Recent results of baryon electromagnetic form factors at BESIII



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On behalf of the BESIII collaboration

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Introduction — The Standard Model and baryons

The Standard Model of particle physics is a well tested theory, but it is not the final theory, because, for example,

- it does not involve gravity,
- it can not explain the matter-antimatter asymmetry, dark matter, and dark energy,
- it lacks accurate prediction power for the strong interaction in the low energy region.



- Understanding the structure and the dynamics of baryons are crucial topics of modern particle physics.
- For example, the sizes, spins, magnetic moments, and masses of nucleons are not fully understood, even after 100 years of studies.

Introduction — Electromagnetic form factors (EMFFs)

Electromagnetic form factors (EMFFs) are fundamental observables:

- accounting for non point-like structures of hadrons,
- describing electric and magnetic structures of hadrons,
- providing keys to understanding the strong interaction.



$$\Gamma^{\mu}(q^2) = \gamma^{\mu} F_1(q^2) + i \frac{\sigma^{\mu\nu} q_{\nu}}{2m} F_2(q^2)$$

$$G_E(q^2) = F_1(q^2) + \frac{q^2}{4m^2}F_2(q^2)$$

$$G_M(q^2) = F_1(q^2) + F_2(q^2)$$

q² < 0, space-like (SL) region:
 G_E(q²) and G_M(q²) are real,
 measured via e[−]N scattering.

 $\mathbf{p} \mathbf{q}^2 > 0$, time-like (TL) region:

- $G_E(q^2)$ and $G_M(q^2)$ are complex,
- measured via e⁺e⁻ or pp
 annihilation.

Introduction – Baryon pair production via $e^+e^$ annihilation

$$\begin{split} \frac{d\sigma^{\text{Born}}}{d\Omega}(q^2,\theta_B) &= \frac{\alpha^2 \beta C}{4q^2} \bigg((1+\cos^2\theta_B) |G_M(q^2)|^2 \\ &+ \frac{1}{\tau} \sin^2\theta_B |G_E(q^2)|^2 \bigg) \\ \sigma^{\text{Born}}(q^2) &= \frac{4\pi \alpha^2 \beta C}{3q^2} \left(|G_M(q^2)|^2 + \frac{1}{2\tau} |G_E(q^2)|^2 \right) \\ &|G_{eff}| = \sqrt{\frac{|G_E|^2 + 2\tau |G_M|^2}{1+2\tau}} \end{split}$$

- |G_{eff}| can be measured via total Born cross section,
- G_E/G_M , G_E or G_M should be measured via angular analysis.

- $C \neq 1$ for charged baryon pairs.
- C = 1 for neutral baryon pairs.



- $\sigma^{Born}(4M_B^2) \neq 0$ for charged baryon pairs.
- $\sigma^{Born}(4M_B^2) = 0$ for neutral baryon pairs.

Introduction — The BESIII experiment





依托于中科院高能所内的北京正负电子对撞机 (BEPCII)和北京谱仪探测器 (BESIII)。

 运行在陶粲能区,在强 子物理和粲味物理方 面,有着丰富的研究课 题。

自2009年以来,采集 了世界上最大的陶粲能 区数据样本,为本报告 所涉及的重子形状因子 研究打下了坚实的数据 基础。

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EMFFs of nucleons – Proton EMFFs (I)

PRD 91 (2015) 112004, PRD 99 (2019) 092002 PRL 124 (2020) 042001, PLB 817 (2021) 136328



- BESIII measured the Born cross sections of e⁺e⁻ → pp̄ and determined the proton effective EMFFs, using both energy scan and ISR methods.
- Best precision was achieved, and in addition the EFFs of proton are measured for the first time.

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EMFFs of nucleons – Proton EMFFs (II)

PRD 91 (2015) 112004, PRD 99 (2019) 092002 PRL 124 (2020) 042001, PLB 817 (2021) 136328



- BESIII produced the most accurate |G_E/G_M| ratios using energy scan method, which favor BaBar over PS170 and thus help clarify the puzzle.
- BESIII confirmed the oscillation in the effetive EMFFs residual first seen by BaBar.
 - Interference effect involving rescattering processes in the final state, or independent resonant structures?

EMFFs of nucleons – Neutron EMFFs (I)

Nature Physics 17 (2021) 11, 1200-1204



- BESIII measured the Born cross sections of $e^+e^- \rightarrow n\bar{n}$ and determined the neutron effective EMFFs, at 18 center-of-mass (CM) energies between 2.00 and 3.08 GeV, with unprecedented precision.
- This is a challenging measurement because neutron and anti-neutron are difficult to detect.

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EMFFs of nucleons – Neutron EMFFs (II)

Nature Physics 17 (2021) 11, 1200-1204



- From BESIII measurements, the cross section for $e^+e^- \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ are larger than that of $e^+e^- \rightarrow n\bar{n}$ in general.
 - more compatible with the QCD-motivated model predictions than FENICE measurements.
 - Photon-proton interaction is stronger than photon-neutron interaction, clarifing the long-standing puzzle on the photon-nucleon interactions.
- BESIII discovered the oscillation in the effetive EMFFs residual of neutron, similar to that of proton, but with different phase.

