

Higher-twist corrections to exclusive vector meson production at high energies

Michael Fucilla

Narodowe Centrum Badań Jądrowych (NCBJ)

[Boussarie, M.F., Szymanowski, Wallon. PRL 134 (2025) 4]

[Boussarie, M.F., Szymanowski, Wallon. PRD 111 (2025) 1]

[Boussarie, Delle Rose, M.F., Papa, Szymanowski, Wallon ...]

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13–17 October 2025, Milan

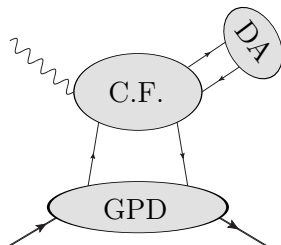


Deeply virtual meson production (DVMP)

- Exclusive vector meson leptonproduction

$$\gamma^{(*)}(p_\gamma) + P(p_0) \rightarrow \rho(p_\rho) + P(p'_0)$$

- Extensively studied at HERA



- Collinear factorization proven at all order for

$$\gamma^{(*)}(p_\gamma) + P(p_0) \rightarrow \rho_L(p_\rho) + P(p'_0)$$

[Collins, Frankfurt, Strikman (1997)]

[Radyushkin (1997)]

- NLO corrections in Collinear Factorization

[D.Yu. Ivanov, L. Szymanowski, G. Krasnikov (2004)]

- NLO corrections to the production of a longitudinally polarized ρ -meson at small- x

[Ivanov, Kotsky, Papa (2004)]

[Boussarie, Grabovsky, Ivanov, Szymanowski, Wallon (2017)]

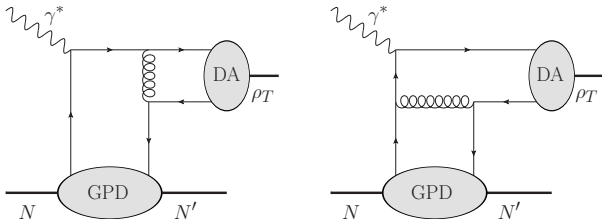
[Mäntysaari, Pentalla (2022)]

Transversely polarized ρ -meson production

- The leading DA (twist 2) of ρ_T is **chiral odd** ($\sigma^{\mu\nu}$ coupling)
- The amplitude for $\gamma^* N \rightarrow \rho_T N'$ is zero to all order in perturbation theory at the leading twist

[Diehl, Gousset, Pire (1999)] [Collins, Diehl (2000)]

- Lowest order diagrammatic argument:



$$\gamma^\alpha [\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu] \gamma_\alpha = 0$$

- Transversally polarized vector meson production start at the **twist-3**
- Collinear treatment at the twist-3 leads to **end point singularities**

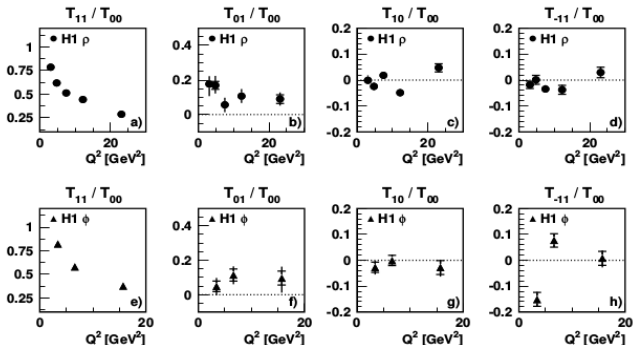
[Mankiewicz, Piller (2000)] [Anikin, Teryaev (2002)]

Transversely polarized vector meson production

- HERA data for the ρ and ϕ meson

[F.D. Aaron et al. (2010)]

$$\gamma^*(\lambda_\gamma)p \rightarrow V(\lambda_V)p \quad \lambda_\gamma = 0, 1, -1 \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_V = 0, 1, -1$$



"Leading twist description brought the knowledge that hadrons are made of quarks and gluons; if we want to learn *how are they made*, we have to understand higher-twist effects" [David Politzer]

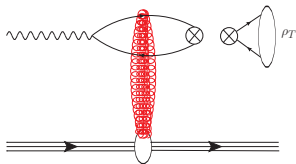
Possible solutions

- To solve this issues one should go **beyond collinear factorization**
- One possibility is allowing for a relative transverse momentum between the outgoing quark and anti-quark [Goloskokov, Kroll (2007)]
Distribution amplitude $\phi(x) \longrightarrow$ light-cone wavefunction $\phi(x, \vec{k}_T)$

- Alternative: moving to **t -channel transverse momentum factorization** (k_T -factorization)
[Anikin, Ivanov, B. Pire, L. Szymanowski, S. Wallon (2010)]

- Shockwave formalism

[Balitsky (1996-2001)]

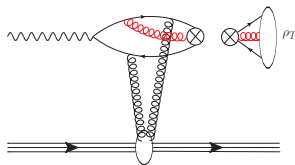


- It is an all-twist factorization in the t -channel

- Most general description of the DVMP at high-energy

- Higher-twist collinear factorization

[Ball, Braun, Koike, Tanaka (1998)]

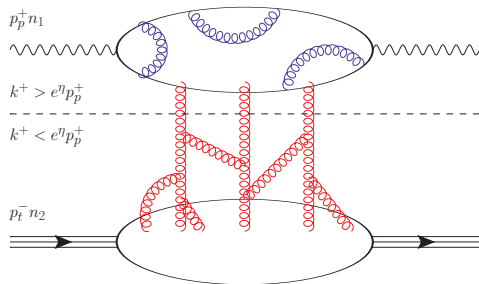


- Systematic inclusion of higher-twist effects in the s -channel

[Boussarie, M.F. , Szymanowski, Wallon (2025)]
[Boussarie, M.F. , Szymanowski, Wallon (2025)]

Shockwave approach

- High-energy approximation $s = (p_p + p_t)^2 \gg \{Q^2\}$



$$p_p = p_p^+ n_1 - \frac{Q^2}{2p_p^+} n_2$$

$$p_t = \frac{m_t^2}{2p_t^-} n_1 + p_t^- n_2$$

$$p_p^+ \sim p_t^- \sim \sqrt{\frac{s}{2}}$$

$$n_1^2 = n_2^2 = 0 \quad n_1 \cdot n_2 = 1$$

- Separation of the gluonic field into “fast” (quantum) part and “slow” (classical) part through a rapidity parameter $\eta < 0$
[McLerran and Venugopalan (1994)] [Balitsky (1996-2001)]

$$\mathcal{A}^\mu(k^+, k^-, \vec{k}) = A^\mu(k^+ > e^\eta p_p^+, k^-, \vec{k}) + b^\mu(k^+ < e^\eta p_p^+, k^-, \vec{k}) \quad e^\eta \ll 1$$

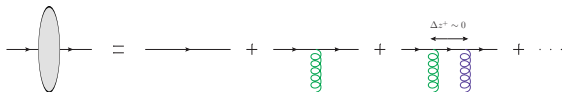
- Large longitudinal Boost: $\Lambda = \sqrt{(1 + \beta)/(1 - \beta)} \sim \sqrt{s}$

$$b^\mu(x^+, x^-, \vec{x}) = \delta(x^+) \mathbf{B}(\vec{x}) n_2^\mu + \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-1}) \quad \leftarrow \text{Shockwave approximation}$$

Shockwave approach

- Multiple interactions with the target $\rightarrow$ **path-ordered Wilson lines**

$$V_{\vec{z}_i}^\eta = \mathcal{P} \exp \left[ig \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dz_i^+ b_\eta^- \left(z_i^+, \vec{z}_i \right) \right]$$



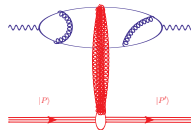
$$V_{\vec{z}_i} = 1 + ig \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dz_i^+ b_\eta^- \left(z_i^+, \vec{z}_i \right) + (ig)^2 \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dz_i^+ dz_j^+ b_\eta^- \left(z_i^+, \vec{z}_i \right) b_\eta^- \left(z_j^+, \vec{z}_i \right) \theta \left(z_{ij}^+ \right) + \dots$$

