

AN INVESTIGATION OF THE SPIN STRUCTURE OF THE PROTON IN DEEP INELASTIC SCATTERING OF POLARISED MUONS ON POLARISED PROTONS

The European Muon Collaboration

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The spin asymmetry in deep inelastic scattering of longitudinally polarised muons by longitudinally polarised protons has been measured in the range $0.01 < x < 0.7$. The spin dependent structure function $g_1(x)$ for the proton has been determined and, combining the data with earlier SLAC measurements, its integral over x found to be $0.126 \pm 0.010(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.015(\text{syst.})$, in disagreement with the Ellis–Jaffe sum rule. Assuming the validity of the Bjorken sum rule, this result implies a significant negative value for the integral of g_1 for the neutron. These integrals lead to the conclusion, in the naïve quark parton model, that the total quark spin constitutes a rather small fraction of the spin of the nucleon. Results are also presented on the asymmetries in inclusive hadron production which are consistent with the above picture.

1. Introduction

Over the past two decades many experiments have studied the structure of the nucleon via deep inelastic scattering of charged leptons and neutrinos from unpolarised targets (for recent reviews see ref. [1]). Such experiments have elucidated the quark–gluon structure of the nucleon and have shown that the quarks have half-integral spin. However, little information exists on how the spin of the nucleon is distributed among its constituents. Such information can be derived from a study of deep inelastic scattering of polarised leptons on polarised targets.

Prior to the present work only one such study had been carried out. This was the experiment at SLAC using polarised electrons scattered from a polarised proton target [2–4]. The experiment described here was designed with a similar objective in mind, but using a high energy beam of polarised positive muons from the CERN SPS with a target of polarised protons. This extends considerably the kinematic

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range of the observations and allows the spin structure of the proton to be studied in detail.

In this paper the measurements of the spin dependent asymmetry in the cross section for muon scattering are described, from which the spin dependent structure function of the proton $g_1(x)$ is deduced. Here x is the fraction of the momentum of the proton carried by the struck quark. The integral of $g_1(x)$ over x was used to test the Ellis–Jaffe sum rule [5] and to investigate the contribution of the spin of the quarks to the proton spin.

The final results presented here both extend and supersede those described in previous publications [6–8].

2. The formalism of polarised deep inelastic scattering

The difference in the cross sections for deep inelastic scattering of muons polarised antiparallel and parallel to the spin of the target proton can be written in the single photon exchange approximation (for a review of the notation and previous work see ref. [9])

$$\left(\frac{d^2\sigma}{dQ^2 d\nu} \right)^{\uparrow\downarrow} - \left(\frac{d^2\sigma}{dQ^2 d\nu} \right)^{\uparrow\uparrow} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{E^2 Q^2} \left[M(E + E'\cos\theta) G_1(Q^2, \nu) - Q^2 G_2(Q^2, \nu) \right], \tag{1}$$

where the variables are defined in table 1. The functions $G_1(Q^2, \nu)$ and $G_2(Q^2, \nu)$ are the spin dependent structure functions of the target nucleon. In the scaling limit as Q^2 and ν become large these structure functions are expected to become

TABLE 1
Definition of the kinematic variables used

m	lepton rest mass
M	proton rest mass
$s = \frac{1}{m}(k, 0, 0, E)$	lepton-spin four-vector
$S = (0, \mathbf{S})$	proton-spin four-vector
$k = (E, \mathbf{k})$	four-momentum of incident lepton
$k' = (E', \mathbf{k}')$	four-momentum of scattered lepton
$P = (M, \mathbf{0})$	four-momentum of target proton
$q = k - k' = (\nu, \mathbf{q})$	four momentum transfer
$Q^2 = -q^2 \approx 4EE' \sin^2(\theta/2)$	(invariant mass) ² of virtual photon
$\nu = P \cdot q/M = E - E'$	energy of the virtual photon in the laboratory
θ	scattering angle in the laboratory
$x = Q^2/2 M\nu$	Bjorken scaling variable
$y = \nu/E$	Bjorken scaling variable

functions of x only [10] so that

$$M^2\nu G_1(Q^2, \nu) \rightarrow g_1(x), \quad M\nu^2 G_2(Q^2, \nu) \rightarrow g_2(x). \quad (2)$$

These structure functions can be obtained from experiments in which longitudinally polarised muons are scattered from longitudinally polarised target nucleons by measuring the asymmetry

$$A = \frac{d\sigma^{\uparrow\downarrow} - d\sigma^{\uparrow\uparrow}}{d\sigma^{\uparrow\downarrow} + d\sigma^{\uparrow\uparrow}}. \quad (3)$$

This asymmetry is related through the optical theorem to the virtual photon asymmetries A_1 and A_2 by

$$A = D(A_1 + \eta A_2), \quad (4)$$

where

$$A_1 = \frac{\sigma_{1/2} - \sigma_{3/2}}{\sigma_{1/2} + \sigma_{3/2}}, \quad A_2 = \frac{\sigma_{\text{TL}}}{\sigma_{\text{T}}}, \quad (5,6)$$

$$D = \frac{y(2-y)}{y^2 + 2(1-y)(1+R)}, \quad \eta = \frac{2(1-y)}{y(2-y)} \frac{\sqrt{Q^2}}{E}. \quad (7,8)$$

Here $\sigma_{1/2}(\sigma_{3/2})$ is the virtual photoabsorption cross section when the projection of the total angular momentum of the photon–nucleon system along the incident lepton direction is $\frac{1}{2}(\frac{3}{2})$, $\sigma_{\text{T}} = \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_{1/2} + \sigma_{3/2})$ is the total transverse photoabsorption cross section and σ_{TL} is a term arising from the interference between transverse and longitudinal amplitudes. The term R in eq. (7) is the ratio of the longitudinal to transverse photoabsorption cross sections and D can be regarded as a depolarisation factor of the virtual photon.

The asymmetries A_1 and A_2 can be expressed in terms of the structure functions g_1 and g_2 [11] as

$$A_1 = (g_1 - \gamma^2 g_2) \frac{1}{F_1}, \quad A_2 = \gamma(g_1 + g_2) \frac{1}{F_1}, \quad (9,10)$$

where F_1 is the spin independent structure function of the proton (the explicit (Q^2, x) dependence of the structure functions has been omitted for brevity) and $\gamma = (2Mx/Ey)^{1/2}$. Hence eliminating g_2 we obtain to first order in γ , $g_1 = F_1(A_1 + \gamma A_2)$. Substituting for A_1 from eq. (4) gives

$$g_1 = F_1(A/D + (\gamma - \eta) A_2).$$

There are rigorous positivity limits on the asymmetries [12], i.e. $|A_1| \leq 1$ and $|A_2| \leq \sqrt{R}$. Since γ , η and R are all small in the kinematic range of this experiment the term in A_2 may be neglected and

$$A_1 \simeq A/D, \quad (11)$$

so that

$$g_1 \simeq A_1 F_1 = A_1 F_2 / 2x(1 + R), \quad (12)$$

where F_2 is the second spin independent proton structure function. Neglecting A_2 in this way is equivalent to neglecting the contribution of g_2 which has been shown to have a negligible effect [13].

The structure function $g_1(x)$ is obtained as follows. The asymmetry A (eq. (3)) is obtained from the experimental data, from which the virtual photon asymmetry A_1 is deduced via eq. (11). The structure function $g_1(x)$ is then obtained from eq. (12) using the known values of F_2 and R . The effect of neglecting A_2 is included in the systematic error, using the above mentioned limits for A_2 .

3. Theoretical models

By angular momentum conservation, a spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ parton cannot absorb a photon when their two helicities are parallel. Hence in the quark-parton model (QPM), $\sigma_{1/2}(\sigma_{3/2})$ can only receive contributions from partons whose helicities are parallel (antiparallel) to that of the nucleon. Hence it follows that

$$A_1 = \frac{\sigma_{1/2} - \sigma_{3/2}}{\sigma_{1/2} + \sigma_{3/2}} = \frac{\sum e_i^2 (q_i^+(x) - q_i^-(x))}{\sum e_i^2 (q_i^+(x) + q_i^-(x))}, \quad (13)$$

where $q_i^{+(-)}(x)$ is the distribution function for quarks of flavour i and charge number e_i whose helicity is parallel (antiparallel) to that of the nucleon. The sum is over all quark flavours i . In this model F_1 is given by

$$F_1(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum e_i^2 (q_i^+(x) + q_i^-(x)).$$

Hence from eqs. (12) and (13), it follows that

$$g_1(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum e_i^2 (q_i^+(x) - q_i^-(x)). \quad (14)$$

In the simple non-relativistic QPM [14] in which the proton consists of three valence quarks in an SU(6) symmetric wave function, $A_1^p = \frac{5}{9}$ and $A_1^n = 0$ and are independent of x . Such a model clearly did not describe the SLAC data. Many models, mainly based on the QPM, were developed to predict the behaviour of the

asymmetry A_1 (see ref. [9], for a review). Models giving a good representation of the SLAC data were developed by Cheng and Fischbach [15], Callaway and Ellis [16], Carlitz and Kaur [17] and Schwinger [18]. Most of these incorporate the perturbative QCD prediction [19] that A_1 tends to unity as x approaches unity and all except [18] are based on the QPM. These models predict roughly the same behaviour of A_1 and we choose arbitrarily to compare the data presented below with the Carlitz and Kaur model.

4. Sum rules in polarised deep inelastic scattering

A sum rule was developed by Bjorken [20] from light cone current algebra and with the assumption of quark structure for the hadronic electromagnetic and weak currents. It relates the integral over all x of the difference of g_1 for the proton and neutron to the ratio of the axial vector to vector coupling constants in nucleon beta decay, g_A . In the scaling limit it can be written

$$\int_0^1 [g_1^p(x) - g_1^n(x)] dx = \frac{1}{6} g_A (1 - \alpha_s/\pi), \quad (15)$$

where the factor $(1 - \alpha_s/\pi)$ arises from QCD radiative corrections [21]. This is a fundamental sum rule which represents a crucial test of the QPM [22].

