



Nucleon sea polarizations from p+p collision at RHIC

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STAR Workshop May 7-8, 2019,山东大学(青岛)

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The structure of the nucleon



Parton Distributions



(Q² = 0 GeV²) baryon octet masses,magn. momenta

(Q² >1 GeV²) structure functions momentum, spin

Surprises & Anomalies about the Quark Structure of Nucleon: Sea

• Spin Structure: $\Sigma = \Delta u + \Delta d + \Delta s \approx 0.3$

spin "crisis" or "puzzle": where is the proton's missing spin

- Flavor Asymmetry $\overline{u} \neq \overline{d}$
- Strange Content $\Delta s \neq 0$ $s(x) \neq \overline{s}(x)$?

Brodsky & Ma, PLB381(96)317

• Isospin Symmetry Breaking

$$\overline{u}_p \neq \overline{d}_n \quad \overline{d}_p \neq \overline{u}_n ?$$

or Charge Symmetry Violation

Ma, PLB 274 (92) 111 Boros, Londergan, Thomas, PRL81(98)4075

The Proton "Spin Crisis"

$\Sigma = \Delta u + \Delta d + \Delta s \approx 0.3$

In contradiction with the na we quark model expectation:

Naive Quark Model:

$$\Delta u = \frac{4}{3}; \quad \Delta d = -\frac{1}{3}; \quad \Delta s = 0$$
$$\Sigma = \Delta u + \Delta d + \Delta s = 1$$

The Ellis-Jaffe sum rule & Its violation

$$A_{1}^{p} = \int_{0}^{1} dx g_{1}^{p}(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{4}{9} \Delta u + \frac{1}{9} \Delta d + \frac{1}{9} \Delta s \right]$$

• Neutron beta decay and isospin symmetry

$$\Delta u - \Delta d = \frac{G_A}{G_V} = 1.261$$

Strangeness changing hyperon decay and SU(3) symmetry

$$\Delta u + \Delta d - 2\Delta s = 0.675$$

• The assumption of zero strange spin constribution $\Delta S = 0$ The Ellis-Jaffe sum $A_1^p = \int_0^1 dx g_1^p(x) = 0.198$

However, what EMC measured $A_1^p = \int_0^1 dx g_1^p(x) = 0.126$

The first stage of experiments

Non-zero strange spin constribution

 $\Delta u = 0.750$ $\Delta d = -0.511$ $\Delta s = -0.218$

 $\Sigma = \Delta u + \Delta d + \Delta s \approx 0.020$

A large strange spin contribution?

A previous global fit: SU(3) symmetry+measured $g_1^p g_1^n$

> $\Delta u = 0.83 \pm 0.03$ $\Delta d = -0.43 \pm 0.03$ $\Delta s = -0.10 \pm 0.03$

 $\Sigma = \Delta u + \Delta d + \Delta s \approx 0.3$

The second stage of experiments.

The third stage of experiments: $g_1^p \quad g_1^n$ +semi-inclusive DIS process

$$\Delta u = 0.599 \pm 0.022 \pm 0.065$$
$$\Delta d = -0.280 \pm 0.026 \pm 0.057$$
$$\Delta s = 0.028 \pm 0.033 \pm 0.009$$

 $\Sigma = \Delta u + \Delta d + \Delta s \approx 0.347 \pm 0.024 \pm 0.040$

HERMES Collaboration, PRL92 (2004) 012005.

The strange contribution to the proton spin

$\Delta s \approx -0.2 \rightarrow -0.1 \rightarrow 0.03$

 $\Delta s \neq 0$, how large?

The Strange-Antistrange Asymmetry

The strange quark and antiquark distributions are symmetric at leading-orders of perturbative QCD

$$s(x) = \overline{s}(x)$$

However, it has been argued that there is strange-antistrange distribution asymmetry in pQCD evolution at three-loops from nonvanishing up and down quark valence densities.

