Studies of properties of soft diffractive events based on output from Pythia Monte Carlo generator

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Particle Production Processes at the LHC



Motivation: ATLAS Data



Diffractive events were measured by ATLAS Experiment.

Information about particles produced centrally was enriched by information about scattered proton measured by ATLAS Forward Proton detectors.

Initial results show disagreement between data and MC in basic particle distributions: > number of charged particles,

- their pT spectrum and
- pseudorapidity (η) spectrum.



Monte Carlo Generators

- Widely used in high energy physics.
- > Allow to take into account e.g. detector effects \rightarrow data interpretation.
- MC engines based on physics models.
- Models have adjustable parameters.



Our case:

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➢ PYTHIA 8.243.

- MBRepsilon } parameters of Pomeron trajectory.
- MBRalpha

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> Parameters:

MBR model*

- MBRsigma0 total Pomeron-proton coupling cross section.
- MBRbeta0 Pomeron-proton coupling.
- MBRm2Min lowest mass-squared of the dissociated system.
- MBRdyminflux minimum width of the rapidity gap.
- MBRdyminSig
 - } cross section suppression for small gap region.
- MBRdymin

Our Project

Reminder: Pythia MC predictions disagree with ATLAS data.

Aim: to check how these parameters modify particle distributions.



Used cuts:

- > $0.01 < \xi < 0.2$ preselection for a proton at least one of such ξ ,
- \succ pz < 0 → 0.02 < ξ < 0.1 AFP detector acceptance (proton on side C),
- non-zero charge ATLAS tracker sensitive only to charged particles,
- \gg $|\eta| < 2.5$ acceptance of ATLAS tracker,
- > pT > 500 MeV standard reconstruction threshold in ATLAS tracker.

Results - Example

Ratio close to $1 \rightarrow$ no change in shape

Ratio smaller than $1 \rightarrow$ visible change in shape



Summary

Parameter	Default	Range	n slope	pT slope	η slope	σ·ε/(σ_def·ε_def)
MBRalpha	0.25	0.1 - 0.4	no change	no change	no change	(0.95; 1.07)
MBRbeta0	6.566	2 - 10	< def* \rightarrow smaller avg. multiplicity	slightly smaller pT	no change	(0.90; 1.33)
MBRdymin	2.0	1 - 5	> def* \rightarrow smaller avg. multiplicity	less particles with high pT	no change	(1.09; 0.57)
MBRdyminflux	2.3	1 - 5	no change	no change	no change	(1.02; 1.10)
MBRdyminSig	0.5	0.001 - 5	no change	no change	no change	(1.00; 0.87)
MBRepsilon	0.104	0.02 - 0.14	< def* \rightarrow smaller avg. multiplicity	no change	no change	(0.89; 1.03)
MBRm2Min	1.5	1 - 2	no change	no change	no change	(0.95; 0.96)
MBRsigma0	2.82	1 - 5	> def* \rightarrow smaller avg. multiplicity	no change	no change	(0.46; 1.77)



- We checked which parameters have an impact on particle distribution.
- Encouraging initial results should trigger further studies in this direction!



