

Extending parton branching TMDs to small x

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We explore the possibility to include small- x dynamics effects in the parton branching (PB) approach to transverse momentum dependent (TMD) parton distribution functions. To this end, we first revisit the PB method at leading order, presenting a new fit to inclusive-DIS precision data, and performing a numerical study of the dynamic soft-gluon resolution scale. Next we investigate the effects of modified CCFM kernels, including both Sudakov and non-Sudakov form factors.

XXVII International Workshop on Deep-Inelastic Scattering and Related Subjects - DIS2019

8-12 April, 2019

Torino, Italy

*Speaker.

1. Introduction

In Refs. [1, 2] a parton branching (PB) equation has been proposed for the evolution of transverse momentum dependent (TMD) parton distribution functions. In this approach, soft gluon emission and transverse momentum recoils in the QCD evolution are treated by introducing the soft-gluon resolution scale z_M to separate resolvable and non-resolvable branchings, and the Sudakov form factors Δ_a (where $a = 1, \dots, 2N_f + 1$ is the flavor index, with N_f the number of quark flavors) to express the probability for no resolvable branching in a given evolution interval.

The purpose of the study reported in this article is to extend the PB TMD approach to include effects of small- x dynamics. The study consists of two parts: a numerical analysis of the PB method at leading order (LO) in the strong coupling α_s , for which in particular we carry out a detailed investigation of the role of the soft-gluon resolution scale z_M ; an extension of the PB evolution kernels to the small- x region by including, besides the Sudakov form factors, also the non-Sudakov form factors according to CCFM methods [3, 4, 5].

The article is organized as follows. In Sec. 2 we describe the LO PB analysis, performing a new fit to inclusive-DIS precision data [6]. In Sec. 3 we study the dependence of the fit on the parameter q_0 , which controls the minimum transverse momentum emitted in the branching evolution and is related to the soft-gluon resolution scale z_M according to angular ordering [1, 7]. In Sec. 4 we introduce modified CCFM kernels and investigate their effect on the results of parton evolution. We give conclusions in Sec. 5.

2. PB method at LO

The PB method has been developed in [1, 2] evaluating the evolution kernels up to next-to-leading order (NLO). These results have been used in Ref. [8] to perform NLO fits to precision HERA1+2 measurements [6] and in Ref. [9], along with NLO matrix elements for Drell-Yan hadroproduction, to make predictions for Z-boson transverse momentum spectra at the LHC.

Our goal in this work is to explore the extension of the PB method to include small- x CCFM effects and for this purpose it is useful to start from the formulation of the PB method at LO. To this end, we have performed an analysis at LO analogous to that of Ref. [8] and obtained PB TMD fits at LO. These LO fits may be useful in their own right for further applications.

The fits are performed using the open-source fitting platform `xFitter` [10] and the numerical techniques developed in [11, 12] to treat the transverse momentum dependence in the fitting procedure. Similarly to Ref. [8], we consider the two angular ordered TMD sets (Set1 and Set2) using two different choices for the α_s evolution. We consider the same functional forms for initial densities and proceed with the LO approximation for an extension towards the LO CCFM evolution. The integrated TMD is fitted within `xFitter` at LO, where the PB method is implemented, to precision HERA1+2 measurements in the range of $3.5 < Q^2 < 50000 \text{ GeV}^2$ and $4 \cdot 10^{-5} < x < 0.65$ [6]. Our χ^2/dof for both sets are reasonably good (1.24 and 1.26 for set1 and set2, respectively) and comparable to the NLO fit.

3. Soft-gluon resolution effects

Partons emitted with a transverse momentum smaller than a certain value given by the resolu-

tion scale cannot be resolved. The resolution scale z_M can change dynamically with the evolution scale. For angular ordering condition we consider $z_M = 1 - \frac{q_0}{q_i}$, while q_0 is chosen to be very small ($q_0 = 0.01$ GeV) to ensure that the PB evolution coincides with the standard DGLAP evolution.

