



北京大学
PEKING UNIVERSITY



26th International
Symposium on Spin Physics
A Century of Spin

6D Light-front Wigner distributions of the proton

Yirui Yang

Collaborators: Yingda Han, Tianbo Liu, Bo-Qiang Ma

School of Physics, Peking University

September 22, 2025

Table of contents

❶ Introduction

❷ Theoretical Formalism

❸ Phenomenological implications

❹ Numerical Results

❺ Summary



Introduction–Motivation

Structure of hadrons

- **Hadron Physics:** Nucleons exhibit a complex and dynamic internal structure → Dynamics of quarks and gluons → Structure of hadrons
 - **1D:** The parton distribution function (PDF).
 - **3D:** Generalized Parton Distributions (GPDs) and Transverse Momentum Distributions (TMDs).

Motivation

- **A more complete description:** Utilizing the distribution function in phase space, which is a joint distribution in coordinate space and momentum space.



History of Wigner distribution

- **Foundation:** Dirac and Heisenberg provide a theoretical foundation for the connection between quantum mechanics and classical phase space.¹
- **Introduction:** The Wigner distribution has been introduced by E. Wigner as a quantum phase space distribution.²
- **6D Non-relativistic:** The first attempt to transpose this formalism to the framework of QFT by Ji et al..³
- **5D Relativistic:** C. Lorcé and B. Pasquini introduce a 5D Wigner distribution function in the infinite momentum frame.⁴
- **6D Relativistic:** Y. Han et al. defines the boost-invariant 6D Wigner distribution function,⁵ based on the boost-invariant space coordinates.

¹ P. A. M. Dirac, Math. Proc. Cambridge Philos. Soc. 26, 376 (1930); W. Heisenberg, Original Sci. Papers 1985, 627.

² E. P. Wigner, Phys. Rev. 40, 749 (1932).

³ X. D. Ji, Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 062001 (2003); A. V. Belitsky et al., Phys. Rev. D 69, 074014 (2004).

⁴ C. Lorcé, B. Pasquini, Phys. Rev. D 84, 014015 (2011); Phys. Rev. D 93, 034040 (2016).

⁵ Y. Han, T. Liu, B. Q. Ma, Phys. Lett. B 830, 137127 (2022).



5D & 6D Wigner Distributions Related Topics

5D Wigner Distributions¹

- 1 Different polarization Wigner distribution:
 - Quark Wigner distribution of pion meson (Spin-0).²
 - Quark Wigner distribution of proton (Spin-1/2).³
- 2 The relationship with intrinsic orbital angular momentum.⁴

6D Wigner Distributions⁵

- 1 Different polarization Wigner distribution:
 - Quark Wigner distribution of pion meson (Spin-0).⁶
 - Quark Wigner distribution of proton (Spin-1/2).⁷

¹C. Lorcé, B. Pasquini, Phys. Rev. D 84, 014015 (2011); Phys. Rev. D 93, 034040 (2016).

²Z. L. Ma, Z. Lun, Phys. Rev. D 98, 054024 (2018).

³T. Liu, B. Q. Ma, Phys. Rev. D 91, 034019 (2015).

⁴C. Lorcé et al., Phys. Rev. D 85, 114006 (2012).

⁵Y. Han, T. Liu, B. Q. Ma, Phys. Lett. B 830, 137127 (2022).

⁶Y. Han, T. Liu, B. Q. Ma, Nucl. Phys. A 1040, 122757 (2023).

⁷Y. Yang, T. Liu, B. Q. Ma, Eur. Phys. J. C 85(5), 1-39 (2025).

Table of contents

➊ Introduction

➋ Theoretical Formalism

➌ Phenomenological implications

➍ Numerical Results

➎ Summary



6D Light-front Wigner Distributions

5D Wigner Distributions + Boost invariant longitudinal coordinates

6D Wigner operator¹

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{W}^{[\Gamma]}(b^-, \mathbf{b}_\perp, k^+, \mathbf{k}_\perp) &= \int \frac{dy^- d^2 \mathbf{y}_\perp}{2(2\pi)^3} e^{ik^+ y^- - i\mathbf{k}_\perp \cdot \mathbf{y}_\perp} \\ &\times \bar{\psi}\left(b - \frac{y}{2}\right) \Gamma \mathcal{L}_{[b-y/2, b+y/2]} \Psi\left(b + \frac{y}{2}\right) \Big|_{y^+=0}, \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

6D Wigner distributions

$$\begin{aligned} \rho^{[\Gamma]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, S) &= \int \frac{d\xi d^2 \Delta_\perp}{4\pi^3} \\ &\times \left\langle P + \frac{\Delta}{2}, S \left| \widehat{W}^{[\Gamma]}(b^-, \mathbf{b}_\perp, k^+, \mathbf{k}_\perp) \right| P - \frac{\Delta}{2}, S \right\rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Integrating over $\tilde{z}$ leads back to the 5D Wigner distribution function.

¹Y. Han, T. Liu, B. Q. Ma, Phys. Lett. B 830, 137127 (2022).



All Polarization States

		Quark Polarization		
		Unpolarized (U)	Longitudinal Polarized (L)	Transverse Polarized (T)
Nucleon Polarization	U	ρ_{UU} Unpolarized $\int \rho_{UU} = N_q$	ρ_{UL} Quark helicity in unpolarized proton $\int \rho_{UL} = 0$	ρ_{UT}^j "Boer-Mulders" type $\int \rho_{UT}^j = 0$
	L	ρ_{LU} OAM-sensitive $\int \rho_{LU} = 0$	ρ_{LL} Helicity distribution $\int \rho_{LL} = \Delta q$	ρ_{LT} Longitudinal-transverse $\int \rho_{LT} = 0$
	T	ρ_{TU}^i "Sivers" type $\int \rho_{TU}^i = 0$	ρ_{TL}^i Transverse-longitudinal $\int \rho_{TL}^i = 0$	$\rho_{TT}, \rho_{TT}^\perp$ Transverse and pretzelous $\int \rho_{TT}^{(\perp)} = \Delta_{Tq}/0$



Spectator Model

Spectator Model

- In the spectator model, the hadron is viewed as a struck quark and a spectator which contains the remaining constituents, and a portion of the nonperturbative effects can be absorbed in its mass.
- The amplitudes of the quark-spectator states in a hadron are described by the light-cone wave functions.



