

# Nucleon spin, form factor, GPD

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# Plan

- Proton spin
- Form factors
- Generalized parton distribution

Lecture 1,2

Lecture 3

Lecture 4

# Notations

Metric  $g^{\mu\nu} = (+1, -1, -1, -1)$   $\mu, \nu = 0, 1, 2, 3$   $i, j = 1, 2$  (transverse)

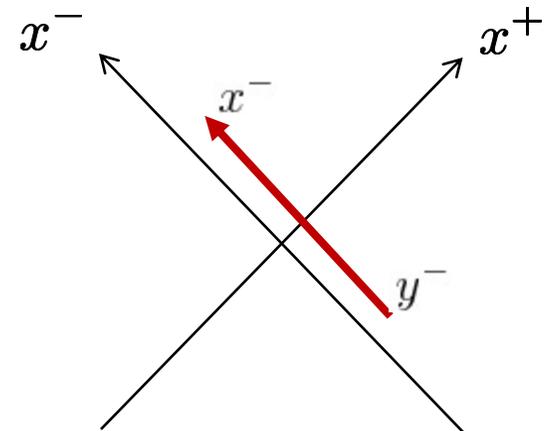
Light-cone coordinates  $P^\pm = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(P^0 \pm P^3)$   $g^{+-} = 1$   $P^+ = P_-$

$$P \cdot x = P^+ x^- + P^- x^+ - P_\perp^i x_\perp^i$$

$\gamma_5$ , antisymmetric tensor (same as in Peskin)  $\gamma^5 = i\gamma^0\gamma^1\gamma^2\gamma^3$   $\epsilon^{0123} = +1$   $\epsilon^{12} = \epsilon_{12} = +1$

Coupling constant  $D^\mu = \partial^\mu + igA^\mu$

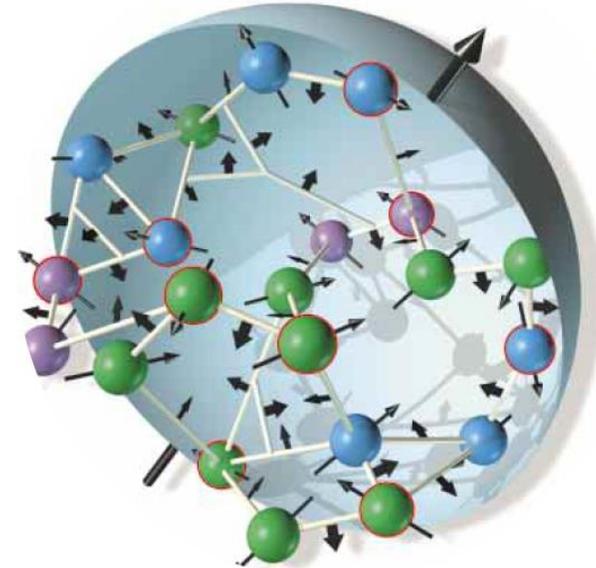
Wilson line  $W[x^-, y^-, x_\perp] = P \exp \left( -ig \int_{y^-}^{x^-} dz^- A^+(z^-, x_\perp) \right)$



# The proton spin problem

The proton has spin  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

The proton is not an elementary particle.



➔ 
$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \Delta\Sigma + \Delta G + L^q + L^g$$

Quarks' helicity      Gluons' helicity      Orbital angular Momentum (OAM)

# QCD angular momentum tensor

QCD Lagrangian  $\rightarrow$  Lorentz invariant  $x^\mu \rightarrow x^\mu + \omega^{\mu\nu} x_\nu$

$\rightarrow$  Noether current  $\partial_\mu M_{can}^{\mu\nu\lambda} = 0$

## QCD angular momentum tensor

$$M_{can}^{\mu\nu\lambda} = x^\nu T_{can}^{\mu\lambda} - x^\lambda T_{can}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\rho} \bar{\psi} \gamma_\rho \gamma_5 \psi + F^{\mu\lambda} A^\nu - F^{\mu\nu} A^\lambda$$

quark helicity
gluon helicity

$\uparrow$   
**canonical** energy momentum tensor

$$T_{can}^{\mu\nu} = \bar{\psi} i \gamma^\mu \overleftrightarrow{\partial}^\nu \psi - F^{\mu\alpha} \partial^\nu A^\alpha - g^{\mu\nu} \mathcal{L}$$

$\rightarrow$  Quark OAM

$\rightarrow$  Gluon OAM

**Exercise:** Derive the canonical angular momentum tensor  $M_{can}^{\mu\nu\lambda}$

Hint: Under an infinitesimal Lorentz transformation

$$\delta\psi = -\omega^{\mu\nu} \left( \frac{1}{2}(x_\nu\partial_\mu - x_\mu\partial_\nu)\psi - \frac{1}{8}[\gamma_\mu, \gamma_\nu]\psi \right)$$

$$\delta A^\alpha = -w^{\mu\nu} \left( x_\nu\partial_\mu A^\alpha - \frac{1}{2}(\delta_\mu^\alpha g_{\nu\beta} - g_{\mu\beta}\delta_\nu^\alpha)A^\beta \right)$$

$$\delta\mathcal{L} = -w^{\mu\nu} x_\nu\partial_\mu\mathcal{L}$$

Problems

$T_{can}^{\mu\nu}$  is not symmetric, not gauge invariant

$T_{can}^{\mu\nu}$  is conserved wrt the first index  $\partial_\mu T_{can}^{\mu\nu} = 0$  but not the second  $\partial_\nu T_{can}^{\mu\nu} \neq 0$

# Jaffe-Manohar decomposition

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \Delta\Sigma + \Delta G + L_{can}^q + L_{can}^g$$

$\mu\nu\lambda = +12$  component of the **canonical** angular momentum tensor  $M_{can}^{\mu\nu\lambda}$

Operators **NOT** gauge invariant except the quark helicity  $\Delta\Sigma \sim \bar{\psi}\gamma^+\gamma_5\psi$

$$\Delta G \sim \epsilon^{ij} F^{+i} A^j \quad L_{can}^q \sim \bar{\psi}x \times i\partial\psi \quad L_{can}^g \sim F^{+\alpha}x \times \partial A_\alpha$$

To be understood in the light-cone gauge  $A^+ = 0$

Naïve replacement  $\partial^\mu \rightarrow D^\mu$  does not make this gauge invariant.

Quark helicity: definition  $2\Delta\Sigma S^\mu = \sum_f \langle PS | \bar{\psi}_f \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \psi_f | PS \rangle$  ← proton single-particle state,

spin 4-vector  $2S^\mu = \bar{u}(PS) \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 u(PS)$  ← proton Dirac spinor

Exercise: Show that

$$1 \quad P^\mu S_\mu = 0$$

$$2 \quad S^\mu = \left( \vec{p} \cdot \vec{s}, m\vec{s} + \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{s}}{p^0 + m} \vec{p} \right)$$

$$3 \quad S^2 = -M^2$$

$$4 \quad u(PS) \bar{u}(PS) = \frac{\not{P} + M}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{\gamma_5 \not{S}}{M} \right)$$

$$u(p) = \frac{\not{p} + m}{\sqrt{2(p^0 + m)}} \begin{pmatrix} \chi \\ \chi \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{p \cdot \sigma} \chi \\ \sqrt{p \cdot \bar{\sigma}} \chi \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{s} = \chi^\dagger \vec{\sigma} \chi \text{ and } |\vec{s}| = 1$$

Hint: use the Fierz identity and

$$2(p^\mu s^\nu - p^\nu s^\mu) = -im \bar{u}(ps) \sigma^{\mu\nu} \gamma_5 u(ps)$$

In the quark model,

$$\left| P, +\frac{1}{2} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{3\sqrt{2}} \left\{ |uud\rangle (2|++-\rangle - |+ - +\rangle - |- ++\rangle) + \dots \right\}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \Delta\Sigma = 1$$

With relativistic effects,

$j = \frac{1}{2}$  solution of the Dirac equation in a spherical potential

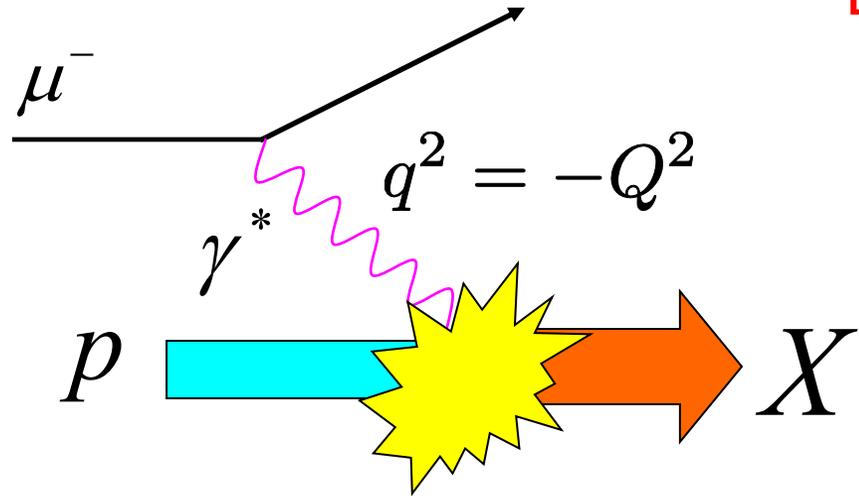
$$\psi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \begin{pmatrix} f(r)\chi \\ -ig(r)\hat{r} \cdot \vec{\sigma}\chi \end{pmatrix}$$

← Upper component  $l = 0$   
← Lower component  $l = 1$

$$\Delta\Sigma = \int d^3r \psi^\dagger 2\Sigma^z \psi = 1 - \frac{4}{3} \int dr r^2 g(r) \approx 0.7 \quad \text{The rest } \sim 30\% \text{ is quark OAM}$$

