Direct Measurement of the W Production Charge Asymmetry in $p\bar{p}$ Collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$ TeV

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We present the first direct measurement of the W production charge asymmetry as a function of the W boson rapidity y_W in $p\bar{p}$ collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$ TeV. We use a sample of $W \to e\nu$ events in data from 1 fb^{-1} of integrated luminosity collected using the CDF II detector. In the region $|y_W| < 3.0$, this measurement is capable of constraining the ratio of up- and down-quark momentum distributions in the proton more directly than in previous measurements of the asymmetry that are functions of the charged-lepton pseudorapidity.

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At the Fermilab Tevatron, where $p\bar{p}$ collisions are produced at $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$ TeV, $W^+(W^-)$ bosons are created primarily by the interaction of u (d) quarks from the proton and $\bar{d}$ ($\bar{u}$) quarks from the anti-proton. Since u quarks carry, on average, a higher fraction of the proton's momentum than d quarks [1, 2], the W^+ tends to be boosted along the proton beam direction and the W^- tends to be boosted along the anti-proton direction. The difference between the W^+ and W^- rapidity distributions results in a charge asymmetry

$$A(y_W) = \frac{d\sigma^+/dy_W - d\sigma^-/dy_W}{d\sigma^+/dy_W + d\sigma^-/dy_W}, \qquad (1)$$

where y_W is the W boson rapidity [3] and $d\sigma^\pm/dy_W$ is the differential cross section for W^+ or W^- boson production. The parton distribution functions (PDFs) describing the internal structure of the proton are constrained by measuring $A(y_W)$ [4].

Previous measurements [5, 6, 7, 8] of the W charge asymmetry at the Tevatron were made as a function of the pseudorapidity η [3] of the leptons from decays of $W \to l\nu_l$ ($l = e, \mu$) since the W decay involves a neutrino whose longitudinal momentum is not determined experimentally. However, the lepton charge asymmetry is a convolution of the W production charge asymmetry and the $V - A$ asymmetry from W decays. These two asymmetries tend to cancel at large pseudorapidities ($|\eta| \gtrsim 2.0$), and the convolution weakens and complicates the constraint on the proton PDFs.

In the measurement presented in this Letter, the complication is resolved by using additional information in the lepton transverse energy ($E_{\rm T}$) and the missing transverse energy ($\not\!\!E_{\rm T}$) [3] on an event-by-event basis to measure the asymmetry as a function of the $|y_W|$ instead of the lepton $|\eta|$. This new analysis technique [9] gives the first direct measurement of the W production charge asymmetry using $W \to e\nu$ decays. We use data from 1 fb^{-1} of integrated luminosity collected by the CDF II detector. The region of acceptance is $|y_W| < 3.0$, giving the new measurement an ability to improve proton PDFs determinations for $0.002 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.8$, where x is the fraction of the proton momentum carried by u- or d-type quarks. This analysis is described in detail in [10].

The CDF II detector is described in detail elsewhere [11]. What follows is a brief description of the detector components needed to identify $W \to e\nu$ events, which are characterized by large missing transverse energy ($\not\!\!E_{\rm T}$) and a track in the central drift chamber (COT) [12] or in the silicon tracking system (SVX) [13, 14] that points to a cluster of energy in the electromagnetic (EM) calorimeters [15, 16]. The SVX provides precise track measurements from eight radial layers of microstrip sensors. The COT provides additional tracking information from 96 layers of wires. Tracks are measured inside a 1.4 T solenoidal magnetic field that allows electron charge determination from the curvature of the track. The COT allows track reconstruction in the range $|\eta| \lesssim 1.6$, while the SVX extends the capability up to $|\eta| \simeq 2.8$. Outside the tracking system, EM and hadronic (HAD) calorimeters measure the energies of showering particles. The calorimeters are divided into two types: a central calorimeter with a fiducial region covering $|\eta| < 1.1$, and a forward calorimeter covering $1.2 < |\eta| < 3.5$.

We use two types of $W \to e\nu$ events, classified by the calorimeter section in which the electron is detected. The data are initially selected by an on-line event selection (trigger) system. The trigger for the central electrons requires an EM energy cluster with $E_{\rm T} > 18$ GeV and a matching track with $p_{\rm T} > 9$ GeV. The forward trigger, designed specifically for W candidates, requires an EM energy cluster with $E_{\rm T} > 20$ GeV and $\not\!\!E_{\rm T} > 15$ GeV.

