Low Q² and High y Inclusive Cross Section Measurements from the HERA Experiments ZEUS and H1

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Introduction

- Deep Inelastic Scattering (DIS) is one of the best tools for
 - Testing QCD dynamics: validity of DGLAP evolution equations at low Q^2 and low x
 - Measurement of the substructure of the proton: quark and gluon content (PDFs)
- Kinematics described by Lorentz invariant quantities:
 - $Q^2 = -q^2 = -(k k')^2$

virtuality/resolving power

• $x = \frac{Q^2}{2P \cdot q}$ Bjorken scaling variable, momentum fraction of the scattered parton

•
$$y = \frac{q \cdot P}{k \cdot P}$$
 inelasticity

• Related by
$$Q^2 = xys$$



• Two structure functions $F_2(x, Q^2)$, $F_L(x, Q^2)$ parametrise the inclusive NC cross section for $ep \rightarrow e'X$: $\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 \sigma_{NC}^{ep}}{\mathrm{d}x \mathrm{d}Q^2} = \frac{2\pi \alpha^2 Y_+}{xQ^4} \left(F_2(x, Q^2) - \frac{y^2}{Y_+} F_L(x, Q^2) \right), \quad Y_+ = 1 + (1 - y)^2$ $\partial^{0} O_{10^4}$ • Bulk Low Q^2 Domain HERA Experiments: $(10 \text{GeV}^2 < Q^2 < 150 \text{GeV}^2)$: н1 1994-2000 ZEUS 1994-2000 DGLAP evolution, PDFs, highest Fixed Target Experiments: precision NMC 10^{3} BCDMS • Lowest Q^2 Domain E665 Sulk Low O2 SLAC $(Q^2 \le 10 {\rm GeV}^2)$: 10^{2} Transition to non-perturbative High y regime 10 • High y Domain (y > 0.6): 1 Sensitivity to F_L • Low E_p running and direct F_L 10^{-} ry Low O2 Measurement: 10^{-3} 10^{-2} 10^{-4}







The HERA Collider

- HERA accelerator: 920 GeV p + 27.6 GeV $e^{\pm} \Rightarrow \sqrt{s} = 320$ GeV
- H1 and ZEUS: general purpose detectors, Measurement of the Proton Structure in full kinematic range one of the prime objectives





Low Q^2 Bulk Results

- F_2 has been measured with up to 2-3% precision in the "HERA Bulk Region" $10 \le Q^2/\text{GeV}^2 \le 150$ by both H1 and ZEUS
- A new H1 measurement with reduced systematic errors expected
- Further Improvements may be possible by combining ZEUS and H1 data





Lowest Q^2 **Region**

- Transition to non-perturbative region $Q^2 \rightarrow 0$ is of theoretical interest
- The lowest $Q^2 < 10 \text{GeV}^2$ region is accessed using specialised techniques to detect scattered leptons at very small angles:
 - Data taken with shifted event vertex (H1)
 - Events with tagged (ZEUS) or untagged (H1) Initial State Radiation
 - Special low angle calorimeter + tracker (BPT, ZEUS)
 - Minimum Bias Trigger data + Backward Silicon Tracker (H1)

BST at low $\mathbf{Q}^{E} = 2.7 \text{ GeV}^{E} \text{ x} = 0.0008$

New preliminary results of H1 for DIS 2007: HERA results complete for this region!



Lowest Q^2 Analysis

Main features of the preliminary new H1 analysis:

- Control of the Lepton Energy Scale to 0.2 1.0%
- Kinematic reconstruction mainly independent of the hadronic final state using the BST
- Further improvements due to combination of 3 H1 data sets taking into account systematic errors





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Lowest Q^2 Results

- Reduced cross section σ_r and effective $\gamma^* p$ cross section:
- Typical precision: ZEUS BPT data < 4%, combined H1 data: 1.5 10%



The High y **Region**

- Analysis in the high y > 0.6 region especially challenging difficult to identify the scattered lepton with low E'_e and high γp background
- **Q** Results interesting because of sensitivity to F_L
- Experimental problems similar to direct F_L measurement, both H1 and ZEUS have released preliminary improved y cross section measurements
 - ZEUS: Measurement uses γp MC for BG subtraction, can be studied using tagged events; Analysis down to $E'_e = 5$ GeV and up to y = 0.8
 - H1: Background determined directly from data using the track charge; Analysis down to $E'_e = 3.3$ GeV and up to y = 0.9



H1 High y Analysis

- Large HERA II data set with $\mathcal{L} = 96 \text{pb}^{-1}$, Subtraction of large backgrounds at low scattered lepton energy works very well
- Lepton identification cuts tuned for high efficiency, not background rejection; good sample for systematic cross checks



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ZEUS High y Analysis

- $\hfill \ensuremath{\mathbb{Q}}$ Good MC description of DIS signal and γp background
- $\hfill \hfill \hfill$



High y **Results**

- H1 uncertainties improved by a factor 2 over former publication, total errors 2-3%; to be extended to lower and higher Q^2 (BST and LAr calorimeter)
- First measurement at high y by ZEUS, covers the whole kinematic range, at higher Q^2 statistics limited



Direct F_L **Measurement**

- HERA structure function measurement program is not complete without measuring $F_L \Rightarrow$ Needs cross section measurements at different \sqrt{s}
- Since end of March 2007 HERA is running at reduced proton beam energy $E_p = 460$ GeV and H1 and ZEUS are taking data efficiently
- Thanks to the good HERA performance: collect $\mathcal{L} = 13 \mathrm{pb}^{-1}$ at lowest $E_p = 460 \text{ GeV}$ and additional $\mathcal{L} \approx 9 \mathrm{pb}^{-1}$ at an intermediate energy of $E_p = 575 \text{ GeV}$



Outlook

- DGLAP QCD fits to inclusive cross section measurements determine the parton densities of the proton and test the theory
- Precise knowledge of proton structure essential for other experiments, e.g. W^{\pm}, Z^{0} production by gluon fusion at the LHC



Conclusions

- The HERA experiments still have potential at low Q^2
- Recently new and improved results presented at DIS 2007 for lowest Q^2 and in the high y domain
- Currently HERA is running successfully at lowered E_p , F_L will be measured directly using this data
- Not to forget: Low and High Q^2 bulk results will be updated soon
- Improved experimental input and combined HERA combined will eventually lead to a reduction of the PDF uncertainties, valuable input for the LHC, and test QCD

