# Charm Production in Charged Current DIS at HERA

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### HERA accelerator & ZEUS detector



HERA accelerator (Hamburg, Germany)

- $e^{\pm}p$  collider with  $\sqrt{s} = 318 \ GeV$ .
- Luminosity upgrade during HERA II period (2003-2007)



#### ZEUS detector (South side of HERA)

- Asymmetric with extended coverage of the proton beam direction.
- Installation of a microvertex detector (MVD) during HERA upgrade.

Data stored at ZEUS provides a great testing ground for future EIC projects!



### Motivations

• Charm cross section measurement in high- $Q^2$  charged current (CC) DIS.  $\rightarrow$  Constraints on  $s(x, Q^2)$ 



- ← LO Charm production Feynman diagram
- Allows for  $s(x, Q^2)$  measurement.
- The process via *d* is Cabibbo-suppressed.
- Due to the final state neutrino, a large missing  $P_T$  is observed.
- Charmed particle has a long lifetime since it decays weakly.
- Invariant kinematic variables  $(x, y, Q^2)$  defined by using Jacquet-Blondel Method.

$$y_{JB} = \frac{\sum_{h} (E - p_z)_h}{2E_{e,beam}}$$
  $Q_{JB}^2 = \frac{p_{T,h}^2}{1 - y_{JB}}$   $x_{JB} = \frac{Q_{JB}^2}{sy_{JE}}$ 

• Complementary measurement (high- $Q^2$ ) to the previous analyses at low- $Q^2$ .  $\rightarrow$  CCFR/NuTeV :  $\frac{\int_0^1 dx[xs+x\bar{s}]}{\int_0^1 dx[x\bar{u}+x\bar{d}]} = 0.477^{+0.063}_{-0.053}$  ( $Q^2 = 4 \ GeV^2$ ) \*\*Z.Phys.C65:189-198,1995  $\rightarrow$  ATLAS :  $\frac{s+\bar{s}}{\bar{u}+\bar{d}} = 1.13 \pm 0.05$  ( $Q^2 = 1.9 \ GeV^2, x = 0.023$ ) \*\*Eur. Phys. J. C 77 (2017) 367

### **Charmed Sub-processes**



- LO quark-initiated process (QI)
  - sensitive to strange content.
- NLO boson-gluon fusion (BGF)
  sensitive to gluon content.
- LO, strange production
  - sensitive to charm content.
- All three schemes have the same initial & final state and are EW processes.
   → hard to disentangle theoretically.





### **DATA & Monte Carlo Samples**

#### Data

- HERA II ( $L \cong 360 \ pb^{-1}$ )
  - $e^-p: 05e, 06e \le L \cong 185 \ pb^{-1}$
  - $e^+p:0304p,0607p \text{ w/} L \cong 173 \ pb^{-1}$

Year	Collision	Integrated Luminosity $(pb^{-1})$
2003/04	$e^+p$	~ 38
2004/05	$e^-p$	~ 133
2006	$e^-p$	~ 52
2006/07	$e^+p$	~ 135

### MC

#### • DIS

- Inclusive CCDIS MC, DJANGOH 1.6, ARIADNE 4.12, CTEQ-5D.
- Background
  - Inclusive NCDIS MC: DJANGOH 1.6, ARIADNE 4.12, CTEQ-5D
  - Photoproduction MC: HERWIG, resolved & direct
  - Background contribution was found to be negligible.





### **DIS Selection Summarized**

- Kinematic Selection
  - $200 \; GeV^2 < Q_{JB}^2 < 60,000 \; GeV^2$
  - $y_{JB} < 0.9$
  - Confines the sample in a region where the detector resolution is well understood and has a low background.
- Charged Current Selection
  - $p_T > 12 \ GeV$  \*\* missing transverse momentum  $p_{T,miss} = -p_T$
  - $p'_T > 10 \ GeV$  \*\*  $p'_T = p_T$  excluding the ones measured by CAL cells adjacent to the beam hole.
- Further background rejection (NC, Photoproduction, etc)
- ~4,000 CC events from  $e^+$  periods and ~9,000 from  $e^-$  periods.



## Control Plots – Event (*e*+*p*)



### Legend Info

#### • EW Charm/Anticharm

Charm from electroweak reaction either in the initial or final state.

#### • LF

Light-flavor contribution. Major source of background.

• HF

Heavy Flavor events that do not involve EW charm.



### Control Plots – Event (*e*<sup>-</sup>*p*)



- A good consistency between MC and data.
- LF content higher in *e*<sup>-</sup> periods due to *W*-coupling valence quarks.
- EW charm content: ~25 % in e<sup>+</sup> periods ~15% in e<sup>-</sup> periods.



