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CV: I started my PhD in 1983. I studied pion photoproduction in the first resonance (Δ_{1232}) of the nucleon at the Saclay Linac of 500 MeV with 1% duty cycle. For that we were using quasi-monochromatic photon beams realized by a very nice method based on the annihilation of a positron beam on a hydrogen target.

With the advent of 100% duty cycle electron beam, high intensity and high resolution photon beams have been produced by Bremstrahlung of electrons and tagging system. My group joint the MAMI facility with an electron beam of 850 MeV and 100% duty cycle to study the N* resonances with production of one pion, or two pions. My group has built a 4pi detector, DAPHNE, for charge and neutral particle detection. At this time I learnt a lot on scintillating systems and cylindrical MWPCs.

In 1990 I was really impressed by the first results on the nucleon spin puzzle at CERN. Nico de Botton, one of my colleagues, working in the SMC collaboration, pushed me to investigate a similar sum rule to the Bjorken sum rule. This is the Gerasimov-Drell-Hearn (GDH) sum rule which deals with absorption of circularly polarized photons by longitudinal protons. The sum rule tells us that the integral over the photon energy of the difference of the two cross sections parallel and antiparallel weighted by the inverse of the energy is related only to the anomalous magnetic moment of the proton. It was clear that the photon beams of energy up to 850 MeV at MAMI and to 2 GeV at ELSA were a good opportunity to measure the GDH sum rule. We could use the DAPHNE detector at MAMI and another 4pi detector at ELSA. I wrote the proposal with a few colleagues as Gisela Anton, Fritz Klein, Reinhard Beck, Hartmut Schmieden and also Werner Meyer and Hartmut Dutz, the experts of the polarized target.

The GPD sum rule is very easy to demonstrate for an experimentalist. It relies only on the mathematic properties of the Compton amplitude on the nucleon and its expansion at low energy. The next terms of this expansion are the electromagnetic polarizabilities of the nucleon. In 1994 I proposed to measure the virtual Compton scattering (VCS) at MAMI to extract the polarizabilities as a function of Q^2, particularly at Q^2=0.33 GeV^2. I was working with Jan Friedrich. This was the first VCS experiment. We learnt a lot about the Bethe-Heitler and the Born contributions and the radiative corrections. Later I have made the same VCS experiment at JLab at higher Q^2 (1 and 2 GeV^2).

In 1996, Xiangdong Ji has written his famous paper on the generalized parton distributions (GPD) and the deeply virtual Compton scattering (DVCS). He was arguing that we can access the orbital angular momentum of the constituents inside the proton, an important piece of the nucleon spin puzzle.

As I had a good expertise in VCS experiment, I jumped on this topic. I envisaged several possible experiments with the different facilities. For me the main assets were the high energy and the two states of charge, so I wrote my first paper in favor of COMPASS in 1997. Then everybody in COMPASS knows the long adventure with the first test of recoil proton detection in 2000-2001, the first DVCS tests in 2008-2009 with the 1m long recoil proton detector and the first DVCS pilot run of one month in 2012 with the 4m long recoil proton detector CAMERA and the new ECAL0. Almost 20 years after the very first expression of interest we will achieve the real experiment in 2016 and 2017.

WISHES FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEARS :

My first wish is to make the success of the COMPASS-II program, the first ever polarized Drell-Yan experiment in 2015 and the DVCS and DVMP with SIDIS experiments in 2016 and 2017. We will have 3 years of data taking, with about 6 months of runs per year, and it will be very important to keep the strength and the dynamism inside the Collaboration, to maintain all the detectors and to keep competences inside the Collaboration which is aging. It will be necessary, all the more we are expecting a future beyond this period, to attract new collaborators and to get new funding and grants. All applications inside the different countries or at the European level have to be encouraged.

My second wish is to make the data analysis as fast as possible and to highlight the COMPASS results.

- It is important to speed the process for production of data, analysis and publication. The problem is complex, is it a problem of manpower, of the organization of the work, of distribution of common tasks? One simple example, recommended by Horst, in order to speed the publications should be to be focused on the drafting of a paper during a few whole days somewhere (without any perturbation) with all the DC members.
- It is also very important to encourage and strengthen works with theoreticians to maximize the impact of our result. This was proposed by Bernhard.
- Regular pedagogic presentations of our topics are a very nice way to stimulate and create the best synergy between young and senior physicists.
- It is our duty to emphasize the impact of the COMPASS results with respect to the other experiments in the world. We publish about 8 papers per year, but we should do also short summaries of the main results or achievements and to provide regular updates. It is important that the outside world can easily and quickly understand our progress.

We should be more aggressive to sell our results. Of course I am very grateful to the work done to get the recent CERN press release for the pion polarizability. This has given a broad visibility and a very large impact to this result. Furthermore we should be more visible in the conferences (with more speakers and more people organizing parallel sessions).

My third wish is to prepare the future for 2018 and right after the long shut down N°2 which means between 2020 and 2022. In COMPASS we have a very nice and unique tool, with positive and negative and polarized muon beams and hadron beams, so we have to make benefit of it. Of course we have to demonstrate that the Collaboration is still alive at this time with enough active collaborators. A new proposal could attack new goals in spectroscopy, a complement and an extension of the Drell-Yan experiment, a challenging DVCS experiment with polarized targets and should be open to new idea. It is clear that this proposal should be very appealing and that the level of requirements and qualities to convince our authorities will be really demanding. This is a very challenging task however I have no doubt that preparing such a new proposal will create a very stimulating atmosphere inside the Collaboration.

AVAILABILITY: For the role of spokesperson I envisage to spend about 3 weeks in a row per month at CERN.