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On Model-Independent Analyses of Elastic Hadron Scattering

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By means of an almost model-independent parametrization for the elastic hadron-hadron amplitude, as a function of the energy and the momentum transfer, we obtain good descriptions of the physical quantities that characterize elastic proton-proton and antiproton-proton scattering (total cross section, ρ parameter and differential cross section). The parametrization is inferred on empirical grounds and selected according to high energy theorems and limits from axiomatic quantum field theory. Based on the predictive character of the approach we present predictions for the above physical quantities at the Brookhaven RHIC, Fermilab Tevatron and CERN LHC energies.

Keywords: Elastic scattering; Hadron-induced high-energy interactions

I. INTRODUCTION

In the absence of a pure QCD description of high-energy elastic hadron scattering (soft diffractive processes), empirical parametrizations for the scattering amplitude and fits to the experimental data play an important role in the extraction of model-independent information on the scattering process [1]. However, one disadvantage of this kind of analysis is its local character, namely the free parameters are inferred from fits to each energy and interaction process, leading therefore to a nonpredictive approach.

In this communication, we present a first step on the development of a model-independent and predictive analysis of the elastic scattering at high energies. Specifically, we introduce a novel analytical parametrization for the *imaginary part* of the amplitude, inferred on empirical grounds and based on some rigorous high-energy theorems and bounds from axiomatic quantum field theory. The *real part* of the amplitude is analytically evaluated by means of dispersion relations (connecting, therefore, particle-particle and particle-antiparticle scattering). Fits to the experimental data on total cross section, ρ parameter and differential cross section, from proton-proton (pp) and antiproton-proton ($\bar{p}p$) scattering, above 20 GeV, leads to a predictive and almost model-independent approach, able to describe quite well the bulk of the experimental data. We also present predictions for the above quantities at the RHIC, Tevatron and LHC energies.

In Sec. 2 we present the analytical parametrization and in Sec. 3 the fit results and predictions. The conclusions and some final remarks are the contents of Sec. 4.

II. ANALYTICAL PARAMETRIZATION

All the empirical and formal basis of our parametrization are discussed in detail in Ref. [2]. Here we shall only display the main formulae.

The imaginary part of the amplitudes for pp and $\bar{p}p$ scattering are parametrized, respectively, by

$$\frac{\text{Im} F_{pp}(s, q^2)}{s} = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i(s) e^{-\beta_i(s) q^2}, \quad (1)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_i(s) &= A_i + B_i \ln(s) + C_i \ln^2(s), \\ \beta_i(s) &= D_i + E_i \ln(s), \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

and

$$\frac{\text{Im} F_{\bar{p}p}(s, q^2)}{s} = \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{\alpha}_i(s) e^{-\bar{\beta}_i(s) q^2}, \quad (3)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\alpha}_i(s) &= \bar{A}_i + \bar{B}_i \ln(s) + \bar{C}_i \ln^2(s), \\ \bar{\beta}_i(s) &= \bar{D}_i + \bar{E}_i \ln(s), \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where $A_i, B_i, \dots, E_i, \bar{A}_i, \bar{B}_i, \dots, \bar{E}_i$ are real constants (parameters to be fitted) and $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

In order that the above parametrizations might be in agreement with the rigorous results from the axiomatic quantum field theory and the analyticity-unitarity program [3], the following constraint on the free parameters must be imposed [2]:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (C_i - \bar{C}_i) = 0. \quad (5)$$

The corresponding real parts of the amplitudes are evaluated by means of derivative dispersion relations, extended beyond the forward direction. At high energies these relations, expressed in terms of even (+) and odd (−) amplitudes, are given by [4]

$$\frac{\text{Re} F_+(s, q^2)}{s} = \frac{K}{s} + \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{d}{d \ln s} \frac{\text{Im} F_+(s, q^2)}{s}, \quad (6)$$

$$\frac{\text{Re} F_-(s, q^2)}{s} = \frac{\pi}{2} \left(1 + \frac{d}{d \ln s} \right) \frac{\text{Im} F_-(s, q^2)}{s}, \quad (7)$$

where K is the subtraction constant.

