Investigations on Uniformity, Radiation Resistance and Calibration of ZEUS Calorimeter Components at HERA

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Abstract:

The ZEUS detector at HERA has to provide highly reliable and precise measurements of ep final states for a period of more than fifteen years. One of the main components of the ZEUS detector is the high resolution sampling calorimeter. It consists of alternating layers of depleted uranium and plastic scintillator tiles which are read out by wavelength shifting light guides and photomultipliers. The ZEUS experiment requires a precise measurement of particle energies from ep scattering and a calibration at the level of 1%. As a consequence the required stability over several years, especially concerning the ageing and the radiation resistance of scintillators, wavelength shifters and light guides is therefore of fundamental importance.
This thesis describes theoretical and experimental aspects of calorimetry, especially with respect to the calibration, uniformity and radiation resistance of the plastic scintillators and wavelength shifters. Several methods and techniques for measuring the reliability of the optical components have been developed and applied to the demands of ZEUS. The most important experimental basis in this thesis is the ^{60}Co monitor system. It is an off-line system based on scans of a moving ^{60}Co source on the investigated calorimeter section. An analytical approach has been developed for the description of light propagation through radiation damaged optical materials such as scintillators and wavelength shifters. Testbeam measurements at DESY in connection with ^{60}Co measurements have been performed using an irradiated ZEUS electromagnetic test calorimeter. These measurements investigated both the influence of irradiation of the optical components on calorimetry and the sensivity of the ^{60}Co monitor system. As a matter of fact for the ZEUS uranium calorimeter there is no worsening expected due to the accumulated dose of some Gy, which has been confirmed by annual controls with the ^{60}Co monitor system. Although small ageing effects of the scintillators are found, indeed the consequences on the energy calibration can be neglected. But the scintillators of a small calorimeter component close to the HERA beams, the beam pipe calorimeter, have been radiation damaged. The correlation between optical damage and performance has been studied and the effects on linearity are determined. A water damage of a certain cooling system influenced some optical components of the ZEUS calorimeter. ^{60}Co scans were performed with the aim to study the influence of the water damage on the longitudinal uniformity of the calorimeter response. Strong recovery effects were observed. The measured non-uniformities were used to estimate the influence on the energy calibration.

Zusammenfassung:

Das ZEUS Experiment besteht aus einem komplexen Teilchen-Detektor, der zur Messung von Teilchenkollisionen am weltweit ersten *ep* Beschleuniger HERA in Hamburg eingesetzt wird. Eine der Hauptkomponenten des ZEUS-Detektors ist das hochauflösende Stichprobenkalorimeter, das aus abwechselnden Lagen von Uran- und Szintillator-Platten besteht und von Wellenlängenschiebern und Photoröhren ausgelesen wird. Das ZEUS Kalorimeter erfordert eine möglichst genaue Energiemessung und benötigt hierbei eine optimale Linearität und Uniformität. Die Stabilität, insbesondere die Strahlenresistenz der Szintillatoren und Wellenlängenschieber ist deshalb von fundamentaler Bedeutung, auch bezüglich der Detektor-Laufzeit von mehr als fünfzehn Jahren.

