Charm in Dijet Photoproduction at HERA

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Abstract

The production of charm in dijet photoproduction events at HERA has been studied. Charm production from the interaction of low virtuality photons is sensitive to both the charm and gluon densities within the photon, while the observation of jets with high transverse energy enables the study of the hard sub-process kinematics directly. Jets are found using the KT algorithm, while charm is tagged by identifying tracks from the decay of $D^{*\pm}(2010)$ mesons via the $D^{*+} \rightarrow D^0\pi^+ \rightarrow (K^-\pi^+)\pi^+$ and charge conjugate channels. The differential cross-section $d\sigma(ep \rightarrow D^* + \text{dijets} + X)/dx_\gamma^{\text{OBS}}$ where x_γ^{OBS} is the fraction of the photon energy contributing to the two jets with highest transverse energy, is presented for events with $E_T(\text{jet}1,2) > 7,6\text{GeV}$ and $p_T(D^*) > 3\text{GeV}$. A significant contribution to the cross-section from *resolved* ($x_\gamma^{\text{OBS}} < 0.75$) processes is observed. Comparison with Leading order QCD Monte Carlo indicate that greater than 90% of the resolved cross-section results from events where the charm is produced within the photon. A preliminary NLO calculation using the massive scheme of Frixione *et al* lies below the data.

Acknowledgements

Well now, what can I say? maybe only "They're all done Harry! They're all done!". Now that I've finished, maybe a few words of thanks to the people who have helped me along the oft tortuous way to getting a Doctorate before my 30th birthday.

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I should like to give extra-special thanks to young Silke and the kittens, Ernie and Justine, for putting up with me and making my time in Hamburg in the latter months so much more entertaining than they could possibly have been otherwise.

Finally, no amount of thanks would be enough to repay the support I've received from my family over these past, long years, for I would not have been able to have come anywhere near as far as I have if it hadn't been for them.

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Preface

Despite it's long history throughout particle physics - notably as the gauge boson of QED - the photon remains something of an enigma. While the behaviour of highly virtual photons is well understood, the same can not be said for real photons.
From QED, fluctuations into leptonic $l\bar{l}$ states are well understood, being essential for the renormalization of the theory and the finiteness of the QED coupling constant. However, fluctuations into low virtuality $q\bar{q}$ states are more problematic as the long lifetime of such states allows the $q\bar{q}$ state to evolve a complex hadronic structure which cannot be described by perturbative physics alone.
Consequently, it is essential for our understanding of the physics of the photon, its interactions with other particles and QCD in general at current and future accelerators, that we should attempt to understand such structure as fully as we are able. Deep inelastic scattering of a lepton from a low virtuality photon at e^+e^- colliders has been the traditional laboratory for such study. However, the complications of the measurement itself, and the fact that at leading order it is not sensitive to the gluon density of the photon means that in order to obtain important additional information we should also study of other interactions involving low virtuality photons.
Consequently, it is in this context that the mechanism of charmed photoproduction with jets of high transverse energy (E_T) at HERA will be studied for this thesis as a means of studying the hadronic content of the photon in a kinematic region not directly accessable in e^+e^- collisions at LEP and other colliders.
In order to place the whole area of photon structure in context, this thesis begins with a discussion of perturbative QCD in general and its influence on the partonic structure of hadrons - specifically the proton - before moving on to discuss the structure of the photon, and the production of charm in photoproduction. By necessity, the descriptions of those aspects of QCD to be found here should by

no means be considered "complete". Notable examples which are not discussed, include Sudakov decomposition and matching of the coupling constant across flavour boundaries.

Following this discussion we move on to the HERA accelerator and the ZEUS detector - specifically those components used in the subsequent analysis. This leads on to a discussion of the analysis involved in the first direct measurement of the charmed component of resolved photoproduction in the HERA kinematic region, and concludes with a brief overview of where we are, and where we hope to continue.

Chapter 1

Introducing QCD and Hadron Structure

1.1 Deep Inelastic Scattering

During the 1960s, the accumulation of data on hadronic resonances seemed to suggest that the observed meson and baryon states were not in fact fundamental particles, but consisted instead of of some other, more elementary particles.
In 1964 Gell-Mann and Zweig postulated that these more fundamental particles consisted of a family of spin half particles which they called *quarks* each carrying fractional charge and transforming under an $SU(3)$ symmetry which they called "flavour" [1].
According to them each hadron was comprised of either three quarks (baryons) or a quark and an anti-quark (mesons). Thus the properties of the observed hadrons were explained by the flavours of their constituent quarks.
The lack of any directly observable evidence of the quarks however, lead many to regard quarks as nothing but mathematical entities, rather than actual particles. However, strong evidence to support the quark model came in 1968 from Deep Inelastic Scattering (DIS) experiments at SLAC - where incident electrons were scattered with large momentum transfer off a fixed hydrogen target causing the protons to break up (fig. 1.1). This was the observation of Bjorken Scaling - the proton structure function becoming independent of the momentum transfer as it is increased - which showed that at large momentum transfer the lepton behaved as if it were scattering off essentially free point-like constituents within the proton. These constituents (named "partons" by Feynman) were soon identified with the quarks of Gell-Mann and Zweig.

Despite this apparent success of the so-called Quark-Parton Model (QPM) there were still important problems, notably the apparent violation of the Pauli exclusion principle required to construct the Δ^{++} resonance from three up quarks in the same spin state.

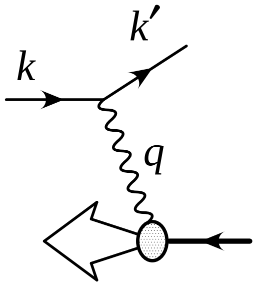

Figure 1.1: *Deep inelastic lepton-proton scattering*

Consequently, the experimental observation of Bjorken scaling when taken with proof of the renormalizability of gauge theories (particularly the $U(1)$ gauge theory of Quantum Electrodynamics - QED) and the related realisation that the coupling of some non-abelian theories could be made to run, naturally lead to the idea that the strong interaction could also be explained by a gauge theory, but describing the dynamics of hadronic constituents rather than the hadrons themselves, with the interactions between the quarks being mediated by 8 massless gauge bosons which were called gluons.
These were required to satisfy the invariance of the Lagrangian under local $SU(3)$ transformations - this extra degree of freedom, known as "colour", being necessary in order to render the hadronic wavefunctions anti-symmetric as required.
The running coupling of the resulting theory of Quantum Chromodymamics (QCD) means that the strength of the interaction between the quarks increases at large distances (small momentum transfer) such that at very small distances (large momentum transfer) the quarks behave as if essentially free, non-interacting fermions. This then provides an explanation as to how the quarks are permanently confined within the hadrons, yet behave as if free particles when probed at high momentum in deep inelastic scattering experiments. This property, known as *asymptotic freedom* means that in the high energy limit, we are able to calculate quantities which do not depend on the long distance behaviour of the theory as a perturbative expansion in the coupling α_s.

