Institute of Experimental Physics
Slovak Academy of Sciences, Košice

A Study of Quasi-Real QED Compton Events at HERA

Mgr. Richard Maraček

PhD Thesis

Košice 1998

Abstract

An experimental study of the QED Compton process using the data recorded by the H1 detector at the electron-proton collider HERA in 1994 and 1995 is presented. Using the samples of these events the backward electromagnetic calorimeters, i.e. lead-scintillator sampling calorimeter BEMC in 1994 and the one of the spaghetti lead-fibre type SPACAL in 1995 were studied in terms of the absolute energy scale, response linearity, relative position to the beam line, and the corresponding backward tracking detector, i.e. backward proportional chamber (BPC) in 1994 and backward drift chamber (BDC) in 1995. The efficiencies of the BPC and BDC are determined, the probability of the γ-conversion in front of the BPC-BEMC and BDC-SPACAL systems are evaluated and the amount of the dead material in that region is estimated. The selected samples of the QED Compton events are employed to make an independent luminosity measurement. The rôle of the results of the QED Compton events analysis in the physics analysis such as the proton structure function F_2 measurement is discussed.

Abstrakt

V predkladanej dizertačnej práci sa zaoberáme analýzou kvantovo-elektrodynamického (QED) Comptonovho rozptylu použitím údajov získaných pomocou detektora H1 pracujúceho na urýchľovači protibežných zväzkov elektrónov a protónov HERA v rokoch 1994 a 1995. Pomocou štatistických súborov prípadov spomínaných zrážok sme najprv študovali absolútnu energetickú kalibráciu, a linearitu odozvy zadného elektomagnetického vzorkovacieho kalorimetera (BEMC) olovo-scintilátorovej konštrukcie v roku 1994 a kalorimetra špagetového typu (SPACAL) olovo-vláknovej konštrukcie v roku 1995. Ďalej sme určili relatívnu polohu oboch kalorimetrov voči o-si zväzku a odpovedajúcemu dráhovému detektoru, t.j. zadnej proporcionálnej komore (BPC) v roku 1994 a tzv. zadnej driftovej komore (BDC) v roku 1995. Potom sme vyčíslili efektívnosť dráhových detektorov BPC a BDC a pravdepodobnosť γ-konverzie. Následne sme odhadli množstvo mŕtveho materiálu pred systémami BPC-BEMC a BDC-SPACAL. Získané štatistické súbory prípadov QED Comptonovho rozptylu sme použili na nezávislé meranie svietivosti. Záver práce sme venovali diskusii o úlohe výsledkov analýzy prípadov QED Comptonovho rozptylu v tak dôležitej fyzikálnej analýze ako je meranie štruktúrnej funkcie protónu F_2.

A note on units

In this thesis, a system of natural units will be used, whereby $\hbar = c = 1$.

To my closest relatives

Contents

Chapter 1

Introduction

The electron-proton beam facility HERA at DESY, Hamburg, collide the two counter-rotating beams of 27.5 GeV electrons (positron) and 820 GeV protons [1]. The center of mass energy of the ep collision is $\sqrt{s} \simeq 300$ GeV. Compared to former fixed target experiments [2, 3, 4, 5, 6], where the nucleons probed by the leptons were at the rest in the laboratory frame, the center of mass energy is larger by more than one order of magnitude. HERA provides thus a unique facility for the study of the structure of the proton in a new kinematical regime: at very large $-Q^2 \simeq 10^4$ GeV^2 (where Q^2 is the squared momentum transfered) allowing to resolve structure down to 10^{-18} cm, and in the region of high parton density in the momentum space (very low Bjorken scaling variable $x \simeq 10^{-4}$).

Deep inelastic scattering (DIS) is a fundamental process to investigate the quark-gluon interaction, and to make precise tests of the perturbative quantum chromodynamics (QCD) theory. The inclusive analysis of the DIS events leads to measurements of the proton structure function $F_2(x, Q^2)$. The strong coupling constant $\alpha_s(Q^2)$ and the gluon distribution $xg(x, Q^2)$ can be determined in different processes as deep inelastic jet production, charm and J/ψ production or the measurement of longitudinal structure function F_L. However, the accurate measurement of the structure functions is the most precise way to determine $\alpha_s(Q^2)$, and $xg(x, Q^2)$ from the scaling violation of F_2. The high statistics measurements of the proton structure already obtained in the first years of running at HERA require to lower the systematics errors, which main sources are electron energy calibration error, electron polar angle uncertainty, uncertainty of the hadronic energy scale, knowledge of the QED radiative correction, photo-production and beam background, the luminosity error.

The measurement of the radiative inelastic and elastic scattering processes is of the primary importance at HERA because it allows to cross check of the QED radiative corrections, which are indispensable in the determination of the proton structure. In addition since at the elastic process the corresponding cross section can be precisely calculated this process is used to monitor the luminosity at HERA. The number of great importance for most of the physics analyses. In the DIS regime the emission of photons collinear with the incident electrons can be interpreted as a reduction of the effective electron beam energy and consequently the center of mass energy of collisions. Thus exploiting of hard proton radiation processes can yield information on the internal proton structure at distances larger than previously studied at HERA. In addition it can provide a measurement such as determination of the cross sections for scattering of longitudinally, σ_L, and transversally, σ_T, polarized photons [7].

In order to measure the luminosity delivered in the acceptance region of the H1 detector, four different methods are presently used: the $(e-\gamma)$ coincidence, the hard γ rate, the random coincidence and the Compton method. The precision of the later (former) two methods is presently limited by the statistical (systematic) error. The agreement of the different values using largely independent methods provides confidence of our understanding of the luminosity measurement.

As it was suggested in [8, 9] the QED Compton scattering, produced in the head-on collision at high-energy electron proton collider, such as HERA, can be used for various purposes: for the already mentioned above luminosity measurement, the methodological/calibration studies of detectors, the determination of the photon content of the proton and the search for a candidate for excited electron e^*.

In the presented thesis the QED Compton event observed in the H1 detector during the 1994 and 1995 running periods are analyzed. Although the amount of collected luminosity during the 1994 and 1995 and the different trigger configurations put limits on the here presented analysis, the selected samples of the QED Compton events provides an opportunity to cross-check the total integrated luminosity with a precision of few per cent. It also allows us to study the backward scattering region of the H1 experiment in terms of the absolute energy scale and the response linearity of the electromagnetic calorimeter, its relative position to the beam line and the misalignment of the calorimeter and the tracking detector. The mentioned above methodological studies are of greater importance since during the winter shutdown 1994/95 the H1 collaboration has upgraded the H1 detector with a new backward calorimeter of the spaghetti (SPACAL) lead-fiber design and the new backward tracking detector (BDC) [10]. In order to fulfill the main target of this upgrade, i.e. to provide the improved measurement of the scattered particles in the new extended kinematical region, the newly installed detectors were to be well understood and calibrated.

