A New Proposal to Jefferson Lab PAC-25

Measurement of G_E^p/G_M^p using elastic $\vec{p}(\vec{e},e')p$ up to $Q^2=3.50~({\rm GeV/c})^2$

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Abstract

We propose here measurements of the ratio G_E^p/G_M^p via doubly polarized elastic $\vec{p}(\vec{e}, e')p$ scattering at $Q^2 = 2.10$ and $3.50 \, (\text{GeV/c})^2$. The UVa polarized M_3 target will be used in Hall C with its spin aligned 139° w.r.t. the beam direction. To extract G_E^p/G_M^p , we perform single-arm electron measurements at kinematics where the elastic asymmetries are the most sensitive to this ratio. In addition, the asymmetry will be measured at $Q^2 = 0.19 \, (\text{GeV/c})^2$ to determine the absolute electron beam helicity state and to check the product of beam and target asymmetries. Assuming 80% beam polarization and 85 nA current, we request 14 days of total beam time to achieve a precision of $\Delta(\mu G_E^p/G_M^p) = 0.057$ and 0.074 at $Q^2 = 2.10$ and $3.50 \, (\text{GeV/c})^2$, respectively. We request five days overhead time.

The proposed measurement will provide the first data of G_E^p/G_M^p from the $\vec{p}(\vec{e}, e')p$ asymmetry method in the intermediate Q^2 range with good precision. It represents the next step in a logical scientific progression to fully understand the discrepancy between data from the Rosenbluth method and the polarization transfer technique. One possible explaination of this observed descrepancy is the two-photon exchange correction. The new method is possiblly less sensitive to the two-photon exchange effect than the Rosenbluth separation. Moreover, calculations on the two-photon exchange correction need more development and will probablly use the observed descrepancy itself as inputs. While based on the same double polarization principles, the new method has completely different systematic uncertainties than the polarization transfer method. Especially, it does not suffer from the uncertainties due to spin precession. Hence it will provide an independent check of the polarization transfer data and reliable guidance to the theoretical work. Finally, in addition to the two-photon exchange, there might be other processes we are not aware of, that can cause the descrepancy. The new data will give a opportunity to explore such unknown effects.

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1 Motivation

The nucleon is one of the basic building blocks of nature. The elastic form factors are important fundamental properties of the nucleon, describing its internal structure due to the spatial distribution of its charge and magnetism. They play an essential role in hadronic physics as the *sine qua non* input to our understanding of nucleon structure. Thus it is of the utmost urgency that we have accurate and reliable measurements of these fundamental characteristics of the nucleon from low Q^2 to the highest Q^2 we can reach. However, there appears to be a discrepancy between values obtained by two very different techniques that clearly indicates a problem in either the experimental methods or the theoretical basis used to extract the form factors from the data. Any such discrepancies must be resolved without delay. In this proposal, we propose an independent measurement of the ratio $\mu G_E/G_M$ on the proton using a third technique which is experimentally unrelated to either of the first two.

In this section we first briefly review available calculations for G_E^p/G_M^p , then give an overview of previous world data and propose a new method to measure G_E^p/G_M^p .

1.1 Theories

The proton elastic form factors have been calculated in various models. At low four momentum transfer squared $Q^2 < 1$ (GeV/c)², the Vector Meson Dominance (VMD) model [1] successfully describes the nucleon form factors. In the high Q^2 region, the dominant degrees of freedom of the nucleon are the three valence quarks and perturbative Quantum Chromo-Dynamics (pQCD) can be applied [2]. Specifically, based on the leading-order pQCD, or hadron helicity conservation, the ratio of Dirac and Pauli form factors F_2^p/F_1^p is expected to scale as $1/Q^2$ at high Q^2 [2, 3], which directly constrains the behavior of G_E^p/G_M^p in this region.

In the intermediate region $1 < Q^2 < 20$ (GeV/c)², however, predictions for the nucleon form factors become difficult because the soft scattering processes are still dominant compared to hard scattering. Moreover, these soft contributions might be different for different observables of the scattering processes. This fact itself can be used as a tool to understand the role of the soft processes without reaching asymptotically high Q^2 . Many QCD models have been used to calculate the elastic nucleon form factors in this region - the relativistic constituent quark model (RCQM) [4, 5], the cloudy bag model (CBM) [8], the SU(6) breaking CQM [7], the point-form spectator approximation (PFSA) model based on the Goldstone boson exchange CQM [6], and the chiral soliton model [9]. Figure 1 shows existing calculations for $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$ along with previous world data.

1.2 Existing Data

The proton elastic form factors have been measured for almost five decades. In the traditional Rosenbluth separation method, based on the assumption of the one photon exchange process, the elastic cross section is measured at fixed Q^2 but different values of the virtual photon polarization ϵ . Then the values of G_E^p , G_M^p and their ratio are extracted from a linear fit of the cross section as a function of $1/\epsilon$. This method is usually used at $Q^2 < 9$ (GeV/c)². Data from this method show that G_M^p can be approximated by the dipole form $G_D = \mu_P/(1 + Q^2/0.71)^2$ with μ_P the proton magnetic moment, at least up to about $Q^2 = 3 - 4$ (GeV/C)². The ratio $\mu^p G_E^p/G_M^p$ is observed by this method to be close to unity, independent of whether G_M^p follows the dipole ansatz or not. Above this Q^2 region, G_M^p is extracted from single cross section measurements assuming $\mu^p G_E^p = G_M^p$. Data on F_1^p at $Q^2 > 10$ (GeV/c)² show a $1/Q^4$ scaling behavior which is consistent with pQCD predictions [11].

However, recent data from the method of measuring the polarization transfer [13, 14, 15] showed that $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$ drops linearly as Q^2 increases and reaches as low as ≈ 0.3 at $Q^2 = 5.6$ (GeV/c)², in significant disagreement with the Rosenbluth data (see Fig. 1). This dramatic change has invoked large interest in

Figure 1: Previous world data for $\mu G_E^p / G_M^p$ from a global analysis of Rosenbluth data [12] (open b&w markers) and from polarization transfer method (solid b&w markers). A dramatic disagreement is clearly seen between the two data set at $Q^2 > 2$ (GeV/c)². Preliminary results from a recent Hall A experiment (not shown) [19] agree well with Rosenbluth data. Compared with various calculations including that from VMD (black) [1], the cloudy bag model [8], RCQM (red curve) [5], PSFA (green) [6], SU(6) breaking with CQM fFF (blue) [7] and chiral soliton model (magenta) [9].



both theoretical and experimental aspects of the proton form factor. Different fits have been performed separately to data from Rosenbluth method, and data from both Rosenbluth and polarization transfer methods [18]. Previous Rosenbluth data have been re-analyzed [16] but the results are still inconsistent with polarization measurements. At high Q^2 , data from cross section measurements have also been re-analyzed using the polarization transfer fit [14] and are found to be self-consistent [16].