Therefore we find that cross-sections can be *factorized* into a hard, perturbatively calculable component and a soft, non-perturbative component represented by the convolution

$$\sigma = \sum_i f_i^h \otimes \sigma_i \tag{1.1}$$

where the sum is over all partons within the relevant hadron h. The quantities f_i^h are known as *parton distribution functions* and contain information on the soft part of the interaction, whereas the σ_i contain the dynamics of the hard scattering and are calculable in perturbative QCD.
The f_i^h can then be thought of as the probability of finding parton i in hadron h with the relevant fraction of the hadronic momentum. The cross sections σ_i are independent of the interacting hadron and the parton distributions are independent of the hard scattering and are therefore thought to be the same for all interactions involving a hadron of type h. This property is known as *hadron universality.*
These properties will be necessary later in our discussion of the calculation of observable quantities.

1.1.1 Kinematics at HERA

Before going on to describe the Quark Parton Model in more detail, it is first useful to examine the kinematics of deep inelastic scattering at HERA.

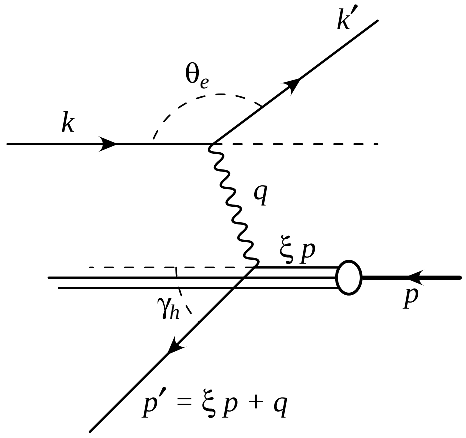

Figure 1.2: *The kinematic variables of deep inelastic scattering at HERA.*

In a DIS event, the incoming high energy lepton scatters from the hadronic system via the exchange of a virtual gauge boson. In a neutral current (NC) event the exchanged boson can of be a γ^* or a Z^0 and we should consider contributions from both the γ^* and Z^0 together with the interference term. In the case of a charged current (CC) event, the exchanged boson is a $W^\pm$ and the resulting final state lepton a neutrino which can only be detected via missing energy and momenta. The NC and CC cross-section as measured by ZEUS is shown in figure 1.3.

In the case of exchange of a virtual photon γ^* with virtuality $Q^2 \equiv -q^2$ the form of the propagator is given by

$$\frac{i}{q^2}\left[-g^{\mu\nu} + \frac{q^\mu q^\nu}{q^2}\right].$$

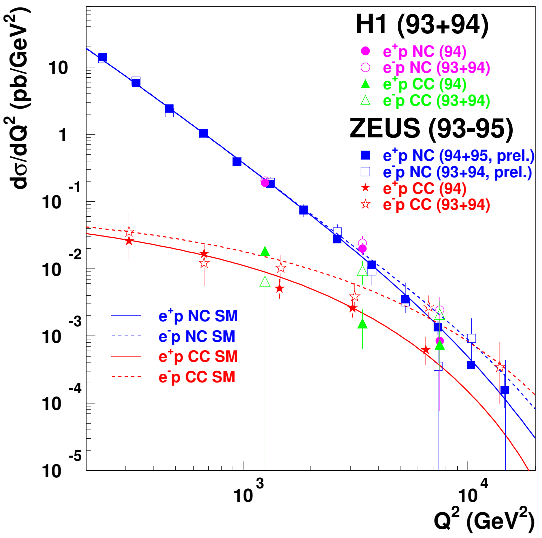

Figure 1.3: *The NC and CC cross-section as a function of Q^2 measured at ZEUS.*

This gives rise to a steep fall of the cross-section with increasing Q^2 approximately as $\sim 1/Q^4$. Contributions from the massive $W^\pm$ and Z^0 propagators are heavily suppressed for Q^2 much less than that from the mass of the propagator ($\sim 10^4 \mathrm{GeV}^2$). Consequently, although interesting in their own right at high Q^2, for the subsequent discussion we will only consider the vector component of the electroweak neutral current - specifically that of the photon.

If the value of the momentum transfer between the lepton and proton is sufficiently high, the exchanged boson is able to resolve the point-like constituents within the proton.

This is illustrated in figure 1.2 where k and k' are the incoming and scattered lepton 4-momenta respectively and p is the 4-momentum of the incoming proton. The 4-momentum transfer q between lepton and the proton system is given by

$$q = k - k' \tag{1.2}$$

such that the exchanged boson is space-like ($q^2 < 0$) and as such it is convenient to introduce the positive quantity

$$Q^2 \equiv -q^2 \approx 2k.k' \tag{1.3}$$

where we have neglected the mass of the scattering lepton.

At high momentum transfer to a good approximation we may also neglect the mass of the incident proton. The invariant mass of the final hadronic state W^2 is then given by

$$W^2 = (p+q)^2 \approx 2p.q + q^2 \equiv 2p.q - Q^2. \tag{1.4}$$

It is also useful to define the dimensionless invariant quantities x and y given by

$$x \equiv \frac{Q^2}{2p.q} \tag{1.5}$$

$$y \equiv \frac{p.q}{p.k} \tag{1.6}$$

such that $0 \leq x, y \leq 1$, in terms of which we obtain

$$W^2 = Q^2 \left[\frac{1}{x} - 1\right]. \tag{1.7}$$

It is also informative to consider the total invariant mass of the colliding system s. This is given by

$$s = (p+k)^2 \approx 2p.k = \frac{Q^2}{xy} \tag{1.8}$$

and consequently at fixed s only two of the three invariants x, y or Q^2 are actually independent.

1.2 The Quark Parton Model

In the parton model we assume the interaction at the hadron vertex to be an elastic scatter from an effectively point-like constituent within the proton. As such the total cross section will be given in terms of the cross section for elastic scattering off a parton and the probability of finding such a parton within the proton as in equation (1.1).