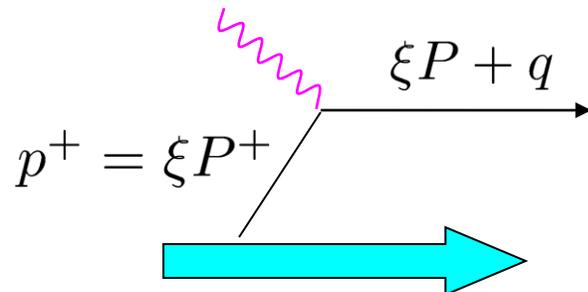
# Deep inelastic scattering

Bjorken variable



$$\begin{aligned}
 x &= \frac{Q^2}{2P \cdot q} = \frac{Q^2}{(P + q)^2 + Q^2 - m_p^2} \\
 &= \frac{Q^2}{Q^2 + m_X^2 - m_p^2} \\
 &\sim \frac{Q^2}{s} \quad (x \ll 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Physical meaning of  $x$  : momentum fraction carried by the struck parton



$$(\xi P + q)^2 = \xi^2 m_p^2 + 2\xi P \cdot q - Q^2 = 0$$

$$\xi \approx \frac{Q^2}{2Pq} = x$$

# DIS structure functions

Unpolarized

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Im} \frac{i}{2\pi} \int d^4 y e^{iqy} \langle PS | T \{ J^\mu(y) J^\nu(0) \} | PS \rangle \Big|_{sym} \\ &= \left( -\eta^{\mu\nu} + \frac{q^\mu q^\nu}{q^2} \right) F_1(x, Q^2) + \left( P^\mu - \frac{P \cdot q}{q^2} q^\mu \right) \left( P^\nu - \frac{P \cdot q}{q^2} q^\nu \right) \frac{F_2(x, Q^2)}{P \cdot q} \end{aligned}$$

Polarized

$$\text{Im} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^4 y e^{iqy} \langle PS | T \{ J^\mu(y) J^\nu(0) \} | PS \rangle \Big|_{asym} = -\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \frac{q_\alpha}{P \cdot q} \left[ S_\beta g_1 + \left( S_\beta - \frac{S \cdot q}{P \cdot q} P_\beta \right) g_2 \right]$$

Longitudinal polarization  $\rightarrow$   $g_1(x)$   $S^\mu \approx \delta_+^\mu S^+$

Transverse polarization  $\rightarrow$   $g_1(x) + g_2(x) = g_T(x)$   $S^\mu = \delta_i^\mu S_\perp^i$

# Exercise

Forward Compton amplitude

$$T^{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2\pi} \int d^4x e^{iq \cdot x} \langle PS | T \{ J^\mu(x) J^\nu(0) \} | PS \rangle = T_S^{\mu\nu} + iT_A^{\mu\nu}$$

Not to be confused with  
real/imaginary decomposition

Hadronic tensor

$$W^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^4x e^{iq \cdot x} \langle PS | [J^\mu(x), J^\nu(0)] | PS \rangle = W_S^{\mu\nu} + iW_A^{\mu\nu}$$

↑            ↑  
symmetric    antisymmetric  
↓            ↓

Show that

$$2\text{Im}T_S^{\mu\nu} = W_S^{\mu\nu}$$

$$2\text{Im}T_A^{\mu\nu} = W_A^{\mu\nu}$$

# Light-cone dominance

Want to study the correlator  $\int d^4y e^{iqy} \langle P | T \{ J^\mu(y) J^\nu(0) | P \rangle$

in the **Bjorken limit**  $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $P \cdot q \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $x = \frac{Q^2}{2P \cdot q} = \text{const.}$

Naively the integral is dominated by  $|y^\mu| \sim \frac{1}{|q^\mu|} \rightarrow 0$  ?

Proton rest frame (photon in the minus direction)  $x = \frac{(q^3 - q^0)(q^3 + q^0)}{2m_p q^0} \simeq \frac{q^3 + q^0}{m_p}$

$$y^+ \sim \frac{1}{q^-} \sim \frac{m_p x}{Q^2} \rightarrow 0, \quad y^- \sim \frac{1}{q^+} \sim \frac{1}{m_p x} \quad y^2 \sim \frac{1}{Q^2} \rightarrow 0$$

**finite !**

# Operator product expansion

$$\int d^4y e^{iqy} \underbrace{\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi(y) \bar{\psi} \gamma^\nu \psi(0)} = \bar{\psi} i(i\partial_\alpha + q_\alpha) \gamma^\mu \gamma^\alpha \gamma^\nu \frac{-1}{Q^2} \sum_n \left( \frac{2iq \cdot \partial}{Q^2} \right)^n \psi(0) + \dots$$

+ ( $\mu \rightarrow \nu, q \rightarrow -q$ ) c.f., Peskin (18.125)

Pick up the antisymmetric part

$$\gamma^\mu \gamma^\alpha \gamma^\nu = g^{\mu\alpha} \gamma^\nu - g^{\mu\nu} \gamma^\alpha + g^{\alpha\nu} \gamma^\mu + i\epsilon^{\mu\alpha\nu\rho} \gamma_\rho \gamma_5$$

$$\int d^4y e^{iqy} \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi(y) \bar{\psi} \gamma^\nu \psi(0) = 2\epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\alpha} q_\alpha \sum_n^{\text{even}} \frac{2q_{\mu_1} \cdots 2q_{\mu_n}}{Q^{2(n+1)}} \bar{\psi} \gamma_\lambda \gamma_5 i\partial^{\mu_1} \cdots i\partial^{\mu_n} \psi(0)$$

When  $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty$ , naively, the most important operators are those with smallest dimensions (smallest  $n$ )

# Twist expansion

However, in the proton matrix element,  $i\partial^\mu \rightarrow P^\mu$ , and  $\frac{2P \cdot q}{Q^2} = \frac{1}{x}$  is not small in the **Bjorken limit**  $Q^2 \rightarrow \infty, x = \text{const.}$

The most important operators are those with lowest **twist**

$$(\text{twist}) = (\text{dimension}) - (\text{spin})$$



In practice, the number of **plus** Lorentz indices

$$\bar{\psi}\gamma^+\psi \quad \text{twist-2} \quad \bar{\psi}\gamma_\perp\psi \quad \text{twist-3}$$

Twist-2 polarized quark operators

(symmetrized in all Lorentz indices and trace subtracted)

$$\bar{\psi}\gamma_5\gamma^{(\lambda}iD^{\mu_1}iD^{\mu_2}\dots iD^{\mu_n)}\psi - (\text{traces})$$

Totally symmetric in all indices  $\rightarrow$  twist-2

$$\langle PS | \frac{1}{n+1} \bar{\psi} \left( \gamma_\lambda \gamma_5 i \partial_{(\mu_1} \cdots i \partial_{\mu_n)} + \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_{\mu_i} \gamma_5 i \partial_{(\mu_1} \cdots i \partial_\lambda \cdots i \partial_{\mu_n)} \right) \psi | PS \rangle \frac{2q^{\mu_1} \cdots 2q^{\mu_n}}{Q^{2n}}$$

$$\equiv \frac{a_n}{n+1} \left( S_\lambda P_{\mu_1} \cdots P_{\mu_n} + \sum_{i=1}^n S_{\mu_i} P_{\mu_1} \cdots P_\lambda \cdots P_{\mu_n} \right) \frac{2q^{\mu_1} \cdots 2q^{\mu_n}}{Q^{2n}}$$

$$= \frac{a_n}{n+1} \frac{1}{x^n} \left( S_\lambda + n \frac{S \cdot q}{P \cdot q} P_\lambda \right)$$

$$= \frac{a_n}{x^n} S_\lambda - \frac{na_n}{n+1} \frac{1}{x^n} \left( S_\lambda - \frac{S \cdot q}{P \cdot q} P_\lambda \right)$$



feed into  $g_1(x)$



feed into  $g_2(x)$

Only even- $n$  terms contribute after adding  
 $\mu \rightarrow \nu, q \rightarrow -q$

Anti-symmetric in  $\lambda$  and  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots \rightarrow$  One twist higher (twist-3)

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle PS | \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{\psi} \left( \gamma_\lambda \gamma_5 i \partial_{(\mu_1} \cdots i \partial_{\mu_n)} - \gamma_{\mu_i} \gamma_5 i \partial_{(\mu_1} \cdots i \partial_\lambda \cdots i \partial_{\mu_n)} \right) \psi | PS \rangle \frac{2q^{\mu_1} \cdots 2q^{\mu_n}}{Q^{2n}} \\ & \equiv \frac{d_n}{n+1} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( S_\lambda P_{\mu_1} \cdots P_{\mu_n} - S_{\mu_i} P_{\mu_1} \cdots P_\lambda \cdots P_{\mu_n} \right) \frac{2q^{\mu_1} \cdots 2q^{\mu_n}}{Q^{2n}} \\ & = \frac{nd_n}{n+1} \frac{1}{x^n} \left( S_\lambda - \frac{S \cdot q}{P \cdot q} P_\lambda \right) \end{aligned}$$

↓  
feed into  $g_2(x)$

$$g_1(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \text{Im} \sum_n^{\text{even}} \frac{a_n}{x^{n+1}}, \quad g_2(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \text{Im} \sum_n^{\text{even}} \frac{n(d_n - a_n)}{n+1} \frac{1}{x^{n+1}}$$

# $g_1$ structure function

$$g_1(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \text{Im} \sum_{n=0}^{\text{even}} \frac{a_n}{x^{n+1}} = \frac{1}{2\pi S^+} \text{Im} \sum_{n=0}^{\text{even}} \frac{1}{(P^+)^n x^{n+1}} \langle PS | \bar{\psi} \gamma_5 \gamma^+ (iD^+)^n \psi | PS \rangle + \dots$$

Convergent only when  $|x| > 1$  !

All terms are real!

