Hadron structure at low Q^2

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This review deals with the structure of hadrons, strongly interacting many-body systems consisting of quarks and gluons. These systems have a size of about 1 fm, which shows up in scattering experiments at low momentum transfers Q in the GeV region. At this scale the running coupling constant of quantum chromodynamics (QCD), the established theory of the strong interactions, becomes divergent. It is therefore highly intriguing to explore this theory in the realm of its strong interaction regime. However, the quarks and gluons cannot be resolved at the GeV scale but have to be studied through their manifestations in the bound many-body systems, for instance, pions, nucleons, and their resonances. The review starts with an overview of QCD at low momentum transfer and a summary of the theoretical apparatus describing the interaction of hadrons with electrons and photons. Experimental results are presented for the most significant observables studied with the electromagnetic probe: form factors, polarizabilities, excitation spectra, and sum rules. These experimental findings are compared and interpreted with various theoretical approaches to QCD, such as phenomenological models with quarks and pions, dispersion relations as a means to connect observables from different experiments, and, directly based on the QCD Lagrangian, chiral perturbation theory and lattice gauge theory.

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CONTENTS

I.	Introduction			731		
II.	Electromagnetic Interaction with Hadrons			734		
	А.	A. Kinematics				
	B. Elastic electron scattering					
	C. Parity violating electron scattering					
	D.	Pset	udoscalar meson electroproduction	736		
	E.	E. Resonance excitation				
	F.	Dispersion relations				
III.	Fo	Form Factors				
	A. Spacelike electromagnetic form factors of the					
		nucleon				
	В.	3. Timelike electromagnetic form factors of the				
		nucleon				
	C.	Theoretical considerations				
	D.	Wea	ak form factors of the nucleon	746		
		1.	Axial form factor of the nucleon	746		
		2.	Strangeness content of the nucleon	747		
	E.	For	m factor of mesons	748		
IV.	Polarizabilities			750		
	A. Real		l Compton scattering	751		
		1.	Compton amplitudes and polarizabilities	752		
		2.	Theoretical developments	753		
		3.	RCS data and extraction of the proton			
			polarizabilities	754		
		4.	RCS data and extraction of the neutron			
			polarizabilities	756		
	В.	Generalized polarizability of the nucleon at $Q^2 > 0$				
		1.	Kinematics and invariant amplitudes	757		
		2.	Generalized polarizabilities	757		
		3.	Theoretical developments	758		
		4.	Experiments and data analysis	759		
	C.	Pola	arizability of mesons	762		
V.	Ex	citat	ion Spectrum of the Nucleon	763		

А.	A. Threshold production of mesons			
В.	Nucleon resonances and meson production			
VI. Su	um Rules			
А.	Sum rules for real photons			
	1.	Forward dispersion relations and sum rules	770	
	2.	Photoabsorption cross sections for the		
		proton	771	
	3.	GDH sum rule	772	
В.	Sun	n rules for virtual photons	774	
	1.	VVCS and nucleon structure functions	775	
	2.	Dispersion relations and sum rules	776	
	3.	Helicity structure of the cross sections	777	
	4.	Recent data for GDH-like integrals	778	
	5.	Generalized polarizabilities	779	
VII. Co	onclu	sion	780	
Acknowledgments			781	
Referenc	es		781	

I. INTRODUCTION

Hadrons are composite systems with many internal degrees of freedom. The strongly interacting constituents of these systems, the quarks and gluons, are described by quantum chromodynamics (QCD). This theory is asymptotically free, that is, it can be treated in a perturbative way for large values of the fourmomentum transfer squared, Q^2 (Gross and Wilczek, 1973a, 1973b; Politzer, 1973). However, the binding forces become increasingly strong if the momentum transfer decreases towards the region of about 1 GeV, which is the natural habitat of nucleons and pions. In particular, the "running" coupling constant of the strong interaction $\alpha_s(Q^2)$ is expected to diverge if Q^2 decreases to values near $\Lambda^2_{\text{QCD}} \approx (250 \text{ MeV})^2$, which defines the Landau pole of QCD. This behavior is totally different

from quantum electrodynamics (QED), for which the coupling constant $\alpha_{\rm em}(Q^2)$ diverges for huge momentum transfers at the Planck scale, corresponding to Q^2 $\approx 10^{38} \text{ GeV}^2$ or 10^{-35} m, for below any distance ever to be resolved by experiment. On the contrary, the Landau pole of QCD corresponds to a resolution of the nucleon's size, somewhat below 1 fm or 10^{-15} m. This is the realm of nonperturbative QCD, in which quarks and gluons appear as clusters confined in the form of colorneutral hadrons. As of today it is an open question whether this confinement can be derived directly from QCD or whether it is a peculiarity of a strongly interacting many-body system or based on some deeper grounds. Therefore the study of QCD in the nonperturbative domain serves less as a check of QCD per se, but is concerned with the highly correlated many-body system "hadron" and its effective degrees of freedom.

Quantum chromodynamics is a non-Abelian gauge theory developed on the basis of quarks and gluons (Fritzsch et al., 1973; Gross and Wilczek, 1973b; Weinberg, 1973). The non-Abelian nature of this theory gives rise to a direct interaction among the gluons, and the forces among the quarks are mediated by the exchange of gluons whose chromodynamic vector potential couples to the vector current of the quarks. If massless particles interact via their vector current, the helicity (handedness or chirality) of the particles is conserved. The nucleon is essentially made of the light u and dquarks plus a small admixture of s quarks, with masses m_{μ} =1.5-3.0 MeV, m_d =3-7 MeV, and m_s =95±25 MeV (Yao et al., 2006). In the zero mass limit, these light quarks can be classified according to their chirality by the group $SU(3)_R \otimes SU(3)_L$. Several empirical facts give rise to the assumption that this symmetry is spontaneously broken down to its vectorial subgroup, and in addition the finite quark masses cause an explicit symmetry breaking. The spontaneously broken symmetry is a most remarkable feature of QCD because it cannot be derived from the Lagrangian. This is quite different from the explicit symmetry breaking, which is put in by design through the finite quark masses in QCD and appears in a similar way in the Higgs sector. As a result one obtains the conserved vector currents J_{μ}^{a} and the only partially conserved axial vector currents $J_{5\mu}^a$,

$$J^{a}_{\mu} = \bar{q} \gamma_{\mu} (\lambda^{a}/2) q, \quad J^{a}_{5\mu} = \bar{q} \gamma_{\mu} \gamma_{5} (\lambda^{a}/2) q, \tag{1}$$

where q are Dirac spinors of pointlike (light) quarks and γ_{μ} , γ_5 the appropriate Dirac matrices. The quantities λ^a , $a=1,\ldots,8$ denote the Gell-Mann matrices of SU(3) describing the flavor structure of the three light quarks, and λ^0 is the unit matrix. The photon couples to quarks by the electromagnetic vector current $J_{\mu}^{\text{em}} \sim J_{\mu}^{(3)} + (1/\sqrt{3})J_{\mu}^{(8)}$, corresponding to isovector and isoscalar interactions, respectively. The weak neutral current mediated by the Z^0 boson couples to the third, eigth, and zeroth components of both vector and axial currents. While the electromagnetic current is always conserved, $\partial^{\mu}J_{\mu}^{\text{em}} = 0$, the axial current is exactly conserved only for massless quarks. In this limit there exist conserved

charges Q^a and axial charges Q_5^a , which are connected by commutation relations. The corresponding "current algebra" predated QCD and was the basis of various lowenergy theorems (LETs), which govern the low-energy behavior of (nearly) massless particles.

The puzzle we encounter in the physics of hadrons is the following: The massless quarks appearing in the QCD Lagrangian must conserve the axial currents. The nucleons should eventually emerge from the same Lagrangian as massive many-body systems of quarks and gluons. However, the conservation of the axial current in the Wigner-Weyl mode would require a vanishing axial coupling constant for these massive nucleons, which is ruled out by the observed β decay. A solution of this puzzle was given by Goldstone's theorem. At the same time as the three-quark system nucleon becomes massive by means of the QCD interaction, the vacuum develops a nontrivial structure due to finite expectation values of quark-antiquark pairs (condensates $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle$), and so-called Goldstone bosons are created, $\bar{q}q$ pairs with the quantum numbers of pseudoscalar mesons. These Goldstone bosons are massless, and together with the massive nucleons they warrant the conservation of the axial current. Because the quarks are not really massless, the chiral symmetry is slightly broken in nature. As a consequence the physical Goldstone bosons also acquire a finite mass, in particular the pion mass m_{π} follows to lowest order from the Gell-Mann-Oakes-Renner relation,

$$m_{\pi}^2 f_{\pi}^2 = -\left(m_u + m_d\right) \langle \bar{q}q \rangle + \cdots, \qquad (2)$$

with the condensate $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle \approx -(225 \text{ MeV})^3$ and $f_{\pi} \approx 93 \text{ MeV}$ the pion decay constant. Since the pions are now massive, the corresponding axial currents are no longer conserved and the four-divergence of the axial current becomes finite,

$$\partial^{\mu}J^{a}_{5\mu} \approx -f_{\pi}m_{\pi}^{2}\phi_{\pi}^{a},\tag{3}$$

where ϕ_{π}^{a} describes the local pion field. In other words the charged pion decay $\pi^{+} \rightarrow \mu^{+} + \nu_{\mu}$ and $\pi^{-} \rightarrow \mu^{-} + \bar{\nu}_{\mu}$ proceeds via coupling to the axial current of Eq. (3). While the charged pions decay weakly with a lifetime of 2.6×10^{-8} s, the neutral pion decays much faster, in 8.4×10^{-17} s, by means of the electromagnetic interaction, $\pi^{0} \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$. This provides an additional source for the neutral pion or the axial current with index 3,

$$\partial^{\mu} J_{5\mu}^{3} = (\alpha_{\rm em}/\pi) \vec{E} \cdot \vec{B}, \qquad (4)$$

where E and B are the electromagnetic fields. We note that the scalar product of the two electromagnetic fields is a pseudoscalar. This decay can be mediated by a triangle of intermediate quark lines, and therefore it is often called the triangle anomaly. It is "anomalous" because such processes do not appear in classical theories but only in quantum field theories through the renormalization procedure (Wess-Zumino-Witten term). The analogous anomaly in QCD is obtained from Eq. (4) by replacing the electromagnetic field by the corresponding color fields, E_c and B_c , α_{em} by the strong coupling constant α_s , and with an additional factor of 3 for u, d, and s quarks,

$$\partial^{\mu}J^{0}_{5\mu} = 3(\alpha_{s}/\pi)\tilde{E}_{c}\cdot\tilde{B}_{c}.$$
(5)

As a consequence $J_{5\mu}^0$ is not conserved, not even for massless quarks [$U_A(1)$ anomaly].

Unfortunately, no ab initio calculation can describe the intriguing but complicated world of the confinement region. In principle, lattice gauge theory should have the potential to describe QCD directly from the underlying Lagrangian. This theory discretizes QCD on a fourdimensional space-time lattice and approaches the physical world in the continuum limit of vanishing lattice constants (Wilson, 1974; Kogut and Susskind, 1975). However, these calculations can only be performed with u and d quark masses much larger than the current quark masses mentioned above, and therefore also the pion mass turns out much too large. As a consequence the Goldstone mechanism, the abundant production of sea quarks, is much suppressed. Lattice gauge theory has progressed considerably over the past decade and further progress is foreseen with both improved algorithms and increased computing power. For recent developments see Alexandrou et al. (2006); Boinepalli et al. (2006); Edwards et al. (2006); Göckeler et al. (2006); Alexandrou (2007). Semiquantitative agreement has been reached for ratios of masses and magnetic moments for the hadrons, there also exist predictions for nucleon resonances and electromagnetic form factors in qualitative agreement with the data. However, some doubt may occur on whether such a procedure can ever fully describe the pionic degrees of freedom in hadronic physics, particularly in the context of pion production and similar reactions.

A further ab initio calculation is chiral perturbation theory (CPT), which has been established by Weinberg (1979) in the framework of effective Lagrangians and put into a systematic perturbation theory by Gasser and Leutwyler (1984, 1985). This theory is based on the chiral symmetry of QCD, which is, however, expressed by effective degrees of freedom, notably the Goldstone bosons. Because of the Goldstone mechanism, the threshold interaction of pions and other Goldstone bosons is weak not only among themselves but also with the nucleons. Furthermore, the pion mass is small and related to the small quark masses m_u and m_d according to Eq. (2). Based on these grounds, CPT has been set up as a perturbation theory in the parameters p $:= (p_1, p_2, \dots; m_u, m_d)$, where p_i are the external fourmomenta in a particular (Feynman) diagram. Chiral perturbation theory has been applied to many photoinduced reactions by Bernard, Kaiser, et al. (1991, 1993, 1995) in the 1990s. As a result several puzzles have been solved and considerable insight has been gained. However, CPT cannot be renormalized as QED by adjusting a few parameters to the observables. Instead, the appearing infinities must be removed order by order in the perturbation series. This renormalization procedure gives rise to a growing number of low-energy constants (LECs) describing the strength of all possible effective Lagrangians consistent with the symmetries of QCD, at any given order of the perturbation series. These LECs, however, cannot (yet) be derived from QCD but must be fitted to the data, which leads to a considerable loss of predictive power with increasing order of perturbation. A further problem arises in the nucleonic sector because of the large nucleon mass M, which is of course not a small expansion parameter. The latter problem was solved by heavy baryon CPT, a kind of Foldy-Wouthuysen expansion in 1/M. This solution was, however, achieved at the expense of approximating the relativistic description by a nonrelativistic one. Over the past decade new schemes have been developed, which provide a consistent expansion within a manifestly Lorentz invariant formalism (Becher and Leutwyler, 1999; Kubis and Meißner, 2001; Fuchs et al., 2003; Schindler et al., 2004). For reviews of CPT see Scherer (2003) and Bernard (2008).

If quarks and gluons are resolved at high momentum transfer, they are asymptotically free and their momentum distribution can be described by evolution functions as derived from perturbative expansions (higher twists). This domain has been studied since the discovery of parton scaling at the end of the 1960s. Such investigations have given confidence in the validity of the QCD Lagrangian. Systems of heavy quarks (charm, bottom, top) can be well described by effective field theories based on QCD. However, these approaches are less effective for systems of light quarks (up, down, strange), for which the sea quarks and notably pionic degrees of freedom become important. In order to incorporate the consequences of chiral symmetry, a plethora of hybrid models with quarks and pions has been developed. Quark models have been quite successful in predicting the resonance spectrum of the nucleon as well as the electromagnetic decay and excitation of these resonances. However, they have problems describing the spectrum and the size of the nucleon at the same time. We do not focus on these models in the review but occasionally refer to them at later stages.

We concentrate here on hadronic structure investigations with the electromagnetic probe, that is electron and photon scattering as well as electroproduction and photoproduction of mesons. A broader account can be found in Thomas and Weise (2001). In Sec. II we give an introduction to the formalism relevant for these studies. Section III summarizes information on the form factors of nucleons and pions. Another bulk property of the hadrons is their polarizability, which can be determined by Compton scattering as discussed in Sec. IV. These global properties are related to the excitation spectrum of the particles, meson production at threshold, resonances, and continuum backgrounds as detailed in Sec. V. Finally, we examine the origin and relevance of several sum rules in Sec. VI. In all these fields, there has been a rapid evolution over the past years triggered by high-precision experiments. These have been made possible by a new generation of electron accelerators with

high current, high duty factor, and highly polarized beams in combination with improved target and detection techniques, notably for polarized particles. In many of the presented phenomena we recover the role of the pion as an effective degree of freedom at low energy and momentum transfer to the nucleon. It is therefore the leitmotiv of this review to look at hadrons as interesting and complicated many-body systems whose direct description by QCD proper is a major challenge for particle physics in the future.

II. ELECTROMAGNETIC INTERACTION WITH HADRONS

A. Kinematics

We consider the kinematics of the reaction

$$e(k_1) + N(p_1) \to e(k_2) + N(p_2),$$
 (6)

with $k_i = (\omega_i, \bar{k_i})$ and $p_i = (E_i, \vec{p_i})$ the four-momenta of an electron *e* with mass *m* and a nucleon *N* with mass *M*. The four-momenta are constrained by the on-shell conditions $p_1^2 = p_2^2 = M^2$, $k_1^2 = k_2^2 = m^2$, and by the conservation of total energy and momentum $k_1 + p_1 = k_2 + p_2$. In order to make Lorentz invariance manifest, it is useful to express the amplitudes in terms of the three Mandelstam variables

$$s = (k_1 + p_1)^2, \quad t = (k_2 - k_1)^2, \quad u = (p_2 - k_1)^2.$$
 (7)

Due to the mentioned constraints, these variables fulfill the relation $s+t+u=2(m^2+M^2)$, and therefore we may choose s and t as two independent Lorentz scalars. For reasons of symmetry, the center-of-mass (cm) system is used in the following. The three-momenta of the particles cancel in this system, and therefore $s = (\omega_{cm})$ $(+E_{cm})^2 = W^2$, i.e., the Mandelstam variable s is the square of the total cm energy W. Furthermore, the initial and final energies of each particle are equal, and hence $t = -(\vec{k}_2 - \vec{k}_1)^2_{cm}$ is related to the three-momentum transfer in the cm system. From these definitions it follows that physical processes occur at $s > (m+M)^2$ and t < 0. Because of the smallness of the fine-structure constant $\alpha_{\rm em} \approx 1/137$, it is usually sufficient to treat electron scattering in the approximation that a single photon with momentum $q = k_1 - k_2 = (\omega, \vec{q})$ is transferred to the hadronic system. We call this particle a spacelike virtual photon γ^* , because $t=q^2<0$, i.e., the spacelike component of the four-vector q prevails. Since t is negative in the physical region of electron scattering, it is common use to describe electron scattering by the positive number $Q^2 = -q^2$. This contrasts the situation in pair annihilation $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^*$, which produces a timelike virtual photon with $q^2 = m_{\gamma^*}^2 > 0$. The above considerations can be applied to real Compton scattering (RCS),

$$\gamma(k_1) + N(p_1) \to \gamma(k_2) + N(p_2), \qquad (8)$$

by replacing $m_{1,2}^2 = k_{1,2}^2 \rightarrow 0$ and to virtual Compton scattering (VCS),

$$\gamma^*(k_1) + N(p_1) \to \gamma(k_2) + N(p_2),$$
(9)

by replacing $m_1^2 = k_1^2 \rightarrow q^2 < 0$ and $m_2^2 = k_2^2 \rightarrow 0$.

We now turn to the spin degrees of freedom. The virtual photon with momentum \vec{q} carries a polarization described by the vector potential A, which has both a transverse component $\vec{A}_T \perp \vec{q}$, as in the case of a real photon, and a longitudinal component $\hat{q} \cdot \vec{A}$, which is related to the timelike component A_0 by current conservation, $q \cdot A = \omega A_0 - \vec{q} \cdot \vec{A} = 0$. Since the electron is assumed to be highly relativistic, its spin degrees of freedom are described by the helicity $h = \vec{s} \cdot \hat{k} = \pm \frac{1}{2}$, the projection of the spin \vec{s} on the momentum unit vector \hat{k} . In the following we denote the polarization of the incident electron by $P_e = 2h = \pm 1$, for example, $P_e = 1$ describes a beam of fully polarized right-handed electrons. The polarization vector P of a target or recoil nucleon is represented in a coordinate system with the z axis pointing in the direction of the virtual photon, $\hat{e}_z = \hat{q}$, the y axis perpendicular to the electron scattering plane, $\hat{e}_y \sim \hat{k}_1 \times \hat{k}_2$, and the x axis "sideways," i.e., in the scattering plane and on the side of the outgoing electron.

The scattered electron probes the charge and magnetization distributions of the hadronic system via the interaction of electromagnetic currents, which leads to a transition matrix element $\mathcal{M}=\Sigma_{\mu}j_{\mu}(e)J^{\mu}(h)$. If we neglect higher order QED corrections, the electron is a Dirac point particle with its current given by j_{μ} $=-e\bar{u}_2\gamma_{\mu}u_1$, where γ_{μ} are Dirac matrices and u_i Dirac spinors characterized by the quantum numbers i $=\{\vec{k}_i,h_i\}$. In the one-photon exchange approximation, the cross section is then obtained by the square of the transition matrix element multiplied by phase space factors,

$$d\sigma \sim \sum_{\text{spins}} |\mathcal{M}|^2 \sim \sum_{\text{spins}} \eta_{\mu\nu}(e) W^{\mu\nu}(h),$$
 (10)

where $\eta_{\mu\nu} = j_{\mu}j_{\nu}^*$ can be calculated straightforwardly. By varying the incident electron energy and the scattering angle as well as the polarizations of the respective particles, it is then possible to enhance or suppress specific components of the hadronic tensor $W_{\mu\nu} = J_{\mu}J_{\nu}^*$, and thus to study different aspects of the hadronic structure in a model-independent way. For further details and a general introduction to the structure of hadrons and nuclei, see Boffi *et al.* (1996) [see also Boffi *et al.* (1993)].

B. Elastic electron scattering

The hadronic current for elastic electron scattering off the nucleon is given by the most general form for the vector current with the same spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ particle before and after the collision,

$$I_{\mu} = \bar{u}_{p_2} [\gamma_{\mu} F_1(Q^2) + i(\sigma_{\mu\nu} q^{\nu/2} M) F_2(Q^2)] u_{p_1}, \qquad (11)$$

where u_{p_1} and u_{p_2} are the four-spinors of the nucleon in the initial and final states, respectively. The first term on the right-hand side (rhs) of Eq. (11) is the Dirac current, which describes the finite size of the nucleon by the Dirac form factor $F_1(Q^2)$. The second term reflects the fact that the internal degrees of freedom also produce an anomalous magnetic moment κ whose spatial distribution is described by the Pauli form factor $F_2(Q^2)$. These form factors are normalized to $F_1^p(0)=1$, $F_2^p(0)=\kappa_p$ =1.79 and $F_1^n(0)=0$, $F_2^n(0)=\kappa_n=-1.91$ for proton and neutron, respectively.

From the analogy with nonrelativistic physics, it is seducing to associate the form factors with the Fourier transforms of the charge and magnetization densities. The problem is that the charge distribution $\rho(\vec{r})$ has to be calculated by a three-dimensional Fourier transform of the form factor as a function of \vec{q} , whereas the form factors are generally functions of $Q^2 = \vec{q}^2 - \omega^2$. However, there exists a special Lorentz frame, the Breit or brickwall frame, in which the energy of the (spacelike) virtual photon vanishes. This can be realized by choosing, for example, $\vec{p}_1 = -\frac{1}{2}\vec{q}$ and $\vec{p}_2 = +\frac{1}{2}\vec{q}$ leading to $E_1 = E_2 = (M^2 + \frac{1}{4}\vec{q}^2)^{1/2}$, $\omega = 0$, and $Q^2 = \vec{q}^2$. Equation (11) takes the following form in this frame (Sachs, 1962):

$$J_{\mu} = (G_E(Q^2), i(\vec{\sigma} \times \vec{q}/2M)G_M(Q^2)), \qquad (12)$$

where $G_E(Q^2)$ is the timelike component of J_{μ} and hence is identified with the Fourier transform of the electric charge distribution, while $G_M(Q^2)$ appears with a structure typical for a static magnetic moment and hence is interpreted as a Fourier transform of the magnetization density. The Sachs form factors G_E and G_M are related to the Dirac form factors by

$$G_E(Q^2) = F_1(Q^2) - \tau F_2(Q^2),$$

$$G_M(Q^2) = F_1(Q^2) + F_2(Q^2),$$
(13)

where $\tau = Q^2/4M^2$ is a measure of relativistic (recoil) effects. Although Eq. (13) is a covariant definition, the Sachs form factors can only be Fourier transformed in a special frame, namely, the Breit frame, with the result

$$G_E(\vec{q}^2) = \int \rho(\vec{r}) e^{i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{r}} d^3\vec{r}$$
$$= \int \rho(\vec{r}) d^3\vec{r} - \frac{\vec{q}^2}{6} \int \rho(\vec{r}) \vec{r}^2 d^3\vec{r} + \cdots , \qquad (14)$$

where the first integral yields the total charge in units of e, i.e., 1 for the proton and 0 for the neutron, and the second integral defines the square of the electric rootmean-square (rms) radius, $\langle r^2 \rangle_E$. We note that each value of Q^2 requires a particular Breit frame, i.e., information on the charge distribution is taken from an infinity of different frames, which is then used as input for the Fourier integral in terms of $G_E(\vec{q}^2)$. Therefore the density $\rho(\vec{r})$ is not an observable that we can "see" in any particular Lorentz frame but only a mathematical construct in analogy to a "classical" charge distribution. The problem is that an "elementary" particle has a small mass such that recoil effects, measured by τ , and size effects, measured by $\langle r^2 \rangle$, become comparable and cannot be separated in a unique way. The situation is numerically quite different for a heavy nucleus, in which case the size effects dominate the recoil effects by orders of magnitude.

Because the hadronic current is defined by Eq. (11), any observable for elastic electron scattering can be uniquely expressed in terms of the two form factors. In particular the unpolarized differential cross section is given by (Rosenbluth, 1950)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_0 \left(\frac{G_E^2 + \tau G_M^2}{1 + \tau} + 2\tau \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2} G_M^2\right),\tag{15}$$

with $(d\sigma/d\Omega)_0$ the cross section for electrons scattering off a point particle and θ the scattering angle of the electron in the laboratory system. Equation (15) gives us the possibility to separate the form factors by variation of $tan^2(\theta/2)$ while keeping Q^2 constant. In fact the data should lie on a straight line (Rosenbluth plot) with a slope that determines the magnetic form factor G_M . However, there are limits to this method, in particular if one of the form factors is very much smaller than the other. In such cases a double-polarization experiment can help to get independent and more precise information. Such an experiment requires a polarized electron beam and a polarized target, or equivalently the measurement of the nucleon's polarization in the final state. The measured asymmetry takes the form (Arnold et al., 1981)

$$\mathcal{A} = -P_e \frac{\sqrt{2\tau\varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)}G_E G_M P_x + \tau \sqrt{1-\varepsilon^2}G_M^2 P_z}{\varepsilon G_E^2 + \tau G_M^2}, \quad (16)$$

where $\varepsilon = 1/[1+2(1+\tau)\tan^2(\theta/2)]$ is the transverse polarization of the virtual photon. In particular we find that the longitudinal-transverse interference term, appearing if the nucleon is polarized perpendicularly (sideways) to \vec{q} , is proportional to $G_E G_M$, while the transversetransverse interference term, appearing for polarization in the \vec{q} direction, is proportional to G_M^2 . The ratio of both measurements then determines G_E/G_M with high precision, because most normalization and efficiency factors cancel.

C. Parity violating electron scattering

In the previous section we have tacitly assumed that the interaction between electron and hadron is mediated by the virtual photon and therefore parity conserving. With this assumption the polarization of only one particle does not yield any observable effect. However, it is also possible to exchange a Z^0 gauge boson, although this is much suppressed in the low-energy region because of the large mass $M_{Z^0}=91$ GeV. This boson couples to electrons and nucleons with a mixture of vector and axial vector currents typical for the weak interaction. If Z^0 is emitted from one of the particles by the vector coupling and absorbed by the other one by the axial vector coupling, it produces a parity-violating asymmetry that can be observed if one of the particles (typically the incident electron) is polarized. The coupling of Z^0 to the electron involves the current

$$\tilde{j}_{\mu} = g' \bar{u}_2 [\gamma_{\mu} (1 - 4 \sin^2 \Theta_W) - \gamma_{\mu} \gamma_5] u_1, \qquad (17)$$

where Θ_W is the Weinberg angle and g' a weak coupling constant. Because $\sin^2 \Theta_W \approx 0.23$, the vector current in Eq. (17) is largely suppressed compared to the axial vector part containing the γ_5 factor. The corresponding weak hadronic current can be parametrized as follows:

$$\begin{split} \tilde{J}_{\mu} &= \bar{u}_{p_2} [\gamma_{\mu} \tilde{F}_1(Q^2) + i(\sigma_{\mu\nu} q^{\nu/2} M) \tilde{F}_2(Q^2) \\ &+ \gamma_{\mu} \gamma_5 \tilde{G}_A(Q^2)] u_{p_1}, \end{split}$$
(18)

where the tilde signifies the coupling to Z^0 . The weak Sachs form factors are defined as in Eq. (13), and the cross sections and asymmetries are calculated as in the previous section. However, the contribution of the weak current to the differential cross section is well below the experimental error bars, and information can only be obtained from the interference between the electromagnetic and weak transition amplitudes. The parityviolating asymmetry $\tilde{A} = (d\sigma^+ - d\sigma^-)/(d\sigma^+ + d\sigma^-)$, where $d\sigma^+$ and $d\sigma^-$ are the differential cross sections for incident electrons with positive and negative helicities, takes the form

$$\begin{split} \tilde{\mathcal{A}} &= -\frac{G_F}{4\pi\alpha\sqrt{2}} \\ &\times \left(\frac{\varepsilon G_E \tilde{G}_E + \tau G_M \tilde{G}_M - \varepsilon'(1 - 4\sin^2\Theta_W) G_M \tilde{G}_A}{\varepsilon G_E^2 + \tau G_M^2}\right) \\ &= \mathcal{A}^E(\tilde{G}_E) + \mathcal{A}^M(\tilde{G}_M) + \mathcal{A}^A(\tilde{G}_A), \end{split}$$
(19)
with $\varepsilon' = \sqrt{(1 - \varepsilon^2)\varepsilon(1 + \varepsilon)}$

with $\varepsilon' = \sqrt{(1-\varepsilon^2)\tau(1+\tau)}$.

D. Pseudoscalar meson electroproduction

The reaction

$$\gamma^*(q) + N(p_1) \to \pi(k) + N(p_2) \tag{20}$$

is described by the transition matrix element $\varepsilon^{\mu}J_{\mu}$, with ε^{μ} the polarization of the (virtual) photon and J_{μ} the transition current leading from the nucleon's ground state to a meson-nucleon continuum. This current can be expressed by six different Lorentz structures constructed from the independent momenta and appropriate Dirac matrices. Since the photon couples to an electromagnetic vector current and the pion is of pseudoscalar nature, the transition current appears as an axial fourvector in the nucleon sector. The spacelike (\vec{J}) and timelike (ρ) components of the transition operator take the following form in the hadronic cm frame:



FIG. 1. Multipole notation for pion photoproduction.

$$\hat{J} = \tilde{\sigma}F_1 + i(\hat{q} \times \vec{\sigma})(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \hat{k})F_2 + \tilde{k}(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \hat{q})F_3 + \tilde{k}(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \hat{k})F_4
+ \hat{q}(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \hat{q})F_5 + \hat{q}(\vec{\sigma} \cdot \hat{k})F_6,$$
(21)

$$\rho = (\vec{\sigma} \cdot \hat{k})F_7 + (\vec{\sigma} \cdot \hat{q})F_8, \qquad (22)$$

with \hat{q} and \hat{k} the three-momentum unit vectors of virtual photon and pion, respectively, and F_1 to F_8 the Chew-Goldberger-Low-Nambu (CGLN) amplitudes (Chew et al., 1957). The structures in front of the F_i are all independent axial vectors and pseudoscalars that can be constructed from the Pauli spin matrix $\vec{\sigma}$ and the independent cm momenta \vec{k} and \vec{q} . We further note that $\tilde{\sigma}$ and \hat{k} are the transverse components of $\vec{\sigma}$ and \hat{k} with regard to \hat{q} . With these definitions F_1 to F_4 describe the transverse, F_5 and F_6 the longitudinal, and F_7 and F_8 the timelike or Coulomb components of the current. The latter ones are related by current conservation, $\vec{q} \cdot \vec{J}$ $-\omega\rho=0$, leading to $|\vec{q}|F_5=\omega F_8$ and $|\vec{q}|F_6=\omega F_7$. The CGLN amplitudes depend on the virtuality of the photon Q^2 as well as the total hadronic energy W and the pion-nucleon scattering angle θ_{π}^* in the hadronic cm system. These amplitudes are complex functions because the transition leads to a continuum state with a complex phase factor. They can be decomposed in a series of multipoles [see Drechsel and Tiator (1992) for further details],

$$\mathcal{M}_{l\pm} = \{ E_{l\pm}, M_{l\pm}, L_{l\pm}, S_{l\pm} \}, \tag{23}$$

where $E_{l\pm}$, $M_{l\pm}$, $L_{l\pm}$, and $S_{l\pm}$ denote the transverse electric, transverse magnetic, longitudinal, and scalar (timelike or Coulomb) multipoles, respectively. The latter two are related by gauge invariance, $|\vec{q}|L_{l+} = \omega S_{l+}$, and therefore we may drop the longitudinal multipoles in the following without loss of generality. The CGLN multipoles are complex functions of two variables, $\mathcal{M}_{\ell+}$ $=\mathcal{M}_{\ell+}(Q^2,W)$. The notation of the multipoles is clarified by Fig. 1. The incoming photon carries the multipolarity L, which is obtained by adding the spin 1 and the orbital angular momentum of the photon. The parity of the multipole is $\mathcal{P}=(-1)^L$ for E, L, and S, and $\mathcal{P}=(-1)^{L+1}$ for M. The photon couples to the nucleon with spin $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\mathcal{P}=+1$, which leads to hadronic states of spin $J=|L\pm\frac{1}{2}|$ and with the parity of the incoming photon. The outgoing pion has negative intrinsic parity and orbital angular momentum l, from which we can reconstruct the spin J $=|l\pm\frac{1}{2}|$ and the parity $\mathcal{P}=(-1)^{l+1}$ of the excited hadronic state. This explains the notation of the multipoles, Eq.

