# Measuring intact protons at the LHC: from the odderon discovery to the search for axion-like particles



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- Elastic interactions and introduction to the Odderon
- D0  $p\bar{p}$  and TOTEM pp data
- The odderon discovery
- Study of quartic anomalous couplings and search for axion-like particles
- Ultra Fast Silicon detectors



# What is elastic scattering? The pool game...



- We want to study "elastic" collisions between protons and proton-antiprotons
- In high energy physics:  $pp \rightarrow pp$ and  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow p\bar{p}$
- In these interactions, each proton/antiproton remains intact after interaction but are scattered at some angles and can lose/gain some momentum as in the pool game

Elastic Scattering (ES),  $\approx 30 \, \text{mb}$ 



- We want to study elastic interactions: pp o pp or  $par{p} o par{p}$
- These are very clean events, where nothing is produced outside the two protons
- How to detect/measure these events? We need to detect the intact protons after interaction!
- Interactions explained by the exchange of a colorless object ( $\geq$  2 gluons, photon, etc...) between the two protons

### Physics classification: what can we measure in pp interactions?

Non-Diffractive (ND),  $\approx 60 \text{ mb}$ 





#### How to explain the fact that protons can be intact?



- Quarks/gluons radiate lots of gluons when one tries to separate them (confinement)
- Gluons exchange color, interact with other gluons in the proton and in that case protons are destroyed in the final state
- In order to explain how protons can remain intact: we need colorless exchanges, or at least 2 gluons to be exchanged

#### $p\bar{p}$ interactions: the Tevatron



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# pp interactions: The Large Hadron Collider at CERN

- Large Hadron Collider at CERN: proton proton collider with 2.76, 7, 8 and 13 TeV center-of-mass energy
- Circonference: 27 km; Underground: 50-100 m



## Which tools do we have? Roman Pot detectors



- We use special detectors to detect intact protons/ anti-protons called Roman Pots
- These detectors can move very close to the beam (up to 3σ) when beam are stable so that protons scattered at very small angles can be measured

### Detection



- But why are the protons/anti-protons not in the beam (which would prevent detection)?
- As we saw in the pool game, p or  $\bar{p}$  are scattered at small angles and thus can be detected in the dedicated roman pot detectors
- NB: in non-elastic diffractive case with some particles produced in CMS  $pp \rightarrow pXp$ , p and  $\bar{p}$  lose part of their energy and we use the LHC/Tevatron magnets as a spectrometer  $p/\bar{p}$  at smaller v, so they have a smaller bending radius than the  $p/\bar{p}$  from the beam

### Roman Pot detectors at the LHC



# The odderon in a nutshell



- Let us assume that elastic scattering can be due to exchange of colorless objects: Pomeron and Odderon
- Charge parity C: Charge conjugation changes the sign of all quantum charges

- Pomeron and Odderon correspond to positive and negative C parity: Pomeron is made of two gluons which leads to a +1 parity whereas the odderon is made of 3 gluons corresponding to a -1 parity
- Scattering amplitudes can be written as:

 $A_{pp} = Even + Odd$  $A_{p\bar{p}} = Even - Odd$ 

 From the equations above, it is clear that observing a difference between *pp* and *pp̄* interactions would be a clear way to observe the odderon

# What is the odderon? The QCD picture



- Multi-gluon exchanges in hadron-hadron interactions in elastic *pp* interactions (Bartels-Kwiecinski-Praszalowicz)
- From B. Nicolescu: The Odderon is defined as a singularity in the complex plane, located at *J* = 1 when *t* = 0 and which contributes to the odd crossing amplitude



- Leads to contributions on 3,... gluon exchanges in terms of QCD for the perturbative odderon
- Colorless C-odd 3-gluon state (odderon) predicts differences in elastic dσ/dt for pp and pp̄ interactions since it corresponds to different amplitudes/ interferences

# Measurement of elastic scattering at Tevatron and LHC



- Study of elastic pp → pp reaction: exchange of momentum between the two protons which remain intact
- Measure intact protons scattered close to the beam using Roman Pots installed both by D0 and TOTEM collaborations
- From counting the number of events as a function of |t| (4-momentum transferred square at the proton vertex measured by tracking the protons), we get  $d\sigma/dt$

