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Experimental review and prospects of ultra-peripheral collisions



Daniel Tapia Takaki The University of Kansas

High Energy Physics in the LHC era Valparaiso, Chile, 20 December 2013

Plan of this talk

Ultra-Peripheral (pp, pA and AA) Collisions

What are UPCs Why at LHC

Recent results

Future directions

Using the LHC as a yy, yPb, yp collider



UPCs in Pb-Pb

Why Ultra-Peripheral collisions

Nuovo Cim.,2:143-158,1925 http://arxiv.org/abs/hep-th/0205086

Therefore, we consider that when a charged particle passes near a point, it produces, at that point, a variable electric field. If we decompose this field, via a Fourier transform, into its harmonic components we find that it is equivalent to the electric field at the same point if it were struck by light with an appropriate continuous distribution of frequencies.

High photon flux ~ Z² → well described by the Weizsäcker-Williams approximation



Enrico FERMI

The electromagnetic field surrounding these protons/ions can be treated as a beam of quasi real photons

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Two ions (or protons) pass by each other with impact parameters b > 2R. **Hadronic interactions are strongly suppressed**

Why ultra-peripheral heavy-ion collisions

Two ions (or protons) pass by each other with impact parameters b > 2R. Hadronic interactions are strongly suppressed

Number of photons scales like Z² for a single source \Rightarrow exclusive particle production in heavy-ion collisions dominated by electromagnetic interactions. The virtuality of the photons $\rightarrow 1/R \sim 30 \text{ MeV}/c$

Photon-induced reactions



 $\gamma + p \to J/\psi + p$ modelled in pQCD: exchange of two gluons with no net-colour transfer



Why J/ψ photo-production at LHC

Total J/ ψ cross section: 23 mb (STARLIGHT) vs 10.3 mb Rebyakova, Strikman and Zhalov

Five model predictions available

- published in the last two years-

Models differ by the way photo-nuclear interaction is treated...



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RHIC results by PHENIX



Au+Au collisions at 200 GeV PHENIX study: PLB Vol 679, issue 4, p. 321-333

The ALICE experiment at LHC



Exclusive J/ψ analysis at **forward rapidity**



From a typical inclusive J/ψ candidate in Pb-Pb collisions...

....to an exclusive J/ψ candidate



Two UPC publications by ALICE

Phys.Lett. B718 (2013) 1273-1283

Eur. J. Phys. C73, 2617 (2013)

p_{T} distribution for J/ ψ candidates



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Central barrel measurements in UPC

J/ψ in the dimuon channel



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Data is well described by signals/backgrounds expected in UPC

Data and theoretical predictions

Coherent J/ψ

Incoherent J/ψ

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Nuclear gluon shadowing from ALICE data

V. Guzei, E. Kryshen, M. Strikman, M. Zhalov. Phys. Lett. B726 (2013) 290

Nuclear suppression factor in J/ψ photoproduction:

ALICE data corrected for photon flux

$$S(W_{\gamma p}) \equiv \left[\frac{\sigma_{\gamma \text{Pb} \to J/\psi \text{Pb}}^{\exp}(W_{\gamma p})}{\sigma_{\gamma \text{Pb} \to J/\psi \text{Pb}}^{\text{IA}}(W_{\gamma p})}\right]^{1/2} \implies R(x, \mu^2 = 2.4 \text{ GeV}^2)$$

Impulse Approximation: J/ψ photoproduction cross section from HERA corrected for the integral over squared Pb form-factor

- **Hijing:** scale-independent gluon shadowing, characterized by parameter s_q
- Shadowing parametrizations (EPS,nDS,HKN07) use DIS and Drell-Yan data + π^0 data from RHIC (EPS) – gluon shadowing essentially unconstrained at low x
- Leading twist approximation: propagation of color dipoles in nuclei via intermediate diffractive states (Gribov-Glauber shadowing theory). Incorporates diffractive parton distributions in proton (from HERA)



Evgeny Kryshen

New at the LHC: Dependence on neutron emission

Using Zero Degree Calorimeters (ZDC) it is possible to select coherent production with ion excitation, where neutrons are emitted from at least one of the nuclei



Different configurations:1n1n: one neutron emission by each ion;1n1n: one neutron emission by each ion;XnXn: emission of several neutrons;0n1n and 0nXn: excitation anddecay of one of the ions, anddecay of one of the ions, and0n0n: no neutron emission





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$\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$ production in Pb-Pb (Central Barrel)

Eur. Phys. J. C (2013) 73:2617



- ✓ QED process ... but uncertainties due to
 - Higher order corrections because the coupling is enhanced by a factor of Z
 - Nuclear form factor and the minimum momentum transfer in the interaction
- → Different models predict a reduction of the LO cross section up to 30%
- → (see for example: A. J. Baltz, Phys. Rev. C 80 (2009) 034901; Phys. Rev. Lett. 100 (2008) 062302)