We will find it necessary to work in the so-called "infinite momentum frame" where the proton momentum is large such that all the constituents move along the proton direction and all masses can be neglected. In this frame the proton will appear to the incident lepton Lorentz contracted to a thin disc, and furthermore the time dilation of the proton will mean that any parton-parton interactions within the proton occur on a large time scale compared to the parton-photon

interaction of the hard scatter. This is the so-called "impulse approximation" and is very important in the parton model.
We now say a little more about scaling in DIS. The cross-section can be written as the product of a leptonic tensor $L^{\mu\nu}$ and a hadronic tensor $W^{\mu\nu}$,

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE'} \sim L^{\mu\nu} W_{\mu\nu} \tag{1.9}$$

where Ω is the solid angle into which the lepton is scattered and we have averaged over initial and summed over final spins and neglected flux factors and so on for clarity. The leptonic vertex knows nothing about the hadronic interaction and as such is completely calculable from electroweak theory. Our ignorance about the process lies entirely within the hadronic vertex which has a non-perturbative component and is thus completely unknown. It is however possible to restrict the form of the hadronic tensor using symmetry and current conservation arguments (see for instance [2]). In this case we obtain the most general form for the vector coupling to the photon

$$W^{\mu\nu} = W_1 \left(-g^{\mu\nu} + \frac{q^\mu q^\nu}{q^2} \right) + \frac{1}{M^2} W_2 \left(p^\mu - \frac{(p.q)q^\mu}{q^2} \right) \left(p^\nu - \frac{(p.q)q^\nu}{q^2} \right) \tag{1.10}$$

where the $W_{1,2}$ are dimensionless functions of the Lorentz scalars which can be constructed from the 4-momenta present at the hadronic vertex, for instance $W_{1,2}(\nu, Q^2)$ where

$$\nu \equiv \frac{p.q}{M} \tag{1.11}$$

which in the proton rest frame is given by

$$\nu = E_e - E'_e \tag{1.12}$$

and can thus be thought of as the energy given to the proton in its own rest frame. [1]
Using the form of the lepton tensor, it is then reasonably straightforward to show [2] that in the proton rest frame the cross section can be written as

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE'} = \frac{\alpha^2}{4E_e^2 \cos^4(\theta/2)} \left[2W_1(\nu, Q^2) \cos^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) + W_2(\nu, Q^2) \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \right]. \tag{1.13}$$

[1] As y is related to ν by $M\nu = (p.k)y$ then y can similarly be interpreted as the *fraction* of the incoming lepton energy in the proton's rest frame

So far our discussion has been completely general, and not specific to the parton model. There is precious little physics in all of this - what we have done is merely to state the restrictions on any forms of the structure functions. In order to proceed further it is necessary to impose our assumptions about the nature of the virtual photon-proton interaction. If we consider the interaction to be that of an *elastic* scatter from a parton i within the proton (fig. 1.2), then in the impulse approximation we neglect the transverse momentum of the parton within the proton such that the parton carries a fraction ξ_i of the proton's longitudinal momentum such that $p_i = \xi_i p$, and further, that the parton is approximately on-shell both before and after the interaction. This then gives us

$$(\xi_i p + q)^2 \approx 2\xi_i p.q + q^2 \approx 0 \tag{1.14}$$

which means that, in the impulse approximation,

$$\xi_i = \frac{Q^2}{2p.q} = x \tag{1.15}$$

and we see that in the parton model the Bjorken scaling variable x can be identified with the longitudinal momentum fraction carried by the struck parton. In order to calculate the cross section it is then necessary to multiply the cross section for the elastic parton-photon scatter by the probability density $f_i(x)$ of finding a parton of type i with a momentum fraction between x and $x + \delta x$ summed over all partons within the proton. These probability density functions however, are not predicted by the parton model. They must obey certain sum rules to satisfy the number of, for example, valence quarks within the proton as predicted by the Gell-Mann and Zweig quark model.

Consequently, if we integrate over all possible parton momenta and sum over *all* partons we should obtain the following,

$$\sum_i \int_0^1 dx\ (xp) f_i(x) \quad = \quad p, \tag{1.16}$$

$$\sum_i \int_0^1 dx\ x f_i(x) \quad = \quad 1. \tag{1.17}$$

Once the parton distribution functions $f_i(x)$ have been identified, it is possible to compute the previously unknown structure functions $W_{1,2}(\nu, Q^2)$. These are then found to be

$$\nu W_2(\nu, Q^2) \to F_2(x) = \sum_i e_i^2 x f_i(x) \quad \text{and} \tag{1.18}$$

$$MW_1(\nu, Q^2) \to F_1(x) = \frac{1}{2x} F_2(x) \tag{1.19}$$

where the $F_{1,2}(x)$ depend *only on the scaling variable* x and not on the momentum transfer Q^2. Consequently the differential cross-section in terms of these structure functions also scales,

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dx dQ^2} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{xQ^4}\left[(1-y)F_2(x) + \frac{1}{2}y^2 \; 2xF_1(x)\right] \tag{1.20}$$

where the Q^2 dependence comes only from the hard-interaction itself. This is what we previously referred to as Bjorken Scaling, and it was the observation of this behaviour at SLAC and the so-called Callan-Gross relation [3]

$$F_2(x) = 2xF_1(x) \tag{1.21}$$

which was one of the initial successes of the quark parton model.

At higher 4-momentum transfer, however, it is found that the cross-section deviates from predictions including scaling, and in order to understand how this occurs, we will find it necessary to modify the QPM to include the predictions of QCD.

In addition, if we rewrite equation 1.20 in terms of the *longitudinal* structure function $F_L \equiv F_2 - 2xF_1$ for scattering via longitudinally polarised photons,

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dx dQ^2} = \frac{4\pi\alpha^2}{xQ^4}\left[[1+(1-y)^2]F_2(x) - y^2 \; xF_L(x)\right], \tag{1.22}$$

we see that in the scaling case, F_L must vanish, and as such a non-zero F_L is a further indication of the QCD corrections to the QPM.

