Pion production at High P_T

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Introduction

- High $P_{\rm T}$ reactions probe transition region between meson-nucleon and quark-gluon degrees of freedom
- Signature of onset of perturbative regime: constituent counting rule is valid $d\sigma$

 $\frac{d\sigma}{dt} \propto s^{n-2} f(\theta_{CM})$

- Helicity conservation : small final state polarization
- High precision data exist from 6 GeV area CLAS and Hall A experiments explored the low energy limit
- Reactions: $\gamma p \to \pi^+ n \quad \gamma p \to \pi^0 p \quad (\gamma p \to \pi^- \Delta^{++}) \quad \gamma n \to \pi^- p$ (requires D target)
- Explore the possibility of extending kinematic region using the GlueX detector

Existing Results





W. Chen et al. PRL 103 (2009)



D.A.Jenkins & I.I. Strakovsky PRC 52 (1995) 3499

CLAS data: M.Dugger et al. PRC 76 (2007) 025211

O. Bartholomy et al. (CB-ELSA Collaboration) PRL 94 (2005) 012003

Extension in GlueX

• Cross section estimated using scaling and fit to data:

From Zhu et al. PRC 71 (2005), 044603
$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{0.69f_s}{(1+\cos\theta_{CM})^4(1-\cos\theta_{CM})^5} \cdot \left(\frac{s_0}{s}\right)^7$$

- Fit to angular distributions of SLAC data
- Reproduces exp. data reasonably well
- Select typical photon rate of 10⁷ photons/s
- 30 cm LH2
- Overall Luminosity: 1.3 10³¹

Kinematic coverage







Beam times for 1000 events



- Small cross sections
- Large amount of beam time needed
- Run parallel to existing and new program (especially on D)
- Polarization degree measurements at lower energies (and larger σ)



Summary

- GlueX/Hall D has the potential to significantly increase kinematic range of π production at high P_T (> 1 GeV/c)
- Small cross sections: optimize trigger (for large angles) and PID
- Background needs to be studied
- Hydrogen target data can be taken in parallel to meson spectroscopy program
- Deuteron target opens new possibilities
- High P_T studies for other mesons interesting (ρ , ω)
- Polarized photons: new possibilities