Basis Light-Front Quantization Approach to Nucleon



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□ Introduction: overview about some nucleon properties

Basis Light-Front Quantization (BLFQ) approach to nucleon

- ✓ Form Factors
- ✓ Parton distribution Functions (PDFs)

✓ Generalized parton distributions (GPDs)

□ Conclusions

What could we learn about nucleon structure?



Nucleon Form Factors

 Elastic electron scattering established the extended nature of the proton, proton radius: 0.77 fm.

[R. Hofstadter, Nobel Prize 1961]



FFs do not provide dynamical information (angular momentum !!)

Parton distribution functions (PDFs)

Deep Inelastic Scattering (SLAC 1968)

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



♦ Localized probe:

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

Discovery of spin ½ quarks and partonic structure



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

PDFs encode the *distribution of longitudinal momentum and polarization* carried by the constituents

Parton distribution functions (PDFs)

- Deep Inelastic Scattering (DIS) discovered the existence of quasi-free point-like objects (quarks) inside the nucleon. [Friedman, Kendall, Taylor Nobel Prize 1990]
- Parton distribution functions (PDFs) are extracted from DIS processes.



PDFs encode the distribution of longitudinal momentum and polarization carried by the constituents

Missing information: The PDFs provide no knowledge of spatial locations of parton !!

Generalized parton distribution functions (GPDs)

 GPDs appear in the exclusive processes like deeply virtual Compton scattering (DVCS) or vector meson productions.

$$\begin{split} &\int \frac{dz^{-}}{8\pi} e^{ixP^{+}z^{-}/2} \langle P' | \bar{\Psi}(0) \gamma^{+} \Psi(z^{-}) | P \rangle |_{z^{+}=0, z^{\perp}=0} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\bar{P}^{+}} \left(H^{q}(x, \zeta, t) \bar{u}(P') \gamma^{+} u(P) \right. \\ &+ E^{q}(x, \zeta, t) \bar{u}(P') \frac{i\sigma^{+j}(-\Delta_{j})}{2M} u(P) \right), \end{split}$$

GPDs provide information about the 3D spatial structure of nucleon as well as spin and angular momentum of the constituents



- Longitudinal momentum fraction $x = \frac{k^+}{p^+}$
- Longitudinal momentum transfer --> skewness $\xi = \frac{\Delta^+}{P^+}$
- Square of total mom transfer $t = \Delta^2 = (\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{P})^2$
- Many activities are going on (COMPASS, HERMES, ZEUS, JLAB etc.) to gain insight into GPDs

Form Factors Vs PDFs Vs GPDs



Basis Light-Front Quantization (BLFQ)

BLFQ: approach for solving quantum field theory

- Nonperturbative:
 - for systems with strong interaction
- First-principles:

0

effective Hamiltonian as input/ direct access to wavefunction of bound states

• Light-front dynamics: spectrum and light-front Fock-state wavefunctions are obtained from

$$H_{LF}|\psi\rangle = M^2|\psi\rangle$$

$$H_{LF} \equiv P_{\mu}P^{\mu} = P^{+}P^{-} - \mathbf{P}_{1}^{2}$$
$$P^{\pm} = P^{0} + P^{3}$$



General Procedure for BLFQ discussed by X. Zhao

- \checkmark Construct the basis state: $|\alpha\rangle$
- ✓ Derive/write the Light-Front Hamiltonian: P[−]
- ✓ Calculate Hamiltonian matrix elements: $\langle \alpha' | P^- | \alpha \rangle$
- \checkmark Diagonalize the Hamiltonian: $P^-|\beta\rangle=P^-_\beta|\beta\rangle$
- \checkmark Evalute the observables $\mathcal{O} \equiv \langle \beta | \hat{\mathcal{O}} | \beta \rangle$

Previous application (QCD)

In heavy quarkonium: decay constant, elastic form factor, radii, radiative transitions, distribution amplitude, GPDs

Y Li, G Chen, X Zhao, P Maris, J Vary, L Adhikari, M Li, A El-Hady (2016 - 2018)

Previous application (QED)

