Central exclusive meson production in proton-proton collisions in ALICE at the LHC

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Exclusive meson production in ALICE

Elements of Regge theory

Diffractive event topologies

Models for diffractive production of resonances

The ALICE detector

ALICE double gap data: pion and kaon pairs

Summary

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Regge theory

Hadronic interaction due to exchange of objects (Reggeons), and characterized by the associated Regge trajectory:



figures from:

S.Donnachie, G.Dosch, P.Landshoff, O.Nachtmann,

Pomeron Physics and QCD, Cambridge University Press, 2002.

• $\alpha(t) = 1 + \varepsilon + \alpha' t$, with intercept $1 + \varepsilon$ ($\varepsilon < 0$) and slope α' . For meson trajectories $\varepsilon \sim -0.5$, $\alpha' \sim 0.9 \text{ GeV}^{-2}$.

Hadron-hadron cross section

- Cross section contr. of traj. $\alpha(t) = 1 + \varepsilon + \alpha' t$ is $\sigma_{tot} \propto s^{\varepsilon}$
 - \rightarrow Reggeon contributions decrease with increasing energy
- Hadron-hadron cross section



Donnachie-Landshoff fits: $\sigma_{tot} = X \cdot s^{0.08} + Y \cdot s^{-0.45}$

- At high energy, the Pomeron trajectory dominates
- Regge language: Diffractive reactions are Pomeron induced

Soft Pomeron:
$$\alpha(t) = 1 + \varepsilon + \alpha' t$$
, $\varepsilon \sim 0.08$, $\alpha' \sim 0.25 \,\text{GeV}^{-2}$.

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Event topologies



central prod. central prod./single diss. central prod./double diss.

- Pomerons and Reggeons contribute to these topologies
- Rapidity gaps can also be due to photon and W[±],Z-exchange
- Are there reactions to which only Reggeons contribute ? → yes, charge exchange reactions
- Pomerons and photons contribute differently in pp, pA and AA

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The spin structure of the soft Pomeron

- Properties of the Pomeron (trajectory): charge Q=0, colour charge $Q_c=0$, isospin I=0, charge conj. C=1
- Spin structure: \rightarrow scalar, vector, tensor exchange?
- Spin structure can be tested in exclusive reactions



photo prod. $\pi^+\pi^-$ -pairs



central diffr. prod.

Calculate amplitude for scalar, vector and tensor exchange

- Ewerz, Maniatis, Nachtmann, Ann. Phys. 342 (2014) 31.
- Lebiedowicz, Nachtmann, Szczurek, Ann. Phys. 344 (2014) 301.
- Lebiedowicz, Nachtmann, Szczurek, Phys. Rev. D91(2015)074023.
- Ewerz, Lebiedowicz, Nachtmann, Szczurek, PL B763 (2016)382.

Helicity amplitudes in pp elastic scattering

■ 16 helicity amplitudes, 5 independent:

$$\begin{array}{l} \phi_1(s,t) = < + + \mid \mathsf{T} \mid + + > \\ \phi_2(s,t) = < + + \mid \mathsf{T} \mid - - > \\ \phi_3(s,t) = < + - \mid \mathsf{T} \mid + - > \\ \phi_4(s,t) = < + - \mid \mathsf{T} \mid - + > \\ \phi_5(s,t) = < + + \mid \mathsf{T} \mid + - > \end{array}$$

Goldberger et al., PR 120 (1960) 2250 Buttimore et al., PR D18 (1978) 694; PR D59 (1999) 114010.

	helicity	tensor	vector	scalar
$\phi_1(s,t)$	non-flip	8s ²	8s ²	8s ²
$\phi_2(s,t)$	double-flip	$10m_p^2t$	$16m_p^2 t$	$2s^2t/m_p^2$
$\phi_3(s,t)$	non-flip	8s ²	8s ²	8s ²
$\phi_4(s,t)$	double-flip	-10m ² _p t	-16m ² _p t	$-2s^{2}t/m_{p}^{2}$
$\phi_5(s,t)$	single-flip	$-8 \mathrm{sm}_p \sqrt{-t}$	$-8 \mathrm{sm}_p \sqrt{-t}$	$-4s^2\sqrt{-t}/m_p$

Table: $s \gg m_p^2$, |t|

•
$$\sigma_{tot}(p,p) = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{s(s-4m_p^2)}} \sum_{s_1,s_2} \mathcal{I}m < 2s_1, 2s_2 |T| 2s_1, 2s_2 > |_{t=0}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{s(s-4m_p^2)}} \mathcal{I}m[\phi_1(s,0) + \phi_3(s,0)]$$

(Ewerz, Lebiedowicz, Nachtmann, Szczurek, PL B763 (2016)382.)

