Dr C.G. Lester, 2023



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Electron-Proton Elastic Scattering at High Q^2 (= $-q^2$)

• At high Q^2 the Rosenbluth expression for elastic scattering becomes

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{elastic} = \frac{\alpha^2}{4E_1^2 \sin^4 \theta/2} \frac{E_3}{E_1} \left(\frac{q^2}{2M^2} G_M^2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}\right) \qquad \text{with} \qquad \tau = -\frac{q^2}{4M^2} \gg 1$$

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• From e^-p elastic scattering, the proton magnetic form factor is

$$egin{aligned} G_M(q^2) &pprox rac{1}{\left(1+q^2/(0.71\,{
m GeV}^2)
ight)^2} \ &\implies \ \left(rac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}
ight)_{
m elastic} \propto q^{-6}. \end{aligned}$$

• Due to the finite proton size, elastic scattering at high Q^2 is unlikely and inelastic reactions where the proton breaks up dominate.





 $G_M(q^2) \propto q^{-4}$ at high q^2

Kinematic Variables for Inelastic Scattering



- For inelastic scattering the mass M_X of the final state hadronic system X is larger than the proton mass, M, since X contains at least one baryon.
- Therefore: $M_X \ge M$ with equality for elastic and inequality for inelastic scattering.

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• For inelastic scattering we will introduce four new kinematic variables:

Properties of x and Q^2 :

- $Q^2 \ge 0$ (since $Q^2 = -(p_1 - p_3)^2 = 2p_1 \cdot p_3 = 2(|p_1||p_3| - \vec{p_1} \cdot \vec{p_3}) \ge 0)$,
- ② 2p₂ · q ≥ Q² (with equality for elastic and inequality for inelastic scattering) (since: 2p₂ · q = (p₂ + q)² − p₂² − q² = p₄² − p₂² + Q² = M_X² − M² + Q² ≥ Q²),
- **(a)** and so 0 < x < 1 for inelastic and x = 1 for elastic scattering.

(In many text books W is often used in place of $M_{X.}$)

Properties of Bjorken y:

() In the lab frame $p_1 = (E_1, 0, 0, E_1)$, $p_2 = (M, 0, 0, 0)$ and $q = (E_1 - E_3, \vec{p_1} - \vec{p_3})$ so

$$y \equiv \frac{p_2 \cdot q}{p_2 \cdot p_1} = \frac{M(E_1 - E_3)}{ME_1} = 1 - \frac{E_3}{E_1}$$

and so y is the fractional energy loss of the incoming particle in the lab frame.

(a) In the C.o.M. Frame (neglecting the electron and proton masses) $p_1 = (E, 0, 0, E)$, $p_2 = (E, 0, 0, -E)$ and $p_3 = (E, E \sin \theta^*, 0, E \cos \theta^*)$ so for $E \gg M$:

$$y=\frac{1}{2}(1-\cos\theta^*).$$

(a) 0 < y < 1 follows from either of the last two properties.

Properties of ν :

In the Lab Frame:

$$\nu \equiv \frac{p_2.q}{M} = \frac{M(E_1 - E_3)}{M} = E_1 - E_3$$

so ν is the energy lost by the incoming particle in the lab frame.



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Relationships between Kinematic Variables for inelastic collisions

• We saw in lecture 1 that elastic collisions need only two variables to describe their kinematic differences, as all four external particles have fixed masses.

(These two variables are usually chosen to be Mandelstam s together with one of t or u).)

• However, in inelastic collisions the proton breaks up, and so we need an extra variable to describe the variability in the mass of *p*₄:

inelastic collisions require three variables to describe their kinematic differences.

Thus, at fixed s, at most two of

$$Q^2 \equiv -q^2, \quad x \equiv rac{Q^2}{2p_2.q}, \quad y \equiv rac{p_2.q}{p_2.p_1} \quad ext{and} \quad
u \equiv rac{p_2.q}{M}$$

are independent! There must exist many relationships among them.



• E.g. using $s = (p_1 + p_2)^2 = m_e^2 + M^2 + 2p_1 \cdot p_2 \approx 2p_1 \cdot p_2 + M^2$ we can show (when m_e is negligible) that:

$$x = \frac{Q^2}{2M\nu} \text{ and } y = \frac{2M}{s - M^2}\nu$$
$$xy = \frac{Q^2}{s - M^2} \text{ and } Q^2 = (s - M^2)xy.$$

so

Elastic vs Inelastic vs Deep Inelastic Scattering

Example: Scattering of 4.879 GeV electrons from protons at rest



- Place detector at 10° to beam and measure the energies of scattered e⁻.
- Kinematics fully determined from the electron energy and angle !
- e.g. for this energy and angle : the invariant mass of the final state hadronic system $W^2 = M_X^2 = 10.06 2.03E_3$. (Try and show this!)

