Beyond the proton collinear factorization in heavy quark production in pA collisions at low $x$.

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We consider heavy quark production in high energy pA collisions and investigate the contribution of interactions of valence quarks of proton with the nucleus. The often made assumption that valence quarks of proton can be factored out is justified only if the nucleus saturation momentum is much smaller than the heavy quark mass. This is not the case in phenomenologically relevant situations. Breakdown of factorization manifests itself in substantial decrease of the cross section at large total and small relative transverse momenta of the heavy quark – antiquark pair.

I. INTRODUCTION

The most general expression for heavy quark pair production in high energy pA collisions was derived in [1]. It takes into account interaction of valence quark $q_v$, intermediate virtual gluon and the produced $q\bar{q}$ pair with the heavy nucleus target. That expression is quite bulky and unfriendly for numerical calculation because it involves multi-dimensional nested integrals over the oscillating integrands. Therefore, one usually considers an approximation in which interaction of valence quark with the nucleus is neglected leading to collinear factorization of the gluon distribution function on the proton side [2–7]. This approximation turns out to be valid only in the limit of very heavy quarks $m \gg Q_s$, where $Q_s$ is the saturation momentum of the target nucleus. Since, $Q_s$ turns out to be of the same order of magnitude as the charm and bottom quark masses, interactions of valence quarks must be taken into account. It is the goal of this article to develop an approximation that takes into account interaction of valence quark with the nucleus and still allows one to make relatively simple numerical analysis of heavy quark production.

To develop a consistent approximation we need to ensure the gauge invariance of each term in the expansion. The derivation is presented in the main part of this article, which is structured as follows. In Sec. II we review the result of [1]. In Sec. III we discuss the factorization limit of these general formulas. Contribution of valence quarks is calculated in (IV). Our main result is given by Eqs. (78),(67),(75). The effect of valence quark interactions on double inclusive cross section of charm production is shown in Fig. 3. We denoted the transverse momenta of quark and antiquark
as \( k_1 \) and \( k_2 \), the fraction of the gluon’s light-cone energy carried by the heavy quark as \( z \), the pair total momentum as \( q = k_1 + k_2 \) and their relative momentum as \( \ell = (1-z)k_1 - z k_2 \), which is related to the invariant mass of the pair as \( M^2 = (m^2 + \ell^2)/z(1-z) \). It is seen on this figure that deviation from the collinear factorization of proton is negligible at small \( q \), which corresponds to valence quark being collinear with the valence quark, and large \( \ell \), which corresponds to large invariant mass of the pair. However, it grows as \( q \) increases and \( \ell \) decreases. It appears that the collinear factorization of proton is a reasonable approximation for total cross sections which receive the main contribution from low transverse momenta. However, for single and double-inclusive spectra it overestimates the cross section by orders of magnitude.

### II. HEAVY QUARK AND ANTIQUARK PRODUCTION IN PA COLLISIONS: GENERAL RESULT

The diagrams contributing to quark-antiquark pair production in the light-cone gauge are shown in Fig. 1. The vertical dashed line depicts interaction of the projectile partonic system with the target. Since the production time of the partonic system is proportional to the collision energy, it is much larger than the interaction time, which is taken to be vanishingly small. The calculation is done in the light-cone perturbation theory [8], along the lines outlined in [10]. It is convenient to work in coordinate space where the diagram contributions factorize into a convolution of Glauber-Mueller multiple rescattering [9] with the “wave function” parts, which include splittings \( q_v \to q_v g \) and \( g \to q \bar{q} \). Since eikonal multiple rescatterings do not change the transverse coordinates of the

![Diagrams showing quark-antiquark pair production](image)
incoming quarks and the gluon, we can calculate the “wave functions” in transverse coordinate space by calculating the diagrams in Fig. 1 without interactions. We denote momenta of the outgoing quark and anti-quark as $k_1$ and $k_2$ correspondingly. We assume that the gluon is much softer than the proton, i.e. $k_1 + k_2 \ll p_+ k_1 + k_2 \ll p_+$, where $p_+$ is the typical light cone momentum of the valence quarks in the proton. Expressions for the wave functions in the momentum space can be found in [1]. The light cone “wave-functions” in transverse coordinate space are defined as

$$\Psi^{(i)}_{\sigma, \sigma'}(x_1, x_2; z) = \int \frac{d^2k_1}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{d^2k_2}{(2\pi)^2} e^{-ik_1 \cdot x_1 - ik_2 \cdot x_2} \Psi^{(i)}_{\sigma, \sigma'}(k_1, k_2), \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \quad (1)$$

where the superscript $(i)$ corresponds to one of three diagrams in Fig. 1. Here we assume that the transverse coordinate of the valence quark, which emits the gluon (which splits into a $q\bar{q}$ pair) is 0 and denoted the transverse coordinate of quark and antiquark by $x_1$ and $x_2$ correspondingly.

The quark-antiquark production cross section is proportional to the product of the sum of the light-cone “wave-functions” in the amplitude and sum of the light-cone “wave-functions” in the complex-conjugated (c.c.) one, averaged over the quantum numbers of the initial valence quark and summing over the quantum numbers of the final state quarks. Since transverse momenta of quark $k_1$ and antiquark $k_2$ are fixed, their coordinates in the amplitude and in the c.c. amplitude are different. We will denote the corresponding coordinates in the c.c. amplitude by $x'_1$ and $x'_2$.

The resulting quantity appearing in the cross section is given by

$$\Phi_{ij}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) = \frac{1}{N_c} \sum_{\sigma, \sigma', a, b} \Psi^{(i)}_{\sigma, \sigma'}(x_1, x_2; z) \Psi^{(j)*}_{\sigma, \sigma'}(x'_1, x'_2; z), \quad i, j = 1, 2, 3. \quad (2)$$

Here the sum over gluons’ colors $a$ and $b$ simply implies a calculation of the color factors of the relevant diagrams, including traces over fermion loops.