1.2.1 QCD Corrections to the Parton Model

If we consider equation (1.16) then we see that the total momentum carried by the partons within the proton must sum to give the total proton momentum. Similarly we see that the structure function $F_2(x)$ sums the momentum fractions

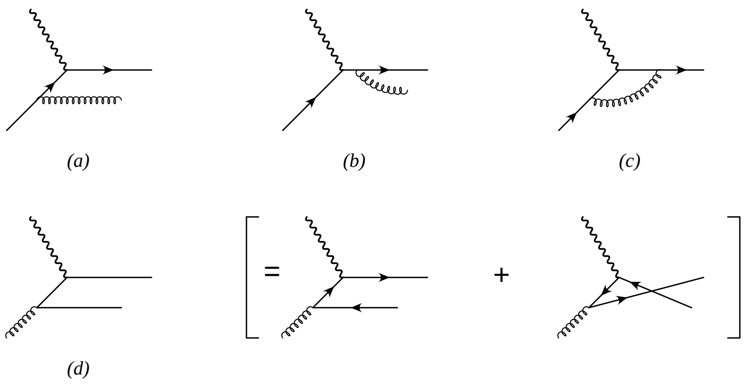

Figure 1.4: *Some $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$ Corrections to Deep Inelastic scattering: (a) and (b) QCD Compton Scattering, (c) vertex loop correction and (d) boson-gluon fusion. ($\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$ loop corrections to to fermion propagators are not shown.)*

of all the *charged* partons. Consequently in the simple parton model where the proton is considered to consist simply of charged quarks then we would expect

$$\sum_{i}^{2\mathrm{N_f}} \int_0^1 dx\ x f_i(x) = 1. \tag{1.23}$$

However, upon measuring this quantity experimentally, we find that the integral amounts to only a little over 0.5 of the proton's total momentum.
Consequently we see this as evidence of the existence of *uncharged* partons within the proton carrying $\sim 50\%$ of the proton momentum. These we identify with the gluons - the 8 gauge bosons of QCD. The inclusion of gluons immediately leads to the possibility that a quark can radiate gluons either before of after the hard interaction. Furthermore, a gluon could produce a $q\bar{q}$ pair, of which either could interact with the virtual photon.
So we would expect the inclusion of QCD interactions to lead immediately to the prediction that scaling is violated. This was experimentally confirmed by the observation of a logarithmic dependence on Q^2 of $F_2(x, Q^2)$ [4] and was one of the first major successes of perturbative QCD. Some of the $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$ QCD corrections to DIS are shown in figure 1.4.
Again, if we use the impulse approximation then interactions between separate partons can be neglected. However there also exist so-called "higher twist" contributions of the form shown in figure 1.5 which can, in principle, destroy the factorization of the cross-section into hard (perturbative) and soft (non-

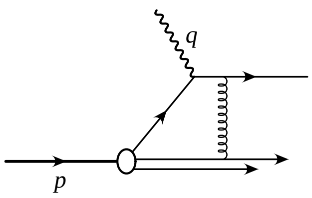

Figure 1.5: A Higher Twist Correction to DIS at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$

perturbative) contributions. These however, it is believed, are suppressed by $\mathcal{O}(1/Q^2)$ [5] and can be neglected at high momentum transfers.

1.3 The Running Coupling

In appendix A we see that the coupling constant of QCD, α_s, can be made to run and at LO, obeys an equation of the form

$$\frac{d\alpha_s(\mu^2)}{d\ln\mu^2} = -b_0{\alpha_s}^2(\mu^2), \tag{1.24}$$

where $b_0 = (33 - 2N_f)/12\pi$ and N_f is the number of active flavours. At LO, the solution is obtained by introducing the dimensionful constant Λ, and yields

$$\alpha_s(\mu^2) = \frac{1}{b_0\ln(\mu^2/\Lambda^2)}, \tag{1.25}$$

so that $\alpha_s(\mu^2)$ varies as the inverse of the logarithm of the scale μ^2 and terms of the form $\alpha_s(\mu^2)\ln\mu^2/\Lambda^2$ are formally of $\mathcal{O}(1)$. In addition, we see that the coupling constant becomes asymptotically large as $\mu \to \Lambda$, so that we can consider that scales of the order of Λ cause QCD to become "strong" and the perturbative method breaks down.

It is also shown that at LO, the choice of scales $\mu' \sim \mu$ are not distinguishable, with the consequence that at LO, the absolute normalisation of cross-sections may not be well specified to within a factor ~ 2.

Chapter 2

QCD and Photoproduction

2.1 QCD Evolution Equations

2.1.1 The Leading Log (DGLAP) Approximation

In QCD each parton has to be considered as being surrounded by a cloud of virtual particles, which are constantly being created and annihilated from the vacuum. Therefore as the Q^2 of the virtual photon increases it is able to probe smaller and smaller distances and so begins to resolve the particles within this cloud. Consequently we would expect the momentum distributions of the partons

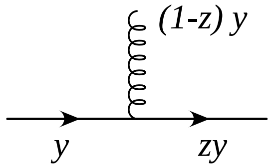

Figure 2.1: *The quark-gluon vertex contributing to* $P_{qq}(z)$

probed by the virtual photon to depend on Q^2 and it is this which leads to the violation of scaling mentioned earlier.

In order to illustrate the form of the scaling violations - that is the perturbatively calculable dependence on the large scale Q^2 - we shall consider the case of the parton density functions $q(x)$ of the *proton* in DIS. We follow a somewhat simplified approach similar to that originally due to Altarelli and Parisi [6] and consider the case where a quark carrying momentum fraction y of the proton radiates a gluon so reducing its momentum fraction to $x = zy$ with the remaining $(1-z)y$ being carried away by the gluon (fig. 2.1).

Working with the *flavour non-singlet* quark distribution of a single flavour, $q^{NS}(x) \equiv q(x) - \bar{q}(x)$, then the probability of the quark changing its momentum fraction by z is $\mathcal{P}_{q\to qg}(z)$ and we would expect

$$q^{NS}(x) = \int_0^1 dy \int_0^1 dz\ q^{NS}(y)\mathcal{P}_{q\to qg}(z)\delta(x - zy) \tag{2.1}$$

$$= \int_0^1 \frac{dy}{y} q^{NS}(y)\mathcal{P}_{q\to qg}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right). \tag{2.2}$$

In the QPM the momentum fraction of the quark before and after the hard scattering is constant so that $x = y$ and $z = 1$ and $\mathcal{P}_{q\to qg}(z) = \delta(1-z)$ and (2.2) is trivially satisfied for all Q^2 resulting in the observation of scaling. However, at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$, the quark can radiate gluons thus reducing its momentum fraction giving $y \geq x$. It is possible to calculate the probability of this from simple Compton scattering and we obtain

$$\mathcal{P}_{q\to qg}(z,\tau) = \delta(1-z) + \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi}P_{qq}(z)[\tau - \tau_0] \tag{2.3}$$

where the *splitting function* $P_{qq}(z)$ is given in the leading log approximation - that is, keeping only the contribution which is most singular in the transverse momentum of the scattered quark and has the form

$$P_{qq}(z) \equiv \frac{4}{3}\left(\frac{1+z^2}{1-z}\right), \tag{2.4}$$

and we have defined $\tau = \ln Q^2/\Lambda^2$ and $\tau_0 = \ln \mu^2/\Lambda^2$ where μ^2 is some lower cut off. This is required in order to regulate the collinear divergence of the integration over the transverse momentum of the quark propagator of the form,

$$\int_{\mu^2}^{Q^2} \frac{dk_T^2}{k_T^2} P_{qq}(z). \tag{2.5}$$

Consequently we see that we have introduced the need for some dependence on τ into our parton density function and we shall find that we need to redefine what we mean by our parton density functions. This will eventually lead to an evolution equation of the form

