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The Quark Orbital Angular Momentum from Wigner Distributions and Light-cone Wave Functions

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Abstract

We investigate the quark orbital angular momentum of the nucleon in the absence of gauge-field degrees of freedom, by using the concept of the Wigner distribution and the light-cone wave functions of the Fock state expansion of the nucleon. The quark orbital angular momentum is obtained from the phase-space average of the orbital angular momentum operator weighted with the Wigner distribution of unpolarized quarks in a longitudinally polarized nucleon. We also derive the light-cone wave function representation of the orbital angular momentum. In particular, we perform an expansion in the nucleon Fock state space and decompose the orbital angular momentum into the $N$-parton state contributions. Explicit expressions are presented in terms of the light-cone wave functions of the three-quark Fock state. Numerical results for the up and down quark orbital angular momenta of the proton are shown in the light-cone constituent quark model and the light-cone chiral quark-soliton model.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The spin structure of the nucleon is one of the most important open questions in hadronic physics which has recently attracted an increasing attention. While the quark spin contribution is well known from the accurate measurements in polarized deep inelastic scattering [1, 2], the situation is much more unclear for the remaining contributions from the quark orbital angular momentum (OAM) and those from the gluon spin and OAM. In the present paper we will focus on the quark OAM. As a first step, we ignore the contributions from the gauge-field degrees of freedom. Under this assumption, there is no ambiguity in the definition of the quark OAM operator [3–5]. To unveil the underlying physics associated with the quark OAM, we discuss two different representations. The first one is obtained by using the concept of the Wigner distributions [6], whereas the second one is based on light-cone wave functions (LCWFs). A study which includes a Wilson line has been recently proposed in Ref. [7].

The Wigner distribution was originally constructed as the quantum mechanical analogue of the classical density operator in the phase space. Recently, it was also exploited to provide a multi-dimensional mapping of the partons in the nucleon [6, 8, 9]. An important aspect of the Wigner distribution is the possibility to calculate the expectation value of any physical observable from its phase-space average with the Wigner distribution as weighting factor. In particular, we will show that the quark OAM can be obtained from the Wigner distribution for unpolarized quarks in the longitudinally polarized nucleon.

On the other hand, the LCWFs provide the natural framework for the representation of OAM. This is due to the fact that the LCWFs are eigenstates of the total OAM for each $N$-parton configuration in the nucleon Fock space. In particular, we will consider the three valence-quark sector, giving the explicit representation of the quark OAM in terms of the partial-wave amplitudes of the nucleon state.

The plan of the paper is as follows. In Sec. II we give the relevant definitions for the quark OAM operator and derive the expression of the OAM in terms of a Wigner distribution. In Sec. III we first discuss the LCWF representation of the quark OAM, giving the decomposition into the contributions from the $N$-parton states. For the three-valence quark sector we further derive in Sec. IV the explicit expressions for the contributions from the different partial-wave amplitudes of the nucleon state to the OAM. The corresponding
expressions for the distribution in $x$ of the OAM are collected in the Appendix. The formalism is finally applied in a light-cone constituent quark model and the light-cone version of the chiral quark-soliton model, and the corresponding results are discussed in Sec. V. Concluding remarks are given in the last section.

II. QUARK ORBITAL ANGULAR MOMENTUM

A. Definitions

If one neglects gauge-field degrees of freedom, the quark OAM operator for a given flavor $q$ can unambiguously be defined as

$$\hat{L}_z^q \equiv -\frac{i}{2} \int \mathrm{d}r^- \mathrm{d}^2r \, \bar{\psi}^q(r^-, r) \gamma^z \left( r \times \vec{\nabla}_r \right) \psi^q(r^-, r),$$

(1)

where normal ordering is understood and the transverse vector $\mathbf{a} = (a^1, a^2)$ has been introduced for the generic 4-vector $\mathbf{a}$. Furthermore, in Eq. (1) we used for convenience the notation $\leftrightarrow \nabla \equiv \rightarrow \nabla - \leftarrow \nabla$. Using the Fourier transform of the quark field from the coordinate space to the momentum space

$$\psi^q(r^-, R) = \int \frac{\mathrm{d}k^+ \mathrm{d}^2k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{-i(k^+ r^- - k \cdot r)} \psi^q(k^+, \mathbf{k}),$$

(2)

the quark OAM operator can alternatively be written as

$$\hat{L}_z^q = -\frac{i}{2} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}k^+ \mathrm{d}^2k}{(2\pi)^3} \bar{\psi}^q(k^+, \mathbf{k}) \gamma^z \left( \mathbf{k} \times \vec{\nabla}_k \right) \psi^q(k^+, \mathbf{k}).$$

(3)

We define the quark OAM $\ell_z^q$ as the following matrix element of the quark OAM operator

$$\langle p', + | \hat{L}_z^q | p, + \rangle \equiv \ell_z^q \langle p', + | p, + \rangle,$$

(4)

where the momenta of the incoming and outgoing nucleon are given by

$$p = P - \frac{\Delta}{2}, \quad p' = P + \frac{\Delta}{2}.$$

(5)

Since the nucleon states $| p, \Lambda \rangle$ in Eq. (4) are normalized as

$$\langle p', + | p, + \rangle = 2P^+ \delta(\Delta^+) (2\pi)^3 \delta^{(2)}(\Delta),$$

(6)

the forward limit $p' = p$ has to be treated with care. One can easily get rid of this normalization by integrating over $\Delta^+$ and $\Delta$

$$\ell_z^q = \frac{\int \mathrm{d}^2\Delta}{2P^+ (2\pi)^3} \langle p', + | \hat{L}_z^q | p, + \rangle,$$

(7)

avoiding in this way to use normalizable wave packets or infinite normalization factors.
B. Orbital angular momentum from Wigner distributions

In this section we derive the link between the quark OAM and the Wigner distributions. In particular, we show how it is possible to express Eq. (7) as the phase-space average of the intuitive OAM operator \((\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{k})_z\) weighted with the Wigner distribution of unpolarized quarks in a longitudinally polarized nucleon.

From the definition of the OAM introduced in the previous section, it is natural to interpret the integrands of Eqs. (1) and (3) as the quark OAM density operators in position and momentum space, respectively,

\[
\hat{L}_q^z(r^-, r) = -\frac{i}{2} \overline{\psi}(r^-, r) \gamma^+ \left( \mathbf{r} \times \nabla_{\mathbf{r}} \right)_z \psi^q(r^-, r), \tag{8a}
\]

\[
\hat{L}_q^z(k^+, k) = -\frac{i}{2} \overline{\psi}(k^+, k) \gamma^+ \left( \mathbf{k} \times \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} \right)_z \psi^q(k^+, k). \tag{8b}
\]

The generalization to the joint position and momentum space corresponds to the quark OAM density operator in the phase space

\[
\hat{L}_q^z(r^-, r, k^+, k) = -\frac{i}{2} \int \frac{dz^- dz^2}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i(k^+ z^- - k \cdot z)} \overline{\psi}(r^-_f, r_f) \gamma^+ \left( \mathbf{r} \times \nabla_{\mathbf{r}} \right)_z \psi^q(r^-_i, r_i), \tag{9}
\]

where \(r_i = r + z/2\) and \(r_f = r - z/2\). This operator contains the OAM density operators in position and momentum space as specific limits, i.e.

\[
\int dk^+ d^2 k \hat{L}_q^z(r^-, r, k^+, k) = \hat{L}_q^z(r^-, r), \tag{10a}
\]

\[
\int dr^- d^2 r \hat{L}_q^z(r^-, r, k^+, k) = \hat{L}_q^z(k^+, k). \tag{10b}
\]

