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TRANSVERSE MOMENTUM DEPENDENT (TMD) PARTON DISTRIBUTION FUNCTIONS: STATUS AND PROSPECTS*

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We review transverse momentum dependent (TMD) parton distribution functions, their application to topical issues in high-energy physics phenomenology, and their theoretical connections with QCD resummation, evolution and factorization theorems. We illustrate the use of TMDs via examples of multi-scale problems in hadronic collisions. These include transverse momentum q_T spectra of Higgs and vector bosons for low q_T, and azimuthal correlations in the production of multiple jets associated with heavy bosons at large jet masses. We discuss computational tools for TMDs, and present the application of a new tool, TMDLIB, to parton density fits and parameterizations.

1. Introduction

Experimental information on the "3-dimensional imaging" of hadrons, encoded in unintegrated, transverse momentum dependent (TMD) parton density and parton decay functions, comes at present from two main sets of experimental data: deep inelastic scattering (DIS) at high energy, and low-q_T Drell–Yan (DY) and semi-inclusive DIS (polarized and unpolarized). In each of these two cases, QCD factorization theorems allow one to relate physical, observable cross sections to TMD parton distributions via perturbatively calculable kernels. These theorems provide the theoretical basis for determining TMD distributions from experimental measurements. They are also essential to formulate and apply methods of perturbative resummation at all orders in the QCD coupling to a large variety of observables in high-energy hadronic collisions. Examples include processes both at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) and at fixed-target experiments.

This article is based on workshops devoted to these topics held at the University of Antwerp in 2014[1] and provides a concise status report of this field. The purpose of this article is to explain the motivations for experimental and theoretical studies of TMDs; to illustrate specific examples of application of TMDs to topical issues in high-energy physics phenomenology; to point to future directions of development.

In particular, we examine implications of two sets of QCD factorization theorems based on TMD parton distribution functions: low-q_T factorization for heavy particle spectra (including vector bosons, Higgs bosons, heavy flavors) and high-energy factorization. We focus on production processes in hadronic collisions in two limits: (i) $q_T \to 0$ for fixed invariant mass, and (ii) $\sqrt{s} \to \infty$ for fixed momentum transfer. We illustrate this with examples on transverse momentum spectra and angular correlations at the LHC for

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[1] Workshops on "Resummation, Evolution, Factorization" (REF 2014), Antwerp, Belgium, June 23–25, 2014 and December 8–11, 2014.

Drell–Yan and Higgs boson production and associated multi-jets. We survey computational tools which are being developed to treat the physics of TMDs. We present, in particular, the application of a new tool, TMDLIB, to TMD parton densities based on fits and parameterizations including the QCD evolution.

The paper is organized as follows. In Sec. 2, we motivate the use of TMDs. In Sec. 3, we discuss their role in the physics of large transverse momenta. Section 4 summarizes experimental prospects and theory developments. Sections 5 and 6 illustrate the status of fits and parameterizations for TMD parton distributions and of TMD Monte Carlo tools. Final remarks are given in Sec. 7.

2. Why TMDs

Transverse momentum dependent parton distributions encode nonperturbative information on hadron structure, including transverse momentum and polarization degrees of freedom, which is essential in the context of QCD factorization theorems for multi-scale, noninclusive collider observables. A classic example is given by Drell–Yan hadroproduction of electroweak gauge bosons. Figure 1 [1] shows the differential cross section for Z-boson production in pp collision at the LHC as a function of the Z-boson transverse momentum q_T, in the lepton pair's invariant mass range 60 GeV $< M <$ 120 GeV. In the spectrum of Fig. 1, we distinguish the high-q_T region, the peak region, and the low-q_T region.

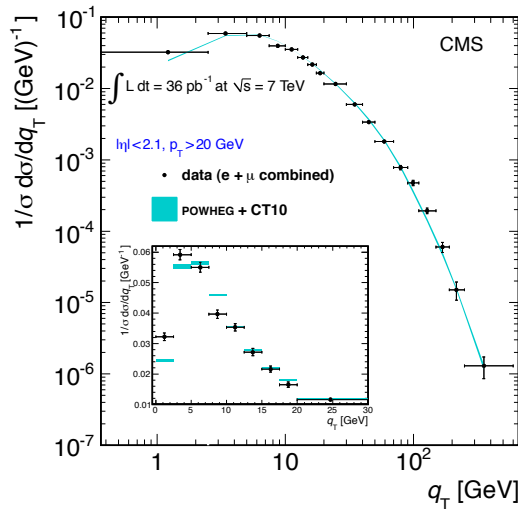Fig. 1. (Colour on-line) The Z-boson transverse momentum q_T spectrum in pp collisions at the LHC [1].

In the high-q_{T} region, the cross section is expected to be well represented by an evaluation of the partonic Z-boson cross section to finite order in QCD perturbation theory (leading-order (LO), next-to-leading-order (NLO), and so forth), combined with factorization in terms of ordinary (collinear) parton distribution functions (pdfs). On the other hand, if this theoretical framework is applied to the region of decreasing q_{T}, it will not be able to describe the approach to the peak region in Fig. 1 ($q_{\mathrm{T}} \approx \mathcal{O}$ (10 GeV)) nor the turnover region ($q_{\mathrm{T}} \approx \mathcal{O}$ (1 GeV)). Rather, the cross section predicted from any finite order of perturbation theory, convoluted with ordinary parton distributions, will diverge as q_{T} decreases. The reason for this is that the physical behavior of the Z-boson spectrum near the peak region and below [2, 3] is controlled by multi-parton QCD radiation, which is not well approximated by truncating the QCD perturbation series to any fixed order but rather requires methods to resum arbitrarily many parton emissions, *viz.*, scattering amplitudes with an infinite number of real and virtual insertions of soft gluons.

This can be accomplished in a systematic manner via a generalized form of QCD factorization [4–6] which now involves quark distribution functions that, unlike the ordinary ones, explicitly depend on transverse momentum and polarization (TMD pdfs). Such TMD pdfs obey evolution equations [6–8] which generalize the ordinary renormalization-group evolution equations of collinear pdfs. These evolution equations, once combined with the TMD factorization of the physical cross section, allow one to resum logarithmically enhanced contributions in the ratio M/q_{T} to the perturbation series expansions for the physical observables to all higher orders in the QCD coupling. It is only after this generalized factorization analysis — going beyond the collinear factorization — is carried through that the physical behavior of the Z-boson spectrum observed in Fig. 1 can be predicted.

A second example concerns the rise of proton's structure functions at small longitudinal momentum fractions. Since in pp collisions the product of initial-state longitudinal fractions scales like $1/s$ at fixed momentum transfer, where s is the squared centre-of-mass energy, as we push forward the high-energy frontier, more and more events at small longitudinal fractions contribute to processes probing short-distance physics. Many hard-production cross sections at the LHC receive sizeable contributions from proton's structure functions in this region. As parton longitudinal momenta become small, the fraction of momentum carried by transverse degrees of freedom becomes increasingly important.

