

# Probing Maximal Entanglement in Deep Inelastic Scattering

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In collaboration with

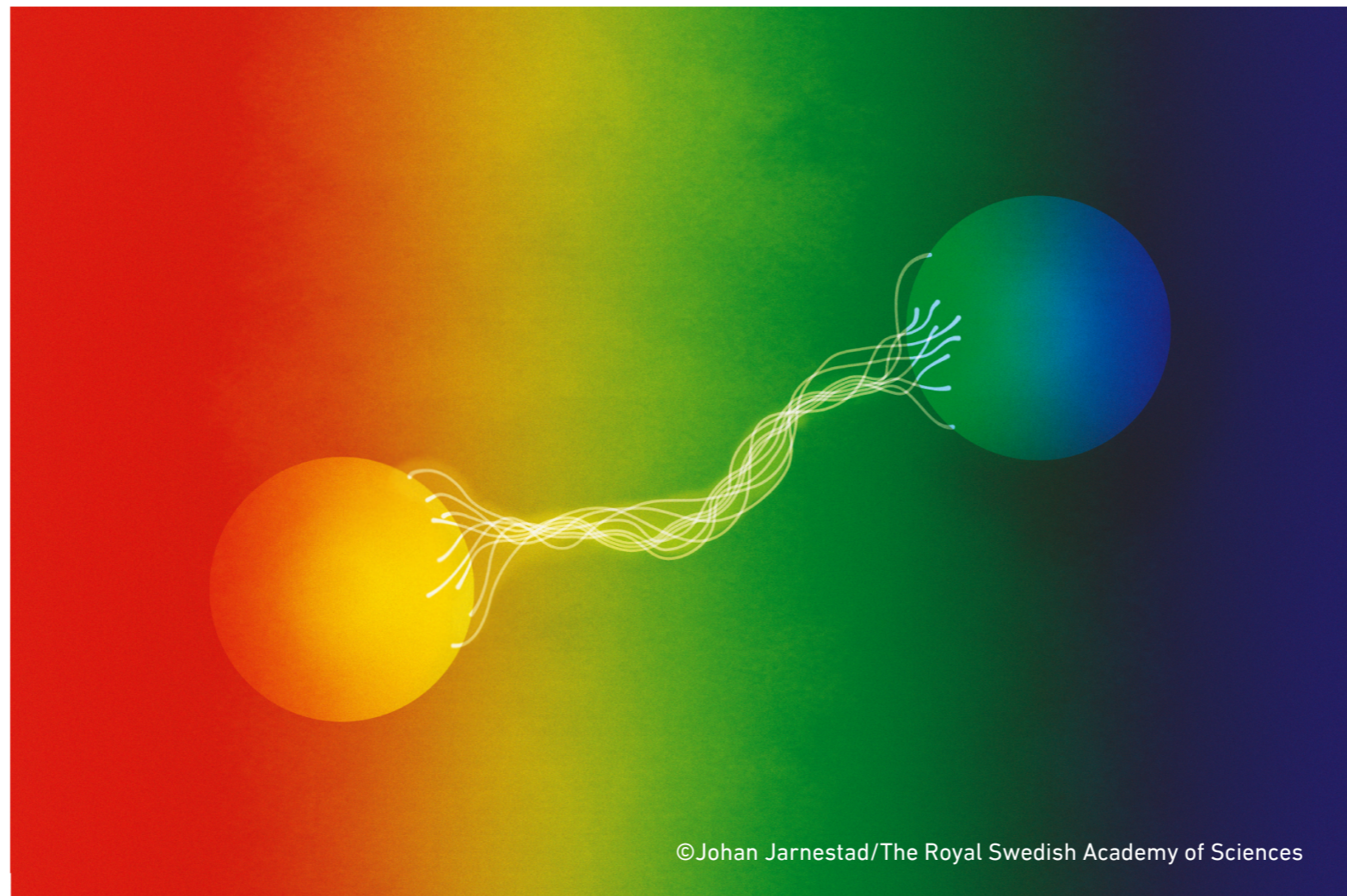
Dmitri E. Kharzeev, Krzysztof Kutak, Robert Straka and Zhoudunming Tu

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# Outline

- 1 Entanglement: What is it?
- 2 Entanglement entropy and the DIS reaction
- 3 Entanglement entropy in inclusive DIS
- 4 Entanglement entropy in Diffractive DIS
- 5 Discussion

# Entanglement - What is it?



Source: <https://www.nobelprize.org/uploads/2022/10/press-physics2022-figure1.pdf>

# Entanglement - What is it?

Wikipedia:

*An entangled system is defined to be one whose quantum state cannot be factored as a product of states of its local constituents; that is to say, they are not individual particles but are an inseparable whole. In entanglement, one constituent cannot be fully described without considering the other(s). The state of a composite system is always expressible as a sum, or [superposition](#), of products of states of local constituents; it is entangled if this sum cannot be written as a single product term.*

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quantum\\_entanglement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quantum_entanglement)

# Entanglement — What is it?

More formal:

2 Hilbert spaces  $H_A, H_B$ ; consider  $H_A \otimes H_B$

$$|\psi\rangle_A \in H_A, \quad |\phi\rangle_B \in H_B$$

**Not entangled:**

$$|\psi\rangle_A \otimes |\phi\rangle_B$$

A product state

**Entangled:**

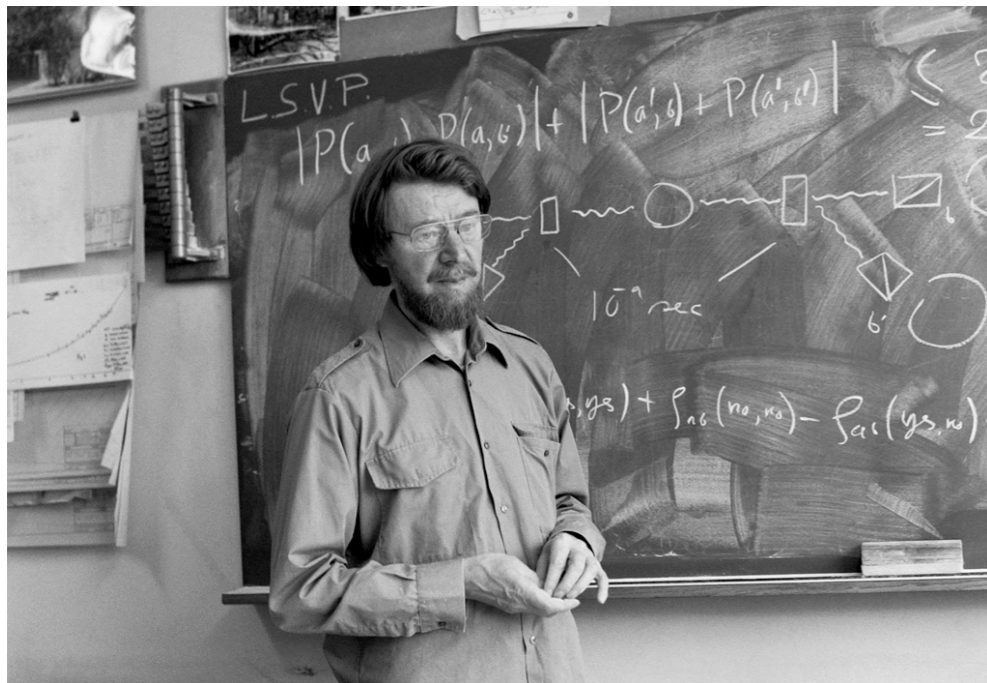
$$|\psi\rangle_{AB} = \sum_{i,j} c_{i,j} |i\rangle_A \otimes |j\rangle_B$$

- for some basis  $\{|i\rangle_A\}$  for  $H_A$  and some basis  $\{|j\rangle_B\}$  for  $H_B$
- If the state is *inseparable* i.e. impossible to find  $c_{i,j} = c_i^A c_j^B$

# Entanglement and tests of Quantum Mechanics

**1935:** Einstein, Rosen Podolsky: *"Can Quantum-Mechanical Description of Physical Reality be Considered Complete?"*

- thought experiment with 2 entangled particles
- argued for the existence of "elements of reality" that were not part of quantum theory,



**1964:** Bell's inequality: local hidden variable theories and quantum mechanics yield different predictions for certain correlations of 2 spin 1/2 particles

Experiment: Bell's inequalities are violated, local hidden variable theories cannot reproduce observed quantum mechanics result

**2022:** Nobel Prize for John Clauser, Alain Aspect, and Anton Zeilinger



# Bell type inequalities in high energy physics

- Spin correlations of  $\Lambda$ -hyperons

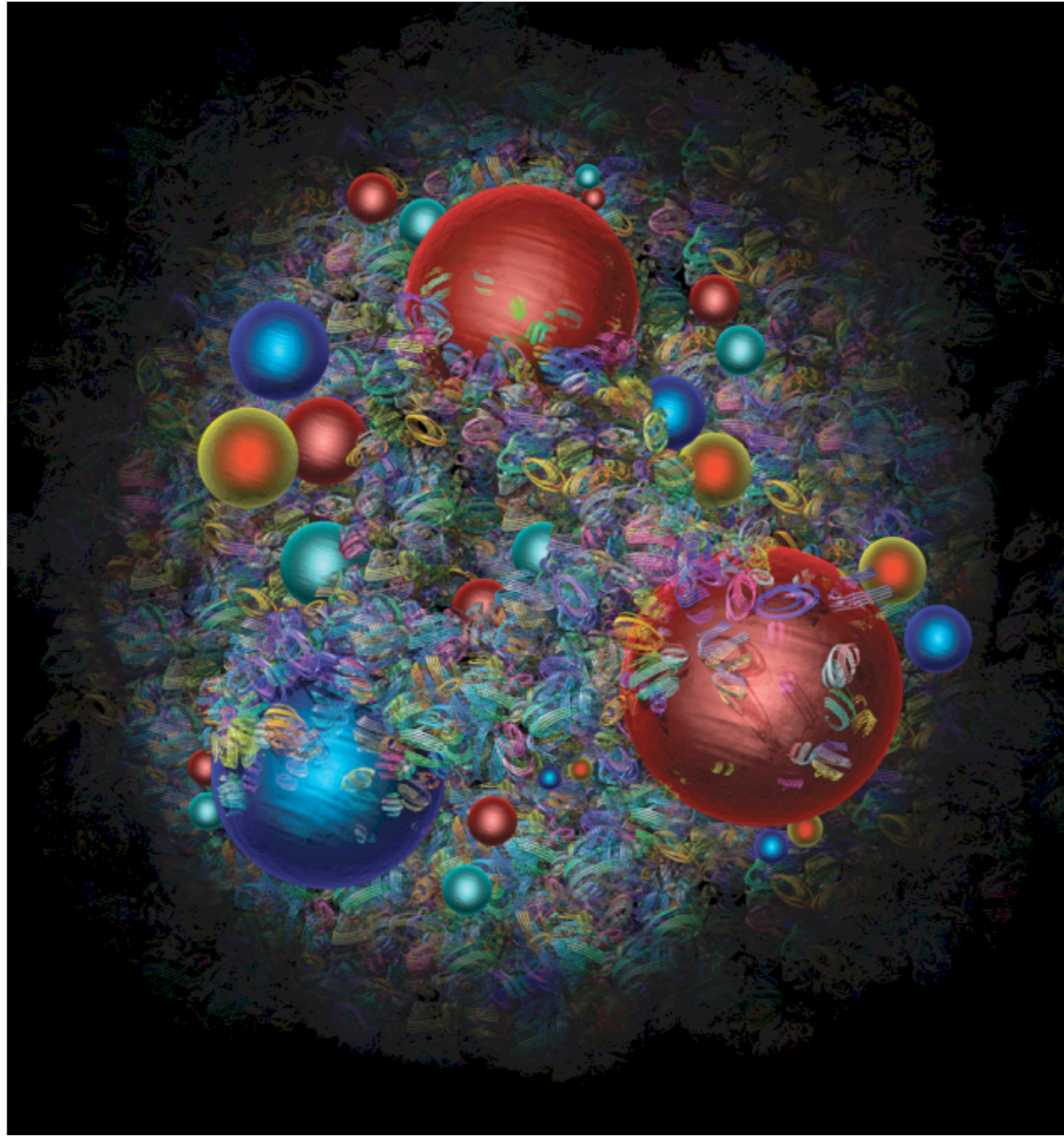
Wenjie Gong, Ganesh Parida, Zhoudunming Tu, Raju Venugopalan; 2107.13007  
João Barata, Wenjie Gong, Raju Venugopalan; 2308.13596

- Bell Inequalities at the LHC with Top-Quark Pairs

M. Fabbrichesi, R. Floreanini, G. Panizzo; 2102.11883  
ATLAS collaboration; 2311.07288

- Many more ....

# Entanglement and Confinement



Source: <https://cds.cern.ch/record/2747741>



# Entanglement and Confinement

Wikipedia: [color-charged](#) particles (such as [quarks](#) and [gluons](#)) cannot be isolated, and therefore cannot be directly observed in normal conditions below the [Hagedorn temperature](#)

- Color Confinement = one of the most important unsolved problems in modern physics
- We know it exists but we don't know why, we don't know the mechanism behind it

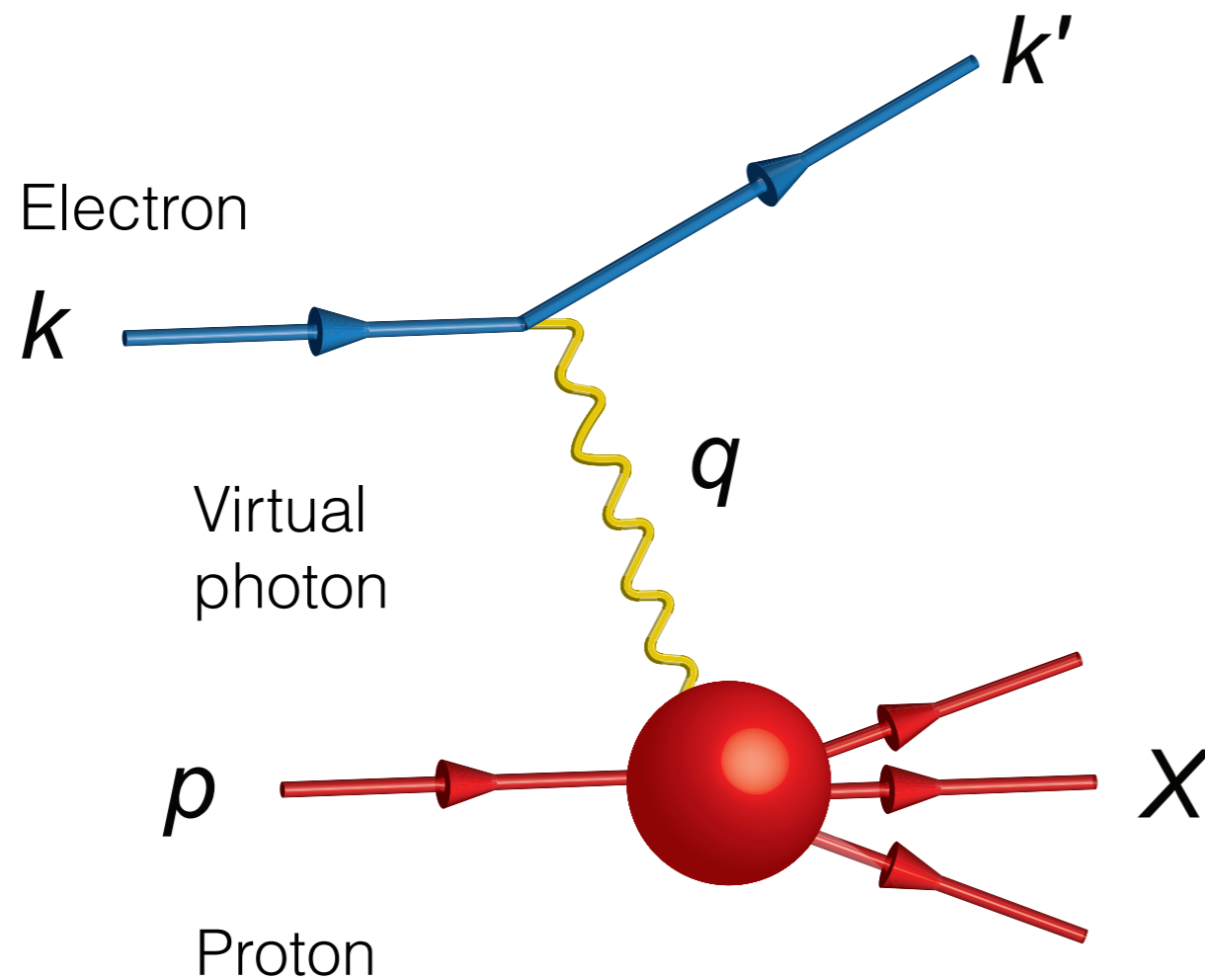


Source: <https://www.sciencephoto.com/media/2093/view/visualisation-of-quark-structure-of-proton>

A new perspective

- color confinement = limit of maximal entanglement of microscopic degrees of freedom
- Quarks and gluons are not just correlated; they cannot exist in isolation

