



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



**ATLAS**  
**EXPERIMENT**



# ATLAS Results on Soft Diffraction

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On behalf of the ATLAS experiment

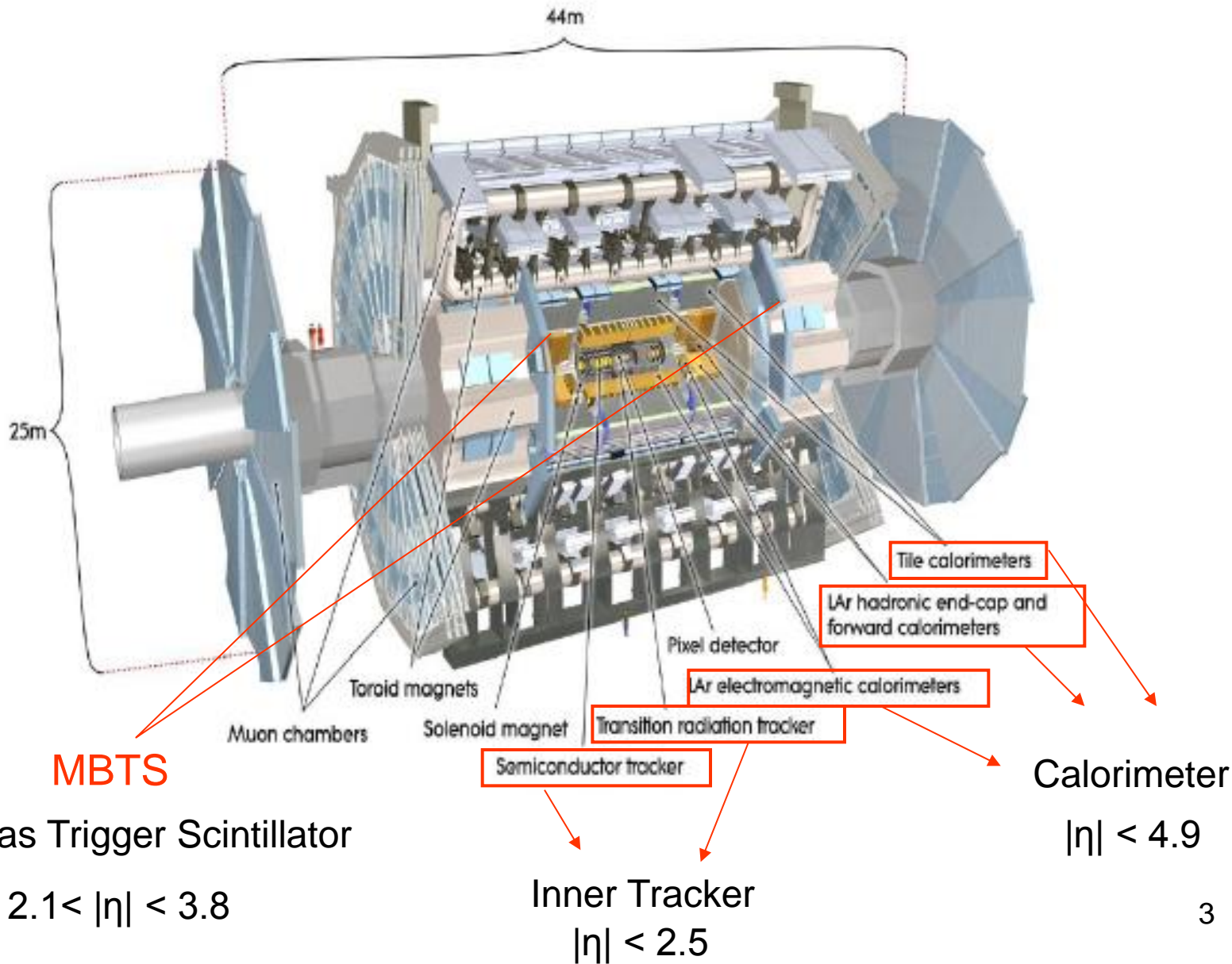
EDS2013

Saariselka 9-13 September 2013

# Outline

- The ATLAS Detector;
- Diffraction Physics;
- Inelastic Cross Section Measurement at 7 TeV:
  - 1) **Total** ( $20\mu\text{b}^{-1}$ ), “Measurement of the Inelastic Proton-Proton Cross-Section at  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  TeV with the ATLAS Detector ”
  - 2) **Differential as function of Rapidity Gap** ( $7.1\mu\text{b}^{-1}$ )  
“Rapidity Gap Cross Sections measured with the ATLAS Detector in pp Collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  TeV”
- Conclusions.

