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## BFKL Phenomenology

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## THE REGGE THEORY

#### • Regge theory was the alternative to QFT for describing strong interactions in the 60's, 70's ●**Reggeon, Regge pole, Regge trajectory** were **really** familiar phrases

*"Indeed, Regge theory has been included in good undergraduate textbooks for more than a decade"* E. Leader, Nature, 1978

*"In no time at all, Regge pole (pole in the mathematical sense) had become a household expression. Indeed, there is the story of a party at which the charming wife of an American physicist, on being introduced to 'Regge', exclaimed:* 

<< *A Mr. Pole, I'm so pleased to meet you at last* >>*"* 

E. Leader, Nature, 1978



# Tulio Regge, July 11, 1931, October 23, 2014

From a Theory Group communication email at CERN:

"He was a renowned scientist with important contributions to theoretical particle physics and gravity. His name is in particular known for ``Regge Poles'', which paved the way to string theory, as well as for ``Regge Calculus'', which deals with a discretization of space-time in gravity. There is also the ``Regge-Wheeler equation'' which arises in the study of black holes."

He was awarded the Dirac Medal in 1996, the Pomeranchuk Prize in 2001.

The asteroid 3778 Regge was named after him.

Recall scattering in Quantum mechanics:

• Assume that there is a function F that controls the outcome of a collision between 2 particles, F is actually the scattering amplitude.

•In the simple case,  $F = F(E, \theta)$ , where E is the energy and  $\theta$  is the scattering angle. F can be found by solving the Schroedinger eq.

•Generally, it is easier to study the collision at a fixed value of the angular momentum, *l*, *l* being positive integer.

 $\bullet$ This way, one obtains a set of amplitudes  $f_{l}(E)$ ,  $l = 0, 1, 2, ...$  from which one could reconstruct  $F(E, \theta)$ .

Recall scattering in Quantum mechanics:

 $\bullet$ Imagine now that the energy E is a complex number and each f *l* (E) is a complex function.

●Imagine further that the two colliding particles can bind together to form a bound state with angular momentum L and energy  $\mathsf{E}_\mathsf{B}.$ 

•Then the Lth one from the  $f_{l}(E)$  functions, that is  $f_{L}(E)$  would be found to have a "pole" at  $\mathsf{E}$  =  $\mathsf{E}_{_{\mathsf{B}}},$  that is a simple infinity 1/(E- $\mathsf{E}_{_{\mathsf{B}}})$ 

• Then push the formalism further to allow the angular momentum to take non-integer values (this step taken 33 years after the original Regge paper).

Recall scattering in Quantum mechanics:

• More formally we are talking about the "partial wave" expansion":  $\sim$ 

$$
\mathcal{A}_{ab\rightarrow cd}(s,t)=\sum_{l=0}^{\infty}(2l+1)\,a_l(t)\,P_l\,(1+2s/t)
$$

- Regge's idea: complexify energy and angular momentum and focus on the function  $\,\alpha_{(l)}^{}(t)\,$
- Gribov, Chew, Frautschi

Note that s, t and u are the Mandelstam variables and  $cos(\theta) = 1 + 2$  t/s

• The function  $\alpha_{(l)}(t)$ , the trajectory function, has the property that if an energy, E, exists such that  $\alpha(E)$  is a positive integer L, then a bound state would exist at energy E with angular momentum, *l*=L



Why the previous result is so important?

1. A new way emerged for classifying bound states and resonances into families.

2. Instead of focussing on one bound state with a given angular momentum, say  $l = 1$  with energy  $\mathsf{E}^{}_{1}$  and then on another with  $l = 2$  and energy  $E_{2}$ , one could focus on a single object, the "trajectory" function  $\alpha(E)$  with the property that if a particular value of E causes  $\alpha(E)$  to be equal to a positive integer L, then a bound state would exist at that energy E and with angular momentum  $l = L$ .

Chew and Frautschi ('61, '62) plotted the spins of low lying mesons against mass squared and noticed that they lie in a straight line.

