



Distribution Amplitudes and Two-Photon Transition Form Factors in Quarkonium

Minghui Ding (丁明慧)

School of Physics, Nanjing University

Institute for Nonperturbative Physics (INP), Nanjing University

第七届全国重味物理与量子色动力学研讨会，南京，2025 年 4 月 18 - 22 日

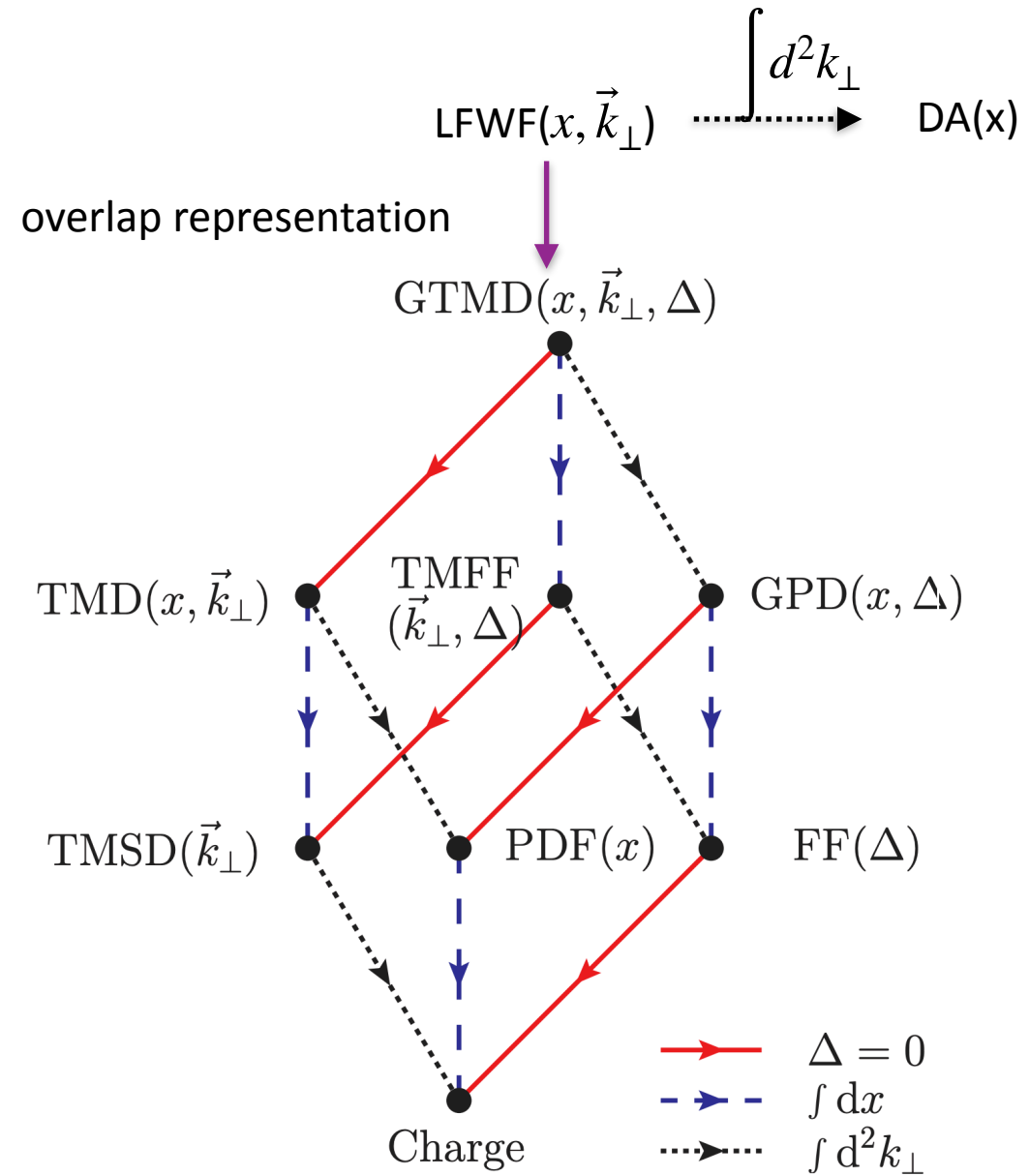
Distribution Amplitude (DA)

➤ Meson's dressed-valence-quark parton distribution amplitude (DA).

➤ Physics Goals:

✓ Nearest thing in quantum field theory to Schrödinger wave function.

✓ DA is 1D projection of hadron's light-front wave function, obtained by integration $\sim \int d^2 k_{\perp} \psi(x, k_{\perp})$



Distribution Amplitude (DA) of pseudoscalar meson

- The matrix element and the light-front wave function:

$$\langle 0 | \psi(-z) \gamma_5 \gamma \cdot n \psi(z) | PS(P) \rangle = f_{PS} n \cdot P \int_0^1 dx e^{-i(2x-1)z \cdot P} \varphi_{PS}(x, z_\perp^2),$$

- The matrix element and the Bethe-Salpeter wave function:

$$\langle 0 | \psi(-z) \gamma_5 \gamma \cdot n \psi(z) | PS(P) \rangle = Z_2 \text{tr}_{CD} \int_{dk}^\Lambda e^{-iz \cdot k - iz \cdot (k-P)} \gamma_5 \gamma \cdot n \chi_{PS}(k, k-P),$$

- The light-front wave function and the Bethe-Salpeter wave function:

$$f_{PS} \varphi_{PS}(x, k_\perp^2) = Z_2 \text{tr}_{CD} \int_{dk}^\Lambda \frac{dk_3 dk_4}{(2\pi)^2} \delta(xn \cdot P - n \cdot k) \gamma_5 \gamma \cdot n \chi_{PS}(k, k-P),$$

- The parton distribution amplitude (DA) and the light front wave function

$$\varphi_{PS}(x, \zeta) = \int_0^\zeta \frac{d^2 k_\perp}{16\pi^3} \varphi_{PS}(x, k_\perp).$$



Distribution Amplitude (DA) of pseudoscalar meson

- Projection of the meson's Bethe-Salpeter wave function onto the light-front

$$f_{PS} \varphi_{PS}(x) = tr_{CD} Z_2 \int_{dk}^{\Lambda} \delta(n \cdot k_+ - x n \cdot P) \gamma_5 \gamma \cdot n \chi_{PS}(k; P),$$

- where: n is a light-like four-vector, $n^2 = 0$; and P is the meson's four-momentum, $P^2 = -m_{PS}^2$ and $n \cdot P = -m_{PS}$, with m_{PS} being the pseudoscalar meson's mass. $\chi_{PS}(k, P)$ is the Bethe-Salpeter wave function.

