Soft Gluon Effects in Four Parton Hard-Scattering Processes

Alessandro Torre

Universität Zürich

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with Stefano Catani and Massimiliano Grazzini

Outline

- 1. Introduction: Sudakov Logs & Threshold Resummation
- One-particle inclusive cross section:a general NLO calculation of the large logarithmic terms
- 3. Soft-gluon resummation at fixed rapidity
- 4. Conclusions

Threshold Resummation

- ▶ **Perturbative** QCD predictions are at the heart of our understanding of hard-scattering processes at high-energy colliders.
- ▶ At the **partonic threshold**, the imbalance between real emission (strongly inhibited) and virtual corrections leads to *enhanced logarithmic terms*, already at NLO.
- ▶ The large logarithms spoil the perturbative expansion ($\alpha_s L \sim 1$). A reliable evaluation of any cross-section in the near-threshold region requires the **all-order resummation** of these logarithms.

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[Sterman '87]
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[Catani, Trentadue '89]
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[Kidonakis, Laenen, Oderda, Sterman '98]

[Bonciani, Catani, Mangano, Nason '98]

Motivation

- Resummation nowadays available for several processes, involving only two partons (DY and H production) or more partons (photoproduction, high- p_T vector and H bosons, heavy quarks, jet and dihadron, single-hadron inclusive production) in QCD and SCET.
- ▶ We consider the **single-hadron** inclusive production at **high hadron transverse momentum**. Easily measurable at hadron colliders, it offers both a relevant test of the QCD factorization and quantitative information on the parton fragmentation functions.
- ► Soft-gluon resummation up to NLL for this process was performed in [De Florian, Vogelsang '05]. The quantitative effect is large, expecially at the typical energies of fixed-target collisions.

Aim

We want to study soft-gluon resummation for the transversemomentum cross section at **fixed rapidity** of the observed hadron.

- ▶ To this aim we compute the NLO QCD corrections close to the partonic threshold, directly factorized in color space.
- ▶ Using our general expression of the NLO cross section, we determine the one-loop hard-virtual amplitude that enters into the colour-space factorization structure of the resummation formula.

Related works (threshold resummation):

- ► Prompt-photon [Catani, Mangano, Nason '98] [Becher, Schwartz '10]
- ► One-particle integrated over rapidity [De Florian, Vogelsang '05]
- ▶ Double-particle at large invariant mass [Kelley, Schwartz '11]

One-hadron-inclusive cross-section

$$h_1 h_2 o h_3 X$$
 $a_1 a_2 o a_3 X$ $a_1 a_2 o a_3 X$ $\frac{d\sigma_{h_1 h_2 h_3}}{d^3 P_3 / E_3} (P_i) = \sum_{a_i} f_{h_1/a_1}^{(\mu_F)} \otimes f_{h_2/a_2}^{(\mu_F)} \otimes d_{h_3/a_3}^{(\mu_F)} \otimes \frac{d\hat{\sigma}_{a_1 a_2 a_3}}{d^3 p_3 / p_3^0} (p_i, \mu_F, \mu_f)$ $d\eta d^2 p_\perp$

▶ At high p_T: leading contributions at the partonic threshold.

One-hadron-inclusive cross-section

$$h_1h_2 \rightarrow h_3X$$
 $a_1a_2 \rightarrow a_3X$

$$\frac{d\sigma_{h_1h_2h_3}}{d^3\boldsymbol{P}_3/E_3}(P_i) = \sum_{a_i} f_{h_1/a_1}^{(\mu_F)} \otimes f_{h_2/a_2}^{(\mu_F)} \otimes d_{h_3/a_3}^{(\mu_f)} \otimes \frac{d\hat{\sigma}_{a_1a_2a_3}}{d^3\boldsymbol{p}_3/p_3^0} (p_i, \mu_F, \mu_f)$$

$$d\eta d^2\boldsymbol{p}_{\perp} \longleftarrow$$

- ▶ At high p_T : leading contributions at the partonic threshold.
- ▶ If $x = (s + t + u)/s \rightarrow 0$, these are:
 - Constant terms $\delta(x) \to 1$
 - ► Large Logs $\left(\frac{\ln^{\ell} x}{x}\right)_{+}$ $\rightarrow (\ln N)^{\ell+1}$
- ▶ While regular terms are suppressed: $\mathcal{O}(1/N)$

