

# Inclusive quarkonium photoproduction in ultra-peripheral collisions

Kate Lynch

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& Ronan McNulty (UCD)

Quarkonia as Tools, Aussois 2024

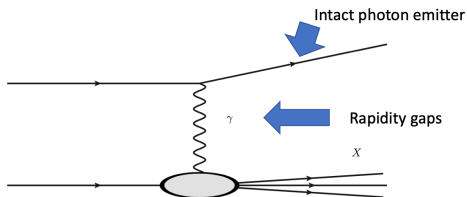


This project is supported by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant agreement no. 824093



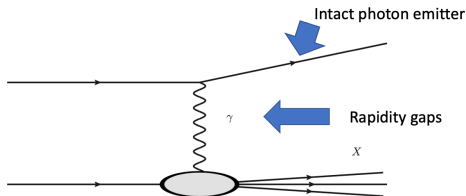
# Photoproduction

- Accelerated charged particles emit photons resulting in photon-induced interactions



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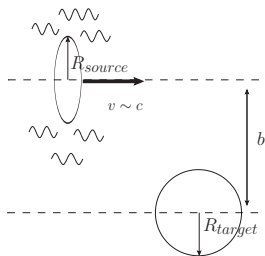
- Photoproduction on a proton is usually studied in  $e - p$  colliders
- However, the LHC is an excellent source of photons
- While  $e - p$  collisions offer a clean photoproduction environment (not the case at the LHC) the LHC offers some important advantages for photoproduction studies...
  - increased statistical precision
  - increased centre-of-mass energy range
  - extension to photon-ion studies

# Photoproduction @ the LHC

The LHC is a rich hadronic environment, and so, **Ultra Peripheral Collisions** are used as a photoproduction selecting criteria

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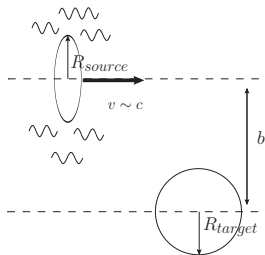


**UPC:** interaction mediated over distances larger than charge radius ( $b > R_{source} + R_{target}$ ), where electromagnetic exchange is dominant

- Fewer particles than in hadronic interactions (**rapidity gaps**)
- Coherent emission: wavelength of emitted photon is larger than charge radius of emitting object, therefore  **$\gamma$ -emitter remains intact.**

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- The photon energy observed by the target particle,

$$E_{\gamma}^{max.} = \frac{\hbar c}{(\lambda^{min.} = b_{min})} \times \left( \gamma_L \simeq \frac{S_{NN}}{2m_N^2} \right),$$

is highly boosted resulting in extremely large  $W_{\gamma N}$  at the LHC:

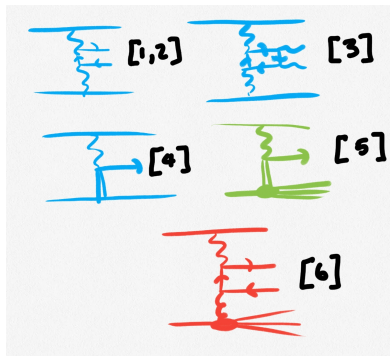
$$pp @ \sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV} \rightarrow W_{\gamma p}^{max} \approx 5 \text{ TeV}; \quad pPb @ \sqrt{S_{NN}} = 8.16 \text{ TeV} \rightarrow W_{\gamma p}^{max} \approx 1.5 \text{ TeV}$$

- Compared to energies available at  $e - p$  colliders:

$$\sqrt{s_{ep}^{HERA}} = 320 \text{ GeV}; \quad \sqrt{s_{ep}^{EIC}} = 45 - 140 \text{ GeV}$$

# Photoproduction via UPC @ the LHC

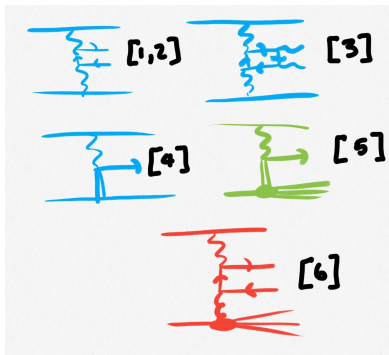
- Focus of UPCs @ LHC has been on **exclusive processes** (fully determined final state) [1–4]
- However, recently there have been studies of more inclusive processes (**not** fully determined final state) ... **diffractive quarkonium photoproduction with nuclear break up** [5], **inclusive photoproduced dijets** [6]
- Note that quarkonium photoproduction has newly been studied in peripheral collisions in AA at low  $p_T$  ALICE, PLB 846 (2023) 137467; LHCb, PRC 105 (2022) L032201 [see talk of Adam]



- [1] **Exclusive dijet**: CMS, PRL 131 (2023) 5, 051901
- [2] **Exclusive dilepton**: ATLAS, PRC 104 (2021) 024906, PLB 777 (2018) 303-323, PLB 749 (2015) 242-261; CMS, JHEP 01 (2012) 052
- [3] **Light-by-light scattering**: ATLAS, APPA 139 (2021) 422-425; CMS, PLB 797 (2019) 134826
- [4] **Exclusive quarkonium**: ALICE, EPJC 79 (5) (2019) 402, PRL 113 (23) 232504; LHCb, JHEP 06 (2023) 146, JPG 40 (2013) 045001, JHEP 10 (2018) 167
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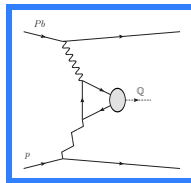
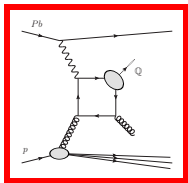
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No LHC measurement of inclusive quarkonium photoproduction!



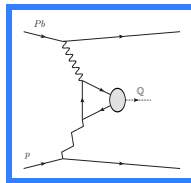
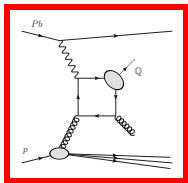
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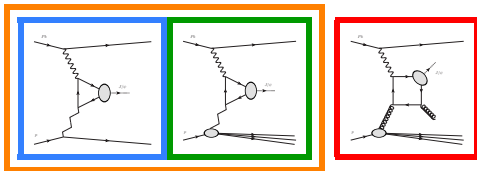


- Photoproduction processes are in general simpler than hadroproduction, however, resolved-photon interactions introduce the photon PDF **direct and resolved photons**



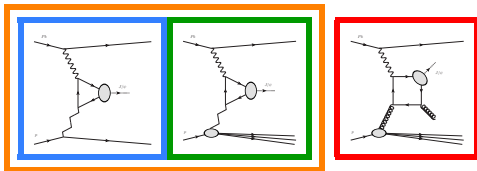
- It is possible to select a kinematic region (in terms of  $W_{\gamma p}$  and  $z = P_p \cdot P_\psi / P_p \cdot P_\gamma$ ) where the resolved-photon contribution is minimised [later]

# Existing $J/\psi$ photoproduction measurements from HERA



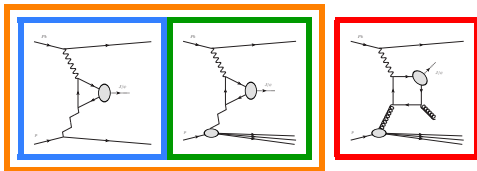
- Data exists for **diffractive** (**exclusive** and **proton-disassociative**) & **inclusive** photoproduction @ HERA  $\sqrt{s} = 320$  GeV