S.Catani et al. PRL93(2004)152003

Strange-Antistrange Asymmetry from Non-Perturbative Sources

• Meson Cloud Model $s(x) < \overline{s}(x)$ at large x

A.I. Signal and A.W. Thomas, PLB191(87)205

• **Chiral Field** $s(x) > \overline{s}(x)$ at large x

M. Burkardt and J. Warr, PRD45(92)958

• **Baryon-Meson Fluctuation** $s(x) > \overline{s}(x)$ at large x

S.J. Brodsky and B.-Q. Ma, PLB381(96)317

S.J. Brodsky and B.-Q. Ma, PLB381(96)317

Mechanism for s-sbar asymmetry



Phenomenological supports for s-sbar asymmetry

The nucleon strangeness asymmetry can explain a number of experimental observations:

• The NuTeV anomaly. Y.Ding

Y.Ding, B.-Q.Ma, PLB590 (2004) 216 Y.Ding, R.-G.Xu, B.-Q.Ma, PLB607 (2005) 101

• With heavy quark recombination to give a sizable influence on the measurement of the nucleon strangeness asymmetry in CCFR and NuTeV dimuon measurements.

P.Gao, B.-Q.Ma, PRD77(2008)054002, EPJC58(2008)37.

• The difference between Lambda and anti-Lambda spin transfers.

X.Du, B.-Q. Ma, PRD95 (2017) 014029

S.J. Brodsky and B.-Q. Ma, PLB381(96)317

Prediction of s-sbar spin asymmetry



Nucleon strangeness polarization from $\Lambda/\overline{\Lambda}$ hyperon production in polarized proton-proton collision at RHIC

STAR results to indicate $\Delta s \neq \Delta \bar{s}$

$\Delta s \approx -0.025 \pm 0.019$ $\Delta \bar{s} \approx -0.001 \pm 0.012$

STAR at **RHIC**



The STAR experiment at Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) is carrying out a spin physics program in high-energy polarized proton-proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 200 \text{ GeV}$ and $\sqrt{s} = 500 \text{ GeV}$.



Providing information about

- the inclusive production of hadrons
- the strange and antistrange quark polarizations of the proton.

Formalism

$$A^{\Lambda/\bar{\Lambda}} = E_{\rm c} \frac{\Delta d\sigma}{d^3 p_{\rm c}} / E_{\rm c} \frac{d\sigma}{d^3 p_{\rm c}}$$

$$egin{aligned} &E_{
m c}rac{\Delta d\sigma}{d^3p_{
m c}}({
m AB}
ightarrow{
m C}+{
m X})\ &=\sum_{abcd}\int_{ar{\chi}_a}^1 dx_a\int_{ar{\chi}_b}^1 dx_b\Delta f_a^{
m A}(x_a,Q^2)f_b^{
m B}(x_b,Q^2)\ &\Delta D_c^{
m C}(z_c,Q^2)rac{1}{\pi z_c}rac{\Delta d\hat{\sigma}}{d\hat{t}}(ab
ightarrow cd), \end{aligned}$$

Parametrization of \Lambda fragmentation functions

$$\begin{split} D_d^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2) &= D_u^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2) \\ &= \left(\frac{D_u^{\Lambda}(x)}{D_{u+\bar{u}}^{\Lambda}(x)}\right)^{\mathrm{th}} D_{u+\bar{u}}^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2)^{\mathrm{AKK}} \\ D_{\bar{d}}^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2) &= D_{\bar{u}}^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2) \\ &= \left(\frac{D_{\bar{u}}^{\Lambda}(x)}{D_{u+\bar{u}}^{\Lambda}(x)}\right)^{\mathrm{th}} D_{u+\bar{u}}^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2)^{\mathrm{AKK}} \\ \Delta D_d^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2) &= \Delta D_u^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2) \\ &= \left(\frac{\Delta D_u^{\Lambda}(x)}{D_{u+\bar{u}}^{\Lambda}(x)}\right)^{\mathrm{th}} D_{u+\bar{u}}^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2)^{\mathrm{AKK}} \\ D_s^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2) &= \left(\frac{D_s^{\Lambda}(x)}{D_{s+\bar{s}}^{\Lambda}(x)}\right)^{\mathrm{th}} D_{s+\bar{s}}^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2)^{\mathrm{AKK}} , \\ D_{\bar{s}}^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2) &= \left(\frac{\Delta D_s^{\Lambda}(x)}{D_{s+\bar{s}}^{\Lambda}(x)}\right)^{\mathrm{th}} D_{s+\bar{s}}^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2)^{\mathrm{AKK}} , \\ \Delta D_s^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2) &= \left(\frac{\Delta D_s^{\Lambda}(x)}{D_{s+\bar{s}}^{\Lambda}(x)}\right)^{\mathrm{th}} D_{s+\bar{s}}^{\Lambda}(x,Q^2)^{\mathrm{AKK}} . \end{split}$$

