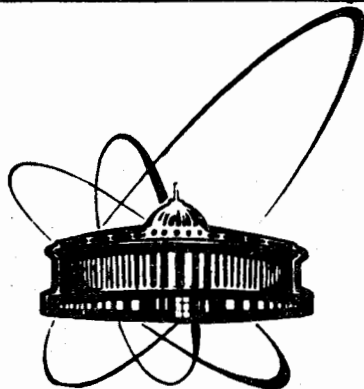


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SECOND CLASS CURRENTS
IN THE μ^- -CAPTURE
BY POLARIZED LIGHT NUCLEI

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The problem of second class current (SCC) has a significant value for our understanding of the weak interaction structure. Weinberg [1] classified the weak hadron currents by their transformation properties under the G-parity operation (where $G = C \exp(i\pi T_2)$). The first class currents (FCC) which dominate in the weak interaction and form the basis of the Standard Model, behave under G-parity transformation as

$$G V_{\alpha}^I G^{-1} = + V_{\alpha}^I \quad \text{and} \quad G A_{\alpha}^I G^{-1} = - A_{\alpha}^I.$$

SCC, which are a serious problem (see, for example, [2,3]) for the renormalized gauge theories of the electroweak interaction, behave oppositely to FCC under the G-parity operation:

$$G V_{\alpha}^{II} G^{-1} = - V_{\alpha}^{II} \quad \text{and} \quad G A_{\alpha}^{II} G^{-1} = + A_{\alpha}^{II}.$$

Following this classification the Dirac (F_1), Pauli (F_2), axial-vector (F_A) and pseudoscalar (F_P) form factors belong to FCC, and the scalar (F_S) and tensor (F_T) form factors - to SCC.

From the investigation of the mirror asymmetry of β -decay [4] the values of F_T are found to be equal to the form factor F_2 within the experimental accuracy. On the other hand, in a series of papers (see, for example, [5]) from the data on the angular distribution of ρ -particles with respect to the nuclear spin it is concluded that the G-parity of the weak nuclear current is strongly conserved, i.e.

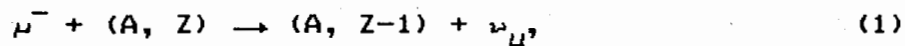
$F_T = 0$. SCC were also searched for in the iso-elastic scattering of $\mu n \rightarrow \mu p$ [6], but they were not observed.

Recently the τ -lepton decay channels taking place due to SCC have been observed at colliding e^-e^+ -beam ($\tau \rightarrow \omega \nu_\tau$ [7] and $\tau \rightarrow \eta \nu_\tau$ [8]). Nevertheless, the subsequent analysis of these data throws doubt upon the conclusions of the SCC existence (see, for example, [9]).

Thus, at present there is a contradictory and uncertain experimental situation concerning the search for SCC. It seems that for the complete solution of the SCC problem it is necessary to search for new effects, induced by SCC, and to carry out a number of independent experiments on measurement of various physical characteristics of electroweak processes.

Since the momentum transferred in the μ^- -capture is much higher than in the β -decay, the search for SCC in the μ^- -capture is preferable [10, 11], although the pure effects [12 - 14], induced by SCC, may be also observed in nuclear β -decay.

The present work, developing the [10, 14 - 17], is devoted to the study of the polarized muon capture by the polarized light nuclei



with allowance for the SCC and the muon neutrino mass.

The matrix element of process (1) in the framework of the current-current theory of the weak

interaction may be written as

$$\langle +; \vec{p}_\nu, s_\nu | \hat{H}_W | \vec{p}_\mu, \vec{s}_\mu; i \rangle = - \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} 1_\alpha J_\alpha(\vec{q}), \quad (2)$$

where $J_\alpha(\vec{q}) = \int d\vec{r} e^{-i\vec{q}\vec{r}} \langle f | \phi_{1S}(\vec{r}) \hat{J}_\alpha(\vec{r}) | i \rangle$ is the

nuclear weak current; $G_F = 1.023 \times 10^{-5} m_p^{-2}$ is the Fermi constant of the weak interaction (m_p is the proton mass); $q_\alpha = (p_\mu - p_\nu)_\alpha = (\vec{q}, iE_0)$ is the 4-momentum transfer; p_μ^α and p_ν^α are the 4-momenta of the muon and muonic neutrino; $1_\alpha = i \bar{u}_\nu \gamma_\alpha (1 + \gamma_5) u_\mu$ is the muon current; u_i ($i = \nu_\mu, \mu$) are the Dirac spinors.