The double-inclusive quark–anti-quark production cross section in $pA$ collisions in the quasi-classical approximation, i.e. neglecting quantum evolution of the partonic system, is

$$\frac{d\sigma_{pA \rightarrow q\bar{q}X}}{d^2k_1 d^2k_2 dy dz db} = \frac{1}{4(2\pi)^6} \int d^2x_1 d^2x_2 d^2x'_1 d^2x'_2 e^{-ik_1 \cdot (x_1 - x'_1) - ik_2 \cdot (x_2 - x'_2)}$$

$$\times \sum_{i,j=1}^3 \Phi_{ij}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) S_{ij}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z). \quad (3)$$

Here $y$ is the rapidity of the $s$-channel gluon, which splits into the $q\bar{q}$ pair. $S_{ij}$ are the $S$-matrix elements corresponding to the $i$’th wave function in the amplitude and $j$’th in the complex-conjugated amplitude. Since the quark and the anti-quark are most likely to be produced close to each other in rapidity, one can think of $y$ as the rapidity of the quarks. $b$ is the impact parameter of the proton with respect to the nucleus.
The single inclusive quark production cross section is obtained from (3) by integrating over one of the quark’s momenta and multiplying by 2 to account for both quarks and anti-quarks:

\[
\frac{d\sigma_{u\rightarrow qX}}{d^2 k dy d^2 b} = \frac{1}{2(2\pi)^4} \int d^2 x_1 d^2 x_2 d^2 x'_1 \int_0^1 d\zeta e^{-ik(x_1-x'_1)} \times \sum_{i,j=1}^3 \Phi_{ij}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x_2; z) S_{ij}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x_2; z),
\]

(4)

where \( y \) is the rapidity of the produced (anti-)quark.

Explicit expressions of the “wave-functions” can be found in [1]. Upon summation over \( \lambda \) they read

\[
\Psi^{(1)}_{\sigma,\sigma'}(x_1, x_2; z) = \frac{2 g^2 T_a T_b}{(2\pi)^2} \left[ F_2(x_1, x_2; z) \frac{1}{x_{12} u} [(1 - 2 z) x_{12} \cdot u + i \sigma \epsilon_{ij} u_i x_{12j}] \delta_{\sigma,\sigma'} \\
+ F_1(x_1, x_2; z) \frac{i}{u} \sigma m (u_x + i \sigma u_y) \delta_{\sigma,\sigma'} \\
- 2 \delta_{\sigma,\sigma'} \zeta (1 - z) F_0(x_1, x_2; z) \right],
\]

(5)

\[
\Psi^{(2)}_{\sigma,\sigma'}(x_1, x_2; z) = \frac{-2 g^2 T_a T_b}{(2\pi)^2} \left[ m K_1(m x_{12}) \frac{1}{x_{12} u^2} [(1 - 2 z) x_{12} \cdot u + i \sigma \epsilon_{ij} u_i x_{12j}] \delta_{\sigma,\sigma'} \\
+ K_0(m x_{12}) \frac{i}{u^2} \sigma m (u_x + i \sigma u_y) \delta_{\sigma,\sigma'} \right],
\]

(6)

\[
\Psi^{(3)}_{\sigma,\sigma'}(x_1, x_2; z) = -\Psi^{(1)}_{\sigma,\sigma'}(x_1, x_2; z) - \Psi^{(2)}_{\sigma,\sigma'}(x_1, x_2; z),
\]

(7)

where \( \epsilon_{12} = 1 = -\epsilon_{21}, \epsilon_{11} = \epsilon_{22} = 0 \), and, assuming summation over repeating indices, \( \epsilon_{ij} u_i v_j = u_x v_y - u_y v_x \). Also \( x_{12j} \) denotes the \( j \)th component of the vector \( x_{12} \). Transverse coordinates of gluon in the amplitude is

\[
u = z x_1 + (1 - z) x_2.
\]

(8)

We denote \( u = |u|, x_{12} = x_1 - x_2, x_{12} = |x_{12}| \). Similarly, gluon’s transverse coordinate in the c.c. amplitude is \( u' = z x'_1 + (1 - z) x'_2 \) with \( u' = |u'| \) and \( x'_{12} = x'_1 - x'_2, x'_{12} = |x'_{12}| \). To perform the Fourier transform of (1) we first introduce the following auxiliary functions

\[
F_2(x_1, x_2; z) = \int_0^\infty dq J_1(q u) K_1 \left( x_{12} \sqrt{m^2 + q^2 z(1 - z)} \right) \sqrt{m^2 + q^2 z(1 - z)},
\]

(9)

\[
F_1(x_1, x_2; z) = \int_0^\infty dq J_1(q u) K_0 \left( x_{12} \sqrt{m^2 + q^2 \alpha(1 - z)} \right),
\]

(10)

\[
F_0(x_1, x_2; z) = \int_0^\infty dq q J_0(q u) K_0 \left( x_{12} \sqrt{m^2 + q^2 z(1 - z)} \right),
\]

(11)
where \( q = k_1 + k_2 \). Substituting into (2) we derive

\[
\Phi_{11}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) = 4 C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \left\{ F_2(x_1, x_2; z) F_2(x'_1, x'_2; z) \frac{1}{x_{12} x'_{12} uu'} [(1 - 2z)^2 \\
\times (x_{12} \cdot u)(x'_{12} \cdot u') + (\epsilon_{ij} u_i x_{12,j}) (\epsilon_{kl} u'_k x'_{12,l})] + F_1(x_1, x_2; z) F_1(x'_1, x'_2; z) m^2 \frac{u \cdot u'}{uu'} \\
+ 4 \frac{z^2 (1 - z)^2}{x_{12} u} F_0(x_1, x_2; z) F_0(x'_1, x'_2; z) - 2z(1 - z)(1 - 2z) \frac{x_{12} \cdot u}{x_{12} u} F_2(x_1, x_2; z) \\
\times F_0(x'_1, x'_2; z) + \frac{x'_{12} \cdot u'}{x'_{12} u'} F_2(x'_1, x'_2; z) F_0(x_1, x_2; z) \right\},
\]  