# Experiment to explore the proton: Deep Inelastic electron-proton Scattering (DIS)



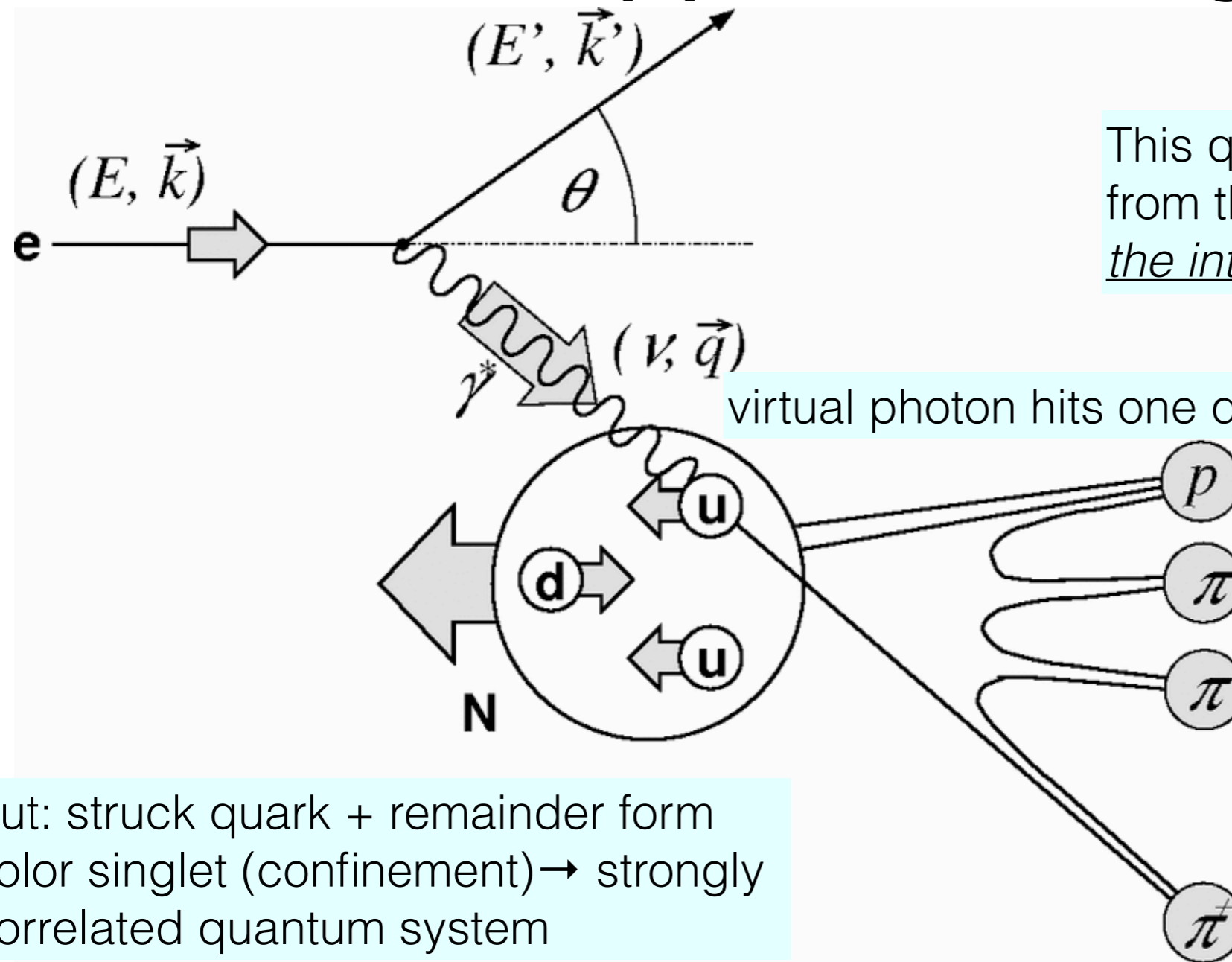
Photon virtuality (=resolution)  
 $Q^2 = -q^2, \quad \lambda \sim \frac{1}{Q}$

Bjorken  $x$   
 $x_{Bj.} = \frac{Q^2}{2p \cdot q}$

"Mass" of the system  $X$   
 $W^2 = (p + q)^2 = M_p^2 + \frac{1-x}{x} Q^2$

Elastic scattering: either  $Q = 0$  or  $x = 1$   
 Inelastic requires  $x < 1$

# What happens during DIS?



This quark is casually disconnected from the rest of the proton, during the interaction  $\tau \sim 1/Q$

virtual photon hits one quark

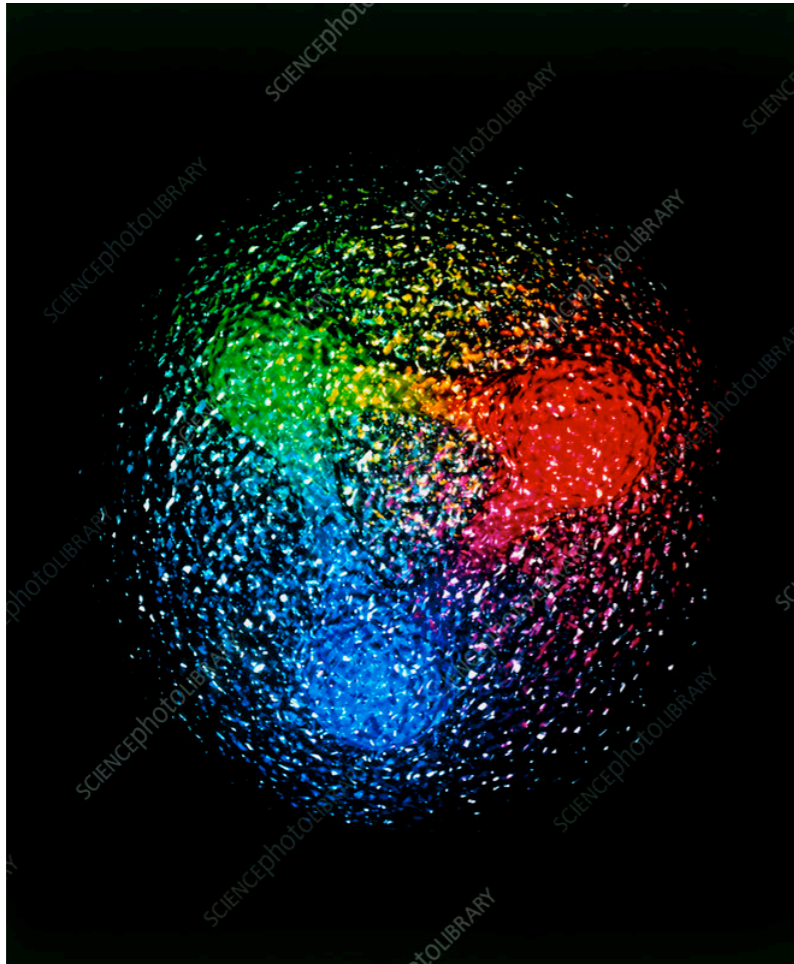
But: struck quark + remainder form color singlet (confinement)  $\rightarrow$  strongly correlated quantum system

After  $\tau \sim 1/\Lambda_{QCD}$ , color string/flux tube forms, breaks up, multi particle state forms

Source: arxiv:hep-ex/0407032

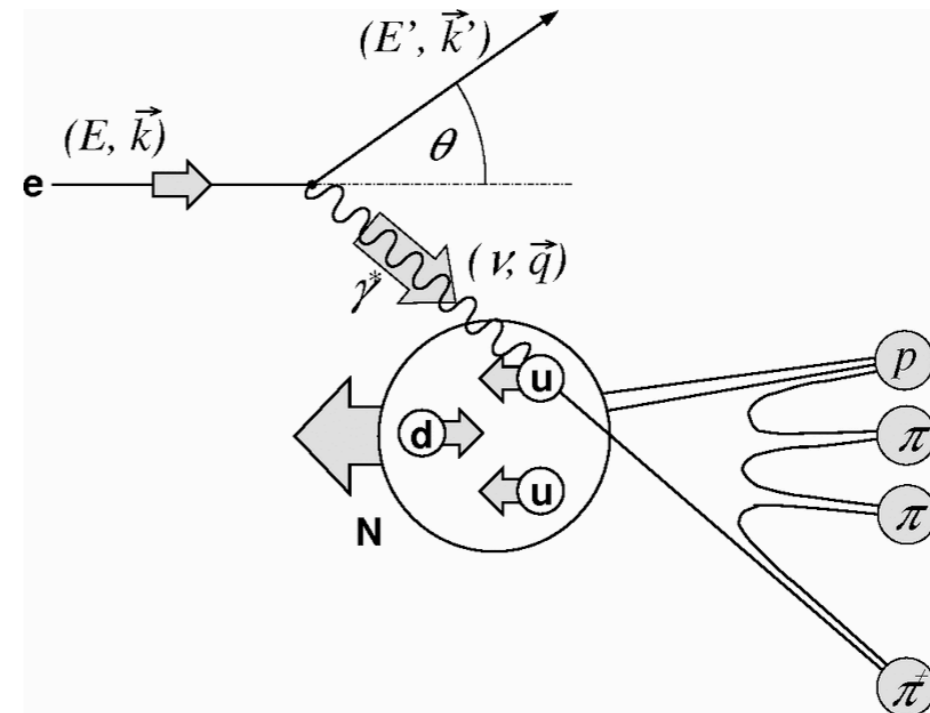
[Tu, Kharzeev, Ullrich; 1904.11974] Einstein-Rosen-Podolsky scenario at subatomic scales: strongly correlated, but casually disconnected

# Entropy, the proton and DIS



DIS: proton a collection of quasi-free partons

isolated proton = pure quantum state  
zero von Neumann entropy



entropy associated with different  
ways to distribute partons in  
phase space

# Entropy, starting from information theory ...

Basic question: how much information is there in a certain (observed) event?

*Claude Shannon (1948), Edwin Jaynes (1957)*



- Low probability event: high information (surprising)
- High probability event: low information (boring)

$p_i$ : probability to observe event  $i$  with  $\sum_i p_i = 1$

Shannon information:  $h_i = -\ln(p_i)$ ,

$h_i \in [0, \infty)$  with  $h(0) = \infty$  and  $h(1) = 0$

entropy = mean value of information of a certain ensemble

$$S = \langle h(p) \rangle = \sum_i p_i h(p_i) = - \sum_i p_i \ln p_i = S$$

# Entropy etc within Quantum Mechanics:

Density matrix:  $\hat{\rho} = \sum_{i=1}^N p_i |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_i|$

System allows for  $N$  possible states  $|\Psi_i\rangle$  with probability  $p_i$

If  $N = 1$ , we have  $\hat{\rho} = |\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|$

system in a pure state

$N > 1$

the quantum state  $|\Psi_i\rangle$  appears with probability  $p_i$

= system in a mixed state

von Neumann entropy:  $S = -\text{tr} [\hat{\rho} \ln \hat{\rho}]$

• Pure state:  $S = 0$

• Mixed state  $S > 0$

quantum generalization of  $S = - \sum_i p_i \ln p_i$

# From a pure to a mixed state

Hilbert space:  $\mathcal{H}_{AB} = \mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$ ,

$$|\Psi\rangle_A \in \mathcal{H}_A, \quad |\Psi\rangle_B \in \mathcal{H}_B$$

$$|\Psi\rangle_{AB} = \sum_{j,k} \alpha_{jk} |\Psi_j\rangle_A \otimes |\Psi_k\rangle_B \text{ entangled state, but pure state}$$
$$\rightarrow S_{AB} = -\text{tr} \hat{\rho}_{AB} \ln \hat{\rho}_{AB} = 0$$

Now: do not observe system B (=everything that is not A)

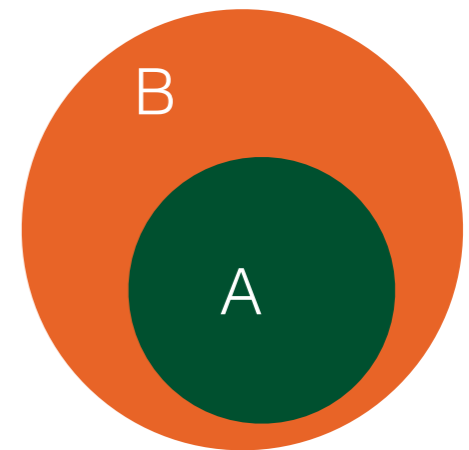
QM  $\rightarrow$  sum over all possibilities that can occur in the system B



To obtain density matrix of observed system A: sum/trace over all unobserved states of  $\mathcal{H}_B$

$$\hat{\rho}_A = \text{tr}_B \hat{\rho}_{AB}$$

density matrix of observed system A



# Entanglement entropy

Mathematical trick (Schmidt decomposition) = rearrange basis:

$$|\Psi\rangle_{AB} = \sum_{j,k} \alpha_{jk} |j\rangle_A \otimes |k\rangle_B = \sum_i \beta_i |i\rangle_A \otimes |i\rangle_B$$

Density matrix of the subsystem A:

$$\hat{\rho}_A = \text{tr}_B \hat{\rho}_{AB} = \sum_j p_j |\Psi_{A,j}\rangle \langle \Psi_{A,j}|, \quad p_j = |\beta_j|^2$$

Yields density matrix of a **mixed** system, if state  $|\Psi_{AB}\rangle$  was entangled

not entangled:  $p_1 = 1, \quad p_{i \geq 2} = 0$   
**pure** state

Entropy of system A:

$$S_A = - \text{tr}_A \hat{\rho}_A \ln(\hat{\rho}_A) = - \sum_j p_j \ln p_j, \quad p_j = |\beta_j|^2$$

Note this is symmetric:  $S_A = S_B$



# Partial Observation of the Proton in Deep Inelastic Scattering (DIS)

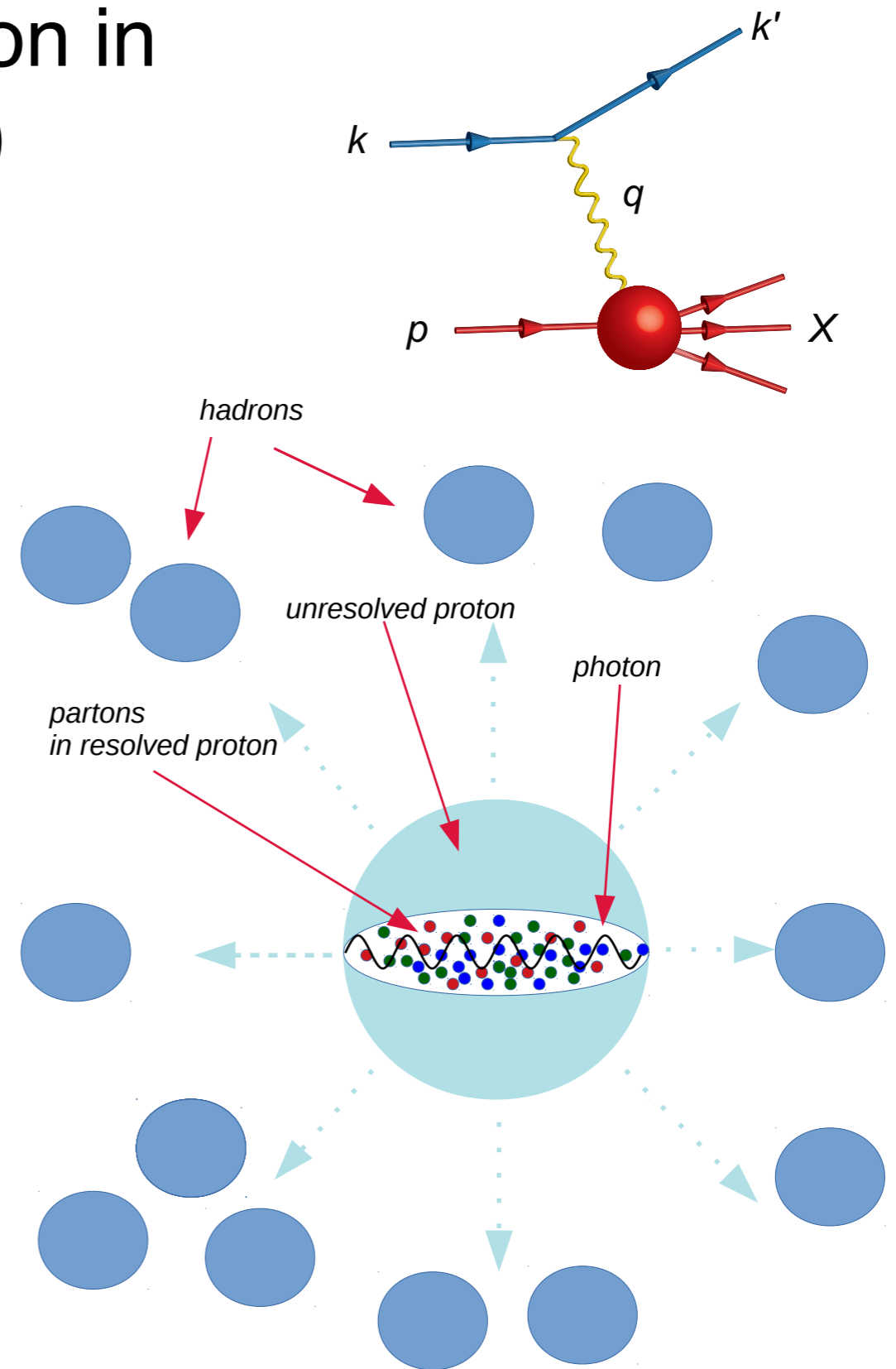
DIS: do not observe the entire proton, but only parts of it

resolved area  $\sim 1/Q^2$

[Gribov, Ioffe, Pomerenchuk, SJNP, 2, 549 (1966)];  
[Ioffe, PLB 30B, 123, (1969)]

Entropy of final state hadrons =  
entanglement entropy  
determined by the initial  
proton wave function

[Kharzeev, Levin; 1702.03489]