- Mellin moments of the distribution; viz. $\langle x^m \rangle := \int_0^1 dx x^m \varphi_{PS}(x)$

- given by

$$f_{PS}(n \cdot P)^{m+1} \langle x^m \rangle = tr_{CD} Z_2 \int_{dk}^{\Lambda} (n \cdot k_+)^m \gamma_5 \gamma \cdot n \chi_{PS}(k; P).$$



DA scale evolution

Efremov, Radyushkin, Phys. Lett. B 94, 245 (1980). Lepage, Brodsky, Phys. Rev. D 22, 2157 (1980).

- The equation describing the τ -evolution of $\varphi(x, \tau)$ is known and has the solution

$$\varphi_{PS}(x; \tau) = \varphi_{PS}^{asy}(x) \left[1 + \sum_{j=2,4,\dots}^{\infty} a_j^{3/2}(\tau) C_j^{(3/2)}(x - \bar{x}) \right]$$

- where $\varphi_{PS}^{asy}(x) = 6x(1-x)$. The expansion coefficients $\{a_j^{3/2}, j = 1, \dots, \infty\}$ evolve logarithmically with τ : they vanish as $\tau \rightarrow 0$, and at leading-logarithmic accuracy the moments evolve from $\tau = 1/[2 \text{ GeV}] \rightarrow \tau$ as:

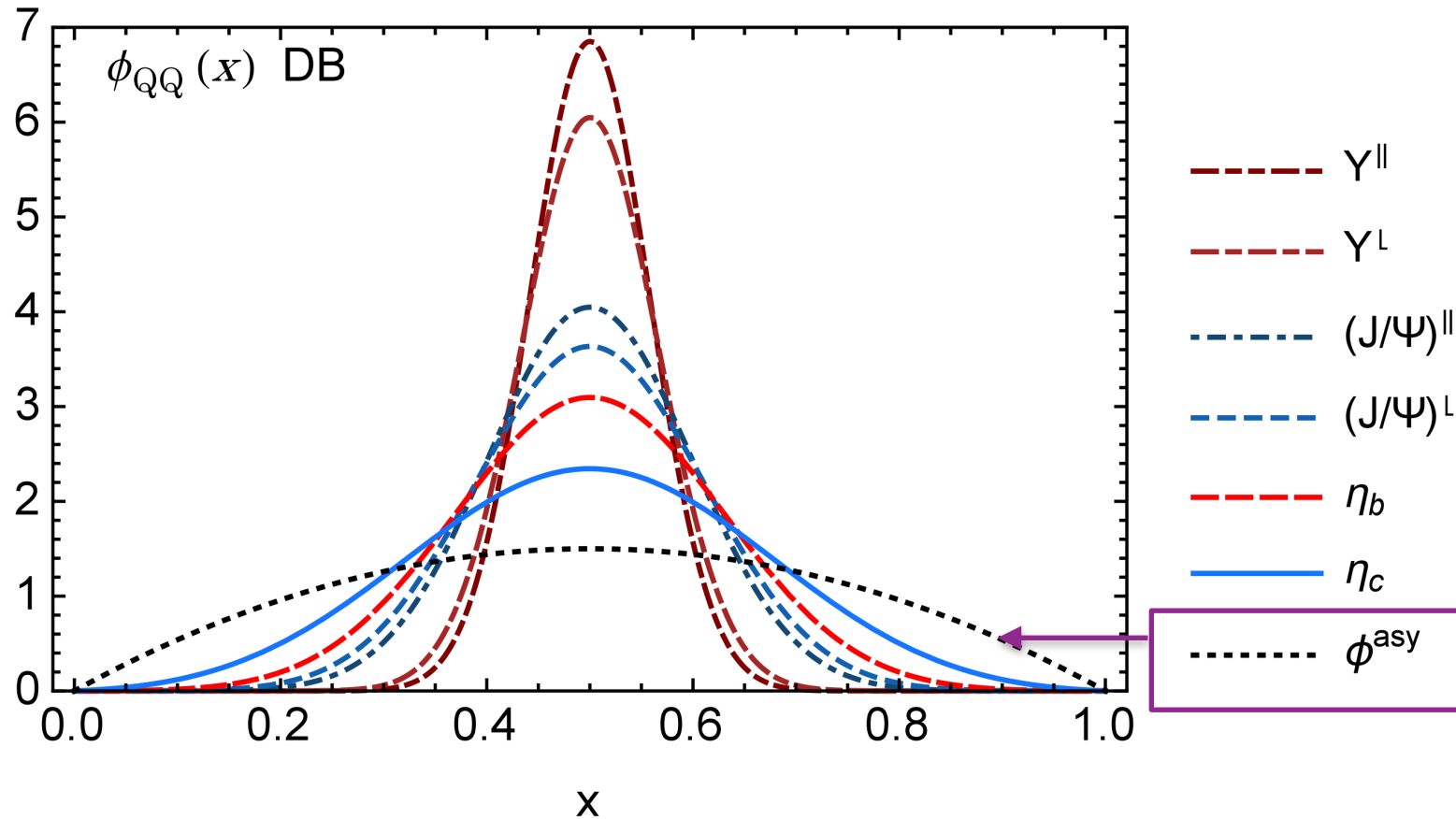
$$a_j^{3/2}(\tau) = a_j^{3/2}(\tau_2) \left[\frac{\alpha_s(\tau_2)}{\alpha_s(\tau)} \right]^{\gamma_j^{(0)}/\beta_0},$$

