





# Diffraction and exclusive processes at small x at the LHeC

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for the LHeC working group on *Physics at high parton densities (ep and eA)* 

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### Small x physics at the LHeC

DRAFT 1.1
Geneva, March 24, 2012
CERN report

- <sup>4</sup> ECFA report
- 5 NuPECC report
- 6 LHeC-Note-2011-003 GEN



Draft of the Conceptual Design Report. Passed referees check. To be printed this spring.

#### A Large Hadron Electron Collider at CERN

Report on the Physics and Design Concepts for Machine and Detector

LHeC Study Group



To be submitted for publication

#### Structure of the small x chapter

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#### talk by Nestor Armesto

this talk



### Small x physics at the LHeC

- Parton Saturation
- PDFs and nonlinear evolution at small x
- Inclusive Diffraction
- Exclusive Production of Vector Mesons
- Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering
- Forward jets and parton dynamics
- DIS on nuclei
- Generalized parton distribution functions
- Unintegrated parton distribution functions

In particular, in order to test/pin down saturation one needs to investigate both inclusive processes (structure functions) and exclusive processes, like vector meson production, which can provide information about impact parameter profile.





#### Diffraction

$$x_{IP} = \frac{Q^2 + M_X^2 - t}{Q^2 + W^2}$$

$$\beta = \frac{Q^2}{Q^2 + M_X^2 - t}$$

$$x_{Bj} = x_{I\!P}\beta$$

momentum fraction of the Pomeron w.r.t hadron

momentum fraction of parton w.r.t Pomeron

Theoretical description of such process is in terms colorless exchange : the Pomeron.

For large scales the QCD factorization was shown.

The diffractive structure functions are convolutions of diffractive pdfs and coefficient functions.

#### What can be done at LHeC

- Tests of factorization of diffractive parton distributions in an extended kinematic range (ep and eA).
- Sensitivity and relation to saturation physics (smaller scales involved).
- New domain for the diffractive masses.
- Study relation between diffraction in ep and shadowing in eA.



#### **Diffractive kinematics**

Methods for selection of diffractive events: Leading proton tagging, large rapidity gap selection

Diffractive Kinematics at x<sub>IP</sub>=0.01





### Rapidity gap selection

Correlation of  $x_{IP}$ with the pseudorapidity of the most forward particle in the diffractive final state  $\eta_{max}$ 

Cut at  $\eta_{\max}=5$ 

For larger  $x_{IP}$  leading proton method could be used.

Two methods are complementary with some region of common acceptance.



# **LHO** Diffractive structure function

Pseudodata simulated using the large rapidity gap method and leading proton method.

Large differences depending on the acceptance of the detector: 1 vs 10 degree.

Statistical errors less than 1% for a sample luminosity of  $\ 2\ fb^{-1}$ 

Comparison of HERA data shows huge increase in kinematic range.



#### LHO Diffractive mass distribution

**RAPGAP** simulation





Two types of events in the case of scattering off nuclei



Inclusive diffraction on nuclei is an unexplored area.

- Can one use factorization for the description of DDIS on nuclei?
- Impact parameter dependence?
- Relation between diffraction in ep and shadowing in eA.
- Current theoretical predictions vary a lot.

# **LHO** Diffractive structure func. in eA

Diffractive structure function for Pb



Glass Condensate.

Models differ a lot in magnitude between the different scenarios within one framework as well as between different frameworks.

## LH<sub>0</sub> Diffractive structure func. in ep/eA

Diffractive to inclusive ratio for protons and Pb

![](_page_11_Figure_2.jpeg)

The constant diffractive/total ratio as a function of W can be explained in saturation models: in the black disk limit the energy dependencies approximately cancel in diffractive/total ratio.

Models incorporate saturation but show variation with energy. Large differences between models. Very large sensitivity due to lack of impact parameter information. Enhanced diffraction in the nuclear case.

LHeC can provide here essential information on the saturation limit in ep/eA and constrain impact parameter dependence.

![](_page_12_Figure_0.jpeg)

# LHO Exclusive production of vector mesons

 $\gamma^* p \to pV$   $V = \rho, \phi, J/\Psi, \Upsilon$ 

![](_page_13_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Figure_3.jpeg)

At first approximation described by two gluon exchange

HERA demonstrated that such measurements allow to probe the details of the gluonic structure of the proton.

#### Goals for LHeC:

Tests of nonlinear, saturation phenomena. Tests of GPDs. Large lever arm in Q2 allows to test universality of GPDs. Impact parameter profile. Diffusion at low x.

### Exclusive diffraction and saturation

![](_page_14_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Figure_2.jpeg)

- Exclusive diffractive production of VM is an excellent process for extracting the dipole amplitude
- Suitable process for estimating the 'blackness' ( the interaction.
- t-dependence provides an information about the impact parameter profile of the amplitude.

![](_page_14_Figure_6.jpeg)

Central black region growing with decrease of x.

Large momentum transfer t probes small impact parameter where the density of interaction region is most dense.