(23), by the symbols E, M, and S referring to the type of the photon, and by the index $l\pm$ with l the pion angular momentum and the \pm sign represents the two possibilities to construct the total spin $J=|l\pm\frac{1}{2}|$ in the intermediate states.

We complete the formalism of pion photoproduction by discussing the isospin. Since the incoming photon has both isoscalar and isovector components and the produced pion is an isovector, the matrix elements take the form

$$\mathcal{M}_{l\pm}^{\alpha} = \frac{1}{2} [\tau_{\alpha}, \tau_0] \mathcal{M}_{l\pm}^{(-)} + \frac{1}{2} \{\tau_{\alpha}, \tau_0\} \mathcal{M}_{l\pm}^{(+)} + \tau_{\alpha} \mathcal{M}_{l\pm}^{(0)}, \qquad (24)$$

where τ_{α} are the isospin Pauli matrices in a spherical basis, i.e., $\alpha = \{+, 0, -\}$. It follows that the intermediate state in Fig. 1 can only have isospin $I = \frac{1}{2}$ or $I = \frac{3}{2}$. The four physical amplitudes with final states $\{p\pi^0, n\pi^0, n\pi^+, p\pi^-\}$ are given by linear combinations of the three isospin amplitudes. We should, however, keep in mind that the isospin symmetry is not exact but broken by the mass differences between the nucleons (n, p)and pions (π^{\pm}, π^0) as well as explicit Coulomb effects, in particular near threshold.

Calculation of the observables is straightforward but somewhat tedious, and therefore we choose pion photoproduction at threshold as an illustrative example. Near threshold the partial wave series may be truncated to *s* and *p* waves, i.e., the transverse multipoles E_{0^+} , M_{1^+} , E_{1^+} , and M_{1^-} . With $P_1=3E_{1^+}+M_{1^+}-M_{1^-}$, $P_2=3E_{1^+}$ $-M_{1^+}+M_{1^-}$, and $P_3=2M_{1^+}+M_{1^-}$ the differential cross section takes the following form in the cm frame:

$$\frac{d\sigma(\theta_{\pi}^*)}{d\Omega} = (k/q)(A + B\cos\theta_{\pi}^* + C\cos^2\theta_{\pi}^*), \qquad (25)$$

with $A = |E_{0^+}|^2 + \frac{1}{2}|P_2|^2 + \frac{1}{2}|P_3|^2$, $B = 2 \operatorname{Re}(E_{0^+}^*P_1)$, and $C = |P_1|^2 - \frac{1}{2}|P_2|^2 - \frac{1}{2}|P_3|^2$. As expected, the s-wave multipole yields a constant angular distribution, whereas the forward-backward asymmetry is given by the interference between the s wave and the p-wave combination P_1 . The terms in $\cos^2 \theta^*$ determine a further p-wave combination, $|P_2|^2 + |P_3|^2$. A complete experiment requires one to measure one further observable, the photon asymmetry

$$\Sigma(\theta_{\pi}^{*}) = (d\sigma^{\perp} - d\sigma^{\parallel})/(d\sigma^{\perp} + d\sigma^{\parallel})$$
$$= \frac{k}{2q}(|P_{2}|^{2} - |P_{3}|^{2})\sin^{2}\theta_{\pi}^{*} / \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}(\theta_{\pi}^{*}), \qquad (26)$$

where \perp and \parallel stand for photon polarizations perpendicular and parallel to the reaction plane.

The theory of meson electroproduction is more involved and we refer the reader to Drechsel and Tiator (1992), and references therein. The scattered electron serves as a source of virtual photons whose flux Γ_V and transverse polarization ε can be controlled by varying the electron kinematics. Moreover, we assume that the electron beam is polarized. The fivefold differential cross section for meson electroproduction is written as the product of a virtual photon flux factor Γ_V and a virtual photon cross section,

$$d\sigma/d\Omega_2 d\epsilon_2 d\Omega_{\pi}^* = \Gamma_V d\sigma/d\Omega_{\pi}^*.$$
⁽²⁷⁾

The electron kinematics is commonly given in the laboratory system, whereas the hadrons are described in the hadronic cm system as indicated by an asterisk. The reaction plane and the electron scattering plane have the same z axis, but the former is tilted against the latter by the azimuthal angle Φ_{π} . With these definitions, the virtual photon cross section takes the following form for polarized electrons but unpolarized hadrons:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega_{\pi}^{*}} = \frac{d\sigma_{T}}{d\Omega_{\pi}^{*}} + \varepsilon \frac{d\sigma_{L}}{d\Omega_{\pi}^{*}} + \sqrt{2\varepsilon(1+\varepsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{LT}}{d\Omega_{\pi}^{*}} \cos \Phi_{\pi} + \varepsilon \frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{d\Omega_{\pi}^{*}} \cos 2\Phi_{\pi} + P_{e}\sqrt{2\varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)} \frac{d\sigma_{LT'}}{d\Omega_{\pi}^{*}} \sin \Phi_{\pi}.$$
(28)

Denoting the initial and final electron laboratory energies by ϵ_1 and ϵ_2 , respectively, the photon laboratory energy is $\omega_L = \epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2$, and in the same notation the photon laboratory three-momentum is given by \vec{q}_L . With these definitions the transverse electron polarization and the virtual photon flux take the form

$$\varepsilon = \frac{1}{1 + 2(\vec{q}_L^2/Q^2)\tan^2(\theta/2)}, \quad \Gamma_V = \frac{\alpha_{\rm em}}{2\pi^2} \frac{\epsilon_2}{\epsilon_1} \frac{K}{Q^2} \frac{1}{1 - \varepsilon},$$
(29)

with $K = (W^2 - M^2)/2M$ the photon equivalent energy in the laboratory frame. The partial cross sections in Eq. (28) are functions of the virtuality Q^2 , the pion scattering angle θ_{-}^{*} , and the total hadronic cm energy W. The first two terms on the rhs of this equation contain the transverse (σ_T) and longitudinal (σ_L) cross sections. The third and fifth terms yield the longitudinal-transverse interferences σ_{LT} and $\sigma_{LT'}$. These terms contain the explicit factors $\cos \Phi_{\pi}$ and $\sin \Phi_{\pi}$, respectively, and an implicit factor $\sin \theta_{-}^{*}$ in the partial cross sections, and therefore they vanish in the direction of the virtual photon. The latter is also true for the fourth term, which contains the transverse-transverse interference (σ_{TT}), which is proportional to $\sin^2 \theta_{\pi}^*$ and appears with the explicit factor $\cos 2\Phi_{\pi}$. These five partial cross sections can be expressed in terms of the six independent CGLN amplitudes F_1 to F_6 , or in terms of six helicity amplitudes H_1 to H_6 given by linear combinations of the CGLN amplitudes. The particular form of the Φ_{π} dependence in Eq. (28) is of course related to the fact that the virtual photon transfers one unit of spin. Close inspection shows that the five responses provided by the polarization of the electron can be separated in a super Rosenbluth plot. This requires measuring the polarization ε of the virtual photon, the beam polarization P_{e} , and the angular distribution of the pion with at least one noncoplanar

angle Φ_{π} . A double-polarization experiment measuring also the target or recoil polarizations of the nucleon yields 18 different response functions altogether. The relevant expressions can be found in Drechsel and Tiator (1992) and Knöchlein *et al.* (1995).

E. Resonance excitation

As shown in the previous section, each partial wave is characterized by three quantum numbers, orbital angular momentum ℓ , total angular momentum J, and isospin *I*. Most of these pion-nucleon partial waves show distinct resonance structures at one or more values of the hadronic cm energy. Furthermore, there are generally three (independent) electromagnetic transitions between the nucleon and a particular partial wave, an electric, a magnetic, and a Coulomb transition. Consider as an example the most important resonance of the nucleon, the $\Delta(1232)$ with the spectroscopic notation P_{33} , which decays with a lifetime of about 0.5×10^{-23} s into a pionnucleon state, except for a small electromagnetic decay branch of about 0.5%. This intermediate state contains a pion in a p wave, i.e., $\ell = 1$ and $\mathcal{P} = +1$. The indices 33 refer to twice the isospin and spin quantum numbers, I $=J=\frac{3}{2}$. The electroexcitation of this resonance takes place by magnetic dipole (M1), electric quadrupole (E2), and Coulomb quadrupole (C2) radiation, which is denoted by the three complex functions $M_{1+}^{3/2}$, $E_{1+}^{3/2}$, and $S_{1+}^{3/2}$. If one neglects the small photon decay branch, unitarity requires that all three electroproduction multipoles carry the phase $\delta_{1+}^{3/2}(W)$ of the pion-nucleon final state (Watson, 1954). For a stable particle with the quantum numbers of a P_{33} resonance, Rarita and Schwinger (1941) have developed a consistent relativistic theory involving three (real) form factors $G_i^*(Q^2)$. However, the physical pion-nucleon state has a complex phase factor, the resonance phenomenon spreads over more than 100 MeV in excitation energy, and there is no modelindependent way to extract the "bare" resonance parameters from the observables. It is therefore common practice to relate the form factors to the transition multipoles taken at the resonance position, $W=M_{\Delta}$ =1232 MeV. Corresponding to the independent transition multipoles, the following three form factors for the $N\Delta$ transition have been defined:

$$\begin{split} M_{1+}^{3/2}(M_{\Delta},Q^2) &= iN[q_{\Delta}(Q^2)/M]G_M^*(Q^2), \\ E_{1+}^{3/2}(M_{\Delta},Q^2) &= -iN[q_{\Delta}(Q^2)/M]G_E^*(Q^2), \\ S_{1+}^{3/2}(M_{\Delta},Q^2) &= -iN[q_{\Delta}(Q^2)^2/2MM_{\Delta}]G_C^*(Q^2), \end{split}$$
(30)

with q_{Δ} and k_{Δ} the three-momenta of photon and pion at the resonance and $N = \sqrt{3\alpha_{\rm em}/8k_{\Delta}\Gamma_{\Delta}}$ a kinematic factor relating pion photoproduction to total photoabsorption at the resonance. We note that these definitions divide out the q dependence of the multipoles at pseudothreshold $(q \rightarrow 0)$ such that the form factors are finite at this point. Equation (30) corresponds to the definition of Ash *et al.* (1967), the form factors of Jones and Scadron (1973) are obtained by multiplication with an additional factor, $G^{\rm JS} = \sqrt{1+Q^2/(M+M_{\Delta})^2}G^{\rm Ash}$.

Because the background becomes more important as the energy increases, the concept of transition form factors is usually abandoned for higher resonances. Instead it is common to introduce the helicity amplitudes, which are uniquely defined for each resonance by matrix elements of the transition current between hadronic states of total spin J and projection M. With the photon momentum \vec{q} as axis of quantization, the virtual photon can only transfer intrinsic spin 1 to the hadronic system, with projections ±1 for right- and left-handed transverse photons (current components $J_{\pm 1}$) and 0 for the Coulomb interaction (timelike component ρ). Using parity and angular momentum conservation, we find three independent helicity amplitudes,

$$A_{1/2} = (1/\sqrt{2K}) \left\langle N^* \left(J, \frac{1}{2}\right) | J_+ | N \left(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}\right) \right\rangle,$$

$$A_{3/2} = (1/\sqrt{2K}) \left\langle N^* \left(J, \frac{3}{2}\right) | J_+ | N \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \right\rangle,$$

$$S_{1/2} = (1/\sqrt{2K}) \left\langle N^* \left(J, \frac{1}{2}\right) | \rho | N \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \right\rangle.$$
(31)

In particular we note that the amplitude $A_{3/2}$ exists only for resonances with $J \ge \frac{3}{2}$, and neither does this amplitude exist for a free quark. Hence asymptotic QCD predicts that $A_{3/2}$ should vanish in the limit of large momentum transfer, $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$. The electromagnetic multipoles can be expressed by combinations of the helicity amplitudes. For the $\Delta(1232)$ these relations take the following form:

$$M_{1^{+}}^{3/2} \sim -(1/2\sqrt{3})(\sqrt{3}A_{1/2} + 3A_{3/2}),$$

$$E_{1^{+}}^{3/2} \sim -(1/2\sqrt{3})(\sqrt{3}A_{1/2} - A_{3/2}),$$

$$S_{1^{+}}^{3/2} \sim -(1/\sqrt{2})S_{1/2}.$$
(32)

It is interesting to note that asymptotic QCD predicts the following multipole ratios in the limit $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$:

$$R_{EM} = \frac{\text{Im } E_{1+}^{3/2}}{\text{Im } M_{1+}^{3/2}} \bigg|_{W=M_{\Delta}} \to 1,$$

$$R_{SM} = \frac{\text{Im } S_{1+}^{3/2}}{\text{Im } M_{1+}^{3/2}} \bigg|_{W=M_{\Delta}} \to \text{const.}$$
(33)

In these relations, the multipoles are evaluated at resonance, defined by the energy for which the real part passes through zero (*K*-matrix pole). This should happen at the same energy for all three multipoles as long as the Fermi-Watson theorem is valid.

F. Dispersion relations

Dispersion relations (DRs) play an important role in the following sections. They are based on unitarity and analyticity and, by proper definitions of the respective amplitudes, fulfill gauge and Lorentz invariance as well as other symmetries. The analytic continuation in the kinematic variables allows one to connect information from different physical processes and thus to check the consistency of different sets of experiments. As shown in Sec. IV, DRs are a prerequisite to determining the polarizabilities of hadrons from Compton scattering, and several sum rules are derived in Sec. VI by combining DRs with low-energy theorems. Most of these techniques are very involved and we have to refer the reader to the literature. Therefore here we give only an overview of the dispersive approach for the nucleon form factors, which are discussed in more detail in Sec. III.

Let G(t) be a generic (electromagnetic) form factor describing the ground state of the nucleon. The real and imaginary parts of G(t) are then related by DRs. Assuming further an appropriate high-energy behavior, these amplitudes fulfill an unsubtracted DR in the Mandelstam variable t,

$$\operatorname{Re} G(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{t_0}^{\infty} dt' \frac{\operatorname{Im} G(t')}{t' - t - i\epsilon},$$
(34)

where t_0 is the lowest threshold for the electroproduction of pions by e^+e^- pair annihilation. These form factors can be measured by electron scattering for spacelike momentum transfer $(t=-Q^2<0)$ and by collider experiments for timelike momentum transfer $(t > 4M^2)$. The imaginary part or spectral function Im G(t) vanishes in the spacelike region, and therefore the $i\epsilon$ term in Eq. (34) can be dropped for elastic electron scattering. However, we note that Eq. (34) defines the real part of the form factor in both the spacelike and timelike regions, provided that the spectral function is sufficiently well known. The dispersive formalism also yields information on protons and neutrons at the same time as is evident from the following reasoning. The spectral function can be obtained from the two-step process $\gamma^* \rightarrow X \rightarrow NN$, with X a hadronic state with the quantum numbers of the photon. In the usual notation of these quantum numbers with isospin I, G parity, spin J, parity P, and C parity, the isoscalar photon has $I^{G}(J^{PC})=0^{-}(1^{--})$ and the isovector photon $I^{G}(J^{PC}) = 1^{+}(1^{--})$. The lightest hadronic system X in the intermediate state is a pion pair, which has even G parity and therefore contributes only to the isovector current. This part of the spectral function is therefore composed of (I) the vertex $\gamma^* \rightarrow \pi \bar{\pi}$ given by the pion form factor $F_{\pi}(t)$, here in the timelike region and therefore a complex function, and (II) the process $\pi \bar{\pi} \rightarrow N \bar{N}$. The latter process is needed in the unphysical region, which can, however, be reached by analytic continuation of the *p*-wave amplitudes for pion-nucleon scattering (Höhler, 1983). As a result, the two-pion con-



FIG. 2. (Color online) The isovector spectral functions in units of m_{π}^{-4} . Solid lines, 2 Im $G_E^v(t)/t^2$; dashed lines, 2 Im $G_M^v(t)/t^2$. Thin lines are from Höhler and Pietarinen (1975), thick lines include modern data for the pion form factor. From Belushkin *et al.*, 2006.

tribution to the spectral function can be constructed from $t_0=4m_{\pi}^2$ up to about 1 GeV² as

Im
$$G_E^v(t) = (q_t^3 / M \sqrt{t}) F_\pi(t)^* f_+^4(t),$$

Im $G_M^v(t) = (q_t^3 / \sqrt{2t}) F_\pi(t)^* f_-^4(t),$ (35)

with $q_t = \sqrt{t/4 - m_{\pi}^2}$ the pion momentum in the intermediate state and $f^{1}_{+}(t)$ the *p*-wave $\pi\pi \rightarrow N\bar{N}$ amplitude. The spectral functions for the Sachs form factors are plotted in Fig. 2. The figure shows a rapid rise of the spectral functions at the two-pion threshold $(t=4m_{\pi}^2)$ because the projection of the nucleon Born graphs to the p wave yields a singularity on the second Riemann sheet at t=3.98 m_{π}^2 , just below threshold. Similar results for the two-pion continuum have also been obtained by a twoloop calculation in CPT (Kaiser, 2003). Furthermore, we observe the strong peak near $t \approx 28m_{\pi}^2$, which is due to the ρ meson with mass 770 MeV and a large width. The spatial distribution of charge and current can be obtained by the respective form factors in the Breit frame. The starting point is Eq. (34) for spacelike $t=-Q^2$ $\rightarrow -\vec{q}^2$, which is Fourier transformed to \vec{r} space with the result

$$\rho(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int_{t_0}^{\infty} dt \, \text{Im} \, G(t) \frac{e^{-\sqrt{t}r}}{r}.$$
(36)

The mean-squared radius for a particular region of the spectral function at $t=\mu^2$, where μ is the mass of the intermediate state, is given by $\langle r^2 \rangle = 6/\mu^2$. For instance, the onset of the spectral function corresponds to a rms radius of about 1.7 fm, the ρ meson to about 0.6 fm, and so on. We conclude that the density at large distances is dominated by the lightest intermediate states. As a consequence, the tail of the density distribution at large radii should take a Yukawa form, $e^{-\mu r}/r$, with $\mu_v = 2m_{\pi}$ and $\mu_s = 3m_{\pi}$ for the isovector and isoscalar form factors, respectively. It is therefore natural to identify the "pion cloud" with the two-pion contribution to the spectral

function, which remains after subtraction of the ρ peak from the spectral function of Fig. 2. Whereas the isovector spectral function can be constructed from available experimental information up to $t \approx 1 \text{ GeV}^2$, the higher part of the spectrum has be modeled from information about resonances and continua. Because the isoscalar spectral function contains at least three pions in the intermediate state, it cannot be obtained directly from experimental data. In the region below $t \approx 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ it is dominated by ω and Φ mesons, the three-pion continuum has been shown to couple only weakly, see Belushkin *et al.* (2007) and references to earlier work.

III. FORM FACTORS

Ever since Hofstadter (1956, 1957) first determined the size of the nucleon, it has been taken for granted that the nucleon's electromagnetic form factors follow the shape of a dipole form, with some minor deviations and, of course, modified for the vanishing charge of the neutron. This form was conveniently parametrized as

$$G(Q^2) = 1/(1 + Q^2/\Lambda_D^2)^2,$$
(37)

with $\Lambda_D \approx 0.84$ GeV a universal parameter. Because this parameter is close to the mass of the ρ meson, it was assumed that the nucleon structure is dominated by a vector meson cloud which was described by the "vector dominance model." This idea was of course in conflict with the quark model after its establishment in the 1970s and many attempts were made to reconcile these conflicting models.

In order to set the scene, we recall the following properties of proton, neutron, and heavier baryons.

- The complexity of these strongly interacting manybody systems reflects itself in the finite size in space, the anomalous magnetic moment, and the continuum of excited states with strong resonance structures. These three aspects are of course closely related, and can be connected quantitatively in some cases by sum rules as detailed in Sec. VI.
- Because of the approximate SU(3) symmetry of u, d, and s quarks, the nucleon forms a doublet in isospin with strangeness S=0 in an octet of states. The other partners are Λ^0 and the triplet $\Sigma^+, \Sigma^0, \Sigma^-$ with S=-1, and Ξ^0, Ξ^- with S=-2. The strange baryons decay weakly with a typical mean life of about 10^{-10} s. Because Σ^0 can also decay into Λ^0 by photoemission, its mean life is only about 10⁻¹⁹ s. The most important resonance of the nucleon, $\Delta(1232)$, appears as an isospin quadruplet with strangeness S=0 in a decuplet of states. The partners of $\Delta(1232)$ are an isospin triplet $\Sigma^{+}(1385), \Sigma^{0}(1385), \Sigma^{-}(1385)$ with S = -1, a doublet $\Xi^{0}(1530), \Xi^{-}(1530)$ with S=-2, and $\Omega^{-}(1672)$ with S=-3. The latter lives about 10^{-10} s because it can only decay weakly. All other particles in the decuplet decay by the strong interaction with a mean life of order 10^{-23} s.

- The size effect reflects itself in the form factors of elastic electron scattering. Because of the lifetime, only the proton and, with some caveat, the neutron can be studied as a target. With the dipole form of Eq. (37) and the definition of a rms radius according to Eq. (14), the result of Hofstadter (1956) was r_F^p =0.81 fm for the charge distribution of the proton. In the mean time several new experiments have led to the larger radius of $r_E^p \approx 0.88$ fm. The form factors of strange baryons can in principle be measured by scattering an intense beam of these particles off the atomic electrons of some nuclear target. Such an experiment was performed by the SELEX Collaboration at the Fermi Laboratory Tevatron with a highenergetic Σ^{-} beam (Eschrich *et al.*, 2001). The result is a first datum on a hyperon radius, $r_E^{\Sigma^-}$ =(0.78±0.08±0.05) fm, distinctly smaller than the accepted value for the proton.
- The "normal" magnetic moment of a particle *i* expected for a pointlike fermion is given by $eQ_i/(2M_i)$, with M_i the mass and eQ_i the charge of the particle. If the magnetic moments μ_i are given in units of the nuclear magneton $[\mu_N] = e/(2M_p)$, the values for proton and neutron, $\mu_p = 2.79 \left[\mu_N\right]$ and $\mu_n = -1.91 \left[\mu_N\right]$, signal a large isovector anomalous magnetic moment of the nucleon. From electron scattering we also know that the rms radius of the magnetization distribution is similar to the radius of the charge distribution. Because of their long mean life, the magnetic moments of five other octet baryons and, in addition, the one of $\Omega^{-}(1672)$ in the decuplet are known from spin precession experiments. Without going in to detail, these particles also have large anomalous moments. As an example, even the Ω^- , a configuration of three s quarks with the large mass of 1.672 GeV, has $\mu_{\Omega} = -2.02 \, [\mu_N]$ compared to a normal magnetic moment of $-0.56 \ [\mu_N]$. In order to get more information about the decuplet, several experiments were performed to measure the magnetic moment of Δ^{++} as a subprocess of radiative pion-nucleon scattering (Nefkens *et al.*, 1978; Bosshard *et al.*, 1991) and of Δ^+ as a subprocess of radiative pion photoproduction on the proton (Kotulla, 2003). Results for the magnetic moments are in qualitative agreement with quark model predictions but still with large model errors (Pascalutsa and Vanderhaeghen, 2008).

At the turn of the century new surprising results put the nucleon form factors into focus once more. These new results became possible through the new generation of cw electron accelerators with sources of high-intensity polarized beams combined with progress in target and recoil polarimetry. As summarized in Sec. II.B the measurement of asymmetries allows one to determine both form factors even if they are of very different size. This situation occurs in two cases. (I) Because of its vanishing total charge but large anomalous magnetic moment, the neutron's electric form factor is very much smaller than the magnetic one, at least for small and moderate momentum transfer. (II) As shown by Eq. (15), the magnetic form factor $G_M(Q^2)$ appears with a factor τ $=Q^2/4M^2$, whereas $G_E(Q^2)$ is suppressed by a factor $1/(1+\tau)$. As a consequence, $G_E(Q^2)$ is less well determined by the Rosenbluth plot if Q^2 becomes large. Even though this was known, it was a great surprise when asymmetry measurements showed a dramatic deviation from previous results based on the Rosenbluth separation and, at the same time, from the dipole shape of the proton form factors (Jones et al., 2000; Gayou et al., 2002). Another open question concerns the behavior of the form factors at low four-momentum transfer, such as oscillations at very small Q^2 and conflicting results for the rms radius of the proton. These experimental findings have caused an intense theoretical investigation which has been summarized by recent review papers (Gao, 2003; Hyde-Wright and de Jager, 2004; Arrington, Roberts, and Zanotti, 2007; Perdrisat et al., 2007). In the present work we concentrate on the low momentum transfers and, therefore, the phenomena for Q^2 $\geq 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ will only be discussed briefly.

A. Spacelike electromagnetic form factors of the nucleon

New results in the field of spacelike form factors have been obtained at three facilities: the cw electron accelerators CEBAF at the Jefferson Laboratory (Cardman, 2006) and Mainz Microtron (Jankowiak, 2006), and the electron stretcher ring at MIT/Bates (Milner, 2006). These facilities provide an intense beam of polarized electrons. The second essential ingredient for measuring asymmetries was the development of polarized targets and polarimeters to determine the polarization of recoiling particles. For details of the new accelerators, targets, and particle detectors as well as pertinent references, we refer the reader to Hyde-Wright and de Jager (2004). In this context it is, however, important to realize that there exist no free neutron targets, but only targets with neutrons bound in a nucleus. Therefore any analysis of the data requires theoretical models to correct for the binding effects, which include initial-state correlations, meson exchange, and other two-body currents with intermediate resonance excitation of nucleons, and final-state interactions while the struck nucleon leaves the target. In this situation, we infer that the deuteron provides the most trustworthy neutron target because its theoretical description is far more advanced than in the case of heavier nuclei. Of course, measurements with heavier nuclei, in particular polarized ³He targets, provide complementary information and are interesting for their own sake.

In Fig. 3 we display the nucleon form factors as functions of Q. We choose this somewhat unusual presentation in order to emphasize the small Q^2 region. The data base shown is from Friedrich and Walcher (2003), which has been complemented by the following: Bermuth *et al.* (2003); Glazier *et al.* (2005); Plaster *et al.* (2006); Anderson *et al.* (2007); Crawford *et al.* (2007); Geis *et al.* (2008). The phenomenological fit shown by the solid line in Fig. 3 is composed of two dipoles and a bump-dip structure. The dipole form is given by

$$G_s(Q^2) = a_{10}/(1+Q^2/a_{11})^2 + a_{20}/(1+Q^2/a_{21})^2, \qquad (38)$$

and the bump-dip structure, seen at $Q^2 = Q_b^2 \approx 0.2 \text{ GeV}^2$ on top of the smooth dipoles, is parametrized as

$$G_b(Q^2) = a_b Q^2 (e^{-(1/2)[(Q - Q_b)/\sigma_b]^2} + e^{-(1/2)[(Q + Q_b/\sigma_b)]^2}).$$
(39)

We note that this ansatz provides an even function of Q as required by general arguments. A similar form has been introduced by Sick (1974) in r space in order to obtain a nonsingular function for model-independent analysis of nuclear charge distributions.

Figure 3 shows that the bump-dip structure is of the order 3% and only visible for $Q^2 < 1$ GeV². Therefore we have magnified the data and their structure by the linear plot of Fig. 4, which shows the form factors divided by the standard dipole form factor of Eq. (37). The electric form factor of the neutron is quite special because of its vanishing charge, which results in an overall small value of G_E^n . Therefore we have plotted this form factor in a different way in Fig. 5, which displays the published world data as measured with polarized electrons. We note, however, that the results of Schiavilla and Sick (2001) have been deduced from an analysis of the deuteron quadrupole form factor F_{C2} , which requires a careful investigation of the model dependence due to the nucleon-nucleon potential. The error bars of these data are therefore not statistical but indicate the (systematic) model error. The combined data shown in Fig. 5 clearly support the existence of the bump structure at $Q^2 \approx 0.2 \text{ GeV}^2$ as in the previous cases. The solid line in this figure is the result of a new fit with the phenomenological model given by Eqs. (38) and (39). The dashed line in this figure is the parametrization first given by Galster et al. (1971),

$$G_E^n(Q^2) = \frac{a_G \tau}{(1+b_G \tau)} \frac{1}{(1+Q^2/\Lambda_D^2)^2},$$
(40)

with $a_G = -\mu_n$ and $b_G = 5.6$. The result from dispersion theory is displayed by the dotted line. Neither dispersion theory nor the Galster fit reproduce the data at low Q^2 .

The Fourier transform of G_E^n is of particular interest because the overall charge of the neutron must vanish. A finite charge distribution is therefore a definite sign of correlations among the charged constituents, for example, between the *u* quark and the two *d* quarks of the constituent quark model. The charge distribution ρ_E^n is displayed in Fig. 6 for the three fits to the neutron factor shown in Fig. 5 We recall the arguments of Sec. II.B that the Fourier transform can only be obtained in the Breit or "brick wall" frame, which, however, is a different Lorentz frame for different values of Q^2 . Visualization of the Fourier transforms as charge and magnetization distributions in *r* space is therefore only approximately correct if the momentum transfer is small compared to $|Q^2|=4M^2$, which defines the threshold of nucleon pair



FIG. 3. The world data for the four nucleon form factors according to Friedrich and Walcher (2003). Solid line is the phenomenological fit given by Eqs. (38) and (39). The other lines show the two dipole contributions and the bump-dip term of the fit separately. Note that the absolute value is plotted for negative quantities. See Friedrich and Walcher (2003) for a listing of the data.

production at timelike momentum transfer. With this caveat, we may interpret the charge distribution of Fig. 6 by the dissociation of the neutron in a proton and a pion, i.e., as a negative pion cloud around a positive core. As we see from the figure, the pion cloud found by Friedrich and Walcher (2003) extends to large radii. It is important to realize that this result does not depend on a model assumption but is borne out by a statistically satisfactory reproduction of the data. We also note that the signal of the pion cloud is empirically present in all four form factors.