 $\alpha(t) = \alpha(0) + \alpha' t$  $\alpha(0) = 0.55$  $\alpha'$  = 0.86 GeV<sup>-2</sup>  $\frac{d\sigma}{dt} \propto s^{(2\alpha(0)-2\alpha' t-2)}$ 

How to use this fact?



- First, find a hadronic process that can be "characterized" by the particles that lie in the trajectory –same quantum numbers –
- Second, extrapolate the trajectory to negative values of t by using  $\alpha(0) = 0.55$  $\alpha' = 0.86 \text{ GeV}^{-2}$

$$
\mathsf{into} \quad \frac{d\sigma}{dt} \propto s^{(2\alpha(0)-2\alpha' t - 2)}
$$

• Plot both the extrapolated trajectory and the experimental data

 $1.0$  $\alpha(t)$  obtained from  $\pi^- p \to \pi^0 n$  data Characterized by Isospin=1  $0.5$ even Parity  $\rightarrow \rightarrow \rho$  mesons  $\alpha(t)$  $0.0$ The interaction is mediated by the "exchange of a trajectory". Barnes *et al.* (1976)  $-0.5$  $-1.0$   $-0.8$   $-0.6$   $-0.4$   $-0.2$  0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6

t (GeV<sup>-</sup>

 $\alpha(t)$  obtained from  $\pi^- p \to \pi^0 n$  data

Actually, in the paper, they offer an effective trajectory, plotted with the continuous line whereas the dashed curve is the continuation of the  $\rho$ meson trajectory.



# Toward the (soft) Pomeron  $\sigma_{\rm tot}\propto s^{(\alpha(0)-1)}$

- The asymptotic behavior of the total cross section for a process can be obtained by the intercept of the Regge trajectory that dominates that process.
- Pomeranchuk and Okun &Pomeranchuk (1956) proved that if in a process there is charge exchange, then the cross section vanishes asymptotically.
- Pomeranchuk theorem:  $\sigma_{\rm tot}(ab) \approx \sigma_{\rm tot}(a\overline{b})$
- Froissart-Martin bound:  $\sigma_{\text{tot}} \leq C \ln^2 s$ , as  $s \to \infty$

# Toward the (soft) Pomeron



# The Pomeron

- Gribov introduced (1961) a Regge trajectory with intercept 1: the Pomeron (named after Pomeranchuk)
- It does not correspond to any known particle (glueballs?)
- It carries the quantum numbers of the vacuum, C-even, P-even, Charge 0, Isospin 0.
- Intercept consistent with fits  $(-1.08)$

# Toward the (soft) Pomeron





# Bibliography (not complete)

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- V.N. Gribov, The Theory of Complex Angular Momenta, 2003  $\bullet$
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- M. Baker and K.A. Ter-Martirosyan, *Gribov's Reggeon Calculus: Its physical basis and*  $\bullet$ *implications*, Phys. Rep. C28 (1976) 1.
- K. G. Boreskov, A. B. Kaidalov, and O. V. Kancheli, Strong Interactions at High Energies  $\bullet$ in the Reggeon Approach, Phys. Atomic Nuclei, 69 (2006) 1765.
- L.L. Jenkovszky, High-energy Elastic Hadron Scattering, Riv. Nuovo Cim. 10 (1987) 1.  $\bullet$
- A.B.Kaidalov. Regge poles in QCD. arXiv:hep-ph/0103011. ٠
- A.B.Kaidalov. Pomeranchuk singularity and high-energy hadronic interactions,  $\bullet$ Usp. Fiz. Nauk, 46 (2003) 1153.
- E.M. Levin, Everything about Reggeons, arXiv:hep-ph/9710546. ٠

See also a nice talk by Poghosyan: An introduction to Regge Field Theory

## BACK TO QCD: THE BFKL EQUATION

# In the QCD era

- Let us leave the old Regge theory for now, we keep in our discussion though terms like "**Regge Limit**", "**trajectory**", "**exponential rise with energy**"
- We know that QCD is the fundamental theory for hadronic collisions
- What does QCD have to say about the rise of the scattering amplitudes at high energies
- Does the Pomeron fit within pQCD or is it of nonperturbative nature?
- The answers (or attempts to answers) to the above started in the 70's