The connections with the hadronic amplitudes are established through the usual definitions:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{pp}(s, q^2) &= F_+(s, q^2) + F_-(s, q^2) \\ F_{\bar{p}p}(s, q^2) &= F_+(s, q^2) - F_-(s, q^2) \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

From parametrizations (1-4) and Eqs. (6-8) we have for the hadronic real parts:

$$\frac{\text{Re} F_{pp}(s, q^2)}{s} = \frac{K}{s} + \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{\pi}{2} [\alpha'_i(s) - \alpha_i(s) \beta'_i(s) q^2] e^{-\beta_i(s) q^2} + \frac{\pi}{4} [\alpha_i(s) e^{-\beta_i(s) q^2} - \bar{\alpha}_i(s) e^{-\bar{\beta}_i(s) q^2}] \right\}, \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{\text{Re} F_{\bar{p}p}(s, q^2)}{s} = \frac{K}{s} + \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{\pi}{2} [\bar{\alpha}'_i(s) - \bar{\alpha}_i(s) \bar{\beta}'_i(s) q^2] e^{-\bar{\beta}_i(s) q^2} - \frac{\pi}{4} [\alpha_i(s) e^{-\beta_i(s) q^2} - \bar{\alpha}_i(s) e^{-\bar{\beta}_i(s) q^2}] \right\}, \quad (10)$$

where the primes denote differentiation with respect to $\ln s$.

With this formalism we obtain analytical expressions for the main physical quantities that characterize the elastic scattering at high energies, namely the differential cross section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dq^2} = \frac{1}{16\pi s^2} |\text{Re} F(s, q^2) + i \text{Im} F(s, q^2)|^2, \quad (11)$$

the total cross section (optical theorem)

$$\sigma_{tot}(s) = \frac{\text{Im} F(s, q^2 = 0)}{s}, \quad (12)$$

and the ρ parameter

$$\rho(s) = \frac{\text{Re} F(s, q^2 = 0)}{\text{Im} F(s, q^2 = 0)}. \quad (13)$$

III. FITTING AND RESULTS

We shall consider here all the experimental data available above $\sqrt{s} = 20$ GeV from pp and $\bar{p}p$ scattering. For the

forward data on σ_{tot} and ρ , we use the Particle Data Group archives [5]. The differential cross section data concern the optical point and the data above the Coulomb-nuclear interference region. The ensemble includes 12 data sets in the region $0.01 < q^2 < 14$ GeV²: pp scattering at $\sqrt{s} = 23.5, 27.4, 30.7, 44.7, 52.8$, and 62.5 GeV and $\bar{p}p$ scattering at $\sqrt{s} = 31, 53, 61, 546, 630$ and 1800 GeV (complete list of references to this ensemble can be found in [1]).

We performed simultaneous fits to $\sigma_{tot}(s)$, $\rho(s)$ and $d\sigma(s, q^2)/dq^2$ data, from pp and $\bar{p}p$ scattering, through the CERN-Minuit code. For this ensemble we obtained good statistical results with 3 exponential factors in Eqs. (1) and (3) and the best fit indicated $\chi^2/\text{DOF} = 2.83$ for 1277 degrees of freedom. The value of the free parameters are displayed in Table I and the results of the fit together with the experimental data are shown in Figs. 1 and 2. We see that the description of all the data is quite good.

Since we have a predictive approach, we consider extrapolations for some experiments of present interest, namely

(1) pp scattering at $\sqrt{s} = 200$ GeV, that was investigated and might yet be investigated by the pp2pp Collaboration at the Brookhaven RHIC;

(2) $\bar{p}p$ scattering at $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$ TeV, that are being analyzed by the DZero Collaboration at the Fermilab Tevatron (RUN

TABLE I: Results of the simultaneous fits to σ_{tot} , ρ and $d\sigma/dq^2$ data from pp and $\bar{p}p$ scattering. All the parameters are in GeV^{-2} , $K = -0.1053 \pm 0.0048$ and $C_1 = \bar{C}_1 + \bar{C}_2 + \bar{C}_3 - C_2 - C_3$.