In a recent paper, Miller (2007) has found a negative density in the center of the neutron from an analysis of generalized parton distributions as a function of the impact parameter b. The charge distribution $\rho_1^n(b)$ is then defined by the two-dimensional Fourier transform of the Dirac form factor $F_1^n(Q^2)$. We note that this does not contradict the results shown in Fig. 6. In fact our results for the three-dimensional Fourier transform of $F_1^n(Q^2)$ agree very much with the findings of Miller (2007): a negative density in the center, positive values for 0.4 < r < 1.2 fm, and a negative tail for larger distances.

B. Timelike electromagnetic form factors of the nucleon

We next discuss the form factors for timelike momentum transfer, i.e., positive values of the Mandelstam variable $t=q^2=-Q^2>0$; see Sec. II.A for definitions. By inspection we find that the previously defined dipole form factors have poles $t = \Lambda_D^2 \approx M_V^2$, that is, the phenomenological fits "predict" the existence of vector mesons in the timelike region. The form factors in the spacelike and timelike regions are connected by analyticity and unitarity, and therefore knowledge of the timelike form factors is also mandatory for a complete understanding of the nucleon (Geshkenbein et al., 1974; Mergell et al., 1996; Baldini et al., 1999; Hammer, 2006; Belushkin et al., 2007). The timelike photons are obtained in collider experiments by the reaction $e^+e^- \rightarrow N\bar{N}$ for $t = (2E_{\text{beam}})^2$ $>4M^2$. Whereas the spacelike form factors are real, the timelike form factors are complex functions because of the strong interaction between the produced hadrons. However, the unpolarized cross section in the timelike region depends only on the absolute values of the two form factors $|G_E(t)|$ and $|G_M(t)|$. In order to obtain information on the relative phase between the form factors,



FIG. 4. The nucleon form factors G_E^p , G_M^p/μ_p , and G_M^n/μ_n as a function of Q, divided by the standard dipole form factor of Eq. (37). The solid line represents the fit of Friedrich and Walcher (2003), the dashed line shows the smooth contribution of the two dipoles.

polarization experiments are required. Unfortunately, the present data do not even allow for a Rosenbluth separation. Therefore the data are analyzed with the assumption $|G_E(t)| = |G_M(t)|$, which follows from Eq. (13) at threshold, $t=4M^2$, but is of course not expected to hold for higher beam energies.



FIG. 5. (Color online) The world data for the electric form factor of the neutron G_E^n as a function of Q^2 . Solid squares, $d(\vec{e}, e'\vec{n})p$ at MAMI, Glazier *et al.* (2005), and Ostrick (2006); solid triangles, $d(\vec{e}, e'\vec{n})p$ at Jefferson Laboratory, Madey *et al.* (2003); solid diamond, $d(\vec{e}, e'\vec{n})p$ at BATES, Eden *et al.* (1994); solid circle, $d(\vec{e}, e'n)p$ at NIKHEF, Passchier et al. (1999); open triangles, $d(\vec{e}, e'n)p$ at Jefferson Laboratory, Warren et al. (2004); open diamonds, $\vec{d}(\vec{e}, e'n)p$ at BATES, Geis *et al.* (2008); open squares, ${}^{3}\overline{\text{He}}(\vec{e},e'n)pp$ at MAMI, Rohe (2006). Open circles are derived from the deuteron quadrupole form factor (Schiavilla and Sick, 2001). Solid line, new fit of the phenomenological model of Friedrich and Walcher (2003); dashed line, the result of dispersion relation (Belushkin et al., 2007; Meißner, 2007); and dotted line, the original Galster fit of Eq. (40). The new fit includes all shown data except for the data of Geis et al. (2008) and values derived by Schiavilla and Sick (2001). Data were updated by J. Friedrich and theory curves complemented by L. Tiator.

Figure 7 displays a compilation of the proton data known so far. These data cover the range $4M^2 < t$ $< 6.8 \text{ GeV}^2$. The figure shows an overall falloff with the beam energy for G_M^p , somewhat faster than $1/t^2$, and some structure near $E_{\text{beam}}=1.05 \text{ GeV}$ or $t=4.4 \text{ GeV}^2$,



FIG. 6. (Color online) The charge density distribution for the neutron $4\pi r^2 \rho_E^n$ as a function of *r*. The notation for the lines corresponds to that of the form factors shown in Fig. 5. Courtesy of J. Friedrich and L. Tiator.



FIG. 7. (Color online) The world data for the timelike form factor of the proton as function of the beam energy E_{beam} , extracted assuming $|G_E| = |G_M|$. Open symbols, data from $e^+e^- \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ (Castellano *et al.*, 1973; Delcourt *et al.*, 1979; Bisello *et al.*, 1983, 1990; Antonelli *et al.*, 1996, 1998; Ablikim *et al.*, 2005; Aubert *et al.*, 2006; Pedlar *et al.*, 2005); solid symbols, data from $\bar{p}p \rightarrow e^-e^+$ (Bassompierre *et al.*, 1977; Armstrong *et al.*, 1993; Bardin *et al.*, 1994; Ambrogiani *et al.*, 1999; Andreotti *et al.*, 2003). From Rossi *et al.*, 2006.

which may indicate a resonance in that region. We note that the decrease of the form factor is in qualitative agreement with perturbative QCD, which requires a falloff like $|t|^{-2}$ for both spacelike and timelike photons. However, comparison shows that the spacelike form factor at $t=-Q^2=-16$ GeV² is already about a factor of 3 smaller than the timelike form factor at t=+16 GeV², that is, asymptotia is still far away. Examination of Fig. 8 tells us that our knowledge about the neutron's timelike form factors is still far from satisfactory. We hope that current planned experiments will improve on the precision of the timelike form factors and, in particular, also determine their relative phases, which is absolutely necessary in order to get the full information on the structure of the nucleon (Rossi *et al.*, 2006).

C. Theoretical considerations

The electromagnetic form factors encode information on the wave functions of the charged constituents in a bound system. However, in the case of hadrons we face severe obstacles to get a real grip on the elementary quarks. As mentioned in Sec. I, only two *ab initio* approaches exist to describe QCD in the confinement phase: chiral perturbation theory and lattice gauge theory. Chiral perturbation theory is restricted to small values of the momenta. Moreover, if extended to higher order in the perturbation series, CPT loses predictive power because the number of unknown low energy con-



FIG. 8. (Color online) The world data for the timelike form factor of the neutron as a function of the beam energy E_{beam} , extracted assuming $|G_E| = |G_M|$. Data are obtained by the FENICE Collaboration from the reaction $e^+e^- \rightarrow n\bar{n}$. Solid line is a perturbative QCD extrapolation using proton data (Antonelli *et al.*, 1994, 1998). From Rossi *et al.*, 2006.

stants increases. Lattice gauge theory, on the other hand, is still hampered by the use of large quark masses. This has the consequence that pionic effects appearing at low momentum transfer are underestimated. Beyond these two approaches, which are in principle exact realizations of QCD, a plethora of "QCD inspired" models with quarks and pions has been developed. The problems are twofold.

- Starting directly from QCD, one would have to use small *u* and *d* quark masses of order 10 MeV. The many-body system is therefore highly relativistic from the very beginning. However, a typical constituent quark model (CQM) has quarks with masses of several hundred MeV. It is therefore obvious that these entities are many-body systems of quarks and gluons by themselves. In any case, the constituent quarks wave functions have to be "boosted" if hit by the virtual photon. However, there exists no unique scheme to boost a strongly interacting relativistic many-body system.
- In view of the small current mass of the quarks, the interaction as mediated by gluon exchange inevitably produces a considerable amount of quark-antiquark admixture. These effects have to be modeled by properties of the constituent quarks, such as mass and form factor [see De Sanctis *et al.* (2007)] or by explicitly introducing a meson cloud of the "bare" constituent quarks (Faessler *et al.*, 2006).

Since this paper is focused on the low- Q^2 domain, it suffices to consider some models useful in this region. A detailed discussion of a wide range of models has been



FIG. 9. (Color online) The ratio of the electric and magnetic form factors of the proton $\mu_p G_E^p / G_M^p$ compared to relativistic calculations in the framework of the CQM. Dotted line, light-cone front CQM (Chung and Coester, 1991); thick solid line, light-cone front CQM (Frank *et al.*, 1996); dash-dotted line. light-cone front CQM with pointlike constituent quarks (Cardarelli *et al.*, 1995; Cardarelli and Simula, 2000); dashed line, Goldstone boson exchange between pointlike constituent quarks (Boffi *et al.*, 2002); and thin solid line, covariant spectator CQM (Gross and Agbakpe, 2006). Data have been taken at Jefferson Laboratory by Punjabi *et al.* (2005) (circles) and Gayou *et al.* (2002) (squares). From Perdrisat *et al.*, 2007.

given by Perdrisat et al. (2007). The traditional model of the nucleon is the CQM with quark masses $m_a \approx M/3$. Except for the smallest momentum transfers, the quark wave functions have to be relativized, which is usually done by relativistic boosts of single-quark wave functions. Figure 9 shows the result of several calculations for the ratio G_E^p/G_M^p compared to recent data from Jefferson Laboratory obtained with a double-polarization experiment. The rapid falloff of this ratio was a surprise because previous experiments without polarization did not find large deviations from the dipole fit for both form factors. The solution of the problem was explained by two-photon effects, which are usually small but turn out to become large in special cases; see Arrington, Melnitchouk, and Tjon (2007) and Carlson and Vanderhaeghen (2007) for recent reviews. Even though the figure shows only a small selection of models, different results are obtained by similar models, depending on the properties of the constituent quarks, their interaction, and the boosting mechanism. We are also not aware of many predictions for the rapid drop of the ratio before the Jefferson Laboratory double-polarization data were obtained. In any case, the models shown describe the data qualitatively well, and support the expected zero crossing of the electric form factor at $Q^2 \approx 7 \text{ GeV}^2$. The zero crossing is also predicted from a Poincaré covariant Faddeev calculation describing the nucleon as a correlated quark-diquark system, generated with an interaction fitted to the structure of mesons (Alkofer et al., 2005; Höll et al., 2005). On the other hand, the models without explicit Goldstone bosons, in particular pions, cannot describe the region $Q^2 \leq 0.5 \text{ GeV}^2$, in which the pionic degrees of freedom play a decisive role.

The inclusion of a pion cloud into quark models of the nucleon started with the little bag model (Brown and Rho, 1979) and was first applied to the nucleon form factors in the form of the cloudy bag model (Thomas, 1984; Lu et al., 1998; Miller, 2002; Miller and Frank, 2002). More recently, Pasquini and Boffi (2007) studied a system of valence quarks surrounded by a meson cloud with light-cone wave functions. They found distinct features of such a cloud below $Q^2=0.5 \text{ GeV}^2$, however, without a pronounced bump-dip structure. Another model incorporating quarks and Goldstone bosons is the chiral quark soliton model (Diakonov and Petrov, 1986; Diakonov et al., 1988). The nucleon form factors were calculated within this framework by Christov et al. (1995). The linear decrease of the ratio G_E^p/G_M^p with Q^2 was shown to follow from this model quite naturally (Holzwarth, 1996, 2002, 2005). However, in all these models the bump-dip structure of the form factors is not in focus. On the other hand, Faessler et al. (2006) showed that this structure can be reproduced within a chiral quark model by a cloud of pseudoscalar mesons. One should also keep in mind that usually a complete description of the data is not given. For example, a cross-section ratio may be obtained in agreement with the data, whereas the model fails to describe the individual cross sections. On the contrary, the parametrization of Friedrich and Walcher (2003) covers the full Q^2 domain up to 7 GeV², and therefore the charge distribution derived from this work is directly based on the experimental data. From Fig. 6, the neutron charge distribution $\rho_E^n(r)$, as defined by the Fourier transform of the electric Sachs form factor $G_E^n(Q^2)$, is positive in the interior region and negative for radii larger than about 0.7 fm. However, it takes a model to quantify the separation into components, say a core and a pion cloud. As an example, there is no unique way to break the spectral function of Fig. 2 into parts belonging to the two-pion continuum and heavier intermediate states like the ρ meson. On the other side, it is also evident that the tail of the density at large radii is determined by the lightest hadron, the pion.

Since the size of the bump-dip signal found by Friedrich and Walcher (2003) (FW) is in conflict with calculations using dispersion relations (Belushkin *et al.*, 2007; Meißner, 2007) (BHM), it is worthwhile to discuss the differences more closely.

The fit of FW describes the data in the spacelike region with a good χ²/DOF≈0.9 for about 160 degrees of freedom (DOF), because the fitting function is designed for spacelike data. The dispersion relations try to reproduce both the spacelike and timelike form factors by using all available spectral data for involved hadrons, and therefore the fits are much more constrained. As a result, the fits of BHM have the much larger χ²/DOF≈1.8 with DOF≈200. Such large values of χ² have to be taken with great caution

since they are somewhat outside the range of the validity of statistics. In particular, the statistical probability $P(\chi^2/\text{DOF}>1.8,\text{DOF}\approx200)$ is smaller than 10^{-10} . This leaves the usual suspects: the problem is in the data (Belushkin *et al.*, 2007; Meißner, 2007), the dispersion relations have still an incomplete input, or both data and theory have problems. In any case, the $1-\sigma$ bands of Belushkin *et al.* (2007) and Meißner (2007) derived by increasing the absolute χ^2 by 1 are not meaningful if the χ^2/DOF is off as much as 1.8.

- In order to obtain the bump-dip structure at Q² ≈ 0.2 GeV², BHM would have to include two more "effective" poles: an additional isoscalar pole near the (isoscalar) ω meson, but with the opposite sign and twice the strength of the ω, and a weaker isovector structure close to the mass of three pions, which is the threshold of the isoscalar channel. With these modifications, also BHM could obtain a χ²/DOF ≈ 0.9. There is, however, no evidence for such structures in e⁺-e⁻ collisions nor are such objects known to interact with the nucleon, and therefore BHM discarded these fits.
- The electric rms radius of the proton r_E^p , is another piece of evidence showing some peculiarity around 0.2 GeV². From a fit to all available low Q^2 data, Sick (2003) found the radius $r_E^p = 0.95 \pm 0.018$ fm. On the other hand, FW obtained $r_E^p = 0.794$ fm without and $r_F^p = 0.858$ fm with the bump-dip structure. According to Rosenfelder (2000), Coulomb and recoil corrections have to be added to these results, which leads to $r_F^p = 0.876 \pm 0.015$ fm in accordance with results from Lamb shift measurements (Udem et al., 1997). [For an overview of results from atomic physics and their interpretation, see Karshenboim (1998) and Carlson and Vanderhaeghen (2007).] However, as in all previous work based on dispersion relations, the electric rms radius of the proton also turns out to be small in the work of BHM, $r_E^p = 0.844$ fm or even smaller.
- The dip structure reported by FW for the proton corresponds to a bump structure obtained for the neutron at a similar value of Q². This change of sign makes sense because the pion cloud couples to the isovector photon. As mentioned before, Kopecky et al. (1997) obtained a mean square radius ⟨r²⟩ⁿ_E = -(0.115±0.004) fm² from low-energy neutron scattering off ²⁰⁸Pb, however, this extraction is certainly model dependent. BHM get ⟨r²⟩ⁿ_E = -0.118 fm², in agreement with Kopecky et al. (1997). FW take ⟨r²⟩ⁿ_E = -0.115 fm as a fixed parameter or obtain ⟨r²⟩ⁿ_E = -0.147 fm in the new fit of the analytical form of the phenomenological model.
- It follows from dispersion relations that the tail of charge distributions at large radii has a Yukawa shape with the mass of the lightest intermediate state, that is two pion masses for the isovector and

three pion masses for the isoscalar densities. Hence it would take considerable cancellation of positive and negative structures in the lower part of the spectral function if one wants to shift the pion cloud to rms radii above 1.7 fm. This is in conflict with the bump-dip structure of Eq. (39), which results in a considerable amount of charge in the pion cloud above 1.7 fm, as seen in Fig. 6.

• The fit of FW is restricted to spacelike form factors. This approach cannot be extended to the timelike region, and another purely empirical fit would make little sense in view of the restricted data in this region. The dispersion relations, on the other hand, are built to make the connection between the two regions, and the results of BHM give a good overall description in both domains. However, they miss a structure at $E_{\text{beam}} \approx 1.05 \text{ GeV}$ or $t \approx 4.4 \text{ GeV}^2$.

In concluding these arguments, we mention that dispersion theory and FW agree on the dip seen for the magnetic form factors of both proton and neutron at $Q^2 \approx 0.2 \text{ GeV}^2$. There is also qualitative agreement that the charge and magnetization in the surface region of the nucleon, $r \ge 1$ fm, are dominated by the pion cloud, which reaches much beyond the rms radius of the proton. It remains a challenge for both experiment and theory to answer the questions raised concerning the distributions of charge and magnetization inside an nucleon, which we consider a key aspect of the nucleon structure.

D. Weak form factors of the nucleon

1. Axial form factor of the nucleon

The axial current of the nucleon can be studied by antineutrino and neutrino scattering, pion electroproduction, and radiative muon capture, see Bernard, Elouadrhiri, and Meißner (2002) and Gorringe and Fearing (2004) for recent reviews. The (isovector) axial current between nucleon states takes the form

$$A_{\mu} = \bar{u}_{p_2} \left(\gamma_{\mu} G_A(Q^2) + i \frac{(p_2 - p_1)_{\mu}}{2M} G_P(Q^2) \right) \gamma_5 u_{p_1}.$$
 (41)

As for the vector current, Eq. (11), there appear two form factors, the axial form factor G_A and the induced pseudoscalar form factor G_P . A linear combination of the form factors G_A and G_P is related to the pionnucleon form factor $G_{\pi N}$ by the partialy conserved axial current relation. Experimental information about the induced pseudoscalar form factor is limited. Data are mostly obtained from muon capture by the proton, $\mu^ +p \rightarrow n + \nu_{\mu}$. This determines the value of G_P at Q^2 =0.88 $m_{\mu}^2 \approx 0.01 \text{ GeV}^2$, which is usually described by the induced pseudoscalar coupling constant g_P $=(m_{\mu}/2M)G_P(Q^2=0.88m_{\mu}^2)$. A recent experiment at PSI yielded the value $g_P = 7.3 \pm 1.1$ (Andreev et al., 2007), in agreement with the result from heavy baryon CPT (Bernard, Elouadrhiri, and Meißner (2002), $g_P = 8.26 \pm 0.16$, and manifestly Lorentz-invariant CPT (Schindler et al.,



2007), $g_P = 8.29 \pm 0.7$, with an estimated error stemming mostly from truncation of the chiral expansion. The axial form factor G_A is usually parametrized in the dipole form of Eq. (37), with a parameter Λ_A called the axial mass,

$$G_A(Q^2) = g_A / (1 + Q^2 / \Lambda_A^2)^2$$
(42)

with $g_A = 1.2695(29)$ (Yao *et al.*, 2006). A recent (corrected) global average of the axial mass as determined by neutrino scattering was given by Budd *et al.* (2003),

$$\Lambda_A^{\nu} = 1.001 \pm 0.020 \text{ GeV}.$$
 (43)

However, a different value, $\Lambda_A^{\nu} = 1.20 \pm 0.12$ GeV, was derived by the K2K Collaboration from quasielastic $\nu_{\mu}n \rightarrow \mu^{-}p$ in oxygen nuclei (Gran *et al.*, 2006). The axial form factor has also been studied by pion electroproduction (Baumann, 2005). The Rosenbluth separation of these data is shown in Fig. 10. The results are in agreement with an earlier experiment by Liesenfeld et al. (1999), but are complemented by a data point at the very low momentum transfer of $Q^2=0.058$ GeV². An exact Rosenbluth separation is a prerequisite because the transverse cross section σ_T is sensitive to G_A and the longitudinal cross section to the pion form factor F_{π} , which is discussed Sec. III.E. These electroproduction data have been analyzed with MAID2007 as follows: (I) The cross sections σ_T and σ_L of MAID were normalized to the data by factors 0.825 and 0.809, respectively, and (II) the axial dipole mass Λ_A and the corresponding mass for the monopole form of the pion form factor were fitted. The result is $\Lambda_A^{\pi} = 1.028 \pm 0.025$ GeV. However, this value has to be corrected for the axial mass discrepancy, $\Lambda_A^{\pi} - \Lambda_A^{\nu} \approx 0.055$ MeV, which is due to loop corrections (Bernard et al., 1992). With this correction, the electroproduction data of Baumann (2005) yielded

$$\Lambda_A^{\rm corr} = 0.973 \pm 0.025 \,\,{\rm GeV},\tag{44}$$

which agrees with the corrected value from neutrino scattering given by Eq. (43), but disagrees with both the previous result of Liesenfeld *et al.* (1999) and the measurement of Gran *et al.* (2006). In view of the relatively large normalization factor applied to the electroproduc-

FIG. 10. (Color online) The transverse and longitudinal cross sections for charged pion production as a function of Q^2 . Data are from Baumann (2005). Dashed lines, cross sections predicted by MAID2007 (Drechsel *et al.*, 2007); solid lines, fit to the data with MAID2007 (see text for details). Courtesy of L. Tiator.

tion data, it would be helpful to check the normalization at $Q^2=0$ by pion photoproduction.

2. Strangeness content of the nucleon

As outlined in Sec. II.C, the parity violating component of electron scattering provides access to the weak form factors \tilde{G}_E and \tilde{G}_M . These form factors are related to the strangeness content of the nucleon by the universality of the electroweak interaction with quarks. For a derivation of the strange form factors and their experimental determination see, e.g., Beck and McKeown (2001). Because the strangeness in the nucleon appears only through the presence of the heavy $s\bar{s}$ pairs, these observables are of great importance for our understanding of the nucleon in terms of large vs small scales. The strangeness content is related to the σ term, which has been derived from pion-nucleon scattering at the (unphysical) Cheng-Dashen point, $s=u=M^2$, $t=2m_{\pi}^2$ (Thomas and Weise, 2001; Sainio, 2002). This term is a direct measure of the chiral symmetry breaking in QCD, the chiral properties of the strong interactions, and the impact of sea quarks on the nucleon's properties. Its relation to the strangeness contribution is given by

$$\sigma = \langle N | \bar{m}(\bar{u}u + dd - 2\bar{s}s) | N \rangle / (1 - y), \tag{45}$$

where $\bar{m} = (m_u + m_d)/2$ is the average of the *u* and *d* quark masses and *y* is a measure for the scalar strange quark content of the nucleon,

$$y = 2\langle N|\bar{s}s|N\rangle/\langle N|\bar{u}u + dd|N\rangle.$$
(46)

From a detailed analysis, Pavan *et al.* (2002) found the value $y \approx 0.46$, indeed a surprisingly large strangeness content in the nucleon, whereas a much smaller value was obtained in earlier work (Sainio, 2002). These inconsistencies were a strong motive to study the strangeness content with the electromagnetic probe. At large momentum transfer, $1 \le Q^2 \le 100 \text{ GeV}^2$, the strangeness contribution has been derived from unpolarized deepinelastic lepton scattering at the Fermi Laboratory Tevatron (Bazarko *et al.*, 1995). The momentum fraction of sea quarks carried by strange quarks extracted is

$$\kappa = \langle x[s(x) + \bar{s}(x)] \rangle / \langle x[\bar{u}(x) + d(x)] \rangle \approx 0.5, \tag{47}$$

or about 3% of the total nucleon momentum. If this contribution is extrapolated to large spatial scales by the quark evolution, a small value is obtained.

On the theoretical side a plethora of nucleon models have usually predicted strangeness form factors of considerable size; see, e.g., Beck and Holstein (2001). These considerations have initiated an intense experimental program at several laboratories. These activities started at the Bates/MIT laboratory with the SAMPLE experiment, which first proved that it is feasible to measure the small asymmetries of order 10^{-6} in parity-violating electron scattering (Spayde et al., 2004; Kowalski, 2006). This experiment was based on a particular technique using Cherenkov detectors developed previously for a parityviolation experiment at the Mainz linac (Heil et al., 1989) and an improvement of the SLAC polarized electron source (Souder et al., 1990). At the Mainz Microtron MAMI, the A4 Collaboration built a Cherenkov detector consisting of 1022 PbF₂ crystals, which in conjunction with electronics allowing for on-line identification of electromagnetic clusters made it possible to count single events (Maas, 2006). Furthermore, two experiments were performed at the Jefferson Laboratory. The first of these experiments (HAPPEX) used the twospectrometer setup of Hall A taking advantage of a pair of septum magnets for measurements at very small scattering angles and low momentum transfers. This project was passing through different phases of improvement. HAPPEX-I measured on a hydrogen target (Aniol et al., 2004) at $Q^2 = 0.48$ GeV² only. In this geometry the combination $G_E^s + 0.392 G_M^s = 0.014 \pm 0.020 \pm 0.010$ was determined. In the next step HAPPEX-II measured on both hydrogen (Aniol et al., 2006a) and helium targets (Aniol et al., 2006b). The nucleus ⁴He is special as a target, because only the electric form factor can contribute due to its zero total spin. The results of HAPPEX are compared to those of other collaborations in Fig. 11. Each measurement gives an error band in the plot of G_E^s versus G_M^s . The common error ellipse indicates values for $G_E(0.1 \text{ GeV}^2)$ and $G_M(0.1 \text{ GeV}^2)$ that are consistent with zero but at variance with most theoretical predictions, however, not incompatible with experiments obtained with the other methods mentioned above. Recently the second phase of HAPPEX-II was completed, with the result of a much improved precision (Acha et al., 2007). These results are compared with several theoretical predictions in Fig. 12. From Fig. 12, the strangeness form factors are centered about zero, whereas most models predict large values. The only theoretical results compatible with these experiments are from lattice gauge calculations with chiral extrapolation to the physical pion mass (Lewis et al., 2003; Leinweber et al., 2005), 2006). The second Jefferson Laboratory experiment was performed by the G0 Collaboration. This collaboration has built an eight-sector superconducting toroidal magnetic spectrometer (Armstrong et al., 2005). Figure 13 displays the Q^2 dependence of the world data including



FIG. 11. (Color online) The strangeness form factors G_E^s and G_M^s at $Q^2=0.1 \text{ GeV}^2$ as obtained by the SAMPLE, A4, HAPPEX, and G0 experiments. The bands represent the 1σ (statistical plus systematical) error of the individual experiments, the ellipse is the combined 2σ area for all measurements. From Kowalski, 2006.

the G0 results. From this figure we get the impression of a small but finite value for that particular combination of the two strangeness form factors.

E. Form factor of mesons

Because mesons are unstable particles, their form factors cannot be measured directly by lepton scattering



FIG. 12. (Color online) The 1σ band of HAPPEX-II together with the 1σ and 2σ ellipses derived by Acha *et al.* (2007). The theoretical predictions with their estimate errors are identified by the following numbers: [18] Park and Weigel (1992), [19] Hammer *et al.* (1996), [20] Hammer and Ramsey-Musolf (1999), [21] Silva *et al.* (2002), [22] Lewis *et al.* (2003), and [23] Leinweber *et al.* (2005), Leinweber (2006).



FIG. 13. (Color online) The form factor combination $G_E^s(Q^2)$ + $\eta G_M^s(Q^2)$ as obtained by kinematical extrapolation from A4, HAPPEX II, and G0 experiments. The point HAPPEX III indicates the error bar for a planned measurement. From Kowalski, 2006.

but have to be obtained by more indirect methods. In the following we concentrate on the form factor of the charged pion, however, similar methods can also be used to measure the form factors of heavier mesons or rare decays (Guidal et al., 1997; Vanderhaeghen et al., 1998). At present, only data for the pion are precise enough to allow for reliable extraction of the form factors over a large region of momentum transfer. There exist two experimental methods to overcome the missing target problem. The first method is the scattering of relativistic mesons with a dilated lifetime on atomic electrons, which are then identified by measuring the recoil of the struck electron. This method is limited to relatively small momentum transfer, $Q^2 < 0.5 \text{ GeV}^2$. As a consequence, this method is sensitive to the rms radius of the free pion $r_{\pi} = \sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle_{\pi}}$, which is related to the mass parameter Λ^2_{π} in the usual monopole form as follows:

$$F_{\pi}(Q^2) = 1/(1+Q^2/\Lambda_{\pi}^2) = 1 - \frac{1}{6}Q^2 \langle r^2 \rangle_{\pi} + O(Q^4).$$
(48)

From an experiment at the CERN SPS, Amendolia *et al.* (1984, 1986b) derived the rms charge radius of the pion r_{π} =0.663±0.006 fm. At the same time the kaon form factor was also measured (Amendolia *et al.*, 1986a). The rms charge radius of the charged kaon was found to be r_K =0.58±0.05 fm, somewhat smaller than the pion radius, which is to be expected because of the heavier strange quark in the kaon. Because of the small momentum transfer involved, these results depend only a little on the monopole form of the ansatz.

The second possibility to study the pion form factor is given by electron scattering on the pion cloud of the nucleon, which is part of the reaction $p(e,e'\pi^+)n$. The problem is that the initially bound pion is off its massshell and that many other diagrams contribute as well. The idea is therefore to study this process in kinematic regions for which the *t*-channel pion exchange is dominant. In principle one should extrapolate the cross section to the pion pole, which, however, lies at the unphysical four-momentum transfer $t=m_{\pi}^2$. At very high



FIG. 14. (Color online) The pion form factor F_{π} multiplied with Q^2 . Crosses, Amendolia *et al.* (1984, 1986b) (π -*e* scattering at CERN); asterisks, Ackermann *et al.* (1978) (DESY); diamonds, Brauel *et al.* (1977, 1979) (DESY); circles, Tadevosyan *et al.* (2007) (Jefferson Laboratory); and squares, Horn *et al.* (2006) (Jefferson Laboratory). Experimental results are compared to four model calculations as indicated by the lines. From Horn *et al.*, 2006.

momentum transfer, $Q^2 \gg 1$ GeV², this extrapolation can be performed within the Regge model (Vanderhaeghen et al., 1998). Following this approach, Horn et al. (2006) have determined F_{π} by a Rosenbluth separation of the longitudinal and transverse cross sections at Jefferson Laboratory. In this way they extracted two precise values of the pion form factor at $Q^2 = 1.60$ and 2.45 GeV², which are shown together with previous data and several model calculations in Fig. 14. Besides the model dependence on the Regge analysis, another problem arises because the data at the higher momentum transfer do not follow the monopole form, i.e., the value of Λ_{π}^2 differs by as much as 7% from $\Lambda_{\pi}^2=0.53 \text{ GeV}^2$ as obtained by Amendolia *et al.* (1986b). This leads to an inconsistency of about 1 standard deviation. At small values of O^2 one can also try to derive the rms radius from pion electroproduction as pointed out in Sec. III.D.1. A previous result yielded $\Lambda_{\pi}^2 = 0.425$ GeV², equivalent to an rms radius $r_{\pi}=0.74\pm0.03$ fm (Liesenfeld *et al.*, 1999). This result is at variance with the value of Amendolia et al. (1986b). A reason for this discrepancy was given by Bernard et al. (2000), in terms of the loop corrections for the longitudinal s-wave multipole $L_{0+}^{(-)}$, which dominates the cross section σ_L at small Q^2 . In fact, these loop corrections increase the downward slope of $L_{0+}^{(-)}$ substantially, such that

$$\langle r^2 \rangle_{\pi} [p(e, e' \, \pi^+) n] = \langle r^2 \rangle_{\pi} + 0.266 \, \text{fm}^2.$$
 (49)

With the pion radius according to Amendolia *et al.* (1984, 1986b), $\langle r^2 \rangle_{\pi} = 0.440$ fm², the electroproduction experiment should therefore measure $\langle r^2 \rangle_{\pi} [p(e, e'\pi^+)n] = 0.706$ fm² or an "effective" rms radius of 0.84 fm, which is surprisingly close to the nucleon radius. The fit

with MAID07 to the data of Baumann (2005) yields Λ_{π}^2 =0.386±0.042 GeV², which is smaller than the result of Liesenfeld *et al.* (1999). If we include the loop correction, we obtain r_{π} =0.78±0.04 fm, which is close to the prediction of CPT. Of course, there are weak points in our reasoning. In the first place, there is the already discussed overall reduction of the MAID model to fit the data. Second, the *s* wave yields only about half of the measured cross section, and much smaller loop corrections are expected for higher partial waves. Nevertheless, we conclude that the virtual constituent pion looks different from the free pion and appears, in this particular experiment, nearly as large as the nucleon.