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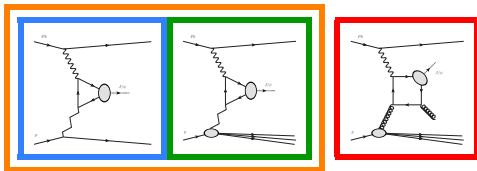
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- Different contributions separated using experimental cuts ...
  - **Diffractive region**:  $p_T < 1$  GeV  $z > 0.9$   
additional constraints on activity separate **exclusive** and **proton-disassociative**
  - **Inclusive region**:  $p_T > 1$  GeV  $z < 0.9$

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We propose **inclusive photoproduction** is measured at the LHC; opportunity to extend  $p_T$ - &  $W_{\gamma p}$ -reach, capture a variety of quarkonium species & improve statistical accuracy of existing data

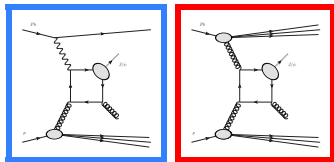
# Inclusive photoproduction in $p$ -Pb collisions at the LHC

$p$ -Pb is the ideal system since at the LHC since:

- **no ambiguity** as to which beam particle emits the photon [ $p$ - $p$  or  $Pb$ - $Pb$ ]
- **less hadronic activity** than in  $Pb$ - $Pb$

Photoproduction is suppressed by a factor of  $\alpha/\alpha_s$  with respect to **hadroproduction**;

$$\sigma_{had.} \gg \sigma_{photo.}$$



- In  $p$ -Pb the relative size of these contributions is strongly rapidity-dependent
- In order to make a measurement we must be able to significantly reduce the **hadroproduction** contribution **background**

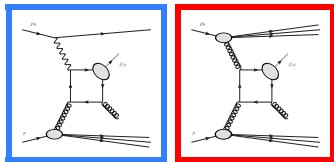
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- In this work we assess the feasibility of measuring **inclusive photoproduction** at the LHC in **proton-lead** collisions



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- 1 Set-up, tuning, and validation
- 2 Reducing background
  - Method I: far-forward activity
  - Method II: forward activity
  - Method III: central activity
- 3 Reconstructing kinematics

# Set-up: generating samples

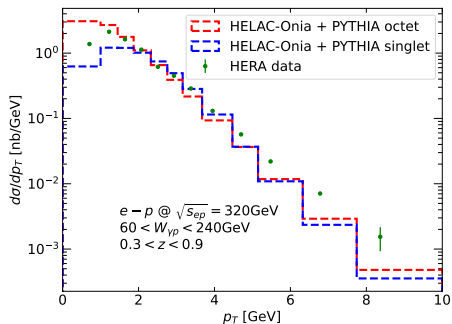
Comput.Phys.Commun. 184 (2013) 2562-2570

- Use MC samples generated by **HELAC-Onia** in the NRQCD framework to model the **photoproduction** and **hadroproduction**
  - Signal  $[\gamma g \rightarrow J/\psi(^3S_1^1)g]$  and  $[\gamma g \rightarrow J/\psi(^1S_0^8)g]$
  - Background  $[gg \rightarrow J/\psi(^3S_1^1)g]$  and  $[gg \rightarrow J/\psi(^3S_1^8)g]$
- Use **PYTHIA** to shower partonic events
- The  $p_T$  distribution is not well described by **leading order NRQCD** or **leading order NRQCD + Parton shower**
- Perform a tune of **leading order NRQCD + Parton shower** MC to experimental data to correctly describe the  $p_T$  shape
  - **photoproduction signal** H1  $ep$  320 GeV data  
**10.1140/epjc/s10052-010-1376-5; 10.1007/s10052-002-1009-8**
  - **hadroproduction background** LHCb 5 TeV  $pp$  data  
**10.1007/JHEP11(2021)181**

# Tuning: photoproduction signal

Tune MC to HERA data @  $\sqrt{s} = 320$  GeV;

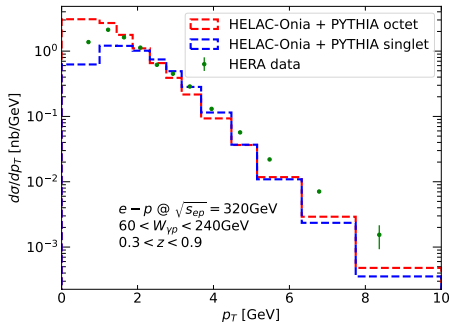
- $60 < W_{\gamma p} < 240$  GeV
- $0.3 < z < 0.9$



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Tune MC to HERA data @  $\sqrt{s} = 320$  GeV;

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**Note:** The octet cross-section is divergent for  $p_T \rightarrow 0$ ; a  $p_T$  cut is placed on the octet at the level of the matrix element; the bin  $p_T < 1$  GeV is filled by the Parton Shower.

Tune factors for **octet** and **singlet**  
**HELAC-Onia + PYTHIA** to HERA data:

$p_T$ bin [GeV]	$(^1S_0^{(8)})$	$(^3S_1^{(1)})$
$0.0 < p_T < 1.0$	0.45	2.20
$1.0 < p_T < 1.45$	0.79	1.75
$1.45 < p_T < 1.87$	0.92	1.35
$1.87 < p_T < 2.32$	1.03	1.11
$2.32 < p_T < 2.76$	0.94	0.83
$2.76 < p_T < 3.16$	1.16	0.91
$3.16 < p_T < 3.67$	1.33	1.01
$3.67 < p_T < 4.47$	1.40	1.14
$4.47 < p_T < 5.15$	1.56	1.54
$5.15 < p_T < 6.32$	1.87	2.01
$6.32 < p_T < 7.75$	2.43	3.02
$7.75 < p_T < 10.0$	3.21	4.34
$p_T > 10.0$	$\frac{0.37}{[\text{GeV}]} \cdot p_T$	$\frac{0.06}{[\text{GeV}]^2} \cdot p_T^2$

# Tune and validation: hadroproduction background

Assumptions:

- 1 Tuning is  $y$  independent
- 2 Tuning is  $\sqrt{s}$  independent

Singlet and octet HELAC-Onia + PYTHIA

tune factors to rapidity integrated data  
(LHCb data @ 5 TeV):

$p_T$ bin [GeV]	$(^3S_1^{(1)})$	$(^3S_1^{(8)})$
$0.0 < p_T < 1.0$	1.71	0.27
$1.0 < p_T < 2.0$	1.45	0.64
$2.0 < p_T < 3.0$	1.37	0.95
$3.0 < p_T < 4.0$	1.58	1.11
$4.0 < p_T < 5.0$	2.42	1.17
$5.0 < p_T < 6.0$	4.47	1.15
$6.0 < p_T < 7.0$	8.49	1.16
$7.0 < p_T < 8.0$	14.61	1.12
$8.0 < p_T < 10.0$	26.93	1.04
$10.0 < p_T < 14.0$	53.44	0.96
$14.0 < p_T < 20.0$	116.4	0.88

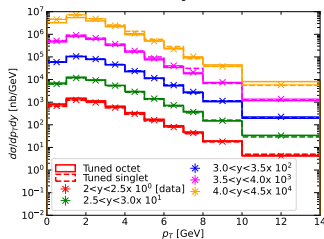
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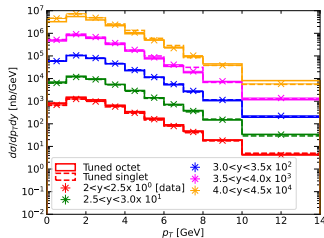
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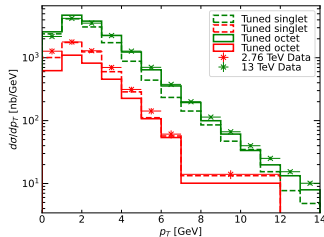
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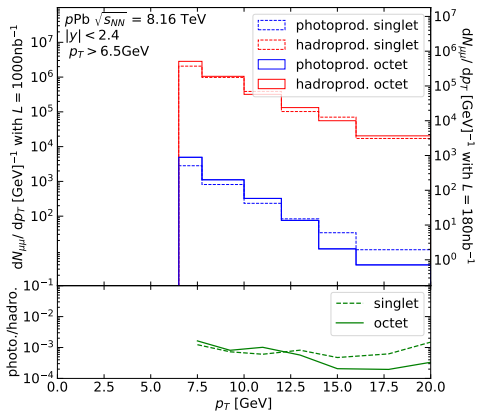
Validation 2: tune vs. 13- and 2.76 TeV data.



