

Quark and Gluon quasi-PDFs at low-x

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XXVIII International Workshop on Deep-Inelastic
Scattering and Related Subjects

Virtual@Stony Brook University

13 April, 2021

- Definition of quasi-pdfs;
- Light-ray operator with point-splitting: quasi-pdf frame;
- brief review of high-energy OPE;
- Results in the saddle point approximation;
- Results in the leading twist approximation;
- Conclusions.

Light-cone gluon and quark distributions are obtained from

light-cone gluon operator

$$\langle P | G^{a i -}(x^+) [n x^+, 0]^{ab} G^{b i -}(0) | P \rangle$$

light-cone quark operator

$$\langle P | \bar{\psi}(x^+) \gamma^- [n x^+, 0] \psi(0) | P \rangle$$

$$x^\mu = n^\mu x^+ + n'^\mu x^- + x_\perp^\mu, \quad x^\pm = \frac{x^0 \pm x^3}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad x_\mu n^\mu = x^-, \quad x_\mu n'^\mu = x^+$$

$$P^- \gg 1$$

quasi-pdf as introduced by X. Ji in 2013; Motivation: study pdf on the lattice.

bi-local operators with space like separation and connected by a Wilson line

gluon quasi-distribution

$$g(x_B, \mu^2, P) = \int \frac{dx}{4\pi x_B P} e^{ix_B P \cdot x} \langle P | G^{3\mu}(x) \exp\left(-ig \int_0^x dx' A^3(x')\right) G_\mu^3(0) | P \rangle$$

quark quasi-distribution

$$q(x_B, \mu^2, P) = \int \frac{dx}{4\pi} e^{ix_B P \cdot x} \langle P | \bar{\psi}(x) \gamma^3 \exp\left(-ig \int_0^x dx' A^3(x')\right) \psi(0) | P \rangle$$

quasi-distribution studied by several groups

X. Xiong, X. Ji, J. H. Zhang and Y. Zhao (2014);

T. Izubuchi, X. Ji, L. Jin, I. W. Stewart and Y. Zhao (2018);

W. Wang, S. Zhao, R. Zhu (2018); W. Wang, J. H. Zhang, S. Zhao, R. Zhu (2019);

I. Balitsky, W. Morris, A. Radyuskin (2020);

... not an exhaustive list

gluon quasi-distribution

$$g(x_B, \mu^2, P) = \int \frac{dx}{4\pi x_B P} e^{ix_B P x} \langle P | G^{3\mu}(x) \exp\left(-ig \int_0^x dx' A^3(x')\right) G_\mu^3(0) | P \rangle$$

quark quasi-distribution

$$q(x_B, \mu^2, P) = \int \frac{dx}{4\pi} e^{ix_B P x} \langle P | \bar{\psi}(x) \gamma^3 \exp\left(-ig \int_0^x dx' A^3(x')\right) \psi(0) | P \rangle$$

We will calculate the low-x behavior of the quasi-pdfs in coordinate space in two ways

- saddle point approximation
- leading twist approximation

Tensor decomposition over invariant amplitudes of the gluon matrix element

Tensor structures are build from P^μ , x^μ , and $g^{\mu\nu}$

$$\begin{aligned} M_{\mu\alpha;\lambda\beta} &\equiv \langle P | G_{\mu\alpha}(x)[x, 0] G_{\lambda\beta}(0) | P \rangle \\ &= I_{1\mu\alpha;\lambda\beta} \mathcal{M}_{pp} + I_{2\mu\alpha;\lambda\beta} \mathcal{M}_{zz} + I_{3\mu\alpha;\lambda\beta} \mathcal{M}_{zp} \\ &\quad + I_{4\mu\alpha;\lambda\beta} \mathcal{M}_{pz} + I_{5\mu\alpha;\lambda\beta} \mathcal{M}_{ppzz} + I_{6\mu\alpha;\lambda\beta} \mathcal{M}_{gg} \end{aligned}$$

the amplitudes \mathcal{M} are functions of the invariants x^2 and $x \cdot P = -\nu$ (loffe time)

light-cone Gluon distribution is obtained from

$$g_{\perp}^{\alpha\beta} M_{+\alpha;\beta+}(x^+, P) = -2(P^-)^2 \mathcal{M}_{pp}$$

