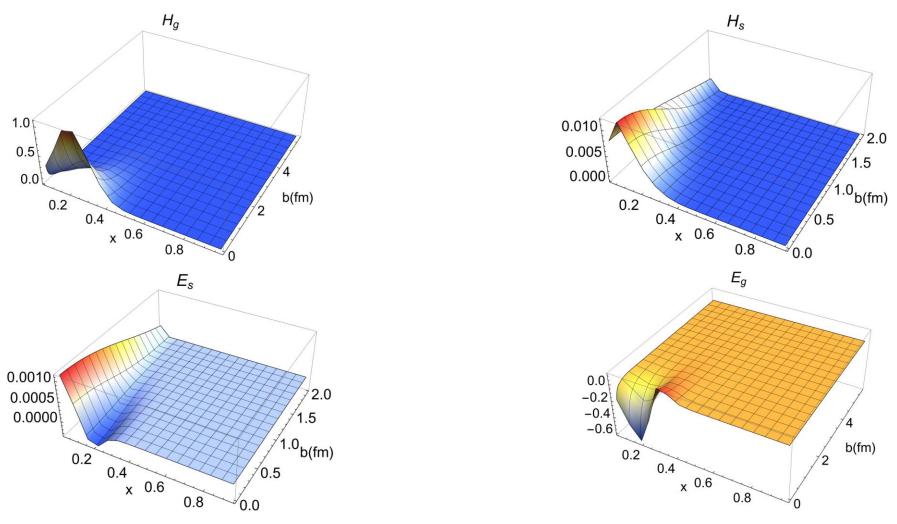




- Concentrate near the center b = 0
- Qualitative features agree with other approaches

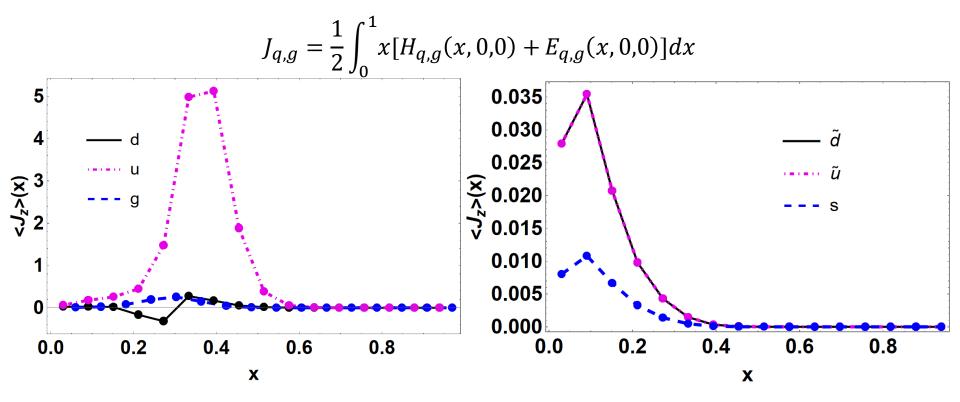


GPDs in Impact Parameter Space



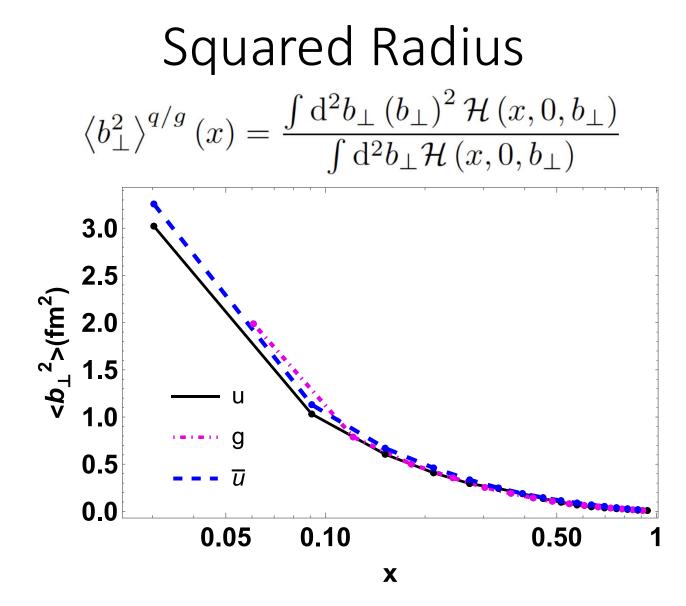
• Concentrate near the center b = 0 and small x

Angular Momentum Distribution



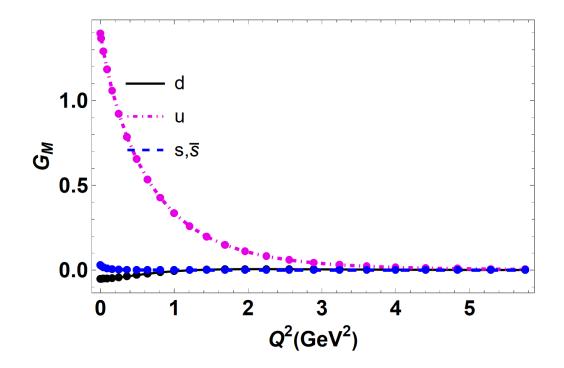
parton	d	u	dbar	ubar	s/sbar	g
percentage	0.63%	93.02%	0.63%	0.63%	0.19%	4.71%

- *u* is dominant, gluon contributes about 5%, *d* is negative
- \bar{u} quark is almost the same as \bar{d}
- $d=\overline{d}$ is a coincidence