Note: the  $p_T < 1$  GeV bin for the octet is filled only by the Parton Shower.

# Results: $p_T$ distributions and yields

CMS-like detector

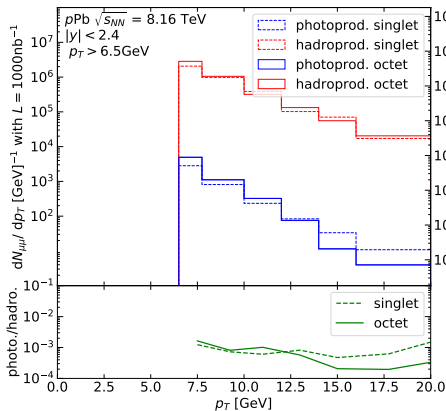


Yield: Run 2  $\mathcal{O}(10^3)$ ; Run 3+4  $\mathcal{O}(10^4)$



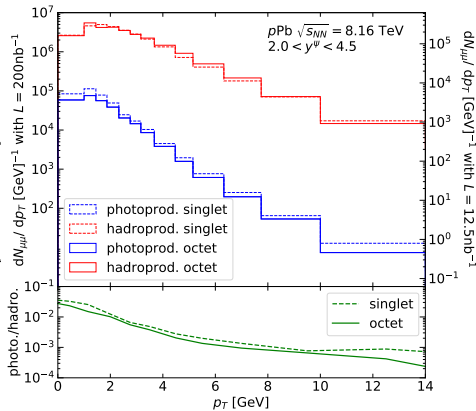
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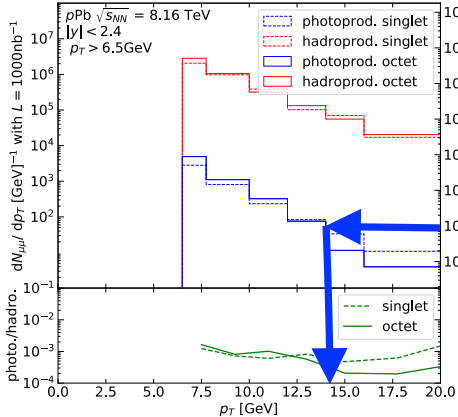
## LHCb-like detector



Run 2  $\mathcal{O}(10^3 - 10^4)$ ; Run 3+4  $\mathcal{O}(10^4 - 10^5)$

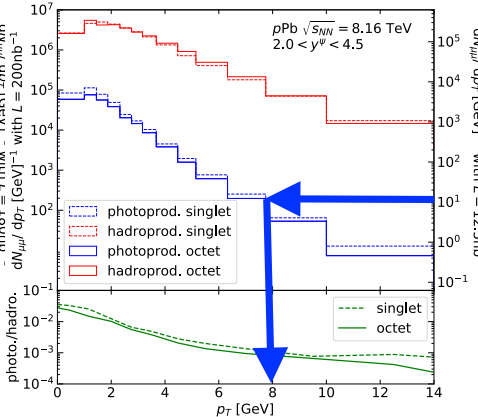
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## CMS-like detector



Yield: Run 2  $\mathcal{O}(10^3)$ ; Run 3+4  $\mathcal{O}(10^4)$   
 $p_T$  reach with Run 2 luminosity: 14 GeV

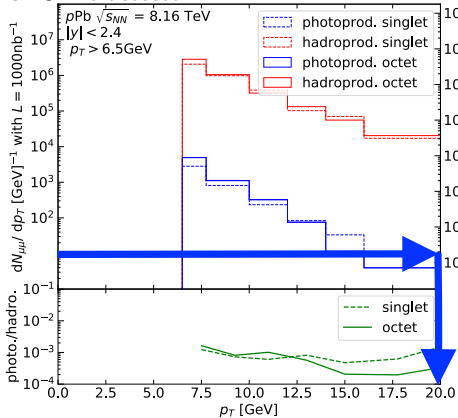
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Run 2  $\mathcal{O}(10^3 - 10^4)$ ; Run 3+4  $\mathcal{O}(10^4 - 10^5)$   
 8 GeV

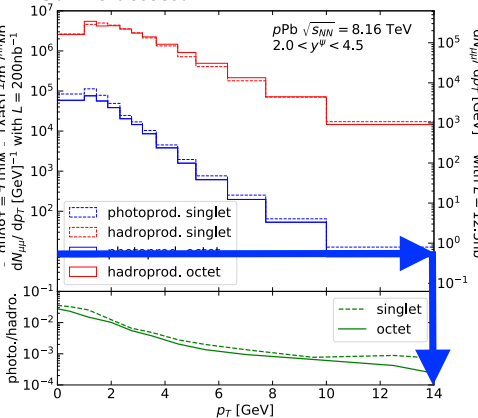
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Yield: Run 2  $\mathcal{O}(10^3)$ ; Run 3+4  $\mathcal{O}(10^4)$   
 $p_T$  reach with Run 3+4 luminosity: 20 GeV

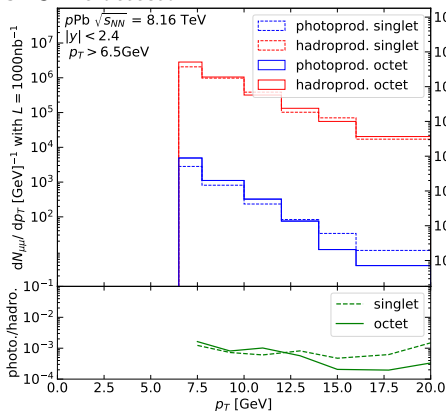
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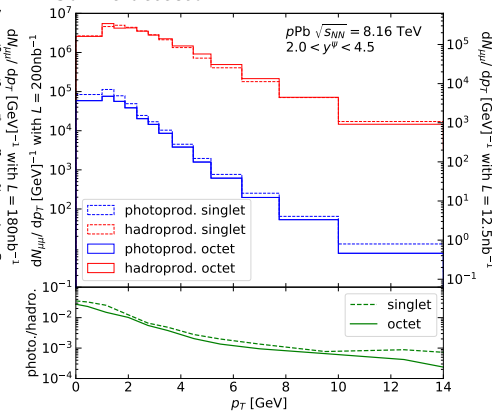
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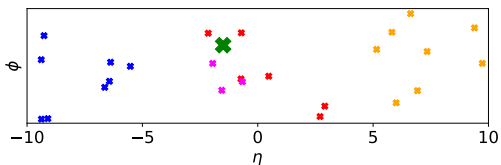
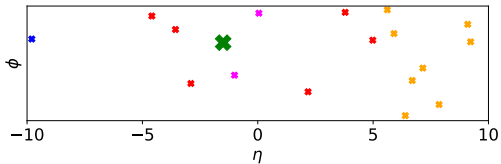
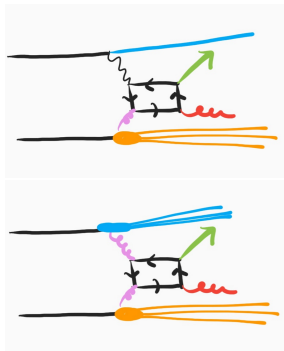
Run 2  $\mathcal{O}(10^3 - 10^4)$ ; Run 3+4  $\mathcal{O}(10^4 - 10^5)$