(12)

\[
\Phi_{22}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) = 4 C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 m^2 \left\{ K_1(mx_{12}) K_1(mx'_{12}) \frac{1}{x_{12} x'_{12} u u'^2} [(1 - 2z)^2 \\
\times (x_{12} \cdot u)(x'_{12} \cdot u') + (\epsilon_{ij} u_i x_{12,j}) (\epsilon_{kl} u'_k x'_{12,l})] + K_0(mx_{12}) K_0(mx'_{12}) \frac{u \cdot u'}{u u'^2} \right\},
\]  

(13)

\[
\Phi_{12}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) = -4 C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 m \left\{ F_2(x_1, x_2; z) K_1(mx_{12}) \frac{1}{x_{12} x'_{12} uu'^2} [(1 - 2z)^2 \\
\times (x_{12} \cdot u)(x'_{12} \cdot u') + (\epsilon_{ij} u_i x_{12,j}) (\epsilon_{kl} u'_k x'_{12,l})] + m F_1(x_1, x_2; z) K_0(mx'_{12}) \frac{u \cdot u'}{uu'^2} \\
- 2z(1 - z)(1 - 2z) \frac{x'_{12} \cdot u'}{x'_{12} uu'^2} F_0(x_1, x_2; z) K_1(mx_{12}) \right\},
\]  

(14)

All other products of the wave functions can be found using relations

\[
\Phi_{33}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) = \Phi_{11}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) + \Phi_{22}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) + \Phi_{12}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) + \Phi_{21}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z)
\]  

(15)

\[
\Phi_{13}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) = -\Phi_{11}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) - \Phi_{12}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z)
\]  

(16)

\[
\Phi_{23}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) = -\Phi_{21}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) - \Phi_{22}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z)
\]  

(17)

and

\[
\Phi_{ij}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) = \Phi_{ji}^*(x'_1, x'_2; x_1, x_2; z).
\]  

(18)

Here Eqs. (15),(16),(17) follow from (7). Eq. (18) allows one to obtain \( \Phi_{21}, \Phi_{31} \) and \( \Phi_{32} \) from (14), (16) and (17).

Rescattering of \( q_v, q_v g \) and \( q_v q \bar{q} \) configurations on a large nucleus brings in different factors, which we label by \( S_{ij} \). For the case of single-quark inclusive production cross section they were calculated in [3], while in the case of double-inclusive production in [7, 11]. These factors can be written down as a combination of color dipole and color quadrupole scattering amplitudes. For notational simplicity we will assume the large-N_c limit in which only color dipoles survive. Generalization of our results beyond the large N_c limit is straightforward, though very bulky.
$S_{ij}$’s are conventionally expressed in terms of the gluon saturation momentum defined as

$$Q_s^2 = 4\pi\alpha_s^2 \rho T(b) \quad (19)$$

where $\rho$ is the nucleon number density in the nucleus and $T(b)$ the nuclear profile function. The scattering factors (which are proportional to the two-point correlations functions) are given by

$$S_F(x) = e^{-\frac{1}{8}x^2\ln(1/x)Q_s^2}, \quad S_A(x) = e^{-\frac{1}{16}x^2\ln(1/x)Q_s^2} \quad (20)$$

for quark and gluon color dipoles correspondingly. Using these definitions we have [1]

$$S_{11}(x_1, x_2; x_1', x_2'; z) = S_F(x_1 - x_1')S_F(x_2 - x_2'), \quad (21)$$

$$S_{22}(x_1, x_2; x_1', x_2'; z) = S_A(u - u'), \quad (22)$$

$$S_{33}(x_1, x_2; x_1', x_2'; z) = 1, \quad (23)$$

$$S_{12}(x_1, x_2; x_1', x_2'; z) = S_F(x_1 - u')S_F(x_2 - u'), \quad (24)$$

$$S_{23}(x_1, x_2; x_1', x_2'; z) = S_A(u), \quad (25)$$

$$S_{13}(x_1, x_2; x_1', x_2'; z) = S_F(x_1)S_F(x_2), \quad (26)$$

where $\Lambda$ is an infrared cutoff. All other $S_{ij}$’s can be found from the components listed in (21) using

$$S_{ij}(x_1, x_2; x_1', x_2'; z) = S_{ji}(x_1', x_2'; x_1, x_2; z) \quad (27)$$

similar to (18).

III. LIMIT OF PROTON COLLINEAR FACTORIZATION

A. Gluon scattering on heavy nucleus

![Gluon-nucleus interactions](image)

FIG. 2: Gluon-nucleus interactions contribution in the proton collinear approximation.

Suppose now that valence quarks do not contribute to the quark-antiquark production. In this case the relevant diagrams in the light-cone perturbation theory are depicted in Fig. 2. The
corresponding “wave-functions” in the two cases differ only by the relative sign and are given by

\[ \psi_{\lambda,\sigma,\sigma'}^{g\to q\bar{q}}(k_1, k_2) = \frac{gT^a}{k_1^- + k_2^- - q^-} \frac{\bar{u}_{\sigma}(k_1)}{\sqrt{k_1^+}} \gamma^\cdot e^{i\gamma^\cdot v_{\sigma'}(k_2)} \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_2^+}}. \]  

(28)

Since integration over \( q \) yields \((2\pi)^2\delta(u)\) we can consider the light-cone wave functions in the reference frame where \( q = 0 \) and integrate only over the remaining momentum \( q' = k_2 = -k_1 \).

\[ \psi_{\lambda,\sigma,\sigma'}^{g\to q\bar{q}}(k_1, k_2) = -\frac{gT^a}{(1-z)k_1^+ + 2k_2^2} \times \left\{ e^{i\gamma^\cdot [(1-z)k_1 - zk_2]}(1 - 2z + \lambda \sigma)\delta_{\sigma,\sigma'} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sigma m (1 - \lambda \sigma)\delta_{\sigma,-\sigma'} \right\} \]

(29)

It is convenient to change variables from \( x_{1,2} \) and \( x'_{1,2} \) to \( u, u', x_{12} \) and \( x'_{12} \):

\[ x_1 = u + (1-z) x_{12} \]
\[ x_2 = u - z x_{12} \]
\[ x'_1 = u' + (1-z) x'_{12} \]
\[ x'_2 = u' - z x'_{12} \].  

