## First Monte Carlo global analysis of nucleon transversity with lattice QCD constraints

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We report on the first global QCD analysis of the quark transversity distributions in the nucleon from semi-inclusive deep-inelastic scattering (SIDIS), using a new Monte Carlo method based on nested sampling and constraints on the isovector tensor charge  $g_T$  from lattice QCD. A simultaneous fit to the available SIDIS Collins asymmetry data is compatible with  $g_T$  values extracted from a comprehensive reanalysis of existing lattice simulations, in contrast to previous analyses which found significantly smaller  $g_T$  values. The contributions to the nucleon tensor charge from u and d quarks are found to be  $\delta u = 0.3(2)$  and  $\delta d = -0.7(2)$  at a scale  $Q^2 = 2$  GeV<sup>2</sup>.

Introduction. Along with the unpolarized  $(f_1)$  and helicity-dependent  $(g_1)$  parton distribution functions (PDFs), the transversity distribution  $(h_1)$  completes the full set of PDFs that characterize the collinear structure of the nucleon at leading twist. While considerable information has been accumulated on the first two distributions from several decades of deep-inelastic scattering (DIS) and other high-energy scattering experiments [1– 4], comparitively little is known about the transversity PDFs. The transversity PDF,  $h_1^q(x)$ , gives the distribution of a transversely polarized quark q carrying a momentum fraction x in a transversely polarized nucleon, and its lowest moment,  $\delta q \equiv \int_0^1 dx [h_1^q(x) - h_1^{\bar{q}}(x)]$ , gives the nucleon's tensor charge for quark q [5–11]. In addition to providing fundamental information on the quark spin structure of the nucleon, the tensor charge also plays an important role in constraining hadronic physics backgrounds in probes of physics beyond the Standard Model [12–14].

Compared with the chiral-even  $f_1$  and  $g_1$  PDFs, the experimental exploration of the chiral-odd  $h_1$  is considerably more involved, requiring the coupling of the transversity distribution to another chiral-odd function [6]. Observables sensitive to transversity include the Collins single-spin asymmetries in semi-inclusive deepinelastic scattering (SIDIS), where  $h_1$  couples to the chiral-odd Collins fragmentation function (FF)  $H_1^{\perp}$  [15], while two Collins FFs generate an azimuthal asymmetry in two-hadron production in  $e^+e^-$  annihilation [16].

Several previous analyses have attempted to extract the transverse momentum dependent (TMD) transversity distributions, from both SIDIS and  $e^+e^-$  data. Anselmino *et al.* [17–19] used a factorized Gaussian ansatz to relate the TMD distributions to the  $h_1^q$  PDFs, while Kang *et al.* [20, 21] used the TMD evolution formalism [22]. Anselmino *et al.* [17–19] and Kang *et al.* [20, 21] parametrized collinear  $h_1^q(x)$  in terms of the sum of unpolarized and helicity distributions at the initial scale. Working within the collinear factorization framework, Bacchetta *et al.* [23, 24] also extracted transversity PDFs from pion-pair production in SIDIS using dihadron FFs from  $e^+e^-$  annihilation data. These analyses gave values for the isovector moment  $g_T \equiv \delta u - \delta d$  in the range 0.5– 1, with sizeable (30%–50%) uncertainties. In all these studies, the experimental coverage was restricted to the region  $0.02 \leq x \leq 0.3$ , so that the determination of the full moment required extrapolation outside the measured region.

Complementing the challenging empirical extractions of transversity, first-principles lattice QCD calculations can provide additional information on the nucleon transverse spin structure. While recent breakthroughs in quasi-PDFs have allowed the first direct lattice computations of the x dependence of transversity [25, 26], calculations of moments of the isovector  $h_1^q$  PDF are more developed, with a number of simulations of  $q_T$  having been performed [27–33] at physical pion masses and with multiple lattice spacings and volumes to control lattice artifacts. These calculations have observed no significant contamination from excited states, and very mild volume and lattice-spacing dependence, making  $q_T$  a "golden" channel in lattice nucleon-structure studies. Curiously, however, all the simulations give values of  $q_T$  close to unity, in contrast to the phenomenological results, which generally favor smaller values [10, 21]. This prompts the question whether the systematic differences between the lattice and phenomenological results suggest a real tension between the two. From the uncertainties found by Kang et al. [21], for example, one would conclude that. after inclusion of data from the future SoLID experiment at Jefferson Lab [10], the phenomenological values of  $q_T$ would be incompatible with lattice at more than  $5\sigma$  CL.

