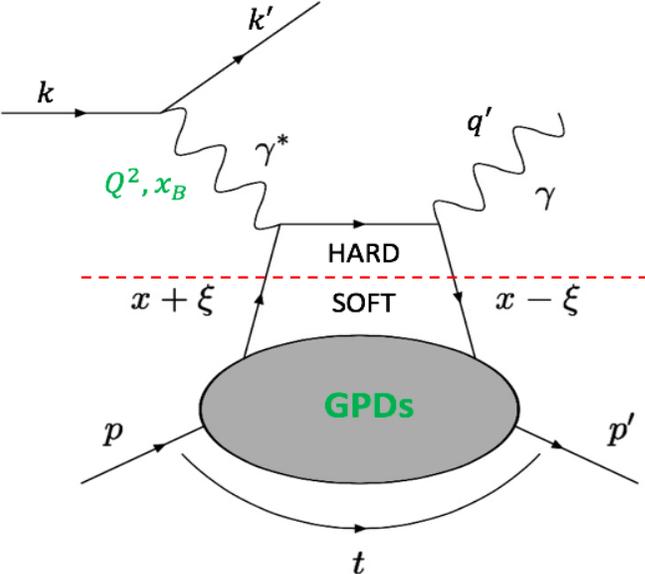


# $\pi^0$ Production in the Deeply Virtual Regime

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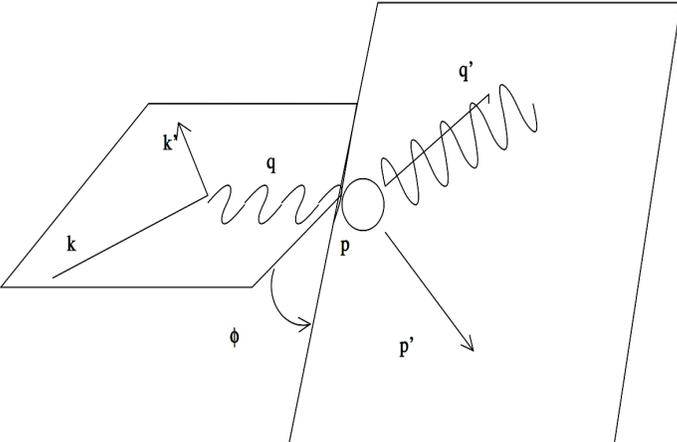
# Motivation: Generalized Parton Distributions



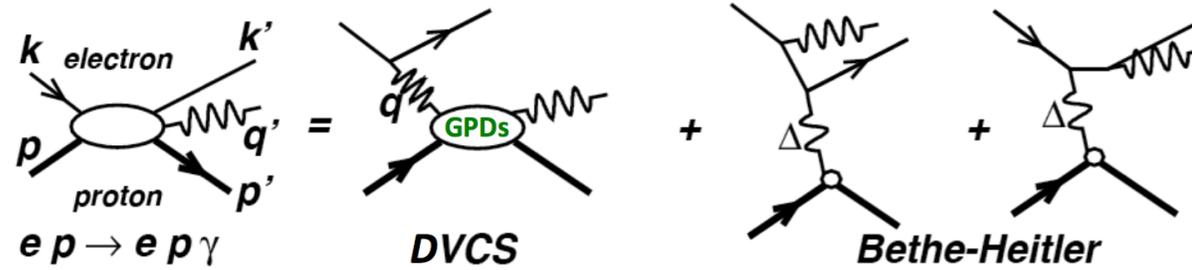
- The hard part is measured at high energies using perturbative QCD.
- The soft or low energy part is measured via non-perturbative QCD, where GPDs are accessible.

Short distances → Perturbative regime  
 Large distances → Confinement → Non-perturbative regime  
 Momentum distribution of partons → Parton Distribution Functions (PDFs)  
**Spatial distribution of partons → Generalized Parton Distributions (GPDs)**

- $k$  and  $k'$  is the four-momentum of the incoming and outgoing lepton.
- $\gamma^*$  is the incoming virtual photon,  $\gamma$  is the outgoing real photon,  $q'$  is the real photon momenta  $x$  is the average longitudinal momentum
- $\xi$  the fractional longitudinal momentum
- $t$  is the momentum transfer of the incoming and outgoing proton four-momentum,  $p$  and  $p'$ .



