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Hunting for QCD Instantons at the LHC in the forward proton mode

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We discuss the current status of the ongoing project on searches for the QCD instantons at hadron colliders in events with large rapidity gaps. These gaps in rapidity are formed by either Pomeron or photon exchanges or a combination of the two. We computed for the first time the relevant differential cross-sections for a complete set of instanton production in single diffraction and CEP processes at the LHC, including gluon-induced and quark-induced amplitudes, and also show that the largest contribution to CEP comes from processes with Pomeron exchanges where a single gluon from each Pomeron couples to the instanton.

A strategy of how to search for QCD instantons of invariant mass 20 - 60 GeV in diffractive events at the LHC is outlined. By imposing appropriate cuts on final states in SD, it is expected that we can select the kinematical region where the Instanton signal exceeds the SM background by at least 2.5.

The rate is expected to be large enough to measure Instanton production at the LHC in the events with a single tag at low Luminosity.

The work is still very much in progress.

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