- Factorization in the Shockwave approximation

$$\mathcal{M}^\eta = N_c \int d^d z_{1\perp} d^d z_{2\perp} \Phi^\eta(z_{1\perp}, z_{2\perp}) \left\langle P' \left| \left[\frac{1}{N_c} \text{Tr} \left(V_{\vec{z}_1}^\eta V_{\vec{z}_2}^{\eta\dagger} \right) - 1 \right] (\vec{z}_1, \vec{z}_2) \right| P \right\rangle$$

- Dipole operator**

$$\mathcal{U}_{ij}^\eta = \frac{1}{N_c} \text{Tr} \left(V_{\vec{z}_i}^\eta V_{\vec{z}_j}^{\eta\dagger} \right) - 1$$



- Renormalization group equation of $\mathcal{U}_{ij}^\eta \rightarrow$ **B-JIMWLK (BK) equations**

Theoretical framework

- Effective background field operators

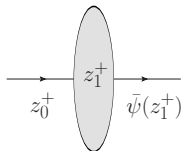
[Boussarie, M.F., Szymanowski, Wallon (2025)]

$$[\psi_{\text{eff}}(z_0)]_{z_0^+ < 0} = \psi(z_0) - \int d^D z_2 G_0(z_{02}) \left(V_{\mathbf{z}_2}^+ - 1 \right) \gamma^+ \psi(z_2) \delta(z_2^+)$$

$$[\bar{\psi}_{\text{eff}}(z_0)]_{z_0^+ < 0} = \bar{\psi}(z_0) + \int d^D z_1 \bar{\psi}(z_1) \gamma^+ (V_{\mathbf{z}_1} - 1) G_0(z_{10}) \delta(z_1^+)$$

$$[A_{\text{eff}}^{\mu a}(z_0)]_{z_0^+ < 0} = A^{\mu a}(z_0) + 2i \int d^D z_3 \delta(z_3^+) F_{-\sigma}^b(z_3) G^{\mu\sigma\perp}(z_{30}) \left(U_{\mathbf{z}_3}^{ab} - \delta^{ab} \right)$$

- Example: Antiquark effective operator



- A fermionic line starts at the light-cone time $z_0^+ < 0$
- Freely propagates to $z_1^+ = 0$
- It interacts eikonally at z_1^+ with the background shockwave field

Theoretical framework

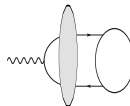
- Such operators serve to construct amplitudes involving non-perturbative matrix elements of general off light-cone correlators, i.e. **without any reference to the twist-expansion**
- Proof by induction
- Shockwave effective Feynman rules are easily reproduced

$$[v_{\alpha}^{ij}(p_{\bar{q}}, z_0)]_{z_0^+ < 0} \equiv [\psi_{\text{eff}, \alpha}^j(z_0)]_{z_0^+ < 0} |i, p_{\bar{q}}\rangle = -\frac{(-i)^{d/2}}{2(2\pi)^{d/2}} \left(\frac{p_{\bar{q}}^+}{-z_0^+} \right)^{d/2} \theta(p_{\bar{q}}^+) \theta(-z_0^+) \\ \times \int d^d z_2 V_{\bar{z}_2}^{ij+} \frac{-z_0^+ \gamma^- + \hat{z}_{20\perp}}{-z_0^+} \gamma^+ \frac{v(p_{\bar{q}})}{\sqrt{2p_{\bar{q}}^+}} \exp \left\{ i p_{\bar{q}}^+ \left(z_0^- - \frac{\vec{z}_{20}^2}{2z_0^+} + i0 \right) - i \vec{p}_{\bar{q}} \cdot \vec{z}_{20} \right\}$$

$$G_{ij}(z_2, z_0)|_{z_2^+ > 0 > z_0^+} \equiv \overline{\psi_i(z_2)} [\psi_{\text{eff}, j}(z_0)]_{z_0^+ < 0} \\ = \frac{i\Gamma(d+1)}{4(2\pi)^{d+1}} \int d^d \bar{z}_1 V_{ij}(\bar{z}_1) \frac{(z_2^+ \gamma^- + \hat{z}_{21\perp}) \gamma^+ (-z_0^+ \gamma^- + \hat{z}_{10\perp})}{(-z_0^+ z_2^+)^{\frac{D}{2}} \left(-z_{20}^- + \frac{\vec{z}_{21}^2}{2z_2^+} - \frac{\vec{z}_{10}^2}{2z_0^+} + i\varepsilon \right)^{d+1}} \theta(z_2^+) \theta(-z_0^+)$$

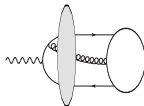
ρ_T -meson production: diagrams

- Two-body contribution



- i. Dependence of the leading Fock state wave function – with a minimal number of (valence) partons – on **transverse momentum**

$$\mathcal{A}_2 = -ie_q \int d^D z_0 \theta(-z_0^+) \left\langle P(p') M(p_M) \left| \bar{\psi}_{\text{eff}}(z_0) \hat{e}_q e^{-i(q \cdot z_0)} \psi_{\text{eff}}(z_0) \right| P(p) \right\rangle$$



- Three-body contribution

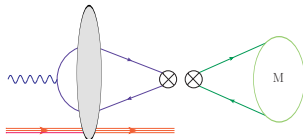
- i. Distributions with a **non-minimal parton configuration**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{3,q} = & -ie_q \int d^D z_4 d^D z_0 \theta(-z_4^+) \theta(-z_0^+) \\ & \times \left\langle P(p') M(p_M) \left| \bar{\psi}_{\text{eff}}(z_4) \gamma_\mu A_{\text{eff}}^{\mu a}(z_4) i g t^a G(z_4, z_0) \hat{e}_q e^{-i(q \cdot z_0)} \psi_{\text{eff}}(z_0) \right| P(p) \right\rangle \end{aligned}$$

- Diagrams where the gluon is attached to the external quark legs are absent in the coefficient functions of the Operator Product Expansion (OPE)

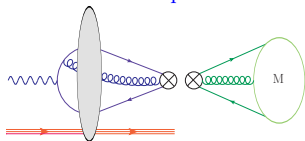
ρ_T -meson production: factorization

- Two-body contribution**



$$\mathcal{A}_2 = ie_q \int d^D z_0 \int d^D z_1 \int d^D z_2 \theta(-z_0^+) \delta(z_1^+) \delta(z_2^+) \langle M(p_M) | \bar{\psi}(z_1) \Gamma^\lambda \psi(z_2) | 0 \rangle \\ \times \langle P(p') | 1 - \frac{1}{N_c} \text{tr} (V_{z_1} V_{z_2}^\dagger) | P(p) \rangle \frac{1}{4} \text{tr}_D [\gamma^+ G_0(z_{10}) \hat{\varepsilon}_q e^{-i(q \cdot z_0)} G_0(z_{02}) \gamma^+ \Gamma_\lambda]$$

Hard part



- Three-body contribution**

$$\mathcal{A}_{q3} = -ie_q \int d^D z_4 d^D z_3 d^D z_2 d^D z_1 d^D z_0 \theta(-z_4^+) \delta(z_3^+) \delta(z_2^+) \delta(z_1^+) \theta(-z_0^+) e^{-i(q \cdot z_0)} \\ \times \langle M(p_M) | \bar{\psi}(z_1) \Gamma^\lambda g F_{-\sigma}(z_3) \psi(z_2) | 0 \rangle \langle P(p') | \text{tr} (V_{z_1} t^a V_{z_2}^\dagger t^b U_{z_3}^{ab}) | P(p) \rangle \\ \times \frac{1}{N_c^2 - 1} \text{tr}_D [\gamma^+ G_0(z_{14}) \gamma_\mu G^{\mu\sigma\perp}(z_{34}) G_0(z_{40}) \hat{\varepsilon}_q G_0(z_{02}) \gamma^+ \Gamma_\lambda] - \text{n.i.}$$

Results: two-body contribution

- Dipole amplitude**

$$A_2 = \int_0^1 dx \int d^2\mathbf{r} \Psi(x, \mathbf{r}) \int d^d\mathbf{b} e^{i(\mathbf{q}-\mathbf{p}_M)\cdot\mathbf{b}} \left\langle P(p') \left| 1 - \frac{1}{N_c} \text{tr} \left(V_{\mathbf{b}+\bar{x}\mathbf{r}} V_{\mathbf{b}-x\mathbf{r}}^\dagger \right) \right| P(p) \right\rangle$$