# Why do we see maxima (bumps) and minima (dips): analogy with optics





- |t| distribution expected to show maxima (bump) and minima (dip)
- Analogy with optics: analogous to the pattern of dips and bumps that can be seen when shining light against a slit (diffraction)



- The situation is not that simple: elastic scattering at low energies can be due to exchanges of additional particles to pomeron/odderon: ρ, ω, φ, reggeons...
- How to distinguish between all these exchanges? Not easy...
- At ISR energies, there was already some indication of a possible difference between pp and  $p\bar{p}$  interactions, differences of about  $3\sigma$  between pp and  $p\bar{p}$  interactions but this was not considered to be a clean proof of the odderon because of these additional reggeon, meson exchanges at low  $\sqrt{s}$

# What is the expected situation at the LHC?



- Expected elastic  $d\sigma/dt$  before LHC measurements
- Many different predictions including many possible contributions at high |t|, such as pomeron, reggeon, mesons (ω, φ) whereas other predictions mentioned that, at high energies, we should be more asymptotical and pomeron dominated
- Almost nobody thought about the odderon (except a few theorists such as Martynov, Nicolescu...)

# Are we in the asymptotic regime at the LHC?



- Contrary to what some models expected before LHC, the elastic cross section is smooth: we do not see reggeons, mesons...!
- Effects of reggeon, meson exchanges are negligible at LHC energies: we can concentrate on pomeron/odderon studies!
- We can directly look for the existence of the odderon by comparing *pp* and *pp̄* elastic cross sections at very high energies: 1.96 TeV (Tevatron), 2.76, 7, 8, 13 (LHC)

# D0 elastic $p\bar{p} \ d\sigma/dt$ cross section measurements



- D0 collected elastic pp̄ data with intact p and p̄ detected in the Forward Proton Detector with 31 nb<sup>-1</sup> Phys. Rev. D 86 (2012) 012009
- Measurement of elastic  $p\bar{p} \ d\sigma/dt$  at 1.96 TeV for 0.26 <|t| < 1.2 GeV<sup>2</sup>

# Elastic cross section measurements at the LHC: detecting protons!

- Measurement of pp → pp elastic cross section by detecting intact protons and vetoing on activity in the main CMS detector
- TOTEM installed vertical Roman Pot detectors at 220 m from CMS



• Trigger on elastic collisions using proton in back-to-back configurations: Up (Down) on one side, Down (Up) on the other side

# Forward coverage in CMS-TOTEM



Roman Pots: elastic & diffractive protons close to outgoing beams → Proton Trigger



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#### TOTEM cross section measurements



# TOTEM elastic $pp \ d\sigma/dt$ cross section measurements

- Elastic *pp*  $d\sigma/dt$  measurements: tag both intact protons in TOTEM Roman Pots 2.76, 7, 8 and 13 TeV
- Very precise measurements at 2.76, 7, 8 and 13 TeV: Eur. Phys. J. C 80 (2020) no.2, 91; EPL 95 (2011) no. 41004; Nucl. Phys. B 899 (2015) 527; Eur. Phys. J. C79 (2019) no.10, 861



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## Strategy to compare pp and $p\bar{p}$ data sets



- In order to identify differences between pp and pp̄ elastic dσ/dt data, we need to compare TOTEM measurements at 2.76, 7, 8, 13 TeV and D0 measurements at 1.96 TeV
- All TOTEM dσ/dt measurements show the same features, namely the presence of a dip and a bump in data, whereas D0 data do not show this feature

# Reference points of elastic $d\sigma/dt$



• Define 8 characteristic points of elastic pp $d\sigma/dt$  cross sections (dip, bump...) that are feature of elastic pp interactions

- Determine how the values of |t| and  $d\sigma/dt$  of characteristic points vary as a function of  $\sqrt{s}$  in order to predict their values at 1.96 TeV
- We use data points closest to those characteristic points (avoiding model-dependent fits)
- Data bins are merged in case there are two adjacent dip or bump points of about equal value
- This gives a distribution of t and  $d\sigma/dt$  values as a function of  $\sqrt{s}$  for all characteristic points



