Abstract

We have scrutinized the transverse momentum dependent quark–gluon–quark correlation function. We have utilized the light-front quark-diquark model to study the time-reversal-odd interaction-dependent twist-3 gluon distributions which we have obtained from the disintegration of the transverse momentum dependent quark–gluon–quark correlator. Specifically, we have studied the behavior of $\tilde{e}_L$ and $\tilde{e}_T$ while considering our diquark to be an axial-vector.

1 Introduction

Theoretically, in the description of hadron containing (semi-)inclusive high energy processes, the cross-sections are generally written in the powers of $1/Q$ with $Q$ being the large momentum transfer of the collision. The convolution of the hard scattering coefficients and leading-twist distribution functions is used to communicate the contribution at the leading power. In the $1/Q$ expansion, the first sub leading power of twist-3 distribution and/or fragmentation functions are added to the cross-section [1–4]. Twist-3 distribution functions are not illuminated in the form of probability which is obvious and contrary to the interpretation of the twist-2 distributions. They are rather used to describe the parton densities in the core the nucleon. Information about the nucleon’s parton structure is obtained from twist-3 distribution functions [5], particularly when the parton transverse momenta exist. The appeal on the twist-3 contributions also comes from the fact that they are related to the multi-parton correlation in the interior of nucleon [6, 7].

In this paper, we have utilized quark-diquark model to examine the quark distributions of twist-3 level which are ciphered in the quark-gluon-quark correlation. We have emphasized on the time-reversal-odd (T-odd) transverse momentum dependent distributions (TMDs).
In the single-spin asymmetries (SSAs) measured in semi-inclusive deeply inelastic scattering (SIDIS) \cite{8–10} the leading twist T-odd TMDs \cite{11} play important roles in the TMD factorization approach \cite{12–16}. In the TMD factorization approach at the twist-3 level there are eight T-odd distributions that can contribute to various azimuthal asymmetries in the SIDIS \cite{5} and Drell–Yan \cite{17} processes. Even though the twist-3 contributions are suppressed due to $1/Q$, still these experimental observables have potential and may be accessible in the kinematical regime where $Q$ is not so large. The ideal experiments for exploring this kinematical region are at PAX \cite{18} and Jefferson Lab \cite{19,20}.

2 Light-Front Quark-Diquark Model

We contemplate on our problem by considering the light-front quark-diquark model \cite{21}, where the proton has a spin-flavor $SU(4)$ structure and is written as a combination of isoscalar-scalar diquark singlet $|uS^0\rangle$, isoscalar-vector diquark $|uA^0\rangle$ and isovector-vector diquark $|dA^1\rangle$ states \cite{22–24}. We have

$$|P;\pm\rangle = C_S|uS^0\rangle^\pm + C_V|uA^0\rangle^\pm + C_{VV}|dA^1\rangle^\pm,$$

where $S$ and $A$ denote the scalar and axial-vector diquark and their superscripts are used to depict the isospin of that diquark. Here, we have used the light-cone convention $x^\pm = x^0 \pm x^3$ and the frame is chosen such that the proton has no transverse momentum, i.e., $P \equiv (P^+, \frac{M_P}{P^+}, 0_\perp)$; where the struck quark and diquark have momentum $p \equiv \left(xP^+, \frac{p^+}{xP^+}p_\perp, p_\perp\right)$ and $P_X \equiv ((1-x)P^+, P_X^-, -p_\perp)$, respectively. $x = p^+/P^+$ is used to denote the longitudinal momentum fraction carried by the struck quark. The two particle Fock-state expansion for axial-vector diquark is given as \cite{25}

$$|\nu A\rangle^\pm = \int \frac{dx d^2p_\perp}{2(2\pi)^3 \sqrt{x(1-x)}} \left[ \psi^{(v)}_{++}(x, p_\perp)^\pm + \frac{1}{2} + 1; xP^+, p_\perp \right] + \psi^{(v)}_{+-}(x, p_\perp)^\pm + \frac{1}{2} + 0; xP^+, p_\perp \right]$$

$$+ \psi^{(v)}_{-+}(x, p_\perp)^\pm - \frac{1}{2} + 0; xP^+, p_\perp \right] + \psi^{(v)}_{--}(x, p_\perp)^\pm - \frac{1}{2} - 1; xP^+, p_\perp \right]$$

$$+ \psi^{(v)}_{r}(x, p_\perp) \left[ - \frac{1}{2} - 1; xP^+, p_\perp \right],$$

where $|\lambda_q\lambda_D; xP^+, p_\perp\rangle$ represents the two-particle state with quark helicity $\lambda_q = \pm \frac{1}{2}$, the helicity vector diquark is $\lambda_D = \pm 1, 0$ (triplet). The superscript of $\psi$, $r$ denotes the helicity of nucleon and the flavor index for the flavors $u$ and $d$ is denoted by $v$. 

