Jet-parton inelastic interaction beyond eikonal approximation

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(Dated: December 11, 2013)

Most of the models of jet quenching generally assumes that a jet always travels in a straight eikonal path, which is indeed true for sufficiently hard jet but may not be a good one for moderate and low momentum jet. In this article an attempt has been made to relax part of this approximation for $2 \to 3$ processes and found a (15-20)\% suppression in the differential cross-section for moderately hard jets because of the noneikonal effects. In particular, for the process $qq' \to q'qg$ in the centre of momentum frame the scattering with an angle wider than $\pm 0.52\pi$ is literally forbidden unlike the process $gg \to ggq$ that allows an angular range $\pm \pi$. This may have consequence on the suppression of hadronic spectra at low transverse momenta.

INTRODUCTION

Constituent quark number scaling of elliptic flow and jet quenching are supposed to be the most prominent signatures that favour the partonic degrees of freedom in the deconfined QCD matter. Overwhelming evidences of both signatures coming from dedicated heavy ion experiments viz., STAR and PHENIX@RHIC BNL [1, 2], ALICE@LHC CERN [3, 4] established the fact that, the primordial hot-soup of nuclear matter, produced in those experiments, indeed contain partonic degrees of freedom, before freeze out to hadrons in later stage, instead of hadronic degrees of freedom throughout. Observation of strong suppression of inclusive yields of high momentum hadrons and semi-inclusive rate of azimuthal back-to-back high momentum hadron pairs relative to $p$-$p$ collisions, are expectations from jet quenching. Both of them are extensively explored in collisions of $Au$-$Au$ nuclei at $\sqrt{s} = 200$ A GeV in RHIC. ALICE, the dedicated heavy ion collider experiment at CERN, seems to appear as a factory of Jets. Evidence for jet quenching has also been observed recently in $Pb$-$Pb$ collision at ALICE [4].

There are a few well known models in the literature [5–8, 11, 12] that aim to quantify energy loss (mainly radiative) and jet quenching phenomena within perturbative QCD. Most of these formalisms for energy loss of a high momentum parton through gluon radiations, have some common technical approximations in order to make the calculation simpler. These approximations are implemented both at the level of single emission kernel calculations and at multiple gluon emission estimation schemes. Main kinematic approximations at the level of single emission kernel, are listed below (also see Refs. [17, 19] for a comprehensive discussion):

- **Eikonal parton trajectory I**: Leading parton is having energy $E$ (i.e. $p_z = E$ and $p_{\perp} = 0$, by definition to start with) is much larger than the transverse momentum exchanged gluon $q_{\perp}$ with the medium, $E \gg q_{\perp}$, so that it does not give sufficient transverse kick to deflect the parton from straight trajectory along $z$ axis. To relax this approximation it is therefore important to keep track of the terms of $O(q_{\perp}/E)$ in the formalism.

- **Eikonal parton trajectory II**: Energy of the leading parton is sufficiently high, $E \gg k_{\perp}$ (i.e. being transverse component of the emitted gluon) so that it does not get enough transverse kick also from emitted gluon. This ensures that the leading parton is in eikonal trajectory. However it does not fix any definite direction for gluon emission, which requires comparison of $k_{\perp}$ with longitudinal component $k_z$ or with energy $\omega$ of the emitted gluon. Therefore, it is important not to neglect terms of $O(k_{\perp}/E)$ in the formalism to relax this approximation in the jet studies.

- **Soft gluon emission**: One often uses the additional approximation that the gluon energy is much smaller than the leading parton energy $\omega \ll E$. When $x$ is the fraction of energy carried out by the emitted gluon, i.e., $x = w/E$, this approximation ensures that $x \to 0$. When $x$ is typical light cone variable, defined by the fraction of light cone $(+)$ve momentum carried out by the emitted gluon, i.e., $x = k^+/p^+ = (k_{\perp}/\sqrt{s})e^0$, this approximation ensures $x \to 0$, only in the mid rapidity and backward rapidity regions ($-\infty \geq \eta \geq 0$) but not in the forward regions where $\eta$ could be a large positive number.

