

# Amplitudes in High-Energy-factorisation via BCFW recursion

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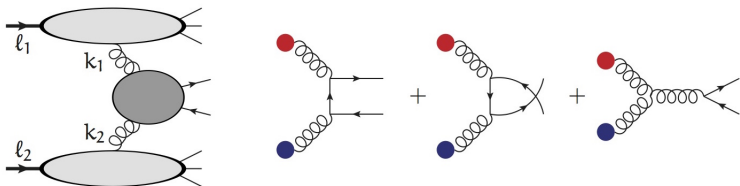
Low  $x$  2015, Sandomierz-Poland, 1-5 September 2015

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- 1 Motivation
- 2 Off-shell gluons and fermions in a gauge invariant way
- 3 BCFW recursion relations
- 4 Conclusions and perspectives

# High-Energy-factorisation

High-Energy-factorisation (*Catani,Ciafaloni,Hautmann, 1991 / Collins,Ellis, 1991*)



$$\sigma_{h_1, h_2 \rightarrow q\bar{q}} = \int d^2 k_{1\perp} d^2 k_{2\perp} \frac{dx_1}{x_1} \frac{dx_2}{x_2} f_g(x_1, k_{1\perp}) f_g(x_2, k_{2\perp}) \hat{\sigma}_{gg} \left( \frac{m^2}{x_1 x_2 s}, \frac{k_{1\perp}}{m}, \frac{k_{2\perp}}{m} \right)$$

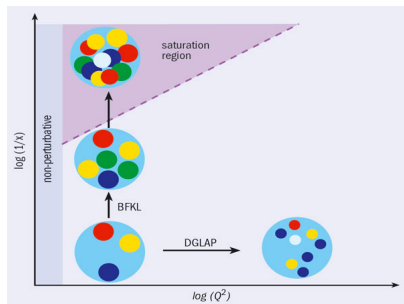
where the  $f_g$ 's are the gluon densities, obeying BFKL, BK, CCFM evolution equations.

Non neglectable transverse momentum is associated to small- $x$  physics.

Momentum parameterization:

$$k_1^\mu = x_1 p_1^\mu + k_{1\perp}^\mu, \quad k_2^\mu = x_2 p_2^\mu + k_{2\perp}^\mu \quad \text{for} \quad p_i \cdot k_i = 0 \quad k_i^2 = -k_{i\perp}^2 \quad i = 1, 2$$

To be applied in the regime:  $s \gg M^2 \sim k_\perp^2$



Problem: general partonic processes must be described by **gauge invariant amplitudes**  
 $\Rightarrow$  ordinary Feynman rules are not enough !

Applications: {
 

- production of forward dijets initiated with gluons :  $gg^* \rightarrow gg$
- production of forward dijets initiated with quarks :  $q\bar{q}^* \rightarrow gg$
- Dilute-dense hadronic collisions in TMD factorization (see Kotko's talk)
- Test of TMDs in multi-jet production :  $p p \rightarrow n \text{ jets}$

**Is there a general method to compute such gauge-invariant amplitudes ?**

## Just for the formalism: Weyl spinors

High energy limit  $\Rightarrow$  **massless particles**  $\Rightarrow$  Weyl basis for spinors.

If  $p^2 = 0$ , it can be cast in the Pauli matrices language,

$$|p\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} L(p) \\ \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \quad L(p) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|p^0 + p^3|}} \begin{pmatrix} -p^1 + i p^2 \\ p^0 + p^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|p\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ R(p) \end{pmatrix} \quad R(p) = \frac{\sqrt{|p^0 + p^3|}}{p^0 + p^3} \begin{pmatrix} p^0 + p^3 \\ p^1 + i p^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

and the charge-conjugated spinors

$$[p| = ((\mathcal{E}L(p))^T, \mathbf{0}) \quad \langle p| = (\mathbf{0} (\mathcal{E}^T R(p))^T) \quad \text{where } \mathcal{E} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

