



# NNLO QCD corrections to SIDIS: unpolarized & polarized

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Loops and Legs in Quantum Field Theory

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in collaboration with S. Goyal, R. N. Lee, S. Moch, V. Pathak, V. Ravindran

## Electron Ion Collider

a machine to look inside the nucleus

EIC will take precision snapshots of the internal structures of the protons and neutrons, allowing us a better understanding of the strongest force in nature

A precise theoretical description of our current understanding (the Standard Model) is also necessary to find any agreement/disagreement with precise experimental data

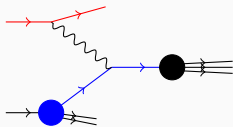
The inclusive/semi-inclusive deep inelastic scattering (DIS/SIDIS) plays a crucial role. Parton model connects the partonic cross-section to the hadronic one through PDFs & FFs. We compute the partonic cross-section using the framework of perturbative QCD order by order in  $\alpha_s$ .

Higher order corrections are essential to

- achieve sufficiently/comparably precise theoretical estimates
- reduce the uncertainties arising from the factorization scales

# SEMI-INCLUSIVE DIS

see the talk by J. Blümlein for DIS



**SIDIS**

$$l + H \rightarrow l + H' + X$$

Phase-space:

Final state hadron is tagged!

Extra constrain on the phase-space

$$dPS|_{\text{SIDIS}} = dPS|_{\text{DIS}} \times \delta \left( z' - \frac{p_a \cdot p_b}{p_a \cdot q} \right)$$

**DIS**

$$l + H \rightarrow l + X$$

Phase-space:

All final states are fully integrated!

The hadronic part is characterized by structure functions ( $F_i$ ). The hadronic SFs are expressed with the convolution of partonic finite coefficient functions ( $\mathcal{F}_{i,ab}$ ), PDFs and FFs.

## Parton model & perturbative expansion

$$F_i = x^{i-1} \sum_{a,b} \int_x^1 \frac{dx_1}{x_1} f_a(x_1, \mu_F^2) \int_z^1 \frac{dz_1}{z_1} D_b(z_1, \mu_F^2) \times \mathcal{F}_{i,ab} \left( \frac{x}{x_1}, \frac{z}{z_1}, Q^2, \mu_F^2 \right)$$

$\downarrow$

the finite coefficient functions which can be computed perturbatively

In QCD, we have a series expansion of the partonic cross sections in strong coupling constant  $\alpha_s$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_{ab}(z) &= \mathcal{F}_{ab}^{(0)} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \alpha_s^m \mathcal{F}_{ab}^{(m)}(z) \\ &= \mathcal{F}_{ab}^{(0)} \left[ 1 + \alpha_s \mathcal{F}_{ab}^{(1)}(z) + \alpha_s^2 \mathcal{F}_{ab}^{(2)}(z) + \alpha_s^3 \mathcal{F}_{ab}^{(3)}(z) + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$



We are interested in the second order correction

## Parton model & perturbative expansion: polarized

We consider the asymmetry between the parallel and anti-parallel spin orientations of the colliding electron and hadron.  $\Delta f_a = f_{a(\uparrow)/H(\uparrow)} - f_{a(\downarrow)/H(\uparrow)}$  are the spin-dependent PDFs.

$$g_1 = \sum_{a,b} \int_x^1 \frac{dx_1}{x_1} \Delta f_a(x_1, \mu_F^2) \int_z^1 \frac{dz_1}{z_1} D_b(z_1, \mu_F^2) \times \mathcal{G}_{1,ab} \left( \frac{x}{x_1}, \frac{z}{z_1}, Q^2, \mu_F^2 \right)$$

↓

the finite coefficient functions which can be computed perturbatively

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_{ab}(z) &= \mathcal{G}_{ab}^{(0)} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \alpha_s^m \mathcal{G}_{ab}^{(m)}(z) \\ &= \mathcal{G}_{ab}^{(0)} \left[ 1 + \alpha_s \mathcal{G}_{ab}^{(1)}(z) + \alpha_s^2 \mathcal{G}_{ab}^{(2)}(z) + \alpha_s^3 \mathcal{G}_{ab}^{(3)}(z) + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$



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## State-of-the-art

### NLO and beyond

Altarelli, Ellis, Martinelli, Pi (1979);  
Furmanski and Petronzio (1982);  
de Florian, Stratmann and Vogelsang (1998); (polarized)  
Daleo and Sassot (2003);

### NNLO

Goyal, Lee, Moch, Pathak, NR, Ravindran (2023, 2024)  
Bonino, Gehrmann, Löchner, Schönwald, Stagnitto (2024)

⇒ This talk  
⇒ Next talk by Bonino

### Resummation & Parton shower

Cacciari and Catani (2001);  
Anderle, Ringer and Vogelsang (2013);  
Abele, de Florian, and Vogelsang (2021,2022);  
Borsa, Jäger (2024);