- Coordinate-space impact factor**

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_2(x, \mathbf{r}) &= e_q \delta \left(1 - \frac{p_M^+}{q^+} \right) \left(\varepsilon_{q\mu} - \frac{\varepsilon_q^+}{q^+} q_\mu \right) \\ &\times \left[\phi_{\gamma^+}(x, \mathbf{r}) \left(2x\bar{x}q^\mu - i(x - \bar{x}) \frac{\partial}{\partial r_{\perp\mu}} \right) + \epsilon^{\mu\nu+-} \phi_{\gamma^+\gamma^5}(x, \mathbf{r}) \frac{\partial}{\partial r_{\perp}^\nu} \right] K_0 \left(\sqrt{x\bar{x}Q^2\mathbf{r}^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

- Two-body vacuum to meson matrix elements**

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{\gamma^+}(x, \mathbf{r}) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dr^- e^{ixp_M^+ r^-} \left\langle M(p_M) \left| \bar{\psi}(r) \gamma^+ \psi(0) \right| 0 \right\rangle_{r^+=0} \\ \phi_{\gamma^+\gamma^5}(x, \mathbf{r}) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dr^- e^{ixp_M^+ r^-} \left\langle M(p_M) \left| \bar{\psi}(r) \gamma^+ \gamma^5 \psi(0) \right| 0 \right\rangle_{r^+=0} \end{aligned}$$

At this stage, r^2 is arbitrary, in principle off the light-cone.

Results: three-body contribution

- Three-body amplitude: involves **dipole** and **double dipole** contributions

$$\mathcal{A}_3 = \left(\prod_{i=1}^3 \int dx_i \theta(x_i) \right) \delta(1 - x_1 - x_2 - x_3) \int d^2 \mathbf{z}_1 d^2 \mathbf{z}_2 d^2 \mathbf{z}_3 e^{i\mathbf{q}(x_1 \mathbf{z}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{z}_2 + x_3 \mathbf{z}_3)} \\ \times \Psi_3(x_1, x_2, x_3, \mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2, \mathbf{z}_3) \left\langle P(p') \left| \mathcal{U}_{\mathbf{z}_1 \mathbf{z}_3} \mathcal{U}_{\mathbf{z}_3 \mathbf{z}_2} - \mathcal{U}_{\mathbf{z}_1 \mathbf{z}_3} - \mathcal{U}_{\mathbf{z}_3 \mathbf{z}_2} + \frac{1}{N_c^2} \mathcal{U}_{\mathbf{z}_1 \mathbf{z}_2} \right| P(p) \right\rangle$$

- **Coordinate-space impact factor** (with $Z = \sqrt{x_1 x_2 \mathbf{z}_{12}^2 + x_2 x_3 \mathbf{z}_{23}^2 + x_1 x_3 \mathbf{z}_{31}^2}$)

$$\Psi_3(x_1, x_2, x_3, \mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2, \mathbf{z}_3) = \frac{e_q q^+}{2(4\pi)} \frac{N_c^2}{N_c^2 - 1} \left(\varepsilon_{q\rho} - \frac{\varepsilon_q^+}{q^+} q_\rho \right) \\ \times \left\{ \chi_{\gamma^+ \sigma} \left[\left(4i g_{\perp\perp}^{\rho\sigma} \frac{x_1 x_2}{1 - x_2} \frac{Q}{Z} K_1(QZ) + T_1^{\sigma\rho\nu}(x_1, x_2, x_3) \frac{z_{23\perp\nu}}{z_{23}^2} K_0(QZ) \right) - (1 \leftrightarrow 2) \right] \right. \\ \left. - \chi_{\gamma^+ \gamma^5 \sigma} \left[\left(4\varepsilon^{\sigma\rho+-} \frac{x_1 x_2}{1 - x_2} \frac{Q}{Z} K_1(QZ) + T_2^{\sigma\rho\nu}(x_1, x_2, x_3) \frac{z_{23\perp\nu}}{z_{23}^2} K_0(QZ) \right) + (1 \leftrightarrow 2) \right] \right\}$$

- **Three-body vacuum to meson matrix elements**

$$\chi_{\Gamma\lambda, \sigma} \equiv \chi_{\Gamma\lambda, \sigma}(x_1, x_2, x_3, \mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2, \mathbf{z}_3) =$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dz_1^-}{2\pi} \frac{dz_2^-}{2\pi} \frac{dz_3^-}{2\pi} e^{-ix_1 q^+ z_1^- - ix_2 q^+ z_2^- - ix_3 q^+ z_3^-} \left\langle M(p_M) \left| \bar{\psi}(z_1) \Gamma^\lambda g F_{-\sigma}(z_3) \psi(z_2) \right| 0 \right\rangle_{z_{1,2,3}^+ = 0}$$

At this stage, $z_{13}^2, z_{32}^2, z_{21}^2$ are arbitrary, in principle off the light-cone.

Covariant collinear factorization

- Covariant collinear factorization is based on the non-local operator product expansion (OPE)

[Balitsky, Braun (1989)]

- Expansion in powers of the hard scale = expansion of **string operators** in powers of deviation from the light-cone
- Each coefficient of this OPE expansion = finite sum of on-light-cone **non-local operator**
- For each term in this Taylor expansion: vacuum-to-meson matrix elements contribute to different kinematic twist
- **Up to twist 3**: only the first term in the Taylor expansion of the off-light-cone matrix elements survives (next one is r^2 suppressed, i.e. twist 4)
- Example: parametrization of the 2-body vector matrix element

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle M(p_M) | \bar{\psi}(r) \gamma^\mu [r, 0] \psi(0) | 0 \rangle \Big|_{r^2=0} \\ & \sim f_M m_M \int_0^1 dx e^{ix(p_M \cdot r)} \left[\underbrace{p_M^\mu \frac{(\varepsilon_M^* \cdot r)}{(p_M \cdot r)} \phi_{\parallel}(x)}_{\substack{\sim Q \\ \text{twist 2}}} + \underbrace{\varepsilon_{M,T}^{*\mu} g_{\perp}^{(v)}(x)}_{\substack{\sim 1 \\ \text{twist 3}}} - \frac{1}{2} r^\mu \frac{(\varepsilon_M^* \cdot r)}{(p_M \cdot r)^2} m_\rho^2 g_3(x) \right] \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \sim 1/Q \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{twist 4} \end{aligned}$$

Covariant collinear factorization

- Covariant collinear factorization

[Braun, Filyanov (1990)]

[Ball, Braun, Koike, Tanaka (1998)]

- i.* Minimal basis of independent distributions (twist-3 collinear DAs)
 - ii.* Minimal numbers of non-perturbative parameters
 - iii.* Easy to perform the calculation directly in coordinate space
- 2- and 3-body operators in gauge invariant form, on the light-cone $z^2 = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle M(p_M) | \bar{\psi}(z) \Gamma_\lambda [z, 0] \psi(0) | 0 \rangle \\ & \langle M(p_M) | \bar{\psi}(z) \gamma_\lambda [z, tz] g F^{\mu\nu}(tz) [tz, 0] \psi(0) | 0 \rangle \\ & \langle M(p_M) | \bar{\psi}(z) \gamma_\lambda \gamma^5 [z, tz] g \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}(tz) [tz, 0] \psi(0) | 0 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

where

$$[z, 0] = \mathcal{P}_{\text{exp}} \left[ig \int_0^1 dt A^\mu(tz) z_\mu \right]$$

- Gauge invariant matrix elements can be related to the non-gauge invariant one within a fixed twist

$$\left\langle M(p_M) \left| \bar{\psi}(r) [r, 0] \Gamma^\lambda \psi(0) \right| 0 \right\rangle_{r^+=0} \longleftrightarrow \left\langle M(p_M) \left| \bar{\psi}(r) \Gamma^\lambda \psi(0) \right| 0 \right\rangle_{r^+=0}$$