- **Small angle/collinear gluon emission**: Energy of the emitted gluon $\omega$ is much larger than its transverse momentum $k_{\perp}$, $\omega \gg k_{\perp}$ and $\omega \simeq k_z$. For any $2 \to 3$ process, without loss of generality, one can take $k_{\perp} = \omega \sin \theta_g$ and $k_z = \omega \cos \theta_g$, where $\theta_g$ being the angle between direction of propagation of leading parton and direction of emitted gluon. This particular approximation therefore implies $\theta_g \simeq 0$.

At this point it is worth mentioning that soft gluon emission approximation is a broader approximation as it automatically encompasses the eikonal parton trajectory II approximation, because energy $w$ should always
be more than the transverse momentum $k_\perp$ for a massless emitted gluons.

In this article we make an effort to relax the eikonal parton trajectory I approximation in some extent for the radiative/inelastic process $2 \to 3$. Investigation of all the matrix elements in $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$ for $2 \to 3$ radiative processes have been done keeping terms up to $\mathcal{O}(t/s)$. The first order in eikonal expansion, i.e., $\mathcal{O}(t/s)$, is termed here as noneikonal, since the calculation is performed in Feynman gauge with Mandelstum variables instead of most extensively used light cone gauge with light cone variable\textsuperscript{1}. We have neglected terms of $\mathcal{O}(t^2/s^2)$ and higher orders. Throughout our study we also do not use any approximation related to small angle/collinear gluon emission. Nevertheless, we have used soft gluon emission approximation which automatically include Eikonal parton trajectory II assumption.

Here we relaxed the kinematic constrains associated with eikonal propagation. Nevertheless (non)eikonal propagation is directly related to space-time tracks that the partons take when going through the medium. While an eikonal path is a straight line, a non-eikonal path is generically any trajectory that have deviation from straight line and obviously always somewhat longer. This longer path, taken by the parton may matter, in the soft sector when the problem is embedded into a hydrodynamically evolving density distribution \textsuperscript{20}. We note that there is transport model, although uses the cross sections which are kind of eikonal, takes all the trajectories into account, so particles do not need to move on straight lines \textsuperscript{21}.\footnote{After connecting $t$ to $q_\perp$ and $s$ to $E$ in the centre of momentum frame, term of $\mathcal{O}(t/s)$ ensures the relaxation of the approximation $E \gg q_\perp$ (eikonal parton trajectory I).}

**INELASTIC QUARK-QUARK SCATTERING (qq$'$ → qq$'$g)**

The process $qq' \to qq'g$ (prime denotes different quark flavour) in $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$ appears in five $t$ channel Feynman diagrams, which are shown in the Fig.\textsuperscript{1} (see also Fig.\textsuperscript{2} for other details). Note that $k_1$ and $k_2$ are momenta of the different quark flavours in the entrance channel whereas $k_3$ and $k_4$ are those for exit channel and $k_5$ is that of the emitted gluon. Scattering angle between $k_1$ and $k_2$ is $\theta_q$ whereas $\theta_g$ is the angle between direction of emission of soft gluon $k_5$ and direction of incoming projectile quark $k_1$. We now define the relevant Mandelstum variables for this 2 $\to$ 3 process as

\begin{align}
 s &= (k_1 + k_2)^2, \quad s' = (k_3 + k_4)^2, \\
 u &= (k_1 - k_4)^2, \quad u' = (k_2 - k_3)^2, \\
 t &= (k_1 - k_3)^2, \quad t' = (k_2 - k_4)^2,
\end{align}

with

\begin{equation}
 s + t + u + s' + t' + u' = 0. \tag{2}
\end{equation}

When the emitted gluon is soft ($k_5 \to 0$) compare to other external legs, one can assume : $t' \to t$, $s' \to s$, $u' \to u$ and we can express the transverse component of the momentum of the emitted gluon in the centre of momentum frame of $k_1$ and $k_2$ as

\begin{equation}
 k_{\perp}^2 = \frac{4(k_1 \cdot k_5)(k_2 \cdot k_5)}{s} = \frac{(s + t + u)(s + u' + t')}{s} = \frac{(s + t + u)^2}{s}. \tag{3}
\end{equation}