# Entropy of final state hadrons = entanglement entropy

different DIS events  $\rightarrow$  different # of final state hadrons

A NC-DIS event with two jets  $ep \rightarrow e' Jet_1 Jet_2$

$$P(N) = \frac{\text{\#of events with } N \text{ hadrons}}{\text{total \# of events}}$$

hadronic entropy

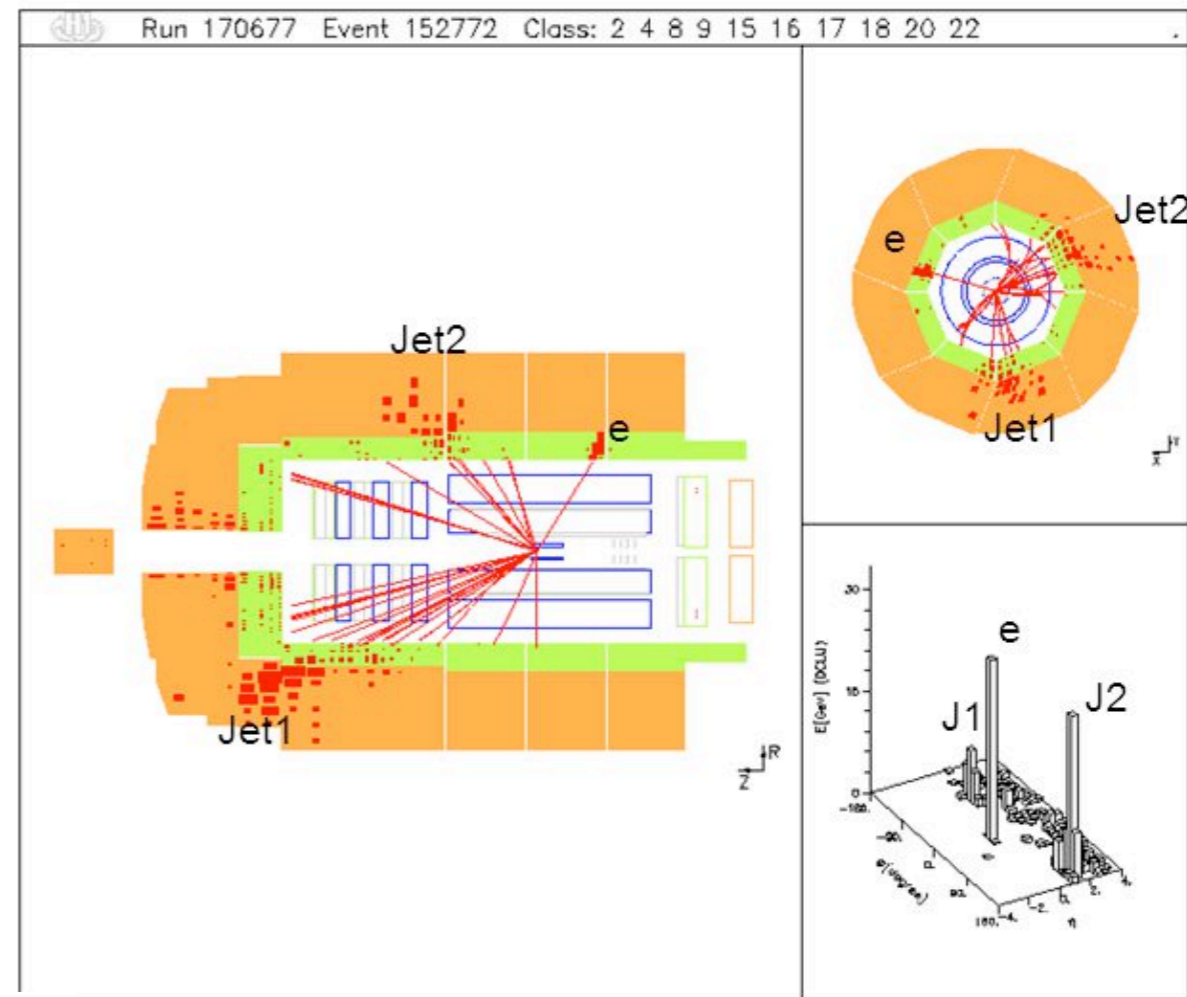
$$S_{hadron} = - \sum P(N) \ln P(N)$$

[Kharzeev, Levin; 1702.03489]

Entropy of final state hadrons = entanglement entropy

caused by partial observation of the proton

value determined by the initial state proton wave function



Joachim Meyer DESY 2005

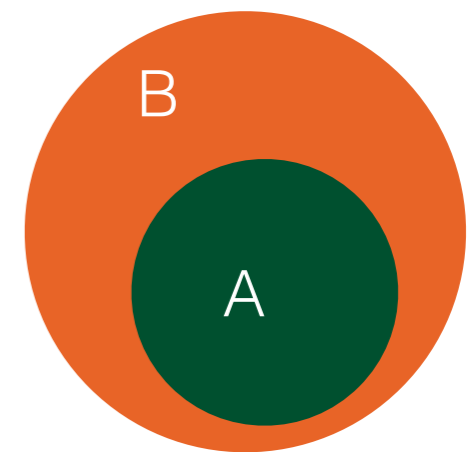
# The entangled proton wave function

To arrive at an explicit expression for entanglement entropy, need to express entangled wave function as

$$|\Psi\rangle_{AB} = \sum_{j,k} \alpha_{jk} |j\rangle_A \otimes |k\rangle_B = \sum_i \beta_i |i\rangle_A \otimes |i\rangle_B$$

A: observed states

B: unobserved states



then:

$$S_A = S_B = \sum_i p_i \ln p_i, \quad p_i = |\beta_i|^2$$

the photon wave function is highly non-perturbative  $\rightarrow$  so far, cannot obtain this basis from first principles (even the concept of quarks and gluons is difficult)

But:

Can use our understanding of DIS at low  $x$  to model the proton wave function & get close to reality

# A result from 2D conformal field theories

[Holzhey, Larsen, Wilczek; 1994], [Calabrese, Cardini; 2006]

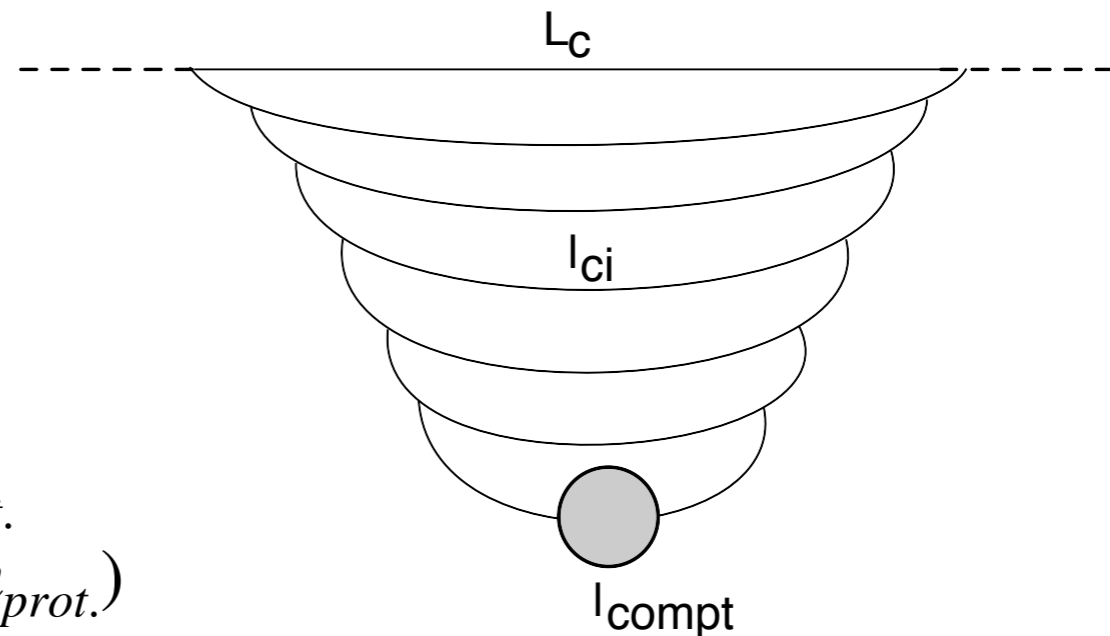
$$S = \frac{c}{3} \ln \frac{L}{\epsilon}$$

$L$  : extension of studied region  
 $\epsilon$  : regularization scale = resolution  
 $c$  : central charge

low  $x$  limit, proton rest frame: photon fluctuates into many parton state (time dilation of gluon life time due to large relative boost factor)

yields 2 length scale:

- Compton wave length of the proton  $1/m_{prot.}$
- extension of the photon  $e^Y/m_{prot.} = 1/(xm_{prot.})$



[Kharzeev, Levin; 1702.03489] identify

- $\epsilon$  with Compton wave length of the proton  $\epsilon = 1/m_{prot.}$
- extension of studied region  $L = \epsilon/x$

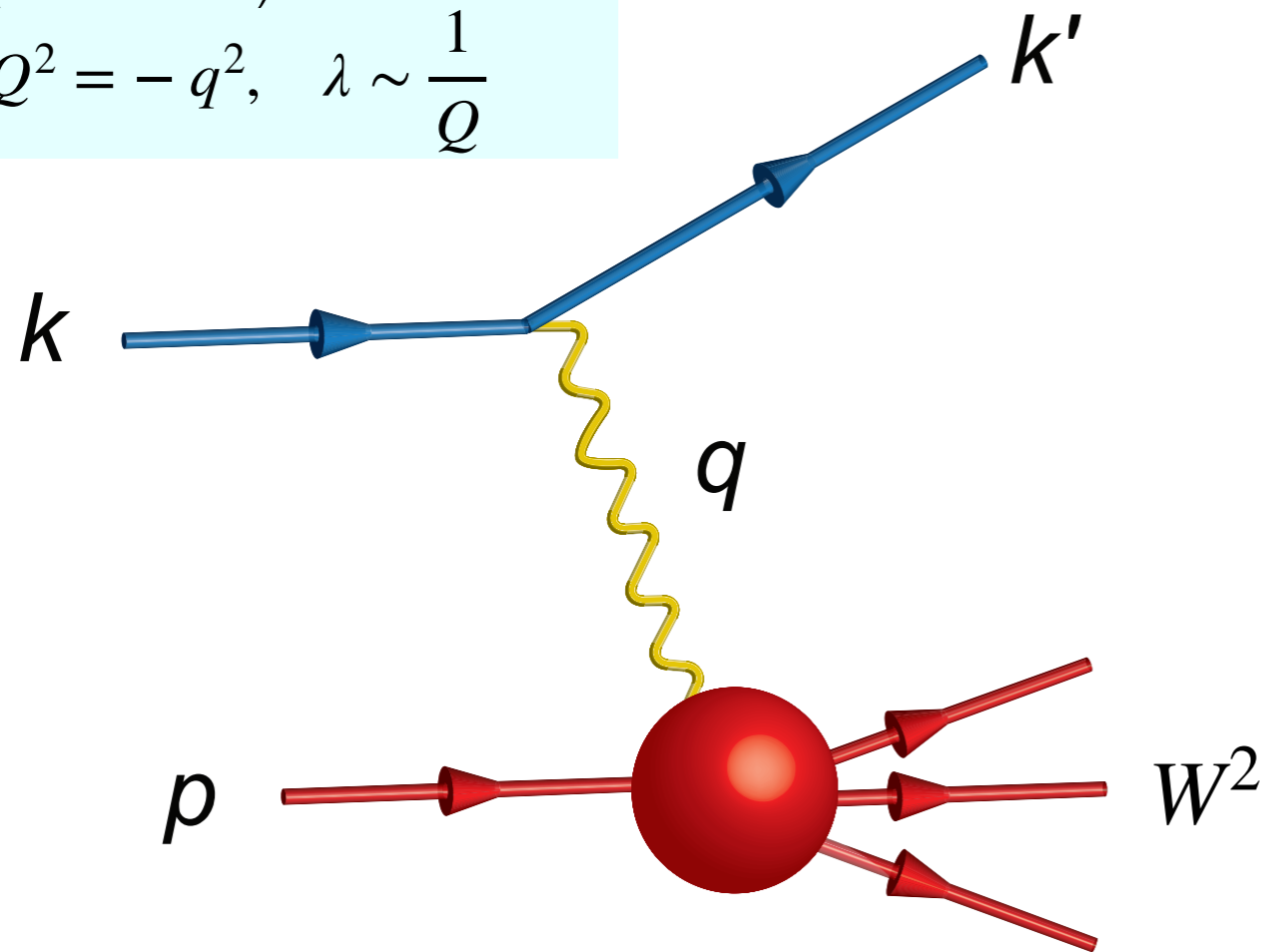
yields

$$S = \frac{c}{3} \ln 1/x$$

# QCD evolution equations in DIS

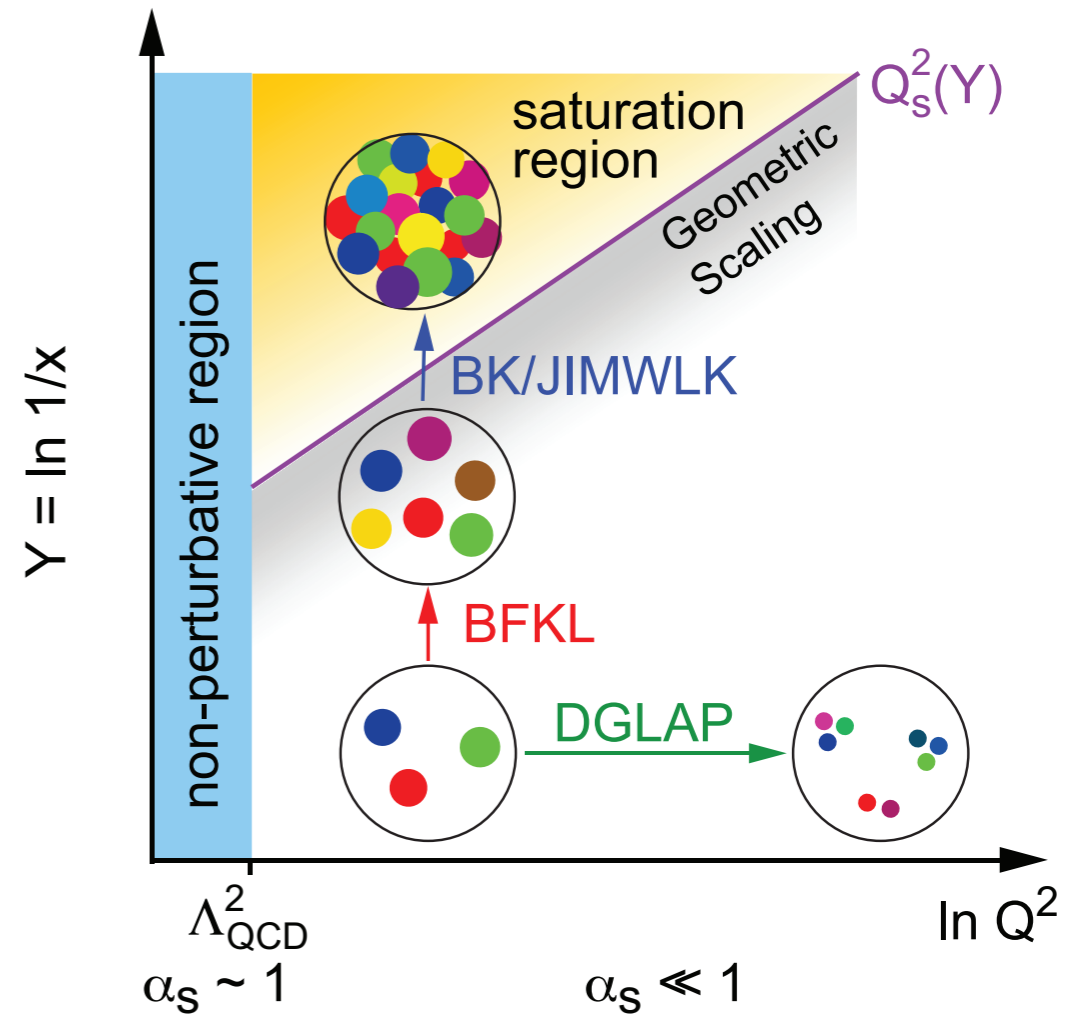
Photon virtuality  
(=resolution)

$$Q^2 = -q^2, \quad \lambda \sim \frac{1}{Q}$$



$$\text{Bjorken } x = \frac{Q^2}{2p \cdot q} = \frac{Q^2}{W^2 + Q^2}$$

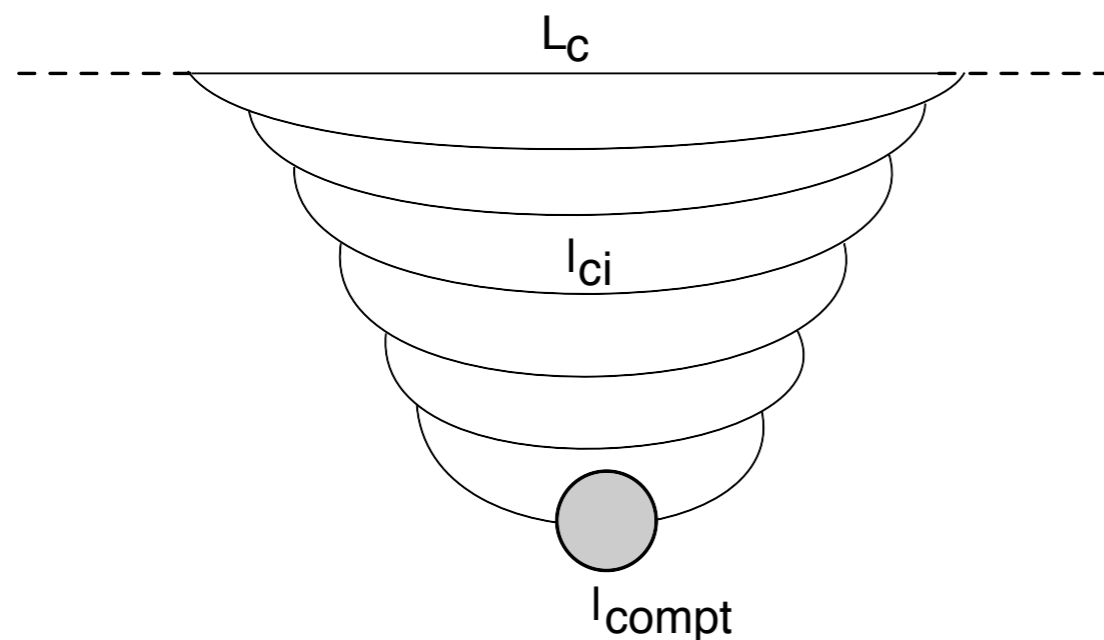
low  $x \leftrightarrow$  large  $W$  at fixed  $Q$