Diese Dissertation beschreibt theoretische und experimentelle Grundlagen der Kalorimetrie in Hinblick auf Strahlenschäden von Plastik-Szintillatoren und Wellenlängenschiebern. Ein Algorithmus wurde entwickelt zur Beschreibung der Lichtausbreitung in quaderförmigen Lichtleitern mit inhomogenen Strahlenschaden, der die Übertragung der physikalischen Kenntnisse aus Messungen an kleinen bestrahlten Proben auf realistische Dimensionen optischer Komponenten eines Kalorimeters erlaubt. Ausgehend von den Ansprüchen von ZEUS in Hinblick auf Strahlenresistenz und Uniformität der optischen Komponenten wurden Methoden und Techniken zur Qualtitätskontrolle entwickelt und auf das Kalorimeter angewendet, insbesondere auf der Grundlage eines mobilen ^{60}Co-Präparates. Teststrahlmessungen am DESY in Verbindung mit Messungen mit dem ^{60}Co-Kontroll-System wurden an einem strahlengeschädigten Testkalorimeter durchgeführt. Diese dienten der Untersuchung des Einflusses der strahlengeschädigten optischen Komponenten auf die Kalorimetrie und ihrer Nachweismöglichkeiten durch das ^{60}Co-Kontroll-System. Für das ZEUS Uran-Kalorimeter ist bei den bisher akkumulierten Strahlendosen kein signifikanter Strahlenschäden zu erwarten. Dies hat sich bestätigt bei jährlichen Untersuchungen durch das ^{60}Co-Kontroll-System. Hierbei sind Alterungseffekte der Szintillatoren gemessen worden, allerdings können die Konsequenzen auf die Kalibration vernachlässigt werden. Dagegen wurden die optischen Komponenten einer kleinen Kalorimeter-Komponente nahe am HERA-Strahlrohr strahlengeschädigt. Die Korrelation zwischen optischen Schaden und der Kalorimeterantwort dieser Komponente wurde studiert und die Effekte auf die Linearität wurden abgeschätzt. Ein Wasserschaden eines Kühlungssystems beeinträchtigte einige optische Komponenten des ZEUS-Kalorimeters. ^{60}Co Untersuchungen wurden durchgeführt mit dem Ziel, den Einfluß des Wasserschadens auf die longitudinale Uniformität der Kalorimeterantwort zu bestimmen. Große Ausheilungseffekte wurden beobachtet. Die gemessenen Inhomogenitäten wurden benutzt, um den Einfluß des Wasserschadens auf die Energie von Elektronen zu ermitteln.

Contents

List of Figures

List of Tables

Chapter 1

Introduction

The ZEUS experiment is based on a multipurpose detector for the measurement of particle collisions at the world's first ep collider HERA, taking data since June 1992. The primary goals of the ZEUS experiment are

- the investigation of the structure of the proton,
- the development of the field theory of the quarks and leptons including the strong interaction (the quantenchromodynamics) and the electroweak physics, and
- the investigation of the physics beyond the standard model.

The ZEUS detector consists of complex particle detection instruments determining the kinematics of ep scattering within a large kinematic region. The main challenges of the ZEUS detector are to measure precisely the energy and the angle of the leptons (in particular e^-/e^+) and the particle jets resulting from charged and neutral particles. Hence the ZEUS detector is based on a high resolution calorimeter. It consists of alternating layers of depleted uranium and plastic scintillator tiles, read out by wavelength shifting light guides and photomultpliers. The accuracy and correctness of the physic results depend on the correct measurement of the energy. The understanding of the response function, and in particular the energy calibration and linearity are of fundamental importance which is demonstrated by the following examples:

- In some kinematic regions a 1% error in the energy results in a 5% error on the extracted proton structure function,
- A non-linearity of high energies appears in the physic results like new contact and interactions, respectively.

Mechanical changes, ageing, humidity and the radiation damage effects of the optical components degrade a calorimeter. Therefore the quality and radiation stability of the ZEUS calorimeter are of vital importance, particulary in view of the data taking period of more than fifteen years. Several calibration systems and methods are applied to ZEUS:

- Electronics calibration,
- light injection using a laser system,
- radioactivity from the uranium absorber plates,
- particle of known energy (kinematic peak events) and

- moveable point-like ^{60}Co sources.