# Accessing GPDs via Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering (DVCS)



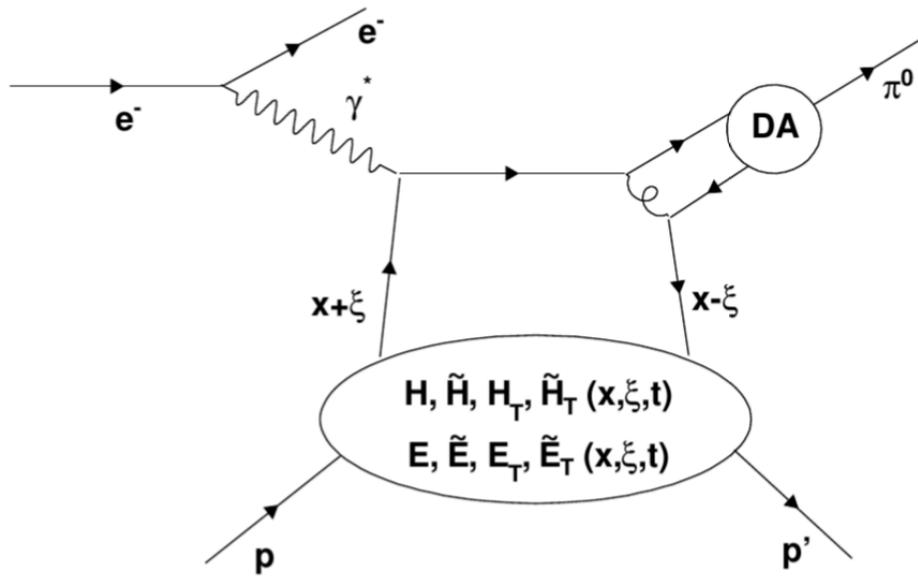
The Bethe-Heitler (BH) terms from the deep exclusive reaction  $ep \rightarrow ep\gamma$  interfere with the DVCS process at leading-twist in photon electroproduction.

- The interference comes from the QED Bethe-Heitler process where the electron emits a photon.
- GPDs can only be accessed in the DVCS term where the nucleon emits the photon.

$$d\vec{\sigma}^5 - d\check{\sigma}^5 = \mathcal{I}m\{\mathcal{T}_{BH} \cdot \mathcal{T}_{DVCS}\}$$

$$d\vec{\sigma}^5 + d\check{\sigma}^5 = |\mathcal{T}_{BH}|^2 + \mathcal{R}e\{\mathcal{T}_{BH} \cdot \mathcal{T}_{DVCS}\} + |\mathcal{T}_{DVCS}|^2$$

# Where are the $\pi^0$ 's?



Leading twist and leading order of the electroproduction of  $\pi^0$ .

- Deeply Virtual Meson Production (DVMP) process can be isolated to obtain  $\pi^0$ 's.
- Theoretically, the cross section can be obtained by:

$$\frac{d^4\sigma}{dt d\phi dQ^2 dx_B} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \Gamma_{\gamma^*}(Q^2, x_B, E) \left[ \frac{d\sigma_T}{dt} + \epsilon^* \frac{d\sigma_L}{dt} + \sqrt{2\epsilon^*(1+\epsilon^*)} \frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{dt} \cos(\phi) \right. \\ \left. + \epsilon^* \frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{dt} \cos(2\phi) + h \sqrt{2\epsilon^*(1-\epsilon^*)} \frac{d\sigma_{TL'}}{dt} \sin(\phi) \right],$$