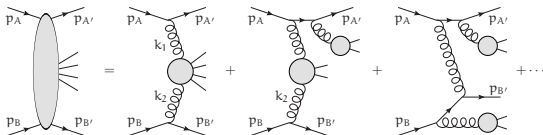
$$p \cong p^\mu \sigma_\mu = \begin{pmatrix} p^0 - p^3 & -p^1 + i p^2 \\ -p^1 - i p^2 & p^0 + p^3 \end{pmatrix} = |p\rangle\langle p|$$

## Prescription for off-shell gluons

### ONE IDEA:

on-shell amplitudes are gauge invariant, so off-shell gauge-invariant amplitudes could be got by embedding them into on-shell processes...

**...first result...:** 1) For off-shell gluons: represent  $g^*$  as coming from a  $\bar{q}qg$  vertex, with the quarks taken to be on-shell



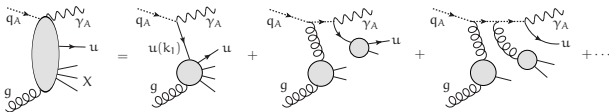
- embed the scattering of the off-shell gluons in the scattering of two quark pairs carrying momenta  $p_A^\mu = k_1^\mu$ ,  $p_B^\mu = k_2^\mu$ ,  $p_{A'}^\mu = 0$ ,  $p_{B'}^\mu = 0$
- Assign the spinors  $|p_1\rangle, |p_1]$  to the  $A$ -quark and the propagator  $\frac{i \not{p}_1}{p_1 \cdot k}$  instead of  $\frac{i \not{k}}{k^2}$  to the propagators of the  $A$ -quark carrying momentum  $k$ ; the same goes for the  $B$ -quark line.
- multiply the amplitude by  $g_s^{-1} x_1 \sqrt{-2 k_{1\perp}^2} \times g_s^{-1} x_2 \sqrt{-2 k_{2\perp}^2}$ .
- ordinary Feynman rules must be used everywhere else and the procedure holds for any number of off-shell gluons.

*K. Kutak, P. Kotko, A. van Hameren, JHEP 1301 (2013) 078*

## Prescription for off-shell quarks

... and second result:

2) for off-shell quarks: represent  $q^*$  as coming from a  $\gamma\bar{q}q$  vertex, with a 0 momentum and  $\bar{q}$  on shell (and vice-versa)



- embed the scattering of the quark with whatever set of particles in the scattering of an auxiliary quark-photon pair,  $q_A$  and  $\gamma_A$  carrying momenta  $p_{q_A}^\mu = k_1^\mu$ ,  $p_{\gamma_A}^\mu = 0$
- Let  $q_A$ -propagators of momentum  $k$  be  $\frac{i \not{p}_1}{p_1 \cdot k}$  and assign the spinors  $|\rho_1\rangle$ ,  $|\rho_1]$  to the  $A$ -quark.
- Assign the polarization vectors  $\epsilon_+^\mu = \frac{\langle q | \gamma^\mu | \rho_1 ]}{\sqrt{2} \langle \rho_1 q \rangle}$ ,  $\epsilon_-^\mu = \frac{\langle \rho_1 | \gamma^\mu | q \rangle}{\sqrt{2} [\rho_1 q]}$  to the auxiliary photon, with  $q$  a light-like auxiliary momentum.
- Multiply the amplitude by  $x_1 \sqrt{-k_{1\perp}^2}/2$  and use ordinary Feynman rules everywhere else.