- electron anomalous magnetic moments
- wave function, spectroscopy of positronium system
- GPDs of the electron and positronium

X. Zhao, P. Wiecki, Y. Li, H. Honkanen, D. Chakrabarti, P. Maris, J. P. Vary, S. J. Brodsky (2013 - 2018)

Basis construction

- □ Example: the basis state of proton
 - Fock's space expansion

 $|N\rangle_{\mathsf{baryon}} = a|qqq\rangle + b|qqqg\rangle + c|qqqq\bar{q}\rangle + \cdots$

- For each Fock particle
 - ✓ For each quark: n_q , m_q , k_q , $\lambda_q = (\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})$ ✓ For each gluon: n_g , m_g , k_g , $\lambda_g = (1, -1)$
- For the first Fock sector:

 $|qqq\rangle = |n_{q_1}, m_{q_1}, k_{q_1}, \lambda_{q_1}\rangle \otimes |n_{q_2}, m_{q_2}, k_{q_2}, \lambda_{q_2}\rangle \otimes |n_{q_3}, m_{q_3}, k_{q_3}, \lambda_{q_3}\rangle.$

- □ Truncation of the basis
 - Fock sector truncation
 - For each Fock sector:

 \checkmark " K_{max} " truncation in the longitudinal direction: $\sum_i k_i = K_{max}$ \checkmark " N_{max} " in the transverse direction: $\sum_i (2n_i + |m_i| + 1) \le N_{max}$

Basis construction: quantum numbers

Longitudinal direction: plane-wave basis

 \checkmark discrete longitudinal momentum (labeled by k): $p^+ = \frac{2\pi}{L}k$

Transverse: \checkmark 2D harmonic oscillator basis (labeled by n, m)

$$\phi_{n,m}^{b}(p_{\perp}) = \frac{1}{b\sqrt{\pi}} \sqrt{\frac{n!}{(n+|m|)!}} e^{-\frac{p^{2}}{2b^{2}}} e^{-im\phi}(\frac{p}{b})^{|m|} L_{n}^{|m|}(\frac{p^{2}}{b^{2}}) \begin{cases} b \equiv \sqrt{M\Omega} \\ p = \sqrt{p_{1}^{2} + p_{2}^{2}} \end{cases}$$

For the leading Fock sector:

 $|qqq\rangle = |n_{q_1}, m_{q_1}, k_{q_1}, \lambda_{q_1}\rangle \otimes |n_{q_2}, m_{q_2}, k_{q_2}, \lambda_{q_2}\rangle \otimes |n_{q_3}, m_{q_3}, k_{q_3}, \lambda_{q_3}\rangle.$

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- Fock sector truncation
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Effective Hamiltonian



- Light-Front kinetic energy
- Confinement in transverse direction $\Rightarrow V_{ab}^{(SW)} = \kappa_T^4 x_a x_b (r_{a\perp} r_{b\perp})^2$ inspired by Light-Front holography

Brodsky, Teramond (2006)

■ Longitudinal confinement $\Rightarrow V_{ab}^{(L)} = \frac{\kappa_L^4}{(m_a + m_b)^2} \partial_{x_a} (x_a x_b \partial_{x_b})$ \checkmark reduce to harmonic oscillator potential at non-relativistic limit

-Y Li, X Zhao, P Maris, J Vary (2016)

■ $V_{ab}^{(OGE)} = f \frac{4\pi \alpha_s(Q_{ab}^2)}{Q_{ab}^2} \bar{u}_{s'_a}(k'_a) \gamma^{\mu} u_{s_a}(k_a) \bar{u}_{s'_b}(k'_b) \gamma^{\nu} u_{s_b}(k_b) g_{\mu\nu}$ \checkmark introduce short distance physics with spin structure \checkmark provides the *P*-wave WFs, essential to generate the Pauli-FF

Effective Light-front Hamiltonian

Although we truncate to the leading Fock sector, we can solve the baryon system with multi-particle (at least three particle).

Wave-function production

Calculate the Hamiltonian matrix elements:

 $H_{eff}^{\alpha'\alpha} = \langle \alpha' | H | \alpha \rangle$

 $\alpha'| \ \& \ |\alpha\rangle$ are the basis state of BLFQ, such as $|qqq\rangle$.

