

# Saturation in Deep Inelastic Scattering from ADS/CFT

Lorenzo Cornalba  
University of Milano Bicocca & Centro Fermi

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[0707.0120](#), [hep-th/0611123](#), [hep-th/0611122](#)  
with M.S.Costa and J. Penedones

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# Introduction

- High energy phenomena probe relevant features of interactions
- In flat space string theory they are controlled by the leading Regge trajectory of states
- In perturbative YM theory (QCD and susy completions) dominated by Pomeron exchange
- High energy strings in holographic backgrounds will interpolate between these two regimes
  - At large 't Hooft coupling, analyze gravi-Reggeon exchange in AdS and recover flat space interactions
  - Focus of this talk will be at weak 't Hooft coupling. Use holography to correctly analyze known pQCD results

# High Energy Correlators in CFT

- Consider

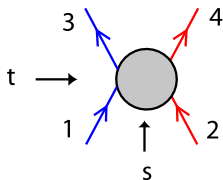
$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1(q_1) \mathcal{O}_1(q_3) \mathcal{O}_2(q_2) \mathcal{O}_2(q_4) \rangle_{\text{CFT}_4}$$

with

$$t, q_i^2 \text{ fixed}$$
$$s \rightarrow \infty$$

- S-matrix in  $\text{AdS}_5$

$$-\frac{dx^+ dx^-}{\rho^2} + \underbrace{\frac{dx \cdot dx + \rho^2}{\rho^2}}_{\text{transverse } H_3}$$



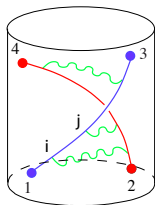
- External states

$$e^{i\sqrt{s}x^-} \cdot e^{iq_1 \cdot x} \cdot f_1(\rho) \quad (\rho^2 \sim 1/q_1^2)$$

- High energy states follow null geodesics in AdS parameterized by affine parameter  $x^+$  and labelled by  $x^-$  and a point  $\mathbf{x}, \rho$  in  $H_3$
- Propagator

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{s}} \theta(x_j^+ - x_i^+) \cdot$$

$$\cdot \delta(x_j^- - x_i^-) \delta_{H_3}(\mathbf{x}_j, \rho_j | \mathbf{x}_i, \rho_i)$$



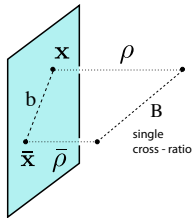
- Eikonal resummation leads to impact parameter representation

$$s \int \frac{d\rho d^2\mathbf{x}}{\rho^3} \cdot f_1(\rho) f_3(\rho) e^{i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \cdot \int \frac{d\bar{\rho} d^2\bar{\mathbf{x}}}{\bar{\rho}^3} \cdot f_2(\bar{\rho}) f_4(\bar{\rho}) e^{-i\mathbf{q}\cdot\bar{\mathbf{x}}} \cdot e^{2i\Delta(S,B)}$$

- Phase shift  $\Delta$  depends on

$$S = s\rho\bar{\rho}$$

$$\cosh B = \frac{1}{2\rho\bar{\rho}} \left[ \rho^2 + \bar{\rho}^2 + (\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}})^2 \right]$$



- For graviton exchange phase given by tree level interaction between geodesics

$$\Delta(S, B) = i \int dx^+ dx^- \text{ [diagram of two intersecting geodesics with a wavy line between them]} \simeq \frac{G}{\ell^3} S \Pi_2(B)$$

with  $\Pi_2(B)$  propagator in  $H_3$  of scalar of dimension 3

# Impact Parameter Representation and Unitarity

- Final answer

$$s \int d^2\mathbf{b} e^{i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{b}} e^{2i\delta(s,\mathbf{b})}$$

with

$$e^{2i\delta(s,\mathbf{b})} = \int \frac{d\rho}{\rho^3} f_1(\rho) f_3(\rho) \int \frac{d\bar{\rho}}{\bar{\rho}^3} f_2(\bar{\rho}) f_4(\bar{\rho}) \cdot e^{2i\Delta(S,B)}$$