170.2
3 Transverse Momentum Dependent Distributions (TMDs)

3.1 Quark-gluon-quark correlation function

We start our calculations with the transverse momentum dependent quark-gluon-quark correlation function which is defined in [26]

$$\Phi_A^{\pm \alpha}(x, p_T) \equiv \int \frac{d^2 \xi_T d \xi^-}{(2\pi)^3} \epsilon^{+\rho\xi} \times \langle p, S | \tilde{\psi}_j(0) g \int_{-\infty}^{\xi^-} d\eta^- \mathcal{L}_{\pm} \mathcal{L}(0, \eta^-) \rangle$$

$$F^{+\alpha}(\eta) \mathcal{L}_{T,\xi^+}^T(\eta^-, \xi^-) \psi_i(\xi)|P, S\rangle (\eta^+=0, \eta_T=\xi_T, p^+=x p^+)$$

where \(F^{\mu
u}\) is the gluon antisymmetric field strength tensor. By definition, gauge-invariance is certified by the gauge-links \(\mathcal{L}_{T,\xi^+}^T\) and \(\mathcal{L}_{\xi_T,\xi^-}\). The sign "\(\pm\)" in the subscript or superscript represents the future/past-pointing [14] nature gauge-link between the quark and gluon in the SIDIS/Drell-Yan processes, respectively.

The correlator can be rewritten further as [27]

$$\left(\Phi_A^{\pm \alpha}\right)^{ij} (x, p_T) = ig \int \frac{d^2 \xi_T d \xi^- d\eta^-}{(2\pi)^3} \int dx' \frac{e^{ix'p+\eta^-}}{(x' \mp i\epsilon)} \times e^i[(x-x')p^+\xi^- - \eta_T \xi_T]$$

$$\langle p, S | \tilde{\psi}_j(0) \mathcal{L}_{\pm} (0, \eta^-) F^{+\alpha}(\eta) \times \mathcal{L}_{T,\xi^+}^T (\eta^-, \xi^-) \psi_i(\xi)|P, S\rangle (\eta^+=0, \eta_T=\xi_T)$$

where the factor \(1/(x' \mp i\epsilon)\) in Eq. (4) can be written as

$$\frac{1}{(x' \mp i\epsilon)} = p \left( \frac{1}{x'} \right) \pm i \delta(x') .$$

Figure 1: Diagram corresponding to quark-gluon-quark correlator. \(P, p\) and \(q\) denote the nucleon, quark and diquark momenta respectively [27, 28].

3.2 T-Odd Twist-3 Distributions

We can break the quark-gluon-quark correlator as [5]

$$\tilde{\Phi}_A^{\alpha}(x, p_T) = \frac{x M}{2} \left\{ \left[ (f^+ - i g^-) \frac{P_T^\rho}{M} - (f_T^+ + ig_T^-) \epsilon_{\tau \rho \sigma} S_T^\sigma - (f_T^+ + ig_T^-) \frac{\epsilon_{\tau \rho \sigma} P_T^\sigma}{M} \right] \right\}$$

$$\left( g_T^\rho - \epsilon_T^\rho \gamma_5 \right) \left( \tilde{h}_i + i \tilde{e}_i \right) \gamma_T^\rho \gamma_5 + \left( \tilde{h}_T^+ - i \tilde{e}_T^+ \right) \frac{\epsilon_T^\rho P_T^\rho}{M} \right\} i \gamma_T^\alpha \frac{k_+}{2}. $$

$$\bar{\Phi}_A^{\alpha}(x, p_T) = \frac{x M}{2} \left\{ \left[ (f^+ - i g^-) \frac{P_T^\rho}{M} - (f_T^+ + ig_T^-) \epsilon_{\tau \rho \sigma} S_T^\sigma - (f_T^+ + ig_T^-) \frac{\epsilon_{\tau \rho \sigma} P_T^\sigma}{M} \right] \right\}$$