# The Mueller Dipole Model

[A. Mueller, 1994-1998]

reformulation of BFKL (=low  $x$ ) evolution as subsequent splitting of color dipoles (gluon emission by initial  $q\bar{q}$  from photon)



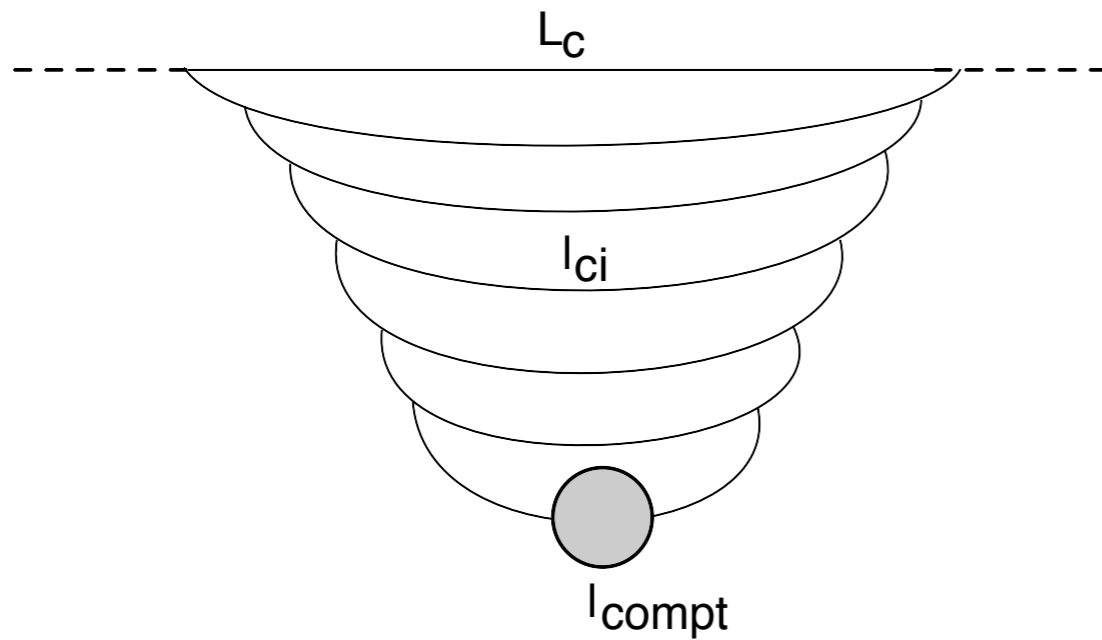
- allows to formulate evolution equation for probabilities to find  $n$  dipoles in the DIS reaction

- can be solved in approximation where transverse dynamics is ignored

[A. Mueller; Nucl. Phys. B 415, 373–385 (1994)]

- recently solved in the double logarithmic limit for full description

[Liu, Nowak, Zahed; 2211.05169]



1+1 non-linear model of non-linear QCD evolution in  $Y = \ln(1/x)$

$p_n(Y)$  probability to encounter  $n$  color dipoles ( $\sim$  gluons) in the proton

$\Delta$ : probability to emit another dipole; phenomenology  $\Delta = 0.2 - 0.35$

$p_n$  subject to cascade equation:

$$\frac{d}{dY} p_n(Y) = -\Delta n p_n(Y) + \Delta(n-1) p_{n-1}(Y)$$

initial condition: only 1 dipole at  $Y = 0 \leftrightarrow x = 1 \leftrightarrow W^2 = m_{prot.}^2$  (elastic limit)

$$p_1(0) = 1; \quad p_{n>1}(0) = 0$$

$p_n$  at  $Y \neq 0$  from solution to cascade equation:

$$p_1 = e^{-\Delta Y}, \quad p_{n>1} = e^{-\Delta Y} (1 - e^{-\Delta Y})^{n-1}$$

= our distribution  
 $p_n = |\beta_n|^2$

# Properties and Interpretation of the Solution

2 important quantities:

a) Mean number of dipoles = mean number of gluons or partons

$$\langle n \rangle = \sum_n n p_n(Y) = e^{\Delta Y} = \left( \frac{1}{x} \right)^\Delta = x g(x)$$

matches

- phenomenological observed powerlike growth of gluon & seaquark distribution at low  $x$
- BFKL predicts such a powerlike rise

b) entropy  $S = - \sum_n p_n \ln p_n = (1 - Z) \ln \frac{Z - 1}{z} + \ln Z, \quad Z = \langle n \rangle = e^{\Delta Y}$

- thermodynamic limit  $\lim_{Y \gg 1} S = \ln \langle n \rangle = \Delta \ln(1/x)$  and  $p_n = 1/\langle n \rangle$
- state of maximal (entanglement) entropy
- agrees with exact result for entanglement entropy obtain for 2D conformal field theories [Holzhey, Larsen, Wilczek; 1994], [Calabrese, Cardini; 2006] after proper identification of parameters



[Kharzeev, Levin; 1702.03489]

Entanglement entropy = entropy of  $n$  parton state = entropy of final state hadrons in DIS  $S_{gluon} = \ln xg(x, Q^2)$

[H1 collaboration, 2011.01812]

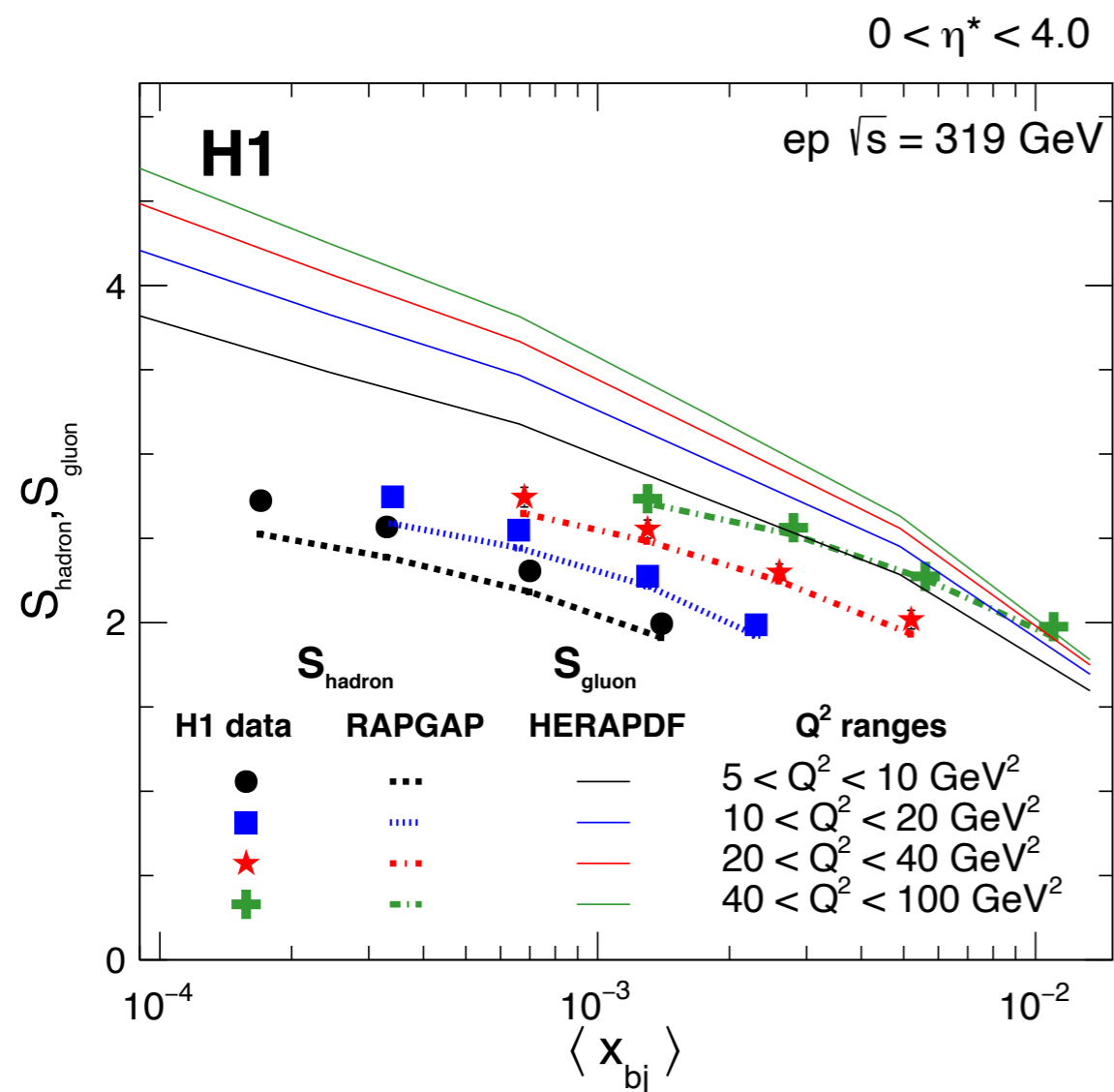
$$P(N) = \frac{\text{\#of events with } N \text{ hadrons}}{\text{total \# of events}} \quad S_{hadron} = - \sum P(N) \ln P(N)$$

hadronic entropy for given bins of  $Q^2$  and  $x = \frac{Q^2}{2p \cdot q}$

can we determine correctly  $S_{hadron}$  from the model result?

Yes, but .... at first a series of (small) errors

# H1 collaboration: results [arXiv:2011.01812]



- [Kharzeev, Levin; 1702.03489]

$n_{dipoles} = xg(x, Q^2)$ , yields

$$S_{gluon} = \ln [xg(x, Q^2)]$$

- Reason: glue dominates at low  $x$
- H1 collaboration: LO HERAPDF
- "The predictions from the entanglement approach based on the gluon density again fail to describe  $S_{hadron}$  in magnitude. However, at low  $Q$  the slope of  $S_{gluon}$  has some similarities with that observed for  $S_{hadron}$ , while it becomes steeper than observed with increasing  $Q$ "

[Kharzeev, Levin; 2102.09773]: try something based seaquarks

# Gluon and seaquark PDF from unintegrated gluon

[MH, Kutak; 2110:06156]

this is not working, since H1 uses PDFs  
dipole model in DIS = BFKL  
let's calculate PDFs from BFKL unintegrated gluon

$$xg(x, Q^2) = \int_0^{Q^2} d\mathbf{k}^2 G(x, \mathbf{k}^2, Q^2),$$

$$x\Sigma(x, Q^2) = \int_0^\infty \frac{d\Delta^2}{\Delta^2} \int_0^\infty d\mathbf{k}^2 \int_0^1 dz \Theta\left(Q^2 - \frac{\Delta^2}{1-z} - z\mathbf{k}^2\right) \tilde{P}_{qg}\left(z, \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{\Delta^2}\right) G(x, \mathbf{k}^2, Q^2)$$

For seaquark: TMD splitting function [Catani,  
Hautmann, NPB 427 (1994) 475] + many others  
afterwards

$$\tilde{P}_{qg}\left(z, \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{\Delta^2}\right) = \frac{\alpha_s 2n_f}{2\pi} T_F \frac{\Delta^2}{[\Delta^2 + z(1-z)\mathbf{k}^2]^2} \left[ z^2 + (1-z)^2 + 4z^2(1-z)^2 \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{\Delta^2} \right],$$

Bottom line:

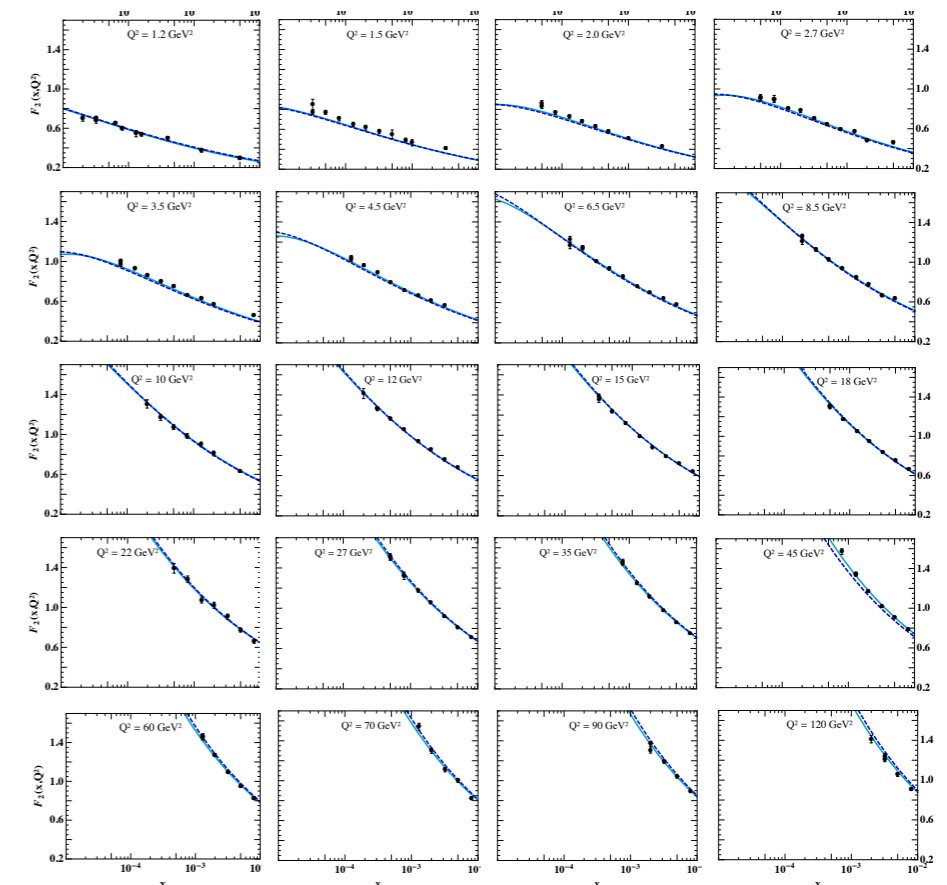
- we can calculate PDFs (and therefore entropy) using a low  $x$  formalism
- Low  $x$  evolution contained in  $G(x, \mathbf{k}^2)$

# underlying unintegrated gluon: the HSS fit

use: HSS NLO BFKL fit [MH, Salas, Sabio Vera; 1301.5283]

- uses NLO BFKL kernel  
[Fadin, Lipatov; PLB 429 (1998) 127]  
+ resummation of collinear logarithms
- initial kT distribution from fit to combined HERA data

$$F_2(x, Q^2) = \int_0^\infty d\mathbf{k}^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{d\mathbf{q}^2}{\mathbf{q}^2} \Phi_2\left(\frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{Q^2}\right) \mathcal{F}_{\text{BFKL}}^{\text{DIS}}(x, \mathbf{k}^2, \mathbf{q}^2) \Phi_p\left(\frac{\mathbf{q}^2}{Q_0^2}\right)$$



Proton impact factor  $\Phi_p\left(\frac{\mathbf{q}^2}{Q_0^2}, \delta\right) = \frac{\mathcal{C}}{\pi\Gamma(\delta)} \left(\frac{\mathbf{q}^2}{Q_0^2}\right)^\delta e^{-\frac{\mathbf{q}^2}{Q_0^2}}$

[H1 & ZEUS collab. 0911.0884]

# Unintegrated gluon distribution

[Chachamis, M. Deak, MH, Rodrigo, Sabio Vera; 1507.05778],  
 [Bautista, Fernandez Tellez, MH; [1607.05203](#) ]

$$G(x, \mathbf{k}^2, Q_0^2) = \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}^2}{q^2} \mathcal{F}^{\text{DIS}}(x, \mathbf{k}^2, \mathbf{q}^2) \Phi_p \left( \frac{\mathbf{q}^2}{Q_0^2} \right)$$

$$G(x, \mathbf{k}^2, M) = \frac{1}{\mathbf{k}^2} \int_{\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{\frac{1}{2}+i\infty} \frac{d\gamma}{2\pi i} \hat{g} \left( x, \frac{M^2}{Q_0^2}, \frac{\overline{M}^2}{M^2}, \gamma \right) \left( \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{Q_0^2} \right)^\gamma$$

