TMDs of Spin-one Targets: Formalism and Covariant Calculations

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We present a covariant formulation and model calculations of the leading-twist time-reversal even transverse momentum-dependent quark distribution functions (TMDs) for a spin-one target. Emphasis is placed on a description of these 3-dimensional distribution functions which is independent of any constraints on the spin quantization axis. We apply our covariant spin description to all nine leading-twist time-reversal even ρ meson TMDs in the framework provided by the Nambu–Jona-Lasinio model, incorporating important aspects of quark confinement via the infrared cut-off in the proper-time regularization scheme. In particular, the behavior of the 3-dimensional TMDs in a tensor polarized spin-one hadron are illustrated. Sum rules and positivity constraints are discussed in detail. Our results do not exhibit the familiar Gaussian behavior in the transverse momentum, and other results of interest include the finding that the tensor polarized TMDs – associated with spin-one hadrons – are very sensitive to quark orbital angular momentum, and that the TMDs associated with the quark operator γ+γ+γ would vanish were it not for dynamical chiral symmetry breaking. In addition, we find that 44% of the ρ meson’s spin is carried by the orbital angular momentum of the quarks, and that the magnitude of the tensor polarized quark distribution function is about 30% of the unpolarized quark distribution. A qualitative comparison between our results for the tensor structure of a quark-antiquark bound state is made to existing experimental and theoretical results for the two-nucleon (deuteron) bound state.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Quarks and gluons are confined inside hadrons through the strong interaction, therefore, high energy scattering experiments are required to probe the quark and gluon structure of hadrons and hadronization processes. This makes parton distribution functions (PDFs) and fragmentation functions (FFs) crucial ingredients in hadron and particle physics [1–3]. Recently, transverse momentum-dependent quark distribution functions (TMDs) and fragmentation functions (TMD FFs) have been of significant focus both experimentally and theoretically [4–6]. At leading-twist the internal transverse momentum-dependent quark structure of spin-half hadrons, such as the nucleon, is expressed in terms of six time-reversal even (T-even) and two time-reversal odd (T-odd) TMDs, and after integrating over the transverse momenta of quarks there remain three PDFs: the unpolarized, helicity and transversity PDFs. However, for spin-one hadrons, such as vector mesons or the deuteron, the spin degrees of freedom require three additional leading-twist T-even TMDs, resulting in one additional PDF [7–9].

In the pioneering work of Hoodbhoy, Jaffe and Manohar [7], this new PDF was called b1T(x), where x is the Bjorken scaling variable and q the quark flavor. It represents the difference of unpolarized quark distributions in a longitudinally polarized spin-one hadron with spin projection ℓ = 0 and ℓ = ±1. In the notation of Ref. [7]2

\[ b^T_1(x) = \frac{1}{4} \left[ 2 q^{(\ell=0)}(x) - q^{(\ell=1)}(x) - q^{(\ell=-1)}(x) \right] . \]  

\[ (1) \]

where \( q^{(\lambda)}(x) = q^{(\lambda)}_1 + q^{(\lambda)}_\perp \) are the unpolarized quark distribution functions. It has been pointed out in Ref. [7], and in subsequent investigations [10, 11], that \( b^T_1(x) \) is sensitive to the orbital motion of the constituents, and may also be sensitive to QCD exotica [12–14]. An important sum rule for the \( b^T_1 \) quark distribution is derived in Refs. [10, 15] and reads

\[ \int_0^1 dx \left( b^T_1(x) - b^T_1(x) \right) = 0, \]

which simply means that the valence quark number does not depend on the hadron’s spin state. It has been shown in Ref. [11] that Lorentz covariance is important to satisfy the \( b^T_1 \) sum rule, even though the constituents may be nonrelativistic.

There have been several experimental and theoretical studies of the \( b_1 \) structure function for spin-one targets. For the deuteron, \( b_1(x) \) was first measured by the HERMES Collaboration [16], and a phenomenological parametrization of the data was performed in Ref. [17], which found that sea quarks significantly contribute to \( b_1(x) \) in the low x region. On the theoretical side, the \( b_1 \) structure function of the deuteron has been investigated using, e.g., convolution approaches [7, 14, 18, 19] and the covariant Bethe-Salpeter equation [11]. Because of its importance, more precise experimental data for the deuteron \( b_1 \) structure function will be taken at Jefferson Lab as part of the 12 GeV program [20, 21]. For vector mesons like the \( \rho \), there exists no experimental data, however several theoretical studies have been performed, examples include using \( \rho \)-meson light-cone wave functions [22], and lattice QCD to determine the first few moments [23].

The generalization of the PDF defined in Eq. (1), together with its corresponding quark fragmentation function, to include transverse momentum-dependence was performed in Refs. [8, 9]. In the latter paper, the spin density matrix formalism was
used to derive important positivity constraints for the TMDs and PDFs of spin-one hadrons, by extending the methods used for the spin-half case [24]. To the best of our knowledge, however, it is not yet clear how to systematically apply those theoretical formulations to model calculations using effective theories of QCD. This is an important motivation for the present study.

In this paper we present a covariant formulation for the TMDs of a spin-one target which is independent of any constraints on the spin quantization axis. This formalism is then used in a covariant model calculation for all nine $T$-even TMDs of the $\rho^+$ meson. In deriving these results we first establish the connection between the polarization 4-vectors, and the spin 4-vectors and tensors which are used to define the various spin-one TMDs. Special care is taken to present a clear and workable definition of the three tensor polarized TMDs: $f_{\perp T}(x, k_T^2)$, $f_{\perp T}(x, k_T^2)$, $f_{\perp T}(x, k_T^2)$, where $k_T$ is the quark transverse momentum and we use the same notation as Ref. [24].\(^{3}\) The relation between these TMDs and the $b_i^q$ quark distribution of Eq. (1) will be derived, and the positivity constraints on the spin-one TMDs and PDFs will be discussed in detail.

The formalism presented here can be straightforwardly used to determine the TMDs of a spin-one hadron in any framework used to model QCD, and we will choose the Nambu–Jona-Lasinio (NJL) model [25,26] as an effective quark theory for QCD. A key feature of the NJL model is that chiral symmetry is dynamically broken and it has also been extended to incorporate important aspects of quark confinement through an infrared cut-off in the proper-time regularization scheme [27–29]. Our results for the nine $T$-even TMDs and four PDFs of the $\rho^+$ meson respect all requirements of Lorentz covariance at the quark level. The NJL model has also been successfully used to study them in various non-perturbative approaches to QCD. The relation between the polarization 4-vectors satisfy the following relations:

\begin{align}
\sum_{\lambda} \epsilon_{\lambda}^{\mu} (p) \epsilon_{\lambda}^{\nu} (p) = -g^{\mu\nu} + \frac{p^\mu p^\nu}{m_h^2},
\end{align}

\begin{align}
e^{\mu}(p) e^{\nu}(p) = -1, \quad e^{\mu}_L(p) p_\mu = 0,
\end{align}

\begin{align}
e^{\mu}_{T}(p) = -e^{\mu}_{L+T}(p), \quad e^{\mu}_{0}(p) = e^{\mu}_{0}(p).
\end{align}

We identify the spin 4-vector of a spin-one particle by

\begin{align}
S^\mu(p) = \left( \frac{p \cdot S}{m_h}, S + \frac{p (p \cdot S)}{m_h (E_p + m_h)} \right),
\end{align}

which is identical to $e^{\mu}_{0}(p)$.\(^{4}\) The following relation between the spin and polarization 4-vectors is then easy to confirm [2, 39]:

\begin{align}
\lambda S^\mu(p) = \frac{i}{m_h} e^{\nu\rho\delta\mu} p_\nu e^{\omega} e_{\lambda}^{\omega}(p),
\end{align}

TMDs are defined to be independent of the polarization state of the target, we therefore assume pure spin states characterized by the spin projection $\lambda$ on an arbitrary spin quantization axis $S$. This also provides for a clearer physical interpretation of

\(^{3}\) We omit the commonly used subscript “1” on all TMDs because we only consider leading-twist.