Figure 2 shows the proton's gluon density resulting from global fits [9] to hadronic collision data, performed at LO, NLO, NNLO [10–12] of perturbation theory, as a function of the longitudinal momentum fraction x for different values of the evolution mass scale Q^2. In the low-x regime, the perturbative higher-order corrections to structure functions are large, and
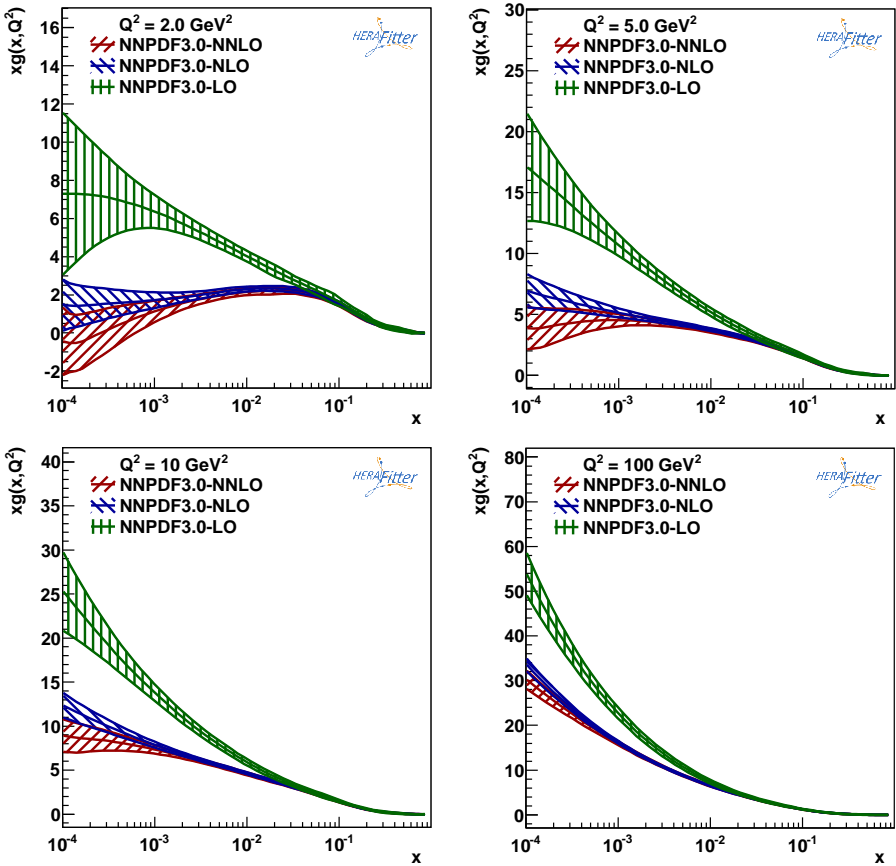
Fig. 2. (Colour on-line) Proton's structure as a function of momentum fraction x: gluon density at different mass scales Q^2 [9] from the HERAFitter package [13].

the gluon pdf uncertainty is large. The strong corrections at low x come from multiple radiation of gluons over long intervals in rapidity [14, 15], in regions not ordered in the gluon transverse momenta p_T, and are present beyond NNLO to all orders of perturbation theory [16, 17]. The theoretical framework to resum these unordered multi-gluon emissions is a generalized form of QCD factorization [18, 19] in terms of TMD pdfs. Analogously to the Drell–Yan case discussed earlier, the TMD pdfs obey a suitable set of evolution equations [20–22], appropriate to this kinematic region. These provide another generalization, valid in the high-energy limit, of the ordinary renormalization-group evolution. The TMD factorization in this case allows one to resum logarithmically enhanced corrections in the ratio $\sqrt{s}/Q$ to all higher orders in the QCD coupling.

Besides the above examples of Drell–Yan and structure functions, TMD factorization theorems apply to a wide variety of processes at the LHC. In particular, with extensive measurements of Higgs boson production at the LHC Run 2, a new set of QCD processes becomes available in which the Higgs boson acts as a color-singlet, pointlike source (in the heavy top limit) which couples to gluons. This is to be contrasted with Drell–Yan and deep-inelastic scattering cases, based on weak and electromagnetic currents providing color-singlet pointlike sources coupled to quarks. This opens up the possibility of a new program of precision QCD measurements in gluon fusion at high mass scales in the LHC high-luminosity runs [23, 24].

Analogously to the case of vector bosons in the example of Fig. 1, theoretical predictions for the Higgs boson production differential spectrum over the whole range in transverse momenta accessible at the LHC require generalized QCD factorization, based on initial-state gluon distributions that include polarization and transverse-momentum degrees of freedom. Compared to the vector boson case, however, new features arise which are associated with the role of gluon polarizations in gluon–gluon scattering.

More precisely, in the high-energy limit $\sqrt{s} \gg m_H$, the Higgs boson production from gluon fusion is dominated by a single eikonal gluon polarization [25]. The contribution of this polarization depends on the gluon transverse momentum and can be rewritten in terms of the high-energy projection operator defined in [17]. A complete set of operators for polarization dependent and transverse momentum dependent gluon distributions is given in [26]. In the region of low Higgs boson transverse momenta, $q_T \ll m_H$, the contributions of polarized gluons to the Higgs spectrum have been studied both perturbatively [27–31] and nonperturbatively [32–36]. An example is shown in Fig. 3 [32], where the unpolarized and linearly polarized gluon distributions contributing to the Higgs boson spectrum at small q_T are plotted as a function of transverse momentum. The presence of polarized gluon components (even in unpolarized beams) characterizes gluon fusion processes and has no analogue in the Drell–Yan case. In particular, the component in the right-hand side plot of Fig. 3 is a gluon TMD distribution with double spin-flip (see Table II ahead, top right corner). From the point of view of perturbative power counting, double spin-flip effects start to contribute to the Higgs q_T spectrum at the NNLO (but may contribute earlier in more complex, less inclusive observables associated with Higgs production). Detailed measurements of Higgs boson final states will allow the QCD dynamics of polarized gluons and their correlations to be explored experimentally for the first time.