Because the neutral pion is its own antiparticle, its form factor vanishes identically. However, the reaction $\gamma^*(Q^2) + \gamma \rightarrow \pi^0$ can be studied as function of Q^2 . This provides information on the transition form factor $F_{\gamma^*\gamma\pi^0}$ of the Wess-Zumino-Witten anomaly defined by Eq. (4) of Sec. I. As shown in Sec. IV this anomaly is important in Compton scattering and in particular for the spin polarizability of the nucleon. The transition form factor $F_{\gamma^*\gamma\pi^0}$ was measured at the e^+e^- Collider at Cornell by the CLEO Collaboration (Gronberg et al., 1998) and at the PETRA storage ring by the CELLO Collaboration (Behrend et al., 1991). Analyzed with a monopole form factor as given by Eq. (48), these experiments yielded the parameter $\Lambda_{\gamma * \gamma \pi^0} = 776 \pm 10 \pm 12 \pm 16$ MeV, and similarly for the corresponding transition form factor of the η meson $\Lambda_{\gamma * \gamma \eta} = 774 \pm 11 \pm 16 \pm 22$ MeV. Both results confirm the prediction of the vector dominance model assuming that the virtual photon coexists with the neutral ρ meson, which decays in a pion or an η and a real photon. The Q^2 dependence of the transition is then given by the propagator of ρ , that is, $\Lambda \approx m_{\rho}$ =775.5 MeV for both reactions. With the same arguments as for ordinary form factors, we can turn this value into a transition radius $r_{WZW} = 0.62$ fm.

IV. POLARIZABILITIES

The polarizability measures the response of a system to a quasistatic electromagnetic field. In particular the energy of a homogeneous and isotropic system is described by the electric (α_{E1}) and magnetic (β_{M1}) dipole polarizabilities. In the case of a macroscopic system these polarizabilities are related to the dielectric constant ε and the magnetic permeability μ . The classical theory of Lorentz describes the dispersion in a medium in terms of electrons bound by a harmonic force. In the presence of a static and uniform electric field \vec{E}_0 , the Hamiltonian of the harmonic oscillator takes the form

$$H = \vec{p}^2 / 2m + m\omega_0^2 \vec{r}^2 / 2 + \tilde{e}\vec{r} \cdot \dot{E}_0.$$
(50)

We note that Gaussian units are used in this section in order to concur with the standard notation of classical electrodynamics, i.e., the fine structure constant is related to the charge by $\alpha_{\rm em} = \tilde{e}^2 \approx 1/137$. Elsewhere we use Heaviside-Lorentz units, i.e., $\alpha_{\rm em} = e^2/4\pi \approx 1/137$. Sub-

stituting $\vec{r} = \vec{r'} + \Delta \vec{r}$, where $\Delta \vec{r} = -\tilde{e}\vec{E}_0/m\omega_0^2$ is the displacement due to the electric field, we rewrite Eq. (50) as

$$H = \vec{p}^2 / 2m + m\omega_0^2 \vec{r}'^2 / 2 + \Delta E, \qquad (51)$$

that is, the applied electric field has induced a dipole moment \vec{d} and an energy shift ΔE ,

$$\vec{d} = -\tilde{e}\Delta\vec{r} = \frac{\alpha_{\rm em}}{m\omega_0^2}\vec{E}_0, \quad \Delta E = -\frac{\alpha_{\rm em}}{2m\omega_0^2}\vec{E}_0^2.$$
 (52)

The electric dipole polarizability α_{E1} is obtained by varying the induced dipole moment or the energy shift with regard to the electric field,

$$\alpha_{E1} = \delta \vec{d} / \delta \vec{E}_0 = -\delta^2 \Delta E / (\delta \vec{E}_0)^2 = \alpha_{\rm em} / m \omega_0^2.$$
 (53)

This result is quite general and also valid for quantum mechanical systems. The energy shift to first order (linear Stark effect) vanishes for a system with good parity, and if the ground state is spherically symmetric, the second order (quadratic Stark effect) yields

$$\Delta E = -\alpha_{\rm em} \sum_{n>0} \frac{|\langle n|z|0\rangle|^2}{\epsilon_n - \epsilon_0} \vec{E}_0^2, \tag{54}$$

with the electric field pointing along the z axis, and ϵ_n the energies of the eigenstates $|n\rangle$. Combining Eqs. (53) and (54), we obtain the (quasistatic) electric dipole polarizability

$$\alpha_{E1} = 2\alpha_{\rm em} \sum_{n>0} \frac{|\langle n|z|0\rangle|^2}{\epsilon_n - \epsilon_0}.$$
(55)

As an example for a classical extended object we quote the polarizabilities of a small dielectric and permeable sphere with radius a (Jackson, 1975),

$$\alpha_{E1} = \frac{\epsilon - 1}{\epsilon + 2} a^3, \quad \beta_{M1} = \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu + 2} a^3.$$
(56)

The polarizabilities for a perfectly conducting sphere are obtained from Eq. (56) in the limits $\epsilon \rightarrow \infty$ and $\mu \rightarrow 0$, $\alpha_{E1} = a^3$ and $\beta_{M1} = -\frac{1}{2}a^3$. Up to a factor $4\pi/3$, the electric polarizability of a conducting sphere is the volume of the sphere. Because of the different boundary conditions for the magnetic field, the magnetic polarizability turns out negative. The induced currents in the conductor lead to a magnetization opposite to the applied field according to Lenz's law, i.e., diamagnetism. A permeable sphere can be diamagnetic ($\mu < 1$) or paramagnetic ($\mu > 1$), in the latter case the magnetic moments are already preformed and become aligned in the presence of the external field. Whereas the magnetic polarizabilities of atoms and molecules are usually very small, $|\mu - 1| \leq 10^{-2}$, the electric polarizabilities may be large compared to the volume. For example, with a static dielectric constant of $\varepsilon = 81$, water is a nearly perfect conductor, although in the visible range this constant is down to $\varepsilon = 1.8$, corresponding to a refraction index n=1.34. A further, quantum mechanical example is the hydrogen atom. Its ground state has good parity and spherical symmetry and therefore Eq. (55) applies. It is even possible to sum

over excited states and to obtain the closed form $\alpha_{E1}({}^{1}H) = \frac{9}{2}a_{B}^{3}$, where a_{B} is the Bohr radius (Merzbacher, 1970). With an rms radius given by $\langle r^{2} \rangle = 3a_{B}^{2}$, the equivalent hard sphere has the radius $R = \sqrt{5}a_{B}$, and as a result the hydrogen atom is a pretty good conductor, α_{E1} /volume $\approx 1/10$.

In the following we discuss the polarizabilities of the nucleon (Secs. IV.A and IV.B) and pion (Sec. IV.C). Both particles are very rigid objects. They are held together by strong interactions, and the applied electromagnetic field cannot easily deform the charge distribution. If compared to macroscopic matter, the nucleon is a dielectric medium with $\varepsilon \approx 1.002$, that is a very good insulator. Furthermore, magnetic effects are *a priori* of the same order as electric ones because the charged constituents, the quarks and mesons, move close to the speed of light. However, the diamagnetic effects of the pion cloud and the paramagnetic effects of the quark core of the nucleon tend to cancel, with the result of a relatively small net value of β_{M1} . The polarizability of the nucleon can be measured by Compton scattering: The incoming photon deforms the nucleon, and by measuring the energy and angular distributions of the outgoing photon one can determine the induced current and magnetization densities. Particularly interesting is the case of virtual Compton scattering (VCS), which yields information on the spatial distribution of the polarization densities. Furthermore, the nucleon has a spin and therefore polarized nucleons appear as anisotropic objects. This leads to the spin or vector polarizabilities whose closest parallel in classical physics is the Faraday effect.

A. Real Compton scattering

The reaction $\gamma(q,\varepsilon) + N(p,\lambda) \rightarrow \gamma(q',\varepsilon') + N(p',\lambda')$ involves the absorption of an incident real photon with four-momentum q and polarization ε on a nucleon with four-momentum p and polarization λ , leading to a spectrum of intermediate hadronic states, which finally decay by the emission of a real photon leaving the nucleon back in its ground state. Typical intermediate states are shown diagrammatically in Fig. 15, and Fig. 16 shows the contributions of these diagrams to the differential cross section. For a point Dirac particle only Figs. 15(a) and 15(b), with a nucleon in the intermediate state, would contribute. These two nucleon Born terms yield singularities for the (unphysical) kinematics $s=M^2$ and u $=M^2$, respectively. The differential cross section for such a point nucleon was first calculated by Klein and Nishina (1929). The predicted cross section increases by adding the Pauli current, i.e., the anomalous magnetic moment of the nucleon. The result is the Powell cross section (Powell, 1949). If we further add the pion pole term of Fig. 15(f), the cross section falls back towards the Klein-Nishina values. The pion pole term has a singularity at $t=m_{\pi}^2$, it results from the decay $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$ as a consequence of the axial anomaly derived by Wess and Zumino (1971) and Witten (1983). This term is often re-

FIG. 15. Typical intermediate states contributing to Compton scattering off the nucleon. Top row: (a) Direct and (b) crossed Born diagrams with intermediate nucleons, a typical resonance excitation in the (c) *s*-channel and (d) its crossed version. Bottom row: mesonic contributions with photon scattering off (e) an intermediate pion, (f) the pion pole diagram, and a correlated two-pion exchange such as (g) the " σ meson."

ferred to as a triangle anomaly because the vertex $\pi\gamma\gamma$ can be microscopically described by a triangular quark loop, a diagram not allowed in any classical theory and only appearing due to the renormalization process of quantum field theory. As we see from Fig. 16, the pion pole term yields a large contribution for backward angles. All further contributions in Fig. 15 do not have pole structures, but correspond to excited states in *s*-, *u*-, or *t*-channel processes. As such they yield dispersive contributions that determine the polarizabilities of the nucleon. If we include only the electric and magnetic dipole polarizabilities, we obtain the low energy expansion (LEX) in Fig. 16. This expansion describes the data



FIG. 16. Differential cross section for Compton scattering off the proton as a function of the photon laboratory energy E_{γ} and at scattering angle $\theta_{\text{lab}} \approx 135^{\circ}$. Lines show the results of fixed-*t* subtracted dispersion relations (solid), Klein-Nishina (small dots), Powell (dashed), Powell plus π^0 pole (large dots), and LEX including the leading order contributions of α_{E1}^p and β_{M1}^p (dash-dotted). Experimental data are from Federspiel *et al.* (1991); MacGibbon *et al.* (1995); and Olmos de Leon *et al.* (2001). From Drechsel *et al.*, 2003.

only up to a photon laboratory energy of about 80 MeV, over a region in which polarization effects are small and the data scatter. Therefore analysis of current data has been based on dispersion relations whose results are shown by the solid line in the figure. Clearly higher order terms become more important with increasing photon energy, particularly after crossing the pion threshold (seen as a kink at about 150 MeV), from thereon the energy increases sharply towards the $\Delta(1232)$ resonance.

1. Compton amplitudes and polarizabilities

Assuming invariance under parity, charge conjugation, and time reversal symmetry, the general amplitude for real Compton scattering (RCS) can be expressed by six independent structure functions $A_i(\nu,t)$ depending on the two Lorentz invariant variables $\nu = (s-u)/(4M)$ and t, see Eq. (7) for the definitions. These variables are related to the initial (E_{γ}) and final (E'_{γ}) photon laboratory energies, and to the laboratory scattering angle θ_{lab} as follows:

$$t = -4E_{\gamma}E'_{\gamma}\sin^{2}(\theta_{\text{lab}}/2) = -2M(E_{\gamma} - E'_{\gamma}),$$

$$\nu = E_{\gamma} + t/4M = \frac{1}{2}(E_{\gamma} + E'_{\gamma}).$$
(57)

Note that for $\theta_{lab}=0$ (forward scattering) the Mandelstam variable *t* vanishes and the crossing-odd variable ν is simply the incident photon laboratory energy E_{γ} .

The general RCS scattering matrix takes the form

$$T_{fi} = \varepsilon_{\mu} \varepsilon_{\nu}^{'*} \bar{u}_{f}(p', \lambda_{N}') H^{\mu\nu} u_{i}(p, \lambda_{N}), \qquad (58)$$

where u and \bar{u} are the nucleon spinors. The Compton tensor $H^{\mu\nu}$ contains the hadronic transition currents J_{μ} and J_{ν} as well as the propagation of the intermediate hadronic state. It can be decomposed into a complete basis of six tensor structures constructed from the independent momentum four-vectors and appropriate Dirac matrices (Prange, 1958; L'vov, 1981),

$$H^{\mu\nu} = \sum_{i=1,6} \mathcal{M}_i^{\mu\nu} A_i(\nu, t).$$
 (59)

For further details, see Drechsel et al. (2003).

We now consider the forward scattering of a real photon by a nucleon. The incident photon is characterized by the Lorentz vector of momentum, $q = (|\vec{q}|, \vec{q})$, and transverse polarization, $\varepsilon_{\lambda} = (0, \vec{\varepsilon}_{\lambda})$, with $q \cdot q = 0$ for real photons and $\varepsilon_{\lambda} \cdot q = 0$. The corresponding quantum numbers of the outgoing photon are denoted by primed quantities. If the incident photon moves in the direction of the z axis, $\vec{q} = |\vec{q}| \hat{e}_z$, the polarization vectors

$$\vec{\varepsilon}_{\pm} = \mp (1/\sqrt{2})(\hat{e}_x \pm i\hat{e}_y) \tag{60}$$

correspond to circularly polarized light with helicities $\lambda = +1$ (right-handed) and $\lambda = -1$ (left-handed). The forward Compton amplitude takes the form

$$T(\nu, \theta = 0) = \vec{\varepsilon}'^* \cdot \vec{\varepsilon} f(\nu) + i\vec{\sigma} \cdot (\vec{\varepsilon}'^* \times \vec{\varepsilon}) g(\nu).$$
(61)

Because T is invariant under the crossing transformation, $\varepsilon'^* \leftrightarrow \varepsilon$ and $\nu \rightarrow -\nu$, f must be even and g odd as a function of ν . These forward scattering amplitudes have the low-energy expansion (Gell-Mann and Goldberger, 1954; Low, 1954)

$$f(\nu) = -e^2 e_N^2 / 4\pi M + (\alpha_{E1} + \beta_{M1})\nu^2 + O(\nu^4), \qquad (62)$$

$$g(\nu) = -e^2 \kappa_N^2 \nu / 8 \pi M^2 + \gamma_0 \nu^3 + O(\nu^5), \qquad (63)$$

with e_N the charge of the nucleon in units of e and κ_N the anomalous magnetic moment in units of nuclear magnetons. The leading contribution to $f(\nu)$ is the Thomson term familiar from nonrelativistic theory. The term linear in ν vanishes due to the crossing symmetry, and the term $O(\nu^2)$ contains the sum of the scalar polarizabilities giving information on the internal structure. Being odd under crossing, the spin-flip amplitude $g(\nu)$ starts with the term $O(\nu)$ proportional to the square of the anomalous magnetic moment, and its next order term is described by the forward spin polarizability γ_0 . The leading terms for both amplitudes are obtained from the pole terms typical for a pointlike particle, whereas the polarizabilities are contained in the subleading terms. As is evident from the above equations, the scalar and spin polarizabilities have different units. In the following all scalar polarizabilities are given in units of 10^{-4} fm³, while the vector or spin polarizabilites have units of 10⁻⁴ fm⁴. As detailed in Sec. VI.A, the forward scalar $(\alpha_{E1} + \beta_{M1})$ and forward spin (γ_0) polarizabilities of Eqs. (62) and (63) can be determined by energy-weighted integrals over the photoabsorption cross sections. In particular, Baldin's sum rule yields the following results for protons and neutrons (Babusci, Giordano, and Matone, 1998):

$$(\alpha_{E1} + \beta_{M1})_p = 13.69 \pm 0.14,$$

 $(\alpha_{E1} + \beta_{M1})_n = 14.40 \pm 0.66.$ (64)

The *T* matrix for general scattering angles is described by the six L'vov amplitudes $A_i(\nu, t)$. These amplitudes have no kinematical constraints, are symmetrical under crossing, and contain both the pole terms of Figs. 15(a), 15(b), and 15(f) and an integral over the excitation spectrum, which we call the dispersive amplitude,

$$A_{i}(\nu,t) = A_{i}^{\text{pole}}(\nu,t) + A_{i}^{\text{disp}}(\nu,t).$$
(65)

The polarizabilities are determined by the dispersive amplitudes at $\nu = t=0$, that is, at the threshold for RCS. This defines six real numbers $a_i = A_i^{\text{disp}}(0,0)$, from which we can derive two scalar and four vector (or spin) polarizabilities by linear combinations. In the scalar sector, we find the familiar electric (α_{E1}) and magnetic (β_{M1}) polarizabilities, which appear as $\alpha_{E1} + \beta_{M1}$ for forward and $\alpha_{E1} - \beta_{M1}$ for backward Compton scattering. The physical content of the four vector polarizabilities is best described in a multipole notation. Since the initial and final states contain a nucleon in its ground state with total spin $J = \frac{1}{2}$, the transition operator must have even parity and angular momentum 0 or 1. The electric polarizability describes the absorption of an electric dipole photon followed by the emission of a photon with the same multipolarity, that is $\alpha_{E1} \sim [E_1 \times E_1]^{[0]}$, and in the same way we find $\beta_{M1} \sim [M_1 \times M_1]^{[0]}$ with the multipoles coupled to 0 (scalar polarizabilities). In the spin-dependent sector there are four polarizabilities at the lowest order: γ_{E1E1} , γ_{M1M1} , γ_{M1E2} , and γ_{E1M2} . In this case the multipolarities are coupled to 1 (vector polarizabilities). As an example, $\gamma_{M1E2} \sim [M_1 \times E_2]^{[1]}$ defines a spin polarizability with an electric quadrupole absorption followed by a magnetic dipole emission. It is useful to define the forward (θ =0) and backward (θ = π) polarizabilities also in the spin-dependent sector,

$$\gamma_0 = -\gamma_{E1E1} - \gamma_{M1M1} - \gamma_{M1E2} - \gamma_{E1M2},$$
(66)

$$\gamma_{\pi} = -\gamma_{E1E1} + \gamma_{M1M1} + \gamma_{M1E2} - \gamma_{E1M2}.$$
 (67)

It is of course possible to define higher polarizabilities related to the ν and t derivatives of $A_i^{\text{disp}}(\nu, t)$ taken at $\nu=t=0$. An often discussed example is the electric quadrupole polarizability, which appears among the terms of $O(\nu^4)$ in Eq. (62).

2. Theoretical developments

In a nonrelativistic approach like the constituent quark model (CQM), the scalar dipole polarizabilities can be expressed by

$$\alpha_{E1} = 2\alpha_{\rm em} \sum_{n\neq 0} \frac{|\langle n|d_z|0\rangle|^2}{E_n - E_0} + \Delta\alpha_{E1},\tag{68}$$

$$\beta_{M1} = 2\alpha_{\rm em} \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{|\langle n | \mu_z | 0 \rangle|^2}{E_n - E_0} + \Delta \beta_{M1}, \tag{69}$$

where $\vec{d} = \sum \vec{d}_q = \sum e_q \vec{r}_q$ and $\vec{\mu} = \sum \vec{\mu}_q$ are sums over the electric and magnetic dipole operators of the constituents. For simplicity the quark masses may be taken as $m_q = \frac{1}{3}M$, and the quark charges e_q are in units of e. Clearly the first terms on the rhs of the above equations are positive because the excitation energy $E_n - E_0$ is positive. The second terms describe recoil and retardation, $\Delta \alpha_{E1} = \alpha_{\rm em} \langle 0 | \Sigma e_q \vec{r}_q^2 | 0 \rangle / 3M$ and $\Delta \beta_{M1} = -\alpha_{\rm em} \langle 0 | \vec{d}^2$ $+\Sigma d_a^2 |0\rangle/2M$. These are small corrections in atomic physics but quite sizeable for the quark dynamics of the nucleon. They turn out positive for α_{E1} but negative for β_{M1} . The leading term of the magnetic polarizability describes the paramagnetism, mainly by a quark spin-flip transition from the nucleon to $\Delta(1232)$, while the subleading term represents Langevin's diamagnetism. The simple CQM with an oscillator potential connects the rms radius $\langle r^2 \rangle^{1/2}$ with the oscillator frequency ω_0 =3/ $M\langle r^2 \rangle$, and yields $\alpha_{E1}=2\alpha_{\rm em}/M\omega_0^2+O(M^{-2})$. However, this model is not able to describe both size and excitation energy. If we use the proper size, α_{E1} is grossly overestimated, whereas a fit to the excitation en-

753

ergy of the dominant dipole mode N^* (1520) leads to a value much below the experiment. For the magnetic polarizability, the *M*1 transition to $\Delta(1232)$ yields a large paramagnetic value, $\beta_{M1}^{\Delta} \approx 12$, which is reduced by subleading diamagnetic terms. It was therefore recognized early that a complete picture of the nucleon must also include the pion cloud (Weiner and Weise, 1985).

Systematic calculations of pion cloud effects became possible with the development of chiral perturbation theory (CPT), an expansion in the external momenta and the pion or quark mass (*p* expansion). The first calculation of Compton scattering in that scheme was performed by Bernard, Kaiser, and Meißner (1991). Keeping only the leading term in $1/m_{\pi}$, they found the following relation at $O(p^3)$:

$$\alpha_{E1} = 10\beta_{M1} = 5\alpha_{\rm em}g_A^2/96\pi f_\pi^2 m_\pi = 12.2, \tag{70}$$

with $f_{\pi} \approx 93$ MeV the pion decay constant and $g_A \approx 1.26$ the axial coupling constant. The calculation was later repeated in heavy-baryon CPT, which allows for a consistent chiral power counting, and extended to $O(p^4)$ yielding $\alpha_{E1}^p = 10.5 \pm 2.0$ and $\beta_{M1}^p = 3.5 \pm 3.6$ (Bernard *et al.*, 1993, 1994). The error bars for these values indicate that several low-energy constants appear at this order, which were determined by resonance saturation, that is by use of phenomenological information about resonances and vector mesons. Since $\Delta(1232)$ is close in energy and important for photoabsorption, it has been proposed to include this resonance dynamically. This leads to an additional expansion parameter, the $N\Delta$ mass splitting (ε expansion). Unfortunately, the "dynamical" Δ increases the polarizabilities to values far above the data, α_{F1}^p =16.4 and β_{M1}^{p} = 9.1 (Hemmert *et al.*, 1998). This can be changed by introducing large low-energy constants within a higher-order calculation, however, at the expense of losing the predictive power.

The spin polarizabilities have been calculated to $O(p^3)$ in both relativistic CPT (Bernard *et al.*, 1995) and heavybaryon CPT (Hemmert *et al.*, 1998). As an example we give the predictions of the latter reference:

$$\gamma_0 = 4.6 - 2.4 - 0.2 + 0 = 2.0, \tag{71}$$

$$\gamma_{\pi} = 4.6 + 2.4 - 0.2 - 43.5 = -36.7, \tag{72}$$

the four separate contributions referring to $N\pi$ loops, Δ poles, $\Delta\pi$ loops, and the pion pole, in order. From these results, the π^0 pole dominates the backward spin polarizability but does not contribute in the forward direction. Independent calculations of the forward spin polarizability to $O(p^4)$ resulted in γ_0 =-3.9 (Ji *et al.*, 2000; Birse *et al.*, 2001), which indicates a slow convergence of the expansion.

Because a reliable data analysis is based on dispersion relations (DRs), we recall some pertinent features of this technique in the following. The invariant amplitudes A_i are free of kinematical singularities and constraints, they also obey the crossing symmetry and gauge invariance.

Assuming further analyticity and an appropriate highenergy behavior, these amplitudes fulfill unsubtracted DRs at fixed t,

$$\operatorname{Re} A_{i}(\nu, t) = A_{i}^{\operatorname{pole}}(\nu, t) + \frac{2}{\pi} \mathcal{P} \int_{\nu_{0}}^{\infty} d\nu' \frac{\nu' \operatorname{Im} A_{i}(\nu', t)}{\nu'^{2} - \nu^{2}},$$
(73)

where A_i^{pole} is the nucleon pole term and \mathcal{P} denotes the principal value integral. The latter can be calculated if the absorptive part of the amplitude, $\text{Im } A_i$, is known to a sufficient accuracy. Because of energy weighting, the pion production near threshold and the mesonic decay of low-lying resonances yield the largest contributions to the integral. With existing information on these processes and reasonable assumptions on the lesser known higher part of the spectrum, the integrand can be constructed up to cm energies $W \approx 2$ GeV. However, Regge theory predicts that the amplitudes A_1 and A_2 do not drop sufficiently fast to warrant a convergence of the integral. This behavior is mainly due to fixed poles in the t channel. In particular the t-channel exchange of pions and σ mesons leads to the bad convergence for A_2 and A_1 , respectively. The latter meson has a mass of about 600 MeV and a very large width, it models correlations in the two-pion channel with spin zero and positive parity. In order to obtain useful results for these two amplitudes, L'vov *et al.* (1997) proposed to close the contour integral in the complex plane by a semicircle of finite radius $\nu_{\rm max}$, and to replace the contribution from the semicircle by a number of energy independent poles in the t channel. This procedure is relatively safe for A_2 because the π^0 pole or triangle anomaly is wellestablished by both experiment and theory. However, it introduces a considerable model dependence for A_1 .

In order to avoid the convergence problem and the phenomenology necessary to determine the asymptotic contributions, it was suggested to subtract the DRs at $\nu=0$ (Drechsel *et al.*, 2000). This subtraction improves the convergence by two additional powers of ν' in the denominator of the dispersion integrals, Eq. (73). The subtraction functions $A_i(\nu=0,t)$ can be obtained from subtracted DRs in t with the imaginary part of the amplitude $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \pi\pi \rightarrow N\bar{N}$ as input. In a first step, a unitarized amplitude for the $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \pi\pi$ subprocess is constructed from available experimental data. This information is then combined with the $\pi\pi \rightarrow NN$ amplitudes determined by analytical continuation of πN scattering amplitudes (Höhler, 1983). Once the t dependence of the subtraction functions $A_i(0,t)$ is known, the subtraction constants $a_i = A_i(0,0)$ have to be fixed. Although all six subtraction constants a_1 to a_6 could be used as fit parameters, it is sufficient to fit a_1 and a_2 , or equivalently $\alpha_{E1} - \beta_{M1}$ and γ_{π} to the data. The remaining four subtraction constants can be calculated through an unsubtracted dispersion integral. Yet another method is hyperbolic (fixed-angle) DRs, which improve the convergence for large values of t or backward scattering angles (Bernabeu et al., 1974; Holstein and Nathan, 1994; L'vov and Nathan, 1999). Holstein and Nathan (1994) investigated backward DRs in order to get rigorous bounds for the backward scalar polarizability of the proton. The important finding was that the phenomenological σ meson can be replaced by experimental information on the $\pi\pi$ continuum. Results of a recent analysis are $(\alpha_{E1} - \beta_{M1})_s$ =-5.6 and $(\alpha_{E1} - \beta_{M1})_t$ =16.5, leading to a total value of about 10.9 in good agreement with the data (Drechsel et al., 2003). The importance of the *t*-channel contribution has also been found in an analysis of the experimental data by Schumacher (2007) who obtained $(\alpha_{E1} - \beta_{M1})_t$ =15.2. We conclude that the polarizability of the nucleon is largely determined by the subprocess $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow \pi + \pi$, and therefore intertwined with correlations of the twopion system and the polarizability of the pion.

3. RCS data and extraction of the proton polarizabilities

The pioneering experiment in Compton scattering off the proton was by Gol'danski et al. (1960). They obtained an electric polarizability $\alpha_{E1}^p = 9 \pm 2$, with a large uncertainty in the normalization of the cross section giving rise to an additional systematical error of ± 5 . In a later experiment Baranov et al. (1975) used bremsstrahlung providing photons with energies up to 100 MeV. The data obtained were later reevaluated by DRs with the result $\alpha_{E1}^{p} \approx 12$ and $\beta_{M1}^{p} \approx -6$. This outcome was a surprise because one expected a large paramagnetic effect of at least $\beta_{\text{para}}^p \approx 10$ from the quark spin alignment in the $N \rightarrow \Delta(1232)$ transition. The first modern experiments were performed at Illinois (Federspiel et al., 1991), followed by the work of Hallin et al. (1993) and MacGibbon et al. (1995). With tagged photons at 70 $\leq E_{\gamma} \leq 100$ MeV and untagged photons for the higher energies, the latter group obtained $\alpha_{E1}^p = 12.1 \pm 0.8 \pm 0.5$ and $\beta_{M1}^p = 2.1 \pm 0.8 \pm 0.5$. New precision measurements at MAMI (Olmos de Leon et al., 2001) have been performed with tagged photons and the photon detector TAPS. The measured differential cross sections from various laboratories are shown in Fig. 17 as a function of the photon laboratory energy and at different scattering angles. The data have been compared to the results from four different types of DRs. The figure shows that the differences among the predicted results are hardly visible, except for the unsubtracted hyperbolic DR at θ_{lab} = 107° , because this angle is too much forward for this DR. A fit to all current low-energy data constrained by Baldin's sum rule of Eq. (64) yields (Olmos de Leon et al., 2001)

$$\alpha_{E1}^p = 12.1 \pm 0.3 \mp 0.4 \pm 0.3, \tag{74}$$

$$\beta_{M1}^p = 1.6 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.4, \tag{75}$$

in units of 10^{-4} fm³ and with errors denoting the statistical, systematical, and model-dependent errors, respectively. This new global average confirms the dominance of the electric polarizability α_{E1}^p and the small value of the magnetic polarizability β_{M1}^p , which comes about by a



FIG. 17. Differential cross section for Compton scattering off the proton as a function of the laboratory photon energy E_{γ} and at different scattering angles θ_{lab} . Solid lines, fixed-*t* subtracted DRs; dashed lines, fixed-*t* unsubtracted DRs; dotted lines, hyperbolic subtracted DRs; and dash-dotted lines, hyperbolic unsubtracted DRs. All results are shown for fixed values of $\alpha_{E1}^{p} + \beta_{M1}^{p} = 13.8$, $\alpha_{E1}^{p} - \beta_{M1}^{p} = 10$, and $\gamma_{\pi}^{p} = -37$. Data are from Olmos de Leon *et al.* (2001) (solid circles), Federspiel *et al.* (1991) (squares), MacGibbon *et al.* (1992) (open circles). From Drechsel *et al.*, 2003.

cancellation between the large paramagnetic *s*-channel contribution of the $N\Delta$ spin-flip transition and the smaller diamagnetic *t*-channel contribution of the pion cloud. The large improvement by new data is seen in Fig. 18, which displays the error ellipses in the $\alpha_{E1}^p - \beta_{M1}^p$ plane as obtained from recent experiments. For details of the experiments and their interpretation, see Schumacher (2005).