Separate sum rules for the proton and the neutron were derived by Ellis and Jaffe [5] in a somewhat more model dependent approach. Assuming exact flavour SU(3) symmetry in the baryon-octet decays and that the net polarisation of the strange quark sea of the nucleon is zero, they derived

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 g_1^p(x) dx &= \frac{g_A}{12} \left[+1 + \frac{5}{3} \frac{3F/D - 1}{F/D + 1} \right], \\ \int_0^1 g_1^n(x) dx &= \frac{g_A}{12} \left[-1 + \frac{5}{3} \frac{3F/D - 1}{F/D + 1} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

where F and D are the antisymmetric and symmetric SU(3) couplings [23]. Applying QCD radiative corrections to these yields [21]

$$\int_0^1 g_1^{p(n)}(x) dx = \frac{g_A}{12} \left[(\pm) \left(1 - \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right) + \frac{1}{3} \frac{3F/D - 1}{F/D + 1} \left\{ 5 - \left(1 + 4 \frac{33 - 8f}{33 - 2f} \right) \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right\} \right], \quad (17)$$

where f is the number of quark flavours.

5. Experimental procedure

The experiment was performed in the M2 polarised muon beam at the CERN SPS using the EMC forward spectrometer [24] to detect the scattered muons and the fast forward hadrons produced by deep inelastic scattering in a longitudinally polarised target. For a fixed pion-to-muon energy ratio the muon beam was naturally longitudinally polarised since the muon produced in the rest frame of the parent pion has a fixed helicity. The polarised target [25] consisted of two cells filled with ammonia, separated by a gap, with the free protons in each cell polarised in opposite directions, parallel and antiparallel to the incident muon beam direction. The free proton asymmetry was obtained from the difference in the count rates of events reconstructed in each target cell. From this the asymmetry $A_1(x)$ and the structure function $g_1(x)$ were deduced.

Fig. 1 shows a schematic diagram of the apparatus. The trigger was provided by the scintillator hodoscopes H1, H3 and H4 which selected muons scattered through an angle greater than $\sim \frac{3}{4}^\circ$. The scattered muon and forward hadrons were detected and measured in the system of multiwire proportional (P) and drift chambers (W) and their momenta analysed using a dipole field spectrometer magnetic (FSM). Particles penetrating the 2.5 m thick steel absorber were labelled as muons. On receipt of a trigger the chambers were read out and the data written onto magnetic tape. These data were analysed using the EMC pattern recognition programme (PHOENIX) and the momentum analysis and vertex reconstruction programme (GEOM) to write data summary tapes. The apparatus used in this experiment (fig. 1) is similar to that described previously [24] but was modified to run at the higher beam intensities required. To achieve this the drift chambers in the high background environment upstream of the magnet were replaced by proportional chambers (PV1, PV2). In addition further small proportional chambers (P0A-E), designed to work at

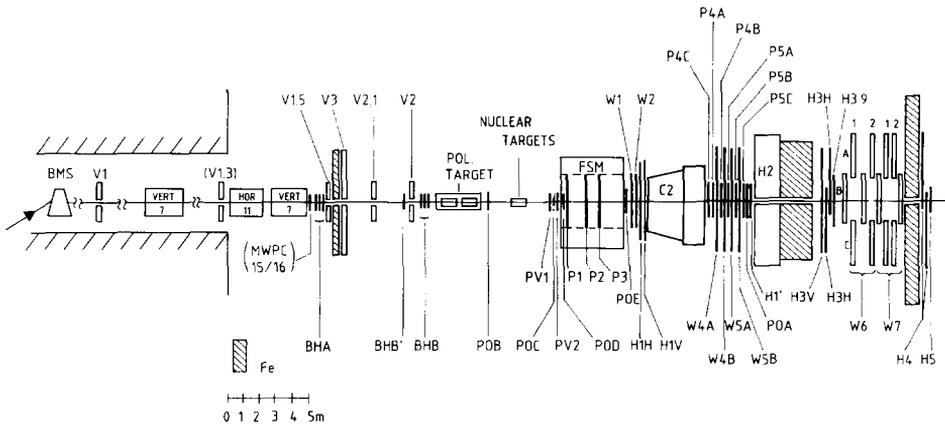


Fig. 1. The EMC forward spectrometer for the polarised-target experiment.

high rates, were added in the beam region as well as the chambers P4/5. The latter provided extra information in the central region of W4/5 which had been found to deteriorate after prolonged exposure to radiation due to the deposition of silicon on the sense wires. With these modifications data were taken at beam intensities up to 4×10^7 per SPS pulse of 2 seconds duration, repeated every 14 seconds, i.e. approximately a factor 2 higher than previously.

Fig. 2 shows a schematic diagram of the polarised target. The two cells, each of length 360 mm and volume 1ℓ , were separated by a 220 mm gap. The target material was in the form of approximately spherical beads of solid ammonia each of volume $\sim 4 \text{ mm}^3$, which allowed good cooling of the ammonia by the circulation of liquid helium through the spaces around the beads. The two cylindrical cells were positioned longitudinally along the beam line so that the same flux of incident muons passed through each. Very precise monitoring of the beam flux was then unnecessary since data were taken simultaneously for both directions of target polarisation.

The free protons in the ammonia were polarised in opposite directions in each cell by the method of dynamic nuclear polarisation. This method can be used for a small range of hydrogenous materials, of which ammonia has the highest hydrogen content. It requires that a dilute system of unpaired electron spins are introduced into the material. Such paramagnetic centres had been previously produced in the ammonia beads by irradiation with 25 MeV electrons at a temperature of 90 K, using the injection linear accelerator at the Bonn electron synchrotron [25]. The

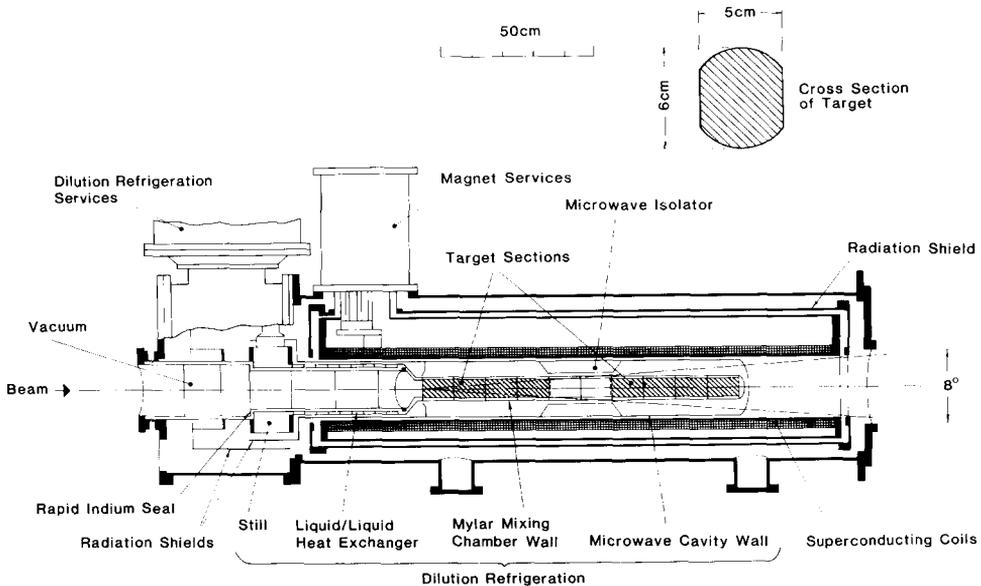


Fig. 2. The polarised target.

electron spins from the paramagnetic centres become highly polarised when the material is placed in a strong magnetic field at a low temperature. This electron polarisation can be transferred to the protons by microwave irradiation at a frequency close to the electron spin resonance. The direction of the proton polarisation can be selected by making a small change ($\sim 0.6\%$) in the microwave frequency.

The magnetic field of 2.5 T was generated by a superconducting solenoid [26] of length 1.6 m and internal diameter 190 mm, with its axis parallel to the muon beam direction to obtain longitudinally polarised protons. The field over the target volume was adjusted to be uniform to 1 part in 10^4 with the aid of 12 trim coils. Such high uniformity was necessary to achieve resonance throughout the target volume. Each target cell was mounted in a separate conducting cavity of 150 mm diameter and supplied with microwave power at ~ 70 GHz from a separate microwave source, allowing independent control of the polarisation direction.

The target material was maintained at a temperature of about 0.5 K, in the presence of input from the microwave sources, by a 2 watt ^3He - ^4He dilution refrigerator [27]. The cooling system was common to both cells and so it was necessary to include a series of thin copper baffles and some microwave-absorbent material in the gap between the cells, to achieve isolation of the microwave power whilst allowing a free flow of the coolant.

The proton polarisation was measured continuously during data taking with a nuclear magnetic resonance system operating at a frequency of 106.3 MHz. This system had eight independent channels and sampled the polarisation with four coils, buried in the target material, in each cell. Calibration was carried out in the conventional way, using the calculable signal which is obtained when the proton spins in a known magnetic field are in thermal equilibrium with the solid lattice at a known temperature. The statistical uncertainty on the measurement of the NMR signal from a single coil was $\sim 1\%$. The mean polarisation of a target cell was obtained by averaging the values from the four coils in that cell, which in general agreed to within $\sim 4\%$. The overall error on this mean value arose from the polarisation non-uniformity together with uncertainties in the absolute determination of the calibration temperature and drifts in electronics. Thus the mean cell polarisation, which was typically between 0.75 and 0.80, had an overall estimated uncertainty of ± 0.05 .

In this experiment, which detected all final states inclusively, it was impossible to discriminate between scattering from free protons and from the unpolarised bound nucleons in the complex nuclei in the target. Thus the effective target polarisation was reduced by a factor f . The value of f , the dilution factor (see subsect. 6.3), was maximised by using ammonia as the target material since it has the highest hydrogen content of the available materials. However, it suffers from the disadvantage of having a long polarisation reversal time (~ 8 h). For this reason, it was not possible to reverse the polarisation directions more often than once per week without unacceptable loss of data taking time. A further problem was that the ^{14}N

nuclei in the ammonia, which have spin 1, became slightly polarised [28], although this produced a negligible correction to the final results (see subsect. 6.5).

The data were taken in 11 separate experimental runs at incident muon energies of 100, 120 and 200 GeV. The apparatus acceptances from the two halves of the target differed by about 10%. In order to correct for this and for the $\sim 1\%$ difference in the target masses in each cell the polarisations were reversed once in each experimental run and the results before and after the reversal were averaged.

6. Data analysis

6.1. INTRODUCTION

The free proton asymmetry A (eq. (3)) is extracted from the difference in counting rates of the events whose vertices were reconstructed in the two target cells. Fig. 3 shows a reconstructed vertex distribution along the beam direction together with the cuts applied to define the events in each target cell. Using a Monte Carlo simulation of this distribution, it was shown that the events could be assigned to each target cell without ambiguity. The events reconstructed in between the target cells stem from interactions in the residual material (copper baffles and helium) in the gap and from the finite vertex resolution.

