

High-energy hadronic total cross sections, Wilson loop correlators and the QCD spectrum

Enrico Meggiolaro

Dipartimento di Fisica “Enrico Fermi”, Università di Pisa,
and I.N.F.N., Sezione di Pisa

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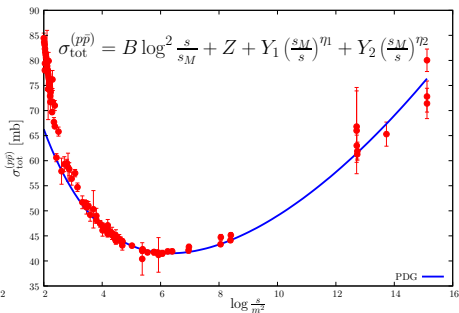
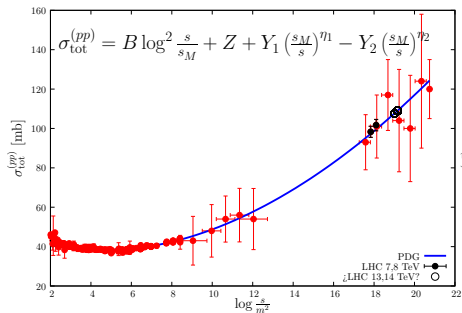
Based on:

M. Giordano and EM, *JHEP* **03** (2014) 002 [arXiv:1311.3133 [hep-ph]]

M. Giordano and EM, *PLB* **744** (2015) 263 [arXiv:1411.0553 [hep-ph]]

M. Giordano, EM, and P.V.R.G. Silva, arXiv:1703.00244 [hep-ph]

Rising Total Cross Sections



[TOTEM (2013)][PDG (2014)]

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{(hh)}(s) \sim B \log^2 s$$

Universal $B \simeq 0.3 \text{ mb}$, independent of the colliding hadrons [Ishida, Igi (2002)]

Consistent with Froissart bound (unitarity + mass gap) [Froissart (1961)]

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{(hh)}(s) \leq \frac{\pi}{m_\pi^2} \log^2 \frac{s}{s_0}$$

Soft High-Energy Scattering and Total Cross Sections

Total cross sections related to forward elastic amplitudes via optical theorem

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} \underset{s \rightarrow \infty}{\simeq} \frac{1}{s} \text{Im } \mathcal{M}(s, t = 0)$$

Soft high-energy hadron-hadron scattering: $s \rightarrow \infty$, $|t| \leq 1 \text{ GeV}^2$

One of the oldest unsolved problems of strong interactions

Impact parameter representation

$$[t = -\vec{q}_\perp^2]$$

$$\mathcal{M}(s, t) = i 2s \int d^2 \vec{b}_\perp e^{i\vec{q}_\perp \cdot \vec{b}_\perp} A(s, \vec{b}_\perp)$$

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} = 2 \text{Re} \int d^2 \vec{b}_\perp A(s, \vec{b}_\perp)$$

Unitarity: $|A(s, \vec{b}_\perp) - 1| \leq 1$

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Impact parameter representation for unpolarised scattering [$t = -\vec{q}_\perp^2$]

$$\mathcal{M}(s, t) = i 2s \int d^2 \vec{b}_\perp e^{i \vec{q}_\perp \cdot \vec{b}_\perp} A(s, \vec{b}_\perp) = i 4\pi s \int_0^\infty db b J_0(bq) A(s, b)$$

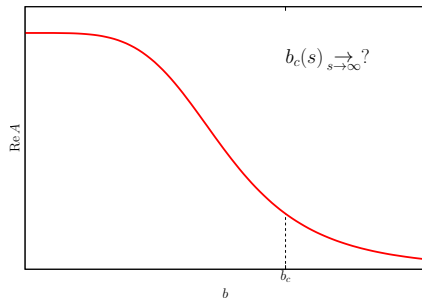
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$$|A(s, b) - 1| \leq 1$$

How to Obtain a Rising Total Cross Section

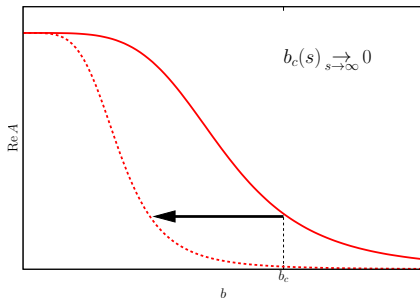
Typical shape: $A \rightarrow 0$ at large b , for $b > b_c(s)$ the amplitude is “negligible”



$\sigma_{\text{tot}} \sim b_c(s)^2$: how does b_c change with s ?

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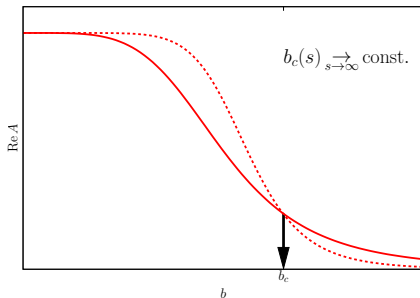


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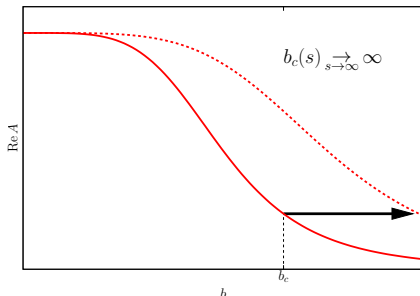


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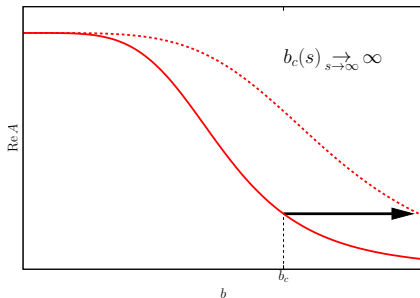


$\sigma_{\text{tot}} \sim b_c(s)^2$: how does b_c change with s ? $b_c(s) \rightarrow \infty$

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} = 4\pi b_c(s)^2 \text{Re} \int_0^\infty dx \times A(s, b_c(s)x) \rightarrow 4\pi b_c(s)^2 C$$

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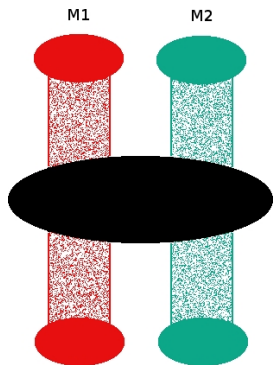
$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} = 4\pi b_c(s)^2 \text{Re} \int_0^\infty dx \times A(s, b_c(s)x) \rightarrow 4\pi b_c(s)^2 C$$

- $b_c(s)$ gives the energy dependence
- large b ($\gg m^{-1}$) is relevant

Soft High-Energy Scattering and QCD

QCD: fundamental theory, should explain the rise of total cross sections

$|t| \lesssim 1\text{GeV}^2$, PT not fully reliable \rightarrow NP approach [Nachtmann (1991)]