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- Elastic Scattering: proton remains intact (W = M).
- Inelastic Scattering (red arrow on plot) produces 'excited states' of proton, e.g. $\Delta^+(1232)$, $W = M_{\Delta}$.
- Deep Inelastic Scattering is where the proton breaks up completely resulting in a many particle final state (far L.H.S. of plot where $W \gg M$).

Deep Inelastic Scattering = Large W = Total proton breakup.

Inelastic Cross Sections



- Repeat experiments at different angles/beam energies and determine Q² dependence of elastic and inelastic cross-sections.
- Elastic scattering falls of rapidly with due to the proton not being point-like (i.e. form factors).
- Inelastic scattering cross sections only weakly dependent on Q^2 .
- Deep Inelastic scattering cross sections almost independent of Q².
 i.e. "Form factor" → 1.

There appears to be Scattering from point-like objects within the proton!

$\mathsf{Elastic} \to \mathsf{Inelastic} \; \mathsf{Scattering}$

Elastic scattering (Handout 5). Recall:

• Only one independent variable desscribes final state. In Lab. frame express differential cross section in terms of the electron scattering angle (Rosenbluth formula)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\alpha^2}{4E_1^2 \sin^4 \theta/2} \frac{E_3}{E_1} \left(\frac{G_E^2 + \tau G_M^2}{(1+\tau)} \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + 2\tau G_M^2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right) \qquad \text{(with } \tau = \frac{Q^2}{4M^2}\text{)}.$$

Note: here the energy of the scattered electron E_3 is completely determined by the angle θ .

• We could express the differential cross section in terms of a single variable Q². (Q13 on examples sheet.)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dQ^2} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{Q^4} \left[\frac{G_E^2 + \tau G_M^2}{(1+\tau)} \left(1 - y - \frac{M^2 y^2}{Q^2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} y^2 G_M^2 \right]$$

which can be written as

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dQ^2} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{Q^4} \left[f_2(Q^2) \left(1 - y - \frac{M^2 y^2}{Q^2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} y^2 f_1(Q^2) \right].$$

Inelastic scattering:

• For Deep Inelastic Scattering (DIS) have two independent variables for final sate. Therefore need a double differential cross section for DIS ... as shown on next page.

Deep Inelastic Scattering

• It can be shown that the most general Lorentz Invariant expression for $e^-p \rightarrow e^-X$ inelastic scattering (via a single exchanged photon is):

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dx\,dQ^2} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{Q^4} \left[\left(1 - y - \frac{M^2 y^2}{Q^2} \right) \frac{F_2(x,Q^2)}{x} + y^2 F_1(x,Q^2) \right] \qquad \boxed{\text{INELASTIC}}$$
(112)

c.f.
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dQ^2} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{Q^4} \left[\left(1 - y - \frac{M^2 y^2}{Q^2} \right) f_2(Q^2) + \frac{1}{2} y^2 f_1(Q^2) \right] \qquad \text{ELASTIC}$$

We will soon see how this connects to the quark model of the proton.

- NOTE: The form factors $f_1(Q^2)$ and $f_2(Q^2)$ have been replaced by the structure functions $F_1(x, Q^2)$ and $F_2(x, Q^2)$ which are functions of x and Q^2 : they cannot be interpreted as the Fourier transforms of the charge and magnetic moment distributions. We shall soon see that they describe the momentum distribution of the quarks within the proton.
- In the limit of high energy (or more correctly $Q^2 \gg M^2 y^2$) equation (112) becomes:

$$\boxed{\frac{d^2\sigma}{dx\,dQ^2} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{Q^4} \left[(1-y)\,\frac{F_2(x,Q^2)}{x} + y^2 F_1(x,Q^2) \right]}_{X}$$
(113)

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• In the Lab. frame it is convenient to express the cross section in terms of the angle, θ , and energy, E_3 , of the scattered electron – which is experimentally well measured.



$$Q = 4L_1L_3 \sin \theta/2$$
, $\lambda = \frac{2M(E_1 - E_3)}{2M(E_1 - E_3)}$, $y = 1 - \frac{1}{E_1}$, $\nu = L_1 - L_3$

