

# A Scaler-Based Data Acquisition System for Measuring Parity Violation Asymmetry in Deep Inelastic Scattering

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## Abstract

An experiment that measured the parity violating asymmetries in deep inelastic scattering was completed at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in experimental Hall A. From these asymmetries, a combination of the quark weak axial charge could be extracted. To achieve this, asymmetries at the  $10^{-4}$  level needed to be measured at event rates up to 500 kHz and the high pion background typical to deep inelastic scattering experiments needed to be rejected efficiently. A specialized data acquisition (DAQ) system with intrinsic particle identification (PID) was successfully developed and used: The pion contamination in the electron samples was controlled at the order of  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  or below with an electron efficiency of higher than 91% throughout the experiment; the systematic uncertainty in the measured asymmetry due to DAQ deadtime was below 0.2%; and the statistical quality of the asymmetry measurement agreed with the Gaussian distribution to over five orders of magnitudes. The DAQ system is presented here with an emphasis on its design scheme, the achieved PID performance, deadtime effect and the capability of measuring small asymmetries.

**Key words:** Jefferson Lab; Hall A; PVDIS; DAQ

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## 1 Introduction

The Parity Violating Deep Inelastic Scattering (PVDIS) experiment E08-011 was completed in December 2009 at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (JLab). The goal of this experiment [1–3] was to measure with high precision the parity violating asymmetry in deep inelastic scattering of a polarized 6 GeV electron beam on an unpolarized liquid deuterium target. This asymmetry is sensitive to the quark weak axial charge  $C_{2q}$  which corresponds to a helicity dependence in the quark coupling with the  $Z^0$  boson.

For electron inclusive scattering from an unpolarized target, the electromagnetic interaction is parity conserving and is insensitive to the spin flip of the incoming electron beam. Only the weak interaction violates parity and causes a difference between the right- and the left-handed electron scattering cross-sections  $\sigma_R$  and  $\sigma_L$ . The dominant contribution to the parity violation asymmetry,  $A_{PV} \equiv (\sigma_R - \sigma_L)/(\sigma_R + \sigma_L)$ , arises from the interference between electromagnetic and weak interactions and is proportional to the four momentum transfer squared  $Q^2$  for  $Q^2 \ll M_Z^2$ . The magnitude of the asymmetry is in the order of  $10^{-4}$  or  $10^2$  parts per million (ppm) at  $Q^2 = 1$  (GeV/c) $^2$ .

The PVDIS asymmetry from a deuterium target is

$$A_{PV} = \left( -\frac{G_F Q^2}{4\sqrt{2}\pi\alpha} \right) \left( 2g_A^e Y_1 \frac{F_1^{\gamma Z}}{F_1^\gamma} + g_V^e Y_3 \frac{F_3^{\gamma Z}}{F_1^\gamma} \right), \quad (1)$$

where  $Q^2$  is the negative of the four-momentum transfer squared,  $G_F$  is the Fermi weak coupling constant,  $\alpha$  is the fine structure constant,  $Y_1$  and  $Y_3$  are kinematic factors,  $x$  is the Bjorken scaling variable, and  $F_{1,3}^{\gamma(Z)}$  are deuteron structure functions that can be evaluated from the parton distribution functions and the quark- $Z^0$  vector and axial couplings  $g_{V,A}^q$ . From this asymmetry one can extract the quark weak vector and axial charges  $C_{1,2q}$ , where the quark weak vector charge is defined as  $C_{1q} \equiv 2g_A^e g_V^q$  and the quark weak axial charge is given by  $C_{2q} \equiv 2g_V^e g_A^q$  with  $q = u, d$  indicating an up or a down quark,  $g_{A(V)}^e$  is the electron axial (vector) coupling and  $g_{V(A)}^q$  is the quark vector (axial) coupling to the  $Z^0$  boson. In the tree-level Standard Model, the  $C_{1,2q}$  are related to the weak mixing angle  $\theta_W$ :  $C_{1u} = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{4}\sin^2\theta_W$ ,  $C_{2u} = -\frac{1}{2} + 2\sin^2\theta_W$ ,  $C_{1d} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{3}\sin^2\theta_W$ , and  $C_{2d} = \frac{1}{2} - 2\sin^2\theta_W$ . Although the weak mixing angle and the quark weak vector charge  $C_{1q}$  have been measured from various processes [4], the current knowledge on the quark weak axial charge  $C_{2q}$  is poor and their deviations from the Standard Model value would reveal possible New Physics in the quark axial couplings that could not be accessed from other Standard Model parameters.

The goal of JLab E08-011 was to measure the PVDIS asymmetries to statistical

63 precisions of 3% and 4% at  $Q^2 = 1.1$  and  $1.9$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup>, respectively, and under the  
 64 assumption that hadronic physics corrections are small, to extract the quark axial  
 65 weak charge combination ( $2C'_{2u} - C_{2d}$ ). In addition, the systematic uncertainty  
 66 goal was less than 3%. For this experiment, the expected asymmetries were 91 and  
 67 160 ppm respectively at the two  $Q^2$  values. To achieve the required precision, an  
 68 event rate capability of up to 500 kHz was needed.

69 The main challenge of deep inelastic scattering experiments is the separation of  
 70 scattered electrons from the pion background in the spectrometer and detector sys-  
 71 tem. The neutral pions would decay into  $e^+e^-$  pairs, from which the electrons pro-  
 72 duced cannot be rejected by detectors and their effect on the measured asymmetry  
 73 was analyzed in Ref. [3]. Charged pions are produced primarily from nucleon res-  
 74 onance decays and could carry a parity violation asymmetry corresponding to the  
 75  $Q^2$  at which the resonances are produced, typically a fraction of the asymmetry  
 76 of electrons with the same scattered momentum. Assuming a fraction  $f_{\pi/e}$  of the  
 77 detected events are  $\pi^-$  and  $1 - f_{\pi/e}$  are electrons, the measured asymmetry is

$$A_m = f_{\pi/e}A_\pi + (1 - f_{\pi/e})A_e, \quad (2)$$

78 where  $A_e$  is the desired electron scattering asymmetry and  $A_\pi$  is the asymmetry of  
 79 the pion background. To extract  $A_e$  to a high precision, one needs to either mini-  
 80 mize the pion contamination  $f_{\pi/e}$  to a negligible level, or to correct the measured  
 81 asymmetry for the asymmetry of pions, which itself needs to be measured precisely.  
 82 For the PVDIS experiment, the goal was to control  $f_{\pi/e}$  to the  $10^{-4}$  level provided  
 83 that the pion asymmetries do not exceed those of electrons.

84 The experiment used a 100  $\mu$ A electron beam with a polarization of approximately  
 85 90% and a 20-cm long liquid deuterium target. The two High Resolution Spec-  
 86 trometers (HRS) [5] were used to detect scattered events. While the standard HRS  
 87 detector package and data acquisition (DAQ) system routinely provide a  $10^4$  pion  
 88 rejection with approximately 99% electron efficiency, they are based on full record-  
 89 ing of the detector signals and are limited to event rates up to 4 kHz [5]. This is not  
 90 sufficient for the high rates expected for the experiment. (The HRS DAQ will be  
 91 referred to as “standard DAQ” hereafter.)

92 Recent parity violation electron scattering experiments, such as SAMPLE [6] at  
 93 MIT-Bates, HAPPEX [7–11], and PREX [12] at JLab, focused on elastic scat-  
 94 tering from nuclear or nucleon targets that are typically not contaminated by in-  
 95 elastic backgrounds. Signals from the detectors can be integrated and a helicity  
 96 dependence in the integrated signal can be used to extract the physics asymme-  
 97 try. An integrating DAQ was also used at the preceding PVDIS measurement at  
 98 SLAC [13,14] in which approximately 2% of the integrated signal was attributed  
 99 to pions. In the Mainz PVA4 experiment [15–17], particles were detected in a total  
 100 absorption calorimeter and the integrated energy spectrum was recorded. Charged  
 101 pions and other background were separated from electrons in the offline analysis

102 of the energy spectrum, and the pion rejection is in the order of 100:1 based on the  
103 characteristics of the calorimeter.

104 High performance particle identification can usually be realized in a counting-based  
105 DAQ where each event is evaluated individually. In the G0 experiment [18–22]  
106 at JLab, a superconducting spectrometer with a  $2\pi$  azimuthal angle coverage was  
107 used to detect elastically scattered protons at the forward angle and elastic elec-  
108 trons at the backward angle. At the forward angle, protons were identified using  
109 time-of-flight. At the backward angle, pions were rejected from electrons using an  
110 aerogel Cherenkov counter and a pion rejection factor of 125 : 1 or better was re-  
111 ported [22]. The deadtime correction of the counting system was at the order of a  
112 few percent [21,22].

113 While the PVDIS experiment could fully utilize existing spectrometers and de-  
114 tectors at JLab, upon examining all existing techniques for PV measurements it  
115 became clear that a custom electronics and DAQ were needed to control the sys-  
116 tematic uncertainties due to data collection to below 1%. In this paper we describe  
117 a scaler-based, cost effective counting DAQ which limited the pion contamination  
118 of the data sample to a negligible level of  $f_{\pi/e} \approx 10^{-4}$ . Basic information of the de-  
119 tector package and the DAQ setup will be presented first, followed by the analysis  
120 on electron detection efficiency, pion rejection and contamination, corrections due  
121 to counting deadtime, and the statistical quality of the asymmetry measurement.