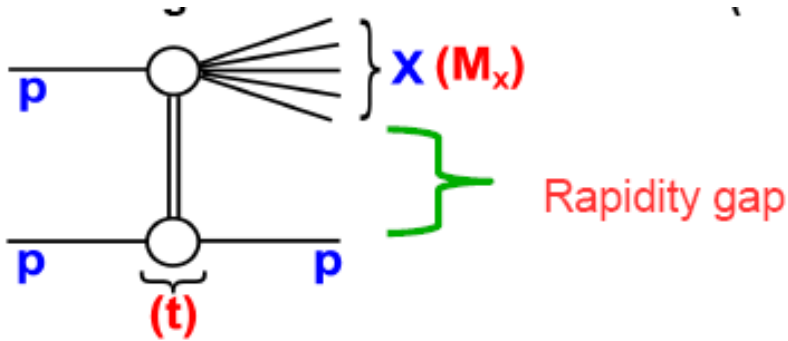
# The ATLAS detector



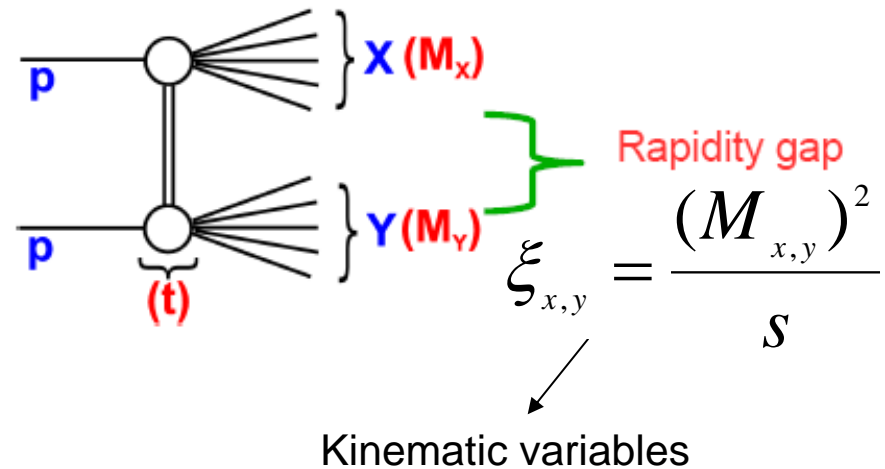
# Diffractive physics

$$\sigma_{TOT} = \sigma_{el} + \underbrace{\sigma_{ND} + \sigma_{SD} + \sigma_{DD} + \sigma_{CD}}_{\text{Inelastic part}}$$

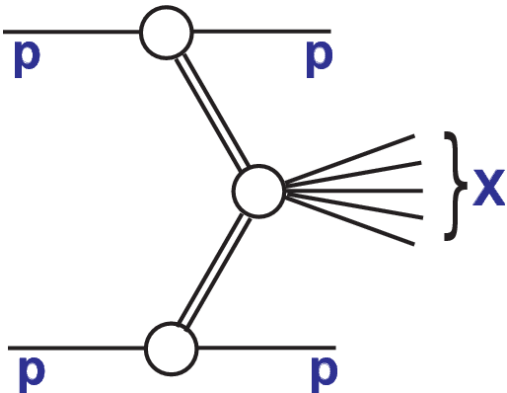
Single diffractive (SD)



Double diffractive (DD)



Central diffractive (CD)



# Measurement of the Inelastic Proton-Proton Cross-Section at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV with the ATLAS Detector

Nat. Commun. 2 (2011) 463

## Event selection and background

- Third run in march 2010
- Center of mass energy 7 TeV
- Integrated Luminosity=  $20 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$ , Peak Luminosity=  $1.2 \cdot 10^{27} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , pile up fraction=0.01
- MBTS trigger (Minimum Bias Trigger Scintillator)
- Single sided: events that have at least 2 hits on one side and no hits on the opposite one
- Inclusive: all events triggered by MBTS
- $M_x > 15.7$  GeV (approximated) and extrapolation with  $M_x > M_{\text{Proton}}$

# Total inelastic cross section

MBTS Acceptance  $M_x > 15.7 GeV$

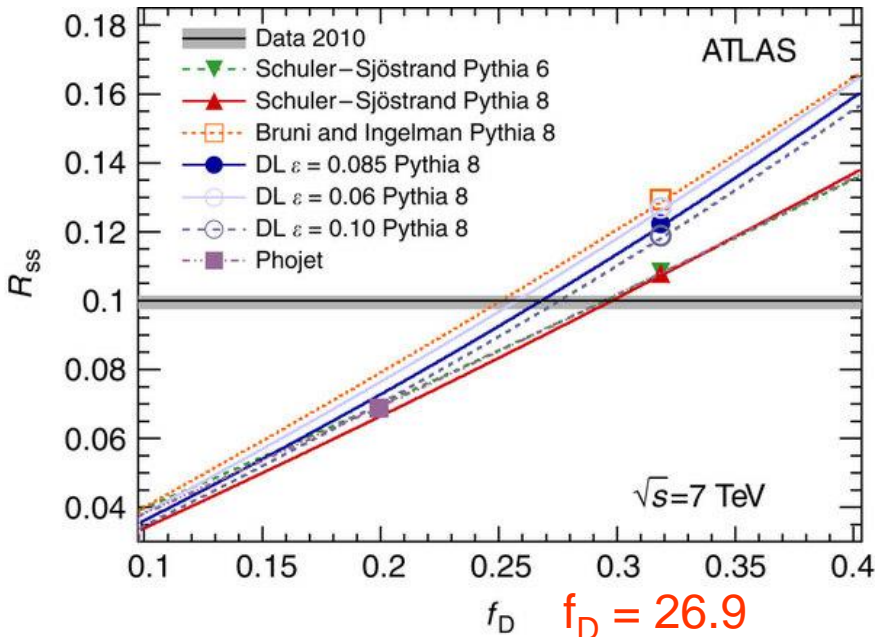
$$\sigma_{inel}(\xi > 5 \cdot 10^{-6}) = \frac{(N - N_{BG})}{\epsilon_t \cdot L_{Int}} \cdot \frac{1 - f_{\xi < 5 \cdot 10^{-6}}}{\epsilon_{Sel}}$$

Selection efficiency

Trigger efficiency (99.98%)