This thesis describes theoretical and experimental aspects of calorimetry in the field of calibration, uniformity and radiation resistance of plastic scintillators and wavelength shifters. Moreover several methods and techniques for investigating the reliability of the optical components were developed and applied to the ZEUS Calorimeter.
Chapter 2 gives a short description of the motivation of the lepton proton collider HERA. Several essential aspects of the analysis required from the world's first *ep* collider will be discussed. An overview of the ZEUS detector and the running conditions is given in Chapter 3.
Reactions which occur due to the passage of radiation through matter together with the irradiation effects produced by these processes on optical materials such as polymeres are discussed in Chapter 4. A description of light propagation through optical materials has been developed which allows to transfer the knowledge of irradiation effects on small polymere and scintillating samples up to realistic dimensions of rectilinear parallelpipeds. It allows to numerically simulate the light propagation through the latter depending on a non-uniform or uniform radiation damage. This numerical simulation has been incorporated into EGS4 Monte Carlo simulation programs. Thus it allows to simulate the effects of radiation damage in a calorimeter.
Chapter 5 presents online and offline monitoring tools which have been used to investigate the integrity of the optical components of the ZEUS calorimeter and certain components using moving radioactive sources, a UV-light system and thermo-luminescence dosimetry (TLD). Scans along the surface of certain calorimeter sections using a γ ray source (^{60}Co) compose the main off-line monitor system used at ZEUS. Moreover an algorithm is presented which allows the unfolding of ^{60}Co data to determine the individual scintillator response of the calorimeter section.
Chapter 6 describes testbeam measurements at DESY in connection with ^{60}Co scans which have been performed using an irradiated ZEUS test calorimeter to investigate both the influence of irradiation of the optical components on the calorimeter and the detection capabilities of the ^{60}Co monitor system. Investigations on single scintillators of the test calorimeter before and after irradiation using electrons of a ^{90}Sr source verify the radiation damage. The test calorimeter had been installed into the DESY testbeam for two weeks in June 1998. It was exposed to 1 to 6 GeV electrons in order to study various calibration effects.
During the operating time of HERA the ZEUS Calorimeter sections close to the HERA beams are most exposed to radiation. Within the preceding years ^{60}Co measurements have been taken in the maintenance period 1996, 1997 and 1998 on these sections in order to control the quality of the optical components with respect to possible variations of the longitudinal uniformity and the light attenuation of the scintillators. However, the evidence of a change of the attenuation of the scintillators due to ageing led to a series of measurements at other locations of the calorimeter in 1998 and 1999. These investigations are summarized in Chapter 7.
Two water damages of a certain cooling system influenced some optical components of the ZEUS calorimeter. Chapter 8 describes ^{60}Co scans performed with the aim to study the influence of the water damage on the longitudinal uniformity of the calorimeter. Strong recovery effects of the optical components were observed. The measured non-uniformities are used to estimate the influence of water damage on the energy measurement of electrons.
During the winter shutdown in 1994/1995 a small tungsten/scintillator sampling calorimeter was installed in the rear direction of the ZEUS Detector at a short distance from the HERA beams. The accumulated measured dose of the so-called Beam Pipe Calorimeter (BPC) during the 1995 HERA run influenced some of its scintillators which has been determined from the ^{60}Co monitor system. Therefore the scintillators of the BPC were exchanged after the

1995 HERA run. The monitoring procedures were repeated in 1996 and an exchange of the damaged scintillator sections became necessary again. Since 1997, the accumulated dose significantly dropped and no further replacement of scintillators was to be done. Final Chapter 9 describes the radiation monitoring and the irradiation effects on the calibration of the BPC for the running periods in 1995 and 1997.