Experimentally, preliminary results from the recently completed Hall A experiment E01-001 [19] agree well the traditional Rosenbluth data. A new polarization transfer experiment [20] is being planned in Hall C to measure G_E^p/G_M^p via polarization transfer up to $Q^2 = 9.0 \, (\text{GeV/c})^2$. Since a new proton polarimeter will be used, it is expected to check the systematic uncertainties of previous polarization transfer data, especially those due to the uncertainty of the spin precession. However this new experiment will be carried out by the same collaboration as previous polarization transfer experiments, so it is not a completely independent check. Therefore it is important to have an even more independent double polarization experiment, that is one of the main purpose of this proposal.

1.3 Two-Photon Exchange Correction

In order to explain the discrepancy between the Rosenbluth separation and polarization transfer data, under the assumption that both are correct, significant effort has been put into understanding the radiative corrections and soft processes that can modify the results obtained from the assumption of one-photon exchange. The validity of radiative corrections has been checked, and it has been suggested that the two-photon exchange process may explain part of the discrepancy between the two data sets.

Earlier data on the ratio of the $e^+ - N$ and $e^- - N$ scattering cross sections indicate that the two-photon exchange correction is small [25]. As a result, the two-photon (and higher order) exchange process has not been accounted for in the Rosenbluth formulation of the e - p scattering cross section until recently. This correction can introduce an ϵ -dependence to the cross section and affect the linearity of the Rosenbluth plot. Guichon and Vanderhaeghen [21] showed that, phenomenologically, the correction to the Rosenbluth data is much larger than to the polarization transfer data, and the true $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$ is about 20% below the polarization transfer fit. Blunden, Melnitchouk and Tjon [22] evaluated the two-photon exchange contributions to elastic e - p scattering cross sections based on a simple hadronic model including the finite size of the proton. Their results explained one third of the descrepancy between the two data sets.

Rekalo and Tomasi-Gustaffson [23] derived from first principles, *i.e.* the C-invariance of the EM interaction and the crossing symmetry, the general properties of two-photon exchange in e - p elastic scattering. They showed again that the presence of this mechanism destroys the linearity of the Rosenbluth separation but does not affect the terms related to the EM form factors. Basically, there are small (few %) but slightly different corrections to electric and magnetic contributions due to the two photon exchange corrections. In the Rosenbluth separation technique, as Q^2 increases the percentage of the cross section from G_E decreases to a value of a few % at around 3 (GeV/c)² and becomes even smaller as Q^2 goes higher. Thus an accurate extraction of $\mu G_E/G_M$ as Q^2 increases depends sensitively on accurately knowing the magnetic contribution. A correction of just a few % can produce a large change in the resulting value of $\mu G_E/G_M$, by factors of $2 \sim 3$.

Armed with the prediction that the two-photon exchange could be large, earlier SLAC data on the ratio of the $e^+ - N$ and $e^- - N$ scattering cross sections are being re-analyzed based on the assumption that there is no two-photon correction to the polarization transfer data. It has been shown that there is indeed a hint that the two-photon exchange correction is large [26]. However the e^+ data are not precise enough to set a good limit on this correction. Now it is interesting to see how people's opinion changes with time – what we believed fourty years ago turn out to be incorrect and those important measurements (e^+ scattering in this case) were abandoned just because they were supposed to give the same results as other measurements (e^- scattering).

On the other hand, the polarization transfer experiment provides a direct measurement of the ratio $\mu G_E/G_M$. The calculations show that the two-photon contributions to the electric and magnetic components are small to moderate, and in the same direction, but not equal. Therefore, while the ratio $\mu G_E/G_M$ from the spin transfer measurement will be affected by the two-photon exchange contributions, the size of the effect is expected to be much less than for the Rosenbluth separation technique and maybe within experimental uncertainties for the higher Q^2 data points. The same is true for the asymmetries of doubly plarized elastic scattering. The asymmetry we proposed to measure is a combination of the transverse and longitudinal asymmetry A_L and A_T . The two-photon exchange correction term tend to cancel to a large amount when taking the linear combination of A_L and A_T . For example, at the proposed $Q^2 = 3.50$ (GeV/c)² point, the asymmetry is $0.97A_T - 0.24A_L$

In this context, it is interesting to note that previous work by Brash *et al.*[24] showed that the discrepancy between the ratio $\mu G_E/G_M$ as extracted by the two different techniques, could be resolved by a small change to the magnetic contribution to the e - p cross section. These authors fit the polarization

transfer data and then use the results of that fit to reinterpret the Rosenbluth separations. Their results show a slightly larger magnetic form factor than previously inferred. While they offer no physical explanation, this is precisely the direction to simulate one two-photon exchange calculation.

The two-photon exchange correction provides a possible explanation of the discrepancies in the existing data. Furthermore it not only affects the extraction of form factors from e - p scattering, but also affects many other observables, *e.g.* parity-violating asymmetries. A full understanding of this process may take decades. Along this journey, experimental data will provide valuable and necessary guidance to the development of related theories. In fact, there is a direct prediction [27, 28] that the interference between the one- and two-photon exchange processes leads to a non-zero transverse target polarization asymmetry A_y . An early attempt to measure this at SLAC showed the asymmetry to be zero but within rather large errors [29]. There has been a recent suggestion to try to measure this asymmetry using BLAST at the MIT-Bates accelerator facility, and a proposal is also being prepared for Hall C [30]. Even if a twophoton effect is measured, there may be other corrections of which we are not aware, that can add to the desprepancy between the two form factor data sets. Therefore, it is necessary to perform an independent determination of $\mu G_E/G_M$ using a method different from either Rosenbluth separation or polarization transfer.