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi S^+} \text{Im} \sum_{n=0}^{\text{even}} \frac{1}{x^{n+1}} \int \frac{dk^+}{2\pi} \left( \frac{k^+}{P^+} \right)^n \int dx^- e^{ik^+ x^-} \langle PS | \bar{\psi}(0) \gamma^+ \gamma_5 W[0, x^-] \psi(x^-) | PS \rangle$$

Wilson line

Exercise: show this

$$= \frac{P^+}{4\pi S^+} \text{Im} \int \frac{dk^+}{2\pi} \left( \frac{1}{xP^+ + k^+} + \frac{1}{xP^+ - k^+} \right) \int dx^- e^{ik^+ x^-} \langle PS | \bar{\psi}(0) \gamma^+ \gamma_5 W[0, x^-] \psi(x^-) | PS \rangle$$



Analytic continuation from

$|x| > 1$  to  $1 > x > 0$

$\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x} - i\epsilon$

(cf.  $s \rightarrow s + i\epsilon$  )

$$= \frac{P^+}{8\pi S^+} \int dx^- e^{ixP^+x^-} \langle PS | \bar{\psi}(0) \gamma^+ \gamma_5 W[0, x^-] \psi(x^-) | PS \rangle + (x \rightarrow -x)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\Delta q(x) + \Delta \bar{q}(x))$$

**Polarized quark and antiquark distributions**

Note the sign difference

$$q(-x) = -\bar{q}(x)$$

unpolarized quark PDF

$$\Delta q(-x) = \Delta \bar{q}(x)$$

polarized quark PDF

**Exercise:** Show that for  $n$  even,  $\int_0^1 dx x^n g_1(x) = \frac{a_n}{4}$

# $g_2(x)$ structure function

Similarly,

$$g_2(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \text{Im} \sum_n \frac{n(d_n - a_n)}{n+1} \frac{1}{x^{n+1}} \quad \int_0^1 dx x^n g_2(x) = \frac{n(d_n - a_n)}{4(n+1)}$$

**Exercise:** Invert these relations and get

$$g_2(x) = \underbrace{-g_1(x) + \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} g_1(z)}_{\text{Wandzura-Wilczek part}} + \underbrace{\bar{g}_2(x)}_{\text{'genuine twist-3' part}}$$

Wandzura, Wilczek (1977)

Wandzura-Wilczek part  
related to twist-2 PDF

'genuine twist-3' part  
 $q\bar{q}g$  correlation functions

$$\int_0^1 dx x^2 \bar{g}_2(x) = \frac{d_2}{6}$$

$$\langle PS | \bar{\psi} \gamma^+ g F^{+i} \psi | PS \rangle = 2d_2 (P^+)^2 \epsilon^{ij} S_j$$

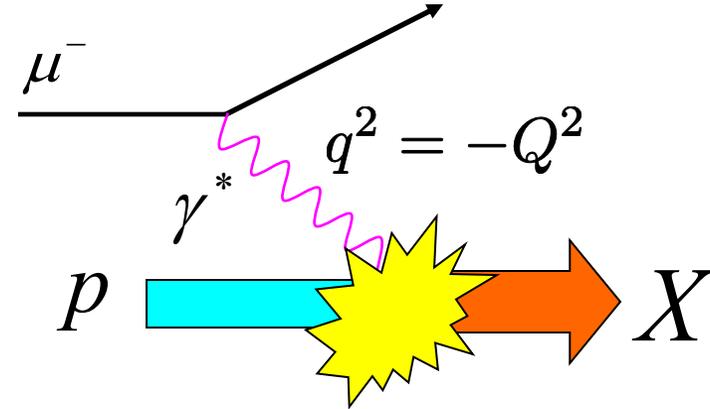
Shuryak, Vainshtein (1982)

# $\Delta\Sigma$ from polarized DIS

Longitudinal double spin asymmetry in polarized DIS

$$A_{LL} = \frac{\mu^\uparrow p^\downarrow - \mu^\uparrow p^\uparrow}{\mu^\uparrow p^\uparrow + \mu^\uparrow p^\downarrow}$$

$$\sim \left(1 + \frac{\sigma_L}{\sigma_T}\right) \frac{2xg_1}{F_2}$$



$$\int_0^1 dx g_1(x, Q^2) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_f e_f^2 \int_0^1 dx (\Delta q_f(x, Q^2) + \Delta \bar{q}_f(x, Q^2)) + \dots$$

Flavor SU(3) decomposition

$$\sum_f e_f^2 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{4}{9} & & \\ & \frac{1}{9} & \\ & & \frac{1}{9} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{2}{9} + \frac{1}{6} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & -1 & \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{18} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\int_0^1 dx g_1(x) = \frac{1}{9} \overbrace{(\Delta u + \Delta d + \Delta s)}^{\Delta\Sigma} + \frac{1}{12}(\Delta u - \Delta d) + \frac{1}{36}(\Delta u + \Delta d - 2\Delta s) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$$

nucleon isovector axial charge

$$\langle p | \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 t^3 q | p \rangle \sim g_A^{(3)}$$

→ from neutron beta decay

$$n(udd) \rightarrow p(uud) + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$$

$$\langle p | \bar{u} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 d | n \rangle \sim g_A^{(3)}$$

octet axial charge  $\langle p | \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 t^8 q | p \rangle \sim g_A^{(8)}$

→ from hyperon semileptonic decay

$$\Xi^-(dss) \rightarrow \Lambda(uds) + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$$

$$\langle \Lambda | \bar{u} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 s | \Xi^- \rangle \sim 3F - D = g_A^{(8)}$$

# Axial vector current baryon form factors

$$\langle B_b | A_a^\mu | B_c \rangle = \bar{u}_b(p') \left( (F(q^2) T_{bc}^a + D(q^2) D_{bc}^a) \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 + \dots \right) u_c(p)$$

$$A_a^\mu = \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 t_a q$$

$$T_{bc}^a = -i f_{abc}, D_{bc}^a = d_{abc}$$

$$B^a t^a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\Sigma^0}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{\Lambda}{\sqrt{6}} & & & & p \\ & \Sigma^- & & & n \\ & & -\frac{\Sigma^0}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{\Lambda}{\sqrt{6}} & & \\ & & & \Xi^0 & \\ & & & & -2\frac{\Lambda}{\sqrt{6}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\langle p | A_8^\mu | p \rangle = \left( \frac{-iF}{2} (if_{845} - if_{854}) + \frac{D}{2} (d_{844} + d_{855}) \right) \bar{u}_p \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 u_p = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} (3F - D) \bar{u}_p \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 u_p$$

$$\langle \Lambda | A_4^\mu + iA_5^\mu | \Xi^- \rangle = \left( \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} F + \frac{D}{\sqrt{2}} (d_{484} + d_{585}) \right) \bar{u}_\Lambda \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 u_{\Xi^-} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (3F - D) \bar{u}_\Lambda \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 u_{\Xi^-}$$

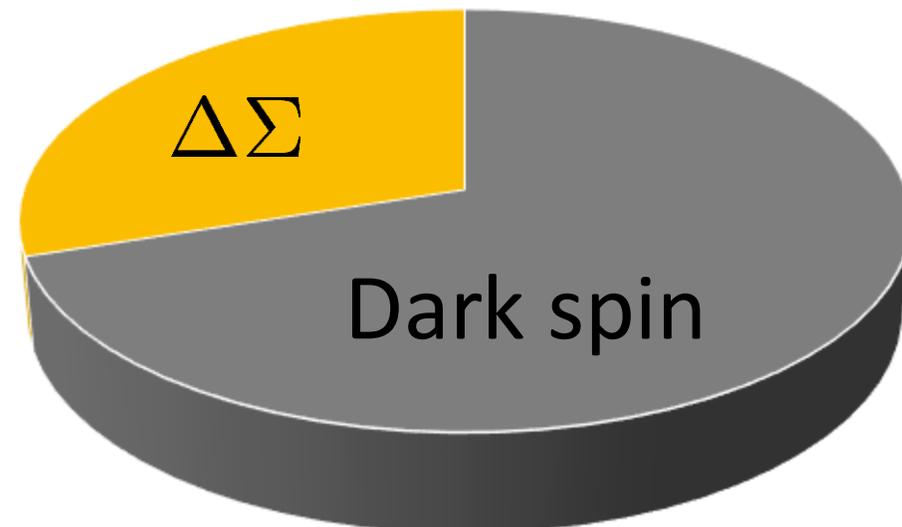
# 'Spin crisis'

In 1987, EMC (European Muon Collaboration) announced a very small value of the quark helicity contribution

$$\Delta\Sigma = 0.12 \pm 0.09 \pm 0.14 \text{ !?}$$

Recent value from NLO QCD  
global analysis

$$\Delta\Sigma = 0.25 \sim 0.3$$



# Gluon polarization $\Delta G = \int_0^1 dx \Delta G(x)$

Polarized gluon distribution

$$\Delta G(x) = \frac{i}{xS^+} \int \frac{dy^-}{2\pi} e^{ixP^+y^-} \langle PS | F^{+\alpha}(0) \tilde{F}_\alpha^+(y^-) | PS \rangle$$

$\epsilon_{R/L}^\mu = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}}(0, \pm 1, i, 0)$

$$iF^{+i} \tilde{F}_i^+ = (F^{+R})^\dagger F^{+R} - (F^{+L})^\dagger F^{+L}$$

Non-local, even after taking a moment.

$$\int_0^1 dx \Delta G(x) = -\frac{1}{2S^+} \int dy^- \theta(y^-) \langle PS | F^{+\alpha}(0) \tilde{F}_\alpha^+(y^-) | PS \rangle$$

Depends on the prescription of the pole  $1/x$ .  
 The value of  $\Delta G$  independent of the prescription.

In the light-cone gauge  $A^+ = 0$ , it reduces to the local operator in the Jaffe-Manohar decomposition.