The measured event yields from the two target cells are

$$N_u = n_u b a_u \sigma_0 (1 - f P_b P_u A), \quad N_d = n_d b a_d \sigma_0 (1 - f P_b P_d A), \quad (18)$$

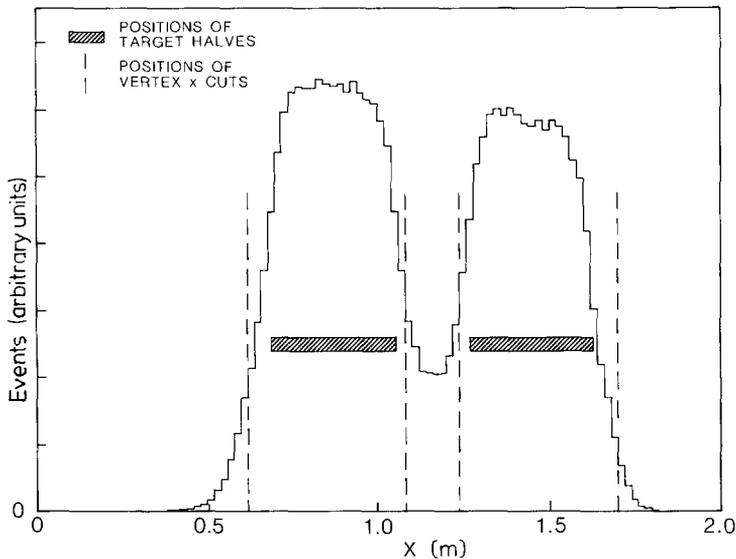


Fig. 3. Vertex distribution along the beam direction. The target edges and the applied cuts are shown.

where the subscript u (d) refers to the upstream (downstream) target half, n is the number of target nucleons, b the beam flux, a the apparatus acceptance, σ_0 the unpolarised cross section, f the fraction of the event yield from the polarised protons in the target, P_b , P_u (P_d) the beam and target polarisations, respectively. The phase space cuts on the beam ensured that the beam flux was the same for both target halves. The sign of the polarisation of both target and incident muon is defined to be positive when parallel to the incident positive muon beam direction. With this definition P_b was always negative and P_u and P_d were of opposite sign. For an experimental run where P_u was initially positive and P_d negative the measured asymmetries are

$$A_m = \frac{N_u - N_d}{N_u + N_d}, \quad A'_m = \frac{N'_d - N'_u}{N'_d + N'_u}, \quad (19)$$

where the primed (unprimed) quantities refer to the quantities measured after (before) the polarisation reversal during the experimental run. The free proton asymmetry is related to the measured asymmetries by

$$\bar{A}_m = \frac{1}{2}(A_m + A'_m) = fP_B P_T A \approx fP_B P_T D A_1, \quad (20)$$

where $P_B = |P_b|$ and $P_T = (|P_u| + |P_d| + |P'_u| + |P'_d|)/4$ is the average target polarisation. Values of \bar{A}_m as a function of x for the total data sample are given in table 5. The values are always less than ~ 0.02 , so it was vital to control all possible sources of systematic false asymmetries to much better than this figure. This was the reason for having the split target design, since the uncertainty on the measurement of the muon flux through the target was of the same order as the measured asymmetry. All false asymmetries cancel from eq. (20) except those due to time dependent acceptance changes. Such an effect would occur only if the ratio of the upstream to downstream acceptance ratios before and after the polarisation reversal,

$$K = \frac{a_u/a_d}{a'_u/a'_d}, \quad (21)$$

were different from unity. This would produce a false asymmetry which would induce a systematic error in the results. This will be discussed later.

6.2. THE BEAM POLARISATION

In the laboratory frame the muon polarisation is given by

$$P_b = \mp \frac{\lambda - m_\mu^2/m_\pi^2(1 - \lambda)}{\lambda + m_\mu^2/m_\pi^2(1 - \lambda)}, \quad (22)$$

TABLE 2
Beam-polarisation values calculated by Monte Carlo

Energy: E_π/E_μ (GeV)	Polarisation
110/100	0.77 ± 0.06
130/120	0.79 ± 0.06
210/200	0.82 ± 0.06

where

$$\lambda = \frac{E_\mu - E_{\min}}{E_\pi - E_{\min}},$$

with m_μ , m_π the muon and pion masses, E_μ , E_π their energies in the laboratory frame and $E_{\min} = (m_\mu^2/m_\pi^2)E_\pi$ is the minimum allowed muon energy in the laboratory frame. The negative (positive) sign is for positive (negative) muons. The beam polarisation was computed by averaging eq. (22) over the beam phase space in a Monte Carlo simulation of the beam [29]. Previous measurements of the beam polarisation [30] agreed with the predictions of this Monte Carlo simulation within measurement errors of 10–15%. Table 2 shows the computed beam polarisation for each of the three settings used in this experiment. The quoted errors arise from the uncertainties in the beam phase space and in the contamination of the parent π beam by K mesons ($18 \pm 9\%$).

6.3. THE DILUTION FACTOR

The dilution factor f is the fraction of the events arising from scattering by the polarised protons in the target. To a first approximation f is 3/17 for the ammonia (NH_3) target representing 3 free protons out of 17 nucleons per molecule. However, several other effects must be taken into account. Firstly the neutron and proton cross sections are not the same. Parameterising the available data [31, 32]* gives

$$\sigma_n/\sigma_p = 0.92 - 0.883x \quad (23)$$

with an uncertainty of $\sim \pm 0.05$ independently of x . Secondly, the cross section for bound nucleons is not the same as that for free nucleons [33], the ‘‘EMC effect’’. Parameterising the data for carbon [34], which is assumed to be similar to nitrogen,

$$h(x) = \frac{\sigma(\text{bound})}{\sigma(\text{free})} = 1.06 - 0.30x - 0.45e^{-44x}. \quad (24)$$

* Preliminary BCDMS results can be found in ref. [32].

The uncertainty in this ratio was taken to be either 0.03 or $0.5(1 - h(x))$ whichever is the larger. Thirdly, other material (helium and copper) within the target cells contributed $\sim 11\%$ of the rate from the ammonia, with an estimated error of 20% of its value. Fourthly, events originating from unpolarised material outside the target cell contaminate the sample due to resolution smearing. This was estimated by a Monte Carlo simulation to be $(6.6 \pm 0.7)\%$ with an estimated systematic error of 3%.

Taking all these effects into account the dilution factor becomes

$$f = \frac{3}{3 + h(x)(8.84 + 8.44\sigma_n/\sigma_p)}. \quad (25)$$

6.4. THE VIRTUAL PHOTON DEPOLARISATION FACTOR D

The factor D is defined in eq. (7). To compute it the values of $R = \sigma_L/\sigma_T$ were calculated using perturbative QCD [35]. These represent the measurements quite well [1] within the rather large errors. Accordingly, an error equal to 50% of the value calculated from QCD was assigned to R . A parameterisation of R calculated in this way at the mean Q^2 value in each x bin for this experiment is

$$R = 0.0122/(x + 0.041)^{1.096}. \quad (26)$$

6.5. THE CORRECTIONS FOR RADIATIVE EFFECTS AND THE NITROGEN POLARISATION

The quantities of interest, A_1 and g_1 , (eqs. (11) and (12)) are defined in the one-photon exchange approximation, while the measured quantities contain contributions from higher-order processes and must therefore be corrected. The formulae of Mo and Tsai [36] are used for these radiative corrections. Although the formulae are strictly valid only for spin averaged cross sections the results are very similar to those of a more exact treatment of Kukhto and Shumeiko [37]. The corrections also included allowance for the slight polarisation of the nitrogen nuclei. In detail the corrections were applied as follows.

The measured cross section σ_m can be written as

$$\sigma_m(x, y) = B_k\sigma_{1\gamma} + \sigma_{\text{inel}}^R + \sigma_{\text{el}}^R, \quad (27)$$

where $\sigma_{1\gamma}$ is the one-photon exchange cross section, B_k is a correction factor to the virtual photon flux for the vacuum polarisation, vertex graphs etc. and σ_{inel}^R (σ_{el}^R) is the contribution to the cross section in a given x, y bin from the inelastic (elastic) radiative tails:

$$\sigma_{\text{inel}(\text{el})}^R(x, y) = \int r(x', y', x, y) \sigma_{\text{inel}(\text{el})}^R(x', y') dx' dy'.$$

Here $r(x', y', x, y)$ is the probability that an event at x', y' appears, after radiating one or more photons, in the bin x, y .

The measured asymmetry can then be written as

$$A_m = fP_B P_T D A_1 \left(\frac{B_k + T_1 + T_2 + (P_T^N / P_T)(T_3 + T_4 + T_5 + T_6)}{1 + (T_7 + T_8)f} \right) \\ = \frac{fP_B P_T D A_1}{1 + R_c}, \quad (28)$$

where R_c is the overall correction, P_T^N is the nitrogen polarisation (13% of the proton polarisation P_T [28]) and the different terms T_i are
 T_1 : radiated asymmetry from the proton inelastic tail

$$T_1 = \frac{1}{D A_1 \sigma_{1\gamma}} \int r(x', y', x, y) D(y') A_1(x') \sigma_{\text{inel}}(x', y') dx' dy', \quad (29)$$

with A_1 taken from a fit to the data.

T_2 : radiative asymmetry from the proton elastic tail. It is given by an expression identical to eq. (29) but with the elastic asymmetry A_{el} (arising from the interference of G_M and G_E , which have been determined to have the same sign [38]) substituted for A_1 :

$$A_{\text{el}} = D_{\text{el}} (1 + \eta \sqrt{R_{\text{el}}}) \quad (30)$$

with

$$D_{\text{el}} = \frac{y(2-y)}{y^2 + 2(1-y)(1+R_{\text{el}})}, \quad R_{\text{el}} = \frac{G_E^2}{\tau G_M^2}, \quad (31, 32)$$

where G_M and G_E are the electric and magnetic form factors of the proton and $\tau = Q^2/4M^2$.

T_3 : correction for the asymmetry from the polarised nitrogen

$$T_3 = B_k \frac{\sigma^N A_1^N}{3\sigma^P A_1^P}, \quad (33)$$

where σ^N , σ^P , A_1^N and A_1^P are the cross sections and asymmetries for nitrogen and proton, respectively. The asymmetry A_1^N was computed using the shell model of the nucleus in which the nitrogen nucleus consists of a spin-0 core of 6 protons and 6 neutrons plus an odd proton and neutron each in a $p^{1/2}$ state so that the ground state has spin 1. Writing down the nuclear wave functions shows that each odd nucleon is twice as likely to have its spin opposite to the nuclear spin than parallel

to it. Such a calculation predicts the static magnetic moments of ^{14}N to within 10% of the measured value. Thus neglecting the asymmetry from the odd neutron and assuming that the bound and free proton asymmetries are the same $A_1^{\text{N}} \sim -\frac{1}{3}(\sigma^{\text{P}}/\sigma^{\text{N}})A_1^{\text{P}}$, so that $T_3 \sim -B_k/9$. On multiplying this by the ratio $P_{\text{T}}^{\text{N}}/P_{\text{T}}$, the polarisation of the nitrogen nucleus contributes a correction $\sim 1.5\%$ to the free proton asymmetry.

