

Scattering of HE and UHE neutrinos off hadronic targets in the QCD dipole picture

INCLUSIVE AND DIFFRACTIVE PRODUCTIONS

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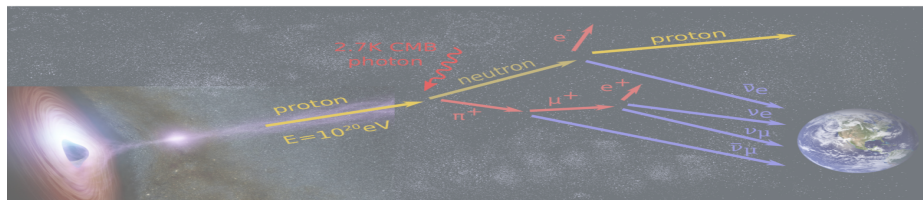
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HE and UHE neutrinos

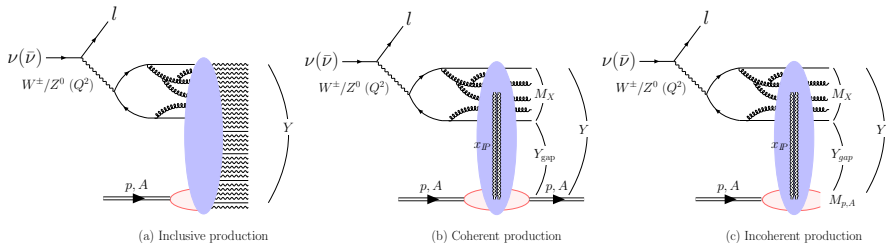


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- HE (TeV–PeV) and UHE (≥ 100 PeV) cosmic neutrinos can probe physics at energy scales inaccessible in the lab (M. Ackermann et al., Snowmass white paper).
 - $E_\nu = 1 \text{ EeV} \Rightarrow \sqrt{s} \approx 44 \text{ TeV} !$
 - Different facilities are designed for such neutrino's energy regimes (IceCube, IceCube-Gen2, ANTARES, Trinity ...)
- For high-energy QCD: sensitive to the regime of (very) small Bjorken- x
 - $E_\nu \sim 10^{12} \text{ GeV} \Rightarrow x_{\text{typical}} \sim 10^{-8}$ (not accessible at HERA)
- Fundamental observables: neutrino-nucleon (nucleus) cross-sections
 - Inclusive: determination of neutrino fluxes from experimental data,
 - Diffractive: smoking gun for gluon saturation.

QCD dipole model for neutrino scattering

- Two relevant large-logs give rise to two orthogonal approaches:
 - $\ln Q^2$: collinear factorization with DGLAP,
 - $\ln(1/x)$: dipole factorization with BFKL (or BK-JIMWLK).



- Neutrino scatters off the target via W^\pm (charged-current) or Z^0 (neutral-current) exchange.
- Vector boson interacts via its quark-antiquark dipole state (at LO).
- Some studies using the dipole picture for nucleon case: [Gluck et al. 2010](#), [Goncalves and Hepp, 2011](#), [Albacete et al., 2015](#).

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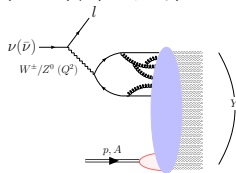
Inclusive production (1): cross-sections

Differential cross-sections in the limit of massless quarks

$$\frac{d^2\sigma_{\nu A; \text{tot}}^{CC/NC}}{dx dQ^2} = \frac{G_F^2}{4\pi x} \left(\frac{M_{W/Z}^2}{M_{W/Z}^2 + Q^2} \right)^2 \left[\mathcal{Y}_+ F_2^{CC/NC} - y^2 F_L^{CC/NC} \right]$$

$$(\mathcal{Y}_+ = 1 + (1-y)^2, y = Q^2/(xs), s = 2M_N E\nu)$$

($Y = \ln(1/x)$: rapidity)