The PDF is determined by the \mathcal{M}_{pp} structure

$$M_{+i;+i} = M_{0i;0i} + M_{3i;3i} + M_{0i;3i} + M_{3i;0i}$$

$$M_{0i;i0} + M_{ji;j} = 2p_0^2 \mathcal{M}_{pp} \xrightarrow{\text{high-energy}} M_{+i;+i}$$

At high energy (Regge limit) the transverse components are suppressed and we do not distinguish between the 0-component and the 3-component

twist-two gluon operator

$$\mathcal{O}_F^j = F_{\mu+}^a \nabla_+^{j-2} F_+^{\mu a}$$

anomalous dimension is singular at $j = 1$

The analytical continuation of anomalous dimension of twist-two gluon operator to $j = 1$ is determined by the BFKL eq.

$j \rightarrow 1 \Leftrightarrow x_B \rightarrow 0$; at $\frac{\alpha_s}{j-1} \sim 1 \Rightarrow$ resummation: BFKL eq.

So, near $j = 1$ we have the anomalous dimension to all orders via BFKL pomeron.

$j = 1$ is called *unphysical point*, the operator becomes non local.

From local operators to Light-ray operators

DIS at high-energy $-q^2 = Q^2 \gg P^2$ $s = (P + q)^2 \gg Q^2$

$$\sigma^{\gamma^* p}(x_B, Q^2) = \int d\nu F(\nu) x_B^{-\aleph(\nu)-1} \left(\frac{Q^2}{P^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}+i\nu}$$

in DIS, the n -th moment of the structure function is

$$M_n = \int_0^1 dx_B x_B^{n-1} \sigma^{\gamma^* p}(x_B, Q^2) = \int_{\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}+i\infty} d\gamma \frac{F(\gamma)}{n-1-\aleph(\gamma)} \left(\frac{Q^2}{P^2}\right)^\gamma$$

$\aleph(\gamma)$ is the BFKL pomeron intercept.

Closing the contour on the poles we get the anomalous dimensions of the leading and higher twist operators at the *unphysical point*.

Leading residue: contribution which does not vanish as $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$

- For our task we could repeat the same steps as it is done in DIS.
- But we need the explicit form of the twist-two operator at the unphysical point: $F_{\mu+}^a \nabla_+^{-1} F_+^{\mu a}$

⇒ light-ray operator with point-splitting

Balitsky(2013); Balitsky, Kazakov, Sobko (2013-2015)

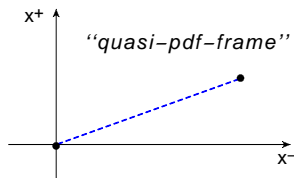
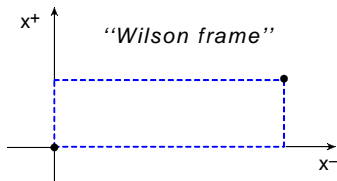
analytic continuation of local operator

analytic continuation of local operator to **light-ray operators**
are singular in the BFKL approximation

⇒ analytic continuation of local operator to
light-ray operators with point-splitting

Wilson frame: gluon operator Balitsky(2013); Balitsky, Kazakov, Sobko (2013-2015)

quasi-pdf frame: this work (quark and gluon operators)



gauge link: $[x, y] = P \exp \left\{ i g \int_0^1 du (x - y)_\mu A^\mu(xu + (1 - u)y) \right\}$

Gluon $\mathcal{F}_n^j(x_\perp, y_\perp) \equiv \int_0^{+\infty} dx^+ (x^+)^{1-j} \mathcal{F}_n(x^+; x_\perp, y_\perp)$

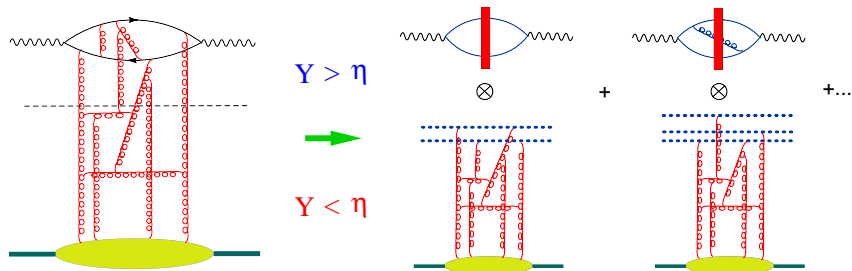
$$\mathcal{F}_n(x^+; x_\perp, y_\perp) \equiv \int dy^+ G^{a i -}(nx^+ + ny^+ + x_\perp) [nx^+ + ny^+ + x_\perp, ny^+ + y_\perp]^{ab} G^{b i -}(ny^+ + y_\perp)$$