## 122 2 Detector and DAQ Overview

123 The design goal of the DAQ is to record data up to 1 MHz with hardware-based  
124 PID and well measured and understood deadtime effects. The following detectors  
125 in the HRS [5] were used to characterize scattered particles: Two scintillator planes  
126 provided the main trigger, while a  $\text{CO}_2$  gas Cherenkov detector and a double-layer  
127 segmented lead-glass detector provided particle identification information. The ver-  
128 tical drift chambers (as the tracking detector) were used during calibration runs but  
129 were turned off during production data taking because they were not expected to  
130 endure the high event rates.

131 For the gas Cherenkov and the lead-glass detector, a full recording of their out-  
132 put ADC data is not feasible at the expected high rate. Instead their signals were  
133 passed through discriminators and logic units to form preliminary electron and pion  
134 triggers. Particle identification was fulfilled by the use of discriminators for both  
135 the lead-glass and the Cherenkov detectors and proper settings of their thresholds.  
136 These preliminary triggers were then combined with the scintillator triggers to form  
137 the final electron and pion triggers, which were sent to scalers to record the event  
138 counts and offline used to form asymmetries  $A = (n_R - n_L)/(n_R + n_L)$ , where  
139  $n_{R(L)}$  is the integrated rate of the triggers normalized to the integrated beam charge

140 for the right( $R$ ) and left( $L$ ) handed spin (helicity) states of the incident electron  
141 beam. The scalars that counted triggers and the beam charge were integrated over  
142 the helicity period, which was flipped pseudo-randomly at 30 Hz per the experi-  
143 mental technique used by the HAPPEX experiments [11].

144 For the HRS the two layers of the lead-glass detector are called “preshower” and  
145 “shower” detectors, respectively. The preshower blocks in the Right HRS (the spec-  
146 trometer located to the right side of the beamline when viewed along the beam  
147 direction) has 48 blocks arranged in a  $2 \times 24$  array, with the longest dimension  
148 of the blocks aligned perpendicular to the particle trajectory. For the two blocks  
149 in each row, only the ends facing outward are read out by photo-multiplier tubes  
150 (PMTs) and the other ends of the two blocks were facing each other and not read  
151 out. Therefore the preshower detector had 48 output channels. All preshower blocks  
152 were individually wrapped to prevent light leak. The shower detector in the Right  
153 HRS had 75 blocks arranged in a  $5 \times 15$  array with the longest dimension of the  
154 blocks aligned along the trajectory of scattered particles. PMTs are attached to each  
155 block of the Right shower detector on one end only, giving 75 output channels. The  
156 preshower and the shower detectors in the Left HRS are similar to the preshower  
157 detector on the Right HRS except that for each detector there are 34 blocks arranged  
158 in a  $2 \times 17$  array.

159 Because the lead-glass detectors in the Left and Right HRS are different, design of  
160 the lead-glass-based triggers of the DAQ is also different, as shown in Fig. 1. As  
161 a compromise between the amount of electronics needed and the rate in the front  
162 end logic modules, the lead-glass blocks in both the preshower and the shower de-  
163 tectors were divided into 6 (8) groups for the Left (Right) HRS, with each group  
164 consisting 8 blocks. On the Right HRS only 60 of the 75 shower blocks were used  
165 while the 15 blocks on the edge were not read out. The reduction on the HRS ac-  
166 ceptance due to not using these side blocks is negligible. Signals from the 8 blocks  
167 in each group were added using a custom-made analog summing unit called the  
168 “SUM8 module”, then passed to discriminators. The geometry and the position of  
169 each preshower group were carefully chosen to match those of the corresponding  
170 shower group to maximize electron detection efficiency. On the Left HRS adjacent  
171 groups in both preshower and shower had overlapping blocks, while for the Right  
172 HRS only preshower blocks were overlapping. To allow overlap between adjacent  
173 groups, signals from preshower blocks on the Right HRS and from both preshower  
174 and shower blocks on the Left HRS were split into two identical copies using pas-  
175 sive splitters.

176 A schematic diagram of the DAQ electronics for the Right HRS is shown in Fig. 2.  
177 Preliminary electron and pion triggers were formed by passing shower (SS) and  
178 preshower (PS) signals and their sums, called total shower (TS) signals, through  
179 discriminators with different thresholds. For electron triggers, logical ANDs of  
180 the PS discriminator and the TS discriminator outputs were used. For pions, low  
181 threshold discriminators on the TS signal alone were sent to logical OR modules

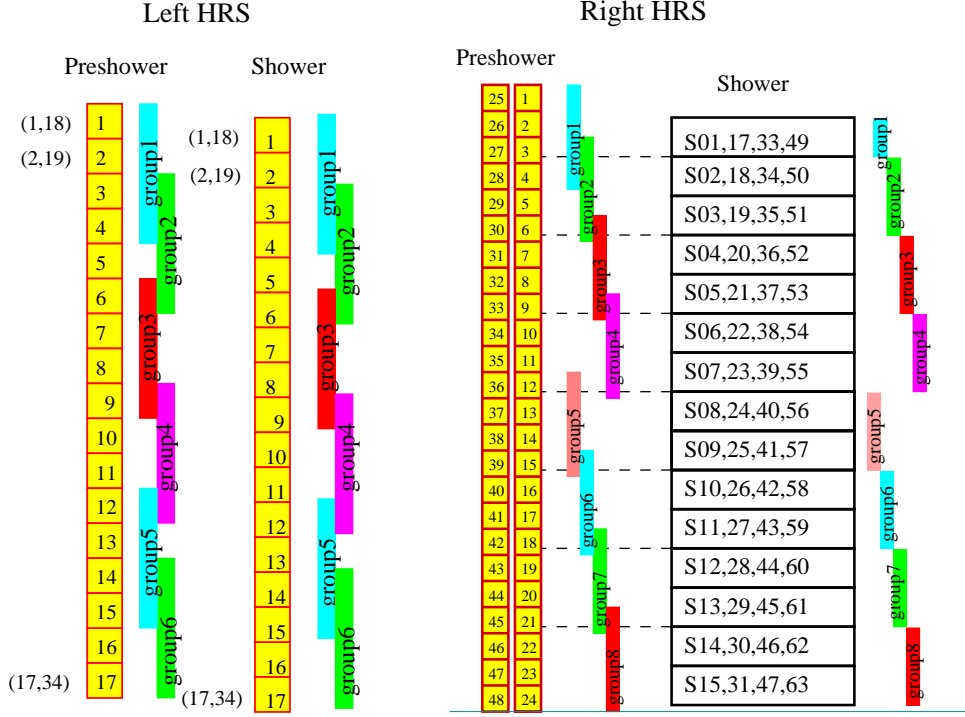


Fig. 1. [Color online] Grouping scheme (side-view) for the double-layer lead-glass detectors for the Left and the Right HRS. Scattered particles enter the detector from the left. The colored vertical bars represent the range of each group.

to produce preliminary triggers. Additional background rejection was provided by the “VETO” circuit, which combined signals from the gas Cherenkov (GC) and the “T1” signal [5] from scintillators (SC). Each valid coincidence between GC and T1 would produce an 150-ns wide electron VETO signal that allowed an output to be formed by the logical AND modules from the preliminary electron triggers. Each valid T1 signal without the GC signal would produce an 150-ns wide pion VETO signal that allowed an output to be formed by the logical OR modules from the preliminary pion triggers. The outputs of the logical AND and OR modules are called group electron and pion triggers, respectively. All six (eight) group electron or pion triggers were then Ored together to form the global electron or pion trigger for the Left (Right) HRS. All group and the final electron and pion triggers were counted using scalers. Because pions do not produce large enough lead-glass signals to trigger the high threshold TS discriminators for the electron triggers, pions do not introduce extra counting deadtime for the electron triggers. However, the 150-ns width of the electron VETO signal would cause pion contamination in the electron trigger. This effect will be presented in section 3.

In order to monitor the counting deadtime of the DAQ, two identical paths of electronics were constructed. The only difference between the two paths is in the PS and the TS discriminator output widths, set at 30 ns and 100 ns for the “narrow” and the “wide” paths, respectively. The scalers are rated for 250 MHz (4 ns dead-time) and therefore do not add to the deadtime. In addition, the output width of all