Twist-expanded results: two-body contribution

- Twist-expanded results: two-body contribution

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_2(x, \mathbf{r}) = & e_q m_M f_M \delta \left(1 - \frac{p_M^+}{q^+} \right) \left(\varepsilon_{q\mu} - \frac{\varepsilon_q^+}{q^+} q_\mu \right) \left(\varepsilon_{M\alpha}^* - \frac{\varepsilon_M^{*+}}{p_M^+} p_{M\alpha} \right) \\ & \times \left[-i r_\perp^\alpha (h(x) - \tilde{h}(x)) \left(2x\bar{x}q^\mu + (x - \bar{x}) \frac{-i\partial}{\partial r_{\perp\mu}} \right) + \right. \\ & \left. \epsilon^{\mu\nu+-} \epsilon^{+\alpha-\delta} r_{\perp\delta} \left(\frac{g_\perp^{(a)}(x) - \tilde{g}_\perp^{(a)}(x)}{4} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial r_\perp^\nu} \right] K_0 \left(\sqrt{x\bar{x}Q^2 \mathbf{r}^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

- Collinear ingredients:

$h(x)$ = kinematic twist-3 vector DA

$g_\perp^{(a)}(u)$ = kinematic twist-3 axial DA

- Collinear ingredients: gauge link related terms

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{h}(x) &= \frac{f_{3M}^V}{f_M} \int_0^x dx_q \int_0^{1-x} dx_{\bar{q}} \frac{V(x_q, x_{\bar{q}})}{(1 - x_q - x_{\bar{q}})^2} \\ \tilde{g}_\perp^{(a)}(x) &= 4 \frac{f_{3M}^A}{f_M} \int_0^x dx_q \int_0^{1-x} dx_{\bar{q}} \frac{A(x_q, x_{\bar{q}})}{(1 - x_q - x_{\bar{q}} + i\epsilon)^2} \end{aligned}$$

f_M = vector decay constant

Dilute regime

- **Reggeon** definition [Caron-Huot (2013)] $R^a(z) \equiv \frac{f^{abc}}{gC_A} \ln(U_z^{bc})$
- Expansion of the *Wilson line* in Reggeized gluons

$$V_{z_1} = 1 + ig t^a R^a(z_1) - \frac{1}{2} g^2 t^a t^b R^a(z_1) R^b(z_1) + O(g^3)$$

- **BFKL k_T -factorization**

$$\mathcal{A}_2^{\text{dilute}} = \frac{g^2}{4N_c} (2\pi)^d \delta^d(\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{p}_M - \mathbf{\Delta}) \int \frac{d^d \ell}{(2\pi)^d} \mathcal{U}(\ell) \int_0^1 dx$$

$$\times \underbrace{\left[\Phi_2\left(x, \ell - \frac{x - \bar{x}}{2} \mathbf{\Delta}\right) + \Phi_2\left(x, -\ell - \frac{x - \bar{x}}{2} \mathbf{\Delta}\right) - \Phi_2(x, \bar{x} \mathbf{\Delta}) - \Phi_2(x, -x \mathbf{\Delta}) \right]}_{\Phi_{2,\text{BFKL}}(x, \mathbf{l}, \mathbf{\Delta})}$$

- $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{l}) \rightarrow k_T$ -unintegrated gluon density (UGD) in the BFKL sense

$$\mathcal{U}(\ell) \equiv \int d^d \mathbf{v} e^{-i(\ell \cdot \mathbf{v})} \left\langle P(p') \left| R^a\left(\frac{\mathbf{v}}{2}\right) R^a\left(-\frac{\mathbf{v}}{2}\right) \right| P(p) \right\rangle$$

- The 3-body BFKL impact factor is a combination of 12 BK impact factors (dilute, $\mathbf{\Delta} = 0$, $T \rightarrow T$) [Anikin, Ivanov, Pire, Szymanowski, Wallon (2009)]
 - **Momentum space** BFKL calculation $\rightarrow$ Reggeized gluons
 - Twist-expansion $\rightarrow$ Light-Cone Collinear Factorization

[Ellis, Furmanowski, Petronzio (1982)]

Spin-density matrix

- Expansion around the forward direction ($\Delta = 0$)

$$\begin{aligned} A^{L,L} &\sim \frac{1}{Q} & A^{T,T}|_{\text{no flip}} &\sim \frac{1}{Q} \frac{m_M}{Q} & A^{T,L} &\sim \frac{1}{Q} \frac{|\Delta|}{Q} \\ A^{L,T} &\sim \frac{1}{Q} \frac{m_M}{Q} \frac{|\Delta|}{Q} & A^{T,T}|_{\text{flip}} &\sim \frac{1}{Q} \frac{m_M}{Q} \frac{|\Delta|^2}{Q^2} \end{aligned}$$

- Hierarchy observed at HERA [**F. Aaron et al., H1 coll. (2009)**]

$$A^{L,L} \gg A^{T,T}|_{\text{no flip}} \gg A^{T,L} \gg A^{L,T}, A^{T,T}|_{\text{flip}}$$

- Initial condition $\rightarrow$ **MV model** [**McLerran, Venugopalan (1994)**]

$$\mathcal{U}^{\eta=0}(\mathbf{r}) = 1 - \exp^{-\frac{r^2 Q_0^2}{4} \ln\left(\frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}| \Lambda} + e\right)}$$

- Numerical LO BK evolution

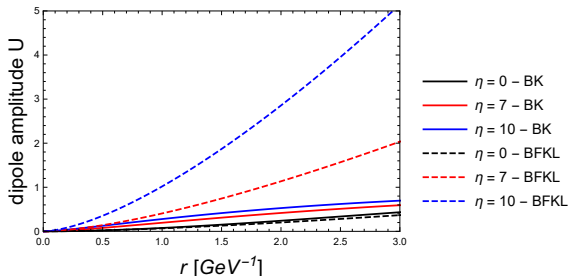
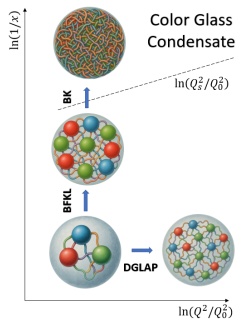
$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{U}_{12}^{\eta}}{\partial \eta} = \frac{\alpha_s N_c}{2\pi^2} \int d^2 \tilde{z}_3 \left(\frac{\tilde{z}_{12}^2}{\tilde{z}_{23}^2 \tilde{z}_{31}^2} \right) \left[\underbrace{\mathcal{U}_{13}^{\eta} + \mathcal{U}_{32}^{\eta} - \mathcal{U}_{12}^{\eta}}_{\text{BFKL}} - \delta \mathcal{U}_{13}^{\eta} \mathcal{U}_{32}^{\eta} \right]$$

- $\delta = 1$ for BK and $\delta = 0$ to investigate the dilute (BFKL) regime
- We also implement NLO running coupling effects

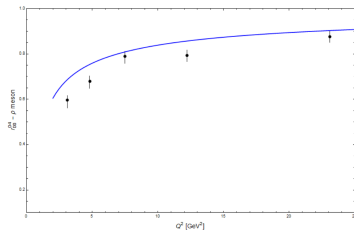
[**Ducloque, Iancu, Mueller, Soyez, Triantafyllopoulos (2019)**]

Phenomenological perspectives

- Non-linear vs BFKL evolution



- $r_{00}^{04} \simeq \sigma_L / (\sigma_L + \sigma_T)$
- $W = 100$ GeV
- Dipole approximation



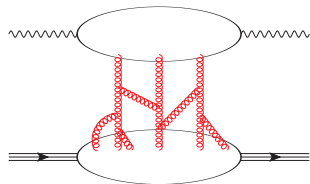
Thanks for your attention

Backup

Shockwave approach

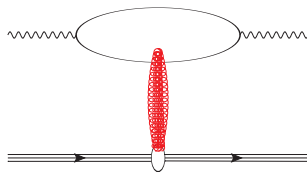
- Large longitudinal boost: $\Lambda = \sqrt{\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta}} \sim \frac{\sqrt{s}}{m_t}$

$$\begin{cases} b^+(x^+, x^-, \vec{x}) &= \Lambda^{-1} b_0^+(\Lambda x^+, \Lambda^{-1} x^-, \vec{x}) \\ b^-(x^+, x^-, \vec{x}) &= \Lambda b_0^-(\Lambda x^+, \Lambda^{-1} x^-, \vec{x}) \\ b^i(x^+, x^-, \vec{x}) &= b_0^i(\Lambda x^+, \Lambda^{-1} x^-, \vec{x}) \end{cases}$$



$$b_0^\mu(x)$$

boost $\rightarrow$



$$b^\mu(x^+, x^-, \vec{x}) = \delta(x^+) \mathbf{B}(\vec{x}) n_2^\mu + \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-1})$$

