

PDF Uncertainty Reduction for High-Mass Searches at the LHC using the ATLAS Detector









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https://arxiv.org/abs/1308.5874



https://arxiv.org/abs/1207.7214



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- A high mass discovery would therefore likely proceed differently than many discoveries in the past, facing different challenges.
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(Above) PDF eigen-vector variation and PDF choice uncertainty (%)

 Resonance Searches: theory uncertainties reduce sensitivity but mainly hamper efforts to distinguish between models.



Figure 2. The results for $pp \to Z' \to e^-e^+$ with dielectron invariant mass from 2.8–3.2 TeV. Left panel: $\Delta \chi^2 = 1$ contours for the fitted width versus mass for the LHC at 300 fb⁻¹ and 3000 fb⁻¹. Right panel: $\Delta \chi^2 = 4$ contours of the simulated forward-asymmetry versus the cross section.

https://arxiv.org/abs/1308.2738

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- Re-discovered that the LHC is a very good: up anti-up quark collider!
- A careful selection of data at low mass (where no signal is expected) could be used to constrain the high-mass PDF uncertainties.





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Some Remaining Questions

- This was a study using Neutral-Current Drell-Yan, what about Charge-Current?
 - Yao has been working on this over the last few months!
 - Appears that the W+/W- indeed has something further to add.
- For the non-resonant searches: at what level of theory uncertainty or integrated luminosity from the LHC do we lose sensitivity completely?
 - Starting to look into this now (grads can get involved too!)
 - Once we establish the above, how much does this theory uncertainty reduction method help? What happens if you push the reduction even further?