The thesis is organized as follows. In chapter 2 theoretical issues relating to hard photon radiation processes at HERA are survived and the formulas for quasi-real QED Compton event are presented. Chapter 3 contains a brief description of the HERA accelerator and a review of the components of the H1 detector with emphasizing on H1 backward scattering region, which is mainly relevant for the presented analysis. Chapter 4 is concerned with the study of the BEMC nuclear counter effect as a source of the fake electron trigger signals and the increase of the rate of the stand-alone BEMC electron trigger, which was used for selecting not only the QED Compton event candidates but the candidates on the deep-inelastic scattering events. In Chapter 5 the experimental techniques used to select the QED Compton event samples in both 1994 and 1995 data taking periods are described. Chapter 6 is concerned with the methodological studies of the electromagnetic calorimeters in terms of the absolute energy scale, response linearity, relative position to the beam line, the misalignment of the calorimeter and the tracking detector. The measurement of total integrated luminosity using the QED Compton events detected by H1 experiment during the 1994 and 1995 running periods, is then presented. In Chapter 7 the rôle of the QED Compton events analysis in the physics analysis such as measurement of the proton structure function F_2 is illustrated and discussed. The final chapter reviews the results obtained.

Chapter 2

The Quasi–Real QED Compton Process

In this chapter a survey of the definitions of the three classes of the hard photon radiation from the lepton line in the neutral current (NC) processes at HERA is given. The exact analytic expressions of the QED Compton event cross section are presented. The three separate contributions depending on the value of the invariant mass of the hadronic system are reviewed. The definitions of the kinematical relations, which characterize the QED Compton events are presented. The basic ideas and solutions which have been chosen in `COMPTON`, a Monte Carlo generator for QED Compton events, are summarized together with the input values of the kinematical variables used in the production of the Monte Carlo simulation data used in the here presented analysis. Finally the various predictions of the distributions and correlations of the crucial kinematical variables for a sample of the QED Compton events generated using the `COMPTON` generator are shown and discuss.

2.1 Radiative Events in Electron-Proton Scattering at HERA Energies

The dominant QED radiative contributions to elastic ($ep \to ep$) and inelastic ($ep \to eX$) scattering consist the radiation of a real photon from the leptonic line and are described by diagrams shown in Fig. 2.1.

The radiative scattering cross section is large in the neighborhood of the poles of the virtual electron and virtual photon propagators. The following three classes of the radiative processes corresponding to these kinematic domains are defined [11, 35]: (i) the bremsstrahlung process corresponding to the poles in both the virtual electron and the virtual photon propagators; (ii) the radiative DIS process corresponding to the pole in the virtual electron propagator and to the large virtual photon mass; (iii) the quasi-real QED Compton process corresponding to the pole in the virtual photon propagator and to a large virtual electron mass. Note, that these three classes of radiative processes correspond to the “different” kinematic domains.

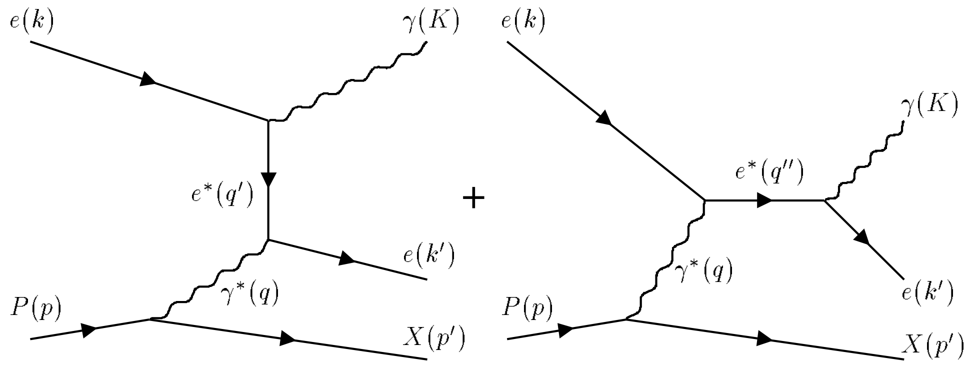

Fig. 2.1: The Feynman diagram for the radiative ($ep \to e\gamma + X$) scattering.

A complete example of treatment of the radiative channels is described in [9], where the authors concentrate on the pure photon exchange contribution to the cross section which is essentially determined by factor:

$$\frac{1}{z_1 \, z_2 \, \hat{Q}^2} \tag{2.1}$$

with (note that the factors in denominator are not independent):

$$\begin{aligned} z_1 &= 2\,(K.k)\,, && (2.2)\\ z_2 &= 2\,(K.k^{'})\,, && (2.3)\\ \hat{Q}^2 &= -(k-k^{'}-K)^2 = Q^2 + z_1 + z_2\,. && (2.4) \end{aligned}$$

Using the partial fractioning and, consequently, the fact that the factors multiplying the pole terms terms $1/z_1$, $1/z_2$ and $1/\hat{Q}^2$ do not vary strongly and therefore for kinematically allowed configurations none of the other denominators can become small, the cross section can be decomposited into the form:

$$\sim \frac{M_1}{z_1} + \frac{M_2}{z_2} + \frac{M_{\hat{Q}^2}}{\hat{Q}^2}\,. \tag{2.5}$$

This separation defines three radiative channels: (j) initial state radiation, peaking for $z_1 \to 0$, i.e. for events where the photon is emitted colinearly with (jj) the incoming electron; final state radiation, peaking for $z_2 \to 0$, i.e. for events where the photon is emitted colinearly with the scattered electron; (jjj) Compton part, peaking for $\hat{Q}^2 \to 0$. These events are characterized by the photon balancing the transverse momentum of the scattered electron and the final quark which is going close to the initial quark direction. The contribution of the Compton part to the bremsstrahlung cross section can be viewed as resulting from the emission of a quasi-real photon from the quark line with subsequent Compton scattering, $e\gamma \to e\gamma$.

Since the nature of these processes is that there are no substantial or discrete borders in the phase space, the way to separate them is based on their distinct experimental signatures [35], as it is defined in the following sections.

In the H1 detector which will be described in more detail in Sec. 3.2 the radiative photons are measured (in terms of their polar angle θ_γ) in two angular domains: $\theta_\gamma \leq \theta_{pa}$ corresponding to the acceptance region of the photon arm of the luminosity detector, θ_{pa}, and $\theta_{cd1} \leq \theta_\gamma \leq \theta_{cd2}$ corresponding to the acceptance of the region of the central detector, where θ_{cd1} and θ_{cd2} are the minimal and maximal angular acceptance of the central detector, respectively. The scattered electrons are measured (in terms of their polar angle θ_e), either in the central detector or in the electron arm of the luminosity system $\theta_e \leq \theta_{ea}$, where θ_{ea} is the upper edge of the acceptance of the electron arm of the luminosity system. The radiative photon and the scattered electron of energy $E_e' \geq 10\,\mathrm{GeV}$ cannot be resolved in any region of the central detector if the photon emission angle, $\delta_{e\gamma}$, with respect to the electron is smaller than δ_{cd}, where the δ_{cd} stands for the angular $(e-\gamma)$ resolution of the central detector. The approximate values of the borders of the mentioned above acceptance regions together with the corresponding symbols are summarized in Tab. 2.1.

border of detector acceptance region		polar angle
photon arm of the luminosity system	θ_{pa}	≤ 0.45 mrad
electron arm of the luminosity system	θ_{ea}	≤ 5 mrad
central detector (forward part)	θ_{cd1}	≥ 0.07 rad
central detector (backward part)	θ_{cd2}	$\leq (\pi - 0.05)$ rad
$e-\gamma$ resolution[1]	δ_{cd}	≥ 0.02 rad

Tab. 2.1: Approximate values of the borders of the acceptance regions.