Fraction of events passing selection but out the MBTS acceptance

ATLAS  $R_{SS}$  measurement



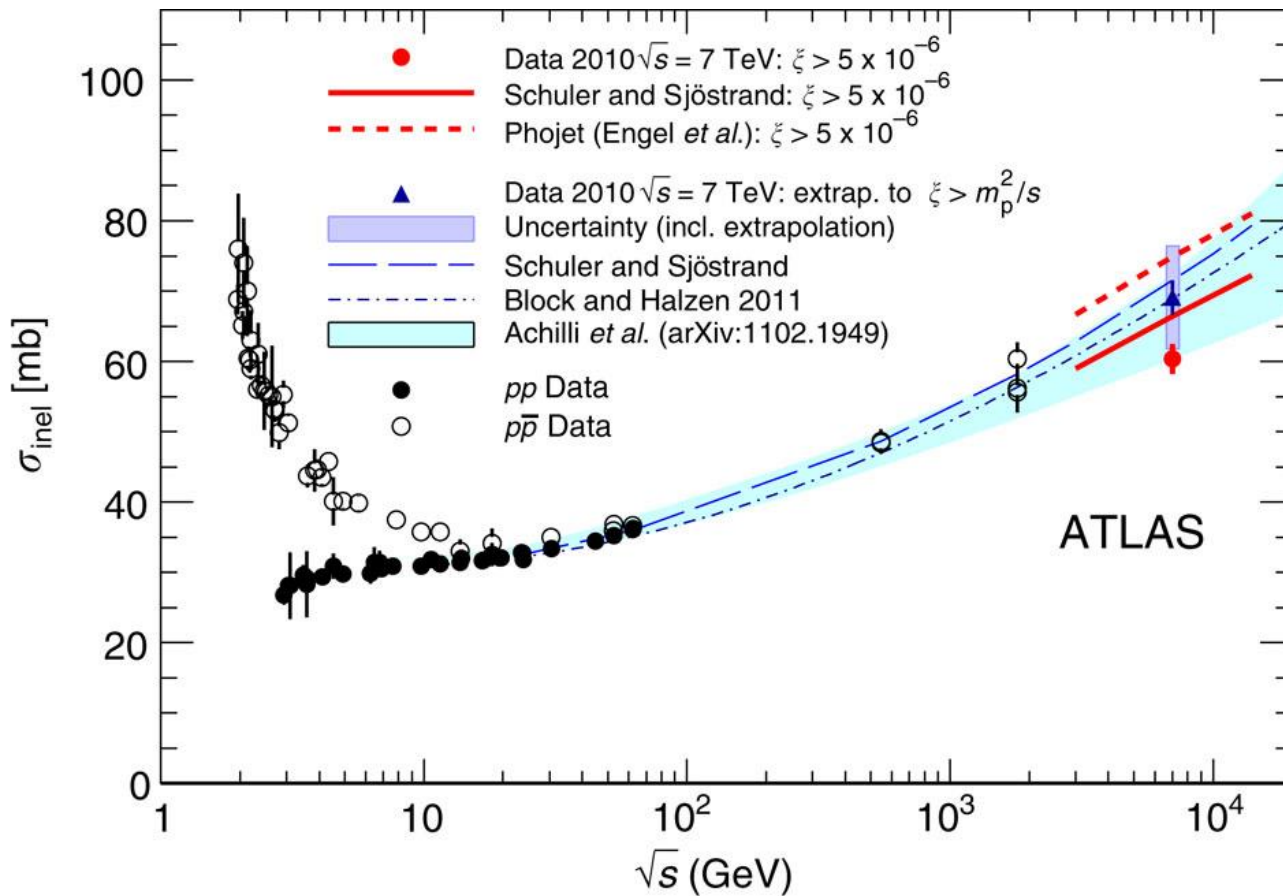
$$f_D = \frac{\sigma_{SD} + \sigma_{DD} + \sigma_{CD}}{\sigma_{Inel}}$$

$R_{SS}$ : ratio between single sided and inclusive events

Knowledge of  $f_D$  reduces uncertainty on  $f$  and  $\epsilon_{Sel}$

# Total inelastic cross section

Nat. Commun. 2 (2011) 463



$$\sigma_{\text{inel}} (\xi_x > 10^{-6}) = 60.3 \pm 0.5(\text{sys.}) \pm 2.1(\text{lumi}) \text{ mb} \quad \xi > 5 \cdot 10^{-6}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{inel}} = 69.4 \pm 2.4(\text{exp.}) \pm 6.9(\text{extr.}) \text{ mb} \quad \text{Extrapolated cross section}$$

# Rapidity Gap Cross Sections measured with the ATLAS Detector in pp Collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$