- Measurement in two different mass ranges:
 [2.2,2.6] and [3.7,10] GeV/c²
- ✓ Precision of 12% and 16% respectively
- Data slightly above STARLIGHT, a LO prediction

ALICE data sets stringent limits on the contribution from high order terms

Eur. J. Phys. C73, 2617 (2013)

Upsilon photoproduction

 γ + p \rightarrow Y + p : possible thanks to strong photon flux of the proton hitting the Pb nuclues

Very limited statistics from HERA (H1 and ZEUS) ~ 100 candidates

Uncertainty in measured cross section larger than a factor 3



Ideal way to measure this process at LHC

Needed to have a baseline for $\gamma + Pb \rightarrow Y + Pb$

Here CMS is very competitive as Upsilon acceptance is down to zero transverse momenta

UPC in inclusive peripheral Pb-Pb at forward rapidity?!



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Effective luminosities in UPC



J/ψ photoproduction in γp



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- The fact that the Pb nucleus is the dominant • photon emitter allows us to separate the two W_{yp} regimes unambiguously.
 - "p-Pb" (*) corresponds to the lower energy range
 - "Pb-p" corresponds to the higher energy range.

$$x = \left(M_{J/\psi} / \sqrt{s_{NN}}\right) \exp(\pm y)$$

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p

UPC J/ ψ candidates in p-Pb



Two methods were used by CMS



Two-photon cross section in p-Pb



Preliminary cross section for two-photon production

First time measurements in p-Pb collisions

Preliminary results consistent with STARLIGHT prediction

 σ (1.5 GeV<m<2.5 GeV,-4.0<y<-2.5) = 1.76 ± 0.12 (stat) ± 0.16 (sys) µb STARLIGHT prediction = 1.8 µb

UPC J/ ψ candidates in p-Pb

$\sigma(J/\psi \text{ in } \gamma p)$ obtained using the corresponding photon spectrum



ALICE results - New data between fixed target experiments and HERA

Model predictions



A. Martin et al.

NLO leads to an increase cross section

G. Watt et al.

Saturation effects lead to a reduction in the cross section

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More than a factor 2 difference between the most extreme predicted values at around 1 TeV

LHCb results from pp data



R. Aaij *et al.* (LHCb collaboration) J. Phys. G 40 (2013) 045001 Contrary to J/ψ photoproduction in p+p, in p+A we know the photon source

LHCb had to assume that the energy dependence follows a power law!

Recent LHCb preliminary results presented at MPI 2013

Experimental ambiguity on the photon source A built-in power-law dependence

J/ψ photoproduction at LHC



ALICE preliminary presented at Krakow and MPI



 $\gamma + p \rightarrow J/\psi + p$

- Our knowledge of the photon emitter allows us to solve for σ(W_{γp}) using the measured dσ/ dy
- A power law fit (σ(W)~Wδ) to ALICE data points gives δ=0.67±0.06.

ALICE results presented at Krakow and MPI



 $\gamma + p \rightarrow J/\psi + p$

 MNRT give two models, one LO and one with additional NLO terms. ALICE data lie about 1 sigma below curve.

> b-Sat (eikonalized) model gives a very similar prediction

 Recent LHCb measurements in pp collisions give δ=0.92±0.15.
 LHCb data are about one sigma below ours (low energy) or one sigma above (high energy).



Dijet: CMS+TOTEM

Dijet production in UPC

The photon is coming from the left and its direction can be resolved by the correlation with neutrons in the ZDCs.

In the direct process (solid), the entire photon energy contributes to the hard process while in the resolved case (or part does.

LHC WG meeting on difraction and forward physics & Future directions on UPC

May 27-30, 2014 Lawrence, KS

http://cern.ch/lawrence2014

Several physics processes can be studied in UPCs

Already a few interesting analyses at RHIC, Tevatron and LHC

Many new interesting topics still there to study QCD and New Physics at high energies/ luminosities: Excited states of vector mesons, Higgs production,...

Exclusive production in pp vs. AA

Different production mechanisms may dominate. Consider exclusive $\gamma\gamma$ (or Higgs) production:

V. A. Khoze, A.D. Martin, M.G. Ryskin, W.J. Stirling, Eur. Phys. J C 38 (2005) 475. Pb-Pb

D. d'Enterria, G.G. Silveira, PRL 111 (2013) 080405.

In p-p collisions, 3 (or more) gluon exchange dominate, whereas for heavy-ion collisions, $\gamma \gamma \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ dominate.

Joakim Nystrand, ICNFP 2013, Kolymbari, Crete, Greece, 28 Aug. - 5 Sep. 2013

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Scale dependence

- Studied in detail in Guzey, Zhalov: JHEP 1310 (2013) 207.
- Scale of 3 GeV² found to be most appropriate for the description of J/ ψ photoproduction

Evgeny Kryshen