pp scattering		$\bar{p}p$ scattering	
A_1	109.70 ± 0.28	\bar{A}_1	112.28 ± 0.44
B_1	-16.529 ± 0.039	\bar{B}_1	-0.468 ± 0.074
C_1	constrained	\bar{C}_1	-0.1673 ± 0.0039
D_1	-8.91 ± 0.32	\bar{D}_1	3.170 ± 0.069
E_1	3.045 ± 0.050	\bar{E}_1	0.4860 ± 0.0082
A_2	-4.06 ± 0.23	\bar{A}_2	10.23 ± 0.15
B_2	11.387 ± 0.030	\bar{B}_2	-6.756 ± 0.027
C_2	0.0952 ± 0.0047	\bar{C}_2	0.9613 ± 0.0029
D_2	1.290 ± 0.014	\bar{D}_2	-1.476 ± 0.013
E_2	0.5097 ± 0.0023	\bar{E}_2	0.5645 ± 0.0012
A_3	1.0554 ± 0.0077	\bar{A}_3	-8.148 ± 0.031
B_3	-0.3607 ± 0.0013	\bar{B}_3	1.2313 ± 0.0040
C_3	0.02372 ± 0.00012	\bar{C}_3	-0.05572 ± 0.00025
D_3	0.6454 ± 0.0081	\bar{D}_3	0.9272 ± 0.0072
E_3	0.0176 ± 0.0011	\bar{E}_3	0.03859 ± 0.0011

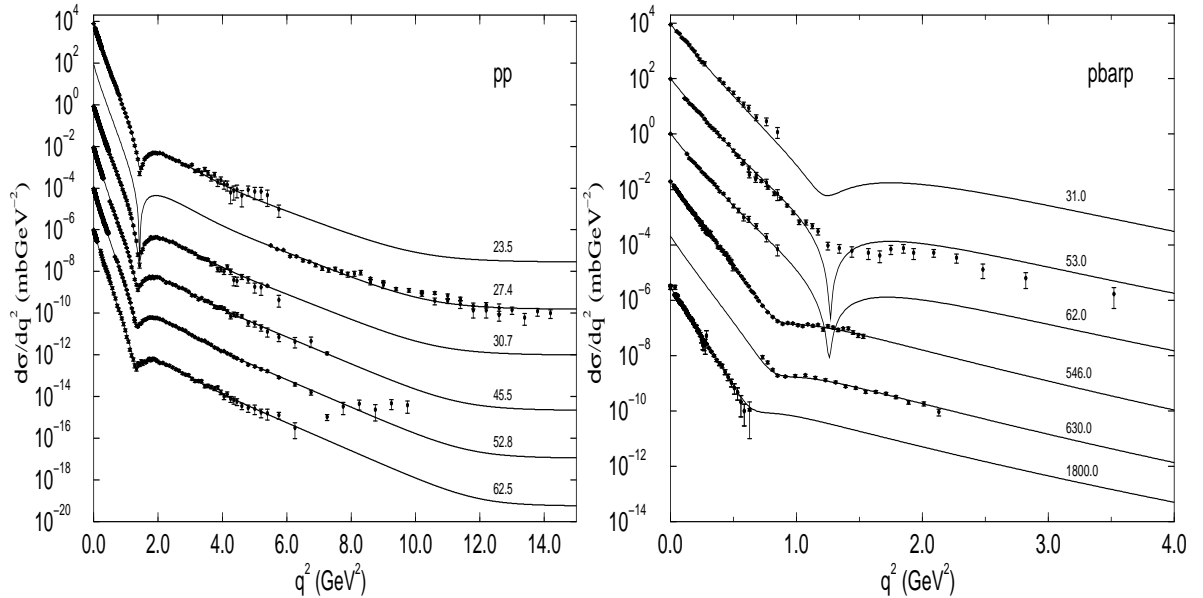


FIG. 1: The differential cross sections from global fits to pp and $\bar{p}p$ data. Curves and data were multiplied by factors of $10^{\pm 2}$.

II);

