

DESY, 29 January '04

# An Improved Splitting Function for Small- $x$ Evolution

Matching together GLAP and BFKL

G. Altarelli  
CERN

Based on G.A., R. Ball, S.Forte

hep-ph/9911273 (NPB 575,313)

hep-ph/0001157 (lectures)

hep-ph/0011270 (NPB 599,383)

hep-ph/0104246

More specifically on

hep-ph/0109178 (NPB 621,359)

and on hep-ph/0306156 (NPB 674,459),

hep-ph/0310016

Related work (same physics, similar conclusion,  
different techniques): Ciafaloni, Colferai, Salam, Stasto  
[see also Thorne]

Our goal is to construct a relatively simple, closed form, improved anomalous dimension  $\gamma_1(\alpha, N)$  (or splitting function  $P_1(\alpha, x)$ )

$P_1(\alpha, x)$  should

- reduce to perturbative results at large  $x$
- contain BFKL corrections at small  $x$
- include running coupling effects
- be sufficiently simple to be included in fitting codes

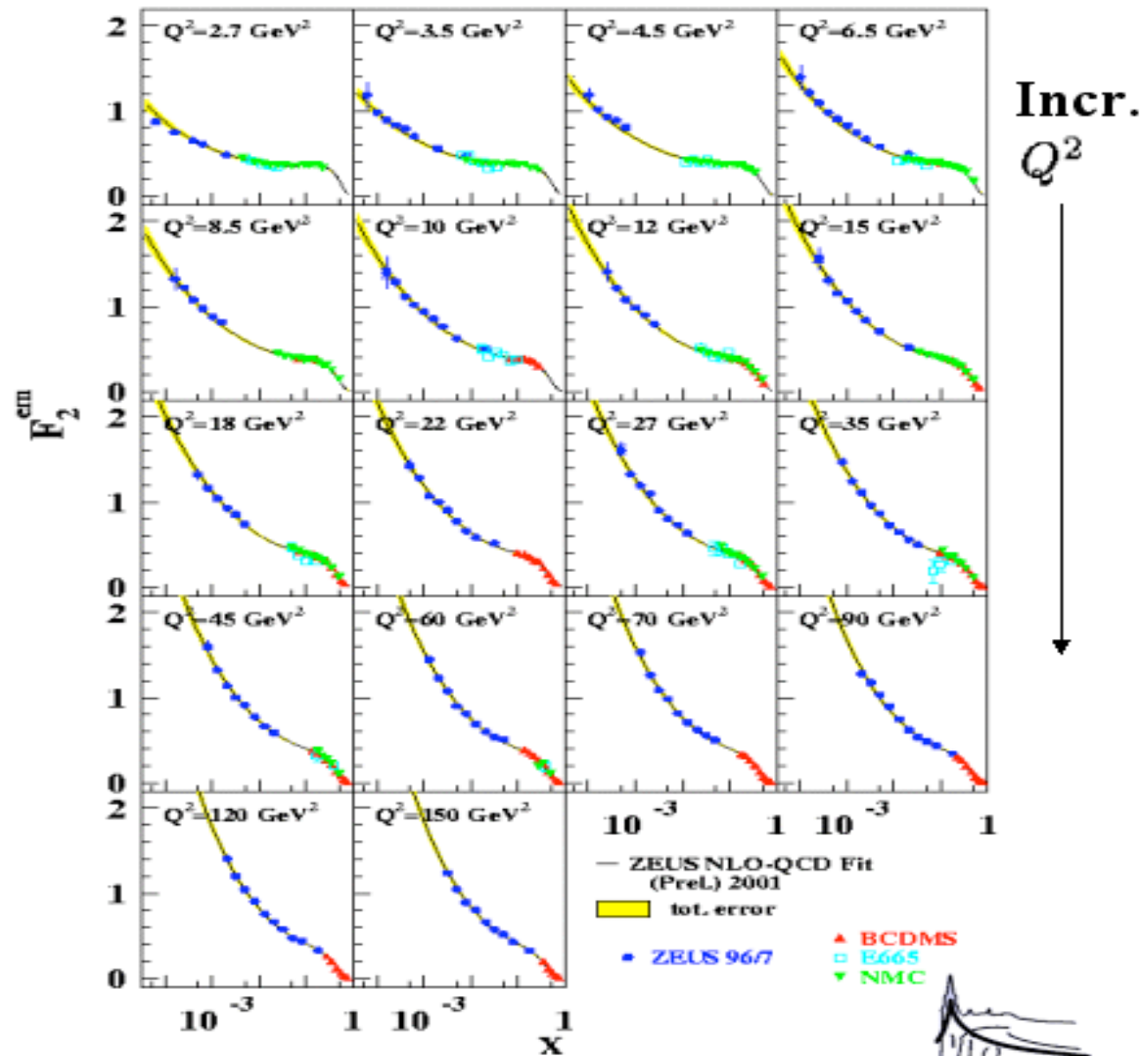
and of course

- closely reflect the trend of the data

# Example of NLO QCD evolution fit to HERA data

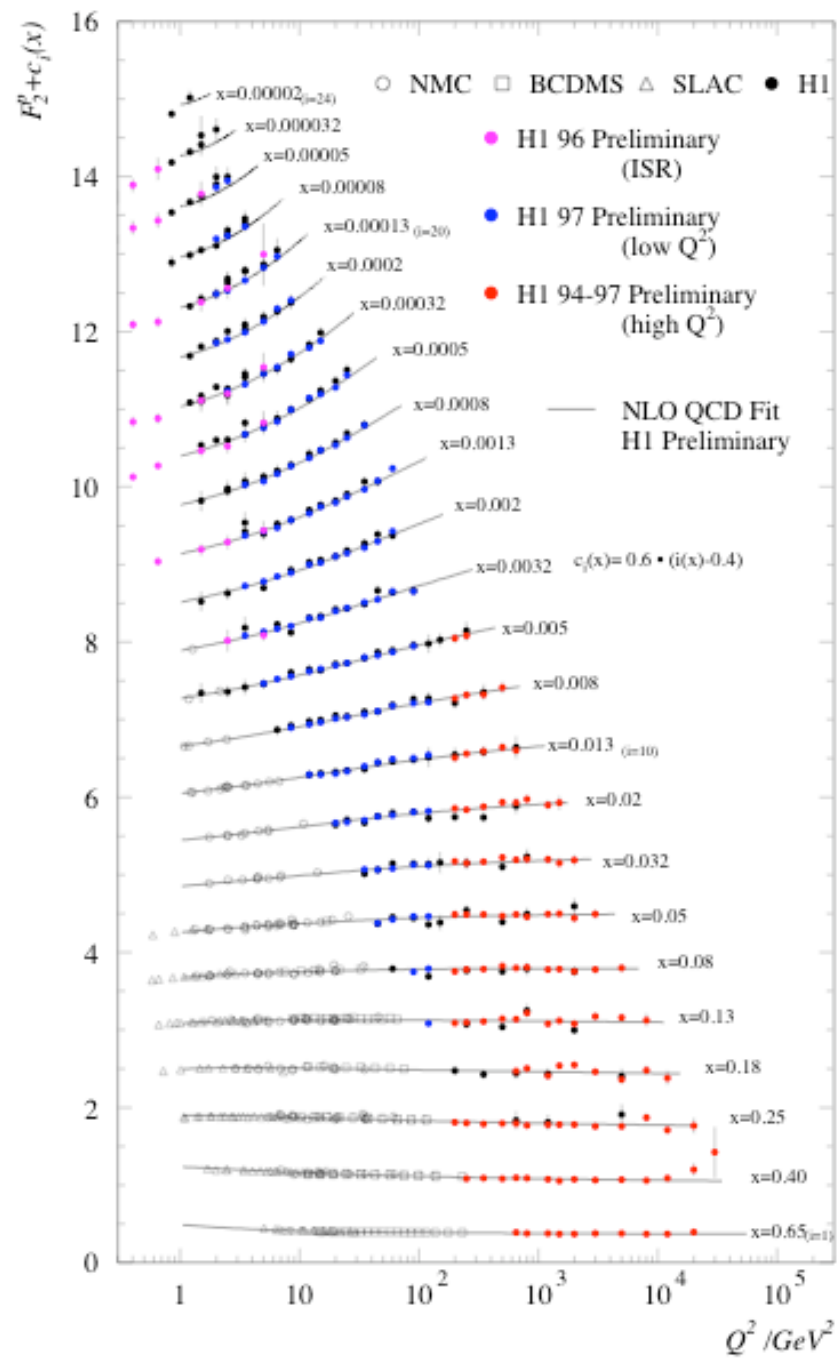
**ZEUS**

NLO fits to HERA data are amazingly good!!



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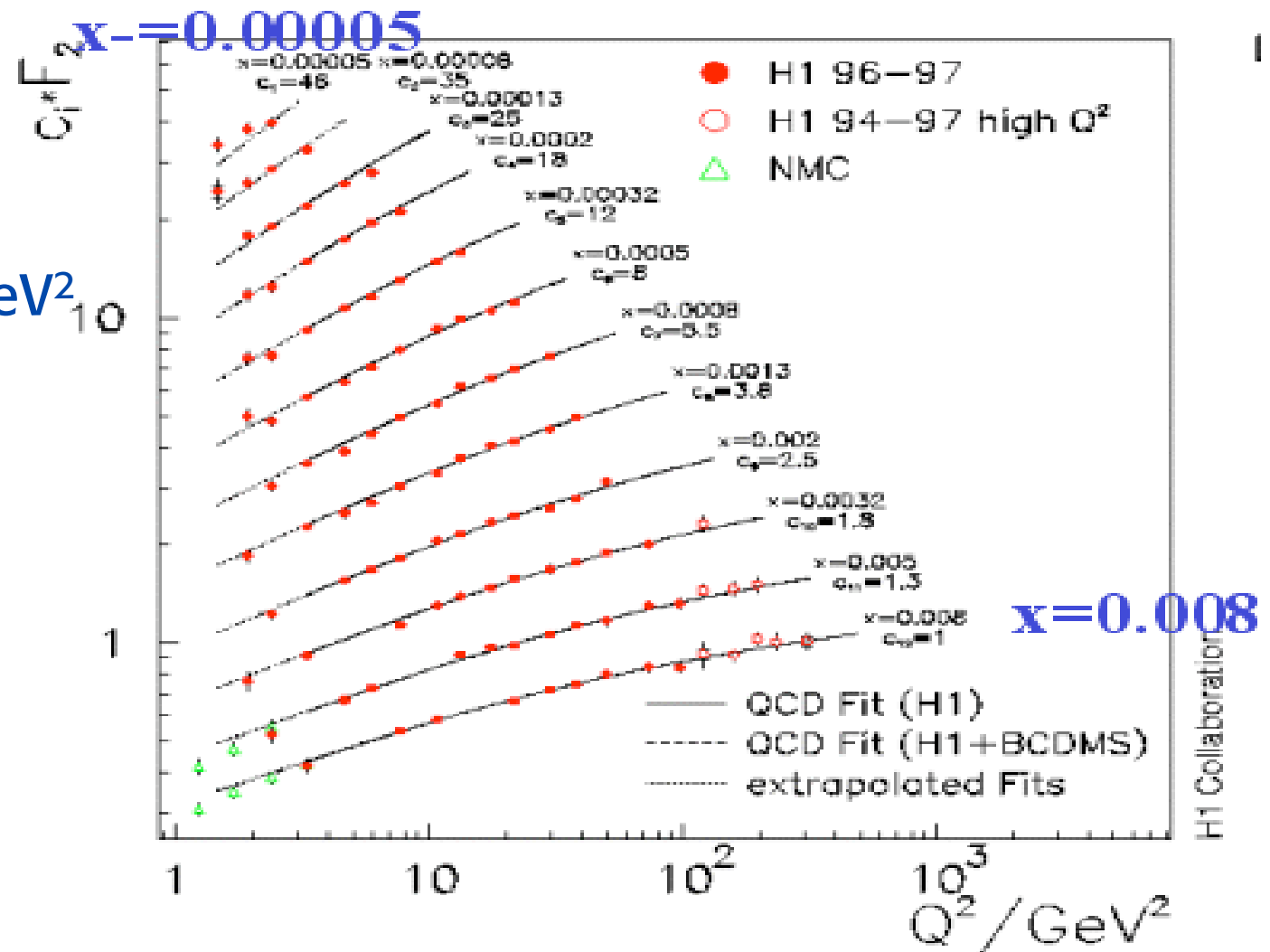


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At small x the agreement is too good!