- where the one-loop strong running-coupling is given as $\alpha_s(Q^2) \stackrel{Q^2 > 10 \Lambda_{QCD}^2}{\approx} \frac{4\pi}{\beta_0 \ln[Q^2/\Lambda_{QCD}^2]},$

- with anomalous dimension $\gamma_j^{(0)} = C_F \left[3 + \frac{2}{(j+1)(j+2)} - 4 \sum_{k=1}^{j+1} \frac{1}{k} \right], C_F = 4/3.$



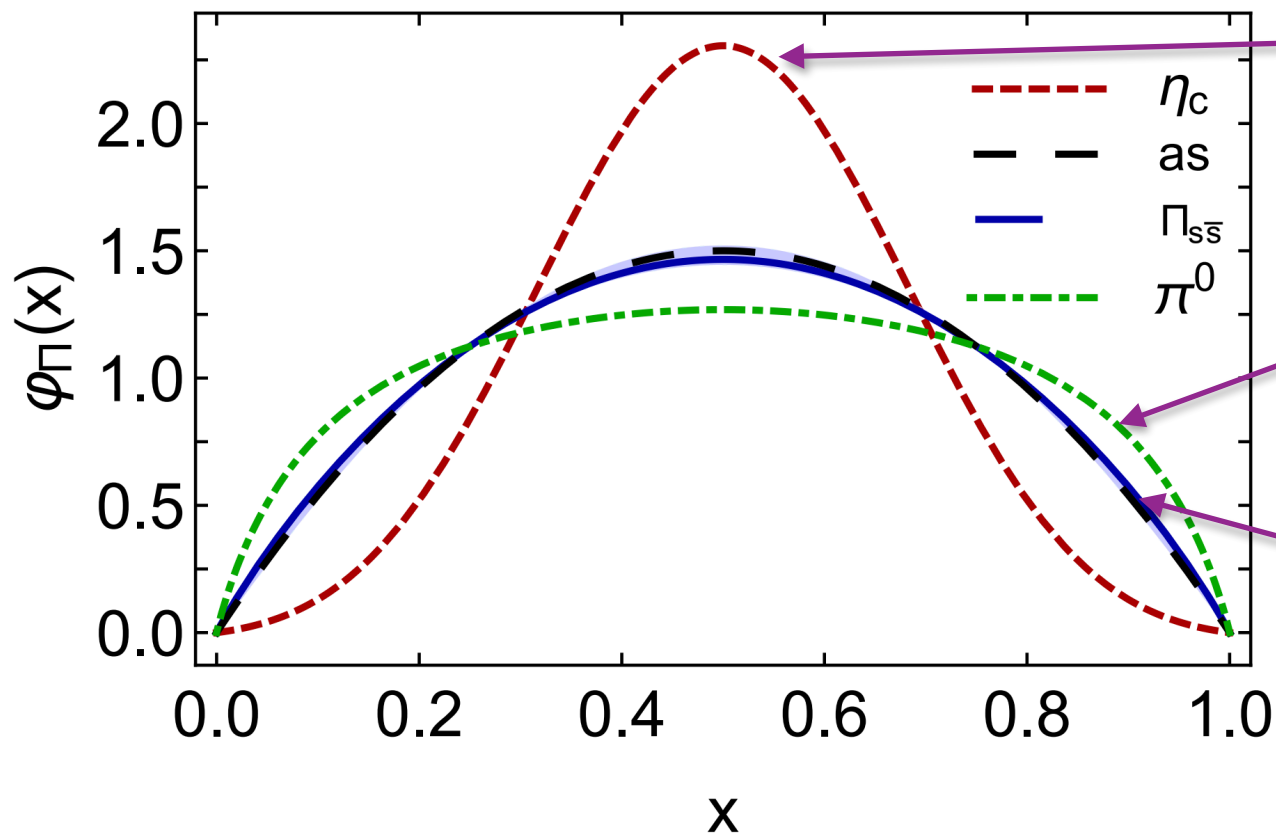
$\eta_c, \eta_b, J/\psi, \Upsilon$ twist-2 DAs



- Heavy-quarkonia DAs are piecewise convex-concave, much narrower than the asymptotic distribution $6x(1-x)$, but deviate noticeably from $\delta(x-1/2)$.
see Yang Li's talk
- Peak heights and widths in this case show a natural ordering.

Ding, Gao, Chang, Liu, Roberts. Phys. Lett. B 753 (2016) 330-335.

$s\bar{s}$ pseudoscalar meson twist-2 DA



➤ DA of η_c meson, $c\bar{c}$, is much narrower than φ_{asy} , which feels the current quark mass effect strongly.