The kinematic variables $p,\ k,\ p',\ k',\ K$ are the four-momenta of the incoming proton, incoming electron, hadronic system[2], scattered electron and radiated photon, respectively. The kinematics of the radiative processes are described by the five following independent Lorentz-invariant variables:

$$q^2 = (p'-p)^2 = -Q^2\,, \tag{2.6}$$

$$s = (k+p)^2\,, \tag{2.7}$$

$$t = (K-k)^2\,, \tag{2.8}$$

$$W^2 = (k'+K)^2\,, \tag{2.9}$$

$$W_h^2 = p'^2\,. \tag{2.10}$$

The four-momentum transfer squared, t, and the squared invariant mass of the $(e-\gamma)$ system, W^2, correspond to q'^2 and q''^2 in the diagrams in Fig. 2.1.

2.1.1 Bremsstrahlung Process

In the bremsstrahlung process the masses of the virtual photon and of the virtual electron are small: $0 \leq -q^2, -q'^2, -q''^2 \lesssim (E_e\theta_{pa})^2 \simeq 0.00015\ \mathrm{GeV}^2$. In this kinematical domain the elastic channel $(ep \to ep\gamma)$ is the dominant process. The electron radiates a photon in the electromagnetic field of the proton, which can be regarded as point-like. Both

[1] For more detail definition see the text.

[2] In the elastic case a proton.

the outgoing electron and the photon emerge at very small angles with respect to the incident electron direction. The recoil proton continues its motion almost undisturbed. Events of this type are identified either by detecting both the scattered electron and the photon or by detecting only the photon. In the bremsstrahlung process the energy of the photon, E'_γ, and the energy of the scattered electron, E'_e, are constrained:

$$E'_\gamma = E_e - E'_e\,, \tag{2.11}$$

where E_e and E'_e being the energy of incoming and scattered electron, respectively. In the unrelativistic limit and in the small angle approximation the bremsstrahlung cross section is described by the Bethe–Heitler formula [15]. Since the cross section is insensitive to the internal proton structure, the bremsstrahlung process can be used for the luminosity measurement, see Sec. 6.3.1.1.

2.1.2 Radiative DIS Process

In the radiative DIS process $-q^2$ is large, $-q^2 \gtrsim (E_e\theta_{cd1})^2$, while either $-q'^2$ or $-q''^2$ is small, $-q'^2 \lesssim (E_e\theta_{pa1})^2 \simeq 0.00015$ GeV ^{2} , $-q''^2 \lesssim (E_e\delta_{cd})^2$. Since the inelastic structure function of the proton rises[3], and the elastic form factors decrease rapidly with increasing $-q^2$, this process is dominated by the inelastic channel.

As $-q^2$ is large, the scattered electron or the $(e-\gamma)$ system is observed in the angular range $\theta_e \geq \theta_{cd1}$ and a large fraction of the produced hadrons is detected. The transverse momentum of the hadronic system is balanced by the transverse momentum of the electron $(e-\gamma)$ system. The angular distribution of the radiated photons in DIS exhibits two peaks around the directions of the incident and scattered electron, corresponding to the region of small $-q'^2$ and small $-q''^2$, respectively.

Despite most of the radiative photons emitted in the direction of the scattered electrons of energy $E \geq 10$ GeV cannot be resolved a sizeable fraction of events with radiative photons emitted in the direction of the incoming electrons can be identified in the H1 detector. These kind of events can be interpreted as originating from non-radiative scattering at reduced electron beam energy [7]. The effective, so-called true, electron beam energy E_t can be determined directly from the measured radiative photon energy E'_γ:

$$E_t = E_e - E'_\gamma\,, \tag{2.12}$$

or from the formula:

$$E_t = E_e(1-(y_e-y_h))\,. \tag{2.13}$$

The inelasticity parameters y_e and y_h are expressed in terms of the energy and angle of the scattered electron (electron method), and the momenta, p_h, and angles, θ_h of all produced hadrons, according the formulae:

$$y_e = 1 - \frac{E'_e}{E_e}\sin^2\frac{\theta_e}{2} \tag{2.14}$$

[3] This is valid for $x \leq 0.2$, see e.g. [88, 90]

and

$$y_h = \frac{\Sigma}{2E_e}\,, \tag{2.15}$$

with

$$\Sigma = \sum_h (E_h - p_h \cos\theta_h)\,. \tag{2.16}$$

The DIS ep collision at reduced energy E_t can be described using the "true" kinematical variables x_t, y_t, and Q_t^2 defined as:

$$x_t = \frac{E_t\, E'_e\, \cos^2\theta_e/2}{E_p\,(E_t - E_e\, \sin^2\theta_e/2)}\,, \tag{2.17}$$

$$y_t = 1 - \frac{E'_e}{E_t}\sin^2\theta_e/2\,, \tag{2.18}$$

$$Q_t^2 = 4\,E'_e\,E_t\,\cos^2\theta_e/2\,, \tag{2.19}$$

which can be obtained by replacing the nominal electron beam energy by the effective "true" electron energy in the conventional expressions for x_e, y_e, Q_e^2, see Sec. 7.1.

2.1.3 Quasi-Real QED Compton Process

In the QED Compton process both $-q'^2$ and $-q''^2$ are large, $-q'^2, -q''^2 \gtrsim (E_e\theta_{cd1})^2$ and $-q^2$ is small, $m_p(W^4/s^2) \leq -q^2 \ll -q'^2, -q''^2$ (quasi-real electron), where m_p is the proton mass. Ignoring the hadronic vertex, this process corresponds to the Compton scattering of a quasi-real photon on an incident electron [8]:

$$e + \gamma^* \rightarrow e + \gamma$$

The dominant contribution to the Compton scattering, which is sometimes called wide angle bremsstrahlung is due to the elastic channel ($ep \rightarrow ep\gamma$). The scattered electron and the photon are observed in the central detector ($\theta_{e\,(\gamma)} \geq \theta_{cd1}$). As $-q^2$ is small, the proton (hadronic final state) and the $(e-\gamma)$ system have transverse momenta close to zero. The hadronic final state remains undetected in most of the cases ($\theta_{p\,(h)} \leq \theta_{cd2}$).