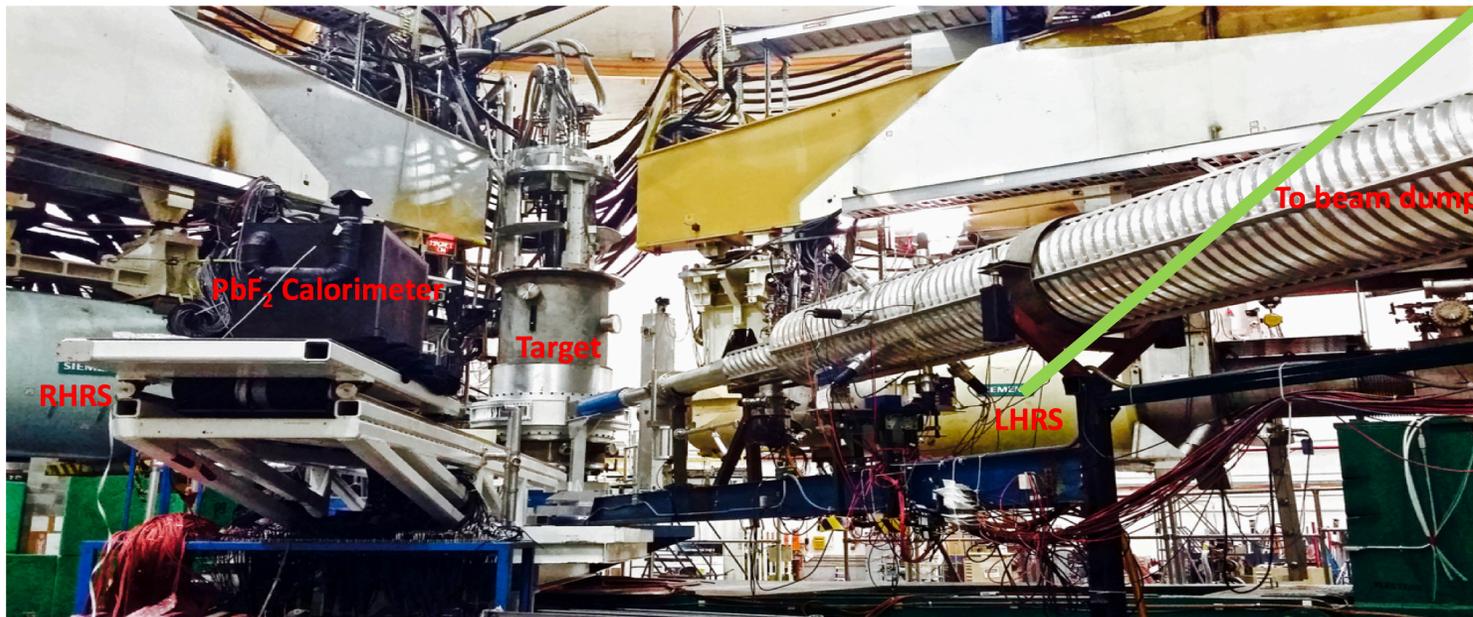
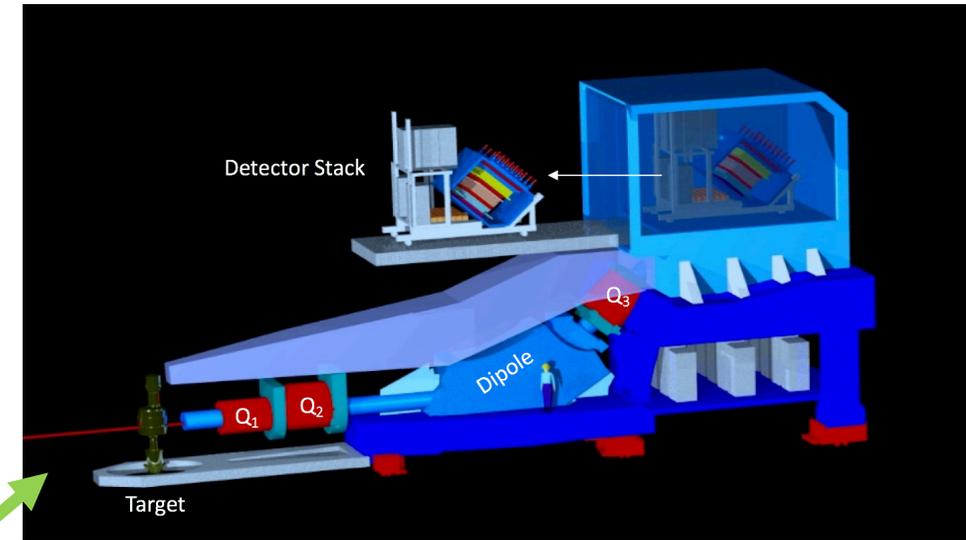
$$\Gamma_{\gamma^*}(Q^2, x_B, E) = \frac{\alpha}{8\pi} \frac{Q^2}{M^2 k^2} \frac{1-x_B}{x_B} \frac{1}{1-\epsilon^*},$$

$$\epsilon^* = \frac{1-y-\frac{Q^2}{2k^2}}{1-y+\frac{y^2}{2}+\frac{Q^2}{4k^2}},$$

$$y = \frac{k-k'}{k},$$

# Experimental Setup

- DVCS Calorimeter (PbF<sub>2</sub> Crystals) – for photon and  $\pi^0$  detection
- Left High Resolution Spectrometer (LHRS) – for electron detection



# Kinematic Settings for E12-06-114

kin	$Q^2$ (GeV <sup>2</sup> )	$x_B$	$E_{\text{beam}}$ (GeV)
36_1	3.2	0.36	7.36
36_2	3.6	0.36	8.52
36_3	4.5	0.36	10.6
48_1	2.7	0.48	4.48
48_2	4.4	0.48	8.84
48_3	5.3	0.48	8.84
48_4	6.9	0.48	11.0
60_1	5.5	0.60	8.52
60_3	8.4	0.60	10.6

Currently analyzing



50% of data has been taken