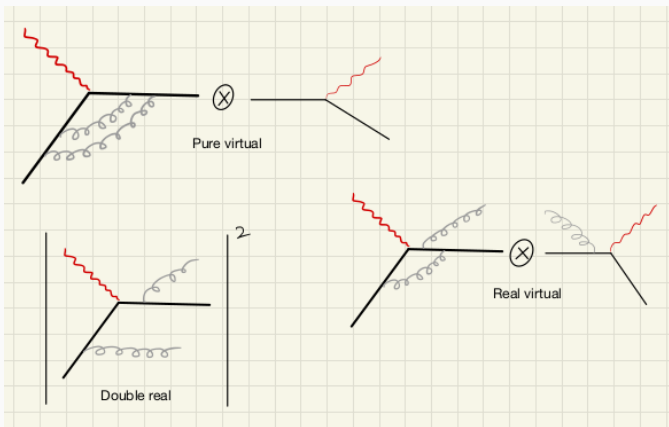
⇒ Talk by Borsa

## This talk is based on

S. Goyal, S. Moch, V. Pathak, NR, V. Ravindran  
NNLO QCD corrections to semi-inclusive DIS,  
(arXiv:2312.17711 [hep-ph]).

S. Goyal, R. Lee, S. Moch, V. Pathak, NR, V. Ravindran  
NNLO QCD corrections to polarized semi-inclusive DIS,  
(arXiv:2404.09959 [hep-ph]).

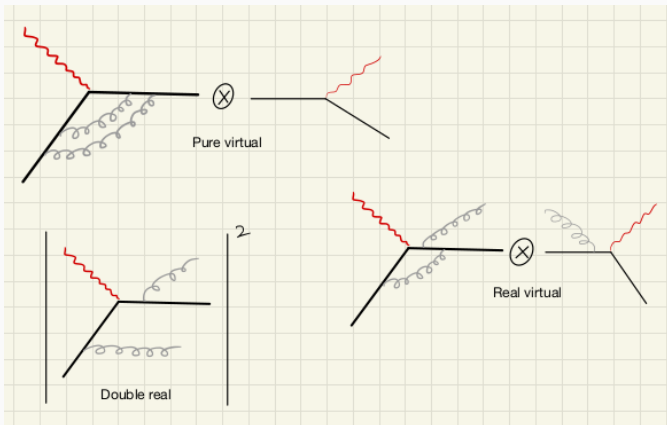
## Schematic diagrams for NNLO contributions to SIDIS



Each individual contribution is divergent :  $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$  in dimensional regularization



## Schematic diagrams for NNLO contributions to SIDIS



Sum of all degenerate processes: KLN theorem & mass factorization

## Computational procedure

$$d = 4 + \epsilon$$

- Diagrammatic approach -> QGRAF to generate Feynman diagrams
- In-house **FORM** routines for algebraic manipulation : *Lorentz, Dirac and Color algebra*
- Projectors: different projectors for unpolarized and polarized cases
- **Reverse unitarity** : phase-space integrals to loop integrals

$$\delta(k^2 - m^2) \sim \frac{1}{2\pi i} \left( \frac{1}{k^2 - m^2 - i0} - \frac{1}{k^2 - m^2 + i0} \right)$$

- Decomposition of the dot products to obtain scalar integrals
- **Identity relations among scalar integrals** : IBPs (using LiteRed)
- Algebraic linear system of equations relating the integrals

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Master integrals (MIs)

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- Computation of MIs : **Parametric integration** & **Method of diff. eqn.** (generic & canonical)
- UV renormalization and mass factorization
- Numerical evaluation using suitable PDFs and FFs

## Solving master integrals

The main challenges are the MIs appearing in the double real emissions. We follow three different techniques to compute them.

## Parametric integration

[Zijlstra, van Neerven]

Conventional method by choosing an appropriate frame of reference

In the end, we are left with the following type of angular integration

$$\int_0^\pi d\theta \int_0^\pi d\phi \frac{(\sin \theta)^{d-3} (\sin \phi)^{d-4}}{(a + b \cos \theta)(A + B \cos \theta + C \cos \phi \sin \theta)}$$

- For  $a = b$  and  $A^2 = B^2 + C^2$  (which is the case for the RR MIs in leading-color), this angular integration results into simple hypergeometric functions.
- For the rest of the MIs, either  $a \neq b$  or  $A^2 \neq B^2 + C^2$  which may result into functions of higher complexity. So, we use the method of DE to solve these MIs.
- However, we consider the threshold limit of these MIs and compute them using parametric integration which will be used as the boundary conditions for the DE.

