# An Overview of Diffractive Photon+Jet Production at the ATLAS Detector

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	- ▶ idea: continue these amplitudes to complex values of angular momentum,
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- ▶ Which was the case at low energies , but clearly not true at higher ones.





#### Regge Theory and Pomeron Concept

Regge theory studies the analytical properties of scattering. By expanding the partial wave equation to imaginary angular momentum is possible to build (Regge) trajectories which contain all bound states. For the case of Yukawa potential.

 $\alpha_R(t) = \alpha_R(0) + \alpha'_R(0)t$ 

- ▶ The Reggeon object, which is what is exchanged, is a mixture of all the resonances in the trajectory. It predicts a descending cross-section with increase of centre-of-mass energy.
- ▶ Pomeron trajectory is introduced, which produces a cross-section that increases logarithmically with energy.



Figure: Selected Regge trajectories. On the dashed line Pomeron trajectory, with  $\alpha(0) \sim 1.1$ . Extracted from [\[3](#page-19-0)]

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# Diffraction at the LHC

- ▶ Diffraction in high energy physics is referred to as events governed by the mechanism of colourless exchange of vacuum quantum numbers:
	- ▶ Photon in case of electromagnetic and
	- ▶ Pomeron for strong interactions.

▶ The Pomeron trajectory does not hold any known resonance:

- ▶ its actual structure is as yet unknown,
- $\blacktriangleright$  the simplest possibility being a two-gluon glueball (+h.o. contributions).



internal structure

- ▶ Main signatures are the presence of a large rapidity gap devoid of particles, that can be destroyed by further interactions, and protons scattered at very small angles  $(\mu rad)$
- $\blacktriangleright$  Generally soft, low transverse momentum  $p_T$  transfer, makes them intractable by perturbation methods. Need for effective theories.

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- ▶ Silicon Tracker (SiT): A set of four planes in each Roman Pot (RP) station.
	- $\blacktriangleright$  50 x 250  $\mu$ m pixel size.
	- $\blacktriangleright$  Planes tilted 14 $\degree$  to improve resolution.
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- $\triangleright$  Time-of-flight (ToF): Designed to measure the primary vertex z-coordinate.
	- ▶ Installed only in the FAR stations.
	- $\blacktriangleright$  Composed of a 4 x 4 matrix of quartz bars, L-shaped and rotated 48° with respect to the LHC beam.

#### Acceptance

The proton trajectory depends on:

- ▶ The energy loss on the interaction  $\xi = 1 \frac{E_{proton}}{E_{beam}}$ .
- $\blacktriangleright$  The transverse momentum  $p_T$  at Interaction Point 1 (IP1).



Figure: AFP measures displacement, which is related to mass of the central system.

Acceptance of the detector limited by collimator apertures and beam-detector distance.

# Double Pomeron Exchange Photon+Jet Production

- ▶ Analogically to the proton internal structure, Pomeron might be a quite complicated object:
	- ▶ gluonic structure can be probed by looking at properties of events coming from gluon-gluon interactions, e.g. studies of Double Pomeron Exchange Jet Production (top diagram),
	- $\triangleright$  quark structure can be studied using processes like DPE  $\nu$ +jet (see middle diagram) or DPE  $W$  production (bottom diag.).
- $\triangleright$  DPE  $\gamma$ +jet production signature:
	- ▶ both protons exchange a Pomeron, remaining intact,
	- ▶ one Pomeron emits a gluon and takes a quark from the other, generating a photon and a jet,
	- ▶ intact protons might be later destroyed by further soft interactions; this is modelled by a gap survival probability, which is expected to be of about 0.03 for DPE processes at the LHC energies.
- ▶ Quark composition can be studied by measuring the ratio of DPE  $\nu$  + jet to DPE JJ:





#### Pomeron Quark Content: Observables

- ▶ Top right: ratio of DPE  $\gamma$ +jet to DPE JJ as a function of  $p_T$ . Color lines represent various assumption of  $d/u$  ratio in the Pomeron.
- ▶ Bottom: distribution of diffractive  $\text{mass } M = \sqrt{\xi_1 \xi_2} s$ .  $\xi_{1,2}$  denotes energy lost by protons for various assumption of  $d/s$  (left) and  $d/u$ (right) ratio in the Pomeron.

 $d = u$ .  $u + d + s = const$ 

 $0.015 < \xi < 0.15$ 

ret<sub>/dMIdo</sub>

ł

 $2e-04$ 

600 800 1000 1200 1400 1600

 $-d/s = 0.25$ 

 $-4$  d/s = 0.5

 $-$  d/s = 1

 $d/s = 2$ 

 $d/s = 4$ 

1800 M(GeV)



# Backgrounds and Time of Flight detector

▶ Cross sections are expected to be low, while production of single diffraction protons is around 10% of the total  $\rightarrow$  High probability coincidental fake double tag events.