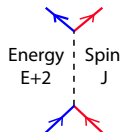
- High energy unitarity

$$\text{Im } \Delta(S, B) \geq 0$$

- Phase  $\Delta(S, B)$  related to S-channel conformal partial wave decomposition for operators of large spin and energy

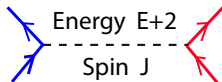
$$E = \sqrt{S} \cosh(B/2)$$

$$J = \sqrt{S} \sinh(B/2)$$



# Regge Theory

- $\Delta(S, B)$  depends on  $\bar{\alpha}_S$  and  $N$   
For large  $B$  (at fixed  $S$ )  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$  and planar graphs (string tree level) dominate  $\Delta$
- Focus on planar exchange of



- Euclidean OPE

$$S^{-2-E}$$

- Lorentzian correlator

$$\Delta(S, B) \sim \frac{1}{N^2} S^{J-1} \cdot \Pi_E(B) \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \Pi_E \text{ propagator in } H_3 \text{ of} \\ \text{scalar dimension } E + 1 \end{array} \right)$$

- General spin  $J$  planar exchange

$$\frac{1}{N^2} S^{J-1} \int d\nu \beta_J(\nu) \cdot \Omega_{i\nu}(B)$$

with

$$\left( \square_{H_3} + \nu^2 + 1 \right) \Omega_{i\nu} = 0$$

$\nu$  trasverse momentum transfer in  $H_3$  radius units

- Resumming in  $J$

$$\Delta \simeq \frac{1}{N^2} \int d\nu S^{j(\nu)-1} \beta(\nu) \Omega_{i\nu}(B)$$

where

$j(\nu)$  and  $\beta(\nu)$  depend on  $\bar{\alpha}_s$

- Trajectory of lowest twist operators of dim.  $2 + i\nu$  and spin  $j(\nu)$



# Strong Coupling String Effects

- Regge trajectory of the graviton  $j(\nu, \bar{\alpha}_s)$  with

$$\bar{\alpha}_s = \frac{\ell^4}{(2\pi\alpha')^2} = \frac{g_{\text{YM}}^2 N}{4\pi^2}$$

- Flat space limit

$$\lim_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} j(\ell q, \ell^4 / (2\pi\alpha')^2) = 2 - \frac{\alpha'}{2} q^2$$

- Energy-momentum tensor  $j(\pm 2i, \bar{\alpha}_s) = 2$
- Decreasing intercept

$$j(\nu, \bar{\alpha}_s) = 2 - \frac{4 + \nu^2}{4\pi\sqrt{\bar{\alpha}_s}} - \dots$$

# Weak Coupling Saturation

- BFKL trajectory

$$j(\nu) = 1 + o(\bar{\alpha}_s)$$

$\Delta(S, B)$  and  $\beta(\nu)$  imaginary

- Vanishing momentum transfer  $t = 0$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} s & Q^2 & \bar{Q}^2 \\ & (q_1^2 = q_3^2) & (q_2^2 = q_4^2) \end{array}$$

- Focus on cross section

$$\int \frac{d\rho}{\rho^3} f_1(\rho) f_3(\rho) \quad \rho \sim 1/Q$$

$$\int \frac{d\bar{\rho}}{\bar{\rho}^3} f_2(\bar{\rho}) f_4(\bar{\rho}) \quad \bar{\rho} \sim 1/\bar{Q}$$

$$\int d^2\mathbf{b} \operatorname{Re} \left[ 1 - e^{2i\Delta(S, B)} \right] \quad \sigma(s, Q, \bar{Q})$$