### **Charm Identification**

#### Lifetime-tagging Method

- 2D decay length  $(L_{xy})$  projected onto Jet axis.
  - $LF \rightarrow$  Short-lived, Symmetric decay length.
  - Charm  $\rightarrow$  Long-lived, Asymmetric.
- LF contribution (background) suppressed by mirroring decay length distribution around  $L_{xy} = 0$ .

$$(M_{L+} - M_{L-}, M_{S+} - M_{S-})$$





Jet Selection	Reconstructed by using kT algorithm in massive mode.	
	$E_T^{jet} > 5 \ GeV$	
	$-2.5 < \eta^{jet} < 2.5$	
SecVtx Selection	$\chi^2/N_{dof} < 6$	
	$ Z_{secvtx}  < 30 \ cm$	
	Distance to beamspot $\sqrt{\Delta x^2 + \Delta y^2} < 1 \ cm$	

 $E_T^{jet}$  and  $\eta^{jet}$  cuts further define the kinematic phase space of the measurement.

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## **Decay Length Plots**



- Asymmetric charm signal observed.
- The high symmetry and large statistics around S~0 contributes to a large statistical uncertainty in the low bin regions in S.
- A significance threshold cut was applied to reduce overall statistical uncertainty.

### **Mirrored Decay Length**



- Significance cut applied at S > 2.
- Charm signal observed with LF contribution (Background) suppressed.
- Surviving events are split into 2 bins in  $Q^2$  to unfold charm production cross section,  $\sigma_{charm,CC}$ .

### **Cross Section Unfolding**

$$\sigma_{i,charm,CC} = \frac{M_{i,meas} - M_{i,meas}^{bg}}{M_{i,meas}^{MC}} \sigma_{i,charm,CC}^{MC}$$

- The charm cross section is measured by extrapolating the cross section measured in MC samples with a factor  $\frac{M_{meas,i} M_{meas,i}^{bg}}{M_{meas,i}^{MC}}.$
- Here, *M* denotes the number of entries in reconstructed  $Q_{JB}^2$  distribution.
- The MC cross section is given by the equation on the left, where N denotes the number of entries in true  $Q^2$  distribution.
- The discrepancy between *N* and *M* is found to be in the order of ~1%.
- The total cross section can then be extrapolated via an extrapolation factor  $C_{ext}$ ; =  $N_{charm}^{full}/N_{charm}^{kin}$ , the ratio of the number of generated charm versus that of visible charm.



$$\sigma_{charm,CC}^{tot} = C_{ext} \, \sigma_{charm,CC}^{vis}$$



- EW charm cross sections have been measured.
- Reasonable agreement between data, MC & theory with a large uncertainty.
- MC & theory predictions suggest that the contributions from QI and BGF processes are about equal.



- Theory predictions
  - FFN scheme:
    - ABMP16.3 NLO pdf set, OPENQCDRAD
  - FONLL scheme:
    - NNPDF31 NLO pdf set, APFEL
  - Both are interfaced in xFitter.

### Summary

- Measurement of charm cross sections in a kinematic region ( $Q^2 > 200 \ GeV^2$ , y < 0.9,  $E_T^{jet} > 5 \ GeV$ ,  $|\eta^{jet}| < 2.5$ ) has been performed with the ZEUS detector with HERA II data.
- Charm production cross section is 30-50% sensitive to strange quark content in proton, as suggested by MC and theoretical calculations (FFN NLO, FONLL-B).
- Further signal optimization to suppress LF content, especially in  $e^-$  periods, is in progress.
- With orders of magnitude higher instant luminosity and better vertex detection resolution projected to be implemented in the future EIC, this analysis can further constrain strange quark content in proton.





## Thank you!

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- ZEUS Collaboration
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### **Back up**





### **Charm Production in CC**

• Charged current events are always weak interactions.

$$\frac{d^2 \sigma_{Born}^{CC,e^{\pm}p}}{dx dQ^2} = (1 \pm P_e) \frac{G_F^2}{4\pi x} \left(\frac{M_W^2}{M_W^2 + Q^2}\right)^2 \tilde{\sigma}_{CC}^{e^{\pm}p}$$

• The double-differential cross section is sensitive to different quark densities.

$$\tilde{\sigma}_{CC}^{e^+p} = x[\bar{u} + \bar{c} + (1-y)^2(d+s)]$$
  
$$\tilde{\sigma}_{CC}^{e^-p} = x[u + c + (1-y)^2(\bar{d}+\bar{s})]$$

• The resulting charm production is then selected by using the lifetime-tagging method.

