

# Transverse spin sum rule

Based on [C.L., arXiv:2103.10100]

*Accepted in EPJC*

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May 11, UCLA, Los Angeles, USA

# In short ...

## Nucleon spin decomposition

$$\langle \vec{J} \rangle = \sum_{a=q,g} \langle \vec{J}_a \rangle$$

Belinfante form

## Longitudinal spin

$$\langle J_a^L \rangle = \frac{1}{2} [A_a(0) + B_a(0)]$$

[Ji, PRL78 (1997)]

$$\sum_a A_a(0) = 1 \quad \sum_a B_a(0) = 0$$

$$A_q(0) = \int dx x H_q(x, \xi, 0)$$

$$B_q(0) = \int dx x E_q(x, \xi, 0)$$

Gravitational  
form factor

GPD

## Transverse spin

$$\langle J_a^T \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \left[ A_a(0) + \frac{p^0}{M} B_a(0) \right]$$

[Leader, PRD85 (2012)]

$$\langle J_a^T \rangle = \frac{p^0}{M} \frac{A_a(0) + B_a(0)}{2} \equiv \frac{p^0}{M} \langle S_a^T \rangle$$

[Ji-Yuan, PLB810 (2020)]

*Both are correct !*

[C.L., arXiv:2103.10100]

# What do we mean by « spin »?

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Originally « spin » was reserved to *intrinsic* angular momentum (AM),  
to be distinguished from orbital AM

Nowadays « spin » refers more generally to **internal AM**,  
i.e. AM about the center of the system

$$\vec{J} = \vec{R} \times \vec{P} + \vec{S}$$

↙                      ↖  
Position of            Momentum of  
the center            the system



The key question is: **what is the relativistic center of the system?**

Poorly addressed in the nucleon spin literature ...

triggered a review of the subject [\[C.L., EPJC78 \(2018\)\]](#)



# Option I: Relativistic center of energy

Relativistic version of the center of inertial mass

[Fokker, *Relativiteitstheorie* (1929)]  
[Born-Infeld, PRSLA150 (1935)]

$$R_E^\mu = \frac{1}{P^0} \int d^3r r^\mu T^{00}$$

$$P^\mu = \int d^3r T^{0\mu}$$

  $\vec{R}_E = t \frac{\vec{P}}{P^0} - \frac{\vec{K}}{P^0}$   Lorentz boost generator

**Spin operator**

$$\vec{S}_E \equiv \vec{J} - \vec{R}_E \times \vec{P} = \frac{\vec{W}}{P^0}$$

Pauli-Lubański  
pseudo-vector

$$W^\mu = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\alpha\beta\lambda} M_{\alpha\beta} P_\lambda$$

$$M^{\alpha\beta} = \int d^3r [r^\alpha T^{0\beta} - r^\beta T^{0\alpha}]$$

Remark: These definitions coincide in the infinite-momentum frame with the corresponding light-front operators

# Option 2: Relativistic center of mass

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$R_E^\mu$  does not transform as a Lorentz four-vector

[Pryce, PRSLA195 (1948)]  
[Møller, CDIASA5 (1949)]  
[Fleming, PR137 (1965)]

Covariant  
four-position  
operator

$$R_M^\mu = \left( t + \frac{\vec{P} \cdot \vec{K}}{M^2} \right) \frac{P^\mu}{P^0} - \frac{P_\nu M^{\nu\mu}}{M^2}$$

$$\tau = \frac{M}{P^0} \left( t + \frac{\vec{P} \cdot \vec{K}}{M^2} \right)$$

Proper  
time

→

$$\vec{R}_M = \vec{R}_E - \frac{\vec{P} \times \vec{W}}{P^0 M^2}$$

**Spin operator**

$$\vec{S}_M \equiv \vec{J} - \vec{R}_M \times \vec{P} = \frac{P^0 \vec{W} - \vec{P} W^0}{M^2}$$