Terms in  $(\alpha_s \log 1/x)^n$  should be important!!

For  $Q^2$  values  
 3, 10,  $10^2, 10^3$   $\text{GeV}^2$   
 $\alpha_s \log 1/x$  can be  
 as large as  
 4.3, 3.0, 1.2, 0.6

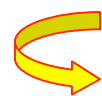


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# Moments

$$\xi = \log \frac{1}{x};$$

$$t = \log \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2}$$


 $G(x, Q^2) \equiv G(\xi, t) = x[g(x, Q^2) + k\Sigma(x, Q^2)]$ 
Singlet quark

For each moment: singlet eigenvector with largest anomalous dimension eigenvalue

$$G(N, t) = \int_0^1 x^{N-1} G(x, Q^2) dx = \int_0^\infty e^{-N\xi} G(\xi, t) d\xi$$

Mellin transf. (MT)

$$G(\xi, t) = \int_{-i\infty}^{+i\infty} e^{N\xi} G(N, t) \frac{dN}{2\pi i}$$

t-evolution eq.n

Inverse MT ( $\xi > 0$ )

$$\frac{d}{dt} G(N, t) = \gamma(N, \alpha(t)) G(N, t)$$

$\gamma$ : anom. dim

$$\gamma(N, \alpha) = \alpha \cdot \gamma_{1l}(N) + \alpha^2 \cdot \gamma_{2l}(N) + \dots$$

Pert. Th.:

LO
NLO



known

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Recall:  $\gamma(N) = \int_0^1 x^N P(x) dx$

$P(x) = 1/x(\ln 1/x)^n \longrightarrow \gamma(N) = n!/N^{n+1}$

At 1-loop:

$$\alpha \cdot \gamma_{1l}(N) = \alpha \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{N} - A(N) \right]$$

This corresponds to the “double scaling” behavior at small x:

$$G(\xi, t) \sim \exp \left[ \sqrt{\frac{4n_C}{\pi\beta_0} \cdot \xi \cdot \frac{\log Q^2 / \Lambda^2}{\log \mu^2 / \Lambda^2}} \right] \quad \beta(\alpha) = -\beta_0 \alpha^2 + \dots$$

A. De Rujula et al '74/Ball, Forte

Amazingly supported by the data

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In principle the BFKL approach provides a tool to control  $(\alpha/N)^n$  corrections to  $\gamma(N, \alpha)$ , that is  $1/x(\alpha \log 1/x)^n$  to splitting functions.

Define t- Mellin transf.:

$$G(\xi, M) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-Mt} G(\xi, t) dt$$

with inverse:

$$G(\xi, t) = \int_{-i\infty}^{+i\infty} e^{Mt} G(\xi, M) \frac{dM}{2\pi i}$$

$\xi$ -evolution eq.n (BFKL) [at fixed  $\alpha$ ]:

$$\frac{d}{d\xi} G(\xi, M) = \chi(M, \alpha) G(\xi, M)$$

with  $\chi(M, \alpha) = \alpha \cdot \chi_0(M) + \alpha^2 \cdot \chi_1(M) + \dots$



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Bad behaviour, bad convergence

At 1-loop:

$$\psi(M) = \Gamma'(M)/\Gamma(M)$$

$$\alpha\chi_0(M) = \frac{\alpha n_C}{\pi} \int_0^1 [z^{M-1} + z^{-M} - 2] \frac{dz}{1-z} = \frac{\alpha n_C}{\pi} \cdot [2\psi(1) - \psi(M) - \psi(1-M)]$$

Near M=0:

$$\alpha\chi_0(M) \sim \frac{\alpha n_C}{\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{M} + 2\zeta(3)M^2 + 2\zeta(5)M^4 + \dots \right]$$

At M=1/2

$$\lambda_0 = \alpha\chi_0\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{\alpha n_C}{\pi} 4\ln 2 = \alpha c_0 \sim 2.65\alpha \sim 0.5$$

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The minimum value of  $\alpha\chi_0$  at  $M=1/2$  is the Lipatov intercept:

$$\lambda_0 = \alpha\chi_0\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{\alpha n_C}{\pi} 4 \ln 2 = \alpha c_0 \sim 2.65\alpha \sim 0.5$$

It corresponds to (for  $x \rightarrow 0$ ):

$$xP(x) \sim x^{-\lambda_0}$$

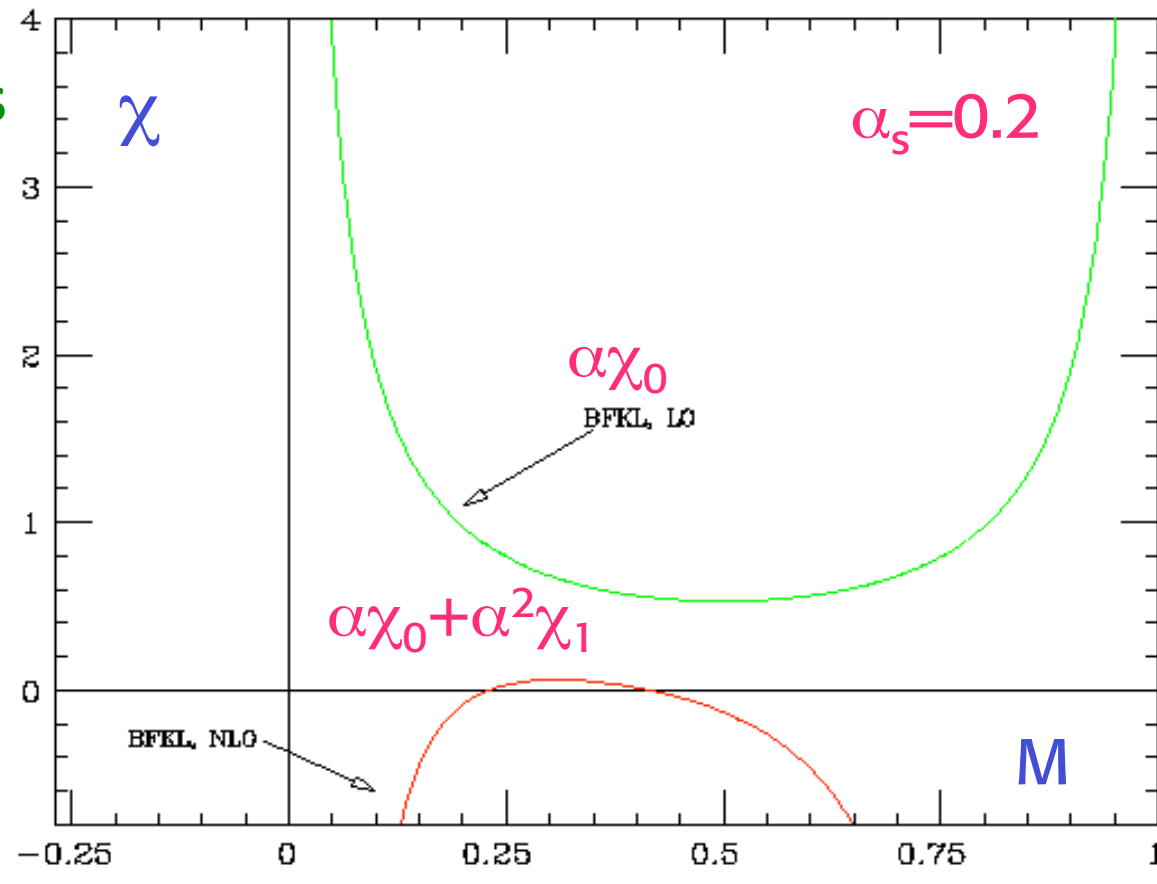
Too hard, not supported by data

But the NLO terms are very large



$\chi_1$  totally overwhelms  $\chi_0$ !!

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In the region of  $t$  and  $x$  where both

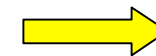
$$\frac{d}{dt}G(N, t) = \gamma(N, \alpha)G(N, t)$$

$$\frac{d}{d\xi}G(\xi, M) = \chi(M, \alpha)G(\xi, M)$$

are approximately valid, the "duality" relation holds:

$$\chi(\gamma(\alpha, N), \alpha) = N$$

Proof:



**Note:**  $\gamma$  is leading twist while  $\chi$  is all twist.

Still the two perturbative exp.ns are related and improve each other.

Non perturbative terms in  $\chi$  correspond to power or exp. suppressed terms in  $\gamma$ .


## Proof of duality

Take a second Mellin transform:

$$MG(N,M) = \gamma(N)G(N,M) - S(M)$$

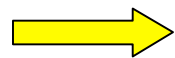
$$NG(N,M) = \chi(M)G(N,M) - T(N)$$

Boundary terms from  
integration by parts


$$G(N,M) = T(N)/(\chi(M)-N)$$

At fixed  $N$  the pole at  $\chi(M_0(N)) = N$  fixes the large  $t$  behaviour of the inverse Mellin transform  $G(N,t)$ :

$$G(N,t) \sim \exp[-M_0(N)t] \quad \text{or} \quad M_0(N) = \gamma(N)$$



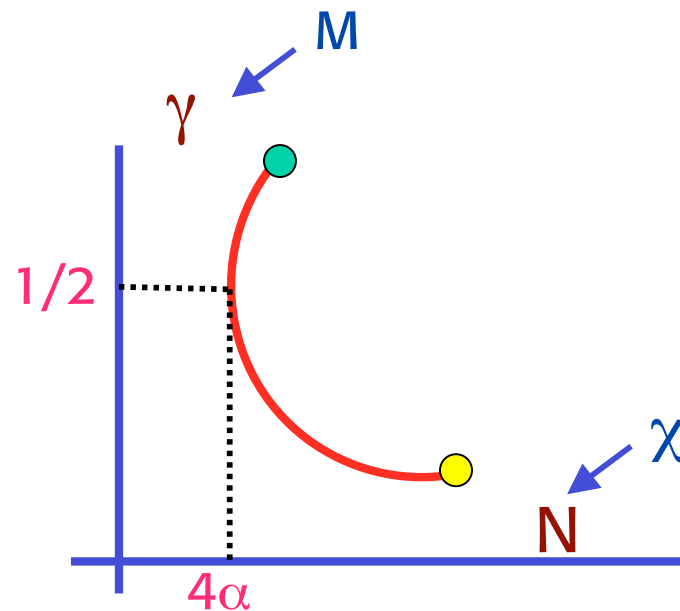
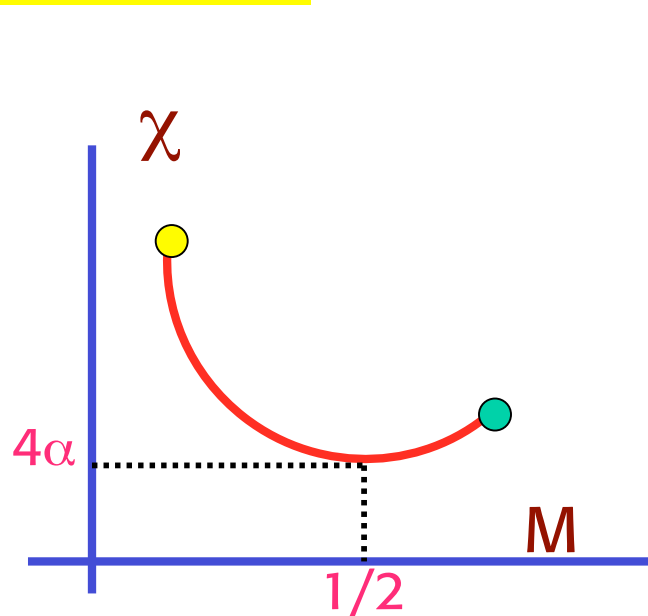
$$\chi(\gamma(N)) = N$$