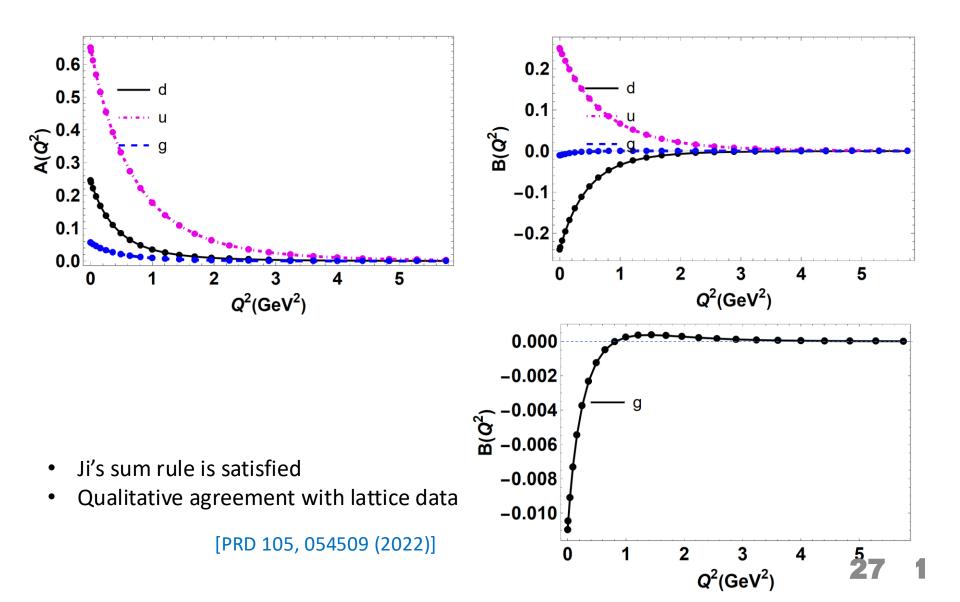
- Gluon radius > sea quark radius > valence quark radius
- As $x \to 1$, nucleon behaves like point particle

Magnetic Form Factor for Different Quarks

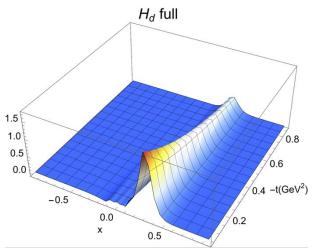


- $G_M^d(0) = -0.053$
- $G_M^u(0) = 1.396$
- $G_M^s(0) = -0.028$

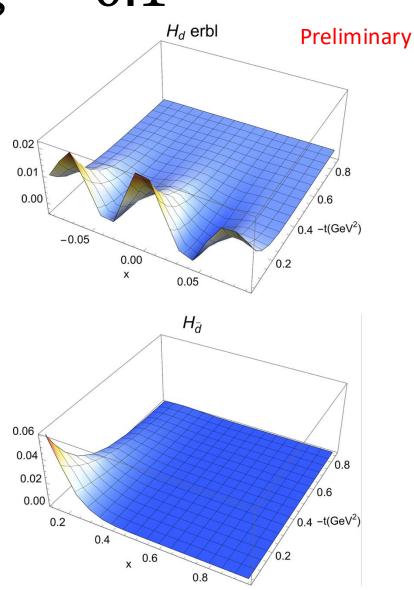
Gravitational Form Factors



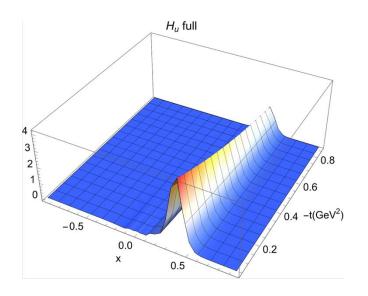
GPDs at $\xi = 0.1$

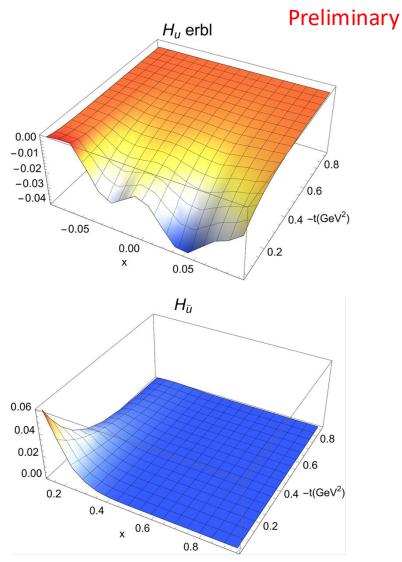


- We use symmetric frame
- *d* quark GPD *H* from -1 < x < 1
- At $\xi = 0.1$, DGLAP region dominates
- Discontinuity at $x = \pm \xi$



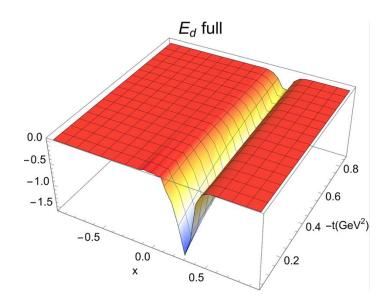
GPDs at $\xi = 0.1$





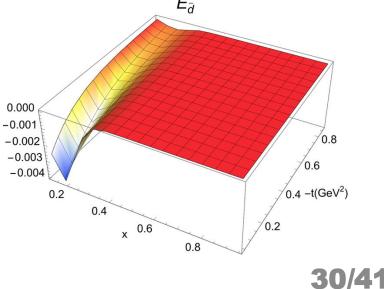
- *u* quark GPD *H* from -1 < x < 1
- At $\xi = 0.1$, DGLAP region dominates
- Discontinuity at x = +ξ, not sure at x = -ξ