We perform fits to DIS data with different choices of q_0 . In Fig. 1 we illustrate how much would be the actual distribution changed by varying z_M . We observe that with higher q_0 (smaller

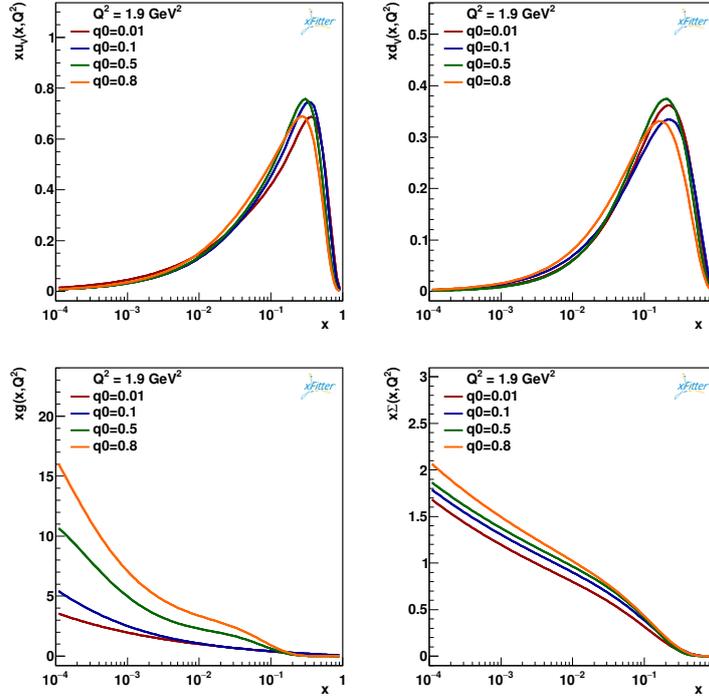


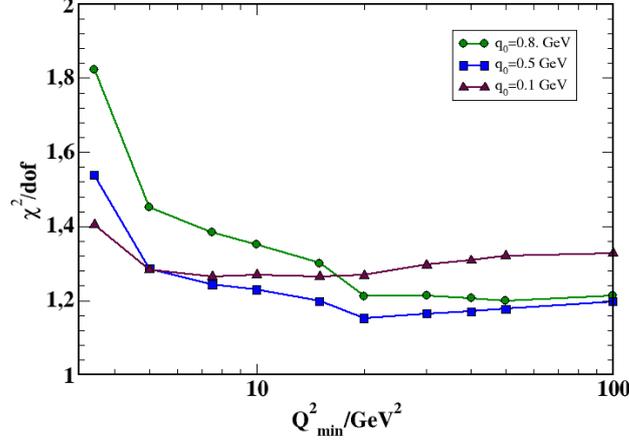
Figure 1: Parton densities for different values of q_0 at $Q^2 = 1.9$ GeV²

z_M), the gluon distribution becomes significantly larger, essentially in the small x region and the χ^2/dof also increases.

We investigate further how the choice of Q_{min}^2 , the minimum Q^2 of the data within the fit, influences the quality of fit. We perform several fits with the different Q_{min}^2 . As illustrated in Fig 1, a reasonable fit can be determined for larger q_0 if $Q_{min}^2 > 10$ GeV².

4. Extension to include small x processes

In this section we describe how the full angular ordering condition enlarges the phase space. We go from the DGLAP ordering ($q_i > q_{i-1}$) to the angular ordering ($q_i > z_{i-1} q_{i-1}$). Here q_i are the rescaled transverse momenta. In terms of the transverse momentum in the t -channel, DGLAP ordering means $k_{\perp} < q_i$, while angular ordering also covers $k_{\perp} > q_i$. This is due to the coherent effects. We need to introduce a non-Sudakov form factor to sum all virtual corrections in which the rescaled transverse momenta of on-shell emitted gluons are smaller than the k_{\perp} ($k_{\perp} > q_i$).The


 Figure 2: The dependence of χ^2/dof on Q_{min}^2 of LO fit for $q_0 = 0.1, 0.5, 0.8$ GeV

modified CCFM splitting functions at LO including the non-Sudakov form factor are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{gg}^{(0)} &= 6 \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \right) \left(\frac{1}{z} \tilde{\Delta}_{ns} + \frac{1}{1-z} - 2 + z(1-z) \right) \tilde{\Delta}_s, \\
 P_{gq}^{(0)} &= \frac{4}{3} \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \right) \left(z - 2 + \frac{2}{z} \tilde{\Delta}_{ns} \right) \tilde{\Delta}_s, \\
 P_{qg}^{(0)} &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \right) \left(z^2 + (1-z)^2 \right) \tilde{\Delta}_s, \\
 P_{q_i q_i}^{(0)} &= \frac{4}{3} \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \right) \left(\frac{1+z^2}{1-z} \right) \tilde{\Delta}_s.
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.1}$$

with $\tilde{\Delta}_s$ and $\tilde{\Delta}_{ns}$ defined as

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{\Delta}_s &= \exp \left(- \int_{z_{i-1} q_{i-1}}^{q_i} \frac{dq'^2}{q'^2} \int^{z_M} dz \frac{1}{1-z} \right), \\
 \tilde{\Delta}_{ns} &= \exp \left(- \int_{z_{i-1} q_{i-1}}^{k_\perp} \frac{dq'^2}{q'^2} \int^{z_M} dz \frac{1}{z} \right).
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.2}$$

The non-Sudakov form factor is relevant only when the emitted gluon is fast and therefore it is important only in presence of the $1/z$ term in the DGLAP splitting function. Therefore we included them in P_{gg} and P_{gq} splitting functions.

