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On the Dynamical Origin of Proton Angular Momentum

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The quark orbital angular momentum component of the proton spin, Lq, can be defined in QCD both as the integral of a Wigner phase space dis- tribution weighing the cross product of the quark's transverse position and momentum, and in terms of a twist-three Generalized Parton Distribution (GPD). I will present results on the link between the two definitions, which reflects their dependence on partonic intrinsic transverse momentum. Con- necting the definitions provides the key for correlating direct experimental determinations of Lq in both nucleons and atomic nuclei, with ab-initio QCD calculations.

Primary author:LIUTI, Simonetta (University of Virginia)Presenter:LIUTI, Simonetta (University of Virginia)

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