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# The saga of proton sea asymmetry



### Wen-Chen Chang 章文箴 Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica





### **Deep Inelastic Scattering**



- Q<sup>2</sup> :Four-momentum transfer
- x : Bjorken variable (= $Q^2/2M_V$ )
- v : Energy transfer
- M : Nucleon mass
- W : Final state hadronic mass

 $\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE'} = \sigma_{Mott}[W_2(\nu, Q^2) + 2W_1(\nu, Q^2) * \tan^2(\theta/2)]$ 

 $= \sigma_{Mott} [F_2(x,Q^2) / v + 2F_1(x,Q^2) / M * \tan^2(\theta / 2)]$ Parton model

$$F_{2}^{ep} = x[\frac{1}{9}(d_{v}^{p} + d_{s}^{p} + \overline{d}_{s}^{p}) + \frac{4}{9}(u_{v}^{p} + u_{s}^{p} + \overline{u}_{s}^{p}) + \frac{1}{9}(s_{s} + \overline{s}_{s})]$$

$$F_{2}^{en} = x[\frac{1}{9}(d_{v}^{n} + d_{s}^{n} + \overline{d}_{s}^{n}) + \frac{4}{9}(u_{v}^{n} + u_{s}^{n} + \overline{u}_{s}^{n}) + \frac{1}{9}(s_{s} + \overline{s}_{s})]$$



• $q\bar{q}$  pairs (Sea)

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### Naïve Expectation of Nucleon Sea: SU(3) Symmetric



X

# Is $\bar{u}(x) = \bar{d}(x)$ in the Nucleon?



### **Gottfried Sum**

New Muon Collaboration (NMC), Phys. Rev. D50 (1994) R1



### Explanations for the NMC result

- Uncertain extrapolation for 0.0 < x < 0.004
- Charge symmetry violation  $(\overline{u}_n \neq \overline{d}_{p}, \overline{d}_n \neq \overline{u}_p)$
- $\overline{u}(x) \neq \overline{d}(x)$  in the proton



Need independent methods to check the  $\overline{d} - \overline{u}$  asymmetry, and to measure its **x-dependence** !

### The Drell-Yan Process S.D. Drell and T.M. Yan, PRL 25 (1970) 316



#### MASSIVE LEPTON-PAIR PRODUCTION IN HADRON-HADRON COLLISIONS AT HIGH ENERGIES\*

Sidney D. Drell and Tung-Mow Yan

Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305 (Received 25 May 1970)

On the basis of a parton model studied earlier we consider the production process of large-mass lepton pairs from hadron-hadron inelastic collisions in the limiting region,  $s \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $Q^2/s$  finite,  $Q^2$  and s being the squared invariant masses of the lepton pair and the two initial hadrons, respectively. General scaling properties and connections with deep inelastic electron scattering are discussed. In particular, a rapidly decreasing cross section as  $Q^2/s \rightarrow 1$  is predicted as a consequence of the observed rapid falloff of the inelastic scattering structure function  $\nu W_2$  near threshold.





 $\frac{d\sigma}{dQ^2} = \left(\frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{3Q^2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{Q^2}\right) \mathfrak{F}(\tau) = \left(\frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{3Q^2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{Q^2}\right) \int_0^1 dx_1 \int_0^1 dx_2 \delta(x_1x_2 - \tau) \sum_a \lambda_a^{-2} F_{2a}(x_1) F_{2\bar{a}}'(x_2),$ 

### **Dimuon Invariant-mass Distributions**



### **Drell-Yan Process**



### x-dependence of Sea Quarks



### Light Antiquark Flavor Asymmetry: Drell-Yan Experiments

- Naïve Assumption:  $\bar{d}(x) = \bar{u}(x)$
- NMC (Gottfried Sum Rule):

$$\int_0^1 \left[ \bar{d}(x) - \bar{u}(x) \right] dx \neq 0$$

• NA51 (Drell-Yan, 1994):  $\bar{d} > \bar{u}$  at x = 0.18





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- NA51 (Drell-Yan, 1994):  $\bar{d} > \bar{u}$  at x = 0.18
- E866/NuSea (Drell-Yan, 1998):  $\bar{d}(x)/\bar{u}(x)$  for  $0.015 \le x \le 0.35$





## Parton distributions of Protons From Global Analysis



arXiv:1208.1178

### Origin of $\overline{u}(x) \neq \overline{d}(x)$ : pQCD or non-pQCD effect?

- Pauli blocking
  - $g \rightarrow u\overline{u}$  is more suppressed than  $g \rightarrow d\overline{d}$  in the proton since  $|p\rangle = |uud\rangle$ (*Field and Feynman, PRD 2590 (1977*))
  - pQCD calculation: S<sub>G</sub>=0.335 (Ross, Sachrajda 1979)

 $N(\Delta)$ 

Meson cloud

(Thomas 1983, Kumano 1991): Sullivan process in DIS.