Spectator Model of Proton

Considering the leading term in the Fock states expansion for the proton is the valence three quark state $|uud\rangle$. The light-cone Fock expansion for the pion is

$$\begin{aligned}
 & |P^+, \mathbf{P}_\perp, \lambda_N\rangle \\
 &= \sum_{q,D,\lambda_q,\lambda_D} \int \frac{dx d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp}{2(2\pi)^3 \sqrt{x(1-x)}} \Psi_{qD}(x, \mathbf{k}_\perp) |qD; x, \mathbf{k}_\perp, \lambda_q, \lambda_D\rangle
 \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Constrained by the quantum numbers of the proton and the quark, the spectator can only be either a scalar or an axial vector, and we express the proton state as

$$|p\rangle = \sin \theta \phi_S |qS\rangle + \cos \theta \phi_V |qV\rangle \quad (4)$$

where S and V stand for the scalar and the axial-vector spectators.



Spectator Model of Proton

The instant wave function of the proton

$$|p\rangle^{\uparrow,\downarrow} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|uS(ud)\rangle_T^{\uparrow,\downarrow} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}|uV(ud)\rangle_T^{\uparrow,\downarrow} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}|dV(uu)\rangle_T^{\uparrow,\downarrow}. \quad (5)$$

The transformation of the spinor of the quark from the instant form to the light-front form

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_T^{\uparrow} \\ q_T^{\downarrow} \end{bmatrix} = W_q \begin{bmatrix} q_F^{\uparrow} \\ q_F^{\downarrow} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (6)$$

W_q is the Melosh-Wigner rotation matrix of spinors

$$W_q = \omega \begin{bmatrix} k^+ + m & -k^R \\ k^L & k^+ + m \end{bmatrix}, \quad (7)$$

where $\omega = 1/\sqrt{(k^+ + m)^2 + k^L k^R}$ is a normalization factor.



Spectator Model of Proton

- ① **Scalar di-quark:** transformation remains invariant
- ② **Axial-vector di-quark:** Melosh-Wigner transformation

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_T^1 \\ V_T^0 \\ V_T^{-1} \end{bmatrix} = W_V \begin{bmatrix} V_F^1 \\ V_F^0 \\ V_F^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

The corresponding Melosh–Wigner transformation matrix is

$$W_V = \omega_V^2 \begin{bmatrix} (k_V^+ + m_V)^2 & -\sqrt{2} (k_V^+ + m_V) k_V^R & (k_V^R)^2 \\ \sqrt{2} (k_V^+ + m_V) k_V^L & (k_V^+ + m_V)^2 - k_V^L k_V^R & -\sqrt{2} (k_V^+ + m_V) k_V^R \\ (k_V^L)^2 & \sqrt{2} (k_V^+ + m_V) k_V^L & (k_V^+ + m_V)^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

where m_V is the mass of the di-quark and $\omega_V = 1/\sqrt{(k_V^+ + m_V)^2 + k_V^L k_V^R}$ is a normalization factor.



BHL wave function

The Brodsky–Huang–Lepage (BHL) form of the light-front wave function

$$\varphi_{qD}(x, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = A_{qD} \exp\left(-\frac{\mathcal{M}^2}{8\beta_D^2}\right), \quad (10)$$

where D represents the spectator, with $D = S$ for the scalar spectator and $D = V$ for the axial-vector spectator. Besides, β_D is the scale parameter of the harmonic oscillator, A_{qD} is the normalization factor and $\mathcal{M}$ is the invariant mass as

$$\mathcal{M} = \sqrt{\frac{m_q^2 + \mathbf{k}_\perp^2}{x} + \frac{m_D^2 + \mathbf{k}_\perp^2}{1-x}}, \quad (11)$$

where m_q and m_D are the mass of quarks and spectators, respectively.



Spectator Model of Proton

The quark-parton state can be expressed as

$$|qS\rangle_T^\lambda = \int \frac{dx d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp}{16\pi^3} \sum_{i=\{\uparrow, \downarrow\}} A_{qS}^{i,\lambda} |q^i S\rangle_F, \quad (12)$$

$$|qV\rangle_T^\lambda = \int \frac{dx d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp}{16\pi^3} \sum_{i=\{\uparrow, \downarrow\}} \sum_{j=\{-1, 0, 1\}} B_{qV}^{ij,\lambda} |q^i V^j\rangle_F, \quad (13)$$

where $\lambda = \uparrow$ or $\downarrow$, and the coefficients $A_{qS}^{i,\lambda}$ and $B_{qV}^{ij,\lambda}$ are defined as

$$A_{qS}^{i,\lambda} = W_q^{\lambda,i} \varphi_S, \quad (14)$$

$$B_{qV}^{ij,\uparrow} = \left(-\sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} W_q^{\uparrow,i} W_V^{0,j} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} W_q^{\downarrow,i} W_V^{1,j} \right) \varphi_V, \quad (15)$$

$$B_{qV}^{ij,\downarrow} = \left(-\sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} W_q^{\downarrow,i} W_V^{0,j} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} W_q^{\uparrow,i} W_V^{-1,j} \right) \varphi_V. \quad (16)$$



Spectator Model of Proton

The quark-parton state can be expressed as

$$|qS\rangle_T^\lambda = \int \frac{dx d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp}{16\pi^3} \sum_{i=\{\uparrow,\downarrow\}} A_{qS}^{i,\lambda} |q^i S\rangle_F, \quad (17)$$

$$|qV\rangle_T^\lambda = \int \frac{dx d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp}{16\pi^3} \sum_{i=\{\uparrow,\downarrow\}} \sum_{j=\{-1,0,1\}} B_{qV}^{ij,\lambda} |q^i V^j\rangle_F, \quad (18)$$

The light-front wave functions of the proton can be derived as

$$\psi_{uS(ud)}^\lambda(x, \mathbf{k}_\perp, \lambda_u = i) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} A_{uS(ud)}^{i,\lambda}, \quad (19)$$

$$\psi_{uV(ud)}^\lambda(x, \mathbf{k}_\perp, \lambda_u = i, \lambda_V = j) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} B_{uV(ud)}^{ij,\lambda}, \quad (20)$$

$$\psi_{dV(uu)}^\lambda(x, \mathbf{k}_\perp, \lambda_d = i, \lambda_V = j) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} B_{dV(uu)}^{ij,\lambda}. \quad (21)$$



