# Virtual Compton Scattering (low energy)

A special tool to study nucleon structure

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- RCS (Real Compton Scattering, polarizabilities)
- VCS (Generalized Polarizabilities GPs)
- the recent VCS experiment at MAMI-A1 (« vcsq2 »)

(experimentalist's talk)

## **RCS and Nucleon Polarizabilities**

 $\gamma \mathbf{N} \xrightarrow{} \gamma \mathbf{N}$ 

**Real Compton Scattering** 

at q'=0 : the nucleon is put inside a static (E,B) field

Induced Dipoles : Electric  $d_E = \alpha_E \cdot E$ Magnetic  $d_M = \beta_M \cdot B$ 



 $\alpha_{\text{E}}$  ,  $\beta_{\text{M}}$  = the 2 scalar P's of the nucleon, electric and magnetic.

there are also 4 spin P's:  $\gamma_{E1E1}$ ,  $\gamma_{M1M1}$ ,  $\gamma_{E1M2}$ ,  $\gamma_{M1E2}$ 

... And higher-order P's. There are as many as [polarization states  $\otimes$ multipolarities] of the two photons. Need 5 quantum numbers to characterize each polarizability.

### **Proton, Neutron, Pion : Hadron Polarizabilities**

Rather old values, not up to date, sorry!

	$ar{oldsymbol{lpha}}$ $(10^{-4} fm^3)$	$ar{oldsymbol{eta}}$ $(10^{-4} fm^3)$	]
PROTON			
TAPS 2001 $(\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta})$ fixed	$12.1 \pm 0.4 \mp 1.0$	$1.6 \pm 0.4 \mp 0.8$	
TAPS 2001 $(\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta})$ free	$11.9 \pm 0.5 \mp 1.3$	$1.2\pm0.7\mp0.3$	
Schumacher 2005	$12.0\pm0.6$	$1.9 \mp 0.6$	
NEUTRON			d U
Schumacher 2005	$12.5 \pm 1.7$	$2.7 \mp 1.8$	
PION $(\pi^+)$			
Ahrens 2005 (MAMI A2)	hrens 2005 (MAMI A2) $\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta} = 11.6 \pm 3.4$		

### $p, n, \pi$ : all the same order of magnitude! Hadrons are extremely stiff objects due to strong binding.

# **Status of proton Polarizabilities**



### **Scalar P's:**

Analysis by Mc Govern,Phillips,Griesshammer, EPJA(2013)4912:  $\alpha_E = (10.7 + 0.35 + 0.2 + 0.3) 10-4 \text{ fm}3$  $\beta_M = (3.15 + 0.35 + 0.2 + 0.3) 10-4 \text{ fm}3$ 

PDG2016:

 $\alpha_{\rm E}$  = (11.2 +- 0.4) 10-4 fm3  $\beta_{\rm M}$  = (2.5 +- 0.4) 10-4 fm3

### Spin P's:

All 4 measured separately for the first time by the MAMI-A2 collaboration // P.Martel et al, PRI114(2015)112501

(MAMI-A2 Compton program ongoing)

	$\Sigma_{2x}$ and $\Sigma_3^{\text{LEGS}}$	$\Sigma_{2x}$ and $\Sigma_3^{MAMI}$
$\bar{\gamma}_{E1E1}$	$-3.5 \pm 1.2$	$-5.0 \pm 1.5$
$\bar{\gamma}_{M1M1}$	$3.16 \pm 0.85$	$3.13 \pm 0.88$
$\bar{\gamma}_{E1M2}$	$-0.7 \pm 1.2$	1.7 ± 1.7
$\bar{\gamma}_{M1E2}$	$1.99 \pm 0.29$	$1.26 \pm 0.43$

(in 10-4 fm4). Table from P.Martel, EPJWebConf 142(2017)

# **Introducing the Generalized Polarizabilities**







**Contrary to elastic FF, GPs (and P's) are sensitive to the whole excitation spectrum of the nucleon:** 

$$\alpha = 2\sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{|\langle n^{(i)} | D_z | 0 \rangle|^2}{E_n^{(i)} - E_0^{(i)}} + Z^2 \frac{e^2 \langle r_E^2 \rangle}{3M}$$



There is an equivalence between the two (see Guichon-Thomas 1995).

# **The Big Questions**

#### S.Scherer, nucl-th/0410061



#### T.Hemmert et al. (HBChPT) PRL79(1997)



### What do we want to learn with the GPs ?

 where does the polarizability manifest itself most? is it at the periphery of the nucleon? Or in the core?
 Measure a mean square radius!

-Are the GPs sensitive to the pion cloud? (more than FF?)

- the magnetic GP: is a complex phenomenon implying both dia- and paramagnetism: two contributions large and of opposite sign. How much do they cancel each other?



