STAR Space sciences, Technologies and Astrophysics Research



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A Simulation of Protons Colliding in the LHC Uncertainties from Soft QCD Modelling

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Outline

- Motivations and Challenges
- QCD at the LHC
 - Soft and Hard QCD
 - Phenomenological models for Soft QCD
- 3 Results: Papers
 - The U-Matrix Geometrical Model. Rami Oueslati (Liege U.), Adel Trabelsi (Tunis El Manar U.), arXiv:2403.02263
 - A Multi-Channel U-Matrix Model. Rami Oueslati (Liege U.), arXiv:2305.03424, JHEP 08 (2023) 087
 - Unitarisation Dependence of Diffractive Scattering. Arno Vanthieghem (SLAC), Atri Bhattacharya (Liege U.), Rami Oueslati (Liege U.), Jean-René Cudell (Liege U.), arXiv:2104.12923, JHEP 09 (2021) 005
 - Proton Inelastic Cross Section at Ultrahigh Energies. Atri Bhattacharya (Liege U.), Jean-René Cudell (Liege U.), Rami Oueslati (Liege U.), Arno Vanthieghem (SLAC), arXiv:2012.07970, Phys.Rev.D 103 (2021) 5, L051502

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Motivations and Challenges in QCD at LHC

Motivations:

- Understand hadronic interactions at the LHC.
- Develop accurate models for particle backgrounds.
- Explore fundamental interactions at high energies.

Challenges:

- Complexity of multi-particle production.
- Managing a wide variety of phenomena and data.
- Addressing theoretical uncertainties.



Proton-proton collision at the LHC



*Strong coupling constant as a function



- QCD is the fundamental theory of strong interactions.
- Two main aspects of strong interaction: Hard and Soft QCD.
- Hard QCD: Large momentum transfers, allowing perturbative QCD.
- **Soft QCD:** Small momentum transfers, requiring phenomenological models.
- Soft hadronic interaction \Longrightarrow Model dependant

Soft QCD at LHC

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- A plethora of pheno models in the literature
- Based on fundamental principles of quantum field theory: unitarity, analyticity and crossing.
- Empirical parametrizations
- Test hypotheses, constrain the parametrizations by fine-tuning them parameters using data comparisons.

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• Scattering amplitudes at high energies based on the exchange of particles with specific spin and trajectory, known as Regge poles such as pomeron.



Figure: Lowest order Pomeron exchange graph

$$a(s,t) = g_{\rho 1}^{2}(t)^{2} \left(\frac{s}{s_{0}}\right)^{\alpha(t)} \xi(t)$$
(1)

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- Unitarization techniques are used to ensure that the scattering amplitudes satisfy unitarity
- Unitarization is achieved by summing the contributions from all multi-pomeron exchanges

Im
$$T_{\rm el} = \underbrace{\prod}_{\text{(s-ch unitarity)}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \underbrace{\prod}_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\Omega/2}$$

- The most common approach: the eikonal scheme.
- The eikonal scheme has limitations:
 - Less effective for interactions involving composite bodies.
 - Not the only possible solution, leading to the U matrix scheme.





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• Unitarity condition of the S matrix \Longrightarrow Optical Theorem

$$2 \operatorname{Im}[\Gamma(s, b)] = |\Gamma(s, b)|^2 + G_{in}(s, b),$$
(2)

- $\Gamma(s, b)$ denotes the profile function, i.e., the elastic hadron scattering amplitude
- $G_{in}(s, b)$ represents the inelastic overlap function fixed by the unitarity condition
- By employing the optical theorem, we can obtain various cross-sections

$$\sigma_{tot}(s) = 2 \int d^2 b \, \mathrm{Im}[\Gamma(s, b)], \qquad (3$$

$$\sigma_{in}(s) = \int d^2 b \ G_{in}(s, b). \tag{4}$$

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Results: Impact Parameter Space Evolution of the Inelastic Overlap Function



- **Pattern:** Generally similar across both schemes, with minor differences.
- **Concentration:** The inelastic overlap function is primarily central.

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• Energy Effect: The function declines more slowly with increasing energy.

Results: Impact Parameter Space Evolution of the Inelastic Overlap Function



- Energy Dependence: The magnitude increases with energy, especially at central impact parameter b = 0.
- Scheme Comparison: The *U*-matrix scheme shows a greater magnitude than the eikonal scheme at the central impact parameter.
- Consistency Across Energies: These trends are consistent across energies from ISR to LHC, as observed in the figures.

Image: A matrix

What is Geometrical Scaling?

- Observed in ISR experiments involving proton-proton and proton-antiproton scattering.
- Refers to a consistent ratio of elastic to total cross-sections.

When Does Violation Occur?

- Experiments at CERN's SPS indicate that the regularity of geometrical scaling breaks when energy levels surpass those of ISR.
- This suggests that G. SC. is not upheld at higher energies.

Implications and Consequences

• These experimental findings may require exploring new theoretical models and could influence future experiments.