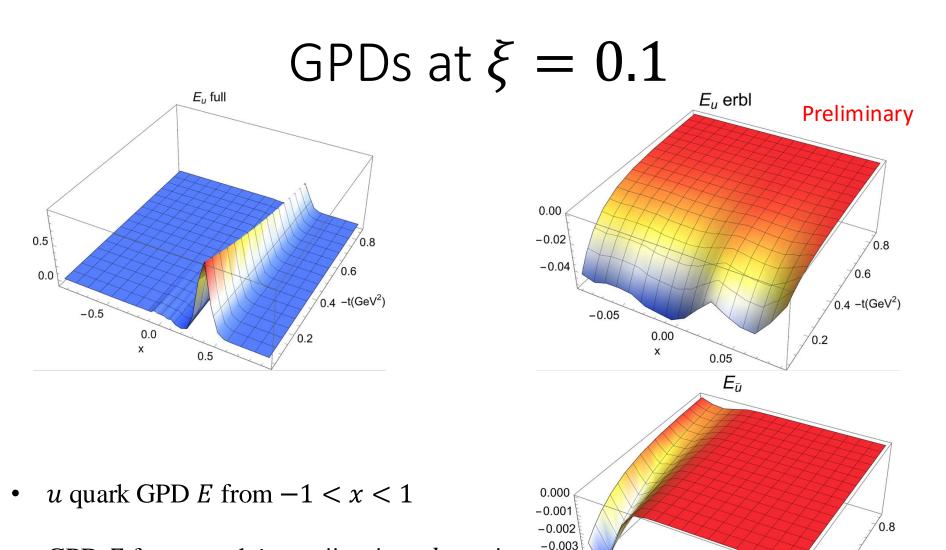
GPDs at $\xi = 0.1$



Preliminary

- *d* quark GPD *E* from -1 < x < 1
- At $\xi = 0.1$, DGLAP region dominates
- Discontinuity at $x = \pm \xi$





-0.004

0.2

0.4

x 0.6

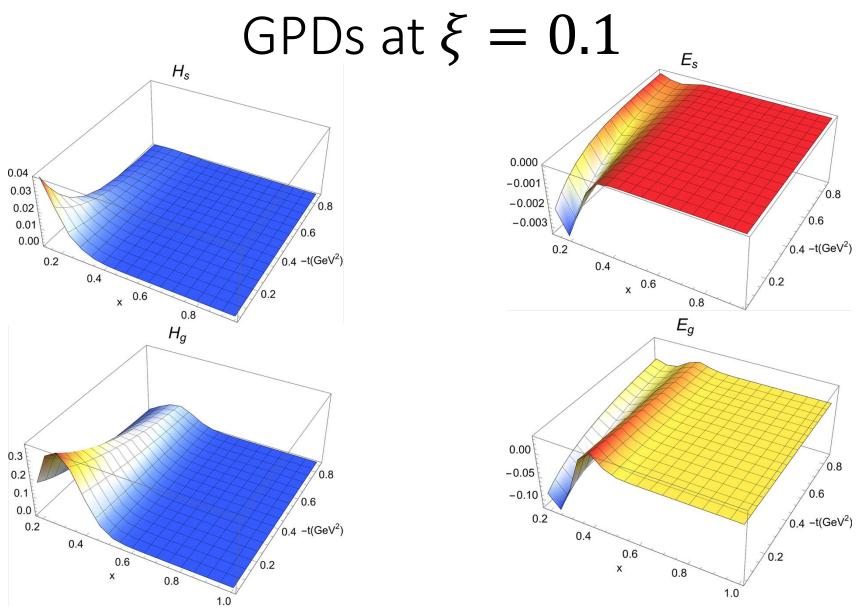
0.8

- GPD *E* for *u* quark is smaller than *d* quark
- Discontinuity at $x = -\xi$, not sure at $x = \xi$

0.6

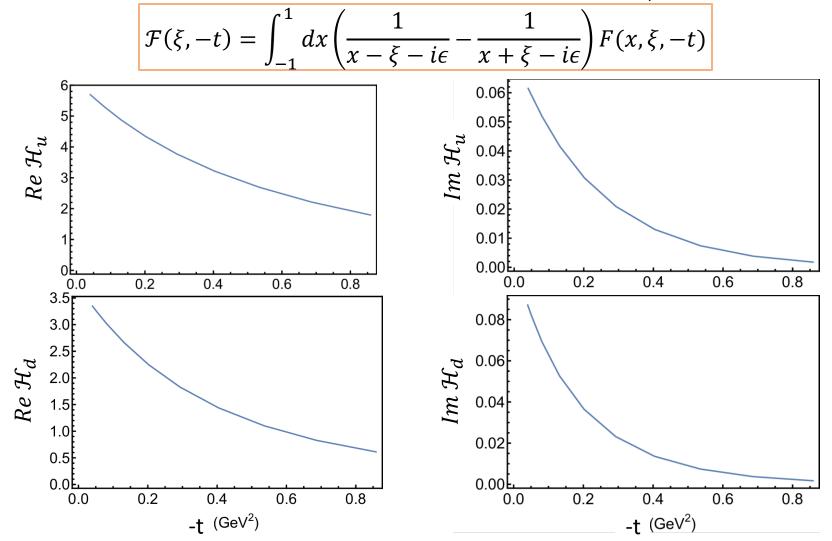
0.4 -t(GeV²)