6D Wigner Distribution

Use $\lambda_{q,\bar{q}}$ to denote the helicities of quark and spectator diquark

$$\rho^{[\gamma^+]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \int \frac{d\xi d^2\Delta_\perp}{4\pi^3} e^{-2i\xi\tilde{z} - i\mathbf{b}_\perp \cdot \Delta_\perp} \frac{1}{16\pi^3} \sum_{\lambda_{\bar{q}}} \left(\psi^*(x^{\text{out}}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{out}}, +, \lambda_{\bar{q}}) \psi(x^{\text{in}}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{in}}, +, \lambda_{\bar{q}}) \right. \\ \left. + \psi^*(x^{\text{out}}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{out}}, -, \lambda_{\bar{q}}) \psi(x^{\text{in}}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{in}}, -, \lambda_{\bar{q}}) \right)$$

$$\rho^{[\gamma^+ \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \int \frac{d\xi d^2\Delta_\perp}{4\pi^3} e^{-2i\xi\tilde{z} - i\mathbf{b}_\perp \cdot \Delta_\perp} \frac{1}{16\pi^3} \sum_{\lambda_{\bar{q}}} \left(\psi^*(x^{\text{out}}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{out}}, +, \lambda_{\bar{q}}) \psi(x^{\text{in}}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{in}}, +, \lambda_{\bar{q}}) \right. \\ \left. - \psi^*(x^{\text{out}}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{out}}, -, \lambda_{\bar{q}}) \psi(x^{\text{in}}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{in}}, -, \lambda_{\bar{q}}) \right)$$

$$\rho^{[i\sigma^{j+} \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \int \frac{d\xi d^2\Delta_\perp}{4\pi^3} e^{-2i\xi\tilde{z} - i\mathbf{b}_\perp \cdot \Delta_\perp} \frac{1}{16\pi^3} \sum_{\lambda_{\bar{q}}} \left(\psi^*(x^{\text{out}}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{out}}, \uparrow, \lambda_{\bar{q}}) \psi(x^{\text{in}}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{in}}, \uparrow, \lambda_{\bar{q}}) \right. \\ \left. - \psi^*(x^{\text{out}}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{out}}, \downarrow, \lambda_{\bar{q}}) \psi(x^{\text{in}}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{in}}, \downarrow, \lambda_{\bar{q}}) \right)$$

$$\text{where } x^{\text{out}} = \frac{x-\xi}{1-\xi}, x^{\text{in}} = \frac{x+\xi}{1+\xi}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{out}} = \mathbf{k}_\perp + \frac{(1-x)\Delta_\perp}{2(1-\xi)}, \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{in}} = \mathbf{k}_\perp - \frac{(1-x)\Delta_\perp}{2(1+\xi)},$$

$$\mathbf{p}_\perp^{\text{out}} = \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{out}} + x^{\text{out}} \frac{\Delta_\perp}{2} = \mathbf{k}_\perp + \frac{\Delta_\perp}{2}, \mathbf{p}_\perp^{\text{in}} = \mathbf{k}_\perp^{\text{in}} - x^{\text{in}} \frac{\Delta_\perp}{2} = \mathbf{k}_\perp - \frac{\Delta_\perp}{2}, \mathbf{p}_\perp^{\text{out}} - \mathbf{p}_\perp^{\text{in}} = \Delta_\perp.$$

Table of contents

- ➊ Introduction
- ➋ Theoretical Formalism
- ➌ Phenomenological implications
- ➍ Numerical Results
- ➎ Summary



Physical Significance

The skewness variable ξ is defined as

$$\xi = -\frac{\Delta^+}{2P^+}, \quad (22)$$

The longitudinal coordinate $\tilde{z}$ is defined as

$$\tilde{z} = b^- P^+, \quad (23)$$

The distribution function with respect to the longitudinal coordinates $\tilde{z}$

$$\rho^{[\Gamma]}(\tilde{z}, S) = \int d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp d\mathbf{x} \rho^{[\Gamma]}(\tilde{z}, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, S). \quad (24)$$

The expression for GPDs

$$H(x, \xi, t, S) = \int d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp \int d\tilde{z} d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp e^{2i\xi\tilde{z} + i\mathbf{b}_\perp \cdot \Delta_\perp} \rho(\tilde{z}, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}_\perp, \mathbf{b}_\perp, S), \quad (25)$$

where $t = \Delta_\perp^2$.



6D Light-front Wigner Distributions

The integration over $\tilde{Z}$ leads back to the 5D Wigner distribution function

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int d\tilde{Z} \rho^{[\Gamma]}(\tilde{Z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, S) \\
 &= - \int db^- \int \frac{d\Delta^+ d^2\Delta_\perp}{(2\pi)^3} e^{ib^-\Delta^+} \left\langle P + \frac{\Delta}{2}, S \left| \widehat{W}^{[\Gamma]}(0, \mathbf{b}_\perp, k^+, \mathbf{k}_\perp) \right| P - \frac{\Delta}{2}, S \right\rangle \quad (26) \\
 &= \int \frac{d^2\Delta_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} \left\langle P + \frac{\Delta_\perp}{2}, S \left| \widehat{W}^{[\Gamma]}(0, \mathbf{b}_\perp, k^+, \mathbf{k}_\perp) \right| P - \frac{\Delta_\perp}{2}, S \right\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

The 6D Wigner distribution is the 3D Fourier transform of the GTMD correlation function.

$$\rho^{[\Gamma]}(\tilde{Z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, S) = \int \frac{d\xi d^2\Delta_\perp}{4\pi^3} e^{-2i\xi\mathbf{z} - i\mathbf{b}_\perp \cdot \Delta_\perp} W^{[\Gamma]}(\xi, x, \Delta_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, S) \quad (27)$$

The 6D Wigner distribution contains the coordinate space information, which is the most comprehensive partial distribution function known at present.