• Diagonalize H_{eff} and obtain its eigen spectrum

$$H_{eff}|\beta\rangle = H_{eff}^{\beta}|\beta\rangle$$

 \checkmark $|\beta\rangle$ is the physical state and eigenstate of Hamiltonian. In case of proton $|\beta\rangle = |P_{proton}\rangle$.

Evaluate observables:

 $\mathcal{O} = \langle \beta | \hat{\mathcal{O}} | \beta \rangle$

Form Factor in BLFQ

work in progress

• EM form factors in light-front (with $q^+ = 0$),



very preliminary results







Form Factor in BLFQ

work in progress

In terms of overlap of light-front WFs,

$$F_{1}(q^{2}) \sim \sum_{\lambda_{i}} \int [dx_{i} d^{2}\mathbf{k}_{\perp i}] \Psi_{\lambda_{i}}^{\Lambda*}(x_{i},\mathbf{k}'_{\perp i})\Psi_{\lambda_{i}}^{\Lambda}(x_{i},\mathbf{k}_{\perp i})$$

$$F_{2}(q^{2}) \sim \sum_{\lambda_{i}} \int [dx_{i} d^{2}\mathbf{k}_{\perp i}]\Psi_{\lambda_{i}}^{\Lambda*}(x_{i},\mathbf{k}'_{\perp i})\Psi_{\lambda_{i}}^{-\Lambda}(x_{i},\mathbf{k}_{\perp i})$$



Up and down quark form factor in proton

work in progress

Flavor form factors:

 $F_1^q = n_q F_+(Q^2)$ $F_2^q = \kappa_q F_-(Q^2)$

Normalization constants:

$$n_d = 1, \quad n_u = 2$$
 quark numbers
 $\kappa_d = -2.033, \quad \kappa_u = 1.673$ anomalous magnetic moments

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Ratios of Flavor FFs

work in progress

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quark numbers anomalous magnetic moments



Dirac Form Factor for proton in BLFQ

work in progress

Flavor decomposition: $F_i^{p/n} = e_{u/d}F_i^u + e_{d/u}F_i^d$ —Cates et. al. PRL 106



Ratio of proton form factors in BLFQ

Flavor decomposition: $F_i^{p/n} = e_{u/d}F_i^u + e_{d/u}F_i^d$ —Cates et. al. PRL 106



Sachs Form Factors in BLFQ

work in progress

Electric Sach's FF $\Rightarrow G_E(Q^2) = F_1(Q^2) - \frac{Q^2}{4M_\pi^2}F_2(Q^2)$



Sach's Form Factors in BLFQ

work in progress

Magnetic Sach's FF \Rightarrow $G_M(Q^2) = F_1(Q^2) + F_2(Q^2)$



Electromagnetic radii

$$\begin{split} \langle r_E^2 \rangle^N &= -6 \frac{dG_E^N(Q^2)}{dQ^2} \Big|_{Q^2=0}, \\ \langle r_M^2 \rangle^N &= -\frac{6}{G_M^N(0)} \frac{dG_M^N(Q^2)}{dQ^2} \Big|_{Q^2=0} \end{split}$$

The Sachs form factors are defined as

$$\begin{array}{lll} G^N_E(Q^2) & = & F^N_1(Q^2) - \frac{Q^2}{4M_N^2}F^N_2(Q^2), \\ \\ G^N_M(Q^2) & = & F^N_1(Q^2) + F^N_2(Q^2). \end{array}$$

Quantity	BLFQ	Data from PDG
r_E^p (fm)	0.804	0.877 ± 0.005
r^p_M (fm)	0.917	0.777 ± 0.016
$\langle r_E^2 angle^n$ (fm²)	-0.1214	-0.1161 ± 0.0022
r_M^n (fm)	1.007	$0.862^{+0.009}_{-0.008}$

Generalized parton distributions (GPDs)

