The EMC and EMC-like Effects Exposing the partonic structure of nuclei

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Office of Science



The EMC Effect

- Measurement of the *EMC effect* created a new paradigm regarding QCD and nuclear structure
 - 30+ years after discovery a broad consensus on explanation is lacking
 - valence quarks in nucleus carry less momentum than in a nucleon
- Understanding origin is critical for a QCD based description of nuclei
- Modern QCD motivated explanations based around medium modification of the bound nucleons
 - is modification caused by mean-fields which modify all nucleons all the time or by SRCs which modify some nucleons some of the time?









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Many nuclear physicists still insist on nuclear structure explanation





Mean-Field Medium Modification

- Nuclei are extremely dense:
 - proton rms radius is $r_p \simeq 0.85$ fm, corresponds hard sphere $r_p \simeq 1.10$ fm
 - ideal packing gives $\rho \simeq 0.13 \text{ fm}^{-3}$; nuclear matter density is $\rho \simeq 0.16 \text{ fm}^{-3}$
 - 20% of nucleon volume inside other nucleons nucleon centers $\sim 2 \text{ fm}$ apart
- For realistic charge distribution 22% of proton charge at distances r > 1 fm
- Natural to expect that nucleon properties are modified by nuclear medium – even at the mean-field level
 - in contrast to traditional nuclear physics
- Understanding validity of two viewpoints remains key challenge for nuclear physics
 - a new paradigm or deep insights into colour confinement in QCD







Mean-Field Medium Modification





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Understanding the EMC effect



- The puzzle posed by the EMC effect will only be solved by conducting new experiments that expose novel aspects of the EMC effect
- Measurements should help distinguish between explanations of EMC effect e.g. whether *all nucleons* are modified by the medium or only those in SRCs
- Important examples are measurements of the EMC effect in polarized structure functions & the flavour dependence of EMC effect
- A JLab experiment has been approved to measure the spin structure of ⁷Li
- Flavour dependence will be accessed via JLab DIS experiments on ⁴⁰Ca & ⁴⁸Ca but parity violating DIS stands to play the pivotal role







Continuum QCD





- this is just a modern interpretation of the Nambu-Jona-Lasinio (NJL) model
- model is a Lagrangian based covariant QFT, exhibits dynamical chiral symmetry breaking & quark confinement; elements can be QCD motivated via the DSEs
- Quark confinement is implemented via proper-time regularization
 - quark propagator: $[p m + i\varepsilon]^{-1} \rightarrow Z(p^2)[p M + i\varepsilon]^{-1}$
 - wave function renormalization vanishes at quark mass-shell: $Z(p^2 = M^2) = 0$
 - confinement is critical for our description of nuclei and nuclear matter



Nucleon Electromagnetic Form Factors



• Nucleon = quark+diquark • Form factors given by Feynman diagrams:



Calculation satisfies electromagnetic gauge invariance; includes

- dressed quark–photon vertex with ρ and ω contributions
- contributions from a pion cloud





Nucleon quark distributions



• Nucleon = quark+diquark • PDFs given by Feynman diagrams: $\langle \gamma^+ \rangle$



Covariant, correct support; satisfies sum rules, Soffer bound & positivity

 $\langle q(x) - \bar{q}(x) \rangle = N_q, \ \langle x u(x) + x d(x) + \ldots \rangle = 1, \ |\Delta q(x)|, \ |\Delta_T q(x)| \leqslant q(x)$



A Nucleon in the Nuclear Medium



- For nuclei, we find that quarks bind together into colour singlet nucleons
 - however contrary to traditional nuclear physics approaches these quarks feel the presence of the nuclear environment
 - as a consequence bound nucleons are modified by the nuclear medium
- Modification of the bound nucleon wave function by the nuclear medium is a *natural consequence* of quark level approaches to nuclear structure
- For a proton in nuclear matter find
 - Dirac & charge radii each increase by about 8%; Pauli & magnetic radii by 4%
 - $F_{2p}(0)$ decreases; however $F_{2p}/2M_N$ almost constant μ_p almost constant