Note that in the Compton process the corrections of the order α^4, where α is fine-structure constant, (i.e. second order radiative corrections) have to be taken into account, in particular the dominant one corresponded to hard photon emission in the direction of the incoming electron. A more detail discussion of the three channels of the quasi-real QED Compton is the subject of the next section.

2.2 QED Compton Scattering in Electron-Proton Collisions

2.2.1 Exact Analytic Expression of QED Compton Event Cross Section

In this section the exact analytic expression of the QED Compton event cross section is presented. According to [11] we start with the exact factorization formula, based on the helicity calculation, see Appendix A, for the process shown in Fig. 2.1:

$$\frac{d^4\sigma(ep\rightarrow e\gamma X)}{dx\,dx_\gamma dQ^2 d\Omega^*} = f^T_{\gamma^*/p}(x,x_\gamma,Q^2)\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega^*}\right)^T + f^L_{\gamma^*/p}(x,x_\gamma,Q^2)\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega^*}\right)^L \tag{2.20}$$

with

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega^*}\right)^T = \frac{d\sigma_T}{d\Omega^*} + \epsilon\frac{d\sigma_L}{d\Omega^*} + \sqrt{2\epsilon(1+\epsilon)}\frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{d\Omega^*}\cos\phi^* + \epsilon\frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{d\Omega^*}\cos 2\phi^*\,, \tag{2.21}$$

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega^*}\right)^L = \frac{d\sigma_T}{d\Omega^*} + \frac{1+\epsilon}{2\epsilon}\frac{d\sigma_L}{d\Omega^*} + \sqrt{2\frac{1+\epsilon}{\epsilon}}\frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{d\Omega^*}\cos\phi^* + \frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{d\Omega^*}\cos 2\phi^*\,, \tag{2.22}$$

where $d\Omega^* = du^* d\phi^*$, with $u^* = cos\theta^*$, and θ^*, ϕ^* being the orbital and azimuthal scattering angles in the center-of-mass frame of the virtual Compton process. Whilst the upper subscript (T, L) refers to the polarization (transverse or longitudinal) of the virtual photon at the hadron vertex, the lower subscript (T, L, TL, TT) represents the polarization at the lepton vertex, i.e. defines the transverse and longitudinal cross sections, and the transverse-longitudinal and transverse-transverse interference terms of the virtual Compton scattering process $\gamma^* e \rightarrow \gamma\, e$. The flux functions $f^{T,L}$ in formula (2.20), which represent the virtual photon spectra (transverse or longitudinal) at the hadron vertex are given by:

$$f^T_{\gamma/p}(x,x_\gamma,Q^2) = \frac{1-x}{4\pi^3 x x_\gamma} g^T(x,x_\gamma,Q^2)\sigma^T_{\gamma^* p}, \tag{2.23}$$

$$f^L_{\gamma^*/p}(x,x_\gamma,Q^2) = \frac{1-x}{4\pi^3 x x_\gamma} g^L(x,x_\gamma,Q^2)\sigma^L_{\gamma^* p} \tag{2.24}$$

with

$$g^L(x,x_\gamma,Q^2) = g^T(x,x_\gamma,Q^2) - \frac{x_\gamma^2}{2x^2} = \tag{2.25}$$

$$= \frac{(1-x_\gamma/x)Q^2 - x_\gamma^2 m_p^2}{Q^2+4x^2m_p^2} \tag{2.26}$$

where the variables x, x_γ are defined as:

$$x = \frac{-q^2}{2pq} \tag{2.27}$$

$$x_\gamma = \frac{qk}{pk} \tag{2.28}$$

calling m_p, m_e, m_X the masses of proton, electron and hadronic system, respectively, and defining the squared invariant mass the $(e-\gamma)$ system, $W^2 = (q+k)^2$ and $s = (p+k)^2$. The cross sections $\sigma^{T,L}_{\gamma^* p}$ pertain to the virtual process $\gamma^* p \rightarrow X$; their expressions will be given below. In formulas (2.21) and (2.22) the virtual photon polarization parameter ϵ is given by $\epsilon = g^L/g^T$, see [60]. The differential cross sections of the virtual Compton effect for various polarization of the photon are given by [11]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d\sigma_T}{d\Omega^*} &= \frac{\alpha^2}{W^2+Q^2}\left[\frac{W^2}{(W^2+Q^2)(1+u^*+\eta)} + \frac{(W^2+Q^2)(1+u^*)}{4W^2} + \right. \\
&+ \left. \frac{Q^2}{W^2}\frac{1-u^*}{(1+u^*+\eta)} + \frac{Q^2(1-u^*)}{2(W^2+Q^2)}\right] && (2.29) \\
\frac{d\sigma_L}{d\Omega^*} &= \frac{\alpha^2}{W^2+Q^2}\left[\frac{Q^2(1-u^*)}{W^2+Q^2}\right] && (2.30) \\
\frac{d\sigma_{TL}}{d\Omega^*} &= \frac{\alpha^2}{W^2+Q^2}\left[\frac{QW}{2(W^2+Q^2)}\sqrt{1-u^{*2}}\left(1+\frac{Q^2}{W^2}\frac{1-u^*}{1+u^*+\eta}\right)\right] && (2.31) \\
\frac{d\sigma_{TT}}{d\Omega^*} &= \frac{\alpha^2}{W^2+Q^2}\left[\frac{Q^2(1-u^*)}{2(W^2+Q^2)}\right], && (2.32)
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\eta = 2m_e^2 W^2/(W^2+Q^2)^2\,. \qquad (2.33)$$

Notice, that the electron mass, m_e, is taken into account only where it is required in order to avoid a divergency in the formulas.

In order to specify $\sigma^{T,L}_{\gamma^* p}$ we shall consider various separate contributions depending on the value (range) of the m_X involved [60].

2.2.1.1 Elastic Contribution: $\mathbf{m_X = m_p}$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma^T_{\gamma^* p} &= \frac{4\pi^2\alpha}{Q^2}\, G_M^2(Q^2)\, \frac{\delta(1-x)}{1-x}, && (2.34) \\
\sigma^L_{\gamma^* p} &= \frac{16\pi^2\alpha m_p^2}{Q^4}\, G_E^2(Q^2)\, \frac{\delta(1-x)}{1-x}, && (2.35)
\end{aligned}$$

where α is the fine-structure constant and the conventional expressions of the proton's electromagnetic form factors were used:

$$G_E^2(Q^2) = \frac{G_M^2(Q^2)}{2.79} = \left(1+\frac{Q^2}{Q_0^2}\right)^{-2} \qquad (2.36)$$

with $Q_0^2 = 0.71$ GeV^2.