(30)

(31)

Performing Fourier transformation yields

\[ \psi_{\lambda,\sigma,\sigma'}^{g\to q\bar{q}}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{gT^a}{2\pi} \delta(u) \left\{ i m K_1(m x_{12}) \frac{e^{i\gamma^\cdot x_{12}}}{x_{12}} (1 - 2\alpha + \lambda \sigma)\delta_{\sigma,\sigma'} \right. 
\]
\[ \left. - \delta_{\sigma,-\sigma'} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sigma m (1 - \lambda \sigma)K_0(0) \right\}. \]

(32)

Multiplying by the contribution of the c.c. diagram, summing over the quantum numbers of the final states and averaging over the quantum numbers of initial particles according to

\[ \phi^{g\to q\bar{q}}(x_{12}, x'_{12}, z) = \frac{1}{2N_c} \text{Tr} \sum_{\sigma,\lambda} \psi_{\lambda,\sigma,\sigma'}^{g\to q\bar{q}}(x_1, x_2) \psi_{\lambda,\sigma,\sigma'}^{g\to q\bar{q}+}(x'_1, x'_2) \]

we derive

\[ \phi^{g\to q\bar{q}}(x_{12}, x'_{12}, z) = g^2 \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \delta(u)\delta(u') m^2 \left\{ \frac{x_{12} \cdot x'_{12}}{x_{12} x'_{12}} [(1-z)^2 + z^2]K_1(m x_{12})K_1(m x'_{12}) + K_0(m x_{12})K_0(m x'_{12}) \right\}. \]

(34)

In particular, in the chiral limit (34) reduces to

\[ \phi^{g\to q\bar{q}}(x_{12}, x'_{12}, z) = \frac{2g^2}{(2\pi)^2} \delta(u)\delta(u') \frac{x_{12} \cdot x'_{12}}{x_{12} x'_{12}} P_{qq}(z), \]

(35)

where

\[ P_{qq}(z) = \frac{1}{2} [(1 - z)^2 + z^2] \]

(36)

is the the splitting function.
The cross section reads
\[
\frac{d\sigma^{g\rightarrow q\bar{q}X}}{d^2k_1d^2k_2 dy dz} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \varphi(x_p,q^2) \frac{1}{S_\perp} \int d^2x_1d^2x_2d^2x'_1d^2x'_2 d^2u d^2u' \ e^{-ik_1(x_1-x'_1)-ik_2(x_2-x'_2)} \\
\times \varphi^{g\rightarrow q\bar{q}}(x_{12},x'_{12},z) \left[ S_F(x_1-x'_1)S_F(x_2-x'_2) - S_F(x'_1)S_F(x'_2) - S_F(x_1)S_F(x_2) + 1 \right],
\]
where \( S_\perp \) is the transverse cross-sectional area of nucleus. Integrals over \( u \) and \( u' \) are trivial due to the delta-functions in (35). It is convenient to express the final result in terms of the transverse moments \( q \) and \( \ell \) defined as
\[
q = k_1 + k_2, \quad \ell = (1-z)k_1 - zk_2.
\]
\( q \) is the gluon transverse momentum, i.e. total momentum of the quark and antiquark. \( \ell \) is the relative transverse momentum of the pair. Invariant mass of the pair \( M \) can be written in terms of \( \ell \) as follows
\[
M^2 = (k_1 + k_2)^2 = \frac{m^2 + \ell^2}{z(1-z)}.
\]
Substituting (30) and (31) and performing integration over the impact parameter \( b' = (x'_1 + x'_2)/2 \), which yields \( S_\perp \), we get
\[
\frac{d\sigma^{g\rightarrow q\bar{q}X}}{d^2\ell d^2q dy dz d^2b} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \varphi(x_p,q^2) \int d^2x_{12} d^2x'_{12} \ e^{-i\ell(x_{12} - x'_{12})} \\
\times \left\{ K_1(mx_{12})K_1(mx'_{12}) \frac{x_{12} \cdot x'_{12}}{x_{12} x'_{12}} [(1-z)^2 + z^2] + K_0(mx_{12})K_0(mx'_{12}) \right\} \\
\times \left\{ S_F((1-z)(x_{12} - x'_{12}))S_F(z(x_{12} - x'_{12})) \\
- S_F((1-z)x'_{12})S_F(zx'_{12}) - S_F((1-z)x_{12})S_F(zx_{12}) + 1 \right\}.
\]
This is the formula derived before in [2, 3].

B. Approximation of the general result of Sec. II

Now we would like to find an approximation to the general formulas of Sec. II that lead to the same result (40). Collinear factorization of proton involves several assumptions. First, the characteristic transverse momentum scale of proton \( \Lambda \) is assumed to be much smaller than the produced quark mass. As a consequence, the size of color dipoles \( u \) and \( u' \) is much larger than that of \( x_{12} \) and \( x'_{12} \) i.e.
\[
x_{12} \ll u \ll \Lambda^{-1}.
\]
Second, factorization requires that gluon coordinate be the same in the amplitude and in the c.c. one independently of the produced quark and antiquark coordinates. This is ensured if

$$|u - u'| \ll Q_s^{-1}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (42)

Taking approximation (41) and (42) in (21) leads to the following expressions of the scattering matrix elements:

$$S_{11}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) \approx S_F((1 - z)(x_{12} - x'_{12})) S_F(z(x_{12} - x'_{12})),$$  \hspace{1cm} (43)

$$S_{22}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) \approx 1,$$  \hspace{1cm} (44)

$$S_{33}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) = 1,$$  \hspace{1cm} (45)

$$S_{12}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) \approx S_F((1 - z)x_{12}) S_F(zx_{12}),$$  \hspace{1cm} (46)

$$S_{23}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) = S_A(u),$$  \hspace{1cm} (47)

$$S_{13}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) \approx S_A(u).$$  \hspace{1cm} (48)