2 The Proposed Experiment

We propose here a third method to measure G_E^p/G_M^p in the intermediate Q^2 range at $Q^2 = 2.10$ and $3.50 \,(\text{GeV/c})^2$. We will measure the double polarization asymmetry in $\vec{e} - \vec{p}$ elastic scattering and the G_E^p/G_M^p ratio will be extracted from the measured asymmetries. Formulas for doubly polarized elastic scattering and its asymmetries are given in Appendix A. The UVa polarized NH₃ target will be used in Hall C with its spin aligned at 139° w.r.t. the beam-line (*i.e.* pointing to the left of the beam-line when viewing toward beam dump). The scattered electrons will be detected in the HMS. In addition, the asymmetry at $Q^2 = 0.19 \,(\text{GeV/c})^2$ will be measured with a statistical uncertainty of 2%, which will serve to determine the absolute electron helicity state and to check the product of beam and target polarizations.

Assuming 85 nA beam current with 80% polarization, we request 14 days beam time to reach $\Delta(\mu G_E^p/G_M^p) = 0.057$ and 0.074 at $Q^2 = 2.10$ and 3.50 (GeV/c)², respectively. The above beam time includes nitrogen runs and Møller measurements. Five days overhead time are needed for beam pass change and target work. The UVa polarized NH₃ target will be installed with un-parallel spin orientation.

The proposed measurement will provide the first precision data on G_E^p/G_M^p from a third method in the intermediate Q^2 range. This method is expected to be less sensitive to the two-photon exchange effect than Rosenbluth separation, based on the same argument as for the polarization transfer, *i.e.* it is a direct measurement of $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$. Furthermore, it has different systematic uncertainties compared to the polarization transfer technique. Hence, it will complement these two methods. The new results will provide crucial information on both the proton structure and the understanding of previous world data. They will also provide valuable guidance for theoretical work on two-photon exchange effects.

3 Experimental Setup

In the following we describe the experimental setup for the proposed measurement in Hall C.

3.1 Overview

The floor plan for Hall C is shown in Fig. 2. The UVa polarized NH_3 target will be installed with its spin direction aligned at 139° w.r.t. the beam-line, as shown in Fig. 3. The scattered electrons will be detected by the HMS. Elastic events are identified by the electron scattering angle and momentum and the elastic kinematic conditions.





Figure 3: Kinematics for the proposed measurement. Target spin angles are shown for the case when scattering plane is horizontal ($\phi^* = 0^\circ$). Lightly shaded areas show the blocking of target coils, which cover from 50° to 73° along either side of the field axis.



3.2 Beam Line

We propose to use polarized electrons with 80% polarization and 85 nA beam current at two beam energies 1.20 and 6.00 GeV. Beam energy will be measured to $\Delta E/E = 2 \times 10^{-4}$ level using the ARC

method [32]. We plan to use the Møller polarimeter for beam polarization measurement. Currently the Hall C Møller polarimeter can provide better than 1% precision. However additional systematic error can come from the fact that we are running at 85 nA low current. We therefore use 1.5% in the uncertainty estimation.

Because the target spin is not parallel to the beam direction, the strong 5 T magnetic field of the target





will bend the electron beam toward the floor. In order to ensure that the incoming beam is incident on the target cell horizontally, we will use a chicane magnet to bend the beam up before it enters the target scattering chamber. In addition, the beam will be bent again after it exits the target such that it will correctly enter the beam dump. A series of chicane magnets were used for a similar purpose during the G_E^n experiment E93-026 [34, 36], and we will use the same setup.

The beam needs to be rastered to maintain the target polarization and to ensure uniform distribution of both heat and radiation on the target material. We require the beam spot at the target to be ≈ 2 cm in diameter which almost covers the entire target. This has been achieved using the slow rastering system during previous experiments [34, 36]. A schematic diagram for the beam-line chicane magnets and raster system is shown in Fig. 4.

Beam position monitoring and beam current measurement at our low current of 85 nA need special care. Using the same method as previous experiment E93-026, we believe a precise beam position monitoring can be achieved and the beam current can be measured to a level of 5%. The effect of beam charge asymmetry will be discussed in Section 4.2.

3.3 The UVa NH₃ Target

We will use a solid polarized proton target developed by the University of Virginia. In this target, Dynamic Nuclear Polarization (DNP) is utilized to enhance the low temperature (≈ 1 K), high magnetic field (5 T) polarization of solid materials. The irradiation of the target with 140 GHz microwaves drives hyperfine transitions which align the nucleon spins. This target was successfully used in the SLAC experiments

E143, E155, E155x and two experiments E93-026 [34] and E01-006 [36] at Hall C. The proton polarization in 15 NH₃ can reach as high as 95% and will decrease because of the beam depolarization effect. An average polarization of 75% was routinely achieved during previous experiments.

The target consists of a superconducting dipole magnet which operates at 5 Tesla, a ⁴He evaporation refrigerator, a large pumping system, a high power microwave tube operating at frequencies around 140 GHz and a NMR system for measuring the target polarization. Figure 5 shows the target side view.



Figure 5: Sideview of the UVa polarized NH₃ target.

For the proposed measurement, the target material is 15 NH₃ and the target spin needs to be aligned at 139° w.r.t. the beamline. Figure 6 shows the orientation of the target field and coils. For safety reasons, 5 mm clearance is required between the raster outer edge and the coil.

The target cell is filled by frozen ammonia granules and is placed into a target holder and lowered into a cryostat of liquid ⁴He. The nitrogen, helium and other target holder materials are in the acceptance of the spectrometers and will serve to dilute the measured asymmetry. The thickness and density of each material are given in Table 1. The dilution factor will be discussed in Section 4.4. Moreover, the unpaired proton in nitrogen can be polarized, hence a correction to the asymmetry must be made during analysis. The uncertainty due to the asymmetry from quasi-elastic scattering (QES) on nitrogen will be discussed in Section 4.5.

Figure 6: Cofiguration of target coils.



Table 1: Thickness and density for unpolarized materials in acceptance.

Material	Thickness (cm)	Density (g/cm ³)	
⁴ He	0.37	0.145	
Al end-caps	0.00762	2.70	
Copper in NMR coil	0.00673	8.96	
Nickel in NMR coil	0.00289	8.75	
Titanium windows in tail	0.00712	4.54	
Al windows in LN ₂ shield	0.00508	2.70	
Al entrance window in cryostat	0.00702	2.70	
Al exit window in cryostat	0.01016	2.70	

The target polarization needed is 75% (average) with 85 nA beam, measured by NMR to 2.5% level. During previous experiments, the NMR measurement was done continuously during the run. NMR readings were available every ≈ 20 seconds for on line display, and were stored in special target event files for offline analysis. The price to pay for this is the presence of NMR pickup coils in the target cells, which should be accounted for in the dilution analysis. Figure 7 shows the geometry of the cell and the NMR

coil used to measure proton polarization.

