

Phenomenology of helicity amplitudes of high energy exclusive lepton production of the ρ meson



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Introduction

- Exclusive lepton production of vector mesons has been the subject of significant progress in the last 20 years. We work in the hard regime where a highly virtual photon exchange allows to separate a short distance dominated amplitude of hard subprocess from suitably defined hadronic objects.
- The object of our study is the hard exclusive electroproduction of the ρ vector meson in the process $\gamma^*(\lambda_\gamma) p \rightarrow \rho(\lambda_\rho) p$ ($\lambda_\gamma, \lambda_\rho$: polarisations of the virtual photon and the vector meson). The H1 and ZEUS collaborations have recently provided a complete analysis on ratios of helicity amplitudes $T_{\lambda_\rho \lambda_\gamma}$.
- In this study, we give a prediction for the ratios T_{11}/T_{00} and T_{01}/T_{00} , using the impact factor representation of helicity amplitudes (k_T -factorization), in the kinematical range:

$$W \text{ (energy on the center of mass)} \gg Q \text{ (virtuality of the photon)} \gg \Lambda_{QCD}$$

We use expressions for impact factors:

- $\gamma_T \rightarrow \rho_T$ (twist 3) recently computed within the Light Cone Collinear approach (LCCF) at $|t| = |t|_{min} \approx 0$ (Anikin et al. '10)
- $\gamma_L \rightarrow \rho_L$ (twist 2), $\gamma_T \rightarrow \rho_L$ (twist 3, vanishes at $|t| = |t|_{min} \approx 0$) (Ginzburg, Panfil, Serbo '87)
- a dipole inspired phenomenological model for the proton coupling (Gunion, Soper '77)

Impact Factor Representation

- At high energy in the center of mass ($s = W^2 \gg Q^2$, $|t| = |t|_{min}$, Masses), amplitudes behave as $s^{\sum \sigma_i - N + 1}$ (σ_i (spin) and N (number) of the particles exchanged in t -channel) \Rightarrow the amplitude at large s is dominated by gluons exchange in t -channel.
- Masses and Q^2 are negligible with respect to $s \Rightarrow$ define 2 light-cone vectors p_1, p_2 such as the upper (lower) particles fly almost along p_1 (p_2) and such as $2p_1 \cdot p_2 = s$, to extract the dominant part of the amplitude.

