

## Beyond leading-power effects in DVMP at small- $x$

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Deeply Virtual Meson Production (DVMP) represents a key channel for investigating BFKL dynamics and gluon saturation within nucleons and nuclei. Describing many DVMP observables requires a treatment beyond leading power. We present a systematic framework to address next-to-leading power corrections at small- $x$ , including the saturation regime, and apply it to calculate the  $\gamma^* \rightarrow M(\rho, \phi, \omega)$  impact factor, with both the incoming photon and outgoing meson carrying arbitrary polarizations. This is particularly relevant since the saturation scale at modern colliders, while entering a perturbative regime, is not large enough to prevent higher-twist effects from being sizable.

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