- Structure functions (λ : polarization of W/Z)

$$F_L^{CC/NC} = \frac{Q^2}{4\pi^2 \alpha_{W/Z}} \sigma_{\lambda=0}^{CC/NC},$$

$$F_T^{CC/NC} = \frac{Q^2}{4\pi^2 \alpha_{W/Z}} \frac{1}{2} \left(\sigma_{\lambda=+1}^{CC/NC} + \sigma_{\lambda=-1}^{CC/NC} \right),$$

- Dipole factorization:

$$\sigma_{\lambda}^{CC/NC}(x, Q^2) = \int d^2\mathbf{r} \int_0^1 \frac{dz}{4\pi z(1-z)} \underbrace{\left| \Psi_{\lambda}^{W/Z}(\mathbf{r}, z, Q^2) \right|^2}_{\text{wave function}} \times \underbrace{2 \int d^2\mathbf{b} N(x, \mathbf{r}; \mathbf{b})}_{\text{dipole cross-section}}.$$

$N(x, \mathbf{r}; \mathbf{b})$: forward amplitude for the scattering of a dipole of transverse size \mathbf{r} off target at Bjorken- x and impact parameter \mathbf{b} .

Inclusive production (2): small- x evolution

Balitsky-Kovchegov evolution for dipole amplitude

$$\partial_{\ln 1/x} N(x, \mathbf{r}; \mathbf{b}) = \int d^2 \mathbf{r}_1 \mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2} [N(x, \mathbf{r}_1; \mathbf{b}_1) + N(x, \mathbf{r}_2; \mathbf{b}_2) - N(x, \mathbf{r}; \mathbf{b}) - N(x, \mathbf{r}_1; \mathbf{b}_1)N(x, \mathbf{r}_2; \mathbf{b}_2)]$$

$$(\mathbf{r}_2 = \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{b}_1 = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{r}_2/2, \mathbf{b}_2 = \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{r}_1/2)$$

- $\alpha_s \ln(1/x)$ resummation
- Running-coupling kernel:

$$\mathcal{K}_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2} = \frac{\alpha_s(\mathbf{r}^2)}{2\pi} \left[\frac{\mathbf{r}^2}{\mathbf{r}_1^2 \mathbf{r}_2^2} + \frac{1}{\mathbf{r}_1^2} \left(\frac{\alpha_s(\mathbf{r}_1^2)}{\alpha_s(\mathbf{r}_2^2)} - 1 \right) + \frac{1}{\mathbf{r}_2^2} \left(\frac{\alpha_s(\mathbf{r}_2^2)}{\alpha_s(\mathbf{r}_1^2)} - 1 \right) \right]$$

- QCD running coupling: $\alpha_s(\mathbf{r}^2) = \frac{12\pi}{(11N_c - 2N_f) \ln \frac{4C^2}{r^2 \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}}$, ($N_c = N_f = 3$)
- Require an input at some x_0 small (here $x_0 = 0.01$)

Inclusive production (3): nucleon (proton) vs. nucleus

Nucleon

- **b** dependence factorized:

$$N(x, \mathbf{r}; \mathbf{b}) = T_p(\mathbf{b})\mathcal{N}(x, \mathbf{r}), \int d^2\mathbf{b} T_p(\mathbf{b}) = \sigma_0/2, \mathcal{N}(x, \mathbf{r}) \text{ obeys BK.}$$

- Initial condition:

$$\mathcal{N}(x_0, \mathbf{r}) = 1 - e^{-\frac{r^2 Q_0^2}{4} \ln\left(e \cdot e_c + \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}| \Lambda_{QCD}}\right)}$$

- MV : $e_c = 1$ fixed, Q_0 free parameter,
- MV^e : e_c, Q_0 free parameters.