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial\tau}q^{NS}(x,\tau) = \frac{\alpha_s(\tau)}{2\pi}\int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y} q^{NS}(y,\tau)P_{qq}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right). \tag{2.6}$$

We see from (2.3) that we have two potential sources of singular behaviour; The first comes from the $(1-z)$ term in the splitting function as $z \to 1$ whereas the second is due to the collinear term arising from the $k_T^2 \to 0$ divergence in the integration of equation 2.5. The first corresponds to the limit of soft gluon emission, and is in fact canceled against the infra-red singularities of the virtual one loop corrections to the $\gamma^* q \to q$ process eg. the vertex term of fig. 1.4c and the one loop corrections to the quark propagators. This cancellation occurs order by order in perturbation theory and is a consequence of the Kinoshita-Lee-Nauenberg [7] and Bloch-Nordsieck theorems [8].
It can be shown [9] that the cancellation of the infra-red singularities and the inclusion of properly dressed quark propagators leads only to the replacements

$$\alpha_s \to \alpha_s(Q^2)\ [\equiv \alpha_s(\tau)] \tag{2.7}$$

and

$$P_{qq}(z) \to \frac{4}{3}\left(\frac{1+z^2}{1-z}\right)_+ \equiv \frac{4}{3}\left[\frac{1+z^2}{(1-z)_+} + \frac{3}{2}\delta(1-z)\right] \tag{2.8}$$

where the "+" prescription is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \int_x^1 dz\, \frac{f(z)}{(1-z)_+} &\equiv \lim_{\delta\to 1} f(1)\ln(1-\delta) + \int_x^1 dz\, \frac{f(z)}{1-z} && (2.9)\\ &= f(1)\ln(1-x) + \int_x^1 dz\, \frac{f(z)-f(1)}{1-z} && (2.10) \end{aligned}$$

where we have subtracted the $\delta \to 1$ singularity. From (2.8) we see that

$$\int_0^1 dz P_{qq}(z) = 0 \tag{2.11}$$

which means that taking (2.6) and integrating over x results in

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial\tau}\int_0^1 dx\ q^{NS}(x,\tau) &= \frac{\alpha_s(\tau)}{2\pi}\int_0^1 dx \int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y} q^{NS}(y,\tau) P_{qq}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) && (2.12)\\ &= \int_0^1 dy\ q^{NS}(y,\tau)\int_0^1 dz\ P_{qq}(z) && (2.13)\\ &= 0 && (2.14) \end{aligned}$$

which is just a statement of flavour conservation as we would expect.
Having now dealt with the soft divergences we are left with the collinear divergence as $k_T^2 \to 0$ in the integration of (2.5). There are no more divergences

to cancel this against so we must absorb this divergence into a redefinition of our quark distribution functions. How we choose to share factors between the splitting and distribution functions specifies our choice of *factorisation scheme* and effectively states at what value of transverse momentum we choose to factorise the cross section into hard (perturbative) and soft (non-perturbative) contributions. That we are able to do this, is of crucial importance for the calculation of observables using perturbative QCD.

2.1.2 Mass Factorization

To see how we do this we return to equation (1.18) inserting the form of the distribution functions (2.2);

$$\frac{F_2}{x} = \sum_q e_q^2 \int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y} q(y) \left[\delta\left(1 - \frac{x}{y}\right) + \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P_{qq}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \ln\frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} \right] \tag{2.15}$$

where we have neglected some renormalisation scheme dependent functions. The quantity on the left hand side contains a measurable quantity, ie. the structure function, and so should be finite, so we somehow have to absorb the singular behaviour of the log term as $\mu^2 (= k_T^2) \to 0$, into our distribution functions. For this purpose, we therefore consider the parton distribution functions to be effectively *bare* distribution functions which are themselves non-finite. To do this we factor off, from the $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$ term a term of the form

$$\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P_{qq}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \ln\frac{M^2}{\mu^2} \tag{2.16}$$

where M^2 is some arbitrary mass scale, and make the replacement of *renormalised* distribution functions

$$q(y) \to q(y, M^2) = q(y) + \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} K(y, M^2). \tag{2.17}$$

This is because we would like (2.15) to be – to leading order in α_s – of the form

$$\frac{F_2}{x} = \sum_q e_q^2 \int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y} q(y, M^2) \left[\delta\left(1 - \frac{x}{y}\right) + \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} P_{qq}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \ln\frac{Q^2}{M^2} \right] \tag{2.18}$$

such that the log term and the distribution functions them-self are now finite. It is reasonably straight-forward to show that to $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$ this is achieved by the replacement

$$K(y, M^2) = \int_y^1 \frac{dy'}{y'} q(y', M^2) P_{qq}\left(\frac{y'}{y}\right) \ln\frac{M^2}{\mu^2}. \tag{2.19}$$

which, after iteratively substituting our renormalised distribution functions, gives us, to $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$, the form of the evolution equation (2.6). This shows how the parton distribution functions evolve with the scale M^2 and now all our distributions are finite. This procedure is known as *mass factorization.*

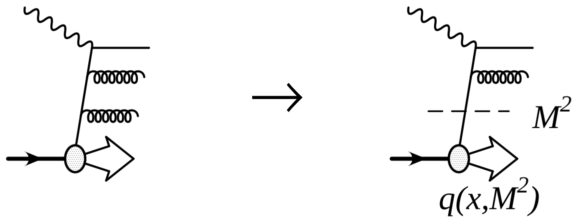

Figure 2.2: *An example of mass factorization*

Figure 2.2 shows the "factorization" into hard and soft contributions where the "soft" contribution from k_T^2 less than the *factorization scale* M^2, including the the initial state collinear singularity, is factorized into the parton density function which is now finite and dependent on the factorization scale M^2.