- **Hadroproduced**  $J/\psi$  have a flatter  $p_T$  distribution than **photoproduced**  $J/\psi$ ;  
background reduction becomes more critical at larger  $p_T$

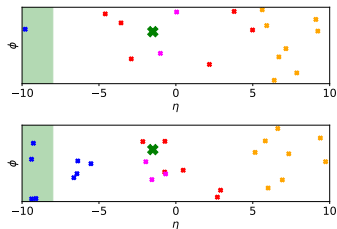
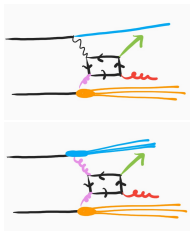
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# Background reducing techniques



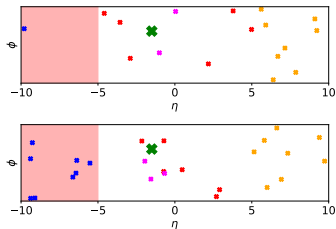
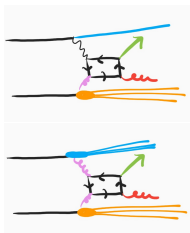
# Background reducing techniques



**Method I:** far-forward activity with **zero-degree calorimeter**

- detector close to the beam pipe ( $|\eta| \gtrsim 8$ ) sensitive to **neutral particles** installed at ALICE, ATLAS, and CMS
- Photoproduction events identified with **no signal** in ZDC

# Background reducing techniques



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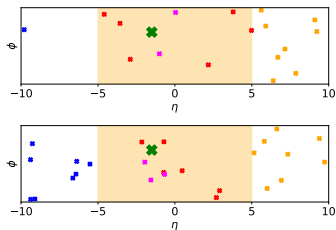
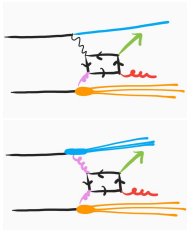
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- forward scintillator sensitive to charged particle activity in the region  $5 < |\eta| < 10$  installed at LHCb for Run 2
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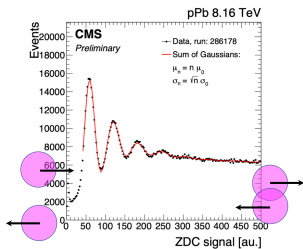
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## Method III: central activity in the main detectors

- distribute events according to distance in rapidity between main detector on photon-going side and closet particle activity ( $-5 \lesssim \eta \lesssim 5$ )
- Photoproduction events identified with **large rapidity gaps**

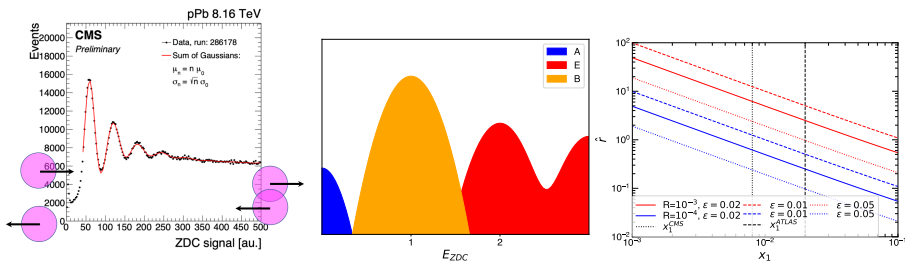
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We estimate the background reducing potential of the ZDC in a data driven way.

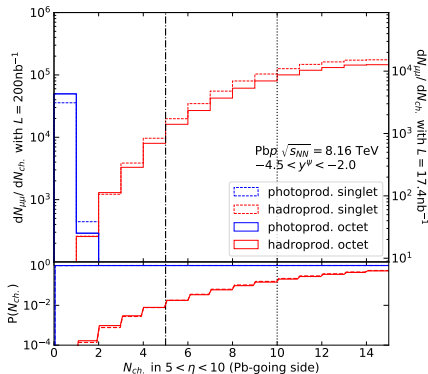
Assumptions:

- 1 Photoproduction events have no neutron emissions
- 2 Hadroproduction events have at least 1 neutron emission
- 3 Only 1-neutron events contaminate 0-neutron events with a probability  $\epsilon$
- 4 We assume something of the shape of the background ( $x_1 = B/A$ )

The resulting signal-over-background after a ZDC selection requirement ( $\hat{r}$ ) is estimated to be of the order of 10 at low  $p_T$  and of order unity at large  $p_T$ .

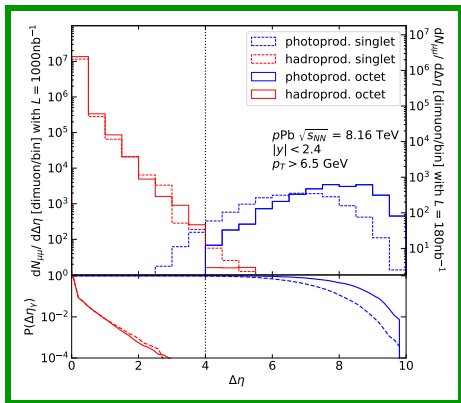
# Method II: forward activity with High Rapidity Shower Counter @ LHCb

- HeRSChEL detectors at forward and backward rapidity in the region  $5 < |\eta| < 10$
- Use MC samples to count the number of charged tracks in HeRSChEL region

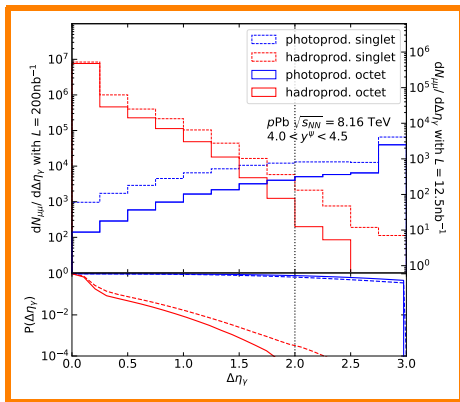
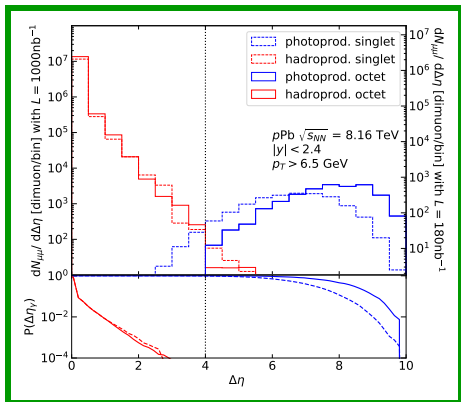


We expect a visible signal for events with  $\gtrsim 5$  tracks in the HeRSChEL acceptance and expect to **retain  $\mathcal{O}(100\%)$  of the signal** and **remove  $\mathcal{O}(99\%)$  the background**.