Similarly

$$\gamma(\chi(M)) = M$$

} the duality relations

$$\chi(\gamma(N)) = N$$



Example: if  $\chi(M, \alpha) = \alpha \left[ \frac{1}{M} + \frac{1}{1-M} \right] \longrightarrow$

$$\longrightarrow \alpha \left[ \frac{1}{\gamma} + \frac{1}{1-\gamma} \right] = N \longrightarrow \gamma = \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{4\alpha}{N}} \right]$$

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For example at 1-loop:

$$\chi_0(\gamma_s(\alpha, N)) = N/\alpha$$

$\chi_0$  improves  $\gamma$  by adding a series of terms in  $(\alpha/N)^n$ :

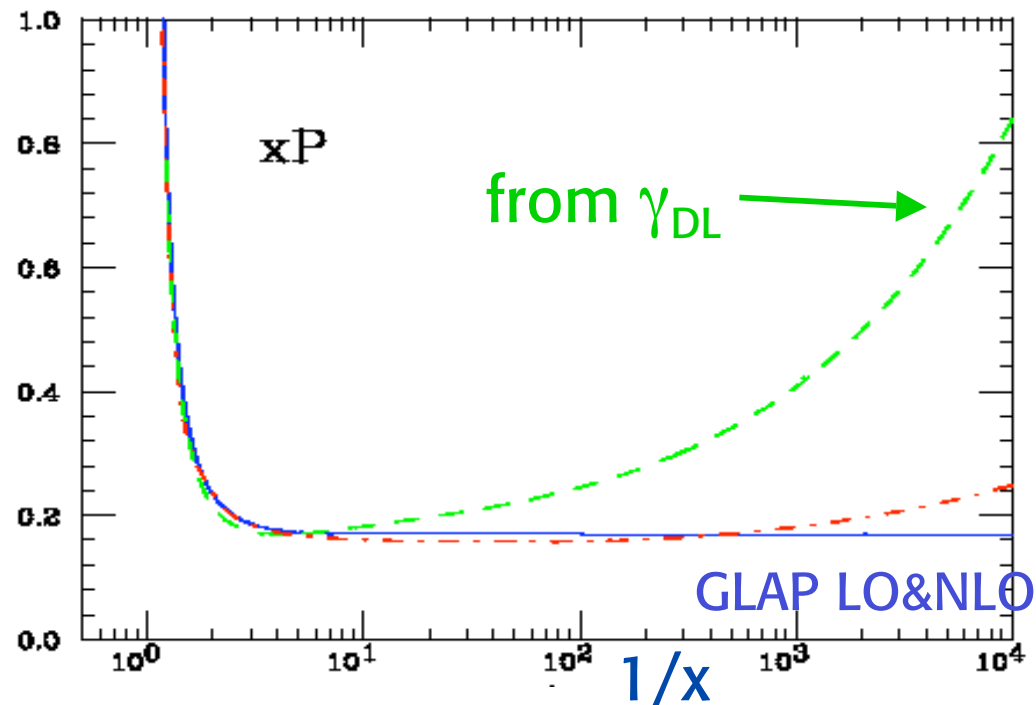
$$\chi_0 \rightarrow \gamma_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) \quad \gamma_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) = \sum_k c_k \left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right)^k$$

$$\gamma_{DL}(\alpha, N) = \alpha \cdot \gamma_{1l}(N) + \gamma_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) + \dots \text{-double count.}$$

This is the naive result from GLAP+(LO)BFKL

The data discard such a large raise at small x

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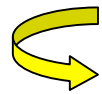


Similarly it is very important to improve  $\chi$  by using  $\gamma_{1l}$ .

Near  $M=0$ ,  $\chi_0 \sim 1/M$ ,  $\chi_1 \sim -1/M^2$

Duality + momentum cons. ( $\gamma(\alpha, N=1)=0$ )

  $\chi(\gamma(\alpha, N), \alpha) = N \longrightarrow \chi(0, \alpha) = 1$



$$\lim_{M \rightarrow 0} \chi(M, \alpha) \approx \frac{\alpha}{M + \alpha}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \gamma(\chi(M)) = M \rightarrow \gamma_{1l} \Rightarrow \chi_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{M}\right) \\ \chi_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{M}\right) = \sum_k d_k \left(\frac{\alpha}{M}\right)^k \end{array} \right.$$

$$\chi_{DL}(M, \alpha) = \alpha \cdot \chi_0(M) + \chi_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{M}\right) + \dots \text{-double count.}$$

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Double Leading Expansion



$$\gamma(N, \alpha) = \alpha \cdot \gamma_{1l}(N) + \dots \sim \alpha \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{N} - A(N) \right]$$

Momentum conservation:  $\gamma(1, \alpha) = 0 \longrightarrow A(1) = 1$

Duality:  $\gamma(\chi(M)) = M \longrightarrow \alpha \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{\chi} - A(\chi) \right] = M \longrightarrow$

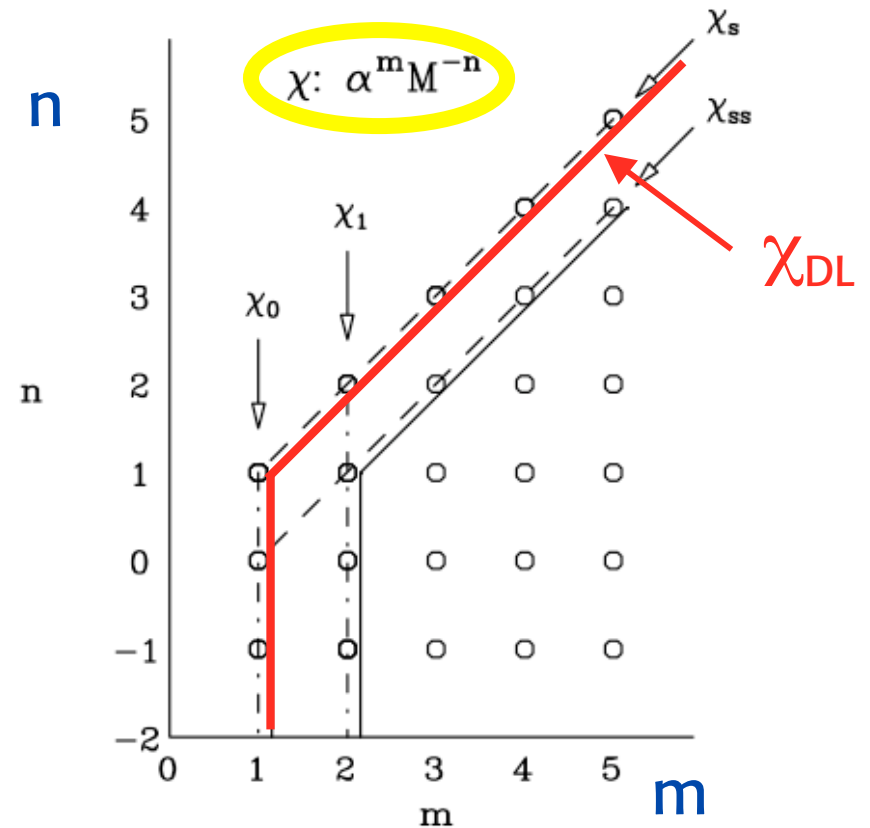
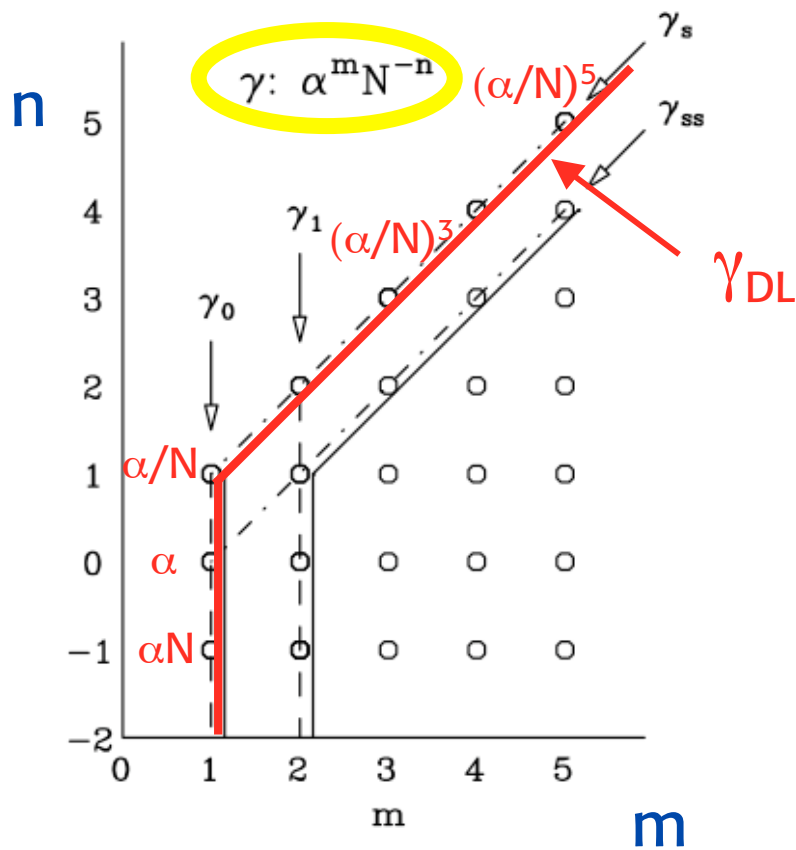
$\longrightarrow \chi = \frac{\alpha}{M + \alpha A(\chi)} \longrightarrow \chi(M \sim 0) \sim \frac{\alpha}{M + \alpha A(1)} \sim \frac{\alpha}{M + \alpha}$

$\chi_{DL}(M, \alpha) = \alpha \cdot \chi_0(M) + \chi_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{M}\right) + \dots$  -double count.