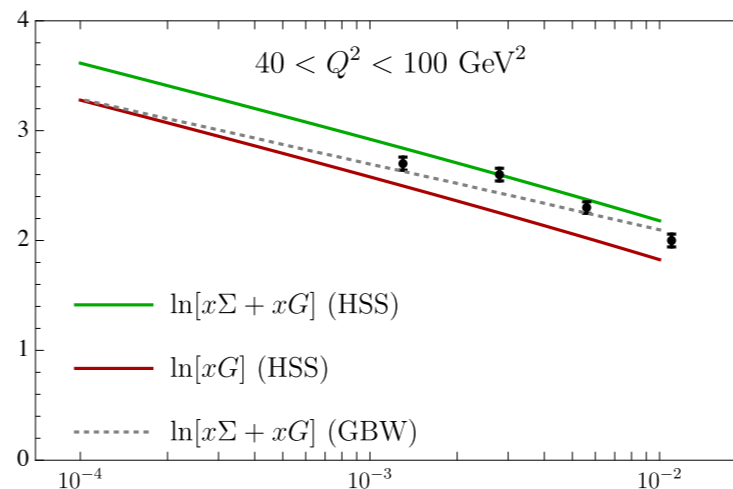
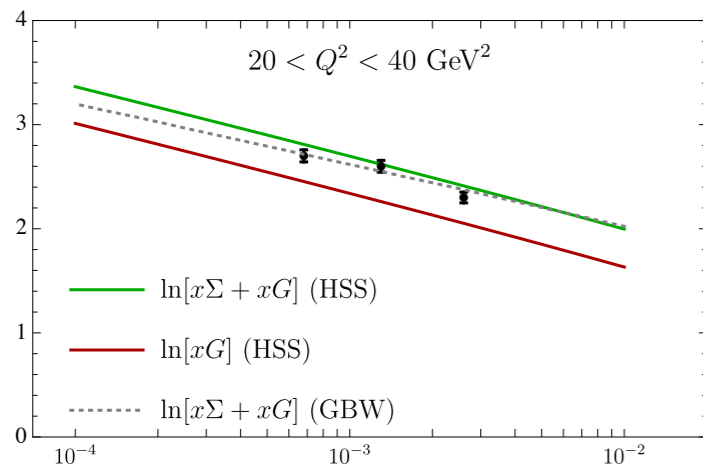
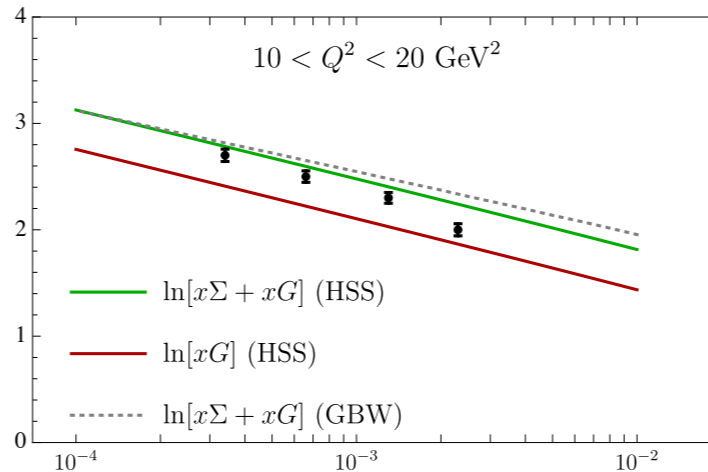
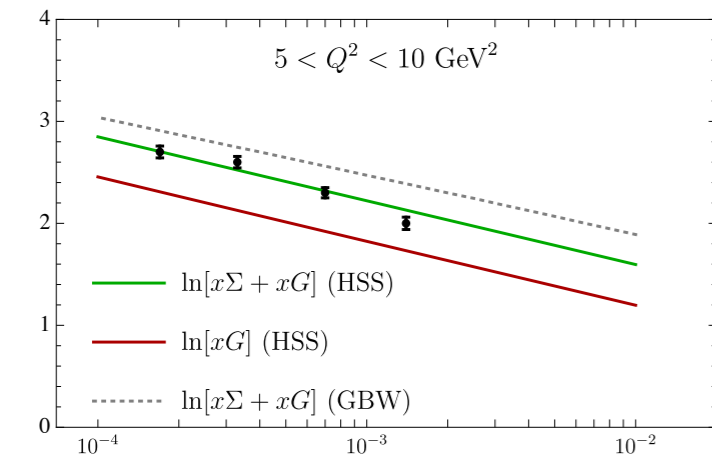
$$\hat{g} \left( x, \frac{M^2}{Q_0^2}, \frac{\overline{M}^2}{M^2}, \gamma \right) = \frac{\mathcal{C} \cdot \Gamma(\delta - \gamma)}{\pi \Gamma(\delta)} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{x} \right)^{\chi \left( \gamma, \frac{\overline{M}^2}{M^2} \right)}$$

$$\left\{ 1 + \frac{\bar{\alpha}_s^2 \beta_0 \chi_0(\gamma)}{8N_c} \log \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) \left[ -\psi(\delta - \gamma) + \log \frac{M^2}{Q_0^2} - \partial_\gamma \right] \right\}$$

NLO BFKL kernel +  
 collinear resummation +  
 optimal scale setting

# First results:

[MH, Kutak; 2110:06156]



- First attempt (inspired by [Kharzeev, Levin; 2102.09773]) only seaquark  
→ not even close to data (now we know it was never meant to describe this data set, but this was our original idea ... )
- Gluon only: gets closer
- If # of observed hadrons  $\simeq$  # of partons, why not use quarks + gluons?  
Turns out to work pretty well ...

We also did some comparison with NNLO NNPDF and NNLO low x resummed NNPDF; please see [\[MH, Kutak; 2110:06156\]](#)

# All good?

## No, there's a bunch of mistakes

- us (me in this case) used a wrong normalization constant for HSS gluon → correct constant overshoots data [\[MH, Kutak; Eur.Phys.J.C 83 \(2023\) 12, 1147 \(erratum\)\]](#)
- H1 collaboration measures charged hadron multiplicity, yet we calculate entropy for all hadrons roughly related by a factor  $2/3$
- luckily (?) both effects cancel in magnitude approximately

# Erroneous interpretation by H1

probably taken from [Tu, Kharzeev, Ullrich; 1904.11974]

Integrate PDF (somehow)  
number of partons

$$n_g(Q^2) = \int_0^1 dx g(x, Q^2),$$

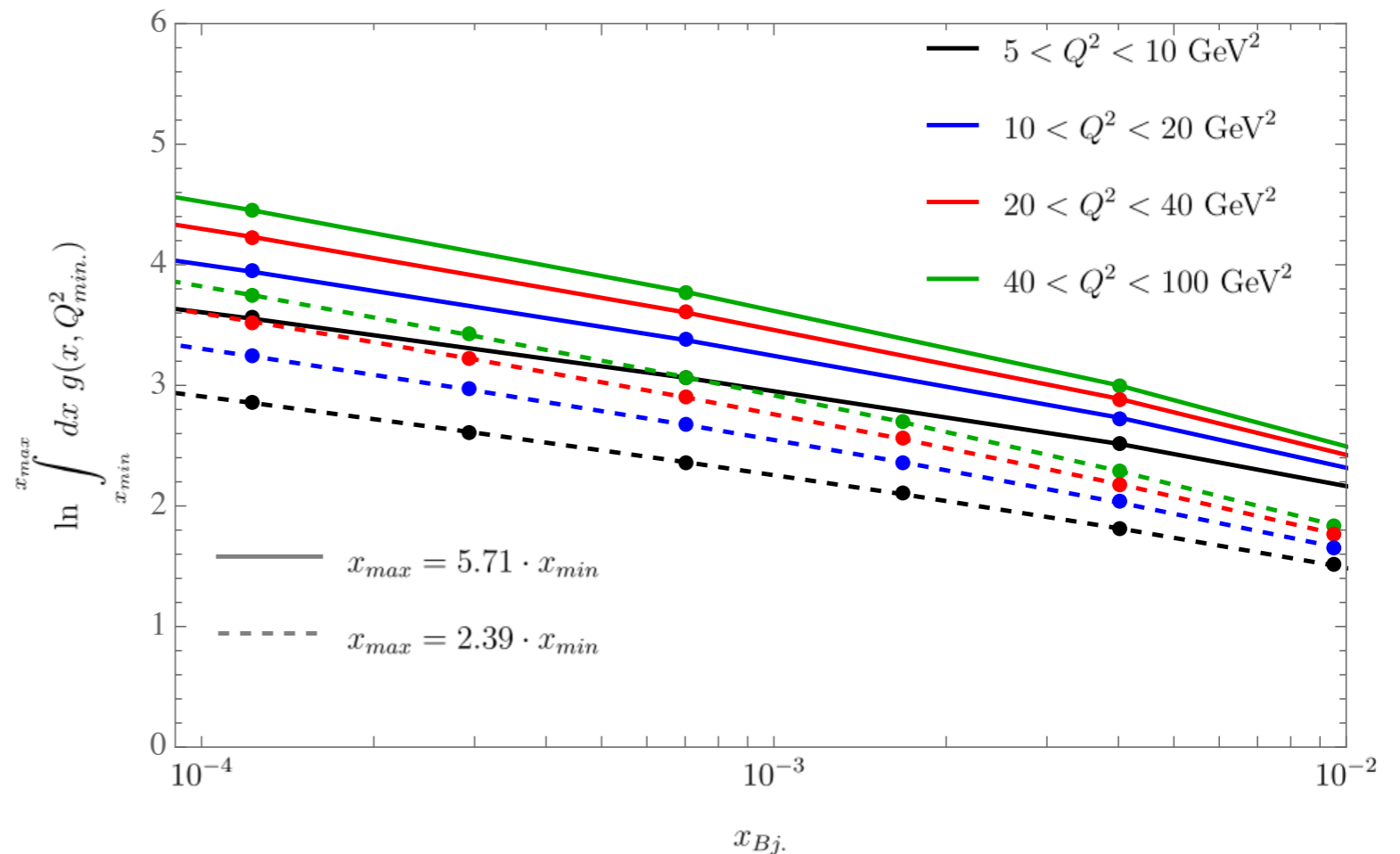
H1: (seems) # of partons in  
a certain bin

$$n_g(\bar{x}) = \int_{x_{\min}}^{x_{\max}} dx g(x, Q^2),$$

Problem: depends  
obviously on bin size

# of partons/bin size (and infinitesimal limit)

$$\bar{n}_g(x, Q^2) = \frac{dn_g}{d \ln(1/x)} = xg(x, Q^2).$$

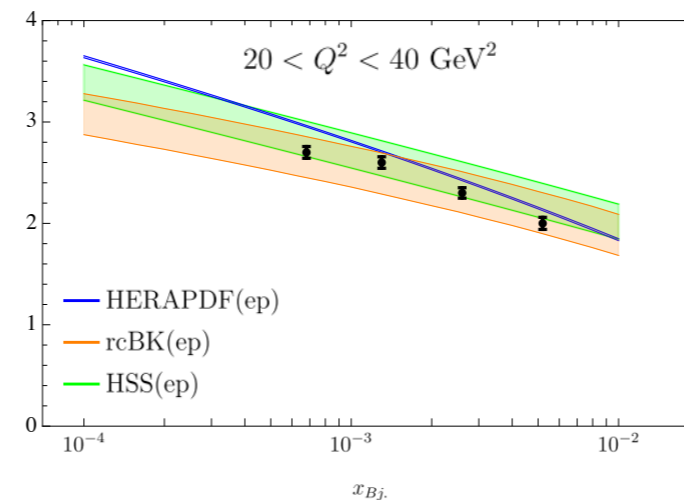
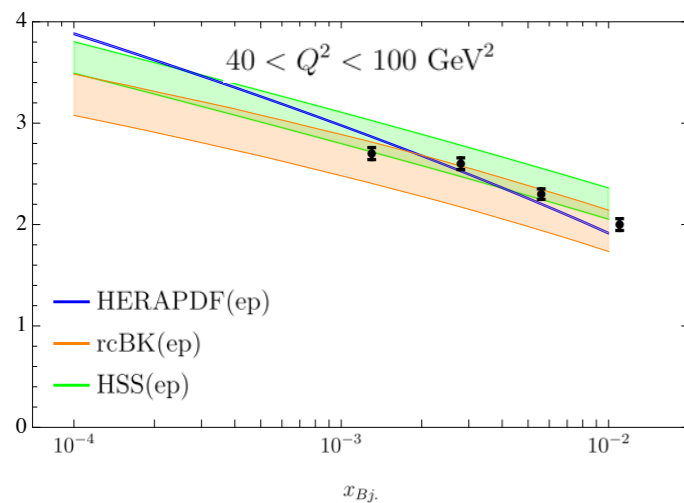
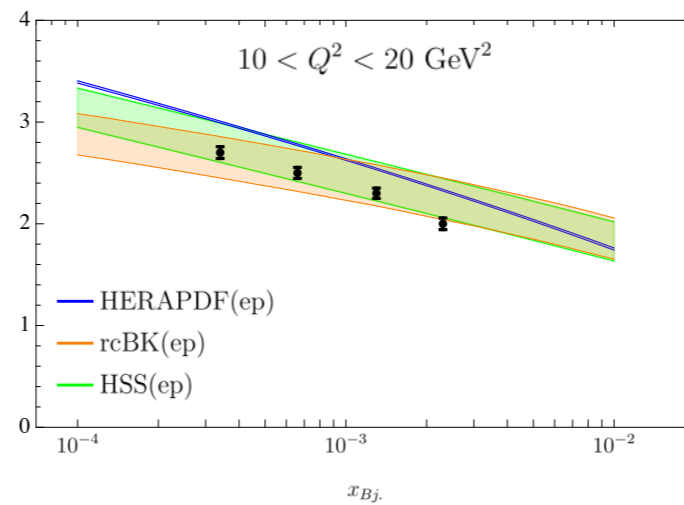
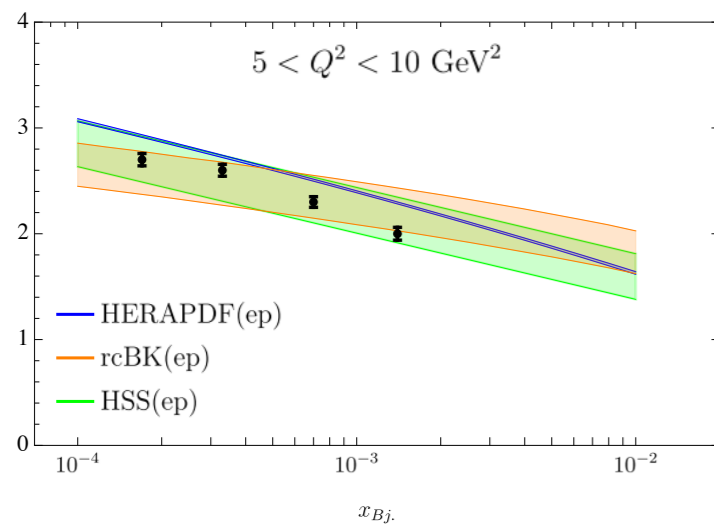


(was already like this in [Kharzeev, Levin; 1702.03489] )



# Updated plots

[MH, Kutak, Straka; 2207.09430 ]