In this paper we address the question of whether the experimental data on transversity are compatible with the lattice  $g_T$  results — whether there indeed is a "transverse-spin puzzle" — by using the lattice data on  $g_T$  as an additional constraint on the transversity PDFs in the global QCD analysis. We implement several important improvements over previous analyses, making use of a more robust fitting methodology based on Monte Carlo sampling methods. Specifically, we use the nested sampling algorithm [34–36], which maps the likelihood function into a Monte Carlo-weighted parameter sample and allows a rigorous determination of PDF uncertainties. This approach improves the fitting methodology employed in Refs. [20, 21] by allowing more flexible parametrizations of the initial conditions of the transversity and Collins FFs. Similar Monte Carlo-based methods have been used recently to analyze collinear PDFs [37, 38] and FFs [38, 39] but have never been applied to TMD distributions.

Lattice QCD. To begin with, we revisit the existing lattice QCD simulations of  $g_T$  to obtain a reliable averaged data point that can be used to constrain the global QCD analysis. One challenge is that the various lattice calculations typically estimate systematic uncertainties differently, making it problematic to simply average the reported values. We instead combine the available dynamical-calculation data, using only simulations with multiple lattice spacings, volumes and quark masses, and use several procedures to ensure that the final uncertainties are not underestimated.

There are 3 available data sets that meet these criteria: the PNDME results [27] with  $N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$  (light-quark + strange + charm) flavors; the RQCD data [32] with  $N_f = 2$ ; and the LHPC set [29] with  $N_f = 2+1$ . Cuts on the data are imposed for pion masses  $m_{\pi}^2 < 0.12 \text{ GeV}^2$  and for  $m_{\pi}L > 3$ , where  $L^3$  is the lattice volume, to control the chiral and infinite-volume extrapolations. Since all the lattice simulations show mild dependence on the volume and lattice spacing a, the simplest approach is to extrapolate  $g_T$  considering only the  $m_{\pi}$  dependence. Extrapolating the data either linearly in  $m_{\pi}^2$  or including chiral logarithms ( $\sim m_{\pi}^2 \ln m_{\pi}^2$ ), as predicted from chiral effective theory [40, 41], gives  $g_T^{\text{latt}} = 1.006(22)$ .

To further include uncertainties from taking the continuum limit, we assign a different lattice discretization extrapolation coefficient for each of the simulations [27, 29, 32]. To account for the different actions, we use  $\mathcal{O}(a)$  for the PNDME and LHPC results, and  $\mathcal{O}(a^2)$  for RQCD. For the volume dependence, we consider both  $e^{m_{\pi}L}$  and  $m_{\pi}^2 e^{m_{\pi}L}$  forms. Taking all possible combinations then gives 12 distinct fitting formulas for the continuum extrapolation of  $g_T$ . The results of these fits are combined using the Akaike information criterion  $\text{AIC} = 2k + \chi^2$ , where k is the number of free parameters in the fit and  $\chi^2$  is the minimum sum of squared fit residuals. Each fit is weighted by the factor  $w_i = P_i/(\sum_j P_j)$ , where  $P_j = \exp[-(\text{AIC}_j - \min \text{AIC})/2]$ , which yields  $g_T^{\text{latt}} = 1.008(56).$ 

Another approach is to average the lattice data using methods advocated by the Flavor Lattice Averaging Group (FLAG) [42]. However, given that most extrapolations of nucleon matrix elements do not explicitly control systematics due to finite volume and nonzero lattice spacing, such an averaging will be dominated by those groups with the most optimistic systematic-uncertainty estimates. We, therefore, extrapolate each group's data using a single, universal formula, assuming linear dependence on  $m_{\pi}^2$ ,  $e^{m_{\pi}L}$  and a (or  $a^2$ ), and then perform a weighted analysis as in the FLAG approach. The result is  $g_T^{\text{latt}} = 1.00(5)$ , which is consistent with the above estimate. To be conservative, we take the larger uncertainty,  $g_T^{\text{latt}} = 1.01(6)$ , as the final averaged value to be used in the global QCD analysis.