NLO result near threshold

Already in the literature [Aversa, Chiappetta, Greco, Guillet '89]

In terms of the kinematical variables v=1+t/s and w=-u/(s+t), the partonic cross section can be written as

$$\frac{d\hat{\sigma}_{a_{1}a_{2}a_{3}}}{d^{3}\boldsymbol{p}_{3}/p_{3}^{0}}(p_{i};\mu_{F},\mu_{f}) = \frac{\alpha_{S}^{2}(\mu_{R}^{2})}{\pi s} \left[\frac{1}{v} \frac{d\hat{\sigma}^{(0)}(s,v)}{dv} \delta(1-w) + \frac{\alpha_{S}(\mu_{R}^{2})}{2\pi} \frac{1}{v s} \mathcal{C}^{(1)}(s,v,w;\mu_{R},\mu_{F},\mu_{f}) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_{S}^{2}) \right]$$

where the NLO term $\mathcal{C}^{(1)}$ has the structure

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{C}^{(1)}(s, v, w; \mu_R, \mu_F, \mu_f) &= \mathcal{C}_3(v) \left(\frac{\ln(1-w)}{1-w} \right)_+ + \mathcal{C}_2(v; s, \mu_F, \mu_f) \left(\frac{1}{1-w} \right)_+ \\ &+ \mathcal{C}_1(v; s, \mu_R, \mu_F, \mu_f) \, \delta(1-w) + \mathcal{C}_0(1-w, v; s, \mu_R, \mu_F, \mu_f) \, . \end{split}$$

We have performed an independent calculation, by using soft and collinear approximations.

▶ $a_1a_2 \rightarrow a_3a_4$ @ 1-loop: [Kunszt,Signer,Trocsanyi '94]

$$|\mathcal{M}^{(1)}
angle = \emph{I}^{(1)}_{\mathrm{sing}} |\mathcal{M}^{(0)}
angle + |\mathcal{M}^{(1)\,\mathrm{fin}}
angle \;.$$

The color operator $I_{\rm sing}^{(1)}$ embodies the one-loop IR divergence, while $|\mathcal{M}^{(1)\,\mathrm{fin}}\rangle$ is finite as $\epsilon\to0$. We use the expression

$$\boldsymbol{\mathit{I}}_{\mathrm{sing}}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\epsilon)} \left[\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \sum_{\substack{i,j=1\\i \neq j}}^{4} \boldsymbol{\mathit{T}}_i \boldsymbol{\mathit{T}}_j \left(\frac{4\pi \mu_R^2 \, \mathrm{e}^{-i\lambda_{ij}\pi}}{2p_i \cdot p_j} \right)^{\epsilon} - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \sum_{i=1}^{4} \gamma_{a_i} \left(\frac{4\pi \mu_R^2 \, \mathrm{s}}{u \, t} \right)^{\epsilon} \right]$$

Full color structure: T_i color operators.

▶ $a_1a_2 \rightarrow a_3X$, with real emission of $X = \{2 \text{ partons}\}.$

We use soft and collinear factorization formulae [Catani, Seymour '97]

- ▶ The soft configuration is treated via eikonal approximation.
- $X = \{ hard\text{-}collinear pair \} ?$ Matching to the full AP behaviour.
- Collinear-divergent counterterms (NLO PDFs).