Much less is known about the spin sector, except for the forward and backward spin polarizabilities. The most recent values are

$$\gamma_0 = -0.94 \pm 0.15, \tag{76}$$

$$\gamma_\pi = \begin{cases} -36.1 \pm 2.2 & (\text{Olmos de Leon et al., 2001}) \\ -37.9 \pm 3.6 & (\text{Galler et al., 2001}) \\ -38.7 \pm 1.8 & (\text{Schumacher, 2005}) \end{cases}$$

in units of 10^{-4} fm⁴. The small value for γ_0 in Eq. (76) was not measured by Compton scattering but has been determined by a sum rule based on helicity-dependent absorption cross sections; see Sec. VI.A. The top line in Eq. (77) gives γ_{π} as determined from low-energy data (Olmos de Leon *et al.*, 2001), where case the error is dominated by the statistical plus systematical uncertainty, whereas the middle line refers to the work of Galler *et al.* (2001) who found that the model error pre-

vails in the Δ region, and the bottom line gives the weighted average of several MAMI results (Schumacher, 2005). For all other spin and higher order polarizabilities, both CPT and DR predict small values that cannot



FIG. 18. Contour plot of χ^2+1 for different measurements of α_{E1}^p and β_{M1}^p . The three dashed ellipses are obtained from Olmos de Leon *et al.* (2001); Federspiel *et al.* (1991); and MacGibbon *et al.* (1995) as indicated. Dashed area corresponds to the measurement of Zieger *et al.* (1992) at $\theta=180^\circ$, the area between the other two straight lines to the Baldin sum rule. The small ellipse drawn with the solid line is a common fit to all data. From Olmos de Leon *et al.*, 2001.

be determined without dedicated polarization studies. A new generation of experiments with polarized beams, polarized targets, and recoil polarimetry holds the promise to disentangle all scalar and vector polarizabilities of the nucleon and to quantify the proton's full spin response to an external electromagnetic field (Babusci, Giordano, L'vov, et al., 1998; Hildebrandt et al., 2004; Beane et al., 2005). The HIGS project (Weller, 2007) of a high-intensity beam with circularly polarized photons in an energy range 140-160 MeV is ideally suited to perform such experiments in the pion threshold region. Complementary investigations are planned in the first resonance region using the Crystal Ball detector at MAMI (Arends and Scherer, 2007). We believe that only a combination of these experimental projects will provide the "sharp knife" to extract the spin polarizabilities in an unambiguous way (Pasquini et al., 2007).

4. RCS data and extraction of the neutron polarizabilities

The experimental situation concerning the polarizabilities of the neutron is still quite unsatisfactory. The electric polarizability α_{E1}^n can in principle be measured by scattering low-energy neutrons on the Coulomb field of a heavy nucleus, whereas the magnetic polarizability β_{M1}^n remains essentially unconstrained by such an experiment. This technique seemed to be promising until the beginning of the 1990s, when Schmiedmayer *et al.* (1991) obtained the value $\alpha_{E1}^n = 12.6 \pm 1.5(\text{stat}) \pm 2.0(\text{syst})$ by scattering neutrons with energies 50 eV $\leq E_n$ ≤ 50 keV off a ²⁰⁸Pb target. Later, however, Nikolenko and Popov (1992) argued that the errors were underestimated by a factor of 5. These findings were confirmed by a similar experiment (Koester *et al.*, 1995) resulting in $\alpha_{E1}^n = 0 \pm 5$, and by Enik *et al.* (1997) who obtained 7 $\leq \alpha_{E1}^n \leq 19$ after a further analysis of the systematic errors.

The neutron polarizabilities can also be measured by quasifree Compton scattering off a bound neutron and elastic scattering on a deuteron. The former experiment was performed by Rose et al. (1990). Interpreted in conjunction with Baldin's sum rule, the result was $0 < \alpha_{E1}^n$ <14 with a mean value $\alpha_{E1}^n \approx 10.7$. The large error bar arises from the fact that the Thomson amplitude vanishes for a neutral particle, and therefore the interference between this term and the leading non-Born amplitude is also absent. It was therefore proposed to repeat such an experiment at higher energies and backward angles for which the sensitivity to $\alpha_{E1}^n - \beta_{M1}^n$ is highest. Because the data analysis is sensitive to final-state interactions and two-body currents, it was suggested to measure the polarizabilities of the bound proton at the same time. The proton values obtained by Wissmann et al. (1999) were quite promising, $\alpha_{E1}^p - \beta_{M1}^p = 10.3 \pm 1.7$ (stat +syst) ± 1.1 (mod). The experiment was then extended to the neutron by the CATS/SENECA Collaboration (Kossert et al., 2002). Data were collected for both deuterium and hydrogen targets and analyzed by Levchuk and L'vov (2000). The agreement between the polarizabilities of free and bound protons was satisfactory, and the final result for the (bound) neutron was

$$\alpha_{E1}^n - \beta_{M1}^n = 9.8 \pm 3.6(\text{stat})_{-1.1}^{+2.1}(\text{syst}) \pm 2.2(\text{mod}).$$
(78)

This value is compatible with an earlier datum of Kolb *et al.* (2000), obtained at similar energies and angles but with a much larger error bar, $\alpha_{E1}^n - \beta_{M1}^n \approx 12$. Comparison between the proton and neutron demonstrates that there is no significant isovector contribution to the scalar polarizabilities of the nucleon. Unfortunately, the experimental data from elastic photon scattering off a deuteron are much more prone to model errors. Such experiments have been performed at SAL (Hornidge *et al.*, 2000) and at MAX-laboratory (Lundin *et al.*, 2003), and within the formalism of Levchuk and L'vov (2000) the following results have been obtained:

$$\alpha_{E1}^{n} - \beta_{M1}^{n} = \begin{cases} -4.8 \pm 3.9 & \text{(Hornidge et al., 2000)} \\ +2.3 \pm 3.4 & \text{(Lundin et al., 2003).} \end{cases}$$
(79)

Altogether these numbers represent a small value of the backward scalar polarizability, which is difficult to understand on theoretical grounds. The quasifree Compton scattering experiments off a bound neutron also provided a first glimpse at the backward spin polarizability of the neutron. Whereas the large pion-pole contribution is negative for the proton, it carries a positive sign for the neutron. The dispersive contributions, on the other hand, are positive for both nucleons. As a result, we expect a large positive number for γ_{π}^{n} . This is consistent with the value

$$\gamma_{\pi}^{n} = 58.6 \pm 4.0,\tag{80}$$

obtained from a fit to quasifree Compton scattering off a bound neutron (Schumacher, 2005).

B. Generalized polarizability of the nucleon at $Q^2 > 0$

Virtual Compton scattering is formally obtained from real Compton scattering by replacing the incident real photon with a virtual photon γ^* . It is realized by a subprocess of the reaction $e+p \rightarrow e'+p'+\gamma$. As displayed in Fig. 19, the real photon can be emitted by either the electron or the proton. The former process, called Bethe-Heitler (BH) scattering, can be calculated from QCD, whereas the latter process is referred to as virtual Compton scattering (VCS). Because the two processes lead to the same final state, the amplitudes add coherently,

$$\mathcal{T}^{ee'\gamma} = \mathcal{T}^{\rm BH} + \mathcal{T}^{\rm VCS}.$$
(81)

The VCS amplitude T^{VCS} can be further decomposed into a Born and a non-Born contribution. For the Born contribution, the nucleon always remains in its ground state, and therefore this amplitude can be calculated once the (ground state) form factors of the nucleon are known. The non-Born term contains all contributions with excited intermediate states, that is nucleon reso-





FIG. 19. Contributions to the reaction $e+p \rightarrow e'+p'+\gamma$, (a) virtual Compton scattering on the proton, (b) Bethe-Heitler process. The blob in (a) represents both nucleon intermediate states (Born terms) and excited states of the nucleon (non-Born terms).

nances, pion-nucleon scattering states, and so on. The physics interest is, of course, in the non-Born amplitude because it contains information on the nucleon's internal structure in the form of generalized polarizabilities (GPs). These GPs depend on the virtuality Q^2 transferred by the virtual photon. The physics of VCS is visualized best if we consider the time-reversed version: As in RCS the real photon plays the role of a quasistatic electromagnetic field that induces a polarization of the charges, currents, and magnetizations whose spatial distributions are resolved by the virtual photon through variation of Q^2 . To lowest order in the energy, VCS is determined by six independent GPs, which can be determined by measuring the interference between the Bethe-Heitler and VCS amplitudes by means of angular distributions (Guichon et al., 1995) and doublepolarization asymmetries (Vanderhaeghen, 1997). A word of caution for the reader familiar with the formalism of meson electroproduction: the cross section for the reaction $e + N \rightarrow e' + N' + \gamma$ does not take the form of Eq. (28), which is based on particle production from the nucleon only. Instead, the final-state photon can be emitted from both the electron and the nucleon. The pioneering VCS experiment was at MAMI by Roche et al. (2000), and a first double-polarization experiment is underway. Further experiments have been performed at MIT Bates for very small Q^2 (Bourgeois *et al.*, 2006) and at Jefferson Laboratory for large Q^2 (Laveissiere *et al.*, 2004). From such experiments we find different spatial distributions for the diamagnetism and paramagnetism in the nucleon. Furthermore, the planned doublepolarization experiments will give direct comparison with the spin polarizabilities predicted by CPT, which are free of low-energy constants at leading order.

1. Kinematics and invariant amplitudes

In the following we consider only the subprocess

$$\gamma^*(q) + N(p) \to \gamma(q') + N(p'). \tag{82}$$

Because the spacelike virtual photon has a "mass" $q^2 = -Q^2$, the kinematic relations change with regard to the real photon case, Eq. (57), in particular

$$s + t + u = 2M^2 - Q^2, (83)$$

$$\nu = (s - u)/4M = E_{\gamma} + (t - Q^2)/4M, \qquad (84)$$

$$t = 2E'_{\gamma}(\cos \theta_{\rm lab} \sqrt{E_{\gamma}^2 + Q^2} - E_{\gamma}) - Q^2,$$
 (85)

with θ_{lab} the laboratory scattering angle, and E'_{γ} and E_{γ} the laboratory energies of the real and virtual photon, respectively. In the following we choose ν , t, and Q^2 as independent variables.

The VCS Compton tensor is constructed as for RCS, Eq. (58), except that the polarization four-vector of the virtual photon has three independent components, that is the helicities $\lambda = \pm 1$ (transverse polarization) and λ =0 (longitudinal polarization). The VCS tensor $\tilde{H}^{\mu\nu}$ can be expanded in a basis of 12 independent tensors with amplitudes depending on three variables,

$$\tilde{H}^{\mu\nu} = \sum_{i=1}^{12} \tilde{\mathcal{M}}_i^{\mu\nu} F_i(\nu, t, Q^2).$$
(86)

The number 12 is given by the possible choices for the helicities in the initial and final states, namely $3 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$ divided by two because of parity invariance. The same consideration yields eight for RCS, but this number is further reduced to six independent combinations by time reversal, which of course does not apply for VCS. It is possible to find a special tensor basis such that each term is gauge invariant, even under crossing and free of kinematical singularities and constraints (Drechsel *et al.*, 1998). Furthermore, only six amplitudes contribute for $Q^2 \rightarrow 0$, because four tensor structures and two amplitudes vanish in this limit. The result is six relations between the VCS amplitudes F_i and the RCS amplitudes A_i .

2. Generalized polarizabilities

If the emitted photons have small energies, the VCS experiments can be analyzed in terms of a low-energy expansion (LEX) as proposed by Guichon et al. (1995). In this approximation the non-Born part of the amplitudes is expanded in E'_{ν} and only the linear term is kept. This reduces the multipolarities of the emitted photon to electric and magnetic dipole radiation. Furthermore, the GPs are given by linear combinations of the amplitudes at threshold ($\nu=0, t=-Q^2$), which contains the definition of the polarizabilities for RCS in the limit $Q^2 \rightarrow 0$. We next discuss the multipole decomposition of the non-Born VCS tensor $\tilde{H}^{\mu\nu}_{nB}$ of Eq. (86) at small real photon energy, $q' \rightarrow 0$, but for arbitrary three-momentum q $\equiv |\vec{q}_{\rm cm}|$ of the virtual photon. For this purpose we denote the GPs by $P^{(\mathcal{M}'\ell',\mathcal{M}\ell)S}$ (Guichon *et al.*, 1995). In this notation, ℓ refers to the angular momentum and $\mathcal M$ to the electric (E), magnetic (M), or longitudinal (L) nature of the virtual photon, with the primed variables denoting

the real photons. Furthermore, the quantum number S differentiates between the spin-flip (S=1) and non-spin-flip (S=0) character of the hadronic transition. Within the LEX we use the dipole approximation, ℓ' =1. With this assumption, the conservation of angular momentum and parity restricts the number of GPs to 10 (Guichon *et al.*, 1995). Four more constraints are provided by nucleon crossing combined with charge conjugation symmetry, which leaves six independent GPs (Drechsel *et al.*, 1998),

$$P^{(L1,L1)0}(q), \quad P^{(M1,M1)0}(q),$$

$$P^{(L1,L1)1}(q), \quad P^{(M1,M1)1}(q),$$

$$P^{(M1,L2)1}(q), \quad P^{(L1,M2)1}(q).$$
(87)

We note that the transverse electric multipoles have been eliminated from the above equations because they differ from the longitudinal multipoles only by terms of higher order in q. In the limit $q \rightarrow 0$ one finds the following relations between the VCS and RCS polarizabilities (Drechsel *et al.*, 1998):

$$P^{(L1,L1)0} \to -(\sqrt{2}/\sqrt{3}\alpha_{\rm em})\alpha_{E1},$$

$$P^{(M1,M1)0} \to -(\sqrt{8}/\sqrt{3}\alpha_{\rm em})\beta_{M1},$$

$$P^{(L1,L1)1} \to 0, \quad P^{(M1,M1)1} \to 0,$$

$$P^{(L1,M2)1} \to -(\sqrt{2}/3\alpha_{\rm em})\gamma_{3},$$

$$P^{(M1,L2)1} \to -(2\sqrt{2}/3\sqrt{3}\alpha_{\rm em})(\gamma_{2} + \gamma_{4}).$$
(88)

In order to connect the scalar VCS and RCS polarizabilities, we introduce the definitions

$$\alpha_{E1}(Q^2) = -\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}\alpha_{\rm em}P^{(L1,L1)0}(Q^2), \tag{89}$$

$$\beta_{M1}(Q^2) = -\sqrt{\frac{3}{8}}\alpha_{\rm em}P^{(M1,M1)0}(Q^2), \qquad (90)$$

with $\alpha_{E1}(0) = \alpha_{E1}$ and $\beta_{M1}(0) = \beta_{M1}$ as measured by RCS according to Eqs. (74) and (75).

3. Theoretical developments

For the given tensor basis, the associated non-Born VCS amplitudes F_i^{nB} (*i*=1,...,12) are free of kinematical singularities and constraints, and even under crossing. Assuming further an appropriate analytic and highenergy behavior, these amplitudes fulfill unsubtracted dispersion relations in the variable ν and at fixed *t* and Q^2 ,

Re
$$F_i^{nB}(Q^2, \nu, t) = F_i^{\text{pole}}(Q^2, \nu, t) - F_i^B(Q^2, \nu, t)$$

+ $\frac{2}{\pi} \mathcal{P} \int_{\nu_0}^{\infty} d\nu' \frac{\nu' \operatorname{Im} F_i(Q^2, \nu', t)}{\nu'^2 - \nu^2}.$ (91)

We recall that the Born amplitudes F_i^{B} are given by diagrams with nucleons in the intermediate state, whereas the pole amplitudes F_i^{pole} are obtained from the Born amplitudes at the pole position, that is, with all numerators evaluated at the pole. Furthermore, Im F_i are the discontinuities across the *s*-channel cuts, starting at the pion production threshold $\nu_0 = m_{\pi} + (2m_{\pi}^2 + t + Q^2)/4M$.

Besides the absorptive singularities due to physical intermediate states, one might wonder whether additional singularities like anomalous thresholds can contribute to the dispersion integrals. The latter arise when a hadron is a loosely bound system of other hadronic constituents which can go on-shell, thus leading to so-called triangular singularities. However, it was shown that within the strong confinement of QCD, the quark-gluon structure of hadrons does not give rise to additional anomalous thresholds (Jaffe and Mende, 1992; Oehme, 1995), and that possible quark singularities turn into hadron singularities as described through an effective field theory. Therefore only anomalous thresholds arise for hadrons which are loosely bound systems of other hadrons, as, for example, the Σ particle in terms of a Λ - π system. Such anomalous thresholds are absent for the nucleon, and therefore the imaginary parts in Eq. (91) are given only by absorptive effects due to πN , $\pi \pi N$, and heavier hadronic states. Of course, Eq. (91) is valid only if the amplitudes drop fast enough such that the integrals converge. The high-energy behavior of the amplitudes F_i was investigated by Pasquini, Gorchtein, et al. (2001) in the Regge limit $(\nu \rightarrow \infty, t \text{ and } Q^2 \text{ fixed})$. As in Sec. IV.A.2, the dispersion integrals diverge for two amplitudes, F_1 and F_5 in our notation. These amplitudes are dominated by the *t*-channel exchange of σ and π^0 mesons, respectively. As long as we are interested in the energy region up to the $\Delta(1232)$, we may saturate the s-channel dispersion integral by the πN contribution, choosing $\nu_{\text{max}} \approx 1.5 \text{ GeV}$ as the upper limit of integration. The asymptotic contribution to F_5 is saturated by the pion pole and therefore independent of ν ,

$$F_5^{\rm as}(\nu, t, Q^2) = -\frac{g_{\pi NN}}{Me^2} \frac{F_{\pi^0 \gamma \gamma}(Q^2)}{t - m_{\pi}^2},$$
(92)

with a monopole form factor from the $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$ decay. As a result $\alpha_{E1}^{as}(Q^2) \sim F_5^{as}(0, -Q^2, Q^2)$ has a dipole form, with $\alpha_{E1}^{as}(0)$ known from RCS. Although the pion pole contribution is dominant, there may be other effects such as more pion and heavier intermediate states. In view of our limited knowledge on these reactions, we parametrize the Q^2 dependence in a dipole form with a parameter Λ_{α} ,

$$\alpha_{E1}^{\rm as}(Q^2) = \alpha_{E1}^{\rm as}(0)/(1+Q^2/\Lambda_{\alpha}^2)^2.$$
(93)

In the same spirit we also estimate the contribution of the σ meson by a dispersion relation in t at $\nu=0$,

$$\bar{F}_{1}^{\rm as}(Q^{2}) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{4m_{\pi}^{2}}^{\infty} dt' \frac{{\rm Im}_{t} F_{1}(0,t',Q^{2})}{t'+Q^{2}}, \tag{94}$$

with $\text{Im}_t F_1$ determined from the *t*-channel reaction $\gamma + \gamma^* \rightarrow \pi + \pi \rightarrow N\bar{N}$. The result of this calculation can also be parametrized by a dipole form (Pasquini, Gorchtein, *et al.*, 2001):

$$\beta_{M1}^{\rm as}(Q^2) \approx \beta_{M1}^{\rm as}(0)/(1+Q^2/\Lambda_\beta^2)^2,$$
(95)

with $\Lambda_{\beta} \approx 0.4$ GeV and $\beta^{as}(0)$ known from RCS. We note that Λ_{β} is small compared to the parameter $\Lambda_D = 0.84$ GeV of Eq. (37), which gives the scale of the nucleon's magnetic form factor, that is, the asymptotic diamagnetic polarization is related to surface phenomena as expected from the pion cloud.

4. Experiments and data analysis

At small three-momentum q' of the emitted real photon, the measured cross section can be analyzed through the LEX of Guichon *et al.* (1995). This expansion is based on a low-energy theorem (LET) stating that the radiative amplitude for pointlike particles diverges like 1/q' for $q' \rightarrow 0$, whereas the dispersive amplitude vanishes like q' in that limit. As a consequence the spinaveraged (unpolarized) square of the matrix element takes the form

$$|\mathcal{M}|^2 = \mathcal{A}_{-2}/(q')^2 + \mathcal{A}_{-1}/q' + \mathcal{A}_0 + O(q'), \tag{96}$$

with coefficients \mathcal{A}_{-2} and \mathcal{A}_{-1} described by the Bethe-Heitler (BH) and Born terms, which can be calculated from QED once the proton (ground state) form factors are known. The next order term \mathcal{A}_0 contains contributions from the BH and Born terms but also an interference between the O(1/q') contribution of BH plus Born amplitudes and the leading term of the non-Born amplitude O(q'), which is proportional to the GPs. This interference term can be expressed by the structure functions $P_{LL}(q)$, $P_{TT}(q)$, and $P_{LT}(q)$ (Guichon *et al.*, 1995),

ſ

$$\mathcal{A}_{0}^{\exp} - \mathcal{A}_{0}^{\mathrm{BH+B}} = 2K_{2} \bigg\{ v_{1} \big[\varepsilon P_{LL}(q) - P_{TT}(q) \big] \\ + \bigg(v_{2} - \frac{\tilde{q}_{0}}{q} v_{3} \bigg) \sqrt{2\varepsilon(1+\varepsilon)} P_{LT}(q) \bigg\},$$
(97)

with K_2 , v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 kinematical functions depending on ε , q, and the polar and azimuthal cm angles θ_{cm} and ϕ_{cm} , respectively. Furthermore, \tilde{q}_0 is the cm energy of the virtual photon in the limit $q' \rightarrow 0$. The three structure functions of Eq. (97) can be expressed by the GPs as follows (Guichon *et al.*, 1995; Guichon and Vanderhaeghen, 1998):

$$\begin{split} P_{LL} &= -2\sqrt{6MG_E}P^{(L1,L1)0},\\ P_{TT} &= -3G_M\frac{q^2}{\tilde{q}_0}(P^{(M1,M1)1}-\sqrt{2}\tilde{q}_0P^{(L1,M2)1}), \end{split}$$



FIG. 20. Comparison between the unpolarized VCS structure functions calculated by dispersion relations (Pasquini, Gorchtein, *et al.*, 2001) (left column) and HBCPT (Hemmert *et al.*, 1997b, 2000) at $O(p^3)$ (right column). Top row: Result for $P_{LL} - P_{TT}/\varepsilon$ with $\varepsilon = 0.62$ (solid lines) and $\varepsilon = 0.9$ (dash-dotted lines) compared to the result for α_{E1} only and $\varepsilon = 0.62$ (dashed lines). The dispersive results for $\varepsilon = 0.62$ and 0.9 are obtained with $\Lambda_{\alpha} = 1.79$ and 0.7 GeV, respectively. Bottom row: Results for P_{LT} (solid line) compared to the result for β_{M1} only (dashed line). Data are from Olmos de Leon *et al.* (2001) (open triangles), Bourgeois *et al.* (2006) (solid triangles), and Roche *et al.* (2000) (squares). From Drechsel *et al.*, 2003, updated by B. Pasquini.

$$P_{LT} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2} \frac{Mq}{Q}} G_E P^{(M1,M1)0} + \frac{3}{2} \frac{Qq}{\tilde{q}_0} G_M P^{(L1,L1)1}, \quad (98)$$

with G_E and G_M the electric and magnetic nucleon form factors.

In Fig. 20 we compare the measured response functions to the predictions of DR (left column) and HBCPT (right column). The response function $P_{LL} - P_{TT}/\varepsilon$ is displayed in the upper panels. According to Eqs. (89) and (98), P_{LL} is directly proportional to the scalar GP $\alpha_{E1}(Q^2)$, whereas P_{TT} contains only spin GPs. As discussed in Sec. IV.A, the dispersive and asymptotic contributions to α_{E1} have the same sign at the real photon point, which leads to a large total value. However, $\alpha_{E1}(Q^2)$ drops rapidly as a function of Q^2 . The difference between the solid and dashed lines is due to the spin GPs whose importance rises with Q^2 . There is general agreement between the results from DR (Pasquini, Gorchtein, et al., 2001) and the HBCPT (Hemmert et al., 1997a, 2000), however, the spin GPs turn out much larger in the latter approach. The bottom row of Fig. 20 gives the same comparison for the response function

 P_{LT} , which contains both the scalar magnetic polarizability $P^{(M1,M1)0} \sim -\beta_{M1}(Q^2)$ and the spin GP $P^{(L1,L1)1}$. As shown in Sec. IV.A, $\beta_{M1}(0)$ is the sum of a large dispersive (paramagnetic) contribution, which is dominated by $\Delta(1232)$ excitation, and a somewhat smaller asymptotic (diamagnetic) contribution with opposite sign. Moreover, we expect that the diamagnetic contribution is largely due to pionic degrees of freedom, and therefore of longer range in r space than the paramagnetic component. This expectation is corroborated by the minimum of P_{LT} at $Q^2 \approx 0.05$ GeV²: the (positive) diamagnetic component of P_{LT} decreases faster in Q^2 space than the (negative) paramagnetic term, and therefore P_{LT} decreases over a small Q^2 region to the minimum, from where the form factor effects lead to a rapid approach towards zero. Although the full results of DR and HBCPT agree qualitatively, there is again a large difference in the spin-dependent sector.

In the region between pion threshold and Δ -resonance peak, the sensitivity to the GPs is enhanced because the contributions of the GPs interfere with the rapidly rising amplitude of the Δ -resonance excitation. It is not possible to extend the LEX to these energies, but the dispersive approach is expected to give a reasonable frame to extract the GPs. When crossing the pion threshold, the VCS amplitude also acquires an imaginary part due to the opening of the πN channel. As an interesting result, single polarization observables appear above pion threshold. A particularly relevant observable is the electron single-spin asymmetry (SSA), which is obtained by flipping the electron beam helicity (Guichon and Vanderhaeghen, 1998). The main source of the SSA is an interference between the (real) Bethe-Heitler and Born amplitudes and the imaginary part of the VCS amplitude. Because the SSA vanishes in plane, its measurement requires an out-of-plane experiment. Such an experiment has been performed at MAMI (Bensafa et al., 2007). The measured asymmetry at W=1.19 GeV and $Q^2 = 0.35 \text{ GeV}^2$ is displayed in Fig. 21 and compared to the predictions of dispersion theory. The figure shows a rather weak dependence of the asymmetry on variations of the GPs. Therefore measurement of the SSA provides an excellent cross-check of the dispersive input, i.e., the imaginary parts of the πN multipoles, in particular by studies of the Δ region by VCS and pion electroproduction in parallel.

At larger virtuality, the VCS process has been investigated by the Hall A Collaboration at Jefferson Laboratory, and data have been obtained at $Q^2=0.92$ and 1.76 GeV^2 (Laveissiere *et al.*, 2004). A reasonable description of these data is obtained by the values Λ_{α} =0.71 GeV and $\Lambda_{\beta}=0.51$ GeV shown as solid lines in Fig. 22. We note that Λ_{α} corresponds to a spatial range comparable to the nucleon's charge distribution. However, the best fit value for Λ_{β} is substantially lower, indicating that the diamagnetism is related to pion cloud effects at distances above 1 fm. Subtracting the spindependent terms according to the dispersion predictions, we obtain the Q^2 dependence of the scalar GPs shown in



FIG. 21. Beam single spin asymmetry for VCS as a function of the photon scattering angle. The dispersive predictions are shown for different pairs of $(\Lambda_{\alpha}, \Lambda_{\beta})$ given in GeV. Solid line, (1.4, 0.7); dash-dotted line, (1.4, 0.4); long-dashed line, (0.8, 0.7); and short-dashed line, (0.8, 0.4). From Bensafa *et al.*, 2007.

Fig. 23. It is obvious that the electric GP $\alpha_{E1}(Q^2)$ is dominated by the asymptotic term, which, however, cannot be described by a single dipole form over the full Q^2 range. The magnetic GP $\beta_{M1}(Q^2)$ shows a characteristic maximum at $Q^2 \approx 0.05 \text{ GeV}^2$, which comes about by cancellation between the positive paramagnetic Δ contribution and the negative diamagnetic contribution of the *t*-channel $\pi\pi$ exchange. By Fourier transforming the GPs $\alpha_{E1}(Q^2)$ and $\beta_{M1}(Q^2)$ in the Breit frame, one ob-



FIG. 22. Results for $P_{LL}-P_{TT}/\varepsilon$ (left panel) and P_{LT} (right panel). Dashed lines: dispersive πN contributions. Dotted lines: asymptotic contributions with Λ_{α} =0.71 GeV and Λ_{β} =0.51 GeV. Solid lines: full results. Data are from Olmos de Leon *et al.* (2001) (open triangles), Bourgeois *et al.* (2006) (solid triangles), Roche *et al.* (2000) (squares), and Laveissiere *et al.* (2004) as obtained by the LEX (open circles) and DR (closed circles) analysis. The inner error bars describe the statistical error, the outer error bars include systematical errors. From Drechsel *et al.*, 2003, updated by B. Pasquini.



FIG. 23. Comparison of experiment and theory for the generalized polarizabilities (GPSs). Left panel: The electric GP $\alpha_{E1}(Q^2)$ obtained from the DR formalism with $\Lambda_{\alpha}=0.7$ GeV (solid line) and Λ_{α} =1.79 GeV (dash-dotted line). The solid line is the sum of the asymptotic (dashed line) and dispersive (dotted) contributions. Right panel: The magnetic GP $\beta_{M1}(Q^2)$ obtained from the DR formalism with Λ_{β} =0.51 GeV (solid line) and Λ_{β} =0.63 GeV (dash-dotted line). The dash-dotted line is the sum of the asymptotic (dashed line) and dispersive (dotted line) contributions. Data are from Olmos de Leon et al. (2001) (open triangles), Bourgeois et al. (2006) (solid triangles), Roche et al. (2000) (squares), and Laveissiere et al. (2004) as obtained by the LEX (open circles) and DR (solid circles) analysis. The inner error bars describe the statistical error, the outer error bars also include systematical errors. From Laveissiere et al., 2004.

tains the spatial distribution of the induced electric polarization and magnetization of the nucleon (L'vov et al., 2001). The emerging picture is as expected from a classical interpretation of diamagnetism. Due to the external magnetic field, pionic currents start circulating in the nucleon and give rise to an induced magnetization opposite to the applied field. At distances $r \ge 1/m_{\pi}$, the diamagnetic effect dominates and the Fourier transform $\beta_{M1}(r)$ takes negative values, whereas the paramagnetic contributions prevail at smaller distances giving rise to positive values of $\beta_{M1}(r)$ in the interior of the nucleon. As the momentum transfer Q^2 increases, the negative contribution due to the long-range pion cloud quickly vanishes and hence $\beta_{M1}(Q^2)$ increases. This explains the positive slope of $\beta_{M1}(Q^2)$ at $Q^2=0$ and the maximum at $Q^2 \approx 0.05 \text{ GeV}^2$ as indicated by the experimental data.