*K. Kutak, T. Salwa, A. van Hameren, Phys.Lett. B727 (2013) 226-233*

## Prescription for off-shell gluons: derivation 1

$$\text{Auxiliary vectors (complex in general):} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p_3^\mu = \frac{1}{2} \langle p_2 | \gamma^\mu | p_1 \rangle \\ p_4^\mu = \frac{1}{2} \langle p_1 | \gamma^\mu | p_2 \rangle \\ p_1^2 = p_2^2 = p_3^2 = p_4^2 = 0 \\ p_{1,2} \cdot p_{3,4} = 0, \quad p_1 \cdot p_2 = -p_3 \cdot p_4 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\text{Auxiliary momenta:} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p_A^\mu = (\Lambda + x_1) p_1^\mu - \frac{p_4 \cdot k_{1\perp}}{p_1 \cdot p_2} p_3^\mu, \quad p_{A'}^\mu = \Lambda p_1^\mu + \frac{p_3 \cdot k_{1\perp}}{p_1 \cdot p_2} p_4^\mu \\ p_B^\mu = (\Lambda + x_2) p_2^\mu - \frac{p_3 \cdot k_{2\perp}}{p_1 \cdot p_2} p_4^\mu, \quad p_{B'}^\mu = \Lambda p_2^\mu + \frac{p_4 \cdot k_{2\perp}}{p_1 \cdot p_2} p_3^\mu \end{array} \right.$$

$$\text{For any } \Lambda: \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p_A^\mu - p_{A'}^\mu = x_1 p_1^\mu + k_{1\perp}^\mu \\ p_B^\mu - p_{B'}^\mu = x_2 p_2^\mu + k_{2\perp}^\mu \\ p_A^2 = p_{A'}^2 = p_B^2 = p_{B'}^2 = 0 \end{array} \right.$$



## Prescription for off-shell gluons: derivation 2

Momentum flowing through a propagator of an auxiliary quark line:

$$k^\mu = (\Lambda + x_k) p_1^\mu + y_k p_2^\mu + k_\perp$$

Final step: remove complex components taking the  $\Lambda \rightarrow \infty$  limit.

$$\frac{\not{k}}{k^2} = \frac{(\Lambda + x_k) \not{p}_1 + y_k \not{p}_2 + \not{k}}{2(\Lambda + x_k) y_k p_1 \cdot p_2 + k_\perp^2} \xrightarrow{\Lambda \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\not{p}_1}{2 y_k p_1 \cdot p_2} = \frac{\not{p}_1}{2 p_1 \cdot k}$$

...and the factor  $x_1 \sqrt{-k_\perp^2/2}$  is to match the collinear limit.

Also another approach based on Wilson lines (for gluons only) presented :

*P. Kotko, JHEP 1407 (2014) 128*

**In agreement with other approaches (e.g. Lipatov's effective action)**

## Reminds us of BCFW...

The analytical results derived with the mentioned trick are strikingly similar to the ones obtained in the on-shell case via, for example, the BCFW recursion relation (which does not require auxiliary particles).

Computing scattering amplitudes in Yang-Mills theories via ordinary Feynman diagrams: soon overwhelming !

Number of Feynman diagrams at tree level on-shell:

# of gluons	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
# of diagrams	4	25	220	2485	34300	559405	10525900

And there are even more with the proposed method for amplitudes with off-shell particles due to the gauge-restoring terms.

A method to efficiently compute helicity amplitudes: **BCFW recursion relation**

*Britto, Cachazo, Feng, Nucl.Phys. B715 (2005) 499-522*

*Britto, Cachazo, Feng, Witten, Phys.Rev.Lett. 94 (2005) 181602*

## BCFW recursion relation

Two very simple ideas for tree level amplitudes:

- 1 **Cauchy's residue theorem:** if the amplitude is formally treated as a function of a complex variable  $z$  and if it is rational and vanishes for  $z \rightarrow \infty$ , then the integral extended to an infinite contour enclosing all poles vanishes

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{A}(z) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint dz \frac{\mathcal{A}(z)}{z} = 0$$

implying that the value at  $z = 0$  (physical amplitude) can be determined as a sum of the residues at the poles:

$$\mathcal{A}(0) = - \sum_i \frac{\lim_{z \rightarrow z_i} [(z - z_i) f(z)]}{z_i}$$

where  $z_i$  is the location of the  $i$ -th pole

- 2 **Unitarity:** Poles in Yang-Mills tree level amplitudes can only be due to gluon propagators dividing the  $n$ -point amplitude into two on-shell sub-amplitudes with  $k + 1$  and  $n - k + 1$  gluons  $\Rightarrow$  it is all about finding the proper way to "complexify" an amplitude.