T_4 : Correction due to the inelastic radiative tail from the polarised proton in the nitrogen (as in eq. (29), with A_1^{N} substituted for A_1).

T_5 : Correction for the quasi-elastic radiative tail from nitrogen.

T_6 : Correction for the coherent radiative tail from nitrogen.

T_7 : Total radiative correction for unpolarised protons.

T_8 : Total radiative correction for unpolarised nitrogen. Here the single nucleon cross section for carbon was used, which should be similar to that for nitrogen.

Fig. 4 shows the contribution of the various sources to the radiative correction. The dash-dotted curve, labelled ‘‘polarised proton correction’’, is obtained from

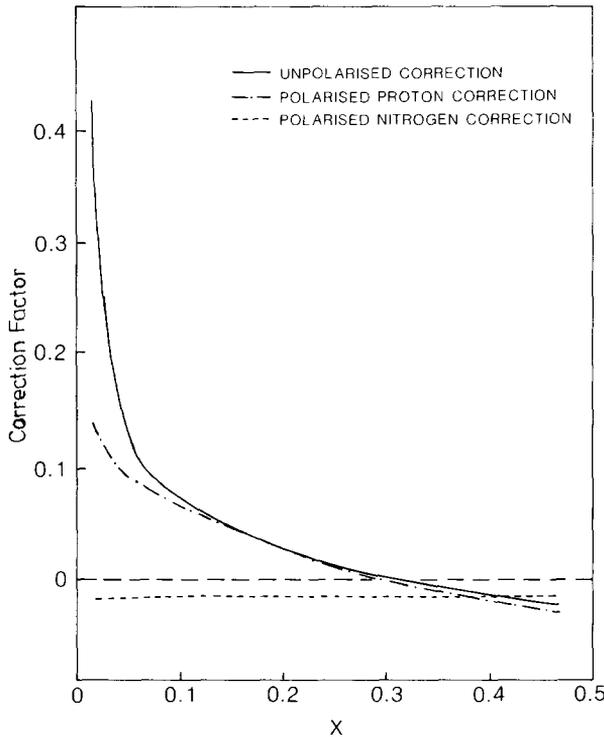


Fig. 4. Contributions from various sources to the radiative corrections; the curve labelled polarised proton correction is $B_k + T_1 + T_2 - 1$, that labelled polarised nitrogen correction is $(p_{\text{T}}^{\text{N}}/p_{\text{T}}) \times (T_3 + T_4 + T_5 + T_6)$ and that labelled unpolarised correction is $f(T_7 + T_8)$ (see text).

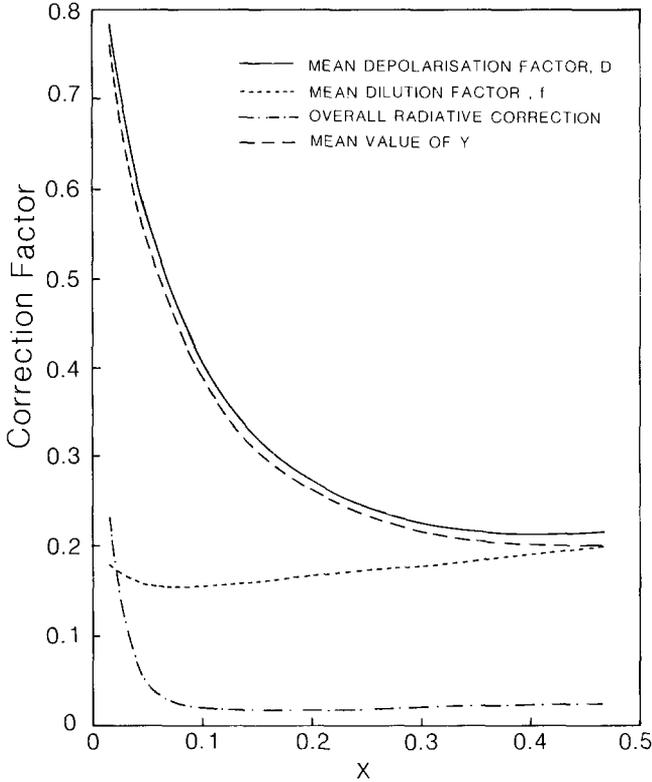


Fig. 5. The correction factors for radiative effects; depolarisation factor D ; dilution factor f ; $\langle y \rangle$ of the data as a function of x .

$B_k + T_1 + T_2 - 1$ (eq. (28)). It shows the effect in the numerator of the asymmetry arising from radiative smearing in elastic and inelastic scattering together with the effects of the vacuum polarisation and vertex corrections. The term T_2 from elastic scattering is everywhere small. The dashed curve, labelled “polarised nitrogen correction”, is obtained from $(P_T^N/P_T)(T_3 + T_4 + T_5 + T_6)$ which is dominated by T_3 . The correction is rather small ($< 2\%$ everywhere). The solid curve, labelled “unpolarised correction” shows the term $f(T_7 + T_8)$ which represents the correction to the unpolarised cross sections in the denominator of the asymmetry. The values are dominated by the nitrogen contribution (T_8) which included quasi-elastic and coherent elastic radiative scattering as well as the contribution from radiative inelastic scattering and vacuum polarisation and vertex effects. The unpolarised correction gives the largest contribution to the radiative corrections.

The total radiative correction to the measured value of A_1 (the term R_c in eq. (28)) is shown as a function of x in fig. 5. Also shown are the variation of the depolarisation factor D , the dilution factor f , and the mean value of y .

Electroweak effects were also studied but were found to be negligible in the Q^2 range of this experiment.

7. Results

7.1. THE VIRTUAL PHOTON ASYMMETRY A_1

The cuts applied to the data are given in table 3 and the numbers of events surviving these cuts in table 4 together with other details of each experimental run. The virtual photon asymmetry A_1 was calculated for each experimental run on a grid of $11x$ and $15Q^2$ bins. The data were then averaged in different ways. Table 5 and fig. 6 show the values of A_1 as a function of x averaged over Q^2 . The systematic errors shown in table 5 are discussed below. The values of χ^2 to the mean of each x point for 10 degrees of freedom (11 runs) are also given. These show approximately a statistical distribution which is evidence that systematic errors due to false asymmetries are smaller than the statistical errors, provided that they do not always

TABLE 3
Kinematic cuts applied to the data for the three beam energies

E_μ (GeV)	Q_{\min}^2 (GeV ² /c ²)	ν_{\min} (GeV)	$E_{\mu,\min}'$ (GeV)	y_{\max}	θ_{\min}
100	1.5	10	18	0.85	1°
120	2.0	10	20	0.85	1°
200	3.0	20	30	0.85	1°

TABLE 4
Data used to measure the asymmetry

Run (period, year)	Energy (GeV)	Initial target orientations	Mean target polarisation, P_T (%)	No. of events after cuts $\times 10^{-3}$
2B84	200	-/+	77.3	114.6
2C84 I	200	-/+	78.5	62.5
2C84 II	200	+/-	75.5	68.7
3A84	120	-/+	74.4	236.3
3B84	200	+/-	78.7	115.8
3C84 I	200	-/+	79.0	44.1
3C84 II	100	+/-	80.7	202.1
2A85	200	-/+	80.5	41.5
2B85 I	120	-/+	72.7	180.5
2B85 II	200	+/-	71.7	58.5
2C85	200	-/+	78.4	97.5

TABLE 5
 A_1 in x bins

x range	Mean x	Mean Q^2 (GeV/c) ²	Mean D	Mean f	ΔA_1 due to radiative corrections	Raw asymmetry \bar{A}_m	$A_1 \pm \sigma_{\text{stat}} \pm \sigma_{\text{syst}}^{\text{a}}$	χ^2/DOF
0.01–0.02	0.015	3.5	0.784	0.181	0.005	0.0019 ± 0.0030	$0.027 \pm 0.035 \pm 0.010$	7.7/10
0.02–0.03	0.025	4.5	0.699	0.168	0.005	0.0063 ± 0.0031	$0.091 \pm 0.042 \pm 0.013$	7.3/10
0.03–0.04	0.035	6.0	0.633	0.161	0.005	0.0016 ± 0.0034	$0.026 \pm 0.052 \pm 0.014$	5.2/10
0.04–0.06	0.050	8.0	0.562	0.157	0.005	0.0050 ± 0.0027	$0.082 \pm 0.047 \pm 0.016$	5.0/10
0.06–0.10	0.078	10.3	0.459	0.155	0.004	0.0065 ± 0.0022	$0.141 \pm 0.047 \pm 0.021$	4.5/10
0.10–0.15	0.124	12.9	0.358	0.158	0.004	0.0065 ± 0.0025	$0.181 \pm 0.061 \pm 0.027$	21.4/10
0.15–0.20	0.175	15.2	0.295	0.163	0.005	0.0103 ± 0.0026	$0.363 \pm 0.084 \pm 0.037$	15.2/10
0.20–0.30	0.248	18.0	0.246	0.171	0.007	0.0140 ± 0.0028	$0.458 \pm 0.086 \pm 0.041$	12.0/10
0.30–0.40	0.344	22.5	0.216	0.183	0.011	0.0122 ± 0.0036	$0.525 \pm 0.139 \pm 0.045$	8.0/10
0.40–0.70	0.466	29.5	0.216	0.199	0.017	0.0167 ± 0.0048	$0.638 \pm 0.172 \pm 0.049$	9.1/10

^aThere is an additional overall normalisation uncertainty of 9.6%, from the uncertainty in the beam and target polarisations.