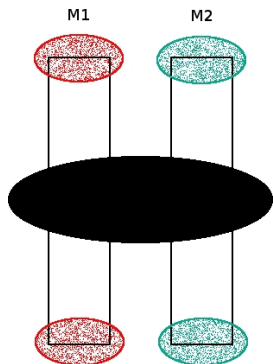


- 1 Partonic description of hadrons over a small time-window ($\sim 2\text{fm}$)
- 2 Partons do not split or annihilate, treated as in/out states of a scattering process
- 3 Lightlike trajectories approx. unchanged in the process, only soft gluon exchange
- 4 Hadronic amplitude after folding with hadronic wave function

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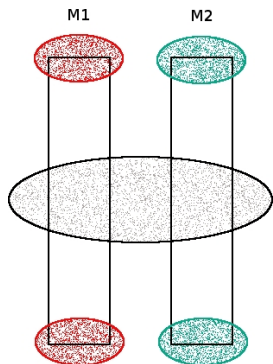


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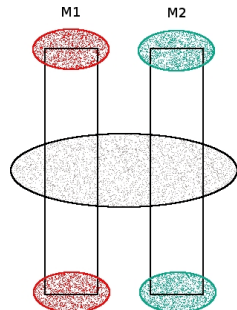
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Nonperturbative Approach

Partonic scattering amplitudes from the correlation function of infinite lightlike Wilson lines [Nachtmann (1991)]

To avoid IR divergences \rightarrow hadronic amplitudes

- mesons as wave packets of transverse colourless dipoles
- dipole scattering amplitudes from the correlation function of infinite lightlike Wilson loops [Dosch *et al.* (1996)]



Intermediate regularisation: finite hyperbolic angle χ and length $2T$ [Verlinde, Verlinde (1993)]

Extends to baryon-baryon scattering adopting a quark-diquark description [Rueter, Dosch (1996)]

Meson-Meson (Dipole-Dipole) Elastic Scattering

Elastic meson-meson from dipole-dipole scattering [Dosch et al. (1996)]

$$A(s, \vec{b}_\perp) = \langle\langle A^{(dd)}(s, \vec{b}_\perp; \nu_1, \nu_2) \rangle\rangle$$

$\nu_i = (f_i, \vec{R}_{i\perp})$, f_i longitudinal momentum fraction, $\vec{R}_{i\perp}$ transverse size

$\langle\langle \dots \rangle\rangle$: average over dipole variables $\nu_{1,2}$ with mesonic wave functions, i.e.,

$$\langle\langle F \rangle\rangle = \int_0^1 df_1 \int d^2\vec{R}_{1\perp} |\psi_1(\nu_1)|^2 \int_0^1 df_2 \int d^2\vec{R}_{2\perp} |\psi_2(\nu_2)|^2 F(\nu_1, \nu_2) \quad (\langle\langle 1 \rangle\rangle = 1)$$

dd scattering amplitude in b -space \leftrightarrow Wilson-loop correlation function

$$-A^{(dd)}(s, \vec{b}_\perp; \nu_1, \nu_2) \underset{s \rightarrow \infty}{\simeq} C_M(\chi; \vec{b}_\perp; \nu_1, \nu_2) \quad \chi \underset{s \rightarrow \infty}{\simeq} \log \frac{s}{m^2}$$

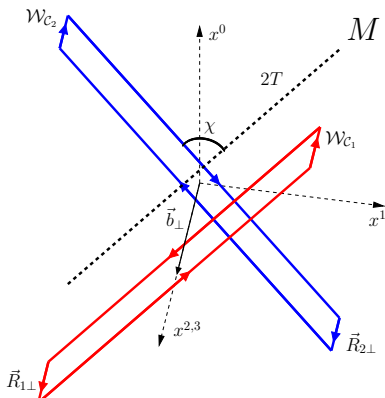
$$\mathcal{G}_M(\chi; T; \vec{b}_\perp; \nu_1, \nu_2) \equiv \frac{\langle \mathcal{W}_{C_1} \mathcal{W}_{C_2} \rangle}{\langle \mathcal{W}_{C_1} \rangle \langle \mathcal{W}_{C_2} \rangle} - 1 \quad C_M \equiv \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{G}_M$$

$\langle \dots \rangle$: expectation value in the (Minkowskian) QCD functional integral formalism

Wilson Loop Correlation Function

$$\mathcal{W}_C[A] \equiv \frac{1}{N_c} \text{Tr} \mathcal{P} \exp \left\{ -ig \oint_C A_\mu(X) dX^\mu \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{G}_M(\chi; T; \vec{b}_\perp; \nu_1, \nu_2) \equiv \frac{\langle \mathcal{W}_{C_1} \mathcal{W}_{C_2} \rangle}{\langle \mathcal{W}_{C_1} \rangle \langle \mathcal{W}_{C_2} \rangle} - 1, \quad C_M \equiv \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{G}_M$$

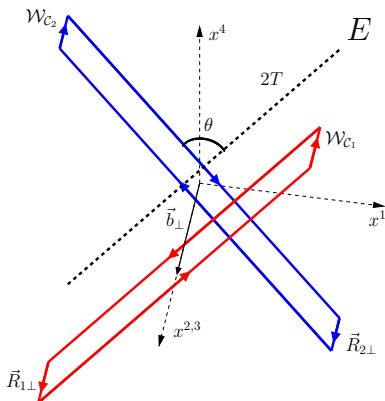


Wilson Loop Correlation Function

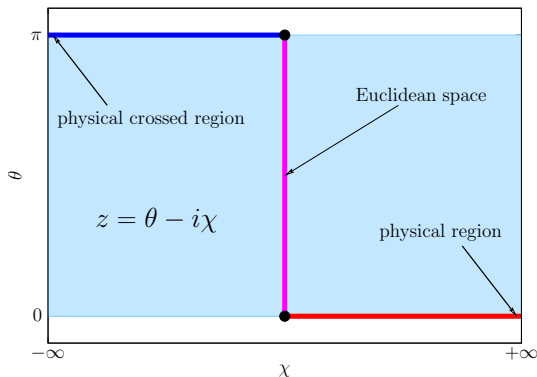
NP techniques available in Euclidean space ($\langle \dots \rangle_E$)

\Rightarrow Euclidean formulation [EM (1997), EM (2005)]

$$\mathcal{G}_E(\theta; T; \vec{b}_\perp; \nu_1, \nu_2) \equiv \frac{\langle \mathcal{W}_{C_1} \mathcal{W}_{C_2} \rangle_E}{\langle \mathcal{W}_{C_1} \rangle_E \langle \mathcal{W}_{C_2} \rangle_E} - 1, \quad \mathcal{C}_E \equiv \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{G}_E$$



Analytic Continuation to Euclidean Space



Analytic continuation relations [EM (2005), Giordano, EM (2009)]

$$\mathcal{C}_M(\chi) = \mathcal{C}_E(\theta \rightarrow -i\chi)$$

AC + Euclidean symmetries \Rightarrow crossing relations [Giordano, EM (2006)]

$$\mathcal{C}_M(i\pi - \chi; \vec{R}_{1\perp}, \vec{R}_{2\perp}) = \mathcal{C}_M(\chi; \vec{R}_{1\perp}, -\vec{R}_{2\perp})$$

Nonperturbative Models

Euclidean formulation opens the way to NP techniques:

- Stochastic Vacuum Model [Berger, Nachtmann (1999), Shoshi *et al.* (2003)]
- Instanton Liquid Model [Shuryak, Zahed (2000), Giordano, EM (2010)]
- AdS/CFT Correspondence
[Janik, Peschanski (2000a,b), Giordano, Peschanski (2010)]
- Lattice Gauge Theory [Giordano, EM (2008), Giordano, EM (2010)]

Stochastic Vacuum Model (SVM)	$C_E = \frac{2}{3} e^{-\frac{1}{3} \cot \theta K_{\text{SVM}}} + \frac{1}{3} e^{\frac{2}{3} \cot \theta K_{\text{SVM}}} - 1$
Instanton Liquid Model (ILM)	$C_E = \frac{K_{\text{ILM}}}{\sin \theta}$
Perturbation Theory (PT)	$C_E = K_{\text{PT}} \cot^2 \theta$
ILM + PT (ILMp)	$C_E = \frac{K_{\text{ILMp}}}{\sin \theta} + K'_{\text{ILMp}} (\cot \theta)^2$
AdS/CFT correspondence	$C_E = e^{\frac{K_{\text{AdS}}}{\sin \theta} + K'_{\text{AdS}} \cot \theta + K''_{\text{AdS}} \cos \theta \cot \theta} - 1$

NP Models, Lattice Results and Rising Cross Sections

Lattice calculations give “true” prediction of QCD (within errors) \Rightarrow test analytic NP calculations

Are the analytic NP calculations compatible with the lattice results?

- SVM/ILM do not match/fit well the data and $\sigma_{tot}^{SVM,ILM} \xrightarrow{s \rightarrow \infty} \text{const.}$
- ILM+PT gives improved best fits but $\sigma_{tot}^{ILM+PT} \xrightarrow{s \rightarrow \infty} \text{const.}$
- AdS/CFT: $\sigma_{tot} \propto s^{\frac{1}{3}}$ but for onium-onium scattering in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM
[Giordano, Peschanski (2010)]

Are the lattice results compatible with rising total cross sections?

- More general fits, but care is needed because of the AC
- Constrain admissible fitting functions with physical requirements (unitarity, crossing symmetry, . . .)
- Parameterisations fitting well the data and leading to rising total cross sections exist
[Giordano, EM, Moretti (2012)]

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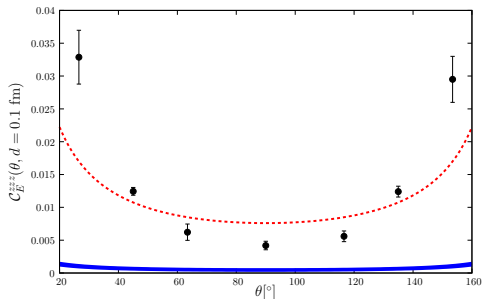
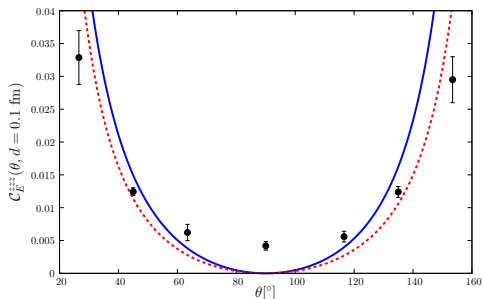
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NP Models and Lattice Results



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Numerical predictions and fits of model functions of SVM (top) and ILM (bottom) to lattice data

Lattice setup:

- Wilson action for $SU(3)$ gauge theory (*quenched* QCD)
- 16^4 hypercubic lattice, $a \simeq 0.1 \text{ fm}$
- longest available loops ($L \simeq 8$)
- $\cot \theta = 0, \pm 1/2, \pm 1, \pm 2$
- $|\vec{r}_{1,2\perp}| = 1a, |\vec{d}_\perp| = 0, 1, 2a$
- “zzz”: $\vec{d}_\perp \parallel \vec{r}_{1\perp} \parallel \vec{r}_{2\perp}$
- “zyy”: $\vec{d}_\perp \perp \vec{r}_{1\perp} \parallel \vec{r}_{2\perp}$
- “ave”: average over orientations

Rising Cross Sections From the Lattice

Parameterisation: $C_E = e^{K_E} - 1$

$$K_E = \sum_i f_i(\theta) g_i(\vec{b}_\perp; \nu_1, \nu_2)$$

Unitarity constraint: $\text{Re } K_M \leq 0$

$$[K_M(\chi) = K_E(\theta \rightarrow -i\chi)]$$

At large b , $K_E, K_M \sim (\sum) e^{-\mu b}$

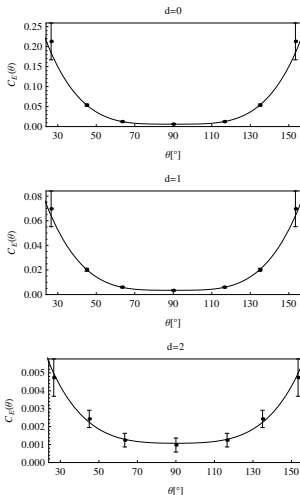
If $K_M \sim \chi^p e^{n\chi} e^{-\mu b} \sim (\log s)^p s^n e^{-\mu b}$

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{(hh)} \sim B \log^2 s$$

with $B = \frac{2\pi n^2}{\mu^2}$ **universal**

Estimate of B fairly agrees with B_{exp}
(although *quenched* and with rather large errors)

Where does this come from?



$$K_E = \frac{K_1}{\sin \theta} + K_2 \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right)^3 \cos \theta$$

Summary and Questions

- $\sigma_{\text{tot}} \sim$ large- b behaviour of elastic scattering amplitudes in impact-parameter space $A(s, b)$
- QCD at large- s and small- t : $A(s, b) \sim$ Wilson loop correlation function
- Analytic models fail to reproduce the lattice data and to capture the rising behaviour of σ_{tot}
- Lattice data compatible with rising behaviour, but large arbitrariness in the parameterisations

- 1 What are the large- s and large- b behaviour of $A(s, b)$?
- 2 What sets the physical scale in σ_{tot} ?
- 3 How does σ_{tot} relate to the hadronic spectrum?

Relating Total Cross Sections and the QCD Spectrum

How to extract θ and b dependencies?

Basic idea: insert a complete set of states between the Wilson loops

$$\langle 0 | \hat{O}_1(t) \hat{O}_2(0) | 0 \rangle = \sum_n e^{-E_n t} \langle 0 | \hat{O}_1(0) | n \rangle \langle n | \hat{O}_2(0) | 0 \rangle$$

Complications: nonlocal operators, nontrivial angular dependence

Use asymptotic states with simple transformation properties

$$|\alpha\rangle = |\{n_a(\alpha)\}, \{\vec{p}\}, \{s_3\}\rangle$$

$\{n_a(\alpha)\}$: particle content, $\{\vec{p}\}$: momenta, $\{s_3\}$: 3rd component of spin

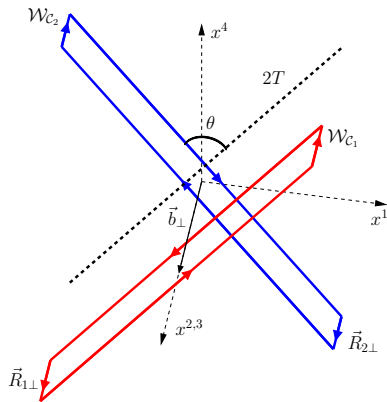
$$\sum_n |n\rangle \langle n| = \sum_\alpha \mathcal{P}_\alpha \sum_{\{s_3\}_\alpha} \int d\Omega_\alpha |\alpha\rangle \langle \alpha|$$