# The Balitsky-Fadin-Kuraev-Lipatov (BFKL) equation

This big adventure started almost 40 years ago

L. N. Lipatov, Sov. J. Nucl. Phys. **23** (1976) 338; **983 citations** 

E. A. Kuraev, L. N. Lipatov, V. S. Fadin, Phys. Lett. B 60 (1975) 50, Sov. Phys. JETP 44  $(1976)$  443, Sov. Phys. JETP 45  $(1977)$  199. **2520 citations**

**2657 citations** Ia. Ia. Balitsky, L. N. Lipatov, Sov. J. Nucl. Phys. 28 (1978) 822.

# What we will cover and what not

- Reggeization of the gluon
- LO BFKL equation
- Intro to methodology
- NLO BFKL
- Impact factors
- Issues/problems
- Phenomenology
- CCFM
- $\bullet$  BK
- CGC
- Saturation
- … and many more

The aim is to show you that this is "good physics", to prepare you for attending future small-x talks if not with anticipation at least with understanding.

If still things are not so clear, please do not despair, many great people found it hard too in the beginning.

## BFKL how to, step 0

 $P_{1}$ 

 $p_{2}$ 

Start from the simplest q q scattering, with momenta  $\, {\sf p}_1^{}$  and  ${\sf p}_2^{}$ 

Remember that you will have to see an exponential rise to cross sections

You will be hunting logarithms in s

The last two points are interconnected as we will soon see



# BFKL how to, still step 0

Assume that whatever is exchanged to the t-channel has mainly transverse components and also that it is much smaller than s. Actually the kinematical limit we are working in is  $s \gg |t|$ , u~ -s

Then the quark-gluon vertex can be written as

$$
-ig_s\bar u(p_1)\gamma_\mu u(p_1)=-2ig_sp_1^\mu
$$



#### BFKL how to, step 1



$$
A^{(0)}(s,t)=8\pi a_s t_{ij}^\alpha t_{kl}^\alpha \frac{s}{q^2}=8\pi a_s t_{ij}^\alpha t_{kl}^\alpha \frac{s}{t}
$$

#### BFKL how to, step 2



Dispersion relations

## BFKL how to, still step 2

$$
A^{(1)}(s,t) = -\frac{16\pi\alpha_s}{N_c} (t^{\alpha}t^{\beta})_{ij} (t^{\alpha}t^{\beta})_{kl} \frac{s}{t} \ln(\frac{s}{t}) \epsilon(t)
$$
  
\n
$$
A^{(1)}_{cross}(s,t) = -\frac{16\pi\alpha_s}{N_c} (t^{\alpha}t^{\beta})_{ij} (t^{\alpha}t^{\beta})_{kl} \frac{u}{t} \ln(\frac{u}{t}) \epsilon(t)
$$
  
\nafter setting: 
$$
\epsilon(t) = \frac{N_c\alpha_s}{4\pi^2} \int -\mathbf{q}^2 \frac{d^2\mathbf{k}}{\mathbf{k}^2(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{q})^2}
$$

The two one-loop amplitudes

 $\blacktriangle$ 

Remember that we said we are hunting logs in s

$$
\mathcal{A}=Re\mathcal{A}+iIm\mathcal{A}\sim\mathcal{B}\ln\frac{s}{t}=\mathcal{B}\ln\frac{s}{|t|}-i\pi\mathcal{B}
$$