For both the Drell–Yan and Higgs cases, in addition to the inclusive spectra, an extensive experimental program at the LHC is devoted to the associated production of heavy bosons with jets. The region in which the boson and leading jet are nearly back-to-back presents features comparable
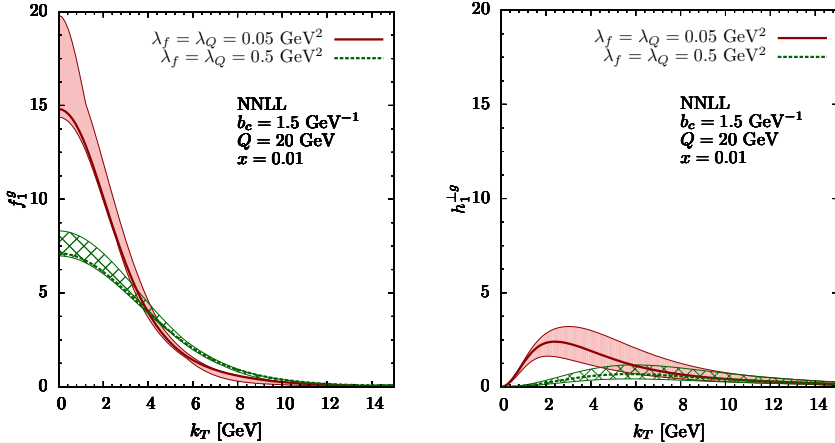
Fig. 3. (Colour on-line) The transverse momentum dependence of the unpolarized (left) and linearly polarized (right) gluon distributions [32] contributing to the gluon-fusion Higgs production spectrum. The results are plotted for evolution scale $Q = 20$ GeV and longitudinal momentum fraction $x = 0.01$, and for different values of the nonperturbative parameters discussed in [32]. The gray (red) and squared (green) bands around each curve correspond to variations by factor 2 of the resummation scale and rapidity scale in the calculation [32].

to the discussion given above for the low-q_T part of the inclusive spectra. For instance, a study of TMD gluon contributions to Higgs + jet final states in which the imbalance between the boson and leading-jet transverse momenta is small is reported in Fig. 4 [37], showing the boson–jet pair's transverse momentum distribution and azimuthal asymmetries.
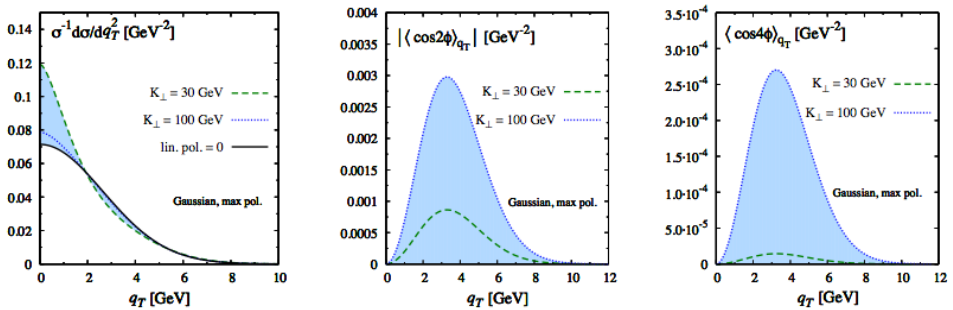
Fig. 4. (Colour on-line) Theoretical predictions [37] for the transverse momentum distribution (left), $\cos 2\phi$ asymmetry (middle) and $\cos 4\phi$ asymmetry (right) in Higgs boson + jet production at small transverse momenta q_T of the Higgs + jet pair. Here, $K_\perp$ represents the average of the Higgs and jet transverse momenta, and the shaded gray (blue) areas represent the range of the asymmetries as $K_\perp$ varies from 0 to ∞.

The case of associated boson + jet production when the imbalance between the boson and leading-jet transverse momenta is not small, on the other hand, probes the physics of final states with multiple jets. The role of TMD parton distributions in scenarios with high jet multiplicity is discussed in the next section and serves to illustrate the connection of TMDs with the kinematic region of large transverse momenta.

An extension of the methods discussed above for the Drell–Yan and Higgs production applies to the transverse momentum spectra of heavy flavor pairs, *e.g.* top quarks. Unlike the case of color-singlet currents coupled to quarks (as in Drell–Yan production) or gluons (as in Higgs boson production in the heavy top limit), heavy-quark pair production constitutes a composite non-pointlike probe, containing color-charged particles in the lowest-order final state and receiving contribution from both quark and gluon TMD channels. Color correlations over long timescales between initial and final states will break factorization in the region of very small transverse-momentum imbalance of the pair [38–45]. Studies of this region and the interplay of perturbative and nonperturbative contributions will help understand quantitatively these effects.

Another area for applications of TMDs concerns single spin asymmetries and azimuthal asymmetries in polarized collisions. A classic example is the Sivers asymmetry [46–48]. Figure 5 [49] shows low-energy measurements [50, 51] of the Sivers transverse single spin asymmetry along with results of the fit [49]. For hadron's transverse momenta sufficiently small compared to the virtuality scale Q of the deep inelastic (or Drell–Yan) process, spin asymmetries obey TMD factorization formulas of the same kind [6] discussed above for the unpolarized case of low-q_{T} Drell–Yan. A combined understanding of current high-energy unpolarized measurements and low-energy spin asymmetry measurements is important for the planning of future polarized collider [52, 53] and fixed-target [54, 55] experiments.
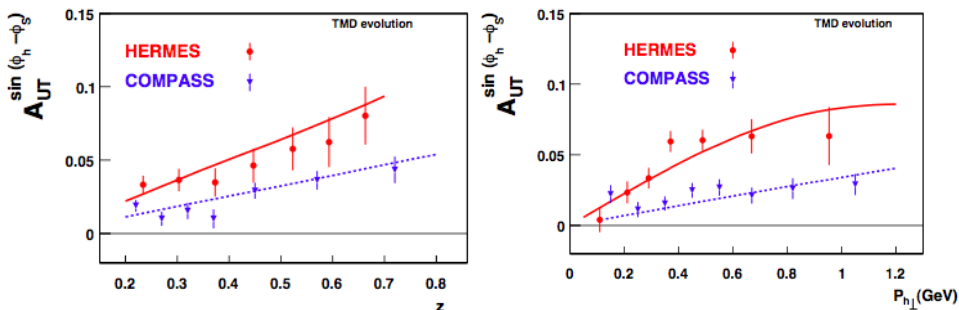

Fig. 5. (Colour on-line) Sivers asymmetry measurements [50, 51] and fits [49] as a function of hadron's longitudinal momentum fraction (left) and transverse momentum (right).

We conclude this section by presenting the full leading-twist set of polarization dependent and transverse momentum dependent parton densities in a spin-1/2 hadron. These are shown in Table I and Table II, for the quark [56, 57] and gluon [26, 58] cases respectively, including the distributions in unpolarized hadrons (top rows), longitudinally polarized hadrons (middle rows), transversely polarized hadrons (bottom rows). (See [59–65] for slightly different classifications.) Gauge-invariant operator definitions may be given for each of the TMD distributions in terms of nonlocal operator combinations, in which appropriate Wilson-line gauge links are associated with quark and gluon fields [6, 66–70]. Operator definitions are instrumental in analyzing both factorization and potential sources of factorization breakdown, and in setting up lattice calculations [71–74] of parton distributions.

TABLE I

(Colour on-line) Quark TMD pdfs: columns represent quark polarization, rows represent hadron polarization. Distributions encircled by a dashed line are the ones which survive integration over transverse momentum. The shades of the boxes (light gray (blue) *versus* medium gray (pink)) indicate structures that are T-even or T-odd, respectively. T-even and T-odd structures involve, respectively, an even or odd number of spin-flips.