$\mathcal{P}_\alpha = \frac{1}{\prod_a n_a(\alpha)!}$ symmetry factor, $d\Omega_\alpha$ phase space measure

Sketch of Derivation

Rotate Euclidean time along the impact parameter (equivalent description)

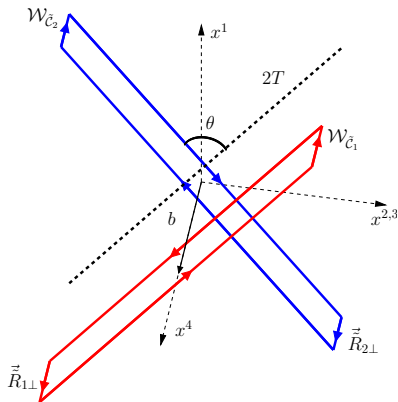
$$\mathcal{G}_E(\theta; T; \vec{b}_\perp; \nu_1, \nu_2) \equiv \frac{\langle \mathcal{W}_{C_1} \mathcal{W}_{C_2} \rangle_E}{\langle \mathcal{W}_{C_1} \rangle_E \langle \mathcal{W}_{C_2} \rangle_E} - 1$$



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Rotate Euclidean time along the impact parameter (equivalent description)

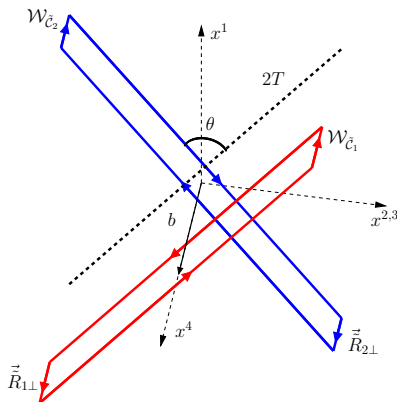
$$\tilde{G}_E(\theta; T; b; \nu_1, \nu_2) \equiv \frac{\langle \mathcal{W}_{\tilde{C}_1} \mathcal{W}_{\tilde{C}_2} \rangle_E}{\langle \mathcal{W}_{\tilde{C}_1} \rangle_E \langle \mathcal{W}_{\tilde{C}_2} \rangle_E} - 1$$



Sketch of Derivation

Use Wilson loop operators

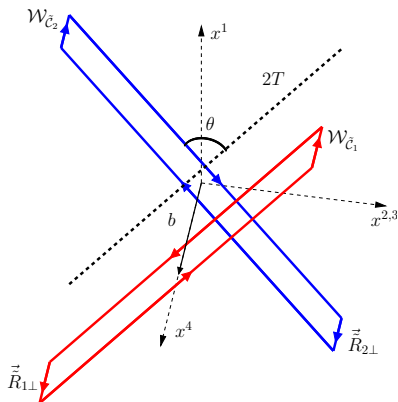
$$\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_E(\theta; T; b; \nu_1, \nu_2) \equiv \frac{\langle \mathcal{W}_{\tilde{c}_1} \mathcal{W}_{\tilde{c}_2} \rangle_E}{\langle \mathcal{W}_{\tilde{c}_1} \rangle_E \langle \mathcal{W}_{\tilde{c}_2} \rangle_E} - 1 = \frac{\langle 0 | T \{ \hat{\mathcal{W}}_{\tilde{c}_1} \hat{\mathcal{W}}_{\tilde{c}_2} \} | 0 \rangle}{\langle 0 | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_{\tilde{c}_1} | 0 \rangle \langle 0 | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_{\tilde{c}_2} | 0 \rangle} - 1$$



Sketch of Derivation

Consider loops with no temporal overlap ($b > b_0$)

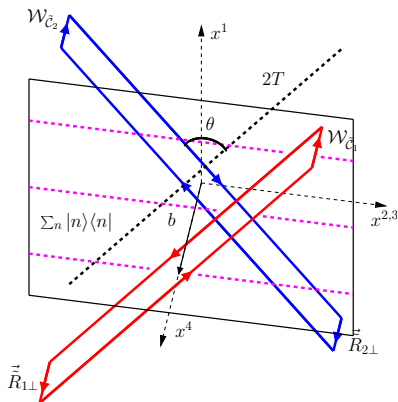
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Sketch of Derivation

Insert a complete set of states

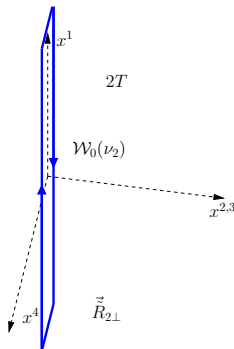
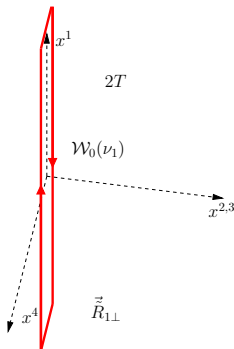
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Sketch of Derivation

Rotate around 3-axis and translate centres to the origin, $|n_{\pm\frac{\theta}{2}}\rangle = e^{\pm i\hat{J}_3\frac{\theta}{2}}|n\rangle$

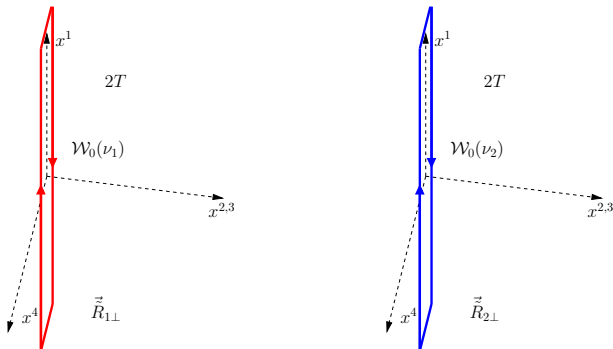
$$\tilde{G}_E(\theta; T; b; \nu_1, \nu_2) = \sum_{n \neq 0} e^{-bE_n} e^{i\theta S_{3n}} \frac{\langle 0 | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_0(\nu_1) | n_{\frac{\theta}{2}} \rangle \langle n_{-\frac{\theta}{2}} | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_0(\nu_2) | 0 \rangle}{\langle 0 | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_0(\nu_1) | 0 \rangle \langle 0 | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_0(\nu_2) | 0 \rangle}$$



Sketch of Derivation

Rotate around 3-axis and translate centres to the origin, $|n_{\pm\frac{\theta}{2}}\rangle = e^{\pm i\hat{J}_3\frac{\theta}{2}}|n\rangle$

$$\tilde{G}_E(\theta; T; b; \nu_1, \nu_2) = \sum_{n \neq 0} e^{-bE_n} e^{i\theta S_{3n}} \frac{\langle 0 | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_0(\nu_1) | n_{\frac{\theta}{2}} \rangle \langle n_{-\frac{\theta}{2}} | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_0(\nu_2) | 0 \rangle}{\langle 0 | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_0(\nu_1) | 0 \rangle \langle 0 | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_0(\nu_2) | 0 \rangle}$$