- Bump over dip ratio measured for *pp* interactions at ISR and LHC energies
- Bump over dip ratio in *pp* elastic collisions: decreasing as a function of  $\sqrt{s}$  up to  $\sim 100$  GeV and flat above
- D0  $p\bar{p}$  shows a ratio of  $1.00\pm0.21$  given the fact that no bump/dip is observed in  $p\bar{p}$  data within uncertainties: more than  $3\sigma$  difference between pp and  $p\bar{p}$  elastic data (assuming flat behavior above  $\sqrt{s} = 100 \, GeV$ )

# Fits of t and $d\sigma/dt$ values for reference points

• Fit of all reference points using the following formulae:

$$|t| = a \log(\sqrt{s} [\text{TeV}]) + b$$
  
 $(d\sigma/dt) = c\sqrt{s} [\text{TeV}] + d$ 

- The same form is used for the 8 reference points (this is an assumption and works to describe all characteristic points): this simple form is chosen since we fit at most 4 points, corresponding to  $\sqrt{s} = 2.76$ , 7, 8 and 13 TeV
- We also tried alternate parametrizations such as  $|t| = e(s)^{f}$  leading to compatible results well within  $1\sigma$
- $\bullet$  Leads to very good  $\chi^2$  per dof, better than 1 for most of the fits
- Extrapolating the fits leads to predictions for |t| and  $d\sigma/dt$  at 1.96 TeV for each characteristic point

# Variation of t and $d\sigma/dt$ values for reference points



$$|t| = a \log(\sqrt{s} [\text{TeV}]) + b$$
  $(d\sigma/dt) = c\sqrt{s} [\text{TeV}] + d$ 

# Fits of TOTEM extrapolated characteristic points at 1.96 TeV

- The last step is to predict the *pp* elastic cross sections at the same *t* values as measured by D0 in order to make a direct comparison
- Fit the reference points extrapolated to 1.96 TeV from TOTEM measurements using a double exponential fit ( $\chi^2 = 0.63$  per dof):  $h(t) = a_1 e^{-b_1|t|^2 c_1|t|} + d_1 e^{-f_1|t|^3 g_1|t|^2 h_1|t|}$ 
  - This function is chosen for fitting purposes only
  - Low-*t* diffractive cone (1st function) and asymmetric structure of bump/dip (2nd function)
  - The two exponential terms cross around the dip, one rapidly falling and becoming negligible in the high *t*-range where the other term rises above the dip
- Systematic uncertainties evaluated from an ensemble of MC experiments in which the cross section values of the eight characteristic points are varied within their Gaussian uncertainties. Fits without a dip and bump position matching the extrapolated values within their uncertainties are rejected, and slope and intercept constraints are used to discard unphysical fits
- Such formula leads also to a good description of TOTEM data in the dip/bump region at 2.76, 7, 8 and 13 TeV

# Relative normalization between D0 measurement and extrapolated TOTEM data: total *pp* cross section at 1.96 TeV



- Differences in normalization taken into account by adjusting TOTEM and D0 data sets to have the same cross sections at the optical point  $d\sigma/dt(t=0)$  (NB: OP cross sections expected to be equal if there are only C-even exchanges)
- Predict the *pp* total cross section from extrapolated fit to TOTEM data ( $\chi^2 = 0.27$ )

$$\sigma_{tot} = a_2 \log^2 \sqrt{s} [\text{TeV}] + b_2$$

Other parametrizations lead to same results

• Leads to estimate of pp  $\sigma_{tot}$  =82.7  $\pm$  3.1 mb at 1.96 TeV

# Relative normalization between D0 measurement and extrapolated TOTEM data: Rescaling TOTEM data

- Adjust 1.96 TeV  $d\sigma/dt(t=0)$  from extrapolated TOTEM data to D0 measurement
- From TOTEM  $pp \sigma_{tot}$ , obtain  $d\sigma/dt(t=0)$  :

$$\sigma_{tot}^2 = \frac{16\pi(\hbar c)^2}{1+\rho^2} \left(\frac{d\sigma}{dt}\right)_{t=0}$$