For central electrons, we require off-line event selection including an isolated energy cluster in the region $|\eta| < 1.1$ with $E_{\rm T} > 25$ GeV and Iso(0.4) < 4.0 GeV. The isolation Iso(0.4) is defined as the calorimeter energy contained within a cone of radius $R = \sqrt{(\Delta\eta)^2 + (\Delta\phi)^2} = 0.4$ [3] around the electron direction excluding the energy associated with the electron. A more detailed description of the central electron selection can be found in [17]. The forward electrons are selected by requiring an isolated energy cluster with $E_{\rm T} > 20$ GeV, the ratio of energy detected in the HAD and EM calorimeters to be less than 0.05. The tracks are reconstructed using COT information in the region $|\eta| < 1.6$, while at higher $|\eta|$ tracks are reconstructed using the SVX detectors alone. In order to reduce the charge misidentification and backgrounds, additional requirements for the forward tracks are imposed such as requiring the extrapolated charged-particle position to be consistent with the position measured in the calorimeter. Candidate $W \to e\nu$ events are required to

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have exactly one $e^\pm$ as well as $\not\!\!E_{\rm T} > 25$ GeV. The final $W \to e\nu$ data sample contains 537,858 events with a central electron and 176,941 forward electron events. To evaluate the detector acceptance and resolution for $W \to e\nu$ events we use the PYTHIA [18] event generator followed by the CDF detector simulation.

We determine the neutrino's longitudinal momentum, within a two-fold ambiguity, by constraining the $e\nu$ mass to be that of the W boson. This ambiguity can be resolved on a statistical basis from the known $V - A$ decay distribution using the decay angle between the electron and the proton in the W rest frame, θ^*, and from the W^+ and W^- production cross sections as a function of W rapidity ($d\sigma^\pm/dy_W$). To do this we assign a weighting factor to the two rapidity solutions, depending on the charge of the W boson, $w^\pm_{1,2}$:

$$w^\pm_{1,2} = \frac{P_\pm(\cos\theta^*_{1,2}, y_{1,2}, p_T^W)\sigma^\pm(y_{1,2})}{P_\pm(\cos\theta^*_1, y_1, p_T^W)\sigma^\pm(y_1) + P_\pm(\cos\theta^*_2, y_2, p_T^W)\sigma^\pm(y_2)}, \tag{2}$$

where

$$P_\pm(cos\theta^*, y_W, p_T^W) = (1\mp cos\theta^*)^2 + Q(y_W, p_T^W)(1\pm cos\theta^*)^2. \tag{3}$$

The ± signs indicate the W charge and the indices 1 and 2 are for the two W rapidity solutions. The differential cross section as a function of y_W is determined using a next-to-next-to-leading order (NNLO) QCD calculation [19] using the MRST 2006 NNLO PDFs [20]. The ratio of the $(1 + \cos\theta^*)^2$ to $(1 - \cos\theta^*)^2$ angular distributions, $Q(y_W, p_T^W)$, in Eq. 3 is determined by the quark versus anti-quark composition of the proton using the event generator MC@NLO [21]. This ratio is evaluated as a function of y_W and the W transverse momentum p_T^W. Although the weighting factor given by Eq. 2 depends primarily on the W^+ and W^- cross sections, it does have some weak dependence on the input W charge asymmetry. Therefore, this method requires us to iterate the procedure to eliminate this dependence.

Correct charge identification is crucial for the measurement of the charge asymmetry measurement, because it directly affects the yield for a particular charge and y_W and is corrected for on an event-by-event basis. The charge misidentification rate (Charge MisID) is measured as a function of η using $Z \to ee$ events where both electrons are identified as having the same charge sign. The misidentification rate ranges from $(0.18 \pm 0.05)\%$ for $|\eta| < 1.1$ to $(17.26 \pm 2.02)\%$ for $|\eta| > 2.04$.

