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## Diffractive production of $J/\psi$ in $pp$ collisions with proton dissociation

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The amplitude for  $\gamma p \rightarrow Vp$ , where  $V$  is a  $J/\psi$  or  $\Upsilon$  ground state or excited vector meson, is calculated in a pQCD  $k_T$ -factorization approach.

We use this amplitude to predict

the cross section for exclusive photoproduction of  $J/\psi, \psi'$  mesons in proton-proton collisions.

Calculations are performed for a variety of unintegrated gluon distributions, and we compare our results to LHCb data.

Here we especially focus on diffractive production in proton dissociative events.

We notice, that electromagnetic dissociation is calculable directly from proton structure functions without additional free parameters.

Besides being of interest in their own right, dissociative events constitute an important experimental background to exclusive production.

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