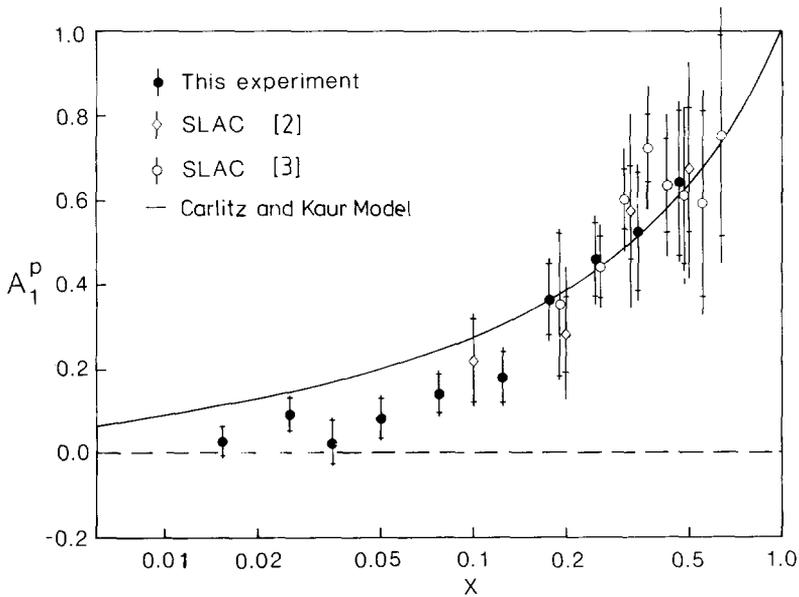


Fig. 6. The asymmetry A_1 for the proton as a function of x together with the results from previous experiments [2, 3]. The curve is from the model of ref. [17].

contribute in the same direction. A parameterisation of the data in fig. 6 is

$$A_1 = 1.025x^{0.12}(1 - e^{-2.7x}). \tag{34}$$

The earlier data from SLAC [2, 3] are also shown in fig. 6. The agreement between these data and the data presented here is good in the region of overlap. The new measurements extend the range down to lower values of x . The solid smooth curve in fig. 6 shows the predictions of the model of Carlitz and Kaur [17] based on the conventional quark parton model. This model gives a good representation of the data for $x \geq 0.2$ but fails to represent the new data at lower values of x . A recent modification of this model, allowing the u and d quarks to have different masses, obtained good agreement with the data over the whole x range [39]. Predictions of the behaviour of A_1 with x were also made using the Fire String Model [40]. These predictions are in good agreement with the data in fig. 6.

Fig. 7 shows the Q^2 dependence of A_1 in three x ranges together with the older SLAC data in the deep inelastic region [2, 3] and also in the resonance region [4] in which a W cut ($W > 1.31$ GeV) has been applied to exclude the Δ_{33} (1236) resonance

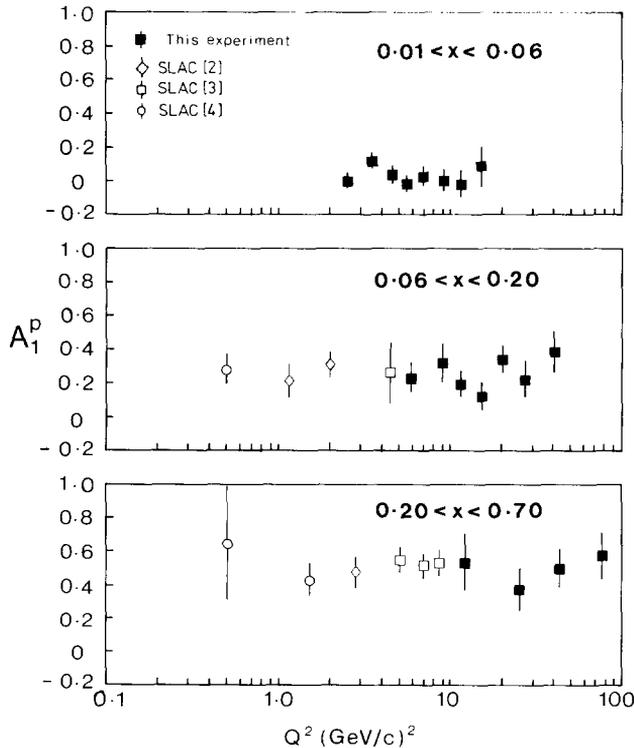


Fig. 7. A_1^p versus Q^2 in three x bins.

TABLE 6
Systematic errors for A_1

x	Source of error					Total ^a systematic
	R	A_2	K	f	Radiative corrections	
0.015	0.001	0.003	0.009	0.002	0.001	0.010
0.025	0.003	0.005	0.010	0.005	0.001	0.013
0.035	0.001	0.007	0.012	0.001	0.001	0.014
0.050	0.004	0.008	0.013	0.004	0.001	0.016
0.078	0.005	0.012	0.016	0.006	0.001	0.021
0.124	0.004	0.015	0.020	0.008	0.002	0.027
0.175	0.009	0.019	0.025	0.017	0.004	0.037
0.248	0.008	0.021	0.028	0.021	0.005	0.042
0.344	0.006	0.023	0.030	0.025	0.005	0.046
0.466	0.005	0.022	0.027	0.034	0.007	0.049

^aThere is an additional 9.6% overall normalisation uncertainty arising from the errors in the beam and target polarisations.

where the asymmetry is observed to be negative. This figure shows that there is no strong Q^2 dependence in the data. However, the predicted scaling violations due to QCD effects [41] are much smaller than the precision of the data. This negligible Q^2 dependence of A_1 at fixed x allows us to combine the data taken with different beam energies in the same x bin.

7.2. THE SYSTEMATIC ERRORS ON A_1

The systematic errors on A_1 , shown in table 5, were evaluated from each of the individual sources shown in table 6. The value of R used to compute the depolarisation factor was taken from a QCD calculation [35] with a 50% uncertainty as explained above (subsect. 6.4). The change in the value of A_1 as the computed value of R is changed by 50% are shown in the second column of table 6 and this is taken as the uncertainty due to R . Similarly the uncertainty due to the neglect of A_2 in eq. (4) was obtained by recalculating A_1 assuming A_2 can be anywhere within the limits $-\sqrt{R} \leq A_2 \leq \sqrt{R}$, set by positivity requirements [12]. Taking R from the QCD calculation, as above, the changes in A_1 produced by neglecting A_2 in this way are shown in the third column of table 6.

The dilution factor f (eq. (25)) suffers from uncertainties as described in subsect. 6.3. The total error on A_1 induced by these errors on f are shown in the fifth column of table 6.

The uncertainties in the radiative corrections reflect both theoretical uncertainties and those due to approximations made when applying the corrections to the data. The uncertainty assigned was 15% of the correction or 1% of the measured value of

A_1 , whichever was larger. Due to the smallness of the correction itself, this is a relatively unimportant source of error for A_1 . It is shown in column 6 of table 6.

The uncertainty labelled K in column 4 of table 6 is an estimate of the error arising from possible false asymmetries due to time dependent changes in the ratio of the upstream to downstream acceptances (a_u/a_d). This is quantified by K , the term defined in eq. (21). If K is not exactly unity, then the measured asymmetry (eq. (20)) becomes, to first order in $K - 1$,

$$A_1 = \frac{1}{fP_B P_T D} \left[\frac{1}{2}(A_m + A'_m) \pm \frac{K-1}{4} \right], \quad (35)$$

where the $+$ ($-$) sign is for periods of type 1(2), i.e. those in which the initial target configuration is $-/+$, i.e. $P_u < 0, P_d > 0$ ($+/-$, i.e. $P_u > 0, P_d < 0$). Fig. 8 shows the values of A_1 as a function of x for the data averaged over the seven periods of type 1 and over the four periods of type 2. The fact that the data for type 1 periods tend to have larger values of A_1 than those for type 2 shows that K is not exactly unity. The values of K in each x bin required to reconcile the differences in fig. 8 was determined using eq. (35). These values turned out to be constant within errors, i.e. independent of x with a mean value of 0.990 ± 0.005 . In doing this the mean value of K in each x bin was assumed to be the same for the 7 type 1 periods as the 4 type 2 periods. An approximately time independent value of K is expected since

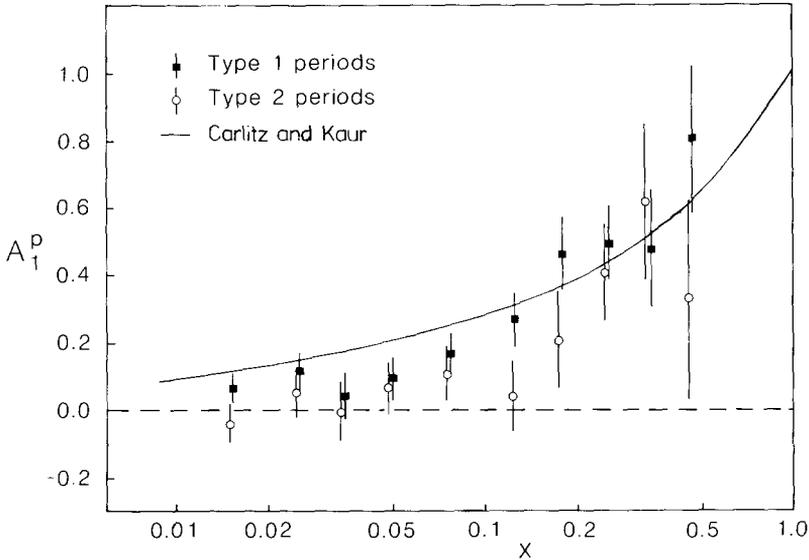


Fig. 8. Comparison of the asymmetries A_1^P obtained from periods with the two possible initial polarised target configurations.

the ratio a_u/a_d tended to increase uniformly with time due to the radiation damage to the chambers in the beam region.