# Polarized DGLAP evolution

$$\frac{d}{d \ln Q^2} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta \Sigma(x) \\ \Delta G(x) \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\alpha_s(Q^2)}{2\pi} \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta P_{qq}(z) & \Delta P_{qg}(z) \\ \Delta P_{gq}(z) & \Delta P_{gg}(z) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta \Sigma(x/z) \\ \Delta G(x/z) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta P_{qq}(z) = C_F \left( \frac{1+z^2}{(1-z)_+} + \frac{3}{2} \delta(1-z) \right),$$

$$\Delta P_{qg}(z) = n_f (2z - 1),$$

$$\Delta P_{gq}(z) = C_F (2 - z),$$

$$\Delta P_{gg}(z) = 6 \left( \frac{1}{(1-z)_+} - 2z + 1 \right) + \frac{\beta_0}{2} \delta(z-1)$$

Integrate over x

$$\frac{d}{d \ln Q^2} \left( \frac{1}{2} \Delta \Sigma(Q^2) + \Delta G(Q^2) \right) \neq 0 \quad \text{Helicity is not conserved!}$$

# RG evolution of $\Delta\Sigma$ and $\Delta G$

In practice, the scale dependence of  $\Delta\Sigma$  very weak  $\int_0^1 dz \Delta P_{qq}(z) = 0$

Evolution starts at 2-loop in perturbation theory

$$\frac{d}{d \ln Q^2} \Delta\Sigma = -12 C_F T_F n_f \left( \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \right)^2 \Delta\Sigma \quad \text{Kodaira (1980)}$$

On the other hand,  $\Delta G$  has a strong scale dependence

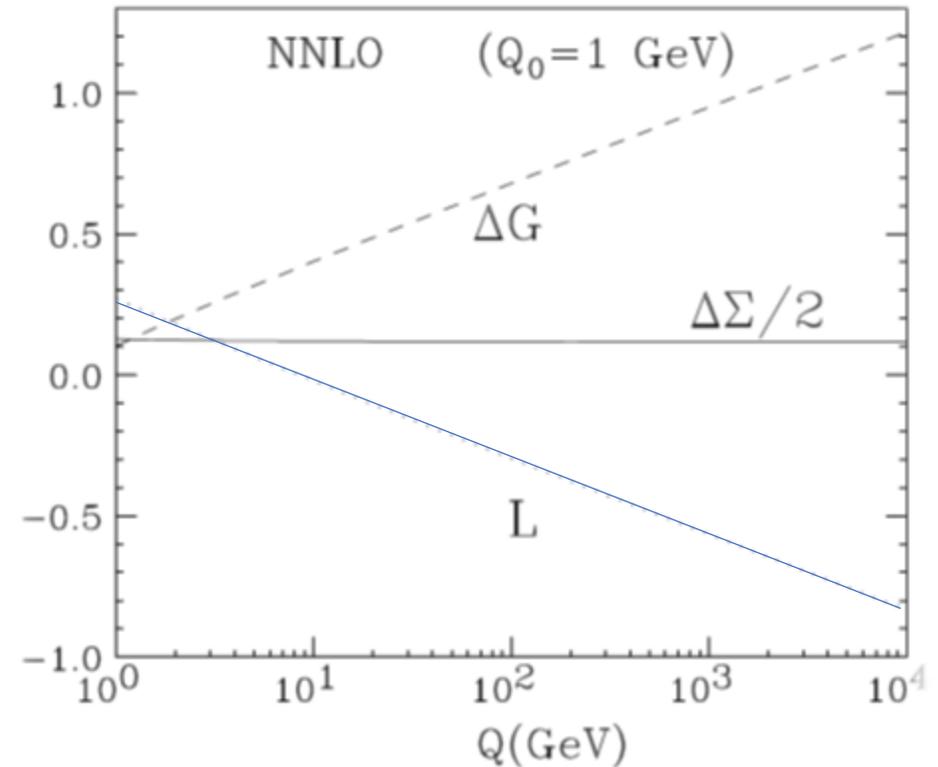
$$\frac{d}{d \ln Q^2} \Delta G(Q^2) \approx \frac{\beta_0}{2} \frac{\alpha_s(Q^2)}{2\pi} \Delta G(Q^2) \quad \frac{d\alpha_s(Q^2)}{d \ln Q^2} = -\frac{\beta_0}{4\pi} \alpha_s^2$$


 $\alpha_s(Q^2)\Delta G(Q^2) = \text{const.}$   
 (at one loop)

Accident? No!

Deep connection to QCD **chiral anomaly**

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \ln \mu^2} \left( \Delta\Sigma(\mu^2) + n_f \frac{\alpha_s(\mu^2)}{2\pi} \Delta G(\mu^2) \right) = 0.$$



Only the sum of helicity and OAM is conserved.

$$\frac{d}{d \ln Q^2} \left( \frac{1}{2} \Delta\Sigma(Q^2) + \Delta G(Q^2) + L_q(Q^2) + L_g(Q^2) \right) = 0$$

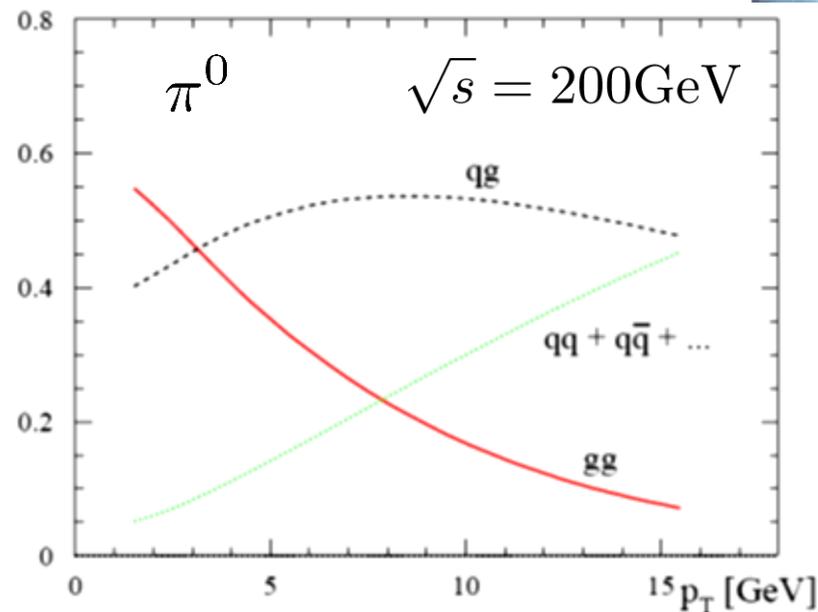
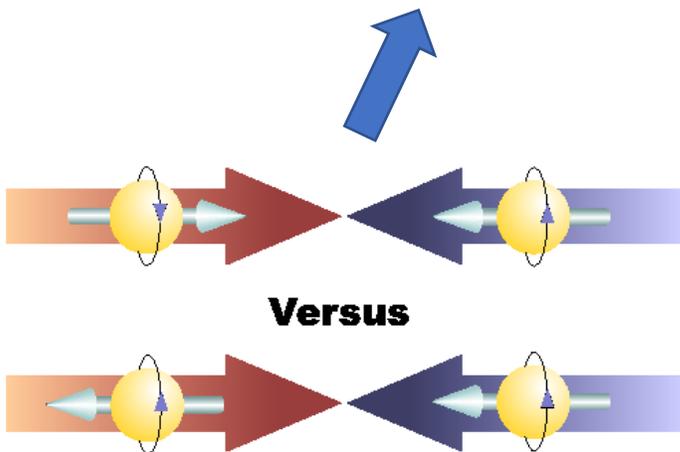
# Determination of $\Delta G$ at RHIC

Double spin asymmetry of pions and photons in polarized pp.

$$A_{LL} = \frac{d\sigma^{++} - d\sigma^{+-}}{d\sigma^{++} + d\sigma^{+-}}$$

$$\propto \sum_{a,b} \Delta f_a \otimes \Delta f_b(x) \otimes \Delta\sigma_{ab}$$

pion, **photon**



## Direct Photons Point to Positive Gluon Polarization

Results from 'golden measurement' at RHIC's PHENIX experiment show the spins of gluons align with the spin of the proton they're in

June 21, 2023



analysis of data from the PHENIX detector at the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) gives fresh insight into how gluons contribute to proton spin.

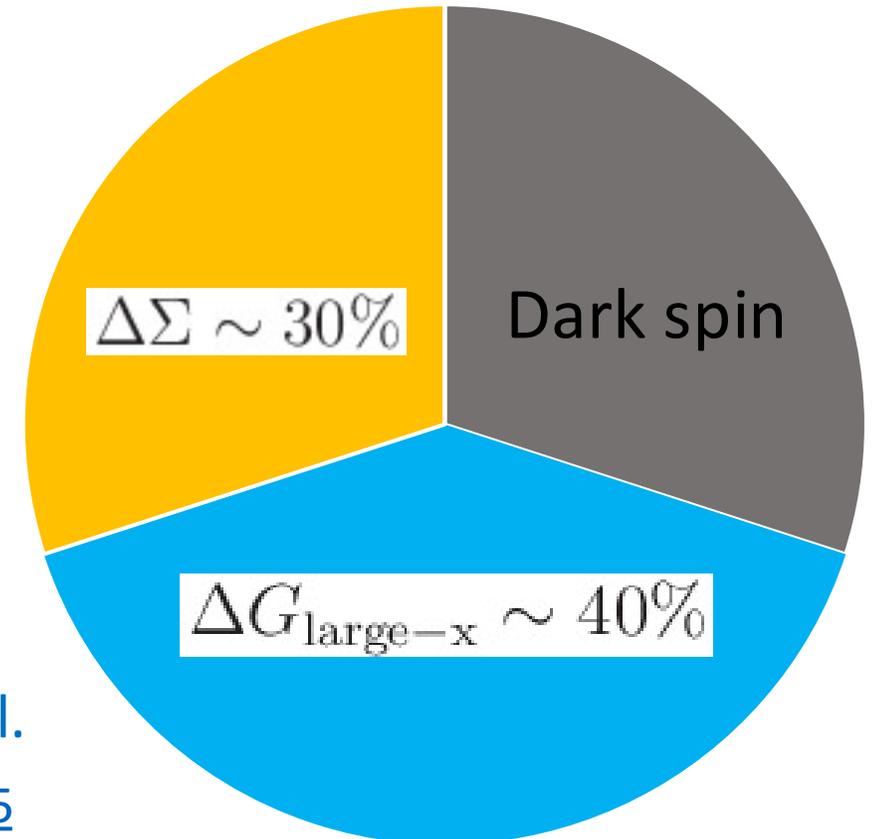
# Evidence of nonzero gluon helicity $\Delta G = \int_0^1 dx \Delta G(x)$