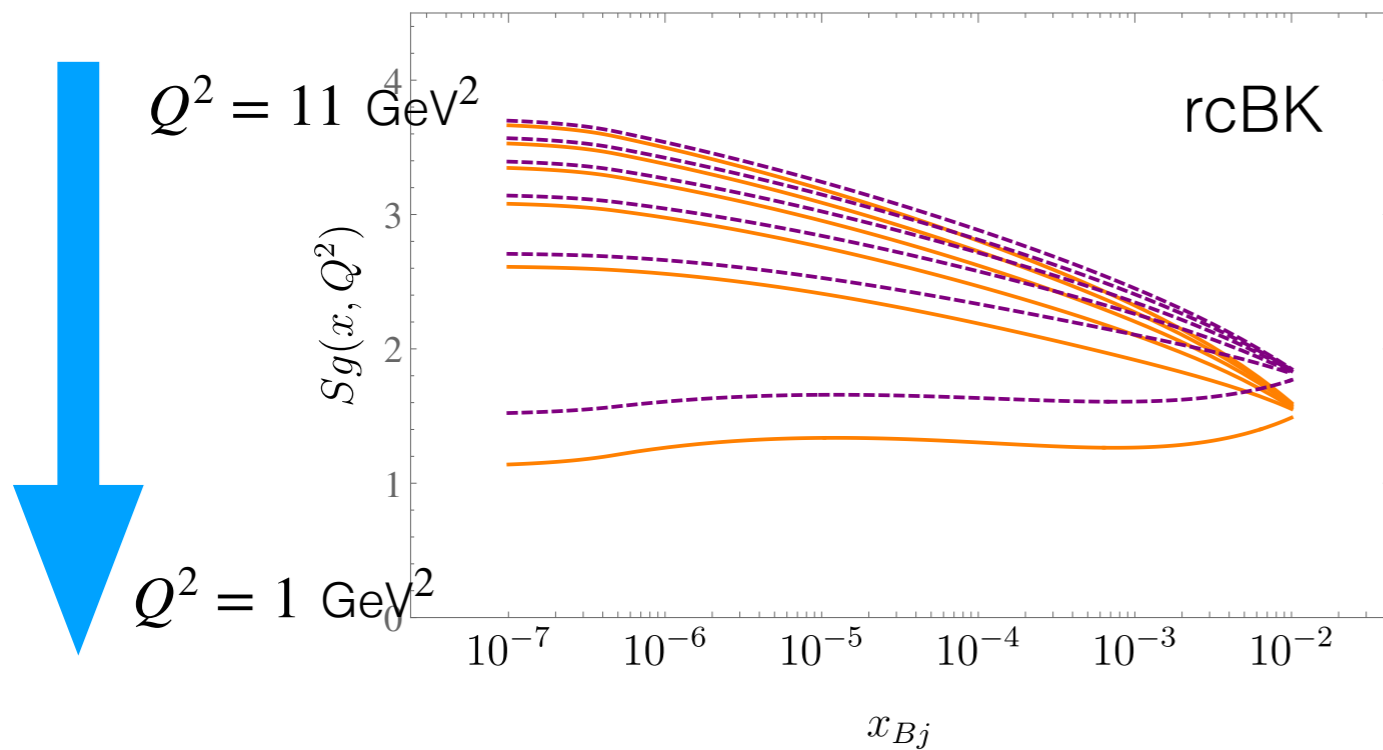
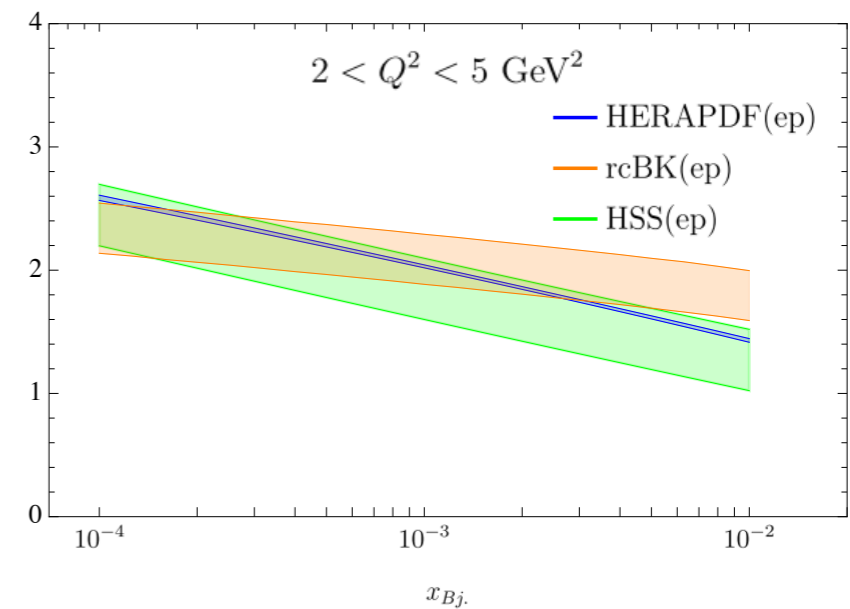
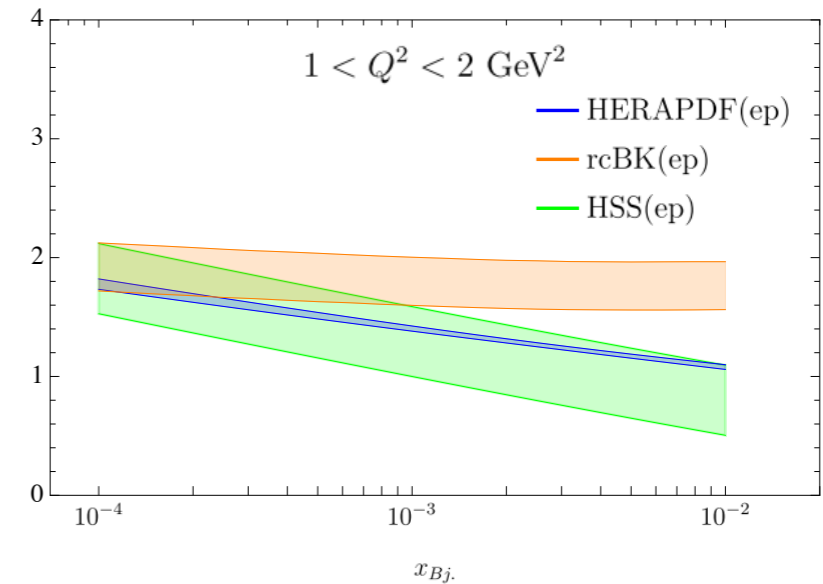
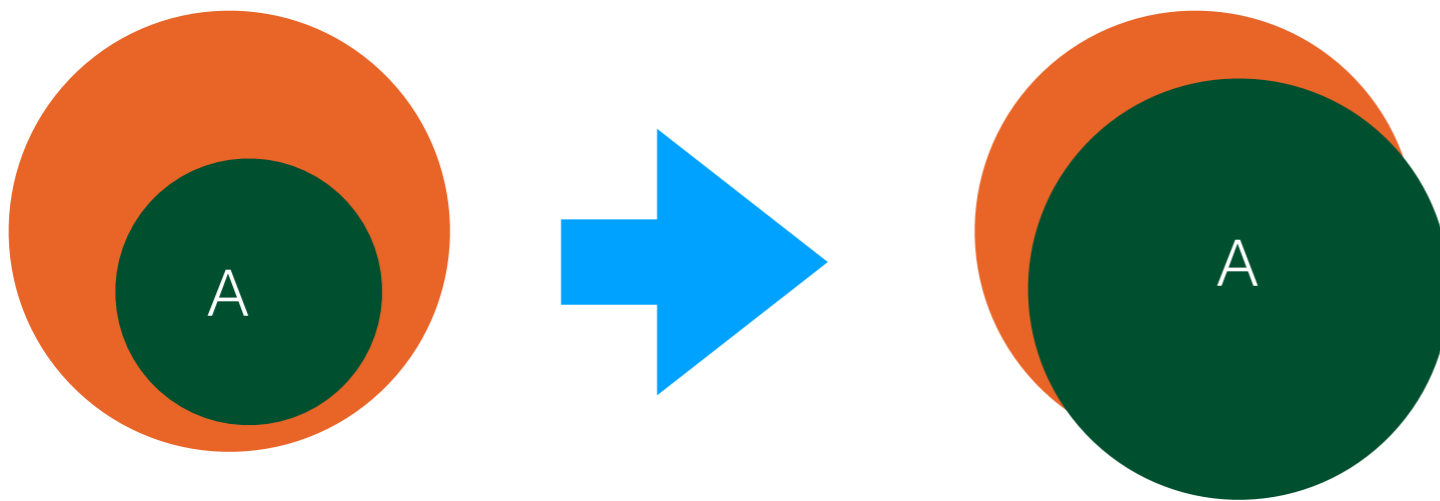


- Include now LO HERAPDF (as H1 collab.)
- + corrected HSS description
- + parton distributions subject to non-linear Baltisky-Kovchegov (BK) evolution
- + estimate of uncertainty (HERAPDF only experimental uncertainty)

— all work pretty well!

# First steps towards the real photon limit

For  $Q^2 \rightarrow 0$ : observe entire proton



[MH, Kutak, Straka; 2207.09430 ]

[MH, Kharzeev, Kutak, Tu; 2305.03069]

Can we test this further?

Predict: DIS at low  $x$  probes a maximally entangled state with maximal entanglement entropy

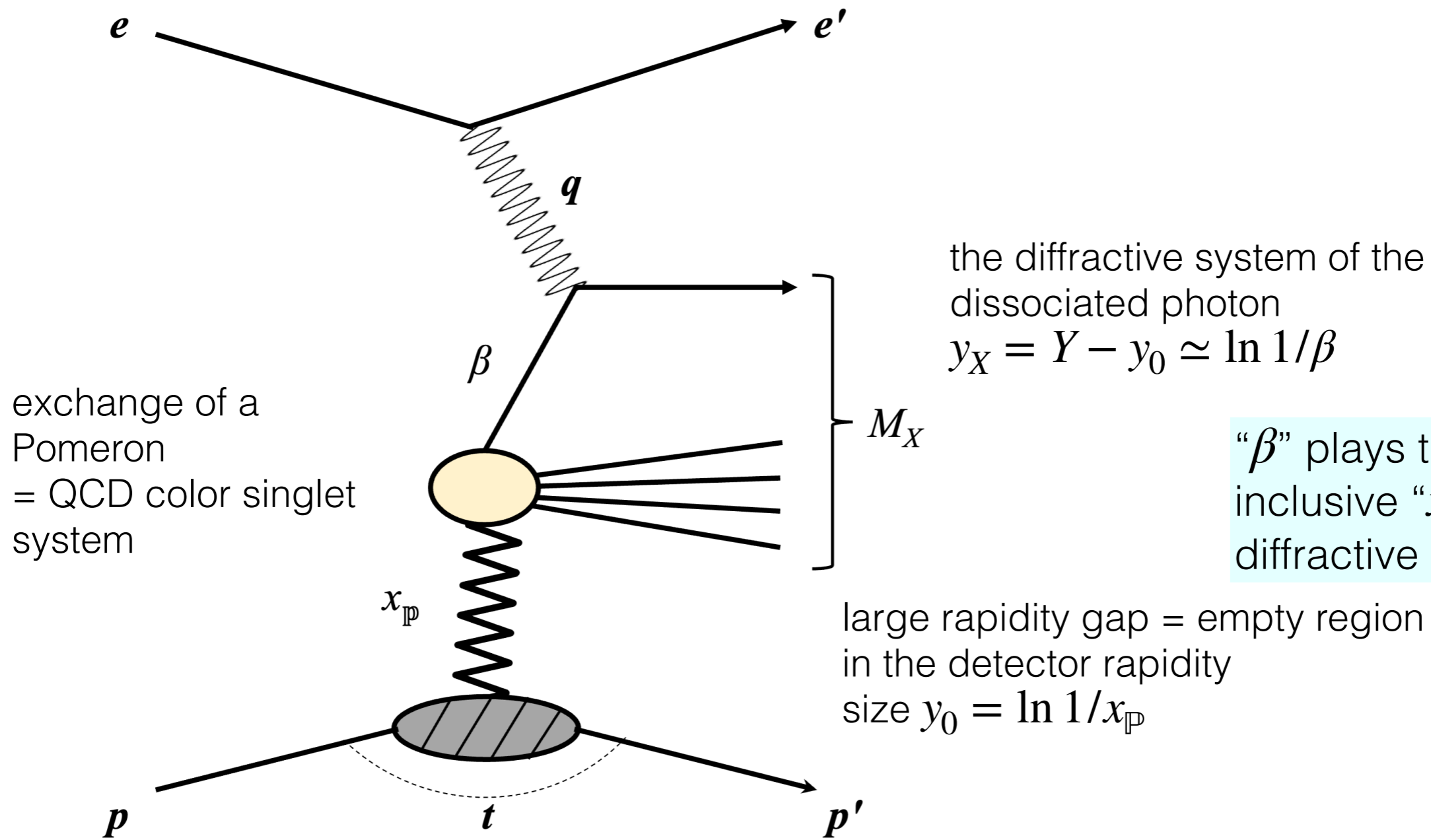
all probabilities for  $n$ -parton state are equal  $p_n = 1/\langle n \rangle$   
homogenous distribution

within the model: this is reached for  $x \rightarrow 0$

What about reactions where entanglement entropy is **not** maximal where the distribution is **not** homogenous?

# A candidate: diffractive DIS

all kinematic relation for collinear kinematics



the diffractive system of the dissociated photon  
 $y_X = Y - y_0 \simeq \ln 1/\beta$

exchange of a Pomeron = QCD color singlet system

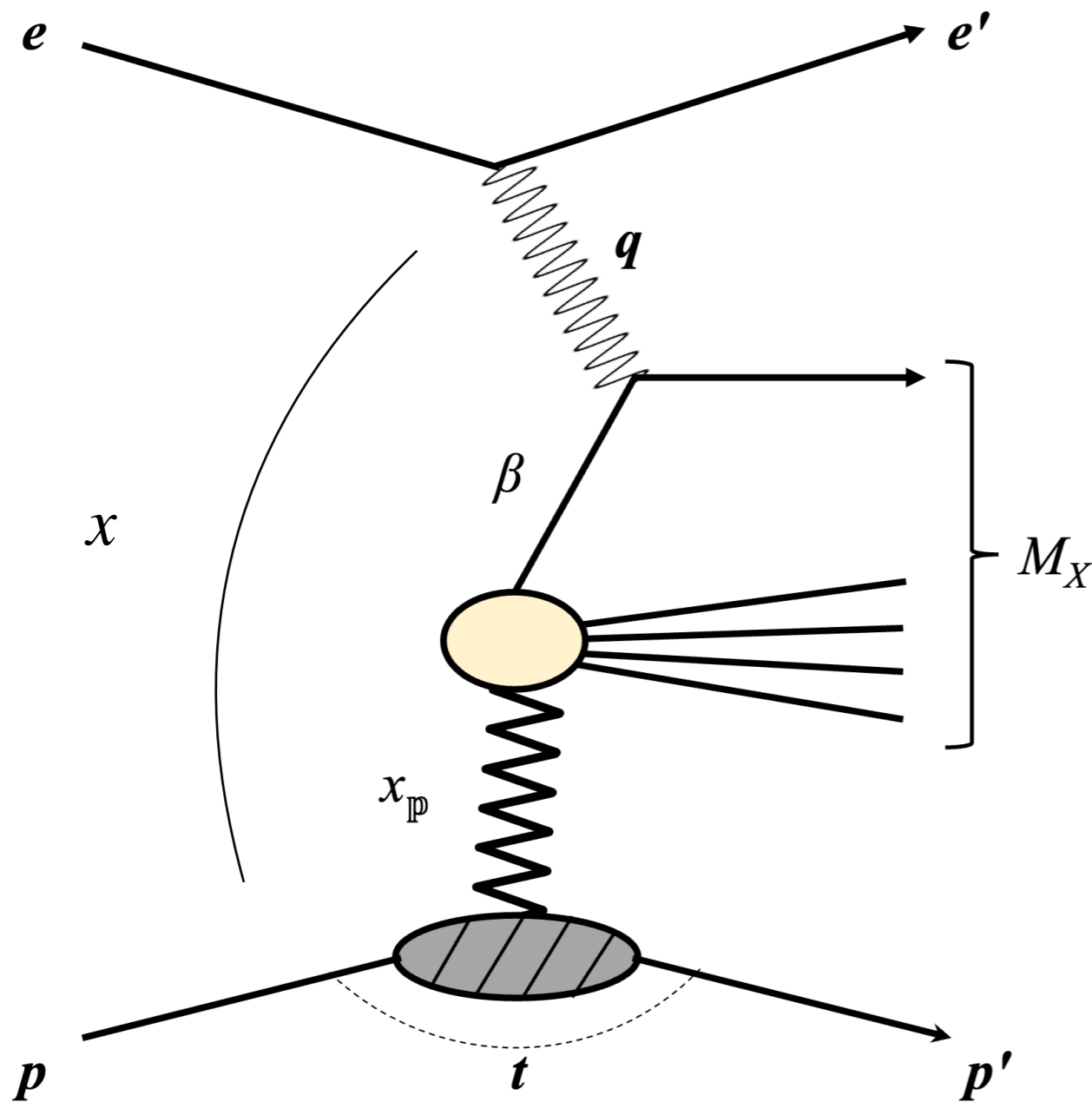
“ $\beta$ ” plays the role of inclusive “ $x$ ” for the diffractive system

large rapidity gap = empty region in the detector rapidity  
 size  $y_0 = \ln 1/x_{\mathbb{P}}$

- roughly 10-15% of the total HERA cross-section
- described by low  $x$  models/evolution & diffractive PDFs

proton scatters elastically or dissociates

# Expectations:



- expect to probe different components of the proton wave function  $\rightarrow$  photon interact with the Pomeron
- for given  $Y = \ln 1/x$ , the onset of the configuration with maximal entanglement entropy is delayed due to the gap
- Pomeron = QCD color singlet system, grows like  $\sim (1/x_P)^{\lambda_P}$
- Pomeron = source for partons in diffractive system  $M_X \rightarrow$  size depends on  $x_P$

+ there exists data from HERA run 1 (in KNO form), which allow to extract the charged hadron multiplicity distribution

[H1 collab.; hep-ex/9804012]

# Theory input: diffractive PDFs

leading order PDFs appear to be preferable (in particular if fitted to the same data set)

- scale uncertainty controlled due to using same data set
- LO DGLAP evolution is scheme independent
- problem: hard to find LO PDFs ...

Here: use leading order GKG18-DPDFs  
(provided with the code for NLO DPDFs)

[Goharipour, Khanpour, Guzey; 1802.01363]

for details:

number of partons:

[MH, Kharzeev, Kutak, Tu; 2305.03069]

$$\left\langle \frac{dn(\beta)}{d \ln 1/\beta} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{Q_{\max}^2 - Q_{\min}^2} \int_{Q_{\min}^2}^{Q_{\max}^2} dQ^2 \int_{x_{\mathbb{P},\min}}^{x_{\mathbb{P},\max}} dx_{\mathbb{P}} \beta \left[ f_{\Sigma/p}^D(\beta, x_{\mathbb{P}}, Q^2) + f_{g/p}^D(\beta, x_{\mathbb{P}}, Q^2) \right]$$

quark flavor singlet  
(sum over all quarks)

gluon

$$Q_{\min}^2 = 7.5 \text{ GeV}^2, \quad Q_{\max}^2 = 100 \text{ GeV}^2$$

$$x_{\mathbb{P},\min} = 0.0003, \quad x_{\mathbb{P},\min} = 0.05$$

reproduce phase space of HERA  
data (rather inclusive)

# A modified description

if we plug  $\langle dn/d\beta \rangle$  directly into the entropy formula, the description fails

reason: H1 data at  $\beta = 0.05 - 0.5$

In this region,  $\langle dn/d\beta \rangle < 1$

leads to probabilities  $> 1$  and the entire setup fails

solution: return to the original model, but introduce additional constant  $C$

allows to include  
contribution of Pomeron

$$p_n^D(y_X) = \frac{1}{C} e^{-\Delta y_X} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{C} e^{-\Delta y_X} \right)^{n-1}$$

average # of dipoles

$$\left\langle \frac{dn(\beta)}{d \ln 1/\beta} \right\rangle = \sum_n n p_n^D(y_X) = C \left( \frac{1}{\beta} \right)^\Delta$$

note:

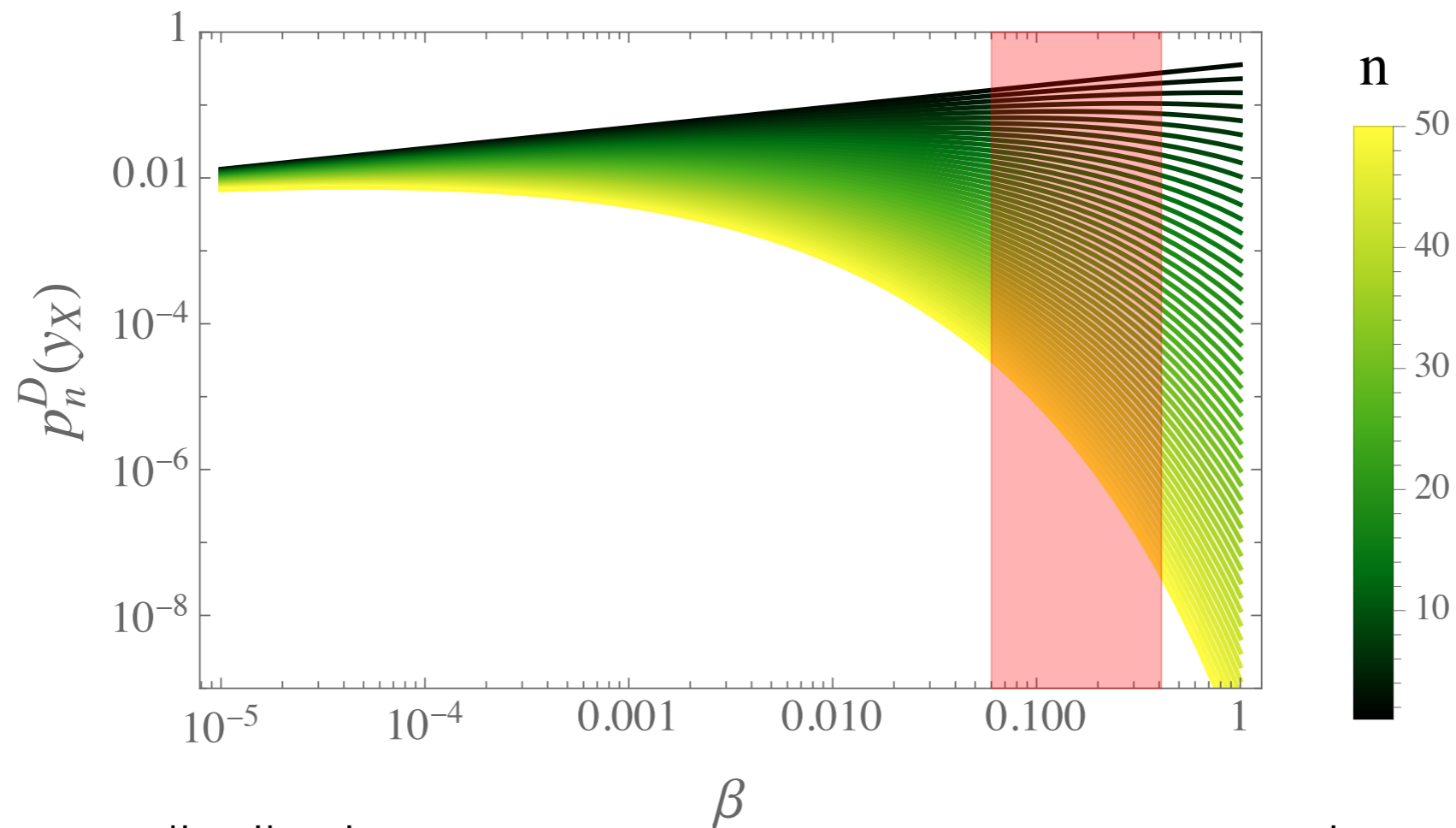
$$P_{n>1}(y_X = 0) \neq 0$$

justification: Pomeron = source for several  
dipoles at  $y_X = 0$

# The probability distribution

parameters from fit to  $\langle dn/d\beta \rangle$  at  $\beta \in [10^{-5}, 10^{-4}] \rightarrow$  power like growth  $\beta^{-\Delta}$  of partons

also: rescale  $C \rightarrow C' = 2/3C$  (charged hadrons only)



homogenous distribution  
maximal entanglement entropy

pre-asymptotic region  
probed by H1 data



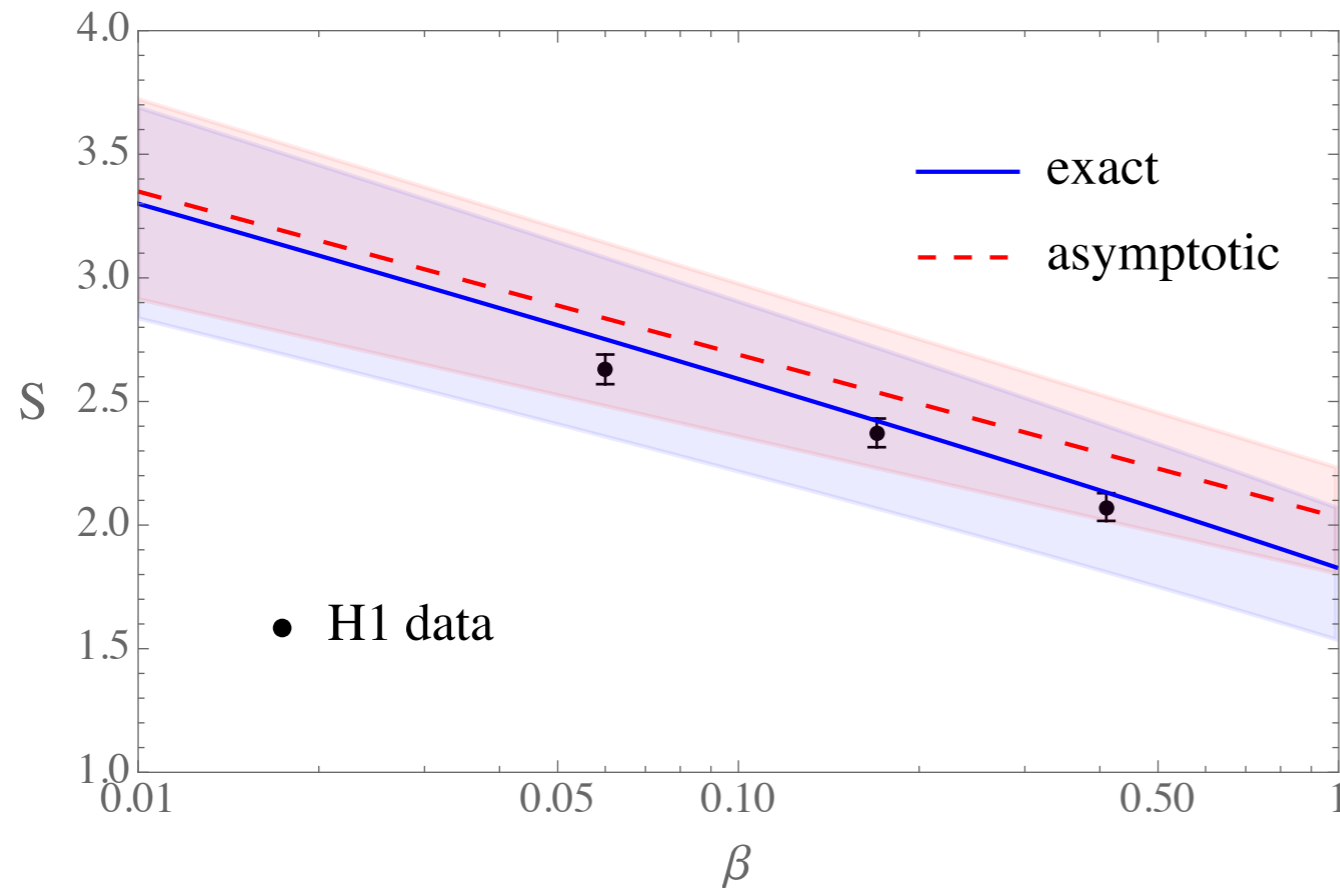
# Comparison with data

use two expressions for the comparison with data

exact: 
$$S = - \sum_n p_n \ln p_n = (1 - Z) \ln \frac{Z - 1}{z} + \ln Z$$

$$Z = C' e^{\Delta y_X}$$

asymptotic: 
$$S \simeq \ln Z + 1$$



- uncertainty = PDF uncertainty + scale uncertainty + variation in the region where parameters were fitted
- data prefer exact over asymptotic, but both are consistent with data

unpublished: a similar setup can be used for inclusive data

# Discussion

quantitative description of H1 data by diffractive entanglement entropy model a coincidence

cannot be excluded with certainty, but we don't think so

Quarks and gluons inside the proton are strongly entangled



entanglement entropy at initial stage of reaction  
reason: partial measurement of the hadronic density matrix.

allows, at least in principle, to directly relate PDFs and final-state hadron production without the use of fragmentation functions (FFs) or other fragmentation frameworks, such as the Lund string model (used in e.g. Pythia).

[Sjostrand, Mrenna, Skands; hep-ph/0603175]

# Conventional description

inclusive hadron production in hard reactions requires fragmentation functions (FF), based on factorization theorems

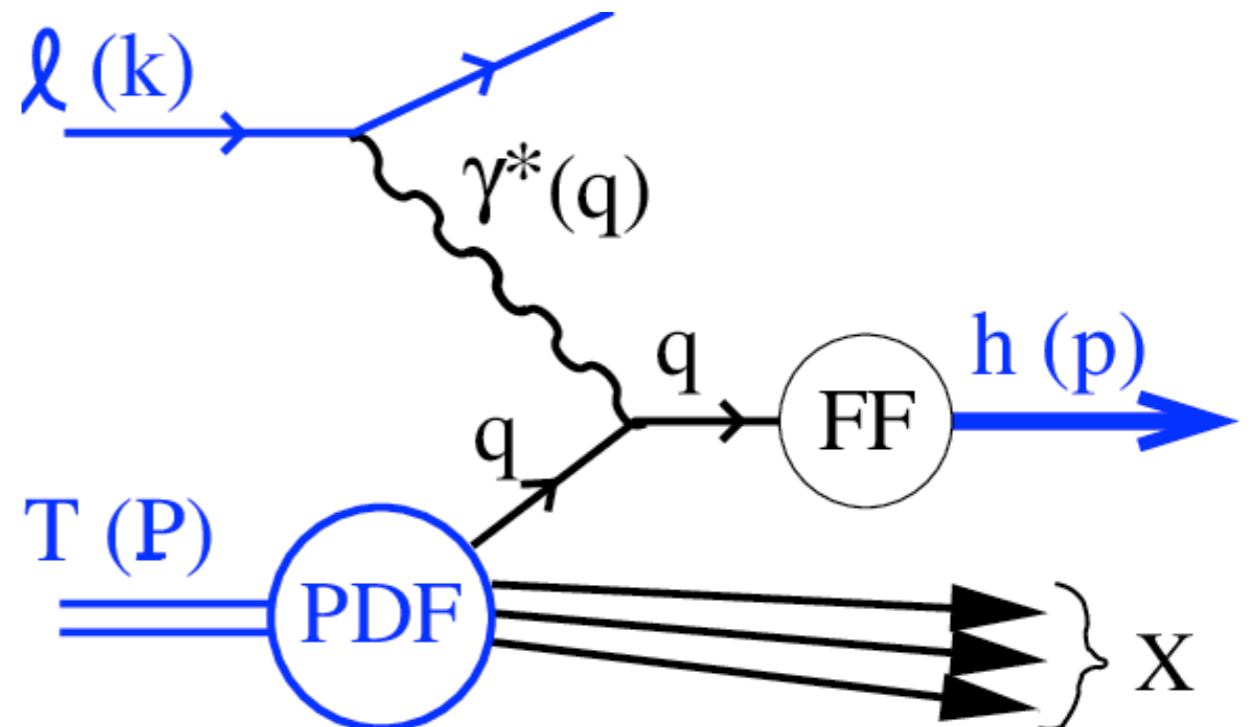
[Collins, Soper, Sterman; [hep-ph/0409313](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0409313)],  
[Bjorken, Paschos; 1969]

$$\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow hX) = \hat{\sigma} \otimes FF,$$

$$\sigma(l^\pm N \rightarrow hX) = \hat{\sigma} \otimes PDF \otimes FF,$$

$$\sigma(p_1 p_2 \rightarrow hX) = \hat{\sigma} \otimes PDF_1 \otimes PDF_2 \otimes FF.$$

FF = non-perturbative input fitted to data + DGLAP evolution

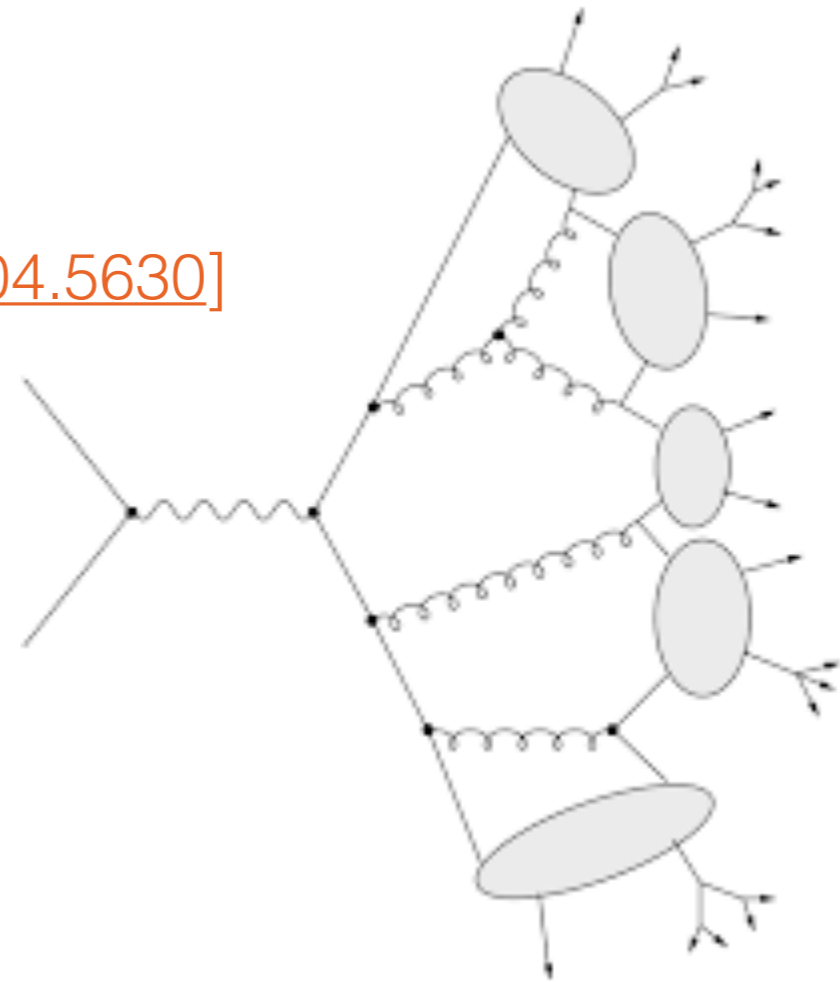


source: [hep-ph/0311279](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0311279)

# Multiple Hadron Production

- semi-classical models like the Lund string fragmentation model
- not trivial to describe charged hadron multiplicities without significant tuning

e.g. [Skands, Carazza, Rojo; [1404.5630](#)]



In both approaches, no direct relation between parton distribution function and the measured hadron multiplicity

# Entanglement entropy

conjecture that entropy of the charged hadron multiplicity is fixed at the initial stages of the collision formulated in [Kharzeev, Levin; 1702.03489]

first experimental test using LHC data and Monte Carlo data [Tu, Kharzeev, Ullrich; 1904.11974]

DIS data, without ambiguity of initial state hadron [H1 collaboration; 2011.01812]

Description of inclusive data [MH, Kutak; 2110:06156]  
[MH, Kutak, Straka; 2207.09430 ]

Now: again confirmed in diffractive reactions [MH, Kharzeev, Kutak, Tu; 2305.03069]

Coincidence cannot be excluded so far, but unlikely

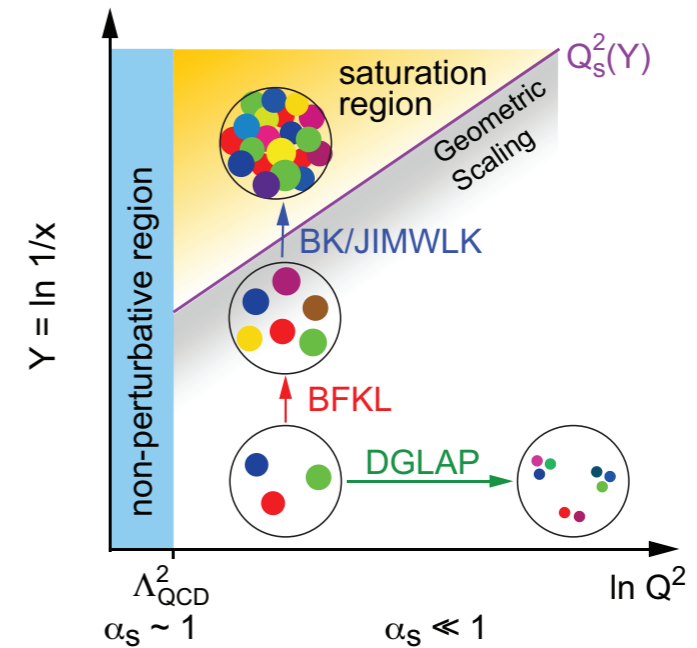
# Outlook

- low  $x$  drives us into a overoccupied and saturated system of gluons  $\leftrightarrow$  quantum bounds on entropy, Bekenstein bound etc.?
- what happens in the non-perturbative e.g. photo production limit; can one also explore this in UPCs?
- first principle, more field theoretic treatment    desirable

in general: some considerable activity in this direction  
but: it's not easy; still time of models, approximations, simplified (conformal etc.) theories

