4. Hadron-hadron collisions



Total cross section is factorized into a "hard part" and into a "normalization" from process independent parton distribution functions.

For all cross section estimation the knowledge of the PDF is necessary. $_{45}$

Example process: jet production in pp

Jet production in proton-proton collision is an excellent test of PDFs, in particular of gluon PDF, since there are large direct contributions from $gg \rightarrow gg$ and $qg \rightarrow qg$:





$$\sigma_{pp \to 2 jets} = \sigma_{qg \to 2 jets} \otimes q_1 \otimes g_2 + \cdots$$



Inclusive jet production



Simplest process: Drell-Yan production



These kind of processes can also be used to improve PDFs.

Measured pp $\rightarrow \mu\mu X$: excellent agreement w/ predictions.



Alessandro Guida, PhD Thesis, 2022

Predicted at measured cross sections at LHC

ATL-PHYS-PUB-2021-032



Impressive achievement of theoretical and experimental physics.

Remark: total pp cross section



The hadron-hadron cross section can be decomposed into elastic and inelastic contributions (including diffractive and non-diffractive topologies), each of which can be described by non-perturbative pheno-menological models, based on general principles such as unitarity and analyticity

Closer look to the elastic and diffractive process

Elastic and diffractive (single or double diffractive)



Regge theory (phenomenological):

Describes single and double diffractive scattering by an exchange of an color singlet object with the quantum numbers of the vacuum: Pomeron. The Pomeron also dominates the elastic scattering at high energies.

Single Diffraction (SD) is similar to elastic scattering except that one of the protons breaks up, producing particles in a limited rapidity region. In Double Diffraction (DD), both protons break up. In SD events there is a rapidity gap between the proton and the broken-up proton (same in DD)

Completely different than in hard scattering of partons \rightarrow color string