Since the wave function of the muon $\phi_{1S}(\vec{r})$ in the 1S Bohr orbit of the mesoatom is a slowly varying function within the nuclear volume, it will be a "good" approximation if one extracts it from the inside of the matrix element (2) and use its average value [18]:

$$|\phi_{1S}|_{av}^2 = R |\phi_{1S}(0)|^2 = (R/\pi) \left[Z \alpha m_\mu M_A / (m_\mu + M_A) \right]^3.$$

Here R is a reduction factor taking into account the finite extent of the nuclear transition density; M_A and Z are the mass and the charge of the nucleus; α is the fine structure constant.

In order to calculate the nuclear matrix elements the multipole expansion method [18] of the nuclear weak current $\hat{J}_\alpha(\vec{q})$, is used.

The coordinate system (see Fig. 1) taking into account the nuclear polarization is defined as

follows: $\vec{e}_z = \vec{q}^0 = \vec{q}/q$, the unit vectors \vec{e}_x and \vec{e}_y are parallel to the vectors $(\vec{p}_\nu \times \vec{s}_\mu) \times \vec{q}$ and $(\vec{p}_\nu \times \vec{s}_\mu)$, respectively. The angles θ^* and φ^* describe the direction of the quantization axis (Z'-axis) with

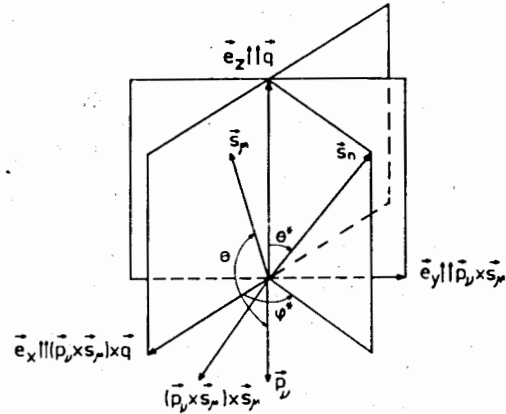


Fig. 1. The coordinate system used in the polarized muon capture by the polarized nuclei.

respect to the fixed Z-axis. Below the method of taking into account the nuclear polarization described in [14, 19, 20] is used. The order of the multipole operators, determining the expression for the differential rate of the transition $(J_i^{\pi_i}; T_i M_{T_i} + J_f^{\pi_f}; T_f M_{T_f})$, is defined by the selection rule: $|J_i - J_f| \leq J \leq |J_i + J_f|$. In the case of the pure Gamow-Teller transition ($J = 1$) the differential rate of process (1) with allowance for the muon and nuclear polarization and the longitudinal polarization of the neutrino (the mass of which is supposed to be not zero), calculated using (2) in the lower order of the perturbation theory, is given by

$$dW = \frac{G_F^2}{(4\pi)^2} d\Omega_\nu E_\nu p_\nu |\phi_{1S}|_{av}^2 \left[-M_{T_f} \quad 1 \quad T_i \right. \\ \left. -M_{T_f} \quad -1 \quad M_{T_i} \right]^2 F(\theta, \theta^*, \varphi^*). \quad (3)$$

Here $d\Omega_\nu = \sin(\theta) d\theta d\varphi$ is the solid angle of the neutrino; $p_n = (E_n^2 - m_n^2)^{1/2}$, $E_n = E_n - \Delta E$ (where $\Delta E = E_f - E_i = E_\mu - E_\nu$ is the energy transfer), m_ν are the momentum, energy and mass of the neutrino; $E_\mu = m_\mu - \epsilon_B$, m_μ and ϵ_B are the energy, mass and binding energy (in the 1S Bohr orbit of a mesoatom) of the muon; E_i (E_f) is the energy of the initial (final) nucleus.

