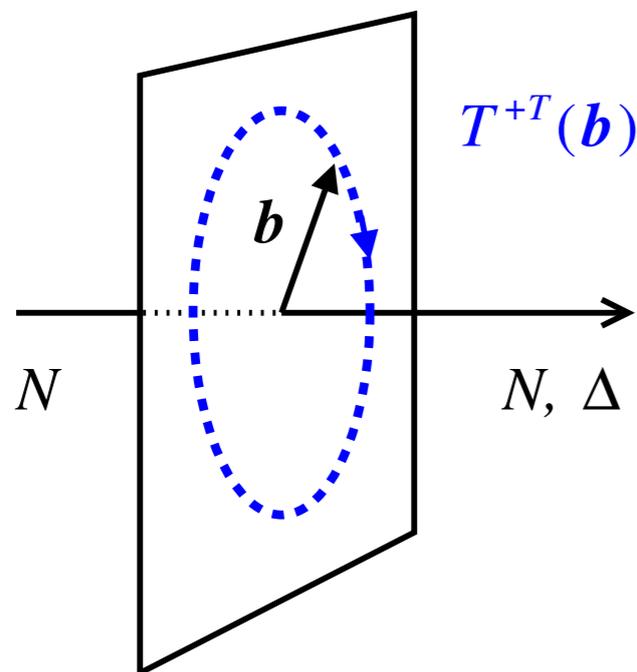


# QCD angular momentum in baryon transitions

C. Weiss (Jefferson Lab), Exploring resonance structure with transition GPDs,  
ECT\* Trento, 21-25 Aug 2023 [Webpage]



## Angular momentum and density

Energy-momentum tensor and AM operators

AM light-front density

## Transition angular momentum $B \rightarrow B'$

Definition through light-front density

$N \rightarrow \Delta$  transition AM - isovector

→ [Talk J.-Y Kim](#)

## Dynamical properties

Separation of spin and orbital AM

Peripheral AM density  $N \rightarrow N$  from chiral dynamics

Based on

J.-Y. Kim, H.-Y. Won, J. Goity, C. Weiss,  
Phys. Lett. B 844, 138083 (2023) [INSPIRE]

C. Granados, C. Weiss,  
Phys. Lett. B 797, 134847 (2019) [INSPIRE]

Invariance of action → conserved local currents → charges

Space-time translations → EM tensor  $T^{\mu\nu}(x)$  → total momentum  $P^i = \int d^3x T^{0i}(x)$

Rotations → AM tensor  $J^{\mu\alpha\beta}(x)$  → total AM  $J^i = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^{ijk} \int d^3x T^{jk}(x)$

**AM tensor**

$$J^{\mu\alpha\beta} = J_q^{\mu\alpha\beta} + J_g^{\mu\alpha\beta}$$

$$J_{q,g}^{\mu\alpha\beta}(x) = x^\alpha T_{q,g}^{\mu\beta}(x) - x^\beta T_{q,g}^{\mu\alpha}(x)$$

Quark/gluon AM from EMT

$$T_q^{\alpha\beta}(x) = \sum_f \bar{\psi}_f(x) \gamma^{\{\alpha} i \nabla^{\beta\}} \psi_f(x)$$