The hierarchy among various scale of momentum, employed in the present work is stated as

\begin{equation}
 \sqrt{s}, E > \sqrt{|t|}, q_\perp \gg w \geq k_\perp \geq m_d, \tag{4}
\end{equation}

where $m_d$ is the Debye screening mass acts as an infrared cut-off. We note that the above hierarchy relaxes the approximations $\sqrt{s}, E \gg \sqrt{|t|}, q_\perp$ (Eikonal parton trajectories I) and $w \gg k_\perp$ (small angle/collinear gluon emission) in some extent.

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**FIG. 1.** Five tree level Feynman diagrams for the process $qq' \to qq'g$.

**FIG. 2.** Non-zero angular deviation from eikonal trajectory. Angle between incoming and outgoing momentum of projectile is $\theta_q$ and direction of emission of gluon with that of incoming momentum of projectile parton is $\theta_g$. 

\begin{align}
 k_{\perp}^2 &= \frac{4(k_1 \cdot k_5)(k_2 \cdot k_5)}{s} \\
 &= \frac{(s + t + u)(s + u' + t')}{s} \\
 &= \frac{(s + t + u)^2}{s}. \tag{3}
\end{align}
Matrix Elements, Amplitude and Cross-section

The gauge invariant amplitude summed over all the final states and averaged over initial states for the process, $qq' \rightarrow qq'g$, is
\[ |\mathcal{M}_{qq'\rightarrow qq'g}|^2 = \sum_{i,j} \mathcal{M}_{ij}^2, \] (5)
where $i$ and $j$ run from 0 to 4. We note that the index 0 represents the diagram where the soft gluon emits from the exchanged gluon line whereas the indices $m = 1,2,3,4$ represent the diagrams where emission of the soft gluons are being from external fermion lines having momenta $k_m$ (see Fig. 2). Equation (5) contains total fifteen terms in which there are five self interfering ‘genuine amplitudes’ for $i=j$ and ten cross interfering ‘interference amplitudes’ associated with gluons emissions involving two diagrams for $i \neq j$. Here we have extensively used the FORM, REDUCE and CalcHep Programs 22. Results are given below up to $O(1/k_+^2)$ and $O(t/s)$, for soft gluon emission.

Genuine amplitudes

By genuine amplitudes we are referring those are coming from each diagram that interferes with itself. In the Feynman gauge 21 all of them vanish within soft gluon emission approximations and in $O(1/k_+^2)$:
\[ \mathcal{M}_{11} = \mathcal{M}_{33} = 0; \quad \mathcal{M}_{22} = \mathcal{M}_{44} = 0; \quad \mathcal{M}_{00} = 0. \] (6)
However, they may contribute in $O(1)$, $O(k_+^2)$, $O(k_+^4)$ etc., and in $O(t^2/s^2)$ and higher orders. All of them can safely be neglected in the soft emission limit as our aim is to go beyond the eikonal approximation-I, $E \gg q_\perp$.