 $Re\mathcal{A} = -\frac{1}{\pi}\Im\mathit{Im}\mathcal{A}$  ln  $\frac{s}{|t|}$ 

# BFKL how to, step 2 final

Putting together the two amplitudes for the one-loop, we obtain:

$$
A_8^{(1)}(s,t) = 8\pi a_s t_{ij}^\alpha t_{kl}^\alpha \frac{s}{t} \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t) = A^{(0)} \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t)
$$
\nThese diagrams come in the next order\n
$$
A_8^{(1)}(s,t) = 8\pi a_s t_{ij}^\alpha t_{kl}^\alpha \frac{s}{t} \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t) = A^{(0)} \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t)
$$
\n
$$
A_8^{(1)}(s,t) = 8\pi a_s t_{ij}^\alpha t_{kl}^\alpha \frac{s}{t} \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t) = A^{(0)} \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t)
$$
\n
$$
B_8^{(0)} = 8\pi a_s t_{ij}^\alpha t_{kl}^\alpha \frac{s}{t} \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t) = A^{(0)} \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t)
$$
\n
$$
B_8^{(0)} = 8\pi a_s t_{ij}^\alpha t_{kl}^\alpha \frac{s}{t} \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t) = A^{(0)} \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t)
$$
\n
$$
B_8^{(0)} = 8\pi a_s t_{ij}^\alpha t_{kl}^\alpha \frac{s}{t} \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t) = A^{(0)} \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t)
$$



Stay on the virtual contributions, real contributions will come afterward

#### BFKL how to, … pause...

$$
A_8(s,t) = A^{(0)}(s,t) \left(1 + \ln(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon(t) + \frac{1}{2} \ln^2(\frac{s}{|t|}) \epsilon^2(t) + \ldots \right)
$$

An ansatz seems natural:

$$
A_8(s,t)=\,A^{(0)}(s,t)\,\left(\frac{s}{|t|}\right)^{\epsilon(t)}
$$

$$
D_{\mu\nu}(s,q^2)=-i\frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{q^2}\biggl(\frac{s}{\mathbf{k}^2}\biggr)^{\epsilon(q^2)}
$$

The reggeization of the gluon; Bootstrap equation

## BFKL how to, next step, real corrections



#### BFKL how to, next step, real corrections

 $k_1 = \alpha_1 p_1 + \beta_1 p_2 + k_1$  1 >>  $\alpha_1$  >>  $\alpha_2$  $k_2 = \alpha_2 p_1 + \beta_2 p_2 + k_2$ .  $1 >> |\beta_2| >> |\beta_1|$ 

$$
\int d\Pi_3 = \frac{s^2}{4(2\pi)^5} \int d\alpha_1 d\alpha_2 d\beta_1 d\beta_2 d^2 \mathbf{k}_1 d^2 \mathbf{k}_2
$$

$$
\delta(-\beta_1(1-\alpha_1)s - \mathbf{k}_1^2) \delta(\alpha_2(1+\beta_2)s - \mathbf{k}_2^2)
$$

$$
\delta((\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)(\beta_1 - \beta_2)s - (\mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2)^2).
$$

$$
\int d\Pi_3 = \frac{1}{4(2\pi)^5 s} \int_{\mathbf{k}_2^2/s}^1 \frac{d\alpha_1}{\alpha_1} \int d^2 \mathbf{k}_1 d^2 \mathbf{k}_2
$$

$$
\ln\left(\frac{s}{\mathbf{k}_2^2}\right)
$$



Now, time to iterate, set the t-channel gluons to reggeized gluons, use the conditions:

$$
\mathbf{k}_1^2 \simeq \mathbf{k}_2^2 \simeq \dots \mathbf{k}_i^2 \simeq \mathbf{k}_{i+1}^2 \dots \simeq \mathbf{k}_n^2 \simeq \mathbf{k}_{n+1}^2 \gg \mathbf{q}^2 \simeq s_0,
$$
  
\n
$$
1 \gg \alpha_1 \gg \alpha_2 \gg \dots \alpha_i \gg \alpha_{i+1} \gg \alpha_{n+1} \gg \frac{s_0}{s},
$$
  
\n
$$
1 \gg |\beta_{n+1}| \gg |\beta_n| \gg \dots \gg |\beta_2| \gg |\beta_1| \gg \frac{s_0}{s}.
$$

