Constraints from heavy-quark production on proton PDFs

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- cosmic rays (CR) + atmospheric nuclei
 - \rightarrow light and heavy hadrons \rightarrow conventional and prompt ν fluxes



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Theoretical description of charm hadroproduction

Ingredients:

- parton distribution functions (PDFs)
- hard-scattering perturbative partonic cross sections
- fragmentation functions / parton shower + hadronization



 $\sigma_{N_1N_2 \to H+X} = \sum_{ab} PDF_a^{N_1}(x_a, \mu_F) PDF_b^{N_2}(x_b, \mu_F) \otimes \\ \otimes \hat{\sigma}_{ab \to cX}(x_a, x_b, z, \mu_F, \mu_R, \alpha_S(\mu_R), m_c) \quad (+\text{fragmentation})$

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Uncertainties in computation:

- proton/nuclear PDF uncertainties at small parton memonetum fraction x (can be very large for high E → small parton x)
 - \rightarrow main topic of this talk
- perturbative hadroproduction cross section: NLO is state-of-the-art fixed-order prediction for differential charm production cross sections
 → various ways of treating heavy guark mass, fixed-flavour-number scheme (FFNS) vs.

general-mass variable-flavour-number scheme (GM-VFNS)

• fragmentation $c \rightarrow D, \Lambda$

Gluon PDFs



- PDFs are exctracted from fits to experimental data
- Production of prompt neutrinos requires as input gluon PDF at low x, previously not constrained by any data
 - depends on additional assumption (e.g. PDF parametrisation)
 - gluon PDF uncertainties can be arbitrary large at low x!
- PROSA fit was the first QCD analysis of heavy-flavour (HF) data from LHCb, which extended coverage of gluon PDF to $x \gtrsim 10^{-6}$ [1503.04581]
- Similar studies were later presented by R. Gauld et al. [1506.08025, 1610.09373]

Kinematics of HF hadroproduction at LHCb



• LHCb measured double-diff. $\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\rho_T dy}$ for *c* and *b* at 7 TeV, 2.0 < *y* < 4.5:

- charm: 0 < p_T < 8 GeV [NPB871 (2013) 1]</p>
- beauty: 0 < p_T < 40 GeV [JHEP08 (2013) 117]</p>

• At LO: $x_{1,2} = \frac{\sqrt{p_T^2 + m_Q^2}}{E_P} e^{\pm y}$

- c @ 7 TeV data: $x \gtrsim \frac{1.4}{3500}e^{-4.5} \approx 4 \times 10^{-6}$ (uncovered by HERA data)
- c @ 13 TeV: even lower x, however not in PROSA 2015 fit
- b @ 7 TeV: $x \leq 1$, however not yet studied carefully

PROSA PDF fit

PROSA fit done using **xFitter** (former HERAFitter): open source framework for QCD+EW analyses

www.xfitter.org

LHCb data fitted together with HERA data (basics of any PDF fit)

NLO predictions for LHCb data using Mangano-Nason-Ridolfi (MNR) calculations [NPB327 (1989) 49]] (implemented and now avail. in xFitter)

Setup followed NLO HERAPDF fits

Important ingredient was normalisation of LHCb data:

- only y shape used in the fit (correlated with x in PDFs)
- assumption: i.e. scale variations (i.e. missing higher-order corrections) do not depend on y
 - $\rightarrow \,$ y is determined mostly by the boost of parton-parton frame
- order of magnitude reduction of NLO scale uncertainties



xFitter [xfitter.org]

- xFitter (HERAfitter before 2016) is open source QCD fit framework ready to extract PDFs, theory parameters, and assess impact of new data
 - various PDF parameterisations, theoretical processes and schemes, and data sets (> 50)
 - → unique such tool
- $\bullet \sim 80$ publications using xFitter (widely used by LHC community)
- 9 publications by xFitter developers team
- tutorials to get familiar with xFitter
 - presented at CMS Data Analysis School (DESY, September 2018)
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New "PDF set" produced in 2 days using xFitter:

xFitter workflow

Main ingredients of a QCD analysis:

- Parametrise PDF at initial scale
 - polynomial, Chebyshev etc.
 - under development: fully flexible modular PDF decomposition and parametrisation
- Evolve to the scale of the process:
 - DGLAP (QCDNUM, APFEL) + QED
 - non-DGLAP (CCFM, dipole)
- Calculate hard scattering:
 - for deep inelastic scattering: various heavy-flavour schemes
 - fast techniques for N(N)LO calculations: fastNLO, ApplGrid, APFELgrid
 - external packages (Hathor etc.)
- Calculate χ² w.r.t data:
 - account for correlations
 - various treatment of uncertainties
- Analyse/minimise χ²:
 - simple calculation of theoretical predictions
 - ² minimisation using MINUIT (under development: interfacing more minimisers)
 - reweighting/profiling
- Plotting tools



PROSA PDF fit



- Significant reduction of gluon and sea-quark [Σ = 2(ū + d + s̄)] unc. at x < 10⁻⁴ in fits with LHCb data (owing to correlation between g and Σ)
- Smaller PDF uncertainties when using normalised LHCb cross sections
- These PDFs are very useful for astrophysical ν calculations because of directly constrained low-x gluon distribution
- But do PDFs determined using normalised HF cross sections still describe absolute HF cross sections?
 O. Zenaiev

PROSA PDF fit: description of 7 TeV LHCb data

HERA only PDFs

HERA + LHCb (normalised) PDFs



Absolute cross sections are well described within large NLO scale unc.

PROSA PDFs vs. 13 TeV LHCb data





- PROSA PDFs, NLO + PS (POWHEGBOX + PYTHIA8)
- These data [JHEP 1603 (2016) 159 + errata] not used in PDF fit
- Good description within uncertainties

Theoretical uncertainties dominated by NLO scale \gg experimental ones:

- limit further interpretation of these data (e.g. *m_c* determination)
- limit testing power: different modifications in theory input can lead to a "good agreement" with data
- NNLO wanted! (recently appeared for differential $t\bar{t}$)

NLO vs. FONLL



Cacciari et all., JHEP05 1998 007: "...In summary, we observed that our resummation procedure indicates the presence of a small enhancement in the intermediate p_T region, followed by a reduction of the cross section (and of the uncertainty band) at larger p_T ..."

Kinematics: gluon x ranges





- LHCb data cover $x \sim 10^{-5} .. 10^{-3}$ (*small x*) and $x \sim 10^{-3} .. 10^{-1}$ (*medium x*)
- Medium x covered by HERA data \Rightarrow expect improvement at small x

Kinematics: low p_T region

[DESY-THESIS-2015-012]



For low p_T charm ($0.0 \le p_T \le 2.5$) significant contribution ($\sim 50\%$) comes from $\hat{s} \ 10^2 .. 10^5 \ GeV^2$: not dominated by low *x g*. Effect increases with increasing *y*. No such trend for beauty.



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Not a problem of the FFNS calculations, rather an important correction to the LO kinematics:

 \sim 50% of low p_T forward data does not depend on low x gluons

Measurements of double charm production might be usefull.

Prompt ν fluxes: NLO scale, m_c and PDF uncertainties



PDF uncertainties are under control owing to LHCb data in PROSA fit

Comparison using as input different primary CR fluxes



- Compared GST-3, GST-4, H3a, H3p primary fluxes
- PDF uncertainties are under control
- Dependence on primary CR becomes large at $E\gtrsim 10^7~{
 m GeV}$

Prompt ν fluxes: comparison to other predictions



- Good agreement with other calculations based on perturbative QCD (left)
- Good agreement also with other phenomenological approaches (right)

Prompt ν fluxes: proton vs. nuclear PDFs



- Any uncertainties on nuclear PDFs are not included in these plots! (and scale variations were restricted in BEJKRSS)
- Still they are close/within PROSA uncertainty band
- But how would another proton PDFs behave, which do not have LHCb data constraining low x gluons?

