

# Studies of Final-State Interactions via Helicity Asymmetries in Exclusive Pseudoscalar Meson Photoproduction off Deuteron

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### The Nucleus as an Experimental Laboratory





#### Access to Elementary Scattering off the bound nucleon

- Scattering off quasi-bound nucleons (neutrons).
- Extraction of observables for scattering off the free neutron.

#### Access to Second-Step Scattering

- Hadron Beam produced in first step.
- Hadrons scatter off neutrons in a second step.

### The Nucleus as an Experimental Laboratory





#### Challenges

- Contribution of FSI events to QF sample.
- Bound nucleon is not a free nucleon: off-shell and nuclear effects on observables.

Typically, theoretical corrections are needed.

#### Challenges

- Contributions of QF to FSI sample.
- Contributions of other FSI to rescattering sample.

Theoretical interpretation of experimental observables is needed.

## Outline

- 1. Experimental studies of extraction of observables off the free nucleon from data off the bound nucleon.
  - Determine the evolution of observables with target-nucleon Fermi momentum.
  - Test results for method
    - Helicity Asymmetries of  $\gamma d \rightarrow p \pi^+ \pi^-(n_s)$
    - Hyperon polarizations in  $\gamma d \rightarrow K^+ \Lambda(n_s)$
- 2. Experimental studies of specific FSI selection.
  - Kinematics.
  - Helicity Asymmetries of  $\gamma d \rightarrow K^+ \Lambda n$ .
- 3. Summary and Outlook.

### Experimental Facility: CLAS at Jefferson Lab Experiment E06-103 (g13)

#### Circularly Polarized Photons (g13a)

- E<sub>e</sub> = 2 GeV; 2.65 GeV
- electron polarization: ~ 80%
- triggers: ~20×10<sup>9</sup> triggers



Fully Exclusive Measurements



P. Nadel-Turonski, B. Berman, YI, D. Ireland, A. Tkabladze et al., E06-103: "Kaon Production on the Deuteron Using Polarized Photons"

#### Suppression/Selection of Quasi-Free Mechanism/FSI

Event Distribution over Missing Momentum

Comparison with Model Distribution



The removal of events with Px < 0.2 GeV/c provides a sample that is by far dominated by FSI events. Standard analysis procedure. Paris Potential describes well low Px data. High-momentum tail drops off at ~0.6 GeV/c: effect on data interpretation.

### Helicity Asymmetries: $\gamma(p_s) \rightarrow p \pi^+ \pi^-$





$$A_{exp} = \frac{1}{P_{\gamma}} \frac{N^{+} - N^{-}}{N^{+} + N^{-}}$$

#### Fitted to:

$$A_{exp}(\varphi) = \sum_{k=1}^{3} a_k \sin(k\varphi) + \sum_{k=1}^{3} b_k \cos(k\varphi)$$

 $b_k \sim 0$ 

#### Work by Cameron Nickle

#### Evolution with Spectator-Nucleon Momentum Helicity Asymmetries



### Hyperon Polarizations: $\gamma(p_s) \rightarrow K^+ \Lambda$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega_0} \Big[ 1 - \alpha \cos\theta_x P_{circ} C_x - \alpha \cos\theta_z P_{circ} C_z + \alpha \cos\theta_y P \Big]$$



 $\Lambda$  self-analysing power:  $\alpha = 0.642 \pm 0.013$ 

Figure courtesy of Tongtong Cao

#### Evolution with Spectator-Nucleon Momentum Hyperon Polarizations



Work by Tongtong Cao

#### Studies of Specific FSI Selection Kinematic Constraints by Two-Body Kinematics



Work by Weizhi Xiong

### Studies of Specific FSI Selection Helicity Asymmetries: $\gamma d \rightarrow K^+ \Lambda n$



 $P_n > 0.2 \text{ GeV/c}$ 

Work by Weizhi Xiong

200

(b)

60

 $\theta^{\Lambda}_{CMS}$ 

300

80

 $\varphi_{\rm CMS} \, ({\rm deg})$ 



K

 $K^+$ 

 $P_n > 0.2 \text{ GeV/c}$ 

Work by Weizhi Xiong



 $\varphi_{CMS}$ 

Ŵ

Λ

P\*

n

### Studies of Specific FSI Selection Helicity Asymmetries: $\gamma d \rightarrow K^+ \Lambda n$





 $P_n > 0.2 \text{ GeV/c}$ 

Work by Weizhi Xiong



### Summary and Outlook

- High-Statistics Exclusive Measurements of scattering off the bound nucleon in deuteron allow for extraction of evolution of observables with target's Fermi momentum p.
- Polynomial extrapolation to p = 0 MeV/c allows to obtain more accurate estimates of observables for scattering off the free nucleon than integrating over a range of p. Important for very high-statistics samples.
- Kinematics constraints combined with studies of helicity asymmetries allow to identify kinematics where specific FSI may be dominant.
  - Large  $\Lambda$  scattering angles for  $\Lambda$ n FSI.
  - Large K scattering angles for Kn FSI.
- Further validation with comprehensive simulation studies (realistic QF and FSI dynamics implemented for each step).
- Model interpretation is not obsolete: realistic deuteron wave functions are needed at high nucleon momenta; realistic model of reaction dynamics needed.

#### Acknowledgments



#### The End