2.2.1.2 Resonant contribution[4]: $\mathbf{m_p + m_\pi < m_X < 1.8}$ GeV

In [11] is assumed that the range is to be saturated by the contribution of the three resonances $\Delta(1260)$, $N^*(1520)$, $N^*(1688)$. From the experimental data on electro-production, see e.g. [58], can be written:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma^T &= \sum_R \sigma_R \frac{m_R^2\Gamma_R^2}{(m_X^2-m_R^2)^2 + m_R^2\Gamma_R^2\left(1+\frac{Q^2}{Q_R^2}\right)^{-2}}, && (2.37) \\
\sigma^L &= 0\ \mu\text{b}, && (2.38)
\end{aligned}$$

where the values of the parameters m_R, σ_R, Γ_R, Q_R^2 are given in Tab. 2.2.

[4] Here m_π is a pion mass.

	Δ	N^*	N^*
m_R(GeV)	1236	1520	1688
σ_R(μb)	550	280	220
Γ_R(GeV)	0.12	0.12	0.12
$Q^{\,2}_{\,R}$(GeV^2)	2.5	3.0	3.0

Tab. 2.2: Characteristics of the three resonances here considered.

2.2.1.3 Continuum Inelastic Contribution: $\mathbf{m_X > 1.8}$ GeV

Following the discussion in [11], we treat separately the two regions in Q^2:

1. For large values of Q^2, with the assumption (justified by the quark-parton model) $\sigma_L = (Q^2/\nu^2)\sigma_T$, defining $\nu = Q^2/(2m_p x)$, one can get:

$$\sigma_T = \frac{4\pi^2\alpha}{(1-x)Q^2} F_2(x,Q^2), \tag{2.39}$$

$$\sigma_L = \frac{4\pi^2\alpha}{(1-x)Q^2}\frac{4x^2m_p^2}{Q^2} F_2(x,Q^2), \tag{2.40}$$

   where $F_2(x,Q^2)$ is the proton structure function.

2. For Q^2 tending to zero one is led to the cross section of real-photon production:

$$\lim_{Q^2\to 0\ \mathrm{GeV}^2} \sigma_T \simeq 100\,\mu\mathrm{b}, \tag{2.41}$$

$$\sigma_L = 0\,\mu\mathrm{b}\,. \tag{2.42}$$

Finally, over the full Q^2 range is set:

$$\sigma_T = \frac{4\pi^2\alpha}{(1-x)Q^2} F_2(x,Q^2)\phi(x,Q^2), \tag{2.43}$$

$$\sigma_L = \frac{4\pi^2\alpha}{(1-x)Q^2}\frac{4x^2m_p^2}{Q^2} F_2(x,Q^2)\phi(x,Q^2), \tag{2.44}$$

where the interpolation function $\phi(x,Q^2)$ is defined as:

$$\phi(x,Q^2) = \frac{Q^2(\mathrm{GeV}^2)}{Q^2(\mathrm{GeV}^2) + F_2(x,Q^2)\,(1\,\mathrm{GeV}^2)} \tag{2.45}$$

noticing that with $Q^2 \to 0$ GeV^2

$$x \to 0\,,$$

while x/Q^2 stays finite and

$$\frac{4\pi^2\alpha}{(1\mathrm{GeV}^2)} \simeq 100\,\mu\mathrm{b}\,.$$

2.3 Kinematics of QED Compton Event

The kinematical relations which characterize the QED Compton process defined in Sec. 2.1.3 are reviewed[5].

- the coplanarity $\Delta\phi$ – absolute value of angle between the projection of the electron and the photon momentum in the xy-plane, i.e. to the plane orthogonal to the beam direction,

$$\Delta\phi = |\phi_e - \phi_\gamma| \,, \tag{2.46}$$

- the four-momentum squared

$$Q^2 = -q^2 \,, \tag{2.47}$$

- the Bjorken scaling variable x

$$x = \frac{-Q^2}{2\,pq} \,, \tag{2.48}$$

- the scaling variable x_γ

$$x_\gamma = \frac{qk}{pk} \,, \tag{2.49}$$

- the invariant mass of the final hadronic system

$$W_h^2 = (p-q)^2 = m_p^2 - 2pq - Q^2 \,, \tag{2.50}$$

- the invariant mass of the $(e-\gamma)$ system

$$W^2 = (k+q)^2 = 4E_eE_\gamma - \left(1 - \frac{E_e}{xE_p}\right) Q^2 \,, \tag{2.51}$$

  where E_e, E_γ, E_p is the energy of the incoming electron, photon and proton, respectively,

- the visible energy of the $(e-\gamma)$ system

$$E_{\text{vis}} = E_e + E_\gamma = E'_e + E'_\gamma \tag{2.52}$$

- the transverse momentum of the $(e-\gamma)$ system

$$p_t^2 = |\vec{K}_\perp + \vec{k'}_\perp|^2 = \left(1 - \frac{W^2+Q^2}{sx}\right) Q^2 \tag{2.53}$$

[5] If not mentioned otherwise the variables are defined in laboratory frame.

- the velocity $\vec{\beta}$ of the center-of-mass of the $(e-\gamma)$ system in the laboratory frame

$$\vec{\beta} = \vec{\beta}_{||} + \vec{\beta}_{\perp} == \frac{\vec{k}+\vec{q}}{E_e+E_\gamma} = \frac{\vec{K}+\vec{k'}}{E'_e+E'_\gamma}\,, \tag{2.54}$$

where $\vec{\beta}_{||}$ and $\vec{\beta}_{\perp}$ are the longitudinal and transversal components of the $\vec{\beta}$ to the direction of incoming beams, respectively.

$$\beta_{||} = |\vec{\beta}_{||}| = \frac{\sin(\theta_e+\theta_\gamma)}{\sin\theta_e+\sin\theta_\gamma} \tag{2.55}$$

$$\beta_{\perp} = |\vec{\beta}_{\perp}| = \frac{|\vec{p}_t|}{E_{\mathrm{vis}}} \tag{2.56}$$

According to the definition of the QED Compton process, see Sec. 2.1.3, the squared four-momentum transfered is close to zero, $Q^2 \to 0$ GeV^2. Due to Eq. (2.53) and (2.56), the squared transverse momentum of the $(e-\gamma)$ system and the transversal component of the velocity of the center of mass of the $(e-\gamma)$ system in the laboratory frame are negligible. Consequentially the scaling variable x is equal to one. Thus, the elastic channel is dominating and the kinematical formulae listed above are reduced:

$$W^2 = 4E_eE_\gamma \tag{2.57}$$

$$E_{\mathrm{vis}} = E_e\left[1+\left(\frac{W}{2E_e}\right)^2\right] \tag{2.58}$$

$$\beta = |\vec{\beta}| = |\vec{\beta}_{||}| = \frac{E_e-E_\gamma}{E_e+E_\gamma}\,, \tag{2.59}$$

and using Eq. (2.57) and Eq. (2.59) the invariant mass of the $(e-\gamma)$ system is given:

$$W \simeq 2E_e\sqrt{\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta}} \tag{2.60}$$