$\chi_0(M) = \alpha \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{M} + 0(M^2) \right]$

$$\gamma_{DL}(\alpha, N) = \alpha \cdot \gamma_{1l}(N) + \gamma_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) + \dots \text{-double count.}$$

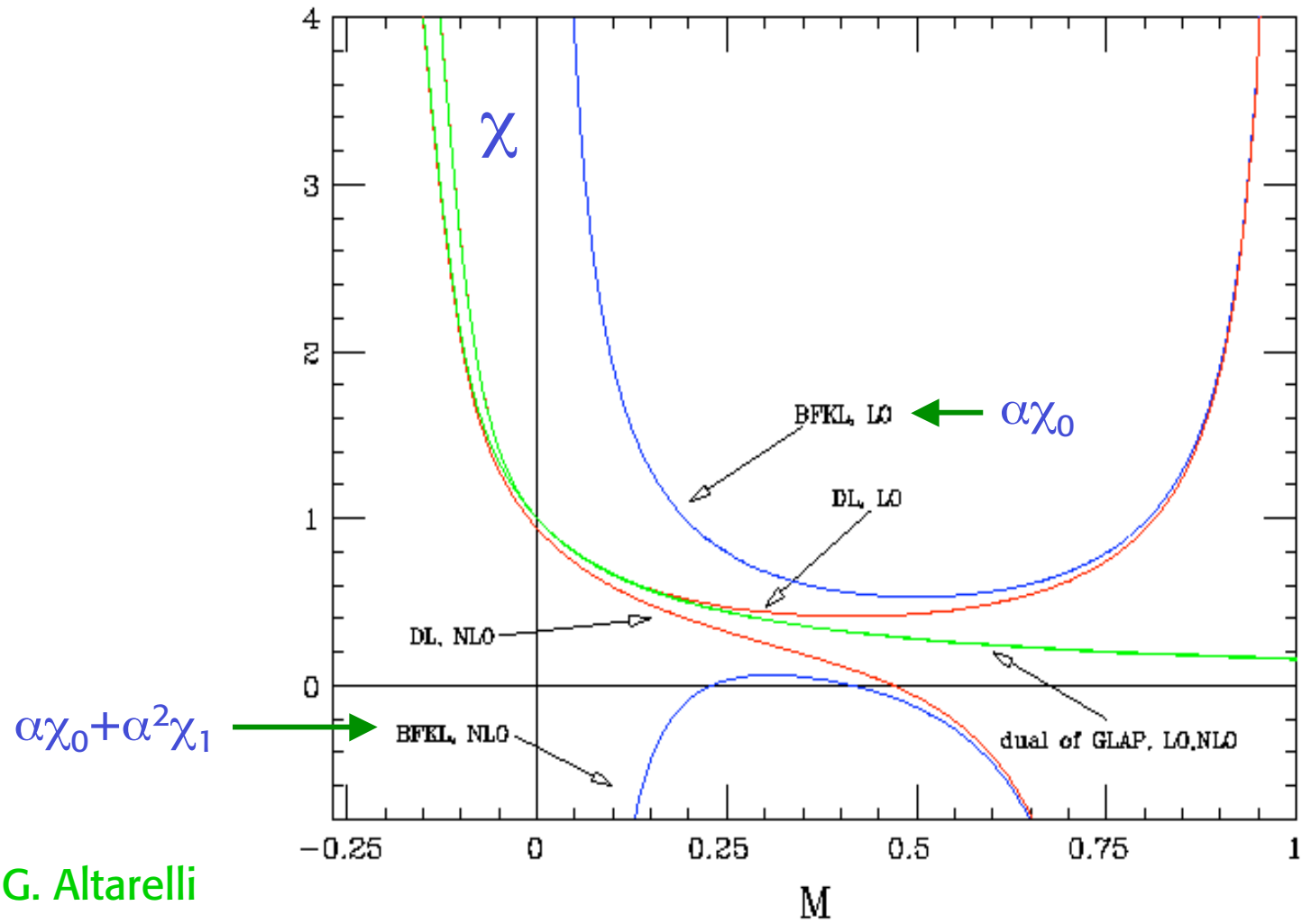
$$\chi_{DL}(M, \alpha) = \alpha \cdot \chi_0(M) + \chi_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{M}\right) + \dots \text{-double count.}$$



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DL, LO:  $\chi_{DL}(M, \alpha) = \alpha \cdot \chi_0(M) + \chi_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{M}\right) + \dots$  -double count.

BFKL, LO



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A considerable improvement is obtained by including running coupling effects

Recall that the  $x$ -evolution equation was at fixed  $\alpha$

$$\frac{d}{d\xi} G(\xi, M) = \chi(M, \alpha) G(\xi, M)$$

In the following:


- Summary of general results
- Airy approximation
- Application to our problem

The implementation of running coupling in BFKL is not simple.  
 In M-space  $\alpha$  becomes an operator

$$\alpha(t) = \frac{\alpha}{1 + \beta_0 \alpha t} \Rightarrow \frac{\alpha}{1 - \beta_0 \alpha \frac{d}{dM}}$$

In leading approximation:

$$\frac{d}{d\xi} G(\xi, M) = \chi(M, \alpha) G(\xi, M)$$



$$\frac{d}{d\xi} G(\xi, M) = \frac{\alpha}{1 - \beta_0 \alpha \frac{d}{dM}} \chi_0(M) G(\xi, M)$$

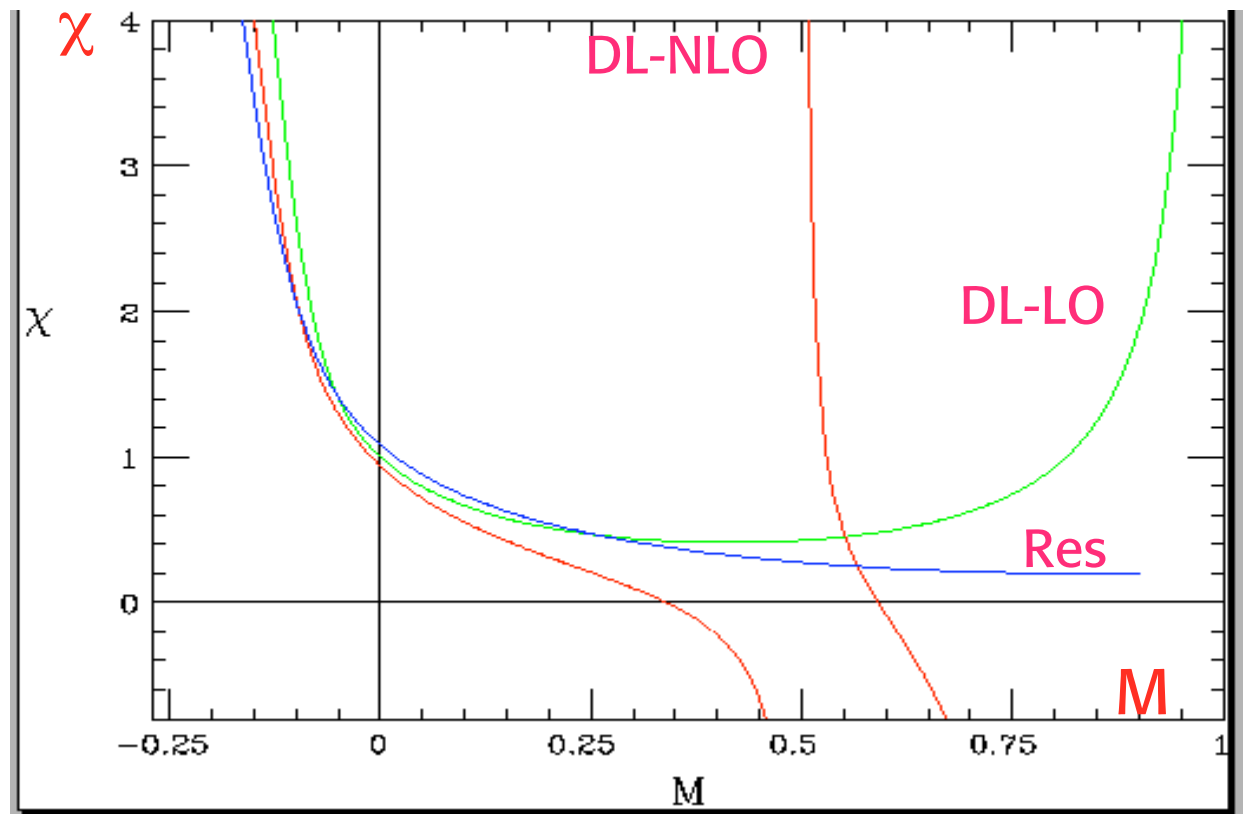
A perturbative expansion in  $\beta_0$  leads to validity of duality  
 with modified  $\chi$  and  $\gamma$ :

$$\Delta\chi_1(M) = \beta_0 \frac{\chi_0''(M)\chi_0(M)}{2\chi_0'(M)} \qquad \Delta\gamma_{ss}(N) = -\beta_0 \frac{\chi_0''(\gamma_s)\chi_0(\gamma_s)}{2\chi_0'^2(\gamma_s)}$$

But this expansion fails near  $M=1/2$ :  $\chi_0'(1/2)=0$

$$\Delta\chi_1(M) = \beta_0 \frac{\chi_0''(M)\chi_0(M)}{2\chi_0'(M)}$$

At  $M=1/2$   $\chi_0$  has a minimum and  $\Delta\chi_1$  is singular (and also  $\Delta\gamma_{ss}$ ). We shall see it is just an artifact of pert. exp.



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By taking a second MT the equation can be written as  
 [F(M) is a boundary condition]

$$\left(1 - \beta_0 \alpha \frac{d}{dM}\right) NG(N, M) + F(M) = \alpha \chi_0(M) G(N, M)$$

It can be solved iteratively

$$G(N, M) = \frac{F(M)}{N - \alpha \chi_0(M)} + \frac{\alpha \beta_0}{N - \alpha \chi_0(M)} \frac{d}{dM} \frac{F(M)}{N - \alpha \chi_0(M)} + \dots$$

or in closed form:

$$G(N, M) = H(N, M) + \int_{M_0}^M dM' \exp\left[\frac{M - M'}{\beta_0 \alpha} - \frac{1}{\beta_0 N} \int_{M'}^M \chi_0(M'') dM''\right] \frac{F(M')}{\beta_0 \alpha N}$$

$H(N, M)$  is a homogeneous eq. sol. that vanishes faster than all pert. terms and can be dropped.

The following properties can be proven:

- From  $G(N,M)$  we can obtain  $G(N,t)$  and evaluate it by saddle point expansion. The perturbative  $G(N,t)$  is reproduced and satisfies duality (in terms of modified  $\chi$  and  $\gamma$  according to the perturbative results singular at  $\chi'(1/2)=0$ ) and factorisation (no t-dep. from the boundary condition).
- From  $G(N,M)$  we can get  $G(\xi,M)$ . This presents unphysical oscillations when  $\chi > 0$  for all  $M$ .