# Method III: Rapidity gaps in CMS- and LHCb-like detectors

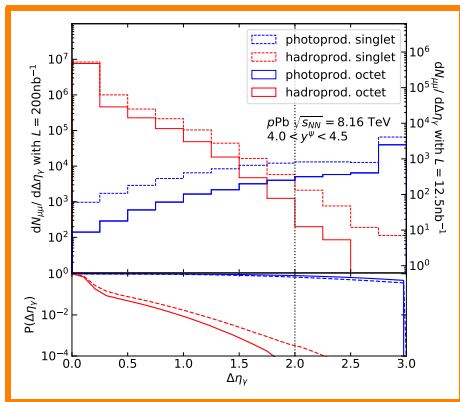
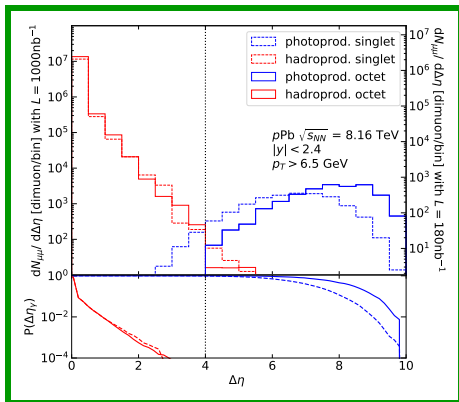


# Method III: Rapidity gaps in CMS- and LHCb-like detectors



- A **wide rapidity coverage** (CMS-like detector) allows for a clean separation between **photoproduction** and **hadroproduction** events
- A **narrow rapidity coverage** (LHCb-like detector) allows for a less pronounced separation between **photoproduction** and **hadroproduction** events

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- Selecting events with  $\Delta\eta$  larger than 4 (2) removes  $\mathcal{O}(99.9\%)$  of background events

# Purity after selection requirements

The retained % of **photoproduction** and **hadroproduction** events after selection requirements and the resulting signal purity:

	% retained after selection requirements		signal purity
	photoproduction	hadroproduction	$\frac{\text{photo.}}{\text{photo.} + \text{hadro.}}$ [%]
<b>CMS</b> $p_T > 6.5$ GeV			
ZDC ( $\epsilon = 0.02^{+0.03}_{-0.01}$ )	100	$0.07^{+0.01}_{-0.06}$	$62^{+30}_{-1}$
Rapidity gap ( $\Delta\eta_\gamma > 4 \pm 0.25$ )	$99.0^{+1.0}_{-2.1}$	$0.0007^{+0.0006}_{-0.0004}$	$99.0^{+0.4}_{-0.6}$
<b>LHCb</b> Pb <p></p>			
HeRSChEL ( $N_{ch.} < 5^{+5}_{-4}$ )	$100.0^{+0.0}_{-1.3}$	$0.1^{+2.3}_{-0.1}$	$75^{+25}_{-65}$
Rapidity gap ( $\Delta\eta_\gamma > 2 \pm 0.25$ )	$87.0^{+4.7}_{-5.2}$	$0.01^{+0.02}_{-0.01}$	$97.0^{+2.4}_{-5.5}$
HeRSChEL & rapidity gap	$87.0^{+4.7}_{-5.6}$	$0.001^{+0.009}_{-0.001}$	$99.6^{+0.4}_{-3.4}$



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# Motivation: kinematic reconstruction

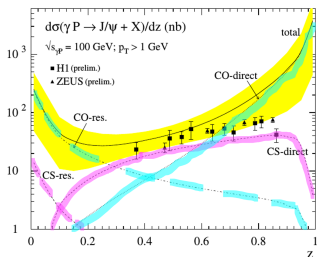
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$W_{\gamma P}$  : to know the **collision energy**

$z$  : discriminant variable for **quarkonium production mechanism** (**singlet** vs. **octet**)

Both variables allow for **control of the resolved-photon** contribution and are dependent on the photon energy!

KRAMER, hep-ph/016120



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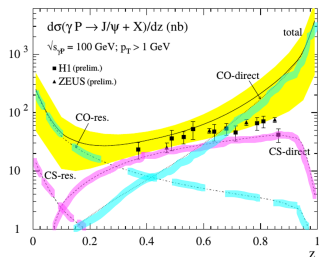
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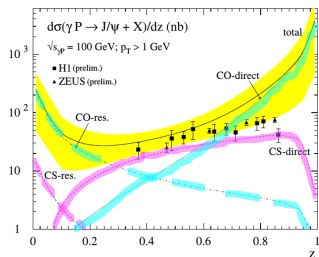
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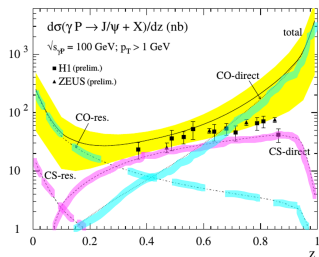
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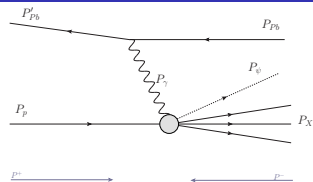
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- At the LHC the scattered photon-emitter is in the beam-pipe and **cannot** be measured. Therefore, the photon energy must be reconstructed from the final-state system.
  - In the **exclusive** case this is simple; detected particle gives the photon energy
  - This is **not** true for the **inclusive** case... how well can we reconstruct the final state?

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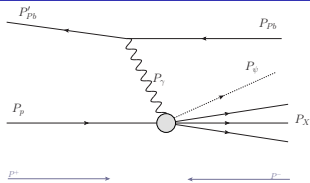


# Kinematics: $z$ and $W_{\gamma p}$ reconstruction



- **Lead-ion** moving **backward** with negative rapidity  
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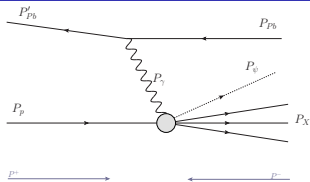
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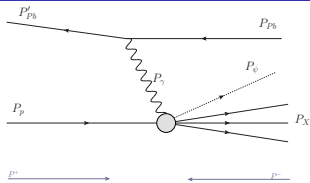
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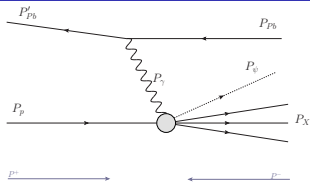
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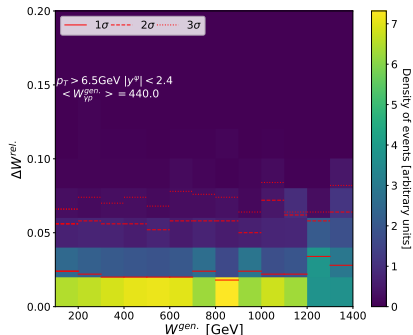
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  - **Exclusive** case:  $P_X^- = 0 \rightarrow z = 1$
- A particle  $i$  **collinear to the photon emitter** has a **large**  $P_i^-$ 
  - As we expect a rapidity gap between the **photon emitter** and the produced particles, much of the produced particles can be captured by the main LHC detectors

# Kinematic reconstruction: results

- We remind that  $P_X^- = \sum_i^N P_i^-$  and due to limited detector coverage  $N_{meas.} < N_{true}$ .
- This results in the following biases;  $z_{meas.} > z_{true}$  and  $W_{\gamma p}^{meas.} < W_{\gamma p}^{true}$ .