Finally, for these elastic events characterized with $Q^2 \to 0$ GeV^2, i.e. when the quasi-real photon is emitted colinearly to the direction of the incoming proton, one can derive following formulae:

$$2E_e = E'_e(1-\cos\theta_e) + E'_\gamma(1-\cos\theta_\gamma) \tag{2.61}$$

$$E'_{e\,(\gamma)}(\theta_e,\theta_\gamma) = \frac{2E_e\sin\theta_{\gamma\,(e)}}{\sin\theta_e+\sin\theta_\gamma-\sin(\theta_e+\theta_\gamma)} \tag{2.62}$$

2.4 COMPTON - a Monte Carlo Generator

2.4.1 Description of COMPTON Monte Carlo Program

Since it is practically impossible to generate a reasonably accurate Monte Carlo program, which would be reasonably accurate in all phase space due to the presence of *various* poles in the expressions given in the previous section the solution to generate specific QED Compton events was chosen [11]. Those specific processes are those which are dominated by quasi-real photon exchange $q^2 \ll q^{'2}, q^{''2}$ with the final electron and photon nearly coplanar and observable at finite angle are meant. The consequence of the kinematical limitations of acoplanarity and polar acceptance of the scattered angles result in $Q^2 < W^2$ and $\eta \ll 1 + u^*$. Each single event is generated in the two following steps:

1. The event are generated according to an equivalent-photon-type approximation of the cross section given by formulas Eq. (2.29) to Eq. (2.32) where terms of order $\mathcal{O}(Q/W)$ are neglected. Consequently, η given by Eq. (2.33) is neglected as well.

   Since these are only dynamic approximations all kinematic / physical quantities are treated exactly during the generation performed over the phase space defined by the angular acceptances of the detector at the beginning of the program.

2. Already generated events are weighted by comparing the exact value of the differential cross section defined Eq. (2.20) to the approximate one used in the first step.

Despite this two-steps procedure providing an exact Monte Carlo simulation over the whole phase space available, the weights of the events become larger when increasing Q^2/W^2. This corresponds to moving from the "QED Compton" to the "radiative correction" configuration. Such large weight events are rejected due to the two following reasons:

1. Their statistical accuracy becomes small.

2. A limited increase of the cross section normalization should get a weight factor smaller than 1, and thus provide an output of individual (unweighted) events.

In order to select small values of Q^2/W^2 a cut on the $\Delta\phi$ angle between the transverse momenta of outgoing electron and photon, so-called acoplanarity angle, is defined. The elimination of large Q^2 values even at high W is controlled by introducing an additional cut on the transverse momenta. The restriction to relatively small Q^2 has two advantages: any contribution from weak interactions (i.e. virtual Z exchange) had not to be taken in to account; a scale-invariant expression of the photon's electromagnetic structure function cloud have been chosen [11], such as:

$$F_2(x) = 35/32\,\sqrt{x}\,(1-x)^3 + 0.2\,(1-x)^7. \tag{2.63}$$

The most significant radiative corrections to the lowest-order diagrams in Fig. 2.1, which proceed via a contribution from radiation emitted by the incoming electron, see Fig. 2.2, are taken into account using so-called peaking approximation. This procedure is justified by the fact that the radiated photon and the scattered one are essentially emitted at different angles and thus can be distinguished, so that interference terms are suppressed.

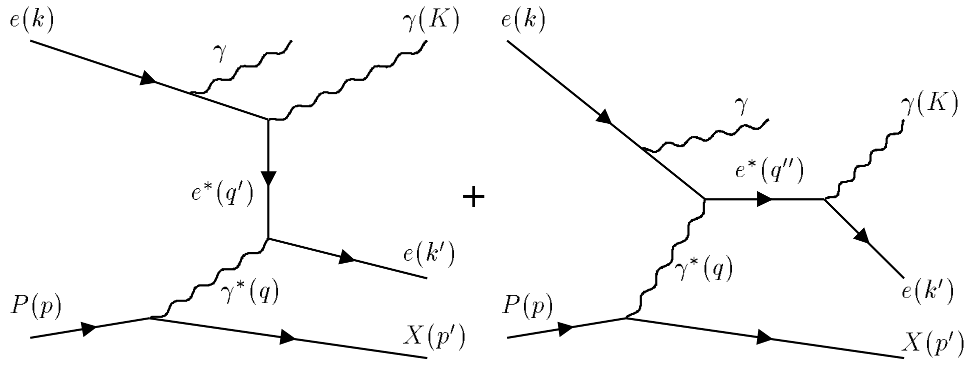

Fig. 2.2: The radiative correction on the incident electron line for the QED Compton process.

As the authors in [11] mentioned, despite the total outgoing hadron invariant mass being generated by the program, the possible hadron components inside the detector are not. As far as the elastic contribution is concerned, the outgoing proton does not enter the finite-angle detector. This feature sets limits for exploring the inelastic channel of QED Compton, where for the analysis the kinematical variables based on the measurement of $(e-\gamma)$ system could be only used [61].

The input values for the kinematical variables used for generating the Monte Carlo samples used in analysis presented here are summarized in the Tab. 2.3. For the gener-

kinematical variable		1994	1995
incoming electron energy	E_e	27.52 GeV	27.52 GeV
incoming proton energy	E_p	820 GeV	820 GeV
scattered electron energy	E'_e	> 2 GeV	> 2 GeV
scattered photon energy	E'_γ	> 2 GeV	> 2 GeV
visible energy	$E'_e + E'_\gamma$	> 20 GeV	> 20 GeV
polar angles	θ_e, θ_γ	$3.6° < \theta_{e'}, \theta_\gamma < 178°$	$3.6° < \theta_{e'}, \theta_\gamma < 178.5°$
coplanarity	$\pi - \Delta\phi$	$< 45°$	$< 45°$
transversal momentum	$\|\vec{p}_t\|$	< 20 GeV	< 20 GeV
simulation program	`h1sim`	`version 3.06/41`	`version 3.06/45`
reconstruction program	`h1rec`	`version 6.04/01`	`version 7.17/00`

Tab. 2.3: Input values of the kinematical variables.

ated events the detector response was simulated in detail [12] using a program based on `GEANT` [110]. The simulated Monte Carlo events were subjected to the same reconstruction and analysis chain as the real data.

2.4.2 COMPTON Monte Carlo Program Predictions

In the following the predictions of the distributions and correlations of the basic kinematical variables defined above are presented. In order to study the QED Compton process a sample of one hundred thousand events was generated using the COMPTON Monte Carlo program, see Sec. 2.4.1. The input values for the kinematical variables used in the 1995 data analysis, see Tab. 2.3, were used.

As it was discussed in previous section, the weight of generated events becomes larger for larger value of ratio Q^2/W^2, i.e. when moving from elastic to the inelastic channel. The correlation between the event weight and the ratio Q^2/W^2 is shown in Fig. 2.3. Experimentally, the cut on coplanarity has to be imposed in order to eliminate these events. In the following the contribution of the inelastic events[6] to the distributions is explicitly shown.