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 - We use soft and collinear factorization formulae [Catani, Seymour '97]
 - ▶ The soft configuration is treated via eikonal approximation.
 - $ightharpoonup X = \{ hard-collinear pair \} ?$ Matching to the full AP behaviour.
 - Collinear-divergent counterterms (NLO PDFs).
- Our result has a rather compact form: one simple formula valid for all the flavour and colour channels.
- \rightarrow It is factorized on the colour space: the coefficients of $(1/(1-x))_+$ and $\delta(1-x)$ depend on colour-correlation operators T_iT_j .
- ightarrow It is consistent with (the dominant contribution of) known results:
 - lacktriangle Photoproduction from qg and $q\overline{q}$ channels [Gordon and Vogelsang '93]
 - qq and qg scattering [Aversa, Chiappetta, Greco, Guillet '89]

$$\begin{aligned} &16\pi\,\textit{N}^{(in)}\,\mathcal{C}^{(1)} = \langle\mathcal{M}^{(0)}|\,\textit{\textbf{C}}^{(1)}|\mathcal{M}^{(0)}\rangle + \left(\langle\mathcal{M}^{(0)}|\mathcal{M}^{(1)\,\mathrm{fin}}\rangle + \mathrm{c.c.}\right)\delta(1-w) + \mathcal{O}\left((1-w)^0\right) \\ &\textit{\textbf{C}}^{(1)}_{a_1a_2a_3a_4}(s,v,w;\mu_R,\mu_F,\mu_f) = 2\bigg(\frac{\ln(1-w)}{1-w}\bigg)_+ \bigg[2\sum_{i=1}^3 \,\textit{\textbf{T}}_i^2 - \,\textit{\textbf{T}}_4^2\bigg] \\ &- \bigg(\frac{1}{1-w}\bigg)_+ \bigg[2\sum_{i=1}^3 \,\textit{\textbf{T}}_i^2 \bigg(\ln\frac{1-v}{v} + \ln\frac{\mu_{Fi}^2}{s}\bigg) - 2\,\textit{\textbf{T}}_4^2\ln(1-v) \end{aligned}$$

$$-\left(\frac{1-w}{1-w}\right)_{+}\left[2\sum_{i=1}^{2}\boldsymbol{I}_{i}\left(\ln\frac{1-v}{v}+\ln\frac{1}{s}\right)-2\boldsymbol{I}_{4}\ln(1-v)\right]$$

$$+\gamma_{a_{4}}+8\left(\boldsymbol{T}_{1}\cdot\boldsymbol{T}_{3}\ln(1-v)+\boldsymbol{T}_{2}\cdot\boldsymbol{T}_{3}\ln v\right)\right]$$

$$+\delta(1-w)\left\{\frac{\pi^{2}}{2}\left(\boldsymbol{T}_{1}^{2}+\boldsymbol{T}_{2}^{2}+3\boldsymbol{T}_{3}^{2}-\frac{4}{3}\boldsymbol{T}_{4}^{2}\right)-\sum_{i=1}^{3}\gamma_{a_{i}}\ln\frac{\mu_{Fi}^{2}}{s\,v(1-v)}+\gamma_{a_{4}}\ln(1-v)\right\}$$

$$-2 \boldsymbol{T}_{3}^{2} \ln v \ln \frac{\mu_{F}^{2}}{s} + 2 \boldsymbol{T}_{2}^{2} \ln \frac{1-v}{v} \ln \frac{\mu_{F}^{2}}{s} + \ln v \ln(1-v) \left(\boldsymbol{T}_{4}^{2} - \boldsymbol{T}_{1}^{2} - \boldsymbol{T}_{2}^{2} - \boldsymbol{T}_{3}^{2}\right) \\ + \boldsymbol{T}_{2} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{3} \left(2\pi^{2} + 2 \ln v \left(2 \ln(1-v) - 3 \ln v\right)\right) + \ln^{2}(1-v) \left(\boldsymbol{T}_{1}^{2} + \boldsymbol{T}_{3}^{2} - \boldsymbol{T}_{4}^{2}\right) \\ + \boldsymbol{T}_{1} \cdot \boldsymbol{T}_{3} \left(2\pi^{2} + 2 \ln(1-v) \left(\ln(1-v) - 2 \ln v\right)\right) + \ln^{2} v \left(\boldsymbol{T}_{2}^{2} + \boldsymbol{T}_{3}^{2}\right) + K_{a_{4}} \right\}$$