## The method of differential equations

A Feynman integral is a function of spacetime dimension  $d$  and kinematic invariants  $x, z$ .

$$J_i = \mathcal{N} \int \frac{d^d l_1}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{d^d l_2}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{l_1^2 l_2^2 ((l_1 - l_2)^2 - m^2) (l_1 - q)^2 (l_2 - q)^2} \equiv f(d, x, z)$$

The idea is to obtain a differential eqn. for the integral *w.r.t.*  $x, z$  and solve it.

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$$\frac{d}{dz} J_i = \text{some combinations of integrals}$$

↓ IBP identities/reduction

$$= \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} J_j$$

$c_{ij}$ 's are rational function of  $d, x$  and  $z$ .

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$$d_z \begin{pmatrix} J_1 \\ J_2 \\ J_3 \\ J_4 \\ \vdots \\ J_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \cdots & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \cdots & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \cdots & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \cdots & \bullet \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \cdots & \bullet \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} J_1 \\ J_2 \\ J_3 \\ J_4 \\ \vdots \\ J_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$d_z \mathbb{J} = \mathbb{A}(d, z) \mathbb{J}$$

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$$d_z \begin{pmatrix} J_1 \\ J_2 \\ J_3 \\ J_4 \\ \vdots \\ J_{n-1} \\ J_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \cdots & \bullet & \bullet \\ 0 & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \cdots & \bullet & \bullet \\ 0 & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \cdots & \bullet & \bullet \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \bullet & \cdots & \bullet & \bullet \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \bullet & \bullet \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \bullet \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} J_1 \\ J_2 \\ J_3 \\ J_4 \\ \vdots \\ J_{n-1} \\ J_n \end{pmatrix}$$

The bullets (●) indicate a non-zero rational function of  $d, x$  and  $z$ .

To solve such a system, it would be best to organize it in such a way that it diagonalizes, or at least it takes a block-triangular form. Then, it can be solved using bottom-up approach.

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The results are obtained in terms of iterated integrals (HPLs/GPLs).

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## The method of differential equations: generic

Considering the MIs as given by LiteRed, we find a few sub-systems which are coupled. And, as expected, the homogeneous solutions contain the square-roots. The goal is to avoid them.

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Iterated integrals are one-dimensional. They can be computed with great precision in a short amount of time. Besides, they have the following properties:

- (a) **Shuffle algebra** : Allows to obtain a basis for a set of iterated integrals. Reduction to such a basis is extremely effective to reduce the computation time by few times.
- (b) **Scaling invariance** : Allows to convert the limit of these integrals from kinematical variables ( $z$ ) to constants (1). This makes the integration really precise.

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First few MIs were solved in terms of GPLs



What happens when we have (multiple) square-roots?!

## Rationalization

### Rationalizable

- Find a suitable transformation

Let's consider  $\sqrt{(1 - z')^2 + 4x'z'}$ .  
We can use the transformation  $x' \rightarrow (1 - u^2)/4/t/(1 - t)$ ,  $z' \rightarrow 1 - 1/t$  for this.

### Partly-rationalizable

- A **single** transformation can not rationalize all square-roots **simultaneously**.

↓

Square-roots will be present in the iterated integrals.

1) We can accept 'the fact' and evaluate them with appropriate analytic continuation.

or

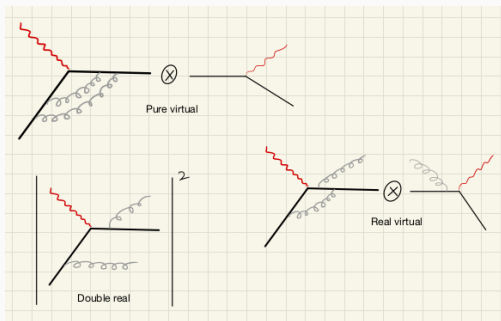
2) Instead of using a single transformation rule to rationalize them, we write the system (each MI) as sum of functions of dependent variables and treat them separately. As a result, each sub-system has alphabet with 'good' letters with different argument.

## Solving master integrals: summary

- We followed three different techniques to compute the MIs for double real emissions.
- We have perfect agreement among the results from different methods.
- For real-virtual MIs also, we compute them using parametric method, where we use exact expressions for one-loop integrals followed by parametric phase-space integration. We also use method of DE and find perfect agreement.