Collins asymmetry. For the experimental data used in our analysis, we consider the  $\sin(\phi_h + \phi_s)$  modulation of the differential SIDIS cross section, or Collins asymmetry,

$$A_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_h + \phi_s)} = \frac{2(1-y)}{1+(1-y)^2} \frac{F_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_h + \phi_s)}}{F_{UU}},$$
 (1)

where  $\phi_h$  and  $\phi_s$  are the azimuthal angles for the transverse momentum of the produced hadron h and the nucleon spin vector with respect to the lepton plane, and yis the fractional energy loss of the incident lepton. The structure functions  $F_{UU}$  and  $F_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_h+\phi_s)}$  are functions of the Bjorken variable  $x = Q^2/2P \cdot q$ , the hadron momentum fraction  $z = P \cdot P_h/P \cdot q$ , and the hadron transverse momentum  $P_{h\perp}$ , where P,  $P_h$  and q are the fourmomenta of the target, produced hadron, and exchanged photon, respectively, and  $Q^2 = -q^2$ . At low transverse momenta,  $P_{h\perp} \ll Q$ , these can be written as convolutions of the unpolarized  $f_1^q$  TMD PDF and unpolarized  $D_1^{h/q}$  TMD FF, and the TMD transversity PDF  $h_1^q$  and  $H_1^{\perp h/q}$  (Collins) FF, respectively,

$$F_{UU} = \mathcal{C}\bigg[f_1 \otimes D_1\bigg],\tag{2}$$

$$F_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_h + \phi_s)} = \mathcal{C} \bigg[ \frac{\hat{\boldsymbol{h}} \cdot \boldsymbol{p}_{\perp}}{zm_h} \otimes h_1 \otimes H_1^{\perp} \bigg], \qquad (3)$$

where C is the standard TMD convolution operator [43],  $\hat{h}$  is a unit vector along  $P_{h\perp}$ , and  $p_{\perp}$  the transverse momentum of hadron h with respect to the fragmenting quark.

The TMD PDFs depend on x and the parton transverse momentum  $k_{\perp}$ , while the FFs depend on z and  $p_{\perp}$ , with their  $Q^2$  dependence governed by the Collins-Soper evolution equations [22, 44]. The existing data on Collins asymmetries have very mild dependence on  $Q^2$  and are compatible with no evolution [21, 45]. For the parametrization of the unpolarized and transversity TMD PDFs we follow Refs. [17–19] in adopting a factorized form,

$$f^{q}(x,k_{\perp}^{2}) = f^{q}(x) \ \mathcal{G}_{f}^{q}(k_{\perp}^{2}), \tag{4}$$

where the generic function  $f^q = f_1^q$  or  $h_1^q$ , and the  $k_{\perp}^2$  dependence is given by a Gaussian distribution,

$$\mathcal{G}_{f}^{q}(k_{\perp}^{2}) = \frac{1}{\pi \langle k_{\perp}^{2} \rangle_{f}^{q}} \exp\left[-\frac{k_{\perp}^{2}}{\langle k_{\perp}^{2} \rangle_{f}^{q}}\right].$$
 (5)

The transverse widths  $\langle k_{\perp}^2 \rangle_f^q$  are flavor dependent, and in general can be functions of x, although in this analysis we assume their x dependence is negligible. For the TMD FFs, the unpolarized distribution is parametrized analogously,

$$D_1^{h/q}(z, p_\perp^2) = D_1^{h/q}(z) \ \mathcal{G}_{D_1}^{h/q}(p_\perp^2), \tag{6}$$

while the Collins FF involves an additional z-dependent weight factor,

$$H_1^{\perp h/q}(z, p_\perp) = \frac{2z^2 m_h^2}{\langle p_\perp^2 \rangle_{H_\perp}^{h/q}} H_{1h/q}^{\perp(1)}(z) \ \mathcal{G}_{H_1^\perp}^{h/q}(p_\perp^2).$$
(7)

The  $p_{\perp}^2$  dependence of the functions  $\mathcal{G}_{D_1}^{h/q}$  and  $\mathcal{G}_{H_1^{\perp}}^{h/q}$  is assumed to be Gaussian, in analogy with (4), with the average  $\langle p_{\perp}^2 \rangle^{h/q}$  independent of z. The z dependence of the Collins FF is parametrized in terms of its  $p_{\perp}^2$ weighted moment,  $H_{1\,h/q}^{\perp(1)}(z)$  [21]. Using the TMD PDFs and FFs in Eqs. (4)–(7), the  $P_{h\perp}^2$  dependence in the structure functions can then be written in the form  $\exp\left(-P_{h\perp}^2/\langle P_{h\perp}^2 \rangle_{f,D}^{h/q}\right)$ , where  $\langle P_{h\perp}^2 \rangle_{f,D}^q = z^2 \langle k_{\perp}^2 \rangle_f^q + \langle p_{\perp}^2 \rangle_{h/q}^{h/q}$ .