\(^{4}\) If one chooses $S$ along the $z$-axis, the polarization 3-vectors assume the standard forms $e^{+}(1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (1, i, 0)$, $e^{-}(1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (1, -i, 0)$, and $e_{0}(1) = (0, 0, 1)$. For a general direction of $S$ characterized by the polar angles $(\theta, \phi)$, the polarization 3-vectors can be obtained by a rotation expressed in the notation of Euler angles by $e_{\lambda}(1) = e^{i(\text{Euler})} e_{\lambda}(1)$. More precisely, the spin 4-vector for a state with $\lambda = \pm 1, 0$ is equal to $\lambda S^\mu(p)$ with $S^\mu(p)$ given by Eq. (7). Note that the state $\lambda = 0$ has zero vector polarization but non-zero tensor polarization.
the TMDs. For the Feynman diagram calculations that give the TMDs it is then convenient to express the spin density matrix $\epsilon^{\mu\nu}_p(\lambda)\epsilon^{\nu\mu}_p(\lambda)$, for pure spin states with some fixed $\lambda$, by the spin and momentum 4-vectors. To derive such a result it is convenient to decompose the spin density matrix into symmetric and antisymmetric Lorentz tensors. The antisymmetric piece can then be expressed by the spin 4-vector using Eq. (8), and for the symmetric part one can use the completeness relation of Eq. (4) to express it as a second rank spin tensor [2, 39]. The final result is the following identity:

$$
e^{\mu\nu}_p(\lambda)\epsilon^{\nu\mu}_p(\lambda) = \int \frac{dk^+dk^-}{(2\pi)^4} \delta(k^+-x^+p^+) \times \int \frac{dz}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i(z^+\cdot z^-)} S(p,\lambda,0) \psi_+^0(\lambda) \psi_0(\lambda) S,$$

where for any given direction $\lambda$, the particle can have the three possible spin projections $\mu = \pm 1, 0$ onto this direction. Therefore, longitudinal polarization means that $S_T = 0$ and $|S_L| = 1$, and there are three spin projections $\mu = \pm 1, 0$ along the direction of the momentum, whereas transverse polarization means that $S_L = 0$ and $|S_T| = 1$, and there are three spin projections $\lambda = \pm 1, 0$ along the direction $S_T$ perpendicular to the momentum. We emphasize that $S_L$ and $\lambda$ are in general different quantities.

### B. Definition of Spin-one TMDs and PDFs

The TMDs of a spin-one target are defined with respect to the following transverse-momentum-dependent quark correlation function:

$$\Phi^{(\lambda)}_{\beta\alpha}(x, k_T) = \int \frac{dk^+dk^-}{(2\pi)^4} \delta(k^+-x^+p^+) \times \int \frac{dz}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i(z^+\cdot z^-)} S(p,\lambda,0) \psi_\alpha^0(\lambda) \psi_\beta(\lambda) S,$$

which we illustrate in Fig. 1.\(^6\) In Eq. (11) $\psi$ represents the flavor SU(2) quark field operator, and $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are Dirac indices, and $a^\pm = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}(a^0 \pm a^1)$, $a_T = (a^1, a^2)$ are the light-cone $\pm$ and transverse components of a 4-vector $a^\mu$. The 3-momentum of the target ($p$) is assumed in the $z$-direction, and the quark's momentum components normal to this direction are denoted by $k_T$. The state $|p, \lambda, S_T\rangle$ indicates that the projection of the target's spin on the direction $S$ is equal to $\lambda = \pm 1, 0$, and is normalized according to the covariant normalization $S(p,\lambda,0,\lambda) = 2 p^\mu V^\nu x^\nu x^\lambda$, where $V$ is the quantization volume. In the last step of Eq. (11) we expressed the quark correlation matrix as a contraction of the polarization-independent Lorentz tensor matrix $\Phi^{\mu\nu}_{\beta\alpha}$ and the product of polarization 4-vectors for the external target lines.

The matrix $\Phi^{(\lambda)}_{\beta\alpha}(x, k_T)$ of Eq. (11) is decomposed into Dirac $\gamma$-matrices as usual by [4]

$$\Phi^{(\lambda)}_{\beta\alpha} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ s + \gamma^\nu \gamma_\mu + d^\nu \gamma_\mu + \frac{i}{2} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \right] \gamma_\alpha \gamma_\beta \gamma_\nu |p, \lambda, S_T\rangle \langle p, \lambda, S_T|.$$ (12)

The coefficient functions that contribute at leading-twist are $v^\nu$, $a^\nu$ and $t^\nu$, which we represent respectively by

$$\langle \gamma^\nu \rangle_S(x, k_T) = \frac{1}{2} TrD \left[ \gamma^\nu \Phi^{(\lambda)}_{\beta\alpha}(x, k_T) \right],$$

$$\equiv e^{\nu(\beta, \alpha)}_s(p) \langle \gamma^\nu \rangle_S(x, k_T) e_{x(\beta, \alpha)}(p),$$

$$\langle \gamma^\nu \rangle_S(x, k_T) = \frac{1}{2} TrD \left[ \gamma^\nu \gamma_\mu \Phi^{(\lambda)}_{\beta\alpha}(x, k_T) \right],$$

$$\equiv e^{\nu(\beta, \alpha)}_t(p) \langle \gamma^\nu \gamma_\mu \rangle_S(x, k_T) e_{x(\beta, \alpha)}(p),$$

$$\langle \gamma^\nu \gamma_\mu \rangle_S(x, k_T) = \frac{1}{2} TrD \left[ -i \gamma^\nu \gamma_\mu \Phi^{(\lambda)}_{\beta\alpha}(x, k_T) \right],$$

$$\equiv e^{\nu(\beta, \alpha)}_i(p) \langle \gamma^\nu \gamma_\mu \rangle_S(x, k_T) e_{x(\beta, \alpha)}(p).$$

where $i = 1, 2$ denotes the transverse vector components. From the structure of Eq. (9), and rotational invariance in the transverse plane, we can parametrize these coefficient functions by the spin-one hadron TMDs in the same way as Ref. [24].\(^7\)

$$\langle \gamma^\nu \rangle^{(\lambda)}_S(x, k_T) = f(x, k_T^2) + S_{LT} \cdot f_{LT}(x, k_T^2),$$

$$+ \frac{S_{LT} \cdot k_T}{m_h} f_{LT}(x, k_T^2) + \frac{k_T \cdot S_{TT} \cdot k_T}{m_h^2} f_{TT}(x, k_T^2),$$

$$\langle \gamma^\nu \gamma_\mu \rangle^{(\lambda)}_S(x, k_T) = A \left( S_L \cdot g_L(x, k_T^2) + \frac{k_T \cdot S_T}{m_h} g_T(x, k_T^2) \right).$$

\(^6\) This TMD definition ignores the additional complications that arise from explicit gluon degrees of freedom and the gauge link.

\(^7\) In our calculations of Sect. III only the $T$-even TMDs are non-zero, therefore we do not display the $T$-odd TMDs in the parametrizations of Eqs. (16)–(18).
where we have introduced the following quantities with implicit \( S \) and \( \lambda \) dependence:

\[
S_{LL} = \left( 3 \lambda^2 - 2 \right) \left( \frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{2} S_L^2 \right), \\
S'_{LT} = \left( 3 \lambda^2 - 2 \right) S_L S'_T, \\
S''_{TT} = \left( 3 \lambda^2 - 2 \right) \left( S_L S'_T - \frac{1}{2} S_T^2 \delta^{ij} \right).
\]

The last three terms on the right-hand side of Eq. (16) define the tensor polarized TMDs, which are specific to hadrons with spin \( J \geq 1 \). In calculations these tensor polarized TMDs arise by contracting the expression obtained from the Feynman diagrams for \( \langle \gamma^+ \gamma^- \rangle \) with the tensor part of Eq. (9).

A partonic (probabilistic) interpretation of the quark TMDs can be obtained by using the light-cone quantization formalism [40]. Following the same steps as in Sect. II of Ref. [38], we arrive at the relation

\[
\langle \Gamma^{a,(A)}_S(x, \kT) \rangle \equiv \frac{s(p,\lambda)[b^a(k)\sigma^a b(k)p,\lambda]_S}{s(p,\lambda)[p,\lambda]_S}.
\]

where \( k = (xp^+, \kT) \) and we have arranged the four Dirac matrices into the 4-vector:

\[
\Gamma = \{ \gamma^+, \gamma^+\gamma^1 \gamma_5, \gamma^+\gamma^2 \gamma_5, \gamma^+\gamma^5 \},
\]

and also defined \( \sigma^a = (1, \sigma) \) with \( \sigma \) the usual Pauli spin matrices. For the quark creation and annihilation operators, \( b^\dagger \) and \( b \), we have used the notation \( b^\dagger(k) \sigma^a b(k) \equiv \sum_{x,s} b^\dagger(k) \sigma^a \gamma_s b(k) \). It then follows from Eq. (22) that for \( a = 0 \) the quantity on the left-hand side is the number density of quarks with longitudinal momentum fraction \( x \) and transverse momentum \( \kT \), while for \( a = 1, 2, \) or \( 3 \) it is the number density of quarks with \( (x, \kT) \) and spin in the \( x, \gamma \), or \( z \) direction, minus the same number density but for opposite quark spin direction.

All distributions defined so far refer to the TMDs of a quark. The TMDs of an antiquark are defined in terms of the correlation function given in Eq. (11), except with the quark field \( \psi \) replaced by the charge conjugated field \( \psi^c = C \bar{q} T = i \gamma_2 \psi^* \), where \( C = i \gamma_2 \gamma_0 \) is the charge conjugation matrix. Then, by using transversal invariance and the relation \( C^{-1} \Gamma C = \{ \gamma^+, \gamma^+\gamma^1 \gamma_5, \gamma^+\gamma^2 \gamma_5, \gamma^+\gamma^5 \} \), one can show that this antiquark correlation function for some \( (x, \kT) \) with \( 0 \leq x \leq 1 \), is equal to the correlation function of Eq. (11), but evaluated at \((-x, -\kT)\) and attaching a minus sign for the operators \( \gamma^+ \) and \( \gamma^+\gamma^5 \).