Chapter 2

HERA

2.1 Historical review

In 1911, one of the most important steps in understanding the structure of matter was done by H. Geiger and E. Marsden. They performed an experiment based on the scattering of α-particles off a thin gold-foil. The essential result of the experiment concluded first by E. Rutherford, was that the mass of an atom is concentrated in a nucleus much smaller than the atom itself [RU11]. Within the following years several successful experiments have been performed in order to investigate the structure of matter and its interactions based on the same principle: Namely the scattering of a pointlike particle off a target. The development of particle accelerators allowed to reach higher energies than the ones achievable by radioactive processes. Increasing particle energies resulted in more information about the matter and denoted the raid into even smaller spatial dimensions.
Today it is known that electrons are pointlike particles without an inner structure up to $\leq 10^{-18}$ m. Consequently the electrons are particulary well suited to investigate the structure of the nucleus [DR98]. Experiments which scatter electrons with a known momentum and energy off a target are performed to measure physical quantities of interactions. One of them is the cross-section, which characterizes the reaction between the scattering partners. Electron proton scattering experiments resulted in corrections for the formula which describes the measured cross sections. The Rutherford formula describing the scattering of spinless particles was first modified in the 1950s by the Mott correction which took into account the electron spin $\frac{1}{2}$ [PO96]. Several years later the Rosenbluth calculation of the elastic electron proton scattering included the proton spin of $\frac{1}{2}$ and its electromagnetic formfactors. This signified an extended structure of the proton. In the following years rising electron and proton energies led to deep inelastic ep scattering. The Structure Function of the proton resulting from these investigations varies with the momentum transfer between the electron and the proton and depends on the fraction of the proton momentum which takes part in the interaction. The so-called scale invariance or scaling implicates a scattering from point-like charged centers. The parton model of Feynman in the 1960s explained this results assuming the deep inelastic ep scattering as a reaction between electrons and point-like constituents of the proton, the so-called partons. In the late 1960s the partons were identified by Bjorken and Paschos to be the spin $\frac{1}{2}$ quarks. The strong interaction of the quarks by the medium of gluons is described by a comprehensive field theory called Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD) and constitutes in conjunction with the electroweak theory the Standard Model of elementary particle physics [QU98]. HERA follows a long tradition of ep scattering experiments and provides a unique opportunity to investigate the structure of the

proton in a completely new kinematical region [AB98].

2.2 The electron-proton collider

The **H**adron **E**lektron **R**ing **A**nlage **HERA** was constructed from 1984 to 1991 at DESY (Deutsches Elektronen Synchrotron) in Hamburg. It is the first lepton proton collider consisting of two storage rings of 6.3 km circumference about 20 m underground. HERA accelerates electrons[1] to 32 GeV and protons to 920 GeV and provides head-on collisions at two interaction points with a centre of mass of about 300 GeV, where two experiments, **H1** and **ZEUS**, are located. These experiments probe the proton substructure of the proton to distances down to a dimension of 10^{-18} m. Two additional fixed target experiments have been realized at

parameter	achieved value in 1997
E_p (GeV)	820
E_e (GeV)	27.5
I_p (mA)	100
I_e (mA)	40
number of bunches	189
bunch crossing time (ns)	96
instantaneous luminosity ($\mathrm{cm}^{-2}\mathrm{s}^{-1}$)	$1.4 \cdot 10^{31}$

Table 2.1: *Main parameters of HERA as of the end of the 1997 running period.*

HERA. **HERMES**, operating since 1995, is performed to investigate the spin structure of the nuclei [HE93]. The experiment investigates the scattering of longitudinally polarized electrons on polarized gas targets. Therefore the natural transverse polarization of the electron beam is rotated before and behind the HERMES experiment by spin rotators. **HERA-B**, which is still under installation, is constructed to study the CP violation in the $B^0\bar{B}^0$ system using a wire target in the proton halo for the production of B-mesons [HB94].

The acceleration of the lepton and proton beams is done within several steps using the infrastructure of 7 DESY colliders. The proton acceleration starts with H^--atoms in a 50 MeV linear accelerator (LINAC). Stripping the electrons off the hydrogen, the protons are injected into the storage ring DESY III. 11 proton bunches spaced by 96 ns are accelerated to 7 GeV. The proton bunches are transferred to PETRA (Positron-Elektron-Tandem-Ring-Anlage), where 70 bunches are accumulated and accelerated to 40 GeV before they are injected into HERA. The acceleration of the electrons begins in a 540 MeV LINAC which fills the positron intensity accumulator (PIA), from which the electrons are transferred to DESY II and accelerated to 7 GeV. The bunches are injected in PETRA and accelerated to an energy of 14 GeV. The bunch spacing is 96 ns similar to the protons. The electrons are injected into HERA with a nominal bunch rate of 210. The proton magnets are superconducting components which are supplied by a complex cooling system using liquid Helium at a temperature of 4 to 5 K and a pressure of 4000 hPa. The electron machine of HERA was first commissioned in 1989, the proton ring

[1]Positrons are referred to as electrons unless otherwise stated.