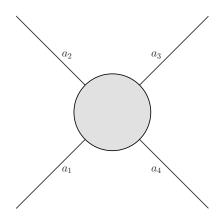
All-order soft-gluon resummation

- We introduce $x_{\omega} = -\frac{t+u}{s}$, $r = \frac{u}{t}$, $p_T^2 = \frac{t u}{s}$,
 - ▶ The threshold region is $x_{\omega} \rightarrow 1$.
 - ▶ The threshold variable x_{ω} is **symmetric** w.r.t. $t \leftrightarrow u$. Otherwise the truncation of the resummed series would produce unphysical asymmetries in the angular distribution.
- In terms of these variables

$$\frac{d\hat{\sigma}_{a_1 a_2 a_3}}{d^3 \boldsymbol{p}_3/p_3^0} = \frac{|\mathcal{M}_{a_1 a_2 a_3 a_4}^{(0)}(r, p_T^2)|^2}{(4\pi s)^2} \sum_{a_1 a_2 \to a_3} (x_\omega, r; p_T^2, \mu_F, \mu_f).$$

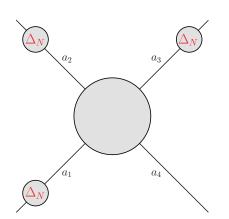
• We perform resummation in the Mellin space of N conjugated to x_{ω} , neglecting $\mathcal{O}(1/N)$ contributions. The all-order expression of $\sum_{a_1 a_2 \to a_3, N}$ is obtained by using the BCMN resummation formalism.

$$\sum_{a_1 a_2 a_3, N}^{\text{res}} =$$

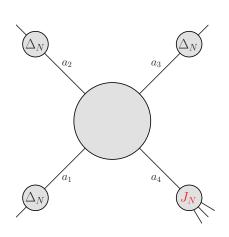


$$\Sigma^{\mathrm{res}}_{a_1 a_2 a_3, N} = \prod_{i=1,2,3} \Delta_{a_i, N_i}(Q_i^2, \mu_i^2)$$

 Δ_{a_i,N_i} : IS-like radiation (soft-collinear)



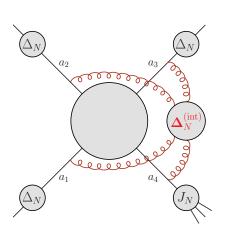
$$\Sigma^{\mathrm{res}}_{a_1 a_2 a_3, N} = \prod_{i=1,2,3} \Delta_{a_i, N_i}(Q_i^2, \mu_i^2) J_{a_4, N_4}(Q_4^2)$$



 Δ_{a_i,N_i} : IS-like radiation (soft-collinear)

 J_{a_4,N_4} : Jet function (collinear, soft and hard, radiation)

$$\Sigma_{a_1 a_2 a_3, N}^{\text{res}} = \prod_{i=1,2,3} \Delta_{a_i, N_i}(Q_i^2, \mu_i^2) J_{a_4, N_4}(Q_4^2) - \Delta_N^{(\text{int})}$$

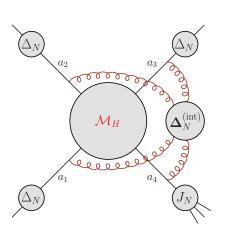


 Δ_{a_i,N_i} : IS-like radiation (soft-collinear)

 J_{a_4,N_4} : Jet function (collinear, soft and hard, radiation)

 $\Delta_N^{(\mathrm{int})}$: Color-correlated large-angle soft emission

$$\Sigma_{\textbf{a}_1 \textbf{a}_2 \textbf{a}_3, \textbf{N}}^{\rm res} \ = \prod_{i=1,2,3} \Delta_{\textbf{a}_i, \textbf{N}_i}(\textbf{Q}_i^2, \mu_i^2) \, J_{\textbf{a}_4, \textbf{N}_4}(\textbf{Q}_4^2) \, \frac{\langle \mathcal{M}_{\rm H} | \pmb{\Delta}_{\textbf{N}}^{(\rm int)} | \mathcal{M}_{\rm H} \rangle}{\left| \mathcal{M}^{(0)} \right|^2}$$



