



Transverse Λ polarization in e^+e^- collisions

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ABSTRACT

In this paper we study transverse polarization of Λ hyperons in single-inclusive leptonic annihilation. We show that when the transverse momentum of the Λ baryon is measured with respect to the thrust axis, a transverse momentum dependent (TMD) factorization formalism is required and the polarization is generated by the TMD polarizing fragmentation function (TMD PFF), D_{1T}^\perp . However, when the transverse momentum of the Λ baryon is measured with respect to the momentum of the initial leptons, a collinear twist-3 formalism is required and the polarization is generated by the intrinsic collinear twist-3 fragmentation function D_T . Thus while these measurements differ from one another only by a change in the measurement axis, they probe different distribution functions. Recently, Belle measured a significant polarization in single-inclusive Λ baryon production as a function of the transverse momentum with respect to the thrust axis. However, this data can in principle be re-analyzed to measure the polarization as a function of the transverse momentum of the Λ baryon with respect to the lepton pair. This observable could be the first significant probe of the function, D_T . In this paper, we first develop a TMD formalism for Λ polarization; we then present a recent twist-3 formalism that was established to describe Λ polarization. Using the TMD formalism, we demonstrate that the Λ polarization at OPAL and Belle can be described using the twist-2 TMD factorization formalism. Finally, we make a theoretical prediction for this polarization in the collinear twist-3 formalism at Belle.

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1. Introduction

It has been a long standing challenge to describe the transverse polarization of Λ baryons in deep inelastic high energy reactions from a factorized framework in perturbative QCD. The strikingly large transverse polarization asymmetries of Λ hyperons observed in early experiments at Fermilab (along with follow-up experiments) in $pA \rightarrow \Lambda X$ fixed target processes already 40 years ago [1–3], was at odds with the predictions from transverse polarization effects in perturbative QCD [4]. The discrepancy between theory and experiment has resulted in numerous experimental [5–7] and theoretical investigations [4,8–15] that have spanned decades. Fixed target measurements of this reaction were reported by the

NA48 collaboration [16] and the HERA-B collaboration [17]. At CERN the Λ polarization was also measured in pp collisions at moderate center-of-mass (CM) energy [18]. More recently, polarization of Λ baryons were investigated at the LHC by the ATLAS collaboration [19]. While a small polarization was found in the ATLAS results in the mid-rapidity region measurements, essentially consistent with zero, such experiments demonstrate that the polarization of Λ baryons can be studied at the highest LHC energies and may be larger in different kinematical regions at forward rapidities.

Experimentally, data on polarized Λ fragmentation in e^+e^- -annihilation has been provided by the OPAL collaboration [20] at the LEP. This measurement was performed on the Z -pole, i.e., at a center of mass energy equal to the mass of the Z -boson. While a substantial *longitudinal* polarization of the Λ s was detected by OPAL, the *transverse* polarization was found to be zero within error bars.

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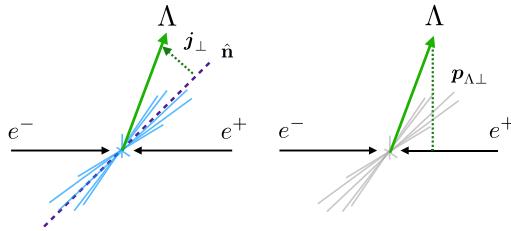


Fig. 1. Left: Thrust reference frame $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda(\text{Thrust}) + X$. Right: Center-of-mass frame $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda + X$.

Recently the Belle collaboration measured the production of transverse polarization of Λ -hyperons [21] in e^+e^- -annihilation for single-inclusive Λ production, where the hadron cross section is studied as a function of the fractional energy z_{Λ} , and the transverse momentum \mathbf{j}_{\perp} with respect to the thrust axis. They find a significant non-zero effect for this process as well as for back-to-back production of Λ and a light hadron $h = \pi^{\pm}, K^{\pm}$.

From theory there has been much progress since the work in Ref. [4]. For processes with more than one hard scale, such as the case for Λ production in semi-inclusive deep inelastic scattering (SIDIS) as well as back-to-back $\Lambda + h$ production in e^+e^- collisions in the Belle experiment, the transverse momentum dependent (TMD) formalism predicts a non-trivial result in term of TMD fragmentation functions (FFs) [22]. In the TMD factorization framework [23–25] for back-to-back production of $\Lambda + h$, a chiral even, naively T -odd fragmentation function, the TMD polarizing fragmentation function (TMD PFF) $D_{1T}^{\perp}(z_{\Lambda}, p_{\perp})$ is predicted to be non-zero and universal [12,26–30]. As a result of this Belle measurement, first phenomenological extractions of the T -odd polarizing TMD D_{1T}^{\perp} were carried out recently in [31–33].

While TMD factorization theorems have been well established for back-to-back production of $\Lambda + h$ [23,25,34,35], the factorization for the thrust-axis process with unpolarized hadron production has only recently been considered from theory [36–38] in a TMD framework. In this case for $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda(\text{Thrust})X$, as shown in Fig. 1 (left), one measures Λ transverse momentum \mathbf{j}_{\perp} with respect to the thrust axis $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$. Here, we extend this TMD factorization formalism to describe transversely polarized Λ production in this case with full QCD evolution. Establishing such a factorization theorem is an essential tool to carry out a global analysis of the TMD PFF.

On the other hand, much of the above mentioned data have been for single inclusive Λ production, $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda X$, where there is a single hard scale – the transverse momentum $\mathbf{p}_{\Lambda\perp}$ of the Λ , measured in the lepton center-of-mass (CM) frame as shown in Fig. 1 (right). In recent years QCD collinear factorization at higher twist [39,40] predicts a non-trivial result for these processes. For fully inclusive $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda X$ the collinear twist-3 factorization framework predicts [15], that the cross section factorizes into a hard scattering contribution and the collinear twist-3 polarizing fragmentation function, $D_T(z_{\Lambda})$. A treatment of transverse polarization for this process was also given in terms of a power suppressed, one particle inclusive cross section by Boer et al. [24], and was also studied earlier for the inclusive deep inelastic scattering (DIS) process [41]. It is interesting to note that by naive time reversal in what is expected to be the dominant one photon production approximation $D_T(z_{\Lambda})$, is predicted non-zero [26,42–44].

It is quite interesting that while these two measurements probe different distribution functions, they differ only by the definition of the measurement axis. That is, a measurement of the polarization as a function of \mathbf{j}_{\perp} with respect to the thrust axis is a useful process for probing the properties of the TMD PFF D_{1T}^{\perp} , while a measurement of the polarization as a function of $\mathbf{p}_{\Lambda\perp}$, the transverse momentum of the Λ in the lepton CM frame, is a useful

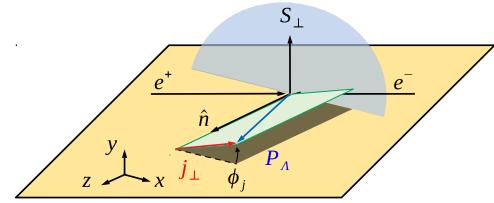


Fig. 2. Transverse Λ polarization in the thrust frame. The blue semi-circle represents the plane which is perpendicular to the thrust axis $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$.

process for probing the collinear twist-3 function, D_T . Therefore the polarization in the CM frame can in principle be studied from the existing Belle data by re-analyzing the data for the inclusive $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda(\text{Thrust})X$ measurement. With regard to the latter measurement, it is important to note that an observation of a non-zero effect in the single inclusive process, is a fundamental test of naive time reversal invariance [26,41,42,45] which predicts a non-zero result for T -odd fragmentation, and a zero result for inclusive DIS processes [43]. Furthermore, in the recent paper [15] the factorization of this process has been studied at next to leading order in perturbative QCD. In this paper, we use this formalism to make a theoretical prediction at Belle for this process. In this paper, we provide a clear distinction between the TMD and twist-3 factorization theorems for these two measurements.