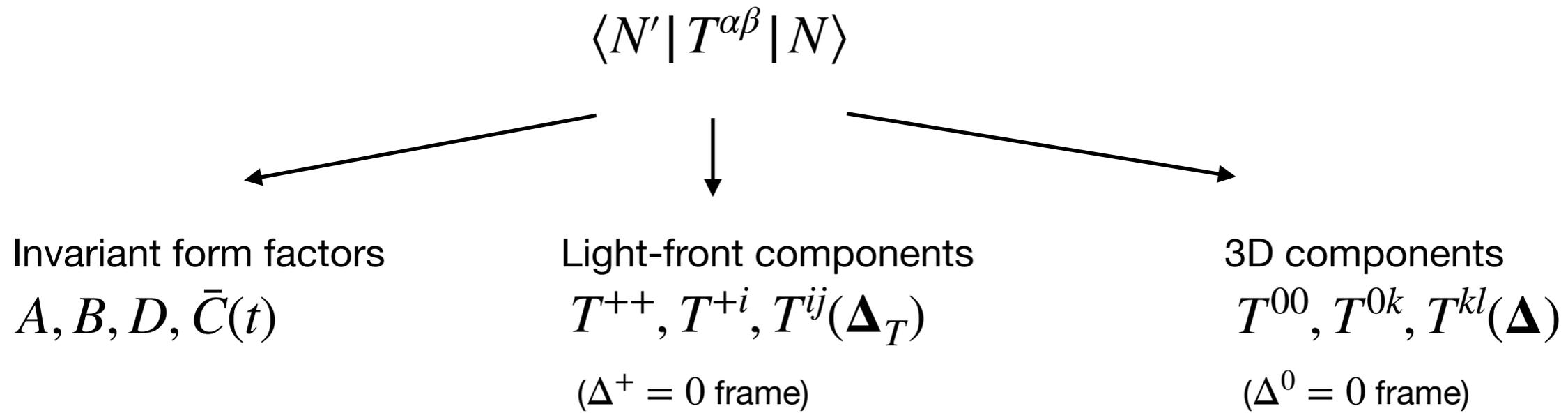
Quark EMT (← GPDs)

Here: Use symmetric part of quark EMT → total quark AM  $J_q$

Later: Non-symmetric EMT → separate orbital and spin quark AM  $L_q, S_q$

Definitions see e.g. Lorce, Mantovani, Pasquini 2017

Only total EMT is conserved, not individual quark/gluon/flavor contributions



AM can be evaluated in any representation

- e.g.
- |  |  |               |
|--|--|---------------|
|  | GPDs $\rightarrow A + B \rightarrow J$                               | Ji 1996       |
|  | GPDs $\rightarrow [A + B](t) \rightarrow T^{0k}(\mathbf{r})$ density | Polyakov 2003 |

Each representation has its uses/advantages

Here: Use representation by LF components in  $\Delta^+ = 0$  frame  $\rightarrow$  Generalization  $\langle B' | \dots | B \rangle$

$$p'^+ = p^+, \quad \Delta^+ = 0, \quad \Delta_T \neq 0$$

$\Delta^+ = 0$  frame

$$T^{+i}(\Delta_T | \sigma', \sigma) = \langle p', \sigma' | T^{+i}(0) | p, \sigma \rangle$$

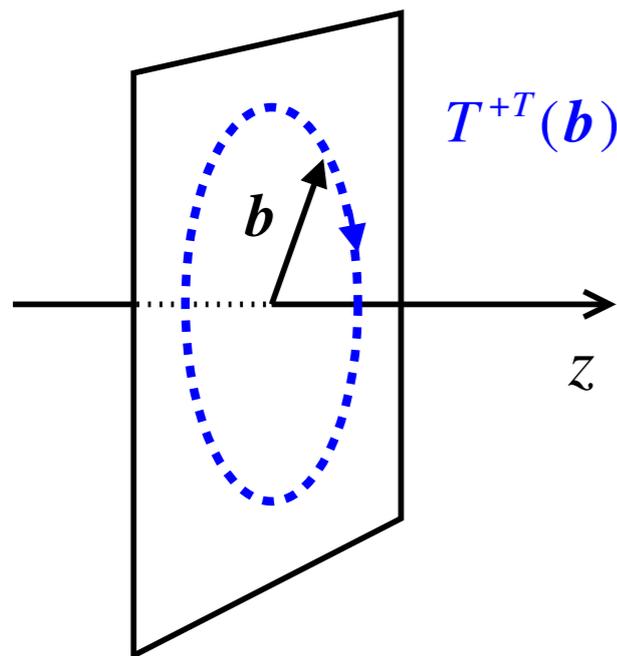
EMT transition matrix element

$$T^{+i}(\mathbf{b} | \sigma', \sigma) = \int \frac{d^2 \Delta_T}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-i\Delta_T \mathbf{b}} \langle p', \sigma' | T^{+i}(0) | p, \sigma \rangle$$

transverse coordinate representation

$$2S^z(\sigma', \sigma) J_q = \frac{1}{2p^+} \int d^2 b \left[ \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{T}^{+T}(\mathbf{b} | \sigma', \sigma) \right]^z$$