Sketch of Derivation

Take $T \rightarrow \infty$

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{C}_E(\theta; b; \nu_1, \nu_2) &= \sum_{n \neq 0} e^{-bE_n} e^{i\theta S_{3n}} \frac{\langle 0 | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_0(\nu_1) | n_{\frac{\theta}{2}} \rangle \langle n_{-\frac{\theta}{2}} | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_0(\nu_2) | 0 \rangle}{\langle 0 | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_0(\nu_1) | 0 \rangle \langle 0 | \hat{\mathcal{W}}_0(\nu_2) | 0 \rangle} \\ &= \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} \mathcal{P}_\alpha \sum_{\{s_3\}_\alpha} e^{i\theta S_{3\alpha}} \int d\Omega_\alpha e^{-bE_\alpha} W_\alpha^+(\{\vec{p}_{\frac{\theta}{2}}\}, \{s_3\}; \nu_1) W_\alpha^-(\{\vec{p}_{-\frac{\theta}{2}}\}, \{s_3\}; \nu_2)\end{aligned}$$

$E_\alpha, S_{3\alpha}$: total energy and 3rd component of spin in state α

$\{\vec{p}_{\pm\frac{\theta}{2}}\}$: all momenta rotated around 3-axis

Selection rule: W_α^\pm nonzero only for vanishing discrete charges (electric charge, baryon number, strangeness, ...)

$$Q = B = S = \dots = 0$$

Asymptotic Behaviour of the Correlator

At large χ and large b , using $\mathcal{C}_M(\chi; \vec{b}_\perp; \nu_1, \nu_2) = \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_E(-i\chi; b; \nu_1, \nu_2)$

$$\mathcal{C}_M(\chi; \vec{b}_\perp; \nu_1, \nu_2) \underset{\chi \rightarrow \infty, b \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} \mathcal{P}_\alpha i^{N_\alpha} \mathcal{F}_\alpha^+(\nu_1) \mathcal{F}_\alpha^-(\nu_2) \prod_a w_a^{n_a(\alpha)}$$

up to $\mathcal{O}(e^{-\chi})$ and $\mathcal{O}(b^{-1})$

$$w_a(\chi, b) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi b m^{(a)}}} e^{\chi[s^{(a)}-1]} e^{-b m^{(a)}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi b m^{(a)}}} e^{[R_{\text{eff}}^{(a)}(s)-b]m^{(a)}}$$

Reminiscent of exchange of spin- J particle \rightarrow contribution $\propto s^{J-1}$

Contribution of state α non-negligible only for

$$b \lesssim R_{\text{eff}}^{[\alpha]} = \frac{\sum_a n_a(\alpha) m^{(a)} R_{\text{eff}}^{(a)}(s)}{\sum_a n_a(\alpha) m^{(a)}} \quad R_{\text{eff}}^{(a)}(s) \equiv \frac{s^{(a)} - 1}{m^{(a)}} \chi$$

Extracting the High-Energy Behaviour of σ_{tot}

\mathcal{C}_M enters the expression for σ_{tot}

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} = 2\text{Re} \int d^2\vec{b}_\perp A(s, \vec{b}_\perp) = -4\pi\text{Re} \int_0^\infty db b \langle\langle \mathcal{C}_M(\chi; \vec{b}_\perp; \nu_1, \nu_2) \rangle\rangle$$

What is the characteristic b_c ?

$$b_c(s) = \max_\alpha R_{\text{eff}}^{[\alpha]}(s) = \max_a R_{\text{eff}}^{(a)}(s) = \left[\max_a \frac{s^{(a)} - 1}{m^{(a)}} \right] \chi = \frac{\tilde{s} - 1}{\tilde{m}} \chi$$

If higher-spin ($s^{(a)} > 1$) stable states exist

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} \propto b_c(s)^2 \sim \left(\frac{\tilde{s} - 1}{\tilde{m}} \right)^2 \log^2 s$$

If $\tilde{s} < 1$, $\sigma_{\text{tot}} \rightarrow 0$; if $\tilde{s} = 1$, $\sigma_{\text{tot}} \rightarrow \text{const.}$

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Extracting the High-Energy Behaviour of σ_{tot}

Large- χ , b behaviour encoded in

$$C_M(\chi; \vec{b}_\perp; \nu_1, \nu_2) \underset{\chi, b \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} g(\omega(\chi, z); \nu_1, \nu_2) - 1$$

where $z \equiv e^{(\tilde{s}-1)\chi} e^{-\tilde{m}b}$ and $\omega(\chi, z) \equiv z \left[\log \left(\frac{e^{(\tilde{s}-1)\chi}}{z} \right) \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{e^{(\tilde{s}-1)\chi} e^{-\tilde{m}b}}{\sqrt{\tilde{m}b}}$

One finds that ($\Lambda \equiv e^{-\tilde{m}b_0}$)

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} \simeq \frac{4\pi}{\tilde{m}^2} \text{Re} \langle\langle J \rangle\rangle \quad J \underset{\chi \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \int_0^{e^\eta} \frac{dz'}{z'} \log \left(\frac{e^\eta}{\Lambda z'} \right) [1 - g(\Lambda z'; \nu_1, \nu_2)]$$

where $\eta = \frac{1}{2} W(2e^{2(\tilde{s}-1)\chi})$ (*Lambert function* $W(x)$: $x = W(x)e^{W(x)}$).

For large positive x , $W(x) = \log x - \log \log x + \frac{\log \log x}{\log x} + \dots$, so that

$$\eta = (\tilde{s} - 1)\chi - \frac{1}{2} \log[(\tilde{s} - 1)\chi] + \frac{\log[(\tilde{s} - 1)\chi]}{4(\tilde{s} - 1)\chi} + \dots$$

Look for $\mathcal{O}(\eta^2)$ terms: $J = \frac{1}{2}\eta^2[1 - g_\infty(\nu_1, \nu_2)] + \mathcal{O}(\eta)$

Universal “Froissart-like” Total Cross Section

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} \underset{s \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \frac{2\pi}{\tilde{m}^2} \kappa \eta^2 + \mathcal{O}(\eta), \quad \kappa = 1 - \text{Re} \langle\langle g_{\infty}(\nu_1, \nu_2) \rangle\rangle$$

Unitarity bound: $|\mathcal{C}_M + 1| = |g| \leq 1 \Rightarrow 0 \leq \kappa \leq 2 \Rightarrow$ bound on σ_{tot}

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} \underset{s \rightarrow \infty}{\lesssim} \frac{4\pi(\tilde{s} - 1)^2}{\tilde{m}^2} \log^2 \frac{s}{m^2}$$

If $\text{Re} g_{\infty}(\nu_1, \nu_2) = 0$ (i.e., $\kappa = 1$), σ_{tot} is universal and the leading $\mathcal{O}(\eta^2)$ term is entirely determined by the spectrum

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} \underset{s \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \frac{2\pi(\tilde{s} - 1)^2}{\tilde{m}^2} \log^2 \frac{s}{m^2}$$

True also if g oscillates at infinity, unaffected by small- b behaviour

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True also if g oscillates at infinity, unaffected by small- b behaviour

Subleading Terms

In general, for two colliding hadrons with masses m_a and m_b

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{ab} \underset{s \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \frac{2\pi}{\tilde{m}^2} \kappa \eta^2 + \mathcal{O}(\eta), \quad \kappa = 1 - \text{Re} \langle\langle g_\infty(\nu_1, \nu_2) \rangle\rangle$$

where

$$\eta = \frac{1}{2} W(2e^{2(\tilde{s}-1)\chi}) = (\tilde{s}-1)\chi - \frac{1}{2} \log[(\tilde{s}-1)\chi] + \frac{\log[(\tilde{s}-1)\chi]}{4(\tilde{s}-1)\chi} + \dots$$

and $\chi = \ln(s/s_0^{ab})$ with $s_0^{ab} = m_a m_b$.