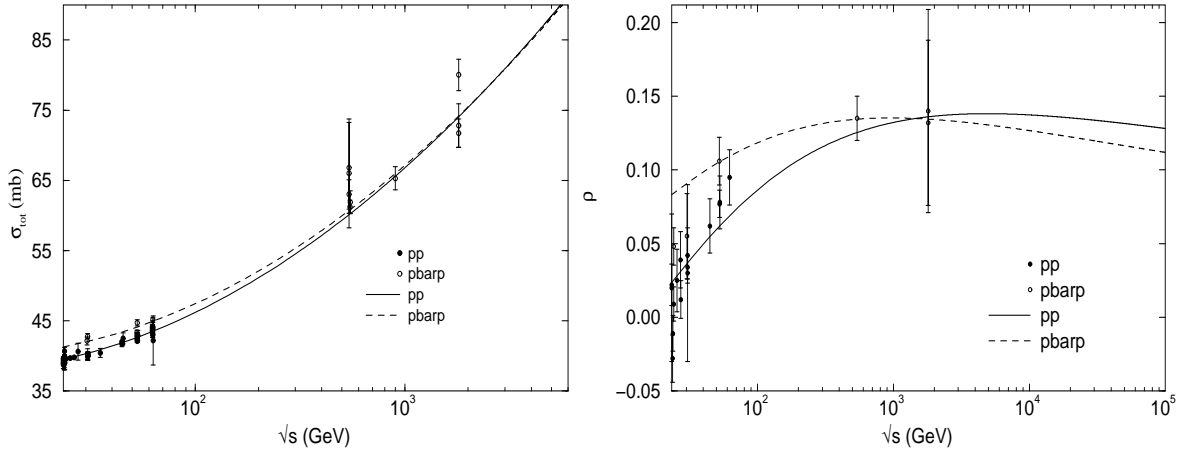
(3) pp scattering at $\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV, planned to be investigated by the TOTEM Collaboration at the CERN LHC.

The numerical results for the forward quantities are shown in Table II and the predicted behavior for the differential cross sections in Fig. 3.

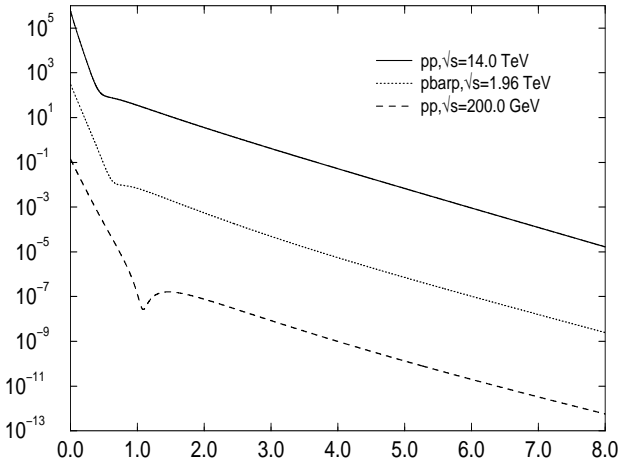
IV. CONCLUSIONS AND FINAL REMARKS

We have introduced an analytical parametrization for the elastic hadron-hadron scattering amplitude and a fit procedure characterized by at least four important novel aspects:

1. The parametrization is almost model-independent, with enclosed dependences on the energy and momentum extracted from the empirical behavior of the experimental data and in agreement with some high-energy theorems and bounds from axiomatic quantum field theory;
2. The real and imaginary parts of the amplitude are entire functions of the logarithm of the energy s and are connected through derivative dispersion relations; the pp and $\bar{p}p$ scattering are also connected to the extent that analyticity and unitarity lead to dispersion relations;
3. The approach is predictive in both energy and momentum variables;

FIG. 2: Total cross sections and the ρ parameter from global fits to pp and $\bar{p}p$ data.TABLE II: Predictions for $\sigma_{tot}(s)$ and $\rho(s)$ for the quoted experiments.

Process	σ_{tot} (mb)	ρ
$pp - \sqrt{s} = 14.0$ TeV	105.4	0.1365
$\bar{p}p - \sqrt{s} = 1.96$ TeV	75.24	0.1343
$pp - \sqrt{s} = 200$ GeV	51.12	0.1065

FIG. 3: Predictions for the differential cross sections at the RHIC (dashed), Tevatron (dotted) and LHC (solid) energies. The upper and lower curves were multiplied by 10^3 and 10^{-3} , respectively.

4. The fits to pp and $\bar{p}p$ experimental data, above $\sqrt{s} = 20$ GeV allow good descriptions of all the data, even in different regions of the momentum transfer (Fig. 1).

The results for the forward quantities indicate a crossing as the energy increases (Fig. 2), with the pp total cross section and the ρ parameter becoming higher than the corresponding values from $\bar{p}p$ scattering. Predictions for the quoted experiments (Fig. 3), indicate a dip for pp scattering at 200 GeV (RHIC), located at $q^2 \approx 1.1$ GeV², and as the energy increases, the diffractive pattern becomes a shoulder for $\bar{p}p$ scattering at 1.96 TeV (Tevatron) and pp scattering at 14 TeV (LHC). No secondary structures is predicted in the region of large momentum transfer, up to 8 GeV².

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