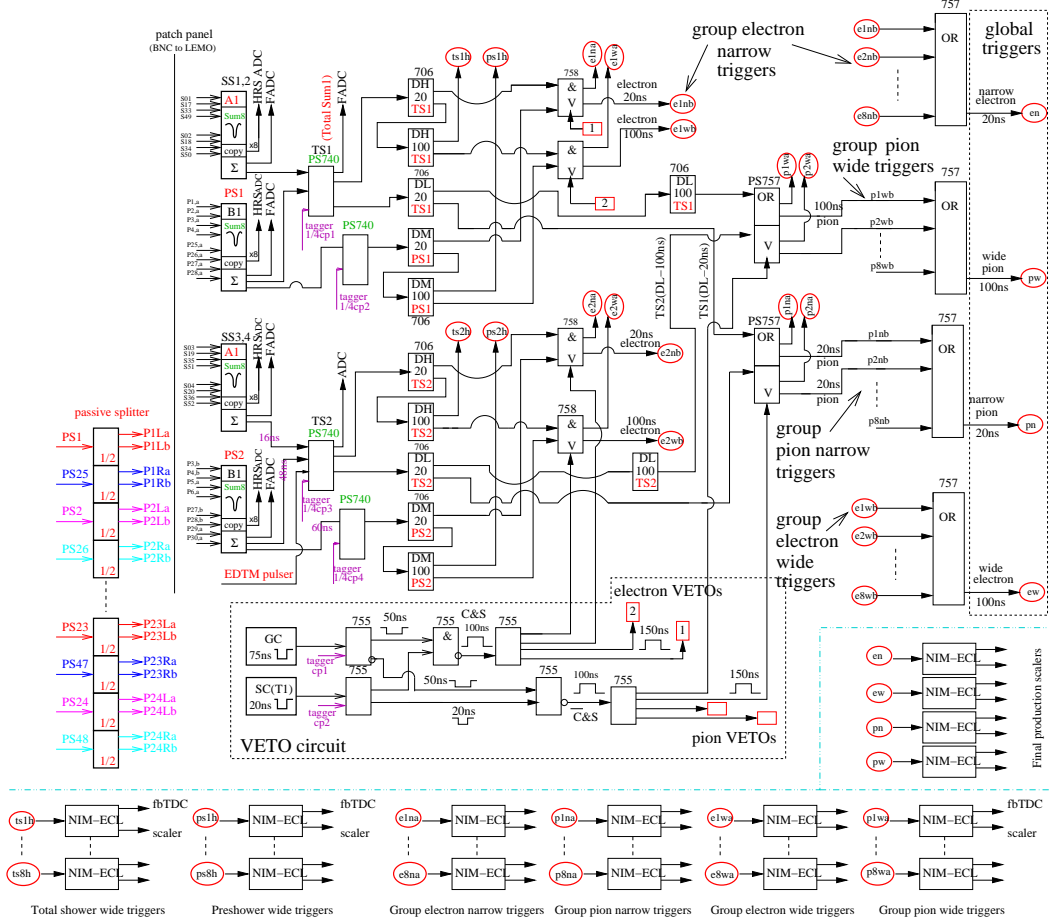


Fig. 2. [Color online] Electronics diagram for the Right HRS DAQ used by the PVDIS experiment. The Sum8's, discriminators and logic modules for two groups are shown, as well as the location of tagger signal inputs, setup of the VETO circuit using scintillator (SC) and gas Cherenkov (GC) signals, the logic units for combining triggers from all eight groups into final triggers, the counting scalars, and the monitoring fastbus TDCs. Electronics for the Left HRS are similar except for the grouping scheme.

logic modules were set to 15 ns, hence the deadtime of the DAQ for each group is dominated by the deadtime of the discriminators. Detailed analysis of the DAQ deadtime will be presented in section 4.

The SUM8 modules used for summing all lead-glass signals also served as fan-out modules, providing exact copies of the input PMT signals. These copies were sent to the standard HRS DAQ for calibration. During the experiment, data were collected at low rates using reduced beam currents with both DAQs functioning, such that a direct comparison of the two DAQs can be made. The vertical drift chambers were used during these low rate DAQ studies. Outputs from all discriminators, signals from the scintillator and the gas Cherenkov, and all electron and pion group and global triggers were sent to Fastbus TDCs (fbTDC) and were recorded in the standard DAQ. Data from these fbTDCs were used to align amplitude spectrum and timing of all signals. They also allowed the study of the Cherenkov and the

216 lead-glass detector performance for the new DAQ.

217 Full sampling of partial analog signals were done using Flash-ADCs (FADCs) at  
 218 low rates intermittently during the experiment. For one group on the Left and one  
 219 group on the Right HRS, the preshower and the shower SUM8 outputs, the inter-  
 220 mediate logical signals of the DAQ, and the output electron and pion triggers were  
 221 recorded. These FADC data provided a study of pileup effects to confirm the dead-  
 222 time simulation and to provide the input parameters for the simulation, specifically  
 223 the rise and fall times of the signals and their widths.

### 224 3 DAQ PID Performance

225 PID performance of the DAQ system was studied with calibration runs taken at low  
 226 beam currents using fbTDC signals along with ADC data of all detector signals  
 227 recorded by the standard DAQ. Events that triggered the DAQ would appear as  
 228 a timing peak in the corresponding fbTDC spectrum of the standard DAQ and a  
 229 cut on this peak can be used to select those events. Figure 3 shows the preshower  
 230 vs. shower signals for group 2 on the Left HRS. A comparison between no fbTDC  
 231 cut and with cut on the fbTDC signal of the electron wide trigger from this group  
 clearly shows the hardware PID cuts.

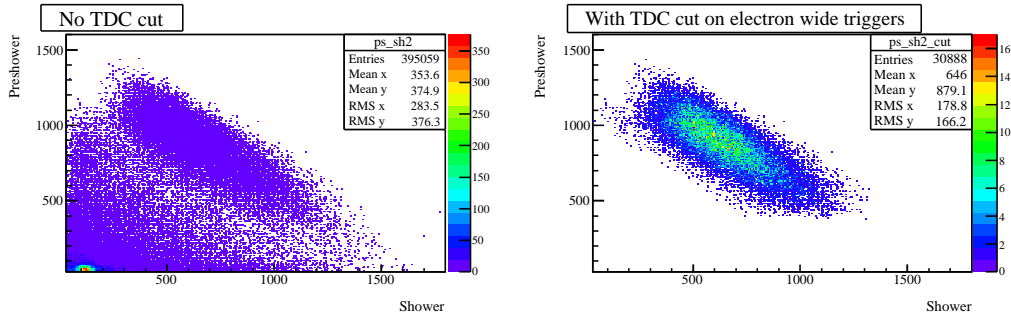


Fig. 3. [Color online] Preshower vs. Shower ADC data (sum of 8 blocks each) for group 2 on the Left HRS, without the fbTDC cut (left panel) and with cut on the group 2 electron wide trigger fbTDC signal (right panel). It clearly shows the thresholds on the preshower and the total shower signals, indicating the DAQ is selecting the correct events as electrons.

233 Electron efficiency and pion rejection factors of the lead-glass detector on the Left  
 234 HRS during a one-hour run are shown in Fig. 4 as functions of the location of the  
 235 hit of the particle in the preshower detector. PID performance on the Right HRS  
 236 is similar. Electron efficiency from wide groups are slightly higher than narrow  
 237 groups because there is less event loss due to timing mis-alignment when taking  
 238 the coincidence between the preshower and the total shower discriminator outputs.  
 239 Variations in the electron efficiency across the spectrometer acceptance effectively  
 240 influence the  $Q^2$  of the measurement. For this reason, low-rate calibration data

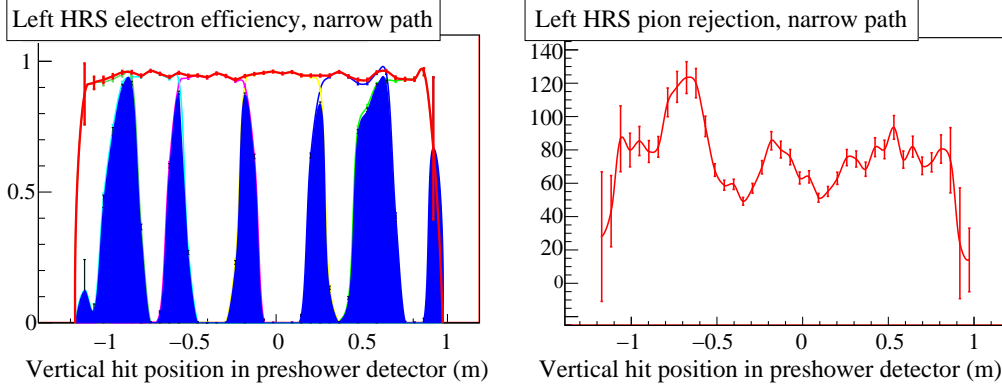


Fig. 4. [Color online] Electron detection efficiency (left) and pion rejection factor (right) vs. vertical (dispersive) hit position of the particle in the preshower detector for the narrow electron triggers in the Left HRS. A one-hour run with reduced beam current was used in this evaluation. For electron efficiencies, the total efficiency is shown by the red curve, while blue shaded area indicates events that were recorded by two adjacent groups. The average electron efficiency achieved by the lead glass detector alone for this one-hour run is  $(94.626 \pm 0.002)\%$  and the average pion rejection factor is  $(75.3 \pm 1.1) : 1$ . The error bars are statistical only. PID performance for the wide path and the Right HRS are similar.

were taken daily during the experiment to monitor the DAQ PID performance and corrections were applied to the asymmetry data.

The gas Cherenkov detector signals were read out by 10 PMTs on both the Left and the Right HRS. Signals from all 10 PMTs were summed in an analog-sum module and sent to a discriminator. The discriminator output was sent to the DAQ (as shown in Fig. 2) as well as fbTDCs. Figure 5 shows the Cherenkov ADC sum with and without the fbTDC cut which clearly shows the capability of rejecting pions.

