High Energy neutrino cross-sections A M Cooper-Sarkar University of Oxford

- Predictions of high energy v and v CC and NC cross-sections can be made within the conventional framework of NLO QCD using the DGLAP formalism
- This depends on knowledge of the Parton Distribution Functions (PDFs) and their uncertainties

The point is to estimate the uncertainties of conventional predictions in order to see when we have unconventional behaviour

Since high energy neutrino cross sections probe the partons at very low Bjorken x we may expect unconventional behaviour from

- In(1/x) resummation-- BFKL
- non-linear effects: gluon recombination, saturation

BK, JIMWLK, colour glass condensate ...

• Need to respect the Froissart bound



 ν cross-section are Deep Inelastic Scattering processes which can be described in terms of partons Double differential cross-section

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 \sigma(\nu(\bar{\nu})N)}{\mathrm{d}x \, \mathrm{d}Q^2} = \frac{G_{\mathrm{F}}^2 M_W^4}{4\pi (Q^2 + M_W^2)^2 x} \sigma_{\mathrm{r}}(\nu(\bar{\nu})N)$$

with reduced cross-section

$$\sigma_{\rm r}(\nu(\bar{\nu})N) = \left[Y_+F_2^\nu(x,Q^2) - y^2F_{\rm L}^\nu(x,Q^2) \pm Y_-xF_3^\nu(x,Q^2)\right]$$
 where $Y_\pm = 1\pm(1-y)^2.$

Total cross-section

$$\sigma = \int \mathrm{d}x \int \mathrm{d}Q^2 \, \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 \sigma(\nu(\bar{\nu})N)}{\mathrm{d}x \, \mathrm{d}Q^2}$$

four Lorentz invariants:

- centre of mass energy \sqrt{s} $s = (p+k)^2$
- momentum transfer $Q^2 = -q^2 = -(k-k')^2 \label{eq:Q2}$

• Bjorken scaling variable
$$x = Q^2/(2p \cdot q)$$

• inelasticity $y = p \cdot q/(p \cdot k)$



In the Quark-Parton Model the structure functions relate simply to the parton distributions

For neutrino interactions

 $F_2^{\nu} = x(u+d+2s+2b+\bar{u}+\bar{d}+2\bar{c}), \quad xF_3^{\nu} = x(u+d+2s+2b-\bar{u}-\bar{d}-2\bar{c}),$

and for antineutrino interactions,

And $F_L=0$ for both

$$F_2^{\wp} = x(u+d+2c+u+\bar{d}+2\bar{s}+2\bar{b}), \quad xF_3^{\wp} = x(u+d+2c-u-\bar{d}-2\bar{s}-2\bar{b}).$$

But we need to go beyond the QPM to QCD . We need QCD calculations to at least next-to- leading-order in α_s . The relationship of structure functions to parton distributions gets somewhat more complicated.. but structure functions are still fully calculable from the parton distributions



So we need to know the parton distributions And we need to know them for low-x Lower and lower as the neutrino energy gets higher and higher



Kinematic region probed for two neutrino energies

How do we determine parton distributions?

We do not yet have the ability to calculate them – this would involve the nonperturbative part of QCD (e.g. lattice calculations)

However we do know how they evolve with the scale of the probe Q²

DGLAP evolution

$$\frac{\partial q^{\mathsf{NS}}(x,Q^2)}{\partial \ln Q^2} = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \left(q^{\mathsf{NS}} \otimes P_{qq} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial \Sigma(x,Q^2)}{\partial \ln Q^2} = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \left(\Sigma \otimes P_{qq} + g \otimes 2n_f P_{qg} \right)$$
$$\frac{\partial \Sigma(x,Q^2)}{\partial \ln Q^2} = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \left(\Sigma \otimes P_{gq} + g \otimes 2n_f P_{gg} \right)$$

 Σ and $q^{\rm NS}$ are convenient linear combinations of quark PDFs.



So if we know them at one scale Q_0^2 then we can know them at all other scales What we do is FIT parametrisations at Q_0^2 to Deep Inelastic Scattering data that has already been measured e.g at HERA and earlier fixed-target experiments

Formally the DGLAP equations re-summ contributions in InQ² See later

How do we determine parton distributions?