- Remarks:
- $\vec{R}_M = \vec{R}_E$  in the rest frame
  - Relativistic center of mass can be considered as a physical point  
(i.e. not just as a mere representative point)

# Option 3: Relativistic center of spin

Canonical relations  $\begin{cases} [R_X^i, R_X^j] = 0 \\ [S_X^i, S_X^j] = i\epsilon^{ijk} S_X^k \end{cases}$  **not satisfied** for  $X = E, M$

[Pryce, PRSLA180 (1935)]

[Pryce, PRSLA195 (1948)]

[Møller, CDIASA5 (1949)]

[Newton-Wigner, RMP21 (1949)]

[Bogolyubov-Logunov-Todorov, *Introduction to Axiomatic Quantum Field Theory* (1975)]

Canonical operator  $R_c^\mu = \frac{P^0 R_E^\mu + M R_M^\mu}{P^0 + M}$

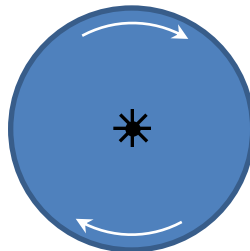
$\rightarrow \vec{R}_c = \vec{R}_E - \frac{\vec{P} \times \vec{W}}{M P^0 (P^0 + M)} = \vec{R}_M + \frac{\vec{P} \times \vec{W}}{M^2 (P^0 + M)}$

**Spin operator**

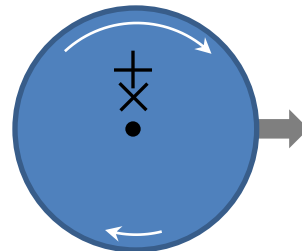
$$\vec{S}_c \equiv \vec{J} - \vec{R}_c \times \vec{P} = \frac{\vec{W}}{M} - \frac{\vec{P} W^0}{M(P^0 + M)}$$

**Transversely polarized nucleon**

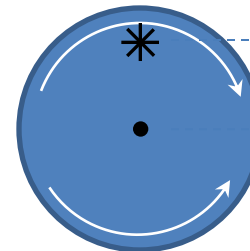
Center of  
energy  $\oplus$   
spin  $\otimes$   
mass  $\bullet$



Rest frame



Moving frame



Infinite-momentum frame

$$R_{\text{Møller}} = \frac{1}{2M}$$

[C.L., arXiv:2103.10100]

# Comparison between expectation values

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Let us denote rest-frame spin vector by  $\frac{1}{2}\vec{s}$  with  $\vec{s}^2 = 1$

## Longitudinal component

$$\langle S_E^L \rangle = \langle S_M^L \rangle = \langle S_c^L \rangle = \frac{1}{2}s_L$$

Explains why the question of the nucleon center did not draw much attention in the past

## Transverse component

$$\langle S_E^T \rangle = \gamma^{-1} \frac{1}{2}s_T$$

Transverse part of a **four-vector** is subleading

$$\gamma = p^0/M$$

$$\langle S_M^T \rangle = \gamma \frac{1}{2}s_T$$

Transverse part of an **antisymmetric rank-two tensor** is leading

[Landau-Lifshitz, *Classical Theory of Fields* (1951)]

$$\langle S_c^T \rangle = \frac{1}{2}s_T$$

Frame-independent!

(simple AM composition crucial for the wavefunction formalism)

# Expectation values for plane waves

$$\langle p, \vec{s} | \int d^3r r^i O(r) | p, \vec{s} \rangle = \langle p, \vec{s} | O(0) | p, \vec{s} \rangle \underbrace{\int d^3r r^i}_{\text{Ambiguous!}} \quad O(r) = e^{iP \cdot r} O(0) e^{-iP \cdot r}$$