Inclusive production (3): nucleon (proton) vs. nucleus

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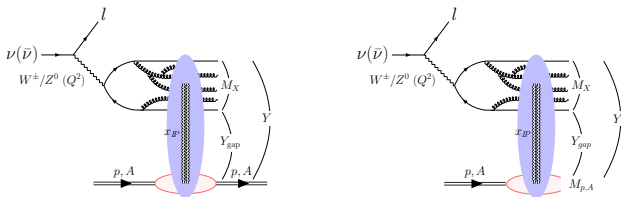
Nucleus (optical Glauber)

- *After evol.* scenario: $N_A(x, \mathbf{r}; \mathbf{b}) = 1 - \left[1 - \frac{\sigma_0}{2} T_A(\mathbf{b})\mathcal{N}(x, \mathbf{r})\right]^A$,
($T_A(\mathbf{b})$: Woods-Saxon profile).
- *Before evol.* scenario: amplitude at each **b** evolves independently starting from the initial condition at x_0

$$N_A(x_0, \mathbf{r}; \mathbf{b}) = 1 - \left[1 - \frac{\sigma_0}{2} T_A(\mathbf{b})\mathcal{N}(x_0, \mathbf{r})\right]^A.$$

Free params ($C^2, \sigma_0/2, Q_0, e_c$) from fits to HERA inclusive data → [T. Lappi & H. Mäntysaari, arXiv:1309.6963 \[hep-ph\]](#)

Diffractive production(1)



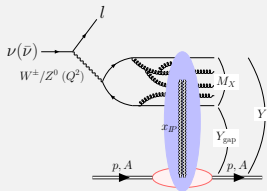
Differential diffractive cross-section (massless quarks)

$$\frac{d^3\sigma_{\nu A;D}^{CC/NC}}{dx_{\mathbb{P}} dx dQ^2} = \frac{G_F^2}{4\pi x} \left(\frac{M_V^2}{M_V^2 + Q^2} \right)^2 \left(y_+ F_2^{D(3);CC/NC} - y^2 F_L^{D(3);CC/NC} \right),$$

- Rapidity gap $Y_{gap} = \ln 1/x_{\mathbb{P}}$ due to color-singlet exchange.
- M_X due to dissociation of vector boson's Fock state
 - Consider only LO ($q\bar{q}$) and tree-level NLO (transverse $q\bar{q}g$) contributions at large Q^2 .
- Target can break up (incoherent) or not (coherent).

Diffractive production(2): Coherent vs. incoherent

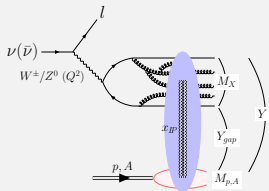
Coherent



- Target remains in its ground state
- Average over target's config. at the amplitude level

$$\sigma_{coh} \propto |\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle|^2$$

Incoherent



- Target breaks up
- Average over target's config. at the squared amplitude level

$$\sigma_{incoh} \propto \langle |\mathcal{A}|^2 \rangle - |\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle|^2$$

Notes:

- $\sigma_{\nu N;D} \propto \int d^2\mathbf{b} T_p^2(\mathbf{b}) \Rightarrow$ Detailed shape of T_p is important at given $\sigma_0/2 \rightarrow$ Use the incomplete Gamma profile with optimal shape parameter from [T. Lappi, ADL & H. Mäntysaari, arXiv:2307.16486 \[hep-ph\]](#).
- Incoherent diffraction: only for nucleus, only fluctuation in nucleons' position (sampling according to Woods-Saxon density), and only *after evol.* setup.

Integrated cross-sections

$$\sigma_{\nu A; \text{tot}}^{CC/NC} = \int_{Q_{\min}^2}^{x_{\max}^2 s} dQ^2 \int_{Q^2/s}^{x_{\max}} dx \frac{d^2 \sigma_{\nu A; \text{tot}}^{CC/NC}}{dx dQ^2}$$

$$\sigma_{\nu A; D}^{CC/NC} = \int_{Q_{\min}^2}^{x_{\max}^2 s} dQ^2 \int_{Q^2/s}^{x_{\max}} dx \int_x^{x_{\max}} dx_P \frac{d^3 \sigma_{\nu A; \text{tot}}^{CC/NC}}{dx dQ^2 dx_P}$$

$$(s = 2M_N E_\nu)$$

- $Q_{\min}^2 = 1 \text{ GeV}^2$
- BK evolution is a small- x resummation ($x \leq 0.01$)
 - $x_{\max} = x_0 = 0.01$: only small- x sector included
 - $x_{\max} = 1$: large- x extrapolation required

$$\mathcal{N}(x > x_0, r) = \mathcal{N}(x_0, r) \left(\frac{1-x}{1-x_0} \right)^6$$