Our paper is organized as follows: In Sec. 2.1, we provide the theoretical formalism for the $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda(\text{Thrust})X$ process. In Sec. 2.2, we provide the theoretical formalism for the $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda X$ process. In Sec. 3.1, we provide the details of our phenomenological analysis for the thrust TMD formalism and make a comparison of our formalism against the measurements performed by OPAL and Belle. In Sec. 3.2, we provide a theoretical prediction at Belle kinematics. We conclude our paper in Sec. 4.

2. QCD factorization

In this section, we provide the theoretical framework of our analysis. In Sec. 2.1, we extend the theoretical formalism presented in [36] to describe transverse polarization in $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda(\text{Thrust})X$ as shown in the left side of Fig. 1, where \mathbf{j}_{\perp} is the Λ transverse momentum with respect to the thrust axis $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$. In Sec. 2.2, we provide the formalism for transverse Λ polarization in the twist-3 collinear formalism under center-of-mass frame as illustrated in the right side of Fig. 1, where $\mathbf{p}_{\Lambda\perp}$ is the transverse momentum of the Λ baryon relative to the momentum of incoming electron.

2.1. Λ polarization in the thrust frame

In this section, we consider the transverse polarization for the process

$$e^-(l) + e^+(l') \rightarrow \gamma^*(q) \rightarrow \Lambda(z_{\Lambda}, \mathbf{j}_{\perp}, \mathbf{S}_{\perp}) + X. \quad (1)$$

In this expression, $q^{\mu} = l^{\mu} + l'^{\mu}$ with $Q \equiv \sqrt{q^2}$, and $z_{\Lambda} = 2P_{\Lambda} \cdot q/Q^2$ is the parton fraction variable for the fragmentation function while the center-of-mass energy for this process is given by $s = Q^2$. The momentum \mathbf{j}_{\perp} represents the transverse momentum of the Λ baryon with respect to the thrust axis, $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$. The thrust axis is defined as the vector, $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$, which maximizes the thrust variable T

$$T = \frac{\sum_i |\mathbf{p}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}|}{\sum_i |\mathbf{p}_i|}, \quad (2)$$

where \mathbf{p}_i represent the momentum of the measured particles in the e^+e^- collision. The plane which lies perpendicular to the thrust axis at the interaction point of the lepton pair divides the

full phase space into two hemispheres. This plane is illustrated in Fig. 2 by the blue semi-circular plane. Finally \mathbf{S}_\perp is the transverse spin of the Λ baryon.

In this paper, we consider the TMD kinematic region, i.e. $j_\perp \ll Q$. In this kinematic region, the factorized expression is given at next-to-leading logarithmic level (NLL) by [36]

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2 \mathbf{j}_\perp} = & \sigma_0 \sum_q e_q^2 \int d^2 p_\perp d^2 \lambda_\perp \\ & \times \delta^{(2)}(\mathbf{j}_\perp - \mathbf{p}_\perp - z_\Lambda \lambda_\perp) \\ & \times D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, p_\perp, \mu, \zeta/v^2) S_{\text{hemi}}(\lambda_\perp, \mu, \nu), \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where

$$\sigma_0 = \frac{4N_c \pi \alpha_{\text{em}}^2}{3Q^2}. \quad (4)$$

In this expression, μ is the renormalization scale, ν is the scale which is used to regulate the rapidity divergences [46,47], and ζ is the Collins-Soper parameter [25,48]. We have also introduced $S_{\text{hemi}}(\lambda_\perp, \mu, \nu)$, the hemisphere soft function, and $D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, p_\perp, \mu, \zeta/v^2)$, the unpolarized TMD FF. It is important to emphasize that the hemisphere soft function is different than the usual soft function S defined in [25], which is used to describe the back-to-back di-hadron production in e^+e^- collisions. This difference occurs because $S_{\text{hemi}}(\lambda_\perp, \mu, \nu)$ includes radiation in a single hemisphere while S includes radiation in both hemispheres.

Furthermore, we note that the factorization theorem in Eq. (3) is a simplification of the full formula in [36]. This factorization matches the full one at NLL, while a more complicated factorization formula occurs at higher order. For example, the one-loop hard function in the full formula contains not only virtual corrections but also the wide-angle energetic radiation in one hemisphere. As a result, the gluon TMD FF also contributes to the factorized cross section at the leading power of $\mathcal{O}(j_\perp^2/Q^2)$. For more details, see Ref. [36].

TMD factorization is conventionally carried out in b -space, where the factorized expression deconvolutes [49],

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2 \mathbf{j}_\perp} = & \sigma_0 \sum_q e_q^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{d^2 b}{(2\pi)^2} e^{i\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{j}_\perp / z_\Lambda} \\ & \times D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, b, \mu, \zeta/v^2) S_{\text{hemi}}(b, \mu, \nu). \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

In this expression,

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, b, \mu, \zeta/v^2) = & \frac{1}{z_\Lambda^2} \int d^2 p_\perp e^{-i\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{p}_\perp / z_\Lambda} \\ & \times D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, p_\perp, \mu, \zeta/v^2), \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

$$S_{\text{hemi}}(b, \mu, \nu) = \int d^2 \lambda_\perp e^{-i\mathbf{b} \cdot \lambda_\perp} S_{\text{hemi}}(\lambda_\perp, \mu, \nu), \quad (7)$$

are the Fourier transforms of the momentum space TMD FF and hemisphere soft function, respectively.

We note that for this process, we have only considered a single-inclusive measurement in the hemisphere which contains the thrust axis, while the other plane is fully inclusive. For this type of measurement, only soft radiation which is emitted into the hemisphere containing the thrust axis will contribute to j_\perp . This subtlety introduces two complications which must be considered in the factorized expression. The first complication arises with the definition of the fully renormalized/finite so-called properly defined TMD FF. In the Collins-Soper-Sterman (CSS) treatment [25]

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\Lambda/q}^{\text{TMD}}(z_\Lambda, b, \mu, \zeta) = & D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, b, \mu, \zeta/v^2) \\ & \times \sqrt{S(b, \mu, \nu)}, \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where $S(b, \mu, \nu)$ is the standard soft function usually arose in the SIDIS, Drell-Yan and back-to-back hadron pair production in e^+e^- collisions [25,47,48,50,51]. The explicit calculation of S_{hemi} given in [36] demonstrated at one-loop order that

$$S_{\text{hemi}}(b, \mu, \nu) = \sqrt{S(b, \mu, \nu)}. \quad (9)$$

Because of this, the product of $D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, b, \mu, \zeta/v^2)$ and $S_{\text{hemi}}(b, \mu, \nu)$ in Eq. (5) equals the standard TMD FF $D_{\Lambda/q}^{\text{TMD}}(z_\Lambda, b, \mu, \zeta)$ in Eq. (8). Thus the factorized expression in Eq. (5) can be written as the following form

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2 \mathbf{j}_\perp} = & \sigma_0 H(Q, \mu) \sum_q e_q^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{d^2 b}{(2\pi)^2} e^{i\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{j}_\perp / z_\Lambda} \\ & \times D_{\Lambda/q}^{\text{TMD}}(z_\Lambda, b, \mu, \zeta). \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

We note that for all phenomenological applications, we will take $\mu^2 = \zeta = Q^2$ in the following discussions. Because of this, we suppress explicit μ and ζ dependence in our functions in this paper and instead give only explicit Q dependence.