Quark $\mathcal{Q}_n^j(x_\perp, y_\perp) \equiv \int_0^{+\infty} dx^+ (x^+)^{-j} \mathcal{Q}_n(x^+; x_\perp, y_\perp)$

$$\mathcal{Q}_n(x^+; x_\perp, y_\perp) \equiv \int dx^+ \bar{\psi}(nx^+ + ny^+ + x_\perp) \gamma^- [nx^+ + ny^+ + x_\perp, ny^+ + y_\perp] \psi(ny^+ + y_\perp)$$

$$x^\mu = x^+ n^\mu + x^- n'^\mu + x_\perp^\mu$$

remind: High-energy OPE for DIS



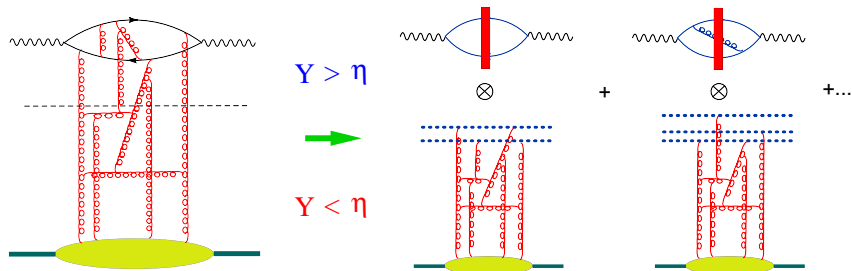
factorization scale: rapidity η

Rapidity $Y > \eta$ - coefficient function (“impact factor”)

Rapidity $Y < \eta$ - matrix elements of (light-like) Wilson lines with rapidity divergence cut by η

$$U_x^\eta = \text{Pexp} \left[ig \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx^+ A_+^\eta(x_+, x_\perp) \right]$$

remind: High-energy OPE for DIS



The high-energy operator product expansion is

$$\begin{aligned}
 T\{\hat{j}_\mu(x)\hat{j}_\nu(y)\} &= \int d^2 z_1 d^2 z_2 I_{\mu\nu}^{\text{LO}}(z_1, z_2, x, y) \text{Tr}\{\hat{U}_{z_1}^\eta \hat{U}_{z_2}^{\dagger\eta}\} \\
 &+ \int d^2 z_1 d^2 z_2 d^2 z_3 I_{\mu\nu}^{\text{NLO}}(z_1, z_2, z_3, x, y) [\text{tr}\{\hat{U}_{z_1}^\eta \hat{U}_{z_3}^{\dagger\eta}\} \text{tr}\{\hat{U}_{z_3}^\eta \hat{U}_{z_2}^{\dagger\eta}\} - N_c \text{tr}\{\hat{U}_{z_1}^\eta \hat{U}_{z_2}^{\dagger\eta}\}]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$T\{\hat{j}_\mu(x)\hat{j}_\nu(y)\} = \int d^2z_1 d^2z_2 I_{\mu\nu}^{\text{LO}}(z_1, z_2, x, y) \text{Tr}\{\hat{U}_{z_1}^\eta \hat{U}_{z_2}^{\dagger\eta}\}$$

- Calculate LO Impact factor: $I_{\mu\nu}^{\text{LO}}(z_1, z_2, x, y)$
- Calculate evolution of matrix element $\text{Tr}\{\hat{U}_{z_1}^\eta \hat{U}_{z_2}^{\dagger\eta}\}$: BK/JIMWLK equation
 - we need only linear terms: BFKL
- Solve the evolution equation with initial condition: GBW/MV model
- Convolute the solution of the evolution equation with the impact factor

$$\langle P | G^{a, i-}(x) [x, 0] G^{b, i-}(0) | P \rangle = \int d^2 z_2 d^2 z_z I_g(z_1, z_2; x) \langle P | \text{Tr} \{ U(z_1) U^\dagger(z_2) \} | P \rangle$$

$$\langle P | \bar{\psi}(x) \gamma^- [x, 0] \psi(0) | P \rangle = \int d^2 z_2 d^2 z_z I_q(z_1, z_2; x) \langle P | \text{tr} \{ U(z_1) U^\dagger(z_2) \} | P \rangle$$