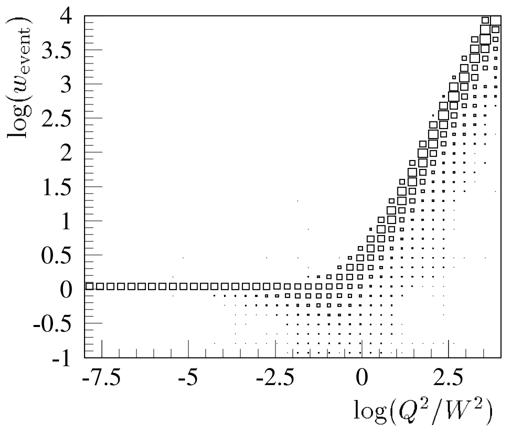

Fig. 2.3: The correlation between the event weight, $\log(w_{\rm event})$, and the ratio $\log(Q^2/W^2)$ for the Monte Carlo QED Compton event sample produced using the COMPTON generator.

The distributions of the energy $E'_{e\,(\gamma)}$ and the polar angle $\theta_{e\,(\gamma)}$ of the scattered electron (photon) are shown in Fig. 2.4.

The correlation between the energy of the scattered electron E'_e and photon E'_γ, which is depicted in Fig. 2.5.a, shows a very strong correlation corresponding to the $E_{\rm vis} = E'_e + E'_\gamma = E_e$. The events with a lower $E_{\rm vis}$, are due to radiative correction. In Fig. 2.5.b, where correlation of the polar angle of the scattered electron, θ_e, and photon, θ_γ, is shown, one observes, that both the electron and photon (especially the later) tend to be emitted backwards, i.e. in the direction of the incident electron, in the laboratory frame. The full lines indicate the lower limit of the geometrical acceptance of the backward electromagnetic calorimeter, for description see Sec. 3.3.2 and 3.4.2.1. Although the finite detector resolution effect are not taken into account, it is shown that most of the events will be detected by the backward electromagnetic calorimeter.

The distributions of the acoplanarity $|\Delta\phi|$, shown in Fig. 2.6.a, shows a clear peak around 180° for all sample, while the inelastic contribution is homogeneously distributed.

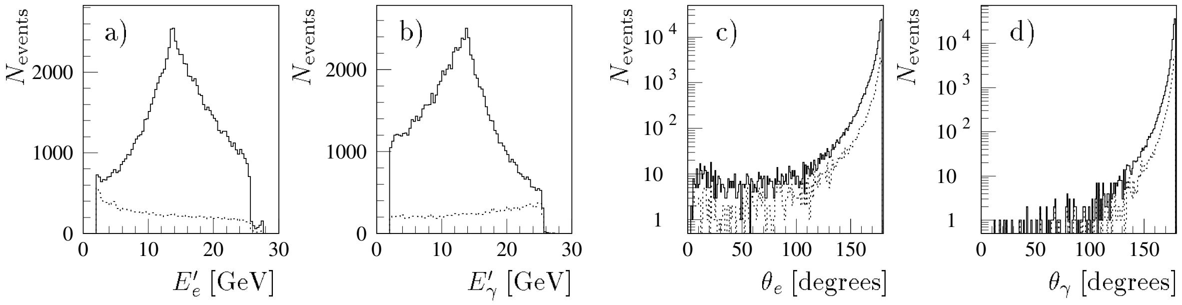

Fig. 2.4: The distributions of the energy (a, b) and the polar angle (c, d) of the scattered electron and photon for the Monte Carlo QED Compton event sample produced using the COMPTON generator. The full line stands for the all events the dotted line shows only the inelastic contribution.

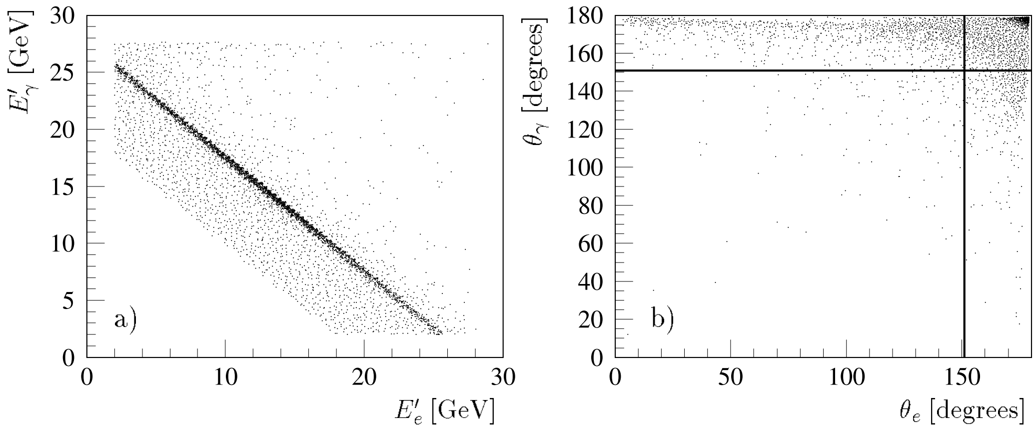

Fig. 2.5: The correlation between the energy (a) of the scattered electron E'_e and photon E'_γ and the polar angle (b) of the scattered electron θ_e and photon θ_γ for the Monte Carlo QED Compton event sample produced using the COMPTON generator. The full lines indicate the lower limit of the geometrical acceptance of the backward electromagnetic calorimeter.

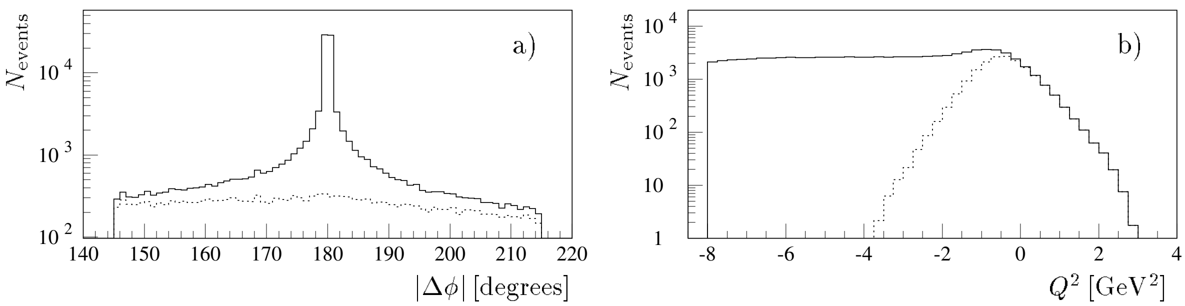

Fig. 2.6: The distributions of the acoplanarity (a) and the squared momentum transfered (b) for the Monte Carlo QED Compton event sample produced using the COMPTON generator. The full line stands for the all events the dotted line shows only the inelastic contribution.