These problems can be studied by using the **Airy expansion**:  
The asymptotics is fixed by the behaviour of  $\chi$  near the minimum, where a quadratic form is taken:

$$\chi_{eff}(M) = c + \frac{1}{2}k\left(M - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2$$

Lipatov; Collins, Kwiecinski;  
Thorne; Ciafaloni, Taiuti, Mueller

G.A., R. Ball, S.Forte, hep-ph/0109178 (NPB 621,359)



For a quadratic kernel the explicit solution is

$$G(N, t) = K(N) \exp \frac{1}{2\beta_0 \alpha(t)} \cdot Ai[z(\alpha(t), N)]$$

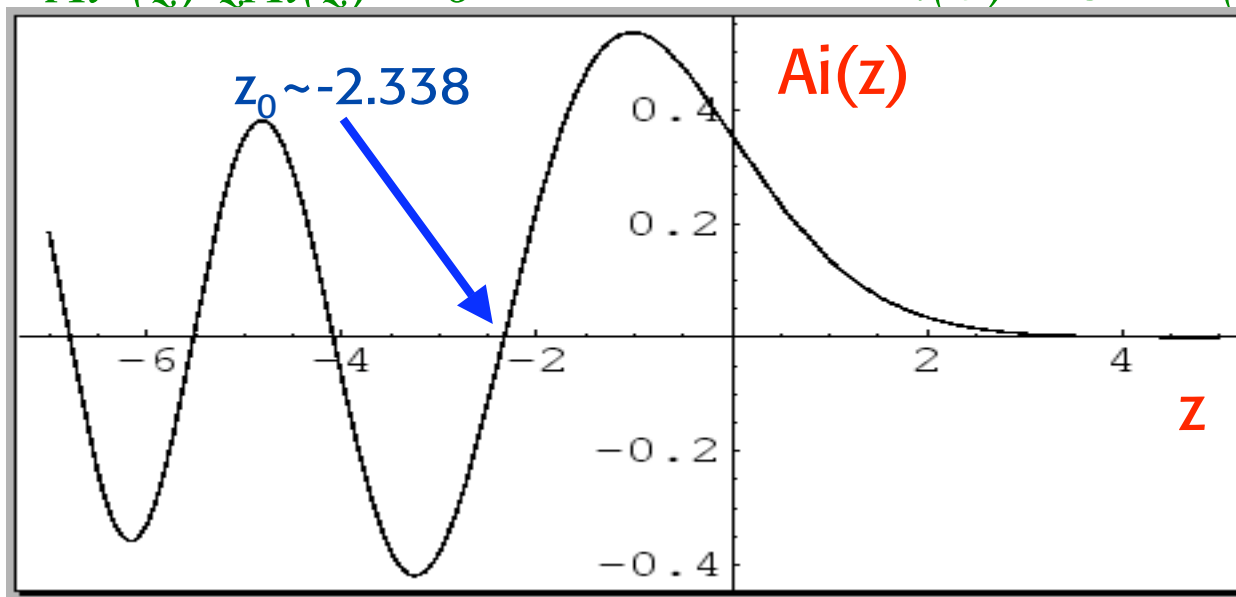
where

$$z(\alpha(t), N) = \left( \frac{2\beta_0 N}{k} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot \frac{1}{\beta_0} \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{\alpha(t)} - \frac{c}{N} \right]$$

$$K(N) = \exp \frac{-1}{2\beta_0 \alpha} \cdot \left( \frac{2\beta_0 N}{k} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot \frac{1}{\pi N}$$

$$Ai''(z) - zAi(z) = 0$$

$$Ai(0) = 3^{-2/3} \Gamma(2/3)$$



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From  $G(N, t) = K(N) \exp \frac{1}{2\beta_0 \alpha(t)} \cdot Ai[z(\alpha(t), N)]$

one obtains  $G(x,t)$  by inv. MT

$$G(\xi, t) = \int_{-i\infty}^{+i\infty} e^{N\xi} G(N, t) \frac{dN}{2\pi i}$$

The asymptotics is dominated by the saddle condition:

$$\xi = - \frac{1}{Ai[z(\alpha(t), N)]} \cdot \frac{d}{dN} Ai[z(\alpha(t), N)]$$

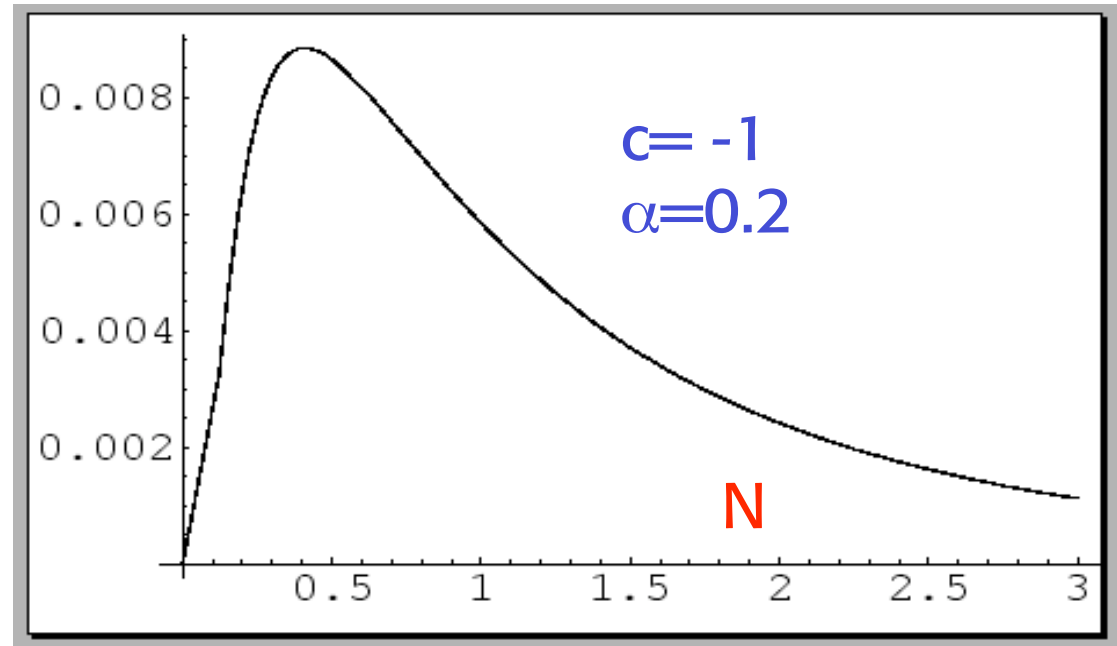
For  $c > 0$  at not too large  $\xi$  this is satisfied at large  $N$ . When  $\xi$  increases  $N$  gets smaller. Then oscillations start,  $d/dN$  changes sign and the real saddle is lost.

$G(\xi, t)$  starts oscillating, in agreement with the general analysis.

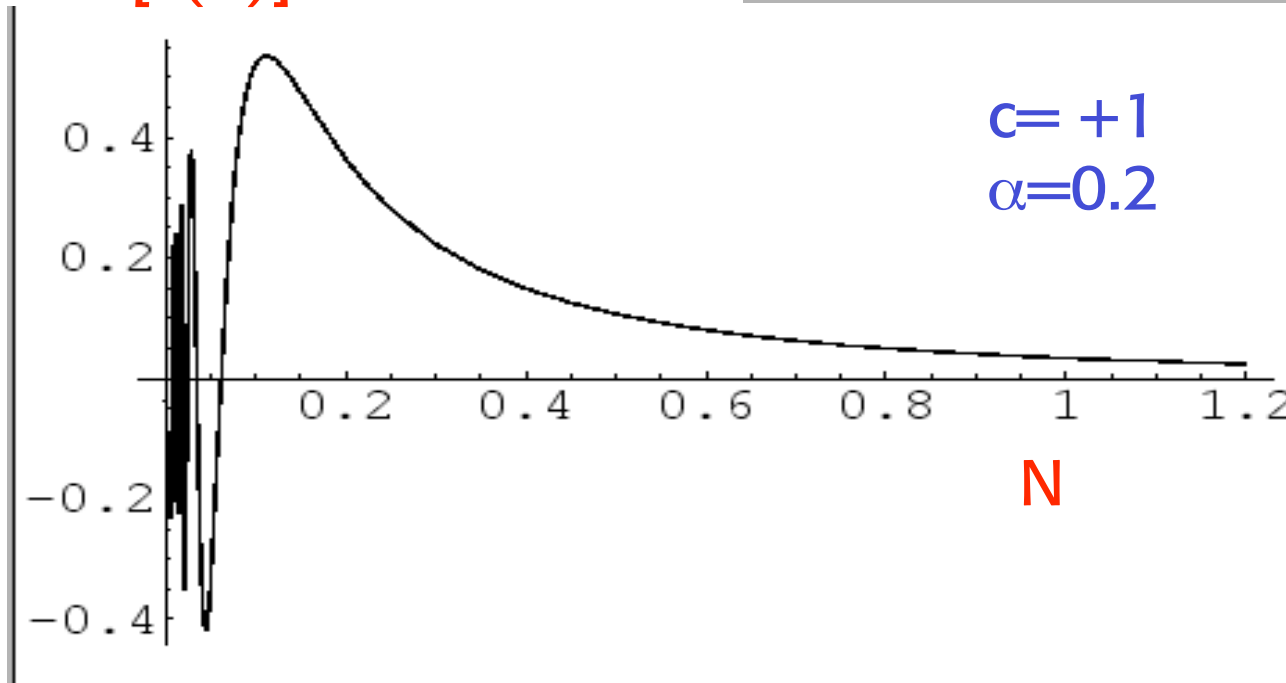
## Ai[z(N)]

$$\chi_{eff}(M) = c + \frac{1}{2}k\left(M - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2$$

$$z(\alpha(t), N) = \left(\frac{2\beta_0 N}{k}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot \frac{1}{\beta_0} \cdot \left[\frac{1}{\alpha(t)} - \frac{c}{N}\right]$$



## Ai[z(N)]



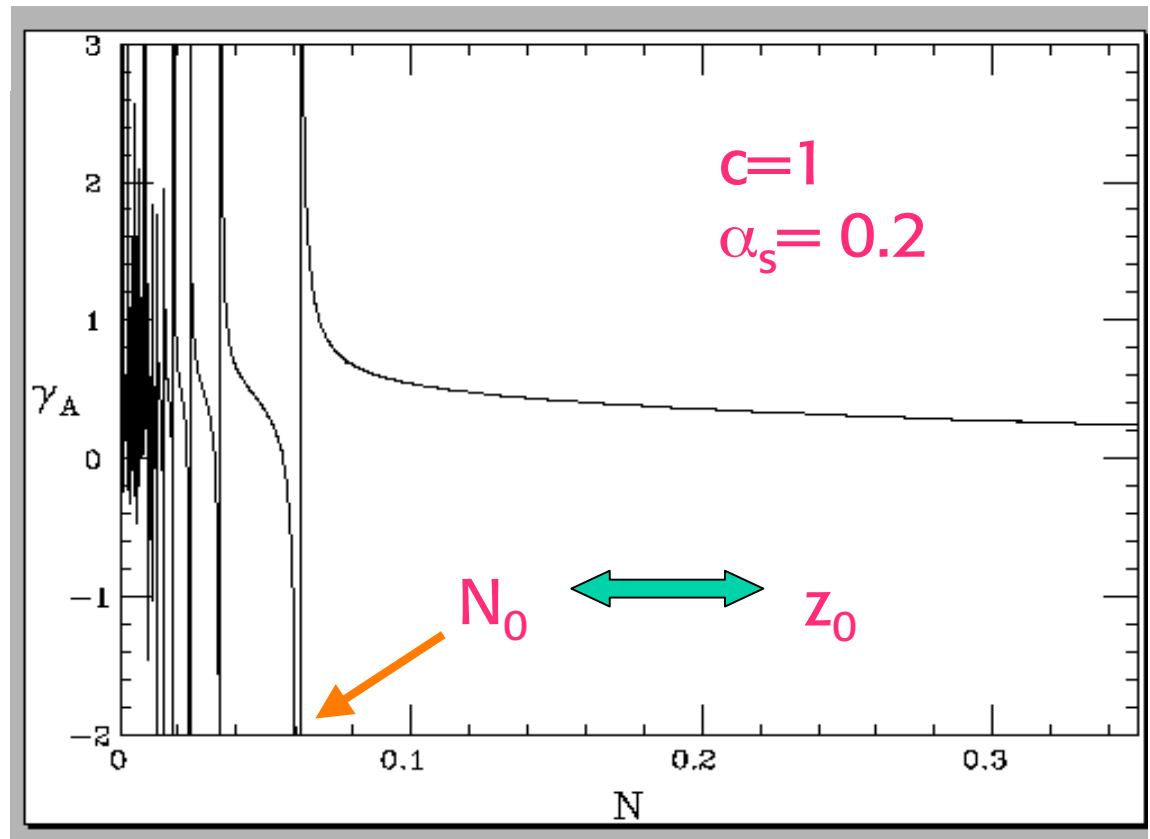
The dual anom. dim.  $\gamma_A$  is given by

$$\gamma_A(\alpha(t), N) = \frac{d}{dt} \log G(N, t) = \frac{1}{2} + \left( \frac{2\beta_0 N}{k} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \frac{Ai'(z)}{Ai(z)}$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{z large}}$

$$\frac{1}{2} - \sqrt{\frac{2}{k} \left( \frac{N}{\alpha(t)} - c \right)} - \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{\beta_0 \alpha}{1 - \frac{\alpha}{N} c} + \dots$$