Introducing the Wigner operator [6, 8, 9]

\[
\hat{W}^{[\gamma^+]q}(r^-, r, k^+, k) = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{dz^- dz^2}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i(k^+ z^- - k \cdot z)} \overline{\psi}(r^-_f, r_f) \gamma^+ \psi^q(r^-_i, r_i), \tag{11}
\]

the OAM density operator in the phase space can also be expressed as

\[
\hat{L}_q^z(r^-, r, k^+, k) = 2 \left( \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{k} \right)_z \hat{W}^{[\gamma^+]q}(r^-, r, k^+, k). \tag{12}
\]
Using the definition of the OAM in Eq. (7), we can write
\[
\ell_z^q = \int \frac{d\Delta^+}{2P^+} \frac{d^2 \Delta}{(2\pi)^2} \langle p', + | \int dr^- d^2r d^2k \hat{\mathcal{L}}_z^q(r^-, r, k^+, k) | p, + \rangle \\
= \int \frac{d\Delta^+}{P^+} \frac{d^2 \Delta}{(2\pi)^2} dr^- d^2r d^2k (r \times k) \langle p', + | \hat{W}_z^{[\gamma^+] + q}(r^-, r, k^+, k) | p, + \rangle \\
= \int \frac{d\Delta^+}{P^+} \frac{d^2 \Delta}{(2\pi)^2} d^2r d^2k (r \times k) \langle p', + | \hat{W}_z^{[\gamma^+] + q}(0, r, k^+, k) | p, + \rangle \int dr^- e^{i\Delta^+ r^-} \\
= \int dx d^2k d^2b (r \times k) \rho_+^{[\gamma^+] + q}(r,k,x), \tag{13}
\]
where in the last line we introduced the Wigner distribution for unpolarized quark in a longitudinally polarized nucleon $\rho_+^{[\gamma^+] + q}$.

\[
\rho_+^{[\gamma^+] + q}(r,k,x) = \int \frac{d^2 \Delta}{(2\pi)^2} \langle P^+, \Delta, \Lambda | \hat{W}_z^{[\gamma^+] + q}(0, r, xP^+, k) | P^+, -\Delta, \Lambda \rangle \tag{14}
\]
with $x = k^+/P^+$ the fraction of quark longitudinal momentum. Since we consider a nucleon state with its transverse center of momentum at the origin of the axes, we may identify the transverse coordinate $r$ with the impact parameter $b$ [10–12].

In the same way as the impact-parameter dependent parton distributions are two-dimensional Fourier transforms of the generalized parton distributions (GPDs), the Wigner distributions are two-dimensional Fourier transforms of the so-called generalized transverse-momentum dependent parton distributions (GTMDs) [6, 13, 14]
\[
\rho_+^{[\gamma^+] + q}(b,k,x) = \int \frac{d^2 \Delta}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\Delta \cdot b} W_+^{[\gamma^+] + q}(\Delta, k, x), \tag{15}
\]
with the GTMD correlator given by
\[
W_+^{[\gamma^+] + q}(\Delta, k, x) = \langle P^+, \Delta, \Lambda | \hat{W}_+^{[\gamma^+] + q}(0, 0, xP^+, k) | P^+, -\Delta, \Lambda \rangle \tag{16}
\]
for the generic twist-2 Dirac matrix $\Gamma = \gamma^+, \gamma^+ \gamma_5, i\sigma^j \gamma_5$ with $j = 1, 2$. The hermiticity property of the GTMD correlator
\[
\left[ W_+^{[\gamma^+] + q}(\Delta, k, x) \right]^* = W_+^{[\gamma^+] + q}(-\Delta, k, x) \tag{17}
\]
implies that $\rho_+^{[\gamma^+] + q}$ is a real quantity, in accordance with its interpretation as a phase-space distribution.

Collecting the main results of this section, we can express the OAM in terms of Wigner distributions as
\[
\ell_z^q = \int dx d^2k d^2b (b \times k) \rho_+^{[\gamma^+] + q}(b,k,x), \tag{18}
\]
or, equivalently, in terms of GTMDs as [6]

\[
\ell_q^z = \int dx \, d^2k \left[ i (k \times \nabla) \right]_z W^{[y^+]q} (\Delta, k, x) \bigg|_{\Delta=0}
\]

\[= - \int dx \, d^2k \frac{k^2}{M^2} F_{1,4}^q (x, k^2, 0, 0),
\]

where \( F_{1,4}^q \) follows the notation of Ref. [14].

### III. LCWF OVERLAP REPRESENTATION

Following the lines of Refs. [15, 16], we can obtain an overlap representation of Eq. (20) in terms of LCWFs. Since the quark OAM operator is diagonal in light-cone helicity, flavor and color spaces, we can write the quark OAM as the sum of the contributions from the \( N \)-parton Fock states

\[
\ell_q^z = \sum_{N, \beta} \ell_{N, \beta, q}^z,
\]

where

\[
\ell_{N, \beta, q}^z = i \int [dx]_N \left[ d^2k \right]_N \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{qq_i} \left( (k_i \times \nabla) \right)_z \Psi_{N, \beta}^{+ \Sigma} (r^{\text{out}}) \Psi_{N, \beta}^{+ \Sigma} (r^{\text{in}}) \bigg|_{\Delta=0}.
\]

Note that this expression is consistent with the wave-packet approach of Ref. [17], except for the difference by a factor of 1/2 which follows from different conventions for the light-cone components. In Eq. (22), the integration measures are given by

\[
[dx]_N = \prod_{i=1}^N dx_i \delta \left( 1 - \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \right),
\]

\[
[d^2k]_N = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{d^2k_i}{2(2\pi)^3} 2(2\pi)^3 \delta^{(2)} \left( \sum_{i=1}^N k_i \right),
\]

and the \( N \)-parton LCWF \( \Psi_{N, \beta}^\Lambda (r) \) depends on the hadron light-cone helicity \( \Lambda \), on the Fock-state composition \( \beta \) denoting collectively quark light-cone helicities, flavors and colors, and on the relative quark momenta collectively denoted by \( r \). In particular, for the active parton \( i \) one has

\[
x_i^{\text{in}} = x_i, \quad k_i^{\text{in}} = k_i - (1 - x_i) \Delta, \quad (25)
\]

\[
x_i^{\text{out}} = x_i, \quad k_i^{\text{out}} = k_i + (1 - x_i) \Delta, \quad (26)
\]
and for the spectator partons $j \neq i$, one has

\begin{align}
  x_j^{in} &= x_j, & k_j^{in} &= k_j + x_j \frac{\Delta}{2}, \\
  x_j^{out} &= x_j, & k_j^{out} &= k_j - x_j \frac{\Delta}{2}.
\end{align}

(27)

Acting with $\nabla_\Delta$ on the LCWFs in Eq. (22) and then setting $\Delta = 0$ leads to the following expression\(^1\)

\[ \ell_{z}^{N\beta,q} = -\frac{i}{2} \int [dx]_{N} [d^{2}k]_{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \delta_{q_{i}} \sum_{n=1}^{N} (\delta_{n_{i}} - x_{n}) \left[ \Psi_{N\beta}^{+}(r) \left( k_{i} \times \nabla k_{n} \right)_z \Psi_{N\beta}^{+}(r) \right]. \]

(29)

This expression coincides with our intuitive picture of OAM. Indeed, since the transverse position $r$ is represented in transverse-momentum space by $i \nabla k$, it means that

\[ i \sum_{n=1}^{N} (\delta_{n_{i}} - x_{n}) \nabla k_{n} \sim r_{i} - \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_{n} r_{n} = b_{i} \]

(30)

represents the transverse position of the active quark relative to the transverse center of momentum $R = \sum_{n} x_{n} r_{n}$. Moreover, by construction, $k_{i}$ represents the relative transverse momentum of the active quark. It follows that Eq. (29) gives the intrinsic quark OAM defined with respect to the transverse center of momentum\(^2\).