Parametrise the parton distribution functions (PDFs) at Q_0^2 (~1-7 GeV²)



The heavy partons c,b are not parametrized but calculated from boson-gluon fusion.

Parameters Ag, Au, Ad are fixed through momentum and number sum rules – other parameters may be fixed by model choices-

Model choices \Rightarrow Form of parametrization at Q²₀, value of Q²₀, cuts applied, heavy flavour scheme, value of m_c,m_b, $\alpha_{\rm S}$

 \rightarrow typically ~15-22 parameters free

Use the DGLAP equations to NLO in QCD to evolve these PDFs to $Q^2 > Q_0^2$

Construct the measurable structure functions by convoluting PDFs with coefficient functions: make predictions for ~3000 data points of Deep Inelastic Scattering cross-sections

Perform $\chi 2$ fit to the data

The fact that so few parameters allows us to fit so many data points established QCD as the THEORY OF THE STRONG INTERACTION and provided the first measurements of α_s (as one of the fit parameters)

Data are cross sections for lepton (e, μ , ν , ν) hadron (p,n) scattering by both neutral (γ ,Z) and charged (W[±]) currents: this yields many different combinations of partons



 Q^2/GeV^2

High energy neutrino cross sections were first given by Gandhi et al in 1996 (PRD58(1996)093009)

This used CTEQ4-DIS PDFs and is significantly out of date, since the most extensive and accurate HERA data at low-x were published well after this date.

Even the later work of C-SS (JHEP0901(2008)075) using ZEUS 2005PDFs

and CTW (Phys Rev D83 (2011)113009) using MSTW 2008 PDFs is now out of date



But today discrepancies are more significant for the estimate of uncertainties rather than the central value. We will investigate these differences in the estimate of uncertainties

There are modern PDFs available on the LHAPDF data base Why not pick one and make your own calculation?

- Firstly you'll need the corresponding coefficient functions for NLO LO PDFs are not good enough because LO does not fit the data well..
- And many off the shelf generators like PYTHIA make only LO calculations
- Secondly you need correct heavy quark treatment-- for c and b- quarks
- Thirdly- and most importantly- of the shelf PDFs are available on x, Q^2 grids which don't extend to low enough x for high energy neutrino cross-sections they freeze for lower x



However- we CAN go to lower x by using the parametrized forms

C-S MS (JHEP08(2011)042) does this for the PDFs HERAPDF1.5 and CT10 with comparison to MSTW2008

PDF uncertainties

The 68%CL experimental uncertainties uncertainties are many experimental errors correlated sometimes set by increased error correlation matrix diagonalised tolerances e.g \rightarrow linearly independent eigenvectors = variations of best-fit PDF $\Delta \chi 2 \sim 50$ rather than • can add errors from eigenvectors in quadrature Δχ2~1 model/parameter uncertainities Vary values of heavy some parameters/model assumptions get fixed before fit quark masses Vary data sets used vary these parameters within c.l. interval and cuts imposed on → variations of best-fit PDF the data sets Vary form of the α_s uncertainties parametrisation • α_s determines how quickly PDFs rise at low x Vary the value of α_{s}

We will investigate the effect of changing assumptions on the predictions for the neutrino cross sections- and we find that most of the variations do not bring more than a few percent variations.

We focus on the few cases which bring larger variations

But first let's compare some modern PDFs



HERAPDF 1.5 uses just HERA data
1. a pure proton target so no corrections for nuclear effects and no strong isospin assumptions
2. a very consistent accurate data set so Δχ2~1 for 68%CL experimental uncertainties
3. variation of model assumptions and parametrization are also added

Perhaps it is surprising that there is fair agreement



X

Compare to MSTW, CTEQ/CT and NNPDF for which more data sets are used and $\Delta\chi^2 \sim 30$ for MSTW, $\Delta\chi^2 \sim 60$ for CT to allow for data inconsistency No variation of model assumptions or parametrisation however NNPDF use a neural net (and cannot extrapolate to low x)



What sort of assumptions might be important for high energy neutrino cross sections? Those which affect the parton distributions at low-x --



Before the HERA measurements most of the predictions for low-x behaviour of the structure functions and the gluon PDF were wrong

