

Detecting Elastic pp Scattering by Radiative Photons at the LHC

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In collaboration with :

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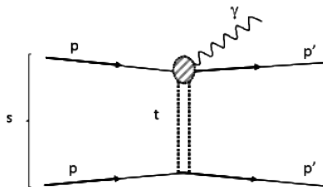
21. September 2010

Outline

- 1 Motivation
 - Introduction
 - Theory
 - Experiment
- 2 Analysis
 - Triggers and Background
 - Results from simulations
- 3 Reconstructing the vertex
 - Methods of Analysis
 - Distributions
- 4 Conclusions

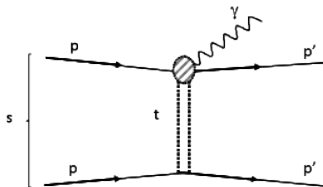
Introduction

Why study brehmsstrahlung photons at the LHC?



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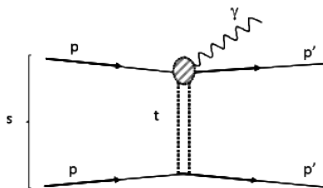
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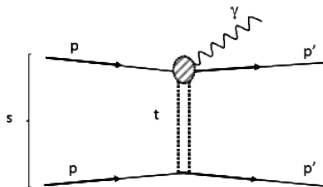
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- Identification of elastic pp events and measurement of the elastic pp cross section (assuming the elastic slope is known).
- Evaluation of total pp cross section and luminosity, since the radiative cross section is proportional to the ratio $(\sigma_{el}/\sigma_{tot})^2$.
- Alignment of the Zero Degree Calorimeters (ZDCs).

Theory

The probability to radiate a photon with energy $k \ll E$ is given by

(V.A Khoze, J.W. Lamsa, R. Orava, M.G. Ryskin : 'Forward Physics at the LHC, Detecting Elastic pp Scattering by Radiative Photons, arXiv/hep-ph:1007.3721)

$$\frac{4\pi}{\rho} \frac{d\sigma_k}{\sigma_{el}^{pp}} = \frac{\alpha_{em}}{\pi} d \cos \theta_k \frac{dk}{k} \int_0^1 \theta_s d\theta_s \exp\left(-\rho \frac{\theta_s^2}{2}\right) \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \mathcal{F}$$

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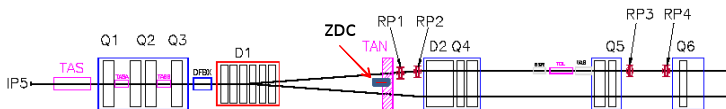
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At small angles $\frac{d\sigma_{el}^{pp}}{dt} \rightarrow \sigma_{el}^{pp} B \exp(-B|t|)$, since $|t| \rightarrow p^2 \theta_s^2 = p_t^2$

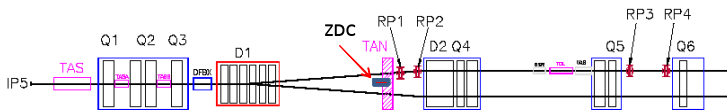
Experimental setup

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- These photons give a distinct physical signal, since the distribution the photons give rise to peaks at zero degrees.

The design of the ZDC

- The ZDCs of CMS have electromagnetic (EM) and hadronic (HAD) sections as in the following layout :

(Pictures from "Performance of the combined zero degree calorimeter for CMS", O A Grachov et al, Journal of Physics: Conference Series 160, 2009)



- The EM section has five quartz fiber towers between absorber plates of tungsten, all aligned horizontally, the detector covering a range $x, y \in [-4, 4]$ cm.



Triggers and Background

- Main background consists of photons emitted in inelastic diffractive events.
Non-diffractive events constitute a secondary background.

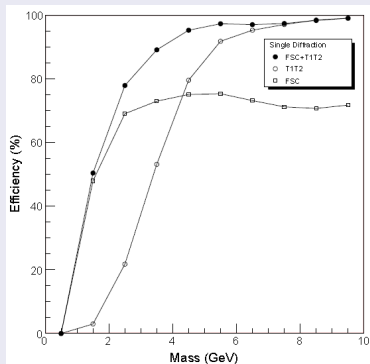
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Efficiencies of detecting SD events

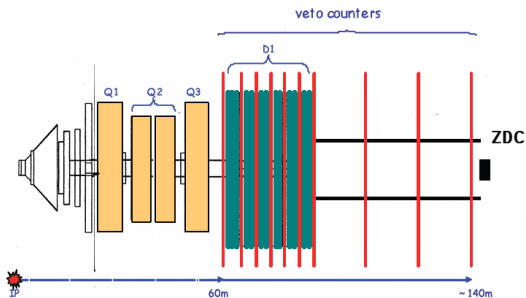


Proposed Forward Shower Counters

- To reduce background further, Forward Shower Counters, FSCs, can be added closely surrounding the beam pipes, at $z \in (60, 120)\text{m}$ from the interaction point

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magnification x vs. y: 70

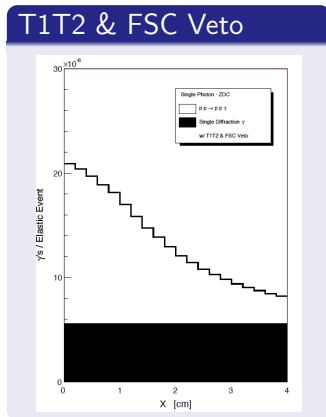
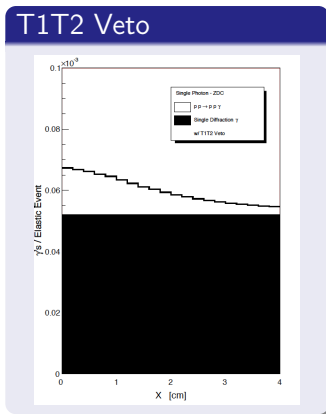


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- We reconstruct the vertex by examining ratios of energies such that we compare the tower with next highest energy to the one with the highest measured energy $\frac{E(2nd\ most)}{E(max)}$.
- The energy measurements in the towers are simulated from the expected resolution of the ZDC

('Status of Zero Degree Calorimeter for CMS Experiment' O A Grachov et al, AIPConf.Proc.867:258-265, 2006):

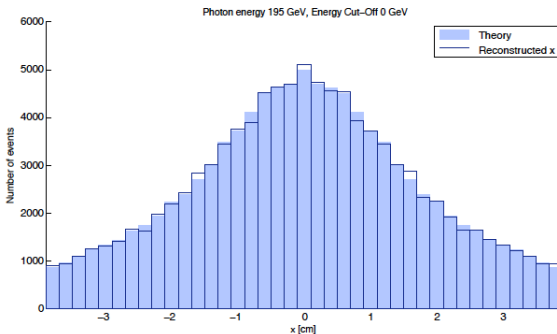
$$\frac{\sigma}{E} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{0.70}{\sqrt{E}}\right)^2 + (0.03)^2}$$

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- Radiative photons could be used to identify elastic pp events and measure the cross section of these events.
- The photons are expected to give a clear physical signal, which can be distinguished from the background. This signal can be reconstructed, taking into account the design of the ZDCs.
- Further applications are evaluation of the total pp cross section and alignment of the ZDCs.

Thank you for your attention!