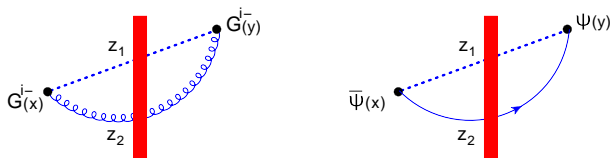
- Calculate coefficient functions (impact factors) I_g and I_q
- Convolute them with the solution of the evolution equation of relative matrix elements

High-energy OPE for quasi-pdf-frame operators

$$\langle P | G^{a i^-}(x)[x, 0] G^{b, i^-}(0) | P \rangle = \int d^2 z_2 d^2 z_z I_g(z_1, z_2; x) \langle P | \text{Tr}\{U(z_1)U^\dagger(z_2)\} | P \rangle$$

$$\langle P | \bar{\psi}(x)\gamma^-[x, 0]\psi(0) | P \rangle = \int d^2 z_2 d^2 z_z I_q(z_1, z_2; x) \langle P | \text{tr}\{U(z_1)U^\dagger(z_2)\} | P \rangle$$

Diagrams for the gluon impact factor I_g and quark impact factor I_q respectively



- Gluon: Tr trace in the adjoint representation;
- Quark: tr trace in the fundamental representation.

Linear evolution equation: BFKL equation

$$\mathcal{U}(z_{12}) = 1 - \frac{1}{N_c} \text{tr}\{U(z_{1\perp})U^\dagger(z_{2\perp})\} \quad \frac{1}{z_{12}^2} \mathcal{U}^a(z_{12}) \equiv \mathcal{V}^a(z_{12}) \quad z_{12} = |z_{1\perp} - z_{2\perp}|$$

$$2a \frac{d}{da} \mathcal{V}_a(z) = \frac{\alpha_s N_c}{\pi^2} \int d^2 z' \left[\frac{\mathcal{V}_a(z')}{(z - z')^2} - \frac{(z, z') \mathcal{V}_a(z)}{z'^2 (z - z')^2} \right]$$

a rapidity cut-off in coordinate space.

Linear evolution equation: BFKL equation

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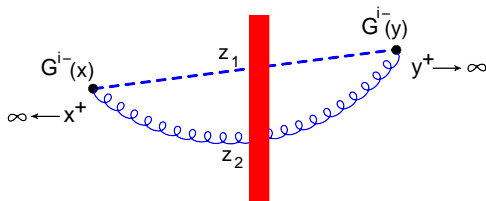
Solution

$$\mathcal{V}^a(z_{12}) = \int \frac{d\nu}{2\pi^2} (z_{12}^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}+i\nu} \left(\frac{a}{a_0}\right)^{\frac{\alpha_s N_c}{2\pi} \chi(\nu)} \int d^2 \omega (\omega_\perp^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}-i\nu} \mathcal{V}^{a_0}(\omega_\perp)$$

$$\chi(\nu) = 2\psi(1) - \psi\left(\frac{1}{2} + i\nu\right) - \psi\left(\frac{1}{2} - i\nu\right)$$

initial condition $\mathcal{V}^{a_0}(\omega_\perp)$: GBW/MV model

Q_s saturation scale: initial condition for the high-energy evolution.



DIS at high-energy

$$Q \text{ fixed, } s \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow x_B \sim \frac{Q^2}{s} \rightarrow 0$$

coordinate space

$$|x - y|_{\perp} \text{ fixed, } x^+, y^+ \rightarrow \infty$$

coordinate space rapidity cut-off:
$$a = \frac{2x^+y^+}{(x-y)_{\perp}^2}$$

I. Balitsky, G.A.C. (2009)

Results in the saddle point approximation

$$n^\mu = \frac{x^\mu}{|x|}, \quad \bar{\alpha}_s = \frac{\alpha_s N_c}{\pi}$$

Gluon

$$\begin{aligned} n_\mu n_\nu \langle P | G^{a\alpha\mu}(x)[x, 0]^{ab} G^{b\beta\nu}(0) | P \rangle \\ = g_\perp^{\alpha\beta} \frac{3N_c^2}{128} \frac{Q_s \sigma_0}{|x|} \frac{\exp\left\{-\frac{\ln^2 Q_s |x|}{14\zeta(3)\bar{\alpha}_s \ln(x \cdot P)}\right\}}{\sqrt{14\zeta(3)\bar{\alpha}_s \ln(x \cdot P)}} (x \cdot P)^{\bar{\alpha}_s 4 \ln 2} \end{aligned}$$