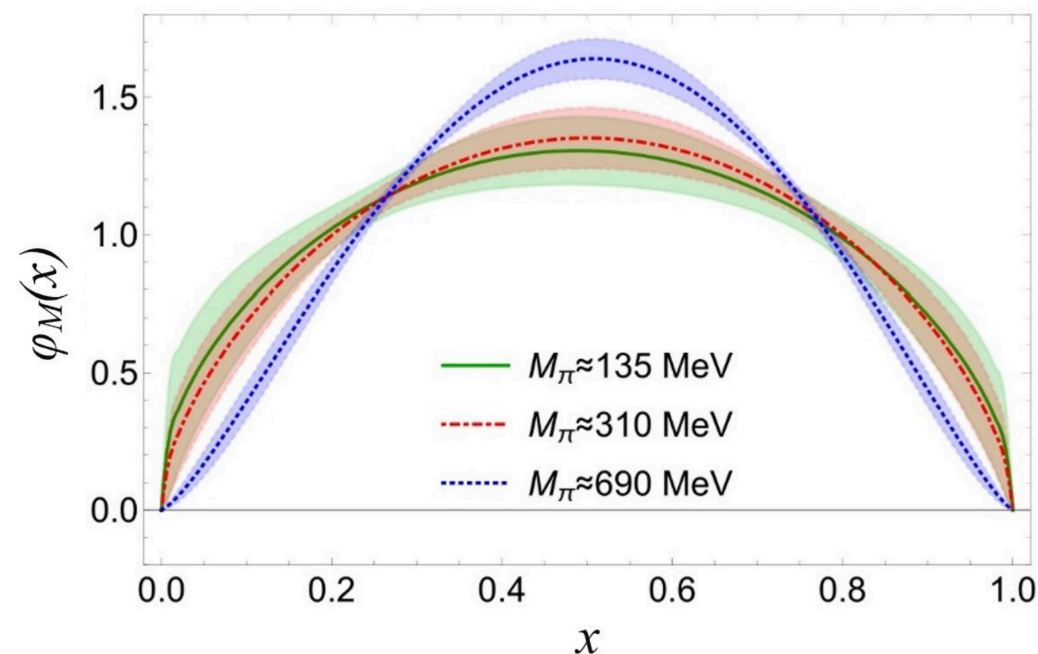
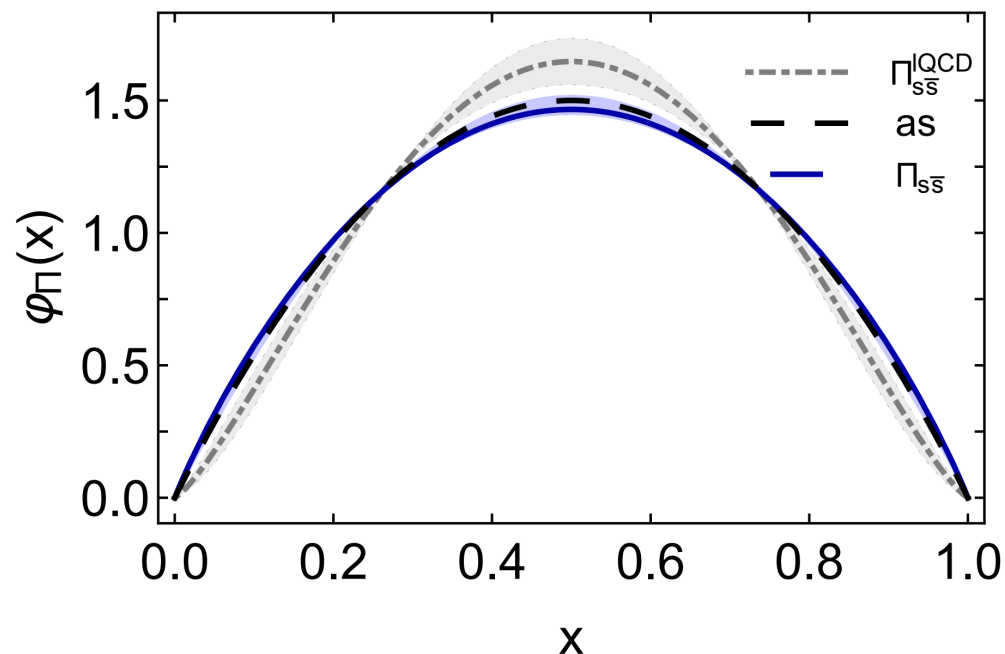
➤ DA of pion is broad and concave, largely formed by the mechanism of emergence of hadron mass (EHM). see Jianhui Zhang's talk

➤ $\Pi_{ss}(s\bar{s})$ system lies at the boundary: $\Pi_{ss}(x) \approx \varphi_{asy}(x)$, EHM and current quark mass effect are playing a roughly equal role.

Roberts, Richards, Horn, Chang. Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 120 (2021) 103883

$s\bar{s}$ pseudoscalar meson twist-2 DA

Zhang, Honkala, Lin and Chen, Phys. Rev. D 102, 094519 (2020).



- Meson mass: both continuum method and Lattice QCD calculations have delivered a bound state mass $m_{s\bar{s}} = 0.69 \text{ GeV}$.
- DA: both continuum and lattice QCD agree upon the existence and value of m_{cr} , for which $\varphi_{q_{m_{cr}}\bar{q}_{m_{cr}}}(x, \zeta) \approx \varphi_{as}(x)$.

Response of DAs to increasing the current quark mass

EHM dominate

The binding and confinement mechanisms is fully nonperturbative. DA of $u\bar{d}$ meson is largely formed by the mechanism of emergence of hadron mass (EHM).

strange
quark

DAs of $c\bar{c}$ and $b\bar{b}$ mesons (with large quark masses) are much narrower than φ_{asy} , and feel the current quark mass effect strongly.

Current quark mass effect dominate

$\Pi_{ss}(s\bar{s})$ system lies at the boundary:

EHM and current quark mass effect are playing a roughly equal role.

Charge-neutral pseudoscalar meson two-photon transition form factors

- Perturbative QCD predicts two-photon transition form factor

see Yang Li's talk

$$\exists Q_0 > \Lambda_{QCD} \mid Q^2 G_{PS}^q(Q^2) \stackrel{Q^2 > Q_0^2}{\approx} 4\pi^2 f_{PS}^q e_q^2 w_\varphi^q(Q^2), \quad w_\varphi(Q^2) = \int_0^1 dx \frac{1}{x} \varphi_{PS}^q(x),$$

- f_{PS}^q is the leptonic decay constant, $\varphi_{PS}^q(x)$ is the dressed-valence-quark q-parton contribution to meson's distribution amplitude (DA). The value of Q_0 is not predicted by pQCD.