 $P_{2}$ 

The (n+2)-body phase will now be much more complicated



#### Almost there... but before we have to do something with the phase space ...

$$
d\Pi_{n+2} = \frac{s^{n+1}}{2^{n+1} (2\pi)^{3n+2}} \int \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} d\alpha_i d\beta_i d^2 \mathbf{k}_i
$$
  
 
$$
\times \delta \left( -\beta_1 (1-\alpha_1)s - \mathbf{k}_1^2 \right) \delta \left( \alpha_{n+1} (1+\beta_{n+1})s - \mathbf{k}_{n+1}^2 \right)
$$
  
 
$$
\times \prod_{j=1}^n \delta \left( (\alpha_j - \alpha_{j+1}) (\beta_j - \beta_{j+1})s - (\mathbf{k}_j - \mathbf{k}_{j+1})^2 \right) .
$$

The (n+2)-body phase space

After integrating over  $\beta_{_l}$  we obtain:

$$
d\Pi_{n+2} = \frac{1}{2^{n+1} (2\pi)^{3n+2}} \prod_{i=1}^{n} \int_{\alpha_{i+1}}^{1} \frac{d\alpha_i}{\alpha_i} \int_0^1 d\alpha_{n+1} \times \prod_{j=1}^{n+1} \int d^2 \mathbf{k}_j \, \delta\left(\alpha_{n+1} s - \mathbf{k}^2\right).
$$

#### Mellin transform

$$
\widetilde{f}(\omega) = \int_1^{\infty} d\left(\frac{s}{s_0}\right) \left(\frac{s}{s_0}\right)^{-\omega - 1} f(s) \tag{1}
$$

$$
f(s) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_C d\omega \left(\frac{s}{s_0}\right)^{\omega} \tilde{f}(\omega)
$$
 (2)

$$
f(s) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \int_{\alpha_{i+1}}^{1} \frac{d\alpha_i}{\alpha_i} g_i \left(\frac{\alpha_{i-1}}{\alpha_i}\right) s_0 \, \delta(\alpha_n s - s_0) \tag{3}
$$

$$
\widetilde{f}(\omega) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \int_{0}^{1} d\rho_{i} \,\rho_{i}^{\omega-1} \,g_{i}\left(\frac{1}{\rho_{i}}\right) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \widetilde{g}_{i}(\omega) \tag{4}
$$

#### **Finally the BFKL equation** Strong ordering in rapidity Again, time to iterate, set the t-channel  $\alpha_1, \beta_1$  $k_1$ gluons to reggeized gluons, use the 000000 conditions:  $\alpha_{2}$ ,  $\beta_{2}$  $k_{2}$  ${\bf k}_1^2 \simeq {\bf k}_2^2 \simeq ... {\bf k}_i^2 \simeq {\bf k}_{i+1}^2 ... \simeq {\bf k}_n^2 \simeq {\bf k}_{n+1}^2 \gg {\bf q}^2 \simeq s_0,$  $1 \gg \alpha_1 \gg \alpha_2 \gg ... \alpha_i \gg \alpha_{i+1} \gg \alpha_{n+1} \gg \frac{s_0}{s},$  $1\gg|\beta_{n+1}|\gg|\beta_n|\gg...\gg|\beta_2|\gg|\beta_1|\gg\frac{s_0}{s}\quad \mathsf{k}_{\mathsf{i}\mathsf{i}}\sum\limits_{\mathsf{A}}\alpha_{\mathsf{i}\mathsf{i}}\;\beta_{\mathsf{i}\mathsf{i}}$  $00000$ and after the Mellin transform to  $\mathbf{k_i} \geqslant a_j, \beta_j$ unfold the nested integrations over phase space, you finally get:  $\omega f_{\omega}(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{q}) = \delta^2(\mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2)$  $000000$  $+\frac{\bar{\alpha_{s}}}{2\pi}\int d^{2}{\bf l}\biggl\{\frac{-{\bf q}^{2}}{(1-{\bf q})^{2}{\bf k}_{1}^{2}}f_{\omega}({\bf l},{\bf k}_{2},{\bf q})$  $k_{j+1} \sum \alpha_{j+1}$  ,  $\beta_{j+1}$  $+\frac{1}{(1-\mathbf{k}_1)^2}\left(f_\omega(1,\mathbf{k}_2,\mathbf{q}^2)-\frac{\mathbf{k}_1^2f_\omega(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{k}_2,\mathbf{q})}{1^2+(\mathbf{k}_1-\mathbf{l})^2}\right)$  $\left\langle \alpha_n, \beta_n \right\rangle$  $+\frac{1}{(l-\mathbf{k}_1)^2}\bigg(\frac{(\mathbf{k}_1-\mathbf{q})^2l^2f_\omega(l,\mathbf{k}_2,\mathbf{q}^2)}{(l-\mathbf{q})^2\mathbf{k}_1^2}$  $\left. -\frac{({\bf k}_1-{\bf q})^2 f_\omega({\bf k}_1,{\bf k}_2,{\bf q}^2)}{(1-{\bf q})^2({\bf k}_1-{\bf l})^2} \right) \bigg\} \, ,$  $\mathbf{k}_{\mathbf{n+1}} \leq a_{\mathbf{n+1}}$  ,  $\beta_{\mathbf{n+1}}$  $P_{2}$