 σ_{tot} has no predictive power on scalar/vector/tensor nature of Pomeron

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The vector Pomeron

Problem with the vector Pomeron:



- The minus sign for amplitude *p̄p* versus *pp* is of same origin as in the case of *e*⁺*e*⁻ versus *e*⁻*e*⁻ scattering in the one photon exchange approximation (vector exchange has C=-1).
- Opt. theorem: $\sigma_t = \Im m A(t=0), \rightarrow \sigma_t(\bar{p}, p)^{P_V} = -\sigma_t(p, p)^{P_V}$
- Vector Pomeron not a viable option, we are left with scalar and tensor Pomeron, both corresponding to C=+1 exchanges.
- Vector Pomeron doesn't contribute to real Compton scattering amplitude
 - \rightarrow doesn't contribute to total photoabsorption cross section

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Spin structure of soft Pomeron vs STAR measurement

Measurement of single spin asym. A_N by the STAR coll. in elast. pp scattering, √s=200 GeV, Phys.Lett.B719 (2013) 62.



$$\bullet r_5(s,t) = \frac{2m_p\phi_5(s,t)}{\sqrt{-t}\,\mathcal{I}m[\phi_1(s,t)+\phi_3(s,t)]}$$

- STAR data point
- calc. by C.Ewerz, P.Lebiedowicz, O.Nachtmann, A.Szczurek

Universal nature of Pomeron

- Are there observables in central diffractive production sensitive to scalar/vector/tensor nature of Pomeron?
- Lebiedowicz, Nachtmann, Szczurek, Ann. Phys. 344 (2014)301.
 "Exclusive central diffractive production of scalar and pseudoscalar mesons; tensorial vs. vectorial pomeron"



DAMA model of central production

- DAMA model (Dual Amplitude with Mandelstam Analyticity) requires complex non-linear trajectories, complex part of trajectory derived from the width of the resonances. (A.I. Bugrij et al., Fortschr. Phys. 21, 427 (1973))
- In DAMA model, the direct channel pole decomposition of the dual amplitude $A(M_x^2, t)$ is relevant, with contributions from different non-linear, complex trajectories $\alpha_i(M_x^2)$, with $A(M_X^2, t) = a \sum_{i=f,P} \sum_J \frac{[f_i(t)]^{J+2}}{J \alpha_i(M_X^2)}$.
- The cross section Pomeron-Pomeron \rightarrow resonance is defined by the optical theorem: $\sigma_t^{PP}(M_{\chi}^2) = \Im m A(M_{\chi}^2, t = 0).$
- Cross section proton-proton → resonance is defined by convoluting the Pomeron distribution in the proton with cross section at Pomeron level.

(R.Fiore, L.Jenkovszky, R.Schicker, Eur. Phys. J. C78 (2018) no.6, 468)

Non-linear Regge trajectories

Real and imaginary part of trajectory obey dispersion relation.
 Imag. part related to width of resonance: Γ(M_R) = ^{3m α(M_R²)}/_{α'M_R}



figures from:

R.Fiore, L.Jenkovszky, R.Schicker, Eur.Phys.J. C76 (2016) no.1,38.

DAMA model of central production

• FJS-model based on Dual Amplitude with Mandelstam Analyticity predicts double differential cross section $d\sigma/dMdp_T$ for resonances on trajectories.



figures from:

R.Fiore, L.Jenkovszky, R.Schicker, Eur.Phys.J. C78 (2018) no.6,468.

