Recent Results from the

A2 collaboration at MAMI

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SUMMARY

> Physics motivations Study of the nucleon properties

• Determination of the N^{*} spectrum $\gamma N \rightarrow N\pi$, $N\eta$, $N\pi\pi$, ...

GDH sum rule

• Determination of the N structure (polarizabilities) $\gamma N \rightarrow \gamma' N$

using (real) Photons and polarization observables

Experimental set up (A2 tagged photon facility)

Selected Results

Outlook

$$\vec{\gamma}\vec{p}(\vec{d}) \rightarrow \begin{cases} N\pi(\pi) \\ X \\ \gamma'N \end{cases}$$

Motivations

Why photons ?

One powerful way of experimentally investigating the strongly interacting particles (hadrons) is to look at them, <u>to probe</u> them with a known particle, in particular the photon <u>(no other is known as well)</u> (R.P.Feynman)

The hadronic structure is explored with a resolution depending of the photon energy (wave length)



How well do we understand the nucleon excitation spectrum?

many more resonances expected in quark models (all based on SU6 symmetry) or lattice QCD than seen experimentally

What are the relevant degrees of freedom ?

 Most resonances observed in πN scattering but some resonances might not couple to πN



CQM: U. Loering et al, EPJA 10, 395 (2001)



 \succ Parity conservation \Rightarrow only 4 complex amplitudes are independent ($F_1 \dots F_4$ CGLN amplitudes)

 \succ 16 independent observables (at least 8 -well chosen-to be measured \Rightarrow «complete experiment»)

1 unpolarized observable 3 single polarization observables 12 doul

Photon polarization		Target polarization			Recoil nucleon polarization			Target and Recoil polarizations				
		X	У	Z(beam)	Χ'	У'	Z'	X' X	X' Z	Z' X	Z' Z	Measured or planned at A2
unpolarized linear Circular	σ Σ -)- (H F	T (-P) -) -) 6 E	- O _x C _x	(-T) -	O _z C _z	T _× (-L _z	L _x) (T _z) -	T _z (L _x) -	(-T _x)	

Additional complications

> e.m. interactions do not conserve isospin

> Higher nucleon resonances have (very) small $N\pi$ decay branching ratios

Reactions on both the proton and the neutron have to be measured to decompose the isospin-dependent contributions

Deuteron (or ³He, or ...) has to be used as a substitute for a free-neutron target. Nuclear effects have to be precisely measured and modeled

Several observables on all the different $\gamma N \rightarrow N\pi\pi$... partial channels have to be measured.

On the theoretical side, a coupled-channel approach is then also needed

Very large acceptance ($\cong 4\pi$) detectors need to be operated with highly polarised beam and targets

The GDH sum rule

Proposed in 1966 independently by Gerasimov and Drell-Hearn

Prediction on the absorption of circularly polarized photons by longitudinally polarized nucleons/nuclei





GDH sum rule predictions



Difference due to photodisintegration processes interplay between nuclear and sub-nucleon degrees of freedom



AFS model

Arenhoevel, Fix, Schwamb, PRL 93, 202301 (04)

 $\pi NN \pi N \text{ from MAID PWA} + nuclear effects}$

ππNN EPJA 25,114 (05) π⁰d PLB 407,1 (97) pn NPA 690,682 (01) $[I_{GDH}^{deut}]_{AFS} = 27\mu b$

Experimental status -proton



GDH collaboration:

Experimental Set up



A2@MAMI: Detector overview



Results







 $\vec{\gamma}\vec{d} \rightarrow \pi^0 B \ (B = np \ or \ d)$



A2 data: F. Cividini et al, EPJA 58 113 (2022)



Deuteron calculation: MAID-2021 free amplitudes are embedded into the deuteron wave function Predicted decrease of the cross section (mainly due to FSI) in the Δ (1232) resonance region it is not sufficiently strong to reproduce experimental data

Many more results \Rightarrow P. Martel's talk Thursday - Parallel 1 -17:30



$$\vec{\gamma}\vec{n} \rightarrow \pi^0 n$$

E asymmetry for quasi –free neutrons $\pi^0 n$ coincident detection [P_n > 350 MeV/c]

• F. Cividini et al, EPJA 58 113 (2022) (no previous data exist)



For W > 1300 MeV data can be used to extract properties of the free-neutron without (relevant) model-dependent corrections

Many more results \Rightarrow P. Martel talk Thursday - Parallel 1 -17:30

$$\gamma^{\uparrow}n \rightarrow \pi^0 n$$

 $\pi^0 n$ coincident detection

[P_n > 350 MeV/c]

Σ asymmetry



Linearly polarised photon beam and unpolarised deuteron target







(Un)Polarized Compton Scattering on the proton



Conclusions

Rutherford discovered the proton in 1917 and since 1933 (Stern-Gerlach experiment) we know that it is not an elementary particle

Understanding the proton (neutron) internal structure is a very severe challenge both on the theoretical and on the experimental side

➤ The joint effort of several laboratories (Mainz, Bonn, JLAB, LEPS, ...) and the technological development in polarized beam and target techniques will solve some long-standing problems (how many baryon resonances are there?, accurate determination of the polarizabilities, ...)

> The A2 collaboration is an important player of this game: many published data, many more to come and to be collected.

A2 Collaboration

 $\simeq 60$ researchers

Participating Institutions

Europe: Universities of Mainz, Basel, Bochum, Bonn, Glasgow, York, INFN-Pavia, JINR-Dubna, RBI-Zagreb

North-America: Universities of Mount-Allison (Canada), Regina (Canada), Washington-DC (USA), Kent-OH (USA), Amherst-MASS (USA)

Riserva

Experimental status - GDH on nuclei



Deuteron: scarce data above 800 MeV

Helicity dependence of partial channels (total and differential cross sections) needs also to be measured to study nucleon modifications inside the nuclear medium and as a tool to access free-neutron information



AFS model

Arenhoevel, Fix, Schwamb, PRL 93, 202301 (04)

 $\pi NN \pi N \text{ from MAID PWA} + nuclear effects}$

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GDH sum rule on deuteron and ³He





Fundamental check of our knowledge of the γ -Nucleon interaction

The only "weak" hypothesis is the assumption that Compton scattering $\gamma N \rightarrow \gamma' N'$ becomes spin independent when $\nu \rightarrow \infty A$ violation of this assumption can not be easily explained (non pointlike quarks ???)

✓ Important comparison for photoreaction models

 ✓ Helicity dependence of partial channels (pion photoproduction) is an essential tool for the study of the baryon resonances (interference terms between different electromagnetic multipoles)

✓ Valid for any hadronic system with $\mathbf{k} \neq 0$ (²H, ³He, ...). Interplay between different degrees of freedom



Unpolarized Compton Scattering on the proton



A Lattice QCD model

Edwards et al, PRD 84 074508 (2011)



Results for m $_{\pi}$ = 396 MeV

State-of-the art methods still yield a (too) large number of states

Total inclusive cross section



For each partial reaction channel, at least one reaction product has to be detected with (almost) complete acceptance (solid angle & efficiency)

- a) detector with a very high acceptance/particle detection efficiency (CB+TAPS: 97% of 4π)
- b) Suppression of e.m. events (pair prod./Compton)

Threshold Cerenkov detector placed at forward angles (in front of TAPS)