X.Du, B.-Q. Ma, PRD95 (2017) 014029

Gluon to \Lambda fragmentation functions

$$\Delta D_g^{\Lambda}(z,Q^2) = D_g^{\Lambda}(z,Q^2)(rac{\Delta g^{\Lambda}(z,Q^2)}{g^{\Lambda}(z,Q^2)})$$

assuming that the gluon polarization evolves in the same way between the octet baryons, i.e.,

$$\frac{\Delta g^{\Lambda}(z,Q^2)}{g^{\Lambda}(z,Q^2)} = \frac{\Delta g^{\rho}(z,Q^2)}{g^{\rho}(z,Q^2)},$$

Xiaonan Liu, B.-Q. Ma, arXiv:1905.02360, EPJC(2019)in press

Fitting to STAR DATA



Xiaonan Liu, B.-Q. Ma, arXiv:1905.02360, EPJC(2019)in press

Xiaonan Liu, B.-Q. Ma, EPJC(2019)in press

Results from fitting STAR data

Table: Fitting results of α_i and calculated results of Δs and $\Delta \overline{s}$.

| | value | Δs | $\Delta \bar{s}$ | $\chi^2_{\rm min}$ |
|------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| α_1 | $-1.20{\pm}1.31$ | $-0.014{\pm}0.015$ | | 0.37 |
| α_2 | -0.24±0.49 | | -0.003 ± 0.005 | 2.48 |
| $lpha_{3}$ | $-2.17{\pm}1.65$ | -0.025 ± 0.019 | | 0.42 |
| lpha4 | -0.087 ± 1.08 | | -0.001 ± 0.012 | 2.24 |

Two options: with/without gluon polarization

Comparison with Predictions & Results

The central values of the fitting results are basically compatible with

- the light-cone meson-baryon fluctuation model²⁴ prediction $\Delta s(x) \approx -0.05$ to -0.01 and $\Delta \overline{s}(x) \approx 0$.
- the recent lattice QCD determination²⁵, $\Delta s^+ = -0.02(1)$ at $Q^2 \approx 7 {
 m GeV}^2$.
- the results from Jefferson Lab Angular Momentum (JAM) Collaboration²⁶ $\Delta s^+(Q_0^2) = -0.03(10)$.

²⁴S. J. Brodsky and B.-Q. Ma, Phys. Lett. B 381, 317 (1996).

²⁵G. S. Bali et al. [QCDSF Collaboration], Phys. Rev. Lett. 108, 222001 (2012)
 ²⁶J.J.Ethier, N.Sato and W.Melnitchouk, Phys. Rev. Lett. 119, 132001 (2017)

Feasibility of Strange Polarization Determination



Figure: Comparison of the symmetric and asymmetric input of polarized strange

Further improvement in precision can determine the strange-antistrange polarization asymmetry of the nucleon sea

Xiaonan Liu, B.-Q. Ma, EPJC(2019)in press

F.Tian, C.Gong, B.-Q. Ma, NPA961 (2017) 154

Extraction of ubar and dbar polarizations

• The earlier unpolarized experiments confirmed the flavor asymmetry of light-flavor sea quarks:

$$\bar{u}(x) \neq \bar{d}(x)$$

• It is natural to speculate:

$$\Delta \bar{u}(x) \neq \Delta \bar{d}(x)$$

• We show that the ubar helicity is positive and dbar helicity is negative from RHIC W asymmetry data:

$$\Delta \bar{u} > 0, \qquad \Delta \bar{d} < 0$$

M.Liu, B.-Q. Ma, PRD98 (2018) 036024 Light-flavor sea quark-antiquark asymmetry

• The flavor asymmetry of light-flavor sea quarks can be produced from an intuitive statistical model:

$$\Delta \bar{u} > 0, \qquad \Delta \bar{d} < 0$$

• There is also an asymmetry between antiquarks and quarks of the sea:

$$\Delta q_s(x) \neq \Delta \bar{q}_s(x)$$

• The valence part of spin structure can be well descried by a light-cone quark-diquark model with the Melosh-Wigner rotation effect due to quark transversal motions.

Conclusions

- The spin transfer process of $\vec{p}p \rightarrow \vec{\Lambda}X$ is feasible to study strange-antistrange polarizations of the nucleon.
- The fitting to STAR data suggests: $\Delta s \neq \Delta \bar{s}$ $\Delta s \approx -0.025 \pm 0.019$ $\Delta \bar{s} \approx -0.001 \pm 0.012$
- The results are compatible with the light-cone baryon-meson fluctuation model prediction.