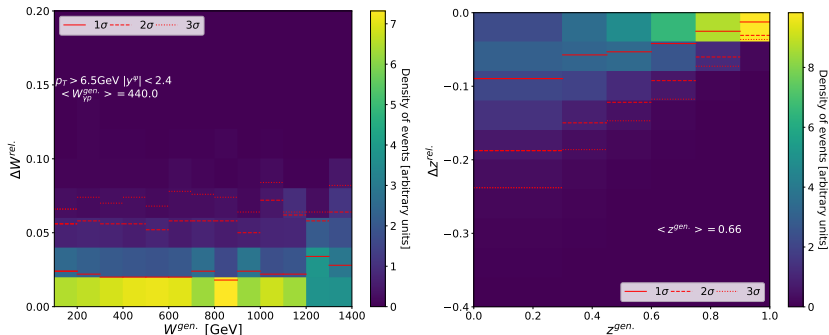
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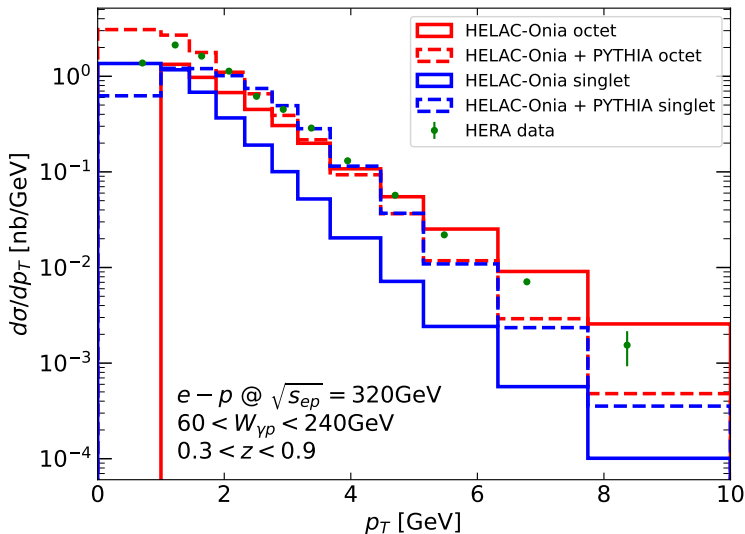
- $W_{\gamma p}$  is reconstructed within 5% in a CMS-like detector
- $z$  reconstruction is best at large values of  $z$  where the kinematics are dominated by the  $J/\psi$  varying from 10% to 2%

# Summary and outlook

- The LHC can be used as a photon-nucleon collider
  - measuring inclusive  $J/\psi$  photoproduction at the LHC appears feasible which is complimentary to existing HERA measurements
- In  $J/\psi$  photoproduction events in **proton-lead** collisions
  - a purity of  $> 95\%$  can be achieved in each of the LHC detectors by using a combination of selection requirements
  - in CMS, ATLAS and ALICE the **rapidity gap** and **ZDC** based selection requirements are likely sufficient to suppress background
  - in LHCb a **combination of gap and HeRSChEL** requirements are likely sufficient to suppress background
- The  $\Delta\eta$  value at which the cut is placed allows for control over statistics and purity
- Both  $z$  and  $W_{\gamma p}$  **reconstruction** appear **possible** with varying resolution which will allow control of the resolved contribution and offer the possibility to constrain the quarkonium production mechanism.

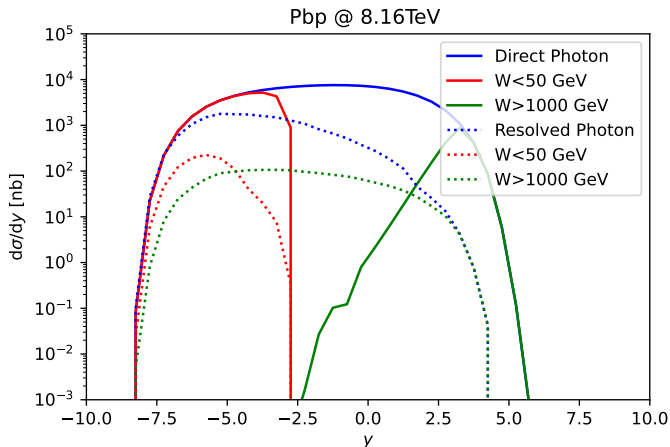
# Backup

# HELAC-Onia vs. HELAC-Onia + PYTHIA: photoproduction $p_T$ distribution



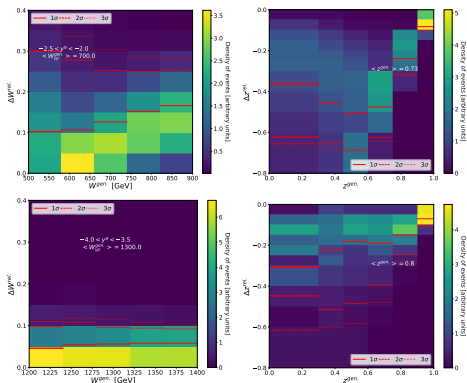


# Direct and resolved photon rapidity comparison



Resolved photon contribution increases with increasing photon energy ( $W_{\gamma p}$ ); however, at most forward rapidities is suppressed.

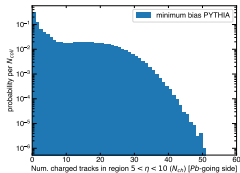
# Kinematic reconstruction: results in LHCb large photon energy config.



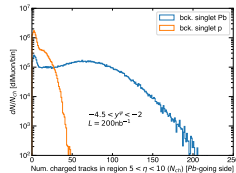
At largest absolute rapidities  $J/\psi$  activity trails behind the  $J/\psi$  and is captured by the detector (bottom); whereas, when the  $J/\psi$  is on the proton-going side of the detector much of the activity is missed (top). This results in an improved reconstruction with increasing absolute rapidity.

# From $p$ to Pb in the HeRSChEL region

- The background is modelled by generating  $pA$  events with HELAC-Onia and passing them through PYTHIA; PYTHIA reads these as  $pp$  events.
- In a  $pp$  collision  $N_{coll.} = 1$ ; whereas in a  $pA$  collision there are many more nucleons and therefore it is possible to have  $N_{coll.} > 1$  [typically modelled using Glauber-type models].
- Using minimum bias events generated by PYTHIA, one can obtain a **probability distribution** for the number of charged tracks in the HeRSChEL region. [bottom left]
- To model the HeRSChEL signal using the PYTHIA events (i.e., converting  $pp$  to  $pA$ ) events are randomly assigned a centrality class and then assigned  $N_{coll.}$  based on ALICE results. [bottom centre arXiv:1605.05680]
- For a given event, the total number of charged tracks in the HeRSChEL region is given by throwing  $i = 1, \dots, N_{coll.} - 1$  points into the **probability distribution**, and summing over  $N_{coll.}$ .
- The transformation from  $pp$  to  $pA$  HeRSChEL distribution. [bottom right]

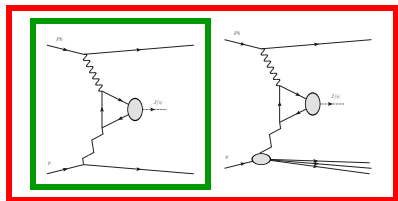


Centrality class	$\langle N_{coll} \rangle_{opt.}$	$\langle N_{coll} \rangle_{ALICE}$	$b$ [fm]
2–10%	14.7	$11.7 \pm 1.2 \pm 0.9$	4.14
10–20%	13.6	$11.0 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.9$	4.44
20–40%	11.4	$9.6 \pm 0.2 \pm 0.8$	4.94
40–60%	7.7	$7.1 \pm 0.3 \pm 0.6$	5.64
60–80%	3.7	$4.3 \pm 0.3 \pm 0.3$	6.29
80–100%	1.5	$2.1 \pm 0.1 \pm 0.2$	6.91



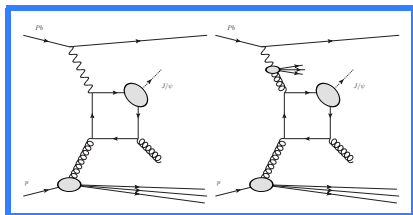
# Diffractive vs. inclusive photoproduction