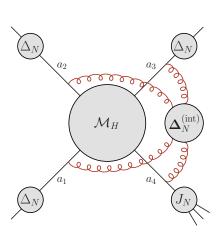
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 $\Delta_N^{
m (int)}$: Color-correlated large-angle soft emission

 \mathcal{M}_{H} : Process-dependent constant terms \sim hard virtual corrections

$$\Sigma_{\textbf{a}_1 \textbf{a}_2 \textbf{a}_3, \textbf{N}}^{\rm res} \ = \prod_{i=1,2,3} \Delta_{\textbf{a}_i, \textbf{N}_i}(\textbf{Q}_i^2, \mu_i^2) \, J_{\textbf{a}_4, \textbf{N}_4}(\textbf{Q}_4^2) \, \frac{\langle \mathcal{M}_{\rm H} | \boldsymbol{\Delta}_{\textbf{N}}^{(\rm int)} | \mathcal{M}_{\rm H} \rangle}{\left| \mathcal{M}^{(0)} \right|^2}$$



 Δ_{a_i,N_i} : IS-like radiation (soft-collinear)

 J_{a_4,N_4} : Jet function (collinear, soft and hard, radiation)

 $\Delta_{N}^{(\mathrm{int})}$: Color-correlated large-angle soft emission

 $\mathcal{M}_{\scriptscriptstyle H}$: Process-dependent constant terms \sim hard virtual corrections

$$N_1 = \frac{N r}{1 + r}, \ N_2 = \frac{N}{1 + r},$$
 $N_3 = N, \ N_4 = \frac{N r}{(1 + r)^2}, \ Q_i^2 = p_T^2$

Collinear radiation

▶ The collinear radiation is **diagonal** in colour-space:

$$\begin{split} \ln \Delta_{a,N}(Q^2;\mu^2) &= \int_0^1 \frac{z^{N-1}-1}{1-z} \int_{\mu^2}^{(1-z)^2Q^2} \frac{dq^2}{q^2} A_a(\alpha_{\mathrm{S}}(q^2)) \\ \ln J_{a,N}(Q^2) &= \int_0^1 \frac{z^{N-1}-1}{1-z} \Big[\int_{(1-z)^2Q^2}^{(1-z)Q^2} \frac{dq^2}{q^2} A_a(\alpha_{\mathrm{S}}(q^2)) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} B_a \left(\alpha_{\mathrm{S}} \left((1-z)Q^2 \right) \right) \Big] \end{split}$$

The coefficients A_a and B_a have perturbative expansions:

$$A_{a}(\alpha_{S}) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha_{S}}{\pi}\right)^{n} A_{a}^{(n)} \qquad B_{a}(\alpha_{S}) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha_{S}}{\pi}\right)^{n} B_{a}^{(n)}$$

$$A_{a}^{(1)} = C_{a} \qquad A_{a}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} C_{a} \left[C_{A} \left(\frac{67}{18} - \frac{\pi^{2}}{6}\right) - \frac{10}{9} n_{F} T_{R} \right]$$

$$B_{a}^{(1)} = -\gamma_{a}$$

Soft large-angle radiation

➤ The colour-space radiative factor embodies all the quantum-interference effects induced by soft-gluons radiated at large angles:

$$\boldsymbol{\Delta}_{N}^{(\mathrm{int})} = \boldsymbol{V}_{N}^{\dagger} \boldsymbol{V}_{N}$$

$$\boldsymbol{V}_{N} = P_{z} \exp \left\{ \sum_{i \neq j} \int_{0}^{1} \frac{z^{N-1} - 1}{1 - z} \boldsymbol{\Gamma} \left(\alpha_{\mathrm{S}} \left((1 - z)^{2} p_{T}^{2} \right), r \right) \right\}$$