Figure 7: The 3 cm long by 2.5 cm diameter cylindrical target cell with the single loop coil used for measuring the proton polarization. Drawing not to scale.



The radiation from the beam will lower the target polarization. This can be partially recovered by target annealing, a process where the ¹⁵NH₃ material is warmed from ≈ 1 K to ≈ 80 K. But eventually the target material needs to be changed for every 80 hours of 85 nA beam. We will use two cells per insert and one insert change will be needed during the experiment. Such insert change will take approximately 20 hours. The first 4 \sim 6 hours and the 6 \sim 8 hours at the end of insert change are for thermal equilibrium (TE) calibrations and should be performed with the hall closed. We plan to preform an additional TE calibration during the experiment.

The strong magnetic field of this target configuration will have an effect on the scattering charged particles but this can be well simulated and corrected.

The uncertainty in the target spin direction is one of the main systematic uncertainties of this experiment. During previous experiments the field direction has been measured to 0.1° , and we require the same precision.

3.4 Spectrometer

For the proposed experiment, only scattered electrons will be detected. Elastic events are identified by the scattering angle and momentum of electrons. Good resolutions in both the angle and momentum will help to reduce the elastic peak width and the quasi-elastic background. We will use the High Momentum Spectrometer (HMS) for detecting scattered electrons. A gas Čherenkov detector which is part of the standard equipment) is needed in HMS for rejecting pions. The central momentum of HMS can be calculated from the dipole field magnitude to a level of 1×10^{-3} [32]. The central angle can be determined to 0.3 mrad (?). In Section 4.4, we will give the simulation results of both elastic and quasi-elastic events and estimate the dilution factor.

3.5 Acceptance Effect due to Target Magnetic Field

Due to the strong magnetic field the scattered electrons will be bent upward by $\approx 5^{\circ}$. This will cause a tilt of the scattering plane. The direct effects are that there is a correction to the target spin polar angle

 θ^* and $\phi^* \neq 0$. Figure 8 shows the HMS acceptance for electrons at $Q^2 = 2.10 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$. Overall, for measurements at $Q^2 = 2.10$ and $Q^2 = 3.50 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$ the bending is small and the scattering angle is close to the HMS central setting. The change in the counting rate is negligible.

Figure 8: HMS acceptance for E' = 4.881 electrons with (red) and without (black) target field. With target field electrons with initial $\phi_{targ} < 0$ (vertical up) will reach the center of HMS.



3.6 Low Q^2 Measurement

We will measure the elastic asymmetry at $Q^2 = 0.19$ (GeV/c)² with a statistical uncertainty of 2% to determine the absolute helicity stat of the electron beam, and to check the product of target and beam polarizations. The beam energy will be changed to one pass and the HMS angle is 21.65°. To avoid the large bending of scattered low momentum electrons, the target field will be rotated to 21.65° to the right of beam-line such that the scattered electrons' trajectory is parallel to the holding field. Rotating the target field will take about one day. Since the magnet coils (thus the field axis) are well surveyed relative to the scattering chamber, it is enough to have only one field axis measurement during the experiment. Note that the low Q^2 measurement is to check the polarizations *in situ*, which means that to the extent that the product of beam and target polarizations derived from asymmetry agrees with the product of NMR (target) and Møller (beam) measurements, we know that these systematic errors are under control. We do not need the target polarization itself be the same before and after the rotation. The total uncertainty of the measured asymmetry, besides that due to the beam and target polarizations, is 3.450%. Hence this measurement will provide a 3.450% check for the product of target and beam polarizations.

3.7 Data Analysis

The physics asymmetries can be extracted from the raw asymmetries as

$$A_{\parallel,\perp} = \frac{A_{raw}(1 - \eta_{A_{\rm N}})}{P_{beam}P_{targ}f}$$
(1)

where $P_{beam} = 80\%$ and $P_{targ} = 75\%$ are the beam and target polarizations, f is the target dilution factor and η_{A_N} is a correction factor due to the asymmetry of QES electrons from nitrogen in ${}^{15}\text{NH}_3$ (see Section 4.5). The ratio G_E^p/G_M^p is extracted using Eq. (16) and its uncertainty from Eq. (17) of Appendix A.

The error in the asymmetry A is

$$\Delta A = \left\{ \left(\frac{\Delta A_{raw}}{f P_b P_t} \right)^2 + A^2 \left[\left(\frac{\Delta P_b}{P_b} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta P_t}{P_t} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta f}{f} \right)^2 \right] \right\}^{1/2},$$
(2)

with
$$\Delta A_{raw} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$
 (3)

Here N is total number of events. From Eq. (16) one can extract G_E^p/G_M^p from the asymmetry and its uncertainty is calculated using Eq. (17). Detailed formulas for the error propagation are given in Appendix A and B.

4 Expected Uncertainties and Rate Estimation

In this section we first list all uncertainty sources. Then we calculate the rate, the expected total uncertainties on $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$ and the beam time.

4.1 Experimental Systematics

We estimate the uncertainty in the beam polarization to be 1.5% and the target polarization has 2.5% uncertainty. Other error sources include those from the target spin angle, beam energy $\Delta E/E = 2 \times 10^{-4}$, HMS central momentum $\Delta E'/E' = 1 \times 10^{-3}$ [32], and central angle $\Delta \theta = 0.3$ mrad. Formula for error propagation from these experimental systematics to $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$ are given in Appendix B. The largest systematic uncertainty comes from target polarization. At $\Delta P_{targ}/P_{targ} = 2.5\%$ the uncertainty in $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$ is about 2/3 of the statistical uncertainty.

4.2 Beam Charge Asymmetry

The beam charge is measured by the beam current monitor (BCM). The overall uncertainty in the BCM is about 5%. However the uncertainty in the beam charge asymmetry is expected to be much smaller than this value. In Ref. [35], the uncertainty on the beam charge asymmetry comes from (1) 1% from calibration offset; (2) 50 ppm from noise in the BCM signal; (3) 0.5% from the stability of the offset; and (4) \approx 10 ppm from non-linearity for 85 nA current. The uncertainty on G_E^p/G_M^p due to beam charge asymmetry is about half of the error due to the target polarization (the latter is the dominant term of systematic uncertainties).