Most people didn't expect the sharp rise at low-x which was seen in F2, and deduced in the gluon,

```
But this IS what pQCD in the DGLAP formailsm predicts!....
```

xSea directly from F_2 , $F_2 \sim xq$

xGluon from scaling violations dF₂ /dlnQ²

at small-x,

dF₂/dlnQ² ~ Pqg xg





A flat gluon at low Q² becomes very steep AFTER Q² evolution the gluon becomes dominant and generates the sea by $g \rightarrow q \overline{q}$ splitting so that F_2 becomes gluon dominated

 $F_2(x,Q^2) \sim x^{-\lambda s}, \quad \lambda_s = \lambda_g - \varepsilon$



Nevertheless the first results were much steeper than had been anticipated

- And it was even more of a surprise to see the second results: F₂ steep at small x for very low Q², Q² ~ 1 GeV²
- Should perturbative QCD work? α_s is becoming large - α_s at Q² ~ 1 GeV² is ~ 0.4
- There hasn't been enough lever arm in Q² for evolution, but even the starting distribution is steep- the HUGE rise at low-x makes us think
- 1. there should be ln(1/x) resummation (BFKL) as well as the traditional $ln(Q^2)$ DGLAP resummation- BFKL predicted $F_2(x,Q^2) \sim x^{-\lambda s}$, with λ_s =0.5, even at low Q²
- 2. and/or there should be non-linear high density corrections for $x < 5 \ 10^{-3}$

Is conventional QCD evolution in the DGLAP formalism good enough at low x? Recap how QCD improves the Quark Parton Model



y > x, z = x/y

 $\frac{dq(x,Q^2)}{dlnQ^2} = \frac{\alpha_s(Q^2)}{2\pi} \int_0^1 \frac{dy}{y} \left[Pqq(z)q(y,Q^2) + Pqg(z)g(y,Q^2) \right]$ $\frac{dg(x,Q^2)}{dlnQ^2} = \frac{\alpha_s(Q^2)}{2\pi} \int_0^1 \frac{dy}{y} \left[\Sigma_q Pgq(z)q(y,Q^2) + Pgg(z)g(y,Q^2) \right]$

The DGLAP parton evolution equations



Note $q(x,Q^2) \sim \alpha_s \ln Q^2$, but $\alpha_s(Q^2) \sim 1/\ln Q^2$, so $\alpha_s \ln Q^2$ is O(1), so we must sum all terms



Leading Log

 $\alpha_s^n \ln Q^{2n}$

Approximation

x decreases from target to probe

 $x_{i-1} > x_i > x_{i+1} \dots$

p_t² of quark relative to proton increases from target to probe

 $p_{t\ i-1}^{\ 2} < p_{t\ i}^{\ 2} < p_{t\ i+1}^{\ 2}$

Dominant diagrams have STRONG p_t ordering

But what about disordered ladders?

Are they always sub-dominant?

What if higher orders are needed?



 $Pqq(z) = P^{0}qq(z) + \alpha_{s} P^{1}qq(z) + \alpha_{s}^{2} P^{2}qq(z)$ $LO \qquad NLO \qquad NNLO$

The splitting functions have contributions $P^n(x) = 1/x [a_n \ln^n (1/x) + b_n \ln^{n-1} (1/x) \dots$

And thus give rise to contributions to the PDF $\alpha_s^{p} (Q^2) (\ln Q^2)^q (\ln 1/x)^r$

In the DGLAP Leading Log Approximation we are summing p=q for LO, p=q+1 for NLO... What about r?

This may matter at low-x where ln(1/x) becomes large

Summing p=r, p=r+1 (regardless of q) is BFKL resummation.

It corresponds to gluon ladders that are disordered in pt

and at leading order it gives a very steep rise of the low-x gluon and thus neutrino cross sections which rise more steeply than for DGLAP BFKL summation at LL(1/x) \Rightarrow xg(x) ~ x^{- λ} Where $\lambda = \alpha_{s} C_{A} \ln 2 \sim 0.5$ π But NLL(1/x) softens this somewhat

 \Rightarrow steep gluon even at moderate Q^2

The steeply rising gluon density may lead to an overcrowded nucleon Could gluon recombination become as important as gluon splitting?



Might there be gluon saturation? We would need non-linear evolution equations with dependence on g(x)² GLR... BK- JIMWLK Colour glass condensate..