2.1.3 Singlet Evolution Equations

It is straightforward to generalise the evolution equation for the flavour non-singlet distribution functions (2.6) to the flavour singlet case by the inclusion of the gluon density $G(x,t)$. This allows for the possibility of gluon splitting to a $q\bar{q}$ or a gg pair. Taking account of flavour conservation and assuming flavour universality of the quark-gluon vertex we obtain the so-called *Altarelli-Parisi* evolution equations (or more correctly the Dokshitzer-Gribov-Lipatov-Altarelli-Parisi evolution equations) [6, 9]

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial\tau}q_i(x,\tau) = \frac{\alpha_s(\tau)}{2\pi}\int_x^1\frac{dy}{y}\left[P_{qq}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)q_i(y,\tau)+P_{qg}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)G(y,\tau)\right] \quad (2.20)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial\tau}G(x,\tau) = \frac{\alpha_s(\tau)}{2\pi}\int_x^1\frac{dy}{y}\left[\sum_i^{2N_f}P_{gq}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)q_i(y,\tau)+P_{gg}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)G(y,\tau)\right] \quad (2.21)$$

where we sum over both quarks and anti-quarks in the first term of (2.21) and where $P_{gq}(z)$, $P_{qg}(z)$ and $P_{gg}(z)$ are the splitting functions for obtaining a gluon from a quark, a quark from a gluon and a gluon from a gluon respectively.

These are given in the leading log approximation by the Altarelli-Parisi splitting functions,

$$P_{qg}(z) = \frac{1}{2}\left[z^2 + (1-z)^2\right], \tag{2.22}$$

$$P_{gq}(z) = \frac{4}{3}\left[\frac{1+(1-z)^2}{z}\right], \tag{2.23}$$

$$P_{gg}(z) = 6\left[\frac{z}{(1-z)_+} + \frac{1-z}{z} + z(1-z) + \left(\frac{11}{12} - \frac{N_f}{18}\right)\delta(1-z)\right]. \tag{2.24}$$

Equations 2.20 and 2.21 are shown symbolically in figure 2.3 for the evolution with the scale Q^2 of the flavour singlet parton density functions within the proton.

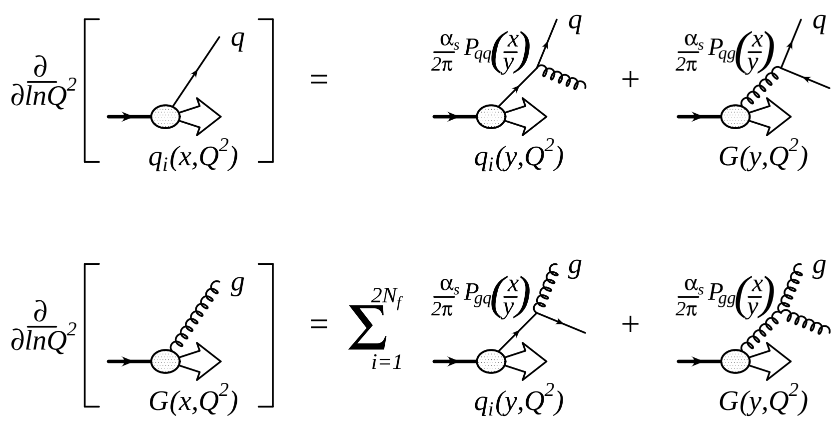

Figure 2.3: The Singlet DGLAP evolution or the proton parton density functions

If we form the combination $q^S(x,\tau) \equiv \sum_i^{2Nf} q_i(x,\tau)$, again summing over quarks and anti-quarks of all flavours then equations (2.20) and (2.21) take the form

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial\tau}\begin{bmatrix} q^S(x,\tau) \\ G(x,\tau) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\alpha_s(\tau)}{2\pi}\int_x^1 \frac{dy}{y}\begin{bmatrix} P_{qq} & 2N_f P_{qg} \\ P_{gq} & P_{gg} \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} q^S(y,\tau) \\ G(y,\tau) \end{bmatrix}. \tag{2.25}$$

In general any parton distribution can be decomposed into singlet and non-singlet contributions each evolving with Q^2 according to (2.25) or (2.6) respectively.
If we now define the moments $M^n(\tau)$ of the distribution function $q(x,\tau)$ by the Mellin transform

$$M_n(\tau) = \int_0^1 dx\ x^{n-1} q(x,\tau) \tag{2.26}$$

then this enables us to separate the integrals[1]

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial\tau}\begin{bmatrix} M_n^S(\tau) \\ M_n^G(\tau) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\alpha_s(\tau)}{2\pi}\begin{bmatrix} P_{qq}^n & 2N_f P_{qg}^n \\ P_{gq}^n & P_{gg}^n \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} M_n^S(\tau) \\ M_n^G(\tau) \end{bmatrix}. \tag{2.27}$$

the solution of which can be found by diagonalising.
These equations, although specifying exactly how the distributions evolve with Q^2 provided we know their form at some additional scale Q_0^2, do not fully determine the form of the distributions themselves which are non-perturbative and are obtained from parameterisations of experimental data.

2.1.4 Summing the Leading Logs

Further insight can be gleaned by reconsidering the $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$ contribution to the process $\gamma^* q \to qg$ in DIS. These are shown in fig. 1.4(a) and 1.4(b) which represent gluon emission from the initial and final state quark propagators respectively and give rise in the Leading Log approximation, to a contribution of the form

$$\alpha_s(Q^2)P_{qq}(z)\ln\frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} \tag{2.28}$$

where we have included the running of the coupling constant.

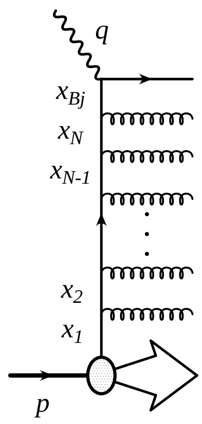

Figure 2.4: *N gluon emission in the initial state*

From (1.25) we see that the factor $\alpha_s(Q^2)\ln Q^2/\mu^2$ is of order 1 and so has the potential to spoil our perturbative expansion. Therefore we must re-sum all contributions of the form $[\alpha_s(Q^2)\ln Q^2/\mu^2]^N$ to ensure our result is finite. This means we must sum all diagrams with $N = 0\ldots\infty$ gluons. An example of an initial state N gluon diagram is fig. 2.4. These correspond to a particular subset of the complete expansion in α_s to all orders.
We would like to be able to calculate this as a summation of terms such that each is merely of the form of the term for emission of one gluon to some power. This scenario is called *independent emission.* However this is generally not possible because of the interference terms. We illuminate this by considering the calculation of the emission of one gluon from the flavour non-singlet state.