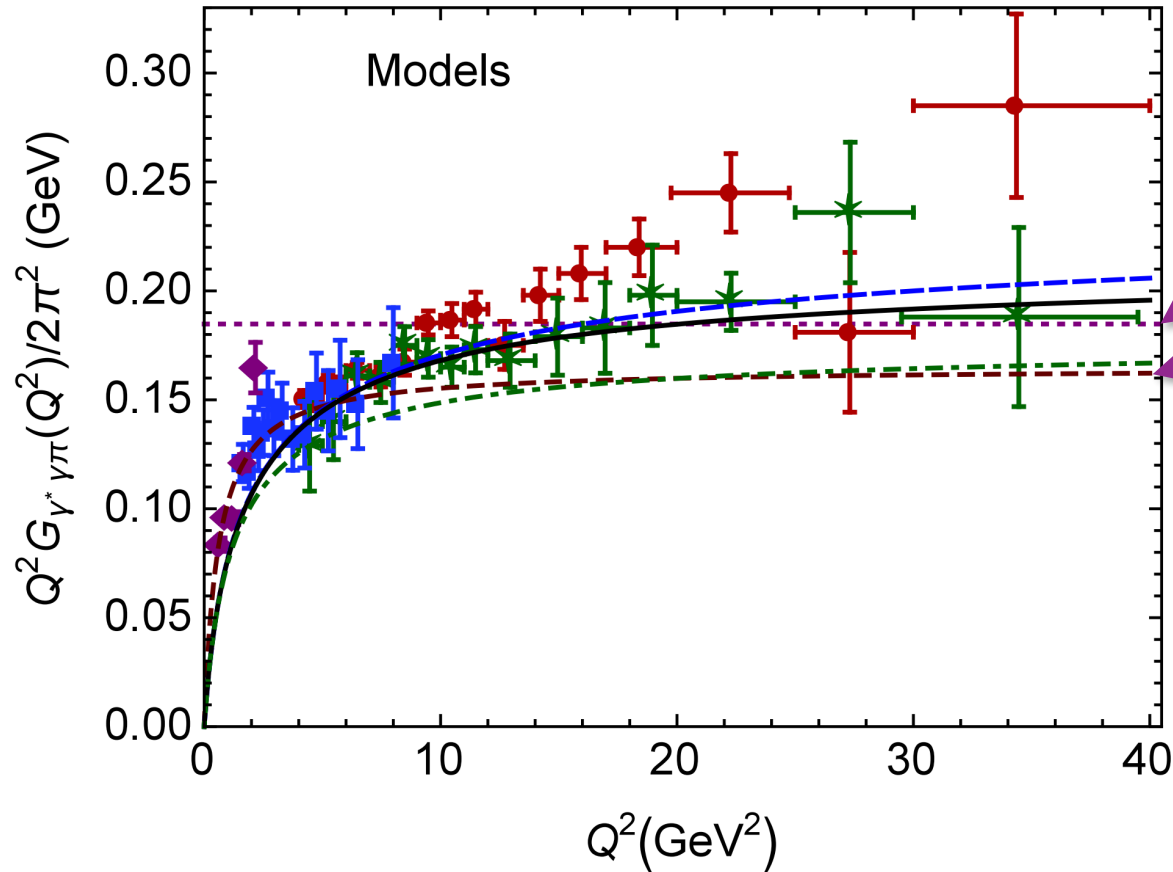
Lepage and Brodsky, Phys. Rev. D 22, 2157 (1980); Phys. Lett. B 87, 359 (1979). Efremov and Radyushkin, Phys. Lett. B 94, 245 (1980).
Farrar and Jackson, Phys. Rev. Lett. 43, 246 (1979).

- Asymptotic DA at $\Lambda_{QCD}^2/Q^2 \simeq 0$, i.e., very large values of Q^2 , $\varphi_{PS}^q(x) = 6x(1-x)$,

- then the inverse moment $w_\varphi = 3$, and $Q^2 G_{PS}^q(Q^2) \stackrel{Q^2 \rightarrow \infty}{\approx} 12\pi^2 f_{PS}^q e_q^2$,