A major achievement of the RHIC spin program!

$$\int_{0.05}^1 dx \Delta G(x, Q^2 = 10 \text{GeV}^2) = 0.20_{-0.07}^{+0.06} \quad \text{DSSV}$$

$$\int_{0.05}^{0.2} dx \Delta G(x, Q^2 = 10 \text{GeV}^2) = 0.17 \pm 0.06 \quad \text{NNPDF}$$

$$\int_{0.05}^1 dx \Delta G(x, Q^2 = 10 \text{GeV}^2) = 0.23 \pm 0.03 \quad \text{JAM}$$



NNLO global analysis became available last year. [Borsa et al. 2407.11635](#)

Huge uncertainty from the **small-x** region --> **EIC**  
Renewed interest in the small-x resummation of helicity PDFs

# Helicity PDF at small-x

Consider  $q \rightarrow qg$  splitting



unpolarized splitting function

$$P_{gq}(x) = C_F \left( \frac{1}{x} + \frac{(1-x)^2}{x} \right)$$

$1/x$  enhancement (soft divergence)

$$G(x) \sim \frac{1}{x^{1+c}}$$

polarized splitting function

$$\Delta P_{gq}(x) = C_F \left( \frac{1}{x} - \frac{(1-x)^2}{x} \right) = C_F(2-x)$$

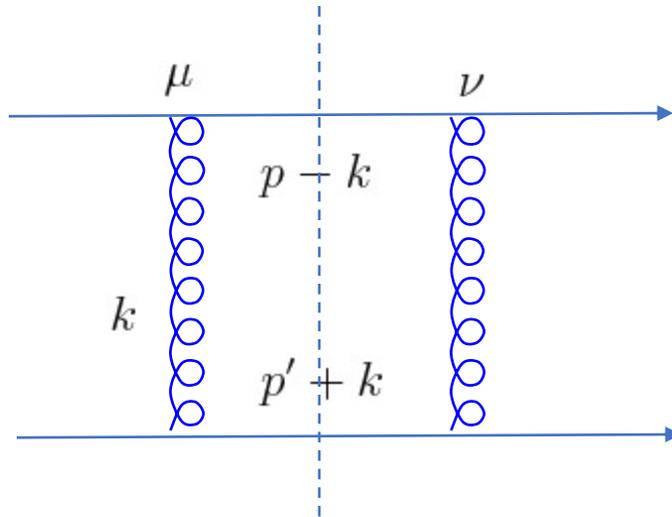
No  $1/x$  enhancement,

$$\Delta G(x) \sim \frac{1}{x^\alpha}$$

Spin effects are always suppressed by  $x \sim (\text{energy})^{-1}$

But the value of  $\alpha$  still matters!

## Unpolarized



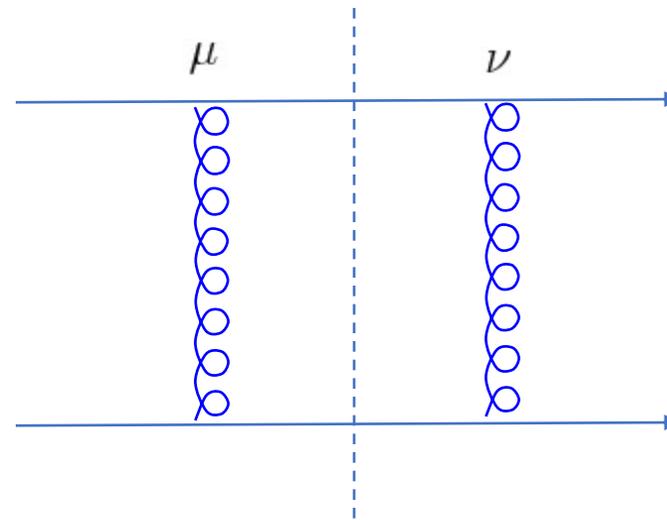
$$\text{Tr} \not{p} \gamma^\mu (\not{p} - \not{k}) \gamma^\nu \approx 8 p^\mu p^\nu$$

$$g^4 \frac{(p \cdot p')^2}{(k^2)^2} \sim \alpha_s^2 \frac{s^2}{k_\perp^4}$$

Neglect  $k$  in the numerator  
 → Eikonal approximation

Single logs (BFKL)  $(\alpha_s \ln 1/x)^n$

## Polarized



$$\text{Tr} \gamma_5 \not{S} \gamma^\mu (\not{p} - \not{k}) \gamma^\nu \approx -4i \epsilon^{-\mu i \nu} S^+ k_i$$

$$g^4 \frac{p \cdot p' k_\perp^2}{(k^2)^2} \sim \alpha_s^2 \frac{s}{k_\perp^2}$$

Either  $\mu$  or  $\nu$  is transverse (sub-eikonal)

$d^2 k_\perp$  integral logarithmic

Double logs  $(\alpha_s \ln^2 1/x)^n$

# Double logarithmic approximation

All-order resummation of small-x double logarithms  $(\alpha_s \ln^2 1/x)^n$   
for helicity distributions

Unlike BFKL, we need to include quark ladders

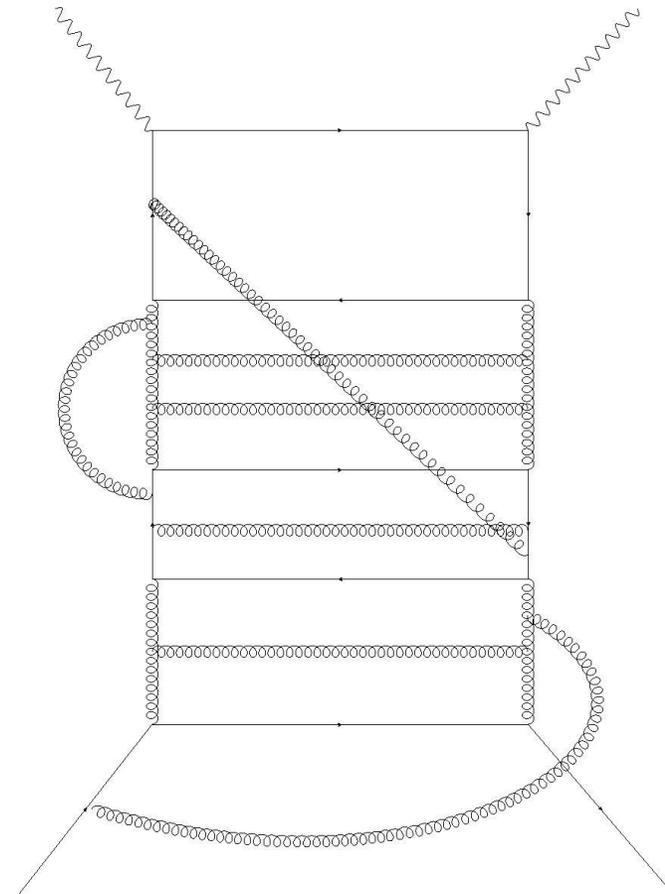
Unlike BFKL, we need to include  
non-ladder, 'Bremsstrahlung' gluons

Resummation very hard, but can be done!

Kirschner, Lipatov (1983)

Bartels, Ermolaev, Ryskin (1996)

Kovchegov, Pitonyak, Sievert (2016~)



# Regge intercept at small-x, revisited

Bartels, Ermolaev, Ryskin (1996)

$$\Delta\gamma_{GG}^{BER}(\omega) = \frac{4\bar{\alpha}_s}{\omega} + \frac{8\bar{\alpha}_s^2}{\omega^3} + \frac{56\bar{\alpha}_s^3}{\omega^5} + \frac{504\bar{\alpha}_s^4}{\omega^7} + \dots$$

Borden, Kovchegov (2023)

$$\Delta\gamma_{GG}^{us}(\omega) = \frac{4\bar{\alpha}_s}{\omega} + \frac{8\bar{\alpha}_s^2}{\omega^3} + \frac{56\bar{\alpha}_s^3}{\omega^5} + \frac{496\bar{\alpha}_s^4}{\omega^7} + \dots$$

Discrepancy at 4-loops!

$$\Delta q(x), \Delta G(x) \sim \frac{1}{x^\alpha}$$

$$\alpha_{BER} \approx 3.664 \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_s N_c}{2\pi}}$$

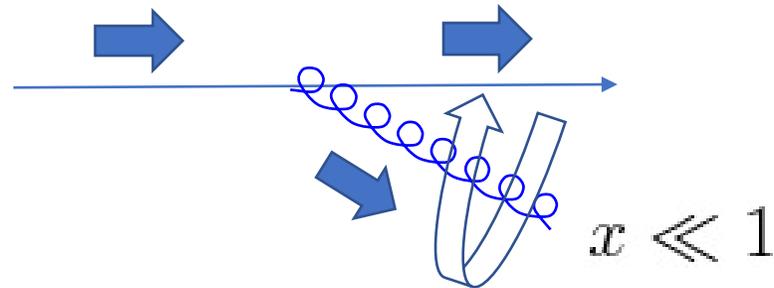
$$\alpha_{BK} \approx 3.661 \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_s N_c}{2\pi}}$$

# OAM at small-x

Suppose an energetic quark emits a very soft gluon.