QUARKS	*unpolarized*	*chiral*	*transverse*
U	f_1		$h_1^\perp$
L		g_{1L}	$h_{1L}^\perp$
T	$f_{1T}^\perp$	g_{1T}	$h_{1T}, h_{1T}^\perp$

TABLE II

(Colour on-line) Gluon TMD pdfs: columns represent gluon polarization, rows represent hadron polarization. Distributions encircled by a dashed line are the ones which survive integration over transverse momentum. The shades of the boxes (light gray (blue) *versus* medium gray (pink)) indicate structures that are T-even or T-odd, respectively. T-even and T-odd structures involve, respectively, an even or odd number of spin-flips. Linearly polarized gluons represent a double spin-flip structure.

GLUONS	*unpolarized*	*circular*	*linear*
U	f_1^g		$h_1^{\perp g}$
L		g_{1L}^g	$h_{1L}^{\perp g}$
T	$f_{1T}^{\perp g}$	g_{1T}^g	$h_{1T}^g, h_{1T}^{\perp g}$

3. TMDs and large transverse momenta

Unlike the low-q_T Drell–Yan factorization theorem [4–6] and its extensions for gluon fusion processes, the high-energy factorization theorem [17–19, 75] is valid for arbitrarily large momentum transfer. It is based on the high-energy expansion $\sqrt{s} \to \infty$ and can be applied in the ultraviolet region of high q_T. It allows one, for example, to obtain the structure of logarithmic scaling violations in DIS at high energy (see [10–12]) and to resum logarithmic corrections of higher order in α_s to Higgs and top-quark production cross sections (see [76–78]). In this section, we apply this theorem to discuss the role of TMDs in the region of perturbative transverse momenta, in particular in the high-q_T part of the Drell–Yan spectrum in Fig. 1.

The basic observation is that the LHC kinematics leads to copious production of final states in which a high-q_T vector boson recoils against multiple hard jets. Reference [79] studies W-boson $+$ n jets final states using TMD high-energy factorization [19]. The motivation for this is twofold: (a) kinematical: it has recently been pointed out [80–82] that collinearity approximations, once combined with energy-momentum conservation constraints, give rise to longitudinal momentum shifts and sizeable showering corrections in the Monte Carlo algorithms used to simulate multi-jet final states at the LHC; (b) dynamical: it has long been known [83–85] that, when the picture of multi-jets from finite-order perturbative matrix elements matched with collinear parton showers is pushed to higher and higher energies, new effects arise in jet multiplicity distributions and angular correlations due to soft but finite-angle multi-gluon radiation. Both these kinematical and dynamical effects can be taken into account by a TMD treatment of QCD parton shower evolution [85].

To achieve this, Ref. [79] uses the exclusive formalism of CCFM evolution equations [83, 86, 87] implemented in [88]. The TMD pdfs to which evolution is applied are determined from fits to the precision DIS data [89]. By evolving these TMD pdfs up to the scale of W + jets and coupling them with appropriate, perturbatively calculated high-energy matrix elements, one obtains predictions for W-boson $+$ n jets observables. Figure 6 shows the total transverse energy H_T distribution in final states with W-boson $+$ n jets, with $n = 1, 2, 3$, at the LHC. For comparison, the experimental measurements [90] (jet rapidity $|\eta| < 4.4$, jet transverse momentum $p_T > 30$ GeV) are plotted. The uncertainty bands on the theoretical predictions are described in [79], and largely reflect uncertainties on TMDs determinations, estimated according to three different approaches corresponding to the three color bands.

The TMD high-energy factorization predicts azimuthal correlations in the W + multi-jet final states. Figure 7 shows results for the azimuthal correlation between the two leading jets, along with the transverse momentum of the third jet.
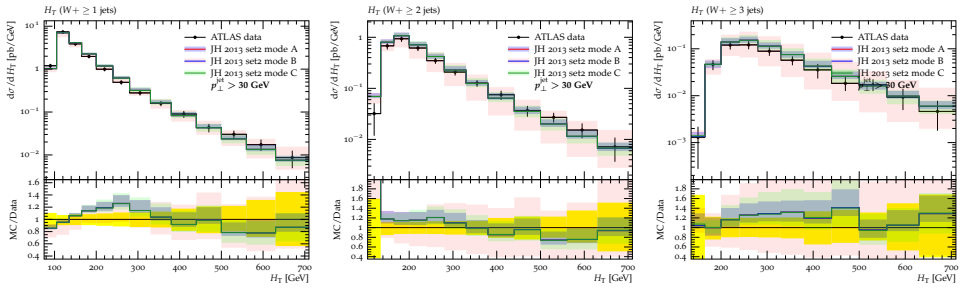
Fig. 6. (Colour on-line) Total transverse energy H_T distribution in final states with W-boson $+ n$ jets at the LHC, for $n \geq 1$ (left), $n \geq 2$ (center), $n \geq 3$ (right). The purple, pink and green bands correspond to the different methods described in [79] to estimate theoretical uncertainties. The experimental data are from [90], with the experimental uncertainty represented by the yellow band.

Fig. 7. (Colour on-line) Azimuthal correlation of the two leading jets associated with W-bosons, for $p_T > 20$ GeV (left) and $p_T > 30$ GeV (center), and transverse momentum of the third jet ($p_T > 30$ GeV) (right). The purple, pink and green bands correspond to the different methods described in [79] to estimate theoretical uncertainties. The experimental data are from [90], with the experimental uncertainty represented by the yellow band.
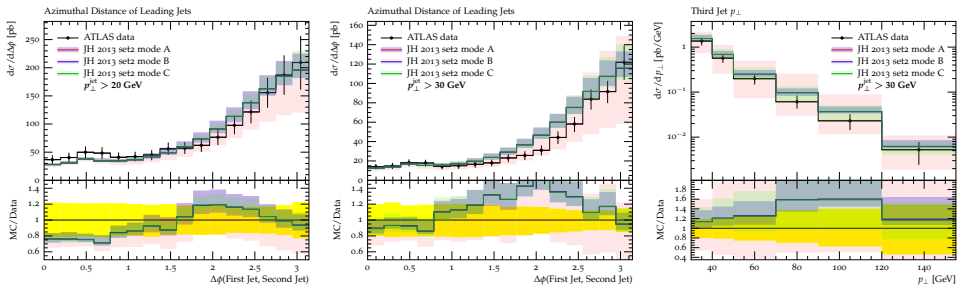
Current limitations of the approach described above and ongoing improvements are discussed in [79, 91, 92] and include, in particular, the treatment of TMD quark density distributions and the accuracy of determinations of the gluon density distribution over the whole range of longitudinal momentum fractions x relevant to the LHC kinematics. The results in Figs. 6 and 7 are, however, encouraging, and sufficiently general, in the context of approaches that aim to go beyond fixed-order perturbation theory and appropriately take account of nonperturbative effects.

