# Leading Baryon Production at ZEUS

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DIS06

Tsukuba - Japan

20-24/April/2006

## Leading Baryons production

. In a large fraction of events p,n carry a large fraction of the proton beam energy

- typically 0.2 
$$< x_L = rac{E_{LB}}{E_p} < 1$$

. Good ground to study soft vs hard physics:

- hard scale: e.g.  $Q^2, m_{HQ}^2, E_T^{jet}$
- soft scale:  $p_T$  of the baryon

. Tests of Leading Baryon production models:





standard fragmentation

particle exchange (dominant process)

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. Probe structure function of the exchanged particle:

- e.g. leading neutrons:  $\sigma_{LN} = f(x_L, t) \times \hat{\sigma}_{hard}^{\gamma \pi}$
- especially important to region inaccessible to Drell-Yan (gluons and sea)



#### . Vertex factorization:

- In the dominant process: leading baryon production is

independent of the photon vertex variables

- Many models predict factorization violation (absorption)

Listing only a few...

# Factorization violation models (for Leading Neutrons)

#### Model 1:



### d'Alesio and Pirner, EPJ A7 (2000) 109

- substitute the proton by a photon for ep collisions

- the larger the photon, fewer neutrons detected (more absorption in PHP than DIS)

- the smaller the  $\pi n$  system, fewer neutrons detected

(more absorption in low  $x_L$ )

#### Model 2:

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### Nikolaev, Speth and Zakharov, hep-ph/9708290



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- absorption effects different for ep and pp- implies large uncertainties to pion *pdf* extraction

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# Factorization violation models (for Leading Neutrons)

#### Model 3:

## Kaidalov, Khoze, Martin, Ryskin, hep-ph/062215

- refine the corrections in Model 2
- calculate enhanced absorptive corrections (gap survival probability)



- calculate *migrations* (distortions to energy spectra after absorption)







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### Data samples: ep and $\gamma p$



Photoproduction ( $\gamma p \rightarrow Xn$ )  $6 \text{ pb}^{-1}$   $Q^2 < 0.02 \text{ GeV}^2$ neutron:  $0.2 < x_L < 1$  $\theta_n < 0.75 \text{ mrad}$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} \text{Dijets in Photoproduction (} \gamma p \to j j X n \text{)} \\ 40 \ \text{pb}^{-1} \\ E_T^{jet_1} > 7.5 \ \text{GeV}, \ E_T^{jet_2} > 6.5 \ \text{GeV} \\ -1.5 < \eta^{jet_{1,2}} < 2.5 \\ Q^2 < 1 \ \text{GeV}^2 \\ 130 < W < 280 \ \text{GeV} \\ \text{neutron: } 0.2 < x_L < 1 \\ \theta_n < 0.75 \ \text{mrad} \end{array}$ 

## Leading Neutron in DIS



$$x_L = \frac{E_n}{E_p}$$

 $\theta_n < 0.75 \text{ mrad}$  $\rightarrow$  limit of geometric acceptance

(integrated over  $p_T^2$ )

Normalization:  $\sigma_{inc} = \sigma(ep \rightarrow eX)$ 



intercept (=  $d\sigma_{LN}/dx_L dp_T^2|_{p_T^2=0}$ ) and *b*-slope (from  $e^{-bp_T^2}$ ) fully characterize the data

## Leading Neutron in DIS (intercept)



## Leading Neutron in DIS (slope)



**One-Pion-Exchange Model:** 

 $rac{d\sigma_{ep 
ightarrow e'nX}}{dx_L t} = f_{\pi/p}(x_L,t)\sigma^{e\pi}(s')$ 

.  $s^\prime$  = squared cm energy of the  $e\pi$  system

. Pion flux factor:

$$f_{\pi/p}(x_L,t) \propto rac{-t}{(t-m_\pi^2)^2} (1-x_L)^{1-2lpha(t)} \left[F(x_L,t)
ight]^2$$

. t = sq. 4-momentum transfer @ p vertex $\sim p_T^2 (1-x_L)(m^2 - m^2)$ 

$$\approx -\frac{r_T}{x_L} - \frac{(1-x_L)}{x_L} (m_n^2 - x_L m_p^2)$$

**models:**  $\neq$  parametrizations for  $\alpha(t)$  and  $F(x_L, t)$ 

no agreement in scale, reasonable agreement in shape

## Photoproduction vs. DIS - $d\sigma/dp_T^2$



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Curves from "Model 3" (Kaidalov, Khoze, Martin, Ryskin) for  $p_T^2 < 0.43 x_L^2 \text{ GeV}^2$ 

Curve from "Model 1" (d'Alesio and Pirner)

data in agreement with absorption hypothesis

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## Dijets in Photoproduction vs. DIS



• *b*-slopes similar magnitude in DIS and dijets samples

• Normalization, shape of the neutron energy spectrum visibly different between DIS and dijet

suggestive of phase space limitation

- with very energetic dijets in the final state, little room is left for neutron production -

• harder to draw any conclusion on absorption

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## Comparison: Leading Neutrons vs. Leading Protons

- Protons:  $Q^2 > 3 \text{ GeV}^2$
- Neutrons:  $Q^2 > 2 \text{ GeV}^2$
- Different trends
- LN: main contribution:  $\pi$  exchange
- LP: contribution of other trajectories
- Similar magnitude  $x_L \sim 0.6-0.8$  $\rightarrow \pi$  exchange LP  $\sim$  LN



## Summary

- Most precise measurement of neutron  $x_L$ ,  $p_T$  distributions in ep collisions was presented
- The measured  $p_T$  distributions are not in good agreement with any 'version' of the OPE model available in the literature
- Photoproduction vs. DIS :
  - LN production suppressed for photoproduction, high- $p_T$ , low  $x_L$ Agrees with absorption within OPE
- Neutron energy spectra in photoproduction is compatible with effects of absorption and migration as predicted by Kaidalov, Khoze, Martin, Ryskin

## Summary

- Leading neutrons in dijet photoproduction have similar slopes but different energy spectra than in DIS (phase space constraints)
- Comparison Leading Protons: steep rise as of  $b(x_L)$  in LN vs. flat behavior in LP (other exchanges)
- The *b*-slopes of protons and neutrons agree at  $x_L \sim 0.6$ -0.8 where pion-exchange is dominant in both cases
- Potential interests on LN data:
  - Information on the pion structure function
  - Understanding gap survival probability (important at LHC) ...
- ... but for that several issues need to be addressed:
  - Pion flux factor models must be constrained
  - The role of absorption (e.g. in dijet photoproduction events) must be understood

#### Input from theorists / phenomenologists is very welcome

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