According to Eqs. (97) and (98), the unpolarized VCS experiment gives access to only three combinations of the six GPs. As shown by Vanderhaeghen (1997), it takes experiments with polarized lepton beams and polarized targets or recoil nucleons to measure the remaining three GPs. These double-polarization observables require measuring the cross sections for a definite electron helicity h and recoil (or target) proton spin orientation parallel and opposite to a specified axis. As shown for the unpolarized cross section by Eq. (96), the polarized



FIG. 24. (Color online) Predicted double-polarization asymmetries as a function of the photon scattering angle $\theta_{\gamma\gamma}$ and for the following fixed kinematic values: q = 600 MeV, q' = 111.5 MeV, $\varepsilon = 0.62$, and $\Phi = 0^{\circ}$. In order to highlight the model dependence, the (known) Bethe-Heitler and Born contributions to the asymmetry have been subtracted. Solid lines, results of dispersion relations for $\Lambda_{\alpha} = 1 \text{ GeV}$ and $\Lambda_{\beta} = 0.6 \text{ GeV}$ (Drechsel *et al.* (2003); dotted lines, predictions of HBCPT at $O(p^3)$ (Hemmert *et al.*, 2000); and dashed lines, HBCPT at $O(p^4)$ (Kao *et al.*, 2004).

squared amplitude also has a low-energy expansion, and the GPs are again obtained from the term O(1). This term contains the structure functions $P_{LT}^{z}(q)$, $P_{LT}^{\prime z}(q)$, and $P_{LT}^{\prime \perp}(q)$, which are related to the spin GPs by (Vanderhaeghen, 1997)

$$P_{LT}^{z} = \frac{3Qq}{2\tilde{q}_{0}} G_{M} P^{(L1,L1)1} - \frac{3Mq}{Q} G_{E} P^{(M1,M1)1},$$

$$P_{LT}^{\prime z} = -\frac{3}{2} Q G_{M} P^{(L1,L1)1} + \frac{3Mq^{2}}{Q\tilde{q}_{0}} G_{E} P^{(M1,M1)1},$$

$$P_{LT}^{\prime \perp} = \frac{3qQ}{2\tilde{q}_{0}} G_{M} \left(P^{(L1,L1)1} - \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \tilde{q}_{0} P^{(M1,L2)1} \right).$$
(99)

While P_{LT}^z and $P_{LT}'^z$ can be accessed by in-plane kinematics, $P_{LT}'^{\perp}$ requires an out-of-plane measurement.

In Fig. 24 we compare the results of DR and HBCPT for the double-polarization observables with longitudinally polarized electrons and recoil proton polarization either along the virtual photon direction (z direction) or in the reaction plane and perpendicular to the virtual photon (x direction). The large but well-known asymmetries from the Bethe-Heitler and Born terms have been subtracted in this figure in order to highlight the differences between DR (Pasquini, Gorchtein, et al., 2001) and HBCPT at $O(p^3)$ (Hemmert *et al.*, 2000). We note that the latter approach yields significantly larger effects due to higher predicted values for the spin GPs. Although these double-polarization observables are tough to measure, a first test experiment is underway at MAMI. Contrary to the scalar polarizabilities, the spinflip GPs are still unknown territory. In Fig. 25 we compare the dispersive results for the spin-flip GPs with the predictions of the nonrelativistic constituent quark model (Pasquini, Scherer, and Drechsel, 2001), the



FIG. 25. The spin-flip GPs (without the π^0 -pole contribution) from several calculations. Solid lines, dispersive πN contribution (Pasquini, Gorchtein *et al.*, 2001); short-dashed lines, $O(p^3)$ HBCPT (Hemmert *et al.*, 2000); long-dashed lines, $O(p^4)$ HBCPT (Kao *et al.* 2004); dash-dotted lines, linear σ model (Metz and Drechsel, 1996); and dotted lines, nonrelativistic CQM (Pasquini, Scherer, and Drechsel, 2001). For visibility, the tiny CQM results for $P^{(L1,L1)1}$ and $P^{(M1,L2)1}$ are multiplied by a factor of 100. From Drechsel *et al.*, 2003, updated by B. Pasquini.

HBCPT to $O(p^3)$ (Hemmert *et al.*, 1997a, 2000) and $O(p^4)$ (Kao and Vanderhaeghen, 2002), and the linear σ model (Metz and Drechsel, 1997). We refrain from commenting on the theoretical predictions which clearly open a wide range of values for the spin polarizabilities. An absolute must for further progress is dedicated experiments with a large sensitivity to the spin-dependent GPs. Such experiments are (I) unpolarized VCS with variation of the transverse photon polarization ϵ in order to separate the response functions P_{LL} and P_{TT} and (II) double-polarization experiments as discussed above.

C. Polarizability of mesons

Mesons are systems of a quark and an antiquark and, therefore, theoretically simpler to describe than baryons. We set the scene with the classical picture of two charges bound in a quark-antiquark potential in the presence of an additional static electric field. For this system we derive the following relation (Walcher, 2006):

$$\alpha_{E1}^{\pi^*} = (\alpha_{\rm em}/\alpha_{q\bar{q}}) 4\pi R^3 \zeta^2, \qquad (100)$$

with $\zeta = 1/6$ the effective charge of the system and $\alpha_{q\bar{q}} \approx 5$ derived from the heavy quark potential, of course

somewhat outside its applicability. Furthermore, *R* is a characteristic dimension of the system, for example, the equivalent charge radius. With the pion rms radius of Eq. (49), we obtain $R = \sqrt{(5/3)} \langle r^2 \rangle_{\pi} = 0.86$ fm, and as a result $\alpha_{E1}^{\pi^+} = 3.2$, here and in the following in units of 10^{-4} fm³. Comparing these numbers with the results of Sec. IV.A, we find that the pion is a dielectric medium with $\varepsilon \approx 1.001$, i.e., even more rigid than the nucleon.

The pion polarizabilities have been calculated in CPT at the two-loop order, $O(p^6)$. Contrary to the situation of the nucleon, no "matter fields" with their own mass scale are present, and therefore the calculations can be performed in the original formulation of CPT (Gasser and Leutwyler, 1984, 1985). This makes the following predictions for the polarizabilities a significant test of this theory (Gasser *et al.*, 2006):

$$\alpha_{E1}^{\pi^+} + \beta_{M1}^{\pi^+} = 0.16 \pm 0.1, \tag{101}$$

$$\alpha_{E1}^{\pi^+} - \beta_{M1}^{\pi^+} = 5.7 \pm 1.0. \tag{102}$$

The small value predicted by Eq. (101), that is Baldin's sum rule applied to the pion, makes a measurement of this observable close to impossible. The experiments are therefore analyzed with the constraint $\alpha^{\pi^+} \simeq \rho^{\pi^+}$

therefore analyzed with the constraint $\alpha_{E1}^{\pi^+} \approx -\beta_{M1}^{\pi^+}$. Unfortunately, the experimental situation is rather contradictory; see Ahrens et al. (2005) and Gasser et al. (2006) for reviews of the data and references to experiments. There exist basically three different methods to measure α_{F1} : (I) the reactions $e^+e^- \rightleftharpoons \gamma \gamma \rightleftharpoons \pi^+ \pi^-$, (II) the Primakov effect of scattering a relativistic pion in the Coulomb field of a heavy nucleus, and (III) the radiative pion photoproduction, $p(\gamma, \gamma' \pi^+ n)$, which contains Compton scattering on a (bound) pion as a subprocess. The latter reaction was investigated at MAMI using a kinematically optimized setup consisting of the backward photon detector TAPS, a forward π^+ detector, and a neutron detector realized by a large scintillator wall of dimensions $3 \times 3 \times 0.5$ m³. The largest error of this measurement is due to the systematic error of the neutron efficiency. The final result of the experiment is (Ahrens et al., 2005)

$$\alpha_{E1}^{\pi^+} - \beta_{M1}^{\pi^+} = 11.6 \pm 1.5(\text{stat}) \pm 3.0(\text{syst}) \pm 0.5(\text{mod}),$$
(103)

which is at variance with the prediction of Gasser *et al.* (2006) by 2 standard deviations. In view of theoretical uncertainties due to the fact that Compton scattering is off a bound pion, the deviation from theory is an open problem. In particular we point out that the model error in Eq. (103) is estimated by comparing the analysis with two specific models. This does not exclude that a wider range of models will lead to a larger model error. Considering the fact that the scattering is off a "constituent" pion in the nucleon, we may attribute the deviation to binding effects. For example, as suggested by Eq. (100), an increase of the bound pion radius by 20% would give a hand-waving explanation for the experimental data. Because the pion polarizability is important for our un-

derstanding of QCD in the confinement region, it is a prerequisite to check the given arguments by a full-fledged CPT calculation of the reaction $p(\gamma, \gamma' \pi^+ n)$.

The second method to determine the polarizability, the Primakov effect, has been studied at Serpukhov with the result

$$\alpha_{E1}^{\pi^+} - \beta_{M1}^{\pi^+} = 13.6 \pm 2.8(\text{stat}) \pm 2.4(\text{syst}), \tag{104}$$

in agreement with the value from MAMI. Recently, also the COMPASS Collaboration at CERN has investigated this reaction. However, at this time the analysis is still in too preliminary a stage to include the result. Unfortunately, the reactions $e^+e^- \rightleftharpoons \gamma \gamma \rightleftharpoons \pi^+\pi^-$ have led to even more contradictory results in the range $4.4 \le \alpha_{E1}^{\pi^+} \le 52.6$, as listed in the work of Gasser *et al.* (2006). In conclusion one has to wait for an improved analysis and possibly also independent experimental efforts before final conclusions can be drawn.

V. EXCITATION SPECTRUM OF THE NUCLEON

A. Threshold production of mesons

As outlined in Sec. II.D, the threshold photoproduction of mesons provides a test of our theoretical understanding because only few partial waves contribute and, therefore, all relevant multipoles can be directly determined by the experiment. The case of neutral pion photoproduction on the proton, $\gamma(q) + p(p_1) \rightarrow \pi^0(k) + p(p_2)$ is of particular interest. For the s-wave threshold multipole E_{0+} of this reaction, several authors have derived a low energy theorem (LET) based on current algebra and partially conserved axial current (De Baenst, 1970; Vainshtein and Zakharov, 1972). According to the theorem, the leading terms of the threshold multipole were directly determined by the Born diagrams, evaluated with the pseudovector pion-nucleon interaction. However, this prediction had to be revised in light of surprising experimental evidence. The reason for the discrepancy between the theorem and data was first explained in the framework of CPT by pion-loop corrections. An expansion in the mass ratio $\mu = m_{\pi}/M \approx 1/7$ yielded the result (Bernard, Kaiser, et al., 1991)

$$E_{0+}(\pi^0 p) = \frac{eg_{\pi N}}{8\pi m_{\pi}} \left\{ \mu - \mu^2 \frac{3 + \kappa_p}{2} - \mu^2 \frac{M^2}{16f_{\pi}^2} + \cdots \right\},$$
(105)

where $g_{\pi N}$ is the pion-nucleon coupling constant and $f_{\pi} \approx 93$ MeV the pion decay constant. We observe that $E_{0+}(\pi^0 p)$ is proportional to μ , which suppresses this reaction relative to charged pion production. The first and the second term on the right side of Eq. (105) are identical to the LET of De Baenst (1970) and Vainshtein and Zakharov (1972), which, however, has to be corrected by the third term on the right side. Although this loop correction is formally of higher order in μ , its numerical value is of the same size as the leading term.

FIG. 26. The real and imaginary parts of the *s*-wave amplitude

FIG. 26. The real and imaginary parts of the *s*-wave amplitude E_{0+} for π^0 photoproduction at threshold energies. The MAMI data of Beck *et al.* (1990) and Fuchs *et al.* (1996) are represented by circles, the SAL data of Bergstrom *et al.* (1996) by triangles. Dashed lines, predictions of CPT at $O(p^3)$ (Bernard *et al.*, 1996a, 1996b); and solid lines, results from dispersion relations (xHanstein *et al.*, 1997). The solid horizontal line at about –2.2 shows the prediction of De Baenst (1970) and Vainshtein and Zakharov (1972). Courtesy of R. Beck.

The energy dependence of $E_{0+}(\pi^0 p)$ is shown in Fig. 26. The discrepancy between predictions of De Baenst (1970) and Vainshtein and Zakharov (1972) and the experimental data obtained at the Mainz Microtron MAMI and at SAL (Saskatoon) is apparent. Furthermore, the real part of the amplitude shows a characteristic "Wigner cusp" at the threshold for charged pion production, which lies about 5 MeV above the π^0 threshold. This cusp in the real part is related to the sharp rise of the imaginary part at the second threshold. The physical picture behind the large loop correction is based on (I) the high production rate of charged pions and (II) the charge-exchange scattering between the nucleon and the slow π^+ in the intermediate state, which leaves a π^0 in the final state. However, the direct experimental determination of the imaginary part will require double-polarization experiments with linearly polarized photons and polarized targets. The excellent agreement between CPT and the data for E_{0+} is somewhat flawed by the fact that higher order diagrams are sizable, that is, the perturbative series converges slowly and lowenergy constants appearing at higher orders reduce the predictive power.

For a more quantitative presentation of the results, the E_{0+} amplitude was parametrized as the sum of a direct and a charge-exchange term (Bernstein *et al.*, 1997),

$$E_{0+}(\pi^0 p) = A_0(q) + ia_{\pi^+ \pi^0} A_+ k_{\pi^+}$$
(106)

$$=A_0(q) + i\beta k_{\pi^+},$$
 (107)

with $A_0(q) = a_0 + a_1(q - q_{\text{thr}})$ and A_+ describing the neutral and charged pion production in the absence of the charge exchange reaction, $a_{\pi^+\pi^0}$ the scattering length for charge exchange, and k_{π^+} the momentum of the charged pion appearing in the intermediate state. This leaves the three fit parameters a_0 , a_1 , and β in oder to determine





FIG. 27. The angular distribution of the photon asymmetry Σ for the reaction $p(\tilde{\gamma}, \pi^0)p$. Dashed line, results of dispersion relations (Hanstein *et al.*, 1997); dotted line, prediction of CPT (Bernard *et al.*, 1996b); and full line, empirical fit to the data with Eqs. (25) and (26). From Schmidt *et al.*, 2001.

the *s* wave. As discussed in Sec. II.D, the unpolarized cross section gives information on only two of the three *p*-wave amplitudes. A complete experiment therefore requires measuring a further observable, e.g., the photon asymmetry Σ of Eq. (26). The result obtained at MAMI is depicted in Fig. 27.

The data of Schmidt *et al.* (2001) for the *s*- and *p*-wave amplitudes are compared to the results of CPT and dispersion relations in Table I. The predictions of CPT for the *p* waves are in good agreement with the data, whereas P_3 comes out much too small in dispersion theory. Since the latter approach is mainly based on input from the imaginary parts of the multipoles M_{1+} and M_{1-} in the resonance region, this failure may indicate that even the structure of the low-lying resonances $\Delta(1232)$ and $N^*(1440)$ is not yet completely unraveled.

TABLE I. Experimental results of Schmidt *et al.* (2001) for $E_{0+}(\pi^0 p)$ at the π^0 and π^+ thresholds in units of $10^{-3}/m_{\pi^+}$, four combinations of the (reduced) *P*-wave amplitudes in units of $k/10^{-3}/m_{\pi^+}^2$, and the parameter β (with statistical and systematic errors, in order) compared to the predictions of CPT (Bernard *et al.*, 1996a, 1996b) and dispersion relations (DR) (Hanstein *et al.*, 1997). For the definition of the reduced *P*-wave amplitudes see Sec. II.D.

	Schmidt et al. (2001)	CPT	DR
$\overline{E_{0+}(\pi^0)}$	$-1.23 \pm 0.08 \pm 0.03$	-1.16	-1.22
$E_{0+}(\pi^{\scriptscriptstyle +})$	$-0.45 \pm 0.07 \pm 0.02$	-0.43	-0.56
β	$2.43 \pm 0.28 \pm 1.0$	2.78	3.6
P_1	$9.46 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.28$	9.14 ± 0.5	9.55
P_2	$-9.5 {\pm} 0.09 {\pm} 0.28$	-9.7 ± 0.5	-10.37
P_3	$11.32 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.34$	10.36	9.27
P ₂₃	10.45 ± 0.07	11.07	9.84



FIG. 28. The total cross section for the $p(e,e'p)\pi^0$ reaction as a function of Q^2 for several values of the excitation energy $\Delta W = W - M - m_{\pi^0}$. Data at $Q^2 = 0.05$ and 0.10 GeV² are from Merkel *et al.* (2002) and Distler *et al.* (1998), respectively. The solid line represents the prediction of CPT (Bernard *et al.*, 1996c) and the dashed line the result of the phenomenological model MAID (Drechsel *et al.*, 1999). From Merkel *et al.*, 2002.

The great success of CPT for photoproduction at threshold was motivation to extend the experimental program to electroproduction. Because the virtual photon has an additional longitudinal component, three more partial waves appear to leading order: the longitudinal s-wave amplitude L_{0+} and the p-wave amplitudes L_{1+} and L_{1-} , describing the excitation of $\Delta(1232)$ and $N^{*}(1440)$, respectively. Moreover, all amplitudes are functions of Q^2 , that is, they probe the spatial distribution of pion production on the nucleon. The first investigations performed at NIKHEF (van den Brink et al., 1995) and MAMI (Distler et al., 1998) for Q^2 $=0.10 \text{ GeV}^2$ provided another confirmation of CPT although at the expense of two new low-energy constants, which were fitted to the data. In order to further check this agreement, data were also taken at the lower momentum transfer $Q^2 = 0.05 \text{ GeV}^2$ (Merkel *et al.*, 2002). The total cross section obtained by these measurements is compared with the predictions of CPT in Fig. 28, which shows the total cross sections near threshold as a function of Q^2 . The comparison was made on the basis of the total cross sections in order to eliminate all possible systematic and model errors connected with the separation in longitudinal and transverse parts. It is apparent that the Q^2 dependence of the data cannot not be fully described by theory. We consider this an important issue that deserves further investigation.

We conclude this section by presenting some recent results of Weis *et al.* (2007). Whereas former experiments were only sensitive to the real part of the ampli-



FIG. 29. The separated cross sections σ_0 , σ_{LT} , and σ_{TT} as well as the beam helicity asymmetry A'_{LT} at $\theta^*_{\pi} = 90^\circ$. Solid line, HBCPT (Bernard *et al.*, 1996c); dashed line, MAID (Drechsel *et al.*, 1999); and dash-dotted line, DMT model (Kamalov *et al.*, 2001). From Weis *et al.*, 2007.

tudes, these authors also determined the fifth structure function (LT') given in Eq. (28). This function can only be measured with polarized electrons and out of plane, i.e., for finite values of the pion azimuthal angle with regard to the electron scattering plane. Furthermore, its multipole decomposition is of the form Im $(L^*_{0+}M_{1+})$ $+\cdots$), i.e., this function contains information on the phase of the s-wave amplitude. With the shorthand notation $d\sigma_i/d\Omega_{\pi}^* \equiv \sigma_i$, Weis *et al.* (2007) separated the partial cross sections $\sigma_0 = \sigma_T + \varepsilon \sigma_L$, σ_{TT} , and σ_{LT} as well as the beam asymmetry A'_{LT} corresponding to σ'_{LT} . The result is displayed in Fig. 29. We observe that only the dynamical Dubna-Mainz-Taipei (DMT) model (Kamalov et al., 2001) is able to fully describe the experiment, in particular its prediction for the helicity asymmetry is right on top of the data. Such dynamical models start from a description of the pion-nucleon scattering phases by a quasipotential, which serves as input for an integral equation to account for multiple scattering. In this sense the model contains the loop corrections to an arbitrary number of rescattering processes, and is therefore perfectly unitary, albeit on a phenomenological basis that may violate gauge invariance to some extent.



FIG. 30. The total photoabsorption cross section σ_T on the proton as a function of the photon laboratory energy ν . The various lines represent the MAID results (Drechsel *et al.*, 1999) for the total cross section (solid line), one-pion channels (dashed line), more-pion channels (dashed-dotted line), and η channel (dotted line). Solid circles, total cross section from MAMI (MacCormick *et al.*, 1996); open circles, data from Daresbury (Armstrong *et al.*, 1972); and open triangles, two-pion production (Braghieri *et al.*, 1995). Courtesy of J. Ahrens.



FIG. 31. The partial and total cross sections for the absorption of photons on the proton as a function of the photon laboratory energy ν obtained at MAMI. Open circles, total cross section as in Fig. 30 (MacCormick *et al.*, 1996); solid and open triangles, $n\pi^+$ decay channel (MacCormick *et al.*, 1996); open diamonds, $p\pi^0$ decay channel (MacCormick *et al.*, 1996); asterisks, two-pion production (Braghieri *et al.*, 1995); and open squares, $p\eta$ channel (Krusche *et al.*, 1995). Courtesy of J. Ahrens.

B. Nucleon resonances and meson production

The total photoabsorption cross section σ_T for the proton is displayed in Fig. 30. It exhibits three broad resonance structures on top of a strong background. These structures correspond to magnetic dipole (M1)excitation of the $\Delta(1232)$ resonance, electric dipole (*E*1) strength near the resonances $N^*(1520)$ and $N^*(1535)$, and electric quadrupole (E2) strength near the $N^*(1680)$. The figure also shows the contributions of the most important channels: the one-pion channels dominate up to $\nu \approx 500$ MeV, the two-pion branching ratio becomes comparable in the second resonance region at ν \approx 700 MeV, and the large η branch of the resonance $N^*(1535)$ is hidden in the background. Because the nucleon resonances lie above the one-pion threshold, any separation in a continuous background and discrete resonances is necessarily model dependent. In particular, because background and resonance contributions interfere, careful analysis of the partial waves and their relative phases is mandatory. Figure 31 depicts the partial cross sections for the different decay channels investigated so far. The rapid increase of the two-pion contribution between 400 and 600 MeV is seen, from whereon it provides more than half of the total absorption. Another interesting feature is the dominance of charged pion production both below and above the $\Delta(1232)$ resonance. Finally, one notes the small η decay branch, which corresponds to s-wave η production mediated by the $S_{11}(1535)$.

In the past, the primary method to unravel the nucleon resonance spectrum was experiments with strong interactions, in particular pion-nucleon scattering. These data have been systematically studied by Höhler (1983) and Koch (1985) and the GWU Collaboration using the code SAID (Arndt et al., 2002, 2004, 2006). A summary of known spectroscopic data on nucleon resonances is given by the Particle Data Group (PDG) (Yao et al., 2006). It is the objective of these studies to determine the relevant characteristics of the resonances, their pole positions, widths, decay channels, and branching ratios. In a first step, the full database is fitted within the framework of a partial wave analysis. If a particular partial wave shows some rapid increase of the scattering phase over a limited energy region, the fit is then repeated with a form containing both a smooth background and a resonance form, mostly of the Breit-Wigner shape. Because of the strong decay channels and large resonance widths of typically 100 MeV and more, the ideal resonance form is only realized for the first resonance $\Delta(1232)$: the pion-nucleon scattering phase $\delta_{33}(W)$ goes through 90°, the real part of the multipole vanishes, and the imaginary part has a maximum near $W=M_R\approx 1232$ MeV. Because of inelastic channels, overlapping resonances, and energy-dependent backgrounds, these conditions are not fulfilled by higher resonances. A mere "bump" in a partial wave is not necessarily a resonance, it may also originate from the opening of a new channel, which usually produces an asymmetric resonance shape. The "speed-plot" technique is particularly useful to probe the resonance structure. It requires the derivative of the partial wave amplitude with regard to the energy W, which is then compared to the corresponding derivative of an ideal Breit-Wigner resonance. In this way one determines the pole position and the residue of the multipole in the complex energy plane, which are unique characteristics of a resonance.

Because the cross sections for electroexcitation are suppressed by the fine structure constant α_{em} , systematic studies of the resonance structure were only possible after the advent of the new electron accelerators providing high duty cycle and flux density of photons and electrons. The virtues of these investigations are obvious: the selectivity through transverse electric and magnetic as well as longitudinal photon fields allows for the separation of multipoles and investigations of the spin degrees of freedom, the study of specific final states with different mesons by coincidence experiments, and the possibility to resolve the spatial distribution of charge and current densities by varying the virtuality of the photon. Figure 32 sets the scene by showing the individual contributions of the main nucleon resonances to the total photoabsorption cross section. The resonances in the figure are labeled in the spectroscopic notation, see Sec. II.E. As an example, $\Delta(1232) = P_{33}(1232)$ has the pion in a p wave and both isospin and spin are 3/2. As is evident from Fig. 32, $\Delta(1232)$ is the dominant feature in the resonance spectrum. It contributes more than 400 μ b at the maximum of the absorption cross section. Already in the second resonance region, there are several overlapping resonances, the small Roper resonance $P_{11}(1440)$ with the same quantum numbers as the



FIG. 32. Resonance contributions to the total photoabsorption cross section of the proton. Calculations are from the unitary isobar model MAID2003 (Drechsel *et al.*, 1999). Courtesy of R. Beck and L. Tiator.

nucleon as well as the relatively strong $D_{13}(1520)$ and the weaker $S_{11}(1535)$, both mainly excited by electric dipole radiation, all on top of a large background (not shown in the figure) and on the tails of the neighboring resonances. In the third resonance region, the figure shows only the dominant $F_{15}(1680)$ resonance with a concentration of the electric quadrupole strength. The number of known (and unknown) resonances increases in the higher part of the spectrum; see Yao et al. (2006). However, somewhere above $W \approx 1.5$ GeV the notion of "resonances" becomes problematic and has to be replaced by a continuum which, of course, can be expanded in partial waves as discussed in Sec. II.E. The problem is not on the experimental side, but in the modeling of the spectrum, which for $W \ge 1.5$ GeV should be based on coupled channel calculations. As mentioned before, the most valid technique is the speed plot (Höhler, 1983), which gives information about the resonance position in the complex energy plane. However, the distinction of resonances and background becomes increasingly difficult and loses its meaning for energies somewhere above 2 GeV. The missing resonances issue of the constituent quark model (CQM) that predicts more resonances than have been observed (Isgur and Karl, 1979; Metsch et al., 2003) may disappear in view of the resonance-background problem (Thoma, 2005).

As in the case of the elastic form factors discussed in Sec. III, the Q^2 dependence of the multipole transitions provides information on the spatial distribution of these observables. We discuss this issue for $\Delta(1232)$. The three (real) transition form factors G_M^* , G_E^* , and G_C^* are related to the (complex) partial wave amplitudes according to Eq. (30). The magnetic dipole transition M_{1+} dominates, the electric and Coulomb quadrupole transitions E_{1+} and S_{1+} are much smaller. A finite value of the quadrupole moment requires that the wave functions of either the nucleon or $\Delta(1232)$, or most likely both, are deformed. In the CQM, such a deformation follows from the tensor force contained in the color-hyperfine interaction among quarks (De Rujula et al., 1975; Isgur et al., 1982; Capstick and Karl, 1990). However, typical CQM calculations (Capstick and Keister, 1995; De Sanctis et al., 2005) underestimate the electric and Coulomb quadrupole amplitudes E_{1+} and S_{1+} . In models with pionic degrees of freedom, the deformation arises naturally from the spin-dependent coupling of the pion to the quarks. The pions have been introduced in several approaches, such as chiral bag models (Vento et al., 1980; Bermuth et al., 1988; Lu et al., 1997), dynamical models (Kamalov and Yang, 1999; Sato and Lee, 2001), and effective field theories (Pascalutsa and Vanderhaeghen, 2005, 2006; Gail and Hemmert, 2006). Although differing considerably in the details, these models describe the experimental data reasonably well. In particular the chiral effective field theories (EFTs) are based on a systematic expansion in terms of the external momenta, the pion mass, and the $N\Delta$ mass splitting. Contrary to the dynamical models they are gauge and Lorentz invariant, however, based on a perturbative expansion, the unitarity condition is only approximately fulfilled.

Of course, the deformation cannot be measured for the nucleon ground state because the intrinsic static quadrupole moment Q_0 and the observed quadrupole moment are related by $Q_J^{\text{obs}} = \{[3\langle M \rangle^2 - J(J+1)]/\}$ J(2J-1) Q_0 . This rule allows one to observe the quadrupole moment of $\Delta(1232)$ but, of course, the highly unstable $\Delta(1232)$ cannot serve as a static target. Therefore the deformation issue can only be accessed through electromagnetic transitions from the nucleon to $\Delta(1232)$. In the following we discuss the ratios of the multipole transitions at the resonance position R_{EM} and R_{SM} , as defined by Eq. (33). We repeat that the resonance position of $\Delta(1232)$ is uniquely defined within the validity of the Fermi-Watson theorem, that is, the real parts of all three $N\Delta$ amplitudes vanish at $W=M_{\Delta}$ because all amplitudes carry the same phase, namely, the pion-nucleon phase shift in the partial wave with $\ell = 1$ and $I = J = \frac{3}{2}$, $\delta_{33}(W)$.

Many experimental and theoretical investigations have been devoted to the $N\Delta$ transition with real photons, for a summary of this work see Beck (2006). The most precise value for the ratio of the multipoles,

$$R_{EM} = (-2.4 \pm 0.16_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.24_{\text{syst}}) \% , \qquad (108)$$

was obtained with linearly polarized photons (Beck et al., 2000; Leukel, 2001). These authors also studied neutral and charged pion production on the proton, which is necessary to isolate the isospin $\frac{3}{2}$ amplitude relevant for the N Δ transition. At finite Q^2 the same physics questions were addressed by pion electroproduction, $e+p \rightarrow e'+p'+\pi^0$, measuring the scattered electron in coincidence with the recoil proton detected in a highresolution magnetic spectrometer. The small solid angle of these instruments does not limit the accuracy since protons are focused by the relativistic boost along \vec{q} . Such experiments were first performed at MIT/Bates



FIG. 33. The ratios EMR= R_{EM} and CMR= R_{EM} together with the amplitude $M_{1+}^{3/2}$ of the $N\Delta(1232)$ transition as a function of Q^2 . Data are from Beck *et al.* (2000) (asterisks), Stave *et al.* (2006) (diamonds), Kunz *et al.* (2003) (solid triangles), Pospischil *et al.* (2001) (open triangles), Sparveris *et al.* (2007) (solid circles), Elsner *et al.* (2006) (open circles), and Joo *et al.* (2004) (squares). Theoretical predictions are represented by solid lines, MAID2007 (Drechsel *et al.*, 2007); dotted lines, SAID (Arndt *et al.*, 2002); long-dashed lines, DMT (Kamalov and Yang, 1999); short-dashed lines, CEFT (Pascalutsa and Vanderhaeghen, 2005, 2006); and crosses, predictions with error bars from lattice QCD (Alexandrou *et al.*, 2005). Adapted from Sparveris *et al.*, 2007, by L. Tiator.

(Mertz et al., 2001) and then extended by Sparveris et al. (2005) to out-of-plane angles with the OOPS spectrometer. This work was continued by the A1 Collaboration at MAMI/Mainz (Elsner et al., 2006; Stave et al., 2006; Sparveris et al., 2007). In particular, Stave et al. (2006) also measured the structure function σ'_{LT} using of polarized electrons and out-of-plane proton detection. The experimental results for the Δ multipoles in the low- Q^2 region are compared to several model calculations in Fig. 33. We observe that the leading multipole M_{1+} is described well by the models. It is also worthwhile mentioning that the dynamic models ascribe a third of the magnetic dipole strength to the pion cloud. The predictions scatter much more with regard to the quadrupole strength as shown by the ratios R_{EM} and R_{SM} . Concerning the origin of "deformation," both the dynamic models (Kamalov and Yang, 1999; Sato and Lee, 2001) and effective field theory (Pascalutsa and Vanderhaeghen, 2005, 2006; Gail and Hemmert, 2006) agree that the multipoles E_{1+} and S_{1+} are essentially due to the pion cloud. For a detailed comparison of these models in the Δ region, see Drechsel and Tiator (2007).

In many of the mentioned contributions, the authors have pointed out a considerable model-dependence of the analysis. It is therefore substantial progress that Kelly *et al.* (2007) performed a series of doublepolarization experiments at $Q^2=1$ GeV² near the Δ region. Altogether they extracted 16 of the 18 independent response functions, most for the first time. As mentioned before, the experimental cross section is obtained by summing bilinear products of multipole amplitudes, $\Sigma_{\ell,\ell'}\mathcal{M}^*_{\ell}\mathcal{M}_{\ell'}$. Whereas the unpolarized response functions or cross sections, in shorthand σ_T , σ_L , σ_{TT} , and σ_{LT} , are obtained from the real parts of these products, many of the polarized cross sections are given by the imaginary parts, the first example the fifth structure function σ'_{LT} measured with polarized beams. Because the $N\Delta$ multipoles carry the same phase, their product can only contribute to responses built from the real parts. On the other hand, the responses containing the imaginary parts yield information on the interference between the $N\Delta$ and background multipoles. The findings of Kelly et al. (2007) can be summarized as follows: (I) response functions governed by real parts are in general agreement with recent model calculations, (II) response functions determined by imaginary parts may differ substantially from the experiment and among the calculations, (III) the multipole analysis yields better results than a (truncated) Legendre series, and (IV) the model builders should go back to the drawing board to get better control of the nonresonant background, in particular at the larger virtualities Q^2 .