Interference amplitudes

Within the approximations employed above the amplitudes corresponding to the matrix elements of $(1 \otimes 2)$ and $(2 \otimes 3)$ are identical in the leading order ($O(1/k_+^2)$) as well in $O(t/s)$ and given as
\[ \mathcal{M}_{14} = \mathcal{M}_{23} = \frac{7}{8} \frac{128}{27} g^6 s^2 \frac{1}{t^2} \frac{1}{k_+^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{t}{s} \right]; \]
where $O(t/s)$ is purely noneikonal (i.e., the first order in eikonal approximation) in nature as noted earlier. Also the amplitudes for $(1 \otimes 2)$ and $(3 \otimes 4)$ are identical and the contribution is obtained in $O(1/k_+^2)$ and $O(t/s)$ as
\[ \mathcal{M}_{12}^2 = \mathcal{M}_{34}^2 = \frac{1128}{4} \frac{1}{27} g^6 s^2 \frac{1}{t^2} \frac{1}{k_+^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{t}{s} \right]. \]
Both $(1 \otimes 3)$ and $(2 \otimes 4)$ are also identical within the employed hierarchy. However, they do not contribute in leading order but only in $O(t/s)$, Hence, in Feynman gauge the contribution from the interference between initial state and final state radiations, is exclusively noneikonal in nature and given as
\[ \mathcal{M}_{13}^2 = \mathcal{M}_{24}^2 = \frac{1128}{4} \frac{1}{27} g^6 s^2 \frac{1}{t^2} \frac{1}{k_+^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{t}{s} \right]. \]
Finally any diagram interfering with 0, i.e., $(0 \otimes l)$ with $l = 1,2,3,4$, does not contribute in $O(1/k_+^2)$ but contributes in $(1/k_\perp \sqrt{t})$ and higher orders. In the limit $|\sqrt{t}| \sim q_\perp \gg w$, amplitudes of $O(1/k_\perp \sqrt{t})$ are subleading, in comparison to $O(1/k_+^2)$. Therefore, all of these $(\mathcal{M}_{19}^2, \mathcal{M}_{20}^2, \mathcal{M}_{30}^2$ and $\mathcal{M}_{20}^2$) do not contribute within the approximation used in this work.

Here we note that color coherence pattern between initial and final state radiation in the presence of a QCD medium derived in light cone gauge shows angular distribution of the induced gluon spectrum is broadly modified when one includes interference terms [25–28]. In Feynman gauge within our hierarchy only interference terms are contributing to the amplitude.

The gauge invariant amplitude for the process, $qq' \rightarrow qq'g$, can now be obtained by summing all the subamplitudes as
\[ |\mathcal{M}_{qq'\rightarrow qq'g}|^2 = 12g^2 |\mathcal{M}_{qq'\rightarrow qq'g}|^2_{\text{eknl}} \frac{1}{k_+^2} \left( 1 + \frac{17}{9} \frac{t}{s} \right), \] (7)
where the two body amplitude is given as
\[ |\mathcal{M}_{qq'\rightarrow qq'g}|^2_{\text{eknl}} = \frac{8}{9} g^4 s^2 \frac{t}{k_+^2}. \] (8)

The three-body amplitude in (7) for the inelastic process, $qq' \rightarrow qq'g$, contains the two-body amplitude for the elastic process, an infrared factor for the emission of a soft gluon and a noneikonal correction factor. The expression in (7) will lead to $q_\perp \gg k_\perp$ limit of the Gunion and Bertsch formula [25]. If the emitted gluon is much softer than others it can then be regulated by the Debye screening mass, $m_d$. Terms within the parenthesis in (7) would correspond to noneikonal correction over the eikonal Gunion Bertsch formula. Eq. (7) is complete upto $O(1/k_+^2)$ and $O(t/s)$, for emission of a soft gluon in the process $qq' \rightarrow qq'g$. Similar investigation have been done earlier for the process $gg \rightarrow ggg$ [26–28].

Rutherford scattering beyond eikonal approximation

It is interesting to note how noneikonality gives way to probe beyond Rutherford scattering limits. In the centre

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2 In light cone gauge amplitudes coming from diagrams that involve gluon emission from target partons can only be neglected, others are not.
In the centre of momentum frame, all prefactor that are independent of $\theta_q$ taken to be unity for convenience.

of momentum frame for a typical $2 \to 2$ (or even in case of $2 \to 3$ when fifth particle is ultra soft!) process

$\frac{t}{s} = -\sin^2 \frac{\theta_q}{2}$ \hspace{1cm} (9)

The eikonal cross-section ($\sigma_{eikn}$) is directly connected to the Rutherford scattering scattering cross-section as

$$\sigma_{eikn} \propto \frac{s^2}{t^2} = \frac{1}{\sin^4(\theta_q/2)}. \hspace{1cm} (10)$$