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- ▶ Need to operate at regimes with low number of interaction per bunch crossing (low  $\mu$ )  $\rightarrow$  Need longer times to accumulate enough luminosity.
- ▶ ToF times the arrival of the protons, which allows to reconstruct the longitudinal position of the event. Comparing with information of the central detectors permits to reject background events.





#### Datasets for SD and DPE  $\gamma$ +jet

# **Run** 2 (tables taken from SD JJ analysis):<br>Table 5.1: An overview of 2017 low- $\mu$  runs with integrated luminosity from LBs passing the

GRL requirements separate for protons on the ATLAS A and C sides.





Run 3:

$$
\begin{aligned}\n&\blacktriangleright \mu \sim 1: \\
&\blacktriangleright \ 455818 \approx 230 \text{ nb}^{-1},\n\end{aligned}
$$

- $\blacktriangleright$   $u \sim 0.2$ :
	- ▶  $455818 \approx 35 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ ,
- $\blacktriangleright$   $\mu \sim 0.05$ :
	- ▶  $428770 \approx 34 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ ,
	- ▶  $455818 \approx 20 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ ,
	- ▶  $455838 \approx 43 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ ,
- $▶ μ ~ 0.02$  (higher  $\xi_{min}$ ):
	- ▶  $435229 \approx 155 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ , ▶  $435333 \approx 15 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ ,
- $\blacktriangleright$   $\mu \sim 0.005$ :
	- ▶  $427929 \approx 0.46 \text{ nb}^{-1}$ ,
- $▶ \mu \sim 0.005$  (low-B):
	- ▶ 460348  $\approx 1.75$  nb<sup>-1</sup>.

#### Summary

- $\triangleright$  Diffraction in high energy physics, characterized by large rapidity gaps and presence of forward protons, can be studied using data collected by ATLAS Roman Pots.
- $\triangleright$  Double Pomeron Exchange  $\gamma$  + jet production offers a probe in the quark content of the Pomeron; note that by using ratio to DPE JJ, the impact of gap survival will be effectively cancelled out.
	- $\blacktriangleright$  cross-section determination.
	- $\blacktriangleright$  if enough statistics quark structure of Pomeron.
- $\triangleright$  Not enough data to see the evidence of DPE  $\gamma$ +jet in Run 3:
	- $\rightarrow$  pp reference run may be a nice opportunity to make such measurement at  $\sqrt{s}$  = 5.36 TeV,
	- ▶ Run 2,  $\sqrt{s}$  = 13 TeV, 2017,  $\mu \sim 2$  data-sets to be investigated.
	- ▶ measurement at  $\sqrt{s}$  = 13.6 TeV would require a few days of low- $\mu$  run.

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# Backup

# Digression: Why "Diffraction"?



- ▶ 'Diffraction' in optics:
	- $\blacktriangleright$  light with wavelength of  $\lambda$  is shining on black disc with radius  $R_0$ ,
	- $\blacktriangleright$  distant screen characteristic 'diffractive' pattern:
		- $\triangleright$  large forward peak for scattering angle  $\theta = 0$ .
		- ▶ series of symmetric minima and maxima, with the first minimum at  $\theta_{min} \simeq \pm \lambda/(2R_0)$ ,
	- $\blacktriangleright$  intensity as a function of scattering angle:

$$
\frac{I(\theta)}{I(\theta=0)} = \frac{[2J_1(x)]^2}{x^2} \simeq 1 - \frac{R_0^2}{4}(k\theta)2
$$

- $\blacktriangleright$   $I_1$  is the Bessel function of the first order,
- $\blacktriangleright\;\; x = kR_0\sin\theta \simeq kR_0\theta$  with  $k=2\pi/\lambda.$
- ▶ diffraction pattern is related to the size of the target and to the wavelength of the light beam.

▶ Differential cross-section for  $pp \rightarrow pp$ :

 $\frac{\frac{d\sigma}{dt}(t)}{\frac{d\sigma}{dt}(t=0)} \simeq e^{-b|t|} \simeq 1 - b(P\theta)^2$ 

- ►  $|t| \approx (P\theta)^2$  absolute value of the squared four-momentum transfer,
- $\blacktriangleright$   $\emph{P}$  is the incident proton momentum,
- $\blacktriangleright$   $\theta$  is the scattering angle,
- $\blacktriangleright$   $b = R^2/4$ , where  $\overline{R}$  is related to the target size,

▶ Data: a dip followed by a secondary maximum.

 $\triangleright$  Similar t distributions observed for other reactions  $\rightarrow$  diffractive processes. 14/15

# A NEAR, Cluster Reco. Efficiency (2022)



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