The second complication that must be accounted for is that since we have restricted soft radiation to only one hemisphere, this observable is non-global [52]. The factorization formula for non-global observables has been constructed in an effective field theory context in [53–56], where a multi-Wilson-line structure [57–59] is the key ingredient to capture the non-linear QCD evolution effects from the so-called *non-global logarithms*. It was recently shown in [36], that at NLL accuracy the factorization formula is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2 \mathbf{j}_\perp} = & \sigma_0 \sum_q e_q^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{d^2 b}{(2\pi)^2} e^{i\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{j}_\perp / z_\Lambda} \\ & \times D_{\Lambda/q}^{\text{TMD}}(z_\Lambda, b, Q, Q^2) U_{\text{NG}}(\mu_{b_*}, Q). \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

To arrive at this expression, we have introduced the auxiliary scale, μ_{b_*} which is defined in the b_* prescription [60]. We note that the most important difference between Eqs. (10) and (11) is the introduction of the function $U_{\text{NG}}(\mu_{b_*}, Q)$, which contains the effects of the non-global logarithms. Since the treatment of the non-global logarithms will be addressed phenomenologically in this paper, we will discuss this function in more detail in Sec. 3.1.

In order to provide the full expression for the NLL cross section, the TMD FF must be matched onto the collinear fragmentation function through the relation

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\Lambda/q}^{\text{TMD}}(z_\Lambda, b, Q, Q^2) = & \frac{1}{z_\Lambda^2} D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, \mu_{b_*}) \\ & \times e^{-S_{\text{pert}}(\mu_{b_*}, Q) - S_{\text{NP}}(b, z_\Lambda, Q_0, Q)}. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

In order to arrive at this expression, we have performed tree level matching. The factor $S_{\text{NP}}(b, z_\Lambda, Q_0, Q)$ is the non-perturbative evolution factor for the unpolarized TMD FF where Q_0 is the initial TMD scale. Since this function depends on choice of parameterization, we will defer discussion of this function until 3.1. On the other hand, the perturbative Sudakov factor is given by

$$\begin{aligned} S_{\text{pert}}(\mu_{b_*}, Q) = & -\tilde{K}(b_*, \mu_{b_*}) \ln \left(\frac{Q}{\mu_{b_*}} \right) \\ & - \int_{\mu_{b_*}}^Q \frac{d\mu}{\mu} \left[\gamma_F \left(\alpha_s(\mu), \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} \right) \right], \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where at NLL order one has $K(b_*, \mu_{b_*}) = 0$ and

$$\gamma_F \left(\alpha_s(\mu), \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} \right) = \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} C_F \left(\ln \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} - \frac{3}{2} \right) + \frac{\alpha_s^2}{\pi^2} C_F \left[C_A \left(\frac{67}{18} - \frac{\pi^2}{6} \right) - \frac{10}{9} T_R n_f \right] \ln \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2}. \quad (14)$$

To further simplify the expression for the differential cross section, it is now convenient to perform the integration over the b -space azimuthal angle. After performing this angular integration, we arrive at the final expression for the unpolarized scattering cross section at NLL

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2 \mathbf{j}_\perp} = \sigma_0 \sum_q e_q^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{bdb}{(2\pi)} J_0 \left(\frac{b j_\perp}{z_\Lambda} \right) \times \frac{1}{z_\Lambda^2} D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, \mu_{b_*}) e^{-S_{NP}(b, z_\Lambda, Q_0, Q) - S_{pert}(\mu_{b_*}, Q)} \times U_{NG}(\mu_{b_*}, Q). \quad (15)$$

In this expression, J_0 is the zero order Bessel function of the first kind.

Now that we have summarized each of the pieces of the unpolarized cross section, we can extend this factorization theorem to the spin-dependent case. The spin-dependent differential cross section can be obtained from Eq. (11) by replacing the unpolarized TMD FF with the spin-dependent one. In order to obtain the b -space spin-dependent TMD FF, we begin by performing a Fourier transform of the momentum space spin-dependent TMD FF. In this paper, we follow the Trento conventions [61] for the normalization of this function and we assume the fragmenting quark to be moving in the $+z$ direction. This normalization is given by the expression,

$$\hat{D}_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, \mathbf{p}_\perp, \mathbf{S}_\perp, Q) = \frac{1}{2} \left[D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, p_{\Lambda\perp}, Q) + \frac{1}{z_\Lambda M_\Lambda} D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^\perp(z_\Lambda, p_\perp, Q) \epsilon_{\perp\rho\sigma} p_\perp^\rho S_\perp^\sigma \right]. \quad (16)$$

The function $\hat{D}_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, \mathbf{p}_\perp, \mathbf{S}_\perp, Q)$ on the left hand side of this expression is the advertised spin-dependent TMD FF. The first term on the right hand side is the unpolarized TMD FF while the second term on the right hand side contains $D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^\perp(z_\Lambda, p_{\Lambda\perp}, Q)$, the TMD PFF. We see in this expression that the first term on the right hand side is independent of the spin, while the second term in this expression is not. Therefore the first term in this expression contributes to the unpolarized cross section while the second contributes to the polarized cross section.

After performing the Fourier transform of this expression, we arrive at the expression for the b -space spin-dependent TMD FF

$$\hat{D}_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{S}_\perp, Q) = \frac{1}{2} \left[D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, b, Q) - \frac{i M_\Lambda \epsilon_{\perp\rho\sigma} b^\rho S_\perp^\sigma}{z_\Lambda^2} D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_\Lambda, b, Q) \right]. \quad (17)$$

In this expression, we have introduced the full spin-dependent b -space TMD FF

$$\hat{D}_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{S}_\perp, Q) = \frac{1}{z_\Lambda^2} \int d^2 p_\perp e^{-i\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{p}_\perp/z_\Lambda} \times \hat{D}_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, \mathbf{p}_\perp, \mathbf{S}_\perp, Q), \quad (18)$$

as well as the b -space first Bessel moment-TMD PFF [49]

$$\begin{aligned} D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_\Lambda, b, Q) &= -\frac{2z_\Lambda^2}{M_\Lambda^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial b^2} D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^\perp(z_\Lambda, b, Q) \\ &= \frac{2\pi}{M_\Lambda^2} \frac{z_\Lambda^2}{b} \int \frac{dp_\perp}{z_\Lambda} \left(\frac{p_\perp}{z_\Lambda} \right)^2 \\ &\times J_1 \left(\frac{b p_\perp}{z_\Lambda} \right) D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^\perp(z_\Lambda, p_\perp, Q), \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

where we have $b^2 = |\mathbf{b}|^2$ in the first line. Analogous to the collinear matching of the TMD FF in Eq. (12), the TMD PFF can be matched to a collinear distribution, $D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_\Lambda, \mu_{b_*})$ at NLL

$$\begin{aligned} D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_\Lambda, b, Q) &= D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_\Lambda, \mu_{b_*}) \\ &\times e^{-S_{pert}(\mu_{b_*}, Q) - S_{NP}^\perp(b, z_\Lambda, Q_0, Q)}, \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

which reduces to the “transverse momentum” moments [22,62] in the small b limit [49],