When one relaxes the eikonal approximation then the cross-section can be written as

$$\sigma_{ne} \propto \frac{s^2}{t^2} \left(1 + \frac{17}{9} \frac{t}{s}\right) = \frac{1}{\sin^4 \frac{\theta_q}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{17}{9} \sin^2 \frac{\theta_q}{2}\right), \hspace{1cm} (11)$$

which puts a restriction on the scattering angle, $\theta_q$. In Fig. 3 we have plotted inverse cross-section ($\sigma^{-1}$) for both eikonal and noneikonal case. Even though both behave identically with a similar plateau in the small angle scattering but noneikonal cross-section has a very sharp fall in comparison with the eikonal one for large angle scattering. As seen the noneikonal inverse matrix element is bounded by the scattering angle, $\theta_q = \pm 2 \sin^{-1}(3/\sqrt{17}) \approx \pm 0.52\pi$, in centre of momentum frame, in contrary to that of eikonal one having a natural bound of $\pm \pi$. This indicates that the back scattering is forbidden for the case of $qq' \to qq'g$ when the emitted gluon is soft.

Cross-section in the first order in eikonal (viz.,noneikonal) approximation

The cross-section for the process $qq' \to qq'g$ can be obtained as

$$\sigma_{qq' \to qq'g} = \frac{1}{2s} \int \frac{d^3k_1}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{E_3} \frac{d^3k_2}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3k_5}{(2\pi)^3} |M_{qq' \to qq'g}| (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(k_1 + k_2 - k_3 + k_4 + k_5). \hspace{1cm} (12)$$

In the centre of momentum frame, $k_1 + k_2 = k_3 + k_4 + k_5 = 0$, and one obtains

\begin{align*}
\sigma_{qq' \to qq'g} &= \frac{1}{2s} \int \frac{d^3k_1}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{E_3} \frac{d^3k_2}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3k_5}{(2\pi)^3} |M_{qq' \to qq'g}| (2\pi)^4 \delta(E_1 + E_2 - E_3 + E_4 + E_5) \\
&= \frac{1}{2s} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int \frac{dq_1^2 dq_2}{E_1} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{E_4} \left[ -\frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int \frac{dk_2^2 \sin \theta_q}{\sin \theta_q}\right] \\
&\times 12g^2 s \frac{g}{s} \frac{s^2 \frac{1}{t^2}}{k_1^2} \left(1 + \frac{17}{9} \frac{t}{s}\right) (2\pi)^4 \delta(E_1 + E_2 - E_3 + E_4 + \omega) \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{2s} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int \frac{dq_1^2}{E_1} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{E_4} \left[ -\frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int \frac{dk_2^2 \sin \theta_q}{\sin \theta_q}\right] \\
&\times 12g^2 s \frac{g}{s} \frac{s^2 \frac{1}{t^2}}{k_1^2} \left(1 + \frac{q_1^2}{s^2} \right)^{-2} \frac{1}{k_1^2} \left(1 - \frac{17}{9} \frac{t}{s}\right) (2\pi)^4, \hspace{1cm} (13)
\end{align*}

where we have used rapidity $\eta = -\ln |\tan(\theta_q/2)|$, $q = k_1 - k_5$, $q_\perp = q \sin \theta_q$. The cross-section contains factors, having term like $q_\perp^2/s$, that are responsible for non-eikonal effects.

In thermal medium taking debye mass as infrared regulator, the differential cross-section can be expressed as

$$\frac{d \sigma_{qq' \to qq'g}}{dq_1^2 dk_2^2 d\eta} = 2CA_g q^3 \frac{\Gamma_{ab}}{(q_\perp^2 + m_d^2)^2} \frac{1}{k_1^2 + m_d^2}, \hspace{1cm} (14)$$
where \( C_A = 3 \) and \( C_{gq'} = 8/9 \) are Casimir factors, and \( \Gamma_{ab} = \zeta_a \zeta_b \), with various factors are, explicitly, given as

\[
\zeta_a = \left(1 + \frac{q_{1}^{2}}{s}\right)^{-2},
\]

\[
\zeta_b = \left(1 - \frac{17 q_{1}^{2}}{9 s}\right).
\]