0.2



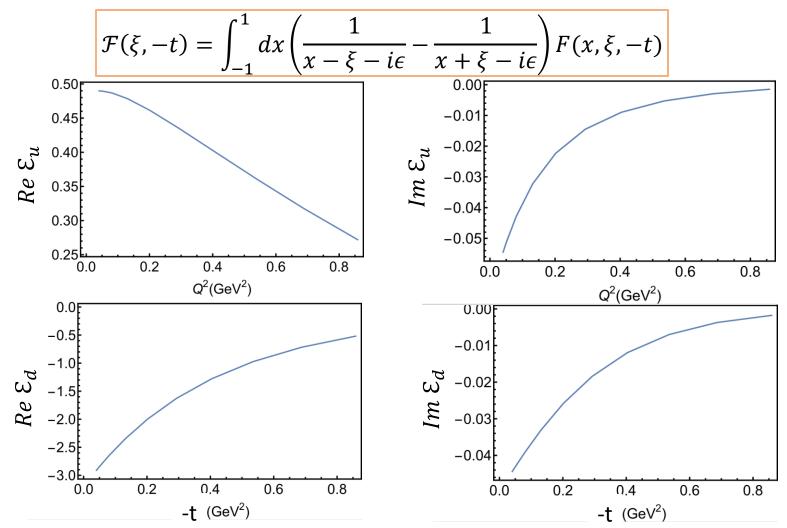
- Gluon and *s* quark GPDs in DGLAP region at $\xi = 0.1$
- For non-zero skewness, E_s changes sign

Compton Form Factors at $\xi = 0.1$



- Real part of \mathcal{H}_d falls faster than \mathcal{H}_u
- Imaginary part of \mathcal{H} falls faster than real part

Compton Form Factors at $\xi = 0.1$



- Real part of \mathcal{E}_d follows the trend of electromagnetic form factors
- Imaginary part of *u* falls faster than *d*

Conclusions

- GPDs provide spatial imaging of proton on the light front
- BLFQ: a nonperturbative framework based on light-front QCD Hamiltonian
- Based on $|qqq\rangle + |qqqg\rangle + |qqq q\bar{q}\rangle$ sectors we investigate proton 3D structure
- Achieved qualitative features compared to other approaches
- Explored the GPDs of valence and sea quarks and gluon
- Explored skewness-dependent GPDs including both DGLAP and ERBL regions, and investigated the Compton form factors





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Physics Topics and Tools

- » Physics of EIC and EicC
- » Hadron spectroscopy and reactions
- » Hadron/nuclear structure
- » Spin physics
- » Relativistic many-body physics
- » QCD phase structure
- » Light-front field theory
- » AdS/CFT and holography
- » Nonperturbative QFT methods
- » Effective field theories
- » Lattice field theories
- » Quantum computing
- » Present and future facilities

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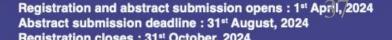
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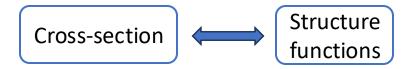




GPDs and Compton Form Factors

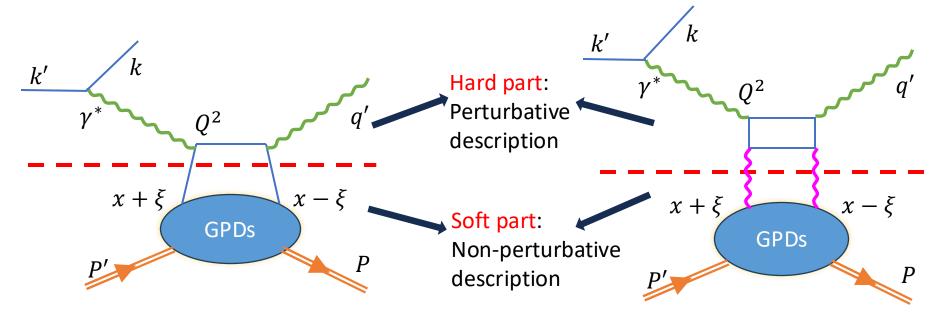
GPDs and Compton Form Factors

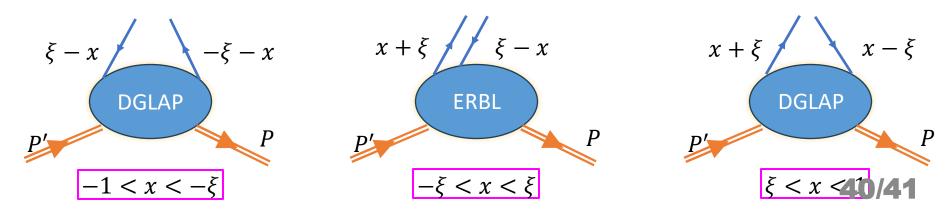
$$\begin{split} \frac{d^3 \sigma_{\text{DVCS}}}{dx_{Bj} dQ^2 d|t| d\phi d\phi_S} &= \Gamma |T_{\text{DVCS}}|^2 \\ &= \frac{\Gamma}{Q^2 (1-\epsilon)} \Big\{ F_{UU,T} + \epsilon F_{UU,L} + \epsilon \cos 2\phi F_{UU}^{\cos 2\phi} + \sqrt{\epsilon(\epsilon+1)} \cos \phi F_{UU}^{\cos \phi} + (2h) \sqrt{2\epsilon(1-\epsilon)} \sin \phi F_{LU}^{\sin \phi} \\ &+ (2\Lambda) \Big[\sqrt{\epsilon(\epsilon+1)} \sin \phi F_{UL}^{\sin \phi} + \epsilon \sin 2\phi F_{UL}^{\sin 2\phi} + (2h) \Big(\sqrt{1-\epsilon^2} F_{LL} + 2\sqrt{\epsilon(1-\epsilon)} \cos \phi F_{LL}^{\cos \phi} \Big) \Big] \\ &+ (2\Lambda_T) \Big[\sin(\phi - \phi_S) (F_{UT,T}^{\sin(\phi - \phi_S)} + \epsilon F_{UT,L}^{\sin(\phi - \phi_S)}) + \epsilon \sin(\phi + \phi_S) F_{UT}^{\sin(\phi + \phi_S)} + \epsilon \sin(3\phi - \phi_S) F_{UT}^{\sin(3\phi - \phi_S)} \\ &+ \sqrt{2\epsilon(1+\epsilon)} (\sin \phi_S F_{UT}^{\sin \phi_S} + \sin(2\phi - \phi_S) F_{UT}^{\cos(2\phi - \phi_S)}) \Big] \\ &+ (2h) (2\Lambda_T) \Big[\sqrt{1-\epsilon^2} \cos(\phi - \phi_S) F_{LT}^{\cos(\phi - \phi_S)} + \sqrt{2\epsilon(1-\epsilon)} \cos \phi_S F_{LT}^{\cos\phi_S} \\ &+ \sqrt{2\epsilon(1-\epsilon)} \cos(2\phi - \phi_S) F_{LT}^{\cos(2\phi - \phi_S)} \Big] \Big\}. \end{split}$$



Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering

→ The deeply virtual Compton scattering describes the process: $e + p \rightarrow e + p + \gamma$





Definition of GPDs

GPDs are defined through the following bilocal operator:

[Stephan.M, 2009]

$$F_{\Lambda'\Lambda}^{[\Gamma]}(x,\xi,\Delta^2) = \int \frac{dz^-}{4\pi} e^{ip\cdot x} \left\langle P',\Lambda' \middle| \bar{\psi}\left(-\frac{z}{2}\right) w\left(-\frac{z}{2},\frac{z}{2}\right) \Gamma\psi\left(\frac{z}{2}\right) \middle| P,\Lambda \right\rangle \middle|_{z^+=z^\perp=0}$$

 \succ GPDs are parameterized by taking different Γ matrices:

$$F_{\Lambda'\Lambda}^{[\gamma^+]} = \frac{1}{2P^+} \bar{u} \left[\gamma^+ H + \frac{i\sigma^{+\Lambda}}{2M} E \right] u,$$

$$F_{\Lambda'\Lambda}^{[\gamma^+\gamma_5]} = \frac{1}{2P^+} \bar{u} \left[\gamma^+ \gamma_5 \tilde{H} + \frac{\Delta^+ \gamma_5}{2M} \tilde{E} \right] u,$$

$$F_{\Lambda'\Lambda}^{[i\sigma^{j+}\gamma_5]} = -\frac{i\varepsilon_T^{ij}}{2P^+} \bar{u} \left[i\sigma^{+i}H_T + \frac{\gamma^+ \Delta_T^i - \Delta^+ \gamma^i}{2M} E_T + \frac{P^+ \Delta_T^i - \Delta^+ P_T^i}{M^2} \tilde{H}_T + \frac{\gamma^+ P_T^i - P^+ \gamma^i}{M} \tilde{E}_T \right] u$$

We use symmetric frame

Light-Front Hamiltonian (qqq)

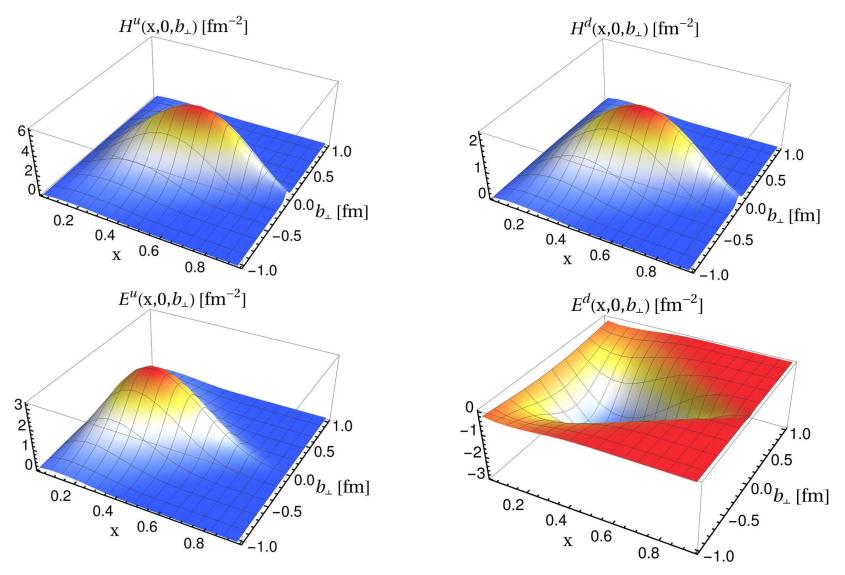
$$P^{-} = H_{K.E.} + H_{trans} + H_{longi} + H_{OGE}$$

 $H_{K.E.} = \sum_{i} \frac{p_i^2 + m_q^2}{p_i^+}$ [S. Xu et al, PRD 104 094036(2021)]

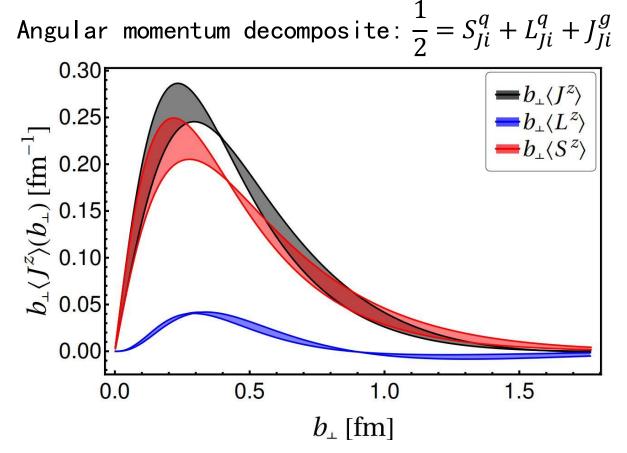
 $H_{trans} \sim \kappa_T^4 r^2$ [S. J. Brodsky, G. de Teramond arXiv: 1203.4025]

$$H_{longi} \sim -\sum_{ij} \kappa_L^4 \partial_{x_i} \left(x_i x_j \partial_{x_j} \right) \quad [Y. Li, X. Zhao, P Maris, J. P. Vary, PLB 758(2016)]$$

$$\boldsymbol{H_{OGE}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a \neq b} \frac{C_F 4\pi \alpha_s}{Q_{ab}^2} \bar{u}(k'_a, s'_a) \gamma^{\mu} u(k_a, s_a) \bar{u}(k'_b, s'_b) \gamma^{\nu} u(k_b, s_b) g_{\mu\nu}$$
[S. Xu et al, PRD 104 094036(2021)]