- Integral over impact parameter

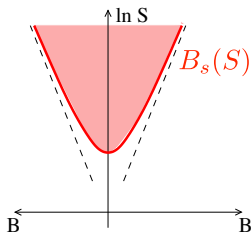
$$\sigma(s, Q, \bar{Q}) \sim \frac{1}{Q\bar{Q}} \int_{|\ln Q/\bar{Q}|}^{\infty} dB \sinh B \operatorname{Re} \left[ 1 - e^{2i\Delta(S,B)} \right]$$

with  $S = s/Q\bar{Q}$

- For large  $B$  one has  $|\Delta| \ll 1$ . Phase shift  $\sim 1$  along saturation line

$$\Delta \sim \int dv e^{\ln S (j(v)-1) - B(1+iv)}$$

so that



$$B_s(S) \sim \omega \ln S$$

$$\omega = 2.44 \bar{\alpha}_S + \dots$$

$$\sim 0.14 \text{ (exp. value)}$$

- Deep Saturation

$$|\ln Q/\bar{Q}| \lesssim B_s (s/Q\bar{Q})$$

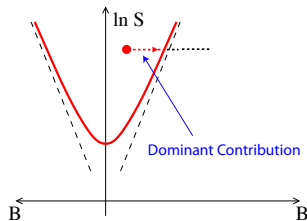
- Approximate black disk

$$\frac{1}{Q\bar{Q}} \int_{|\ln Q/\bar{Q}|}^{B_s(S)} dB \sinh B \cdot 1$$

- When  $B_s \sim \omega \ln S$  then

$$\frac{c}{Q\bar{Q}} \left[ \left( \frac{s}{Q\bar{Q}} \right)^\omega + \left( \frac{s}{Q\bar{Q}} \right)^{-\omega} \right] - \frac{\tilde{c}}{Q\tilde{\Lambda}} \left[ \frac{Q}{\tilde{\Lambda}} + \frac{\tilde{\Lambda}}{Q} \right]$$

with  $c, \tilde{c}, \tilde{\Lambda}$  from  $\rho, \bar{\rho}$  integrals



# Applications to DIS

- $\mathcal{O}_1$  E&M current (photon)  
 $\mathcal{O}_2$  proton

- Kinematics

$$s \simeq Q^2/x$$

$\bar{Q}$  related to confinement scale & mass of proton

(simulate confinement with wavefunction in  $\bar{\rho}$ )

- Cross section for small  $x$  is

$$Q^{-2} F_2(x, Q^2)$$

# Geometric Scaling

- Near saturation

$$|\ln Q/\bar{Q}| \gtrsim B_s (s/Q\bar{Q})$$

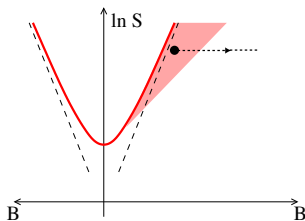
cross section reads

$$\int d^2\mathbf{b} \operatorname{Im} \Delta(S, B) \simeq \frac{1}{Q\bar{Q}N^2} \int d\nu \beta(\nu) \left(\frac{s}{Q\bar{Q}}\right)^{j(\nu)-1} \left(\frac{Q}{\bar{Q}}\right)^{-i\nu}$$

- At saddle point

$$\sigma \sim \frac{1}{\bar{Q}^2} \tau^{-(1+i\nu_s)\frac{1-\omega}{2}}$$

$$\tau = \left(\frac{Q}{Q_s}\right)^2 \quad \text{with} \quad Q_s = \bar{Q}^2 \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^{\frac{2\omega}{1-\omega}}$$

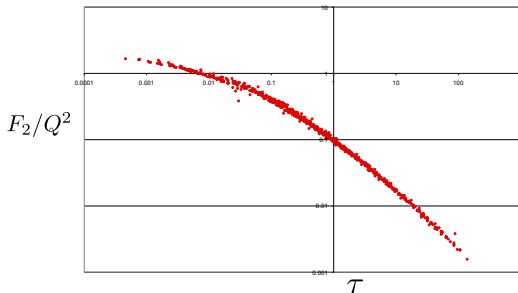


- In deep saturation

$$\sigma \sim \frac{1}{Q\bar{Q}} \left( \frac{Q}{x\bar{Q}} \right)^\omega \sim \frac{1}{\bar{Q}^2} \tau^{-\frac{1-\omega}{2}}$$

