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# Deuteron Electro-Disintegration At Very High Missing Momenta

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# What is the Deuteron?

- Discovered in 1931 by H. Urey
- Starting point for studying NN interaction
- Weakly bound state (2.22 MeV/pair)



- Experiment: Deuteron has + spatial parity ⇒ L=0,2,4,...
- Experiment: Total Angular Momentum  $J = 1\hbar$

$$\implies S = s_p + s_n = \frac{1}{2} \otimes \frac{1}{2} = 1 \oplus 0$$

- $|\psi_D\rangle = a |{}^3S_1(L=0)\rangle + b |{}^3D_1(L=2)\rangle$
- No observed nn or pp bound states (Pauli exclusion, only S=0 singlet state possible for identical fermions)
- NN interaction is spin dependent

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#### Evidence of Deuteron D-state Admixture

- Magnetic Dipole Moment  $\mu_d = \mu_p^{\text{(orbital)}} + \mu_p^{\text{(spin)}} + \mu_n^{\text{(spin)}}$  $\mu_d^{\text{tht}}({}^3S_1(L=0)) = \mu_p + \mu_n = 0.879805\mu_N \quad \mu_d^{\text{tht}}({}^3D_1(L=2)) = 0.310\mu_N$  $\mu_d^{\text{exp}} = 0.85741 \pm 0.0002\mu_N$
- Electric Quadrupole Moment
  - I.I. Rabi measured electric quadrupole moment in D (1939)
  - Multipole Expansion:  $\phi(\mathbf{r}) = \phi_m(\mathbf{r}) + \phi_d(\mathbf{r}) + \phi_q(\mathbf{r}) + \cdots$







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#### **Motivation**

• Study Deuteron at short ranges ( $\lesssim$  1fm).

High momentum transfers  $(Q^2) \implies$  probe the Deuteron at smaller distances. Smaller internucleon distances enables one to access the high momentum components of nucleons

- Extract momentum distributions(not an observable) from cross sections
- Study transition from hadronic to quark-gluon degrees of freedom



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#### Theoretical Framework of D(e,e'p)n

- E.M. Interaction ( $\alpha \sim \frac{1}{137}$ )
- One Photon-Exchange
   Approximation is valid
- virtual photon interacts with Deuteron through a variety of processes
- preferably, proton absorbs photon and is ejected while neutron recoils without further interaction (missing neutron momenta is same as internal momenta)



# Plane Wave Impulse Approximation (PWIA)

- virtual photon is completely absorbed by one of the nucleons
- the other nucleon is a spectator
- final state particles treated as plane waves (free particles)
- process in which neutron absorbs photon (+PWBA) is suppressed only for proton momenta significantly higher than missing momenta.

$$\underbrace{p_{i,p} + p_{i,n} = 0}_{p_{m} = p_{i,n}} \underbrace{p_{j,p}}_{p_{m} = p_{i,n}}$$





#### Final State Interactions (FSI)

- in final state, the nucleons are at short enough distances (~ 2 fm) and continue to interact
- eikonal approximation: infinite NN interactions are represented by an effective NN interaction amplitude obtained from NN scattering experiments
- nucleons re-scatter after interacting





# Meson Exchange Currents (MEC)

- virtual photon couples with exchange meson between nucleons
- virtual meson may become real after photon absorption
- $r \underbrace{p_{i,p} + p_{i,n} = 0}_{p_{i,p}} \underbrace{p_{i,p}}_{p_{i,p}} \underbrace{p_{j,p}}_{p_{i,p}}$
- meson exchange propagator is proportional to  $(1 + \frac{Q^2}{m_{meson}^2})^{-1}$  $\implies$  MEC suppressed for  $Q^2 \gg m_{meson}^2$

#### Isobar Configuration Currents (IC)



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Data (JLAB HallA)
 JML (FSI+MEC+IC)
 JML (FSI)
 MS using CD-Bonn
 potential
 JVO

 $Q^2 = 3.5 (\text{GeV/c})^2$ (a)p<sub>m</sub>=0.2 GeV/c (b)p<sub>m</sub>=0.4 GeV/c (c)p<sub>m</sub>=0.5 GeV/c

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#### Hall C 12 GeV Upgrade and D(e,e'p)n





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#### Conclusion and Future Outlook

• np bound state serves as starting point to study the strong nuclear force

- Investigate NN interaction at sub-fermi distances by using high energy  $e^-$  probe
- Previous experiments have shown that final state processes may be minimized in certain kinematic regions
- There are theoretical expectations that at high Q<sup>2</sup> and x<sub>Bj</sub> > 1, soft two-body processes such as MEC and IC may be suppressed
- With the 12 GeV Upgrade at HallC, the D(e,e'p)n experiment seeks to explore new kinematic regions (backed by experimental and theoretical support) that will enhance PWIA over other processes



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# Thank You!