Since seven periods were of type 1 and four of type 2, there is a partial cancellation of the false asymmetry term $\pm(K-1)/4$ in eq. (35) when all eleven periods are combined together. The above value of K of 0.990 ± 0.005 for each period becomes an effective K_{tot} of 0.998 ± 0.001 when all periods are combined together. To check this result the data were split into two subsamples for one of which time dependent changes in the ratio a_u/a_d were expected to be much smaller than for the other. Thus the asymmetry A_1 was determined for the subsample of events in which the scattered muon passed outside the radius of P4/5. The values of A_1 for this subsample were consistent within the errors for type 1 and type 2 periods. This was expected since no change in chamber efficiencies outside this radius could be detected, and hence it can be assumed that the value of K for these events is close to unity. Labelling A_1 for this subsample as A_{out} , and for the total event sample as A_{tot} , we then have

$$K_{\text{tot}} - 1 = 4fP_B P_T D (A_{\text{out}} - A_{\text{tot}}). \quad (36)$$

The points derived from the above equation are shown in fig. 9 as a function of x . The values of K_{tot} are everywhere consistent with unity and have an average of

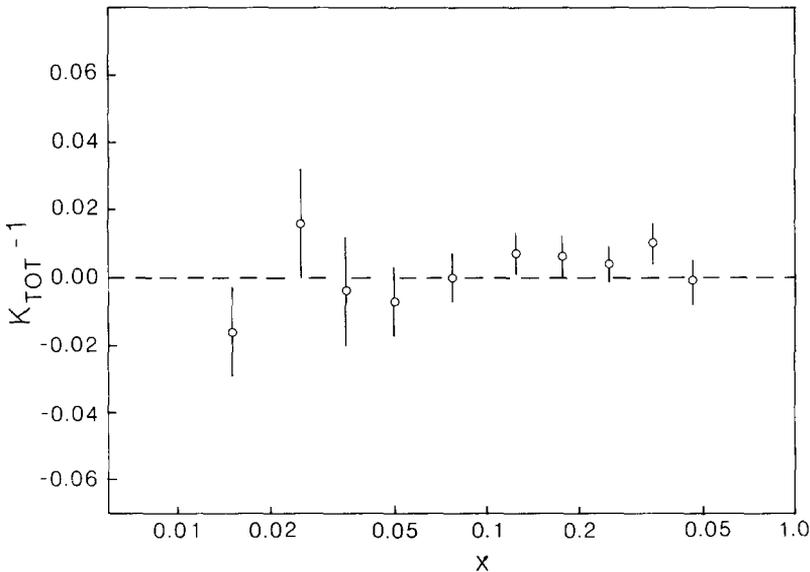


Fig. 9. The measured value of $K - 1$ obtained by comparing the asymmetries measured for events with muon tracks detected outside the chambers P4/5 and the total sample.

1.003 ± 0.002 in reasonable agreement with the previous value of 0.998 ± 0.001 . Since both these values are consistent with unity, it was decided to take $K_{\text{tot}} = 1.000 \pm 0.003$, constant and independent of x . Hence no systematic correction was applied to the values of A_1 , but the above uncertainty was translated into a systematic error on A_1 , where values are shown in the fourth column of table 6.

As a consistency check on the above analysis events were selected which contained an identified hadron. For this sample the radiative corrections were small since all the effects concerning the elastic radiative tail disappear on demanding a hadron. In addition for such events $a_u/a_d \sim 0.8$ averaged over x compared to about 1.1 for the total inclusive sample. Thus any time dependent changes in a_u/a_d would be expected to have a different effect between the two samples. Particles were identified as hadrons and not electrons by demanding that less than 85% of their total energy was deposited in the upstream electromagnetic part of the calorimeter (H2 in fig. 1). Fig. 10 shows the variation of A_1 as a function of x for events with accompanying hadrons compared to the values from the total sample. There is a good consistency between the two sets of data, illustrating that the radiative effects had been correctly calculated and residual false asymmetries were small compared to the errors.

The data were split into two different subsamples in many other ways. None of these gave a mean value of K which was significantly different from unity.

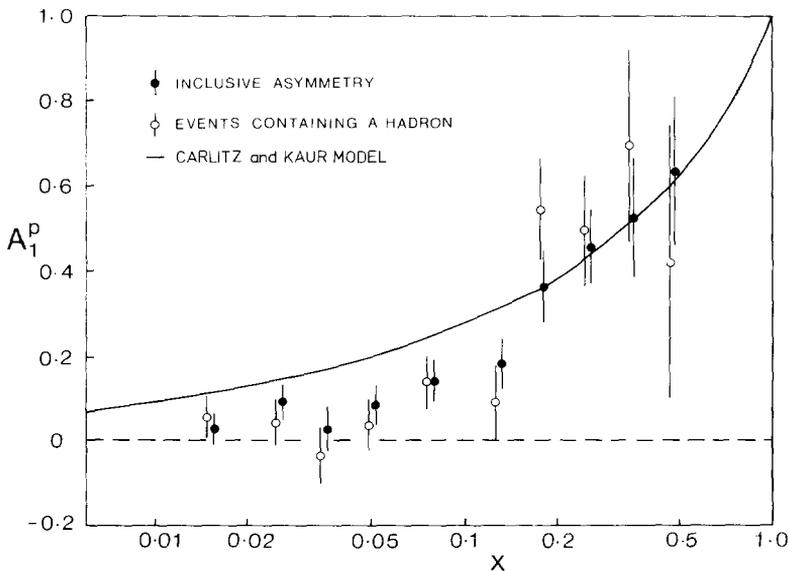


Fig. 10. Comparison of the asymmetries A_1^p as a function of x for events with one or more detected hadrons with those from the total data sample. The smooth curve shows the prediction of the model of ref. [17].

7.3. SEMI-INCLUSIVE ASYMMETRIES IN THE FINAL STATE HADRONS

Spin asymmetries for positive and negative hadron production were also measured. Here the asymmetries are given by

$$A^{\pm} = \frac{(\mathrm{d}\sigma^{\pm}/\mathrm{d}z)_{1/2} - (\mathrm{d}\sigma^{\pm}/\mathrm{d}z)_{3/2}}{(\mathrm{d}\sigma^{\pm}/\mathrm{d}z)_{1/2} + (\mathrm{d}\sigma^{\pm}/\mathrm{d}z)_{3/2}}, \quad (37)$$

where again the subscripts refer to the projection of the total angular momentum of the virtual photon–proton system along the incident lepton direction and the $(-)$ signs refer to positive (negative) hadrons. In the naïve quark parton model A^+ is expected to be larger than A^- . This can be understood as follows. From helicity conservation the cross section for quark scattering $\sigma_{3/2}^q$ is zero and u (d) quarks fragment more readily to π^+ (π^-) mesons, particularly at higher z [42], where $z = E_{\pi}/\nu$ with E_{π} the pion energy. Thus if the u (d) quarks are polarised parallel (antiparallel) to the proton spin as expected in the naïve quark parton model A^+ should be larger than A^- at higher z . Detailed calculations based on this model were made by Heimann [43].

In order to maximise the difference between A^+ and A^- z should be as large as possible. The analysis was performed with $z > z_0$ with $z_0 = 0.1$ as a compromise between sufficient statistical accuracy and maximising the expected differences between A^+ and A^- . The analysis procedure is identical to that for the inclusive asymmetries described above except for the calculation of the dilution factors. This stems from the different probabilities for a proton and neutron in the target to yield

TABLE 7
Semi-inclusive asymmetries in x bins ($z > 0.1$)

x range	$\langle x \rangle$	$\langle Q^2 \rangle$ (GeV ² /c ²)	$\langle D \rangle$	$\langle f \rangle$	$A^+ \pm \sigma_{\text{stat}} \pm \sigma_{\text{syst}}^{\text{a}}$	χ^2/DoF
0.01–0.03	0.020	4.2	0.713	0.177	$0.122 \pm 0.057 \pm 0.028$	9.3/10
0.03–0.06	0.044	7.6	0.582	0.164	$-0.114 \pm 0.065 \pm 0.033$	17.6/10
0.06–0.15	0.097	12.9	0.440	0.165	$0.178 \pm 0.065 \pm 0.043$	7.6/10
0.15–0.30	0.203	22.7	0.379	0.177	$0.527 \pm 0.104 \pm 0.051$	7.5/10
0.30–0.70	0.376	42.0	0.386	0.195	$0.780 \pm 0.214 \pm 0.046$	16.1/10
					$A^- \pm \sigma_{\text{stat}} \pm \sigma_{\text{syst}}^{\text{a}}$	
0.01–0.03	0.020	4.2	0.718	0.172	$-0.021 \pm 0.064 \pm 0.024$	9.9/10
0.03–0.06	0.044	7.7	0.584	0.157	$0.012 \pm 0.074 \pm 0.033$	19.1/10
0.06–0.15	0.098	12.9	0.444	0.156	$0.002 \pm 0.077 \pm 0.043$	11.2/10
0.15–0.30	0.203	22.4	0.374	0.164	$0.269 \pm 0.131 \pm 0.051$	5.9/10
0.30–0.70	0.371	41.1	0.379	0.178	$0.562 \pm 0.283 \pm 0.047$	11.0/10

^aThere is in addition an overall normalization uncertainty of 9.6% (the same for A^+ , A^-) from the uncertainties in beam and target polarisations.

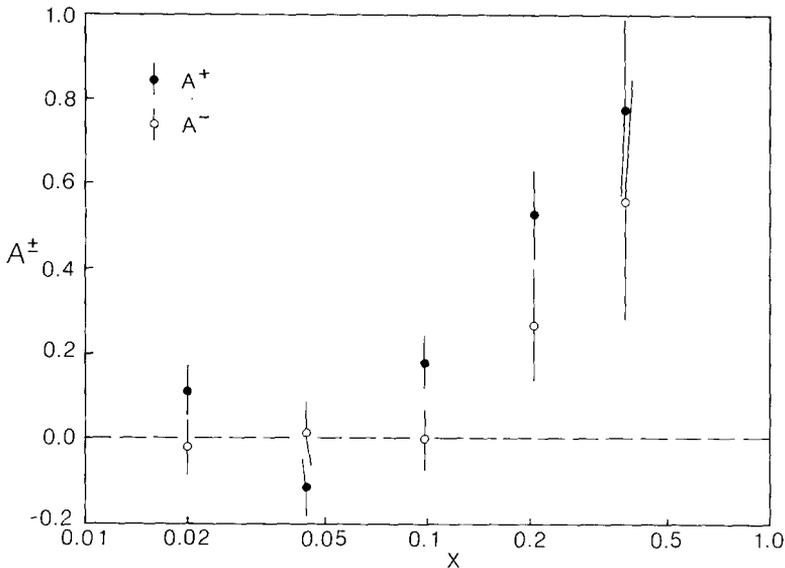


Fig. 11. The semi-inclusive asymmetries A^+ (A^-) for positive (negative) hadrons versus x .

final state π^+ and π^- mesons. These dilution factors were computed from the quark parton model using the quark distribution function taken from ref. [44] and the parameterisations of the favoured and unfavoured fragmentation functions taken from ref. [42]. The results are shown in table 7 and fig. 11.

It can be seen from fig. 11 that both A^+ and A^- rise at large values of x . This is to be expected from the observed behaviour of the inclusive asymmetry (subsect. 7.1). However, the values of A^+ tend to be larger than those of A^- , consistent with the expectations of the naïve quark parton model.