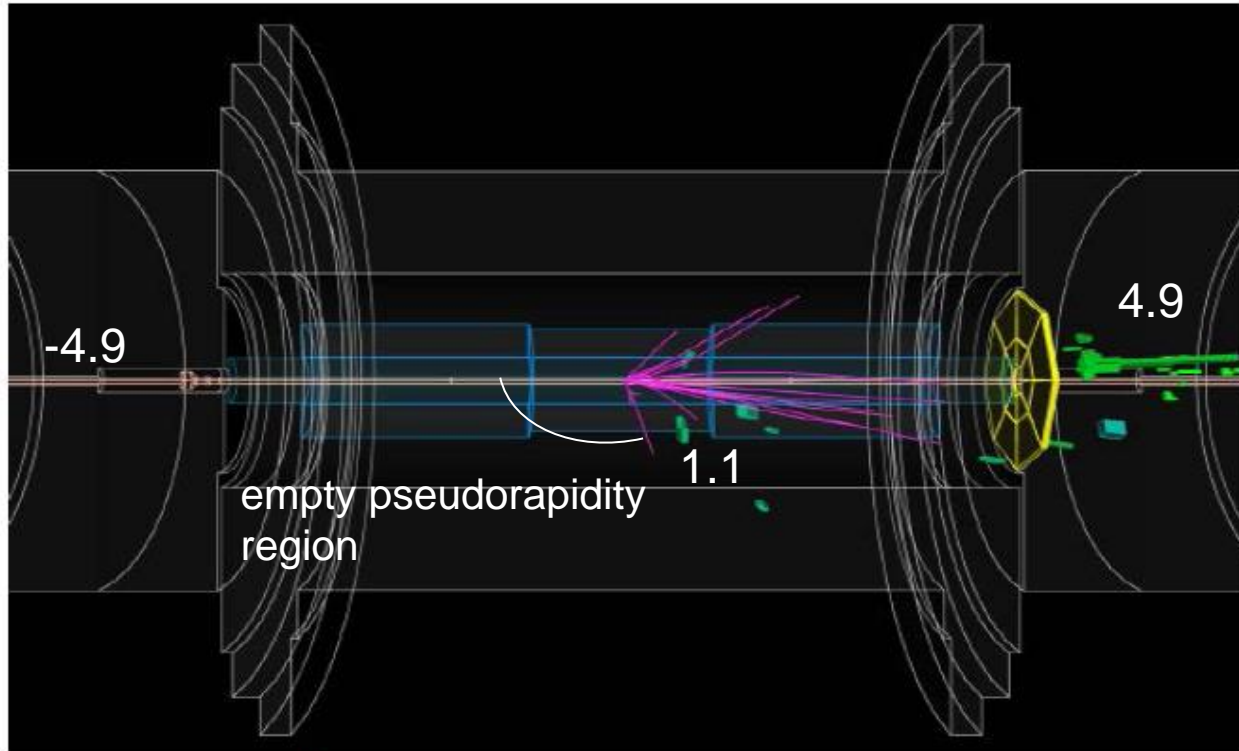
Eur. Phys. J. C72 (2012) 1926

## Event selection and background

- First run in march 2010
- Center of mass energy 7 TeV
- Integrated Luminosity =  $7 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$ , Peak Luminosity =  $1.1 \cdot 10^{27} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , Pile up fraction < 0.005
- MBTS trigger (Minimum Bias Trigger Scintillator)



# Definition of rapidity gap



$|\eta| < 4.9$ : pseudorapidity region covered by calorimeters; define rings of unit- $\Delta\eta$  starting from  $\pm 4.9$

Activity in ring:

- $\geq 1$  calo. cell above noise thresh. ( $2.5 < |\eta| < 4.9$ )

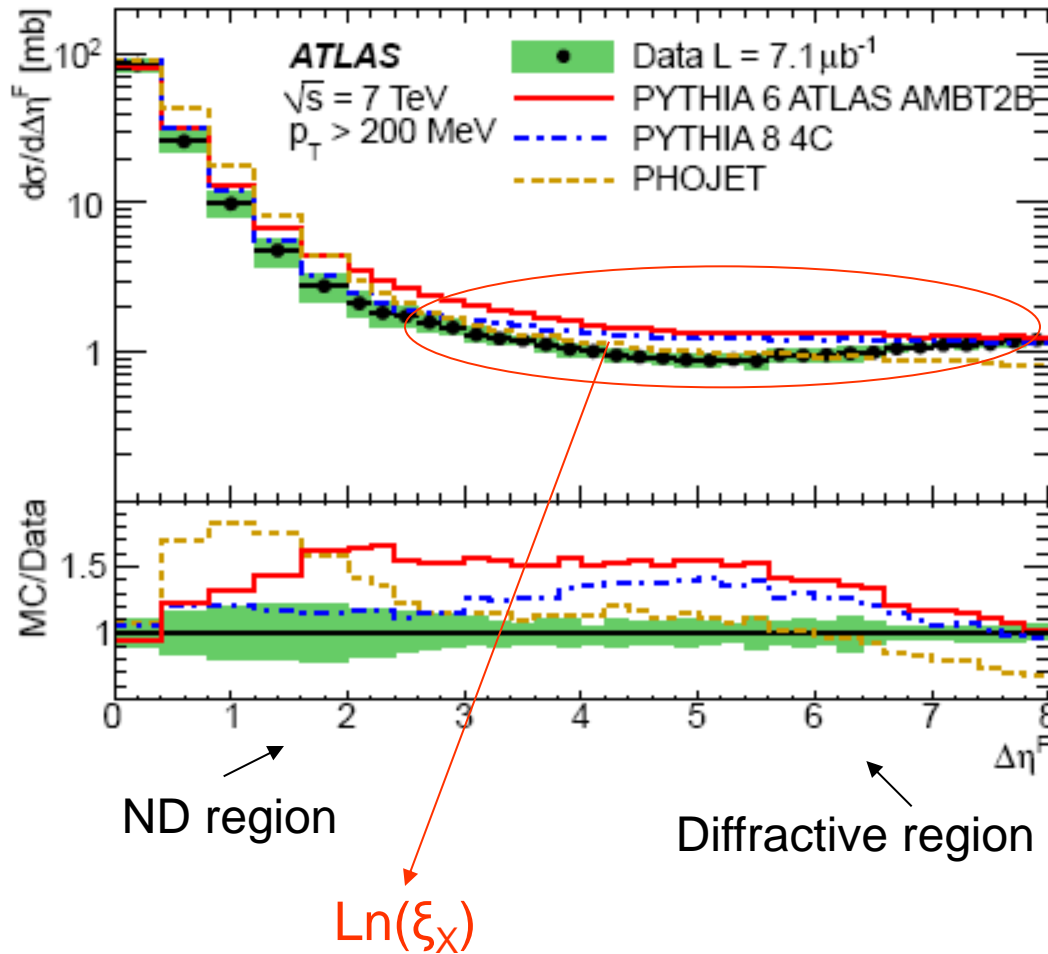
- $> 1$  track with  $p_T > p_{T,CUT} = 200$  MeV

rapidity gap observable definition ( $\Delta\eta_F$ ): **max forward pseudorapidity region without activity in calorimeter**