Therefore, up to first subleading order,

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{ab} \underset{s \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} B \log^2 \left(\frac{s}{s_0^{ab}} \right) + C \log \left(\frac{s}{s_0^{ab}} \right) \log \left[\log \left(\frac{s}{s_0^{ab}} \right) \right] + \mathcal{O} \left(\log \left(\frac{s}{s_0^{ab}} \right) \right)$$

with

$$B = \kappa B_{\text{th}}, \quad B_{\text{th}} = 2\pi \frac{(\tilde{s}-1)^2}{\tilde{m}^2}, \quad C = \kappa C_{\text{th}}, \quad C_{\text{th}} = -2\pi \frac{(\tilde{s}-1)}{\tilde{m}^2}$$

Notice the relations: $B/C = 1 - \tilde{s}$ and $2\pi B/C^2 = \tilde{m}^2/\kappa$

Elastic Scattering Amplitude

The elastic scattering amplitude is found to be

$$\mathcal{M}^{ab}(s, t) \underset{s \rightarrow \infty, t \rightarrow 0}{\sim} 4\pi i s \kappa \left(\frac{\eta}{\tilde{m}} \right)^2 \frac{J_1(\varrho)}{\varrho}, \quad \varrho \equiv \frac{\eta \sqrt{-t}}{\tilde{m}} \text{ fixed}$$

One can calculate the **total elastic cross section** σ_{el}^{ab} using

$$\sigma_{\text{el}}^{ab}(s) = \int_{-\infty}^0 dt \frac{d\sigma_{\text{el}}^{ab}}{dt}(s, t), \quad \frac{d\sigma_{\text{el}}^{ab}}{dt}(s, t) = \frac{1}{16\pi s^2} |\mathcal{M}^{ab}(s, t)|^2$$

and assuming that the small- t region gives the dominant contribution:

$$\frac{\sigma_{\text{el}}^{ab}}{\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{ab}} \underset{s \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \frac{\kappa}{2} \left[\frac{\sigma_{\text{el}}^{pp}}{\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{pp}} \Big|_{\text{exp}, \sqrt{s}=8 \text{ TeV}} \simeq 0.27 \right]$$

$$(\mathcal{B}^{ab}(\text{slope})) \equiv \frac{d}{dt} \log \frac{d\sigma_{\text{el}}^{ab}}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} \Rightarrow \frac{8\pi \mathcal{B}^{ab}}{\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{ab}} \sim \frac{1}{\kappa} \left[\frac{8\pi \mathcal{B}^{pp}}{\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{pp}} \Big|_{\text{exp}, \sqrt{s}=7 \text{ TeV}} \simeq 1.97 \right]$$

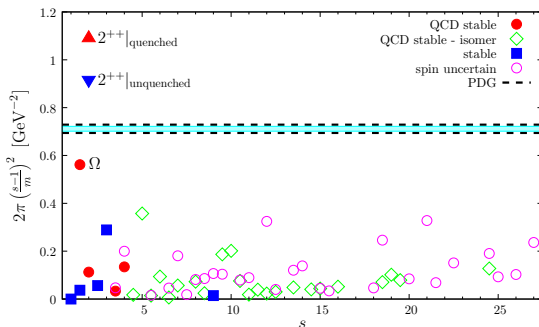
If $\kappa < 1$ ($\Rightarrow \sigma_{\text{el}}/\sigma_{\text{tot}} < 1/2$), the elastic scattering amplitude $\mathcal{M}^{ab}(s, t)$ behaves asymptotically as a **grey disk** with $A_{\text{GD}}(s, b < b_c(s) = \frac{\eta}{\tilde{m}}) = \kappa$.

If $\kappa = 1$ we have the so-called **black disk** $\Rightarrow \sigma_{\text{el}}/\sigma_{\text{tot}} = 1/2$.

If $\kappa > 1$ we have the **antishadowing regime** $\Rightarrow \sigma_{\text{el}}/\sigma_{\text{tot}} > 1/2$.

Hadronic Spectrum and Total Cross Sections

Maximise $\frac{s^{(a)}-1}{m^{(a)}}$ over asymptotic stable states of QCD *in isolation*



Data from [Nubase (2003), Gregory *et al.* (2012)]

$$\Omega^\pm \text{ baryon: } m_\Omega \simeq 1.67 \text{ GeV}, (J^P)_\Omega = \frac{3}{2}^+$$

$$\Rightarrow B_{\text{th}}^\Omega = \frac{\pi}{2m_\Omega^2} \simeq 0.56 \text{ GeV}^{-2} [0.22 \text{ mb}]$$

vs. $B_{\text{exp}} \simeq 0.69 \div 0.73 \text{ GeV}^{-2} [0.27 \div 0.29 \text{ mb}]$

“Froissart-like” Bound

Froissart-Łukaszuk-Martin bound

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sigma_{\text{tot}}}{\log^2 \frac{s}{m^2}} \leq \frac{\pi}{m_\pi^2} \simeq 59 \text{ mb}$$

Our “Froissart-like” bound is much more restrictive ($B_{\text{exp}} = 0.27 \div 0.29 \text{ mb}$)

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sigma_{\text{tot}}}{\log^2 \frac{s}{m^2}} \leq 2B_{\text{th}}^\Omega = \frac{\pi}{m_\Omega^2} \simeq 0.44 \text{ mb}$$

In the $N_f = 2$ chiral limit our “Froissart-like” bound is stable

- masses of nuclei/baryons/non-Goldstone mesons expected to change only by a few MeV
- the presence of massless pions can make some particle unstable, not the other way around
- massless spin-0 particles are harmless, and do not have to be included in the maximisation
- Ω expected to remain stable and with approximately the same mass, so it is expected to still be the dominant particle

Quenched and Large- N_c Limits

Quenched limit

The description of hadrons in terms of dipoles is (probably) most naturally justified in the *quenched* limit of the theory:

- Quark masses $\rightarrow \infty$, B from the *glueball* spectrum of YM theory
- Glueball 3^{+-} ($m_{g(3^{+-})} \simeq 3.55$ GeV) $\Rightarrow B_{\text{th}}^{g(3^{+-})} = 0.78$ mb
- Or, maybe (if, for some reason, states for which one-particle contributions are nonzero should be considered to be “dominant”):
Glueball 2^{++} ($m_{g(2^{++})} \simeq 2.40$ GeV) $\Rightarrow B_{\text{th}}^{g(2^{++})} = 0.42$ mb