AM transverse density and integral



$$J_q + J_g = \frac{1}{2}$$

Spin sum rule (quarks + gluons)

Nucleon spin states: Light-front helicity states, prepared by LF boost from rest frame

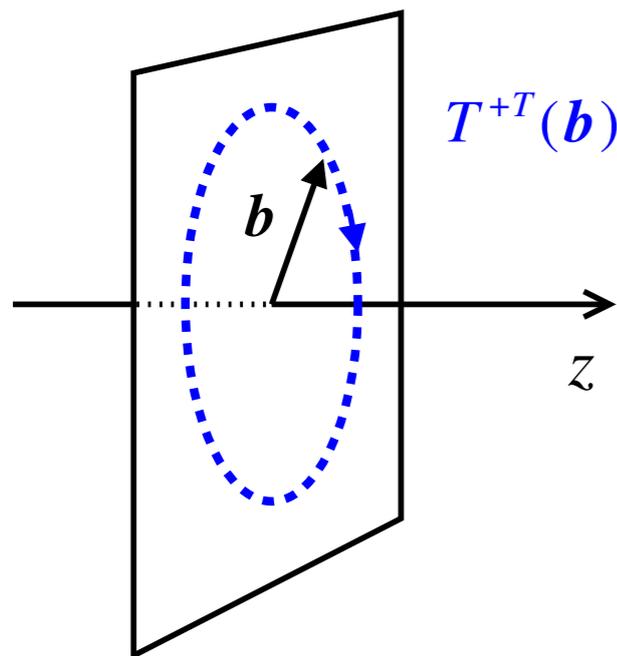
## Advantages of LF formulation

LF density: Boost-invariant/covariant, frame independent, appropriate for relativistic systems

Mechanical interpretation:  $\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}$  in transverse plane

Relation to invariant form factors:  $[\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{T}^{+T}(\mathbf{b} | \sigma', \sigma)]^z = 2S^z(\sigma', \sigma) \frac{b}{2} \frac{d}{db} [\rho_A(b) + \rho_B(b)]$

Can be generalized to transitions  $B \rightarrow B'$



LF quantization: Transverse motion Galilean - nonrelativistic. Transverse localization does not depend on mass of state (cf. 3D Breit frame densities)

$$m' \neq m \quad B = \{S, S_3, I, I_3\}, \quad B' = \{S', S'_3, I', I'_3\}$$

Baryon states, spin/isospin quantum numbers

$$p'^+ = p^+, \quad \Delta^+ = 0, \quad \Delta_T \neq 0, \quad \Delta^- = \frac{m'^2 - m^2}{p^+} \neq 0$$

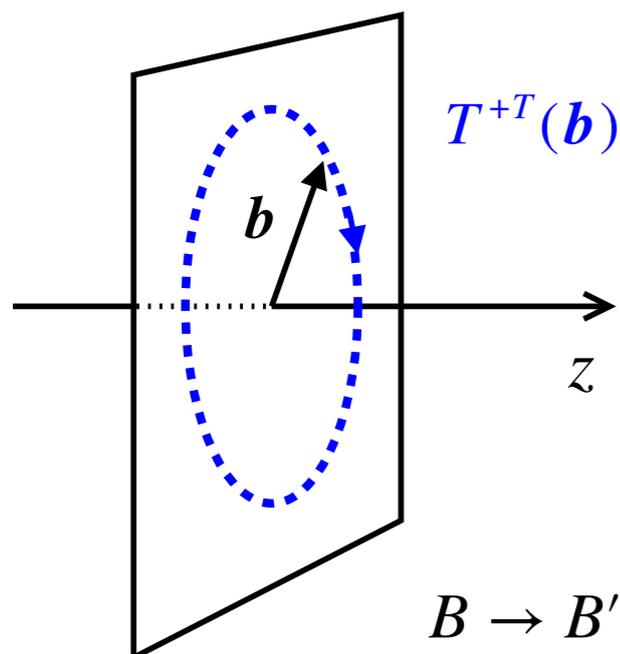
$\Delta^+ = 0$  frame

$$T^{+i}(\Delta_T | B', B) = \langle p', B' | T^{+i}(0) | p, B \rangle$$

Transition matrix element  
isoscalar/isovector operator

$$2S^z(B', B) J_{B \rightarrow B'} = \frac{1}{2p^+} \int d^2b \left[ \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{T}^{+T}(\mathbf{b} | B', B) \right]^z$$