An important property of the LCWFs is that they are eigenstates of the total OAM

\[ -i \sum_{n=1}^{N} (k_{n} \times \nabla k_{n})_z \Psi_{N\beta}^{A}(r) = l_z \Psi_{N\beta}^{A}(r) \]

(31)

with eigenvalue $l_z = (\Lambda - \sum_{n} \lambda_n)/2$. As a consequence, from the overlap representation (29) it is straightforward to show that the total OAM is given by

\[ \ell_z = \sum_{N,l_z} l_z \rho_{NL_z}, \]

(32)

---

\(^1\) We find the same expression starting from the representation of the quark OAM operator in momentum space given by Eq. (3) and integrating over $\Delta$ to kill the $\delta$ function subjected to $\nabla k$.

\(^2\) This is completely analogous to non-relativistic mechanics where the intrinsic OAM is defined relative to the center of mass

\[ \sum_{n} \mathbf{r}_{n} \times \mathbf{p}_{n} = \sum_{n}(\mathbf{r}_{n} - \mathbf{R}) \times (\mathbf{p}_{n} - x_{n} \mathbf{P}) + \mathbf{R} \times \sum_{n} (\mathbf{p}_{n} - x_{n} \mathbf{P}) + \sum_{n} x_{n} \mathbf{r}_{n} \times \mathbf{P} \]

\[ = \sum_{i} \mathbf{r}_{i}^{rel} \times \mathbf{p}_{i}^{rel} + \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{P}, \]

with $\mathbf{R} = \sum_{n} x_{n} \mathbf{r}_{n}, \mathbf{P} = \sum_{n} \mathbf{p}_{n}, x_{n} = m_{n}/M$ and $M = \sum_{n} m_{n}$. This analogy comes from the galilean symmetry of transverse space on the light cone.
where
\[
\rho_{Nl_z} \equiv \sum_{\beta'} \delta_{l_z l'_z} \int |dx|_N \left| d^2k \right|_N |\Psi^+_N\beta'(r)|^2
\]  
(33)

is the probability to find the nucleon with light-cone helicity \( \Lambda = + \) in an \( N \)-parton state with eigenvalue \( l_z \) of the total OAM.

IV. PARTIAL-WAVE DECOMPOSITION OF QUARK ORBITAL ANGULAR MOMENTUM

In this section we give the explicit expressions for the OAM \( \ell^q_z \) in terms of the different partial-wave components of the three-quark state of the nucleon.

Working in the so-called “uds” basis [18, 19], the proton state is given in terms of a completely symmetrized wave function of the form

\[
|P, +\rangle = |P, +\rangle_{uud} + |P, +\rangle_{udu} + |P, +\rangle_{duu}.
\]  
(34)

In this symmetrization, the state \( |P, +\rangle_{udu} \) is obtained from \( |P, +\rangle_{uud} \) by interchanging the second and third spin and space coordinates as well as the indicated quark type, with a similar interchange of the first and third coordinates for \( |P, +\rangle_{duu} \). For the calculation of matrix elements of one-body operators, as in the case of the OAM operator, it is sufficient to use only the \( uud \) order. As outlined in the previous section, the LCWF \( \Psi^\Lambda_{\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3}^{uud} \) of the \( uud \) component is eigenstate of the total OAM, with eigenvalues \( l_z = (\Lambda - \sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_i)/2 \). In particular, for a nucleon with helicity \( \Lambda = + \) we can have four partial waves with \( l_z = 0, \pm 1, 2 \) corresponding to combinations of \( \Psi^\Lambda_{\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3}^{uud} \) with appropriate values of the quark helicities \( \lambda_i \). However, the 16 helicity configurations of \( \Psi^\Lambda_{\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3}^{uud} \) are not all independent. Parity and isospin symmetries leave only 6 independent functions \( \psi^{(i)} \) of quark momenta. In particular, the complete three-quark light-cone Fock expansion has the following structure [20–22]:

\[
|P, +\rangle = |P, +\rangle_{l_z = 0} + |P, +\rangle_{l_z = 1} + |P, +\rangle_{l_z = 1} + |P, +\rangle_{l_z = 2},
\]  
(35)
where

\[
|P, +\rangle^{i=0} = \int \frac{[dx_3][d^2k_3]}{\sqrt{x_1x_2x_3}} \left[ \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) + ik_1\alpha k_2\beta \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \\
\times \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} u^{\dagger}_{i+}(1) \left( u^{\dagger}_{j+}(2)d^{\dagger}_{k+}(3) - d^{\dagger}_{j+}(2)u^{\dagger}_{k+}(3) \right) |0\rangle,
\]

\[
|P, +\rangle^{i=1} = \int \frac{[dx_3][d^2k_3]}{\sqrt{x_1x_2x_3}} \left[ k_{1R} \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_{2R} \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \\
\times \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} u^{\dagger}_{i+}(1) u^{\dagger}_{j+}(2)d^{\dagger}_{k-}(3) - d^{\dagger}_{j+}(2)u^{\dagger}_{k-}(3) |0\rangle,
\]

\[
|P, +\rangle^{i=-1} = \int \frac{[dx_3][d^2k_3]}{\sqrt{x_1x_2x_3}} \left[ -k_{2L} \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \\
\times \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} u^{\dagger}_{i+}(1) \left( u^{\dagger}_{j+}(2)d^{\dagger}_{k-}(3) - d^{\dagger}_{j+}(2)u^{\dagger}_{k-}(3) \right) |0\rangle,
\]

\[
|P, +\rangle^{i=2} = \int \frac{[dx_3][d^2k_3]}{\sqrt{x_1x_2x_3}} \left[ k_{1R}k_{3R} \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \\
\times \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} u^{\dagger}_{i-}(1) \left( d^{\dagger}_{j-}(2)u^{\dagger}_{k-}(3) - u^{\dagger}_{j-}(2)d^{\dagger}_{k-}(3) \right) |0\rangle.
\]

In Eqs. (36a)-(36d) \(\alpha, \beta = 1, 2\) are transverse indices, \(u^{\dagger}_{i\lambda} (u_{i\lambda})\) and \(d^{\dagger}_{i\lambda} (d_{i\lambda})\) are creation (annihilation) operators of \(u\) and \(d\) quarks with helicity \(\lambda\) and color \(i\), and \(\psi^{(i)}\) are functions of quark momenta, with argument \(i\) representing \(x_i\) and \(k_i\) and with a dependence on the transverse momenta of the form \(k_i \cdot k_j\) only. We also used the notation \(k_{R,L} = k_x \pm ik_y\).