And saturation would help with a further potential problem: Both DGLAP and BKFL predict

 $\Rightarrow xg(x) \sim x^{-\lambda} \qquad \text{at low } x$ But the rise is steeper for BFKL This implies $\rightarrow \delta (\gamma^* p) \sim (W^2)^{\lambda} (W^2 = (p+q)^2)$ Such a steep rise may lead to Violation of the Froissart Bound for the neutrino-nucleon cross section Saturation could tame such a rise Is there any evidence for that we have reached these new regimes of QCD in DIS? Nothing definitive BUT when you look at the sea and the gluon deduced from the DGLAP formalism at low Q² there are odd features

At $Q^2 \sim 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ -where DGLAP still describes the data--- the gluon is no longer steep at small x – in fact its valence-like or even negative!

The problem is that we are deducing this from limited information

At low-x, we use

 $F_2 \sim xq$ for the sea

 $dF_2/dlnQ^2 \sim Pqg xg$ for the gluon

Unusual behaviour of dF₂/dInQ² may come from

unusual gluon or from unusual Pqg- alternative BFKL evolution?. Non-linear effects?

(Note for experts-- measurement of FL has NOT resolved this!)

At HERA as we go to low x we go to low Q², perhaps its all non perturbative anyway?... BUT High energy neutrino cross sections probe low x for high Q²



The need to go beyond DGLAP is NOT firmly established experimentally.

To use high energy neutrino cross sections to establish it we need to know the limits of the DGLAP predictions. This can be hard because sometimes effects beyond DGLAP have been built into the boundary conditions of DGLAP at Q²₀



This applies to the tendency of the low-x gluon- to become negative and it is NOT a small effect.

Conventional QCD evolution is such that a steep gluon at low-x and moderate Q².. which fits the HERA data well implies that at low Q² the gluon turns over and may even become negative.

This may signal the breakdown of conventional QCD-DGLAP evolution?-And the need for ln(1/x) resummation (BFKL evolution) or non-linear effects? MSTW2008 has this tendency to a negative gluon built into the boundary conditions— ie it is part of the parametrisation at the starting scale.. (and that's why the CTW error gets so large)

HERAPDF1.5 has a parametrization variation (number 9) which allows us to investigate this tendency to a negative gluon. It also ensures that the negative gluon does not give unphysical predictions for cross secions







Let's look at the predictions for the neutrino cross sections for HERAPDF with and without a negative gluon term

Let's look at the predictions of HERAPDFs



Now let's look at the predictions of CT10 PDFs







But they have now added a variant (no 52) which has a very steeply rising neutrino cross-section



This was not there in previous CTEQ PDFs like CTEQ6.6.

It is somewhat ad hoc --to acknowledge that we really do not know what happens for low-x.. But is this a good idea? All current PDF shapes will lead to violation of the Froissart bound eventually.. But some of them will get there quicker than others

cross-section for member 52 rises $\propto E_{\nu}^{0.7}$; central member $\propto E_{\nu}^{0.3}$

We need to compare estimates of neutrino cross-sections from calculations going beyond NLO DGLAP (BFKL, non-linear etc) to our best guess from DGLAP

Let's compare the predictions of HERAPDF1.5, CT10 and MSTW2008 PDFs



The central value predictions for neutrino cross sections from HERAPDF1.5, CT10 and MSTW2008 are actually in rather good agreement



And even the uncertainty bands are in fair agreement if 'rogue' members with either very steeply rising or falling gluons are excluded.

We take the view that our best estimate does not include variants which have a negative gluon or a strong tendency to violate the Froissart bound.



BUT the variation in cross-section values is not so dramatic even if the 'rogue' members are left in

C-S MS (JHEP08(2011)042) gives tables of:

- neutrino and antineutrino Charged Current (CC) and Neutral Current (NC) cross-sections and uncertainties
- for neutrino energies from 50 GeV to 5×10¹¹ GeV
- for the HERAPDF1.5 predictions both with an without the rogue member 9.
- This is done for both proton and isoscalar targets on http:///wwwpnp.physics.ox.ac.uk/~cooper/neutrino
- Differential cross sections also available on request
- These predictions are being incorporated into ANIS