## Standard approach

[Jaffe-Manohar, NPB337 (1990)]  
 [Bakker-Leader-Trueman, PRD70 (2004)]  
 [Leader-C.L., PR541 (2014)]  
 [Lowdon-Chiu-Brodsky, PLB774 (2017)]

$$\langle \int d^3r r^i O(r) \rangle_{\text{standard}} \equiv \lim_{\vec{\Delta} \rightarrow \vec{0}} \frac{\langle \bar{p} + \frac{\Delta}{2}, \vec{s} | \int d^3r r^i O(r) | \bar{p} - \frac{\Delta}{2}, \vec{s} \rangle}{\langle p, \vec{s} | p, \vec{s} \rangle}$$

$$= \underbrace{\frac{\langle p, \vec{s} | O(0) | p, \vec{s} \rangle}{\langle p, \vec{s} | p, \vec{s} \rangle}}_{\text{Contribution from the center of wave packet}} (2\pi)^3 i \nabla^i \delta^{(3)}(\vec{0}) + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2p^0} [-i \nabla_{\Delta}^i \langle \bar{p} + \frac{\Delta}{2}, \vec{s} | O(0) | \bar{p} - \frac{\Delta}{2}, \vec{s} \rangle]_{\vec{\Delta}=\vec{0}}}_{\text{Internal contribution}}$$

Contribution from  
the center of wave  
packet

Internal contribution  
 $\equiv \langle \int d^3r r^i O(r) \rangle_{\text{int}}$



# Transverse spin sum rules

$$S^\mu = \left( \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{s}}{M}, \vec{s} + \frac{\vec{p}(\vec{p} \cdot \vec{s})}{M(p^0 + M)} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \int d^3r r^i T_a^{0j}(r) \rangle_{\text{int}} &= - (p^0 \epsilon^{ij\alpha\beta} + p^i \epsilon^{j0\alpha\beta} + p^j \epsilon^{i0\alpha\beta}) \frac{\mathcal{S}_\alpha p_\beta}{2p^0 M} \frac{A_a(0) + B_a(0)}{2} \\ &\quad - \frac{p^j \epsilon^{0i\alpha\beta} \mathcal{S}_\alpha p_\beta}{2M(p^0 + M)} A_a(0) \end{aligned}$$

Blue terms do not contribute to  $W^\mu$

## Leader sum rule

[Leader, PRD85 (2012)]  
[Leader-C.L., PR541 (2014)]

$$\begin{aligned} \langle J_a^k \rangle_{\text{Leader}} &= \epsilon^{kij} \langle \int d^3r r^i T_a^{0j}(r) \rangle_{\text{int}} \\ &= \frac{s^k}{2} A_a(0) + \frac{p^0}{2M} \left( s^k - \frac{p^k (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{s})}{p^0 (p^0 + M)} \right) B_a(0) \end{aligned}$$

## Ji-Yuan sum rule

[Ji-Yuan, PLB810 (2020)]

$$\begin{aligned} \langle J_a^k \rangle_{\text{Ji-Yuan}} &= \epsilon^{kij} \langle \int d^3r r^i T_a^{0j}(r) \rangle_{\text{int}} \Big|_{\text{without blue terms}} \\ &= \frac{p^0}{M} \left( s^k - \frac{p^k (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{s})}{p^0 (p^0 + M)} \right) \frac{A_a(0) + B_a(0)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Interpreted as contributions from  
« center-of-mass motion »  
(requires rigorous justification)

# Phase-space approach

$$\langle \psi | O | \psi \rangle = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} d^3 \mathcal{R} \rho_\psi(\vec{\mathcal{R}}, \vec{p}) \langle O \rangle_{\vec{\mathcal{R}}, \vec{p}}$$

[C.L., EPJC78 (2018)]  
[C.L., arXiv:2103.10100]