8. The structure function g_1^p

The structure function g_1^p was determined at a fixed $Q^2 = 10.7 \text{ GeV}^2$, the mean Q^2 of the data, using eq. (12) and the values of A_1 from table 5. As shown in this table, the mean Q^2 for these values varies considerably with x , but (from subsect. 7.1) there is no change of A_1 with Q^2 at fixed x within the errors. The values of F_2 were taken from a parameterisation of the EMC hydrogen data [45] adjusted from the value of $R = 0$ which was assumed in this parameterisation, to R calculated from QCD. Table 8 and fig. 12 show the values obtained for g_1^p together with the systematic uncertainties described in sect. 7. The total normalisation uncertainty of 14% arises from 9.6% due to the uncertainty in the beam and target polarisations and an assumed 10% due to the uncertainty in F_2 .

TABLE 8
Final results for the spin-dependent structure function g_1^p

x	g_1^p	Statistical error	Systematic error due to				Radiative correction	Total systematic error
			R	A_2	K	f		
0.015	0.279	0.361	0.014	0.046	0.093	0.018	0.009	0.106
0.025	0.564	0.260	0.026	0.029	0.062	0.031	0.006	0.080
0.035	0.115	0.230	0.004	0.021	0.052	0.004	0.004	0.057
0.050	0.254	0.146	0.004	0.015	0.040	0.009	0.003	0.044
0.078	0.280	0.093	0.005	0.009	0.032	0.012	0.002	0.036
0.124	0.225	0.076	0.005	0.005	0.025	0.010	0.002	0.028
0.175	0.311	0.072	0.003	0.003	0.021	0.014	0.003	0.026
0.248	0.253	0.048	0.003	0.002	0.015	0.011	0.003	0.019
0.344	0.167	0.044	0.002	0.001	0.010	0.008	0.002	0.013
0.466	0.094	0.025	0.001	0.000	0.004	0.005	0.001	0.007

^aThere is an additional overall 14% normalisation uncertainty due to uncertainties in beam and target polarisations and in the value of F_2 .

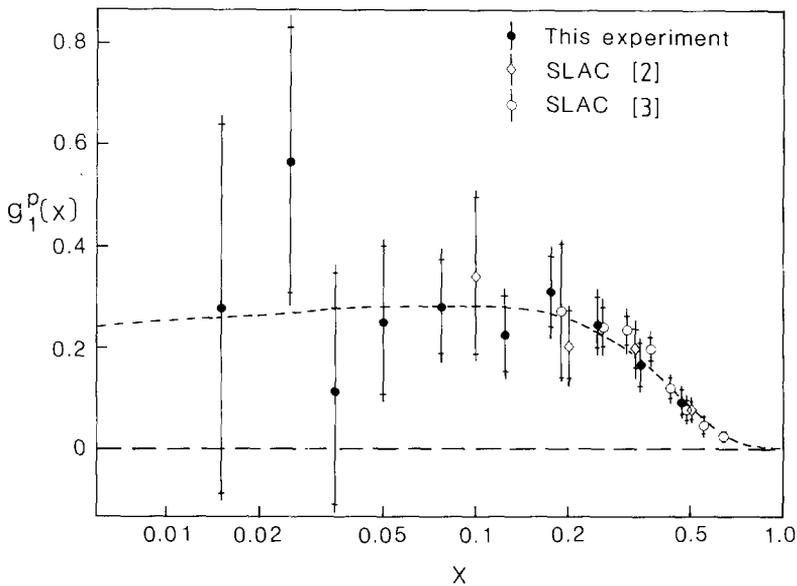


Fig. 12. The structure function $g_1^p(x)$ as a function of x . The dashed curve is the value deduced from the parameterisation (eq. (34)).

The value of $F_2/(1 + R)$ for $x < 0.03$ was taken to be constant as expected from Regge theory [46] and as confirmed experimentally up to $Q^2 = 7 \text{ GeV}^2$ [47]. The data in fig. 12 tend to be constant (within errors) for $x < 0.2$ as predicted from simple Regge theory [46,48].

9. The integral of g_1^P over x

9.1. THE EMC DATA ALONE

In integrating g_1^P over x the values of A_1 were assumed constant over each x bin, but the function $F_2/2x(1 + R)$ was integrated numerically for each bin because of its rapid variation for $x > 0.3$. Fig. 13 shows the values of this integral from the low edge of each bin to $x = 1$, plotted against the low edge of the bin, together with the data from SLAC [2,3]. The inner and outer error bars are the statistical and total errors. It should be noted that the errors are cumulative, i.e. each error contains the contribution from all the previous points at higher x . The normalisation error is included in the total error. The smooth curve is the integral obtained by using the parameterisation of A_1 (eq. (34)) which was used to estimate the contributions from the regions in x not covered by the data, i.e. $x < 0.01$ and $x > 0.7$.

It can be seen that contributions from the lower x bins are small and the integral converges well. The values of the integral shown in fig. 13 were obtained using a

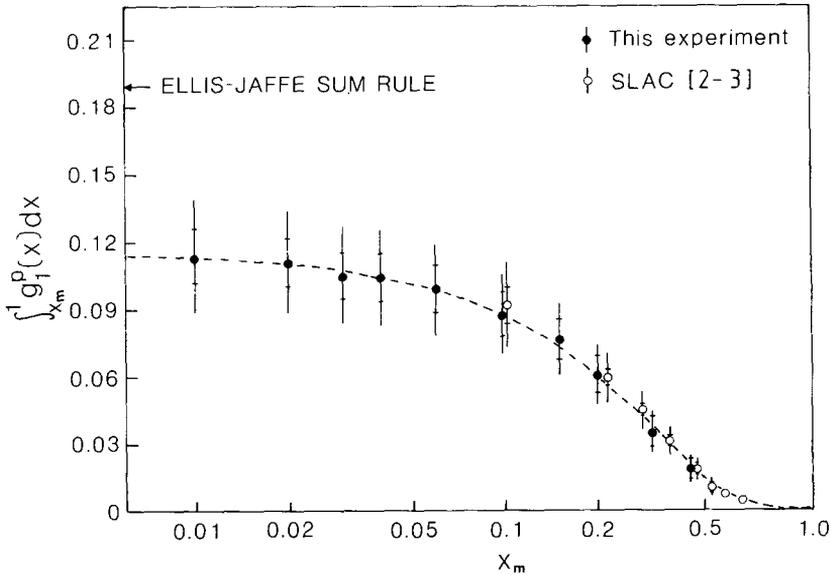


Fig. 13. The convergence of the integral $\int_{x_m}^1 g_1^P dx$ as a function of x_m , where x_m is the value of x at the low edge of each bin.

TABLE 9

The integral of g_1^p using different measurements of the unpolarised structure function F_2

Source of F_2	$\int_{0.01}^{0.7} g_1^p dx$ at $Q^2 = 10.7 \text{ GeV}^2$
EMC proton [45]	0.113 ± 0.012
EMC iron [50]	0.115 ± 0.012
DFLM [44]	0.123 ± 0.013
BCDMS [51]	0.127 ± 0.014
mean	0.120
standard deviation	0.0068

parameterisation of the EMC measurements of F_2 for the proton [45]. Recently, some differences between the various measurements of F_2 have been highlighted [49]. To test the sensitivity to F_2 the integral was evaluated using the different available data on F_2 . The results in the measurement region $0.01 < x < 0.7$ are shown in table 9 at $Q^2 = 10.7 \text{ GeV}^2$, the mean Q^2 of the data. The first two values of F_2 are the EMC proton [45] and iron data [50] where in the latter a correction has been made for nuclear effects on the nucleon structure function [33, 34] and for the ratio of σ_n/σ_p from eq. (23). The entry labelled DFLM in table 9 uses the value of F_2 computed from the most recent parameterisation of the neutrino structure functions [44] which are based on data down to $x = 0.015$. The entry labelled BCDMS is from a parameterisation of the data given in ref. [51]. To extrapolate the latter data set below their measurement region ($x < 0.06$) the assumption was made that $F_2/(1 + R)$ approaches a constant below $x = 0.06$ as discussed in sect. 8.

Taking the mean of the values in table 9 gives

$$\int_{0.01}^{0.7} g_1^p dx = 0.120 \pm 0.013 \text{ (stat.)}, \quad (38)$$

with an uncertainty due to $F_2 = 5.6\%$ which is taken from the standard deviation of the values in table 9.

The contributions outside the measured region were obtained from the parameterisation of A_1 (eq. (34)) and these give

$$\int_{0.7}^1 g_1^p dx = 0.001, \quad \int_0^{0.01} g_1^p dx = 0.002. \quad (39)$$

In the latter we assume that both g_1 and $F_2/(1 + R)$ are well behaved, i.e. remain approximately constant as x approaches zero. For g_1 this is compatible with the data (fig. 12) and it has been shown to be true for F_2 up to $Q^2 \sim 7 \text{ GeV}^2$ in a recent experiment [47]. We assign errors equal to the values in eq. (39).

TABLE 10
Systematic errors on the integral of g_1

dilution factor f	± 0.0054
uncertainty in R_{QCD}	± 0.0007
radiative corrections	± 0.0016
neglect of A_2	± 0.0030
beam polarisation	± 0.0092
target polarisation	± 0.0074
uncertainty in F_2	± 0.0071
acceptance effects	± 0.0108
extrapolations into unmeasured region	± 0.0030
total systematic error	± 0.019

The systematic errors affect the values in all the bins in the same way. The contribution to the total uncertainty from each separate source is estimated by recalculating the integral after increasing or decreasing all the points simultaneously by the corresponding systematic error. Table 10 summarises the results together with the global uncertainty which is obtained from the quadrature sum of the individual contributions. Thus from the asymmetry measurements presented here the integral becomes

$$\int_0^1 g_1^p dx = 0.123 \pm 0.013 \pm 0.019, \quad (40)$$

where the first is the statistical and the second the systematic error.

9.2. COMBINATION OF THE EMC AND SLAC DATA [2,3]

Since we have already shown (fig. 7) that there is no indication of a Q^2 dependence of A_1 , over the range covered by the EMC and SLAC data, it is reasonable to combine the results to achieve higher accuracy. Averaging over the different sources of F_2 , as above, the SLAC data give

$$\int_{0.1}^{0.7} g_1^p dx = 0.094 \pm 0.008 \pm 0.014 \quad (41)$$

and in the same region ($0.1 < x < 0.7$) the EMC data give

$$\int_{0.1}^{0.7} g_1^p dx = 0.090 \pm 0.010 \pm 0.011, \quad (42)$$

where the contribution to the systematic error from the uncertainty in F_2 has been excluded.

