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Parton Distribution Function Calculation of the Pion on a Fine Lattice

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We present numerical results on the bare quasi-PDF matric element for the pion. Our pion mass is 300 MeV using a HISQ sea and Wilson-Clover valence quarks. Our lattice spacing and volume are $0.061~{\rm fm}$ and $48^3\times 64$ respectivly. Large momentum calculations being necessary for reliable matching between the quasi-PDF and the light-cone PDF using LaMET, we evaluate our matrix elements for a pion with momentum $1.69(2.11)~{\rm GeV}$, or $4(5)~{\rm units}$ on the lattice. Large momentum calculations on the lattice are notoriously contaminated with unwanted excited state contributions overlapping to our measurement. As such we also present a detailed study of pion two-point functions at large momentum, tuned using a multitude of smearing techniques to reduce the overlap of our operators to excited states. Furthermore we HYP-smear the Wilson Line of our quasi-PDF matrix element to study the reduction of lattice artifacts in our calculation. Ioffe-Time distribution functions were also computed as an exploratory study.

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