Transition AM  $B \rightarrow B'$



Kinematic spin dependence factored out:  
Reduced matrix element

Transitions as allowed by quantum numbers of states:  
Isoscalar/isovector component of quark operator

$$(T^V)^{\alpha\beta} \equiv T_u^{\alpha\beta} - T_d^{\alpha\beta}$$

“Isovector quark EMT” : New operator, not conserved, not related to symmetry

$$\langle B', p | (T^V)^{\alpha\beta} | B, p \rangle \rightarrow J_{B \rightarrow B'}$$

Isovector transition AM  
 $N \rightarrow N, N \rightarrow \Delta, \Delta \rightarrow \Delta$

## Analysis using $1/N_c$ expansion

$1/N_c$  expansion of 3D multipole form factors of EMT in  $\Delta^0 = 0$  frame

Light-front components from “matching” in frame where  $\Delta^+ = 0$  and  $\Delta^0 = 0$

LO relations:  $J_{p \rightarrow p}^V = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} J_{p \rightarrow \Delta^+}^V$

Numerical estimates using Lattice QCD results for  $J_{p \rightarrow p}^V \equiv J^{u-d}$  in proton

| Lattice QCD                    | $J_{p \rightarrow p}^S$ | $J_{\Delta^+ \rightarrow \Delta^+}^S$ | $J_{p \rightarrow p}^V$ | $J_{p \rightarrow \Delta^+}^V$ | $J_{\Delta^+ \rightarrow \Delta^+}^V$ |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| [9] $\mu^2 = 4 \text{ GeV}^2$  | 0.33*                   | 0.33                                  | 0.41*                   | 0.58                           | 0.08                                  |
| [10] $\mu^2 = 4 \text{ GeV}^2$ | 0.21*                   | 0.21                                  | 0.22*                   | 0.30                           | 0.04                                  |
| [11] $\mu^2 = 4 \text{ GeV}^2$ | 0.24*                   | 0.24                                  | 0.23*                   | 0.33                           | 0.05                                  |
| [12] $\mu^2 = 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ | –                       | –                                     | 0.23*                   | 0.33                           | 0.05                                  |
| [13] $\mu^2 = 4 \text{ GeV}^2$ | –                       | –                                     | 0.17*                   | 0.24                           | 0.03                                  |

$$T_q^{\alpha\beta} = T_q^{\{\alpha\beta\}} + T_q^{[\alpha\beta]}$$

“Kinetic” EMT, non-symmetric

$$\bar{\psi}(x) \gamma^{[\alpha} i \nabla^{\beta]} \psi(x) = -2\epsilon^{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} \partial_\mu [\bar{\psi}(x) \gamma_\nu \gamma_5 \psi(x)]$$

Antisymmetric part =  
total derivative of axial current  
(for each flavor)

$$J_q^{\mu\alpha\beta} = L_q^{\mu\alpha\beta} + S_q^{\mu\alpha\beta}$$

Separate orbital and spin AM operators

$$L_q^{\mu\alpha\beta}(x) = x^\alpha T_q^{\mu\beta}(x) - x^\beta T_q^{\mu\alpha}(x)$$

$$S_q^{\alpha\beta\mu} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\alpha\beta\mu\nu} \bar{\psi}(x) \gamma_\nu \gamma_5 \psi(x)$$