The $A(y_W)$ values are corrected for the backgrounds to $W \to e\nu$ candidates. We consider $W \to \tau\nu$, where the τ decays leptonically to an electron plus neutrinos, as contributing to the signal and is included in the overall signal acceptance. The background fractions due to $Z \to e^+e^-$ events where one of the electrons is not reconstructed and mimics a neutrino are $(0.59 \pm 0.02)\%$ for central electrons and $(0.54 \pm 0.03)\%$ for forward electrons. The small contamination from the $Z \to \tau^+\tau^-$ process is found to be $(0.10 \pm 0.01)\%$ for both central and forward electrons. The background from misidentified jets (QCD) is estimated by fitting the isolation distribution of electrons. Electrons in the calorimeter are characterized by having most of their energy deposited within an isolation cone centered on the electron, while jets may have significant energy deposits outside this cone. The QCD background fraction for central and forward electrons are $(1.21 \pm 0.21)\%$ and $(0.67 \pm 0.18)\%$, respectively.

The scale and resolution of the electromagnetic calorimeter energy and the missing transverse energy can affect the measured W rapidity and thus the asymmetry measurement. The EM calorimeter energy scale and resolution are tuned in the simulation to reproduce the $Z \to e^+e^-$ mass peak in data. The uncertainties on the energy scale and resolution for central electrons are measured to be ± 0.05% and ± 0.07%; for forward electrons they are ± 0.3% and ± 0.8%, respectively. The hadronic showering, the boson recoil-energy, and the underlying event energy of the hadronic calorimeter energy measurement play important roles in determining the $\not\!\!E_{\rm T}$. The simulation for the calorimeter deposition in $W \to e\nu$ events is tuned to provide the best possible match with data, including its dependence on η. The uncertainty on the transverse recoil energy scale is ± 0.3% and ± 1.4% for central and forward electrons, respectively.

We also investigate potential sources of a charge bias and η dependence in the kinematic and geometrical acceptance of the event (estimated with simulated data) and efficiencies of the trigger and the electron identification (measured with data). The trigger efficiencies for the central and forward electrons are measured using data from independent triggers. We find the trigger efficiencies do not depend on charge, but do depend on the η and $E_{\rm T}$ of the electron. The average trigger efficiencies for the central and forward electrons are $(96.1 \pm 1.0)\%$ and $(92.5 \pm 0.3)\%$, respectively. Electron identification and track matching efficiencies (ID) are measured in data and simulation using the $Z \to e^+e^-$ channel.

The choice of PDF sets has an effect on the shape of the $d\sigma^\pm/dy_W$ distribution, as well as on the ratio of quarks and anti-quarks in the angular decay distribution. We use the 40 CTEQ6.1 error PDF sets [22] and re-determine the $d\sigma^\pm/dy_W$ production cross section and the angular distribution of $\cos\theta^*$ for each error PDF set.

As expected, the data are found to be invariant under CP transformations $A(y_W) = -A(-y_W)$, the two sets of points are in statistical agreement, so we combine the $A(y_W)$ bins with the complementary $-A(-y_W)$ bins in order to improve the precision of this measurement. We quote the statistical combination of $A(y_W)$ with $-A(-y_W)$, using the Best Linear Unbiased Estimate (BLUE) method [23], accounting for all correlations for both positive and negative y_W bins. The statistical correlation coefficient between bins is found to be < 0.05.

TABLE I: Statistical and systematic uncertainties for the W production charge asymmetry. All values are ($\times 10^{-2}$) and show the correlated uncertainties for both positive and negative rapidities.

$\lvert y_W \rvert$	Charge MisID	Back-grounds	Energy Scale & Resolution	Recoil Model	Electron Trigger	Electron ID	PDFs	Stat.
0.0 - 0.2	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.11	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.31
0.2 - 0.4	0.01	0.09	0.04	0.22	0.08	0.07	0.08	0.32
0.4 - 0.6	0.02	0.11	0.06	0.22	0.13	0.17	0.15	0.33
0.6 - 0.8	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.34	0.14	0.30	0.22	0.32
0.8 - 1.0	0.03	0.20	0.07	0.42	0.11	0.47	0.24	0.34
1.0 - 1.2	0.04	0.18	0.08	0.33	0.09	0.69	0.27	0.38
1.2 - 1.4	0.05	0.18	0.15	0.67	0.06	0.78	0.28	0.43
1.4 - 1.6	0.04	0.14	0.14	1.10	0.04	0.85	0.28	0.50
1.6 - 1.8	0.08	0.12	0.26	0.92	0.03	0.89	0.29	0.55
1.8 - 2.05	0.22	0.13	0.31	0.82	0.06	0.80	0.34	0.62
2.05 - 2.3	0.44	0.21	0.53	0.59	0.17	0.85	0.42	0.83
2.3 - 2.6	0.45	0.19	0.62	0.40	0.27	0.86	0.50	1.10
2.6 - 3.0	0.14	0.10	0.60	0.43	0.28	0.65	0.53	2.30

Table I summarizes the statistical and systematic uncertainties on $A(|y_W|)$.