Integrating our results for \( \langle \Gamma^{a,(A)}_S(x, \kT) \rangle \) over \( \kT \) gives the four PDFs for a spin-one target:

\[
\langle \gamma^+ \rangle_S^{(A)}(x) \equiv f(x) + S_{LL} f_{LL}(x), \\
\langle \gamma^+ \gamma^5 \rangle_S^{(A)}(x) \equiv \lambda S_L g(x),
\]

(24) (25)

The relations between the TMDs and PDFs are given by

\[
[f, f_{LL}, g, h](x) = \int d^2 \kT [f, f_{LL}, g_L, h](x, \kT^2).
\]

(27)

Therefore, for spin-one hadrons there are nine leading-twist TMDs and four PDFs, if we restrict ourselves to the \( T \)-even distributions. Note that the tensor polarized PDF \( f_{LL}(x) \), defined in Eq. (27), is related to \( b^a_1(x) \) given in Eq. (1) by

\[
b^a_1(x) = \frac{1}{2} f_{LL}^a(x),
\]

(28)

where we have made explicit the quark flavor index. This result is easily seen by noting that in the helicity basis \( [S_L = 1, S_T = 0] \) our quantity \( \langle \gamma^+ \rangle_S^{(A)}(x) \) of Eq. (24) becomes equal to \( f(x) - f_{LL}(x)(3 \lambda^2 - 2)/3 \). Taking the combination of hadron helicities \( \lambda \) indicated in Eq. (1), and using the probabilistic interpretation of \( \langle \gamma^+ \rangle_S^{(A)}(x) \) expressed by Eq. (22), it is easy to confirm Eq. (28).

To conclude this section we discuss the positivity constraints among the spin-one hadron TMDs and PDFs. From the probabilistic interpretation, given by Eq. (22), of the quantities \( \langle \Gamma^{a,(A)}_S(x, \kT^2) \rangle \) of Eqs. (16)–(18), we obtain the inequalities:

\[
\langle \gamma^+ \rangle_S^{(A)}(x, \kT^2) \geq 0,
\]

(29)

\[
\langle \gamma^+ \gamma^5 \rangle_S^{(A)}(x, \kT^2) \geq \langle \gamma^+ \rangle_S^{(A)}(x, \kT^2) \left| \langle \gamma^+ \rangle_S^{(A)}(x, \kT^2) \right|,
\]

(30)

\[
\langle \gamma^+ \gamma^5 \rangle_S^{(A)}(x, \kT^2) \geq \langle \gamma^+ \gamma^5 \rangle_S^{(A)}(x, \kT^2).
\]

(31)

These relations must be valid for any spin quantization axis \( S \) and spin projection \( \lambda \). These inequalities lead, e.g., to the following naive positivity constraints for the spin-one TMDs:\n
\[
f(x, \kT^2) \geq 0,
\]

(32)

\[
-\frac{3}{2} f(x, \kT^2) \leq f_{LL}(x, \kT^2) \leq 3 f(x, \kT^2),
\]

(33)

\[
|g_L(x, \kT^2)| \leq f(x, \kT^2) - \frac{1}{3} f_{LL}(x, \kT^2) \leq \frac{3}{2} f(x, \kT^2),
\]

(34)

\[
|h(x, \kT^2)| \leq f(x, \kT^2) + \frac{1}{6} f_{LL}(x, \kT^2) \leq \frac{3}{2} f(x, \kT^2),
\]

(35)

where Eqs. (32)–(34) are derived from Eqs. (29) and (30) by considering a spin-one hadron with longitudinal polarization \( [S_T = 0, |S_L| = 1] \), and Eq. (35) is derived from Eq. (31) by considering the case of transverse polarization \( [S_T = 1, S_L = 0] \). A more general discussion of positivity constraints among the TMDs, based on the antiquark–hadron forward scattering matrix, can be found in Appendix A and Ref. [24].

In these analyses it is shown that positivity of the eigenvalues of the antiquark–hadron forward scattering matrix leads to six sufficient positivity conditions on the spin-one TMDs. These \[ ^8 \] By naive positivity constraints we refer to constraints derived from Eqs. (29)–(31), as opposed to the more rigorous positivity constraints obtained from the antiquark–hadron forward scattering matrix (see Appendix A).
sufficient conditions are rather complicated and difficult to use in practice, however numerous additional necessary conditions can be obtained for the spin-one TMDs by considering the positivity of the principal minors of the antiquark–hadron forward scattering matrix, and Eqs. (29)–(31) as explained above. Integrating Eqs. (32)–(35) over \( k_T \) gives the following native positivity conditions on the PDFs:

\[
\begin{align*}
I. & \quad f(x) \geq 0, \\
II. & \quad -\frac{3}{2} f(x) \leq f_{LL}(x) \leq 3 f(x), \\
III. & \quad |g(x)| \leq f(x) - \frac{1}{3} f_{LL}(x) \leq \frac{3}{2} f(x), \\
IV. & \quad |h(x)| \leq f(x) + \frac{1}{6} f_{LL}(x) \leq \frac{3}{2} f(x).
\end{align*}
\]  

Analysis of the antiquark–hadron forward scattering matrix for the PDFs gives three sufficient conditions (see Appendix A), which can be expressed as Eqs. (36)–(38) and the generalization of the Soffer bound [41] for spin-one targets [see Eq. (A40)], which is a more stringent version of Eq. (39).

## III. NAMBU–JONA-LASINIO MODEL AND RHO TMDS

This section presents the method used to calculate the \( \rho \)-meson TMDs and PDFs. We use the NJL model, which is a covariant quantum field theory that exhibits dynamical chiral symmetry breaking and, via the introduction of an infrared cut-off in the proper-time regularization scheme, incorporates important aspects of the quark confinement. Further details are given in Appendix B.

### A. Rho Meson as a Relativistic Bound State

The two flavor NJL model Lagrangian is given by

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathcal{L}_{NJL} &= \bar{\psi}(i\partial - m)\psi + G_\pi \left[ (\bar{\psi}\gamma^2 - (\bar{\psi}\gamma_5 \tau \psi)^2 \right] \\
&- G_\omega (\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \tau \psi)^2 - G_\rho \left[ (\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \tau \psi)^2 + (\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \tau \psi)^2 \right].
\end{align*}
\]

where \( m = \text{diag}[m_u, m_d] \) is the current quark mass matrix, \( \tau \) are the Pauli matrices for isospin SU(2), and \( G_\pi, G_\omega \) and \( G_\rho \) are the 4-fermion coupling constants in the \( \pi, \omega, \rho \) meson channels. The dynamically generated dressed quark mass \( M \) is obtained via the gap equation:

\[
M = m + 48i G_\pi M \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{k^2 - M^2 + i\epsilon},
\]

which has a preferred solution in the Nambu-Goldstone phase for \( G_\pi \) larger than a critical coupling.

A description of the \( \rho \)-meson as a relativistic \( \bar{q}q \) bound state is provided by the Bethe-Salpeter equation, which is illustrated in Fig. 2, and reads

\[
\mathcal{T}_{\gamma_5, a\beta}(p) = \mathcal{K}_{\gamma_5, a\beta} + \int \frac{d^4k}{(2\pi)^4} \mathcal{K}_{\gamma_5, a\beta} S(k) e^{i\int S(p + k)} e^{i\int e_{x\epsilon, a\beta}(p)}. \quad (42)
\]

The solution to this equation provides the \( \bar{q}q \) t-matrix in the \( \rho \)-meson channel, where \( \mathcal{K} = -2i G_\rho (\gamma^\mu \tau_3)(\gamma^\nu \tau_1) \) is the NJL interaction kernel, and \( S(k) = [k - M + i\epsilon]^{-1} \) represents the dressed quark propagator. The solution of Eq. (42) reads

\[
\mathcal{T}_{\gamma_5, a\beta}(p) = \langle \gamma_5 \rangle \left[ \frac{-2i G_\rho}{1 + 2 G_\rho \Pi_\rho (p^2)} \left( g^{\mu\nu} + 2 G_\rho \Pi_\rho (p^2) \frac{p^\mu p^\nu}{p^2} \right) \langle \gamma_5 \rangle \right]_{a\beta}.
\]

The physical mass of the rho, \( m_\rho \), is obtained by identifying the pole in the \( \rho \)-meson t-matrix of Eq. (43):

\[
1 + 2 G_\rho \Pi_\rho (p^2 = m_\rho^2) = 0.
\]

The residue of the \( t \)-matrix at the pole \( p^2 = m_\rho^2 \) defines the meson–quark-antiquark vertex functions, \( \Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{(4)} \). Expanding Eq. (43) about \( p^2 = m_\rho^2 \) gives

\[
\mathcal{T}_{\gamma_5, a\beta}(p) \rightarrow \langle Z_\rho \rangle \left[ \frac{\gamma_5}{p^2 - m_\rho^2 + i\epsilon} \right]_{a\beta}.
\]

Therefore the \( p \) and conjugate vertex functions read

\[
\Gamma^{(4),ij}_{a\beta}(\gamma_5) \rightarrow \left[ \frac{i}{p^2 - m_\rho^2 + i\epsilon} \right]_{a\beta}. \quad (47)
\]

and the prime denotes differentiation with respect to \( p^2 \).