#### The BFKL equation for zero momentum transfer  $\omega f_{\omega}(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{k}_2)=\delta^2(\mathbf{k}_1-\mathbf{k}_2)$  $+\frac{\bar{\alpha_s}}{2\pi}\int \frac{d^2\mathbf{l}}{(\mathbf{l}-\mathbf{k_1})^2}\left(f_\omega(\mathbf{l},\mathbf{k_2})-\frac{\mathbf{k}_1^2f_\omega(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{k}_2)}{\mathbf{l}^2+(\mathbf{k}_1-\mathbf{l})^2}\right),$

We can rewrite the equation above very nicely as

$$
\omega f_{\omega}(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{k}_2)=\delta^2(\mathbf{k}_1-\mathbf{k}_2)+\int d^2\mathbf{l}\; \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{l})\,f_{\omega}(\mathbf{l},\mathbf{k}_2)
$$

where  $\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{l})$  is the BFKL kernel:

$$
\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{l})\,=\,\underbrace{2\epsilon(-\mathbf{k}^2)\,\delta^2(\mathbf{k}_1-\mathbf{l})}_{\mathcal{K}_{virt}}+\underbrace{\frac{N_c\alpha_s}{\pi^2}\,\frac{1}{(\mathbf{k}_1-\mathbf{k}_2)^2}}_{\mathcal{K}_{real}}.
$$

We can go back to s-space:

$$
f(s, \mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} d\omega \left(\frac{s}{s_0}\right)^{\omega} f_{\omega}(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{q})
$$

$$
\omega f_{\omega}(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{k}_2)=\delta^2(\mathbf{k}_1-\mathbf{k}_2)+\int d^2\mathbf{l}\;\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{k}_1,\mathbf{l})\,f_{\omega}(\mathbf{l},\mathbf{k}_2)
$$





# Let us make a summary here

- We have shown how to derive the BFKL equation at  $\overline{D}$
- We find that the exchange of ladder-diagrams leads to an exponential rise for the total cross section
- The resummation of all these ladders gives an intercept  $\sim$  0.5, perturbative Pomeron
- What is the connection between 'soft' and 'hard' Pomeron?
- Old ideas from Regge theory find accommodation -not in an always clear way- in QCD



Check also the first lecture by Edmond for an alternative graph like this one

# Bibliography II (very incomplete)

- Forshaw & Ross, "Quantum Chromodynamics and the Pomeron"
- Barone & Predazzi, High Energy Particle Diffraction
- Ioffe, Fadin & Lipatov, "Quantum Chromodynamics: Perturbative and Nonperturbative Aspects"
- Kovchegov & Levin, "Quantum Chromodynamics at High Energy"
- Many many review articles...