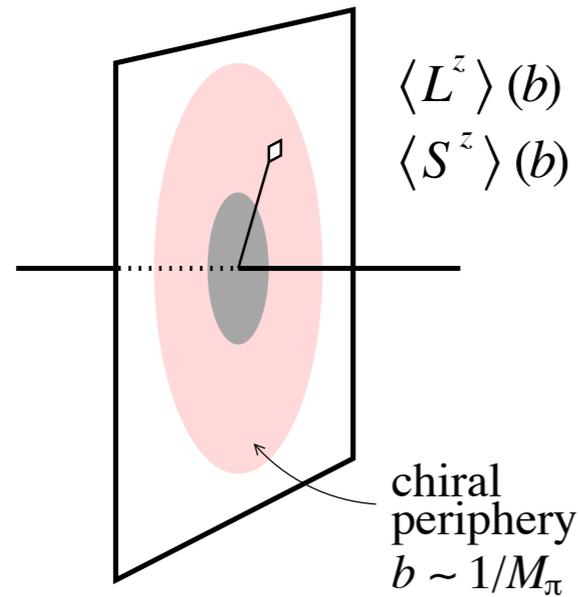
Ji 1996. Discussion in Lorce, Mantovani, Pasquini 2017

Transition AM  $B \rightarrow B'$  can be extended to separate orbital and spin AM

AM densities depend on choice of EMT (kinetic, improved)

Charge  $J_q$  independent of definition

Explore orbital—spin separation in dynamical models

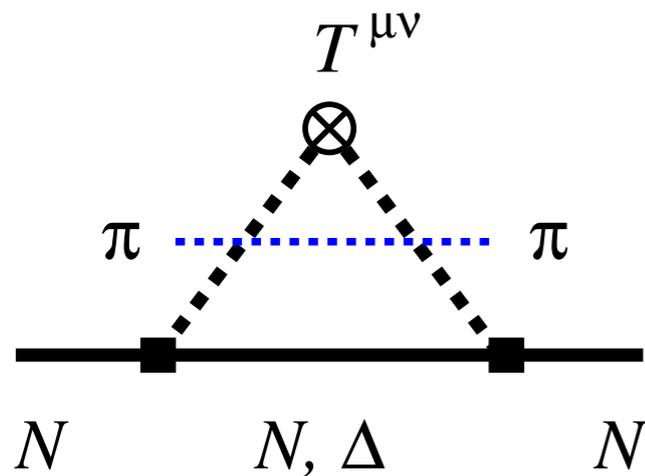


Densities at  $b = \mathcal{O}(M_\pi^{-1})$  governed by chiral dynamics

Computed using ChEFT: Systematic, model-independent

Pion EMT derived from Chiral Lagrangian + Noether Thm, uniquely determined

Peripheral densities from 2-pion cut of EMT matrix elements, evaluated using dispersion relation