As described in the Introduction, pion contamination in the electron trigger would affect the measured electron asymmetry as  $A_m = (1 - f_{\pi/e})A_e + f_{\pi/e}A_\pi$  where  $A_m$  and  $A_e$  are the measured and the true electron asymmetries, respectively, and  $A_\pi$  is the parity violation asymmetry of pion production. The pion contamination in the electron trigger,  $f_{\pi/e}$ , comes from two effects: There is a small possibility that a pion could trigger both the lead-glass and the gas Cherenkov detectors, causing a false electron trigger output. This possibility is determined by the direct combination of the pion rejection factors of the two detectors and is below  $10^{-4}$ . A larger effect comes from the width of the electron VETO signal: Since each coincidence between the gas Cherenkov and the scintillator signals would open the electron counting gate (electron VETO) by 150 ns, while the DAQ deadtime of the lead-glass detector is less than this value, pions that arrived after the DAQ deadtime but before the closing of the electron VETO signal would cause a false electron trigger. The sum of the two effects can be written as

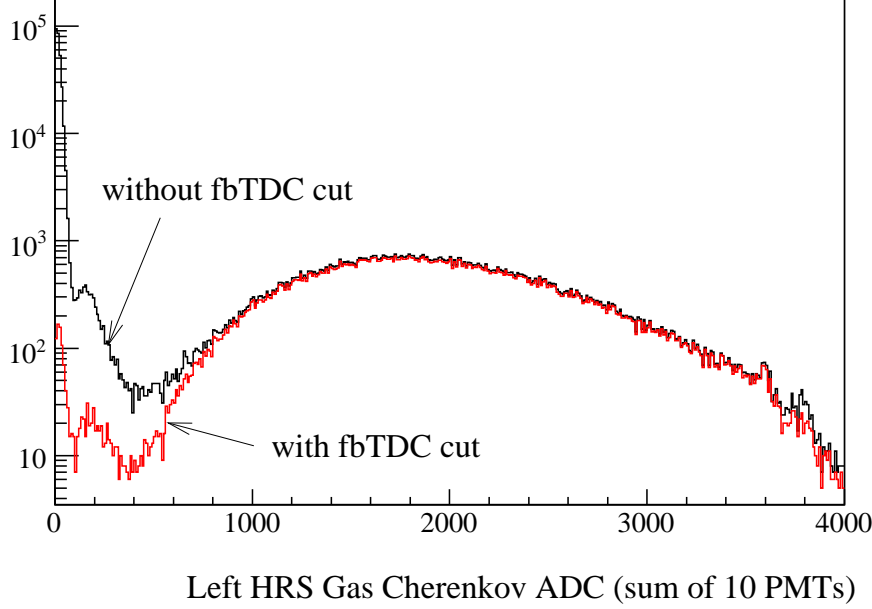


Fig. 5. [Color online] Gas Cherenkov ADC data (sum of 10 PMTs) for the Left HRS during a one-hour run at  $Q^2 = 1.9 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$ , with a fbTDC cut on the Cherenkov discriminator output (red) and without (black). The beam current during this run was about  $100 \mu\text{A}$ , the incident electron rate on the detector was about 23 kHz with a pion to electron rate ratio of approximately 3.5. The discriminator clearly selected electrons while rejecting pions.

$$f_{\pi/e,n(w)} = \frac{R_\pi \eta_\pi^{GC} \eta_\pi^{LG}}{R_e \eta_e^{GC} \eta_e^{LG}} + \frac{R_\pi \eta_\pi^{LG} \left\{ R_e \eta_e^{GC} [150 \text{ ns} - \tau_{n(w)}] \right\}}{R_e \eta_e^{GC} \eta_e^{LG}}$$

where  $R_e$  and  $R_\pi$  are the input electron and the pion rates, respectively;  $\eta_e^{LG(GC)}$  is the electron detection efficiency of the lead-glass (gas Cherenkov) detectors, and  $\eta_\pi^{LG(GC)}$  is the pion detection efficiency, i.e., the inverse of the rejection factor, of the lead-glass (gas Cherenkov) detector. The DAQ group deadtime of the lead-glass detector for the narrow (wide) path,  $\tau_{n(w)}$ , is approximately 60 ns (100-110 ns) and the analysis obtaining these results will be presented in the next section. The term  $R_e \eta_e^{GC} [150 \text{ ns} - \tau_{n(w)}]$  gives the probability for a pion to arrive within a valid electron VETO signal and thus can not be rejected by the lead-glass detectors.

The electron detection efficiency and pion rejection factor averaged throughout the experiment are shown in table 1 for different kinematics and for the Left and the Right HRS separately. Also shown are the  $\pi/e$  rate ratio obtained from the data and the resulting pion contamination  $f_{\pi/e}$  evaluated separately for the narrow and the wide paths.

As shown in table 1, the overall pion contamination was at the order of  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  or lower. Because pions are produced from nucleon resonance decays, the parity violation asymmetry of pion production is expected to be no larger than that of

Table 1

Average electron detection efficiency and pion rejection factor achieved through the lead glass (LG) and the gas Cherenkov (GC) detectors, respectively, and the combined performance. The error bars of the efficiencies and the rejection factors are statistical only. The error bars for  $f_{\pi/e}$  are shown separately for statistical uncertainties, systematic uncertainties due to our understanding of the rates, detector efficiencies and deadtimes, and systematic uncertainties due to day-to-day variations since calibration runs were taken only once a day.

Kinematics and Spectrometer combinations			
	$Q^2 = 1.1 \text{ (GeV}/c)^2$	$Q^2 = 1.9 \text{ (GeV}/c)^2$	
HRS	Left	Left	Right
Electron detection efficiency $\eta_e$			
GC	$(99.14 \pm 0.02)\%$	$(99.03 \pm 0.03)\%$	$(98.19 \pm 0.06)\%$
LG, narrow	$(91.93 \pm 0.04)\%$	$(94.50 \pm 0.06)\%$	$(94.36 \pm 0.04)\%$
LG, wide	$(92.88 \pm 0.04)\%$	$(95.79 \pm 0.06)\%$	$(95.23 \pm 0.04)\%$
combined, narrow	$(91.14 \pm 0.04)\%$	$(93.58 \pm 0.06)\%$	$(92.65 \pm 0.07)\%$
combined, wide	$(92.08 \pm 0.04)\%$	$(94.86 \pm 0.06)\%$	$(93.51 \pm 0.07)\%$
Pion rejection $1/\eta_\pi$			
GC	$(158.6 \pm 3.5) : 1$	$(301.2 \pm 5.2) : 1$	$(414.3 \pm 6.2) : 1$
LG, narrow	$(101.5 \pm 1.6) : 1$	$(78.9 \pm 0.9) : 1$	$(72.7 \pm 0.3) : 1$
LG, wide	$(103.9 \pm 1.7) : 1$	$(81.5 \pm 1.0) : 1$	$(74.3 \pm 0.3) : 1$
Pion contamination in the electron trigger $f_{\pi/e}$ , narrow path			
actual rate $R_\pi/R_e$	0.7	3.5	3.5
$f_{\pi/e,n}$	$1.61 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.20 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.99 \times 10^{-4}$
$\Delta f_{\pi/e,n}(\text{stat.})$	$\pm 3.34 \times 10^{-6}$	$\pm 4.62 \times 10^{-6}$	$\pm 2.15 \times 10^{-6}$
$\Delta f_{\pi/e,n}(\text{syst.})$	$\pm 2.01 \times 10^{-5}$	$\pm 2.29 \times 10^{-5}$	$\pm 2.08 \times 10^{-5}$
$\Delta f_{\pi/e,n}(\text{var.})$	$\pm 9.76 \times 10^{-6}$	$\pm 1.71 \times 10^{-5}$	$\pm 1.15 \times 10^{-5}$
$\Delta f_{\pi/e,n}(\text{total})$	$\pm 2.24 \times 10^{-5}$	$\pm 2.86 \times 10^{-5}$	$\pm 2.38 \times 10^{-5}$
Pion contamination in the electron trigger $f_{\pi/e}$ , wide path			
$f_{\pi/e,w}$	$1.00 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.83 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.59 \times 10^{-4}$
$\Delta f_{\pi/e,w}(\text{stat.})$	$\pm 2.28 \times 10^{-6}$	$\pm 4.27 \times 10^{-6}$	$\pm 2.10 \times 10^{-6}$
$\Delta f_{\pi/e,w}(\text{syst.})$	$\pm 1.71 \times 10^{-5}$	$\pm 2.01 \times 10^{-5}$	$\pm 1.96 \times 10^{-5}$
$\Delta f_{\pi/e,w}(\text{var.})$	$\pm 9.81 \times 10^{-6}$	$\pm 1.51 \times 10^{-5}$	$\pm 1.02 \times 10^{-5}$
$\Delta f_{\pi/e,w}(\text{total})$	$\pm 1.97 \times 10^{-5}$	$\pm 2.52 \times 10^{-5}$	$\pm 2.21 \times 10^{-5}$

278 scattered electrons with the same momentum. This was confirmed by asymmetries  
 279 formed from pion triggers during this experiment. The uncertainty in the electron  
 280 asymmetry due to pion contamination is therefore at the order of  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  and is  
 281 negligible compared to the  $3 - 4\%$  statistical uncertainty.

To understand fully the effect of pion background on the measured electron asymmetry, it is important to extract asymmetries of the pion background to confirm that they are indeed smaller than the electron asymmetry. A complete PID analysis was carried out on the pion triggers of the DAQ where the electron contamination in the pion trigger  $f_{e/\pi}$  was evaluated in a similar method as  $f_{\pi/e}$  above, following

$$f_{e/\pi, n(w)} = \frac{R_e \xi_e^{GC} \xi_e^{LG}}{R_\pi \xi_\pi^{GC} \xi_\pi^{LG}} + \frac{R_e \xi^{LG} \left\{ R_\pi \xi_\pi^{GC} [150 \text{ ns} - \tau_{n(w)}] \right\}}{R_\pi \xi_\pi^{GC} \xi_\pi^{LG}}$$

282 where as before  $R_e$  and  $R_\pi$  are the electron and the pion rates incident on the de-  
 283 tectors, respectively; The detection efficiencies  $\xi$  are now defined for the pion trig-  
 284 gers of the DAQ:  $\xi_e^{LG(GC)}$  is the electron detection efficiency of the lead-glass (gas  
 285 Cherenkov) detectors, and  $\xi_\pi^{LG(GC)}$  is the pion detection efficiency of the lead-glass  
 286 (gas Cherenkov) detector in the pion triggers. Although the goal of the pion triggers  
 287 is to collect pions, only the gas Cherenkov played a role in rejecting electrons in  
 288 the pion trigger, and all electrons would form valid pion triggers in the lead-glass  
 289 counters. Therefore  $\xi_e^{LG} \approx 1$  and the electron contamination is high. Results for  
 290 electron contamination in the pion trigger is summarized in Table 2.