6D Light-front Wigner Distributions

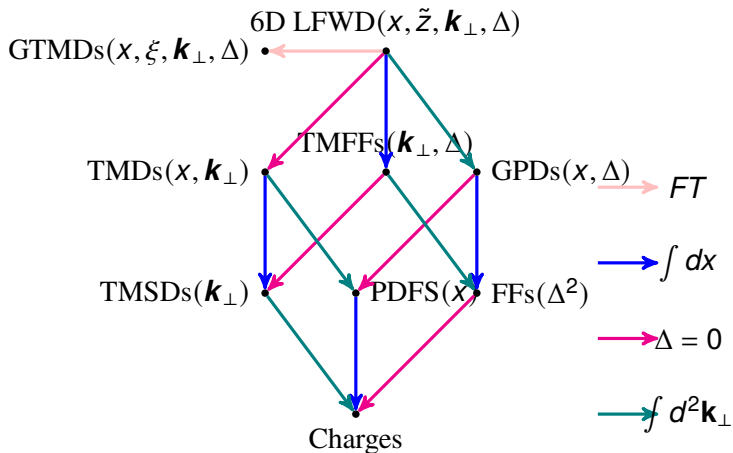


Figure 1: Conversion from the 6D LF Wigner function to other distribution functions



6D Light-front Wigner Distributions

Integrating the function defined above yields a new distribution function. The specific integration relations are shown in the table below:

Integration Dimensions (Integrated Variables)	Final Distribution Function
$\mathbf{k}_\perp, \mathbf{b}_\perp$	$\rho^{[\Gamma]}(\tilde{z}, x, S)$
$x, \mathbf{k}_\perp$	$\rho^{[\Gamma]}(\tilde{z}, \mathbf{b}_\perp, S)$
$x, \mathbf{b}_\perp$	$\rho^{[\Gamma]}(\tilde{z}, \mathbf{k}_\perp, S)$
x, b_y, k_x	$\rho^{[\Gamma]}(\tilde{z}, b_x, k_y, S)$
x, b_x, k_y	$\rho^{[\Gamma]}(\tilde{z}, b_y, k_x, S)$
x, b_x, k_x	$\rho^{[\Gamma]}(\tilde{z}, b_y, k_y, S)$
x, b_y, k_y	$\rho^{[\Gamma]}(\tilde{z}, b_x, k_x, S)$

Note: $\mathbf{b}_\perp = (b_x, b_y)$ = transverse coordinate vector; $\mathbf{k}_\perp = (k_x, k_y)$ = transverse momentum vector; x = longitudinal momentum fraction.



Intrinsic Orbital Angular Momentum

Physical Interpretation:

- Both quantities probe the coupling between spatial and momentum degrees of freedom in the nucleon.
- ℓ_z^q : Measures the **intrinsic orbital angular momentum** carried by quarks.
- C_z^q : Encodes the **correlation between quark spin and orbital motion**.

Mathematical Structure:

$$\ell_z^q = \int d\tilde{z} dx d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp \underbrace{(\mathbf{b}_\perp \times \mathbf{k}_\perp)_z}_{\text{Orbital angular momentum operator}} \rho_{LU}^q(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, S),$$

$$C_z^q = \int d\tilde{z} dx d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp (\mathbf{b}_\perp \times \mathbf{k}_\perp)_z \rho_{UL}^q(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, S).$$

Table of contents

- ➊ Introduction
- ➋ Theoretical Formalism
- ➌ Phenomenological implications
- ➍ **Numerical Results**
- ➎ Summary



$\rho_{UU}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ in $\tilde{z} - b_x$ plane

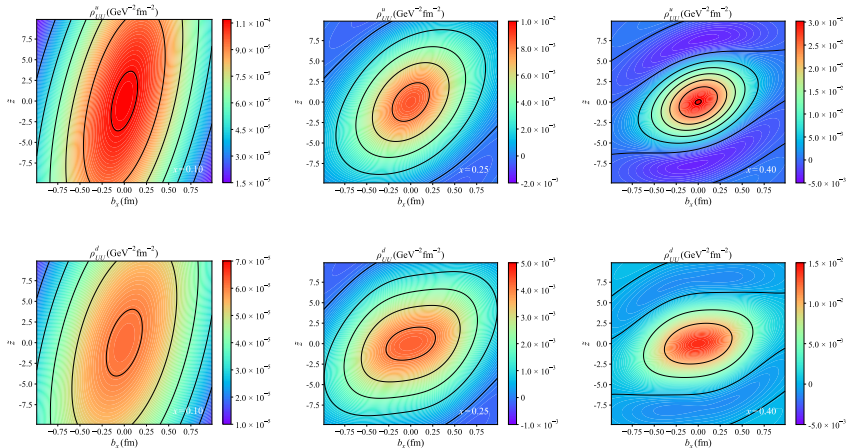


Figure 2: $\rho_{UU}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ with the transverse momentum fixed at $\mathbf{k}_\perp = 0.3 \text{ GeV} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ (where $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ is the unit vector in the x -direction) and the transverse coordinate component fixed at $b_y = 0.4 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$. The three columns correspond to $x = 0.10, x = 0.25$, and $x = 0.40$.



$\rho_{UU}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ in $\tilde{z} - b_y$ plane

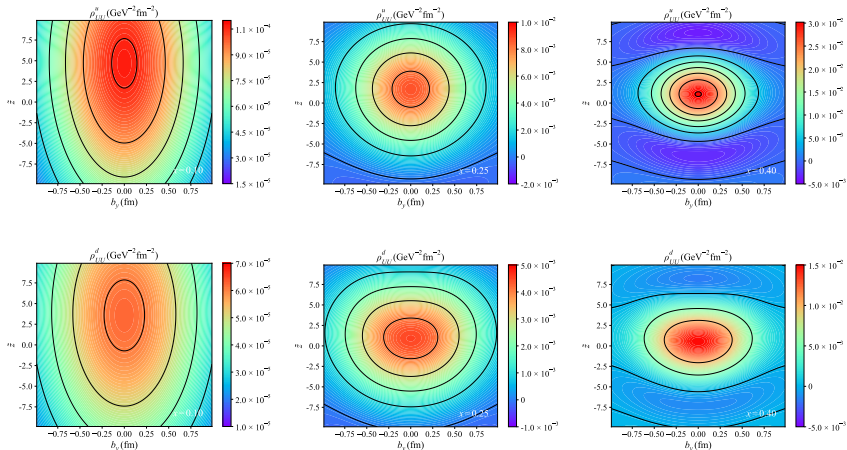


Figure 3: $\rho_{UU}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ with the transverse momentum fixed at $\mathbf{k}_\perp = 0.3 \text{ GeV} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ (where $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ is the unit vector in the x -direction) and the transverse coordinate component fixed at $b_x = 0.4 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$. The three columns correspond to $x = 0.10, x = 0.25$, and $x = 0.40$.