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{b \rightarrow 0} D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_\Lambda, b, Q) &= \frac{1}{M_\Lambda^2} \frac{z_\Lambda^2}{b} \int \frac{d^2 p_\perp}{z_\Lambda^2} \frac{p_\perp}{z_\Lambda} \frac{b p_\perp}{2z_\Lambda} D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^\perp(z_\Lambda, p_\perp, Q) \\ &= \int d^2 p_\perp \frac{p_\perp^2}{z_\Lambda^2 2M_\Lambda^2} D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^\perp(z_\Lambda, p_\perp, Q) \\ &\equiv D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^\perp(z_\Lambda, Q). \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Furthermore, the non-perturbative evolution factor for the TMD PFF is denoted $S_{NP}^\perp(b, z_\Lambda, Q_0, Q)$. This non-perturbative factor is not the same as the unpolarized factor. We note that in order to make this difference clear, we have included a ‘ \perp ’ in the superscript for the non-perturbative factor. The form of these functions will be addressed in 3.1. Contrary to the non-perturbative evolution factor, the perturbative evolution factor, $S_{pert}(\mu_{b_*}, Q)$ is the same as the unpolarized case.

In order to arrive at an expression for the spin-dependent differential cross section, we now replace the unpolarized TMD FF in Eq. (11) with the spin-dependent TMD FF,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma(\mathbf{S}_\perp)}{dz_\Lambda d^2 \mathbf{j}_\perp} &= \sigma_0 \sum_q e_q^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{bdb}{(2\pi)^2} e^{i\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{j}_\perp/z_\Lambda} \\ &\times \hat{D}_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{S}_\perp, Q) U_{NG}(\mu_{b_*}, Q). \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

We can see from Eq. (17) that the first term is independent of the transverse spin vector S_\perp^σ while the second term is an odd function of S_\perp^σ . We can therefore isolate the unpolarized cross section by adding two full spin-dependent cross sections which have opposite spin configurations

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2 \mathbf{j}_\perp} = \frac{d\sigma(\mathbf{S}_\perp)}{dz_\Lambda d^2 \mathbf{j}_\perp} + \frac{d\sigma(-\mathbf{S}_\perp)}{dz_\Lambda d^2 \mathbf{j}_\perp} \quad (23)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sigma_0 \sum_q e_q^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{bdb}{2\pi} J_0 \left(\frac{b j_\perp}{z_\Lambda} \right) \\ &\times \frac{1}{z_\Lambda^2} D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, \mu_{b_*}) e^{-S_{NP}(b, z_\Lambda, Q_0, Q) - S_{pert}(\mu_{b_*}, Q)} \\ &\times U_{NG}(\mu_{b_*}, Q). \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

In order to isolate the contribution of the TMD PFF, we subtract two full spin-dependent cross sections which have opposite spin configurations.

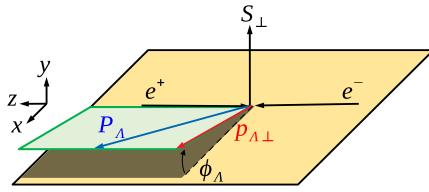


Fig. 3. Transverse Λ polarization in the lepton CM frame.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\Delta\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2\mathbf{j}_\perp} &= \frac{d\sigma(\mathbf{S}_\perp)}{dz_\Lambda d^2\mathbf{j}_\perp} - \frac{d\sigma(-\mathbf{S}_\perp)}{dz_\Lambda d^2\mathbf{j}_\perp} \quad (25) \\ &= \sigma_0 \sin(\phi_s - \phi_j) \sum_q e_q^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{b^2 db}{2\pi} J_1\left(\frac{bj_\perp}{z_\Lambda}\right) \\ &\quad \times \frac{M_\Lambda}{z_\Lambda^2} D_{1T,\Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_\Lambda, \mu_{b*}) \\ &\quad \times e^{-S_{\text{NP}}^\perp(b, z_\Lambda, Q_0, Q) - S_{\text{pert}}(\mu_{b*}, Q)} U_{\text{NG}}(\mu_{b*}, Q). \end{aligned}$$

To arrive at this expression, we have integrated over the b azimuthal angle. From this expression, we see that the size of the spin-dependent cross section depends on the $\sin(\phi_s - \phi_j)$ modulation. In this modulation, the angles ϕ_s and ϕ_j are the azimuthal angles of \mathbf{S}_\perp and \mathbf{j}_\perp , respectively. In Fig. 2, we provide a figure which demonstrates the definition of these angles relative to the other kinematics. In the experimentally measured polarization, it is conventional to take $\phi_s = \pi/2$ and $\phi_j = 0$ so that only the magnitude of the modulation is measured. For the purposes of this paper, we will always take these angles to be defined in this way. With this definition of the angles, the experimentally measured quantity for Λ transverse polarization is therefore given by the expression

$$P_\perp^\Lambda(z_\Lambda, j_\perp) = \frac{d\Delta\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2\mathbf{j}_\perp} / \frac{d\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2\mathbf{j}_\perp}. \quad (26)$$

2.2. Λ polarization in the CM frame

In this section, we consider the transverse polarization for the process

$$e^-(l) + e^+(l') \rightarrow \gamma^*(q) \rightarrow \Lambda(z_\Lambda, \mathbf{p}_{\Lambda\perp}, \mathbf{S}_\perp) + X. \quad (27)$$

In this expression, $\mathbf{p}_{\Lambda\perp}$ is the transverse momentum of the Λ baryon with respect to the lepton pair in the CM frame, while z_Λ and S_\perp are defined in the same way as the previous section. For this process, each component of the fragmenting quark's momentum can be of order Q . Therefore each component of the Λ baryon's momentum, P_Λ , is of order $z_\Lambda Q$. Since each component of P_Λ is of the same order, a collinear factorization is well justified [15,25,63,64].

At LO, the collinear factorization for unpolarized single-inclusive hadron production has the well-known form

$$\frac{E_\Lambda d\sigma}{d^3 P_\Lambda} = \frac{2N_c \alpha_{\text{em}}^2}{Q^4 z_\Lambda} \left[(1 - v)^2 + v^2 \right] \sum_q e_q^2 D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, Q). \quad (28)$$

In Eq. (28), we have introduced the kinematic variable $v = P_\Lambda \cdot l' / P_\Lambda \cdot q$ which is related to the Λ rapidity.