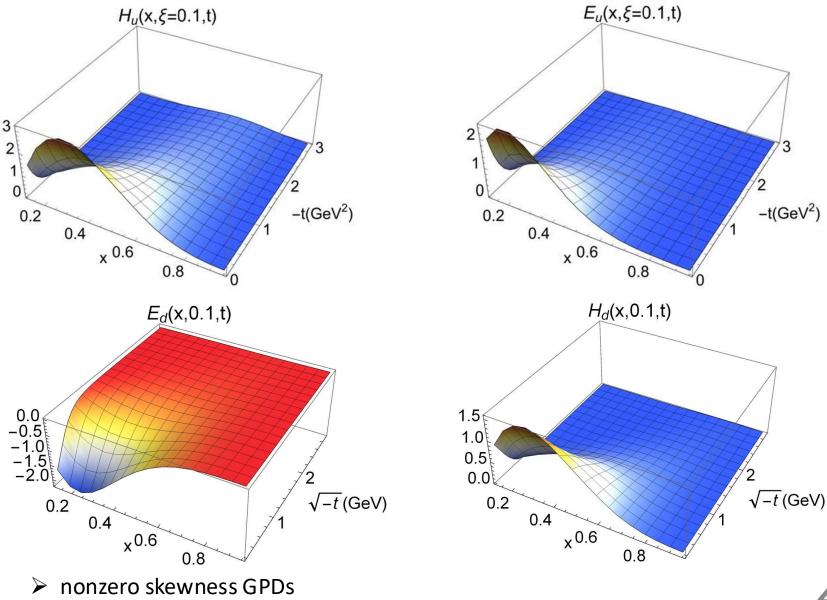
O skewness GPDs in transverse coordinate space

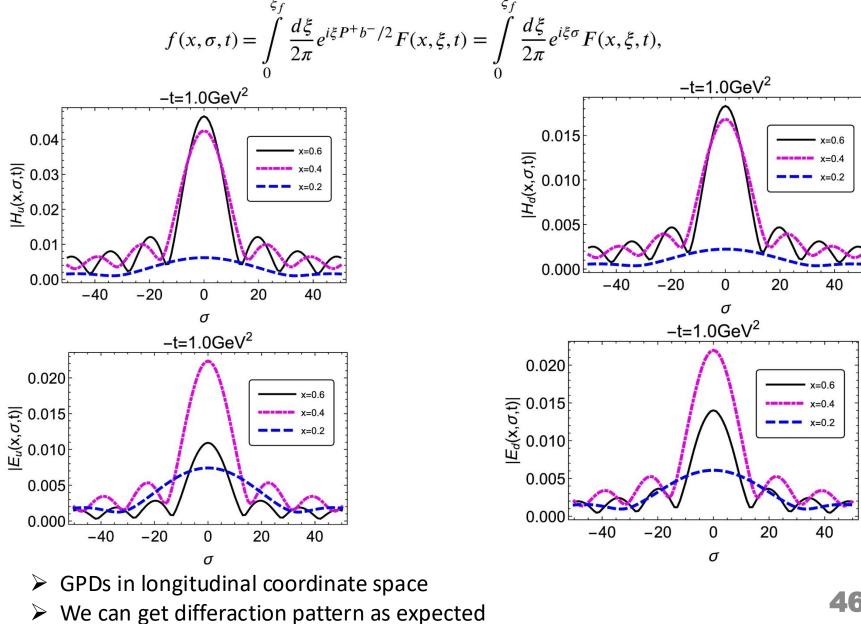


Proton angular momentum distribution in coordinate space

- 91% quark spin, 9% orbital angular momentum
- Angular momentum distribution concentrates in 1fm
- Orbital angular momentum contributes positively inside 0.8fm, and negatively outside 0.8fm.

Gluon contributes 0 under qqq Fock sector





Light-Front Hamiltonian (qqq, qqqg)

$$P^{-} = H_{K.E.} + H_{trans} + H_{longi} + H_{Interact}$$

$$H_{K.E.} = \sum_{i} \frac{p_{i}^{2} + m_{q}^{2}}{p_{i}^{+}} \qquad [S. Xu \text{ et al, PRD 104 094036(2021)}]$$

