Self-consistency of the Dressed Electromagnetic Nucleon Current

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Whenever I say "photoprocess," **the photon may be real or virtual**. The formalism to be presented here applies to either case.

How to Read the Diagrams

Time runs from right to left in all diagrams, i.e., the same direction as in matrix elements:

 $\langle \text{final} | (\text{some operator}) | \text{initial} \rangle$

 \Leftarrow time \Leftarrow

















What is the common feature of these photo reactions?









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$$F_1$$
, F_2 , f_1 , f_2 , g_1 , g_2

$$J^{\mu}(p',p) = e \left[\frac{\delta_{N} \gamma^{\mu} + \delta_{N} \gamma^{\mu}_{T}(F_{1}-1) + \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}k_{\nu}}{2m} \kappa_{N}F_{2}}{+ \frac{S^{-1}(p')}{2m} \left(\gamma^{\mu}_{T}f_{1} + \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}k_{\nu}}{2m} \kappa_{N}f_{2}\right) + \left(\gamma^{\mu}_{T}f_{1} + \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}k_{\nu}}{2m} \kappa_{N}f_{2}\right) \frac{S^{-1}(p)}{2m}}{+ \frac{S^{-1}(p')}{2m} \left(\gamma^{\mu}_{T}g_{1} + \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}k_{\nu}}{2m} \kappa_{N}g_{2}\right) \frac{S^{-1}(p)}{2m}}{\left(Approximation\right)}$$



p'

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(Approximation)

Constraints:

p'

no kinematic singularity:
$$f_1(k^2) \xrightarrow{k^2=0} 0$$
 and $g_1(k^2) \xrightarrow{k^2=0} 0$
chiral-symmetry limit : $f_1 \rightarrow \frac{g_A - G_A(k^2)}{g_A}$ and $f_2 \rightarrow 1$



Implications of off-shell structure: Pion photoproduction



s-channel:

$$F_s S(p+k) J_i^{\mu}(p+k,p) = F_s S(p+k) \left(e\delta_i \gamma^{\mu} + \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}k_{\nu}}{2m} e\kappa_i \right) + F_s \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}k_{\nu}}{2m} \frac{e\kappa_i}{2m} f_{2i}$$

u-channel:

contact terms

$$J_f^{\mu}(p',p'-k)S(p'-k)F_u = \left(e\delta_f\gamma^{\mu} + \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}k_{\nu}}{2m}e\kappa_f\right)S(p'-k)F_u + \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}k_{\nu}}{2m}\frac{e\kappa_f}{2m}f_{2f}F_u$$



Photoprocesses, in general, require a more detailed description of J^{μ} .

The dynamical structures of the current J^{μ} can be determined by requiring self-consistency.







Dynamical Links between Photoprocesses



Pions, Nucleons, and Photons





Nucleon Current J^{μ}



Couple photon to dressed propagator:





Pion Photoproduction

Pion-production current M^{μ} :



Nucleon current J^{μ} :



 \Rightarrow The internal structures of the dressed nucleon current can be understood by the dynamics of the pion production current.



Pion-production current M^{μ} :



Contact-type current M_c^{μ} :







Contact-type current M_c^{μ} :



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Gauge Invariance: Ward-Takahashi Identity (WTI)

$$k_{\mu}J^{\mu}(p',p) = k_{\mu}J^{\mu}_{s}(p',p) = S^{-1}(p')Q_{N} - Q_{N}S^{-1}(p)$$

S: dressed nucleon propagator



Everything is exact!

Everything is nonlinear!

Everything is hideously complicated!





Everything is nonlinear!

Everything is hideously complicated!





Let's cut the Gordian knot!



HH, F. Huang, K. Nakayama, arXiv:1103.2065 [nucl-th] (2011)

Cutting the Gordian Knot



Cutting the Gordian Knot



Approximating M_c^{μ}



Lowest-order approximation in terms of phenomenological form factors:

$$M_c^{\mu} = ge\gamma_5 \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}k_{\nu}}{4m^2}\tilde{\kappa}_N - (1-\lambda)g\frac{\gamma_5\gamma^{\mu}}{2m}\tilde{F}_t e_{\pi} - G_{\lambda} \left[e_i\frac{(2p+k)^{\mu}}{s-p^2}\left(\tilde{F}_s - \hat{F}\right)\right]$$

Don't try to read the details. What is important is that this is a simple expression, easy to evaluate, and that it helps preserve gauge invariance of the entire production current.

 $+ e_f \frac{(2p'-k)^{\mu}}{u-p'^2} \left(\tilde{F}_u - \hat{F}\right)$

 $+ e_{\pi} \frac{(2q-k)^{\mu}}{t-q^2} \left(\tilde{F}_t - \hat{F} \right)$



Approximating J_s^{μ}



Auxiliary currents:

$$j_{1}^{\mu} = \gamma^{\mu} (1 - \kappa_{1}) + \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}k_{\nu}}{2m}\kappa_{1} \qquad \qquad j_{2}^{\mu} = \frac{(2p + k)^{\mu}}{2m}\kappa_{1} + \frac{i\sigma^{\mu\nu}k_{\nu}}{2m}\kappa_{2}$$
Two parameters!





Preliminary results for $\gamma N
ightarrow \pi N$



Fei Huang, Wednesday afternoon



F. Huang, M. Döring, H. Haberzettl, J. Haidenbauer, C. Hanhart, S. Krewald, U.-G. Meißner, and K. Nakayama, in preparation

On the importance of maintaining gauge invariance

Preliminary results for $\gamma N \rightarrow \pi N$:



R

Dashed green curves: w/o M^{μ}_{c}

F. Huang, M. Döring, H. Haberzettl, J. Haidenbauer, C. Hanhart, S. Krewald, U.-G. Meißner, K. Nakayama, to be published (2011)

Dynamical Links between Photoprocesses — Bremsstrahlung



Bremsstrahlung Current:

$$J^{\mu}_{\mathsf{B}} = (TG_0+1)J^{\mu}_r(1+G_0T)$$
 T: NN T-matrix



Compare the photon processes along the top nucleon line above to the meson production diagrams below.



Essential parts of the process can be described as a meson capture process — i.e., as an inverse photoproduction process — in the presence of a spectator nucleon.



Bremsstrahlung $NN ightarrow NN\gamma$

Application to KVI data. — Or: Resolving a longstanding problem:



from meson photoproduction brings about a dramatic improvement.

Dynamical Links between Photoprocesses — **Two-Pion Production**



Basic Two-pion Production Mechanisms



Dynamical Links between Photoprocesses — Compton Scattering



Compton Scattering $\gamma N ightarrow \gamma N$



- *s* and *u*-channel terms employ dressed current just described.
- Contact term constrained by gauge invariance.



Conclusions

- There exists a very close relationship between the dressed nucleon current and the pion photoproduction current.
- Exploiting this relationship suggests physically meaningful approximations that work, despite the enormous complexity of the exact formalism.
- Maintaining full gauge invariance (as opposed to mere current conservation) is not a luxury but a necessity for the correct microscopic description of the reaction dynamics.
- Requiring gauge invariance in the form of *off-shell* (generalized) Ward-Takahashi identities for each subprocess provides a powerful tool for constraining the contributing mechanisms *and* ensuring overall gauge invariance as a matter of course. Case in point:





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