The function $F(\theta, \theta^*, \varphi^*)$ has the form

$$F(\theta, \theta^*, \varphi^*) = f_1 \phi_1 + 2f_2 \phi_2 + f_3 \phi_3 + f_4 \phi_4 + f_5 \phi_5 + \\ + \frac{A}{2} P_2(\cos \theta^*) [f_1 \phi_1 + 2(f_2 \phi_2 - f_3 \phi_3 - f_4 \phi_4 - f_5 \phi_5)] + \\ + AP_2^1(\cos \theta^*) \cos \varphi^* (f_6 F_{L1}^5 F_{E1}^5 + f_7 F_{L1}^5 F_{M1}^5 + f_8 F_{C1}^5 F_{E1}^5 + \\ f_9 F_{C1}^5 F_{M1}^5) - \frac{A}{4} P_2^2(\cos \theta^*) \cos 2\varphi^* f_{10} [(F_{M1}^5)^2 - (F_{E1}^5)^2] + \\ - 3PP_1^1(\cos \theta^*) \cos \varphi^* (f_6 F_{L1}^5 F_{M1}^5 + f_7 F_{L1}^5 F_{E1}^5 + f_8 F_{C1}^5 F_{M1}^5 + \\ f_9 F_{C1}^5 F_{E1}^5) - \frac{3}{2} PP_1(\cos \theta^*) (2f_1 \phi_2 + f_2 \phi_1). \quad (4)$$

Here A and P are the alignment and the polarization of the nuclei; $P_L^M(\cos \theta^*)$ are the associated Legendre polynomials;

$$\phi_1 = ((F_{M1}^5)^2 + (F_{E1}^5)^2), \quad \phi_2 = F_{M1}^5 F_{E1}^5,$$

$$\phi_3 = (F_{L1}^5)^2, \quad \phi_4 = F_{L1}^5 F_{C1}^5, \quad \phi_5 = (F_{C1}^5)^2, \quad (5)$$

where F_{M1}^5 , F_{C1}^5 , F_{L1}^5 and F_{E1}^5 are the matrix elements of the vector magnetic, axial-vector electric, Coulomb and longitudinal multipole operators.

The arbitrary polarization of muons and the longitudinal polarization of the muonic neutrino taken into account the leptonic functions f_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, 10$), entering into the differential rate (3), have the form:

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= 2\delta(1 - s_\nu \cos\theta), & f_2 &= -2\delta(s_\nu - \cos\theta), \\ f_3 &= 2\delta(1 + s_\nu \cos\theta), & f_4 &= 4\delta(s_\nu + \cos\theta), \\ f_5 &= 2\delta(1 + s_\nu \cos\theta), & f_6 &= \sqrt{2}s_\nu \delta \sin\theta, \\ f_7 &= -\sqrt{2}\delta \sin\theta, & f_8 &= \sqrt{2}\delta \sin\theta, \\ f_9 &= \sqrt{2}s_\nu \delta \sin\theta, & f_{10} &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Here $\cos\theta = (\xi_\mu \vec{p}_\nu^0) = -(\xi_\mu \vec{q}^0)$, where ξ_μ is the unit vector of the muon polarization and $\vec{p}_\nu^0 = \vec{p}_\nu / p_\nu$ is the unit vector in the direction of the neutrino momentum; $\delta = 1 - s_\nu \beta_\nu$, where $s_\nu = \pm 1$ and $\beta_\nu = |\vec{p}_\nu| = p_\nu / E_\nu$ are the helicity and the velocity of the muonic neutrino.

After summing eq. (3) over neutrino spin states, we obtain the following expressions for the functions f_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, 10$):

$$f_1 = 4(1 + \beta_\nu \cos\theta), \quad f_2 = 4(\beta_\nu + \cos\theta),$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_3 &= 4(1 - \beta_\nu \cos\theta), & f_4 &= -8(\beta_\nu - \cos\theta), \\ f_5 &= 4(1 - \beta_\nu \cos\theta), & f_6 &= -2\sqrt{2}\beta_\nu \sin\theta, \\ f_7 &= -2\sqrt{2}\sin\theta, & f_8 &= 2\sqrt{2}\sin\theta, \\ f_9 &= -2\sqrt{2}\beta_\nu \sin\theta, & f_{10} &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