For transversely polarized Λ production, the LO differential cross section was shown in [15] to have the following form

$$\frac{E_\Lambda d\Delta\sigma}{d^3 P_\Lambda} = \frac{2N_c \alpha_{\text{em}}^2}{Q^4 z_\Lambda} \frac{8M_\Lambda}{z_\Lambda S^2} \epsilon^{\ell\ell' P_\Lambda S_\perp} \frac{1}{z_\Lambda} \sum_q e_q^2 D_{T,\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, Q). \quad (29)$$

In this expression

$$\epsilon^{\ell\ell' P_\Lambda S_\perp} = \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \ell_\mu \ell'_\nu P_{\Lambda\rho} S_{\perp\sigma}. \quad (30)$$

Here the four momentum of the Λ baryon is denoted P_Λ while the transverse spin of the Λ baryon is denoted S_\perp . In Fig. 3, we provide a diagram which illustrates the kinematics for this process. We note that a similar result to Eq. (29) was given by Boer et al. [24] in the context of a power suppressed one particle inclusive cross section formalism.¹ We see that the relevant distribution function for this process is $D_{T,\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, Q)$, the intrinsic collinear twist-3 fragmentation function.

In this paper, we will work in the lepton center of mass frame where e^- and e^+ move in the positive and negative z directions, respectively. In order to draw a clear connection to the TMD case, we choose to make the cross section differentiable in two kinematic parameters $\mathbf{p}_{\Lambda\perp}$ and z_Λ . After simplifying Eq. (28), the unpolarized cross section can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2 p_{\Lambda\perp}} &= \frac{2N_c \alpha_{\text{em}}^2}{Q^4 z_\Lambda} \left(1 - \frac{2p_{\Lambda\perp}^2}{z_\Lambda^2 Q^2} \right) \frac{Q}{2p_{\Lambda z}} \\ &\quad \times \sum_q e_q^2 D_{\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, Q) \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

where

$$p_{\Lambda z} = \sqrt{\frac{Q^2}{4} z_\Lambda^2 - p_{\Lambda\perp}^2} \quad (32)$$

is the magnitude of the z component of P_Λ . Since the magnitude of this component must be non-negative, we must have $p_{\Lambda\perp} \leq Q z_\Lambda / 2$. Similarly, the transverse spin-dependent contribution to the cross section can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\Delta\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2 p_{\Lambda\perp}} &= -\sin(\phi_s - \phi_\Lambda) \frac{2N_c \alpha_{\text{em}}^2}{Q^4 z_\Lambda} \left(\frac{4M_\Lambda}{Q} \right) \frac{p_{\Lambda\perp}}{Q} \\ &\quad \times \frac{1}{z_\Lambda^3} \sum_q e_q^2 \frac{D_{T,\Lambda/q}(z_\Lambda, Q)}{z_\Lambda}. \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

Analogous to the TMD case, the transverse spin-dependent cross section is modulated by a factor of $\sin(\phi_s - \phi_\Lambda)$. Here ϕ_s and ϕ_Λ are the azimuthal angles of the spin vector, \mathbf{S}_\perp , and the Λ baryon transverse momentum, $\mathbf{p}_{\Lambda\perp}$, respectively. In Fig. 3, these angles are shown with respect to the other kinematic variables in the measurement. Experimental measurements of the asymmetry will usually take the convention that $\phi_s = \pi/2$ and $\phi_\Lambda = 0$. In our paper, we will always follow this convention. After setting the values of these angles, the polarization in the twist-3 formalism is given by

$$P_{\text{CM}}^\Lambda(z_\Lambda, p_{\Lambda\perp}) = \frac{d\Delta\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2 p_{\Lambda\perp}} / \frac{d\sigma}{dz_\Lambda d^2 p_{\Lambda\perp}}. \quad (34)$$

At this point, it is important to note that the polarization in the CM frame is proportional to M_Λ/Q .

3. Phenomenology

In this section, we first use the TMD formalism in the previous section to compute the polarization in the thrust frame and compare with the OPAL and Belle measurements. We then make a prediction for polarization for the polarization in the CM frame at Belle kinematics.

¹ It is of note that next to leading order factorization the collinear twist-3 formalism has been investigated in [15], whereas no factorization for the twist-3 TMD framework has been proposed [65,66].

3.1. TMD phenomenology

As we saw in Sec. 2.1, the denominator of the TMD polarization at NLL is given in Eq. (24). In this paper, we will use the standard b_* prescription from [60]

$$b_* = \frac{b}{\sqrt{1 + b^2/b_{\max}^2}}, \quad (35)$$

where b_{\max} characterizes the boundary between the non-perturbative and perturbative regions for b dependence [67,68]. Typical values used in phenomenology range from approximate $0.5 \lesssim b_{\max} \lesssim 1.5$ [69,70]. In order to describe the collinear FF, we follow the work in [32] to use the collinear AKK fragmentation function [71] for $D_{\Delta/q}(z_{\Lambda}, \mu_{b_*})$. Note that the AKK fragmentation function in [71] is only given in the region with $Q > Q_{\min} = 1$ GeV. Thus, since $\mu_{b_*} > Q_{\min}$ [69] this restricts $b_{\max} \lesssim 1.1$ GeV $^{-1}$ using the AKK fragmentation functions; we choose $b_{\max} = 0.5$.

Furthermore, for the non-perturbative function $S_{\text{NP}}(b, z_{\Lambda}, Q_0, Q)$ we use the parametrization [72,73]

$$S_{\text{NP}}(b, z_{\Lambda}, Q_0, Q) = g_h \frac{b^2}{z_{\Lambda}^2} + \frac{g_2}{2} \ln \frac{Q}{Q_0} \ln \frac{b}{b_*} \quad (36)$$

for the fragmentation function. Here there are two non-perturbative parameters, g_h and g_2 . The parameter g_h controls the Gaussian width of the unpolarized TMD FF at the initial scale Q_0 , with $g_h \simeq \langle p_{\perp}^2 \rangle / 4$. On the other hand, the parameter g_2 is universal for all TMDs [67,68] and controls the evolution from Q_0 to Q . In order to obtain numerical values for g_h and Q_0 , we closely follow the parameterization in [32], where the Gaussian width $\langle p_{\perp}^2 \rangle$ is translated to $g_h \simeq 0.048$ GeV 2 at $Q_0 = 10.58$ GeV. Furthermore, we use the value of $g_2 = 0.84$ which was obtained in [73] from a global fit from unpolarized SIDIS and Drell-Yan data.

In order to account for the non-linear QCD evolution associated with the non-global logarithms, we follow the parameterization in [52]

$$U_{\text{NG}}(\mu_{b_*}, Q) = \exp \left[-C_A C_F \frac{\pi^2}{3} u^2 \frac{1 + (au)^2}{1 + (bu)^c} \right] \quad (37)$$

with $a = 0.85 C_A$, $b = 0.86 C_A$, $c = 1.33$ and

$$u \equiv \int_{\mu_{b_*}}^Q \frac{d\mu}{\mu} \frac{\alpha_s(\mu)}{2\pi} = \frac{1}{\beta_0} \ln \left[\frac{\alpha_s(\mu_{b_*})}{\alpha_s(Q)} \right] \quad (38)$$

$\beta_0 = \frac{11}{3} C_A - \frac{4}{3} T_F n_f$, with $T_F = 1/2$. Finally, in order to perform the numerical Bessel transform in Eq. (24), we use the numerical algorithm in [74].