- Assuming  $\rho = 0.145$ , the ratio of the imaginary and the real part of the elastic amplitude, as taken from COMPETE extrapolation
- This leads to a TOTEM  $d\sigma/dt(t=0)$  at the OP of 357.1  $\pm$  26.4 mb/GeV<sup>2</sup>
- D0 measured the optical point of  $d\sigma/dt$  at small t:  $341\pm48$  mb/GeV<sup>2</sup>
- $\bullet$  TOTEM data rescaled by 0.954  $\pm$  0.071
- NB: We do not claim that we performed a measurement of  $d\sigma/dt$  at the OP at t = 0 (it would require additional measurements closer to t = 0), but we use the two extrapolations simply in order to obtain a common and somewhat arbitrary normalization point

# Predictions at $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$ TeV

- Reference points at 1.96 TeV (extrapolating TOTEM data) and  $1\sigma$  uncertainty band
- Comparison with D0 data



# Comparison between D0 measurement and extrapolated TOTEM data

•  $\chi^2$  test to examine the probability for the D0 and TOTEM  $d\sigma/dt$  to agree

$$\chi^{2} = \sum_{i,j} [(T_{i} - D_{i})C_{ij}^{-1}(T_{j} - D_{j})] + \frac{(A - A_{0})^{2}}{\sigma_{A}^{2}} + \frac{(B - B_{0})^{2}}{\sigma_{B}^{2}}$$

where  $T_j$  and  $D_j$  are the  $j^{th} d\sigma/dt$  values for TOTEM and D0,  $C_{ij}$  the covariance matrix, A(B) the nuisance parameters for scale (slope) with  $A_0(B_0)$  their nominal values

- Slopes constrained to their measured values (*pp* to  $p\bar{p}$  integrated elastic cross section ratio (dominated by the exp part) becomes 1 in the limit  $\sqrt{s} \to \infty$  which means similar slopes at small |t| as observed in data)
- Test using the difference of the integrated cross section in the examined |t|-range with its fully correlated uncertainty, and the experimental and extrapolated points with their covariance matrices
- Given the constraints on the OP normalization and logarithmic slopes of the elastic cross sections, the  $\chi^2$  test with six degrees of freedom yields the *p*-value of 0.00061, corresponding to a significance of  $3.4\sigma$

# Combination with additional TOTEM measurement: $\rho$ measurement



• Measure elastic scattering at very low t: Coulomb-Nuclear interference region

$$rac{d\sigma}{dt} \sim |A^{C} + A^{N}(1 - lpha \mathcal{G}(t))|^{2}$$

- The differential cross section is sensitive to the phase of the nuclear amplitude
- In the CNI region, both the modulus and the phase of the nuclear amplitude can be used to determine  $\rho = \frac{Re(A^N(0))}{Im(A^N(0))}$  where the modulus is constrained by the measurement in the hadronic region and the phase by the t dependence

# A previous measurement by TOTEM: $\rho$ and $\sigma_{tot}$ measurements as an indication for odderon



- $\rho$  is the ratio of the real to imaginary part of the elastic amplitude at t = 0
- Using low |t| data in the Coulomb-nuclear interference region, measurement of  $\rho$  at 13 TeV:  $\rho = 0.09 \pm 0.01$  (EPJC 79 (2019) 785)
- Combination of the measured  $\rho$  and  $\sigma_{tot}$  values not compatible with any set of models without odderon exchange (COMPETE predictions above as an example)
- This result can be explained by the exchange of the Odderon in addition to the Pomeron Measuring intact protons at the LHC: from the odderon discovery to the search for axion-like particles 33 / 57

- Combination with the independent evidence of the odderon found by the TOTEM Collaboration using  $\rho$  and total cross section measurements at low t in a completely different kinematical domain
- For the models included in COMPETE, the TOTEM  $\rho$  measurement at 13 TeV provided a 3.4 to 4.6 $\sigma$  significance, to be combined with the D0/TOTEM result
- The combined significance ranges from 5.3 to 5.7 $\sigma$  depending on the model
- Models without colorless *C*-odd gluonic compound are excluded including the Durham model and different sets of COMPETE models (blue, magenta and green bands on the previous slide)

# Searching for beyond standard model physics using intact protons



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# What is the CMS-TOTEM Precision Proton Spectrometer (CT-PPS)?