Summary

Predictions of high energy v and v CC cross-sections can be made within conventional framework NLO QCD using the DGLAP formalism
With systematic accounting for PDF uncertainties
Including general mass variable flavour treatment of heavy quarks

The point is to estimate how well known conventional predictions are in order to when we really have unconventional behaviour at small-x BFKL ln(1/x) resummation non-linear effects gluon recombination, saturation – BK,JIMWLK, colour glass condensate etc

Measurements of ultra-high energy neutrino cross sections could be sensitive to new regimes of QCD

extras

Antineutrino cross-sections are closely similar at high energies because ${}_{IF_{1}} \sim -{}_{IF_{1}}$.

and xF3 contributes with opposite sign in neutrino and antineutrino cross-sections

However there are differences at low energies as we access high-x and the valence quark contribution become important



 Image: Constraint of the state of

As neutrino energy decrease the PDF uncertainties decrease since very low-x values are no longer probed. PDF uncertainties are smallest at s~ 10^5 corresponding to middling x, $10^{-2} < x < 10^{-1}$ PDF uncertainties increase again at lower neutrino energies as we move into the region of large **x**

Where does the information on parton distributions come from?

CC e-p

CC e+p

 $dxdy = 2\pi x (Q^2 + M^2_w)^2$

 $d^{2}\sigma(e^{-}p) = G_{F}^{2} M_{W}^{4} [x (u+c) + (1-y)^{2} x (d+s)] \qquad d^{2}\sigma(e^{+}p) = G_{F}^{2} M_{W}^{4} [x (u+c) + (1-y)^{2} x (d+s)]$ $\overline{\mathrm{dxdy}}$ $2\pi x (Q^2 + M^2_w)^2$

The charged currents give us flavour information for high-x valence PDFs

NC e+ and e-

 $\frac{d^{2}\sigma(e \pm N)}{y)^{2} dxd} = \frac{2\pi\alpha^{2}s}{Q^{4}} \quad Y + [F_{2}(x,Q^{2}) - y^{2}F_{L}(x,Q^{2}) \pm Y_{L}xF_{3}(x,Q^{2})], \quad Y \pm = 1 \pm (1 - y)^{2} dxd$ $F_2 = F_2^{\gamma} - v_e P_7 F_2^{\gamma Z} + (v_e^2 + a_e^2) P_7^2 F_2^{Z}$ The neutral current F2 gives $xF_3 = -a_e P_7 xF_3^{\gamma Z} + 2v_e a_e P_7^2 xF_3^Z$ the low-x Sea Where $P_z^2 = Q^2/(Q^2 + M_z^2) 1/sin^2\theta_{W_z}$ and at LO The difference between eand e+ also gives a valence $[F_{2},F_{2},F_{2}] = \sum_{i} [e_{i}^{2},2e_{i}v_{i},v_{i}^{2}+a_{i}^{2}][xq_{i}(x,Q^{2}) + \nabla_{i}^{2}]$ PDF for x>0.01- not just at $xq_i(x,Q^2)$] high-x $[xF_{3}^{\gamma Z}, xF_{3}^{Z}] = \sum_{i} 2[e_{i}a_{i}, v_{i}a_{i}]$ $[xq_{i}(x,Q^{2}) -$ And of course the scaling $xq_i(x,Q^2)$] violations give the gluon So that $xF_3^{\gamma Z} = 2x[e_ua_uu_v + e_da_du_v] = x/3 (2u_v+d_v)$ PDF Where $xF_3^{\gamma Z}$ is the dominant term in xF_3

What sort of assumptions might be important at low-x? Those which affect the gluon shape at low-x -since the gluon becomes dominant and generates the sea by $g \rightarrow q q$ splitting



2. the cuts applied to the fitted data could be important -- cutting out low Q² data – also cuts out low-x data and this tends to result in a steeper gluon—but this is also a small effect on the neutrino cross-sections



H1 and ZEUS

Comparison with CTW

Comparison with CSS





Comparison with ANIS







And just for completeness sake lets show the new and the old predictions at very low energy compared to data

Note the perturbative predictions of the present work cannot be use for $Q2 < 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ and hence we are missing a fraction of the lowest energy cross-sections. This is most significant in the smaller antineutrino cross-section. Hence no predictions are given for

s < 100 GeV² (E ν < 53.3 GeV)