Large- N_c limit

- Large- s limit first, large- N_c next: $s \rightarrow \infty / N_c \rightarrow \infty$
- B_{th} well defined for all (finite) N_c as the stable spectrum is finite
- Ω baryon likely to remain stable in the large- N_c limit:
 $J_\Omega = \frac{N_c}{2}$, $m_\Omega \sim N_c \Rightarrow B_{\text{th}}^\Omega = \mathcal{O}(N_c^0)$
- Also, in the *quenched* theory: $m_g = \mathcal{O}(N_c^0) \Rightarrow B_{\text{th}}^g = \mathcal{O}(N_c^0)$
(Quenched and large- N_c are *not* equivalent for σ_{tot} !)
- In contrast with expected $\mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{N_c^2})$ in the limit $N_c \rightarrow \infty / s \rightarrow \infty$

Best-Fit Analysis: Parametrization

We have done **best fits** to hadronic scattering data using the following parametrization for the total cross section:

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{\text{tot}}(s) &= \sigma_{\text{Regge}}(s) + \sigma_{\text{HE}}(s), \\ \sigma_{\text{Regge}}^{a^\pm b}(s) &= A_1^{ab} \left(\frac{s}{s_0^{ab}}\right)^{-b_1} \mp A_2^{ab} \left(\frac{s}{s_0^{ab}}\right)^{-b_2} + A_{\mathbb{P}}^{ab}, \\ \sigma_{\text{HE}}^{a^\pm b}(s) &= \kappa \left\{ B \log^2 \left(\frac{s}{s_0^{ab}}\right) + C \log \left(\frac{s}{s_0^{ab}}\right) \log \left[\log \left(\frac{s}{s_0^{ab}}\right) \right] \right\} \\ &\quad + Q^{ab} \log \left(\frac{s}{s_0^{ab}}\right),\end{aligned}$$

where: $a^+ \equiv a$, $a^- \equiv \bar{a}$ and $s_0^{ab} = m_a m_b$.

A_i^{ab} (mb), b_i (dimensionless) and $A_{\mathbb{P}}^{ab}$ (mb) are always free parameters to be determined in the fits.

The parameters B (mb), C (mb), Q^{ab} (mb) and κ (dimensionless) can be fixed or free, depending on the particular type of best fit.

Best-Fit Analysis: Dataset

Information about the reactions in our dataset (minimum energy, maximum energy and number of points for each reaction):

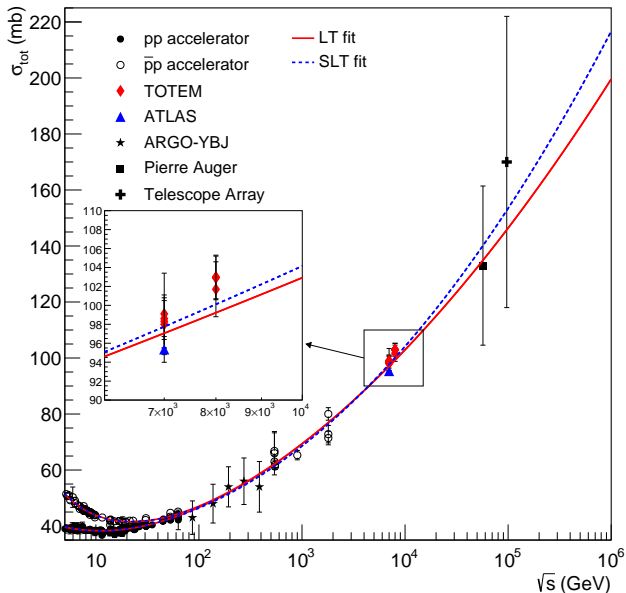
Reaction	$\sqrt{s_{\min}}$ (GeV)	$\sqrt{s_{\max}}$ (GeV)	# points
pp	5.01	8000	112
$\bar{p}p$	5.16	1800	59
pn	5.30	26.40	34
$\bar{p}n$	5.18	22.98	33
π^+p	5.21	25.28	50
π^-p	5.03	34.67	95
K^+p	5.13	24.14	40
K^-p	5.11	24.14	63
K^+n	5.24	24.16	28
K^-n	5.11	24.16	36
		Total:	559

Best-Fit Analysis: Results for pp and $\bar{p}p$ Scattering

Results of fits with LT, SLT and QLT to σ_{tot} data of pp and $\bar{p}p$ scattering:

	Fits to σ_{tot}		
	LT	SLT	QLT
B	0.2269(38)	0.349(29)	0.311(19)
C	0 (fixed)	-0.95(21)	0 (fixed)
κ	1 (fixed)	1 (fixed)	1 (fixed)
Q	0 (fixed)	0 (fixed)	-2.40(48)
b_1	0.342(15)	0.560(76)	0.586(89)
b_2	0.539(15)	0.541(16)	0.541(16)
A_1	56.8(1.7)	64.4(8.2)	60.6(8.7)
A_2	35.2(2.5)	35.6(2.5)	35.6(2.5)
$A_{\mathbb{P}}$	24.77(60)	35.7(2.0)	41.7(3.0)
χ^2/ν	0.972	0.933	0.934
ν	165	164	164

Best-Fit Analysis: Results for pp and $\bar{p}p$ Scattering

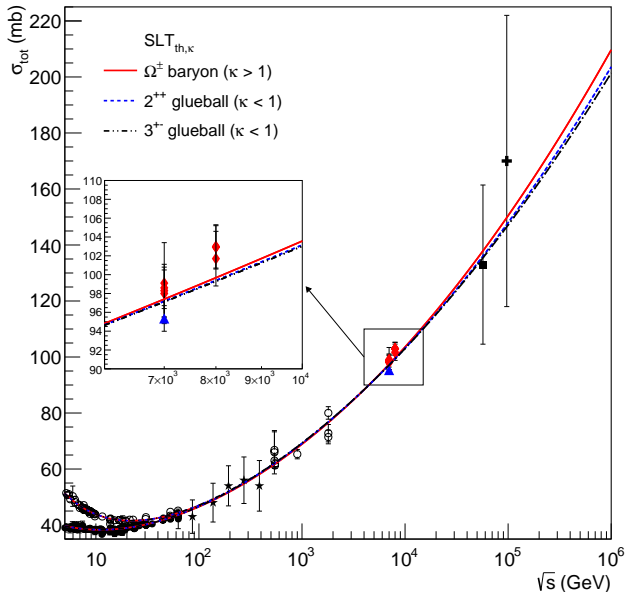


Best-Fit Analysis: Results for pp and $\bar{p}p$ Scattering

Results of fits with LT_{th} , SLT_{th} and $SLT_{\text{th},\kappa}$ (B and C fixed to their theoretical values B_{th} and C_{th} , $Q = 0$) to σ_{tot} data of pp and $\bar{p}p$ scattering:

	Ω^\pm baryon			2^{++} glueball	3^{+-} glueball
	LT_{th}	SLT_{th}	$SLT_{\text{th},\kappa}$	$SLT_{\text{th},\kappa}$	$SLT_{\text{th},\kappa}$
B_{th}	0.22 (fixed)	0.22 (fixed)	0.22 (fixed)	0.42 (fixed)	0.78 (fixed)
C_{th}	0 (fixed)	-0.44 (fixed)	-0.44 (fixed)	-0.42 (fixed)	-0.39 (fixed)
κ	1 (fixed)	1 (fixed)	1.377(18)	0.6159(96)	0.3097(51)
κB_{th}	0.22 (fixed)	0.22 (fixed)	0.303(4)	0.259(4)	0.242(4)
Q	0 (fixed)	0 (fixed)	0 (fixed)	0 (fixed)	0 (fixed)
b_1	0.365(10)	0.743(20)	0.548(20)	0.385(17)	0.361(17)
b_2	0.539(15)	0.528(16)	0.540(15)	0.539(15)	0.539(15)
A_1	58.5(1.7)	115.3(8.5)	57.5(3.2)	56.0(2.2)	56.3(2.0)
A_2	35.3(2.5)	33.7(2.4)	35.4(2.5)	35.3(2.4)	35.2(2.4)
A_{P}	25.75(21)	35.862(74)	32.17(29)	28.13(46)	26.38(55)
χ^2/ν	0.987	3.59	0.937	0.957	0.965
ν	166	166	165	165	165

Best-Fit Analysis: Results for pp and $\bar{p}p$ Scattering

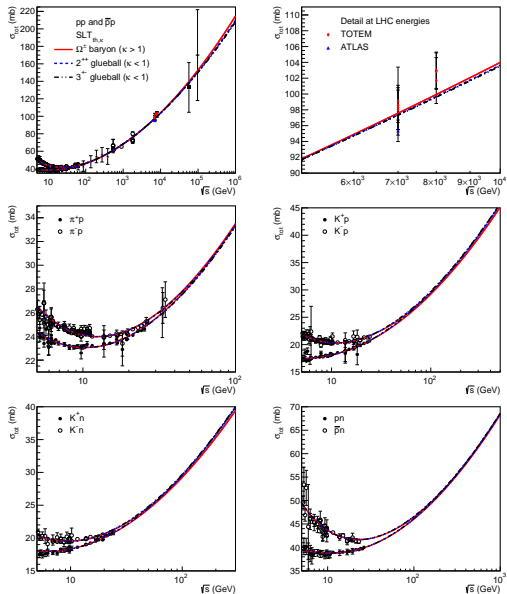


Best-Fit Analysis: Results for All Reactions

Results of fits with LT_{th} , SLT_{th} and $SLT_{th,\kappa}$ (B and C fixed to their theoretical values B_{th} and C_{th} , $Q = 0$) to σ_{tot} data for all hadron-hadron reactions:

	Ω^\pm baryon			2^{++} glueball	3^{+-} glueball
	LT_{th}	SLT_{th}	$SLT_{th,\kappa}$	$SLT_{th,\kappa}$	$SLT_{th,\kappa}$
B_{th}	0.22 (fixed)	0.22 (fixed)	0.22 (fixed)	0.42 (fixed)	0.78 (fixed)
C_{th}	0 (fixed)	-0.44 (fixed)	-0.44 (fixed)	-0.42 (fixed)	-0.39 (fixed)
κ	1 (fixed)	1 (fixed)	1.439(23)	0.653(12)	0.3303(64)
κB_{th}	0.22 (fixed)	0.22 (fixed)	0.317(5)	0.274(5)	0.258(5)
Q	0 (fixed)	0 (fixed)	0 (fixed)	0 (fixed)	0 (fixed)
b_1	0.2744(66)	0.554(13)	0.292(14)	0.249(13)	0.234(12)
b_2	0.5141(97)	0.515(11)	0.514(10)	0.513(11)	0.513(11)
χ^2/ν	1.108	1.966	1.071	1.062	1.061
ν	533	533	532	532	532

Best-Fit Analysis: Results for All Reactions



Best-Fit Analysis: Results for the Ratio $\sigma_{el}/\sigma_{tot} = \kappa/2$

Ratio $\sigma_{el}/\sigma_{tot} = \kappa/2$, with κ determined from the fit **LT** (considering $B = \kappa B_{th}$, i.e., $\kappa = B/B_{th}$) and from the fits **SLT_{th,κ}** and **QSLT_{th,κ}** to pp and $\bar{p}p$ data only, and also from fits to data for all reactions:

	Fits to $pp/\bar{p}p$ data only		Fits to all reactions	
	LT		LT	
Ω^\pm baryon	0.5157(86)		0.553(10)	
2^{++} glueball	0.2701(45)		0.2896(55)	
3^{+-} glueball	0.1454(24)		0.1560(29)	
	SLT _{th,κ}	QSLT _{th,κ}	SLT _{th,κ}	QSLT _{th,κ}
Ω^\pm baryon	0.6885(91)	0.765(50)	0.720(12)	0.770(55)
2^{++} glueball	0.3080(48)	0.385(25)	0.3265(60)	0.387(26)
3^{+-} glueball	0.1548(26)	0.203(13)	0.1652(32)	0.204(12)

Conclusions and Outlook

Main results:

- If higher-spin ($\tilde{s} > 1$) *stable* states exist, then:
 $\sigma_{\text{tot}} \sim B \log^2 s + C \log s \log(\log s) + \mathcal{O}(\log s)$, with

$$B = \kappa B_{\text{th}} , \quad B_{\text{th}} = 2\pi \frac{(\tilde{s} - 1)^2}{\tilde{m}^2} , \quad C = \kappa C_{\text{th}} , \quad C_{\text{th}} = -2\pi \frac{(\tilde{s} - 1)}{\tilde{m}^2}$$

where $\frac{\tilde{s}-1}{\tilde{m}} = \max \frac{s^{(a)}-1}{m^{(a)}}$ and $\frac{\sigma_{\text{el}}}{\sigma_{\text{tot}}} \sim \frac{\kappa}{2}$ ($0 \leq \kappa \leq 2$)

- Reasonable possibilities for the relevant state (of mass \tilde{m} and spin \tilde{s}):
 Ω^\pm baryon , 2^{++} glueball , 3^{+-} glueball
- Good best fits to data (both for $pp/\bar{p}p$ reactions only and also including all hadron-hadron reactions) have been obtained using the above-written asymptotic expression for σ_{tot} , with κ treated as a free parameter:
 - ▶ Ω^\pm baryon: $B \sim 0.3$ mb, $\frac{\kappa}{2} \sim 0.7 \implies$ *anti-shadowing* scenario?
 - ▶ 2^{++} glueball: $B \sim 0.27$ mb, $\frac{\kappa}{2} \sim 0.3 \implies$ *grey-disk* scenario?
 - ▶ 3^{+-} glueball: $B \sim 0.26$ mb, $\frac{\kappa}{2} \sim 0.16 \implies$ *grey-disk* scenario?

(We recall that: $B_{\text{PDG}} \simeq 0.27$ mb, $\sigma_{\text{el}}^{\text{PP}}/\sigma_{\text{tot}}^{\text{PP}}|_{\text{exp}, \sqrt{s}=8 \text{ TeV}} \simeq 0.27$)

Conclusions and Outlook

Open issues:

- Validity of our technical assumptions?
- Which is the *true* relevant state?
The Ω^\pm baryon? Some glueball (2^{++} , 3^{+-} , ...)?
Or, maybe, something else?
- More detailed fits (and, therefore, more high-energy data) will be necessary to settle this question...



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