

Abstract Submitted
for the DNP08 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Electroproduction of soft pions at high Q^2 near the threshold from CLAS KIJUN PARK, RALF GOTHE, University of South Carolina, PAUL STOLER, RPI, CLAS COLLABORATION — Threshold pion electroproduction has long been a topic of interest for both experimental and theoretical studies. In *chiral symmetry*, the approximately zero pion mass allows one to make exact predictions for threshold cross sections using *low energy theorems* (LET). The LET established the connection between charged pion electroproduction and the axial form factor in the nucleon. Thanks to studies based on the light-cone sum rules (LCSR), one can calculate the hadron form factors in terms of distribution amplitudes that approach perturbative quantum chromodynamics (pQCD) without other non-perturbative parameters. The extraction of the axial form factor near the pion threshold is dominated by the S- wave multipole E_{0+} in the LCSR framework [VBraun08]. Preliminary extracted axial form factor close to the threshold region will be presented. This analysis is based on the exclusive electroproduction process $ep \rightarrow e'n\pi^+$, [KPark08] which was measured in the interval of Q^2 from 2.0 to 4.5 GeV², and an invariant mass range in the $n\pi^+$ system from $W = 1.11$ to 1.15 GeV. The CEBAF Large Acceptance Spectrometer (CLAS) was used to carry out these measurement.

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Date submitted: 24 Jun 2008

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