The further averaging of expression (3) over the muon spin states gives a simple form of the functions f_i :

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= 4, & f_2 &= 4\beta_\nu, & f_3 &= 4, & f_4 &= -8\beta_\nu, \\ f_5 &= 4, & f_6 &= -2\sqrt{2}\beta_\nu, & f_7 &= -2\sqrt{2}, & f_8 &= 2\sqrt{2}, \\ f_9 &= -2\sqrt{2}\beta_\nu, & f_{10} &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

In the case of unpolarized muons and for production of the longitudinally polarized neutrino the functions f_i are given by

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= 2\delta, & f_2 &= -2s_\nu \delta, & f_3 &= 2\delta, & f_4 &= 4s_\nu \delta, \\ f_5 &= 2\delta, & f_6 &= \sqrt{2}s_\nu \delta, & f_7 &= -\sqrt{2}\delta, & f_8 &= \sqrt{2}\delta, \\ f_9 &= \sqrt{2}s_\nu \delta, & f_{10} &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

For the polarized muon capture by the polarized ${}^6\text{Li}$ nuclei in the framework of the shell model with the harmonic oscillator potential the matrix elements F_{M1}^5 , F_{C1}^5 , F_{L1}^5 and F_{E1}^5 have the form

$$F_{M1}^5 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{q}{M_n} e^{-y} [k_1 F_1 + \mu(k_2 + k_3 y)],$$

$$F_{E1}^5 = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-y} (k_2 + k_3 y) F_A,$$

$$F_{C1}^5 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{q}{M_n} e^{-y} [k_4 F_A + (k_5 + k_6 y) (q_0 F_P + 2M_n F_T)],$$

$$F_{L1}^5 = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-y} (k_5 + k_6 y) (F_A - \frac{q^2}{2M_n} F_P). \quad (10)$$

Here $k_1 = 0.178$; $k_2 = 0.561$; $k_3 = -0.354$; $k_4 = 8.6 \cdot 10^{-3}$; $k_5 = -0.397$; $k_6 = 0.293$; $y = (bq/2)^2$, where $b (= 2.03 \text{ fm [18]})$ is the oscillator parameter.

In the long wave length limit ($q/M_n \approx 0$, $y \approx 0$) the function determining the differential rate of the μ^- -capture by the polarized nuclei, is given by

$$F(\theta, \theta^*, \varphi^*) = F_A(2f_1 + f_3) + 4qf_2 F_2 - qf_4 F_T +$$

$$+ AP_2(\cos\theta^*) [F_A(f_1 - f_3) + 2qf_2 F_2 + qf_4 F_T] +$$

$$+ AP_2^1(\cos\theta^*) \cos\varphi^* \sqrt{2}(f_6 F_A + qf_7 F_2 - qf_8 F_T) +$$

$$+ \frac{A}{2} P_2^2(\cos\theta^*) \cos 2\varphi^* f_{10} F_A + 3 P P_1(\cos\theta^*) (f_2 F_A +$$

$$+ 2qf_1 F_2) + 3\sqrt{2} P P_1^1(\cos\theta^*) \cos\varphi^* (f_7 F_A + qf_6 F_2 -$$

$$- qf_9 F_T). \quad (11)$$

The angular distribution of the neutrino with respect to the muon spin orientation is described by the asymmetry coefficient, defined by

$$\alpha_{\mu\nu} = \frac{dW(\vec{s}_\mu \uparrow \uparrow \vec{p}_\nu^0) - dW(\vec{s}_\mu \uparrow \downarrow \vec{p}_\nu^0)}{dW(\vec{s}_\mu \uparrow \uparrow \vec{p}_\nu^0) + dW(\vec{s}_\mu \uparrow \downarrow \vec{p}_\nu^0)}. \quad (12)$$

By neglecting the terms proportional to q_0/M_n and q^2/M_n^2 in the case of unpolarized nuclei and neutrino, we obtain a simple expression for the coefficient $\alpha_{\mu\nu}$ with allowance for the form factor F_T :

$$\alpha_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{3} \beta_\nu \left\{ 1 - \frac{8}{3} E_\nu \frac{F_T}{F_A} \right\}. \quad (13)$$

In this formula the dependence on m_ν is quadratic through the neutrino velocity $\beta_\nu = \{1 - [m_\nu / (E_\mu - \Delta E)]^2\}^{1/2}$. Eq. (13) may be used to estimate the neutrino mass m_ν and the form factor F_T . At $F_T = 1.4 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ MeV}^{-1}$ the relative contribution from SCC to the coefficient $\alpha_{\mu\nu}$ is $\approx 40\%$. For unpolarized nuclei a detailed analysis of the contribution from SCC to the coefficient $\alpha_{\mu\nu}$ has been done in [10, 17].