The relations between the wave function amplitudes \(\psi^{(i)}\) and the three-quark LCWFs \(\Psi^{uud}_{\alpha\beta\gamma}\) are given by

\[
\Psi^{uud}_{++}\Psi^{uud}_{++} = \psi^{(1,2)}(1, 2, 3), \\
\Psi^{uud}_{++}\Psi^{uud}_{++} = \psi^{(1,2)}(2, 1, 3), \\
\Psi^{uud}_{++}\Psi^{uud}_{++} = -[\psi^{(1,2)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(1,2)}(2, 3, 1)], \\
\Psi^{uud}_{++}\Psi^{uud}_{++} = \psi^{(3,4)}(1, 2, 3), \\
\Psi^{uud}_{++}\Psi^{uud}_{++} = \psi^{(3,4)}(2, 1, 3), \\
\Psi^{uud}_{++}\Psi^{uud}_{++} = -[\psi^{(3,4)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(3,4)}(2, 3, 1)], \\
\Psi^{uud}_{++}\Psi^{uud}_{++} = -k_{2L} \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3), \\
\Psi^{uud}_{++}\Psi^{uud}_{++} = -k_{1R}k_{3R} \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3).
\]
where we defined
\[ \psi^{(1,2)}(1, 2, 3) = \left[ \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) + i \epsilon^{\alpha \beta} k_{1\alpha} k_{2\beta} \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) \right], \]  
\[ \psi^{(3,4)}(1, 2, 3) = [k_{1R} \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_{2R} \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3)]. \]  

(38a)

(38b)

The corresponding expressions for hadron helicity \( \Lambda = - \) are obtained thanks to light-cone parity symmetry
\[ \Psi^{-\Lambda; uud}_{-\lambda_1 - \lambda_2 - \lambda_3} \{ \{ x_i, k_{ix}, k_{iy} \} \} = -\Psi^{\Lambda; uud}_{\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3} \{ \{ x_i, -k_{ix}, k_{iy} \} \}. \]  

(39)

Using the partial-wave decomposition of the nucleon state in Eqs. (36a)-(36d) we can separately calculate the results for \( l_z^q, l_z \) corresponding to the contribution of the quark with flavor \( q \) in the Fock state component with OAM \( l_z \). Summing over all flavors we find, in agreement with Eq. (32), \( \ell_z^q = \ell_z^q \rho_{l_z} \) (we omit the index \( N = 3 \) since we considered only the three-quark Fock contribution) with \( \rho_{l_z} = \langle \ell_z P, +|P, + \rangle \ell_z \). In the Appendix we also give the results for the partial-wave decomposition of the distribution in \( x \) of the OAM for the \( u \)- and \( d \)-quark contributions.

For the \( l_z = 0 \) component, we find:

• for total \( u \)-quark contribution

\[ \ell_{z}^{u, l_z = 0} = \int [dx]_3 [d^2 k]_3 \left\{ \left[ (1 - x_1) k_1 \cdot k_2 + x_2 k_1^2 \right] \times \left[ -\psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \psi^{(2)}(2, 1, 3) + \psi^{(1)}(2, 1, 3) \psi^{(2)}(2, 1, 3) \right] \right. 
- \left[ \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(1)}(3, 2, 1) \right] \times \left[ (1 - x_1) k_1 \cdot k_2 + x_2 k_1^2 \right] \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) + \left( x_2 k_1 \cdot k_3 - x_3 k_1 \cdot k_2 \right) \psi^{(2)}(3, 2, 1) \right. 
+ (k_1 \times k_2) \left[ \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) (k_1 \times \tilde{\nabla}_1 + k_2 \times \tilde{\nabla}_2) \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) \right. 
- \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) (k_1 \times \tilde{\nabla}_1 + k_2 \times \tilde{\nabla}_2) \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \right. 
- \psi^{(1)}(1, 3, 2) (k_1 \times \tilde{\nabla}_1 + k_2 \times \tilde{\nabla}_2) \left( \psi^{(2)}(1, 3, 2) - \psi^{(2)}(2, 3, 1) \right) \right. 
+ \psi^{(2)}(1, 3, 2) (k_1 \times \tilde{\nabla}_1 + k_2 \times \tilde{\nabla}_2) \left( \psi^{(1)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(1)}(2, 3, 1) \right) \right\}. \]  

(40)
• for total $d$-quark contribution

\[
\ell_{d,l_z=0}^z = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \left\{ \left[ x_1 k_2 \cdot k_3 - x_2 k_1 \cdot k_3 \right] \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) + \left[ (1 - x_2) k_1 \cdot k_2 + x_1 k_2^2 \right] \left[ \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(1)}(3, 2, 1) \right] \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) + (k_1 \times k_2) \left[ \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) (k_3 \times \vec{\nabla}_3) \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) - \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) (k_3 \times \vec{\nabla}_3) \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \right] + \psi^{(2)}(1, 3, 2) \left( k_3 \times \vec{\nabla}_3 \right) \left[ \psi^{(1)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(1)}(2, 3, 1) \right] \right\}.
\]

In Eq. (40) we used the following definition

\[
\vec{\nabla}_1 \psi^{(i)}(1, 2, 3) = \left[ (1 - x_1) \nabla_{k_1} - x_2 \nabla_{k_2} \right] \psi^{(i)}(1, 2, k_3 = -k_1 - k_2),
\]

and similarly for $\vec{\nabla}_2$. Furthermore, in Eq. (41) the operator $\vec{\nabla}_3$ is defined as

\[
\vec{\nabla}_3 \psi^{(i)}(1, 2, 3) = - (x_1 \nabla_{k_1} + x_2 \nabla_{k_2}) \psi^{(i)}(1, 2, k_3 = -k_1 - k_2).
\]

Using the momentum conservation constraint $k_1 + k_2 + k_3 = 0$, one finds $\ell_{u,l_z=0}^z = -\ell_{d,l_z=0}^z$.

One then recovers the fact that the total contribution from the $l_z = 0$ component is equal to zero

\[
\ell_{z=0}^l = 0.
\]

For the $l_z = 1$ component, we find:

• for the total $u$-quark contribution

\[
\ell_{u,l_z=1}^z = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \left\{ \left[ k_1 \cdot k_2 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_2^2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \right\}
\]

\[
\times \left[ -2x_1 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + 2(1 - x_2) \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) - x_1 \psi^{(3)}(1, 3, 2) - x_3 \psi^{(4)}(1, 3, 2) \right]
\]

\[
+ \left[ k_1^2 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_1 \cdot k_2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \left( 1 - x_1 \right) \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) - x_2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3)
\]

\[- \left( k_1 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_2 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right]
\]

\[
\times \left[ x_1 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + x_2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) + x_1 \psi^{(3)}(1, 3, 2) - (1 - x_3) \psi^{(4)}(1, 3, 2) \right]
\]

\[- \left( k_1 \times k_2 \right) \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_2 \times \vec{\nabla}_2 + k_3 \times \vec{\nabla}_3 \right) \psi^{(4)}(1, 3, 2) - \left( k_2 \times \vec{\nabla}_2 \right) \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3)
\]

\[- \left( k_1 \times k_2 \right) \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_2 \times \vec{\nabla}_2 + k_3 \times \vec{\nabla}_3 \right) \psi^{(3)}(1, 3, 2) - \psi^{(4)}(1, 3, 2)
\]

\[- \left( k_2 \times \vec{\nabla}_2 \right) \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) \right\}.
\]
• for the total \( d \)-quark contribution

\[
\ell_{z=1}^{d} = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \left\{ \left[ k_1^2 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_1 \cdot k_2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \right. \\
\times \left[ (1 - x_1)\psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) - x_2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) + (1 - x_1)\psi^{(3)}(1, 3, 2) - x_3 \psi^{(4)}(1, 3, 2) \right] \\
- \left[ k_1 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_2 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \left[ x_1 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + x_2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \\
- (k_1 \times k_2)\psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \left[ (k_1 \times \hat{\nabla}_1)\psi^{(4)}(1, 3, 2) - (k_1 \times \hat{\nabla}_1 + k_3 \times \hat{\nabla}_3)\psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \\
- (k_1 \times k_2)\psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \left[ (k_1 \times \hat{\nabla}_1) \left( \psi^{(3)}(1, 3, 2) - \psi^{(4)}(1, 3, 2) \right) \right] \\
+ \left( k_1 \times \hat{\nabla}_1 + k_3 \times \hat{\nabla}_3 \right)\psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) \right\}. \tag{46}
\]