-Any good model of nucleon structure should reproduce P's and GPs measurements: good tests of models.

-Unfortunately, data on GPs are still rather scarce, (difficult to obtain).

## How to measure GPs

GPs of the Proton only! (difficult enough)

photon electroproduction:  $e p \rightarrow e p \gamma$ 



# **The Founding Grandfathers**



Arthur Compton 1892-1962 Nobel prize 1927

#### Theory of $\gamma e \rightarrow \gamma e$ scattering

Second Series	May, 1923	Vol. 21, No. 5	
	THE		
PHYS	ICAL REV	IEW	
A QUANTUM THEC B	ORY OF THE SCATTI	ERING OF X-RAYS	
	BY ARTHUR H. COMPTON		





Hans Bethe 1906-2005 Nobel prize 1967 Walter Heitler 1904-1981

#### Bremsstrahlung of electrons

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On the Stopping of Fast Particles and on the Creation of Positive Electrons

By H. BETHE, Manchester, and W. HEITLER, Bristol (Communicated by P. A. M. Dirac, F.R.S.-Received February 27, 1934)

Introduction

The stopping power of matter for fast particles is at present believed to be due to three different processes : (1) the ionization ; (2) the nuclear scattering ; (3) the emission of radiation under the influence of the electric field of a nucleus.

## How to measure GPs



### In which kinematical domain can one work?

- a priori, any value of  $Q^2$  of the initial virtual photon
- explored experimental range: 0.06 GeV<sup>2</sup> to 1.8 GeV<sup>2</sup>

- energy of the final real photon, **q**', must not be too large (GP's are defined theoretically as limits of Compton amplitudes at q'=0!)

-In practice: stay below the pion threshold for the c.m. energy of the [ $\gamma^*$ -nucleon] system (W < m<sub>p</sub>+m<sub> $\pi$ </sub>, equivalent to q'<sub>cm</sub> < 126 MeV/c), or slightly above, up to the Delta(1232) region. (a bit similar to RCS)

# **VCS: The Founding Fathers**

D.Drechsel and H. Arenhoevel, NPA233(1974)153:  $\gamma^*+A \rightarrow \gamma +A$ , first concept of Generalized Polarizabilities for nuclei P.Guichon, G.Q.Liu and A.W. Thomas, NPA591(1995)606 : the nucleon case, establishment of a Low-Energy Theorem (LET), which led to an experimental program of VCS experiments at electron accelerators.



### The Modelists and the Experimentalists for GPs



# **Models for Experiments**

**ONLY 2 models having a direct interface with VCS experiments:** 

-The LET, or LEX, of Guichon-Thomas (model indep.!), NPA591(1995)606 -The Dispersion Relations Model of Barbara Pasquini et al., EPJA 11(2001)185

Other models give predictions for GPs but no way to access them from an experiment.

P's, and GPs, are always obtained by a FIT from data.

So it's like in RCS: measure cross sections, or asymmetries, and make a fit of polarizabilities.

RCS and VCS:Dispersion Relations extensively used (good models!)RCS:ChPT also used

### The low–energy expansion (LEX)

**RCS** 

VCS



### LEX versus full energy dependence (DR)

### RCS

# VCS



Figure 4.1: CS cross sections calculated in the Born approximation (solid), the leading-order LEX (dotted) and a dispersion model calculation (dashed). Plot reproduced from MacGibbon et al. [12].



VCS-Bates kinematics qcm=240 MeV, epsilon=0.90 thetacm=90deg, phicm=90deg Q2=0.057 GeV2

### In both cases: - Born (or BH+Born) not enough except at very low photon energy q' - LEX OK up to a certain energy but not above - DR only gives the full energy dependency

### Measuring ep $\rightarrow$ ep $\gamma$ cross sections at MAMI-A1

Electron beam (1.5 GeV) Cryotarget: liquid hydrogen e' detected in a spectrometer p' detected in a spectrometer

photon = the only missing particle
→ identify it by missing mass

**Five-fold differential cross section** 







### **Once you have cross sections: GP fit #1 = LEX fit**

Use the LEX, Neglect the O(q<sup>2</sup>) ! Then it's a linear fit of two unknowns , e.g. :

 $[d^{5}\sigma (ep\gamma) - d^{5}\sigma (BH+Born)] / [\Phi q' . v_{LL}] = (P_{LL} - P_{TT} / \epsilon) + [v_{LT} / v_{LL}] . (P_{LT})$ 



### **Once you have cross sections: GP fit # 2 = DR fit**

Compare the measured cross sections to the ones calculated by the model, for all values of the electric GP  $\alpha_E$  (Q<sup>2</sup>) and the magnetic GP  $\beta_M$  (Q<sup>2</sup>) which are free parameters of the model.