- Joint CMS and TOTEM project: https://cds.cern.ch/record/1753795
- LHC magnets bend scattered protons out of the beam envelope
- Detect scattered protons a few mm from the beam on both sides of CMS: 2016-2018,  $\sim$  115 fb<sup>-1</sup> of data collected
- Similar detectors: ATLAS Forward Proton (AFP)

# Detecting intact protons in ATLAS/CMS-TOTEM at the LHC



- Tag and measure protons at ±210 m: AFP (ATLAS Forward Proton), CT-PPS (CMS TOTEM - Precision Proton Spectrometer)
- All diffractive cross sections computed using the Forward Physics Monte Carlo (FPMC)
- Complementarity between low and high mass diffraction (high and low cross sections): special runs at low luminosity (no pile up) and standard luminosity runs with pile up



- We live in a 4-dimensional space: space-time continuum
- Gravity might live in extra-dimensions: this is idea is being explored at the LHC by looking for new couplings between particles and production of new particles
- If discovered at the LHC, this might lead to major changes in the way we see the world

# Search for new $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ couplings using $\gamma\gamma$ and two intact protons



- Search for production of two photons and two intact protons in the final state:  $pp \rightarrow p\gamma\gamma p$
- Number of events predicted to be increased by extra-dimensions, composite Higgs models
- Discovering those extra-dimensions would be a very fundamental discovery in physics
- Look in other channels: *WW*, *ZZ*, *Z* $\gamma$ ,  $t\bar{t}$ ..

# $\gamma\gamma$ exclusive production: SM contribution



- QCD production dominates at low  $m_{\gamma\gamma}$ , QED at high  $m_{\gamma\gamma}$
- Important to consider W loops at high  $m_{\gamma\gamma}$
- At high masses (> 200 GeV), the photon induced processes are dominant
- Conclusion: Two photons and two tagged protons means photon-induced process

# Motivations to look for quartic $\gamma\gamma$ anomalous couplings



- Two effective operators and two different couplings at low energies  $\zeta$
- $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$  couplings can be modified in a model independent way by loops of heavy charge particles

$$\zeta_1 = \alpha_{em}^2 Q^4 m^{-4} N c_{1,s}$$

where the coupling depends only on  $Q^4 m^{-4}$  (charge and mass of the charged particle) and on spin,  $c_{1,s}$  depends on the spin of the particle This leads to  $\zeta_1$  of the order of  $10^{-14}$ - $10^{-13}$ 

# Motivations to look for quartic $\gamma\gamma$ anomalous couplings



- Two effective operators at low energies
- $\zeta_1$  can also be modified by neutral particles at tree level (extensions of the SM including scalar, pseudo-scalar, and spin-2 resonances that couple to the photon)  $\zeta_1 = (f_s m)^{-2} d_{1,s}$  where  $f_s$  is the  $\gamma \gamma X$  coupling of the new particle to the photon, and  $d_{1,s}$  depends on the spin of the particle; for instance, 2 TeV dilatons lead to  $\zeta_1 \sim 10^{-13}$





- The LHC collides packets of protons
- Due to high number of protons in one packet, there can be more than one interaction between two protons when the two packets collide
- Typically up to 50 pile up events

# Search for quartic $\gamma\gamma$ anomalous couplings





- Search for  $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$  quartic anomalous couplings
- Couplings predicted by extra-dim, composite Higgs models
- Analysis performed at hadron level including detector efficiencies, resolution effects, pile-up...
- Anomalous coupling events appear at high di-photon masses
- S. Fichet, G. von Gersdorff, B. Lenzi, C.R., M. Saimpert ,JHEP 1502 (2015) 165

# Search for quartic $\gamma\gamma$ anomalous couplings



 No background after cuts for 300 fb<sup>-1</sup>: sensitivity up to a few 10<sup>-15</sup>, better by 2 orders of magnitude with respect to "standard" methods

 Exclusivity cuts using proton tagging needed to suppress backgrounds (Without exclusivity cuts using CT-PPS: background of 80.2 for 300 fb<sup>-1</sup>)