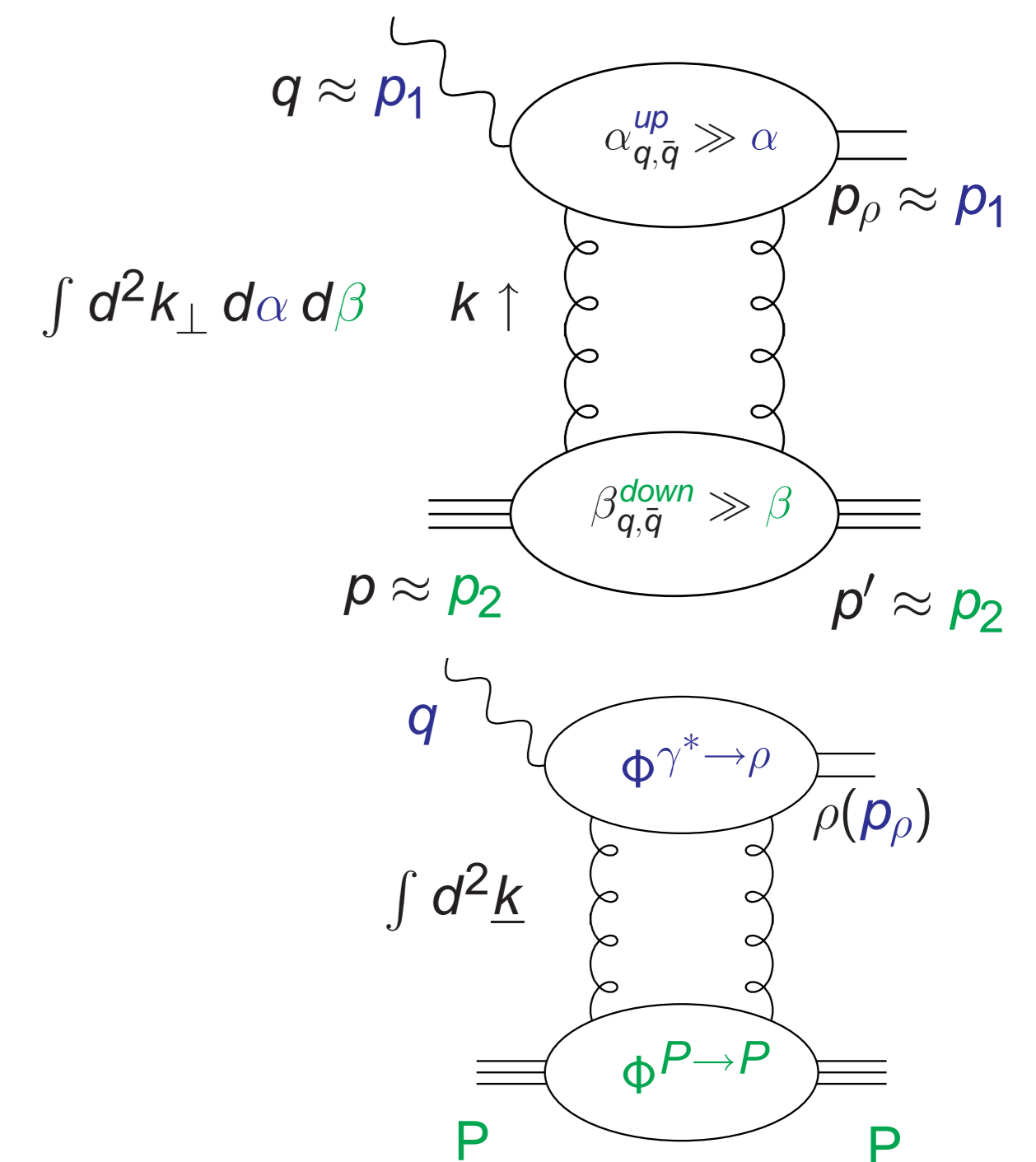
- Sudakov decomposition of gluon momenta: $k = \alpha p_1 + \beta p_2 + k_\perp \Rightarrow$ eikonal approximation $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha_{q,\bar{q}}^{up} \gg \alpha \\ \beta_{q,\bar{q}}^{down} \gg \beta \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow$ gluons longitudinally polarised: $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \varepsilon_{NS}^{up} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{s}} p_2 \\ \varepsilon_{NS}^{down} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{s}} p_1 \end{array} \right.$

- Impact factors: $\int d^4 k = \int \frac{s}{2} d\alpha d\beta d^2 k_\perp$
 $\Rightarrow \int d\beta$ acts only on the upper part of the amplitude to give the so called Impact factor $\Phi^{\gamma^* \rightarrow \rho}(k^2)$.
 $\Rightarrow \int d\alpha$ acts only on the lower part of the amplitude to give the proton Impact factor $\Phi^{P \rightarrow P}(k^2)$.

$\gamma^* \rightarrow \rho$ impact factor:

$$\Phi^{\gamma^* \rightarrow \rho}(k^2) = e^{\gamma^* \mu} \frac{1}{2s} \int \frac{d\beta}{2\pi} S_\mu^{\gamma^* g \rightarrow \rho g}(\beta, k^2) \quad \text{with } k^2 = -k_\perp^2$$

- Helicity amplitudes in the impact factor representation: $T_{\lambda_\rho \lambda_\gamma} = is \int \frac{d^2 k}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{1}{(k^2)^2} \Phi^{\gamma^*(\lambda_\gamma) \rightarrow \rho(\lambda_\rho)}(k) \Phi^{P \rightarrow P}(-k)$



Light-Cone Collinear Factorisation (LCCF) of the $\gamma_{\lambda_\gamma}^* \rightarrow \rho_{\lambda_\rho}$ impact factors

As $-q^2 = Q^2 \gg \Lambda_{QCD}^2$, impact factors $\Phi^{\gamma_{\lambda_\gamma}^* \rightarrow \rho_{\lambda_\rho}}$ can be expanded in $1/Q$. The dominant contributions in $1/Q$ depend on the choice of $\lambda_\gamma, \lambda_\rho$ ($\gamma_L \rightarrow \rho_L$ twist 2, $\gamma_T \rightarrow \rho_T$ twist 3).

$$\Phi^{\gamma_{\lambda_\gamma}^* \rightarrow \rho_{\lambda_\rho}} = \int d^4 \ell \dots \text{tr} [H(\ell \dots) S(\ell \dots)] \Rightarrow \gamma_{\lambda_\gamma}^* \text{---} H \text{---} S \text{---} \rho_{\lambda_\rho}$$