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Results: Geometrical Scaling G. SC. Violation



Observations:

- As energy rises from 10 GeV to 10 TeV, the elastic-to-total cross-section ratio increases.
- Both *U*-matrix and eikonal schemes show non-linear increases, but the *U*-matrix scheme has a steeper rise.
- The steeper increase in the *U*-matrix scheme suggests a stronger violation of G. SC.
- This could be due to the inelastic overlap function's behavior at b = 0.
- Implication: Given its steeper trend, the *U*-matrix scheme might be more suitable for describing G. SC. at higher energies, indicating a potential direction for theoretical exploration.

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Results: Proton-Proton Multiplicity distribution and KNO scaling

• The multiplicity distribution in QCD is defined as:

$$P_n(s) = rac{\sigma_n(s)}{\sigma_{in}(s)}$$

(5)

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- σ_n(s) is n-particle topological cross-sections
- $\sigma_{in}(s)$ is the inelastic cross-section.
- *P_n* is scheme dependent

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Results : Multiplicity distributions for inelastic *pp* data compared with theoretical expectations.



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Results : Multiplicity distributions for inelastic $p\bar{p}$ data compared with theoretical expectations.



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Results : Hadronic Multiplicity Distributions



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Results : Hadronic Multiplicity Distributions



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Results: Energy dependence of the Hadron mean multiplicity



- It exhibits a rapid increase with the energy \sqrt{s} .
- Its energy dependence can be described using : equation
- This power-law energy dependence is often regarded as a prominent feature observed in different models
- The approach of Troshin and Tyurin developed in their specific model within the *U*-Matrix framework $\langle n(s) \rangle = 2.328 \ s^{0.201} \implies$ in line with our

 $\langle n(s) \rangle = 2.328 \ s^{0.201} \implies$ in line with o result.

 \implies Supporting the fundamental principles race

- Model fine-tuned \Longrightarrow
 - Reliable prediction in extrapolating to novel collision energy regimes.
 - Investigating various phenomena, such as the KNO scaling violation and particle correlation.

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Results: KNO scaling violation



- Predictions for the full-phase space multiplicity distribution in $p + p(\bar{p})$ collision, in KNO form at various energies, spanning from ISR to LHC.
- The maximum of the distribution shifts towards smaller values of z.

Results: KNO scaling violation



- The high-multiplicity tail rises with increasing energy.
- These features validate the violation of the KNO scaling.
- Width gets larger with increasing energy \Longrightarrow A strong violation of the KNO scaling.
- Strong G. S. violation \implies Strong KNO S. violation.
- Interconnected nature of these phenomena within the *U*-matrix representation.
- Pivotal role in describing collision geometry and the processes of multi-particle production in hadron collisions.

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- Correlation between the produced particles in the final state \implies to better understand the dynamics of particle production processes in hadron collisions.
- The P_n 's moments of order q

$$C_q = M_q / M_1^q \tag{6}$$

$$M_q = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n^q P_n \tag{7}$$

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Results: Fluctuations and particle correlations



- Our results along with their comparison with the experimental data
- A gradual increase in the ordinary higher-order moments.

Results: Fluctuations and particle correlations



- Predictions match with the data points within the ISR energy.
- Model overestimates the fluctuations and correlations in the multiplicity distribution as energy rises, specifically for energies above the LHC.



• The f2 moment (or the two-particle correlation parameter), as a means of examining the correlation between pairs of particles during a collision event

$$f_2 = \langle n(n-1) \rangle - \langle n \rangle^2$$
 (8)

 A noteworthy and sudden increase ⇒ Existence of strong correlations among the charged particles. ⇒ Infer that the model incorporates correlations in the final state, despite being constructed on the basis of independent particle production.

Results: Fluctuations and Particle Correlations

• A key question arises: Where does this particle correlation come from?

Correlation Formula:

$$P_n(s) = \frac{1}{\langle n(s) \rangle \int d^2 b \, G_{in}(s,b)} \int d^2 b \, \frac{G_{in}(s,b)}{f(s,b)} \, \phi^{(1)}\left(\frac{z}{f(s,b)}\right) \tag{9}$$

- This correlation is related to the construction of the overall hadronic multiplicity distribution.
- As it is derived by summing contributions from parton-parton collisions at each impact parameter, weighted by the inelastic overlap function.
- The correlation's overestimation might be due to the superposition model's weighting system, directly linked to the unitarization scheme. This differs from the predictions of an eikonal geometrical independent string model.

U-Matrix Scheme Advantages:

- Offers a better description of various phenomena in high-energy proton collisions.
- More suitable for complex interactions, especially with composite bodies.
- Addresses limitations of other schemes, like eikonal.

Implications for LHC Simulations:

- Provides a more accurate model for Monte Carlo simulations.
- Could lead to improved predictions for LHC data analysis.
- A step towards more precise LHC modeling.

Future Directions:

- Integrate the U-matrix scheme into existing simulation frameworks.
- Collaborate with experimentalists to validate the scheme against real LHC data.
- Explore further theoretical developments to refine the model.

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Thank you for your attention!

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