As TMDs describe nonperturbative transverse momentum dynamics in the hadron, they may provide a suitable framework not only for the factorization of the hard process but also to incorporate effects from soft particle production and multi-parton interactions [93, 94].

It is worth noting that while for sufficiently inclusive observables in W + jets production calculations based on collinear parton showers matched with finite-order perturbative matrix elements describe measurements at Run 1 very well, this may not necessarily be the case for observables sensitive to the detailed structure of multi-parton emission [95, 96]. For example, Fig. 8 [97] shows ATLAS measurements of the di-jet invariant mass associated with W production, compared with several Monte Carlo calculations. The comparison with the results from the NLO-matched calculation BLACK-
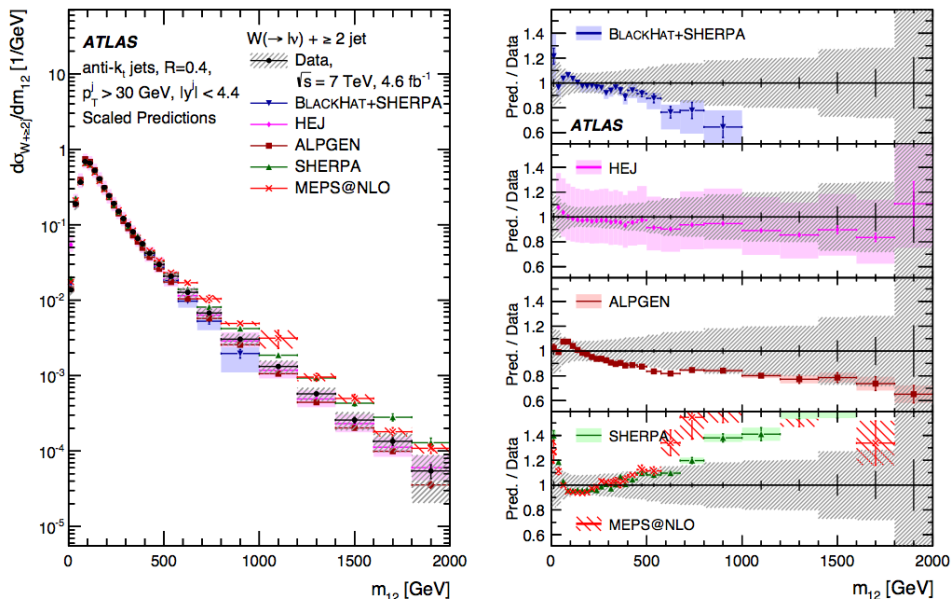

Fig. 8. (Colour on-line) Di-jet invariant mass measured [97] in LHC final states with W-boson + 2 jets, compared with parton-shower Monte Carlo calculations.

HAT + SHERPA [98] suggests that effects beyond NLO + collinear shower may set in for high invariant masses around and above 500 GeV. In this region of masses, a similar behavior is observed in the comparison of experimental measurements with the ALPGEN [99] Monte Carlo calculation. In Fig. 9, we plot the di-jet invariant mass distribution from the TMD approach [79].

For the physics program at Run 2, it is of much interest to examine the region of very large vector boson transverse momenta of the order of 1 TeV and higher. Figure 10 [100] shows CMS measurements of the Z-boson p_T in events with $Z + 1$ jet and $Z + 2$ jets at Run 1. At the highest p_T, one may see dynamics setting in beyond the level of MADGRAPH [101] and SHERPA [102] multi-leg jet calculations matched with collinear showers, even supplemented with an NNLO k-factor.
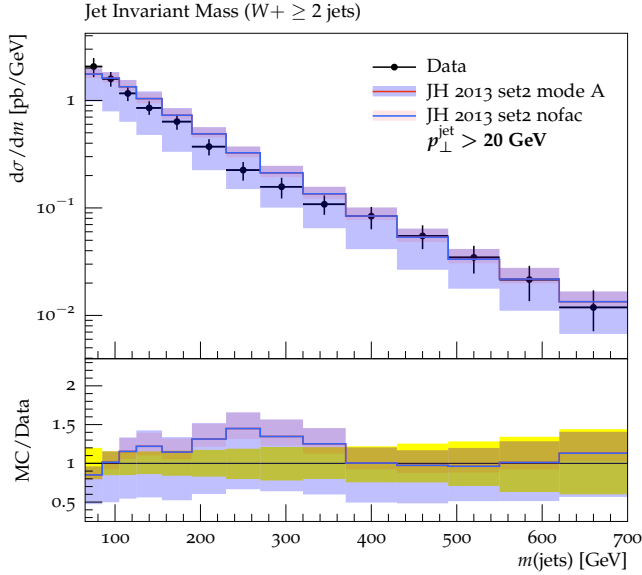
Fig. 9. (Colour on-line) Di-jet invariant mass distribution in W-boson $+$ 2 jets final states computed from the approach [79]. The experimental data are from [103].
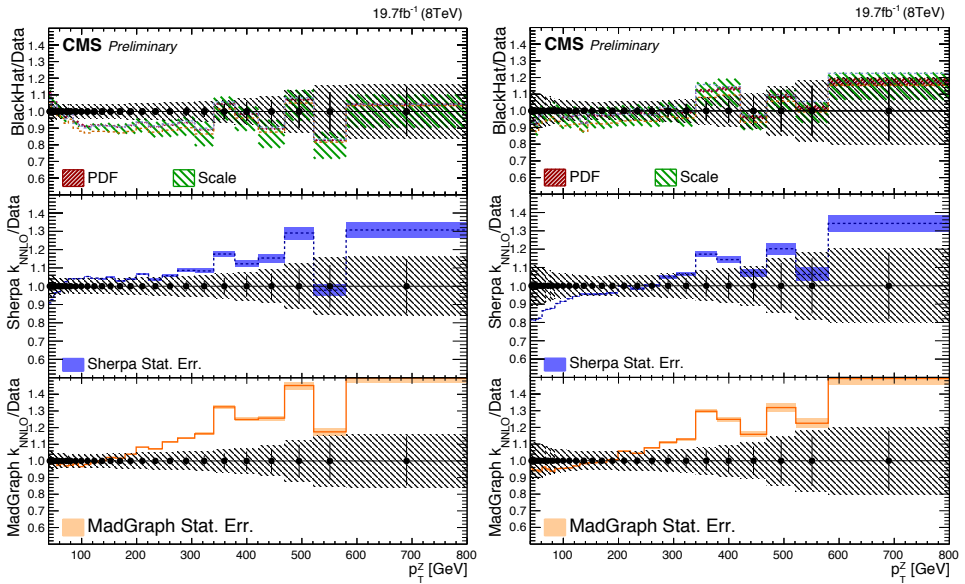

Fig. 10. (Colour on-line) Z-boson transverse momentum measured [100] in $Z + 1$ jet (left) and $Z + 2$ jets (right) events compared with Monte Carlo calculations.

4. Theoretical developments and experimental prospects

This section gives a brief overview of ongoing theoretical developments and experimental prospects.