$\rho_{UU}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ in $\tilde{z} - k_x$ plane

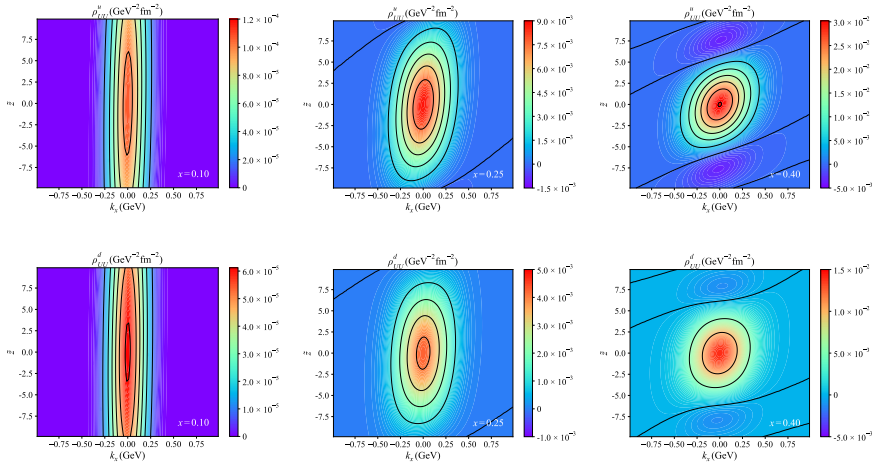


Figure 4: $\rho_{UU}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ with the transverse coordinate fixed at $\mathbf{b}_\perp = 0.4 \text{ GeV}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ (where $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ is the unit vector along the x -axis) and the transverse momentum component fixed at $k_y = 0.3 \text{ GeV}$. The three columns correspond to $x = 0.10, x = 0.25$, and $x = 0.40$.



$\rho_{UU}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ in $\tilde{z} - k_y$ plane

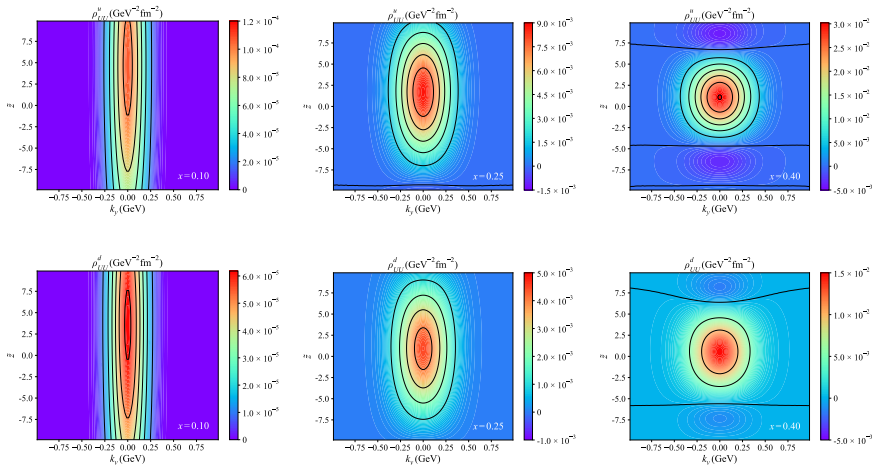


Figure 5: $\rho_{\text{UU}}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ with the transverse coordinate fixed at $\mathbf{b}_\perp = 0.4 \text{ GeV}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ (where $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ is the unit vector along the x -axis) and the transverse momentum component fixed at $k_x = 0.3 \text{ GeV}$. The three columns correspond to $x = 0.10, x = 0.25$, and $x = 0.40$.

Table of contents

- ➊ Introduction
- ➋ Theoretical Formalism
- ➌ Phenomenological implications
- ➍ Numerical Results
- ➎ Summary



Summary

Current Progress

- ① We investigate six-dimensional quark Wigner distributions of the proton in a light-front quark spectator-diquark model.
- ② We define 16 independent distribution functions in according to different combinations of quark and proton polarizations at the leading twist.
- ③ We present the numerical results of all these Wigner distributions and explore the connection to experimental observables.

Research Significance

- ① The 6D light-front Wigner distributions provide complete information of one parton distribution in the phase space and the correlation with spins.
- ② The 6D Wigner distribution can be transformed into other distribution functions.
- ③ The 6D Wigner distribution can be associated with important physical quantities such as orbital angular momentum.



Summary-Complete description

- How to fully depict the three-dimensional coordinate-momentum correlation of protons?—Boost invariant longitudinal coordinates $\tilde{z}$

Table 1: Comparison between Traditional Distribution Function and 6D Light-Front Wigner Distribution

Distribution Type	Dimensions	Coordinate Space	Momentum Space	Polarization Correlation
PDF	1D	$\times$	✓	Partial (longitudinal only)
TMD	3D	$\times$	✓	Partial (includes transverse)
GPD	4D	partial ✓	✓	Partial (cross terms)
6D LFWD	6D	✓	✓	Complete



Summary

Physical Significance

- 1 Visualization provides a complete spin-phase-space map of the proton ($\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp$).
- 2 The 6D Wigner distributions exhibit widespread non-positive definiteness directly confirming quantum phase-space interference effects.
- 3 Provided new insights into the proton structure: Spin-orbit coupling, quark flavor asymmetry and longitudinal spatial dynamics.

Experimental Observables

- 1 Indirect measurements using GTMDs
- 2 Transform into the distribution functions of known observables, such as TMDs, GPDs and PDFs
- 3 Define and observe the distribution function with respect to the $\tilde{z}$ -dependence of the longitudinal invariant coordinates
- 4 Observation of the New Distribution Function



Summary

- [1] **Yang Y**, Liu T, Ma B Q. Six-dimensional light-front Wigner distributions of the proton[J]. **The European Physical Journal C**, 2025, **85(5): 1-39**. ✓
- [2] Y. Han, T. Liu and B. Q. Ma, Six-dimensional light-front Wigner distribution of hadrons, Phys. Lett. B 830, 137127 (2022).
- [3] Han Y, Liu T, Ma B Q. Six-dimensional light-front Wigner distribution of hadrons[J]. Physics Letters B, 2022, 830: 137127.

Thank you !



6D Light-front Wigner Distributions

By combining different polarization states of hadrons and quarks.