The sum of the \( u \) and \( d \) contributions from the \( l_z = 1 \) component gives

\[
\ell_{z=1}^{u} = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \\
\times \left\{ \left[ 2\psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(3)}(1, 3, 2) \right] \left[ k_1^2 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_1 \cdot k_2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \right. \\
+ 2\psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \left[ k_1 \cdot k_2 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) - k_2^2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \\
+ \psi^{(4)}(1, 3, 2) \left[ k_1 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_2 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \right\} \\
= \rho_{z=1}. \tag{47}
\]

For \( l_z = -1 \), we find:

• for the total \( u \)-quark contribution

\[
\ell_{z=-1}^{u} = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \left\{ \left[ k_1 \cdot k_2 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) - k_1 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) \right] \\
\times \left[ x_2 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) - x_3 \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) - x_3 \psi^{(5)}(2, 3, 1) - (1 - x_1)\psi^{(5)}(2, 1, 3) \right] \\
+ \left[ k_2^2 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) - k_2 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) \right] \\
\times \left[ x_1 \psi^{(5)}(2, 1, 3) - x_2 \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) - x_3 \psi^{(5)}(2, 3, 1) - (1 - x_2)\psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \\
+ (k_2 \times k_3) \left[ \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) \left( k_1 \times \hat{\nabla}_1 + k_2 \times \hat{\nabla}_2 \right) \left( \psi^{(5)}(2, 1, 3) - \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right) \right] \\
+ \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_1 \times \hat{\nabla}_1 + k_2 \times \hat{\nabla}_2 \right) \left( \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(5)}(2, 1, 3) + \psi^{(5)}(2, 3, 1) \right) \right\}. \tag{48}
\]
• for the total $d$-quark contribution
\[
\ell_{z=-1}^{d} = \int [dx]_3 [d^2 k]_3 \left\{ \left[ k_2 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) - k_3^2 \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) \right] \right.
\]
\[
\times \left[ x_1 \psi^{(5)}(2, 1, 3) + x_2 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) + (1 - x_3) \left( \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(5)}(2, 3, 1) \right) \right]
\]
\[
+ \left( k_2 \times k_3 \right) \left[ \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) k_3 \times \vec{\nabla}_3 \left( \psi^{(5)}(2, 1, 3) - \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right) \right] \]
\[
\left. \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) k_3 \times \vec{\nabla}_3 \left( \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(5)}(2, 1, 3) + \psi^{(5)}(2, 3, 1) \right) \right\}. \quad (49)
\]

Adding the $u$ and $d$ contributions, we find that the $l_z = -1$ partial wave contributes to the total orbital angular momentum as
\[
\ell_{z=-1} = \int [dx]_3 [d^2 k]_3 \left\{ - \left[ k_1 \cdot k_2 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) - k_1 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) \right] \psi^{(5)}(2, 1, 3) \right.
\]
\[
- \left[ k_2^2 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) - k_2 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) \right] \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \]
\[
+ \left[ k_2 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) - k_3^2 \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) \right] \left[ \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(5)}(2, 3, 1) \right] \}
\]
\[
\left. = - \rho_{l_z=-1}. \quad (50) \right.
\]

For $l_z = 2$ component, we find:
• for the total $u$-quark contribution
\[
\ell_{z=2}^{u} = \int [dx]_3 [d^2 k]_3 \left\{ k_1^2 \left[ (1 - x_1) k_3^2 - x_3 k_1 \cdot k_3 \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left( 2 \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) \right) + \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) \left( \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) \right) \right.
\]
\[
- k_2^2 \left[ x_2 k_3^2 + x_3 k_2 \cdot k_3 \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left( \psi^{(6)}(2, 1, 3) - \psi^{(6)}(3, 1, 2) \right) - \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) \psi^{(6)}(3, 1, 2) \right.
\]
\[
- k_1^2 \left[ (1 - x_1) k_2 \cdot k_3 - x_2 k_1 \cdot k_3 \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left( 2 \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(6)}(2, 3, 1) \right) + \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) \left. \right.
\]
\[
- \left[ x_1 k_1 \cdot k_2 k_3^2 + x_3 k_2 \cdot k_3 k_1^2 \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \right.
\]
\[
- \left[ (1 - x_2) k_2 \cdot k_3^2 - x_1 (2 k_1 \cdot k_2 k_3 - k_1 \cdot k_3 k_2^2) \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \right.
\]
\[
- \left[ (1 - x_2) k_2 \cdot k_3 k_1^2 - x_1 (2 k_1 \cdot k_2 k_3 - k_1 \cdot k_3 k_2^2) \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \]
\[
\times \left[ \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left( \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(6)}(2, 3, 1) \right) - \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) \psi^{(6)}(2, 3, 1) \right. \]
\[
+ \left( k_1 \cdot k_2 \right) \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) k_3^2 \left( k_1 \times \vec{\nabla}_1 + k_2 \times \vec{\nabla}_2 \right) \psi^{(6)}(2, 1, 3) \right.
\]
\[
- k_3^2 \left( k_1 \times \vec{\nabla}_1 + k_3 \times \vec{\nabla}_3 \right) \psi^{(6)}(3, 1, 2) \right.
\]
\[
+ k_1^2 \left( k_1 \times \vec{\nabla}_1 \right) \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) + k_2^2 \left( k_1 \times \vec{\nabla}_1 + k_2 \times \vec{\nabla}_2 \right) \psi^{(6)}(2, 3, 1) \right\} \right. \quad (51)
• for the total $d$-quark contribution

$$\ell_{z=2}^d = \int [dx]_3 \left[ d^2k \right]_3 \left\{ - \left[ x_1 k_1 \cdot k_2 k_3^2 + x_3 k_2 \cdot k_3 k_1^2 \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left[ \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) \right] \right. \right.$$

$$\left. \quad - \left[ (1 - x_2) k_1 \cdot k_2 k_3^2 - x_3 (2 k_1 \cdot k_2 k_2 \cdot k_3 - k_1 \cdot k_3 k_2^2) \right] \times \psi^{(6)}(3, 1, 2) \left[ \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) \right] \right. \right.$$

$$\left. \quad - k_3^2 \left[ x_2 k_1 \cdot k_3 - (1 - x_3) k_1 \cdot k_2 \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \psi^{(6)}(2, 1, 3) \right.$$

$$\left. \quad - k_3^2 \left[ x_1 k_1 \cdot k_3 - (1 - x_3) k_1^2 \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \right.$$

$$\left. + k_3^2 \left[ x_1 k_1 \cdot k_2 + x_2 k_1^2 \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left[ \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(6)}(2, 3, 1) \right] \right.$$

$$\left. \quad - (k_1 \times k_2) \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left[ k_3 \left( k_2 \times \nabla_2 \right) \psi^{(6)}(3, 1, 2) + k_3^2 \left( k_3 \times \nabla_3 \right) \psi^{(6)}(2, 1, 3) \right. \right.$$

$$\left. \quad - k_1^2 \left( k_2 \times \nabla_2 + k_3 \times \nabla_3 \right) \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) + k_1^2 \left( k_3 \times \nabla_3 \right) \psi^{(6)}(2, 3, 1) \right. \right\} . \quad (52)$$