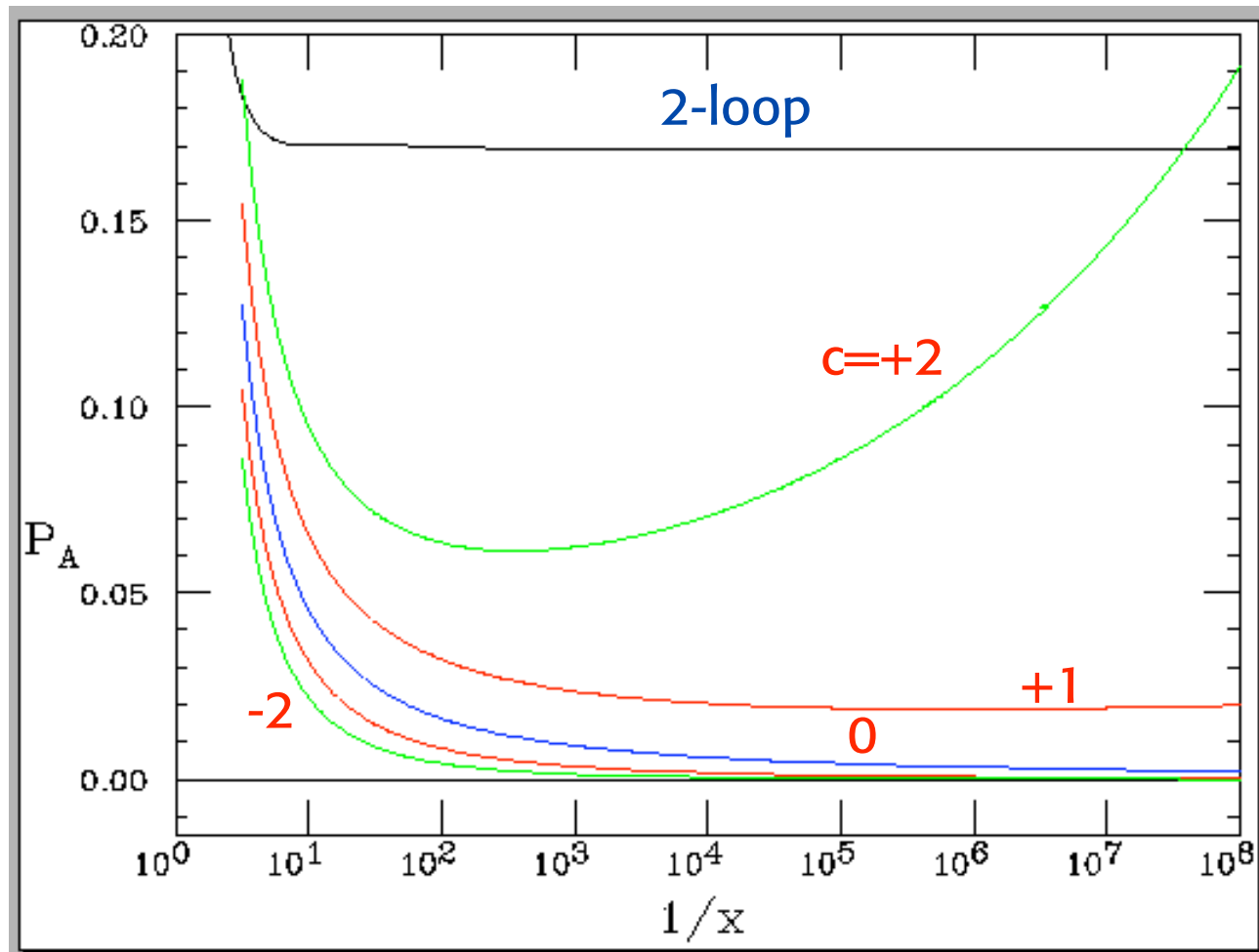
$$z(\alpha(t), N) = \left( \frac{2\beta_0 N}{k} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot \frac{1}{\beta_0} \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{\alpha(t)} - \frac{c}{N} \right]$$



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The splitting function is completely free of oscillations at all  $x$ !!

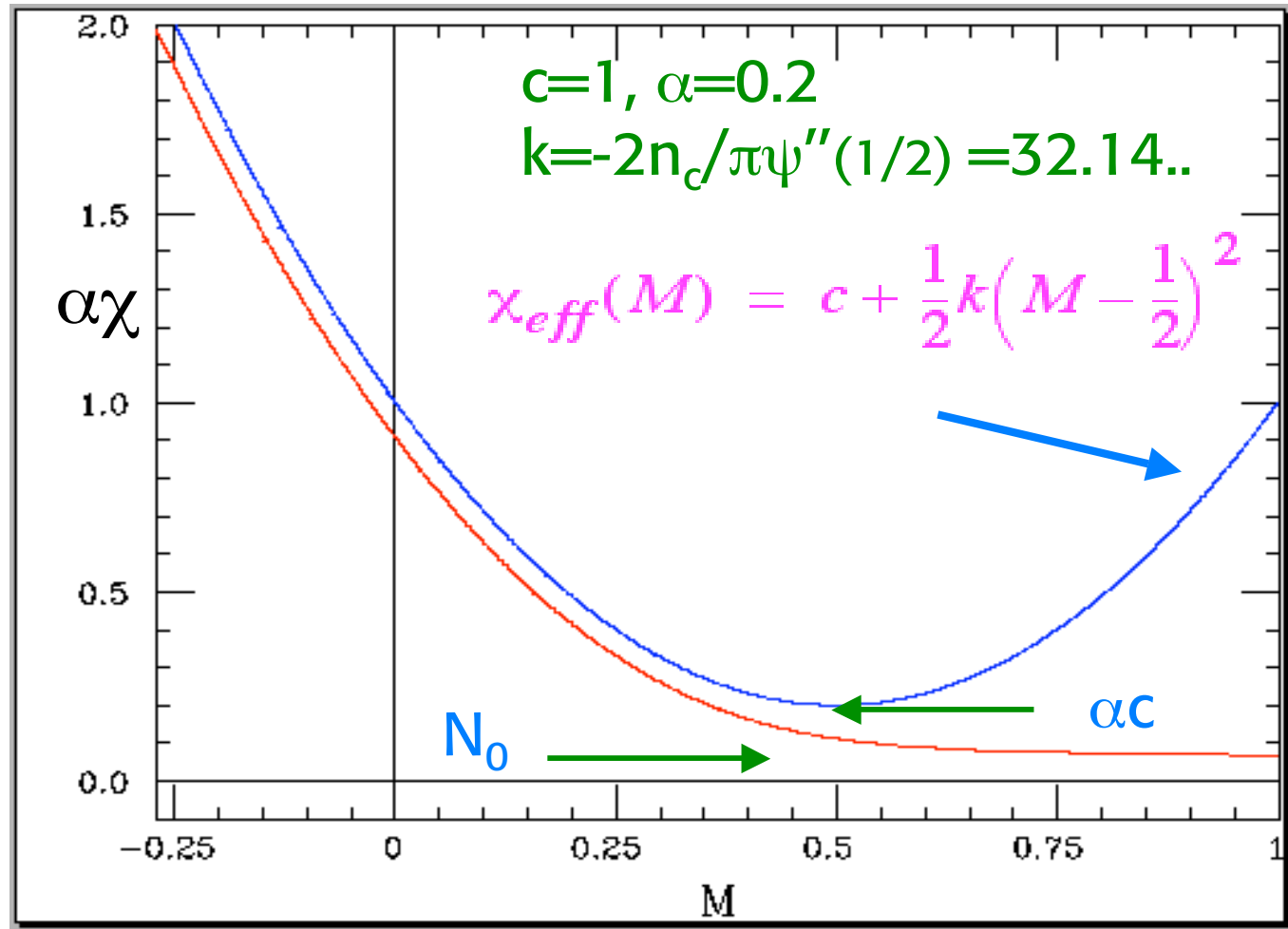
The oscillations get factorised into the initial condition



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The effect of running on  $\chi$  is a softer small-x behaviour

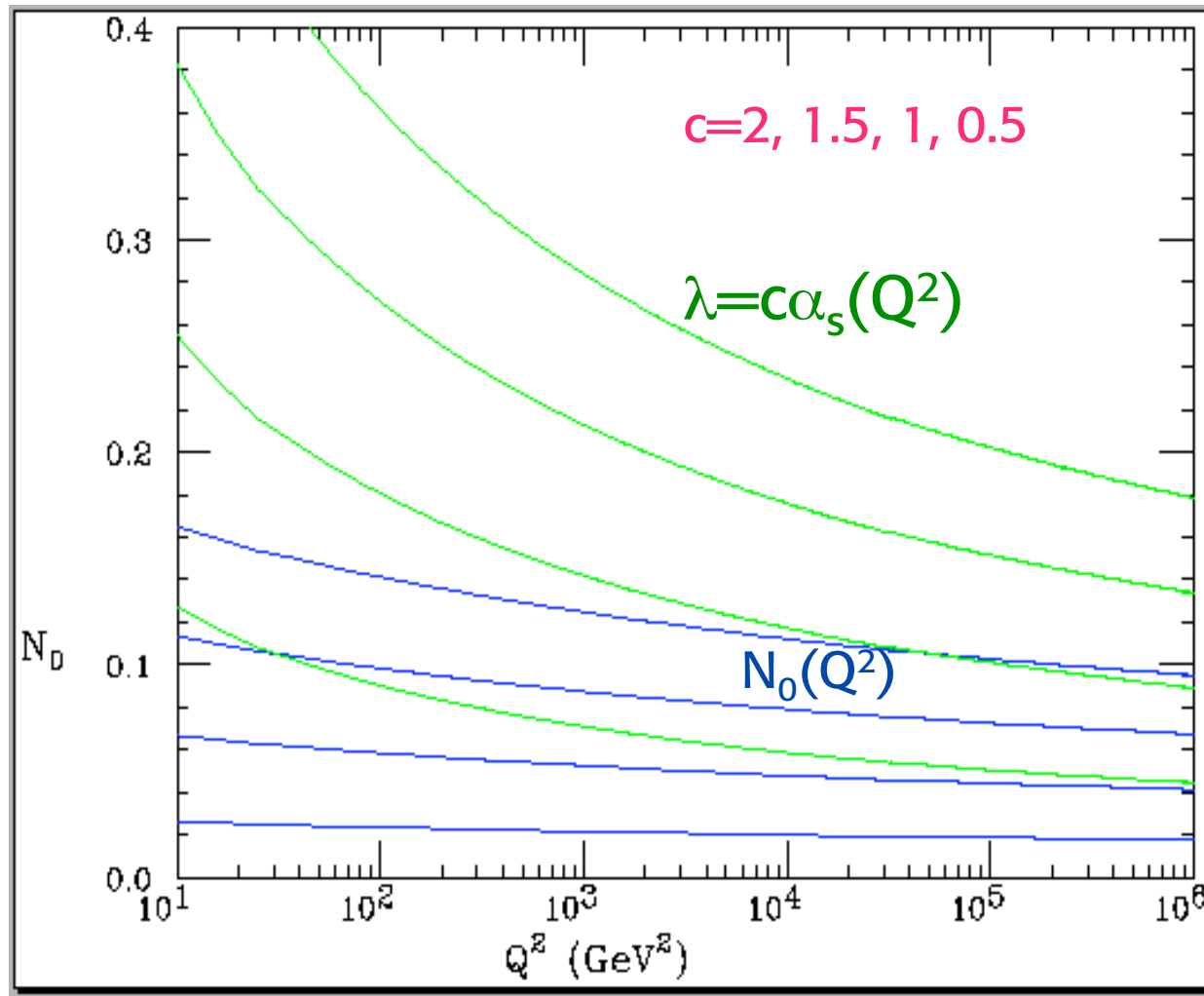
$$xP \sim x^{-\lambda} \quad \longrightarrow \quad xP \sim x^{-N_0}$$



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As an effect of running, the small-x asymptotics is much softened:

$$xP \sim x^{-\lambda} \quad \longrightarrow \quad xP \sim x^{-N_0}$$



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The Airy result is free of the perturbative  $\beta_0$  singularities.