• In the Lab. frame, Equation (113) becomes:

(see examples sheet Q13)

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dE_3\,d\Omega} = \frac{\alpha^2}{4E_1^2\sin^4(\theta/2)} \left[\frac{1}{\nu}F_2(x,Q^2)\cos^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) + \frac{2}{M}F_1(x,Q^2)\sin^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)\right] \quad (114)$$

Electromagnetic Structure Function ; Pure Magnetic Structure Function

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Measuring the Structure Functions

To determine F₁(x, Q²) and F₂(x, Q²) for a given x and Q² need measurements of the differential cross section at several different scattering angles and incoming electron beam energies (see Q13 on examples sheet)
 Example: electron-proton scattering F₂ vs. Q² at fixed x:



• Experimentally it is observed that both F_1 and F_2 are (almost) independent of Q^2 !

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Bjorken Scaling and the Callan-Gross Relation

• The near (see later) independence of the structure functions on Q^2 is known as **Bjorken Scaling**, i.e.

$$F_1(x,Q^2)
ightarrow F_1(x)$$
 and $F_2(x,Q^2)
ightarrow F_2(x)$

- It is strongly suggestive of scattering from point-like constituents within the proton
- It is also observed that F₁(x) and F₂(x) are not independent but satisfy the Callan-Gross relation

 $F_2(x)=2xF_1(x)$

- As we shall soon see this is exactly what is expected for scattering from spin-half quarks.
- Note: if quarks were spin zero particles we would expect the purely magnetic structure function to be zero, i.e. $F_1(x) = 0$.



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The Quark-Parton Model

- Before quarks and gluons were generally accepted Feynman proposed that the proton was made up of point-like constituents "partons".
- Both **Bjorken Scaling** and the **Callan-Gross relationship** can be explained by assuming that Deep Inelastic Scattering is dominated by the scattering of a single virtual photon from point-like spin-half constituents of the proton.



• How do these two pictures of the interaction relate to each other?

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- In the parton model the basic interaction is ELASTIC scattering from a "quasi-free" spin-¹/₂ quark in the proton, i.e. treat the quark as a free particle!
- The parton model is most easily formulated in a frame where the proton has very high energy, often referred to as the "infinite momentum frame", where we can neglect the proton mass, and $p_2 = (E_2, 0, 0, E_2)$.
- In this frame can also neglect the mass of the quark and any momentum transverse to the direction of the proton.
- Let the quark carry a fraction ξ of the proton's four-momentum. ($\xi^2 p_2^2 = m_q^2 \approx 0$)



• After the interaction the struck quark's four-momentum is $\xi p_2 + q$ and it is still a quark, therefore: $m_q^2 = (\xi p_2 + q)^2 = (\xi p_2)^2 + 2\xi p_2 \cdot q + q^2 = m_q^2 + 2\xi p_2 \cdot q + q^2$ and so comparing the first and last expressions we see that $\xi = -q^2/(2p_2 \cdot q)$ and thus



• In terms of the proton momentum

$$s = (p_1 + p_2)^2 \simeq 2p_1 \cdot p_2$$
 $y = \frac{p_2 \cdot q}{p_2 \cdot p_1}$ $x = \frac{Q^2}{2p_2 \cdot q}$

• But for the underlying quark interaction:

$$s^{q} = (p_{1} + xp_{2})^{2} = 2xp_{1}.p_{2} = xs$$

 $y_{q} = rac{p_{q}.q}{p_{q}.p_{1}} = rac{xp_{2}.q}{xp_{2}.p_{1}} = y$ and $x_{q} = 1.$



(i.e. quark coll. is elastic: quark does not break up).

Previously derived the Lorentz Invariant cross section for e⁻µ⁻ → e⁻µ⁻ elastic scattering in the ultra-relativistic limit (Handout 4 + Q10 on examples sheet). Now apply this to e⁻q → e⁻q assuming quark charge is e_q (e.g. e_u = +2/3):

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dq^2} = \frac{2\pi\alpha^2 e_q^2}{q^4} \left[1 + \left(1 + \frac{q^2}{s_q} \right)^2 \right]$$

• Using $-q^2 = Q^2 = (s_q - m^2)x_qy_q \implies \frac{q^2}{s_q} = -y_q = -y$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dQ^2} = \frac{2\pi\alpha^2 e_q^2}{Q^4} \left[1 + (1-y)^2 \right]$$

(where the last two expressions assume the massless limit m = 0).