## LH<sub>0</sub> Exclusive diffraction: vector mesons

#### $\sigma^{\gamma p \to J/\Psi + p}(W)$

- b-Sat dipole model (Golec-Biernat, Wuesthoff, Bartels, Motyka, Kowalski, Watt)
- eikonalised: with saturation
- I-Pomeron: no saturation

![](_page_15_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Figure_6.jpeg)

Large effects even for the tintegrated observable.

Different W behavior depending whether saturation is included or not.

Simulated data are from extrapolated fit to HERA data

LHeC can distinguish between the different scenarios.

### LH<sub>C</sub> Exclusive diffraction: vector mesons

 $\sigma^{\gamma p \to 1+p}(W)$ 

![](_page_16_Figure_2.jpeg)

Similar analysis for heavier states.

Smaller sensitivity to the saturation effects.

Models do have large uncertainty. Normalization needs to be adjusted to fit the current HERA data.

Precise measurements possible in the regime well beyond HERA kinematics.

Note: the theoretical curves have been rescaled by a factor of 2 to match the data.

# LHO Exclusive diffraction: t-dependence

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

### **Exclusive processes: DVCS**

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

DVCS sensitive to singlet quark and gluon GPDs

HERA indicate larger size of quark distribution than that of gluons

LHeC could determine the x evolution of both quark and gluon GPDs in a wide kinematic range.

# **Exclusive processes: DVCS**

MILOU generator using Frankfurt, Freund, Strikman model.

low x

![](_page_19_Figure_2.jpeg)

large scales

# LH<sub>0</sub> Exclusive diffraction on nuclei

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Figure_2.jpeg)

incoherent

significant for

 $|t| < 0.02 \text{ GeV}^2$ 

 $0.05 < |t| < 0.7 \text{ GeV}^2$ 

nuclear breakup into nucleons

$$|t| > 0.7 \; \mathrm{GeV}^2$$

pion production will become large

Resolving between these two requires forward instrumentation: Zero Degree Calorimeter

# **Exclusive diffraction on nuclei**

Possibility of using this process to learn about the gluon distribution in the nucleus and its spatial distribution. Possible nuclear resonances at small t?

![](_page_21_Figure_2.jpeg)

Incoherent production is dominant except for low |t|.

The dip structure is sensitive to details of the impact parameter profile.

Resolving the dips:

$$\Delta t = 2\sqrt{-t}\Delta p_T(J/\Psi)$$

 $\Delta p_T < 10 \text{ MeV}$  $\Delta t < 0.01 \text{ GeV}^2$ 

# LHO Exclusive diffraction on nuclei

Forward t=0 coherent cross section provides also information about the gluon density in the nucleus.

Strong variation with energy and mass number A.

Large sensitivity to saturation and shadowing effects.

Nuclear modification ration for the gluon density squared.

![](_page_22_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Figure_0.jpeg)

- Odderon is a C odd partner of the Pomeron. In QCD in the lowest order it is a system of three noninteracting gluons.
- In leading In I/x its evolution is given by the Bartels-Kwiecinski-Praszalowicz evolution equation.
- Search performed at HERA, bounds put on the cross sections.
- The cross sections will not grow with energy (should be constant). High luminosity at LHeC will help in searches for different channels.

$$\gamma^* p \to C p \quad C = \pi^0, \eta, \eta', \eta_c, \eta_b$$

Another process: Exclusive photo or electroproduction of two pions

Pair may be in C-symmetric or C-antisymmetric state. Pomeron contributes to  $\ C^+$  Odderon contributes to  $\ C^-$ 

![](_page_23_Figure_8.jpeg)

# LH<sub>0</sub> Odderon and charge asymmetry

Charge asymmetry of two pions:

$$A(Q^{2}, t, m_{2\pi}^{2}) = \frac{\int \cos\theta \, d\sigma(W^{2}, Q^{2}, t, m_{2\pi}^{2}, \theta)}{\int d\sigma(W^{2}, Q^{2}, t, m_{2\pi}^{2}, \theta)} = \frac{\int_{-1}^{1} \cos\theta \, d\cos\theta \, 2 \, \operatorname{Re}\left[\mathcal{M}_{P}^{\gamma_{L}^{*}}(\mathcal{M}_{O}^{\gamma_{L}^{*}})^{*}\right]}{\int_{-1}^{1} \, d\cos\theta \left[|\mathcal{M}_{P}^{\gamma_{L}^{*}}|^{2} + |\mathcal{M}_{O}^{\gamma_{L}^{*}}|^{2}\right]},$$

heta polar decay angle of  $\pi^+$  in the rest frame of two-pion system

Sensitive to the interference of the amplitudes with Pomeron and Odderon exchange.

![](_page_24_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_1.jpeg)

- LHeC has an unprecedented potential for exploring small x physics and high parton density regime.
- Inclusive Diffraction: QCD factorization tests, diffractive parton densities, nonlinear effects.
- Exclusive vector meson production and Deeply Virtual Compton Scattering: constraints on gluon and quark GPDs, impact parameter profile, saturation.
- Other processes: Odderon searches.
- Inclusive diffraction in eA: unexplored regime, huge model dependencies, LHeC can confirm or exclude many scenarios.

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http://cern.ch/lhec
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