At NLL order we can add the full  $\gamma_A$  and subtract its large N limit:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \chi_0 \rightarrow \gamma_s \quad \chi_1 \rightarrow \gamma_{ss} \\
 & \gamma(\alpha, N) \approx \gamma_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) + \alpha\gamma_{ss}\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) + \alpha\Delta\gamma_{ss}\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) + \\
 & + \gamma_A(\alpha, N) - \frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{k}\left(\frac{N}{\alpha} - c\right)} + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{\beta_0\alpha}{1 - \frac{\alpha}{N}c}
 \end{aligned}$$

The last term cancels the sing. of  $\alpha\Delta\gamma_{ss}$   
 ( $N=\alpha c$  corresponds to  $M=1/2$ )



The goal of our recent work is to use these results to construct a relatively simple, closed form, improved anom. dim.  $\gamma_1(\alpha, N)$  or splitting function  $P_1(\alpha, x)$

G.A., R. Ball, S.Forte, hep-ph/ 0306156 (NPB 674,459), 0310016

$P_1(\alpha, x)$  should

- reduce to pert. result at large  $x$
  - contain BFKL corr's at small  $x$
  - include running coupling effects (Airy)
  - be sufficiently simple to be included in fitting codes
- and of course
- closely follow the trend of the data

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## Improved anomalous dimension

1st iteration: optimal use of  $\gamma_{1l}(N)$  and  $\chi_0(M)$

$$\gamma_I(\alpha, N) = \alpha\gamma_{1l}(N) + \gamma_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) - \frac{\alpha n_c}{\pi N} +$$
$$+\gamma_A(\alpha, N) - \frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{k_0}\left(\frac{N}{\alpha} - c_0\right)} + \frac{1}{4}\beta_0\alpha - \text{mom sub}$$

Properties:

- Pert. Limit  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$ ,  $N$  fixed

$$\gamma_I(\alpha, N) \longrightarrow \alpha\gamma_{1l}(N) + o(\alpha^2)$$

- Limit  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\alpha/N$  fixed

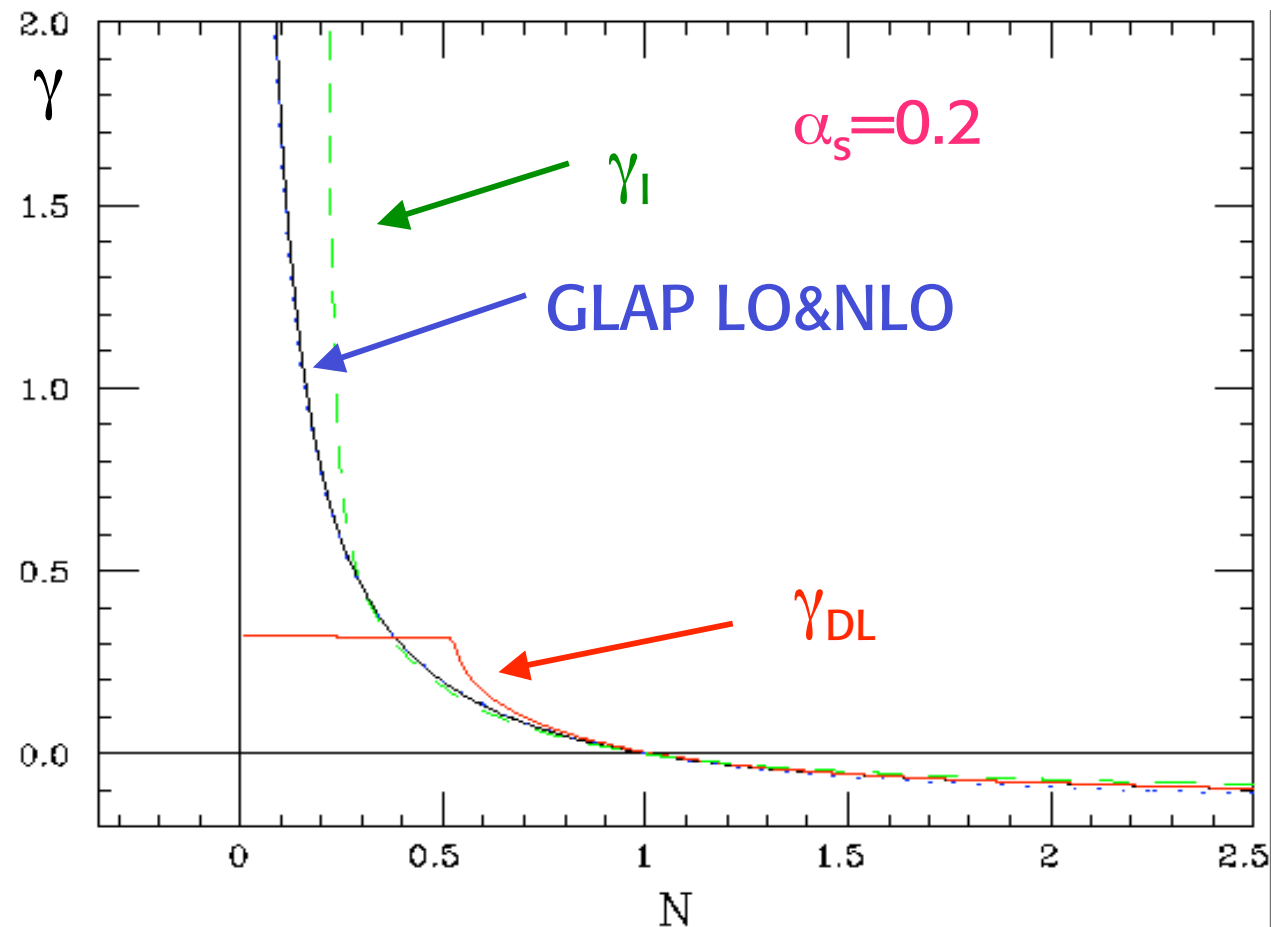
$$\gamma_I(\alpha, N) \longrightarrow \alpha\gamma_{1l}(N) + \gamma_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) - \frac{\alpha n_c}{\pi N} + o(\alpha \alpha/N)$$

$\alpha\gamma_{1l}(N) \longrightarrow$  Pole in  $1/N$

$\gamma_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) \longrightarrow$  Cut with branch in  $\alpha c_0$

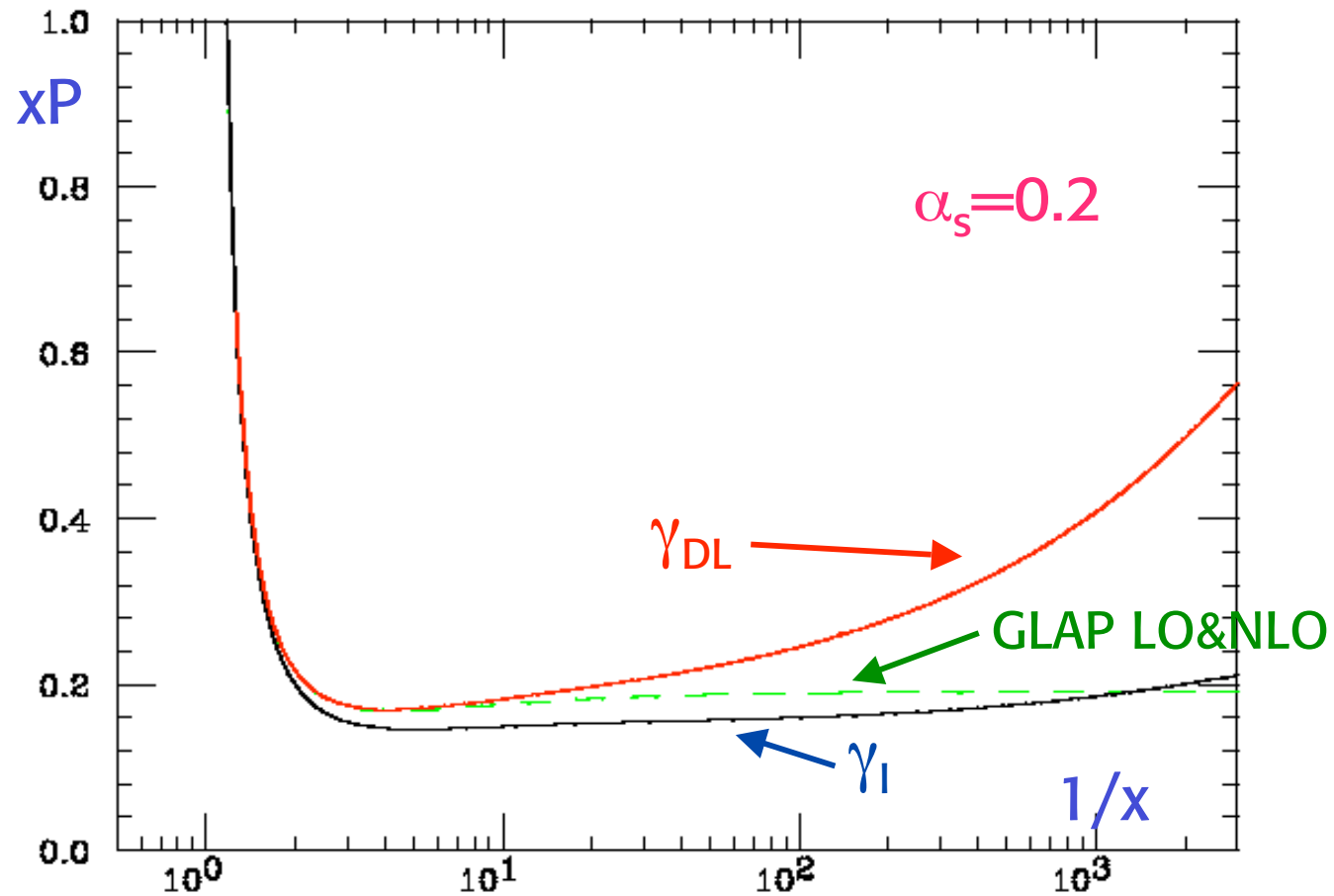
the Airy term cancels the cut and introduces a pole at  $N=N_0$

- $\gamma_I(\alpha, N) = \alpha\gamma_{1l}(N) + \gamma_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) - \frac{\alpha n_c}{\pi N} +$   
 $+ \gamma_A(\alpha, N) - \frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{k_0}\left(\frac{N}{\alpha} - c_0\right) + \frac{1}{4}\beta_0\alpha} - \text{mom sub}$
- $\gamma_{DL}(\alpha, N) = \alpha\gamma_{1l}(N) + \gamma_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) - \frac{\alpha n_c}{\pi N} - \text{mom sub}$



Here is the same plot for the corresponding splitting functions.