Having summarized the details for the unpolarized scattering cross section, we will provide the details for the transverse spin-dependent cross section. In Sec. 2.1, the polarized differential cross section was shown to be given in Eq. (25). In order to obtain a parameterization for the b -space TMD PFF, we note that the momentum space TMD PFF was recently extracted at the scale $Q_0 = 10.58$ GeV in [32] using the parameterization

$$D_{1T,h/q}^{\perp}(z, p_{\perp}, Q_0) = D_{1T,h/q}^{\perp}(z, Q_0) \frac{e^{-p_{\perp}^2/\langle M_D^2 \rangle}}{\pi \langle M_D^2 \rangle}. \quad (39)$$

In this expression, $D_{1T,h/q}^{\perp}(z, Q_0)$ is the collinear PFF [32] while $\langle M_D^2 \rangle$ is the Gaussian width which was extracted from the Belle data. In this reference, the authors take the parameterization

$$D_{1T,h/q}^{\perp}(z, Q_0) = \mathcal{N}_q(z) D_{h/q}(z, Q_0). \quad (40)$$

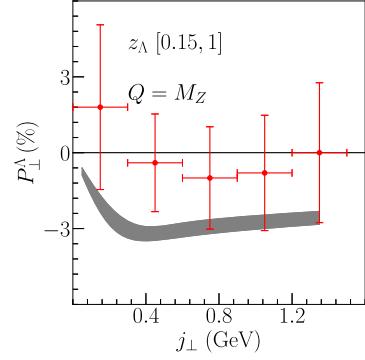


Fig. 4. $P_{\perp}^{\Lambda}(z_{\Lambda}, j_{\perp})$ in $e^+ e^- \rightarrow \Lambda(\text{Thrust})X$ for OPAL [20]. The theoretical curve is integrated over the region $0.15 < z_{\Lambda} < 1$. We plot the experimental data in red with the total experimental uncertainty as a vertical error bar while the experimental uncertainty on j_{\perp} is in the horizontal error bar. The gray band is the theoretical uncertainty which was generated from the replicas for the TMD PFF in [32].

Here the factor $\mathcal{N}_q(z)$ is a collinear modulation function which is parameterized by the expression

$$\mathcal{N}_q(z) = N_q z^{\alpha_q} (1 - z)^{\beta_q} \frac{(\alpha_q + \beta_q - 1)^{\alpha_q + \beta_q - 1}}{(\alpha_q - 1)^{\alpha_q - 1} \beta_q^{\beta_q}}. \quad (41)$$

The parameters α_q , β_q , and N_q were all determined from the fit in [32].

Using this parameterization, we obtain the following expression for the b -space TMD PFF in Eq. (20) with QCD evolution

$$D_{1T,\Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z, b, Q) = \frac{\langle M_D^2 \rangle}{2z^2 M_{\Lambda}^2} D_{1T,\Lambda/q}^{\perp}(z, \mu_{b_*}) \times e^{-S_{\text{pert}}(\mu_{b_*}, Q) - S_{\text{NP}}^{\perp}(b, z, Q_0, Q)} \quad (42)$$

where

$$S_{\text{NP}}^{\perp}(b, z, Q_0, Q) = \frac{\langle M_D^2 \rangle}{4} \frac{b^2}{z^2} + \frac{g_2}{2} \ln \frac{Q}{Q_0} \ln \frac{b}{b_*}. \quad (43)$$

We used again that the coefficient in front of b^2 is given by the corresponding Gaussian width, $\langle M_D^2 \rangle / 4$, and g_2 is universal for all TMDs. Now that we have supplied all of the details of the phenomenology, we can compare our theoretical prediction in Eq. (26) against the OPAL and Belle data.

In Fig. 4, we plot the polarization as a function of j_{\perp} . We note that our convention for the direction of the vector S_{\perp} is opposite of the direction that was used in the OPAL measurement. To account for this different convention, we have multiplied the experimental data by a minus sign. We also note that the experimental data at OPAL is integrated over the region $0.15 \leq z_{\Lambda} \leq 1$. In our calculation, we have also included the theoretical uncertainty in $\mathcal{N}_q(z)$ in Eq. (40) from the fit performed in [32]. We note however that in this reference, the theoretical uncertainty associated with random sampling for the initial fit parameter values was not considered. In order to account for this uncertainty, we have initialized the fit parameters from [32] using Monte Carlo sampling, following the procedure in [75]. We have then re-performed the fit for each replica. Using the updated parameter values, we generate a theoretical prediction for each of the updated replicas. At each point in our theoretical prediction, we calculate the average and the standard deviation from these replicas. The error band presented here represents our theoretical prediction within one standard deviation of the mean of the replicas. This uncertainty is plotted as a gray band in our description of the experimental data. While our theoretical description of the data is slightly larger than the central values of the experimental result, we expect that the OPAL data

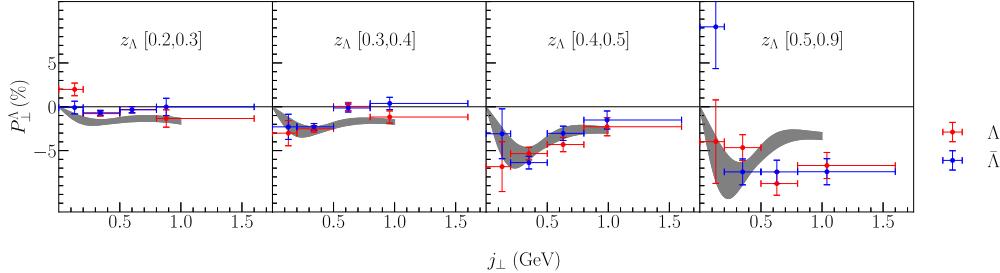


Fig. 5. $P_{\perp}^{\Lambda}(z_{\Lambda}, j_{\perp})$ in $e^+ e^- \rightarrow \Lambda(\text{Thrust}) X$ for the Belle data [21]. From left column to right column, the theoretical curve is integrated from $0.2 < z_{\Lambda} < 0.3$, $0.3 < z_{\Lambda} < 0.4$, $0.4 < z_{\Lambda} < 0.5$, $0.5 < z_{\Lambda} < 0.9$. The data in red is for Λ production while the data in blue is for $\bar{\Lambda}$ production. The experimental data is plotted with the total experimental uncertainty as a vertical error bar while the experimental uncertainty on j_{\perp} is in the horizontal error bar. The gray band represents the theoretical prediction with the uncertainty obtained from the replicas for the TMD PFF.

can be used in a future global analysis to constrain the form and evolution of the TMD PFF.

