

#### Charm masses vs schemes (from the talk)

- When using RT VFN standard scheme, data prefer fit with m<sub>c</sub>=1.65 GeV
  - o For mc=1.65 GeV: Total:  $\chi^2$ /ndf=627.5/633
  - For mc=1.40 GeV: Total:  $\chi^2$ /ndf=730.7/633
- When using RT optimal scheme, data prefer fit with m<sub>c</sub>=1.4 GeV
  - o For mc=1.65 GeV: Total:  $\chi^2$ /ndf=695.4/633
  - For mc=1.40 GeV: Total:  $\chi^2$ /ndf=644.6/633

When using ACOT full scheme, data prefer fit with m<sub>c</sub>=1.65 GeV

- For mc=1.65 GeV: Total:  $\chi^2$ /ndf=605.7/633
- For mc=1.40 GeV: Total:  $\chi^2$ /ndf=653.9/633
- When using FFNS scheme, data prefer fit with m<sub>c</sub>=1.4 GeV
  - o For mc=1.65 GeV: Total:  $\chi^2$ /npts=852.0/565
  - For mc=1.40 GeV: Total:  $\chi^2$ /npts=567.0/565

NNLO	α <sub>s</sub> =0.1145,	α <sub>s</sub> =0.1145,	α <sub>s</sub> =0.1176,	α <sub>s</sub> =0.1176,
	m <sub>c</sub> =1.4	m <sub>c</sub> =1.65	m <sub>c</sub> =1.4	m <sub>c</sub> =1.65
$\chi^2$ /ndf	681/633	832/633	703/633	862/633



An unconstrained sea PDF set (HERAPDFI.0u)

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 In QCD fits, main constraint on PDFs at low x comes from HERA measurements of proton F<sub>2</sub>, dominated by gamma exchange.

$$F_{2} = \frac{4}{9}(xU(x) + x\overline{U}(x)) + \frac{1}{9}(xD(x) + x\overline{D}(x))$$
$$U(x)=u(x)+c(x); D(x)=d(x)+s(x)$$

- The measurements at low x are not sensitive to individual quark flavours.
  - <u>Standard flavour decomposition:</u>
    - Charm and Beauty are generated dynamically  $(Q^2>m_c^2,m_b^2)$

- In the limit  $x \rightarrow 0$  and  $Q^2 >> m_s^2$  we have  $s \sim u = \overline{d}$ , therefore:
  - $\rightarrow$  Assume at the starting scale  $Q_0^2$  symmetry  $\overline{u}=\overline{d}$  for low x
  - $\rightarrow$  Use information from dimuon NuTeV data assume s=fs $\overline{D}$



#### • At the W, Z scale:

- Sea quarks are mostly generated from the gluon density preserving the flavour symmetry  $\overline{d}=\overline{u}=s$  and hence the differences seen at the starting scale are reduced.
- Since the W and Z couplings differ from the gamma coupling, residual effects of various quark flavours may still be present.

 $W^{+} \approx u(x)\overline{d}(x) + c(x)\overline{s}(x)$   $W^{-} \approx \overline{u}(x)d(x) + \overline{c}(x)s(x)$   $Z \approx 0.29(\overline{u}(x)u(x) + \overline{c}(x)c(x)) + 0.37(\overline{d}(x)d(x) + \overline{s}(x)s(x) + \overline{b}(x)b(x))$ 

- What effects could be observed for W, Z cross section measurements if we relax PDF assumptions and also vary strange quark?
  - o We modify PDFs at the starting scale in the QCD analyses and study effects after evolution to the W, Z masses scales.



## **QCD** Settings

- Test PDFs are obtained from NLO QCD fit using HERAPDF1.0 settings and machinery. [Published in JHEP 1001:109,2010]
  - Fitted PDFs are:

$$u_{val}, d_{val}, g, \overline{U} = \overline{u} + \overline{c}, \overline{D} = \overline{d} + \overline{s}$$

- Sea S(x)= $\overline{U}(x)$ + $\overline{D}(x)$
- Strange s(x)=fsD(x)=d(x)fs/(1-fs)
  with constant fs=0.31 at Q<sub>0</sub><sup>2</sup>=1.9 GeV<sup>2</sup>



# Modified Assumptions Standard PDFs do not describe recent HERMES measurement [arXiv:0803.2993]

- Strange s(x)=fs(x)D(x) using tanh function to describe HERMES data
- Remove the  $\overline{u}=\overline{d}$  constraint at low x





- PDF uncertainties are estimated using Monte Carlo method [arXiV:0901.2504, p 41-42]
  o RMS of ~100 MC replicas of the data represents the PDF uncertainty
- Uncertainties increase considerable for the unconstrained low x sea PDF case!



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Effects are reduced when PDFs are evolved to W,Z scales, however still sizeable!

Starting Scale ( $Q_0^2 = 1.9 \text{ Gev}^2$ )

W mass scale (Q<sup>2</sup>=6464 Gev<sup>2</sup>)





- LO flavour decomposition:
  - total distribution is decreased due to large decrease of the d component which is not compensated by a slight increase of the u component.
  - o overall shape changes due to obvious shape change of d component.





Standard PDFs







Unconstrained low x sea PDFs: decreased total distribution 







# NLO W, Z cross section predictions

- Using unconstrained PDFs all distributions decrease compared to standard PDFs:
  - o Up to 10% in the plateau region!
  - d(x) decreases much more than u(x) is increasing for the uncostrained PDF set, hence W,Z distributions will decrease compared to standard PDF set!





- Flavour decomposition for DY, photon exchange only:
  - o total is distribution is constant, but flavours are different (d and u)





#### Effect on the Mee distribution

- Mass distribution is a good observable for the effect of unconstrained low x sea PDF
  - o 6% variation at the peak.

 In the region of the photon exchange (Mee of 60 GeV) we see no difference.



# Uncertainties for Standard vs Unconstrained PDFs





- Presented the effect of using an unconstrained PDF set at low x sea on the W,Z cross sections:
  - Sizeable effects are observed even after QCD evolution:
    - Up to 10 % decrease in the plateau region of the W,Z cross sections as compared to the case of using standard PDF sets;
    - Up to 5% increase of the experimental uncertainties in the plateau region of the W,Z cross sections as compared to the case of using standard PDF sets;
    - Mee an interesting observable which shows clear effects at the MZ peak, separated from the DY region where no effects are observed.
- The unconstrained low x sea PDF set is already available in the LHAPDF format compatible with v.5.8.1.
- This study rises questions related to the assumptions made to extract the PDFs which impacts the W,Z productions at the LHC
  - Could be presented at the dedicated discussion session at the Low X workshop, PDF4LHC workshop



## Hermes s(x)

- Standard assumption that s(x)=fsD(x) with fs=0.31 does not describe recent HERMES measurement [arXiv:0803.2993]
- Using fs=fs(x) with  $f_s(x) = f_s(0.5(1 + tanh(-(x xcent)xrise)))$ gives better description of the Hermes measurement.





### Packages used for the W,Z predictions

Various codes have been used and cross checked for NLO predictions:

- o Calculations by MCFM package validated by SANC group
  - using HERAPDFI.0 set



• Private NLO code from James Stirling (as used by MSTW)



### **Effects on Ratio Distributions**

- Propagating the unconstrained low x sea PDF set to the ratios, the differences are still observed.
- Unconstrained PDFs give results outside "conventional" total error estimates





Differences are up to 5% at the plateau while for the unconstrained sea PDF is 10%