### Search for axion like particles



- Production of ALPs via photon exchanges and tagging the intact protons in the final state complementary to the usual search at the LHC (*Z* decays into 3 photons): sensitivity at high ALP mass, C. Baldenegro, S. Fichet, G. von Gersdorff, C. Royon, ArXiv 1803.10835, JHEP 1806 (2018) 131
- Complementarity with Pb Pb running: sensitivity to low mass diphoton, low luminosity but cross section increased by Z<sup>4</sup>



- Production of ALPs via photon exchanges in heavy ion runs: Complementarity to *pp* running
- Sensitivity to low mass ALPs: low luminosity but cross section increased by Z<sup>4</sup>, C. Baldenegro, S. Hassani, C.R., L. Schoeffel, ArXiv:1903.04151
- Similar gain of three orders of magnitude on sensitivity for γγγZ, γγWW, γγZZ, etc, couplings in pp collisions

# Evidence for quasi-exclusive dilepton production and 1st search for quartic $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$ anomalous couplings (CMS)

- 20 quasi-exclusive dilepton production in CMS with one tagged proton
- 1st search for quartic  $\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$  anomalous couplings in CMS





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# Additional method to remove pile up: Measuring proton time-of-flight



- Measure the proton time-of-flight in order to determine if they originate from the same interaction as the selected photon
- Typical precision: 10 ps means 2.1 mm
- Idea: use ultra-fast Si detectors (signal duration of ~few ns and possibility to use fast sampling to reconstruct full signal)

## Timing measurements in Particle Physics



- Proton going through a detector (for instance scintillator, Silicon) emits a signal
- Measure this signal using an oscilloscope, or some electronics



- Amplify the signal
- Very fast digitization of the signal: measure many points on the fast increasing signal as an example
- Allows reconstructing both the shape and amplitude of signal
- Leads to precise timing measurements (using for instance time when signal starts), and energy/type of particle measurements

## Test stand at the University of Kansas



#### Example of fast timing measurements using lasers



- Visualize pixels from Si detectors: Pixel size:  $\sim$ 3 mm
- Test timing detectors at Fermilab: Timing resolution per layer of Si detector:  $\sim$  39 ps
- The main idea is to reconstruct the full signal by performing very fast sampling  $\rightarrow$  Many applications

# Measuring cosmic ray in space: the AGILE project

- We want to measure the type of particles (*p*, *He*, *Fe*, *Pb*, ...) and at the same time their energies
- Analysis of cosmic ray particles: using a cube sat, cheap to be sent into space
- Use similar technics: measure the signal (Bragg peak) where the particle stops in a ultra-fast Si detector
- Allows extracting type/energy of particles: project in collaboration with NASA, to be launched in Spring 2021, https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.00613



### Measuring radiation is cancer treatment

- Utra fast silicon detectors and readout system were put in an electron beam used in the past for photon therapy at St Luke Hospital, Dublin, Ireland
- Precise and instantaneous measurements of dose during cancer treatment (especially for flash proton beam treatment)



# Tests performed at St Luke hospital, University of Dublin, Ireland



- Measurement of charge deposited in Si detector compared to standard measurement using an ion chamber: good correlation
- Our detectors see in addition the beam structure (periodicity of the beam of  $\sim$ 330 ps, contrary to a few seconds for the ion chamber): measure single particles from the beam
- Fundamental to measure instantaneous doses for high intensity proton therapy as example
- For more details: https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.07134

### Conclusion

- Detailed comparison between pp̄ (1.96 TeV from D0) and pp (2.76, 7, 8, 13 TeV from TOTEM) elastic dσ/dt data FERMILAB-PUB-20-568-E; CERN-EP-2020-236
- pp and  $p\bar{p}$  cross sections differ with a significance of 3.4 $\sigma$  in a model-independent way and thus provides evidence that the Colorless *C*-odd gluonic compound i.e. the odderon is needed to explain elastic scattering at high energies
- When combined with the  $\rho$  and total cross section result at 13 TeV, the significance is in the range 5.3 to 5.7 $\sigma$  and thus constitutes the first experimental observation of the odderon: Major discovery at CERN/Tevatron
- PPS allows probing quartic anomalous couplings with unprecedented precision: sensitivity to composite Higgs, extra-dimension models, axion-like particles
- Development of fast timing detectors for HEP and applications in medicine, cosmic-ray physics



# We need to look everywhere! For instance using intact protons...



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