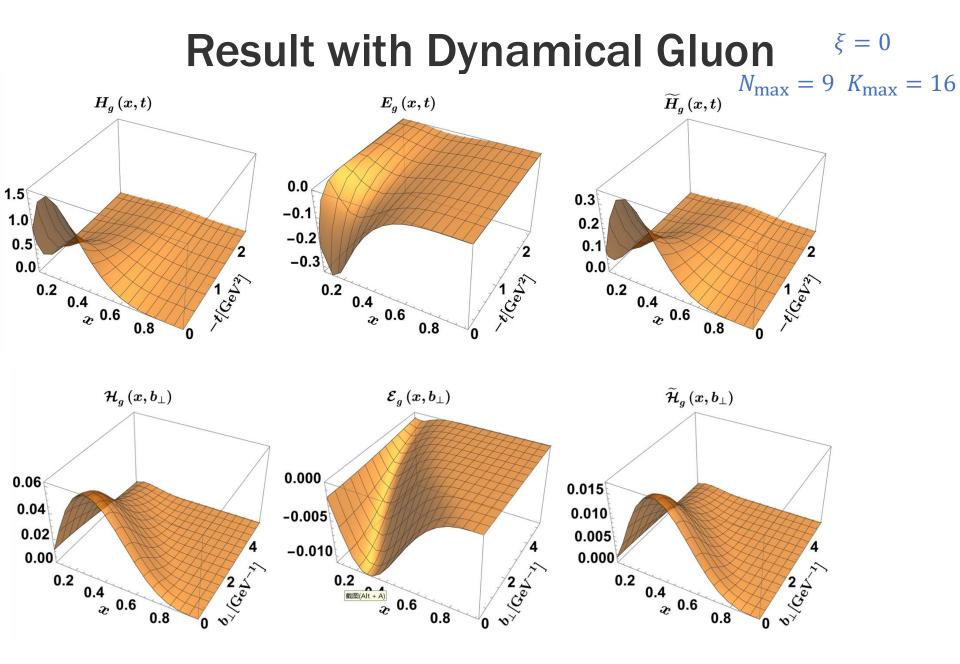
$$H_{trans} \sim \kappa_{T}^{4} r^{2} \qquad [S. J. Brodsky, G. de Teramond arXiv: 1203.4025]$$

$$H_{longi} \sim -\sum_{ij} \kappa_{L}^{4} \partial_{x_{i}} \left(x_{i} x_{j} \partial_{x_{j}} \right) \qquad [Y. Li, X. Zhao, P Maris, J. P. Vary, PLB 758(2016)]$$

$$H_{Interact} = -\frac{C_{F} 4\pi \alpha_{s}}{Q^{2}} \sum_{i,j(i < j)} \overline{u}_{s_{i}'} (k_{i}') \gamma^{\mu} u_{s_{i}} (k_{i}) \overline{u}_{s_{j}'} (k_{j}') \gamma_{\mu} u_{s_{j}} (k_{j}) \qquad (|qqq\rangle)$$

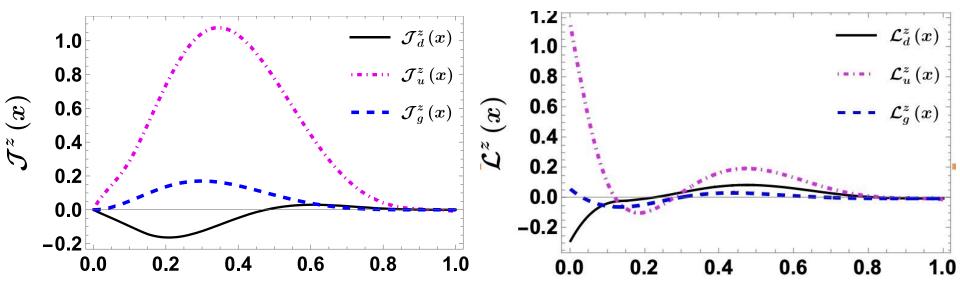
$$H_{Interact} = H_{Vertex} + H_{inst}$$

= $g\overline{\psi} \gamma^{\mu} T^{a} \psi A^{a}_{\mu} + \frac{g^{2} C_{F}}{2} j^{+} \frac{1}{(i\partial^{+})^{2}} j^{+}$ (|qqq> + |qqqg>)