One of the interesting characteristics of process (1) is the coefficient of the asymmetry between the polarization directions of the muon (\vec{s}_μ) and the nucleus (\vec{s}_n), defined by

$$A_{\mu n} = \frac{dW(\vec{s}_\mu \uparrow \uparrow \vec{s}_n) - dW(\vec{s}_\mu \uparrow \downarrow \vec{s}_n)}{dW(\vec{s}_\mu \uparrow \uparrow \vec{s}_n) + dW(\vec{s}_\mu \uparrow \downarrow \vec{s}_n)}, \quad (14)$$

where \vec{s}_n is a unit vector in the nuclear polarization direction.

The coefficient $a_{\mu n}$ for the $(1^+ \rightarrow 0^+)$ -transition has the form

$$A_{\mu n} = \frac{PH_3}{H_1 + AH_2}, \quad (15)$$

where the functions H_i ($i = 1, 2, 3$) are given by the expressions

$$\begin{aligned} H_1 &= 3 + \beta_\nu \cos\theta + 2E_\nu \tilde{F}_T (\beta_\nu - \cos\theta) + 4E_\nu \tilde{F}_2 (\beta_\nu + \cos\theta); \\ H_2 &= 2\beta_\nu \cos\theta + E_\nu \beta_\nu (3\cos^2\theta - 1) (\tilde{F}_2 - \tilde{F}_T) + 2E_\nu \cos\theta (\tilde{F}_2 + \tilde{F}_T); \\ H_3 &= -3[1 + \beta_\nu \cos\theta - E_\nu \beta_\nu \tilde{F}_T \sin^2\theta + E_\nu \tilde{F}_2 (\beta_\nu \cos^2\theta + 2\cos\theta + \beta_\nu)]. \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

Here and below $\tilde{F}_X = F_X / F_A$ (where $X = 2, T$). Note that H_i give the differential rate averaged over the parent nucleus spin states.

If $\theta = \pi/2$ and the neutrino mass is neglected, the coefficient $A_{\mu n}$ is expressed as:

$$A_{\mu n} = -P\{1 - (1/3)\beta_\nu E_\nu [\tilde{F}_2(1-A) + \tilde{F}_T(5+A)]\}. \quad (17)$$

At the alignment equal to one ($A = 1$) we obtain

$$A_{\mu n} = -P(1 - 2\beta_\nu E_\nu \tilde{F}_T). \quad (18)$$

In this case the relative contribution from SCC to the coefficient $A_{\mu n}$ at $F_T = 1,4 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ MeV}^{-1}$ is $\approx 40\%$. Note that the information on the value and sign (relative to the form factor F_2) of the form factor F_T may be obtained by using expression (18).

At $\theta = 0^\circ$ and $A \neq 1$ the coefficient $A_{\mu n}$ will differ from zero only if the non-zero neutrino mass exists, and in this case $A_{\mu n}$ is equal to

$$A_{\mu n} = - (3/4) (m_\nu^2/E_\nu^2) P[1 - 2E_\nu (\tilde{F}_2 + \tilde{F}_T)] / (1 - \beta_\nu A). \quad (19)$$

The latter equation may be used to determine the muon neutrino mass.

For the coefficient $A_{\mu n}$ after integrating the differential capture rate, we obtain the expression

$$A_{\mu n} = P\{1 + (2/3)E_\nu(1-A)(\tilde{F}_2 + \tilde{F}_T)\}. \quad (20)$$

It follows from here that the contributions from SCC and weak magnetism to the coefficient $A_{\mu n}$ in this case are correlated and it will be difficult to differentiate between them.