## Diffractive production



- Colourless exchange
- Only CSM contributes
- **exclusive:** only  $J/\psi$  decay products

## Inclusive production



- Hard final state gluon
- Resolved vs. direct contribution
- Test production mechanism
- Probe gluon PDF

# Lightcone four-vector representation

- 1 Choose two vectors along an axis such that,

$$\eta^{\pm} \cdot \eta^{\pm} = 0 \quad \& \quad \eta^{\mp} \cdot \eta^{\pm} = 2. \quad (1)$$

- 2 A particle's four-momentum can be written as,

$$p = (E, p_x, p_y, p_z) = [P^+, P^-, \mathbf{p}]. \quad (2)$$

- 3 The scalar product of two four-momenta is given as,

$$p \cdot q = \frac{1}{2} (P^+ Q^- + P^- Q^+) - \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q}. \quad (3)$$

- 4 If  $p$  lies along the vector  $\eta^-$ , then the scalar product reduces to,

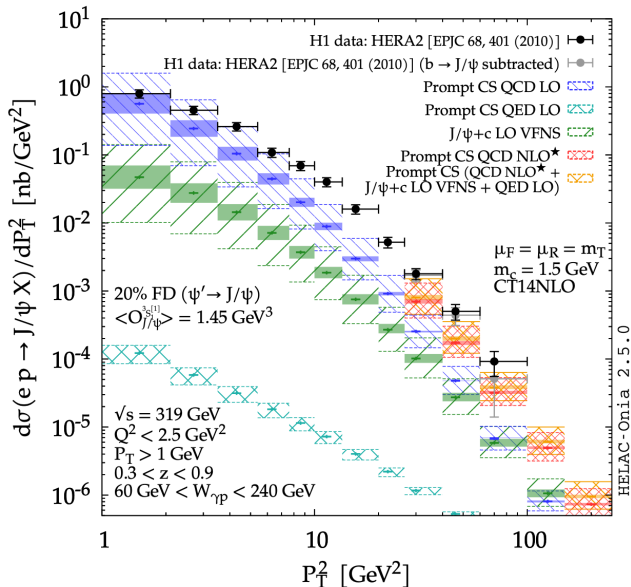
$$p \cdot q = \frac{1}{2} (P^- Q^+). \quad (4)$$

- 5 Consider some massless particle  $q$ ,

- If  $q$  lies on the vector  $\eta^+$ :  $p \cdot q$  is maximised  $\rightarrow p \cdot q = A$ .
- If  $q$  is perpendicular to the vectors  $\eta^{\pm}$ :  $p \cdot q = A/2$ .
- If  $q$  lies on the vector  $\eta^-$ :  $p \cdot q$  is minimised  $\rightarrow p \cdot q = 0$ .

# NLO inclusive $J/\psi$ photoproduction at HERA

"NLO inclusive  $J/\psi$  photoproduction at large  $p_T$  at HERA and the EIC", Flore et. al. 2021





Luminosity targets taken from LHC programme coordination meeting;  $p\text{Pb}$  and  $\text{PbPb}$  targets are for Run 3 and 4 and  $pp$  targets are for Run 3 only.

	ATLAS	CMS	ALICE	LHCb
$pp$	$160 \text{ fb}^{-1}$		$200 \text{ pb}^{-1}$	$25 \text{ fb}^{-1}$
$\text{PbPb}$		$13 \text{ nb}^{-1}$		$2 \text{ nb}^{-1}$
$p\text{Pb}$	$1 \text{ pb}^{-1}$		$0.5 \text{ pb}^{-1}$	$0.2 \text{ pb}^{-1}$



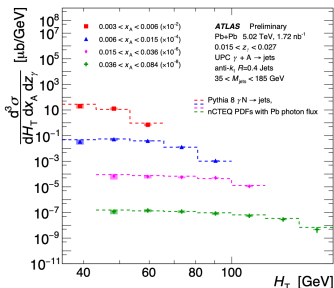
# Pb-Pb inclusive dijets

ATLAS-CONF-2017-011, ATLAS-CONF-2022-021

- Triply differential cross section in,

$$z_\gamma = \frac{m_{jets}}{\sqrt{S_{NN}}} e^{+y_{jets}}, \quad x_A = \frac{m_{jets}}{\sqrt{S_{NN}}} e^{-y_{jets}}, \quad H_T = p_T^{jet1} + p_T^{jet2} \quad (5)$$

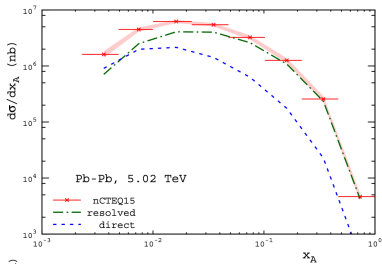
- Jets defined using anti- $k_T$  with  $R = 0.4$ ;  $p_T^{jet1(2)} > 15(20)$  GeV and  $|\eta^{jet}| < 4.4$ .
- selection of events:
  - $\Delta\eta_A < 3$  [hadro.] and  $\sum_\gamma \Delta\eta > 2.5$  [photo.]
  - sum-of-gaps retains high efficiency for the resolved-photon contribution
  - 0nXn biases towards lower impact parameter collisions



# Pb-Pb inclusive dijets

Guzey, Klasen, *PHYSICAL REVIEW C* 99, 065202 (2019)

- Resolved contribution dominant in region  $x_A > 0.01$  [equivalently, resolved-photon contribution dominant for  $J/\psi$  in most forward region]
- Resolved and direct contributions comparable in region  $x_A < 0.01$
- LO results (PYTHIA 8 + EPPS16 nPDF) quantitatively similar
- However, resolved contribution is larger @ NLO [this statement is scheme and scale dependant]



# Method III: central activity; rapidity gaps

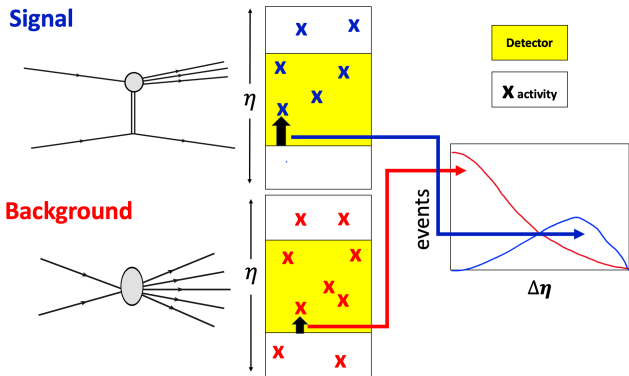
Characterise the central activity and exploit the difference between **signal** and **background** event topologies to cut background events

- **Signal**: more events with larger gaps
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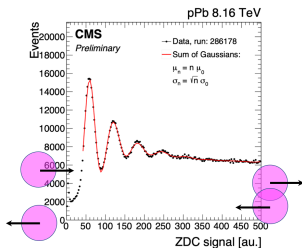
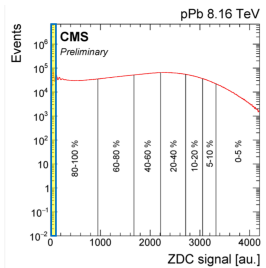
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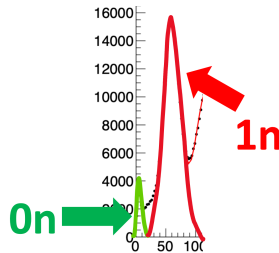
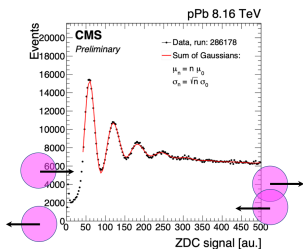
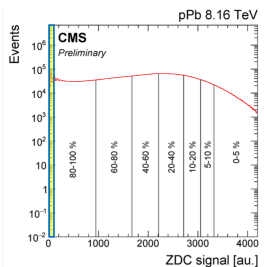
# Method I: far-forward activity with zero degree calorimeter