(15)

The factor \( \zeta_a \) comes from eikonal part of the matrix elements, and \( \zeta_b \) is the noneikonal factor originated from noneikonal part of matrix elements. The differential cross-section for the process \( qq' \to qq'g \) as given in Eq. (14) correctly reproduces the result of [29] in the limit \( q_{1}^{2} \gg k_{2}^{2} \) and in the eikonal limit, \( \sqrt{s}E \gg q_{2}^{2} \), as all the noneikonal factors, \( v.i.z., \zeta_a \) and \( \zeta_b \) become identically unity and so as \( \Gamma_{ab} \).

INELASTIC GLUON-GLUON FUSION \((gg \to ggg)\)

The three gluon production via gluon-gluon fusion \( gg \to ggg \) is extremely important in the context of heavy-ion phenomenology. For a sequence of events: hot glue scenario of glasma field, thermal equilibration, gluon chemical equilibration in later time, parton matter viscosity, radiative energy-loss of high energy partons jet propagating through thermalised QGP, this process plays a crucial role. Matrix elements for the process \( gg \to ggg \) have been computed up to \( O(t/s) \) in [27]. Considering \( O(t/s) \) result it is now straightforward to evaluate the differential cross-section for this process in first order in eikonal approximation as

\[
\frac{d \sigma_{gg \to ggg}}{dq_{1}^{2}dk_{1}^{2}dn} = 2C_A C_{gg} \alpha_3 \frac{\Gamma_{ab}}{q_{1}^{2} + m_{q}^{2}} \frac{1}{k_{1}^{2} + m_{q}^{2}}
\]

(16)

where \( C_{gg} = 9/2 \) and the factor, \( \Gamma_{ab} = \zeta_a \zeta_b \), with its various components

\[
\zeta_a = \left(1 + \frac{q_{1}^{2}}{s}\right)^{-2},
\]

\[
\zeta_b = \left(1 - \frac{17 q_{1}^{2}}{9 s}\right).
\]

(17)

The factor coming from eikonal part of matrix element \( \zeta_a \) is same for both processes \( qq' \to qq'g \) and \( gg \to ggg \) whereas the noneikonal factor \( \zeta_b \) is different. This noneikonal factor, obviously, does not put any restriction on the scattering angle \( (\theta = \pm \pi) \) for the process \( gg \to ggg \), and allows it to go in full natural range \( \pm \pi \) as compared to the process \( qq' \to qq'g \).

Unlike \( gg \to ggg \) where a Park-Taylor type formula is available to compute the matrix element, the computation of matrix elements up to \( O(t/s) \) is quite cumbersome in case of \( gg \to ggg \). Also in this article we have performed our study on inelastic quark-quark scattering but with different flavours. In case of same flavour \( qq \to qgg \) things would be a more involved one. We leave them for future study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

For quantitative estimation of the noneikonal effects, we have taken the average value of the momentum trans-
fer squared which can be obtained [14] as
\[ \langle q^2_\perp \rangle \simeq \left( \frac{E^2}{\pi^2} \int d\mathbf{q}_\perp^2 \frac{d\sigma_{2\to3}}{d\mathbf{q}_\perp^2} \right) / \left( \int d\mathbf{q}_\perp^2 \frac{d\sigma_{2\to3}}{d\mathbf{q}_\perp^2} \right) \]
\[ \simeq 2g^2T^2 \ln \left(E/gT\right). \] (18)
\[ \langle q^2_\perp \rangle \] has then been embedded in \( \zeta_a, \zeta_b \) to have a qualitative estimation of noneikonal effects over eikonal cross-sections.