 P_z denotes z-ordering in the expansion of the exponential matrix

lacktriangle The anomalous-dimension matrix $m{\Gamma}(lpha_{
m S},r)$ has the perturbative expansion

$$\begin{split} & \Gamma(\alpha_{\mathrm{S}},r) = \frac{\alpha_{\mathrm{S}}}{\pi} \, \Gamma^{(1)}(r) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_{\mathrm{S}}^2), \\ & \Gamma^{(1)}(r) = \, \boldsymbol{T}_t^2 \, \ln(1+r) + \, \boldsymbol{T}_u^2 \, \ln\frac{1+r}{r} + i\pi \, \, \boldsymbol{T}_s^2, \\ & \boldsymbol{T}_s^2 = \left(\boldsymbol{T}_1 + \, \boldsymbol{T}_2\right)^2, \quad \boldsymbol{T}_t^2 = \left(\boldsymbol{T}_1 + \, \boldsymbol{T}_3\right)^2, \quad \boldsymbol{T}_u^2 = \left(\boldsymbol{T}_2 + \, \boldsymbol{T}_3\right)^2. \end{split}$$

Hard components

- ▶ $|\mathcal{M}_{\text{H}}\rangle$ embodies the residual terms of Σ_{N} that are constant and it is perturbatively computable as a power series in α_{S} .
- $ightharpoonup |\mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{H}}^{(1)}\rangle$ can be obtained from the result of our NLO calculation:
 - Expand & truncate the resummed formula, compare with Mellin transformed fixed order result;
 - lacktriangle All the logs must match ightarrow the constant terms give $\mathcal{M}_{\scriptscriptstyle H}.$
- ▶ The colour-space factorization of our NLO is essential to obtain $|\mathcal{M}_{_{\rm H}}^{(1)}\rangle$ as an **amplitude**!

Full Color Structure

$$\text{@NLO:} \qquad |\mathcal{M}_{\scriptscriptstyle H}^{(1)}\rangle = |\mathcal{M}^{(1)}\rangle - \textit{\textbf{J}}_{\scriptscriptstyle H}^{(1)}|\mathcal{M}^{(0)}\rangle$$

$$I_{H}^{(1)} = I_{\text{sing}}^{(1)} + \frac{\pi^{2}}{4} \left(T_{1}^{2} + T_{2}^{2} + T_{3}^{2} + \frac{4}{3} T_{4}^{2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \gamma_{a_{i}} \ln \frac{\mu_{F_{i}}^{2}}{p_{T}^{2}}$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \ln(1+r) \ln \frac{1+r}{r} \left(T_{1}^{2} + T_{2}^{2} - 3T_{3}^{2} + T_{4}^{2} \right)$$

$$- T_{t}^{2} \left(\frac{\pi^{2}}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \ln^{2}(1+r) + \ln(1+r) \ln \frac{1+r}{r} \right)$$

$$- T_{u}^{2} \left(\frac{\pi^{2}}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \ln^{2} \frac{1+r}{r} + \ln(1+r) \ln \frac{1+r}{r} \right) - \frac{1}{2} K_{a_{4}}$$

$$K_q = K_{\bar{q}} = \left(\frac{7}{2} - \frac{\pi^2}{6}\right) C_F, \qquad K_g = \left(\frac{67}{18} - \frac{\pi^2}{6}\right) C_A - \frac{10}{9} n_F T_R$$

A.Torre

NNLL

The extension to NNLL resummation still requires:

- ► $A_a^{(3)}$ in $\Delta_{a,N}$ and $J_{a,N}$ [Moch, Vermaseren, Vogt '04]
- \triangleright $B_a^{(2)}$ in $J_{a,N}$
- $\blacktriangleright \ |\mathcal{M}_{\scriptscriptstyle H}^{(2)}\rangle \ \text{in} \ |\mathcal{M}_{\scriptscriptstyle H}\rangle$
- $lackbox{\Gamma}^{(2)} \sim (\mathcal{K}/2~m{\Gamma}^{(1)})$ in $m{\Delta}_{\mathcal{N}}^{(\mathrm{int})}$