The sum of the $u$ and $d$ contributions in the $l_z = 2$ component to the total orbital angular momentum is

$$\ell_{z=2} = \int [dx]_3 \left[ d^2k \right]_3 \left\{ \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \right. \right.$$

$$\left. \quad \times \left[ 2 k_3^2 k_1^2 (2 \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1)) - 2 k_3^2 k_1 \cdot k_2 (\psi^{(6)}(3, 1, 2) - \psi^{(6)}(2, 1, 3) \right. \right.$$

$$\left. \quad - 2 k_1^2 k_2 \cdot k_3 (2 \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(6)}(2, 3, 1)) \right. \right\} \right.$$

$$\left. \quad = 2 \rho_{z=2}. \quad (53) \right.$$
TABLE I: The results for the quark orbital angular momentum from the LCCQM and the LCχQSM for
u-, d- and total (u + d) quark contributions.

| Model | LCCQM | LCχQSM |
|-------|-------|--------|
|       | \(q\) |       |       |
| \(\ell^q_z\) Eq. (20) | 0.131 | -0.005 | 0.126 |
|       | u     | d     | Total |
|       | 0.073 | -0.004 | 0.069 |

available data in the valence region [13]. Therefore we expect they can provide a good testing
ground to illustrate our method for understanding the quark orbital angular momentum.

In the LCCQM the nucleon state is described by a LCWF in the basis of three free
on-shell valence quarks. The three-quark state is however not on-shell \(M_N \neq M_0 = \sum_i \omega_i\)
where \(\omega_i\) is the energy of free quark \(i\) and \(M_N\) is the physical mass of the nucleon bound
state. The nucleon wave function is assumed to be a simple analytic function depending
on three free parameters (including the quark mass) which are fitted to reproduce at best
some experimental observables, like \(e.g.\) the anomalous magnetic moments of the proton
and neutron and the axial charge. The explicit expressions for the partial-wave amplitudes
\(\psi^{(i)}\) in the LCCQM can be found in Ref. [25].

In the LCχQSM quarks are not free, but bound by a relativistic chiral mean field (semi-
classical approximation). This chiral mean field creates a discrete level in the one-quark
spectrum and distorts at the same time the Dirac sea. It has been shown that the distortion
can be represented by additional quark-antiquark pairs in the baryon [28]. Even though the
χQSM naturally incorporates higher Fock states, we restrict the present study to the 3Q
sector.

Despite the apparent differences between the LCCQM and the χQSM, it turns out that
the corresponding LCWFs have a very similar structure (for further details, we refer to [13,
31]). The corresponding predictions from the LCCQM and the LCχQSM for \(u-, d-\) and total
\((u + d)\) quark contributions to the OAM are reported in Table I. We note that there is more
net quark OAM in the LCCQM \((\sum \ell^q_z = 0.126)\) than in the LCχQSM \((\sum \ell^q_z = 0.069)\). For
the individual quark contributions, both the LCCQM and the LCχQSM predict that \(\ell^q_z\) are
positive for \(u\) quarks and negative for \(d\) quarks, with the \(u\)-quark contribution larger than
the \(d\)-quark contribution in absolute value. These results refer to the low hadronic scales
of the models. Before making a meaningful comparison with results from experiments or
lattice calculations which are usually obtained at higher scales, a proper treatment of the effects due to QCD evolution is essential [32]. However, this is beyond the scope of the present paper.

The explicit calculation within the LCCQM of the wave-function amplitudes in Eqs. (36a)-(36d) can be found in Ref. [25]. Using these results and the expressions in the appendix, we can also calculate the distribution in $x$ of the OAM $\ell^q_z$, separating the contribution from each partial wave. The corresponding results for $u$ and $d$ quarks are shown in Fig. 1. The $x$ dependence of the different partial-wave amplitudes is very similar for $u$ and $d$ quarks. However, the total contribution has a distinctive behavior for $u$ and $d$ quarks, coming from a quite different interplay between the different partial-waves. For the $u$ quarks, the dominant contribution comes from the $l_z = 1$ amplitude (dotted curve), with positive sign, while the positive contributions coming from the $l_z = 0$ (long-dashed curve) and $l_z = 2$ (short-dashed curve) amplitudes are largely compensated by the negative contribution coming from the $l_z = -1$ amplitude (dashed-dotted curve). For the $d$ quarks, the OAM arises from the competition between the positive $l_z = 1$ and $l_z = 2$ contributions,
TABLE II: Results from the LCCQM for the contribution of the different partial waves to the OAM $\ell^q_z$.

The first and second rows show the values for the $u$ and $d$ quarks, respectively, while in the third row are reported the sum of the $u$- and $d$-quark contributions. In the last row are the results for the squared norm of the different partial-waves, giving the probability to find the proton in a three-quark state with eigenvalue $l_z$ of total OAM.

|          | $l_z = 0$ | $l_z = 1$ | $l_z = -1$ | $l_z = 2$ | Total |
|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------|
| $\ell^u_z$ | 0.013     | 0.139     | -0.046     | 0.025     | 0.131 |
| $\ell^d_z$ | -0.013    | 0.087     | -0.090     | 0.011     | -0.005|
| $\ell_z$   | 0         | 0.226     | -0.136     | 0.036     | 0.126 |
| $\rho_{l_z}$ | 0.620     | 0.226     | 0.136      | 0.018     | 1     |

and the negative $l_z = -1$ and $l_z = 0$ contributions. As a result, the OAM for $d$ quarks is much smaller than for $u$ quarks, and goes from negative to positive values at $x \approx 0.3$.

The integral over $x$ of the different distributions in Fig 1 gives the value for $u$- and $d$-quark OAM reported in Table II. In the last row we also show the results for the squared norm of the different partial-waves $\rho_{l_z}$, giving the probability to find the proton in a three-quark state with eigenvalue $l_z$ of total OAM, according to Eq. (33).

It is interesting to rewrite the expression (18) for the OAM as

$$\ell^q_z = \int d^2b \, (b \times \langle k \rangle^q)_z,$$

(54)

where $\langle k \rangle^q$ is the distribution in impact-parameter space of the quark mean transverse momentum

$$\langle k \rangle^q(b) = \int dx \, d^2k \, k \, \rho_{++\gamma}^{[\gamma]q}(b, k, x).$$

(55)

This distribution is shown in Fig. 2 for both $u$ and $d$ quarks. First of all, it appears that the mean transverse momentum $\langle k \rangle^q$ is always orthogonal to the impact-parameter vector $b$. This is not surprising since a nonvanishing radial component of the mean transverse momentum would indicate that the proton size and/or shape are changing. The figure also clearly shows that $u$ quarks tend to orbit anticlockwise inside the nucleon, corresponding to $\ell^u_z > 0$ since the proton is represented with its spin pointing out of the figure. For the $d$ quarks, we see two regions. In the central region of the nucleon, $|b| < 0.3$ fm, the $d$ quarks tend to orbit anticlockwise like the $u$ quarks. In the peripheral region, $|b| > 0.3$ fm, the
$d$ quarks tend to orbit clockwise. All this is consistent with the three-dimensional picture provided by the generalized parton distributions which indicates that the central region is dominated by the large $x$ values, while the peripheral region is dominated by the low $x$ values. The approximate cancellation between the central (large $x$) and peripheral (small $x$) contributions leads then to a very small value for the $d$-quark OAM.

FIG. 2: (Color online) Distributions in impact parameter space of the mean transverse momentum of unpolarized quarks in a longitudinally polarized nucleon. The nucleon polarization is pointing out of the plane, while the arrows show the size and direction of the mean transverse momentum of the quarks. The left (right) panel shows the results for $u$ ($d$) quarks.