Factorization and resummation for $q_\mathrm{T} \ll M$. The factorization [4, 6] for Drell–Yan production at low q_T (along with corresponding extensions to other processes, including semi-inclusive DIS and Higgs production) has been reobtained in soft collinear effective theory (SCET) by different approaches ([104–108], [27, 28, 109–111], [30, 112, 113]). The treatment of nonperturbative contributions to the TMD evolution equations [6–8] from the region of large transverse distances b_T differs in each of these various approaches and in the classic studies [114–119], and is currently the subject of intense investigations. Such treatment is essential for predictions at $q_\mathrm{T} \lesssim 1$ GeV but its influence may also extend to the peak region. It is found to be important, and with distinctive features compared to the Drell–Yan case, in the semi-inclusive DIS [120, 121]. See [120–131] for recent discussions of nonperturbative contributions. The region of small transverse distances b_T, on the other hand, is investigated via perturbative resummations to next-to-next-to-leading accuracy [29, 132–134] and computations through two loops [135–139] of the perturbative coefficient functions controlling the expansion of the TMDs in terms of collinear pdfs. All these aspects are relevant for the interpretation of the production spectra at low transverse momenta q_T, both in high-energy Drell–Yan experiments at the LHC and Tevatron [140–146] and in fixed-target experiments [147–149], including the polarized Drell–Yan and semi-inclusive DIS [150, 151].

Evolution of TMDs and fits to physical cross sections. The above approaches to low-q_T spectra which make use of TMDs currently employ, in practice, either approximate analytic (or semi-analytic) solutions of the evolution equations [6–8] or perturbative expansions of the TMDs in terms of collinear pdfs, or a combination of both. A different proposal has been put forward in [152] (TMDlib), based on global fits to experimental data to obtain TMD parton distributions at different evolution scales, and on using these to make predictions for physical quantities. This is similar in spirit (but different in its realization) to what is done in the case of collinear parton distributions. Theoretical predictions for physical cross sections which obey TMD factorization formulas could then be obtained by applying these formulas, using perturbatively calculable coefficients and appropriately evolved TMDs determined from fits to experiment. In this approach, unlike most current implementations of TMD formalisms, the nonperturbative dependence on longitudinal and transverse degrees of freedom is fully

coupled, and can be entangled with the dependence on the evolution scale [152]. For phenomenological applications, this can be important when, for instance, comparing theory with experimental measurements over a wide range in x and evolution scales.

Nonlinear evolution of the gluon TMD and Wilson line correlators. The conventional gauge-invariant operator definition of the gluon TMD [7, 26, 32, 35, 58, 153] is distinct from the Weiszacker–Williams operator definition [67, 154–157] in terms of Wilson lines often used at $x \ll 1$ (see also [158–160] for discussion of the operator definitions). Correspondingly, these gluon TMDs obey different rapidity evolution equations: in the moderate $x \sim 1$ region, one has linear double-logarithmic equations, while in the $x \ll 1$ domain, the nonlinear single-logarithmic Balitsky–Kovchegov equation applies [161, 162]. The relationship between these two regimes is examined in [163, 164], where it is clarified that the nonlinear small-x evolution transforms into linear rapidity evolution for the conventional gluon TMD. References [165, 166] consider applications to diffraction and Refs. [167–170] to jets at large rapidity separations. Also, the evaluation of the complex combinations of Wilson lines entering the gluon TMD at small x calls for the development of a dedicated methodology. Essential improvement in the understanding and computation of correlators with Wilson lines can be achieved by the eikonal exponentiation methods [171–173], which enable the exact resummation of the diagrams presenting a given correlator as the exponent of series of the so-called web diagrams [174–178].

TMDs and generalized loop space. Renormalization properties of Wilson line correlators control the evolution of TMDs [6, 179–182]. In particular, the appearance of light cone, or rapidity divergences [6, 183] in higher-loop corrections to the gauge-invariant correlators calls for a treatment of overlapping divergences, which can be achieved by the introduction of a soft subtraction factor [184–189]. The evolution of the gauge-invariant path-dependent TMDs with the light-like cusped Wilson lines can also be associated with the geometric evolution in the generalized space [190–192]. The differential shape variations of the underlying contours to the Wilson loops are formulated in terms of the Fréchet derivative [193, 194] and the equations of motion in the loop space are dual to the energy and rapidity evolution of the TMDs having the same structure of the Wilson lines [195, 196].

Nonuniversality and Wilson lines. Operator definitions of parton distribution functions in terms of quark and gluon fields involve nonlocal operator combinations. For collinear functions, the nonlocality is along the light cone, for TMDs it is along the light front involving also transverse separations. Unavoidably, therefore, additional gluonic

fields minimally enter in the Wilson lines that are needed for an unambiguous gauge-invariant description. The fact that these Wilson lines depend on the hard process brings in a calculable nonuniversality [66], which is a generalization of the sign flip between T-odd TMDs in going from SIDIS to DY [47, 48]. Other examples where these effects appear are jet+jet or photon+jet final states in hadroproduction [197, 198] as compared to Drell–Yan or ZZ production, and Higgs + jet final states as compared to Higgs production into colorless final states. Color entanglement can lead to further sources of nonuniversality affecting both TMD factorization [42] and collinear factorization [199, 200]. An ongoing program is devoted to a careful analysis [68–70] of the possible operators that contribute to particular TMD structures followed by the study of their evolution.

TMDs from exclusive evolution equations. The gluonic CCFM evolution equation [83, 86, 87] is being extended along the lines proposed in [88] to treat the coupled evolution of the flavor-singlet sea quark density and gluon density. This is important for describing exclusive components of high-multiplicity final states. In particular, the inclusion of the sea quark density at TMD level is one of the main elements needed to treat Drell–Yan production across the whole range of central and forward rapidities [201–208] measured at the LHC [140, 141, 209–211]. This approach is also being extended to include nonlinear evolution and saturation effects [212–215] and to incorporate methods for automated computation of off-shell high-energy matrix elements [216–223].

Soft particle production and multi-parton interactions. As TMDs encode nonperturbative transverse momentum dynamics in the proton, one may ask whether they are relevant not only for factorization of hard processes but also for the understanding of soft particle production and, in particular, of the multi-parton interactions which are found to be needed at low to moderate transverse momenta for Monte Carlo simulations to describe experimental data on underlying events, particle multiplicities and spectra. Double parton interactions [224, 225] including parton's transverse momentum dependence are investigated in [93, 226–232]. The role of parton's transverse momentum in the interpretation of energy flow measurements is discussed in [94, 233–235]. Implications for diffraction are considered in [236–238]. TMD effects in multi-parton correlations may be studied in upcoming measurements of charged particle multiplicities and spectra and underlying event at the LHC 13 TeV run.

Experimental prospects have been discussed for identifying TMD effects based on measurements of benchmark cross sections, both at the LHC and at lower energy experiments.