① unpolarized case

$$\rho_{UU}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\rho^{[\gamma^+]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z) + \rho^{[\gamma^+]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, -\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z) \right], \quad (28)$$

② unpolarized-longitudinal case

$$\rho_{UL}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\rho^{[\gamma^+ \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z) + \rho^{[\gamma^+ \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, -\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z) \right], \quad (29)$$

③ unpolarized-transverse case

$$\rho_{UT}^j(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\rho^{[i\sigma^{j+} \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z) + \rho^{[i\sigma^{j+} \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, -\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z) \right], \quad (30)$$



6D Light-front Wigner Distributions

4 longitudinal-unpolarized case

$$\rho_{\text{LU}}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}, \mathbf{k}_{\perp}) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\rho^{[\gamma^+]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}, \mathbf{k}_{\perp}, \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z) - \rho^{[\gamma^+]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}, \mathbf{k}_{\perp}, -\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z) \right], \quad (31)$$

5 longitudinal case

$$\rho_{\text{LL}}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}, \mathbf{k}_{\perp}) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\rho^{[\gamma^+ \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}, \mathbf{k}_{\perp}, \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z) - \rho^{[\gamma^+ \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}, \mathbf{k}_{\perp}, -\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z) \right], \quad (32)$$

6 longitudinal-transverse case

$$\rho_{\text{LT}}^j(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}, \mathbf{k}_{\perp}) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\rho^{[i\sigma^{j+} \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}, \mathbf{k}_{\perp}, \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z) - \rho^{[i\sigma^{j+} \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}, \mathbf{k}_{\perp}, -\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z) \right], \quad (33)$$



6D Light-front Wigner Distributions

7 transverse-unpolarized case

$$\rho_{\text{TU}}^i(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \frac{1}{2} [\rho^{[\gamma^+]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i) - \rho^{[\gamma^+]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, -\hat{\mathbf{e}}_i)], \quad (34)$$

8 transverse-longitudinal case

$$\rho_{\text{TL}}^i(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \frac{1}{2} [\rho^{[\gamma^+ \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i) - \rho^{[\gamma^+ \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, -\hat{\mathbf{e}}_i)], \quad (35)$$

9 transverse case

$$\rho_{\text{TT}}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} [\rho^{[i \sigma^{j+} \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i) - \rho^{[i \sigma^{j+} \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, -\hat{\mathbf{e}}_i)], \quad (36)$$

10 pretzelous case

$$\rho_{\text{TT}}^\perp(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij} [\rho^{[i \sigma^{j+} \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i) - \rho^{[i \sigma^{j+} \gamma_5]}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp, -\hat{\mathbf{e}}_i)], \quad (37)$$



6D Light-front Wigner Distributions

By integrating over all relevant phase-space variables ($\tilde{z}$, x , $\mathbf{b}_\perp$, and $\mathbf{k}_\perp$)

① unpolarized case

$$\int d\tilde{z} dx d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp \rho_{UU}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = N_q, \quad (38)$$

② unpolarized-longitudinal case

$$\int d\tilde{z} dx d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp \rho_{UL}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = 0, \quad (39)$$

③ unpolarized-transverse case

$$\int d\tilde{z} dx d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp \rho_{UT}^j(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = 0, \quad (40)$$



6D Light-front Wigner Distributions

④ longitudinal-unpolarized case

$$\int d\tilde{z} dx d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp \rho_{LU}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = 0, \quad (41)$$

⑤ longitudinal case

$$\int d\tilde{z} dx d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp \rho_{LL}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \Delta_q, \quad (42)$$

⑥ longitudinal-transverse case

$$\int d\tilde{z} dx d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp \rho_{LT}^j(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = 0, \quad (43)$$



6D Light-front Wigner Distributions

7 transverse-unpolarized case

$$\int d\tilde{z} dx d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp \rho_{\text{TU}}^i(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = 0, \quad (44)$$

8 transverse-longitudinal case

$$\int d\tilde{z} dx d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp \rho_{\text{TL}}^i(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = 0, \quad (45)$$

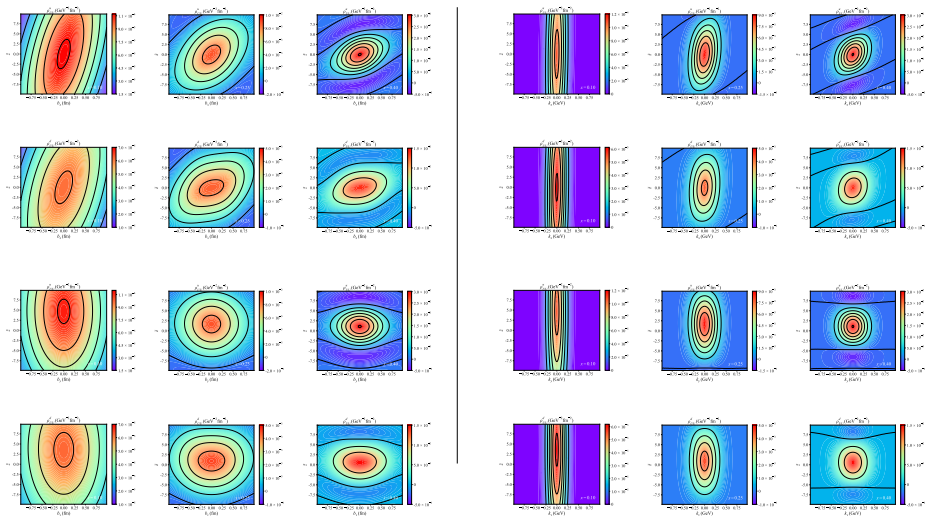
9 transverse case

$$\int d\tilde{z} dx d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp \rho_{\text{TT}}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = \Delta_{Tq}, \quad (46)$$