### B. Calculation of the Rho Meson TMDs and PDFs

From causality it follows that the product of field operators on the light-cone (\( z^+ = 0 \)) in the operator definition of Eq. (11) can be replaced by the time-ordered product, and therefore we can represent the Lorentz tensors \( (\Gamma)^{\mu\nu}(x, k_T) \) which appear in Eqs. (13)–(15) by Feynman diagrams. It is therefore straightforward to use the NJL model to calculate \( (\Gamma)^{\mu\nu}(x, k_T) \), and

\[
\text{Figure 2. (Color online) The } \bar{q}q \text{ Bethe-Salpeter equation in the random phase approximation. The double-line represents the } \bar{q}q \text{ t-matrix, the single line is the dressed quark propagator and the dark shaded circle is the } \bar{q}q \text{ interaction kernel.}
\]
Whereas, the second diagram has support for a quark TMDs and the right diagram the valence \( d \) antiquark TMDs in the \( \rho^+ \) meson.

Figure 3. (Color online) Feynman diagrams for the \( \rho \)-meson TMDs in the NJL model. The shaded circles represent the \( \rho \)-meson Bethe-Salpeter vertex functions of Eq. (47) and the solid lines the dressed quark propagator. The operator insertion has the form \( \Gamma \delta (x - k/\rho^+ \) with \( \Gamma \) in given in Eq. (23). The left diagram gives the valence \( u \) quark TMDs and the right diagram the valence \( d \) antiquark TMDs.

The calculation corresponds to the one-loop Feynman diagrams given in Fig. 3. The first diagram of Fig. 3 has support for \( 0 \leq x \leq 1 \) and directly leads to the valence quark TMDs. Whereas, the second diagram has support for \( -1 \leq x \leq 0 \) and, by using the prescriptions explained in Sect. II.B, leads to the valence antiquark TMDs. A straightforward application of those prescriptions to the present NJL model calculation shows that all valence antiquark TMDs are exactly the same functions as the valence quark TMDs. In the following we will therefore refer to the valence quark TMDs (first diagram of Fig. 3) only.

For the case of the \( \rho^+ \) meson, application of the Feynman rules to the first diagram of Fig. 3 gives for the valence \( u \) quark:

\[
\langle \Gamma \rangle^{\mu\nu}(x, k_T) = -\frac{3iZ_\rho^2}{\rho^+} \int \frac{dk^+dk^-}{(2\pi)^4} \delta \left( x - \frac{k^+}{\rho^+} \right) \text{Tr}_D \left[ \gamma^\mu S(k) \Gamma S(k) \gamma^\nu S(k - p) \right].
\]

The methods of covariant integration for expectation values of local operators can be used within the proper-time regularization scheme by first applying a Mellin transformation to Eq. (49), which gives the \( n \)-th moment of \( \langle \Gamma \rangle^{\mu\nu} \) as

\[
\langle \Gamma \rangle_n^{\mu\nu}(k_T) \equiv \int_0^1 dx x^{n-1} \langle \Gamma \rangle^{\mu\nu}(x, k_T). \quad (50)
\]

where \( n = 1, 2, \ldots \) is an integer. These moments can then be determined by applying standard methods, such as, introducing Feynman parameters and shifting the loop momentum to give a quadratic form in the denominators. Because of the simplicity of the NJL model, the TMDs defined by Eq. (49) can then be extracted analytically from results for the moments [42]. This method preserves Lorentz covariance, which is particularly important for satisfying the sum rules. Contracting the results for \( \langle \Gamma \rangle^{\mu\nu}(x, k_T) \) with the Lorentz tensor given by Eq. (9), and parametrizing the expressions as defined by Eqs. (16)–(18), gives the \( \rho^+ \) meson TMDs. Explicit results for \( \langle \Gamma \rangle^{\mu\nu}(x, k_T) \) and the TMDs are given in Appendix B.

An important feature of our NJL model calculation is that all sum rules are explicitly satisfied. For example, the sum rules for the first moment of the spin-independent \( f(x) \) and tensor polarized \( f_{LL}(x) \) PDFs follow from the following Ward identity for \( \langle y^+ \rangle^{\mu\nu}(x) \) [see Eq. (24)]:

\[
\int_0^1 dx \langle y^+ \rangle^{\mu\nu}(x) = \frac{Z_\rho^2}{2} \frac{1}{\rho^+} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho^+} \Pi_{\rho}(p^2) \left( g^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\rho^\mu\rho^\nu}{p^2} \right) = \frac{Z_\rho^2}{2} \left( g^{\mu\nu} - \frac{\rho^\mu\rho^\nu}{p^2} \right) \Pi_{\rho}(p^2) + \frac{Z_\rho^2}{2} \left( \frac{g^{\mu\nu} - \rho^\mu\rho^\nu}{p^2} \right) \Pi_{\rho}(p^2) \left( \frac{\rho^\mu\rho^\nu}{p^2} \right), \quad (51)
\]

where \( p^2 = m^2 \). If we contract with the polarization 4-vectors of the hadron, and use Eq. (5) we obtain

\[
\int_0^1 dx \langle y^+ \rangle^{\mu\nu}(x) = -Z_\rho^2 \Pi_{\rho}(p^2) = 1, \quad (52)
\]

where Eq. (48) is used to obtain unity. Comparison with the right-hand side of Eq. (24) then gives the sum rules

\[
\int_0^1 dx f(x) = 1, \quad \int_0^1 dx f_{LL}(x) = 0. \quad (53)
\]

The sum rule for \( f(x) \) simply means that in our model we have one valence \( u \) quark in the \( \rho^+ \) meson, and the same result is obtained for the number sum rule for the valence antiquark.\(^9\)

The sum rule for \( f_{LL}(x) \) corresponds to the \( b_1 \) sum rule of Eq. (2) in our valence quark model. We stress that satisfying the Ward identity given in Eq. (51) is crucial to respecting the sum rules. In particular, the Lorentz tensor structure of the fully integrated \( \langle y^+ \rangle^{\mu\nu} \) must be the same as the transverse Lorentz tensor structure of the polarization (bubble) diagram of Eq. (44). Because our calculations are completely covariant, these constraints are always satisfied, as the explicit expressions in Appendix B demonstrate.

Our results for the functions \( f(x) \) and \( f_{LL}(x) \) are symmetric around \( x = 1/2 \), it therefore follows from Eqs. (53) that we obtain the following results for the momentum sum rule of the valence quark:

\[
\int_0^1 x dx f(x) = \frac{1}{2}, \quad \int_0^1 x dx f_{LL}(x) = 0. \quad (54)
\]

Because the valence antiquark gives the same contribution to the momentum sum, this means that together the valence quark and antiquark carry 100% of the light-cone momentum, independently of the spin quantization axis \( S \) and spin projection \( \lambda \) of the hadron.

The sum rules for the PDFs \( g(x) \) and \( h(x) \) [see Eqs. (25) and (26)] are conventionally called the quark spin sum and the tensor charge, respectively, and are model dependent. More precisely, our quantity \( \int_0^1 dx g(x) \) is twice the expectation value of the spin operator of the valence quark in a longitudinally polarized \( \rho \)-meson. In our model the valence antiquark gives the same contribution, it therefore follows that \( \int_0^1 dx g(x) \)

\(^9\) One should note that in general for a meson only the (zero) baryon number, which is the difference of quark and antiquark numbers, is conserved. A separate number sum rule for the valence quark and antiquark holds only in valence-like quark models, such as our present NJL model.
is the sum of the valence quark and antiquark spins. The "naive" (nonrelativistic) quark model result for this sum rule would equal the physical spin of the ρ meson, namely unity. However, relativistic effects can lead to substantial reductions of this sum rule because of non-zero quark orbital angular momentum. Similar comments also apply for the tensor charge, which in the nonrelativistic quark model would take the same value as the spin sum (unity in this case), and for the tensor charge relativistic effects tend to give smaller reductions than to the spin sum [40].

IV. RESULTS

This section presents results for the ρ⁺ meson TMDs and PDFs. In the calculation there appear three model parameters, namely the dressed quark mass $M$, and two proper-time regularization parameters $\Lambda_{IR}$ and $\Lambda_{UV}$. Following previous work [32, 34–36] we set $M = 0.4$ GeV and $\Lambda_{IR} = 0.24$ GeV, where the motivation for the latter is that it should be of order $\Lambda_{QCD}$ because it introduces the confinement scale into our calculations. The ultraviolet cutoff $\Lambda_{UV}$ is then fit to reproduce the experimental pion decay constant $f_\pi = 0.093$ GeV, which gives $\Lambda_{UV} = 0.645$ GeV. For the $\rho$-meson mass we take the physical value of $m_\rho = 0.776$ GeV, and using Eq. (48) this gives a $\rho$ meson–quark-antiquark coupling constant of $Z_\rho = 2.61$. We note that the physical $\rho$ mass is only slightly smaller than $2M = 0.8$ GeV, however because our infrared cut-off $\Lambda_{IR}$ eliminates this unphysical threshold for $\rho$ decay into dressed quarks, the qualitative behavior of all our results remains unchanged even if lower values of $M$ are chosen.

