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$\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ scattering in ultrarelativistic UPC

Friday, July 7, 2017 10:45 AM (15 minutes)

We will report on our results for light-by-light scattering in ultraperipheral Pb-Pbcollisions at the LHC. We calculate cross section for the elementary $\gamma \gamma \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ subprocess taking into account the following contributions: (a) box mechanisms with leptons and quarks in the loops, (b) VDM-Regge mechanism (fluctuation of both photons to vector mesons and their interaction) and (c) two-gluon exchange. Our nuclear calculations are based on equivalent photon approximation in the impact parameter space. We use realistic charge form factor of nuclei which is a Fourier transform of the charge distribution in nuclei. Our estimate has shown that ultraperipheral Pb-Pb collisions can be measured at the LHC. This opened a possibility to study the $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ scattering at the LHC. Our rather optimistic predictions became a motivation for experimental groups to perform corresponding experimental studies. Very recently, the ATLAS Collaboration observed 13 events for light-by-light scattering in ultraperipheral Pb-Pb collisions. They obtained the cross section of $70\pm20(\text{stat.})\pm17(\text{syst.})$ nb. Simultaneously, our Standard Model predictions gave 49±10 nb. Our theoretical calculations were a source of ATLAS Monte Carlo simulation. The ATLAS measurement is a first experimental observation of the $\gamma \gamma \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ mechanism. In the talk, we shall present many differential distributions. We shall discuss a possibility of a separation and identification of different components (three subprocesses mentioned above). We shall present a similar analysis for the pp \rightarrow pp $\gamma\gamma$ reaction.

This talk will be based mainly on our analyses which were presented in Ref. [1] and [2].

[1] M. K{\l}usek-Gawenda, P. Lebiedowicz and A. Szczurek, Phys. Rev. C93 (2016) 044907,

[2] M. K{\l}usek-Gawenda, W. Sch\"afer and A. Szczurek, Phys. Lett. B761 (2016) 399.

[3] The ATLAS Collaboration, ATLAS-CONF-2016-111 (2016).

Experimental Collaboration

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