Note: for  $\alpha_s=0.2$  the pole in GLAP is  $\sim 0.191/N$   
while the pole in  $\gamma_1$  is  $\sim 0.014/(N-N_0)$   
(only visible at very small  $x$ )



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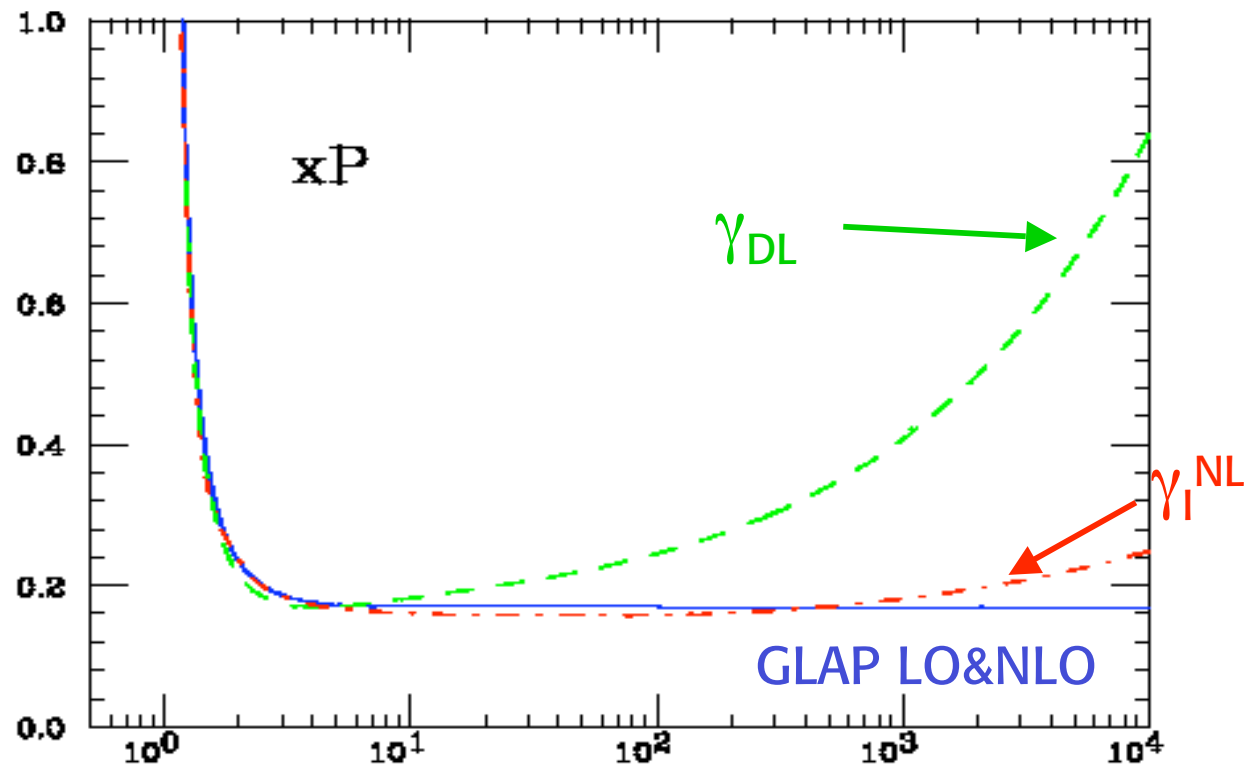
Limit on bulk of the data with reasonable  $Q^2$   $\uparrow$

We can add the 2-loop perturbative result  $\gamma_{2l}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_I^{NL}(\alpha, N) = & \alpha \gamma_{1l}(N) + \alpha^2 \gamma_{2l}(N) + \gamma_s\left(\frac{\alpha}{N}\right) - \frac{\alpha n_c}{\pi N} + \\ & + \gamma_A(\alpha, N) - \frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{k_0} \left(\frac{N}{\alpha} - c_0\right)} + \\ & + \frac{1}{4} \beta_0 \alpha \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{N} c_0\right) - \text{mom.sub} \end{aligned}$$

This is our main result

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## Our most important competitors:

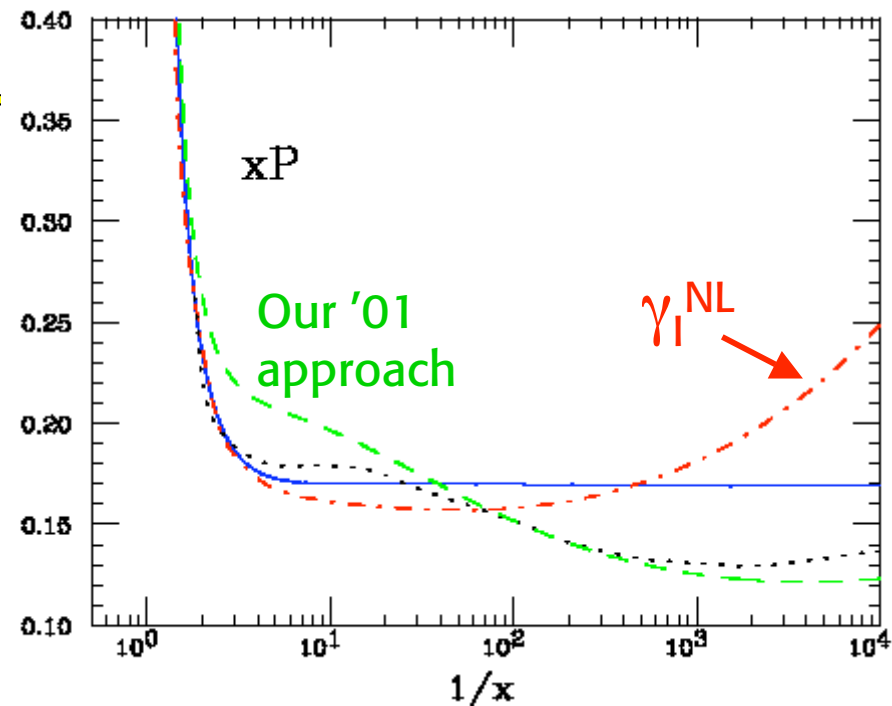
Ciafaloni, Colferai, Salam, Stasto hep-ph/0307188. Also Thorne

Same physics: regularisation of  $M=0$  pole in  $\chi$  (and of  $M=1$  pole using symmetrisation) and running coupling effects

Different resummation technique, no Airy expansion (num. sol of evol eqn.), and they include  $\chi_1$  but not  $\gamma_{21}$

Our result is analytic (suitable for fitting)

Note the expanded y scale

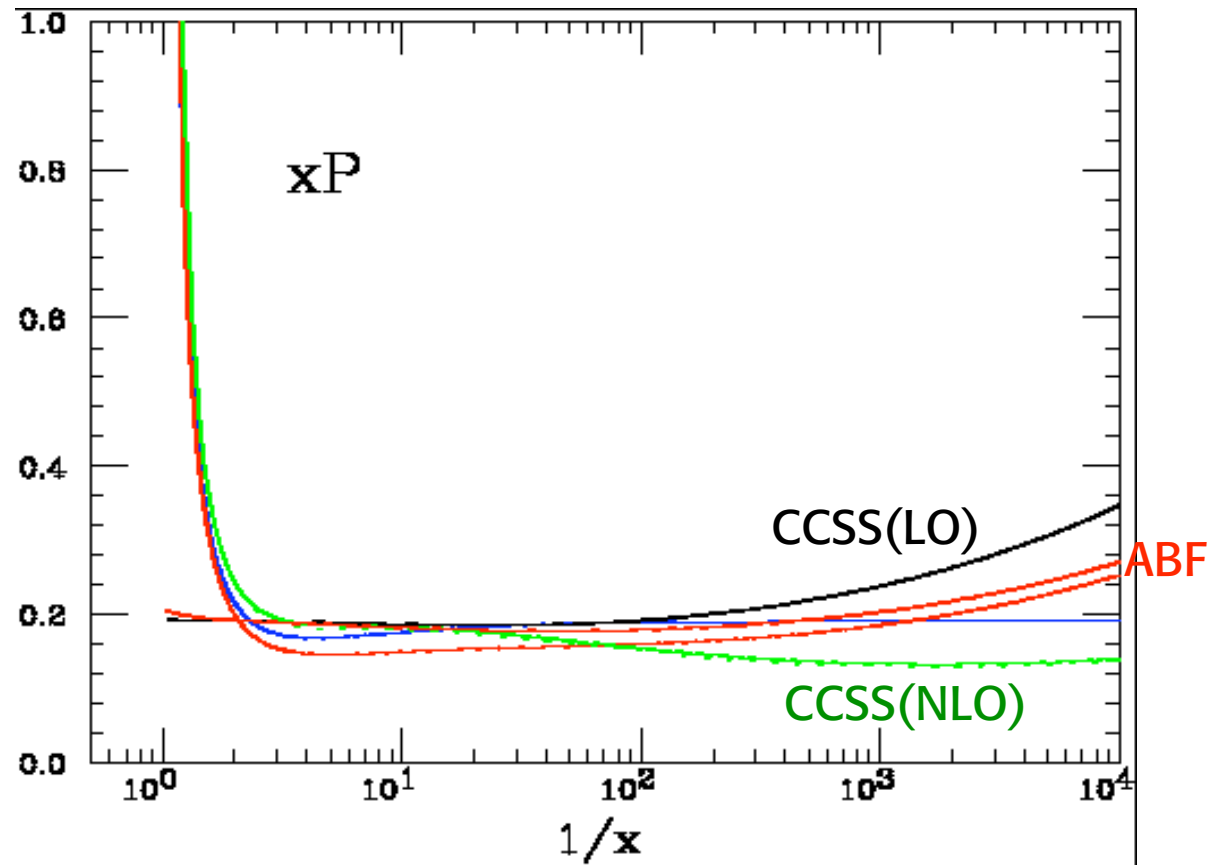


In '01 we introduced  $N_0$  as a parameter and fitted it

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Here we compare LO with LO

Well consistent!



The  $\chi_1$  leftover terms have ambiguities as large as the terms themselves

The deviations for  $1/x \sim 10^{-2} - 10^{-3}$  could be exp. visible  
(D. Haidt)

## Summary and Conclusion

- BFKL with running coupling is fully compatible with RGE evolution, factorisation and duality.
- Using the Airy solution we have seen that the splitting functions are completely free of unphysical oscillations (can be factorised in the initial condition at  $t_0$ ).
- The Airy solution can be used to resum the perturbative singularities in the  $\beta_0$  expansion
- We use these results to construct an improved an. dim. that reduces to the pert. result at large  $x$  and incorporates BFKL with running coupling effects at small  $x$ .
- Properly introducing running coupling effects in the LO softens the asymptotic small  $x$  behaviour as indicated by the data.

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A clearer picture of the matching of GLAP and BFKL emerges