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EMFFs of strange hyperons – Λ EMFFs (I)

PRD 97 (2018) 032013



BESIII measured the Born cross sections of e⁺e⁻ → ΛΛ̄ and determined the Λ effective EMFFs, at 4 CM energy points between 2.2324 and 3.0800 GeV.

A cross-section enhancement is observed near the $\Lambda\bar{\Lambda}$ production threshold.

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EMFFs of strange hyperons – Λ EMFFs (II)

PRL 123 (2019) 122003



The first complete measurement of the Λ EMFFs with a multidimensional analysis.

 $R = 0.96 \pm 0.14 (\text{stat}) \pm 0.02 (\text{syst}) \ \sigma = 118.7 \pm 5.3 (\text{stat}) \pm 5.1 (\text{syst}) \ \text{pb}.$ $\Delta \Phi = 37^{\circ} \pm 12^{\circ} (\text{stat}) \pm 6^{\circ} (\text{syst}) \ |G| = 0.123 \pm 0.003 (\text{stat}) \pm 0.003 (\text{syst})$

EMFFs of strange hyperons – Σ^+/Σ^- EMFFs

PLB 814 (2021) 136110



- First measurements of $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Sigma^{\pm}\Sigma^{\mp}$ cross sections in the off-resonance region.
- Well described by pQCD motivated functions, and no cross-section enhancements are observed near the production thresholds.
- The ratio of $\sigma^{Born}(e^+e^- \to \Sigma^+ \bar{\Sigma}^-)$ to $\sigma^{Born}(e^+e^- \to \Sigma^- \bar{\Sigma}^+)$ is determined to be 9.7 ± 1.3, which is inconsistent with predictions from various models.

EMFFs of strange hyperons – Σ^0 EMFFs

PLB 831 (2022) 137187



- BESIII measured the Born cross sections of e⁺e⁻ → Σ⁰Σ⁰ and determined the Σ⁰ effective EMFFs, at CM energy points between 2.644 and 3.080 GeV.
 - Well described by pQCD motivated functions, and no cross-section enhancements are observed near the production thresholds.

EMFFs of strange hyperons – Ξ^- EMFFs

PRD 103 (2021) 012005



- BESIII measured the Born cross sections of e⁺e⁻ → Ξ⁻Ξ⁺ and determined the Ξ⁻ effective EMFFs, at 8 CM energy points between 2.644 and 3.080 GeV.
 - After performing a fit to the Born cross section of $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \bar{\Xi}^+$, no significant threshold effect is observed.

EMFFs of strange hyperons – Ξ^0 EMFFs

PLB 820 (2021) 136557



BESIII measured the Born cross sections of e⁺e⁻ → Ξ⁰Ξ⁰ and determined the Ξ⁰ effective EMFFs, no significant threshold effect is observed.

The calculated $\sigma^{Born}(e^+e^- \to \Xi^0 \bar{\Xi}^0) / \sigma^{Born}(e^+e^- \to \Xi^- \bar{\Xi}^+)$ is compatible with isospin symmetry.

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EMFFs of charmed baryons – Λ_c^+ EMFFs

PRL 120 (2018) 132001



- BESIII measured the Born cross sections of $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda_c^+ \bar{\Lambda}_c^-$ at $\sqrt{s} = 4.5745, 4.5809, 4.5900, 4.5995$ GeV, with unprecedented precision.
- Different cross-section lineshapes from Belle, and abnormal threshold behaviour is observed.
- $|G_E/G_M|$ of Λ_c^+ has been extracted for the first time.
 - 1.14 \pm 0.14 (stat.) \pm 0.07 (sys.) at \sqrt{s} = 4.5745 GeV,
 - **1.23** \pm 0.05 (stat.) \pm 0.03 (sys.) at $\sqrt{s} = 4.5995$ GeV.

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Summary

- Based on the world's largest e⁺e⁻ annihilation data samples in the τ-Charm region collected with the BESIII detector, we studied the TL EMFFs of all the ground octet baryons and Λ⁺_c, in a systematic way.
 - Measured many cross sections and EMFFs for the first time or with the best precision.
 - Clarified several long-standing puzzles.
 - Confirmed/Discovered the oscillating feature of proton/neutron.
 - Observed abnormal cross-section enhancements near the Λ/Λ⁺_c pair production thresholds.
- All these studies shed new light on the understandings of the structure and the dynamics of baryons.
- Review article on the topic: Guangshun Huang and Rinaldo Baldini Ferroli, National Science Review 8 (2021) 11, nwab187

Prospects

- It will take a long time to ultimately unravel the structure and the dynamics of baryons.
- More studies on the baryon EMFF measurements are ongoing at BESIII.
- Further improvements in the baryon EMFF measurements will be the focus of future powerful colliders:
 - SuperKEKB/Belle II in Japan (TL region)
 - FAIR/Panda in Germany (TL region)
 - STCF in China (TL region)
 - SCTF in Russia (TL region)
 - EIC in America (SL region)
 - EICC in China (SL region)

Thanks for your attention!

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