## 291 4 DAQ Deadtime

292 Deadtime is the amount of time after an event during which the system is unable  
 293 to record another event. Identifying the exact value of the deadtime is always a  
 294 challenge in counting experiments. By having a narrow and a wide path, we can  
 295 observe the trend in the deadtime – the wider path should have higher deadtime. By  
 296 matching the observed trend with our simulation we can benchmark and confirm  
 297 the result of our deadtime simulation. In addition, dividing lead-glass blocks into  
 298 groups greatly reduces the deadtime loss in each group compared to summing all  
 299 blocks together and forming only one final trigger.

300 To illustrate the importance of the deadtime, consider its effect on the asymmetry  $A$ .  
 301 For a simple system with only one contribution to the deadtime loss  $\delta$ , the observed  
 302 asymmetry  $A_O$  is related the the true asymmetry  $A$  according to  $A_O = (1 - \delta)A$ .  
 303 In this experiment  $\delta$  was expected to be on the order of (1-2)%. Since the statistical  
 304 accuracy on the asymmetry is (3-4)%, it was desired to know  $\delta$  with a (10-20)%  
 305 relative accuracy so that it would become a negligible systematic error. The DAQ  
 306 used in this experiment, however, was more complex and had three contributions  
 307 to the deadtime as listed below:

Table 2

Average pion detection efficiency and electron rejection factor achieved through the lead glass (LG) and the gas Cherenkov (GC) detectors, respectively, and the combined performance. The error bars of the efficiencies and the rejection factors are statistical only. The error bars for  $f_{e/\pi}$  are shown separately for statistical uncertainties, systematic uncertainties, and the systematic uncertainty due to day-to-day variations since calibration runs were taken only on a daily basis.

Kinematics and Spectrometer Combinations			
	$Q^2 = 1.1 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$	$Q^2 = 1.9 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$	
HRS	Left	Left	Right
Pion detection efficiency $\eta_\pi$			
GC	$(99.52 \pm 0.01)\%$	$(99.73 \pm 0.01)\%$	$(99.74 \pm 0.01)\%$
LG, narrow	$(21.67 \pm 0.01)\%$	$(79.72 \pm 0.02)\%$	$(15.61 \pm 0.01)\%$
LG, wide	$(21.67 \pm 0.01)\%$	$(79.71 \pm 0.02)\%$	$(15.60 \pm 0.01)\%$
combined, narrow	$(21.57 \pm 0.01)\%$	$(79.70 \pm 0.02)\%$	$(15.57 \pm 0.01)\%$
combined, wide	$(21.57 \pm 0.01)\%$	$(79.69 \pm 0.02)\%$	$(15.56 \pm 0.01)\%$
Electron rejection $1/\eta_e$			
GC	$(31.42 \pm 0.78) : 1$	$(89.44 \pm 2.48) : 1$	$(48.48 \pm 1.55) : 1$
LG, narrow	$(1.0468 \pm 0.0003) : 1$	$(1.0487 \pm 0.0005) : 1$	$(1.0271 \pm 0.0002) : 1$
LG, wide	$(1.0469 \pm 0.0003) : 1$	$(1.0499 \pm 0.0005) : 1$	$(1.0279 \pm 0.0002) : 1$
Electron contamination in pion triggers $f_{e/\pi}$ , narrow path			
actual rate $R_\pi/R_e$	0.7	3.5	3.5
$f_{e/\pi,n}$	0.2738	0.03197	0.00967
$\Delta f_{e/\pi,n}(\text{stat.})$	$\pm 0.00386$	$\pm 0.00080$	0.00026
$\Delta f_{e/\pi,n}(\text{syst.})$	$\pm 0.01382$	$\pm 0.00143$	0.00026
$\Delta f_{e/\pi,n}(\text{var.})$	$\pm 0.05441$	$\pm 0.00303$	0.00112
$\Delta f_{e/\pi,n}(\text{total})$	$\pm 0.05613$	$\pm 0.00335$	0.00115
Electron contamination in pion triggers $f_{e/\pi}$ , wide path			
$f_{e/\pi,w}$	0.2246	0.02672	0.00854
$\Delta f_{e/\pi,w}(\text{stat.})$	$\pm 0.00386$	$\pm 0.00079$	0.00026
$\Delta f_{e/\pi,w}(\text{syst.})$	$\pm 0.01236$	$\pm 0.00127$	0.00062
$\Delta f_{e/\pi,w}(\text{var.})$	$\pm 0.05255$	$\pm 0.00308$	0.00109
$\Delta f_{e/\pi,w}(\text{total})$	$\pm 0.05399$	$\pm 0.00333$	0.00125

- 308 (1) The “group” deadtime: deadtime due to discriminators and logical AND mod-  
309 ules used to form group triggers;
- 310 (2) The “veto” deadtime: deadtime from the VETO circuit that used scintillators  
311 and gas Cherenkov signals to form the “gate” signals, which controlled the  
312 AND (OR) module of each group to form group electron (pion) triggers.
- 313 (3) The “OR” deadtime: deadtime due to the logical OR module used to combine  
314 all group triggers into final global triggers.

315 The total deadtime is a combination of all three. In order to evaluate the DAQ dead-  
316 time, a full-scale trigger simulation is necessary. This trigger simulation will be de-  
317 scribed in the next section followed by results on the group, veto, and OR deadtime  
318 as well as on the total deadtime correction that was applied to the asymmetry data.

#### 319 4.1 Trigger Simulation

320 The Hall A Trigger Simulation (HATS) was developed for the purpose of dead-  
321 time study for this experiment. The inputs to HATS include the analog signals for  
322 preshower, shower, scintillator and gas Cherenkov. The signal amplitudes were pro-  
323 vided by ADC data from low-current runs and the signal rates were from high-  
324 current production runs. The rise and fall times for the preshower and shower  
325 SUM8 outputs play an important role in HATS. The signal shape is simulated with  
326 the function  $S(t) = Ate^{-t/\tau}$ , where  $A$  is related to the amplitude of the signal and  
327 the time constant  $\tau$  was determined from FADC data, see Fig. 6.

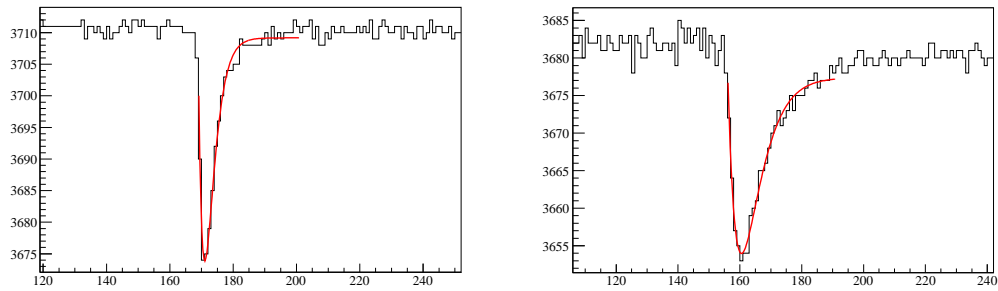


Fig. 6. [Color online] Calibration of time constants  $\tau$  for Preshower (left) and Shower (right) of the Right HRS. The FADC snapshot (black) is compared with the fit  $S(t) = Ate^{-t/\tau}$  (red).

328 With the recorded DAQ electronics and delay cables, HATS first rebuilds the DAQ  
329 system on the software level. At each nano-second, detector input signals are gen-  
330 erated randomly according to the actual event rates and signal shape, and HATS  
331 simulates output signals from all discriminators, AND, and OR modules. Figure 7  
332 shows a fraction of the DAQ electronics and the simulated results for a very short  
333 time period. By comparing output to input signals, HATS provides results on the

fractional loss due to deadtime for all group and global triggers w.r.t. the input signal.