Phenomenology. Our global analysis fits SIDIS  $\pi^{\pm}$  production data from proton and deuteron targets, including their x, z and  $P_{h\perp}$  dependence, with a total of 106 data points from measurements at HERMES [46] and COMPASS [47, 48]. This gives 4 linear combinations of transversity TMD PDFs and Collins TMD FFs for different quark flavors, from which we extract the u, d and antiquark transversity PDFs (from 4 x-dependent combinations) and the favored and unfavored Collins FFs (from 4 z-dependent combinations), together with their respective transverse momentum widths (from the  $P_{h\perp}$  dependence). We do not include lower-energy Collins asymmetry data from Jefferson Lab on <sup>3</sup>He nuclei because of concerns about the separation of the current and target fragmentation regions at relatively low energies [49].

In selecting the data to be used in the fit, we place several kinematic cuts on the z,  $P_{h\perp}$  and  $Q^2$  dependence to ensure the data are matched with the appropriate theory. to isolate samples where the theoretical framework used in this analysis is applicable. To stay within the current fragmentation region, only data for z > 0.2 are included, and to avoid contamination from vector-meson production and soft-gluon effects, we exclude the region above z = 0.6. For the  $P_{h\perp}$  dependence, we exclude the regions where  $P_{h\perp}$  is very small ( $P_{h\perp} > 0.2$  GeV) or very large ( $P_{h\perp} < 0.9$  GeV): the former to avoid issues with

acceptance for the lowest- $P_{h\perp}$  bin of the HERMES multiplicity data, and the latter to ensure the applicability of the Gaussian assumption, without the need for introducing the Y-term [49]. To stay above the charm threshold, the photon virtuality is taken to be above  $Q^2 > m_c^2$ .

Because the existing SIDIS Collins asymmetry data have a rather small  $Q^2$  range, and  $Q^2$  evolution effects tend to cancel in ratios, empirically, there is no clear indication of scale dependence in the Collins asymmetries. It is a reasonable approximation, therefore, to neglect the  $Q^2$  dependence in the transversity and Collins functions in the  $F_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_h + \phi_s)}$  structure function, and freeze the scale in the unpolarized  $f_1^q$  and  $D_1^q$  distributions in  $F_{UU}$  at a value  $Q^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2$  that is typical of the SIDIS data. (In contrast, since  $e^+e^-$  data are taken at higher energies, neglecting the scale dependence between the  $e^+e^-$  and SIDIS measurements would not be a good approximation. To avoid introducing uncontrolled errors from not including the full TMD evolution where its effects may be important, we do not fit the  $e^+e^-$  Collins asymmetry data in the present analysis.)

In determining the transversity TMDs  $h_1^q(x, k_{\perp}^2)$ , we parametrize the x dependence by the form  $h_1^q(x) = N_q x^{a_q} (1-x)^{b_q}$  for each of the flavors q = u, d and  $\bar{q}$ , assuming a symmetric sea,  $h_1^{\bar{u}} = h_1^{\bar{d}} = h_1^{\bar{s}} = h_1^{\bar{s}}$ , and use isospin symmetry to relate the distributions in the proton and neutron. For the Collins  $\pi^{\pm}$  distributions, we use a similar functional form to parametrize the z dependence of the favored  $H_{1(\text{fav})}^{\perp(1)} \equiv H_{1\pi^+/u}^{\perp(1)} = H_{1\pi^+/\bar{d}}^{\perp(1)}$  FFs and the unfavored  $H_{1(\text{unf})}^{\perp(1)}$  FFs for  $\{d, \bar{u}, s, \bar{s}\} \to \pi^+$ , with the distributions for  $\pi^-$  related by charge conjugation. For the x dependence of the spin-averaged  $f_1^q$  distributions we use the CJ15 leading-order parametrization [50], while for the z depedence of  $D_1^q$ , we utilize the leading-order DSS fit [51].

For the transverse-momentum widths  $\langle k_{\perp}^2 \rangle_f^q$  of the TMD PDFs  $f_1^q$  and  $h_1^q$ , two Gaussian widths are used, one for the valence type (q = u, d) and one for the seaquark type  $(q = \bar{u}, \bar{d}, s, \bar{s})$  functions. Similarly, for the TMD FFs two Gaussian widths for  $\langle p_{\perp}^2 \rangle_D^{h/q}$  are used, for the favored and unfavored type of FF. In total, we therefore have 23 parameters to be extracted from data, 19 of which describe  $F_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_h + \phi_s)}$  and 4 the transverse part of  $F_{UU}$ . To determine the latter, we perform an independent fit to the HERMES  $\pi^{\pm}$  multiplicity data [52], which include 978 data points that survive the same cuts as employed for  $A_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_h + \phi_s)}$ .