Drell–Yan lepton pair production and Drell–Yan plus jets. As discussed in the previous two sections, both the low-q_T part of the spectrum and the high-q_T part can be sensitive to TMD effects. Multi-differential measurements are especially important as one can access azimuthal correlations in the lepton + jet final states [79, 203] which constitute distinctive TMD predictions. Comparison of Z + jet final states at small transverse momentum imbalance [197, 198] with di-boson ZZ final states may shed light on color flow patterns which are eventually responsible for factorization breaking phenomena in hard processes sensitive to very low transverse momentum scales.

Higgs boson production and Higgs boson plus jets. Similar measurements to the Drell–Yan case, including differential cross sections, are relevant for gluon TMDs and QCD studies of polarized gluons and color correlations, once sufficient statistics is reached. Measurements of Higgs *versus* Drell–Yan at the same invariant mass may be used to reduce the influence of pile-up in the high-luminosity LHC runs [23]. The boson q_T spectrum, final-state angular distributions and underlying event observables probe different aspects of the Higgs coupling to gluons [23, 239].

Heavy flavor production. Measurements of top-quark pair production spectra can provide comparable information to the previous two cases but with additional complexity due to the presence of color charges in the final state. The associated initial-state/final-state color correlations at small q_T could be studied to examine factorization-breaking contributions in the region of very small transverse momenta [38–42], provided sufficient resolution can be reached. It will also be interesting to investigate kinematic effects of longitudinal momentum reshuffling in parton showers [80] at top-quark scales. Similar studies can be done at lower mass scales with bottom and charm quarks.

Quarkonium production. Despite the complexity of the bound state, production of $c\bar{c}$ and $b\bar{b}$ quarkonia is a useful probe of TMD gluon effects at low mass scales. Phenomenological studies are carried out in [240–249]. Many features of these processes have been investigated experimentally at the LHC Run 1 [250–256]. Measurements of the spectra and especially of the polarization for J/ψ, Υ and all quarkonium states at Run 2 will be particularly interesting for studying polarized gluon effects. Color-singlet transitions may have a reduced sensitivity to factorization-breaking effects [245, 247, 248]. Quarkonium measurements are further proposed at fixed-target experiments [54, 257, 258] and electron–ion collider [198, 259].

5. Working with TMDs: fits and parameterizations

The polarization dependent and transverse momentum dependent proton's parton densities, in the notation of [56, 68–70, 260], are given in Tables I and II in Sec. 2. This scheme can be extended to spin-1 targets [261].

Most existing fits and parameterizations of these distributions may be grouped into categories which broadly correspond to three main areas of TMDs applications discussed in Sec. 2:

— Fits to vector boson q_T experimental data in unpolarized Drell–Yan production [115–117, 119, 123, 124, 129, 130, 262–264] based on the low-q_T TMD factorization [4, 6], in some cases including extension to semi-inclusive DIS data [150, 151, 265].

— Fits to DIS structure function data [13, 89, 266–285] based on the high-energy TMD factorization [18, 19] or on other approaches (*e.g.* saturation formalism) to high-energy DIS, in some cases including the precision measurements [286, 287] and TMD pdf uncertainties [13, 89].

— Fits to spin and azimuthal asymmetries data from low-energy experiments either based on parton model [197, 198, 259, 288–317] or including QCD evolution [49, 126, 318–332].

For precision phenomenology, it will be essential that results of fits and parameterizations are given in a portable form as a determination of TMD pdfs over a given kinematic range, appropriate to the theoretical method and experimental data used. A first step in this direction has been taken in [152]. The main point is that if results of fits to experimental data are used to provide TMD pdfs at different evolution scales, theoretical predictions for physical cross sections could then be obtained by using these pdfs in factorization formulas (or, eventually, in Monte Carlo event generators implementing these formulas). In [152], a library has been initiated, TMDlib, in order to unify and simplify the access of TMDs, along with a plotting tool, TMDplotter, for easier comparisons. Commonly used pdf sets are implemented in the TMDlib, with the goal to provide a library of all available TMDs. In the TMDlib, pdfs are accessible in an easily callable way within the range of their applicability. The pdfs currently included range from TMD gluon densities obtained from fits to small-x DIS data based on high-energy factorization, to TMD gluon densities from fits based on saturation approaches, to TMD quark densities from parton-model fits to low-energy fixed-target data at large x and small k_T. TMD fragmentation functions are not yet implemented, but are foreseen for the future.

An example from the TMDlib is shown in Fig. 11, plotting the transverse momentum dependence of valence quark distributions, at fixed values of x and renormalization scale p^2, obtained from the fits [89, 307].
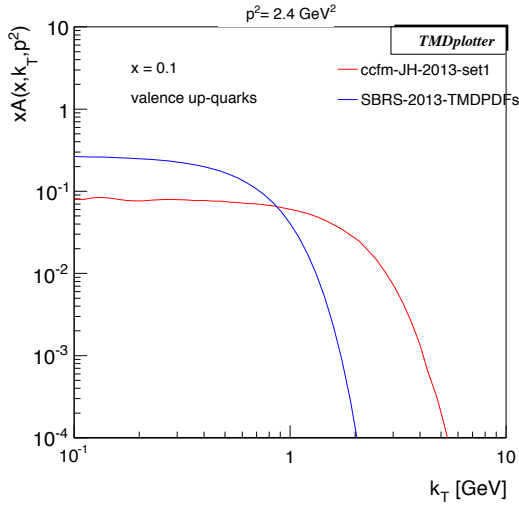
Fig. 11. (Colour on-line) Valence quark distributions as a function of transverse momentum [152] from the fits [89, 307].

In Fig. 12, we show results for gluon distributions [32, 89]. The nonperturbative parameters of the distribution represented by the thin (red) curve are obtained from the fit [89] to DIS experimental data [286, 287], while the distribution represented by the thick (blue) curve is not fitted but based on the model [32].
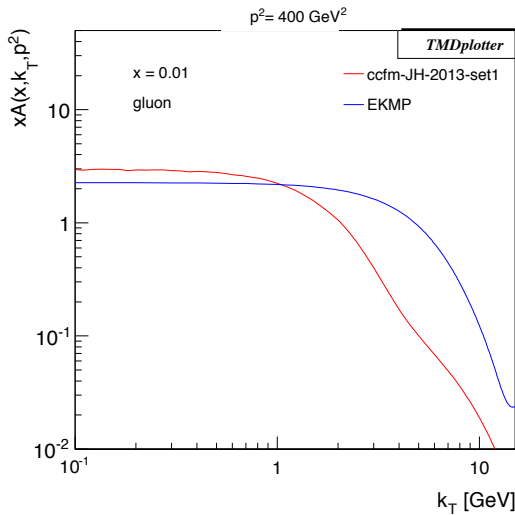

Fig. 12. (Colour on-line) Gluon distributions from [32, 89] as a function of transverse momentum [152].