In Fig. 5, we plot our theoretical calculations against the Belle data. The columns from left to right of this figure indicated the binned values for the z_{Λ} that we used in our numerical calculations. To generate our theoretical curve, we integrate over the advertised z_{Λ} values. It is important to note that the rightmost bin in the experimental data was $0.5 \leq z_{\Lambda} \leq 0.9$. While the TMD PFF in [32] was extracted in the region $0.2 \leq z_{\Lambda} \leq 0.5$, we also provide our prediction for the final bin. In this plot, the blue data is for Λ production while the red data is for $\bar{\Lambda}$ production. The horizontal error bars indicate the bin size in j_{\perp} while the vertical error bars are the total experimental error. We note that the TMD PFF in our phenomenology is invariant under charge conjugation, explicitly $D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp}(z, b, Q) = D_{1T, \bar{\Lambda}/\bar{q}}^{\perp}(z, b, Q)$. Therefore, after performing the sum over the quark flavors, the theoretical prediction for Λ and $\bar{\Lambda}$ is then the same. We see in Fig. 5 that in the region of small z_{Λ} , the magnitude of the experimental data is small. This behavior can be described by examining Fig. 5 in [32]. At small z_{Λ} the magnitude of the u , d , and sea TMD PFFs are large and the sign of the u TMD PFF is opposite of the d and sea TMD PFFs. Therefore in this region there are large cancellations that are occurring between the different flavors. However, at $z_{\Lambda} > 0.4$, the d and s TMD PFFs dominate. Since the d and s quark TMD PFFs have the same sign, the magnitude of the theoretical curve is larger in that region. We see in the regions $0.2 \leq z_{\Lambda} \leq 0.3$, $0.3 \leq z_{\Lambda} \leq 0.4$, and $0.4 \leq z_{\Lambda} \leq 0.5$ that our theoretical prediction agrees with the experimental data. Furthermore, while the TMD PFF was only extracted in the region $0.2 \leq z_{\Lambda} \leq 0.5$, we find that the parameterization still describes the experimental data well in the region $0.5 < z_{\Lambda} < 0.9$.

3.2. Twist-3 phenomenology

In this section, we provide our prediction for the twist-3 transverse polarization at Belle. The denominator for the twist-3 polarization is given by Eq. (31). In order to generate a numerical prediction for unpolarized Λ production, we only need to fix the collinear unpolarized FFs for Λ baryons. For this purpose, we once again use the AKK collinear FFs in [71].

On the other hand, we saw that the numerator of the polarization is given in Eq. (33). Therefore in order to describe this process, we only need a parameterization for $D_{T, \Lambda/q}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$. Given our lack of knowledge of this fundamental twist-3 T-odd fragmentation function, we will employ the approach outlined in [76] in order to re-express the $D_{T, \Lambda/q}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$ in terms of our knowledge of $D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$. We observe that we can relate this intrinsic twist-3 FF to the kinematic and dynamical twist-3 functions [40] through the relation,

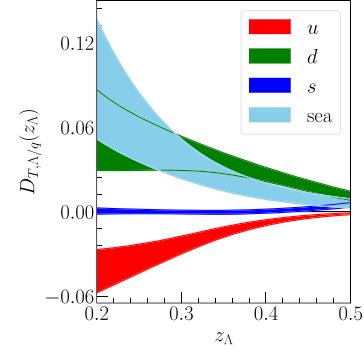


Fig. 6. The twist-3 fragmentation functions $D_{T, \Lambda/q}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$, defined in Eq. (46), plotted as functions of z_{Λ} . The bands represent the uncertainty band which is generated from one standard deviation of the replicas.

$$\frac{1}{z_{\Lambda}} D_{T, \Lambda/q}(z_{\Lambda}, Q) = - \left(1 - z_{\Lambda} \frac{d}{dz_{\Lambda}} \right) D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_{\Lambda}, Q) - 2 \int_0^1 d\beta \frac{\Im \left[\hat{D}_{FT}^{qg}(z_{\Lambda}, Q, \beta) \right]}{(1 - \beta)^2}, \quad (44)$$

which as derived in Ref. [77] by employing both Lorentz invariance relations and equations of motion relations (EOMs). In this expression $D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$ is the kinematic twist-3 fragmentation function which is defined in terms of the TMD PFF in the previous section through the relation

$$D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_{\Lambda}, Q) = \int d^2 p_{\Lambda \perp} \frac{p_{\Lambda \perp}^2}{2 z_{\Lambda}^2 M_{\Lambda}^2} D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp}(z, p_{\Lambda \perp}^2, Q), \quad (45)$$

where a regularization procedure is implied [76,78,79]. That is, the collinear limit of the first Bessel moment of the TMD PFF in Eq. (20) corresponds to the first moment of the TMD PFF, through a limiting procedure, as b becomes very small and is associated with the hard scale $b \sim 1/Q$ [76,78], resulting in a renormalized first moment of the functions originally introduced in [22,24].

On the other hand, $\hat{D}_{FT}^{qg}(z_{\Lambda}, Q, \beta)$ is the dynamical twist-3 fragmentation function [40]. Since from Eq. (45) the kinematic function $D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$ is related to the TMD PFFs, we can use the extracted results from [32] to obtain this function. The dynamical twist-3 function $\hat{D}_{FT}^{qg}(z, Q, \beta)$ on the other hand is not yet known. In order to perform a phenomenological analysis, we adopt the approach outlined in Ref. [76] where as a first approximation we neglect the last term in Eq. (44); that is,

$$\frac{1}{z_{\Lambda}} D_{T, \Lambda/q}(z_{\Lambda}, Q) = - \left(1 - z_{\Lambda} \frac{d}{dz_{\Lambda}} \right) D_{1T, \Lambda/q}^{\perp(1)}(z_{\Lambda}, Q). \quad (46)$$

This is a statement that integral in Eq. (44) is parametrically smaller than the first term: not that $\hat{D}_{FT}^{qg}(z_{\Lambda}, \beta)$ is zero. In fact

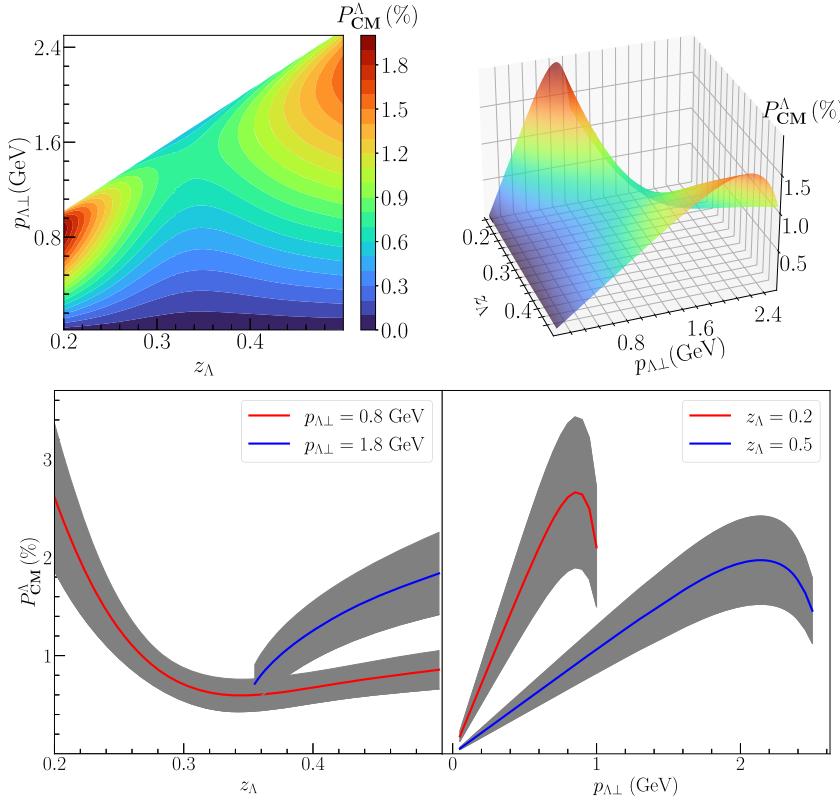


Fig. 7. $P_{\text{CM}}^{\Lambda}(z_{\Lambda}, p_{\Lambda\perp})$ defined in Eq. (34) for $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda X$ as a function of z_{Λ} and $p_{\Lambda\perp}$ at Belle. Top left: A contour plot of the polarization in z_{Λ} and $p_{\Lambda\perp}$. Top right: A three dimensional plot of the polarization. Bottom left: Plot of the polarization as a function of z_{Λ} only. Bottom right: Plot of the polarization as a function of $p_{\Lambda\perp}$ only. The top plots are generated only using the central fit. The red and blue curves in the bottom plots are generated using the central fit while the gray band is the theoretical uncertainty.