- Off-forward matrix element ⇒ no probabilistic interpretation !! [in momentum space]
- In forward limit : GPDs \Rightarrow PDFs.
- First moments of GPDs are related to the Form Factors.
- GPDs[ξ = 0] in impact parameter space ⇒ distribution of parton in transverse position space

$$\mathcal{X}(x,b) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int d^2 \Delta e^{-i\Delta^{\perp} \cdot b^{\perp}} \mathcal{X}(x,t).$$

- GPDs appear in DVCS processes.
- GPDs are functions of three variables :
 - Longitudinal momentum fraction $x = \frac{k^+}{p^+}$
 - Longitudinal momentum transfer -->

skewness
$$\xi = \frac{\Delta^+}{P^+} = 0$$

• Square of total mom transfer $t = \Delta^2 = (\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{P})^2$



where the $oldsymbol{b}_{ot}$ is transverse position of parton

operator	forward matrix elem.	off-forward matrix elem.	position space
$ar q \gamma^+ q$	Q	F(t)	$ ho(ec{r})$
$\int \frac{dx^- e^{ixp^+x}}{4\pi} \bar{q}\left(\frac{-x^-}{2}\right) \gamma^+ q\left(\frac{x^-}{2}\right)$	q(x)	H(x,0,t)	$q(x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp})$

 $q(x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}) = \text{impact parameter dependent PDF}$

Nucleon GPDs:

✓ For unpolarized nucleon:

$$\int \frac{dx^{-}}{4\pi} e^{ixP^{+}x^{-}} \langle p + \Delta, \uparrow | \bar{\psi}_{q}(0) \gamma^{+} \psi_{q}(x^{-}) | p, \uparrow \rangle = H(x, t = \Delta^{2})$$
$$\int \frac{dx^{-}}{4\pi} e^{ixP^{+}x^{-}} \langle p + \Delta, \uparrow | \bar{\psi}_{q}(0) \gamma^{+} \psi_{q}(x^{-}) | p, \downarrow \rangle = -\frac{\Delta_{x} - i\Delta_{y}}{2M} E(x, t = \Delta^{2})$$

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✓ For transversely polarized nucleon: $|X\rangle \equiv |p,\uparrow\rangle + |p,\downarrow\rangle$: ⇒ unpolarized quark distribution for this state:

$$q_X(x,b_{\perp}) = \mathcal{H}(x,b_{\perp}) - \frac{1}{2M} \frac{\partial}{\partial b_y} \int \frac{d^2 \Delta_{\perp}}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\Delta^{\perp} \cdot b^{\perp}} E(x,t=\Delta^2)$$



Burkardt, Int J mod Phys. A18, 173 (2003)

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Burkardt, Int J mod Phys. A18, 173 (2003)

Spin non-flip GPDs in BLFQ

✓ Dirac form factor in light-front [with $q^+ = 0$],

$$F_1(-q^2) = \langle P+q; \mathbf{\Lambda} | \frac{J^+(0)}{2P^+} | P; \mathbf{\Lambda} \rangle; \qquad F_1^q(-q^2) = \int dx \ H^q(x, -q^2).$$

✓ In terms of overlap of light-front WFs:,

$$H^{q}(x,t=-q^{2})\sim\sum_{\lambda_{i}}\int \left[dx_{i\neq1}\ d^{2}\mathbf{k}_{\perp i}\right]\Psi_{\lambda_{i}}^{\Lambda*}(x_{i},\mathbf{k}_{\perp i}')\Psi_{\lambda_{i}}^{\Lambda}(x_{i},\mathbf{k}_{\perp i})$$



Spin flip GPDs in BLFQ

work in progress

✓ Pauli form factor in light-front [with $q^+ = 0$],

$$F_2(-q^2) = \langle P+q; \mathbf{\Lambda} | \frac{J^+(0)}{2P^+} | P; -\mathbf{\Lambda} \rangle; \qquad F_2^q(-q^2) = \int dx \ E^q(x, -q^2).$$

✓ In terms of overlap of light-front WFs:,

$$E^{q}(x,t=-q^{2})\sim\sum_{\lambda_{i}}\int \left[dx_{i\neq 1} \ d^{2}\mathbf{k}_{\perp i}\right] \Psi_{\lambda_{i}}^{\mathbf{\Lambda}*}(x_{i},\mathbf{k}_{\perp i}')\Psi_{\lambda_{i}}^{-\mathbf{\Lambda}}(x_{i},\mathbf{k}_{\perp i})$$



Parton distribution functions (PDFs)

PDFs is equal to the GPDs(t = 0): f(x) = H(x, t = 0) $f_E(x) = E(x, t = 0)$



We use the DGLAP equation to evolve the PDF. Qualitative behavior of PDF is almost same with the global fit MSTW(2008) PDF.