**Nucleon Wigner distribution**

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_\psi(\vec{\mathcal{R}}, \vec{p}) &= \int d^3 z e^{-i\vec{p}\cdot\vec{z}} \psi^*(\vec{\mathcal{R}} - \frac{\vec{z}}{2}) \psi(\vec{\mathcal{R}} + \frac{\vec{z}}{2}) \\ &= \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} e^{-i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{\mathcal{R}}} \tilde{\psi}^*(\vec{p} + \frac{\vec{q}}{2}) \tilde{\psi}(\vec{p} - \frac{\vec{q}}{2}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\psi(\vec{r}) = \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} e^{-i\vec{p}\cdot\vec{r}} \tilde{\psi}(\vec{p})$$

$$\tilde{\psi}(\vec{p}) = \frac{\langle p | \psi \rangle}{\sqrt{2p^0}}$$

**System localized in phase-space**

$$\langle O \rangle_{\vec{\mathcal{R}}, \vec{p}} = \int \frac{d^3 \Delta}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{\Delta}\cdot\vec{\mathcal{R}}} \frac{\langle \vec{p} + \frac{\Delta}{2} | O | \vec{p} - \frac{\Delta}{2} \rangle}{\sqrt{4(\vec{p}^0)^2 - (\Delta^0)^2}} \Big|_{\vec{p}=\vec{p}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left\langle \int d^3 r r^i O(r) \right\rangle_{\vec{\mathcal{R}}, \vec{p}} = \mathcal{R}^i \frac{\langle p | O(0) | p \rangle}{2p^0} + \frac{1}{2p^0} \left[ -i \nabla_{\Delta}^i \langle \vec{p} + \frac{\Delta}{2} | O(0) | \vec{p} - \frac{\Delta}{2} \rangle \right]_{\vec{\Delta}=\vec{0}}$$

**Remark:**  $\langle O \rangle_{\text{standard}} = \int \frac{d^3 \mathcal{R}}{(2\pi)^3 \delta^{(3)}(\vec{0})} \langle O \rangle_{\vec{\mathcal{R}}, \vec{p}}$  explains the origin of the delta contribution in standard approach

# Phase-space approach

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle \vec{R}_E \rangle &= \vec{\mathcal{R}} + \frac{\vec{p} \times \vec{s}}{2p^0(p^0 + M)} & \langle \vec{S}_E \rangle &= \frac{M}{2p^0} \left( \vec{s} + \frac{\vec{p}(\vec{p} \cdot \vec{s})}{M(p^0 + M)} \right) \\
 \langle \vec{R}_M \rangle &= \vec{\mathcal{R}} - \frac{\vec{p} \times \vec{s}}{2M(p^0 + M)} & \langle \vec{S}_M \rangle &= \frac{p^0}{2M} \left( \vec{s} - \frac{\vec{p}(\vec{p} \cdot \vec{s})}{p^0(p^0 + M)} \right) \\
 \langle \vec{R}_c \rangle &= \vec{\mathcal{R}} & \langle \vec{S}_c \rangle &= \frac{\vec{s}}{2}
 \end{aligned}
 \quad \langle O \rangle \equiv \langle O \rangle_{\vec{\mathcal{R}}, \vec{p}}$$

We define quark and gluon contributions to internal AM operator as

$$S_{X,a}^k \equiv \epsilon^{kij} \int d^3r (r^i - \langle R_X^i \rangle) T_a^{0j}(r) = J_a^k - \epsilon^{kij} \langle R_X^i \rangle P_a^j \quad X = E, M, c$$

## Relativistic spin sum rules

[C.L., arXiv:2103.10100]

$$\langle \vec{S}_{X,a} \rangle = \langle \vec{S}_X \rangle A_a(0) + \langle \vec{S}_M \rangle B_a(0)$$

Leader:  $X = c$       canonical spin sum rule

Ji-Yuan:  $X = M$       covariant spin sum rule

(When « spin » is properly defined,  
there is no need to drop terms!)

# Summary

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- « Spin » is understood as **AM** about the center of the nucleon
- There are at least **3** possible centers in relativity
- Phase-space approach allows one to compute for the first time the contribution from the motion of the center about the origin
- Transverse spin sum rules by Leader and Ji-Yuan are **both correct** and refer to different definitions of the center