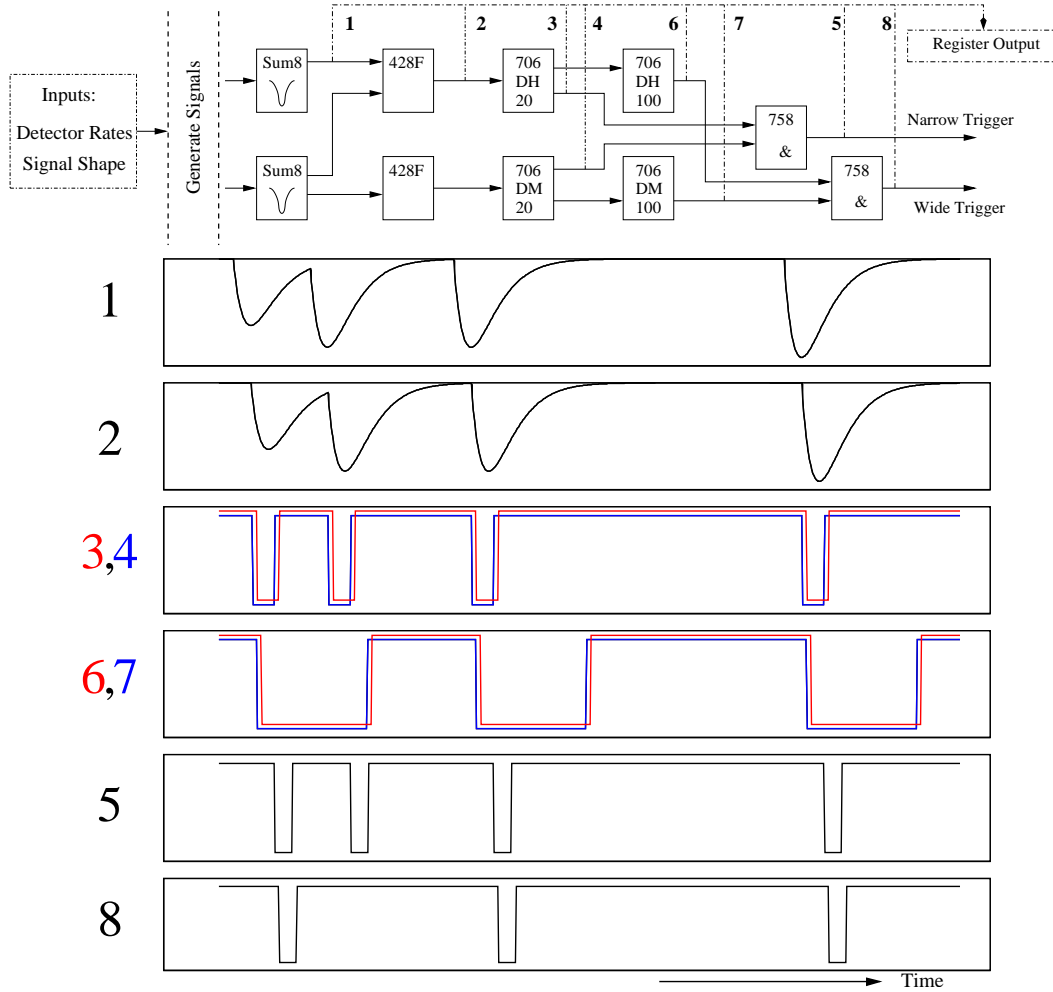


Fig. 7. [Color online] Top: A fraction of the group electron trigger. Each point corresponds to: 1 – Shower sum of the group; 2 – Total shower sum of the group; 3 – Total shower discriminator output (high threshold), narrow path; 4 – Preshower discriminator output (medium threshold), narrow path; 5 – group electron trigger, narrow path; 6 – Total shower discriminator output, wide path; 7 – Preshower discriminator output, wide path; 8 – group electron trigger, wide path. Bottom: Signals 1-8 as simulated by HATS. One can see that the second physical event is recorded by the narrow path group trigger (5) but not the wide path (8) due to deadtime loss.

## 4.2 Group Deadtime Measurement

In order to study the group deadtime, a high rate pulser signal (“tagger”) was mixed with the Cherenkov and all preshower and total shower signals using analog summing modules, see Figs. 2 and 8. In the absence of all detector signals, a tagger pulse produces without loss an electron trigger output, and a “tagger-trigger coin-

341 cidence” pulse between this output and the “delayed tagger” – the tagger itself with  
 342 an appropriate delay to account for the DAQ response time. When high-rate detec-  
 343 tor signals are present, however, some of the tagger pulses would not be able to  
 344 trigger the DAQ due to deadtime. The deadtime loss in the electron trigger output  
 345 w.r.t. the tagger input has two components:

- 346 (1) The count loss  $R_o/R_i$ : when a detector PMT signal precedes the tagger signal  
 347 by a time interval  $\delta t$  shorter than the DAQ deadtime but longer than  $w + t_1$ , the  
 348 tagger signal is lost and no coincidence output is formed. Here  $w$  is the width  
 349 of the electron trigger output and  $t_1$  is the time interval the delayed tagger  
 350 precedes the tagger’s own trigger output, see Fig. 8. During the experiment  $w$   
 351 was set to 15 ns for all groups,  $t_1$  was measured at the end of the experiment  
 352 and was found to be between 20 and 40 ns for all narrow and wide groups of  
 353 the two HRSs.
- 354 (2) The pileup fraction  $p$ : when a PMT signal precedes the tagger signal by a time  
 355 interval  $\delta t$  shorter than  $w + t_1$ , there would be coincidence output between the  
 356 delayed tagger and the electron output triggered by the detector PMT signal.  
 357 If furthermore  $\delta t$  is less than the DAQ deadtime (which is possible for this  
 358 experiment since the deadtime is expected to be as long as 100 ns for the wide  
 359 path), the tagger itself is lost due to deadtime and the tagger-trigger coinci-  
 360 dence is a false count and should be subtracted. In the case if  $\delta t$  is shorter than  
 361  $w + t_1$  but longer than the DAQ deadtime (not possible for this experiment  
 362 but could happen in general), the tagger itself also triggers a tagger-trigger  
 363 coincidence but in this case, there are two tagger-trigger coincidence events,  
 364 both are recorded by the fbTDC if working in the multi-hit mode, and one is  
 365 a false count and should be subtracted.

366 The pileup effect can be measured using the delay between the tagger-  
 367 trigger coincidence output and the input tagger. This is illustrated in Fig. 8  
 368 and the pileup effect contributes to both  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  regions of the fbTDC spec-  
 369 trum. Fractions of  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  relative to  $I_0$  are expected to be  $I_1/I_0 = Rt_1$  and  
 370  $I_2/I_0 = Rw$ , respectively, where  $R$  is the PMT signal rate. The pileup effect  
 371 was measured using fbTDC spectrum for electron narrow and wide triggers  
 372 for all groups. Data for  $I_{1,2}$  extracted from fbTDC agree very well with the  
 373 expected values.

The relative loss of tagger events due to DAQ deadtime is evaluated as

$$D = 1 - (1 - p)(R_o/R_i), \quad (3)$$

374 where  $R_i$  is the input tagger rate,  $R_o$  is the output tagger-trigger coincidence rate,  
 375 and  $p = (I_1 + I_2)/I_0$  is a correction factor for pileup effects as defined in Fig. 8.  
 376 Results for the deadtime loss  $D$  are shown in Figs. 9 and 10, for group 4 on the left  
 377 HRS and group 4 on the right HRS, respectively, and are compared with simulation.  
 378 Different beam currents between 20 and 100  $\mu\text{A}$  were used in this dedicated dead-  
 379 time measurement. In order to reduce the statistical fluctuation caused by limited

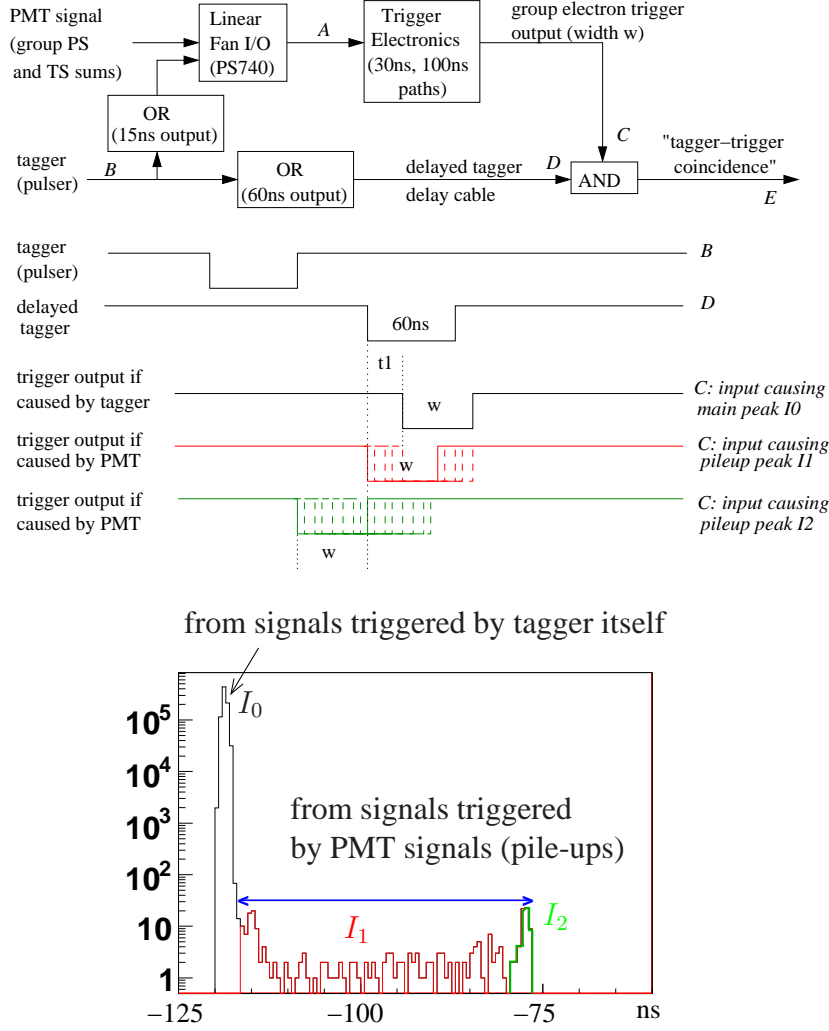


Fig. 8. [Color online] Top: schematic diagram for the tagger setup and signal timing sequence. The two logical OR units immediately following the tagger input “B” serve as width adjusters. Bottom: fbTDC spectrum for the relative timing between tagger-trigger coincidence and the input tagger, in 0.5-ns bins. The fbTDC module worked in a common stop and the multi-hit mode. Two different scenarios are shown: 1) Main peak  $I_0$ : when there is no PMT signal preceding the tagger, the tagger triggers the DAQ and forms a tagger-trigger coincidence. 2) Pileup events  $I_1$  and  $I_2$ : when there is a PMT signal preceding the tagger by a time interval shorter than  $w + t_1$ , the PMT signal triggers the DAQ and forms a tagger-trigger coincidence signal with the delayed tagger.

380 number of trials in the simulation within a realistic computing time, simulations  
 381 were done at higher rates than the actual measurement.