Up to twist 2 ($1/Q$): consider 2 partons ($q\bar{q}$) exchange between the hard and the soft part with light-cone collinear momenta ($\ell = y p_1$)

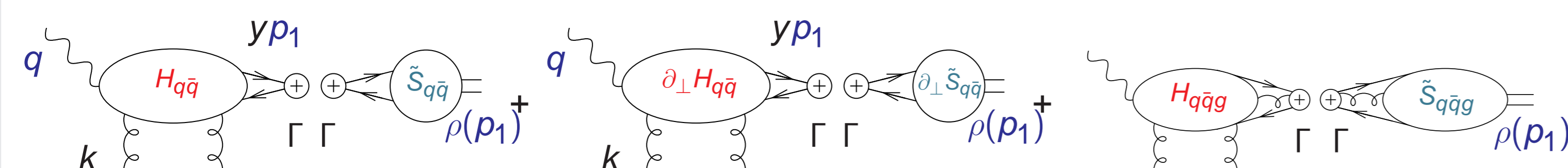
Up to twist 3 ($1/Q^2$): consider

- 2 partons exchange with almost collinear momenta $\ell_q = y p_1 + \ell_\perp \Rightarrow$ Taylor expansion of the hard part along $\ell_q = y p_1$

$$H(\ell) = H(y p_1) + \frac{\partial H(\ell)}{\partial \ell_\alpha} \Big|_{\ell=y p_1} \ell_\alpha^\perp + \dots$$

- 3 partons exchange ($q\bar{q}g$) with light-cone collinear momenta

Spinor and color indices factorisation (Application of Fierz identities):



Parametrisation of the Soft Parts

Soft part are Fourier transforms of non-local correlators (Coord. space $\lambda n \rightarrow$ Momentum space $y p_1$):

$$(S_{q\bar{q}}^\Gamma(y), \partial_\perp S_{q\bar{q}}^\Gamma(y)) = \int \frac{d\lambda}{2\pi} e^{-i\lambda y} \langle \rho(p_1) | \bar{\psi}(\lambda n) \Gamma(1, i \partial_\perp) \psi(0) | 0 \rangle \quad \text{with } n = \frac{2}{s} p_2$$

Choose axial gauge $n \cdot A = 0 \Rightarrow$ no Wilson line contributions.

Lorentz and Parity analysis \Rightarrow parameterise these non-local correlators by a set of Distribution Amplitudes (DA),

e.g. $\Gamma_\mu = \gamma_\mu$:

$$S_{q\bar{q}}^\Gamma(y) = m_p f_p(\varphi_1(y)(e_p^* \cdot n) p_{1\mu} + \varphi_3(y)(p_1 \cdot n) e_p^* T_\mu)$$

For the $\gamma_T^* \rightarrow \rho_T$ transition, a set of 7 DAs appears

- \Rightarrow 5 2-body DAs $\{\varphi_1, \varphi_A, \varphi_3, \varphi_{1T}, \varphi_{AT}\}$
- \Rightarrow 2 3-body DAs $\{B(y_1, y_2), D(y_1, y_2)\}$

Equations of motion + n -independence equations \Rightarrow 3 independent DAs, e.g. $\{\varphi_1, B(y_1, y_2), D(y_1, y_2)\}$. $\{\varphi_A, \varphi_3, \varphi_{1T}, \varphi_{AT}\}$ are expressed in terms of $\{\varphi_1, B(y_1, y_2), D(y_1, y_2)\}$:

- Solutions in the Wandzura Wilczek (WW) approximation: $\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \{\varphi_3^{WW}(y), \varphi_A^{WW}(y), \varphi_{1T}^{WW}(y), \varphi_{AT}^{WW}(y)\}$
- Genuine twist 3 (gen) solutions $\{B(y_1, y_2), D(y_1, y_2)\} \Rightarrow \{\varphi_3^{gen}(y), \varphi_A^{gen}(y), \varphi_{1T}^{gen}(y), \varphi_{AT}^{gen}(y)\}$

$\{\varphi_1, B(y_1, y_2), D(y_1, y_2)\}$ are solutions of ERL equations of evolution (taken here at leading order from (Ball, Braun, Koike, Tanaka '98)), they depend on the collinear factorisation scale μ^2 .