In the next step, we re-write the CCFM splitting functions in terms of the full DGLAP splitting function with the DGLAP Sudakov form factor:

$$\tilde{\Delta}_s \rightarrow \Delta_s = \exp \left(- \int_{z_{i-1} q_{i-1}}^{q_i} \frac{dq'^2}{q'^2} \int^{z_M} dz \left(\frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{1-z} - 2 + z(1-z) \right) \right). \tag{4.3}$$

We observe that $\frac{1}{z} \tilde{\Delta}_{ns} \tilde{\Delta}_s$ is already covered by $\frac{1}{z} \Delta_s$ for $k_\perp < q_i$ and the non-Sudakov form factor acts only if $k_\perp > q_i$. We obtain the following Δ_{ns} form factors:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{\Delta}_{ns} \rightarrow \Delta_{ns} &= \exp \left(- \int_{q_i}^{k_\perp} \frac{dq'^2}{q'^2} \int^{z_M} dz \frac{1}{z} \right) \text{ for } k_\perp > q_i \\
 \tilde{\Delta}_{ns} \rightarrow \Delta_{ns} &= 1 \text{ for } k_\perp < q_i
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.4}$$

In Fig. 3 the gluon density is shown as a function of x for the evolution scale $\mu^2 = 100 \text{ GeV}^2$ using the benchmark starting distribution with a black curve. QCDNUM [13] agrees with PB method in

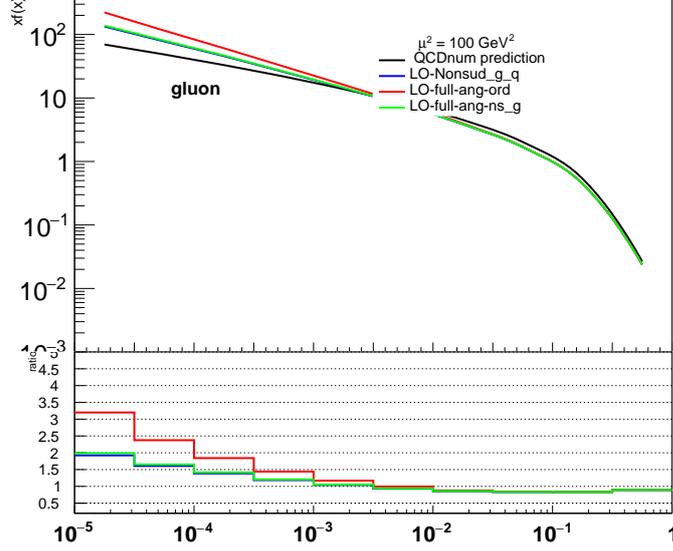


Figure 3: The black curve represents the QCDNUM prediction. The red curve includes full angular ordering. The non-Sudakov form factors are included in p_{gg} and p_{gq} in the green and blue curves, respectively.

the DGLAP limit as shown in ref. [1]. The red curve shows the results when the phase space is opened up to include angular ordering. It allows for unordered emission and increases the gluon density at small x , essentially below 10^{-3} . Including virtual corrections via non-Sudakov form factor (for $k_{\perp} > q_i$) into P_{gg} leads to small x suppression (green curve in Fig. 3). Including the non-Sudakov form factor also for P_{gq} leads to the blue curve which is slightly below the green one. However, the gluon density at small x is still larger compared to DGLAP based curve.

This step by step study is possible via the PB method because it can solve the evolution equation via an iterative procedure.

5. Conclusion

TMD formalisms are relevant in QCD to describe contributions to the initial states of hadronic collisions both for high x and for low x (see e.g. [14]). An essential ingredient is provided by parameterizations and fits to experimental data for TMD distribution functions [15].

The PB method has been recently proposed as a flexible approach which can be applied to a wide range of processes and observables.

In this article we have performed new PB TMD fits at LO, and we have presented a method to incorporate CCFM effects into the PB formulation. Our results can be used to extend the existing simulations of QCD cascades into the semi-hard regime.

6. Acknowledgment

STM thanks the Humboldt Foundation for the Georg Forster research fellowship.

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