 $\pi$  (ud)

 $p \rightarrow N\pi; \ \pi^+(u\overline{d}):\pi^0(u\overline{u}+d\overline{d}):\pi^-(\overline{u}d)=2:1:0$ 

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 $|p\rangle = a |p_0\rangle + b |p_0\pi^0\rangle + c |n_0\pi^+\rangle$ 

## Origin of $\bar{u}(x) \neq \bar{d}(x)$ : Non-perturbative QCD effect



 Meson cloud in the nucleons (Thomas 1983, Kumano 1991): Sullivan process in DIS.



• Chiral quark model (Eichten et al. 1992; Wakamatsu 1992): Goldstone bosons couple to valence quarks.

$$\begin{array}{c} \pi^{-}(\mathrm{ud}) \\ \mathrm{ud} & \mathrm{ud} & \mathrm{ud} \\ \mathrm{ud} & \mathrm{ud} \\ \mathrm{ud} & \mathrm{ud} \\ \mathrm{ud} & \mathrm{ud} \\$$

Pion cloud is a source of antiquarks in the protons and it lead to  $\bar{d} > \bar{u}$ .



*"Flavor structure of the nucleon sea"*, Wen-Chen Chang and Jen-Chieh Peng Progress in Particle and Nuclear Physics 79 (2014) 95; arXiv:1406.1260

## Chiral Effective Theory

Salamu, Ji, Melnitchouk and Wang, PRL 114, 122001 (2015)



### **Chiral Pion Cloud Model:**



### $\overline{d}(x) - \overline{u}(x)$ vs. Theoretical Models



### $\overline{d}(x)/\overline{u}(x)$ vs. PDFs



#### CT18NLO: PRD 103 (2021) 014013



Tension shows up with the collider data!

### $\overline{d}(x)/\overline{u}(x)$ Measured by FNAL E906/SeaQuest Experiment



Fermilab E906

• 
$$x_B x_T = \frac{M}{s}$$
; smaller s, larger  $x_T$ 

Unpolarized Drell-Yan using 120 GeV proton beam from Main Injector

<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>2</sup>H, and nuclear targets



 $(\overline{d}(x)/\overline{u}(x))$  up to  $x_T \sim 0.45$ 

### E906 Spectrometer



### E906/SeaQuest Timeline

### • Schedules:

- 2002: E906 Approved by Fermilab PAC
- 2006: E906 funded by DOE Nuclear Physics
- 2008: With participation of Japan and Taiwan groups, Stage-II approval by Fermilab Director. MOU between Fermilab and E906 Collaboration finalized.
- 2009-2010: Construction and installation of spectrometer and readout electronics.

### E-906/SeaQuest Collaboration

#### **Abilene Christian University**

Brandon Bowen Brianna Edlund Tyler Hague Donald Isenhower Ben Miller

Tim Sipos Rusty Towell Shon Watson

#### Academia Sinica

Wen-Chen Chang Yen-Chu Chen Hsi-Hung Yao Shiuan-Hal Shiu Da-Shung Su

#### **Argonne National Laboratory**

John Arrington Kevin Bailey Don Geesaman\* Kawtar Hafidi Roy Holt Harold Jackson

Tom O'Connor

David Potterveld

Paul E. Reimer\*

Josh Rubin

#### University of Colorado

Ed Kinney Po-Ju Lin

#### Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory

Chuck Brown David Christian

#### **University of Illinois**

Bryan Dannowitz Bryan Kerns Naomi C.R Makins R. Evan McClellan Jen-Chieh Peng

#### KEK

Shin'ya Sawada

#### **Kyoto University**

Kenlchi Imai Tomo Nagae

#### Los Alamos National Laboratory

Christine Aidala Gerry Garvey Mike Leitch Han Liu Ming Xiong Liu Pat McGaughey Andrew Puckett **University of Maryland** Betsy Beise Kaz Nakahara **University of Michigan** Chiranjib Dutta Wolfgang Lorenzon Richard Raymond Michael Steward