Parton Distribution Functions

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dQ^2} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2 e_q^2}{Q^4} \left[(1-y) + \frac{y^2}{2} \right]$$
(115)

- This is the expression for the differential cross-section for elastic e^-q scattering from a quark carrying a fraction x of the proton momentum.
- Now need to account for distribution of quark momenta within proton
- Introduce parton distribution functions such that $q^{p}(x)dx$ is the number of quarks of type q within a proton p with momenta between $x \to x + dx$.
- Possible forms of the parton distribution functions:



• The cross section for scattering from a particular quark type within the proton, which in the range $x \to x + dx$, is

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dQ^2} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{Q^4} \left[(1-y) + \frac{y^2}{2} \right] \cdot e_q^2 q^{\mathrm{p}}(x) \mathrm{d}x$$

• Summing over all types of quarks within the proton gives the expression for the electron-proton scattering cross section

$$\frac{d^2 \sigma^{\rm ep}}{dx dQ^2} = \frac{4\pi \alpha^2}{Q^4} \left[(1-y) + \frac{y^2}{2} \right] \sum_q e_q^2 q^{\rm p}(x)$$
(116)

• Compare with the electron-proton scattering cross section in terms of structure functions (equation (113)):

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dxdQ^2} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{Q^4} \left[(1-y) \frac{F_2(x,Q^2)}{x} + y^2 F_1(x,Q^2) \right]$$
(117)

• By comparing (116) and (117), obtain the parton model prediction for the structure functions in the general Lorentz invariant form for the differential cross section

$$F_2^{\rm p}(x,Q^2) = 2xF_1^{\rm p}(x,Q^2) = x\sum_q e_q^2 q^{\rm p}(x)$$

Can relate measured structure functions to the underlying quark distributions.

Predictions of The Parton Model

The parton model predicts:

- Bjorken Scaling $F_1(x, Q^2) \rightarrow F_1(x)$ $F_2(x, Q^2) \rightarrow F_2(x)$. This is due to scattering from point-like particles within the proton
- Callan-Gross Relation $F_2^{\rm p}(x) = x \sum_q e_q^2 q^{\rm p}(x)$. This is due to scattering from spin half Dirac particles where the magnetic moment is directly related to the charge; hence the 'electro-magnetic' and 'pure magnetic' terms are fixed with respect to each other.
- At present parton distributions cannot be calculated from QCD. (Can't use perturbation theory due to large coupling constant.)
- Measurements of the structure functions enable us to determine the parton distribution functions !
- For electron-proton scattering we have:

$$F_2^{\mathrm{p}}(x) = x \sum_q e_q^2 q^{\mathrm{p}}(x)$$

• Due to higher orders, the proton contains not only up and down quarks but also anti-up and anti-down quarks (will neglect the small contributions from heavier quarks).



• For electron-proton scattering have:

$$F_{2}^{ep}(x) = x \sum_{q} e_{q}^{2} q^{p}(x) = x \left(\frac{4}{9} u^{p}(x) + \frac{1}{9} d^{p}(x) + \frac{4}{9} \overline{u}^{p}(x) + \frac{1}{9} \overline{d}^{p}(x)\right)$$

• For electron-neutron scattering have:

$$F_{2}^{en}(x) = x \sum_{q} e_{q}^{2} q^{n}(x) = x \left(\frac{4}{9}u^{n}(x) + \frac{1}{9}d^{n}(x) + \frac{4}{9}\overline{u}^{n}(x) + \frac{1}{9}\overline{d}^{n}(x)\right)$$

• Now assume "isospin symmetry", i.e. that the neutron (ddu) is the same as a proton (uud) with up and down quarks interchanged, i.e.

$$d^{\mathrm{n}}(x) = u^{\mathrm{p}}(x)$$
 and $u^{\mathrm{n}}(x) = d^{\mathrm{p}}(x)$

and then define the neutron distributions functions in terms of those of the proton $u(x) \equiv u^{p}(x) = d^{n}(x);$ $d(x) \equiv d^{p}(x) = u^{n}(x)$ $\overline{u}(x) \equiv \overline{u}^{p}(x) = \overline{d}^{n}(x);$ $\overline{d}(x) \equiv \overline{d}^{p}(x) = \overline{u}^{n}(x)$

giving:
$$F_2^{\text{ep}}(x) = 2xF_1^{\text{ep}}(x) = x\left(\frac{4}{9}u(x) + \frac{1}{9}d(x) + \frac{4}{9}\overline{u}(x) + \frac{1}{9}\overline{d}(x)\right)$$
 (118)

$$F_{2}^{en}(x) = 2xF_{1}^{en}(x) = x\left(\frac{4}{9}d(x) + \frac{1}{9}u(x) + \frac{4}{9}\overline{d}(x) + \frac{1}{9}\overline{u}(x)\right).$$
 (119)