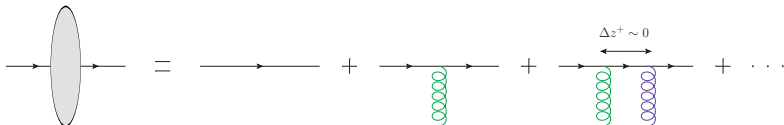
Shockwave approximation

- Light-cone gauge $A \cdot n_2 = 0$

$A \cdot b = 0 \implies$ Simple effective Lagrangian

Shockwave approach

- Interactions with the simple shockwave field
 - i.* Independence from $x^- \implies$ conservation of p^+ (**eikonal** approx.)
 - ii.* $\delta(x^+) \implies$ interactions at a **single transverse coordinate**.
- Quark line through the shockwave



$$V_{\vec{z}_i} = 1 + ig \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dz_i^+ b_{\eta}^- (z_i^+, \vec{z}_i) + (ig)^2 \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dz_i^+ dz_j^+ b_{\eta}^- (z_i^+, \vec{z}_i) b_{\eta}^- (z_j^+, \vec{z}_i) \theta(z_{ij}^+) + \dots$$

- Multiple interactions with the target $\rightarrow$ **path-ordered Wilson lines**

$$V_{\vec{z}}^{\eta} = \mathcal{P} \exp \left[ig \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dz_i^+ b_{\eta}^- (z_i^+, \vec{z}) \right]$$

Balitsky-JIMWLK evolution equations

- **Balitsky-JIMWLK evolution equations** for the dipole
[Balitsky — Jalilian-Marian, Iancu, McLerran, Weigert, Kovner, Leonidov]

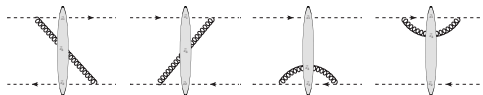
$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{U}_{12}^\eta}{\partial \eta} = \frac{\alpha_s N_c}{2\pi^2} \int d^2 \vec{z}_3 \left(\frac{\vec{z}_{12}^2}{\vec{z}_{23}^2 \vec{z}_{31}^2} \right) \left[\underbrace{\mathcal{U}_{13}^\eta + \mathcal{U}_{32}^\eta - \mathcal{U}_{12}^\eta}_{\text{BFKL}} - \mathcal{U}_{13}^\eta \mathcal{U}_{32}^\eta \right]$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{U}_{13}^\eta \mathcal{U}_{32}^\eta}{\partial \eta} = \dots$$

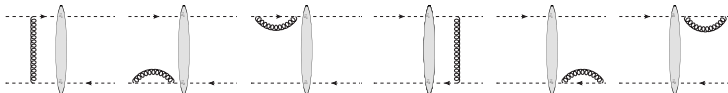
⋮

- Double dipole contribution and Dipole contribution

← Balitsky hierarchy



- Dipole contribution



Balitsky-Kovchegov evolution equation

- Large- N_c limit

[G. 't Hooft (1974)]

The diagram shows a gluon exchange between two quark lines. On the left, a gluon (represented by a wavy line) connects two vertices. Each vertex has two quark lines (solid lines) attached. The incoming quark lines are labeled i and j , and the outgoing quark lines are labeled l and k . This is equal to the sum of two terms: the first term is a quark exchange where the quark lines are connected directly ($i \rightarrow k$ and $j \rightarrow l$), and the second term is a ghost exchange where the quark lines are connected via ghost lines (vertical lines with arrows pointing in opposite directions).

$$t_{ij}^a t_{kl}^a = \frac{1}{2} \left(\delta_{il} \delta_{jk} - \frac{1}{N_c} \delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} \right)$$

- Double dipole $\rightarrow$ Dipole $\times$ dipole

The diagram shows a double dipole (two quark lines connected by a gluon) factorizing into two dipoles (each a quark line connected to a gluon). The double dipole is represented by a wavy line connecting two vertices, each with two quark lines. The resulting two dipoles are represented by wavy lines connecting a single quark line to a gluon line.

$$\langle \mathcal{U}_{13}^\eta \mathcal{U}_{32}^\eta \rangle \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{U}_{13}^\eta \rangle \langle \mathcal{U}_{32}^\eta \rangle$$

- Hierarchy of equations broken $\rightarrow$ closed non-linear **BK-equation**

[I. I. Balitsky (1995)] [Y. V. Kovchegov (1999)]

$$\frac{\partial \langle \mathcal{U}_{12}^\eta \rangle}{\partial \eta} = \frac{\alpha_s N_c}{2\pi^2} \int d^2 \vec{z}_3 \left(\frac{\vec{z}_{12}^2}{\vec{z}_{23}^2 \vec{z}_{31}^2} \right) [\langle \mathcal{U}_{13}^\eta \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}_{32}^\eta \rangle - \langle \mathcal{U}_{12}^\eta \rangle - \langle \mathcal{U}_{13}^\eta \rangle \langle \mathcal{U}_{32}^\eta \rangle]$$

with $\langle \mathcal{U}_{12}^\eta \rangle \equiv \langle P' | \mathcal{U}_{12}^\eta | P \rangle$

Covariant collinear factorization

- Before twist expansion, our result does not contain **gauge links between fields**
- Three-body matrix element

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\langle M(p) \left| \bar{\psi}(z_q) \gamma^\lambda g F^{\mu\nu}(z_g) \psi(z_{\bar{q}}) \right| 0 \right\rangle \\ & \simeq \left\langle M(p) \left| \bar{\psi}(z_q) [z_q, z_g] \gamma^\lambda g F^{\mu\nu}(z_g) [z_g, z_{\bar{q}}] \psi(z_{\bar{q}}) \right| 0 \right\rangle_{z_i^+=0} + \text{twist four} \end{aligned}$$

- Gauge link effects do not contribute to the 3-body result within twist 3
- Two-body matrix element

$$\left\langle M(p_M) \left| \bar{\psi}(r) [r, 0] \Gamma^\lambda \psi(0) \right| 0 \right\rangle_{r^+=0} \longleftrightarrow \left\langle M(p_M) \left| \bar{\psi}(r) \Gamma^\lambda \psi(0) \right| 0 \right\rangle_{r^+=0}$$

- Expansion of the gauge link

$$[z, 0] = \mathcal{P} \exp \left[ig \int_0^1 dt A^\mu(tz) z_\mu \right] \simeq 1 + ig \int_0^1 dt A^\mu(tz) z_\mu + \text{higher twist}$$

- In a given n light-cone gauge

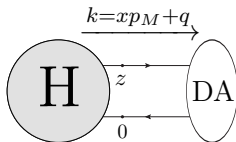
$$A^\mu(z) = \int_0^\infty d\sigma e^{-\epsilon\sigma} n_\nu F^{\mu\nu}(z + \sigma n)$$

- Gauge link effect **does contribute** to the 2-body twist-3 result

Light-cone collinear factorization

- Most general two-body amplitude

$$\mathcal{A}_2 = \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \int d^4 z e^{-ik \cdot z} \langle M(p_M) | \bar{\psi}_\alpha^i(z) \psi_\beta^j(0) | 0 \rangle H_{2,\alpha\beta}^{ij}$$



- The separation is chosen as $z^\mu = \lambda n_2^\mu \implies$ no Wilson line in the n_2 **light-cone gauge**
- Sudakov decomposition: $k = k^+ n_1 + q = xp_M + q$ and **small q expansion**
- Two-body amplitude after Fierz decomposition