As mentioned, the typical CQM calculations underestimate the Δ multipoles, in particular the electric and longitudinal ones. Therefore any successful description of these observables needs a pion cloud, at least if one insists on a reasonable size of the quark bag. Such descriptions are the chiral bag models, dynamical models, and effective field theories. Taking all facts together, one is again forced to accept the dominant role that pions play for the structure of the nucleon. Of special interest is the recent work to solve QCD on the space-time lattice. Since these calculations cannot yet be performed at the small (current) quark masses corresponding to the physical pion mass, one uses large quark masses leading to pion masses $m_{\pi} \gtrsim 300$ MeV. The results are then extrapolated to the physical pion mass by extrapolating functions, ideally as derived from chiral effective field theories. Such a procedure is not undisputed because the chiral expansion is hardly valid at pion masses much larger than the physical mass. However, the chiral extrapolation shows that unexpected phenomena occur when the pion mass is lowered from a few hundred MeV to its physical value: near the pion mass value for which the Δ resonance can decay, the chiral extrapolation becomes nonanalytic, which leads to a kink and strong curvature in the extrapolation formula (Pascalutsa et al., 2007).

As a further instructive example we present results for the electroproduction of η mesons, which are mainly produced by the decay of the $S_{11}(1535)$ resonance with $J=I=\frac{1}{2}, \ell=0$. As is evident from Fig. 31, the $S_{11}(1535)$ is buried under the total cross section. However, it is seen in the η channel because this resonance has an η branching ratio of 45–60 % compared to a few percent for



FIG. 34. The helicity amplitude $A_{1/2}$ for the $S_{11}(1535\langle a \rangle)$ in the $p(e,e'p)\eta$ reaction. Data are represented by solid circles, Denizli *et al.* (2007); crosses, Armstrong *et al.* (1999); and open circles, earlier publications as specified by Denizli *et al.* (2007). Predictions are based on quark models and given by the solid line (Capstick and Keister 1995) and dotted line (Aiello *et al.*, 1998). From Denizli *et al.*, 2007.

other excitations of the nucleon (Vrana *et al.*, 2000). Eta photoproduction experiments at threshold show a strong increase of the cross section in the range of the resonance and an s-wave angular distribution in agreement with the given assignment (Krusche et al., 1995). However, the shape of the resonance is asymmetric, and also the speed-plot analysis does not yield satisfactory solutions (Höhler 1993). Because of this unusual behavior several alternative interpretations have been given, for example, in terms of a $K\Sigma$ molecular state (Kaiser *et al.*, 1997). Also the helicity amplitude $A_{1/2}$ of this resonance has an unusually soft form factor, as displayed in Fig. 34 for the $p(e,e'p)\eta$ reaction measured at Jefferson Laboratory (Denizli et al., 2007). It is striking how flat this transition form factor stays compared to the typical dipole form for other form factors of the nucleon. We further notice that the constituent quark model calculations, relativistic or not, cannot fully explain the slow falloff with Q^2 . It is also tempting to identify the structure near $Q^2 \approx 0.2 \text{ GeV}^2$ with a meson cloud effect as discussed in Sec. III.A.

Another small but interesting resonance in the second resonance region is the Roper resonance $P_{11}(1440)$ with the same quantum numbers as the nucleon. The CQM describes this resonance by radial excitation of the nucleon, and therefore it should be sensitive to the radial form of the bag potential. However, its mass is much lower than expected in simple quark models. Li *et al.* (1992) suggested that the Roper resonance could also be a quark-gluon hybrid state, which, however, cannot be excited by the longitudinal current or Coulomb field. Recent data on the electroproduction of this resonance are shown in Fig. 35 and compared with the singleenergy and global solutions of MAID2007. We note that the amplitude $A_{1/2}$ (magnetic dipole transition) has a zero crossing at small momentum transfer. Furthermore,



FIG. 35. (Color online) The helicity amplitudes $A_{1/2}$ and $S_{1/2}$ of the $P_{11}(1440)$ as a function of Q^2 . The triangles are from the analysis of Aznauryan *et al.* (2005) based on data of the CLAS Collaboration at Jefferson Laboratory and obtained from dispersion relations (open triangles) and the unitary isobar model (solid triangles). The solid line is the global solution of MAID2007 (Drechsel *et al.*, 2007), a fit to the full data basis, and the solid circles are local fits to the data in the particular energy region. The data point at $Q^2=0$ is from the PDG (Yao *et al.*, 2006). From Drechsel *et al.*, 2007.

the amplitude $S_{1/2}$ (Coulomb monopole transition) rises to large values, which rules out the quark-gluon hybrid model.

In Sec. VI we also discuss the helicity structure of the second and third resonance regions with regard to several sum rules for real and virtual photons. However, with increasing excitation energy it becomes more difficult to isolate individual resonances by inclusive cross sections. It will therefore take a full-fledged program with polarized beams and targets as well as recoil polarization to analyze the higher mass region and to identify resonance structures on top of the large background.

VI. SUM RULES

The persisting problem of gaining a quantitative understanding of nucleon structure is one reason why we are interested in sum rules. Being based on quite general principles like causality, unitarity, and Lorentz and gauge invariance, sum rules should be valid for every model or theory respecting these principles and having a "reasonable" high-energy behavior. Therefore the

$$\gamma \xrightarrow{\longrightarrow} \gamma \xrightarrow{N} \gamma \xrightarrow{\longrightarrow} q \xrightarrow{N} \gamma$$

FIG. 36. Spins and helicities in the reaction $\vec{\gamma} + N \rightarrow N^*$. Open arrows denote the projections of the spin on the photon momentum, S_z , the helicities h are the projections on the respective particle momentum, and the photon has right-handed helicity, $\lambda = +1$. Left, $N(S_z=1/2, h=-1/2) \rightarrow N^*(S_z=h=3/2)$; right, $N(S_z=-1/2, h=1/2) \rightarrow N^*(S_z=h=1/2)$.

agreement or disagreement between theoretical predictions and the sum rule provides invaluable information on the quality of the approximations involved and whether or not the relevant degrees of freedom have been included. Specifically, if we compare a sum rule value with accurate experimental data up to a certain maximum energy, we learn whether the physics responsible for the sum rule is provided by the phenomena up to that energy, or whether possibly new degrees of freedom come into play. As an example, Baldin's sum rule relates the forward scalar polarizability to an energyweighted integral over the total photoabsorption cross section and thus allows for an independent check of the results from Compton scattering. Moreover, recent double-polarization experiments have determined the helicity structure of this cross section for the proton. From these data, the forward spin polarizability has been obtained, and the Gerasimov-Drell-Hearn (GDH) sum rule has been verified within the experimental error bars of less than 10%. Data have also been taken for the neutron and are under evaluation. With some caveat, these sum rules can be generalized to the scattering of virtual photons. The integrands of the respective integrals are related to the electroexcitation cross sections and, in the limit of deep inelastic scattering (DIS), to the nucleon structure functions. The resulting generalized integrals and polarizabilities depend on the photon's four-momentum and therefore contain information on the spatial distribution of these observables.

A. Sum rules for real photons

1. Forward dispersion relations and sum rules

The forward scattering amplitudes f and g of Eqs. (61)–(63) can be determined by scattering circularly polarized photons (helicity $\lambda = \pm 1$) off nucleon targets that are polarized along or opposite to the photon momentum \vec{q} as shown schematically in Fig. 36. If the spins are parallel, the helicity of the intermediate hadronic state takes the value $\frac{3}{2}$. Since this requires a total spin $J \ge \frac{3}{2}$, the transition can only take place on a correlated three-quark system. For opposite spins, on the other hand, the helicity is conserved and the scattering can also take place on an individual quark. Denoting the Compton scattering amplitudes for these two experiments by $T_{3/2}$ and $T_{1/2}$, we find $f(\nu) = \frac{1}{2}(T_{1/2} + T_{3/2})$ and $g(\nu) = \frac{1}{2}(T_{1/2} - T_{3/2})$. Furthermore, the total absorption cross section is given by the spin average over the helicity cross sections,

$$\sigma_T = \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_{1/2} + \sigma_{3/2}), \tag{109}$$

and the helicity-dependent cross section by the helicity difference,

$$\sigma_{TT} = \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_{1/2} - \sigma_{3/2}). \tag{110}$$

Based on unitarity and causality, the optical theorem relates the absorption cross section to the imaginary parts of the respective forward scattering amplitudes,

$$\operatorname{Im} f(\nu) = \frac{\nu}{8\pi} [\sigma_{1/2}(\nu) + \sigma_{3/2}(\nu)] = \frac{\nu}{4\pi} \sigma_T(\nu),$$
$$\operatorname{Im} g(\nu) = \frac{\nu}{8\pi} [\sigma_{1/2}(\nu) - \sigma_{3/2}(\nu)] = \frac{\nu}{4\pi} \sigma_{TT}(\nu).$$
(111)

Because of the smallness of the fine structure constant $\alpha_{\rm em}$, all higher order electromagnetic processes are at the percent level. We may therefore neglect the absorption below the threshold for pion production, $\nu_0 = m_{\pi}(1)$ $+m_{\pi}/2M \approx 150$ MeV, thereby assuming that the scattering amplitude is real in this region. In the next step, one has to study the high-energy behavior of the absorption cross sections. As predicted by Regge theory and also seen by the data, the total absorption cross section increases at the highest energies reached by the experiment. Although this increase is not expected to continue forever, we cannot expect that the unsubtracted dispersion integral converges, and therefore we subtract $f(\nu)$ at $\nu = 0$ and identify f(0) with the classical Thomson amplitude. By use of the crossing relation and the optical theorem, the subtracted dispersion relation takes the form

$$f(\nu) = f(0) + \frac{\nu^2}{2\pi^2} \mathcal{P} \int_{\nu_0}^{\infty} \frac{\sigma_T(\nu')}{{\nu'}^2 - \nu^2} d\nu'.$$
(112)

For the odd function $g(\nu)$ we assume the existence of an unsubtracted dispersion relation,

$$g(\nu) = \frac{\nu}{4\pi^2} \mathcal{P} \int_{\nu_0}^{\infty} \frac{\sigma_{1/2}(\nu') - \sigma_{3/2}(\nu')}{{\nu'}^2 - \nu^2} \nu' d\nu'.$$
(113)

If these dispersion integrals exist, they can be expanded as a Taylor series in ν^2 , which converges for $|\nu| < \nu_0$. Comparing these power series to the low energy theorems of Eqs. (62) and (63), we obtain the sum rule of Baldin (1960),

$$\alpha_{E1} + \beta_{M1} = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int_{\nu_0}^{\infty} \frac{\sigma_T(\nu')}{{\nu'}^2} d\nu', \qquad (114)$$

the sum rule of Gerasimov (1965, 1966) and Drell and Hearn (1966),

$$\frac{\pi e^2 \kappa_N^2}{2M^2} = \int_{\nu_0}^{\infty} \frac{\sigma_{3/2}(\nu') - \sigma_{1/2}(\nu')}{\nu'} d\nu' \equiv I_{\rm GDH}, \qquad (115)$$

and the forward spin polarizability (Gell-Mann et al., 1954),



FIG. 37. The helicity difference $\Delta \sigma = \sigma_{3/2} - \sigma_{1/2}$ for the proton as a function of the photon energy ν . The experimental data are from MAMI (Ahrens *et al.*, 2000, 2001) (solid circles) and ELSA (Dutz *et al.*, 2003, 2005) (open circles). The various lines represent MAID results (Drechsel *et al.*, 1999) for the total helicity difference (solid line), one-pion channels (dashed line), more-pion channels (dash-dotted line), and η channel (dotted line). From Drechsel and Tiator, 2004.

$$\gamma_0 = -\frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int_{\nu_0}^{\infty} \frac{\sigma_{3/2}(\nu') - \sigma_{1/2}(\nu')}{{\nu'}^3} d\nu'.$$
(116)

2. Photoabsorption cross sections for the proton

The total photoabsorption cross section σ_T in the resonance region of the proton is shown by Fig. 30. This figure displays three resonance peaks on top of a large background. Above the resonance region, σ_T is slowly decreasing towards a minimum of about 115 μ b at W ≈ 10 GeV. At the highest energies, $W \approx 200$ GeV (corresponding to $\nu \simeq 2 \times 10^4$ GeV), the experiments show a slow increase with energy of the form $\sigma_T \sim W^{0.2}$ (Derrick et al., 1994; Aid et al., 1995), in accordance with Regge parametrizations through a soft pomeron exchange mechanism (Cudell *et al.*, 2000). Given this information, the rhs of Eq. (114) can be constructed, with the most recent numerical result given by Eq. (64). In this way Baldin's sum rule provides a precise value for the sum of the two scalar polarizabilities, which serves as an important constraint for the analysis of Compton scattering.

During the past years the helicity difference σ_{TT} has also been measured. The pioneering experiment was carried out by the GDH Collaboration at MAMI for photon energies between 200 and 800 MeV (Ahrens *et al.*, 2000, 2001), and then extended into the energy range up to 3 GeV at ELSA (Dutz *et al.*, 2003, 2005). These data allow us to verify the GDH sum rule for the proton within an accuracy of less than 10%. Because the integral for the forward spin polarizability converges better, it is essentially saturated by the MAMI data at 800 MeV. As shown in Fig. 37, the helicity difference fluctuates more strongly than the total cross section σ_T . The threshold region is dominated by s-wave pion production, i.e., intermediate states with spin $\frac{1}{2}$ that can only contribute to the cross section $\sigma_{1/2}$. In the region of $\Delta(1232)$ with spin $J=\frac{3}{2}$, both helicity cross sections contribute, but since the transition is essentially M1 we find $\sigma_{3/2}/\sigma_{1/2} \approx 3$, and therefore the helicity difference becomes large and positive. The figure also shows that $\sigma_{3/2}$ dominates in the second and third resonance regions. It was in fact an early success of the quark model to understand this feature by cancellation of the spin and convection currents for $\sigma_{1/2}$. Data at the higher energies indicate a fourth resonance region (1.8 < W < 2 GeV)followed by a continuing decrease of $\Delta \sigma$ with a crossover to negative values at $\nu \ge 2.0$ GeV, as predicted by an extrapolation of data from deep inelastic scattering (Bianchi and Thomas, 1999, 2002). At high ν , above the resonance region, one usually invokes Regge phenomenology to argue that the integral converges (Bass and Brisudova, 1999). In particular, one obtains for the isovector channel $\sigma_{1/2} - \sigma_{3/2} \rightarrow \nu^{\alpha_V - 1}$ at large ν , with -0.5 $\leq \alpha_V \leq 0$ being the intercept of the $a_1(1260)$ meson Regge trajectory. For the isoscalar channel, Regge theory predicts similar energy behavior with $\alpha_s \simeq -0.5$, which is the intercept of the isoscalar $f_1(1285)$ and $f_1(1420)$ Regge trajectories. However, these ideas have still to be tested experimentally. We observe that the large background of nonresonant photoproduction in σ_T (Fig. 30) has almost disappeared in the helicity difference $\Delta \sigma$ (Fig. 37), i.e., the background is "helicity blind." As a result the two helicity cross sections for real photons remain large and nearly equal up to the highest energies, at values of $\sigma_{1/2} \approx \sigma_{3/2} \approx 120 \ \mu b$. We conclude that the real photon is essentially absorbed by coherent processes, which require interactions among the constituents such as gluon exchange between two quarks. This behavior differs from DIS, which refers to incoherent scattering off the constituents. As a consequence the ratio $\sigma_{3/2}/\sigma_{1/2}$ tends to zero with increasing virtuality Q^2 because the absorption on an individual quark leads only to final states with helicity $\frac{1}{2}$.

As shown in Fig. 38, the GDH Collaboration has also measured the helicity difference for the deuteron (Ahrens *et al.*, 2006). The upper panel of this figure displays the total cross section, which yields a considerably smaller resonance peak than predicted for free nucleons (MAID) and also by the dynamical model of Arenhövel et al. (2004). However, the measured helicity difference (lower panel) agrees well with both models. The experiment has been continued to energies up to W=1.8 GeV at ELSA (Dutz et al., 2005), yielding positive values of typically 50 μ b above the resonance region. This contrasts the proton result, which turns out negative in this region. Both experimental findings agree with the prediction of Regge theory that the asymptotic tail of $\Delta \sigma$ should be positive for the neutron and negative for the proton (Bianchi and Thomas, 1999; Simula et al., 2002).



FIG. 38. The total photoabsorption cross section σ_T (upper panel) and the helicity difference $\Delta \sigma = \sigma_{3/2} - \sigma_{1/2}$ (lower panel) for the deuteron. Experimental data are from Ahrens *et al.* (2006) (solid circles), MacCormick *et al.* (1997) (open circles), and Armstrong *et al.* (1972) (asterisks). Theoretical predictions are from MAID03 (dashed lines) and Arenhövel *et al.* (2004) (solid lines). From Ahrens *et al.*, 2006.

3. GDH sum rule

The GDH sum rule, Eq. (115), relates the anomalous magnetic moment (AMM) of a particle to an energyweighted integral over the helicity-dependent photoabsorption cross sections. This relation bears out that a finite value of the AMM requires the existence of an excitation spectrum, and that both phenomena are different aspects of a particle with intrinsic degrees of freedom. A further property of composite objects is their spatial extension in terms of size and shape, which reveals itself through the form factors measured by elastic lepton scattering. In conclusion, the discovery of the proton's large AMM by Stern et al. (1933a, 1933b) marked the beginning of hadronic physics. The experiment indicated that the proton was a microcosm in itself, and in this sense the findings of Stern and collaborators were revolutionary. Today, 75 years later, we are still struggling to describe the structure of strongly interacting particles in a quantitative way. At this point the reader may well ask why should the GDH sum rule exist and what do we learn from it. In fact it was pointed out many years ago that the GDH sum rule holds at leading order in perturbation theory for the standard model of electroweak interactions (Altarelli et al., 1972). Later on this result was generalized to any $2 \rightarrow 2$ process in supersymmetric and other field theories (Brodsky and Schmidt, 1995). The essential criterion is that these theories start from pointlike particles, and then the GDH sum rule should hold order by order in the coupling constant. As an example, the GDH sum rule has been proven in QED up to $O(e^6)$ (Dicus and Vega, 2001). In passing we note that the GDH sum rule was also investigated in quantum gravity to one-loop order (Goldberg 2000). The result was a violation of the sum rule, which may, however, be due to our ignorance of quantum gravity in the strong coupling (high-energy) limit.

The AMM of a particle is defined by the following relation between the total magnetic moment $\vec{\mu}$ and the spin \vec{S} :

$$\vec{\mu} = (e/M)(Q + \kappa)\vec{S},\tag{117}$$

with eQ the charge and M the mass of the particle. We also recall that the ratio between the magnetic moment $\vec{\mu}$ and the orbital angular momentum L of a uniformly charged rotating body is eQ/2M, whereas Eq. (117) yields eQ/M as the ratio between the "normal" magnetic moment $\vec{\mu}$ and the spin \vec{S} , because of the gyromagnetic ratio g=2 predicted by Dirac's equation for a spin particle. Contrary to the conjecture by Belinfante (1953) that g=1/S, the "natural" value of the gyromagnetic ratio is g=2 for every point particle, independent of its spin. This is necessary if one insists on a wellbehaved high-energy scattering amplitude and a reliable perturbative expansion (Weinberg, 1970; Ferrara et al., 1992), in the sense that any deviation from this value must be related to finite size effects. Such spatially extended phenomena, however, do not affect the highenergy limit of Compton scattering. In particular Brodsky and Primack (1969) verified the GDH sum rule for a composite system of any spin on the basis of the spindependent interaction currents associated with the cm motion. To further illustrate this point consider the small AMM of the electron, which can be evaluated in QED to ten decimal places. Since the associated photonelectron loops are spread over a spatial volume of about 10º fm³, a high-energy photon of a few hundred MeV or a wavelength $\lambda \leq 1$ fm will decouple from such a large volume. Therefore the AMM does not affect the highenergy limit and, along the same lines, the AMM of the electron does not keep us back from using the electron as an ideal point particle to study the form factors of the nucleon (Drechsel and Bermuth, 1991).

The left-hand side (lhs) of the GDH sum rule, Eq. (115), yields $I_{\text{GDH}}^p = 205 \ \mu \text{b}$ and $I_{\text{GDH}}^n = 233 \ \mu \text{b}$ for the proton and neutron, respectively. However, the first estimates based on the then existing photoproduction data led to 261 μ b for the proton and 183 μ b for the neutron (Karliner, 1973). Over the years the predictions moved even further away from the sum rule values in spite of improving data, because these data were not sensitive to the helicity difference of the inclusive cross sections. Many explanations for an apparent violation of the sum rule followed, but in view of the new experimental evidence we discard these ideas. Table II summarizes our present knowledge on the GDH integral and the forward spin polarizability of the proton. The threshold contribution for $\nu \leq 0.2$ GeV is evaluated by the MAID multipole analysis of pion photoproduction (Drechsel et al., 1999), with an error estimated by comparing to the

TABLE II. The contribution of various energy regions to the GDH integral I_{GDH}^p and the forward spin polarizability γ_0^p of the proton.

Energy (GeV)	$I^p_{ m GDH}\ (\mu { m b})$	$\gamma_0^p \ (10^{-4} { m fm}^4)$
≤0.2	-28.5 ± 2	0.95 ± 0.05
0.2-0.8	$226 \pm 5 \pm 12$	$-1.87 \pm 0.08 \pm 0.10$
0.8–2.9	$27.5 \pm 2.0 \pm 1.2$	-0.03
≥2.9	-14 ± 2	+0.01
Total	211 ± 15	-0.94 ± 0.15
Sum rule	204	

SAID analysis (Arndt et al., 2002). The resonance region up to $\nu = 2.9 \text{ GeV}$ is determined by the experimental data taken at MAMI (Ahrens et al., 2000, 2001) and ELSA (Dutz et al., 2003, 2005), and the asymptotic contribution is based on the Regge analysis of DIS (Bianchi and Thomas, 1999; Simula et al., 2002). Summing these contributions, the GDH sum rule value is obtained within the given error bars. Because of the different energy weighting, the forward spin polarizability converges much better and is therefore completely determined by the existing data. Because the helicity dependent cross section σ_{TT} is strongly energy dependent, the GDH integral is sensitive to experimental errors. It is therefore satisfying that all decay channels were separately identified in the range of $200 \le \nu \le 800$ MeV. The one-pion channel opens at $\nu_0 \approx 150$ MeV and dominates the cross section up to $\nu \approx 500$ MeV, except for small contributions due to radiative decay and the onset of two-pion production. The helicity-dependent cross section for the one-pion channel has the following multipole expansion (Drechsel and Tiator, 1992):

$$\sigma_{TT}^{\pi} = 4\pi \frac{\kappa}{q} \{ |E_{0+}|^2 - |M_{1+}|^2 + 6 \operatorname{Re}(E_{1+}^*M_{1+}) + 3|E_{1+}|^2 + |M_{1-}|^2 - |E_{2-}|^2 - 6 \operatorname{Re}(E_{2-}^*M_{2-}) + 3|M_{2-}|^2 \pm \cdots \}.$$
(118)

As we have seen, the threshold region was not covered by the experiment. The dominant multipole in this region is E_{0+} , which corresponds to an electric dipole (E1) transition leading to the production of (mostly charged) pions in an s wave. This multipole is well-described by pion photoproduction data at threshold (see Sec. V.A), CPT (Bernard, Kaiser, et al., 1991), dispersion theory (Hanstein et al., 1997), and phenomenological analysis (Drechsel et al., 1999; Arndt et al., 2002). With increasing photon energy, the first resonance becomes more dominant, mainly because of the magnetic dipole transition to $\Delta(1232)$. Although the associated electric quadrupole transition is suppressed by $R_{EM} = E_{1^+}/M_{1^+}$, the GDH experiment permits an independent measurement (Ahrens *et al.*, 2004) because the product $E_{1+}^*M_{1+}$ appears with a factor of 6 in Eq. (118). Altogether the MAMI data are in good agreement with the multipole analysis in the first



FIG. 39. The total cross section σ_T and the helicity difference $\Delta \sigma = \sigma_{3/2} - \sigma_{1/2}$ for the reaction $\vec{\gamma}\vec{p} \rightarrow n\pi^+\pi^0$. Theoretical predictions are shown by solid lines (Hirata *et al.*, 2003), dashed lines (Nacher and Oset, 2002), and dotted lines (Holvoet, 2001). Data are from MAMI (Ahrens *et al.*, 2003a, 2003b). Figure completed by L. Tiator.

resonance region (Drechsel *et al.*, 1999; Arndt *et al.*, 2002). However, even relatively small effects count because this region provides the lion's share to the sum rule, that is about 175 μ b between ν =250 and 450 MeV. In a similar way the $N \rightarrow D_{13}$ (1520) transition was studied (Ahrens *et al.*, 2002). The multipoles E_{2^-} and M_{2^-} , E_{1} and M_2 transitions, respectively, are related to the helicity amplitudes of this resonance as follows:

$$A_{1/2}^{1520} \sim E_{2^-} - 3M_{2^-}, \quad A_{3/2}^{1520} \sim \sqrt{3}(E_{2^-} + M_{2^-}).$$
 (119)

The new data yield $A_{1/2} = -38 \pm 3$ and $A_{3/2} = 147 \pm 10$, to be compared with the listing of the PDG, -24 ± 9 and 166 ± 5 (Yao *et al.*, 2006), all in units of 10^{-3} GeV^{-1/2}. The given examples demonstrate that double-polarization experiments provide a sensitive tool to study resonance properties.

Although the threshold for two-pion production already lies in the Δ region, these channels become important only for $\nu \ge 500$ MeV. The channels $n\pi^+\pi^0$, $p\pi^+\pi^-$, and $p\pi^0\pi^0$ were separately analyzed at MAMI (Ahrens et al., 2003a, 2003b). As an example, Fig. 39 shows the cross sections for the reaction $\vec{\gamma}\vec{p} \rightarrow n\pi^+\pi^0$, which also exhibits a clear dominance of $\sigma_{3/2}$ over $\sigma_{1/2}$. The interesting and previously unexpected feature is the peaking of the respective cross section at $\nu \approx 700 \text{ MeV}$ or W \approx 1480 MeV, below the positions of the D_{13} (1520) and S_{11} (1535) resonances. This proves that two-pion production cannot be explained by a resonance driven mechanism as was assumed in earlier estimates for the sum rule. The η channel provides another interesting contribution to the sum rule. This channel is dominated by the resonance S_{11} (1535), which has an exceptionally large branching ratio of about 50% for η decay. Because this resonance has $\ell = 0$, it only contributes to the helicity cross section $\sigma_{1/2}$ (Ahrens *et al.*, 2003b). For further information on the helicity structure of the different channels, see Krusche and Schadmand (2003). The work of the GDH Collaboration at ELSA and MAMI has been summarized by Helbing (2006). Several other ongoing activities or proposals for future experiments have been reported at conferences by the LEGS Collaboration at

TABLE III. The magnetic moment μ in units of the nuclear magneton μ_N , the AMM κ , and the GDH sum rule I_{GDH} in units of μ b for electrons, protons, neutrons, deuterons, and ³He nuclei as well as fully polarized hydrogen atoms and butanol molecules.

	е	р	п	d	³ He	$^{1}\mathrm{H}$	C ₄ H ₉ OH
μ	-1838	2.79	-1.91	0.86	-2.13	-1836	-2×10^{4}
κ	-1.2×10^{-3}	1.79	-1.92	-0.14	-8.37	-918	-7×10^{4}
$I_{\rm GDH}$	289	205	233	0.65	498	10^{8}	10^{9}

BNL, several groups at the GRAAL and Spring-8 facilities, the CLAS Collaboration at Jefferson Laboratory, and the E-159 Collaboration at SLAC. Such further experiments will be invaluable as independent tests of the sum rules, in particular at the higher energies in order to probe the soft Regge physics in the spin-dependent forward Compton amplitude.

Table III shows the AMM for the nucleons and standard "neutron targets." The most striking observation is the tiny value of κ for the deuteron, a loosely bound proton-neutron system, which has isospin I=0 and spin S=1 and is essentially in a relative s state. The interplay between nuclear and subnuclear degrees of freedom in the deuteron has been studied by Arenhövel et al. (2004). It turns out that the most important nuclear channel is deuteron disintegration, $\gamma + d \rightarrow p + n$, which yields a maximum value of $\sigma_P - \sigma_A \approx -1800 \ \mu b$ at ν \approx 2.3 MeV. This large helicity asymmetry is due to the M1 transition ${}^{3}S_{1} \rightarrow {}^{1}S_{0}$, which changes the magnetic moments of the proton and neutron from parallel to antiparallel. Due to the energy denominator ν in the GDH integral, it is precisely the small excitation energy of the weakly bound deuteron that provides this large negative contribution to the GDH integral. On the contrary, the $N \rightarrow \Delta$ transition aligns the quark spins and peaks at $\nu \approx 330 \text{ MeV}$ with a maximum value of $\sigma_P - \sigma_A$ \approx 1100 µb for free nucleons. As a result, the large negative contribution of deuteron breakup is cancelled by large positive contributions of the subnuclear degrees of freedom, and this happens to three decimal places. The other neutron target is ³He, a system of two protons with spins paired off and an "active" neutron, essentially again in s states of relative motion. As a result we find $\mu_{^{3}\text{He}} \approx \mu_{n} < 0$, whereas Eq. (117) predicts a "normal" moment of $\frac{2}{3}\mu_N$. Therefore the AMM of ³He has a large negative value, which leads to a large and positive GDH integral.

The recent experiments to determine the GDH sum rule for the neutron I_{GDH}^n have been performed with a frozen-spin deuterated butanol (C₄D₉OD) target (Ahrens *et al.*, 2006) and a frozen-spin ⁶LiD target (Dutz *et al.*, 2005). Setting aside the problems on the molecular and atomic levels, these experiments provide polarized deuterons whose helicity-dependent response has been measured in the energy region $200 < \nu < 800$ MeV. From the above discussion, a quantitative extraction of I_{GDH}^n is necessarily model dependent. Even the calculation of Arenhövel et al. (2004) misses the GDH sum rule for the deuteron by nearly 30 μ b and overestimates the total photoabsorption in the region of $\Delta(1232)$. It is therefore mandatory to also measure the different decay channels in order to constrain the theoretical analysis. Such experiments are in progress, and the first results for the one-pion channels are already available (Ahrens et al., 2006). To lowest order we may assume that I_{GDH}^p $+I_{GDH}^{n}$ should be given by the GDH integral for the deuteron, if extended from pion threshold to infinity. On the basis of the present analysis we conclude that more than 60% of this contribution is due to π^0 production and another third from two-pion channels with at least one charged pion. Furthermore, Fig. 38 shows reasonable agreement between the data and the MAID model in the $\Delta(1232)$ resonance region, in which the model yields similar values for the proton and neutron. The additional sum rule strength for the neutron should therefore come from energies above $\Delta(1232)$; and indeed, the ELSA experiment (Dutz et al., 2005) vields a contribution of about 34 µb between 815 and 1825 MeV, contrary to earlier estimates. Furthermore, the integrand remains positive at the highest energies, which could indicate a further contribution of about 40 μ b on the basis of Regge models. In conclusion, the present experiments confirm the GDH sum rules for the proton and neutron, however, with a large systematical error in the latter case. It is also likely that the isovector combination $I_{\text{GDH}}^p - I_{\text{GDH}}^n$ turns out negative, as required by the sum rule prediction of $-28 \ \mu b$.