The DR cross section does NOT neglect the O(q<sup>2</sup>)!

Make a  $\chi^2$  and minimize it.

DR model for Compton Scattering on the nucleon: see Lectures of Barbara Pasquini at BOSEN school 2007 !

 $\chi^2$ (<sup>0.5</sup> <sub>ε</sub>μ<sub>2</sub>01) <sup>0.4</sup> g<sup>0.3</sup> 10000 9500 9000 0.2 8500 0.1 8000 7500 0 7000 -0.1 6500 -0.2 α<sub>F</sub> (10<sup>-3</sup>fm<sup>3</sup>) 0.5 0.6 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.7

DR fit sometimes more difficult than the LEX fit ...

## proton GPs: World data





at Q<sup>2</sup>=0 :  $P_{LL} - P_{TT} / \epsilon = (cst)^* \alpha_E(0)$  $P_{LT} = (cst)^* \beta_M(0)$ 

2 RCS points:

- Olmos de Leon (EPJA 10 (2001) 207
- Particle Data Book 2014

DR model does NOT predict the scalar GPs. The « DR curve » here includes a further assumption in the model (dipole, with  $\Lambda$  parameter = constant vs Q<sup>2</sup>, and fitted on data).



## proton GPs: World data





Scarce data! Explore the region around Q<sup>2</sup>=0.33 GeV<sup>2</sup> in more detail ...

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# A recent VCS experiment at MAMI-A1: « vcsq2 »

### **3 new values of Q^2 = 0.1, 0.2, [0.33], 0.45 GeV<sup>2</sup>**

Goal:	measure the (e p $\rightarrow$ e p $\gamma$ ) cross section,	
	essentially below pion threshold, at fixed $\textbf{q}_{cm}$ and fixed $~\epsilon$	
	extract $P_{LL} - P_{TT} / \epsilon$ and $P_{LT}$	
	and $\alpha_{E}$ (Q <sup>2</sup> ) and $\beta_{M}$ (Q <sup>2</sup> )	
	using LEX and DR methods (+ specificities)	

Data taking: 2011 to 2015 (1500 hours of beamtime)

3 PhD students:

Jure Bericic (Ljubljana Univ., Slovenia)  $Q^2 = 0.1 GeV^2$ 

Loup Correa (Clermont-Fd Univ., France)  $Q^2 = 0.2 GeV^2$ 

Meriem BenAli (Clermont-Fd Univ., France)  $Q^2 = 0.45 \text{ GeV}^2$ 

## « vcsq2 » experiment: Analysis status

Statistical errors: small (high-statistics experiment)
Systematic errors: dominant, as in almost all VCS experiments
need to reduce them as much as possible !

GOAL: bring the systematic error down to  $\pm$  +/- 1.5% on the cross section. Very difficult! Presently at the level of  $\pm$  - 3%

- High quality of the MAMI-A1 setup and data taking

In order to measure the GPs with small error (reminder: the GP effect is 0-10% of the cross section!)

Analysis still ongoing, results are PRELIMINARY ... as presented in 2016 at the Mainz LEPP Workshop

# **Data analyses**

### 1. Getting the cross section right

(with minimized systematic error)

-Adjustment of all experimental parameters
-Absolute normalization of the cross section
-Dealing properly with the proton form factors
- Having a reliable Monte-Carlo simulation of the experiment



# Validity of the LEX fit?

when can we use the functional form given by the truncated LEX formula?

d<sup>5</sup>σ (epγ) = d<sup>5</sup>σ (BH+Born) + Φ q' [ v<sub>LL</sub> (P<sub>LL</sub> - P<sub>TT</sub> / ε) + v<sub>LT</sub> (P<sub>LT</sub> )] + 
$$\sqrt{q'^2}$$

It's a fitting issue ...

### **Digression:** <**r**<sub>p</sub>**>** in electron scattering

Measure the slope at origin :  $G_E^p(q^2) = G_E^p(0) - (1/6) q^2 < r_p^2 > / h^2 + ...$ 



# VCS: How to test the Validity of the LEX fit?



#### CRITERION = Put an upper limit on the absolute value of this HO-estimator, e.g. < 3%

Need input GPs for this!

« vcsq2 » is the first experiment which tried to anticipate this issue.

Calculation of the HO-estimator: theoretical exercise that can be done retrospectively for all VCS experiments performed so far.

Will show result of the exercise for high  $q'_{cm}$  (around 100 MeV/c) in the 2D phase-space of (cos $\theta$  and  $\phi$ ) of the Compton process in its center-of-mass frame: these are variables on which all VCS experiments bin.