Specific dependence on the scaling variable

- Experimental evidence

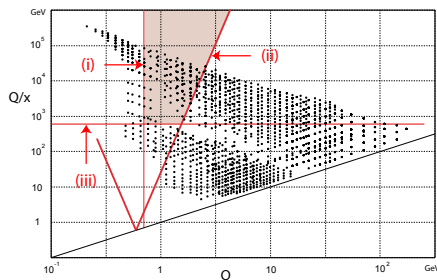


$\omega$  fixed experimentally to be  $\omega \simeq 0.138 \pm 0.021$

# Fit to DIS Data

- Expression for  $F_2(Q^2, x)$

$$c \frac{Q}{\bar{Q}} \left[ \left( \frac{Q}{x\bar{Q}} \right)^\omega + \left( \frac{Q}{x\bar{Q}} \right)^{-\omega} \right] - \tilde{c} \frac{Q}{\tilde{\Lambda}} \left[ \frac{Q}{\tilde{\Lambda}} + \frac{\tilde{\Lambda}}{Q} \right]$$



- (i) Weak coupling

$$Q > Q_{\min} \sim 0.7 - 1 \text{ GeV}$$

- (ii) Inside saturation

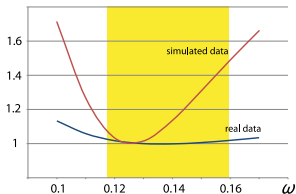
$$\omega \ln \frac{Q}{x\bar{Q}} > \ln \frac{Q}{\bar{Q}} \quad (\bar{Q} \sim 0.2 - 1 \text{ GeV})$$

- (iii) Asymptotic linear regime

$$\frac{Q}{x\bar{Q}} \gtrsim 10^\eta \quad (\eta \gtrsim 3)$$



- Minimize mean square deviation against experimental and simulated data



$$\omega \simeq 0.126$$

$$c \simeq 0.13$$

$$\bar{c} \simeq 0.14$$

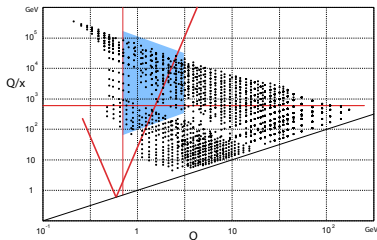
$$\tilde{\Lambda} \simeq 1 \text{ (GeV)}$$

$$\omega = 0.138 \pm 0.021$$

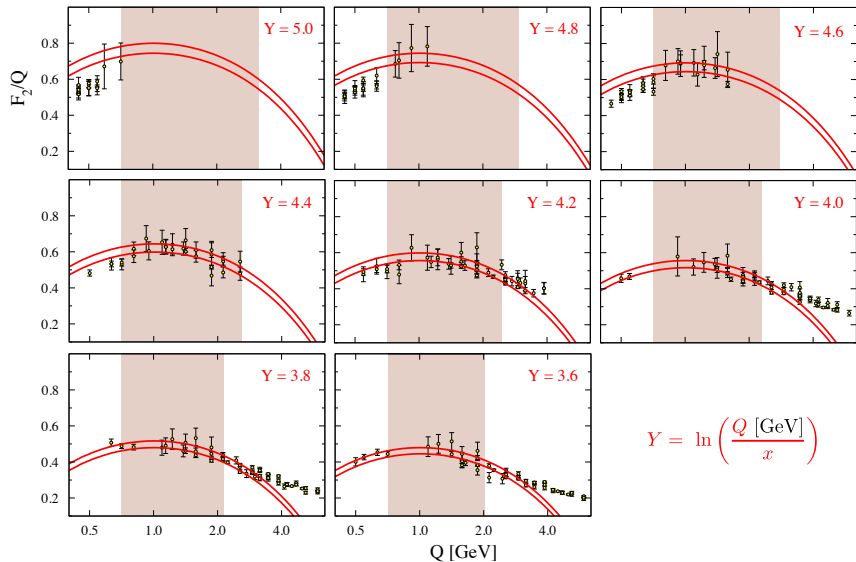
- Match experimental data in rather large kinematical range with 6% accuracy

