The Neutral Particle Spectrometer in Hall C

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Neutral Particle Spectrometer (NPS)

- NPS experiments Ran from September 2023- May 2024:
 - E12-13-010: Exclusive Deeply Virtual Compton and Neutral Pion Cross-Section Measurements in Hall C
 - E12-13-007: Measurement of Semi-Inclusive pi0 Production as Validation of Factorization
 - E12-22-006: Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering off the neutron with the Neutral Particle Spectrometer in Hall
 - E12-23-014: Measurements of the Ratio R = σ_L / σ_T , p/d ratios, P_t dependence, and azimuthal asymmetries in Semi-Inclusive DIS π^0 production using the NPS in Hall C
- Scattered electrons are detected in the HMS and high energy photons in the NPS calorimeter
- The calorimeter is installed on a new platform attached to the SHMS carriage to allow remote rotation
- A sweep magnet is installed to reduce charged background. Replacing the SHMS Horizontal Bender
- Enables neutral particle detection with good energy and spatial resolution at high luminosity (≤7.5x10³⁷ cm⁻²s⁻¹) for precise cross-section measurements



NPS Physics

- Exclusive Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering off LH2 and LD2
 - *H*(*e*,*e*'**y**)*p*
 - D(e,e' ¥)pn
- Exclusive π^0 Production
 - *H*(*e*,*e*' π⁰)*p*
 - D(e,e' π⁰)pn
- Semi-Inclusive π^0 Production
 - *H*(*e*,*e*' π⁰)*X*
 - D(e,e' π⁰)X



| Data taken | in | 2023 |
|--------------------------------|----|------|
|--------------------------------|----|------|

| x_Bj | Kinematic Setting | Pass | Q2 (GeV^2) |
|------------|----------------------|------|---------------|
| 6 | KinC_x36_3 | 5 | 3.0 |
| <u>с</u> . | KinC_x36_5 | 5 | 4.0 |
| 0 | KinC_x36_2 | 4 | 3.0 |
| 0 | KinC_x50_2 | 5 | 3.4 |
| .5 | KinC_x50_3 | 5 | 4.8 |
| 0 | KinC_x50_1 | 4 | 3.4 |
| 0.6 | KinC_x60_3 | 5 | 5.1 |
| | KinC_x60_2 | 4 | 5.1 |

Data taken in 2024

| x_Bj | Kinematic Setting | Pass | Q2 (GeV^2) |
|------|----------------------|------|---------------|
| | KinC_x25_1 | 5 | 2.1 |
| 25 | KinC_x25_2 | 5 | 2.4 |
| 0 | KinC_x25_3 | 4 | 2.4 |
| | KinC_x25_4 | 3 | 3.0 |
| 9 | KinC_x36_6 | 5 | 5.5 |
| .36 | KinC_x36_4 | 4 | 4.0 |
| 0 | KinC_x36_1 | 3 | 3.0 |
| 0.5 | KinC_x50_0 | 3 | 3.4 |
| 9 | KinC_x60_4 | 5 | 6.0 |
| Ö | KinC_x60_1 | 3 | 5.1 |

NPS Detector Design

- 1,080 PbWO₄ ($2x2cm^2$) blocks in 30x36 array
- 0.5mm carbon fiber grid to hold crystals
- Hamamatsu 4125 PMTs
- Onboard HV divider and amplifier for high rates \bullet
- LED system for curing and calibration
- HV, LV, and LED signals distributed to an entire column through distribution board





NPS Crystals

- PbWO₄ crystals manufactured by CRYTUR
- Lack of defects led to consistent light yield
- Fast time response (5-14ns)
- High density and lack of self-absorption provides potential high energy resolution

0.15

0.14

0.13

0.12

1500

2000

2500

Run number

3000

• Radiation causes darkening and discoloring of crystals which reduces the light transmission

Mp10

- There was a shift in the raw π^0 mass over time
- Columns on the edges of the calorimeter saw a larger shift in π^0 mass
 - This effect is accounted by recalibration