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• Integrating (118) and (119):

$$\int_{0}^{1} F_{2}^{en}(x) dx = \int_{0}^{1} x \left(\frac{4}{9} [d(x) + \overline{d}(x)] + \frac{1}{9} [u(x) + \overline{u}(x)] \right) dx = \frac{4}{9} f_{d} + \frac{1}{9} f_{u} \quad \text{and}$$
$$\int_{0}^{1} F_{2}^{en}(x) dx = \int_{0}^{1} x \left(\frac{4}{9} [u(x) + \overline{u}(x)] + \frac{1}{9} [d(x) + \overline{d}(x)] \right) dx = \frac{4}{9} f_{u} + \frac{1}{9} f_{d} \quad \text{where}$$

$$f_u = \int_0^1 [xu(x) + x\overline{u}(x)] dx$$

is the fraction of the proton momentum carried by the up and anti-up quarks.

Experimentally:

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_2^{\text{ep}}(x)dx \approx 0.18\\ \int F_2^{\text{en}}(x)dx \approx 0.12 \end{bmatrix} \implies \begin{bmatrix} f_u \approx 0.36 \text{ and } f_d \approx 0.18 \end{bmatrix}$$

- In the proton, as expected, the up quarks carry twice the momentum of the down quarks.
- The quarks carry just over 50% of the total proton momentum. The rest is carried by gluons (which being neutral doesn't contribute to electron-nucleon scattering).



Valence and Sea Quarks

- The proton is complex! its parton distribution functions include contributions from the "valence" quarks and the virtual quarks produced by gluons: the "sea".
- Resolving into valence and sea contributions:
 - $$\begin{split} u(x) &= u_{\rm V}(x) + u_{\rm S}(x) \qquad \overline{d}(x) = \overline{d}_{\rm S}(x) \\ \overline{u}(x) &= \overline{u}_{\rm S}(x) \qquad \qquad d(x) = d_{\rm V}(x) + d_{\rm S}(x) \end{split}$$



• Proton contains two valence up quarks and one valence down quark so would expect:

$$\int_0^1 u_{\mathrm{V}}(x) dx = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad \int_0^1 d_{\mathrm{V}}(x) dx = 1$$

... but we have no a priori expectation for the total number of sea quarks!

• Sea quarks arise from gluon quark/anti-quark pair production and with $m_u = m_d$ it is reasonable to expect

$$u_{\mathrm{S}}(x) = d_{\mathrm{S}}(x) = \overline{u}_{\mathrm{S}}(x) = \overline{d}_{\mathrm{S}}(x) = S(x).$$

• With these relations (118) and (119) become:

$$F_{2}^{\text{ep}}(x) = x \left(\frac{4}{9}u_{\text{V}}(x) + \frac{1}{9}d_{\text{V}}(x) + \frac{10}{9}S(x)\right) \& F_{2}^{\text{en}}(x) = x \left(\frac{4}{9}d_{\text{V}}(x) + \frac{1}{9}u_{\text{V}}(x) + \frac{10}{9}S(x)\right)$$

... giving the ratio

$$\frac{F_2^{\rm en}(x)}{F_2^{\rm ep}(x)} = \frac{4d_{\rm V}(x) + u_{\rm V}(x) + 10S(x)}{4u_{\rm V}(x) + d_{\rm V}(x) + 10S(x)}.$$

- The sea component arises from processes such as $g \to \overline{u}u$. Due to the $1/q^2$ dependence of the gluon propagator, much more likely to produce low energy gluons. Expect the sea to comprise of low energy q and \overline{q} .
- Therefore at low x expect the sea to dominate:



$$\frac{F_2^{\text{en}}(x)}{F_2^{\text{ep}}(x)} = \frac{4d_{\text{V}}(x) + u_{\text{V}}(x) + 10S(x)}{4u_{\text{V}}(x) + d_{\text{V}}(x) + 10S(x)}$$

Note: $u_{\mathrm{V}}=2d_{\mathrm{V}}$ would give ratio 2/3 as x
ightarrow 1

Experiment disagrees:

$$F_2^{\mathrm{en}}(x)/F_2^{\mathrm{ep}}(x) \to 1/4$$
 i.e. $d(x)/u(x) \to 0$ as $x \to 1$.