The systematic errors in the two results have different origins, being dominated by the uncertainty due to possible false asymmetries from acceptance effects in the EMC case and by the value of R in the SLAC case. Therefore the systematic errors can be combined as if they were statistical, giving

$$\int_{0.1}^{0.7} g_1^p dx = 0.092 \pm 0.006 \pm 0.010, \quad (43)$$

where a further 5% contribution has now been added for the uncertainty in F_2 in this x range. In addition the EMC data alone give

$$\int_{0.01}^{0.1} g_1^p dx = 0.030 \pm 0.008 \pm 0.007, \quad (44)$$

where the systematic error includes the uncertainty in F_2 . In combining eqs. (43) and (44), care must be taken regarding the correlation in the uncertainties for EMC data in the low and high x ranges. If the systematic errors in eqs. (43) and (44) were uncorrelated, they should be added in quadrature whereas if they were correlated they should be added linearly. Since eq. (43) was obtained with approximately equal contributions from SLAC and EMC, the mean of the values of the two approaches is taken. Adding the contributions from extrapolating into the unmeasured regions gives

$$\int_0^1 g_1^p dx = 0.126 \pm 0.010 \pm 0.015. \quad (45)$$

The value expected for this integral from the Ellis–Jaffe sum rule (17) is 0.189 ± 0.005 using the current values of $F/D = 0.631 \pm 0.018$ [52], $g_A = 1.254 \pm 0.006$ and $\alpha_s = 0.27 \pm 0.02$ at $Q^2 = 10.7 \text{ GeV}^2$. The measured value is inconsistent with this prediction.

10. Discussion of the results and conclusions

The QCD corrected parton model expression for the integral of g_1^p can be written [53]

$$\Gamma_p = \int_0^1 g_1^p dx = \frac{1}{12} \left\{ \left[1 - \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right] \left[a_3 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} a_8 \right] + 2 \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \left[1 - \frac{33 - 8f}{33 - 2f} \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right] a_0 \right\}, \quad (46)$$

where the a_j are directly related to the proton matrix elements of the nonet of axial vector currents $A_j^\mu = \bar{\Psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 (\lambda_j/2) \Psi$, $j = 0, 1, \dots, 8$ by $\langle P, S | A_j^\mu | P, S \rangle = 2 M a_j S^\mu$ where S^μ is the covariant spin vector of the proton.

From isospin invariance it follows that [20]

$$a_3 = g_A = F + D = 1.254 \pm 0.006. \quad (47)$$

Furthermore, if $SU(3)_F$ is a good symmetry for describing the β decays of the octet of hyperons [5]

$$a_8 = (1/\sqrt{3})(3F - D) = 0.397 \pm 0.020, \quad (48)$$

where F and D are defined above (eq. (16)). This value is obtained by taking $F + D$ from eq. (47) and F/D from ref. [52].

There is no theoretical prediction for a_0 . However, using the measured value of Γ_p from eq. (45) and the values of a_3 and a_8 from eqs. (47) and (48), eq. (46) gives

$$a_0 = 0.098 \pm 0.076 \pm 0.113. \quad (49)$$

$SU(3)_F$ symmetry is not exact and this introduces an uncertainty in the value of a_8 . For example, another measurement of F/D [54] would give $a_8 = 0.345 \pm 0.012$. However, it can be seen from eq. (46) that the value of a_0 is not very sensitive to the value of a_8 , and any uncertainty from the possible magnitude of $SU(3)_F$ symmetry breaking effects is much smaller than the experimental errors.

In the naïve parton model the a_j are given by

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \sqrt{2/3} \{ \Delta u + \Delta \bar{u} + \Delta d + \Delta \bar{d} + \Delta s + \Delta \bar{s} \}, \\ a_3 &= \{ \Delta u + \Delta \bar{u} - \Delta d - \Delta \bar{d} \}, \\ a_8 &= (1/\sqrt{3}) \{ \Delta u + \Delta \bar{u} + \Delta d + \Delta \bar{d} - 2(\Delta s + \Delta \bar{s}) \} \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

where $\Delta q = \int_0^1 (q^+(x) - q^-(x)) dx$. The Ellis–Jaffe sum rule (eq. (17)) was derived from eqs. (46) and (50) by assuming that $\Delta s = \Delta \bar{s} = 0$, so that $a_0 = \sqrt{2} a_8$.

Assuming the validity of eq. (50), we can now solve for the mean z component of spin carried by each of the quark flavours in a proton with $S_z = +\frac{1}{2}$. This gives

$$\begin{aligned} \langle S_z \rangle_u &= \frac{1}{2} (\Delta u + \Delta \bar{u}) = 0.391 \pm 0.016 \pm 0.023, \\ \langle S_z \rangle_d &= \frac{1}{2} (\Delta d + \Delta \bar{d}) = -0.236 \pm 0.016 \pm 0.023, \\ \langle S_z \rangle_s &= \frac{1}{2} (\Delta s + \Delta \bar{s}) = -0.095 \pm 0.016 \pm 0.023, \\ \langle S_z \rangle_{\text{quarks}} &= \frac{1}{2} (\Delta u + \Delta \bar{u} + \Delta d + \Delta \bar{d} + \Delta s + \Delta \bar{s}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} a_0 = +0.060 \pm 0.047 \pm 0.069. \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

Thus, as expected, the u quarks are predominantly polarised parallel to the proton spin and the d quarks antiparallel. However, in this model, the strange quarks are also polarised antiparallel to the proton spin and only $(12 \pm 9 \pm 14)\%$ of the spin of the proton arises from the spin of its constituent quarks. Assuming, further, that the light quark sea is symmetric between u and d quarks and polarised to the same extent as that for strange quarks, together with the assumption that there are twice as many u or d quarks in the sea as strange quarks [1], it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}\langle S_z \rangle_{\text{valence}} &= \frac{1}{2}(\Delta u + \Delta d - 4\Delta s) = +0.535 \pm 0.032 \pm 0.046, \\ \langle S_z \rangle_{\text{sea}} &= 5\Delta s = -0.475 \pm 0.080 \pm 0.115.\end{aligned}\quad (52)$$

Hence, with these assumptions, we see that the spin of the valence quarks completely accounts for the spin of the proton, but that it is almost exactly cancelled out by an equal and opposite contribution from the sea quarks.

These are surprising results in view of the success of the static quark model in explaining such phenomena as the ratio of the neutron to proton magnetic moments. In this it is assumed that the spin of the nucleon is due entirely to the spin of its valence quarks, without a contribution from sea quarks.

The validity of the result (45) was initially questioned [55] on the grounds that $g_1^p(x)$ could diverge as x tends to zero, giving a large contribution to the integral from the unmeasured region ($x \leq 0.01$). It was argued that $g_1^p(x)$ could vary like $1/x \ln^2 x$ at small x as was once suggested on the basis of the Pomeron–Pomeron cut [56]. Such behaviour is no longer favoured on theoretical grounds [48, 57–59] and, although it cannot definitely be excluded, there is no divergent tendency in the data (fig. 12). In addition, the integral converges well as x tends to zero (fig. 13).

It has also been suggested [59] that there could be significant higher twist effects which would reduce the value of Γ_p in the Q^2 range of this experiment and partially explain the low measured value. To check this idea the data have been split into two Q^2 ranges, above and below 8 GeV^2 , and Γ_p determined in each range. In the lower Q^2 range, combining the EMC and SLAC data and using the averaged F_2 as described above (see subsect. 9.1), the result is $\Gamma_p(Q^2) = 0.130 \pm 0.015 \pm 0.018$ at a mean $Q^2 = 4.8 \text{ GeV}^2$. In the upper Q^2 range, using the EMC data alone and the same averaged F_2 as above, the result is $\Gamma_p(Q^2) = 0.114 \pm 0.021 \pm 0.019$ at a mean Q^2 of 17.2 GeV^2 . It can thus be seen that there is no significant Q^2 dependence of Γ_p in the range covered by the data. This was also to be expected from the very weak Q^2 dependence of A_1^p at fixed x (see fig. 7). Hence we conclude that the higher twist effects in the Q^2 range of this experiment are probably not large.

An explanation of the effect has been given [57, 60] using the Skyrme model of the nucleon in the chiral limit of massless quarks and in the leading order of the $1/N_c$ expansion. In this model it is shown that none of the spin of the proton is carried by the quark spins. Even when chiral symmetry and $SU(3)$ are broken, the contribution

of the quark spins to the proton spin is still small. If the chiral lagrangian is adjusted so that the gluons carry 50% of the momentum of the proton, then most of the orbital angular momentum L_z is carried by the quarks and this accounts for the proton spin [48].

An alternative explanation of the effect comes from the triangle anomaly of QCD. Recently it has been pointed out [61–65] that the picture represented by eq. (50) is too naïve, since QCD radiative corrections arising from the Adler, Bell, Jackiw triangle anomaly [66,67] have been neglected. When this is taken into account, each of the terms $\Delta q + \Delta \bar{q}$ in eq. (50) is replaced by $\Delta q + \Delta \bar{q} - (\alpha_s/2\pi)\Delta g$, where $\Delta g = \int_0^1 (g^+(x) - g^-(x)) dx$ is the mean z -component of spin of the gluons in a proton with $S_z = +\frac{1}{2}$. Hence a_0 should be written

$$a_0 = 2\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \left(\langle S_z \rangle_{\text{quarks}} - \frac{3\alpha_s(Q^2)}{4\pi} \langle S_z \rangle_{\text{gluons}} \right). \quad (53)$$

If we now assume that $\langle S_z \rangle_{\text{quarks}} \approx 0.35$ as expected from the Ellis–Jaffe sum rule, then it can be seen from eqs. (49) and (53) that Δg is rather large ($\Delta g \sim 5$, at $Q^2 = 10.7$ GeV). Such an effect is predicted from dynamically generated spin dependent parton distributions [68]. Since $\alpha_s \Delta g$ is approximately constant, independent of Q^2 , then at low Q^2 , where α_s is large, Δg would be small and the static quark picture would prevail. Furthermore, the triangle anomaly can be used to explain why $g_A = 1.25$ and not $\frac{5}{3}$ as expected from SU(6) symmetry [69]. Since each of the numerical results on the right-hand side of eq. (51) now refers to the combination $\frac{1}{2}(\Delta q + \Delta \bar{q} - (\alpha_s/2\pi)\Delta g)$, with the above value of Δg at $Q^2 \approx 10$ GeV², $\langle S_z \rangle_s = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta s + \Delta \bar{s}) = 0$.

Several other possible explanations for the result have been offered including the suggestion that it is evidence against QCD [70]. To separate these different possibilities will require further measurements, covering as wide a Q^2 range as possible. Furthermore, it is of crucial importance to measure the asymmetries from a target containing polarised neutrons in order to test the highly fundamental Bjorken sum rule.

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