Nothing happens to the quark.

Due to angular momentum conservation, gluon helicity and OAM must cancel.

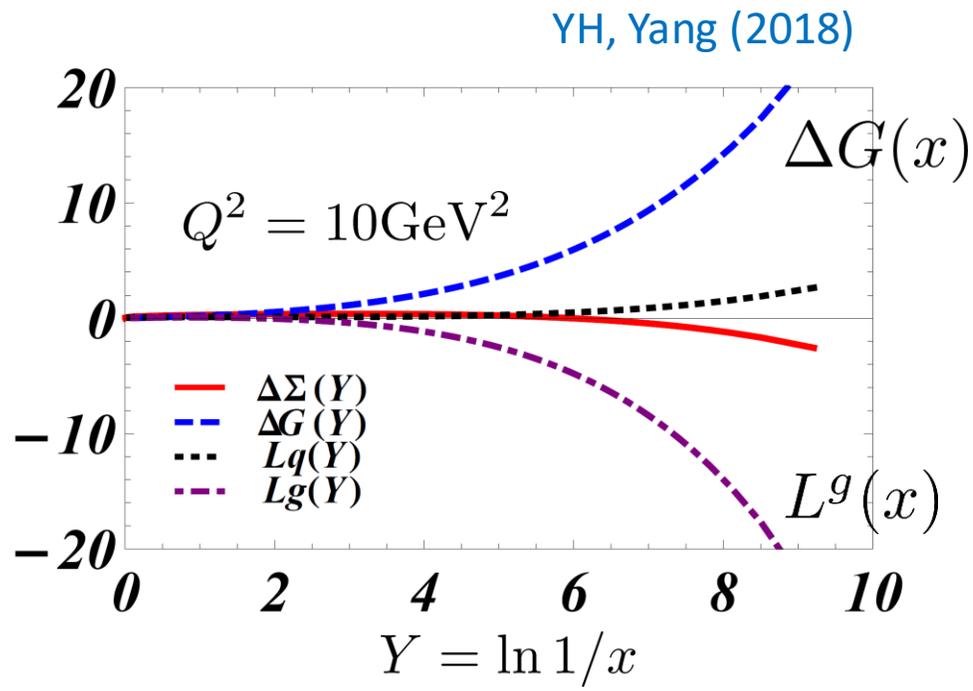


$$\frac{d}{d \ln Q^2} L_g(x) = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} (-2C_F + \dots) \Delta q(x/z)$$

$$\frac{d}{d \ln Q^2} \Delta G(x) = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} (+2C_F + \dots) \Delta q(x/z)$$

# Helicity-OAM cancellation at small-x

If  $\Delta G(x) \sim \frac{1}{x^\alpha}$ , then  $L_g(x) \approx -\frac{2}{1+\alpha} \Delta G(x)$  Boussarie, YH, Yuan (2019)



There might be a sizable contribution to  $\Delta G$  from the small-x region.

But there will be even larger  $L_g$  from the same x-region with an **opposite** sign.

Helicity is only half of the story.  
Can EIC seriously address OAM?

# Gauge invariant completion of JM decomposition

YH (2011) see also [Chen et al. 0806.3166](#)

$$\langle PS | \epsilon^{ij} F^{i+} A_{phys}^j | PS \rangle = 2S^+ \Delta G$$

$$\lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \langle P'S | \bar{\psi} \gamma^+ i \overleftrightarrow{D}_{pure}^i \psi | PS \rangle = iS^+ \epsilon^{ij} \Delta_{\perp j} L_{can}^q$$

$$\lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \langle P'S | F^{+\alpha} \overleftrightarrow{D}_{pure}^i A_{\alpha}^{phys} | PS \rangle = -i \epsilon^{ij} \Delta_{\perp j} S^+ L_{can}^g$$

where

$$A_{phys}^{\mu} = - \int_{x^-}^{\infty} dz^- W[x^-, z^-] F^{+\mu}(z^-, x_{\perp})$$

$$D_{pure}^{\mu} = D^{\mu} - ig A_{phys}^{\mu} \quad (= \partial^{\mu} \text{ in the light cone gauge})$$

# Twist structure of OAM

YH, Yoshida (2012)

$$L_{can}^q(x) = x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'} (H_q(x') + E_q(x')) - x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^2} \tilde{H}_q(x')$$

Wandzura-Wilczek part

$$-x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} dx_1 \int_{-1}^1 dx_2 \Phi_F(x_1, x_2) \mathcal{P} \frac{3x_1 - x_2}{x_1^2 (x_1 - x_2)^2}$$

genuine twist-3

$$-x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} dx_1 \int_{-1}^1 dx_2 \tilde{\Phi}_F(x_1, x_2) \mathcal{P} \frac{1}{x_1^2 (x_1 - x_2)} .$$

$$\Phi_F \sim \langle P' | \bar{\psi} \gamma^+ F^{+i} \psi | P \rangle$$

$$M_F \sim \langle P' | F^{+\mu} F^{+i} F_{\mu}^+ | P \rangle$$

$$L_{can}^g(x) = \frac{x}{2} \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^2} (H_g(x') + E_g(x')) - x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^2} \Delta G(x')$$

$$+ 2x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} \frac{dx'}{x'^3} \int dX \Phi_F(X, x') + 2x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} dx_1 \int_{-1}^1 dx_2 \tilde{M}_F(x_1, x_2) \mathcal{P} \frac{1}{x_1^3 (x_1 - x_2)}$$

$$+ 2x \int_x^{\epsilon(x)} dx_1 \int_{-1}^1 dx_2 M_F(x_1, x_2) \mathcal{P} \frac{2x_1 - x_2}{x_1^3 (x_1 - x_2)^2}$$

# Wigner distribution in quantum mechanics

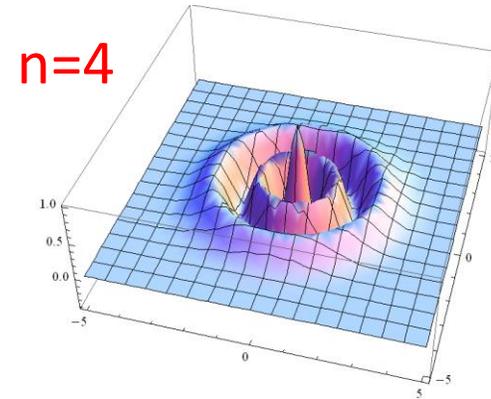
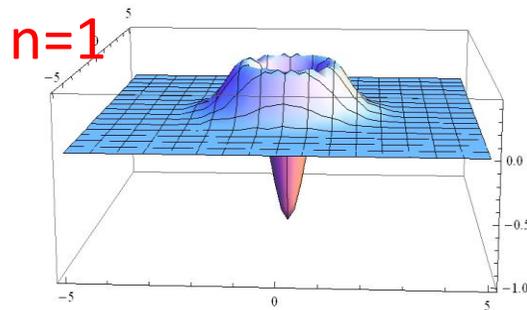
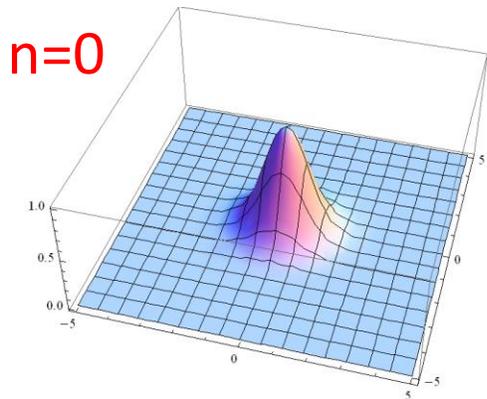
Phase space distribution in QM

$$f_W(q, p) = \int dx e^{-ipx/\hbar} \langle \psi | q - x/2 \rangle \langle q + x/2 | \psi \rangle$$

Reduces to  $q$  and  $p$  distributions upon integration

$$\int \frac{dq}{2\pi\hbar} f_W(q, p) = |\langle \psi | p \rangle|^2, \quad \int \frac{dp}{2\pi\hbar} f_W(q, p) = |\langle \psi | q \rangle|^2.$$