[1]where P_{qq}^n is the nth moment of $P_{qq}(z)$ &c.

From the optical theorem (if we consider the *inclusive* reaction where we are not interested in the details of the final state), we can calculate the matrix elements for the $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$ $\gamma^* q \to qg$ processes using the diagrams of fig. 2.5.
From these diagrams we note that individually the terms from diagrams 2.5a, 2.5b or 2.5c are not in themselves gauge invariant - only the sum of the three terms together. We can of course choose any gauge, as our final result must be independent of the gauge in which we calculate. Therefore if we chose an axial gauge where the sum over gluon spin states is given by

$$\sum_\lambda \varepsilon^\mu(\lambda)\varepsilon^\nu(\lambda) = -g^{\mu\nu} + \frac{n^\mu k^\nu + n^\nu k^\mu}{n.k} - \frac{n^2}{(n.k)^2}k^\mu k^\nu \tag{2.29}$$

where n^μ is an arbitrary 4-vector satisfying $\varepsilon.n = 0$ (and usually also $n^2 = 0$). It is found that the contributions from diagram 2.5b and notably from the interference diagram 2.5c are zero, and the whole gauge invariant contribution in the leading log approximation is contained in diagram 2.5a. Here the collinear divergence

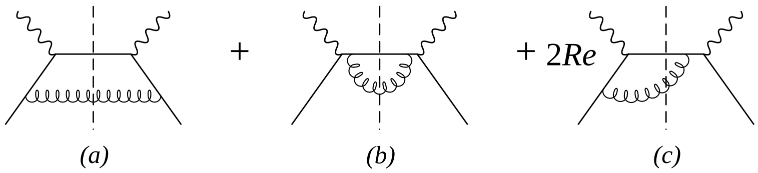

Figure 2.5: *The $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$ contribution to the process $\gamma^* q \to qg$*

of the final state gluon radiation is canceled by the infra-red divergence of the virtual vertex term, however the collinear divergence of the initial state radiation leaves a divergence which we deal with by absorbing into the parton distribution as described earlier.
This means that - provided we work in an axial gauge - we need only consider ladder diagrams of the form of figure 2.6 where we have *independent emission from the initial state* only.
In these diagrams, the quark propagator from each cell carries a momentum fraction x_i and a squared transverse momentum $k_{T_i}^2$. Conservation of energy gives us the condition that

$$x_1 > x_2 > \cdots > x_N > x_{Bj} \tag{2.30}$$

and the dominant contribution comes from the region of phase space where

$$k_{T1}^2 \ll k_{T2}^2 \ll \cdots \ll k_{TN}^2 \ll Q^2. \tag{2.31}$$

As such for N gluon emission we obtain a nested integral of the form

$$q^{NS}_{(N)}(x,\tau) \sim \frac{1}{N!}\xi^N(\tau)\int_x^1 \frac{dx_N}{x_N}P_{qq}\left(\frac{x}{x_N}\right)\int_{x_N}^1 \frac{dx_{N-1}}{x_{N-1}}P_{qq}\left(\frac{x_N}{x_{N-1}}\right)\cdots \int_{x_2}^1 \frac{dx_1}{x_1}P_{qq}\left(\frac{x_2}{x_1}\right) q^{NS}(x_1,\tau_0) \quad (2.32)$$

where the term $\xi^N(\tau)$ comes from the integration over the quark transverse momenta,

$$\frac{1}{N!}\xi^N(\tau) \equiv \frac{1}{N!}\left[\frac{1}{2\pi b_o}\ln\frac{\tau}{\tau_0}\right]^N = \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau}\frac{d\tau_1}{2\pi b_0\tau_1}\int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_1}\frac{d\tau_2}{2\pi b_0\tau_2}\cdots\int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_{N-2}}\frac{d\tau_{N-1}}{2\pi b_0\tau_{N-1}}\int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_{N-1}}\frac{d\tau_N}{2\pi b_0\tau_N} \quad (2.33)$$

where τ_0 is our lower cutoff in transverse momentum and we recall $\tau = \ln Q^2/\Lambda^2$ such that to leading order $\alpha_s(\tau) = 1/b_0\tau$ which gives rise to the $1/b_0\tau$ terms in the integral.

Here, the arbitrary lower cutoff τ_0 is taken to delineate at which scale along the ladder we choose to factorise the calculation into soft (non-perturbative) and hard (perturbative) contributions, as discussed previously.

Our final parton distribution is then obtained by summing all diagrams with $N = 0\ldots\infty$ gluons ie;

$$q^{NS}(x,\tau) = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} q^{NS}_{(N)}(x,\tau). \quad (2.34)$$

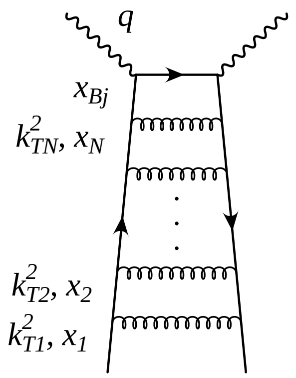

Figure 2.6: *A Parton ladder contribution in the leading log approximation*

If we first take the moments $M_n^{NS}(\tau)$ of $q^{NS}(x,\tau)$ then taking moments of (2.32) gives us

$$M_n^{(N)}(\tau) = \frac{1}{N!}\xi^N(\tau)\left[\int_0^1 dz\ z^{n-1}P_{qq}(z)\right]^N \left[\int_0^1 dy\ y^{n-1}q(y,\tau_0)\right] \quad (2.35)$$

$$\equiv \frac{1}{N!}\xi^N(\tau)[P^n_{qq}]^N M_n(\tau_0) \quad (2.36)$$

which upon performing the summation exponentiates to give the solution

$$M_n(\tau) = \exp\left[\xi(\tau)P^n_{qq}\right] M_n(\tau_0) \quad (2.37)$$

which we can differentiate to produce

$$\frac{\partial M_n(\tau)}{\partial \tau} = \frac{\alpha_s(\tau)}{2\pi} P^n_{qq} M_n(\tau). \tag{2.38}$$

This is just the form of (2.6) in moment space, and so we have obtained the solution 2.37 to our parton distribution evolution equation by explicitly summing over all N rung ladder diagrams of the form fig. 2.6.
It is possible to generalise this approach to include colour singlet contributions if we also consider the contributions from gluon cells and the triple gluon vertex. The inclusion of these, then allows for mixing between the various integral kernels - of which the flavour non-singlet is only one. We are then able to obtain the moment space DGLAP equations (2.27) in a similar manner, the solutions of which can be obtained by diagonalising.

