Physics opportunities with exclusive J/ ψ at ECCE

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Among the heavy quarkonia production processes at EIC, the exclusive photoproduction with large cross section and simple final state is expected to play a key role. In the reaction, an incident virtual photon fluctuates into quark-antiquark pair, which then scatters off the target elastically, emerging as a real quarkonium. The scattering process occurs via the exchange of a color neutral object, Pomeron, which can be viewed as two gluons with self interaction (gluon ladder) in the language of QCD. Due to the gluonic nature of Pomeron, the exclusive heavy quarkonia photoproduction at EIC can be related to the gluon distribution of proton and nucleus using perturbative QCD. Furthermore, the distribution of momentum transfer from the target in the process is sensitive to the interaction sites, which provides a powerful tool to probe the spatial distribution of gluon in nucleus. Recently, there has been a lot of interests among the nucleon structure community in determining the anomaly contribution M_a as a key to understand the origin of the proton mass. The trace anomaly is sensitive to the gluon condensate and exclusive production of quarkonia such as J/ψ and Y is an excellent laboratory to extract the anomaly contribution M_a , in which the sensitivity can be maximized for the production near threshold.

In this poster, we will cover the J/ψ detection at ECCE using full detector simulation. And we will present the capability of exclusive process of J/ψ photoproduction detection to probe the gluon nPDF and spatial distribution, the near threshold production mechanism and trace anomaly of proton mass decomposition with the ECCE detector setup.