The measured asymmetry $A(|y_W|)$, which combines the positive and negative y_W bins, is shown in Fig. 1. Also shown are the predictions of a NNLO QCD calculation using the MRST 2006 NNLO PDF sets and a NLO QCD calculation using the CTEQ6.1 NLO PDF sets, which are in agreement with the measured asymmetry. Values of $A(y_W)$ and the total uncertainty for each $|y_W|$ bin are listed in Table II. Since this measurement depends on the width of the W, in particular for the highest y_W bin, the bin centers account for the W rapidity and W mass range accepted in each bin. We correct the bin centers to the value of $<|y_W|>$ (average of W^+ and W^- rapidities) for which the asymmetry is equal to the one for a fixed W mass of 80.403 GeV/c^2.

In conclusion, using a new analysis technique we report the first direct measurement of the W boson charge asymmetry from Run II of the Tevatron, using data from 1 fb^{-1} of integrated luminosity taken with the CDF II detector. Since the total uncertainties are smaller than the uncertainties coming from PDFs, as is also shown in [9], this direct measurement of the asymmetry is more sensitive to the ratio of d/u momentum distributions in the proton at high x than previous lepton charge asymmetry measurements. This result is therefore expected to improve the precision of the global PDFs fits.

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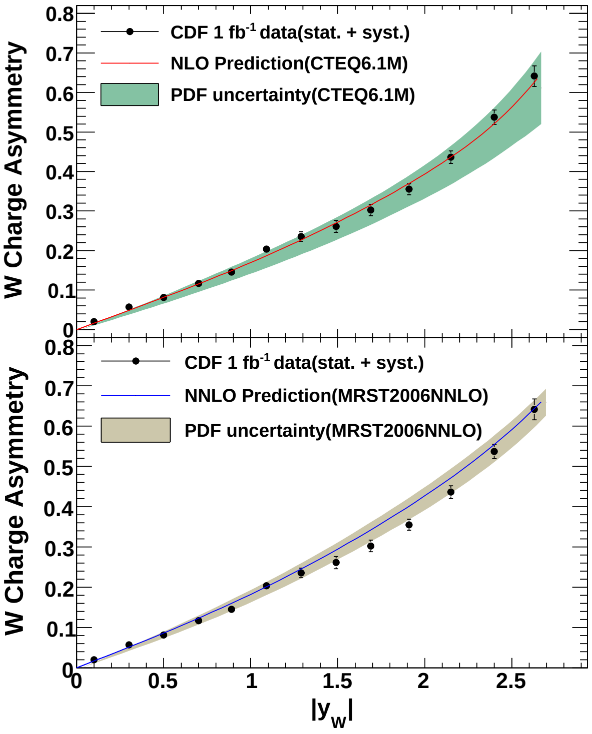

FIG. 1: The measured W production charge asymmetry and predictions from (a) NLO CTEQ6.1 and (b) NNLO MRTST2006, with their associated PDF uncertainties.

TABLE II: The W production charge asymmetry with total systematic and statistical uncertainties.

$\lvert y_W\rvert$	$< \lvert y_W\rvert >$	$A(y_W)$	σ_{sys}	$\sigma_{sys+stat}$
0.0 - 0.2	0.10	0.020	±0.001	±0.003
0.2 - 0.4	0.30	0.057	±0.003	±0.004
0.4 - 0.6	0.50	0.081	±0.004	±0.005
0.6 - 0.8	0.70	0.117	±0.006	±0.006
0.8 - 1.0	0.89	0.146	±0.007	±0.008
1.0 - 1.2	1.09	0.204	±0.008	±0.010
1.2 - 1.4	1.29	0.235	±0.011	±0.012
1.4 - 1.6	1.49	0.261	±0.014	±0.015
1.6 - 1.8	1.69	0.303	±0.014	±0.014
1.8 - 2.05	1.91	0.355	±0.013	±0.014
2.05 - 2.3	2.15	0.436	±0.013	±0.016
2.3 - 2.6	2.40	0.537	±0.014	±0.018
2.6 - 3.0	2.63	0.642	±0.012	±0.026

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