In addition, from the distribution of the squared momentum transfered Q^2 see Fig. 2.6.b., one can see, that the inelastic events dominate at higher values of Q^2.

The distributions of the absolute value of the transversal momentum, shown in Fig. 2.7.a, is clearly peaked for the elastic channel towards at its minimum value, in contrary to the inelastic contribution. Finally, Fig. 2.7.b shows the distribution of the invariant mass of the $(e-\gamma)$ system, which is strongly decreasing with rising values of W for both the elastic and inelastic contribution.

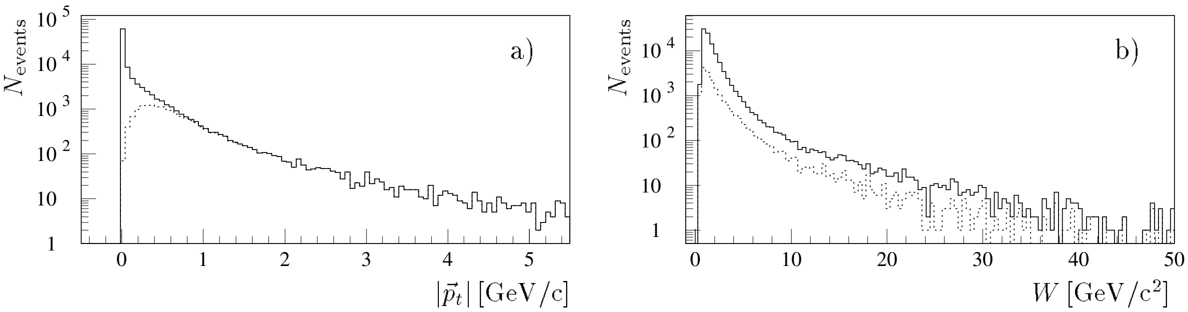

Fig. 2.7: The distributions of the absolute value of the transversal momentum (a) and the invariant mass of the $(e-\gamma)$ system (b) for the Monte Carlo QED Compton event sample produced using the COMPTON generator. The full line stands for the all events the dotted line shows only the inelastic contribution.

[6]Here the adjective “inelastic” for both resonant and inelastic contribution is used.

Chapter 3

H1 Detector at HERA

Whilst the first part of this chapter contains a brief description of the HERA accelerator the second is concerned with a review of the components of the H1 detector. The description of the H1 backward scattering region, which is mainly relevant for the presented analysis, is divided in two sections to follow its upgrade which was undertaken in order to provide the improved measurement of the scattered particles in the new kinematical region during the winter shutdown 1994/95.

3.1 HERA Accelerator

The electron-proton beam facility HERA, shown in Fig. 3.1 [17], consists of two independent accelerators designed to store 820 GeV protons and 30 GeV electrons (or positrons) respectively and to collide the two counter-rotating beams head on in four interaction points (equipped by H1, ZEUS, HERA-B, HERMES experiments) spaced uniformly around its 6336 m circumference [1].

The main parameters of HERA machine are listed in Tab. 3.1 comparing the design values with that of the 1994 and 1995 running periods.

parameter	unit	design e^-/p	1994 $e^\pm/p$	1995 e^+/p
Nominal energy	GeV	30/820	27.5/820	27.5/820
Number of bunches		210/210	153+15/153+17	174+15/174+6
Currents	mA	58/159	17.0/41.0	18.0/54.0
Bunch separation	ns	96	96	96
HERA int. luminosity	nb^{-1}	10^5	5590	10100
H1 gated luminosity	nb^{-1}	-	3983	5540
Circumference	m	6336		
Interaction points		4		

Tab. 3.1: HERA parameters.

At the beginning electrons (positrons) are pre-accelerated in the Linac II (450 MeV) which is used to fill the small storage ring PIA. The single e^- (e^+) bunches are injected

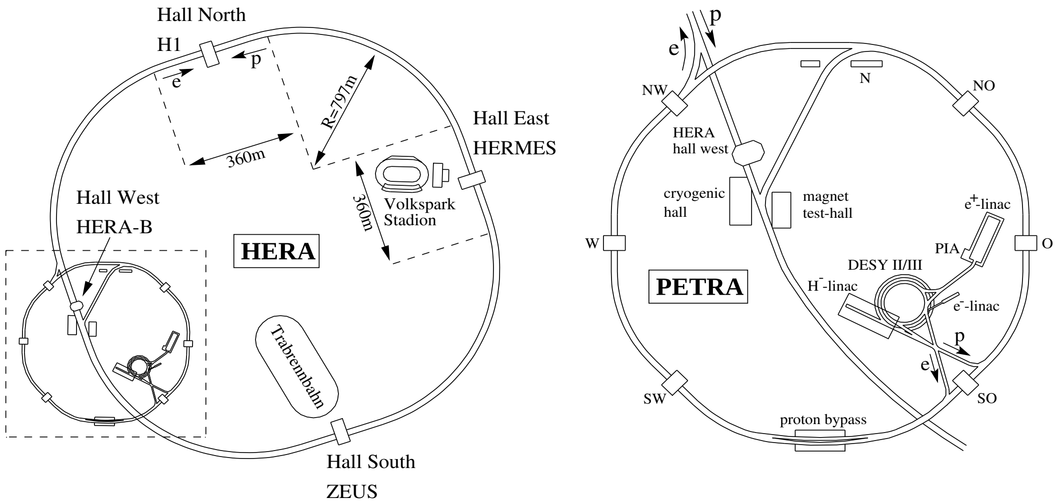

Fig. 3.1: The layout of HERA accelerating facilities.

into DESY II (7 GeV) and transfered to PETRA II (12 GeV) where they are stored, accelerated to the HERA injection energy (14 GeV) and transfered to HERA (27.5 GeV).

The proton injection starts with a negatively charged hydrogen ions linear accelerator H^--Linac III (310 GeV). After stripping off the two electrons, the protons are injected and accumulated into DESY III (7.5 GeV). The proton bunches are then transfered to PETRA II (40 GeV), and finally to the HERA (820 GeV).

3.2 H1 Detector

The H1 detector [12], is a a nearly hermetic multipurpose apparatus built to investigate the high-energy interactions of electrons and protons at HERA. The experimental program requires a detector having a good identification of electron, high degree of hermeticity, with a high granularity and excellent energy resolution, as well as the best possible hadron calorimeter. In addition a large solid angle tracking is demanded. The efficient use of all these components is provided by a sophisticated trigger and read out systems.

In the following, firstly a general overview of the H1 detector in the status of 1994 data taking is given which is later completed with the more detailed description of the backward scattering region for both 1994 and 1995 (i.e. upgraded) experimental configurations.

The main elements of the detector which parameters are summarized in Tab. 3.2, are shown in Fig. 3.2 along with the coordinate systems adopted in the H1 experiment.

3.2.1 Calorimetry

Since the H1 detector was designed to provide clear identification and precise measurement of electrons, muons and penetrating neutral particles together with a good performance