

Abstract Submitted
for the SES11 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Møller Polarimetry for the Qweak Experiment JOSHUA MAGEE,
College of William and Mary, QWEAK COLLABORATION — The Standard Model of particle physics has been extremely successful in describing particle interactions in a wide-ranging regime of energy scales. Low-energy, parity-violating experiments enable high-precision experimental tests of Standard Model predictions. Currently, Jefferson Lab is performing one such investigation to determine the weak charge of the proton, Q_{weak} , to 4% precision using ep scattering. By making a precise measurement of the weak charge, this experiment will provide tighter constraints on some classes of “new physics” at 2 TeV or higher. To calculate the parity-violating asymmetry and determine Q_{weak} one needs precise knowledge of the incoming electron beam polarization. The Q_{weak} experiment, which is underway in Jefferson Lab’s Hall C, uses both Møller and Compton polarimetry to determine the 1 GeV beam polarization. The Hall C Møller polarimeter is particularly relevant as it uses a superconducting magnet to saturate thin, pure iron, foils out of plane. This provides precise measurements of beam polarization to within 1% uncertainty. Since the addition of the Compton device the Møller polarimeter has undergone a re-commissioning phase, followed by myriad studies to reduce the systematic errors to the 0.57% level required by Q_{weak} . A brief overview of the Hall C Møller device, followed by preliminary results of these studies and of the Spring 2011 experiment run, will be provided.

Joshua Magee
College of William and Mary

Date submitted: 24 Aug 2011

Electronic form version 1.4