Double inclusive cross section (3) can be written as

$$\frac{d\sigma^{q_1 \rightarrow q_1 q_2 X}}{d^2k_1 d^2k_2 dy dz d^2b} = \frac{1}{4(2\pi)^6} \int d^2u d^2u' d^2x_{12} d^2x'_{12} e^{-i(k_1 + k_2) \cdot (u-u')} e^{-i[(1-z)k_1 - z k_2] \cdot (x_{12} - x'_{12})}$$

$$\times \sum_{i,j=1}^{3} \Phi_{ij}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) S_{ij}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z).$$  \hspace{1cm} (49)

To take integrals over \( u \) and \( u' \) we note that that \( S_{ij} \), with \( i, j \neq 3 \) do not depend on these coordinate use the following identities

$$\int e^{-iq \cdot u} F_2(x_1, x_2; z) \frac{u}{u} d^2u = -2\pi i \frac{q}{q^2} K_1(x_{12} \sqrt{m^2 + z(1 - z)q^2}) \sqrt{m^2 + z(1 - z)q^2},$$  \hspace{1cm} (50)

$$\int e^{-iq \cdot u} F_1(x_1, x_2; z) \frac{u}{u} d^2u = -2\pi i \frac{q}{q^2} K_0(x_{12} \sqrt{m^2 + z(1 - z)q^2}),$$  \hspace{1cm} (51)

$$\int e^{-iq \cdot u} F_0(x_1, x_2; z) d^2u = 2\pi K_0(x_{12} \sqrt{m^2 + z(1 - z)q^2}),$$  \hspace{1cm} (52)

$$\int e^{-q \cdot u} \frac{u}{u^2} d^2u = -2\pi i \frac{q}{q^2}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (53)

In derivation of these identities we used the orthogonality of the Bessel functions

$$\int_0^{\infty} u J_\alpha(qu) J_\alpha(q'u) du = \frac{1}{q} \delta(q - q').$$  \hspace{1cm} (54)
Denoting \( s = \sqrt{m^2 + z(1-z)q^2} \) we write

\[
\int d^2u \int d^2u' \Phi_{11}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z)e^{-iq \cdot u + iq' \cdot u'}
= 4C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 (2\pi)^2 \left\{ K_1(x_{12} s) K_1(x'_{12} s) \frac{1}{x_{12} x'_{12} q^4} [(1-2z)^2(x_{12} \cdot q)(x'_{12} \cdot q)
+ (\epsilon_{ij}q_i x_{12j}) (\epsilon_k q_k x'_{12i})] + K_0(x_{12} s) K_0(x'_{12} s) \frac{1}{q^2} + 4z^2(1-z)^2 K_0(x_{12} s) K_0(x'_{12} s)
- 2z(1-z)(1-2z) \left[ \frac{x_{12} \cdot q}{x_{12} q^2} (-i) K_1(x_{12} s) K_0(x'_{12} s) + \frac{x'_{12} \cdot q}{x_{12} q^2} i K_1(x'_{12} s) K_0(x_{12} s) \right] \right\},
\]

(55)

\[
\int d^2u \int d^2u' \Phi_{22}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z)e^{-iq \cdot u + iq' \cdot u'}
= 4C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 (2\pi)^2 m^2 \left\{ K_1(x_{12} m) K_1(x'_{12} m) \frac{1}{x_{12} x'_{12} q^4} [(1-2z)^2(x_{12} \cdot q)(x'_{12} \cdot q)
+ (\epsilon_{ij}q_i x_{12j}) (\epsilon_k q_k x'_{12i})] + K_0(x_{12} m) K_0(x'_{12} m) \frac{1}{q^2} \right\},
\]

(56)

\[
\int d^2u \int d^2u' \Phi_{12}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z)e^{-iq \cdot u + iq' \cdot u'}
= -4C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 (2\pi)^2 m \left\{ K_1(x_{12} m) K_1(x'_{12} m) \frac{1}{x_{12} x'_{12} q^4} [(1-2z)^2(x_{12} \cdot q)(x'_{12} \cdot q)
+ (\epsilon_{ij}q_i x_{12j}) (\epsilon_k q_k x'_{12i})] + m K_0(x_{12} m) K_0(x'_{12} m) \frac{1}{q^2}
- 2z(1-z)(1-2z) \frac{x'_{12} \cdot q}{x_{12} q^2} i K_1(x'_{12} m) K_0(x_{12} s) \right\}.
\]

(57)

In the factorization limit, only terms with \( i, j = 1, 2 \) contribute as we demonstrate in the next section. Therefore, in this section we concentrate only \( i, j = 1, 2 \) terms. The collinear limit comes from the logarithmically enhanced terms that correspond to the most singular in \( 1/q \) behavior. Thus, in order to obtain the collinear factorization of proton, we need to assume that

\[
q \ll 2m,
\]

(58)

which implies that \( |u - u'| \gg m^{-1} \). In view of (41) it means that we require \( Q_s \ll m \). Using (58) in Eqs. (55),(56),(57) we conclude that they coincide (apart from the relative sign):

\[
\int d^2u \int d^2u' \Phi_{11} e^{-iq \cdot u + iq' \cdot u'} \approx \int d^2u \int d^2u' \Phi_{22} e^{-iq \cdot u + iq' \cdot u'} \approx - \int d^2u \int d^2u' \Phi_{12} e^{-iq \cdot u + iq' \cdot u'}
\approx 4C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 (2\pi)^2 m^2 \left\{ K_1(x_{12} m) K_1(x'_{12} m) \frac{1}{x_{12} x'_{12} q^4} [(1-2z)^2(x_{12} \cdot q)(x'_{12} \cdot q)
+ (\epsilon_{ij}q_i x_{12j}) (\epsilon_k q_k x'_{12i})] + K_0(x_{12} m) K_0(x'_{12} m) \frac{1}{q^2} \right\}.
\]