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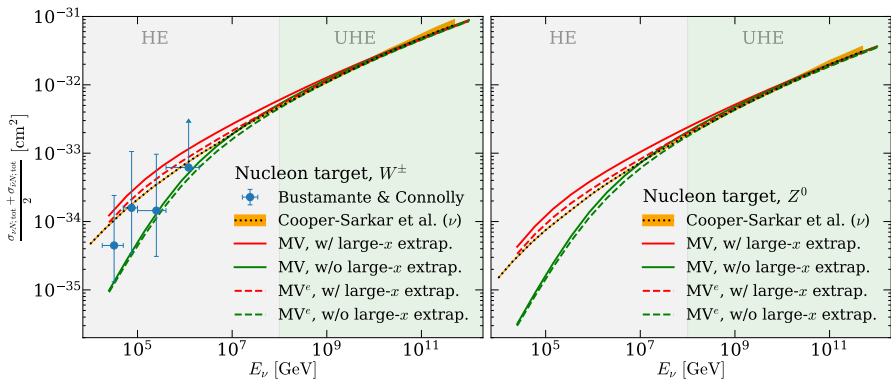
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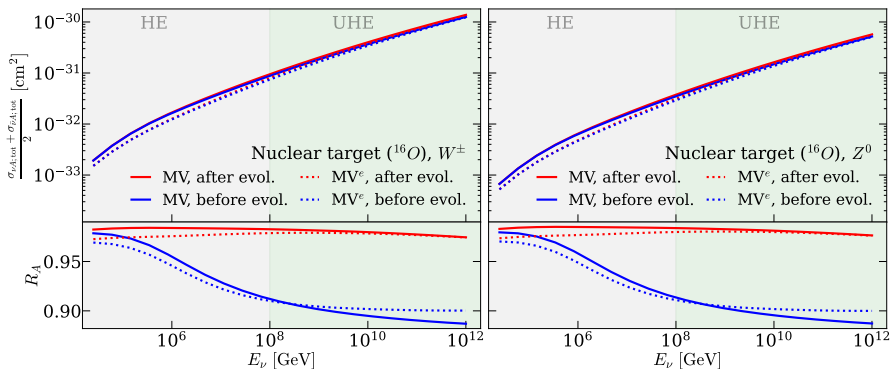
④ Conclusions

Inclusive scattering off nucleon (proton)



- Scattering in the UHE regime only sensitive to small- x
- Steeper initial condition (MV^e) closer to the collinear result
- The rise in UHE ($E_\nu > 10^{11}$ GeV) from the current calculation seems to slower than that from collinear approach (but very small effect) → nonlinear (saturation) effects might be relevant at such ultra-high energies

Inclusive scattering off nucleus



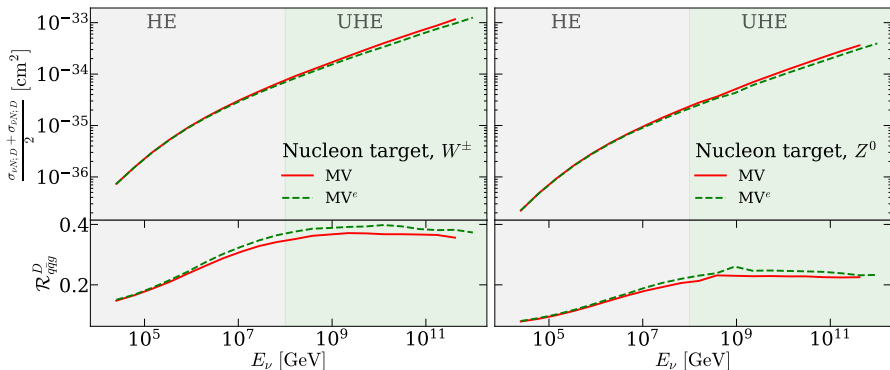
- Different nuclear suppression behaviors for *before evol.* and *after evol.*.