To properly "complexify"  $\mathcal{A}$ : for helicities  $(h_1, h_n) = (-, +)$  (no loss of generality...)

$$|1\rangle \rightarrow |\hat{1}\rangle \equiv |1\rangle - z|n\rangle \Rightarrow p_1 \rightarrow \hat{p}_1 = |1\rangle\langle 1| - z|1\rangle\langle n|$$

$$|n\rangle \rightarrow |\hat{n}\rangle \equiv |n\rangle + z|1\rangle \Rightarrow p_n \rightarrow \hat{p}_n = |n\rangle\langle n| + z|1\rangle\langle n|$$

With such a choice

- On-shellness, gauge invariance and momentum conservation preserved throughout.
- the most serious issue is the behaviour for  $z \rightarrow \infty$ , but either a result derived with twistor methods (*Cachazo, Svrcek and Witten JHEP 0409 (2004) 006*) or a smart choice of reference lines always allow to overcome the problem, so that  $\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{A}(z) = 0$  holds

***BCFW applies to color-ordered partial amplitudes, for which the kinematics and gauge structure are factorised like***

$$\mathcal{M}_n = g^{n-2} \sum_{\sigma \in S_n/Z_n} \text{Tr}(T_{\sigma(1)} \cdots T_{\sigma(n)}) \mathcal{A}(g_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, g_{\sigma(n)})$$

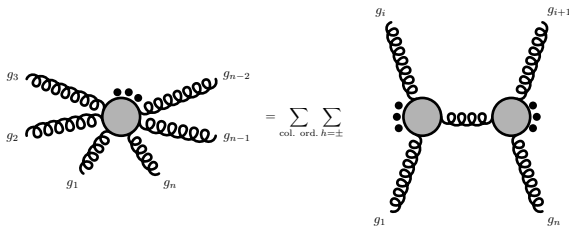
The result is an amazingly simple recursive relation:

*any tree-level color-ordered amplitude is the sum of residues of the poles it develops when it is made dependent on a complex variable as above.*

*Such residues are simply products of color-ordered lower-point amplitudes evaluated at the pole times an intermediate propagator. Shifted particles are always on opposite sides of the propagator.*

$$\mathcal{A}(g_1, \dots, g_n) = \sum_{i=2}^{n-2} \sum_{h=+,-} \mathcal{A}(g_1, \dots, g_i, \hat{P}^h) \frac{1}{(p_1 + \dots + p_i)^2} \mathcal{A}(-\hat{P}^{-h}, g_{i+1}, \dots, g_n)$$

$$z_i = \frac{(p_1 + \dots + p_i)^2}{[1|p_1 + \dots + p_i|n]} \quad \text{location of the pole corresponding for the "i-th" partition}$$



## The inclusion of fermions and MHV amplitudes

The BCFW recursion was promptly extended to Yang-Mills theories with fermions:

*M. Luo, C. Wen, JHEP 0503 (2005) 004*

$$\sum_{\text{col.}} \sum_{\text{ord.}} \sum_{h=\pm}$$

A couple of MHV amplitudes:

$$\mathcal{A}(g_1^+, g_2^+, \dots, g_i^-, \dots, g_j^-, \dots, g_n^+) = \frac{\langle ij \rangle^4}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \dots \langle n-1 n \rangle \langle n1 \rangle}$$

$$\mathcal{A}(q^-, g_1^-, g_2^+, \dots, g_n^+, \bar{q}^+) = \frac{\langle q1 \rangle^3 \langle \bar{q}1 \rangle}{\langle \bar{q}q \rangle \langle q1 \rangle \langle 12 \rangle \dots \langle n\bar{q} \rangle}$$

It is natural to ask whether something like a BCFW recursion relation exists with off-shell particles. For off shell, gluons, the answer was first found in

