Hard exclusive processes at HERMES

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Abstract

The production of mesons (or photons) in deep-inelastic lepton scattering gives access to information on the structure of hadrons, that is otherwise hard to obtain. When the production process involves at least one hard scale and is exclusive, the data can be interpreted in terms of the recently introduced generalized parton distributions (GPD's). These GPD's provide a unified description of hadronic structure that includes parton correlations, and which can be applied to many different reactions. In my talk I will show that new data collected by the HERMES experiment at DESY can be used to extract first information on these GPD's. The presentation will also include first data on Deep Virtual Compton Scattering.