2.1.5 Solving the Evolution Equations

In order to solve the evolution equations, we first rewrite the singlet evolution equation 2.27 in the vector form

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{M}_n(\tau)}{\partial \tau} = \frac{\alpha_s(\tau)}{2\pi} P^{(n)} \mathbf{M}_n(\tau) \tag{2.39}$$

where we have defined

$$\mathbf{M}_n(\tau) \equiv \begin{bmatrix} M^S_n(\tau) \\ M^G_n(\tau) \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad P^{(n)} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} P^n_{qq} & 2N_f P^n_{qg} \\ P^n_{gq} & P^n_{gg} \end{bmatrix}. \tag{2.40}$$

Decomposing $\mathbf{M}_n$ in terms of the eigenvectors $\mathbf{S}(\tau)$ and $\mathbf{G}(\tau)$ of $P^{(n)}$, with corresponding eigenvectors λ_S and λ_G dropping the explicit n dependence for the time being, we formally solve this for each eigenvector,

$$\int_{\ln \mathbf{S}(\tau_0)}^{\ln \mathbf{S}(\tau)} d\ln \mathbf{S} = \frac{\lambda_S}{2\pi b_0} \int_{\ln \tau_0}^{\ln \tau} d\ln \tau' \tag{2.41}$$

including the leading order running coupling $\alpha_s(\tau) = 1/b_0\tau$, to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S}(\tau) &= \left[\frac{\tau}{\tau_0}\right]^{\lambda_S/2\pi b_0} \mathbf{S}(\tau_0) && (2.42) \\ &\equiv \left[\frac{\tau}{\tau_0}\right]^{P/2\pi b_0} \mathbf{S}(\tau_0) && (2.43) \end{aligned}$$

and similarly for $\mathbf{G}$. To obtain the general solution for $\mathbf{M}_n$, we form the linear combination over our eigenvectors to obtain

$$\mathbf{M}_n(\tau) = \left[\frac{\tau}{\tau_0}\right]^{P^{(n)}/2\pi b_0} \mathbf{M}_n(\tau_0). \tag{2.44}$$

In order to obtain the evolution equation in x rather than Mellin space, it is necessary to take the inverse Mellin transform,

$$q(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi i}\int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} dz x^{-z} q_z \tag{2.45}$$

where we integrate over a contour in the complex plane of the analytically continued index $n \to z$. To achieve this, we first expand the formal exponential of $P^{(n)}$ as a power series, which after taking the inverse transform, for each term yields a nested integral of the form 2.32. The solution can then be formally written as

$$\mathbf{M}(x,\tau) = \left[\frac{\tau}{\tau_0}\right]^{P(x)/2\pi b_0} \otimes \mathbf{M}(x,\tau_0). \tag{2.46}$$

where the convolution of the exponentiated splitting matrix is formally defined as the sum over nested integrals of the form 2.32.
The extension to the non-singlet case is trivially obtained by replacing in equation 2.44 the singlet moment vector $\mathbf{M}_n$ by the NS moment M_n^{NS} and the singlet splitting matrix by the splitting function P_{qq}^n to give equation 2.37.

2.2 Perturbative QCD at small x

Because the DGLAP equations are derived keeping only the leading terms in $\ln Q^2$, terms of the form $\ln(1/x)$ are neglected unless accompanied by a large log in Q^2. At normal values of x this is acceptable as these terms are small, however as $x \to 0$ these obviously become important and have to be resummed.
The full summation of all leading log $(1/x)$ terms as x becomes small is known as the leading log $1/x$ approximation (LL$(1/x)A$) and results in the *Balitskii-Fadin-Kuraev-Lipatov* (BFKL) equation [10] and is valid in the limit of very small x.
At moderate to low x where terms of $\alpha_s(Q^2)\ln 1/x$ are large, we are still able to gain some understanding from the DGLAP equations in the small x region provided we also take Q^2 as large. This means that we keep only terms containing large logarithms of both $1/x$ *and* Q^2.

This is the so-called *Double Leading Log Approximation* (DLLA). This is not necessarily valid in the region of finite Q^2, where we should use the full $\ln(1/x)$ resummation from the LL$(1/x)$A, although we may still gain some insight be considering it further.

In the DLLA we continue to use the A-P splitting functions, which in the limit $z \to 0$ become

$$P_{qq}(z) \;\to\; \frac{4}{3}, \qquad P_{qg}(z) \to \frac{N_f}{2} \quad (2.47)$$

$$P_{gq}(z) \;\to\; \frac{2}{z}, \qquad P_{gg}(z) \to 6\frac{1}{z}. \quad (2.48)$$

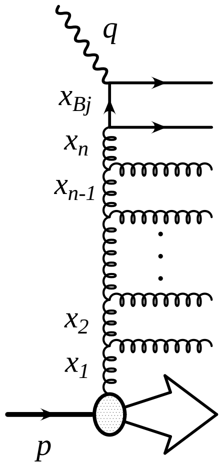

Figure 2.7: *$n-1$ gluon emission in the DLLA.*

From these we see that at small x the leading contribution will come from the gluon distribution, which means that in physical gauges the dominant contribution will be from ladder diagrams with *only* gluons present.

Such a contribution is seen in figure 2.7. This is what we would expect intuitively as the valence quark distributions are expected to vanish as $z \to 0$ and the sea quarks are expected to be driven by the gluon distribution via $q\bar{q}$ production.

In the DLLA the strong ordering in k_T still remains, however the usual ordering of the longitudinal momentum fractions x_i also become strong,

$$1 \gg x_1 \gg \ldots \gg x_N \gg x. \tag{2.49}$$

The evolution equation for the gluon momentum distribution $xG(x,t)$ then takes the form

$$\frac{\partial xG(x,\tau)}{\partial \tau} = \frac{6\alpha_s(\tau)}{2\pi} \int_0^{\ln 1/x} d\ln\frac{1}{y} yG(y,\tau) \tag{2.50}$$

from which we obtain, using $K = 6/\pi b_0$

$$\frac{\partial^2 xG(x,\tau)}{\partial \ln\tau \; \partial \ln(1/x)} = \frac{1}{2} K xG(x,\tau). \tag{2.51}$$

In the limit where $xG(x,\tau) \gg 1$, this has the solution

$$xG(x,\tau) \sim \exp\left[2K \ln\frac{\tau}{\tau_0} \ln\frac{1}{x}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \tag{2.52}$$