4.3 Target Polarization

Target polarization can be measured to 2.5% using NMR, as mentioned in Section 3.3. To minimize the uncertainty on the target polarization, we plan to preform an additional TE calibration during the experiment. TE calibration should be performed with the hall closed and can be planned once the beam is expected to be down for more than 6 hours.

4.4 Target Dilution Factor

The dilution factor is due to the quasi-elastic events from nitrogen in NH₃ and from other material listed in Table 1. Since the reconstructed elastic peak at forward angles typically has < 20 MeV FWHM, while quasi-elastic events are smeared by Fermi motion at the $p_F/M = \pm 10\%$ level if the Fermi momentum

Figure 9: Expected spectra on $\delta E' \equiv E' - E'_{el}$ for the proposed measurements at $Q^2 = 0.19$ (top), 2.10 (middle) and 3.50 (GeV/c)² (bottom). Simulations were performed using SIMC without HMS collimators, ¹⁵N and ⁴He quasi-elastic events were simulated by ¹²C spectral functions and all other material were using ⁵⁶Fe spectral function. The blue shows the sum of elastic and quasi-elastic events. Black lines show cut in $\delta E'$ used to obtain elastic rate and dilution f.



 $p_F \approx 200 \text{ MeV/c}$, about 80% of quasi-elastic events will be excluded using a cut in $\delta E' \equiv E' - E'_{el}$ where E'_{el} is the electron energy measured by HMS and E'_{el} is the energy of elastically scattered electrons calculated from the scattering angle θ . Figure 9 shows the simulated elastic events (red), quasi-elastic events (green) and the sum (blue) for 1 mC beam charge.

The dilution factor is defined as

$$f = \frac{N_p}{N_p + N_{\rm QE}} \tag{4}$$

where N_p and N_{QE} are yield of e - p elastic events and quasi-elastic from ¹⁵N and other target material. Since the actual angular resolution of the HMS is usually not as good as the COSY model used in the simulation, we use f = 0.5 as a conservative estimation for all three kinematics in the rate and uncertainty estimation. This value is also consistent with a previous experiment [36].

We will take data on carbon with approximately the same geometry as the NH_3 cell to measure the quasi-elastic cross section from nitrogen and all other target materials. The dilution factor was determined to an accuracy of $(2.5 \sim 3)\%$ during a previous experiment [36]. We use 2.5% in the uncertainty estimation.

4.5 Nitrogen Asymmetry

The nitrogen in NH_3 is polarized and will contribute to the asymmetry. In the shell model, the ¹⁵N nucleus has one unpaired proton which can be polarized. The polarization of the unpaired proton in ¹⁵N is reduced from that of a free proton by several factors. First, the nitrogen in ¹⁵N is polarized up to only 1/6 of the proton, based on the Equal Spin Temperature (EST) hypothesis. Experimental data show even lower polarization, as shown in Fig. 10. Secondly, the proton in a polarized ¹⁵N is only polarized

Figure 10: Polarization of nitrogen P_N in ¹⁵NH₃ vs. proton polarization P_p measured during E155 [38]. The black circle is the prediction in Equal Spin Temperature (EST) hypothesis and the red dots is what were actually measured.



to a certain amount. This quantity, called the effective nucleon polarization, has been estimated in two

ways. In a model independent method [39, 40], $P_{p^{/15}N} \approx -0.22$ based on isospin symmetry and data from beta decay of the mirror nuclei ¹⁵O. In the shell model, the proton in ¹⁵N is aligned anti-parallel to the nuclear spin 1/3 of the time, hence $P_{p^{/15}N} = -0.33$. Overall, the polarization of the unpaired proton is at most $(0.22 \sim 0.33) \times 1/6P_p = 0.037 \sim 0.055P_p$. If we take the measured data, it is about $(0.22 \sim 0.33) \times 1/10P_p = (0.022 \sim 0.033)P_p$. In addition, only about 1/15 of ¹⁵N quasi-elastic events are from the $p_{1/2}$ proton and ¹⁵N contribute > 95% of all quasi-elastic events. Hence the correction to the measured asymmetry A_m due to nitrogen is

$$A_m = fA_p + \frac{0.95(1-f)}{15}A_{p/^{15}N} = fA_p \left(1 + (0.014 \sim 0.021)\frac{1-f}{f}\right)$$
(5)

$$A_p = \frac{A_m}{f} \left(1 - (0.0175 \pm 0.0035) \right) \text{ if } f = 0.5$$
(6)

Compared to the usually used $A = \frac{A_m}{f}$, we need to apply a 1.75% correction with $\pm 0.35\%$ uncertainty for all three Q^2 points.

4.6 Background

For our measurement the main background comes from the quasi-elastic scattering from nitrogen and materials on the beam path. This part was discussed in the last section. The π^- background was estimated using Lightbody's code [41] and is found to be negligible. In addition, π^- 's will be rejected by the gas Čerenkov detector, which has a pion rejection factor of $> 10^3 : 1$. Therefore there is no effect from the pions on the measured asymmetry.

4.7 Electromagnetic Radiative Corrections

The EM radiative corrections (besides the possible large corrections from the two-photon exchange process) were simulated using Mo and Tsai. The uncertainty in the radiative corrections on the asymmetries is negligible.

4.8 Deadtime Correction

The rate of our proposed measurement is very low, \sim Hz, hence the electronic dead time correction is small and the effect on the measured asymmetry is negligible. Computer deadtime can be measured by triggers and the uncertainty is determined by the statistics of each run. We require a run to have at least 1M events hence the uncertainty in the measured deadtime is 0.1%.

4.9 **Optimization of Kinematics**

We optimize the kinematics based on the following conditions:

- For a given Q^2 , the rate is maximized by varying beam energy and scattering angle;
- For given Q^2 and beam energy, the total uncertainty of G_E^p/G_M^p is minimized by varing target spin angle;
- Target coils do not interfere with either beam-line or scattered electrons. A 0.5 cm clearance is required between coils and outer edge of particle trajectory.