#### National Kaohsiung Normal University

Rurngsheng Guo Su-Yin Wang University of New Mexico Imran Younus RIKEN Yoshinori Fukao Yuji Goto Atsushi Taketani

#### **Rutgers University**

Lamiaa El Fassi Ron Gilman Ron Ransome Yawei Zhang

#### **Texas A & M University**

Carl Gagliardi Robert Tribble

#### **Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility**

Dave Gaskell Patricia Solvignon

#### **Tokyo Institute of Technology**

Shou Miyaska Ken-ichi Nakano Florian Sanftl Toshi-Aki Shibata Shintaro Takeuchi

#### Yamagata University

Yoshiyuki Miyachi

# Fermilab NM4/KTeV Hall (before installation)



# Fermilab NM4/KTeV Hall (after installation)



# Fermilab NM4/KTeV Hall (after installation)



# Fermilab NM4/KTeV Hall (after installation)



### Liquid H<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>, Empty Cell and Nuclear Targets



## **Dimuon Online Trigger**



- Online trigger system is composed of 5 CAEN V1495 FPGA modules.
- Without deadtime, the decision of a di-muon trigger or a single-muon trigger can be made within 200 ns, based on the input of 400 channels of the four hodoscopes.

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- 2008: With participation of Japan and Taiwan groups, Stage-II approval by Fermilab Director. MOU between Fermilab and E906 Collaboration finalized.
- 2009-2010: Construction and installation of spectrometer and readout electronics.
- The commission of experiment was originally scheduled to start in September 2010. Unfortunately a leakage of the upstream beam pipe was found, and FNAL spent a lot of efforts in fixing it up.
- Run 1 (Mar. 2012 Apr., 2012): commissioning run
- Run 2 (Nov. 2013 Sep., 2014): 1st physics run
- Run 3 (Nov. 2014 Jul., 2015): 2nd physics run
- Run 4 (Oct. 2015 Aug., 2016): 3rd physics run
- Run 5 (Nov. 2016 Jul., 2017): 4th physics run

### Primary Challenge in the Data Analysis: Large Fluctuations of Beam Intensity

- Proton beam: 4s every 60s, extracted from Fermilab Main Injector; 1-ns-long microbunches of approximately 0 to 80,000 protons at 53 MHz repetition rate. About 6x10<sup>12</sup> proton on target every 4s.
- The average duty factor, (I)<sup>2</sup>/(I<sup>2</sup>), ranged between 20% and 40%.



### The Beam was Delivered, But...



## **Beam Intensity Profile**



 Calibrated every minute against beam line SEM (secondaryelectron emission)

MIRROR

# Trigger Veto

- Electronic running average of the multiplicity over a 160 ns window (8 RF buckets).
- If average multiplicity above threshold, raises a trigger veto
- Luminosity greatly reduced, but trigger suppresses windows of time with large beam intensities.



### Extrapolation to zero intensity



- Large intensity variations had two primary consequences:
  - a variation in the track reconstruction efficiency
  - a change in the rate of accidental coincidences