382 The slope of the tagger loss vs. event rate, as shown in Figs. 9 and 10, gives the  
 383 value of group deadtime in seconds. One can see that the deadtime for the wide  
 384 path is approximately 100 ns as expected. The deadtime for the narrow path, on  
 385 the other hand, is dominated by the input PMT signal width (typically 60-80 ns)

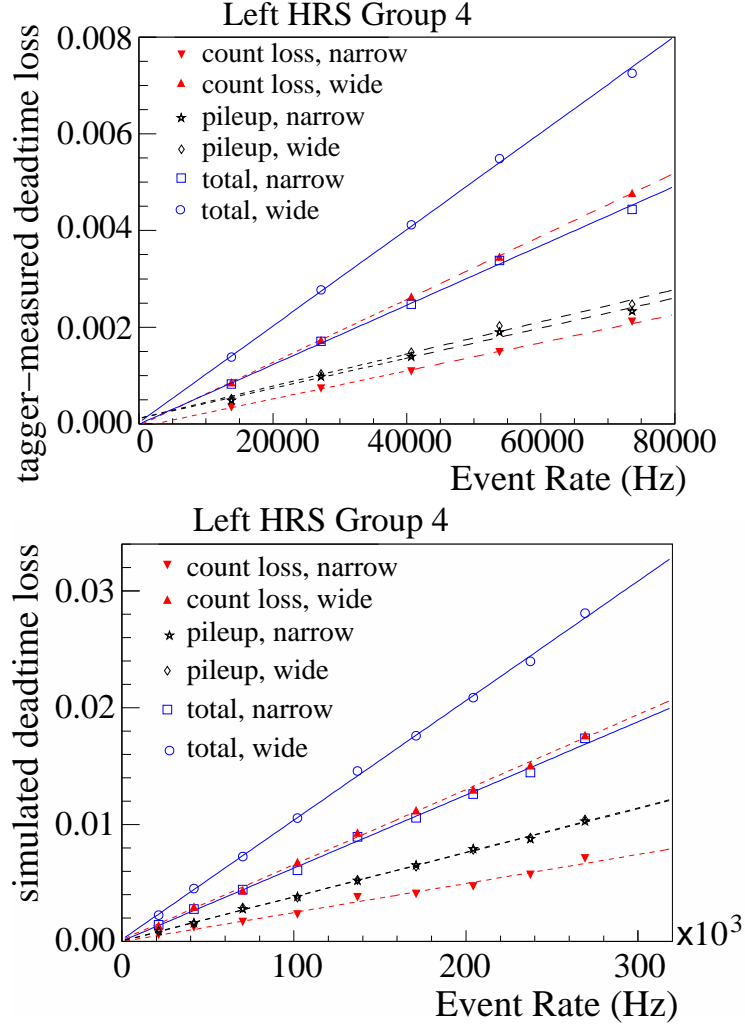


Fig. 9. [Color online] Deadtime loss in percent vs. event rate from the tagger method for group 4 on the Left HRS. Top: actual deadtime loss from tagger measurements; Bottom: simulated deadtime loss of the tagger. The tagger fractional count loss  $1 - R_o/R_i$  (red) and the pileup correction  $p$  (black) are combined to form the total group deadtime  $D$  (blue). These data were taken (or simulated) at a  $Q^2$  of  $1.1 \text{ (GeV}/c)^2$ . To minimize the statistical uncertainty while keeping the computing time reasonable, the simulation used higher event rates than the tagger measurement. The total group deadtime can be determined from the linear fit slope coefficients: tagger data narrow  $p_1 = (61.5 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-9} \text{ s}$ , wide  $p_1 = (99.9 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-9} \text{ s}$ , simulation narrow  $p_1 = (62.5 \pm 1.4) \times 10^{-9} \text{ s}$ , wide  $p_1 = (102 \pm 1.3) \times 10^{-9} \text{ s}$ . Group 4 is from the central blocks of the lead-glass detector and has the highest rate among all groups.

386 instead of the 30-ns discriminator width. The simulated group deadtime agree with  
 387 the data at a 10% level or better, for both HRSs and for both wide and narrow paths.

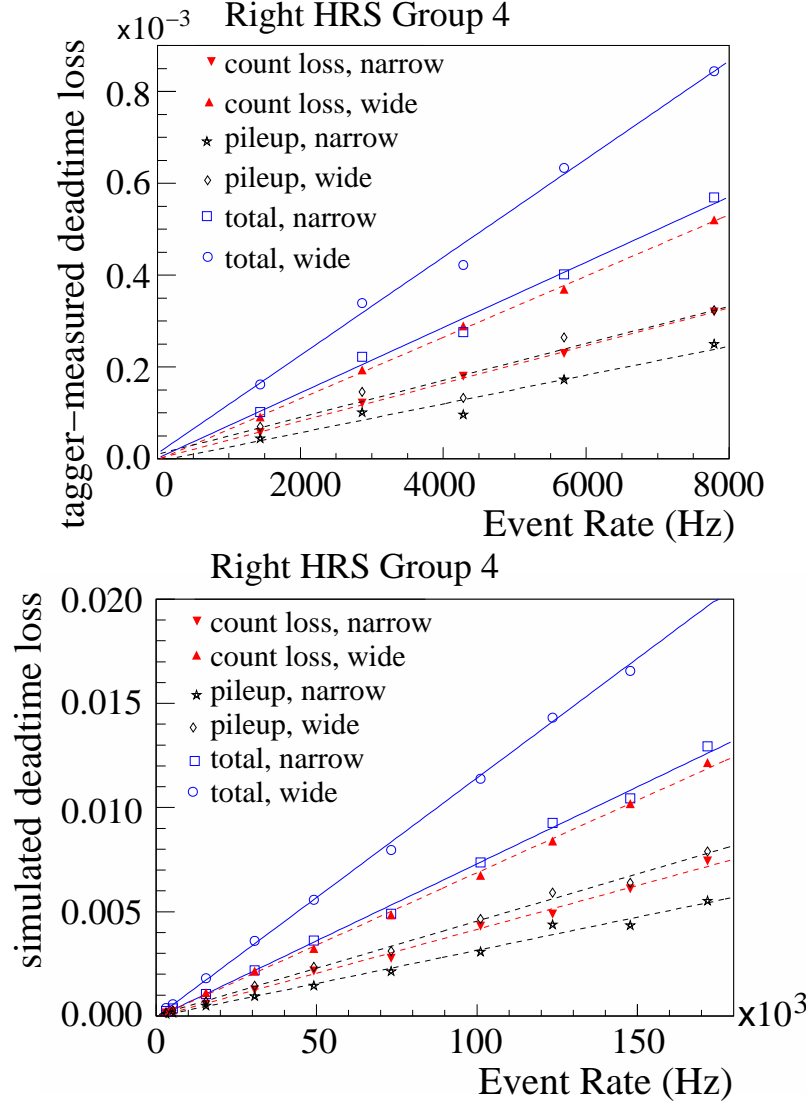


Fig. 10. [Color online] Deadtime loss in percent vs. group event rate from the tagger method for group 4 on the Right HRS. Top: tagger data; Bottom: simulation. These data were taken (or simulated) at a  $Q^2$  of 1.9 (GeV/c) $^2$ . The total group deadtime can be determined from the linear fit slope coefficient  $p_1$ : tagger data narrow  $p_1 = (71.1 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-9}$  s, wide  $p_1 = (107 \pm 1.2) \times 10^{-9}$  s, simulation narrow  $p_1 = (73.9 \pm 1.5) \times 10^{-9}$  s, wide  $p_1 = (115 \pm 1.5) \times 10^{-9}$  s. Group 4 is from the central blocks of the lead-glass detector and has the highest rate among all groups. See Fig. 9 caption for details.

### 388 4.3 Total Deadtime Evaluation

389 Although the deadtime loss of each group was measured using tagger signals, the  
 390 dominating term in the total deadtime is from the veto electronics because the trig-  
 391 ger rate from scintillators and the gas Cherenkov is much higher than the individual  
 392 lead-glass group rates. The difference in total loss between narrow and wide path  
 393 is thus smaller than that in their group deadtimes. Simulation for the veto dead-

time was compared with FADC data and the agreement was found to be at 20% level or better. After subtracting group and veto deadtimes from the total simulated deadtime, the remaining is attributed to the logical OR module. There is no direct measurement of the logical OR deadtime, but the effect of the logical OR module is quite straightforward and can be calculated analytically. The difference between the simulation and the analytic results was used to estimate the uncertainty of the OR deadtime.

The simulated deadtime loss of the global electron triggers and its decomposition into group, veto, and OR are shown in Table 3. The deadtime loss is also shown in Fig. 11 as a function of the total event rate. The deadtime corrections at an  $100\ \mu\text{A}$

Table 3

Simulated DAQ deadtime loss in percent for all kinematics and for both narrow (n) and wide (w) paths, along with the fractional contributions from group, veto, and OR deadtimes. The fractional deadtime from OR is calculated as one minus those from group and veto, and its uncertainty is estimated from the difference between simulation and the analytical results. The uncertainty of the total deadtime is the uncertainties from group, veto and OR added in quadrature.