NNLL

The extension to NNLL resummation still requires:

- ▶ $A_a^{(3)}$ in $\Delta_{a,N}$ and $J_{a,N}$ [Moch,Vermaseren,Vogt '04]
- \triangleright $B_a^{(2)}$ in $J_{a,N}$
- $ightharpoonup |\mathcal{M}_{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{H}}^{(2)}
 angle$ in $|\mathcal{M}_{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{H}}
 angle$
- $lackbox \Gamma^{(2)} \sim (K/2 \ \Gamma^{(1)}) \ {\sf in} \ \Delta_N^{
 m (int)}$

Note that $\langle \mathcal{M}_{\rm H} | \mathbf{\Delta}_{N}^{
m (int)} | \mathcal{M}_{\rm H}
angle$ leads to the second-order contribution

$$\alpha_{\text{s}}^2 \ln \textit{N}\left(\langle \mathcal{M}^{(0)} | \left(\textbf{\Gamma}^{(1)} + \textbf{\Gamma}^{(1)\dagger}\right) | \mathcal{M}_{\scriptscriptstyle H}^{(1)} \rangle + \mathrm{c.c.}\right)$$

The colour interferences between $\Delta_N^{(\mathrm{int})}$ and $|\mathcal{M}_H\rangle$ are relevant, starting from $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s(\alpha_s \ln N)^n)$.

Conclusions

- ▶ We have considered the one-particle-inclusive cross section at high transverse energies in hadron collisions.
- We have presented the general structure of the logarithmically enhanced terms at NLO.
 - ✓ Agreement with previous specific results in the literature.
- ▶ We have presented the all-order resummation formula of the logarithmically enhanced terms at fixed rapidity and extracted the colour structure of the hard coefficient at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$.
 - → These resummation results are valid for both spin-unpolarized and spin-polarized hard scattering.
 - → The same technique can be applied to other multiparton hard scattering processes, such as jet and heavy-quark production.

Thank you!

Backup: Rapidity-integrated cross section

Scaling variable: $x_T = 2p_T/\sqrt{s}$ s.t. $x_\omega = x_T \cosh \eta$.

$$\frac{d\hat{\sigma}_{a_1 a_2 \to a_3}}{d^2 p_T} = \frac{1}{(4\pi s)^2} \widetilde{\Sigma}_{a_1 a_2 \to a_3}(x_T; p_T^2, \mu_F, \mu_f)$$

$$\widetilde{\Sigma}(x_T) = \int d\eta \ |\overline{\mathcal{M}_{a_1 a_2 a_3 a_4}^{(0)}(r=e^{2\eta})}|^2 \ \Theta(1-x_T\cosh\eta) \ \Sigma(x_T\cosh\eta, r=e^{2\eta})$$

The threshold limit $x_T \to 1$ kinematically forces $\eta \to 0, r \to 1$. Since $\Sigma(x_\omega, r)$ is smooth in this limit, we can use $\Sigma(x_\omega, r = 1)$. The resulting convolution is diagonalized in Mellin space:

$$\widetilde{\Sigma}_{a_1 a_2 \rightarrow a_3, N}(p_T^2, \mu_{f_i}) = \widetilde{\Sigma}_{a_1 a_2 \rightarrow a_3, N}^{(0)} \left[\Sigma_{a_1 a_2 \rightarrow a_3 a_4, N}^{\mathrm{res}}(r = 1; p_T^2, \mu_{f_i}) + \mathcal{O}\left(1/N\right) \right]$$

✓ Consistent with the NLL resummed result of [De Florian, Vogelsang '05]

NB:
$$\Gamma^{(1)}(r=1) = T_s^2(-\ln 2 + i\pi) + \sum_{i=1}^4 C_{a_i} \ln 2$$
.