Figs. 3 and 4 show the different partial-wave contributions to the $u$ and $d$ quark mean transverse momentum $\langle k \rangle^q$ as a function of $b$. Due to the axial symmetry of the system, it is sufficient to plot $\langle k \rangle^q = \langle k_y \rangle^q e_y$ as a function of $b = b_x e_x$. Similarly to Fig. 1, for the $u$ quarks, the dominant contribution comes from the $l_z = 1$ amplitude (dotted curve), with positive sign, while the positive contributions coming from the $l_z = 0$ (long-dashed curve) and $l_z = 2$ (short-dashed curve) amplitudes are largely compensated by the negative contribution coming from the $l_z = -1$ amplitude (dashed-dotted curve). For the $d$ quarks, the OAM arises from the competition between the positive $l_z = 1$ and $l_z = 2$ contributions, and the negative $l_z = -1$ and $l_z = 0$ contributions, with a delicate balance between the different partial-wave contributions. As a result the total OAM takes small positive values at small $|b|$, becomes slightly negative at $|b| \approx 0.3$ fm, and vanishes at the periphery.
FIG. 3: Results for the different partial-wave contributions to the $u$ quark mean transverse momentum $\langle k \rangle^u = \langle k_y \rangle^u e_y$ as a function of $b = b_x e_x$.

FIG. 4: Results for the different partial-wave contributions to the $d$ quark mean transverse momentum $\langle k \rangle^d = \langle k_y \rangle^d e_y$ as a function of $b = b_x e_x$.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

In summary, we derived the relation between the quark OAM and the Wigner distribution for unpolarized quark in a longitudinally polarized nucleon. This relation is exact as long
as we neglect the contribution of gauge fields, and provides an intuitive and simple representation of the quark OAM which resembles the classical formula given by the phase-space average of the orbital angular momentum weighted by the density operator. We compare this derivation with the LCWF representation of the OAM. The advantage in using LCWFs is that they are eigenstates of the total OAM for each $N$-parton configuration in the nucleon Fock space. As a consequence, the total OAM can be simply calculated from the sum of squared LCWFs multiplied by the corresponding eigenvalues of the OAM operator. In the three-quark sector, we further decomposed the nucleon state in different partial-wave amplitudes, calculating the corresponding contributions to the quark OAM.

These two representations of the OAM are equivalent, and allow to visualize complementary aspects of the orbital motion of the quarks inside the nucleon. As examples, we adopted two different light-cone quark models, and discussed the corresponding results for the distribution in $x$ of the OAM, as obtained from the LCWF overlap representation, as well as the distribution of the mean transverse momentum in the impact-parameter space, as obtained from the Wigner distributions.

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Appendix A: Partial-wave decomposition of the distributions in \( x \) of the OAM

In this appendix we summarize the results for the partial-wave contributions to the distribution in \( x \) of the OAM. In particular, we separately list the results for \( \ell_2^q, l_z \), corresponding to the contribution of the \( i \)th quark with flavor \( q \) in the Fock state component with total OAM \( l_z \).

For the \( l_z = 0 \) component, we find:

- for the \( u \) quark

\[
\ell_2^{u1,l_z=0}(x) = \int [dx]_3 \left[ d^2k \right]_3 \delta(x - x_1) \left\{ -\psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \times \left[ 2 \left( (1 - x_1)k_1 \cdot k_2 + x_2k_1^2 \right) \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) + \left( x_2k_1 \cdot k_3 - x_3k_1 \cdot k_2 \right) \psi^{(2)}(3, 2, 1) \right] - (k_1 \times k_2) \left[ \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_1 \times \vec{\nabla} \right) \left( -2\psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(2)}(3, 2, 1) \right) \right] + \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_1 \times \vec{\nabla} \right) \left( 2\psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(1)}(3, 2, 1) \right) \right\},
\]

(A1)

- for the \( d \) quark

\[
\ell_2^{d2,l_z=0}(x) = \int [dx]_3 \left[ d^2k \right]_3 \delta(x - x_2) \left\{ -\psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \times \left[ (x_2k_1 \cdot k_3 - x_1k_2 \cdot k_3) \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) + \left( (1 - x_3)k_2 \cdot k_3 + x_2k_3^2 \right) \psi^{(2)}(3, 2, 1) \right] - (k_1 \times k_2) \left[ \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_3 \times \vec{\nabla} \right) \left( -\psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(2)}(3, 2, 1) \right) \right] + \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_3 \times \vec{\nabla} \right) \left( \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(1)}(3, 2, 1) \right) \right\},
\]

(A2)

- for the \( s \) quark

\[
\ell_2^{s0,l_z=0}(x) = \int [dx]_3 \left[ d^2k \right]_3 \delta(x - x_3) \left\{ -\psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \times \left[ (x_3k_1 \cdot k_2 - x_1k_2 \cdot k_3) \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) + \left( (1 - x_2)k_2 \cdot k_3 + x_2k_2^2 \right) \psi^{(2)}(3, 2, 1) \right] - (k_1 \times k_2) \left[ \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_2 \times \vec{\nabla} \right) \left( -\psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(2)}(3, 2, 1) \right) \right] + \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_2 \times \vec{\nabla} \right) \left( \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(1)}(3, 2, 1) \right) \right\},
\]

(A3)
\[\ell_{z, l_z=0}(x) = \int [dx]_3 \left[ d^2 k \right]_3 \delta(x - x_3) \left\{ - (x_2 k_1 \cdot k_3 - x_1 k_2 \cdot k_3) \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) + (k_1 \times k_2) \left[ \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_3 \times \vec{\nabla}_3 \right) \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) - \psi^{(2)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_3 \times \vec{\nabla}_3 \right) \psi^{(1)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \right\} . \] (A5)

For the \( l_z = 1 \) component, we find:

- for the \( u \) quark

\[\ell_{z, l_z=1}(x) = \int [dx]_3 \left[ d^2 k \right]_3 \delta(x - x_1) \left\{ \left[ k_1^2 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_1 \cdot k_2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \left[ (1 - x_1) \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) - x_2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] + (k_1 \times k_2) \left[ \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_1 \times \vec{\nabla}_1 \right) \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) - \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_1 \times \vec{\nabla}_1 \right) \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \right\} , \] (A6)

\[\ell_{z, l_z=1}(x) = \int [dx]_3 \left[ d^2 k \right]_3 \delta(x - x_2) \left\{ \left[ k_1 \cdot k_2 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_2^2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \times \left[ - 2 x_1 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + 2 (1 - x_2) \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) - x_1 \psi^{(3)}(1, 3, 2) - x_3 \psi^{(4)}(1, 3, 2) \right] + (k_1 \times k_2) \left[ \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_2 \times \vec{\nabla}_2 \right) \left( 2 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(3)}(1, 3, 2) \right) \right] - \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_2 \times \vec{\nabla}_2 \right) \psi^{(4)}(1, 3, 2) \right\} , \] (A7)

\[\ell_{z, l_z=1}(x) = \int [dx]_3 \left[ d^2 k \right]_3 \delta(x - x_3) \left\{ \left[ k_1 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_2 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right] \times \left[ - x_1 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) - x_2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) - x_1 \psi^{(3)}(1, 3, 2) + (1 - x_3) \psi^{(4)}(1, 3, 2) \right] + (k_1 \times k_2) \left[ \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_3 \times \vec{\nabla}_3 \right) \left( 2 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(3)}(1, 3, 2) \right) \right] - \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_3 \times \vec{\nabla}_3 \right) \psi^{(4)}(1, 3, 2) \right\} . \] (A8)
for the $d$ quark

$$\ell_{z}^{d, l_z=1}(x) = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \delta(x - x_1) \left\{ k_1 \cdot k_2 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \right\} + \left\{ k_1 \times k_2 \right\} \left[ \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \left\{ \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \right\} , \quad (A9)$$

$$\ell_{z}^{d, l_z=1}(x) = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \delta(x - x_3) \left\{ k_1 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) + k_2 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \left\{ -x_1 \psi^{(3)}(1, 2, 3) - x_2 \psi^{(4)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \left\{ k_1 \times k_2 \right\} \left[ \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \right\} , \quad (A10)$$