$$0.5 < Q^2 < 10$$

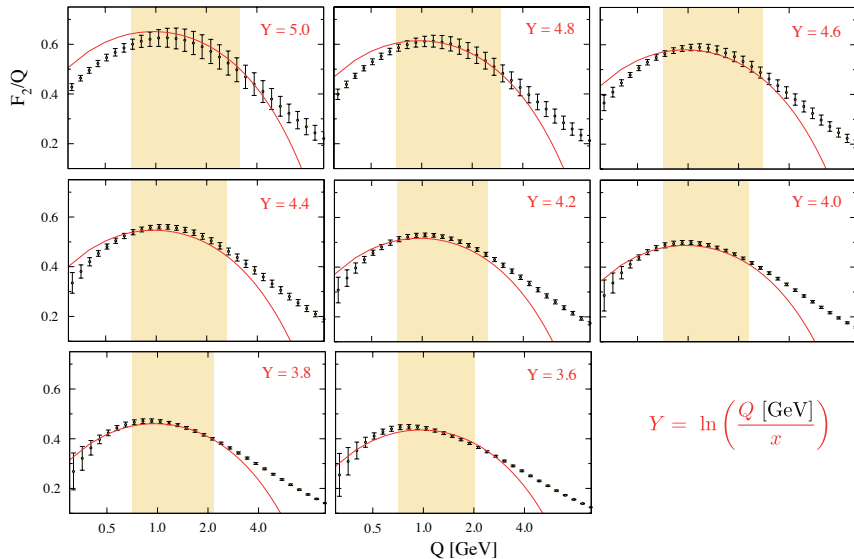
$$x < 10^{-2}$$



# Real Data



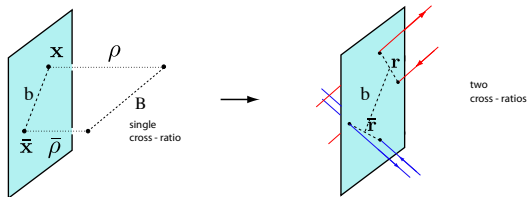
# Simulated Data



# Comments on Dipole Formalism

- Dipole phase shift

$$\Delta(s, \rho, \bar{\rho}, \mathbf{b}) \quad \rightarrow \quad \Delta_D(s, \mathbf{r}, \bar{\mathbf{r}}, \mathbf{b})$$



- Representation of  $\Delta_D$

$$\int dv \alpha(v) s^{j(v)-1} \cdot \mathcal{T}_{iv}(\mathbf{r}, \bar{\mathbf{r}}, \mathbf{b})$$

where

$$\mathcal{T}_{iv}(\mathbf{r}, \bar{\mathbf{r}}, \mathbf{b}) \simeq \left( |\mathbf{r}| |\bar{\mathbf{r}}| / \mathbf{b}^2 \right)^{1+iv} \quad \text{for } |\mathbf{r}|, |\bar{\mathbf{r}}| \ll |\mathbf{b}|$$

- For  $\rho, \bar{\rho} \ll |\mathbf{b}|$

$$B \sim \ln \mathbf{b}^2 / \rho \bar{\rho}$$

$$\Delta \sim \int dv S^{j(v)-1} \cdot (\rho \bar{\rho} / \mathbf{b})^{1+iv}$$

- $\Delta_D$  does **not** satisfy unitarity constraints (no asymptotic dipole states)
- Even if one assumes saturation at  $\text{Im } \Delta_D \sim 1$ , a **simple exponential saddling** for  $\Delta_D$  is **not possible** for general  $\mathbf{r}, \bar{\mathbf{r}}, \mathbf{b}$ .
- For  $|\mathbf{r}|, |\bar{\mathbf{r}}| \ll |\mathbf{b}|$  one obtains **only the first term in  $\sigma$** . A pure black disk is then a poor approximation of experimental data

# Future Directions

- Is deeply saturated DIS showing us a black disk in AdS ?
- Non conformal extension to holographic QCD models
- Role of strong coupling and of graviton exchange
- Role of non linear effects and relation to black hole formation
- More formal developments
  - Relation of closed BFKL trajectory to integrability of N=4 SYM and to open gluon trajectory
  - Relation of open and closed amplitudes
  - Flat space limit and S-duality
- Will LHC and future colliders give us precise data in the relevant kinematical window?