Prompt ν fluxes: comparison vs GM-VFNS + CT14nlo

[M. Benzke, M.V. Garzelli, B. Kniehl, G. Kramer, S. Moch, G. Sigl, arXiv:1705.10386]



GM-VFNS (v_{μ} + anti- v_{μ}) flux

- Predictions calculated in GM-VFNS using CT14nlo PDFs
- Uncertainties of GM-VFNS are dominated by CT14nlo PDFs
- Their upper band is larger than the IceCube upper limit
 - \Rightarrow IceCube results are capable to constrain PDFs!

Total atmospheric ν flux

[1611.03815]



- Predictions for the number of prompt, conventional and total expected atmospheric neutrino events for the IceCube 988-day HESE analysis, as compared to the IceCube lepton data
- IceCube upper limit lies well inside PROSA uncertainty band at high E_v
- This shows potential of astrophysical measurements to provide complementary information about charm hadroproduction

- We are working on updating PROSA 2015 PDF fit with new LHC data from LHCb and ALICE
 - \rightarrow in particular LHCb charm data at 13 TeV which extend low-x coverage
- As several precise measurements are already available (with experimental uncertainties < 10%), one needs information on correlations of systematic uncertainties to fully exploit potential of LHC data
 - \rightarrow already emphasised by R. Gauld in JHEP 1705 (2017) 084
- This is especially important when calculating normalised cross sections from published absolute cross sections
- One needs also information on correlation of systematic uncertainties which affect different final states and/or measurements at different energies

Correlated uncertainties (description from ALICE paper 1901.07979)

	D^0			D^+		D*+		D_s^+	
$p_{\rm T}~({\rm GeV}/c)$	0-0.5	2-2.5	10-12	2-2.5	10-12	2-2.5	10-12	2-3	8-12
Signal yield	9%	3%	2%	3%	3%	3%	1%	7%	3%
Tracking efficiency	3%	4%	5%	4.5%	7%	4%	5%	4.5%	7%
Selection efficiency	0	5%	3%	4%	3%	5%	1%	8%	5%
PID efficiency	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.5%	0
$p_{\rm T}$ shape in MC	0	0	0	1%	0	1%	0	1%	0
Feed-down	$^{+1.1}_{-1.3}\%$	$^{+3.6}_{-4.3}\%$	$^{+3.8}_{-5.3}\%$	$^{+2.4}_{-2.8}\%$	$^{+2.3}_{-3.1}\%$	$^{+3.0}_{-3.5}\%$	$^{+1.8}_{-2.5}\%$	$^{+2.8}_{-3.3}\%$	$^{+3.4}_{-4.5}\%$
Branching ratio	1.0%		3.1%		1.3%		3.5%		
Normalisation	2.1%								

Table 1: Summary of relative systematic uncertainties on D^0 , D^+ , D^{*+} , and D^+_s measurements in different p_T intervals.

"The systematic uncertainty on PID, tracking, and selection efficiencies are mainly correlated among the different pT intervals, while the raw-yield extraction uncertainty is mostly uncorrelated."

This information is not really sufficient:

- need to know contributions of different systematic uncertainties for each bin
 - \rightarrow taking lowest of quoted values for all bins as correlated unc. (e.g. 3% for D^0 track. eff.)
- need to know how to treat 'mostly uncorrelated' uncertainties
 - ightarrow assumed uncorrelated (calculated by subtracting correlated sources from total syst. unc.)
- need to know how to correlate uncertainties between different final states and c.m.e.
 - ightarrow only tracking and lumi uncertainty assumed correlated between different final states
 - ightarrow all unc. assumed uncorrelated between different c.m.e. (except branching ratio unc.)
- see e.g. sufficient description given for HERA data 1506.06042, 1804.01019

Summary

- Constraining PDFs at low x is important for hadronic interactions at high energies, as probed in astroparticle physics
- PROSA PDF fit: low *x* gluon constrained by LHCb charm and beauty production data
 - ightarrow other PDF sets would definetely benefit from these data
- - \rightarrow higher-order calculations are needed
- LHC measurements of charm and beauty production will be used in future PDF fits
 - \rightarrow correlation matrices must be published
- Astrophysical measurements provide data which are complementary to colliders in constraining QCD