$\hat{D}_{FT}^{qg}(z_{\Lambda}, Q, \beta)$ must not be zero since it was shown in Ref. [77], $D_{1T,\Lambda/q}^{(1)}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$ is an integral of $\hat{D}_{FT}^{qg}(z_{\Lambda}, Q, \beta)$. Our purpose here is to provide first estimate of $D_{T,\Lambda/q}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$ in order to provide a first prediction of $P_{\text{CM}}^{\Lambda}(z_{\Lambda}, p_{\Lambda\perp})$ in $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda X$ for the Belle data [21]. Once data from Belle is analyzed in the CM frame, we can ascertain the size of the neglected contribution.

In Fig. 6 we plot the function $D_{T,\Lambda/q}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$ computed in Eq. (46) as a function of z_{Λ} at $Q = 10.58$ GeV for u , d , s , and the sea quarks. To generate the contribution of the sea quarks, we add the contributions of the \bar{u} , \bar{d} , \bar{s} -quarks. We once again follow the procedure which is given in detail in the previous section to generate the uncertainty band. We emphasize again that the uncertainty band arises only based on the fitted parameters in $\mathcal{N}_q(z)$ in Eq. (40), while we only use the central values for the unpolarized fragmentation function $D_{h/q}(z, Q)$. In red we plot $D_{T,\Lambda/u}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$ while in green we plot $D_{T,\Lambda/d}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$. In blue, we plot $D_{T,\Lambda/s}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$. Finally in light blue, we plot the sum over the sea quarks. We find that at small z_{Λ} , the sum over the sea quarks for $D_{T,\Lambda/q}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$ becomes very large. However at large z_{Λ} , the contribution of the sea quarks becomes small. At small z_{Λ} , the next largest contribution comes from the u -quarks which are negative. On the other hand, the contribution of the d -quarks is positive. At small z_{Λ} the contribution from the d quarks is smaller than that of the sea and u quarks. However, at large z_{Λ} , the d -quark has the largest contribution. We find that $D_{T,\Lambda/s}(z_{\Lambda}, Q)$ tends to be much smaller than the other twist-3 FFs in the plotted region.

In order to generate a prediction for Belle [21], in Fig. 7 we plot the polarization as a function of both $p_{\Lambda\perp}$ and z_{Λ} at $Q = 10.58$ GeV. We note that because the $p_{\Lambda z}$ must be non-negative, we then only plot our prediction in the region where $p_{\Lambda\perp} \leq z_{\Lambda} Q/2$.

Therefore as z_{Λ} grows, the range of available $p_{\Lambda\perp}$ increases. Furthermore due to this phase space restriction, at $Q = 10.58$ GeV the transverse momentum of the Λ baryon can then be at most a few GeV. However, it is important to note that this transverse momentum originates from the hard interaction as well as the collinear fragmentation, and not from any TMD physics. In the top-left plot of this figure, we provide a contour plot for $P_{\text{CM}}^{\Lambda}(z_{\Lambda}, p_{\Lambda\perp})$ in Eq. (34) in $e^+e^- \rightarrow \Lambda X$ using the central fit parameter values. In the top-right, we provide a three-dimensional plot of the polarization using the central fit. In the bottom-left plot, we show the polarization as a function of z_{Λ} at $p_{\Lambda\perp} = 0.8$ GeV in blue and $p_{\Lambda\perp} = 1.8$ GeV in red. In the bottom-right plot, we see the polarization as a function of $p_{\Lambda\perp}$ for $z_{\Lambda} = 0.2$ and $z_{\Lambda} = 0.5$. In all of our plots, we see that the size of the predicted asymmetry tends to be 1–2% in magnitude. While the size of this polarization is relatively small, it is important to note that this prediction was made using a Wandzura-Wilczek type relation, Eq. (46). If the size of the polarization at Belle is found to be larger than our prediction, this could be an indication that the Wandzura-Wilczek relation is not a good approximation for this function. Furthermore, if a significant signal for this process is found, this would also be the first demonstration that the function $D_{T,\Lambda/q}$ is non-zero.

Additionally, we have made theoretical predictions against the measurement at OPAL. As shown in [20], the polarization $P_{\text{CM}}^{\Lambda}(z_{\Lambda}, p_{\Lambda\perp})$ measured in the direction of $\hat{S}_{\perp} = \hat{z} \times \hat{P}_{\Lambda}$ is given to be $1.1 \pm 1.8\%$ for $z_{\Lambda} > 0.15$ and $p_{\Lambda\perp} > 0.3$ GeV/c. With the theoretical framework provided in this work, we obtain $P_{\text{CM}}^{\Lambda} = 0.020^{+0.003}_{-0.004}\%$ with z_{Λ} integrated from 0.15 to 1 and $p_{\Lambda\perp}$ integrated from 0.3 GeV to $z_{\Lambda} Q/2$, which is in agreement with the measurement provided by OPAL.

4. Conclusion

In this paper we have studied transverse polarization in single-inclusive Λ production in a thrust TMD framework as well as a collinear twist-3 framework. We have shown that when the polarization is differential in the transverse momentum with respect to the thrust axis, the polarization can be used to probe the TMD Polarizing Fragmentation Function (PFF), D_{1T}^\perp . On the other hand, we have also shown that when polarization is differential in the transverse momentum with respect to the leptons, the polarization is sensitive to the $D_{T,\Lambda}$ function, a collinear twist-3 fragmentation function. In order to describe the first process, we have extended a recent TMD formalism. Using this formalism, we have generated a theoretical prediction and compared this against the OPAL and Belle measurements. We have found good theoretical description of the Belle thrust axis data, and also demonstrated that the OPAL is reasonably described from the thrust axis factorization theorem developed here. This analysis provides proof of principle that the experimental data at OPAL and Belle can be described using the factorization and resummation formalism that we have introduced. Future work could involve using these experimental data to constrain the evolution of the TMD PFF.

Furthermore we have discussed how this recent Belle data can in principle be re-binned to measure the transverse momentum of the Λ baryon with respect to the lepton pair. Using a collinear twist-3 formalism, we have generated a theoretical prediction for this polarization at Belle. This measurement will allow for the first measurement of the intrinsic twist-3 FF, $D_{T,\Lambda/q}$ which by naive time reversal [26,42–44] symmetry, is predicted to be non-zero.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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