A. Rho meson TMDs

Among the nine TMDs which appear in Eqs. (16)–(18) the pretzelosity TMD, $h_0^\perp(x, k_T^2)$, vanishes identically in our calculations. This leaves eight non-vanishing TMDs. Results for the three TMDs $f(x, k_T^2)$, $g_L(x, k_T^2)$ and $h(x, k_T^2)$ – which when integrated over $k_T$ give the PDFs $f(x)$, $g(x)$ and $h(x)$ familiar from the spin-half case – are given in Fig. 4. We find that all three TMDs are of similar magnitude at $k_T^2 \approx 0$, with each reaching a maximum at $x = 1/2$. The TMDs $f(x, k_T^2)$ and $h(x, k_T^2)$ are symmetric under the transformation $x \rightarrow 1 - x$, while $g_L(x, k_T^2)$ has this symmetry only at $k_T^2 = 0$. As the quark transverse momentum $k_T^2$ grows all three TMDs develop a much weaker dependence on the light-cone momentum fraction $x$, which indicates that a struck quark with large $k_T^2$ has a much weaker preference for any particular $x$ value. For the helicity TMD we find that as $k_T^2$ gets larger an increasing fraction of $g_L(x, k_T^2)$ becomes negative, beginning in the low $x$ region and moving to higher $x$ as $k_T^2$ increases. This indicates that at small $k_T^2$ the quark and hadron spins dominantly align, but as $k_T^2$ gets larger anti-alignment of quark and hadron spins becomes increasingly important, starting from the low $x$ region. Explicit expressions for these TMDs are given in Eqs. (B25), (B29) and (B31), and when viewed as functions of $k_T$ our results do not take a Gaussian form. This is discussed further below.

Figure 4. (Color online) Results for the TMDs $f(x, k_T^2)$, $g_L(x, k_T^2)$ and $h(x, k_T^2)$ for the $\rho^+$ meson. These TMDs are defined in Eqs. (16), (17) and (18), and when integrated over $k_T$ give the PDFs $f(x)$, $g(x)$ and $h(x)$ which are familiar from the spin-half case. The TMDs are given in units of GeV$^{-2}$ and $k_T^2$ in GeV$^2$. (B31), and when viewed as functions of $k_T$ our results do not take a Gaussian form. This is discussed further below.

Results for the TMDs $g_T(x, k_T^2)$ and $h_T^\perp(x, k_T^2)$ are illustrated in Fig. 5, with explicit expressions given in Eqs. (B30) and
Figure 5. (Color online) Results for $g_T(x, k_T^2)$ and $h_{1T}^T(x, k_T^2)$ of a $\rho^+$ meson. These TMDs are defined in Eqs. (17) and (18), where the pretzelosity TMD $h_{1T}^T(x, k_T^2)$ vanishes identically in our calculations. The TMDs are given in units of GeV$^{-2}$ and $k_T^2$ in GeV$^2$.

We find that at $k_T^2 \approx 0$ each of these TMDs has a magnitude about twice that of $f(x, k_T^2)$. However, one should keep in mind that the TMDs shown in Fig. 5 are multiplied by a factor $\approx k_T/m_\rho$ when they appear in observables, which is evident from Eqs. (17) and (18). The TMD $g_T(x, k_T^2)$ is a positive function with a peak at $x = 1/2$ and is symmetric under the transformation $x \rightarrow 1 - x$, and we find it is related to the transversity TMD by

$$g_T(x, k_T^2) = \frac{m_\rho}{M} h(x, k_T^2). \quad (55)$$

However, this relation is likely only valid at the model scale and would not survive QCD evolution. The TMD $h_{1T}^T(x, k_T^2)$ is a negative function with no definite symmetry in $x$, and a peak in magnitude at $x \approx 0.4$ when $k_T^2 \approx 0$ which moves to smaller values of $x$ as $k_T^2$ gets larger. As $k_T^2$ becomes larger we again find that $g_T(x, k_T^2)$ and $h_{1T}^T(x, k_T^2)$ develop a much weaker dependence on the light-cone momentum fraction $x$, and as a function of $k_T$ these TMDs do not take a Gaussian form. Interestingly, our result for $h_{1T}^T(x, k_T^2)$, as well as $h(x, k_T^2)$ illustrated in Fig. 4, are both proportional to the dressed quark

mass $M$ (see Appendix B). These TMDs may therefore be considered to arise from the mechanism of dynamical chiral symmetry breaking.

Results for the three $\rho^+$ tensor polarized TMDs $f_{1L}(x, k_T^2)$, $f_{1T}(x, k_T^2)$, and $f_{TT}(x, k_T^2)$ for the $\rho^+$ meson. These TMDs are defined in Eqs. (16), and are given in units of GeV$^{-2}$, with $k_T^2$ in GeV$^2$. Figure 6. (Color online) Results for the tensor polarized TMDs $f_{1L}(x, k_T^2)$, $f_{1T}(x, k_T^2)$, and $f_{TT}(x, k_T^2)$ for the $\rho^+$ meson. These TMDs are defined in Eqs. (16), and are given in units of GeV$^{-2}$, with $k_T^2$ in GeV$^2$.

mass $M$ (see Appendix B). These TMDs may therefore be considered to arise from the mechanism of dynamical chiral symmetry breaking.

Results for the three $\rho^+$ tensor polarized TMDs $f_{1L}(x, k_T^2)$, $f_{1T}(x, k_T^2)$, and $f_{TT}(x, k_T^2)$, which do not appear for spin-half hadrons, are illustrated in Fig. 6. We find that $f_{TT}(x, k_T^2)$ has
similar characteristics to the other TMDs that also appear for the spin-half case, that is, a peak at $x = 1/2$ and a symmetry under the transformation $x \rightarrow 1 - x$. The TMD $f_{LL}(x, k_T^2)$ is symmetric under the transformation $x \rightarrow 1 - x$, whereas $f_{LT}(x, k_T^2)$ is antisymmetric. Interestingly, $f_{LT}(x, k_T^2)$ vanishes identically at $x = 1/2$ for all $k_T^2$. This vanishing along the line $x = 1/2$ is a signal that this TMD is very sensitive to components in the $\rho^+$ wave function that have non-zero quark orbital angular momentum. That is, $s$-wave components tend to peak at zero relative momentum, which corresponds to $x = 1/2$, and since $f_{LT}(x, k_T^2)$ vanishes along this line but is in general non-zero, it must receive significant contributions from components of the $\rho^+$ wave function with $L \geq 1$. The TMD $f_{LL}(x, k_T^2)$, however, instead of vanishing along the line $x = 1/2$ as is the case for $f_{LT}(x, k_T^2)$, vanishes along two curves in the $(x, k_T^2)$-plane which are symmetric about the line $x = 1/2$, but have a strong dependence on the quark transverse momentum. This behavior, too, is a signal of non-zero quark orbital angular momentum. Viewed as a function of $k_T$, the TMDs $f_{LL}(x, k_T^2)$, $f_{LT}(x, k_T^2)$ and $f_{LT}(x, k_T^2)$ do not behave as Gaussian functions. For example, in the neighborhood of the $x = 1/2$ line $f_{LL}(x, k_T^2)$ vanishes at $k_T^2 = 0$, then increases as $k_T^2$ grows reaching a peak near $k_T^2 = 0.1 \text{GeV}^2$, and then decreases slowly as $k_T^2$ gets larger. This interesting behavior of $f_{LL}(x, k_T^2)$, which is intimately linked to quark orbital angular momentum, makes it an important TMD for further study and measurement. In this connection we note that while $f_{LT}(x, k_T^2)$ is up to two times larger than $f_{LL}(x, k_T^2)$, it enters with a factor $\approx k_T/m_p$, making $f_{LL}(x, k_T^2)$ dominant in the small transverse momentum region.

In phenomenological applications [43–47] it common to use a separable Gaussian representation for a general TMD which takes the form

$$q(x, k_T^2) = q(x) \frac{e^{-k_T^2/(k_T^2)}}{\pi^{1/2} k_T^2},$$

where $\langle k_T^2 \rangle$ is the average $k_T^2$. It is clear from our explicit results for the TMDs, given in Appendix B, that they are neither separable or of a Gaussian form. Performing the integration over proper-time we find TMDs with a $k_T^2$-dependence which is a sum of terms of the form

$$q(x, k_T^2) \propto \frac{a e^{-[k_T^2+B]/\Lambda^2_{\nu\nu} - e^{-[k_T^2+B]/\Lambda^2_{IR}}}}{[k_T^2 + B]^n},$$

where $B = M^2 - x(1-x)m^2$, $n = 1, 2$, and $\alpha = 0, 1$. Therefore we find a difference of Gaussian’s with an additional power-law behavior in $k_T^2$. As an illustrative example in Fig. 7 we present $f(x, k_T^2)$ for $x = 0.5$ and contrast this with a Gaussian fit. We find that the Gaussian only provides a reasonable description for $k_T^2 \leq 0.2$, with the complete result falling off slower than the Gaussian over the range illustrated. In fact, a Gaussian form can only be obtained for some TMDs where $\alpha = 0$, and in the limits $k_T^2 \ll B$ and $\Lambda_{IR} \rightarrow 0$, where the latter limit removes quark confinement in our calculations.