Pion two-photon transition form factor



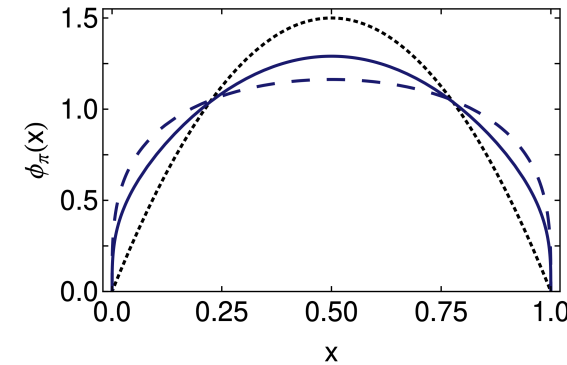
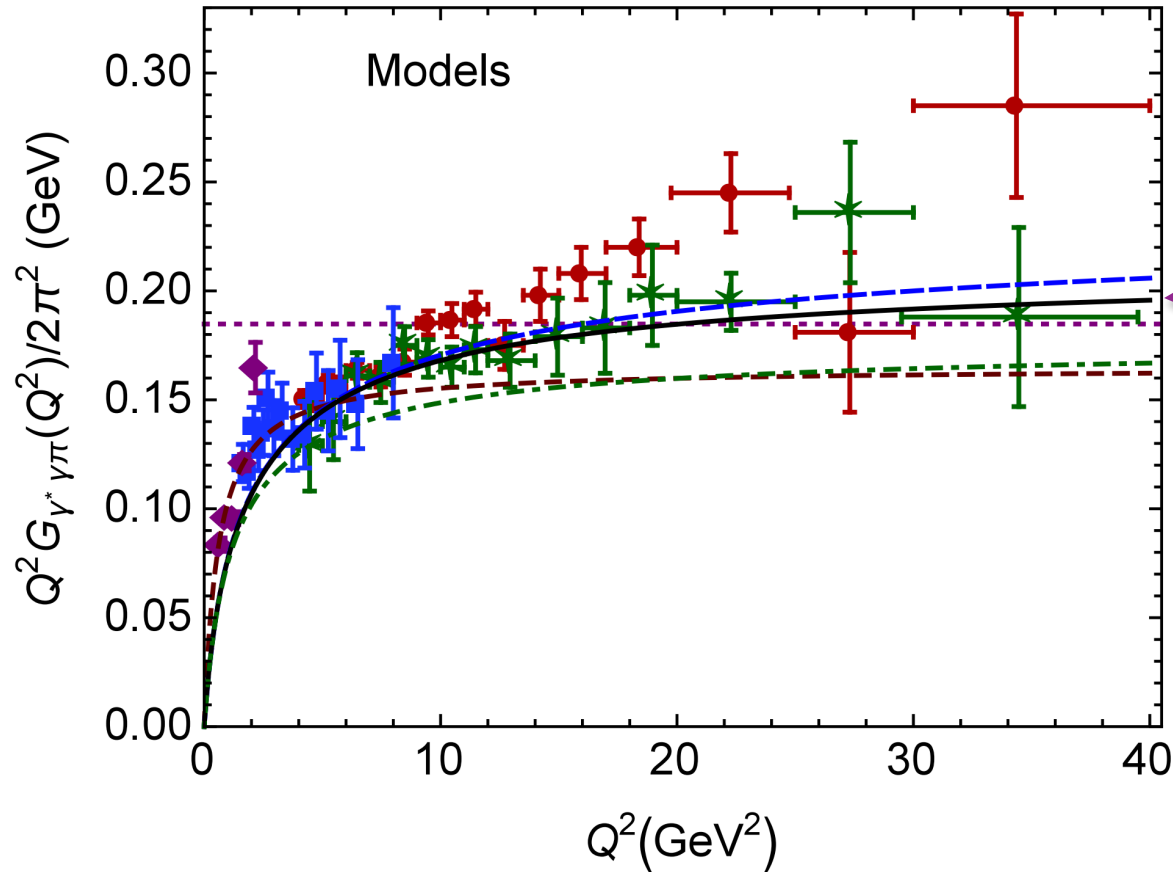
- Dotted (purple) – asymptotic limit:

$$Q^2 G_\pi(Q^2) \xrightarrow{Q^2 \rightarrow \infty} 4\pi^2 f_\pi,$$
- Dashed (brown) – vector meson dominance (VMD) result:

$$2f_\pi G(Q^2) = m_\rho^2 / (m_\rho^2 + Q^2),$$
 it is a reasonable approximation on $Q^2 \approx 0$, but it approaches an asymptotic limit of $m_\rho^2 / (2f_\pi)$, which is just 90% of the result associated with the asymptotic limit.

Raya, Chang, Bashir, Cobos-Martinez, Gutierrez-Guerrero, Roberts, Tandy,
 Phys. Rev. D 93 (2016) 7, 074017.

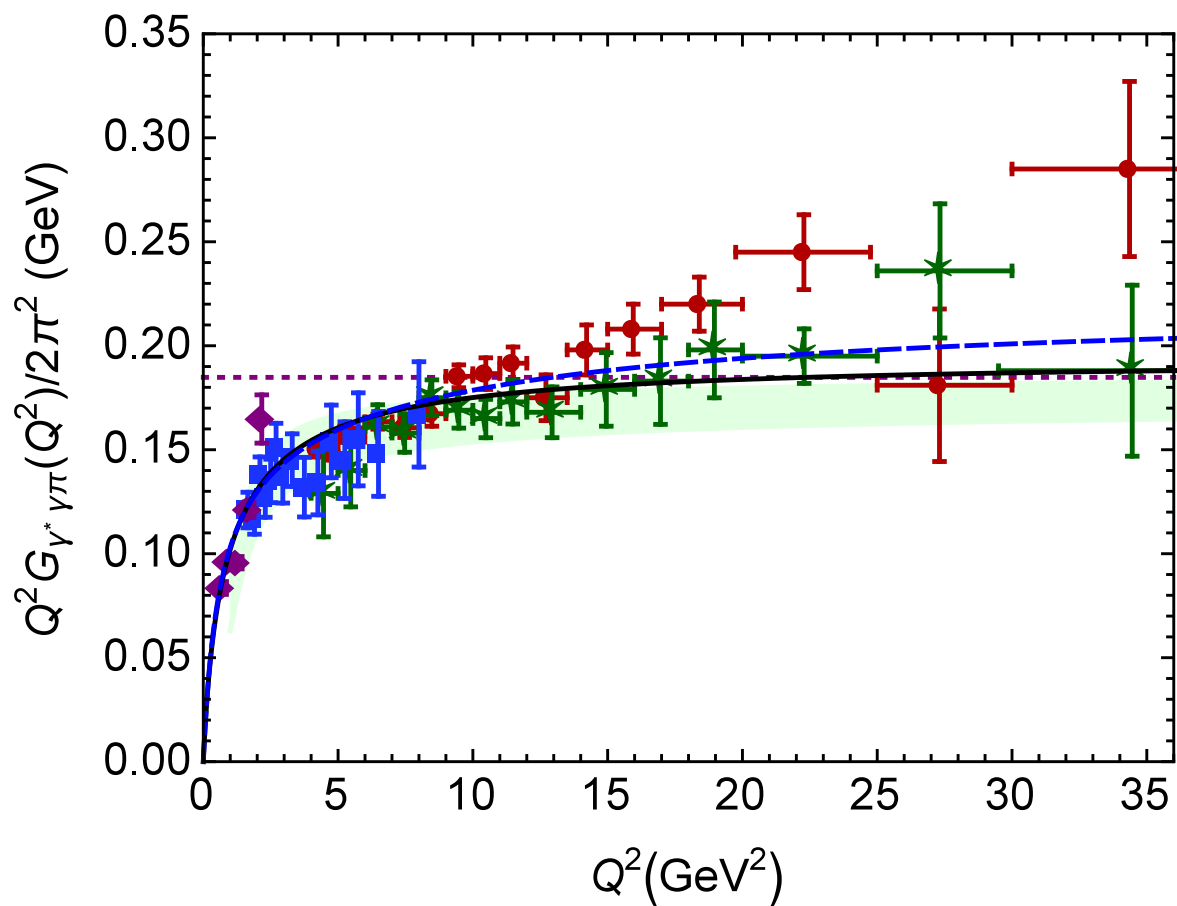
Pion two-photon transition form factor



Chang, Cloet, Cobos-Martinez, Roberts, Schmidt, Tandy. Phys. Rev. Lett. 110 (2013) 13, 132001.

