

# QCD

## Part 3

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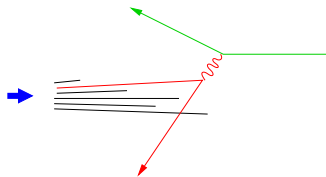
DESY Summer Student Programme 2025, Hamburg

**HELMHOLTZ**

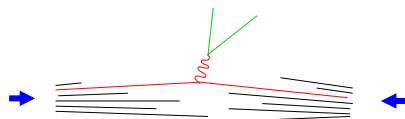


## The parton model

- ▶ describes deep inelastic scattering, Drell-Yan process, etc.
  - fast-moving hadron  
     $\approx$  set of free partons  $(q, \bar{q}, g)$  with low transverse momenta
  - physical cross section  
    = cross section for partonic process  $(\gamma^* q \rightarrow q, q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma^*)$   
     $\times$  parton densities



Deep inelastic scattering (DIS):  $\ell p \rightarrow \ell X$



Drell-Yan:  $pp \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- X$



Nobel prize 1990 for  
Friedman, Kendall, Taylor

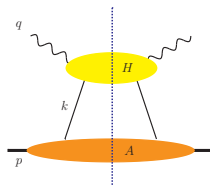
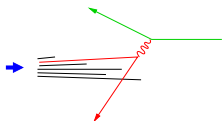
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## Factorisation

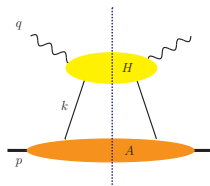
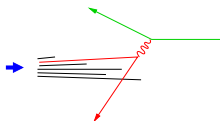
- ▶ implements **and corrects** parton-model ideas in QCD
  - conditions and limitations of validity  
    **kinematics, processes, observables**
  - corrections: partons interact  
     **$\alpha_s$  small at large scales  $\rightsquigarrow$  perturbation theory**
  - define parton densities in field theory  
    **derive their general properties**  
    **make contact with non-perturbative methods**

## Factorisation: physics idea and technical implementation



- ▶ idea: **separation** of physics at **different scales**
  - high scales: quark-gluon interactions  
     $\rightsquigarrow$  compute in perturbation theory
  - low scale: proton  $\rightarrow$  quarks, antiquarks, gluons  
     $\rightsquigarrow$  parton densities
- ▶ requires **hard** momentum scale in process  
    **large photon virtuality**  $Q^2 = -q^2$  in DIS

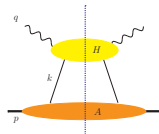
## Factorisation: physics idea and technical implementation



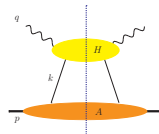
- implementation: separate process into
  - “hard” subgraph  $H$  with particles far off-shell  
compute in perturbation theory
  - “collinear” subgraph  $A$  with particles moving along proton  
turn into definition of parton density

## Collinear expansion

- ▶ graph gives  $\int d^4k H(k)A(k)$ ; simplify further
- ▶ light-cone coordinates:  $v^\pm = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (v^0 \pm v^3)$ ,  $\mathbf{v} = (v^1, v^2)$   
more detail  $\rightsquigarrow$  blackboard



## Collinear expansion



- ▶ graph gives  $\int d^4k H(k) A(k)$ ; simplify further
- ▶ in hard graph neglect small components of external lines  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Taylor expansion

$$H(k^+, k^-, k_T) = H(k^+, 0, 0) + \text{corrections}$$

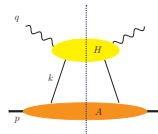
$\rightsquigarrow$  loop integration greatly simplifies:

$$\int d^4k H(k) A(k) \approx \int dk^+ H(k^+, 0, 0) \int dk^- d^2k_T A(k^+, k^-, k_T)$$

- ▶ in **hard scattering** treat incoming/outgoing partons as exactly collinear ( $k_T = 0$ ) and on-shell ( $k^- = 0$ )
- ▶ in collin. matrix element **integrate** over  $k_T$  and virtuality  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  collinear (or  $k_T$  integrated) parton densities  
 only depend on  $k^+ = xp^+$

further subtleties related with spin of partons, not discussed here

## Definition of parton distributions



- ▶ matrix elements of quark/gluon operators

$$f_q(x) = \int \frac{dz^-}{2\pi} e^{ixp^+z^-} \langle p | \bar{\psi}(0) \frac{1}{2} \gamma^+ \psi(z) | p \rangle \Big|_{z^+=0, z_T=0}$$