The transverse-momentum dependence of the TMDs can be further revealed through $k_T$-weighted moments, such as

$$\langle k_T^2 \rangle_\alpha = \int_0^1 dx \int d^2k_T |k_T|^{2n} \alpha(x, k_T^2),$$

for an arbitrary TMD $\alpha(x, k_T^2)$. Results for $\langle k_T^2 \rangle$ and $\langle k_T^2 \rangle$ for the various TMDs are given in Tab. I. Typical values are $\langle k_T^2 \rangle \sim 0.15 \text{GeV}^2$, which is of a similar magnitude to the square of the dressed quark mass $M$. Tab. I also makes clear that the $k_T$-weighted moments of the TMDs with no connection to PDFs need not vanish, even though they do not contribute to the quark correlator of Eq. (11) when it is integrated over $k_T$.

### Table I

| $f$ | $s_L$ | $s_T$ | $h$ | $h_L$ | $f_{LT}$ |
|-----|-------|-------|-----|-------|---------|
| $\langle k_T^2 \rangle$ | 0.32 | 0.08 | 0.34 | 0.33 | 0.32 |
| $\langle k_T^2 \rangle$ | 0.13 | -0.11 | 0.16 | 0.15 | 0.14 |

B. Rho meson PDFs

In Fig. 8 we illustrate results for the PDFs $f(x)$, $g(x)$, and $h(x)$, which are familiar from the spin-half case, as well as the tensor polarized PDF $f_{LL}(x)$ specific to hadrons with spin $J \geq 1$. The left panel shows results at the model scale, which we set as $Q^2_0 = 0.16 \text{GeV}^2$ following previous studies [32]. The right panel presents results obtained by performing the NLO non-singlet QCD evolution to $Q^2 = 5 \text{GeV}^2$, where we used the DGLAP evolution codes of Refs. [48–50].

At the model scale, we find that the unpolarized and transversity PDFs have very similar behaviors, whereas the helicity PDF is suppressed relative to $f(x)$ below about $x \sim 0.75$, but becomes larger than $f(x)$ at higher $x$. For spin-half hadrons $g(x)$ must always be smaller in magnitude than $f(x)$ because of the positivity constraint $|g(x)| \leq f(x)$. However, for spin-one hadrons this positivity constraint is modified [see Eq. (38)]
therefore our result in Fig. 8, where $|g(x)| > f(x)$ at large $x$, does not necessarily violate positivity. In fact, as we shall see, our results satisfy Eq. (38). After QCD evolution to $Q^2 = 5$ GeV$^2$, the transversity PDF becomes suppressed relative to $f(x)$, particularly at small $x$, because of the different anomalous dimension properties of the evolution kernels. The relative behavior between $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ is largely unchanged after QCD evolution.

The sum rules for $f(x)$ and $f_{LL}(x)$ were discussed in the Sect. III B [see Eqs. (53) and (54)], and our values for the spin sum and tensor charge at the model scale are

$$\int_0^1 dx g(x) = 0.56, \quad \int_0^1 dx h(x) = 0.94. \quad (59)$$

We therefore find that the total valence quark and antiquark contribution to the spin of the $\rho$ meson is 56%, which implies a substantial contribution of 44% from quark orbital angular momentum. Our result for the $\rho$ meson’s tensor charge at the model scale is 0.94, which is considerably larger than the spin sum and close to the naive quark model expectation of unity.

Our result for the tensor polarized PDF, $f_{LL}(x)$, is symmetric around $x = 1/2$ at the model scale (see left panel of Fig. 8), being negative in the small and large $x$ regions and positive around the peak at $x = 1/2$. Therefore, $f_{LL}(x)$ has two nodes at the model scale, which persist after QCD evolution, albeit continuously moving to smaller $x$ with increasing $Q^2$. The average magnitude of $f_{LL}(x)$ is about 0.3 at the model scale, which is about 30% the size of the unpolarized PDF. The fact that we find a tensor polarized PDF which is comparable in size to the other three PDFs, again points to the fact that there is considerable relative orbital motion of the quark and antiquark in the $\rho$-meson.

After QCD evolution to $Q^2 = 5$ GeV$^2$ typical values for $x |f_{LL}(x)|$ are around 0.03. Comparison with the HERMES Collaboration data for the $b_1$ structure function of the deuteron [16], therefore suggests that the $b_1$ structure function of the $\rho$ meson is roughly one order of magnitude larger than the deuteron’s, likely because the nucleon mass is much larger than the dressed quark mass. It is interesting to note that the qualitative behavior of our tensor polarized PDF $f_{LL}(x)$ is similar to the HERMES Collaboration data, and also the Bethe-Salpeter calculation for $b_1(x)$ given in Ref. [11], up to an overall minus sign. Therefore, one may conjecture that the $b_1$ structure function of the $\rho$-meson and deuteron have the opposite sign, similar to what is found for the quadrupole form factors of the $\rho$ meson [36, 51] and the deuteron [52].

In Fig. 9 we illustrate the positivity constraints on the PDFs given by Eqs. (36)–(39). The result in Fig. 8, as well as the top and middle panels of Fig. 9, demonstrate that constraints I–III are satisfied in our calculations. The lower panel of Fig. 9 shows positivity constraint IV for the transversity PDF, and we see that our calculation very slightly violates this constraint in the small and large $x$ regions. However, this violation is parameter dependent, and can be remedied by choosing a slightly smaller value for the dressed quark mass, e.g. $M \approx 375$ MeV, which is consistent with numerous previous studies [53, 54].

V. SUMMARY

A covariant formalism for the leading-twist TMDs of spin-one hadrons has been developed, where particular emphasis was placed on developing a clear and workable definition of the TMDs which does not restrict the direction of the spin quantization axis. For the first time results for all nine $T$-even TMDs and the corresponding four PDFs of a spin-one target, in this case the $\rho^+$ meson, have been presented. The calculations were performed in the Lorentz covariant and confining framework provided by the NJL model regularized using the proper-time scheme. The importance of Lorentz covariance in satisfying the sum rules for the unpolarized and tensor polarized PDFs was demonstrated, and accordingly the baryon number and momentum sum rules for the unpolarized and tensor polarized PDFs are exactly satisfied in our calculations. The absence of unphysical thresholds for the decay of a hadron into quarks in our calculations, i.e. a manifestation of quark confinement,
TMDs develops a much weaker dependence on the light-cone momentum fraction $x$. That is, if a quark has large $k_T^2$ it becomes much less sensitive to $x$-dependent correlations.

The $\rho^+$ TMDs that proved to be particularly interesting were those associated with its tensor polarization, and therefore only appear for hadrons with $J \geq 1$. In contrast to the TMDs that also appear for a spin-half hadron, we found that the TMD $f_{LL}(x, k_T^2)$ vanishes identically along the $x = 1/2$ line for all $k_T^2$, and the TMD $f_{LL}(x, k_T^2)$ vanishes along two curves in the $(x, k_T^2)$-plane which are symmetric about the line $x = 1/2$. These are clear indications that these TMDs are very sensitive to quark orbital angular momentum. This is most easily seen by noting that $s$-wave components in a bound-state wave function usually peak at zero relative momentum, which for two equal mass constituents corresponds to $x = 1/2$. Therefore, since these TMDs vanish near the $x = 1/2$ line, but are in general non-zero, implies they must receive significant contributions from components of the $\rho^+$ wave function with $L \geq 1$. These findings for the tensor polarized TMDs are a 3-dimensional generalization of earlier analysis which found that the tensor polarized structure function, $b_1(x)$, is a sensitive measure of quark orbital angular momentum [7, 10, 11].

Integrating our TMD results over the quark transverse momentum $k_T$ gives the four PDFs associated with a spin-one hadron. At the model scale we find that the unpolarized and transversity PDFs have a similar behavior, and that the $\rho^+$ tensor charge has the value 0.94, which is only slightly less than the naive quark model expectation of unity. By constrast, we found that 44% of the spin of the $\rho$ meson is carried by quark orbital angular momentum, which represents a significant departure from the naive expectation of unity. This large fraction of quark orbital angular momentum manifests as a tensor polarized PDF $f_{LL}(x)$ which is of comparable size to the three other leading-twist $\rho^+$ PDFs. In a qualitative comparison between our result for the tensor polarized $b_1$ structure function of the $\rho^+$, with the HERMES Collaboration data for the deuteron we find similar behavior, except for a relative minus sign. We therefore conjecture that the $b_1$ structure function of the $\rho^+$ and deuteron have opposite signs, in analogy to similar findings for the respective quadrupole moments [36, 51, 52].

For further work it would be interesting to investigate the sea quark contributions to the tensor polarized PDF and the associated structure function, and to estimate the deviation of the sum rule from the valence quark value given in Eq. (53). In our framework these effects could be naturally described by taking into account the effect of the virtual pion cloud surrounding the dressed quarks.