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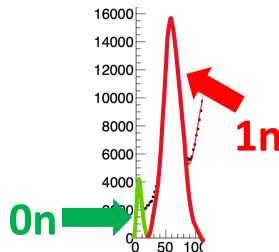
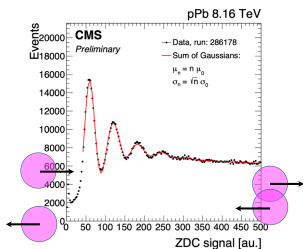
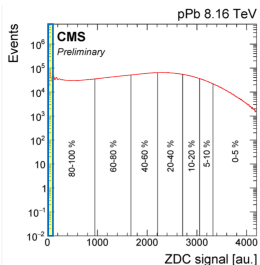


Minimum bias data ( $\geq 7$  GeV in forward calorimeter) CMS 10.1088/1748-0221/16/05/P05008

- Can resolve single to few neutron emissions
- All of the **signal** is in the **0-neutron bump** [signal with neutron emission is negligible]
- $\geq 1$ -neutron region is all **background**
- Efficiency ( $\epsilon$ ) for detecting 1n is  $> 98\%$  CMS, 2102.06640; ALICE, 1203.2436

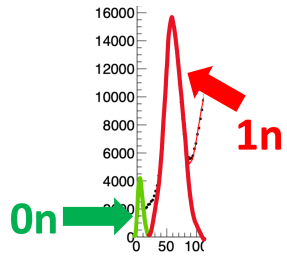
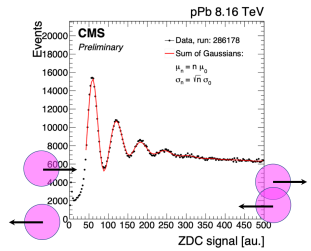
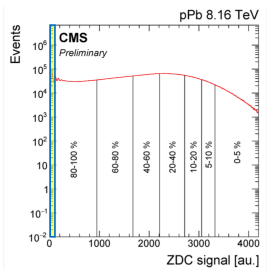
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  - Therefore maximally 2% of 1n events look like 0n events

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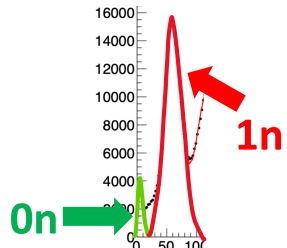
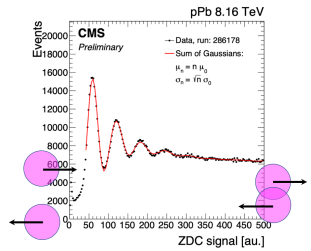
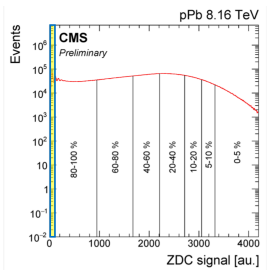


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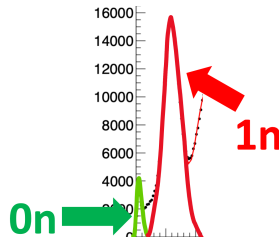
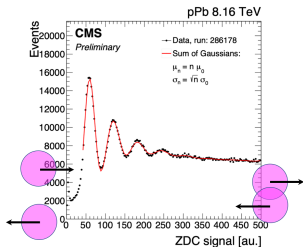
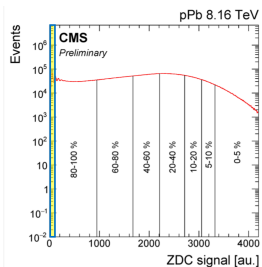
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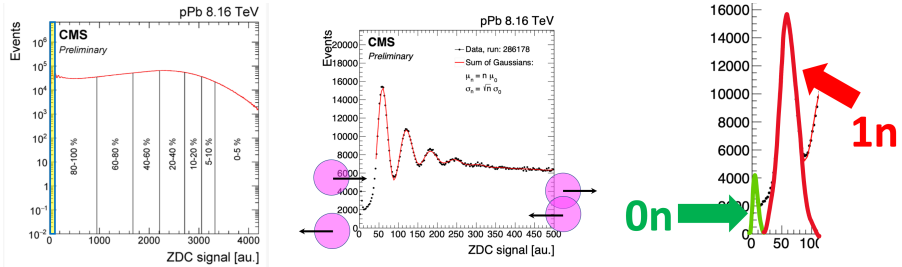


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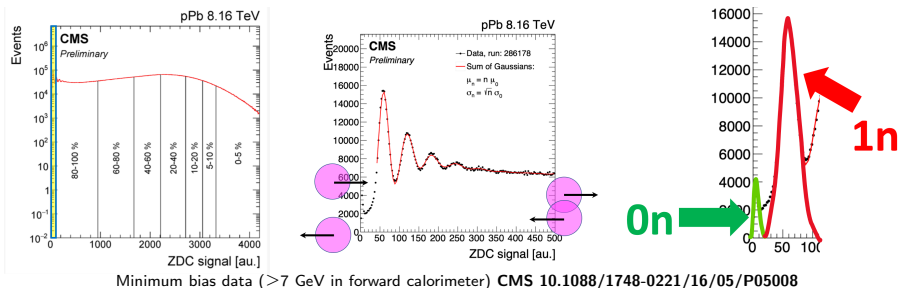


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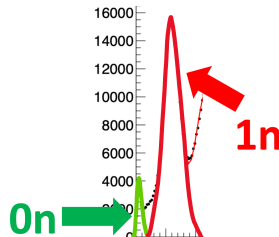
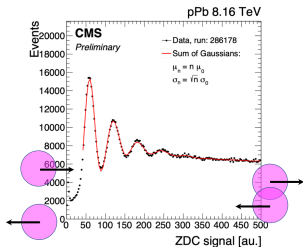
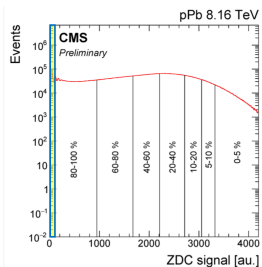
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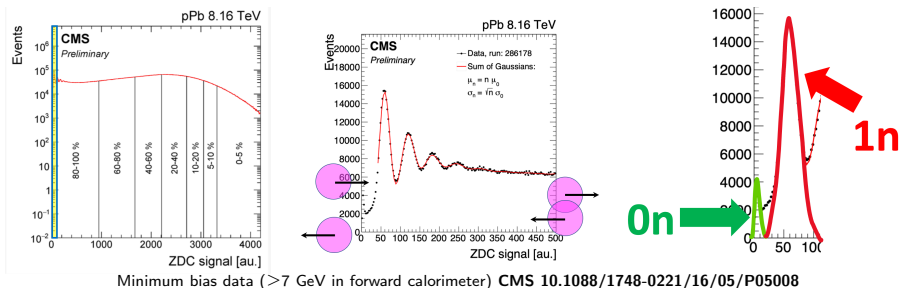


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- This background reduction technique can be used in CMS, ALICE & ATLAS.