## Measurement of the Momentum Spectrum of Cosmic Ray Muons at a Depth of 320 mwe

DISSERTATION zur Erlangung des akademischen Grades eines Doktors der Naturwissenschaften

> vorgelegt von M.Sc. Nadir Omar Hashim aus Mombasa-Kenia

genehmigt vom Fachbereich Physik der Universität Siegen

Siegen Juni 2007

Gutachter der Dissertation:	Prof. Dr. Claus Grupen Siegen University, Siegen
	Prof. Dr. Michael Schmelling Max-Planck-Institute for Nuclear Physics Heidelberg
Tag der mündlichen Prüfung:	22.06.2007

Gedruckt mit Unterstützung des Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienstes

Berichte aus der Physik

Nadir Omar Hashim

Measurement of the Momentum Spectrum of Cosmic Ray Muons at a Depth of 320 mwe

Gedruckt mit Unterstützung des Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienstes

Shaker Verlag Aachen 2007

## Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek

The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available in the Internet at http://dnb.d-nb.de.

Zugl.: Siegen, Univ., Diss., 2007

Copyright Shaker Verlag 2007

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publishers.

Printed in Germany.

ISBN 978-3-8322-6445-1 ISSN 0945-0963

Shaker Verlag GmbH • P.O. BOX 101818 • D-52018 Aachen Phone: 0049/2407/9596-0 • Telefax: 0049/2407/9596-9 Internet: www.shaker.de • e-mail: info@shaker.de



To my family

## Abstract

Cosmic ray muons are produced through interactions of primary cosmic radiation in the atmosphere. They are a component of extensive air showers which can also be measured underground. The CosmoALEPH experiment used the ALEPH detector at the European Centre for Particle Physics, CERN, to measure cosmic ray muon events at a depth of 320 mwe underground. Measurements of the momentum spectrum and charge ratio of the cosmic ray muons are presented in this work. The results are compared with the expectations from MC simulations based on different hadronic interaction models.

## Contents

1	Intr	roduction	1
	1.1	Cosmic Radiation	1
	1.2	Cosmic ray Muons in ALEPH	3
<b>2</b>	$\cos$	mic Ray Particles	6
	2.1	Primary and Secondary Cosmic Radiation	6
	2.2	The Cosmic Ray Energy Spectrum	7
	2.3	Cosmic Ray Muons in the Atmosphere 12	2
		2.3.1 The Flux of Cosmic Ray Muons	3
		2.3.2 The Charge Ratio of Cosmic Ray Muons	6
	2.4	Cosmic Ray Muons Underground	8
	2.5	EAS Simulation	1
3	The	e CosmoALEPH Experiment 23	5
	3.1	The ALEPH Apparatus at LEP	5
		3.1.1 The Hadron Calorimeter	8
		3.1.2 The Time Projection Chamber $\ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots 28$	8
4	Sim	ulations and Measurements 31	1
	4.1	Air Shower Simulations	1
	4.2	Detector Simulations	5
	4.3	Performance of the ALEPH TPC	8
		4.3.1 Effective Area	8
		4.3.2 Track Fitting	1
		4.3.3 Momentum Measurement	3
		4.3.4 Measurement Uncertainties	4

		4.3.5 Track Reconstruction Efficiency	47
	4.4	Trigger Efficiency of the HCAL	50
<b>5</b>	Unf	olding Experimental Data	56
	5.1	Formulation of the Unfolding Problem	56
	5.2	Techniques to Unfold Data	57
		5.2.1 Correction Factors	57
		5.2.2 Regularisation	58
		5.2.3 Reduced Cross Entropy	58
		5.2.4 Bayesian Unfolding	59
	5.3	Test of the Algorithms to Unfold Data	60
6	Mo	mentum Spectrum and Charge Batio	64
Ŭ	6.1	Calculation of the Muon Flux	64
	6.2	Evaluation of the Uncertainties	67
	6.3	The Momentum Spectrum	71
	6.4	The Charge Batio	71
	0.4 6 5	Comparisons with MC Simulations	77
	0.0		( (
7	Cor	clusions and Outlook	83
Acknowledgements 85			85
$\mathbf{Li}$	List of Figures		
Li	List of Tables		
8	App	pendices	89
Bi	bliog	graphy	93