Results are shown in Fig. 11 and 12. We choose to use a 6 GeV beam. Target spin will be pointing to the left and aligned at 139° *w.r.t* the beam-line.

Figure 11: Expected total uncertainties of $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$ vs. target spin angle for $E_b = 6$ (GeV) and fixed beam time, 46.7 and 250.0 hours for $Q^2 = 2.10$ and 3.50 (GeV/c)², respectively. Here negative spin angle means the target spin is pointing to the left of beam-line. Red (blue) boxes show the interference between coils and beam-line (scattered electrons). Red stars shows the selected kinematics.



Figure 12: Expected total uncertainties of $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$ vs. beam energy for fixed beam time, 46.7 and 250.0 hours for $Q^2 = 2.10$ and 3.50 (GeV/c)², respectively. Hence we choose to use a 6 GeV beam.



4.10 Summary of Rate and Expected Uncertainties

We use the Bosted fit for G_M^p and the G_E^p/G_M^p value from polarization transfer data [14] to calculate the elastic e - p cross section. Using a 3 cm target cell and 85 nA beam current the luminosity available is

 8.5×10^{34} cm²/s. The expected results are shown in Fig. 13. Kinematics, rates and expected uncertainties for the proposed measurements are given in Table 2, where

 $\diamond E_b$ is beam energy;

 $\diamond \theta_e$ and E' are the energy and momentum of scattered electrons (HMS);

 $\diamond \theta_p$ and p_p are the energy and momentum of scattered protons (not detected);

 $\diamond \theta^*$ and ϕ^* are the polar and azimuthal angles of target spin;

 A_{el} and $A_{el,bosted}$ are elastic asymmetries calculated from Hall A polarization transfer (PT) fit and Bosted fit, respectively;

 $\diamond A_{raw}$ is expected measured asymmetry using PT fit;

 $\diamond N$ is total number of events;

 \diamond Systematic uncertainty on asymmetries including 1.5% from beam polarization, 2.5% from target polarization, 2.5% from target dilution factor, 0.35% from QE events from nitrogen, and 0.1% from deadtime correction.

Figure 13: Expected results and full uncertainties of the proposed measurements (red solid circles) along with world data. Curves are from the Bosted parameterization (black) [17], a fit to the Hall A polarization transfer results (blue) [14] and a global fit to the cross section data (magenta) [18].



$Q^2 (\text{GeV/c})^2$	0.19	2.10	3.50
E_b (GeV)	1.20	6.00	6.00
$ heta_e$	21.65°	15.39°	21.65°
E' (GeV)	1.101	4.881	4.135
θ_p	66.46°	45.03°	35.27°
p_p (GeV/c)	0.443	1.831	2.642
θ^{\star}	88.10°	93.99°	103.78°
ϕ^{\star}	0.00°	176.75°	176.88°
A_{el}	-0.198	0.119	0.200
A_{raw}	-0.0595	0.0357	0.0599
$(A_{el,bosted} - A_{el})/A_{el}$	1.38%	17.54%	27.55%
σ (nb/sr)	2308.683	5.893	0.332
elastic rate (SIMC, Hz)	494.520	2.554	0.144
total rate (el rate/ f , Hz)	989.040	5.109	0.288
N _{tot}	1414K	$1718 \mathrm{K}$	518K
Uncertainty on asymmetries			
Statistical	2.000%	3.024%	3.280%
Systematic	$2.811\%^\dagger$	4.050%	4.050%
Total	$3.450\%^\dagger$	5.054%	5.211%
Uncertainty on $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$			
$\Delta P_{beam}/P_{beam} = 1.5\%$	-	0.0174	0.0222
$\Delta P_{targ}/P_{targ} = 2.5\%$	-	0.0290	0.0370
Target dilution $\Delta f/f = 2.5\%$	-	0.0290	0.0370
Beam charge asymmetry	-	0.0146	0.0178
Nitrogen asymmetry	-	0.0041	0.0052
Deadtime correction	-	0.0012	0.0015
$\Delta E_b/E_b = 5 \times 10^{-4}$	-	0.0001	0.0001
$\Delta E'/E' = 1 \times 10^{-3}$	-	0.0008	0.0005
$\Delta \theta_e = 0.3 \text{ mrad}$	-	0.0002	0.0001
Target spin orientation (inp) 0.1°	-	0.0098	0.0069
Target spin orientation (oop) 0.1°	-	0.0024	0.0025
Total syst.	-	0.0482	0.0603
Total stat.	-	0.0351	0.0486
Beam time (hours)	0.2	46.7	250.0
Expected $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$			
and total uncertainty	-	0.732 ± 0.057	0.550 ± 0.074

Table 2: Kinematics, rate and expected uncertainties for the proposed measurements.

[†] since the low Q^2 measurement is to check the product of beam and target polarizations $P_b P_t$, we do not include the uncertainties due to P_b and P_t here;

5 Beam Time Request

Our beam time request is given in Table 3. We ask for 14 days total beam time, including production data taking, target dilution factor measurement and Møller measurement. We ask for 5 days overhead time for a beam energy change and a measurement of the target field direction. Time needed for target installation

is not given here.

Table 3: Spectrometer settings, total beam time and overhead time for the proposed measurements.

$Q^2 (\text{GeV/c})^2$	0.19	2.10	3.50	
E_b (GeV)	1.20	6.00	6.00	
$ heta_{HMS}$	21.65°	15.39°	21.65°	
p_{HMS} (GeV/c)	1.101	4.881	4.135	
Production time	0.2	46.7	250.0	
nitrogen run	6	6	6	
Møller measurement	6	6		
arc measurement	4	4		
Total beam time (PAC hours)		334		
Pass change		12		
Target anneal		37		
Target insert changes		32		
(Additional thermal equilibium calibration)		(12~18)		
Target field rotation		24		
Target field survey		12		
Spectrometer angle survey		4×2		
Total overhead (clock hours)		$126 + (12 \sim 18)$)	