*A. van Hameren, JHEP 1407 (2014) 138*

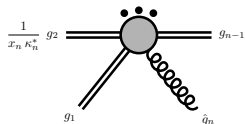
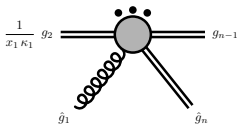
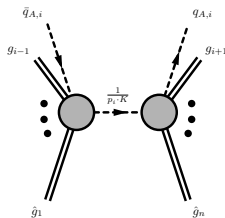
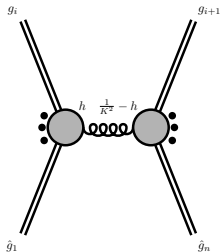
$$\mathcal{A}(0) = \sum_{s=g,f} \left( \sum_p \sum_{h=+,-} A_{p,h}^s + \sum_i B_i^s + C^s + D^s \right),$$

- $A_{p,h}^{g/f}$  are due to the poles which appear in the original BCFW recursion for on-shell amplitudes. The pole appears because one of the intermediate virtual gluon, whose shifted momentum squared  $K^2(z)$  goes on-shell.
- $B_i^{g/f}$  are due to the poles appearing in the propagator of auxiliary eikonal quarks. This means  $p_i \cdot \hat{K}(z) = 0$  for  $z = -\frac{2p_i \cdot K}{2p_i \cdot e}$ .  $\hat{K}$  is the momentum flowing through the eikonal propagator.
- $C^{g/f}$  and  $D^{g/f}$  show up as the first/last shifted particle is off-shell and their external propagator develops a pole.

**The external propagator for off-shell particles is necessary to ensure**

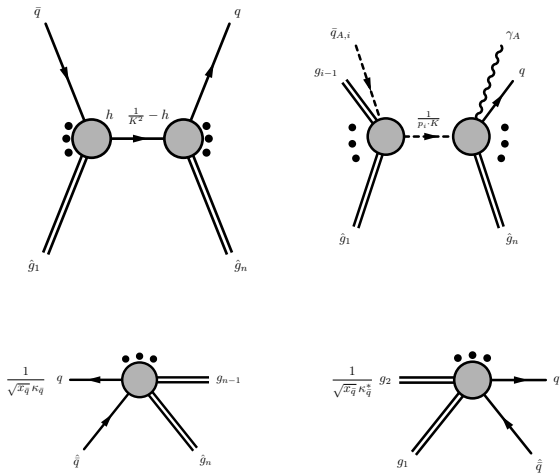
$$\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{A}(z) = 0$$

## Classification of poles in the gluon case





## Classification of poles in the fermion case



## Some simple amplitudes

Transverse momentum parameterization: 
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} k_{T i}^{\mu} = -\frac{\kappa_i}{2} \frac{\langle p_i | \gamma^{\mu} | q \rangle}{[p_i q]} - \frac{\kappa_i^*}{2} \frac{\langle q | \gamma^{\mu} | p_i \rangle}{\langle q p_i \rangle} \\ \kappa_i \equiv \frac{\langle q | \not{k}_i | p_i \rangle}{\langle q p_i \rangle} \quad \kappa_i^* \equiv \frac{\langle p_i | \not{k}_i | q \rangle}{[p_i q]} \\ q^2 = 0 \quad \text{auxiliary momentum} \end{array} \right.$$

Subleading contribution: this is zero in the on-shell case !

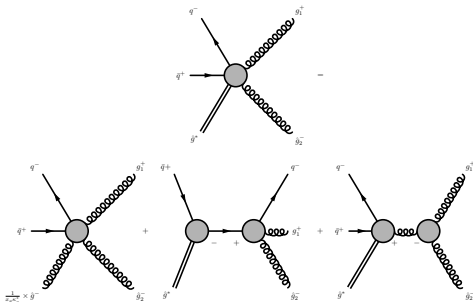
$$\mathcal{A}(g_1^+, g_2^+, \dots, g_{n-1}^+, \bar{q}, q, g_n^+) = \frac{\langle \bar{q} q \rangle^3}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \dots \langle \bar{q} q \rangle \langle q n \rangle \langle n 1 \rangle}$$