6. Working with TMDs: Monte Carlo generators and tools

Inclusive or semi-inclusive hard cross sections can be calculated by convoluting parton density and decay functions with partonic cross sections. For a detailed description of the exclusive structure of the final states, on the other hand, event generators including parton showers and full hadronization are required.

In the collinear case, cross sections are computed with on-shell initial partons. For many processes, higher order calculations exist, and many of these are implemented in Monte Carlo (MC) simulation tools such as Powheg [333, 334], Mc@nlo [335], aMc@nlo [336], which combine next-to-leading order partonic calculations with parton showers and hadronization. These simulations all need a reshuffling of kinematic variables, after the parton shower is generated, in order to satisfy energy-momentum conservation, which can lead to significant kinematic shifts in the longitudinal momentum fraction x [80]. This is because transverse momentum is generated by the initial-state parton shower, which is not available when the hard scattering is computed. In certain phase space regions, these longitudinal shifts can affect the accuracy of the calculations significantly. Using TMDs, this kinematic reshuffling can be avoided from the beginning provided the TMDs include transverse momenta generated by perturbative QCD evolution which, in turn, can be evaluated according to different approximation schemes such as those in [337–340], [20–22], [83, 86, 87].

If a Monte Carlo method is used to solve the TMD evolution equation, a further advantage is that the solution of the evolution equation can be directly matched to the simulation of parton showers: the kinematic distributions are the same, whether they come from a solution of the evolution equation or from a simulation of the parton shower [88, 341, 342].

While a general purpose Monte Carlo at the TMD level does not yet exist, examples of such algorithms [343–345] have been presented for specific cases. We list a few examples below.

— MC event generators with parton shower and hadronization:

   ∘ Cascade [341, 346–348] is a full hadron level Monte Carlo event generator using TMDs, originally developed for small x processes in ep, now extended to cover medium and large x and pp processes. Initial state parton showers are treated according to the CCFM formalism, final state parton shower and hadronization is performed by the Lund package Pythia [349]. Parton polarizations are included according to the high-energy factorization [19]. Proton polarizations are not yet included.

○ PYTHIA [349]. With the initial and final state parton showers simulated in PYTHIA, one may argue that several elements of TMD physics are effectively included. PYTHIA can be used to mimic spin-dependent cross sections by reshuffling events (assigning polarization states) [343] according to a given cross-section model. This is especially useful when event topologies are needed (*e.g.*, to simulate the interplay of track correlations with detector performance), or where no explicit physics model is yet available to be employed in dedicated MC generators.

○ mPYTHIA and mLEPTO are based on LEPTO [350] and PYTHIA [349] with a modification of the hard process [343] to treat the azimuthal angle of the scattered (light) quark and via momentum conservation of the target remnant according to parameterizations of the Sivers function. While limited to the rather specific case of the Sivers effect, it can make use of the hadronization embodied in JETSET [351–353].

— MC event generators at parton level with fragmentation functions:

○ LXJET (see [354]) is devoted to a calculation of jet cross sections at small x in hadron–hadron collisions. It can be also viewed as an event generator as it allows one to generate unweighted events. It uses high-energy factorization [19].

○ GMC-TRANS (see [343]) is a MC generator, developed by the HERMES Collaboration, applying the parton-model expression of the one-hadron semi-inclusive DIS cross section using several models/parametrization for various leading-twist TMD PDFs and FFs. Pion and charged-kaon production is simulated, both for proton and neutron targets (or combinations thereof) without including nuclear effects. An analytic expression for the semi-inclusive DIS cross section was implemented based on the widely used Gaussian ansatz of the transverse-momentum dependences.

○ TMDGEN (see [343]) is an extended version of GMC-TRANS entirely written in C++ focusing mainly on di-hadron production in semi-inclusive DIS. Advances in computation power allowed for other than the Gaussian ansatz of the transverse-momentum dependences by employing numeric integration algorithms. It thus allowed the usage of the spectator model [355] for various TMD PDFs and FFs.

○ CLAS (see [343]) uses a similar approach as GMC-TRANS, though restricted to the unpolarized sector and to longitudinal double-spin asymmetries. It uses the fully differential single-hadron DIS cross section to simulate semi-inclusive DIS events. The transverse momentum dependence can be Gaussian, but also light-cone quark-model inspired dependence has been implemented.

— Semi-analytical calculations of semi-inclusive processes:

◦ Resbos [114, 115, 119] is a package to calculate analytically resummed distributions of inclusive and semi-inclusive observables. The q_T resummation in Resbos and parton showering methods of Monte Carlo event generators are complementary. Both are based on all-order resummation using Sudakov form factors. Resbos allows the user to calculate resummed distributions of the Higgs/vector bosons and their decay products up to NNLL. It follows a prescription for matching the resummed contribution onto the fixed-order result and implements a parameterization of nonperturbative effects at small q_T in terms of TMD PDFs.

◦ HqT and DYqT [133, 356] are numerical programs which implement the analytical q_T resummation formalism [29, 132–134] to compute, respectively, the q_T spectrum of the Standard Model Higgs and Drell–Yan lepton pair (via vector boson production) in hadronic collisions. The resummed results are matched to the fixed order calculation valid at high q_T. The program can be used up to NNLL+NLO, with the resummed part evaluated at NNLL, the fixed order evaluated at NLO (Higgs/vector bosons plus one or two partons) and with the normalization fixed to the total NNLO cross section.

◦ HRes and DYRes [357, 358] are numerical programs which extend the calculations in HqT/DYqT by retaining the full kinematics of the Higgs/vector bosons and of its decay products. The programs implement q_T resummation up to NNLL+NNLO and allow the user to apply arbitrary cuts on final states and to plot the corresponding distributions in form of bin histograms.

7. Conclusions

We studied two sets of examples of multi-scale problems in hadronic collisions which require QCD factorization theorems beyond the collinear approximation and call for the use of TMD parton distributions. In one set of examples, the transverse momentum scale is small compared to the hard process scale; in the other, the transverse momentum is of the order of the hard scale but this is much smaller than the total energy of the scattering. In both cases, factorization theorems in terms of TMD parton distributions are necessary in order both to resum logarithmically-enhanced perturbative corrections to all loops and to properly take into account nonperturbative hadron structure effects.

These multi-scale regimes are relevant to the LHC phenomenology. An example is the low-q_T region of transverse momentum spectra for vector bosons, Higgs bosons, heavy flavor pairs at the LHC. Another example is the

production of multi-jets associated with heavy bosons and heavy flavors at large jet masses. Further examples include any final state produced by events at small longitudinal momentum fraction x, such as final states boosted to high rapidities. Besides the LHC, TMD dynamics is central to spin physics in current low-energy experiments and to the planning of future polarized collider and fixed-target experiments.

As the field moves towards the stage of precision studies, appropriate phenomenological tools will be needed. This includes tools for Monte Carlo event simulations, which require parton shower evolution algorithms and determinations of TMD parton distributions from experimental data. First steps toward a new program of portable and accessible TMD pdfs were illustrated with explicit examples in this report.

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