Helicity Amplitudes, model for the impact factor $\Phi^{P \rightarrow P}$

Phenomenological $\Phi^{P \rightarrow P}$

$$\Phi^{P \rightarrow P}(k; M^2) \propto \left[\frac{1}{M^2} - \frac{1}{M^2 + k^2} \right] \quad \text{J.F Gunion, D.E Soper '68}$$

- vanishes in the limit $k \rightarrow 0$ as expected from QCD gauge invariance (Universal feature of impact factors)

- M is a non perturbative mass scale for the proton impact factor (free parameter of this model), it does not depend on polarisation effects.

Master formulae for helicity amplitudes:

$$T_{\lambda_\rho \lambda_\gamma} = is \int \frac{d^2 k}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{1}{(k^2)^2} \Phi^{P \rightarrow P}(k; M^2) \Phi^{\gamma^*(\lambda_\gamma) \rightarrow \rho(\lambda_\rho)}(k; Q^2)$$

- $\gamma_L^* \rightarrow \rho_L$ helicity amplitude:

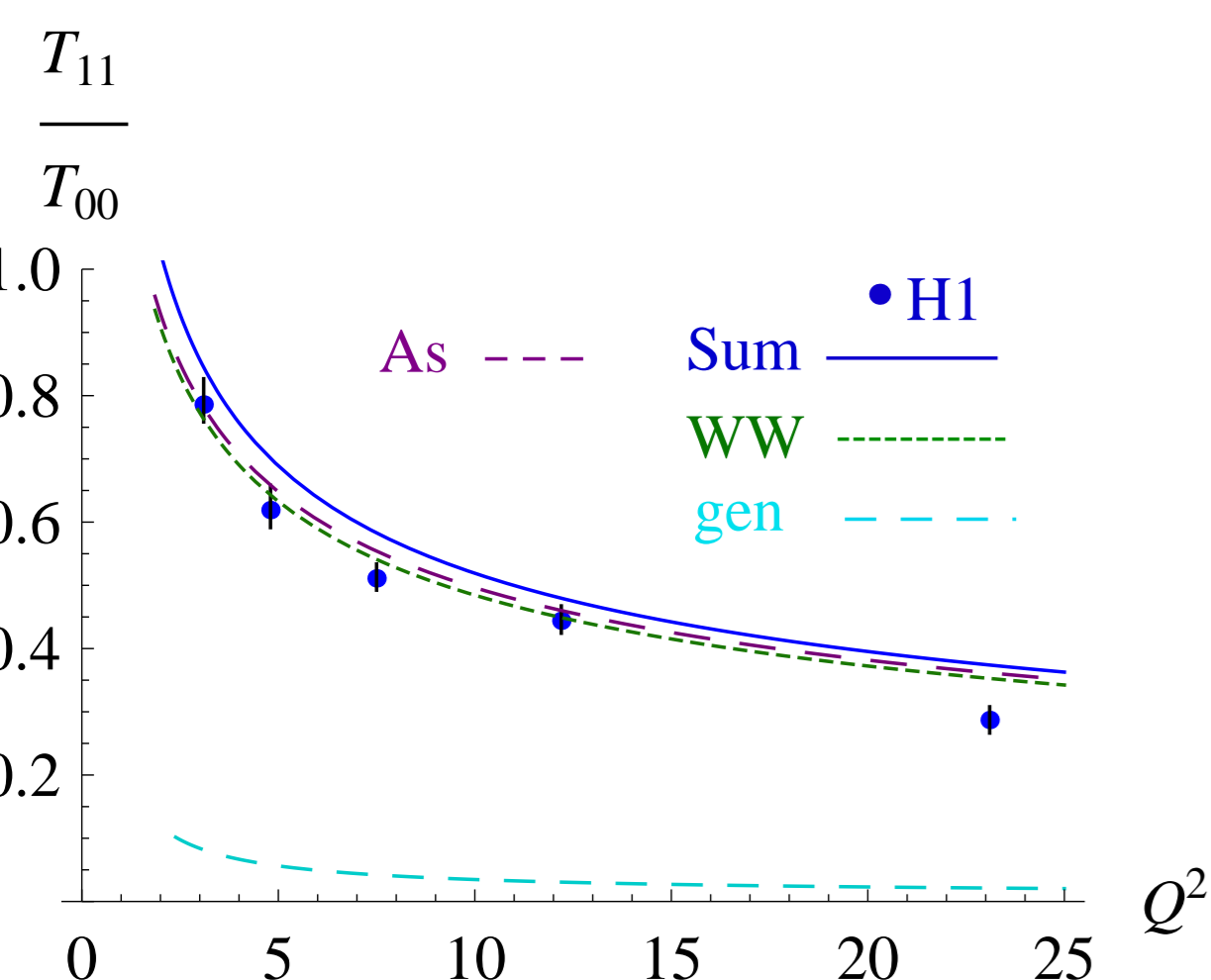
$$T_{00} \propto \frac{is}{(2\pi)Q} \int_{x^2} d^2 k \frac{1}{(k^2)^2} \left[\frac{1}{M^2} - \frac{1}{k^2 + M^2} \right] \int_0^1 dy f_p \varphi_1(y, \mu^2) \frac{k^2}{k^2 + y\bar{y}Q^2}$$

- Wandzura-Wilczek contribution to $\gamma_T^* \rightarrow \rho_T$ helicity amplitude (using explicit WW solutions for DAs):

$$T_{11}^{WW} \propto \frac{is(\epsilon_\gamma \cdot \epsilon_\rho)}{2\pi Q^2} \int_{x^2} d^2(k^2) \frac{1}{(k^2)^2} \left[\frac{1}{M^2} - \frac{1}{k^2 + M^2} \right] \left(\int_0^1 du \frac{m_p f_p \varphi_1(u; \mu^2)}{u} \int_0^u dy \frac{k^2(k^2 + 2y\bar{y}Q^2)}{(k^2 + y\bar{y}Q^2)^2} \right)$$

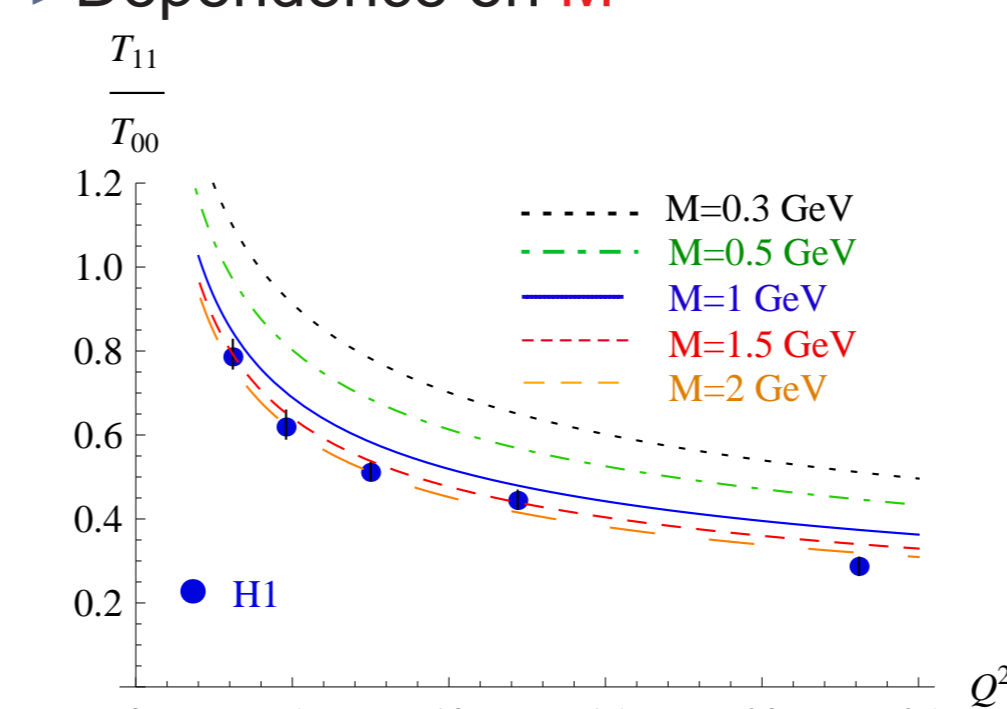
Results and Conclusions

- Genuine and Wandzura-Wilczek contributions:



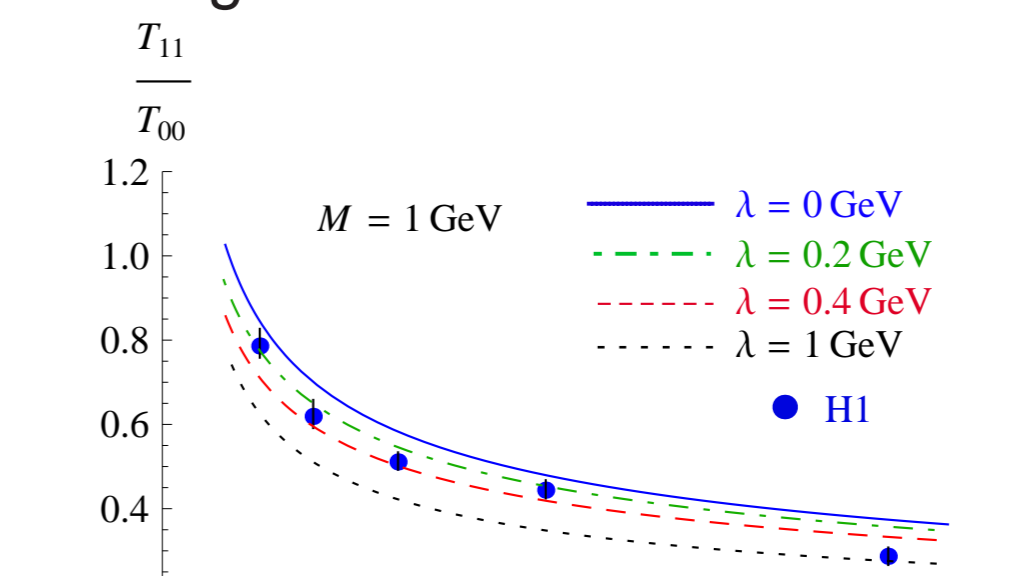
- Result for the ratio T_{11}/T_{00} at $M = 1$ GeV and $\mu^2 = Q^2$
- WW contribution dominates the genuine one
- In purple, result in the limit $\mu^2 \rightarrow \infty$ (Asymptotic DAs), genuine contribution vanishes in this limit.
- predictions are close to H1 and ZEUS data for $M = 1$ GeV (reasonable value close to the proton mass).
- Weak sensitivity to the factorisation scale μ^2 (result with $\mu^2 \rightarrow \infty$ close to result with $\mu^2 = Q^2$).

- Dependence on M



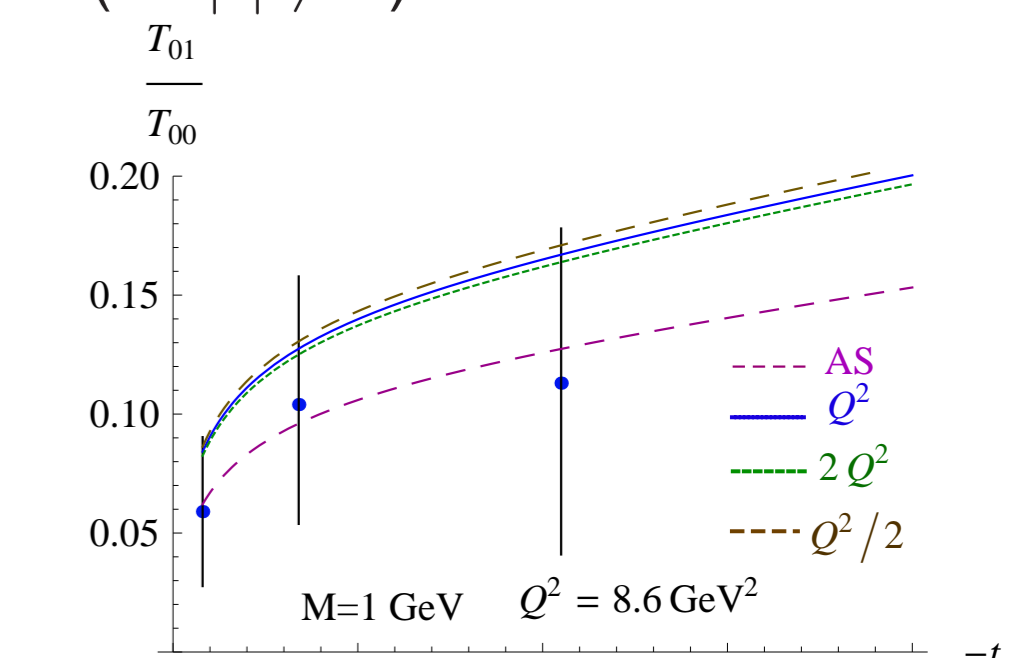
- Result stable for $M \approx$ mass of the proton.
- Good agreement with experimental data.

- Contribution of soft gluons λ is an Infra-red cut-off on the k integral.



- Weak contribution of soft gluons (with $|k| \leq \Lambda_{QCD}$).

- Prediction for the ratio T_{01}/T_{00} (for $|t| \neq 0$)



- Data are once again in good agreement with predictions