Using the nested sampling MC algorithm [34–36], we

compute the expectation value  $E[\mathcal{O}]$  and variance  $V[\mathcal{O}]$ 

$$E[\mathcal{O}] = \int d^{n} a \,\mathcal{P}(\boldsymbol{a}|\text{data}) \,\mathcal{O}(\boldsymbol{a}) \simeq \sum_{k} w_{k} \mathcal{O}(\boldsymbol{a}_{k}), \text{ (8a)}$$
$$V[\mathcal{O}] = \int d^{n} a \,\mathcal{P}(\boldsymbol{a}|\text{data}) \big(\mathcal{O}(\boldsymbol{a}) - E[\mathcal{O}]\big)^{2}$$
$$\simeq \sum_{k} w_{k} \big(\mathcal{O}(\boldsymbol{a}_{k}) - E[\mathcal{O}]\big)^{2} \tag{8b}$$

for each observable  $\mathcal{O}$  (such as a TMD or a function of TMDs) in our analysis, which is a function of the *n*-dimensional vector parameters  $\boldsymbol{a}$  with probability density  $\mathcal{P}(\boldsymbol{a}|\text{data})$  [39]. Using Bayes' theorem, the latter is given by

$$\mathcal{P}(\boldsymbol{a}|\text{data}) = \frac{1}{Z} \mathcal{L}(\text{data}|\boldsymbol{a}) \pi(\boldsymbol{a}), \qquad (9)$$

where  $\pi(a)$  is the prior distribution for the vector parameters a, and

$$\mathcal{L}(\text{data}|\boldsymbol{a}) = \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\chi^2(\boldsymbol{a})\right]$$
 (10)

is the likelihood function. The quantity  $Z = \int d^n a \mathcal{L}(\text{data}|a) \pi(a)$  is called the Bayesian evidence. The nested sampling algorithm evaluates Z by constructing a set of MC samples  $\{a_k\}$  with weights  $\{w_k\}$ . These MC samples are then used to evaluate Eqs. 8 In our analysis we use a flat prior for the nested sampling.

The results of the fit indicate good overall agreement with the Collins  $\pi^+$  and  $\pi^-$  asymmetries, as illustrated in Fig. 1, for both HERMES [46] and COM-PASS [47, 48] data, with marginally better fits for the latter. In most cases the uncertainty bands for the SIDISonly and SIDIS+lattice fits are very similar, with slightly broader bands for the deuterium data compared with the proton. The  $\chi^2$ /datum values for the  $\pi^+$  and  $\pi^$ data are 28.6/53 and 40.4/53, respectively, for a total of 68.9/106  $\approx$  0.65. The slightly larger  $\chi^2$  for  $\pi^-$  stems from 2–3 outlier points in the x and z spectra, as evident in Fig. 1. The SIDIS-only fit is almost indistinguishable, with  $\chi^2_{\text{SIDIS}} = 69.2$ . Clearly the results do not indicate any tension between the SIDIS data and lattice QCD calculations of  $g_T$ , nor any "transverse spin problem".

The resulting transversity PDFs  $h_1^{u,d}$  and Collins favored and unfavored FFs,  $H_{1(\text{fav})}^{\perp}$  and  $H_{1(\text{unf})}^{\perp}$ , are plotted in Fig. 2 for the q = u, d flavors, for both the SIDISonly and SIDIS+lattice fits. The positive (negative) sign for the u (d) transversity PDF is consistent with previous extractions, and correlates with the same sign for the Collins FFs in the region of z directly constrained by data. The larger magnitude of  $h_1^d$  compared with  $h_1^u$ reflects the larger magnitude of the (negative)  $\pi^-$  asymmetry than the (positive)  $\pi^-$  asymmetry. At lower zvalues, outside the measured region, the uncertainties on the Collins FFs become extremely large. Interestingly, inclusion of the lattice  $g_T$  datum has very little effect



FIG. 1. Comparison of the full SIDIS+lattice fit with the  $\pi^+$  (filled circles) and  $\pi^-$  (open circles) Collins asymmetries  $A_{UT}^{\sin(\phi_h+\phi_s)}$  from HERMES [46] and COMPASS [47, 48] (in percent), as a function of x, z and  $P_{h\perp}$  (in GeV).