6 Comparison to PR01-105

In principle, G_E/G_M is directly related to the ratio of transverse ($\theta^* = 90$) and longitudinal ($\theta^* = 0$) asymmetries A_T/A_L , as can be seen from Eq. (16) and (17). Also it has the advantage that uncertainties due to beam and target polarizations and target dilution factor drop out when taking the ratio, hence largely reduce the systematic uncertainty on G_E^p/G_M^p . This method was proposed [42] to PAC-20. To make a comparison between the A_T/A_L method and this proposal, let's look at the $Q^2 = 3.50$ (GeV/c)² point. To achieve the same uncertainty on G_E^p/G_M^p as the proposed measurement, one needs to measure ratio A_T/A_L to the same level as the total uncertainty on the proposed asymmetry A_{pr} , *i.e.* a statistical error of $\Delta(A_T/A_L)/(A_T/A_L) = 4.97\%$, if assuming zero systematic uncertainty. At this kinematics $A_T = 0.045$ and $A_L = -0.236$, the uncertainty $\Delta(A_T/A_L)$ is approximately ΔA_T magnified by factor $1/A_L \approx 4.2$. Hence one needs to measure A_T to a level of $\Delta A_T/A_T = 1.2\%$. We can estimate the beam time by comparing this value to the statistical error on the asymmetry ($\Delta A_{pr}/A_{pr} = 3.2\%$) proposed here, the beam time required will be ≈ 7.1 times longer. Therefore we believe the proposed method is much better than PR01-105.

The PAC-20 report on PR01-105 is given in Appendex C. The main reason that PR01-105 was deferred was because of an already approved experiment [19], which was expected to check the discrepency between data from the Rosenbluth separation and the polarization transfer method. Now this experiment has been completed and their preliminary results show that the discrepency is not resolved. Theoretical effort on understanding this discrepancy is not mature enough to give a good explaination. Hence we believe this is the right time to provide another check from a new method, to fully understand the proton form factor data.

7 Summary

We propose to make measurements of G_E^p/G_M^p via the polarization asymmetry in doubly polarized elastic $\vec{p}(\vec{e},e')p$ scattering at $Q^2 = 2.10$ and 3.50 (GeV/c)². Assuming 80% beam polarization and 85 nA current, we request 14 days of total beam time and five days overhead. The proposed measurement will provide the first data for $\mu G_E^p/G_M^p$ from the $\vec{p}(\vec{e},e')p$ asymmetry method in intermediate Q^2 range, with good precision. This new method is less sensitive to possible two-photon exchange contributions than the Rosenbluth separation technique, and it does not suffer from the same systematic uncertainties of previous polarization transfer data. These data will provide an important check on the polarization transfer results. When combined with the recent check on the Rosenbluth separation results, these new data will either confirm that two-photon exchange or other missing physics is a necessary ingredient in future calculations, or they will point to a systematic error in prior experimental techniques.

Acknowledgment

A Doubly Polarized Elastic Scattering

For elastic scattering the unpolarized cross section is given by

$$\left(\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}\Omega\mathrm{d}E'}\right)^u = \sigma_M \frac{E'}{E} \left(\frac{G_E^2 + \tau G_M^2}{1 + \tau} + 2\tau G_M^2 \tan^2(\theta/2)\right),\tag{7}$$

where $Q^2 = 4EE' \sin^2(\theta/2)$, $\tau = Q^2/(4M^2)$, the energy of scattered electrons is $E' = E/[1 + \frac{2E}{M}\sin^2(\theta/2)]$, M is the nucleon mass, E is the beam energy and θ is the electron scattering angle. The Mott cross section is

$$\sigma_M \equiv \left(\frac{\mathrm{d}^2\sigma}{\mathrm{d}\Omega}\right)_{Mott} = \frac{\alpha^2 \cos^2\frac{\theta}{2}}{4E^2 \sin^4\frac{\theta}{2}}.$$
(8)

The momentum and the angle of the scattered protons are

$$p_p = \sqrt{Q^2 + \left(\frac{Q^2}{2M}\right)^2} \text{ and}$$
(9)

$$\cos \theta_p = \frac{(M+E)\sqrt{M^2 + p_p^2 - M^2 - ME}}{p_p E} \,. \tag{10}$$

For the case of polarized electrons scattering off a polarized nucleon target, the cross section difference between opposite electron helicity states is given by [31]

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[\sigma^{+} - \sigma^{-} \right] = -2\sigma_{M} \frac{E'}{E} \sqrt{\frac{\tau}{1+\tau}} \tan \frac{\theta}{2} \left\{ \sqrt{\tau \left(1 + (1+\tau) \tan^{2} \frac{\theta}{2} \right)} \cos \theta^{*} G_{M}^{2} + \sin \theta^{*} \cos \phi^{*} G_{M} G_{E} \right\}, \qquad (11)$$

where the superscript \pm denotes the helicity of the incident electrons, θ^* and ϕ^* are the polar and the azimuthal angles of the target spin direction as shown in Fig. 14. The asymmetry is

$$A \equiv \frac{\sigma^{+} - \sigma^{-}}{\sigma^{+} + \sigma^{-}}$$
$$= -\frac{2\sqrt{\frac{\tau}{1+\tau}}\tan\frac{\theta}{2}\left\{\sqrt{\tau\left(1 + (1+\tau)\tan^{2}\frac{\theta}{2}\right)}\cos\theta^{*}G_{M}^{2} + \sin\theta^{*}\cos\phi^{*}G_{M}G_{E}\right\}}{\frac{G_{E}^{2} + \tau G_{M}^{2}}{1+\tau} + 2\tau G_{M}^{2}\tan^{2}(\theta/2)}, \quad (12)$$

Equation (12) can be written as

$$\left(\frac{G_E}{G_M}\right)^2 + B\left(\frac{G_E}{G_M}\right) + C = 0, \qquad (13)$$

Figure 14: Polar and azimuthal angles of the target spin. Here \vec{S} is the target spin, \vec{q} is the three momentum transfer. The z^* axis is defined by \vec{q} , y^* axis is defined by $\vec{k} \times \vec{k'}$ with k(k') the three momentum of the incident and scattered electrons.