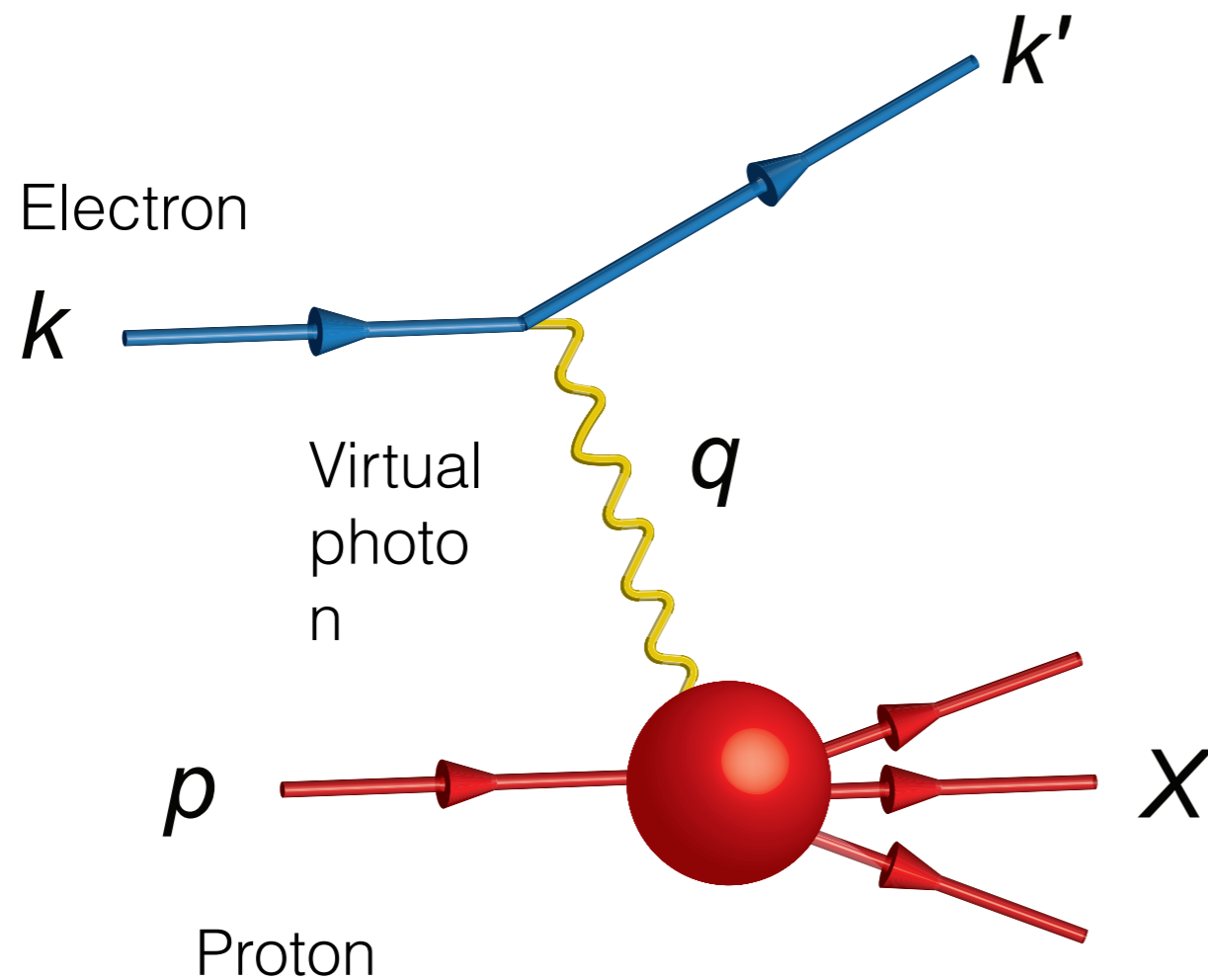
but can provide relevant input

for some attempts to understand things in the context of the BFKL Green's function see [\[Chachamis, MH, Sabio Vera; 2312.16743\]](#)



# Appendix

# Deep Inelastic electron-proton Scattering (DIS)



Photon virtuality (=resolution)

$$Q^2 = -q^2, \quad \lambda \sim \frac{1}{Q}$$

- Idea: resolve an area of size  $A \sim 1/Q^2$
- Remaining region  $B$ : unobserved sum/trace over this unobserved region
- Overall color singlet  $\rightarrow$  expect proton wave function, which entangles both regions



# Demonstrating this, is a challenge ...

- Pure state at  $Q^2 \rightarrow 0$  = observe entire proton
- But this is the region, where  $\alpha_s(Q)$  is not small  $\neq$  perturbation theory; concept of quarks and gluons as degrees of freedom at least difficult
- Unobserved region subject to non-perturbative dynamics

# Our approach: PDF from unintegrated gluon

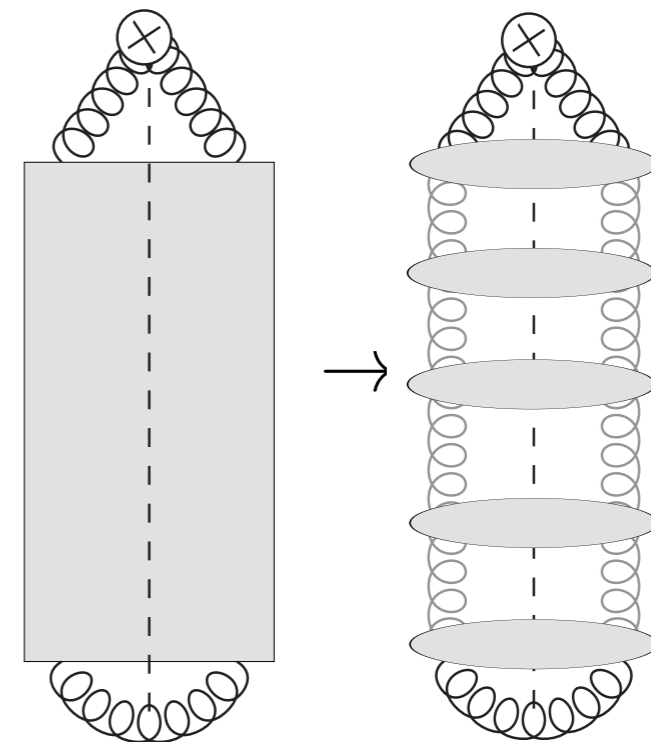
[Catani, Hautmann, NPB 427 (1994) 475]:

idea: use collinear factorization in light-cone gauge

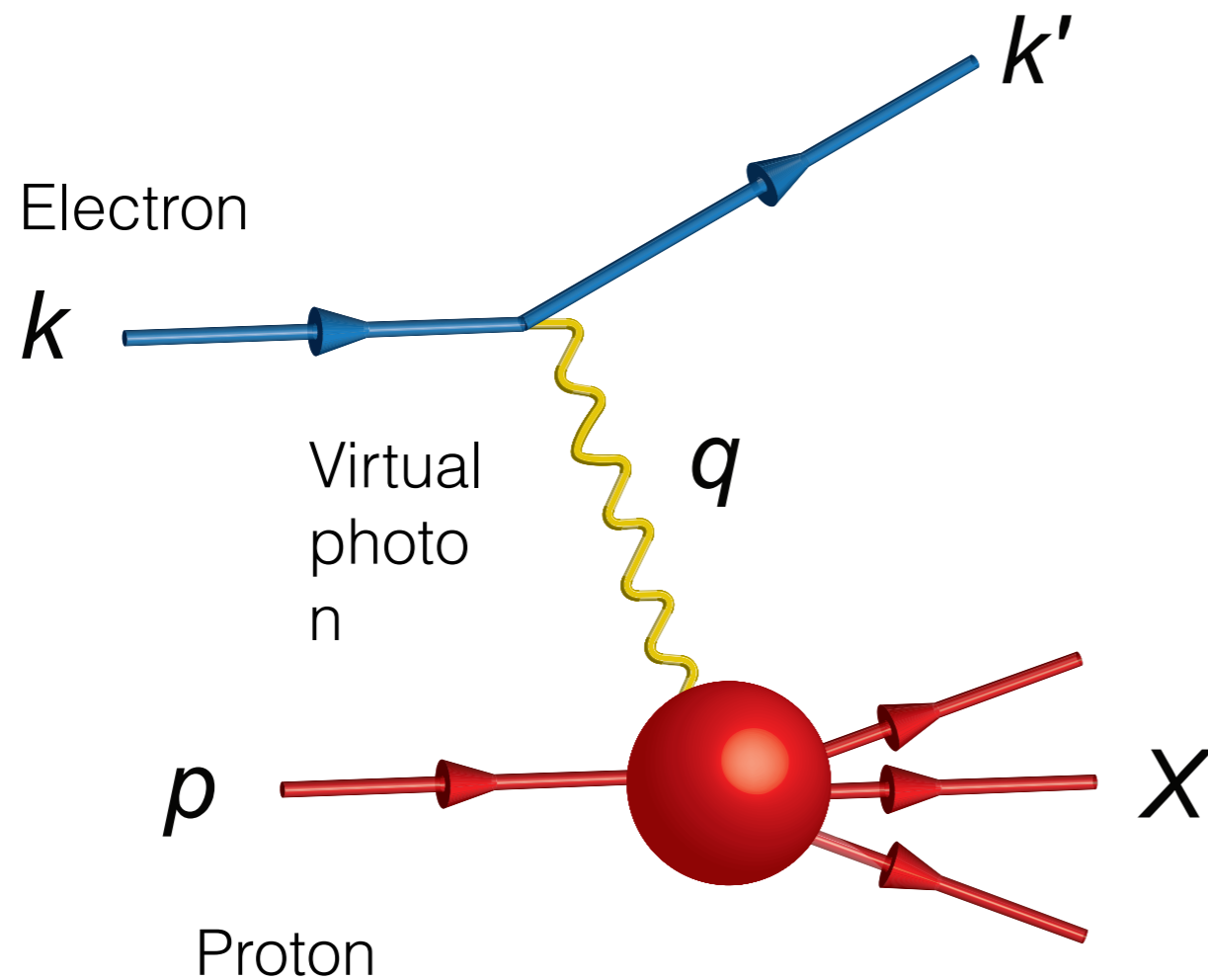
[Curci, Furmanski, Petronzio; NPB 175 (1980) 27]

→ calculate all order low  $x$  resummed DGLAP splitting functions

- Yields Transverse Momentum splitting function for gluon - quark splitting
- Splitting = collinear PDF with partonic initial state
- Can calculate PDFs from unintegrated gluon distribution, subject to  $\ln(1/x)$  evolution  
see also [Hautmann, MH, Jung; [1205.1759](#)]



# Before we proceed: different DIS evolutions



Photon virtuality (=resolution)  
 $Q^2 = -q^2, \quad \lambda \sim \frac{1}{Q}$

Bjorken  $x$   
 $x_{Bj.} = \frac{Q^2}{2p \cdot q}$

"Mass" of the system  $X$   
 $W^2 = (p + q)^2 = M_p^2 + \frac{1-x}{x} Q^2$

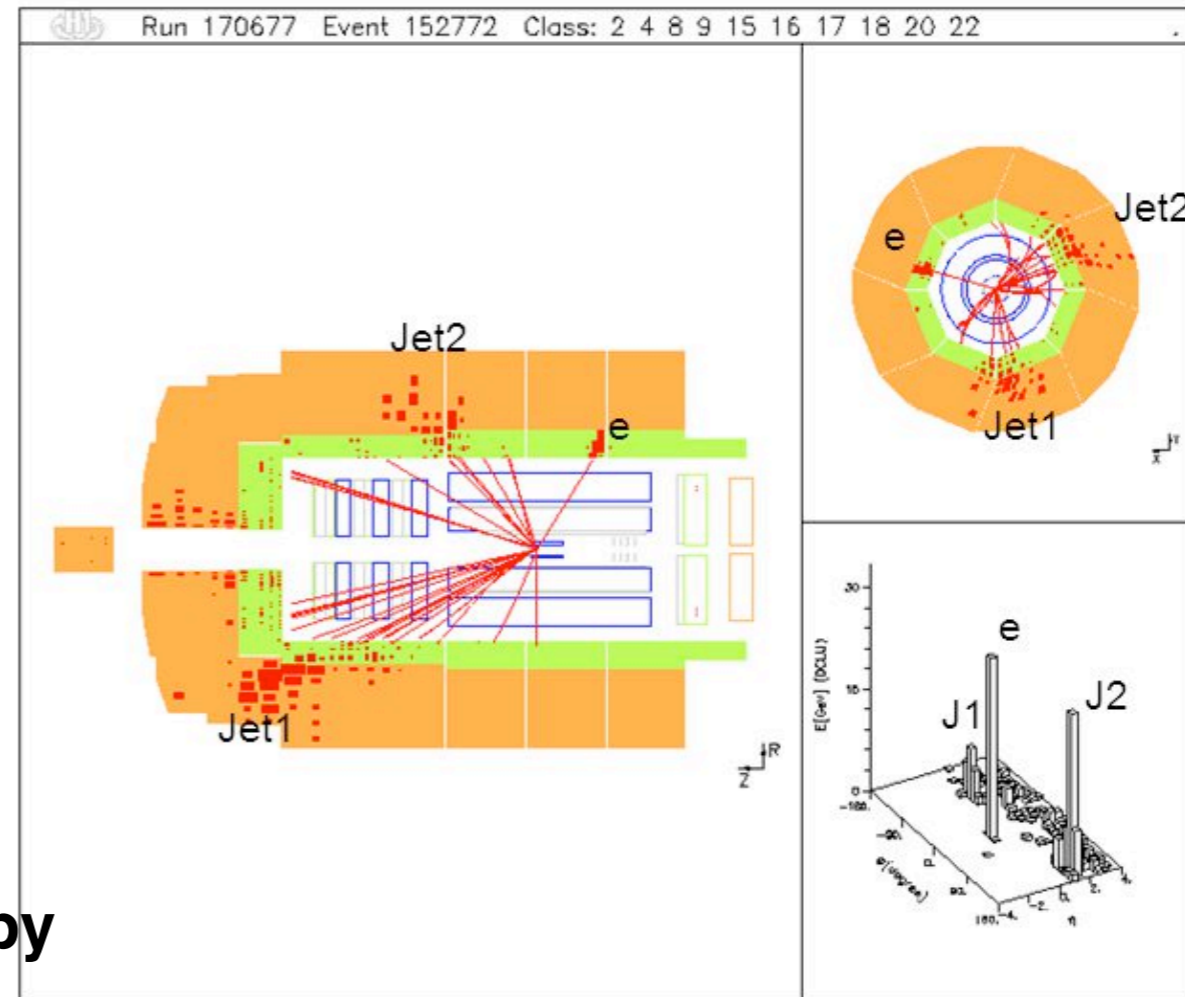
Elastic scattering: either  $Q = 0$  or  $x = 1$

# A different picture

A NC-DIS event with two jets  $ep \rightarrow e' Jet_1 Jet_2$

- Production of certain # of particles in DIS  $\rightarrow$  non-zero entropy
- Von Neumann entropy of a proton (=pure quantum state) = 0
- Obviously we're missing something ...

(Possible) answer: **entanglement entropy**



H1 Events

Joachim Meyer DESY 2005

# Entropy as expectation value of information

Expectation value of some function  
 $f(p)$

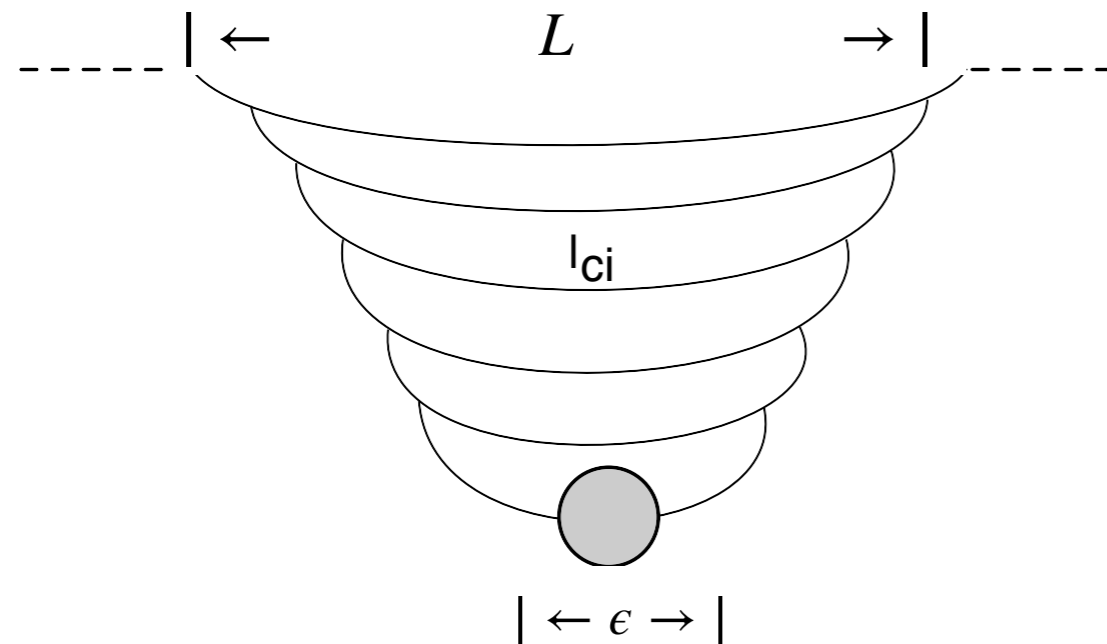
$$\langle f(p) \rangle = \sum_i p_i f(p_i)$$

For information:  $\langle h(p) \rangle = \sum_i p_i h(p_i) = - \sum_i p_i \ln p_i = S = \text{entropy}$

Why entropy?

- microcanonical ensemble:  $p_i = \frac{1}{\Omega(E)}$ ,  $\Omega(E) = \#$  of states with energy  $E$ , obtain  $S = \ln \Omega$
- Same for canonical ensemble with  $p_i = \frac{e^{-E_i/(k_B T)}}{Z}$  etc.

# The probed region



In the proton **rest frame**:

- parton (of the the photon) fluctuation over long. distance  

$$L = \frac{1}{m_p x}$$
- Proton probes partonic fluctuation with resolution  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{m} \ll L = \frac{1}{x} \epsilon$
- Proton probes only region  $\epsilon \ll L$  of the entire interaction

Figure taken from [Kharzeev, Levin; 1702.03489]