HRS, $Q^2$ (GeV/c) <sup>2</sup>	Path	fractional contribution			Total deadtime loss at $100\ \mu\text{A}$
		Group	Veto	OR	
Left, 1.1	n	$(20.6 \pm 2.1)\%$	$(51.3 \pm 4.5)\%$	$(28.1 \pm 4.7)\%$	$(1.45 \pm 0.10)\%$
	w	$(29.5 \pm 2.4)\%$	$(45.3 \pm 4.0)\%$	$(25.3 \pm 4.6)\%$	$(1.64 \pm 0.11)\%$
Left, 1.9	n	$(5.42 \pm 0.8)\%$	$(81.1 \pm 7.1)\%$	$(13.5 \pm 7.0)\%$	$(0.50 \pm 0.05)\%$
	w	$(8.39 \pm 0.4)\%$	$(77.3 \pm 6.8)\%$	$(14.3 \pm 8.0)\%$	$(0.52 \pm 0.06)\%$
Right, 1.9	n	$(2.9 \pm 0.2)\%$	$(80.6 \pm 18.5)\%$	$(16.5 \pm 12.7)\%$	$(0.89 \pm 0.20)\%$
	w	$(4.3 \pm 0.4)\%$	$(76.6 \pm 17.5)\%$	$(19.1 \pm 15.5)\%$	$(0.93 \pm 0.22)\%$

beam current for the narrow path triggers are  $(1.45 \pm 0.13)\%$  and  $(0.89 \pm 0.20)\%$ , and for the wide path triggers are  $(1.64 \pm 0.16)\%$  and  $(0.93 \pm 0.22)\%$ , for  $Q^2 = 1.1$  and  $1.9\ (\text{GeV}/c)^2$ , respectively. These provide a direct correction to the measured asymmetry and the uncertainties are small compared to other dominant systematic uncertainties such as the beam polarization measurement. In practice, the deadtime correction is applied to data on a run by run basis with the deadtime of each run calculated using the actual beam current during the run and the linear fitting results from Fig. 11.

#### 4.4 Asymmetry Measurement

The physics asymmetries sought for in this experiment were expected to be 91 and 160 ppm, for  $Q^2 = 1.1$  and  $1.9\ (\text{GeV}/c)^2$ , respectively. The measured asymmetries

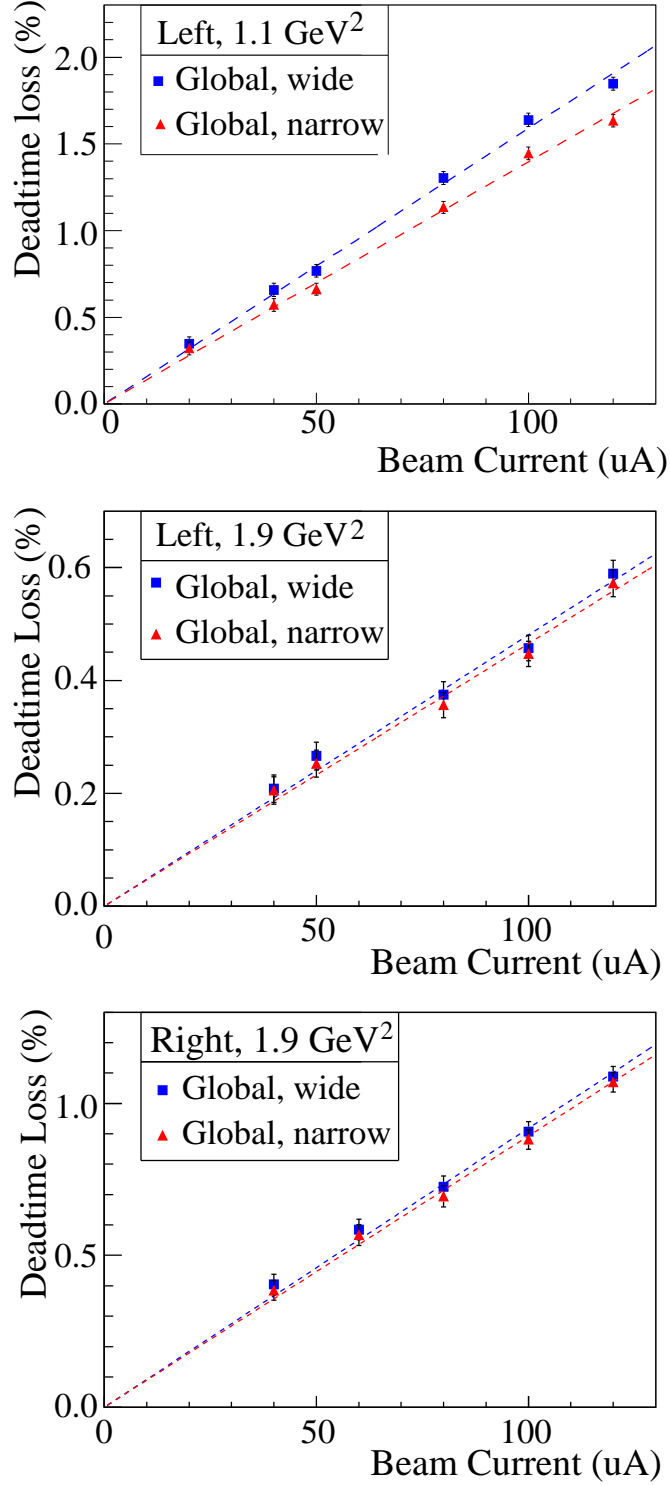


Fig. 11. [Color online] Simulated deadtime loss of the global electron trigger for the Left HRS at  $Q^2 = 1.1 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$  (top), the Left HRS at  $Q^2 = 1.9 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$  (middle), and the Right HRS at  $Q^2 = 1.9 \text{ (GeV/c)}^2$  (bottom). The error bars shown are due to statistical uncertainty of the simulation. See Table 3 for final uncertainty evaluation.

were about 90% of these values due to beam polarization. To understand the systematics of the asymmetry measurement, a half-wave plate (HWP) was inserted in the beamline to flip the laser helicity in the polarized source during half of the data taking period. The measured asymmetries flipped sign for each beam HWP change and the magnitude of the asymmetry remained consistent within statistical error bars.

The asymmetries can be formed from event counts of each beam helicity pair, with 33-ms of helicity right and 33-ms of helicity left beam, normalized by the beam charge. Figure 12 shows the pull distribution of these pair-wise asymmetries with the “pull” defined as

$$p_i \equiv (A_i - \langle A \rangle) / \delta A_i , \quad (4)$$

where  $A_i$  is the asymmetry extracted from the  $i$ -th beam helicity pair with the HWP states already corrected and  $\delta A_i = 1 / \sqrt{N_i^R + N_i^L}$  its statistical uncertainty with  $N_i^{R(L)}$  the event count from the right (left) helicity pulse of the pair, and  $\langle A \rangle$  is the asymmetry averaged over all beam pairs. One can see that the asymmetry spectrum agrees to five orders of magnitude with the Gaussian distribution, as expected from purely statistical fluctuations.

## 5 Summary

A scaler-based counting DAQ with hardware-based particle identification was successfully implemented in the 6 GeV PVDIS experiment at Jefferson Lab. Asymmetries measured by the DAQ follow Gaussian distributions as expected from purely statistical measurements. Particle identification performance of the DAQ were measured and corrections were applied to the data on a day-to-day basis. The overall pion contamination in the electron sample was controlled to approximately  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  or lower, with an electron efficiency above 91% throughout the experiment. The DAQ deadtime was evaluated from a full-scale timing simulation and contributes an approximately 0.2% uncertainty to the final asymmetry results. The systematic uncertainties from the pion contamination and the counting deadtime are therefore both negligible compared to the (3 – 4)% statistical uncertainty and other leading systematic uncertainties. Results presented here demonstrate that accurate asymmetry measurements can be performed with even higher event rates or backgrounds with this type of scaler-based DAQ.

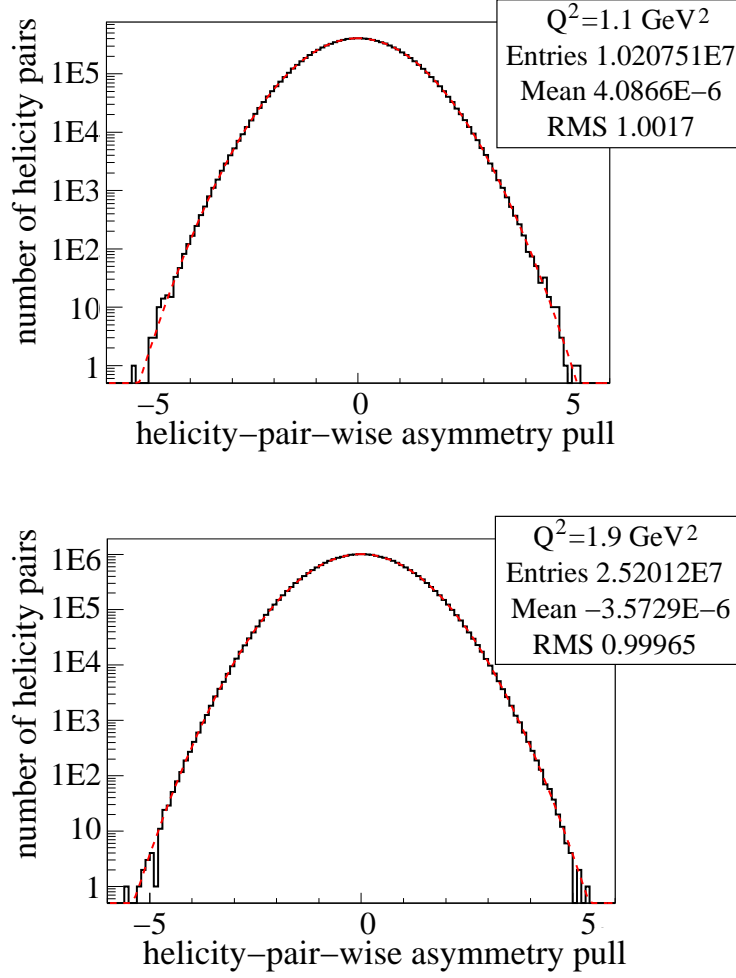


Fig. 12. [Color online] Pull distribution [Eq.(4)] for the global electron narrow trigger for  $Q^2 = 1.1$  (top) and  $Q^2 = 1.9$  (GeV/c)<sup>2</sup> (bottom).

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