FIG. 2. Transversity PDFs  $h_1^{u,d}(x)$  and favored  $zH_{1(\text{fav})}^{\perp(1)}$  and unfavored  $zH_{1(\text{unf})}^{\perp(1)}$  Collins FFs for the SIDIS+lattice fit (red and blue bands) at  $Q^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2$ , compared with the SIDISonly fit uncertainties (yellow bands). The range of direct experimental constraints is indicated by the gray dashed horizontal lines.

on the central values of the distributions, but significantly reduces the uncertainty bands. The fitted antiquark transversity is consistent with zero, within relatively large uncertainties, and is not shown in Fig. 2.

For the transverse momentum widths, our analysis of the HERMES multiplicities [52] gives a total  $\chi^2/\text{datum}$  of 1079/978, with  $\langle k_{\perp}^2 \rangle_{f_1}^q = 0.59(1) \text{ GeV}^2$  and 0.64(6) GeV<sup>2</sup> for the unpolarized valence and sea quark PDF widths, and  $\langle p_{\perp}^2 \rangle_{D_1}^{\pi/q} = 0.116(2) \text{ GeV}^2$  and 0.140(2) GeV<sup>2</sup> for the unpolarized favored and unfavored FF widths. The above values are compatible with those found in the analysis by Anselmino *et al.* [53] of HERMES and COMPASS charged hadron multiplicities. On the other hand, the similar values for the sea and valence PDF widths found here disagree with the chiral soliton model predictions from Ref. [54], for which the sea to valence ratio is ~ 5.

The transverse momentum widths for the valence and sea transversity PDFs are  $\langle k_{\perp}^2 \rangle_{h_1}^q = 0.5(2) \text{ GeV}^2$  and 1.0(5) GeV<sup>2</sup>, respectively, and  $\langle p_{\perp}^2 \rangle_{H_{\perp}^\perp}^{\pi/q} = 0.12(4) \text{ GeV}^2$ 



FIG. 3. (a) Contour plot of  $\delta u$  and  $\delta d$  samples from the Monte Carlo analysis, for the SIDIS only (blue) and SIDIS+lattice (red) analysis. The expectation values and  $1\sigma$  uncertainties for both fits are indicated by the respective error bars. (b) Normalized yields from the Monte Carlo analysis of the isovector tensor charge  $g_T$ , for the SIDIS-only (yellow histograms) and SIDIS+lattice (red histograms) analyses.

and 0.06(3) GeV<sup>2</sup> for the favored and unfavored Collins FF widths, respectively. The relatively larger uncertainties on the  $h_1$  and  $H_1^{\perp}$  widths compared with the unpolarized widths reflect the higher precision of the HERMES multiplicity data, and the order of magnitude smaller number of data points for the Collins asymmetries.

Integrating the transversity PDFs over x, the resulting normalized yields from our Monte Carlo analysis for the  $\delta u$  and  $\delta d$  moments is shown in Fig. 3, together with the isovector combination  $g_T$ . The most striking feature is the significantly narrower peaks evident when the SIDIS data are supplemented by the lattice  $g_T^{\text{latt}}$  input. The u and d tensor charges, for example, change from  $\delta u = 0.3(3) \rightarrow 0.3(2)$  and  $\delta d = -0.6(5) \rightarrow -0.7(2)$  at the scale  $Q^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2$ , while the reduction in the uncertainty is even more dramatic for the isovector charge,  $g_T = 0.9(8) \rightarrow 1.0(1)$ . The earlier analysis of SIDIS data by Kang et al. [21] quotes  $\delta u = 0.39(11)$  and  $\delta d = -0.22(14)$ , with  $g_T = 0.61(25)$  at  $Q^2 = 10 \text{ GeV}^2$ , which approximately coincides with the values at the peaks of the SIDIS-only yields in Fig. 3. The improved Monte Carlo methodology employed in our analysis gives a more realistic representation of the expectation values and uncertainties, revealing clear compatibility between the SIDIS data and lattice results.

Future extensions of this work will explore incorporating TMD evolution via the CSS framework [22, 55], and improved treatment of the large- $P_{h\perp}$  contributions through the addition of the Y-term [49]. Inclusion of  $K^{\pm}$ SIDIS and  $e^+e^-$  annihilation data will allow further separation of sea quark flavor contributions to  $h_1$  and better constraints on the favored and unfavored Collins FFs. Upcoming high-precision data from Jefferson Lab should also provide significantly improved kinematical coverage at intermediate x and z values.

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