$$\left( g_T^\rho - \epsilon_T^\rho \gamma_5 \right) \left( \tilde{h}_i + i \tilde{e}_i \right) \gamma_T^\rho \gamma_5 + \left( \tilde{h}_T^+ - i \tilde{e}_T^+ \right) \frac{\epsilon_T^\rho P_T^\rho}{M} \right\} i \gamma_T^\alpha \frac{k_+}{2}. $$
This equation contains interaction-dependent twist-3 quark distributions, which is in turn dependent on the longitudinal momentum fraction and the transverse momentum denoted by $x$ and $p_T$ respectively. These are denoted by the functions appearing with a tilde. Out of these, $g_\perp$, $f_T$ (or $f_T^*$), $\tilde{e}_L$, $\tilde{e}_T$, $f_\perp^+$, $f_\perp^-$, $\tilde{h}$, $\tilde{h}_T^+$ are T-odd; and $\tilde{f}_\perp^+$, $\tilde{g}_T$ (or $\tilde{g}_T^*$), $\tilde{g}_\perp^+$, $\tilde{g}_\perp^-$, $\tilde{h}_\perp$, $\tilde{h}_T$, $\tilde{e}$, $\tilde{h}_T^+$ are T-even.

These TMDs can be projected out by using disparate Dirac matrices. In the right-hand side of Eq. (5), if one takes the real part then they can derive the traces of the T-even TMDs. On the other hand, if one uses the imaginary part, T-odd TMDs are obtained. Here we deal specifically with $\tilde{e}_L$ and $\tilde{e}_T$ \cite{27} by considering the real part of Eq. (5) and using Dirac matrix $i\sigma^{\mu\nu}\gamma_5$ as

$$\frac{1}{2Mx} \text{Tr}[\Phi_A \{i\sigma^{\mu+}\gamma_5\}] = S_L \left( \tilde{h}_L + i\tilde{e}_L \right) - \frac{p_T \cdot S_T}{M} \left( \tilde{h}_T + i\tilde{e}_T \right),$$

(7)

where $S_T$ and $S_L$ are the transverse and longitudinal polarization vector of the nucleon respectively.

While applying the approximation of the lowest order, we neglect every gauge-link in the correlator (Eq. (4)) and choose the model which has been used extensively in the calculation of TMD distributions \cite{22,23,24}. Before all else, diquark model shows that the T-odd distributions are non-vanishing. We consider the case in which the diquark is an axial-vector. Here, we calculate the T-odd TMDs emerging in the DIS process (Drell-Yan process comes with a minus sign). Above expression is proportional to the sum of the terms $\psi^{+\alpha}_+(x,p_T)\tilde{\psi}^{\alpha+}_{++}(\tilde{x},\tilde{p}_T)$, $\psi^{++\alpha}_0(x,p_T)\tilde{\psi}^{\alpha+}_{+0}(\tilde{x},\tilde{p}_T)$, $\psi^{+\alpha}_-(x,p_T)\tilde{\psi}^{\alpha+}_{--}(\tilde{x},\tilde{p}_T)$, $\psi^{++\alpha}_0(x,p_T)\tilde{\psi}^{\alpha+}_{-0}(\tilde{x},\tilde{p}_T)$ and $\psi^{+\alpha}_-(x,p_T)\tilde{\psi}^{\alpha+}_{+-}(\tilde{x},\tilde{p}_T)$. We can solve this further and get the value of desired TMDs by using suitable light-front wave functions \cite{12,13,29,30}. Also in a specific Feynman rule \cite{27,28,31}, the field strength tensor has been used in the form $F^{+-} = -i(q^+ g^{a\nu} - q^a g^{+\nu})$. While using this model some divergences are found which appear to be emerging for a few T-odd TMDs when the integrations are performed over transverse momentum. In the quark-diquark model these kind of divergences are explicitly found very often \cite{27,32}. So, it can be deduced that T-odd twist-3 distributions has this general feature that when on the nucleon-quark-diquark interaction vertex the point-like coupling is applied the divergences appear. To derive the finite results, one can choose a dipole form factor instead of a point-like coupling constant for the nucleon-quark-diquark coupling \cite{22}.

4 Conclusion

We have investigated the prospect to calculate the T-odd interaction-dependent twist-3 quark distributions in the quark diquark model. In the approximation of lowest order we find that abandoning the gauge-links in the correlator can give results which are not equal to zero for the eight T-odd interaction-dependent quark TMDs of twist-3. Particularly, we find that the projection of T-odd twist-3 correlator with this specific Dirac matrix $i\sigma^{\mu+}\gamma_5$ in the form of TMDs $\tilde{e}_L$ and $\tilde{e}_T$ while considering the case of a axial-vector diquark, leads to an equation proportional to the the light-front wave functions and the field strength tensor. From this one can get the expression of each TMD individually by specifying the nucleon helicity.

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