Not positive definite, no probabilistic interpretation

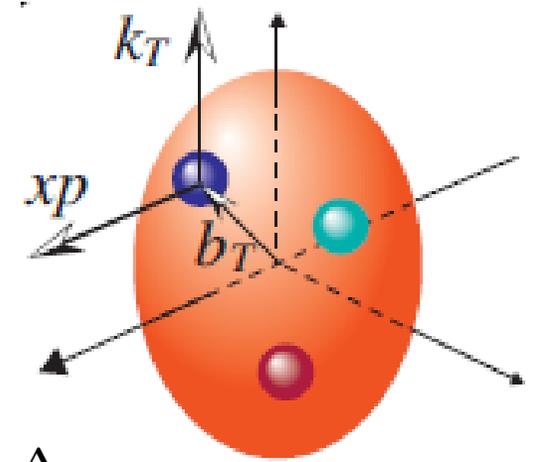


$n$ -th excited state of 1D harmonic oscillator

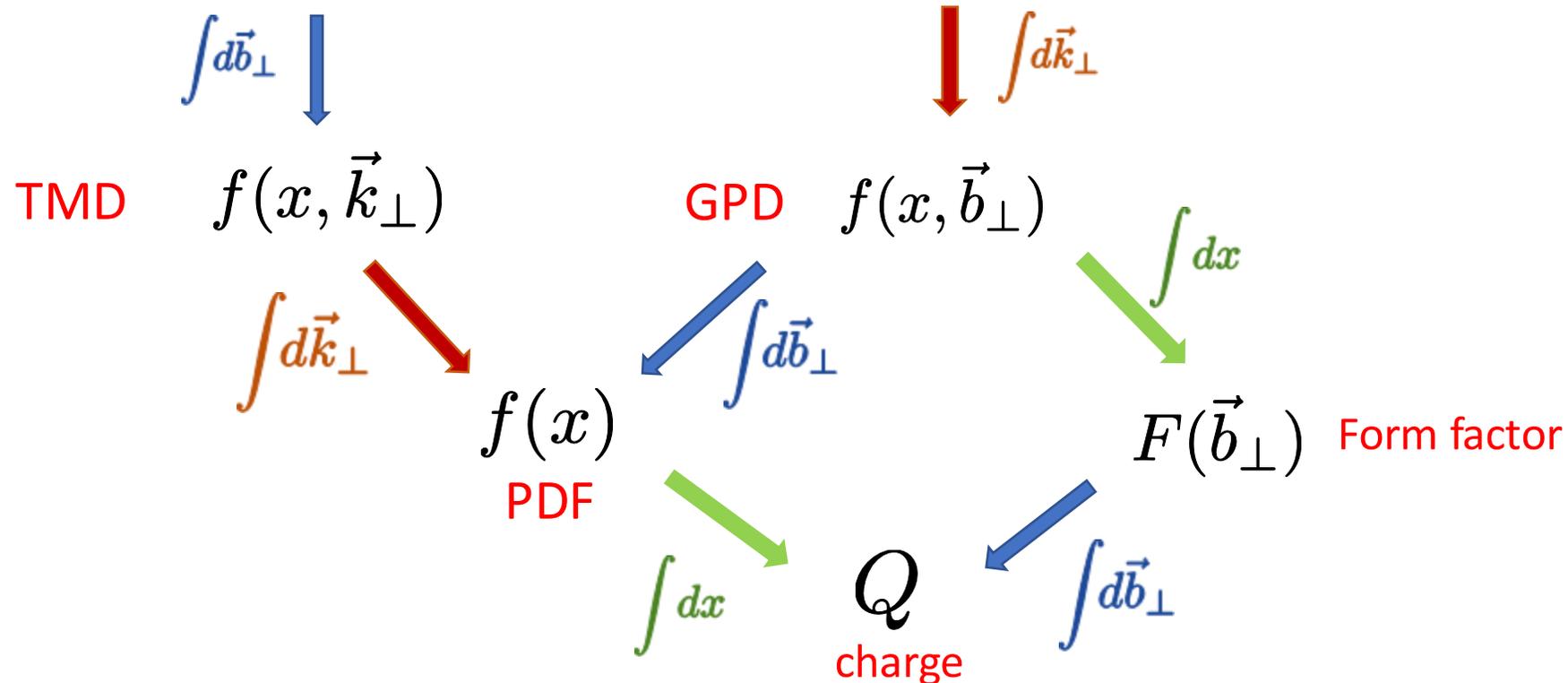
# QCD Wigner distribution

Phase space distribution of partons in QCD—the ‘mother distribution’

Belitsky, Ji, Yuan (2004)



$$W(x, \vec{k}_\perp, \vec{b}_\perp) = \int \frac{d^2 \Delta_\perp}{(2\pi)^2} \frac{dz^- d^2 z_\perp}{16\pi^3} e^{ixP^+ z^- - i\vec{k}_\perp \cdot \vec{z}_\perp} \langle P - \frac{\Delta}{2} | \bar{q}(b - z/2) \gamma^+ q(b + z/2) | P + \frac{\Delta}{2} \rangle$$



# OAM from the Wigner distribution

Lorce, Pasquini (2011);  
YH (2011);

Define 
$$L^q = \int dx \int d^2 b_{\perp} d^2 k_{\perp} (\vec{b}_{\perp} \times \vec{k}_{\perp})_z W^q(x, \vec{b}_{\perp}, \vec{k}_{\perp})$$

Go to momentum space  $b_{\perp} \rightarrow \Delta_{\perp}$  and look for the component

$$W^{q,g} = i \frac{S^+}{P^+} \epsilon^{ij} k_{\perp}^i \Delta_{\perp}^j f^{q,g}(x, k_{\perp}) + \dots$$

Then

$$L^{q,g} = \int dx \int d^2 k_{\perp} k_{\perp}^2 f^{q,g}(x, k_{\perp})$$

## Canonical OAM from the light-cone staple Wilson line

Make the Wigner distribution gauge invariant by attaching a staple-shaped Wilson line

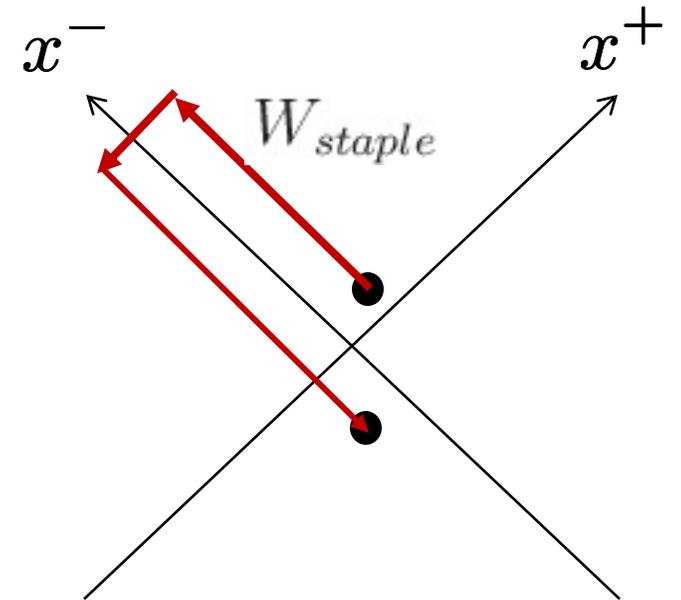
$$W^q \sim \int dz^- d^2 z_\perp e^{ixP^+ z^- - ik_\perp \cdot z_\perp} \langle \bar{\psi}(b - \frac{z}{2}) \gamma^+ W_{staple} \psi(b + \frac{z}{2}) \rangle$$

The resulting OAM is the gauge invariant canonical OAM

YH (2011)

$$\int d^2 k_\perp (b_\perp \times k_\perp) W^q(b_\perp, k_\perp) = \langle \bar{\psi} b_\perp \times iD_\perp^{pure} \psi \rangle$$

**Proof:** replace  $k_\perp^i \rightarrow -i \frac{\partial}{\partial z_\perp^i}$



## Wilson line derivative

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z_{\perp}^i} W[\infty, z^-, z_{\perp}] \psi(z^-, z_{\perp}) = W \partial_{\perp i} \psi(z) - ig \int_{z^-}^{\infty} dx^- W[\infty, x^-] \underbrace{\frac{\partial A^+(x^-, z_{\perp})}{\partial z_{\perp}^i}}_{D^+ A_i - F^+_i} W[x^-, z^-] \psi(z)$$

Use the trick

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{z^-}^{\infty} dx^- W[\infty, x^-] D^+ A_i(x^-, z_{\perp}) W[x^-, z^-] &= \int_{z^-}^{\infty} dx^- \frac{d}{dx^-} (W[\infty, x^-] A_i(x^-) W[x^-, z^-]) \\ &= A_i(\infty) W[\infty, x^-] - W[\infty, x^-] A_i(z^-) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{\perp}^i} W[\infty, z^-] \psi(z) &= W[\infty, z^-] \left( D_{\perp i} \psi + ig \int_{z^-}^{\infty} dx^- W[z^-, x^-] F^+_i(x^-) W[x^-, z^-] \psi \right) \\ &= W[\infty, z^-] D_{\perp i}^{\text{pure}} \psi(z) \end{aligned}$$

# Improved (Belinfante) energy momentum tensor

Return to the canonical angular momentum tensor and write

$$M_{can}^{\mu\nu\lambda} = x^\nu T_{can}^{\mu\lambda} - x^\lambda T_{can}^{\mu\nu} + H^{\mu\nu\lambda}$$

Define  $\tilde{T}^{\mu\nu} = T_{can}^{\mu\nu} + \partial_\rho G^{\rho\mu\nu}$  ← One can add a total derivative.

$$\text{where } G^{\rho\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2}(H^{\rho\mu\nu} - H^{\mu\rho\nu} - H^{\nu\rho\mu})$$

**Exercise:** Show that  $\tilde{T}^{\mu\nu}$  is symmetric and conserved. Hint: use  $\partial_\mu M_{can}^{\mu\nu\lambda} = 0$

Explicitly,

$$G^{\rho\mu\nu} = -\frac{1}{2}\epsilon^{\rho\mu\nu\sigma}\bar{\psi}\gamma_\sigma\gamma_5\psi + 2F^{\mu\rho}A^\nu$$

Exercise: Show that in QCD,

$$\tilde{T}^{\mu\nu} = \bar{\psi} i \gamma^{(\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}^{\nu)} \psi - F^{\mu\rho} F^{\nu}_{\rho} - g^{\mu\nu} \mathcal{L} = \tilde{T}_q^{\mu\nu} + \tilde{T}_g^{\mu\nu}$$

$$A^{(\mu} B^{\nu)} \equiv \frac{A^{\mu} B^{\nu} + A^{\nu} B^{\mu}}{2} \quad \overleftrightarrow{D}^{\mu} = \frac{D^{\mu} - \overleftarrow{D}^{\mu}}{2} \quad \overleftarrow{D}^{\mu} = \overleftarrow{\partial}^{\mu} - ig A^{\mu}$$

Hint: A useful identity

$$\text{From the Dirac equation } (\not{D} + iM)\psi = \bar{\psi}(\overleftarrow{\not{D}} - iM) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \bar{\psi} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma^{\nu} (\not{D} + iM)\psi - \bar{\psi} (\overleftarrow{\not{D}} - iM) \gamma^{\nu} \gamma^{\mu} \psi \\ &= \bar{\psi} (g^{\mu\nu} \gamma^{\rho} + g^{\nu\rho} \gamma^{\mu} - g^{\mu\rho} \gamma^{\nu} + i\epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \gamma_{\sigma} \gamma_5) D_{\rho} \psi \\ &\quad - \bar{\psi} \overleftarrow{D}_{\rho} (g^{\rho\nu} \gamma^{\mu} + g^{\nu\mu} \gamma^{\rho} - g^{\rho\mu} \gamma^{\nu} + i\epsilon^{\rho\nu\mu\sigma} \gamma_{\sigma} \gamma_5) \psi + 2iM g^{\mu\nu} \bar{\psi} \psi \\ &= 2\bar{\psi} (\gamma^{\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}^{\nu} - \gamma^{\nu} \overleftrightarrow{D}^{\mu}) \psi + i\epsilon^{\rho\mu\nu\sigma} \partial_{\rho} (\bar{\psi} \gamma_{\sigma} \gamma_5 \psi) \end{aligned}$$

# Derivation from general relativity

If you are only interested in the symmetric form, there is a much quicker derivation.