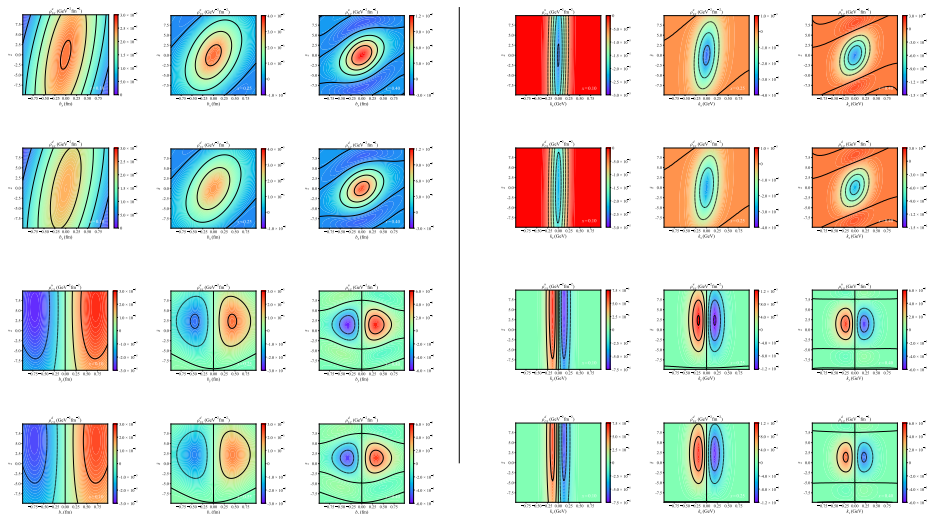
10 pretzelous case

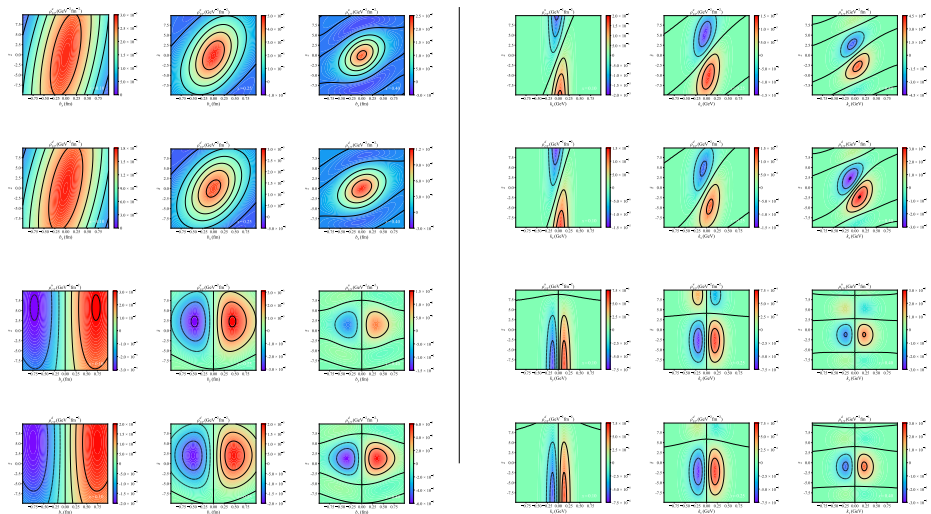
$$\int d\tilde{z} dx d^2\mathbf{b}_\perp d^2\mathbf{k}_\perp \rho_{\text{TT}}^\perp(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp) = 0, \quad (47)$$

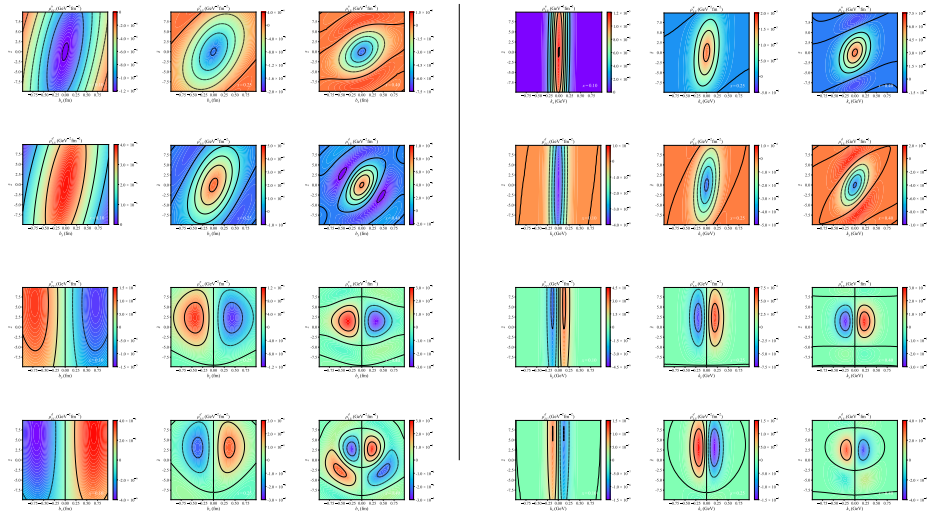
$\rho_{UU}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ in $\tilde{z} - b_x, \tilde{z} - b_y, \tilde{z} - k_x, \tilde{z} - k_y$ plane

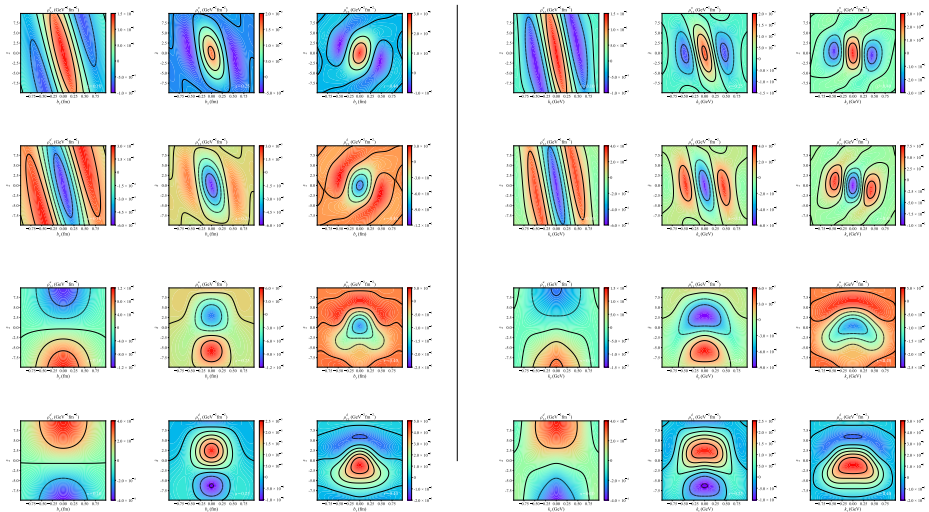


$\rho_{UL}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ in $\tilde{z} - b_x, \tilde{z} - b_y, \tilde{z} - k_x, \tilde{z} - k_y$ plane