Thus, the present limits on the form factor F_T may be improved by studying the coefficient $A_{\mu n}$ at various values of alignment A .

Let the nucleus be polarized along $\vec{u}_S \uparrow\uparrow$ ($\vec{p}_\nu \times \vec{s}_\mu$) $\times \vec{s}_\mu$. Then, after summing the differential rate over the neutrino spin states for the asymmetry coefficient defined by

$$A_S = \frac{dW(\vec{s}_n \uparrow\uparrow \vec{u}_S) - dW(\vec{s}_n \uparrow\downarrow \vec{u}_S)}{dW(\vec{s}_n \uparrow\uparrow \vec{u}_S) + dW(\vec{s}_n \uparrow\downarrow \vec{u}_S)}, \quad (21)$$

we obtain the expression

$$A_S = \frac{PH_3}{H_1 + AH_2}. \quad (22)$$

The function H_1 is given in (16) and the functions H_2 and H_3 have the form

$$H_2 = -\beta_\nu \cos\theta + E_\nu \beta_\nu (3\sin^2\theta - 1) (\tilde{F}_2 - \tilde{F}_T) - E_\nu \cos\theta (\tilde{F}_2 + \tilde{F}_T);$$

$$H_3 = 3\sin\theta[\beta_\nu + E_\nu\beta_\nu\tilde{F}_T\cos\theta + E_\nu\tilde{F}_2(2 - \beta_\nu\cos\theta)]. \quad (23)$$

In the case of $\theta = \pi/2$ the coefficient A_S has the form

$$A_S = P [\beta_\nu + (2/3)E_\nu(\tilde{F}_2 - \tilde{F}_T)(1-A)]. \quad (24)$$

At $A = 1$ there are no contributions from the form factors F_T and F_2 to the coefficient A_S . At $\theta = 0$ and π the coefficient A_S is equal to zero.

In the case of the polarization of nuclei in the direction that is perpendicular to the reaction plane ($\vec{\xi}_n \uparrow \uparrow \vec{p}_\nu \times \vec{\xi}_\mu$), the asymmetry coefficient, defined by

$$A_N = \frac{dW(\vec{\xi}_n \uparrow \uparrow \vec{p}_\nu \times \vec{\xi}_\mu) - dW(\text{unpolar.})}{dW(\text{unpolar.})} \quad (25)$$

is proportional to the alignment A and has the form

$$A_N = -A \{ F_A \beta_\nu \cos\theta - E_\nu F_T (\beta_\nu - \cos\theta) + E_\nu F_2 (\beta_\nu + \cos\theta) \} / H_1. \quad (26)$$

The function H_1 is given in (16).

At $\cos\theta = -1$ for the massless neutrino the coefficient A_N is expressed as

$$A_N = (1/2)A, \quad (27)$$

and in the case of $\cos\theta = +1$ the coefficient A_N is given by

$$A_N = -(1/4)A. \quad (28)$$

In these cases the coefficient A_N does not depend on the form factors F_T and F_2 .

At $\cos\theta = 0$ the coefficient A_N is equal to

$$A_N = -(1/3)AE_\nu(\tilde{F}_2 - \tilde{F}_T), \quad (29)$$

which is the same as the expression for the coefficient A_N obtained after the integration of differential rate (3).

Thus, the analysis shows that for getting information on the form factor F_T the angular dependences of various correlation coefficients ($\alpha_{\mu\nu}$, $A_{\mu\nu}$, A_S and A_N) in the μ^- -capture by the polarized nuclei should be investigated. At $\theta = \pi/2$ and $A = 1$ the coefficient $A_{\mu\nu}$ depends only on the form factor F_T , and at $\theta = 0^\circ$ and $A \neq 1$ the coefficient $A_{\mu\nu}$ is not equal to zero only if a non-zero neutrino mass exists. In the case of $\theta = \pi/2$ the coefficient A_S depends on the form factors F_2 and F_T only when $A \neq 1$. At $\theta = 0^\circ$ and π the coefficient A_N does not depend on the form factors F_2 and F_T , and at $\theta = \pi/2$ the quantity A_N is proportional to the difference between F_2 and F_T .

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