(59)
Substituting (59) and (43)-(48) into (49) and averaging over directions of \( q \) using \( \langle q, q_j \rangle = q^2 \delta_{ij} / 2 \) and \( \epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{il} = 2 \delta_{jl} \) we obtain

\[
\frac{d\sigma_{\text{fact}}^{q_s \rightarrow qdX}}{d^2 \ell \, d^2 q \, dy \, dz \, d^2 b} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \frac{m^2}{q^2} \int d^2 x_{12} d^2 x_{12}' e^{-i\ell \cdot (x_{12} - x_{12}')}
\]

\[
\times \left\{ K_1(x_{12}m)K_1(x_{12}'m) \frac{x_{12} \cdot x_{12}'}{x_{12} x_{12}'} [(1 - z)^2 + z^2] + K_0(x_{12}m)K_0(x_{12}'m) \right\}
\]

\[
\times \left\{ S_F((1 - z)(x_{12} - x_{12}')) S_F(z(x_{12} - x_{12}')) + 1
\]

\[
- S_F((1 - z)x_{12}) S_F(zx_{12}) - S_F((1 - z)x_{12}') S_F(zx_{12}') \right\}.
\]  

Unintegrated gluon distribution function \( \varphi(x_p, q) \) defined such that

\[
x_p G(x_p, Q^2) = \int Q^2 \varphi(x_p, q^2) \, dq^2.
\]

Since in the leading logarithmic approximation

\[
x G(x, Q^2) = \frac{\alpha_s C_F}{\pi} \ln \frac{Q^2}{\Lambda^2},
\]

we can write (60) as

\[
\frac{d\sigma_{\text{fact}}^{q_s \rightarrow qdX}}{d^2 \ell \, d^2 q \, dy \, dz \, d^2 b} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} m^2 \varphi(x_p, q^2) \int d^2 x_{12} d^2 x_{12}' e^{-i\ell \cdot (x_{12} - x_{12}')}
\]

\[
\times \left\{ K_1(x_{12}m)K_1(x_{12}'m) \frac{x_{12} \cdot x_{12}'}{x_{12} x_{12}'} [(1 - z)^2 + z^2] + K_0(x_{12}m)K_0(x_{12}'m) \right\}
\]

\[
\times \left\{ S_F((1 - z)(x_{12} - x_{12}')) S_F(z(x_{12} - x_{12}')) + 1
\]

\[
- S_F((1 - z)x_{12}) S_F(zx_{12}) - S_F((1 - z)x_{12}') S_F(zx_{12}') \right\}.
\]  

As expected this coincides with (40).

If we are interested in single inclusive cross section, we have to integrate (63) over \( q \) and multiply by 2, which yields

\[
\frac{d\sigma_{\text{fact}}^{q_s \rightarrow qX}}{d^2 \ell \, dy \, d^2 b} = \frac{\alpha_s}{8 \pi^4} m^2 \int_0^1 dz \int d^2 x_{12} \int d^2 x_{12}' x G(x, 1/|x_{12} - x_{12}'|) e^{-i\ell \cdot (x_{12} - x_{12}')}
\]

\[
\times \left\{ K_1(mx_{12})K_1(mx_{12}') \frac{x_{12} \cdot x_{12}'}{x_{12} x_{12}'} [(1 - z)^2 + z^2] + K_0(mx_{12})K_0(mx_{12}') \right\}
\]

\[
\times \left\{ S_F((1 - z)(x_{12} - x_{12}')) S_F(z(x_{12} - x_{12}')) + 1
\]

\[
- S_F((1 - z)x_{12}) S_F(zx_{12}) - S_F((1 - z)x_{12}') S_F(zx_{12}') \right\}.
\]  

(64)
IV. CONTRIBUTION OF VALENCE QUARKS

In the factorization approximation valence quarks do not contribute. Indeed, this is evident upon substitution (59) into (15)–(17): \( \Phi_{13} = \Phi_{23} = \Phi_{33} = 0 \). Contribution of valence quarks emerges, along with other contributions, when we keep the logarithmically sub-leading terms in (55)-(57). In other words, we are still going to work within the approximations (41),(42), but relax the approximation (58). Thus, contribution of valence quarks arises when \( Q_s > m \).

It is convenient to rewrite the last line in (3) using (15)–(17) as (dropping the summation sign)

\[
\Phi_{ij} S_{ij} = (\Phi_{ij} S_{ij})_I + (\Phi_{ij} S_{ij})_{II} \quad \text{(65)}
\]

where

\[
(I)_{II} = \Phi_{11} S_{11} + \Phi_{12} S_{12} + \Phi_{21} S_{21} + \Phi_{22} S_{22},
(I)_{II} = \Phi_{11} (S_{33} - S_{23} - S_{31}) + \Phi_{12} (S_{33} - S_{13} - S_{32})
\]

(55)-(57). Thus, contribution of valence quarks arises when \( Q_s > m \).