- Solid (black) curve: broad and concave DA which evolves with scale.
- At $Q^2 = 40 \text{ GeV}^2$, the inverse moment $w(Q^2 = 40 \text{ GeV}^2) = 3.163$. Recall that in the asymptotic limit, $w_\phi = 3$.
- $G(Q^2)$ is monotonically increasing and concave and reaches a little above the asymptotic limit.
- The growth is logarithmically slow, however; and whilst the curve remains a line-width above the asymptotic limit on a large domain, logarithmic growth eventually becomes suppression, and the curve thereafter proceeds towards the QCD asymptotic limit from above.

Pion two-photon transition form factor

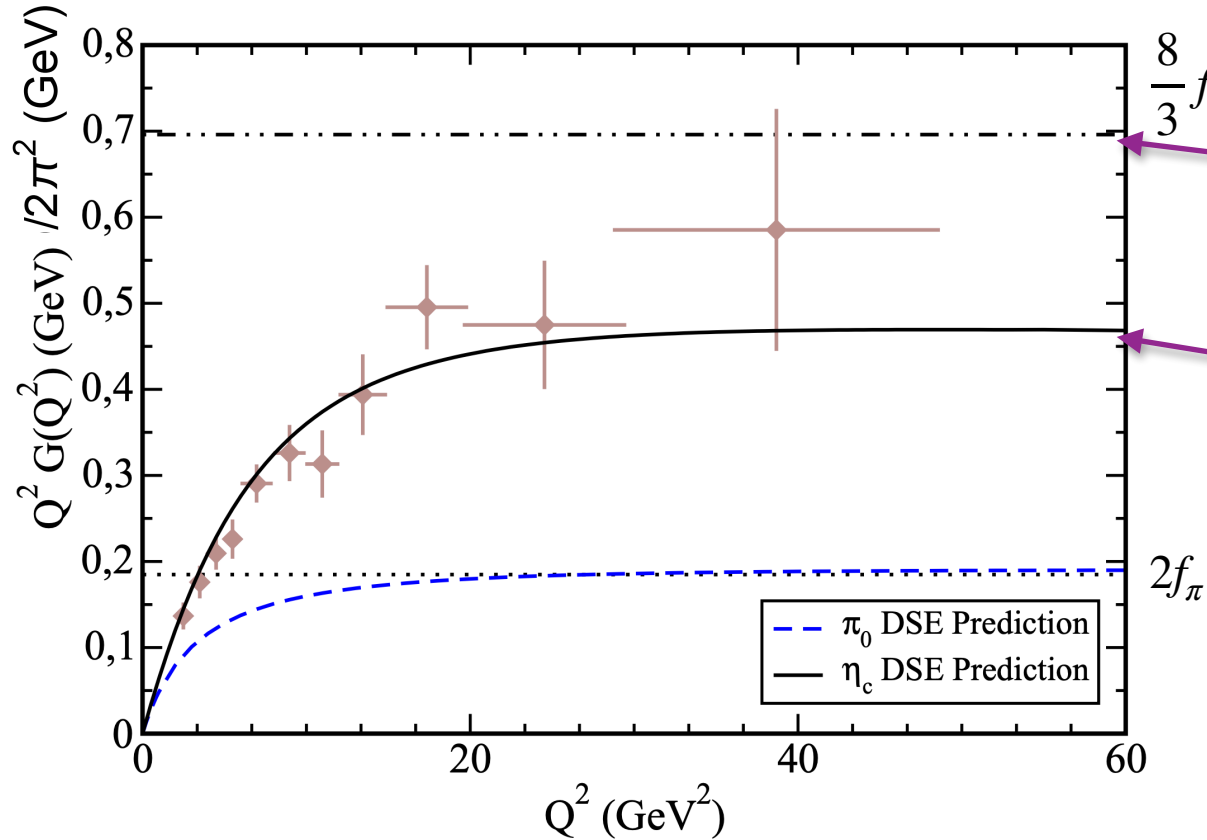


BaBar Collaboration: B. Aubert et al., Phys. Rev. D 80, 052002 (2009).

Belle Collaboration: S. Uehara et al., Phys. Rev. D 86, 092007 (2012).

- Data: CELLO - diamonds (purple); CLEO - squares (blue); **BaBar** - circles (red); **Belle** - stars (green). Two available sets exhibit conflicting trends in their evolution with photon virtuality.
- CSMs results favor the Belle data, The situation may be clarified by upcoming data from BelleII.