$\rho_{UT}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ in $\tilde{z} - b_x, \tilde{z} - b_y, \tilde{z} - k_x, \tilde{z} - k_y$ plane


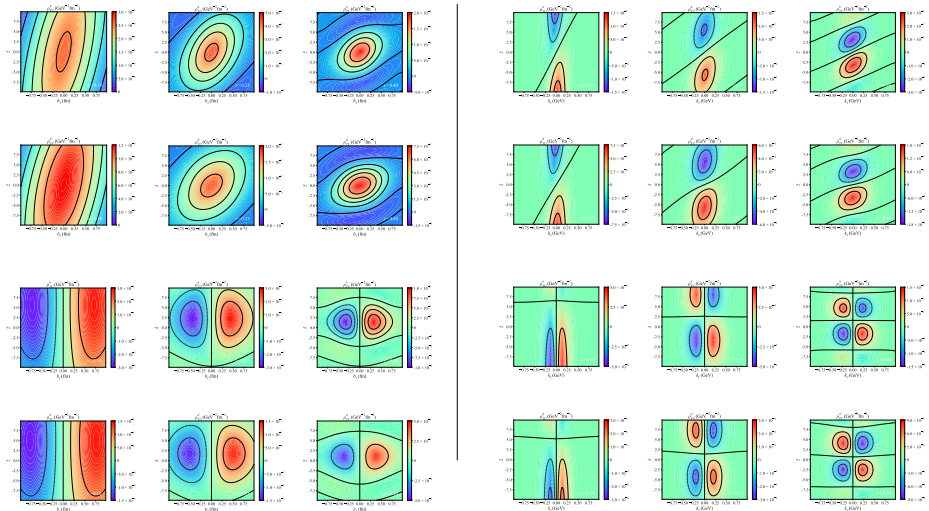
$\rho_{\text{LU}}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}, \mathbf{k}_{\perp})$ in $\tilde{z} - b_x, \tilde{z} - b_y, \tilde{z} - k_x, \tilde{z} - k_y$ plane


$\rho_{LL}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ in $\tilde{z} - b_x, \tilde{z} - b_y, \tilde{z} - k_x, \tilde{z} - k_y$ plane




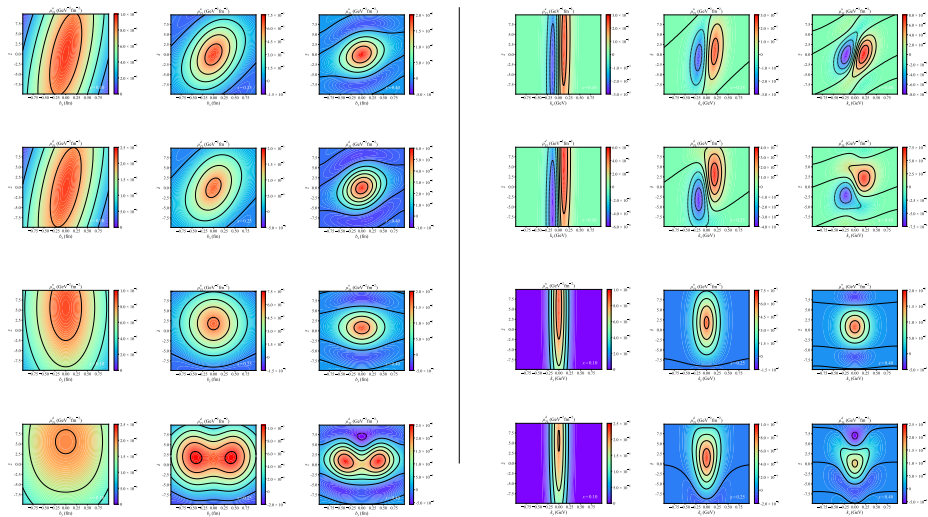
◀ ◻ ▶ ◀ ◻ ▶ ◀ ≡ ▶ ◀ ≡ ▶ ≡ ▶ ↺ 🔍 ↻

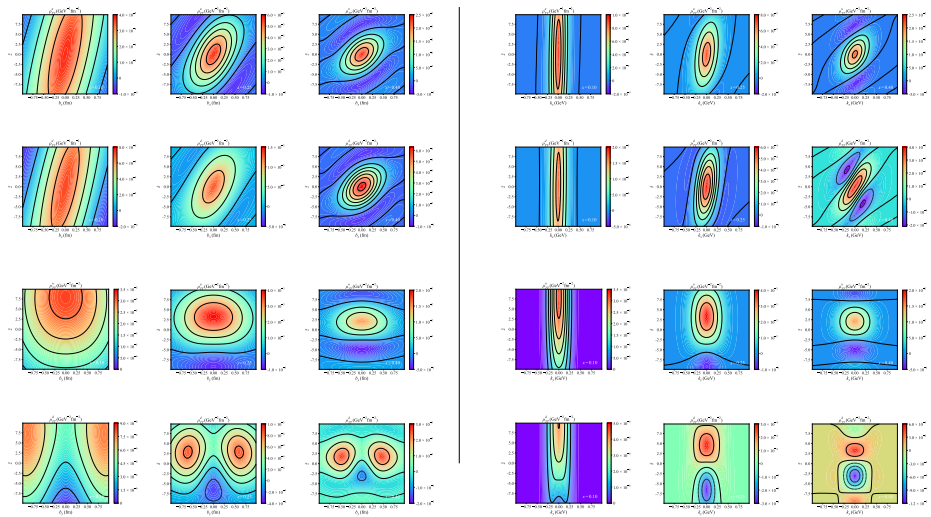
$\rho_{\text{TU}}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}, \mathbf{k}_{\perp})$ in $\tilde{z} - b_x, \tilde{z} - b_y, \tilde{z} - k_x, \tilde{z} - k_y$ plane





$\rho_{\text{TL}}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_{\perp}, \mathbf{k}_{\perp})$ in $\tilde{z} - b_x, \tilde{z} - b_y, \tilde{z} - k_x, \tilde{z} - k_y$ plane



$\rho_{\text{TT}}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ in $\tilde{z} - b_x, \tilde{z} - b_y, \tilde{z} - k_x, \tilde{z} - k_y$ plane


$\rho_{\text{TTt}}(\tilde{z}, x, \mathbf{b}_\perp, \mathbf{k}_\perp)$ in $\tilde{z} - b_x, \tilde{z} - b_y, \tilde{z} - k_x, \tilde{z} - k_y$ plane