where

$$B = \frac{2}{A}\sqrt{\tau(1+\tau)}\tan\frac{\theta}{2}\sin\theta^{\star}\cos\phi^{\star}, \qquad (14)$$

$$C = \tau + 2\tau (1+\tau) \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{2\cos\theta^*}{A} \left\{ \sqrt{\tau(1+\tau)} \tan \frac{\theta}{2} \sqrt{\tau \left[1 + (1+\tau) \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2}\right]} \right\}$$
(15)

with A the measured elastic asymmetry. Therefore ratio G_E/G_M can be calculated as

$$\frac{G_E}{G_M} = \frac{1}{2} \left(-B \pm \sqrt{B^2 - 4C} \right),$$
(16)

the sign is kinematic dependent. The uncertainty due to the error in asymmetry is given by

$$\Delta\left(\frac{G_E}{G_M}\right) = \frac{\Delta A}{2} \left| \left(\frac{\mathrm{d}B}{\mathrm{d}A}\right) \left(-1 \pm \frac{B}{\sqrt{B^2 - 4C}} \right) \pm \left(\frac{\mathrm{d}C}{\mathrm{d}A}\right) \frac{-2}{\sqrt{B^2 - 4C}} \right|$$
(17)
where $\frac{\mathrm{d}B}{\mathrm{d}A} = -\frac{B}{A}$
and $\frac{\mathrm{d}C}{\mathrm{d}A} = -\frac{C - \left[\tau + 2\tau(1+\tau)\tan^2\frac{\theta}{2}\right]}{A}$

B Error Propogation of Systematic Uncertainties for G_E^p/G_M^p

The uncertainty in G_E^p/G_M^p due to the uncertainty in asymmetry ΔA is given by Eq. (17) where ΔA is from Eq. (2). In this appendix we give experimental systematics due to uncertainties in E_b , E', θ , θ^* and ϕ^* .

From Eq. (16) the uncertainty in G_E/G_M due to the uncertainty in E_b is given by

$$\Delta\left(\frac{G_E}{G_M}\right) = \frac{\Delta E_b}{2} \left| \left(\frac{\mathrm{d}B}{\mathrm{d}E_b}\right) \left(-1 \pm \frac{B}{\sqrt{B^2 - 4C}} \right) \pm \left(\frac{\mathrm{d}C}{\mathrm{d}E_b}\right) \frac{-2}{\sqrt{B^2 - 4C}} \right|$$
(18)

the same equation stands for E', θ , θ^* and ϕ^* . For E_b we have

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}B}{\mathrm{d}E_b} = \frac{\partial B}{\partial \tau} \frac{\mathrm{d}\tau}{\mathrm{d}E_b} , \quad \frac{\mathrm{d}C}{\mathrm{d}E_b} = \frac{\partial C}{\partial \tau} \frac{\mathrm{d}\tau}{\mathrm{d}E_b}$$
(19)

where

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial B}{\partial \tau} &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{B}{\tau} + \frac{B}{1+\tau} \right) ,\\ \frac{\partial C}{\partial \tau} &= 1 + 2(1+\tau) \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{\tan \frac{\theta}{2}}{2A} \cos \theta^* \left\{ 2\sqrt{(1+\tau) \left[1 + (1+\tau) \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right]} \right. \\ &+ \sqrt{\frac{1 + (1+\tau) \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2}}{1+\tau}} + \tau \tan \frac{\theta}{2} \sqrt{\frac{1+\tau}{1+(1+\tau) \tan^2 \frac{\theta}{2}}} \right\} \end{aligned}$$
and
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathrm{d}\tau}{\mathrm{d}E_b} &= \frac{\tau}{E_b} , \end{aligned}$$
(20)

For θ we have

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}B}{\mathrm{d}\theta} = \frac{\mathrm{d}B}{\mathrm{d}\theta} + \frac{\partial B}{\partial \tau} \frac{\mathrm{d}\tau}{\mathrm{d}\theta} , \quad \frac{\mathrm{d}C}{\mathrm{d}\theta} = \frac{\mathrm{d}C}{\mathrm{d}\theta} + \frac{\partial C}{\partial \tau} \frac{\mathrm{d}\tau}{\mathrm{d}\theta}$$
(21)

where

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\tau}{\mathrm{d}\theta} \ = \ \frac{E_b E'}{2M^2} \sin\theta \ , \ \ \frac{\mathrm{d}B}{\mathrm{d}\theta} = \frac{B}{\sin\theta}$$

For E' we have

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}B}{\mathrm{d}E'} = \frac{\partial B}{\partial \tau} \frac{\mathrm{d}\tau}{\mathrm{d}E'} + \frac{\mathrm{d}B}{\mathrm{d}\theta^*} \frac{\mathrm{d}\theta^*}{\mathrm{d}E'}, \quad \frac{\mathrm{d}C}{\mathrm{d}E'} = \frac{\partial C}{\partial \tau} \frac{\mathrm{d}\tau}{\mathrm{d}E'} + \frac{\mathrm{d}C}{\mathrm{d}\theta^*} \frac{\mathrm{d}\theta^*}{\mathrm{d}E'}$$
(22)

where
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\tau}{\mathrm{d}E'} = \frac{\tau}{E'}$$
.

The target spin polar angle θ^* is determined by the field orientation and the proton scattering angle. The target field direction can be measured to 0.1° and the uncertainty in the proton angle is determined by the electron momentum $\Delta E'/E'$ as

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\theta^{\star}}{\mathrm{d}E'} = \frac{\mathrm{d}\theta_p}{\mathrm{d}E'} = \frac{(M+E)M}{\left(2M+\nu\right)^{3/2}E\sin\theta_p}.$$
(23)

C PAC-20 report for PR01-105

Individual Proposal Report

Proposal: PR-01-105

Title: G_{Ep} / G_{Mp} via Simultaneous Asymmetry Measurements of the Reaction p'(e',e')

Spokesperson: G. Warren

Motivation: The ratio G_{Ep} / G_{Mp} is vital to our understanding of the structure of the proton. Results from Hall A experiments using electron-proton polarization transfer have shown that this ratio clearly decreases with increasing Q². An experiment based on the Rosenbluth separation method (E-01-001) has been approved to check on these findings. The proposed experiment aims at providing another check with different systematic uncertainties and high statistical precision.

Measurement and Feasibility: The polarized beam polarized target asymmetry is to be measured simultaneously, using two spectrometers at the same Q^2 , for different orientations of the proton polarization. The ratio of both cross sections is a function of G_{Ep} / G_{Mp} . In this ratio the degrees of polarization and the dilution factor of the target drop out to first order, thus minimizing systematic uncertainties. It is proposed to measure G_{Ep} / G_{Mp} at $Q^2=1.1$ and 2.1 (GeV/c)².

Issues: The proposal is clearly written and the underlying idea is very good. However, given the existing data and the approved experiment to check on them, the PAC does not find a compelling reason to approve this proposal at the present time.

Recommendation: Defer

Scientific Rating: N/A

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