$|\Delta\eta| < 8$ : maximum observable pseudorapidity gap by MBTS acceptance

dissociation masses are closely correlated with the size of the rapidity gap

# Rapidity gap cross section



At low  $\Delta\eta_F$  exponential decrease  
(Non diffractive events)

$\Delta\eta_F > 3$ , flat as predicted since

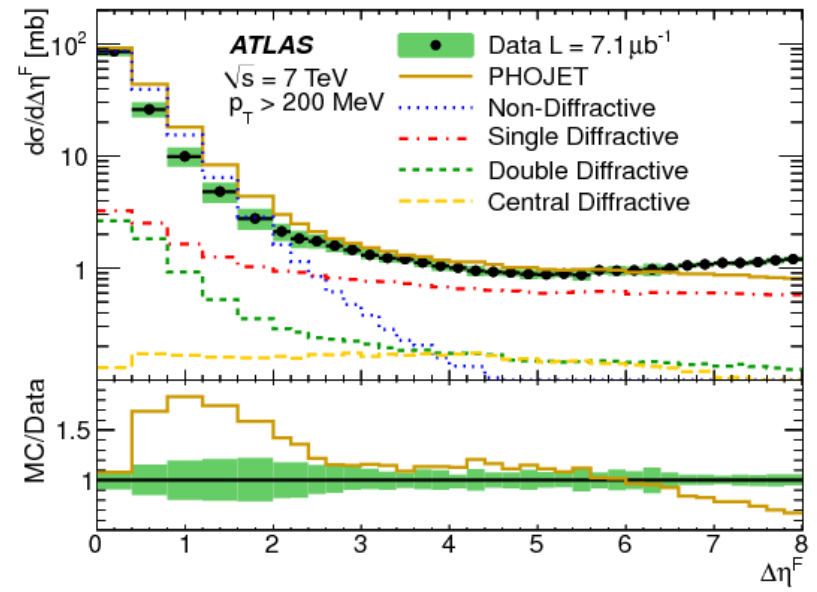
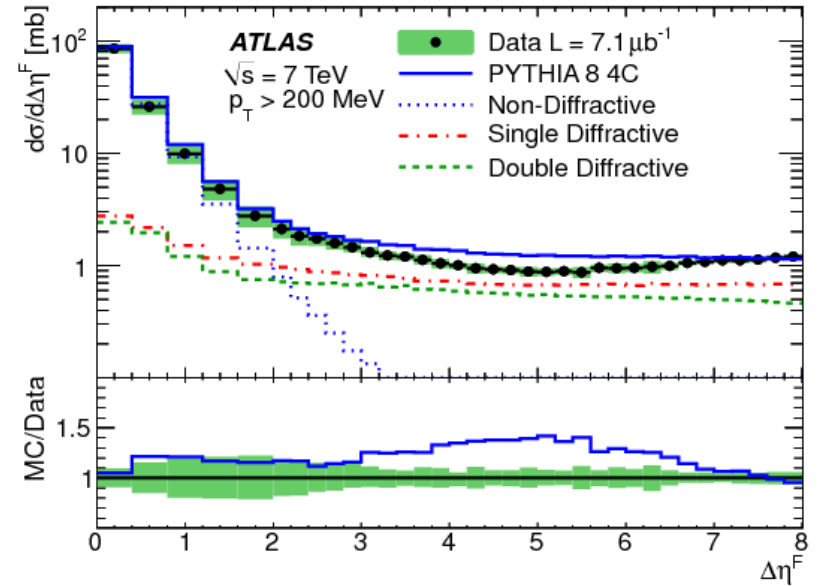
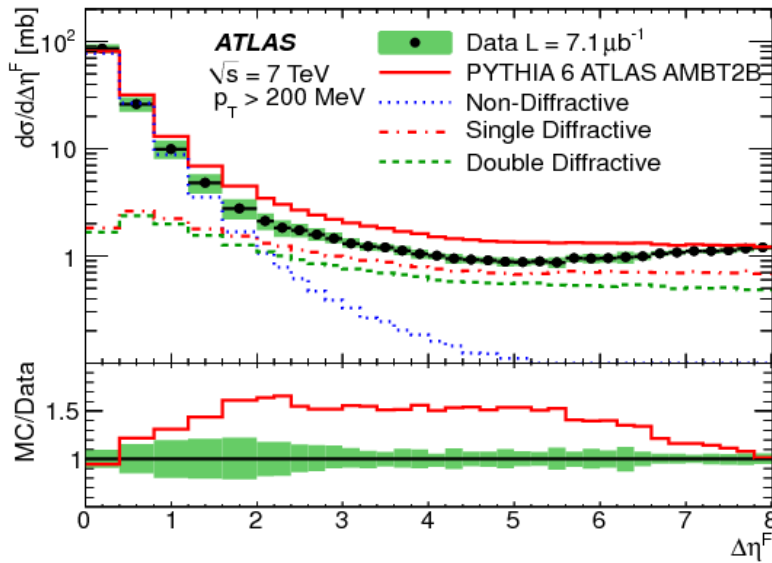
$$\Delta\eta \sim -\log \xi$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Delta\eta} \sim \text{flat}$$

At high  $\Delta\eta_F$  little increase not  
predicted by any model

Discrepancy at intermediate  $\eta$   
due to modeling large  
hadronisation fluctuations in  
ND region or to lack of CD  
component in the Pythia  
model