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EMC and Polarized EMC effects







Definition of polarized EMC effect:

• ratio equals unity if no medium effects



- Large polarized EMC effect results because in-medium quarks are more relativistic (M* < M)
 - lower components of quark wave functions are enhanced and these usually have larger orbital angular momentum
 - in-medium we find that quark spin is converted to orbital angular momentum
 - A large polarized EMC effect would be difficult to accommodate within traditional nuclear physics and numerous other explanations of the EMC

EMC effects in Finite Nuclei



Spin-dependent cross-section is suppressed by 1/A

- should choose light nucleus with spin carried by proton e.g. \implies ⁷Li, ¹¹B, ...
- Effect in ⁷Li is slightly suppressed because it is a light nucleus and proton does not carry all the spin (simple WF: $P_p = 13/15$ & $P_n = 2/15$)
- Experiment now approved at JLab [E12-14-001] to measure spin structure functions of ⁷Li (GFMC: $P_p = 0.86$ & $P_n = 0.04$)

Everyone with their favourite explanation for the EMC effect should make a prediction for the polarized EMC effect in ⁷Li

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Turning off Medium Modification





Without medium modification both EMC & polarized EMC effects disappear

 Polarized EMC effect is smaller than the EMC effect – this is natural within standard nuclear theory and also from SRC perspective

Large splitting very difficult without *mean-field* medium modification
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Mean-field vs SRC induced Medium Modification Argonne



Explanations of EMC effect using SRCs also invoke medium modification

• since about 20% of nucleons are involved in SRCs, need medium modifications about 5 times larger than in mean-field models

• For polarized EMC effect only 2–3% of nucleons are involved in SRCs

- it would therefore be natural for SRCs to produce a smaller polarized EMC effect
- Observation of a large polarized EMC effect would imply that SRCs are less likely to be the mechanism responsible for the EMC effect

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Flavour dependence of EMC effect





Find that EMC effect is basically a result of binding at the quark level

- for N > Z nuclei, d-quarks feel more repulsion than u-quarks: $V_d > V_u$
- therefore u quarks are more bound than d quarks
- Find isovector mean-field shifts momentum from u-quarks to d-quarks

$$q(x) = \frac{p^+}{p^+ - V^+} q_0 \left(\frac{p^+}{p^+ - V^+} x - \frac{V_q^+}{p^+ - V^+}\right)$$

• therefore, from protons to neutrons – this is opposite to SRCs, however unknown medium modification may still shift momentum from u to d

The NuTeV anomaly





• NuTeV: $\sin^2 \theta_W = 0.2277 \pm 0.0013(\text{stat}) \pm 0.0009(\text{syst})$ [Zeller et al. PRL. 88, 091802 (2002)]

- Standard Model: $\sin^2 \theta_W = 0.2227 \pm 0.0004 \Leftrightarrow 3\sigma \implies$ "NuTeV anomaly"
- At the time widely thought as evidence for physics beyond Stardard Model
- Corrections from the EMC effect $(\sim 1.5 \sigma)$ and charge symmetry violation $(\sim 1.5 \sigma)$ brings NuTeV result into agreement with the Standard Model
 - mean isovector field shifts momentum from u to d-quarks [therefore from p to n]

Parity-Violating DIS





Opportunities at an EIC



- The reaction $e^{\mp} A \longrightarrow \nu(\bar{\nu}) X$ has incredible promise for shedding new light on nucleon and nuclear PDFs
 - at EIC neutrino energy can be reconstructed from final state



Parton model expressions for W^{\pm} structure functions

$$F_1^{W^+} = \bar{u} + d + s + \bar{c} \qquad F_3^{W^+} = -\bar{u} + d + s - \bar{c}$$

$$F_1^{W^-} = u + \bar{d} + \bar{s} + c \qquad F_3^{W^-} = u - \bar{d} - \bar{s} + c$$

- Would provide much needed data on flavour structure of both valence and sea quark distribution functions
- Flavour dependence can also be test using e.g. SIDIS, π^+/π^- Drell-Yan, PVDIS, ν -DIS & W-production at RHIC