$\psi(z)$  = quark field operator: annihilates quark

$\bar{\psi}(0)$  = conjugate field operator: creates quark

$\frac{1}{2} \gamma^+$  = matrix in Dirac space: sums over quark spin

$(2\pi)^{-1} \int dz^- e^{ixp^+z^-}$  projects on quarks with  $k^+ = xp^+$

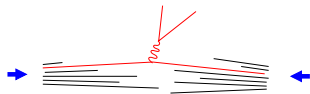
- ▶ analogous definitions for polarised quarks, antiquarks, gluons
- ▶ analysis of factorisation used Feynman graphs but here provide **non-perturbative** definition

further subtleties related with choice of gauge, not discussed here



## Factorisation for $pp$ collisions

- ▶ example: Drell-Yan process  $pp \rightarrow \gamma^* + X \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- + X$   
where  $X$  = any number of hadrons
- ▶ one parton distribution for each proton  $\times$  hard scattering  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  **deceptively** simple physical picture



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- ▶ “spectator” interactions produce additional particles which are also part of unobserved system  $X$  (“**underlying event**”)
- ▶ need not calculate this thanks to **unitarity**  
as long as cross section/observable **sufficiently inclusive**
- ▶ but must calculate/model if want more detail on the final state  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  **multiparton interactions**

## More complicated final states

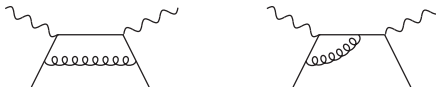
- ▶ production of  $W, Z$  or other colourless particle (Higgs, etc)  
same treatment as Drell-Yan
- ▶ jet production in  $ep$  or  $pp$ : hard scale provided by  $p_T$
- ▶ heavy quark production: hard scale is  $m_c, m_b, m_t$

## Importance of factorisation concept

- ▶ describe processes for study of electroweak and BSM physics, e.g.
  - $W$  mass measurement
  - determination of Higgs boson properties
  - signal and background in new physics searches
- ▶ determine parton densities as a tool to make predictions  
and to learn about [proton structure](#)
  - requires many processes to disentangle quark flavors and gluons

## A closer look at one-loop corrections

- ▶ example: DIS

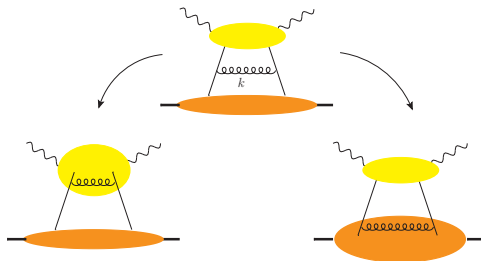


- ▶ UV divergences removed by standard renormalisation
- ▶ soft divergences cancel in sum over graphs
- ▶ collinear div. do **not** cancel, have integrals

$$\int_0 \frac{dk_T^2}{k_T^2}$$

what went wrong?

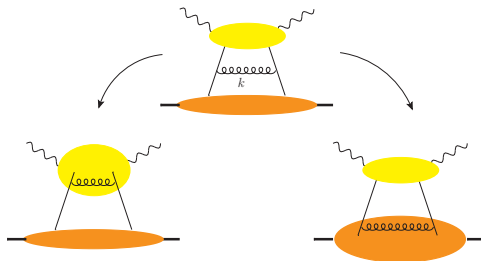
- ▶ hard graph should not contain internal collinear lines  
collinear graph should not contain hard lines
- ▶ must not double count  $\rightsquigarrow$  factorisation scale  $\mu$



- ▶ with cutoff: take  $k_T > \mu$   
 $1/\mu \sim$  transverse resolution

take  $k_T < \mu$

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- ▶ with cutoff: take  $k_T > \mu$   
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take  $k_T < \mu$

- ▶ in dim. reg.:  
subtract collinear divergence

subtract ultraviolet div.