## **Bin selection using the HO-estimator**

Blue bins = where the higher-order estimator is < 3% (LEX truncation « valid »)



VCS: The low-energy expansion is actually in  $q'_{cm} / q_{cm} \dots$ 

Lesson from the VCS-Bates experiment ....

One way to reach good kinematics for the LEX fit:

Go out-of-plane, measure e.g. at phi=90 deg

### **MAMI-A1:** moving spectrometer B out-of-plane



In-Plane

### **MAMI-A1:** moving spectrometer B out-of-plane



8.5 deg OOP

#### New « vcsq2 » data:

- OOP kinematics

-LEX Fit done with bin selection at  $Q^2 = 0.1$  and 0.2 GeV<sup>2</sup>.

- was found not necessary at  $Q^2 = 0.45 \text{ GeV}^2$ .



New data:

-  $P_{LL}\text{-}P_{TT}/\epsilon\,$  more compatible with a smooth fall-off vs  $Q^2$ 

-  $P_{LT}$ : hard to confirm the presence of an extremum at low  $Q^2$ 

**Still preliminary!** 

The « puzzle » remains in the region around  $Q^2=0.33$  GeV<sup>2</sup>



### Electric and magnetic GP with the new MAMI data

« vcsq2 » :

still preliminary !

working out the systematic error bars!

Another measurement to come of  $\alpha_E(Q^2)$  at  $Q^2=0.2$  GeV<sup>2</sup>, also preliminary !



## VCS in the Delta(1232) region

#### Another method to measure GPs:

Explored by Nikos Sparveris et al:

- « vcsDelta » experiment done at MAMI-A1 in 2013 at  $Q^2 = 0.2 \text{ GeV}^2$
- Future experiment at JLab at higher Q<sup>2</sup> : 0.3 to 0.7 GeV<sup>2</sup>

- do  $ep \rightarrow ep\gamma$  at  $W=m_{\Delta}$ , i.e. above the pion threshold.
- LEX does not hold. DR model (Barbara Pasquini) is used.

#### « vcsDelta » experiment done at MAMI-A1 in 2013

 $(Q^2 = 0.2 \text{ GeV}^2)$ 

Sensitivity not only to the GPs but also to some multipoles of the N-to-Delta transition: the CMR (C2 to M1 ratio), related to the non-spherical component of the nucleon wave function.

$$CMR = \frac{S_{1+}^{3/2}}{M_{1+}^{3/2}}$$

CMR is usually measured in  $ep \rightarrow ep \pi^0$ , here in photon electroproduction!

- Measure (unpol.) ep  $\rightarrow$  ep $\gamma$  cross sections in selected angular kinematics:  $\theta_{\gamma^*\gamma} = 128 \text{deg}$  and 138 deg, at  $\phi = 0$  and 180 deg

-4 cross-section points,  $\rightarrow$  two  $\phi$ -asymmetries ,  $\rightarrow$  fit two params: the CMR and the electric GP -Compared to this, the LEX is very costly!



# **Digression: Deep VCS**

At High energy (W>2 GeV) and high Q<sup>2</sup>: VCS is used to determine Generalized Parton Distributions (GPDs)



#### A new link between DVCS and VCS formalisms:

Compton scattering: from deeply virtual to quasi-real

Andrei V. Belitsky (Arizona State U.), Dieter Müller (Ruhr U., Bochum), Yao Ji (Arizona State U.). Dec 2012. 55 pp. Published in Nucl.Phys. B878 (2014) 214-268 DOI: <u>10.1016/j.nuclphysb.2013.11.014</u> e-Print: <u>arXiv:1212.6674</u> [hep-ph] | <u>PDF</u>

Unified framework for Virtual Compton Scattering, that uses helicity Compton Form Factors (CFF) for the analysis of different regimes:

DVCS and the Generalized Parton Distributions as well as VCS at low energy and the Generalized Polarizabilities!

# Conclusions



recent VCS experiments at MAMI: new measurement of the scalar GPs at  $Q^2 = 0.1$ , 0.2 and 0.45 GeV<sup>2</sup> + new measurement of  $\alpha_E$  at  $Q^2 = 0.2$  GeV<sup>2</sup>  $\rightarrow$  deeper insight of the Q<sup>2</sup>-dependence of GPs (to be published ...)

puzzle w.r.t. previous VCS measurements at  $Q^2=0.33~GeV^2$ : can it be partly understood by a limit of validity of the LEX? An open question ...

 $\star$ 

VCS continues to be an active field : new experimental proposal at Jlab (N.Sparveris et al.), new theoretical developments (Pascalutsa, Lensky, Vanderhaeghen et al.) : polarizability sum rules connecting RCS and VCS, Baryon ChPT (manifestly Lorentz-invariant) , ...