 $\mathcal{J}^{z}(x) = \frac{1}{2}x \left[H(x,0,0) + E(x,0,0) \right]$

-- B. Lin et. al., Phys. Lett. B 847 (2023) 138305

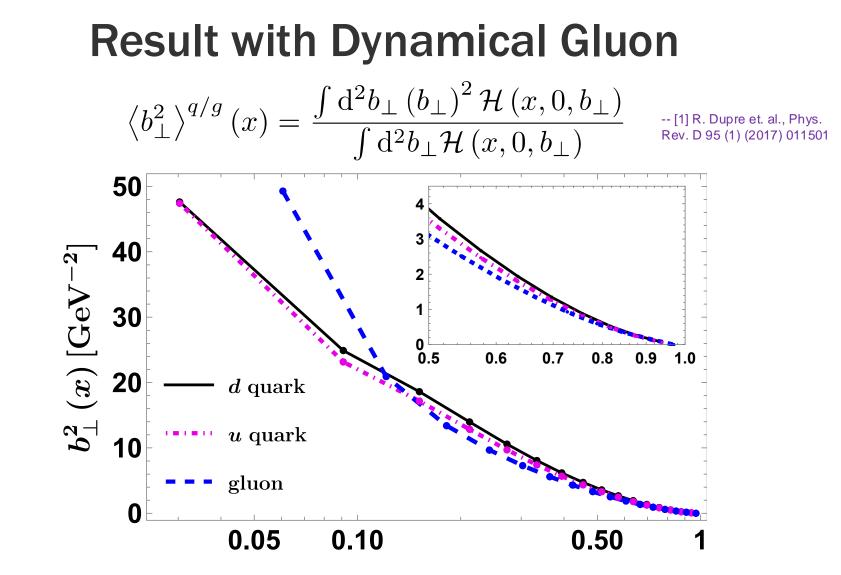


xTotal angular momentum for different parton

xOrbital angular momentum for different parton

J _d	Ju	Jg	L _d	L _u	L_g
-7.7%	94.5%	13.2%	2.9%	22.0%	-12.6%

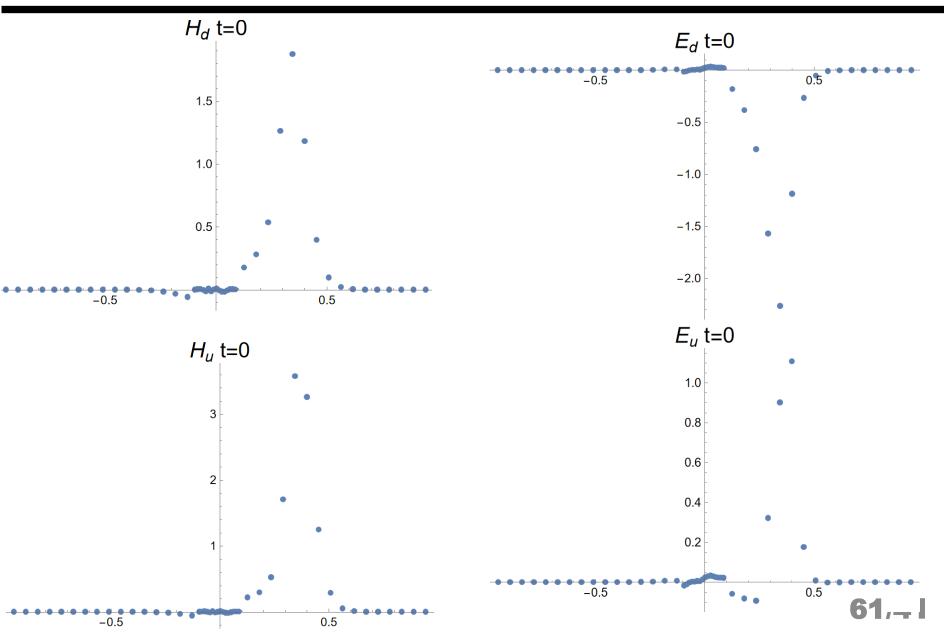
12.3% orbital angular momentum, 87.7% quark and gluon spin



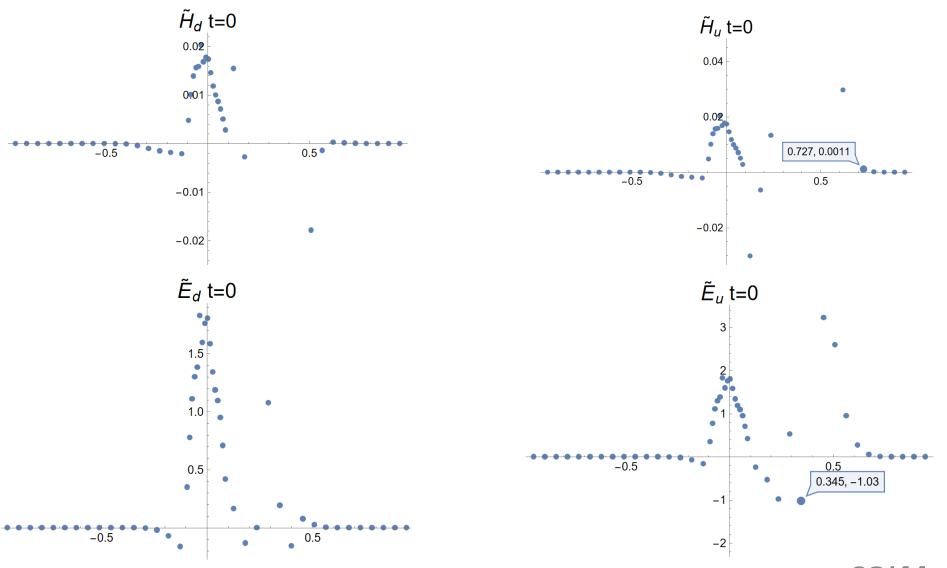
 \boldsymbol{x}

- > At x>0.1, quark radius>gluon radius
- > At 0.05 < x < 0.1, gluon radius > quark radius
- As $x \to 1$, nucleon behaves like point particle

2D GPDs at t=0



2D GPDs at t=0

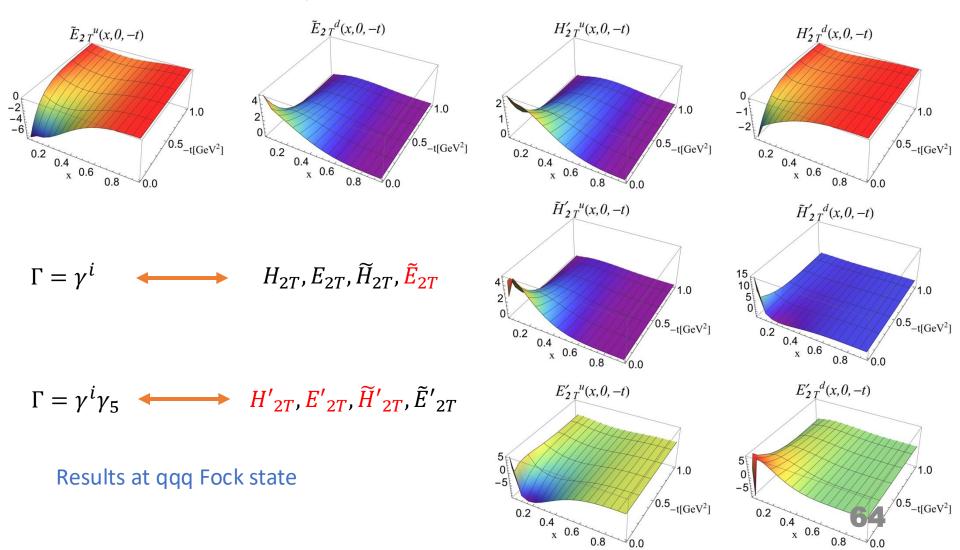


Twist-3 generalized parton distribution

The twist-3 GPDs are parameterized by taking different Dirac gamma matrices:

Twist-3 generalized parton distribution

We calculated these twist-3 GPDs based on the LFWFs obtained by applying BLFQ framework, and results are given:



Twist-3 generalized parton distribution