Note: In DGLAP, we use leading order running coupling constant:

$$\alpha_s(Q^2) = \frac{4\pi}{9\ln(\frac{Q^2}{\Lambda_{\rm QCD}^2})}, \quad \text{with} \quad \Lambda_{\rm QCD} = 226 \text{ MeV}$$

Conclusions & outlook

- We have discussed the very preliminary results of nucleon form factors, PDFs & GPDs in BLFQ approach.
- In the effective Hamiltonian, we have the kinetic energy & the confining potential in both the transverse and longitudinal direction and one gluon exchange with fixed coupling. Here, we consider only the leading Fock sector.
- BLFQ formalism provides promising results in order to understand the nucleon structure.

Outlook:

- Increase basis size
- Include the higher Fock component $|qqqg\rangle$.
- Investigate other nucleon properties..
- Investigate the structure of other baryons.



Thank You

QCD evolution of PDF

The Dokshitzer-Gribov-Lipatov-Altarelli-Parisi (DGLAP) equation bridges PDFs between a final scale and a initial scale. The leading-order (LO) DGLAP equation with flavor number N_f reads:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \ln \mu^2} \begin{pmatrix} f_q(x,\mu^2) \\ f_g(x,\mu^2) \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\alpha_s(\mu^2)}{2\pi} \int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y} \begin{pmatrix} P_{qq}(\frac{x}{y}) & P_{qg}(\frac{x}{y}) \\ P_{gq}(\frac{x}{y}) & P_{gg}(\frac{x}{y}) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_q(y,\mu^2) \\ f_g(y,\mu^2) \end{pmatrix},\tag{14}$$

where the LO splitting functions are given by

$$\begin{split} P_{qq}(z) &= \frac{4}{3} \frac{1+z^2}{1-z} + 2 \, \delta(1-z) - \frac{8}{3} \, \delta(1-z) \int_0^1 dz' \frac{1}{1-z'}, \\ P_{qg}(z) &= \frac{1}{2} \left[z^2 + (1-z)^2 \right], \\ P_{gq}(z) &= \frac{4}{3} \frac{1+(1-z)^2}{z}, \\ P_{gg}(z) &= 6 \left[\frac{1-z}{z} + z(1-z) + \frac{z}{1-z} \right] + \left(\frac{11}{2} - \frac{N_f}{3} \right) \delta(1-z) \\ &\quad - 6 \, \delta(1-z) \int_0^1 dz' \frac{1}{1-z'}, \end{split}$$
(15)

and the LO running coupling constant is

$$\alpha_s(\mu^2) = \frac{12\pi}{(33 - 2N_f) \ln\left(\mu^2/\Lambda_{N_f}^2\right)}.$$
(16)



GPDs: BLFQ vs LF quark-diquark

✓ In terms of overlap of light-front WFs:, $H^q(x, -q^2)$:

$$H^{q}(x,-t) = \int \frac{d^{2}\mathbf{k}_{\perp}}{16\pi^{3}} \left[\psi_{+q}^{+*}(x,\mathbf{k}_{\perp}')\psi_{+q}^{+}(x,\mathbf{k}_{\perp}) + \psi_{-q}^{+*}(x,\mathbf{k}_{\perp}')\psi_{-q}^{+}(x,\mathbf{k}_{\perp}) \right]$$

where ${\bf k}'_{\perp} = {\bf k}_{\perp 1} - (1-x) {\bf q}_{\perp}; \quad t = -{\bf q}_{\perp}^2$



Effect of longitudinal confinement



Х