To obtain the finite partonic cross-section

## Combine everything, UV renormalization and mass factorization



- We compute relevant Feynman diagrams & corresponding Feynman integrals analytically.
- After summing all contributions for the Feynman diagrams, we can express the results in terms of MPLs with square-root arguments.
- The resultant diagrams contain two types of divergences: dimensional and kinematical



## Combine everything, UV renormalization and mass factorization

- The contributions also have divergences for  $x' \rightarrow 1$  and  $z' \rightarrow 1$ . We use

$$(1-x)^{-1+n\epsilon} = \frac{1}{n\epsilon} \delta(1-x) + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon^k}{k!} \left[ \frac{\ln^k(1-x)}{(1-x)} \right]_+$$

where

$$\int_0^1 dx f[x]g[x]_+ = \int_0^1 dx (f[x] - f[1])g[x]$$

- Of course, for our case, we have double distributions.
- We also find functions that require special care for analytic continuation. We use partial fractioning and theta function to separate different sectors and implement correct analytic continuation. For example,

$$(z' - x')^\epsilon = |z' - x'|^\epsilon (\theta(z' - x') + (-1 + i\epsilon)^\epsilon \theta(x' - z'))$$

- The divergences at  $x' = z'$  or  $x' + z' = 1$  are spurious and eventually they cancel.

# Combine everything, UV renormalization and mass factorization


## unpolarized

- The sources of dimensional divergences are of UV & IR type. UV renormalization takes care of the UV divergences. In case of unpolarized SIDIS, the UV renormalization is trivial.
- KLN theorem ensures the cancellation of all soft and some collinear divergences. The residual collinear divergences are absorbed by mass factorization, using appropriate splitting kernels.

$$\frac{\hat{\sigma}_{I,ab}(\epsilon)}{x'^{I-1}} = \Gamma_{c \leftarrow a}(\mu_F^2, \epsilon) \otimes \mathcal{F}_{I,cd}(\mu_F^2, \epsilon) \tilde{\otimes} \tilde{\Gamma}_{d \leftarrow b}(\mu_F^2, \epsilon)$$

## polarized

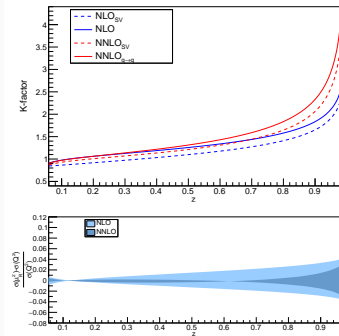
- The  $\gamma_5$  in polarized SIDIS needs special care. We use Larin's prescription and we appropriately multiply the finite renormalization constants.
- For polarized case, we use the spin-dependent Altarelli-Parisi kernels for initial states. Since, the partonic cross-section is computed in Larin's scheme, the polarized space-like kernels also need to be considered in the same scheme. For final states, the spin-averaged time-like kernels are considered in the  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  scheme.
- In the end, we transform our results obtained in Larin's scheme to  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  scheme.



Results!

## Results

- We have computed full NNLO corrections to unpolarized SIDIS (all processes) and the polarized SIDIS where the initial state is polarized.
- In both cases, we find good perturbative convergence of the NNLO corrections, and reduction of renormalization and factorization scale dependence.

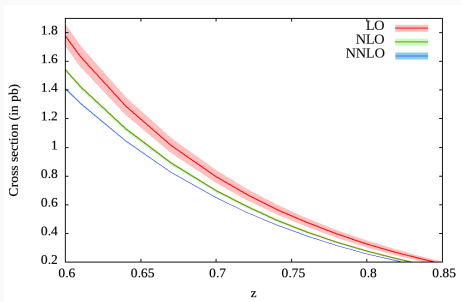


The K-factors for corrections from different perturbative order for quark initiated process to a fragmenting quark. We have shown here only the non-singlet contributions for NNLO.

Detailed phenomenology is on the way!

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The contributions from different perturbative orders in polarized SIDIS with  $\sqrt{s} = 140 GeV$ . We have integrated over  $x$  between 0.40 to 0.62 and  $y$  between 0.30 to 0.50.

Detailed phenomenology is on the way!

## Checks

- The master integrals were computed using different methods with perfect agreement!
- Mass factorization (universal) removes all remaining infrared singularities!
- Successful checks with available results in the threshold limit! SV and NSV results match with the literature for  $F_1$ ,  $F_2$  and  $g_1$ .
- The non-singlet part of  $g_1$  is equal to  $F_3$  which we have explicitly checked.
- The constraint ( $z'$ ) can be integrated in our analytic result. We found perfect agreement with the fully inclusive result.
  
- We also have perfect agreement for unpolarized SIDIS with the results by Bonino et al.

talk by Bonino



Concluding remarks!

- EIC will unravel the mysteries of strong force. Theoretical precision studies are extremely necessary to fully exploit the EIC data.
- Our current (well-tested) theoretical understanding (the SM) is constrained by its perturbative nature and hence, higher order perturbative corrections are necessary to achieve precise theoretical predictions.

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- In this talk, we have presented the first results on NNLO QCD corrections to unpolarized and polarized SIDIS.
- The NNLO predictions will be extremely important to extract PDFs and FFs very precisely.
- Precision predictions for polarized PDFs will be crucial to solve the proton spin puzzle.

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- Aside the phenomenological impact of the result, it also sets a milestone for the computational technique.

*Thank you for your attention!*