For $l_z = -1$ component, we find:

• for the $u$ quark

$$\ell_{z}^{u, l_z=-1}(x) = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \delta(x - x_1) \left\{ k_1 \cdot k_2 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \right\} + \left\{ k_1 \times k_2 \right\} \left[ \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \left\{ \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \right\} , \quad (A11)$$

$$\ell_{z}^{u, l_z=-1}(x) = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \delta(x - x_2) \left\{ k_2 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \right\} + \left\{ k_1 \times k_2 \right\} \left[ \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \left\{ \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \right\} , \quad (A12)$$

$$\ell_{z}^{u, l_z=-1}(x) = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \delta(x - x_3) \left\{ k_2 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \right\} + \left\{ k_1 \times k_2 \right\} \left[ \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \left\{ \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right\} \right\} , \quad (A13)$$
• for the $d$ quark

\[
\ell_{z}^{d, l_{z}=-1}(x) = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \delta(x-x_2) \left\{ -k_2^2 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right. \\
\times \left[ (1-x_2)\psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) + (1-x_2)\psi^{(5)}(3, 2, 1) + x_3\psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) + x_1\psi^{(5)}(3, 1, 2) \right] \\
\left. - (k_1 \times k_2)\psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_2 \times \nabla_2 \right) \left[ \psi^{(5)}(3, 1, 2) - \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) \right] \right\} , \quad (A14)
\]

\[
\ell_{z}^{d, l_{z}=-1}(x) = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \delta(x-x_3) \left\{ k_2 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \right. \\
\times \left[ x_1\psi^{(5)}(2, 1, 3) + x_2\psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) + (1-x_3)\psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) + (1-x_3)\psi^{(5)}(2, 3, 1) \right] \\
\left. + (k_1 \times k_2)\psi^{(5)}(1, 2, 3) \left( k_3 \times \nabla_3 \right) \left[ \psi^{(5)}(2, 1, 3) + \psi^{(5)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(5)}(2, 3, 1) \right] \right\} . \quad (A15)
\]

For $l_z = 2$ component, we find:

• for the $u$ quark

\[
\ell_{z}^{u, l_{z}=2}(x) = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \delta(x-x_1) \left\{ k_1^2 \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \right. \\
\times \left[ (1-x_1)k_3^2 - x_3k_1 \cdot k_3 \right] \left[ 2\psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) \right] \\
+ \left[ x_2k_3^2 + x_3k_2 \cdot k_3 \right] \left[ \psi^{(6)}(3, 1, 2) - \psi^{(6)}(2, 1, 3) \right] \\
- \left[ (1-x_1)k_2 \cdot k_3 - x_2k_1 \cdot k_3 \right] \left[ 2\psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(6)}(2, 3, 1) \right] \\
+ (k_1 \times k_2)\psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left[ k_3^2 \left( k_1 \times \nabla_1 \right) \left( \psi^{(6)}(2, 1, 3) \right) - \psi^{(6)}(3, 1, 2) \right] \\
+ k_1^2 \left( k_1 \times \nabla_1 \right) \left( 2\psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(6)}(2, 3, 1) \right) \right\} , \quad (A16)
\]

\[
\ell_{z}^{u, l_{z}=2}(x) = \int [dx]_3 [d^2k]_3 \delta(x-x_2) \left\{ - \left[ x_1k_3^2k_1 \cdot k_2 + x_2k_3^2k_2 \cdot k_3 \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \\
- \left[ (1-x_2)k_3^2k_2 \cdot k_3 - x_1 \left( 2k_1 \cdot k_3 k_2 \cdot k_3 - k_3^2k_1 \cdot k_3 \right) \right] \\
\times \left[ \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3)\psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(6)}(2, 3, 1) \left( \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) - \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) \right) \right] \\
+ (k_1 \times k_2)\psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left[ k_3^2 \left( k_2 \times \nabla_2 \right) \psi^{(6)}(2, 1, 3) \\
+ k_3^2 \left( k_2 \times \nabla_2 \right) \left( \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(6)}(2, 3, 1) \right) \right] \right\} , \quad (A17)
\]
\[ \ell_{\gamma^* A z=2}^\mu(x) = \int [dz]_3 [d^2 k]_3 \delta(x - x_3) \left\{ \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) k_3^2 \right. \\
\times \left[ \left( 1 - x_3 \right) k_1^2 - x_1 k_1 \cdot k_3 \right] \left( \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) + \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \right) + \left( x_1 k_1 \cdot k_2 + x_2 k_2^2 \right) \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) \\
- \left( 1 - x_3 \right) k_1 \cdot k_2 - x_2 k_1 \cdot k_3 \psi^{(6)}(3, 1, 2) \\
- (k_1 \times k_2) \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left\{ k_3^2 \left( k_3 \times \vec{n}_3 \right) \psi^{(6)}(3, 1, 2) - k_1^2 \left( k_3 \times \vec{n}_3 \right) \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) \right\} \right\}; \quad (A18) \]

• for the d quark

\[ \ell_{\gamma^* A z=2}^{\bar{d}}(x) = \int [dz]_3 [d^2 k]_3 \delta(x - x_2) \]
\[ \times \left\{ - \left[ x_1 k_3^2 k_1 \cdot k_2 + x_3 k_2^2 k_2 \cdot k_3 \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left[ \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) \right] \right. \\
\left. - \left[ (1 - x_2) k_2^2 k_1 \cdot k_3 - x_1(2k_1 \cdot k_2 k_1 \cdot k_3 - k_1 \cdot k_3 k_2^2) \right] \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) \left[ \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) + \psi^{(6)}(3, 2, 1) \right] \right. \\
+ (k_1 \times k_2) \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left\{ k_1^2 \left( k_2 \times \vec{n}_2 \right) \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) - k_3^2 \left( k_2 \times \vec{n}_2 \right) \psi^{(6)}(3, 1, 2) \right\} \right\}; \quad (A19) \]

\[ \ell_{\gamma^* A z=2}(x) = \int [dz]_3 [d^2 k]_3 \delta(x - x_3) \left\{ k_3^2 \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \right. \\
\times \left[ \left( (1 - x_3) k_1 \cdot k_2 - x_2 k_1 \cdot k_3 \right) \psi^{(6)}(2, 1, 3) - \left( x_1 k_1 \cdot k_3 - (1 - x_3) k_1^2 \right) \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \right) \\
+ \left( x_1 k_1 \cdot k_2 + x_2 k_1^2 \right) \left( \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) + \psi^{(6)}(2, 3, 1) \right) \right. \\
+ (k_1 \times k_2) \psi^{(6)}(1, 2, 3) \left\{ k_1^2 \left( k_3 \times \vec{n}_3 \right) \psi^{(6)}(1, 3, 2) + k_3^2 \left( k_3 \times \vec{n}_3 \right) \psi^{(6)}(2, 1, 3) \right\} \right\}; \quad (A20) \]

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