$$R_A = \frac{\sigma_{\nu A;tot}}{A\sigma_{\nu N;tot}}$$

→ Multiple scattering leads to stronger shadowing in *before evol.*

- Smaller suppression (from a realistic nuclear geometry (optical Glauber)) compared to [K. Kutak and J. Kwiecinski, arXiv:hep-ph/0303209](#) (nuclear $A^{1/3}$ scaling)

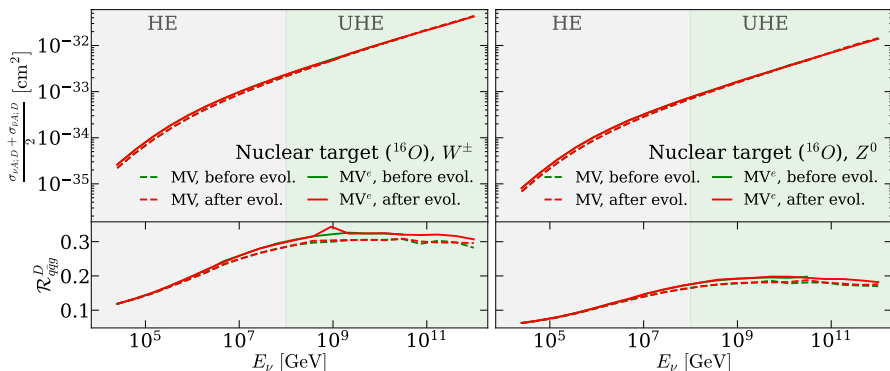
Diffractive scattering off proton



$$\mathcal{R}_{q\bar{q}g}^D = \frac{\sigma_{D;qqg}}{\sigma_{D;qqg} + \sigma_{D;qq}}$$

- Gluon contribution becomes more important at higher neutrino energies (seems to reach plateau in UHE).
- NC \approx 1/3 CC, like inclusive case

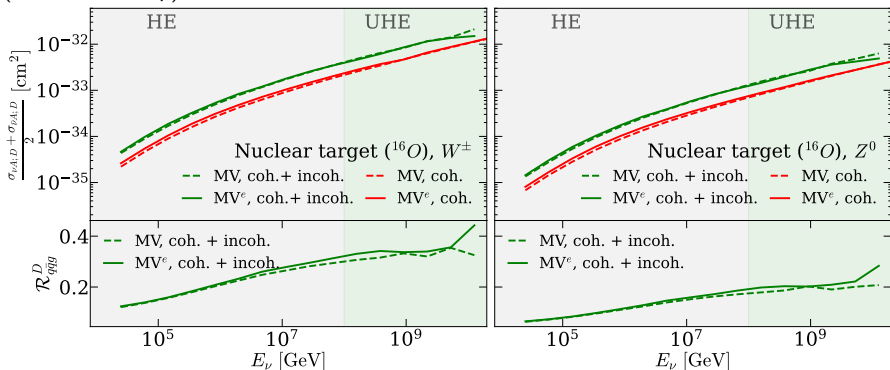
Diffractive scattering off nucleus: coherent



- *before evol.* and *after evol.* provide almost the same predictions.
- Smaller $q\bar{q}g$ contribution than the nucleon case.

Diffractive scattering off nucleus: incoherent

(After evol. setup)



- Coherent and incoherent contributions are comparable

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QCD dipole model + BK evolution are employed for neutrino-nucleon and neutrino-nucleus scatterings at HE and UHE

- Different initial conditions provide slightly different predictions.
 - Steeper initial condition (MV^e) expected to provide better predictions.
- Realistic impact parameter dependence (optical Glauber) to predict nuclear scattering, without free parameters
 - Nuclear setup affects the nuclear suppression: grouping nucleons before evolution leads to stronger suppression.
- First estimation for diffraction in the QCD dipole model ($q\bar{q} + q\bar{q}g_T$, coherent + incoherent)
 - Nuclear breakup and non-breakup give similar contributions for diffractive scattering.
 - Gluon contribution is more important at higher E_ν and in the nucleon case.

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THANK YOU !