## Structure of MHV amplitudes

$$\mathcal{A}(g_1^+, g_2^+, \dots, g_{n-1}^+, \bar{q}^*, q^+, g_n^-) = \frac{1}{\kappa_{\bar{q}}^*} \frac{\langle \bar{q} n \rangle^3 \langle q n \rangle}{\langle 12 \rangle \langle 23 \rangle \dots \langle \bar{q} q \rangle \langle q n \rangle \langle n 1 \rangle}$$

$$\mathcal{A}(g^*, \bar{q}^+, q^-, g_1^+, g_2^+, \dots, g_n^+) = \frac{1}{\kappa_g^*} \frac{\langle g q \rangle^3 \langle g \bar{q} \rangle}{\langle g \bar{q} \rangle \langle \bar{q} q \rangle \dots \langle n-1 | n \rangle \langle n g \rangle}$$

But not everything is so smooth...



$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{A}(g^*, \bar{q}^+, q^-, g_1^+, g_2^-) &= \frac{1}{\kappa_g^*} \frac{[\bar{q}1]^3 \langle 2g \rangle^4}{[\bar{q}q] \langle g | p_2 + k_g | 1 \rangle \langle 2 | k_g (k_g + p_2) | g \rangle \langle 2 | k_g | \bar{q} \rangle} \\
 &+ \frac{1}{\kappa_g} \frac{1}{(k_g + p_{\bar{q}})^2} \frac{[g\bar{q}]^2 \langle 2q \rangle^3 \langle 2 | k_g + p_{\bar{q}} | g \rangle}{\langle 1q \rangle \langle 12 \rangle \{ (k_g + p_{\bar{q}})^2 [\bar{q}g] \langle 2q \rangle - \langle 2 | k_g + p_{\bar{q}} | g \rangle \langle q | k_g | \bar{q} \rangle \}} \\
 &+ \frac{\langle gq \rangle^3 [g1]^4}{\langle \bar{q}q \rangle [12] [g2] \langle q | p_1 + p_2 | g \rangle \langle g | p_1 + p_2 | g \rangle \langle g | k_g + p_2 | 1 \rangle}
 \end{aligned}$$

## General outline of the results

- It is necessary to understand which shifts are legitimate in the off-shell case, i.e. for which choices  $\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{A}(z) = 0$ . **Full classification of the possible shifts.**
- It turns out that amplitudes which are MHV in the on-shell case (2 of the partons have different helicity sign w.r.t. all the others ) preserve a similar structure in the off-shell case.
- So 4-point amplitudes are always MHV , juts as in the on-shell case.
- **First calculation of 5-point amplitudes, which are not always MHV**
- **Sub-leading amplitudes absent in the on-shell case do not vanish here**
- **Numerical cross-checks** are always successful. They were performed cross checked with a program implementing **Berends-Giele** recursion relation, [A. van Hameren, M. Bury, arXiv:1503.08612](#)

Thorough discussion is in

[A. van Hameren, M.S. JHEP 1507 \(2015\) 010](#) .

## Conclusions and perspectives

- High-energy factorisation requires gauge invariant scattering amplitudes with off-shell partons.
- "Embedding tricks" to provide such amplitudes have been devised they work very well numerically. We wanted an efficient framework for the analytic recursive generation of these amplitudes,
- BCFW construction was extended to Yang Mills with fermions with off-shell particles. This implies identifying a new set of poles in the auxiliary complex variable. A complete set of 5 point amplitudes with 1 off-shell parton has been obtained...available on a Mathematica notebook with arXiv:1504.00315.
- It is possible, in the same way, to obtain the scattering amplitudes with more off-shell partons...just some more work (in progress !).
- Next natural step in phenomenology: applications of these results to multi-jet production in HEF factorisation....
- Connection between Berends-Giele recursion relation and Wilson line approach via complex shifts of momenta (with P. Kotko and A. Stasto)

The end

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION