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Upgrades of the Polarized High Intensity Gamma-ray Source at Duke

CALVIN HOWELL, Duke University and TUNL

The High Intensity Gamma-ray Source ($HI\gamma S$) at the Duke Free Electron Laser Laboratory (DFELL) is operated jointly by the DFELL and the Triangle Universities Nuclear Laboratory. The gamma-ray beam is produced by Compton back scattering of UV photons off high-energy electrons circulating in the storage ring. A distinctive feature of this gamma-ray source is that the Compton scattering occurs inside the optical cavity of a FEL. The gamma-ray beam is nearly 100% polarized and its energy resolution is adjustable by collimation down to 1%. Major upgrades to the accelerators and the UV FEL at the DFELL will be completed in 2006 and 2007, respectively. These upgrades will increase the gamma-ray beam intensity and the capability for extending the energy reach of $HI\gamma S$ to slightly beyond the threshold for photoproduction of pions. The upgraded $HI\gamma S$ facility will be described and examples of proposed experiments to probe hadron structure using the beam at $HI\gamma S$ will be presented.