2500

Run number

2000

1500

3000

3500



2000

1500

2500 3000

Run number

Raw π^0 Mass as a Function of Run# for Different Values of x

3500

28.3

Temperature Control

- Light yield from PbWO4 are temperature dependent (-2% / °C at 20°C)
- For 0.5% energy stability need 0.1°C stability
- The high-voltage dividers on the PMTs dissipate several hundred Watts total
- Chilled water circulates around copper heat sink frame
- Fans and heat exchanger
- 56 temperature sensors on both front and back of crystals



NPS Sweeper Magnet

- 0.3 Tm conventional copper coil
- Reduces electromagnetic background for high-rate environment
- With 15uA beam on LD2 the maximum anode current reduced from 9.9uA → 3.7uA with the sweeper off/on
- However, with calorimeter 3m from target, fringe field caused a 0-7% change in PMT gain as a function of the column # (more calibrations!)



Change in $\gamma \gamma$ Invariant Mass



Installation

- Installation, cabling, and testing began in April 2023 and finished by September
- Calorimeter installed on sliding rail
- 5 VME crates, 2 HV , and 1 LV power supplies added to SHMS hut
 - 250MHz FADC with streaming ¥ and ¥¥ triggers
- Cables ran through the hut roof down to the NPS platform



Mean Values : Sample Pulse Amplitude

Radiation Damage to PMT Preamp

- Radiation damage seen in the LV regulators on the PMT pre-amps
- Damaged amplifiers cause instability in the LV power supply for all channels in the column
- Dec 15th Jan 13th work carried out to bypass the regulators in the pre-amps
- Lead and polyethylene shielding added to the side of the calorimeter







Columns Disabled

NPS Semi-Streaming Data Acquisition

- Flash analog to digital converter (FADC): digitizes raw waveforms
- FPGA logic in each FADC channel identifies a "hit" as [-12,32]ns integral of every occurrence above threshold (20 adc counts above pedestal)
- Waveform samples are stored in 8µs memory buffer while data is continuously streamed to a VTP every 4ns
 - Data sent to VTP is hit energy(from [pulse integral-pedestal] x gain), time, and position
- The VXS trigger processor(VTP) looks at FADC signals and performs clustering





VTP Single Cluster Logic

- •A hit from FADC is a cluster "seed" if:
 - Energy is above threshold (70MeV)
 - Energy is local maximum of adjacent blocks within 20ns window
- •Cluster energy is summed from seed plus any hits in 8 surrounding blocks within +/-10ns window
- •Single photon trigger = If cluster energy > single photon trigger threshold (1600MeV)
- •All FADC waveforms remain in FPGA memory. If VTP trigger is validated by HMS trigger, then either:
 - FADCs readout waveforms of surrounding 7x7 blocks to get full energy from shower (sparsification); or
 - Entire calorimeter waveforms are readout



Cluster readout

NPS Digital Trigger

- •The calorimeter is segmented across 5 VTPs. VTPs share information via optical connection for clusters on the segment edges
- •A CAEN V1495 logic unit consolidates trigger bits from all 5 VTPs and sends trigger to counting house for coincidence with HMS
- A 2 photon trigger is formed by the V1495 when ≥2 clusters within a 20ns window have energy>800MeV threshold in any VTP
- After trigger is formed the VTP sends channel masks to FADCs to readout all channels from the cluster(s)



Waveform Analysis

- Goal: Fit waveforms for a more accurate pulse amplitude compared to just using the max FADC sample(hcana)
- Create a reference pulse shape from elastic $H(e,e'_{calo} p_{HMS})$ data for each channel
- Create a fit function for each channel with spline interpolation between pulse samples and the reference waveform
- From π^0 calibrations: 26% improvement in invariant mass σ



Preliminary Results

- Waveform analysis of elastic signals shows good energy resolution (1.3% at 7.3GeV)
- DVCS missing mass peak clear after π⁰
 + accidental subtraction. Shows high
 exclusivity



Thank You!



Thanks to the NPS Spokespeople, Graduate Students, JLab Staff, and all our Collaborators

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