The CLAS Two Photon Exchange Experiment

DASUNI ADIKARAM, ROBERT BENNETT, LARRY WEINSTEIN, Old Dominion University, DIPAK RIMAL, PUNEET KHETARPAL, BRIAN RAUE, Florida International University, CLAS COLLABORATION — There is a large discrepancy between the proton electron form factor \( G_E^p(Q^2) \) measured using the Rosenbluth separation and polarization transfer methods. The most likely explanation of this discrepancy is the inclusion of two-photon exchange (TPE) amplitude contributions to the elastic electron-proton cross section. The TPE contribution can be extracted in a model-independent way from the measured ratio of the cross sections of positron-proton and electron-proton elastic scattering. This ratio was measured in Hall B at Jefferson Lab using a simultaneous mixed tertiary beam of electrons and positrons incident on a liquid hydrogen target in the center of the CLAS detector in 2010-2011. In this talk, the experimental techniques to produce \( e^+/e^- \) beam, the analysis techniques to identify the elastic scattering events, and some preliminary results will be presented.