Elastic Form Factors of the Nucleon: Experimental Results

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Electron-Nucleon Elastic Scattering



Nucleon vertex: $\Gamma_{\mu}(p',p)$	$= F_1(Q^2) \gamma_{\mu} +$	$\frac{i\kappa_p}{2M_p} F_2(Q^2) \sigma_{\mu\nu} q^{\nu}$
	Dirac	Pauli

 F_1 is the helicity conserving and F_2 is helicity non-conserving.

$$G_E(Q^2) = F_1(Q^2) - \kappa_N \tau F_2(Q^2) \qquad \tau = \frac{Q^2}{4M_N}$$
$$G_M(Q^2) = F_1(Q^2) + \kappa_N F_2(Q^2)$$

 ${\rm At}\,Q^2=0$

 $G_{Mp} = 2.79, G_{Mn} = -1.91$ and $G_{Ep} = 1, G_{En} = 0$ Extract G_E and G_M from:

- N(e, e') Cross-section measurements
- $\vec{N}(\vec{e},e')N$ Beam-target Asymmetries
- $N(\vec{e},e')\vec{N}$ Recoil polarization

Proton G_E and G_M (before ~1990)



• *ep* elastic cross section

$$\frac{\sigma_r}{\mu^2 G_D^2} = \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \frac{(1+\tau)\epsilon}{\tau \sigma_{Mott}} = \frac{\epsilon}{\tau} \left(\frac{G_E}{\mu G_D}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{G_M}{\mu G_D}\right)^2$$
$$G_D = (1+Q^2/.71)^{-2}$$

• $Q^2 > 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ error on G^p_E grows.

– \mathbf{G}_E^p becomes a smaller fraction of σ

- At Q^2 = 5, G_E^p maximum 8% contribution to σ (assuming $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$ = 1)

Neutron G_M (before \sim 1990)



Define a reduced cross-section:

 $\sigma_R = \epsilon (1+\tau) \frac{\sigma(E, E', \theta)}{\sigma_{Mott}} = R_T + \epsilon R_L$

- In PWIA : $R_T \propto (G_M^n)^2 + (G_M^p)^2$ and $R_L \propto (G_E^n)^2 + (G_E^p)^2$
- **Difficulties:**
 - Subtraction of large proton contribution
 - Sensitive to deuteron model. In particular :
 - * Final-State Interactions
 - * Meson Exchange Currents
 - * Relativistic corrections.

Neutron G_E (before ~1990)



- Elastic $ed: \sigma = \sigma_{Mott}[A(Q^2) + B(Q^2)\tan^2(\frac{\theta}{2})]$ with:
 - $-A(Q^2) = F_C^2(Q^2) + \frac{8}{9}\tau^2 F_Q^2(Q^2) + \frac{2}{3}\tau F_M^2(Q^2)$
 - $B(Q^2) = \frac{4}{3}\tau(1+\tau)F_M^2(Q^2)$
 - Extract G_E^n using deuteron model but very sensitive to NN potential.
- Elastic $d(e, e')\vec{d}$ reaction to measure t_{20} , the tensor polarization.
 - $t_{20} \propto F_C$, F_M , and F_Q . \Longrightarrow Extract all 3 form factors.
 - F_Q is insensitive to the deuteron model \rightarrow G_E^n

Developments

- Need make coincidence measurements
 - → continuous beam accelerators like JLab and MAMI
- Need to measure spin observables
 - \rightarrow High beam polarization (70-80%) at high currents (80 μ A)
 - → Recoil polarization measurements possible
 - \rightarrow Development of polarized ³He, ²H and ¹H targets
 - → Beam-Target asymmetry measurement possible
- Need to improve theory of ${}^{3}{\rm He}(e,e')$, ${}^{3}{\rm He}(e,e')n$, ${}^{2}{\rm H}(e,e'n)$ and ${}^{2}{\rm H}(e,e'p)$

Determine kinematics which reduce sensitivity to nuclear effects

- → Determine which observables are sensitive to form factors
- → Use model to extract form factors

${\sf G}_M^n$ from Quasi-free d(e,e'np)



- Measure ratio $R_{meas} = \frac{\sigma(e,e'n)}{\sigma(e,e'p)}$
 - Proton and neutron detected in same detector simultaneously.
 - Need to know absolute neutron detection efficiency.
 - * Bonn used $p(\gamma, \pi^+)n \ in situ$
 - * NIKHEF and Mainz used p(n,p)n with tagged neutron beam at PSI.
- Use model to determine $\delta R \rightarrow$ the deviation from R_{PWIA} .
 - Sensitivity to deuteron model cancels in ratio. $\delta R \approx$ 10%.

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$$R_{PWIA} = R_{meas} - \delta R$$

– \mathbf{G}_{M}^{n} is extracted knowing \mathbf{G}_{E}^{n} , \mathbf{G}_{M}^{p} and , \mathbf{G}_{E}^{p}

G_M^n from Quasi-free ${}^3ec{He}(ec{e},e')$

- 10 μ A polarized electron beam with P_B = 75% and spin flipped at 30 hZ.
- Target polarization, P_T = 30% . Simultaneously measure elastic ${}^3\vec{He}(\vec{e},e')$ to monitor $P_T\cdot P_B$
- Align the target spin along the q vector and measure $A_T = \frac{\sigma^+ \sigma^+}{\sigma^+ + \sigma^+}$
- A_T sensitive to Gⁿ_M. Use full three-body non-relativistic Fadeev calculation of A_T and Gⁿ_M modified within the model until agreement with data.