We will denote the corresponding contributions to the cross section by as \( \sigma_1 \) and \( \sigma_{II} \). We will denote the corresponding contributions to the cross section by as \( \sigma_1 \) and \( \sigma_{II} \) correspondingly. We detailed the calculation of \( \sigma_1 \) in Sec. III B. The double-inclusive cross section averaged over the directions of \( q \) is

\[
\frac{d \sigma_{\text{II}}^{q \rightarrow q X}}{d^2 k_1 d^2 k_2 dy dz db} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \int d^2 x_{12} d^2 x'_{12} e^{-i\ell \cdot (x_{12} - x'_{12})} \times \left\{ \frac{x_{12} \cdot x'_{12}}{x_{12} x'_{12}} [(1 - z)^2 + z^2] \frac{1}{q^2} [K_1(x_{12}s)K_1(x'_{12}s) s^2 S_{11} + K_1(x_{12}m)K_1(x'_{12}m) m^2 S_{22}
\]

\[
- K_1(x_{12}s)K_1(x'_{12}m) s S_{12} - K_1(x_{12}m)K_1(x'_{12}s) s S_{21} + \frac{m^2}{q^2} [K_0(x_{12}s)K_0(x'_{12}s) S_{11}
\]

\[
+ K_0(x_{12}m)K_0(x'_{12}m) S_{22} - K_0(x_{12}m)K_0(x'_{12}s) S_{12} - K_0(x_{12}s)K_0(x'_{12}m) S_{21}] + 4 z^2 (1 - z)^2 K_0(x_{12}s)K_0(x'_{12}s) S_{11} \right\}. \quad \text{(67)}
\]

Integral over \( q \) is logarithmically divergent in the UV, with the cutoff \( Q \) such that \( q \leq Q \).

Now we turn to the contribution \( \sigma_{II} \). Substituting (43)–(48) we get

\[
\frac{d \sigma_{\text{II}}^{q \rightarrow q X}}{d^2 k_1 d^2 k_2 dy dz db} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^6} \int d^2 u d^2 u' e^{-i q \cdot (u - u')} \int d^2 x_{12} d^2 x'_{12} e^{-i\ell \cdot (x_{12} - x'_{12})} \times \left\{ [1 - S_A(u) - S_A(u')] [\Phi_{11}(x_1, x_2; x_1', x_2'; z) + \Phi_{12}(x_1, x_2; x_1', x_2'; z)
\]

\[
+ \Phi_{21}(x_1, x_2; x_1', x_2'; z) + \Phi_{22}(x_1, x_2; x_1', x_2'; z) \right\}. \quad \text{(68)}
\]
Since the scattering matrix elements are independent of \( x_{12} \) and \( x'_{12} \), we can integrate the wave function over these variables. The integrations are performed employing the following identities

\[
\int d^2 x_{12} e^{-i \ell x_{12}} F_2(x_1, x_2, z) = -2\pi i \ell \int_0^\infty dq J_1(qu) \frac{1}{\ell^2 + z(1-z)q^2 + m^2}
\]

\[
= -\frac{2\pi i \ell}{(\ell^2 + m^2)u} \left[ 1 - u \sqrt{\frac{\ell^2 + m^2}{z(1-z)}} K_1 \left( u \sqrt{\frac{\ell^2 + m^2}{z(1-z)}} \right) \right] \equiv -\frac{2\pi i \ell}{(\ell^2 + m^2)u} f_1(u, \ell, z) . \tag{69}
\]

\[
\int d^2 x_{12} e^{-i \ell x_{12}} F_1(x_1, x_2, z) = 2\pi \int_0^\infty dq J_1(qu) \frac{1}{\ell^2 + z(1-z)q^2 + m^2}
\]

\[
= \frac{2\pi}{(\ell^2 + m^2)u} f_1(u, \ell, z) . \tag{70}
\]

\[
\int d^2 x_{12} e^{-i \ell x_{12}} F_0(x_1, x_2, z) = 2\pi \int_0^\infty dq J_0(qu) \frac{1}{\ell^2 + z(1-z)q^2 + m^2}
\]

\[
= \frac{2\pi}{z(1-z)} K_0 \left( u \sqrt{\frac{\ell^2 + m^2}{z(1-z)}} \right) \equiv \frac{2\pi}{z(1-z)} f_0(u, \ell, z) . \tag{71}
\]

Using these formulas we have

\[
\int d^2 x_{12} \int d^2 x'_{12} e^{-i \ell x_{12} + i \ell x'_{12}} \Phi_{11}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) =
\]

\[
= 4C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 (2\pi)^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{u^2 u'^2 (\ell^2 + m^2)^2} [1 - 2z]^2 (u \cdot \ell)(u' \cdot \ell) + (\epsilon_{ij}u_i \ell_j)(\epsilon_{kl}u'_k \ell_l) \right\}
\]

\[
\times f_1(u, \ell, z) f_1(u', \ell, z) + m^2 \frac{u \cdot u'}{u^2 u'^2 (\ell^2 + m^2)^2} f_1(u, \ell, z) f_1(u', \ell, z)
\]

\[
+ 4z^2 (1-z)^2 \frac{1}{z^2 (1-z)^2} f_0(u, \ell, z) f_0(u', \ell, z)
\]

\[
- 2z(1-z)(1-2z) \left\{ \frac{u \cdot \ell}{u^2} (-i) \frac{1}{z(1-z)} \frac{1}{\ell^2 + m^2} f_1(u, \ell, z) f_0(u', \ell, z)
\]

\[
+ \frac{u' \cdot \ell}{u'^2} i \frac{1}{z(1-z)} \frac{1}{\ell^2 + m^2} f_0(u, \ell, z) f_1(u', \ell, z) \right\} \right\} . \tag{72}
\]

\[
\int d^2 x_{12} \int d^2 x'_{12} e^{-i \ell x_{12} + i \ell x'_{12}} \Phi_{22}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) =
\]

\[
= 4C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 (2\pi)^2 m^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{m^2 u^2 u'^2 (\ell^2 + m^2)^2} [1 - 2z]^2 (u \cdot \ell)(u' \cdot \ell) + (\epsilon_{ij}u_i \ell_j)(\epsilon_{kl}u'_k \ell_l) \right\}
\]

\[
+ \frac{u \cdot u'}{u^2 u'^2 (\ell^2 + m^2)^2} \right\} . \tag{73}
\]
\[
\int d^2 x_{12} \int d^2 x'_{12} e^{-i\ell \cdot x_{12} + i\ell \cdot x'_{12}} \Phi_{12}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) = 
-4C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 (2\pi)^2 m \left\{ \frac{1}{m u^2 u'^2 (\ell^2 + m^2)^2} [(1 - 2z)^2 (u \cdot \ell)(u' \cdot \ell) + (\epsilon_{ij} u_i \ell_j)(\epsilon_{kl} u_k \ell_l)] 
	imes f_1(u, \ell, z) + m n u^2 u'^2 (\ell^2 + m^2)^2 f_1(u, \ell, z) 
- 2z(1 - z)(1 - 2z) \frac{u' \cdot \ell}{u^2 (i - z) \ell^2 + m^2} \right\}, 
\]