The interplay of nuclear and subnuclear degrees of freedom is based on general principles like low-energy theorems and dispersion relations. A complete answer to the remaining questions calls for experiments covering both the nuclear and the subnuclear energy range. It is therefore promising that programs are being developed for energies between nuclear breakup and pion threshold at Duke (TUNL/HI γ S) (Weller, 2003), both for the nuclear physics aspects by themselves and as a test of many-body calculations that are required for further studies of the GDH sum rule of the neutron. We conclude this section with a possibly academic but still interesting question. Although we have discussed about nucleons and nuclei as targets, we could as well think about projects to measure the GDH sum rule for atoms or molecules. Table III shows the AMM κ and the GDH sum rule I for several such systems. Comparison of the different hierarchies is quite amusing. If one tried to reconstruct, for example, the AMM of the hydrogen atom by a GDH integral over its atomic spectrum in the eV or keV region, one would find physics beyond: the physics of e^+e^- pair production at the MeV scale (QED) and hadronic physics above pion threshold (QCD).

B. Sum rules for virtual photons

Doubly virtual Compton scattering (VVCS) offers a useful framework to study generalized GDH integrals



FIG. 40. The two-photon exchange diagram. The blob represents the possible intermediate states of the hadronic system.

and polarizabilities (Ji, 1993). This process is based on the idea that an incident virtual photon with definite energy ν and virtuality $Q^2 > 0$ (spacelike) hits a nucleon and excites this hadronic system, which eventually decays into a nucleon and an outgoing virtual photon with the same value of Q^2 . Although this reaction cannot be realized experimentally, it is not merely a theoretical construct. As pointed out, the imaginary part of this amplitude can be obtained by elastic scattering of transversely polarized electrons off unpolarized targets (De Rujula et al., 1971). The asymmetry with regard to changing the transverse polarization is parity conserving but time-reversal odd and therefore vanishes in the onephoton exchange approximation. It appears only at subleading order as the product of the (real) Born amplitude for one-photon exchange and the imaginary part of the two-photon exchange diagram shown by Fig. 40. This imaginary part is related to the VVCS tensor, however, the experiment can only determine a weighted integral over a range of virtualities Q^2 , whereas the VVCS tensor refers to a fixed value of Q^2 . A pioneering experiment to measure this asymmetry has been performed at MIT Bates (Wells et al., 2001), and more data are now available from MAMI (Maas, 2005; Maas et al., 2005). These measurements show that even for moderate virtualities, $Q^2 \approx 0.1 \text{ GeV}^2$, the asymmetry is dominated by excited states of the nucleon, notably the $\Delta(1232)$ resonance. The same physical effect can also be observed for other single-spin asymmetries, such as the transverse target asymmetry or the normal recoil polarization for an unpolarized electron beam.

1. VVCS and nucleon structure functions

The absorption of a virtual photon on a nucleon N is described by inclusive electroproduction, $e + N \rightarrow e' + X$. The cross section for this reaction takes the form (Drechsel et al., 2001)

$$d\sigma/d\Omega_2 d\epsilon_2 = \Gamma_V \sigma(\nu, Q^2), \qquad (120)$$

$$\sigma = \sigma_T + \varepsilon \sigma_L - h P_x \sqrt{2\varepsilon(1-\varepsilon)} \sigma_{LT} - h P_z \sqrt{1-\epsilon^2} \sigma_{TT}.$$
(121)

Comparing this form with Eqs. (27) and (28), we find that the transverse (σ_T) and longitudinal (σ_I) absorption cross sections are obtained by integration of the respective differential cross sections over the angles of the emitted pion, and in general by integrating over all angles and energies of the produced particles. The two (inclusive) spin-flip cross sections σ_{TT} and σ_{LT} , can only be measured with polarized electrons (helicity $h=\pm 1$) and target polarization in the direction of the virtual photon momentum (P_z) and perpendicular to that direction in the scattering plane (P_x) , respectively, or equivalent recoil polarizations. In order to avoid a possible misunderstanding, we note that these inclusive spin-flip cross sections are not related to the differential cross sections $d\sigma_{TT}/d\Omega_{\pi}^*$ and $d\sigma_{LT}/d\Omega_{\pi}^*$ of Eq. (28) but obtained from double-polarization" cross sections not shown in that equation. The following discussion concentrates on the spin-flip cross sections, which are related to the spin-dependent nucleon structure functions g_1 and g_2 by (Drechsel *et al.*, 2003)

$$\sigma_{TT} = (4\pi^2 \alpha_{\rm em}/MK)(g_1 - \gamma^2 g_2), \qquad (122)$$

$$\sigma_{LT} = (4\pi^2 \alpha_{\rm em}/MK) \gamma(g_1 + g_2), \qquad (123)$$

with $\gamma = Q/\nu$ and K the photon equivalent energy defined by Eq. (29). The nucleon structure functions are usually expressed as functions of the Bjorken variable $x = Q^2/2M\nu$, i.e., $g_{1,2} = g_{1,2}(x, Q^2)$.

The VVCS amplitude for forward scattering of virtual photons generalizes Eq. (61) by introducing an additional longitudinal polarization vector \hat{q} ,

$$T(\nu, Q^{2}, \theta = 0) = \vec{\varepsilon}'^{*} \cdot \vec{\varepsilon} f_{T}(\nu, Q^{2}) + f_{L}(\nu, Q^{2}) + i\vec{\sigma} \cdot (\vec{\varepsilon}'^{*} \times \vec{\varepsilon}) g_{TT}(\nu, Q^{2}) + i(\vec{\varepsilon}'^{*} - \vec{\varepsilon}) \cdot (\vec{\sigma} \times \hat{q}) g_{LT}(\nu, Q^{2}).$$
(124)

Because the total amplitude is crossing even, the amplitude $g_{TT}(\nu)$ is an odd function of ν whereas $g_{LT}(\nu)$ is even. In order to set up dispersion relations, we have to construct the imaginary parts of the amplitudes with contributions from both elastic and inelastic scattering. The elastic contributions are obtained from the direct and crossed Born diagrams with nucleons in the intermediate states and expressed by the nucleon form factors of Sec. II.B,

$$g_{TT}^{\rm el} = -\frac{\alpha_{\rm em}\nu}{2M^2} \left(F_2^2 + \frac{Q^2}{\nu^2 - \nu_B^2 + i\varepsilon} G_M^2 \right),$$
$$g_{LT}^{\rm el} = \frac{\alpha_{\rm em}Q}{2M^2} \left(F_1 F_2 - \frac{Q^2}{\nu^2 - \nu_B^2 + i\varepsilon} G_E G_M \right),$$
(125)

with $\nu_B = Q^2/2M$. We note that the amplitudes of Eq. (125) have been split into a real contribution and a complex term containing the nucleon poles at $v = \pm v_B \mp i\varepsilon$. The inelastic contributions are regular functions in the complex ν plane except for cuts from $-\infty$ to $-\nu_0$ and $+\nu_0$ to $+\infty$. The optical theorem relates the inelastic contributions to the partial cross sections of inclusive electroproduction,

Im
$$g_{TT}(\nu, Q^2) = (K/4\pi)\sigma_{TT}(\nu, Q^2),$$
 (126)

Im
$$g_{LT}(\nu, Q^2) = (K/4\pi)\sigma_{LT}(\nu, Q^2),$$
 (127)

where the products $K\sigma_{TT/LT}$ are independent of the choice of K because they are directly proportional to the measured cross section. Comparing the above equations with the results for real photons in Sec. VI.A, we find distinct differences. In particular, the transition from real to virtual photons is not straightforward, because the limits $Q^2 \rightarrow 0$ and $\nu \rightarrow 0$ cannot be interchanged (Ji, 1993). This happens because the Born amplitudes of VVCS have poles, which also provide imaginary contributions to the amplitudes. In more physical terms, the crucial difference between the (spacelike) virtual and the real photon is that the former can be absorbed by a charged particle whereas the latter can only be absorbed at zero frequency, $\nu=0$. At this point, however, the real photon amplitudes can be expanded in a Taylor series whose leading terms are determined by the Born terms. In particular, $g_{TT}^{el}(\nu,0)$ reproduces exactly the leading term of the spin-flip amplitude $g(\nu)$ of Eq. (63). The GDH sum rule is then obtained by equating this power series to an expansion of the dispersion integral over the imaginary parts from the inelastic processes for $\nu > \nu_0$. The virtual photon case differs in two aspects: The imaginary parts stem from both elastic and inelastic processes, and the real parts of the amplitudes have two poles in the ν plane.

2. Dispersion relations and sum rules

We next turn to the sum rules for the spin-dependent VVCS amplitudes. Subtracting the pole terms from the full amplitude, we obtain the following dispersion relation:

$$\operatorname{Re} g_{TT}^{\operatorname{disp}}(\nu, Q^{2}) = \operatorname{Re}[g_{TT}(\nu, Q^{2}) - g_{TT}^{\operatorname{pole}}(\nu, Q^{2})]$$
$$= \frac{\nu}{2\pi^{2}} \mathcal{P} \int_{\nu_{0}}^{\infty} \frac{K(\nu', Q^{2})\sigma_{TT}(\nu', Q^{2})}{\nu'^{2} - \nu^{2}} d\nu'.$$
(128)

Because this amplitude is regular below the first threshold $\nu = \nu_0$, it can be expanded in a Taylor series at $\nu = 0$. The result is

Re
$$g_{TT}^{\text{disp}}(\nu, Q^2) = \frac{2\alpha_{\text{em}}}{M^2} I_{TT}(Q^2)\nu + \gamma_{TT}(Q^2)\nu^3 + \cdots,$$
(129)

where

$$I_{TT}(Q^2) = \frac{M^2}{\pi e^2} \int_{\nu_0}^{\infty} \frac{K(\nu, Q^2)\sigma_{TT}(\nu, Q^2)}{\nu^2} d\nu, \qquad (130)$$

$$\gamma_{TT}(Q^2) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int_{\nu_0}^{\infty} \frac{K(\nu, Q^2)\sigma_{TT}(\nu, Q^2)}{\nu^4} d\nu.$$
(131)

Comparing these expressions with Eq. (63), we find $I_{TT}(0) = -\kappa^2/4$ and $\gamma_{TT}(0) = \gamma_0$. The corresponding equations for the crossing-even amplitude g_{LT} are

$$I_{LT}(Q^2) = \frac{M^2}{\pi e^2} \int_{\nu_0}^{\infty} \frac{K(\nu, Q^2) \sigma_{LT}(\nu, Q^2)}{Q\nu} d\nu, \qquad (132)$$

$$\delta_{LT}(Q^2) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int_{\nu_0}^{\infty} \frac{K(\nu, Q^2)\sigma_{LT}(\nu, Q^2)}{Q\nu^3} d\nu.$$
(133)

Both functions are finite in the real photon limit because σ_{LT}/Q in the integrand is finite for $Q^2 \rightarrow 0$. Furthermore, it follows from Eq. (123) that σ_{LT} can be replaced by g_1+g_2 , the sum of the spin-dependent structure functions. In the limit of large Q^2 , Wandzura and Wilczek (1977) have shown that g_1+g_2 can be expressed in terms of the twist-2 spin structure function g_1 if the dynamical (twist-3) quark-gluon correlations are neglected,

$$g_1(x,Q^2) + g_2(x,Q^2) = \int_x^1 dy \frac{g_1(y,Q^2)}{y}.$$
 (134)

In order to compare with the notation of DIS, we define the inelastic contributions to the first moments of the spin structure functions,

$$\Gamma_{1,2}^{\text{inel}}(Q^2) = \int_0^{x_0} g_{1,2}(x,Q^2) dx = (Q^2/2M^2) I_{1,2}(Q^2),$$
(135)

where the integration runs over the Bjorken variable from x=0 (or $\nu \rightarrow \infty$) to $x=x_0$ (or $\nu=\nu_0$). Because the above integrals include the excited spectrum only, one has to add the elastic contribution in order to obtain the first moment of the structure functions. At small values of Q^2 the full structure functions are dominated by elastic contributions, which can be constructed once the nucleon form factors are known. With increasing resolution Q^2 the coherent response of the many-body system nucleon decreases, whereas incoherent scattering processes on individual constituents become more important. In particular, elastic contributions to the nucleon structure functions vanish like Q^{-10} .

There exist two sum rules for the moments of the structure functions. The first one was originally derived from current algebra and, therefore, is also a prediction of QCD. It deals with the isovector combination of the first spin structure function in the limit $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$ (Bjorken, 1966, 1970),

$$\Gamma_{1}^{p}(Q^{2}) - \Gamma_{1}^{n}(Q^{2}) = \int_{0}^{1} (g_{1}^{p}(x,Q^{2}) - g_{1}^{p}(x,Q^{2}))dx$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{6}g_{A} \left\{ 1 - \frac{\alpha_{s}(Q^{2})}{\pi} + O\left(\alpha_{s}^{2}, \frac{M^{4}}{Q^{4}}\right) \right\},$$
(136)

with g_A the axial-vector coupling constant and α_s the running coupling constant of the strong interaction. The other sum rule is a prediction for the second spin structure function (Burkhardt and Cottingham, 1970),



$$\Gamma_2^N(Q^2) = \int_0^1 g_2^N(x, Q^2) dx = 0.$$
(137)

The Burkhardt-Cottingham (BC) sum rule relies on a superconvergence relation for the associated VVCS amplitude such that the dispersion integral exists not only for the odd amplitude $S_2(\nu)$ but also for the even amplitude $\nu S_2(\nu)$. As a result the sum of the elastic and inelastic contributions should vanish. This allows us to cast Eq. (135) in the form

$$I_2^N(Q^2) = \frac{1}{4} F_P^N(Q^2) [F_D^N(Q^2) + F_P^N(Q^2)].$$
(138)

Provided that the assumed convergence criterion is given, the BC sum rule connects the spin structure of the excitation spectrum with ground state properties for each value of Q^2 . Tsai *et al.* (1975) have proven that the BC sum rule is fulfilled for QED to lowest order in the fine structure constant α_{em} . Along the same lines, this sum rule is also fulfilled in perturbative QCD to first order in α_s (Altarelli *et al.*, 1994). Furthermore, it is consistent with the Wandzura-Wilczek relation, as can be proven by integrating Eq. (134) over all values of the Bjorken parameter x. However, the BC sum rule is predicted to be valid at any Q^2 , whereas the Wandzura-Wilczek relation neglects dynamical (twist-3) quarkgluon correlations and higher order terms. The different integrals discussed above are connected by Eqs. (122) and (123). In particular, their values at the real photon point can be expressed by the charge and the AMM of the nucleon,

$$I_1^N(0) = -\frac{1}{4}\kappa_N^2, \quad I_2^N(0) = \frac{1}{4}\kappa_N(e_N + \kappa_N),$$
$$I_{TT}^N(0) = -\frac{1}{4}\kappa_N^2, \quad I_{LT}^N(0) = \frac{1}{4}e_N\kappa_N.$$
(139)

FIG. 41. The helicity difference $\Delta \sigma = \sigma_{3/2} - \sigma_{1/2}$ for the proton as a function of the cm energy *W* for different values of Q^2 (Drechsel *et al.*, 1999). The total helicity difference (solid line) shown as well as contributions from one-pion (dashed line), more-pion (dash-dotted line), and η (dotted line) production. From Drechsel and Tiator, 2004.

3. Helicity structure of the cross sections

The helicity-dependent cross sections $\sigma_{TT}(\nu, Q^2)$ and $\sigma_{LT}(\nu, Q^2)$ determine the GDH-like integrals and the polarizabilities defined above. For momentum transfers $Q^2 \leq 0.5 \text{ GeV}^2$, the bulk contribution to these cross sections stems from one-pion production, which is reasonably well-known over the resonance region. The threshold region is dominated by s-wave production (E_{0+}, S_{0+}) accompanied by much smaller contributions of the pwaves $(M_{1\pm}, E_{1\pm}, S_{1\pm})$. Low-energy theorems, the predictions of CPT, and several new precision experiments have provided a solid basis for the multipole decomposition in that region. The data are also quite reliable in the first resonance region. Although the leading M_{1+} multipole drops with Q^2 somewhat faster than the dipole form factor, it dominates that region up to large momentum transfers. In higher resonance regions, the multipole decomposition is known only semiquantitatively. In particular, there is as yet little reliable information on σ_{LT} , except that it is generally small. This fact is not consoling in the context of the sum rules because the integral I_{LT} of Eq. (132) does not converge well. However, improvements in the data are expected from the wealth of ongoing and planned polarization experiments.

The helicity difference $\Delta\sigma$ of the proton is displayed in Fig. 41 as function of the cm energy W for several values of the virtuality. The figure shows negative values near threshold because there the pions are produced in s waves leading to $\sigma_{1/2}$ dominance. With increasing values of Q^2 , the s-wave production drops rapidly. $\Delta(1232)$ yields large positive values because of the strong M1 transition, which aligns the quark spins (paramagnetism). For small values of Q^2 , the second and third resonance regions also contribute with a positive sign. However, this sign has changed already at $Q^2 = 0.5 \text{ GeV}^2$. We study this effect for $N^*(1520)$ with multipoles E_{2-} and $M_{\rm 2-}$. According to Eq. (118) this resonance yields $\Delta\sigma$ $\sim |E_{2-}|^2 + 6 \operatorname{Re}(E_2^*M_{2-}) - 3|M_{2-}|^2$. This value is positive at the real photon point where the electric dipole radiation (E1) dominates over the magnetic quadrupole radiation (M2). Yet as the magnetic term increases with Q^2 faster than the electric one, the helicity difference becomes negative for $Q^2 \approx 0.3 \text{ GeV}^2$. The latter finding is in agreement with perturbative QCD, which predicts the dominance of helicity $\frac{1}{2}$ states at sufficiently large momentum transfer. Figure 41 also shows an overall decrease of the resonance structures with increasing values of Q^2 because the coherent resonance effects are of long range and therefore strongly damped by form factors. Finally, for momentum transfer beyond 4 GeV^2 , the resonance structures become small fluctuations on top of a broad background, the low-energy tail of DIS.

4. Recent data for GDH-like integrals

The Bjorken sum rule of Eq. (136) has been confirmed by a series of experiments. A fit to all available DIS data (Anthony *et al.*, 2000) yields the following asymptotic values: $\Gamma_1^p = 0.118 \pm 0.004 \pm 0.007$, $\Gamma_1^n = -0.058 \pm 0.005 \pm 0.008$, and $\Gamma_1^p - \Gamma_1^n = 0.176 \pm 0.003 \pm 0.007$, in good agreement with the sum rule prediction of 0.182 ± 0.005 . The small value of Γ_1^p , on the other hand, led to the "spin crisis" of the 1980s and taught us that less than half of the nucleon's spin is carried by quarks. With regard to the second spin structure function, the BC sum rule predicts that $\Gamma_2(Q^2)$ vanishes identically for all Q^2 , and therefore the inelastic and elastic contributions should have the same absolute value, namely, $O(Q^{-10})$ in the scaling limit.

Figure 42 shows the Q^2 dependence of I_1^p . The rapid increase from large negative values near the real photon point to positive values in the DIS region is particularly striking. The Jefferson Laboratory data of Fatemi et al. (2003) clearly confirm the sign change of I_1^p at Q^2 $\approx 0.3 \text{ GeV}^2$. These data are in good agreement with the MAID estimate which covers the same energy region. However, with increasing momentum transfer the DIS contributions at the higher energies become more important. Altogether we see a rather dramatic transition from resonance-dominated coherent processes at low Q^2 to incoherent partonic contributions at large Q^2 . This physics is driven by (I) the strong damping of the longrange coherent effects by form factors, and (II) the change from $\frac{3}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ helicity dominance in the second and third resonance regions. The neutron integral as displayed in Fig. 43 shows a similar rapid increase with Q^2 , except that I_1^n approaches zero right away. The MAID prediction for the one-pion channel is in reasonable agreement with the resonance data (Amarian et al., 2002) except for the region of small momentum transfer. This disagreement may have its origin in uncorrected binding effects of the "neutron target" in the MAID multipoles and/or the data analysis. In Fig. 42 we also dis-



FIG. 42. The Q^2 dependence of the integral I_1^p defined by Eq. (135). Open circles show the resonance contribution (W < 2 GeV), the solid symbols also include the DIS contribution. Data are from Fatemi *et al.* (2003), CLAS Collaboration (circles), Abe *et al.* (1998), SLAC (diamonds), and Airapetian *et al.* (2003), HERMES (triangles). Solid line, MAID including all channels up to W=2 GeV; dashed line, one-pion channel only; dotted, $O(p^4)$ prediction of HBCPT (Ji *et al.*, 2000); dashdotted, relativistic baryon CPT (Bernard, Hemmert, and Meißner, 2002, 2003); and dash-dot-dotted, interpolating formula of Anselmino *et al.* (1989); asterisk, sum rule value at $Q^2=0$. From Drechsel and Tiator, 2004.

play the predictions from heavy baryon CPT to $O(p^4)$ of Ji *et al.* (2000) and relativistic baryon CPT to $O(p^4)$ of Bernard, Hemmert, and Meißner (2002, 2003). The figure shows that the chiral expansion can be only applied



FIG. 43. The Q^2 dependence of the integral I_1^n defined by Eq. (135). Data are from Amarian *et al.* (2002), Jefferson Laboratory E94-010 Collaboration (circles). For further notation see Fig. 42. From Drechsel and Tiator, 2004.



FIG. 44. The Q^2 dependence of the integral I_2^n defined by Eq. (135). Neutron data were obtained by the Jefferson Laboratory E94-010 Collaboration (Amarian *et al.*, 2004b). Dash-dot-dotted line, Burkhardt-Cottingham sum rule of Eq. (135). For further notation see Fig. 42. From Drechsel and Tiator, 2004.

in a limited range of $Q^2 \leq 0.05 \text{ GeV}^2$. The value at the real photon point is, of course, obtained by inserting the AMM as a low-energy constant. However, the slope and the curvature of $I_1(Q^2)$ come about by a complicated interplay of *s*-wave pion and resonance production. Whereas the former process is well described by the pion loops of CPT, the transition form factors and widths of the resonances require a dynamical treatment of both $\Delta(1232)$ and the higher resonance region. However, CPT is able to describe the difference $I_1^p - I_1^n$ over a much larger Q^2 range (Burkert, 2001) because the contributions of $\Delta(1232)$ and other isospin $\frac{3}{2}$ resonances drop out in the isovector combination. This opens the possibility to bridge the gap between the low and high Q^2 regimes, at least for this particular observable.

Figure 44 compares the neutron data of the Jefferson Laboratory E94-010 Collaboration (Amarian et al., 2002) and the MAID prediction for $I_2^n(O^2)$ with the BC sum rule. The MAID result overshoots the BC sum rule at small Q^2 but agrees with the data for $Q^2 \ge 0.1 \text{ GeV}^2$. At the much larger momentum transfer $Q^2 = 5 \text{ GeV}^2$, the SLAC E155 Collaboration has evaluated the BC integral in the measured region of $0.02 \le x \le 0.8$. The results indicate a small deviation from the sum rule, but this could well be compensated by contributions from the unmeasured region. The integrals I_{TT}^n and I_{LT}^n have been derived from the ³He data of the Jefferson Laboratory E94-010 Collaboration (Amarian et al., 2002, 2004b) and corrected for nuclear effects by Ciofi degli Atti and Scopetta (1997). The data for I_{TT}^n show qualitatively the same behavior as the discussed integral I_1^n . The integral I_{LT}^n is displayed in Fig. 45. This observable deserves attention because it samples information from the longitudinal-transverse cross section. As indicated by Eq. (132), the convergence of I_{LT}^n requires that σ_{LT} drops faster than $1/\nu$ at large ν . Because the longitudinal-transverse interference involves a helicity flip, this is likely to happen at sufficiently large ν . However, there is little experimental information on σ_{LT} over the whole energy region, and therefore the phenomeno-



FIG. 45. The Q^2 dependence of the neutron integral I_{LT}^n defined by Eq. (132). Open circles, the resonance contribution (W < 2 GeV) measured by Amarian *et al.* (2002, 2004b) at Jefferson Laboratory; and closed solid circles, resonance contribution plus estimate for DIS region. See Fig. 42 for further notation. From Drechsel and Tiator, 2004.

logical description is on shaky ground. The zero of I_{LT}^n at $Q^2=0$ is interesting because this requires a complete cancellation of resonance and DIS contributions. The agreement between the new Jefferson Laboratory data (Amarian *et al.*, 2004b) and MAID in the resonance region (W < 2 GeV) is satisfactory, except for the real photon point where both the experimental and theoretical error bars increase. Furthermore, the contribution of DIS is known to be large and negative over the full Q^2 region, which brings the integral much closer to zero at $Q^2=0$. Concerning the CPT calculations (Ji *et al.*, 2000; Bernard *et al.*, 2003), the zero value at the photon point is of course taken for granted, but the steep slope is a prediction.

5. Generalized polarizabilities

In Sec. VI.A we discussed the cancellation between negative and positive contributions to GDH-like integrals, and in particular the rapid change of the integrals as functions of momentum transfer. For the generalized polarizabilities, the integrands are weighted by an additional factor ν^{-2} or x^2 , which enhances the importance of the threshold region relative to resonance excitations and suppresses contributions of the DIS continuum above W=2 GeV. Figures 46 and 47 display the transverse-transverse (γ_{TT}) and longitudinal-transverse (δ_{LT}) polarizabilities as function of Q^2 . As in the case of I_{TT}^{n} , the data for γ_{TT}^{n} (Amarian *et al.*, 2004a) show more strength at small Q^2 than predicted for the one-pion contribution. However, the agreement for Q^2 $\geq 0.4 \text{ GeV}^2$ is again satisfactory. In view of the additional weight factor towards the low-energy region, this behavior is another indication that the neutron problem near the real photon point should be related to lowenergy and long-range phenomena. A comparison with the predictions of CPT shows that γ_{TT}^n is a sensitive observable because of the cancellation between s-wave pion production and Δ resonance excitation, as is apparent from Eq. (118). In fact, the additional weight factor ν^{-2} increases this cancellation considerably relative to



FIG. 46. The Q^2 dependence of the generalized neutron polarizability γ_{TT}^n defined by Eq. (131). Open circles are data of the Jefferson Laboratory E94-010 Collaboration (Amarian *et al.*, 2004a). See Fig. 42 for further notation. From Drechsel and Tiator, 2004.

the integral I_{TT} . It is therefore no surprise that CPT cannot describe γ_{TT} without including the Δ resonance; and indeed, the $O(p^3)$ and $O(p^4)$ approximations of HBCPT change from positive to negative values, and also the Lorentz invariant version of CPT misses the real photon point. This behavior changes for the longitudinaltransverse polarizability shown in Fig. 47 because δ_{LT} is dominated by the s-wave term $S_{0+}^*E_{0+}$ in the multipole expansion. The contribution of the Δ resonance is proportional to $S_{1+}^*E_{1+}$, which is suppressed because both amplitudes are small. As a consequence δ_{LT} decreases rapidly as a function of Q^2 without showing any pronounced resonance structures. In other words, the longitudinal-transverse polarization takes place in the outer regions of the nucleon and is mostly due to the pion cloud. This notion is well supported by the fact that the CPT prediction for δ_{LT} is much better than for γ_{TT} .

VII. CONCLUSION

In this review we have concentrated on the bulk properties of hadrons seen at low momentum transfer, such



FIG. 47. The Q^2 dependence of the generalized neutron polarizability δ_{LT}^n defined by Eq. (133). Note that δ_{LT}^n has been multiplied by a factor of $10^4 Q^6 / 16 \alpha_{\rm em} M_p^2$ in order to compensate for its rapid decrease with increasing Q^2 . Open circles are data of the Jefferson Laboratory E94-010 Collaboration (Amarian *et al.*, 2004a). See Fig. 42 for further notation. From Drechsel and Tiator, 2004.

as shape, polarizability, and low-energy excitation spectrum. We have presented precision data implying the compositeness of hadrons based on the interaction among the constituents, quarks and gluons, as prescribed by the QCD Lagrangian. Experiments at high momentum transfer have established this theory as the fundamental theory of strong interactions, with previously unexpected features like asymptotic freedom and chiral symmetry. The great success of QCD at high Q^2 has become possible by the decrease of the strong coupling constant with increasing Q^2 , which allows for a perturbative treatment of QCD in this region. This is not possible in the Q^2 region below 1 GeV², which defines the realm of nonperturbative QCD. Therefore QCD has not yet passed its final tests in the low-energy domain, in which new phenomena show up, as, for instance, the confinement of the many-body system hadron and the spontaneous breaking of the chiral symmetry. In fact, QCD encounters fundamental conceptional problems at low Q^2 : One has to deal with the relativistic many-body aspect, the theoretically not yet understood confinement, and the fundamental strong interaction at the same time. Simplifications of the parton model typical for the high Q^2 physics do not work in the nonperturbative region, and neither is it possible to describe the bound many-body system of the light u and d quarks by basically nonrelativistic physics as is done for systems of heavy quarks.

This review has two points. On the experimental side one has to insist on measurements with the utmost precision. As evident only a new generation of cw accelerators together with modern detectors and data acquisition allow progress after almost two decades of stagnation. However, since the interesting spin observables of the nucleon are still difficult to access, the experiments have to be well chosen. They have to be significant for contributing to our understanding of hadrons in the framework of QCD. For this purpose a profound theoretical guidance is needed. As promising examples of such significant experiments we mention the following.

- A more complete and precise study of meson threshold production, in particular through a study of spin observables (see Sec. V.A) and the production of strange quarks, for example, by kaon electroproduction.
- Real and virtual Compton scattering in order to disentangle all spin polarizabilities of the nucleon by double-polarization experiments (see Sec. IV).
- A new approach to investigating the excitation spectrum of the nucleon, with more attention given to the resonance-background separation (see Sec. V.B). Once more, such experiments require study of the spin observables. Such investigations are also the basis for further progress in understanding the sum rules discussed in Sec. VI.
- The nucleon form factors remain a challenge at both low and high Q^2 (see Sec. III). Improvement of the database at low Q^2 would, however, take much effort

with the existing facilities. We note here to much regret the closure of the MIT Bates storage ring which offered the best means to perform such experiments at low Q^2 .

On the theoretical side the challenges are not insignificant. In this review we have shown several effective models such as constituent quark models, dynamical baryon models, and effective meson field models. All are effective in the sense that they describe the data more or less and provide an insight into the physics. They also provide the necessary guidance for the experiments. However, these models are only inspired by QCD but not fundamentally based on this theory. As of today only two schemes exist that are both directly based on QCD and able to describe the low-energy region: chiral perturbation theory (CPT) and lattice gauge theory (LGT). Ironically the first one works best for small quark masses, whereas the second one requires large quark masses, at least with the computer power of today. The extrapolation between these two approximations is therefore still on shaky ground. However, the following ongoing efforts promise decisive turns in the near future:

- The possibilities for calculating loops beyond the leading order in CPT is improving continously, and the necessary low-energy constants get better constrained by experiment and, maybe, in the near future also by LGT.
- Lattice gauge theory is progressing through more effective algorithms and the growing performance of computers. It appears that the used quark masses will soon approach sufficiently low values to make contact with CPT by a chiral extrapolation of the numerical results from LGT. This would mark an essential breakthrough in low-energy hadron physics.

As became evident in this review, the agreement between experiment and theory is not yet satisfactory in quite a few cases, which leaves major challenges in hadron physics for both sides.

We conclude that the study of hadrons at low energy and momentum transfer is a unique possibility to unravel the structure of a relativistic many-body system in the realm of QCD, one of our most fundamentally based quantum field theories, as is highlighted by the quote from Wilczek (2000): "QCD is our most perfect physical theory."

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