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_2 = & \frac{1}{4N_c} p_M^+ \int \frac{dx}{2\pi} \int \frac{dq^-}{2\pi} \int \frac{d^d \mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^d} \int d^D z e^{-ixp_M^+ z^- - iq^- z^+ + i(\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{z})} \\ & \times \left\langle M(p_M) \left| \bar{\psi}(z) \Gamma_\lambda \psi(0) \right| 0 \right\rangle \text{tr} \left[H_2(xp_M + q) \Gamma^\lambda \right] \end{aligned}$$

Light-cone collinear factorization

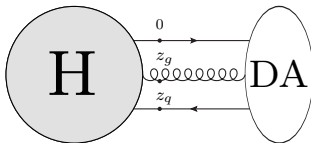
- **Taylor expansion** of the hard part

$$H_2(xp_M + q) = H_2(xp_M) + q_{\perp\mu} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial q_{\perp\mu}} H_2(xp_M + q) \right]_{k=xp_M} + \text{h.t.}$$

- Two-body amplitude factorized form up to the **twist-3**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_2 = \frac{1}{4N_c} \int dx p_M^+ \int \frac{dz^-}{2\pi} e^{-ixp_M^+ z^-} \left\{ \langle M(p) | \bar{\psi}(z^-) \Gamma_\lambda \psi(0) | 0 \rangle \text{tr} [H_2(xp_M) \Gamma^\lambda] \right. \\ \left. + i \langle M(p_M) | \bar{\psi}(z^-) \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_{\perp\mu} \Gamma_\lambda \psi(0) | 0 \rangle \text{tr} [\partial_\perp^\mu H_2(xp_M) \Gamma^\lambda] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

- *Gauge invariance* is broken $\implies$ need to include a **3-body contribution**



- Three-body contribution factorized

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_3 = \frac{1}{2(N_c^2 - 1)} \int dx_q dx_g (p_M^+)^2 \int \frac{dz_q^-}{2\pi} \frac{dz_g^-}{2\pi} e^{-ix_q p_M^+ z_q^- - ix_g p_M^+ z_g^-} \\ \times \langle M(p) | \bar{\psi}(z_q^-) \Gamma_\lambda g A_\mu(z_g^-) \psi(0) | 0 \rangle \text{tr} [t^b H_3^{\mu,b}(x_q p_M, x_g p_M) \Gamma^\lambda] \end{aligned}$$

Light-cone collinear factorization

- *Light-cone collinear factorization*
[Ellis, Furmanwski, Petronzio (1982)] [Anikin, Teryaev (2002)]
- Factorization around the dominant **light-cone direction** is naturally implemented in **momentum space**
- **Overcomplete set of distributions** must be reduced exploiting QCD equations of motion

$$\langle i(\hat{D}(0)\psi(0))_{\alpha}\bar{\psi}_{\beta}(z)\rangle = 0 \qquad \langle i\psi_{\alpha}(0)(\bar{\psi}(z)\overleftarrow{D}(z))_{\beta}\rangle = 0$$

- Invariance of the amplitude under **rotation on the light-cone**
[Anikin, Ivanov, Pire, Szymanowski, Wallon (2009)]
 - i.* Independence of the amplitude from the choice of n
 - ii.* Given a "natural" choice n_0 , we can define

$$n^{\mu} = \alpha p^{\mu} + \beta n_0^{\mu} + n_{\perp}^{\mu}$$

- iii.* Imposing $p \cdot n = 1$ and $n^2 = 0 \longrightarrow \beta = 1, \alpha = -n_{\perp}^2/2$
- iiii.* The freedom is parametrized in terms of the transverse component

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{A}}{\partial n_{\perp}^{\mu}} = 0$$

Twist-expanded results: three-body contribution

- Twist-expanded results: three-body contribution

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \Psi_3(x_1, x_2, x_3, \mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2, \mathbf{z}_3) \\
 &= \frac{e_q m_M c_f}{8\pi} \delta\left(1 - \frac{p_M^+}{q^+}\right) \left(\varepsilon_{q\rho} - \frac{\varepsilon_q^+}{q^+} q_\rho\right) \left(\varepsilon_M^{*\mu} - \frac{p_M^\mu}{p_M^+} \varepsilon_M^{*+}\right) \left(\prod_{j=1}^3 \theta(x_j) \theta(1-x_j) e^{-i x_j \mathbf{p}_M \mathbf{z}_j}\right) \\
 &\times \left\{ -i f_{3M}^V g_{\sigma\mu} V(x_1, x_2) \left[\left(4i g_{\perp}^{\rho\sigma} \frac{x_1 x_2}{1-x_2} \frac{Q}{Z} K_1(QZ) + T_1^{\sigma\rho\nu}(\{x_i\}) \frac{z_{23\perp\nu}}{z_{23}^2} K_0(QZ) \right) - (1 \leftrightarrow 2) \right] \right. \\
 &\left. - \epsilon_{-+\sigma\beta} f_{3M}^A g_{\perp\mu}^\beta A(x_1, x_2) \left[\left(4\epsilon^{\sigma\rho+} \frac{x_1 x_2}{1-x_2} \frac{Q}{Z} K_1(QZ) + T_2^{\sigma\rho\nu}(\{x_i\}) \frac{z_{23\perp\nu}}{z_{23}^2} K_0(QZ) \right) + (1 \leftrightarrow 2) \right] \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Collinear ingredients:

$V(x_1, x_2)$ = genuine twist-3 vector DA

$A(x_1, x_2)$ = genuine twist-3 axial DA

f_{3M}^V and f_{3M}^A = renormalization constant

Explicit two-body term in the dilute and $\Delta = 0$ limit

- BK impact factor**

$$\Phi_{2,\Delta=0}(x, \mathbf{l}) = 2\pi m_M f_M e_q \delta(1 - p_M^+/q^+) \\ \times \left[\frac{2\mathbf{l}^2}{[\mathbf{l}^2 + x\bar{x}Q^2]^2} T_{\text{f.}} \phi_{2,\text{f.}}(x) - \frac{x\bar{x}Q^2}{[\mathbf{l}^2 + x\bar{x}Q^2]^2} T_{\text{n.f.}} \phi_{2,\text{n.f.}}(x) \right]$$

- Helicity structures and DAs combinations

$$T_{\text{n.f.}} = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_q \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_M^* \quad \phi_{2,\text{n.f.}}(x) = (2x - 1)(h(x) - \tilde{h}(x)) + \frac{g_{\perp}^{(a)}(x) - \tilde{g}_{\perp}^{(a)}(x)}{4} \\ T_{\text{f.}} = \frac{(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_q \cdot \mathbf{l})(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_M^* \cdot \mathbf{l})}{\mathbf{l}^2} - \frac{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_q \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_M^*}{2} \quad \phi_{2,\text{f.}}(x) = (2x - 1)(h(x) - \tilde{h}(x)) - \frac{g_{\perp}^{(a)}(x) - \tilde{g}_{\perp}^{(a)}(x)}{4}$$

- Forward limit matching**

$$\Phi_{2,\Delta=0}^{\text{BFKL}}(x, \mathbf{l}) = 2 \left(\Phi_{2,\Delta=0}(x, \mathbf{l}) - \Phi_{2,\Delta=0}(x, \mathbf{0}) \right)$$

- BFKL impact factor**

$$\Phi_{2,\Delta=0}^{\text{BFKL}}(x, \mathbf{l}) = 4\pi m_M f_M e_q \delta(1 - p_M^+/q^+) \\ \times \left[\frac{2\mathbf{l}^2}{[\mathbf{l}^2 + x\bar{x}Q^2]^2} T_{\text{f.}} \phi_{\text{f.}}(x) + \frac{\mathbf{l}^2(\mathbf{l}^2 + 2x\bar{x}Q^2)}{x\bar{x}Q^2 [\mathbf{l}^2 + x\bar{x}Q^2]^2} T_{\text{n.f.}} \phi_{\text{n.f.}}(x) \right]$$

- From BFKL to BK $\longrightarrow$ subtraction of the $|\mathbf{l}| \rightarrow \infty$ limit

Dilute regime: three-body contribution

- Linearization in the three-body case $\rightarrow$ combination of more impact factors

