

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{A}_g^{gg} F_g &= \lambda_\chi \int_0^1 dz \left[\frac{1}{z} F_g \left(r; \frac{x}{z}, zp_\perp^2, zp^2 \right) - \frac{1}{2} F_g(r; x, p_\perp^2, p^2) \right] \gamma_{g \rightarrow gg}(z, \epsilon) a_g(z, p^2) \\
\hat{A}_g^{q\bar{q}} F_g &= \lambda_\chi n_f(p^2) F_g(r; x, p_\perp^2, p^2) \int_0^1 dz \gamma_{g \rightarrow q\bar{q}}(z, \epsilon) a_g(z, p^2) \\
\hat{A}_q^{gq} F_{q+\bar{q}} &= \lambda_\chi \int_0^1 \frac{dz}{z} F_{q+\bar{q}} \left(r; \frac{x}{z}, zp_\perp^2, zp^2 \right) \gamma_{q \rightarrow gq}(z, \epsilon) a_q(z, p^2) .
\end{aligned} \tag{51}$$

Here $\lambda_\chi \equiv \lambda_\chi(\chi(r)) = 1 - (\chi/\chi_0)^4 + O[(\chi/\chi_0)^6]$, and the function $a(z, p^2)$ is given by

$$a_{q,g}(z, p^2) := \frac{1}{2\pi} T_{q,g}(p^2) \alpha_s \left((1-z)p^2 \right) , \tag{52}$$

with a “life-time” factor $T_{q,g}(p^2)$ that expresses the probability for a parton of virtuality p^2 to decay (branch) within a time interval t in the laboratory frame,

$$T_{q,g}(p^2) = 1 - \exp \left[-\frac{t}{\tau_{q,g}(p^2)} \right] , \tag{53}$$

where $\tau(p^2) \propto E/p^2$ (explicit expressions can be found in Ref. [34]). Furthermore, α_s is the one-loop QCD coupling

$$\alpha_s(k^2) = \frac{12\pi}{(33 - 2n_f(k^2)) \ln [(k^2 + k_0^2) L_c^2]} , \tag{54}$$

and $n_f(k^2)$ is the effective number of quark flavors at k^2 ,

$$n_f(k^2) := \sum_f^{N_f} \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_f^2}{k^2}} \theta \left(1 - \frac{4m_f^2}{k^2} \right) . \tag{55}$$

In (54) we have assumed the correspondence $L_c \simeq \Lambda_{QCD}^{-1}$ to the intrinsic perturbative QCD scale, and k_0 is a parameter that prevents a divergence when $k^2 \rightarrow L_c^{-2}$, and defines a maximum value $\alpha_s(0)$. We will determine k_0 in Sec. 5 from the total parton multiplicity. The functions $\gamma(z, \epsilon)$ are analogous to the standard branching kernels in the MLLA [29]. Note that the 4-gluon vertex does not contribute in the MLLA in the gauge (42), because it is kinematically suppressed. As a consequence, the effect of the couplings $\kappa_L(\chi)$ and $\mu(\chi)$, eqs. (16) and (17), on the parton evolution reduces to 2-parton recombinations into color-singlet clusters – the terms proportional to \hat{B}, \hat{C} which will be given below.

The branching kernels $\gamma_{a \rightarrow bc}(z)$ are the familiar energy distributions for the branching $a \rightarrow bc$ with $z = x_b/x_a$ and $1 - z = x_c/x_a$ the energy fractions of daughter partons:

$$\gamma_{q \rightarrow qg}(z, \epsilon) = C_F \left(\frac{1 + z^2}{1 - z + \epsilon} \right)$$