The ALICE Detector



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ALICE particle identification capability

 Particle identification by specific ionisation loss dE/dx in TPC, and by TOF detector



ALICE data on central production

Double Pomeron events in ALICE are characterized by forward beam particles, or their remnants, and a hadronic system at mid-rapidity



central barrel

 Analyze double Pomeron events from min-bias data, or from double-gap triggered events



Double gap triggered event in ALICE





Run:288640 Timestamp:2018-06-26 07:20:29(UTC) System: pp Energy: 13 TeV Double-gap triggered event

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ALICE data diffractive pion-pair production

P.Lebiedowicz, O.Nachtmann, A.Szczurek, Phys.Rev.D93 (2016),054015.





 ALICE data pp at 13 TeV: π⁺π⁻ invariant mass spectrum in double gap events (veto in V0 and AD det.)

ALICE data diffractive kaon-pair production

P.Lebiedowicz, O.Nachtmann, A.Szczurek, Phys.Rev.D98 (2018),014001.



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ALICE analyses of double gap events

- Study double Pomeron events in min-bias data, or from DG trig. events
- Partial Wave Analysis of resonances in search of glueballs, hybrids and exotica
- Possible mixing schemes of scalar glueballs with f₀ resonances depend on the existence of the f₀(1370), see
 W.Ochs, The Status of Glueballs, J.Phys.G40 (2013) 043001.
- Strangeonium sector so far not well known. Up to a mass of 2.2 GeV/ c^2 , 22 states are expected, however only 7 are known: maximally mixed $\eta \eta'$, $\phi(1019)$, $h_1(1386)$, $f_1(1426)$, $f_2'(1525)$, $\phi(1680)$, $\phi_3(1853)$. T.Barnes, N.Black, P.R.Page, Strong decays of strange quarkonia, Phys.Rev.D 68, (2003) 054014.

Summary, Outlook

Summary analyses ALICE double gap events

- Study of centrally produced resonances
 - diffractive production
 - photo production
- Spin structure of the soft Pomeron
- DAMA model for resonances on trajectories

Outlook

• expect 200 pb⁻¹ in pp at \sqrt{s} =14 TeV by end of Run3, stat. x 40.

BACKUP

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The Tensor Pomeron and Low-x Deep Inelastic Scattering

- D.Britzger, C.Ewerz, S.Glazov, O.Nachtmann, St.Schmitt, arXiv: 1901.08524
 "The Tensor Pomeron and Low-x Deep Inelastic Scattering"
- Study of structure functions in DIS, which are given by the absorptive part of the forward virtual Compton amplitude
- Soft and hard Pomeron, plus f₂ Reggeon exchange
- Vector Pom. doesn't contribute to real Compton scatt. ampl., hence doesn't contribute to total photoabsorpt. cross section



Figure 5, Britzger et al.:

Figure: Comparison of the global fit to the photoproduction cross sections. The Reggeon contribution is indicated. The experimental uncertainties of the fit are indicated as shaded bands.

 \rightarrow The Tensor Pomeron gives excellent description of the real photoabsorption cross section.

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Regge Phenomenology and QCD

 Frank Wilczek, Opening Talk Quark Matter Conference 2014 "Quarks (and Glue) at Frontiers of Knowledge"

- Challenges, Opportunities

- The study of the strong interaction is now a mature subject we have a theory of the fundamentals* (QCD) that is correct* and complete*.
- Regge phenomenology is strikingly successful, both in scattering and spectroscopy, but its QCD foundations are weak.

Experimentalists understanding:

In QCD, the Pomeron is a (reggeized) multi-gluon exchange in colour singlet state.

Interest in Central Diffraction

- The environment of two Pomerons fusing and hadronizing is a gluon rich environment, hence an interesting place to look for glueballs and hybrids.
- The mother of all central measurements done with the Axial Field spectrometer at CERN ISR (pp @ $\sqrt{s} = 63$ GeV).

A Search for Glueballs and a Study of Double Pomeron Exchange at the CERN Intersecting Storage Rings, Nucl. Phys. B264 (1986) 154



The COMPASS experiment at SPS



Experimental results from COMPASS



T.A. Armstrong et al. [Z. Phys. C51 (1991)]

- Production of $\rho(770)$ disappears rapidly with increasing \sqrt{s}
- Low-mass enhancement and f₀(980) remain practically unchanged → characteristic for s-independent Pomeron-Pomeron scattering
- Kinematic selection cannot single out pure DPE sample

A. Austregesilo SaporeGravis Workshop, dec 2-5, 2013

ightarrow Partial Wave Analysis of two-track final state needed

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