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{A}_3^{\text{dilute}} = & \left(\prod_{i=1}^3 \int dx_i \theta(x_i) \right) \delta(1 - x_1 - x_2 - x_3) \frac{-g^2}{4N_c} \int \frac{d^d \mathbf{l}}{(2\pi)^d} \mathcal{U}(\ell) \\
 & \left\{ \Phi'_3(\{x\}, \bar{x}_1 \Delta, -x_2 \Delta, -x_3 \Delta) - \Phi'_3\left(\{x\}, \left(\frac{1-2x_1}{2}\right) \Delta - \mathbf{l}, -x_2 \Delta, \left(\frac{1-2x_3}{2}\right) \Delta + \mathbf{l}\right) \right. \\
 & - \Phi'_3\left(\{x\}, \left(\frac{1-2x_1}{2}\right) \Delta + \mathbf{l}, -x_2 \Delta, \left(\frac{1-2x_3}{2}\right) \Delta - \mathbf{l}\right) + \Phi'_3(\{x\}, -x_1 \Delta, -x_2 \Delta, \bar{x}_3 \Delta) \\
 & + \Phi'_3(\{x\}, -x_1 \Delta, -x_2 \Delta, \bar{x}_3 \Delta) - \Phi'_3\left(\{x\}, -x_1 \Delta, \left(\frac{1-2x_2}{2}\right) \Delta + \mathbf{l}, \left(\frac{1-2x_3}{2}\right) \Delta - \mathbf{l}\right) \\
 & - \Phi'_3\left(\{x\}, -x_1 \Delta, \left(\frac{1-2x_2}{2}\right) \Delta - \mathbf{l}, \left(\frac{1-2x_3}{2}\right) \Delta + \mathbf{l}\right) + \Phi'_3(\{x\}, -x_1 \Delta, \bar{x}_2 \Delta, -x_3 \Delta) \\
 & - \frac{1}{N_c^2} \left[\Phi'_3(\{x\}, \bar{x}_1 \Delta, -x_2 \Delta, -x_3 \Delta) - \Phi'_3\left(\{x\}, \left(\frac{1-2x_1}{2}\right) \Delta - \mathbf{l}, \left(\frac{1-2x_2}{2}\right) \Delta + \mathbf{l}, -x_3 \Delta\right) \right. \\
 & \left. \left. - \Phi'_3\left(\{x\}, \left(\frac{1-2x_1}{2}\right) \Delta + \mathbf{l}, \left(\frac{1-2x_2}{2}\right) \Delta - \mathbf{l}, -x_3 \Delta\right) + \Phi'_3(\{x\}, -x_1 \Delta, \bar{x}_2 \Delta, -x_3 \Delta) \right] \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\Phi'_3(\{x\}, \{\mathbf{p} + x\mathbf{p}_M\}) \equiv \Phi_3(\{x\}, \{\mathbf{p}\})$$

Dilute regime: three-body contribution

- Fourier transform

$$\Phi_3(\{x\}, \{\mathbf{p}\}) = \left(\prod_{j=1}^3 \int d^2 \mathbf{z}_j e^{-i \mathbf{z}_j \mathbf{p}_j} \right) \Psi_3(\{x\}, \{\mathbf{z}\})$$

- **Momentum space impact factor** (after twist expansion)

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_3(\{x\}, \{\mathbf{p}\}) &= \frac{e_q m_M}{4} c_f \left(\varepsilon_{q\rho} - \frac{\varepsilon_q^+}{q^+} q_\rho \right) \left(\varepsilon_M^{*\beta} - \frac{p_M^\beta}{p_M^+} \varepsilon_M^{*+} \right) \delta \left(1 - \frac{p_M^+}{q^+} \right) \\ &\times \left(\prod_{j=1}^3 \frac{\theta(1-x_j)\theta(x_j)}{x_j} \right) \frac{(2\pi)^3 \delta^{(2)} \left(\sum_{i=1}^3 \mathbf{p}_i + x_i \mathbf{p}_M \right)}{\left[Q^2 + \sum_{i=1}^3 (\mathbf{p}_i + x_i \mathbf{p}_M)^2 / x_i \right]} \left\{ g_{\beta\sigma} f_{3M}^V V(x_1, x_2) \left(4g_{\perp\perp}^{\rho\sigma} \frac{x_1 x_2}{1-x_2} \right. \right. \\ &+ \tilde{T}_1^{\sigma\rho\nu}(\{x\}) \Big|_{\mathbf{k}_i = -x_i \mathbf{p}_M} \frac{x_1 x_2 (p_3 + x_3 p_M)_{\perp\nu} - x_1 x_3 (p_2 + x_2 p_M)_{\perp\nu}}{(\mathbf{p}_1 + x_1 \mathbf{p}_M)^2 + x_1 (1-x_1) Q^2} \Big) - \epsilon_{-+\sigma\beta} f_{3M}^A A(x_1, x_2) \\ &\times \left(4 \frac{x_1 x_2}{1-x_2} \epsilon^{\sigma\rho+-} + i \tilde{T}_2^{\sigma\rho\nu}(\{x\}) \Big|_{\mathbf{k}_i = -x_i \mathbf{p}_M} \frac{x_1 x_2 (p_3 + x_3 p_M)_{\perp\nu} - x_1 x_3 (p_2 + x_2 p_M)_{\perp\nu}}{(\mathbf{p}_1 + x_1 \mathbf{p}_M)^2 + x_1 (1-x_1) Q^2} \right) \Big\} \\ &+ (1 \leftrightarrow 2) \end{aligned}$$

Explicit three-body term in the dilute and $\Delta = 0$ limit

- The 3-body BFKL impact factor is a combination of 12 BK impact factors

$$\Phi_3(\{x\}, \{p\}) = \left(\prod_{j=1}^3 \int d^2 \mathbf{z}_j e^{-i \mathbf{z}_j \mathbf{p}_j} \right) \Psi_3(\{x\}, \{z\})$$

- Transverse to transverse transition in the **forward** and **dilute** limit

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{3T, \Delta=0}^{\text{dilute}} &= e_q m_M \frac{g^2}{N_c} (2\pi) \delta \left(1 - \frac{p_M^+}{q^+} \right) (2\pi)^2 \delta^2(\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{p}_M) \int \frac{d^d \ell}{(2\pi)^d} \mathcal{U}(\ell) \\ &\times \left(\prod_{i=1}^3 \int_0^1 \frac{dx_i}{x_i} \right) \frac{\delta(1 - x_1 - x_2 - x_3)}{x_3} \frac{\ell^2}{Q^2} \left\{ T_f. \left[f_{3M}^V V(x_1, x_2) - f_{3M}^A A(x_1, x_2) \right] \right. \\ &\times 2x_1 \left(\frac{x_3 c_f}{\ell^2 + \frac{x_2 x_3}{x_2 + x_3} Q^2} + \frac{x_3 c_f}{\ell^2 + \frac{x_1 x_3}{x_1 + x_3} Q^2} - \frac{\bar{x}_3 (1 - c_f)}{\ell^2 + \frac{x_1 x_2}{x_1 + x_2} Q^2} + \frac{x_2 - \bar{x}_1 c_f}{\ell^2 + x_1 \bar{x}_1 Q^2} + \frac{x_1 - \bar{x}_2 c_f}{\ell^2 + x_2 \bar{x}_2 Q^2} \right) \\ &\quad \left. - T_{\text{n.f.}} \left[f_{3M}^V V(x_1, x_2) + f_{3M}^A A(x_1, x_2) \right] \right. \\ &\times \left(\frac{(1 - c_f) x_1 \bar{x}_3}{\bar{x}_3 \ell^2 + x_1 x_2 Q^2} - \frac{c_f x_3^2}{\bar{x}_1 \ell^2 + x_2 x_3 Q^2} - \frac{(x_2 - \bar{x}_1 c_f) x_1 x_2}{\bar{x}_1 (\ell^2 + x_1 \bar{x}_1 Q^2)} - \frac{(x_1 - \bar{x}_2 c_f) \bar{x}_2}{(\ell^2 + x_2 \bar{x}_2 Q^2)} \right) \Big\} \end{aligned}$$