Write down the action in curved space

$$S = \int d^4x \mathcal{L}[\psi, A] \rightarrow \int d^4x \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L}[g^{\mu\nu}, \psi, A]$$

In my convention,  $g^{\mu\nu} = (+1, -1, -1, -1)$  in the flat limit.

$$T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \int \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L} \qquad T^{\mu\nu} = - \frac{2}{\sqrt{-g}} \frac{\delta}{\delta g_{\mu\nu}} \int \sqrt{-g} \mathcal{L}$$

beware the sign difference

Don't do this:

$$\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \psi \rightarrow \bar{\psi} g^{\mu\nu} \gamma_\mu \partial_\nu \psi \qquad \frac{\delta}{\delta g^{\mu\nu}} \bar{\psi} g^{\mu\nu} \gamma_\mu \partial_\nu \psi = \bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu \partial_\nu \psi$$

Why is this incorrect?

# Ji decomposition (operator form)

Improved angular momentum tensor

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{M}^{\mu\nu\lambda} &= x^\nu \tilde{T}^{\mu\lambda} - x^\lambda \tilde{T}^{\mu\nu} \\ &= \underbrace{x^\nu \tilde{T}_q^{\mu\lambda} - x^\lambda \tilde{T}_q^{\mu\nu}}_{\text{total quark angular momentum}} + \underbrace{x^\nu \tilde{T}_g^{\mu\lambda} - x^\lambda \tilde{T}_g^{\mu\nu}}_{\text{total gluon angular momentum}} \end{aligned}$$

Further decomposition in the quark part

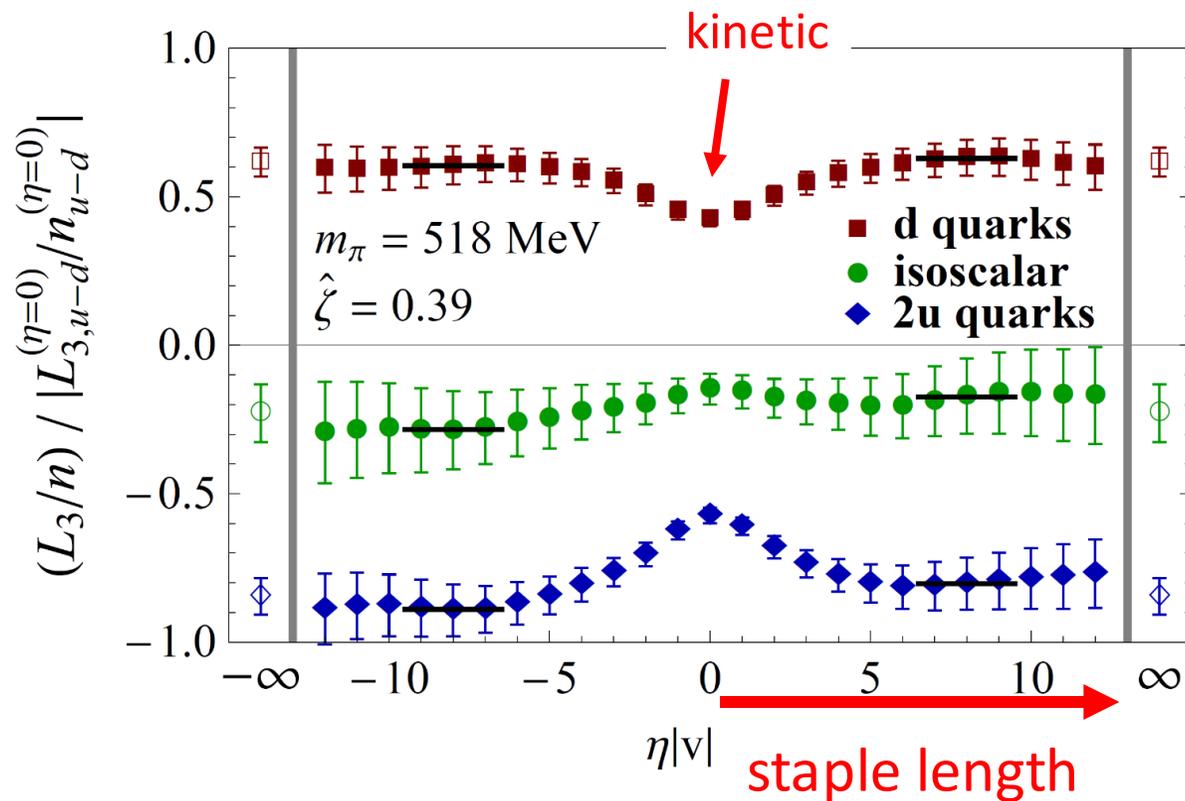
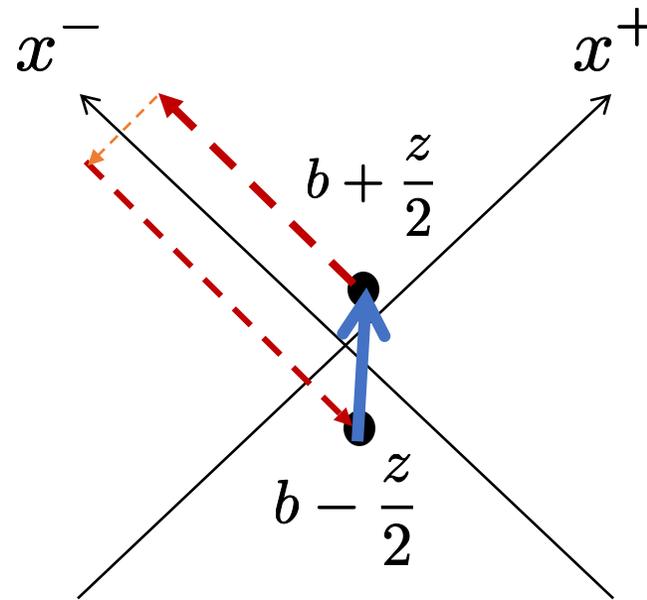
$$\bar{\psi} i \gamma^{(\mu} \overleftrightarrow{D}^{\nu)} \psi = \underbrace{\bar{\psi} i \gamma^\mu \overleftrightarrow{D}^\nu \psi}_{\text{Quark orbital angular momentum}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{4} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \partial_\rho (\bar{\psi} \gamma_\sigma \gamma_5 \psi)}_{\text{Quark spin}} \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\lambda\sigma} \bar{\psi} \gamma_\sigma \gamma_5 \psi$$

$$J^3 = M^{012} = L_q^3 + S_q^3 + J_g^3$$

# Kinetic (Ji's) OAM from the straight Wilson line

Ji, Xiong, Yuan (2012)

$$\int d^2k_{\perp} (b_{\perp} \times k_{\perp}) W_{straight}(b_{\perp}, k_{\perp}) = \langle \bar{\psi} b_{\perp} \times iD_{\perp} \psi \rangle$$

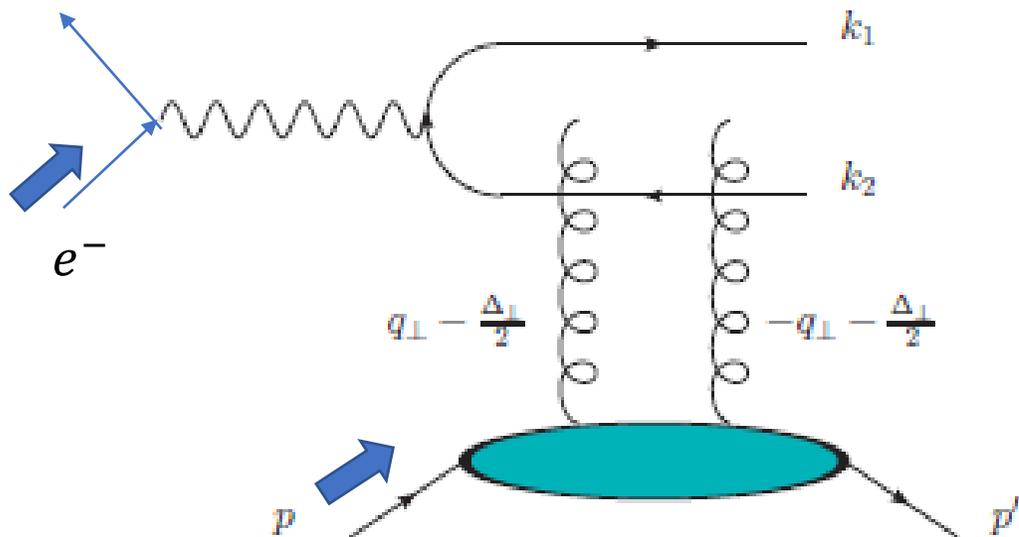


Difference seen in lattice QCD

Engelhardt (2017)

# Gluon OAM from longitudinal **double** spin asymmetry in diffractive dijets

Bhattacharya, Boussarie, YH, (2022, 2024)  
Kovchegov, Manley (2025,...)



$$L^z \sim b_{\perp} \times k_{\perp}$$

conjugate to  $\Delta_{\perp}$   
proton recoil momentum

correlated with jet  
transverse momentum