(74)

Fourier transforms of other wave functions can be derived using (15)–(17). Substituting in (68), the resulting expression averaged over the directions of \( \ell \) (to make it less bulky) reads

\[
\frac{d\sigma_{\Pi}^{q' \rightarrow qX}}{\pi d\ell d^2 q dy d^2 b dz} = \frac{1}{4(2\pi)^2} 4C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \int d^2 u \int d^2 u' e^{-i\ell \cdot (u - u')} \times \left\{ \left[ \frac{u \cdot u'}{u^2 u'^2 (\ell^2 + m^2)^2} (f_1(u, \ell, z) - 1)(f_1(u', \ell, z) - 1) + 4f_0(u, \ell, z)f_0(u', \ell, x) \right] \right\}. 
\]

(75)

To obtain the single inclusive cross section we can integrate over \( \ell \) or over \( q \) and multiple by 2 giving the final result

\[
\frac{d\sigma_{\Pi}^{q' \rightarrow qX}}{d^2 \ell dy d^2 b dz} = \frac{1}{2(2\pi)^2} 4C_F \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 \int_0^1 d\ell \int d^2 u \left[ 1 - 2S_A(u) \right] 
\times \left\{ \left[ (\ell^2)(1 - z)^2 + z^2 \right] \frac{(f_1(u, \ell, z) - 1)^2}{u^2 (\ell^2 + m^2)^2} + 4f_0(u, \ell, z) \right\}. 
\]

(76)

Alternatively, we could have used (68) to write

\[
\frac{d\sigma_{\Pi}^{q' \rightarrow q\bar{q}X}}{d^2 \ell dy d^2 b dz} = \frac{1}{2(2\pi)^2} \int d^2 u \int d^2 u' \delta(u - u') \left[ 1 - 2S_A(u) \right] 
\times \left\{ \left[ \Phi_{11}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) + \Phi_{22}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) \right] + 2 \text{Re} \int d^2 x_{12} d^2 x'_{12} e^{-i\ell \cdot (x_{12} - x'_{12})} \Phi_{12}(x_1, x_2; x'_1, x'_2; z) \right\}, 
\]

(77)

and plugg in formulas (72)–(74).

The final result, which is the main result of this paper is

\[
\frac{d\sigma_{\Pi}^{q' \rightarrow q\bar{q}X}}{d^2 k_1 d^2 k_2 dy d^2 b dz} = \frac{d\sigma_{\Pi}^{q' \rightarrow q\bar{q}X}}{d^2 k_1 d^2 k_2 dy d^2 b dz} + \frac{d\sigma_{\Pi}^{q' \rightarrow q\bar{q}X}}{d^2 k_1 d^2 k_2 dy d^2 b dz}, 
\]

(78)

where the two terms on the right-hand-side are given by (67) and (75).

Note that the separation between the contributions \( \sigma_1 \) and \( \sigma_{\Pi} \) in (78) is gauge dependent. Only the sum of the two cross section has the physical meaning as the heavy quark and antiquark
production cross section. In the limit \( u \ll 1/m \), it follows that \( f_1 \rightarrow 1,\ f_0 \rightarrow 0 \). If interactions are absent, i.e. \( S_{ij} = 1 \) this implies that \( \sigma_{II} \rightarrow 0 \), so that \( \sigma_1 \) (given by (64)) acquires independent physical meaning (see the previous section).

It can be explicitly shown that if we put \( S_{ij} = 1 \) for all \( i, j \) the cross section vanishes as required. Indeed, in this case integrating (67) over \( x_{12} \) and \( x'_{12} \) and integrating (75) over \( u \) and \( u' \) we arrive at

\[
\frac{d\sigma_{q^i \rightarrow q^j q^k X}}{d2 \ell d^2 q dy d^2 b dz} = \frac{d\sigma_{II \rightarrow q^j q^k X}}{d2 \ell d^2 q dy d^2 b dz} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^2 C_F \left[ \frac{z^2(1-z)^2}{(z(1-z)q^2 + \ell^2 + m^2)^2} \left\{ \frac{q^2}{(\ell^2 + m^2)^2} \left[ ((1-z)^2 + z^2)\ell^2 + m^2 \right] + 4 \right\} \right].
\] (79)

In order that the \( q \)-integrated cross section vanish when \( S_{ij} = 1 \), integral over \( q \) in (67) must be cutoff by \( q \leq Q \), while integral over \( u \) in (76) by \( u \geq 1/Q \) with the same \( Q \).

The role of the valence quark interactions is illustrated in Fig. 3. It shows numerical calculation of charm production with and without valence quark contribution. One observes that collinear approximation fails at higher \( q \) and lower \( \ell \).

FIG. 3: Double inclusive cross section (78) for \( m = 1.29 \) GeV (charm) and \( Q_s = 1 \) GeV. Solid lines include contribution of valence quarks, while dashed lines correspond to the collinear factorization of proton.

V. CONCLUSIONS

We investigated the collinear factorization of the proton in the process of heavy quark production in high energy pA collisions. The factorization holds in the regime \( Q_s \ll m \), which also implies that the gluon saturation effects on the heavy nucleus side are small. However, if \( Q_s \gtrsim m \) this approximation breaks down and one has to take into account interaction of valence quarks with the nucleus. Generally, the collinear factorization of proton is a reasonable approximation only
at high relative transverse momentum $\ell$ of quark and antiquark (high invariant masses $M$), and small total transverse momentum $q$ of the pair (gluon is collinear with the proton), i.e. for hard scattering. These observations have important phenomenological implications that will be discussed in a separate work.

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