- The forward and dilute limit matches the previous result**

[Anikin, Ivanov, Pire, Szymanowski, Wallon (2009)]

BFKL approach + twist-expansion via light-cone collinear factorization

Higher-twist ρ -meson DAs

- Twist and chiral classification of the ρ -meson distribution amplitudes
[Ball, Braun, Koike, Tanaka (1998)]
- Two body distribution amplitudes

Twist	2	3	4
	$O(1)$	$O(1/Q)$	$O(1/Q^2)$
$e_{\parallel}$	$\phi_{\parallel}$	$h_{\parallel}^{(t)}, h_{\parallel}^{(s)}$	g_3
$e_{\perp}$	$\underline{\phi_{\perp}}$	$\frac{h_{\parallel}^{(t)}}{g_{\perp}^{(v)}}, \frac{h_{\parallel}^{(s)}}{g_{\perp}^{(a)}}$	$\underline{h_3}$

- $g_{\perp}^{(v)}$ and $g_{\perp}^{(a)}$ are the vector and axial two-body twist-3 DA

$$\langle M(p_M) | \bar{\psi}(z) \Gamma_{\lambda} [z, 0] \psi(0) | 0 \rangle$$

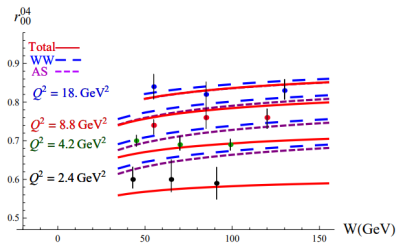
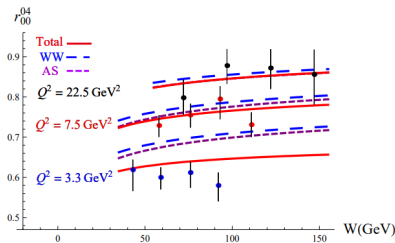
- Vector and axial three-body twist-3 DA

$$\langle M(p_M) | \bar{\psi}(z) \gamma_{\lambda} [z, tz] g F^{\mu\nu}(tz) [tz, 0] \psi(0) | 0 \rangle$$

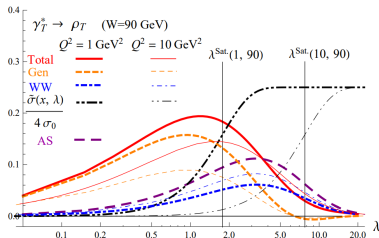
$$\langle M(p_M) | \bar{\psi}(z) \gamma_{\lambda} [z, tz] g \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}(tz) [tz, 0] \psi(0) | 0 \rangle$$

Spin density matrix element r_{00}^{04} and radial wavefunction

- $r_{00}^{04} \simeq \sigma_L / (\sigma_L + \sigma_T)$



- Rescaled radial wavefunction $P(\lambda = rQ, \mu_F(Q^2))/Q$



Result for the Wandzura-Wilczek part

- Two-body amplitude

$$\mathcal{A}_2^{\lambda_\gamma, \lambda_V} = (2\pi)^4 q^+ \delta^{(4)}(q + p_t - p_M - p_{t'}) \int d^2\mathbf{r} \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{r}) \int_0^1 dz e^{iz\mathbf{\Delta} \cdot \mathbf{r}} \psi_2^{\lambda_\gamma, \lambda_V}(z, \mathbf{r})$$

- Different transition amplitudes

$$\psi_2^{L,L}(z, \mathbf{r}) = \frac{e_q m_M f_M}{2\pi} 2z\bar{z}Q^2 K_0\left(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2\mathbf{r}^2}\right) \left[\frac{\varepsilon_\gamma^+}{q^+} \frac{\varepsilon_M^{+*}}{p_M^+} \right] \varphi_{\parallel}(z)$$

$$\psi_2^{T,L}(z, \mathbf{r}) = \frac{e_q m_M f_M}{2\pi} (2z-1) \sqrt{\frac{z\bar{z}Q^2}{\mathbf{r}^2}} K_1\left(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2\mathbf{r}^2}\right) \left[i \frac{\varepsilon_M^{+*}}{p_M^+} (\mathbf{r} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_\gamma) \right] \varphi_{\parallel}(z)$$

$$\psi_2^{L,T}(z, \mathbf{r}) = \frac{e_q m_M f_M}{2\pi} 2z\bar{z}Q^2 K_0\left(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2\mathbf{r}^2}\right) \left[i \frac{\varepsilon_\gamma^+}{q^+} (\mathbf{r} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_M^*) \right] \varphi_1^T(z)$$

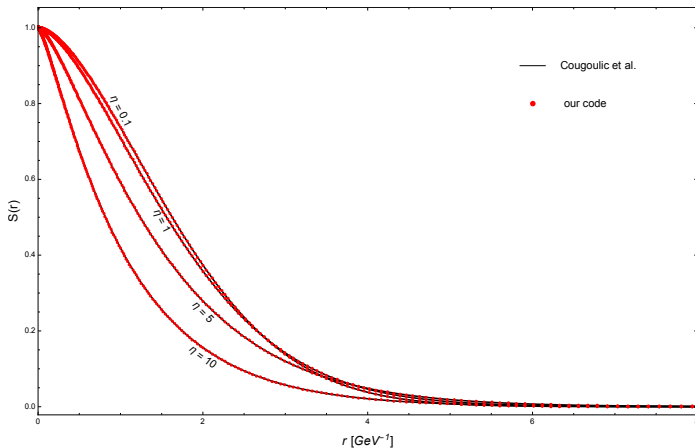
$$\psi_2^{T,T}(z, \mathbf{r}) = -\frac{e_q m_M f_M}{2\pi} \sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2\mathbf{r}^2} K_1\left(\sqrt{z\bar{z}Q^2\mathbf{r}^2}\right) \left[T_{\text{f.}}(\mathbf{r}) \phi_{2,\text{f.}}(z) + \frac{T_{\text{n.f.}}}{2} \phi_{2,\text{n.f.}}(z) \right]$$

- Helicity structures

$$T_{\text{f.}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_\gamma \cdot \mathbf{r})(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_M^* \cdot \mathbf{r})}{\mathbf{r}^2} - \frac{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_\gamma \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_M^*}{2} \quad T_{\text{n.f.}} = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_\gamma \cdot \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_M^*$$

Numerical solution of running coupling BK

- BK evolution of $S(r)$



One-loop corrections at operator level

- One-loop corrections in the operator form ($\Gamma^0 = \{\gamma^0, \gamma^0 \gamma^5\}$)

[Radyushkin (2018,2019)]

$$\begin{aligned} \delta \mathcal{O}^0(z_3) = & -\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} C_F \int_0^1 du \int_0^{1-u} dv \bar{\psi}(uz) \Gamma^0 \psi(\bar{v}z) \\ & \times \left\{ \left(\delta(v) \left[\frac{\bar{u}}{u} \right]_+ + \delta(u) \left[\frac{\bar{v}}{v} \right]_+ + 1 \right) \left(\ln \left(\frac{-z^2 \mu^2}{4e^{-2\gamma_E - 1}} \right) + \frac{1}{\epsilon_{\text{IR}}} \right) \right. \\ & \left. + 2 \left(\delta(v) \left[\frac{\ln u}{u} \right]_+ + \delta(u) \left[\frac{\ln v}{v} \right]_+ - 1 \right) + Z'(z^2) \delta(u) \delta(v) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

↓ What does this **single equation** contain?

- Its logarithmic dependence on z^2 reflects the UV-behavior of the operator
- Renormalization group equations** of QCD distributions (**ERBL**, **DGLAP**, and **GPD evolution equations**) are determined by deriving with respect to $\ln(-z^2)$ [Balitsky, Braun (1987)] [Radyushkin (2018,2019)]
- One can get the **matching kernel** for quark **PDFs**, $\langle p | \mathcal{O}^0(z) | p \rangle$, **DAs**, $\langle M | \mathcal{O}^0(z) | 0 \rangle$, **GPDs**, $\langle p' | \mathcal{O}^0(z) | p \rangle$
- $Z'(z^2)$ collects the UV-singular part and the contributions of the quark self-energy diagram $\propto \delta(u) \delta(v)$