# Rapidity gap cross section



All models agree on the main ND contribution at low Rapidity gaps

MC models lie above, consistent with the overestimates of the total inelastic cross section already observed

Pythia8 most close to data at low  $\Delta\eta_F$   
 Phojet better at intermediate  $\Delta\eta_F$

# Rapidity gap cross section

## Systematic uncertainties

1. MC model and unfolding method dependence
2. Modeling of diffractive contributions
3. Calorimeter energy scale
4. MBTS efficiency
5. Tracking efficiency
6. Luminosity

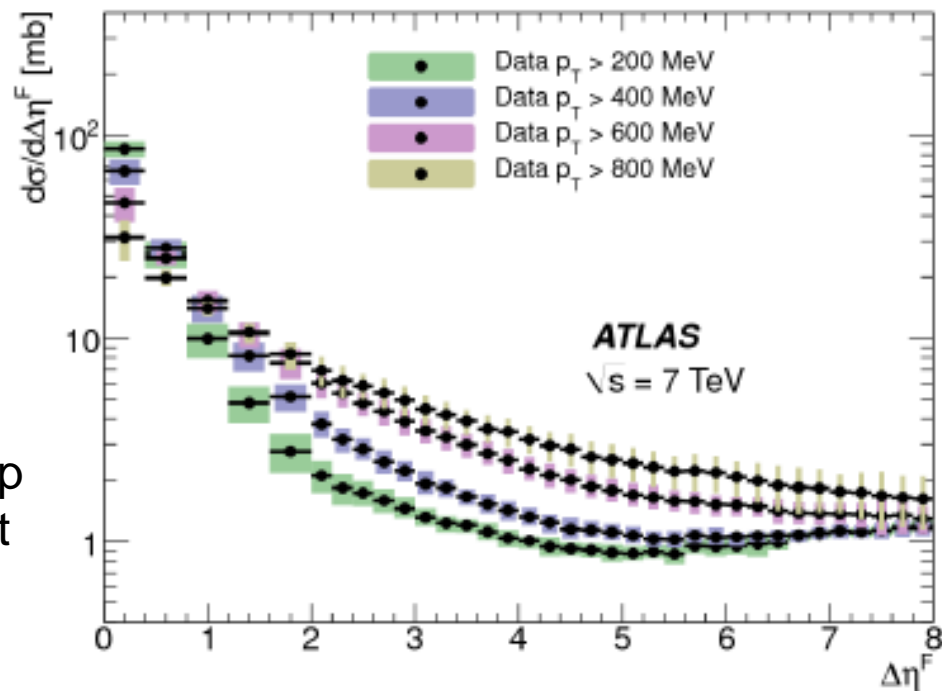
Uncertainty between  
8% and 20%

Larger  $p_T^{\text{CUT}}$



ND events move to high rapidity gap  
Uncertainty due to the choice of cut

Probe of fluctuations in  
the hadronisation process



# Rapidity gap cross section

Assuming the triple pomeron phenomenology, data are sensitive to pomeron trajectory intercept  $\alpha_{\text{IP}}(0)$

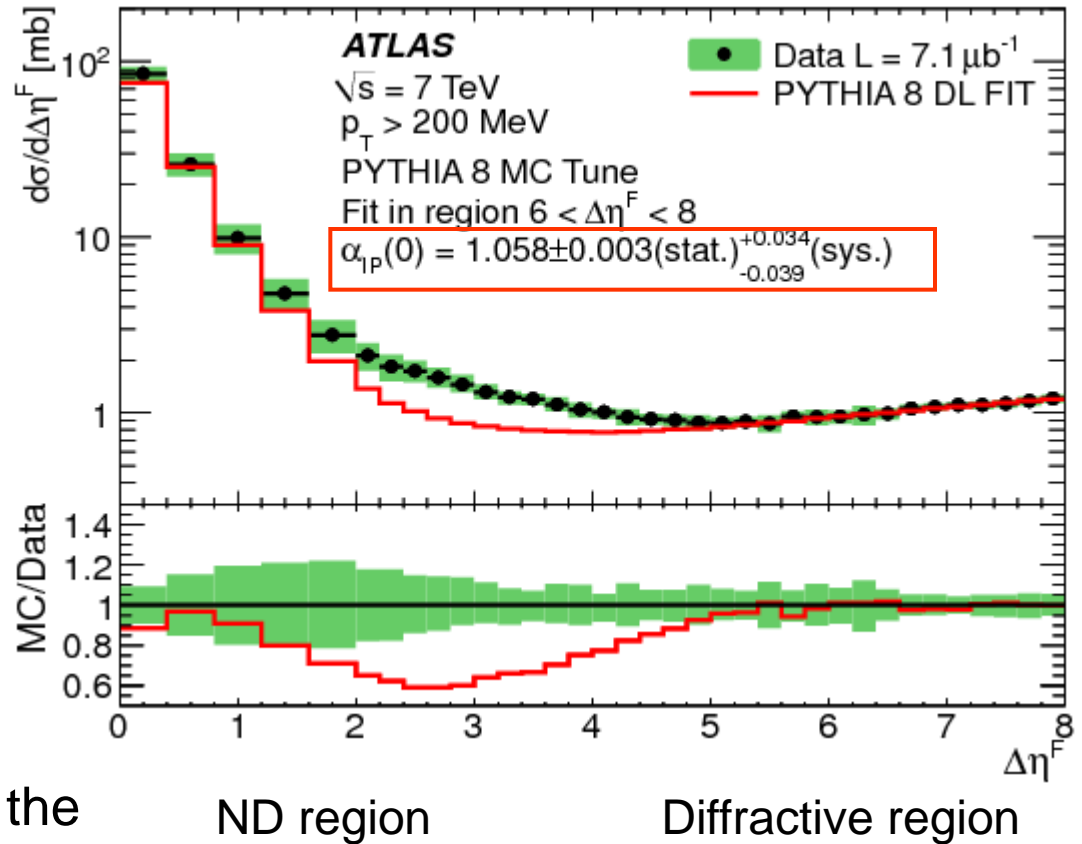
$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\xi dt} \propto \left(\frac{1}{\xi_X}\right)^{2\alpha(t)-\alpha(0)} e^{bt}$$