The interesting features of the tensor polarized TMDs found in this study, in particular the connection to quark orbital angular momentum, warrant further investigation. A key avenue is the experimental and theoretical study of the deuteron tensor polarized TMDs, where we already have hints from the HERMES $b_1$ structure function data that the small $x$ region may be particularly interesting [12–14]. In addition, the TMD FFs for the production of vector mesons provides another interesting possibility to study the 3-dimensional tensor structure of hadrons. An ideal facility for such measurements would be the proposed electron-ion collider.
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A. POSITIVITY CONSTRAINTS FOR SPIN-ONE TMDs

Here we follow the methods of Refs. [9, 24] to derive the positivity constraints on the spin-one TMDs. From the operator definition given in Eq. (11) it follows that

\[
\left[\Phi^{(4)}[x, k_T]y^+\right]_{\beta\alpha} = \sqrt{2} \int \frac{dz^+ dz_T}{(2\pi)^3} e^{iz^+ z^-} e^{-ik_T z_T} \times S(p, \lambda) \psi^{(+)\alpha}(0) \psi^{(+)\beta}(z^-, z_T)[p, \lambda]_S, \tag{A1}
\]

where \(\psi^{(+)\alpha}(z^-) = \Lambda^{(+)\alpha}(\gamma + z^- / \sqrt{2})\) are the good components of the quark field operator [40]. We can still represent this quantity by Fig. 1 if the external quark lines refer to the good components. Viewed in this way, the matrix \(\left[\Phi^{(4)}[x, k_T]y^+\right]_{\beta\alpha}\), is the transpose of the hadron-antiquark forward scattering matrix (we call it \(M\), apart from overall normalization:

\[
\Phi^{(4)}[x, k_T]y^+ = \left[\langle y^+ S^{(4)} + \langle y^+ \gamma y S^{(4)} \rangle_S \right] \Lambda^{(+)\alpha}. \tag{A3}
\]

It can be reduced to a 2 × 2 matrix by using the chiral representation of the Dirac matrices. By making an orthogonal transformation so that only the upper left 2 × 2 block is nonzero, and taking the transpose according to Eq. (A2), we arrive at

\[
\Phi^{(4)}[x, k_T]y^+ = \left[\begin{array}{ccc}
\langle y^+ S^{(4)} & \langle y^+ \gamma y S^{(4)} \rangle_S \\
\langle y^+ \gamma y S^{(4)} \rangle_S & \langle y^+ \gamma y S^{(4)} \rangle_S \\
\end{array}\right]. \tag{A4}
\]

Here the various matrix elements are given in terms of the TMDs by Eqs. (16)–(18) and we have defined

\[
\langle y^+ \gamma y S^{(4)} \rangle_S = \langle y^+ \gamma y S^{(4)} \rangle_S + i \langle y^+ \gamma y S^{(4)} \rangle_S. \tag{A5}
\]

In the rest frame of the hadron, each of the four matrix elements in Eq. (A4) is of the form

\[
M_{\alpha\beta} = e^{(\alpha)}_{(4)} M_{\alpha\beta} e^{(\lambda)}_{(4)} = \text{Tr} \{ M_{\alpha\beta} \rho^{(\lambda)} \}, \tag{A6}
\]

where the polarization 3-vectors \(e^{(\alpha)}\) refer to an arbitrary direction \(S\) as explained in Sect. II, and the matrix \(M_{\alpha\beta}\) is independent of \(\lambda\) and \(S\). In Eq. (A6) we introduced the spin density matrix for a pure spin state of the hadron in the rest frame, with spin projection \(\lambda\) on the direction \(S\), according to [see Eq. (9)]

\[
\rho^{ij}_{(\lambda)} = \epsilon^{(\lambda)}_{(4)} \epsilon^{ij}_{(\lambda)} \frac{1}{3} \left(1 + 3 \frac{2}{3} (\Sigma \cdot S) - T^{ij}_{(\lambda)} \right), \tag{A7}
\]

where the symmetric and traceless tensor \(T^{ij}_{(\lambda)}\) is defined by

\[
T^{ij}_{(\lambda)} = \frac{3}{2} \left(\Sigma^i S^j - \frac{2}{3} \delta^{ij} I \right). \tag{A8}
\]

Following Ref. [9], we introduce the matrices

\[
\left(\Sigma^i\right)^{ij} = \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(\Sigma^i S^j + \Sigma^j S^i\right) - \frac{2}{3} \delta^{ij} I \right]. \tag{A9}
\]

The spin density matrix Eq. (A7) then can be expressed by 12

\[
\rho^{ij}_{(\lambda)} = \frac{1}{3} \left[1 + 3 \left(\Sigma^i S^j + 3 \left(\Sigma^i S^j\right)^{ij}\right)\right]. \tag{A11}
\]

It is easy to check that the spin density matrix of Eq. (A11) satisfies the conditions

\[
\text{Tr} \rho^{(\lambda)} = 1, \tag{A12}
\]

\[
\text{Tr} \left(\rho^{(\lambda)} \Sigma^k\right) = \lambda S^k, \tag{A13}
\]

\[
\text{Tr} \left(\rho^{(\lambda)} \Sigma^k \Sigma^l\right) = T^{kl}_{(\lambda)}, \tag{A14}
\]

Returning now to the problem of constructing the matrices \(M_{\alpha\beta}\) from Eq. (A6), we see from the relations Eqs. (A12)–(A14) that we simply have to perform the replacements

\[
\lambda S \rightarrow \Sigma, \quad \text{and} \quad T^{ij}_{(\lambda)} \rightarrow \Sigma^{ij}, \tag{A15}
\]

everywhere in Eq. (A4), where \(\Sigma\) and \(\Sigma^{ij}\) act in the hadron spin space. We write the required matrix \(M\) in the form

\[
M(x, k_T) = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}. \tag{A16}
\]

where \(A, B, C, D\) are \(3 \times 3\) matrices in the hadron spin space. To derive their explicit forms, we use the regular representation

\[12\) This is the analogue of Eq. (8) in Ref. [24] for a pure spin state of the hadron characterized by the spin projection \(\lambda\) on the arbitrarily chosen direction \(S\). In fact, if we parametrize the tensor of Eq. (A8) in the form of Eq. (3) of Ref. [24] as

\[
T^{ij}_{(\lambda)} = \begin{pmatrix} S_{LL} + S_{TT}^{11} & S_{TT}^{12} \\ S_{TT}^{12} & S_{LL} + S_{TT}^{22} \end{pmatrix}. \tag{A10}
\]

with \(S_{TT}^{ij} = -S_{TT}^{ji}\), then the quantities \(S_{LL}, S_{TT}^{11}\), and \(S_{TT}^{ij}\) precisely agree with the forms given in Eqs. (19)–(21).
where we have defined \( \hat{k}_m = \frac{k_r}{\sqrt{2} m} \) and we have dropped the \((x, k_r^2)\)-dependence of the TMDs to aid clarity. Note, Eqs. (A22)–(A25) imply the naive positivity conditions given in Eqs. (32)–(35).

For the \( k_T \)-integrated case the matrices \( A, B, C \) and \( D \) take the simple form

\[
A(x) = \begin{pmatrix}
\alpha(x) & 0 & 0 \\
0 & \beta(x) & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0
\end{pmatrix},
\]

\[
B(x) = \begin{pmatrix}
0 & \sqrt{2} h(x) & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0
\end{pmatrix},
\]

\[
C(x) = \begin{pmatrix}
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & \sqrt{2} h(x) & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0
\end{pmatrix},
\]

\[
D(x) = \begin{pmatrix}
\gamma(x) & 0 & 0 \\
0 & \beta(x) & 0 \\
0 & 0 & \alpha(x)
\end{pmatrix},
\]

where we have defined

\[
\alpha(x) \equiv f(x) - \frac{1}{3} f_{LL}(x) + g(x),
\]

\[
\beta(x) \equiv f(x) + \frac{2}{3} f_{LL}(x),
\]

\[
\gamma(x) \equiv f(x) - \frac{1}{3} f_{LL}(x) - g(x).
\]

The positivity of the eigenvalues of the matrix given in Eq. (A16), for the \( k_T \)-integrated case, gives three sufficient positivity conditions for the PDFs of spin-one hadrons. These conditions can be expressed as

\[
f(x) - g(x) - \frac{1}{3} f_{LL}(x) \geq 0,
\]

\[
2 f(x) + g(x) + \frac{1}{3} f_{LL}(x) \geq 0,
\]

\[
\left( f(x) + \frac{2}{3} f_{LL}(x) \right) \left( f(x) + g(x) - \frac{1}{3} f_{LL}(x) \right) \geq 2 h(x)^2,
\]

where the final inequality is the generalization of the Soffer bound [41] for a spin-one target [9, 24]. By noting that the two expressions in the brackets of Eq. (A40) must be non-negative, otherwise there is a contradiction with Eq. (A39), it is straightforward to obtain the naive positivity conditions given in Eqs. (36)–(38). Then, if we use the relation \( g(x) \leq f(x) - \frac{1}{3} f_{LL}(x) \) in the second expression on the left-hand side

\[
\left( f - \frac{1}{3} f_{LL} \right)^2 - 2 h_L^2 \hat{k}_m^2 \geq 0
\]

\[
\left( f - \frac{1}{3} f_{LL} \right)^2 - 2 h_L^2 \hat{k}_m^2 \geq 0
\]

\[
\left( f - \frac{1}{3} f_{LL} \right)^2 - 2 h_L^2 \hat{k}_m^2 \geq 0
\]

13 See Ref. [55] for a general discussion of positivity conditions.
of Eq. (A40), and the result $f(x) + \frac{1}{6} f_{\text{LL}}(x) \geq 0$, the condition given by Eq. (A40) leads to

$$|h(x)| \leq f(x) + \frac{1}{6} f_{\text{LL}}(x) \leq \frac{3}{2} f(x),$$

(A41)

which is the naive positivity relation given in Eq. (39).