This behaviour is not understood!

x

0.2

u(x) dominate

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Parton Distribution Functions

- Ultimately the parton distribution functions are obtained from a fit to all experimental data including neutrino scattering (see Handout 10)
- Hadron-hadron collisions give information on gluon pdf, g(x).



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Scaling Violations

- In last 40 years, experiments have probed the proton with virtual photons of ever increasing energy
- Non-point like nature of the scattering becomes apparent when $\lambda_\gamma \sim$ size of scattering centre

$$\lambda_\gamma = rac{h}{ert ec q ert} \sim \mathcal{O}\left(rac{1}{ec ec q ert/ ext{GeV}}
ight) ext{ fm}.$$





- Scattering from point-like quarks gives rise to Bjorken scaling: no Q² cross section dependence
- IF quarks were not point-like, at high Q^2 (when the wavelength of the virtual photon i \sim size of quark) would observe rapid decrease in cross section with increasing Q^2 .
- To search for quark sub-structure want to go to highest Q² ... see HERA collider (next slide).

The HERA e^{\pm} -proton Collider : 1991-2007

* DESY (Deutsches Elektronen-Synchroton) Laboratory, Hamburg, Germany



- ★ Two large experiments : H1 and ZEUS
- ***** Probe proton at very high Q^2 and very low x

Example of a High Q^2 Event in the H1 Experiment at HERA



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$F_2(x, Q^2)$ Results

• No evidence of rapid decrease of cross section at highest Q^2

$$\implies R_{\rm quark} < 10^{-18} \,\mathrm{m}$$

- For x > 0.05, only weak dependence of F_2 on Q^2 : consistent with the expectation from the quark-parton model.
- Observe clear scaling violations, particularly at low x:

$$F_2(x,Q^2)\neq F_2(x).$$



Origin of Scaling Violations

- Observe "small" deviations from exact Bjorken scaling $F_2(x) \rightarrow F_2(x, Q^2)^{-1}$
- At high Q^2 observe more low x quarks.



- "Explanation": at high Q^2 (shorter wave-length) resolve finer structure: i.e. reveal quark is sharing momentum with gluons. At higher Q^2 expect to "see" more low x quarks.
- QCD cannot predict the x dependence of $F_2(x, Q^2)$

But QCD can predict the Q^2 dependence of $F_2(x, Q^2)$.

ō

 $F_2(x,Q^2)$

Proton-Proton Collisions at the LHC

- Measurements of structure functions not only provide a powerful test of QCD, the parton distribution functions are essential for the calculation of cross sections at pp and pp collider.
- Example: Higgs production at the Large Hadron Collider LHC (2009-)
 - The LHC collides up to 7*TeV* protons with 7*TeV* protons, however underlying collisions are between partons.



- Higgs production the LHC dominated by "gluon-gluon fusion"
- Cross section depends on gluon PDFs

$$\sigma(pp
ightarrow HX) \sim \int_0^1 \int_0^1 g(x_1)g(x_2)\sigma(gg
ightarrow H) dx_1 dx_2.$$

 $\bullet\,$ Uncertainty in gluon PDFs lead to a $\pm 5\%$ uncertainty in Higgs production cross section.

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 $\bullet\,$ Prior to HERA data uncertainty was $\pm 25\%.$

Summary

- At very high electron energies $\lambda \ll r_p$: the proton appears to be a sea of quarks and gluons.
- Deep Inelastic Scattering = Elastic scattering from the quasi-free constituent quarks.
 - Bjorken Scaling: $F_1(x, Q^2) \rightarrow F_1(x)$ (point-like scattering).
 - Callan-Gross: $F_2(x) = 2xF_1(x)$ (scattering from spin- $\frac{1}{2}$).
- Describe scattering in terms of parton distribution functions u(x), d(x), ... which describe momentum distribution inside a nucleon.
- The proton is much more complex than just *uud* sea of anti-quarks/gluons.
- $\bullet\,$ Quarks carry only 50% of the protons momentum the rest is due to low energy gluons.
- We will come back to this topic when we discuss neutrino scattering ...

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