Quark

$$\begin{aligned} n_\mu \langle P | \bar{\psi}(x) \gamma^\mu [x, 0] \psi(0) | P \rangle \\ = \frac{iN_c}{32} Q_s \sigma_0 \frac{\exp\left\{-\frac{\ln^2 Q_s |x|}{14\zeta(3)\bar{\alpha}_s \ln(x \cdot P)}\right\}}{\sqrt{14\zeta(3)\bar{\alpha}_s \ln(x \cdot P)}} (x \cdot P)^{\bar{\alpha}_s 4 \ln 2} \end{aligned}$$

Usual exponential growth of high-energy evolution

Best check: correlation functions in CFT

Supersymmetric light-ray operator $\mathcal{S}^j(x_\perp)$ (of spin j) are analytic continuation of local operators

$$\langle \mathcal{S}^j(z_{1\perp}) \mathcal{S}^{j'}(z_{2\perp}) \rangle = \delta(j - j') \frac{C(j, \Delta) s^{j-1}}{[(z_{1\perp} - z_{2\perp})^2]^{\Delta-1}} \mu^{-2\gamma_{\text{an}}}$$

Δ dimension of the operator; s is Mandelstam variable.

μ is the renormalization point; γ_{an} anomalous dimension.

correlation function for Gluon: in the limit $\alpha_s \ll \omega = j - 1 \ll 1$ *quasi-pdf frame* agrees with *Wilson frame* which agrees with the general form of two-point correlator of light-ray operators.

$$\langle \mathcal{F}_n^j(x_\perp, y_\perp) \mathcal{F}_{n'}^{j'}(x'_\perp, y'_\perp) \rangle = -\frac{N_c^2}{2\pi} \frac{2^\omega \omega}{[(X - X')^2_\perp]^{2+\omega}} \left(\frac{(X - X')^2_\perp}{|\Delta_\perp| |\Delta'_\perp|} \right)^{\omega+2} \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s}{\omega} \delta(\omega - \omega')$$

$$X_\perp = \frac{x_\perp + y_\perp}{2}, \quad X'_\perp = \frac{x'_\perp + y'_\perp}{2}$$

$$\Delta_\perp = (x - y)_\perp, \quad \Delta'_\perp = (x' - y')_\perp \quad \Delta_\perp \Delta'_\perp \text{ is like the IR cut-off } \mu^{-2}$$

Best check: correlation functions in CFT

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correlation function for Quark (gluino): in the limit $\alpha_s \ll \omega = j - 1 \ll 1$ agrees with the general form of two-point correlator of light-ray operators.

$$\langle \mathcal{Q}_n^j(x_\perp, y_\perp) \mathcal{Q}_{n'}^{j'}(x'_\perp, y'_\perp) \rangle = \frac{8}{\pi} \frac{2^\omega \omega}{[(X - X')^2_\perp]^{2+\omega}} \left(\frac{(X - X')^2_\perp}{|\Delta_\perp| |\Delta'_\perp|} \right)^{\omega + 2\frac{\alpha_s}{\omega}} \delta(\omega - \omega')$$

$$X_\perp = \frac{x_\perp + y_\perp}{2}, \quad X'_\perp = \frac{x'_\perp + y'_\perp}{2}$$

$$\Delta_\perp = (x - y)_\perp, \quad \Delta'_\perp = (x' - y')_\perp \quad \Delta_\perp \Delta'_\perp \text{ is like the IR cut-off } \mu^{-2}$$

- Consider twist-two local operators
 - actually the full supermultiplet of multiplicatively renorm. operators

$$\mathcal{O}_\phi^j(x_\perp) = \int du \bar{\phi}_{AB}^a \nabla_-^j \phi^{ABa}(up_1 + x_\perp)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_\lambda^j(x_\perp) = \int du i \bar{\lambda}_A^a \nabla_-^{j-1} \lambda_A^a(up_1 + x_\perp)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_g^j(x_\perp) = \int du F^{a+}_i \nabla_-^{j-2} F^{a+i}(up_1 + x_\perp)$$

supermultiplet of local operators

$$s_1^j = \mathcal{O}_g^j + \frac{1}{4} \mathcal{O}_\lambda^j - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{O}_\phi^j$$

$$s_2^j = \mathcal{O}_g^j - \frac{1}{4(j-1)} \mathcal{O}_\lambda^j + \frac{j+1}{6(j-1)} \mathcal{O}_\phi^j$$

$$s_3^j = \mathcal{O}_g^j - \frac{j+2}{2(j-1)} \mathcal{O}_\lambda^j - \frac{(j+1)(j+2)}{2j(j-1)} \mathcal{O}_\phi^j$$