B. EXPLICIT RESULTS FOR RHO TMDS AND PDFS

For the explicit calculation of the leading-twist TMDS of the spin-one $\rho^+$ meson we have used the NJL model regularized using the proper-time scheme. In this regularization scheme the denominators of the loop integrals are replaced by

$$\frac{1}{D^n} = \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \int_0^\infty d\tau \tau^{n-1} e^{-\tau D}$$

(B1)

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \int_0^{1/A_{UV}} d\tau \tau^{n-1} e^{-\tau D},$$

(B2)

where $A_{UV}$ is the ultraviolet and $A_{IR}$ the infrared cut-off. The gap equation given in Eq. (41) then takes the form

$$M = m + \frac{3G_{\rho}}{\pi^2} \int d\tau \frac{e^{-M^2}}{\tau^2},$$

(B3)

where here, and in the following, we drop the regularization parameters on the proper-time integral to aid clarity. The bubble graph of Eq. (44) in the proper-time regularization scheme becomes:

$$\Pi_\rho(p^2) = -\frac{3p^2}{\pi^2} \int_0^1 dx \int \frac{d\tau}{\tau} x(1-x) e^{-\tau [M^2 - x(1-x)p^2]},$$

(B4)

The form of the coupling constant $Z_\rho$ can then be obtained from Eq. (48) as

$$Z_{\rho}^{-2} = \frac{3}{\pi^2} \int_0^1 dx \int \frac{d\tau}{\tau} x(1-x) \left[ \frac{1}{\tau} + x(1-x)m_\rho^2 \right] e^{-\tau [M^2 - x(1-x)m_\rho^2]},$$

(B5)

We now present the explicit results for the $\rho^+$ meson TMDS and PDFs. Firstly, we give results for the Lorentz tensors $(\Gamma)^{\mu\nu}_{\rho}(x, k_T)$ of Eq. (49). For $\Gamma = \gamma^+\gamma_5$ we obtain

$$\langle \gamma^+\gamma_5 \rangle^{\mu\nu}_{\rho}(x, k_T) \equiv i e^{\gamma^+\gamma_5} g_1(x, k_T^2) + \frac{i e^{\gamma^+\gamma_5}}{p^+} g_2(x, k_T^2)$$

where we defined

$$f_1(x, k_T^2) = -\frac{3Z_\rho^2}{4\pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A}$$

$$\times \left[ 1 - 2x(1-x) + x(1-x)p^2\tau \right],$$

(B7)

$$f_2(x, k_T^2) = -\frac{3Z_\rho^2}{4\pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A}$$

$$\times \left[ 1 - 6x(1-x) + x(1-x)(1-2x)^2p^2\tau \right],$$

(B8)

$$f_3(x, k_T^2) = 0,$$

(B9)

$$f_4(x, k_T^2) = -\frac{3Z_\rho^2}{4\pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A}$$

$$\times \left[ (1-2x) \left[ 1 + 2x(1-x)p^2\tau \right] \right].$$

(B10)

For $\Gamma = \gamma^+\gamma_5$ we obtain

$$\langle \gamma^+\gamma_5 \rangle^{\mu\nu}_{\rho}(x, k_T) \equiv i e^{\gamma^+\gamma_5} g_1(x, k_T^2) + \frac{i e^{\gamma^+\gamma_5}}{p^+} g_2(x, k_T^2)$$

+ $p^+ \frac{k_T^2}{p^+} g_3(x, k_T^2),$ (B16)

(B6)

14 Note, there is no summation over $i$ in the term proportional to $f_{\text{LL}}$ in Eq. (B6).
where

\[ h_1(x, k_T^2) = \frac{3 M Z_\rho^2}{4 \pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A} (1 - x) p^2 \tau, \]

(B21)

\[ h_2(x, k_T^2) = \frac{3 M Z_\rho^2}{4 \pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A} [1 - (1 - x)(1 - 2x)p^2 \tau], \]

(B22)

\[ h_3(x, k_T^2) = -\frac{3 M Z_\rho^2}{2 \pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A} (1 - x) \tau, \]

(B23)

\[ h_4(x, k_T^2) = -\frac{3 M Z_\rho^2}{2 \pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A} x(1 - x) \tau. \]

(B24)

In all the expressions given above \( A = k_T^2 + M^2 - x(1-x)p^2 \)

and these results hold completely off-shell. By integrating Eq. (B6) over \( x \) and \( k_T \), it is easy to confirm the result of the Ward identity given in Eq. (51).

The \( \rho^+ \) meson TMDs can be obtained by contracting these formulas with Eq. (9). The resulting TMDs are

\[ f(x, k_T^2) = \frac{Z_\rho^2}{2 \pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A} \left[ 2x(1-x) \left( 1 - \tau k_T^2 \right) \right. \]

\[ + \left. 1 + x(1-x) \right] [1 + 2x(1-x)] m_\rho^2 \tau], \]

(B25)

\[ f_{LL}(x, k_T^2) = -\frac{3 Z_\rho^2}{4 \pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A} \]

\[ \times \left[ 1 + x(1-x) \right] \left[ (1 - 2x) m_\rho^2 \tau - 2 \tau k_T^2 - 4 \right], \]

(B26)

\[ f_{LT}(x, k_T^2) = \frac{3 Z_\rho^2}{4 \pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A} (1 - 2x) \]

\[ \left[ 1 + 2x(1-x) \right] m_\rho^2 \tau], \]

(B27)

\[ f_{TT}(x, k_T^2) = \frac{3 Z_\rho^2}{2 \pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A} x(1-x) \]

\[ m_\rho^2 \tau], \]

(B28)

\[ g_{LL}(x, k_T^2) = \frac{3 Z_\rho^2}{4 \pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A} \]

\[ \left[ 1 + x(1-x) \right] m_\rho^2 \tau - 2(1-x) \tau k_T^2], \]

(B29)

\[ g_{LT}(x, k_T^2) = \frac{3 Z_\rho^2}{4 \pi^3} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A} \left[ 1 + 2x(1-x) \right] m_\rho^2 \tau], \]

(B30)

\[ h(x, k_T^2) = \frac{3 Z_\rho^2 M}{4 \pi^3 m_\rho} \int d\tau e^{-\tau A} \left[ 1 + 2x(1-x) \right] m_\rho^2 \tau], \]

(B31)

where \( A = k_T^2 + M^2 - x(1-x)p^2 \). Integrating these expressions over \( k_T \), we get the formulas for the \( \rho^+ \) meson PDFs as follows:

\[ f(x) = \frac{Z_\rho^2}{2 \pi^2} \int d\tau e^{-\tau B} \]

\[ \frac{1}{\tau} \left[ 1 + x(1-x) \right] \left[ 1 + 2x(1-x) \right] m_\rho^2 \tau], \]

(B34)

\[ f_{LL}(x) = -\frac{3 Z_\rho^2}{4 \pi^2} \int d\tau e^{-\tau B} \]

\[ \frac{1}{\tau} \left[ 1 - 6x(1-x) + x(1-x)(1-2x)^2 m_\rho^2 \tau], \]

(B35)

\[ g(x) = \frac{3 Z_\rho^2}{4 \pi^2} \int d\tau e^{-\tau B} \left[ \frac{2x-1}{\tau} + x(1-x) m_\rho^2 \right], \]

(B36)

\[ h(x) = \frac{3 Z_\rho^2 M}{4 \pi^2 m_\rho} \int d\tau e^{-\tau B} \left[ \frac{1}{\tau} + 2x(1-x) m_\rho^2 \right], \]

(B37)

where \( B = M^2 - x(1-x)p^2 \). From Eqs. (B5), (B34) and (B35), it is easy to confirm the sum rules given in Eqs. (53) and (54).

Finally, we remark that it is straightforward to derive the expressions for the elementary \( u \rightarrow \rho^+ \) fragmentation process from the formulas given in this Appendix as follows: If we compare the operator definition of Eq. (11) to the corresponding definition for the fragmentation functions, as given for example by Eq. (II.1) of Ref. [38], we see that one can obtain the fragmentation matrix from the TMD matrix given by Eq. (12) by the following 3 steps: First, replace \( x \rightarrow 1/z \), where \( z \) denotes the scaling variable for the fragmentation functions. Second, replace \( k_T \rightarrow -p_+/z \), where \( p_+ \) denotes the transverse momentum of the produced hadron relative to the direction of the momentum of the fragmenting quark. Third, multiply an overall factor \( 1/(6z) \).

As emphasized in Ref. [56], this prescription can be applied to obtain the fragmentation functions for the elementary process from the corresponding distribution functions, but in order to describe the behavior of the empirical fragmentation functions one needs to take into account multi-fragmentation processes [38].

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