η_c two-photon transition form factor



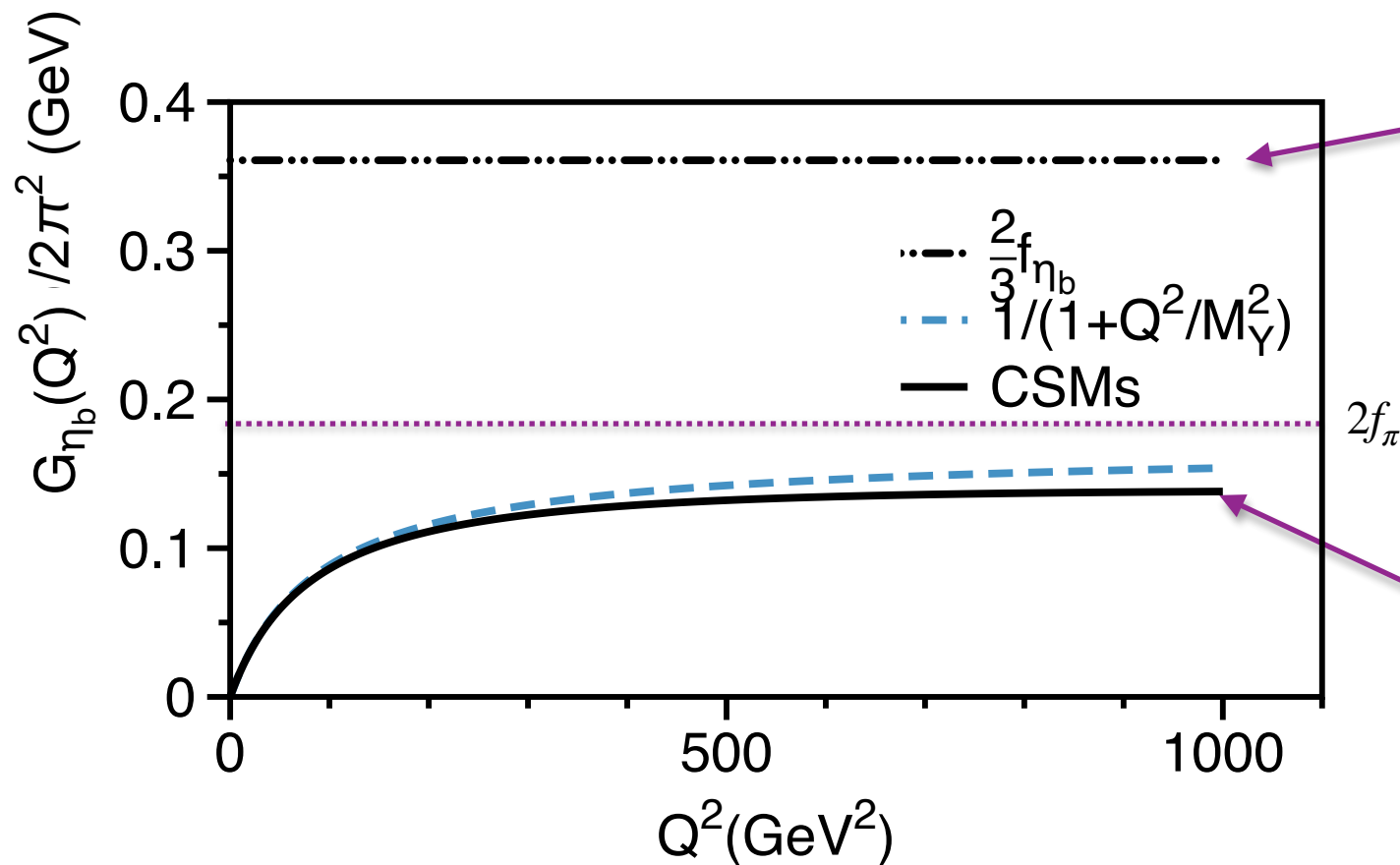
Raya, Ding, Bashir, Chang, Roberts. Phys.Rev.D 95 (2017) 7, 074014

BaBar Collaboration: Phys.Rev.D 81 (2010) 052010

- Asymptotic limit: $Q^2 G_{\eta_c}(Q^2) \xrightarrow{Q^2 \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4}{3} 4\pi^2 f_{\eta_c}$,
- Asymptotic ratio:

$$\lim_{Q^2 \rightarrow \infty} [R(Q^2) := G_{\eta_c}(Q^2)/G_\pi(Q^2)] = \frac{4f_{\eta_c}}{3f_\pi} \approx 3.73$$
- At $Q_{35}^2 = 35 \text{ GeV}^2$, $\lim_{Q^2 \rightarrow \infty} [R(Q_{35}^2)] = 2.4$
- Pion: $\lim_{Q^2 \rightarrow \infty} [Q^2 G_\pi(Q_{35}^2)] \approx 2f_\pi$
- The reason of mismatch is $G_{\eta_c}(Q_{35}^2)$
- At small Q^2 , $\varphi_{\eta_c}(x)$ is much narrower than $6x(1-x)$, therefore $G_{\eta_c}(Q^2)$ should lie far below its asymptotic limit value
- Moreover, given that ERBL evolution is logarithmic, this must remain the case even at $Q^2 \geq 10^3 \text{ GeV}^2$.

η_b two-photon transition form factor



Chen, Ding, Chang, Liu, Phys.Rev.D 95 (2017) 1, 016010

- Asymptotic limit:

$$Q^2 G_{\eta_b}(Q^2) \xrightarrow{Q^2 \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{3} 4\pi^2 f_{\eta_b},$$
- Asymptotic ratio:

$$\lim_{Q^2 \rightarrow \infty} [R(Q^2) := G_{\eta_b}(Q^2)/G_{\pi}(Q^2)]$$

$$= \frac{f_{\eta_b}}{3f_{\pi}} \approx 1.94$$
- $G_{\eta_b}(Q^2)$ matches well with VMD model.
- At small Q^2 , $\varphi_{\eta_b}(x)$ is much narrower than $6x(1-x)$, therefore $G_{\eta_b}(Q^2)$ should lie far below its asymptotic limit value.

Summary and Outlook

➤ Summary

- ✓ Distribution amplitudes (DAs): pion, η_c and η_b .
- ✓ DA of pion is broad and concave, DAs of η_c and η_b are narrower than $6x(1-x)$.
- ✓ Two-photon transition form factors (TFFs): pion, η_c and η_b .
- ✓ TFF of pion approaches its asymptotic limit from above, and TFFs of η_c and η_b approach their asymptotic limits from below.

➤ Outlook

Hadron structure, such as Parton distribution function (DF), transverse momentum dependent distribution (TMD), generalized parton distribution (GPD), fragmentation function (FF), etc..



Thank you!