- Construct the analytic continuation to complex spin- j of light-ray operators

$$\mathcal{F}^j(x_\perp) = \int_0^\infty du u^{1-j} \mathcal{F}(up_1 + x_\perp),$$

$$\Lambda^j(x_\perp) = \int_0^\infty du u^{-j} \Lambda(up_1 + x_\perp),$$

$$\Phi^j(x_\perp) = \int_0^\infty du u^{-1-j} \Phi(up_1 + x_\perp)$$

with

$$\mathcal{F}^j(up_1, x_\perp) = \int dv F^{a+}_{\mu}(up_1 + vp_1 + x_\perp) [u + v, v]_x^{ab} F^{b+\mu}(vp_1 + x_\perp),$$

$$\Lambda^j(up_1, x_\perp) = \frac{i}{2} \int dv \left(-\bar{\lambda}_A^a(up_1 + vp_1 + x_\perp) [u + v, v]_x^{ab} \sigma_- \lambda_A^b(vp_1 + x_\perp) \right. \\ \left. + \bar{\lambda}_A^a(vp_1 + x_\perp) [v, u + v]_x^{ab} \sigma_- \lambda_A^b(up_1 + vp_1 + x_\perp) \right),$$

$$\Phi^j(u, x_\perp) = \int dv \phi_I^a(up_1 + vp_1 + x_\perp) [u + v, v]_x^{ab} \phi_I^b(vp_1 + x_\perp)$$

Best check: correlation functions in CFT

Analytic continuation of the multiplicatively renormalizable light-ray operators to non-integer j

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{S}_1^j &= \mathcal{F}^j + \frac{j-1}{4}\Lambda^j - j(j-1)\frac{1}{2}\Phi^j, \\ \mathcal{S}_2^j &= \mathcal{F}^j - \frac{1}{4}\Lambda^j + \frac{j(j+1)}{6}\Phi^j, \\ \mathcal{S}_3^j &= \mathcal{F}^j - \frac{j+2}{2}\Lambda^j - \frac{(j+1)(j+2)}{2}\Phi^j.\end{aligned}$$

Note: coefficients are different from the ones in the system of local multiplicatively renom. operators

leading twist approx. for quasi-pdf

$$\bar{\alpha}_s = \frac{\alpha_s N_c}{\pi} \quad n^\mu = \frac{x^\mu}{|x|} \quad \text{with } 0 < Q_s |x| < 1$$

Gluon

$$n_\mu n_\nu \langle P | G^{a\alpha\mu}(x)[x, 0]^{ab} G^{b\beta\nu}(0) | P \rangle = \frac{g_\perp^{\alpha\beta} N_c Q_s^2}{2 \cdot 4\pi\alpha_s} \left(\frac{\ln(x \cdot P)}{2\bar{\alpha}_s |\ln Q_s |x||} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} I_1(z)$$

Quark

$$n_\mu \langle P | \bar{\psi}(x) \gamma^\mu [x, 0] \psi(0) | P \rangle = -\frac{i Q_s^2 |x|}{12\pi\alpha_s} \left(\frac{\ln(x \cdot P)}{2\bar{\alpha}_s |\ln Q_s |x||} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} I_1(z)$$

$$z = i [2\bar{\alpha}_s |\ln(Q_s^2 x^2)| \ln(2(x \cdot P)^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\text{If } Q_s |x| > 1 \Rightarrow I_1(z) \rightarrow J_1(z)$$

- Saddle point approximation: quasi-pdfs grow with log time $x \cdot P$.
- Correlation function of quasi-pdfs quark and gluon operators agrees with the general result for two-point correlation function in CFT.
- Leading twist approximation in coordinate space for quasi-pdfs gives modified Bessel function I_1 with double log in the argument if $0 < Q_s|x| < 1$ and Bessel function J_1 if $Q_s|x| > 1$.