Neutron Magnetic Form Factor



- Agreement between JLab ${}^{3}ec{Heta}e(ec{e},e')$ and Mainz results
- Data has been taken in Hall B at JLab with CLAS, a large acceptance detector.
 - Deuteron and Proton target simultaneously
 - Continuous Q^2 coverage from 0.3 to 5 GeV².
 - Error bars 3-10%
 - $p(e, e'n)\pi^+$ to determined neutron efficiency

 G_E^n from ${}^3\vec{\mathrm{He}}(\vec{\mathrm{e}},\mathrm{e'n})$

³ $\vec{He}(\vec{e},e'n)$ at quasi-free kinematic \rightarrow best approximation to free $\vec{n}(\vec{e},e'n)$.

$$A = P_B P_T V \frac{a \sin \theta \cos \phi G_E^n G_M^n + b \cos \theta (G_M^n)^2}{c(G_E^n)^2 + d(G_M^n)^2}$$

where θ is the angle of the target neutron's spin relative to the momentum transfer.

When θ = 90° :

$$A = A_{\perp} \propto G_E^n G_M^n$$

To first order when $\theta = 0^{\circ}$

 $A = A_{||}$ depends only on kinematics.

$$G_E^n \approx \frac{b}{a} G_M^n \frac{(P_B P_T V)_{\parallel}}{(P_B P_T V)_{\perp}} \frac{A_{\perp}}{A_{\parallel}}$$

G_E^n from $\vec{d}(\vec{e}, e'n)$

$$A_{ed}^{V} = \frac{N^{+} - N^{-}}{N^{+} + N^{-}} = P_{B}P_{T}V \frac{-2\sqrt{\tau(\tau+1)}\tan(\theta_{e}/2)G_{E}^{n}G_{M}^{n}}{G_{E}^{n^{2}} + \tau/\epsilon G_{M}^{n^{2}}}$$

Extract G_E^n from A_{ed}^V :

- Use full model of Arenhovel to predict ${\cal A}^V_{ed}$.
- Modify G_E^n to have agreement with the measured A_{ed}^V





- Helicity dependent outgoing proton spin components:
 - P_l is along the proton momentum direction
 - P_t is in-plane transverse to momentum direction
 - P_n is out-of-plane transverse to momentum direction $P_n = 0$

$$\frac{G_E}{G_M} = -\frac{P_t}{P_l} \frac{(E_e + E_{e'})}{2M} \tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)$$



- Outgoing neutrons scatter in CH₂ which is the analyzer for the secondary reaction.
- The analyzer can only measure spin components perpendicular to the incoming particle's momentum. $a_T = A_y P_x$
- To measure P_l need to precess the neutron spin in a magnetic field so transverse polarization at the CH_2 is:

$$P_x = P_l \sin \chi + P_t \cos \chi$$



Neutron Electric Form Factor



• Planned experiment at JLab in Hall A to use ${}^{3}\vec{He}(\vec{e},e'n)$ quasi-free reaction to measure G_{E}^{n} to $Q^{2} = 3.4 \text{ GeV}^{2}$.



• Both momentum and spin vector precess in the magnet.

• Precession angle,
$$\chi = \gamma \kappa_p \theta_{\text{bending}}$$

 $P_T^{fp} = P_T^{tgt}$
For simple dipole
and in general $P_N^{fp} = -P_L^{tgt} \sin(\chi) + P_N^{tgt} \cos(\chi)$
but for proton, $P_N^{tgt} = 0$ so
 $P_N^{fp} = -P_L^{tgt} \sin(\chi)$

• Unlike neutron recoil polarization measure P_L^{tgt} and P_L^{tgt} separately and simultaneously.



-0.2 L

¢ (deg)



- G_E/G_M from polarization measurement falls linearly with Q^2 .
- Disagreement between G_E/G_M extracted from cross section data.





- Global analysis of previous experiments by J. Arrington indicates no inconsistencies between experiments.
- When trying to combine the cross section data and polarization data, the global fit has a larger χ^2 indicating that the data are inconsistent with each other.
- New measurements at JLab in Hall C at consistent with previous experiments.

Comparison to Global Fit



- A dedicated measurement at JLab in Hall A has preliminary results which also agree with previous experiments. Detected the elastically scattered proton instead of electron which has advantages:
 - Proton momentum fixed at each ϵ
 - Cross section is nearly constant with ϵ
 - Reduces size of ϵ -dependent radiative corrections
 - Reduces systematic error on beam energy and scattering angle

Two-photon Contributions

• John Arrington (nucl-ex/0311019) looked at $\frac{\sigma_{e^+p}}{\sigma_{e^-p}}$ data for Q² < 2 but covered wide ϵ range. Determines a slope of -(5.7 ± 1.8)%.



Calculation by Blunden, Melnitchouk and Tjon (PRL 91,142304 (2004)).
 Only includes nucleon intermediate states.







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Comparison to Lattice QCD