In Fig.4 and Fig.5 the first order noneikonal factors: \( \zeta_a, \zeta_b \) and the full contribution \( \Gamma_{ab} \) for both processes \( qq' \to qq'g \) and \( gg \to gggg \), respectively, displayed. It can be seen that the noneikonal effects are \( \sim (15 - 20\%) \) over eikonal one for moderately hard jets. However, the noneikonal effect gradually becomes mild for very high energetic jets. Typically for charged hadrons in the momentum range of 8 to 50 GeV, i.e. typical parton kinematics of 16 to 150 GeV, way off the scale of Fig.4 and Fig.5, indicate that non-eikonal effects are largely absent above (10 – 15) GeV parton kinematics. In the literature attempts have already been made to address the noneikonal propagation of partons for collision/elastic processes in a monte-carlo approach [31] by considering full \( \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2) \) matrix elements for relevant \( 2 \to 2 \) processes. Eikonal propagation approximation was found to be good on the 10% level. Present study also reveals that for radiative/inelastic process, Eikonal parton trajectory I approximation seems to be within (15 – 20)% level. This approximation should be crude only in soft and moderate momentum regimes. We also note that splitting kernels for partons produced in large virtuality scattering processes that subsequently traverse a region of strongly-interacting matter have been investigated early in the literature within effective theory formalism [32].

There has always been a quest for large angle radiations. In the present study we do not assume small angle/collinear emission approximation either in the course of calculating matrix elements or in the calculations of kinematics. In the present calculation the kinematic relation \( k_\perp = \omega \sin \theta_\gamma \) ensures that one can go safely to the limit where \( k_\perp \simeq \omega \).

Most of the pQCD based model calculations for describing the medium is not able to account the almost ideal fluid behaviour, which seems to be a manifestation of long range correlations. It also would lead to a large elastic contribution to energy loss [32] for reasonable values of coupling which is not supported by the data. Sort of single hard scenario [6, 10] has been discussed here at the level of single emission kernel in which gluons are induced by a single hard scattering with the medium, but many widely used quenching models, for instance [33], make the opposite assumption of multiple soft interactions with the medium leading to induced gluon radiation. Such classes of models can probably be expected to have somewhat milder non-eikonal corrections due to scattering with the medium.

The kinematic constraints, \( E \gg \omega \gg k_\perp, q_\perp \) referred in the literature as soft eikonal approximation that neglects any change in parton trajectory due to multiple scatterings but assumes a straight line trajectory throughout. The diffusion of partons in a hot and dense medium can have an unavoidable link beyond the eikonal approximation and it is worth to relax eikonal approximation. In this work an attempt has been made to relax part of this approximation for some of the inelastic processes and their differential cross-sections in first order noneikonal approximation have been obtained. Primary estimation indicates 15 – 20% reduction in the cross section due to first order noneikonal effect for both the processes in the soft and intermediate parton energies. These cross-sections naturally reproduce eikonally approximated results in the eikonal limit for soft emission, i.e., \( \sqrt{s}, E \gg q_\perp \) and \( q_\perp \gg k_\perp \). QGP produced at LHC, where large virtuality scattering processes may be dominant one, is seen to be ‘less opaque to jets than predicted’ by constrained extrapolations from RHIC [34]. There are however other views also, for instance [19, 20, 35], where another set of constrained extrapolations show considerable variation in the postdictions of RHIC-constrained scenarios with LHC data. Here this has been taken as a constraint and cause to disregard class of models which fail to predict/postdict correctly the uprising behaviour of nuclear modification factor rather than assigning it as generic surprising feature of LHC data.

Our results indicate some reductions in interaction strengths of jets due to non-eikonal effects, in soft and intermediate sector. In the soft sector when the problem is embedded into a hydrodynamically evolving density distribution this could lead to non-trivial effects. We also show that wide back scattering with scattering angle more than \( \simeq \pm 0.52\pi \) is forbidden in case of \( qq' \to qq'g \) when the emitted gluon in soft. This, however, is not the case for \( gg \to gggg \). In future study we intend quantitative estimation of this noneikonal effect in jet quenching and other consequences in heavy-ion collisions phenomenology.

Acknowledgments : I thank Munshi G. Mustafa for valuable discussions with numerous help during the course of this work and critically reading the manuscript. I also thank Jan Uphoff for his valuable suggestions and comments.

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