 $\frac{Y_D(x,I)}{2Y_H(x,I)} = \mathbf{R}(x) + aI + bI^2$ 

### Nature 590, 561-565 (2021)

#### Article

### The asymmetry of antimatter in the proton

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J. Dove<sup>1</sup>, B. Kerns<sup>1</sup>, R. E. McClellan<sup>1,18</sup>, S. Miyasaka<sup>2</sup>, D. H. Morton<sup>3</sup>, K. Nagai<sup>2,4</sup>, S. Prasad<sup>1</sup>, F. Sanftl<sup>2</sup>, M. B. C. Scott<sup>3</sup>, A. S. Tadepalli<sup>5,18</sup>, C. A. Aidala<sup>3,6</sup>, J. Arrington<sup>7,19</sup>, C. Ayuso<sup>3,20</sup>, C. L. Barker<sup>8</sup>, C. N. Brown<sup>9</sup>, W. C. Chang<sup>4</sup>, A. Chen<sup>1,3,4</sup>, D. C. Christian<sup>10</sup>, B. P. Dannowitz<sup>1</sup>, M. Daugherity<sup>8</sup>, M. Diefenthaler<sup>1,18</sup>, L. El Fassi<sup>5,11</sup>, D. F. Geesaman<sup>7,21</sup>, R. Gilman<sup>5</sup>, Y. Goto<sup>12</sup>, L. Guo<sup>6,22</sup>, R. Guo<sup>13</sup>, T. J. Hague<sup>8</sup>, R. J. Holt<sup>7,23</sup>, D. Isenhower<sup>8</sup>, E. R. Kinney<sup>14</sup>, N. Kitts<sup>8</sup>, A. Klein<sup>6</sup>, D. W. Kleinjan<sup>6</sup>, Y. Kudo<sup>15</sup>, C. Leung<sup>1</sup>, P.-J. Lin<sup>14</sup>, K. Liu<sup>6</sup>, M. X. Liu<sup>6</sup>, W. Lorenzon<sup>3</sup>, N. C. R. Makins<sup>1</sup>, M. Mesquita de Medeiros<sup>7</sup>, P. L. McGaughey<sup>6</sup>, Y. Miyachi<sup>15</sup>, I. Mooney<sup>3,24</sup>, K. Nakahara<sup>16,25</sup>, K. Nakano<sup>2,12</sup>, S. Nara<sup>15</sup>, J.-C. Peng<sup>1</sup>, A. J. Puckett<sup>6,26</sup>, B. J. Ramson<sup>3,27</sup>, P. E. Reimer<sup>7⊠</sup>, J. G. Rubin<sup>3,7</sup>, S. Sawada<sup>17</sup>, T. Sawada<sup>3,28</sup>, T.-A. Shibata<sup>2,29</sup>, D. Su<sup>4</sup>, M. Teo<sup>1,30</sup>, B. G. Tice<sup>7</sup>, R. S. Towell<sup>8</sup>, S. Uemura<sup>6,31</sup>, S. Watson<sup>8</sup>, S. G. Wang<sup>4,13,32</sup>, A. B. Wickes<sup>6</sup>, J. Wu<sup>10</sup>, Z. Xi<sup>8</sup> & Z. Ye<sup>7</sup>

The fundamental building blocks of the proton-quarks and gluons-have been known for decades. However, we still have an incomplete theoretical and

### Dimuon Mass Spectrum – Hydrogen Target (H)



### Dimuon Mass Spectrum – Deuterium Target (D)



### **Cross Section Ratios**







CTEQ6m: JHEP 0207:012,2002; hep-ph/0201195 CT18NLO: PRD 103 (2021) 014013; 1912.10053

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SeaQuest results are consistent with the NLO calculation with CT18NLO.

 $d/\overline{u}(x)$ 

#### Extracting $\bar{d}/\bar{u}(x)$ by NLO calculations of $\sigma_D(x)/2\sigma_H(x)$



The trends between SeaQuest and NuSea at large x are quite different. No explanation is found for these differences.

 $d/\bar{u}(x)$  vs. CTEQ6m



# $\bar{d}/\bar{u}(x)$ vs. CT18NLO



 $\overline{d}/\overline{u}(x)$ 



# Asymmetry of $\Delta \overline{d}(x)$ and $\Delta \overline{u}(x)$



# EIC: Flavor Structures of Spin and TMDs for Nucleon Sea



arXiv:1212.1701

# Summary

- From DIS and Drell-Yan, a striking asymmetry of  $\overline{d}(x) > \overline{u}(x)$  was observed at the intermediate-x regions.
- FNAL SeaQuest/E906 experiment extends the measurement of  $\overline{d}(x)/\overline{u}(x)$  up to 0.45 and no flipping of this ratio at large x is found.
- EIC will explore the flavor structure of spin and TMDs for nucleon sea in the future.

## Thanks to Prof. Tung-Mow Yan

#### **Tung-Mow Yan**

#### Professor of Physics





314 Newman Laboratory Cornell University Ithaca NY 14853

(607) 255-7125

#### ty18@cornell.edu

BS, 1960, National Taiwan University. Ph.D., 1968, Harvard University.
Research Associate, Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, 1968-70. Assistant
Professor, Physics, Cornell University, 1970-76. Associate Professor,
Physics, Cornell University, 1976-81. Professor, Physics, Cornell University,
1981-present. Visiting appointments at: Stanford Linear Accelerator Center,
1973-74. Theory Division, CERN, 1977-78. Physics Department, National
Taiwan University, 1986. Institue of Physics, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan,
1991-92. National Center of Theoretical Sciences, Hsinchu, Taiwan, 1997.
Alfred Sloan Fellow, 1974-78. Fellow, American Physics Society.