## The evolution equations

### ► DGLAP equations

$$\frac{d}{d \log \mu^2} f(x, \mu) = \int_x^1 \frac{dx'}{x'} P\left(\frac{x}{x'}\right) f(x', \mu) = (P \otimes f(\mu))(x)$$

### ► $P$ = splitting functions



- have perturbative expansion

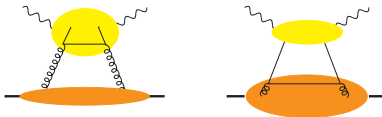
$$P(x) = \alpha_s(\mu) P^{(0)}(x) + \alpha_s^2(\mu) P^{(1)}(x) + \alpha_s^3(\mu) P^{(2)}(x) \dots$$

known to  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$ , in part to  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^4)$  Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt

- contains terms  $\propto \delta(1-x)$  from virtual corrections



- ▶ quark and gluon densities mix under evolution:



- ▶ matrix evolution equation

$$\frac{d}{d \log \mu^2} f_i(x, \mu) = \sum_{j=q, \bar{q}, g} (P_{ij} \otimes f_j(\mu))(x) \quad (i, j = q, \bar{q}, g)$$



more transitions  
possible at higher  
orders in  $\alpha_s$

- ▶ parton content of proton depends on resolution scale  $\mu$



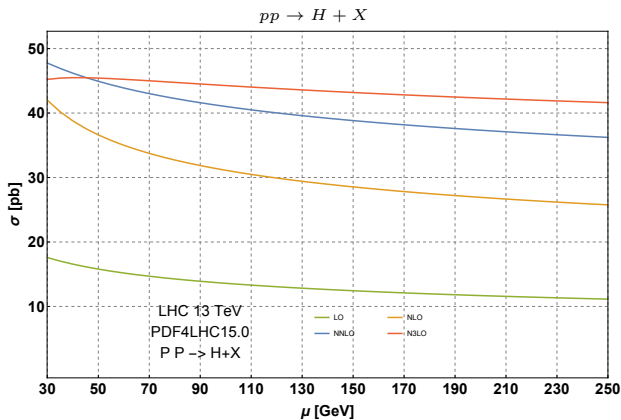
## Factorisation formula

- example:  $p + p \rightarrow H + X$

$$\sigma(p + p \rightarrow H + X) = \sum_{i,j=q,\bar{q},g} \int dx_i dx_j f_i(x_i, \mu_F) f_j(x_j, \mu_F) \\ \times \hat{\sigma}_{ij}(x_i, x_j, \alpha_s(\mu_R), \mu_R, \mu_F, m_H) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\Lambda^2}{m_H^4}\right)$$

- $\hat{\sigma}_{ij}$  = cross section for hard scattering  $i + j \rightarrow H + X$   
 $m_H$  provides hard scale
  - $\mu_R$  = renormalisation scale,  $\mu_F$  = factorisation scale  
may take different or equal
  - $\mu_F$  dependence in  $C$  and in  $f$  cancels up to higher orders in  $\alpha_s$   
similar discussion as for  $\mu_R$  dependence
  - accuracy:  $\alpha_s$  expansion and power corrections  $\mathcal{O}(\Lambda^2/m_H^2)$
- can make  $\sigma$  and  $\hat{\sigma}$  differential in kinematic variables, e.g.  $p_T$  of  $H$

## Scale dependence



Mistlberger, arXiv:1802.00833

$$\mu_F = \mu_R = \mu$$

## LO, NLO, and higher

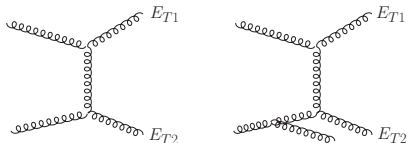
- ▶ instead of varying scale(s) may estimate higher orders by comparing  $N^n$  LO result with  $N^{n-1}$  LO
- ▶ caveat: comparison NLO vs. LO may not be representative for situation at higher orders

often have especially large step from LO to NLO

- ▶ certain types of contribution may first appear at NLO  
e.g. terms with gluon density  $g(x)$  in DIS,  $pp \rightarrow Z + X$ , etc.

- ▶ final state at LO may be too restrictive

e.g. in  $\frac{d\sigma}{dE_{T1} dE_{T2}}$  for dijet production



## Summary of Part 3

- ▶ implements ideas of parton model in QCD
    - perturbative corrections (NLO, NNLO, ...)
    - field theoretical def. of parton densities  
     $\rightsquigarrow$  bridge to non-perturbative QCD
  - ▶ valid for sufficiently inclusive observables  
and up to power corrections in  $\Lambda/Q$  or  $(\Lambda/Q)^2$   
which are in general not calculable
  - ▶ must in a consistent way
    - remove collinear kinematic region in hard scattering
    - remove hard kinematic region in parton densities  
     $\leftrightarrow$  UV renormalisation
- procedure introduces factorisation scale  $\mu_F$
- separates “collinear” from “hard”, “object” from “probe”