Quasi-elastic scattering



The cross-section for this process reads

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega \,d\omega} = \sigma_{\text{Mott}} \left[\frac{q^4}{|\boldsymbol{q}|^4} \, \boldsymbol{R}_L(\omega, |\boldsymbol{q}|) + \left(\frac{q^2}{2 |\boldsymbol{q}|^2} + \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right) \boldsymbol{R}_T(\omega, |\boldsymbol{q}|) \right]$$

- response functions are accessed via Rosenbluth separation
- In the DIS regime $Q^2, \omega \to \infty$ $x = Q^2/(2M_N\omega) = \text{constant} \text{response}$ functions are proportional to the structure functions $F_1(x, Q^2)$ and $F_2(x, Q^2)$



Coulomb Sum Rule

The "Coulomb Sum Rule" reads

$$C(|\mathbf{q}|) = \int_{\omega^+}^{|\mathbf{q}|} d\omega \; \frac{S_L(\omega, |\mathbf{q}|)}{\tilde{G}_E^2(Q^2)}$$
$$\tilde{G}_E^2 = Z \, G_{Ep}^2(Q^2) + N \, G_{En}^2(Q^2)$$

- Non-relativistic expectation as |q|becomes large – $C(|q| \gg p_F) \rightarrow 1$
 - CSR counts number of charge carriers
- The CSR was first measured at MIT Bates in 1980 then at Saclay in 1984



- both experiments observed significant quenching of the CSR
- Two plausible explanations: 1) *nucleon structure is modified in the nuclear medium;* 2) *experiment/analysis is flawed e.g. Coulomb corrections*

1.2

A number of influential physicists have argued very strongly for the latter



Coulomb Sum Rule Today

- No new data on the CSR since SLAC data from early 1990s
- The *quenching* of the CSR has become one of the most contentious observations in all of nuclear physics
- Experiment E05-110 was performed at Jefferson Lab in 2005

 should settle controversy of CSR *quenching*
- State-of-the-art traditional nuclear physics (GFMC) calculations find no quenching





Longitudinal Response Function



- Longitudinal polarization Π_L is obtained by solving a Dyson equation
- We consider two cases: (1) the electromagnetic current is that if a free nucleon; (2) the current is modified by the nuclear medium
- The *in-medium* nucleon current causes a sizeable quenching of the longitudinal response
 - driver of this effect is modification of the proton Dirac form factor
- Nucleon RPA correlations play almost no role for |q| ≥ 0.7 GeV



Coulomb Sum Rule

$$C(|\mathbf{q}|) = \int_{\omega^+}^{|\mathbf{q}|} d\omega \; \frac{S_L(\omega, |\mathbf{q}|)}{\tilde{G}_E^2(Q^2)}$$
$$\tilde{G}_E^2 = Z \, G_{Ep}^2(Q^2) + N \, G_{En}^2(Q^2) \underbrace{\overline{\mathfrak{S}}}_{\mathcal{S}}$$

- Recall that the non-relativistic expectation is unity for $|q| \gg p_F$
- GFMC ¹²C results are consistent with this expectation



- For a *free nucleon current* find relativistic corrections of 20% at $|q| \simeq 1 \text{ GeV}$
 - in the non-relativistic limit our CSR result does saturate at unity
- An *in-medium nucleon current* induces a further 20% correction to the CSR
 - good agreement with exisiting ²⁰⁸Pb data although this data is contested
- Our ¹²C result is in stark contrast to the corresponding GFMC prediction
 - forthcoming Jefferson Lab should break this impasse



Conclusion

- New Jefferson Lab results for the CSR are expected
 - confirmation or otherwise of the quenching of the CSR will have a dramatic impact
- Two state-of-the-art calculations predict vastly different results
 – for well understood reasons –
- Understanding the EMC effect is a another critical step towards a QCD based description of nuclei
 - approved JLab experiment will measure the polarized EMC effect in ⁷Li; PVDIS also important!
- The next frontier is GPDs and TMDs of nuclei at JLab12 or an EIC