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

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\xi_X} \propto \frac{1}{\xi_X} \quad \boxed{s \gg M_X \gg t}$$

Pythia8 model with Donnachie and Landshoff flux parametrization

The extracted  $\alpha_{\text{IP}}(0)$  relative to the whole range is obtained from the best  $\chi^2$  on the fit on MC simulation varying  $\alpha_{\text{IP}}(0)$  for  $\Delta\eta > 6$

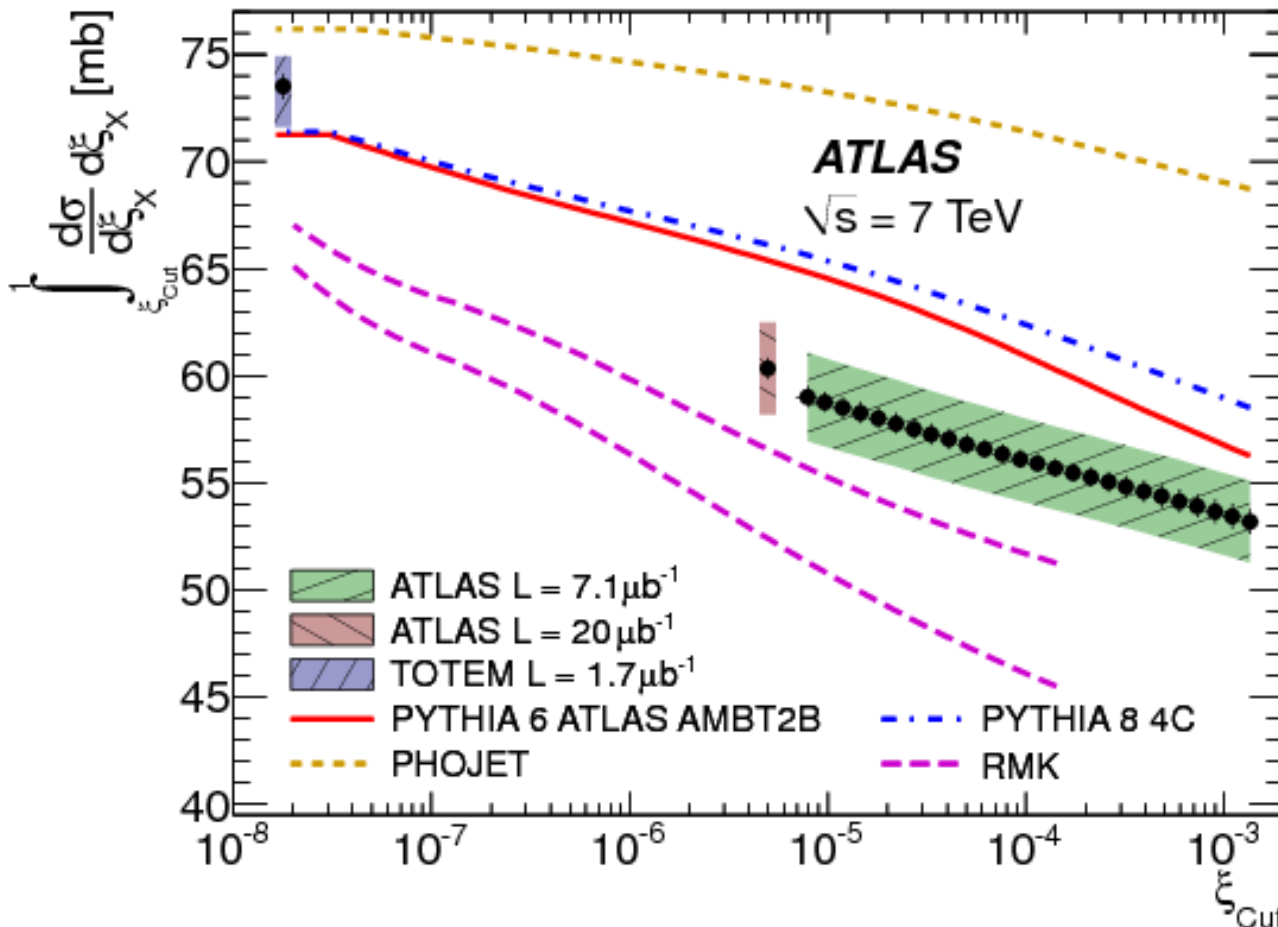


# Inelastic cross sections as function of $\xi$

Inelastic cross section without diffractive effects with  $\xi_x$  lower than cut  
 Integrated within a maximum rapidity gap

$$\log \xi_{CUT} = -0.45 \Delta \eta_{F,CUT} - 1.52$$

Systematic uncertainty for correction at most 1%



Results from TOTEM, useful for low  $\xi_x$  where PYTHIA and PHOJET underestimate

Extrapolation of ATLAS results in agreement with total inelastic cross section, in agreement with TOTEM due to large uncertainty

# Conclusion

- ATLAS measured:

## 1. Total inelastic cross section

$$\sigma_{\text{inel}} (\xi_x > 5 \cdot 10^{-6}) = 60.3 \pm 0.5(\text{sys.}) \pm 2.1(\text{lumi}) \text{ mb}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{inel}} = 69.4 \pm 2.4(\text{exp.}) \pm 6.9(\text{extr.}) \text{ mb}$$

precision of 3.5%

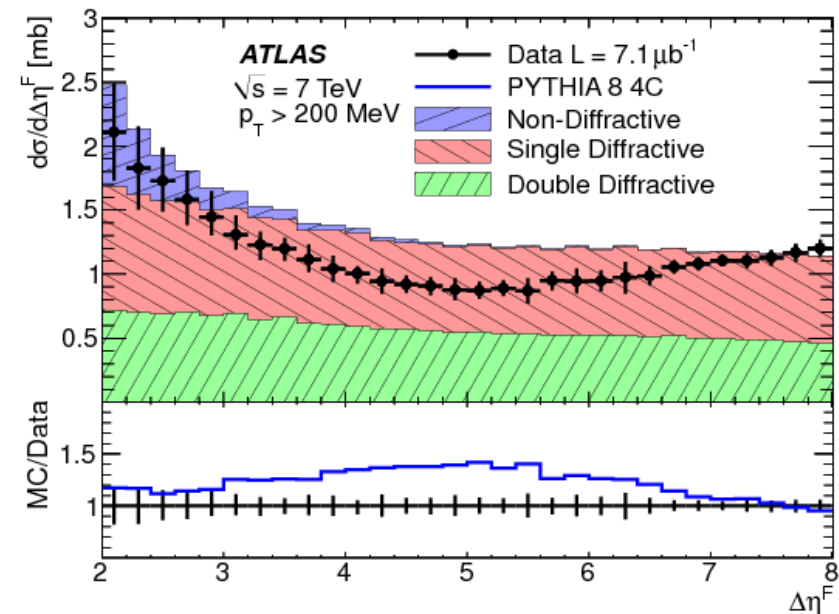
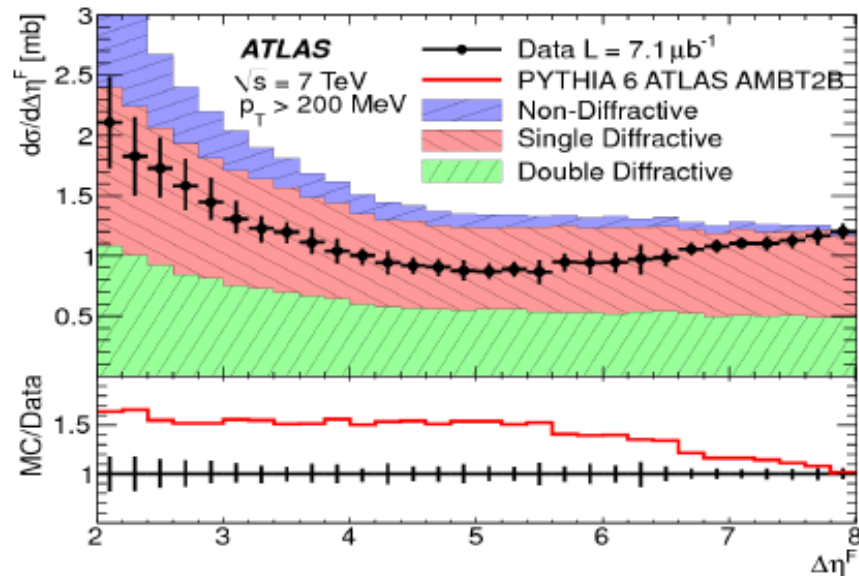
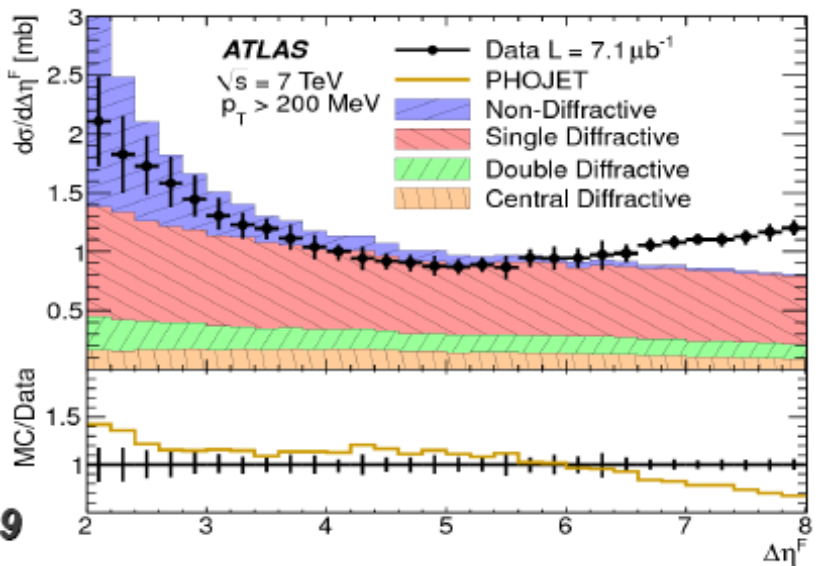
## 2. Differential inelastic cross section as function of rapidity gap

Plateau observed for large Rapidity gaps,  
problems describing the ND region,  
all models overestimate data none of models  
predict the rise at high Rapidity gaps

Back up



# Rapidity gaps measurement



At  $\Delta\eta < 2$  differential cross section varies fastest with  $\Delta\eta$

Diffractive and non-diffractive contributions different for the 3 methods

$\Delta\eta > 3$ , OK flat for the models