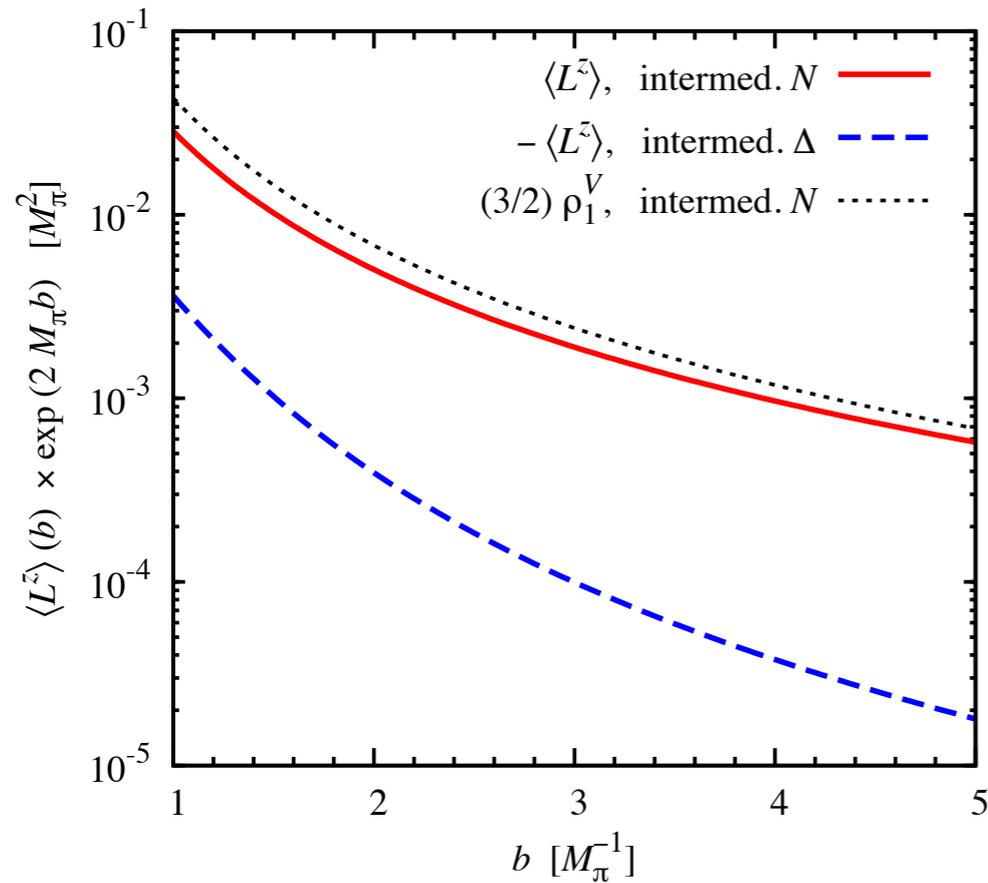


## Peripheral AM density $N \rightarrow N$

$L^z(b)$  leading — 2-pion cut

$S^z(b)$  suppressed — only 3-pion cut

AM density in nucleon's chiral periphery is mainly orbital



$L^z(b)$  decays exponentially

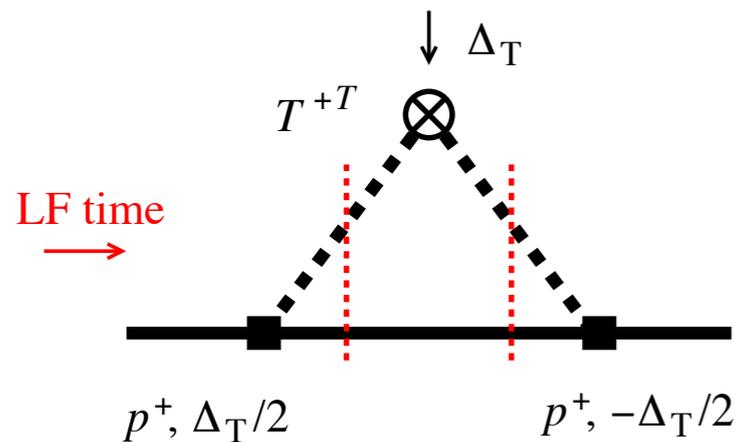
$$L^z(b) \sim e^{-2M_\pi b} \times \text{function}(M_\pi, m; b)$$

$L^z(b)$  similar to charge density  $\rho_1(b)$

Contributions of  $N$  and  $\Delta$  intermediate states have opposite sign; cancel in large- $N_c$  limit  
 $\rightarrow$  correct  $1/N_c$  scaling of peripheral density

Disclaimer: LO ChEFT result is not quantitatively realistic, relevant only at  $b \sim$  few times  $M_\pi^{-1}$ .  
 where densities are extremely small. Realistic results can be obtained with dispersive improvement

Scalar and vector form factors: Alarcon, Weiss, 2017+



Light-front formulation of ChEFT process:  
Sequence in LF time  $x^+$

Transition  $N \rightarrow \pi N, \pi\Delta$  described by chiral LF wave function:

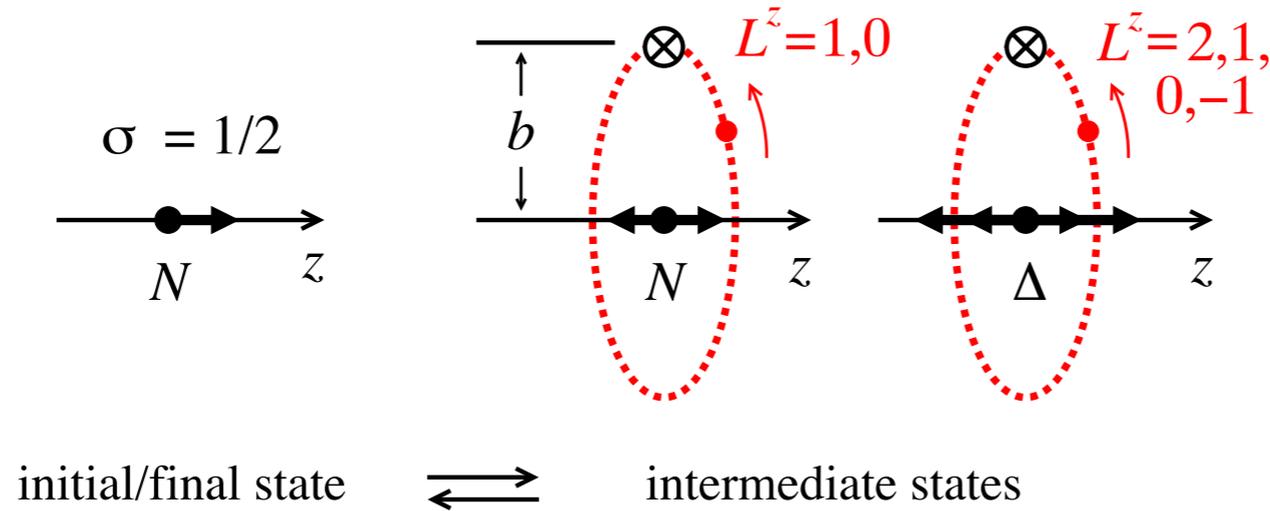
$$\Psi_{N \rightarrow \pi N}(y, \mathbf{k}_T | \sigma', \sigma) = \frac{\langle \pi N | \mathcal{L}_{\text{chiral}} | N \rangle}{M_{\pi N}^2 - m_N^2}$$

Peripheral density as LF wave function overlap (transverse coordinate representation,  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{b}/\bar{y}$ )

$$L^z(\mathbf{b}) = \int \frac{dy}{y\bar{y}} \sum_{\sigma'} \Psi_{N \rightarrow \pi N}^*(y, \mathbf{r}_T | \sigma', \sigma) \left[ \mathbf{r}_T \times (-i) \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{r}_T} \right] \Psi_{N \rightarrow \pi N}(y, \mathbf{r}_T | \sigma', \sigma) + (N \rightarrow \pi\Delta)$$

First-quantized representation

AM operator is quantum mechanical angular momentum



Granados, Weiss, 2019

## “Story” of peripheral AM

Original nucleon with spin  $\sigma = + 1/2$

Transition to intermediate  $\pi N/\pi\Delta$  state with orbital AM  $L^z \leftarrow$  intermediate  $N/\Delta$  spin  $\sigma'$

Peripheral AM given by  $L^z$ , summed over all intermediate states

Light-front representation provides simple mechanical picture

Equivalent to result obtained from 2-pi cut in invariant EMT form factors

Based on ChEFT = “true” large-distance dynamics of QCD

EMT matrix elements can be characterized in several representations, each with distinct uses/advantages:

Invariant form factors

→ Analytic properties

Light-front components in  $\Delta^+ = 0$  frame

→ Densities, mechanical interpretation, generalization to transitions  $B \rightarrow B'$

3D components in  $\Delta = 0$  frame

→ Multipoles,  $1/N_c$  expansion

→ [Talk J.-Y Kim](#)

AM definition as light-front density can be generalized to  $B \rightarrow B'$  transitions

$N \rightarrow \Delta$  transition AM pure isovector, connected with  $J^{u-d}$  in nucleon in large- $N_c$  limit

Peripheral AM density at  $b = \mathcal{O}(M_\pi^{-1})$  can be computed in Chiral EFT

Peripheral  $N \rightarrow N$  isoscalar AM density mostly orbital, spin density suppressed